Chicago Tribune

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Funding impasse on wall stalls government

Congress adjourns without spending deal, all but ensuring shutdown as president and Dems duel

BY LISA MASCARO, MATTHEW DALY AND ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — White House negotiators left the Capitol late Friday, and the House and Senate adjourned without a spending deal, all but ensuring a partial government shutdown at midnight with President Donald Trump demanding billions of dollars for his long-promised Mexican border wall.

Trump's top envoys had been straining to broker a last-minute compromise with Democrats and some of their own Republican Party's lawmakers.

But as Vice President Mike Pence, acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and senior adviser Jared Kushner dashed back and forth at the Capitol, there were no outward signs of a deal.

The House adjourned Friday, followed an hour later by the Senate after senators were told there would be no more votes Friday night.

Senators said they expect to return at noon Saturday as talks continue.

The White House budget chief late Friday instructed federal agencies "to execute plans for an orderly shutdown" when funding expires Saturday.

Without a deal, funding for about 25 percent of the government was expected to expire at midnight. Nine Cabinet-level departments and dozens of agencies, including the departments of Homeland Security, Transportation, Interior, Agriculture, State and Justice, will be affected.

The shutdown would also leave hundreds of thousands of federal workers furloughed or forced to work without pay just days before Christmas.

"We're going to have a shutdown," Trump said via video

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"You could count on Conrad for anything."

— The Rev. Dan Brandt, a Chicago police chaplain, during the funeral Mass for Officer Conrad Gary

JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Pallbearers carry the casket of Chicago police Officer Conrad Gary out of St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel in Chicago after his funeral Friday.

A FINAL SALUTE

Conrad Gary, one of two Chicago officers fatally struck by a train, is remembered for always putting others ahead of himself

BY ROSEMARY SOBOL, KATIE GALIOTO AND ELVIA MALAGON
Chicago Tribune

When Chicago police Officer Conrad Gary's friend left to serve in the U.S. military, he took it upon himself to make trips to his friend's home to make sure the family was fine.

Others in Gary's life, from family to other police officers, had similar stories to share in the days after he and Officer Eduardo Marmolejo were fatally struck by a train while searching for a suspect, said the Rev. Dan Brandt, a Chicago police chaplain. A crowd of more than 1,000 police officers, family members, friends and dignitaries listened to Brandt on Friday morning in St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel on the city's Southwest Side.

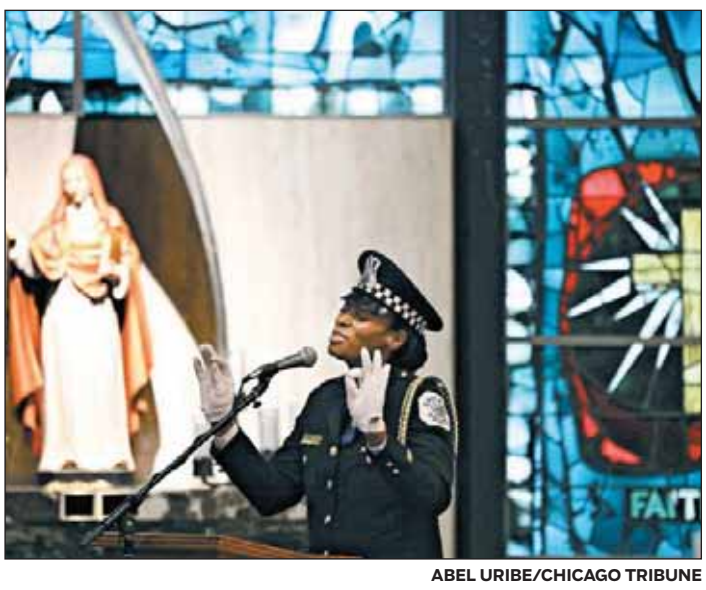
"He was that kind of person, always putting others before himself," Brandt said at the funeral Mass for Gary. "I was told you could count on Conrad for anything."

As the sun rose Friday, police officers in their dress uniforms converged on the chapel to mourn Gary. Workers at a nearby car dealership tied white and blue balloons to car side mirrors to honor the officers. Schoolchildren and teachers lined a portion of the procession, many of them holding their hands over their hearts. The sidewalks leading to the

Turn to ***Funeral, Page 4***

Conrad Gary, 31, joined the Police Department in March 2017. He and his wife, Kelly, have a young daughter.

■ **Second officer mourned:** Eduardo Marmolejo, 36, is to be buried Saturday. **Page 4**



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago Police Department's Kenyatta Gaines sings "Amazing Grace" during Friday's funeral service.

End may be in sight for housing discrimination suit

Under settlement plan, long-running case would close by 2024

BY JASON MEISNER
Chicago Tribune

A landmark public housing discrimination lawsuit that ranks among the longest-running federal cases in Chicago history could be coming to a close under a settlement agreement reached Friday.

The Chicago Housing Authority and lawyers representing CHA residents have asked U.S. District Judge Marvin Aspen to approve the agreement creating a road map for the CHA to complete its obligations under the so-called Gautreaux litigation.

Under the plan, the nearly 53-year-old case would come to a close by July 2024, marking an end to a crucial chapter in the national civil rights movement, according to the nonprofit advocacy group Business and Professional People for the Public Interest, which has spearheaded the litigation for decades.

The settlement agreement provides a detailed timeline for the CHA to complete all planned mixed-income units and strengthen its housing voucher program to better enable families to move to more affluent areas if they choose to do so. Among the sites still

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CHICAGO SPORTS

NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Long back on field practicing with Bears

Bears guard Kyle Long returned to practice Friday after the team designated him to return from injured reserve. The veteran injured his ankle Oct. 28 against the Jets.

Ginsburg recovering after cancer surgery

2 malignant growths found in justice's lung

BY MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg had surgery Friday to remove two malignant growths in her left lung, the third time the Supreme Court's oldest justice has been treated for cancer since 1999.

Doctors found "no evidence of any remaining disease" and scans taken before the surgery showed no cancerous growths elsewhere in her body, the court said in a statement. No additional treatment is planned, it said.

Ginsburg, 85, is the leader of the court's liberal wing. She has achieved an iconic status rare for Supreme Court justices, and is known as the "Notorious RBG" to some of her most ardent fans.

Ginsburg

In recent days, Ginsburg has basked in the warm applause of audiences that turned out for screenings of a new feature film about her life.

Her health is closely watched by liberals and conservatives

Turn to ***Ginsburg, Page 2***

Tom Skilling's forecast High **39** Low **27**

Chicago Weather Center: Complete forecast on back of Chicago Sports

$2.50 city and suburbs, $3.00 elsewhere
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Justice now recovering

Ginsburg, *from* **Page 1**

alike. If she were to step down now, President Donald Trump would choose her replacement — further shifting the court to the right.

The growths were found during tests Ginsburg had after she fractured ribs in a fall in her Supreme Court office Nov. 7, the court said.

Doctors at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York performed a procedure called a pulmonary lobectomy on Ginsburg. The growths they removed were determined to be malignant in an initial pathology evaluation, the court said, citing Ginsburg's thoracic surgeon, Dr. Valerie W. Rusch.

Ginsburg is expected to remain in the hospital for a few days, the court said.

"If she doesn't need anything but the surgery, it is a very good sign," said Dr. John Lazar, director of thoracic robotic surgery at MedStar Washington Hospital Center.

"This is just luck" that the growths were found through those rib X-rays because accidentally discovered lung tumors tend to be early-stage when surgery works best, said Dr. Giuseppe Giaccone, an oncologist at Georgetown University's Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center.

While doctors will have to see the final pathology report to know what kind of tumors Ginsburg had and how aggressive they were, her previous bouts with cancer were so long ago they're unlikely to be related, Giaccone said.

It was unclear whether Ginsburg would be back on bench when the court next meets Jan. 7. She has never missed Supreme Court arguments in more than 25 years as a justice.

Despite the fall in her chambers last month, Ginsburg had returned to her normal active schedule. She has attended an event at the White House honoring the late Justice Antonin Scalia and was at the Washington opening of a new movie based on her life before she became a justice.

The film, "On the Basis of Sex," opens more widely Tuesday.

Ginsburg had surgery for colorectal cancer in 1999 and pancreatic cancer 10 years later. Doctors found the growth on her pancreas in the course of routine screenings as a result of her first cancer. Among other health problems, she also broke two ribs in a fall in 2012 and had a stent implanted to open a blocked artery in 2014. She was hospitalized after a bad reaction to medicine in 2009.

Appointed by President Bill Clinton in 1993, Ginsburg rebuffed suggestions from some liberals that she should have stepped down in the first two years of President Barack Obama's second term, when Democrats controlled the Senate and would have been likely to confirm her successor.

She has already hired clerks for the term that extends into 2020, indicating she has no plans to retire.

The Washington Post contributed.

BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Multicolored lights are among those adorning the balconies of Marina City in Chicago's Loop on Monday.

Marina City's holiday light plight

Board tries to clamp down, but residents keeping them up

By Elvia Malagon
Chicago Tribune

Days before Christmas, green, blue and red lights continue to dot Chicago's distinct corncobs despite the Marina Towers Condominium Association board's efforts to make holiday decorations uniform.

In October, the board approved amended rules that called for "clear white single-strand lights" on residents' balconies from dusk to midnight. The change was made in response to "feedback from residents about lights from neighboring balconies," according to a statement from the board this week.

"The board set this policy in order to ensure residents are not disrupted by high-intensity, brightly colored or flashing lights reflecting into their units," the statement read. "We understand that many residents enjoy displaying lights into their balconies, especially during the holiday season, and this rule allows them to do so while also ensuring the comfort of all residents."

The change was first reported by Loop North News.

But on a recent evening, a few balconies at Marina City still were adorned with green, red and other lights with mixed colors. The board has been sending residents reminders and warnings regarding the new policy, according to a spokeswoman for the board.

Decades ago, the towers were adorned with thousands of white lights that were strung around the balconies, the Tribune previously reported. But the display of lights appeared to slow down around 1977 when the buildings were converted from apartment buildings to condominiums. In 1990 there was an effort to feature more Christmas lights on their balconies.

The towers have been part of the Loop's architecture since 1967, according to the Chicago Architecture Center. Marina City was designed by architect Bertrand Goldberg and at the time was seen as a way to draw middle-class people back into the city by providing amenities like a bowling alley, theater and ice rink.

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President blames Dems for shutdown

Shutdown, *from* **Page 1**

message on Twitter less than three hours from the deadline. "There's nothing we can do about that because we need the Democrats to give us their votes."

Trump added, "The shutdown hopefully will not last long."

At a White House bill signing earlier in the day, Trump had said the government was "totally prepared for a very long shutdown," though hardly anyone thought a lengthy shutdown was likely.

The president tried to pin the blame on Democrats, even though just last week he said he would be "proud" to claim ownership of a shutdown in a fight for the wall.

Campaigning for office two years ago, he had declared the wall would go up "so fast it will make your head spin."

He also promised that Mexico would pay for it, which Mexico has said it will never do.

"This is our only chance that we'll ever have, in our opinion, because of the world and the way it breaks out, to get great border security," Trump said Friday at the White House.

Democrats will take control of the House in January, and they oppose major funding for wall construction.

Looking for a way to claim victory, Trump said he would accept money for a "Steel Slat Barrier" with spikes on the top, which he said would be just as effective as a "wall" and "at the same time beautiful."

Trump convened Republican senators for a morning meeting, but the lengthy back-and-forth did not appear to set a strategy for moving forward.

A person granted anonymity because they were unauthorized to discuss the private session said the president would not get behind lower levels of funding the senators discussed. He has demanded $5.7 billion.

"I was in an hour meeting on that and there was no conclusion," said Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell then returned to Capitol Hill and quickly set in motion a procedural vote on a House Republican package that would have given Trump the money he wants for the wall, but it was not expected to pass.

To underscore the difficulty, that Senate vote to proceed was stuck in a long holding pattern as senators were recalled to Washington.

They had already approved a bipartisan package earlier this week that would continue existing border security funding, at $1.3 billion, but without new money for Trump's wall.

Many were home for the holidays.

Only after a marathon five-hour delay did Pence cast a tie-breaking vote that loosened the logjam, kick-starting negotiations that senators hoped could have produced a resolution.

"What this does is push this ahead to a negotiation," said Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., who wanted some guarantee the next vote would be on an agreement reached by all sides.

He called it "the best we can to keep from shutting down government — or if it does shut down, shutting down very briefly."

Amid the impasse, Pence and the others were dispatched to the Capitol to meet with Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, who told them that Trump's demands for wall money would not pass the Senate, according to the senator's spokesman.

Pence and the others later walked across the Capitol to meet with House Speaker Paul Ryan.

"The biggest problem is, we just don't know what the president will sign," said Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz.

Ultimately, both the Senate and the House adjourned without a spending deal.

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Pick 3 midday ..... **038 / 5**
Pick 4 midday ..... **1996 / 0**
Lucky Day Lotto midday **02 06 23 29 36**
Pick 3 evening ..... **335 / 4**
Pick 4 evening ..... **1211 / 0**
Lucky Day Lotto evening **05 09 28 36 42**

Dec. 22 Lotto: $4M
Dec. 22 Powerball: $281M

WISCONSIN
Dec. 21
Pick 3 ..... **596**
Pick 4 ..... **5159**
Badger 5 ..... **09 15 20 23 25**
SuperCash **10 13 15 16 17 23**

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Dec. 21
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Daily 4 midday ..... **4384 / 3**
Daily 3 evening ..... **131 / 3**
Daily 4 evening ..... **7593 / 3**
Cash 5 ..... **27 30 33 37 43**

MICHIGAN
Dec. 21
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Daily 4 midday **6245**
Daily 3 evening **616**
Daily 4 evening **1598**
Fantasy 5 ..... **05 16 26 32 35**
Keno **01 07 16 18 20 22 29 33 37 39 40 42 45 46 54 57 63 65 66 70 74 79**

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ACCURACY AND ETHICS

Margaret Holt, standards editor

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

■ An article Wednesday on the new presentation of the *T. rex* skeleton known as Sue gave an incorrect year for its debut at the Field Museum. The specimen was unveiled there in 2000.
The Tribune regrets the error.

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ELECTION 2019

Daley releases limited tax return

Mayoral candidate made $2.5M in 2017

By Bill Ruthhart
Chicago Tribune

Chicago mayoral candidate Bill Daley responded to criticism that he's not being transparent about his finances Friday by releasing two pages from his 2017 tax return, showing he made more than $2.5 million last year.

Daley's limited disclosure comes after the Chicago Tribune asked 16 declared mayoral candidates on Nov. 1 to release four years of full tax returns, including all attachments and schedules. Six candidates obliged while a seventh, Gery Chico, released the top two pages of his tax returns for the four years.

Daley

Daley, the son of one former mayor and brother of another, has enjoyed a long Chicago business career. He most recently stepped down from his role as a managing partner at the Swiss hedge fund Argentiere Capital to run for mayor, though he continues to hold an ownership stake and is an investor, his campaign has said.

Providing tax returns is a routine act of public disclosure for many candidates who have run for major elected office. Releasing the documents not only tells the public how much the candidate has made in income, but where their financial interests reside, how they have made their money and what potential conflicts of interest could arise if they are elected.

In Daley's case, the conflict-of-interest question is particularly acute, given that he served as a confidant of sorts for his brother while he ran the city for 22 years from 1989 until he stepped down in 2011. The administration of former Mayor Richard M. Daley was clouded by scandals and federal investigations, some of which sent top aides to prison but never touched the mayor himself.

Asked why Bill Daley only released two pages of one year's tax return, campaign spokesman Peter Cunningham replied, "We feel this is enough. It's important to get it out and move on."

Daley's move to only release the top two pages of his return echoes similar decisions from other wealthy candidates, including Chico, Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner and Democratic Gov.-elect J.B. Pritzker. All three only released limited information, keeping their investments and economic interests a secret.

The decision by Daley to only provide two pages from one year of taxes invited comparisons to Republican President Donald Trump, who has repeatedly refused to release his tax returns, giving various reasons for doing so. Trump remains deeply unpopular in Chicago, amid a voting base that has shown signs of becoming increasingly progressive.

"Releasing tax returns is a time-honored requirement for candidates for public office. Especially in the world of Trump, releasing tax returns allows the public to take its measure of whether candidates have disqualifying conflicts of interest," said former federal prosecutor and mayoral candidate Lori Lightfoot, who has released four years of full tax returns. "It's unacceptable for someone who wants to be mayor of the third-largest city in the country to resist transparency, including resisting releasing tax returns, especially given our history of elected officials enriching themselves at the expense of the public."

Daley released his tax information on the Friday before Christmas, when many Chicagoans are preoccupied with last-minute shopping and travel plans. He also made the two pages public in the same hour that he put out a news release calling for the Dan Ryan Expressway to be renamed for former President Barack Obama.

The two pages from Daley's 2017 Form 1040 show he filed jointly with wife Bernadette Keller. The couple reported an adjusted gross income of $2,539,766 and paid an effective tax rate of 37 percent, the records show. Daley did not include the pages or schedules that would identify how much in deductions he claimed for charitable contributions or what investments he holds among other unknowns.

Most of Daley's money — more than $1.8 million — was tied to Schedule E income, a broad category that covers gains and losses tied to areas such as rental real estate, trusts, estates, S corporations, royalties and partnerships. Cunningham declined to describe the nature of that income.

Daley also reported more than $400,000 in investment dividends and more than $150,000 in other investment gains. He also collected $50,500 in business income tied to two paid speeches he delivered, Cunningham confirmed. On his city ethics disclosure, Daley reported getting paid by The Harry Walker Agency Inc. for speaking at an event sponsored by Time Inc. on behalf of Fifth Third Bank. The second speech was paid for by Barclays, Daley reported.

In between serving as U.S. commerce secretary under former President Bill Clinton and as White House chief of staff under Obama, Daley has held various top-level business posts, most recently in the financial sector.

Daley was the Midwest chairman of JPMorgan Chase, where he also helped direct the company's lobbying arm. His resume also includes: partner at the law firm Mayer Brown; president and CEO of Amalgamated Bank of Chicago; and president of SBC Communications (now AT&T). He previously served on the corporate boards of the Boeing Co., Boston Properties, EDS and Merck & Co. and recently joined the board of American Financial Exchange, according to his campaign.

Daley released the two pages of tax information the day after fellow candidate Paul Vallas ripped him and other candidates for not being transparent, noting the complete release of financial information is "absolutely expected by the voters."

"I just think it's political science 101: release your financials. Let us see how you made your money," said Vallas, who released four years' worth of full returns. "Let us see who you contributed to, let us see who you donated to, what charities you funded or you helped subsidize."

Vallas, who served as Chicago Public Schools CEO under former Mayor Daley, made it a point to note that Bill Daley was involved in many of the financial decisions during his brother's administration that left the city in trouble.

"He's been his brother's closest adviser for decades, so who are we trying to kid?" Vallas asked. "I don't think there have been any major decisions made in the city that Bill hasn't had some influence on."

Vallas, former prosecutor Lightfoot, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, state Comptroller Susana Mendoza, state Rep. LaShawn Ford and Cook County Circuit Court Clerk Dorothy Brown all have released their full tax returns for 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 as requested by the Tribune. Daley and Chico are the only two who chose to disclose partial information.

The candidates who have refused to release their tax returns are businessman Willie Wilson, former Chicago police Superintendent Garry McCarthy, tech entrepreneur Neal Sales-Griffin, activist Ja'Mal Green, public policy consultant Amara Enyia, former Ald. Bob Fioretti and attorneys John Kozlar and Jerry Joyce Jr.

Brown, who has served as clerk for 18 years, issued a statement Friday criticizing Daley and others who have yet to make the information public, asking, "What do they have to hide?"

"I believe that those running for office must be fully transparent. Tax returns give an insight into individual candidates," Brown said. "We must have greater transparency of candidates. Following Donald Trump's refusal to release his tax returns is not a strategy that any candidate for mayor of Chicago should follow."

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E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2017

Chicago mayoral candidate Bill Daley wants the state to rename the Dan Ryan Expressway for former President Barack Obama, Daley's former boss at the White House.

Daley: Rename expressway for Obama

By Mike Riopell
Chicago Tribune

Chicago mayoral candidate Bill Daley wants the state to rename the Dan Ryan Expressway for former President Barack Obama, Daley's onetime boss at the White House.

Daley worked as Obama's chief of staff for a year starting in January 2011, leaving a year later as part of a shake-up meant to improve the White House's operations and its dealings with legislative leaders. His call to change the road's name came on the same day he released two pages from his 2017 tax return, showing he made more than $2.5 million last year.

"Our Chicago expressways are named for towering figures in our history: Kennedy, Eisenhower, Stevenson," Daley said in the statement. "We should have one for Obama, who is the only President from Chicago and led the nation through the second-worst economic crisis in our history."

Daley called on state lawmakers to make the change next year.

Illinois already has a Barack Obama Presidential Expressway, a stretch of about 80 miles of Interstate 55 from the southwest suburbs to Downstate Pontiac. That renaming effort was led by state Rep. LaShawn Ford, another Chicago mayoral candidate. Signs for the road were unveiled quietly in March.

Still, Daley said "renaming the highway for President Obama will be a daily reminder for all of us that America's first African-American president was shaped by Chicago."

The Dan Ryan Expressway was named after Dan Ryan Jr., president of the Cook County Board, who died in office in 1961. Ryan's wife, Ruby, served out his term on the board and was among the commissioners who voted to approve the name change.

Daley's idea upset Ryan's descendants, including Dan Ryan III, grandson of the road's namesake.

"I was very surprised," Ryan III, 69, said from New York hours after Daley floated the idea. "I couldn't figure out why he wanted to do it, considering his father was the one who named the expressway after my grandfather.

"It was a very great honor for our family to have that name," Ryan III said. "And I can't imagine why anyone would want to change part of his own father's legacy to begin with, but also take away an honor from one person to honor another person."

Ryan III said he doesn't have any political agenda and hasn't been in contact with Daley. Told of Ryan III's concerns, a Daley spokesman said he didn't have further comment.

"If I had his phone number I'd definitely call him," Ryan III said.

Daley's statement says a Cook County forest preserve is named for Ryan. But stories in the Tribune archives suggest the Dan Ryan Woods preserve was named for Ryan's father, Dan Ryan, who also served on the Cook County Board.

The Dan Ryan Expressway originally was designed to run through Bridgeport, the neighborhood of Daley's late father, Mayor Richard J. Daley, but was rerouted eight blocks to the east and served as a racial buffer between the neighborhood and the Robert Taylor Homes public housing project directly east of the highway.

Chicago Tribune's Rick Pearson contributed.

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Mother upset son not freed after murder conviction overturned

He allegedly was beaten into confessing under Burge-era detectives

By Megan Crepeau
Chicago Tribune

Gerald Reed, whose conviction for a double murder was overturned earlier this week over longtime allegations he was beaten into confessing by former Chicago police detectives under the command of disgraced ex-Cmdr. Jon Burge, won't be released from custody in time for Christmas.

The decision Friday by special Cook County prosecutors appointed to handle the Burge-related case — forcing Reed to a second trial without the confession as evidence — left his mother livid.

"I'm past disappointed. I'm very angry," Armanda Shackelford, with tears in her eyes and her voice rising, told reporters after the hearing at the Leighton Criminal Court Building. "You haven't done enough to my son already? You denied him bond?"

Reed's attorneys and supporters hoped prosecutors would drop the charges or that Judge Thomas Gainer would release him on an affordable bond.

Reed

Special prosecutor Robert Milan, who gave no reason in court for the decision to seek Reed's retrial, was given until Jan. 9 to respond in writing to the defense request for Reed's release.

Gainer granted Reed, 54, a new trial Wednesday after extensive hearings on his accusations that he was beaten into confessing.

The retrial will take place before a different judge, though, because Gainer is slated to retire soon.

"Thank you, your honor, for your ruling," Reed told Gainer at the end of Friday's hearing. "Thank you for your due diligence and being a good judge, for all the years that you've been here. Good luck on your future."

Reed's attorney, Elliot Zinger, expressed confidence that Reed would be vindicated at a second trial. Sentenced to life in prison for the 1990 murders of Pamela Powers and Willie Williams on the South Side, he has spent nearly three decades in custody.

In the days following his arrest, Reed alleges, Detective Victor Breska, since retired, kicked him so hard that he broke a rod that had been placed in Reed's leg to aid in his healing from a gunshot wound.

A report by the Illinois Torture Inquiry and Relief Commission concluded there was no evidence that the rod was broken before Reed's arrest or after he arrived at Cook County Jail. The only "plausible explanation" was the beating at the police station, the commission said.

Reed said the beating stopped when Breska's partner, Detective Michael Kill, pulled Breska off Reed. Kill never reported the beating.

The rod likely broke on its own as part of the leg bone's natural healing process, the special prosecutors maintained, and in the hours after his interrogation Reed did not show any sign he was in severe pain.

In granting Reed a new trial Wednesday, however, Gainer noted correctional officer Clarence English had testified that he saw Reed lying on the floor in the jail's intake area. Reed told him he had been beaten by police, English said.

The special prosecutors also argued that Reed's attorneys presented no "reliable evidence" that Kill was substantially involved in the alleged beating.

Zinger, though, called the now-deceased Kill "one of the most notorious detectives in the city of Chicago."

"Kill in this case is a central figure, though, even if he didn't do the striking," Zinger said during closing arguments. "He threatened Mr. Reed. He knew about the beating. He was outside the door, as Mr. Reed testified, while Breska was beating him. And he also came in and played good cop and pulled Breska off him."

Reed's case marked the second major development this week in a Burge-related case. On Tuesday, Milan agreed to throw out murder charges against Arnold Day.

In 1992, Day alleged, other detectives working under Burge pushed him up against a wall and threatened to throw him out a window, coercing him into confessing to the South Side murder of Gerrod Erving, according to a court filing by his attorney, Steve Greenberg.

Day was released from custody Wednesday after more than 26 years in custody, Greenberg said.

"He's doing great. He is with his family," he said. "There are friends that are coming in for Christmas that he hasn't seen in decades."

Scores of African-American men accused Burge and his colleagues of torturing or abusing them since the 1970s at a South Side police station. The scandal has stained the city's reputation and cost taxpayers at least $115 million so far in lawsuit settlements, judgments and other compensation to victims.

Burge, who died in September, was convicted in federal court of lying about his knowledge of the torture and was sentenced to 4 1/2 years in prison.

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Second Chicago officer killed by train mourned

Eduardo Marmolejo funeral Saturday

By Madeline Buckley
Chicago Tribune

Amado Ramirez Jr. cried quietly while waiting in line during the wake for Officer Eduardo Marmolejo, even though he didn't know the 36-year-old officer.

Ramirez, 69, lives in Little Village and tries to pay his respects to each of the city's fallen officers. He wore a button from the wake of Officer Samuel Jimenez, killed by a gunman at Mercy Hospital in November. Only one month has passed since his wake.

"I feel very emotional thinking about the family," Ramirez said, his eyes filling with tears. "I have a lot of respect for police officers."

For the second day in a row, a line extended down the block from Blake-Lamb Funeral Home in Oak Lawn, filled with hundreds of police officers, family members, friends and community members like Ramirez who wanted to share their gratitude for the officers' service.

The wake for Officer Conrad Gary, 31, was held at the same funeral home Thursday, with many of the same police officers filing in line for both.

The afternoon was chillier Friday as mourners waited. Volunteers with the 5-11 Club Chicago, which supports police officers and firefighters, passed out coffee.

Gary and Marmolejo were killed Monday by a South Shore Line train after they pursued a suspect onto the tracks following reports of gunfire in the area of 103rd Street and Dauphin Avenue.

The two were the third and fourth Chicago officers to be killed in the line of duty this year. Jimenez was shot and killed on Nov. 19. Cmdr. Paul Bauer was shot and killed in the Loop in February.

They also are among five officers who have died this year in their district, the Far South Side's Calumet District. Two other officers died by suicide and one died after she collapsed at the station.

"We took a hit this year," said an officer who did not give his name as he is not authorized to speak to the media. "It hurts."

The officer waited in line alone. His partner, who knew Marmolejo since childhood, was inside with the family.

"We've been through a lot this year," the officer said of the department. "But we have each other to lean on."

Marmolejo and his wife, Maria, had three daughters. He previously worked in the Chicago Lawn, Ogden and Morgan Park districts and also had been an emergency room technician at Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn.

Marmolejo grew up in the Back of the Yards neighborhood on the South Side. While waiting in line, Travis Kwak reminisced about working with Marmolejo when they were teens at a Brown's Chicken on the Southwest Side.

"We always had fun," Kwak said. "It wasn't really work."

When Kwak heard his old friend had died, he "bawled his eyes out," he said.

Friends of Marmojelo's children came in large groups. A woman stood in line holding hands with her daughter, who attends fourth grade with one of Marmolejo's daughters. The mother told her daughter she didn't have to attend the wake, but the young girl insisted.

About a dozen Mother McAuley students, friends of Marmolejo's oldest daughter, Rebecca, waited in line together. They wore red team jackets and huddled together in the cold.

Funeral services for Marmolejo are scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel, 7740 S. Western Ave.

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Final salute for officer

Funeral, *from* ***Page 1***

church were lined with officers and bagpipers.

It was a familiar scene to a department that already had mourned the loss of two other officers this year. On Nov. 19, Officer Samuel Jimenez, 28, was killed in a multiple shooting at Mercy Hospital & Medical Center. On Feb. 13, Cmdr. Paul Bauer, 53, was fatally shot while chasing a suspect outside the Thompson Center.

Gary, 31, and Marmolejo, 36, were killed Monday night by a South Shore commuter train as they pursued a suspect onto the tracks after a shots-fired call near 103rd Street and Dauphin Avenue. Edward Brown, 24, appeared in court Thursday on firearms-related charges.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel said during Friday's service that their deaths added to an already difficult year for the city's police.

"They have brought tears to our eyes, sorrow to our souls and hurt to our hearts," Emanuel said. "And as solemn as it is written, God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He counts the stars and calls them all by name."

Gary joined the Police Department in March 2017. He was assigned to the Calumet District after he had completed his training there. The district was supposed to have its holiday party Friday, but its officers instead spent the day mourning their two fallen colleagues.

Gary grew up in suburban Oak Lawn, graduated from Eastern Illinois University in 2009 and had spent more than five years in the Air Force, much of that time deployed in Germany. He and his wife, Kelly, were just starting a family and have a 6-month-old daughter, Tess.

Officer Jeffrey Curia, a field training officer, said after the Mass that he saw promise and strides toward greatness while training Gary. The two were able to apprehend a suspect in a burglary.

"He showed he wanted to make the city a better place," Curia said. "I believed in him. I believed he would be an important part of the Police Department."

Curia's assessment echoed remarks made by Brandt during the Mass. Gary already was becoming known as an officer in the Calumet District who was quick to provide backup to other cops. At the Chicago police academy, Gary was a "go-to" person who helped classmates, Brandt said.

Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson described Gary as having a sense of duty that compelled him to help others.

In his remarks, Johnson detailed the last moments of Gary's life. Gary and Marmolejo climbed a steep embankment as they searched for evidence and for a suspect in the shots-fired call.

"They were determined to get an illegal weapon off the streets of Chicago," the superintendent said. "That's what police do. Their only concern was getting the gun off the streets."

Johnson said it was rare to hear Gary curse and that he frequently treated his partner to coffee. But Gary's wife told Johnson it wasn't because he was a big spender but because he had a year's worth of coffee coupons, Johnson joked.

ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago police Superintendent Eddie Johnson, Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Gov. Bruce Rauner pay respects Friday at the funeral of Chicago police Officer Conrad Gary.

"That's how he was buying all that coffee," the superintendent said.

It was one the few lighter moments of a solemn ceremony during which officers were seen giving hugs to one another during Communion.

Cardinal Blase Cupich concelebrated the Mass and offered condolences to police officers. He encouraged the crowd to reflect on the importance Gary placed on relationships, pointing out how photos shared so frequently showed him with someone rather than alone.

"We need to be present to one another in this city," Cupich said. "To make sure that no one feels alone, particularly in the depth of their sorrow, their pain and their loss."

The winter solstice, with the longest night of the year, coincides with the night between the funerals for Officers Gary and Marmolejo, Cupich said. But he pointed out that the sun always slowly returns, and Cupich offered Gary's baby daughter, Tess, as a sign of hope. He told the crowd to look for signs of Gary in his daughter in the years ahead.

"The way that she will smile and walk but also the way in which generosity will spontaneously and almost naturally spring in her heart," Cupich said. "For they will be a reminder that he lives on in her, but also as people of faith that he lives on as he stands before the Lord today, the risen Lord who gives him life, and that same Lord welcomes him into a day in which the sun will never set."

After the funeral, Tess was covered in a light pink and blue blanket. An officer cradled her outside St. Rita as officers presented Gary's wife with two flags.

Many officers from other departments, including Illinois State Police Director Leo Schmitz, and retired Chicago officers attended the funeral.

Pat Learnahan was a Chicago officer for two decades and said he attended because he wanted to pay his respects.

"Four killed this year; it's horrible," he said. "I'll do my best to be at all these trials."

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End in sight for landmark public housing discrimination suit

Lawsuit, *from* ***Page 1***

undergoing various phases of redevelopment are the Lathrop Homes on the western edge of the Lincoln Park neighborhood and the former ABLA Homes and Henry Horner Homes developments on the Near West Side. It also calls on the agency to create early learning childhood development programs at four public housing complexes, replicating a program currently in place at the Altgeld Gardens site on the Far South Side.

"We believe this proposed settlement provides a victory for public housing residents who will gain substantial new opportunities under the agreement, while at the same time giving CHA management additional latitude to achieve the agreement's goals over the next five years," said attorney Alexander Polikoff, who has worked on the case since its inception.

In a written statement, Mayor Rahm Emanuel said the agreement "represents a major step forward in our mission to create fair and equitable affordable housing for all Chicagoans."

The judge granted preliminary approval to the plan Friday afternoon. A notice will be sent Dec. 31 to all African-American public housing residents and applicants notifying them of the proposed settlement and listing their legal options, including writing to the court if they don't think the agreement is fair.

Residents will also be invited to attend a "fairness hearing" before Aspen on Jan. 17 when current CHA residents and those on waiting lists for public housing will be given an opportunity to testify on how they view the agreement. The judge would issue a final ruling after those hearings.

The class-action lawsuit, named for lead plaintiff Dorothy Gautreaux, was originally filed amid the tumult of the civil rights movement and sought to end systemic racial discrimination in Chicago's public housing, including concentrating dense housing complexes exclusively in poor African-American neighborhoods and screening housing applicants based on race.

The case rose all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled in 1976 that the entire Chicago area could be used to remedy rampant discrimination issues. That decision paved the way for the nation's first major "housing mobility" program that used a voucher system to move tens of thousands of volunteer residents into housing scattered across the Chicago metropolitan area.

The lawsuit also changed the face of public housing by instituting "scattered site" projects built on a small scale and dispersed in neighborhoods throughout the city — a stark contrast to the high-rise buildings of the 1950s and 1960s.

But the litigation also has faced criticism from some housing advocates who accused lawyers representing the plaintiffs of failing to address the concerns of actual CHA residents and cutting them out of any decision-making when it came to their future.

Polikoff acknowledged the criticism in his 2006 memoir, "Waiting for Gautreaux," writing it was decided early in the case that there would be no fair way to get input from such a large class of plaintiffs — particularly one that was constantly shifting as people joined waiting lists or moved. "To this day Gautreaux remains a case brought on behalf of blacks by white lawyers in which neither the black class members nor others in the black community have had a meaningful role in litigation decisions," he wrote.

Some housing advocates question the overall effectiveness of the Gautreaux litigation on the city's public housing landscape. Leah Levinger, the executive director of the Chicago Housing Initiative, said that while the case succeeded in getting government to stop building public housing high-rises, its record of getting the CHA to put more public housing into more affluent neighborhoods has been decidedly mixed.

"Part of the dilemma that I think they've not grappled with well is that if there is not a parallel strategy, we aren't just de-concentrating public housing, we are annihilating public housing," Levinger said. "Their vision from the beginning has been, whatever the cost, traditional public housing should be dismantled, even if it means the overall amount of affordable housing is vastly decreased."

Julie Brown, an attorney for BPI who has worked on the Gautreaux litigation since 1990, said that criticism misses the mark. The CHA's new mixed-income developments are the product of consensus from a broad spectrum of people — from residents to city planners — who all had a seat at the table and developed plans that are backed by court order, she said.

