

Pettis County meth bust gets drugs, guns and cash

By **Chris Howell**
chrish@sedaliademocrat.com

Two people have been charged after more than two pounds of methamphetamine and nearly \$20,000 were found during a search warrant earlier this week.

On Monday, April 26, the Pettis County Sheriff's Office and members of the Mid-Missouri Drug Task Force executed a narcotics search warrant in the 2900 block of Oak Ridge Circle in Pettis County. During the search, two ounces of methamphetamine, scales and two handguns were found. Nearly \$20,000 in currency was also seized. David Lee Bridges, 47, and Audrey Eloise Bridges, 47, both of the residence, were arrested and placed on a 24-hour hold.

The following day, another search warrant on a storage shed in Sedalia and a residence on Marigold Lane just south of Sedalia yielded an additional two pounds of methamphetamine at the residence and more currency in the storage shed.

With the additional quantity of meth, the offense will be raised to first-degree trafficking and possession of a firearm by persons prohibited.

In March, Pettis County Detective Shawn Apel initiated a drug investigation aimed at methamphetamine trafficking within the borders of Pettis County. The intelligence he gathered resulted in the original search warrant.

"Deputy Apel had identified a potential target and he took numerous investigative steps proactively on his own," said Sheriff Brad Anders. "He got the help of some of our Mid-Missouri Drug Task Force detectives, and they were able to build a very solid case, enough to have a search warrant issued."

David Lee Bridges and Audrey Eloise Bridges were both charged with second-degree drug trafficking, endangering the welfare of a child involving drugs and unlawful possession of a firearm.

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David Lee Bridges



Audrey Eloise Bridges



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETTIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

More than two pounds of methamphetamine, \$20,000 cash and several weapons were seized after a search warrant was served Monday on Oak Ridge Circle in Pettis County.



PHOTOS BY CHRIS HOWELL | SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

From left, Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe, scouts Zander Bullock, Dakota Bullock, Chance McMullin, Chase McMullin, Chris Harper, and Tim Patterson stand in front of Lady Liberty on the Pettis County Courthouse lawn Wednesday morning.

Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe speaks at scouts' breakfast meeting

By **Chris Howell**
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Wednesday at the Fox Theater Event Center, a Patron Breakfast was hosted by Nucor to raise money for the Scouts. After the presentation of colors, the pledge of allegiance, and the recitation of the scout's oath by scouts Zander and Dakota Bullock from Troop 54, keynote speaker Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe, a former scout, stressed the importance of scouting for building character and leadership abilities in young men and women.

"I really wouldn't be where I am today without scouting," said Kehoe. "So any chance I get to make sure parents and scouts and supporters all understand how important their impact is on young men and girl's lives, I want to tell that story."

Brothers and Eagle Scouts Chase and Chance McMullin with Troop 66 spoke to the lieutenant governor about the ben-



From left, scouts Dakota and Zander Bullock place a Boy Scouts sticker on Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe's, right, car in front of the Fox Theater Event Center on Wednesday.

efits they received from earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Chase McMullin's Eagle Scout project placing bicycle sculptures around Sedalia gave him wide-ranging experience in funding, project planning and execution. Chase was delighted to address Kehoe.

"Speaking at this

breakfast as an Eagle Scout is really one of the coolest things I've ever been able to do," said McMullin. "I got to speak in front of the lieutenant governor, and so I think it's just such an honor."

After breakfast, Zander and Dakota Bullock were invited by Kehoe to place a sticker from the Boy

Scouts of America Great Rivers Council on the back window of his limousine. Chris Harper, the Osage District Executive, showed Kehoe the Lady Liberty statue which was recently refurbished and returned to her pedestal outside the Pettis County Courthouse.

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More S-C students taking Seal of Biliteracy

By **Ryan Sheehan**
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More than a dozen Smith-Cotton High School students are participating in testing to earn the Seal of Biliteracy.

The Seal of Biliteracy is a program that allows juniors and seniors to be certified as bilingual and multilingual. "Being bilingual in itself is pretty impressive," said ESOL Teacher Melissa Lackey, who oversees the program. "So, it's (the Seal of Biliteracy) to give these kids some recognition."

In the past, Lackey said she believes S-C had six students in at any given time as candidates for the program. This year, the number is 20. According to information from Sedalia School District 200,

the previous high number was seven in 2018.

Lackey said she thinks more students became aware of it after several presentations were given to the student body about the Seal of Biliteracy.

In addition to whichever language they are taking, the students need an English language requirement, Lackey noted. The students take a second test in whatever language they are also fluent in. The testing is available in languages such as Spanish, Russian, German and French.

"If the language is not available through the testing services that we use, we have to do a portfolio," Lackey said. "And that's where we're gonna start needing more and more community involvement be-

cause we have many languages that are not tested."

Lackey said tests are not available in Ukrainian and Moldova, which affects two of her students.

"(The portfolio) requires a listening, a speaking, a written, and a reading portion," Lackey said. "(Then) we have to find a native speaker to evaluate."

At the time of graduation, students in the program have to meet graduation requirements, including completing 50 hours of community work using their bilingual skills and writing an essay about the socio-economic importance of being bilingual.

The Democrat spoke with four S-C Seal of Biliteracy students: Carmen Cinta, whose

native language is Spanish; Adelina Kukosh, who is Moldovan; Daryna Matsko, who is Ukrainian; and Makaio Cook. All four are either continuing with testing or are waiting for testing results.

Everyone except Cinta learned a language they had no prior experience with and everyone except Cook had to learn English as a child. They all agreed it is easier for children to learn another language than adults.

Cook decided to learn German, inspired by her great-grandparents, who immigrated from Germany. Cook noted it took her three years to learn German.

Kukosh and Matsko both attended a local Russian Church, the Savic Baptist. As a result,

they both learned English and Russian at the same time. Matsko explained her parents encouraged them to learn Russian to communicate with her Russian-speaking relatives.

Several of the students described the test-taking process as stressful. Kukosh said the first two parts of the test, reading and listening, were easier and the speaking and writing were more difficult.

"The speaking (portion for Russian) kind of tricked me... once in a while 'cause I'm more used to speaking in Ukrainian at home, that's like the main language that we speak," Matsko said.

Kukosh said she thinks the writing portion would be the most difficult for everybody.

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LOTTERY

Midday Drawing
Pick 3: 8-5-3
Pick 4: 4-0-8-5

Evening Drawing

Pick 3: 8-8-2
Pick 4: 6-7-5-1
Show-Me Cash: 6-8-11-13-27

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

What's your take on today's news? Go to sedaliademocrat.com or visit us on Facebook to share your thoughts @ [SedaliaDemocrat!](https://www.facebook.com/SedaliaDemocrat/)



S-C'S HERRERA TO RUN CROSS COUNTRY AT SFCC

• **Sports 1B**

OBITUARIES

Lanny Ray Palmer

Lanny Ray Palmer, 73, of Sedalia, passed away Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 3:30 a.m. surrounded by his family.

He was joyfully welcomed into this world by his parents Charles Junior “Charlie” Palmer and Letha Virginia “Peach” (Witt) Palmer on October 15, 1947. On May 2, 1969, he married the love of his life Kathy Wahlers and their love endures to this day.

Lanny is survived by his wife, his daughter Melissa (Rick) Embry, his son Charles Jeremy (Katie Marie Dougan) Palmer, his grandsons Alex Pompe, Gaige Palmer, Dane Palmer, and Damion Close, his sister Cheryl (Palmer) Campbell, his brother David Palmer, his sister-in-law Lynda (Eckles) Palmer, Tom (Peg) Gardner, cousins, nieces and nephews, and friends too numerous to count.

He was preceded in death by his mother, his father, and his brother Charles Jerry Palmer.

Lanny served honorably in the United States Army before returning home to begin work with his father and brothers at their family-owned business, Palmer Tool & Supply. He greeted everyone he met as if they were already friends. He had a kind word, a funny story, or words of wisdom for everyone. He embraced life to the fullest and

taught his children and grandsons to do the same. His smile brightened every corner of every part of the world he touched. He found something good in every experience or situation he encountered. Anyone who met him would say they were lucky to have met him.

Lanny enjoyed his work, talking with people every day, he loved working in his yard, creating pockets of beauty with his flowers, and never turned down an opportunity to go fishing. He was mostly a “catch and release” guy, saying “see you next time” as he released a big fish. But by far his greatest pride and joy centered around his wife, his children, and his cherished grandsons. His joy, his kindness, his wisdom will live on in them. He wanted his grandsons to embrace life, find joy in all things, and, when in doubt, ask themselves “What would Pa do?” The answer will be there.

