FRANCOIS XAVIER MARIT/ GETTY-AFP

2018

BRONZE FOR VONN

Downhill skier Lindsey Vonn, left, makes the podium in what is likely her Olympic swan song. **Chicago Sports**

Carpentersville native Bradie Tennell skates her short program at Gangneung Ice Arena in South Korea. She next takes the ice Thursday for the women's free skate. Get updates at **chicagotribune.com/sports**

MORRY GASH/AP

Chicago Tribune

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Madigan power under pressure

ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

House Speaker Michael Madigan has been heavily criticized over how he handled sexual harassment complaints.

Independent inquiry sought in harassment scandal

By Rick Pearson and Monique Garcia
Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD — House Speaker Michael Madigan's undisputed political power came under attack Tuesday amid new criticism over his handling of harassment complaints as the March Democratic primary increasingly turns into a referendum on his leadership.

Madigan faced increasing calls for him to step down from the state Democratic chairman post he has held for two decades, as well as demands for an independent investigation of complaints that have led him to shed two top loyal political lieutenants in a week. The misconduct scandal comes as the long-serving speaker and his private interests as a property tax appeals lawyer already had been a focal point in several races.

The 75-year-old veteran Southwest Side power broker quickly pushed back. The calls to step down as state party chairman? "That's not going to happen," Madigan spokesman Steve Brown said.

As for calls for an outside investigation, the closely guarded Madigan offered to have his self-appointed counsel "assist," raising new questions about how independent the process of looking into sexual harassment complaints will be.

The harassment issue comes at a time of a surging progressive movement within the Democratic Party that threatens the stability of a party establishment that has ruled for decades. Those battles are playing out across the Democratic primary ballot, including contests for governor, Congress and even Cook County assessor.

There is no better example of the fight between the new-guard progressives and the old-guard, Madigan-led establishment than

*Turn to **Madigan, Page 11***

CRISTOBAL HERRERA/EPA

Students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and chaperones wait to board buses Tuesday in Parkland, Fla.

Turning pain to purpose, Florida students hit road

School's shooting survivors travel to state capital to push gun control

By Terry Spencer, Curt Anderson and Brendan Farrington
Associated Press

PARKLAND, Fla. — Students who survived the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School began a 400-mile journey to Florida's capital Tuesday to urge lawmakers to prevent a repeat of the massacre that killed 17 students and faculty last week.

Three buses carrying 100 students set out from Coral Springs for Tallahassee after they were swarmed by dozens of reporters and cameras. The students carried sleeping bags, pillows and luggage and hugged their parents before they departed.

The caravan was one element in a national debate on gun control fueled by the horrific attack in Parkland as the president, lawmakers and celebrities also added their voices on Tuesday.

President Donald Trump said Tuesday that he signed a memo directing the Justice Department to propose regulations to "ban all devices" like the rapid-fire bump stocks involved in last year's Las Vegas massacre.

"We must move past cliches and tired debates and focus on evidence-based solutions and security measures that actually work," Trump said during a White House ceremony recognizing bravery by the nation's public safety officers.

"We must do more to protect our children," Trump said.

The White House also said Trump on Wednesday will meet with students, parents and teachers affected by mass shootings in Parkland, Newtown, Conn., and Columbine, Colo., for a "listening session" that may address mental health, gun laws and other security measures schools face.

*Turn to **Shooting, Page 14***

Mary Schmich: A school shooting in Florida. A family from Arlington Heights. How the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School affects us all. **Chicagoland, Page 4**

IG: Thousands improperly won seats in schools

Loopholes, flouting of rules found at CPS elementaries

By Juan Perez Jr.
Chicago Tribune

Finding fault with a notoriously frustrating school selection process, the Chicago Public Schools watchdog said in a new report that thousands of students were improperly enrolled in hundreds of elementary schools last year because of loopholes, confusion over policies or intentional disregard of rules.

Some schools used "cherry-picking" to favor certain students, according to a district audit analyzed by Inspector General Nicholas Schuler's office. Nonselective schools improperly used academic benchmarks such as test scores and grades to evaluate prospective students, Schuler's office said, and some schools "specifically weeded out kids with histories of poor attendance."

The inspector general's report brings renewed attention to what can be a stressful and complicated process for CPS families who jostle to place students in schools they be-

*Turn to **CPS, Page 6***

For SIU leader, an agitated shake-up

Family hires, academic plans raise flags

By Dawn Rhodes
Chicago Tribune

When Chancellor Carlo Montemagno took the helm at Southern Illinois University Carbondale in July, he set to work on a plan to dismantle and rebuild academics at the struggling campus, which has hemorrhaged enrollment over the past several years. His idea was a bold one, rarely if ever attempted at a large public university: eliminate academic departments.

The plan drew ire as well as praise, opening some bitter fissures among faculty, students and staff. That discord seems to have grown in recent weeks, particularly as the chancellor has become embroiled in controversies that have intensified scrutiny of his leadership.

In January, SIU student paper The Daily Egyptian revealed the university hired Montemagno's daughter and son-in-law shortly after he assumed the chancellor post. The investigation showed that the couple's work history traces the same path as

*Turn to **SIU, Page 6***

Tom Skilling's forecast High 38 Low 29

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Margaret Holt, standards editor

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ANDREW HARRER/BLOOMBERG 2017

U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., wants heightened gun control but opposes a ban on abortions past 20 weeks.

John Kass

Guns feed death culture? What about abortion?

Kamala Harris, the Democratic senator from California, a former prosecutor, may one day be her party's nominee for the presidency.

And in the aftermath of the tragedy at Florida's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School — where 17 students were killed by a madman with a gun — Harris said something quite profound.

"This cannot be a political issue. We have to have smart gun safety laws — our babies are being slaughtered," Harris tweeted.

It was a slaughter. It was preventable. The FBI was warned at least twice that the shooter was dangerous, mentally unstable and armed. And to its shame, the FBI failed miserably to act.

The political left, to which Harris belongs, seeks political advantage in public grief, and has vigorously condemned those who support the Second Amendment as being part of a culture of death.

And Hollywood is adding leverage, as George Clooney, the Hollywood star, and his wife, Amal, announced they will donate $500,000 to the March for Our Lives demonstrations for gun control.

It's all being sold this way: As a battle of rights, between the right to bear arms and the rights of the students to life as America approaches the 2018 midterm elections.

And those who don't quickly move to "do something" to weaken the Second Amendment are vilified as moral cowards, as gun nuts in support of the death culture.

Yet there is another culture of death. It is a culture where the lives of other innocent children are also taken — you might say they're slaughtered — every day.

Abortion.

Estimates suggest there have been between 50 million and 60 million abortions since the Supreme Court decided Roe v. Wade in 1973.

And if 50 million to 60 million souls are not evidence of a culture of death, I don't know what is.

By and large, in media and assisted by their liberal Hollywood celebrity allies, the left controls not only the terms of debate, but also the tenor and tone. Those condemning the right to bear arms are given great license, and it all gets funneled into the social media echo chamber.

And those who oppose abortion are quickly marginalized by the left, and mocked on TV as the crazy people who listen to Jesus.

Abortion rates have dropped in the U.S., yes, but thousands upon thousands of the unborn are removed from their mothers every year. And some have ended up in those videos about Planned Parenthood that were roundly condemned by Democrats and pundits.

I'm not going to change your minds over abortion or guns. We're locked into our positions, and we tend to shame those who get in our way. That's politics too.

The left vilifies the National Rifle Association as agents of murder and the politicians it supports with donations as puppets of death.

The right points out (although you don't much see this in the news) that abortion rights groups such as Planned Parenthood contribute millions of dollars to Democrats to protect that death culture.

And somewhere in the middle are Americans, seeking commonsense answers on guns and abortion.

Perhaps those who are on pharmaceuticals to control their depression or other mental illness should be prohibited from owning guns, or even from driving, since we now see that vehicles can be deadly weapons. Some people simply stop taking their meds and pose a danger to others. Yet I'm told my idea lacks common sense.

But there is a commonsense idea from David French in the National Review that many Republicans and Democrats might support: GVROs, or gun-violence restraining orders.

GVRO bills are coming up through the states. Ideally, a GVRO would permit parents, spouses, siblings or others living with a mentally unstable person to seek a court order allowing law enforcement to temporarily take that person's guns away.

It would protect the rights of the individual by allowing him or her to contest those claims, and set a time limit that would expire, unless the petitioners provide additional evidence.

That seems reasonable, doesn't it?

Now what about applying common sense to abortion?

One idea involves the phrase hated by the left, "fetal viability."

After 20 weeks, a mother can see her baby on an ultrasound. Fathers, too.

Parents can see the face and the hands and the beating heart of their child. Once they see this, what they're looking at is not some collection of tissue. It is a life. And advances in medical science have made it possible so that some babies born prematurely can live out of the womb after 22 weeks.

Republicans pushed an abortion ban after 20 weeks in the Senate. Given the new science about viability, that seems reasonable, too, does it not? But Senate Democrats killed the bill in January and made opposition to a 20-week ban a rallying cry.

"Women have the constitutional right to make their own decisions about reproductive health," Sen. Harris tweeted. "It shouldn't be infringed upon. Get out your bullhorns. Everyone should be shouting about this."

In the battle of rights, whose life is protected, whose rights are suspended?

Those high school students in Florida had a right to live, yes, but what about the lives of millions of unborn taken in abortions?

Do some lives have more rights, because they are older and more powerful, leaving others with fewer or no rights, because they cannot speak or use bullhorns to shout, to tell us that they, too, are alive?

We're all shouting now, aren't we?

Listen to "The Chicago Way" podcast featuring John Kass and Jeff Carlin at ***wgnradio.com/category/wgn-plus/thechicagoway***.

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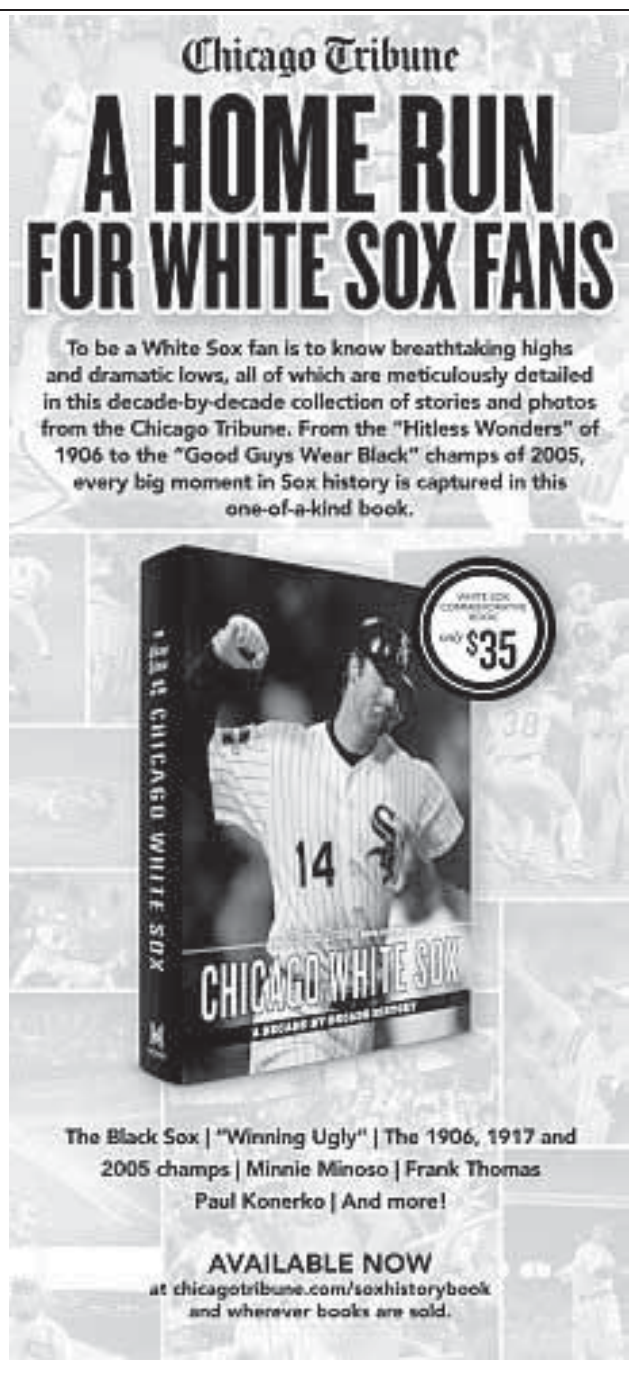

CHICAGO INC.

By Kim Janssen, Tracy Swartz and Phil Thompson

Bezos' Chicago link: Biological father

The competition to snag Amazon's second headquarters and its estimated 50,000 jobs has 20 finalist cities claiming any advantage they can. Washington, D.C., can boast of its convenience to Amazon founder **Jeff Bezos**, who has owned The Washington Post since 2013. The contenders in Texas — Dallas and Austin — can point to Bezos' roots in the state where he grew up and remains a major landowner. And New York can claim to be the home to Bezos' first career successes.

Chicago, by contrast, has only tenuous claims on the personal affections of the man ranked by Forbes as the world's richest person. As a young finance whiz, Bezos ran Wall Street firm D.E. Shaw & Co.'s Chicago-based options business remotely.

A more compelling link, however, was revealed in author **Brad Stone**'s 2013 biography, "The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon," and comes through Bezos' late biological father, **Ted Jorgensen**, who was born in Chicago and spent his early childhood here.

Jorgensen, who was raised as a Baptist, was a circus unicycle performer as a child and attended elementary school in Chicago before his family moved west, married Bezos' mother, **Jacklyn**, while they were in high school in New Mexico — and was 19 when Bezos was born. The marriage lasted less than two years.

Jorgensen, who later admitted being "a bad father and a bad husband" who drank too much, left when Bezos was 3, according to Stone's book.

When Stone located Jorgensen in 2012, he owned a bicycle shop in Phoenix, had not seen in his son in nearly half a century, had forgotten his adoptive name and was "utterly confused" to learn that he was the father of the Amazon CEO, Stone wrote.

Jorgensen wrote to Bezos soon after about his regrets, which Bezos eventually responded to, telling him that he "empathized with the impossibly difficult choices that his teenage parents were forced to make and said that he had had a happy childhood nonetheless," according to Stone.

Jorgensen died in 2015, according to his stepson, **Darin Fala**. His obituary noted that he was survived "by his son, Jeff," and did not mention the Bezos family name.

The notion that his family's distant connection to Chicago would figure in Bezos' decision is hard to credit, however.

— Kim Janssen

TRACY SWARTZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

David Letterman takes a selfie with a fan Tuesday in the Lincoln Park community.

David Letterman in Chicago filming his Netflix talk show

Veteran talk show host **David Letterman** visited **Buddy Guy**'s Legends in the South Loop and the Athenian Room in Lincoln Park while filming his new Netflix show Tuesday in Chicago. Despite the rain, Letterman stopped to take selfies with a crowd that had gathered outside the Greek restaurant.

It appears Letterman spent the morning at Guy's blues club. Parking notices outside the club warned of filming of an "Untitled Letterman Project," and signs on the front door said the club would be closed Tuesday for a private event until 5 p.m.

Guy's assistant, **Annie Lawlor**, said Tuesday the club was being used as a film set but would not give details. Music coming from the club could be heard from the street. Guy was a musical guest on Letterman's "The Late Show," and both men were among those who received Kennedy Center Honors in 2012.

Netflix recently announced a few guests who would join Letterman on his six-episode series, "My Next Guest Needs No Introduction," but Guy wasn't on the list. "30 Rock" alum **Tina Fey**, who trained at Second City, was on the list. (The Athenian Room is one of Fey's favorite spots in Chicago, but this reporter did not spot her there Tuesday.)

"My Next Guest Needs No Introduction" has featured a few Chicago guests since it premiered last month. Former President **Barack Obama** was its first. The second show focused on **George** and **Amal Clooney** and included Letterman's interview with University of Chicago freshman **Hazim Avdal**, an Iraqi refugee sponsored by the Clooneys.

The interview took place in George Clooney's hometown of Augusta, Ky., which is where Avdal stays during holidays and school breaks. Netflix said a new episode of Letterman's show is set to go live each month.

— Tracy Swartz

JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2016

Former WLS-Ch. 7 meteorologist Jerry Taft is driving for Uber while wintering in Florida.

Retired forecaster hits road for Uber to stay engaged

If you're escaping the Chicago winter in Florida and you order an Uber, don't be surprised by a familiar face pulling up to the curb.

Former WLS-Ch. 7 weatherman **Jerry Taft**, 74, started working as an Uber driver Monday. After 42 years on Chicago TV, 34 of them on the ABC affiliate, the meteorologist retired Jan. 19.

But "you can only play so much golf," Taft said with a laugh to Chicago Inc. on Tuesday from his Naples winter home. "It's not about the money — it's about getting out of the house and talking to people."

Still, Taft earned $84.61 in his five hours and 40 minutes on the road in his Ford Fusion. Nobody recognized him, he said, "and I promise I didn't talk about the weather once."

After Taft tweeted about his new ride-sharing gig, critics told him he could have made just as much money working at Walmart. But Taft said, "If I worked at Walmart, I'd have to work on their schedule."

You'll recall that in 2016, **Anthony Ponce** quit his gig as a reporter and weekend morning anchor for NBC-owned WMAQ-Ch. 5 to drive a car for Lyft and produce the podcast Backseat Rider.

Witnessing friends die soon after retirement taught Taft that he wanted to stay busy, he said. But he doesn't expect to do much Ubering when he returns in the summer to Chicago, where he wouldn't enjoy the same anonymity.

His plans for Tuesday, he said, included driving and a round of golf.

— Kim Janssen

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Chicago Tribune
CHICAGOLAND

Ripples extend far and wide after Florida rampage

MARY SCHMICH

Maddy Dittman was still running from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on Valentine's Day when she paused to phone her old best friend Brittney Brown.

Fourteen hundred miles north, at Rolling Meadows High School near Chicago, Brittney glanced at her phone and thought it was odd that Maddy was calling without texting first. She was in class, so she didn't pick up and only later did she hear her 18-year-old friend say:

Hey, there's a shooter in my school, but I wanted to let you know I'm safe.

Maddy's younger sister, Anna, ran from Stoneman Douglas that afternoon, too, out of the classroom, down the stairs, confused that the day's second fire alarm had sounded.

Was this another drill?

She heard three pops, like the sound of a car backfiring, then watched people bolting across the courtyard, jogging along the canal behind the school, jumping the fence.

Whatever it was, this was not a drill.

Caught up in the crowd, she phoned Maddy, and after they found each other, they moved with the panicked herd into a nearby Walmart.

A while later, in the safety of a friend's home, Anna group-texted several friends near Chicago. She was safe, she told them, and when one of them asked if she'd mind describing the events, she said no, it was fine.

Anna, top, and Maddy Dittman

"I thought it was important for people outside the state to know that this happens," Anna, who's 16, said when we talked by phone Tuesday.

It's hard to imagine that any American doesn't know by now that last Wednesday afternoon, a 19-year-old man walked into the school, opened fire with an AR-15 and left 17 people dead.

But even with the omnipresent news, the shooting may feel distant, something that happened to some other people somewhere else, and the Dittman family's experience reminds us of how far the ripples of catastrophe can extend.

I learned about Maddy and Anna through their mother, Wendy, who emailed me because she thought it might be useful to share their thoughts with people in Chicago.

"In that part of the country where we have our roots," she said when we talked Tuesday. "We are Midwesterners."

Todd and Wendy Dittman and their three daughters (the youngest is 12) moved from Arlington Heights to Parkland 4½ years ago.

"Parkland is named because of the number of parks they have," Wendy said. "I was told they intentionally had a park always within under 3 miles of anywhere people live to keep children safe."

The town lived up to its reputation, until last week.

In the past few days, Maddy and Anna and thousands of other students have filled their lives with funerals, vigils, rallies.

At one vigil, Anna found herself hugging classmates she'd never spoken to, and as she laid flowers on the stage, she nearly collapsed.

"This one girl turned around, a girl I didn't even know," she said, "and hugged me and said, 'I hope you can sleep tonight.' That meant more to me than she probably knew."

On Tuesday morning, Maddy went to the Catholic funeral of one of the girls who was shot to death.

"Every single second," she said, "I was thinking, I'm too young to have to go to funerals of people my age."

And yet, she felt fortified when the mourners were told that anyone, regardless of faith, was welcome to receive Communion.

"We're all coming together and realizing how strong we can be together," Maddy said.

Maddy and Anna don't pin the shooting entirely on a failure of gun control — they think about the warning signs that went unseen or unheeded — but, like many of their schoolmates, they want better gun laws.

They're proud of the outspoken students who are helping to lead that charge.

"I feel like this event has really strengthened our moral values," Maddy said.

They don't buy the argument that they're grief-stricken kids being used by gun-control advocates.

"I disagree with that completely," said Anna. "Our school is full of strong people, very empowered people, and they choose to use their voice."

Different people use their voice differently, though.

Not everyone wants to speak out loud. So Maddy has been collecting written reflections from students, parents and school faculty.

She has received several dozen already and plans to post them soon on a website she thinks she'll call "Stoneman Speaks."

"I don't think anybody who has not gone through this will be able to comprehend what it's like," Maddy said.

"And I'm hoping nobody ever again will have to comprehend what this is like. It's important for our words to get out so people can experience it as personally as they can without having to feel the burden we're feeling. I need people to hear our voices so they will be prompted to get up and help us make a change."

Talking to Anna and Maddy, I was struck by their maturity, their clarity and their desire to connect across the miles with their old friends and their old home.

Their voices, like the thousands of other young voices raised since the Parkland shooting, give us hope: This time will be different, this time change could come.

mschmich@chicagotribune.com Twitter @MarySchmich

LOU FOGLIA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Grace Bauer, 13, left, and her mother, Erin Bauer, stand outside church after the funeral for police Cmdr. Paul Bauer last week.

Commander's wife: 'You have no idea how much that meant to us'

Widow of slain cop thanks Chicagoans for support

BY PATRICK M. O'CONNELL AND TONY BRISCOE | Chicago Tribune

The wife of Chicago police Cmdr. Paul Bauer on Tuesday released a letter thanking Chicagoans for their "outpouring of love and support."

Bauer was shot and killed Feb. 13 outside the Thompson Center in the Loop.

"I want to thank those of you (who) waited for hours in the cold to attend his wake and funeral. You have no idea how much that meant to us," Erin Bauer wrote in the letter distributed by Chicago police.

"If I wasn't out of tears, I would have cried the entire route to the cemetery. I want you to know that I saw each and every one of you who stopped on the side of the road to salute as the hearse went by. ... I saw people of every color taking time out of their day, not only to pay respects to Paul, but to the entire Chicago Police Department."

She ended the letter by writing, "One man almost stole my faith in humanity, but the City of Chicago and the rest of the nation restored it and I want to thank you for that."

Bauer

At a news conference Tuesday afternoon, police Superintendent Eddie Johnson said Erin Bauer's letter was a perfect summation of the family's strength and courage in the face of tragedy. The Bauers' daughter, Grace, 13, also exemplified those traits, Johnson said, as she returned to school Tuesday accompanied by Chicago police officers.

"When I tell you all that Paul's wife and daughter, Erin and Grace, have helped prop up the Police Department, they have," Johnson said. "They are the epitome of what is Chicago strong."

In the week since Bauer was killed, Johnson said, "Chicago has repeatedly shown the best of itself."

Police stations across the city were flooded with cards from residents and drawings from children, including two pictures Johnson brought with him showing a coloring of a police car and a stick-figure sketch of an officer. Residents organized at least two prayer vigils, including one in which people left a memorial of flowers and candles outside the Near North District police station where Bauer worked. And numerous businesses donated food for officers, many of whom worked outside their normal hours after Bauer's death.

■ Read Erin Bauer's letter in Voice of the People on **Page 21**

The news conference was held at River North eatery Bar Cargo, owned by the Stefani Restaurant Group, which offered the Police Department enough food for more than 500 officers, Johnson said.

"Everything that people do really is therapy to us," Johnson said. "It's been difficult, and it's going to take some time to get back to a sense of normalcy. So we just keep pushing. We swore an oath to protect this city, and that's what we're going to do."

Near North District police Capt. Melvin Roman said officers who worked under Bauer are still devastated by his death, but the well-wishes from strangers have helped police work through their grief.

"Whether you said a prayer ... or gave a dozen doughnuts, that means more to us than a million dollars," Roman said. "Whoever did what they can do, the fact that you did it ... that is the fuel that is keeping us going."

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Court reinstates jury award in shooting

Appellate panel says judge erred in reversing $3.5M ruling in case against cop

BY JASON MEISNER
Chicago Tribune

The Illinois Appellate Court on Tuesday overturned a controversial decision by a Cook County judge and reinstated a jury's $3.5 million verdict against the city of Chicago in the fatal 2011 police shooting of a black teenager.

The unanimous opinion said Judge Elizabeth Budzinski erred when she reversed the verdict on a legal technicality and found instead in favor of the city and Officer Marco Proano, who fatally shot 19-year-old Niko Husband during a struggle outside a South Side dance party.

The 15-page ruling said the jury's finding that Proano had a reasonable belief that his life was in danger when he opened fire that night did not negate the verdict that the shooting was unjustified.

The ruling marked the latest fallout over Proano's tarnished career, which ended last year when he was sentenced to five years in federal prison for another shooting in which he was caught on video firing into a moving car filled with teens, wounding two.

Reached by phone Tuesday, attorney Donald Shapiro, who represents Husband's mother, Priscilla Price, said the Appellate Court's ruling in her favor made it clear that the jury "had gotten it right."

"After seven years, it's thrilling to get a measure of justice for the wrongful shooting of this young man," Shapiro said.

A spokesman for the city's Law Department had no comment.

The Chicago Tribune detailed the controversy surrounding Budzinski's decision in a front-page story in December 2015 at the height of the fallout over the video of black teen Laquan McDonald being shot 16 times by a white Chicago police officer in 2014.

The foreman of the jury in Price's wrongful death lawsuit told the Tribune he was stunned by Budzinski's sudden reversal of their ruling, especially after jurors had inquired by written note whether their answer to the written question — known in legal terms as a "special interrogatory" — would affect the outcome of the verdict. The judge didn't directly answer, instead telling jurors to use their best judgment, he said.

"My face was on fire," said the foreman, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "We put so much into this. ... I thought it was a really odd thing to go from $3.5 million to nothing because of wording on a piece of paper."

In upholding her ruling in 2016, Budzinski wrote that even though several jurors signed sworn affidavits that their intent was to find the officer liable of excessive force, no "reasonable hypothesis" existed to reconcile their verdict with their answer to special interrogatory.

The judge also held that the use of juror affidavits was "improper and may not be considered."

Husband was shot on a sweltering night in July 2011 as police, responding to a call of a person with a gun, encountered dozens of teens and young adults packed into a South Side storefront for an underground dance party.

As Gresham District officers arrived at the scene near 80th Street and Ashland Avenue, they tried to pat down partygoers as they left and gain control of the crowd. Meanwhile, Husband came out of the building and appeared to be struggling with a young woman, police testified at trial.

Proano testified at the Daley Center trial that he and two other officers grabbed Husband by the arms and tried to free the girl from his grip. As they wrestled with him, Proano told jurors, he felt the butt of a gun in Husband's waistband. He said he yelled out, "Gun! Gun!" a transcript of his testimony shows.

Proano said he tried to wrest the weapon from Husband but was afraid it would go off and wound the young woman or someone else. After another officer deployed his Taser, Proano drew his gun and fired, striking Husband three times in the chest.

The first two shots came from about 2 feet away, but the third shot was a "contact" wound — an indication from burn marks on the skin that Proano had pressed his gun directly against Husband's chest before pulling the trigger, an autopsy found. The trajectory of that bullet suggested Husband was already on the ground when it was fired.

Proano was not only cleared at the time by the city's police oversight agency but also awarded a department commendation for valor, records show.

It wasn't until two years later, when a police dashboard camera caught Proano cocking his gun sideways and unloading a dozen shots at a carload of unarmed teenagers in an unrelated incident that he was taken off the streets while an investigation unfolded.

In 2016, Proano was indicted on federal excessive force charges for the 2013 shooting with the teens. Last year a jury convicted him, making him the first Chicago police officer in decades, if not ever, to be convicted of federal crimes for an on-duty shooting.

In handing down the five-year sentence in November, U.S. District Judge Gary Feinerman said that Proano's actions in the shooting captured on video were "exceptionally unjustified" and an insult to hardworking officers who serve and protect.

"Mr. Proano was not maintaining the 'thin blue line' that separates us from anarchy, and chaos and violence," Feinerman said. "He was bringing the chaos and violence. He was the source of it."

Proano, 43, is serving his five-year sentence at a low-security federal prison in Pennsylvania, records show. He's eligible for supervised release in May 2022.

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SIU chancellor facing qualms, ethics probes

SIU, *from Page 1*

STEVE MATZKER/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chancellor Carlo Montemagno, shown Monday in Carbondale, took the helm at SIU on July 13. His daughter and son-in-law were hired within six weeks.

Montemagno's, with the pair having held jobs at the same institutions he worked at for the past decade. There have also been complaints that Montemagno is too directly influencing other hiring at the university — which he denies.

Both issues are the subjects of separate ethics investigations, SIU system President Randy Dunn said.

Then on Thursday, the chancellor said he used part of his relocation allotment from the university to help cover the costs of moving his daughter's family to southern Illinois, as well, adding up to $16,076.45. He said "there was a misunderstanding about what could be covered in the move," and he picked up the tab for part of the added costs and reimbursed SIU for the remaining expense of moving his daughter's household.

The revelation that the new chancellor's family members received jobs at Southern Illinois, which cut dozens of positions just weeks before his arrival and in the midst of the two-year state budget impasse, irked many at the university. It also drew sharp retorts from a member of the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

In an interview Monday, Montemagno said he recognized the optics of using part of his moving allowance for his daughter's benefit and decided to pay back the university. But he said he never hid the fact that his family members were hired by SIU and he shrugged off criticism he has received in recent weeks. Although it caught some by surprise, SIU leaders had, in fact, approved the family hires as part of the chancellor's hiring negotiations.

"It's a distraction, which is unfortunate, but it was never a secret," Montemagno said. "It's a distraction which will hopefully in time go away. It has nothing to do with the reorganization or my authority or my mandate to elevate SIU and to ensure the prosperity of the region."

The ethics reviews come at a time when Montemagno most needs to persuade the SIU community to follow his lead.

Carbondale's faculty union, faculty senate and a graduate employees council have publicly opposed his reorganization plan, and student groups have ratified votes of no-confidence in his leadership. But Montemagno has plenty of supporters at the university and in the Carbondale community who welcome his assertiveness, unwillingness to accept the status quo and his determination to push the university in a more positive direction.

Most agree that something drastic needs to be done to revitalize SIU, but the acrimony of recent weeks has left many on campus struggling to figure out the way forward. At its peak in 1991, Carbondale enrolled 24,869 students. That number had dropped to 14,554 by last fall.

"SIU is at a crossroads," Anthony Travelstead, a member of the university civil service council, said at a recent board meeting. "We have a known path traveled for years — comfortable, safe but worn down and losing its appeal. The other path is new and filled with change; a path that we have not traveled before, stirring both excitement and fears."

Montemagno said he requested jobs for his daughter Melissa Germain and her husband, Jeffrey Germain, during his contract negotiations in July. He asked that the request be written into his formal contract, but President Randy Dunn and board members did not agree to that, instead making it an informal verbal accord, according to Montemagno and Dunn. SIU leaders approved the request after reviewing board, ethics and legal protocols, Dunn said.

Montemagno signed his four-year contract, paying him a $340,000 base salary, on July 13. Melissa Germain was hired Sept. 1, as assistant director of communications and marketing, university spokeswoman Rae Morrow Goldsmith said. Jeffrey Germain came on board in a temporary position as a research associate Oct. 1.

Dunn acknowledged that the family hires were an unusual request, but university leaders were inclined to accommodate Montemagno, who they felt was an especially strong pick for the chancellor job. Before him, Carbondale had not had a permanent chancellor since Rita Cheng left in 2014. None of Cheng's three predecessors stayed in the job for more than two years.

"We went through a laborious process trying to find a chancellor," said SIU trustee Randal Thomas, who was board chair at the time. "We told the president and the general counsel: Don't lose this guy; get him on board."

The news of the family hires caught the attention of state higher education board members. During budget talks this month, trustee John Bambenek of Champaign went so far as to suggest the board reduce SIU's portion of state money as a punitive response.

"It makes it really hard to advocate for increasing anything when these kinds of antics happen, and that's not the first time a public university has engaged in that type of behavior," Bambenek said. "These kinds of shenanigans have to stop."

Hiring spouses is not uncommon in higher education, particularly when institutions court a world-renowned faculty member or administrator. But providing special consideration for that person's child is unusual, said Andy Brantley, president and chief executive of the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources. It becomes more complicated, he said, when the person requesting that perk is the head of a university.

"It can put undue pressure on those who actually supervise those individuals," Brantley said.

Days after the hires were publicized, Dunn announced he would launch two ethics reviews. Because he was involved in approving the hiring of the Germains, the SIU ethics office passed that investigation to the state's Office of Executive Inspector General for review. Dunn conceded leaders may have given a "broad reading" of the university's nepotism policy in approving the family hires but felt the state's investigation would reassure the public that they were on solid legal footing.

"If our analysis is wrong and it violates law and policy, then we absolutely want to know so we figure out how to respond to it," Dunn said.

Daniel Hurtado, general counsel for the inspector general's office, said he could not confirm or deny the existence of any investigation, saying state law requires that those inquiries remain confidential until they are complete.

SIU ethics officers will review the complaints about the chancellor's influence on other hiring "to ensure that we're maintaining the integrity of the search process, that there was no transaction or quid pro quo involved or coercion," Dunn said.

Dave Johnson, president of the Carbondale faculty union, said allegations of the chancellor improperly influencing university hires poses two potential problems. Department leaders may feel pressure to hire people the chancellor prefers, particularly as discussions continue over how to reshuffle the academic and administrative framework. It also can raise the question of how well a university with annual enrollment declines is managing its limited resources, Johnson said.

The union is among the groups that have opposed the chancellor's move to eliminate academic departments.

"Hires are few and far between," Johnson said. "In academia, in my experience, the central administration does not interfere in searches in anything like this manner because there's the belief that faculty should evaluate the qualifications of who should be hired."

Montemagno, on his Chancellor's blog, said he reimbursed the university for part of the expense of relocating from Canada, saying there was a "misunderstanding about what could be covered in the move." His contract allowed for up to $61,000 for relocation, documents showed. Invoices he released showed two moves from two homes in Edmonton, one in August and a second in mid-September, totaling $65,930.03.

Goldsmith, the university spokeswoman, said the August relocation that cost $16,076.45 was for moving and storing belongings of Montemagno's second home in Edmonton — a furnished property he owned next door to his own that was rented by his daughter and son-in-law. The September move, costing $49,853.58, transported the Montemagnos' belongings from their primary home in Canada, she said.

Montemagno said he paid the $4.930.03 beyond what his contract allowed directly to the moving company. Last week, he wrote a check for $11,146.42 to reimburse SIU the remaining cost of relocating his second home, where his daughter had lived, after school leaders asked him for clarification about the spending, he said.

"The way (the contract) was written, it could be interpreted in a number of different ways," Montemagno said. "I recognize the sensitivity of what happened here. I decided I just wanted to short-circuit that and take care of it to eliminate any controversy."

Dunn declined to comment.

Montemagno said he is unfazed by the criticism and is determined to keep pushing the reorganization process forward. Some say the chancellor has ignored feedback on that plan and created a culture of intimidation that discourages people from speaking their minds. Montemagno's supporters say that critics, bent on obstruction of the chancellor, have not fully considered the chancellor's ideas.

According to his proposal, 42 academic departments within eight colleges would transform to 19 schools housed under five colleges. The school of education would be a standalone entity.

Scuttling academic departments is designed to streamline collaboration among faculty and students, removing the bureaucratic issues that often stymie such cross-border partnerships in academia. At the same time, the new structure will make SIU's academic offerings more attractive to prospective students and boost enrollment, Montemagno says.

Some faculty members say they are eager to put that structure into practice. Groups including the university's civil service council and the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce have backed the chancellor's plan.

"I've seen alignment of some departments that should have happened long ago but didn't happen because of political and historical reasons," said Alice Noble-Allgire, a professor of law with more than 20 years at the university. "These things are happening because we've been shaken up out of our comfort zone."

Others remain unconvinced the chancellor's blueprint is the answer to SIU's most immediate needs.

"There's not enough focus on reducing tuition and fees to help jump-start enrollment," Dan Silver, interim director of the paralegal studies program, said. "This is the main reason people go to other states instead of coming here."

Convinced SIU is making a huge mistake in its shakeup, some students, staff and faculty are urging school leadership to halt the change.

"We already have a chancellor under an ethics investigation," said Gregory Wendt, a staff member. "Reorganization under these circumstances will lead to more bad press, more negative perceptions of SIU and a legitimate questioning of our ethical standards."

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IG: Thousands improperly won seats in CPS schools

CPS, *from Page 1*

lieve are better for their children. Thousands of students enroll in schools other than the ones automatically assigned to them based on where they live. But a patchwork of rigid policies and informal practices can make that process a dizzying endeavor for many households.

"Parents who don't have the time or energy to fully dive into the admissions processes at all these different places will just come away feeling it's too confusing, it's too byzantine, and there's real danger they'll lose heart in CPS," Schuler told the Tribune. "Who are the better schools open to? That's the problem."

The analysis from Schuler's office, released Wednesday, does not name affected schools or administrators. But the report concluded that 93 percent of the 421 schools it audited had at least one admissions "failure"; close to two-thirds of audited schools had at least 10 improper admissions. Those numbers are estimates, the analysis said, and the audit likely failed to detect some improperly admitted students.

Several principals interviewed by the inspector general's office said they did not know the extent of the district's admissions rules. Many admitted students based on "principal discretion," in which parents lobbied for their children and principals chose to admit them. The district has barred that practice on the elementary level since 2010, the report said.

Still, Schuler's office said the district's admission procedures and regulations have been poorly communicated, laid out piecemeal in various school board policies, district manuals and PowerPoint presentations that few principals saw.

"Others knew the rules, but broke them anyway," Schuler's office said.

Some principals circumvented policies set by the district's enrollment office to give special treatment to children of CPS employees or siblings of existing students — including one administrator of a crowded school who admitted her four children, a niece, a nephew, a teacher's child and a custodian's two children, even though they all lived outside the school's attendance boundary.

Roughly 70 students "improperly bypassed" CPS to enter eight of the city's most competitive open-enrollment kindergartens last school year, Schuler's report said. More than 1,700 other children who properly applied for those seats were left on waitlists.

A principal with a rare tuition-based prekindergarten program described an "unwritten agreement" with former CPS CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett that allowed the school to admit pre-K students from outside the neighborhood into kindergarten. That arrangement, Schuler said, raises the troubling prospect that people are essentially allowed to buy their way into schools.

The district audit, requested by Schuler's office, marks the official debut of an IG "performance analysis unit" intended to broadly evaluate how CPS policies are carried out.

Schuler isn't recommending the district pursue discipline or termination for unnamed elementary school employees in the report, as his office has in past cases involving criminal or ethical lapses.

"Certain cases were unfair, and there's certainly a real danger that things are manifestly unfair in key regards," Schuler said of situations highlighted in the enrollment report. "But they might not all be unfair. Some of them just failed to follow the rules."

CPS says that for a student to attend a non-neighborhood district-operated school, households are supposed to complete applications and work through an admissions process set by the district's Office of Access and Enrollment.

It's a complex process, with some basic points.

Coveted selective-enrollment seats are awarded based on a range of academic metrics. Seats at magnet and open-enrollment schools are supposed to be filled based on a lottery and waitlists. Nonselective schools cannot screen students or admit them based on academic factors. Schools with open seats were generally also listed in an annual district enrollment guide.

Instead, close to 40 percent of some 18,200 elementary school enrollments in the 2016-17 school year that were reviewed by the district did not follow procedure. Those problems were heavily concentrated in neighborhood schools. So much so, Schuler's office said, that more than half the students who enrolled in neighborhood schools outside their home areas last year "improperly bypassed" the district's enrollment office to do so.

At fault is a "widespread pattern of inconsistent and improper admissions practices," combined with a series of loopholes, which Schuler's office said "leave the system vulnerable to fraud and undue influence."

"This constitutes a pervasive problem," the IG report said.

CPS pointed to its new GoCPS electronic application as the solution to many of the problems identified in Schuler's report. The computer-based system has already overhauled the city's high school application process and replaces a paper-based format.

All principals and administrators must now also attend annual training on the district's enrollment policies, the district said.

CPS said it would continue to review enrollment data to identify potential concerns. Schuler's office has also called for the district to create a one-page document that summarizes CPS admissions rules.

"Hopefully one of the outcomes of this is the administration realizes that the nature of the rules need to be clear, they're concise and that parents and principals understand what the rules are to help the perception that there's a level playing field for all these schools," Schuler said.

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Mom denied unsupervised visits with her children

She was convicted in drownings of 3 other kids in '03

By Megan Crepeau
Chicago Tribune

A long court battle over three young children whose mother was convicted in the horrific drowning deaths of her first family ended Tuesday as a Cook County judge appointed an aunt their legal guardian.

Amanda Ware stood silently as the juvenile court judge ruled the children's father, not she, would be allowed unsupervised visits at the aunt's discretion.

The paternal aunt has been caring for the children — now ages 7, 6 and 3 — since they were removed from Ware's home in 2014.

Eleven years earlier, Ware's first three children — ages 6, 3 and 2 — died when the car they were in rolled into a central Illinois lake as Ware and her then-boyfriend stood by and watched, authorities charged. Police later found numerous tiny handprints on the back window — the location of the last remaining air in the car as it sank about 5 feet into Clinton Lake.

The couple told police it was an accident but were charged with murder. The boyfriend, Maurice LaGrone Jr., was convicted and sentenced to life in prison, but a separate DeWitt County jury acquitted Ware of the killings, convicting her instead of child endangerment. Ware, then known as Hamm, was sentenced to five years in prison.

On release from prison, Ware moved to a Chicago halfway house where she met her husband and had three children with him. In 2014, a doctor at Presence St. Joseph Hospital in Chicago's Lakeview East neighborhood, where Ware had just given birth to her youngest child, recognized her and called the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. State child-welfare officials took away their two girls and a boy.

The agreement reached Tuesday placed no formal restrictions on how often the parents are allowed to visit, though Ware's visits must be supervised, the judge ruled.

A caseworker said in court Tuesday that Ware and the children's father, Leo Ware, currently see their children once or twice a week, all under the aunt's supervision.

"We can say it takes a village. We can say a family has to come together, (and) you have done so. ... I think your track record speaks for itself," Judge Demetrios Kottaras told the aunt with a smile during Tuesday's hearing in a small courtroom filled with children's toys.

The aunt, her eyes filled with tears, cheered outside the courtroom after the hearing. She and Leo Ware both declined to comment to reporters. Amanda Ware and her attorney quickly left the courtroom after the 20-minute hearing.

The Wares did not appear to speak with each other during the hearing or outside court. Court records show that the two separated in late 2015 and that Leo Ware filed for divorce last year.

The caseworker spoke glowingly in court of the children's relationship with the aunt, saying they share a strong and affectionate bond.

She also credited the aunt for her good judgment, noting that she called police last year after the Wares once left with the children without permission.

While the initial aim of the proceedings was to find a way to return the children to their parents, that goal was abandoned in recent months when it became clear the Wares were not making the necessary progress, said Carol Casey, an attorney with the public guardian's office who handled the case.

While it is not out of the ordinary for child protection cases to go on for years, Casey said, this case was particularly complex.

"It's an unusual case, to be sure, because of the dramatic background," she told the Tribune.

Over the course of the case, Kottaras often expressed serious concern for the children's safety and excoriated Ware for what he saw as her failures to take responsibility for the drowning deaths.

In 2016 the judge found that Ware was "unable, unwilling and unfit" to parent the three children and expressed concern that she had "deceived and outright conned" her therapist about her involvement in the deaths of her first children.

In ruling in 2015 that Ware's new family would likely be harmed if they remained in their parents' care, Kottaras recounted the drownings in heartbreaking detail. "They stood 4 feet from the car and did nothing to save them," he said of Ware and LaGrone. "Mother is almost 6 feet tall."

"She watched (the car) sink for two minutes," Kottaras said. "Amid cries of 'Mommy! Mommy!' from her children."

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Suburban man arrested at Georgia hotel with missing girl, 11

By Robert McCoppin
Chicago Tribune

A Chicago-area man was arrested at a hotel in Georgia with a Florida girl whom he'd befriended online and then kidnapped, authorities said.

Police said John Peter Byrns, 24, drove from his home in Hoffman Estates to Orlando, Fla., where he picked up the 11-year-old girl down the street from her home between about 10 a.m. and midnight Saturday.

Police caught up with Byrns at a Holiday Inn Express in Macon, Ga., arrested him and safely recovered the girl, according to authorities in Georgia and Florida.

Byrns

Byrns, pretending to be a girl in her young teens, began communicating with the victim after meeting her online through a PlayStation game, police said.

"She's lucky to be alive, that the circumstances are not any worse than what they are," Jerry Demings, the sheriff of Orange County, Fla., said in a televised news conference Monday.

The girl's parents reported her as an endangered runaway around 10 a.m. Sunday. Police said they did a search of the area, then tracked the girl through her cellphone as she traveled north with Byrns.

With help from the FBI, deputies located Byrns with the girl at the hotel about 5 p.m. Sunday.

Byrns is being held in jail in Bibbs County, Ga., on an arrest warrant for kidnapping a child under 13, authorities said.

Demings said the episode was a "cautionary tale" that should remind parents to monitor their children's online activity and be aware of who they are communicating with.

Authorities said Byrns had no prior criminal record, but they are continuing a "very active investigation" into whether he contacted any other children inappropriately.

They asked anyone who knows any relevant information about the suspect to contact police.

Demings said the incident "should scare all of us."

"That's all of our worst nightmares," he said. "I know as a parent, as a grandparent of girls, it is certainly troubling to me that a child could be lured into this type of activity.

"This individual was so convincing he convinced this child to leave her home and meet him in a particular place and he took her away."

The girl has been reunited with her family, officials said.

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Local Regenerative Medicine Center recently announced its latest state-of-the-art healing procedure; regenerative stem cell therapy. Local Regenerative Medicine Center is now offering painless stem cell injections for pain and advanced procedures for arthritic and/or degenerative conditions, expecially those found in the knees, hips, should, neck and lower back.

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Halt urged to 'assassins' game in Hinsdale

School shooting in Florida raises sensitivity issues

By Kimberly Fornek and Chuck Fieldman
Pioneer Press

Students at Hinsdale Central High School are being pressed to stop a game they have played for the past six years because it might appear insensitive to victims of the Florida school shooting.

The "assassins game" is open to all seniors at Central who pay $10 and are randomly assigned another student as a target to "kill" by hitting them with a Nerf gun or squirt gun, or marking them with a marker. The game continues for several weeks until only one person is left.

District 86 officials do not condone the game and prohibit students from playing it on school property and at school-sponsored activities, including athletic events.

"If we see it, we would stop it," said Hinsdale High School District 86 Superintendent Bruce Law. "This is something students do outside of school."

A Central parent is reaching out to other parents to discourage participation.

"Any game that seemingly involves killing, albeit fake killing of students, should be suspended out of respect for all the dead students," said the parent, who did not want to be identified by name.

While she said she understood the students were just trying to have fun, she said the timing made it inappropriate.

"I think the students would cancel this game immediately if the shooting had occurred at a nearby high school," the parent said. She said she allowed her children to play the game, but watching the news coverage of the students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., screaming in terror, "it hit me hard that this game is wrong."

She contacted Law and Central Principal Bill Walsh the day of the Florida shooting to ask for their help stopping the game and copied her emails to Student Council President Alex Choi.

Walsh said he spoke to the students running the game and asked them to end it, and said they were thinking about it.

"We agree that school shootings are terrible, and we in no way are trying to minimize it," Choi said. "We are not condoning violence in any way and have strict rules. This is also voluntary; nobody is forced to play, and we are doing it out of tradition and for fun."

Walsh said school officials planned to meet with some of the students later this week to discuss the situation.

Meanwhile, the game continues. It started with 341 seniors participating, Choi said.

The winner of the game receives $300, the person who hits the most targets gets $100 and the first person to hit their target gets $20. In previous years, the rest of the money raised was donated toward the cost of senior prom, but in emails to the Central parent, District 86 officials said they will not accept any money from the game.

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Another Legionnaires' case as Dems call for action

Republicans blast short notice of hearing on report

By Bill Lukitsch
Chicago Tribune

The Illinois Department of Public Health on Tuesday announced a fourth case of Legionnaires' disease in recent weeks at the state-run veterans home in Quincy, a notice that came just hours after Senate Democrats held the latest in a series of hearings about the outbreaks.

The latest patient is in stable condition, according to the agency. At the hearing in Springfield, Democrats criticized Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner's administration for not showing up to answer questions.

State Sen. Tom Cullerton, D-Villa Park, said it was "disheartening" that the directors overseeing the state's public health and veterans affairs agencies did not attend, adding that he will reschedule a hearing for a time when the administration "would feel more comfortable answering questions."

Republican lawmakers shot back that administration officials were not given enough time to prepare for the meeting, which was organized after the late Friday release of a report about water treatment options that suggested plumbing updates at the home could be less expensive than previous estimates.

Sen. Paul Schimpf, R-Waterloo, said the administration "needs to answer questions about this document" but added that holding a "no-notice" hearing after a holiday weekend "causes this whole process to lose a little bit of credibility.

"I think it's unfortunate that we would call this hearing with an expectation that department heads of the agencies for the state of Illinois would be given less than 48 hours' notice and expected to testify," Schimpf said.

A spokesman for Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Erica Jeffries said she was unable to attend on short notice, adding that she "stands ready to work with this committee." And a spokeswoman for Illinois Department of Public Health Director Nirav Shah echoed the comments about short notice, adding in a statement that he "is not responsible for preparing estimates around infrastructure development."

The central issue in Tuesday's 20-minute back-and-forth was a report commissioned in August 2016 that outlines about $8 million in additional investments that include the partial replacement of old water pipes, suggesting the existing system was a "potential breeding ground of Legionella." Jeffries previously testified that replacing the water system could cost as much as $30 million. The veterans' affairs agency said those estimates reflect different projects.

Sen. Cristina Castro, D-Elgin, said the administration needed to address lingering questions about the cost of the project.

"Director Jeffries threw out a bunch of numbers," Castro said. "First it was $500 million, then it was $30 million. This report says it's $8 million. Why didn't we get that information from the get-go if they've been sitting on it for three years?"

Castro suggested lawmakers approve money for new construction at the home.

"This is an emergency situation. It's an emergency situation. So if the administration and its staff are not willing to do what's necessary, then I think we should do something," Castro said.

The outbreaks, which began in 2015 and have left 13 dead and sickened dozens more, have been a challenge for Rauner as he seeks re-election to a second term. Critics have questioned the administration's handling of the situation, which Rauner has defended. Rauner's Republican primary challenger state Rep. Jeanne Ives of Wheaton scheduled a Wednesday news conference to address the issue, and Democratic governor candidate J.B. Pritzker's campaign renewed its criticism of the governor.

The administration has said it made improvements outlined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and invested $6 million to improve the water system with heat and chemical treatments and new filtration methods.

Among the residents who fell ill this month is Ivan Jackson, a 79-year-old Air Force veteran who was the governor's guest to his State of the State speech in January.

wlukitsch@chicagotribune.com

Naperville pour-your-own bars could face additional restrictions

By Diane Moca
Naperville Sun

As a second pour-your-own establishment prepares to open its doors in downtown Naperville this spring, the city's Liquor Commission is working on the creation of a new permit that lays out the rules for self-serve bars and restaurants.

"We have Red Arrow coming to town. There's nothing in the code to prevent others from doing the same thing," said Mayor Steve Chirico, who heads the commission. "This allows us to get rules around this so we can control it."

Red Arrow Tap Room is to open at 216 S. Washington St. this spring, according to Chief Executive Officer Joseph Tota.

The restaurant and bar will feature a beer wall with 48 varieties on tap, giving patrons the chance to fill their own glass using a Pour Pass card, just as they do at Tota's first location in Elmhurst, which opened early last year.

SixtyFour — A Wine Bar opened in June at 123 Water St., allowing customers to choose from among 64 wines they can serve themselves using a SmartCard at a wine station kiosk. The wine bar also sells 64 types of beer in bottles or cans.

Both restaurants have obtained a Class B liquor license, City Attorney Kavita Athanikar said. The new pour-your-own permit would be attached to that or a Class J license, which governs hotel/motel taverns, if the owner plans to offer a self-serve option.

While Tota did not attend the meeting, he said later that he believes "pour-your-own is a safer way to dispense beer because every ounce that is poured is tracked and tied back to a specific customer. The beer wall, which is 32 linear feet, is managed and monitored by beer ambassadors that are there to educate and engage customers but also make sure they are pouring responsibly and underage people are not trying to pour.

"We have multiple beer ambassadors per shift; they cover 8 linear feet of the tap wall," Tota said. "Each 8-foot segment has 12 taps, so your beer ambassador is covering the size of a small counter."

The commission is considering regulations that would mandate such supervision.

"The license doesn't require them to observe, but the (new) permit should," Chirico said.

Tota said beer ambassadors are more attentive to customers' consumption than bartenders, who are "busy and can't keep track. Your beer ambassador is solely there to engage customers and monitor them; they are not distracted by pouring and serving customers."

DIANE MOCA/NAPERVILLE SUN
Red Arrow Tap Room will have beer that customers can pour for themselves when it opens this spring in Naperville.

Someone watching how much people are consuming would be a necessary component of the permit rules, Commissioner Joe Vozar said at the meeting.

Other rules could include "cameras and retention of footage for 90 days, the ability to cut off a tap by ounces (consumed), the amount of taps available," Vozar said.

Customers must show identification proving they are 21 or older to get a Pour Pass card, Tota said, "and that card will be cut off after 24 ounces, less than two average bottles of beer. So then a trained beer ambassador will evaluate customers' sobriety, and they can activate them for an additional 24 ounces."

Tota said he understands the concerns of Naperville officials, whom he described as "very welcoming" to his business.

"The mayor, city prosecutor and one of the commissioners stopped in Elmhurst to view our operation. When I presented in front of the Liquor Commission in November, they unanimously approved our application.

"Before any (new) legislation is passed, I would think that visiting the establishment and seeing the controls in place would help the governing body make a decision," he said. "There are a lot of misconceptions. ... There's no point of reference for this type of concept."

Chirico suggested any proposed permit be sent "to the businesses to get their input. They'll have to apply to get the permit next year even if they're in business today."

The current proposal would allow six pour-your-own locations in the city: two downtown and four elsewhere.

Athanikar said it would likely be a few months before the Liquor Commission would review and recommend a new permit.

It would have to be approved by the City Council before it could take effect in 2019.

Diane Moca is a freelance reporter for the Naperville Sun.

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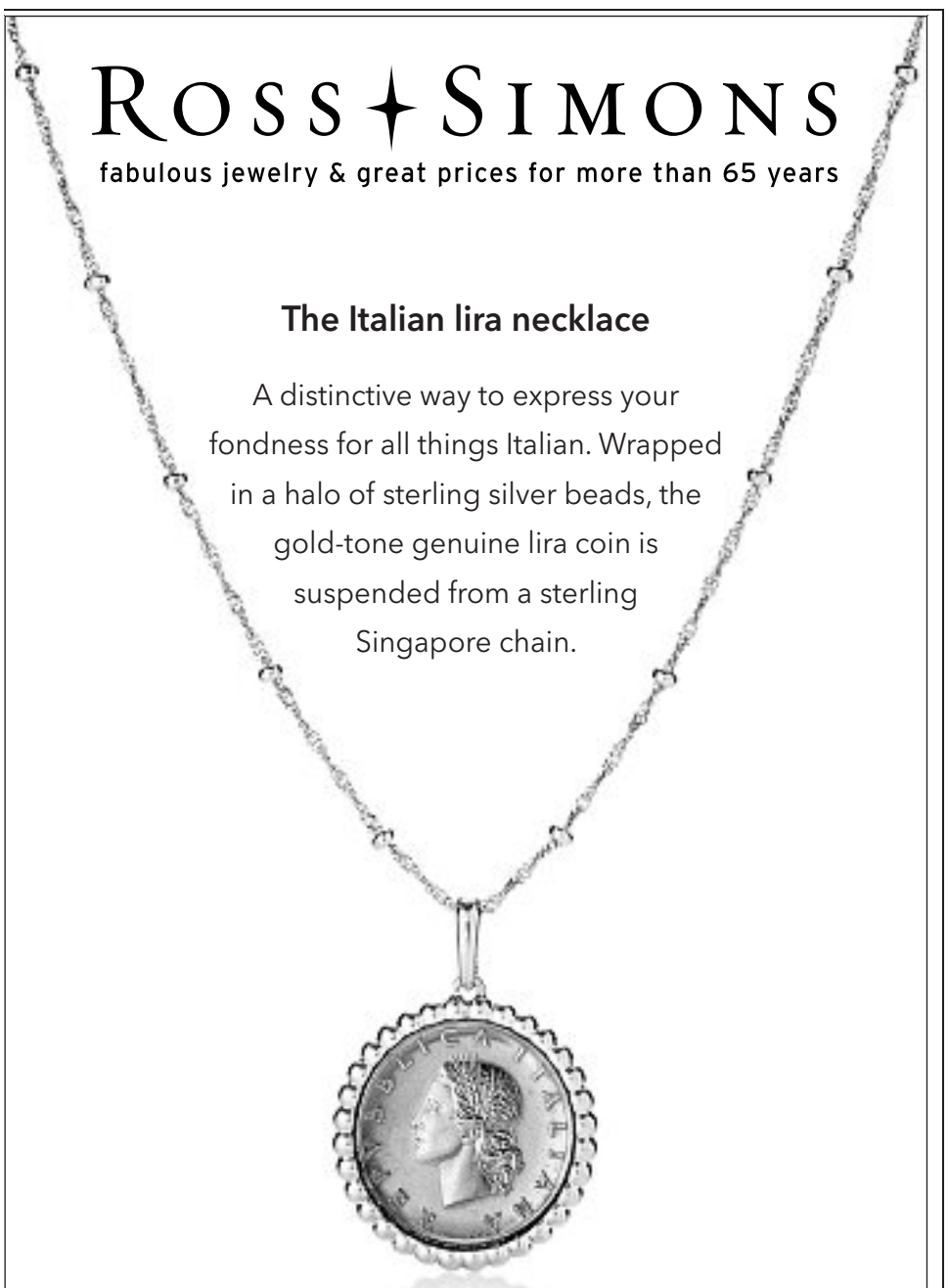

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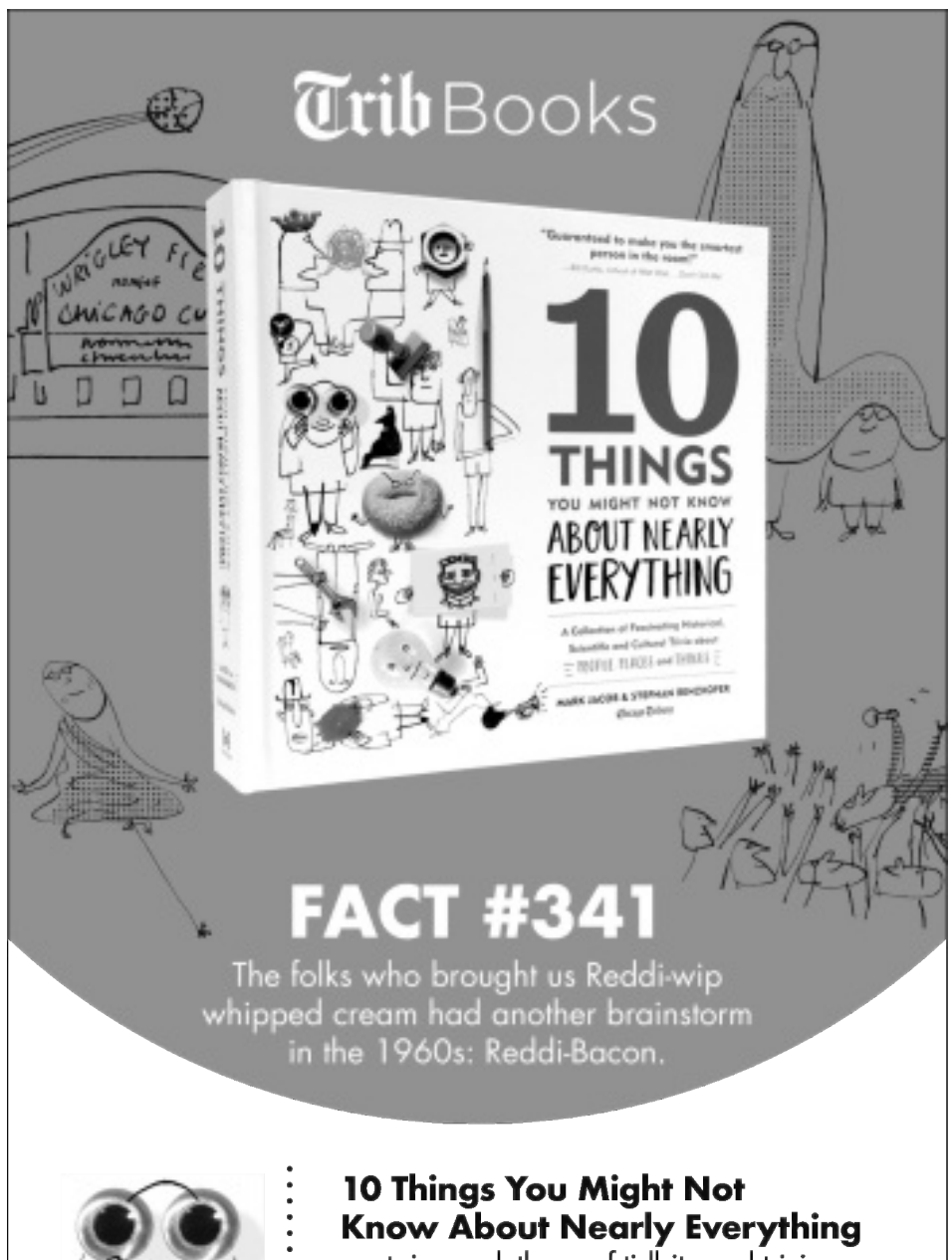

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FACT #84: A cardigan worn by a man is sometimes called a mandigan.

FACT #178 : Genuphobia 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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Cyclists to document the cancer experience

Cross-country ride to gather people's stories, raise funds

By Donna Vickroy
Daily Southtown

KATHERINE POWELL PHOTO

Katherine Powell, University of Illinois senior and Homer Glen native, will join a team of bicyclists with a mission.

Katherine Powell has never ridden more than 15 miles on a bicycle. Yet she'll join a team of 24 other cyclists on a trek across the United States this summer.

"Everyone tells me I'm nuts," said the senior at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and native of Homer Glen who is now in training for the average 70 miles a day she'll log during the 2018 Illini 4000 Bike America ride.

Illini 4000 is a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising money for cancer research while documenting the American cancer experience through The Portraits Project, a series of stories told by cancer survivors, patients and caregivers. Team members, most of them U. of I. students, raise money and gather biographies of people they meet along the route.

Among those interviewed for the project: A Utah mother of five whose two sons were diagnosed with cancer. A woman from Deerfield whose rare form of duodenal cancer will require her to receive chemotherapy treatment the rest of her life. A pastor from Montana whose family was on a mission in Papua, New Guinea, when his wife found a mass in her breast.

The stories, gathered from the road, are of triumph and heartbreak, of strength and determination, of survival and loss. Together they paint a portrait of the American cancer experience.

"We're trying to put together a network for cancer patients," Powell said. "So they can have something to help support them through their struggles, something to show them they're not really alone."

The video interviews "show what's happening around the country and help connect community members with different organizations around them," she said.

A much-needed benefit, Powell said, is "the stories create a bond" among survivors, family members and caregivers.

"Once I found out about this ride and how it's trying to build a community, it meant a lot to be a part of it," she said.

Enough to take on a 78-day grueling challenge that will take her over mountains, across rivers and to the foot of various national landmarks.

Alia Alsikafi, a Lake Bluff sophomore who went on the ride last year and now heads marketing for the group, said, "The Portraits Project is a huge reason why riders can get through the grueling trip.

"Anyone we encounter who's been affected by cancer and wants to share their story, we give them that opportunity," she said.

Hearing the stories of struggle and determination, Alsikafi said, gives the cyclists the strength they need to push through.

At the end of the ride, Alsikafi said, "People ask, 'How did you do it?' In general most of us say we didn't think we could do it. But the organization is built on a lot of mini goals that add up to this big trip. We all have this unreserved strength that is not brought out unless you're the kind of person trying to find your limits."

The mission can have soul-searching benefits for the riders too. Alsikafi said she came away with 24 new best friends and a new component to add to her previously declared psychology major: pre-med.

"I like to be hands-on and I have a passion to help others. Hearing the stories of people was therapeutic for them, but for me, it changed my life," she said. "Now, I want to be the doctor to help these people and get them out of that physical state. I came back to campus with a new goal of what I want to commit my career to."

Powell, who attended St. Cyril Methodius grammar school in Lemont and Mother McAuley High School in Mount Greenwood, said, "I've had a lot of family members affected by cancer so I think it's my time to step up and do something about it. I lost three grandparents to cancer when I was pretty young. At the time I didn't really know what cancer was. In high school I lost my uncle and then my aunt. Seeing them die — it's a lot different when you can understand it. It kind of put in perspective how short life is."

It hammered home the message "You gotta make the most of it. Because you don't know how much time you have," she said.

Powell said the 2018 ride, which includes cyclists from Naperville, Northbrook and Plainfield, as well as Shanghai, China, kicks off May 19 from New York's Central Park. The team will average 70 miles per day until it pulls up to San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge more than two months later.

The journey also will afford the graphics design major one more grand adventure before she heads into the world of work. As a college freshman, Powell was the youngest member of a study abroad group that traveled to New Zealand.

Each rider agrees to a fundraising goal of $4,000 and a training schedule, she said. First semester is indoor, focusing on cardio as well as abs and leg workouts, and the second semester involves logging miles on the bikes.

Alsikafi said last year's team raised $110,000. Beneficiaries include national and local organizations, including the American Cancer Society, Be Positive, Camp Kessam and the Damon Runyan Foundation, she said.

Illini 4000 started on the university campus in 2007 by a group of students in the same dorm who wanted to make a difference in a fun and hands-on learning environment, Alsikafi said.

"They decided one summer to bike from coast to coast. As years passed, they got more people involved and it became a nonprofit organization," she said.

The 4000 denotes the fundraising goal and the average number of miles logged on each summer's ride.

Each student takes an active role in planning the trip, scouting out free overnight accommodations for the team and contributing to the story collection.

Among the cancer survivors featured in The Portraits Project (**www.portraitsproject.org**) is Betty Schatz, of Kankakee.

In her interview, she says, "(Cancer has) taught me to take one day at a time and to lower my expectations. I shouldn't expect people to treat me differently because I had cancer. It affects everybody. Even if you don't have cancer yourself, you know people who have it or you know people whose family is going through this."

It is the openness, the rawness, the poignancy, Alsikafi said, that gets riders over mountains and across prairies.

"You get to the Golden Gate Bridge," she said, "and it feels like a dream."

For more information on Illini 4000, go to **illini4000.org**.

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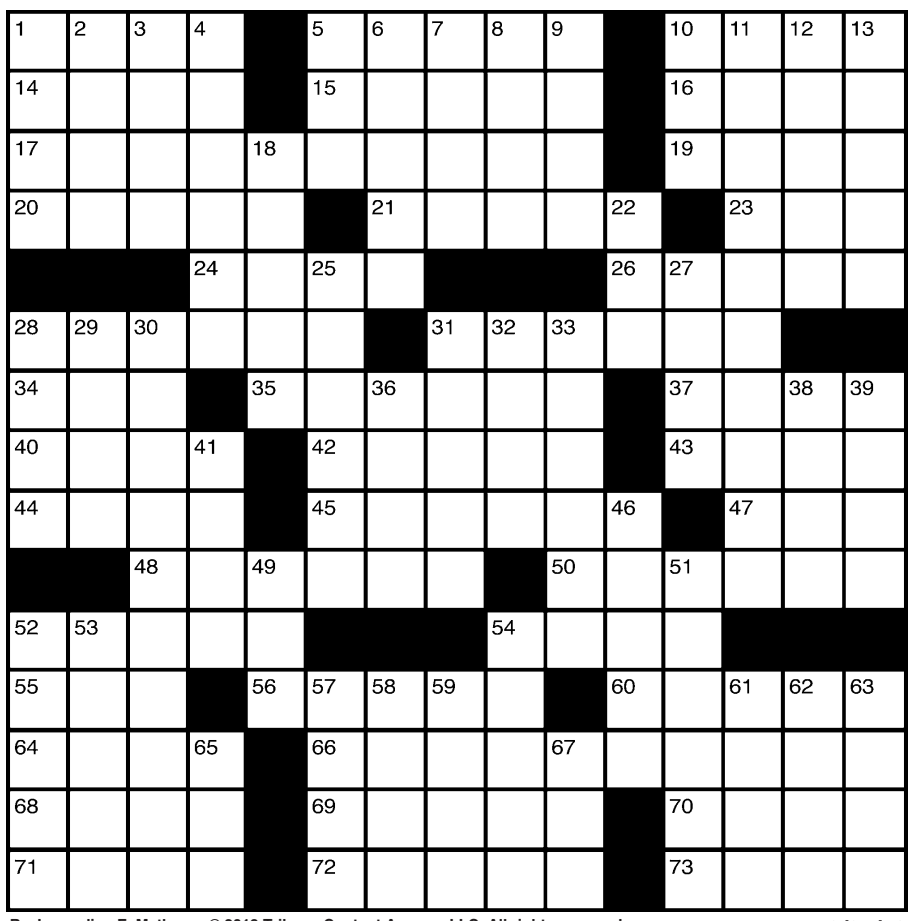
Crossword



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2/21/18

ACROSS
1 Nation that borders Bolivia
5 Chef's accessory
10 Emily or Markie
14 Precipitation
15 "Good for you!"
16 Sore
17 Excluded from a group
19 TV crime series
20 Lively horse
21 Make __ of; figure out
23 Family card game
24 First of zillions
26 Fluttering tree
28 Confused
31 Singer who sang "Respect"
34 Whopper
35 Farm horse
37 Mosquito bite woe
40 Circle portions
42 Perch
43 Contemptible
44 Tide type
45 Parents and grandparents
47 TV's "Days of __ Lives"
48 Sell from a cart
50 Merited
52 Rebuke
54 Honor with a party
55 "Thanks a __!"
56 Paddled boat
60 In flames
64 Go __; depart
66 Nonstop
68 Location
69 Implied, though not said
70 __ aside; get out of the way
71 Views
72 Lean-tos
73 Not difficult

DOWN
1 __ and cons; arguments for and against
2 Vane direction
3 Ceremony
4 Dreamlike
5 Top file drawer, perhaps
6 Crystal that refracts light
7 Use a bulldozer
8 Baker's need
9 __ off; dozes
10 "Peter __"
11 Job
12 Glow
13 Mike or Cicely
18 __ together; combined
22 Gobble up
25 Venerated
27 Prison knife
28 Alda or Thicke
29 Crucial
30 Behead
31 Home
32 Ascend
33 Dinner course
36 __ weevil; cotton plant destroyer
38 Detective's bit of evidence
39 Group of buffalo
41 Ran fast
46 Hell's ruler
49 Two months ago: abbr.
51 Turn down
52 Elegance
53 TV's Mandel
54 Smelly
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Independent inquiry sought in scandal

Madigan, *from Page 1*

the speaker's backyard — the Southwest Side and suburban 3rd Congressional District, home of Madigan's 13th Ward organization.

On Tuesday, Democratic challenger Marie Newman added her name to the list of those calling for the speaker to give up his party chairmanship. Newman is taking on 13-year Democratic U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski, who succeeded his father, William, a 22-year congressman.

"It is time for Michael Madigan to resign as chair of the Democratic Party of Illinois. Anything less would put the Democrats' political prospects at risk in November — and more importantly, would send a signal to all victims that their voices don't matter, and that the status quo will never be disrupted," she said.

Newman's call came as more and more rank-and-file female Democratic lawmakers sought an independent investigation into the handling of the two harassment complaints, saying Madigan-led efforts were not appropriate.

Quinn

"We need to do this in a way that brings an end to the drip, drip, drip," said Democratic Rep. Kelly Cassidy, one of 34 women in Madigan's 67-member House Democratic caucus. "I want to rip the Band-Aid off and know what we are dealing with."

Cassidy said that likely would require the help of someone outside of Illinois. The Chicago legislator said "normally" the Illinois attorney general would be asked to intervene, "but there is nothing normal about this."

Attorney General Lisa Madigan is the speaker's daughter. She is not seeking re-election after serving four terms.

"I think she has shown herself to be relatively independent of him, but the reality is the public needs to trust in this. We have to do whatever we can to make sure the credibility of this is unquestionable," Cassidy said.

NANCY STONE/TRIBUNE

Alaina Hampton complained about a Madigan aide.

Brown, Madigan's spokesman, said the speaker spoke with Cassidy about her calls for an outside investigation. Brown said Madigan told Cassidy that he would "cooperate fully" and would ask the speaker's designated outside counsel, Kelly Smith-Haley, to "assist."

Cassidy said she didn't know what Madigan meant by "assist" but would speak further with Smith-Haley. Earlier Tuesday, Cassidy said the investigators "should not be Democratic elected officials, individuals or firms with pre-existing ties to the speaker."

But there are questions about Smith-Haley's ties to Madigan's political operation. Smith-Haley's brother Bill Smith is a partner at Cornerstone Government Affairs, a lobbying firm, while another brother, Mike Smith, is a principal and senior director, NBC-owned WMAQ-Ch. 5 reported. Brown referred questions about the family relationship to Smith-Haley, who could not be reached for comment.

In June, Madigan's former political director Will Cousineau joined Cornerstone. Cousineau worked for Madigan for nearly 18 years, according to the firm's website, and was in charge of political operations in 2016 when the harassment issues allegedly took place.

Before Madigan responded to Cassidy, Democratic state Sen. Melinda Bush of Grayslake said, "We need a real, independent law firm, not someone that is hired by the chair of the party, and that's what's happened."

Bush also said she did not believe the chair of the Democratic Party should also serve as either speaker of the House or president of the Senate. Bush said Madigan "should seriously consider" resigning as party chairman.

"I think there is an incestuous relationship that occurs there that is not healthy," Bush said.

Democratic state Sen. Toi Hutchinson of Olympia Fields said "the reason you don't have hordes of women running forward and telling their stories and naming names is because we are still not safe to do that.

"Independence has to be connected to fair and impartial, and I don't know if any of us know what that looks like right now," Hutchinson said.

On Friday, the speaker sent a letter to House Democrats saying he bears "responsibility" for failing to do more to prevent harassment, abuse or retaliation at the statehouse and on the campaign trail. The note followed a tumultuous week for Madigan, who days earlier announced longtime 13th Ward political operative Kevin Quinn was cut loose.

That announcement came hours after the Chicago Tribune interviewed campaign worker Alaina Hampton, who shared text messages that detail a relentless series of entreaties from Quinn, her supervisor. Quinn also commented on her appearance, calling her "smoking hot."

On Monday, Madigan announced a second high-ranking campaign staffer would no longer be involved in his campaign organization, citing "inappropriate behavior by a volunteer toward a candidate and staff" during a 2016 campaign.

While Madigan's statement did not name the operative, sources familiar with the circumstances confirmed that it is Shaw Decremer, a Capitol lobbyist whose client list includes ComEd, Dish Network and the Illinois State Medical Society.

Democratic state Rep. Deb Conroy of Villa Park described the Decremer case as an "abuse of power."

"We change the culture by calling out the bullies, by saying this behavior is not acceptable, and it needs to change," Conroy said.

Madigan's political organization effectively seized control of the state Democratic Party operation in 1990, and the speaker formally became its chairman eight years later. The move effectively consolidated his political power and fundraising ability, and he's focused largely on ensuring Democratic majorities in the Illinois House.

During his 47 years in the Illinois House, 35 of them as speaker, there have been several premature pronouncements of Madigan's political demise.

Madigan himself has not been formally accused of any harassment, and his supporters have said the speaker has sought to take quick action to deal with the #MeToo issue.

Still, internal Democratic criticism of Madigan — or even the appearance of a weakened House speaker — could play into Republican hands in the fall after four years and tens of millions of dollars in attack ads by GOP Gov. Bruce Rauner.

Rauner's sustained campaign has vastly diminished Madigan's public standing, and the governor has blamed the speaker's lengthy tenure for Illinois' ills. Madigan has accused those calling for him to step down from either the speakership, the party chairmanship or both as doing Rauner's handiwork.

But the controversy has helped fuel Madigan critics.

Democratic attorney general candidate Scott Drury, a state representative from Highwood, doubled down on his previous call for Madigan to resign. He sent the speaker a letter in which he also requested Madigan testify under oath to a House personnel committee and allow legislation to move forward to appoint an independent investigator similar to special counsel Robert Mueller, who is looking into connections between the Russian government and people connected with Donald Trump's presidential campaign.