Brown also said the CHA has "many more tools for desegregating" housing than it did 50 years ago. But it's not easy — creating new neighborhoods where public high-rises once stood requires more than brick and mortar. "The CHA has learned it's not enough just to build housing. You have to build the other things that naturally make up a neighborhood," Brown said. "You need retail, schools, libraries, parks. It takes a lot of time and a lot of money, and it is a slow process."

The way the transformation has been handled at Lathrop Homes does not sit well with J.L. Gross, chairman of the Leadership Committee of Lathrop. He said the Gautreaux lawyers paid lip service to including residents in the process, but in the end "it was a crock."

"It was like a fire sale," Gross said. "Public land went to a private developer. Then they turn around and put up a sign that says, 'Lathrop: A community for all.' What does that mean? We had a viable community. It was just usurped."

At the time the Gautreaux litigation began, the city's political leadership under then-Mayor Richard J. Daley had committed itself to building massive high-rise public housing complexes, touting such projects as an improvement to slum housing.

By the mid-1960s, however, the administration was facing increasing public pressure amid allegations that the high-rise projects were a naked attempt to contain the city's black population. That pressure was amplified when civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. came to Chicago and led a series of fair housing marches.

In 1966, King and a coalition of activists reached a "summit agreement" with Daley's administration that called for the CHA to limit projects to eight stories. That same year, Gautreaux and five other black CHA residents filed suit alleging that the CHA deliberately chose public housing sites in ghettos to keep black families out of white neighborhoods.

In 1969, U.S. District Judge Richard Austin issued his landmark ruling in the case, ordering the CHA to provide low-density, low-rise public housing on scattered sites in white city neighborhoods as well as in the black community. The ruling created an uproar in the city's predominantly white areas, and when the CHA presented an initial list of 500 scattered sites to Daley and the City Council in 1971, only a handful were approved. It was a pattern of foot-dragging that would continue for years, making progress often slow and frustrating.

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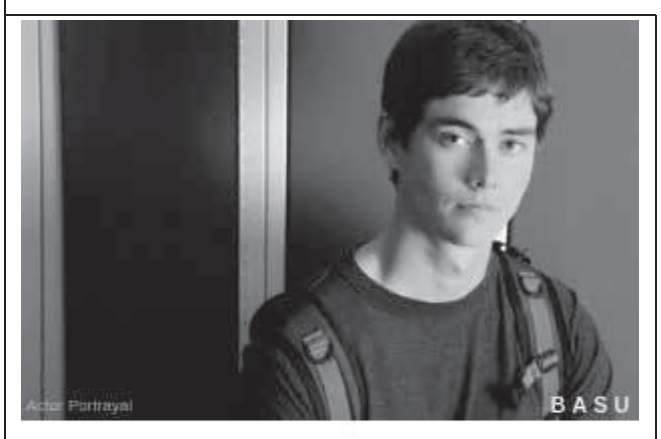

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Chicago Tribune
NATION & WORLD

Erdogan call led to pullout decision

Trump's order for Syria exit reportedly made in haste

By Matthew Lee and Susannah George
Associated Press

DELIL SOULEIMAN/GETTY-AFP

Marine Corps tactical vehicles move along a road in northeastern Syria. The president has ordered troops to withdraw.

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw American troops from Syria was made hastily, without consulting his national security team or allies, and over strong objections from virtually everyone involved in the fight against the Islamic State group, according to U.S. and Turkish officials.

Trump stunned his Cabinet, lawmakers and much of the world with the move by rejecting the advice of his top aides and agreeing to a withdrawal in a phone call with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan last week, two U.S. officials and a Turkish official briefed on the matter said.

The Dec. 14 call, described by officials who spoke on condition of anonymity, provides insight into a consequential Trump decision that prompted the resignation of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis. It also set off a frantic, four-day scramble to persuade the president either to reverse or delay the decision.

The White House rejected the description of the call from the officials but was not specific.

"In no uncertain terms, reporting throughout this story is not true," National Security Council spokesman Garrett Marquis said. "It is clear from the context that this false version of events is from sources who lack authority on the subject, possibly from unnamed sources in Turkey."

The State Department and Pentagon declined to comment on the account of the decision to withdraw the troops, who have been in Syria to fight the Islamic State, also called ISIS, since 2015.

Despite losing their physical so-called caliphate, thousands of ISIS fighters remain in Iraq and Syria, and the group continues to carry out insurgent attacks and could easily move back into territory it once held if U.S. forces withdraw.

The Dec. 14 call came a day after Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and his Turkish counterpart Mevlut Cavusoglu agreed to have the presidents discuss Erdogan's threats to launch a military operation against U.S.-backed Kurdish rebels in northeast Syria, where U.S. forces are based. The NSC then set up the call.

Pompeo, Mattis and other members of the national security team prepared a list of talking points for Trump to tell Erdogan to back off, the officials said.

But the officials said Trump, who had previously accepted such advice and persuaded the Turkish leader not to attack the Kurds and put U.S. troops at risk, ignored the script. Instead, the president sided with Erdogan.

In the following days, Trump remained unmoved by those scrambling to get him to reverse or at least delay the decision to give the military and Kurdish forces time to prepare for an orderly withdrawal.

"The talking points were very firm," said one of the officials, explaining that Trump was advised to clearly oppose a Turkish incursion into northern Syria and suggest the U.S. and Turkey work together to address security concerns.

"Everybody said push back and try to offer (Turkey) something that's a small win, possibly holding territory on the border, something like that."

Erdogan, though, quickly put Trump on the defensive, reminding him that he had repeatedly said the only reason for U.S. troops to be in Syria was to defeat ISIS and that the group had been 99 percent defeated. "Why are you still there?" the second official said Erdogan asked Trump, telling him that the Turks could deal with the remaining ISIS militants.

With Erdogan on the line, Trump asked national security adviser John Bolton, who was listening in, why American troops remained in Syria if what the Turkish president was saying was true, according to the officials. Erdogan's point, Bolton was forced to admit, had been backed up by Mattis, Pompeo, U.S. special envoy for Syria Jim Jeffrey and special envoy for the anti-ISIS coalition Brett McGurk, who have said that ISIS retains only 1 percent of its territory, the officials said.

Bolton stressed, however, that the national security team agreed that victory over ISIS had to be enduring, which means more than taking away its territory. Trump was not dissuaded, according to the officials, who said the president capitulated by pledging to withdraw, shocking Bolton and Erdogan.

Caught off guard, Erdogan cautioned Trump against a hasty withdrawal, according to one official. While Turkey has made incursions into Syria in the past, it does not have the necessary forces mobilized on the border to move in and hold the large swaths of northeastern Syria where U.S. troops are positioned, the official said.

Following the official announcement, the White House emphasized that the U.S. will continue to support the fight against ISIS and remains ready to "reengage" when needed.

But in a tweet, Trump said U.S. troops would no longer be fighting ISIS on behalf of others. "Time to focus on our Country & bring our youth back home where they belong!"

RAHMAT GUL/AP

An Afghan soldier guards a checkpoint earlier this year in Kabul, the capital.

Afghan generals fear plan to curb U.S. troop levels

Experts: Trump's move would give Taliban leverage

By Kathy Gannon
Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — The Taliban welcomed news of the U.S. plan to withdraw half its troops in Afghanistan by the summer, as Afghan generals warned Friday it would be a blow to the morale of the country's beleaguered security forces, who come under daily attacks from the insurgent fighters.

The announcement seems certain to complicate efforts to reach a peace deal, mostly because it gives the Taliban leverage by allowing them to hold off until a total U.S. withdrawal, or step up their demands over a weakened Afghan government.

"I believe the Taliban will see this as a reason to stall, and therefore it disincentivizes the Taliban to actually talk to the Afghan government, which it has refused to do," said Bill Roggio, an Afghanistan analyst with the Washington-based Foundation for Defense of Democracies.

Afghanistan's security forces rely heavily on U.S. air power against both Taliban and an upstart Islamic State affiliate, and Afghan military officials note the announcement by the Trump administration comes as the country's security is at its worst since 2014, when more than 100,000 NATO troops pulled out of the country and handed off security to Afghans. The U.S. and NATO retreated into a training and advising role.

"A complete withdrawal of U.S. forces would very likely cause the Taliban to make gains in key areas throughout Afghanistan," Roggio said. "This likely would cause the general collapse of the (Afghan National Security and Defense Force) as a cohesive fighting force and lead to the return of the warlords."

President Donald Trump considers the war in Afghanistan a lost cause and has long pushed to pull the troops out. His decision was made public hours after he announced the U.S. was withdrawing troops from Syria.

Trump's state of mind is sure to have given a sense of urgency to U.S. peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad, who has been working to reach a negotiated end to America's longest war and has been pushing for a deal by April.

In an interview with Afghanistan's TOLO TV on Thursday — hours before the withdrawal plans were announced — he noted Trump had campaigned for president on a promise to end the Afghan war, which has already cost Americans nearly $1 trillion. More than 2,400 American soldiers have also died in Afghanistan since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion.

A Taliban official said the announcement was a positive step.

But there was no sign the Taliban were ready to move on the two major sticking points: Direct talks with the Afghan government and a cease-fire while the two sides negotiate Khalilzad's "roadmap for the future of Afghanistan."

The Taliban are already stronger today than they have been since their ouster in 2001, controlling or holding sway over nearly half the country.

Neighbor Pakistan, who has been criticized by Trump for not doing enough to bring the Taliban to the table, had warned that a sudden departure of U.S. troops would result in chaos in Afghanistan and destabilize the region.

Split court rejects Trump push to enforce asylum ban

Chief justice joins liberal colleagues

By Mark Sherman
Associated Press

J. DAVID AKE/AP

The high court's order leaves in place lower court rulings that blocked President Trump's Nov. 9 proclamation.

WASHINGTON — A divided Supreme Court won't let the Trump administration begin enforcing a ban on asylum for immigrants who illegally cross the U.S.-Mexico border.

Chief Justice John Roberts joined his four more liberal colleagues Friday in ruling against the administration in the case in which President Donald Trump had derided the "Obama judge" who first blocked the asylum policy.

New Justice Brett Kavanaugh and three other conservative justices sided with the administration.

The court's order leaves in place lower court rulings that blocked Trump's proclamation Nov. 9 automatically denying asylum to people who enter the country from Mexico without going through official border crossings.

Trump said he was acting in response to caravans of migrants making their way to the border.

The administration had also complained that the nationwide order preventing the policy from taking effect was too broad. But the court also rejected the administration's suggestion for narrowing it.

A panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit this month kept in place a lower court decision that stopped the policy's implementation, saying it was simply a way around specific language in federal law that allows all who enter the United States, regardless of where, to apply for asylum.

"Just as we may not, as we are often reminded, 'legislate from the bench,' neither may the Executive legislate from the Oval Office," wrote Circuit Judge Jay Bybee, a conservative nominated by President George W. Bush, in the 2-1 decision.

Solicitor General Noel Francisco told the Supreme Court that the policy had important goals: "channeling asylum seekers to ports of entry for orderly processing, discouraging dangerous and illegal entries between ports of entry, reducing the backlog of meritless asylum claims, and facilitating diplomatic negotiations."

But the lower courts said federal law doesn't allow the president to make such changes. The statute says an asylum application must be accepted from any alien "physically present in the United States or who arrives in the United States whether or not at a designated port of arrival ... irrespective of such alien's status."

The administration argued that those who enter the country illegally could still apply for asylum, but their illegal passage would be a reason to deny it.

A group of former Department of Justice officials, including two former acting attorneys general and a former director of the FBI, told the Supreme Court that would be just a clever way around the law.

In their brief, the former officials said the regulation "is inconsistent with the plain text and meaning" of the federal law. Congress would not have "swung the door open for potential asylum for those who entered illegally, while simultaneously authorizing the (executive branch) to slam that door shut at any time for any reason."

Lee Gelernt, an American Civil Liberties Union leading the court challenge, said the high court's decision "will save lives and keep vulnerable families and children from persecution."

The high court action followed a ruling Wednesday by U.S. District Judge Jon Tigar that kept the ban on hold pending the outcome of a lawsuit challenging it. The case could take months to resolve.

In the first court ruling on the issue, Tigar said Nov. 19 that U.S. law allows immigrants to request asylum regardless of whether they entered the country legally. The ruling prompted Trump's criticism of Tigar, who was nominated for the federal bench by President Barack Obama, as an "Obama judge" and led to a public dispute between Trump and Roberts, who rebuked the president with a statement defending the judiciary's independence.

The Washington Post contributed.

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

U.N. panel authorizes monitors for truce at key Yemen port

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations Security Council voted unanimously Friday to authorize the deployment of U.N. monitors to observe the implementation of a cease-fire in Yemen's key port of Hodeida and the withdrawal of rival forces from that area.

The limited cease-fire and pullout, if implemented, could offer a potential breakthrough in the four-year civil war that has brought the Arab world's poorest country to the brink of starvation and created the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

The U.N. envoy for Yemen, Martin Griffiths, had urged rapid deployment of U.N. monitors as "an essential part of the confidence" needed to help implement the Dec. 13 cease-fire agreement between a Saudi-led coalition aligned with Yemen's government and Iranian-backed Houthi Shiite rebels reached in Sweden.

U.S. aircraft carrier enters Persian Gulf after long absence

ABOARD THE USS JOHN C. STENNIS — A U.S. aircraft carrier sailed into the Persian Gulf on Friday, becoming the first since America's withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal in May and breaking the longest carrier absence in the volatile region since at least the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

The arrival of the USS John C. Stennis comes as Iranian officials have returned to threatening to close off the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf through which a third of all oil traded by sea passes. Iranian vessels shadowed the Stennis and its strike group, at one point launching rockets away from it and flying a drone nearby.

Tensions have been high since President Donald Trump's May withdrawal from Iran's nuclear deal.

Charity pays off house of Utah mayor killed in Afghanistan

SALT LAKE CITY — The family of a Utah mayor killed while serving in the Army National Guard in Afghanistan will have one less financial worry after a charity paid off their mortgage.

Brent Taylor's widow, Jennie Taylor, said Thursday on "Fox & Friends" that she had been worried about supporting the couple's seven children and that she's grateful the gift will help her stay home with them.

Military officials say Brent Taylor, who was the mayor of North Ogden, was killed last month by an Afghan commando he was training.

The donation is from the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation, named for a firefighter killed in the 9/11 attacks. Chairman Frank Siller says he hopes it relieves one small burden on the family.

PAVEL GOLOVKIN/AP

Party people: Communist supporters hold portraits of former Soviet dictator Josef Stalin on Friday as they line up to pay their respects at his grave in Moscow's Red Square to mark the 139th anniversary of his birth. Stalin died in 1953.

Kasich veto sets up showdown in Ohio over abortion limits

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio has moved again to impose some of the most far-reaching abortion restrictions in the nation, after Republican Gov. John Kasich signed a ban Friday on dilation and evacuation terminations and set up a showdown with lawmakers over his veto of the so-called heartbeat bill.

Kasich had previously signed 20 abortion-limiting proposals into law in this politically divided state since taking office in 2011, including a 20-week ban that both sides agree is unconstitutional. The number of full-service Ohio abortion clinics has shrunk from 16 to seven since he took office.

But the heartbeat bill has twice proven too extreme for Kasich, a potential 2020 presidential candidate who has spent the past two years in a quest for bipartisan consensus.

The measure calls for banning the procedure once a fetal heartbeat is detected. That can happen as early as six weeks into pregnancy. Kasich vetoed a similar bill two years ago.

In a veto message, he said the heartbeat bill is likely to be struck down as unconstitutional — but only after a costly court fight.

"The State of Ohio will be the losing party in that lawsuit and ... will be forced to pay hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars to cover the legal fees for the pro-choice activists' lawyers," he wrote.

Ohio lawmakers return Thursday to consider overrides of several Kasich vetoes, although it's unclear whether they'll have the votes to override the heartbeat bill veto. Among factors are vacation schedules and that Gov.-elect Mike DeWine has said he would sign a heartbeat bill once he takes office.

Tons of dead fish wash up in Rio de Janeiro lagoon

RIO DE JANEIRO — Residents of a high-end neighborhood in Rio de Janeiro woke up to the unpleasant smell of 13 tons of rotting dead fish floating in the city's Rodrigo de Freitas lagoon.

Biologists believe that the extreme heat caused by El Nino killed the fish overnight and caused them to wash ashore Friday.

The lagoon played host to several events during the 2016 Olympic Games and is a tourist attraction.

Rio's Environment Ministry released a statement saying that it has been on alert since Thursday morning when oxygen levels in the body of water began to fall sharply.

Biologist and ecosystem specialist Mario Moscatelli said that he inspects the lagoon every year and is convinced that climate change is causing temperatures to climb above averages that were recorded in the past.

U.S. report finds no direct interference in 2018 midterms

WASHINGTON — Director of National Intelligence Daniel Coats said Friday that his agency has not found any evidence of any direct interference in the midterm elections.

Coats said he has submitted a required report to President Donald Trump that says the intelligence community has not uncovered any compromise of election infrastructure that would have disrupted balloting or changed results.

Coats said the intelligence community did find a continuation of previously disclosed "influence activities" and "messaging campaigns" by Russia, China and Iran ahead of the election.

He said the intelligence community did not assess whether those activities affected the outcome of the 2018 election. The report is also being reviewed by law enforcement agencies.

In Nepal: A bus carrying college students and their instructors back from a botany field trip drove off a highway in a mountainous area on Friday, leaving 21 dead and 15 injured, police said. Rescue operations were difficult at the crash site in a remote area near Ramri village, about 250 miles west of the capital, Kathmandu.

In Minnesota: Chinese billionaire Richard Liu will not face rape charges because prosecutors said Friday they could not prove his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. Liu, founder of e-commerce site JD.com, was arrested Aug. 31 in Minneapolis on suspicion of felony rape and released within hours. He returned to China.

CHICAGO LUXURY BEDS

Ongoing Sample and Clearance Sale through December!

Lincoln Park | 1919 N. Clybourn Ave | (773) 661 0851
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Chicago Tribune
BUSINESS

ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

California-based Allbirds is expected to open a store on Armitage Avenue in the spring.

Online Allbirds to join retailers in Chicago

Ryan Ori
On Real Estate

Allbirds, which calls its product "the world's most comfortable shoes," is the latest online retailer setting up shop on Chicago's Armitage Avenue.

The company confirmed it has leased approximately 2,000 square feet of space on the North Side retail street.

San Francisco-based Allbirds plans to open its Chicago store at 843 W. Armitage Ave. in the spring, Allbirds retail operations lead Travis Boyce said.

Allbirds currently has just three stores — in New York, San Francisco and London — but plans to open about eight more in 2019, Boyce said in an email.

The men's and women's shoe seller will join a growing list of online retailers on a short stretch of Armitage, which is surrounded by multimillion-dollar homes in the Lincoln Park community area. The shop is between two other companies that started with online sales before branching out into physical stores: Bonobos and Outdoor Voices, which opened its store Friday.

Other so-called e-tailers on Armitage include Warby Parker, Tie Bar, Black Tux, Serena & Lily, Marine Layer and Interior Define.

Most of Allbirds' shoes are made of wool, but it also uses materials such as sugar cane and eucalyptus tree fiber, according to its website.

Allbirds began selling shoes online less than three years ago, in March 2016, but the brand quickly gained popularity among Silicon Valley's techies and venture capitalists, among others.

The company already has sold a stake to investors in a deal that values the company at $1.4 billion, The Wall Street Journal reported in October.

Allbirds was represented in the Chicago lease by brokers Will Winter and John Vance of Stone Real Estate.

The space at 843 W. Armitage, owned by Acadia Realty Trust, previously was home to the restaurant Blue Door Farm Stand and, more recently, a pop-up store for shorts and swimwear brand Chubbies.

Rye, N.Y.-based Acadia Realty Trust, which owns several buildings on Armitage Avenue, continues to field inquiries from other primarily online brands, said Chris Conlon, executive vice president and chief operating officer.

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Long Wall Street rally may be coming to end

By Marley Jay
Associated Press

NEW YORK — After almost 10 years, Wall Street's rally looks like it's ending.

Another day of big losses Friday left the U.S. market with its worst week in more than seven years. All of the major indexes have lost 16 to 26 percent from their highs this summer and fall. Barring huge gains during the holiday period, this will be the worst December for stocks since 1931.

There hasn't been one major shock that has sent stocks plunging. The U.S. economy has been growing since 2009, and most experts think it will keep expanding for now. But it's likely to do so at a slower pace.

As they look ahead, investors are finding more and more reasons to worry. The U.S. has been locked in a trade dispute with China for nine months. Economies in Europe and China are slowing. And rising interest rates in the U.S. could slow its economy even more.

Stocks are now headed for their single worst month since October 2008, when the market was being battered by the global financial crisis.

December is generally the strongest time of the year for U.S. stocks. Traders often talk about a "Santa rally" that adds to the year's gains as people adjust their portfolios in anticipation of the year to come.

But not this year. No sector of the market has been spared. Large multinational companies join smaller domestic ones in losses. And huge high-tech companies, once the best-performing stocks on the market, are now leading the way lower. Technology's popularity during the recent boom made it even more vulnerable as investors' moods turn sour. Amazon, Facebook, Apple, Netflix and Google's parent company, Alphabet, have seen market values fall by hundreds of billions.

The major U.S. indexes fell 7 percent this week and they've sunk more than 12 percent in December.

3 hospitals seek to trim care

By Lisa Schencker
Chicago Tribune

Three Advocate Aurora Health hospitals plan to stop offering pediatric inpatient care — the latest in a series of Chicago-area hospitals to cut back on overnight care for kids.

Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago, Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington and Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove plan to convert pediatric beds into beds for other types of patients, such as adults or neonatal patients. Illinois Masonic has 14 pediatric beds, Good Shepherd eight and Good Samaritan seven.

The health system cited low demand for the beds as its reason for requesting the change, according to its applications to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board. The board likely will consider the applications in March, and if they're approved, the units likely will close in April, said Advocate Aurora spokeswoman Evonne Woloshyn in an email.

Each of the units now only has one or two patients a day, on average, she said. "Due to advances in pediatric medicine, many conditions that once required hospitalization are now treated in outpatient settings," Woloshyn said.

Advocate operates children's hospitals in Oak Lawn and Park Ridge. Advocate also recently partnered with NorthShore University HealthSystem on pediatric care.

That partnership, in addition to the two children's hospitals, offers "other pediatric inpatient units in hospitals throughout Chicagoland to effectively meet the health care needs of children and families," Woloshyn said.

Community hospitals across Illinois have been slashing inpatient care for kids in recent years, as more kids get care without having to stay overnight.

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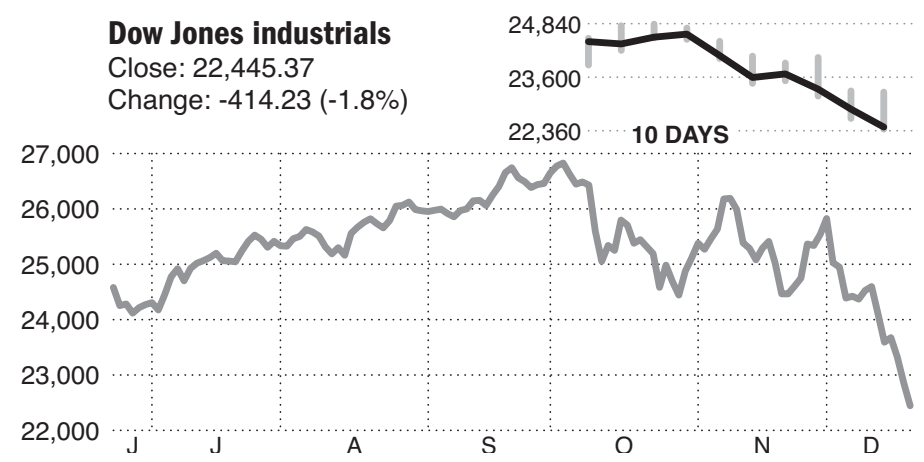
MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow High: 23,254.59 Low: 22,396.34 Previous: 22,859.60



Nasdaq		S&P 500		Russell 2000	
-195.41 (-2.99%)		-50.80 (-2.06%)		-33.91 (-2.56%)	
Close	6,332.99	Close	2,416.62	Close	1,292.09
High	6,586.68	High	2,504.41	High	1,334.76
Low	6,304.63	Low	2,408.55	Low	1,289.49
Previous	6,528.40	Previous	2,467.42	Previous	1,326.00

10-yr T-note	Gold futures	Yen	Euro	Crude Oil
...	-9.80	+.20	+.0076	-.29
to 2.79%	to $1,253.80	to 111.31/$1	to .8795/$1	to $45.59

Major market growth and decline

	DOW	NASD	S&P
5-day % change	-6.87	-8.36	-7.05
30-day % change	-7.58	-8.73	-8.20
1-year % change	-9.33	-9.01	-9.94

FUTURES

COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 19	522	524	512.25	514	-9.50
		May 19	529.50	531.50	520.25	521.25	-9.75
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 19	375.50	379.50	374.75	378.50	+3.25
		May 19	383.50	387.25	382.75	386.25	+3.25
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Jan 19	891.50	894.75	883.25	884.75	-8.75
		Mar 19	905	907.50	896	897.75	-8.50
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	Jan 19	28.19	28.28	27.80	27.89	-.31
		Mar 19	28.49	28.57	28.07	28.17	-.31
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	Jan 19	307.70	308.80	305.50	305.60	-2.10
		Mar 19	311.90	313.00	310.00	310.10	-1.90
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	Feb 19	46.25	46.77	45.13	45.59	-.29
		Mar 19	46.53	47.06	45.40	45.89	-.30
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, $ per mm btu	Jan 19	3.681	3.829	3.595	3.816	+.233
		Feb 19	3.633	3.762	3.537	3.750	+.224
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	Jan 19	1.3349	1.3457	1.2936	1.3183	-.0041
		Feb 19	1.3194	1.3311	1.2800	1.3061	-.0018

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.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	67.27	-1.11	Equity Lifesty Prop	N	97.94	-.96	Mondelez Intl	O	40.68	-.48
AbbVie Inc	N	84.92	-.45	Equity Residential	N	67.24	-.88	Morningstar Inc	O	106.73	-2.26
Allstate Corp	N	79.85	+.04	Exelon Corp	N	45.89	+.08	Motorola Solutions	N	111.73	-3.77
Aptargroup Inc	N	93.55	-1.46	First Indl RT	N	29.15	-.48	NiSource Inc	N	26.05	-.23
Arch Dan Mid	N	40.80	-.43	Fortune Brds Hm&Sec	N	37.13	-.71	Nthn Trust Cp	O	79.39	-1.13
Baxter Intl	N	62.90	+.22	Gallagher AJ	N	71.06	-1.84	Old Republic	N	20.60	+.03
Boeing Co	N	304.55	-8.50	Grainger WW	N	272.21	-2.93	Packaging Corp Am	N	80.74	-3.69
Brunswick Corp	N	43.18	-2.67	GrubHub Inc	N	68.78	-2.42	RLI Corp	N	66.53	-.91
CBOE Global Markets	N	96.08	-.67	Hill-Rom Hldgs	N	84.77	-1.92	Stericycle Inc	O	36.80	-1.06
CDK Global Inc	O	45.57	-.67	IDEX Corp	N	123.71	-1.23	Teleph Data	N	31.64	-1.15
CDW Corp	O	77.31	-3.27	ITW	N	124.04	-1.16	TransUnion	N	53.50	-.85
CF Industries	N	41.03	+.20	Ingredion Inc	N	91.02	+1.19	Tribune Media Co A	N	45.00	-.10
CME Group	O	182.65	-2.25	Jones Lang LaSalle	N	124.98	-1.98	US Foods Holding	N	30.35	-.39
CNA Financial	N	43.18	-.19	Kemper Corp	N	64.18	-1.27	USG Corp	N	42.84	+.06
Caterpillar Inc	N	120.07	-1.48	Kraft Heinz Co	O	44.05	-.80	Ulta Salon Cosmetics	O	230.49	-3.52
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	22.15	-2.13	LKQ Corporation	O	23.57	-.27	United Contl Hldgs	O	81.47	-2.94
Deere Co	N	142.99	-1.65	Littelfuse Inc	O	160.10	-4.01	Ventas Inc	N	60.27	-.77
Discover Fin Svcs	N	56.40	-1.59	MB Financial	O	37.98	-.46	Walgreen Boots Alli	O	67.26	-2.35
Dover Corp	N	68.99	-1.07	McDonalds Corp	N	174.15	+.47	Wintrust Financial	O	64.66	-1.19
Equity Commonwlth	N	29.37	-.41	Middleby Corp	O	102.05	-1.59	Zebra Tech	O	146.25	-4.74

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Gen Electric	7.15	-.29
Bank of America	23.37	-.74
Kinross Gold	3.12	-.02
AT&T Inc	28.31	-.34
Weatherford Intl Ltd	.27	+.02
Chesapk Engy	1.90	+.06
Pfizer Inc	41.93	-.02
Oracle Corp	44.00	-2.24
Ford Motor	8.05	-.21
Wells Fargo & Co	45.12	-.92
Verizon Comm	54.92	-.15
Citigroup	50.24	-2.03
Sibanye Gold Ltd	2.35	-.22
Exxon Mobil Corp	68.12	-.51
JPMorgan Chase & Co	94.17	-2.28
Twitter Inc	27.31	-1.98
Denbury Res	1.55	-.11
Merck & Co	72.90	-.59
Altria Group	49.09	-1.35
Barrick Gold	13.12	-.26
CocaCola Co	47.57	+.03
Transocean Ltd	6.49	-.15
Rite Aid Corp	.71	-.08
Snap Inc A	4.99	-.08

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Adv Micro Dev	16.93	-1.01
Microsoft Corp	98.23	-3.28
Apple Inc	150.73	-6.10
Cisco Syst	41.85	-.64
Facebook Inc	124.95	-8.45
Micron Tech	30.32	-.96
Intel Corp	44.84	-.70
JD.com Inc	21.08	+1.17
Huntgtn Bancshs	11.59	...
Comcast Corp A	33.75	-.87
Qualcomm Inc	54.85	-1.52
Sirius XM Hldgs Inc	5.59	-.30
Zynga Inc	3.63	+.04
eBay Inc	26.58	-1.41
Caesars Entertain	6.03	-.35
Office Depot	2.12	-.21
Applied Matls	30.31	-.59
Starbucks Cp	61.39	-.76
Walgreen Boots Alli	67.26	-2.35
Nvidia Corporation	129.57	-5.53
New Age Beverages Cp	5.44	-1.16
Netflix Inc	246.39	-14.19
Vodafone Group	19.35	-.65
Helios and Matheson	.02	...

FOREIGN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHG./%
Shanghai	2516.25	-20.0/-.8
Stoxx600	336.67	+.1/+.0
Nikkei	20166.19	-226.4/-1.1
MSCI-EAFE	1701.55	-18.0/-1.1
Bovespa	85697.13	+427.8/+.5
FTSE 100	6721.17	+9.2/+.1
CAC-40	4694.38	+1.9/+.0

LARGEST COMPANIES

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Alibaba Group Hldg	132.00	-3.11
Alphabet Inc C	979.54	-29.87
Alphabet Inc A	991.25	-32.33
Amazon.com Inc	1377.45	-83.38
Apple Inc	150.73	-6.10
Bank of America	23.37	-.74
Berkshire Hath B	192.10	-1.48
Exxon Mobil Corp	68.12	-.51
Facebook Inc	124.95	-8.45
JPMorgan Chase	94.17	-2.28
Johnson & Johnson	128.09	-.18
Microsoft Corp	98.23	-3.28
Pfizer Inc	41.93	-.02
Procter & Gamble	90.97	-.01
Royal Dutch Shell B	57.80	+.17
Royal Dutch Shell A	56.68	+.25
Unitedhealth Group	238.34	-4.10
Verizon Comm	54.92	-.15
WalMart Strs	87.13	-.15

TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month disc	2.34	2.33
6-month disc	2.46	2.47
2-year	2.65	2.65
10-year	2.79	2.79
30-year	3.02	3.01

SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	$1253.80	$1263.60
Silver	$14.583	$14.753
Platinum	$795.80	$795.80

INTEREST RATES

Prime Rate	5.50
Discount Rate Primary	3.00
Fed Funds Target	2.25-2.50
Money Mkt Overnight Avg.	0.56

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

A U.S. Dollar buys . . .

Argentina (Peso)	37.9701
Australia (Dollar)	1.4192
Brazil (Real)	3.9005
Britain (Pound)	.7914
Canada (Dollar)	1.3590
China (Yuan)	6.9066
Euro	.8795
India (Rupee)	70.156
Israel (Shekel)	3.7638
Japan (Yen)	111.31
Mexico (Peso)	19.9547
Poland (Zloty)	3.77
So. Korea (Won)	1128.47
Taiwan (Dollar)	30.80
Thailand (Baht)	32.66

LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

Based on total assets

FUND	NAV	CHG IN $	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AMCpA m	26.76	-.55	-6.2
American Funds AmrcnBalA m	24.34	-.22	-4.8
American Funds CptWldGrIncA m	41.58	-.58	-12.5
American Funds CptlIncBldrA x	55.34	-1.13	-8.5
American Funds FdmtlInvsA x	50.42	-5.63	-10.5
American Funds GrfAmrcA x	40.95	-6.17	-7.2
American Funds IncAmrcA m	20.28	-.14	-6.4
American Funds InvCAmrcA m	32.76	-.61	-9.8
American Funds NwPrspctvA x	36.30	-3.60	-9.1
American Funds WAMtInvsA x	39.82	-1.83	-6.1
DFA IntlCorEqIns	11.38	-.20	-19.0
Dodge & Cox Inc	13.22	...	-.3
Dodge & Cox IntlStk	36.10	-.50	-19.4
Dodge & Cox Stk	167.09	-3.47	-10.6
DoubleLine TtlRetBdI	10.41	+.01	+1.6
Fidelity 500IdxInsPrm	84.03	-1.77	-8.2
Fidelity Contrafund	10.46	-.30	-7.5
Fidelity ContrafundK	10.46	-.30	-7.5
Fidelity TtlMktIdxInsPrm	68.00	-1.47	-9.1
Fidelity USBdIdxInsPrm	11.23	...	
Franklin Templeton IncA1 m	2.12	-.01	-6.2
Metropolitan West TtlRetBdI	10.35	-.01	+.1
PIMCO IncInstl	11.77	...	+.4
PIMCO TtlRetIns	9.93	+.02	-.2
Schwab SP500Idx	38.73	...	-6.1
T. Rowe Price BCGr	90.92	-2.65	-3.9
T. Rowe Price GrStk	54.31	-1.53	-6.5
Vanguard 500IdxAdmrl	223.00	-4.70	-8.3
Vanguard DivGrInv	23.79	-.29	-2.5
Vanguard EqIncAdmrl	64.71	-.85	-8.0
Vanguard GrIdxAdmrl x	65.92	-2.06	-8.2
Vanguard HCAdmrl	77.38	-1.54	-3.8
Vanguard InTrInGdAdm	9.35	...	-.5
Vanguard InTrTEAdmrl	13.90	+.01	+1.8
Vanguard InsIdxIns	219.26	-4.62	-8.3
Vanguard InsIdxInsPlus	219.27	-4.62	-8.2
Vanguard InsTtlSMIInPls x	52.06	-2.49	-9.0
Vanguard MdCpIdxAdmrl x	165.20	-4.15	-12.3
Vanguard PrmCpAdmrl	115.86	-2.69	-6.7
Vanguard STInvmGrdAdmrl	10.42	...	+.8
Vanguard SmCpIdxAdmrl x	60.73	-1.77	-13.0
Vanguard TrgtRtr2020Inv	29.49	-.29	-5.7
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Inv	17.17	-.20	-6.9
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Inv	30.92	-.41	-7.8
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Inv	18.83	-.27	-8.7
Vanguard TtBMIdxAdmrl	10.41	...	
Vanguard TtBMIdxIns	10.41	...	
Vanguard TtInBIdxAdmrl x	21.63	-.46	+2.8
Vanguard TtInBIdxIns x	32.46	-.70	+2.8
Vanguard TtInBIdxInv x	10.82	-.23	+2.8
Vanguard TtInSIdxAdmrl x	24.78	-.64	-15.5
Vanguard TtInSIdxIns x	99.08	-2.60	-15.5
Vanguard TtInSIdxInsPlus x	99.10	-2.60	-15.5
Vanguard TtInSIdxInv x	14.81	-.39	-15.6
Vanguard TtlSMIdxAdmrl x	59.77	-1.64	-9.0
Vanguard TtlSMIdxIns x	59.78	-1.64	-9.0
Vanguard TtlSMIdxInv x	59.75	-1.62	-9.1
Vanguard WlngtnAdmrl	62.72	-.69	-5.4
Vanguard WlslyIncAdmrl	58.55	-.28	-3.1
Vanguard WndsrIIAdmrl	53.58	-1.00	-11.4

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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EDITORIALS

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Managing scooters

Regarding Mary Wisniewski's Dec. 17 column ("Study: Scooters could fill city gap") about urban scooters: As a cyclist, I am generally in favor of non-gasoline-powered modes of transportation. However, we recently spent two nights in downtown Indianapolis on our way to and from Kentucky for the Thanksgiving holiday. Indianapolis has welcomed scooters big-time, and they were everywhere in the downtown area, randomly splayed across sidewalks and in doorways of restaurants and office buildings.

