

What's bugging you?

LICE



Home remedies a waste of money

By KIM LEATHERMAN
STAFF WRITER

LAKE PLACID — If you have kids, you have dealt with or will deal with head lice.

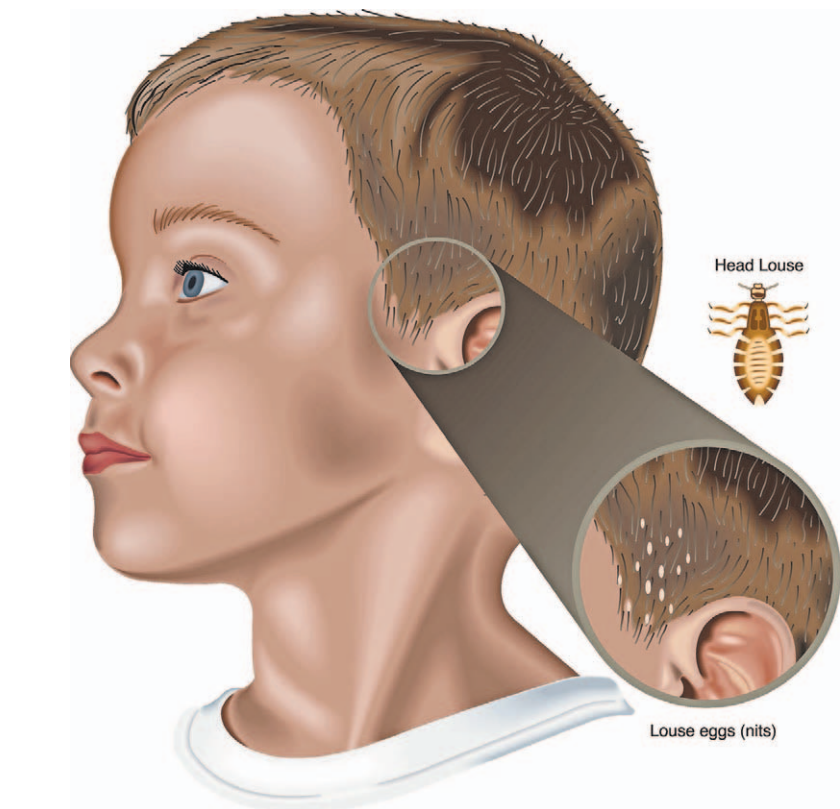
These dreaded blood suckers can have parents and children pulling out their hair, literally. Some communities are dealing with lice that have become resistant to over-the-counter remedies and have been dubbed "super lice."

There are many home remedies that are passed down through family members or neighbors, and whole websites devoted to natural products that can be used to eradicate a lice infestation; many resemble preparations for sandwich making. Some people swear by plastering the child's head in mayonnaise or olive oil will smother the lice. Others prefer to use tea tree oil and hair dryers. The smothering techniques usually have the child sleeping in a shower cap with the product overnight.

Dr. Anavatti Raghuvvera, or Dr. Ragu as his patients call him, owns Caladium Pediatrics in Lake Placid. Raghuvvera is very familiar with lice. Most patients who he sees with head lice are in the elementary school age range. He wants people to stop wasting their time, money and condiments as the home remedies are an exercise in futility.

The smothering of lice does not work well because the lice can close their breathing spiracles, or nostrils, for several hours. By the time the mayonnaise or oils are rinsed out, the bugs open up their spiracles and appear to come back to life.

"None of the home remedies like essential oils, vinegar and mayonnaise work,"



METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

This graphic shows how the Louse eggs are found on the hair follicals

Raghuvvera said. "These are bugs and can only be killed with pesticides or medications."

Just like many bacteria have become drug resistant and are called "super bugs," many lice have become resistant to the drugstore products such as Nix and Rid. Raghuvvera says there are newer medications that work better, however they are also very expensive. He recommends trying the OTC products first as the medications are not getting covered by most insurances and the cost for a bottle can run upwards of \$100-\$200.

Raghuvvera said to ask the pediatrician for coupons that they might have from the manufacturer.

"It is my hope that these medications will soon be over the counter," he said. "They are fairly safe and easy to use."

"If it doesn't work, then they probably need to see a physician," Raghuvvera said. "Every family member needs to be treated at the same time. They (lice) go from one person to another; if you treat one person and someone else has it, they could get the infection back again."

The pediatrician recommends retreatment in about 7-10 days.

Natroba and Ulesfia are some of the newer medications to treat lice that

Sebring CRA hopes to invigorate downtown

By JAY MEISEL
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Food trucks, more festivals and outdoor seating for dining are being discussed by the Community Redevelopment Agency as ways to invigorate the downtown area.

But the CRA board made no decisions regarding those items at its meeting on Monday.

The food truck event would be held the second Friday each month, said Kristie Vazquez, director of the CRA.

Gourmet Truck Expo, which also does a similar event in Pompano Beach, plans to bring a variety of food trucks, Vazquez said.

Along with the food trucks, the CRA would plan to offer a movie with no admission cost,

she said. Vazquez said she would likely be responsible for doing what's necessary to accomplish that.

She said she would like to explore what would be involved in setting all that up, including where the food trucks would be parked.

Plans are also being worked on to provide attendees with a free movie that would be shown at a lot near the Circle. The CRA would potentially use equipment from the library for that movie and the cost would involve a licensing fee for showing the movie.

For several months, a monthly food truck event was held near the Highlands County Fairgrounds, but that

CRA | 6

SNL approves drainage improvements

By PHIL ATTINGER
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Drainage improvements will soon start in parts of Sun 'n Lake of Sebring, but supervisors hope the low bid isn't too low to get the work done.

The Board of Supervisors for Sun 'n Lake of Sebring Special Improvement District voted unanimously last week to hire KDL Underground and Development Inc. for \$158,125 — \$122,875 less than the highest bid: \$280,000 from Go Underground Utilities LLC of Lake Placid. That difference concerns Supervisor Ray Brooks.

"These guys are all coming in with awful high numbers to fix the problem there, and we're thinking about a company that's not even close," Brooks said. "Are they going to do what we need done, or are we going to have a problem?"

Drew Jones of Polston Engineering, which designed the project, said he had a "sit-down meeting" with KDL officials to ensure they had solid numbers.

"He assured us that he had all his numbers good and he was ready to go and could perform the work," Jones said.

When asked by Brooks if KDL's owner would have to finish the work, even if there are cost overruns,

DRAINAGE | 6

SR 66, hefty price tag, big improvements

By KIM LEATHERMAN
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — State Road 66 is undergoing some major changes, just ask the drivers stuck in the congested construction area.

The massive road and drainage improvement project runs nine miles from the Hardee County line, to just a couple miles shy of U.S. 27. It includes parts of Sparta Road and Skipper Road also. Motorists will not see any construction congestion relief until the project is completed this summer.

The price tag is an estimated \$5.5 million, according to Zach Burch, Florida Department of

Transportation spokesman. The price is high but may make commuting safer for drivers and cyclists with the project's new infrastructure.

The repaving of the nine-mile stretch between the Hardee County line and U.S. 27 has already begun and motorists are having to cope with lane closures and delays from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on weekdays. Both the east and westbound lanes will be repaved.

Some of the items on the "to-do" list are repaving and adding a right-hand turn lane onto Skipper Road with a "keyhole" bike lane.

"The keyhole bike lane is where you have a bike

lane that goes between the through-lane and the turn lane ... It's basically a continuation of the regular bike lane but with the turn lane on the outside of it," Burch said of the safety feature.

Drainage has been an issue on Skipper Road for some time; Hurricane Irma shed light on the flooding in the area after many residents' complaints. Burch said the project was planned since before Irma but the improved drainage systems should help with flooding concerns.

"The project has some drainage in it, especially to the west; the old pipes will be replaced with new ones. At Skipper we have a new drainage



KIM LEATHERMAN/STAFF

The intersection of Sparta Road and State Road 66 will be under construction until this summer as part of a repaving and drainage project by the Florida Department of Transportation.

system because, one, we have to accommodate the new turn lane and obviously, when you add asphalt and there is no dirt or grass, the water has to be accommodated for."

New curb inlets will be installed for the water intake and new pipes will also be installed on Skipper Road.

The right turn lane on South George Boulevard, Sparta Road and

Woodland Creek Trail, and gutters and guardrails are to be included.

Lawrence Lynch Corp. out of Okeechobee and Massachusetts is in charge of construction of the project.



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Let's Go B1

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Weather News Wire

Good Morning To
Lyle Johns
Thanks for reading!



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Man indicted on murder charge

By JAY MEISEL
STAFF WRITER



JOBSON

SEBRING — A Highlands County grand jury has indicted a man on a first-degree murder charge in connection with a bar shooting on Dec. 29, 2017.

Ian Dale Jobson, 51, 2028 N. C Hill Road, Avon Park, was arrested by the Highlands County Sheriff's

Office in connection with the shooting death of Anthony Mathison at the Kool Runnings Bar, 220 Garrett Road, Avon Park.

Mathison, a resident of Tampa, and Jobson had a heated argument earlier in the day of the

shooting, the Highlands County Sheriff's Office said. Authorities said that Mathison was shot in the lower right chest.

No decision has been made on whether the State Attorney's Office will seek the death penalty in the case, said Assistant State Attorney Steve Houchin. Jobson also has been charged with firing a weapon in public or on residential property.

Victim of hit and run identified

STAFF REPORT

LAKE PLACID — The victim of a hit-and-run accident has been identified.

Lake Placid Police Chief James Fansler said family members of Juan Hernandez-Martinez, 64, have been notified of his death after a vehicle struck his bicycle last week on County Road 621

near Victory Way.

Police are analyzing videos of traffic from nearby locations in hopes of identifying the vehicle, Fansler said.

A red pickup truck may have been the type of vehicle involved in the accident, Fansler said.

A reward will be offered, but the exact amount will be announced later, he said.

Health and Wealth seminar offered

STAFF REPORT

SEBRING — A Women's Health and Wealth Coaching event will be held tonight (Feb.

15) from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Sebring Parkway church of Christ, 3800 Sebring Parkway.

During the free event, Trudy Benton, a financial advisor, will talk about

becoming fit financially, while Amanda Lucero, a nurse practitioner, will talk about health.

Information is available by calling 863-402-1700.

Registration can be done by emailing kelsie.jahna@lpl.com.

Enough room should be available for people who show up at the event, Benton said.

NEWS BRIEFS

Baked chicken dinner

AVON PARK — The VFW Post 9853 Auxiliary will serve a baked chicken dinner from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on Friday at 75 N. Olivia Drive in Avon Park. Cost is \$8 per person and includes chicken,

dressing, sides and dessert. Carryouts available. Public welcome. Smoke-free dining room. For more information, call 863-452-9853.

FBLA yard sale

AVON PARK — The APHS chapter of Future

Business Leaders of America will hold a yard sale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Avon Park Rotary, 220 S. Verona Ave., in Avon Park. Proceeds go to support FBLA members going to state leadership conference in March.

Saturday Night Dance

SEBRING — Buttonwood Bay will have its next Saturday Night Dance with Rick Arnold at 7 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$7 at the door of the Rec Hall. Popcorn and soda available.



1. Stanley S. Jenkins of Buffalo, New York, filed the patent for the corn dog way back in 1927.
2. The State Fair in Texas sells the most corn dogs at an average of 630,000 dogs per season.
3. Since 1992, National Corn dog day has been celebrated on a regular basis. This year it falls on

March 17.

4. According to Fletcher's, a leading supplier of carnival corn dogs, mustard is the preferred condiment, using 1,500 gallons of it on corn dogs each year. Ketchup, on the other hand, only goes through about 800 gallons.

5. Corn dogs have but one name on this side of the world, but Australians refer to the fried sticks as "Pluto Pups."

Source: foodnetwork.ca



The Highlands News-Sun (USPS 487-900- ISSN 2473-0068) is published daily by Tim Smolarick at the Highlands News-Sun, 315 US 27 North Sebring, FL 33870. Periodical postage paid at Lakeland, FL and additional entry office(s). All material contained herein is the property of the Highlands News-Sun, which is an affiliate of Sun Coast Media Group. Reproduction in whole or part is forbidden without the written permission of the publisher. All material submitted for publication becomes the property of the newspaper and

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OBITUARIES

Thomas Ogden Johnson



January 13, 1933 – January 15, 2018

Thomas Ogden Johnson, 85, went to be with Jesus on Jan. 15, 2018 at 7:25 a.m. surrounded by his family. He was born Jan. 13, 1933 to Clarence S. Johnson Sr. and Winifred (Searle) Johnson in East Orange, New Jersey. He is survived by his wife, Evangeline (Robles) Johnson; and his children, Eric T. Johnson and Maria (Aleman) Johnson, Bruce A. Johnson and Rhonda (Johnson) Johnson, and Nathan D. Johnson and Melody (McSorley) Johnson. He has 13 grandchildren. He and his wife Evangeline retired in Sebring and recently moved to Deltona, Florida, to be near one of his children.

Tom graduated from Rutgers University, (New Jersey), Columbia Bible School (now Columbia International University, Columbia, South Carolina); Fuller Theological Seminary (Pasadena, California); McCormick Theological Seminary (Chicago, Illinois). Prior to serving Jesus as a minister of the gospel, he served in the United States Army after the Korean War and received an honorable discharge. He served as a Presbyterian minister in Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan. He taught English in ESOL classes and worked with the Metro-Dade Police Department from 1983-1996 in Miami, Florida. Enjoying all of God's gifts was Tom's life. His passion varied for

he liked the outdoors, traveling, walking – enjoying all of creation. He was always learning and reading and a favorite author was A.W. Tozer. He read the Bible from cover to cover throughout the years. Reading and teaching the Scriptures were his delight. He memorized it as he read it daily and highlights are in every Bible he used. His reading was vast that he had a room dedicated to books. It included history, biographies, science, the universe, politics, quantum physics, classical music, exploring God's creation and purposes. This included delving into the Old and New Testaments using Hebrew and Greek as study guides. Although he might have been called a "book worm" he enjoyed being with people and had a good sense of humor. When he spoke, one could sense he knew what he was talking about.

Tom's varied interests were instrumental in teaching English, preaching and teaching the Scriptures at home studies where everyone shared freely. He participated in ministry locally, S.A., in South Africa, China with others who also lived "To know Christ and to make Him known" He personally supported a ministry in the Philippines. In Sebring, Florida he looked forward

to helping at Little Lambs Ministry serving prisoners with free correspondence Bible study courses. He lived revealing what God created him to be in whatever situation he was in. Tom's life exhibited being conformed to the image of Christ and not being conformed to this world. His life revealed that "Only one life 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last." — C.T. Studd
He will be missed but never forgotten.

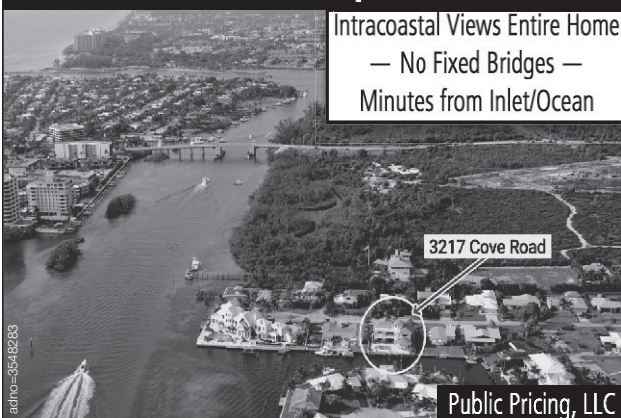
Ella Mae S. Walters
Ella Mae Santerfeit Walters, 91, died Jan. 27, 2018. She was born in Bruce, Florida to Henry and Lena Elmore.

Ella Mae was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Steve Santerfeit; three sisters, Claudia, Odessa and Dorothy; and seven brothers, Jessie, Elwood, Morris, Clifford, Willie Jeff, Jimmy Ray and Carlton Elmore.

She is survived by her daughter, Doris (Bob) Endicott of Lake Placid, Florida; a brother, Edward; two sisters, Velma Mayo and Virginia Elmore; three grandsons, Steve O., Michael and Patrick; nine great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Morris Funeral Chapel, Sebring, Florida.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TODAY

American Legion Post 25 in Lake Placid - Poker 1 p.m. Chips ahoj 4 p.m. Pool 6 p.m. Darts 6:45 p.m. Free line dancing 7 p.m. Call 863-465-0975.

American Legion Post 69 in Avon Park - Happy hour all day. Sammy's famous tacos. Euchre 1:30 p.m. Trivia 5:30 p.m. Call 863-453-4553.

American Legion post 74 in Sebring - Thirsty Thursday all day. Ship, capt. & crew 2-4 p.m. Call 863-471-1448.

AMVETS Post 21 in Sebring - Line dancing 6-8 p.m. Call 863-385-0234.

VFW Post 4300 in Sebring - Bingo 1:30 p.m. Lunch 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Bar poker 4 p.m. Call 863-385-8902.

VFW Post 3880 in Lake Placid - Euchre 1 p.m. Call 863-699-5444.

Elks Lodge 2661 in Lake Placid - Thirsty Thursday \$2 Margaritas all day. Burgers/dogs 4-6 p.m. Early bird Bingo 6 p.m. Card games 6:15 p.m. Call 863-465-2661.

Elks Lodge 1529 in Sebring - Call 863-471-3557.

Moose Lodge 2494 in Avon Park - Ladies night out. Wings 5-7 p.m. Queen of hearts 6 p.m. Call 863-452-0579.

Moose Lodge 2374 in Lake Placid - Jackpot drawing 8 p.m. Frank E. Call 863-465-0131.

Moose Lodge 2259 in Sebring - Happy hour 2-4 p.m. bar poker 2 p.m. Comedy dinner show, dinner 5 p.m. Show 7 p.m. Mi Mi's cafe 5-7:30 p.m.

Call 863-655-3920.

Sebring Recreation Club - Intermediate / advanced line dancing 10-11:30 a.m. Bridge 12:30 p.m. Euchre 1 p.m. Call 863-385-2966.

Eagles 4240 in Sebring - Bar menu. Queen of hearts & 50/50 8 p.m. Philly steak or chicken \$6.50 from 2:30-7 p.m. Call 863-655-4007.

FRIDAY

American Legion Post 25 in Lake Placid - Cafe 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dan Patrick 6-9 p.m. Call 863-465-0975.

American Legion Post 69 in Avon Park - Legion fish fry 4-6 p.m. Patsy 4-7 p.m. Call 863-453-4553.

American Legion post 74 in Sebring - Dennis & Wendy 7 p.m. till close. Fish or shrimp dinner \$8 from 5-7 p.m. Call 863-471-1448.

AMVETS Post 21 in Sebring - Blood Mobile 11 a.m. Washers 1 p.m. Queen of hearts 7 p.m. Call 863-385-0234.

VFW Post 4300 in Sebring - Best pizza in town 5-7 p.m. Harley Archer 5-8 p.m. Call 863-385-8902.

VFW Post 3880 in Lake Placid - Commander's dinner roast beef, roasted potatoes, carrots, roll for \$6.

Music by Laura Patton.

Call 863-699-5444.

Elks Lodge 2661 in Lake Placid - Bar games 2:30 p.m. Fish or steak. Music with Howlin' at the Moon 6-9 p.m. Card games 7:30 p.m. Call 863-465-2661.

Elks Lodge 1529 in Sebring - Call 863-471-3557.

Moose Lodge 2494 in Avon Park - Kitchen 6-8 p.m. Dumpster Mike 7-10 p.m. Call 863-452-0579.

Moose Lodge 2374 in Lake Placid - Texas hold'em 2 p.m. Johnny 5. Call 863-465-0131.

Moose Lodge 2259 in Sebring - Pool at noon. Happy hour 2-4 p.m. Mi Mi's cafe 5-8 p.m. fish platter. TJ and the Cruisers 6-9 p.m. 50/50 8 p.m. Call 863-655-3920.

Sebring Recreation Club - Bridge 12:30 p.m. Mini shuffleboard tournament 1:15 p.m. Ping Pong 3:15 p.m. Moonlight shuffling 6 p.m. Call 863-385-2966.

Eagles 4240 in Sebring - Bar menu. Fish or shrimp dinner \$8 from 5-7 p.m. Music by Joy Snow 6-9 p.m. Call 863-655-4007.

SATURDAY

American Legion Post 25 in Lake Placid - Chips ahoj 1 p.m. Texas hold'em 1:30 p.m. Call 863-465-0975.

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VIEWPOINTS

HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

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OUR VIEW

Decisions to make

It is no secret there is friction between Avon Park City Manager Julian Deleon and City Councilman Jim Barnard. As far back as Barnard's election campaign, Deleon made no secret who he felt should be in office as demonstrated by him taking part in sign holding at Donaldson Park ... it wasn't a sign in support of Barnard.

Often times, Barnard is joined by Mayor Garrett Anderson when it comes to being at odds with Deleon. More often than not, when there is a split vote from council, Barnard and Anderson are the only "no" votes on agenda items presented by Deleon.

Discontent from council members is no new since Deleon has been in the position of city manager. Even before Barnard and Anderson, former councilmember Parke Sutherland and mayor Sharon Schuler decided against running for re-election, perhaps due to friction in Avon Park government.

Now, this doesn't mean that the council members are continuously critical of the city manager. There has been positive interaction from both sides when working toward the betterment of the city. Like any working relationship between a supervisor and an employee, there will be disagreement. We have witnessed strong and ugly disagreements.

There seems to be a battle brewing between Barnard and Deleon at present time and this gives us reason for concern.

As an example, late last month during a discussion of Fire Chief Brad Batz's contract, Barnard clearly expressed his thoughts on Deleon's tenure in relation to a possible change on council with the November election ... if there is an election.

Overall, our biggest concern is the valuable time and effort wasted in airing all of this nastiness in council meetings and social media. We've seen the comments Barnard has posted on his personal Facebook page. We think it would be best if Barnard would stay focused on his job as an Avon Park city councilman.

Problems with Deleon should be addressed in a professional manner at the appropriate meetings. Barnard needs to remember that he is one person and one person alone cannot fire a city manager. He isn't the end all for Avon Park City Council and certainly is not a fortune teller.

Here's what we know. Deleon was in a position to take another job, and it seems he and Barnard are both a little unhappy with politics in Avon Park.

If Deleon wants to move on to another position, that's his decision. Until that time, it's not Barnard's decision to remove him without the support of the entire council.

Again we feel Barnard needs to focus on his job, and clearly understand the Sunshine Laws. Recently, he wanted to make a motion during a workshop. Under the Sunshine Law, that's not allowed. He was also taken to task in December by City Attorney Glinda Pruitt for email correspondence initiated by himself to a city employee inquiring about city related matters. The city charter says council members are to deal with city employees directly through the manager and are not to give orders to employees directly or indirectly. It is the city manager who is the council's employee; the city employees are that of the city manager.

Deputy Mayor Brenda Gray and councilmembers Terry Heston and Dora Smith, the three who typically vote yes to items Deleon has placed on the agenda, will face re-election if they so choose. It will take another candidate to challenge a seat, or an election will not take place and the current councilmembers will be reelected for another three years.