"To the public, it appears you are more concerned with protecting alleged abusers, harassers and bullies than you are with protecting alleged victims," Drury wrote.

Democratic governor candidate Chris Kennedy previously has attacked Madigan's private career as a property tax appeals lawyer in a "corrupt" real estate tax system. On Tuesday, Kennedy said Madigan needed to give up the reins of the party chairmanship during an independent investigation.

"We need to set the tone at the top. The head of the Democratic Party needs to make the sacrifice and say, 'Look, I'm stepping aside.' I don't believe that the speaker did anything wrong. I don't know that he did. But unless he steps aside and allows someone else to lead that investigation, well, he'll never calm these waters," Kennedy said on a day he campaigned with his nephew, U.S. Rep. Joe Kennedy III, D-Mass.

Chris Kennedy also used the harassment controversy to attack one of his rivals, billionaire J.B. Pritzker, who has avoided direct criticism of Madigan throughout the campaign. Pritzker, who has poured $56.2 million of his fortune into his campaign, has seen the Democratic establishment coalesce behind his candidacy.

"I think people like J.B. Pritzker who can't criticize him (Madigan), that makes it very difficult to win the general election," Kennedy said. "It makes him almost unelectable in a general election. We need to have that freedom, the space to be critical of our own party. Unless we have that freedom, then the leadership is, in fact, toxic."

In response, Pritzker said in a statement that "it's clear that not enough was done and there needs to be a completely independent investigation to get to the bottom of what took place and hold the right people accountable."

"I agree with Rep. Kelly Cassidy and believe the people investigating Speaker Madigan's operation should have no political or other ties to the speaker," said Pritzker, who added that a new Democratic task force on women "will help make our party and our state stronger." Madigan created the task force last weekend.

Another Democratic contender for governor, state Sen. Daniel Biss of Evanston, who is seeking to appeal to U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders-style progressives, has called for Madigan to step down as party chairman.

Meanwhile, state Sen. Kwame Raoul of Chicago, who is also seeking the Democratic nomination for attorney general, announced Tuesday that he was donating a $250 contribution from Decremer to the Time's Up Legal Defense Fund, which helps with legal representation for sexual harassment victims.

Rick Pearson reported from Chicago.

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Chicago Tribune
NATION & WORLD

Mueller probe gains lawyer's plea of guilt

Oligarch's kin is 4th to plead guilty in investigation of Russian election role

By Joseph Tanfani and Chris Megerian
Washington Bureau

SUSAN WALSH/AP

Alex van der Zwaan, seen at a hearing in federal court in Washington on Tuesday, worked with former Trump aides Paul Manafort and Richard Gates.

WASHINGTON — A lawyer linked to two of President Donald Trump's former campaign aides ensnared in the continuing Russia inquiry has pleaded guilty to lying to investigators of special counsel Robert Mueller.

The lawyer, Alex van der Zwaan, previously worked at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, a prominent law firm that generated a controversial report used to defend the former pro-Russian government of Ukraine against accusations that it had improperly prosecuted a political opponent.

Van der Zwaan, 33, the son-in-law of a Russian oligarch, had worked with Paul Manafort and Richard Gates, former Trump campaign aides who have been indicted by Mueller on charges related to alleged money laundering, including the use of offshore accounts to funnel $4 million used to pay for the law firm's report.

He is the fourth person to plead guilty in Mueller's investigation of Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential campaign and the possible involvement of Trump's campaign.

Gates, Manafort's former business partner, is expected to plead guilty in the coming days and testify against Manafort, the Washington Bureau reported on Sunday.

George Papadopoulos, a former Trump campaign aide, pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI last year and is reported to be a cooperating witness. Court papers show he had several contacts with people representing themselves as being tied to the Russian government starting in the spring of 2016.

Trump's former national security adviser, Michael Flynn, also pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI about his conversations with the Russian ambassador and is a cooperating witness.

At a hearing in U.S. District Court in Washington, van der Zwaan pleaded guilty to one count of lying during interviews at the special counsel's office, including about his communications with Gates. He also admitted deleting an email exchange with someone based in Ukraine.

Van der Zwaan said he expected a sentence no longer than six months. U.S. District Judge Amy Berman Jackson said he had offered some cooperation with Mueller's investigation, although it was unclear whether he is continuing to provide information in the Russia inquiry. Andrew Weissmann, one of Mueller's top deputies, said his office had not filed a cooperation agreement as part of the deal.

On Friday, Mueller filed charges against 13 Russians for their efforts to use social media to stir chaos and confrontation in U.S. voters and to support Trump over Hillary Clinton.

Manafort, once Trump's campaign manager, was a longtime adviser to Viktor Yanukovich, the former leader of Ukraine, who was allied with Moscow.

The Yanukovich government had jailed a political rival, Yulia Tymoshenko, and commissioned the law firm's report in hopes of countering a wave of international outrage. The Skadden investigation, supervised in part by Gregory Craig, former White House counsel under President Barack Obama, said there wasn't strong evidence of "political motivation" in the prosecution.

Van der Zwaan is married to the daughter of Russian oligarch German Khan, who also has a connection with the Russia investigation. Khan has sued Fusion GPS, the research firm that paid for a now-famous dossier compiled by former British intelligence agent Christopher Steele.

In interviews, van der Zwaan told investigators that he last communicated with Gates with an innocuous text message in August 2016 and said he had no idea why investigators had not received certain emails.

In fact, van der Zwaan called his Ukranian contact "and discussed in Russian that formal criminal charges might be brought against a former Ukrainian minister of justice," along with the Skadden firm and Manafort, court papers say. He recorded a call with Gates, and also called the "senior partner" at the prominent firm and partially recorded that conversation, prosecutors said.

He admitted destroying emails sought by prosecutors.

In a statement, the Skadden firm said it terminated van der Zwaan last year and has been cooperating with the investigation.

Van der Zwaan, a Dutch citizen, has turned in his passport and is restricted to Washington and Manhattan. The judge agreed to expedite his sentencing because his wife, who lives in London, is expecting a baby in August.

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At Russian troll farm, hot takes and obvious fakes

U.S. indictment glosses over its less convincing efforts

By Raphael Satter and Nataliya Vasilyeva
Associated Press

DMITRY LOVETSKY/AP 2015

The U.S. alleges this building in St. Petersburg, Russia, housed the Internet Research Agency, a troll farm.

MOSCOW — A Clinton-Obama sex tape using body doubles. A Facebook page promoting Texas independence riddled with grammatical mistakes. Islamic State anthems blasting out during the nightshift.

The U.S. indictment centered on a Russian troll farm only scratches the surface of the St. Petersburg agency that allegedly produced online content to sway the 2016 presidential election — and glosses over how unconvincing some of its stunts could be.

Many of the more eye-popping accounts of the Internet Research Agency's activities have come from former staff members. One, Alan Baskaev, told the independent Russian television channel Rain last year that the agency made a video that looked like a U.S. soldier shooting a Quran and had even hired two actors in an abortive bid to fake a sex tape of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton.

"No one would buy it, clearly," Baskaev told the broadcaster, laughing.

The Associated Press couldn't confirm Baskaev's sex tape story, but a video of a purported U.S. soldier in desert camouflage firing an assault-style weapon at a Quran was posted to an American gun forum in September 2015.

The fakery was screamingly obvious: The soldier's uniform was misshapen and out of date. His helmet resembled the headwear a cyclist might wear and the English he spoke was so heavily accented it was almost indecipherable.

The BBC's Russian service identified the man in 2016 as a bartender in St. Petersburg, a friend of someone who worked at the troll factory.

The Quran video and others like it were ignominious flops. The New York Times Magazine in 2015 identified other fake videos, including footage meant to spark panic about a chemical plant explosion in Louisiana supposedly caused by the Islamic State group. Another showed a phony shooting in Atlanta, Ga., that carried echoes of Michael Brown's fatal 2014 encounter with police in Ferguson, Mo.

The indictment that charged 13 Russians with meddling in the presidential race makes no mention of them, but the amateurish videos continued through the election. Last year The Daily Beast said it had identified "Williams and Kalvin" — a rap duo purportedly from Atlanta that appeared in YouTube videos — as operatives of the Russian troll operation. Speaking in a thick Nigerian accent, the man who went by Williams slammed Hillary Clinton as a racist and said, "This is time for change."

"Let our vote go for Trump, because this man is a businessman, he's not a politician," he continued. "Any businessman cannot be a racist."

The cringe-inducing quality of such videos and other pieces of the trolls' work is another aspect of the alleged interference left out of the indictment — and much of the attendant media coverage.

Attorney General Jeff Sessions on Tuesday announced he is convening a task force that will focus on cyber security, including efforts to interfere in U.S. elections.

In ordering the task force, Sessions did not mention the U.S. indictment issued last week but said that exploring digital efforts to interfere with elections would be a priority.

"The internet has given us amazing new tools that help us work, communicate, and participate in our economy, but these tools can also be exploited by criminals, terrorists, and enemy governments," Sessions' statement said. "At the Department of Justice, we take these threats seriously. That is why today I am ordering the creation of a Cyber-Digital Task Force to advise me on the most effective ways that this Department can confront these threats and keep the American people safe."

The Washington Post contributed.

Russian election plot touched even minor Trump supporters

By Catherine Lucey
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — The request was simple: Organize or attend a sign-waving rally supporting Donald Trump. But some of the Florida Republicans on the receiving end of those requests now know that they didn't come from Republican allies but from Russian adversaries.

Caught up in an elaborate Russian plot without their knowledge, a handful of these small-time Trump supporters said their votes were not swayed and they didn't do anything they weren't happy to do. Still, their interactions with the Russians highlight the ways that the nation's campaign process was infiltrated.

"I was going to do what I was going to do anyway. I was a Trump supporter, they didn't convince me," said Jim Frishe, a real estate development consultant and candidate for county office, who organized a sign-waving event in Clearwater that was part of a statewide series of rallies promoted by the Russians.

The Florida rallies are one small facet of the indictment issued Friday by special counsel Robert Mueller charging 13 Russians and three Russian companies with interfering in the 2016 election. The most detailed allegation of illegal Russian meddling to date, it says they assumed U.S. identities, sowed discord on social media, communicated with "unwitting" Americans and even set up political rallies from afar.

As part of that, the indictment says the Russians used a Facebook group, a Twitter account and other "false U.S. personas" to organize coordinated "Florida Goes Trump" rallies on Aug. 20, 2016. They reached out to campaign staff, grass-roots groups supporting Trump, and specific individuals to participate.

Frishe, 68, said he was called by someone identifying themselves as with a group called "Florida for Trump" and asked to organize a sign-waving rally. He said 15 to 18 people showed up and that he didn't receive any signs or money or other support. He never heard from them again.

He said he was not overly concerned about the indictment, or his minor role in the drama and that Russian interference is "nothing new."

Still, the indictment details a sizable effort to disrupt the 2016 presidential election, aimed in part at helping Trump defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton. It involved creating internet postings in the names of Americans whose identities had been stolen; staging political rallies while posing as American political activists; and paying people in the U.S. to promote or disparage candidates.

Lilia Morraz also put together an event. She said she got involved after she encountered the @March_for_Trump account on Twitter, one of the accounts the Russians used.

Morraz was skeptical about a Russian plot. "I just don't believe it," she said.

ABDULMONAM EASSA/GETTY-AFP

A rescue volunteer communicates Tuesday as civilians flee in a part of eastern Ghouta.

Syrian government strikes kill 250 civilians in 48 hours

Far north of there, pro-Assad fighters defy Turkey leader

By Philip Issa and Bassem Mroue
Associated Press

BEIRUT — Government forces bombed the northeastern suburbs of the Syrian capital for a second straight day Tuesday, killing more than 100 people and raising the specter of a full-scale offensive that could spell catastrophe for the nearly 400,000 residents trapped under siege.

Rescuers raced to reach survivors in the devastated Damascus suburbs known as eastern Ghouta as warplanes and helicopter gunships circled overhead, bombing hospitals, apartment blocks, markets and other civilian targets. The suburbs are the last major stronghold for rebels in the capital region.

At least 250 civilians, including 58 children, were killed during the 48 hours of unrelenting onslaught that began Monday, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group. Another 1,000 people were wounded, it said. "We no longer have the words to describe children's suffering and our outrage," the U.N. children's agency said in a terse statement about the carnage.

In northern Syria, meanwhile, pro-government gunmen crossed into the Kurdish enclave of Afrin in an agreement with the main Kurdish militia there to defend against a Turkish offensive intended to uproot the main Kurdish militia from the area.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the pro-government fighters had been warned to stay out of Afrin, where Syrian state television showed they were immediately targeted by Turkish shelling.

"Of course it is impossible for us to allow this," Erdogan said. "They will pay a heavy price."

Regarding eastern Ghouta, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov appeared to endorse the assault, which he said was backed by the Russian air force. "In keeping with the existing agreements, the fight against terrorism cannot be restricted by anything," he said.

Russia has been an unwavering ally of Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces and was instrumental to the all-out assault in late 2016 that ejected rebels from their enclave in eastern Aleppo — an outcome that Lavrov said could serve as a model for eastern Ghouta.

Pro-government forces have been amassing since the weekend on the perimeter of the rebel-held region, a collection of towns and farmland that once provided grain and fruit to the capital before nearly five years of warfare turned it into a landscape of havoc and despair.

The towns of eastern Ghouta were among the first to organize into self-governing collectives and shake off government rule after popular demonstrations against Assad swept through the country in 2011, eventually leading to civil war. They are also among the last to resist Assad's determined campaign to bring every last rebellious corner of the country to heel. Assad and his allies maintain they are fighting a war on terrorism.

DIBYANGSHU SARKAR/GETTY-AFP

Laborers work on the road leading to the Trump Tower project in Kolkata, India.

In India to pitch projects, Trump Jr. slips into politics

President's son to give policy speech at business summit

By Shashank Bengali
Los Angeles Times

MUMBAI, India — Landing in New Delhi on Tuesday to begin what was billed as an unofficial tour to promote his family's real estate interests in India, Donald Trump Jr. wasted little time before veering into international politics.

Some of Trump Jr.'s first statements in India could be seen as crossing the line into geopolitics, showing how difficult it is to focus solely on business when you're the son of the U.S. president and you haven't been exactly shy about defending his political views, statements and policies while running his business.

Asked to compare India with China as a place to invest, President Trump's eldest son — and acting head of his business empire — told journalists: "As a businessman, I feel things here are substantially more aboveboard."

"I think the mentality of the people is the same," the Press Trust of India quoted Trump Jr. as saying. "I think there is probably a little bit more honesty."

The comparison undoubtedly flattered his Indian hosts, who view China as a strategic rival in Asia, but illustrated what many U.S. critics described as the ethical and political quandaries surrounding Trump Jr.'s multicity tour of the country this week.

Trump Jr. has described this as purely a business trip to boost sales in four luxury real estate projects in India that have the Trump name attached. A fifth, commercial property is in the works outside New Delhi, making India the Trump Organization's most active overseas market.

But Trump Jr. could hardly avoid politics completely.

He is scheduled to deliver a policy address on Friday at a business summit in New Delhi, with the topic listed as "Reshaping Indo-Pacific ties." The conference brings together executives and policymakers, and organizers say it will "showcase India's rise in world affairs."

On the website of the summit, sponsored by a leading Indian newspaper, Trump Jr. received second billing among the speakers, after Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and ahead of the country's finance minister, Arun Jaitley.

And he was due to attend at least two dinners to thank buyers of apartments in Trump-branded properties, including in the New Delhi satellite city of Gurgaon, which features apartments priced from $750,000 to $1.5 million.

Trump's Indian partner, Tribeca, launched the Gurgaon project last month and promised any buyer who put down a 30 percent deposit an invitation to dinner with Trump Jr.

The dinners gave the appearance, to some ethics experts in the U.S., that the Trump Organization was selling access to a member of the president's inner circle. A representative of Mumbai-based Tribeca who was not authorized to speak to the media said the dinner would be a "meet-and-greet" and "nothing at all about politics."

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ANALYSIS

President has wavered before on gun action

Nothing happened after Vegas. Now, he's looking to do something after Parkland.

By Christi Parsons
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The deadly school shooting in Florida has moved President Donald Trump to call for a ban on devices that turn legal firearms into automatic assault rifles. But some gun control supporters expressed skepticism: He has promised action before in response to a mass killing, only to drop it when Americans' attention wanes.

Trump said Tuesday that he had directed Attorney General Jeff Sessions to "very soon" propose regulations to get rid of the so-called bump stocks that "turn legal weapons into machine guns." There has been no indication that the shooter in Parkland, Fla., used such a device in killing 17 high school students and staff members, but aides say Trump will look at a range of remedies in coming days.

Aides to the president also say he now favors efforts to improve the federal background check system, and discussed the merits with Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, a Republican leader who has introduced a bill to make changes. The fact that the Parkland suspect, a mentally troubled teen, could so easily buy his AR-15 semi-automatic rifle has renewed criticism of the background check system.

But Trump's foray into policy talks is being met with skepticism based on his track record in office, his fluid stances on gun control and his close relationship with the National Rifle Association. He backed an assault weapons ban and a longer waiting period for gun purchases in 2000, writing about it in one of his books, and then reversed himself when he built a presidential campaign on an absolutist, pro-gun interpretation of the Second Amendment.

EVAN VUCCI/AP

President Donald Trump proposed action against so-called bump stocks Tuesday.

Trump's idea now to ban bump stocks is not a new one.

After the Las Vegas shooting Oct. 1 that killed 58 people, he signaled a willingness to discuss regulating or banning the kits that allow people — like the shooter in that case who fired down on a crowd from his hotel suite — to make their legal semi-automatic rifles operate like illegal automatic weapons. The administration later clarified that any crackdown should be regulatory, not statutory — a stance shared with the NRA, which opposes new gun control laws.

The result is that nothing happened, and the country moved on. Thus did the reaction to the Vegas massacre, the nation's worst mass murder in modern times, follow a familiar pattern of years of gun control debates: Gun rights advocates stalled serious policy discussion after tragedy by saying it's too soon to think of anything but the victims, yet as time passed so did the impetus for action.

"They'll give a generic comment on how the president supports changes," said Corey Ciorciari, director of policy at the progressive organization Democracy Forward, speaking of White House aides, "and that allows them to avoid scrutiny while people are talking about it. And then after people move on, you never hear another thing about it."

Trump appointees have quietly chipped away at the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, the federal system that gun stores consult to make sure that buyers are eligible to purchase.

They narrowed a few legal definitions to make it harder to classify would-be gun buyers as ineligible.

They narrowed the definition of mentally ill. And Congress and Trump rolled back an Obama-era regulation that requires the Social Security Administration to send records of people receiving benefits for mental illness for inclusion in the background check system. In his recently released budget for the coming fiscal year, Trump proposed slashing millions of dollars from the budget for the background check system.

In the wake of the Parkland, Fla., shooting, Trump once again is signaling that he is thinking things over.

Two days after the massacre, he and first lady Melania Trump visited the hospital trauma center where many of the victims and the suspect were treated. A doctor told The New York Times that he observed a parent of one of the wounded teenagers urging Trump to make sure this kind of tragedy never unfolded again.

"We're going to work on it," the president told the parent, according to the doctor.

On Monday, a spokesperson issued a statement indicating that Trump had spoken with Cornyn.

Discussions on legislation were underway, the statement said, adding that the president is "supportive of efforts to improve the federal background check system."

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Florida students take to the road

Shooting, *from Page 1*

The students on the buses to Tallahassee planned to hold a rally Wednesday to put pressure on the state's Republican-controlled Legislature to consider a package of gun-control laws, something some GOP lawmakers had said Monday they would consider. But on Tuesday, the Florida House, on mostly party lines, voted down a measure to consider a bill that would ban high-powered assault rifles and high-capacity magazines.

Rep. Kionne McGhee, of Miami, the incoming House Democratic leader, called for the bill that had not received a committee hearing to be immediately considered by the full chamber at the start of Tuesday's House session. He invoked the shooting in Parkland, where police say 19-year-old Nikolas Cruz used a semiautomatic AR-15 rifle he had purchased legally in Wednesday's attack.

Some Stoneman Douglas students, who had met with lawmakers after arriving in the capital, were in the public gallery watching while the move was rejected.

Lizzie Eaton, a 16-year-old junior, said she couldn't get into the House gallery Tuesday but heard about the vote immediately after it happened.

She called it "a really heartbreaking vote" after the students had spent the day "trying to get our voices out." But she added that, "We're not going to stop."

In South Florida, students on Tuesday walked out of classes in Boca Raton, Fort Lauderdale and Hollywood to protest mass shootings at schools. In Polk County, N.C., about 50 students walked out of classes.

Actor George Clooney and his wife, Amal Clooney, said they are donating $500,000 to students organizing nationwide marches against gun violence, and they said they'll also attend next month's planned protests. Students are mobilizing a March 24 march in Washington and elsewhere to urge lawmakers to enact tougher gun control.

The Clooneys said they're donating the money in the names of their 8-month-old twins, Ella and Alexander. The couple said the family plans to "stand side by side" with students next month.

Later, Oprah Winfrey said she would match the Clooneys' donation.

The media mogul tweeted from her verified account Tuesday night that the student organizers remind her of civil rights activists in the 1960s "who also said we've had ENOUGH and our voices will be heard."

Film director Steven Spielberg and DreamWorks Animation founder Jeffrey Katzenberg pledged similar donations.

The U.S. military, meanwhile, announced it was awarding medals to three Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets who were killed in the massacre and that one of them had received a rare posthumous admission to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

The three students — Peter Wang, 15, and Alaina Petty and Martin Duque, both 14 — have been hailed by authorities for their bravery in helping other students reach safety.

Wang is credited with saving the lives of others by holding open a door for them to escape, and he was wearing his cadet uniform when he was killed. His family and friends said he loved being part of JROTC and had dreams of attending West Point.

"Peter Wang, an Army Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadet at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, had a lifetime goal to attend USMA and was posthumously offered admission for his heroic actions on Feb. 14," the West Point Public Affairs Office said in a statement. "It was an appropriate way for USMA to honor this brave young man."

A 15-year-old student who was shot five times is credited with saving the lives of at least 20 other students. A fundraising site says Anthony Borges was shot in both legs and his back while attempting to close and lock a classroom door Feb. 14.

Borges' friend Carlos Rodriguez told ABC's "Good Morning America" that the two rushed to hide in a nearby classroom when they first heard gunshots. He said no one knew what to do but that Borges "took the initiative to just save his other classmates."

Borges' father, Royer Borges, says his son called him while lying on the floor after being shot. The father asked him to stay on the line, but at one point, he couldn't hear the teenager's voice anymore.

"He told me later, 'I had to drop the phone because I thought he was coming in and I wanted to pretend I was asleep so he wouldn't continue shooting,' " Borges, who's from Venezuela, told CNN's Spanish language service.

Borges said his son is well-known among local sports clubs for his soccer skills, playing forward and training with Barcelona's youth academy near Fort Lauderdale.

Moved by the Florida student's actions, U.S. soccer player Landon Donovan rallied his fans to donate to help the teenager's family.

"One of our own was a hero last week and needs our help," Donovan wrote on his Twitter account.

Borges' GoFundMe had raised more than $488,000 as of late Tuesday night from more than 15,000 donations. The legitimacy of the fundraising page was confirmed by the Broward County Sheriff's Office.

Health officials said they couldn't release specific details on his condition, adding that he and three other injured victims from the shooting recovering at Broward Health hospitals were in "fair condition."

The Sheriff's Office said Borges "has a long road ahead with more surgeries needed."

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders thanked Anthony Borges on Tuesday for the "courage" shown during the shooting attack.

"We are all rooting for you," she said.

The Washington Post, Miami Herald and McClatchy Washington Bureau contributed.

SUSAN STOCKER/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL

Students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School participate in a cheer Tuesday as their bus leaves for Florida's capital.

TAIMY ALVAREZ/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL

Jason Wang, center, and brother Alex hold photos outside a funeral home of their brother Peter, who is hailed for bravery.

Fla. massacre presents chilling challenge

Schools hold drills for shootings and fires, but not for when they occur together

By Kantele Franko and Jocelyn Gecker
Associated Press

Students and teachers responded as trained when the fire alarm sounded, streaming out of the school and toward exits only to run into deadly gunfire.

Two boys with stolen guns took aim from a wooded hill, waiting for people to evacuate after one of the boys had triggered a false fire alarm. They killed four children and a teacher.

That was 20 years ago at Arkansas' Westside Middle School, before active-shooter drills became part of the routine for schools across America.

Students today are taught to evacuate during fire alarms but go into lockdown during school shootings. So there was confusion Wednesday when a fire alarm sounded — the second one that day — at a Florida high school as 19-year-old former student Nikolas Cruz unleashed a barrage of gunfire. Head for the exits or hunker down in classrooms?

As in many U.S. schools, students and teachers at the school had trained for both responses, just not at the same time. Seventeen teachers and students were killed.

Unconfirmed initial reports suggested that Cruz pulled the fire alarm himself, but authorities haven't confirmed who set the alarm in Parkland.

Emergency responders say there is no single accepted set of best practices for responding to active-shooter situations, and the protocols vary from district to district around the country.

That includes everything from consistent drills to strategies for teachers to fight back with baseball bats and soup cans if confronted by an armed intruder.

Safety experts say it's unusual for schools to encounter situations where drills contribute to confusion or are exploited to inflict more harm, though they concede the unsolvable reality of that possibility.

"We might be training the suspect in our drills," said Mac Hardy, operations director from the National Association of School Resource Officers. "I mean, we understand that, we know that, but we have to also do the best we can in the situations we're in to try to keep as many students as safe as possible."

MIKE STOCKER/SUN-SENTINEL

Students evacuate from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida. A fire alarm. the second one that day at the high school, went off before the shooting that took 17 lives.

Drills should encourage people to think on their feet, said consultant Kenneth Trump of National School Safety and Security Services in Ohio. That might mean starting a drill when students are in hallways or lunchrooms instead of class, or telling a teacher in the midst of a drill to pretend a particular route is blocked, Trump said.

Various organizations offer guidance about dealing with an active shooter. The National Fire Protection Association is working on a proposed accredited standard for responders at the request of an Orlando-area fire chief who, after the 2016 Pulse nightclub shooting that killed 49, thought it was time to have some minimum criteria that communities and facilities could consider adopting for how to prepare for and responds to such events.

In Westside Consolidated School District, where the 1998 shooting occurred, a given classroom won't always use the same exit when the district does monthly fire drills required by the state, Superintendent Scott Gauntt said.

Those drills are announced to teachers in advance, and no one evacuates for an unannounced fire alarm until a staff member checks where it originated from and confirms a real fire threat, he said.

If one of the three buildings on the campus does evacuate, those students are moved away from areas where an attacker could hide in nearby hills, and the other two buildings lock their doors, Gauntt said.

"We're trying to do the best we can," Gauntt said. "It's amazing that this continues to happen, but at the same time, it's almost impossible to keep it from happening."

In Washington state, one district has equipped each classroom with T-ball bats, the type that young children use as an introduction to baseball.

The bats are one of several tactics that teachers are taught as part of training for emergency intruder situations, said Tim Payne, the superintendent of College Place School District.

The measure was put in place last year and incorporated into staff training for fire drills, lockdowns, shelter-in-place orders and other emergency scenarios.

"If I were a superintendent and said, 'I'm putting a pistol in every classroom,' I would create chaos," Payne said. "But a T-ball bat is an acceptable item to have in a classroom."

"I have one in my office, too," he said.

A recent shooting in Northern California provided an example of how active-shooter training protected students.

A gunman on a deadly rampage in a small town in November showed up at a local elementary school, but was unable to access any classrooms where students and teachers huddled inside because officials promptly went into lockdown.

High court upholds waiting period for gun buyers

Justices back appeals court ruling that delay is a 'reasonable safety precaution'

By David G. Savage
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court made clear again Tuesday that the government has broad power to restrict and regulate firearms, dismissing a Second Amendment challenge to California's 10-day waiting period for new gun purchases.

While the court has ruled that the Second Amendment protects the right of law-abiding citizens to own guns, the justices have repeatedly refused to go further by blocking strict gun regulations, including state bans on the sale of semi-automatic weapons or limits on who can carry a weapon in public.

Dissenting alone, Justice Clarence Thomas said "the Second Amendment is a disfavored right in this court."

In 2008 and 2010, the high court struck down ordinances in Washington, D.C., and Chicago that prohibited the private possession of handguns as violations of the Second Amendment. Americans have a right to have guns at home for self-defense, the court said in 5-4 decisions.

But since then, the justices have turned down gun rights advocates who have sued based on the Second Amendment to challenge gun regulations.

"There are simply not four justices who are eager to jump back into this fray," said UCLA law professor Adam Winkler, an expert on gun rights. It takes the votes of at least four justices to grant review of a case. "The California case highlights that the gun debate will play out in the legislatures and in Congress."

Many gun rights advocates have insisted the Second Amendment includes the right to buy rapid-fire, military-style rifles, which are among the most popular weapons sold in the nation. But in December 2015, the high court refused to hear a challenge to an ordinance in Highland Park, Ill., that banned the sale and possession of semi-automatic rifles that have been used in several mass shootings.

On Tuesday, the court let stand a ruling of the 9th Circuit Court that called California's 10-day waiting period for gun purchases a "reasonable safety precaution" and one that does not violate the constitutional right to own a gun.

California, eight other states and the District of Columbia impose waiting periods for the purchase of a firearm. The others are Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey and Rhode Island.

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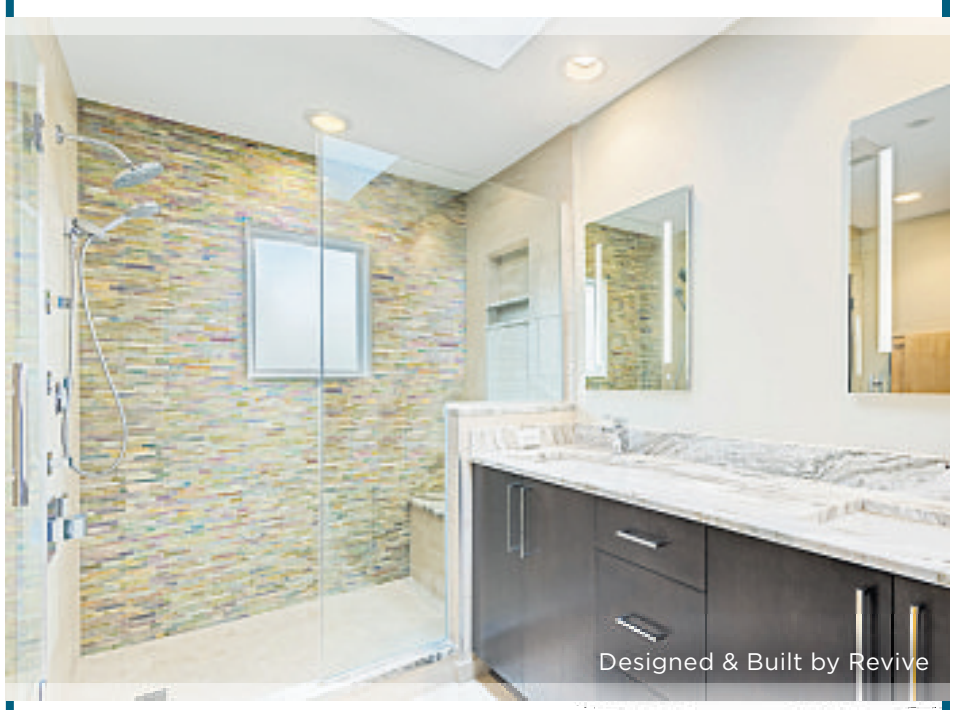

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Multiple woes for India's single women

Book bares pity, scorn, stigma faced in country's culture

By Shashank Bengali
Los Angeles Times

RAVEENDRAN/GETTY-AFP

Imperial Hotel staffers take a self-defense class led by New Delhi Police. In New Delhi, 1,996 rapes were reported in 2016.

MUMBAI, India — Stricken with a mystery ailment that left her dry heaving and breathless, Sreemoyee Piu Kundu, a 38-year-old Indian writer, went with her mother to see a top gastroenterologist in the eastern city of Kolkata.

The doctor ran tests and squeezed her stomach several times before turning to Kundu's mother to deliver an assessment.

"How come you never thought of getting her married?" he said.

Kundu imagined kicking the doctor in the groin and storming out. But she only grimaced. She had heard it all before.

That her single status would figure in a medical exam was just one example of the humiliations, scorn, pity and unwanted attention endured by tens of millions of unmarried women in India, Kundu said.

In a culture where arranging marriages is a multibillion-dollar industry and weddings are the pinnacle of the social calendar, a woman being alone is still widely viewed as odd, even among educated urban Indians with liberal tastes in fashion and entertainment.

That doctor's visit helped launch Kundu, a journalist turned novelist, on a yearlong quest to record the stories of single women in Indian cities.

Nearly 3,000 of them opened up to her about their struggles with workplace harassment, child adoption, landlords who assume they're promiscuous, friends and relatives who warn that they're becoming spinsters, and even sexual activity in a country where many unmarried adults live with their parents.

AMARYLLIS

"Status Single: The Truth About Being A Single Woman in India," is out in March.

The women described countless remarks from near-strangers — the doctor, the yoga teacher, the immigration officer scrutinizing a passport — who wonder how it's possible that a woman of a certain age is without a husband.

Kundu, now 40, spun their stories and her own into a book called "Status Single" being marketed as the first nonfiction work to deal with female singlehood, which she describes as "an anomaly that Indian society thinks we need to be constantly cured of."

The cover features dozens of words and phrases that Kundu's subjects said they've heard ascribed to single women — among them "selfish," "asexual," "lesbian," "hungry for sex," "flat-chested," "crazy."

"Nobody wants to be single in this country," Kundu said in a phone interview from her house in Kolkata between speaking engagements this month.

"Everyone has tried arranged marriage, dating apps, we've had relationships. Nobody grows up thinking, 'I don't want marriage.' The centrality of marriage for a woman in this country remains very high."

The topic is especially pertinent in today's India, where impressive economic growth and rising middle-class aspirations mask worrying news about the status of women.

More Indian women are dropping out of the workforce, often to focus on raising families. Sex-selective abortions and preferential treatment toward boys have skewed the gender ratio toward males so heavily that government statisticians recently estimated the country of 1.3 billion could have had 63 million more women.

"The challenge of gender is long-standing, probably going back millennia," wrote Arvind Subramanian, the government's chief economic adviser. India must "confront the societal preference for boys," Subramanian said.

Politicians from India's conservative governing party have suggested that women who stay out late invite harassment, even as sexual violence remains a silent epidemic even in the largest cities. In New Delhi, the capital, 1,996 rapes were reported in 2016, the most recent year for which statistics were available, up from 1,893 the year before.

"Many women are afraid to report rape because they fear they will not be believed, not just by the police but also by their family members," Human Rights Watch wrote in November.

The private lives of Indian women are rarely seen as worthy of public discussion — the government censor board last year briefly banned a movie about four small-town women because of its "lady-oriented content" — so the stories in Kundu's book read as bracingly frank.

■ A 39-year-old lawyer visits her gynecologist to ask for an abortion after a one-night stand, only to have the doctor suggest she try to "settle down" with the father.

■ A 25-year-old divorcee places a matrimonial ad in the paper and is bombarded with questions from suitors who assume something is wrong with her: Do you have any hidden sexual diseases? Are you bad in bed? Are you barren?

■ A 30-year-old woman from a conservative Mumbai family that barred her from entering the kitchen during menstruation discovers her predilection for sadomasochistic sex.

In 2014, Kundu released a novel "Sita's Curse," on the sexual awakening of a lower-middle-class homemaker in Mumbai. Describing it as India's first feminist erotic fiction, she said it prompted a discussion about sexual repression and the veil that surrounds women's private lives.

She started research for "Status Single" by speaking with five friends. Three of them didn't want to be in the book, she said, because they feared being "labeled" as single and still hoped to marry.

The two others agreed to tell their stories. Kundu would fill 50 books with notes and rack up hundreds of dollars in cellphone bills speaking with women across India's major cities.

The research wasn't easy. Many subjects asked to have their real names withheld. Last summer, when Kundu sent around the first draft of the book, 35 women backed out, some because they said they had begun relationships.

Those fears, Kundu said, explain in part why India has not seen anything like the #MeToo moment calling out sexual abuse in the United States. No major figures have spoken out in the Bollywood film industry — where what happens to actors on the "casting couch" is an open secret — or in the country at large.

"This is a culture of silence," Kundu said. "We have been taught since childhood, 'Don't go out late, don't mix with boys, be careful of sex.' We don't talk about it."

sbengali@latimes.com

Biden, in public and private, tiptoes toward a 2020 run

By Josh Lederman
Associated Press

OLIVIER DOULIERY/ABACA PRESS

Joe Biden and actor Tom Hanks, center, converse in Washington, D.C., earlier this month.

WASHINGTON — Former Vice President Joe Biden is tiptoeing toward a potential run in 2020, even broaching the possibility during a recent gathering of longtime foreign policy aides.

Huddled in his newly opened office steps from the U.S. Capitol, Biden began a planning meeting for his new diplomacy center by addressing the elephant in the room. He said he was keeping his 2020 options open, considering it a real possibility. He insisted he had made no decision, and didn't need to yet, according to five people who either attended the meeting or were briefed on it by those who did.

Biden also expressed interest in bringing those in the room onto his team if he decides to launch a campaign. At the same time, he gave them an out: There would be no hard feelings if they decided they were content in their current roles outside of government, said the people, who demanded anonymity to discuss a private meeting.

The political world has long tried to game out Biden's plans for 2020. After all, he came close to running last time only to see President Donald Trump pull off a victory that many Democrats openly suggest wouldn't have happened had he, not Hillary Clinton, been their nominee. Several people came away from the meeting with the impression that if no strong Democratic candidate emerges in the next year or so, Biden would feel compelled to run.

A presidential candidate twice before, Biden would be 78 on Inauguration Day if elected in 2020, a concerning prospect for some Democrats even though he's only a few years older than Trump. One possibility that Biden's longtime advisers have discussed privately is that he could announce his intention to serve only one term, clearing the path for his running mate to take over in 2024 and potentially setting up Democrats for a 12-year White House stretch.

Biden's brief discussion about his 2020 deliberations came as he brought foreign policy staffers together to set the 2018 agenda for the newly opened Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement — where many of them are now working, including Colin Kahl, his national security adviser, and Steve Ricchetti, his former chief of staff. Eli Ratner, his former deputy national security adviser, and Mike Carpenter, the former Pentagon and State Department official who's now the center's senior director, also attended, as did Julianne Smith, a Biden adviser in the Obama administration's first term who now works at the Center for a New American Security, a Washington think tank.

A Biden spokesman declined to comment. But in a recent NBC News interview, Biden said he'd decide on running in 2020 based on whether it was "the right thing to do."

"I'm focused on one thing: electing a Democratic Congress to stop this erosion of the core of who we are," Biden said. "I'll look at that a year from now. I have plenty of time to consider whether or not to run."

The meeting was one of several signs that Biden is beginning to position himself as an alternative to Trump. Biden has started denouncing the current president's leadership more frequently in public, as he promotes his new book, his cancer initiative, his new domestic policy institute in Delaware, the diplomacy center and his new political action committee, American Possibilities.

He's also been gearing up to play a major role campaigning for Democrats seeking to retake the House and Senate in the 2018 midterms.

"Donald Trump's looking out for Donald Trump. Republicans are looking out for Donald Trump. Who's looking out for everyone else? Democrats," Biden wrote in a recent fundraising pitch to the PAC's supporters. He said in 2018, he would "beat a path all across this country to stand up for leaders who will stand up for all of us."

In 2015, Biden's face was plastered across cable news channels and newspaper front pages for months as he carried out a lengthy deliberation about whether to challenge Clinton for the nomination. Ultimately, he decided he and his family weren't in position to run so soon after his son, former Delaware Attorney General Beau Biden, died from brain cancer earlier that year.

Yet many Democrats have argued that his "everyman" brand and blue-collar appeal would make him particularly well-suited to challenge Trump.

MANUEL BALCE CENETA/AP 2017

Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Joseph Dunford reportedly wrote: "When asked, I will state that I was not consulted."

Leaks: Gen. in dark on transgender ban

By Chris Sommerfeldt
New York Daily News

President Donald Trump announced last summer that his proposed ban on transgender people in the U.S. military was the product of "consultation" with "Generals and military experts."

But the country's highest-ranking general, Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Joseph Dunford, wasn't among those whom Trump consulted, according to emails unearthed Tuesday.

In two leaked correspondences obtained by BuzzFeed News, Dunford told generals of the Air Force, Army, Marines, National Guard and Navy that Trump's July 26 announcement proposing to ban transgender people from serving in the armed forces "was unexpected" and something he had "not" been "consulted" about.

"When asked, I will state that I was not consulted," Dunford wrote in one of the emails.

The revelation casts further doubt over Trump's ban, which has been struck down by federal judges. The Pentagon announced in December that it would allow transgender people to enroll in the military, despite opposition from the White House.

Neither the White House nor the Pentagon responded to requests for comment on which "Generals and military experts" Trump consulted.

Judges and critics have questioned whether Trump consulted any military officials before announcing in a series of tweets that transgender people shouldn't "serve in any capacity in the U.S. military" because the country "cannot be burdened with the tremendous medical costs and disruption that transgender in the military would entail."

U.S. District Judge Marvin Garbis ruled in November that "President Trump's tweets did not emerge from a policy review," but was rather "capricious, arbitrary and unqualified."

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

Shulkin intends to stay in top post at VA with Trump backing

WASHINGTON — Campaigning to keep his job, Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin said Tuesday that he had no intention of quitting despite blistering findings of travel abuses connected to his 11-day trip to Europe. He issued a warning to VA staff rebelling against him: Get back in line or get out.

Speaking after a Tuesday meeting at the White House, Shulkin said that White House chief of staff John Kelly affirmed he still had the trust of President Donald Trump.

Shulkin, a former VA undersecretary of health, denied he was straying off course. An inspector general report last week found that Shulkin had improperly accepted Wimbledon tickets and his staff lied that he was getting an award in order to justify his wife accompanying him at taxpayer expense on an 11-day trip in July that mixed business and sightseeing.

Netanyahu confidant identified in latest scandal to rattle Israel

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, already reeling from a damaging police report into alleged corruption, faced yet another scandal Tuesday — with allegations that longtime confidant Nir Hefetz attempted to bribe a judge in exchange for dropping a corruption case against the Israeli leader's wife.

Netanyahu denounced the allegations.

Hefetz is suspected of suggesting, through a middleman, to Judge Hila Gerstel in 2015 that she could be appointed attorney general if she dismissed a pending case against Sara Netanyahu's excessive household spending. Hefetz and the middleman are being held in police custody.

The offer never materialized, and Israel's current attorney general recommended last fall indicting Mrs. Netanyahu.

Man who died in Yellowstone fall was searching for treasure

BILLINGS, Mont. — A 53-year-old Illinois man who fell to his death in Yellowstone National Park last year was looking for a supposed hidden cache of gold and jewels.

KULR-TV reports that Jeff Murphy of Batavia, Ill., was looking for the treasure that antiquities dealer Forrest Fenn says he stashed somewhere in the Rocky Mountains several years ago.

The investigation by Yellowstone officials into Murphy's death was kept private, but KULR obtained it through a Freedom of Information Act request.

The investigative report reveals Murphy's wife told park authorities that Murphy was looking for the treasure when she called to report him missing.

Murphy's body was found June 9, 2017. The report ruled the death an accident.

ALIREZA VASIGH ANSARI/TASNIM NEWS AGENCY

Iranian search teams on Tuesday scramble to the site of a plane crash in southern Iran that killed 65 people, with officials hoping to reach the aircraft's data recorders to learn what downed the plane Sunday. Victims' families joined the search on Mount Dena.

3M to pay Minnesota $850M to settle chemical disposal suit

MINNEAPOLIS — 3M Co. has agreed to pay the state of Minnesota $850 million to settle a major case alleging the manufacturer damaged natural resources and contaminated groundwater by disposing of chemicals over decades, Minnesota's attorney general announced Tuesday.

The state was seeking $5 billion from Maplewood, Minn.-based 3M in a case that focused on the company's disposal of chemicals once used to make Scotchgard fabric protector and other products. The lawsuit, filed in 2010, alleged 3M damaged Minnesota's natural resources, including more than 100 miles of the Mississippi River. The state also said the chemicals contaminated drinking water, harmed wildlife and posed a threat to human health.

The company denies it did anything wrong, insisting it was acting legally at the time. The settlement did not require an admission of liability, Attorney General Lori Swanson said.

"We're pleased with the settlement. We think the settlement will help solve a problem in Minnesota. It's been a problem that has been a long time in the making for many decades," she said. "These chemicals, as I mentioned, were put into the ground. And we are very hopeful the settlement can help fix that."

The settlement was announced Tuesday after jury selection was halted as the trial was set to begin. The lawsuit was centered on 3M's disposal of perfluorochemicals, or PFCs, and their compounds.

Swanson said 3M will pay the state in one lump sum within 15 days. It will go into a fund dedicated to projects that will clean up and safeguard drinking water east of St. Paul.

U.S.: N. Korea canceled secret meeting with Pence

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — Vice President Mike Pence departed for a five-day, two country swing through Asia earlier this month having agreed to a secret meeting with North Korean officials while in South Korea at the 2018 Winter Olympic Games.

But on Saturday Feb. 10, less than two hours before Pence and his team were set to meet with Kim Yo Jong, the younger sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, and Kim Yong Nam, the regime's nominal head of state, the North Koreans pulled out of the scheduled meeting, according to Pence's office.

State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said Pence "was ready to take this opportunity" and would have used the meeting to emphasize U.S. concerns about the North's nuclear and ballistic missile programs.

Court grants Japanese man custody of 13 surrogate kids

BANGKOK — A Thai court on Tuesday granted legal custody of 13 babies carried by surrogate mothers to a 28-year-old Japanese millionaire who is their biological father, reviving a bizarre tale that captured tabloid headlines four years ago, but leaving some basic questions unanswered.

Mitsutoki Shigeta's case raised eyebrows in 2014 when police raided a Bangkok condominium and found nine babies and nine nannies living in unfurnished rooms. It was determined that Shigeta had fathered the children using Thai surrogate mothers. The case helped usher in a Thai law prohibiting commercial surrogacy for foreign clients.

The ruling said Shigeta had a right to custody because the children were born before the law was enacted and the surrogate mothers waived their custody rights.

Brazil's lower house approved a decree to put the military in charge of Rio de Janeiro's security forces Tuesday as soldiers and police combat rising crime.. The military took over Rio's police Friday, but the presidential decree still needs congressional approval. The Senate is still scheduled to debate the measure.

Hawaii's missile scare Jan. 13 showed that the state began testing alerts before fully developing a plan to address the ballistic missile threat and that a public outreach campaign months earlier wasn't effective, according to an internal report from the state Department of Defense. The report was released Tuesday.

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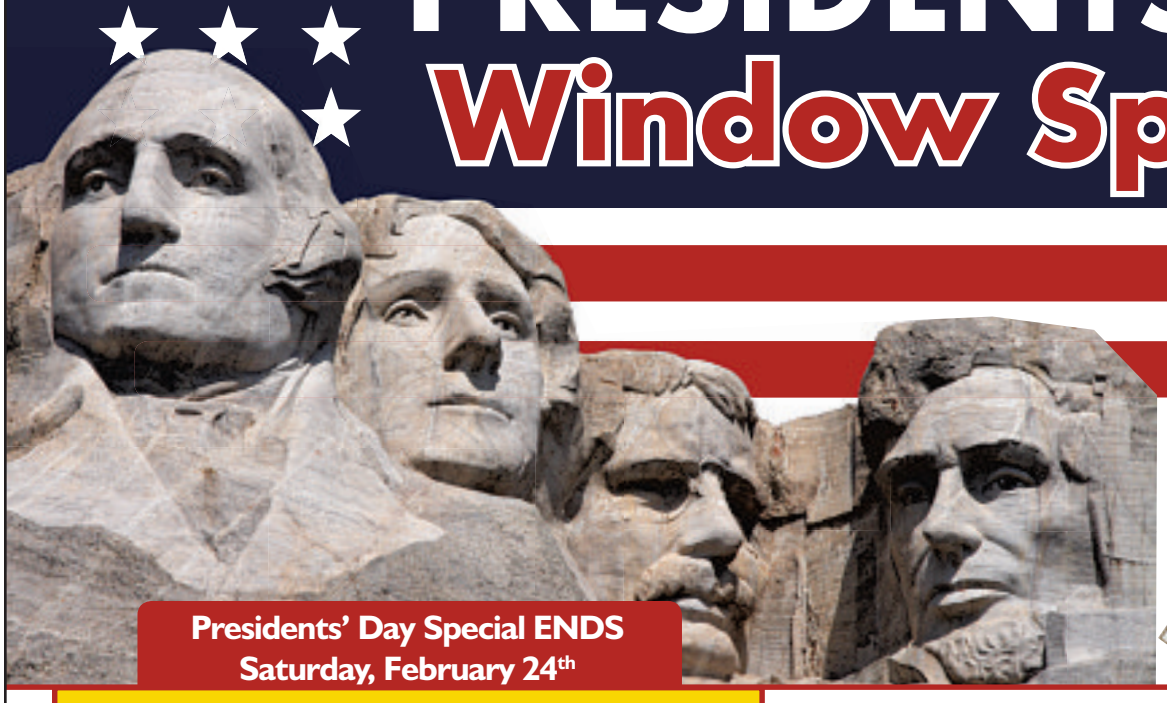

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EDITORIALS

Our final U.S. House endorsements

This is our third and final installment of endorsements for contested U.S. House primaries.

10th District

The north suburban 10th Congressional District has toggled between red and blue in the last four elections. It's now represented by Democratic Rep. Brad Schneider, who is unopposed in the primary. Three Republicans want to take him on: **Jeremy Wynes**, a foreign policy lobbyist from Highland Park; Sapan Shah, a physician and entrepreneur from Libertyville; and Douglas R. Bennett, a business consultant from Deerfield.

Wynes is the type of fiscally conservative, socially moderate candidate the 10th District favors. A former regional director for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, he says the U.S. needs a strong military to promote security and check aggression around the world. He supports President Donald Trump's decision to shift the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. "We have a better chance of a peaceful resolution of the Israel-Palestinian issue when we stand close to our ally," he tells us. On the key issue of health coverage, including Medicare's shaky future, he says the answer is to encourage competition, not expand federal control. "Less government involvement and more private market participation is a good thing."

Shah, who founded a malpractice insurance brokerage, also warns against a shift in health insurance toward more government control. He favors term limits and says he'd serve six years max. Bennett, a social conservative, is vice chair of the West Deerfield Township Republican Organization. Wynes is endorsed.

11th District

Republican **Nick Stella**, of Darien, a cardiologist, is running again in the 11th Congressional District after losing in the 2016 primary. As we noted last time, Stella is well-prepared to address deficiencies in the Affordable Care Act. Stella is endorsed over Constant G. "Connor" Vlakancic, of Naperville. Rep. Bill Foster is unopposed on the Democratic side.

12th District

Republican Rep. Mike Bost of Murphysboro seeks a third term representing the 12th Congressional District. Bost is focused on key southern Illinois issues, such as supporting farmers and the military. The district is home to Scott Air Force Base. Bost's opponent, Preston Nelson, of Benton, is a wireless network technician who describes himself as Libertarian. He would end foreign aid to other nations and says our military should not rely on "or even work so much in conjunction" with allies.

On the Democratic side, Brendan Kelly, of Swansea, the state's attorney for St. Clair County, has made combating the opioid epidemic a campaign issue. Kelly told The Southern Illinoisan that a joint effort from law enforcement and the mental health and substance treatment fields is required: "We are going to break our justice system if we don't have people from both sides come forward." Also running is David Bequette, a marketing consultant from Columbia.

Bost and Kelly ducked scrutiny by declining to answer our candidate survey. We'll go with no endorsement in the Democratic and Republican races. Randy Auxier is the Green Party candidate.

13th District

Five Downstate Democrats want to take on 13th Congressional District Republican Rep. Rodney Davis of Taylorville in November. Our pick is **Erik Jones**, of Edwardsville, whose background as a government attorney at the state and federal levels would give him a running start in Congress. Jones is a former assistant attorney general in Illinois and former counsel to U.S. House and U.S. Senate committees in Washington. "Congress has an important oversight role to play, no matter who the president is," Jones wrote in his Tribune questionnaire. Another intriguing candidate is Betsy Dirksen Londrigan, of Springfield, who has worked as a fundraiser for Sen. Dick Durbin but is running for the first time. She says her first goal is to stabilize the Affordable Care Act, but ultimately she wants a universal health insurance program. Other candidates include David M. Gill, a physician from Bloomington who has run for Congress repeatedly; Jon Ebel, a religion professor from Urbana; and Angel Sides, of Springfield. Jones is endorsed.

WYNES CAMPAIGN PHOTO

Republican Jeremy Wynes, 10th District

STELLA CAMPAIGN PHOTO

Republican Nick Stella, 11th District

JONES CAMPAIGN PHOTO

Democrat Erik Jones, 13th District

UNDERWOOD CAMPAIGN PHOTO

Democrat Lauren Underwood, 14th District

GAITHER CAMPAIGN PHOTO

Democrat Kevin Gaither, 15th District

KINZINGER CAMPAIGN PHOTO

Republican Adam Kinzinger, 16th District

BRIEL CAMPAIGN PHOTO

Democrat Amy Briel, 16th District

J. LAWLER DUGGAN/FOR THE TRIBUNE 2015

Republican Darin LaHood, 18th District

MILLER CAMPAIGN PHOTO

Democrat Darrel Miller, 18th District

14th District

Seven Democrats running in the 14th Congressional District primary seek to challenge Republican Rep. Randy Hultgren of Plano. They include Jim Walz, of Gurnee, a sales representative who challenged Hultgren in 2016; Victor Swanson, a high school social studies teacher from Batavia; John J. Hosta, a business owner from Spring Grove; George Weber, a retired chemical engineer from Lakewood; and Daniel Roldan-Johnson, a teacher from Volo.

Two others stand out: Matthew Brolley, an engineer, is the mayor of Montgomery. He says the job taught him how to build consensus and coalitions. "Mayors have to get stuff done," he told us. "We can't get stuck in the squabbling." Our favorite is **Lauren Underwood**, of Naperville, a nurse and former Obama administration health policy adviser who works for a Medicaid managed care plan. Underwood says the Affordable Care Act was obstructed by Republicans but can be stabilized. "Americans need health care," she told us. "The free market-only approach, without oversight and intervention in terms of reforms and certain requirements, didn't work. We tried it for decades." Underwood has political experience and boundless enthusiasm. She is endorsed.

15th District

In the 15th Congressional District in southeast Illinois, incumbent Republican Rep. John Shimkus of Collinsville will face one of two Democratic challengers. **Kevin Gaither**, of Charleston, who operates a tutoring business, wants to boost the local economy by increasing Small Business Administration resources and cutting regulatory burdens on small oil and gas companies. Gaither also advocates legalizing industrial hemp. Also running is Carl Spoerer, a marketing executive from Mahomet, who says he would tackle the deficit by reducing military spending by 30 percent. In his Tribune survey, he calls for the government to "immediately" start a single-payer health care system because "the free market has shown it will not necessarily look out for the best interests of the people." Gaither is more realistic about health care reforms, saying he could not support a Medicare-for-all plan without a specific funding plan. Gaither is endorsed.

16th District

Republican Rep. **Adam Kinzinger** of Channahon, who supported President Trump's tax reform measures, says he's already seeing benefits from the deal in the 16th Congressional District. "Businesses across the nation are announcing that they are reinvesting in their workforces," he notes in his Tribune questionnaire. Kinzinger, seeking his fifth term, faces a challenge from the right by James T. Marter, of Oswego, who wants to eliminate nearly all of the Internal Revenue Service and institute a 10 percent flat tax on individuals and businesses. Kinzinger, a pilot in the Air National Guard, has a broad, balanced perspective on the issues. Kinzinger is endorsed.

Four Democrats are running in the 16th. All are new to politics. Neill Mohammad, of DeKalb, a health care management consultant, and Sara Dady, of Rockford, an immigration lawyer, want the government to take control of the health care system via a universal single-payer insurance system. **Amy "Murri" Briel**, of Joliet, director of coaching for a kids' soccer club and a former social service agency case manager, is more pragmatic. She'd like everyone to have some form of health care coverage, but says the way to start is to preserve Obamacare. Also on the ballot is Beth Vercolio-Osmund, of Ottawa, who runs a farm with her husband. Briel is endorsed.

18th District

Finishing his first full term representing the 18th Congressional District, Republican Rep. **Darin LaHood** of Peoria faces a primary challenge from Donald Ray Rients, of Benson, who also ran for the seat in 2015. We think voters got it right the first time. LaHood recently joined the Ways and Means Committee, which holds sway over tax and trade issues. LaHood supported tax reform, as we did. He also agrees that the United States in the era of globalization can't turn its back on trade. LaHood is endorsed.

There are three candidates in the Democratic primary. Junius Rodriguez, a history professor at Eureka College, challenged LaHood in 2016. Brian J. Deters, a high school teacher from Morton, has lived in Switzerland for several years due to his wife's job. Then there is **Darrel Miller**, a farmer from Danvers who also has run previously, as a Republican and a Democrat. Miller is deeply informed on the issues and takes a pragmatic approach to thorny problems. Miller is endorsed.

As the March 20 Illinois primary approaches, you'll find the candidates' answers to our surveys, and our endorsements, at **chicagotribune.com/candidates.**

Chicago Tribune
PERSPECTIVE

Trump's Americans — 'forgotten' again?

CLARENCE PAGE

SUSAN WALSH/AP

The administration's budget director, Mick Mulvaney, is also acting head of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Since his early days as a presidential candidate, Donald Trump has made one thing very clear: He doesn't like regulations.

We're going to "get rid of job-killing regulations," he has said. We're going to "cut regulations by 75 percent," he has said, and "get rid of pointless red tape." Etc., etc.

I understand the excitement of his crowds. The business wing of the Grand Old Party always has pushed for less government oversight and more freedom for members of the business class to do whatever they jolly well please to create bigger profits.

No big surprise there. Businesses are in the business of making money.

But whenever I hear President Trump work up crowds at his rallies with attacks against "unnecessary regulations" without going into what he means by "unnecessary," I have to wonder: Why are these people so eager to be ripped off?

After all, what we have not heard a lot about is which regulations are going and what impact their departure will have on real people. But we're finally getting a clearer idea.

Now that President Trump has made Mick Mulvaney acting head of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, while retaining him as director of the administration's Office of Management and Budget, Mulvaney seems to be dismantling the CFPB one brick at a time.

Ideologically, installing Mulvaney in the CFPB amounted to putting a wily fox in charge of a very large henhouse.

The CFPB, you may recall, was created during the Obama administration with the help of Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., in response to the global financial crises to protect consumers from malpractice in the financial industry.

As a fiscal hawk Republican House member from South Carolina, Mulvaney called the CFPB, created under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, a "sick, sad joke" and drafted legislation to abolish it.

That message has come through good and hard as Mulvaney has acted to defang the agency's powers. Among other drastic actions in the past two months, the agency has put the brakes on a rule that would have put new limits on payday lenders and their high interest rates.

Then it abruptly dropped a lawsuit against an alleged online loan shark, Golden Valley Lending, which the lawsuit claimed has been illegally charging people up to 950 percent interest rates.

To agency staff members who had been building that case for years, dropping it made about as much sense as Eliot Ness taking a pass on investigating Al Capone.

Well, OK. It was not quite that bad. But put yourself in the shoes of the alleged victims.

NPR financial reporter Chris Arnold found a familiar horror story in Julie Bonenfant, 27, who does administrative work for the city of Detroit. She was having a tough year — a breakup with her boyfriend, the theft of her car and she fell behind in her rent.

Facing eviction, she turned to Golden Valley Lending online. "It was just misleading," she said of the lender. "The way it was presented was ... I was going to make four large payments and then be done."

But she wasn't done, she said. Even after those four payments, the lender continued to deduct from her bank account. Payments for her $900 loan will total $3,735 after 12 months, or more than four times what she borrowed, NPR reported.

Her boss and CFPB lawyers determined the loan's terms to be "illegal" and the bureau sued in April for unfair, deceptive and abusive practices. A successful court action could result in a settlement that would claw back millions of dollars to others who are found to be victims. But just as the CFPB was preparing to go to court, Mulvaney's agency dropped the suit.

Some people see that as payback time, because Mulvaney as a congressman accepted $62,000 from payday lenders. "And now at the CFPB," said Karl Frisch, executive director of the consumer watchdog group Allied Progress, "he's doing their bidding."

But Bonenfant — who took out that $900 loan — sees it as something else: betrayal. A political betrayal. The ironic political twist to this story, she said, is that "I actually voted for Trump."

"So knowing that his guy threw out this case that affects people like me, I feel kind of like stupid — just kind of like betrayed."

I share her anger. Mogul Trump campaigned as a populist, a man of the people. But his presidency reminds me of a popular motto among Washingtonians I know: Never fall in love with a politician; they'll only break your heart.

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The lesson behind the failure of the Reader's Pritzker cartoon

ERIC ZORN

Many years ago, this joke made the rounds:

Q: What do you call a (ethnic slur) with two Ph.D.s?

A: (Ethnic slur).

Get it? The joke — the mockery, the disdain — is aimed at bigots, not whichever ethnic group is insulted. It says that the haters of the world are so comprehensively blinded by their prejudice that they're unable or unwilling to acknowledge even the great accomplishments of those they categorically despise.

For clarity's sake, the riddle could be phrased as, "What do haters call a (ethnic slur) with two Ph.D.s?" But according to the rules of humor, that would tip the punchline and flatten the joke. Having the teller shockingly seem to adopt the persona of the bigot is part of the setup, the misdirection among like-minded, enlightened friends that added confusion, surprise and ultimately — ideally — comic release for the listener.

Oh, it's not an ethnic joke! It's a joke about racists who tell ethnic jokes!

The problem, and the reason you don't hear this ironically twisted joke anymore, is that the line between laughing at something and laughing with it is blurry. So many people draw that line in different places that the chance of offending rather than amusing the listener is high, particularly when the joke requires the deployment of terms that are poisonous and hurtful on their face.

Using the claim of satire to yank comedy back from the precipice of outrage is a high-risk stunt, too dangerous for the one-strike-you're-out times in which we now live.

I thought of this old joke in the wake of the controversy over the cover cartoon on the Feb. 15 issue of the Chicago Reader.

Next to the headline "J.B. Pritzker's 'African-American thing'" was a swollen caricature of the billionaire Democratic gubernatorial hopeful in a pinstriped suit chatting on the phone and sitting on a black lawn jockey statue.

The image quickly came under fire, with Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, Ald. Roderick Sawyer, 6th, and city Treasurer Kurt Summers issuing a joint statement calling it racist.

Helpful background: On Feb. 6, the Tribune broke the story that FBI wiretaps from 2008 of former Gov. Rod Blagojevich revealed Blagojevich and Pritzker discussing prominent African-American politicians in candid, utilitarian and unflattering terms.

Specifically, Pritzker referred to then-state Senate President Emil Jones as "crass" and to veteran Secretary of State Jesse White as the "least offensive" African-American Blagojevich could select to fill the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by then President-elect Barack Obama.

The implication, as Jones himself later put it, was that Pritzker favors "acceptable blacks who are meek and won't say anything."

CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTO

Mark Konkol, at the "Chicagoland" premiere in 2014, was fired from his job at the Reader because of a cartoon on the Feb. 15 cover.

Pritzker is hoping for decisive support from the African-American voters in the March 20 primary (in which Jones is backing Chris Kennedy), and Pritzker issued numerous apologies for not being his "best self" on that phone call. He insisted it didn't reflect his actual feelings on race.

The origins and original meaning of lawn jockey yard decor are unclear, according to a 2,000-word essay by David Pilgrim, the African-American curator of the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Mich. "But I do believe that there is a consensus view in African-American communities that black lawn jockeys are demeaning relics of a racist past," he wrote.

"It would be hard for an adult American to claim that he or she does not know that many African-Americans find lawn jockeys racially offensive," Pilgrim wrote. "Moreover, to call an African-American a 'lawn jockey' is to insult him or her. When used by a black person against another black person, 'lawn jockey' is synonymous with 'Uncle Tom,' a derogatory term (once used) to refer to a black servant — especially a cook, butler or waiter — who was perceived to be weak, ignorant, too religious and humiliatingly deferential to white people."

My interpretation of the Reader cartoon, which was commissioned by new Editor Mark Konkol for his first issue, was that the target was Pritzker. The drawing imputed to him the view of African-American voters as compliant props for his political ambition.

But another interpretation of the cartoon was that the target was African-Americans who still support Pritzker.

In this view, the drawing suggested that black voters don't think for themselves and pliantly prop up Pritzker on orders from the Democratic establishment that backs him.

Both interpretations strike me as defensible, meaning the drawing was ambiguous as opposed to blatantly racist.

Reader contributor Adeshina Oluwatoyin Emmanuel called the cover "ugly" and "a sneak diss against the black community" in a powerful Facebook post Friday, yet he also noted "it's hard to tell who's the target of satire, Pritzker or black people."

In a Columbia Journalism Review essay published Tuesday, Emmanuel wrote, "When I look at that cover it feels like I'm that red-lipped lawn jockey and Konkol is the powerful white man on my back."

If reasonable people can't tell if your attempt at humor mocks racism or promotes it, you've failed. You've fallen into the canyon of outrage.

The failure cost Konkol his job. The cartoon "was not in line with either our vision for the Reader or (its) storied history," said a statement announcing Konkol's departure Saturday from Edwin Eisendrath, CEO of Sun-Times Media, which owns the alternative weekly. "We believe it's necessary in this instance to apologize to anyone who was offended by this week's cover."

A wimpy corporate "no-pology" lacking introspection, analysis or deep explanation? Yes. But the takeaway from this episode is clear. We no longer tolerate clumsy or perplexing attempts to exploit the comedic potential of racist words and symbols.

That's progress.

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PERSPECTIVE

No good vibes in the Trump marriage

By Robin Abcarian

SAUL LOEB/GETTY-AFP

Curiosity abounds about the marriage of President Donald Trump and wife Melania.

America asks a lot of its first couples. Fairly or not, they become national marital role models. We don't really care if they have separate bedrooms, but we do expect them to demonstrate a certain amount of mutual respect and fondness for each other.

We like it when they seem to be in love, like George and Laura Bush, or Barack and Michelle Obama. Even Bill and Hillary Clinton, for all their woes, seem to take pleasure in each other's intellects and achievements. We also want them to be devoted parents.

We get no good vibes from the Trump marriage.

Trump, who demands adoration, would no doubt love for Melania to gaze upon him the way Nancy Reagan gazed upon her Ronnie. But Ronnie didn't cheat on Nancy with porn stars and Playmates.

What's distressing to many Americans is that Melania seems like a prop in her husband's reality show. During his inauguration last year, when the new president turned around to say something to his wife, her face lit up for a second. As soon as he turned away, her happy mask fell away. Months later, she slapped away his hand as they walked on the tarmac in Israel.

Under the microscope

"These people are under constant scrutiny," said University of Washington sociologist Pepper Schwartz, a sex and relationships expert. "Has anyone ever seen a loving gesture between them?"

Our first lady does not seem to be having a good time. In the last month alone, amid the daily chaos that is the Trump White House, stories about the president's womanizing, and his techniques for suppressing stories about his womanizing, have become fodder for the daily news report.

Porn star Stormy Daniels said she was paid to stay quiet about an affair she alleges she had with Trump shortly after Melania gave birth to their son, Barron. Michael Cohen, Trump's personal attorney and self-described "fix-it guy" for the president, announced he had paid the actress, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, $130,000, but has not said why.

The New Yorker reported last week that former Playboy Playmate Karen McDougal kept a diary of the nine-month affair she began with Trump in 2006, around the same time he was seeing Clifford.

McDougal has said that the National Enquirer, whose publisher is a friend and protector of Trump, paid her $150,000 for the exclusive rights to her story, then never ran it. Trump has denied both affairs.

Operating solo

Melania had already skipped the billionaire confab in Davos after the Stormy Daniels payment story broke. Then came McDougal, and more wifely passive-aggression followed: On Friday, Melania's office, citing a scheduling issue, announced she would drive alone to Andrews Air Force Base rather than helicopter there with her husband from the White House.

Maybe Melania passed on the copter ride because she is getting tired of walking across the White House lawn in her stilettos, but she was also a no-show at a Mar-a-Lago dinner her husband hosted with Geraldo Rivera and her stepsons, according to The Washington Post.

Melania seems to be punishing Donald, but for what?

"I don't think she ever imagined that he was going to be faithful to her," Schwartz speculated. "This is a man who has never stopped pushing himself on women. The preponderance of the evidence, as they say, is pretty convincing."

The punishment, in that case, must be for the relentless humiliation.

Surely, Melania Trump knew what she was getting into when she married the man who would become our 45th president.

Twenty-four years her senior, Donald Trump had already been divorced twice. He was a famous adulterer, womanizer and sexist, and a regular on shock jock Howard Stern's radio show, making proclamations about then-girlfriend Melania's breasts and his belief that when a woman turns 35, it's "checkout time."

She rallied to his defense after the infamous "Access Hollywood" tape became public during the 2016 presidential campaign. America's future first lady dismissed her husband's boast about being able to grab women's genitals as just "boy talk" and said her husband had been "egged on" by then-host Billy Bush.

And then, when more than a dozen women came forward to allege that Trump had sexually harassed or assaulted them over a period of four decades, the former model attacked the women. Their stories, she said, were "lies."

"This was all organized from the opposition," Melania Trump told CNN. "Did they ever check the background of these women? They don't have any facts."

Well, you certainly can't blame a wife for supporting her husband.

Unless, of course, she's a Democrat, like Hillary Clinton. In which case the wife will be vilified for supporting her husband.

On the skids?

In the last year, there has been a lot of speculation about the durability of the Trumps' marriage, mostly focusing on Melania's tolerance levels. Tongue-in-cheek memes include "#FreeMelania."

Thirteen months ago, at the first Women's March, there were numerous handmade posters, riffing on the first lady's generally stone-faced expression, with variations of "Melania, blink twice if you need help!" And that was long before details about the porn star and the Playmate emerged.

A Marist poll released on Valentine's Day (!), found that 43 percent of Americans think the Trumps should stay together, 34 percent said Melania should leave and 23 percent were unsure. I can't imagine what it feels like to have your marriage put to a popular vote.

Over the course of the past year, Melania's approval rating has inched up. She is now far more popular than her husband. This is not much of a surprise; most first ladies are more popular than their mates. In Melania's case, the bar was pretty low given Trump's low ratings, but good for her.

Last fall, during a White House dinner, President Trump acknowledged his wife's popularity, calling her "the star of the Trump family," according to news reports.

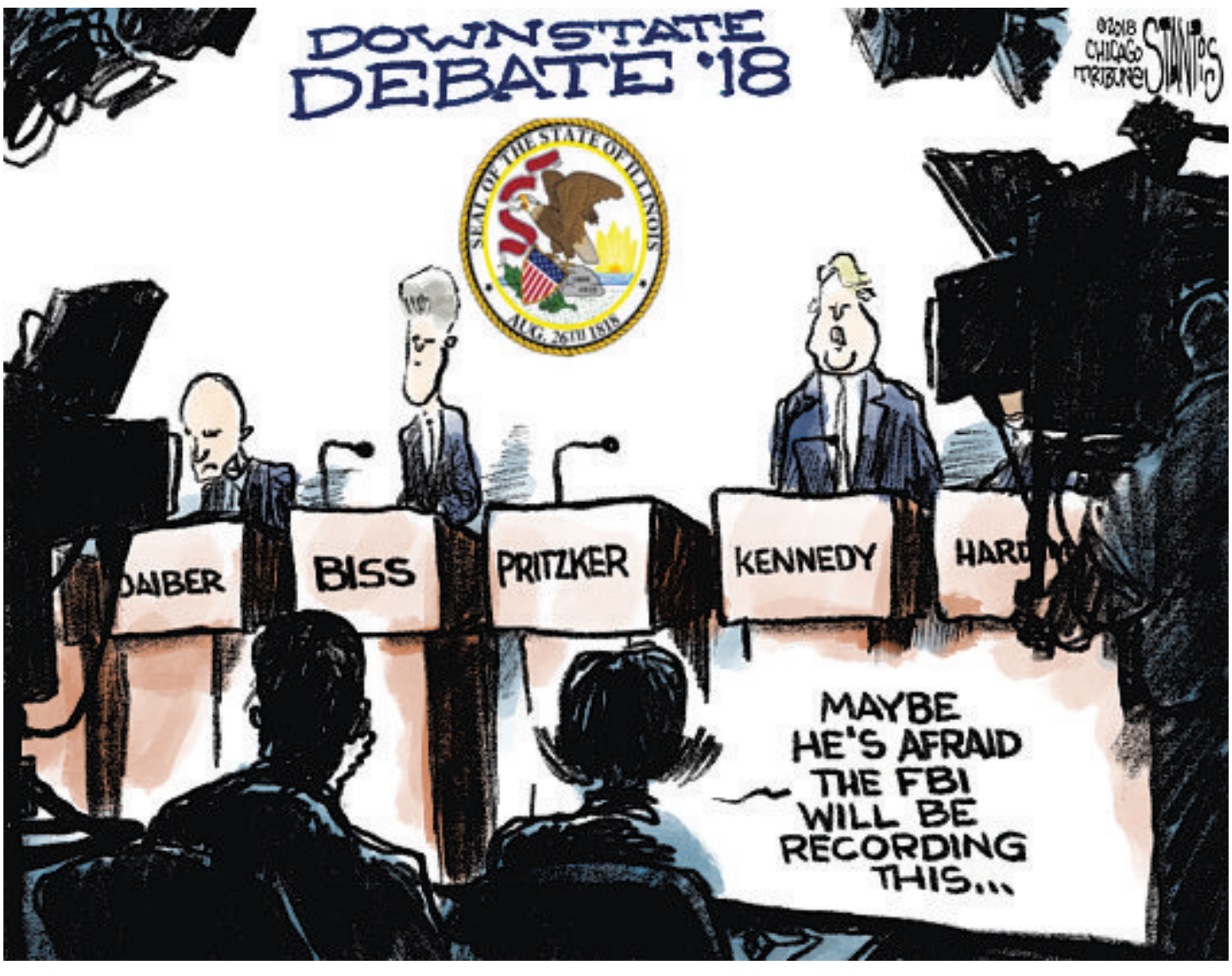
"They love her out there, I'll tell you. We walked all over Florida. We walked all over Texas, and they're loving Melania."

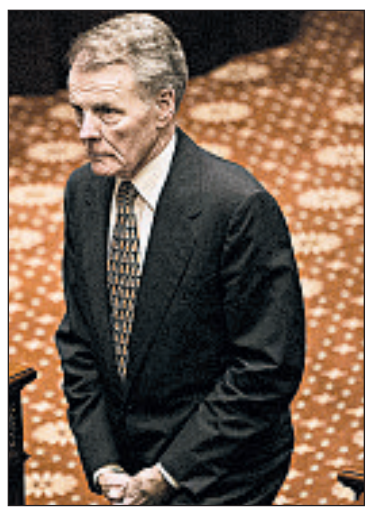
Since he has a history of walking all over his marriage, it's good to know that someone is loving Melania.

Tribune Content Agency

Robin Abcarian is a columnist at the Los Angeles Times.

SCOTT STANTIS





ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2017

Michael Madigan doesn't tolerate dissent in his political court.

Why are Dems so silent about Madigan's slow-mo response?

By Lorna Brett

When the Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky "bomb" detonated in the '90s, we witnessed one of the most hypocritical moments in American political history.

Democrats duct-taped their mouths shut. Liberal lips were locked. Even the cover girl of Ms. Magazine, Gloria Steinem, in a New York Times op-ed defended President Clinton, something she has said she wouldn't write exactly the same way today.

I was president of Chicago NOW at the time and almost lost that volunteer job for daring to say Clinton should resign.

Following the sexual harassment scandal that rocked the House of Madigan this past week, what did we hear from Illinois Democrats? Crickets.

Female legislators I respect, women in politics I admire and Democrats in political leadership positions said exactly nothing. At least they said very little to a very hungry press corps interested in investigating Illinois House

It's easy to criticize your enemy for bad behavior.

Speaker Michael Madigan's reaction to allegations of sexual harassment within his political army.

Here is the timeline that emerged: In February 2017, a woman who worked for Madigan's 13th Ward organization told Ald. Marty Quinn, 13th, that she'd been sexually harassed by her supervisor, Kevin Quinn, the alderman's brother. In July, Kevin Quinn was arrested for allegedly beating his wife. He remained on the payroll. Kevin Quinn's estranged wife, who had a restraining order against him, says she tried to contact Madigan by fax in August, alleging mistreatment by her husband. The fax was sent to Madigan's consigliere, Tim Mapes, who says he never saw and cannot locate the fax. In November, Alaina Hampton — the woman Kevin Quinn allegedly harassed — repeated her complaint in a letter to Madigan. He asked his lawyer, Heather Wier Vaught, to investigate.