We saw more than one local citizen have to kick a scooter out of the way to exit a business.

I am totally unfamiliar with the differences between how Divvy and the scooter companies ensure responsible returns, but it appears that Divvy's figured it out and the scooter companies have not.

If Chicago is considering welcoming scooters, the city had better figure out how to ensure responsible returns. Failure to do so will ensure sidewalk chaos and an enraged populace.

— Robert E. Stanley, Highland Park

Democrats in disarray

The Democratic Party is in disarray, with no direction, no political agenda or strategy for the near future, other than Democrats' disdain for President Donald Trump. Ten years ago, the Democrats wanted our southern border secured. Today they don't. Why not? Because Trump does. Even before he nominated Brett Kavanaugh for the Supreme Court, the Democratic Party blindly vowed to reject his nominee, no matter who it was. The first thing Democrats vowed to do after taking back the House in the midterms was to get ahold of Trump's tax returns.

Really? Are there no other pressing issues for our country? Note to Democrats: Nobody cares about Trump's tax returns or about Stormy Daniels. We care about a better life for ourselves and our families. Start focusing on the big picture and quit obsessing about Trump. In other words, get to governing and quit whining.

— Mike Rice, Chicago

Depressing vision of our future

No need to worry. Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel's proposal to increase the gas tax from 19 cents to as high as 49 cents per gallon will only add $6 to a normal 20-gallon fill up at the local gas station. He obviously believes that the increase will be a mere pittance for the vast majority of the state's citizens — its low- and middle-class families.

The mayor's gas tax proposal, however, is only the prelude to what Gov.-elect J.B. Pritzker will do once in office. His proposals would require many billions in new spending. No taxpayer would be spared from the increased taxes and fees that would be necessary to satisfy the funding needs.

A few years from now, the history books will tell us that Gov. Pritzker and House Speaker Michael Madigan did little to nothing to address the structural issues associated with the $133 billion — and steadily growing — unfunded pension obligations. Historians will report that they had neither the will nor spine to do so.

We also will see that they did little to nothing to lower spending similar to what is done routinely in the private sector — reducing waste and fraud, outsourcing selective functions, eliminating or scaling back low priority or duplicative programs, consolidating local units, automating manual activities, reducing payroll, renegotiating purchasing agreements, and reducing borrowing costs.

History will record that they did little to nothing to encourage businesses to remain and expand operations in the state by easing up on business regulations, reducing workers' compensation costs, providing incentives for businesses to expand their payrolls, and improving the availability of an appropriately skilled labor pool.

History will sadly provide the final verdict. The new governor and the speaker will have left the state with a lower credit rating, much higher deficits and debts, and a shrunken tax base as taxpayers voted with their U-Hauls to escape the state's ever-increasing taxes and fees.

I hope I am wrong — but think I'm not. As the state's controlling party has become more progressive and dominant in the legislature, taxes, spending, debts and emigration will onerously rise to the detriment of current and future generations of Illinoisans. Bah humbug.

— Mark Paulson, Buffalo Grove

The sky-high cost of college

A college degree is a valuable and important means of economic and social advancement. It provides more options for graduates and for society as a whole, since a better-educated population benefits the nation overall. However, the cost of a college education has outstripped the value of a degree.

Attending college burdens many graduates with debt that is difficult to repay. Many people feel like they should be able to get a higher education for free at the local level, so that they can continue bettering themselves without needing to stress about paying for their education.

I recommend providing completely free community college, as well as providing free of charge the materials that students need.

States should push the federal government to provide them with the money that is needed for all of it, because if access to higher education is easy to obtain, more people will be able to have a chance of getting it.

— Karen Madrigal, Mundelein

UGUR CAN/DHA

Syrian tribal representatives meet Friday in the village of Sajo to discuss their next move in the rapidly evolving conflict.

Trump's risky haste in Syria and Afghanistan

Bold foreign policy decisions aren't wrong because they are bold. But they are wrong when they are poorly conceived, reflecting no coherent strategy.

President Donald Trump took two such hasty, heedless actions in recent days concerning the future presence of American troops in unstable war zones. Trump is pulling all 2,000 ground troops out of Syria and, according to reports, is ordering home about 7,000 of the roughly 14,000 U.S. military personnel in Afghanistan.

Those are significant military orders by the commander in chief, dispatched over the course of hours, despite warnings from his own advisers that he's making potentially grave errors. All of which fits into the atmosphere of Trump's chaotic, seat-of-the-pants leadership. Defense Secretary James Mattis wants no more of this drama. That's why he quit on Thursday, effective early next year.

Mattis' resignation letter was a plea to Trump to grasp a fundamental tenet of America's role as leader of the free world: The country is safest when it acts according to principles and works closely with friends and allies. "We must do everything possible to advance an international order that is conducive to our security prosperity and values, and we are strengthened in this effort by the solidarity of our alliances," he wrote.

Spitting out orders to leave Syria and reduce the U.S. commitment to Afghanistan violates that doctrine. Trump gave little or no warning of his decisions, blundering ahead to fulfill a wish that the United States invest more money at home, and expend less effort abroad. That's a legitimate ambition, but it's not justified by facts on the ground in two destabilized countries that present terrorist threats to the U.S.

If you're reminded of then-President Barack Obama's unwise withdrawal from Iraq — and the subsequent rise of Islamic State — you're not alone.

In Syria, the U.S.-led coalition has pummeled Islamic State into apparent submission, but the terror group and its ideology haven't been stamped out. Syria remains in the grips of civil war and has become a handy romper room for Russia and Iran. American ground troops act as a stabilizing force, symbols of U.S. resolve and partners to Syrian Kurd militias, who have done much of the fighting against Islamic State. A U.S. departure leaves the Kurds vulnerable to attack by arch-enemy Turkey. If Islamic State mounts a comeback, or if Iran and Russia assert unchecked power and influence in the region, America becomes less secure.

In Afghanistan, the U.S. is mired in a frustrating war now in its 18th year. Drawing down troop levels is an option, but not in the short term, and certainly not without consideration of the risk factors and strong backup plans. Taliban insurgents remain in control of parts of Afghanistan, and al-Qaida and Islamic State both have a presence.

Remember why America went to war in Afghanistan and why U.S. troops are in Syria. Both are failing states. The more they descend into collapse, the greater the chances they become training grounds for terrorists bent on targeting the United States.

This is the legacy of 9/11. U.S. military operations in Syria and Afghanistan represent crucial missions in defense of the homeland. On both battlefields, America fights with friends and allies. Abrupt departures, as Mattis warned, threaten the stability of U.S. relationships with those partners.

If the president has a persuasive argument for military withdrawals that assure America's safety, we'd like to hear it.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

Emmanuel Macron was supposed to be the rallying figure for the "liberal world order." He was the establishment's populism. He was the man who denounced liberalism, tried to demonstrate his hope in a grand, bold, regenerated, and federal European Union. He condemned nationalism in front of Donald Trump. He was the Socialist Party member who was loved by high finance.

But he's been a dead man walking for months politically. There is no firewall in France. Maybe it is a mood, or the harbinger of some awful collapse. Maybe it is just one generation rejecting the certainties of a previous one. The democratic peoples of the West have tired of the politics of the sensible center and are demanding change. And in France, that change usually begins in the streets.

Michael Brendan Dougherty, National Review

This year, Heather Hund and her family will gather in West Texas on Dec. 25 and solidify a new Christmas tradition, in which each relative is randomly assigned to give a gift to another family member and to a house pet. "The rules are basically a regift for the human and then $10 for the pet," Hund told me. "And my 18-month-old son got put in (the latter) category too, so it's small humans and small animals."

Hund and her family downscaled their gift-giving six years ago after considering how much work Christmas shopping was. ... Now, with the extra time she and her family have, they paint pottery together, cook, go on runs, and play cards. Plus, they get meaningful presents through the regifting agreement, such as the Led Zeppelin record Hund received from her dad, purchased when he was in high school. The new gifting protocol has been a joy. "The first year I thought I would be sad about it," she said, "and I really wasn't."

Hund is one of the many holiday celebrants who have been questioning and revising their long-held gift-giving traditions — or, in some cases, scrapping them altogether. No single cause unites these opt-outers, but a few motivations regularly pop up: They want to resist consumerism, restore the religious focus of the holidays, and/or avoid harming the environment. Above all, they want to spend less money on things and more time with one another.

Joe Pinsker, The Atlantic

MICHAEL RAMIREZ/LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Chicago Tribune
A+E
ARTS+ENTERTAINMENT

12 things you probably don't know about CHERYL BURTON

By Tracy Swartz
Chicago Tribune

BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

WLS-Ch. 7's Cheryl Burton, on set Dec. 4., was recently promoted to the 10 p.m. anchor desk.

Cheryl Burton's newsroom office belongs in a museum. There are no discarded Tupperware containers or stacks of papers strewn about. Instead, her work space is full of framed photos and mementos of the trips she has taken and the stories she has covered. Inspirational quotes cover the drab walls.

A South Side native, Burton has called WLS-Ch. 7 home for 26 years. She co-anchors the 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. newscasts on the ABC-owned station and the 7 p.m. newscast on WCIU-Ch. 26.

Burton gave the Tribune a tour of her office and an hourlong interview that covered her childhood in Chatham, her recent promotion to the 10 p.m. anchor desk and her love of the holidays. Burton was born on Christmas, and her late father was born on Christmas Eve. Here are highlights of our conversation.

■ Burton is the fourth of five kids. She has three sisters and a brother. Her parents were born and raised in the South and eventually settled in Chicago in the 1950s. Her mother, Hattie, taught in the Chicago Public Schools system for more than three decades. She died last year at the age of 87. Her father, Simpson, served in the U.S. Air Force. He died in 1992, months before Burton started at Channel 7. "Education was a big deal in our house," said Burton, who skipped the second grade. "My parents would every day make us line up in front of an easel after school, and everybody had to come up to the easel to show what we had learned. They were checking to make sure you were paying attention in class."

■ Burton graduated from what is now known as Lindblom Math and Science Academy. She was one of the first inductees into the West Englewood school's hall of fame. She said she worked as an Andy Frain usher at Chicago sports venues in high school. At the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, she studied biology and psychology with the intention of going to medical school, but she was concerned about money. In college she joined the Honey Bears, the Chicago Bears' cheerleader squad. "I would have rehearsal Monday night, get on the 10:30 Greyhound bus and go to U of I, have classes Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, get back on the bus, come home Thursday night. You could not miss rehearsal at all the entire season," she said.

■ She worked for Xerox after graduation as her television career took off. As a kid, she appeared on the "Romper Room" TV show. Years later, she was a spokesmodel contestant on "Star Search." "My family, we're so close, we all stayed in my one hotel room, my parents and (four) siblings, so seven of us in one hotel room when we went to film the show," Burton said about "Star Search."

■ She honed her news skills at stations in downstate Peoria and Wichita, Kan. "I made my own tape with two VCR machines," Burton said. "One was upstairs, one was downstairs. I remember running up and down the stairs editing to send out 30 tapes." She started at WLS in November 1992 as a weekend anchor and reporter. Her first story was a three-part series about the wives of Bears players.

■ She's had a lot of teammates in 26 years at WLS, though she says she doesn't have a favorite partner. "Everybody in this building I show my gratitude because it takes all of them to make me the best that I can be everyday," Burton said. As such, she has a lengthy holiday gift list. She said she usually wraps about 40 gifts for colleagues this time of year, and she takes pride in selecting and wrapping each present. "People don't even unwrap them. The makeup artist (Alx Galasinao) has not unwrapped eight years in a row. Her gifts, she might cut the bottom out, get the gift and not open it because they're scenic, they're pieces of artwork," Burton said.

■ Her extensive gift list includes her ex-husband, Ch. 7 sports anchor and reporter Jim Rose. "He's one of my best friends here," Burton said. "He's a great guy, really good person, and we have an extraordinary relationship of support. Always has my back. I'm very proud to say that we're very good friends today. I mean, I raised his children. His children lived with us. We were together for 13 years."

■ She used to watch herself on TV but doesn't now. "You have to like wait a week or something because you're super critical of yourself. I have to leave it where I did my best because you'll go home and beat yourself up," she said.

■ Burton's fingers move very fast when she texts during commercial breaks in newscasts. She said her mother taught typing skills to U.S. servicemen and women while her family lived in Wyoming before she was born. "My mom was very adamant about making sure that her children were good typists so all of us had our own typewriters with our names engraved on them," Burton said.

■ Burton enjoys interacting with her fans, and she holds on to positive letters from viewers. She tries not to worry about trolls, but she said she is more cautious after she was attacked 10 years ago. A Berwyn man, whose attorney said had been diagnosed with schizophrenia, randomly punched six people — including Burton — during a daylong rampage in the Loop in 2008. She said she hit the ground and hit her head. At first, she thought she had been shot.

"I was a changed person after that. I was happy-go-lucky. I would walk down the street, but now I'm very much more in tune to my surroundings," Burton said before adding that she was carjacked more than 15 years ago. "That was very traumatic too, to have a gun in your face, but that's two incidents in the 26 years of the joy and the love that the city has shown me, my city that I grew up in, that I was born and raised in, and the rich diversity and tapestry of this beautiful city. Those are two things that happened, but they don't define anything about me."

■ She was just as surprised as you were when it was reported that then-Gov. Rod Blagojevich considered having her fill Barack Obama's U.S. Senate seat when Obama was elected president. Blagojevich was convicted on charges of attempting to sell the seat. "My mom was cracking up. My siblings were just cracking up. Yeah, so I was never approached officially or anything in that capacity. But I was like, 'Wow! Look at you!' Me be a politician? I like my job at ABC 7 a lot," Burton said.

■ She had served as a contributing anchor for the weekday 10 p.m. newscast for the last 15 years, so she found the promotion to 10 p.m. co-anchor to be "truly a blessing." She succeeded Kathy Brock on June 28.

"I had a locket of my mom and dad around my neck, and then outside on State Street were my siblings; my cousins; former teachers; former students; my Girl Scouts because I'm a big Girl Scout, I'm a Girl Scout lifer; some of my sorority sisters; some of the viewers; fans; strangers. ... They were outside with balloons and big signs that they had handmade," she said.

■ Looking ahead, Burton said she still pitches stories that take her around the country and the world. "Most recently I went to Memphis to cover the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and that was such an incredible moment for me because my father went to college with Dr. Martin Luther King, they're fraternity brothers," she said. "There's plenty more to cover. The world is changing every day. I mean, I've been to South Africa covering stories with Oprah. I've been to Canada covering the Pope. I've been to Iowa when the first septuplets were ever born."

And personally, she plans to continue to give to charity. She said she used to host parties before her birthday and ask her guests to bring new toys that she would give to children in domestic violence shelters. She said every so often she will rent out a movie theater so these children can see culturally significant films. "A couple of the shelters that I worked with closed down, so now I just donate money," she said. "But I think in 2019 I'm going to come back and do (the toy drive). I did it probably 10 years in a row."

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IN PERFORMANCE

Amy Schumer goes from party girl to mom-to-be

By Zach Freeman
Chicago Tribune

Amy Schumer is five months pregnant and wants to make sure everyone in the audience knows it. At the top of her show at the Chicago Theatre on Thursday night — the second of two sold out nights being filmed for her next special — she recounted various reckless (and even illegal) made-up misadventures she'd had in various cities across the country and then beamed: "That's all over now. Because I'm ... preeeeeegnant!"

A few minutes later she showed off her baby bump, pulling her black dress up to reveal her belly and intentionally flashing the audience a lengthy peek at her black underwear (and Band-Aid-covered belly button) in the process. "Somebody's neglecting their bikini area!" she crowed after lowering her dress.

So, yes, Amy Schumer is pregnant. And yes, she's still sporting the same mix of comedic cocksurity and exaggerated honesty that's made her a TV star, movie star, best-selling author and nationally touring stand-up comic.

"I do cup my bump, but I do it a little bit lower," she said after mocking the classic pregnant woman photo pose with her hands on her belly. "I do it right here," she said, grabbing her crotch. "Because this is the spot that got me in trouble."

High brow this is not. But as Schumer herself said to a couple in the front row who she thought seemed surprised by her material: "What, did you think you were coming to see 'Godspell'?"

Standing center stage throughout the night — with elaborate red curtains framing the stage around her — Schumer spent the majority of her set joking about her pregnancy ("I'm making it sound all bad," she quipped at one point, "Because it is.") and

JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION

Amy Schumer touched on her pregnancy and current events at the Chicago Theatre on Thursday.

gently poking fun at her husband, chef Chris Fischer (the two were married in February).

In a careful balancing act, Schumer manages to both expand and protect her brand with her latest material, transitioning seamlessly from hapless party girl to married mom-to-be. "I just want anyone who's single to know I didn't sell out," she said near the end of her set.

She also dipped into current events a few times — including discussing the #MeToo movement — using her pregnancy as a springboard: "I don't know what I'm having," she said seriously. "I hope it's a girl. But mainly just because it's such a scary time for men. Men, thank you so much for leaving your houses tonight. So brave."

She also described her experience traveling to Washington D.C. in October to protest the confirmation of Supreme Court justice Brett Kavanaugh, deftly avoiding any preaching and spinning it into a tale of avoiding hunger while protesting and subsequently being arrested.

Referencing a set-list teleprompter for most of the show, Schumer occasionally stumbled on a set-up or a punchline and would pause briefly before starting a sentence over or trying a different angle. At one point she stopped and asked a technician to scroll the teleprompter up so she could reference something she'd forgotten.

These are all moments that can be easily cut around in post-production — as can the four breaks she took to have her make-up touched up — but each pause or redo slowed the momentum of her set and sucked energy from the room. And while Schumer worked to keep the show from hitting a complete standstill, joking with the makeup artist or making fun of her own sweatiness, the focus on the cameras gave the night a much more sterile and orchestrated feel than a live show should have, especially one with such high price tags.

In an era of self-promotion and social media a seat at a live taping and a chance to show up in the final product is a coveted thing, especially to a fan, but only when the nuts and bolts of production are more carefully masked.

This could explain why, after the show ended around 10:20 p.m. with a joke that smoothly blended tenderness, self-deprecation and humor, many audience members clapped, grabbed their jackets and left the theater, even as a voice over the sound system asked people to get back to their seats for a reshoot of the opening and closing moments of the performance.

"You want those shots?" I imagined them saying as they marched down the aisles towards the exits, "Maybe you should be paying me."

Zach Freeman is a freelance critic.

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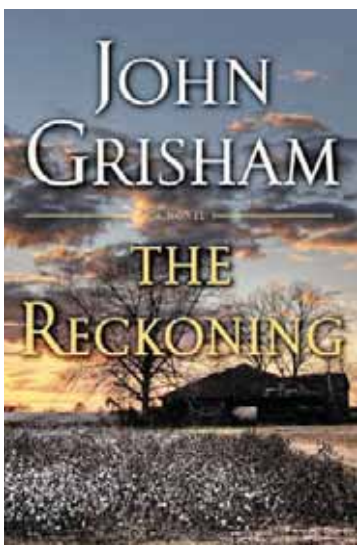
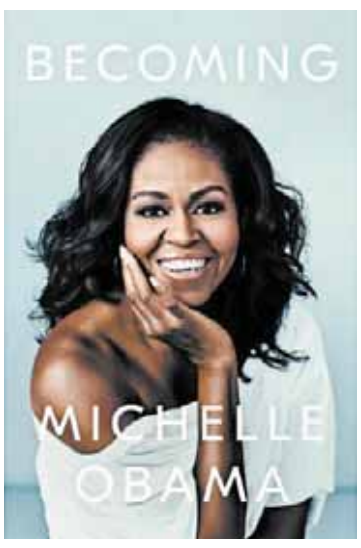
NATIONAL BEST-SELLERS

HARDCOVER FICTION



1. **"The Reckoning: A Novel" by John Grisham** (Doubleday, $29.95) *Last week: 1*
2. **"Fire & Blood: 300 Years Before A Game of Thrones, Dragons Ruled Westeros (A Song of Ice and Fire: A Targaryen History)" by George R. R. Martin** (Bantam, $35) *Last week: 3*
3. **"Every Breath" by Nicholas Sparks** (Grand Central, $28) *Last week: 4*
4. **"Target: Alex Cross" by James Patterson** (Little, Brown, $29) *Last week: 5*
5. **"The Next Person You Meet in Heaven"** by Mitch Albom (Harper, $23.99) *Last week: 8*
6. **"Where the Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owens** (Putnam, $27) *Last week: —*
7. **"Long Road to Mercy: An Atlee Pine Thriller" by David Baldacci** (Grand Central, $29) *Last week: 6*
8. **"Past Tense: A Jack Reacher Novel" by Lee Child** (Delacorte, $28.99) *Last week: 7*
9. **"Of Blood and Bone: Chronicles of The One, Book 2" by Nora Roberts** (St. Martin's, $28.99) *Last week: 2*
10. **"Look Alive Twenty-Five: A Stephanie Plum Novel" by Janet Evanovich** (Putnam, $28) *Last week: 9*

HARDCOVER NONFICTION



1. **"Becoming" by Michelle Obama** (Crown, $32.50) *Last week: 1*
2. **"The Point of It All: A Lifetime of Great Loves and Endeavors" by Charles Krauthammer** (Crown Forum, $28) *Last week: 2*
3. **"Homebody: A Guide to Creating Spaces You Never Want to Leave" by Joanna Gaines** (Harper Design, $40) *Last week: 3*
4. **"Girl, Wash Your Face: Stop Believing the Lies About Who You Are So You Can Become Who You Were Meant to Be" by Rachel Hollis** (Nelson, $22.99) *Last week: 4*
5. **"Whose Boat Is This Boat? Comments That Don't Help in the Aftermath of a Hurricane" by the staff of "The Late Show" with Stephen Colbert** (Simon & Schuster, $14.99) *Last week: 5*
6. **"Magnolia Table: A Collection of Recipes for Gathering" by Joanna Gaines** (William Morrow, $29.99) *Last week: 6*
7. **"Educated: A Memoir" by Tara Westover** (Random House, $28) *Last week: 9*
8. **"Guinness World Records 2019" by Guinness World Records** (Guinness World Records, $28.95) *Last week: 7*
9. **"Killing the SS: The Hunt for the Worst War Criminals in History" by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard** (Henry Holt, $30) *Last week: 8*
10. **"Cook Like a Pro: Recipes and Tips for Home Cooks" by Ina Garten** (Clarkson Potter, $35) *Last week: 10*

For the week ended Dec. 15, compiled from data from independent and chain bookstores, book wholesalers and independent distributors nationwide.

— Publishers Weekly

ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

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Stolen wedding cash leads to dilemma

Dear Amy: A few months ago, my wife and I attended the wedding of one of my employees. It was a large affair, attended by several hundred guests.

My wife and I usually give cash enclosed in a card as a gift. I noticed a few weeks ago that the bride was sending out thank-you cards for her gifts. We did not receive one. Another employee who knows her well told me that she was very upset. Many of the wedding cards that contained money had been stolen, apparently by a close family member. This was discovered after other guests inquired about their gifts.

When we signed the guest book before the wedding, I was assured gifts were safe on the table. This puts all of us in a very awkward position. My employee is embarrassed. She doesn't know who gave her money, hence, whom to thank.

We are concerned that she may think we didn't give a gift at all. Now that we think about it, this actually may have happened to us before, when we also gave cash as a gift and were not thanked.

Any suggestions on how we can help the bride in this situation, as well as put our own minds at ease?

— No Longer Giving Cash

Dear No Longer: First of all, why are you leaving cash lying around, enclosed only in a flimsy little envelope? It is possible that the person who assured you the gifts were safe was the same person who took them.

Some brides carry special bags that match their gowns, specifically meant to collect cards. This would have been a wise move on her part.

In the future, you should at the very least enclose a check, which is harder for a third party to cash.

You should contact your employee directly. Tell her: "I'm so sorry to hear that you had some security problems at your wedding. That is awful. My wife and I enclosed $100 in our card; we just want to make sure that you know the total in case you can recover some of it. I'm very sorry this happened to you, and I hope it doesn't mar your memory of your wedding, which was beautiful."

Dear Amy: We are neighbors with a couple whom we befriended shortly after we moved in. They come off as friendly, but they have poor social skills. We have gone out to dinner with them, have had them over and chat with them in passing.

We've had meals where they will have a long conversation between themselves, where it's hard for my husband and me to get a word in. They often ghost us via text. They abruptly cut off conversations, via text and in person.

The boyfriend is also very pushy with advice. He is very opinionated about projects we take on in our home. The girlfriend once approached me to admire our new baby, then walked away abruptly without speaking to me.

My husband is more forgiving and is friendly with the boyfriend. The boyfriend recently invited us to dinner and said we should hire a baby sitter for our 1-month-old (!). After almost two years of this, I'm done.

We're neighbors, so I know we need to be friendly to some extent. Do I tell them why we're declining their invitations? My husband is entitled to his friendship with the boyfriend, but I'm not interested.

— Fed Up in CA

Dear Fed Up: I think the ideal situation for neighbors is to be friendly but not dive too quickly into friendship, because if the friendship fails, you're stuck next to each other for an indefinite period.

You have a baby, providing you with the perfect reason to pivot. Don't make up excuses; don't paper this over with details. Don't issue invitations. If you are invited/included, just say, "I have a lot going on, so I'm going to have to say no."

Don't discourage your husband from engaging. He has the right to form his own friendships, and you needn't be intimately included in all of them.

Dear Amy: Thank you for suggesting the many ways recipients can thank people for gifts. I don't need a note. A text is fine. But I would love it if people did as you suggested, and recorded a short video of themselves with the gift. That's cool.

— Fan

Dear Fan: It IS cool and in some ways is more fun than receiving a note.

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A national clinical trial is open for patients with late stage lung cancer which has progressed despite treatment with checkpoint inhibitors. A next generation immunotherapy protocol of a novel molecule that activates the patient's immune system is underway.

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Call: 1-855-797-9277

WATCH THIS: SATURDAY

From left, King, Atari and Boss

"Isle of Dogs" (7 p.m., HBO): Told via stop-motion animation, this genre-defying sci-fi dramedy is set in a dystopian near-future Japan, where young Atari (voice of Koyu Rankin) searches for his beloved dog after the breed is banished following an outbreak of canine flu. The voice cast also includes Bryan Cranston, Edward Norton, Bill Murray, Jeff Goldblum and Frances McDormand.

"College Basketball" (2 p.m., CBS): It's the fifth annual CBS Sports Classic, a college basketball doubleheader that features four prominent programs: Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio State, and UCLA. Up first, the Ohio State Buckeyes face the UCLA Bruins. That will be followed by a pair of top-10 teams facing off when the Kentucky Wild Cats meet coach Roy Williams' North Carolina Tar Heels. The games take place on a neutral court at the United Center in Chicago.

"Christmas at Grand Valley" (3 p.m., HMM): Former "The Wonder Years" castmates Danica McKellar and Dan Lauria have a reunion of sorts in this holiday drama that casts McKellar as struggling artist Kelly Riley, who returns to her Wyoming hometown to spend Christmas with her dad, Frank (Lauria), after suffering another career disappointment. Upon arrival, she is dismayed to discover the beloved Grand Valley Lodge is in dire financial straits.

"A Christmas Carol" (5 p.m., TNT): Selfish heart need softening? Make it so. Patrick Stewart ("Star Trek: The Next Generation") brings one of his favorite roles to the small screen in this 1999 adaptation of the Dickens classic. As miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, reformed by a Christmas Eve tour of his past, present and future, he's surrounded by an excellent supporting cast and impressive effects. Joel Grey plays the Ghost of Christmas Past.

"Jingle Around the Clock" (7 p.m., Hallmark): Driven ad executive Elle Bennett (Brooke Nevin) has her eyes set on an imminent promotion at her office, so she is less than thrilled when her boss, Fiona (Catherine Lough Haggquist), advises Elle she's bringing in someone from their New York office to handle a problem. She wants Elle to work with their handsome visitor, Max Turner (Michael Cassidy), but this being a romantic comedy, the pair almost instantly are at loggerheads.

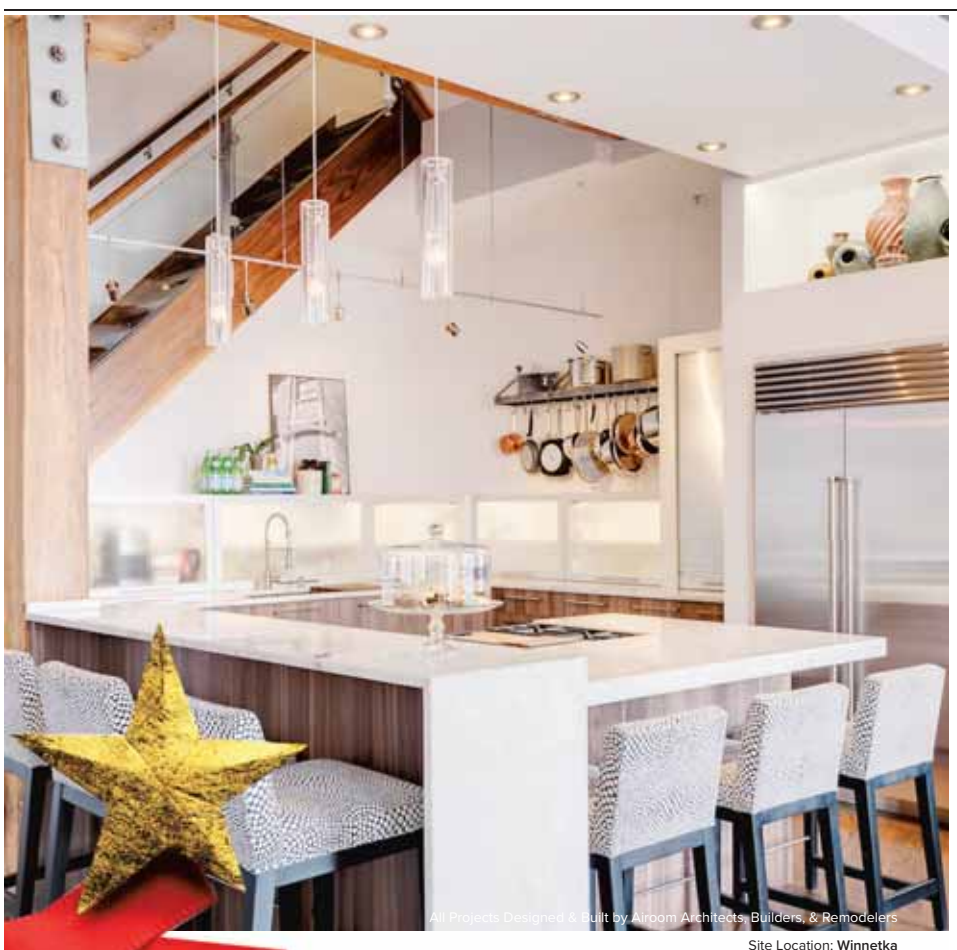
"Home Alone" (7 p.m., Starz): Hollywood should have left "Alone" alone after this hit 1990 comedy, to which the sequels don't hold a holiday candle. Macaulay Culkin stars as a youngster who is mistakenly left home alone when his family leaves for Paris at Christmastime. When two burglars break in, he foils their attempts to rob the house by constructing elaborate traps. Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern, John Heard, Roberts Blossom, Catherine O'Hara and John Candy also star.