Please join his family in celebrating his life at Heckart Funeral Home on Sunday May 2, 2021. Visitation will begin at 1:00 p.m. with a service to follow at 2:00 p.m.

In honor of his life, please consider a donation to the American Lung Association in lieu of flowers in care of Heckart Funeral Home.

Marjorie A. Newkirk

Marjorie A. Newkirk, 90, of Marshall passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, at The Living Center in Marshall, MO. She was born on November 30, 1930, in Huron, SD the daughter of Ernest Kobes and Marjorie (Pierce) Kobes, who preceded her in death.

On June 1, 1958, in Rapid City, SD she was united in marriage to Duane Newkirk, who resides in Sedalia.

Marjorie raised her family including three children on Rimrock Highway in Rapid City, SD. In her early years she enjoyed playing the organ at Big Bend Presbyterian Church. Marjorie enjoyed crocheting in her early years making blankets for family members.

After her and her husband's retirement they decided to become “Snow Birds” in Sun City West, AZ. Living there for 28 years before moving to Sedalia to be near their daughter Diane. In November of 2019, Marjorie and Duane moved into Cedarhurst Assisted Living, in Sedalia. In December of 2020, due to failing health, Marjorie moved

to the Living Center in Marshall, MO.

In addition to her husband she is survived by her twin daughters, Donna (Glen) Strausser of Surprise, AZ and Diane Wilbern of La Monte, MO; a son, Ken (Donna) Newkirk of Loveland, CO; five grandchildren, Stacy (Cody), Megan (Al), Jeremy (Alison), Matthew, and Aurora; five great grandchildren, Alexis (Miguel), Albert, Isabella, Lindsay, and Molly, and two great great grandchildren, Noah and Amiya; and several nieces and nephews.

After Marjorie's passing, her nurse noticed a red Cardinal perched on a wooden fence outside her room. This signifies that Marjorie is watching over her family while they grieve her loss.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by two brothers, Don and Roger Kobes.

In keeping with Marjorie's wishes there will be no public services planned. The family will gather for a private memorial service at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.



FUNERALS

Harms, Ferneva P.

10:30 a.m. Friday at St. John Cemetery in Emma. Arrangements are under the direction of Campbell-Lewis Funeral Home.

Jennings, Dorothy Wissman

at 11 a.m. Friday at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

Sims, Loula Rae “Lou”

11 a.m. Friday at Sunset Gardens Cemetery in Marshall. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

Soper, Winifred C. "Winnie"

11 a.m. Friday at First Christian Church in Slater. Arrangements are under the direction of Weiker Funeral Home in Slater.

North, Jennifer L.

at 3 p.m. Friday at Slater City Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Weiker Funeral Home in Slater.

Palmer, Lanny R.

2 p.m. Sunday at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

Pierce, Royce V.

10 a.m. Tuesday, May 4 at Newark Cemetery in Newark, Missouri. Arrangements are pending at Weiker Funeral Home in Slater.

Hall, Leman Leroy “Satch” “Lee” Jr.

1 p.m. Saturday, May 8 at ABC Advertising Agency at 400 S. Osage Ave. in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Moore Funeral Home in La Monte.

CRASH REPORTS

Morgan County crash puts Sedalia man in jail

John E. Washausen, 31, of Sedalia, received a minor injury at 3 a.m. Tuesday in a Morgan County accident. According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Washausen was driving a 2002 Ford Windstar north on state Route 5 north of Valley Road his vehicle when crossed the centerline of the roadway and traveled off the left side of the roadway, striking a utility pole.

Washausen was transported to Lake Regional Hospital in Osage Beach by Mid-Missouri Ambulance District.

Later he was arrested for felony possession of a controlled substance (8 grams of methamphetamine), no seat belt, failure to drive on the right half of the roadway resulting in a crash, operating a vehicle on a highway without a valid license, a Sedalia Police Department warrant-failure to appear traffic offense, a Pettis County warrant for non-moving traffic violation-failure to register a motor vehicle/operate a vehicle without a valid license. He was transported to the Morgan County Jail on a 24-hour hold.

Information is taken from preliminary Missouri State Highway Patrol reports, which do not necessarily contain statements from all parties involved.

Compiled by Chris Howell.

POLICE REPORTS

This list is a sampling of crime in Sedalia and the surrounding area. Information is taken from official police reports, which do not necessarily contain statements from all parties involved in each case.

Sedalia Police Department Arrests April 22

4:47 p.m.: Amanda N. Brown, 37, of the 2500 block of South Stewart Avenue, was arrested after police responded to the 800 block of East Broadway Boulevard for a possibly impaired driver. After an investigation, the operator was arrested for driving while intoxicated and driving with a revoked license. Brown was transported to the Pettis County Jail for processing.

April 26

12:04 a.m.: Joseph Jerome Tessmer, 44, of the 2500 block of South Ingram Avenue, was arrested after officers were dispatched for the report of a disturbance. On arrival, Tessmer was arrested for fourth-degree domestic assault, transported to the Pettis County Jail, and placed on a 24-hour hold pending formal charges.

April 27

9:44 p.m.: David Lynn Sutton, 23, of the 300 block of East Boonville Street, was arrested after officers responded to the SPD lobby for a possible domestic violence report. Officers spoke with the victim who had evidence of physical injury. A primary physical aggressor was identified and arrested near the 300 block of East Boonville Street. Sutton was transported to the Pettis County Jail and booked on the charge of second-degree domestic assault

with a 24-hour hold.

10:45 p.m.: Ladisalo Olivos-Baltazar, 34, of the 1000 block of South Limit Avenue, was arrested after a traffic stop near East Broadway Boulevard and South Hancock Avenue. He was found to be operating on a suspended driver's license and was arrested and transported to the Pettis County Jail where he was booked and released.

April 28

1:47 a.m.: Trevor Carlton Middleton, 28, of Holts Summit, was arrested after a vehicle stop in the area of South Hancock Avenue and East Broadway Boulevard for several moving violations. Middleton was placed under arrest for driving while intoxicated (drugs) and possession of methamphetamine. He was transported to a hospital and then the Pettis County Jail and placed on a 24-hour hold pending state charges of driving while intoxicated and possession of methamphetamine, A state charge of possession of drug paraphernalia is also being requested.

2:38 a.m.: Dale Lee Hanson II, 30, of the 1300 block of East Boonville Road, was arrested after a traffic stop for a defective plate light near South Ohio Avenue and East 11th Street. A check showed the driver did not have a valid license. Anson was arrested and transported to the police department. He was fingerprinted and released with a City ticket for driving while suspended/revoked and expired registration.

Incidents April 26

9:02 a.m.: A subject reported her vehicle was damaged Sunday, April 25 in a business parking

DEATH NOTICE

Pierce

Royce V. Pierce, 68, of Slater, died Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at University of Missouri Hospital-Columbia. Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 4 at Newark Cemetery in Newark, Missouri. Arrangements are pending at Weiker Funeral Home in Slater.

Sims

Loula Rae “Lou” Sims, 86, formerly of Sweet Springs, died Tuesday, April 27, 2021. A graveside service and burial will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, April 30 at Sunset Gardens Cemetery in Marshall. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Missouri State Parks to offer Learn2 Aim archery, atlAtl courses

Missouri State Parks invites the public to begin their archery journey by attending hands-on courses at five parks this summer, including Cuivre River, Echo Bluff, Graham Cave, Knob Noster and Stockton state parks. This program is for anyone who wants to learn the basics of archery and atlAtl throwing.

The Learn2 Aim courses offer two hours of free instruction and are open to ages 10 and older. Registration is required and all slots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Program dates, times and other details, including registration information, can be found at mostateparks.com/learn2.

Missouri State Parks provides the equipment, including bows, atlAtl, targets and expertise, in a safe environment. Participants should wear comfortable clothing and closed-toed shoes.

Participants must be at least 10 years of age. Children 17 and under must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Parents and guardians do not have to participate, but must be on hand to provide adult supervision. Participants should be comfortable around bows and atlAtl.

Sedalia Chamber to host Whiteman Wreath Laying

The Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee will conduct the annual Memorial Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony at the gravesite of Air Force 2nd Lt. George A. Whiteman at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 15 in the Memorial Park Cemetery at the intersection of 32nd Street and Green Ridge Road in Sedalia.

Attendees will include family members, military personnel, and local, state and federal dignitaries and elected officials.

State Rep. Brad Pollitt, R-Sedalia, will be the guest speaker.