Barnard's prophecies may be correct, however we hope in this election the voters get to decide who gets the seats in Avon Park. It will be the voters who decide who to put in office and one of the factors they may consider is the candidate's thoughts on the city manager.

The first thing that needs to take place is an election and that won't happen if there aren't enough candidates to even make an election necessary.

Barnard needs to slow down, focus on his job, and not put the cart before the horse. Deleon needs to decide if he wants to serve Avon Park or is he going to continue to try to bail.

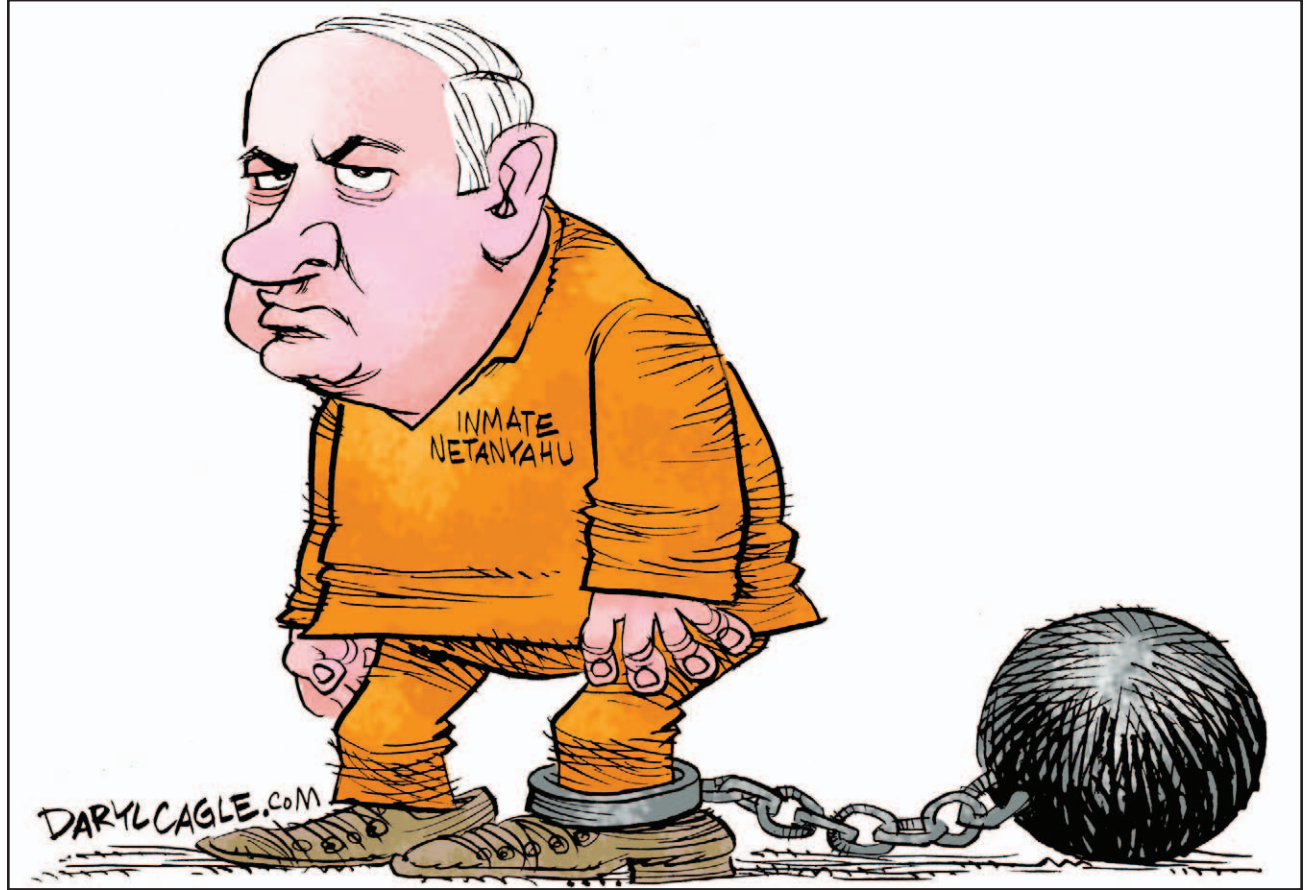
JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Letters are welcome on virtually any subject, but we do have some rules. We will not accept any Letters to the Editor that mention a business in a negative tone, as they have no means to defend themselves. Please keep Letters to the Editor to less than 250 words. Letters will be edited to length as well as for grammar and spelling. All letters must be signed with full name – not initials. An address and telephone number must be included. The phone number and address are not for publication, but must be provided. In the case of letters that are emailed, the same rules apply.

Due to the number of letters received, we are able to run only four letters per person per month.

The Letters to the Editor section is designed as a public forum for community discourse, and the opinions and statements made in letters are solely those of the individual writers. The newspaper takes no responsibility for the content of these letters.

Please send or bring correspondence to the Highlands News-Sun, Letters to the Editor, 315 US 27 North Sebring, FL 33870, or fax to 863-385-1954. Readers may also email Letters to the Editor to editor@newssun.com.



What's the skinny on this sweet holiday?

Whether you're happy to be beyond this emotionally-charged holiday or are basking in the glow of celebrated love, chances are you couldn't have cared less who or how Valentine's Day got started, but it is quite a convoluted story.

Researching the "Day of Love" revealed not one, but three possibly martyred saints, resulting in a revered romantic figure celebrated in festival, perhaps to overthrow the pagan celebration of Lupercalia. Whether your version of this rather weird historic festivity revolved around the god of agriculture or the founders of Rome, let's all just be glad no one goes around slapping ladies with bloody goat hides to improve our fertility in this modern era.

Instead we look forward to more modern representations of affection, if we celebrate at all. Forbes reported the National Research Foundation determined just over half of Americans do. Apparently the remaining 45 percent find all the hoopla to be



HARRIS & CO.

Dorothy L. Harris

an expensive commercialized holiday designed to separate them from their money or are earnestly waiting for someone to focus their funds on.

Whether the gift you buy is for yourself or you are showering a loved one with something sweet, the average expenditure hovers around \$150, making this a \$20 billion holiday. Jewelry still tops the list — almost a \$5 billion expenditure annually — followed by dinner out and then those delightful flowers. It's no surprise then that this day of delight costs nearly two Benjamins for just the basics.

That heart-shaped box of chocolates, or just candy in general, is by far the most popular spending category. Then there are the nearly 150 million cards exchanged, making this the number two holiday, according to Hallmark.

Being part of a couple on Valentine's Day can be a challenge, especially if you've celebrated a lot of them. As we age, the disparity of females to males at age 65 reaches nearly three-to-one, regardless of racial background. History.com states a very different makeup in the younger generation though. Currently there is a statistical imbalance of more males than females for nearly all races at age 20.

The difference between generations is also reflected in how Valentine's Day is celebrated. Millennials — our young adults — do things very differently and this holiday is no exception. Preferring experiential, social media post-worthy activities means this age group is unlikely to spend

on traditional roses or heart-shaped sweets.

They are also the biggest user of online dating — a \$500 million industry. It makes you wonder if we really have come a long way from pagan February celebrations when young single women put their names into an urn for bachelors to choose from or if we've just reinvented cupid in this modern way.

That chubby little guy who shoots his arrow to unite two lovers is supposed to be the creator of all couples in the world, according to legend. He himself however, had a pretty complicated love life, so if you're not feeling all lovey-dovey over this holiday, take heart. Even Cupid struggled.

This celebratory day of love has represented many conflicting emotions — romance, passion, angst, loneliness and envy. Who knew one day could be so volatile? Regardless of who or how you spent this past Valentine's Day, I hope it was sweet. If not, candy is 50 percent off at most stores and there's always next year.

YOUR VIEW

Teachers deserve better

There is a teacher shortage here in Florida and Highlands County yet our state legislatures — both the House of Representatives and the members of Senate — are hell bent on destroying those of us who are still here.

For those of you not familiar with the latest push from our lovely state government let me tell you a little about HB 7055. HB 7055 takes aim at teacher contracts and creates more ways to funnel taxpayer dollars into vouchers for unaccountable private schools. No other unions are included in the language of HB 7055, they are all exempted. The decertification of teachers unions would eliminate collective bargaining in school districts impacted and lead to unilateral imposition of horrible pay, benefits, and working conditions for their teachers. Without teachers unions, teachers will definitely receive less pay, less benefits, and be forced to work additional periods of instruction and see losses to planning time. You can look at states such as Wisconsin to see the long term impact of bills like

this.

Rep. Loranne Ausley, Tallahassee, said, "And we're targeting them, because these organizations make political decisions that some people don't like. That is wrong." Unions do not make political decisions, they make decisions for their members based off of working conditions, insurance, salary, and other needs/wants. They may rally together and support or denounce politicians but they do not make the decisions, politicians do.

Let us not forget that Florida is a right-to-work state — we can't force people to join the union, and we don't collect dues from everyone, like they do in other places, but we do fight and negotiate for fair working conditions, insurance, and are currently fighting for a living wage for all teachers! Being a right-to-work state, the only reason to pass this bill is to weaken the voices of educators.

Florida already ranks 48th in the nation for teacher pay. Teachers are already leaving this county, and this state, by the dozens. This bill will surely make things worse.

The bill shifts millions of taxpayer dollars from public education to the charter industry and private schools.

Some supporters of the bill include Richard Corcoran, whose wife runs a charter school in Pasco County. There's Rep. Manny Diaz, who runs a pretend college that lets charter students pretend they are taking college course. There's Rep. Erik Fresen, who works as a \$150,000-a-year consultant for Civica, an architectural firm that specializes in charter school buildings. Diaz and Fresen also work for Academica, a big time Florida charter chain.

I have no issues with private schools — if you want to send your child their then do so — from your own pocket. Public tax dollars need to be kept in public schools.

Charter schools can't be compared to public schools, they are held to different standards, and operated under different philosophies. If this passes charter schools can expand in markets where the public school has been sufficiently weakened and no requirements will be in place for those charter schools to accept the students from that community — they get to pick and choose which students to accept. Other language includes that Charter schools get to "grade" districts (but not, of course, vice versa).

Title I funds would be up for redistribution and new charters may ignore local zoning laws.

It's time we stopped allowing those in power to diminish, undermine, and weaken those who are in the field doing the work. We need to be holding those in office accountable for their actions — we need to question their movements, seek answers and ask them why — show us how what they're doing makes sense for all of us.

Our public education is under attack, teachers are under attack and each time we vote someone into office we need to make sure they are doing what is best for students, teachers, and staff — all students all teachers all staff — not those who play into the good old boy network, not those who are puppets on a string — our children matter and it's time we realize that teacher's working conditions are student's learning conditions and until we put teachers and students first nothing is going to change.

Stop treating those in the field of education as less than professionals — teaching is not a job, it's a career, and it's time we started treating teachers as professionals.

Shawna-Mae L. Warren
Sebring



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this file photo, a lice removal technician combs the hair of a child as part of a lice removal treatment.

LICE

FROM PAGE 1

are not pesticides. They are benzyl alcohol-based and are safer than the older medications like Ovide.

Ovide contains malathion and the product is highly flammable, so it comes with several warning labels about the use of hair dryers and smoking. The alcohol-based drugs can be used



on children over 6 months old. Sklice is another product with ivermectin as the main ingredient.

"The alcohol-based medications are gentler," Raghuvvera said. "The side effects are mostly irritations of the skin; other than that, I doesn't see any medical side effects."

"In general, head lice is a nasty thing and yucky to have, but they do not transmit any major diseases."

Raghuvvera said that simple house cleaning

should take place while fighting the infestation. He recommends washing sheets in hot water, vacuuming and replacing combs and brushes. Place items that cannot be washed into a sealed bag for two weeks.

Prevention is the best offense in the war on lice. Children should be taught not to share combs, brushes and barrettes.

If all else fails, a trip to visit the barber might be in order.



CRA

FROM PAGE 1

event was discontinued.

CRA board members also have said they would like to see more outdoor dining available. They said the idea has been discussed in the past, but several challenges restricted what could be offered.

One concern was space available on the Circle sidewalks for the downtown dining. Another issue was who would be responsible for

the seating.

Kelly Cosgrave, a board member, said she likes the idea of providing a communal seating area in the Circle as a means of encouraging people to come to downtown.

She said she also favors having umbrellas over the seating to allow for increased use.

Movies would likely be provided in a lot near the Circle on Commerce Street, Cosgrave said. Tentative plans are to hold the initial food truck/movie events in April and May, she said.

The CRA also is

considering buying land near the indoor flea market. The land in question has a bank drive-in building that hasn't been used in years. Potentially, Cosgrave said, the land could be used for event parking.

The purchase also would ensure that someone doesn't put a less than desirable type of business for that part of downtown on the lot, she said.

However, the purchase will likely not be considered until next year's CRA budget is developed.

DRAINAGE

FROM PAGE 1

Jones said he's obligated to finish, no matter what.

"Unless we approve a change order, which we have no plans to do, he's obligated to complete the work," Jones said. "If he doesn't, he doesn't get paid."

Mike Hurley, director of Facilities and Security, said he and Jones sat down with the company owner and explained this situation to him. They also explained that district officials would inspect the work daily.

District General Manager Tanya Cannady said there won't be change orders on the existing contract for materials or supplies. There might be a change in scope of the design, if needed, but that would come from her and Jones, not the contractor.

"That's all fine and dandy, but if (a) change order comes in to where the other bids were, I'm not going to be happy," Brooks said. Cannady said the district required a bid bond — funds provided by the contractor to cover mistakes in the bid or cost overruns — and the district will look at requiring a per-payment performance bond, too. Since the performance bond was not in the bid specifications, the district would have to pay for that.

Board Attorney David Schumacher said the district has also updated its language in contracts to state that all contracts over \$100,000 will require a bid bond.

Bob Butz, Sun 'n Lake resident, was also uncomfortable with the bid spread.

"Well, having received thousands of bids through my years working, I will guarantee

you, right now, that he has missed something," Butz said. "He just doesn't know what it is yet, and he'll find it for you."

The work will be drainage improvements in Units 13, 14 and 25 on Matanzas Drive, Neda Street and Granada Boulevard.

Work will include roadway culvert replacements, rear lot swale cleaning and rear lot

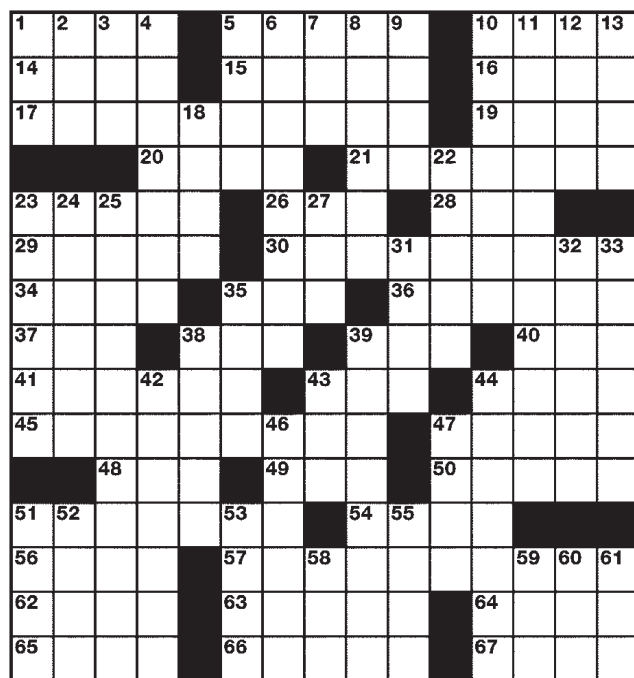
swale improvements.

Supervisor Mike Gilpin said the work on Granada is two years in the making. In that time, he heard, people may have built sheds over or are encroaching on the drainage easements. The district has informed them of those encroachments, Gilpin said, and residents have had that time to fix those problems.

Newsday Crossword

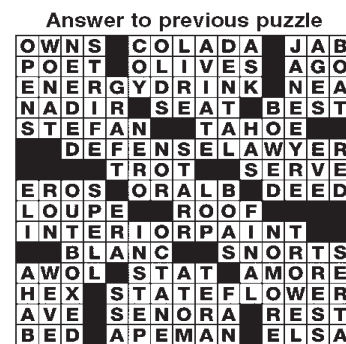
ERROR-PRONE by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | DOWN |
| 1 Dairy dozen | 1 Diminish | 10 To begin with |
| 5 Stop, look and listen | 2 Prefix for political | 11 Reduce gradually |
| 10 Leatherworking tools | 3 Chitchat | 12 Pupil protector |
| 14 One courting | 4 Nourish oneself (on) | 13 Gathers dust |
| 15 More than needed | 5 Shift course | 18 Narrow path |
| 16 Asian cuisine | 6 Depletes | 22 Twangy in speech |
| 17 Ballpark souvenir | 7 Way to go: Abbr. | 23 Law & Order star |
| 19 Symbol of aggression | 8 Largest coffee producer | 24 Visionworks alternative |
| 20 Novelist Paretzky | 9 Pop singer from Nigeria | 25 Low-fat breakfast serving |
| 21 High points | | 27 Cook quickly |
| 23 Agree to take part | | 31 Water beside Toledo |
| 26 Action film weapon | | 32 Terse admission |
| 28 Creative skill | | 33 Overuses the mirror |
| 29 One of the eco-friendly three R's | | 35 Minimally acceptable |
| 30 Proof of purchase | | 38 Swedish money |
| 34 Toon imp since the '80s | | |
| 35 Engine additive letters | | |
| 36 Not for tots, as some films | | |
| 37 Biblical refuge | | |
| 38 Ring stats | | |
| 39 Actor Wheaton | | |
| 40 Game cube | | |
| 41 Declutters | | |
| 43 Detective story pioneer | | |
| 44 Heckled | | |
| 45 Yogi Bear catchphrase | | |
| 47 "Victory is ours!" | | |
| 48 "Bargain" receptacle | | |
| 49 Contribute | | |
| 50 Granny's girls | | |
| 51 Extended silence on the radio | | |
| 54 Soup seasoning | | |



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 2/15/18

Look for a third crossword in the Sun Classified section.



2/15/18

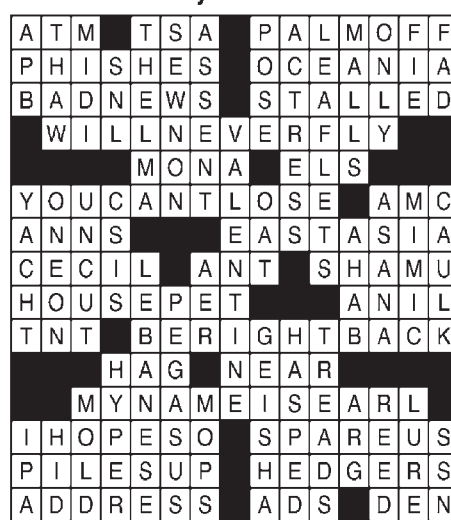
Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Día de San Valentin flowers	1 Blitzed, in football
6 California's ___ Gabriel Mountains	2 In stock
9 Construction rod	3 Peloponnesian War victor
14 Remove from the bulletin board	4 Put on the line?
15 Blood type letters	5 Wading bird
16 Like 36 piano keys, traditionally	6 No-risk
17 Lewis with 12 Emmys	7 Help with an inside job, say
18 "That '70s Show" exchange student whose nationality isn't revealed	8 Gas pump part
19 Lessen	9 Genuine article
20 "Beer hall snacks	10 Flows out
23 Surf and turf, say	11 Feathery wrap
24 NASA vehicle	12 House pest
25 Tempe sch.	13 Bread with caraway seeds
28 Time for action	21 Insurgent
29 "Deli snacks	22 Charged fish?
33 Actress Neuwirth with Tonys and Emmys	25 Indigenous Japanese
34 Slim craft	26 Notice
35 "Bakery snacks	27 Multi-tools have many
41 "Tempt not a desperate man" speaker	30 Hoops org.
42 Pretty good	31 Board
43 "Diner snacks	32 Solo with a Wookiee co-pilot
46 California wine valley	33 Nowheresville, with "the"
50 Favorite	35 Cut closely
51 One of three rhyming mos.	
52 Pavement	
54 Component of balanced health ... and what each answer to a starred clue looks like it should be part of?	
57 Lose one's cool in a big way	
60 Murmur	
61 Lift with force	
62 Car or tree feature	
63 Tote	
64 Film with lots of shooting stars?	
65 Ships	
66 Stat for Clayton Kershaw	

By Elliot M. Abrams 2/15/18

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



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LOCAL SPORTS



Mowing down some fast times

Leaders shine in NASGRASS lawnmower races

BY JIM TAYLOR
CORRESPONDENT

AVON PARK – Point leaders in the various classes of the NASGRASS Lawnmower races were either able to maintain their leads after Saturday night's races and many were able to expand their

points lead.

In the KART class, Christian Galan increased his overall points lead over Sam Foster to 125 points, winning both the heat and main races while Foster finished second in both. Foster was able to move into second place in total

points, bumping Steve Dodson to third after Dodson finished fifth in both races.

Rylee Wallace pulled off a pair of wins in the Mini-Mow class of the youngest racers. Rylee Wallace still sits in fourth place in total points, with Morgan Vaughn

maintaining his lead with a third place finish in the heat and second in the main.

Shannon Pate slightly closed the gap in the CP class on points leader Bruce Runyon with wins in both the heat and

RACES | 8

Tom Hodges rebounded from a second-place finish in the Grand Prix Twin heat race to win the main race on Saturday night at the Avon Park Mower Plex.

JIM TAYLOR/CORRESPONDENT

Red Devils reach finals



Avon Park tops Tenoroc in boys district tournament

By MARK PINSON
STAFF WRITER

AVON PARK - Avon Park rallied from a slow start and a six-point second-half deficit to beat Tenoroc in Tuesday night's Class 5A-District 8 semifinals.

The loss dropped the Titans to 10-14, while the win improved the Red Devils to 18-5 overall, and puts them in the district finals on Friday night.

"Tenoroc is a good team with a lot of seniors and we knew they were going to play us tough," said veteran Avon Park head basketball coach Marty O'Hora. "Tenoroc hit a lot of 3-point shots in the first half, but we made some adjustments and did a better job of playing defense in the second half. We had a lot of help from our bench and it was a total team effort."

Avon Park, which beat Tenoroc twice during the regular season, struggled to score in the first half and Tenoroc took advantage behind

a flurry of 3-pointers from senior guard Ralph Tima and senior guard Santiago Dimas.

The Titans, playing with a lot of energy, continued to give the taller Red Devils a battle and led 16-12 with 3:09 left in the second quarter.

Avon Park made a small run and freshman guard Malcolm Dewberry hit a 3-pointer from just inside half court at the buzzer to pull the Red Devils within 22-19 at the half.

"Tenoroc likes to shoot from outside and they hit some tough shots," O'Hora said. "We had to hope they didn't keep making them and they cooled off in the second half."