Hey, TV lovers: Looking for detailed show listings? TV Weekly is an ideal companion. To subscribe, go to **www.tvweekly.com** or call 1-877-580-4159

SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 22

MOVIES

	PM		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS	2	NCIS: "Fallout." © HD		FBI: "Green Birds." © HD		48 Hours: "Live to Tell: Trafficked." © HD		News (N) ♦
BROADCAST	NBC	5	Dateline NBC © HD				Saturday Night Live (N) © HD		NBC 5 News at 10pm (N)
BROADCAST	ABC	7	CMA Country Christmas © HD				The Alec Baldwin Show (N) © HD		Eyewitness News (N) ♦
BROADCAST	WGN	9	Stellar Tribute to the Holidays © HD		America Salutes You: Guitar Legends		WGN Weekend News at Nine (N) (Live) © HD		Man of the People (N)
BROADCAST	Antenna	9.2	Morning	McHale	Knows Best	Jack Benny	Burns/Allen	Jeannie	Bewitched
BROADCAST	This TV	9.3	The Saint ©		The Saint ©		The Saint: "Sophia." ©		The Saint ♦
BROADCAST	PBS	11	800 Words ©		Father Brown: "The Devil You Know." ©		Maigret: "Maigret's Dead Man." ©		
BROADCAST	The U	26.1	King of Hill	King of Hill	Family Guy	Family Guy	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad
BROADCAST	MeTV	26.3	Svengoolie: "Have Rocket, Will Travel." ©				Lost in Space ©		B. Rogers ♦
BROADCAST	H&I	26.4	Hunter: "Naked Justice."		Hunter: "Naked Justice."		Hunter		Hill Street ♦
BROADCAST	Bounce	26.5	♦ Assault on Precinct 13 (R)		Tyler Perry's I Can Do Bad All By Myself (PG-13,'09) ★★				
BROADCAST	FOX	32	Boxing: Premier Boxing Champions. Charlo vs. Korobov, interim WBC 160-pound title; Charlo vs. Harrison, WBC 154-pound title. (N)					Fox 32 News	Bears Unleashed
BROADCAST	Ion	38	♦ A Snow White Christmas		A Christmas Mystery (NR,'14) Esmé Bianco. HD				Christmas ♦
BROADCAST	TeleM	44	♦ Madagascar 3: Wanted		Gods of Egypt (PG-13,'16) ★ Nikolaj Coster-Waldau.				Noticiero
BROADCAST	CW	50	Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago P.D.: "Ghosts."		Dateline © HD		Dateline ♦
BROADCAST	UniMas	60	♦ (6:30) Wild Card (NR,'14) ★★			The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (PG,'13) ★★			
BROADCAST	WJYS	62	Paid Prog.	Moses	Bishop	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.
BROADCAST	Univ	66	Los Diez Mandamientos				La gran sorpresa		Noticias ♦
CABLE	AE		♦ (6) Live PD ©		Live PD: "Top 40 Moments of 2018, Part 2." (N) ©				Live PD ♦
CABLE	AMC		National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation ('89) ★★★				National Lamp. Christmas ♦		
CABLE	ANIM		Amanda to the Rescue: Picks of the Litter (Series Premiere) (N)				Red Ape: Saving		Amanda ♦
CABLE	BBCA		Sherlock: "The Reichenbach Fall." ©				Killing Eve: "Nice Face."		Killing Eve ♦
CABLE	BET		Movie						What's Lv ♦
CABLE	BIGTEN		College Basketball: Illinois vs Missouri. (N) (Live) ©				The B1G Show (N) ©		The B1G
CABLE	BRAVO		♦ (6:57) Buying It Blind		Sweet Home (Season Finale) (N) ©		Get a Room w/Carson (Season Finale) (N)		Get Hard ♦
CABLE	CLTV		News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	Chic.Best	Weekend	News (N)
CABLE	CNBC		Undercover Boss ©		Undercover Boss ©		Undercover Boss ©		Boss ♦
CABLE	CNN		CNN Special Report (N)		Death Row Stories ©		Death Row Stories ©		Death Row ♦
CABLE	COM		♦ (6:30) Hall Pass (R,'11) ★★ Owen Wilson. ©				Talladega Nights: Ricky Bobby ♦		
CABLE	DISC		Deadliest Catch ©		Deadliest Catch ©		Deadliest Catch ©		Catch ♦
CABLE	DISN		Beethoven's Christmas Adventure ('11)			Coop	Coop	Raven	Raven
CABLE	E!		♦ (5) The Parent Trap ★★★		The Parent Trap (PG,'98) ★★★ Lindsay Lohan, Dennis Quaid. © ♦				
CABLE	ESPN		♦ (6) College Football: Dollar General Bowl -- Buffalo vs Troy. (N) ©					College Football (N) ♦	
CABLE	ESPN2		♦ College Basketball (N)		College Basketball: Kansas at Arizona State. (N) ©				SportCtr (N)
CABLE	FNC		Watters' World (N) ©		Justice With Jeanine (N)		Greg Gutfeld (N)		Watters ♦
CABLE	FOOD		Holiday Baking		Holiday Baking		Holiday Baking		Baking ♦
CABLE	FREE		♦ (6:45) The Santa Clause (PG,'94) ★★★ Tim Allen. ©				Santa Clause 3: Escape Clause ♦		
CABLE	FX		Transformers: Age of Extinction (PG-13,'14) ★★ Mark Wahlberg, Stanley Tucci. ©						
CABLE	HALL		Jingle Around the Clock (NR,'18) Brooke Nevin. ©				Pride, Prejudice and Mistletoe ('18) ♦		
CABLE	HGTV		Love It or List It ©		Love It or List It ©		House Hunters Reno (N)		Log Cabin
CABLE	HIST		Forged in Fire: The 12 Cuts of Christmas: "BC Blades." ©						Forged ♦
CABLE	HLN		Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
CABLE	IFC		My Cousin Vinny (R,'92) ★★★ Joe Pesci, Marisa Tomei. ©					My Cousin Vinny ★★★ ♦	
CABLE	LIFE		A Golden Christmas (NR,'09) ★★ Andrea Roth. ©				(9:03) Hometown Christmas ('18) © ♦		
CABLE	MSNBC		All In With Chris Hayes		Rachel Maddow Show		The Last Word		11th Hour ♦
CABLE	MTV		Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Bad Santa (R,'03) ★★★ Tony Cox © ♦		
CABLE	NBCSCH		Luge: FIL World Cup. From Lake Placid, N.Y. (Tape)				Bobsledding (Tape)		Boxing ♦
CABLE	NICK		Albert (NR,'16) ©		SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ♦
CABLE	OVATION		♦ (6) Apollo 13 (PG,'95) ★★★ Tom Hanks, Bill Paxton.				Tango & Cash (R,'89) ★★ © ♦		
CABLE	OWN		Iyanla, Fix My Life ©		Chad Loves Michelle (N)		Ready to Love (N)		Iyanla ♦
CABLE	OXY		Snapped: Killer Couples		Snapped: Killer Couples		Killer Couples ©		Killer ♦
CABLE	PARMT		♦ (5) Star Trek Beyond ★★★		Star Trek Beyond (PG-13,'16) ★★★ Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto. © ♦				
CABLE	SYFY		(7:15) Santa's Slay (R,'05) ★ Bill Goldberg. ©				Happy!: "Saint Nick." ©		Happy! © ♦
CABLE	TBS		Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Full ♦
CABLE	TCM		Remember the Night (NR,'40) ★★★ Barbara Stanwyck.				Christmas in Connecticut ('45) ★★ © ♦		
CABLE	TLC		Say Yes to the Dress ©		Say Yes to the Dress ©		Say Yes to the Dress ©		Say Yes ♦
CABLE	TLN		Exalted	Pacific Garden Mission		In Grace	Humanitarian		Pure Pas
CABLE	TNT		The Wizard of Oz (G,'39) ★★★★ Judy Garland.				(9:15) Fred Claus (PG,'07) ★★ ♦		
CABLE	TOON		Gumball	Gumball	Dragon Ball	Dragon Ball	Dragon Ball	Dragon Ball	Dragon Ball
CABLE	TRAV		Ghost Adventures ©		Ghost Adventures (N) ©		Ghost Adventures ©		Ghost ♦
CABLE	TVL		Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	King
CABLE	USA		♦ (6:03) Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG-13,'05) ★★★					Harry Potter-Phoenix ♦	
CABLE	VH1		♦ (6:30) Movie ©				How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days ★★ ♦		
CABLE	WE		Criminal Minds ©		Criminal Minds ©		Criminal Minds ©		Criminal ♦
CABLE	WGN America		Blue Bloods ©		Blue Bloods ©		Blue Bloods ©		Blue Blood ♦
PREMIUM	HBO		Isle of Dogs (PG-13,'18) ★★★ ©			(8:45) Tomb Raider (PG-13,'18) ★★ Alicia Vikander. ♦			
PREMIUM	HBO2		♦ Sally4Ever	Sherlock Holmes (PG-13,'09) ★★ Robert Downey Jr.				REAL Sports Gumbel ♦	
PREMIUM	MAX		The Bourne Identity (PG-13,'02) ★★★ Matt Damon. ©				The Bourne Supremacy ('04) ★★★ © ♦		
PREMIUM	SHO		Spotlight (R,'15) ★★★ Mark Ruffalo. ©				(9:10) Patriots Day (R,'16) ★★★ © ♦		
PREMIUM	STARZ		Home Alone (PG,'90) ★★★ ©			(8:45) Home Alone 2: Lost in New York ('92) ★★ ♦			
PREMIUM	STZENC		♦ Inside Out	(7:22) Showtime (PG-13,'02) ★			Black Sails: "XI." ©		Passenger ♦



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AT ETERNITY'S GATE (PG13) 12:00 5:00
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some material may not be suitable for children
PG-13 Parents Strongly Cautioned
Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13
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NC-17 No children under 17 admitted

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Horoscopes

Today's birthday (Dec. 22): Together you can move mountains this year. You're a powerful force when committed. Fall in love without warning. Your leadership this winter supports family past a financial obstacle. Take a partnership to new levels next summer, before shifting focus with a personal project.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 7. Renovate, remodel and tend your garden. Domestic changes require adaptation under the Cancer full moon. Begin a new home and family phase.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. A new phase in communications, connection and intellectual discovery dawns with this full moon. Shift the direction of your research. Start a new chapter.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 9. Profitable opportunities bloom under the full moon. A turning point arises around income and finances. Cash flows both in and out. Keep track.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 8. This full moon in your sign illuminates a new personal direction. Push your own boundaries and limitations. Turn toward a possibility that inspires you.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 6. One door closes as another opens. This full moon in Cancer shines on a spiritual fork in the road. Ritual and symbolism provide comfort.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 7. This full moon illuminates a new social phase. Friends come and go with community and group projects. Share appreciations, greetings and goodbyes.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 8. Finish a project before beginning a new professional phase. This full moon sparks a shift in your career. Focus on current passions.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 7. Begin another phase in an exploration. The Cancer full moon illuminates your educational direction. Experiment with concepts. Go to the source. Learn from a master.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 8. The stakes could seem high with this full moon. Shift directions with shared finances over the next two weeks. Work out the next phase together.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 7. Reach a turning point in a partnership with this full moon. Compromise and collaborate for shared commitments to pass an obstacle or barrier.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 7. Shifting conditions can affect your physical health and fitness with this full moon. Review and revamp your skills and practices. Look for ways to increase fun.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 6. Change directions with a romance, passion or creative endeavor under this full moon in Cancer. Express your heart, imagination and artistry. Shift perspectives.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater By Scott Hilburn

Bliss By Harry Bliss

"Who peed on my snowman?!"

Bridge

Both vulnerable, South deals

North
♠ 8 4
♥ A 2
♦ Q 3
♣ K Q 10 9 7 5 3

West
♠ J 9 7 5 2
♥ 9 7 5
♦ 8 7 4
♣ 8 4

East
♠ A 6 3
♥ K 10 8 4
♦ K J 10 9
♣ A 6

South
♠ K Q 10
♥ Q J 6 3
♦ A 6 5 2
♣ J 2

"Master Bridge" was a 14-episode TV series produced in the United Kingdom in 1983. It featured team competition, for prize money, between eight international stars of the time, including the late Omar Sharif. A careful search will find them on YouTube. Sharif was South, in today's deal, the final deal in the Master Bridge series.

East won the opening spade lead with the ace. He knew that partner was broke, so he had to find a way to defeat the contract in his own hand. East found a spectacular shift to the king of hearts! He was attacking dummy's entry to the long club suit. Sharif played low from his hand and won the trick with dummy's ace. East ducked the first club, won the second, and reverted to spades, leading the six.

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All pass

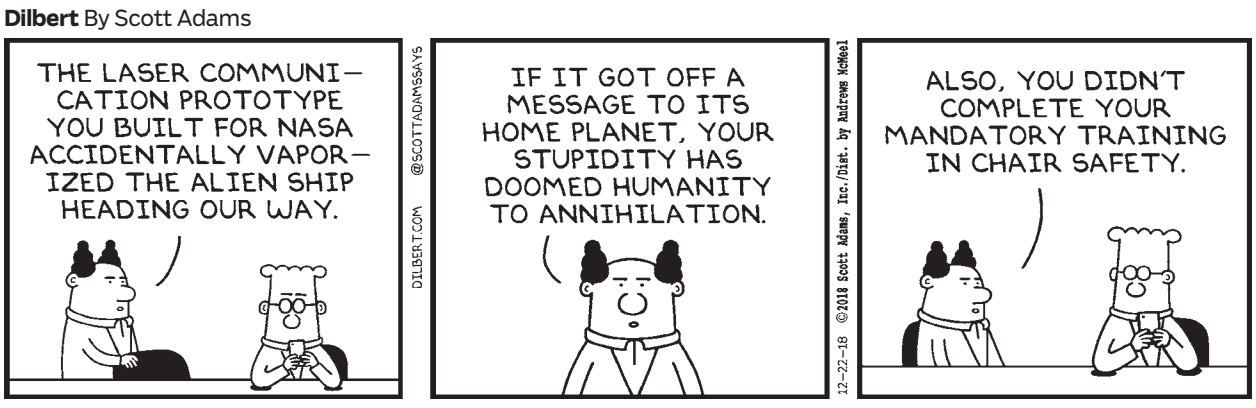
Opening lead: Five of ♠

Sharif won with the king and tried to execute an end play. He cashed the queen of spades, followed by the queen and jack of hearts. East played his last spade, and then the eight and 10 of hearts. Sharif led the six of hearts for the end play, but East deftly followed suit with the carefully preserved four! No end play and down one for Sharif.

The same contract was defeated at the other table also after the same lovely defense. Could it have been made? Yes. Declarer would have prevailed had he played his six of hearts under the king at trick two. He would then have been able to end play East by leading his three of hearts to East's four.

— Bob Jones
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

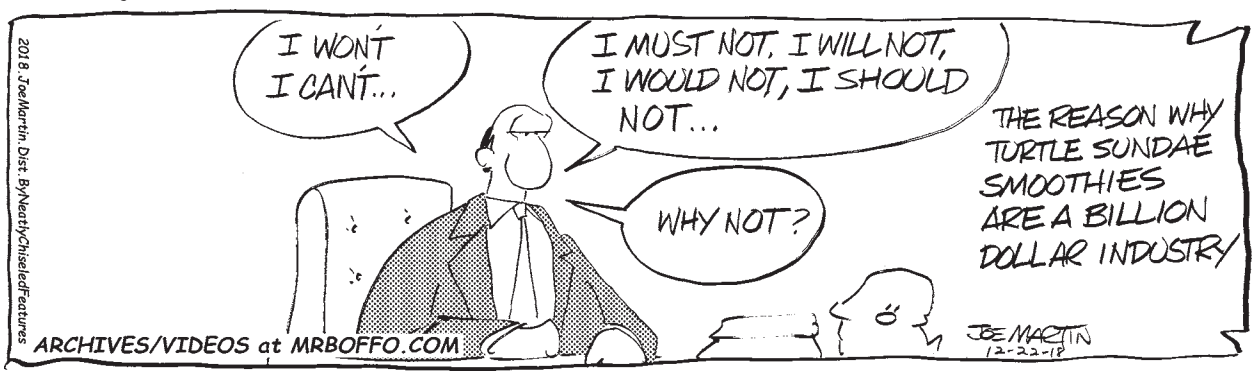
Dilbert By Scott Adams



Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

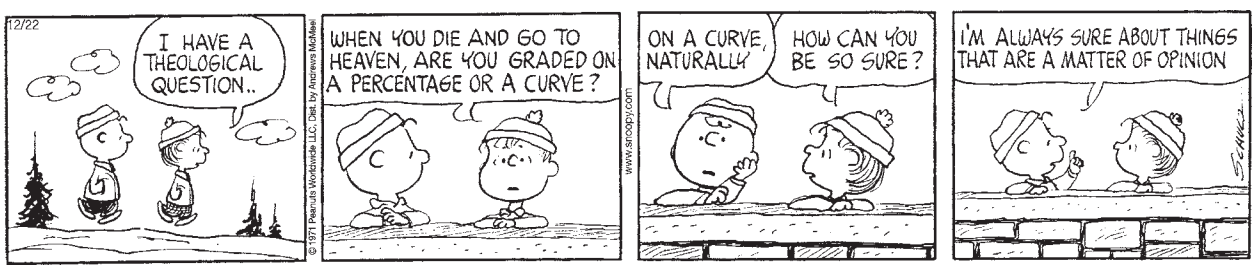
Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman

Mr. Boffo By Joe Martin

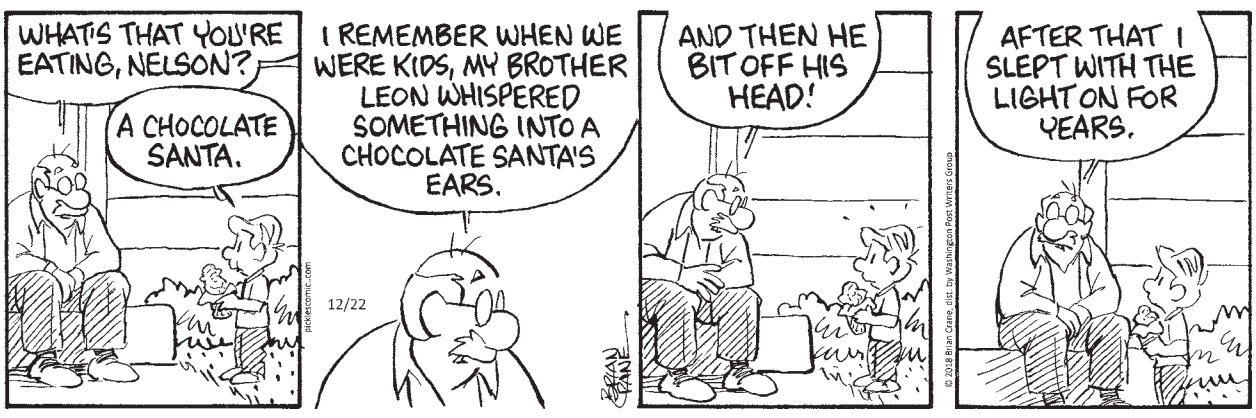


Frazz By Jef Mallett

Classic Peanuts By Charles Schulz

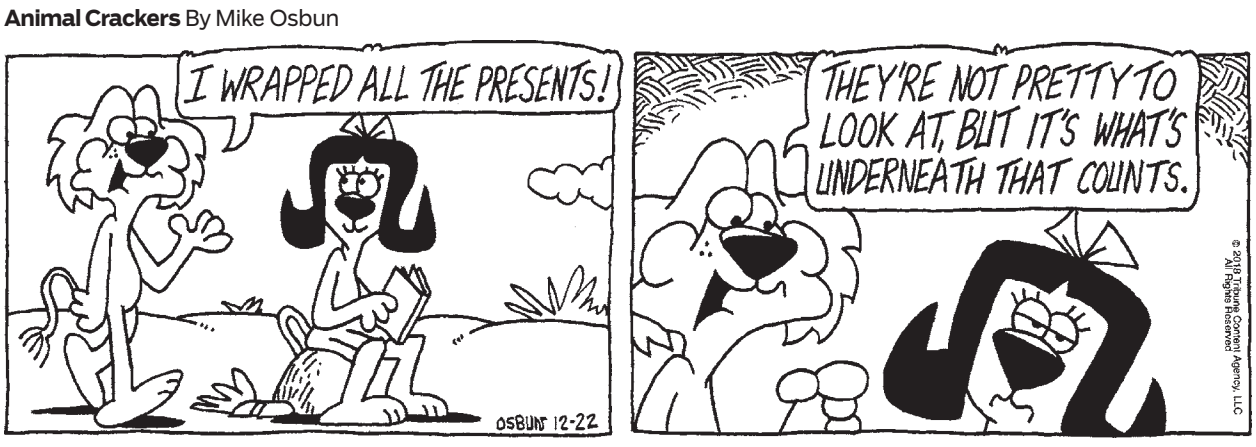


Pickles By Brian Crane

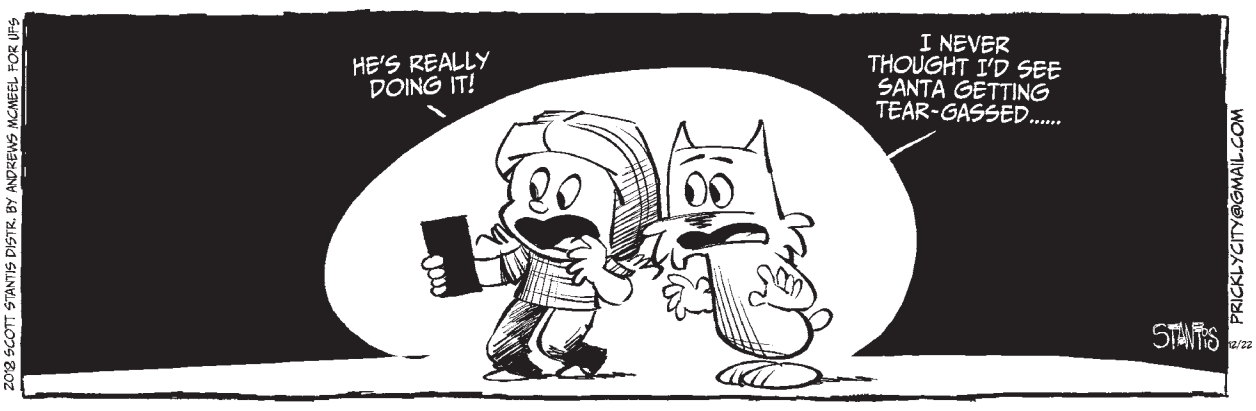


Dick Tracy By Joe Staton and Mike Curtis

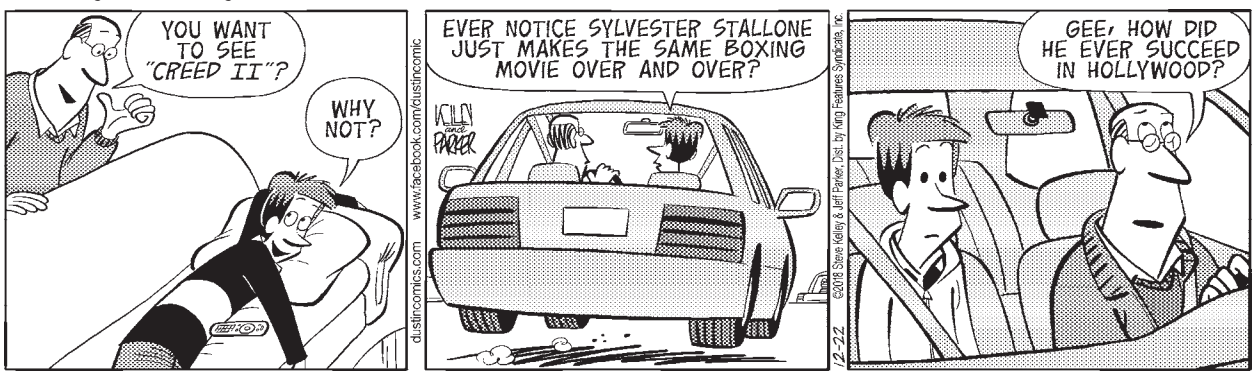
Animal Crackers By Mike Osbun



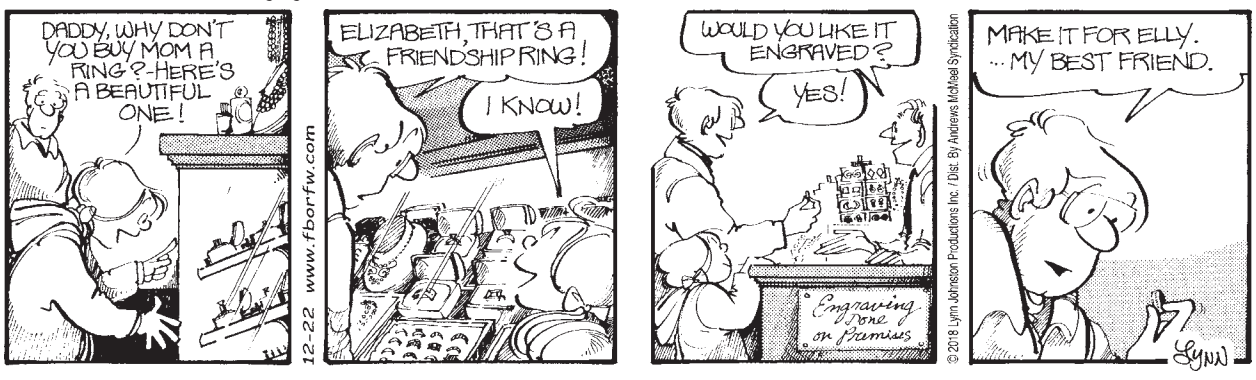
Prickly City By Scott Stantis



Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



For Better or for Worse By Lynn Johnston

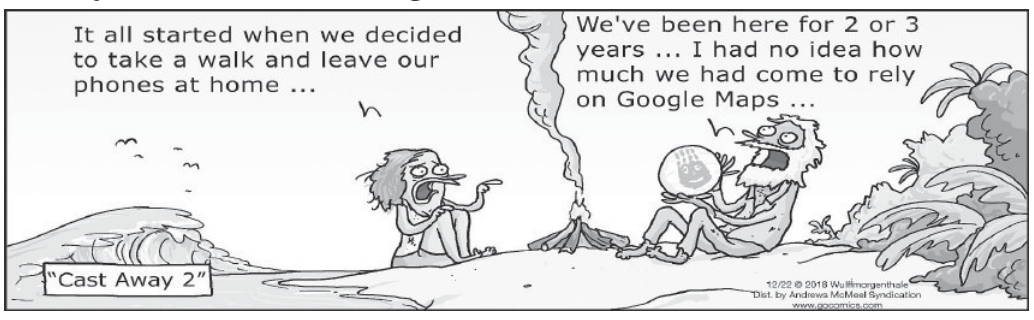


Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall

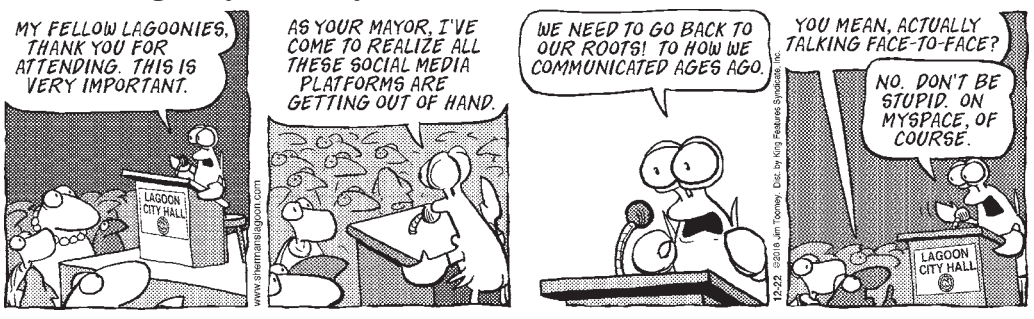
Hägar the Horrible By Chris Browne

Mutts By Patrick McDonnell

WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler

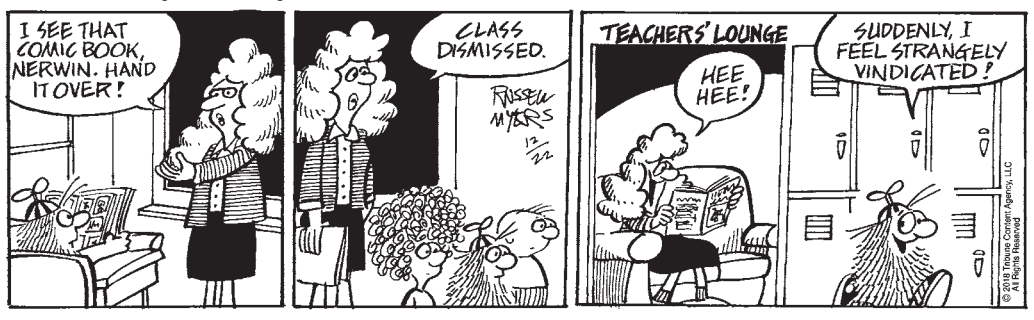


Sherman's Lagoon By Jim Toomey



Brewster Rockit: Space Guy! By Tim Rickard

Broom-Hilda By Russell Myers



Trivia Bits

After carefully reading descriptions in the text, the American Viola Society claims that what literary detective played the viola — and not the violin?

A) Father Brown
B) Sherlock Holmes
C) Miss Marple
D) Hercule Poirot

Friday's answer: The boat used in "The African Queen" is now docked in Key Largo, Florida.

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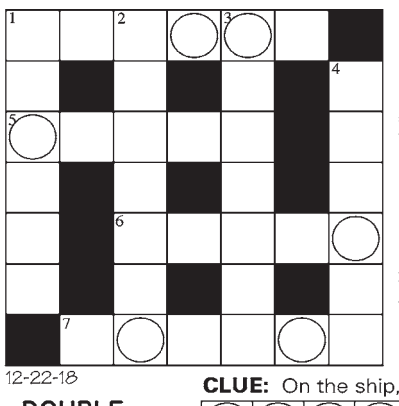
Jumble Crossword



12-22-18

ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. South African seaport	ABUNDR
5. Accumulate	SMSAA
6. Phone greeting	LHOLE
7. Stick	EERDHA

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Cleric	CODENA
2. Arrived at	ARCEEDH
3. Pardon	BLOVASE
4. Restfulness, calm	EEOSRP

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

DOUBLE BONUS

The circled letters can be unscrambled to form two different BONUS answers.

CLUE: On the ship, plane, etc.

CLUE: Overseas

I would love to hear from you... You can e-mail me at: DLHoyt@aol.com

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ANSWERS: 1A-Durban 5A-Amass 6A-Hello 7A-Adhere 1D-Deacon 2D-Reached 3D-Absolve 4D-Repose 5D-Abroad 6D-Abroad

By David L. Hoyt.

Sudoku 1234

12/22

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

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

Friday's solutions

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

By The Mepham Group

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Jumble

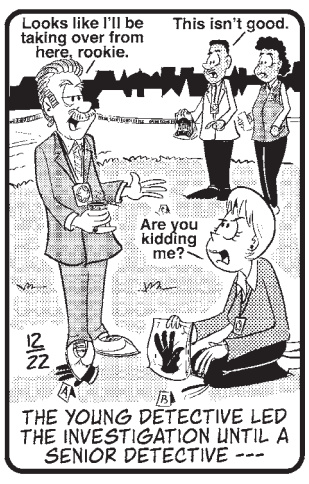
Unscramble the four Jumbles, one letter per square, to form four words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.

OOFGR

LSLAT

ROCNUC

CELHKE



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Answer here

Friday's answers

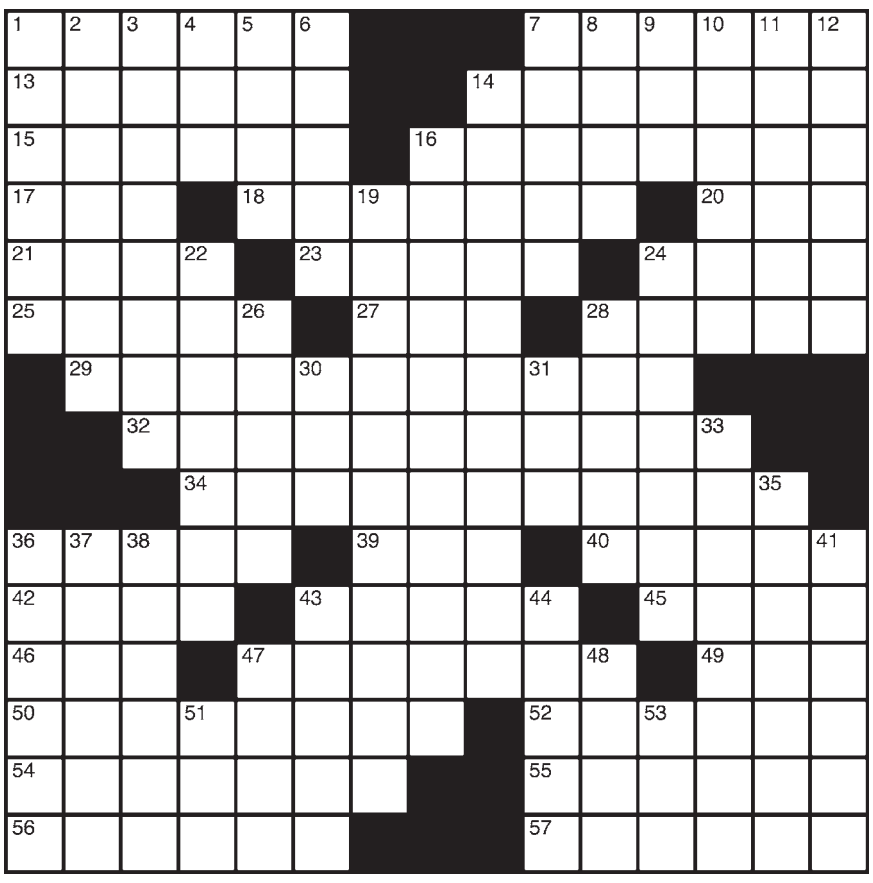
Jumbles: HABIT DEPTH BUTANE WALNUT

Answer: He checked the knots for tightness to see if they'd learned — WHAT HE'D "TAUT"

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

Crossword

12/22



Across

1 Hypoallergenic wool
7 Chinese way of life
13 Be the victim of a slaying?
14 Taiwanese drink originally made with milk and tapioca pearls
15 Sports cheaters
16 Series of celebratory visits
17 Squeeze (out)
18 Fixes, as a pump
20 Green span
21 Convention
23 Because it fits
24 Cat's hangout
25 Prominent parade brass
27 The Cuban?
28 Wolf in "The Jungle Book"
29 Kicks back
32 Place for a frozen treat
34 Response to a welcome return
36 Apps with errors
39 Avril follower
40 Stopped lying
42 Drained of color
43 Sharp picker-upper
45 Put under
46 Early Melotone Records competitor
47 Produce aisle option
49 Turn sharply
50 Factor in exit velocity, in baseball
52 Wore thin
54 Life-saving devices, at times
55 In a calm manner
56 Make drinkable, in a way
57 Two-day trip, often

Down

1 Deeply devoted
2 Guard
3 Checkout choice
4 Equal
5 __ Fire: 230,000-acre Northern California conflagration of 2018
6 Bewildered
7 Maguire of "Spider-Man"
8 Early lesson
9 Boat mover
10 Ballet's birthplace, to Parisians
11 "Black Beauty" author
12 __ Fund: org. supporting girls' education founded by a 2014 Nobelist
14 Informal discussion
16 Side with a dog
19 Elmore Leonard novel whose title overlaps itself on some covers
22 Step aside
24 "Sweet Home Alabama" band, familiarly
26 Four-time Australian Open champ
28 Carne __
30 Finger-pointing uncle
31 Enjoyed a roll
33 Hazardous area for a bicyclist passing a parked car
35 By and large
36 Like fishhooks, as a rule
37 Pen pals' plan?
38 "In other words ... "
41 Dip popular at Easter
43 16th-century council site
44 African country with rich uranium deposits
47 German auto
48 Dock setting
51 Mother's Day destination
53 Talk acronym

Friday's solution

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By C.C. Burnikel. Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis.

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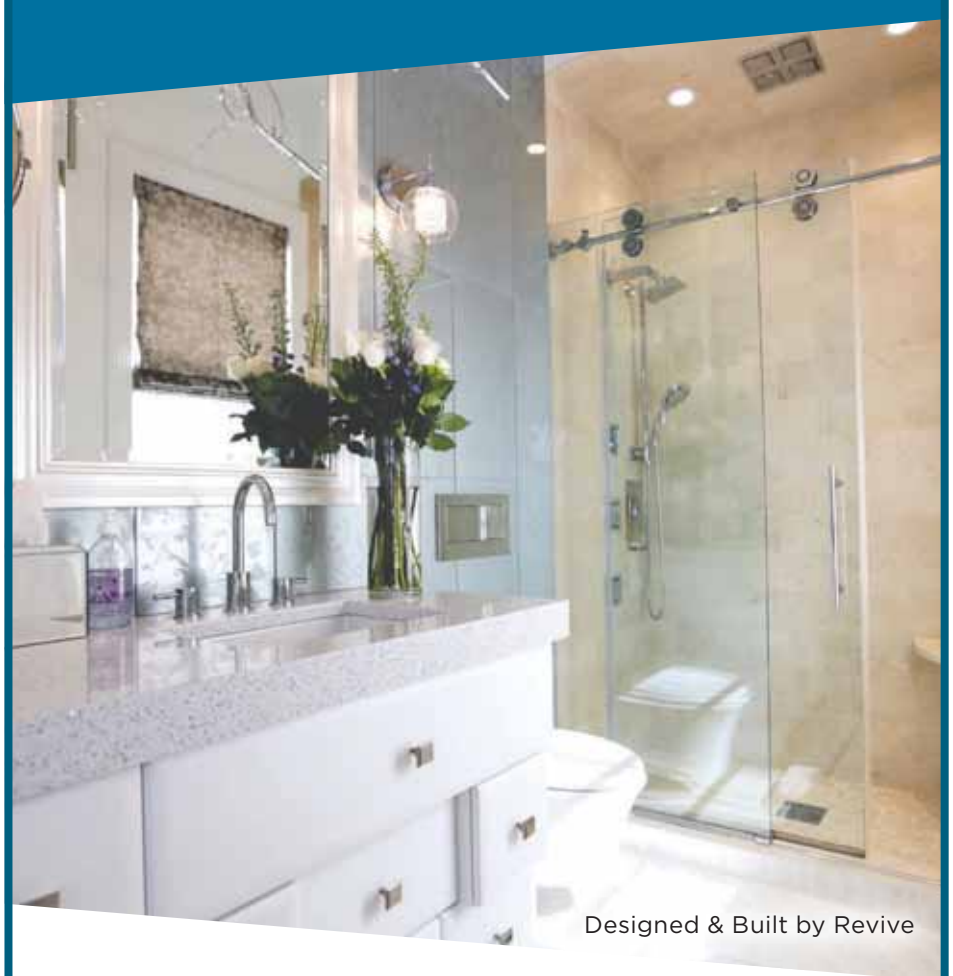

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Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO SPORTS

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

BEARS

Bonus: Long back on field

Injured guard practices with eye on being ready for playoffs

By Rich Campbell
Chicago Tribune

Injured Bears guard Kyle Long watched Sunday as his teammates beat the Packers to complete their worst-to-first turnaround by clinching the NFC North. On Friday, the sixth-year veteran took an important step toward rejoining them for the playoffs.

The Bears designated Long to return from injured reserve, and he practiced for the first time since injuring his right foot and ankle Oct. 28.

"It felt good to be in a helmet and running around," Long said. "I don't feel like a ghost in the building, which is nice."

Friday began a 21-day window in which Long can practice before the team must determine whether to move him to the active roster, at which point he could play in games. They could activate him at any time, but it would be logical for the Bears to target their first playoff game, the date of which is not determined.

For now, Long will work back into football shape and see how his foot and ankle respond to increased activity.

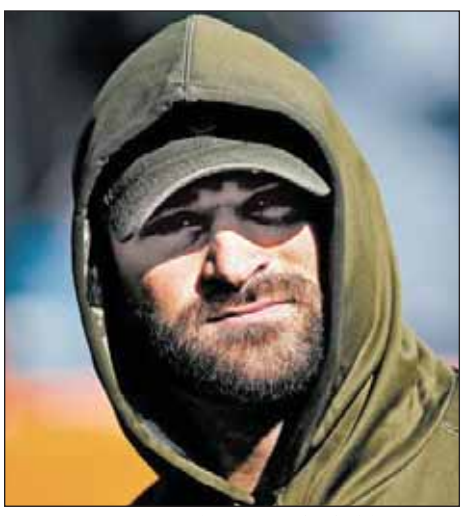
"I've got to make it so I'm less out of breath the next day than I was before," he said. "The training staff has done a great job here keeping me as prepared as possible. Obviously, there's no timeline. We're just trying to work forward and progress every day."