A flyover of four T-38s from Whiteman Air Force Base is scheduled to perform a missing man formation at 11:27 a.m. Saturday, weather permitting.

lot in the 3200 block of West Broadway Boulevard. Someone scratched the driver's side of the vehicle victim's vehicle. She estimated the damage to be at \$500. The business' loss prevention has been asked to review the surveillance cameras.

1:44 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to a business in the 100 block of East Broadway Boulevard regarding a forged prescription. It was found that most of the information on the prescription was false and the prescribing doctor confirmed that they had not written the prescription.

4:59 p.m.: A complainant came to police headquarters to report a theft that occurred at a business in the 3200 block of West Broadway Boulevard on April 26. The complainant reported that a male concealed items and left the store without rendering payment.

April 27

6:42 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to the 400 block of Welch Court regarding a domestic disturbance. The complainant reported that their brother was outside the apartment yelling and trying to get in though they weren't supposed to be there. The suspect had damaged a screen while pounding on the window of the unit and the property owner stated they wanted to pursue charges.

10:07 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to a business in the 100 block of West Fifth Street regarding a report of property damage that occurred overnight. Someone had broken a custom window which will cost approximately \$1,000 to replace. There is no suspect information at this time.

Compiled by Chris Howell.

District awards 2 Tiger Legacy scholarships

As a way to fill targeted teaching needs and reward hometown students who plan to become educators, Sedalia School District 200 has awarded two more scholarships under its Tiger Legacy program.

Smith-Cotton High School seniors Kylie Neal and Emily Cote are this year's recipients.

Tiger Legacy, the district's "Grow Your Own" program, encourages students who pursue education degrees in science, math and special education to come back to Sedalia 200 to teach for at least four years by providing them \$2,000 per semester toward their bachelor's degree. Neal plans to pursue high school math at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg and Cote intends to become an elementary special education teacher, initially through study at State Fair Community College in Sedalia.

Smith-Cotton High Principal Wade Norton, a member of the selection committee, said: "These two young ladies have had a dream of becoming teachers. We are pleased to help them achieve their dream and have them join Sedalia 200 once their goal has been achieved. We know they have the potential to make a difference in their community."

Release courtesy of Sedalia School District 200.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEDALIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 200

Smith-Cotton High School seniors Kylie Neal, left, and Emily Cote, right, are congratulated by Sedalia School District 200 Board of Education President Diana Nichols for their selections as Tiger Legacy scholarship recipients at the April 19 board meeting in the Heckart Performing Arts Center.

US indicts 3 on hate crime charges in death of Ahmaud Arbery

By Michael Balsamo and Russ Bynum

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department brought federal hate crimes charges Wednesday in the death of Ahmaud Arbery, charging a father and son who armed themselves, chased and fatally shot the 25-year-old Black man after spotting him running in their Georgia neighborhood.

Travis McMichael and his father, Gregory, were charged along with a third man, William "Roddie" Bryan, with one count of interference with civil rights and attempted kidnapping. The McMichaels are also charged with using, carrying and brandishing a firearm during a crime of violence.

The case is the most significant civil rights prosecution undertaken to date by the Biden administration Justice Department and comes as federal officials have moved quickly to open sweeping investigations into troubled police departments as civil rights takes center stage among the department's priorities.

The indictment charges that the McMichaels "armed themselves with firearms, got into a truck and chased Arbery through the public streets of the neighborhood while yelling at Arbery, using their truck to cut off his route and threatening him with firearms." It also alleges that Bryan got into a truck and then chased Arbery, using the vehicle to block his path.

Arbery, 25, was killed on Feb. 23, 2020, by three close-range shotgun blasts after the McMichaels pursued him in a pickup truck as he was running through their neighborhood. Arbery had been dead for more than two months when a cellphone video of the shooting was leaked online and a national outcry erupted.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation took over the case the next day and swiftly arrested

Travis McMichael, who fired the shots, his father, and Bryan, a neighbor who joined the pursuit and took the video. The three men remain jailed on state murder charges and are due back in court in May.

S. Lee Merritt, an attorney for Arbery's mother, Wanda Cooper-Jones, applauded the hate crimes charges Wednesday, tweeting that the federal case would "serve as a fail-safe to the state prosecution."

"Hate claimed Ahmaud's life," Merritt tweeted. "Our justice system must combat intolerance."

The McMichaels' lawyers have said they pursued Arbery, suspecting he was a burglar, after security cameras had previously recorded him entering a home under construction. They say Travis McMichael shot Arbery while fearing for his life as they grappled over a shotgun.

Local prosecutors have said Arbery stole nothing and was merely out jogging when the McMichaels and Bryan chased him.

The Justice Department alleges that the men "used force and threats of force to intimidate and interfere with Arbery's right to use a public street because of his race."

In pretrial court hearings in Georgia, prosecutors have presented evidence that racism may have played a role in the man's death.

Last June, an agent with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation testified Bryan told investigators that Travis McMichael uttered a racist slur right after the shooting as he stood over Arbery, who was bleeding on the ground.

"Mr. Bryan said that after the shooting took place before police arrival, while Mr. Arbery was on the ground, that he heard Travis McMichael make the statement, 'f---ing n---er,'" GBI agent Richard Dial testified.

Travis McMichael's attorneys have denied that he made the remark.

During a bond hearing in November, prosecutors introduced evidence that Travis McMichael had used racist slurs in a text message and on social media.

At the time Arbery was killed, Georgia was one of just four U.S. states without a hate crimes law. Amid the outcry over his death, Georgia lawmakers quickly passed a law allowing for an additional penalty for certain crimes found to be motivated by a victim's race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender, or mental or physical disability.

The men charged with murdering Arbery won't face hate crime penalties at the state level because the law was changed after the killing.

Georgia Attorney General Chris Carr said the state case remained a priority, and he commended "this positive development and the continued push to get answers for Ahmaud's family, community and our state."

Attorneys for Travis McMichael said they were disappointed "that the Justice Department bought the false narrative that the media and state prosecutors have promulgated."

"There is absolutely nothing in the indictment that identifies how this is a federal hate crime and it ignores without apology that Georgia law allows a citizen to detain a person who was committing burglaries until police arrive," attorneys Bob Rubin and Jason Sheffield said.

Gregory McMichael's attorneys, Frank and Laura Hogue, did not immediately respond Wednesday to an email seeking comment and Bryan's attorney, Kevin Gough, said he had no immediate comment because he had not read the federal indictment.

—

Bynum reported from Savannah, Georgia. Associated Press writers Eric Tucker in Washington and Kate Brumback in Atlanta contributed to this report.

Satellites show world's glaciers melting faster than ever

By Seth Borenstein

AP Science Writer

Glaciers are melting faster, losing 31% more snow and ice per year than they did 15 years earlier, according to three-dimensional satellite measurements of all the world's mountain glaciers.

Scientists blame human-caused climate change.

Using 20 years of recently declassified satellite data, scientists calculated that the world's 220,000 mountain glaciers are losing more than 328 billion tons (298 billion metric tons) of ice and snow per year since 2015, according to a study in Wednesday's journal Nature. That's enough melt flowing into the world's rising oceans to put Switzerland under almost 24 feet (7.2 meters) of water each year.

The annual melt rate from 2015 to

2019 is 78 billion more tons (71 billion metric tons) a year than it was from 2000 to 2004. Global thinning rates, different than volume of water lost, doubled in the last 20 years and "that's enormous," said Romain Hugonnet, a glaciologist at ETH Zurich and the University of Toulouse in France who led the study.

Half the world's glacial loss is coming from the United States and Canada.

Alaska's melt rates are "among the highest on the planet," with the Columbia glacier retreating about 115 feet (35 meters) a year, Hugonnet said.

Almost all the world's glaciers are melting, even ones in Tibet that used to be stable, the study found. Except for a few in Iceland and Scandinavia that are fed by increased precipitation, the melt rates are accelerating around the world.

See GLACIERS | 5A



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Biden speech takeaways: Government is good, and so are jobs

By Zeke Miller and Aamer Madhani

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden is using his first address before a joint session of Congress to make the case that his administration has made progress during the first 100 days he's been in office, confronting the public health and economic maelstrom caused by coronavirus pandemic.

Biden is also using the prime-time address to make his pitch directly to Americans for his expansive — and expensive — vision to rebuild the nation's roads, bridges, water pipes and other infrastructure, bolster public education and extend other benefits for a wide swath of Americans.

Here are some key takeaways from the president's address:

BIDEN'S FOUR-LETTER WORD: JOBS

Biden uttered the word "jobs" a whopping 43 times, according to his prepared text.

It's perhaps no surprise for an administration that has made beating backing the pandemic and getting Americans back to work the central guideposts in the early going of the administration.