Avon Park started driving to the basket and the move paid off as Dewberry scored three of his 11 points, Deveaux poured in six points and Eric Brown scored on a put-back to tie the game with 4:08 remaining in the third period.

HOOPS | 8

Avon Park junior forward Ken Deveaux (5) scores two of his team-high 13 points as Tenoroc's De'Arian Jones (1) looks on during Tuesday night's Class 5A-District 8 semifinal game. The Red Devils beat the Titans by a score of 51-45 to advance to Friday night's district championship game against McKeel Academy in Lakeland.

MARK PINSON/STAFF

LOCAL SPORTS BRIEFS

YMCA soccer sign-ups

The Highlands County YMCA Spring Soccer registration deadline for ages 3-15 ends Feb. 19. For questions call 382-9622.

Run the Lake 15K

The Run the Lake 15K, for both individual runners or relay teams, will take place Saturday, Feb. 24, beginning at 7:30 a.m. at Don Jose Mexican Restaurant in Sebring. To sign-up visit www.runsignup.com/race/fl/sebring/runthelake15K.

Samaritan's Touch Care Center golf tournament

The sixth annual Samaritan's Touch Care Center Benefit Golf tournament will take place at Highlands Ridge North on Saturday, Feb. 24 with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. The cost is \$75 per player and includes lunch, prizes and raffles, refreshments and golf. Entries must be received by Feb. 20. Checks may be mailed to Samaritan's Touch Care Center at 3015 Herring Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. For more information contact Tina Walker at admin.support@samaritanstouch.org or 471-1870 ext. 102.

American Legion Post 25 golf tournament

American Legion Post 25 is holding a golf tournament at Golf Hammock on Saturday, Feb. 24, with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Sign-in begins at 7 a.m.

The cost is \$60 per player and there will be two flights, as well as long drive for men and women and a putting contest. Drinks will be provided on the course and there is a dinner in the clubhouse.

Entry is limited to the first 36 teams and you can sign-up at the American Legion Post 25 or at the Golf Hammock pro shop.

Paul Miller Racing off to quick start

Veteran team looking forward to 12 Hours of Sebring

Special to Highlands News-Sun

DAYTONA BEACH – Did you know that Paul Miller Racing has finished inside the top three of the final IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship GT Daytona (GTD) point standings in three of the last four years?

You're not alone if you didn't, and that's just fine with Bryan Sellers, who co-drives the team's No. 48 Lamborghini Huracán GT3 with Madison Snow.

"I hope it feels like we fly under the radar," Sellers said. "It's certainly important, people's perception of you, because of the long-term outlook on the sport and what you're doing, but I don't have a problem being the group of guys that is under the radar."

"Hopefully, we can just continue to go under

the radar, do our job and be recognized when it matters. We don't need to be recognized when it doesn't."

That's going to be harder to achieve this year if the team performs as strong as it did in last month's season-opening Rolex 24 At Daytona. Sellers and Snow were joined in the No. 48 Lambo by their long-time endurance racing teammate, Bryce Miller, and Andrea Caldarelli at Daytona. They led a total of 153 laps in the GTD class en route to a third-place race result.

Since 2014, when the team ultimately finished second in the GTD championship standings, its best Daytona result was a fifth-place run in 2015. In each of the past two years since Sellers and Snow joined the team, the team posted results of 16th and

seventh at Daytona.

"I guess the first thing that comes to mind is, not to say that we did 'bad' the last two years at the first 2-3 races, but we didn't perform as well as we did at the end of the season," Snow said. "It always seemed like, at the end of the season, we were able to get everything out of the car, out of the crew, out of the strategy, everything worked together and we had good luck. Now, we've been able to start the year out with that."

"Having that good start definitely gets your hopes up for the rest of the year. We had third in the championship once (in 2016), and then last year, we were up there and got a penalty that brought us down in points, but it shows you how good we've been able to be at the end of the year."



IMSA PHOTO

Paul Miller Racing finished third in the GTD class in the Rolex 24 and is looking forward to competing in the 12 Hours of Sebring next month.

The only GTD team that has performed better in the GTD class since the merged series began in 2014 is Scuderia Corsa, which has won the class title the last three consecutive seasons, including the past two

with Christina Nielsen, who now races the No. 58 Wright Motorsports Porsche, and Alessandro Balzan, who now is joined by Cooper MacNeil in the No. 63 WeatherTech Ferrari. Sellers is familiar with

the team's approach, especially the last couple of years.

"I think Christina and Alessandro both have laid a huge blueprint in what it takes to win the

IMSA | 8

College Bowl Picks Winner



KIM LEATHERMAN PHOTO

Steve Little, right, receives his \$50 gift card for winning the Highlands News-Sun College Bowl Picks contest from sports reporter Mark Pinson. Little missed seven games and won the contest on the points tiebreaker.



JIM TAYLOR/CORRESPONDENT

Matt Garner (3) maintained his points lead in the FXT class with a win in the main race on Saturday night at the Avon Park Mower Plex.

HOOPS

FROM PAGE 7

Tenoroc refused to wilt under the pressure as Tima nailed another 3-pointer and scored seven of his game-high 19 points to give the Titans a two-point lead late in the third quarter.

Dewberry, with a flair for the dramatic, drilled another shot from midcourt at the buzzer to electrify the fans and put the Red Devils on top by a score of 34-33 heading to the last eight minutes.

"That was a big basket," O'Hora said. "The fans got excited and it gave us some energy."

The teams traded baskets until Dewberry swished a jumper from the right baseline to give Avon Park a 40-38 lead with 4:43 left to play.

The Red Devils played stifling defense and forced a pair of missed shots by Tenoroc. Avon Park took advantage as Ricky Lovette scored and sophomore forward Eric Brown, who was a force in the paint with 11 rebounds, poured in eight of his 12 points to extend the lead to 46-38 with 2:45 remaining to play.

Avon Park smartly went to a stall offense and ran clock with each possession. Tenoroc was forced to foul and the Red Devils made enough of their free throws to hold off the scrappy Titans for



MARK PINSON/STAFF

Avon Park head basketball coach Marty O'Hora, center, talks to his team in a time out during the second half of Tuesday night's district semifinal game.

the hard-fought victory.

"I'm proud of our guys for responding to the pressure like we did," said O'Hora. "We did a much better job of taking the ball to the rim in the second half. We dominated the glass and either scored or got fouled and that made a big difference. We're a young team with only two seniors and the guys are working hard get better."

Avon Park, as the No. 2 seed, must travel to Lakeland to take on No. 1 seed McKeel Academy for the district championship on Friday night.

The Red Devils split the season series with the Wildcats, but lost the coin toss to determine home-court advantage for the district finals.

"We were 7-1 in district play and so was McKeel and we lost the coin flip," O'Hora said. "They are a very well-coached team and they get back real well on defense. They do

a good job of limiting our fast break and transition points and they are going to pack their defense in and try and make us shoot from outside. It's going to be a real challenge and we're looking forward to playing them."

No matter the outcome of Friday night's tilt, both teams will advance to next week's regional quarterfinals.

The District 8 winner will earn a home game in the first round of the state playoffs. The District 8 runner-up must travel to play at the District 7 champion.

"It feels good to make the state playoffs because we didn't qualify last year," O'Hora said. "We're going to do our best to win the district title and get the home game, but we know we have another game to play after Friday no matter what."

IMSA

FROM PAGE 7

championship," Sellers said. "You win a couple races when the opportunity presents itself, but you limit your bad races. I know that sounds a little bit cliché, but that is the blueprint.

"Those guys went in, and I think last year, went on a six-race podium streak, which is unprecedented. Then, when they weren't on the podium, they were just off of it, fourth, fifth. You know, no eighth-, no 10th-place finishes, no mistakes. Ultimately, that took them into position to be able to go to Road Atlanta (at the end of the season) and just start the race to win the championship.

"Yeah, that's definitely the blueprint. Unfortunately, it's not as easy as building a house and you just follow the blueprint. You have to execute it, and that's what's so hard."

The team is working diligently to ensure its execution is top-notch. One area Snow identified as having improved dramatically is in driver changes.

"When me and Bryan first started out in the car, we were 35 seconds to do a driver change," he said. "It was a long time and it wasn't that smooth. We'd get it done and we'd be fine, but it wasn't perfect.

"Now, when we were at the (Roar Before the Rolex 24) test, we did one driver change in 15 seconds when we were

practicing. What did we actually change there? Very, very little. I guess it was just practicing it, changing where the driver stands and gets out of the car, how he holds the seat belts, how we loosen our seat belts. It's all that small stuff that we've performed on the entire car that helps."

We won't know until the end of the season whether or not improvements like driver changes or the team's season-opening podium, will pay dividends in the form of a GTD championship. But it's hard not to like their chances heading into the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring.

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RACES

FROM PAGE 7

main races. Pate only picked up 15 points on Runyon as he finished second in both races.

Randy Gandy widened his lead in the Grand Prix (GP) class with a pair of wins. Gandy's lead is now 125 over Ken Wayman, who finished third in the heat and second in the main. As Wayman chases Gandy for the top spot, Hal Polhill trails Wayman by 55 points for second in total points.

Polhill finished second in the heat and third, behind Gandy and Wayman, in the main race. With a large number of racers in this class, one slight mistake can cost a position or two in the standings.

Polhill also lost some ground in trying to catch Tom Hodges in the Grand Prix (GP) Twin class. Trailing by 60 points before the races, Polhill finished third in the heat and second in the main, each time behind Hodges, who finished second and first, to fall 75 points behind Hodges for the points lead.

Right behind Polhill is Michael Graves holding third place and Jeff Francis in fourth. Graves

trails Polhill by 50 points while Francis is 60 points behind Polhill, but only ten points from Graves and a chance to move into third place.

In the closest and most contested class, the FXS, Becky Kuhfeldt, also known as the "Racing Granny", picked up 30 points on leader Bruce Runyon and now only trails him by 10 points for the points lead.

Kuhfeldt finished first in the heat race, holding off Sean Kennedy for several laps. She was not able to do so in the main race as Kennedy finished first and Kuhfeldt in second. Runyon finished fifth in the heat and third in the main.

In the FXT class, Matt Garner, despite not

being able to finish the heat race, was able to rebound in the main for a victory and develop a solid points lead. Charlie Summers finished

second in both the heat and main races and is second in total points. Wes Pyburn's chance to move into second place in total points took a hit when he was unable to finish the main race.

Many of the racers will be racing this weekend at the USLMRA National Race at the Florida State Fairgrounds.

Then in March, on the 9th and 10th, NASSGRASS will host a national race at the Avon Park Mower Plex where racers throughout the United States will compete.

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www.ChampionForChildren.org
Opening act: Kalli Harshman



'War Dog Memorial Benefit' this weekend

BY JIM ERVIN
CORRESPONDENT

LAKE PLACID — The War Dog Memorial Benefit will be taking place Saturday, Feb. 17 and Sunday, Feb. 18. The event will be hosted by The Loyal Order Of The Moose Lodge No. 2374.

"Honoring The Guardians Of Our Nations Guardians" is the purpose of the two-day event presented by The Battle Of The Bands, Inc., a 501C3 non-profit whose purpose is to raise funds for local veterans causes.

Proceeds from this event will go towards the construction of "The War Dog Memorial," a tribute to the soldiers best friend here in Highlands County.

The event is open to the public both days. Saturday there will be

live music all day. Bands performing will be The Lost City Blues Band, Robbie A, Jefferson Parker, Colladay, and Sigh'd Effex. On Sunday there will be a karaoke contest.

Other attractions include two days of poker runs, raffles, 50/50's, tournaments and more.

The Battle Of The Bands, Inc. are still seeking sponsors and volunteers for this event as well as other upcoming events.

The Loyal Order Of The Moose, Lodge No. 2374 is located at 2137 U.S. 27 South.

For more information on this event, call Bill Wernersbach at 863-699-0650.

For more information or to become a sponsor or volunteer with the Battle Of The Bands, Inc. call 863-440-4554.



JIM ERVIN/CORRESPONDENT

Bruce Duncan and Colladay are one of the bands scheduled to appear at the War Dog Memorial Benefit.

The villainous world of vegetables

BY ALLEN MOODY
HIGHLANDS SUN EDITOR

Since I'm considered a vegetarian, most people would assume I have a fondness for vegetables. Most people would be wrong, since as a general rule, I like vegetables less than meat. There are some who would say my disdain for veggies borders on fanaticism. I happen to think that's a bit strong, even though most of the ills of society can directly — or indirectly — be attributed to those vile vegetables that try to pass themselves off as edible.

My biggest problem with vegetables, is that for the majority of them, their sole reason for existing is to deprive people of pleasure. When was the last time you enjoyed a nice bowl of Frutti Cap'n Crunch? That's right, you haven't know why, you? Yes, it's because you take up so much room in the grocery store simply isn't the shelf space for them.



If it weren't for vegetables, we'd most certainly have a dozen new flavors of Cheetos and a bigger variety of Pop Tarts, cookies and other things that actually taste good. But no, we all have to suffer from the lack of Peanut Butter Rice Krispies so they can sell cauliflower to people who obviously have damaged taste buds.

Vegetables aren't merely content to ruin your trip through the grocery store's cereal and cracker section, either. No, they've also found their way to the refrigerated section, where they pass themselves off as "frozen vegetables," which are for people who wish to stink up their house in several minutes, as opposed to boiling water and then dropping in something really nasty, such as broccoli.

If we removed frozen veggies from the market, we'd have more room for stuff that is actually good and good for you. Like Canadian beer.

This isn't to say that I find all vegetables detestable. As far as veggies go, potatoes are pretty cool, especially those who grow up to become french fries or tater tots. But even your blue collar spuds — those who go on to become a regular baked potato — put in an honest day's work and can quickly be turned into something tasty with minimal effort. You can't say that about Brussels sprouts.

The reason potatoes are good has to do with their upbringing. Potatoes feel good about themselves and tend to have high ambitions. When they're chilling out in the field doing whatever it is potatoes do, they can dream about making it to the Golden Arches or — if fate smiles down upon them — wind up as a curly fry somewhere.

Cauliflower has nothing to look forward to and knows it's going to be universally disliked no matter what happens to it in the future, so these spiteful creatures plot to emit an odor reminiscent of dirty gym socks when some poor soul runs out of real food — like cheese pizza — and is forced to cook them.

Vegetables also happen to be extremely rude and are always showing up uninvited. If you carnivores go to a restaurant and order a steak what happens? That's right, they bring out your meat and there trying to act all innocent will be a collection of green peas that you didn't even request. Notice how they're always to the edge of your plate, as though the restaurant hopes you don't notice there's these nasty little green things alongside your food? That's not by accident.

If you enjoy sitting down to a steak dinner with little green pea dudes, more power to you. That's just not my style. I'll go right ahead and have my butterscotch pudding without eating my meat — or my veggies — and enjoy every bite.

Disney announces coming attractions

Special to Highlands News-Sun

During D23 Expo Japan 2018, Walt Disney Parks and Resorts Chairman Bob Chapek revealed new details about major expansion in progress across Walt Disney World Resort leading up to the 50th Anniversary. A look at what's in store for guests:

Toy Story Land

The fun will soar to infinity and beyond beginning this summer with the opening of Toy Story Land. This playful new 11-acre land will transport guests into the adventurous outdoors of Andy's backyard where guests will feel like they have been shrunk to the size of Woody and Buzz, as they are surrounded by oversized toys. Using toys like building blocks, plastic buckets and shovels, and game board pieces, Andy has designed the perfect setting for this land that includes two major new attractions.

Slinky Dog Dash is a family-friendly coaster that will send riders dipping, dodging and dashing around turns and drops through the world of Andy's toys. Guests can also spin around with little green aliens aboard Alien Swirling Saucers and quick refreshments will be on tap at Woody's



WALT DISNEY WORLD IMAGE

Walt Disney World Resort guests will step through the movie screen and join Mickey and pals on a wacky adventure set to open at Disney's Hollywood Studios in Florida in 2019.

Lunch Box.

Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge

This highly anticipated new land is set to open in 2019, both at Disney's Hollywood Studios and Disneyland Park — on a grand scale — including the creation of a full-sized fleet of X-wing star fighters and a life-size Millennium Falcon starship.

The totally immersive land will include two jaw-dropping attractions that allow guests to have control of their experiences. One attraction will put guests in the middle of a battle between the First Order and the

Resistance—inside a Star Destroyer. In the second attraction, guests will have the chance to fly the Millennium Falcon — the most famous ship in the galaxy. Throughout the land, guests will also have the chance to interact with Chewie, the lovable BB8 and members of the First Order, plus wander through a toy shop in the street market run by a Toydarian, one of the creatures from Star Wars: The Phantom Menace.

Immersive Star Wars-Themed Hotel

Fans can live out their Star Wars adventures beyond the theme parks with an immersive

experience at a groundbreaking new Star Wars-themed hotel concept. The epic new experience will take guests to a galaxy far, far away and will be seamlessly connected to Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge, the new land set to open in 2019 at Disney's Hollywood Studios. Unlike anything that exists today, the new luxury resort will completely immerse guests in an authentic Star Wars story. The journey through space begins the moment guests arrive, as everyone boards a starship and departs together for

DISNEY | 7

African painted dogs at Lowry Park Zoo

Special to Highlands News-Sun

TAMPA — New this year, families will be nose-to-nose with two new residents of Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo, critically endangered African painted dogs. The pair is made up of a male named Hatari, and a female named Layla. The duo is the "Alpha pair," meaning they will lead the TLPZ pack. The pair can be found in a lush, expansive habitat designed specifically for painted dogs in Ituri Forest located in the Africa area of the Zoo.

TLPZ is only the third AZA accredited Zoo in the state with African painted dogs.

The dogs are among the most endangered canids in the world. The largest populations remain in southern Africa and numbers are estimated around 6,000 in the wild today. Habitat fragmentation, conflict with human activities, and diseases such as rabies and canine distemper are among the perils faced by these dogs.

"We are excited to welcome African painted dogs for the first time to the Zoo. They are an

incredibly charismatic species, it's important to teach guests about the obstacles these dogs face in the wild" said Chris Massaro, General Curator at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo. "We are thrilled to be part of this important conservation effort for one of the rarest canid in the world."

On occasion, the Zoo will host carcass feeds to display the unique hunting behavior of this species. Hunting cooperatively, African painted dogs hunt in packs of 6 to 20 animals. They hunt



TAMPA'S LOWRY PARK ZOO PHOTO

DOGS | 7 Two African painted dogs are at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo.

Your Guide To What's Going On

2do

Top 7 Children's Museums in Central Florida

By Sandra Ketcham
VISITFLORIDA

Does building a roller coaster, digging for dinosaur fossils, climbing a giant tree-house or stepping back into pioneer times sound like fun? If so, take a break from the beaches and theme parks and visit a children's museum in Florida.

While adult museums have a kid-unfriendly "do not touch" policy, these Florida children's museums are packed full of hands-on exhibits and interactive adventures that encourage kids to move, pretend, create and learn.

1. The Charles and Linda Williams Children's Museum, Daytona Beach

The Charles and Linda Williams Children's Museum at the Museum of Arts and Sciences in Daytona Beach features 9,300 square feet of dedicated kid space with interactive science experiments, a mock doctor's office, a laser harp and multiple building centers. There's also a pretend pizza parlor and a planetarium offering an educational laser show. The museum is at 352 S. Nova Road, Daytona Beach. Call 386-255-0285.

2. Orlando Science Center, Orlando

The Orlando Science Center, one of the popular children's museums in Orlando, boasts over 50,000 square feet of kid-friendly exhibits focusing on the human body, mechanics and nature. There's also a movie theater with an eight-story screen, a planetarium and a four-story atrium that houses live turtles, alligators and fish. One of the Orlando museum's biggest hits is KidsTown, a miniature village with multiple hands-on interactives and role-playing activities. NatureWorks focuses on Central Florida's ecosystems and little ones can unearth dinosaur fossils and learn about light and sound at the museum's Science Park. The Center is at 777 E. Princeton St. in Orlando. Call 407-514-2000.

3. Explorations V Children's Museum, Lakeland

Explorations V offers three floors of exhibits designed to celebrate the five senses. This children's museum in Florida is geared toward preschool and elementary students, the museum features activities on water conservation, the human body and space exploration. Role playing also takes place at the museum with an on-site bank, news station and grocery store for educational fun. The children's art gallery and science center allows little ones to get hands-on and create their own masterpieces and also take part in science experiments. The museum is at 109 N. Kentucky Ave. in Lakeland. Call 863-687-3869.

4. Glazer Children's Museum, Tampa

The 53,000-square-foot Glazer Children's Museum features 170 hands-on interactives in 17 themed areas. This children's museum in Tampa houses the usual favorites, including a bank, health clinic, engineering station, restaurant and grocery store offering unique learning experiences. "Art Smart" allows children to make their own kaleidoscope or noodle sculpture, and children can redesign downtown Tampa in the museum's "Design + Build" area. Kids of all ages can pretend to be harbor pilots or dockworkers while learning about water in the "KidsPort" exhibit. Other popular areas include "My House, Your House,"



which introduces children to other cultures, and "Get Moving," an ideal place to tire little ones before leaving. There's also a 35-foot tall climbing structure designed to teach kids about the water cycle. The museum is at 110 W Gasparilla Plaza in Tampa. Call 813-443-3861.

5. Great Explorations, St. Petersburg

At Great Explorations, kids learn by role playing and participating in science-oriented hands-on exhibits. The two-story treehouse at the center of the museum allows children to become designers, carpenters or engineers while learning about construction. The whole family can work together to build giant magnetic sculptures at the "Express Yourself Art Studio". Brave kids can crawl through the museum's 100-foot long "Touch Tunnel" in total darkness to navigate various inclines and obstacles, and little ones can grow their own veggies while learning about farm, beach and sea life at "Kane's Great Beginnings." Plus, the "Engine Company 15 Fire House" exhibit teaches fire safety and shows kids what it takes to be a firefighter. The museum is at 1925 4th St N. in St. Petersburg. Call 727-821-8992.

6. Children's Museum of the Highlands, Sebring

The Children's Museum is a dynamic center for fun and learning for children in and around Highlands County Florida. Providing hours of fun for families, the museum is dedicated to hands-on enjoyment over 20 unique exhibits. Programs such as Tot Time, Kids Night Out, and Discovery Camp delight and entertain year round. Admission is a low \$5 per person for children and adults. A great value for a lot of educational fun! The museum is inside the Lakeshore Mall at 901 US 27 North Unit #50, Sebring. For more information call the museum at 863-451-5385.7.

7. Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts, Barberville

About a half hour west of Daytona Beach and an hour north of Orlando, visitors can step back in time at the Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts. The historical village is a unique alternative to traditional children's museum in Florida and features a living history lesson illustrating Floridian life from the late 19th century. Explore a log cabin and old schoolhouse, step inside a railroad depot from the late 1800s, and learn about the skills necessary to survive in Pioneer Florida, including butter making, weaving, blacksmithing, candle making and woodworking. Little ones will enjoy the small farm with peacocks, chickens, goats and other animals, and older children enjoy the turpentine mill, pottery shed, general store and church. The Settlement is at 1776 Lightfoot Lane in Barberville. Call 386-749-2959.