Long was injured against the Jets when

Turn to **Bears, Page 4**

GAME 15
Bears at 49ers
3:05 p.m. Sunday, FOX-32

■ First-time Pro Bowler Hicks calls selection "an awesomefeeling." **Page 4**



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Kyle Long has been a spectator since injuring his right foot and ankle in Week 7 vs. the Jets. He returned to practice Friday.

CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Forward Lauri Markkanen (24) drains a 3-pointer in the first half of his 32-point game, which helped the Bulls beat the Magic.

BULLS 90, MAGIC 80

Top of the list

'Tis the season high: Markkanen's 32 key victory over Magic

By K.C. Johnson | Chicago Tribune

The Bulls checked their holiday to-do list and remembered they have this weapon named Lauri Markkanen.

After taking just six shots Wednesday in a loss to the Nets, Markkanen scored a season-high 32 points on 20 shots in the Bulls' 90-80 victory over the Magic on Friday at the United Center.

"We emphasized making sure he gets the ball," Kris Dunn said. "He's a great player for us. When he's aggressive, good things happen."

Markkanen attempted seven shots in the first quarter as the Bulls made him a focal point. Unfortunately for the Bulls, he missed six.

But then came three quick 3-pointers in the second quarter, and by the time Markkanen dunked over Nikola Vucevic in the third and drew a technical for taunting, he had made eight straight shots.

It was Markkanen's third 30-point effort and first since he scored a career-high 33 in his coming-out game Jan. 10 at Madison Square Garden.

"I think I can do multiple things," Markkanen said. "If you take one thing away from me, I can do other stuff. We did a good job recognizing their coverages and using them to our advantage."

No shot proved bigger than Markkanen's free-throw-line jumper with 40 seconds left after the Magic had whittled a 15-point deficit to five.

The midrange shot capped a night in which Markkanen displayed his entire

Turn to **Bulls, Page 2**

UP NEXT
Bulls at Cavaliers
5 p.m. Sunday, NBCSCH

HAWKS 2, AVALANCHE 1

Hawks stay hot as Delia stands out

Rookie goalie frustrates Avs, sparks 4th victory in last 6

By Jimmy Greenfield | Chicago Tribune

DENVER — A dozen or so stitches in the shape of a boomerang are holding together a cut on the bridge of Connor Murphy's nose.

Both of his eyes, the right one in particular, have begun to turn a deepening shade of black and blue.

These alterations to Murphy's face were courtesy of an elbow the Stars' Tyler Pitlick delivered Thursday near the end of the Blackhawks' 5-2 win.

Considering the Hawks' track record of losing players to head injuries over the last couple of weeks, Murphy came away relatively unscathed. There was no talk of a concussion, and he was in the lineup Friday when the Hawks faced the Avalanche at the the Pepsi Center.

"(I'm) good to go," Murphy said before the game.

So was the rest of the team.

Artem Anisimov's tap-in goal early in the third period lifted the Hawks to a thrilling 2-1 victory for their second Central Division road win in as many nights.

Rookie goalie Collin Delia, making his first start of the season, was brilliant, stopping 35 Avs shots for his second career win. The Hawks are 4-1-1 in their last six games.

"It's so hard to win in this league," Delia

Turn to **Blackhawks, Page 6**

UP NEXT
Panthers at Blackhawks
6 p.m. Sunday, WGN-9

ILLINOIS BASKETBALL

Former Illini Smith expects to hear boos

Missouri transfer likely to get earful at Braggin' Rights game

By Shannon Ryan | Chicago Tribune

Boos in the arena during the annual rivalry game between Illinois and Missouri are certain. But sometimes the jeers are personal.

Last season, Illinois fans directed ire at former Illini commit Jeremiah Tilmon, who decided instead to play for Missouri after Illinois fired John Groce. On Saturday night in St. Louis, the boos likely will be aimed at Mark Smith.

The former Illini player who transferred to Mizzou is ready for it.

"I remember last year Jeremiah got booed. I wasn't paying attention to it that much," Smith told reporters in St. Louis on Friday. "I might hear the first one. That's about it."

The Braggin' Rights game at Enterprise Center will feature three Tigers starters, all from the St. Louis Metro East area, who once planned to play together in orange and blue.

Like East St. Louis' Tilmon, Javon Pickett of Belleville East switched to Missouri after Groce's firing.

"We all wanted to go to the same school and play together," Smith said of the trio. "That was the goal."

Smith arrived at Illinois with much fanfare. He was fresh off an outstanding senior season at Edwardsville that saw him

Turn to **Illinois, Page 3**

UP NEXT
Missouri vs. Illinois
7 p.m. Saturday, BTN

BEARS

Markkanen scores 32 to pace win

Bulls, *from* **Page 1**

offensive arsenal. He sank four 3-pointers. He scored on a floater. He posted up. He dunked.

"I think that's part of just getting my legs back under me," he said. "Knowing they're going to run me off (the 3-point line), so I feel like I have some explosiveness. I was out a long time. Now I feel fresher."

The Bulls posted 23 assists to just 10 turnovers, with Ryan Arcidiacono tying his career-high with eight assists. Dunn recovered from badly rolling his right ankle in the first quarter to add 12 points, eight rebounds and seven assists.

"Kris had unbelievable poise in the pocket," coach Jim Boylen said. "He had command of what I want. We had great synergy. Man, I felt like I had a captain, a leader out there. I'm really happy because that's something we've been talking about and working on."

Justin Holiday's franchise-record of 43 games with at least one 3-pointer ended when he missed all five attempts.

The Magic return to the United Center on Jan. 2 and by then, maybe Jabari Parker can have a normal night. Then again, Parker might be on another team.

For the second time in eight days, mild drama surrounded Parker at a Bulls-Magic matchup.

In an NBA Global Games matchup Dec. 13 in Mexico City, Boylen demoted Parker from the rotation, playing him just 4 minutes and only because Chandler Hutchison missed the game with an illness. Parker hasn't played since, missing his fourth straight game Friday. One came by coach's decision, two were to a stomach illness and on Friday, Boylen went out of his way to make clear Parker chose not to dress despite practicing Thursday.

"He does not feel his conditioning is where it needs to be for him to play," Boylen said.

Contrast that statement to Boylen's answer when asked about the versatility of Hutchison, the small forward who played some backup power forward Friday because Bobby Portis is injured and Parker sat.

"I love him in the lineup," Boylen said. "He's a competitor. He's all the things we talk about. He's coachable. He's teachable. And he's becoming reliable. His heart's here. His soul is awesome. It's great."

It doesn't take a tea-leaf reader to know how Boylen feels about Parker, who is being shopped. An accessible Parker downplayed everything.

"Just trying to get in shape," he said. "When I come in, I want to contribute. It ain't trying to be for a less amount. I hold myself to a high standard and I try to do my best to contribute to the team. So that's where I'm at. Get a few practices in and hopefully see how Cleveland goes when I go there (Sunday)."

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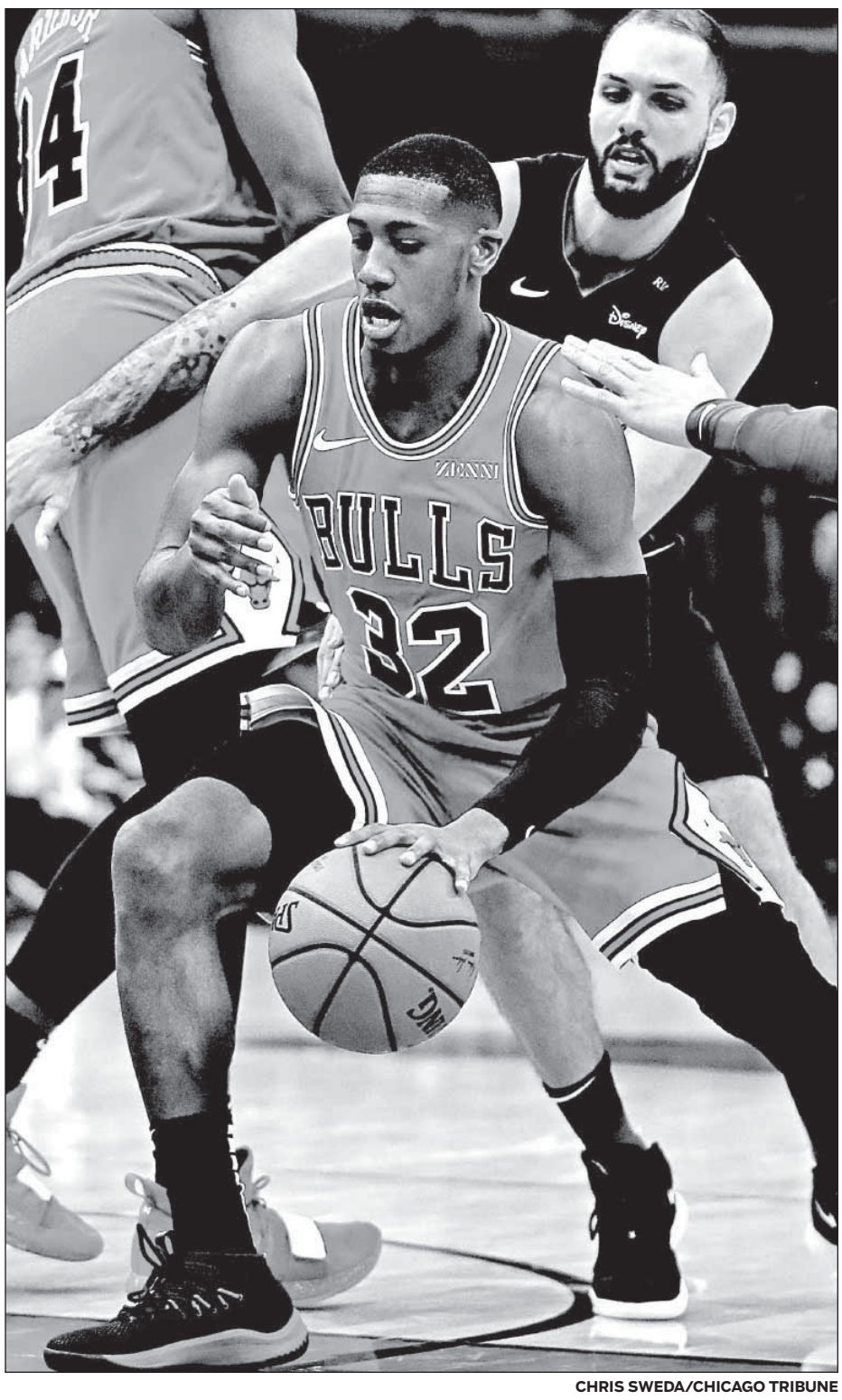


CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Kris Dunn (32) drives past a Magic defender in the first half of the Bulls' victory Friday night at the United Center. Dunn finished with 12 points and seven assists.

BULLS NOTES

Portis vows to overcome latest hurdle

By K.C. Johnson | Chicago Tribune

Given that Bobby Portis rolled his right ankle, walked off the court and straight to the locker room Wednesday night, the fourth-year forward knew he would be missing more time.

"As soon as I did it, I knew something wasn't right," Portis said Friday before the Bulls-Magic game at the United Center in his first comments since suffering his second injury of the season. "Obviously, the toughness in me was to try to tough it out. Then I kept walking more and more."

The Bulls said Portis will miss two to four weeks. He suffered the injury in just his fifth game back from missing nearly seven weeks with a sprained MCL in his right knee.

"I'm always mentally strong," Portis said. "The best thing is that it wasn't my knee again. Obviously, ankles are just things that happen all the time in basketball. But I'm getting good treatment every day. I'm starting to feel better.

"I'm going where the rehab takes me. I don't have any targets. Just taking my time."

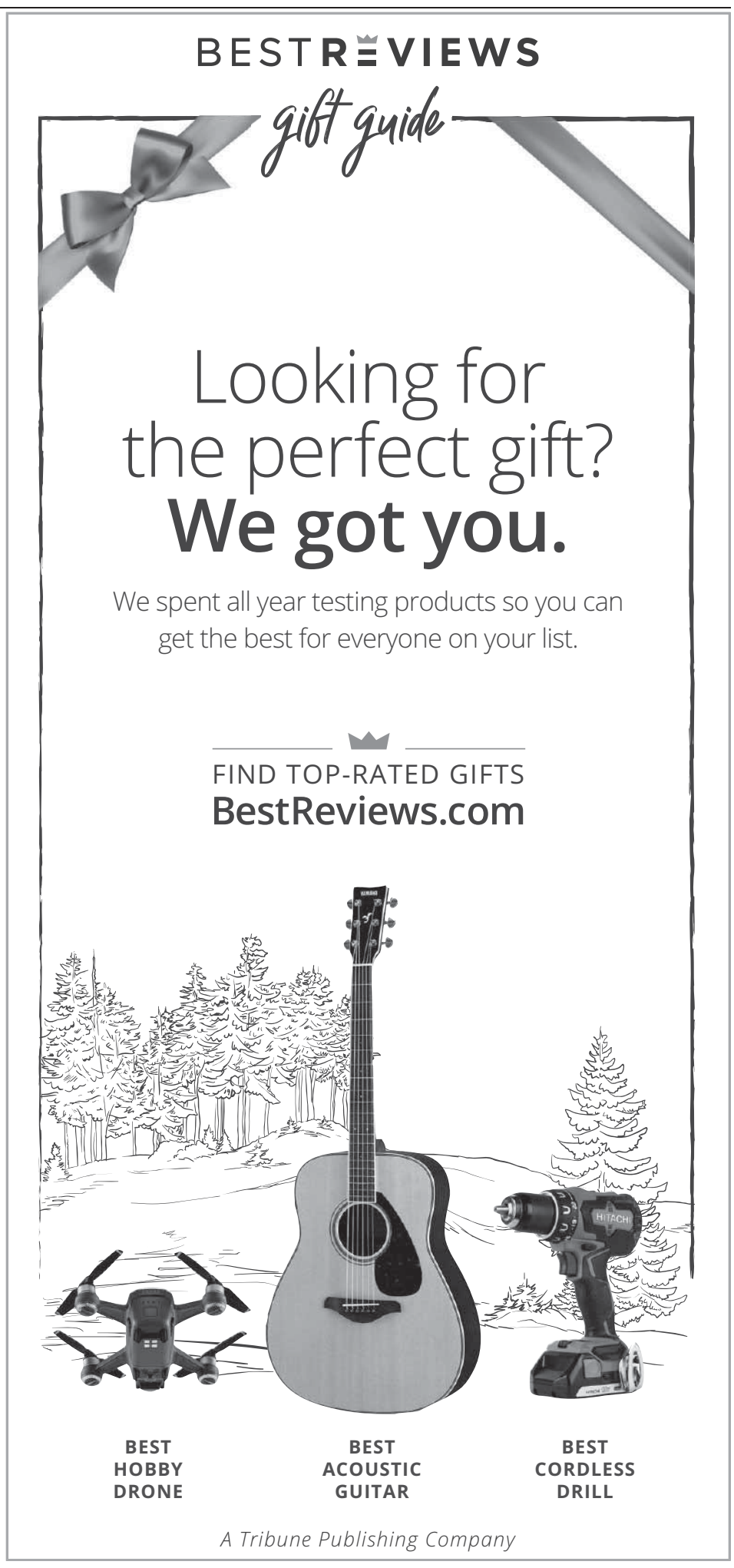
Zach LaVine is out two to four weeks with a sprained right ankle. Kris Dunn and Lauri Markkanen also missed significant time with injuries. Cameron Payne sat Friday night with a strained right calf.

With Payne out, Jim Boylen used Antonio Blakeney as the backup shooting guard.

Man in middle: Bill Cartwright, the center from the Bulls' first threepeat and former coach, stopped by practice Thursday and attended Friday's game. Cartwright spent some time talking with rookie center Wendell Carter Jr.

"He embodies some of the things we're talking about — leadership, toughness," Boylen said. "I know Bulls across his chest meant a lot, so it's great to have him. He's always welcome."

Layups: The Bulls will sign former LSU guard Brandon Sampson to a two-way contract to replace the injured Tyler Ulis, who has been playing for Windy City of the G League. Ulis underwent arthroscopic surgery on his left hip, the team announced. ... Lauri Markkanen received an autographed Dirk Nowitzki jersey that he requested when the Mavericks visited last month. The two worked with the same youth coach and hit it off when Markkanen visited Dallas for his predraft workout.



COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MATT MARTON/AP

Northwestern's Vic Law (4) grabs a rebound as Oklahoma's Kristian Doolittle tumbles to the floor.

OKLAHOMA 76, NORTHWESTERN 69 (OT)

Fizzling out

With chance for big win, Wildcats fall in overtime

By Teddy Greenstein
Chicago Tribune

There are no must-win college basketball games in December. But this one was crucial for Northwestern, which entered Friday night yet to beat a team inside the KenPom top 80.

You don't make the NCAA tournament by beating the likes of Georgia Tech and DePaul at home — or by losing close games to Indiana and Michigan.

You make it by beating veteran teams such as Oklahoma, projected by CBS Sports' Jerry Palm to be a No. 4 seed in the NCAA tournament.

Given that prime opportunity, the Wildcats squandered it. They lost 76-69 in overtime, falling to 8-4.

Ryan Taylor had another rough shooting night, hitting just 2 of 11 3-pointers and 5 of 16 overall. His teammates gave him a terrific look with five seconds to play in regulation, but Taylor missed it.

"If you had told me before the game that Ryan Taylor would have a bare-ass-open 3 at the last second to win the game, I would have signed the contract right there," NU coach Chris Collins said. "We executed perfectly and had a great shooter with an open shot."

Northwestern certainly looked like a tournament-caliber team Friday, but the selection committee doesn't have a metric called Painfully Close Losses to Quality Teams.

The Wildcats now have three after losing to the Hoosiers and Wolverines by two points apiece.

"It's something we have to think about over the (Christmas) break," said Vic Law, who had team highs of 23 points and eight rebounds. "It's clear as day that we're a very good team; it's just something at the end. We should be wining these games. There's no reason we shouldn't be 11-1."

Oklahoma improved to 11-1 with wins over Notre Dame, Florida and Creighton and a 20-point neutral-site loss to Wisconsin. The Sooners were far more efficient in overtime.

After Law sank a 3 to start the five-minute session, Oklahoma scored the final 10 points.

"We have to be tougher, I have to be tougher," Law said. "Instead of driving to the post, I took a fadeaway."

NU's bench was outscored 33-12 as Collins didn't substitute much after the break. But the coach said he did not believe fatigue played a factor in overtime.

Collins said freshmen Miller Kopp and Pete Nance, who combined for just 5:38 in playing time after halftime, "will be counted on big-time as we get into conference (play)."

For now Northwestern is counting on the likes of transfers Taylor and A.J. Turner, and neither got the job done Friday.

Northwestern rallied late in regulation, tying the game at 66 in thrilling fashion: Law missed a 3, but Dererk Pardon slammed down the rebound. The Welsh-Ryan Arena crowd went nuts — louder than it was during NU's 25-0 run against DePaul two weeks ago.

"The fans were fantastic," Oklahoma coach Lon Kruger said. "That was a really good college basketball game with players who competed like crazy."

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Former Illini Smith expects boos

Illinois, *from* ***Page 1***

named Mr. Basketball of Illinois, and he was the first recruit to sign with new Illini coach Brad Underwood, who held off a late charge from Michigan State and Kentucky.

But after some strong games against nonconference competition, Smith's production declined and his season was deemed a disappointment. Despite starting 18 of 31 games, the strong 6-foot-4 guard averaged only 5.8 points while shooting 33.7 percent overall and 28.6 percent on 3-pointers. In Big Ten play, Smith averaged 3.1 points while shooting 28.6 percent overall and 18.5 percent from 3.

Smith announced his transfer to Missouri in April. He learned in late October that the NCAA had cleared him to play immediately instead of sitting out a season as is usually the case for transfer players.

Smith originally had committed to Missouri as a baseball pitcher, but an arm injury forced him to switch his focus to basketball.

Heading into Saturday's showdown, where the crowd will be split in half per tradition, Smith said he expects a few emotions.

"There might be a little extra because I played for them," he said. "Coach (Cuonzo Martin) tells us to stay even keeled."

Smith is playing much better this season, ranking second on the Tigers with 11.7 points per game. His shooting has improved, at 47 percent overall and 47.2 percent on 3-pointers.

Missouri (7-3) heads into the Braggin' Rights game riding a four-game winning streak, including an impressive 71-56 victory Tuesday against Xaiver, which Illinois lost to 83-74 at the Maui Invitational. The game was a breakout for Tilmon, who scored a career-high 23 points with 10 rebounds.

Tilmon, a 6-foot-10 sophomore center, averages 11 points with a team-high 6.6 rebounds. Pickett, a 6-foot-4 redshirt freshman, averages 6.6 points.

Illinois (4-7) has won five straight in the series and leads 25-12 since the game in St. Louis became an annual tradition in 1980. The Illini won 70-64 last season, with Smith scoring 11 points in the win.

Smith said he hasn't kept in close contact with his former Illini teammates. Like Smith, they expect an emotional game but are more concerned about winning than focusing on Smith's departure.

"It may be a little weird," Illinois guard Trent Frazier told reporters in Champaign. "He is a good player. I'm happy for him. We don't talk about that situation. We just go out there and play hard."

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

ILLINOIS FOOTBALL

Illini land former Miami receiver

By Shannon Ryan
Chicago Tribune

DUANE BURLESON/AP

Former Miami wide receiver Jeff Thomas announced Friday that he will transfer to Illinois.

Illinois landed a potentially major transfer Friday night, when former Miami wide reciver Jeff Thomas announced he will join the Illini.

The Illini recruited Thomas out of high school at East St. Louis, where he was a top-40 national recruit who led the Flyers to the 2016 Class 7A state title at Memorial Stadium. He dazzled at the 2017 Under Armour All-American game, using his 4.3 40-yard-dash speed to take short passes for touchdowns of 44 and 79 yards.

Thomas announced his decision on social media, and Illinois confirmed the news. The Illini indicated Thomas will seek immediate eligibility by requesting a waiver from the NCAA's rule that requires athletes who transfer to sit out a year before competing at their new school.

"Jeff Thomas is an elite level football player who we expect to make an immediate impact with the Fighting Illini program," coach Lovie Smith said in a statement. "We know he is excited to return to his home state. This continues a string of great players from East St. Louis coming to the University of Illinois.

"We recruited Jeff extremely hard out of high school, and when he contacted us about the possibility of returning home, we were immediately interested in making his wishes come true. We will fully support his efforts for immediate eligibility at Illinois."

The 5-foot-10, 175-pound Thomas committed to Miami out of high school over Alabama, Auburn, Florida State and Missouri as well as the Illini.

Thomas' 35 receptions and 563 yards as a sophomore led Miami this season, but he considered himself underutilized as the season progressed and his playing time decreased. The Hurricanes announced on Nov. 21 that Thomas was dismissed from the team.

Miami coach Mark Richt's statement at the time said: "We have high standards for excellence, for conduct and for the commitment to team for all of (our) young men."

Thomas responded the same day, claiming the decision to depart was mutual.

"Regarding to the situation with me," Thomas wrote in a social-media post, "I did not get kicked off the team as of how bad it sounds. I came to a agreement with my Head Coach on leaving the program to better my future life and family life. I couldn't thank this program (for) how much they've done for me, and the things I've done on the field is my way of respect for the program."

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NORTHWESTERN FOOTBALL

2 starters on 'D' out of bowl game

Hall, Thompson idled — but Gaziano, Fisher will return next year

By Teddy Greenstein
Chicago Tribune

JOE ROBBINS/GETTY

Defensive tackle Jordan Thompson will miss Northwestern's Holiday Bowl game due to injury.

HOLIDAY BOWL
Northwestern (8-5) vs. Utah (9-4)
6 p.m. Dec. 31, FS1

Northwestern fans: Do you want the good news or the bad?

Let's start with the bad: Two of the Wildcats' top defensive starters will miss the Dec. 31 Holiday Bowl against Utah.

Linebacker Nate Hall is out after shoulder surgery, and defensive tackle Jordan Thompson required knee surgery. Both made announcements Friday on Twitter.

The rangy Hall, dogged by shoulder issues most of the season, received honorable mention for the All-Big Ten team after coming up huge against Purdue (10 tackles and an interception) and Minnesota (two picks).

The 6-foot-3, 292-pound Thompson might be the Big Ten's most underrated player. He didn't even make all-conference honorable mention, but Pro Football Focus graded him as the conference's No. 2 defensive lineman in 2018. And it graded him as Northwestern's top player in the Big Ten title game against Ohio State — by far. His mark of 82.5 bested those of linebacker Blake Gallagher (73.0), defensive linemen Earnest Brown (70.4) and Samdup Miller (70.3) and receiver Kyric McGowan (68.5).

The Wildcats are deep on the defensive line and figure to give linebacker Chris Bergin his fifth start of the season in Hall's place.

Now for the good news: Two other defensive standouts will return to Evanston next season. End Joe Gaziano (20 career sacks) will be a graduate student, and linebacker Paddy Fisher returns as a fourth-year junior.

"I'll be back for sure," Fisher told the Tribune. "I'm not ready (for the NFL) yet. I had a conversation with a close family friend of mine. He said: Once you know, you'll know.

"Right now I need to get healthy, fix things up body-wise, add some modifications to training in the weight room and work on some functional strength and mobility. One day I'll be ready, but for now I'm at Northwestern."

Fisher made the coaches' All-Big Ten first team and was a third-team AP All-American. His eight career forced fumbles is tied for the program record.

Fisher's tackle numbers were down a shade from 2017 (from 8.7 per game to 8.0) as he battled knee ailments.

"Played through some minor stuff," he said.

The NU defense will have a serious challenge in the Holiday Bowl. True, the Utes were held to a field goal by Washington in the Pac-12 title game. But they scored at least 30 points in eight games, and their No. 1 quarterback, Tyler Huntley, could return after recovering from a collarbone injury.

Huntley (64.1 completion percentage) is an obvious upgrade over Jason Shelley (57.7).

And Utah has an element of mystery, given that offensive coordinator Troy Taylor left to become head coach at Sacramento State. Taylor is a spread advocate, while head coach Kyle Whittingham is viewed as more of a run-first traditionalist.

Asked if that adds a variable to Northwestern's preparation, coach Pat Fitzgerald said: "It does. You have to anticipate seeing things that aren't on tape. And then you adjust. You treat bowl games like the opener. You look back to the previous year. Maybe if there is a coordinator change, you study his tape. And then (Purdue freshman) Rondale Moore shows up. That dude's pretty good! We knew that but we didn't know he'd be that good."

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BEARS

NFL NOTES

Despite injury, Gore eyes return in 2019

News services

Even though Frank Gore's ironman streak is about to end, he wants to keep going.

The injured Dolphins running back has decided against retirement and hopes to play a 15th NFL season next year, The Associated Press reported.

The league's leading active rusher suffered a season-ending sprained foot last week against the Vikings, but the injury won't require surgery. The 35-year-old Gore has played in 126 consecutive games with 122 starts in a row.

Those streaks are the longest by an NFL offensive skill player, and they'll end Sunday when the Dolphins play the Jaguars.

Last week Gore said he was uncertain whether he wanted to play next year. He signed a one-year contract in March with the Dolphins, and another season with his hometown team is a possibility.

Gore leads the Dolphins with 722 yards rushing, and his average of 4.6 yards per carry is his highest since 2012. He went on injured reserve Wednesday.

Gore is fourth on the league's all-time rushing list with 14,748 yards, and fifth in yards from scrimmage. Since turning 32 in 2015, he's the league's fifth-leading rusher.

"He's a special person ... special player," Dolphins coach Adam Gase said. "It's hard to find somebody that's really done anything comparable, especially the way football is now and how he's run early in his career. To last this long and then to produce the way he has at this age is just something you just probably won't ever see again."

Ravens retain Harbaugh: The Ravens announced that they will retain coach John Harbaugh for next season and possibly beyond.

"John Harbaugh will continue as our head coach for the 2019 season, and he and we are working on an extension to his existing contract, which expires after the 2019 season," a team statement said.

The Ravens are 8-6 and are in line for the final AFC wild-card spot as the playoff picture stands with two games remaining in the regular season.

Gurley's status up in air: Rams coach Sean McVay announced that running back Todd Gurley will be a game-time decision for Sunday's game against the Cardinals.

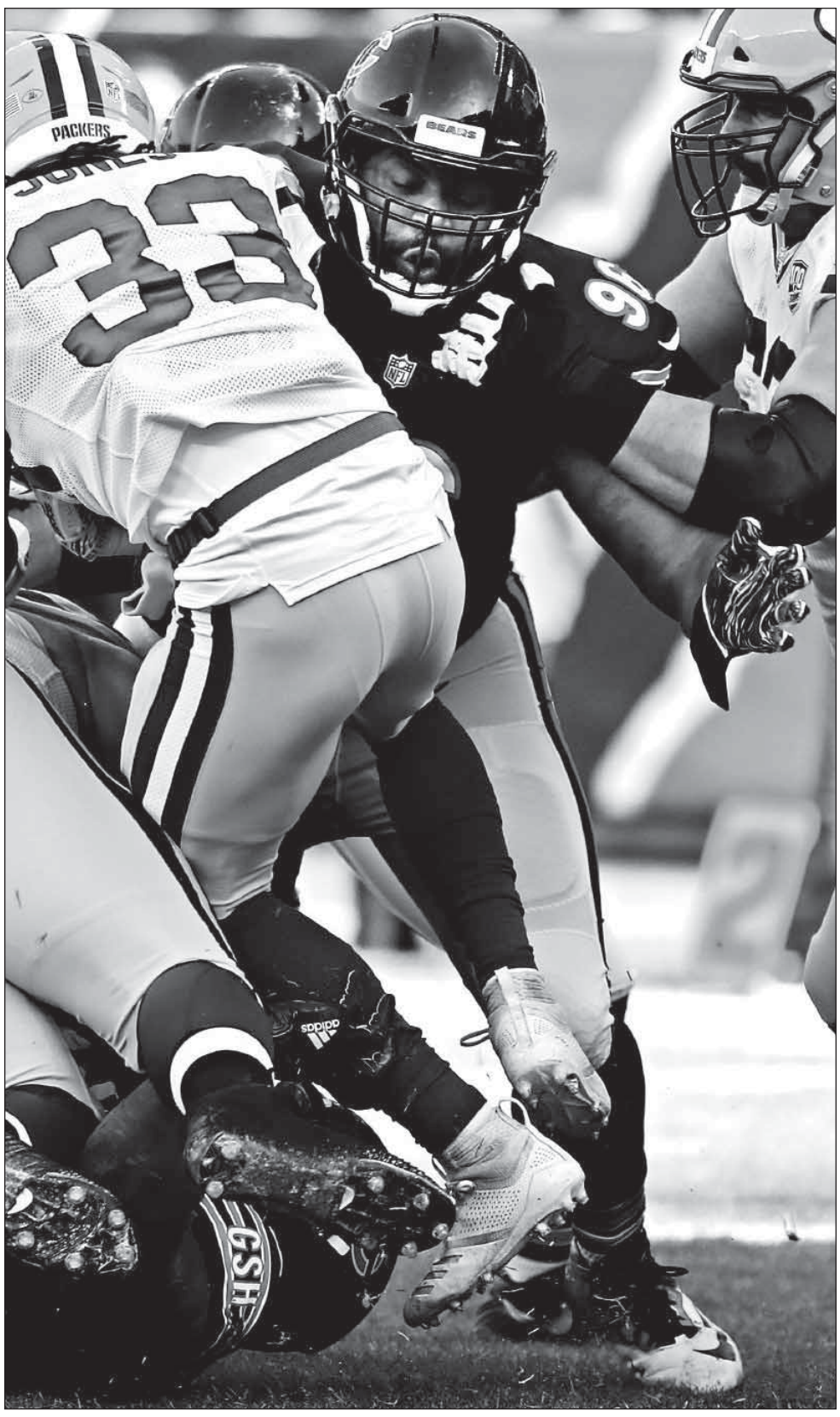
Gurley was listed as questionable on Friday's injury report because of inflammation in his left knee. He didn't practice during the week.

Raiders talk '19: The Raiders have had talks with MLB's Giants about playing home games next season at AT&T Park.

The Giants issued a statement Friday confirming the Raiders have expressed "initial interest" in playing in San Francisco in 2019.

The Raiders are moving to Las Vegas in 2020 but have no lease for next year. They had been in talks about renewing in Oakland before city officials sued the team over its planned move.

Extra points: Steelers RB James Conner (ankle) will miss a third straight game Sunday against the Saints. ... Giants WR Odell Beckham Jr. (quad) will miss a third straight game Sunday against the Colts.



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Akiem Hicks, tackling Packers running back Aaron Jones on Sunday, was named to his first Pro Bowl. "It's an awesome feeling," he said Friday.

Pro Bowl bid fires up Hicks

First-time DL selection terms accolade 'an awesome feeling'

By Rich Campbell
Chicago Tribune

When you're selected to the Pro Bowl, the news cycle will wait longer for you. So even though Akiem Hicks' nomination was three days old by the time reporters gathered around his locker Friday after practice at Halas Hall, it was an occasion he deemed worth capturing.

The Bears defensive lineman donned his Burberry scarf and a tan suede coat, then pulled out his cell phone to take a selfie with the assembled media.

"This," he said, "is a Pro Bowl moment."

It won't be Hicks' last. The seventh-year veteran is one of five Bears who were named Tuesday to the game. His reaction to being recognized was the most anticipated, given how he openly pined for a Pro Bowl bid this season and last. But his first public comments waited until Friday because he was ill Wednesday and Thursday.

"There's only a select group of guys that get this honor every year," he said. "I was fortunate to be put in that position with a great team and get the recognition that I deserved."

Hicks' nomination wasn't surprising, given his six sacks, 11 tackles for a loss and general dominance at the front of one of the NFL's best defenses. But he had to beat out a decorated, recognizable trio of defensive linemen to make it: the Buccaneers' Gerald McCoy, Giants' Damon Harrison and Saints' Sheldon Rankins.

Joining Hicks as interior linemen on the NFC roster are the Rams' Aaron Donald and the Eagles' Fletcher Cox. That's a loaded list.

"When you come into this league, you want to earn the respect of the people that have done it before you and the people that are doing it with you — your peers," Hicks said. "And when you get to that moment and you see that they see in you what you saw in yourself, it's an awesome feeling."

Hicks said Tuesday was "a blur" because the high of being named to his first Pro Bowl was warped by a flu-like illness that caused him terrible cold sweats. He sat out practice Thursday but fully participated Friday and will play Sunday against the 49ers.

"They have a really good running game," he said. "They've got some explosive plays, especially from their tight end (George Kittle). They're not playing like a team that is 4-10, so we've got to approach them that way and give them their just due and respect."

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WEEK 16 PICKS

Seahawks won't stop Mahomes

By Rich Campbell and Dan Wiederer
Chicago Tribune

Tribune writers Rich Campbell and Dan Wiederer are picking against the spread and each other this season. Campbell has retaken the lead with two weeks remaining. Here are their Week 16 selections.

(10 points for a win, minus-10 for a loss)

Season scoreboard: Campbell 0, Wiederer minus-40

Game of the week

Chiefs (minus 3) at Seahawks

Campbell (9-5-1): Chiefs. The Seahawks are 16-2 in prime-time home games under Pete Carroll, but they don't have the horses on offense to score with Patrick Mahomes' group.

Wiederer (6-8-1): Chiefs. This is a tricky spot for the playoff-hopeful Seahawks, who at least have the luxury of playing at home. But it's hard to see their defense doing enough to contain the Patrick Mahomes fireworks show.

Lock of the week

Campbell (6-9): Bills (plus 13½) at Patriots. Since the Bears left Buffalo 41-9 winners on Nov. 4, the Bills are 3-2 straight up with each loss by four points. They're healthy, still fighting and should keep this respectable.

Wiederer (8-7): Vikings (minus 6) at Lions. I don't love laying six points on the road in a division game. But the Vikings have so much more to play for.

Upset of the week

Campbell (8-7): Lions (+230) vs. Vikings. The Vikings have lost straight up and failed to beat the number in each of their last three road games (Bears, Patriots and Seahawks). The Lions offense stinks, but my trust in the Vikings on the road is as firm as a 30-year-old mattress.