Last week, Kevin Quinn was fired — but the timing is suspicious. It was only hours before a Tribune story was scheduled to run about Hampton's allegations.

For one year a man who clearly needed to be taken out of a supervisory role stayed employed. Speaker Madigan took responsibility for "not doing enough" but stopped short of stepping aside pending a full investigation into who knew what and when.

It's easy to criticize your enemy for bad behavior. Illinois Democrats have no problem calling out President Donald Trump. But when one of their own is accused, the silence is deafening.

I have seen no profiles in courage emerge in the wake of this Madigan imbroglio. Why? The speaker tolerates no dissent in his political court. No enemy is as dangerous as the one you think is your friend.

Lorna Brett is a former president of Chicago NOW and a women's rights activist. She lives in New York City.

PERSPECTIVE

JOE RAEDLE/GETTY

Students are brought out of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., last week after the mass shooting.

Does media coverage of mass murders inspire others to kill?

By Russell Frank

A lead story last week on The New York Times home page provided the overview of the latest massacre at an American school: "17 Killed at Florida School; Toll May Climb."

A "sidebar," or secondary story, also on the home page bore this headline: "Here's What We Know About the Suspect."

In a similar vein, The Washington Post ran a story with the headline "Florida shooting suspect Nikolas Cruz: Guns, depression and a life in trouble."

The stories tell of a troubled kid who liked weapons, threatened classmates and was cruel to animals. They also feature photos of the suspect: an extreme closeup in the Post, and in The New York Times a screenshot from his Instagram account that shows him brandishing a gun.

There's no question that we humans are deeply curious about those who commit crimes. Our literary tradition, from the myths and tales of the ancient world to Shakespeare to Dostoevsky to the latest police procedural on Netflix, indicates that we have always been fascinated by "the criminal mind," which is, after all, not so different from our own minds. But as a former reporter and editor who studies the media and who teaches journalism ethics, I ask the question: Can stoking this fascination cause harm?

Obsession with deviance

Who among us, after all, has not at least fantasized about inflicting bodily harm on an enemy or taking what did not belong to us? At least two considerations constrain us: law and custom. The threat of punishment and the moral injunctions against crimes against persons and property are such compelling reasons to stick to the straight and narrow that we marvel at those who stray.

So the journalistic impulse to learn what we can about a mass murderer by interviewing acquaintances and combing through his social media accounts is understandable. The question that arises with every mass shooting is whether these instant illustrated profiles of the killers do more harm than good.

Might all that attention inspire a similarly deranged person to commit a "copycat" crime? Might the photos in particular, especially the ones that include weaponry, further glamorize the killer as a figure worthy of emulation?

"Attention is attention, and this is the ultimate attention-getting," the principal of a West Paducah, Ky., high school told The New York Times after shootings at his school in 1997 and at a school in Springfield, Ore., six months later. "I mean, getting your picture on the cover of Time and Newsweek. That is going out in a blaze of glory."

The most compelling anecdotal evidence of a copycat effect may have come from the 26-year-old who killed 10 students at Umpqua Community College in Oregon in 2015.

Incentive to kill?

In a blog post about the television journalist who killed two of his former colleagues in Virginia earlier that year, he wrote, "I have noticed that so many people like him are all alone and unknown, yet when they spill a little blood, the whole world knows who they are. A man who was known by no one, is now known by everyone. His face splashed across every screen, his name across the lips of every person on the planet, all in the course of one day. Seems the more people you kill, the more you're in the limelight."

Writing in The Atlantic in 2012, sociologist Zeynep Tufekci argued that the news media ought to tone down coverage of shooting sprees in the same way they modulated their coverage of suicides when it was feared that such deaths had become "contagious" in the 1980s. Among Tufekci's recommendations: Avoid specifying the killer's choice of weapons, avoid quoting his writings or utterances, delay releasing the suspect's name and, to not add to the traumatizing of victims and their loved ones, resist the urge to interview victims and loved ones.

A further argument, in my view, against the snap profile is that it plays into the hands of those who resist any attempts at gun control by focusing on the incident as primarily the expression of a mental health problem rather than a gun availability problem.

Killer profiles

When it comes to mass shootings, defenders of reporting on the suspect's background note that evidence of a "copycat" effect is scant: Though we seem to lurch from one such tragedy to the next, there are, in fact, too few of them and the human mind is too unknowable to be able to draw a clear, causal connection from news coverage of any one crime to the commission of subsequent crimes.

Indeed, proponents argue that such coverage might actually prevent future carnage. The profile comprises a set of warning signs that we would do well to heed if we are ever confronted with similar hints of a propensity to violence and cruelty.

Tufekci acknowledged the public's interest in mass shootings and that such incidents are likely to have more than one cause. "But it's important to recognize," she wrote, "that sensational news coverage is, increasingly, part of the mix of events that contributes to these rampages."

As far back as the Columbine shootings in 1999, mental health professionals have been urging journalists to focus less on the perpetrators of shooting rampages and more on the victims. Judging from last week's coverage of the massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., that advice is still going largely unheeded.

The Conversation

Russell Frank is an associate professor of communications at Pennsylvania State University.

What liberals miss about the 2nd Amendment

By Steven Lubet

When it comes to guns, it often appears as though liberals and conservatives are speaking different languages. Liberals express their horror at each new mass shooting and demand government action, while conservatives call for "thoughts and prayers" and insist on respect for the Second Amendment.

The constitutional argument usually leaves liberals cold, but it would be more recognizable if they gave it more thought. There is in fact a symmetry between liberal and conservative approaches to the Constitution, which explains a lot about the intractable nature of the gun problem.

Both sides read the same Bill of Rights, of course, but they tend to emphasize different provisions. Liberals, for example, make a priority of the Fifth and Sixth amendments, which guarantee accused suspects the right to remain silent and the appointment of counsel when facing prosecution.

Although these rights are well established by U.S. Supreme Court cases such as Miranda v. Arizona and Gideon v. Wainwright, they are still questioned by many conservatives who see them as just one more way of coddling criminals. Why should even terrorism suspects be read warnings before interrogation? And why should cash-strapped local governments have to spend millions of dollars providing lawyers for obviously guilty defendants? Worst of all, why should a criminal's confession be thrown out simply because the arresting officer made a technical mistake?

Liberals, in contrast, believe that procedural due process protects the public from overreaching by the police. Without the Miranda and Gideon rules, innocent people might be convicted and ordinary citizens might find themselves arrested and locked up for no good reason. It is true that guilty defendants might sometimes be released, but, as liberals will explain, that is the price of freedom for everyone else.

Conservatives prioritize the Second Amendment, which, under the recent Supreme Court cases District of Columbia v. Heller and McDonald v. Chicago, guarantees the right to keep and bear firearms for personal protection. Under the decisions in Heller and McDonald, every state now allows "concealed carry" of handguns, and many allow "open carry" of assault rifles and other weapons.

This is baffling to liberals, who cannot understand conservatives' constitutional reverence for firearms. Why would anyone need to own multiple semi-automatic handguns and rifles, large-capacity magazines or bump stocks that make it possible to fire hundreds of rounds per minute? Every school shooting, such as the most recent one in Parkland, Fla., brings new calls from liberals for some form of gun control, followed by outrage and consternation when legislatures fail to act.

The response from conservatives, led by the National Rifle Association, is that gun ownership is a "fundamental right" that simply cannot be diminished by the government. They consequently object to even small measures — such as limiting magazine size or requiring universal background checks — because they see them as preliminary steps toward abrogating the Second Amendment itself.

You will seldom hear them say it, but conservatives apply the same logic as liberals when it comes to the consequences of protecting individual rights. As Bill O'Reilly once explained, mass shootings — in schools, churches, shopping malls and theaters — are just the price of freedom under the Second Amendment.

It may seem that liberals and conservatives do not understand each other when it comes to the Bill of Rights, with one side extending too much protection to criminals and the other tolerating too many guns. But in fact, they are really engaging the same calculus of societal risk and constitutional reward, although premised on different values and with dramatically different results. The constitutional visions mirror each other, but they are not equivalent.

In the name of procedural fairness, liberals are willing to see suspects go free, although the actual number is quite small. For the sake of their own guns, conservatives are willing to abide the slaughter of innocents, and the death toll keeps rising.

Steven Lubet is a law professor at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law and director of the Bartlit Center for Trial Advocacy.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Love and support

I sit here writing a letter that I never thought I'd have to write. On Feb. 13, my husband and Grace's dad, Paul Bauer, was violently taken from us. Needless to say, our hearts are broken in a million pieces, and our lives are forever changed. But that's not the reason I am writing.

I'm writing to thank the people of Chicago for the outpouring of love and support at this horrendous time in our lives.

Paul would have been terribly upset that he inconvenienced so many people with the parking restrictions in our beloved Bridgeport. He would have winced at the thought that the Dan Ryan closed down for the funeral procession. He never wanted to be in the spotlight. He never thought of himself, only others.

I want to thank those of you who waited for hours in the cold to attend his wake and funeral. You have no idea how much that meant to us.

If I wasn't out of tears, I would have cried the entire route to the cemetery. I want you to know that I saw each and every one of you who stopped on the side of the road to salute as the hearse went by. I saw the blue blanket draped over the fence along the expressway and the large banners with Paul's pictures.

The trip down 111th Street stands out in my mind. There were families with small children waiting in the bitter cold to say a prayer, hold a homemade sign or wave a flag. There were young and old. The Chicago Fire Department was there with their trucks, while so many of its men and women saluted as we drove by.

I saw people of every color taking time out of their day, not only to pay respects to Paul, but to the entire Chicago Police Department. They are the men and women who selflessly put their lives on the line each day to protect people they don't even know. They are my new family.

I saw each and every one of you from the darkened window of my car. The good people in this world far outnumber the bad. Grace and I are humbled, as Paul would be.

One man almost stole my faith in humanity, but the city of Chicago and the rest of the nation restored it, and I want to thank you for that.

— Erin Bauer, Chicago

Insurmountable odds

Regarding your Saturday editorial "Is this about helping kids or making Illinois schools look better?" I am dismayed that you write of schools "performing." Schools are inanimate objects that hold students and their teachers. It is students who perform up to grade or fail to perform on statewide exams.

Why is it that students perform under expectations? According to Chicago Public Schools demographic data, in some grades upward of 80 percent of students are eligible for free or reduced-cost lunch, which is an indicator of poverty.

I began teaching in Chicago in 1972. There was a seismic change from 1972 to 1982. In my early years, parents would come to me to volunteer. By 1982, women had entered the workforce, as salaries had diminished while productivity had skyrocketed.

Students who live in poverty tend to face many hurdles. They may not eat dinner with their parents, when language skills can develop. They may not be tucked into bed with a bedtime story. Social scientists will tell you that the word count of children in professional homes is exponentially higher than that of children who live in poverty, and children who enter school deficient in language may fall further behind as they progress through higher grades.

Over a decade ago, the Chicago Tribune followed a student who left her "failing" school to attend a school on the North Side. For awhile she performed well, but as the year wore on, she began to miss class and to be tardy. Her progress plummeted.

When the Chicago Tribune Editorial Board writes of "school accountability," I rarely hear of the hurdles teachers and students face each and every day. Averages dictate that some will exceed, some will pass, and some will fail. Ever hear of a bell curve? When poverty enters the picture, is it any wonder that fewer than 40 percent of students pass both reading and math exams?

— Janice Gintzler, Crestwood

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Chicago Tribune
BUSINESS

$92M accounting mistake at Edward-Elmhurst Health

Overestimated receivables the main issue, official says

By Alexia Elejalde-Ruiz
Chicago Tribune

In a whopper of an accounting misstep, Edward-Elmhurst Health overestimated by $92 million the revenue it expects to receive from insurance companies and patients, delivering an unexpected blow to its bottom line.

In an interview Tuesday, CEO Mary Lou Mastro said there will be no layoffs or service cuts to compensate for the money that the hospital planned to receive but won't. The company is aggressively addressing the issue so that it doesn't happen again, and its balance sheet remains strong, she said.

"It was a disappointing finding but we identified the problem, we worked rapidly to resolve it," Mastro said. "We have to keep on doing what we've been doing, which is focusing on our growth, which has been tremendous."

The west suburban hospital system discovered the error after its auditor, Ernst and Young, recommended it do an evaluation of its accounts receivable, which reflects money the hospital estimates it is owed by insurers and patients.

The analysis found accounting errors over multiple years had added up to an overestimation of $92 million as of the end of its last fiscal year June 30. Nearly half — $42 million — occurred before Edward and Elmhurst hospitals merged in 2013. The analy-

Turn to **Error, Page 2**

MATT ROURKE/AP 2016

Albertsons will acquire 2,500 Rite Aid stores not being sold to Walgreens to form a food and drug company.

Jewel-Osco parent to buy Rite Aid chain

Albertsons deal could shield drugstores from online shopping competition

By Greg Trotter
Chicago Tribune

Albertsons, parent company of Jewel-Osco, announced plans Tuesday to buy drugstore chain Rite Aid in a deal that could help the combined company survive competitive pressure from giants like Walmart and Amazon amid the rise of online shopping.

Locally, the immediate impact for consumers appears minimal. Under the proposed deal, all Albertsons-owned store pharmacies would be rebranded as Rite Aid pharmacies — except in Jewel-Osco stores. Asked whether the company would consider opening new standalone Rite Aid stores in the Chicago market, perhaps in some of the empty former Dominick's stores controlled by Albertsons in the suburbs, an Albertsons spokeswoman said Tuesday that it's too early to say.

Privately held Albertsons will buy the remaining 2,500 or so Rite Aid stores not being sold to Walgreens to form a food and drug retail company with a combined value of $24 billion, including debt. The combined publicly traded, yet-to-be-named company will have about 4,900 stores in total, including 4,350 pharmacies, in 38 states, the companies said. The deal is expected to close in the second half of this year, pending regulatory and

Turn to **Rite Aid, Page 2**

NANCY STONE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Suzette Wright talks Tuesday about sexual harassment she says she experienced from "day one" at a Ford plant.

Ford sex harassment ignored, workers say

Employees in hospitality industry voice own concerns

By Samantha Bomkamp
Chicago Tribune

The City Council's Finance Committee heard testimony Tuesday about alleged pervasive sexual harassment at Ford Motor Co.'s two Chicago plants and in the hospitality industry.

Speaking through tears and long, emotional pauses, four current and former female workers at Ford's local stamping and assembly plants shared their stories with a scattering of aldermen and a few dozen members of the UNITE HERE union and the public. UNITE HERE represents those who work in the food, hotel, manufacturing and transportation industries, among other sectors.

Christie Van, center, also detailed a hostile working environment at a Ford plant on the South Side.

Ald. Ed Burke, 14th, Finance Committee chairman, acknowledged in an introduction that while the city has proposed legislation aimed at curbing sexual harassment across the city, the problem "can't be solved with the stroke of a pen."

The hospitality workers who were alleged victims of sexual harassment while at work said they were there to urge the council to prevent an amendment to the "Hands Off, Pants On" ordinance adopted late last year that they say would dilute its effectiveness.

The amendment, proposed by Ald. Michelle Harris, 8th, would change the ordinance so that it covers only sexual harassment incidents perpetrated by hotel guests and not by other hotel staffers.

In response to a reporter's question about the amendment after the hearing, Harris said: "There's an amendment sitting in committee that neither

Turn to **Council, Page 2**

Apartment boom downtown likely to gain steam in '19

Analysts forecast 7,200 new units over next 2 years

Ryan Ori
On Real Estate

After setting a record for apartment construction in 2017, downtown Chicago will take a breather — but not for long.

While only about 3,000 apartment units are expected to be completed this year, developers next year could challenge the record number of downtown apartments — 4,350 units — built in 2017, Integra Realty Resources executives said Tuesday during the firm's annual apartment and condominium forecast luncheon.

The firm projects that about 4,200 units will be completed in 2019.

The rate of downtown apartment construction is being closely watched amid concerns of an oversupply. Yet even amid the frenzied pace of construction, 2017 also brought a record for absorption: 3,385 units, a 31 percent increase from 2016. Absorption measures the change in the number of leased apartments compared with the previous year.

"So far in 2018 this has really been a strong leasing market," said Ron DeVries, an Integra senior managing director.

The rental market has been boosted by downtown job growth, DeVries said. There were 19,448 new jobs created downtown in 2017, up from 16,582 jobs in 2016 and 15,883 in 2015, DeVries said.

Years of ambitious construction of, and investing in, apartments have made the largest deals — $200 million or above — challenging to finance, he said. Some investors are looking to the suburbs in search of higher returns, DeVries said.

After condominium development ground to a halt during the last recession, some of the first big condo projects in Chicago are under construction or marketing units for sale. That comes after just 1,800 condos were marketed for sale in the past seven years, said Gail Lissner, an Integra managing director.

One of the big new projects is 1000M, a 74-story tower designed by Helmut Jahn at 1000 S. Michigan Ave. Developers began marketing 323 units for sale in the fourth quarter of 2017.

"We think the market was ripe," said Jerry Karlik, a principal at New York-based JK Equities, one of the tower's developers.

"With rental prices hitting $4 per square foot in luxury buildings, we think it's the right market for a premier condo building," Karlik said. "It's an underserved area, and there hasn't been much built since the last (real estate) cycle."

Chicago's suburbs also could see some big condo projects, Lissner said, including Jupiter Realty's recently unveiled plan for a 27-story tower in Oak Brook.

"There are a couple very ambitious projects in the pipeline that could change the nature of the developments we've seen," Lissner said.

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Peanut allergy preventive treatment showing success

By Marilynn Marchione
Associated Press

The first treatment to help prevent serious allergic reactions to peanuts may be on the way. A company said Tuesday that its daily capsules of peanut powder helped children build tolerance in a major study.

Millions of children are allergic to peanuts, and some may have life-threatening reactions if accidentally exposed to them. Doctors have been testing daily doses of peanut, contained in a capsule and sprinkled over food, as a way to prevent that by gradually getting them used to very small amounts.

California-based Aimmune Therapeutics said 67 percent of kids who had its experimental treatment were able to tolerate the equivalent of roughly two peanuts at the end of the study, compared to only 4 percent of others given a dummy powder.

But a big warning: Don't try this at home.

"It's potentially dangerous," said Dr. Stacie Jones, a University of Arkansas allergy specialist. "This is investigational. It has to be done in a very safe setting" to make sure kids can be treated fast for any bad reactions, she said.

Jones helped lead the study, consults for the company, and will give the results at an allergy conference next month. The results have not yet been reviewed by independent experts.

The study involved nearly 500 kids ages 4 to 17 with allergies so severe that they had reactions to as little as a tenth of a peanut. They were given either capsules of peanut or a dummy powder in gradually increasing amounts for six months, then continued on that final level for another six months. Neither the participants nor their doctors knew who was getting what until the study ended.

About 20 percent of kids getting the peanut powder dropped out of the study, 12 percent due to reactions or other problems. The product showed "overall good safety," Jones said.

Dr. Andrew Bird, an allergy specialist at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, also consults for the company and had patients in the study. The treatment doesn't allow kids to eat peanuts as if they had no allergy, but research suggests that being able to tolerate at least one peanut should protect 95 percent of them from having a reaction if they are exposed to peanuts, he said.

PATRICK SISON/AP

A new treatment designed to build resistance to a peanut allergy worked in 67 percent of those in a study.

Dog food pulled over concerns of euthanasia drug

J.M. Smucker acts on risk of presence of pentobarbital

By David J. Neal
Miami Herald

J.M. Smucker is "withdrawing" all lots of certain Gravy Train, Kibbles 'N Bits, Skippy and Ol' Roy canned dog food products manufactured since 2016 because they might contain pentobarbital, a sedative used in pet euthanasia.

A Food and Drug Administration alert was posted Friday.

"The FDA's preliminary evaluation of the testing results of Gravy Train samples indicates that the low level of pentobarbital present in the withdrawn products is unlikely to pose a health risk to pets," reads Friday's FDA alert. "However, pentobarbital should never be present in pet food and products containing any amount of pentobarbital are considered to be adulterated."

Smucker is calling it a "withdrawal," not a "recall." Either way, it still means these products are coming off store shelves and should not be used if already bought.

The Gravy Train flavors involved are Gravy Train with T-Bone Flavor Chunks, 13.2-ounce cans; Gravy Train with Beef Strips, 13.2-ounce cans; Gravy Train with Lamb & Rice Chunks, 13.2-ounce cans; Gravy Train with Chicken Chunks, 13.2-ounce and 22-ounce cans; Gravy Train with Beef Chunks, 13.2-ounce and 22-ounce cans; and Gravy Train Chunks in Gravy with Beef Chunks, 13.2-ounce cans.

The Kibbles 'N Bits Variety Packs recalled are 12-can Chef's Choice American Grill Burger Dinner with Real Bacon & Cheese Bits in Gravy; Chef's Choice Bistro Tender Cuts with Real Turkey Bacon & Vegetables in Gravy; 12-can Chef's Choice Bistro Hearty Cuts with Real Beef, Chicken & Vegetables in Gravy; Chef's Choice Homestyle Meatballs & Pasta Dinner with Real Beef in Tomato Sauce; 12-can Chef's Choice Homestyle Tender Slices with Real Beef, Chicken & Vegetables in Gravy; Chef's Choice American Grill Burger Dinner with Real Bacon & Cheese Bits in Gravy; and Chef's Choice Bistro Tender Cuts with Real Beef & Vegetables in Gravy.

Regular Kibbles 'N Bits 13.2-ounce cans pulled are Chef's Choice Bistro Tender Cuts with Real Beef & Vegetables in Gravy; Chef's Choice Bistro Tender Cuts with Real Turkey, Bacon & Vegetables in Gravy; and Chef's Choice Homestyle Tender Slices with Real Beef, Chicken & Vegetables in Gravy.

Skippy varieties pulled are 13.2-ounce cans of Premium Chunks in Gravy Chunky Stew, Premium Chunks in Gravy with Beef and Premium Strips in Gravy with Beef.

The only variety of Ol' Roy, Walmart's house brand, pulled is Turkey Bacon in 13.2-ounce cans.

The FDA said people with cans of these brands should toss them or contact J.M. Smucker about returns. Consumers can call the company at 800-828-9980 or contact the company online.

A study released Feb. 9 by the Clean Label Project, testing various pet food brands bought off shelves and through Amazon.com, found pentobarbital in one brand — Gravy Train. All three Gravy Train types tested had pentobarbital. The FDA began investigating, as did J.M. Smucker.

J.M. Smucker, which acquired Gravy Train maker Big Heart Pet in 2015, wouldn't answer when asked by the Miami Herald via email Tuesday if Gravy Train products had pentobarbital. Instead, there was a company statement:

"Since we learned of this information, we launched and are conducting a thorough investigation, including working closely with our suppliers, to determine the accuracy of these results and the methodology used. While we are confident in the safety of our products, should additional actions be required, we will communicate that quickly to consumers and our retail partners."

NANCY STONE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Miyoshi Morris said she was fired by Ford as a result of reporting sexual harassment.

Workers say union, company of little help

Council, *from Page 1*

side has had a chance to debate on, and everybody that knows me knows that I would never pass an ordinance that would dilute the very ordinance that I fought for."

No new legislation was introduced at the hearing, and a representative for the committee didn't respond to a question about future efforts on behalf of workplace sexual harassment victims.

Suzette Wright, who grew up on the city's South Sideand was a 23-year-old single mother when she started working at Ford in the early 1990s, said the harassment started on "day one of training" and persisted throughout her six-year tenure at the plant. Wright alleged that Ford "championed for the harasser" and that her calls for help went unanswered.

Officials from Ford did not attend the hearing, but in a letter sent to Burke, Tony Reinhart of Ford's department of governmental affairs said the automaker has taken steps to change the culture at its plants.

"We are deeply dedicated to diversity and to ensuring a respectful and inclusive workplace at all of our locations," Reinhart wrote. "Ford does not tolerate sexual harassment or discrimination, and we take all claims of harassment and discrimination very seriously."

Keith Hunt, an attorney who has represented hundreds of women in their claims against Ford, said at the hearing that the company claimed it had a no-tolerance policy, "but in truth, they have a no-tolerance policy for complainers." He suggested that the city move to disqualify bidders for city work or services that lack adequate sexual harassment policies or maintain work environments where harassment is allowed to thrive. The city purchases all of its police vehicles from Ford.

Hunt also said that the statutes of limitations for sexual harassment should be extended at the state level, adding that many alleged victims seek counsel when it's already too late.

In all, Hunt said there are about 2,500 women current and former employees of the two Chicago Ford plants who are members of a class of alleged sexual harassment victims, just since 2012.

Three women who have current lawsuits against Ford described their experiences at the hearing.

Tonya Exum said she was a victim of groping and cat calls. Christie Van said she called the company harassment hotline "countless times" and reported harassment to the company's labor department and the union, the United Automobile Workers, but Van said nothing was done to help her. She said she left her job at Ford but was unable to afford her home, and she eventually spent time living in her car with her disabled son.

Miyoshi Morris, who worked for Ford in Chicago for 18 years, said she was terminated as a result of her sexual harassment reports. Losing her job there was "financially devastating," she said, and has led her to make "heart-wrenching decisions" including moving her son to live with his father in Minneapolis during the school year.

Ald. Nicholas Sposato, 38th, spoke following Morris' statement, saying, "You took the high road by calling (the alleged perpetrators) 'gentlemen,' " he said. "I'd just call them scumbags."

Chicago Tribune's Hal Dardick contributed.

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CEO says accounting changes were made

Error, *from Page 1*

sis was validated by independent auditing firm KPMG.

In a memo sent to staff last week delivering the news, Mastro said the error was caused by insufficient accounting procedures and a misunderstanding of the company's electronic medical records system that resulted in an overstatement of its estimates for its contracts. Managed care contracts were not fully loaded into the system so the terms of those contracts were not fully taken into account.

In addition, its processes did not fully account for shortfalls in its bad debt and charity care reserves.

"Health care reimbursement is incredibly complicated," Mastro said Tuesday. "Sometimes we're not paid for months and months so we have to make a lot of assumptions about how much we will be paid.

"Accounts receivable reflect hundreds of assumptions."

As a $1.4 billion company, small errors in those assumptions can add up to a lot of money, she said.

As a result of accounting changes the hospital system implemented to correct the errors, the hospital system's bottom line has taken a turn for the worse.

A $5 million operating loss originally estimated for the first half of the 2018 fiscal year, which ran July 1 to Dec. 31, 2017, is now a $15 million loss. And a $1.7 million operating income reported at the end of the last fiscal year has been adjusted to now show a $15 million loss.

Edward-Elmhurst announced a $50 million cost reduction plan in August, before it was aware of the accounting errors. As part of that plan, the health system, which owns Edward Hospital in Naperville, Elmhurst Hospital in Elmhurst and Linden Oaks Behavioral Health in Naperville, last year laid off 84 employees, eliminating 234 positions in all, mostly by not filling vacant spots. It had about 9,000 employees before the layoffs.

"We recognize that this will be a way of life in the health care industry," Mastro said. "We need to be looking at 3 to 5 percent cost reductions every year."

Edward-Elmhurst Health is facing the same financial pressures afflicting hospitals across Illinois and the country. In announcing the cost reductions last year, the system said the cutbacks were necessary because of increasing numbers of patients covered by Medicare and Medicaid, which it said do not cover the full costs of patient care.

It said more patient bills are going unpaid, likely because of higher insurance copays and deductibles. It also pointed to increased charity care, fewer patients with private insurance, private insurance payments that fall short of medical inflation, and higher drug and medical supply costs.

Despite the challenges, Mastro emphasized that the hospital system's earnings, which were $76 million last year, remain strong.

But the error could cast a shadow on the hospital system.

"I think a misestimate of this scale reflects poorly on both the administration of the system and on its auditors, both of whom should have discovered these errors years ago," said Allan Baumgarten, an independent health care financial analyst.

He added the bond rating agencies might be concerned that they were basing their ratings on an incorrect statement of assets.

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State Farm trimming IT staff at Bloomington HQ

State Farm is offering voluntary buyouts and laying off some employees at its corporate headquarters in Bloomington, Ill., as it undergoes an information technology restructuring, the insurer said Tuesday.

The company declined to say how many of its roughly 15,000 Bloomington-based employees will be affected.

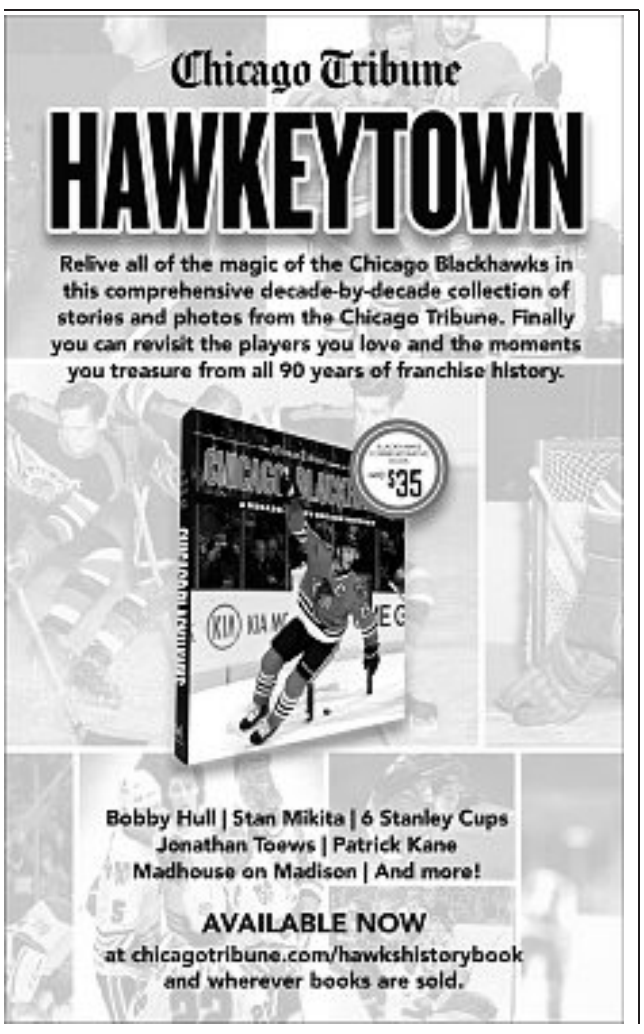
State Farm said in an emailed statement that it is taking a "new approach to information technology" and "realigning key functions" in its IT operations at its headquarters.

The company said most of the IT jobs will remain in Bloomington but some additional IT jobs will be spread out in the insurer's other hub cities of Atlanta, Dallas and Phoenix.

"Our approach will enable us to provide more sophisticated online and mobile solutions to customers," the statement said.

State Farm employs 70,000 people across the country, the company said.

— Corilyn Shropshire



Jewel-Osco owner buying Rite Aid stores

Rite Aid, *from Page 1*

Rite Aid shareholder approval.

"This is a combination that's going to create a lot of value and numerous opportunities for growth," said Albertsons Chairman and CEO Bob Miller, who will become chairman of the combined company, on a call with analysts Tuesday morning.

John Standley, Rite Aid CEO, will be chief executive officer of the new company, which will be co-headquartered in Boise, Idaho and Camp Hill, Pa. The company is expected to bring in $83 billion in revenue year one.

The deal also comes after Rite Aid's failed attempt to sell itself to Deerfield-based Walgreens Boots Alliance. That merger fell apart amid scrutiny by U.S. antitrust authorities. Walgreens eventually won approval to buy 1,932 stores, three distribution centers and related assets for $4.4 billion in September.

"I don't think (Albertsons' planned acquisition of Rite Aid) hurts Walgreens, which still gets a lot of benefit out of those 2,000 stores," said Jon Hauptman, senior director of retail for grocery consulting firm Willard Bishop.

The deal provides opportunities for both Albertsons and Rite Aid to increase sales through store brands, Hauptman said. For example, Jewel shoppers might see some of Rite Aid's health and beauty private-label brands once the deal closes, he said. It also expands the geographic footprint of both companies.

As for the possibility of Rite Aid stores coming to Chicago, Hauptman said: "Walgreens and CVS both have a stronghold in the area. I don't see a lot of opportunity for another player to come in and grab market share."

Nationally, the deal greatly enhances the size of Albertsons' pharmacy operations and could increase pressure on profitability for the entire industry, said Morningstar analyst Vishnu Lekraj. That could prove to be an important edge as grocery sales increasingly shift online. Within five to seven years, 70 percent of all American consumers will regularly buy groceries online, according to research last month from the Food Marketing Institute and Nielsen. By 2022, consumers could be spending $100 billion annually on online groceries, the equivalent of $850 a year for every U.S. household.

Already, Albertsons offers some e-commerce options, including its own in-house delivery service and Instacart in Jewel-Osco stores, as well as Plated, a meal kit service. This merger doesn't elevate those services in a meaningful way, but it does improve its pharmacy offering as another reason why shoppers might choose Albertsons stores instead of the competition, said Diana Sheehan, director of retail insights for Kantar Consulting.

Time will tell whether that's enough for two companies that recently reported negative same-store sales, a common indicator of health in retail, Sheehan said.

"These are two retailers struggling to succeed," she said. "Can they get past their own challenges to grow?"

Retailers have been under growing pressure from online competitors like Amazon.com, and the corner drugstore has been no exception. While the prescription drug businesses at pharmacies has been relatively stable, front-of-the-store sales have been in decline. Giant retailers like Walmart are also looking to play a bigger role.

The result has been consolidation. CVS Health Corp. agreed last year to pay about $68 billion for health insurer Aetna, while The Wall Street Journal recently reported that Walgreens is in early talks to buy drug distributor AmerisourceBergen Corp.

Albertsons, which is backed by private equity firm Cerberus Capital Management, last year put plans for an initial public offering on hold after Amazon acquired Whole Foods, according to people familiar with the situation.

Cerberus first invested in Albertsons in 2006 and later acquired more than 1,000 stores in a $3.3 billion deal with Supervalu in 2013. In 2015, Albertsons acquired Safeway, Dominick's parent company, creating a grocery chain of 2,230 stores and 250,000 employees across the U.S.

Bloomberg News contributed.

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Walmart stock takes worst beating since 1988

Battling Amazon, largest retailer sees mixed results in 4Q

By Anne D'Innocenzio
Associated Press

PATRICK T. FALLON/BLOOMBERG

Walmart Inc. on Tuesday posted a smaller-than-expected fourth-quarter profit.

NEW YORK — Walmart is getting bruised in its battle with online leader Amazon.

The world's largest retailer on Tuesday reported a smaller-than-expected fourth-quarter profit as it wrestled with slower e-commerce sales during the busiest time of the year. The results underscore the company's challenges in a fiercely competitive retail landscape.

Those numbers overshadowed the discounter's better-than-expected sales at its established stores and higher customer traffic as online services linked to its stores attract more shoppers.

Walmart's stock fell 10.2 percent Tuesday, closing at 94.11, its biggest single-day percentage drop in 30 years. Its decline was a big factor in a drop of 1 percent by the Dow Jones industrial average.

The mixed results raise concerns that Walmart's push to narrow the gap between itself and Amazon.com Inc. may be losing steam. This despite it making huge investments in both its digital business and its stores, where it has taken steps like lowering prices.

Walmart's e-commerce sales growth in its U.S. business slowed to 23 percent during the fourth quarter, a sharp decline from 50 percent in the third quarter. The company noted that last year's results got a big boost from its acquisition of online retailer Jet.com.

But it also acknowledged its own mistakes — a surge of TVs, toys and electronics into its warehouses during the peak periods of the holiday season crowded out more basic items. Still, Walmart finished the year with more than 40 percent growth in online sales in the U.S., and it expects that online sales will be revived this year to hit that same pace.

Walmart and other retailers are looking at new ways to compete in light of swiftly changing shopping habits. Albertsons Cos., the owner of Jewel-Osco, Safeway and other grocery brands, announced Tuesday that it is buying the drugstore chain Rite Aid.

Walmart itself is building fewer big stores and focusing on investments in its online business while beefing up benefits for its workers.

Since buying Jet.com for more than $3 billion a year and a half ago, Walmart has added online services, acquired brands like Bonobos and ModCloth and vastly expanded the number of items available online.

Walmart is also getting ready to launch an overhauled website with a focus on fashion and home furnishings. It has teamed up with Lord & Taylor to create dedicated space on its site.

Walmart has aggressively cut prices and plans to double the number of stores where groceries can be ordered online and picked up curbside this year to 2,000 locations.

"We're accelerating innovation in the business to make shopping faster and easier for our customers," said Walmart CEO Doug McMillon.

But Walmart has a long way to go to get even close to Amazon's online dominance. Amazon.com Inc. has leveraged its $99-a-year Prime membership program into intense loyalty from customers, and it's recently stepped into Walmart's turf, no longer content with only online sales. After spending $14 billion to acquire Whole Foods last summer, Amazon just announced two-hour delivery from the grocery chain for its members.

Walmart Inc., based in Bentonville, Ark., earned $2.17 billion, or 73 cents per share, in the three-month period ended Jan. 31. That compares with $3.76 billion, or $1.22 per share, in the year-earlier period.

Excluding charges, Walmart earned $1.33 per share. The results fell short of Wall Street expectations. Analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research were calling for earnings of $1.36 per share.

The world's largest retailer posted revenue of $136.27 billion, exceeding the average analyst estimate of $135.04 billion.

Revenue at stores opened at least a year rose 2.6 percent at its namesake U.S. stores.

That marked the 14th consecutive quarter of increases. Customer counts rose 1.6 percent.

At Walmart's Sam's Clubs, same-store sales rose 2.4 percent in the fourth quarter. The company announced earlier this month that it was offering free shipping for premium members and simplifying its membership tiers.

Last month, Sam's Club began closing 63 U.S. clubs while turning a dozen of them into warehouses for digital sales, with the goal of speeding up deliveries.

The company said Tuesday that its federal corporate tax rate for the current year will be 24 to 26 percent because of the new tax overhaul. Walmart's previous tax rate was 32.5 percent.

Walmart Chief Financial Officer Brett Biggs said the company expects a cash benefit of $2 billion for the year.

AP's Tom Murphy in Indianapolis contributed.

CARLOS OSORIO/AP

Detroit's promotion of its diversity didn't start with its run at Amazon and won't stop now, a city official says.

CITIES TRUMPETING THEIR DIVERSITY

Luring big business means appealing to younger workers

By Corey Williams
Associated Press

Some cities and regions are highlighting racial diversity along with positive business climates, competitive tax rates and available land in pitches to lure tech companies and high-paying jobs.

Places such as Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Detroit are touting their populations of people of color to chief executives and other corporate officials as part of being open for business.

"For Pittsburgh and southwestern Pennsylvania, ethnic and racial diversity has been an integral part of our history and a rich part of our narrative," said Stefani Pashman, CEO of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development.

Pittsburgh and Philadelphia are among 20 cities still under consideration by online retail giant Amazon as a location for the company's second headquarters.

Pashman said to succeed as a player in a global economy, Pittsburgh "must be a place where there's a base of talent that looks and thinks like the world because the world is the customer in today's economy."

When Seattle-based Amazon sought proposals for its second headquarters, more than 240 cities and regions submitted bids and pitches about what they could offer the retailer. Many pitches came with sleek, professionally filmed videos of bright and busy downtowns, historic landmarks and recreational opportunities.

Some also featured snapshots of racial diversity in neighborhoods, shops and classrooms. That's something sought by younger workers who will come to dominate a more tech-driven global economy, according to marketing experts.

Companies generally are looking to employ a lot of millennials, and those hires are saying they "want to be able to work and live in a place where there are these interesting and diverse cultures," said Matthew Quint, director of Columbia Business School's Center on Global Brand Leadership.

But tech-based corporations are lacking in diversity, according to some data.

High-tech employment of African-Americans in the U.S. was 7.4 percent compared with 14.4 percent employment of blacks in the public sector overall, according to 2014 data collected by the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Latino high-tech employment was 8 percent compared with 13.9 percent in the public sector overall.

The data also showed that less than 1 percent of executives at some leading Silicon Valley tech firms were black and fewer than 2 percent were Latino.

"All tech companies are under this lens, presently, for their lack of diversity," Quint said. "CEOs are talking about 'we know we need to change.' "

Meanwhile, he said, cities recognize the racial diversity they offer is attractive and they're telling companies, "You are going to have this diverse population to choose from as you're looking to change your brand."

Pittsburgh is in Allegheny County. About 202,000 of Pittsburgh's 305,000 residents are white, and about 74,000 are black, according to census data. An additional 16,000 are Asian.

In its pursuit of Amazon's $5 billion second headquarters project, which could result in possibly 50,000 jobs, Pittsburgh's video entry is titled "Future. Forged. For all."

In Philadelphia's pitch to Amazon, a half-dozen or so non-white professionals tell why it would be the best place for the company's new headquarters.

Dallas-Fort Worth also is among the more than 240 cities and regions to make a run at Amazon and also made the cut down to 20. A video that's part of Dallas-Fort Worth's proposal shows a boy of eastern Indian heritage holding a sign that reads: "Diversity."

Detroit's pitch included a 240-page "Move Here. Move the World" book that featured blacks and other minorities who own businesses and also highlighted Latino heritage events.

But the Motor City, which is 80 percent black and anchors a metropolitan area that also has sizable Arab-American and Latino populations, didn't make Amazon's cut.

Officials in Detroit say the city's promotion of its diversity didn't start with its run at Amazon and won't stop now that the company has its eyes elsewhere.

"We are going to use that material as much as we can with all of our other business opportunities," said Jed Howbert, the city's group executive for Planning, Housing and Development. "We think the diversity of Detroit and the whole metro area is one of the most important assets we have in attracting companies."

Tina Wells, founder and CEO of New Jersey-based Buzz Marketing Group, said she's not aware of other instances in which cities pushed their diversity to companies like some have to Amazon.

But, she said, it's "less about marketing a city's blackness and more about showing a city is diverse and open to everyone."

"When you think about vibrant cities you want to make sure you tell people, 'You're welcome here,' " Wells said. "I just think we're a little slow in reflecting what these cities look like."

CHRIS KLEPONIS/GETTY

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said, "Americans need more choices in health insurance."

Health insurance rules may be loosened

Administration floats allowing sale of short-term plans

By Noam N. Levey
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration took new steps Tuesday to loosen health insurance rules, moving to allow the sale of more short-term health plans that do not need to offer consumers a full range of health protections.

The proposed regulations — which represent the latest in a series of administrative attacks on the Affordable Care Act since President Donald Trump took office — could make cheaper and skimpier plans available to more Americans.

But these short-term plans — which could last up to a year under the Trump administration's proposed new rules — also threaten to further weaken insurance markets around the country and drive up costs for sicker Americans who need health plans that offer a full set of benefits, such as prescription drugs, maternity care or mental health and substance abuse services.

That would erode the health law's guarantee that access to insurance would no longer depend on a person's health.

Trump administration officials billed the proposed new regulations as a step to make health insurance more affordable.

"Americans need more choices in health insurance so they can find coverage that meets their needs," said Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar. "The status quo is failing too many Americans who face skyrocketing costs and fewer and fewer choices."

Rising premiums have squeezed a growing number of consumers, particularly those who earn too much to qualify for government assistance through the health care law, often called Obamacare.

But the Trump administration's new proposal is expected to generate widespread opposition from consumer advocates, patient groups and many physicians, who worry that looser insurance rules will leave patients without key protections and erode coverage for people who need it most.

"Young and healthy people could be tempted to purchase these low-premium plans with few benefits, while older and sicker people, like cancer patients, seeking more comprehensive health coverage could potentially be left struggling with rising premiums because of the market divide," warned Chris Hansen, president of the advocacy arm of the American Cancer Society.

Among the other leading patient groups that condemned the proposed new rules are the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association, the Arthritis Foundation, Consumers Union, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and the March of Dimes.

The administration is already under fire for proposing last month to make it easier for self-employed Americans, small businesses and others to band together to get health insurance through what are called association health plans.

Association plans do not have to offer a comprehensive set of so-called essential health benefits, a key requirement of the 2010 health law.

Short-term plans, which were limited to three months under the Obama administration, would also be able to skirt the benefit requirements.

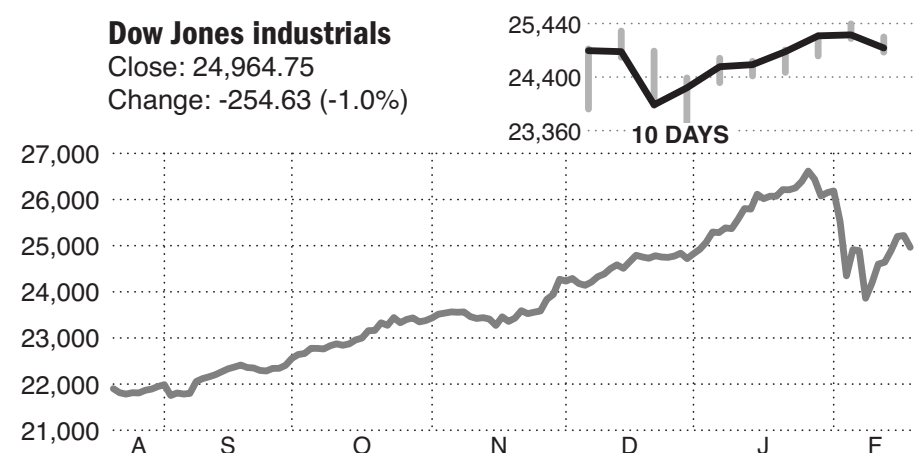
Importantly, these plans also could turn away sick consumers, another practice banned by the current health law, and they would not have to renew coverage for consumers who develop a medical condition.

That could ultimately split insurance markets in two, creating one cheaper market for healthy people and a second, more costly market for sick patients who need more extensive coverage.

Proposals last year by congressional Republicans to allow health insurers to offer slimmed-down benefits would have made coverage unaffordable for many consumers with pre-existing medical conditions, according to multiple analyses by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow **High: 25,179.01** **Low: 24,884.19** **Previous: 25,219.38**



Nasdaq		S&P 500		Russell 2000	
	-5.16 *(-.07%)*		**-15.96** *(-.58%)*		**-13.56** *(-.88%)*
Close	**7,234.31**	**Close**	**2,716.26**	**Close**	**1,529.99**
High	7,295.95	**High**	2,737.60	**High**	1,546.43
Low	7,206.00	**Low**	2,706.76	**Low**	1,527.56
Previous	7,239.47	**Previous**	2,732.22	**Previous**	1,543.55

10-yr T-note	Gold futures	Yen	Euro	Crude Oil
+.01 to 2.89%	**-24.40** to $1,328.80	**+.75** to 107.30/$1	**+.0047** to .8106/$1	**...** 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
+1.32	+3.15	+2.00	-4.75	-3.03	-4.33	+20.35	+23.33	+14.83

FUTURES

COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 18	459.75	463.25	449	449.25	-8.50
		May 18	474	477.25	462	462.50	-9
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 18	369	370	365.25	365.50	-2
		May 18	376.25	378	373.25	373.75	-1.25
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 18	1031.50	1039	1024.50	1026.50	+5
		May 18	1041.75	1050	1035.50	1037.50	+5
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	Mar 18	31.64	31.89	31.42	31.86	+.32
		May 18	31.77	32.07	31.61	32.04	+.31
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	Mar 18	380.00	385.50	375.10	376.50	+3.20
		May 18	383.30	387.90	377.80	379.30	+3.30
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	Mar 18	61.63	62.74	61.58	61.68	...
		Apr 18	61.51	62.65	61.43	61.79	+.24
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, $ per mm btu	Mar 18	2.568	2.662	2.562	2.616	+.058
		Apr 18	2.608	2.677	2.602	2.649	+.051
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	Mar 18	1.7489	1.7844	1.7442	1.7503	-.0006
		Apr 18	1.9286	1.9655	1.9282	1.9346	+.0026

Source: The Associated Press

LOCAL STOCKS

Stocks listed may change due to daily fluctuations in market capitalization. *Exchange key: N=NYSE, O=NASDAQ*

STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	59.12	-1.05
AbbVie Inc	N	117.98	-.62
Akorn Inc	O	31.59	-.26
Allstate Corp	N	93.65	-1.39
Aptargroup Inc	N	91.06	-.77
Arch Dan Mid	N	42.57	-.56
Baxter Intl	N	67.04	+.71
Boeing Co	N	353.35	-1.69
Brunswick Corp	N	57.72	-1.32
CBOE Global Markets	O	110.78	-.67
CDK Global Inc	O	69.06	-1.19
CDW Corp	O	70.91	-.55
CF Industries	N	41.82	+1.46
CME Group	O	163.35	+.97
CNA Financial	N	53.27	-.33
Caterpillar Inc	N	155.56	-.73
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	36.08	-.17
Deere Co	N	164.77	-4.67
Discover Fin Svcs	N	79.63	+.10
Dover Corp	N	100.21	-1.00
Equity Commonwlth	N	29.40	-.22
Equity Lifesty Prop	N	84.32	-1.18
Equity Residential	N	57.64	-.33
Exelon Corp	N	37.68	-.10
First Indl RT	N	28.44	-.52
Fortune Brds Hm&Sec	N	63.83	+.01
Gallagher AJ	N	69.31	+.34
Grainger WW	N	263.61	-3.07
GrubHub Inc	N	97.05	+1.12
Hill-Rom Hldgs	N	83.01	+.10
Hyatt Hotels Corp	N	80.53	+.80
IDEX Corp	N	136.83	-.52
ITW	N	161.34	-1.21
Ingredion Inc	N	129.25	-1.87
John Bean Technol	N	117.95	-.90
Jones Lang LaSalle	N	159.44	+1.21
Kraft Heinz Co	O	68.69	-2.11
LKQ Corporation	O	41.46	-.31
Littelfuse Inc	O	208.66	+.61
MB Financial	O	41.22	-.65
McDonalds Corp	N	157.16	-.63
Middleby Corp	O	133.72	-1.28
Mondelez Intl	O	43.78	-.36
Morningstar Inc	O	96.65	+.10
Motorola Solutions	N	105.75	-.16
Navistar Intl	N	39.49	+.97
NiSource Inc	N	23.02	-.46
Nthn Trust Cp	O	104.75	-.11
Old Republic	N	20.76	-.22
Packaging Corp Am	N	118.86	-.51
Stericycle Inc	O	75.22	-.80
TransUnion	N	58.23	-.22
Tribune Media Co A	N	42.49	+.04
USG Corp	N	33.78	-.47
Ulta Salon Cosmetics	O	201.13	-2.02
United Contl Hldgs	N	66.59	+.07
Ventas Inc	N	50.27	-1.12
Walgreen Boots Alli	O	70.91	-.01
Wintrust Financial	O	85.70	-.72
Zebra Tech	O	120.07	-.18

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Rite Aid Corp	2.20	+.07
Gen Electric	14.74	-.31
Bank of America	31.93	-.04
WalMart Strs	94.11	-10.67
Snap Inc A	18.93	-1.49
AK Steel Hold	5.81	-.15
US Steel Corp	44.83	+.08
Ford Motor	10.63	+.02
Pfizer Inc	36.01	-.25
Vale SA	13.98	-.14
Twitter Inc	32.84	-.22
Marathon Oil	15.85	+.25
AT&T Inc	36.77	-.37
Chesapk Engy	2.77	+.04
Verizon Comm	48.92	-1.23
Weatherford Intl Ltd	2.76	...
Petrobras	13.29	+.54
Wells Fargo & Co	59.95	...
Sthwstn Energy	3.66	+.08
Teva Pharm	19.98	-.92
Ambev S.A.	6.90	...
Cleveland-Cliffs Inc	7.74	-.18
Pandora Media	5.33	+.17
Noble Energy Inc	29.12	+2.84

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Adv Micro Dev	12.02	+.20
Micron Tech	44.89	+.68
Apple Inc	171.85	-.58
NXP Semiconductors	125.56	+7.06
Microsoft Corp	92.72	+.72
Cisco Syst	44.06	-.27
Qualcomm Inc	63.99	-.86
Intel Corp	46.32	+.76
Applied Matls	56.66	+1.73
MiMedx Group	8.75	-5.73
Facebook Inc	176.01	-1.35
Novavax Inc	2.42	+.08
Comcast Corp A	39.47	-.32
Nvidia Corporation	249.08	+5.24
Groupon Inc	4.28	-.23
Sirius XM Hldgs Inc	6.11	...
eBay Inc	43.39	+.05
JD.com Inc	46.93	+.51
DropCar Inc	3.05	+.22
Starbucks Cp	55.97	-.51
TOP Ships Inc	.20	-.01
Kraft Heinz Co	68.69	-2.11
Cypress Semi	16.80	+.65
Seacoast Banking	27.23	-.04

FOREIGN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHG./%
Shanghai	3199.16	/...
Stoxx600	380.51	+2.3/+.6
Nikkei	21925.10	+204.9/+.9
MSCI-EAFE	2062.48	-15.1/-.7
Bovespa	85803.96	+1011.2/+1.2
FTSE 100	7246.77	-.9/-.0
CAC-40	5289.86	+33.7/+.6

LARGEST COMPANIES

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
AT&T Inc	36.77	-.37
Alphabet Inc C	1102.46	+7.66
Alphabet Inc A	1103.59	+8.09
Amazon.com Inc	1468.35	+19.66
Apple Inc	171.85	-.58
Bank of America	31.93	-.04
Berkshire Hath A	304904	-1096
Berkshire Hath B	203.05	-.74
Exxon Mobil Corp	75.75	-.79
Facebook Inc	176.01	-1.35
Home Depot	186.71	-.26
JPMorgan Chase	114.71	+.03
Johnson & Johnson	130.87	-2.28
Microsoft Corp	92.72	+.72
Source Cap	41.15	-.16
Unitedhealth Group	226.66	-2.71
Visa Inc	122.01	+.16
WalMart Strs	94.11	-10.67
Wells Fargo & Co	59.95	...

TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month disc	1.63	1.57
6-month disc	1.82	1.77
2-year	2.28	2.19
10-year	2.89	2.88
30-year	3.15	3.13

SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	$1328.80	$1353.20
Silver	$16.425	$16.695
Platinum	$1004.00	$1012.30

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)	19.8649
Australia (Dollar)	1.2693
Brazil (Real)	3.2554
Britain (Pound)	.7150
Canada (Dollar)	1.2643
China (Yuan)	6.3430
Euro	.8106
India (Rupee)	64.935
Israel (Shekel)	3.4939
Japan (Yen)	107.30
Mexico (Peso)	18.7126
Poland (Zloty)	3.36
So. Korea (Won)	1074.52
Taiwan (Dollar)	29.19
Thailand (Baht)	31.52

LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

Based on total assets

FUND	NAV	CHG IN $	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AMCpA m	33.00	-.11	+20.6
American Funds AmrcnBalA m	27.19	-.07	+11.8
American Funds CptWldGrIncA m	52.52	-.28	+21.8
American Funds CptlIncBldrA m	62.23	-.33	+10.0
American Funds EuroPacGrA m	57.69	-.33	+26.9
American Funds FdmtlInvsA m	63.68	-.21	+19.7
American Funds GrfAmrcA m	52.09	-.09	+23.9
American Funds IncAmrcA m	23.27	-.10	+9.4
American Funds InvCAmrcA m	41.41	-.21	+17.0
American Funds NwPrspctvA m	44.94	-.20	+25.7
American Funds WAMtInvsA m	46.26	-.25	+17.1
DFA EMktCorEqI	23.83	-.22	+26.9
Dodge & Cox Inc	13.60	-.01	+2.5
Dodge & Cox IntlStk	46.96	-.39	+17.9
Dodge & Cox Stk	207.80	-1.03	+14.6
DoubleLine TtlRetBdI	10.46	-.01	+1.9
Fidelity 500IdxIns	95.19	-.55	+17.8
Fidelity 500IdxInsPrm	95.19	-.55	+17.8
Fidelity 500IndexPrm	95.19	-.55	+17.8
Fidelity Contrafund	127.94	-.18	+29.4
Fidelity ContrafundK	127.88	-.18	+29.5
Fidelity LowPrStk	54.88	-.25	+17.8
Franklin Templeton IncA m	2.33	-.01	+4.3
Metropolitan West TtlRetBdI	10.41	-.01	+.7
Oakmark IntlInv	29.49	-.19	+27.7
PIMCO IncInstl	12.23	...	+6.4
PIMCO TtlRetIns	10.07	...	+2.1
Schwab SP500Idx	41.95	-.25	+17.8
T. Rowe Price BCGr	103.80	+.09	+35.8
T. Rowe Price GrStk	66.51	-.03	+30.7
Vanguard 500IdxAdmrl	251.41	-1.46	+17.8
Vanguard 500IdxInv	251.37	-1.47	+17.7
Vanguard DivGrInv	26.60	-.24	+13.8
Vanguard HCAdmrl	87.43	-1.14	+11.2
Vanguard InTrTEAdmrl	13.88	-.01	+2.4
Vanguard InsIdxIns	247.99	-1.44	+17.8
Vanguard InsIdxInsPlus	248.01	-1.44	+17.8
Vanguard InsTtlSMIInPls	60.44	-.36	+17.0
Vanguard IntlGrAdmrl	100.32	-.58	+37.9
Vanguard MdCpIdxAdmrl	193.43	-.96	+13.6
Vanguard PrmCpAdmrl	137.85	-.22	+24.7
Vanguard STInvmGrdAdmrl	10.52	-.01	+.8
Vanguard SmCpIdxAdmrl	70.62	-.49	+11.0
Vanguard TrgtRtr2020Inv	31.41	-.12	+10.6
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Inv	18.55	-.08	+12.2
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Inv	33.81	-.16	+13.5
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Inv	20.84	-.11	+14.9
Vanguard TtBMIdxAdmrl	10.48	-.01	+.8
Vanguard TtBMIdxIns	10.48	-.01	+.8
Vanguard TtInBIdxAdmrl	21.56	-.01	+2.4
Vanguard TtInSIdxAdmrl	30.82	-.23	+21.4
Vanguard TtInSIdxIns	123.26	-.92	+21.4
Vanguard TtInSIdxInsPlus	123.29	-.91	+21.5
Vanguard TtInSIdxInv	18.43	-.13	+21.4
Vanguard TtlSMIdxAdmrl	67.80	-.41	+17.0
Vanguard TtlSMIdxIns	67.81	-.41	+17.0
Vanguard TtlSMIdxInv	67.77	-.41	+16.8
Vanguard WlngtnAdmrl	72.31	-.31	+11.0
Vanguard WlslyIncAdmrl	63.97	-.22	+6.2
Vanguard WndsrIIAdmrl	67.53	-.43	+13.0

d - Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee.
m - Multiple fees are charged, usually a marketing fee and either a sales or redemption fee.
Source: Morningstar.

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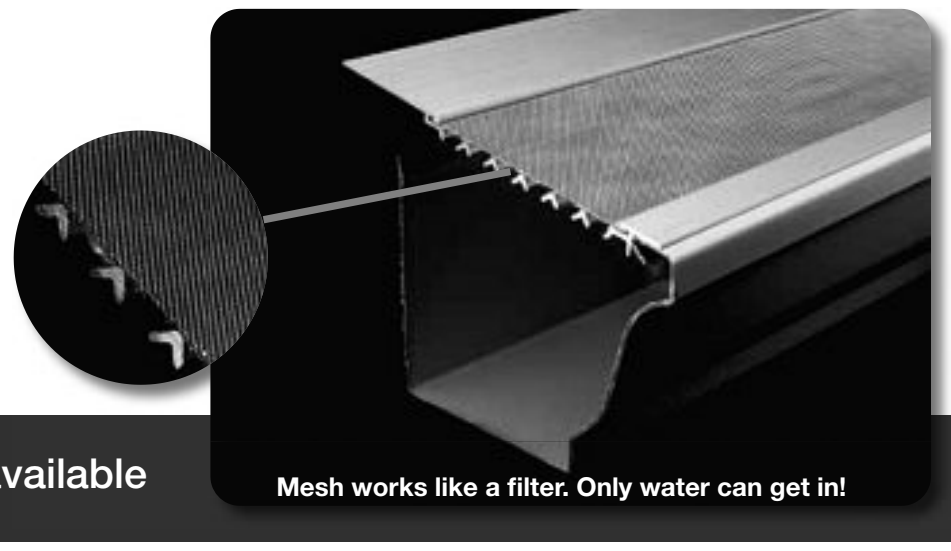
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OBITUARIES

SAM BLOCH 1924-2018

WWII resistance fighter who celebrated survivors

By Matt Schudel
The Washington Post

Sam Bloch, who was a teenage resistance fighter in the forests of Eastern Europe during World War II and who devoted his career to preserving the memory of Jewish Holocaust survivors, including the establishment of museums around the world, died Feb. 4 at his home in the New York City borough of Queens. He was 93.

The cause was congestive heart failure, said a son-in-law, Menachem Rosensaft.

Bloch grew up in what was then Poland, the son of a Hebrew-language teacher. After his father was killed in a mass execution by Nazi forces in 1941, Bloch, then 16, was forced to survive on his wits.

With his mother and younger brother, he escaped a Jewish ghetto just before it was about to be liquidated and sought shelter with a family of Polish farmers. They later fled into the countryside, hiding in the woods as Bloch made connections with an underground Jewish resistance movement.

He eventually joined the Bielski Partisans, an armed Jewish unit of resistance fighters led by three brothers. The Bielski group, depicted in the 2008 film "Defiance" with actors Daniel Craig and Liev Schreiber, included hundreds of people in makeshift camps hidden deep in the forests of modern-day Belarus.

Bloch engaged in sabotage, fought against Nazi forces and collaborators and helped rescue other Jews. According to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Bielski Partisans helped more than 1,200 Jewish people survive the war, including Bloch, his mother and brother.

JODI ROSENSAFT

Bloch joined the World War II Bielski group depicted in the 2008 film "Defiance."

"I tasted the bitter taste of everything," Bloch told USA Today in 1990. "I went through all the dimensions — the ghetto, the camp, underground, running, hiding."

In 1945, the Bloch family ended up at a displaced persons camp near the site of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in Germany. About 50,000 Holocaust survivors underwent rehabilitation and treatment at the camp, where Bloch became the youngest member of the camp's governing committee.

While there, he met Lilly Czaban, who survived the war by hiding with her family in the grain cellar of a Polish farmer. She and Bloch were married at the camp in 1949.

They moved to New York, where Bloch took an entry-level job with the World Zionist Organization. He worked there for more than 50 years, eventually becoming director of publications and editing or publishing many volumes of Holocaust history, memoirs and poetry.

In 1965, on the 20th anniversary of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen, Bloch organized one of the first major reunions of Jewish survivors of the Holocaust. He edited a book, "Holocaust and Rebirth: Bergen-Belsen 1945-1965," that became a key early resource about survivors and their later lives.

Along with other victims of Nazi persecution, including Josef Rosensaft and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Elie Wiesel, Bloch took a leading role in planning Holocaust memorials and museums. He was a founding member of the International Society for Yad Vashem, the leading Holocaust remembrance organization in Israel, and helped distribute financial support to survivors worldwide.

In the 1980s, Bloch was a principal organizer of survivors' reunions, including a 1983 gathering of more than 20,000 in Washington.

Shmayahu Eliahu Bloch was born Sept. 23, 1924, in Iwie, Poland (now in Belarus).

In the United States, he became known as Sam E. Bloch.

His formal education ended in high school, after his father was among the approximately 200 Jewish residents who were abducted and later killed. Nonetheless, Bloch was fluent in six languages.

In addition to his wife of 68 years, survivors include two daughters, Jean Rosensaft and Gloria Golan; a brother; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Bloch spoke at gatherings around the world, including the 65th anniversary observation of the liberation of the Bergen-Belsen camp in 2010.

"Memory preserves the threads of sorrow and joys of people, and carries them forth," he said then. "Forgetfulness betrays not only the past but also the present and the future."

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON FEBRUARY 21 ...

In 1838 American inventor Samuel Morse gave his first public demonstration of the telegraph.

In 1846 Sarah Bagley became the first female telegrapher, taking charge at the newly opened telegraph office in Lowell, Mass.

In 1878 the first telephone directory was issued, by the District Telephone Company of New Haven, Conn.

In 1885 the Washington Monument was dedicated.

In 1947 Edwin Land publicly demonstrated his Polaroid Land camera, which could produce a black-and-white photograph in 60 seconds.

In 1980 a general strike began in Kabul, Afghanistan, to protest Soviet military intervention.

In 1986 Larry Wu-tai Chin, the first American found guilty of spying for China, killed himself in his Virginia jail cell.

In 1988 television evangelist Jimmy Swaggart tearfully confessed to his congregation in Baton Rouge, La., that he was guilty of an unspecified sin, and said he was leaving the pulpit temporarily. (Reports linked Swaggart to an admitted prostitute, Debra Murphree.)

In 1992 Kristi Yamaguchi of the U.S. won the gold medal in women's figure skating at the Winter Olympics in Albertville, France; Midori Ito of Japan won the silver and Nancy Kerrigan of the U.S. won the bronze.

In 1995 Chicago investment millionaire Steve Fossett became the first person to fly solo across the Pacific Ocean in a balloon, landing in Leader, Saskatchewan.

In 1996 the Space Telescope Science Institute announced that photographs from the Hubble Space Telescope confirmed the existence of a black hole equal to the mass of 2 billion suns in a galaxy some 30 million light-years away.

In 1997 Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr reversed his decision to resign.

In 2000 consumer advocate Ralph Nader announced his entry into the presidential race, bidding for the nomination of the Green Party.

In 2001 the Supreme Court ruled that state workers cannot use an important federal disability-rights law to win money damages for on-the-job discrimination.

In 2002 the State Department declared that Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl was dead, a month after he had been abducted by Islamic extremists in Pakistan. **Also in 2002,** at the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, American Sarah Hughes jumped from fourth to first to win the women's figure-skating gold after a near-flawless performance, leaving teammate Michelle Kwan to settle for a bronze.

In 2003 chief U.N. inspector Hans Blix ordered the destruction of dozens of Iraqi missiles with ranges that violated U.N. limits.

In 2006 Harvard University president Lawrence Summers announced his resignation.

In 2013 Drew Peterson, a former Bolingbrook, Ill., police sergeant, was sentenced to 38 years in prison for the murder of his third wife, Kathleen Savio. **Also in 2013** a pre-dawn shooting and fiery crash killed aspiring rapper Kenneth Wayne Cherry Jr. and two others along the famed Strip in Las Vegas.

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
Feb. 20
Mega Millions ..... **17 19 23 24 43 / 14**
Mega Millions jackpot: $185M
Pick 3 midday ..... **493 / 9**
Pick 4 midday ..... **4176 / 5**
Lucky Day Lotto midday **02 17 36 42 43**
Pick 3 evening ..... **359 / 6**
Pick 4 evening ..... **6992 / 5**
Lucky Day Lotto evening **11 18 25 36 41**

Feb. 21 Powerball: $246M
Feb. 22 Lotto: $5M

WISCONSIN
Feb. 20
Pick 3 ..... **925**
Pick 4 ..... **2112**
Badger 5 ..... **04 08 12 17 18**
SuperCash **07 26 29 31 33 37**

INDIANA
Feb. 20
Daily 3 midday ..... **583 / 7**
Daily 4 midday ..... **5023 / 7**
Daily 3 evening ..... **597 / 5**
Daily 4 evening ..... **9201 / 5**
Cash 5 ..... **15 20 34 35 37**

MICHIGAN
Feb. 20
Daily 3 midday **274**
Daily 4 midday **6299**
Daily 3 evening **838**
Daily 4 evening **8230**
Fantasy 5 ..... **06 08 20 26 28**
Keno **04 06 07 09 10 12 21 24 25 27 29 34 39 41 49 56 60 72 74 75 78 80**

More winning numbers at **chicagotribune.com/lottery**

Almquist, Eric J.

Eric J. Almquist. Age 49 of Park Ridge. Beloved husband Paula Jo, nee Farrell. Loving father of Caroline Jo Almquist. Devoted son of John A. and Janice E. Almquist. Dear brother of Luci (Bill) Lankford, Traci (Mark) Hedstrom, Tom (Candy) and Steve Almquist. Fond uncle of many nieces and nephews. Eric loved his family, baseball, hockey, his fraternity and travel. He had been to every MLB ball park in the US and it was a family tradition to visit a different ballpark for opening day every year. He went to Iowa State University and was very involved in the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity. He made some life long friends and continued his support and leadership to the fraternity throughout the years. Eric touched a lot of people and was always there to help his friends and family. He was a "go to guy" to get the job done and was involved in many activities in the community and in his parish. Eric will be loved and missed by all who knew him. Visitation Thursday, February 22, 3-8 p.m. at **Ryan-Parke Funeral Home**, 120 S. Northwest Hwy., Park Ridge. Funeral Friday, 9:30 a.m. from funeral home to St. Paul of the Cross Church. Mass 10 a.m. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers, an educational fund is being designated for Caroline Jo Almquist. Funeral Information, www.ryan-parke.com.

RYAN-PARKE FUNERAL HOME
Since 1936

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Anderson, Harold Arthur

Harold Anderson, 67, died Feb. 9, 2018.
Harold served in the U.S. Army. He graduated from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. He worked in Human Resources for various agencies of the Federal Government. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Judith; and two daughters, Melissa Anderson (Chad Phillips) and Kate Anderson (Ross O'Connell) and two grandchildren. A private memorial service will be held at his home in Homewood, Ill., on May 5, 2018. Donations can be made to The National Parks Foundation.

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Becker, Irene A.

Irene A. Becker, age 91, of Glenview, IL. Beloved wife of John N. Becker. Loving mother of Stephen Becker, Nan Becker, Kathleen (Steven) Northfell, and Donna Becker. Proud grandmother of Sam Sloane; and Matthew (Corrie) Northfell and Sarah (fiancée Dylan Savage) Northfell. Fond sister of the late Joseph Wlodarski and the late Rose Wlodarski. Funeral Mass Saturday, February 24, 2018, 11:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 1775 Grove Street, Glenview, IL 60025. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to JourneyCare, 2050 Claire Court, Glenview, IL 60025. Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or (847) 675-1990.

Donnellan Family Funeral Services

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BIVINS

See Shaughnessy, Martin notice.

Block, Allen E. "Al"

Allen Edmund Block, 70, of Arlington Heights, died Sunday February 18th peacefully at his home after a long battle with pneumonia. Born October 9th, 1947 in Chicago, he was the beloved sweetheart for 18 years and husband for 21 years of the late Suzanne; dear father to Allen A. and Brian A.; loving son of the late Eddie and Minnie; fond brother of Fran (Jerry) Mastro and Charlotte (Tom) Keller; uncle and cousin to many. He graduated in 1965 from Holy Cross High School in River Grove. Mr. Block spent 40 years in the ready mix concrete business. He started as a driver in 1969 for Vulcan Material in Palatine and moved on to a dispatcher, ready mix coordinator, and yard manager for Material Service in Chicago till 1995. He also drove for Meyer Material in Des Plaines from 1996 to 2009. He was an avid Cubs fan who never missed a chance to watch or listen to a game. He and his wife traveled to places like Europe, Hawaii, and always enjoyed visiting relatives in California. He was a "do it yourself " kind of guy and could always be found around his home fixing or tinkering with something. Memorial visitation Friday the 23rd 3 to 8 pm at the **Meadows Funeral Home**, 3615 Kirchoff Rd., Rolling Meadows. Memorial Mass Saturday the 24th 10 am at St. James Church, 820 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Arlington Heights. Flowers may be sent to funeral Home. Info (847)253-0224 or www.Meadowsfh.com

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Burkhardt, Stanley P.

Stanley P. Burkhardt, WWII Army Veteran, beloved husband of Catherine (nee O'Hagan) and the late Ruth (nee Kaminsky); loving father of Timothy (fiancée Carole), Deborah (Scott) Wolff, Thomas (Karen) and Jody Burkhardt; cherished stepfather of Kathleen (Kent Alexander), John (Kimberly) and Daniel (Christine Dunford) Cunningham; dearest grandfather, great grandfather, brother and uncle of many. Visitation Saturday February 24, 1-5 P.M. with a Prayer Service at 2:00 P.M. at **Lawn Funeral Home**, 17909 S. 94th Ave. Tinley Park, IL 60487. Interment Private. Funeral info (708) 532-3100.

Lawn Funeral Home

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Carolan, Father John J.

Father John J. Carolan of Saint Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy Parish, 92, of Oak Park. Dear and and devoted son of the late Thomas J. Carolan and Marie B. Carolan (nee Deering), and cherished brother of the late Mary Agnes Carolan. Father John, known as Jack by family, is survived by many cousins, extended family and friends. Father John was ordained in 1951, and was a priest for 66 years. He shared 45 years with Saint Catherine - St. Lucy Church, where he was pastor for nearly 20 years. He also served with several other parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Father John, a gentle soul, was the embodiment of love, acceptance and spiritual growth for his beloved family, parishioners and all the many who knew and loved him. Visitation Friday, February 23rd , 2:00 p.m. until time of Mass 7:00 p.m. at St. Catherine - St. Lucy Church, 38 N. Austin Blvd., Oak Park. Visitation Saturday, February 24th, 9:30 a.m. until time of Mass 10:30 a.m. at St. Catherine - St. Lucy Church. Interment Holy Sepulchre, Alsip, IL, immediately following. To further Fr. John's causes, in lieu of flowers, memorials are appreciated to St. Catherine - St. Lucy Church or to the Priest Retirement and Mutual Aid Association, c/o Reverend George Omwando, St. Catherine - St. Lucy Church, 38 N. Austin Blvd., Oak Park, IL 60302. Funeral info: drechslerbrownwilliams.com or 708-383-3191.

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Conley-Goyette, Dorothy Ann

Dorothy Ann Conley-Goyette, age 58, of Indian Head Park. Beloved wife of Richard J. "Doc" Goyette; loving mother of Joseph (Tara) Conley, Jr., Matthew (Jennifer) Conley and Candice Goyette; devoted daughter of Bernard and Marilynn Barc; proud grandmother of Riley, Teagan, Elijah, Rowan, Mallory, Aubrie and Arianna; dear sister of Thomas (Carmen) Barc, Carl (Kyoko) Barc, Theresa Lyons, Shirley Funk, Patricia (Jim) Mulcahy and Gloria (Alex) Abellaneda; fond daughter-in-law of LaVerne (the late Robert) Goyette; proud aunt of numerous nieces and nephews. Dorothy was Vice President and Co-owner of A.Barr Sales, Inc. and former Secretary/Treasurer of ABATE of Illinois. Family and friends will be received at the **Conboy-Westchester Funeral Home**, 10501 W. Cermak Rd., Westchester (2 blks West of Mannheim Rd.) on Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. until time of Chapel Service 12:00 noon. Interment private. Arrangements entrusted to Brian D. Kuratko, The Original Kuratko Family Directors. For further info 708-F-U-N-E-R-A-L.

Original Riverside Kuratko

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Davis, Frank S.

Frank S. Davis, 58, of Lake Villa, IL, February 18, 2018. Beloved husband of Eileen, nee Durkin. Loving father of Kathleen "Katie", and Hannah. Son of Joan Reed and the late James Davis. Brother of Charles (Linda) Davis. Step-Brother of Chris Barnard, Victoria Brown, and the late Rebecca Barnard. Step-Son of the late Lynn Davis and Ernie Reed. Frank was a loving brother in law, and uncle to many nieces and nephews. Memorial Visitation Saturday, February 24, 2018, from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Marsh Funeral Home, 305 N. Cemetery Road, Gurnee, Illinois, 60031. Memorial Service Sunday, February 25, 2018, 2:00 pm at North Shore Unitarian Church, 2100 Half Day Road, Deerfield, Illinois, 60015. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to The Conservancy of Southwest Florida, 1495 Smith Preserve Way, Naples, Florida, 34102, www.conservancy.org. Interment Private. 847-336-0127

Dignity Memorial 305 N Cemetery Rd Gurnee, IL 60031 (847) 336-0127

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De Francesco, Joseph S.

Joseph S. De Francesco, beloved husband of Therese nee Welgos. Loving father of Anthony (Lauren) and Vincent De Francesco. Dearest brother of Peter De Francesco. Funeral Friday 9:15 am from **Modell Funeral Home** 7710 S. Cass Avenue, Darien to Christ the Servant Church Mass 10:00 am. Interment Mount Carmel Cemetery. Visitation Thursday 3-9 pm. For funeral info: 630-852-3595 or www.modell-darien.com

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Delaney, Michael

Michael T. Delaney age 25, of Naperville, IL beloved son of Robert and Cathryn (Stanton). Loving brother of Robert III, Brianna and Caitlyn.
Dear nephew of the late Maureen (Robert) Bolero, Donna (Greg) Zonca, Debra (Daniel) McCarthy and the late Patricia Mills. Also survived by many cousins. Michael was an avid hockey player and loved the Blackhawks. Michael loved Military history and was a huge supporter of the U.S. Armed Forces.
Donations in Michael's memory may be directed to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Funeral Services are Private. Arrangements entrusted to **Bolingbrook-McCauley Funeral Chapel & Crematorium** . (630) 759-1212 or www.mccauley-funeralchapel.com

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Dildine, David

David Dildine, 83, of Lombard. Beloved husband of the late Janet Dildine, nee Wait; loving step-father of Brian Fuchs (Teresa Bousquet) and Sherie (Adam) Eakins; devoted grandfather of Loriale and Zakary Georgitsis, and Tyler Fuchs; special friend of Margaret Pekel. Member of the Masons and Medinah Shrine Patrol Unit. Former President of the Shrine Patrol Association of North America and Former Aid to the Potentate. Memorial Gathering Saturday, February 24th, from 1PM until the time of service at 1:45PM at the Medinah Shrine Center, 550 Shriners Drive, Addison, IL. Interment private. Memorials to Shriners Children's Hospital, 2900 N. Rocky Point Rd., Tampa, FL 33607 are appreciated. Funeral info: www.knollcrest.net or 630-932-1500.