Jen Karetnick for VISIT FLORIDA

Explore days past in Barberville.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Indiana LaGrange County Days

There will be a get-together for any current or former residents and friends of LaGrange County, Indiana at 11 a.m. today at Homer's Restaurant, 1000 Sebring Square.

Indiana Marshall County Days

There will be a get-together for current and former residents of Marshall County, Indiana at 11 a.m. on Friday, at Homer's Restaurant 1000 Sebring Sq. For more information, contact Babs Johnson at 574-952-4894.

Challenge 22

The American Legion Post 69 will hold the 2nd Annual Challenge 22 to raise awareness about Veteran suicide at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 1301 W. Bell St. for more information, contact Larry Roberts 850-718-7773.

Mardi Gras comes to Lake Placid

Mardi Gras 2018 celebration is coming to Lake Placid at 5:30 p.m. Saturday Feb. 17. Music by the "Kollections." Tickets are \$20 per person and are on sale in the Lake Placid Elks Lodge lounge now (while they last) at 200 C.R. 621 behind Save-A-Lot. This event will be open to all.

Amateur Radio Club

The Highlands County Amateur Radio Club (HCARC) will be holding a Hamfest from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at First Baptist Church of Lake Josephine, 111 Lake Josephine Drive. Talk-in will be via the HCARC repeater: 147.045 MHz, PL of 100 Hz for those needing directions. Tailgater and inside table setup will begin at 7 a.m. with admission to the public at 8 a.m. Admission is \$5 with free tailgating spaces. Inside tables are \$10. There will be prize drawings for merchandise and ARRL publications. Refreshments will be available at nominal cost. Additional information is available by contacting Neal Hodges (W4JNH) at 863-314-9134 or by email: jackmaster@centurylink.net.

Sons of the American Revolution Luncheon

The SAR Highlands Chapter will meet for a luncheon at 12 p.m. on the third Saturday of the month at Beef 'O' Brady's at 2940 U.S. 27 North. For more information call 863-465-7345.

The Harmony Hoedowners

Join the Harmony Hoedowners for a hoedown with live music from The Messenger Band and called by Sam Dunn and Dave Muller from 7 - 9 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 19 at Avon Park First United Methodist Church, 200 S. Lake Ave. Tickets are \$7 per person and dress code is casual.

Lake August membership meeting

The Lake August Lake Association will hold its annual Membership meeting at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20 at the Placid Lakes Town Hall Community Center, 2010 Placid Lakes Blvd. Electrofishing program to be presented by Cole Harty of Florida Fish & Wildlife. Door prizes. Open to all property owners in the Lake August Lake Association. Call Dick Greider at 863-699-2067.

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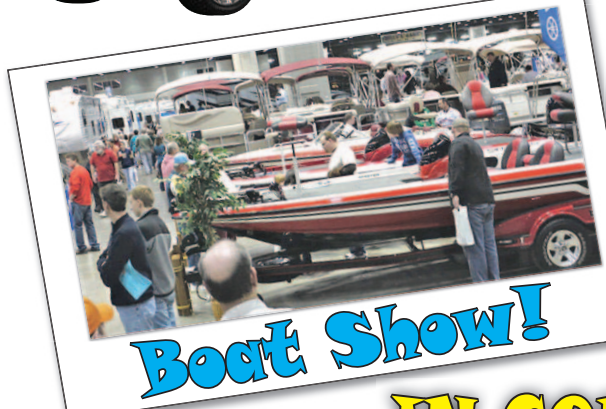
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- **Female Coach of the Year**
- **Male Coach of the Year**
- **Financial Representative of the Year**
- **Real Estate Agent of the Year**
- **Educator of the Year**
- **Volunteer Of the Year**
- **Agricultural Person of the Year**
- **Philanthropist of the Year**
- **501c3 of the Year**

Nomination Name: _____

Phone Number of Nominee: _____

Category: _____

Reason For Nomination: _____

Submitted by: _____ **Phone:** _____

Please Email Your Digital Submission, or Drop Off in Person, by March 26, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

For Regular Mail, Please Postmark by March 19, 2018.



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Email: nominations@HighlandsNewsSun.com

(To Nominate More Than One Category, Copies of this Form or Typed Copy Will Be Accepted)

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BREAKING NEWS!

major changes on Earth. We will visit several places of strategic interest and will discuss possible collaborations.







Among other things will also discuss new measures on global security. At this time this meeting was productive and we will have a press conference.

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**Israeli leader
vows to carry on**

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to carry on after police recommended indicting him on corruption charges. *See page 3*



MIKE STOCKER/SUN SENTINEL/TNS

Students are evacuated by police out of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., after a shooting on Wednesday.

GUNMAN OPENS FIRE IN SCHOOL

Former student in custody; at least 17 dead

By **TERRY SPENCER**
and **KELLI KENNEDY**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARKLAND, Fla. — A former student opened fire at a Florida high school Wednesday, killing at least 17 people and sending scores of students fleeing into the streets in the nation's deadliest school shooting since a gunman attacked an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut.

Frantic parents rushed to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School to find SWAT team members and ambulances surrounding the campus as classes prepared to dismiss for the day. Live footage showed emergency workers who appeared to be treating the wounded on sidewalks.

"It is a horrific situation," said Robert Runcie, superintendent of the school district in Parkland, about an hour's drive north of Miami. "It is a horrible day for us."

The 19-year-old suspect was taken into custody without a fight about an hour after he left the scene, authorities said.

Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel said the suspect,

who was previously expelled for disciplinary reasons, had at least one rifle and multiple magazines.

"It's catastrophic. There really are no words," Israel said on Twitter.

Most of the fatalities were inside the building, though some victims were found fatally shot outside, the sheriff said.

The gunman was identified as Nicolas Cruz by a U.S. official briefed on the investigation. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the information publicly.

In a cul-de-sac near the school, Michael Nembhard was sitting in his garage when he saw a young man in a burgundy shirt walking down the street. In an instant, a police cruiser pulled up and officers jumped out with guns drawn.

"All I heard was 'Get on the ground! Get on the ground!'" Nembhard said. He said he could not see the suspect's face, but that the man got on the ground without incident.

The day started normally at the school, which had a morning fire drill, and students were in class around 2:30 p.m. when



AP PHOTO

Parents wait for news after a reports of a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, on Wednesday.

another alarm sounded.

Noah Parness, a 17-year-old junior, said he and the other students calmly went outside to their fire-drill areas when he suddenly heard popping sounds.

"We saw a bunch of teachers running down the stairway, and then everybody shifted and broke into a sprint," Parness said. "I hopped a fence."

Beth Feingold said her

daughter, Brittani, sent a text at 2:32 p.m. that said, "We're on code red. I'm fine," but sent another text shortly afterward saying, "Mom, I'm so scared."

GUNMAN | 3

Latest mass shootings all have something in common: the AR-15

By **MATT PEARCE**
LOS ANGELES TIMES

When a gunman attacked a high school in Parkland, Fla., on Wednesday, killing 17 people, the event marked a depressingly familiar milestone.

As of this week, seven of the 10 deadliest mass shootings in modern U.S. history have all happened since 2007. The Parkland massacre is now the eighth-deadliest attack.

The nation's mass-shooting problem seems to be getting worse. And the latest, most serious shootings all seem to have one new thing in common: the AR-15 semiautomatic assault rifle.

The AR-15 that

typically has large magazines, shoots rounds at higher velocities than handguns, and leaves more complex wounds in victims.

In each one of the older shootings on the 10-deadliest list — including the 2007 attack on Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., that left 32 victims dead — the shooters carried handguns. (The exception is the 1984 San Ysidro, Calif., massacre, where the gunman also used a shotgun and an Uzi semiautomatic carbine.)

But in all of the latest incidents — Newtown, Conn., in 2012; San Bernardino, Calif., in 2015; Orlando, Fla., in 2016; Las Vegas, 2017; Sutherland Springs, Texas, 2017 — the attackers

primarily used AR-15 semiautomatic rifles.

There are a couple of theories that might suggest why AR-15s would be associated with deadlier attacks. AR-15 rifles shoot small but high-velocity .223-caliber rounds that often shatter inside victims' bodies, creating more devastating injuries than the wounds typically left by larger but lower-velocity handgun rounds.

Shooters also commonly use the rifles with 30-round magazines, which allow a shooter to fire more rounds uninterrupted, compared to the smaller magazines commonly used in handguns.

Details were still coming in about



TNS FILE PHOTO

On display at a gun shop in Wendell, N.C., an AR-15 assault rifle manufactured by Core15 Rifle Systems.

Wednesday's shooting in Florida, but officials say the suspected gunman, Nikolas Cruz, 19, was armed with at least one AR-15 semiautomatic rifle and "countless

magazines," according to Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel.

There's one thing that does make the Parkland massacre unusual. Of the 10-deadliest mass

shootings, Cruz is the only suspected gunman to escape, survive and likely face trial — giving the public a chance to learn why the massacre happened.

WORLD/NATION/FROM PAGE ONE

Israeli leader vows to carry on despite corruption charges

By ARON HELLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to carry on Wednesday after police recommended indicting him on corruption charges, angrily dismissing the allegations and the critics calling on him to step down.

With his coalition partners dutifully lining up behind him, the longtime leader readied himself for a prolonged battle over his political legitimacy as the attorney general considers whether to ultimately press charges.

The police announcement that Netanyahu's acceptance of nearly \$300,000 in gifts from two billionaires amounted to bribery sent shockwaves through the Israeli political system and delivered a humiliating blow to Netanyahu after years of allegations and investigations. But it did not appear to immediately threaten his lengthy rule as reaction largely fell along partisan lines. Nearly all of Netanyahu's

Cabinet ministers issued statements of support and his coalition partners all signaled they would stick by him, for now.

"Let me reassure you: the coalition is stable. No one, not I and no one else, plans to go to elections. We will continue to work together with you for the people of Israel until the end of our term," he said to a gathering of local government officials in Tel Aviv. "After I read the recommendations report, I can say it is biased, extreme, full of holes like Swiss cheese and doesn't hold water."

In an impassioned defense, Netanyahu took aim at police investigators saying their figures were vastly inflated and tried "to create a false impression of exchanges that never existed."

Though he is not legally compelled to resign, several opposition figures called on Netanyahu to do so to avoid corrupting the office further.

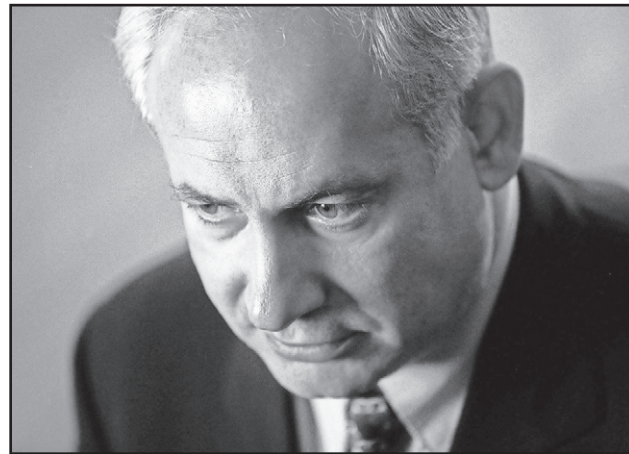
Under similar circumstances a decade ago Netanyahu, then the opposition leader, urged

then-Prime Minister Ehud Olmert to resign after police recommended he be indicted, saying a leader "sunk up to his neck in interrogations" could not govern properly.

In contrast to Olmert, who eventually stepped down and was convicted and imprisoned, Netanyahu is still relatively popular with the public and enjoys broad political support in his Likud party and among coalition partners — nearly all of whom stand to lose power if elections were held today.

Public Security Minister Gilad Erdan, who oversees the police, said the prime minister "deserves the assumption of innocence," while Netanyahu's coalition whip, David Amsalem, accused the police of committing "an illegitimate act here to attempt a coup d'etat in Israel."

More importantly, the coalition parties that keep Netanyahu afloat said they would await the ruling of Attorney General Avihai Mandelblit, who could take months to



AP FILE PHOTO

In this file photo taken on Dec. 6, 1998, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu accuses Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat of "making a farce" of the Wye River accords during an interview in his Jerusalem office.

decide whether to file charges.

The only crack in the wall-to-wall support came from Education Minister Naftali Bennett, head of the nationalistic Jewish Home party, who said Netanyahu could keep serving but was "not living up to the standard" expected of his office.

Police recommended indicting Netanyahu over accepting gifts from Hollywood mogul Arnon Milchan and Australian

billionaire James Packer, and over suspicions that he offered to give preferential treatment to a newspaper publisher in exchange for favorable coverage.

Police say that in that return for lavish gifts that included jewelry, expensive cigars and champagne, Netanyahu had operated on Milchan's behalf on U.S. visa matters, tried to legislate a generous tax break for him and sought to promote his interests in the Israeli media market.

White House struggles with domestic abuse vetting scandal

By CHRISTI PARSONS
TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump broke his silence on the subject of spousal abuse Wednesday, declaring publicly that he is "totally opposed to it" — but spoke out only as a scandal continued to fester over the White House handling of domestic violence allegations against a former top aide.

For more than a week, the administration has proven unable to convincingly answer questions about how officials failed to respond to accusations of physical abuse levied by two ex-wives against Rob Porter, who until last week served as a key White House official.

On Wednesday, Congress entered the picture as Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., announced that his House Oversight Committee was launching an investigation to find out what and when the White House knew about the allegations. He vowed that he'd either get

answers or "a really good reason" why there weren't any.

"I am interested in how someone with credible allegations of domestic abuse, plural, can be hired," Gowdy said.

He added that he had questions about the interim security clearance Porter had received, which allowed him to continue to work in the White House and handle highly classified material even after the FBI had indicated that he would be unlikely to receive a permanent clearance.

A congressional investigation could keep the controversy in public view for weeks or months, an unattractive prospect for the White House.

Within hours, the president, who had shunned reporters' questions all week, was talking, condemning all forms of violence within families.

"I am totally opposed to domestic violence of any kind," Trump said. "Everyone knows that, and it almost wouldn't even have to be said."

His choice to say it anyway indicated that Trump recognizes the harm the Porter case has done to his administration. Officials had wanted to spend this month claiming credit for the economy and pushing Trump's infrastructure plans.

Instead, the news has focused on whether his chief of staff, John F. Kelly, had known of the accusations against Porter and ignored them or had been negligent in not asking why Porter hadn't received a full security clearance.

Until Wednesday, Trump's only comments had been to lavish praise on Porter and question whether men accused of misconduct were being denied due process. Those remarks and tweets heightened outrage among women and many men across the country.

As day after day passed without the president personally expressing sympathy for victims of domestic violence, GOP strategists began to voice concern about the potential effect on this year's midterm election.

The handling of the Porter case raises particular problems for Trump because of his own history of having been accused by multiple women of sexual misconduct.

On Wednesday, a former porn star, Stormy Daniels, who received a \$130,000 payment from Trump's personal lawyer, said she now felt free to talk about her history with Trump because the lawyer had publicly confirmed making the payment. The lawyer, Michael D. Cohen, said Tuesday that he had made the payment shortly before last year's election, but said the money did not come from the Trump Organization.

Daniels has previously said she had an affair with Trump that began when his wife, Melania, was pregnant.

If Trump didn't see trouble coming, his fellow Republicans seemed to have sensed it. House Speaker Paul D. Ryan, R-Wis., said he considers it Gowdy's "proper job" to look into the Porter case.

GUNMAN

FROM PAGE 1

Brittani later was able to escape the school, which is one of the largest in the state, with about 3,000 students.

Inside the school, students heard loud bangs as the shooter fired. Many of them hid under desks or in closets and barricaded doors.

Television footage showed those students who fled leaving in a single-file line with their hands over their heads as officers urged them to evacuate quickly. Parents hurried to the scene.

Caesar Figueroa said when he got to the school to check on his 16-year-old daughter, he saw police officers drawing machine guns as they approached the campus.

"My wife called me that there was an active shooter, and the school was on lockdown. I got on the road and saw helicopters. ... It was crazy and my daughter wasn't answering her phone." She finally texted him that she was inside a closet with friends.

Len Murray's 17-year-old son, a junior at the school, sent his parents a chilling text: "Mom and Dad, there have been shots fired on campus at school. There are police sirens outside. I'm in the auditorium and the doors are locked."

A few minutes later, he texted again: "I'm fine."

Murray said he raced to the school only to be stopped by authorities under a highway overpass within view of the school buildings. He said he told his son to save his battery and



AMY BETH BENNETT/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL VIA AP

People gather waiting for word from students at Coral Springs Drive and the Sawgrass Expressway just south of the campus following a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., Wednesday.

stop texting. The boy's mother told him to turn off his ringer.

Authorities told parents to gather at a nearby hotel to get information.

"I'm scared for the other parents here. You can see the concern in everybody's faces. Everybody is asking, 'Have you heard from your child yet?'" Murray said.

Murray said he's had just one thought running through his mind since he got his son's text: "All I keep thinking about is when I dropped him off this morning. I usually say, 'I love you,' and I didn't this morning. He's 17, he's at that age, and I didn't say it this morning, and I'm just kicking myself right now over and over and over. Say it early and often, I'm telling you."



AMY BETH BENNETT/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL VIA AP

An police officer tells parents waiting at Coral Springs Drive and the Sawgrass Expressway to go to the Marriott hotel to meet up with their kids following a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., Wednesday.



JOHN MCCALL/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL VIA AP

Medical personnel tend to a victim following a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., on Wednesday.

ALMANAC

Today is **Thursday, Feb. 15**, the 46th day of 2018. There are 319 days left in the year.

Today in history

On **Feb. 15, 1798**, a feud between two members of the U.S. House of Representatives (meeting in Philadelphia) boiled over as Roger Griswold of Connecticut used a cane to attack Vermont's Matthew Lyon, who defended himself with a set of tongs. (Griswold was enraged over the House's refusal to expel Lyon for spitting tobacco juice in his face two weeks earlier; after the two men were separated, a motion to expel them both was defeated.)

On this date

In **1564**, Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei was born in Pisa.

In **1933**, President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt escaped an assassination attempt in Miami that mortally wounded Chicago Mayor Anton J. Cermak; gunman Giuseppe Zangara was executed more than four weeks later.

In **1953**, Tenley Albright, 17, became the first American woman to win the world figure skating championship, which was held in Davos, Switzerland.

In **1971**, Britain and Ireland "decimalised" their currencies, making one pound equal to 100 new pence instead of 240 pence.

In **1989**, the Soviet Union announced that the last of its troops had left Afghanistan, after more than nine years of military intervention.

In **1992**, a Milwaukee jury found that Jeffrey Dahmer was sane when he killed and mutilated 15 men and boys. (The decision meant that Dahmer, who had already pleaded guilty to the murders, would receive a mandatory life sentence for each count; Dahmer was beaten to death in prison in 1994.)

Today's birthdays

Actress **Claire Bloom** is 87. Author **Susan Brownmiller** is 83. Rock musician **Mick Avory** (The Kinks) is 74. Jazz musician **Henry Threadgill** is 74. Actress-model **Marisa Berenson** is 71. Actress **Jane Seymour** is 67. Singer **Melissa Manchester** is 67. "Simpsons" creator **Matt Groening** is 64. Musician **Mike Craig** (Culture Club) is 58. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer **Darrell Green** is 58. Actress **Natalie Morales** is 33. Actress **Amber Riley** is 32.

Bible verse

"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost." — **Romans 14:17**.
There is no substitute for the supernatural! The Holy Spirit has come so that we don't have to settle for less.

ODD NEWS

Dog in the race? Pooch barred from race for Kansas governor

HUTCHINSON, Kan. (AP) — Kansas election officials are putting the brakes on a dog's campaign for governor.

KWCH-TV reports that Terran Woolley, of Hutchinson, decided to file the paperwork over the weekend for his 3-year-old pooch, Angus, to run for the state's top office after reading stories about six teenage candidates. The teens entered the race after learning Kansas doesn't have an age requirement, something lawmakers are seeking to change.

Angus is a type of hunting dog called a wire-haired Vizsla. Woolley figured Angus would need to run as a Republican. He described Angus as a "caring, nurturing individual who cares about the best for humanity and all creatures other than squirrels."

But the Kansas Secretary of State's office says man's best friend is not capable of serving the responsibilities required of the governor.

STOCKS LISTING CHANGE - REQUESTS WELCOME!

The Sun Newspaper is tweaking the way stocks are listed in the daily paper. We will continue to run a wide range of stocks, but we're trying to eliminate stocks our readers don't want. If you do not see your stock in the paper, please let us know

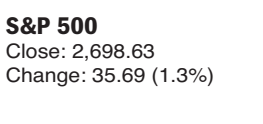
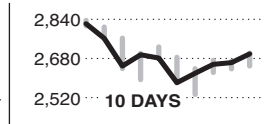
and we will put it in the listings. Email the name of the company and the symbol to nlane@sun-herald.com, or call 941-206-1138. You can leave the stock name and symbol on voice mail. When requesting a stock, please include where you live so we can run the listing in the appropriate edition. If you reach voice mail, please leave your contact information so your call can be returned.

Market summary table with columns: DOW (24,893.49 +253.04), NASDAQ (7,143.62 +130.10), S&P 500 (2,698.63 +35.69), 10-YR T-NOTE (2.91% +0.07), 30-YR T-BOND (3.17% +0.06), CRUDE OIL (\$60.60 +1.41), GOLD (\$1,355.50 +27.40), EURO (\$1.2435 +0.0080)

Money & Markets

Combined Stocks From the New York Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq.

Table of stock listings with columns: Tkr, Name, Last, Chg. Includes various companies like AES, ALB, ALXN, etc.



Stocks Recap table with columns: NYSE, NASD, Vol. (in mil.), Pvs. Volume, etc.

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, CLOSE, CHG, %CHG, WK, MO, QTR, YTD. Lists various stock indices and their performance.

Table with columns: HIGH, LOW, CLOSE, CHG, %CHG, WK, MO, QTR, YTD. Lists various stock indices and their performance.

Table with columns: UNIT, UnitGrp, UNIV, UnivDisp, UNM, UnmGrp, etc. Lists various company units and their prices.

Table of stock listings with columns: Tkr, Name, Last, Chg. Includes various companies like DAL, DNR, DERM, etc.

Table of stock listings with columns: Tkr, Name, Last, Chg. Includes various companies like GME, GLPI, GPM, etc.

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Table of interest rates with columns: TREASURIES, LAST, PVS, NET CHG, 1YR AGO. Includes 3-month T-bill, 6-month T-bill, etc.

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Table of commodities with columns: Commodities, FUELS, METALS, AGRICULTURE. Includes Crude Oil (bbl), Silver (oz), etc.

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Table of commodities with columns: Commodities, FUELS, METALS, AGRICULTURE. Includes Crude Oil (bbl), Silver (oz), etc.