Wiederer (5-10): Ravens (+180) at Chargers. The Chargers might be due for a letdown after a rousing rally over the Chiefs. And the Ravens are clutching wild-card hopes. That's the best dice roll on a Week 16 menu devoid of other intriguing upset possibilities.

Just for fun

Campbell (5-9-1): Rams (minus 14½) at Cardinals. I'm simply betting on a course correction by the Rams here. They'll play with urgency to end the first losing streak of coach Sean McVay's tenure. We'll have our eyes on this one from the Levi's Stadium press box.

Wiederer (6-8-1): Eagles (minus 1½) vs. Texans. Are the defending Super Bowl champions finally getting dangerous in December? This is the perfect way to find out with Nick Foles trying to work more magic against the Texans.

Stay away

Campbell (8-7): Saints (minus 6½) vs. Steelers. The Saints return home for the first time since Nov. 22. They average 38 points per game at home. Yes, the Steelers just beat the Patriots. Yes, that 6½ seems like it's trying to trick me into taking the Saints. I'll bite.

Wiederer (8-7): Bengals (plus 9) at Browns. I've been all about Baker Mayfield and the resurgent Browns. But are they good enough to be laying more than a touchdown in a division game?

Close to home

Bears (minus 4½) at 49ers

Campbell (7-7): Bears. All the traps are set. Division already clinched. Playoffs in the distance. Nothing to clinch Sunday. Long flight right before Christmas. Bad opponent. But coach Matt Nagy has done so well stabilizing his team's collective emotion and effort. The Bears will play well and exploit a 49ers defense that doesn't take the ball away.

Wiederer (4-10): Bears. Matt Nagy's team has stumbled into booby traps before, most notably in road losses to the Dolphins and Giants. So I wouldn't be shocked if the Bears experience a letdown after last weekend's NFC North title celebration. Still, if the Bears arrive with even 80 percent of their normal urgency level, they should coast.

Close to home, total

Bears-49ers over/under 43

Campbell (7-6-1): Over. But just barely. Mitch Trubisky did not play particularly well in either of his two road wins this season (Cardinals, Bills), so he'll be dialed in. And the 49ers aren't going to suddenly start adding to their total of two interceptions, worst in league history. Defensively, the Bears will miss Eddie Jackson.

Wiederer (11-2-1): Over. Mitch Trubisky has been ordinary at best in his four road starts this season. But against a 49ers defense that has only two interceptions, Trubisky should have an opening to get the offense on a roll.

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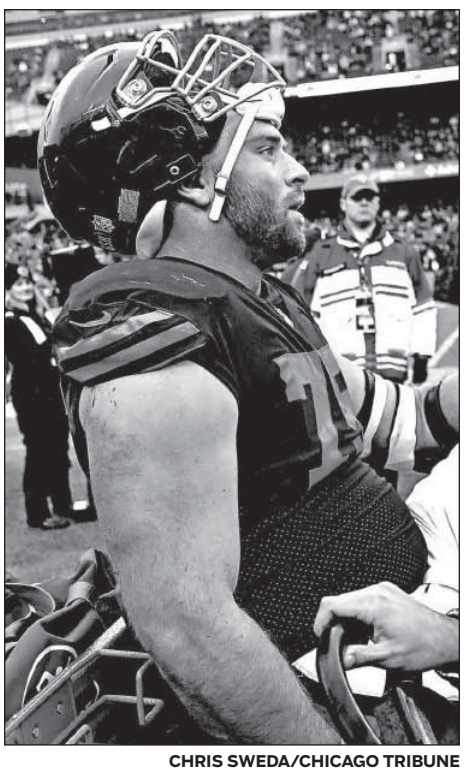

CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Kyle Long hasn't played since suffering a right foot and ankle injury during a Week 7 game against the Jets on Oct. 28. He returned to practice Friday.

Bears get a bonus: Long returns to practice

Bears, from Page 1

tight end Dion Sims rolled up on his leg on a running play in the final four minutes of a 24-10 victory. It's the same foot on which he had reconstructive ankle surgery in November 2016, an injury that continued to require occasional rest days earlier this season.

"When I found out I didn't have any ligament damage, that was great news," Long said. "I've been down that road before and it's no fun."

Sunday's road game against the 49ers will be the eighth straight Long has missed. The 2013 first-rounder was a bystander for the final push to the division title, though he has been around the team in meetings.

"It's really frustrating," Long said. "If you're a football player, you want to play football, and if you can't do that then you don't feel like yourself. So I'm just happy we're winning."

When coach Matt Nagy first began working with Long in the spring, he was impressed by his combination of intangibles and athleticism. Nagy extolled Long's attentiveness in meetings, his leadership role on the offensive line and his intelligence within the offense. The team has missed that on game days.

"He knew stuff inside out," Nagy said. "That was natural for him. He's a natural-born leader. And then on top of that, he was playing really well."

Veteran Bryan Witzmann has filled in for Long, and his performances have been inconsistent. The team signed him Oct. 8 and has leaned on his familiarity with Nagy's offense. Both were with the Chiefs in 2016 and '17.

No corresponding roster move was required for Long's designation Friday, but one would be necessary for him to be added to the active roster.

"You see him out here at practice, you forget how huge he is," Nagy said. "He's massive. He's strong, powerful, quick for his size, and it's good to get him back."

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SCOREBOARD

CALENDAR

TEAM	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
Bears		@SF 3:05 FOX-32, AM-780					
Bulls		@CLE 5 NBCSCH, AM-670			MIN 7 NBCSCH, AM-670		@WSH 6 WGN-9, AM-670
Blackhawks		FLA 6 WGN-9, AM-720				MIN 7:30 NBCSCH, AM-720	

SATURDAY ON TV/RADIO

NBA		
6:30 p.m.	Raptors at 76ers	NBA TV
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL		
11 a.m.	Grambling State at Wisconsin	BTN
11 a.m.	Wake Forest at Tennessee	ESPN2
11 a.m.	Georgia at Georgia Tech	ESPNU
11:30 a.m.	UConn vs. Villanova	CBS-2
1 p.m.	Cal State Fullerton at Nebraska	BTN
1 p.m.	Clemson at South Carolina	ESPN2
1:30 p.m.	Saint Louis vs. Florida State	FS2
2 p.m.	Ohio State vs. UCLA	CBS-2
2 p.m.	Indiana State vs. Colorado	ESPNU
2:30 p.m.	Boston College at DePaul	FS1, WSCR-AM 670
3 p.m.	Air Force at Michigan	BTN
3 p.m.	Wichita State at VCU	ESPN2
4 p.m.	Loyola at St. Joseph's	CBSSN
4 p.m.	UNLV at Hawaii	ESPNU
4 p.m.	Florida vs. Florida Gulf Coast	FS2
4:15 p.m.	Kentucky vs. North Carolina	CBS-2
4:30 p.m.	Seton Hall at Maryland	FS1
5 p.m.	Jacksonville at Indiana	BTN
6 p.m.	BYU at San Diego State	CBSSN
6 p.m.	Vanderbilt vs. Kansas State	ESPN2
6:30 p.m.	New Mexico State vs.Drake	FS2
7 p.m.	Missouri at Illinois	BTN, WSCR-AM 670
7 p.m.	Sacred Heart at St. John's	FS1
8 p.m.	Kansas at Arizona State	ESPN2
9 p.m.	San Diego vs. Washington State	FS1
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL		
12:30 p.m.	Notre Dame at Marquette	FS1
NFL		
3:30 p.m.	Redskins at Titans	NFL Network, WSCR-AM 670
7:20 p.m.	Ravens at Chargers	NFL Network, WSCR-AM 670
COLLEGE FOOTBALL		
11 a.m.	Birmingham Bowl: Memphis vs. Wake Forest	ESPN
2:30 p.m.	Armed Forces Bowl: Houston vs. Army	ESPN
6 p.m.	Dollar General Bowl: Buffalo vs. Troy	ESPN
9:30 p.m.	Hawaii Bowl: Hawaii vs. Louisiana Tech	ESPN
NHL		
Noon	Predators at Bruins	NHL Network
3 p.m.	Kings at Sharks	NBCSN
6 p.m.	Rangers at Maple Leafs	NHL Network
AHL		
3 p.m.	Wolves at Admirals	WPWR-50
BUNDESLIGA SOCCER		
8:30 a.m.	Leipzig vs. Werder Bremen	FS1
11:20 a.m.	Bayern Munich vs. Eintracht Frankfurt	FS2
PREMIER LEAGUE SOCCER		
6:25 a.m.	Arsenal vs. Burnley	NBCSN
8:55 a.m.	Chelsea vs. Leicester City	NBCSN
11:30 a.m.	Cardiff City vs. Manchester United	NBC-5
FIFA CLUB WORLD CUP		
7:18 a.m.	Third-place match	FS2
10:30 a.m.	Final	FS1
SERIE A SOCCER		
7:55 a.m.	AC Milan vs. Florentina	ESPN2
TENNIS		
3 p.m.	Hawaii Open	Tennis Channel

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

2018-19 DIV. I BOWL GLANCE

DATE	BOWL	SITE	TEAMS	TM
Fri	Bahamas	Nassau	FIU 35, Toledo 32	
Fri	Idaho Potato	Boise	BYU 49, W Michigan 18	
Sat	Birmingham	Birmingham, Ala.	Memphis (8-5) vs. Wake Forest (6-6)	11*
Sat	Armed Forces	Fort Worth, Tex	Houston (8-4) vs. Army (10-2)	2:30
Sat	Dollar General	Mobile, Ala.	Buffalo (10-3) vs. Troy (9-3)	6
Sat	Hawaii	Honolulu	La Tech (7-5) vs. Hawaii (8-5)	9:30
D26	SERVPRO	Dallas	Boston Coll. (7-5) vs. Boise St (10-3)	12:30
D26	Quick Lane	Detroit	Minnesota (6-6) vs. Ga. Tech (7-5)	4:15
D26	Cheez-It	Phoenix	California (7-5) vs. TCU (6-6)	8
D27	Independence	Shreveport, La.	Temple (8-4) vs. Duke (7-5)	12:30
D27	Pinstripe	Bronx, N.Y.	Miami (7-5) vs. Wisconsin (7-5)	4:15
D27	Texas	Houston	Baylor (6-6) vs. Vanderbilt (6-6)	8
D28	Music City	Nashville	Purdue (6-6) vs. Auburn (7-5)	12:30
D28	Camping World	Orlando	W. Virginia (8-3) vs. Syracuse (9-3)	4:15
D28	Alamo	San Antonio	Iowa St (8-4) vs. Wash. St (10-2)	8
D29	Peach	Atlanta	Florida (9-3) vs. Michigan (10-2)	11*
D29	Belk	Charlotte, N.C.	S. Carolina (7-5) vs. Virginia (7-5)	11*
D29	Arizona	Tucson, Ariz.	Ark. St (8-4) vs. Nevada (7-5)	12:15
D29	Cotton	Arlington, Tex.	Notre Dame (12-0) vs. Clemson (13-0)	3
D29	Orange	Miami Gar., Fla.	Oklahoma (12-1) vs. Alabama (13-0)	7
D31	Military	Annapolis, Md.	Cincinnati (10-2) vs. Va. Tech (6-6)	11*
D31	Sun	El Paso, Tex	Stanford (8-4) vs. Pittsburgh (7-6)	1
D31	Redbox	Santa Clara, Calif.	Michigan St (7-5) vs. Oregon (8-4)	2
D31	Liberty	Memphis, Tenn.	Missouri (8-4) vs. Oklahoma St (6-6)	2:45
D31	Holiday	San Diego	Northwestern (8-5) vs. Utah (9-4)	6
D31	Gator	Jacksonville, Fla.	NC St (9-3) vs. Texas A&M (8-4)	6:30
J1	Outback	Tampa, Fla.	Mississippi St (8-4) vs. Iowa (8-4)	11*
J1	Citrus	Orlando	Kentucky (9-3) vs. Penn St (9-3)	noon
J1	Fiesta	Glendale, Ariz.	LSU (9-3) vs. UCF (12-0)	noon
J1	Rose	Pasadena, Calif.	Wash. (10-3) vs. Ohio St (12-1)	4
J1	Sugar	New Orleans	Texas (9-4) vs. Georgia (11-2)	7:45
J7	CFP Final	Santa Clara, Calif.	Cotton vs. Orange winners	7

OTHER BOWLS

J19	Shrine	St. Petersburg, Fla.	East vs. West	2
J19	Collegiate	Pasadena, Calif.	American vs. National	3
J26	Senior	Mobile, Ala.	North vs. South	1:30

DATE	BOWL	SITE	RESULT
D15	Celebration	Atlanta	NC A&T 24, Alcorn St. 22
D15	Cure	Orlando	Tulane 41, La.-Lafayette 24
D15	New Mexico	Albuquerque	Utah State 52, N. Texas13
D15	Las Vegas	Vegas	Fresno St. 31, Arizona St. 20
D15	Camellia	Montgomery, Ala.	Ga. Southern 23, E. Michigan 21
D15	New Orleans	New Orleans	Appalachian State 45, MTSU 13
D18	Boca Raton	Boca Raton, Fla.	UAB 37, N. Illinois 13
D19	Frisco	Frisco, Texas	Ohio 27, San Diego State 0
D20	Gasparilla	St. Petersburg	Marshall 38, USF 20

FCS CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday, Jan. 5 at Toyota Stadium; Frisco, Texas
North Dakota State (14-0) vs. Eastern Washington (12-2), 11 a.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Boston: Agreed to terms with RHP Heath Hembree on a one-year contract.
New York: Agreed to terms with LHP Danny Coulombe and LHP Rex Brothers on minor league contracts. Announced RHP Parker Bridwell was claimed off waivers by the Los Angeles Angels.
Oakland: Agreed to terms with RHP Joakim Soria on a two-year contract. Traded RHP Emilio Pagan and a 2019 Competitive Balance Round A draft pick to Tampa Bay.
Texas: Acquired LHPs Kyle Bird and Brock Burke and RHP Yoel Espinal from Tampa Bay and INF Eli White and an international signing bnus pool allocation from Oakland. Traded INF Jurickson Profar to Oakland and RHP Rollie Lacy to Tampa Bay. Agreed to terms with RHPs Ariel Hernandez and Phillips Valdez, LHPs Miguel Del Pozo and Jack Leathersich, and INF Nolan Fontana on minor league contracts.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Cincinnati: Acquired OF Yasiel Puig, OF Matt Kemp and LHP Alex Wood and cash from the Los Angeles Dodgers for RHP Homer Bailey, INF Jeter Downs and RHP Josiah Gray.
Colorado: Agreed to terms with INF Daniel Murphy on a two-year contract.
Los Angeles: Agreed to terms with RHP Joe Kelly on a three-year contract.
Philadelphia: Agreed to terms with LHP Jeremy Bleich, C Rob Brantly, INFs Phil Gosselin and Gregorio Petit, RHP Josh Martin, C-1B-OF Matt McBride and OF Shane Robinson to minor league contracts.
St. Louis: Agreed to terms with LHP Andrew Miller on a two-year contract.
San Diego: Agreed to terms with LHPs Ryan Bollinger and Dietrich Enns, RHP Tyler Higgins, INFs Allen Craig, Seth Mejias-Brean and Aderlin Rodriguez, and OFs Alex Dickerson and Jacob Scavuzzo on minor league contracts.
San Francisco: Agreed to terms with LHP-RHP Pat Venditte on a one-year contract.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION
Washington: Signed G Ron Baker.

FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Buffalo: Signed QB Matt Barkley to a two-year contract extension.
Miami: Promoted S Maurice Smith from the practice squad. Waived C-G Hroniss Grasu.
New England: Signed DL Ufomba Kamalu from the practice squad. Signed OL Tony Adams to the practice squad.
San Francisco: Placed S Jaquiski Tartt on the injured reserve.
Washington: Placed OT Austin Howard on injured reserve. Signed OT Timon Parris from the practice squad.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
Arizona: Recalled F Michael Bunting from Tucson (AHL).
Calgary: Assigned F Buddy Robinson to Stockton (AHL).
Los Angeles: Recalled Fs Austin Wagner and Michael Amadio, and D Sean Walker from Ontario (AHL).
New Jersey: Placed F Marcus Johansson on injured reserve. Activated F Stefan Noesen from injured reserve.
AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE
AHL: Suspended Toronto F Morgan Klimchuk three games for an illegal check to the head of an opponent in a Dec. 19 game against Binghamton.
Milwaukee: Signed F Joe Pendenza and G Adam Carlson to professional tryout contracts.

SOCCER

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

CLUB	W	T	L	GF	GA	PTS
Liverpool	15	3	0	39	7	48
Man City	14	2	1	48	10	44
Tottenham	13	0	4	31	16	39
Chelsea	11	4	2	35	14	37
Arsenal	10	4	3	37	23	34
Man United	7	5	5	29	29	26
Wolverhampton	7	4	7	19	21	25
Everton	6	6	5	24	22	24
West Ham	7	3	7	25	25	24
Watford	7	3	7	23	25	24
Bournemouth	7	2	8	25	28	23
Leicester	6	4	7	21	21	22
Brighton	6	3	8	20	24	21
Newcastle	4	4	9	14	22	16
Crystal Palace	4	3	10	14	23	15
Cardiff	4	2	11	17	33	14
Southampton	2	6	9	16	32	12
Burnley	3	3	11	15	33	12
Huddersfield	2	4	11	10	28	10
Fulham	2	3	12	16	42	9

FRIDAY'S RESULT
Liverpool 2, Wolverhampton 0

LATEST LINE

NBA
pregame.com

		SATURDAY
at LA Clippers	1	Denver
at Washington	Off	Phoenix
at Philadelphia	4½	Toronto
at Houston	6	San Antonio
Milwaukee	2½	at Miami
at Golden State	11½	Dallas
at Utah	1	Oklahoma City

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

		SATURDAY
at Tennessee	19½	Wake Forest
at Georgetown	15	UALR
at Georgia Tech	5½	Georgia
at Villanova	7½	UConn
at Rutgers	13	Columbia
Temple	11½	at Drexel
at Arkansas	9	Texas St
at Virginia	22	William & Mary
at Syracuse	20½	Arkansas St
at Miami	17	FAU
Clemson	2	at S. Carolina
at Nebraska	20½	Cal St.-Fullerton
at Harvard	13½	George Wash.
at Texas A&M	8	Marshall
at Boise St	5½	Pacific
Saint Mary's CA	2½	at W Kentucky
at W Michigan	7	Milwaukee
at Depaul	4½	Boston Coll.
at Michigan	25½	Air Force
Pennsylvania	3	at New Mexico
at Va Common.	5½	Wichita St
at Long Bch St	4	Colorado St
at St. Joseph's	3½	Loyola of Chi.
at San Fran.	9½	Stanford
at Evansville	4	Green Bay
at Maryland	7½	Seton Hall
at San Diego St	3½	BYU
at Nevada	16	Akron
at Arizona	17	UC Davis
at Kansas St	4	Vanderbilt
at Miss. St	12½	Wright St
at SMU	13	Cornell
Loyola Mrymnt	10½	at UC Riverside
Illinois	1	at Missouri
Kansas	4	at Arizona St
CS Northridge	3	SIU-Ed'ville
N. Colorado	1½	Rider
New Mexico St	6	Drake
San Diego	7½	Wash. St
Florida St	7	Saint Louis
Florida	18	Flor. Gulf Coast
Ohio State	5½	UCLA
Colorado	7½	Indiana St
UNLV	1	at Hawaii
Rhode Island	6	Bucknell
TCU	19	Charlotte

NHL

			SATURDAY
at Boston	-120	Nashville	+110
at Phila.	-105	Columbus	-105
Florida	-133	at Detroit	+123
at Calgary	Off	St. Louis	Off
at Las Vegas	-165	Montreal	+155
at San Jose	-223	Los Angeles	+203
at Buffalo	Off	Anaheim	Off
at Carolina	-107	Pittsburgh	-103
at Toronto	-245	NY Rangers	+225
Colorado	-125	at Arizona	+115
at Ottawa	Off	Washington	Off
at Minnesota	-160	Dallas	+150
Tampa Bay	-145	at Edmonton	+135
Winnipeg	-155	at Vancouver	+145

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

		SATURDAY BOWLS
Memphis	3	Wake Forest
Army	5	Houston
Buffalo	1	Troy
at Hawaii	1	Louisiana Tech
Boise St	2	Boston Coll.
Georgia Tech	5½	Minnesota
California	1	TCU
Temple	3½	Duke
Miami	3	Wisconsin
Vanderbilt	4	Baylor
Auburn	3½	Purdue
W. Virginia	1	Syracuse
Wash. St	3½	Iowa St
Arkansas St	1	Nevada
Michigan	7	Florida
S. Carolina	5	Virginia
		DEC. 29
Alabama	14	Oklahoma
Clemson	12½	Notre Dame
		DEC. 31
Cincinnati	6	Virginia Tech
Stanford	6	Pittsburgh
Oregon	3	Michigan St
Missouri	8	Oklahoma St
Utah	7	Northwestern
Texas A&M	7	NC State
		JAN. 1
Miss. St	7	Iowa
Penn St	6½	Kentucky
LSU	7½	UCF
Ohio State	6½	Washington
Georgia	12½	Texas

NFL
WEEK 16

		SATURDAY
at Tennessee	10½	Washington
at LA Chargers	4½	Baltimore
		SUNDAY
Bears	4	at San Fran.
at Dallas	7½	Tampa Bay
at New England	13½	Buffalo
Atlanta	3	at Carolina
at Miami	3½	Jacksonville
at Indianapolis	9½	NY Giants
at Philadelphia	1	Houston
Minnesota	6	at Detroit
Green Bay	3	at NY Jets
at Cleveland	9½	Cincinnati
LA Rams	14½	at Arizona
at New Orleans	6	Pittsburgh
Kansas City	2½	at Seattle
		MONDAY
Denver	3	at Oakland

AHL

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OL	SOL	PT	GF	GA
Milwaukee	16	9	5	1	38	87	85
Iowa	15	7	4	3	37	106	88
WOLVES	16	9	3	1	36	115	94
G. Rapids	16	11	2	2	36	96	96
Rockford	15	10	2	4	36	75	88
Texas	15	10	2	1	33	107	91
San Antonio	12	16	1	0	25	75	88
Manitoba	11	14	2	0	24	65	92

2 pts for a win, 1 pt for OT/shootout loss.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Rockford 5, **Wolves** 4 (OT)
Cleveland 6, Belleville 3
Bridgeport 6, Charlotte 1
Hershey 3, WB/Scranton 2
Hartford 4, Rochester 2
Utica 2, Springfield 1
Laval 2, Toronto 1
Binghamton 6, Providence 3
Syracuse 3, Lehigh Valley 2 (SO)
Iowa 8, Stockton 7 (OT)
Grand Rapids 4,Manitoba 1
Texas 5, San Antonio 2
Bakersfield 5, Colorado 3
Ontario at San Diego, late
Tucson at San Jose, late

NFL

NFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
y-BEARS	10	4	0	.714	383	264
Minnesota	7	6	1	.536	323	308
Green Bay	5	8	1	.393	332	331
Detroit	5	9	0	.357	284	333
NFC EAST	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT**	**PF**	**PA**
Dallas	8	6	0	.571	276	269
Philadelphia	7	7	0	.500	311	318
Washington	7	7	0	.500	265	310
N.Y. Giants	5	9	0	.357	307	348
NFC SOUTH	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT**	**PF**	**PA**
y-New Orleans	11	2	0	.846	447	283
Carolina	6	7	0	.462	324	332
Atlanta	5	9	0	.357	356	381
Tampa Bay	5	9	0	.357	344	403
NFC WEST	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT**	**PF**	**PA**
y-L.A. Rams	11	3	0	.786	448	343
Seattle	8	6	0	.571	363	292
San Francisco	4	10	0	.286	301	373
Arizona	3	11	0	.214	192	367
AFC NORTH	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT**	**PF**	**PA**
Pittsburgh	8	5	1	.607	384	316
Baltimore	8	6	0	.571	341	253
Cleveland	6	7	1	.464	309	348
Cincinnati	6	8	0	.429	337	413
AFC EAST	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT**	**PF**	**PA**
New England	9	5	0	.643	374	310
Miami	7	7	0	.500	295	374
Buffalo	5	9	0	.357	215	333
N.Y. Jets	4	10	0	.286	292	359
AFC SOUTH	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT**	**PF**	**PA**
Houston	10	4	0	.714	352	281
Indianapolis	8	6	0	.571	372	300
Tennessee	8	6	0	.571	268	254
Jacksonville	4	10	0	.286	225	289
AFC WEST	**W**	**L**	**T**	**PCT**	**PF**	**PA**
x-Kansas City	11	3	0	.786	499	380
x-L.A. Chargers	11	3	0	.786	395	298
Denver	6	8	0	.429	306	299
Oakland	3	11	0	.214	260	418

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

WEEK 16
SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE
Washington at Tennessee, 3:30 (NFLN)
Baltimore at L.A. Chargers, 7:20 (NFLN)
SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE
Bears at San Francisco, 3:05 (FOX-32)
Atlanta at Carolina, noon
Houston at Philadelphia, noon
N.Y. Giants at Indianapolis, noon (CBS-2)
Green Bay at N.Y. Jets, noon
Minnesota at Detroit, noon
Buffalo at New England, noon
Cincinnati at Cleveland, noon
Jacksonville at Miami, noon
Tampa Bay at Dallas, noon
L.A. Rams at Arizona, 3:05
Pittsburgh at New Orleans, 3:25 (CBS-2)
Kansas City at Seattle, 7:20 (NBC-5)
MONDAY'S SCHEDULE
Denver at Oakland, 7:15 (ESPN)

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STK	HOME	AWAY	CONF
Toronto	25	9	.735	—	5-5	W-2	13-4	12-5	15-5
Philadelphia	21	12	.636	3½	6-4	W-1	15-3	6-9	16-10
Boston	18	13	.581	5½	7-3	L-3	9-5	9-8	13-7
Brooklyn	15	19	.441	10	7-3	L-1	7-11	8-8	12-8
New York	9	25	.265	16	1-9	L-4	4-11	5-14	6-20
SOUTHEAST	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**L10**	**STK**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**CONF**
Charlotte	16	15	.516	—	5-5	W-2	12-7	4-8	15-9
Miami	14	16	.467	1½	7-3	W-3	6-9	8-7	5-12
Orlando	14	17	.452	2	4-6	L-2	8-9	6-8	9-8
Washington	12	20	.375	4½	4-6	L-2	8-6	4-14	7-11
Atlanta	8	23	.258	8	3-7	W-2	5-9	3-14	6-14
CENTRAL	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**L10**	**STK**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**CONF**
Milwaukee	22	9	.710	—	7-3	W-4	14-3	8-6	14-4
Indiana	21	12	.636	2	8-2	W-1	11-5	10-7	15-5
Detroit	15	15	.500	6½	2-8	L-1	10-7	5-8	11-12
Cleveland	8	25	.242	15	3-7	L-2	5-12	3-13	7-17
Chicago	8	25	.242	15	3-7	W-1	5-12	3-13	5-14

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB	L10	STK	HOME	AWAY	CONF
San Antonio	18	15	.545	—	7-3	W-3	13-5	5-10	14-10
Houston	16	15	.516	1	6-4	L-1	9-5	7-10	9-11
Memphis	16	16	.500	1½	3-7	L-5	9-6	7-10	11-11
Dallas	15	15	.500	1½	5-5	L-4	13-3	2-12	8-12
New Orleans*	15	17	.469	2½	4-6	L-2	11-5	4-12	8-9
NORTHWEST	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**L10**	**STK**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**CONF**
Denver	21	9	.700	—	8-2	W-4	13-3	8-6	13-4
Oklahoma City	20	10	.667	1	7-3	W-3	12-3	8-7	10-8
Portland	18	14	.563	4	5-5	L-1	12-5	6-9	10-11
Utah	16	17	.485	6½	5-5	W-2	6-6	10-11	11-11
Minnesota	14	18	.438	8	3-7	L-2	12-5	2-13	7-14
PACIFIC	**W**	**L**	**PCT**	**GB**	**L10**	**STK**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**CONF**
Golden State	21	11	.656	—	6-4	L-1	13-3	8-8	11-7
L.A. Lakers*	18	13	.581	2½	6-4	L-2	11-4	7-9	12-8
L.A. Clippers	18	13	.581	2½	3-7	W-1	10-4	8-9	13-9
Sacramento	17	15	.531	4	6-4	W-1	8-7	9-8	10-12
Phoenix	8	24	.250	13	4-6	W-4	5-11	3-13	5-15

**-late game not included*

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Bulls 90, Orlando 80
Toronto 126, Cleveland 110
Charlotte 98, Detroit 86
Atlanta 114, New York 107
Indiana 114, Brooklyn 106
Milwaukee 120, Boston 107
San Antonio 124, Minnesota 98
Utah 120, Portland 90
Sacramento 102, Memphis 99
New Orleans at L.A. Lakers, late

SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE
Denver at L.A. Clippers, 4
Phoenix at Washington, 6
Toronto at Philadelphia, 6:30
Milwaukee at Miami, 7
San Antonio at Houston, 7
Dallas at Golden State, 7:30
Oklahoma City at Utah, 8

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Miami 101, Houston 99
L.A. Clippers 125, Dallas 121

BULLS 90, MAGIC 80

ORLANDO	MN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	PTS
Gordon	37:02	4-17	6-10	5-12	4	2	14
Isaac	19:37	2-4	0-0	1-3	0	4	5
Vucevic	36:40	8-19	2-2	5-19	4	3	19
Augustin	33:48	2-9	4-4	1-3	2	3	8
Fournier	34:23	8-15	3-4	0-4	6	3	24
Ross	27:55	1-11	0-0	0-2	0	2	2
Iwundu	21:43	1-4	0-0	0-0	0	4	3
Grant	14:12	2-4	0-0	1-2	4	0	4
Bamba	10:57	0-3	1-4	0-2	0	1	1
Martin	3:42	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
TOTALS		**28-86**	**16-24**	**13-47**	**20**	**22**	**80**

Pcts: FG .326, FT .667. **3-pointers:** 8-33, .242 (Fournier 5-10, Isaac 1-2, Iwundu 1-2, Vucevic 1-5, Bamba 0-1, Grant 0-1, Gordon 0-3, Ross 0-4, Augustin 0-5). **Team rebs:** 12. **Team turnovers:** 8 (10 PTS). **Blocks:** 5 (Vucevic 4, Gordon). **Turnovers:** 8 (Fournier 4, Augustin 3, Iwundu). **Steals:** 4 (Isaac 3, Iwundu). **Technical fouls:** None.

BULLS	MN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	PTS
Holiday	36:41	3-11	5-5	3-10	1	1	11
Markkanen	36:45	12-20	4-4	0-6	3	5	32
Carter Jr.	24:43	5-8	0-0	2-8	0	5	10
Arcidiacono	33:06	1-4	2-2	0-3	8	2	4
Dunn	35:50	4-14	4-6	0-8	6	3	12
Lopez	22:54	5-6	3-7	2-4	3	2	14
Harrison	21:35	2-4	0-0	0-4	1	2	4
Hutchison	16:44	1-4	0-0	1-4	1	0	2
Blakeney	11:41	0-4	1-2	1-3	0	1	1
TOTALS		**33-75**	**19-26**	**9-50**	**23**	**21**	**90**

Pcts: FG .440, FT .731. **3-pointers:** 5-17, .294 (Markkanen 4-6, Lopez 1-1, Dunn 0-1, Hutchison 0-1, Arcidiacono 0-3, Holiday 0-5). **Team rebs:** 6. **Team turnovers:** 7 (6 PTS). **Blocks:** 6 (Harrison 3, Holiday, Lopez, Markkanen). **Turnovers:** 7 (Dunn 2, Markkanen 2, Harrison, Holiday, Lopez). **Steals:** 5 (Dunn 2, Blakeney, Harrison, Holiday). **Technical fouls:** Carter Jr., 10:32 third; Markkanen, 6:43 third.

Orlando	20	19	24	17	— 80
BULLS	19	27	27	17	— 90

Officials: Scott Wall, Gediminas Petraitis, Tony Brown. **A:** 20,436.

NBA G LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	Pct	GB
Fort Wayne	8	8	.500	—
Canton	7	9	.438	1
WINDY CITY	9	12	.429	1½
Grand Rapids	7	12	.368	2½
Wisconsin	3	14	.176	5½

FRIDAY'S RESULTS in Las Vegas
Windy City 115, Iowa 103
Capital City 123, Agua Caliente 111
Okla. City 106, Grand Rapids 98
Erie 106, Northern Arizona 95
Austin 99, Westchester 88
Raptors 111, Texas 102
Sioux Falls vs. Maine, late

SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE
South Bay vs. Fort Wayne, 2
Santa Cruz vs. Canton, 2:30
Stockton vs. Wisconsin, 4:30
Rio Grande Vall. vs. Greensboro, 5:30
Oklahoma City vs. Long Island, 7
Salt Lake City vs. Delaware, 8

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA	HOME	AWAY	DIV
Tampa Bay	36	27	7	2	56	148	103	15-4-0	12-3-2	10-2-0
Toronto	35	23	10	2	48	130	96	10-5-1	13-5-1	5-4-2
Buffalo	36	20	11	5	45	108	105	11-4-2	9-7-3	7-4-2
Boston	35	19	12	4	42	97	89	12-4-0	7-8-4	9-6-1
Montreal	36	18	13	5	41	111	114	10-7-2	8-6-3	5-4-4
Detroit	36	15	16	5	35	104	119	8-8-3	7-8-2	4-6-2
Ottawa	36	15	17	4	34	118	140	11-5-3	4-12-1	6-8-2
Florida	33	13	14	6	32	107	121	7-5-4	6-9-2	6-2-3
METRO	**GP**	**W**	**L**	**OT**	**PTS**	**GF**	**GA**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**DIV**
Washington	34	21	10	3	45	125	103	11-5-2	10-5-1	7-3-1
Columbus	34	19	12	3	41	110	106	10-7-2	9-5-1	5-4-1
Pittsburgh	35	17	12	6	40	116	110	10-7-2	7-5-4	5-5-1
N.Y. Islanders	34	17	13	4	38	98	97	8-5-3	9-8-1	10-3-1
N.Y. Rangers	33	15	13	5	35	97	107	11-4-3	4-9-2	2-4-1
Carolina	33	14	14	5	33	85	97	8-6-4	6-8-1	3-3-2
Philadelphia	33	14	15	4	32	98	119	7-7-2	7-8-2	3-3-1
New Jersey	34	12	15	7	31	102	122	9-3-4	3-12-3	4-5-1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA	HOME	AWAY	DIV
Winnipeg	35	23	10	2	48	127	101	13-4-2	10-6-0	7-4-0
Nashville	36	22	12	2	46	109	90	14-5-0	8-7-2	6-3-0
Colorado	36	19	11	6	44	125	109	8-5-3	11-6-3	4-4-2
Dallas	35	17	15	3	37	96	98	11-4-1	6-11-2	1-4-1
Minnesota	34	17	15	2	36	102	97	10-6-2	7-9-0	6-3-0
Chicago	38	13	19	6	32	108	139	7-7-4	6-12-2	7-4-2
St. Louis	33	13	16	4	30	93	113	8-9-2	5-7-2	5-6-3
PACIFIC	**GP**	**W**	**L**	**OT**	**PTS**	**GF**	**GA**	**HOME**	**AWAY**	**DIV**
Calgary	36	22	11	3	47	126	100	11-3-3	11-8-0	6-5-0
San Jose	36	19	12	5	43	119	108	11-4-2	8-8-3	5-2-1
Anaheim	37	19	13	5	43	95	106	10-4-5	9-9-0	5-3-2
Vegas	37	20	15	2	42	111	104	11-3-1	9-12-1	7-3-1
Edmonton	35	18	14	3	39	99	105	10-5-1	8-9-2	4-4-1
Vancouver	38	17	17	4	38	117	124	9-8-1	8-9-3	4-5-1
Arizona	34	14	18	2	30	83	94	6-10-1	8-8-1	3-3-1
Los Angeles	35	12	20	3	27	79	107	8-10-1	4-10-2	4-5-1

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 Friday*

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
Blackhawks 2, Colorado 1
Washington 2, Buffalo 1
New Jersey 5, Ottawa 2

SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE
Nashville at Boston, noon
Columbus at Philadelphia, noon
Florida at Detroit, 1
St. Louis at Calgary, 3
Montreal at Vegas, 3
Los Angeles at San Jose, 3
Colorado at Arizona, 6
Anaheim at Buffalo, 6
Washington at Ottawa, 6
Pittsburgh at Carolina, 6
N.Y. Rangers at Toronto, 6
Dallas at Minnesota, 7
Winnipeg at Vancouver, 9
Tampa Bay at Edmonton, 9

THURSDAY'S RESULTS
Pittsburgh 2, Minnesota 1
Detroit 4, Carolina 1
Boston 3, Anaheim 1
Columbus 2, New Jersey 1
Toronto 6, Florida 1
Philadelphia 2, Nashville 1
Chicago 5, Dallas 2
Montreal 2, Arizona 1
Tampa Bay 5, Calgary 4 (SO)
Vancouver 5, St. Louis 1
Vegas 4, N.Y. Islanders 2
Winnipeg 5, San Jose 3

BLACKHAWKS 2, AVALANCHE 1

BLACKHAWKS	1	0	1—2
Colorado	0	1	0—1

FIRST PERIOD: 1, BLACKHAWKS, DeBrincat 16 (Kahun, Murphy), 8:07. **Penalties:** Chicago bench, served by Kahun (too many men on the ice), 5:58; Nemeth, COL, (cross checking), 13:21; Perlini, CHI, (high sticking), 16:05; Nemeth, COL, (interference), 18:46.
SECOND PERIOD: 2, Colorado, Compher 9 (Wilson, Kerfoot), 2:58. **Penalties:** DeBrincat, CHI, (holding), 10:21; Keith, CHI, (interference), 18:07.
THIRD PERIOD: 3, BLACKHAWKS, Anisimov 7 (Kane), 1:19. **Penalties:** Seabrook, CHI, (tripping), 13:55; Cole, COL, (hooking), 16:46.
SHOTS ON GOAL:

BLACKHAWKS	9	7	12—28
Colorado	14	11	11—36

POWER PLAYS: BLACKHAWKS 0-of-3; Colorado 0-of-5. **Goalies:** BLACKHAWKS, Delia 1-0-0 (36 shots-35 saves). Colorado, Grubauer 8-3-3 (28-26). **A:** 17,850. **Referees:** Steve Kozari, Pierre Lambert. **Linesmen:** Darren Gibbs, Kiel Murchison.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

HOW AP MEN'S TOP 25 FARED

1. Kansas (10-0) did not play. Next: at No. 18 Arizona State, Saturday.
2. Duke (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Clemson, Saturday, Jan. 5.
3. Tennessee (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Saturday.
4. Michigan (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Air Force, Saturday.
5. Virginia (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. William & Mary, Saturday.
6. Nevada (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Akron, Saturday.
7. Auburn (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Murray State, Saturday.
8. Gonzaga (11-2) beat Denver 101-40. Next: vs. North Alabama, Friday.
9. North Carolina (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 19 Kentucky, Saturday.
10. Michigan State (10-2) beat Oakland 99-69. Next: vs. N. Illinois, Saturday, Dec. 29.
11. Florida State (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Saint Louis, Saturday.
12. Texas Tech (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Texas-Rio Grande Valley, Friday, Dec. 28.
13. Virginia Tech (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Maryland-Eastern Shore, Friday, Dec. 28.
14. Buffalo (11-1) lost to No. 20 Marquette 103-85. Next: at Canisius, Saturday, Dec. 29.
15. Ohio State (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. UCLA, Saturday.
16. Wisconsin (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Grambling State, Saturday.
17. Mississippi State (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Wright State, Saturday.
18. Arizona State (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 1 Kansas, Saturday.
19. Kentucky (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 9 North Carolina, Saturday.
20. Marquette (10-2) beat No. 14 Buffalo 103-85. Next: vs. Southern University, Friday.
21. Houston (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Coppin State, Sunday.
22. Indiana (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Jacksonville, Saturday.
23. Iowa (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Savannah State, Saturday.
24. Furman (12-1) lost to LSU 75-57. Next: at ETSU, Saturday, Dec. 29.
25. Nebraska (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Cal State Fullerton, Saturday.