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Drennan, James F.

James F. Drennan, age 67, of Berwyn, retired employee at Newark Electric, Chicago; strong supporter of Misericordia Heart of Mercy, Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Salvation Army; dear brother of Thomas (Joan), John (Linda), Terrence (Mary), Patricia (Brent) Shreiner, Sharon (Brian) Watson, Virginia (John Clatanoff) and the late Raymond (Barbara) and Dennis (Judith) Drennan; loving uncle and great-uncle of many nieces and nephews. Friends and family will meet for a Mass of Christian Burial, Friday, February 23, 2018, 10:00 a.m. at Saint Joseph Catholic Church, 4801 Main Street, Downers Grove. Private Interment Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery, Hillside. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Misericordia Heart of Mercy, 6300 North Ridge, Chicago, IL 60660. Arrangements handled by **Gibbons Funeral Home**, Elmhurst. For funeral information please call 630-832-0018 or www.gibbonsfuneralhome.com

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Firfer, Owen

Owen Firfer, 57, passed away unexpectedly on February 14, 2018. Beloved son of Dr. Raymond and the late Edna Firfer; loving brother of Dr. Bourke Firfer, Julie Robbins (Adam), and Dr. Randall Firfer. Owen was a kind-hearted soul who loved animals and was fascinated by family history. Services Friday, February 23, 2018, at 11 a.m. at Westlawn Cemetery Chapel, 7801 W. Montrose Ave, Norridge. Interment to follow. In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to Paw's Animal Rescue, www.pawschicago.org or an animal rescue shelter of your choice. For information or to leave condolences, **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, (847) 255.3520 or www.shalom2.com.

Shalom Memorial Funeral Home

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

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

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Fischer, Margaret Rose

Margaret Rose Fischer (nee Caccavari), 90, of Bartlett for 37 years, died Sunday, February 18, 2018. Born November 6, 1927in Chicago, she was the oldest daughter of Peter and Theresa (nee Pellegrini) Caccavari. A graduate of Steinmetz High School, Margaret had a 30-year career at Clow Corporation, where she worked as executive secretary for the president. She married Bernard Fischer on February22, 1975. She enjoyed traveling, sewing, painting, and cooking delicious food to share with loved ones. But her greatest joy was spending time with her family, especially her three sweet grandchildren. Margaret was a steady, loving presence in the lives of many and will be dearly missed. Beloved wife of the late Bernard R. Fischer; loving mother of Mary (Kevin Jones) Fischer; proud grandmother of Maia, Lily Rose and Jacob; cherished sister of Cosimo Caccavari, Peter Caccavari, Mary Ann Turner, the late Dolores Wenger and James Caccavari; fond aunt of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Thursday, February 22, 3:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m. at **Countryside Funeral Home and Crematory** 950 South Bartlett Road (at Stearns Road) Bartlett. Funeral Friday, 9:15a.m. to St. Peter Damian Church Mass 10:00a.m. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Sarah's Circle, a non-profit whose mission is to serve women who are homeless or in need of a safe space. Mail donation checks to Sarah's Circle, Attn: Kathy Ragnar, 4838 N. Sheridan Rd. Chicago, IL 60604 or call 773.728.1014 to donate by credit card. For info (630)289-7575 or www.countrysidefuneralhomes.com

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Flanagan , John Patrick

John Patrick Flanagan loving brother of Kathleen (Robert) Graham. Beloved uncle of Robert Graham, Kerry (Shawn) Monroe and John (Michelle) Graham. Great uncle of Kennedy and Kyle Monroe. Loving son of the late Edward and Rosemary Flanagan.
Visitation Friday, February 23, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. until time of Mass 11:00 a.m. at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Bensenville.
Interment All Saints Cemetery, Des Plaines, IL
Donations to Almost Home Foundation in John's name would be appreciated. Info. 847-455-1200 or www.cuneocolumbian.net

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Gadzinski, Josephine A.

Josephine A. Gadzinski nee Kania, 88, beloved wife of the late Edward, loving mother of Barbara and Susan Gadzinski and Edie Rago, dear grandmother of Michael Rago, fond sister of the late Edwin (late Alice) Kuczek, loving aunt to many. Memorial visitation Thursday, February 22nd. from 3-8 P.M. at **Suburban Family Funeral Home** 5940 W. 35th. St. (Corner of 35th. St. & Austin) Cicero. A memorial mass will be celebrated on Saturday, February 24th. 11:00 A.M. at St. Mary of Czestochowa Church. Inurnment will be private. 708-652-1116 or visit www.Suburbanfamilyfh.com.

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Goyette

See Dorothy Ann Conley-Goyette notice.

Gustafson, Nancy R.

Nancy Ruth Gustafson, nee Herring. Age 84 of Park Ridge. Former employee of Avon Cosmetics in Glenview for over 20 years. Beloved wife of the late Lawrence R. "Larry." Loving mother of Larry (Laurie), Debra (Jerry) Chmil Bachner, Ed (Debbie), Cherie (Dan) Donahoe and Garry (Candy). Devoted grandmother of Rebecca (Joe) Piechowski, Matt Gustafson, Boe Chmil, Tom and Ryan Gustafson, Kellie and Shannon Donahoe, Justin, Jarrett and Joey Gustafson. Dear sister-in-law of Richard Gustafson. Visitation Friday, Feb. 23, 4-9 p.m. at **Ryan-Parke Funeral Home**, 120 S. Northwest Hwy. (2 blks. S. of Touhy), Park Ridge. Funeral Saturday, 9:30 a.m. from funeral home, to St. Paul of the Cross Church. Mass 10 a.m. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the American Heart Assn. or Multiple Sclerosis Society appreciated. Info., www.ryan-parke.com.

RYAN-PARKE FUNERAL HOME Since 1936

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Hendrix, Shirley A.

Shirley A. Hendrix nee Anderson, 91, of Northbrook, February 16, 2018. Beloved wife of the late Cleve. Loving mother of Tom (Lisa), Tim (Candy), and Todd (Beverly). Proud Grammy of Jessica (Justin), Ross (Jenny), Christine (Greg), Dylan, Emily and Jack. Dear great grandmother of Josey, Will, Calvin, Ellen, and Charlie. Fond sister of Frank, Marilyn, and Ellen. Visitation Saturday, 2 p.m. until time of memorial service 3 p.m. at the **N.H. Scott & Hanekamp** Funeral Home 1240 Waukegan Rd., Glenview. Interment private. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to St Jude's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142 Memphis, TN 38148-0142 , www.stjude.org Funeral information 847-998-1020.

N.H. Scott & Hanekamp FUNERAL HOME

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Ingwersen, Gordon Kohl

Gordon K. Ingwersen of Winnetka, Ill., died Dec. 31 of lung cancer. He was 88. A devoted husband, father of three, grandfather of five, and an avid tennis player up until his final years, Gordon also loved marching bands, corn on the cob and the color red.

A graduate of Phillips Exeter Academy and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Gordon proudly donned the cardinal-red MIT blazer worn by alumni attending their 50-year reunion.

Gordon was a long-suffering fan of Chicago sports teams who nonetheless lived to see the Bears, Bulls, White Sox, Blackhawks and even the Cubs win championships. The son of a football coach, he enjoyed college sports as well, and anyone calling on a Sunday during football or basketball season could expect a full rundown of the weekend's Big Ten highlights.

Gordon met his wife, artist Mary Lou Chapman, while working in New York City. They married in 1960 and settled in Winnetka with their growing family. Gordon became a fixture at his three daughters' school events, typically waving from the audience.

Gordon developed a love of theater and dance during his New York days. In later years he enjoyed theater in Chicago and concerts at Ravinia - especially the 1812 Overture performed with live cannons.

Retiring from R.R. Donnelly after nearly 30 years as an industrial engineer, Gordon had more time for family reunions and organizing tennis teams.

Gordon was preceded in death by his parents Burt and Edith Ingwersen, and his eldest daughter Katie Ingwersen. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou Chapman Ingwersen, his daughters Siri Holmes (Tim) and Julie Ingwersen (Robert Kamins), Katie's husband Fred Underwood, five grandchildren and cousins Jean Cullen Mertz (Charles) and Neria Kohl Ryder.

A memorial service is being planned for May at Christ Church in Winnetka.

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Jensen, June I.

Jensen, June I., nee Aronsson, 88, passed away on Saturday. She was born in Chicago and raised in Karlskoga, Sweden and returned at the age of 19. She was a loving wife to the late Aage J. Jensen; beloved mother to Pamela J. (Christopher) Dunn and Eric R. (Shirley). Loving sister to Barbro Åkesson Möller. Cherished relative to many family members in Europe. Loving mother to many fur babies. A supervisor at GMAC for 20 years. Memorial visitation Sunday, February 25 from 11 to 1pm at **Drake & Son Funeral Home**, 5303 N. Western Ave., Chicago, IL 60625. Service at 1pm in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers donations as appreciated to PAWS Chicago, www.pawschicago.org Cremation private. Info 773-561-6874 or visit www.drakeandsonfuneralhome.com

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Jerbich, Helen 'Babe'

Helen "Babe" Jerbich (nee Sotos); beloved wife of the late Joseph S.; loving mother of Joseph, John (Claudia) and Michael (Crystal) Jerbich; dear Yia Yia of Jayden; dearest daughter of the late Antonia (John) Sotos; cherished sister of Margo (the late John) Draper, George Sotos and the late Pete, Gust and John; fond sister-in-law of Jean Allpow; devoted aunt, great aunt and godmother to many. Visitation Thursday 3 to 9 PM with a Trisagion Service at 6:00 PM. Funeral Friday 10:15 AM from Lawn Funeral Home 7909 State Road (5500 W) Burbank, IL 60459 to SS. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. Service 11:00 AM. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Yhim to support cancer research @ www.yhim.org. Funeral info (708) 636-2320.

Lawn Funeral Home

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Johnson, Edward L.

Memorial Service: Saturday, February 24, 2018; 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. @ Progressive Community Church, 56 E. 48th. Street. Internment: Private. In lieu of flowers please send donations to Progressive Community Church.

Edward Johnson, who passed away on January 18th at the age of 79, spent his life working for a vision of Chicago that could overcome and eliminate conflict between people on the basis of racial, cultural, ethnic, and religious identity. As a Human Relations Regional Director at the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, he worked to create unity and harmony among different communities.
He leaves to cherish his precious memory, his wife Bonnie, his son Robert Johnson, daughter Arondia Johnson, siblings, grandchildren, great grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, relatives and dear friends.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Kish, Steven R.

Steven R. Kish, 80, of Northbrook, IL and Venice, FL, passed away after a brave struggle with ALS on February 18, 2018. Beloved husband for 51 years of Sue Kish; loving father of Scott (Aimee) Kish and Sara (Sean) Deck; cherished grandfather of Ella and Hanna Kish, Audrey and Abby Deck; dear brother of Tom (Diana) Kish and Kathleen (Dennis) Provenzano; fond son-in-law of Alice Poppenhouse; brother-in-law of Linda (Fred) Monaco, Jim (Nancy) Poppenhouse and Jan (John) Nesemeier; uncle of many nieces and nephews. Steve was a US Navy veteran serving on the Aircraft Carrier Saratoga. He enjoyed sailing, curling and golfing. He loved spending time with his family and being at their home in Florida. Memorial service will be held Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 1 pm at The Village Presbyterian Church, 1300 Shermer Road, Northbrook, IL 60062. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to ALS Association, Greater Chicago Chapter, 220 W. Huron St., Suite 4003, Chicago, IL 60654 or the Village Presbyterian Church, Northbrook. Funeral information 847-998-1020.

N.H. Scott & Hanekamp FUNERAL HOME

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Konopka, Clementine M.

Clementine M. Konopka (nee Bonanno), 81, at rest January 29, 2018, beloved wife of the late Frank; cherished mother of Nick (Donna), David (Shawn) and Martin (Kelly Johnson) Konopka; dear grandmother of Cliff, Nicky (Joanna), Chelsea, Deanna, and David Konopka, and Christina (Scottie) Jones; great-grandmother of 3; loving sister of Dolores (the late James) Swanson and dear aunt to many. Preceded in death by her sisters, Nancy Durgen, Frances Bogard, Josephine and Rosalia Bonanno, and brothers, Anthony and Nicholas Bonanno. Visitation Friday, February 23, 2018 from 9am until the time of mass at 10am at St. Anne Church, 120 N. Ela St., Barrington. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery Please omit flowers. For information, please call **Davenport Family Funeral Home** at 847-381-3411. To leave an online condolence message for the family, please visit www.davenportfamily.com.

Davenport Family Funeral Home

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Kraus, Peter A.

Peter A. Kraus, age 68, beloved son of John and Mary; loving brother of John (Mariah), Jim (Elena) and Jean (David) Hoffman; cherished uncle of Don (Erin), Raymond, Alex (Missy), Erika (Scot) Brown, Kurt Hoffman, Pierce Hoffman, Craig (Teresa) Hoffman and Rebecca Hoffman; dear great-uncle of Payton, Braeden, Emma, Morgan, Jacob, Emma, Logan and Eila. Visitation Thursday, February, 22, from 8:30 am until time of prayers, 9:30 am at **Nelson Funeral Home**, 820 Talcott Rd., Park Ridge. Procession to Mary, Seat of Wisdom Church for 10 am Mass of Christian Burial. In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to American Diabetes Association; https://donations.diabetes.org. Interment private. For more info www.nelsonfunerals.com or 847-823-5122.

NELSON FUNERAL HOME

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Lavin , Renana

Renana Lavin. Loving wife of the late Bennet Lavin. Devoted mother of Rachel Lavin and the late Jonathan Lavin. Proud grandmother of Judah, Sarah, Rebecca Ryan and the late William. Dear sister of Davida (James) Weiss. Services were held on Tuesday. In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to your favorite Charity. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** – Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Miroballi, Yolanda

Yolanda Miroballi nee Del Bosque, age 51, beloved wife of Pastor Roberto Miroballi; loving mother of Kara (David) Bellotti, Roberto (Crystal) Miroballi Jr., Jonathan (Ludmila) Miroballi & Brianna Miroballi; dear grandmother of Elianna, Avery, Levi, & Gabriel Bellotti and Gianni Miroballi; daughter of Conrado & Blanca Del Bosque; sister of Conrado (Mary) Del Bosque Jr., Estela (Mark) Myers & Isaac (Stephanie) Del Bosque. Yolanda was the Pastor's wife of Steeple Hill Christian Life Center. Visitation Thursday and Friday from 3:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Steeple Hill Christian Life Center, 9000 W. 87th St., Hickory Hills. Funeral Service Saturday at 10:00 a.m at the church. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. Donations to Steeple Hill Christian Life Center would be appreciated. For info 708-430-5700.

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Nemeth, Diane M.

Nemeth, Diane M., nee Wagner, 86, of Chicago passed away, she was a loving wife to the late Michael F. Nemeth; loving mother to Michael, Jerry (Joy), Allen (Brenda), John (Donna), Mary (Phil) Spina, Nancy (Jose) Ortiz; dearest grandmother to Cindy (Bob) Lachman, Mike (Monica), Jennifer (Dave) Cotton, Nicholas (Megan), Danielle (Paul) Bishop, Ashley (Julio) Rodriguez, Carly (Eric) Spina, Matthew (Sheila), Joe Nemeth, Philip (Jennie) Spina, Marc (Emily) Spina, Jeremy Spina and Taylor Ortiz. Great grandmother of 19. Loving sister to Jack (Jan) Wagner and the late Don (Marge) Wagner. Visitation is Thursday at Drake & Son Funeral Home, 5303 N. Western Ave., Chicago, IL 60625 from 4 to 9pm. Funeral Friday, prayers starting at the funeral home at 10:30am to St. Matthias Church for 11:30am mass. Interment Maryhill Cemetery, Niles, IL. Info 773-561-6874 or visit www.drakeandsonfuneralhome.com

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Nicosia, Slavatore F. 'Sam'

Salvatore F. Nicosia, age 91, of Westchester, formerly of Oak Park, veteran U.S. Navy, WW II; beloved husband of Lovice; loving father of James, Carla (Mark) Kreiss, Gina, and the late Livia Nicosia; cherished grandfather of Amy Nicosia, and Dina (Jerry) Hackel, Marta and Mark Kreiss; great-grandfather of Georgia Harms and Lucy Onae; dear brother of the late Frank (the late Helen), Harry and Carmella Nicosia; fond uncle and great uncle of many; devoted nephew of the late Fred Habel. Visitation Saturday February 24 from 9 a.m. until time of Service 11 a.m. at Calvary Memorial Church, 931 Lake St., Oak Park. Private entombment Woodlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Pacific Garden Mission (pgm.org) are appreciated. Funeral info: 708-383-3191 or drechslerbrownwilliams.com

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Pleiter, Leslie 'Les'

Leslie "Les" Pleiter, age 81, US Army Veteran, beloved husband of Barbara, nee Dykstra and the late Clarice, nee Logterman. Loving father of Jeffery (Allie), Robert (June), and Donna (Pat) O'Keeffe. Cherished grandfather of Amanda and Christopher; Savannah and Kaleah; and Darragh. Dear brother of Etta (Lou) Haan, Jan (John) DeVries and the late Ella (William K.) Bruinius. Fond uncle of many nieces and nephews. Proud member of Cement Masons Union Local 502. Visitation Friday, February 23, 2018, 4-8 p.m. at **Colonial Chapel**, 15525 S. 73rd Ave. (155th/ Wheeler Dr. & Harlem) Orland Park, IL. Memorial Service Saturday, February 24, 2018, 11:00 a.m. at Palos Heights Christian Reformed Church, 7059 W. 127th Street, Palos Heights, IL. Private inurnment with Military Honors at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. Memorials to Parkinson's Disease Foundation, Inc., 1359 Broadway, Ste. 1509, New York, NY 10018 preferred. Express your thoughts and condolences at www.colonialchapel.com 708-532-5400

COLONIAL CHAPEL FAMILY OWNED FUNERAL HOME PRIVATE ON-SITE CREMATORY

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Pontarelli, Leroy A. 'Lee'

Leroy "Lee" Pontarelli, 80; Beloved husband of Jeanette nee Sylvester; Cherished father of Sandra (Kevin) O'Brien, Michael and the late Robert Pontarelli; Loving grandfather of Kathleen O'Brien and Kristin (Charlie) Meiser and great-grandfather of Hayden Lee; Dear brother of William Smith, Linda (John) Hartwell and the late Michael (Lorraine) Pontarelli; Dear uncle to many. Visitation Saturday Feb. 24th from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. at **Cumberland Chapels** 8300 W. Lawrence Ave., Norridge. Following the visitation, there will be a procession to St. Eugene Church for 11:00 a.m. Mass. Entombment All Saints Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please donate in Lee's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital www.st.jude.org. Info: 708-456-8300 or www.cumberlandchapels.com.

CUMBERLAND CHAPELS

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Pottle, Joan M.

Joan M. Pottle, nee O'Brien, formerly of Berkeley, age 87. Beloved wife of the late Foster J.; loving mother of Mary (late Robert) Fencl, Julie (Jay) Lundborg, John (Barbara), Thomas (Lea), Larry (Pamela), Robert (Judith) and Carol (Charles) Schoen; proud grandmother of Andrew, Jessica, Kaitlin, Foster, Kelly, Michael, Rachel, Kevin, Carly, Larry, Grace, Lauren, Allison and Reed. Family and friends will be received at the **Conboy-Westchester Funeral Home**, 10501 W. Cermak Rd., Westchester (2 blks West of Mannheim Rd.) on Friday, February 23, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. All to meet Saturday at St. Domitilla Church, 4940 Washington St., Hillside for 10:00 a.m. Mass. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Memorials to Honor Flight Chicago (www.honorflightchicago.org) appreciated. For further info 708-F-U-N-E-R-A-L.

Conboy – Westchester Funeral Home www.ConboyWestchesterfh.com

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Ray, Jr., Louis Stephen

Louis Stephen Ray Jr., age 80 of San Antonio, TX passed away February 9, 2018 peacefully at home. He was born on May 28, 1937 in Chicago, IL the son of Louis and Lauretta Ray. Lou will be sadly missed by his daughters Mary (Tom) Price, Laura Grekousis, his grandchildren Alex, Jacqueline, Dennis, Jimmy, Matt, his sisters Lynn (the late Bob) Bassett, Kathy Haze and nieces, nephews, and cousins.
Visitation will be Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 9:00 am until the time of the funeral at 10:30 am at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church 410 First St. Cary, IL. In lieu of flowers memorial donations can be made to FOCUS https://www.focus.org/give/ways-to-give or to American Cancer Society https://www.cancer.org/involved/donate.html

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Rosinia, Michael

Michael Leonard Rosinia, 85, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday February 10, 2018. Born in Chicago, Illinois on May 6, 1932 to Frank and Marie (Bocci) Rosinia, he lived in Chicago until 1982 when he moved to New Orleans, Louisiana. Michael is survived by his sister, Jeanine (John) Briatta, his children Francis (Ninfa), Giselle (Stephen), Michael (Margaret) and David (Mary) and his grandchildren, Nicholas, Biagia, Gabrielle, Antonia, Victoria and Wednesday. Michael was a loving father, grandfather and friend to all. Michael took pride in his 50 years of practicing dentistry and as an educator of many young minds in Chicago and New Orleans who remember him well and, in turn, invigorated him. He had a lifelong enthusiasm for knowledge, a love of the opera, jazz music, and any reason for a good time and great food.Services will be held at the Immaculate Conception Church 130 Baronne St, New Orleans, LA 7011 on February 23, 2018 at 1p.m.

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Seyller, Joan P.

Joan P. Seyller, nee Turck, age 90, of Morton Grove, IL, formerly of Skokie, IL, and Beaver Dam, WI. Graduate of St. Francis School of Nursing, Evanston, and spent over 35 years at St. Francis Hospital of Evanston. Beloved wife of the late George J.; dear mother of James (Renee), John (Anna), Judith Hackett, and Janet (David) Gallagher; loving grandmother of Julie (Julie) Seyller, Carrie (Gus) Lauermann, Daniel (Jason) Seyller, Matthew (Sèverine) and Zachary Hackett, Ellen and Ava Seyller, Joseph, Tommy and Joshua Gallagher, Christine, Caitlyn and Phillip Gagliano; cherished great-grandmother of Eli and Micah Lauermann. Visitation, Wednesday, February 21, 2018, from 3 to 8 p.m., at **HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory**, 8057 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Funeral, Thursday, February 22, at 9:30 a.m., from the funeral home, for Mass, 10 a.m., at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church, 8149 Golf Rd., Niles. Cremation will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The American Heart Association, 3816 Paysphere Circle, Chicago, IL, 60674 or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place., Memphis, TN, 38105. Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneral.com.

HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory

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Shaughnessy, Martin J.

Martin J. Shaughnessy, 68, February 18, 2018, lifelong resident of the southwest side of Chicago, beloved son of the late Raymond H. "Bud" and Margaret Shaughnessy, nee West; loving brother of Patrick (Sharon) Shaughnessy, Margaret (Ralph, C.P.D., retired) Terrazas, Sharon (John) Bivins, Kathleen (Mick) Speck, Raymond J. Shaughnessy, C.F.D., retired, and the late Michael Shaughnessy; dear uncle of 12 and great uncle of 15. Resting at CENTRAL CHAPEL, 6158 S. Central Ave., Chicago, IL, where family and friends will gather on Thursday, Feb. 22, from 3 to 9 p.m. Funeral Friday, Feb. 23, 8:45 a.m., at chapel, to St. Symphorosa Church, 6135 S. Austin Ave., Chicago. Mass of Christian Burial 9:30 a.m. Burial St. Mary Cemetery. Please omit flowers. Contributions to Alzheimer Association, 8430 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60631, www.alz.org/illinois, appreciated. Please visit MARTIN J. SHAUGHNESSY BOOK OF MEMORIES. To express your thoughts or memories in the online guest book, visit www.chapelc.com or www.facebook.com/centralchapel. Info., 773-581-9000.

CENTRAL CHAPEL

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Smith, Claire M.

Claire M. Smith, nee Mandel, age 92, long-time resident of Northbrook, beloved wife for 67 years of the late Dr. Irwin A. Smith; loving mother of Barbara (Dr. Edward) Olinger, Janet (Alan) Brown, and Dr. Neil (Mary Douglass Ryan) Smith; adored grandmother of Sarah (Aron) Quiter, Andrea (fiancé Jonathan Lippman) Olinger, Raquel Brown, and Reuben (fiancée Brenna Hoffman) Brown; proud great grandmother of Whitney; devoted daughter of the late Jacob and the late Fan Mandel; cherished sister of Richard (Elizabeth) Mandel and the late Ruth (late Charles) Randall; dear sister-in-law of the late Dr. Harold (Constance) Smith; treasured aunt and friend to many. Private Graveside Service Friday at Shalom Memorial Park. Claire was active in volunteer work on the North Shore, specifically the Women's Board of the Northbrook Symphony Orchestra, and the National Women's Committee of Brandeis University. In lieu of flowers, contributions to the Board of Jewish Education of Metropolitan Chicago, 3320 Dundee Rd., Northbrook, IL 60062, www.bjechicago.org or CJE SeniorLife, 3003 W. Touhy Ave., Chicago, IL 60645, www.cje.net would be appreciated. For condolence information, please contact The **Goldman Funeral Group**, www.goldmanfuneralgroup.com (847) 478-1600.

Goldman Funeral Group

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Soenksen, James Allen 'Jim'

James Allen Tesser Soenksen, because his name was found written in the Book of Life, was welcomed into paradise by his wife Karen. As he sits on the lap of God, Jim is now renewed in both body and mind only because he had accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior.

Born in 1947 in Chicago, Illinois, Jim was a graduate from Glenbrook High School. Living most of his life in Pensacola, Florida, he served as a sentry guard and k-9 handler in the U. S. Air Force during the Vietnam War and spent much of his life working in the trucking industry. After managing a terminal for Nielsen Bros. Cartage in northern Florida beginning in the 1970's, the Lord had Jim go into business for himself (Soenksen Freight Systems). An avid motorcycle enthusiast, Jim also enjoyed racing his sprint car, taking care of his cats and doing practical jokes. Jim enjoyed the music of Al Jolson and the humorous character Boss (J.D.) Hogg.

He leaves behind two children: Jennifer Englert (Randy) and Scott James Soenksen, five grandchildren: Jacob (Rachel), Rachel, Ryan, Mark and Aleah Englert, sister Patricia Popiel (Michael), niece and nephews, preceded in death by wife Karen (Lautzenheiser) Soenksen, father Glenn Allen Tesser, step-father Roy Soenksen, mother Laura (Copeland) Soenksen, and brother Michael.

Jim also leaves behind a God-fearing legacy, including one of character, honesty, and a desire for all to succeed and to know God. Found in his bible was a quote from his former pastor, "The perfect man is the man who puts God first in his life." Jim put Christ first, will you?

Jim's family celebrates not only his life but the fact that he is "born again." Will your name be found in the Book of Life as Jim's is?

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SPECK

See Shaughnessy, Martin notice.

TERRAZAS

See Shaughnessy, Martin notice.

Tomaszewski, Alfred L. 'Donald'

Alfred L. Tomaszewski, age 88, U.S. Army Veteran, longtime resident of Chicago, beloved husband of the late Gloria L. Tomaszewski; loving father of Catherine (Bryan) Nelson, Kim (Mike) Rycyzyn, the late Alfred Tomaszewski Jr. and April Marie Tomaszewski; dearest grandfather of Niccole, Michael (Eden), Alexa, Katie, Emily and Lucy; fond brother of Andrew Tomaszewski, Stella Tomaszewski, the late Matthew Tomaszewski, Helen Lamm, Lillian Skora and Theresa Skowronek. Visitation Thursday 3 to 9 p.m. Funeral Friday 9:15 a.m. from Lawn Funeral Home, 7732 West 159th St., Orland Park, to St. Stephen Deacon and Martyr Church. Mass 10 a.m. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. Funeral info: 708-429-3200

Lawn Funeral Home

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Vale, Gertrude C.

Gertrude C. Vale, 96, passed away on Sat. Feb. 10, 2018 at her home. She was born April 3, 1921 in Chicago, where she was a resident for most of her life, living in Vernon Hills since 1991. She was a former employee of MPC Products Corp. in Chicago and a member of St. Mary of Vernon Church for over 25 years.

She was the beloved daughter of the late Thomas and Marie (nee Eiffes) Vale; loving sister of late Donald Vale and his wives late Virginia and late Pearl; the late Dorothy (late Frank) Rummel, the late Anna Mae (late Edwin) Mikrut, the late Marilyn (late Stanley) Pecak, the late Lorraine (late Stanley) Steele, the late William (Irene) Vale, the late Mary Ellen (late Frederick) Plonka, the late Thomas (Marilyn) Vale, the late Patricia (late Peter)Busceni and the late Joan (late Joseph) Sykes; Lifelong friend of the late Marianne C. Uhlemann and special friend of Chris (George) Cwik, Jasmin and Zoey. Gert is survived by many nieces, nephews and friends. Visitation from 4 to 8 pm Friday, Feb. 23 at the Burnett-Dane Funeral Home, 120 W. Park Ave. (Rt. 176, one block west of Milwaukee Ave.) Libertyville and for one-half hour prior to mass at church. Funeral mass at 2:30 pm Sat. Feb. 24 at St. Mary of Vernon Catholic Church, 236 W. Hwy 45, Indian Creek, IL Interment services will be in the chapel at St. Adalbert Cemetery in Niles at 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 26. Donations to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 525 W. Monroe St. #900, Chicago, IL 6066l are appreciated. Info: 847-362-3009 or please sign the on-line guest book at www.burnettdane.com.

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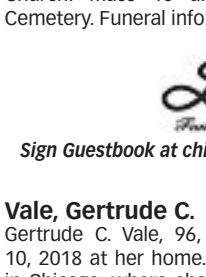
Venkus, Monica M.



Monica M. Venkus, nee Stoga, 84, of Oak Lawn, Il and Lake Cora, MI. Beloved wife of Dr. Carl Venkus for 62 years; devoted mother of Laura (Jim) Rossiter, Julia (Bert Carstens), Joseph, David (Laura), Diana (Scott) Schwefel, John, Sara (Joe) Cirelli, and the late Carla Marie; proud Nana of Elizabeth, Jack, Mark, Hannah, Carly, Morgan, Spencer, Olivia, Logan, Vivienne, Emily, Olivia, Julie, Jenna and Joey; loving sister of Stan (Kathleen) Stoga; also survived by many nieces and nephews.

She attended Lourdes High School, where she was an accomplished athlete. She graduated from Chicago Teachers' College, and taught in the Chicago Public Schools, followed by a second career as a cook in Quaker Oats test kitchens, all while raising her seven children. She was a wonderful chef, whose meals were enjoyed by everyone -from daily dinners to holiday gatherings with her large family. She also was a world class shopper, whose sense of a good deal matched her sense of style. She loved spending time at her lake house, hosting cocktail cruises at sunset, and enjoyed playing cards with her friends and grandchildren. She was truly a force of nature and will be greatly missed.

Visitation Thursday 4:00 to 9:00 PM at **Blake-Lamb Funeral Home** 4727 W. 103rd St., Oak Lawn. Mass of Christian Burial, Friday, 11:00 AM at St. Linus Church, 10300 S. Lawler Ave, Oak Lawn. Interment private at Resurrection Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, www.donate.lls.org/ are appreciated. Info. 708-636-1193 or www.blakelamboaklawn.com.

BLAKE-LAMB FUNERAL HOME

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Walsh, Gerard M. '"Harry"'

Gerard M. "Harry" Walsh Beloved father of William, Edward, Bridgette and Michael; loving brother of Michael (Marion), Richard, Pauric, Brendan, Joseph and the late John and Tom; Beloved son of the late William and Mary nee O'Connor. Fond uncle of many. Friend and former spouse of Mary Cloonan Walsh. Visitation Friday 3:00-8:00 p.m. at **The Oaks Funeral Home** 1201 E. Irving Park Road (at Prospect), Itasca. Friends and family will meet Saturday, 11:30 a.m. for a Mass of Christian Burial at Saint Hubert Church 729 Grand Canyon Street, Hoffman Estates. Interment Saint Michael the Archangel Cemetery. Native of Moycullen, Co. Galway, Ireland. For funeral info: 630-250-8588 or www.theoaksfh.com

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Wasniewski, Eleanore

Eleanore Wasniewski (nee Wronka), age 102. Beloved wife of the late Leo; loving mother of Robert (Kathleen) and James (Gretchen); cherished grandmother of Robert (Belinda) Harris, Nancy (Christopher) Mines, Casey (Brian) Rheaume, Cory (Stephanie) Wasniewski; proud great grandmother of Eric, Michael (Isabella) and Matthew Harris, Claire Mines, MacKenzie and Connor Wasniewski and Charlie Rheaume; adored friend of Sidonija "Sida" Pakrosnis. Visitation Friday 4-8pm. Funeral Saturday 9:45am from **Kenny Brothers Funeral Home** 3600 W. 95th Street to Most Holy Redeemer Church for Mass at 10:30am. Entombment St. Mary Cemetery. Please visit www.kennybrothersfuneral.com or call 708-425-4500 for more information.

Dignity Memorial Kenny Brothers Funeral Directors

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Willis, PhD, Carla Y.

Carla Y. Willis, PhD, wife of Gregg R. Baker. Mother of Dalia, Ilana and Shira Baker. Daughter of Yolanda Avram Willis, PhD and the late Richard H. Willis, PhD. Daughter-in-law of Sorelle Baker an the late Paul L. Baker, MD and sister, sister-in-law, stepsister and caring relative to several. Served as longtime Principal Economist of the American Medical Association. Played a key role in the development of the historic consensus reform proposal by the Health Coverage Coalition. Carla battled an aggressive stage-four small cell cancer, and used her treatment as a means to increase knowledge of this rare form of cancer. Carla was lovingly referred to as the "Mayor of Evanston" for her warm, caring, joyful and outgoing nature as well as her love of community. An opportunity to grieve her loss, and celebrate her life and enduring values will take place on Thursday, February 22 at 11AM at Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation (JRC), 303 Dodge Ave, Evanston. Interment Memorial Park, Skokie. Shiva at JRC will follow the burial. A scholarship is being set up in her memory to support rigorous social science research to understand the root causes of gun violence. Scholarship details to follow within the coming year. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** – Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Winkelman , Debra J.

Debra J. Winkelman (nee Martin) age 64. Devoted mother of the late Eric Winkelman. Loving sister of Gail Henderson. Dear aunt of Micheal and Kaylom. Cherished stepdaughter of George Stowe. Dearest stepsister of the late Jack Stowe. Also survived by many loving relatives and friends. Visitation Friday 9 AM until time of service, 11 AM at Palos-Gaidas Funeral Home, 11028 Southwest Hwy. (7700W) Palos Hills. Interment St. Casimir Lithuanian Cemetery. Express your thoughts and memories in the online Guest Book at www.palosgaidasfh.com (708) 974 4410 with funeral home logo

Palos-Gaidas FUNERAL HOME

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Wnek, Theresa

Theresa Wnek, 88, February 18, 2018. Beloved wife of the late Alex. Loving sister of Edward (the late Lucille) Wozny. Cherished aunt of James (Lydia) Wozny, Anna Wozny-Ramierz and Ronald (Maria) Wozny. Dearest great-aunt of Patricia (Barry) Harris, Phillip Ramirez, James Wozny and Kristopher Wozny. Funeral Friday 10:30 A.M. from Muzyka Funeral Home, 2157 W. Chicago Ave., to St. Helen Catholic Church for an 11:00 A.M. Funeral Mass. Interment Private. Visitation Thursday 4-9 P.M. with a Prayer Service 6:00 P.M. at Muzyka Chapel. In lieu of flowers donation to St. Helen Catholic Church, 2315 W. Augusta Blvd., Chicago, IL 60622, would be appreciated

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Wright, Mary K.

Mary K. Wright (nee. Karol), 90, of Schaumburg formerly of Chicago. She passed away Feb. 18, 2018 at Friendship Village. Mary was a member of the Central State Dahlia Society. She was the loving mother of Andrew L. (Laurie), Lincoln W. (Karen) and Jeffrey B. Wright and cherished grandmother of William, Hanna, Alexander and Daniel. Memorial Visitation Saturday, Feb. 24 from 2pm until the time of service at 4pm at Grove Memorial Chapel 1199 S. Arlington Hts. Rd. Elk Grove Village. For info 847-640-0566 or grovememorialchapel.com

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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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 134 Electricians, and Pipefitters Local 597 to learn more about careers in the trades. The presentation will begin at 10:00 am in room 1205.
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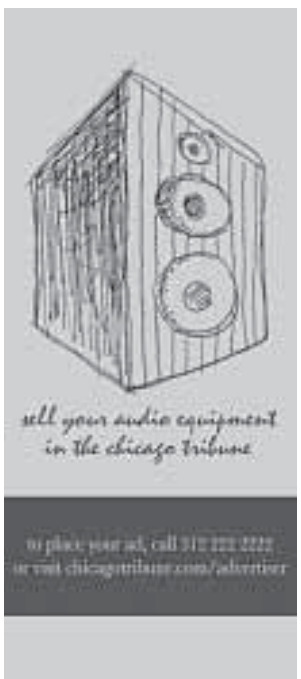

ASSUMED NAMES

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation To the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in The State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of C**ook Co**u**nty** **File No. D18153432** on the D**ate: FEBRUARY 5, 2018** Under the Assumed Name of: **ALWAYS ON TIME TRANSPORTATION** with the business located at: **7629 S Hoyne Ave Chicago, Illinois , 60620** The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Gwendolyn Haynes 7629 S Hoyne Ave Chicago, ILLINOIS, 60620**

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation To the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in The State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of C**ook Co**u**nty** **File No. D18153421** on the D**ate: February 2, 2018** Under the Assumed Name of: **RWA Consulting & Concept Theory** with the business located at: **4137 Sauk Trail Richton Park, IL, 60471** The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Ronald Alston, Sr 3721 Poplar Rd Flossmoor, IL, 60422**

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

MORTON GROVE – NILES WATER COMMISSION COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS WATER TRANSMISSION FACILITIES – CONTRACT 10 ADVERTISMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission (MGNWC), will receive Bids at The Village of Niles, Village Hall, 1000 Civic Center Drive, Niles, Illinois 60714 until March 22, 2018 at 10 am, local time, for Contract 10 - MGNWC North Shore Channel Transmission Main Crossing, MGNWC Water Transmission Main and Facility Improvements Project at which time Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

General summary of Work to be performed:

Construction of approximately 1200 lineal feet of 24-inch ductile iron transmission main across McCormick Boulevard and the North Shore Channel. Includes approximately 120 feet of boring and jacking of 36-inch minimum steel casing pipe, horizontal direction drilling of a total of approximately 740 feet of 24-inch ductile iron water main, and installation and testing of water main pipe, fittings, and appurtenances.

Work shall be in accordance with the Bidding Documents, including the Project Manual and Drawings, which are on file at the Issuing Office of the Engineer, Stanley Consultants, Inc., 8501 West Higgins Road, Suite 730, Chicago, Illinois 60631 from Mr. Larry Thomas at thomaslarry@stanleygroup.com. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office during the hours indicated above. Bidding Documents are available only as portable document format (PDF) files. There is no charge for digital bidding documents. To obtain bidding documents contact the issuing office via email. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the prospective Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

No prebid conference will be held.

Any contract or contracts awarded under this invitation for bids are expected to be funded in part by a loan from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA). Neither the State of Illinois nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees is or will be a party to this invitation for bids or any resulting contract. The procurement will be subject to regulations contained in the Procedures for Issuing Loans from the Public Water Supply Loan Program (35IAC Part 662), the Davis-Bacon Act (40 USC 276a through 276a-5) as defined by the United States Department of Labor, the Employment of Illinois Workers on Public Works Act (30 ILCS 570), and the "Use of American Iron and Steel" requirements as contained in Section 436 of H.R. 3547, and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014. This procurement is also subject to the loan recipient's policy regarding the increased use of disadvantaged business enterprises. The loan recipient's policy requires all bidders to undertake specified affirmative efforts at least sixteen (16) days prior to bid opening. The policy is contained in the specifications. Bidders are also required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended. The requirements for bidders and contractors under this order are explained in 41 CFR 60-4.

Each Bid shall include Bidder's qualification documents as stated in the instructions to bidders. If the required information is not included or if it does not meet the stated qualification requirements to perform the work associated with this project, it may serve as grounds to find the bid non-responsive.

Each Bid shall also be accompanied, in a separate sealed envelope, by Bid security in an amount of not less than 5% of the Bid amount. Bid Bonds must be executed by corporations authorized to contract as Surety in the State of Illinois and in a form described in the Contract Documents. Bid security shall be forfeited if the Bidder fails or refuses to sign and deliver a signed Agreement and furnish required contract security.

If the Contract is to be awarded, Owner will award the Contract to the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder.

Upon notification of award, Successful Bidder shall furnish contract security in the form of performance and payment bonds described in the Contract Documents.

Performance of the Work will start within 30 calendar days after date of Notice to Proceed, and shall be completed within the time stated in the Contract Documents.

The Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission reserves the right to defer acceptance of any Bid for a period not to exceed 120 calendar days after the date Bids are to be received.

The Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission reserves the right to consider such factors as time of completion of the Work, materials and methods of construction, experience and responsibility of the Bidder, and similar factors in determining which Bid it deems to be in its best interests.

The Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, to waive informalities or technicalities in any Bid and to accept the Bid which it deems to be in the best interest of the Owner.

MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION

ByJohn Pietron
Commission Clerk

Date February 21, 2018

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

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

IN THE INTEREST OF
Janaya Hawkins AKA Baby Girl Hawkins

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Ashley Anna Marie Hawkins (Mother) AKA Ashley Hawkins**

JUVENILE NO.: **17JA1176 Judge Buford Cal. 4D**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Kyle Jones (Father) Any And All Unknown Fathers** , respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **November 8, 2017**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Andrea Buford** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **03/13/2018**,at **9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **4** COURTROOM **D**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

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

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

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

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
February 21, 2018

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

Thursday, March 1, 2018
11:30 AM
Cook County Building, Board Room
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois

There will be a meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County at the date, time and location listed above to consider the following:

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Public testimony must be germane to a specific item(s) on the meeting agenda, and the testimony must not exceed three minutes.

18-1604 Sponsored by: JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI, LUIS ARROYO JR, EDWARD M. MOODY, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, DEBORAH SIMS, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, DENNIS DEER and STANLEY MOORE, Cook County Board of Commissioners
PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT, PROPERTY TAX INCENTIVE-PREVAILING WAGE REQUIREMENT

/s/ Matthew B. DeLeon, Secretary

Chairman:Daley
Vice-Chairman: Sims
Members: Committee of the Whole

Detailed information, including the full text of this item and how to comment on the item, can be found at https://cook-county.legistar.com

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

IN THE INTEREST OF
Zaidyn Zion

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Heath Zion (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: **17JA01360**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Michael Gray (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **December 26, 2017**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Diana Rosario** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **03/07/2018**,at **9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **7** COURTROOM **G**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

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

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

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

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
February 21, 2018

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, PROBATE DIVISION

ESTATE OF LOREN J. DANNEIL, DECEASED. NO. 17 P 6505.
Notice is given that if you are Ann Vickermann a/k/a Ann Vickerman and related to or personally knew the deceased, Loren J. Danneil, and can offer proof of knowing the decedant, please contact the independent Executor: Forest J. Miles at 180 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2300, Chicago, Illinois 60601. (312) 726-5486 on or before March 1, 2018. There is a hearing scheduled for March 8, 2018 at 11:30 am. in room 1802 of the Daley Center, Chicago, Illinois that may affect your rights in the Estate

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF NAPERVILLE
Bid and Requests for Proposals Available Online

All City of Naperville solicitations will be advertised on our web site:
http://www.naperville.il.us/bidrfps.aspx

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Cap Rate at Min Bid 36%
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· Parking area lighting · Private well and septic system
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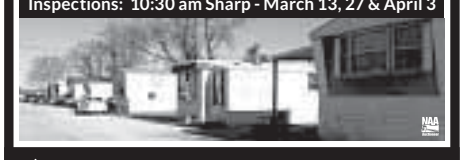

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Chicago Tribune
CHICAGO SPORTS
Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors

WHAT DOES A TOP-5 PAYROLL BUY YOU?

The Cubs currently have the fifth-highest payroll, according to Spotrac, at $172.8 million. The last time they had a top-five payroll, in 2016, they won it all. Also of note: In each of the last two years, two teams in the top five missed the postseason. Here's a look at the last two postseasons, with each playoff team's payroll ranking listed in the shaded box.

KEY
- *Top-5 payroll*
- *Above average*
- *Below average*

2016 TOP-5 PAYROLLS

Bright logos made playoffs, dim logos missed

WILD-CARD GAME	LDS	LCS	WORLD SERIES
AL PLAYOFFS			
10 Blue Jays 1	8 Rangers 0	10 Blue Jays 1	21 Indians 3
11 Orioles 0	10 Blue Jays 3	21 Indians 4	5 Cubs 4
	21 Indians 3		
	3 Red Sox 0		
NL PLAYOFFS			
12 Mets 0	5 Cubs 3	5 Cubs 4	
6 Giants 1	6 Giants 1	1 Dodgers 2	
	14 Nationals 2		
	1 Dodgers 3		

ALL IN

2017 TOP-5 PAYROLLS

Bright logos made playoffs, dim logos missed

AL PLAYOFFS			
2 Yankees 1	18 Indians 2	2 Yankees 3	15 Astros 4
19 Twins 0	2 Yankees 3	15 Astros 4	1 Dodgers 3
	15 Astros 3		
	3 Red Sox 1		
NL PLAYOFFS			
20 D'Backs 1	1 Dodgers 3	1 Dodgers 4	
17 Rockies 0	20 D'Backs 0	10 Cubs 1	
	7 Nationals 2		
	10 Cubs 3		

Cubs' expectations have risen with cash and commitment from Chairman Ricketts

2018 TOP-5 PAYROLLS *As it stands*

DAVID HAUGH
In the Wake of the News

MESA, Ariz. — Tradition calls for Cubs Chairman Tom Ricketts to welcome the team back every spring with a talk that establishes expectations for the upcoming season.

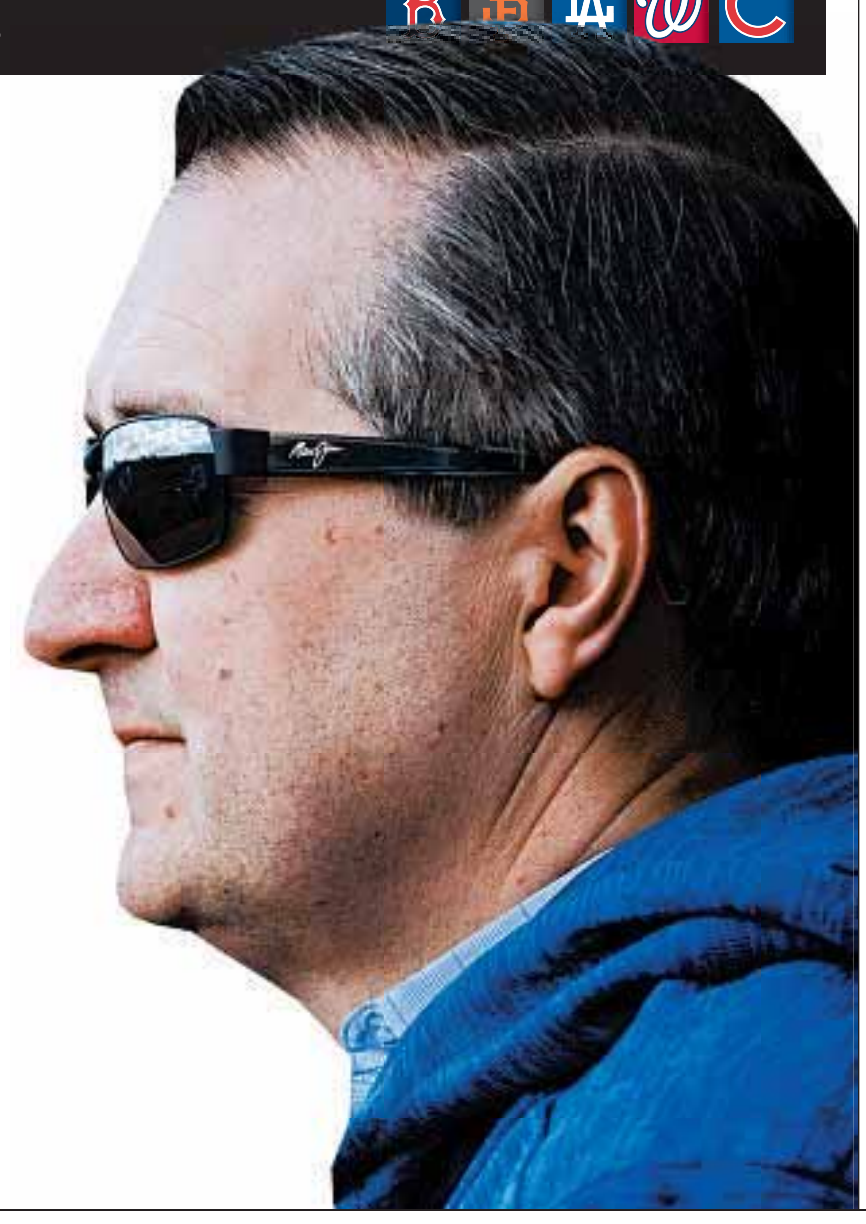
Ricketts made news Monday reasserting the Cubs' plan to end their one-year championship drought, bold talk embraced by everyone from manager Joe Maddon to the last player in camp.

"I won't say a season is a failure because you don't win the World Series," Ricketts said. "But it is our goal."

It doesn't seem long ago that the biggest goal Ricketts discussed on day one of spring training revolved around Wrigley Field renovations or changes in the dugout. The annual big battle that loomed involved City Hall, not the Dodgers or Nationals. How times change. Now — beginning his ninth year at the helm of the Cubs — Ricketts sets a World Series-or-bust tone in his opening remarks.

Funny thing is, Ricketts didn't have to say a word for everyone already to grasp that. His real statement about 2018 came earlier this month when the Cubs signed Japanese star Yu Darvish to a six-year, $126 million contract. The entire baseball world heard it.

Turn to ***Haugh, Page 4***



Tom Ricketts, entering his ninth year with the Cubs, has high expectations every season.
ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

DePaul walk-on Pantelis Xidias gestures as he cheers on his teammates from the bench during a Feb. 14 game against St. John's.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

This Demon is never blue

Excitable DePaul walk-on Xidias brings party time to game time

BY SHANNON RYAN | Chicago Tribune

The goggles-wearing kid at the end of the DePaul bench is high-kicking and wildly waving his arms over his head.

After running his hands through his strawberry blond "faux hawk," he looks down at his blue warmup jersey, pulls the Blue Demons logo to his lips and kisses it. As a teammate scores, he hops up and with a massive grin appears to be running on an invisible stair climber.

His go-to move is the popular "Hit Dem Folks" dance.

This is what Pantelis Xidias looks like when DePaul is trailing by as many as 30 points during a December loss to then-top-ranked Villanova.

This is also what Pantelis Xidias looks like at practice. And during pregame warm-ups. And pretty much all day every day — except in his sleep.

Turn to ***DePaul, Page 5***

2018 WINTER OLYMPICS

Time for breakthrough?

U.S. women's hockey team out to snap 20-year drought against Canada, grab gold. **Back Page**

■ Lindsey Vonn takes bronze in her final Olympic downhill. Italy's Sofia Goggia wins gold. **Page 7**

BEARS

Spring clean already afoot

Sitton, Freeman likely first of many veterans to depart roster

BY BRAD BIGGS | Chicago Tribune

Before the Bears' next foray into roster rebuilding, they have begun tidying things up.

The team on Tuesday informed left guard Josh Sitton it will not pick up the 2018 option in his contract and told inside linebacker Jerrell Freeman his contract will be terminated, moves that create $11.4 million in salary-cap space, pushing the Bears over $50 million in projected cap space.

With the start of the new league year — and free agency — coming March 14, they are the first of what is expected to be a series of moves as general manager Ryan Pace positions the Bears for what will be an interesting player-acquisition period.

The Bears already were flush with salary-cap space and now rank eighth in available room, according to spotrac.com. Tuesday's moves created more room, but they — and future moves — aren't about cap space. They're about roster fits and production for new coach Matt Nagy and his staff.

Turn to ***Bears, Page 2***

OPENING SHOT

Steve Rosenbloom: What was your favorite drug suspension of the Jerrell Freeman era? More Rosenbloom, **Page 2**

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TOP OF THE SECOND

STEVE ROSENBLOOM

Hawks learn the hard way

Stop me if you've heard this before:

The Blackhawks rip an opponent the way they did in a 7-1 strafing of the Capitals on Saturday and then immediately roll over and die the way they did against the Kings on Monday.

Actually, you hadn't heard this before, and here's why: The Hawks don't win often enough to have something to compare it to. In fact, they have won just once in the last 10 games. Entering play Tuesday, they stood 13 points out of the last playoff spot and 14 out of last place in the Western Conference.

The Hawks sometimes play good hockey, once in a while play winning hockey, but mostly they play losing hockey. They can't hold a lead and can't come back from a deficit. Like that, the Hawks have lost more than they have won both at home and on the road.

Oh, and remember how they opened the season with a 10-1 triumph followed by a 5-1 victory? Yes. Well. That plus-13 goal differential has plummeted to minus-3.

Your 2017-18 Hawks, ladies and gentlemen, a team you have to love because no-trade clauses and youth seemingly will force the organ-I-zation to bring most of it back next season.

I mean, just look:

Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane are 29, Brent Seabrook is 32 and Duncan Keith is 34. No-trade, no-trade, no-trade, no-trade, no matter how much they're underperforming.

Meanwhile, among forwards expected to contribute to Dynasty, Part Deux, Alex DeBrincat is 20, Nick Schmaltz turns 22 on Friday, Anthony Duclair is 22, Ryan Hartman and Vinnie Hinostroza are 23 and Brandon Saad is 25. On the blue line, Carl Dahlstrom is 23, Connor Murphy is 24 and Jordan Oesterle and Erik Gustafsson are 25.

We're talking 14 skaters the Hawks can't move or likely don't want to. If the six young forwards and four young defensemen aren't the future, then, geez, how ugly will the actual bottoming out look?

The trade deadline is Monday, and I wouldn't expect much more than a deal like the one that sent Michal Kempny to the Capitals for a third-round draft choice.

The roster, then, is the roster. The kids are the kids. So what are the kids learning? What are the veterans showing them?

The first thing the kids are learning is Corey Crawford is a god. The goalie was the reason the team had a playoff shot this season, then he went down and so did all hope.

NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Brent Seabrook and the Hawks have been going the wrong way for most of the season.

The second thing they're learning is they need to watch Marian Hossa video and be him.

The third thing they're learning is Niklas Hjalmarsson was the gold standard defensively and Murphy is not. Not yet, anyway. All you young hockey players out there trying to win a Stanley Cup immediately, don't trade like this.

The fourth thing they're learning is coach Joel Quenneville can be alternately impatient and stubborn, and while he might not always be right — like Artem Anisimov on a wing and Seabrook getting a regular shift almost forever, come on — he always will be the coach.

At least I think he always will be the coach. He should be, anyway, because the worst mistakes have been committed above his pay grade by either the general manager or the core players.

The young players also are learning that even when they have the puck a majority of the time, even when they win the Corsi battle, they still have to finish and they have to fight to get into the slot to do it. The Hawks have lost the Corsi battle when it comes to high-danger chances and have averaged more high-danger goals against than for. Opponents go to the tough areas better and more effectively, one of the worst unlearned lessons in hockey.

This season was supposed to be about redemption after the core leaders failed to prevent the then-defending champions from losing in the first round two years ago and then choking against the eighth seed so badly last year that they were swept in a series in which they didn't score a goal at home.

What the young players are learning, then, is losing. They're learning more futility than resiliency. They have fallen and the veterans can't show them how to get up.

srosenbloom@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @steverosenbloom

THE LINEUP

Mind your own dugout

One day after Nationals outfielder Bryce Harper questioned the Marlins' offseason moves, manager **Don Mattingly** fired back.

"Take care of your business and we'll take care of ours," Mattingly said.

Speaking to reporters Monday, Harper joined a chorus of critics questioning the direction of the Marlins under new CEO Derek Jeter. Harper said he was shocked the Marlins traded their entire outfield during the offseason. He added that the Marlins could have become a formidable team by adding a couple of pitchers.

Mattingly stressed on Tuesday that it's important to "take care of your own dugout" and it's "not really his place to comment on us."

Mattingly added: "He doesn't really know what goes on over here. He may think he does. But he doesn't. He doesn't know our players."

Tribune news services

It's tanking time again

Owner **Mark Cuban** admitted the Mavericks tanked last season but said they wouldn't this season until they're eliminated.

Oops. With the league's third-worst record, it's only a matter of time, but the Mavs have not been eliminated, yet Cuban has made his position clear.

On Julius Erving's podcast, "House Call with Dr. J," Cuban said: "I'm probably not supposed to say this, but I just had dinner with a bunch of our guys the other night. And we weren't competing for the playoffs. I was like, 'Look, losing is our best option.' ... I explained it to them. And I explained what our plans were going to be this summer, that we're not going to tank again. This was a year-and-a-half tanking, and that was too brutal for me." *Tribune news services*

CONTACT US
Joe Knowles, AME/Sports
435 N. Michigan Ave. | Chicago, IL 60611
312-222-3478 | *sports@chicagotribune.com*

Chicago Tribune
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Former Bear Plank after crash: 'I'm just very lucky'

BY BRAD BIGGS | Chicago Tribune

Doug Plank had a career of high-speed collisions as a feared hitter in the defensive secondary at Ohio State and with the Bears.

None of those hits matched what he went through in the wee hours Saturday when he lost control of his Toyota Tacoma truck on some ice on Interstate 17 near Flagstaff, Ariz., and flipped it in a single-vehicle crash.

Plank, whose jersey No. 46 gave Buddy Ryan's famed defense its name, said he was accelerating from the entrance ramp after stopping for gas to complete the final leg of his drive to the Phoenix area from Denver when he spun out of control.

"I wasn't speeding, rushing or anything like that," Plank said. "All of a sudden the back end was gone and now I am sideways down the road. I grabbed the steering wheel as hard as I could and tried to put my feet under the gas pedal and brake because I knew I was going for a ride.

"The guy behind me who stopped to help said my truck flipped eight times. Maybe I've watched too many movies because when cars roll over eight times, what happens within a few seconds? The car catches on fire.

"So I'm thinking I need to get out as fast as I can. I couldn't open the door, (but) somehow the truck landed on its tires. I dove out the window and of course the truck didn't catch on fire."

Plank, 64, was transported to a Flagstaff hospital, where he was treated for a compressed left lung, eight fractured ribs, a compressed fracture in his vertebrae and multiple gashes and lacerations.

"The doctor came in and said, 'I want to let you know you've got 46 stitches,' " Plank said. "If that isn't a message, I'm not sure what is."

Photos show the roof on the truck's passenger side totally compressed, and Plank said it's fortunate no one was traveling with him. After he was released from the hospital, Plank and his wife, Nancy, went to the wrecking yard to look at the vehicle. When he saw it, he broke into tears.

He's taking it easy physically but is working to complete a book project sometime this spring on challenges he has faced and success he has achieved.

"I didn't realize I was going to be creating another chapter at 2 in the morning," Plank said. "I'm not saying from a spiritual standpoint someone was with me, but if you look at the car, I would challenge anybody to say that wasn't divine intervention.

"Every time I move I can hear ... things popping. Hey, listen, I'm not saying I'm a tough guy. I'm just very lucky."

Bears not done making moves

Bears, *from Page 1*

Sitton, 31, started 13 games last season and was selected to the Pro Bowl as an alternate after the 2016 season. But the Bears are likely seeking a younger option for an interior with questions marks.

When will right guard Kyle Long, who has undergone multiple offseason surgeries, return? Will the Bears move forward with Cody Whitehair as a center or a guard? They could go several directions.

"I am planning on hitting free agency and continuing to play at a high level," Sitton said. "I believe I have prime years left."

Pace called Sitton, who was due to earn $8 million this season, to inform him of the decision, which the Bears did not have to make until March 9.

"We had a great conversation and talked about how we enjoyed our time together," Sitton said. "It was very positive.

"I'm not sure (the timing of) it really would have mattered. It allows other teams to know I am going to be out there, so I guess I appreciate it."

Shedding Sitton will increase speculation Notre Dame guard Quenton Nelson will be targeted with the eighth pick in the draft, but the Bears likely won't tip their hand.

Freeman, 31, suffered a torn pectoral muscle in the season-opening loss to the Falcons in September, which shut him down for the year. Later, he was suspended for 10 games for violating the NFL's policy on performance-enhancing drugs, his second suspension in as many seasons.

Signed to a three-year, $12 million contract in 2016, Freeman was due to earn $3.5 million.

The Bears are surely not done subtracting. Glennon is not expected to return, and it would be a surprise if the Bears chose to pay outside linebacker Pernell McPhee $7.575 million in 2018. Decisions must be made on other unproductive and injured players, including wide receiver Markus Wheaton, cornerback Marcus Cooper, safety Quintin Demps, outside linebacker Willie Young and perhaps tight end Dion Sims.

Presently, the team has only 49 players under contract, the third-fewest in the league, per spotrac. Expect that number to get smaller.

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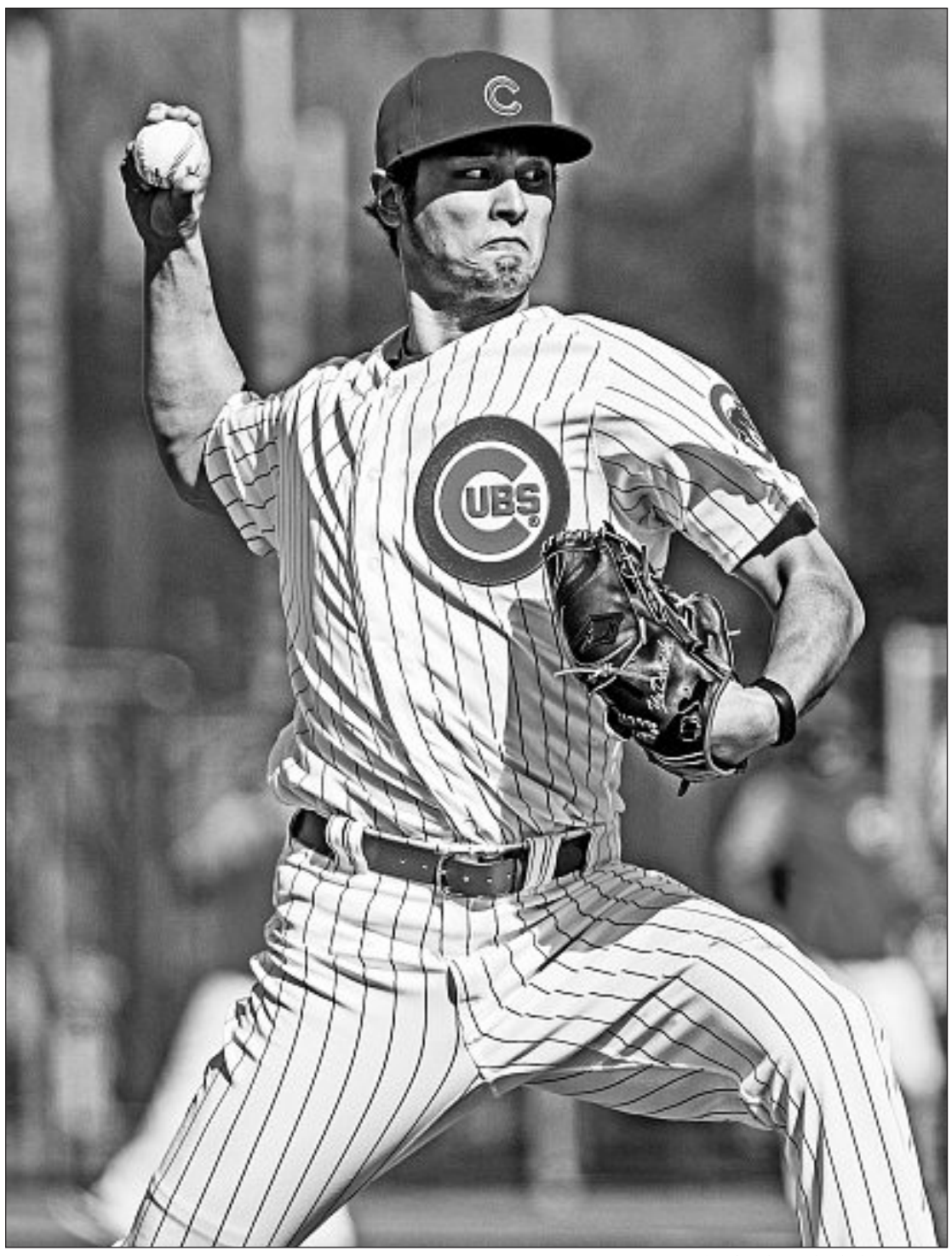
CUBS



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

According to Cubs manager Joe Maddon, Yu Darvish has so far been throwing with "great conviction."

Darvish looking like a perfect fit

Cubs wowed by what pitcher has shown them

By Mark Gonzales
Chicago Tribune

MESA, Ariz. — After watching one of Yu Darvish's pitches during a batting-practice session Tuesday, Cubs slugger Kyle Schwarber merely said, "Oh, God."

"Insane," Willson Contreras added after catching Darvish's first bullpen session and then following Schwarber in the batting cage.

Manager Joe Maddon tried to provide perspective as he looked at his watch and reminded everyone the start of the regular season is still more than five weeks away. But even he marveled at Darvish's sharpness after the right-hander joined the Cubs only last week with the expectation he will help them return to the World Series for the second time in three seasons.

"I know it's early," Maddon said. "I'm certain his adrenaline was flowing a bit right there, but he threw the ball with great conviction.

"But as a purist, I looked at the delivery. The ball was reacting at home plate, and it was outstanding."

Even more encouraging to Maddon and the players has been the seamless manner in which Darvish has adjusted to his new surroundings.

"Everyone here is very friendly," Darvish said after finishing his running. "I was able to work out successfully, and it seems (as if) I fit in naturally (with) this team."

Darvish has felt comfortable enough to joke about getting accustomed to new pitching coach Jim Hickey.

"At first, I didn't know what kind of guy he's like," Darvish said. "But as the day progressed, he's getting nicer to me, so I think we're building a good relationship."

The amount of attention paid to Darvish has shifted dramatically from 2012, when he left Japan to sign with the Rangers.

"If you look at my first two years in the big leagues, I saw about 100 Japanese media," Darvish said. "But if you look at it now, there are only five out there."

Much of the Japanese media have shifted their focus to 23-year-old pitcher-outfielder Shohei Ohtani, who is training about 15 minutes away in Tempe, Ariz., with the Angels.

"Ohtani is the new generation, so he definitely feels the (pressure) of the generation as he gets into the majors," Darvish said.

Darvish quickly has garnered the attention of his new teammates, many of whom were eager to fist-bump him after his batting-practice session.

"As a catcher, you're waiting for the ball to come to you," Contreras said.

"You don't have to worry about the timing. As a hitter, you have to time his mechanics and release point.

"He's 6-foot-5, and his mechanics are kind of slow to home plate. If you start too early or too late, he will beat you. He's so sneaky with the fastball and (he) throws nasty breaking balls. He's insane."

Maddon took note of Darvish's ability to keep his low fastball on an even plane and was reminded of Mark Langston, who possessed the same touch when he and Maddon played on the Boulder (Colo.) Collegians summer college baseball team years ago.

But Contreras isn't sure how he will manage to flash signs for Darvish's repertoire of six pitches and prefers to let his pitcher call the shots.

"He can get a batter out with three pitches," Contreras said. "I just want to learn what he wants to do against righties and lefties and how he wants me to set up for each pitch. He seems pretty good at letting me know what I need to do."

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CUBS NOTES

Contreras not afraid to become a rule-breaker

By Mark Gonzales
Chicago Tribune

MESA, Ariz. — Try to stop an animated **Willson Contreras** from making the Cubs' seventh trip to the mound without a pitching change.

That will be the task for umpires assigned to enforce new rules governing pace of play, and Contreras has no intention of taking risks that would put his pitcher in jeopardy.

"I've been reading a lot about this ruling," Contreras said Tuesday. "I don't really even care. If (I) have to go again and pay the price, I will."

Contreras is notorious for making numerous visits to the mound and slowing the game's pace. **Joe Torre,** Major League Baseball's chief operating officer, revealed a survey showed teams make from as few as three visits to as many as 16 without making a pitching change.

The new rules stipulate a maximum of six visits to the mound without a pitching change will be allowed for a nine-inning game.

If a player attempts to make a seventh visit, an umpire will be in charge of preventing him, Commissioner **Rob Manfred** said.

"If they said there are six mound visits, what about if there is a tight or extra-inning game and you have to go there?" Contreras asked. "They can't say anything about that. It's my team, and we just care about winning. If they fine me (for) the seventh mound visit, I'll pay the price."

General manager **Jed Hoyer** believes older catchers, not Contreras — who is entering his second full season as the Cubs' starter — will have trouble adjusting.

"They've done it for 10-12 years, and the old dogs have trouble with new habits," Hoyer said. "Willson has been in the league for 1 ½ years, so you're not breaking many ingrained habits."

Extra innings: The Cubs are planning to wear Stoneman Douglas High School caps for their exhibition Friday against the Brewers in memory of the shooting victims at **Anthony Rizzo's** alma mater. ... Manfred had no update on the status of the investigation regarding shortstop **Addison Russell** and allegations of domestic abuse made against him last season on social media.

WHITE SOX

Prospects hope to grow up together

Jimenez, Robert, Adolfo aspire to play in same outfield with White Sox

By Chris Kuc
Chicago Tribune

GLENDALE, Ariz. — There was a moment Tuesday morning when all activity at Camelback Ranch seemed to pause as the White Sox's future stepped toward the plate at Field No. 2.

Hitters Group No. 4 — better known as Eloy Jimenez, Luis Robert and Micker Adolfo — then proceeded to rocket balls all over the ballpark. The cracks of the bats through the chilly Arizona air were enough to make Sox fans dream about the day the trio could roam the Guaranteed Rate Field outfield together.

It is a dream that Jimenez, Robert and Adolfo — the first two widely known as top major-league prospects and the third a youngster some in the Sox organization believe has just as bright a future as his batting practice mates — shared among themselves near the cage Tuesday.

"When we were taking BP we were talking about it," Jimenez said through a team interpreter. "Micker and Luis said, 'Can you imagine if we had the opportunity one day to play together in the majors, right, left and center field? The three of us together and having the opportunity to bring a championship to this team?' I think that's a dream for us and we're trying to work hard for that."

Robert, whom the Sox signed as free agent out of Cuba last May, is considered their center fielder of the future. He said the trio spoke of first uniting in the minor leagues.

"We were talking about just to have the first stage of the three of us together in the minor leagues ... and then go to the majors, all three of us together," Robert said via an interpreter. "To have the opportunity to play there should be pretty special for us. We were dreaming about that."

It is a dream general manager Rich Hahn and the rest of the Sox hierarchy shares.

"We do think that's entirely possible," Hahn said. "You've seen throughout this camp ... this level of camaraderie between these young guys as they embrace growing together and wanting to be part of what's coming next. I'm thrilled to hear these three have talked about those being the three in the outfield one day. If it works out that way, that's fantastic."

Jimenez, whom the Sox acquired from the Cubs last summer in the trade that sent Jose Quintana to the North Side, and Adolfo, who has battled injuries some since being signed as a 16-year-old free agent out of the Dominican Republic in 2013 — join Robert as three of the organization's most physically gifted prospects and possess the kind of raw talent that allows the imagination to run wild about the future.

But as has been the mantra of Hahn, they realize the need to practice patience when it comes to reaching the majors.

"I always talk with my dad and we share opinions and he says, 'You know what? Just control the things that you can control," Jimenez said. " 'Work hard and do the things that you need to do to get better' and that's my key."

Said the 20-year-old Robert: "I don't know when I can be in the majors. I'm just focusing on doing my work, trying to get better and get ready for the time."

Helping in matters has been seeing the path to the majors the Sox have created after they called up Yoan Moncada, Reynaldo Lopez and Lucas Giolito during the 2017 season.

"That's a motivation," Jimenez said. "When you see what the team has done with their players ... you think 'OK, I just need to keep getting better, to work hard because I know the team is doing things to put us in the right spot, in the right position at the right time, to keep moving up.' Absolutely that's a motivation for me. I'm just ready for when that moment comes."

Jimenez would seem to be the closest to having his moment. Following arrival from the Cubs, Jimenez started in the Sox organization at Class A Winston-Salem but earned a late-season call-up to Double-A Birmingham where he slashed .353/.397/.559 with three home runs and seven RBIs in 18 games. Jimenez, 21, then tore up the Dominican Winter League by hitting .358 with four homers and 21 RBIs in 19 games.

"I see myself as a very good hitter ... who can hit for average, hit for homers, drive in some runs (and) get some extra-base hits," Jimenez said. "That's the way I like to project myself."

With that projection and those of Robert and Adolfo, the future of the Sox appears bright and the excitement over that is shared by the players.

"I'm very, very excited," Jimenez said. "When the moment comes when we can all be in the majors ... we're going to be good, we're going to be terrific. I know that."

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WHITE SOX NOTES

Sox like group in camp, but Hahn always on hunt

By Chris Kuc
Chicago Tribune

GLENDALE, Ariz. — It was under chilly but sunny conditions that the White Sox took to the fields and batting cages as spring training continued Tuesday at Camelback Ranch.

Barring an upset, it appears the players who were put through their paces will be the group from which general manager **Rick Hahn** selects the 25-man roster for opening day.

"We're having conversations with other clubs and obviously there are still a few free agents floating around, but we're preparing right now as if we'll choose the 25 from the group in camp right now," Hahn said.

Still, Hahn said he's always on the hunt for ways to improve the team.

"Certainly, if the opportunity rises to come up with another piece that fits for the long term we won't hesitate to move on that," Hahn said. "And, if for whatever reason, we see the opportunity to round out the roster a little bit in a way that makes sense ... then we'll certainly move on it."

Rodon update: Left-hander **Carlos Rodon** continues to throw from flat ground while he rehabilitates following surgery on his shoulder. On Tuesday, Rodon threw a few pitches from 90 feet for the first time since Sept. 27 surgery. Most of Rodon's work has been from 60 to 75 feet where he has been ramping up the velocity in recent days.

"It's going real well," Rodon said Tuesday. "I'll just keep going on this path and hopefully have no setbacks. The problem is fixed. Now, it's just getting back to pitching form."

ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/TRIBUNE

Sox left-hander Carlos Rodon is throwing from flat ground after shoulder surgery in September.

There is no timetable for Rodon to begin throwing off a mound but the 25-year-old is encouraged that he is throwing "free and easy."

"As of right now, I feel pretty optimistic about the whole thing," he added. "I'm in a good place."

Coming soon: The Sox's Cactus League opener is Friday against the Dodgers and manager **Rick Renteria** already is getting excited to evaluate players under game conditions.

"The fun part of playing the game of baseball is playing the game of baseball," Renteria said. "Like everything that we do in life, I guess, it's a test. And the games are a test for us on a daily basis. How we are able to evaluate them and take advantage of the opportunities that we have to see them in a real game situation is certainly helpful for us."

Right-hander **Tyler Danish** will start against the Dodgers.

BASEBALL

ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chairman Tom Ricketts helped change the Cubs' culture with expectations of winning every season.

Cubs not afraid to spend to reach goal

Haugh, *from Page 1*

The Cubs announced their 2018 slogan as "Everybody In." Ricketts proved how much ownership was by digging deep in the family's pockets to lure the top free agent pitcher to the North Side.

The commitment to win starts at the top, where you will find a die-hard Cubs fan disguised as team chairman. Don't let the sheepish, aw-shucks demeanor fool you — Ricketts is more competitive than he looks.

Sustaining success takes money. And Ricketts has evolved into a chairman willing to spend whatever it takes in the name of winning.

The addition of Darvish inflated the Cubs' payroll to $172 million, the fifth-highest in baseball, according to spotrac.com. It also showed how much Ricketts trusts President Theo Epstein with his money, even if it meant giving it to an outsider — Darvish — over a Cubs legend in Jake Arrieta.

After the Cubs' season ended in October in the National League Championship Series loss to the Dodgers, a sense of inevitability surrounded Arrieta's departure. But Maddon felt just as certain that, somehow, the combination of the Rickettses' money and Epstein's brain would find a way to make the Cubs legitimate World Series contenders again.

"I thought something would be done," Maddon said. "I thought, 'OK, Jake won't be back but we will replace Jake in a good way.' I knew what our game plan was."