Stock Footnotes: Stock Footnotes: cl - Issue has been called for redemption by company. d - New 52-week low. ec - Company formerly listed on the American Exchange's Emerging Company Market- place. g - Dividends and earnings in Canadian dollars. h - Does not meet continued-listing standards. If - Following with SEC. n - Stock was a new issue in the last year. The 52-week high and low figures date only from the beginning of trading. pf - Preferred stock issue. pr - Preferences. pp - Holder owns installments of purchase price. ri - Right to buy security at a specified price. rs - Stock has undergone a reverse stock split at least 50% within the past year. s - Stock has split at least 20 percent within the last year. u - Trades will be settled when the stock is issued. w - When distributed, w - Warrant, allowing a purchase of a stock. u - New 52-week high. un - Unit, including more than one security. vj - Company in bankruptcy or receivership, or being reorganized under the bankruptcy law. Appears in front of the name. Stocks in bold are worth at least \$5 and changed 5 percent or more in price. Underlining for most actively traded stocks of the day. Dividend Footnotes: a - Extra dividends were paid, but are not included. b - Annual rate plus 12 percent. c - Liquidating dividend. e - Amount declared or paid in last stock issue. f - Current annual rate, which was increased by most recent dividend announcement. i - Sum of dividends paid after stock split, no regular rate. j - Sum of dividends paid this year. Most recent dividend was omitted or deferred. k - Declared or paid this year, a cumulative issue with dividends in arrears. m - Current annual rate, which was decreased by most recent dividend announcement. p - Initial dividend, annual rate not known. yield not shown. r - Declared or paid in preceding 12 months plus stock dividend. t - Paid in stock, approximate cash value on ex-dividend date. PE Footnotes: q - Stock is a closed-end fund - no P/E ratio shown. cc - P/E exceeds 99. dd - Loss in last 12 months. Mutual Fund Footnotes: b - Fee covering market costs is paid from fund assets. d - Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee. f - front load (sales charges). m - Multiple fees are charged, usually a marketing fee and either a sales or redemption fee. NA - not available. p - previous day's net asset value. s - fund split shares during the week. x - fund paid a distribution during the week. Source: Morningstar and the Associated Press.

Reader asks what can be done to totally get off insulin

DEAR DR. ROACH: My doctor placed me on insulin for diabetes because I was not able to bring my glucose below 100. The bloodwork results are now 120 glucose and 6.6 hemoglobin A1C. I have been averaging 6.5 hemoglobin A1C for over two years. I have been taking glucose readings three times a day, with results between 108 and 147 mg/dl. My blood pressure reads 117/61, and my heart rate averages 55. All my bloodwork is within normal limits. I'm 65 years old and was wondering if taking the insulin is needed at this time. I still work, and I'm very active for my age. I take 15 units of insulin injections at night before bed. I also take XIGDUO XR 10 mg/1,000 mg in the morning after breakfast. The other medication I take is 10 mg of simvastatin before bedtime for my cholesterol, which is within the limit when I do my bloodwork. What can I do to get off the insulin? — S.R.



Dr. Roach

themselves an injection every day. However, it is hard to argue with the success you have had on your current regimen. Your blood sugars, confirmed by your A1C, are in the near-normal range, and your results are very close to what most experts would recommend. Another consideration is that the insulin you are taking keeps your own pancreas from having to make insulin. This might help your long-term ability to regulate blood sugar. Your insulin is a long-acting form of human insulin, which is the most natural way of replacing

the insulin your body can't make enough of. You also take a potent combination of oral medicines to help the insulin work better. I spoke with one expert, who said she would consider looking at your body's ability to make insulin (through a blood test called a C-peptide level). If that level were low, it would be unlikely that you would have success going off insulin. If you still feel strongly about trying to get off insulin, speak to the doctor managing your diabetes about trying to slowly taper off the insulin, going down one or two units a day every week or so. Do not try this without discussing with your doctor; he or she would need to monitor your sugars very carefully during the process. **DEAR DR. ROACH:** I was diagnosed three months ago with osteoarthritis in my knees, including an itchy rash on my right thigh, which is dormant for some hours during the day; other times, it is almost unbearable. I have started some over-the-counter

supplements, including boswellia and turmeric, with good results for the knee pain. But the rash concerns me. **ANSWER:** Osteoarthritis and rash normally do not go together. There can be several types of skin changes in a different condition, rheumatoid arthritis, which generally does not affect the knees as much as it does the hands and wrists. So, I suspect that the joint and skin problems are separate issues. This time of year, when I hear about itchy rashes, I look for dry skin changes such as eczema. I often tell people to start with some moisturizers, especially applied after bathing. If symptoms continue and I cannot make a diagnosis by exam, I will refer to a dermatologist. I am glad you are having a good response to the supplements. Both boswellia and turmeric present some evidence that they may benefit people with osteoarthritis, and have a generally favorable side effect profile.

Man conflicted on inviting mother-in-law to wedding

DEAR ABBY: My wife passed away two years ago at age 40 after a long bout with cancer. We had three children, ages 7 to 12. I am 44 and engaged now to a wonderful woman. We are planning to have a small wedding with fewer than 50 guests.



Dear Abby

While the kids and I are doing well, my late wife's mother, "Karen," is still grieving. She has a forceful personality and can be quite pushy. She lives nearby. We have not finalized the arrangements or sent out invitations. Karen has been asking if she and my former father-in-law are invited, but we haven't answered her yet. She says she's hurt because she feels we don't want her there.

DEAR ABBY: I need advice on how to deal with a friend/neighbor's messy, unkempt backyard. We are getting ready to put our house on the market, and I'm concerned their yard may be a deterrent to potential buyers. Their pool looks like a swamp. They are friends of ours, but I have no clue how to broach such a sensitive topic without upsetting them. Please help. — Living Next To A Swamp

Is it proper etiquette to invite the parents of a deceased spouse to a remarriage? — Looking To The Future In Illinois **DEAR LOOKING:** The decision whether to attend should be theirs to make. Welcome them and treat them with kindness. A wife can be "replaced," but a daughter cannot, which is why Karen is still grieving even though you have gone on with your life.

DEAR LIVING: If you live in an area that's prone to any dangerous mosquito-borne viruses, you would be doing them a favor to point out that their pool equipment needs fixing because still water makes an excellent breeding place for mosquitoes. As to the state of their yard, your real estate agent may have some suggestions about how to handle that.

What to know about GMO

Dear Readers: You may hear the terms "GMO" and "non-GMO" in the media. Have you ever wondered what that means? "GMO" stands for "genetically modified organism." A GMO is something whose DNA has been scientifically altered by man for any number of reasons: to improve flavor, to produce more from a crop and to prevent insect damage, for example. Corn, beets and soybeans are the largest crops that are genetically modified, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (www.fda.gov), and these are then made into forms of oils and sugars.



Hints from Heloise

The big question: Are genetically modified foods safe to eat? Research largely says "Yes." The FDA regulates their production. As with anything, some people may have allergies to GMOs. By the way, organic foods are always non-GMO. Do your research, talk to your doctor. — Heloise

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NGUTS

VLAHE

BRMEAK

GUMSPY

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumbles: ALLEY SEIZE WOBBLE VICTOR Answer: When he gave her a heart-shaped sugar cookie, she thought it was — VERY SWEET

KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

6x	3	3-	2÷
7+	2÷		3
		2-	

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CHALLENGING

2÷		3+		40x
4	11+		15x	
6x	1-		6	3-
	5-		1-	4-
2÷		5		2÷
4-		2÷		3

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RULES

1 Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.

2 The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

3 Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

6x	7+	3	2
1	4	3	2
2	3	4	1
4	2	1	3
3	2÷		
3	1	2	4

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES

- fills with anxious concern (6)
- sudden jerking movements (6)
- milk container (6)
- went before the court again (7)
- mixtures (7)
- frequent flight frustrations (6)
- composes a movie's music (6)

SOLUTIONS

OR	AL	MS	DLE	ON
RI	DE	RT	SC	STA
YS	RTS	YS	AR	ME
CA	ES	ED	RET	LA

Wednesday's Answers: 1. BREAKUPS 2. FOOTWEAR 3. SOFTBALL 4. IDOL 5. NEUTRAL 6. UNFETTER 7. DUNKIRK

Challenger

DIRECTIONS: Fill each square with a number, one through nine. Horizontal squares should add to totals on right. Vertical squares should add to totals on bottom. Diagonal squares through center should add to total in upper and lower right.

There may be more than one solution.

Today's Challenge
Time: 9 Minutes, 3 Seconds

Your Working Time
Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____

		9			18
			8		23
	1				19
				5	23
8	34	34	8		28

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Yesterday's Challenger Answers

1	8	8	8	25
8	1	9	9	27
9	8	1	8	26
8	9	8	1	26
26	26	26	26	4

MARMADUKE By Brad Anderson



"That's strange. I don't remember that sign the last time we were here."

Cryptoquip

2-15

M G J C H R J Y H W S X M B U F F H
R B S I R I Y I I W V K D W F J C B J
D U B U C C B J H K F ? D F ' X
B W M B J X F G I X G B R I F G D U V !

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SPLINTER GROUPS USED TO BE VERY TRENDY, BUT I GUESS RECENTLY THEY HAVE FALLEN OUT OF FACTION.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals W

SPORTS SLEUTH

CITIES ON THE OLYMPIC TORCH ROUTE 2018

Z J F B Y U R O K H D A X U Q
N K H E B I Y V S P M J H E B
Y V G T Q N O L I G D B Y W T
R P M N K C I F D B U Y W U S
Q O M K O H I F N A S L U D B
L Z N P X E W A E O O J W U B
S I K O J O S A Q O E N L U J
H O S O W N H G S J Y H S F D
M C E M U M A Y N U W A C V T
S G Q G I P A N L O N A S A K
I H F G E C B N O E H C N U S

Wednesday's unlisted clue: CHEF

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Thursday's unlisted clue hint: South Korea's 2nd Largest City

Asan	Hongseong	Jeju	Suncheon
Geoje	Hwasun	Mokpo	Ulsan
Gimhae	Imsil	Namwon	Yeosu
Gunsan	Incheon	Sacheon	

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WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

CAUCASUS JUNGFR Au

SOLUTION

There's gold in them thar hills

HOROSCOPE

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Though generations before you did things a certain way and the principles they used to get through life are still relevant today, modern problems require you to build on that foundation. You'll acquire new tools. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). The best way to predict what happens next is still the same as always: Make it happen. Today's work may be a bit rushed, but it's still remarkable and generous if not as polished as it might have been had you more time. **GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). The antidote to selfishness is publicity. Most would avoid the shame of being called out for putting one's own interests before the interests of loved ones, teammates or the group — unless, of course, selfishness is the cultural norm. **CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Is any creature on the earth built for empathy? It could be argued that empathy plays against individual survival instincts. It's definitely not the first instinct of humankind, yet it's definitely required for the survival of our species.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Don't wait until life forces you to sprint. Just sprint to energize things. Just sprint to prove that you can. No one can sprint for the whole of the race, but a good marathon runner builds the occasional sprint into the over-all plan. **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're going to do the brave thing — not because you have less to lose (if you had nothing to lose, it wouldn't be brave) but because you realize more than the others do that your action is what's sorely needed. **LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The situation will trigger your competitive instincts. Suddenly it will be important to dress, talk and move like the winner. Much of this will come naturally to you, although some degree of study may also be involved. **SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You won't be satisfied with just any result. You want your work to be artful and useful, or you'd rather not turn it in at all. The thing is, you're not the best judge of this today. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The omens warn against selling your future for today's quick fix, and yet fixing something quickly doesn't always spell trouble

in the future. So examine your options from a long-term perspective. **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). In general, your life is easier when you make fewer promises. However, everything you do sets up an expectation. The promises are implicit. And every one you keep builds trust you'll keep them in the future, too. **AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). How you imagine yourself will define your position. What one person considers a position of weakness another may consider a position of strength. **PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). As you climb the mountain to get a better view you make yourself more conspicuous to those below. This may not be your aim, but you should be aware that the beauty you seek will make you more influential. **TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Feb. 15). You seek clarity. You'll understand where your power lies and how to use it. This will manifest in a much less serious way than it sounds: Delight and enjoyment will open as many doors for you as hard work and study. Trust yourself, and believe the forces are working to lift you and let you fly. Aries and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 20, 22, 1 and 17.

Thursday, February 15, 2018

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES
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MORTON'S FORK

Both vulnerable, West deals

NORTH
♠ A Q 8 7
♥ 5 4
♦ Q 3 2
♣ A 9 7 3

WEST
♠ 2
♥ K 10 9 8 3
♦ A J 8
♣ K Q 10 2

EAST
♠ Void
♥ Q 7 6
♦ 10 9 6 5 4
♣ J 8 6 5 4

SOUTH
♠ K J 10 9 6 5 4 3
♥ A J 2
♦ K 7
♣ Void

The bidding:
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♥ Dbl 2♥ 6♠
All pass

Opening lead: King of ♣

The Morton's Fork Coup in bridge is named after Cardinal Morton, Chancellor of the Exchequer for a bygone English king. He was charged with collecting the king's taxes. He believed that people who lived nicely could obviously afford to pay taxes and those that lived frugally must have substantial savings and could also afford to pay.

The people were said to be caught on "Morton's Fork."

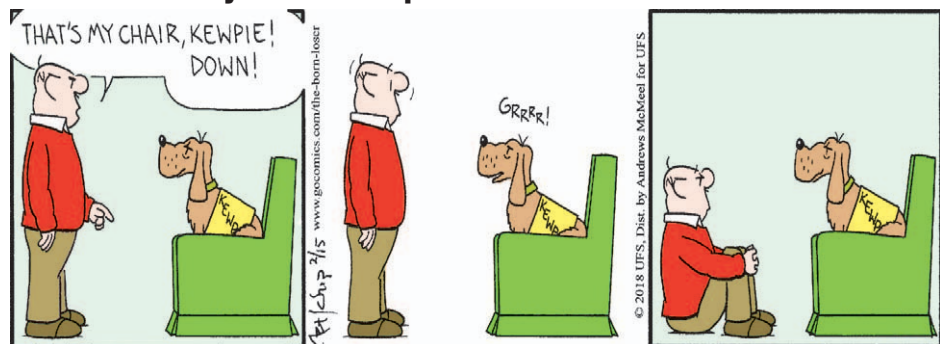
South's jump to slam was a reasonable gamble. Should partner have a singleton heart, three spades to the ace and the queen of diamonds would be enough for slam. A doubleton heart with partner would require a bit more than that, but not much.

Not knowing what to discard on the ace of clubs, South played low from dummy on the opening club lead and ruffed in his hand. He led the jack of spades, drawing trump, and immediately led a low diamond away from his king. This caught West on "Morton's Fork." Should West play low, dummy's queen would win the trick and the king of diamonds would be discarded on the ace of clubs. Should West rise with his ace instead, South could discard both of his heart losers, one on the ace of clubs and one on the queen of diamonds. Six spades making six either way.

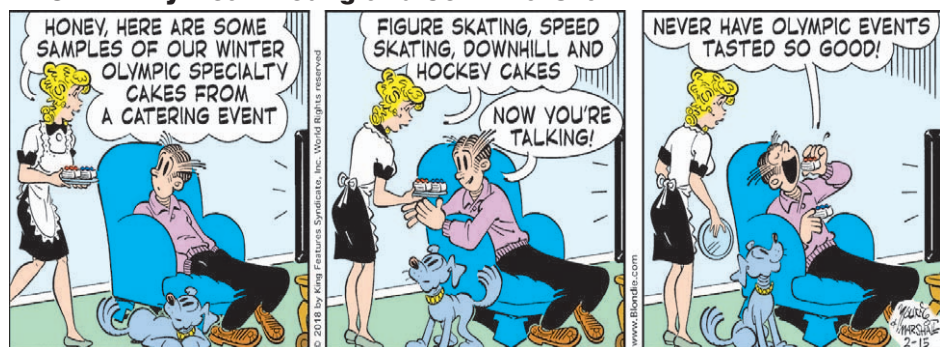
East was too much of a gentleman to point out that the slam would have been defeated with a heart lead.

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this paper. Please send your e-mail responses to tcaeditors@tribpub.com)

BORN LOSER By Art and Chip Sansom



BLONDIE By Dean Young and John Marshall



MUTTS By Patrick McDonnell



BABY BLUES By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



DOONSBURY By Garry Trudeau



JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

Sudoku puzzle grid with a solution to the right. Rating: BRONZE. Solution to 2/14/18.

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE
Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

Wordy Gurdy puzzle grid with definitions and syllable counts. Includes a list of answers at the bottom.

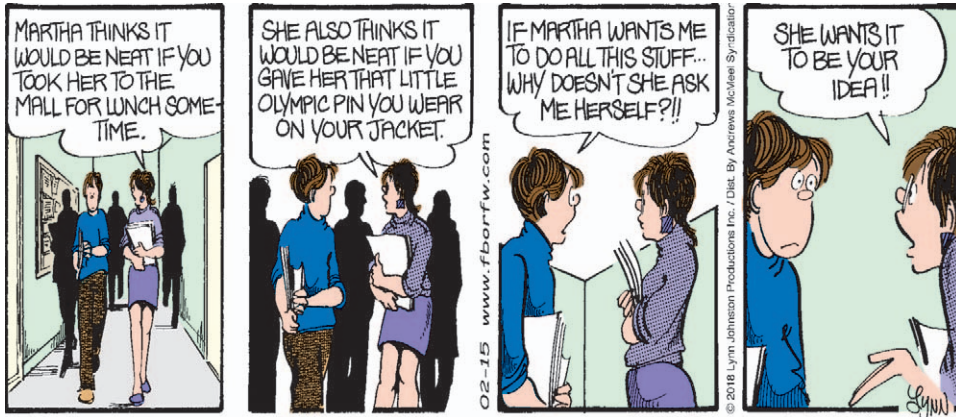
TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a 'PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED' section and a list of answers.

Large crossword puzzle grid with numbers indicating starting points for clues.

Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE By Lynn Johnston



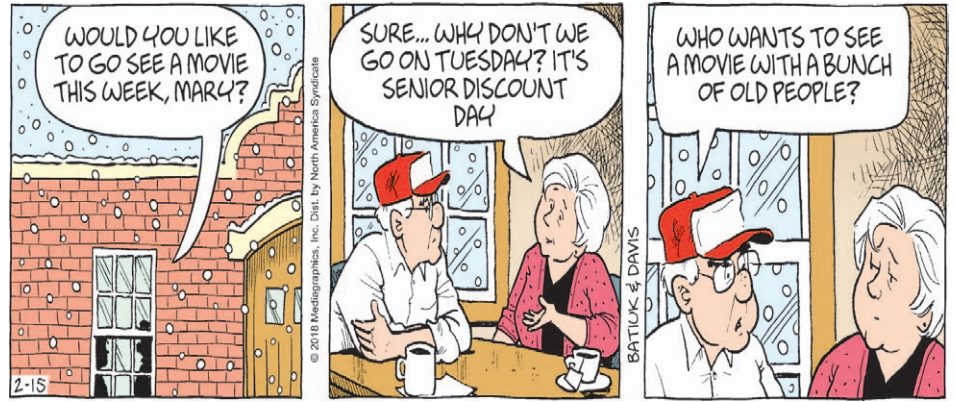
PEANUTS By Charles Schulz



MALLARD FILLMORE By Bruce Tinsley



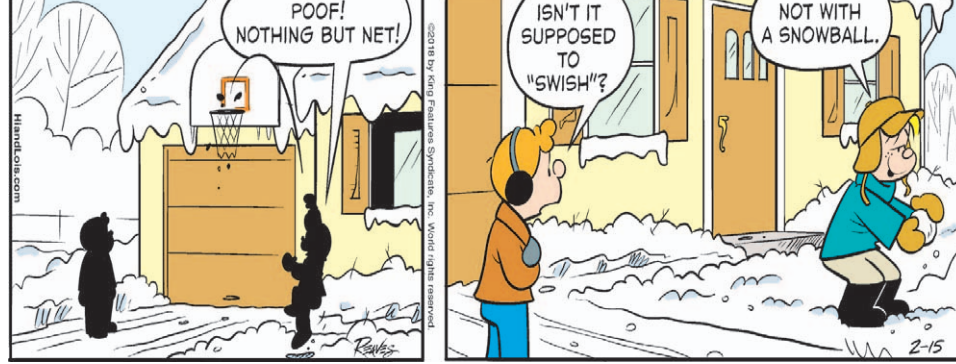
CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers



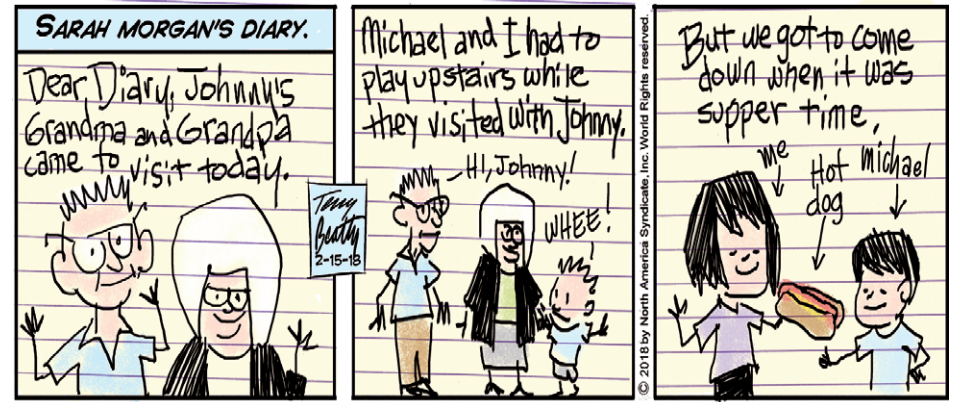
SHOE By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