Biden noted that the economy has gained some 1.3 million new jobs in the first few months of his administration — more than any in the first 100 days of any presidency. But he quickly pivoted to the need to pass his American Jobs Plan if the country is going to sustain momentum and get back to the historic low levels of unemployment prior to the pandemic.

He also aimed to frame



President Joe Biden addresses a joint session of Congress, Wednesday, April 28, 2021, in the House Chamber at the U.S. Capitol in Washington.

his push for the U.S. to meet its international obligations to slow the impact of climate change as, ultimately, a jobs plan.

"For too long, we have failed to use the most important word when it comes to meeting the climate crisis," Biden said. "Jobs. Jobs. For me, when I think about climate change, I think jobs."

WHO TURNED THE TIDE?

Biden said "America's house was on fire" when he took office, citing the devastating COVID-19 pandemic, its damaging economic impacts and the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol.

"Now — after just 100 days — I can report to the nation: America is on the move again," Biden said, adding the nation is now "turning peril into possibil-

ity. Crisis into opportunity. Setback into strength."

It's a tried and true strategy by the president to take credit for the more hopeful moment, as the coronavirus vaccines have provided a path out of the pandemic.

Republicans, meanwhile, made it clear they see things differently, with Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., implicitly crediting President Donald Trump for the Biden's good fortune.

"This administration inherited a tide that had already turned," he said in prepared remarks from the official GOP response to Biden's address. "The coronavirus is on the run!"

From polling, it's clear Biden's view is winning the day — at least thus far — with more Americans approving of his job performance than ever did of

Trump, with strong marks even from Republicans for handling the pandemic.

MAKING THE CASE FOR BIG GOVERNMENT

Biden made the full-throated case for an American embrace of big government.

The president ticked off details of some of his plan for \$1.8 trillion in spending to expand preschool, create a national family and medical leave program, distribute childcare subsidies and more.

The plan comes on top of his proposal for \$2.3 trillion in spending to rebuild roads and bridges, expand broadband access and launch other infrastructure projects.

Republicans have shown little interest in Biden's spending plan. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has argued that Biden's plans are a "Trojan horse" that will lead to middle-class tax hikes.

But Biden and his aides say all of this new spending is wise investment in Americans — and doable in time of low interest rates. Much of it can be paid through raising taxes on the wealthy and would go a long way toward addressing the frailties of life for the middle class and working poor exposed by the pandemic, Biden argues.

"I'm not out to punish anyone," Biden said. "But I will not add to the tax burden of the middle class of this country."

While achieving bipartisan backing in Washington for the proposals is a long-

shot, Biden seems to be betting he can win support across the electorate.

He even made a thinly-veiled bid to blue-collar and non-college-educated white men who voted for Trump in November, noting that 90% of the infrastructure jobs that will be created by his spending plans don't require a college degree and 75% don't require an associate's degree.

"The Americans Jobs Plan is a blue-collar blueprint to build America," Biden said. "And it recognizes something I've always said: Wall Street didn't build this country. The middle class built this country. And unions built the middle class."

'REAL' RACIAL JUSTICE

A week after former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin was convicted in the killing of George Floyd, and as the nation continues to grapple with deadly interactions between Black men and police, Biden called on Congress to meet the moment.

"We have all seen the knee of injustice on the neck of Black America," Biden said, referencing Floyd's death at Chauvin's hand. "Now is our opportunity to make real progress."

Biden called on Congress to send him a police reform bill named after Floyd by the one-year anniversary of his death, May 25. But he also went further, saying he aimed to root out systemic racism in housing, education and

public health.

"We have a giant opportunity to bend the arc of the moral universe toward justice," said Biden. "Real justice."

'WE HAVE TO PROVE DEMOCRACY STILL WORKS'

Biden said that while the nation's democracy survived the deadly Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol meant to block the certification of his election, leaders in Washington must do more to boost the resilience of the nation's system of government.

Biden said the nation's adversaries "look at the images of the mob that assaulted this Capitol as proof that the sun is setting on American democracy." He said they view the U.S. as too riven by hostility to effectively govern.

"We have to prove them wrong," he said. "We have to prove democracy still works. That our government still works — and can deliver for the people."

It was a familiar refrain for Biden, who has sounded alarm about the nation's divisions for years, but the urgency spiked after Jan 6.

Still, the appeal for unity appeared unlikely to sway many minds in Congress. Republicans have already lined up in opposition to Biden's agenda and the push for a bipartisan commission to probe the insurrection has struggled to gain support.

TRUMP WHO?

The president who campaigned on a promise to substantively and stylistically move the country past Trump made no direct mention of the 45th president.

Instead, he spoke only of the "last administration," blaming Trump and his team for abandoning an effort made by his old boss — Barack Obama — to financially assist the Northern Triangle nations in central America. Migrants are now fleeing from those countries — El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras — and arriving at the U.S. border.

In some ways, the absence of talk about Trump, who still falsely claims the election was stolen from him, isn't surprising. Biden grumbled at a CNN town hall in February that he's "tired of talking about Trump" and he wants to make the next four years about the American people.

His omission made clear he's determined to move on.

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Wary Supreme Court weighs student's Snapchat profanity case

By Mark Sherman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A wary Supreme Court on Wednesday weighed whether public schools can discipline students for things they say off campus, worrying about overly restricting speech on the one hand and leaving educators powerless to deal with bullying on the other.

The justices, hearing arguments in the case of a 14-year-old high school freshman's Snapchat F-bombs, struggled to fit the need to protect students' political and religious expression with the ability of schools to get at disruptive, even potentially dangerous, speech that occurs outside the school setting.

In one of many examples members of the court offered, Justice Elena Kagan described boys who keep a sexually charged online ranking of girls based on their looks. "You can't put people in jail for commenting on people's appearance, but shouldn't a school be able to deal with it?" Kagan asked.

The court tested out possible outcomes in the case of the student's profanity-laced social media rant, which Justice Brett Kavanaugh described as her blowing off steam just like "millions of kids" do.

Kavanaugh is one of several justices who have children in high school, or recently did. The court heard just under two hours of arguments by

telephone because of the coronavirus pandemic, well beyond the allotted 60 minutes.

The current dispute stems from Tinker v. Des Moines, the Vietnam-era case of a high school in Des Moines, Iowa, that suspended students who wore armbands to protest the war. In a landmark ruling, the Supreme Court sided with the students, declaring students don't "shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate."

The court also held then that schools retained the authority to restrict speech that would disrupt the school environment.

At the center of this case is Brandi Levy of Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania.

Levy and a friend were at a convenience store when she used Snapchat to express her frustration at being kept on her high school's junior varsity cheerleading squad for another year.

"F—— school f—— softball f—— cheer f—— everything," Levy wrote, in a post that also contained a photo in which she and a classmate raised their middle fingers. A second post questioned how an incoming freshman could have made the varsity.

The posts were brought to the attention of the team's coaches, who suspended Levy from the cheerleading team for a year. Levy's parents

responded with a federal lawsuit, claiming the suspension violated their daughter's constitutional rights to free speech.

The case's potential importance grew when the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia also sided with Levy and held that schools can't impose discipline for what students say when they're off campus.

American Civil Liberties Union lawyer David Cole, representing Levy, urged the justices to affirm the clean line the appeals court drew, making clear educators have no authority over children when they are not under a school's supervision.

"Expanding Tinker would transform a limited exception into a 24/7 rule," Cole said.

But several justices said the campus border is not so clear in the age of the internet and the remote learning that has come with the pandemic.

"How does that fit with modern technology?" Chief Justice John Roberts asked.

The school district and the Biden administration both argued that the justices should reject the appellate ruling because it draws an artificial line.

Suspending Levy from cheerleading was a reasonable response because she targeted her coaches and a teammate's ability to compete, said Lisa Blatt, representing the district.

Levy is "not somebody

you'd want at the bottom of the pyramid," Blatt said, referring to a cheer-leading formation.

But if the court didn't appear ready to embrace Levy's argument, some justices also were concerned that a ruling for the district could give schools too much power to shut down speech they just don't like.

"Kids basically talk to their classmates. Most of their conversation is about school. Most of their exchanges have to do with their perceptions of the authoritarian nature of their teachers and others. And why isn't this any different than just that the coach of this team took personal offense?" Justice Sonia Sotomayor asked, noting that her law clerks told her that among teenagers "how much you curse is a badge of honor."

Kavanaugh also said the coach maybe went too far by suspending Levy.

"But, as a judge and maybe as a coach and a parent, too, it seems like maybe a bit of overreaction by the coach," Kavanaugh said.