In Chicago, oddly, the Cubs are the only professional sports team with a plan to win now. Optimism oozes at White Sox camp in Glendale, Ariz., because of all the terrific prospects, but they would be happy to win 75 games. The Bears hired a new, 39-year-old coach, allowing the franchise to hit reset yet again. The Bulls picked their lane in June by trading All-Star Jimmy Butler to begin a rebuild that appears promising — for 2020. The Blackhawks can't end their disappointing season soon enough so real changes can re-establish them as viable Stanley Cup contenders someday.

So when Ricketts speaks with urgency absent from Chicago's other teams and backs it up with big investments, it resonates even more. It should be appreciated when a big-market team refuses to think small and actually behaves like one, aggressively addressing weaknesses to go after another title.

Remember that next offseason before concluding the Cubs can't be part of the bidding for free agents Bryce Harper or Manny Machado. Under Ricketts, the Cubs let results dictate their approach rather than the other way around. The 2017 season exposed concerns over starting pitching and the bullpen, so the Cubs made it a priority to solve both problems.

Besides Darvish, the Cubs earlier upgraded the No. 5 spot in their rotation by signing free agent Tyler Chatwood, who replaces John Lackey, to a three-year, $38 million deal. They also bought two new arms to bolster the back end of the bullpen: Brandon Morrow and Steve Cishek. But Maddon believes the organization's positive vibe began to build during the pursuit of Shohei Ohtani, the double-threat Japanese player the Cubs met with in early December in Los Angeles. The Cubs contingent included pitcher Kyle Hendricks.

"You talk about a team coming together," Maddon said of the front-office presentation. "There was a real strong bonding and sense of camaraderie about all that."

The Blackhawks organization rebuilt itself under Chairman Rocky Wirtz by breaking down barriers, bringing hockey and business operations into the same rooms for the same meetings to chase the same goals. The Cubs have copied that corporate synergy under their own man-of-the-people chairman motivated most by the pursuit of another title — whatever the cost. Every idea is welcome from anyone in the Cubs organization, every possibility is considered and every door is always open.

That's how you keep a championship window from closing.

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NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cubs catcher Willson Contreras, with pitcher Jon Lester, frequently visits the mound.

Less chatting, more batting

Manfred says fans want quicker game, but Contreras may not be playing along

Paul Sullivan
On baseball

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Commissioner Rob Manfred insists Major League Baseball research shows that speeding up the pace of games is a "fan issue" of the utmost importance.

"The independent research that our broadcast partners do confirms the fact that it is a fan issue," he said Tuesday at Major League Baseball's annual Cactus League media day at the Glendale Civic Center.

Manfred didn't provide any statistics or studies to show that, so we'll just have to take his word for it.

He added "it's less of an issue in the ballpark" than for those watching on TV, so evidently you can blame it on your clicker and 200 channels.

Either way, change is on the way, with the first salvo coming in 2018 with the new rule limiting teams to six mound visits per team during games.

It's not called the Willson Contreras rule, but it might as well be.

Contreras, the outspoken Cubs catcher who enjoys a nice chat with his pitcher every now and then, told reporters in Mesa, Ariz., he didn't care about the rule and suggested he would do whatever he wants.

That's Willson.

"He only has had 1½ years in the league, so he doesn't have any old habits to break," Cubs general manger Jed Hoyer said. "I don't see it being a big problem. The veteran guys, I think, will probably have a harder time changing those kinds of habits."

All the talk about the pace-of-play rules has overshadowed the controversy of the slow free-agent market and the increasing number of "tanking" teams, which Manfred deftly answered in pointing out the Twins, Rockies, Brewers and Diamondbacks all were criticized before last season for not doing enough to try to win.

"To refresh your recollection, three out of those four teams made it to the postseason, and the other one (Brewers) was in the hunt all the way to September," he said. "It's not always transparent what the plan is for winning."

But the bigger discussion Tuesday was on the new mound visit rule, which is meant to speed up the game and eliminate some down time.

There is still some confusion about the rule, which was announced Monday. Even Manfred was confused, telling the media a pitcher would have to be removed from the game on a seventh visit, even if it was from a catcher or infielder.

MLB executive Joe Torre later corrected Manfred, saying it would have to be a manager or pitching coach making the seventh visit for the removal of the pitcher. If a catcher or infielder tried to go out to the mound, an umpire simply would stop them.

"The umpires aren't looking to discipline people," Torre said.

Torre said he expects stadiums to show the number of visits of each team on their scoreboards, though the rule is still a work in progress, and there are numerous exceptions.

I told Torre if they banned walk-up music they could save more time as every hitter waits until his song is done to get into the batter's box. Torre laughed and replied they would instruct teams to keep the songs to "one stanza."

One manager told me Tuesday that he and his coaches already have been working on ways to circumvent the mound rule, which was music to my ears. If there's one constant in baseball over the last century or so, it's that everyone always is looking for better ways to get around a rule. The only difference now is the technology is better.

Giants manager Bruce Bochy, a former catcher, said it's about time.

"It's going to help, you'll see," Bochy said. "You look back to the seventh game of the World Series. It was a tremendous World Series, but you, know, sixty-something visits to the mound ..."

It's going to change the game, obviously, because catchers going out to the mound to talk to pitchers is as natural to players as spitting and adjusting themselves.

The movie "Bull Durham" wouldn't have been a classic without Crash Davis visiting Nuke LaLoosh on the mound and discussing where to get a live rooster to take the curse off Jose's glove and what to get Jimmy and Milly for a wedding present.

"I went to the mound a lot as a catcher, no doubt," Angels manager Mike Scioscia admitted.

So will managers now have to start yelling at pitchers from the dugout?

"No, we'll have visuals," Scioscia said. "Like (motioning) 'Fake your leg is broken.' We'll have a bunch of 'em. Don't worry."

Scioscia was joking, I think.

I guess we'll find out soon enough.

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BULLS

NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Lauri Markkanen, left, and Zach LaVine, right, will be joined by younger players in a revamped Bulls starting lineup.

'Big-picture' view plants team's vets on bench

Lopez, Holiday, Grant to see little time for rest of season

By K.C. Johnson | Chicago Tribune

Robin Lopez, Justin Holiday and Jerian Grant are out. Cristiano Felicio, David Nwaba and Cameron Payne are in.

And the Bulls' rebuild remains centered on Zach LaVine, Kris Dunn and Lauri Markkanen.

That's the gist of executive vice president John Paxson's message to both his team and reporters before Tuesday's first post-All-Star break practice at Advocate Center.

Call it player development. Call it tanking. Call it both or whatever you want.

To Paxson, it's called good business for the final 25 games.

"You can't play 12 guys in our game. Nine or 10 is the most. And it's just the position we're in as a young team, 20-37, with a lot of young guys and several who we haven't really had the chance to see play much this year," Paxson said. "For us to make the proper evaluation in terms of who fits us moving forward, this is something we have to do."

Felicio and Nwaba will start alongside Dunn, LaVine and Markkanen on Thursday against the 76ers and, in Paxson's words, for "a sufficient time" moving forward, though he called the situation fluid. Payne will play backup point guard to Dunn over Grant, who will sit. Lopez and Holiday also will be cheerleading.

"Having played, I was out of the rotation several times. I know what it's like to be asked to take a lesser role," Paxson said. "Players have pride. So it's hard. I don't take that lightly at all.

"But we have to look at the big picture. And that's what we're doing. It's not easy as players. But one thing I've been impressed by with this group all year is they've bonded together, they like one another and they support one another. I don't see that changing."

Paxson cited the development of Bobby Portis and Denzel Valentine as examples of what can happen when young players are given consistent minutes and opportunity. Nevertheless, Felicio has regressed this season and Payne's force-fed rotational turn last season fared poorly.

"What you hope for from a player standpoint is they gain some confidence in who they are, get comfortable on the floor and play well. I still think we have a lot of really good young talent," Paxson said. "I think the exciting thing for us is for the first time we're going to have a healthy Zach, Lauri and Kris. They're obviously the core."

Along those lines, Paxson said he planned to talk to LaVine and the Bulls' medical team about LaVine possibly playing the second leg of back-to-back games. The Bulls have four more such sets.

And both Paxson and Hoiberg said Dunn no longer would be on the 20-minute limit that marked his lone game before the break following his 11-game absence with a concussion. Hoiberg added the Bulls would be "smart" about Dunn's usage in the initial post-break games.

As for Payne, who underwent a second surgery on a bone in his right foot last September, Paxson said the goal is simple.

"Especially when you're running with the second unit and the way Fred wants to play, play with pace, defend your position, compete every night and stay within yourself," Paxson said. "His role is to get us into offense quickly and efficiently and make the right play with the ball.

"He got some G League games in, which was helpful for his conditioning. But he hasn't played basketball for a long time. And just as we talked about with Zach, there are going to be some ups and downs. Guys have to play through mistakes. But Cam has to run our team. We saw once Kris Dunn got his confidence and swagger back, he did a great job of running our team. That's what Cam has to do in a backup role."

Hoiberg is an organizational guy who has embraced his role in the rebuild following the trade of Jimmy Butler. Nevertheless, he's now in a position where, unlike most coaches, he's being told by management whom to play.

"I understand where we are right now as an organization," Hoiberg said. "From my standpoint, it doesn't change our approach. And that's the important message to our players. We have to have great practices and great competition and play extremely hard once we step on the floor.

"We're going to try to put a game plan together to give our team an opportunity to compete to win. That doesn't change."

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COLLEGES

JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Pantelis Xidias riles up his teammates before the Blue Demons' game against St. John's on Feb. 14

Xidias is life of party

DePaul, *from Page 1*

"I'm just being myself and being energetic," Xidias told the Tribune with a shrug and, of course, a smile.

His name is not on DePaul's stat sheet. He has scored no points, taken no shots. In fact, the freshman hasn't left the bench during a game all season.

But if you've tuned in to a DePaul game, you've likely been mesmerized by the antics of the wound-up 5-foot-9 walk-on.

"I never plan anything," Xidias said after a recent practice. "I see a dunk by Brandon (Cyrus) or Max Strus hits a 3, (and) I go crazy. I love it. I can't control how much I'll play. I can't control how tall I'll be. The one thing I can do is control how much energy I give everybody else."

The Wintrust Arena crowd may be quietly resigned to an impending loss and most of his teammates may be sitting glumly, but it makes no difference to Xidias. He has become the Flavor Flav of college basketball.

With DePaul (10-16, 3-11) enduring yet another gloomy season at the bottom of the Big East and discontent among fans and alumni seemingly on the rise, Xidias' effervescent disposition is an appreciated contrast.

Coach Dave Leitao said other teams have expressed interest in Xidias as a transfer purely for his enthusiasm.

"His voice is always loud," Leitao said. "He's always energetic. (He provides) encouragement and he picks guys up. There's no off button, which is a beautiful thing. You get a true friend. You get a true person."

Xidias traces his upbeat attitude to his immigrant family's history of persevering with a smile through tough times.

He has been a spinning top since birth. As a toddler, he ran around the family's Michigan City, Ind., home with a basketball, obsessed with "Space Jam."

"This guy!" his dad, George Xidias, said with a laugh. "When he was 2, he was climbing out of the crib and coming down the stairs. He was a handful."

> ***"I can't control how much I'll play. ... The one thing I can do is control how much energy I give everybody else."***
>
> *— DePaul's Pantelis Xidias*

Pantelis could feel disappointed with his lack of game time. Before his senior year at La Lumiere School in La Porte, Ind., when he moved up to a competitive travel team, he played frequently, averaging double-digit points.

But pessimism isn't part of the family ethos.

His mom, Dawn Finnie, originally from Boston, works as a craps dealer at Four Winds Casino in New Buffalo, Mich. George, who emigrated from Greece in 1970, taught his four children to find happiness no matter their circumstances and to feel pride in working for their dreams.

George grew up in what he called the "projects" in Greece with six siblings during national economic upheaval. His father, who was exiled back to Greece from Turkey as a refugee, worked tirelessly at the shipping yards, away from the family for years at a time.

"My mother would say, 'You see this dish? Your father bought this. Don't break this dish,' " George said. " 'This food you're eating? It's because of your father.' I always felt like he was there."

George's parents moved to the United States in the late 1960s to get settled and raise money. As a 9-year-old, he joined them and grew up peeling potatoes and washing dishes in a family-run restaurant for 20 hours a day.

"We found out all you had to do was work to make money," he said. "We got up at 4 in the morning and went home around midnight. But we were extremely happy."

George now owns an automotive repair business and works in real estate.

"I see (my dad) persevering through things," said Pantelis, who speaks fluent Greek and takes a family trip to Greece each summer. "I see him working hard."

No, Pantelis' lesson in perseverance isn't as extreme as his father's. But he came to grips with not playing and made a commitment to relish his bench role.

"(People are) all really happy I'm out here and they see I'm enjoying life, which I am," he said. "There are people who say, 'Why are you doing this? You don't play that much. You're just a cheerleader.' That's OK. I appreciate it all. It's cool. There's a lot to be happy about."

He doesn't dress for every game or travel for every road game. But he'll keep dancing on the sideline, hyping up his teammates.

"He lifts our spirits," said Cyrus, who also played with Xidias at La Lumiere. "You know he's not going to be down if we're doing bad. He just wants us to have energy and be happy."

It's what Xidias' family taught him.

"Sometimes he's on the bench. Sometimes he's behind the bench. Just be proud. Be proud of what you've accomplished," George said. "There's always a positive to every negative. Sometimes you have to look really hard to find the positive, but in time you will see. So he found the positive."

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Louisville forced to vacate title

But school president objects to NCAA ruling in wake of sex scandal

By Gary B. Graves
Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Louisville officials are not happy with the NCAA's decision that mandates the school vacate its 2013 men's basketball championship in the wake of an embarrassing sex scandal, and interim President Greg Postel did not hide his disappointment.

It's the first time a Division I men's basketball program has been stripped of a national title. While acknowledging the scandal was unacceptable, Postel believes the school's cooperation with the NCAA should have counted for more than it did.

Instead, Louisville announced Tuesday that an NCAA appeals panel had upheld sanctions against the program. As a result, the Cardinals have to vacate not only the championship but also 122 other victories and return about $600,000 in conference revenue from the 2012-15 NCAA tournaments.

"I cannot say this strongly enough: We believe the NCAA is simply wrong," Postel said. "We disagree with the NCAA ruling for reasons we clearly stated in our appeal. And we made a strong case — based on NCAA precedent — that supported our argument."

Louisville may have presented a strong case, but the NCAA had its own convictions.

The decision by the governing body's Infraction Appeals Committee ruled that the NCAA has the authority to take away championships for what it considers major rule violations. In the eight-page decision, the NCAA also refuted Louisville's position that the governing body exceeded its boundaries and didn't follow its own precedent established in other cases.

Louisville now must forfeit its third NCAA title, victories and income from 2011-15, part of the time frame during which the violations occurred. The decision is the culmination of the NCAA's investigation that followed allegations in a 2015 book by escort Katina Powell that former Cardinals basketball staffer Andre McGee hired her and other dancers to strip and have sex with recruits.

Former coach Rick Pitino repeatedly denied knowing about the activities described in Powell's book, but the blemish on the program will never be forgotten after Tuesday's sanctions.

Besides taking down the red-and-white banner that hung beside the American flag and two other title flags in the Cardinals' downtown arena, Louisville must erase wins before and after that championship along with other records.

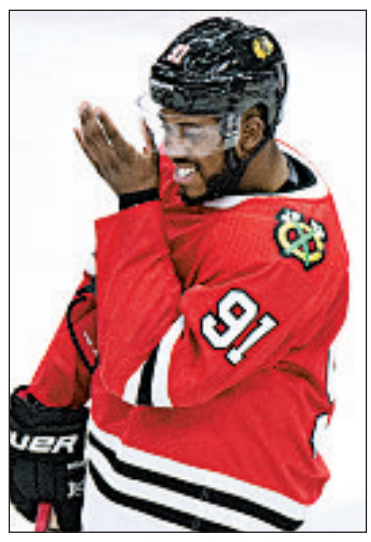
That process started almost immediately. Basketball spokesman Kenny Klein confirmed that both the 2013 title and 2012 Final Four banners had been removed from the rafters at the KFC Yum! Center.

BLACKHAWKS

Duclair itches to no longer be scratched

But forward says he hasn't been 'consistent enough' for ice time

By Paul Skrbina
Chicago Tribune



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Anthony Duclair saw no ice time in three of the Hawks' last four games as a healthy scratch.

The more things have changed for Anthony Duclair, the more some things have gone back to being the same on the ice.

That's not what the 22-year-old Blackhawks forward expected when the Coyotes traded him at his request in early January. Duclair said then he needed a "change of scenery," and he went from being a healthy scratch 10 times with the Coyotes to skating on the top line for a team that, at the time, was contending for a playoff spot.

For three of the last four games, though, Duclair has gone back to being a healthy scratch for a last-place team.

"When I was in Arizona, I felt I earned more ice time, especially with the situation we were in — in last place, struggling to find goals and some wins," said Duclair, who has one goal and no assists in his last eight games.

"I was producing. I was playing with the top line, good players. It was a different situation then."

But the situation now is similar to the one he thought he left behind in the desert when the Hawks dealt Richard Panik for Duclair.

The playoffs are but a pipe dream. Duclair's ice time has decreased. His team is struggling to score (two or fewer goals in 14 of 18 games) and win (one victory in the last 10 games).

One difference is Duclair was quick to blame himself for his recent struggles. He described his play with the Hawks as "up and down."

"Right now, I don't deserve it as much," he said of playing time. "That's why I'm not playing as much.

"When you're struggling as a team, you look at yourself individually. You ask yourself what you can do better to help the team. I don't think I've been consistent enough, and that's why my ice time has started diminishing. You have to really earn it."

Coach Joel Quenneville said Duclair will return to the lineup Wednesday against the Senators. While he agreed with Duclair's self-assessment, Quenneville said he's hardly the only Hawk guilty of not playing up to expectations.

"Tough to measure when minutes were down," Quenneville said. "We've had a number of guys who are playing comparably. ... The pace and playing (on) both sides of the puck, and that consistency."

Duclair played just 7 minutes, 59 seconds Thursday against the Ducks during the Hawks' seventh of eight defeats in a row. In the 13 games before that, he averaged more than 14 ½ minutes.

General manager Stan Bowman sang Duclair's praises when the deal was announced Jan. 10. Bowman acknowledged that after a successful start to Duclair's career — 20 goals and 24 assists in his first full season in 2015-16 — he had fallen off a bit.

"He's the sort of player (who) embodies what the NHL is all about now in terms of speed and his ability to put the puck in the net," Bowman said.

Except it hasn't worked out that way. Duclair has just two goals and three assists since joining the Hawks, a cause, he said, for some self-reflection.

"That's how you're going to get better," Duclair said. "No one's harder on me than me. When I have a bad game, I take that pretty seriously and do whatever it takes to make sure it doesn't happen again."

Duclair unintentionally found himself in the spotlight off the ice this week when he spoke out against the actions of four fans who were ejected from the United Center on Saturday for directing racist taunts at a black Capitals player.

Still, the restricted free agent-to-be said he hopes to remain with the Hawks after this season.

"I'd love to stay here long term — it's a great place to play," Duclair said.

"You look at all the talent that's coming up, not only on this team but in the American (Hockey) League, (and) it's a bright future."

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SENATORS AT BLACKHAWKS
TV/radio: 7 p.m. Wednesday; NBCSCH, WGN-AM 720.
Storylines: Neither team has much to play for other than pride. The Hawks (25-27-8) are last in the Central Division, while the Senators (21-28-9) are second-to-last in the Atlantic.
Trending: The Hawks have lost nine of 10 overall and eight of nine at home. The Senators have won two of three.

BLACKHAWKS NOTES

Quenneville not used to playing spoiler role

By Paul Skrbina
Chicago Tribune

Spoiler alert: The Blackhawks pretty much have resigned themselves to the fact they're more likely to play spoiler than playoff contender.

Losers of nine of their last 10, the Hawks were 13 points and four teams behind the second wild-card spot in the Western Conference after Monday night's 3-1 loss to the Kings.

Barring a miracle, the Hawks will miss the playoffs for the first time in 10 seasons.

During his previous 20 seasons as a head coach in the NHL, none of **Joel Quenneville's** teams has finished lower than fourth in its division. The Hawks are last — seventh — in the Central.

None of his teams ever finished below .500. The Hawks are 25-27-8.

Only twice during his career have Quenneville's teams failed to make the playoffs.

"I don't know if I've ever been in this role (of playing spoiler)," Quenneville said. "It's nothing to get excited about. ... It's fun finding different ways to win. That's what we're striving to do. Let's try to find it and put all the pieces together."

Crawford update: Quenneville said injured goalie **Corey Crawford** "hasn't been on (the ice) in the last while." Crawford did skate with teammates a bit during a morning skate Feb. 12 in Arizona but hasn't returned to such workouts since.

When asked whether his absence from the ice could be called a setback, Quenneville was coy.

"Call it what you will," he said. "When he gets on the ice again, we'll get a better idea. He could be getting close to getting back there."

Quenneville said the team hasn't decided yet whether to try to play Crawford, who has been on injured reserve since Dec. 27 with a reported concussion-related injury, this season.

"That's tough to say," he said. "Him being 100 percent, I'm sure that will make that decision for us."

Murray to be honored: Hawks radio analyst **Troy Murray** will be the latest team alum to participate in "One More Shift" before Wednesday's game against the Senators at the United Center.

The third-round pick of the Hawks in the 1980 draft, Murray played parts of 12 seasons with the team, for which he had 197 goals and 291 assists in 688 games. Murray, who has been part of the Hawks radio team for 18 years, played 15 seasons in the NHL and finished with 230 goals and 354 assists and won a Stanley Cup with the Avalanche in 1996.

Bryan Bickell, **Al Secord** and **Eric Daze** previously have been honored with "One More Shift" this season.

SCOREBOARD

CALENDAR

TEAM	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE
Cubs			EXH @MIL 2:05	EXH TEX 2:05 AM-670	EXH @SF 2:05	EXH SEA 2:05	EXH SOX 2:05 WGN-9
White Sox			EXH @LAD 2:05 AM-720	EXH @SEA 2:10	EXH CIN 2:05	EXH OAK 2:05	EXH @CUBS 2:05 AM-720
Bulls		PHI 7 NBCSCH AM-670		@MIN 8 WGN-9 AM-670		@BRK 6:30 WGN-9 AM-670	@CHA 6 NBCSCH AM-670
Blackhawks	OTT 7 NBCSCH AM-720		SJ 7:30 WGN-9 AM-720	@CBJ 6 NBCSCH AM-720			

WEDNESDAY ON TV/RADIO

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

5:30 p.m.	Seton Hall at Providence	FS1
6 p.m.	Michigan at Penn State	BTN
6 p.m.	North Carolina at Syracuse	ESPN
6 p.m.	Georgia Tech at Virginia	ESPN2
6 p.m.	Texas Tech at Oklahoma State	ESPNU
6:30 p.m.	Tulane at Wichita State	CBSSN
7 p.m.	Bradley at Missouri State	NBCSCH+
7:30 p.m.	DePaul at Villanova	FS1, WSCR-AM 670
8 p.m.	Iowa at Minnesota	BTN
8 p.m.	Louisville at Duke	ESPN, WMVP-AM 1000
8 p.m.	Florida at Tennessee	ESPN2
8 p.m.	Texas at Kansas State	ESPNU
8 p.m.	Central Florida at Tulsa	ESPNews
8:30 p.m.	San Diego State at Air Force	CBSSN
9:30 p.m.	USC at Colorado	FS1

GOLF

Midnight	LPGA Honda Thailand	Golf Channel

NHL

7 p.m.	Senators at Blackhawks	NBCSCH, NHLN, AM-720

AHL

10 a.m.	Devils at Marlies	NHLN

WINTER OLYMPICS

6:10 a.m.	Men's hockey quarterfinal	USA
6:10 a.m.	Men's hockey quarterfinal	NBCSN
7 p.m.	Skiing, bobsled, cross country	NBC-5
9:40 p.m.	Women's hockey gold medal game	NBCSN
10:40 p.m.	Alpine skiing	NBC-5
1 a.m. Thu.	Snowboard, Nordic combined	NBCSN
4:20 a.m. Thu.	Nordic combined, biathlon	NBCSN

UEFA SOCCER

10:50 a.m.	Europa, Red Star Belgrade at CSKA Moscow	FS2
1:30 p.m.	Champions, Manchester United at Sevilla	FS1

TENNIS

10:30 a.m.	ATP Delray Beach, Rio de Janeiro	Tennis (more, 6:30 p.m.)

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY'S SCHEDULE
Arizona State vs. Arizona; Scottsdale, Ariz., 2:10

THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE
Florida Southern vs. Detroit; Lakeland, Fla., 12:05
U. of Tampa vs. Philadelphia; Clearwater, Fla., 12:05
Northeastern vs. Boston; Fort Myers, Fla., 12:05
Boston College vs. Boston; Fort Myers, Fla., 2
U. of Minnesota vs. Minnesota; Fort Myers, Fla., 5:05

FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE
Grapefruit League
St. Louis vs. Miami; Jupiter, Fla., 12:05
Washington vs. Houston; Palm Beach, Fla., 12:05
Detroit vs. NY Yankees; Tampa, Fla., 12:05
Tampa Bay (ss) vs. Baltimore; Sarasota, Fla., 12:05
Pittsburgh vs. Tampa Bay (ss); Port Charlotte, Fla., 12:05
Minnesota vs. Boston; Fort Myers, Fla., 12:05
Philadelphia vs. Toronto; Dunedin, Fla., 12:07
Atlanta vs. NY Mets; Port St. Lucie, Fla., 12:15
Cactus League
Cubs vs. Milwaukee (ss); Phoenix, 2:05
White Sox vs. LA Dodgers; Glendale, Ariz., 2:05
LA Angels vs. Oakland; Mesa, Ariz., 2:05
Milwaukee (ss) vs. San Francisco; Scottsdale, Ariz., 2:05
Cincinnati vs. Cleveland; Goodyear, Ariz., 2:05
Arizona vs. Colorado; Scottsdale, Ariz., 2:10
Seattle vs. San Diego; Peoria, Ariz., 2:10

SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE
Grapefruit League
Washington vs. Miami; Jupiter, Fla., 12:05
Atlanta vs. Hou.; Palm Beach, Fla., 12:05
Toronto vs. Detroit; Lakeland, Fla., 12:05
Tampa Bay vs. Bos.; Ft Myers, Fla., 12:05
Baltimore (ss) vs. Philadelphia; Clearwater, Fla., 12:05
NY Yankees vs. Pit; Bradenton, Fla., 12:05
St. Louis vs. NY Mets; Port St. Lucie, Fla., 12:10
Minnesota vs. Baltimore (ss); Sarasota, Fla., 5:05
Cactus League
Texas vs. **Cubs**; Mesa, Ariz., 2:05
White Sox vs. Seattle; Peoria, Ariz., 3:10
LA Dodgers (ss) vs. Kansas City; Surprise, Ariz., 2:05
San Diego vs. Oakland; Mesa, Ariz., 2:05
Colorado vs. Cincinnati; Goodyear, Ariz., 2:05
San Francisco vs. LA Dodgers (ss); Glendale, Ariz., 2 :05
Milw. vs. LA Angels; Tempe, Ariz., 2:05
Clev. vs. Arizona; Scottsdale, Ariz., 2:10

SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE
Grapefruit League
Houston vs. St. Louis; Jupiter, Fla., 12:05
Atlanta vs. Washington; Palm Beach, Fla., 12:05
Pittsburgh vs. Detroit (ss); Lakeland, Fla., 12:05
NY Yankees vs. Phila.; Clearwater, Fla., 12:05
Baltimore vs. Boston; Fort Myers, Fla., 12:05
Tampa Bay vs. Minnesota; Fort Myers, Fla., 12:05
Detroit (ss) vs. Toronto; Dunedin, Fla., 12:07
Miami vs. NY Mets; Port St. Lucie, Fla., 12:10
Cactus League
Cubs vs. San Fran.; Scottsdale, Ariz., 2 :05
Cin. (ss) vs. **White Sox;** Glendale, Ariz., 2:05
Kansas City vs. Oakland; Mesa, Ariz., 2:05
Colorado vs. Texas; Surprise, Ariz., 2:05
Cleveland vs. Cincinnati (ss); Goodyear, Ariz., 2:05
Milwaukee vs. Ari. at Scottsdale, Ariz., 2:10
San Diego vs. LA Angels at Tempe, Ariz., 2:10
LA Dodgers vs. Seattle; Peoria, Ariz., 2:10

AHL

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OL	SOL	PT	GF	GA
Manitoba	32	14	4	3	71	182	130
Iowa	26	16	7	3	62	165	159
G. Rapids	28	18	1	6	63	171	153
WOLVES	26	17	6	2	60	158	144
Milwaukee	25	21	4	1	55	144	162
Rockford	25	22	3	3	56	162	166
Cleveland	17	27	4	3	41	124	167

2 pt for win, 1 pt for OT/shootout loss.

TUESDAY: No games scheduled.
WEDNESDAY'S SCHEDULE
Wolves at Grand Rapids, 6
Binghamton at Toronto, 10 a.m.
Lehigh Valley at Utica, 6
Stockton at Cleveland, 6
Syracuse at Rochester, 6:05
Milwaukee at Manitoba, 7
San Jose at Ontario, 9
THURSDAY: No games scheduled.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Boston: Traded OF Bryce Brentz to Pittsburgh for cash.
Minnesota: Placed RHP Trevor May on the 60-day DL. Agreed to terms with RHP Anibal Sanchez on a one-year contract.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Arizona: Placed RHP Shelby Miller on the 60-day DL.
Atlanta: Designated RHP Mauricio Cabrera for assignment. Agreed to terms with RHP Peter Moylan.
Pittsburgh: Placed RHP Nick Burdi on the 60-day DL.
San Francisco: Designated RHP Joan Gregorio for assignment.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
Charlotte: Fired general manager Rich Cho.

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Houston: Released LB Brian Cushing.
Jacksonville: Exercised their 2018 options on TE Marcedes Lewis and OL Tyler Shatley and Josh Wells.
Tampa Bay: Released RB Doug Martin.
Tennessee: Agreed to terms with PK Ryan Succop on a multi-year contract extension.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
Calgary: Reassigned F Morgan Klimchuk to Stockton (AHL).
Detroit: Recalled G Jared Coreau from Grand Rapids (AHL).
N.Y. Rangers: Traded D Nick Holden to Boston for D Rob O'Gara and a 2018 third-round draft pick.
Toronto: Traded F Eric Fehr to San Jose for a 2020 seventh-round draft pick.
Vancouver: Signed D Erik Gudbranson to a three-year contract extension.
AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE
AHL: Suspended Syracuse F Alex Gallant two games.

SOCCER

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER
Seattle: Signed M/F Lamar Neagle and G Calle Brown.

COLLEGE

NCAA: Upheld sanctions on Louisville's men's basketball program, which include vacating its 2013 NCAA championship and 123 victories between 2012-15.
Michigan: Named Jim McElwain wide receivers coach.
Mississippi State: Announced the resignation of baseball coach Andy Cannizaro. Promoted pitching coach Gary Henderson to interim head coach.
Penn State: Promoted trainer Renee Messina to assistant athletic director for athletic training services.

LATEST LINE

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

pregame.com		WEDNESDAY
Xavier	5½	at Georgetown
at Providence	1½	Seton Hall
at S. Carolina	1½	Georgia
at Indiana St	4½	Evansville
at UMass	Pk	Va Common.
at St. Joseph's	7	George Mason
at Penn St	3½	Michigan
Texas Tech	5	at Oklahoma St
at Geo.Wash.	2½	Richmond
at Davidson	18½	Fordham
N. Carolina	5½	at Syracuse
at St. Bonav.	12	Duquesne
at Virginia	20½	Georgia Tech
at Virginia Tech	2½	Clemson
SMU	7	at East Carolina
at Wichita St	20½	Tulane
at Illinois St	2½	Drake
Loyola	3	at S. Illinois
TCU	4½	at Iowa St
at Missouri St	5	Bradley
at Auburn	8½	Alabama
at Villanova	20½	DePaul
at Marquette	5	St. John's
at Kansas St	4	Texas
Wake Forest	7	at Pittsburgh
at Tulsa	2½	UCF
at Duke	12	Louisville
at Minnesota	2½	Iowa
at Tennessee	5	Florida
Boise St	8	at Colorado St
San Diego St	8½	at Air Force
Cal St.-Fullerton	4	at UC Riverside
at UNLV	1	Fresno St
at Nevada	23½	San Jose St
USC	2½	at Colorado

NHL

		WEDNESDAY
at **Blackhawks**	-166	Ottawa +156
at Anaheim	off	Dallas off
at Vegas	off	Calgary off

SOCCER

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

CLUB	W	T	L	GF	GA	PTS
Man City	23	3	1	79	20	72
Man United	17	5	5	51	19	56
Liverpool	15	9	3	61	31	54
Chelsea	16	5	6	49	23	53
Tottenham	15	7	5	52	24	52
Arsenal	13	6	8	51	36	45
Burnley	9	9	9	21	24	36
Leicester	9	8	10	39	40	35
Everton	9	7	11	32	46	34
Bournemouth	8	7	12	31	41	31
Watford	8	6	13	37	47	30
West Ham	7	9	11	34	46	30
Newcastle	7	7	13	25	36	28
Brighton	6	10	11	22	36	28
Crystal Palace	6	9	12	25	42	27
Swansea	7	6	14	20	37	27
Huddersfield	7	6	14	23	47	27
Southampton	5	11	11	28	40	26
Stoke	6	7	14	27	53	25
West Brom	3	11	13	21	40	20

SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE
Leicester vs. Stoke, 6:30 a.m.
Burnley vs. Southampton, 9 a.m.
Bournemouth vs. Newcastle, 9 a.m.
Brighton vs. Swansea, 9 a.m.
West Brom vs. Huddersfield, 9 a.m.
Liverpool vs. West Ham, 9 a.m.
Watford vs. Everton, 11:30 a.m.
SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE
Man United vs. Chelsea, 8:05 a.m.

2018 U.S. SOCCER SCHEDULE
TUESDAY, MARCH 27
vs. Paraguay at Cary, N.C., 6

TENNIS

WTA DUBAI DUTY FREE CHAMPIONSHIPS
R1 at Dubai, U.A.E.; hard-outdoors
#5 Caroline Garcia d. L. Safarova, 6-3, 7-5
#6 Angelique Kerber d. Barbora Strycova, 6-2, 6-1
CiCi Bellis d. Elise Mertens, 6-3, 6-3
Wang Qiang d. Kiki Bertens, 6-3, 6-0
Anett Kontaveit d. Sam Stosur, 1-6, 6-2, 6-4
Carla Suarez Navarro d. Sofya Zhuk, 6-2, 6-2
Sara Errani d. Lesia Tsurenko, 6-4, 6-3

WTA HUNGARIAN GRAND PRIX
R1 in Budapest, Hungary; outdoor-clay
Viktoria Kuzmova d. #4 S. Cirstea, 6-4, 6-2
#5 Mihaela Buzarnescu d. Lara Arruabarrena, 7-6 (5), 6-1.
#7 Aleksandra Krunic d. Georgina Garcia Perez, 6-2, 6-4.
#8 Donna Vekic d. P. Upvardy, 6-3, 6-3.
Aliaksandra Sasnovich d.. Roberta Vinci, 6-3, 6-3.
Ysaline Bonaventure d. Sara Sorribes Tormo, 6-0, 6-0.
Johanna Larsson d. M. Frech, 6-1, 7-5 (5).

ATP DELRAY INTERNATIONAL
R1 at Delray Beach, Fla.; hard-outdoor
Taylor Fritz d.
#4 Sam Querrey, 2-6, 6-3, 7-6 (4)
#6 John Isner d. Radu Albot, 5-7, 6-3, 6-4
#9 Milos Raonic d. Taro Daniel, 6-1, 7-5
Reilly Opelka d. Ryan Harrison, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (6)
Peter Gojowczyk d. L. Lacko, 3-6, 7-5, 6-1
Steve Johnson d. Nikoloz Basilashvili, 6-3, 6-4
Franko Skugor d. Alexander Bublik, 6-2, 7-5
Jared Donaldson d. Peter Polansky, 7-6 (6), 6-1
Evgeny Donskoy d. Darian King, 6-4, 6-2
D. Shapovalov d. I. Karlovic, 7-5, 7-6 (4)
Mikhail Youzhny d. Dudi Sela, 7-5, 6-4

ATP OPEN 13 PROVENCE
R1 at Marseille, France; hard-indoor
#8 Filip Krajinovic d. Joao Sousa, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4
#9 Karen Khachanov d. Ruben Bemelmans, 6-3, 7-6 (2)
Ilya Ivashka d. Laslo Djere, 6-3, 6-1
S. Travaglia d. H. Gaston, 6-2, 6-2
G. Simon d. M. Marterer, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (4)
Pierre-Hugues Herbert d. Norbert Gombos, 6-2, 7-6 (3)

ATP RIO OPEN
R1 at Rio de Janeiro; clay-outdoor
#3 Pablo Carreno Busta d. Marco Cecchinato, 6-4, 6-1
#6 Diego Schwartzman d. Casper Ruud, 4-1 retired
#7 Pablo Cuevas d. Thiago Monteiro, 6-7 (5), 7-6 (10), 6-3
Nicolas Kicker d. Victor Estrella Burgos, 6-3, 6-3
Pablo Andujar d. Gerald Melzer, 7-5, 6-2
F. Delbonis d. J. Vesely, 6-3, 3-2 retired
Aljaz Bedene d. Andreas Haider-Maurer, 7-5, 6-0
Gael Monfils d. H. Zeballos, 7-5, 3-6, 7-5

NBA G LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION	W	L	PCT	GB
Fort Wayne	21	15	.583	—
Grand Rapids	20	18	.526	2
Wisconsin	17	20	.459	4½
WINDY CITY	16	20	.444	5
Canton	14	23	.378	7½

TUESDAY: No games scheduled.
WEDNESDAY'S SCHEDULE
Delaware at **Windy City**, 10 a.m.
Greensboro at Lakeland, 10 a.m.
Oklahoma City at Canton, 6
Maine at Long Island, 6
Erie at Raptors, 6
Iowa at Westchester, 6
Northern Arizona at Memphis, 7
Austin at Texas, 7
Fort Wayne at Wisconsin, 7
Salt Lake City at Reno, 9
THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE
South Bay at Agua Caliente, 9

NHL

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA	HOME	AWAY	DIV
Nashville	59	36	14	9	81	185	154	20-7-3	16-7-6	11-4-2
Winnipeg	60	35	16	9	79	199	161	23-6-2	12-10-7	9-6-2
Dallas	59	34	21	4	72	179	157	21-9-1	13-12-3	10-10-0
St. Louis	61	34	23	4	72	173	156	19-13-0	15-10-4	9-6-2
Minnesota	59	32	20	7	71	177	169	20-5-6	12-15-1	10-9-0
Colorado	59	31	23	4	68	184	177	20-8-1	12-15-3	7-9-1
BLACKHAWKS	60	25	27	8	58	170	173	13-14-3	12-13-5	6-9-2
PACIFIC	**GP**	**W**	**L**	**OT**	**PTS**	**GF**	**GA**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**DIV**
Vegas	59	39	16	4	82	202	160	22-5-2	17-11-2	14-2-1
San Jose	60	33	19	8	74	178	163	17-9-3	16-10-5	15-4-3
Los Angeles	60	33	22	5	71	174	149	14-9-3	19-13-2	8-9-3
Anaheim	61	30	20	11	71	169	170	15-9-4	15-11-7	10-5-6
Calgary	60	30	21	9	69	169	175	13-14-4	17-7-5	8-6-3
Vancouver	59	23	30	7	53	161	194	11-15-4	12-15-3	5-10-1
Edmonton	59	24	31	4	52	164	194	12-15-2	12-16-2	10-7-0
Arizona	59	17	32	10	44	143	197	9-16-4	8-16-6	3-8-5

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA	HOME	AWAY	DIV
Tampa Bay	60	40	17	3	83	215	161	20-6-1	20-11-2	10-5-1
Boston	58	37	13	8	82	191	142	19-7-4	18-6-4	12-2-2
Toronto	62	37	20	5	79	205	172	20-8-2	17-12-3	10-5-1
Florida	57	26	25	6	58	166	186	13-9-3	13-16-3	8-5-1
Detroit	59	24	26	9	57	157	177	12-13-7	12-13-2	6-13-2
Montreal	59	22	29	8	52	151	188	14-10-6	8-19-2	10-6-2
Ottawa	58	21	28	9	51	158	204	14-11-5	7-17-4	6-10-3
Buffalo	60	17	32	11	45	143	198	8-18-4	9-14-7	5-6-3
METRO	**GP**	**W**	**L**	**OT**	**PTS**	**GF**	**GA**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**DIV**
Washington	60	34	19	7	75	187	180	20-9-2	14-10-5	11-5-3
Pittsburgh	61	35	22	4	74	195	180	23-7-1	12-15-3	12-5-0
Philadelphia	59	30	19	10	70	178	172	14-9-6	16-10-4	8-4-5
New Jersey	60	31	21	8	70	181	183	16-11-3	15-10-5	10-8-1
Columbus	60	30	25	5	65	159	170	17-11-2	13-14-3	11-9-3
Carolina	60	27	23	10	64	162	180	15-10-6	12-13-4	6-7-5
N.Y. Islanders	61	29	26	6	64	203	219	16-11-4	13-15-2	10-8-1
N.Y. Rangers	60	27	28	5	59	173	191	18-11-3	9-17-2	7-8-3

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs. through Tuesday

TUESDAY'S RESULTS
TORONTO 1, Florida 0
Columbus 2, NEW JERSEY 1
PHILADELPHIA 3, Montreal 2 (OT)
Tampa Bay 4, WASHINGTON 2
Nashville 3, DETROIT 2
San Jose 3, ST. LOUIS 2
Los Angeles 4, WINNIPEG 3
Boston 3, EDMONTON 2
Colorado 5 VANCOUVER 4 (OT)

WEDNESDAY'S SCHEDULE
Ottawa at **Blackhawks**, 7
Dallas at Anaheim, 9
Calgary at Vegas, 9:30

THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE
N.Y. Islanders at Toronto, 6
Minnesota at New Jersey, 6
Columbus at Philadelphia, 6
N.Y. Rangers at Montreal, 6:30
Tampa Bay at Ottawa, 6:30
Buffalo at Detroit, 6:30
Washington at Florida, 6:30
San Jose at Nashville, 7
Colorado at Edmonton, 8
Calgary at Arizona, 8
Dallas at Los Angeles, 9:30

FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE
San Jose at **Blackhawks**, 7:30
Minnesota at N.Y. Rangers, 6
Pittsburgh at Carolina, 6:30
Winnipeg at St. Louis, 7
Vancouver at Vegas, 9:30

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Los Angeles 3, **BLACKHAWKS** 1
Minnesota 5, N.Y. ISLANDERS 3
Washington 3, BUFFALO 2
Boston 2, CALGARY 1 (OT)
NASHVILLE 5, Ottawa 2
Anaheim 2, VEGAS 0

CALENDAR
Feb. 26: Trade deadline.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STK	HOME	AWAY	CONF
Cleveland	34	22	.607	—	7-3	W-4	20-7	14-15	25-12
Indiana	33	25	.569	2	7-3	W-3	20-11	13-14	23-15
Milwaukee	32	25	.561	2½	7-3	L-1	19-10	13-15	19-17
Detroit	28	29	.491	6½	6-4	W-1	19-12	9-17	17-19
BULLS	20	37	.351	14½	2-8	L-1	13-16	7-21	17-17
ATLANTIC	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**L10**	**STK**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**CONF**
Toronto	41	16	.719	—	9-1	W-7	24-4	17-12	25-7
Boston	40	19	.678	2	5-5	L-3	21-11	19-8	25-13
Philadelphia	30	25	.545	10	6-4	W-5	18-10	12-15	16-13
New York	23	36	.390	19	2-8	L-8	16-12	7-24	11-24
Brooklyn	19	40	.322	23	1-9	L-7	11-21	8-19	12-22
SOUTHEAST	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**L10**	**STK**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**CONF**
Washington	33	24	.579	—	7-3	W-2	17-10	16-14	20-14
Miami	30	28	.517	3½	3-7	L-2	14-12	16-16	21-17
Charlotte	24	33	.421	9	4-6	W-1	15-15	9-18	13-18
Orlando	18	39	.316	15	4-6	L-3	11-16	7-23	11-25
Atlanta	18	41	.305	16	4-6	L-2	13-17	5-24	8-30

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STK	HOME	AWAY	CONF
Houston	44	13	.772	—	10-0	W-10	23-6	21-7	26-8
San Antonio	35	24	.593	10	4-6	L-3	22-6	13-18	20-14
New Orleans	31	26	.544	13	5-5	W-3	15-12	16-14	15-19
Memphis	18	38	.321	25½	1-9	L-7	13-17	5-21	15-22
Dallas	18	40	.310	26½	2-8	L-2	11-19	7-21	10-28
NORTHWEST	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**L10**	**STK**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**CONF**
Minnesota	36	25	.590	—	5-5	W-1	24-7	12-18	27-10
Oklahoma City	33	26	.559	2	4-6	W-1	20-10	13-16	18-17
Denver	32	26	.552	2½	7-3	W-3	23-7	9-19	20-18
Portland	32	26	.552	2½	6-4	W-1	17-11	15-15	18-15
Utah	30	28	.517	4½	10-0	W-11	18-9	12-19	19-14
PACIFIC	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**L10**	**STK**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**CONF**
Golden State	44	14	.759	—	6-4	L-1	22-7	22-7	25-11
L.A. Clippers	30	26	.536	13	7-3	W-2	16-12	14-14	20-16
L.A. Lakers	23	34	.404	20½	5-5	L-3	14-14	9-20	11-24
Sacramento	18	39	.316	25½	4-6	L-1	8-17	10-22	10-25
Phoenix	18	41	.305	26½	1-9	L-7	9-21	9-20	12-25

through All-Star break

THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE
Philadelphia at **Bulls**, 7
Brooklyn at Charlotte, 6
New York at Orlando, 6
Washington at Cleveland, 7
Oklahoma City at Sacramento, 9
L.A. Clippers at Golden State, 9:30

FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE
Boston at Detroit, 6
Atlanta at Indiana, 6
Charlotte at Washington, 6
Milwaukee at Toronto, 6:30
Minnesota at Houston, 7
Cleveland at Memphis, 7
Miami at New Orleans, 7
San Antonio at Denver, 8
L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 8
Portland at Utah, 8
Dallas at L.A. Lakers, 9:30

April 11: Regular season ends.
April 14: Playoffs begin.
May 31: NBA Finals begin.

NBA FINALS CHAMPION ODDS

5-8: Golden St.	150-1: Miami
9-2: Houston	250-1: Charlotte
5-1: Cleveland	250-1: LA Clippers
12-1: Toronto	250-1: New Orleans
16-1: Boston	250-1: Portland
28-1: Okla. City	500-1: **BULLS**
33-1: San Ant.	500-1: LA Lakers
50-1: Minnesota	1,00-1: New York
66-1: Milwaukee	2,00-1: Brooklyn
66-1: Wash.	2,00-1: Memphis
80-1: Phila.	2,00-1: Orlando
80-1: Utah	5,000-1: Atlanta
125-1: Denver	5,00-1: Dallas
125-1: Indiana	5,000-1: Phoenix
150-1: Detroit	5,000-1: Sacra.

source: vegasinsider.com

2017 STANDINGS AT THE BREAK
EASTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	GB	PPG	PA
Cleveland	39	16	—	111.3	106.0
Indiana	29	28	11	105.5	106.5
BULLS	28	29	12	102.1	102.8
Detroit	27	30	13	101.2	101.7
Milwaukee	25	30	14	105.7	105.4
ATLANTIC	**W**	**L**	**GB**	**PPG**	**PA**
Boston	37	20	—	108.4	105.6
Toronto	33	24	4	108.5	104.3
New York	23	34	14	106.1	109.2
Philadelphia	21	35	15½	101.2	106.8
Brooklyn	9	47	27½	105.5	114.2
SOUTHEAST	**W**	**L**	**GB**	**PPG**	**PA**
Washington	34	21	—	108.1	105.3
Atlanta	32	24	2½	103.8	104.3
Miami	25	32	10	101.5	102.5
Charlotte	24	32	10½	104.5	104.2
Orlando	21	37	14½	99.5	106.1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	GB	PPG	PA
San Antonio	43	13	—	106.7	98.4
Houston	40	18	4	114.4	108.0
Memphis	34	24	10	100.8	99.5
New Orleans	23	34	20½	103.4	106.5
Dallas	22	34	21	98.1	100.4
NORTHWEST	**W**	**L**	**GB**	**PPG**	**PA**
Utah	35	22	—	100.2	95.7
Oklahoma City	32	25	3	105.9	106.0
Denver	25	31	9½	110.6	111.8
Portland	23	33	11½	107.3	110.1
Minnesota	22	35	13	104.8	105.7
PACIFIC	**W**	**L**	**GB**	**PPG**	**PA**
Golden State	47	9	—	118.2	105.4
L.A. Clippers	35	21	12	107.9	104.1
Sacramento	24	33	23½	103.0	105.7
L.A. Lakers	19	39	29	104.5	110.7
Phoenix	18	39	29½	106.9	112.4

GOLF

RYDER CUP POINTS

U.S. POINTS

1. Dustin Johnson	4,199,739
2. Brooks Koepka	3,464.658
3. Justin Thomas	2,975.023
4. Jordan Spieth	2,886.042
5. Matt Kuchar	2,438.587
6. Brian Harman	2,127.873
7. Gary Woodland	1,797.006
8. Rickie Fowler	1,724.387
9. Chez Reavie	1,647.686
10. Bubba Watson	1,581.719
11. Phil Mickelson	1,457.205
12. Patrick Reed	1,303.959
13. Patton Kizzire	1,292.116
14. James Hahn	1,257.697
15. Kevin Chappell	1,243.245

EUROPEAN POINTS

1. Justin Rose	2,713,074.57
2. Tyrrell Hatton	2,516,447.12
5. Ross Fisher	1,444,881.17
4. Matthew Fitzpatrick	1,321,391.43
3. Jon Rahm	1,278,344.36
4. Tommy Fleetwood	1,060,617.03

WORLD POINTS

1. Justin Rose	217.89
2. Jon Rahm	186.43
3. Tyrrell Hatton	137.75
4. Tommy Fleetwood	107.98
5. Matthew Fitzpatrick	89.74
6.

2018 WINTER OLYMPICS

WOMEN'S DOWNHILL

Gold medal escapes Vonn

In last Olympic downhill, American settles for bronze, says, 'I skied a great race'

FRANCOIS XAVIER MARIT/GETTY-AFP

Lindsey Vonn blows a kiss during the medals ceremony after winning the bronze medal in the downhill Wednesday in South Korea.

By Rick Maese
Washington Post

JEONGSEON, South Korea — For one final time, Lindsey Vonn stared down an Olympic downhill course, the curves and bumps not unlike her own winding journey.

For one final time, Vonn flew by the gates, one after another, reaching speeds reserved for highway driving as she navigated 1¾ miles of fast snow.

And for perhaps one final time, Vonn earned a spot on the podium, an Olympic medalist once again.

Vonn's bronze in the women's downhill race Wednesday marks the third Olympic medal of her extraordinary Alpine career and was essentially eight years in the making.

She was 25 when she won gold in the event at the Vancouver Olympics, and injuries forced her to wait two Olympic cycles to finally try again. She was perhaps a bit disappointed she didn't finish in first here but was certainly pleased to return to the podium.

Italy's Sofia Goggia entered the race ranked No. 1 in the World Cup downhill standings, and she did not disappoint. She was the day's fifth skier and tore through the course, especially picking up time over the back half. Goggia posted a time of 1 minute, 39.22 seconds, laying claim to the top of the leaderboard.

Vonn was up two racers later and knew exactly what time she had to beat: Goggia's pace.

But a couple of early turns swallowed that sliver of time, and Vonn couldn't get it back. She finished in 1:39.69, which left her 0.47 seconds behind Goggia and, for the moment at least, comfortably in second. Vonn had to then watch as the rest of the field tackled the fast course to see if her time would hold up.

As the world's top racers came and went, Vonn looked poised for silver until the 19th racer, Ragnhild Mowinckel of Norway, hit the course.

Mowinckel had never posted a podium finish on the World Cup circuit and finished 27th in the downhill four years ago Sochi. But the 25-year-old seems to be enjoying the Korean snow and just four days earlier took silver in the super-G.

In the downhill, Mowinckel posted a time of 1:39.31, just 0.09 seconds out of first and 0.38 faster than Vonn.

"I skied a great race," Vonn said on the NBC broadcast after her run. "Sofia just skied better than I did."

In a later interview, Vonn broke down in tears when discussing how this was her last Olympic downhill competition.

NBC's cameras captured Vonn getting consoled by a competitor after Mowinckel's time was posted.

"This is my last downhill," a teary Vonn said. "It's sad."

Vonn's race gives her three medals in four Olympic appearances. In addition to her downhill gold, she also won a bronze in the super-G at the Vancouver Games.

They're all different, but this latest one will surely carry plenty of meaning. Not only did Vonn have to navigate injuries and life changes that made her a different skier — and a different person — than the young hot shot who melted snow in Vancouver eight years ago, but she approached these Olympics knowing they'd likely be her last.

She'd also dedicated the Pyeongchang Games to her grandfather, Don Kildow, who died last November at 88 — "I want so badly to do well for him," she'd said — and now has a new medal in his honor.

While Vonn entered the race as a strong podium candidate, she was not necessarily the favorite, which is still an unusual feeling. For a stretch of eight years, from 2008-16, she won eight World Cup downhill titles, only missing in 2014 because of the knee injury that kept her from competing at the Sochi Olympics.

She entered this event ranked No. 2 in the World Cup downhill standings. Vonn raced in seven World Cup downhill events this season, slowly getting more and more comfortable.

Downhill was always her best race. She finished sixth in the super-G Saturday, saying: "In general, this season I feel like I've been much better in downhill than super-G. And this hill, it suits me really well for downhill."

The downhill is typically one of the premier events on the Olympic slate, and this year's was shaping up to be especially memorable, pitting Vonn, one of the most decorated female ski racers ever, against Mikaela Shiffrin, the face and future of women's Alpine skiing. The showdown didn't materialize and the race lost just a bit of luster when Shiffrin decided to skip the event, even though she is ranked No. 5.

Shiffrin, who won gold in the giant slalom last week, felt she had a better chance to medal in the combined. That race, which includes a downhill and a slalom, is set for Thursday morning, and both Shiffrin and Vonn will compete.

Associated Press contributed

MADDIE MEYER/GETTY

Madison Chock and Evan Bates fall while competing in the free portion of ice dancing.

COMMENTARY

For Winter Olympians, agony of defeat all too raw

By Chelsea Janes
Washington Post

GANGNEUNG, South Korea — The first thing I noticed about ice dancer Madison Chock was that she was so much smaller in person.

Absent the gear and the distance, many Winter Olympic athletes are not intimidating.

I stood in a scrum with Shaun White. He is just a medium-height guy. Lindsey Jacobellis is much shorter than me.

I didn't expect Chock, in her first Olympics, to cast an intimidating shadow. But still, when she and partner Evan Bates marched to their interrogations after an embarrassing fall in their free dance ruined years of work, the 25-year-old gave up on holding back tears.

Chock and Bates had to answer for the mistake. This is how it works. Top athletes answer for their tiniest tumbles every single day. Those who make them in the biggest moments — the Bill Buckners of the world — answer for them for a lifetime.

Bates and Chock will do that. Jacobellis has answered for one premature celebration for more than a decade.

In the world of Winter Olympic athletes, the pain is sharper, and the time to think about it is endless. In the major professional sports, where massive wealth offsets defeat, where fans pay money to support the endeavor, where athletes are employed to entertain, sympathy is harder to generate. Because of that money and the luxury the job provides, defeat somehow does not usually render those athletes as miserable. But in the Olympics, a mishap can mark the lasting memory of an entire career.

Many athletes will have to return to real life soon. American skeleton racer John Daly has already gone back to work. U.S. speedskater Brian Hansen said he'll probably start looking soon. Chock might need surgery.

The raw emotions of a once-every-four-years sport are always the story, along with the adversity and challenges.

Before I came to the Olympics, I would have been stunned when Chock and Bates fell, alarmed to see Nathan Chen stumble, surprised when Mikaela Shiffrin didn't win slalom, and so on.

After being here, I'm struck by how human they all seem. These are not super humans. Most are not insulated superstars. And very few are larger than life by any definition.

They are talented, hard-working athletes whose lives pivot on seconds while the whole world is watching. It's a wonder any Olympic stories are free of tears.

ROUNDUP

American women skaters fall far back after short program

Associated Press

BERNAT ARMANGUE/AP

Mirai Nagasu of the U.S., who fell after a triple axel in her short program, reacts as her scores are posted Wednesday.

American skaters were well back after the women's figure skating short program Wednesday.

Nine days after becoming the first U.S. woman and third overall to land a triple axel in the Olympics, Mirai Nagasu came down on two feet on her opening triple axel, then fell to the surface. While the rest of her program was clean, Nagasu's chances for a medal were damaged.

She was ninth going into the free skate. Teammates Karen Chen and Bradie Tennell were 10th and 11th, respectively.

Russia's Alina Zagivtova set an Olympic short program record of 82.92. She was followed by countrywoman Yevgenia Medvedeva and Canada's Kaetlyn Osmond.

Tennell fell during the opening combination in her short program, such a rare mistake that she could not remember the last time she did it.

"It was definitely unexpected," the reigning national champion said of her fall on a triple toe loop, "but things happen. We're all human. We all make mistakes. You just have to get up and keep going."

U.S. hockey team out: The U.S. men's hockey team fell 3-2 in a shootout to the Czech Republic in the quarterfinals and was eliminated.

Ryan Donato scored and Jim Slater had a short-handed goal in regulation but the Americans lost the shootout 1-0.

U.S. bobsledders sit second: Germany's Mariama Jamanka and Lisa Buckwitz are the leaders at the midway point of the women's bobsled.

Their two-run time of 1 minute, 41.26 seconds put them 0.07 seconds ahead of Elana Meyers Taylor and Lauren Gibbs of the U.S.

Jamie Greubel Poser and Aja Evans of the U.S. are fourth.

Branching out: Speedskater Jorien ter Mors became the first woman to win Olympic medals in different sports at the same Winter Games.

Ter Mors added bronze in the short-track arena to the gold she won in long-track speedskating last week.

"That's really special," said ter Mors, who skated with the Dutch team Tuesday in a tumultuous 3,000-meter relay. "I hoped for it coming here into the Games, but after losing the semis, I didn't expect to win a medal anymore."

Ter Mors' bronze came under the craziest of circumstances. With the Dutch team relegated to the B final of the relay, four other teams in the A final were competing for the medals.

In the B final, ter Mors raced the last short-track race of her career with such abandon that she helped the Dutch team set a world record. Still, it was all supposed to be for naught.

Yet in the A final, China and Canada were disqualified for impeding, stunningly pushing up the Dutch to bronze.

BY THE NUMBERS

MEDAL COUNT

NATION	G	S	B	TOT
Norway	11	11	8	30
Germany	11	7	5	23
Canada	8	5	6	19
Netherlands	6	5	3	14
France	5	4	4	13
United States	5	3	5	13
OA Russia	0	3	8	11
Austria	4	2	4	10
Japan	2	5	3	10
Italy	3	2	4	9
South Korea	4	2	2	8
Sweden	4	3	0	7
Switzerland	2	4	1	7
China	0	5	2	7
Czech Republic	1	2	3	6
Britain	1	0	3	4
Slovakia	1	2	0	3
Australia	0	2	1	3
Finland	0	0	3	3
Belarus	1	1	0	2
Poland	1	0	1	2
Spain	0	0	2	2
Ukraine	1	0	0	1
Slovenia	0	1	0	1
Kazakhstan	0	0	1	1
Latvia	0	0	1	1
Liechtenstein	0	0	1	1

NOTE: through 1 of 7 medal events Wednsday; 70 of 76 medal events

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

ALPINE SKI: Women's Downhill
G Sofia Goggia, Italy, 1:39.22.
S Ragn. Mowinckel, Norway, 1:39.31
B Lindsey Vonn, U.S., 1:39.69.
5. Alice McKennis, U.S., 1:40.24
7. Breezy Johnson, U.S., 1:40.34
15. Laurenne Ross, U.S., 1:41.10.
WOMEN'S CURLING
S. Korea 11, OA Russia 2
Sweden 8, China 4; Switz. 6, Denmk 4
Britain 6, Canada 5

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

SHORT TRACK SPEEDSKATING
Women's 3000 Relay
G S. Korea, 4:07.361; **S** Italy, 4:15.901
B Netherlands. Canada; China, PEN
BIATHLON Mixed Relay
2X6km Women + 2X7.5km Men
G France, 1:08:34.3 (0+4).
S Norway, 1:08:55.2 (1+11).
B Italy, 1:09:01.2 (0+7).
4. Germany, 1:09:01.5 (1+7).
15. U.S. (Susan Dunklee, Joanne Reid, Lowell Bailey, Tim Burke), 1:12:05.4 (3+9)
FIGURE SKATING Ice Dance
G Scott Moir/Tessa Virtue, Canada, 206.07
S Gabriella Papadakis/ Guillaume Cizeron, France, 205.28.
B Alex/Maia Shibutani, U.S., 192.59.
4. Zach Donohue/Madison Hubbell, U.S., 187.69.
9. Evan Bates/Madison Chock, U.S., 175.58
FREESTYLE SKI Women Halfpipe
G Cassie Sharpe, Canada, 95.8.
S Marie Martinod, France, 92.6
B Brita Sigourney, U.S., 91.6
4. Annalisa Drew, U.S., 90.8.
11. Maddie Bowman, U.S., 27.0.
NORDIC COMBINED
Individual Large Hill
G Johannes Rydzek, Ger., 23:52.5
S Fabian Riessle, Germany, 23:52.9.
B Eric Frenzel, Germany, 23:53.3.
17. Bryan Fletcher, U.S., 25:35.4.
39. Ben Berend, U.S., 28:20.7.
40. Ben Loomis, U.S., 28:31.3.
43. Jasper Good, U.S., 29:42.7.
BOBSLED: Women's Two
1. Germany 1, 1:41.259.
2. U.S. 2 (Elana Meyers Taylor, Lauren Gibbs), 1:41.330.
4. U.S. 1 (Jamie Greubel Poser, Aja Evans), 1:41.580
MEN'S CURLING:
Japan 6, Denmark 4
Britain 10, Norway 3
Canada 8, Japan 4
South Korea 8, Switzerland 7
Sweden 7, Italy 3
U.S. 8, Switzerland 4
Italy 6, Norway 4
WOMEN'S CURLING
China 7, Canda 5
South Korea 9, U.S. 6
Britain 8, Japan 6
ICE HOCKEY
Men Qualification Playoffs
U.S. 5, Slovakia 1
Germany 2, Switzerland 1 OT
Norway 2, Slovenia 1, OT
Finland 5, South Korea 2
Women 7th: Sweden 6, Korea 1
5th: Switzerland 1, Japan 0

2018 WINTER OLYMPICS

Needed: Less Tara, Johnny, more Scott

Phil Rosenthal
On media

Here are seven things about NBC's Olympic coverage:

Listen to the music: "The Tara and Johnny Show" is a hoot, though the interplay of figure skating commentators Tara Lipinski and Johnny Weir has lost some authentic feel as Google has appropriated it for ads.

But watching the ice dancing coverage with Tanith White in the analyst role opposite announcer Terry Gannon, perhaps you heard something you don't always get from Lipinski and Weir: the music accompanying the skaters.

It's not necessary for Lipinski and Weir to talk so much *during* a performance. Sometimes it's OK to let viewers take it in while it's happening. Lipinski and Weir sometimes announce their presence as much as the event they're covering.

It's OK for Lipinski and Weir to let the performances speak for themselves a bit. Plenty of time to dish and dig into it later.

But just you wait: Scott Hamilton is too good a figure skating analyst not to have more of a presence, though clearly Lipinski and Weir don't leave much room for more voices on a telecast.

It's fine that Hamilton has "Olympic Ice" on NBCSN, the daily program during the Winter Games dedicated to what's going on in the sport.

But between now and Beijing in 2022, maybe NBC can work with Hamilton so he can replace Gannon as figure skating announcer. (That's not meant as a knock on Gannon, who in this scenario would continue on ice dancing.)

Hamilton then could be cast in a hybrid role similar to that of former football star Frank Gifford way back on "Monday Night Football" with Howard Cosell and Don Meredith. He would be a play-by-play man with acknowledged expertise counted on to keep everything — and everyone — on track.

Overplaying her hand: It's easy to blame NBC's Kelli Stavast, but it's hard to imagine her acting alone when she made a callous, cringe-inducing play for tears in asking U.S. freestyle skier Madison Olsen about her father, who died last summer.

Emotions flow freely during any Olympics, which typically are the culmination of a lifetime of work for competitors, win or lose. One needs to be judicious in pushing buttons for more.

Mike Tirico ran a feature with skier Lindsey Vonn and her Wisconsin grandparents he taped last summer. It focused on her grandfather, a onetime ski jumper whose military duty took him to Korea. Vonn clearly was moved in her grandfather's presence. He died late last year, but the piece built up to those tears and they felt earned.

Mind games: Before so much of the Olympics from overseas was carried live in prime time, announcers sometimes would pretend to know less than they really did about how things turned out.

A bigger mistake is to act as though they know more than they do on live TV.

NBC presenting Austria's Anna Veith as the all-but-crowned winner in the super-G with many presumed also-rans still to ski was a huge mistake, made obvious when Ester Ledecka shockingly won.

It's understandable NBC would want to switch from live skiing to live figure skating with U.S. competitors coming up, but it's not all right to bring closure to an event that isn't over.

Getting to know you: The live coverage has meant fewer feature stories, not just on the athletes but on local culture and customs. Not sure they've been missed.

Climb every mountain: Bode Miller undoubtedly knows far more than most of us about skiing. No one wants him to dumb down the substance of what he's saying, but he needs to work harder to translate it for non-experts.

Also, Miller was one of the most exciting skiers in his heyday. It would be helpful if he seemed a little more enthusiastic.

Hoops, there it is: Say what you will about coverage of the opening and closing ceremonies sometimes being overproduced and too long, but they don't include Rob Riggle and Kevin Hart.

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BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY

Hilary Knight (21) is mobbed by teammates after scoring in the semis against Finland.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Just the usual all-out rivalry

U.S. seeks to break 20-year gold drought against Canada

By Helene Elliott
Los Angeles Times

GANGNEUNG, South Korea — This is why they put their lives on hold.

This is why members of the U.S. women's Olympic hockey team left their loved ones and gathered to train in Florida in mid-September, hoping to find even the smallest mental or physical advantage that might help them win a game they've waited four years to play.

The U.S. women will face defending champion Canada on Thursday (Wednesday night, U.S. time) for the gold medal, a prize that has remained beyond the Americans' grasp at the last four Olympics.

The U.S. won the inaugural tournament at Nagano in 1998 but has not won the championship since.

This will be the third straight Olympic final involving the U.S. and Canada, the two superpowers of an evolving sport that still hasn't developed enough teams capable of challenging for supremacy. The only time the U.S. and Canada failed to meet in the final was at Turin in 2006, when Sweden upset the Americans in a semifinal shootout.

"It's honestly a dream come true," forward Hilary Knight, formerly of Lake Forest, said after the U.S. routed Finland 5-0 in the semifinals. "This is the world's biggest stage. This is the game that you want, the game we've been dreaming of, and to have another opportunity to get back here is huge."

Canada rolled past the Olympic Athletes from Russia 5-0 in the other semi. Their players, including 14 who participated in Canada's 3-2 comeback victory in overtime for the gold medal four years ago, know what to expect.

"A battle. A battle for the ages, as usual," Canada forward Brianne Jenner said. "It's one of the best rivalries in hockey. Not much more you can say.

"It's the biggest stage. On one hand, it's like any other hockey tournament, and on the other it is our Stanley Cup."

Canada won the teams' preliminary-round match 2-1 after both had clinched byes to the semifinals. It was a gritty game that showcased Canada's goaltending and the Americans' persistence in getting shots on net, even if those shots weren't often going in.

If Canada wins, Meghan Acosta will tie the record of four Olympic gold medals in women's hockey, a distinction shared by Hayley Wickenheiser, Jayna Hefford and Caroline Ouellette.

Canada is the second women's team to win four straight Olympic gold medals in any team sport. The U.S. women's basketball team has won six in a row.

"Everyone's plans are falling into place," said Canada coach Laura Schuler, who played for Canada in the 1998 gold-medal game at Nagano. "You have two great opponents at the end. It's awesome on the world's biggest stage for everybody to watch two powerhouses go at it."

The U.S. scoring leader is forward Dani Cameranesi, who has three goals and five points. She's a first-time Olympian, part of a post-Sochi roster turnover designed to incorporate youth and speed into the lineup.

"Right after that, four years ago, we certainly looked at ourselves in the mirror and figured out what we can take away from it," captain Meghan Duggan said. "That's a long time ago in our eyes. It's a new team. We're ready to go.

"All the games we played this tournament, we made it really tough on goaltenders, put a lot of shots on net, played to our strengths. I think our special teams have been great. I think we've gotten fantastic goaltending.

"Those are a lot of the things we'll continue to look for, and we'll be ready."

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WHAT TO WATCH WEDNESDAY

The U.S. women will try to dethrone Canada in hockey's gold-medal game. Austrian star Marcel Hirscher goes for his third Alpine skiing gold of the Games in the slalom. The U.S. has good medal chances in men's halfpipe, women's bobsled and a new event, women's Big Air.

■ TV listings, **Page 6**

HOME TEAM

Tracking local Olympians competing in Pyeongchang

Seun Adigun
Bobsled/Chicago area

Adigun is representing Nigeria on its first bobsled team. She was born in Chicago and attended Evanston and Homewood-Flossmoor. After two runs Tuesday, Nigeria was last. "We're setting the groundwork for what to build on for the country of Nigeria," Adigun said.

Next: Bobsled, Wednesday

Aja Evans
Bobsled/Chicago

The 2006 Morgan Park graduate is the brakeman for driver Jamie Greubel Poser. The pairing won bronze at the 2014 Sochi Olympics and the 2017 world championships. Midway through the women's bobsled, Evans and Greubel Poser were fourth.

Next: Bobsled, Wednesday

Bradie Tennell
Figure skating/Carpentersville

Tennell, born in Winfield and now living in Carpentersville, won the U.S. championships. She earned bronze in the Olympic team competition. She was 11th after the short program Tuesday and made the finals.

Next: Free skate, Thursday

Tony Granato
Hockey/Downers Grove

Granato, a former NHL coach and All-Star who coaches the U.S. men's team, graduated from Downers Grove North in 1982. The U.S. beat Slovakia 5-1 and faced the Czech Republic late Tuesday.

Next: TBD

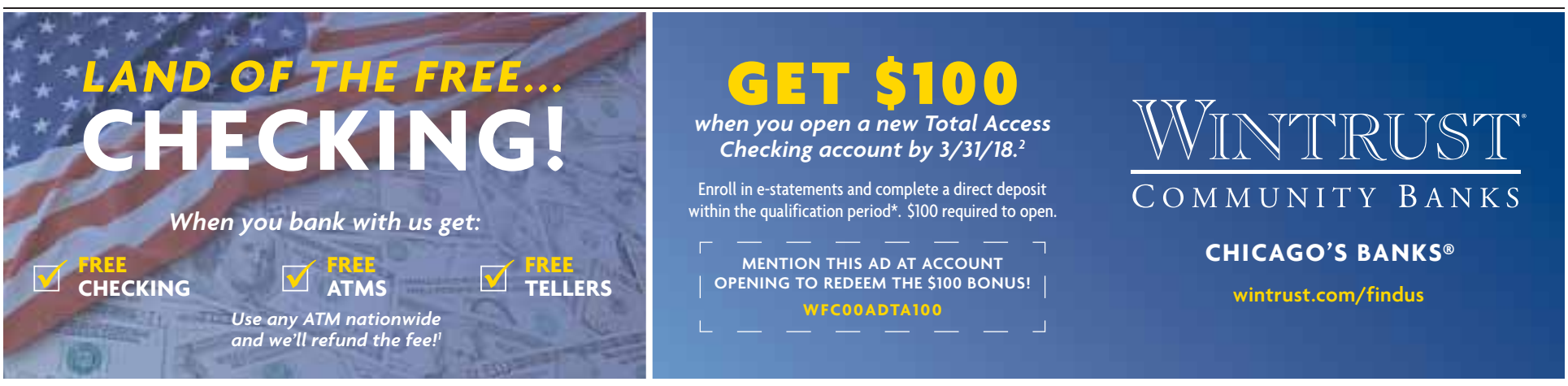
Lana Gehring
Short-track speedskating/Glenview

The Glenbrook South grad did not advance in the 500 meters and failed to advance in 1,000 qualifying due to an impeding penalty. "It was my mistake," Gehring said. "It was not a good move. ... I was hoping this event would be a lot better, but it didn't turn out like that."

Next: Finished

■ **Bronze:** Alexa Scimeca Knierim (Addison) for team figure skating
■ **Bronze:** Bradie Tennell (Carpentersville) for team figure skating

■ More from Pyeongchang at **chicagotribune.com/olympics**



*The bank must receive the direct deposit for it to be "complete". The "qualification period" is two consecutive calendar months following the month of account opening. 1. The bank does not charge its customers a monthly card usage fee. No transaction charge at any ATM in the Allpoint, MoneyPass, or Sum surcharge-free networks. Other banks outside the network may impose ATM surcharges at their machines. Surcharge fees assessed by owners of other ATMs outside the network will be reimbursed. Reimbursement does not include the 1.10% International Service fee charged for certain foreign transactions conducted outside the continental United States. 2. Limit one per customer. Current Wintrust checking customers and employees of Wintrust Financial Corp. and its subsidiaries are ineligible. $100 deposit bonus is IRS 1099-INT reportable. $100 deposit bonus applies only to new Total Access Checking customers. $100 deposit bonus will be deposited into the Total Access Checking account within the subsequent calendar month following the qualification period. MEMBER FDIC

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE

Mom's pep talk pushed Green to be NBA All-Star

By Melissa Rohlin
San Jose Mercury News

LOS ANGELES — Draymond Green sat down on the bus and started crying. It was his freshman year at Michigan State and his coach didn't play him a single second against Ohio State.

Green was so upset that he called his mother. He wanted to transfer. She talked him off that cliff.

"Ma, you've got to get me out of here," Green said. "She said, 'You'll be all right.' She said, 'You've made your bed, you've got to lay in it.' I was like, 'Nah, I need to go. Not playing, what's this?' "

After they got off the phone, Green's mother sent him a text: "You know how hard you've worked to get there, work harder. Make them put you on the floor. When they put you on the floor, make them play you more."

The pep talk worked.

He finished his career at Michigan State as the school's all-time leading rebounder, leading them to a Big Ten title and to the Sweet 16. He averaged 16.2 points, 10.6 rebounds and 3.8 assists as a senior and was named Big Ten player of the year.

"I was ready to go," Green said. "I had no interest in being there anymore. She kind of made me stay. Thank God she did."

Green never forgot that lesson and it set the tone for his NBA career. Every time someone said you can't do something, he dug in harder. Every time he wanted to give up, he pressed on. And every time a ceiling was put above him, he shattered it.

Green went from being a second-round pick in the NBA draft to a three-time All-Star and a defensive player of the year. He helped change the culture of the NBA, turning playing defense, hustling and rebounding, skills that were appreciated but overlooked, into skills that could make you a superstar.

When Warriors coach Steve Kerr was asked if he ever thought Green would turn into the type of player he has become, he didn't hesitate in his response.

"No," Kerr said. "He was a second-round pick. I did a couple of his games at Michigan State when I worked in television. I didn't see him becoming an All-Star. But it was hard to pinpoint what he was in college. He was a 6-6 forward, a kind of do-it-all forward, but it didn't look like he was great at anything. It looked like he was kind of a jack of all trades, a master of none. Turned out he was the best defensive player in the league."

Green, now 27, still vividly remembers draft night in 2012. He said he pretty much had guarantees from the NBA teams that had picks Nos. 23-30 that he'd be selected if he dropped that low — but he ended up falling to No. 35, where the Warriors got the biggest steal in franchise history.

Green had a party that night at the Dow Event Center in his hometown of Saginaw, Mich., but he couldn't enjoy it.

"We had this big room in the front with all of the people," Green said. "I went to the back room with just my closest friends. I was livid. I finally got the call, and I was like, somebody has to pay for this. I don't know who it's going to be, but somebody gotta pay for this."

Green has more than kept that promise.

He decided he wanted to be a lockdown defender early in his career. Even as a no-name rookie, when he would play against the biggest superstars in the league, he wouldn't back down.

"All right, your name is LeBron James, that's great," Green said. "You're a great player. But, hey, I'm Draymond Green. Let me show you who I am. That was always my mindset. It didn't matter who it was. You have respect for those guys, respect for what they've done, but I'm not going out there and bowing down to you because of what you've done."