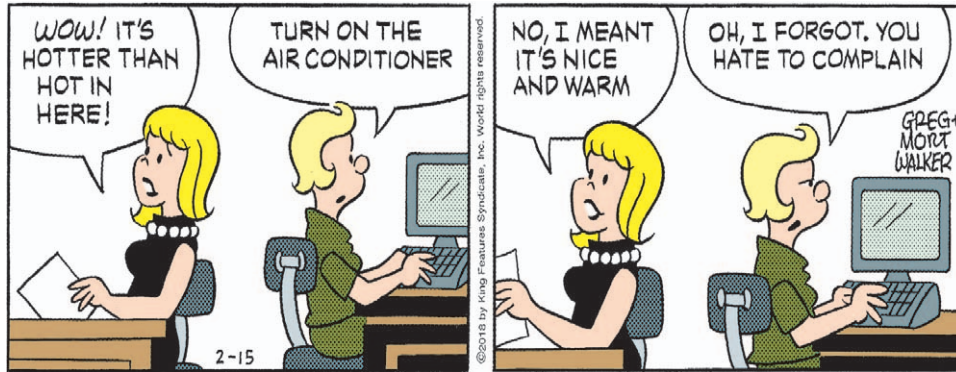
HI AND LOIS By Brian and Greg Walker



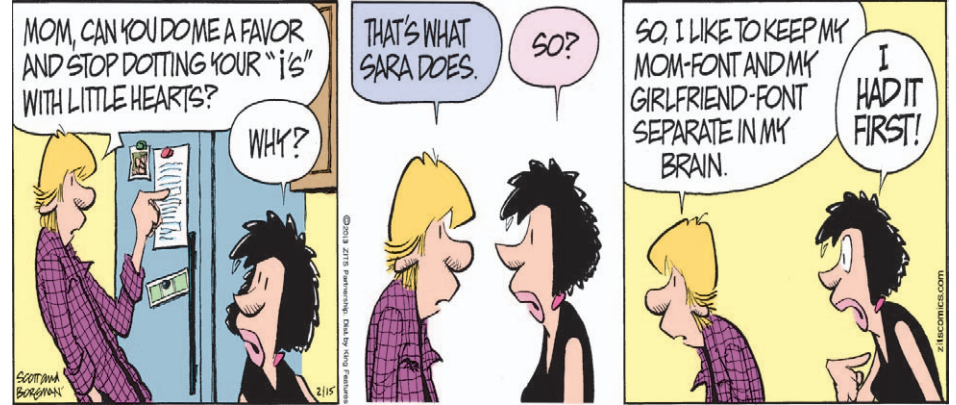
REX MORGAN By Terry Beatty



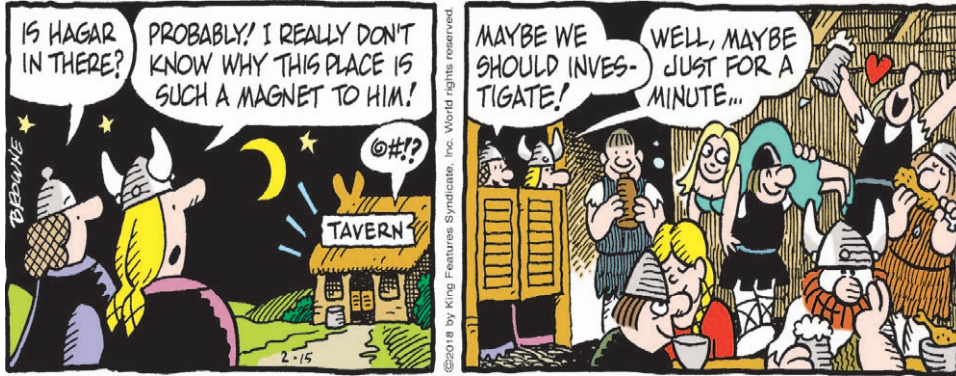
BETLE BAILEY By Mort Walker



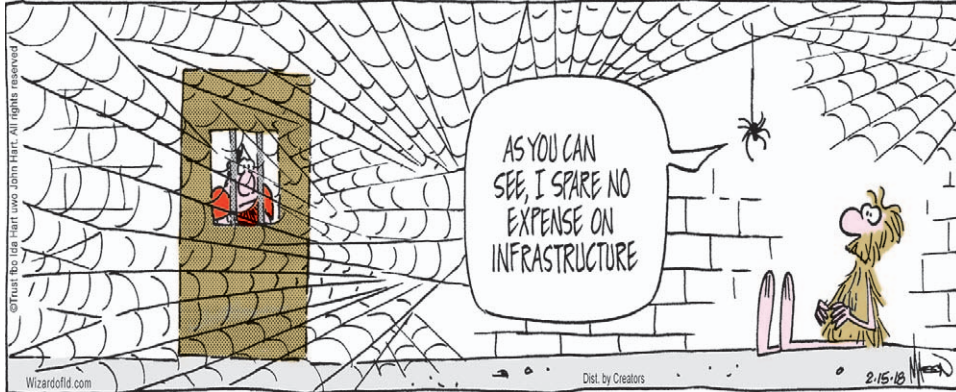
ZITS By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE By Chris Browne



THE WIZARD OF ID By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



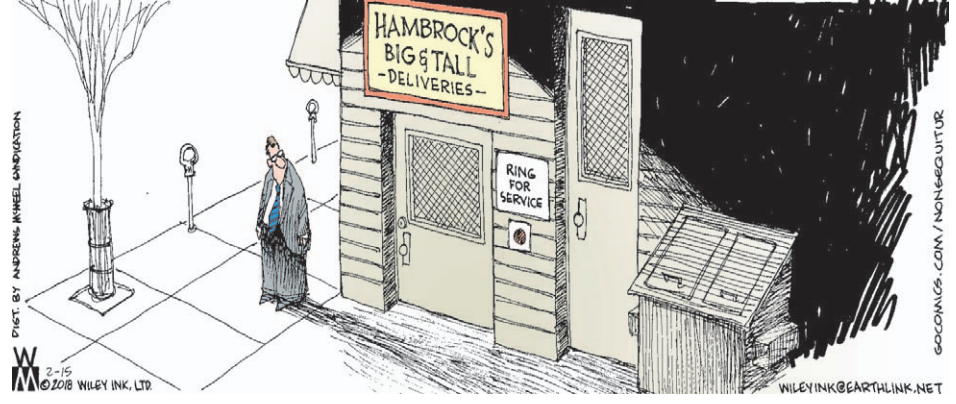
GARFIELD By Jim Davis



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM By Mike Peters



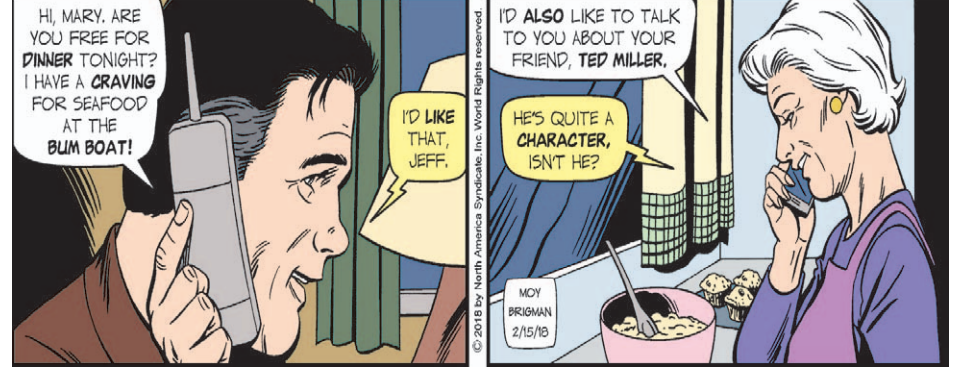
NON SEQUITUR By Wiley



PICKLES By Brian Crane



MARY WORTH By Karen Moy and June Brigman



B.C. By Mastroianni & Hart



DILBERT By Scott Adams





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Boneless New York Strip Steaks \$4.99 lb.

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Fresh Chicken Drumsticks \$.79 lb.

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Whole Boneless Beef Tenderloin \$6.99 lb.

Whole Boneless Beef Ribeyes \$4.99 lb.

Fresh Florida Strawberries \$1.99 ea.

Spiral Cut Smoked Hams \$1.39 lb.

Whole or Half Boneless Beef Eye Round Roast \$2.99 lb.

Bone-In New York Strip Steaks \$3.99 lb.

USDA Choice High River Angus Beef, Bottom Round Shoulder Roast \$2.79 lb.

Fresh 73% Ground Beef \$2.49 lb.

Bone In Beef Ribeye Steaks \$4.99 lb.	Fresh Pork Baby Back Ribs \$2.79 lb.	Fresh Bone-In Split Chicken Breast \$.99 lb.
Fresh Boneless Chicken Breast \$1.39 lb.	Boneless Top Sirloin Steaks \$3.99 lb.	Fresh Pork St. Louis Spare Ribs \$2.49 lb.
Fresh Pork Steaks \$1.49 lb.	USDA Choice Beef Cube Steak \$4.29 lb.	Fresh Whole Beef Brisket \$2.99 lb.
Fresh Pork Picnic \$.99 lb.	Boneless Beef Sirloin Tip Steak \$3.99 lb.	Fresh Florida Sweet Corn \$.39 ea.
Whole boneless New York Strips \$3.69 lb.	Boneless Beef Chuck Roast \$3.49 lb.	Fresh Iceberg Head Lettuce \$.99 ea.
Bone In Center Cut Pork Chops \$1.69 lb.	Boneless Beef Sirloin Tip Roast \$2.99 lb.	Fresh Florida Cucumbers \$.39 ea.
Rib Cut or Sirloin Cut Bone In Pork Chops \$.99 lb.	Fresh 10lb. bag Chicken Leg Quarters \$4.90 a bag	Fresh Broccoli Crowns \$.99 ea.
Bone In Boston Butt Pork Roast \$1.39 lb.	Ground Round or Sirloin \$2.99 lb.	Hard Squash Butternut, Acorn, Spaghetti \$.99 lb.
Fresh Assorted Pork Chops \$1.29 lb.	Fresh 80/20 Ground Chuck \$2.89 lb.	Fresh Romaine Green Leaf or Red Leaf \$.99 ea.
Boneless Beef London Broil or Top Round Roast \$2.99 lb.	Boneless Pork Finger Ribs or Cube Steak \$1.69 lb.	Florida Yellow or Zucchini Squash \$.99 lb.
Bone In Pork Country Style Ribs \$1.49 lb.	Whole Fresh Frying Chicken \$1.19 lb.	Fresh California Cauliflower \$1.99 ea.
T-Bones or Porter House Steaks \$3.99 lb.	Fresh 10 lb. Bag Boneless Chicken Breast \$12.99 ea.	Boneless Center Cut Pork Chops \$1.69 lb.

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For Directions



MORS GIVES DUTCH MORE

Jorien ter Mors won the 1,000 meters on Wednesday and kept the Netherlands perfect in speedskating at the Pyeongchang Games with five wins in five races. **Page 4**

GOLF: Genesis Open

Woods back at Riviera after 12 years

By **DOUG FERGUSON**
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Even when Tiger Woods hardly ever lost, he never could win at Riviera. Woods resumes his comeback from a fourth back surgery at the Genesis Open, marking his return to the course where he made his PGA Tour debut as a 16-year-old amateur, and the course where he walked away in the middle of the tournament and never returned.

He has played Riviera eight times as a pro, the most of any PGA Tour course where he hasn't won.

"I love the golf course. I love the layout. It fits my eye," Woods said. "And I play awful. It's very simple. It's just one of those weird things. A lot of the holes, you hit nice, soft cuts. And I used to love to hit nice, soft cuts. And for some reason, I just didn't play well."

Woods is playing this year against the

strongest and deepest field of the year, primarily because his foundation runs the tournament. He has not been back to Riviera since 2006, when he was caught in the rain without an umbrella, shot 74 and made the cut on the number.

The next morning, Woods withdrew with the flu and never returned.

He's not the same player he was then. His father died a few months after that 2006

tournament, and after Woods missed the cut for the first time in a major at the U.S. Open, he went on to win his final six PGA Tour events of the year, including the last two majors.

There was one stretch at the end of 1999 and early in 2000 when Woods won or was runner-up in 10 out of 11 starts on the PGA Tour. The exception? He finished seven shots behind in a tie for 18th at Riviera.

SEE GOLF, 3



Tiger Woods greets a fan after a news conference at Riviera Country Club Tuesday in the Pacific Palisades area of Los Angeles. **AP PHOTO**

OLYMPICS: Hockey

OPENING SETBACK



Jan Mursak (39), of Slovenia, celebrates with teammates after scoring the game winning goal as Ryan Zapolski (30), of the United States, skates away after the overtime period of the preliminary round of the men's hockey game Wednesday at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Gangneung, South Korea. Slovenia won 3-2. **AP PHOTOS**

Slovenia rallies to stun US in hockey opener

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**
Associated Press

GANGNEUNG, South Korea — Five practices were supposed to prepare the Americans for this, and they knew at the second intermission Slovenia was going to come out punching.

The preparation and the knowledge were not enough to fend off the fatigue as the United States blew a two-goal lead and lost a 3-2 stunner in overtime Wednesday night in the Olympic opener for both teams. Slovenia captain Jan Mursak scored the

tying goal with 1:37 left in regulation and the winner 38 seconds into overtime.

Long before that, the U.S. started letting the game slip away with mistakes all over the ice.

"We started turning the puck over in our zone and they were getting chances and that led to some momentum for them," said goaltender Ryan Zapolski, who allowed three goals on 25 shots. "We can't give up those chances that we were giving up out of nothing there in the third. That really kills your momentum. And they scored a goal off one of them and from that point we were kind of on our heels."

SEE HOCKEY, 4



Jordan Greenway (18), of the United States, celebrates after scoring a goal against Slovenia during the second period Wednesday in Gangneung, South Korea. **AP PHOTO**

MLB: Rays

Archer: 'A lot of excitement' as Rays hit the field

By **BRYAN LEVINE**
Sports Writer

PORT CHARLOTTE — It felt like the first day of school Wednesday at Charlotte Sports Park.

Tampa Bay Rays players caught up with their old friends and introduced themselves to new teammates before heading out to the practice fields for the first team workouts of the 2018 season.

"There's a lot of excitement. We have a lot of dynamic arms in this room," starting pitcher Chris Archer said. "I say it every year, but I'm willing to put it up against everybody in the league. In order for us to back it up, we have to produce, and I think we're capable of doing that."

As expected, 43 of the 44 pitchers and catchers reported to camp. Only missing is Venezuelan catcher Jesus Sucre,

who was held up by Visa issues.

The players had a fairly routine first day back, beginning the day with meetings then on to stretching, fielding practice and some bullpen sessions.

"It was a good, good day. It's nice to see everyone," manager Kevin Cash said. "The message today was that we'd really like for us all to focus on the pitcher-catcher interaction. We can get better than that. We don't plan to be on the field for a long time, but when we are, let's ramp up the intensity a little bit."

About half the pitchers threw bullpen sessions, most—notably were right-handers Matt Andriese, Jake Faria, Brent Honeywell and Austin Pruitt along with left-handers Dan Jennings, Blake Snell and Jonny Venters.

SEE RAYS, 3



Tampa Bay Rays pitcher Chris Archer (22) throws Wednesday at Charlotte Sports Park. The Rays opened their tenth season in Port Charlotte with pitchers and catchers holding their first workout. **SUN PHOTO BY TOM O'NEILL**

OLYMPICS: Halfpipe Finals

Shaun White wins third Olympic gold

By **EDDIE PELLIS**
Associated Press

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — Snowboarding at the Olympics turned 20 this year, and there's a good chance that in another two decades, people will still be talking about the contest that went down in the mountains of South Korea on Wednesday.

They will definitely still be talking about Shaun White.

It wasn't so much that White won his third gold medal to place his name among the greatest to compete in the Olympics, or in any realm of sports, for that matter.

It was the way he did it. His winning run capped a contest that, even before he dropped in for the finale, was the best, in terms of pure difficulty, showmanship and guts that has ever been seen on a halfpipe.

SEE HALFPIPE, 4



Shaun White, of the United States, jumps during the men's halfpipe finals at Phoenix Snow Park Wednesday at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea. **AP PHOTO**

MLB: Spring Training

Stars return to the field as pitchers and catchers begin spring workouts

By **NOAH TRISTER**
Associated Press

Justin Verlander is looking forward to a full season with the Houston Astros, while the New York Mets are hoping for a healthier year for their starting staff.

The New York Yankees? Well, this season may not be about their

pitchers and catchers, but they can still send some pretty impressive arms to the mound.

In many ways, Wednesday was the first real day of spring training, with over 20 teams scheduled for their first workouts with pitchers and catchers.

SEE MLB, 3

Florida Lottery
www.flalottery.com

PICK 2

Feb. 14N.....5-3
Feb. 14D.....2-7
Feb. 13N.....3-4
Feb. 13D.....7-6
Feb. 12N.....7-8
Feb. 12D.....6-5
D-Day, N-Night

PICK 3

Feb. 14N.....4-2-4
Feb. 14D.....4-2-4
Feb. 13N.....8-2-0
Feb. 13D.....1-3-9
Feb. 12N.....6-4-2
Feb. 12D.....3-4-9
D-Day, N-Night

PICK 4

Feb. 14N.....0-2-5-0
Feb. 14D.....2-5-9-9
Feb. 13N.....0-7-6-1
Feb. 13D.....6-5-5-3
Feb. 12N.....1-9-2-2
Feb. 12D.....3-0-9-3
D-Day, N-Night

PICK 5

Feb. 14N.....4-0-9-9-9
Feb. 14D.....9-6-1-7-1
Feb. 13N.....4-2-2-2-5
Feb. 13D.....8-2-6-9-5
Feb. 12N.....3-1-9-6-0
Feb. 12D.....2-2-7-4-2
D-Day, N-Night

FANTASY 5

Feb. 14 LATE
Feb. 13 3-4-16-20-22
Feb. 12 4-12-13-18-35

PAYOFF FOR Feb. 13
2.5-digit winners \$101,114.87
271...4-digit winners \$120.00
8,905...3-digit winners \$10.00

CASH FOR LIFE

Feb. 121-5-17-21-33
Cash Ball 4
Feb. 8 9-37-47-51-55
Cash Ball 4

SPORTS ON TV

AUTO RACING
11:30 a.m.
FS1 — NASCAR, Camping World Truck Series, NextEra Energy Resources 250, practice, at Daytona Beach 2:30 p.m.
FS1 — NASCAR, Camping World Truck Series, NextEra Energy Resources 250, practice, at Daytona Beach 4:30 p.m.
FS1 — NASCAR, Camping World Truck Series, NextEra Energy Resources 250, final practice, at Daytona Beach 7 p.m.
FS1 — NASCAR, Monster Energy Cup Series, Can-Am Duel 1, at Daytona Beach 8:30 p.m.
FS1 — NASCAR, Monster Energy Cup Series, Can-Am Duel 2, at Daytona Beach

COLLEGE BASKETBALL
7 p.m.
CBSSN — Cincinnati at Houston
ESPN — Purdue at Wisconsin
ESPN2 — Temple at Wichita St.
ESPNU — Tulsa at UConn 8 p.m.
BTN — Ohio St. at Penn St. 9 p.m.
CBSSN — UAB at Louisiana Tech
ESPN — Arizona at Arizona St.
ESPN2 — Oregon at Southern Cal
ESPNU — Campbell at Radford 11 p.m.
FS1 — Oregon St. at UCLA
ESPNU — Saint Mary's (Cal) at San Francisco

GOLF
5 a.m.
GOLF — European PGA Tour, NBO Oman Open, first round, at Muscat, Oman 2 p.m.
GOLF — PGA Tour, Genesis Open, first round, at Los Angeles 10 p.m.
GOLF — LPGA Tour, ISPS Handa Women's Australian Open, second round, at Adelaide, Australia

NBA BASKETBALL
9 p.m.
TNT — L.A. Lakers at Minnesota
SOCCER
10:50a.m.
FS2 — UEFA Europa League, Round of 32, 1st leg, Astana vs. Sporting CP 1 p.m.
FS2 — UEFA Europa League, Round of 32, 1st leg,

...
PAYOFF FOR Feb. 12
0.....5-of-5 CB..... \$1,000/Day
0.....5-of-5..... \$1,000/Week
10.....4-of-5 CB.....\$2,500
20.....4-of-5.....\$500

LUCKY MONEY

Feb. 13 22-32-36-38
Lucky Ball..... 17
Feb. 9 14-26-35-36
Lucky Ball..... 11

...
PAYOFF FOR Feb. 13

0.....4-of-4 LB\$900,000
6.....4-of-4.....\$937.50
34.....3-of-4 LB\$362.50
568.....3-of-4.....\$63.50

LOTTO

Feb. 14 1-2-14-26-32-38
Feb. 10 5-7-26-30-37-46

...
PAYOFF FOR FEB. 14

0...6-digit winners \$2 million
9...5-digit winners \$5,500.00
890...4-digit winners.\$69.00

POWERBALL

Feb. 14 37-39-44-46-69
Powerball 26
Feb. 10 1-13-27-41-59
Powerball 30

...
PAYOFF FOR Feb. 10

0...5 of 5 + PB...\$184 Million
0...5 of 5\$1 million
3...4 of 5 + PB\$50,000
43...4 of 5\$100
ESTIMATED JACKPOT
\$203 million

MEGA MILLIONS

Feb. 13 5-12-15-46-49
Mega Ball 1
Feb. 9 28-34-41-46-47
Mega Ball 14

...
PAYOFF FOR Feb. 13

0...5 of 5 + MB..\$153 Million
0...5 of 5\$1 Million
0...4 of 5 + MB.....\$10,000
18.....4 of 5\$500
ESTIMATED JACKPOT
\$153 million

Ostersunds FK vs. Arsenal 3 p.m.
FS2 — UEFA Europa League, Round of 32, 1st leg, FC Copenhagen vs. Atletico Madrid
WINTER OLYMPICS
5 a.m.
NBCSN — Cross Country: Women's 10km Gold Medal Final
OLY CHANNEL - Medal Ceremonies (LIVE)
USA — Men's Curling: Canada vs. Norway 7:10 a.m.
NBCSN — Men's Ice Hockey: Switzerland vs. Canada
USA — Men's Ice Hockey: Czech Republic vs. South Korea (LIVE) 9:30 a.m.
NBCSN — Luge: Team Relay Gold Medal Final; Speedskating: Men's 10000m Gold Medal Final
Noon
NBCSN — Biathlon: Men's 20km Gold Medal Final 2 p.m.
NBCSN — Men's Curling: United States vs. Italy 3 p.m.
NBC — Cross Country: Women's 10km Gold Medal Final; Speedskating: Men's 10000m Gold Medal Final 5 p.m.
CNBC — Women's Curling: United States vs. Switzerland
NBCSN — Hockey Game of the Day (replay) 7 p.m.
NBCSN — Olympic Ice; Figure Skating: Men's Short Program (LIVE) 8 p.m.
NBC — Figure Skating: Men's Short Program (LIVE); Alpine Skiing: Men's Super G (LIVE); Snowboard Cross: Women's Gold Medal Final (LIVE); Skeleton: Men's Gold Medal Final Runs; Freestyle Skiing: Women's Aerials 10 p.m.
CNBC — Men's Ice Hockey: United States vs. Slovakia 11 p.m.
NBCSN — Men's Curling: United States vs. Sweden; Cross Country: Men's 15km Gold Medal Final (LIVE) 1:05 a.m. (Friday)
NBC — Luge: Team Relay Gold Medal Final; Biathlon: Men's 20km Gold Medal Final 2:40 a.m. (Friday)
NBCSN — Men's Ice Hockey: Olympic Athletes from Russia vs. Slovenia (LIVE)

NBA: Hornets 104, Magic 102

Howard shines as Hornets top Magic

Associated Press

ORLANDO — Dwight Howard had 22 points and 13 rebounds, and the Charlotte Hornets stopped a four-game slide by topping the Orlando Magic 104-102 on Wednesday night.

Kemba Walker had 20 points for Charlotte on 6-for-19 shooting. Nicolas Batum added 14 points and seven assists in the Hornets' 10th straight win against the Magic.

Mario Hezonja led Orlando with 21 points and 10 rebounds, but the Magic lost their third straight going into the All-Star break. D.J. Augustin and Marreese Speights had 16 points and Bismack Biyombo finished with 11 points and 11 rebounds.