By the end of the arguments, there was perhaps a sense among the justices that Levy's case — a teenager venting her unhappiness about an extracurricular program — may not be the best one to use to write a sweeping rule about student speech in the digital age.

A decision is expected by late June.

Glaciers

From Page 3A

The near-uniform melting "mirrors the global increase in temperature" and is from the burning of coal, oil and gas, Hugonnet said. Some smaller glaciers are disappearing entirely. Two years ago, scientists, activists and government officials in Iceland held a funeral for a small glacier.

"Ten years ago, we were saying that the glaciers are the indicator of climate change, but now actually they've become a memorial of the climate crisis," said World Glacier Monitoring Service Director Michael Zemp, who wasn't part of the study.

The study is the first to use this 3D satellite imagery to examine all of Earth's glaciers not connected to ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica. Past studies either only used a fraction of the glaciers or estimated the loss of Earth's glaciers using gravity measurements from orbit.

Those gravity readings have large margins of error and aren't as useful, Zemp said.

Ohio State University's Lonnie Thompson said the new study painted an "alarming picture."

Shrinking glaciers are a problem for millions of people who rely on seasonal glacial melt for daily water and rapid melting can cause deadly outbursts from glacial lakes in places like India, Hugonnet said.

But the largest threat is sea level rise. The world's oceans are already rising because warm water expands and because of melting ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica, but glaciers are responsible for 21% of sea level rise, more than the ice sheets, the study said. The ice sheets are larger longer term threats for sea level rise.

"It's becoming increasingly clear that sea level rise is going to be a bigger and bigger problem as we move through the 21st century," said National Snow and Ice Data Center Director Mark Serreze.

STATE BRIEFS

Complaint: School violated rules in its response to assault

CLAYTON, Mo. (AP) — The private Fontbonne University in the St. Louis suburb of Clayton is accused in a federal complaint of not doing enough to provide a safe environment in the case of a student who was sexually assaulted just a day after reporting that her dorm room had been burglarized.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports that the woman's lock was changed after she reported that she had awoken two days in a room with her door unlocked. But no report was taken, said her attorney, Laura Dunn.

Then, just days later, on Feb. 25, the woman locked her room and started recording audio as she slept while her suitemate was gone for the night, Dunn said. The recording captured the sounds of two people moving around the room, Dunn said.

"I'm devastated," the student said in the complaint. The Post-Dispatch and The Associated Press normally do not identify victims of sexual assault.

Dunn said the university had violated a federal act that requires

campus officials to "evaluate if there is a serious or ongoing threat to the campus community."

Fontbonne said in a statement that it is cooperating with a police investigation but declined to comment on the allegations. Two students are being investigated.

Police: Man fatally shot on sidewalk near downtown St. Louis

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A man was shot to death on a sidewalk near downtown St. Louis, and detectives are searching for a suspect, police said.

The shooting happened around 9:45 a.m. Tuesday near 14th Street and Chouteau Avenue, according to police. Arriving officers found Eric Rogers, 28, of South City, with several gunshot wounds on the sidewalk near several parked cars. Rogers died at the scene.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that Rogers' death marked at least 63 homicides in the city so far this year, compared with 47 homicides by the same time last year.

Feds raid Giuliani's home, office, escalating criminal probe

By Michael R. Sisak, Michael Balsamo and Eric Tucker
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Federal agents raided Rudy Giuliani's Manhattan home and office Wednesday, seizing computers and cellphones in a major escalation of the Justice Department's investigation into the business dealings of former President Donald Trump's personal lawyer.

Giuliani, the 76-year-old former New York City mayor once celebrated for his leadership after 9/11, has been under federal scrutiny for several years over his ties to Ukraine. The dual searches sent the strongest signal yet that he could eventually face federal charges.

Agents searched Giuliani's Madison Avenue apartment and Park Avenue office, people familiar with the investigation told The Associated Press. The warrants, which required approval from the top levels of the Justice Department, signify that prosecutors believe they have probable cause that Giuliani committed a federal crime — though they do not guarantee that charges will materialize.

A third search warrant was served on a phone belonging to Washington lawyer Victoria Toensing, a former federal prosecutor and close ally of Giuliani and Trump. Her law firm issued a statement saying she was informed that she is not a target of the investigation.

The full scope of the investigation is unclear, but it at least partly involves Giuliani's dealings in Ukraine, law enforcement officials have told the AP.

The people discussing the searches and Wednesday's developments could not do so publicly and spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity. News of the search was first reported by The New York Times.

In a statement issued through his lawyer, Giuliani accused federal authorities of a "corrupt double standard," invoking allegations he's pushed against prominent Democrats, and said that the Justice Department was "running rough shod over the constitutional rights of anyone involved in, or legally defending, former President Donald J. Trump."

"Mr. Giuliani respects the law, and he can demonstrate that his conduct as a lawyer and a citizen was absolutely legal and ethical," the statement said.

Giuliani's son, Andrew Giuliani, told reporters the raids were "disgusting" and "absolutely absurd."

A Justice Department spokesperson did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The U.S. Attorney's office in Manhattan and the FBI's New York office declined to comment.

The federal probe into Giuliani's Ukraine dealings stalled last year because of a dispute over investigative tactics as Trump unsuccessfully

sought a second term. Giuliani subsequently took on a leading role in disputing the election results on the Republican's behalf.

Wednesday's raids came months after Trump left office and lost his ability to pardon allies for federal crimes. The former president himself no longer enjoys the legal protections the Oval Office once provided him — though there is no indication Trump is eyed in this probe.

Trump's spokesman did not immediately respond to questions about Wednesday's events.

Many people in Trump's orbit have been ensnared in previous federal investigations, namely special counsel Robert Mueller's probe of Russian election interference. But most of those criminal cases either fizzled or fell apart. Giuliani's is different.

Giuliani was central to the then-president's efforts to dig up dirt against Democratic rival Joe Biden and to press Ukraine for an investigation into Biden and his son, Hunter — who himself now faces a criminal tax probe by the Justice Department.

Giuliani also sought to undermine former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch, who was pushed out on Trump's orders, and met several times with a Ukrainian lawmaker who released edited recordings of Biden in an effort to smear him before the election.

Giuliani's lawyer, Robert Costello, said the warrants involved an allegation that Giuliani failed to register as a foreign agent and that investigative documents mentioned John Solomon, a former columnist and frequent Fox News commentator with close ties to Giuliani, who pushed baseless or unsubstantiated allegations involving Ukraine and Biden during the 2020 election.

Phone records published by House Democrats in 2019 in the wake of Trump's first impeachment trial showed frequent contacts involving Giuliani, Solomon and Lev Parnas, a Giuliani associate who is under indictment on charges of using foreign money to make illegal campaign contributions.

Contacted Wednesday, Solomon said it was news to him that the Justice Department was interested in any communications he had with Giuliani, though he said it was not entirely surprising given the issues raised in the impeachment trial.

"He was someone that tried to pass information to me. I didn't use most of it," Solomon said of Giuliani. "If they want to look at that, there's not going to be anything surprising in it."

Everything was sitting "in plain view," Solomon said. He said he believed his reporting had "stood the test of time" and maintained that he was "unaware of a single factual error" in any of his stories.



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Scouts

From Page 1A

To help promote the Boy Scouts of America's 40th-anniversary theme of "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty," 200 small versions of the Statue of Liberty were placed in communities across the country in the early 1950s. A recent campaign has helped restore many of these long-neglected statues.

"It's just pretty exciting having the lieutenant governor here, and to be able to have him posed by a newly refurbished statue. Not too many are still around," said Harper. "The lieutenant governor is here to help us to get that story across, that organizations like the Boy Scouts of America are going to be around and he shared

his story of being a scout and how formative it was in his career. You know, we all lean on our parents and those that obviously bring us up in life, but all over young people are in great need of having a mentor, someone to look up to and in the scouting program we have that."

Kehoe noted that Sedalia and Pettis County have much in common with the scouts.

"Pettis County and Sedalia, as you heard me say, have been fantastic to my family and there are just some really good-hearted people here," said Kehoe. "The scouting program fits perfectly with the fabric of this community because it really is what Pettis County and Sedalia is all about. So, I think scouting and Sedalia go hand-in-glove."

Chris Howell can be reached at 660-530-0146.

Meth

From Page 1A

David was issued a \$75,000 cash-only bond. He was arraigned Wednesday in Pettis County Circuit Court and a hearing for attorney status has been scheduled for May 11.

Audrey was issued a \$75,000 cash-only bond. She was arraigned Wednesday in Pettis County Circuit Court and a hearing for attorney status has been scheduled for May 4.