That attitude helped propel Green to be named defensive player of the year last season, even though he averages just 11.4 points.

Green leads the Warriors in rebounds (8.0) and assists (7.3) and is the emotional pulse of a team that has been to three straight NBA Finals, winning championships in 2015 and 2017.

Steph Curry, a two-time NBA MVP, said he thinks Green redefined what it means to be a superstar.

"I said it from his rookie year, whether it showed up in the stat sheet or not, he always found a way to make winning plays, be in the right place at the right time, and you can't teach that stuff," Curry said. "That's just you have the ability to understand the game, make impactful plays consistently."

Green said when he joined the Warriors, he quickly realized he needed to do something besides score.

"I was like, what could get me on the floor?" Green said. "Obviously, defense, toughness, rebounding. So I'm like, OK, I need to master that. So then my goal became how do I create a lane in this league for guys who don't average 20 points a game to be recognized as one of the best players in the league? To be recognized as a star? That was a goal of mine, to really help create another lane for guys to where you don't have to be a lights-out shooter, you don't have to be a super athlete to be a star."

He did it by mastering everything else. He focused on the less glamorous things and became one of the best in the league at doing each one of them.

Take this accomplishment for example. Last February in a game against the Grizzlies, Green had a triple-double with 12 rebounds, 10 assists and 10 steals — while scoring only four points. With that performance, he became the first NBA player to record a triple-double with fewer than 10 points.

"It really was a goal of mine to just create another path for guys to be great," Green said. "It was never a thought of mine to just be a 20-point-a-night guy. I've never cared to be that. I don't even want to be that. It doesn't do it for me."

Green's star grew slowly but steadily. His first season he averaged only 2.9 points, 3.3 rebounds and 0.7 assists in 13.4 minutes a game. Things improved his second year when he started playing power forward more and more.

During the playoffs that season, Green had a realization. It happened in the first round against the Clippers, a seven-game series in which he had three double-doubles. After the Warriors were eliminated, Green had a conversation with his Nike representative, Adrian Stelly.

"I said, 'Stells, they let me realize I could really be good in this league,' " Green said. "He was like, 'Yeah?' I was like, 'Stell, they should've never let me realize I could be good in this league.' "

Green then decided he wanted to become an All-Star, something no one thought an undersized guy at his position could ever accomplish.

"If you're superb enough at something, then everybody will recognize it," Green said. "So my goal was to just be the best at those things, be one of the best defenders. Just try to do everything I did at a high level as opposed to just doing it."

There were moments he worried that he wouldn't reach his goal, but he always knew he was more critical of himself than anyone else. When he had a bad game and heard negative comments, he couldn't help but smile. He knew what he was thinking of himself in those moments was so much worse.

He used all of that as motivation.

"I just tried to tuck myself in the gym, outwork the fears and the doubt and just keep on pushing," Green said.

Now that he's considered one of the top 15 players in the world, Green said there has been no a-ha moment, no sigh of great relief. It has only whetted his appetite.

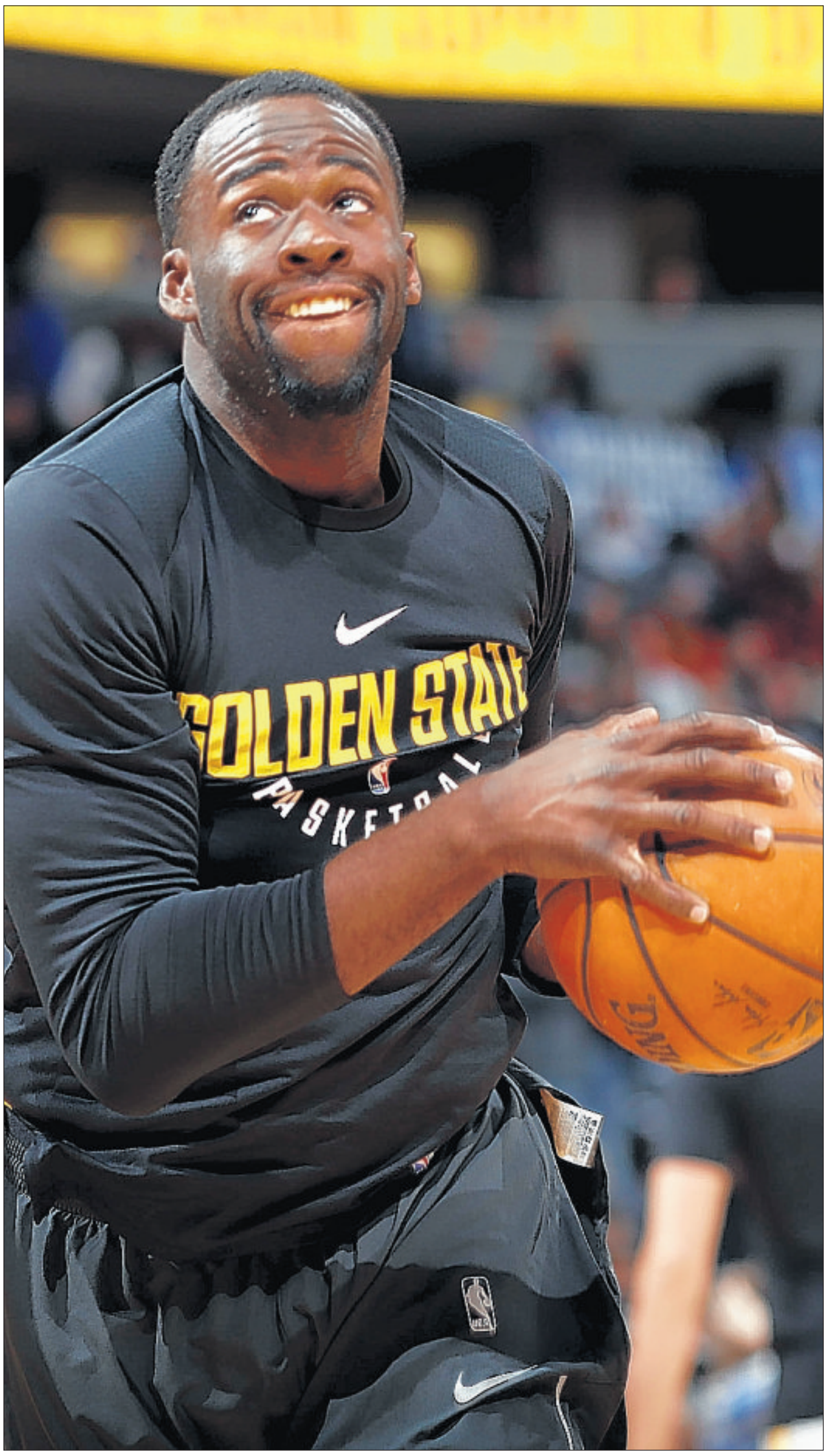
"You're appreciative of it, but it's not satisfying because what you realize when you get it is: You need more," Green said. "Not necessarily that you need more recognition, not necessarily that you need more praise. You just feel the need to do more. You feel the need to not live up to what people expect out of you, but to live up to what you expect out of yourself."

So at this stage in his career, Green has surpassed everybody's expectations of him. But he still hasn't met his expectations of himself.

Whenever he has an off game or falls short of his goals, he remembers that conversation that he had with his mother on the bus, and he works harder.

If people say something is out of his league, he knows it's just a matter of time before it'll be within his grasp.

"My mom has always taught us to not fear no man," he said. "Having someone like that raise you on a daily basis, it makes a difference."



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

Warriors forward Draymond Green went from barely playing his freshman season at Michigan State to a three-time NBA All-Star.

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE

NBA the biggest winner during All-Star weekend

By Tim Bontemps
Washington Post

LOS ANGELES — This year's NBA All-Star weekend was capped by the league holding its 67th All-Star Game on Sunday night at the Staples Center, with Team LeBron emerging with a 148-145 victory over Team Stephen in the first year of the game's new format.

Here is a rundown of the winners and losers from the weekend's festivities.

Winners

The NBA

The league knew it had problems with the way the All-Star Game was going. The players clearly didn't put in much effort over the last few years, and last season's game — a 192-182 farce in New Orleans — was a nadir for the NBA.

So it took a big swing, blowing up the format and instead having teams captained by the top two vote-getters — LeBron James and Stephen Curry — who then picked their respective rosters. Additional financial incentives for both the players and charities of the captains' choosing were also included.

It wound up being a grand slam.

The product on display Sunday night outpaced even the NBA's wildest expectations. There are still improvements that could be made, including televising the draft, something that several players endorsed this weekend and feels very likely to be part of the process next year. But this was a massive success, turning the event into something worth watching.

LeBron James

Not only was James the best player on the court Sunday night, finishing with 29 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists in 31 minutes, but in the opening moments he set the tone for how the game would play out by leading the charge from a defensive standpoint.

The only way there was going to be meaningful change was if players such as James did what he did, and even at 33 he's still quite clearly the player from whom everyone takes their cues.

Donovan Mitchell

The Jazz rookie guard continued his rapid ascent to superstardom by winning Saturday night's Slam Dunk Contest in style. A rookie-of-the-year race that once seemed sure to favor 76ers guard Ben Simmons is now a legitimate head-to-head battle thanks to Mitchell's inspired play, combined with the Jazz's current 11-game winning streak that has gotten them back into the West playoff picture.

Mitchell has the total package, as he showed Saturday not only by the way he won, including dunking over his younger sister, but with quotes such as this one when asked why he included her:

"Growing up, she's been to so many games," Mitchell said. "She's missed so many parties with friends. It's tough sometimes being a popular athlete's sibling. Lot of people don't know that. She's sat in the car for hours while I've had games.

"She's done a lot, and I'm getting kind of emotional just saying all this. But, yeah — she's a trooper. She's been there. She's driven in the car 14 hours with my mom to Louisville and watched the game and then drove back the same night.

"To have a sister dedicated to doing that, to bring her out here for All-Star weekend — she met Gabrielle Union, she freaked out. She took a picture of Odell Beckham and all she does is show me videos of that guy: Did you see him do this, did you see him do that?"

Get used to hearing Mitchell's name as part of All-Star weekends for years to come.

Anthony Davis honoring his teammate

DeMarcus Cousins was supposed to be starting before an Achilles tear prevented him from doing so and ended his season.

So it was pretty neat to see Davis, Cousins' teammate with the Pelicans and close friend, wear Cousins' jersey at the start of the game.

Mike D'Antoni

Long one of the most entertaining personalities in the league, D'Antoni won the night with his response to a question about what was happening in huddles during the game.

"The Golden State guys kept taking my clipboard and trying to draw up plays, and I had to fight them," D'Antoni said with a smile, referring to the Warriors coaching themselves during a recent win over the Suns. "I don't understand that one."

Losers

Paul George

With so much attention surrounding George and his potentially joining the Lakers as a free agent this summer, the Los Angeles native was expected to have a big weekend here.

Instead, he flamed out in the 3-point contest Saturday night, scoring just nine out of a possible 30 points to finish last among the eight competitors, before putting up a solid but unspectacular performance (16 points on 15 shots) in Sunday's showcase.

It was a chance for George to show off on a big stage in his hometown. Instead, it was a dud.

Fergie's rendition of the national anthem

It was at the 1983 NBA All-Star Game — which also took place in Los Angeles — that Marvin Gaye performed one of the greatest renditions of the national anthem ever.

Let's just say Fergie's rendition will not be considered in the same pantheon. As her performance played out, the reaction on social media quickly made clear that her attempt to do ... something with the anthem did not work out the way she must have hoped.

Jordan Brand's All-Star Game jerseys

The jerseys Jordan Brand created for this year's game — the first year of Nike's new apparel contract with the league — looked more suited for the rec league than the NBA.

Obviously the league was in a unique spot because of the way the teams were constructed this season. But did the jerseys have to look as if they had the logos ironed on right before handing them out to players at a local YMCA?

Hopefully there are improvements for next year's game, especially considering it will be in Charlotte, N.C., where Michael Jordan's Hornets will host.

Pregame introductions

First of all, it took 41 minutes from when the pregame introductions began to when the game started. That is just far too much time to take to simply announce everyone who is playing.

Second, do we need some kind of Kevin Hart story leading up to him announcing the players?

If there is a need to have him be the announcer, can't he just do it without all of the additional acting and histrionics? That could have saved 15 minutes at least.

The Property Brothers were doing what exactly?

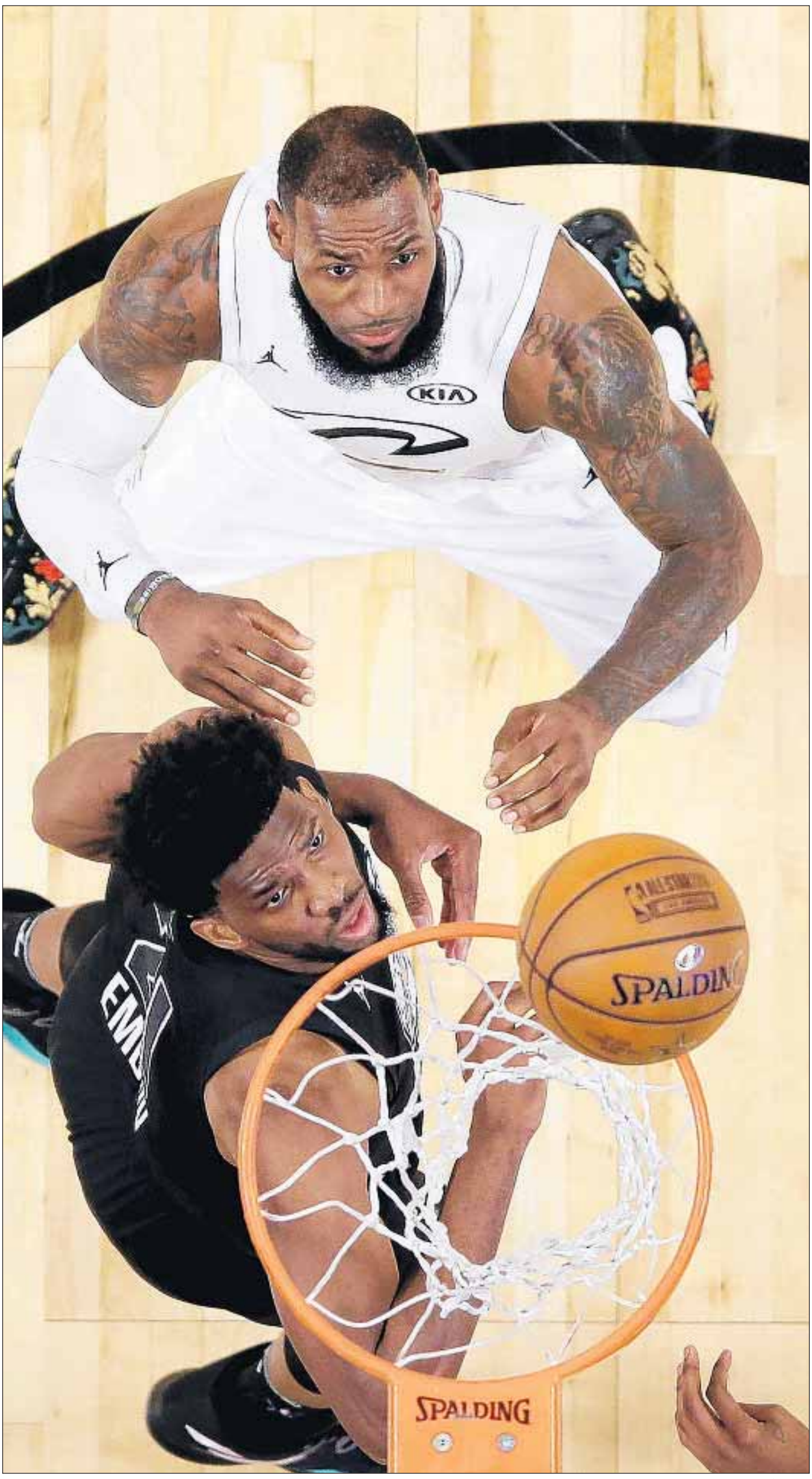
In what was easily the strangest of the many in-game entertainment portions, Drew and Jonathan Scott from "Property Brothers" had a bizarre battle inside inflated bubbles that only started after they began arguing about which team would win.

The obvious question here is why? But there is no answer. It was just exceedingly strange.

The crowd

While the game was great, the crowd inside the Staples Center was largely awful, just as it was for most of Saturday night. That is less of a commentary on the people of Los Angeles than a common problem at events such as these — seats filled not with regular fans but receivers of corporate gifts.

At least people got into the game in the final couple of minutes, but it was largely a sterile atmosphere, even as the game was being played at a far higher level than in the past.



MIKE NELSON/AP

76ers center Joel Embiid gets inside position on Cavaliers star LeBron James as both focus on a rebound during Sunday's All-Star Game.

Chicago Tribune
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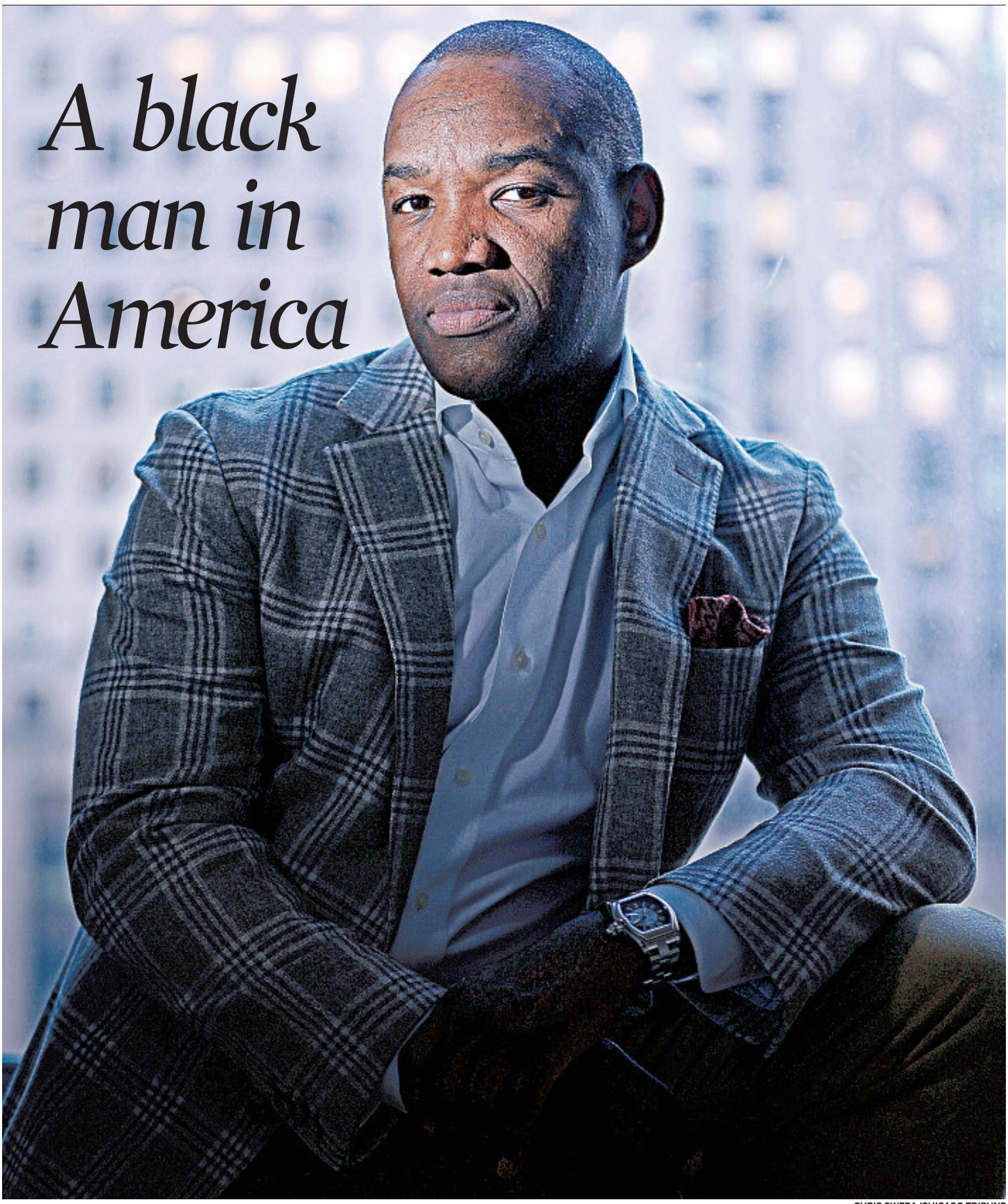
ARTS+ENTERTAINMENT



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Lawrence Brownlee explores race, masculinity in song cycle

John von Rhein
Heard & Scene

Lawrence Brownlee is celebrated for his portrayals of the princely heroes and love-smitten lords of bel canto. His career is flourishing in major concert halls and opera houses throughout the world, including at the Lyric Opera, where his sensational vocal prowess is currently on display in the taxing role of Arturo in Bellini's "I Puritani."

Now he is taking on music of a much more personal and timely nature: a new song cycle about what it means from his perspective to be a black man living in present-day America.

On Thursday night at Chicago's DuSable Museum of African American History, Brownlee will present the local premiere of "Cycles of My Being," a 45-minute song cycle created in collaboration with composer Tyshawn Sorey and poet Terrance Hayes, about the struggles and joys he and other African-American men experience in a culture where racism remains a festering wound on the body politic.

The Lyric Unlimited-sponsored event, presented as part of Black History Month, will take place only two nights after the world premiere, under auspices of Opera Philadelphia, which co-commissioned the work with Carnegie Hall and where Brownlee is artistic adviser. That will be a somewhat fuller version of the six-movement song cycle, with piano, clarinet, violin and cello accompaniment.

Brownlee's performances of the cycle in Chicago and in New York, in April, will be accompanied by piano alone, with Myra Huang taking the keyboard part. They also plan to tour it to major venues across the country. For the tenor's recital at Carnegie Hall he is pairing "Cycles of My Being" with a more familiar song cycle,

Turn to ***Von Rhein, Page 4***

Letitia Wright's realm of possibility

By Sonaiya Kelley
Los Angeles Times

"My voice is all gone," said Letitia Wright. "I sound like a hoarse-y man."

Although the sentiment was a bit of an exaggeration, Wright was beginning to go hoarse after a week of nonstop press for Marvel's "Black Panther," which debuted domestically to an estimated $192 million over the weekend, making it the highest opening for a film released in February. Its total holiday weekend box office take is expected to power the movie into the Top 5 opening weekends of all time.

In the picture, Wright shines as Shuri, King T'Challa's 16-year-old sister and princess of the fictional African country of Wakanda. (With a short, asymmetrical haircut and delicate features, the 24-year-old convincingly passes for a teenager.)

"People her age are not usually put in charge of things," Wright said of Shuri. "You have to look to the adults all the time."

As described on the movie's promotional posters, Shuri is T'Challa's right-hand woman (well, one of them) and very

Turn to ***Wright, Page 4***

MATT KENNEDY/MARVEL STUDIOS-DISNEY

Shuri (Letitia Wright), Wakandan princess and teenage tech genius, dons her gauntlets in "Black Panther." "The gauntlets are pretty cool," Wright says.

American Ballet Theatre mixes it up

Lauren Warnecke
Dance Card

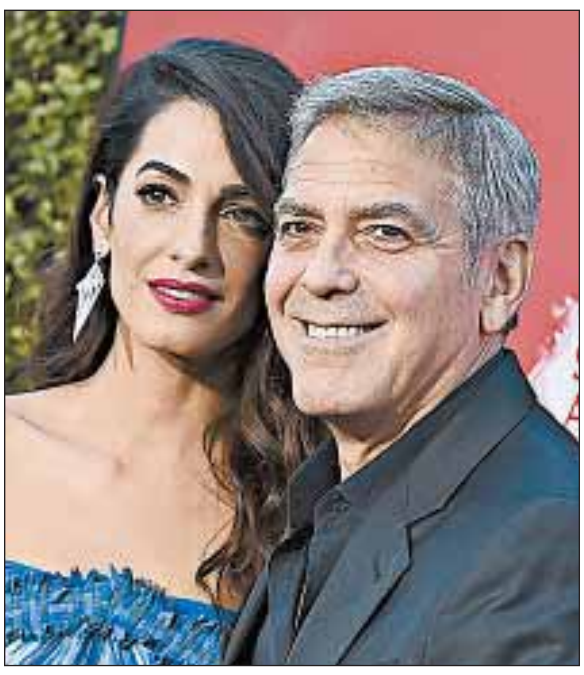
While growing up in the northwest suburbs, I have vivid memories of my parents bringing me downtown to the Auditorium Theatre to watch American Ballet Theatre. For a young student of ballet, it doesn't really get any better than that — I was fortunate to watch Julie Kent perform Odette/Odile in "Swan Lake," and Paloma Herrera, who was a teenager at the time, dance Juliet in Sir Kenneth MacMillan's dreamy version of Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet."

This weekend, a bunch of kids from the suburbs will make their way downtown to see ABT, just as I did, but their experience is going to be different. They won't be watching a story ballet. Instead, they'll see one of two mixed-repertory programs at the subterranean Harris Theater for Music and Dance. It's a first for the 14-year-old venue, and each bill perfectly complements the Harris' edgy vibe.

Turn to ***Warnecke, Page 3***

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION

Amal and George Clooney will donate $500,000 to the student-led March for Our Lives and attend, he said.

Clooneys donating $500K for march

George and Amal Clooney will donate $500,000 to the March for Our Lives, a demonstration to advocate for gun control in the wake of the shooting at a high school in Parkland, Fla., on Feb. 14.

The Clooneys also will participate in the march on Washington, D.C.

"Amal and I are so inspired by the courage and eloquence of these young men and women from Stoneman Douglas High School," George Clooney said in a statement Tuesday.

"Our family will be there on March 24 to stand side by side with this incredible generation of young people from all over the country, and in the name of our children Ella and Alexander, we're donating $500,000 to help pay for this groundbreaking event. Our children's lives depend on it."

Other celebrities, including Lady Gaga, also have pledged support on social media.

The March 24 rally is organized by five teenagers who survived the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School — Jacqueline Coren, Emma Gonzalez, Cameron Kasky, David Hogg and Alex Wind — in collaboration with the nonprofit Everytown for Gun Safety. Rallies will also be organized in cities throughout the U.S.

The mass shooting, which led to 17 deaths, has revived the national debate over gun control, including the age requirement for purchasing weapons. Suspect Nikolas Cruz, 19, had bought his first gun months after his 18th birthday. He allegedly used a military-style semi-automatic rifle to carry out the attack.

— *Variety*

ALEX GALLARDO/AP

Fergie responds to anthem critics: Fergie's performance of the national anthem at the NBA All-Star Game on Sunday didn't exactly go over well, with her sexy take causing observers to take to Twitter to express their confusion and dismay. The singer released a statement Monday, admitting that she "didn't strike the intended tone" before the game. "I've always been honored and proud to perform the national anthem and last night I wanted to try something special for the NBA," her statement reads. "I'm a risk taker artistically, and clearly this rendition didn't strike the intended tone. ... I love this country and honestly tried my best."

"SNL" alum Colin Quinn recovering from heart attack: "Saturday Night Live" alum Colin Quinn is exercising his wit days after a heart attack interrupted his busy touring schedule. The 58-year-old Quinn took to Twitter on Monday to let friends and foes alike know he's "starting a list of those who didn't 'check in' yet," five days after his Feb. 14 health emergency. The deep-thinking comic thanked the doctors and nurses at his New York hospital, saying they "realized they had a precious jewel of comedy in their hands."

Feb. 21 birthdays: Actor Anthony Daniels is 72. Actress Tyne Daly is 72. Actor Kelsey Grammer is 63. Actor William Baldwin is 55. Actress Jennifer Love Hewitt is 39. Comedian Jordan Peele is 39. Actress Ashley Greene is 31. Actress Ellen Page is 31. Actress Sophie Turner is 22.

ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Boyfriend is cast in domestic drama

Dear Amy: I am a 72-year-old (divorced) man. Four years ago, I met my widowed girlfriend (age 70). After dating for over a year, she asked me to move in and live with her in her spacious house, where her sister (age 64) also lives.

"Sister" suffers from severe clinical depression, and is on medication and medical care.

I accepted my girlfriend's invitation after receiving assurances from Sister that she is OK with this plan. When Sister doesn't get her way, there is hell to pay. We walk on eggshells out of fear that Sister may attempt suicide. Sister has attempted to kill herself six times. The last time was after I moved in.

Although trivial, the things that bother me the most are that Sister leaves her things in the common area, and although she eats in her room, she does not clean her dishes promptly, while my girlfriend and I are spotless. Sister also gets upset if we don't comply with her request to open doors and windows when she gets hot. When she gets upset, she will not talk to us for days, which upsets Girlfriend.

I love Girlfriend, and would like to have our relationship grow, but she feels caught in this loop of continuous upset that occurs almost weekly.

Obviously, I can resign from all attempts to feel at home, act like a visitor and comply with Sister's ways. Is there another solution?

— *Confused*

Dear Confused: The most obvious solution is for you to move out. The secondary solution would be for you and "Girlfriend" to renovate the house so that "Sister" has her own private suite with a kitchenette, so that she can live more independently, and you two will be separated by some sturdy drywall.

Be aware, however, that you seem to have wandered into the plot of a Tennessee Williams play. Simply put, "Girlfriend" and "Sister" were locked into this family system before you came along, and they will still be in this relationship after you're gone. Their relationship outranks yours, and because they are anchored to their own toxic dance, you can either dance along, or reclaim your own independence and love your gal from a distance.

You don't mention how (or where) "Girlfriend" lived before her husband died; learning more about that dynamic might lead you to your own answers.

Dear Amy: I have been taking care of my elderly mother for eight years. She is 84, had a stroke and is confined to a wheelchair. She needs extensive care and lives in a nearby nursing facility.

My mother is a priority for me and I visit her almost every day. I participate in activities and volunteer at the nursing facility so as to be a part of her life.

I do her laundry and bring her anything she needs. I hold her power of attorney as well.

The problem is that my brother and sister-in-law are always butting into my husband's and my business. We are criticized for buying a home and we are judged for what we do with our money.

My husband is a disabled veteran who served in Vietnam, and we do what we can in our lives to make each day the best. My brother and his wife do very little to help with Mom, because their lives are all about them.

How can I stop them from minding my business and making sarcastic remarks to us whenever we decide to do something for ourselves?

— *Sick of Critique*

Dear Sick: You give someone license to make you feel bad if you behave as if you have something to apologize for. You do not.

Don't share any personal or financial details with these relatives. Be completely transparent about your mother's care and finances, but don't offer any information about your own.

Sarcasm is the lowest form of retort. Don't stoop to a response.

Dear Amy: "Worried Wife" described life with a hoarder. If you ask my husband why he is keeping something (like "junk mail"!), he doesn't know. He has some idea that maybe he will be able to use it in the future. When I tripped over a pile of mail and broke my arm, he moved some of his stuff to a storage facility. There are now new piles on the floor.

— *S*

Dear S: This perfectly describes the pernicious persistence of a hoarding disorder. Your husband needs professional help, not another storage unit.

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A+E NOTES

Radiohead at UC in July

Radiohead on Tuesday announced a Chicago date, July 7 at the United Center.

The band hasn't really been touring all that much, still buttressing 2016's "A Moon Shaped Pool." The initial announcement spans 16 dates, all in mega-sized venues. Madison Square Garden is the stop after United Center, which kicks off the run of shows.

Tickets go on sale at 9 a.m. Friday through Ticketmaster. The presale begins Wednesday.

— *Kevin Williams*

Court unveils new season

Court Theatre will stage two world premieres, from Manual Cinema and David Auburn, in its 64th season, as well as plays from August Wilson, Anna Ziegler and Ntozake Shange, the Hyde Park company announced Tuesday.

Opening the season will be the 10th and final play in Wilson's Pittsburgh Cycle: "Radio Golf." The drama will be the seventh in the cycle directed at Court by Ron OJ Parson. About a real estate developer with dreams of becoming the first black mayor of Pittsburgh, "Radio Golf" will star Tyla Abercrumbie, Allen Gilmore, James Vincent Meredith and Alfred H. Wilson. "Radio Golf" plays Aug. 30-Sept. 30.

The premiere of an immersive "Frankenstein," adapted from the Mary Shelley novel by Chicago-based shadow puppetry innovators Manual Cinema, will come to life in the winter. Devised by Drew Dir, Sarah Fornace and Julia Miller, with concept by Dir and original music by Kyle Vegter and Ben Kauffman, the gothic tale will fuse the monster's origin story with Shelley's biography (Nov. 1-Dec. 2).

Kicking off the new year will be Ziegler's "Photograph 51," about British chemist Rosalind Franklin and her role in the double helix DNA discovery. Vanessa Stalling will direct. Chaon Cross will star (Jan. 17-Feb. 17).

Broadway cast member Seret Scott will direct Shange's choreopoem "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf," featuring stories from seven women about suffering and surviving (March 14-April 14).

Closing out the season is the world premiere of "The Adventures of Augie March," adapted by David Auburn from Saul Bellow's coming-of-age novel. Artistic director Charles Newell will direct (May 9-June 9).

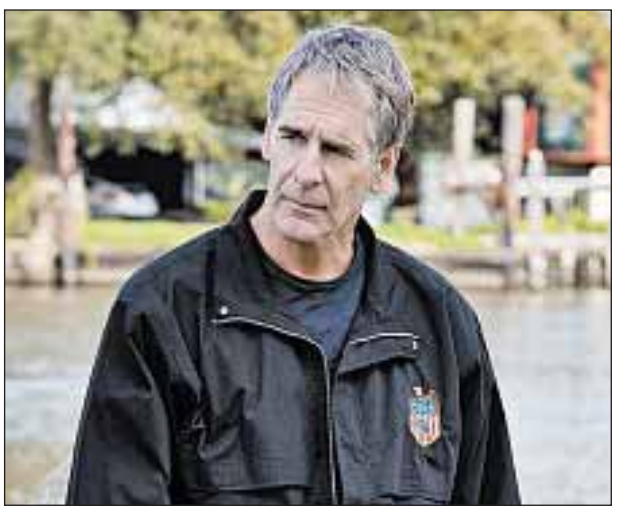
All performances take place at Court Theatre, 5535 S. Ellis Ave.

— *Morgan Greene*

For Scott Bakula, playing piano was no quantum leap

By Rich Heldenfels

Tribune News Service



SKIP BOLEN/CBS

Scott Bakula of "NCIS: New Orleans" (and former star of "Quantum Leap" and "Star Trek: Enterprise") plays piano.

You have questions. I have some answers.

Q: Does Scott Bakula actually play piano on "NCIS: New Orleans"?

A: Yes. Bakula played piano before taking on the role of Dwayne Pride. He told "CBS This Morning" in 2015 that the show then worked his piano playing into Pride's character.

Q: Is Garry Walberg from "Quincy, M.E.," any relation to Donnie and Mark Wahlberg?

A: Short answer: No. And actors Donnie and Mark spell their last name with an H, as in Wahlberg. Thinking sound-alike names are the same is not unusual. TV host Mark L. Walberg (no H) has more than once over the years had to make clear he is not the movie Mark. As for Garry Walberg, the actor who played Frank Monahan on the medical-mystery series had a nice long career; he passed away in 2012 at the age of 90.

Q: Who decides when shows get released on DVD? I am waiting for the remaining seasons of several series.

A: Two questions must be answered before a show is released on disc: Will it sell, and does the distributor have all the rights needed to release it? Some long-running and popular shows had long waits before getting to DVD because of rights issues, such as whether all the music is available for the release, and have all the participants (actors, producers, studios and so on) agreed on its appearing. Music has kept several shows from being released or has led to the home-video version substituting music for the original sound.

As for sales, that can even stall a show whose early seasons are released only to sell poorly, so the distributor decides against offering more. On the other hand, fantasy and supernatural shows get released even if they were not ratings successes because collectors buy them. Distributors also may choose other paths than the disc format, making shows available for streaming or download instead.

Q: On "The Bachelor," if the wedding does not occur, must the ring be returned?

A: In a 2016 interview with Entertainment Weekly, "Bachelor" host Chris Harrison noted how many romances have not lasted when he said, "The rings I actually have at home. They're on a necklace, and I'll wear it around sometimes."

More seriously, "Entertainment Tonight" reported in 2017 that a couple has to give back the ring if they break up in less than two years. What happens then is not clear. The production company may keep the rings, ring designer Neil Lane may get them back or (at least one time) the ring gets recycled for a later "Bachelor."

Q: I am wondering if there will be a new season for "The Royals" on E!

A: The fourth season begins March 11.

Revisiting a previous topic

Q: I too quit watching "Elementary" because I couldn't understand what the actor (Jonny Lee Miller as Sherlock Holmes) was saying. The actor spoke much too rapidly, and his voice was soft and weak. The show seemed to be well-written, but it got to be a drag trying to follow what was going on.

A: This was one of several letters backing a reader's earlier complaint about Miller's speaking on the CBS drama. As I said before, I have not had a problem understanding him, and neither has my wife. The series begins its new season April 30.

Do you have a question or comment about entertainment? Write to Rich Heldenfels, P.O. Box 417, Mogadore, OH 44260, or ***brenfels@gmail.com****. Letters may be edited. Individual replies are not guaranteed.*

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CHICAGOLAND THEATRE DIRECTORY

Finally, the uncut 'Porgy and Bess'

University of Michigan stages American classic as Gershwin wrote it

Howard Reich
My Kind of Jazz

PETER SMITH PHOTOGRAPHY/UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN PHOTOS

Morris Robinson plays Porgy and Talise Trevigne is Bess in the scholarly performance edition of "Porgy and Bess," five years in the making.

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — A few weeks before the first performance of the opera "Porgy and Bess," in its Boston tryout of 1935, composer George Gershwin attended a run-through of the epic work in Carnegie Hall.

That may have been the last time he heard his greatest masterpiece performed in full.

For by the time the cast began rehearsing in Boston, cuts were made to the sprawling piece. And after opening night — Sept. 30, 1935 — the show's producers still "felt that the opera's three-hour running time was excessive," writes Edward Jablonski in his definitive biography, "Gershwin." Arias were dropped, vocal ensembles pieces cut or reduced to solos and some of the most sophisticated writing of Gershwin's career eliminated.

By the time "Porgy and Bess" launched on Broadway at the Alvin Theatre the next month, the audience encountered a butchered version that suffered withering and condescending reviews, lost money and closed after 124 performances. Ever since, "Porgy and Bess" has been staged with some material restored, some cut, some seemingly lost to history.

Until Saturday night, when a capacity audience filled spacious Hill Auditorium on the University of Michigan campus to hear "Porgy and Bess" as Gershwin wrote it: in a performance that clocked in at 10 minutes shy of four hours. Virtually every note that Gershwin penned for what he called his "folk opera" finally was heard (the only deletion was a scene that Gershwin never orchestrated, suggesting that he had dropped it of his own volition).

"It will be the fullest version you ever heard," the editor of the restored score, Wayne Shirley, told me a few days before the performance.

Not only was Gershwin's opus performed in toto, but also — starting with the score's opening measures — pitches had been corrected, long-lost bars reintroduced, instrumental voicing recalibrated and a snippet of dialogue returned to its critical place in the three-act opera.

Five years in the making, this 720-page scholarly performance edition of "Porgy and Bess" nevertheless remains a work in progress, Saturday evening's concert serving as "a sort of test reading, to find the mistakes that we missed in the ongoing proofreading," Shirley said. "And just to see what is it we've done wrong."

When Shirley and colleagues at the University of Michigan are finished, in time for a future production at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" — with libretto by DuBose and Dorothy Heyward and lyrics by DuBose Heyward and Ira Gershwin (George's brother) — will at last have a complete vocal-orchestral score encompassing available scholarship on the composer's intentions.

Chauncey Packer portrays Sporting Life in the three-hour, 50-minute production.

The "Porgy and Bess" project is but one phase of the University of Michigan's Gershwin Initiative, which is creating critical editions of all Gershwin's works, just as has been done with manuscripts by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms and Chopin, a club to which America's greatest composer surely belongs.

But considering the constraints that opera houses and theater companies face — not least bringing "the curtain down" so customers can hurry home, in Shirley's words — it will be a long time before "Porgy and Bess" is performed in as complete a form as it was in Ann Arbor.

That this was a concert reading, rather than a staged performance, surprisingly only heightened the work's communicative eloquence. For the production focused attention on the element that always has been central to "Porgy and Bess" and has explained its global appeal: Gershwin's music.

The performance began auspiciously, thanks to the work of conductor Kenneth Kiesler, who set a quick pace from the first measures, aptly reflecting Gershwin's predilection for energy and forward motion. Even in the reflective arias to come, Kiesler refused to let tempos flag or melodies bog down in sentimentality, giving this "Porgy and Bess" a jazz-tinged thrust often lost in the opera house. Though a funkier-sounding piano and rhythmically freer approach to the introductory piano solo would have enriched the opening pages (as in conductor Simon Rattle's classic, 1989 recording of "Porgy"), there was no question that listeners were in the hands of performers who understood the folkloric syntax of this music.

The evening's first revelations came courtesy of the University Symphony Orchestra. Thanks to newly clarified details of orchestration and the sterling performance of these young artists, one could marvel anew at the inner workings of Gershwin's score. A dancing clarinet figure here, an inexorably rising violin crescendo there, a touch of shimmering brass somewhere else told listeners that "Porgy" is so much more than a series of exquisitely crafted melodies: It's a multidimensional work in which the instrumentals comment upon — and interact with — arias and choral passages.

And because many sections of the new "Porgy" doubled the first violins, as Gershwin wished, listeners heard swells of melody rising up from an onstage ensemble that otherwise would have been consigned to the pit in a fully staged operatic production. One wondered if the orchestral accompaniment ever has sounded more texturally lucid than this.

A skeptic might doubt whether the inclusion of a few words of dialogue would have any noticeable effect on a work of this size and scale, but they surely did in the buildup to one of the opera's most beloved duets, "Bess, You Is My Woman Now." After Porgy (played by Morris Robinson) sang, "Yes, Bess, I feels you ought to go" to a picnic Porgy cannot attend, Bess (Talise Trevigne) spoke these words: "If you ain' goin', I ain' goin'," a preamble to Porgy singing his opening line of the duet to come, which is, "Bess, you is my woman now."

That interchange never had been performed onstage in "Porgy," and it illuminated the genesis of the title characters' love.

Though this production held too many high points to detail here, they included the stunning vocal counterpoint of "Six Simultaneous Prayers," in which Gershwin captured the fervor he'd heard in a Southern church when researching his opera, but with his original music (this passage tragically was cut in Boston).

Also of note: the rowdy reeds and brass in a passage evoking the band music of the South Carolina locale, and Chauncey Packer's vocal flights as Sporting Life singing "It Ain't Necessarily So," the charismatic tenor's self-styled cries distinct from traditional readings but still quite effective (John W. Bubbles also improvised his lines in originating this role).

The deep humanity Robinson conveyed as Porgy and the tonal radiance of Karen Slack as Serena stood out. Trevigne's Bess took a long time to gain much-needed intensity; Norman Garrett proved too tethered to the score in his hands to conjure the terrifying nature of the murderous Crown.

Ultimately, though, the star of the evening was the score itself, at last played in its fullness, 83 years after Gershwin heard it for the last time: He died less than two years after the premiere, at age 38.

It was well worth the wait.

Howard Reich is a Tribune critic.

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Gender equality and diversity a focus

Warnecke, *from Page 1*

All but one piece on the two repertory programs were created either for ABT or its artists, including Antony Tudor's exquisite pas de deux from his 1975 "The Leaves are Fading," Jerome Robbins' "Other Dances" (1976) and an early abstract Christopher Wheeldon work called "Thirteen Diversions" (2011). Newer commissions included on the programs are Jessica Lang's "Her Notes" (2016), set to a piano suite by Fanny Mendelssohn (Felix Mendelssohn's sister), two works by resident choreographer Alexei Ratmansky, and Benjamin Millepied's "I Feel the Earth Move," which premiered in New York last October and is set to three works by composer Philip Glass. (For those following along, works by Jerome Robbins and Doug Varone employing music by Glass have just recently been seen in Chicago.)

In a statement to the Tribune, ABT artistic director Kevin McKenzie noted the significance and symbolism of his programming choices. "The body of work represented here ranges from our founding artist in residence, Antony Tudor, to our present-day one, Alexei Ratmansky," he wrote. "Each influenced the company profoundly, as well as their contemporaries in the field."

The exception, of course, is the pas de deux from Marius Petipa's 1869 "Don Quixote." That one's just plain bravura. Principal dancer Misty Copeland, who was a household name even before becoming the first African-American woman promoted to ABT's highest rank, observed how these works demonstrate how ballet is changing, which, in part, is reflected by the choreographers' different approaches in the studio.

"There's really no particular formula that any one choreographer uses," she said in a phone interview with the Tribune. "One of Alexei (Ratmansky)'s strengths is that he's so educated on the history of ballet, and dedicated to bringing back classics. I think it's OK to continue to bring that rich history to the stage."

Recently, Ratmansky infamously commented on social media that "there is no equality in ballet," as a way to imply that gender roles in classical ballet are not something to be meddled with. But choreographers less invested in the reconstruction of classics, like Millepied, are more willing to let go of ballet's archetypes.

ROSALIE O'CONNOR PHOTO

Misty Copeland will perform with the American Ballet Theatre at the Harris. "Bringing diversity into the theater is going to keep ballet thriving and relevant and alive," she said.

For example, Millepied created a pas de deux on Copeland and David Hallberg for "I Feel the Earth Move," with the idea that they could eventually switch roles and do each other's part. It was Copeland's first time working with the choreographer, and said "it was a really fun creative process. He had some set ideas, but he was really creating right there in front of us. As ballet dancers, we're not always treated like adults," Copeland said. "We're constantly talked to like students, and Benjamin (Millepied) made us all feel like his equal. He allowed us to take the responsibility and trusted us that we were going to perform when the time came."

"We should not let go of a lot of the classics," Copeland said. "Yeah, maybe there's an imbalance in terms of gender equality, but moving forward, choreographers are definitely approaching things in a more equal way."

Copeland said ABT and ballet in general are naturally moving in a direction that favors gender equality and more diversity onstage, but key to ballet's survival is the diversification of its patrons, too. "Bringing diversity into the theater is going to keep ballet thriving and relevant and alive. To me, that's so critical and so important," she said. "The more diverse people we get (in the audience), they'll have a voice and an opinion. As of now, it's still the same old, white crowd that's very comfortable seeing what they've seen for hundreds of years. So when you get a younger, diverse group, it's going to change the demand for what they want to see."

This, in part, is what makes it so exciting that ABT is coming to the Harris, whose programming expertly curates classical music, opera and dance for a younger, hipper, more diverse crowd. And maybe those kids from the suburbs will be coming for the first time, taking a chance on ballet because they are finally able to see someone onstage who looks like them and tells stories they want to hear.

When: Thursday through Sunday

Where: Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 205 E. Randolph Drive

Tickets: $35-$125 at 312-334-7777 and **www.harristheaterchicago.org**

Also of note

Deeply Rooted Dance Theater: In December, Deeply Rooted premiered "Indumba" by South African choreographer Fana Tshabalala, in a performance that was easily the best of 2017. That's a hard act to follow; however, the company's spring program is not likely to disappoint. Nicole Clarke-Springer remounts her 2016 "Femme," and premieres a new work that draws inspiration from "Alice in Wonderland" to explore issues related to female empowerment. *7:30 p.m. Saturday at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie; $25-$45 at 847-673-6300 and* ***www.northshorecenter.org.***

Lauren Warnecke is a freelance critic.

ctc-arts@chicagotribune.com

Brownlee song cycle explores race

Von Rhein, *from Page 1*

Schumann's "Dichterliebe" ("Poet's Love").

Race relations in the U.S. is a subject the 46-year-old singer has addressed in various ways over the past several years: witness his performing spirituals with jazz pianist Jason Moran in a church in Harlem in 2016 to demonstrate solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement.

"I want to use my art in a positive way, as a platform to talk about things I'm passionate about," Brownlee said last week between "Puritani" performances at Lyric. "This song cycle was an opportunity for us, as African-American men, to shape something together, to be in control of the discourse, to say things that are important to us, and to say them honestly."

Although "Cycles of My Being" references recent instances of black men in sometimes violent confrontation with police, the cycle steers clear of taking a political stance, Brownlee said.

"We talk about hate, we talk about religion, we talk about consciousness. We talk about waking up every morning with something to be thankful for. We talk a lot about hope and what hope means to us. Our goal is not to shake our fists at anyone," the singer said.

"One of the questions we ask in the cycle is, America, do you love the air in me, as I love the air in you?"

Neither Brownlee nor Sorey nor Hayes was familiar with one another's work before they began their collaboration early last year, finishing the cycle in December and making minor revisions last month.

Knowing of the singer's interest in creating a recital piece addressing African-American male identity in the 21st century, Brownlee's publicist, Andrew Ousley, suggested Sorey, best known as a jazz percussionist and a 2017 recipient of a MacArthur Foundation "genius grant" fellowship.

Brownlee listened to some songs Sorey had written about the barrier-breaking entertainer Josephine Baker, and a couple of other pieces of his on YouTube. He knew then that he had found his composer. For their librettist, they sought out Hayes, a young African-American poet and a 2014 MacArthur Fellow whose poetry deals with issues of racial identity and masculinity.

Assembling the song cycle was, in the singer's words, "somewhat of a workshop" for all three collaborators. Brownlee told Hayes some of the subject areas he would like the texts to address.

CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Tenor Lawrence Brownlee, who plays Arturo in Bellini's "I Puritani" at the Lyric, will perform the new song cycle Thursday at the DuSable Museum.

"We talk about hate, we talk about religion, we talk about consciousness. ... Our goal is not to shake our fists at anyone."

— Lawrence Brownlee

He also pointed out to Sorey certain characteristics of his voice and which parts of the vocal compass feel most comfortable to him.

It soon became clear to Brownlee and Hayes that they were providing the composer with more written material than could be included in the finished text. "There's a large amount of my own writing in this," the tenor explained. "A couple of things I urged him to include because they are important to me."

Recent, widely reported incidents involving the deaths of African-American men, and the Black Lives Matter movement that arose as a result, find expression in parts of Sorey's jazz-tinged score. The composer suggested as much in a recent interview. "Some stuff is really pretty; there's a lot of patterns," he said. Then, during the third movement, "it definitely takes a turn." That's where the piano part explodes in violent chords, and the vocal line skitters between dynamic extremes.

Although "Cycles of My Being" is a piece of classical music created by three black men, Brownlee said he hopes it will help bring together audience members of different races, ages and cultures, with mutual respect and understanding, in these divided times.

By repudiating the largely negative stereotype of African-American men that clouds the national conversation about race and social justice, the song cycle Brownlee helped bring into the world speaks to humanity's better angels, he said.

"I hope that it will bring some type of clarity and empathy, a different way to view other people. This music is meant to do good. If we tell our story in a way that is not confrontational, someone who does not experience what we as people of color experience on a day-to-day basis might be able to say after they hear this piece, 'OK, that was some tough information. But I *understand.*' "

Tenor Lawrence Brownlee will present "Cycles of My Being," a song cycle by Tyshawn Sorey and Terrance Hayes, with pianist Myra Huang, under auspices of Lyric Unlimited, at 7 p.m. Thursday at the DuSable Museum of African American History, 740 E. 56th Place; $15, $10 for museum members; 312-827-5600, ***www.lyricopera.org/cycles***

Pregardien at U. of C.

An admired tenor of an older generation, with a very different cultural perspective to bring to the art of song singing, made his Chicago debut over the weekend at the University of Chicago.

German tenor Christoph Pregardien may be better known as a baroque interpreter than as a lieder singer, but in fact he is an experienced and justly celebrated artist in the German song repertory. The all-Schubert program he and the veteran pianist Julius Drake presented Sunday afternoon in Mandel Hall showed the singer fully living up to his reputation as a master Schubertian.

Pregardien devoted the first half of the program to nine songs on poems by the little-known Ernst Schulze, the second half to eight lieder based on texts of various poets, including Friedrich Ruckert.

In all of the songs, he proved himself to be a musical storyteller of rare perception, and rarer sensitivity. His ability to penetrate to the expressive essence of even the most banal romantic poetry, with a voice of no great size, but a softly pleasing timbre, vibrato, was remarkable. What a pleasure it was to hear German verse articulated so clearly and idiomatically through Schubert's settings.

Drake's splendid way with the all-important piano parts made him no mere accompanist, but a fully engaged partner in musico-poetic illumination.

The audience heard songs of nature, songs of love in its infinite variety, interesting rarities along with well-known lieder like "Im Fruhling" and "Du bist die Ruh." Pregardien brought an almost preternatural serenity to the latter song, capping it off with a flawless shift to head voice and a perfectly sustained diminuendo on the high note. The recital was full of subtleties such as that, magic moments when singer and song were indivisible.

John von Rhein is a Tribune critic.

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Letitia Wright is just getting started

Wright , *from Page 1*

much her brother's keeper.

"It's a lot of love and loyalty between them, and they have each other's backs," she said. "He's got her and she's got him. They're royalty, but there's still something about them which the world can relate to. They make a good team.

"People keep saying this thing about Shuri being the Q to T'Challa like in James Bond (films). She looks out for him and she protects him. She also tells him the truth."

Besides being next in line to the throne, Shuri also happens to be a tech genius, fashioning all of Black Panther's vibranium tech out of her own lab.

"I stayed very closely with the script," Wright said of how she prepared for the role. "I trusted what (director, co-writer) Ryan (Coogler) and (co-writer) Joe (Robert Cole) were going to be doing with it. And I didn't look at the comic books, because I didn't want to be overwhelmed by the fact that she has such an important part in the Wakandan world."

Wright, who was born in Guyana and raised in London, also prepped by watching documentaries about young African women in the STEM fields.

"(I'd) just listen to their challenges, which were similar to what Shuri goes through," she said. "I found that was a reality for many girls in Africa — they were looked down upon. I used that to influence my performance and fuel the drive that Shuri has to really push the boundaries of the technology."

Wright has been acting since 2011 on British shows like "Top Boy," "Doctor Who" and "Humans" and in films such as "The Commuter" and "Urban Hymn," which led to a British Academy of Film and Television Arts awards nomination in the category of most promising newcomer. Late last year she enjoyed a buzzy starring role as Nish in the "Black Museum" episode of Charlie Brooker's Emmy-winning "Black Mirror." But with the blockbuster "Black Panther," Wright will experience her first taste of global fame.

CHRISTINA HOUSE/LOS ANGELES TIMES

"It feels like a moment in time, and it's not going to be forgotten," actress Letitia Wright says of "Black Panther's" global success. Wright will reprise the role of Shuri later this year in "Avengers: Infinity War."

"Oh, man, I never really thought about it like that," she said. "In my mind, I don't really see myself as being famous. I just think my work is being exposed to a bigger audience.

"I'm just a local girl. I'm just a young girl trying to fulfill the purpose that's been placed in my heart to do."

In both "Black Panther" and "Black Mirror," Wright plays characters deeply affected by technology: first the mastermind behind it and then a victim of it.

In "Black Museum," Wright's Nish is a visitor at the eponymous roadside attraction who has a mysterious tie to one of the exhibits. The episode, which serves as its own anthology within an anthology series, touches on the American prison system, mass incarceration and exploitation.

"Shuri is very different from Nish in 'Black Mirror,'" Wright said, adding that it's important to her that every character she portrays be multidimensional.

"I want you to leave with something. Whether you leave feeling inspired, like what Shuri leaves you with, or you leave thinking about all the black men that are put in prison and (are) being used ..." she paused to make sure that comment was on the record.

"I don't want to do it just to do it. (It) doesn't necessarily have to be a political storyline or topic, but it has to have something to say. There has to be some type of meaning. It has to be worth my while, so it can mean something to someone else to sit there for an hour and watch it."

As to the tech through line in her recent roles, Wright admits she's no real-life Shuri: "I just have my iPhone and I just chug away at that.

"I think it's just the season I'm in at the moment. Next time, it might be something else, another theme. No, I'm not super smart and tech-savvy. I leave that to Shuri. But the type of tech that they have in Wakanda? Aw, man, I wish I had that for real."

A particularly favorite gadget is the gauntlets.

"The gauntlets are pretty cool," she says. "But, aw, man, if I reveal the other thing (I like), it'll be a spoiler."

And from the Black Museum?

"Technology from the Black Museum, ah!" she says with a laugh.

"Not the head thing," she says, referring to character Dawson's symphatic diagnoser. "Not that. I would take the portable car charger that allows your car to charge back up from the sun. Definitely taking that."

Though Wright will appear next in Steven Spielberg's "Ready Player One," Shuri will be back later this year for "Avengers: Infinity War," where she'll likely cross paths with fellow geniuses Tony Stark and Bruce Banner. Wright is confident Shuri will hold her own among them.

"I think she'll be OK," she said with a laugh. "I think she would humble herself to learn from them, and challenge them as well with new designs and new ideas from Wakanda. And she's willing to learn from the West, because her brother is so open now. I think she's embracing that as well. She would hold her own."

With "Black Panther" opening to rave reviews and record-setting box office, the movie feels even bigger than the already blockbuster-level Marvel releases. How does it feel to be a part of such a cultural phenomenon?

"It feels good, because it's a moment," Wright said. "It feels like a moment in time, and it's not going to be forgotten. And it's going to open up a lot of doors for many more films like this to be made. I feel very empowered."

sonaiya.kelley@latimes.com

WATCH THIS: WEDNESDAY

Juicy

"Little Women: Atlanta" (8 p.m., 9:15 p.m., Lifetime): In the new episode "Cover Girls," Juicy takes a major risk when she hires Sam to do her makeup for her first magazine cover shoot. Minnie tries to decide whether she should forgive Andrea and attend her baby shower. Elsewhere, Monie finally gets Morlin on board with her desire to have a baby, only to realize that maybe things are moving too quickly given the major commitment involved.

"The Resident" (7 p.m., FOX): "Identity Crisis" is the appropriate title of an episode in which Conrad (Matt Czuchry) experiences such a situation, informing the wrong family of a death — an error he then tries to fix. Nic (Emily VanCamp) tries to locate the missing records of one of Lane's (Melina Kanakaredes) patients. Mina (Shaunette Renee Wilson) suffers consequences from going too far in the job. Bruce Greenwood, Manish Dayal and Merrin Dungey also star.

"Riverdale" (7 p.m., CW): With Southside High suddenly closed, Jughead (Cole Sprouse) is among Riverdale High's newest students in "Chapter Twenty-Three: The Blackboard Jungle." While that impacts Betty (Lil Reinhart), she has other concerns as she seeks her brother Chic (guest star Hart Denton). Archie (KJ Apa) isn't sure what to do when he's asked to become an informant on Hiram (Mark Consuelos). Camila Mendes, Madchen Amick and Marisol Nichols also star.

"Speechless" (7:30 p.m., ABC): Nick Viall — known to fans of "The Bachelor" as one of the most recent men who did the choosing on that show — guest stars as a new acquaintance JJ (Micah Fowler) makes while visiting a college. The fellow is an actor, and his skills eventually come in handy in keeping JJ out of trouble. Back at home, Ray (Mason Cook) takes full advantage of being left on his own.

"9-1-1" (8 p.m., FOX): Acclaimed producer Ryan Murphy puts his stamp on a series about first responders with this drama, examining both their professional and personal levels whether police officers, firefighters or paramedics. Two veterans of Murphy's "American Horror Story," Angela Bassett and Connie Britton, are in the ensemble cast here.

"Corporate" (9 p.m., Comedy Central): When Christian (Lance Reddick) has to take an urgent phone call, John and Kate (Adam Lustick, Anne Dudek) are forced to step up and run a brainstorming session in the new episode "The Long Meeting." The pair immediately earn the enmity of the other participants by taking all their phones away until the meeting is concluded.

TALK SHOWS

"Conan" (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS): Actor Allison Janney; comic Pete Holmes; comic Daniel Sloss.*

"The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (10:35 p.m., CBS): Actor Sam Rockwell; director J.J. Abrams; BORNS performs.*

"Jimmy Kimmel Live" (10:35 p.m., ABC): Celebrity guests and comedy skits.*

* Subject to change

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

WEDNESDAY EVENING, FEB. 21

MOVIES

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	Big Brother: Celebrity Edition (N) © HD		The Amazing Race: "It's Just a Million Dollars, No Pressure." (Season Finale) (N) © HD				News (N) ♦
	NBC 5	2018 Winter Olympics: Alpine Skiing, Freestyle Skiing, Bobsled, Cross-Country Skiing. (N) (Live) © HD						NBC 5 News (N) ♦
	ABC 7	The Goldbergs HD	Speechless ©	Modern Family	American Housewife	Match Game (N) © HD		News at 10pm (N) ♦
	WGN 9	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N) (Live) © HD		WGN News at Ten (N)
	Antenna 9.2	3's Comp.	Soap ©	Benson ©	Wings ©	Murphy	Becker ©	Coach ©
	This TV 9.3	Retribution Road (PG-13,'07) John Castellanos. ©				The Missouri Breaks (PG,'76) ★★★ ♦		
	PBS 11	Chicago Tonight (N)		Nature: "The Last Rhino." (N) © HD		NOVA: "Secrets of the Sky Tombs." © HD		Impossible Builds (N) ♦
	The U 26.1	7 Eyewitness News (N)		The Game	The Game	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©
	MeTV 26.3	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Mama's	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
	H&I 26.4	Star Trek ©		Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Star Trek ♦
	Bounce 26.5	Living Single	Living Single	Bait (R,'00) ★ Jamie Foxx, David Morse.				
	FOX 32	The Resident: "Identity Crisis." © HD		9-1-1: "Pilot." © HD		Fox 32 News at Nine (N)		Modern Family ©
	Ion 38	Law & Order © HD		Law & Order: "Life Line."		Law & Order: "Birthright."		Law ♦
	TeleM 44	José José, el príncipe (N)		Al otro lado del muro (N)		Enemigo íntimo (N) ©		Chicago (N)
	CW 50	Riverdale © HD		Penn & Teller: Fool Us		Dateline: "Indiscretion."		Dateline ♦
	UniMas 60	La niña (N) HD		La tierra prometida (N)		Mita y mita	Mita y mita	Noticias Uni
	WJYS 62	Salem Baptist Church		Joyce Meyer	Robison	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Monument
	Univ 66	El rico y Lázaro		Papá a toda madre		Caer en tentación (N)		Noticias (N)
CABLE	AE	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage (N)	Rooster & Butch (N) ©		Storage ♦
	AMC	Pretty Woman (R,'90) ★★★ Richard Gere, Julia Roberts. © (SAP)					Pretty Woman ('90) ★★★ ♦	
	ANIM	Treehouse Masters ©		Treehouse Masters: Branched Out (N) ©				Treehouse ♦
	BBCA	Planet Earth: Human		Planet Earth: Blue Planet II ©			Planet Earth: Human	
	BET	Dea. Chronicles		Dea. Chronicles		Dea. Chronicles (N)		Chronicles
	BIGTEN	♦ College Basketball (N)		College Basketball: Iowa at Minnesota. (N) (Live) ©				The B1G
	BRAVO	Next Friday (R,'00) ★★ Ice Cube, Mike Epps. ©				Housewives/Atl.		Watch (N)
	CLTV	News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	SportsFeed ©		Politics
	CNBC	Shark Tank ©		Shark Tank ©		Shark Tank ©		Shark ♦
	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		Tonight (N) ♦
	COM	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	Corporate	South Park	Daily (N) ♦
	DISC	♦ (6) Street Outlaws (N) ©		Street Outlaws (N) ©		(9:01) Street Outlaws (N)		Outlaws ♦
	DISN	Andi Mack	Stuck	Bizaardvark	Raven	Gravity Falls	Gravity Falls	Andi Mack
	E!	The Kardashians		Hollywood Medium		Hollywood Medium		E! News ♦
	ESPN	♦ College Basketball (N)		College Basketball: Louisville at Duke. (N) (Live)				SportCtr (N)
	ESPN2	♦ College Basketball (N)		College Basketball: Florida at Tennessee. (N) (Live)				Basketball
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)		Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News
	FOOD	Guy's Grocery Games		Guy's Grocery Games (N)		Guy's Grocery Games		Grocery ♦
	FREE	♦ Monster	The Wedding Planner (PG-13,'01) ★★ Jennifer Lopez. ©					700 Club ♦
	FX	Kingsman: The Secret Service (R,'14) ★★★ Colin Firth, Michael Caine. ©						Kingsman ♦
	HALL	Full House	Full House	The Middle	The Middle	The Middle	The Middle	Golden Girls
	HGTV	Property Brothers ©		Property Brothers (N) ©		Hunters (N)	Hunt Intl (N)	Property ♦
	HIST	Lincoln (PG-13,'12) ★★★ Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field. © ♦						
	HLN	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	IFC	The Town (R,'10) ★★★ Ben Affleck, Rebecca Hall. ©						The Town ♦
	LIFE	Little Women: Atlanta (N)		Little Women: Atlanta (N)		Little Women: Atlanta ©		Little ♦
	MSNBC	All In With Chris Hayes		Rachel Maddow Show (N)		The Last Word (N)		11th Hour (N)
	MTV	♦ Catfish: The TV Show ©		Catfish: The TV Show ©		Catfish: The TV Show (N)		Catfish ♦
	NBCSCH	NHL Hockey: Ottawa Senators at Chicago Blackhawks. (N) (Live) ©					Postgame	The Loop (N)
	NICK	The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water ★★★				Full House	Full House	Friends ©
	OVATION	♦ (6) Crimson Tide (R,'95) ★★★ ©			Gladiator (R,'92) ★★ Cuba Gooding Jr. ♦			
	OWN	If Loving You Is Wrong		If Loving You Is Wrong		Loving You (N)		Loving ♦
	OXY	CSI: Crime Scene		CSI: Crime Scene		CSI: Crime Scene		NCIS © ♦
	PARMT	♦ (6) National Treasure (PG,'04) ★★ Nicolas Cage. ©				Waco (N) © (Part 5 of 6)		Cops ©
	SYFY	♦ Mad Max: Fury Road ★★★		The Magicians (N) ©		Butcher's Block (N)		Transportr ♦
	TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Full Frontal	Conan © ♦
	TCM	The Three Faces of Eve (NR,'57) ★★★		(8:45) Born Yesterday (NR,'50) ★★★ Judy Holliday. ♦				
	TLC	My 600-Lb. Life: "Lisa's Story." (N) ©				Dr. Pimple Popper (N)		My 600-Lb ♦
	TLN	Humanit	Humanit	Diane	Humanit	Exalted	Tru News	Robison
	TNT	The Expendables 3 (PG-13,'14) ★★ Sylvester Stallone. ©					(9:45) Point Break ★★ ♦	
	TOON	King of Hill	Amer. Dad	Cleveland	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy
	TRAV	Expedition Unknown ©		Expedition Unknown (N)		Expedition Unknown ©		Expedition ♦
	TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Mom ©	Mom ©	King
	USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law-SVU ♦
	VH1	Black Ink Crew ©		Black Ink Crew (N) ©		Love & Hip Hop Miami		Black Ink ♦
	WE	Mama June- Not to Hot		Mama June- Not to Hot		Mama June- Not to Hot		Ma. June ♦
	WGN America	Funniest Home Videos		Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13,'02) ★★ ©				Cops ©
PREMIUM	HBO	The House (R,'17) ★ Will Ferrell.			Crashing	High Main.	Here and Now ©	
	HBO2	Divorce ©	Divorce ©	2 Dope Queens ©		Domestic Disturbance (PG-13,'01) ★		
	MAX	S.W.A.T. (PG-13,'03) ★★ Samuel L. Jackson. ©				The Mummy (PG-13,'17) ★★ © ♦		
	SHO	♦ Light Between Oceans		Eric Clapton: Life in 12 Bars (NR,'17) Eric Clapton.				Whitney ♦
	STARZ	♦ (6:03) Grease 2 ('82) ★★		Passengers (PG-13,'16) ★★ Jennifer Lawrence.				Cant Wait ♦
	STZENC	♦ (6:24) Bio-Dome ('96) ★		(8:01) Frenzy (R,'72) ★★★ Jon Finch. ©				Ash vs Evil

Need to sew? Filmmakers call on pros

By Randee Dawn
Los Angeles Times

LAURIE SPARHAM/FOCUS FEATURES

Daniel Day-Lewis, left, with director Paul Thomas Anderson, got some sewing tips for "Phantom Thread."

Acting isn't just about reading lines and hitting your marks. Performers have to become instant experts in whatever their characters do best, and those specialized talents shift with every film. So, in order for the actors to become proficient in a new skill, studios call in outside help. Here are four experts in their field who stepped forward to teach sewing ("Phantom Thread"), ice skating ("I, Tonya"), Native American language and culture ("Hostiles") and tennis ("Battle of the Sexes") to help those films' stars make it all look easy, natural and — hopefully — award-worthy.

Susan Clark

(seamstress, "Phantom Thread")

Expert resume: Clark, a former teacher of dressmaking and tailoring and now a specialist sewing volunteer at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, was brought in to speak with director Paul Thomas Anderson, costume designer Mark Bridges and star Daniel Day-Lewis (playing fashion designer Reynolds Woodcock) about mid-20th-century couture dressmaking rooms and about the outfits themselves. Next she was asked to appear in the film; Clark plays Biddy, one of Woodcock's seamstress employees. "We weren't allowed to tell anyone we met," Clark said. "It was a secret."

Lessons learned: Day-Lewis "in particular" asked Clark (and fellow Victoria & Albert volunteer Joan Brown) to point out what could be improved or whether something was being done wrong; that included assembling a lacy dress in the correct order. "Daniel had already learned to sew and make garments," she recalled. "He was quite apt in sewing."

Expert extra: The phrase "phantom thread" has no particular meaning in sewing circles.

Sarah Kawahara

(skating coach and choreographer, "I, Tonya")

Expert resume: Figure skater and choreographer Kawahara joined Ice Capades at age 17 and later earned two Emmys for her choreography of exhibition skating TV specials (including one with Nancy Kerrigan).

Lessons learned: While Margot Robbie (playing Tonya Harding at many ages) ultimately dedicated months to train in skating, Kawahara was on hand intensively for the first five weeks and provided drills for her to do when she went home to her native Australia. "It goes beyond learning to skate technically," Kawahara said. "It has to look natural to them." That included casual moves, like skating out to the ice and back again and stopping. In addition, 2017 skating skills are different from the ones in the 1990s, when the film takes place. "Today's competitive skater is widely versed; the scope of their athleticism is phenomenal," she said. "It's even more difficult now than it was back then."

Expert extra: Kawahara also helped choreograph Will Ferrell's "Blades of Glory." "That was a real adventure," she said.

NEON

Margot Robbie trained for months for "I, Tonya."

Joely Proudfit, Chris Eyre

(language and culture advisers, "Hostiles")

Expert resume: Proudfit, a professor, and Eyre, director of 1998's "Smoke Signals," created Native Networkers to help producers and filmmakers portray Native American culture and language in their projects. "We're not the police, just a bridge between producers and culture," Eyre said. "We're a liaison for that."

Lessons learned: Star Christian Bale (Capt. Blocker) learned the southern dialect of Cheyenne for his role, though there was a problem: "The joke we had is he's almost too fluent (for his character)," Eyre said. "I told (director Scott Cooper) you have to pull him back a bit." In addition, many points of accuracy had little to do with dialogue. "A lot is said without words," Proudfit said. "How women might have reacted emotionally, or with male counterparts, or white men who had incarcerated them — their body language had to speak volumes."

ENTERTAINMENT STUDIOS

Christian Bale was taught Cheyenne for "Hostiles."

Expert extra: While filming, the production team took a group photo for the media that indicated they stood with the Standing Rock protesters.

FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

Emma Stone learned tennis for "Battle of the Sexes."

Vince Spadea

(tennis coach, body double for Steve Carell, choreographer for "Battle of the Sexes")

Expert resume: Former professional tennis player Spadea formed his own talent agency to help athletes get body-double roles in films. While attending the casting for "Battle of the Sexes," he was asked to try out, and "it all flowed after that," he said.

Lessons learned: Spadea worked closely with star Emma Stone (Billie Jean King) for nearly two months, though less intensively with Carell (Bobby Riggs). "It comes down to technique and repetition," he said of teaching actors. That applied to holding rackets at the correct angle and ensuring the actors hit the ball the way King and Riggs did. "It was like an art project that we had to re-create as closely as possible," he said. He added that he wished they'd had more time. "It's about having your brain train a whole motor system."

Expert extra: Spadea played matches for Carell as Riggs. He also jumped in as ball boy in one scene when another expert failed to do it convincingly.

Randee Dawn is a freelancer.

Horoscopes

Today's birthday (Feb. 21): Explore fresh terrain this year. Study, learn and grow. Disciplined teamwork allows your project to go the distance. Fall into a fine romance over summer before entering a quiet, thoughtful phase. A breakthrough in your physical training and fitness energizes your work.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 9. Everything seems possible; even crazy dreams. A delectable prize is within reach. Keep rules, agreements and contract terms to succeed. Discover a profitable opportunity.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 9. You know you can handle this. Imagine even greater success. Find the weakness in your competitor's plan. Polish your presentation. Create an attractive package.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 6. Find a private spot to make long-term plans. Speculate on personal dreams and interests. Imagine how you would love it to be. Take detailed notes.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 9. Simple touches can glamorize the proceedings. Dress to impress; you never know who you'll meet. Social participation leads to new possibilities.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. Consider professional opportunities against your own personal desires and ambitions. Share your dreams with someone you admire. Find a match, and pursue it.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 7. An incredible vacation, academic or travel assignment comes into focus. A destination long yearned for seems within reach. Discuss possibilities and resolve logistics.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 7. You both are bonded by a shared dream. A lovely development puts profitable options within your grasp. Captivate and charm to win.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. Together, you can realize a fantasy. Make a persuasive case. Share from your heart. Follow the rules. Patiently persist for a dream come true.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 8. Keep practicing to grow physical health, skills and ability. Your routine is getting easier. Friends help you advance. Walk together somewhere nice.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 8. The romance of your dreams begins to take shape. Imagine making a beautiful connection, and set the wheels in motion. Share what you love.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 7. Your heart is at home. Take on chores, and beautification projects. Organize to reduce clutter. Find simple solutions to improve infrastructure. Create dreamy results.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 9. Communication opens a locked door. An important connection walks in. Just talking really does help. Make promises and to-do lists.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater By Scott Hilburn

Bliss By Harry Bliss

Bridge

Neither vulnerable, South deals

North
♠ A J 7
♥ A K Q 7 5 4
♦ J 9 2
♣ 9

West
♠ K 10 8 6 4 2
♥ J 3
♦ A 8 7 4
♣ J

East
♠ Q 9
♥ 10 9
♦ K Q 6 5 3
♣ 5 4 3 2

South
♠ 5 3
♥ 8 6 2
♦ 10
♣ A K Q 10 8 7 6

The Gambling Three No Trump opening has been popular among duplicate players for decades. The opening shows a long, solid suit, usually a minor, with no outside stopper. Partner decides whether to hold his ground in three no trump or run to opener's minor. We are not a big fan of the bid. In 40 plus years of tournament play, we cannot recall ever getting a poor score because the opponents used it against us or a good score because we used it.

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
3NT	All pass		

Opening lead: ?

North had a serious problem over the opening bid. Should he stay or run? There was no assurance of any heart fit. South might even be void in hearts. Was his diamond holding good enough to stay in three no trump? Should partner hold the queen of diamonds, or three low cards, three no trump was probably as good as anything else. North finally decided to pass.

The idea about defending against this bid is that you have to take your tricks early or never get them. Leading an ace, if you have one, to get a look at dummy is recommended. Note that the contract would romp home on a low spade lead. West, however, led the ace of diamonds. East encouraged and West carefully continued with the seven to partner's queen, and then unblocked the eight under the king so that East could cash two more diamonds.

North-South finished down one in three no trump while cold for slam in hearts or clubs. As we said, we are not a fan.