Orlando led 97-96 before Walker hit a 3-pointer with 1:12 to play. Batum hit another 3-pointer with 11 seconds left to stretch Charlotte's lead to 102-97.



AP PHOTO

Charlotte Hornets center Dwight Howard (12) is fouled by Orlando Magic center Bismack Biyombo, right, while going up for a shot during the first half Wednesday in Orlando.

The teams traded free throws and Speights hit his fourth 3-pointer as the buzzer sounded.

Howard went 9 for 16 from the field and 4 for 6 at the free-throw line. He scored 10 straight Hornets points in the middle of the third quarter, and didn't get another basket until the three-minute mark of the fourth.

Walker followed Howard's spurt with five straight, but didn't get his next basket until his

3-pointer put Charlotte ahead in the final minute.

Orlando had similar issues.

Hezonja had a nice run of eight points late in the third period, but all that did was keep the Magic close. He made only one basket in the fourth quarter.

Orlando trailed by nine early in the fourth before making three straight 3-pointers. Aaron Afflalo made the last two of the 3s, but then

missed his next three shots and went to the bench.

TIP-INS

Hornets: PG Kemba Walker made a four-point play with 32 seconds left in the first half. ... Howard has 702 career double-doubles, most of any active player in the NBA.

Magic: Jonathon Simmons didn't start the second half, but returned to the game three minutes into the third quarter. ... Orlando is 2-9 in its last 11 home games against Charlotte. ... PG D.J. Augustin broke out of a 1-for-8 shooting slump from 3-point territory, going 4 for 6 from long range.

UP NEXT

Hornets: Host Brooklyn next Thursday. Charlotte has won four straight at home against the Nets.

Magic: Host the New York Knicks next Thursday.

NBA ROUNDUP

Short-handed 76ers come back vs. Heat

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Ben Simmons had a triple-double, J.J. Redick hit a crucial 19-foot, off-balanced jumper from the baseline with 19.4 seconds left and the short-handed Philadelphia 76ers came back from a 24-point second-half deficit to defeat the Miami Heat 104-102 on Wednesday night.

Dario Saric added 19 points and Marco Belinelli scored 17 in his first game with the 76ers, who won their fifth straight and 11th in a row on their home court.

PISTONS 104, HAWKS 98: Ish Smith had 22 points and nine assists, Blake Griffin narrowly missed a triple-double and the Detroit Pistons ended a three-game losing streak by beating the Atlanta Hawks.



AP PHOTO

Miami's Goran Dragic, right, breaks away from Philadelphia's Richaun Holmes, center, and Ben Simmons in the first half of Wednesday's game in Philadelphia.

Griffin finished with 13 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists, while Andre Drummond added 13 points and 15 rebounds for Detroit, which had seven players in double figures. Andrew White III had 15 points for the Hawks in his NBA debut, while John Collins had 11 points and 10 rebounds.

RAPTORS 122, BULLS 98: Kyle Lowry had 20 points and 10 assists, Serge Ibaka also scored 20 points and the Toronto Raptors cruised into the All-Star break with their seventh straight victory. Lowry made four 3-pointers, and he and Ibaka each grabbed seven rebounds. Jonas Valanciunas

added 14 points and nine rebounds to help the Raptors complete a four-game sweep against Chicago even though they only got seven points from four-time All-Star DeMar DeRozan. But Toronto shot just over 52 percent against a weak defense, sending the Bulls to their ninth loss in 11 games.

PACERS 108, NETS 103:

Victor Oladipo scored 25 points, Corey Joseph added 15 points and 11 assists, and the Indiana Pacers beat the Brooklyn Nets on Wednesday night. Myles Turner had 11 points and 14 boards, and former Net Bojan Bogdanovic chipped in 14 points for the Pacers, who won their third straight game as they head into the All-Star break. Allen Crabbe scored 23 points for the Nets, who went into the break with their seventh straight loss.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Providence upsets No. 3 Villanova, 76-71

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Kyron Cartwright scored 17 points and Providence withstood several late surges to stun third-ranked Villanova 76-71 on Wednesday night.

Rodney Bullock and Alpha Diallo each added 14 points for the Friars (17-9, 8-5 Big East), who snapped a five-game losing streak to the Wildcats.

It was Providence's first win over Villanova since Jan. 24, 2016.

FLORIDA STATE 81, NO. 11 CLEMSON 79: Phil Cofer scored 17 points, Trent Forrest added 16 and Florida State rallied from an 18-point deficit in the second half to defeat 11th-ranked Clemson 81-79 in overtime on Wednesday. The Seminoles (18-8, 7-7



AP PHOTO

Providence guard Jalen Lindsey, center, celebrates with guard Kyron Cartwright during the second half of Wednesday's game against Villanova. The Friars upset the No. 3 Wildcats, 76-71.

Atlantic Coast Conference) didn't take their first lead until 1:05 remaining in overtime when Forrest made a driving layup to

put them up 75-74. After Clemson was called for a 5-second violation on the inbounds, Terance Mann added 13 points as the

Seminole snapped a two-game losing streak and gave coach Leonard Hamilton his 500th career win and 300th at Florida State. Marcquise Reed scored 23 points while Gabe Devoe and David Skara had 11 each for Clemson (20-5, 9-4), which has lost its last three to Florida State.

NO. 12 DUKE 74, VIRGINIA TECH 52:

Grayson Allen scored 25 points and matched a career high with seven 3-pointers, helping No. 12 Duke beat Virginia Tech 74-52 on Wednesday night. Freshman Gary Trent Jr. added 19 points for the Blue Devils (21-5, 9-4 Atlantic Coast Conference). Duke had little trouble despite playing their second straight game without freshman Marvin Bagley III, as the league's leading scorer and rebounder recovers from a sprained right knee.

NHL ROUNDUP

Andersen, Maple Leafs roll past Blue Jackets

Associated Press

TORONTO — Nazem Kadri had three goals and two assists, Frederik Andersen made a career-high 54 saves and the surging Toronto Maple

Leafs beat the Columbus Blue Jackets 6-3 on Wednesday night.

Patrick Marleau added a goal and two assists and Mitch Marner had a goal and an assist as Toronto closed out a perfect

five-game homestand. It was Kadri's fourth career hat trick, and the five points set a career high.

The Blue Jackets recorded 50 or more shots for the third straight game, making

them the first team to accomplish the feat in the post-expansion era (since 1967-68). Nick Foligno had a goal and two assists, and Joonas Korpisalo made 22 saves.

MLB: Esteban Loaiza



AP PHOTO

Los Angeles Dodgers' Esteban Loaiza throws a pitch against the Arizona Diamondbacks in the first inning of a 2007 baseball game in Phoenix.

Ex-pitcher Esteban Loaiza to face charges of cocaine dealing

By **JULIE WATSON**
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Former All-Star pitcher Esteban Loaiza, who earned more than \$43 million over 14 seasons, is accused of drug dealing involving 44 pounds (20 kilograms) of suspected cocaine.

The 46-year-old former Major League Baseball player is scheduled to be arraigned in court in Chula Vista, California, on Wednesday.

Loaiza was arrested Friday on suspicion of drug smuggling after San Diego County sheriff's officers who pulled him over for a traffic violation found a "sophisticated" compartment used to hide contraband in his vehicle, according to investigators. Later they obtained a search warrant for the home he rented in the beach community of Imperial Beach, where officials say packages were found containing a white powder believed to be cocaine.

Loaiza played for numerous teams between 1995 and 2008, included stints with the Pittsburgh Pirates, the New York Yankees, the Los Angeles Dodgers

and the Chicago White Sox. He had a 21-9 record with the Chicago White Sox in 2003 and started in the All-Star Game that year.

Investigators have said the arrest was part of an on-going narcotics probe but have given few other details about how a successful baseball star became linked to a case involving the transport and sale of drugs with an estimated value of \$500,000, according to the San Diego Sheriff's Department.

It was not immediately known if Loaiza had hired a lawyer and he could not be reached to comment. He was being held for lack of \$200,000 bail pending Wednesday's court appearance.

Criminal defense attorney, David Shapiro, who has handled numerous drug cases in San Diego but is not representing Loaiza, said this one is unique because of his fame as one of Mexico's most successful pitchers.

"At the very least what it shows is how Mexico's drug culture is infiltrating every aspect of life, whether he was associated with people doing it or doing it himself," he said.

Florida home. He has said he wants to play back-to-back weeks, though that sounds as though it might have to happen later. Asked what was sore after a week at Torrey Pines, he said it was his feet from five days of walking 18 holes.

Woods is an eight-time winner at Torrey Pines. He is 0 for 10 at Riviera, which includes appearances as an amateur in 1992 and 1993.

The opposite of that would be Dustin Johnson, the defending champion, who considers Riviera the best course he plays all year. That's why it was so meaningful for Johnson to finally win last year, and win big. Even playing conservatively over the back nine because the tournament effectively was over, Johnson still won by five. The only thing he lost was a shot at the oldest tournament scoring record on the PGA Tour — 264 by Lanny Wadkins in 1985. Johnson finished at 267.

"I'll get it this year," he said with a smile as he played the pro-am. Johnson can struggle with numbers on occasion. He doesn't quite understand how the world ranking works, only that his name has been on top every week for the last year. Asked to rate how close his game was to this point a year ago, when he won three straight tournaments against the strongest fields, Johnson suggest 0.5.

MLB: Marlins

Mattingly begins sorting through pitching options

By **STEVEN WINE**
Associated Press

JUPITER — Miami Marlins pitchers and catchers were still gathering in the midday sun to begin the first spring training workout Wednesday when someone asked manager Don Mattingly if he had decided on an opening day starter.

After all, the Los Angeles Dodgers already announced Clayton Kershaw will start their opener.

"I didn't see any Kershaws on our roster," Mattingly said with a laugh.

So no, Mattingly doesn't have a No. 1 pitcher yet. And three of the five jobs in the rotation are open, with more than a dozen pitchers having a shot to make the starting staff.

Mattingly and his coaches will spend spring training evaluating the candidates, including several prospects acquired in trades during the Marlins' offseason payroll purge.

Not among the rotation contenders to begin the season: injury-plagued left-hander Wei-Yin Chen, the Marlins' highest-paid pitcher as he enters the third season of an \$80 million,



AP PHOTO

Miami Marlins pitcher Jose Urena throws during spring training Wednesday in Jupiter.

five-year contract. He is not expected to be ready for opening day, but the Marlins hope he can join the rotation sometime during the season, Mattingly said.

Right-handers Jose Urena and Dan Straily are penciled in to start, and one of them will likely pitch the opener March 29 against the Chicago Cubs. There will be a scramble this spring for the other three turns in the rotation.

"We have nine legit guys for three spots," Mattingly said. "Then there's another five we have earmarked for other places to begin the season, but they may blow us away in camp."

The long list of candidates is part of new CEO Derek Jeter's plan

to improve the depth of talent in the organization. The short-term cost was the departure of four everyday starters in offseason trades, including National League most valuable player Giancarlo Stanton.

With the start of camp, the Marlins begin to evaluate the prospects they received in return. Jeter was among those watching the first day of drills.

"I have total faith in what he's wanting to do," said Mattingly, who went 156-167 in his first two years with the Marlins. "You don't have any real doubts we're on the right page. We'll have a plan. We're going to stick with it. And we're going to build this thing from the bottom up."

While Stanton and recently departed center fielder Christian Yelich didn't want to be part of Jeter's reboot, the numerous young pitchers in the clubhouse embrace the situation as a chance to make the big leagues. Left-hander Adam Conley said he didn't mind being among nine contenders to start.

"I hope we have 10 guys who deserve that job," Conley said. "I don't wish anyone to do poorly. I just want to go out there and do really, really good."

Pitching holdovers from the 2017 Marlins include Conley, Dillon Peters, Odrisamer Despaigne, Caleb Smith, Justin Nicolino and Jarlin Garcia. But many of the contenders to start are newcomers, including former St. Louis Cardinals prospect Sandy Alcantara, former New York Yankees prospect Jorge Guzman and Rule 5 pickups Brett Graves and Elieser Hernandez.

So the prospective 2018 Marlins spent the first day of camp introducing themselves to new teammates.

"Yeah, I did that quite a few times," Peters said. "But you know what? Not a whole lot of people knew me either way. If this is a veteran team, I would probably be doing the same thing."

RAYS

From Page 1

OTHER NOTES

In addition to the pitchers and catchers, 17 of the 24 position players who were invited to camp have reported head of Sunday's official report date. Those who have not yet reported are shortstop Adeiny Hechavarría, outfielder Kevin Kiermaier, first baseman / outfielder Joe McCarthy, infielder Brad Miller, outfielder Denard Span, infielder Andrew Velazquez and outfielder Justin Williams.

EOVALDI STARTING

There was speculation pitcher Nathan Eovaldi might begin the season in the bullpen, but according to Cash, that's



SUN PHOTO BY TOM O'NEILL

Tampa Bay Rays pitcher Jake Odorizzi ((23) throws during the first workout for pitchers and catchers Wednesday at Charlotte Sports Park.

not the plan. Eovaldi will be in the starting rotation, at least according to the plan right now.

MCGOWAN

Non-roster invitee Dustin McGowan was

singled out by Cash when talking about relievers who could provide leadership in the bullpen.

"Put Dustin McGowan right into that group, he's going to come in and compete," Cash said. "I

GOLF

From Page 1

The dynamics are different now.

Woods is 42 and has played just 17 times on the PGA Tour over the last four years dating to his first back surgery a week before the 2014 Masters. He hasn't won in nearly five years. He is No. 550 in the world.

While the goal is to win — that hasn't changed — the expectations have tempered through time and reality that he is learning a new swing after fusion surgery on his lower back. His speed and power are back. His putting and chipping are better. He tied for 23rd at Torrey Pines three weeks ago.

"I'd eventually like to win tournaments," Woods said. "I'm trying to get to that point."

He flew out from Florida with Justin Thomas, the PGA Tour player of the year, and said he told him that he is still making subtle changes in his posture and in his swing because he is learning what he can do with a stronger, healthier back.

"The more tournaments I play in, the more I'll be able to get a better understanding of that," Woods said. "But also, I don't want to play too much. This is still all new to me, and I just want to be real smart about it."

Woods has until Friday to commit to the Honda Classic not far from his

MLB

From Page 1

The Astros, Mets and Yankees were among that group, and so were the Los Angeles Dodgers, Boston Red Sox and Chicago Cubs. In both Florida and Arizona, some of the game's biggest stars were back on the field.

"I'm excited to be here for the whole season," Verlander said. "I'm excited to be here for spring training and to be part of this whole thing from start to finish."

Verlander reached the summit last year but missed much of the journey. He was traded to Houston at the end of August and became a key part of the Astros' run to the World Series title. Houston beat the Dodgers in Game 7, and both of last year's pennant winners figure to be strong again.

"You've just got to take that as a motivation and remember that bitter taste," Dodgers closer Kenley Jansen said. "We all were crying and all that stuff in the clubhouse and we all were emotional.

You have to take that as a motivation to push and don't take anything for granted, because we know how hard it is."

The Dodgers won't have right-hander Yu Darvish this season. He's with the Cubs now. In fact, the Dodgers may have to compete for attention in their own area after the Los Angeles Angels added two-way Japanese star Shohei Ohtani.

There was a group of Japanese fans on hand for Ohtani's workout with the Angels.

The Yankees made a huge offseason move of their own, adding Giancarlo Stanton to a lineup that already included slugger Aaron Judge. Those two power-hitting outfielders may be the headliners in New York this year — the big news Wednesday was that Judge hit in a batting cage — but the Yankees will need pitching too. Right-hander Masahiro Tanaka threw a bullpen session Wednesday.

New York also has a new manager in Aaron Boone.

"We've been working toward this day,"

Boone said. "So there's an excitement not just for me but the coaches and the players to finally get out here and know that the clock on the season in a way kind of started."

Boone's excitement was shared by Ron Gardenhire, who took over this offseason as manager of the Detroit Tigers. Gardenhire fielded some grounders at Detroit's workout, helping out with a drill in which pitchers practice covering first base.

"This is a game, and we're going to play it like a game and we're going to have fun, and I'm going to laugh at some of these guys," Gardenhire said. "I don't know if I'll yell at anybody. I don't really know if I'll do that at spring training too much — maybe not during the season."

The Mets have a new manager as well. Mickey Callaway was previously the pitching coach in Cleveland, and he could have some impressive starters to work with if the Mets stay healthy. Noah Syndergaard, Steven Matz, Matt Harvey and Zack Wheeler have had their share of

don't know if anybody has more of an extensive injury list than him."

The right-hander has made 290 appearances (69 starts) in 10 career seasons. He pitched in 63 games last season with the Miami Marlins, totaled an 8-2 ERA and a 4.75 ERA.

NEW ARM

According to Fox Sports' Ken Rosenthal, right-hander J.D. Martin signed a minor-league deal with the Rays yesterday. Martin last pitched in the majors in 2010, and Rosenthal says he will be throwing the knuckleball. Martin was also a first-round draft pick of the Cleveland Indians in 2001.

—Contact Levine at blevine@sun-herald.com.

injury issues.

Wheeler, Syndergaard, Seth Lugo and Matz were all lined up throwing their bullpens under the watchful eyes of general manager Sandy Alderson and new pitching coach Dave Eiland. When he was done working out, Syndergaard signed autographs for fans draped over the chain-link fence along the right-field warning track.

"I think we're all able to learn kind of in our own way how to deal with a certain amount of adversity through injury," Syndergaard said. "But in terms of us being able to control that, we can only control so much. We can only put so much effort and time into the weight room. After that it's really in God's plan, what happens."

The Mets at least could have some upside if they catch a few breaks. The Miami Marlins traded Stanton as part of an offseason payroll purge and face what figures to be a tough short-term future. Derek Jeter, the Marlins' CEO, was at the team's camp Wednesday, and he signed autographs as he left.

WINTER OLYMPICS

A ROUNDUP OF WEDNESDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS /// LOOKING AHEAD TO THURSDAY

What to watch for today

SKELETON

Men's runs 3 and 4. Yun Sung-Bin, known for competing in an Ironman-themed helmet, is likely to earn South Korea's first non-skating Olympic medal here.



FIGURE SKATING

Men's short program. Keep an eye on Canadian Patrick Chan, Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu and Spain's Javier Fernandez. But U.S.'s Nathan Chen is world's only undefeated male singles skater this year.



SNOWBOARDING

Women's snowboard cross. Lindsey Jacobellis is one of the greatest winter sports athletes of all time without an Olympic gold medal — winning her last 11 combined X Games.



WEDNESDAY'S SPOTLIGHT

Mors gives Dutch more

By **RAF CASERT**
Associated Press

GANGNEUNG, South Korea — Struggling through back and knee problems all season, Jorien ter Mors knew any conventional recovery would not make her an Olympic champion.

The unconventional, though, did the trick.

“As an athlete you are always a bit crazy,” ter Mors said. “You go for all or nothing.”

Ter Mors won the gold medal Wednesday in the 1,000 meters and kept the Netherlands perfect in speedskating at the Pyeongchang Games with five wins in five races.

Although few would have bet on her a week ago, ter Mors set an Olympic record in the 1,000 and posted the fastest time any woman has ever skated at sea level over the distance.

Quite a turnaround for a woman who looked like a crumpled pile of misery on the infield over Christmas after she failed to qualify for the 1,500 team, the distance in which she was the Olympic champion.

She knew the 1,000 could still give her an outside shot at gold and single-mindedly centered her attention on that distance. She was done with “careful,” done with “watch it.” Despite the lower back pain, it was time to start lifting weights — many and often — to build the explosiveness needed for the 2.5-lap race that barely takes a minute.

“I started power training again,” she said. “When your back is not in great shape, it is a massive risk.”

As the games drew nearer, she felt her form come back. And on Wednesday, it was there for all to see.

With four medal favorites still to go, her time of 1 minute,



Jorien ter Mors of The Netherlands (left) and Brittany Bowe of the U.S. compete during the women's 1,000 meter speedskating race at the Gangneung Oval at the Winter Olympics Wednesday in Gangneung, South Korea.

AP PHOTOS



Gold medalist Jorien ter Mors of The Netherlands celebrates with the national flag after her victory Wednesday in Gangneung, South Korea.

13.56 seconds could have stopped many challengers in their tracks. It beat the high-altitude Olympic mark that Chris Witty set to win at the 2002 Salt Lake City Games by 0.27 seconds.

“It was a perfect race,” said Ter Mors, who is not known for a fast start but couldn't

be matched once she hit her stride.

She punched the air after crossing the line, shouting “yes” between gritted teeth as she handily beat Brittany Bowe in the head-to-head pairing.

Nao Kodaira and Miho Takagi, expecting to finish 1-2 for Japan, had to settle for

2-3 behind ter Mors after both slumped over the last half lap.

Ter Mors has a chance for more gold in short-track speedskating. She will compete in the 1,500 in that discipline on Saturday, and she doesn't want to count herself out.

“It is tough to predict,” Ter Mors said of the helter skelter event. “I'm in good shape but you have to make the right tactical choices during the race.”

But the way things are going for the Dutch, don't count her out.

It has been all orange on the oval so far, and the Netherlands is favored to add a sixth gold on Thursday when Sven Kramer goes for another Olympic title in the 10,000.

Overall, the Dutch have won nine of 15 medals in long-track speedskating and also have two silvers on the short track, putting the nation with no mountains and little snow in second place in the overall medal standings at the Winter Games.

stage of the Nordic combined and surged ahead of Akito Watabe on the last uphill of the 10-kilometer cross-country race to defend his title in the normal hill event at the Pyeongchang Games. With just over 1 kilometer remaining in Wednesday's race, it looked like Watabe might give Japan its first gold of the games. But Frenzel powered ahead of the World Cup leader on the hill for Germany's sixth gold in Pyeongchang. Watabe finished 4.8 seconds behind for the silver while Lukas Klapper of Austria took the bronze.

CURLING

The American women fell into a 7-0 hole after only three ends.

They didn't score until the fourth, and it appeared they might concede after Japan's lead swelled to 8-1. But a couple of sweet shots by Roth pulled the U.S. within 8-5, giving them the minor satisfaction of staying on the ice a little longer. Besides, there is no time to mope in the Olympic round robin. The U.S. has eight games yet to play, starting Thursday with matchups against Britain's Eve Muirhead — the 2014 Olympic bronze medalist — and Switzerland's Silvana Tirinzoni.

LUGE

Just about everyone in the international luge world refers to the German team of Tobias Wendl

and Tobias Arlt as “the Tobys,” for obvious reasons. Call them two-time Olympic champions now, too. As most expected, a German team won the doubles luge title at the Pyeongchang Games. As few expected, it was Wendl and Arlt — the second-best team in the world all season, yet the team that stood highest on the Olympic medal podium. They held off Austria's Peter Penz and Georg Fischler by 0.088 seconds for a second straight gold medal. Germany's Toni Eggert and Sascha Benecken, the heavy Olympic favorites after dominating the World Cup circuit this season, only managed a bronze.