The sheriff estimates the value of the drugs at more than \$11,000, and notes the value on meth fluctuates depending on demand adding, "there were several handguns along with it, and you know guns and drugs tend to go together, and

we were able to take some handguns and a shotgun in their possession," said Anders.

Anders said he is glad to have taken more than two pounds of drugs off the streets of Pettis County, but realizes there is much more work to be done.

"The primary focus that we wanted to address here in Pettis County was the drug addiction and drug trafficking," said Anders. "I think we have done a very good job of identifying a lot of that, so from this is just a chip off the block. There's so much more, now we're going to continue working towards getting more of that stuff off the street and out of the hands of users, and now the hands of children."

Chris Howell can be reached at 660-530-0146.

Students

From Page 1A

"The thing is with the writing, you technically have to be a good writer in English too," Kukosh said. "Because like you have to like write paragraphs, and you want them to be advanced, and not like just simple."

Lackey added, "They say listening and reading are the easiest, that's typically how it is even for English learners."

Lackey explained writing and

speaking is where students struggle, even for native speakers.

Cinta said she thinks the Seal of Biliteracy is a "really great opportunity," although she explained she struggled with the English part of the testing. Cinta added she sometimes thinks in Spanish, such as in English class, just because "it makes more sense."

"Even today... sometimes, even with only two languages, it's hard," Cinta said. "Because in the house you're speaking Spanish, like full on, and then you come here and then you have to like change. And so, sometimes, you

mess up the words because... (the words) are similar to English."

Both Kuhosh and Matsko said they also get mixed up with their languages.

Students involved in Seal of Biliteracy get college credit for receiving their Seal, according to Lackey, and it can improve their chances in the workplace.

"What I think is most important about it is that we get the word out that being bilingual and multilingual is a valuable skill and they should be proud of it," Lackey said.

Ryan Sheehan can be reached at 660-530-0144.

AP analysis: The expected COVID baby boom may be a baby bust

By Mike Stobbe

AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — When most of the U.S. went into lockdown over a year ago, some speculated that confining couples to their homes — with little to entertain them beyond Netflix — would lead to a lot of baby-making. But the statistics suggest the opposite happened.

Births have fallen dramatically in many states during the coronavirus outbreak, according to an Associated Press analysis of preliminary data from half the country.

The COVID-19 baby boom appears to be a baby bust.

Nationally, even before the epidemic, the number of babies born in the U.S. was falling, dropping by less than 1% a year over the past decade as many women postponed motherhood and had smaller families.

But data from 25 states suggests a much steeper decline in 2020 and into 2021, as the virus upended society and killed over a half-million Americans.

Births for all of 2020 were down 4.3% from 2019, the data indicates. More tellingly, births in December 2020 and in January and February 2021 — nine months or more after the spring 2020 lockdowns — were down 6.5%, 9.3% and 10% respectively, compared with the same months a year earlier.

December, January and February together had about 41,000 fewer births than the same three-month span a year earlier. That's an 8% decline.

"When there's a crisis, I don't think people are thinking about reproduction," said Dr. John Santelli, a Columbia University professor of population and family health who reviewed the AP's analysis.

The analysis included 24 states that provided data on births to residents. Joining them in the analysis was California, the most populous state, which provided data on all births that happened in the state, including among visitors.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is expected to provide a national picture later this year. But the data for the 25 states is not expected to change substantially; preliminary birth numbers usually end up being pretty close to the final counts, experts say.

The AP's findings echo projections by researchers at the Brookings Institution and elsewhere, who have predicted a sizable drop in births this year.

"The widespread consensus is there is going to be a decline," said Hans-Peter Kohler, a University of Pennsylvania researcher who focuses on fertility and health.

It didn't look that way to some around March 2020, when much of America was cooped up inside. Some figured that couples had more time together and that some men and women might find it harder to run out and get birth control, leading to at least a small uptick in births.

For Bryan and Katie Basamanowicz, it was more complicated than that.

The couple had planned to try to have a baby last summer to provide their son, Simon, with a younger sibling, but then came COVID-19 and the lockdown.

For a time "it was so intense and scary" that the couple thought they would have to put off trying to conceive, said Bryan, 39, a managing editor at a small publishing house who lives in Ventura, California.

But then a lull occurred in the early summer, as the first wave of COVID-19 illnesses waned and lockdowns were eased. The couple decided to try after all. Then cases started

surging again.

"We decided: 'Let's put this on hold,'" said Katie, a 32-year-old teacher. But it turned out to be too late: A pregnancy test came back positive in early July. "We were already pregnant," she said.

Fritz Basamanowicz was born last month, on March 6. The pregnancy was a worry-filled experience because expectant mothers run a greater risk of severe illness from the virus.

"I'm very thankful that we made it through," Katie said.

New York, the deadly epicenter of the U.S. outbreak in the spring of 2020, was not part of the analysis. Its Health Department said the figures were not available.

A majority of the babies born in 2020 were, of course, conceived in 2019, before the virus took hold in the U.S., so the numbers partly reflect the pre-existing downward trend.

But births in December 2020 declined in 23 of the 25 states from the same month a year earlier, the exceptions being Alaska and Wyoming. They dropped about 11% in Massachusetts and Virginia; 10% in California; and 7% in Florida, Illinois, Indiana and Nevada.

Declines were even more dramatic in January 2021 in many of the 25 states.

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THE WEATHER

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
71 49	75 55	80 62	79 61	74 58	72 47	68 47
Clouds giving way to some sun	Abundant sun and nice	Breezy in the morning; sunny	Increasing cloudiness	A strong t-storm in spots	A couple of showers possible	Brilliant sunshine

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SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	6:18 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:03 p.m.
Moonrise today	11:36 p.m.
Moonsset today	8:13 a.m.

WEATHER HISTORY

A late-season cold snap on April 29, 1874, brought 0.50 of an inch of snow to New York City, its latest measurable snowfall on record.

ALMANAC

Sedalia Regional Airport Tuesday

TEMPERATURES

High	81
Low	65
Normal high	69
Normal low	46
Record high	90 in 1989
Record low	32 in 1976

PRECIPITATION

Tuesday	Trace
Month to date	4.61"
Normal m-t-d	3.79"
Year to date	14.10"
Normal y-t-d	10.26"

COOLING DEGREE DAYS

Index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the average temperature was above 65 degrees for the day.

Tuesday	8
Month to date	20
Year to date	20
Normal year to date	18
Last year to date	12

RIVER LEVELS

In feet as of 7 a.m. Wednesday

Blackwater	Stage	Chg	Fld Stg
Blue Lick	9.68	-0.63	24
Valley City	5.33	-0.39	22

Lamine

Otterville	2.84	-0.47	15
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Missouri

Boonville	9.64	-0.19	21
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Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2021

BRANSON

High: 74. **Low:** 52. Cloudy today with a little rain. Partly cloudy tonight. Sunshine and pleasant tomorrow and Saturday. Sunday: an afternoon thunderstorm.

KANSAS CITY

High: 73. **Low:** 48. Sunny to partly cloudy today. Mainly clear tonight. Mostly sunny and pleasant tomorrow. Saturday and Sunday: partly sunny.

ST. LOUIS

High: 68. **Low:** 51. A passing shower in the morning; otherwise, clouds giving way to some sun today. Mostly cloudy tonight. Abundant sunshine tomorrow.

NEW YORK CITY

High: 74. **Low:** 58. Mostly cloudy today with a thunderstorm in the afternoon. A couple of showers tonight.

LOS ANGELES

High: 90. **Low:** 61. Very warm today with plenty of sunshine. Clear tonight. Mostly sunny and very warm tomorrow.