— Bob Jones
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

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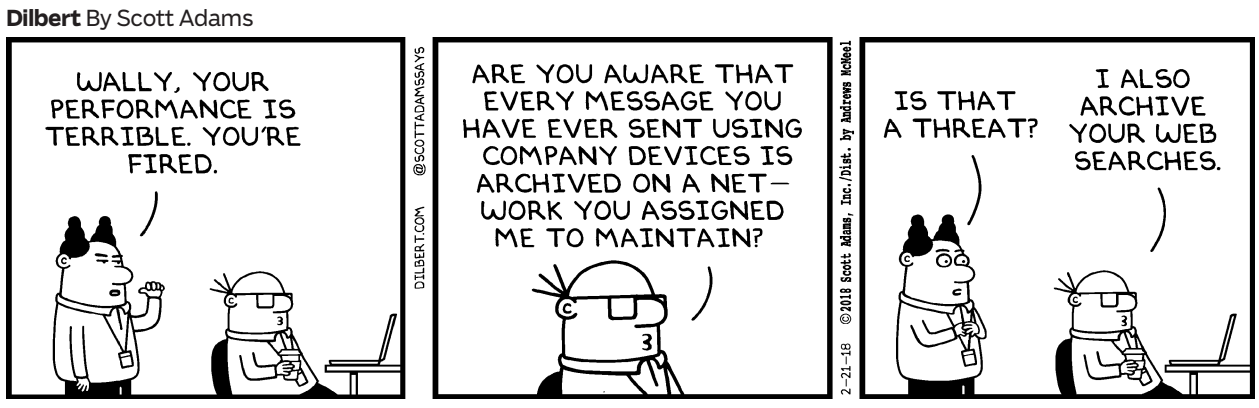
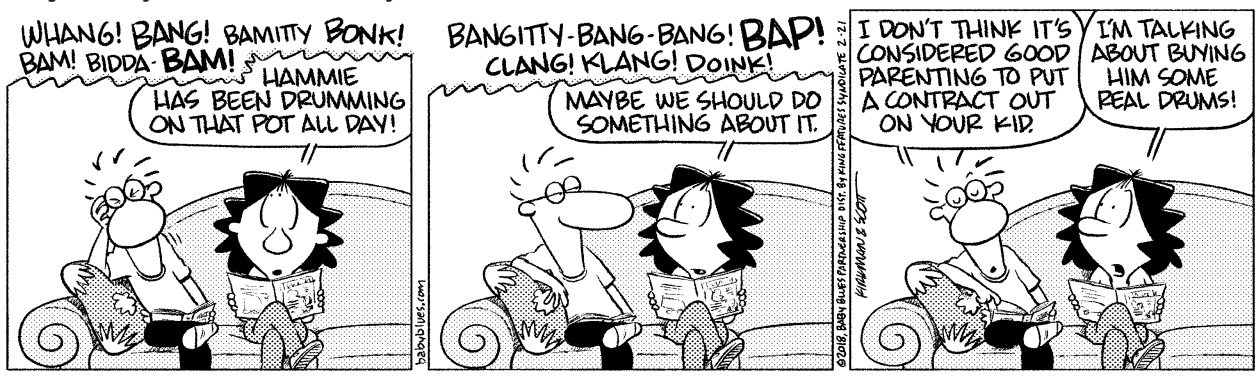
Dilbert By Scott Adams

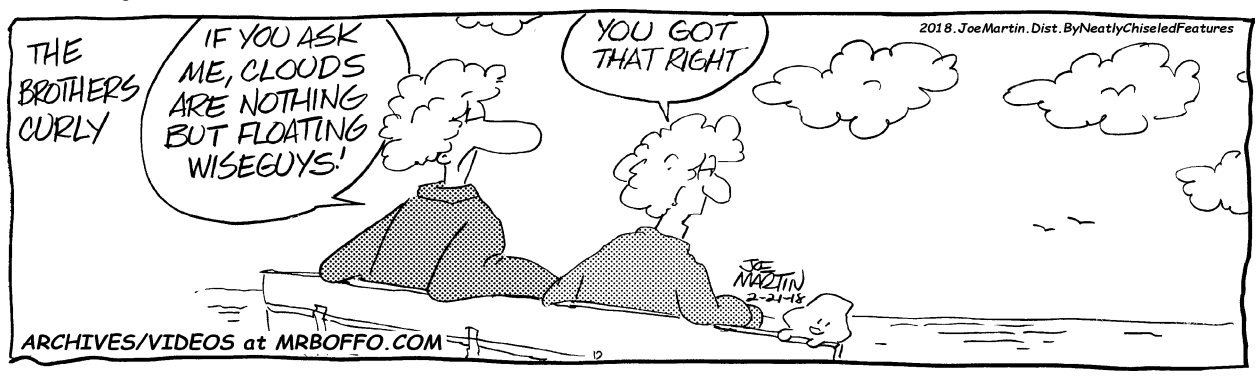


Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

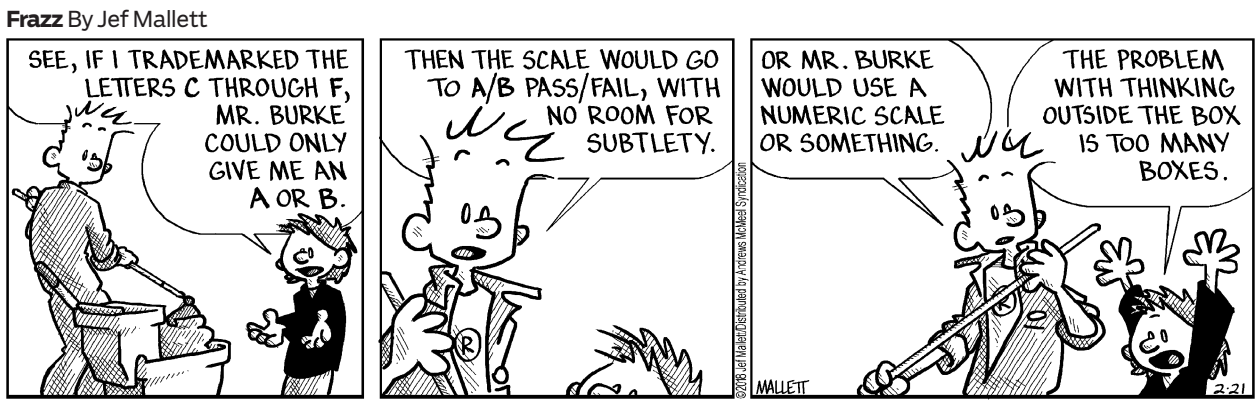


Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman (Zits is on vacation until February 26. Please enjoy this strip from 2013.)

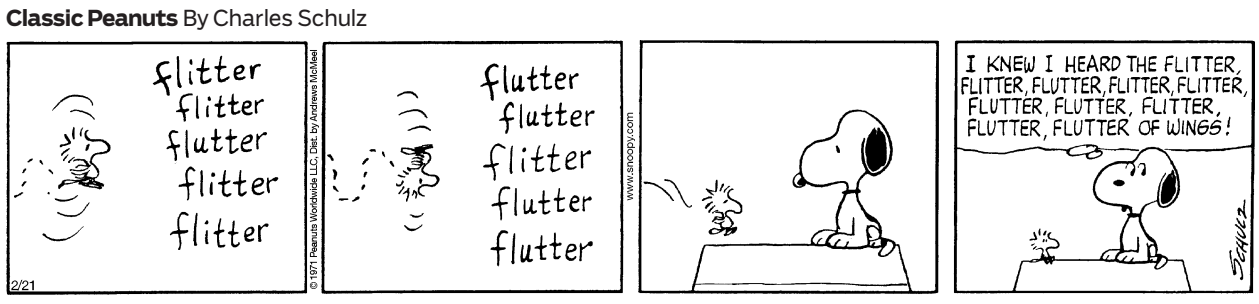
Mr. Boffo By Joe Martin



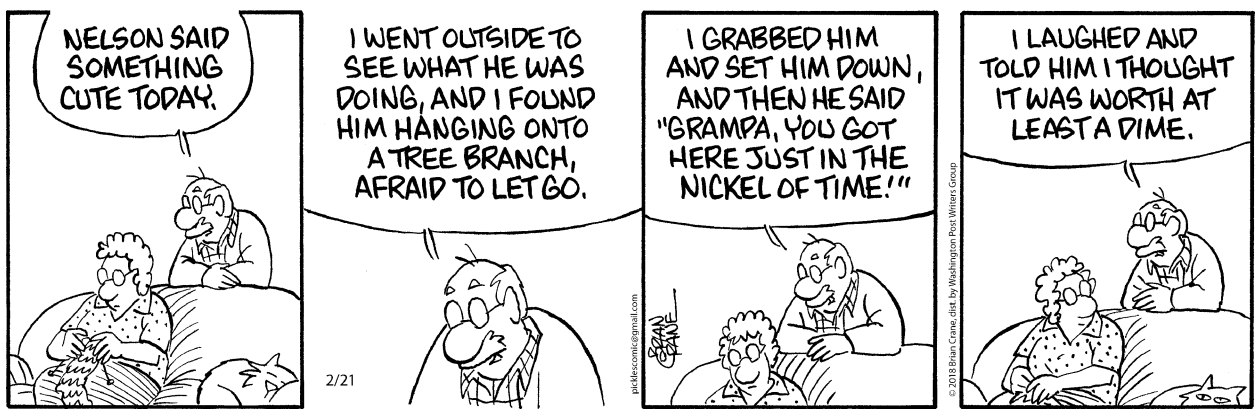
Frazz By Jef Mallett



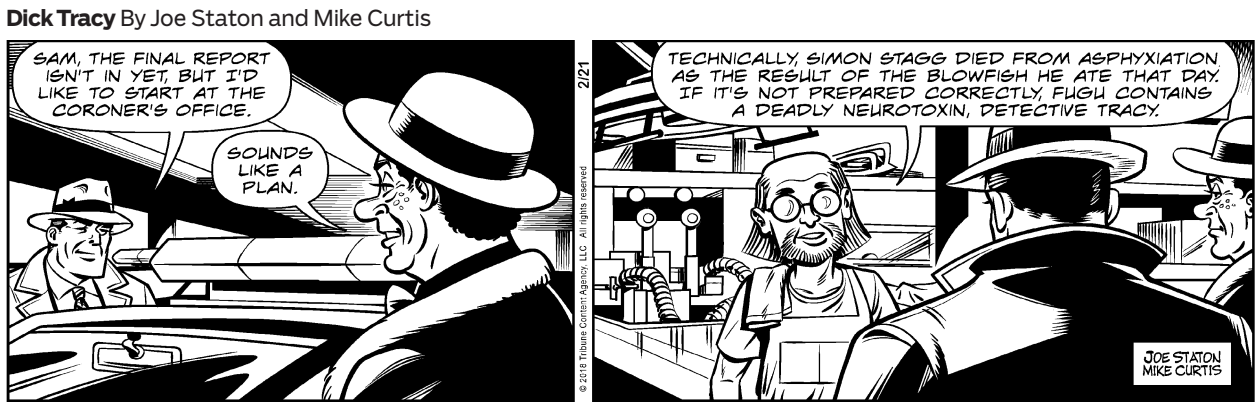
Classic Peanuts By Charles Schulz



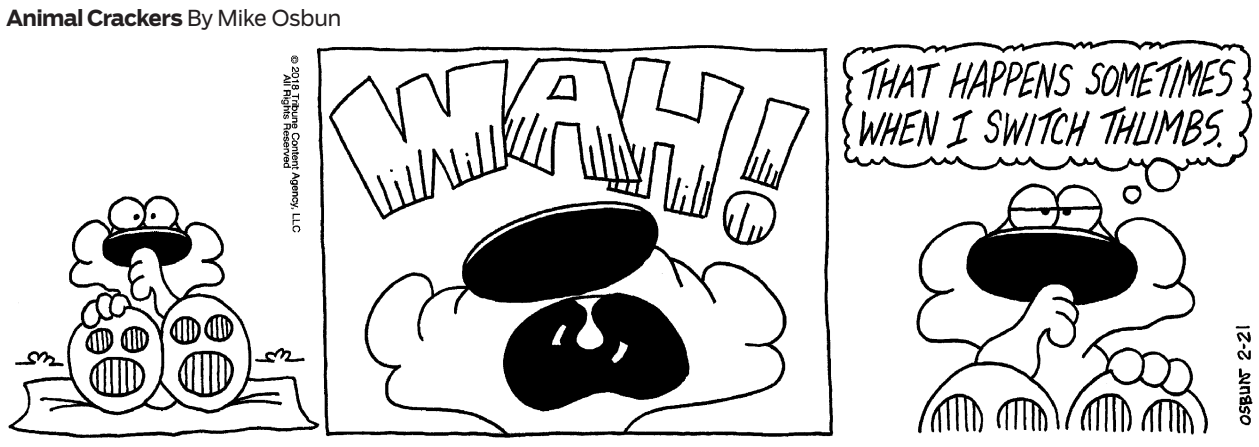
Pickles By Brian Crane



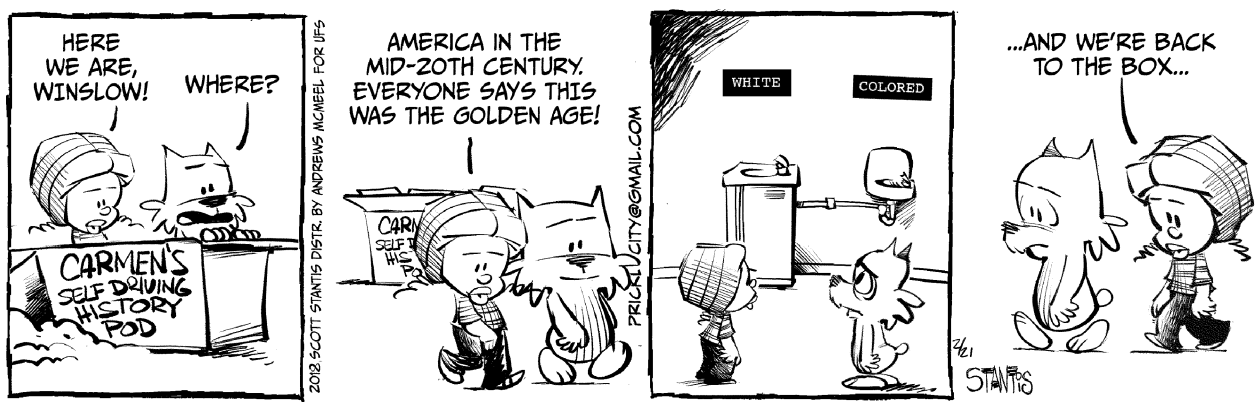
Dick Tracy By Joe Staton and Mike Curtis



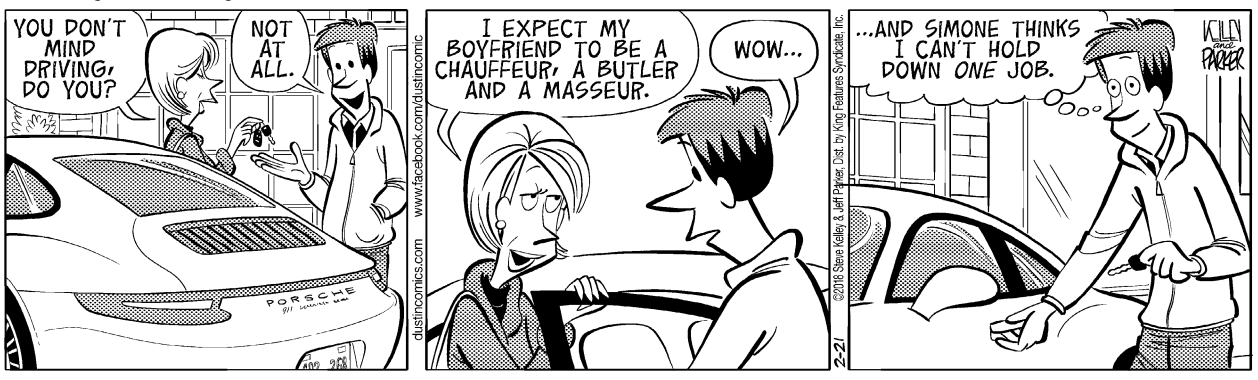
Animal Crackers By Mike Osbun



Prickly City By Scott Stantis

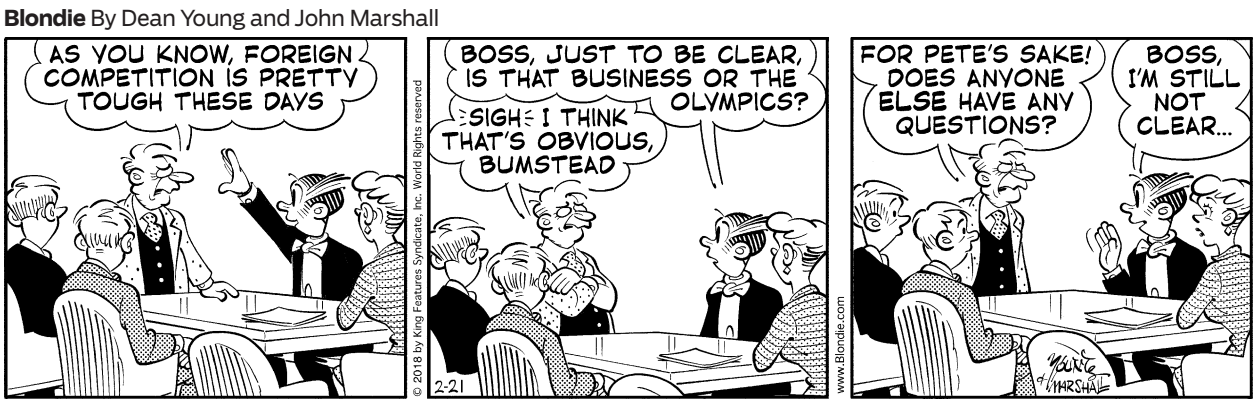


Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



For Better or for Worse By Lynn Johnston

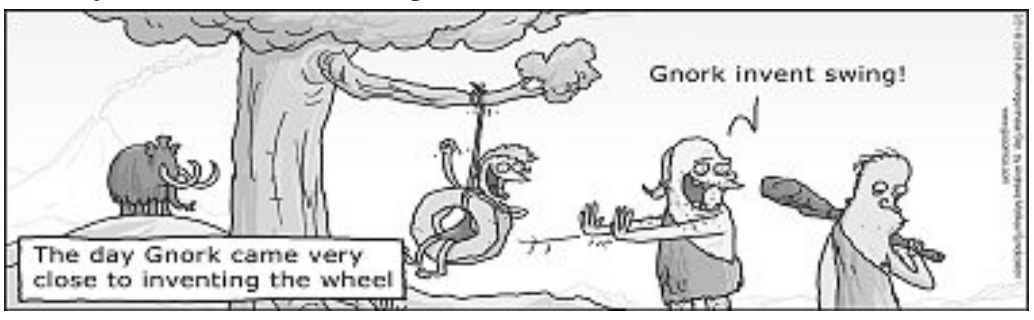
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



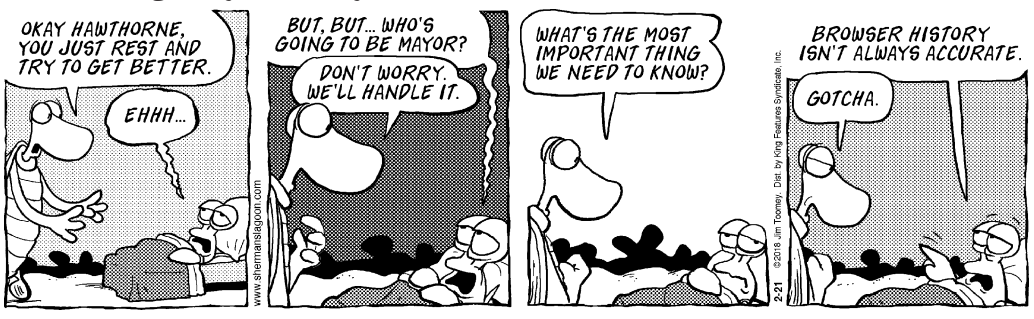
Hägar the Horrible By Chris Browne

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

Hiram was the first name at birth of which U.S. president and noted memoirist?

A) Gerald Ford
B) Ulysses S. Grant
C) Rutherford B. Hayes
D) Harry Truman

Tuesday's answer: The lyrics of "Hail to the Chief" come from the 1810 poem "The Lady of the Lake" by Sir Walter Scott.

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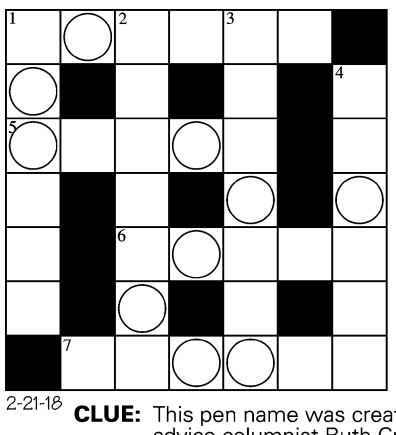
Jumble Crossword



2-21-18

ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Grinded, smoothed	NDDESA
5. Stadium	NERAA
6. "An ___ Abroad"	OITDI
7. Concurred	GEDERA

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Pants	CKSASL
2. Requiring	ENGIDEN
3. Hard to track down	IVVAEES
4. Kicked	UTDEPN

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.

CLUE: This pen name was created by Chicago Sun-Times advice columnist Ruth Crowley in 1943.

BONUS

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ANSWERS: 1A-Sanded 5A-Arena 6A-Idiot 7A-Agreed 1D-Shake 2D-Needing 3D-Evasive 4D-Punted B-Ann Landers

By David L. Hoyt.

Sudoku 1234

2/21

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

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

Tuesday's solutions

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

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Jumble

Unscramble the four Jumbles, one letter per square, to form four words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.

LAMAL

SOYBS

ELOSSN

OPITTE

Answer here

"_____" _____

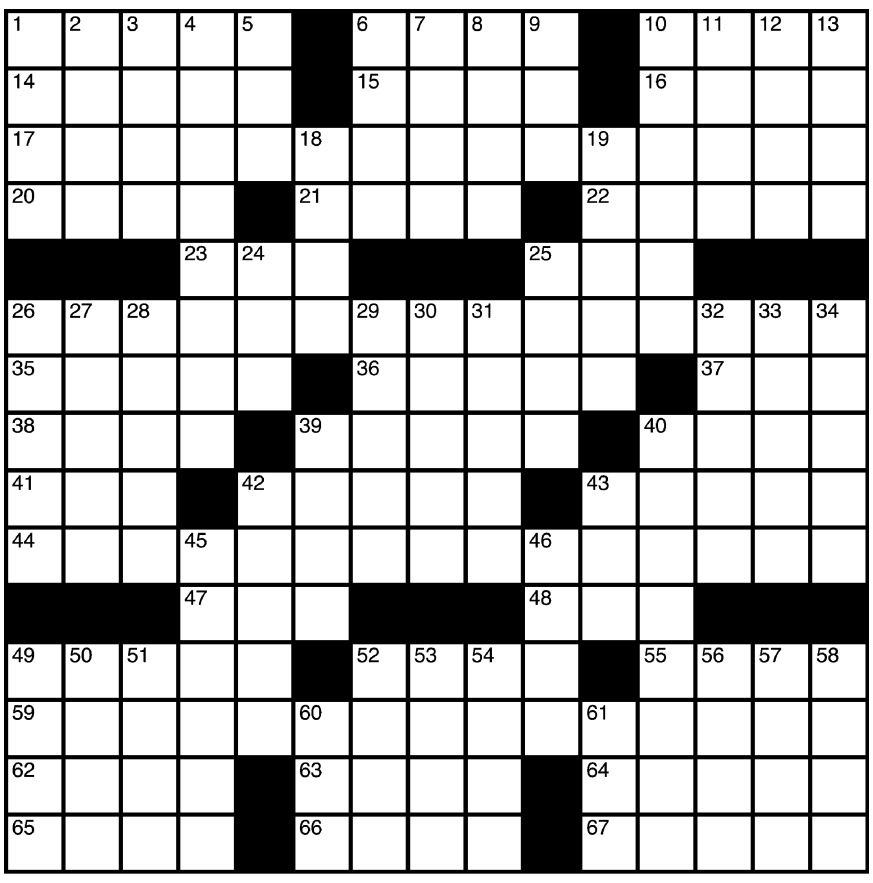
Tuesday's answers

Jumbles: KOALA WOVEN TOWARD REDEYE
Answer: When teaching her kids about the Mariana Trench, she gave them the — LOWDOWN

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

Crossword

2/21



Across

1 Your business is her business
6 Tiny cut
10 Jeans line
14 Spreadsheet program
15 Comes to the rescue of
16 "The Time Machine" race
17 Like a cowboy in denial?
20 Emotional wound
21 "At __, soldier!"
22 Quartet in "Whose woods these are I think I know"
23 Fodder for Forbes, initially
25 Play a part
26 Like an eager cowboy?
35 Riveting icon
36 Overplay a part
37 Mission lead-in
38 Potentially offensive, for short
39 Tends to the sauce
40 Nerve
41 Early 16th-century date
42 Earthquake
43 "Impression, Sunrise" painter
44 Like a cowboy out of retirement?
47 Ky. neighbor
48 Show stoppers
49 Limoges product
52 Entertainment show VIP
55 Builder's map
59 Like a cowboy in charge?
62 Area behind an altar
63 Wonder Woman's friend __ Candy
64 Temporary tattoo dye
65 Get weepy, with "up"
66 State openly
67 More curious

Down

1 Trees that sound like sheep
2 Corporate VIP
3 Final Four letters
4 Marvelous
5 "Hidden Figures" actor Mahershala __
6 Epic tale
7 They may be fine points
8 Sit in traffic
9 Tire gauge no.
10 Tranquil
11 Periodic table listing: Abbr.
12 Limited choice
13 Fail to see
18 Vegas illuminator
19 Nook or cranny
24 Peach dessert
25 Many "Suits" characters: Abbr.
26 Busser's target
27 Maker of Clarity alternative fuel cars
28 Jelly made from meat stock
29 "Capisce?"
30 Anabaptist descendants
31 Velvet-voiced Mel
32 Like most books
33 Recon goal
34 Palate
39 FedEx, say
40 "Safe travels!"
42 Egyptian peninsula
43 Satiric magazine since 1952
45 Less harsh
46 Fill and then some
49 Converse
50 Partner of pray
51 Ingrid's "Casablanca" role
52 "Tiny House Hunters" cable channel
53 Bart and Lisa's bus driver
54 Professor Higgins' creator
56 Swedish soprano Jenny
57 Hathaway of "The Intern" (2015)
58 Winter Palace resident
60 Org. for teachers
61 17th Greek letter

Tuesday's solution

R	A	B	B	I	■	E	L	S	I	E	■	W	E	S
O	C	E	A	N	■	R	E	A	D	D	■	H	A	L
W	H	E	N	P	I	G	S	F	L	Y	■	E	T	A
S	E	P	A	L	S	■	S	E	E	■	B	R	I	M
■	■	■	N	A	P	A	■	C	R	A	V	E	N	■
■	S	W	A	Y	■	S	H	O	U	L	D	I	■	■
O	C	H	S	■	T	E	A	■	M	A	S	T	E	R
W	A	Y	■	W	H	A	T	N	O	W	■	S	A	Y
E	N	T	R	E	E	■	H	E	R	■	H	A	R	E
■	■	H	A	N	D	S	A	W	■	F	I	T	S	■
■	S	E	P	T	I	C	■	S	T	I	R	■	■	■
J	A	R	S	■	S	O	D	■	E	V	E	N	T	S
E	M	U	■	W	H	O	A	S	K	E	D	Y	O	U
A	B	S	■	V	E	T	T	E	■	W	O	R	M	S
N	A	H	■	A	S	S	E	T	■	S	N	O	B	S

By Amy Johnson. Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis.

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CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | By Tom Skilling and WGN9

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21 | NORMAL HIGH: **37°** | NORMAL LOW: **22°** | RECORD HIGH: **67° (1930)** | RECORD LOW: **-11° (1873)**

Early spring fling brings heavy rain, flooding

LOCAL FORECAST

HIGH	LOW
38	29

■ **Seasonable temperatures and dry weather return**

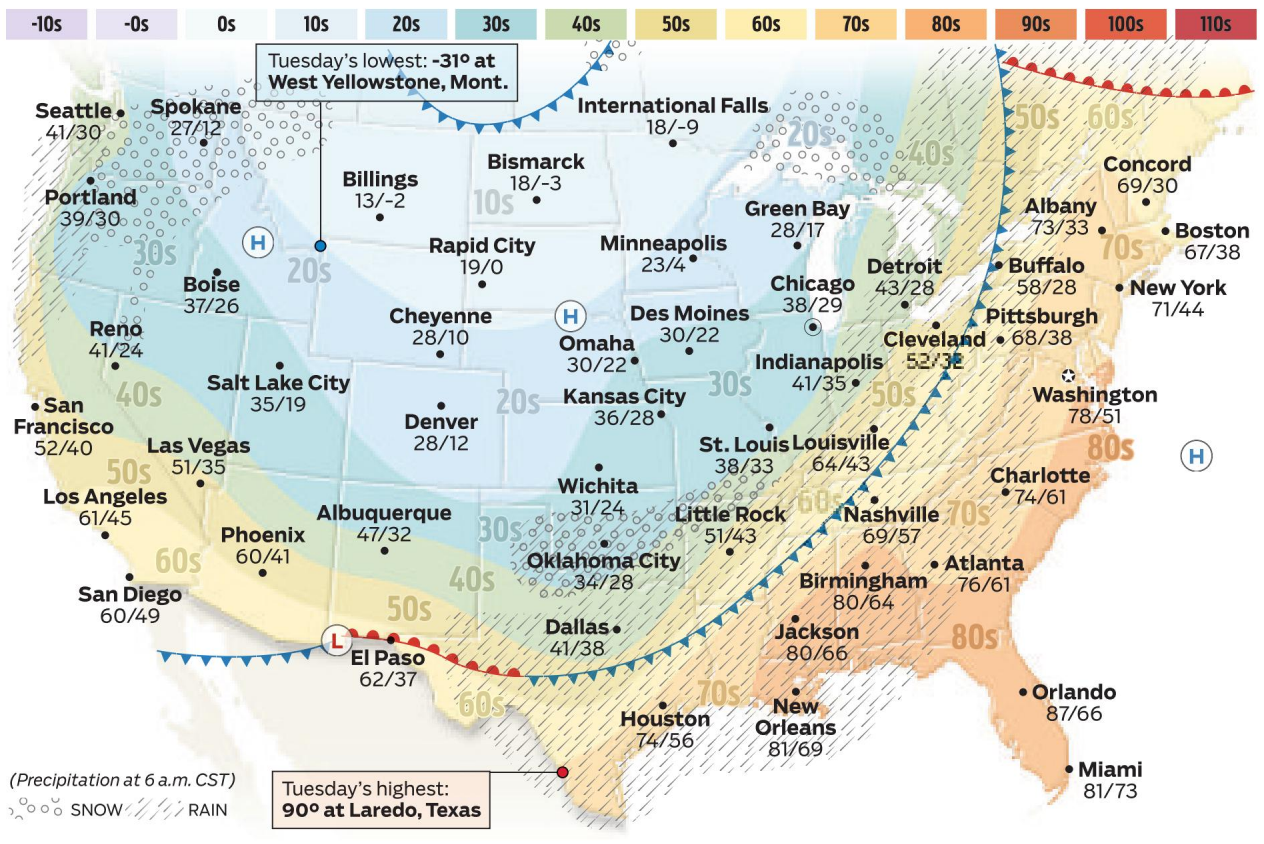
■ Clouds break during the morning allowing for some mixed sun.

■ Sharply colder with highs in the upper 30s, levels 25 to 30 degrees below Tuesday's spring-like warmth.

■ North winds 10-20 mph.

■ Partly cloudy and colder overnight. Lows middle 20s inland to lower 30s downtown.

NATIONAL FORECAST



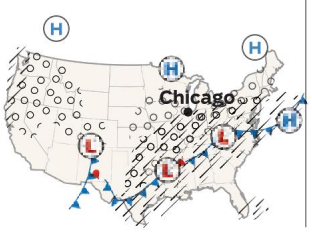
It was April in February across the Chicago area Tuesday as high temperatures peaked in the mid-60s, the city's warmest weather in more than two months — nearly 30 degrees above normal highs. The area's recent deep snowpack has been liquidated, and the combination of melting snow, heavy rainfall and frozen ground brought flooding to portions of the region. Through late Tuesday, the worst flooding had targeted the south suburbs, resulting in many closed roads.

Colder weather returns early Wednesday and will likely cause some glazing south and west of the city as temperatures fall below freezing. However, above-normal temperatures will return next week, though more rain is on the way Thursday night into Friday and Saturday afternoon into Sunday and will likely produce more flooding.

THURSDAY, FEB. 22

HIGH	LOW
41	34

Clouds dominate, but also some sunny periods. Highs cluster around 40 degrees. Dry most of the day but rain or a wintry mix arrives at night.



FRIDAY, FEB. 23

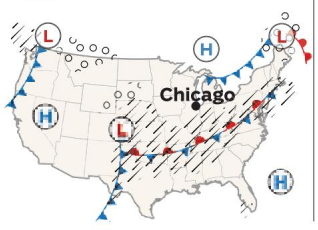
HIGH	LOW
46	32

Rain or a wintry mix changes to all rain continues well into the morning before ending. Milder in the afternoon as highs reach the middle 40s. Southeast-east winds 12-22 mph.

SATURDAY, FEB. 24

HIGH	LOW
46	33

Cloudy with periods of rain developing by afternoon and continuing overnight. Windy with gusty east-southeast winds. Highs again peak in the mid/upper 40s



SUNDAY, FEB. 25

HIGH	LOW
45	27

Any lingering rain ends early then mostly cloudy, windy and with brisk west-northwest winds. Highs reach the middle 40s for the third straight day

MONDAY, FEB. 26

HIGH	LOW
46	28

A mix of sun and clouds. Another mild day with south winds 10-20 mph.

TUESDAY, FEB. 27

HIGH	LOW
49	30

The mild weather continues as inland temperatures approach 50 degrees, though turning cooler lakeside as onshore winds develop.

ASK TOM

Dear Tom,

I've heard that the Earth's north and south magnetic poles are due to shift soon (geologically speaking, "soon" could be years, centuries or much longer), probably reversing. What changes will happen with the weather when the poles switch?

— Barbara Berghoff, Fifield, Wis.

Dear Barbara,

NASA says magnetic polarity reversals have occurred hundreds of times in the last 3 billion years of the Earth's history, but geologic and fossil records indicate no effects of any kind. Reversal occurs over time periods of hundreds or thousands of years. It last occurred about 600,000 years ago. Magnetism does not affect the weather.

However, magnetoreception, the ability of an organism to detect a magnetic field, allows certain animals (homing pigeons, for example) to perceive direction, altitude or location.

Write to: ASK TOM
2501 W. Bradley Place
Chicago, IL 60618
asktomwhy@wgntv.com

WGN-TV meteorologists Steve Kahn, Richard Koeneman, Paul Merzlock and Paul Dailey, plus Bill Snyder, contribute to this page.

Hear Tom Skilling's weather updates weekdays 3 to 6 p.m. on WGN-AM 720 Chicago.

Mild temps and heavy rains give way to colder temps and ice

CHICAGO AREA'S HEAVIEST RAINFALL IN 4 MONTHS!

Totals through Tuesday evening

*Preliminary reports through 8 p.m.**

O'HARE AIRPORT	MIDWAY AIRPORT
2.47"	3.03"

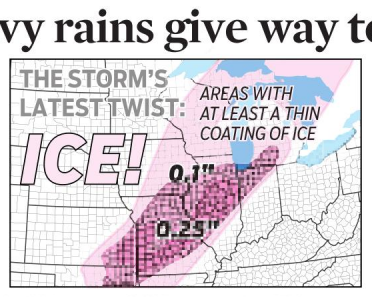
Chatsworth, Ill.	4.00"
Portage, Ind.	3.60"
St. Anne, Ill.	3.52"
Crete, Ill.	3.49"
Chicago Heights, Ill.	3.36"
Joliet, Ill.	3.07"
Homer Glen, Ill.	3.06"
Carbon Hill, Ill.	2.84"
Ashkum, Ill.	2.82"
Oak Park, Ill.	2.57"
DesPlaines, Ill.	2.09"

"NORMAL" FULL-FEBRUARY PRECIP TALLIES (Water Equivalent) O'Hare: 1.79" Midway: 1.94"

*Precipitation was still falling at the time of this report

SOURCES: Frank Wachowski, National Weather Service archives

THE STORM'S LATEST TWIST:



THROUGH 6 A.M. WEDNESDAY

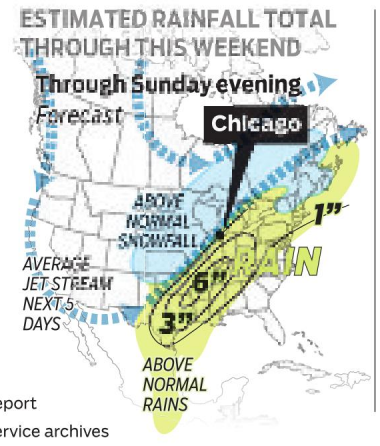
WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY

For icing

ESTIMATED RAINFALL TOTAL THROUGH THIS WEEKEND

Through Sunday evening

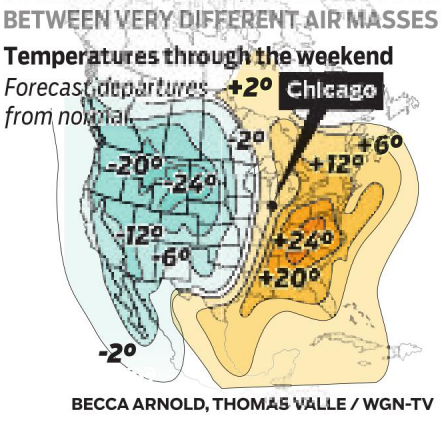
Forecast



STORMY JET STREAM CONTINUES TO BE BETWEEN VERY DIFFERENT AIR MASSES

Temperatures through the weekend

Forecast departures from normal



BECCA ARNOLD, THOMAS VALLE / WGN-TV

CHICAGO DIGEST

TUESDAY TEMPERATURES

LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	64	37	Midway	66	46
Gary	67	43	O'Hare	66	41
Kankakee	58	34	Romeoville	65	38
Lakefront	65	46	Valparaiso	67	43
Lansing	67	40	Waukegan	62	37

CHICAGO PRECIPITATION

PERIOD	2018	NORMAL
Tue. (through 6 p.m.)	1.78R"	0.07"
February to date	4.05"	1.18"
Year to date	5.59"	2.91"

CHICAGO SNOWFALL

PERIOD	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Tue. (through 6 p.m.)	0.0"	0.0"
Season to date	30.3"	32.7"
Normal to date	27.6"	28.4"

SOURCE: Frank Wachowski

LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Wind	NW 12-26 kts.	NE 10-22 kts.
Waves	3-5 feet	2-4 feet
Tue. shore/crib water temps	35°/34°	

U.S. SNOW COVER

FEB. 20	2018	2017
Area covered by snow	41.3%	19.0%
Average snow depth	4.8"	4.5"

TRACKING THE COLD

SINCE OCT. 15	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Sub-32° highs	37 days	35 days
Subzero lows	9 days	6 days

CHICAGO AIR QUALITY

Tuesday's reading	Good
Wednesday's forecast	Good
Critical pollutant	Particulates

WEDNESDAY RISE/SET TIMES

Sun	6:38 a.m.	5:31 p.m.
Moon	9:51 a.m.	11:41 p.m.

1ST Q	FULL	3RD Q	NEW
Feb. 23	March 2	March 9	March 17

WEDNESDAY PLANET WATCH

PLANET	RISE	SET
Mercury	6:56 a.m.	5:46 p.m.
Venus	7:11 a.m.	6:21 p.m.
Mars	2:06 a.m.	11:20 a.m.
Jupiter	12:11 a.m.	10:06 a.m.
Saturn	3:38 a.m.	12:50 p.m.

BEST VIEWING	TIME	DIRECTION
Mercury	Not visible	
Venus	5:45 a.m.	6° WSW
Mars	5:45 a.m.	24.5° SSE
Jupiter	5:15 a.m.	31° S
Saturn	5:45 a.m.	17° SE

SOURCE: Dan Joyce, Triton College

MIDWEST CITIES

WED./THURS.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Illinois						
Carbondale	rn	38	37	sh	53	47
Champaign	sh	37	31	sh	44	38
Decatur	sh	37	31	sh	46	40
Moline	pc	34	25	sh	38	33
Peoria	cl	35	28	sh	41	35
Quincy	cl	34	29	sh	42	37
Rockford	pc	33	24	sh	37	32
Springfield	sh	39	30	sh	46	41
Sterling	pc	34	23	sh	39	31
Indiana						
Bloomington	rn	46	37	sh	49	43
Evansville	rn	44	40	sh	52	49
Fort Wayne	rn	41	30	cl	37	33
Indianapolis	rn	41	35	sh	46	42
Lafayette	sh	38	32	sh	43	37
South Bend	sh	35	28	sh	37	32
Wisconsin						
Green Bay	pc	28	17	sh	33	27
Kenosha	pc	34	26	sh	37	32
La Crosse	pc	27	19	sh	33	29
Madison	pc	29	21	sh	35	30
Milwaukee	pc	33	25	sh	36	32
Wausau	pc	22	7	sh	29	24
Michigan						
Detroit	rn	43	28	cl	38	30
Grand Rapids	cl	38	26	sh	39	32
Marquette	pc	25	9	cl	31	21
St. Ste. Marie	sh	24	10	cl	30	21
Traverse City	pc	30	21	sh	37	29
Iowa						
Ames	pc	28	21	ss	31	27
Cedar Rapids	pc	30	23	sh	35	30
Des Moines	pc	30	22	ss	31	29
Dubuque	pc	30	23	sh	35	31

OTHER U.S. CITIES

WED./THURS.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Abilene	fr	31	27	fr	45	36
Albany	sh	73	33	sn	36	28
Albuquerque	pc	47	32	pc	48	26
Amarillo	ss	29	20	pc	51	28
Anchorage	cl	30	25	ss	35	23
Asheville	sh	71	59	pc	76	53
Aspen	pc	29	15	ss	28	15
Atlanta	ts	76	61	cl	79	58
Atlantic City	fg	64	44	sh	47	38
Austin	ts	51	40	ts	50	48
Baltimore	pc	78	49	rn	52	41
Billings	pc	13	-2	su	16	-7
Birmingham	ts	80	64	pc	80	60
Bismarck	pc	18	-3	pc	22	2
Boise	sh	37	26	sh	36	19
Boston	pc	67	38	sn	40	32
Brownsville	pc	82	71	ts	80	69
Buffalo	rn	58	28	sh	36	29
Burlington	rn	61	25	sh	31	23
Charlotte	fg	74	61	sh	74	57
Charlstn SC	pc	73	60	pc	75	58
Charlstn WV	ts	76	50	rn	55	52
Chattanooga	ts	76	63	sh	77	59
Cheyenne	pc	28	10	sh	28	14
Cincinnati	rn	63	39	rn	47	45
Cleveland	rn	52	32	rn	37	35
Colo. Spgs	su	27	13	pc	34	17
Columbia MO	cl	37	29	sh	46	39
Columbia SC	sh	81	63	sh	80	56
Columbus	rn	64	36	rn	45	42
Concord	pc	69	30	ss	37	23
Crps Christi	ts	76	53	ts	70	65
Dallas	rn	41	38	ts	45	44
Daytona Bch.	pc	80	65	pc	78	65
Denver	pc	28	12	ss	29	11
Duluth	su	23	4	cl	28	22
El Paso	su	62	37	su	62	38
Fairbanks	ss	21	18	sn	30	17
Fargo	su	16	1	pc	27	12
Flagstaff	pc	33	9	pc	31	18
Fort Myers	pc	89	66	pc	89	66
Fort Smith	sh	43	40	rn	52	46
Fresno	su	59	37	sh	55	33
Grand Junc.	cl	37	23	sh	37	23
Great Falls	su	15	-9	pc	8	-7
Harrisburg	sh	77	43	rn	46	37
Hartford	pc	68	40	rs	43	31
Helena	pc	13	-5	pc	13	-6
Honolulu	pc	82	70	ts	80	72
Houston	ts	74	56	ts	77	66
Int'l Falls	pc	18	-9	pc	28	6
Jackson	ts	80	66	ts	82	63
Jacksonville	pc	82	64	pc	79	65
Juneau	pc	38	24	sn	33	29
Kansas City	cl	36	28	sh	40	35
Las Vegas	pc	51	35	pc	53	38
Lexington	rn	66	46	sh	57	53
Lincoln	cl	30	20	sh	32	24
Little Rock	rn	51	43	ts	53	50
Los Angeles	su	61	45	pc	60	42
Louisville	rn	64	43	rn	53	49
Macon	pc	80	61	sh	80	58
Memphis	rn	59	47	rn	58	57
Miami	sh	81	73	pc	81	73
Minneapolis	su	23	4	ss	30	24
Mobile	ts	77	66	pc	77	63
Montgomery	pc	83	62	pc	83	60
Nashville	ts	69	57	ts	66	60
New Orleans	ts	81	69	pc	82	67
New York	sh	71	44	rn	47	37
Norfolk	pc	78	60	pc	71	45
Okla. City	fr	34	28	rn	40	34
Omaha	pc	30	22	ss	33	25
Orlando	pc	87	66	pc	84	66
Palm Beach	pc	81	72	pc	81	72
Palm Springs	pc	63	43	pc	64	47
Philadelphia	pc	75	46	rn	49	37
Phoenix	pc	60	41	su	62	45
Pittsburgh	sh	68	38	rn	44	42
Portland, ME	pc	61	32	sh	38	24
Portland, OR	cl	39	30	pc	41	20
Providence	sh	66	40	rs	43	31
Raleigh	sh	78	60	sh	76	54
Rapid City	pc	19	0	cl	18	-1
Reno	pc	41	24	ss	36	15
Richmond	cl	78	59	sh	66	46
Rochester	sh	62	29	sh	34	29
Sacramento	pc	57	35	sh	54	32
Salem, Ore.	sh	43	30	pc	44	21
Salt Lake City	pc	35	19	cl	37	22
San Antonio	ts	65	44	ts	55	52
San Diego	pc	60	49	sh	60	51
San Francisco	pc	52	40	pc	51	37
San Juan	sh	80	73	pc	81	73
Santa Fe	pc	37	23	ss	37	18
Savannah	pc	80	61	pc	79	60
Seattle	sh	41	30	su	43	28
Shreveport	ts	65	52	ts	70	59
Sioux Falls	su	23	12	sn	26	15
Spokane	pc	27	12	pc	33	9
St. Louis	sh	38	33	sh	50	43
Syracuse	rn	63	27	sh	35	28
Tallahassee	pc	82	62	pc	83	59
Tampa	su	88	66	su	86	66
Topeka	cl	35	25	fr	37	31
Tucson	pc	60	38	su	58	41
Tulsa	sh	39	32	rn	47	36
Washington	pc	78	51	rn	54	42
Wichita	rs	31	24	sh	39	32
Wilkes Barre	sh	68	34	rn	37	30
Yuma	pc	64	41	su	67	47

WORLD CITIES

WEDNESDAY	FC	HI	LO
Acapulco	su	85	74
Algiers	rn	56	41
Amsterdam	su	42	27
Ankara	sh	53	34
Athens	sh	60	51
Auckland	sh	70	60
Baghdad	sh	68	51
Bangkok	ts	89	76
Barbados	sh	80	73
Barcelona	sh	53	34
Beijing	pc	49	22
Beirut	sh	64	55
Berlin	pc	39	23
Bermuda	pc	69	63
Bogota	sh	68	47
Brussels	pc	41	24
Bucharest	sh	41	32
Budapest	rs	37	29
Buenos Aires	pc	81	55
Cairo	sh	76	57
Cancun	ts	83	75
Caracas	pc	74	61
Casablanca	su	66	49
Copenhagen	sn	37	28
Dublin	pc	47	37
Edmonton	pc	19	10
Frankfurt	pc	39	22
Geneva	pc	37	29
Guadalajara	su	80	50
Havana	su	88	68
Helsinki	cl	18	2
Hong Kong	sh	64	57
Istanbul	pc	51	44
Jerusalem	pc	62	46
Johannesburg	ts	74	58
Kabul	su	57	34
Kiev	ss	28	19
Kingston	sh	86	75
Lima	pc	77	68
Lisbon	su	64	42
London	pc	45	35
Madrid	pc	52	26
Manila	pc	92	75
Mexico City	pc	76	51
Monterrey	pc	82	58
Montreal	rn	50	20
Moscow	cl	14	-3
Munich	cl	35	24
Nairobi	pc	86	60
Nassau	pc	83	73
New Delhi	su	87	58
Oslo	sn	26	14
Ottawa	rn	49	15
Panama City	pc	91	71
Paris	pc	44	26
Prague	su	38	21
Rio de Janeiro	ts	92	77
Riyadh	pc	83	61
Rome	sh	53	38
Santiago	su	88	57
Seoul	pc	44	27
Singapore	pc	92	76
Sofia	sn	41	35
Stockholm	pc	26	16
Sydney	pc	78	67
Taipei	sh	67	58
Tehran	sh	57	44
Tokyo	cl	41	36
Toronto	rn	48	26
Trinidad	pc	85	70
Vancouver	sh	35	29
Vienna	sn	33	27
Warsaw	pc	35	18
Winnipeg	su	10	-1

FORECAST (FC) ABBREVIATIONS: su-sunny pc-partly cloudy cl-cloudy rn-rain ts-thunderstorm sn-snow fl-flurries fr-freezing rain sl-sleet sh-showers rs-rain/snow ss-snow showers w-windy na-unavailable

Huddle up with the Tribune's Rich Campbell and Dan Wiederer as they take you inside the Bears beat with a weekly podcast. From the practice field to gameday, they're your eyes and ears for all things Bears.

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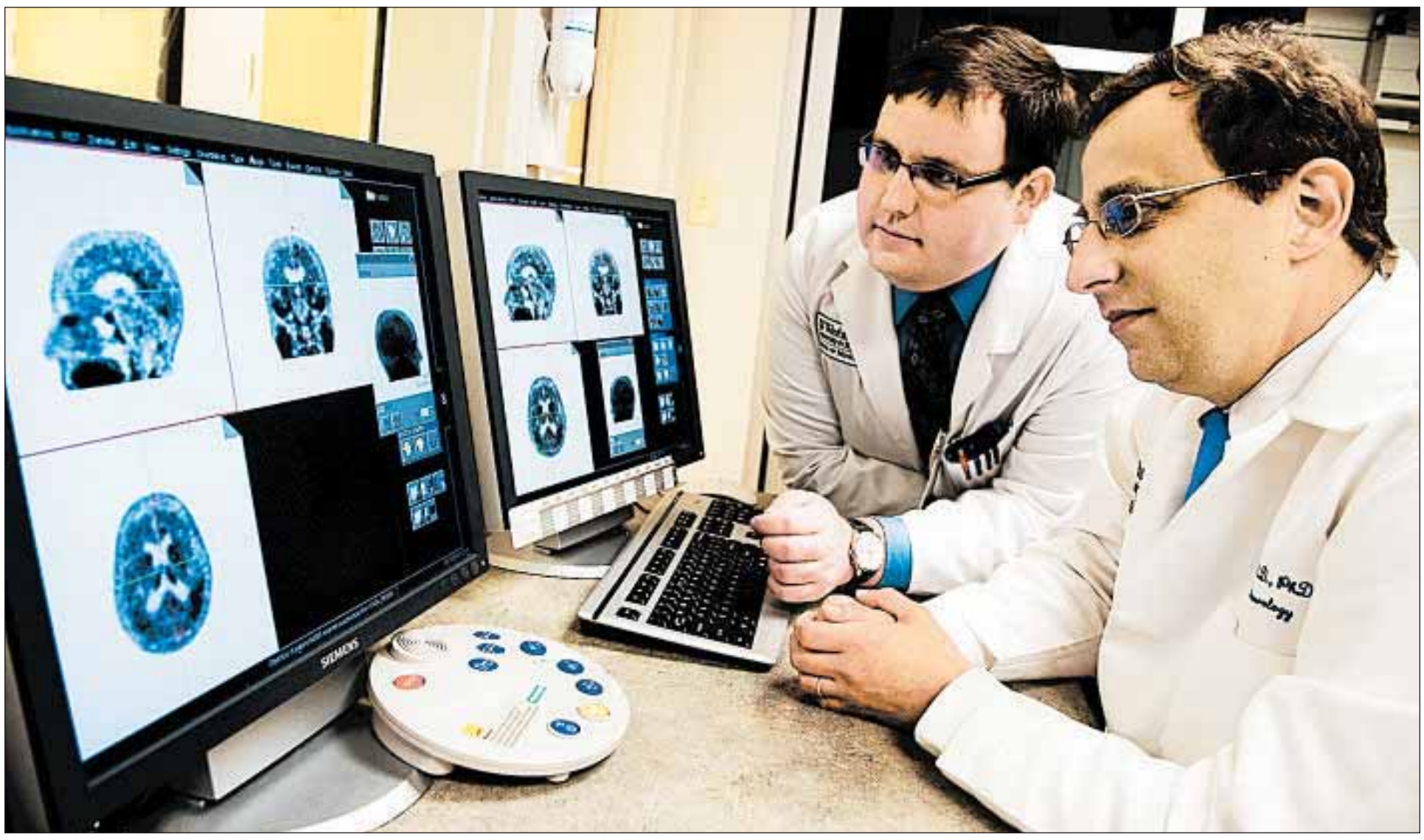

ROBERT BOSTON/AP

Graduate student Matthew Brier, left, and Washington University School of Medicine professor Dr. Beau Ances look at positron emission tomography scans of Alzheimer's patients. The scans have shown researchers that about a third of people who seem to have Alzheimer's disease do not have high levels of amyloid in their brains.

Alzheimer's research reboot

Prominent failures in experimental drug trials lead some scientists to rethink how to attack progressive brain disease

By Dennis Thompson
HealthDay

As more experimental drugs fail to stop Alzheimer's from destroying human memory, experts now wonder whether research into the devastating brain disease has been marching in the wrong direction.

In recent weeks, a pair of high-profile disappointments have been reported, including one announced on a trial of the Eli Lilly drug solanezumab.

Now, researchers are trying to figure out what might have been missed in the search for an Alzheimer's cure.

Did errors occur in the clinical trials of these drugs, creating the failure of potentially promising therapies? Or has there been a fundamental misunderstanding of the complex nature of Alzheimer's disease?

Until now, research has focused mainly on treating or preventing Alzheimer's by attacking the clumps of amyloid beta protein that form in patients' brains, potentially blocking signals sent between brain synapses. Amyloid plaques are one of the hallmarks of the disease.

"The overriding hypothesis for many years has been the amyloid hypothesis — the idea if you can stop, slow or clear the formation of amyloid plaques from the brain you will be able to treat the disease and see marked improvements in cognition," said James Hendrix, director of global science initiatives for the Alzheimer's Association. "So far, that hasn't worked out."

Solanezumab binds with amyloid beta, and was intended to help the body flush the protein out of the brain before it could form damaging plaques.

But the drug failed to significantly slow thinking declines, Columbia University researchers reported in a January issue of the New England Journal of Medicine.

Those results came on the heels of a trio of failed trials of the drug idalopirdine, which was intended to help treat Alzheimer's by promoting production of serotonin and other essential brain chemicals. A team of researchers reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association earlier this month that the drug failed to improve thinking or memory in Alzheimer's patients.

Wrong target?

During the past decade, Alzheimer's research has focused on amyloid plaques out of financial necessity, Hendrix explained.

"Ten years ago, there was very little funding for Alzheimer's disease," Hendrix said. "When you don't have a lot money for funding, you tend to go for the most obvious approach, and that was amyloid."

But one early hurdle may have tripped up many of the long-term clinical trials that are now coming to fruition, said Dr. Ronald Petersen, director of the Mayo Clinic Alzheimer's Disease Research Center in Rochester, Minn.

Back then, there was no way to tell whether a person diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease actually had amyloid plaques in their brains. These plaques could only be observed during an autopsy.

Scientists now can see amyloid in the brain thanks to PET, an imaging technology that observes metabolic processes in the body. As a result, scientists have learned that about a third of people who appear to have Alzheimer's disease do *not* have high levels of amyloid in their brains, Hendrix said.

"If 30 percent of the people in your anti-amyloid clinical trial don't have amyloid in their brain, right off the bat your trial is probably going to fail because 30 percent of the people aren't going to respond to your therapeutic," he said.

The basic assumption that removing amyloid will automatically lead to an improvement in Alzheimer's patients needs to be re-evaluated, said Michael Murphy, an associate professor with the University of Kentucky's Sanders-Brown Center on Aging.

Although the genetic evidence has been convincing that amyloid drives the disease, that doesn't mean that removing the protein from people already in the throes of Alzheimer's is going to help them, Murphy said.

"I think really it might be fairer to think that what happens is amyloid pathology is more like a trigger in the disease," he said.

"Once you get that thing going, you can think about it almost like a freight train. You get this going, and it's awfully hard to stop," Murphy said. "You might have removed the trigger, but once you remove the trigger you haven't dealt with the consequences of the events that have been set into motion."

Other factors at play

Seniors' brains also are vulnerable to other problems of aging known to contribute to Alzheimer's and dementia, such as high cholesterol and elevated blood pressure, Murphy said.

So researchers have started thinking that any successful treatment for Alzheimer's will resemble the "cure" that HIV patients are given — a multipronged drug and lifestyle regimen that keeps their illness at bay.

"I think that five to eight years from now, you'll have someone who's just a little memory-impaired at age 75, you do an array of biomarker tests on them to see what's contributing to their cognitive decline," Petersen said. "Then you develop therapies that are targeting those individual components."

Funding for Alzheimer's research has improved during the past decade, and so money is now available to tackle a number of factors that likely contribute to the disease, Hendrix said.

For example, another hallmark of Alzheimer's is tangles of Tau protein, which also show up in the brains of football players with chronic traumatic encephalopathy, Hendrix noted.

"An interesting thing we're learning from Tau PET imaging is that Tau shows up very close to when symptoms occur. That makes it a tantalizing drug candidate as well," Hendrix said.

Inflammation of the neurons also plays a role in Alzheimer's, leading some researchers to study that, he said.

And yet others are investigating the way the brain uses energy.

"The brain is about 3 percent of our body weight, but it uses about 23 percent of our body's energy," Hendrix said. "If the brain isn't processing energy efficiently, it could be reasoned we start to decline. If we can tweak the way our brains are processing energy, then maybe we can have an impact on the disease.

"If we can just run out the clock on Alzheimer's disease and slow it down enough that we die of something else with our memories intact, that looks like a cure to me," he said.

How you can safeguard LGBTQ health care

By Bill Daley
Chicago Tribune

Health care can be challenging for anyone these days, but getting the right services is especially daunting for the LGBTQ community, which has faced decades of discrimination and misunderstanding.

The creation last month of a Conscience and Religious Freedom Division in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is raising concerns among some health care and legal experts who fear the new division will have a negative impact on LGBTQ patient care.

"My best advice is to keep Lambda Legal on speed dial," said Ulysses W. Burley III, a physician and founder of UBtheCURE, a social justice consulting company with a focus on HIV and AIDS awareness. "They are committed to fighting any cases of discrimination related to the establishment of this new division in court," he said.

The Conscience and Religious Freedom Division was created to "restore federal enforcement of our nation's laws that protect the fundamental and unalienable rights of conscience and religious freedom," according to an HHS news release. In that same news release, Roger Severino, director of the department's Office for Civil Rights, said, "No one should be forced to choose between helping sick people and living by one's deepest moral or religious convictions, and the new division will help guarantee that victims of unlawful discrimination find justice."

Turn to ***Care, Page 2***

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Drug plus UV-B light may reverse vitiligo

Study of 2 patients finds combination restores skin color

By Serena Gordon
HealthDay

GETTY

Vitiligo, which causes skin to lighten, isn't contagious but can be frustrating and embarrassing and even lead to clinical depression, a dermatologist says.

Doctors have discovered a combination of treatments that can return color to skin that has been lightened by vitiligo — the skin disease that turned Michael Jackson's skin white.

The new therapy includes the oral medication Xeljanz, which has the generic name tofacitinib — a drug already approved for use in rheumatoid arthritis patients that dampens the body's immune response — and ultraviolet-B light therapy.

The combination has been used on only two vitiligo patients, but according to a study author, the results have been dramatic.

Experts add, however, that the findings need to be duplicated in studies with larger groups of people.

The treatment produces "results that are impossible to achieve with common therapies," said Dr. Brett King, an associate professor of dermatology at Yale University School of Medicine. "I think this is a breakthrough in vitiligo treatment."

One of King's vitiligo patients, Shahanaj Akter, agreed.

"My skin is so much better. I can use makeup, and it blends nicely. I am so excited," she said.

Akter, 34, first noticed a white patch of skin above her eyebrow on her normally brown skin while she was pregnant in her 20s. That patch grew bigger and bigger, and then white patches showed up on her hands and neck.

Vitiligo is a skin condition that causes white patches of skin to appear on various parts of the face and body, according to the Vitiligo Research Foundation. The disorder can also cause hair to lose its pigment and turn white. The condition can affect people of any race, but is more noticeable in people with darker skin and hair.

General vitiligo is believed to be an autoimmune condition, which means the immune system mistakenly attacks pigment-producing cells, called melanocytes.

The condition affects up to 2 percent of the world's population, according to the research foundation.

Vitiligo is not contagious. But King said people are often concerned when they see people with vitiligo on their hands. He said patients have told him that cashiers sometimes ask them to put money or credit cards down on the counter so they don't have to touch their hands.

"Vitiligo affects the way the world interacts with you. It can be frustrating and embarrassing, and for some, it leads to clinical depression and anxiety," King said.

Akter was living in her native country of Bangladesh when her condition first began, and vitiligo carries even more of a stigma there. Some people said unkind things to her.

"I cried a lot. I wanted to be my color again," she said.

To that end, Akter tried treatment after treatment in Bangladesh and then in the U.S. Some therapies caused intolerable side effects, and none brought the results she was hoping for.

That's when King suggested she try the new combination therapy.

At the time of treatment, Akter had white patches on about three-quarters of her face. She also had patches on her neck, chest, forearms, hands and shins. She was given 5 milligrams of tofacitinib twice daily, and full body UV-B light therapy twice weekly.

After three months, Akter's face was almost completely free of white patches. About 75 percent of her neck, chest, forearms and shins were re-pigmented with color. Her hands had only minimal freckling.

How does this treatment work?

Dr. Seemal Desai, a clinical assistant professor of dermatology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, explained it this way: "The immune system is attacking the melanocytes, so they go into hiding. Tofacitinib tells them it's OK to come out of hiding, and the UV light brings them out of hibernation."

King and his colleagues also reported on a white man in his 50s who had long-standing vitiligo. He had previously received treatment to remove all pigment so he would be uniformly white. But he still had patches of whiter skin on 90 percent of his face. He also had patches on his torso and arms.

After three months of treatment on his face, he had about 50 percent re-pigmentation. After six months, he had about 75 percent re-pigmentation of his face. King was surprised at how effective the treatment was because the man had previously undergone chemical destruction of the pigment cells.

Desai said the findings "look promising, and that new treatment options are great."

But, he added, this study needs to be replicated in a larger group of people.

And he noted that right now, people will likely have a hard time getting reimbursed for tofacitinib because it's not approved for treating vitiligo. He didn't know exact costs but said the drug is quite expensive. Estimates put the drug's price tag at roughly $2,000 a month.

Both King and Desai said the drug seems to be well-tolerated. King said he doesn't know how long people would need to take the drug, but suspects some would be on it long term, possibly for life.

Details of the cases were published online in late January in a research letter in the journal JAMA Dermatology.

How to safeguard LGBTQ access to proper health care

Care, *from Page 1*

As The Washington Post noted in a recent story on the new HHS division, " 'Conscience protections' have become a flash point in culture war debates, especially about contraception and LGBT rights, in recent years."

Burley said it is "still unclear how this new division will play out in public," but he noted, "All fingers point to protections for the health care provider's beliefs over that of the care and safety of women, members of the LGBTQIA community and people living with HIV."

Andie Baker, vice president of Howard Brown Health's Center for Education, Research and Advocacy, said the Chicago-based health care organization is concerned that the new HHS division may encourage some health care providers to deny "essential" health care to LGBTQ patients and that it will lead to "increased stigma and discrimination."

"People are definitely scared because of the uncertainty of the situation," said Scott Schoettes, counsel and HIV project director at Lambda Legal, a civil rights organization that works on behalf of the LGBTQ community and people living with HIV/AIDS.

Schoettes and Burley were members of the President's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS until last June, when they and four others resigned in protest over the Trump administration's position on health issues.

While noting people are fearful because of what they're seeing in the federal government, Schoettes said in a recent interview that people should not panic. There are, he said, "good people" still in the federal government and HHS who know what needs to be done to combat the HIV epidemic. They will, he predicted, "keep pushing back and implementing programs. ... A lot of people are fighting on your side."

While people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex, asexual or pansexual, and their allies, are watching what develops with health care on a federal level, decisions made by state and local governments can also affect health care options and legal protections.

There is a "tremendous difference" between living in a "progressive" state with support and multiple health care choices and living in a state where there are fewer options, said Brian Mustanski, director of Northwestern University's Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing.

"Do what you can to support organizations that work to advance LGBTQ health and LGBTQ rights," he said.

Here are some tips to safeguard access to health care — and what to do if you are denied services:

1. Choose health care providers that support you.

"First of all, the best solution is having a good doctor," Mustanski said. Look for a doctor who will affirm your sexual orientation and gender identity, he said.

Howard Brown suggests people use the Human Rights Campaign Healthcare Equality Index and RAD Remedy's provider ratings help search for "LGBT-affirming health care providers in your area."

Look, too, for providers who self-identify as LGBTQ or as allies, Howard Brown suggests.

2. Get health insurance if you can.

The open enrollment window is officially closed for 2018, but Schoettes said you can take advantage of a "qualifying event" that allows you to apply, such as loss of a job or moving to a new location.

No insurance? Reach out to your local community health organizations, said Baker, who notes that Howard Brown offers enrollment services.

3. Be prepared.

"If you are partnered, but not married or in a civil union, seek legal information about you and your partner's rights in case of a medical emergency," Howard Brown recommended.

As for parents who identify as LGBTQ and have children, "take documentation with you when traveling and especially take note of safeguards available when traveling between states," the agency advises.

4. Keep detailed records.

Howard Brown recommends writing down the names and titles of people you encounter during a health care visit, along with the date, time and location. You'll need this information if you are denied care.

5. Speak up.

Speak out against discrimination, Howard Brown urges, because "several grant-funded programs and services require health care entities to define core patient rights and publicize how patients may lodge a grievance to enforce those rights."

6. Know your rights.

Howard Brown suggests looking to state and local anti-discrimination ordinances and filing grievances if necessary.

Schoettes said Lambda Legal has five regional offices across the country (including Chicago) and a health care "tracker" to help chart the impact of the new Conscience and Religious Freedom Division.

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The creation of the Conscience and Religious Freedom Division in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is raising concerns among some health care and legal experts who fear the division will harm LGBTQ patient care.

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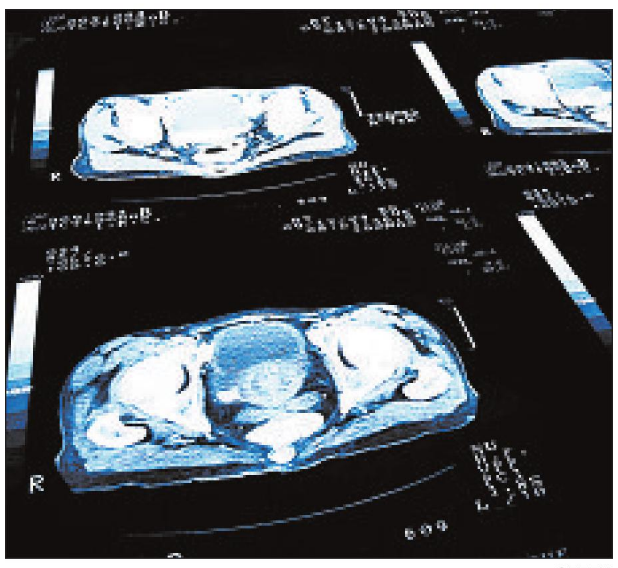
Drugs show promise for men who have early prostate cancer

By Michelle Fay Cortez and Jared S. Hopkins
Bloomberg



GETTY

More than 164,000 men in the U.S. will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2018, and nearly 30,000 will die from it.

Men with an early form of prostate cancer who are at high risk of seeing it spread and turn deadly may benefit from treatment with Johnson & Johnson and Pfizer Inc. drugs that slow progression of the disease.

J&J's experimental medicine apalutamide and Pfizer's prostate cancer drug Xtandi delayed the worsening of the most common tumor by more than 70 percent compared with a placebo in two separate studies. The results, which were presented at a medical meeting devoted to genital and urinary cancers in San Francisco, could offer an alternative for men whose cancer is progressing yet considered early-stage because it's localized to their prostate.

More than 164,000 men in the U.S. will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2018 and almost 30,000 will die from it, trailing only lung cancer in terms of mortality, according to the American Cancer Society. Right now patients with early disease typically undergo surgery, radiation and, if needed, treatment to deprive the tumor of testosterone that fuels its growth. But there is no approved follow-on therapy for those with worrisome blood test results who don't yet have visible evidence that the prostate cancer has metastasized.

The situation has been agonizing for those men, who often are handled with what's called "watchful waiting." Many remain in limbo as levels of a protein tied to progression rises in their blood. With no clear evidence of the cancer in other parts of their bodies, they can't be treated with drugs that are approved only for later stages of cancer.

"These patients can have a poor prognosis, and until now, the optimal management of their cancer remained an enigma," said Sumanta Pal, co-director of the City of Hope's kidney cancer program in Duarte, Calif., who reviewed the findings on behalf of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. "These findings suggest there may finally be a treatment that holds real promise for extending their health and their lives."

J&J's study tracked 1,207 men with tumors that no longer responded to hormone therapy, known as castration-resistant prostate cancer, and show rapidly rising levels of prostate specific antigen in their blood. Men treated with J&J's apalutamide went for 40 months before the cancer metastasized, compared with 16 months in the placebo group.

"It's a big unmet need," said Eric Small, a professor of medicine at the University of California in San Francisco, who led the study. "Currently there is no approved standard of care."

Xtandi, a drug made by Pfizer and Astellas Pharma, is already the standard of care for advanced prostate cancer that doesn't respond to hormone therapy and has spread, with more than 75,000 patients in the U.S. having been treated with it, according to Pfizer.

The new study involved 1,400 patients with early stage prostate cancer. It found that men given Xtandi survived for a median of 36 months before the cancer spread, compared with 14.7 months for those given a placebo.

Doctors' familiarity with the drug may speed earlier use of the medicine, Pal said.

"This is going to be the catalyst for change," Mace Rothenberg, Pfizer's chief development officer for oncology, said. "This is going to provide a much stronger foundation and rationale and level of evidence for treating men in this situation with Xtandi than has previously existed."

The companies have requested approval for both drugs from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as well as the European Medical Association.

PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

Looking for link between dry eyes, vitamin D level

By Joe Graedon and Teresa Graedon
King Features Syndicate

ISTOCK

Vitamin D supplements helped one reader who had suffered with dry, red eyes.

Q: For over a year, I suffered from severely dry, red eyes. This not only limited my reading but also looked so unpleasant that I was embarrassed. I tried various types of eyedrops that my ophthalmologist recommended, but they offered little to no relief.

At my last physical, my general practitioner noted that my vitamin D level was extremely low and prescribed 5,000 IUs per day. Within a couple of weeks, my eyes were back to normal. All the redness and discomfort was gone. Have you heard of others using vitamin D supplements for dry eyes?

A: Your question sent us to the medical literature. We found conflicting reports on the value of vitamin D supplements.

In a Korean study, higher blood levels of vitamin D were associated with a lower likelihood of symptoms, but it was not statistically significant (Journal of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, November 2017).

Australian investigators, on the other hand, have found that low vitamin D levels are associated with dry eye symptoms (Contact Lens & Anterior Eye, February 2018). They found that people taking vitamin D supplements had fewer dry eye symptoms and better tear quality.

Q: I am a former dancer who spent a lot of time *en pointe*. Most of us damaged our nail beds and developed nail fungus.

Living in Florida, I was ashamed to wear sandals because of my nasty nails. I had tried prescription pills and many topicals, with no lasting results. I started applying Vicks VapoRub twice a day, and in a few months, I started seeing healthy nails. Years later, my toenails still look great.

A: Vicks VapoRub contains camphor, eucalyptus oil, menthol, cedarleaf oil, nutmeg oil, petrolatum, thymol and turpentine oil. Researchers have found that camphor, menthol, thymol and oil of lemon eucalyptus are effective against a range of organisms that can cause toenail fungus (Phytotherapy Research, April 2003). That might explain your success.

In a small clinical trial of Vicks VapoRub for nail fungus, 15 of 18 volunteers got benefit (Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine, January-February 2011).

Nurses caring for people with AIDS have suggested that this treatment option could be cost-effective for their patients with nail fungus (Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care, January-February 2016).

Q: I read your article about sleep aids, but you did not mention valerian. I use it, and feel that it helps me sleep well.

A: Valerian root (Valeriana officinalis) traditionally has been used to overcome insomnia. Unfortunately, there are few well-controlled studies confirming this folk remedy.

One recent study of a combination product containing valerian, hops and jujube found that it helped people get to sleep more quickly and sleep longer (Nature and Science of Sleep, May 26, 2017).

Q: I read somewhere about a statin that is not fat-soluble and doesn't cross the blood-brain barrier. Unfortunately, I forgot the name. I am currently taking simvastatin and have noticed a decline in my memory. Can you help me?

A: Physicians have been debating the relationship between statins and cognitive function for decades. The Food and Drug Administration requires this statement for simvastatin: "There have been rare postmarketing reports of cognitive impairment (e.g., memory loss, forgetfulness, amnesia, memory impairment, confusion) associated with statin use. These cognitive issues have been reported for all statins."

Clinical trials have not demonstrated memory impairment due to statins (Journal of General Internal Medicine, March 2015). Despite this, published case reports link cognitive problems to statins (Pharmacotherapy, July 2009; Drug Safety Case Reports, December 2016).

Until this controversy is resolved, some experts recommend switching to a less fat-soluble statin such as pravastatin or rosuvastatin (Canadian Pharmacists Journal, May 2015).

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via ***www.peoplespharmacy.com****.*

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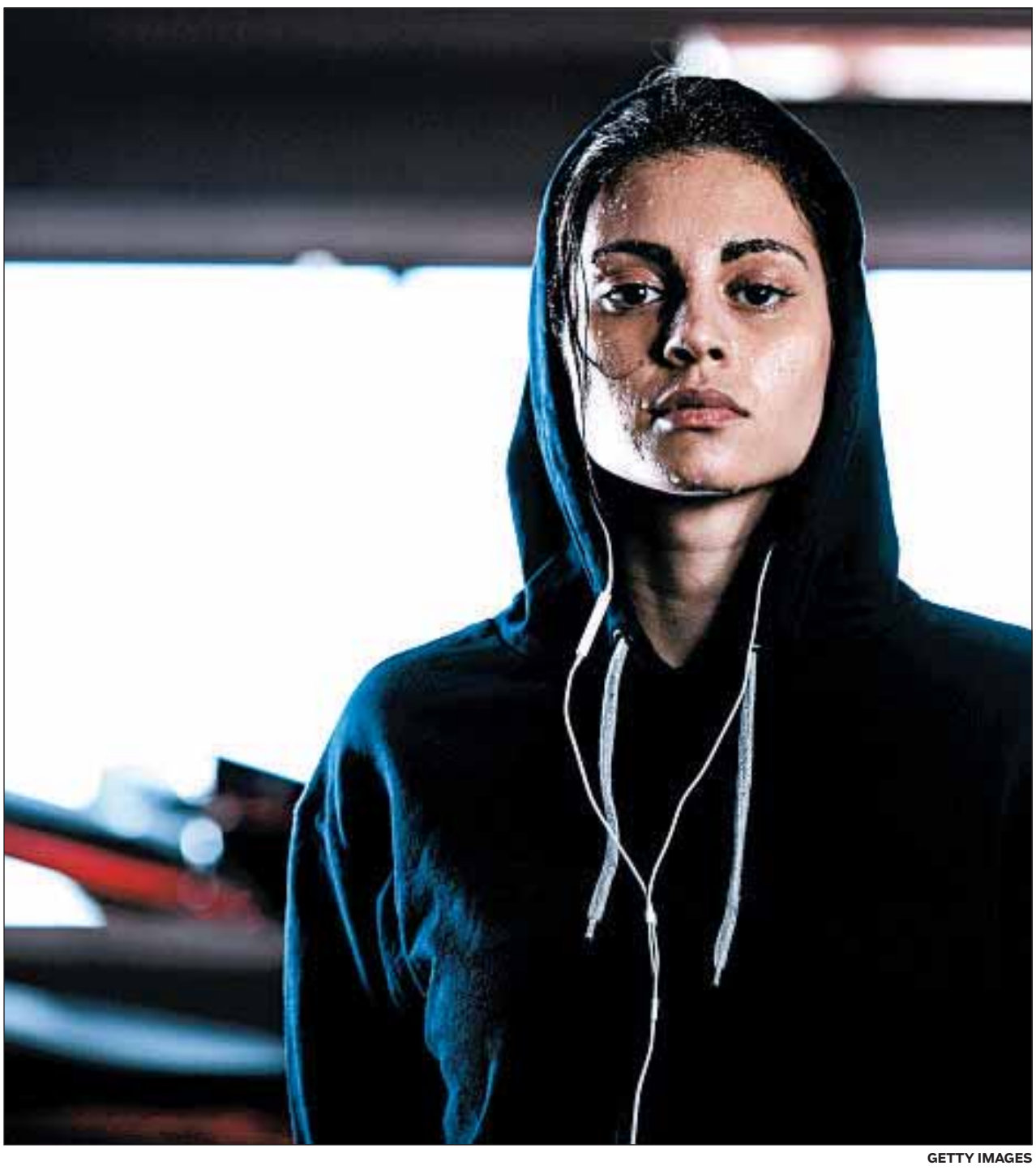
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

How to exercise mindfully when you're ill

The right workout can aid recovery in some cases

By Hallie Gould
Byrdie



GETTY IMAGES

Experts say that when you're sick, it's good to wear a hoodie during exercise so you can increase sweat and stay warm.