HOW AP WOMEN'S TOP 25 FARED

1. UConn (10-0) did not play. Next: at No. 14 California, Saturday.
2. Notre Dame (10-1) did not play. Next: at No. 19 Marquette, Saturday.
3. Louisville (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. North Carolina, Thursday, Jan. 3.
4. Mississippi State (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. La.-Lafayette, Sunday, Dec. 30.
5. Maryland (11-0) did not play. Next: at Penn State, Friday.
6. Baylor (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Texas-Rio Grande Valley, Monday.
7. Oregon (11-1) beat UC Irvine 115-69. Next: vs. Washington, Friday, Jan. 4.
8. Stanford (9-1) beat Buffalo 62-55. Next: vs. Cal State Northridge, Sat., Dec. 29.
9. Tennessee (9-1) beat ETSU 80-61. Next: vs. Murray State, Friday.
10. N.C. State (12-0) beat Chattanooga 78-58. Next: vs. Davidson, Sunday, Dec. 30.
11. Oregon State (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Cal State Bakersfield, Saturday, Dec. 29.
12. Texas (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. Northwestern State, Saturday, Dec. 29.
13. Minnesota (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Wisconsin, Saturday.
14. California (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 1 UConn, Saturday.
15. Syracuse (10-2) beat Duquesne 87-71. Next: vs. UCF, Saturday.
16. Iowa (9-2) beat Drake 91-82. Next: at No. 22 Michigan State, Sunday, Dec. 30.
17. Arizona State (9-2) did not play. Next: at Arizona, Sunday, Dec. 30.
18. Kentucky (12-1) beat Murray St. 88-49. Next: vs. Sacred Heart, Saturday, Dec. 29.
19. Marquette (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 2 Notre Dame, Saturday.
20. DePaul (9-3) did not play. Next: vs. Creighton, Saturday, Dec. 29.
21. Gonzaga (11-1) did not play. Next: at Loyola Marymount, Saturday, Dec. 29.
22. Michigan State (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 Iowa, Sunday, Dec. 30.
23. Texas A&M (10-2) beat Prairie View A&M 70-57. Next: vs. Texas-Rio Grande Valley, Saturday, Dec. 29.
24. Miami (11-2) beat Alabama 101-74. Next: vs. Florida A&M, Friday.
25. South Carolina (7-4) beat Temple 88-60. Next: vs. Furman, Sunday, Dec. 30.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS
MEN
MIDWEST
Butler 71, UC Irvine 54
Ill.-Chicago 76, St. Francis (Ill.) 55
Iowa St. 101, E. Illinois 53
Michigan St. 99, Oakland 69
SOUTH
Morehead St. 74, IUPUI 70
UCF 77, Illinois St. 56

WOMEN
EAST
Fairfield 68, Ill.-Chicago 60
MIDWEST
Akron 64, UTEP 57
Ball St. 90, Tennessee St. 51
Bowling Green 79, Valparaiso 72
Butler 73, E. Michigan 63
Cincinnati 85, Howard 51
E. Illinois 63, Indiana St. 39
Indiana 68, S. Dakota 60
Iowa 91, Drake 82
Michigan 76, S. U. 35
Missouri 67, Illinois 45
Missouri St. 68, SIU-Edwardsville 65
N. Illinois 114, Chicago St. 52
N. Iowa 79, Omaha 50
Purdue 74, Bradley 61
S. Illinois 78, IUPUI 73
Toledo 77, Detroit 60
UMKC 80, La. Tech 70
W. Illinois 85, Furman 78
Wisconsin 96, Evansville 60

BASEBALL NOTES

Dodgers trade Puig to Reds

Associated Press

The Dodgers completed a blockbuster trade Friday, sending outfielders Yasiel Puig and Matt Kemp, left-hander Alex Wood, catcher Kyle Farmer and $7 million to the Reds for right-hander Homer Bailey, minor-league infielder Jeter Downs and minor-league right-hander Josiah Gray.

The Dodgers will release Bailey, a veteran starter slated to make $23 million in 2019, which will leave the two-time-defending National League champions without a major-leaguer in exchange for three veterans who played significant roles over the years. They had other motives.

The deal is a substantial money-shedding transaction, one that grants the Dodgers about $14 million they can allocate toward top-flight talent either in free agency or the trade market without having to blow past baseball's $206 million competitive-balance tax threshold. Trading Kemp and Puig also clears some of their logjam in the outfield — and perhaps creates a spot for Bryce Harper, this winter's prized free-agent — while the Dodgers' surplus of starting pitchers made Wood expendable.

Finally, the move adds a couple of prospects to a farm system that has needed some replenishing after significant pieces were needed to acquire Yu Darvish and Manny Machado for their World Series pushes each of the last two seasons. For the flexibility and prospects, the Dodgers surrendered two of the franchise's most popular players in recent history — Kemp and Puig — and their high price tags.

The polarizing Puig's tenure in Los Angeles ends after six eventful seasons. The right fielder, who signed a seven-year contract worth $42 million after fleeing Cuba in 2012, led Dodgers in home runs (108) and extra-base hits (256) while providing elite defense and excitement with his rambunctious style. He flipped bats and licked them. He kissed coaches and ignited crowds with his exuberance.

But Puig, 28, also occasionally maddened teammates, coaches and opponents and had been on the trading block in recent years. Last season, Puig batted .267 with 23 home runs and an .820 OPS.

Kemp, 34, enjoyed a resurgent All-Star first half in 2018 before his numbers plunged and he became a platoon player after the break. He finished with 21 home runs and an .818 OPS.

Wood, 27, is a season removed from an All-Star campaign. After compiling a 2.72 ERA in 2017, the left-hander was a reliever by the end of the season and finished with a 3.68 ERA in 151 2/3 innings.

Cardinals land Miller: The Cardinals found their elite left-handed reliever: Two-time All-Star Andrew Miller and the team agreed to a two-year deal with a vesting option for 2021. Terms were not disclosed.

One of baseball's best relievers when healthy, Miller, 33, was a key reason the Indians advanced to the World Series in 2016, and he was voted the MVP of the ALCS that year, striking out 14 batters in 7 2/3 innings.

The 13-year MLB veteran struggled with nagging injuries last season, including three trips to the disabled list. A sore shoulder, a hamstring issue and inflammation in his right knee limited him to a 2-4 record with a 4.24 ERA in 37 regular-season games for the Indians.

He made 57 appearances in 2017, his first full season with the Indians, who acquired him in a trade with the Yankees in July 2016. In the last three seasons, Miller has 16 saves, 264 strikeouts and a 2.00 ERA in 171 innings.

Extra innings: Former Cub Daniel Murphy signed a two-year, $24 million deal with the Rockies that includes a mutual option for 2021. The plan is for Murphy, 33, to take over at first base and move Ian Desmond to the outfield. ... The Rangers traded INF Jurickson Profar to the Athletics in a three-team deal that included the Rays. ... The Mariners acquired OF Domingo Santana from the Brewers in exchange for OF Ben Gamel and minor-league pitcher Noah Zavalos. ... Yankees LHP CC Sabathia, 38, had a stent inserted after a blockage was found in an artery from his heart. He is expected to report to spring training on time.

IN BRIEF

COLLEGES: Special prosecutor Bill Forsyth in a report accused Michigan State of stonewalling his investigation into the school's handling of the sexual-abuse scandal involving former sports doctor Larry Nassar and called for "top-down cultural change" at the school. ... Michigan QB Shea Patterson announced that he will return for his senior season. ... Freshman Zach Wilson set a BYU-record with 18-for-18 passing, throwing for 317 yards and four TDs in the Cougars' 49-18 win over Western Michigan in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl in Boise. Wilson tied the NCAA bowl record for completion percentage set by Riley Skinner at 11-for-11 for Wake Forest in the 2008 EagleBank Bowl. Down 10-7 at halftime, BYU (7-6) scored 28 points in the third quarter. ... Anthony Jones rushed for three TDs to help Florida International (9-4) rally from an early 10-point deficit and earn a 35-32 victory over Toledo in the Bahamas Bowl in Nassau.

SOCCER: Liverpool extended its unbeaten start to the English Premier League season to 18 matches and its lead atop the standings to four points with a 2-0 road win over Wolverhampton. ... A Spanish court announced that Juventus and former Real Madrid player Cristiano Ronaldo will be tried for tax fraud Jan. 21. Ronaldo is expected to plead guilty and receive a suspended two-year sentence.

ALSO: Mikaela Shiffrin won a giant slalom in Courchevel, France, for her fourth straight World Cup win. ... The Australian Open in January will play a 10-point tiebreaker in deciding sets, no longer playing advantage in the final sets.

— Edited from news services

NHL

Wilson's goal in 3rd gives Caps win

Tom Wilson broke a tie with seven minutes left, Braden Holtby made 36 saves and the Capitals beat the Sabres 2-1 on Friday night in Washington.

Evgeny Kuznetsov started the winning play when he stole the puck from goalie Carter Hutton behind the net. The center quickly fed Wilson just outside of the crease. Wilson has 10 goals in 15 games this season.

Holtby came up big in the final moments as the Caps spent most of the final two minutes killing off a penalty.

The Caps have won six of their last seven games.

■ Reigning MVP Taylor Hall had two goals and two assists, and the Devils snapped a three-game losing streak with a 5-2 victory over the visiting Senators. Kyle Palmieri added a goal and two assists, and the Devils won for only the fourth time in the last 17 games. ... The Maple Leafs announced Thursday night that C Zach Hyman will miss at least three weeks with an ankle sprain. Hyman suffered the injury during Tuesday's 7-2 win over the Devils.

News services

NBA

Rockets lose Paul for at least 2 weeks

All-Star guard Chris Paul will miss at least two weeks after suffering a hamstring injury during the Rockets' loss to the Heat on Thursday night.

The Rockets said in a statement Friday that an MRI revealed a Grade-2 strain to Paul's left hamstring and ruled out a more serious injury. He will be re-evaluated in two weeks.

Paul, 33, has missed a total of 19 games, including the playoffs, with hamstring injuries in his career.

■ Victor Oladipo scored 14 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter, Thaddeus Young added 21, and the visiting Pacers beat Nets 114-106, ending their seven-game winning streak. ... Lauri Markkanen scored a season-high 32 points and the Bulls won for just the third time in 15 games, beating the visiting Magic 90-80. ... Marvin Williams made seven 3-pointers and scored a season-high 24 points to lead the host Hornets to a 98-86 win over the Pistons. ... The Knicks announced that Kristaps Porzingis' left knee is healing well from a torn ACL and will be re-evaluated in mid-February.

News services

DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

Artem Anisimov, left, congratulates Collin Delia after the Blackhawks won 2-1. Anisimov scored the game-winning goal in the third period and Delia made 35 saves.

Delia stands out

Blackhawks, *from* ***Page 1***

said. "It's something I'll want to build upon. I'll go back and look at video and (say) this is what I did well, this is what I can work on. (I felt) just pure elation and happiness."

Murphy assisted on Alex DeBrincat's 16th goal of the season in the first period.

On the play on which Murphy was injured Thursday, Pitlick wasn't called for a penalty. Murphy had just come onto the ice and spotted Miro Heiskanen preparing to take the puck to the net. Pitlick got between Heiskanen and Murphy, then at the last instant dipped his body and left an elbow up that struck Murphy in the face.

Blood began gushing from Murphy's nose, partially from the cut but mostly from the blow causing an old-fashioned nosebleed. It was reminiscent of the hit Marcus Kruger took against the Predators when Ryan Hartman's elbow caught him in the head and drew blood.

Murphy said he chose not to watch a replay to avoid getting "riled up" but he did get a secondhand account of the play.

"I doubt anything was intentional," Murphy said.

Coach Jeremy Colliton has seen his players getting hit often, including Kruger and goalie Corey Crawford, who struck his head on a goal post Sunday and suffered his second concussion in less than a year.

The Hawks didn't have an adequate backup when Crawford was hurt last season, which led general manager Stan Bowman to sign veteran Cam Ward to a one-year, $3 million deal in the offseason.

Ward was outstanding in the two starts after Crawford's injury, stopping 56 of 59 shots in wins over the Predators and Stars. It gave Ward a 5-0-2 record in stars this season while Crawford was on injured reserve. When Crawford has been healthy, Ward is 1-5-2 with a no-decision.

Despite Ward's excellence the last two games, Colliton on Friday gave Delia his first start since being promoted after Crawford's injury.

It turned out to be a very good plan.

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In Memoriam

Telesfora Escamilla
Jan. 5, 1932 - Dec. 22, 2016
On this tragic day your life was taken away. Our lives have changed forever. We miss you dearly.
The Escamilla family
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Death Notices

Adams, John G. 'Jack'
John "Jack" G. Adams, age 80, of Huntley, formerly of Lombard and Bartlett. Cherished husband of Beverly nee Eldridge; dear father of John J. (Connie), Laura (Steve) Gallagher, Doug and Tom; grandfather of 9: Jessica (Robert) Veltman, Melissa (Carlos) Perez, Michael Gallagher, Olivia Adams, Christian Adams, Tyler Adams, Ryan Gallagher, Justin Adams, Hayden Adams; great-grandfather of 5; many other relatives. Funeral Sunday with Visitation 2 PM until time of Prayer Service at 5 PM at **Brust Funeral Home**, 135 S. Main St., Lombard. Interment private. Info www.brustfuneralhome.com or 888-629-0094.
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Goldman, Paul H.
Paul H. Goldman, 82. Loving husband of the late Barbara Goldman. Devoted father of Larry (Deena) Goldman, Shanna (Jon) Brooks and Alan (Stacy) Goldman. Proud grandfather of Benjamin, Cobi (Nomi), Jordana, Brian, Lindsey, Chelsea and Harper. Dear brother of Doreen (the late Don) Purney. Service Sunday 11AM at Shalom Memorial Park, 1700 West Rand, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Memorials in his memory to the The Michael J. Fox Foundation, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014, www.michaeljfox.org would be appreciated. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Skokie Chapel 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Krueger, Dolores
Dolores M Krueger, 80, of Dowagiac, MI, passed away on December 18 at her home, with her family.
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Lassner, Gladys
Gladys Lassner, Age 89, beloved wife of the late Dr. Joseph Lassner for 67 years. Loving mother of Michael Walter Lassner (Stacey Rulian Roberts) and David Kalman Lassner. Graveside services, Sunday 12 Noon at Beverly Cemetery, 12300 S. Kedzie, Blue Island. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Shir Tikvah, 1424 W. 183rd St., Homewood, IL 60430 www.shir-tikvah-homewood.org. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Buffalo Grove Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com.

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

McMahon Schejbal, Geraldine Claire 'Jeri'
Geraldine "Jeri" Claire McMahon, age 76, of Eddyville, Kentucky and formerly of Burr Ridge, IL, passed away at her home on Sunday, December 9. She was a retired self-employed artist, a member of St. Stephens Catholic Church in Cadiz, KY a master gardener and a volunteer with the Lyon County Food Bank.

Survivors include one daughter, Seane McMahon, Lincolnwood, IL; one son, William McMahon, Chicago, IL; one sister, Joan Geary, Hinsdale, IL; one brother Richard Roddewig, Chicago, IL; and nine grandchildren, Grace, Conor, Emily, Will, Molly, Elizabeth, Sadie, Malley and Kim.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Schejbal; her parents, Clair and Geraldine Hendricks Roddewig, and one daughter, Megan McMahon Behnke.

A funeral mass will be held at St. Matthias Church in Chicago on December 22 at 9:30 am.
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Ramski, Mitchell Joseph 'Butchie'
In October of 2018, Mitchell Joseph Ramski "Butchie" passed away. He was a beloved son to Josephine and Joseph, a great brother to Joesph, William, Kenneth, Angela, Rita, Julie and Gloria, a wonderful father to Mitchell and Jason, a loving grandfather to Kelsey, Leland and Mitchell and a friend to so many. He spent over 40 years of his life protecting our community with him military service and as police officer. He will always be remember for the lives he touched both directly and indirectly. So many will miss him but he gave us so many great memories.
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Salmon, Doris Marie

Doris Marie Salmon was born August 16, 1918 in Joliet Illinois to Wilbur H. Harpham and Marie Adelmann Harpham. Doris lived in Lockport Illinois until 1932 and then moved with her parents to Waukegan Illinois. She graduated from Waukegan High School in 1936 and attended college at National College of Education where she earned a bachelors' degree in 1940. She taught first grade in Monroe Michigan, Highland Park, and Lake Forest. Doris married Robert W. Salmon in 1948 and shared 56 years with him until his death in 2004. Throughout her life, Doris was an active community member involved in the AAUW, Woman's Club, Historical Society, YMCA, Friends of Library, Girl Scouts, and Pads. She was a member of Brentwood Swim and Tennis Club for 38 years where she developed and enjoyed many lifelong friendships.
Doris is survived by her children Richard Salmon (Niki), Susan Turnage (Ernest), and Diane Salmon, five grandchildren (Marie, Adam, Larisa, Daniel, Alec), and three great grandchildren (Lila, Parker, Clark). Funeral services will be at 11:00 AM on Monday, December 24, 2018 at Peterson and Patch Funeral Home 408 N. Sheridan Rd. Waukegan, Illinois. Burial following services at Ascension Cemetery. Visitation will be from 10:00 AM to time of service at the funeral home.
Please sign our online guestbook at www.waukeganfunerals.com.

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Chicago Tribune

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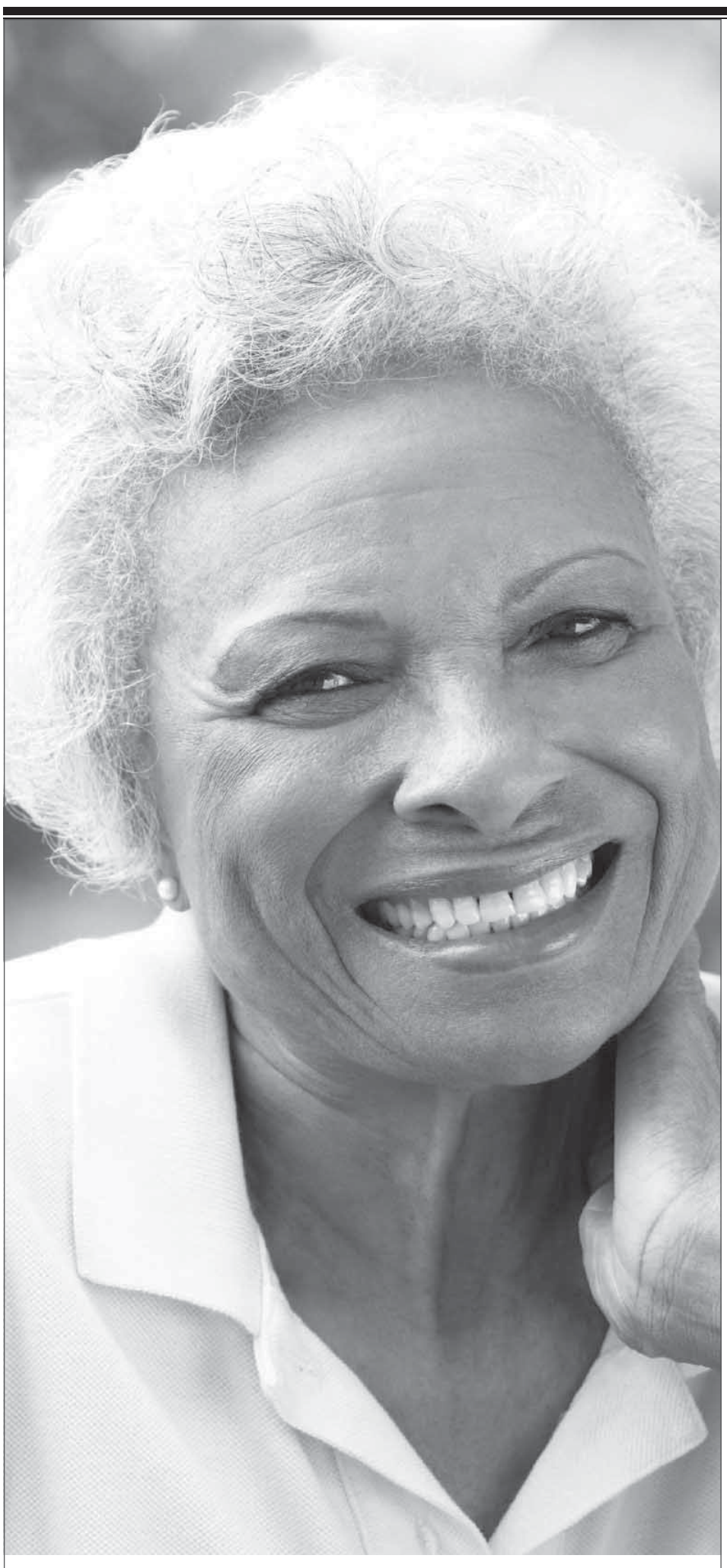

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DiMeo Bros., Inc, 720 Richard Lane, Elk Grove, IL 60007, phone 847-640-224Q, is seeking minority and women business enterprises for the City of Chicago Forest Preserve Sewer Improvement Project- Specification No. 567037- for subcontracting opportunities in the following areas, Landscaping, Trucking, Concrete, Paving, Traffic Control, Pavement Markings, and Laboring in the Chicago Land Area. All disadvantages businesses should contact, IN WRITING, (certified letter, return receipt requested to John DiMeo, to discuss the subcontracting opportunities. All negotiations must be completed prior to the bid opening date January 8, 2019 @ 11:00AM

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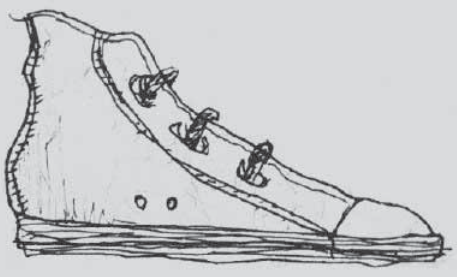

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CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | By Tom Skilling and WGN9

SATURDAY, DEC. 22 | NORMAL HIGH: **33°** | NORMAL LOW: **19°** | RECORD HIGH: **57° (1957)** | RECORD LOW: **-21° (1872)**

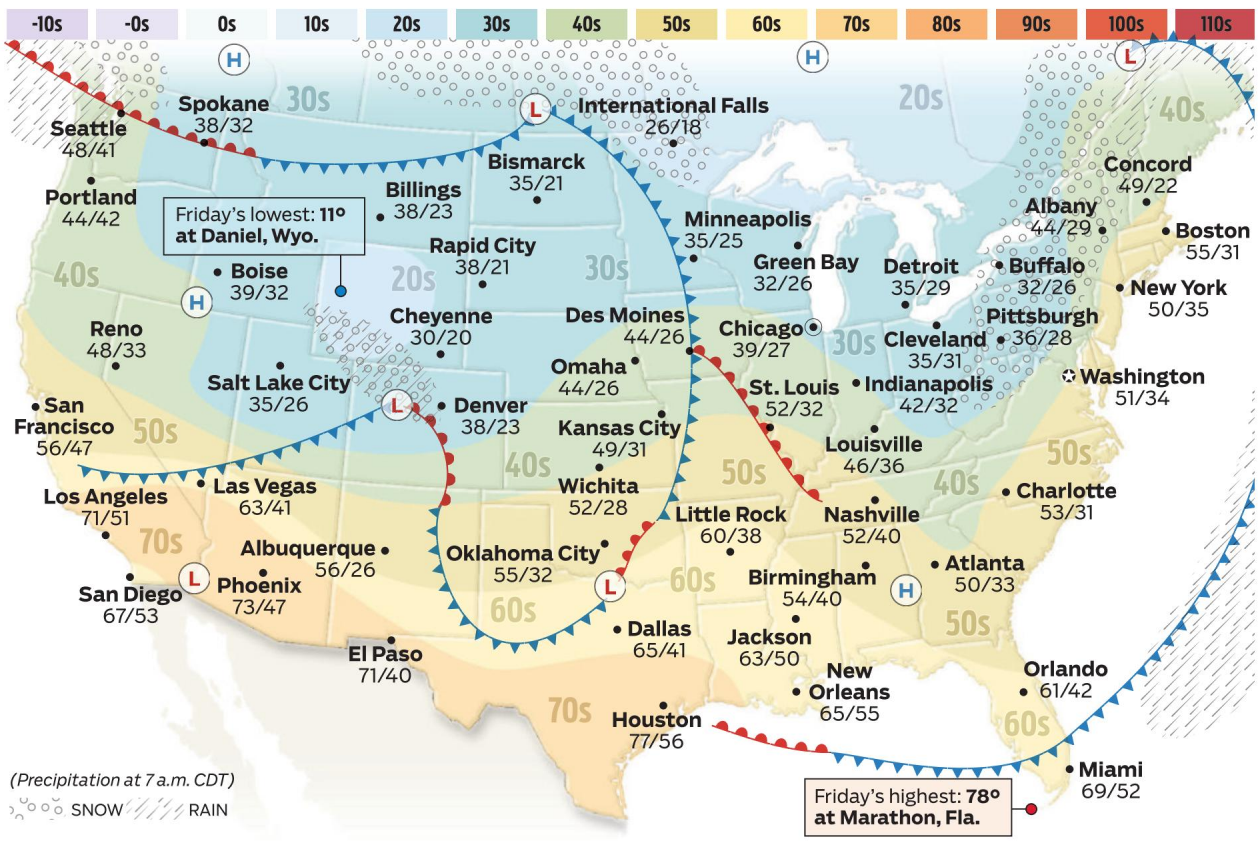
December's snow drought forecast to continue

LOCAL FORECAST

HIGH	LOW
39	27

- **Weather system approaching the upper Great Lakes raises precipitation chances.**
- Chilly to start the day, temps generally range from 25 to 30 degrees early.
- Partial sunshine in the morning helps raise temps to near 40 midday.
- Winds become SE at 10-15 mph.
- Clouds thicken during the day, leading to a chance of late afternoon/evening sprinkles or flurries.
- Partial clearing at night as drier air arrives with the passage of an evening cold front.

NATIONAL FORECAST



After a November that produced 12.7 inches of snow, or 10 times the normal amount for the month, flakes have been noticeably absent. Through Friday, only 0.3 inches of snow has accumulated at O'Hare International Airport since December 1. On average, the city receives 5.2 inches by this point in the month. The absence of snow is not confined to the Chicago area. As of Friday, a mere 17.5 percent of the continental U.S. had observed an inch or more of snow cover. Normally, about 38 percent of the country is snow-covered on the first day of winter.

Friday's average temperature of 35 was 9 degrees above normal, making it the 11th straight day to post a temperature surplus. With no snow cover, polar air masses modify faster, and to a greater degree, losing their potency as they settle southward.

SUNDAY, DEC. 23

HIGH	LOW
37	26

Brisk W-NW winds make for a chilly day, though temps run about 5 degrees above normal. Peeks of sun, but clouds dominate. Chance of afternoon/evening flurries.

MONDAY, DEC. 24

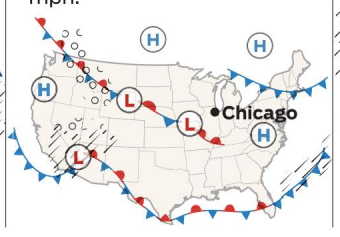
HIGH	LOW
37	29

Tranquil. Mostly sunny through midday, then becoming cloudy. Temps reach the mid-upper 30s in the afternoon. Cloudy, but dry overnight. Light W winds.

TUESDAY, DEC. 25

HIGH	LOW
38	30

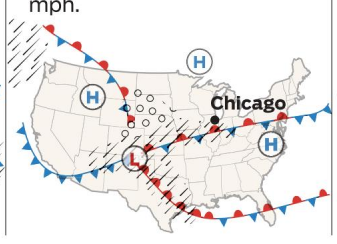
Christmas day opens gray with a period of light snow or flurries possible into midday, then partly cloudy. Temps peak in the upper 30s. NE winds around 10 mph.



WEDNESDAY, DEC. 26

HIGH	LOW
37	Steady or rising at night

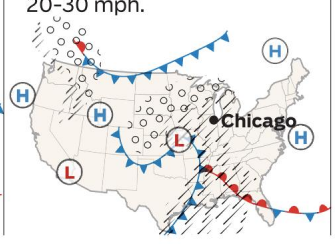
Clouds thicken and lower. Patchy rain/snow/sleet late, changes to light rain/drizzle at night. Temps peak in the mid 30s, then slowly rise overnight. E-SE winds 15-20 mph.



THURSDAY, DEC. 27

HIGH	LOW
48	41

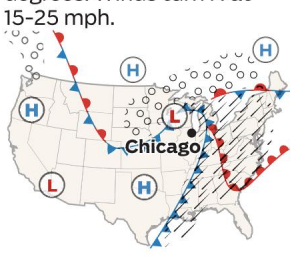
Windy, rainy, and very mild. Temps may reach 50 degrees, especially S-E of the city. Thunder possible. Cooler, drier arrives during the evening. SE-S winds 20-30 mph.



FRIDAY, DEC. 28

HIGH	LOW
41	26

Cloudy and trending colder. Intermittent light rain/drizzle mixes with snow as temps slowly fall from a morning high around 40 degrees. Winds turn N at 15-25 mph.



ASK TOM

Dear Tom,
What is the difference between hoarfrost and rime ice?
Diann Thomas, Westmont

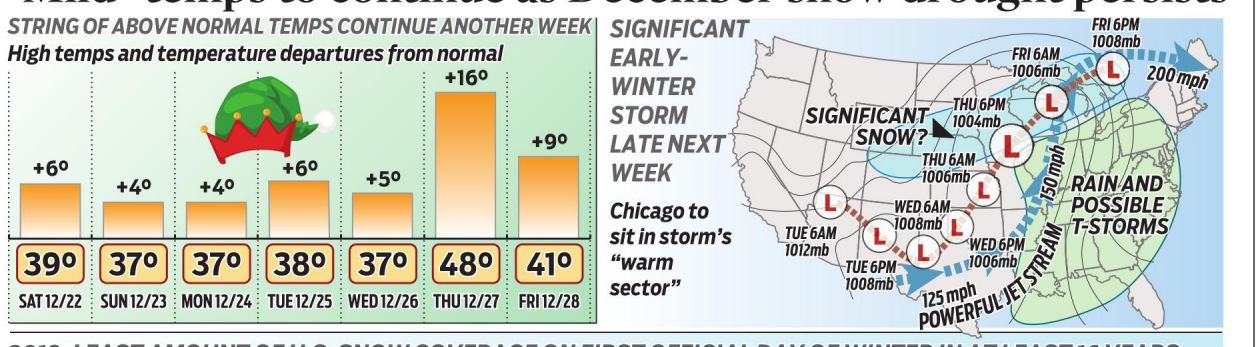
Dear Diann,
Hoarfrost is a direct deposition of atmospheric moisture in the form of ice crystals on small-diameter objects like tree branches, plant stems, wires, poles, etc., without the moisture ever passing through the liquid phase. It typically forms on clear, cold and calm nights and can give objects an almost "fairyland" appearance, especially during the early morning hours when the frost is brilliantly illuminated by the low-angle sunlight. The term "hoar" is a reference to the frosty coating and comes from the word hoary, which means white or gray with age, or showing characteristics of age. Rime ice is a deposit of ice that forms when supercooled cloud or fog droplets rapidly freeze when coming in contact with an object.