NATIONAL WEATHER

	Today	Friday	Today	Friday
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	83/67/c	77/58/c	60/47/c	53/43/pc
Baltimore	83/58/pc	69/45/pc	78/56/t	74/49/pc
Billings	74/52/pc	83/53/pc	88/73/pc	80/70/t
Boston	55/50/r	65/45/c	89/67/pc	78/52/pc
Buffalo	57/44/r	50/36/sh	71/50/pc	74/49/s
Charlotte	89/65/pc	80/52/pc	90/71/pc	90/70/s
Chicago	63/47/c	61/44/s	Phoenix	94/70/s
Cleveland	57/47/r	56/38/pc	Pittsburgh	68/46/t
Dallas	73/61/r	75/61/s	Portland, ME	51/44/r
Denver	68/47/s	78/51/s	Portland, OR	78/51/c
Detroit	56/43/sh	58/33/pc	Sacramento	88/51/s
Honolulu	83/72/pc	85/73/pc	St. Louis	68/51/pc
Houston	84/70/t	79/65/sh	San Francisco	69/51/s
Indianapolis	64/48/r	67/40/s	Seattle	73/52/c
Las Vegas	89/70/s	97/72/pc	Washington, DC	83/58/pc
Los Angeles	90/61			70/47/pc
Minneapolis	64/44			
Monterrey	89/68			
Montreal	64/49			
New York	74/58			
Oakland	83/67			
Orlando	90/71/pc	90/70/s		
Philadelphia	88/73/pc	80/70/t		
Pittsburgh	68/46/t	56/35/pc		
Portland, ME	51/44/r	59/41/r		
Portland, OR	78/51/c	65/47/c		
Sacramento	88/51/s	86/52/pc		
St. Louis	68/51/pc	74/54/s		
San Francisco	69/51/s	65/54/pc		
Seattle	73/52/c	61/48/r		
Washington, DC	83/58/pc	70/47/pc		

Weather (W): s - sunny, pc - partly cloudy, c - cloudy, sh - showers, t - thunderstorms, r - rain, sf - snow flurries, sn - snow, i - ice

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation today. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

Summary: Showers and thunderstorms with localized severe weather and flooding will continue around the rim of very warm air that is centered on the Southeast states today. The West will be dry with building heat.



PHOTO BY TONY DEJAK | AP PHOTO

Workers continue preparing the NFL Draft Theatre for the 2021 NFL Draft, Tuesday, April 27, 2021, in Cleveland.

Networks realize draft drama without frills sometimes best

By Joe Reedy

AP Sports Writer

Producer Charlie Yook and NFL Network didn't have their own draft broadcast last year, but he was able to glean a couple of things from last year's joint effort with ESPN.

The biggest is when it comes to the draft, sometimes simple works best and that it is OK to combine resources.

"I think we learned that there's no point in having three cameras in one kid's house. It's also OK to be a little more casual for lack of a better word," he said. "Shots don't have to be with all these jillion dollar cameras. It can be done with iPhones. And I think it's the last year taught if anything, it's more important to be seen and heard with family than anything else."

While 12 prospects will be in Cleveland waiting to be

selected and pose with commissioner Roger Goodell, the NFL has sent 45 camera kits to prospects homes with iPhones, lighting, a backdrop and the hats of each team.

NFL Network and ESPN will also have access to all 32 team war room cams after years of competing to see which teams they could get exclusive access.

Not having prospects on site will present their own challenges, especially if the first round goes as quick as last year. There were a couple of points last year where three selections had already been made before they were announced because players were still being interviewed.

Trevor Lawrence will not be in Cleveland, and may not be interviewed immediately after the Jacksonville Jaguars are expected to make him the top pick because the New York Jets are up next.

See NFL | 6B



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEDALIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 200

Smith-Cotton High School senior Juan Herrera has committed to run cross country and track at State Fair Community College in Sedalia. Seated with him are his parents, Jose Luis Herrera and Paula Aguilar, and sister Mariella; back, from left: S-C Principal Wade Norton and S-C Track and Field Head Coach Brad Hagedorn.

Area ROUNDUP

S-C's Herrera to run cross country at SFCC

By Democrat staff

Smith-Cotton senior Juan Herrera committed to run cross-country and track and field at State Fair Community College during a signing ceremony Wednesday in Sedalia.

Herrera lettered four times in cross-country and three times in track and field, posting personal-best times of 5 minutes in the 1,600-meter run, 11:18 in the 3,200-meter event and 18:15 in a 5,000-meter cross-country event.

S-C cross-country head coach Tara Clark said she was pleased

to see Herrera, who recovered from a knee injury as a sophomore, compete at the collegiate level.

"It makes me so happy to see that Juan will be able to continue his running career," Clark said.

State Fair approved the addition of cross-country and track and field programs and introduced S-C head coach Brad Hagedorn as head coach March 31.

Smith-Cotton 4th at CMAC Tournament

Smith-Cotton placed fourth as a team Wednesday at the inau-

gural Central Missouri Activities Conference Tournament at Jefferson City Country Club.

Tigers junior Boyd Callis led the team with an 18-hole total of 83. S-C junior Keaton Mateja and sophomore Cole Gilmore each fired 87s and sophomore Jax Boesch carded a 92 to bring the team score to 349.

Helias' Archer Schnieders (70) and Davis Linhardt (73) led the Crusaders to a first-place score of 304. Hickman (314) and Rock Bridge (314) finished second and third, respectively.

See ROUNDUP | 6B



PHOTO BY GENE J. PUSKAR | AP PHOTO

Kansas City Royals' Jorge Soler (12) scores on a two-run double by Andrew Benintendi off Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Chris Stratton during the sixth inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Wednesday, April 28, 2021.

Soler's three hits, three RBIs lead Royals over Pirates 9-6

By John Perrotto

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Jorge Soler had two doubles among his three hits and drove in three runs to lead Kansas City over the Pittsburgh Pirates 9-6 on Wednesday night and improve the Royals' record to a major league-best 15-8.

Soler's doubles sparked three-run rallies in the first and sixth innings, the latter stretching the lead to 9-5.

Kansas City won for the sixth time in seven games.

Salvador Pérez also had three of Kansas City's 12 hits. Hunter Dozier hit a two-run triple and Andrew Benintendi added a two-run double.

Erik Gonzalez and Jacob Stallings his back-to-back home runs for the Pirates, who had won three in a row.

Staked to a 6-0 lead, Kansas City starter Mike Minor lasted just 4 1/3 innings and gave up five runs -- four earned -- six hits and three walks.

Kyle Zimmer (2-0) got the last two outs of the fifth, and Josh Staumont retired four straight batters for third save.

Mitch Keller (1-3) walked five in 2 1/3 innings, allowed four runs and needed 83 pitches to get seven outs. Keller has 13 walks in 18 2/3 innings over five starts.

After Soler doubled in the game's first run, Dozier hit a two-run triple to the 410-foot

mark in left-center field.

A bases-loaded walk to Michael A. Taylor in the third inning and consecutive RBI singles by Pérez and Soler in the fourth extended the lead to 6-0.

Gonzalez hit a 453-foot shot to the bleachers in left-center. Stallings caught a break when the ball popped out of Taylor's glove when the center fielder banged into the top of the fence while trying to make a catch.

Todd Frazier's first hit with the Pirates, a two-run double in the fifth, cut the gap to 6-5. The two-time All-Star had been 0 for 14 since being called up from the alternate training site last week.

See ROYALS | 6B

Blues rally to beat Wild 4-3 on Thomas' goal with 0:23 left

By Dave Campbell

AP Sports Writer

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — Robert Thomas tracked down a skipping puck and snapped it into the top of the net with 23 seconds left, capping a three-goal third-period rally by the St. Louis Blues for a 4-3 victory over Minnesota on Wednesday night to stop the Wild's seven-game winning streak.

Mike Hoffman's second power play goal of the game, both assisted by David Peron, brought the Blues within one early in the third period. Jordan Kyrou tied the game about four minutes later.

Then came the most costly of all the defensive breakdowns by the Wild, when Jonas Brodin was caught flat-footed and beaten by some slick stick work by Thomas.

Marcus Foligno had a goal and an assist, Brodin and Joel Eriksson Ek also scored and Jordan Greenway had two assists for the Wild, who wasted a prime opportunity to creep closer to the West Division lead behind Vegas and Colorado. Both the Golden Knights and Avalanche played later Wednesday.

Cam Talbot, who stopped 28 shots for the Wild, had his five-start winning streak snapped.

Jordan Binnington made 25 saves for the Blues, who have won three straight games and are trying to fend off Arizona and San Jose for the fourth and final playoff spot in the division. Binnington is 5-1 in six career starts against the Wild, the only loss coming here in a 2-0 decision on March 25 to Talbot.

See HOCKEY | 6B



PHOTO BY CRAIG LASSIG | AP PHOTO

St. Louis Blues goalie Jordan Binnington, left, watches the puck go by for a goal on a slap shot by Minnesota Wild defenseman Jonas Brodin, as Wild center Joel Eriksson Ek (14) and Blues center Tyler Bozak (21) watch during the first period of an NHL hockey game Wednesday, April 28, 2021, in St. Paul, Minn.

Jarvis’ ironman streak could be next major NHL record broken

By Stephen Whyno
AP Hockey Writer

After Patrick Marleau passed Gordie Howe last week for the most games played in NHL history, the ironman streak of Doug Jarvis could be the next milestone to fall.