—Associated Press

MEDAL COUNT

Through Feb. 14

Country	G	S	B	T
Germany	7	2	3	12
Netherlands	5	4	2	11
Norway	3	5	3	11
Canada	3	4	3	10
United States	4	1	2	7
Japan	0	4	3	7
France	2	1	2	5
OA Russia	0	1	4	5
Austria	2	1	1	4
Sweden	2	1	0	3
Italy	1	1	1	3
South Korea	1	0	1	2
Australia	0	1	1	2
Czech Republic	0	1	1	2
Finland	0	0	2	2
China	0	1	0	1
Slovakia	0	1	0	1
Switzerland	0	1	0	1
Kazakhstan	0	0	1	1

GAMES FACES

ON THE BOARD

The joint Korean women's hockey team finally scored its first goal of the Olympics, courtesy of a pair of Americans. Randi Heesoo Griffin scored at 9:31 of the second period on the Koreans' 33rd shot of the Olympics in their third game. She grew up in Cary, North Carolina, and her mother is from South Korea. Griffin was set up for the goal by Marissa Brandt, who now lives in a suburb of the Twin Cities in Minnesota and who is playing for the country where she was born. Her birth name is Park Yoonjung, the name she uses on the back of her Korean team jersey. Griffin's goal led to an eruption from the fans filling Kwandong Hockey Center.

HELLO AND GOODBYE

Harley Windsor became the first indigenous Australian to compete at the Winter Olympics when the pairs skater joined teammate Ekaterina Alexandrovskaya on the ice for their short program. Windsor and his Russian-born partner were among the first pairs on the ice, and their total of 61.55 points was just off their season's best.

WHITE APOLOGIZES

Shaun White has apologized after referring to a sexual misconduct lawsuit filed against him in 2016 as “gossip” during a news conference following his historic gold medal in the men's halfpipe. White issued the apology on NBC's “Today” show on Wednesday. He said he used “a poor choice of words to describe such a sensitive subject” and he's “truly sorry.” The snowboarder's post-gold news conference got contentious when reporters questioned him about the lawsuit. Lena Zawaideh, a former drummer in his band, claimed in the lawsuit White sexually harassed her, forced her to watch pornography and refused to pay her after she was fired. The suit was settled last spring.

—Associated Press

ROUNDUP

HOCKEY

The latest iteration of the Russian Red Machine started its Olympic hockey tournament against Slovakia and lost 3-2. The Russians gave up a two-goal lead as defensive errors allowed Slovakia to end the first period tied at 2-2. Peter Ceresnak then scored the game-winner with a slapshot in the third.

NORDIC COMBINED

Dominant throughout his career, Eric Frenzel wasn't about to let a half-minute deficit deny him of another taste of Olympic glory. The 29-year-old German erased 38 seconds after the ski jumping

HOCKEY

From Page 1

Brian O'Neill and Jordan Greenway, who became the first African-American hockey player for the U.S. at an Olympics, scored to build the 2-0 lead in a dominant showing, and the shots were 24-12 after two periods. Coach Tony Granato pointed out that Slovenia probably should have been the more tired team from playing so much in its defensive zone, but there was none of that from a group that has only one player — Mursak — with NHL experience.

In the game because of goalie Gasper Kroselj, who stopped 34 of 36 shots, Slovenia came to life when Jan Urbas scored 5:37 into the third period. With fans chanting “SLO-VE-NI-A,” the perennial underdogs started pouring it on.

“We outskated them in the third, especially, and had more energy,” said Mursak, who spent time with the Detroit Red Wings. “After we scored that first goal, I think we really got that extra energy and the feeling that can score some more.”

After flashing the breakneck speed of forward Garrett Roe on

O'Neill's goal and the quick reaction of Greenway on his rebound tally, the U.S. suddenly looked gassed. Granato wondered if 21 players dressing in their first Olympic game combined with the hype and long day before a late start took a toll on his team, which hadn't played together much.

“Our energy in the third wasn't great,” Granato said. “It could've been a little fatigue just set in mentally because of the way that the day was. But no excuses. ... They were the better team in the third and it was good enough for them to get the win.”

HALFPIPE

From Page 1

It came with the heart-thumping pressure of knowing he had to land the most difficult run he ever attempted, or settle for silver.

It included back-to-back jumps, each with 1440 degrees of spin, that are, quite literally, death-defying. They were tricks White said afterward that he had never landed in succession — not in practice and, of course, never in a contest.

“I knew I had it in me,” he said. “The fear was

out of the door. I'm at the Olympics. I had to do it. I'm standing at the top, in my favorite position, with the pressure of the world and one run to go. Man, it brings out the best in me. I'm so glad that's a part of me as a competitor.”

On the winning trip, White got the tough stuff out of the way early, dropping straight into the halfpipe, flying nearly 20 feet above it and whipping his body around twice while going head-over-heels two times for the first 1440. He landed high enough on the wall to gather sufficient speed to travel to

the other side and essentially do a mirror image of the first trick.

He performed what's known as the Sky Hook — a 20-foot vault above the deck in which he bent himself into the shape of a comma, while grabbing the board and tweaking it up toward his backside to show judges the style they demand. His final trick was one he patented: the Double McTwist 1260, in which he took off from the wall for two flips with 1 1/2 twists, grabbing the board and practically wrestling it over his head to complete the jump and stick the landing.

AUTO RACING: NASCAR

Hendrick Motorsports rolls into the Daytona 500 with new look

By JENNA FRYER
Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH — Rick Hendrick threw a glamorous party last fall when he formally introduced his 2018 driver lineup.

It was a lavish car unveiling that used lasers, spotlights and an emcee to celebrate a Hendrick Motorsports roster that had undergone a dramatic makeover.

Each of the four drivers was paired with someone for the event. Chase Elliott was joined by his Hall of Fame father, Bill, who helped uncover the new No. 9 his son will drive this year in his honor.

William Byron was introduced with Jeff Gordon, who won four titles in Byron's new No. 24. Alex Bowman came out with Dale Earnhardt Jr., the guy who helped him get his ride when Earnhardt retired. The team owner accompanied seven-time



Car owner Rick Hendrick, front, with three of his team drivers, from back left, Alex Bowman, Jimmie Johnson and Chase Elliott, stand on pit road before qualifying for the Daytona 500 at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach.

NASCAR champion and Hendrick frontman Jimmie Johnson.

Standing next to glittering new race cars, the quartet was able to briefly mask the striking youthfulness of Hendrick's rebuilt organization.

Now, at the Daytona 500, the four drivers stand alone.

They passed their first test, and the boss could not be prouder.

Bowman, who sat out

all of last year waiting for Earnhardt's seat to open, put a Hendrick car on the Daytona 500 pole for a record-tying fourth consecutive year. Johnson was third fastest. Byron, a rookie rushed into a Cup car this year because Kasey Kahne was fired, was fifth. Elliott was 10th.

"We've got a lot of racing to do and we're going to make mistakes," Hendrick said. "But to come down here, it's a statement by the whole

organization to run four cars and get them that close."

Hendrick preemptively noted that the organization may have a roller-coaster season, largely because of the various resumes on his roster.

Johnson is the best of his era, and even though Elliott is entering just his third season, he made NASCAR's playoffs last year and proved he has the potential to be a star.

Bowman and Byron? Well, no one knows yet.

Byron won seven races as a rookie in the Truck Series in 2016 and would have won the championship, too, but an engine failure stopped him nine laps away from what should have been win No. 8.

He won the Xfinity Series title last year, earning the promotion to the Cup series. His Cup debut will be the Daytona 500, and his first time racing a Cup car at all will be Thursday in a qualifying race. He's 20.

FOOTBALL: Spring League

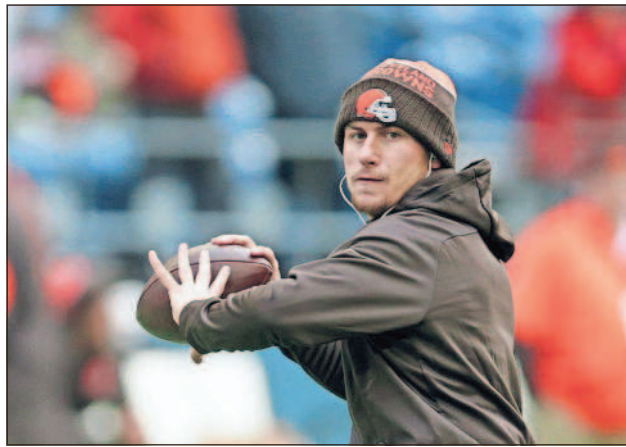
Manziel attempts comeback in Spring League

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Former Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Johnny Manziel says he's making a football comeback.

Manziel announced Wednesday that he'll participate in the developmental Spring League in Austin, Texas, which will play from March 28 to April 15. The league is designed for players hoping to impress NFL scouts. The league confirmed Manziel will participate.

Manziel won the Heisman as a freshman with Texas A&M in 2012 and left school after his sophomore season for the NFL. He was drafted in the first round by the Cleveland Browns,



Cleveland Browns quarterback Johnny Manziel warms-up before a 2015 NFL game against the Seattle Seahawks, in Seattle.

but was cut in 2016 and hasn't played since.

In a recent interview with "Good Morning America", Manziel said he's been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and has stopped drinking alcohol.

In 2016, a domestic assault charge against Manziel in Dallas was dismissed after Manziel took an anger management course and participated in the NFL's substance-abuse program. He was also

suspended four games for a substance-abuse violation even though he wasn't under contract.

"Can't wait to get back on the field and show NFL scouts what I can do!" Manziel tweeted Wednesday.

Manziel played nine games with the Browns in two seasons, passing for 1,675 yards with seven touchdowns and seven interceptions.

"Football has been a huge part of my life for as long as I can remember. Sometimes you take for granted how much you value something until it's gone. My goal is to make it back to the NFL and I realize I have to earn that privilege," Manziel said in a statement provided by the Spring League.

TENNIS: ABN AMRO

Federer begins bid for No. 1 spot with easy win

Associated Press

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands — At the age of 36, Roger Federer is now two wins away from reclaiming the top ranking for the first time in six years.

Federer began his campaign at the ABN AMRO tournament on Wednesday with a flawless performance, defeating Ruben Bemelmans 6-1, 6-2 in just 46 minutes.

The 20-time Grand

Slam champion was in complete control against the Belgian qualifier.

The Swiss hit six aces, dropped only four points on his serve, and broke Bemelmans four times in the first round.

Federer will replace his old rival Rafael Nadal at No. 1 if he reaches the semifinals at the indoor tournament. By achieving the feat, he would also become the oldest top-ranked male player. Andre Agassi holds the record, at

33 years, 133 days old.

Federer next plays Philipp Kohlschreiber, a player he has never lost to in 12 previous matches.

Earlier, David Goffin eased into the quarterfinals by defeating Feliciano Lopez 6-1, 6-3. Goffin had nine aces and dropped just two points behind his first serve to extend his unbeaten record against Lopez to 3-0.

The seventh-ranked Goffin, who beat Nicolas

Mahut in straight sets in his previous match, will next face sixth-seeded Tomas Berdych.

Second-seeded Grigor Dimitrov beat Yuichi Sugita 6-4, 7-6 (5) in the first round and Robin Haase won an all-Dutch contest against Thiemo de Bakker 6-2, 6-2. Dimitrov and Haase were joined in the second round by qualifier Pierre-Hugues Herbert, who advanced after Richard Gasquet retired while trailing 3-1.

NHL: Lightning



AP PHOTO

Buffalo Sabres forward Sam Reinhart puts the puck past Tampa Bay Lightning goalie Louis Domingue for a goal during the second period Tuesday night.

Lightning penalty kill problems a perfect storm

By JOE SMITH
Tampa Bay Times

TAMPA — When Lightning coach Jon Cooper says the penalty kill has been a "sore subject" for some time, it's not a punch line.

This special teams unit is a significant concern, especially when it costs Tampa Bay games. Tuesday's 5-3 loss to Buffalo was just the latest example, the Sabres scoring twice with the man advantage. And now the Lightning's lead in the Atlantic Division has shrunk to one point over surging Boston heading into Thursday's game against Detroit.

There have been a lot of reasons for Tampa Bay's second half slide — 9-8-1 since Jan. 4 after starting 29-8-2.

But it appears the team's defensive issues have bled into the penalty kill, which has been successful just 75 percent in the last 25 games, dropping the unit to 25th in the league (78-percent).

"We make every power play look like they're the best power play in the league," Cooper said.

What's gone wrong? After reviewing video of the last 20 power play goals allowed, it appears like it's been a perfect storm of problems on the penalty kill.

Sure, the Lightning is missing one of its best penalty killers in Ondrej Palat, a key two-way forward who is out 6-8 weeks with a lower body injury. But this isn't about personnel, especially when you consider the penalty kill was supposed to be getting a boost this season with a healthy Ryan Callahan and the acquisition of shot-blocking specialist Dan Girardi.

The penalty kill problems start in the dot, with the Lightning one of the worst teams on faceoffs. That holds especially true shorthanded, when Tampa Bay is at just 39.1 percent, second worst in the league ahead of only Colorado (37.8 percent). Boston, which is second in the division, is best at 51.2. When you give a team possession, and aren't particularly strong at recovering it, its a recipe for disaster. There was Minnesota's Jared Spurgeon ripping a shot seconds after a lost defensive zone faceoff by the Lightning Jan. 20. Or on Dec. 19 in Vegas, when the Golden Knights power play had barely started when — moments after a Brayden Point lost faceoff — Erik Haula scored on a nifty redirection.

Then the Lightning has trouble clearing the puck when it gets it back. You saw a striking example in the second period Tuesday, with two failed clears by Tampa Bay leading to one unit being on the ice for a stunning 1 minute,

"The guys are trying. Penalty killing is tough. You have to be in lanes, you have to do a good job structurally. You have to block shots. You have to commit. We've just got to find a way to do that."

—Lightning coach Jon Cooper

43 seconds. There was also Nashville Ryan Ellis' blast on Jan. 23, which was enabled after Tyler Johnson's failed attempt to stickhandle and clear the zone. It resulted in a scramble, and a Predators goal.

"It seems like we're running around," Callahan said. "Once you get caught in your own end, you get tired, and it's hard to pressure."

The Lightning is also quick to come out of its structure, the team's out of sync play in 5-on-5 seemingly bleeding into its special teams. Take this goal by Calgary's Micheal Ferlund Feb. 1, the forward left all alone in front with two Lightning defenders behind the net.

"It's been a battle all year," Girardi said.

Girardi's strength is shot-blocking, and the Lightning isn't getting in enough lanes on the penalty kill. Captain Steven Stamkos sagged too far into the middle against Vancouver Dec. 8, leaving sharpshooting rookie Brock Boeser too much space for his one-timer.

This group needs more desperation, more sacrifice. The Sabres showed this with three blocked shots in killing off nearly two minutes of the Lightning's 5-on-3 Tuesday. It completely swung the game.

The Lightning has had some bad luck too, one goal by Calgary's Sam Bennett going in off the stick of Lightning defenseman Braydon Coburn. There was Point losing his stick just before a goal by Carolina's Justin Faulk. And, against Montreal Dec. 28, a point shot by Charles Hudon went off goalie Andrei Vasilevskiy, then caromed off the hand on Brendan Gallagher.

But your best penalty killer is your last line of defense — the goalie — and even Vezina Trophy-caliber Vasilevskiy has struggled shorthanded, his .886 save percentage on penalty kills 15th in the league. There were goals like the one by Vegas' James Neal that Vasilevskiy would like to have back.

"The guys are trying," Cooper said. "Penalty killing is tough. You have to be in lanes, you have to do a good job structurally. You have to block shots. You have to commit. We've just got to find a way to do that."

MLB: Free Agency

Royals scout kicked out as free-agent camp opens

By RONALD BLUM
Associated Press

As teams started spring training workouts across Florida and Arizona, the players' association had a Kansas City Royals scout escorted out of the union's opening training session for unsigned free agents.

About 15 players attended the first day of workouts Wednesday at the union's camp in Bradenton, Florida. Media were barred from the IMG Academy. The scout was told he was not welcome but could set up a session with an individual player at the player's discretion, several people familiar

with the situation said. The people spoke on condition of anonymity because no statements were authorized.

More than 90 players remain without agreements among the 166 who exercised their free-agency rights last November, the most sluggish market since the final offseason of collusion in 1987-88.

Union head Tony Clark, who attended the session, said approximately 15 more players are likely to arrive at the free-agent camp this week while the remainder of unsigned players seeking jobs work out at their regular offseason facilities.

"When you have the type of numbers we've had of unsigned guys at this juncture, that's cause for concern," Clark said. "It's cause for concern from our end and it's cause for concern from an industry standpoint."

Unsigned stars include pitcher Jake Arrieta and sluggers J.D. Martinez, Mike Moustakas and Eric Hosmer, all represented by agent Scott Boras.

"From my perspective, the last four or five days have been more like a true December free agency. We've gotten a lot of calls from a lot of teams, and we're working through negotiations for players,"

Boras said.

"The trade winds finally died down and the clubs have reached a point where the opportunities for trades have been limited. Now they turn to the free-agent market."

The number of teams in the midst of rebuilds has increased, leaving fewer spots for high-priced veterans.

Changes to the collective bargaining agreement in November 2016 have caused high-spending teams such as the New York Yankees and Los Angeles Dodgers to cut payroll in an effort to get under the luxury tax threshold.

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NYSE

Main table containing NYSE stock listings with columns for Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, Last, and YTD %Chg. Includes sub-sections for NYSE and -C-.

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like CUBE, CFR, CULP, CMI, FXE, FXA, FXB, FXC, etc.

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PQQ GrpH, PSB BusP, PPSB pU, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PS SP Sc n, PS SP Val n, PS SP Int, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PROSHHY, PSEHG PEG, PubStrg, etc.

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- S -

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 1000s, Last, %Chg, YTD. Contains stock data for companies like SndrIn, SndrIn, SndrIn, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 1000s, Last, %Chg, YTD. Contains stock data for companies like Seadrill, SealAir, Seaspan, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 1000s, Last, %Chg, YTD. Contains stock data for companies like Sysco, Systemax, T3 Mot wtl, etc.

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NYSE

Table of NYSE stock market data including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, and YTD %Chg. Includes sub-sections for -V- and -W-.

Nasdaq

Table of Nasdaq stock market data including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, and YTD %Chg. Includes sub-sections for -A- and -B-.

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Nasdaq

Main table containing stock market data for Nasdaq, including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, and YTD %Chg. The table is organized into multiple columns and includes various stock tickers and their corresponding financial metrics.

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Nasdaq

Table of Nasdaq stock market data including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD, and %Chg. Includes sub-sections E, H, and G.

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Nasdaq

Table of Nasdaq stock market data including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD, and %Chg. Includes sub-sections I, J, and K.

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Nasdaq

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes tickers like IBERIAP, ICAHNT, ICHOR, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes tickers like LAKE5B, LAKE6B, LAKE7B, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes tickers like MID5IB, MIDWOne, MILLERH, etc.

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Nasdaq

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like OncoBi wA, OncoBi wB, Onconov rs, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PriceTR, PrSmrt, Priceline, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like SearsH&O, SeaSpine n, SeattGen, etc.

P-Q

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like :P&F Inds, PAM, PB Bncp, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like :R1 RCM n, RBB Bcp n, RBL Bear, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like :S&T Bcp, S&WSeed, SB FinGp, etc.

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Nasdaq

Table of stock market data including Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 1000s, Last, %Chg, and YTD %Chg for various companies.

Money Market Funds

Table of money market fund data including Fund, 52-Wk High Bid, 52-Wk Low Bid, Avg Yield, and other performance metrics.

Continued from previous page

Money Market Funds

Table listing Money Market Funds with columns: Fund, 52-Wk High Bid, 52-Wk Low Bid, Avg Yld, and multiple columns for Fund, 52-Wk High Bid, 52-Wk Low Bid, Avg Yld, and multiple columns for Fund, 52-Wk High Bid, 52-Wk Low Bid, Avg Yld.

Toronto stocks

Table listing Toronto stocks with columns: Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg, Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg, Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg, Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg.

Treasury bonds

Table listing Treasury bonds with columns: Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld, Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld, Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld, Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld.

FOOTNOTE: Rate-The annual interest rate the Treasury bond provides to investors. Date-The month and year the bond will expire. Bid-The price investors will pay for the bond. Ask-The price at which investors will sell. A bond price is expressed as a percentage of its original purchase cost of \$1,000.

Mutual Funds

Table listing Mutual Funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk.

How to Read the Mutual Fund Tables

Here are the 4,300 biggest mutual funds listed on Nasdaq. Tables show the fund name, sell price or net asset value (NAV), daily net change and weekly net change.

Table listing Mutual Funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, and detailed footnotes explaining abbreviations like AL, CC, AM, and symbols like e, f, n, p, s, t, r, x.

Table listing Mutual Funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk.

Continued on next page

Top 20 Mutual Funds

By Year-to-Date Percent Return

Table with columns: Name, Obj, Pct Load, NAV, YTD Rtn, Phone Number. Lists top mutual funds by year-to-date percent return.

By Total Net Assets

Table with columns: Name, Obj, Total Assets, Percent Return/Rank, YTD, 5-Yr, Pct Load. Lists top mutual funds by total net assets.

By 4-Week Percent Return

Table with columns: Name, Obj, Pct Load, NAV, 4-Wk Rtn, Phone Number. Lists top mutual funds by 4-week percent return.

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Continuation of mutual fund list from previous page, including sections like AC Alternatives, AMF, AMG, AQR, APEX, Absolute Strategies, Acadian, Access, AdvisorOne, Advisory Research, Aegis, Akre, AI Frank, Alger, AlliantzGI, Amana, American Beacon, American Century, etc.

Mutual Funds

Main list of mutual funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, and various fund details.

Continuation of mutual fund list from previous page, including sections like Bogle Investment Man, Boston Partners, Boston Trust, Bragg Capital Trust, Brades, Bridges, Bridgeway, Bright Rock, Broadview, Brookfield Investmen, Brown Advisory, Buffalo, CG Capital Markets, CDM, CRM, Calamos, CMV, Calvert, etc.

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Mutual Funds

Table listing various mutual funds with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rrk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rrk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rrk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rrk.

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Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rrk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rrk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rrk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rrk. Lists various mutual funds and their performance metrics.

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Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Contains financial data for various funds including DivandGrI, DivandGR3 b, DivandGR4 b, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Contains financial data for various funds including GrandInlcC m, HYA m, HYN b, etc.

Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Contains financial data for various funds including MCapVall, MCapVall, MidCapEquityI, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Contains financial data for various funds including SmCoVal1, StratInlcOpps a m, StratInlcOpps c m, etc.

Continued from previous page

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Includes funds like CorpBdL, EMEREA m, GeorgiaMuniBdA m, etc.

Matrix Advisors

Mathews

Merger

Meridian

Merk

Metropolitan West

Miller

Mondrian

Monetta

Morgan Stanley

Motley Fool

Muhlenkamp

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MUTUAL FUNDS

Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Includes funds like HYFI, HYMuni, InCeq, InternTxEx, etc.

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Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Includes funds like TotalReturnBdY, ValA m, ValC m, etc.

Optimum

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