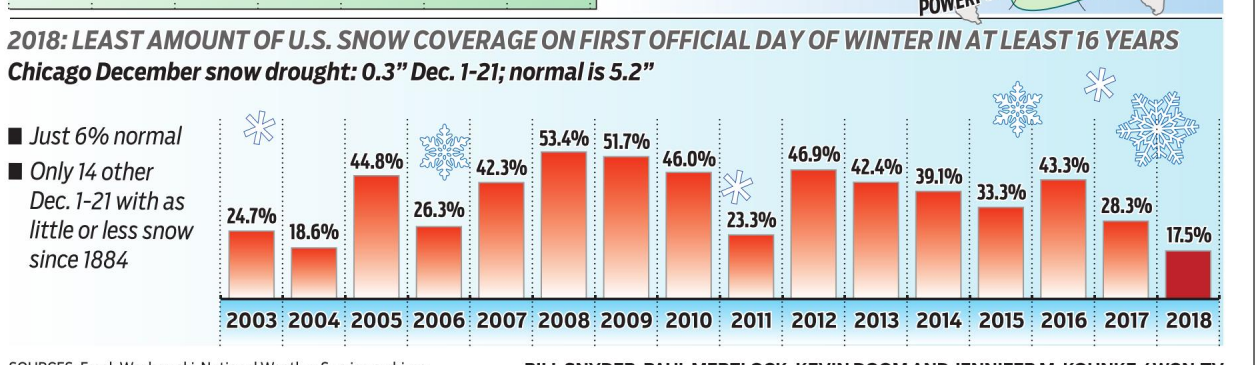
Write to: ASK TOM
2501 W. Bradley Place
Chicago, IL 60618
asktomwhy@wgntv.com

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 to continue as December snow drought persists





SOURCES: Frank Wachowski, National Weather Service archives

BILL SNYDER, PAUL MERZLOCK, KEVIN DOOM AND JENNIFER M. KOHNKE / WGN-TV

CHICAGO DIGEST

FRIDAY TEMPERATURES

LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	37	32	Midway	40	32
Gary	41	34	O'Hare	38	31
Kankakee	39	32	Romeoville	38	32
Lakefront	39	32	Valparaiso	42	34
Lansing	38	32	Waukegan	38	31

CHICAGO PRECIPITATION

PERIOD	2018	NORMAL
Fri. (through 4 p.m.)	0.05"	0.07"
December to date	1.67"	1.65"
Year to date	47.58"	36.29"

CHICAGO SNOWFALL

PERIOD	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Fri. (through 4 p.m.)	Trace	Trace
Season to date	13.0"	9.4"
Normal to date	6.6"	6.7"

SOURCE: Frank Wachowski

LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS

	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Wind	SE 10-15 kts.	W-NW 15-25 kts.
Waves	2-4 feet	3-5 feet
Fri. shore/crib water temps	39°/35°	

U.S. SNOW COVER

DEC. 21	2018	2017
Area covered by snow	17.5%	28.3%
Average snow depth	1.5"	2.0"

TRACKING THE COLD

SINCE OCT. 15	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Sub-32° highs	4 days	5 days
Subzero lows	0 days	0 days

CHICAGO AIR QUALITY

Friday's reading	Good
Saturday's forecast	Good
Critical pollutant	Particles

SATURDAY RISE/SET TIMES

Sun	7:16 a.m.	4:23 p.m.
Moon	4:40 p.m.	6:57 a.m.

3RD Q	NEW	1ST Q	FULL
Dec. 29	Jan. 5	Jan. 14	Jan. 20

SATURDAY PLANET WATCH

PLANET	RISE	SET
Mercury	5:39 a.m.	3:08 p.m.
Venus	3:24 a.m.	1:53 p.m.
Mars	11:31 p.m.	11:16 p.m.
Jupiter	5:38 a.m.	3:00 p.m.
Saturn	7:54 a.m.	5:06 p.m.

BEST VIEWING	TIME	DIRECTION
Mercury	Not visible	
Venus	5:45 a.m.	22° SE
Mars	5:30 p.m.	45° S
Jupiter	6:00 a.m.	3.5° ESE
Saturn	Not visible	

SOURCE: Dan Joyce, Triton College

MIDWEST CITIES

SAT./SUN.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Illinois						
Carbondale	pc	49	33	pc	45	29
Champaign	pc	44	30	pc	41	26
Decatur	pc	46	30	pc	41	27
Moline	cl	43	28	pc	40	24
Peoria	pc	45	29	pc	41	25
Quincy	pc	47	30	pc	46	28
Rockford	pc	39	27	pc	37	23
Springfield	pc	48	30	pc	43	27
Sterling	pc	41	27	pc	38	23
Indiana						
Bloomington	pc	44	33	pc	42	28
Evansville	pc	48	33	sh	44	28
Fort Wayne	pc	37	31	sh	38	27
Indianapolis	pc	42	32	sh	40	27
Lafayette	pc	41	30	pc	40	26
South Bend	pc	36	29	pc	37	26
Wisconsin						
Green Bay	pc	32	26	cl	34	22
Kenosha	pc	37	28	cl	37	23
La Crosse	cl	37	26	cl	33	20
Madison	pc	36	26	cl	34	21
Milwaukee	pc	36	27	pc	35	22
Wausau	sh	29	21	sh	29	17
Michigan						
Detroit	pc	35	29	sh	36	29
Grand Rapids	cl	35	30	sh	37	30
Marquette	sh	27	21	sh	30	24
St. Ste. Marie	pc	24	14	sh	26	20
Traverse City	sh	31	27	sh	35	27
Iowa						
Ames	pc	42	24	pc	40	23
Cedar Rapids	pc	40	25	pc	38	21
Des Moines	pc	44	26	pc	42	25
Dubuque	cl	40	26	pc	37	21

OTHER U.S. CITIES

SAT./SUN.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Abilene	su	65	35	pc	54	36
Albany	sh	44	29	pc	38	30
Albuquerque	su	56	26	pc	49	31
Amarillo	su	57	23	pc	51	34
Anchorage	sh	25	22	sh	24	19
Asheville	pc	43	27	sh	52	30
Aspen	sn	28	6	sh	31	18
Atlanta	su	50	33	sh	56	34
Atlantic City	pc	48	31	su	46	36
Austin	pc	75	46	su	62	41
Baltimore	pc	48	34	pc	46	38
Billings	su	38	23	pc	41	28
Birmingham	su	54	40	sh	57	33
Bismarck	cl	35	21	pc	29	14
Boise	pc	39	32	rs	40	34
Boston	sh	55	31	su	42	32
Brownsville	pc	80	61	pc	77	59
Buffalo	sh	32	26	sh	36	29
Burlington	rs	47	21	pc	28	20
Charlotte	su	53	31	pc	57	35
Charlstn SC	su	54	38	su	60	46
Charlstn WV	sh	40	29	rn	46	30
Chattanooga	su	51	34	sh	52	30
Cheyenne	ss	30	20	pc	40	28
Cincinnati	pc	42	31	sh	40	27
Cleveland	sh	35	31	sh	39	31
Colo. Spgs	pc	41	17	pc	44	26
Columbia MO	pc	50	31	su	48	31
Columbia SC	su	56	34	su	61	41
Columbus	pc	38	30	sh	40	27
Concord	pc	49	22	su	35	23
Crps Christi	su	80	58	sh	70	55
Dallas	su	65	41	su	58	37
Daytona Bch.	su	61	40	su	67	43
Denver	pc	38	23	pc	48	28
Duluth	sh	29	23	sh	27	17
El Paso	pc	71	40	su	64	39
Fairbanks	pc	-6	-11	su	-9	-14
Fargo	sh	31	17	pc	21	8
Flagstaff	pc	52	23	pc	52	22
Fort Myers	pc	67	46	pc	70	49
Fort Smith	su	60	36	su	54	31
Fresno	pc	56	41	sh	57	42
Grand Junc.	su	40	21	pc	40	27
Great Falls	pc	37	24	pc	42	31
Harrisburg	cl	43	31	pc	45	34
Hartford	sh	51	29	pc	42	32
Helena	pc	35	21	cl	37	28
Honolulu	pc	82	72	pc	81	71
Houston	pc	77	56	pc	67	49
Int'l Falls	ss	26	18	ss	23	11
Jackson	su	63	50	sh	60	36
Jacksonville	su	59	42	su	65	48
Juneau	pc	31	22	sh	28	24
Kansas City	pc	49	31	su	49	34
Las Vegas	pc	63	41	pc	62	41
Lexington	pc	43	34	rn	41	28
Lincoln	pc	48	26	su	49	26
Little Rock	su	60	38	su	54	33
Los Angeles	pc	71	51	pc	70	51
Louisville	pc	46	36	sh	42	29
Macon	su	55	32	pc	62	37
Memphis	su	58	43	pc	50	32
Miami	pc	69	52	pc	72	60
Minneapolis	sh	35	25	cl	29	18
Mobile	su	60	50	cl	68	46
Montgomery	su	58	37	sh	64	37
Nashville	su	52	40	sh	48	29
New Orleans	su	65	55	sh	69	50
New York	pc	50	35	pc	45	38
Norfolk	su	55	34	su	53	40
Okla. City	su	55	32	pc	53	37
Omaha	pc	44	26	su	44	27
Orlando	su	61	42	su	67	46
Palm Beach	su	66	49	pc	72	58
Palm Springs	pc	76	53	pc	74	52
Philadelphia	pc	46	31	pc	45	34
Phoenix	pc	73	47	pc	72	47
Pittsburgh	sh	36	28	sh	40	30
Portland, ME	sh	50	24	su	36	22
Portland, OR	rn	44	42	rn	50	44
Providence	pc	51	28	su	41	30
Raleigh	su	53	31	su	56	38
Rapid City	pc	38	21	cl	42	25
Reno	cl	48	33	sh	52	37
Richmond	pc	53	30	su	53	36
Rochester	sh	33	27	sh	35	30
Sacramento	cl	57	41	sh	59	48
Salem, Ore.	rn	45	43	rn	50	45
Salt Lake City	pc	35	26	sh	42	33
San Antonio	su	77	48	pc	67	46
San Diego	pc	67	53	pc	66	54
San Francisco	pc	56	47	pc	57	51
San Juan	sh	84	73	pc	83	73
Santa Fe	su	49	22	pc	43	26
Savannah	su	56	36	su	63	44
Seattle	rn	48	41	sh	49	43
Shreveport	su	69	44	su	59	37
Sioux Falls	pc	40	24	pc	36	19
Spokane	pc	38	32	rs	39	35
St. Louis	pc	52	32	pc	46	30
Syracuse	ss	34	26	cl	32	28
Tallahassee	su	58	35	pc	66	48
Tampa	pc	62	43	pc	66	45
Topeka	pc	50	28	su	50	33
Tucson	su	75	44	su	74	44
Tulsa	su	57	34	su	54	34
Washington	pc	51	34	pc	50	38
Wichita	pc	52	28	pc	51	33
Wilkes Barre	sh	37	25	pc	38	30
Yuma	su	74	50	pc	74	48

WORLD CITIES

SATURDAY	FC	HI	LO	SATURDAY	FC	HI	LO
Acapulco	su	84	71	Kingston	sh	85	77
Algiers	su	68	44	Lima	pc	77	68
Amsterdam	cl	50	44	Lisbon	pc	62	45
Ankara	pc	48	30	London	pc	52	43
Athens	pc	62	46	Madrid	pc	51	37
Auckland	sh	72	65	Manila	ts	80	75
Baghdad	pc	63	44	Mexico City	su	70	42
Bangkok	pc	94	76	Monterrey	su	82	56
Barbados	pc	83	75	Montreal	rs	40	19
Barcelona	su	64	46	Moscow	sn	25	21
Beijing	su	34	10	Munich	sh	53	44
Beirut	pc	65	55	Nairobi	ts	79	60
Berlin	sh	47	40	Nassau	pc	73	63
Bermuda	ts	74	66	New Delhi	fg	71	43
Bogota	pc	70	43	Oslo	pc	21	10
Brussels	pc	51	43	Ottawa	sn	31	12
Bucharest	pc	37	36	Panama City	pc	88	74
Budapest	rn	42	35	Paris	cl	55	47
Buenos Aires	pc	82	61	Prague	sh	50	40
Cairo	pc	71	52	Rio de Janeiro	ts	98	79
Cancun	su	77	68	Riyadh	pc	67	47
Caracas	pc	78	62	Rome	sh	58	46
Casablanca	su	70	49	Santiago	su	86	56
Copenhagen	sh	37	33	Seoul	pc	42	16
Dublin	pc	49	44	Singapore	ts	89	77
Edmonton	su	19	7	Sofia	pc	43	33
Frankfurt	sh	46	39	Stockholm	sh	29	23
Geneva	sh	52	41	Sydney	pc	71	59
Guadalajara	su	75	37	Taipei	rn	74	61
Havana	pc	75	57	Tehran	pc	46	35
Helsinki	sn	20	16	Tokyo	sh	55	45
Hong Kong	sh	72	61	Toronto	cl	32	26
Istanbul	pc	51	49	Trinidad	pc	86	71
Jerusalem	pc	57	42	Vancouver	rn	44	42
Johannesburg	ts	84	63	Vienna	sh	52	41
Kabul	su	52	24	Warsaw	sh	44	32
Kiev	rs	35	34	Winnipeg	ss	26	17

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

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE

Getting burned in college big lessons for Flowers

By Mike Vorel
Seattle Times

SEATTLE — Here's the first stop on a tour of Tre Flowers' football failures.

It was Halloween in Lubbock, Texas, in late 2015, and the rookie Seahawks cornerback was a redshirt sophomore safety for Oklahoma State. The 7-0 Cowboys met the 5-3 Texas Tech Red Raiders in front of nearly 55,000 fans at Jones AT&T Stadium.

They were all witness to something special — and, given the holiday, fairly gruesome — at the Oklahoma State secondary's expense. Sure, the Cowboys ultimately won the game, 70-53.

But Texas Tech quarterback Patrick Mahomes threw for 480 yards and four touchdowns in the process.

"Everything that y'all are amazed about now, I saw that firsthand three years ago — him throwing with his left (hand), him throwing blind," Flowers said last week. "I saw all that in college."

In his only two games (and losses) against Oklahoma State, Mahomes completed 67.9 percent of his passes, throwing for 841 yards and seven touchdowns with a pair of interceptions. Picked 10th overall by Kansas City in the 2017 NFL draft, he has since emerged as an MVP favorite in his first season as the full-time starter, leading the NFL in both passing yards (4,543) and touchdowns (45) while propelling his team to an 11-3 record.

Those Chiefs will arrive at CenturyLink Field on Sunday night with an AFC West title hanging firmly in the balance. Mahomes' season-long coming-out party will descend on the Seattle secondary.

But Flowers knew three years ago what the rest of the world has since discovered.

"He's special. He's different," Flowers said of Mahomes. "I've been telling people that. They think it's the system. No, he's special. He's a different type of quarterback."

But Flowers, too, is a different type of tough. The Seahawks' 6-foot-3, 203-pound cornerback is a product of perseverance, molded by the memories of all the plays he didn't make.

Take the 48-14 loss at Kansas State in 2014, for example. Flowers — then a redshirt freshman safety — was burned for a 20-yard touchdown by a skinny, speedy, vastly more experienced wide receiver named Tyler Lockett.

"He killed us," Flowers said of his Seahawks teammate last week.

Or what about the rivalry game against Oklahoma in 2017? On the Sooners' opening drive, Flowers lined up across from his cousin, OU fullback Dimitri Flowers. Dimitri made a move, Tre fell down and 49 yards later he galloped untouched into the end zone.

"He scored on me his senior year," Flowers admitted of his cousin, who shared a house with him at times during their childhood. "It was terrible. It was a terrible experience.

"That'll probably be his last words to me when we die. But it's all love. It makes us better."

Therein lies the secret behind Flowers' unlikely success. Not so long ago, the negative plays would fester. They would linger on his conscience and steadily corrode his technique.

But through years of playing defensive back in the Big 12 — through countless stops on his tour of failures — Flowers' armor became impenetrable. The disappointments didn't destroy him, or distract him. They improved him.

"It was definitely a growth process," Flowers said. "I remember times when I wouldn't talk to anybody, I was so pissed from the game before. That's just how I worked.

"It bothers me when I don't perform up to my level. They can say I'm doing a good job, but if I feel like I could've done something better then I'm mad at myself. But it doesn't really affect me anymore physically. You can't really see something's affecting me how it used to. So I just keep going."

When he allowed Denver's Emmanuel Sanders to catch 10 passes on 11 targets for 143 yards — including a 43-yard touchdown — in his first NFL start, Flowers kept going.

When he missed a tackle that sprung San Francisco rookie wide receiver Dante Pettis for a 75-yard score on Dec. 2, Flowers kept going.

When Minnesota's Stephon Diggs skied for a 48-yard catch in front of him on Monday night football, Flowers kept going. He dove into the end zone to break up a pass intended for Diggs later in the same quarter.

Flowers has held his own (and then some) in his rookie season in Seattle, despite being asked to adopt a new position and then immediately start against the NFL's best. He has totaled 61 tackles, with six passes defended, three forced fumbles and a fumble recovery last week against San Francisco. He has earned the reputation of a physical tackler.

He has earned the trust of his teammates, too.

"Right now, I see Tre. He's a rookie, but he's a veteran in my eyes," said sixth-year safety Bradley McDougald. "He's doing all the little things right. He comes to work early, he gets his treatment, he gets his body back together, he stays, and he listens."

And, yes, he makes some painful rookie mistakes.

But Mahomes, Lockett and Dimitri Flowers prepared him to overcome them.

"He's been really strong-minded about it," Seahawks head coach Pete Carroll said last week. "He started working his mentality way back in April when we got going, being able to see it's always about the next play. His focus has been really good.

"You can see his technique doesn't change from being affected by what has happened before. He's been very, very consistent. He's just a good, tough minded guy."

Added first-year Seahawks defensive coordinator Ken Norton Jr. with a grin, when asked to describe Flowers' game: "Resilient. Tough. He's fearless and he loves working and he just gets better and better."

Of course, Flowers will need to be the best version of himself on Sunday, against a very familiar foe. Against a Seahawks pass defense that ranks No. 20 in the NFL, Mahomes will make his plays.

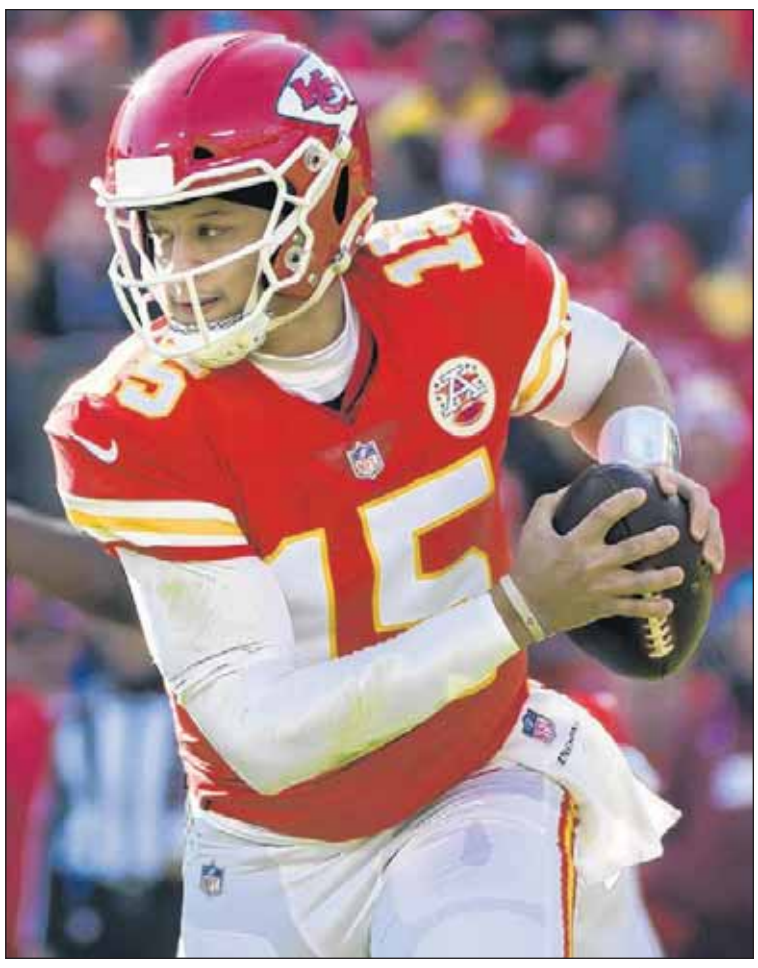
Meanwhile, Flowers will more than likely make a mistake. and he'll keep going. He always does.

"My mind is really in other places other than trying to dwell on things that are negative," Flowers said. "I try to watch positive things. I try to keep myself positive all throughout the week, and it really builds up.

"It's just something I want to be. I just want to be great."

DAVID T. FOSTER III/TNS

Seahawks corner Tre Flowers defends against Panthers receiver DJ Moore during a game in November.



REED HOFFMANN/AP

Patrick Mahomes impressed Flowers when they faced off in college.

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE

JENN FINCH/AP

Tom Crean yells from in front of the Georgia bench during a game in November. Crean on building a basketball program at the football powerhouse: "We just have to learn how to win."

Crean's aim: Hoops power at football-crazy Georgia

By Paul Newberry
Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — Tom Crean can put a positive spin on pretty much any conversation.

Sure, it's been a bit of a culture shock to go from hoops-crazy Indiana to a state that treats the sport with a collective meh. But, without batting an eye, he'll tell you that Georgia has everything it needs to become a basketball powerhouse.

"Coaching is coaching," Crean said. "I don't view it as being different."

But Georgia's resume is undeniable.

The Bulldogs haven't won an NCAA Tournament game since 2002. The most significant highlight in the school's largely forgettable basketball history came way back in 1983, when its first NCAA appearance resulted in a run all the way to the Final Four (that was the year N.C. State beat heavily favored Houston in a memorable title game, so Georgia's participation is a mere footnote).

No problem, in the World According to Crean.

"There is tradition in basketball," he insisted. "Have they won? Can they win? Did they have it rolling with people when they had it going? Because then you have a chance of getting it back."

Obviously, they're not back yet.

The Bulldogs (6-4) were dealt an embarrassing 24-point loss by Georgia State, a far less prominent school from their own backyard. Last weekend, they squandered an 18-point lead at home against No. 18 Arizona State, denying Crean the first signature win of his new tenure.

"We just have to learn how to win," Crean said, never straying too far from optimism.

At 52, Crean is on a comeback in his own career.

He started out at Marquette, restoring that program's faded luster with players such as Dwyane Wade. He moved on to Indiana, one of the sport's glamour jobs but severely tainted when he arrived in 2008.

CURTIS COMPTON/AP

Georgia players, from left, Derek Ogbeide, Nicolas Claxton and Rayshaun Hammonds and coach Tom Crean, react after Georgia scored against Kennesaw State late in the second half game in November.

The Hoosiers were dealing with an NCAA scandal that cost Kelvin Sampson his job and left Crean with a depleted roster. The rebuilding process was slow and painful.

In Crean's first season, Indiana endured the worst mark in school history: 6-25, with only a single win in the Big Ten. The next two seasons weren't much better. But the Hoosiers finally broke through in 2011-12, knocking off top-ranked Kentucky early in the season on the way to a 27-9 finish. They captured the Big Ten title the following year, raising hopes that Indiana had reclaimed its place among the nation's elite.

The success didn't last. Another conference championship was offset by three seasons in which the Hoosiers failed to post a winning mark in conference play. They never advanced past the NCAA round of 16. Crean was criticized for failing to land the state's top high school talent.

Finally, after a first-round loss in the NIT, Crean was fired by Indiana in 2017.

Now, he's back in the game at Georgia, a school where basketball is generally viewed as a way to pass the time between football season and spring football.

But Crean, who worked in television during his year out of coaching, was struck by a conversation he had about the Bulldogs with another coach-turned-broadcaster, Seth Greenberg.

"He said their facilities are better than what you had at Indiana," Crean recalled. "I mean, it is all right here."

Indeed, the school has spent millions on much-needed renovations at aging Stegeman Coliseum, to go along with a state-of-the-art practice facility.

Also, in what could be viewed as a backhanded slap at his previous employer, Crean said he's already got a strong relationship with Georgia President Jere Morehead and athletic director Greg McGarity.

"I am not used to having an athletic director that is waiting for me after games," Crean said. "I'm not used to being in a situation where I am getting a text from the president after the game. It isn't some, 'Hey, hang in there,' but real words."

> *"We're not trying to compete with football. We just want to have the same energy and electricity. ... I think that's what Coach Crean is trying to build."*
>
> *— Georgia forward E'Torrion Wilridge*

No one can deny football's hold over this university, which has only grown under coach Kirby Smart. The Bulldogs reached the national championship game last season and just missed out on the playoff this year.

Even Georgia's basketball players gush at the gridiron success.

"As long as Kirby is the coach, I think they're going to be national championship contenders," forward E'Torrion Wilridge said. "The enthusiasm and the fans are always going to gravitate toward football because Kirby has turned this whole thing around and put us on top. We're not trying to compete with football. We just want to have the same energy and electricity go through the arena as goes through Sanford (Stadium). I think that's what Coach Crean is trying to build."

Crean wants to embrace Georgia's success on the football field, not run from it.

"I got my indoctrination into it in the spring game, when there were 85,000 people there on an April afternoon," he said. "I think it is phenomenal."

His son, Riley, is a pitcher on Georgia's baseball team. The entire family — Crean and his wife have three children — is adjusting well to life in Athens.

"You want your family to be really happy, too," he said. "Ours is very happy and very resilient."

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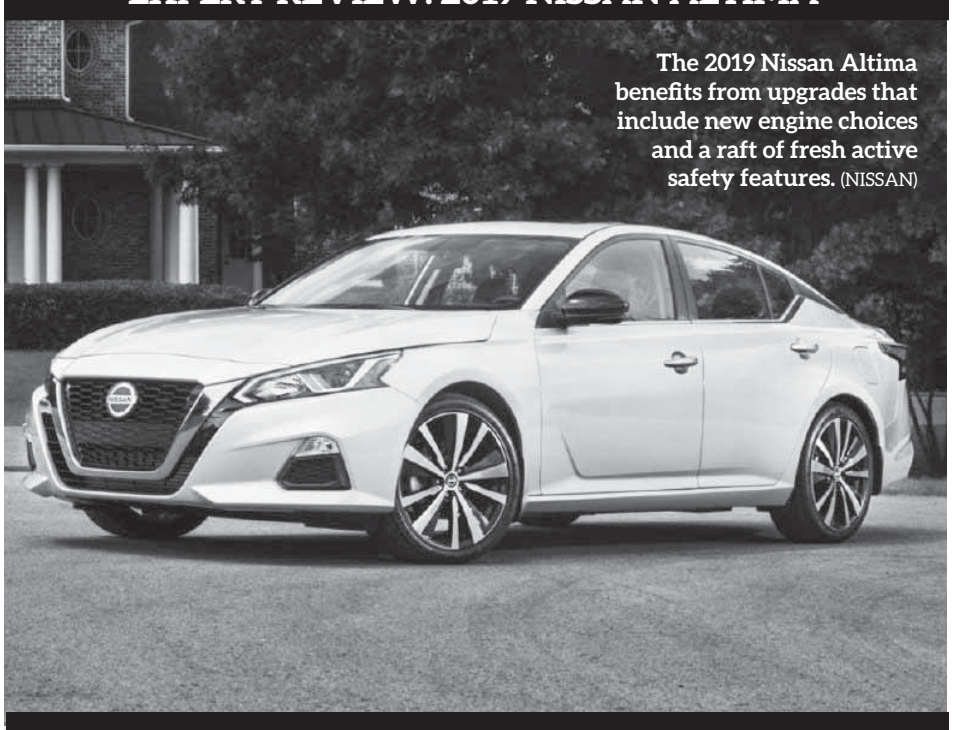
EXPERT REVIEW: 2019 NISSAN ALTIMA



The 2019 Nissan Altima benefits from upgrades that include new engine choices and a raft of fresh active safety features. (NISSAN)

New yet familiar: All-new Altima

By Larry Printz, Tribune News Service

Much has been made of the fact that many Americans now drive some form of light truck. Sales of SUVs, crossovers and pickups are closing in on 70 percent of U.S. new vehicle sales. Yes, we have become a nation of truck drivers. But that doesn't mean that cars no longer matter. They do, accounting for 6 million units a year in sales in the United States, of which one-third are midsize cars. (That's 2 million units a year for the math adverse.)

This is why Nissan redesigned the Altima for 2019 with all-new platform and two new engines with all-wheel drive or front-wheel drive. Given that the Subaru Legacy is the only other all-wheel drive midsize sedan, Nissan has a huge selling advantage in Northern climes. The $1,350 AWD option is available on all models, which include S, SR, SV, SL and Platinum trims. However, it's only offered with the base engine, a direct injected 2.5-liter four-cylinder rated at 188 horsepower. Replacing the previous Altima's 270-horsepower 3.5-liter V-6 engine on upper-level SR and Platinum models is the VC-Turbo, the world's first production variable compression turbocharged engine. The 248-horsepower 2.0-liter turbocharged engine has been under development for two decades. It's trick? It continuously raises or lowers the pistons' reach, changing from 8:1 for high performance to 14:1 for high fuel efficiency. But it's only offered with front-wheel drive, not all-wheel drive. Both engines mate to a continuously variable automatic transmission.

And it's safe, thanks to standard Automatic Emergency Braking, Intelligent Forward Collision Warning and Intelligent Driver Alertness. A Safety Shield 360 package is optional and adds Automatic Emergency Braking with Pedestrian Detection, Rear Automatic Braking, Lane Departure Warning, Blind Spot Warning, Rear Cross Traffic Alert and High Beam Assist.

On my recent drive in Santa Barbara, Calif., Nissan provided SR and Platinum models for testing.

Certainly, the new VC-T engine provides more thrills than its larger non-turbo sibling. Power off the line is strong, and care is needed to avoid squealing tires. The engine and transmission seem well matched, with the transmission doing its best impersonation of a conventional transmission under hard acceleration, and delivering a fun experience. However, it requires premium fuel while returning the lowest fuel economy of any Altima. In contrast, the base engine uses regular unleaded gasoline and returns better fuel economy. But power is merely adequate; it's not nearly as entertaining. If you live in a hilly region, you'll find the 2.5-liter challenged by inclines, especially with the added weight of all-wheel drive. Nevertheless, the transmission feels more linear than before, lacking the rubber banding typically found in CVTs. Regardless of model, comfort and refinement are this car's hallmarks. It's agile and provides impressive grip, and a well-mannered chassis. But it's no sports sedan.

The polished demeanor can best be seen in the interior, where a large 8-inch infotainment touchscreen anchors the sleek, contemporary instrument panel. Apple CarPlay and Android Auto are standard, and the chip set used operates quickly. And techies take note: this might be the only car to offer two USB and two USB-C ports. Cabin trim quality varies from trim to trim, with some evidence that accountants have been at work, but overall quality is satisfying for the price. The cabin itself is roomy both front and rear thanks to a two-inch longer wheelbase, an extra inch in width and overall length, although it's one inch lower.

It's wrapped in the finest interpretation yet of Nissan's current design language. While still aggressive, there's a refinement to its appearance that makes it perfect for midsize sedan duty, dancing on the edge of mild and wild. It's quite a sharp-looking ride.

But is it enough to make a crossover shopper give up their ride for an Altima? Most likely not; it's merely an improved version of what has come before. Nevertheless, the 2019 Nissan Altima offers an impressively upscale appearance and feature list at a popular price. That was true of the first Altima in 1993, which looked much like a shrunken Infiniti J30. Six generations on, the 2019 Altima is better in every way. It's clearly Nissan's ultimate Altima.

Perhaps it should have been called the Altimate.

2019 Nissan Altima

Vehicle type: Midsize four-door sedan
Base prices: $23,750-$35,750
Engine: Double-overhead-cam 2.5-liter four-cylinder
Horsepower: 188
Torque: 180 pound-feet
EPA fuel economy: 25-28/35-39 mpg
Wheelbase: 111.2 inches
Length: 192.9 inches
Cargo capacity: 15.4 cubic feet
Towing capacity: xx pounds
Curb weight: 3,344-3,462 pounds

The Altima's available ProPilot Assist technology makes life easier for drivers on the highway and in stop-and-go traffic. (NISSAN)

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HONDA

Model Details	YR	ML	ZIP	Price	Dealer	Phone #
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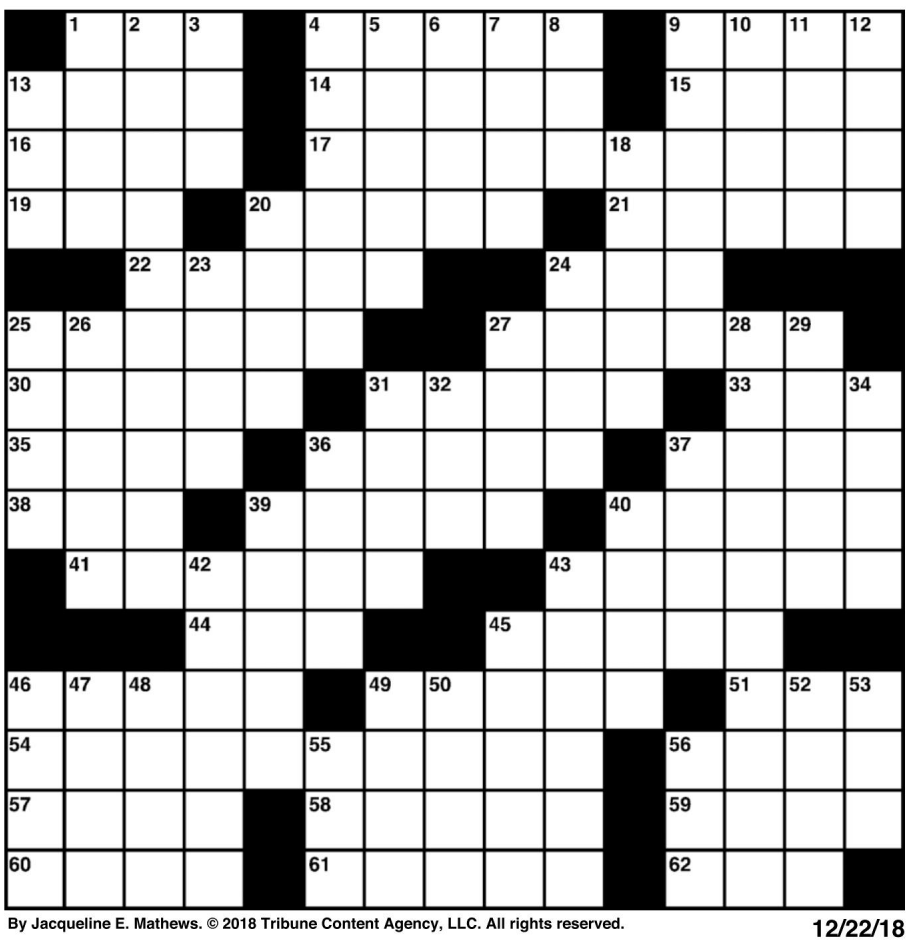
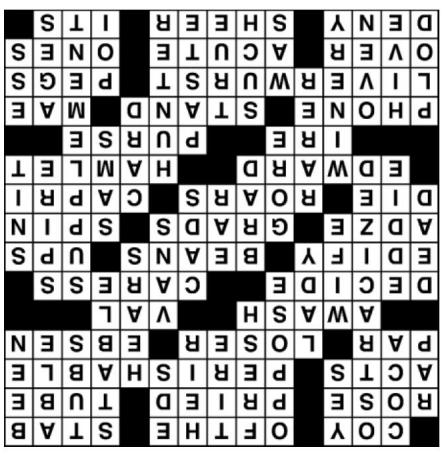


By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved. 12/22/18

ACROSS
1 Playfully shy
4 Book __ Month Club
9 Injure with a dagger
13 Popular flower
14 Used a crowbar
15 The __; London's subway
16 Play divisions
17 Liable to spoil
19 Not up to __; substandard
20 Booby prize recipient
21 Actor Buddy
22 __ in; inundated by
24 Actor Kilmer
25 Make up one's mind
27 Embrace
30 Enlighten; inform
31 Inexpensive meal
33 Shake-__; drastic reorganizations
35 Tool with a blade
36 Homecoming attendees
37 Twirl
38 Pass away
39 Laughs loudly
40 Isle of __; Italian resort
41 Canada's Prince __ Island
43 Shakespearean hero
44 Rage
45 Woman's accessory
46 Verizon store purchase
49 Get up
51 West, for one
54 Spreadable sausage
56 Cribbage markers
57 "__ the Rainbow"
58 Sudden & sharp, as pain
59 On __ own; independent
60 Declare untrue
61 Transparent
62 "__ Too Late"; Carole King song

DOWN
1 Comic actress Imogene
2 Excluded from a group
3 "Oui"
4 Fight against
5 Sassy
6 Grow weary
7 One listed in a will
8 Harris & O'Neill
9 Horse's home
10 Bathroom features
11 Suffix for honor or suit
12 "__ there, done that"
13 LL Cool J's music
18 Dr. Seuss' "Horton __ a Who!"
20 Woman
23 Close relation
24 Boxlike trucks
25 No longer with us
26 Actor Cibrian
27 Scoundrels
28 Add to, in order to make complete
29 Steeple
31 Pitt or Garrett
32 Corncob
34 In a __; pouty
36 VP between Quayle & Cheney
37 Houston & Donaldson
39 More uncommon
40 Queen or king
42 Building near a vineyard
43 Game seeker
45 Adhesive
46 Trudge
47 Queen's domain
48 Microwave, e.g.
49 __ as; for example
50 Word of agreement
52 Matures
53 Suffix for giant or host
55 "Wish I __ Here"; 2014 Zach Braff film
56 Luau dish

Solutions



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