For those of us on a consistent fitness schedule, skipping the gym can throw our minds all out of whack. Exercise becomes therapeutic for our bodies, sure, but for our brain as well. Nothing helps lift anxiety or stress like a good workout.

Now, that being said, it's hard to keep up the momentum when you're sick. But, we wondered, is there some truth to being able to "sweat it out" and dispel the toxins and feverish feelings from your body after an exercise class? Or is staying in bed the healthiest option?

We reached out to two fitness experts for their advice on the matter.

"If you can barely get out of bed, don't work out," asserts celebrity trainer Lacey Stone. "But sometimes, when you 'sweat it out,' you can actually finish a workout feeling much better. If you work out and you start feeling weak and worse, I suggest you leave early and rest. It's also important to tell your instructor before you begin so that they can keep an eye on you."

Tatiana Boncompagni, an Athleta ambassador and Sculptologie instructor adds, "If you aren't running a fever or feeling nauseous, but rather, stuffy and congested (like you feel a cold coming on), it can actually be beneficial to exercise or engage in a mindfulness practice. Meditation lowers your cortisol levels and moderate and low-intensity exercise can open up your nasal passageways and help you reduce stress.

"That being said," Boncompagni notes, "training at a max effort level is not a great idea when you are sick. You need to be able to recover properly to reap the rewards of that kind of workout. If your body is already fighting infection, there's no way it can do that. Plus, heavy weight lifting or high-intensity intervals both take a greater toll on your central nervous system. Save those workouts for when you feel better."

Pick the right workout

"Hot yoga and cycling are best because you can really sweat out the toxins (and you will know within the first 10 minutes if you're starting to feel better or worse)," suggests Stone. "Cycling doesn't involve anything high impact, so it won't be jarring to your body. Yoga will help ease your mind and distract you from any ailments. I wouldn't do HIIT interval classes like boot camp, boxing, or running. These exercises involve a lot of pounding and focus. When you're sick, you have less energy, which makes it difficult to perform at the level of intensity these workouts require. You may also start to feel lightheaded."

Boncompagni adds, "This isn't a time to push it. Focus on doing something that makes you feel good. Moderate cardio (such as walking or jogging on the treadmill) or taking a restorative yoga class are both great choices. For me personally, a light 30-minute jog on the treadmill followed by a hot Epsom salt bath is my go-to remedy for a cold. I really believe it speeds my recovery."

Take precautions

"Listen to your gut," recommends Stone. "If you start to feel lightheaded, stop immediately. Be sure to warm up before you get into your workout and wear two layers of clothing. It's good to work out with a hoodie when you're sick so you can increase your sweat and stay warm throughout the workout."

"Take it easy and be gentle on yourself," Boncompagni says. "The goal is to feel better, not improve your performance. There are plenty of days in the year when you can push hard. Today's not one of them. As important as it is to physically back off on sick days, make sure you do the same with your thoughts. No negative self-talk. And, of course, stay extra hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids. Hydration is important for workout performance any day but especially vital when you are sick."

Other steps

"Get plenty of rest, even if getting actual sleep is hard because you are congested," says Boncompagni. "I'm a big fan of homemade chicken soup, grapefruit (for a vitamin C boost) and probiotic-rich kombucha. Recovery days (and weeks) are an integral part of any athlete's training plan. You just might find your performance jumps up a level after you give your body a chance to rest and recover. So, try to embrace it. Listen to what your body is trying to tell you and think about ways you can incorporate more stress-relief, rest and recovery into your life on an ongoing basis."

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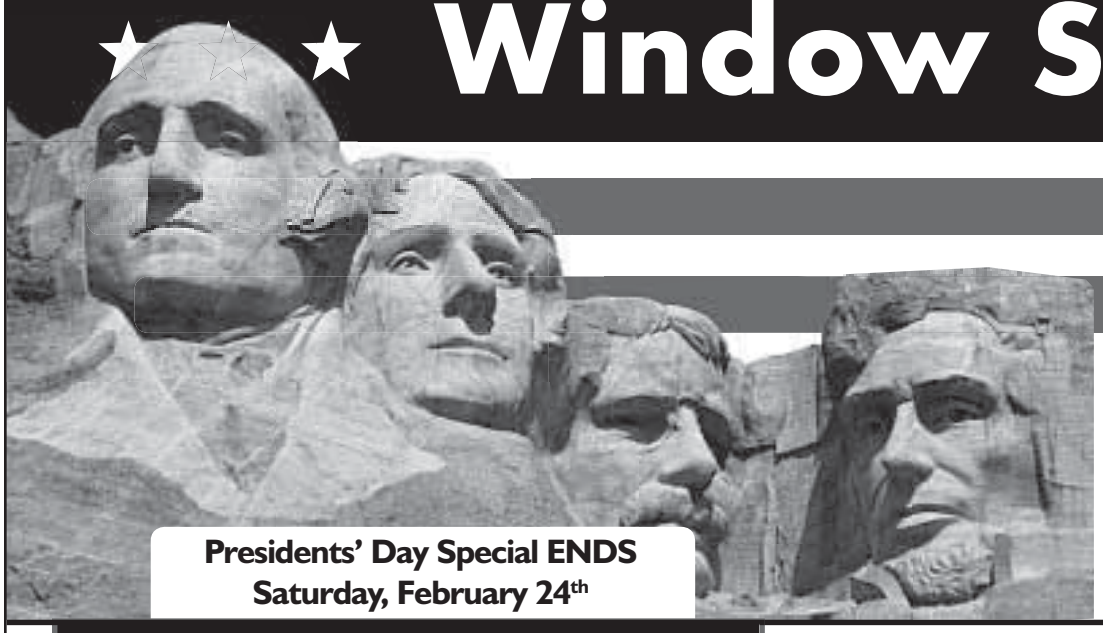

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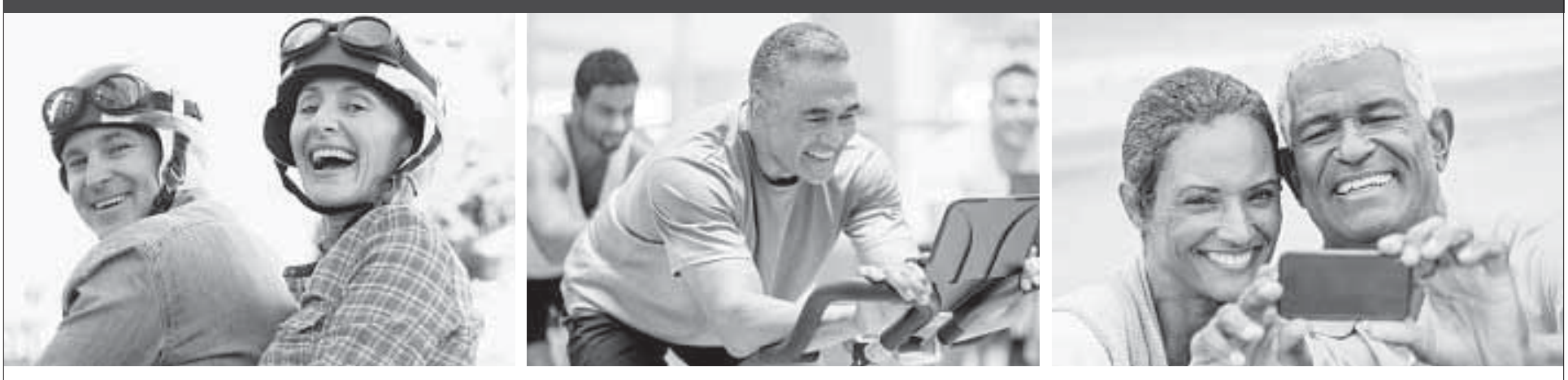

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Egg freezing: Know the odds

Understanding process vital for good decisions

By Ariana Eunjung Cha
The Washington Post

KEVIN WINTER/GETTY

Actress Olivia Munn said in 2016 that she had frozen her eggs. The process is not a sure thing, experts say, and women should be aware of the challenges and chances of success.

Actress Olivia Munn revealed on a podcast in 2016 that she had frozen her eggs. She was 35 at the time.

"Every girl should do it," she said confidently. "For one, you don't have to race the clock anymore. You don't have to worry about it, worry about your job or anything. It's there."

When some celebrities, fertility clinic representatives and other proponents talk about egg freezing, they often make it sound like a sure thing. You go in, get your eggs put on ice, then go back a few years later. A doctor fertilizes them, puts the embryos inside you, and months later a baby pops out.

If only it were that easy.

When it comes to human reproduction, Mother Nature is wildly inefficient. On average, a woman is born with about 2 million eggs — but only some of them will have any chance of becoming children. Likewise, when you freeze a batch of eggs, that's no guarantee any or all of them will make it through the next steps. One egg frozen does not necessarily equal one child.

That simple truth leads to a complicated question: Just how many eggs should you freeze to have a decent chance of having a baby in the future?

At many clinics, women used to be advised to aim to freeze 10 to 20 eggs, no matter their age or situation. But that never made much sense given that eggs decline in quality and quantity as a woman ages.

As the industry matures and data builds about successes and failures, some providers are recommending a more individualized approach, including assessing what a woman is able and willing to spend. For some women, a 50 percent chance at $12,000 may be worth it. For others, 50 percent is not enough.

"The devil is in the details," said Joshua Klein, chief medical officer at Extend Fertility, a New York City-based clinic that specializes in egg freezing. "It always bothered me, and still bothers me, that women who come to me about a second opinion do not have clarity on how many eggs is a reasonable target."

"Ten eggs for a 30-year-old is a very different thing than 10 eggs for a 40-year-old," he explained.

Janis Heidi Fox, an obstetrician-gynecologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, and Randi Goldman, a clinical fellow at Harvard Medical School, are among the first to try to assign some probabilities to this process based on a woman's age and the numbers of eggs retrieved.

This model can be a starting point for research on egg freezing, but doctors working with individual patients should also look at hormones and ultrasound images (ask about "AMH or anti-mullerian hormone levels," "FSH or follicle-stimulating hormone levels" and "resting follicle count") that can provide more information about a woman's supply of eggs and whether her ovaries are functioning properly.

Their study, published in April 2017 in Human Reproduction, uses a mathematical model based on data from women who underwent in vitro fertilization (because of their male partners' fertility issues) without freezing their eggs to extrapolate to women who elect to do IVF with frozen eggs. The researchers said in an interview that the women in the study were young and healthy, in their 20s and 30s, which is similar to the population undergoing elective or "social" egg freezing today, delaying childbearing for career or relationship reasons.

Fox said the idea for the study came from their work with patients: "Due to the lack of large outcome data across age groups of woman who actually froze eggs, it was very challenging as clinicians counseling women doing this."

According to their analysis, a woman who is 35 with 10 eggs has a 69 percent chance of a baby. At age 37, she has a 50-50 chance. And at age 39, she has a mere 39 percent chance.

Having children using frozen eggs is a multistep process, with many eggs or embryos lost along the way. First the eggs have to be thawed, then they are fertilized with sperm. Then they are left in a petri dish to grow into what are called blastocysts. A proportion of those blastocysts can be abnormal. Some of the embryos have genetic abnormalities. Then the apparently healthy embryos are transferred into a woman's body. Some attach to the uterus wall, others don't. Once attached, miscarriage is still a risk.

Fox and Goldman estimated the percentages of eggs and embryos that make it through the various procedures and screenings involved based on their knowledge of the previous research. Each of those percentages represents a fraction of the eggs or embryos that have survived the previous step.

- Thawing: 85-95 percent
- Fertilization: 70 percent
- Blastocysts: 40-50 percent
- Normal chromosomes: 57 percent for eggs harvested when the woman was age 35 and under, 13 percent for 44 and over
- Implantation: 70-75 percent
- Live birth: 60 percent (assuming chromosomal testing and the other steps above go smoothly)

Some fertility specialists refer to this as the inverted pyramid of IVF, and they say women are often surprised when they finally understand how it works.

"The whole power of this technology is in numbers," Goldman said. "The more eggs you have, the better our chances of selecting the better eggs and the better the chance of having a baby."

Kids can take extra jab for mumps protection

HealthDay

DAMIAN DOVARGANES/AP 2015

A third dose of mumps vaccine is warranted for children during an outbreak, according to a new recommendation.

When it comes to mumps prevention, an extra jab may do the trick.

During a mumps outbreak, doctors can provide an optional third dose of mumps vaccine, according to the 2018 recommended immunization schedule from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

This recommendation was clarified in October by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in response to an increase in mumps cases and outbreaks in the United States since 2006.

While two doses of measles-mumps-rubella vaccine are highly effective in preventing mumps, that protection decreases over time, according to the CDC.

The academy — a leading group of U.S. pediatricians — outlines the latest immunization schedule for children and teens in a new policy statement.

"There are specific windows of time when vaccines work the best to protect a child, and the schedule is designed to maximize these opportunities," statement author Dr. H. Cody Meissner said in an AAP news release.

Also recommended: an annual flu vaccine for children ages 6 months and older (unchanged from the 2017 schedule).

In addition, children ages 11-12 should receive two doses of the human papillomavirus vaccine, while those older than 15 should get three doses.

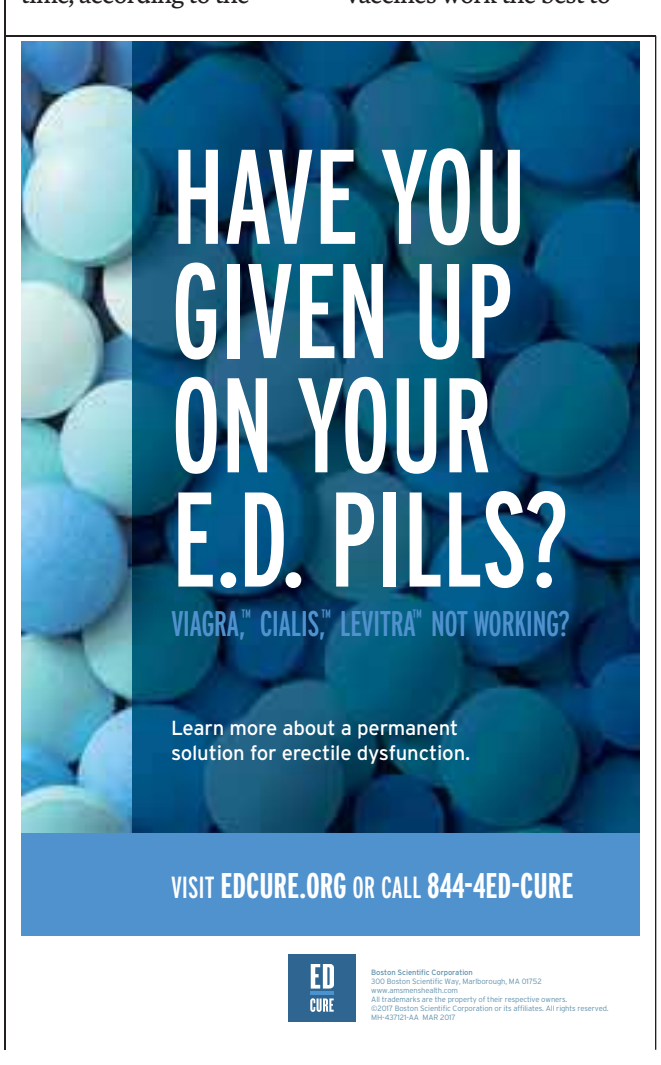
HPV has been linked to cancers of the cervix, vagina and vulva in women; cancers of the penis in men; and cancers of the anus and back of the throat in both women and men, according to the CDC.

The immunization schedule also provides additional information about the timing of the birth dose of a hepatitis B vaccine for infants weighing more than 4.4 pounds.

There's also a catch-up schedule for children and teens who start late or are more than a month behind in vaccines.

"Following the immunization schedule is the most important way to protect children as they grow into adulthood by keeping them free from vaccine-preventable diseases," Meissner said.

The AAP statement was published online in February in Pediatrics.



Chicago Tribune
FOOD & DINING

ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE; LISA SCHUMACHER/FOOD STYLING

Chicken congee pairs a rice porridge with soy-braised chicken thighs. If you make a batch of nirvana chicken on the weekend, it's easy to put together the congee on a weeknight.

CRAVING: CHINESE FOOD

Dressed for comfort

Soothing congee stretches rice, other bits and pieces

By Jennifer Day
Chicago Tribune

Congee is a humble dish, a way to cope when rice stores were low. Stretch the grain by adding too much water, cook it into a hearty porridge, and throw in bits and pieces of whatever leftovers are on hand.

These simple dishes born of necessity often become our most soul-satisfying: Think chicken noodle soup. When Joanne Chang was a child, her mother made her congee whenever she was ill.

"For me, it's comfort food. It's what made me feel good," said Chang, now chef and co-owner of the Boston restaurant Myers + Chang, adding that her mother "would sit there and feed it to me, and I felt loved. And it was delicious."

Congee is the stuff of home. And like the best recipes for home cooks, it rewards improvisation. Think of congee as a blank slate: Start with a ratio of 8 cups of water to 1 cup of short-grain rice. In her 2003 cookbook, "Essentials of Asian Cuisine," Corrine Trang counsels against rinsing the rice before cooking to retain the starch that will be essential to creating a "soft velvety texture." Bring the rice and water to a boil, and reduce the heat to maintain a steady simmer, stirring occasionally to prevent sticking, until the grains bloom and begin to shred. (Or, if you're an Instant Pot fanatic, dump the water and rice into your cooker, select the 20-minute porridge setting and allow it to vent naturally.)

What you add next depends entirely on your mood and your proximity to a good Chinese market. Chopped pork and diced thousand-year egg are perhaps most popular. Trang suggests hard-boiling salted duck egg and serving that as a garnish, along with thousand-year egg and sliced omelet. Chang's mother pan-fried canned tuna fish packed in oil: "It was salty and had a lot of umami. ... It gets a little crunchy-crispy."

Drizzle a bit of good soy sauce and sesame oil, and add the crunch of fresh green onion, and you've got a belly-warming breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Congee is an excellent foil for the concentrated flavor of dried seafood too; consider an adapted version of Maggie Zhu's from her "Omnivore's Cookbook."

Or, you could get more ambitious and try a recipe Chang invented for her restaurant. She was aiming for a dim sum dish that made good use of her nirvana chicken recipe, soy-braised thighs that are easy to replicate at home. We suggest you make a big batch of the chicken on Sunday, along with the crispy shallots; save the congee for a weeknight when humble food is all you can manage.

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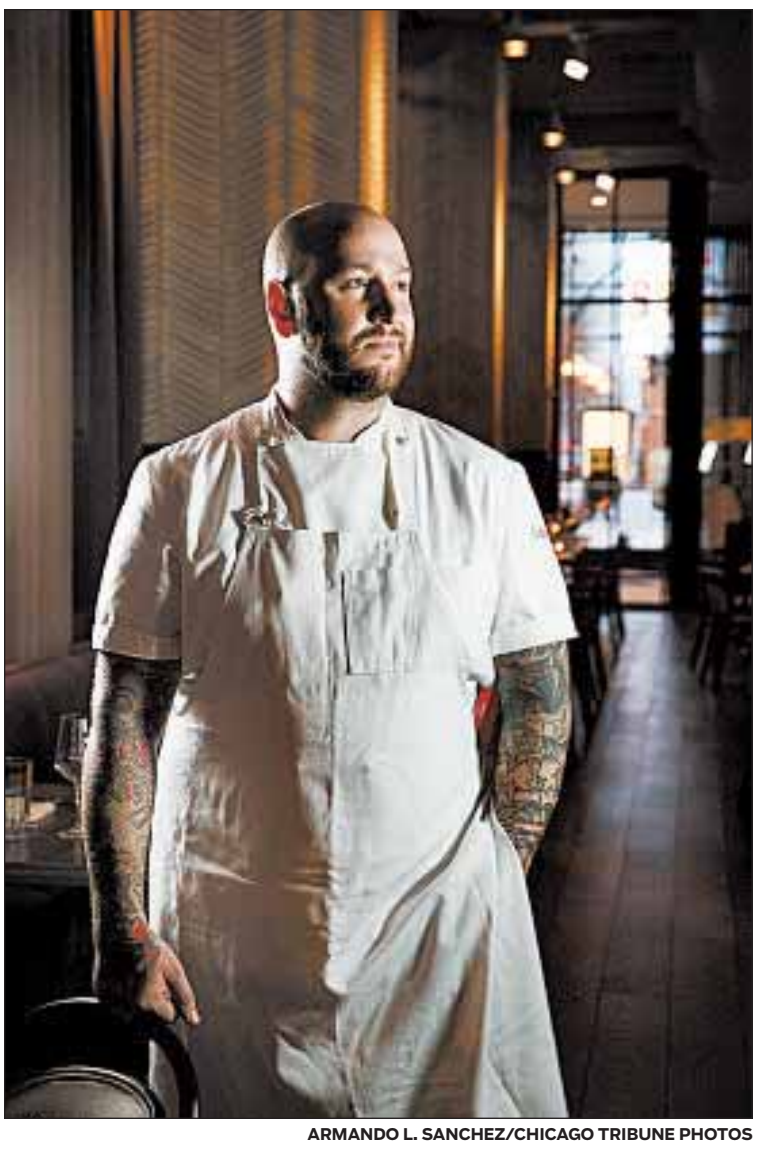
Twitter @dayjenn

More inside

- Congee recipes, **Page 5**.
- Wines to pair with Chinese food, **Page 3**.
- Prep School explains how to use a wok correctly, **Page 4**.



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Before opening Bellemore, Jimmy Papadopoulos was chef at Sam & Harry's in Schaumburg and Bohemian House in River North.

REVIEW Bellemore ★★★

Papadopoulos cooks now with 'head, heart and soul'

By Phil Vettel
Chicago Tribune

If you've sampled chef Jimmy Papadopoulos' cooking in the last four years, chances are that you've had his food without ever having had his food.

Four years ago, Papadopoulos might have cooked you a prime steak and perhaps lobster bisque at Sam & Harry's in Schaumburg. Two or three years ago, it would have been chicken paprikash and potato pancakes at Bohemian House, the hit Czech restaurant in River North, where Papadopoulos was opening chef.

By all accounts (mine included), the chef served both restaurants with distinction, even though the cooking, in his words, "was not true to my self."

Now, thanks to a fortuitous meeting with Boka Group restaurateurs Kevin Boehm and Rob Katz (and a tasting audition that reportedly blew the duo away), Papadopoulos is "cooking with my head, heart and soul" as chef and partner at 3-month-old Bellemore.

The restaurant sits in the West Loop location that was home to Embeya. I remember Embeya as being a particularly pretty restaurant, but what Karen Herold (Studio K) has done with the space is a feast for the eyes. Sitting in Bellemore is like visiting a once-grand manor that's halfway through a major restoration, where modern and nostalgic elements mix happily.

Bellemore's rich, creamy and briny oyster pie features oyster custard topped with osetra caviar, a pristine Beaujolais oyster and diced apple.

Done principally in white and dark-wood tones, the soaring dining room offers wood-clad, uplit columns casting dramatic shadows. Suspended half-globe lights and brass chandeliers supply plenty of soft, diffused illumination. Exposed pipes and duct-work run along the ceiling, while plush booths and bentwood chairs add nostalgia.

The art is avian-inspired; a far wall features a mural of flying owls, the lounge area has a nude-with-plumed-bird painting, and

*Turn to **Bellemore, Page 2***

ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Emily Ewers, 33, and Tim Boyle, 30, share Champagne at the new West Loop restaurant Bellemore after receiving their marriage license.

Cuisine matches elegant space

Bellemore, *from Page 1*

on either side of the ornate, marble-topped bar are two suspended birdcages containing stuffed peacocks.

Papadopoulos' food echoes the theme of restored elegance, beginning with his oyster pie, which probably is destined to become *the* dish of 2018 in Chicago. It's a $65 indulgence that presents two small slices of oyster-custard pie, elaborately topped with osetra caviar, a pristine Beaujolais oyster and diced apple. It's rich, creamy and briny all at once, with a gentle acidic finish. The accompanying flute of vintage Champagne is the crowning touch.

"I was afraid (the dish) would make us look stuffy and pretentious," Papadopoulos said. "And in the first month, we sold 225 orders. It's turned into this bougie bite, and now we sell roughly 20 orders a night."

The Hawaiian rolls, a considerably more approachable ($8) opener, might seem absurdly simple by comparison, but if there's such a thing as chef-y Hawaiian rolls, these are the ones. Four pull-apart, house-made rolls have all the sweet fluffiness you'd expect, topped with a bit of sea salt. What turns the dish into a knockout is the accompanying butter, infused with country ham and topped with smoked sesame seeds, saba-stewed pumpkin and some crisped ham bits to reinforce the butter's subtle undercurrent.

There are simple but memorable choices, including a colorful winter salad with whipped Gorgonzola, calamansi-marinated hamachi crudo and melt-in-mouth curls of shaved foie gras over persimmon marmalade and crumbs of chocolate brioche. The chef's duet of fried razor clams and razor-clam ceviche, mixed with sweet-potato tots, made me think about the fried clams at Howard Johnson's, which I realize dates me terribly.

Bellemore serves crisp-skinned black bass with mussels and uni, set on toasted fregola and lobster sauce.

And then there are extraordinarily complex dishes, such as the tartare of venison loin, cut into cubes large enough to provide a meaty mouthfeel, placed over aioli fortified with bonito flakes and topped with Tokyo turnips and finger lime. Within the tartare, bits of toasted pumpernickel add crunch, pickled pears contribute acidity and fermented-garlic-glaze trumpet mushrooms boost the umami factor.

If you're feeling nostalgic, the fried sweetbreads are Bellemore's closest echo of Papadopoulos' work at Bohemian House. Molasses-butter-lacquered sweetbreads over fermented kraut are accented by dates and mustard seeds; a pool of veal demi-glace contains a tiny island of apple-date mustard, whose sinus-clearing properties Papadopoulos attributes to dots of "weaponized mustard oil."

Main courses include a delicious porcelet with rutabaga, pickled prunes and tiny chicharrones, served alongside grilled cabbage. Cornish hen with Brussels sprouts, mushrooms and semolina-potato dumplings is a nice play on chicken and dumplings, and mushroom ravioli with sheep-milk ricotta and robiola cheese is even better with a blanket of thinly sliced black truffles (a $15 upcharge for the truffles).

The Hawaiian rolls' butter is infused with ham and topped with sesame seeds, pumpkin and crisped ham bits.

Bellemore serves its chocolate pudding under banana mousse, chocolate curls, malt tuile and banana crisps.

Crisp-skinned black bass gets a shellfish escort with a handful of mussels and a few dabs of uni, set on toasted fregola and a foamed lobster sauce. With supremes of lemon and grapefruit for balance, this is one of the best dishes on the menu.

The duck is a superstar. The bird is dry-aged in-house for three weeks, enhancing the rich flavor, and served as a trio: thin slivers of honey-glazed, orange- and fennel-dusted breast, confit leg meat stuffed into a crunchy croquette and a crepinette of duck heart and thigh. It's a beauty.

Pastry chef Allison Schroeder has worked at Blackbird, Girl & the Goat, Sepia and Sixteen, and she's doing terrific work here. An early sweet I very much liked was her chestnut brioche, presented in exploded chunks around high-sided bowl in which dark-chocolate pudding is hidden beneath layers of banana mousse, chocolate curls, malt tuile and banana crisps. It takes a while to get the full effect, but it's worth the wait.

If you're feeling indecisive, there's a tasting menu ($85) of six chef-selected dishes, all pulled from the menu.

Wine service is top-notch, whether you're interacting with wine director Sarah Carpenter or the nattily attired sommelier Jamel Freeman, whose picks for me were adventurous and spot-on food matches. Beverage director Lee Zaremba produces excellent cocktails with imaginative ingredients.

Service was terrific on all my visits. I always assume that I'm recognized at high-level restaurants, but the staffers did nothing overt to let on.

We're fewer than two months into 2018, but Papadopoulos is already having a very nice year.

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Bellemore

564 W. Randolph St.
312-667-0104
bellemorechicago.com

Tribune rating: ★★★

Open: Dinner daily

Prices: Entrees $28-$39

Noise: Conversation-friendly

Other: Valet parking

Ratings key: ★★★★ outstanding; ★★★ excellent; ★★ very good; ★good; no stars, unsatisfactory. The reviewer makes every effort to remain anonymous. Meals are paid for by the Tribune.

What wines to pair with your Chinese food

Michael Austin
The Pour Man

ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE; LISA SCHUMACHER/FOOD STYLING

Yes, you can pair wine with Chinese cuisine. Riesling, especially off-dry riesling, works well to balance out the salt, sweetness and spice of many dishes.

Ah, Chinese cuisine, that glorious, unpretentious, fun-to-eat fare that, alas, often poses wine-pairing challenges. The food is often bold — spicy or sweet or oozing with savory umami, the fifth flavor that is hard to describe but easy to love. Sometimes a bite of Chinese food can have all three of those things going on at once. But perhaps just as often, the food is mildly spiced and sauced. It's tough pairing wine with those kinds of extremes, but fortunately there are lots of wine styles out there.

When I go to a BYO Chinese restaurant, I like to carry along the wines I would like to drink and then pick foods that will go well with them. I usually like to pack a sparkling wine, a white and a red. Chinese cuisine is all over the map, in the best possible way. It's best to be prepared.

Chinese is meant to be shared, and it's almost always served on communal plates with giant serving spoons. Even if it's just one other person and me (but especially if there are more people), I want to order a few appetizers, some entrees and some side dishes, and indulge in tasting everything. Half the fun of eating Chinese food is enjoying all of the various flavors and textures, and the other half is taking home leftovers. The same could be said of wine-drinking — though wine never seems to come home with me. Empty bottles at every turn.

Below are some suggestions on what styles of wines to drink with nine popular Chinese dishes.

If you really want to simplify things, you could stick to this generality: with Cantonese, dry riesling; with Sichuan, off-dry riesling.

Cantonese cuisine is as fresh and unadorned as any style of Chinese cooking, which makes dry riesling a good partner to it. Sichuan is the style of cooking that brings the heat of spice, and "off-dry" in any wine means it carries a little sweetness with it. Riesling is the magic potion for Chinese food, especially off-dry riesling, which, like Champagne, balances out Chinese food's glorious salt, sweetness and spice with acidity, body and that hint of residual sugar.

Many riesling bottles carry an indicator on their back labels as to the wine's sweetness, clearly marked on a horizontal scale from dry to sweet. If the wine is off-dry, the arrow will point to a spot in the "medium dry" range, somewhere between a quarter of the way in from the left side of the scale to the halfway point. While most of the dishes below would pair well with an off-dry riesling, some of them practically require it — a little sweetness to temper the heat. Besides that, there are plenty of other options, too, and some of them are listed here.

Dim sum. Whether you are ordering from rolling carts or the menu, these are the dumplings filled with shrimp and chives, the large noodle pillows filled with pork, the beef balls and the turnip cakes, among dozens of other dishes, and they're usually served in the morning and early afternoon. For all of these reasons, you can't go wrong with a sparkling wine. Champagne, cava, prosecco — you pick — and you're probably going to be just fine. Dim sum is basically Chinese brunch, and you love sparkling wine at brunch.

Lo mein. "Mein" means noodles, and when these are tossed with vegetables, zippy, green sauvignon blanc, gruner veltliner or sparkling wine would make nice accompaniments.

Chow mein. "Chow" refers to the preparation of the noodles — stir-fried — calling for a wine that can cut through the weight and richness of the oil. Try a dry riesling, rosé or sparkling wine. The same wine styles could work for fried rice, too — again providing enough fruit and acidity to cut the richness.

Moo shu pork. Umami, the "fifth flavor," is all over this rich, mouth-filling dish, and it gets wrapped up nicely in thin-as-paper pancakes. An off-dry riesling or a California chardonnay could make for a nice match, or moving into reds, you could try wines from Beaujolais or peppery cabernet franc.

Peking duck. You've got that crispy skin, the fatty meat, the plum sauce and, once again, pancakes to wrap it all up. For reds, try a ripe pinot noir, or a merlot if you want something a little bolder. . If you want to stick with a white, opt for a chenin blanc or a good old off-dry riesling.

Ma po tofu. Now we're getting into some Sichuan spice. Whatever you choose to pair with spicy Chinese fare, make sure it has low tannins and low alcohol. A wine with either of those in high doses will only make the heat hotter. For this dish, pick pinot gris, an off-dry chenin blanc or a gewurztraminer on the white side. Keep your reds fruity and low in tannin. Try a Beaujolais, pinot noir or a delightfully fizzy Lambrusco.

Kung pao chicken. Now we're getting even spicier. This dish can make your lips buzz, and to offset that heat, opt for an off-dry riesling or a delightfully aromatic gewurztraminer. Off-dry whites go with spicy like Batman goes with fighting crime.

Beef and broccoli. This savory dish is not as hot as the previous two, which means it will play well with silky reds, such as a richer-style pinot noir, or merlot, grenache or a GSM (grenache, shiraz, mourvedre) blend, or carmenere.

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E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS; LISA SCHUMACHER/FOOD STYLING

Woks come in many sizes. Some have two short handles, while others have one long one. They can be round- or flat-bottomed. Hand-hammered carbon steel is recommended.

How to wok the wok

With iconic Asian pan, you'll stir-fry with ease

James P. DeWan
Prep School

Hey! Hey! Today we're celebrating National Iconic Asian Cookware Day. But, first, some tragic backstory:

Recently, I was delivering a fascinating, fascinating lecture at Kendall College in Chicago on the topic of inventory management and cost control in the restaurant indust-zzz ...

Hmmm. Maybe not as fascinating as I'd thought. That would certainly explain why, while one half of my brain delivered said lecture, the other half was skipping gaily through a field of Muppets. Muppets! The Swedish Chef. Kermit. And, most vividly, the stand-up comic Fozzie Bear with his trademark catchphrase, "Wokka wokka."

Which brings us to today's topic. Go ahead. Guess.

Why you need to learn this

Stir-fry. Chinese economic hegemony. Wokka wokka.

Now, you absolutely can produce a jim-dandy stir-fry in a regular saute pan. Still, there's nothing like the rounded bowl of a proper wok to facilitate that way-cool, arcing vegetable toss you've been dying to master.

The steps you take

First, let's get you a good wok. I recommend hand-hammered carbon steel. Hand-hammered for that certain "not-made-by-job-killing-robots" *je ne sais quoi*. Carbon steel for its sturdy, light weight and its quick, even heating. Most important, though, is how it develops that layer of deep-space black, polymerized oil that forms on the inside surface and prevents food from sticking. (More on that below.)

Whatever you do, for the love of criminy cripes, avoid like your ex at dollar beer night those nonstick woks. For one thing, nonstick surfaces can crack and chip like foundation makeup on the Bride of Frankenstein. Worse, those crazy nonstick chemicals can break down in high heat, poisoning the air until you find yourself in an episode of Old Testament "X-Files," shuddering under a sudden shower of hapless bats tumbling lifeless from the toxic sky.

Carbon steel it is, then.

Next, round bottom? Flat bottom? Now, some picky pooh-poohers suggest that flat-bottomed woks are like Humvees, dickies or that six-string "banjar" that Taylor Swift uses because she wants to look like she's playing an actual banjo when all she knows is a few chords on guitar: They're all for show. Still, those oblate derrieres acknowledge that the flat stovetops of our Western kitchens make a rounded cooking vessel difficult to use. I say, use what works.

Another variant is the handle. I prefer one long wooden (not metal) handle over two short handles, one on either side. It allows you to practice your aforementioned way-cool arc-y flips while keeping your tossing hand relatively blister free.

Finally, size, for the sizes of woks are myriad. There are restaurant-style jumbo woks in which you could stir-fry a full-grown Canadian bull moose. Then there are those smaller wokettes like they use at the Wadio City Music Hall (Oh, puh-lease.). For most of us, though, the 14-inch size should be just what the woktor ordered. (Somebody, stop me.)

As for accessories, you'll definitely want a good wok spatula. They have super long handles so you don't burn your fingers, and an extra-wide business end that makes for easy-peasy scooping.

Also, if your wok has a round bottom, you might want a wok ring to steady it on your stovetop. Truth: I've got a round-bottom wok and I just set it — admittedly precariously — directly on top of the burner. So far (knocking wood as I type), I've avoided any disastrously tippy mishaps.

Other accouterments like lids, steamer inserts, cleaning brushes, spider strainers (so named, I believe, for their weblike appearance rather than their handiness in preparing tarantula dumplings), they all have their uses. And that's because our Asian brethren have much more than stir-fries going on in their woks. They're also steaming, braising, poaching, smoking, you name it. If you're new to this, though, I'd say start with a few simple stir-fries. Then, if you find that you're liking the old doo-wokadoo, get all crazy, watch "Eat Drink Man Woman" on Netflix, and start the wokification of your entire menu.

Finally, two bits of good advice. First, if your wok is new, you'll want to start that layer of "polymerized" oil that helps keep it nonstick. (We'll discuss the whole polymerization thing another day, when Prep School covers "How to Clean Your Rat Nasty Pans.") To do that, season your wok thusly:

Wash your wok with warm, soapy water, then dry it while repeating this mantra, "I shall never again use soap on my wok." Next, place your wok over high heat and swirl in a little oil to cover as much of the surface as you can. When it starts smoking, take it off the flame and wipe it out with paper towels. Now, every time you stir-fry, your wok will darken until it's as black as the unkinder thoughts of Job. Then, whenever you stir-fry, as soon as the food is done, clean your wok immediately with a brush under hot, running water. No soap.

My last bit of wisdom: Remember that, with stir-fry, heat is your friend. Crank your hottest burner all the way, like Satan on the first day of fall semester. Use your spatula and your practiced food tossing to keep the food skittering like a cat in a viper pit across its extremely hot surface.

Now, go out and make us some stir-fry.

Wokka wokka.

James P. DeWan is a culinary instructor at Kendall College in Chicago

Twitter @jimdewan

Even if you've just started using a wok, mapo tofu is an easy stir-fry recipe.

Mapo tofu

Prep: 10 minutes **Cook:** 20 to 30 minutes

Makes: 4 to 6 servings

My student Jieyu "Martin" Ma, a Shanghai native, brought this recipe to my Global Flavors class at Kendall College and wowed us all with its heat and complex flavors. He prefers Laoganma brand black bean chile sauce here. Look for it, or another brand, and the Sichuan peppercorns at Asian markets.

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 tablespoon Sichuan peppercorns
- 1 tablespoon red pepper flakes (or to taste)
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 pound ground meat (beef/pork/chicken)
- 1/4 cup black bean chile sauce
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil
- 1 pound firm silken tofu, cut to medium dice
- Cold water as needed
- Salt and white pepper to taste
- Cooked rice, as needed
- 2 bunches green onion, sliced

1 Place a wok or large saucepan over medium-high heat. When hot, add enough oil to cover the bottom.

2 When oil is hot, about 30 seconds, add Sichuan peppercorns, red pepper flakes, garlic and ground meat. Stir-fry until the spices are fragrant and the meat is browned, 6 to 8 minutes.

3 Add black bean chile sauce, soy sauce and sesame oil; mix well to combine.

4 Gently add diced tofu, along with enough water to cover. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer until warmed completely through, 8 to 10 minutes.

5 Season with salt and white pepper; serve immediately over rice, garnished with chopped green onions.

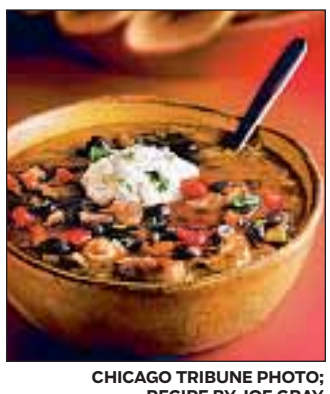
HOW TO PAIR WINE

Bold reds will make your bean soup even better

By Michael Austin | Chicago Tribune

This dish is rustic and hearty, and its bold flavors demand a wine that can stand up to them. To complement the soup's rich, sweet and savory flavors, you could try this sangiovese from California, this barbera from Italy or this grenache from France. All of them bring enough fruit and the right aromatics to make the soup even better.

THE FOOD



CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTO; RECIPE BY JOE GRAY

Black bean and sausage soup: Slice 2 links Italian sausage down the middle lengthwise; brown both sides in a Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Transfer to a board; cut into 1/4-inch half moons. Add 1 tablespoon vegetable oil to Dutch oven. Add 1 onion, chopped, and 1 each poblano chile and red bell pepper, seeded, chopped; cook until softened, about 5 minutes. Pour in 2 cans (15 ounces each) black beans, drained, rinsed, and 3 1/2 cups low-sodium chicken broth; stir in sliced sausage. Cook until heated through. Serve topped with crema. **Makes:** 4 servings

THE WINE *By sommelier Alan Beasey of The Purple Pig, as told to Michael Austin:*

2014 Caparone Sangiovese, Paso Robles, California: This wine has aromas of bright red fruit balanced by savory herbs and a hint of sweet balsamic, which will enhance the spices and herbs in the sausage. Also, the wine's juicy, sweet fruit will pair nicely with the sweet onions and peppers in the dish.

2015 Scarpetta Barbera del Monferrato, Piedmont, Italy: Herbs and fennel aromas in this wine will complement the sausage, while beautiful fruit flavors of sweet blueberries and tangy blackberries will enhance the onions and peppers. The wine also offers a hint of minerality and a nice bit of food-friendly acidity.

2013 Domaine Gramenon Les Laurentides, Cotes du Rhone, France: This 100 percent grenache offers aromas of fennel and rosemary, which are echoed in the sausage. There's also plummy, rich fruit that will meld nicely with the beans and peppers. And hints of mocha and vanilla will enhance the soup's finishing dollop of crema.

FROM THE COVER

ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS; LISA SCHUMACHER/FOOD STYLING

Seafood congee is a great way to take advantage of the concentrated flavor of dried seafood, such as scallops.

Seafood congee

Prep: 15 minutes **Soak:** 2 to 3 hours

Cook: 55 minutes **Makes:** 4 servings

From "Omnivore's Cookbook" by Maggie Zhu. If you prefer a less soupy congee, cut the water back to 6 cups, then add more as needed.

- 1/2 cup dried scallops
- 1/2 cup rice
- 8 to 10 medium shrimp, shelled, deveined
- 1 teaspoon Shaoxing wine
- 1 teaspoon minced fresh, peeled ginger
- 3/8 teaspoon salt, or to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon sesame oil
- 2 tablespoons chopped green onion

1 Rinse dried scallops, and place them in a small bowl covered with water. Let stand, 2-3 hours.

2 Combine rice with 8 cups of water in a large pot. Bring to a boil over high heat. Stir occasionally. Once boiling, reduce heat to medium or medium-low. Cover pot halfway, and continue to boil gently. Cook, stirring occasionally, 30 minutes.

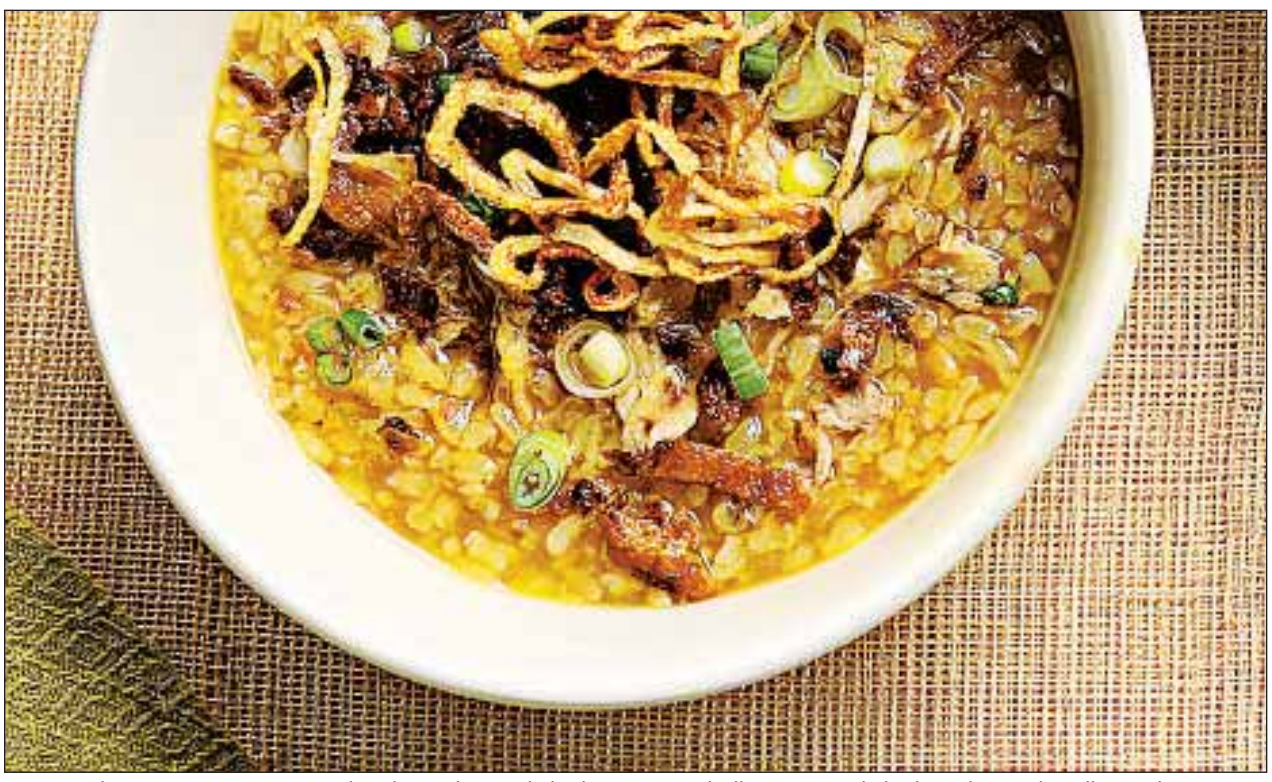
3 Meanwhile, slice shrimp lengthwise. In a small bowl, combine with wine and 1/2 teaspoon ginger and 1/8 teaspoon salt. Mix well and set aside.

4 Drain dried scallops, and tear by hand into small pieces. When congee has been cooking for 30 minutes and starts to thicken, add shredded scallops. Keep cooking with the pot half-covered until congee reaches desired thickness, 15-20 minutes. Stir frequently.

5 When congee is cooked to consistency you prefer, add shrimp and remaining ginger. Stir a few times, and turn off heat. Add remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt (or to taste). Stir well.

6 Serve in bowls, garnished with sesame oil and green onion.

Nutrition information per serving: 197 calories, 2 g fat, 0 g saturated fat, 245 mg cholesterol, 21 g carbohydrates, 0 g sugar, 22 g protein, 417 mg sodium, 0 g fiber



Joanne Chang's congee is topped with soy-braised chicken, crispy shallots, crisped chicken skin and scallion salsa.

Congee with nirvana chicken and scallion salsa

Prep: 20 minutes **Cook:** 60 minutes

Makes: 4 to 6 servings

From "Myers + Chang at Home" by Joanne Chang and Karen Akunowicz. Make the recipe for nirvana chicken ahead (recipe below the congee), then make the congee and its other components, the salsa and crispy shallots.

Scallion salsa:

- 4 to 5 green onions, white and green parts thinly sliced (about 1/2 cup)
- 5 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1/4 cup unseasoned rice vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 fresh Thai bird chile, sliced

Congee:

- 1 recipe nirvana chicken (see recipe)
- 2 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 cup uncooked short-grain white rice
- 1 recipe crispy shallots (see recipe)

1 For the scallion salsa, combine the green onions, soy sauce, vinegar, salt and Thai bird chile in a small bowl. Stir well and set aside.

2 For the congee, remove the nirvana chicken from the braising liquid and set aside. (If you made the chicken in advance, rewarm the chicken and braising liquid.) Strain the braising liquid through a fine-mesh strainer into a medium saucepan to remove solids and spoon off fat. (You'll have about 2 1/2 cups.)

3 Add the broth and 4 cups water to the strained liquid, and bring it to a simmer. Add the rice, and simmer gently over low heat for 1 hour, stirring frequently, so that the rice never sticks to the bottom. The congee should be loose and soupy, so if it starts to thicken, add more water to loosen it up. (If using an Instant Pot, combine liquids and rice, and cook for 25 minutes on "porridge" setting, and allow pot to vent naturally.)

4 While the rice is cooking, pull the chicken meat off the bones. Optional: Crisp chicken skin in the oven (place on a baking sheet, and slide into a 350-degree oven for about 10 minutes), and chop. When the rice is almost melty and the liquid has thickened, 60 to 90 minutes, add pulled meat to pot and stir.

5 Divide congee among four to six bowls, top with scallion salsa, shallots and chicken skin (if using), and eat for breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Nutrition information per serving (for 6 servings): 207 calories, 5 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 47 mg cholesterol, 23 g carbohydrates, 1 g sugar, 15 g protein, 2,423 mg sodium, 1 g fiber

Nirvana chicken

Prep: 15 minutes

Cook: 2 hours, 15 minutes

- 1 pound bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 4 to 5 green onions, white and green parts thinly sliced (about 1/2 cup)
- 1 piece (2 inches long) ginger, peeled, sliced into coins
- 3 medium cloves garlic, sliced
- 1/2 cups low-sodium soy sauce
- 1/4 cup michiu (rice cooking wine), dry sherry or dry white wine
- 2 teaspoons sambal oelek
- 2 whole star anise

1 Heat oven to 350 degrees. Season chicken thighs with salt and pepper.

2 In a large Dutch oven, heat vegetable oil over high heat until it shimmers. Sear chicken thighs, turning from time to time until deep golden brown, about 5 minutes. Remove the chicken, drain the fat in the pot and turn heat down to medium.

3 Add the broth to the pot, and scrape up browned bits. Add green onions, ginger, garlic, soy sauce, michiu, sambal oelek, star anise and 1/4 cup water. Bring to a simmer.

4 Return chicken thighs to the pot, skin side up. Cover tightly and place in the oven. Cook until chicken is falling off the bone, 60 to 90 minutes. Chicken can be made up to 3 days in advance and stored in braising liquid in the refrigerator.

Crispy shallots

Slice 4 medium shallots as thinly as possible. Combine with 2 cups vegetable oil in a small saucepan. Place saucepan over medium heat, and stir until oil barely simmers. Cook until golden brown, stirring occasionally, 6-8 minutes. Drain shallots on paper towels, and dust with 1/4 teaspoon salt. Shallots keep at room temperature in an airtight container up to 5 days.

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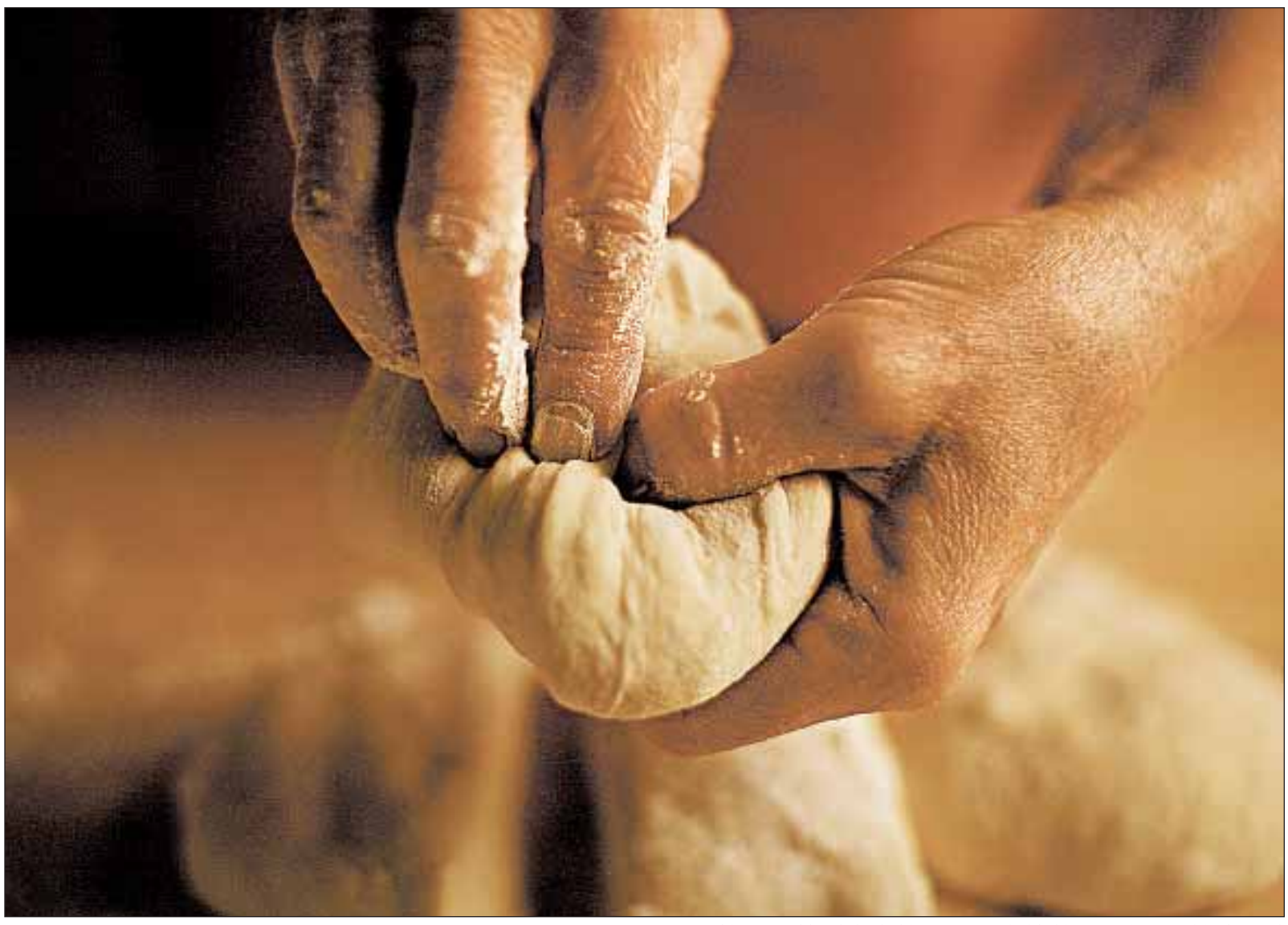
Hearty pizza perfect for season

Eclectic mix tops homemade crust

By Wolfgang Puck
Tribune Content Agency



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS; CORRINE KOZLAK/FOOD STYLING

Pizza starts with homemade yeast dough that goes through a process of kneading and resting, so that it can rise.

Nowadays, pizza is more than just an Italian specialty. You'll find people enjoying it wherever you travel around the world, from America to England to Japan to Qatar and beyond.

I'm happy to have played some part in spreading that popularity, since I began giving pizzas a new contemporary California spin at the first location of Spago I opened in Hollywood back in early 1982. Before then, not many people could have imagined pizzas topped with such gourmet and internationally influenced ingredients as duck sausage, smoked salmon with caviar, chicken with Mexican jalapeno peppers, or even something as far removed from most pizza lovers' thinking as Peking duck. But we decided from the beginning to be inventive and have as much fun making pizza as people have eating it. The results definitely caught on.

To me, pizza is a food to enjoy year-round, whatever the occasion. And the wide range of topping ingredients available now makes it possible to adapt pizzas to any time of year and any occasion. The following recipe is a fine example of that approach. It traces back to the early days of Spago, combining ingredients from Italy, Asia, France and Germany to make a hearty yet refined-tasting dish I find perfect for wintertime.

Black Forest ham is a high-quality deli meat produced in the mountainous Black Forest region of southwestern Germany. It's generally eaten like the similarly appearing Italian prosciutto, cut into thin, almost translucent slices. Those are the sort of slices you should start with for the pizza, either cut for you to order at a deli counter or purchased pre-sliced in a vacuum-sealed package at most well-stocked supermarkets.

To complement this featured ingredient, my pizza also includes silky, earthy slices of pan-grilled or sauteed slender Japanese or Asian-style eggplants, which have a milder flavor and fewer seeds than the larger globe varieties. Along with the mixture of Italian fontina and mozzarella cheeses, I also add some fresh, creamy goat cheese.

This eclectic combination of toppings adds up to a worldly pizza that feels sophisticated and down-to-earth, refined and heartily comforting — a perfect casual main dish for you to warm up with when the weather outside feels cold and blustery.

Wolfgang Puck Worldwide. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency.

Place a circle of dough on a wood peel or rimless baking sheet before adding toppings.

Wolfgang's pizza dough

Proof: In a small bowl, dissolve 1 package active dry or fresh yeast and 1 teaspoon honey in ¼ cup warm water (105 to 115 degrees).

Mix: In a food processor, combine 3 cups flour and 1 teaspoon kosher salt. Add 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil, the yeast mixture and ¾ cup warm water; process until the mixture forms a ball.

Rise: Turn the dough out onto a clean work surface and knead by hand 2 or 3 minutes longer. The dough should be smooth and firm. Cover with a clean, damp towel and let rise in a cool spot for about 2 hours. (When ready, the dough will stretch as it is lightly pulled.)

Shape: Divide the dough into 4 equal balls. Work each by pulling down the sides and tucking under the bottom. Repeat four or five times. Then on a smooth, unfloured surface, roll each under the palm of your hand until the top is smooth and firm, about 1 minute. Cover with a damp towel, and let rest 1 hour. At this point, the balls can be wrapped in plastic and refrigerated for up to two days.

Makes: 4 dough balls

Black Forest ham and goat cheese pizza

Prep: 1 hour, plus time to make dough

Cook: 10 to 12 minutes per pizza

Makes: 4 individual pizzas

- 1 batch pizza dough, divided into 4 balls, see recipe
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 cup shredded fontina cheese
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese, about ½ pound, or an equivalent weight in thinly sliced fresh mozzarella
- 2 small slender Japanese eggplants, grilled, see note
- 1 cup crumbled fresh goat cheese
- 4 ounces thinly sliced Black Forest ham, cut into thin julienne strips
- 1 bunch fresh basil leaves, 4 small sprigs reserved for garnish, remaining leaves chopped

1 Set an oven rack at the highest level, place a pizza stone or baker's tiles on the rack, and heat to 500 degrees. Roll or stretch each piece of pizza dough into a circle 8 inches in diameter.

2 One at a time, place a circle of dough on a wood peel (paddle) or rimless baking sheet lightly dusted with flour or semolina. Brush with oil and sprinkle with some pepper flakes to taste. Arrange a quarter each of the fontina and mozzarella on the dough, leaving a narrow rim. Arrange a quarter each of the eggplant, goat cheese and ham on top. Sprinkle with chopped basil.

3 Slide the pizza from the peel onto the baking stone. Bake until the cheese is melted and bubbly and the rim is deep golden brown, 10 to 12 minutes.

4 Using the peel, remove the pizza from the oven. Cut into slices, then transfer to a serving platter. Garnish with a basil sprig. Serve immediately. Assemble, bake and serve the three remaining pizzas the same way.

Note: Cut the eggplants lengthwise into ¼-inch slices. Brush with oil and grill until tender, or saute in olive oil; or use ½ pound large mushrooms, cut into ¼-inch slices and sauteed in olive oil until golden.

Nutrition information per serving: 932 calories, 47 g fat, 21 g saturated fat, 124 mg cholesterol, 89 g carbohydrates, 10 g sugar, 40 g protein, 1,112 mg sodium, 9 g fiber

Refreshing citrus for winter

By Ellie Krieger
The Washington Post

If you are like me, you have been walking by the extra-large, grapefruitlike pomelos in the store for years, never feeling quite up for venturing into unknown citrus territory, especially when there are so many more familiar, less intimidatingly huge favorites to snap up this time of year.

If that's the case, then, like me, you have been missing out.

Pomelos are wonderful. They taste something like grapefruit, with a pleasant tartness, but mellower — without much bitterness and with a sweet, candylike aroma. It is the largest citrus species, but don't let the size deter you; the fruit inside is not much larger than that of a grapefruit. They are so big because their pith is quite thick. It is easy enough, however, to get to the tasty flesh within and enjoy just as you would a grapefruit or orange.

DEB LINDSEY/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

This recipe uses the blush-colored pomelo segments in a classic, composed salad with crisp, thinly sliced fennel and red onion dressed simply in extra-virgin olive oil, lemon juice, salt and pepper, topped with a crunch of toasted pistachios and mint leaves. It's a delightful dish that offers a refreshing contrast to winter's rich stews and roasts.

Ellie Krieger is a registered dietitian and freelance writer.

Fennel pomelo salad with pistachios

Prep: 25 minutes **Makes:** 4 servings

Any type of orange or grapefruit would work here if you cannot find a pomelo.

- 1 pomelo or red grapefruit
- ¼ cup shelled, unsalted pistachios
- 1 to 2 large fennel bulbs, trimmed, thinly sliced (about 3 cups)
- ¼ small red onion, thinly sliced
- 2 tablespoons plus 4 teaspoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- ¼ teaspoon kosher salt
- ¼ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- ¼ cup packed fresh mint leaves

1 Cut the pomelo or red grapefruit into segments: Slice off the top and bottom of the fruit. Stand it on one flat end, then cut down the sides, following the curve of the fruit to remove the peel and white pith. Working over a bowl, use a paring knife to detach the fruit segments from their membranes, slicing toward the core of the fruit.

2 Toast the pistachios in a small, dry skillet over medium heat, until fragrant, shaking the pan to avoid scorching, about 5 minutes. Cool completely; coarsely chop.

3 Toss the fennel and onion with 2 tablespoons olive oil, the lemon juice, salt and pepper in a medium bowl. Divide the mixture among individual plates; top each with some citrus segments (reserve any accumulated juices for another use), the mint and toasted pistachios. Drizzle each portion with 1 teaspoon of the remaining oil and serve.

Nutrition information per serving: 190 calories, 15 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 0 mg cholesterol, 15 g carbohydrates, 9 g sugar, 3 g protein, 105 mg sodium, 4 g fiber

Carson's Ribs is moving to River East

By Phil Vettel
Chicago Tribune

After 40 years at the corner of Wells and Ontario streets, Carson's Ribs (612 N. Wells St.) is about to find a new home.

Carson's Ribs will move to the east end of the River East Arts Center (the official address will be 465 E. Illinois St.), aiming to open March 1.

The original Carson's location was to close Feb. 19, which means Chicagoans will have to endure a 10-day blackout (rib-out?) of Carson's ribs, unless they're willing to travel; the Carson's locations in Deerfield (200 N. Waukegan Road) and Milwaukee (301 W. Juneau Ave.) remain open.

The reason for the move? Owner Dean Carson sold the original location to developers, who, naturally, plan a high-rise structure for the spot.

The new location, most recently home to the restaurant Quay, is very large and includes indoor/outdoor space overlooking Ogden Slip. Carson also plans to bring in live music; jazz keyboardist/vocalist Ghalib Ghallab, a Chicago native, will make regular appearances in March.

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BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Owner Dean Carson sold the original location of Carson's Ribs, 612 N. Wells St., to developers who plan to build a high-rise on the property.

Carlucci closing in Downers Grove, but owner not finished yet

By Phil Vettel
Chicago Tribune

Carlucci, a 15-year fixture in west suburban Downers Grove, has closed. The last day of service was to be Sunday.

Owner Joe Carlucci, a major figure in Chicago's restaurant scene for more than 25 years, has sold the property to another operator.

"This is a bittersweet affair, what's going on here," Carlucci said. "But the opportunity came about, and — well, there's never a good time to do this, but it was the appropriate moment."

For its last few days of service, Carlucci was to feature a menu filled with favorites from the restaurant's history, going back to the original Carlucci on Halsted Street, which closed in 1997. Among the featured dishes was Carlucci's signature Linguini Bombonato, in which noodles, prosciutto and torn basil are tossed tableside in the hollow of a Parmigiano cheese wheel.

In addition, house wines were $5 per glass.

Carlucci said it would be "tough not to work" with his staff members, some of whom have been in Downers Grove since opening day.

"I've been looking for places for our employees to land," he said, "and that's going well. And the longtime employees are getting severance packages. I want to exit in a classy way."

The closing leaves Carlucci without a restaurant to run (the Carlucci in Rosemont remains open, but that's a separate operation with a licensing agreement to use the Carlucci name), but he made it clear that this was not the end of an era.

"Retire? Me? Hardly," he said. "It's way too soon, and I still have a lot to say. I still have my golf consulting business, helping turn around clubhouses into profitable food-and-beverage operations.

"And I'm going to open a couple more restaurants," he said. "I almost pulled the trigger on a downtown restaurant in October, but I knew this (sale) was forthcoming, so I kind of relaxed for a few months. But I do have more to say, and for sure I'll be opening more restaurants. So stay tuned."

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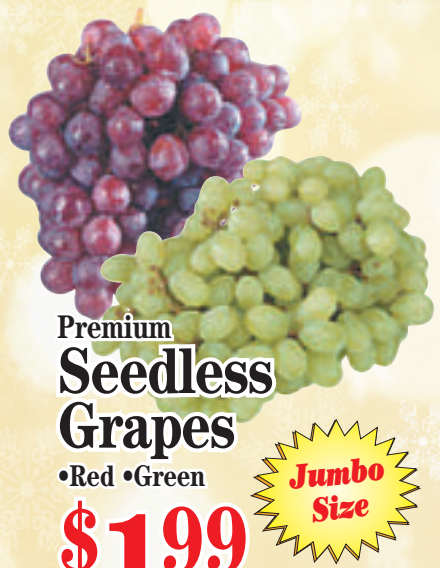

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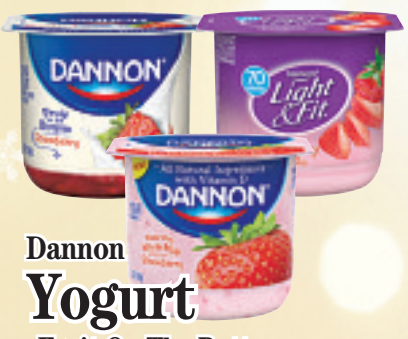

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•Gummies 70 Ct.
•Multi 100 Ct.
$7.99

Dove Men's
Body Wash
13.5 Oz.
$4.99

Best Choice
Cold Plus Cough PE
24 Ct.
$2.99

GROCERY

Libby's
Vegetables
•Cut or French Style Green Beans
•Whole Kernel or Cream Style Corn
•Sweet Peas
14.5 - 15.25 Oz.
59¢

Prince
Pasta
Selected Varieties
12 - 16 Oz.
88¢

Folgers
Country Roast
Coffee
31.1 Oz.
$4.99

Brownberry
Bread
•Whole Grain
•Country Classic
24 Oz.
2/$4

Vitner's
Potato Chips
8.5 Oz.
3/$5

Hinckley Springs
Water
24 Pk. .5 Ltr. Btls.
4/$10

Chicken of the Sea
Chunk Light Tuna
5 Oz.
69¢

Del Monte
Vegetables
•Cut or French Style Green Beans
•Whole Kernel or Cream Style Corn
•Sweet Peas
14.5 - 15.25 Oz.
79¢

Campbell's
Soup
•Tomato
•Chicken Noodle
10.75 Oz.
88¢

Wishbone or Western
Salad Dressing
15 - 16 Oz.
2/$4

Glenmark
Croutons
5 Oz.
99¢

Uncle Ben's
Rice
•Wild
•Ready
6 - 8.8 Oz.
2/$4

Best Choice
Sugar
4 Lb.
$1.88

K-Cups
•Green Mountain
•Donut House
•Donut Shop
•Swiss Miss Cocoa
10 - 12 Ct.
$5.99

Best Choice
Peanut Butter
16 Oz.
$1.69

Best Choice
Honey Bear
12 Oz.
2/$5

•Aunt Millie's
Homestyle Bread
24 Oz.
•Koepplinger's
Italian Bread
20 Oz.
2/$3

Butternut
Bread
•Whole Grain White
•Honey Wheat
20 Oz.
2/$3

Regular, Diet
•Pepsi
•Mtn. Dew
•Crush
24 Pk. 12 Oz. Cans
$6.99

Regular, Diet
•Coke
•Coke Zero Sugar
•Sprite
24 Pk. 12 Oz. Cans
$6.99

•Seagram's Ginger Ale
•Barq's
•Fanta
•Mello Yello
•Minute Maid
2 Ltr.
5/$5

Ice Mountain
Spring Water
•12 Pk. 12 Oz. Btls.
•6 Pk. 700 ML Sport Cap Btls.
•12 Pk. 8 Oz. Btls.
2/$3

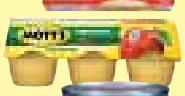
Lipton
Tea
128 Oz.
2/$5

•Snapple Tea
•Body Armor
16 Oz.
5/$5

Kraft
•Deluxe Mac & Cheese
•Velveeta Shells & Cheese ..... 9.4 - 14 Oz. **$2.99**

Entenmann's
•Mini Cakes
•Mini Pies ..... 9.25 - 13.8 Oz. **2/$6**

Mott's
Apple Sauce ..... 6 Pk. **$1.99**



Lucky Leaf
Cherry Pie Filling ..... 20 - 21 Oz. **2/$5**

Butternut
Buns ..... 6 Ct. **2/$3**
•Brat •Kaiser •Deluxe

Mr. Clean
All Purpose Cleaner ..... 40 Oz. **$2.49**

Cascade
Dishwasher Action Pacs **$3.99**
•Complete 14 Ct. •Regular 20 Ct.
•Platinum 11 Ct.

Downy
Unstoplables Scent Booster ..... 19.5 Oz. **$7.99**

Beneful
Dog Food ..... 15.5 Lb. **$14.99**

Beneful
Prepared Meals ..... 10 Oz. **3/$5**

Purina
Cat Chow ..... 13 - 16 Lb. **$13.99**

Nunn Better
Butcher's Best
Dog Food ..... 16 Lb. **$7.99**

COUNTRY BAKERY

Walt's Own Fresh Baked
•Vienna Bread
1 Lb. Loaf
•Hoagie Buns
6 Pk. Regular or 12 Pk. Mini
$1.99
Your Choice

Walt's Own
Candy Cookies
18 Pk. Pre-Packaged
$3.49
Value Pack

Walt's Own
Homestyle Peach Pie
8 Inch
$5.99

Walt's Own
Pineapple Orange Muffins
4 Pk. Pre-Packaged
$3.99

Walt's Own
White or Chocolate Buttercream Iced
Half Cake
8 Inch
$4.99

Walt's Own
White Iced
Cinnamon Rolls
4 Pk. Pre-Packaged
$2.99

Walt's Own
Blueberry Cream Cake
1/2 Ring
$5.49

DELI-HUT

BUY OF THE WEEK!

Patrick Cudahy
Hard Salami
$5.98 Lb.
$2.99 1/2 Lb.

BUY OF THE WEEK!

Eckrich
Deli Bologna
•Regular •Garlic
$3.98 Lb.
$1.99 1/2 Lb.

BUY OF THE WEEK!

Eckrich
Deli Loaves
•Old Fashioned •Jalapeno
•Olive •Minced •P&P Loaf
$5.98 Lb.
$2.99 1/2 Lb.

Hormel
Spiced Ham
$5.78 Lb.
$2.89 1/2 Lb.

Grandpa's Premium
Potato Salad
$3.79 Lb.

Garden Fresh
Deviled Egg Salad
$3.99 Lb.

Walt's Deli Hut
Beef Tips & Gravy
$8.99 Lb.

Hoffman's Super Sharp
Cheese
$6.98 Lb.
$3.49 1/2 Lb.

BUTCHER SHOP

Fresh Grade "A"
Chicken Drumsticks
5 Lb. Bag
$2.99

Hormel
Little Sizzlers
Assorted Varieties
12 Oz.
89¢

Farmland
Sliced Bacon
Assorted Varieties
12 - 16 Oz.
$3.99

Indiana Kitchen
"All Natural" Pork
Assorted Pork Chops
Value Pack
$1.29 Lb.

Walt's "All Natural"
Premium 80% Lean
Ground Chuck
Value Pack
$2.99 Lb.

USDA Choice Certified
Hereford "Natural Beef"
Porterhouse Steak
Any Size Package
$6.99 Lb.
T-Bone Steak Any Size Package $6.79 Lb.

Bob Evans
Pork Sausage Roll
Assorted Varieties
16 Oz.
2/$5

Bob Evans
Breakfast Pork Sausage
•Links •Patties
Assorted Varieties 12 Oz.
2/$5

Land O' Frost
Canadian Bacon
Assorted Varieties
7 Oz.
2/$5

Miller Amish Country
"100% Natural"
Boneless Chicken Thighs
$3.29 Lb.

Honeysuckle White
85% Lean
Ground Turkey
16 Oz.
$2.99

Turkey •Breakfast Sausage Links •Meatballs
12 - 16 Oz. $2.99

Oscar Mayer
Basic Lunchables
Assorted Varieties
2.2 - 4.2 Oz.
5/$5

Oscar Mayer
•Bologna •Cotto Salami
Assorted Varieties
16 Oz.
2/$3

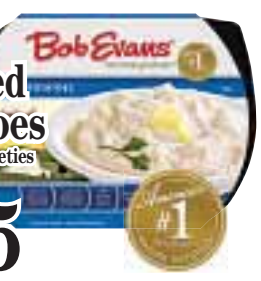
Scott Pete
Jumbo Franks
16 Oz.
$1.59

Oscar Mayer
Beef Franks
Assorted Varieties
14 - 16 Oz.
$3.49

Scott Pete
Beef Polish Sausage
Assorted Varieties
20 Oz.
$4.99

Eckrich
Smoked Polish Sausage
Assorted Varieties
10 - 14 Oz.
2/$6

Bob Evans
Mashed Potatoes
Assorted Varieties
12 - 24 Oz.
2/$5



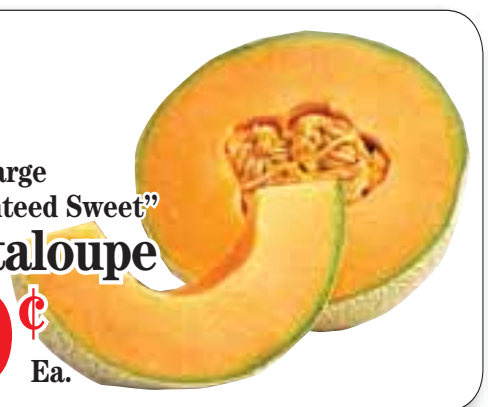
Wild Caught
Previously Frozen
Red Snapper Fillets
Product of Indonesia
$6.99 Lb.

AquaStar Pure & Natural
Pink Salmon Fillet
1.25 Lb.
$7.49

Trans Ocean Imitation
•Crab Classic •Lobster Classic
Assorted Varieties
8 Oz.
2/$4

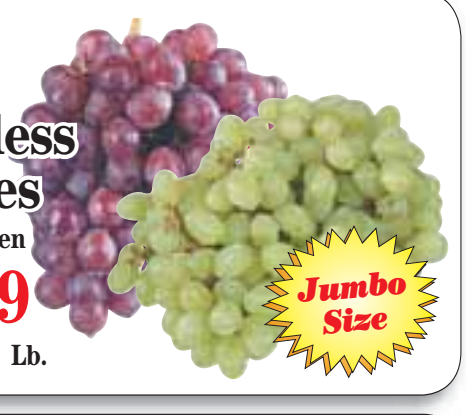
PRODUCE

Extra Large
"Guaranteed Sweet"
Cantaloupe
99¢ Ea.



Jumbo Sweet
Blueberries
2/$4

Premium
Seedless Grapes
•Red •Green
$1.99 Lb.



Fresh Express
Garden Blends
•Premium Romaine
•Green & Crisp
•Double Carrots
•Lettuce Trio
2/$4

Premium
Ripe Sweet
Strawberries
2/$4

"Extra Sweet"
Golden
Pineapple
$1.99 Ea.
Cored Pineapple $2.49 Ea.

Extra Large
Sweet
Red Peppers
99¢ Lb.

Extra Large
Sweet
Yellow Peppers
99¢ Lb.

Extra Large
Sweet
Green Peppers
99¢ Lb.

Driscoll's Finest
Sweet Red
Raspberries
6 Oz. Pkgs.
2/$5

Extra Large
Eating Navel
Oranges
99¢ Lb.

"Andy Boy"
Fresh Crisp
Romaine Hearts
3 Pack
$1.99

Fresh Express
Cole Slaw
Pkg.
$1.29

"In the Husk"
Fresh
Bi-Color Sweet Corn
2/$1

Fresh Crisp Red
Radishes
1 Lb. Bag
99¢

Fresh
Broccoli Crowns
99¢ Lb.

Fancy Medium
Yellow Onions
3 Lb. Bag
99¢

Jumbo Sweet
Roma Tomatoes
79¢ Lb.

2345 W. 183rd ST.	HOMEWOOD	(708) 957-1890
16145 SO. STATE ST.	SO. HOLLAND	(708) 333-5500
16039 SO. HARLEM	TINLEY PARK	(708) 532-5550
20825 S. LAGRANGE RD.	FRANKFORT	(815) 469-2111
1100 E. EXCHANGE AVE.	CRETE	(708) 672-3270
1218 SHEFFIELD AVE.	DYER, IN	(219) 322-6428
1111 DIXIE HWY.	BEECHER	(708) 946-2543

STORE HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 7 am to 9 pm
Sunday 7 am to 7 pm

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NO SALES TO DEALERS.