Jarvis played in a record 964 consecutive games — every game for 12 full seasons from 1975 through 1987 on three different teams while raising the Stanley Cup four times with Montreal.

Florida’s Keith Yandle, Marleau and Arizona’s Phil Kessel are all less than a full season away from passing Jarvis. Now 66 and an adviser for the Vancouver Canucks, Jarvis is rooting for his record to be broken.

“They all have a pretty good opportunity that they will bypass 964, I would think,” Jarvis said. “I’m happy for them. To be able to play in the game of hockey at the NHL level for all those years and those games and to really basically avoid injury, I think that’s tremendous.”

Yandle is the front-runner, 47 games back of Jarvis at age 34 with two seasons left on his contract. The defenseman has credited his parents for his work ethic.

“I’m lucky every day just to be playing in the NHL and calling this a job,” Yandle said in March before playing his 1,000th regular-season game. “Never really thought I’d even make it to the NHL, so it’s one of those things where I’m just



Florida Panthers defenseman Keith Yandle skates with the puck during the first period of the team’s NHL hockey game against the Carolina Hurricanes, Saturday, April 24, 2021, in Sunrise, Fla.

kind of enjoying the ride and enjoying every minute of it.”

Marleau is 62 games behind, but he turns 42 in September and would need to play another season to have a chance. Before passing Howe’s mark of 1,767 games played, Marleau said the same thing keeps him showing up to the rink: “I just love it. There’s nothing else like it.”

Kessel is 33, won the Stanley Cup twice with Pittsburgh and has a year left on his contract. He is also producing at a high level for the Coyotes, who are in playoff contention.

“I haven’t changed anything,” Kessel said recently.

“My body’s feeling better than it did last year. Whenever your body feels good, it helps a little bit.”

Jarvis is feeling good 33 years since his streak ended and he hung up his skates for good.

“I have too many colleagues that have played the game and they’re dealing with sore hips and knees and shoulders,” Jarvis said. “I’m good — really no issues. I enjoy running. I like to stay active that way. I feel very blessed.”

CANADA PLAYOFFS QUESTION

The NHL won’t have to stage its entire postseason in

a quarantined bubble like last year, but Canada’s four playoff teams face some questions. If restrictions don’t ease north of the border and travel is an issue, the league could consider something like a mini-North Division bubble or move the winner to the U.S. when the playoffs get to the final four.

“It’s going to depend on government regulations in terms of where we’re going to be able to travel our players and our teams and where we can’t,” Commissioner Gary Bettman said Tuesday. “If we can’t travel in Canada, either as among the provinces or from the U.S. to Canada and back,

we’ll make whatever adjustments we have to do to get the playoffs completed. It’s wildly unpredictable.”

TV DOLLARS AND CAP
NHL teams will recoup some pandemic revenue losses with Seattle’s \$650 million expansion fee and the money from new U.S. media rights deals with ESPN and Turner Sports. Bettman expects that windfall to help the salary cap increase “sooner than it otherwise would have” but remain at \$81.5 million for probably the next couple of seasons.

“We have a fairly large escrow to be made up, and until we do, the cap is basically flat,” Bettman said. “The increase in value obviously is going to shorten the timeframe that perhaps many had projected when we did the return to play for last season and extended the collective bargaining agreement.”

GAME OF THE WEEK
Sidney Crosby and the Pittsburgh Penguins visit the Washington Capitals on Thursday and Saturday in a potential East Division playoff preview.

LEADERS
Goals: Auston Matthews (Toronto), 34; Assists: Connor McDavid (Edmonton), 53; Points: McDavid, 81; Ice time: Drew Doughty (Los Angeles), 26:47; Wins: Andrei Vasilevskiy (Tampa Bay), 29; Goals-against average: Jeremy Swayman (Boston), 1.57; Save percentage: Swayman, .946.

AP Sports Writer Josh Dubow contributed to this report.

SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday

ON TAP

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

4 p.m. Sacred Heart at Lincoln (at Kaysinger Conference Tournament at Centennial Field in Sedalia)

6:30 p.m. Tipton at Windsor (at Kaysinger Conference Tournament at Liberty Park Stadium in Sedalia)

Cole Camp at Northwest (at Kaysinger Conference Tournament at Centennial Field in Sedalia)

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

5 p.m. Sacred Heart at Bunceton

Otterville at Stover

Windsor at Adrian

Northwest at Green Ridge

Skyline at Tipton

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS GOLF

4 p.m. Lincoln, Cole Camp at Sacred Heart

Green Ridge at Knob Noster

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD

4 p.m. Stover, Cole Camp at Osage

COLLEGE BASEBALL

1 p.m. North Central Missouri College at State Fair Community College

COLLEGE

SOFTBALL

2 p.m. St. Louis Community College at State Fair Community College

4 p.m. St. Louis Community College at State Fair Community College

ON AIR

AUTO RACING

7 p.m. FS2 — NHRA: The Sportsman Series, Las Vegas (taped)

5:25 a.m. (Friday)
ESPNU — Formula One: Practice, Algarve International Circuit, Portimão, Portugal

COLLEGE BASEBALL

6 p.m. SECN — Auburn at Georgia

6:30 p.m. ESPNU — Kentucky at Tennessee

COLLEGE BEACH VOLLEYBALL (WOMEN’S)

10 a.m. PAC-12N — Pac-12 Tournament: Utah vs. Oregon, Play-In Game, Los Angeles

11:45 a.m. PAC-12N — Pac-12 Tournament: Washington vs. UCLA, First Round, Los Angeles

1:30 p.m. PAC-12N — Pac-12 Tournament: Arizona St. vs. Arizona, First Round, Los Angeles

3:45 p.m. PAC-12N — Pac-12 Tournament: California vs. Stanford,

First Round, Los Angeles

5 p.m. PAC-12N — Pac-12 Tournament: TBD vs. Southern Cal, First Round, Los Angeles

6:45 p.m. PAC-12N — Pac-12 Tournament: TBD, Contenders Bracket First Round, Los Angeles

COLLEGE LACROSSE (MEN’S)

5:30 p.m. CBSSN — Georgetown at Loyola (Md.)

COLLEGE LACROSSE (WOMEN’S)

1 p.m. BTN — Big Ten Tournament: Ohio St. vs. Rutgers, Quarterfinal, University Park, Pa.

4 p.m. BTN — Big Ten Tournament: Michigan vs. Maryland, Quarterfinal, University Park, Pa.

7 p.m. BTN — Big Ten Tournament: Penn St. vs. Johns Hopkins, Quarterfinal, University Park, Pa.

GOLF

8 a.m. GOLF — EPGA Tour: The Tenerife Open, First Round, Golf Costa Adeje, Tenerife, Spain

1 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour: The Valspar Championship, First Round, Copperhead Course, Tampa, Fla.

9:30 p.m. GOLF —

LPGA Tour: The HSBC Women’s World Championship, Second Round, Sentosa Golf Club - Tanjong Course, Singapore

HORSE RACING

11:30 a.m. FS2 — America’s Day at The Races

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

8 p.m. ESPN2 — PFL 2: Rory MacDonald vs. Curtis Millender (Welterweights), Atlantic City, N.J.

MLB BASEBALL

Noon MLBN — Philadelphia at St. Louis OR NY Yankees at Baltimore

12:15 p.m. BS-M — Philadelphia at St. Louis
3 p.m. MLBN — Seattle at Houston (joined in progress)

6 p.m. MLBN — Chicago Cubs at Atlanta OR LA Dodgers at Milwaukee (6:30 p.m.)

10:30 p.m. MLBN — Colorado at Arizona (joined in progress)

NBA BASKETBALL

6 p.m. NBATV — Brooklyn at Indiana

NFL FOOTBALL

7 p.m. ABC — NFL Draft: Round 1, Cleveland

ESPN — NFL Draft:

Round 1, Cleveland

NFLN — NFL Draft: Round 1, Cleveland

NHL HOCKEY

7 p.m. NBCSN — Florida at Chicago

8 p.m. NBCSN — Calgary at Edmonton (joined in progress)

RUGBY

4:30 a.m. FS2 — NRL: South Sydney at Canberra

3 a.m. (Friday)

FS2 — NRL: Cronulla-Sutherland at Melbourne

SOCCER (MEN’S)

8 p.m. CBSSN — UEFA Europa League: TBA, Semifinals Leg 1 (taped)

10 p.m. CBSSN — UEFA Europa League: TBA, Semifinals Leg 1 (taped)

TENNIS

4 a.m. TENNIS — Madrid-WTA, Munich-ATP, Estoril-ATP, Early Rounds

5 a.m. TENNIS — Madrid-WTA, Munich-ATP, Estoril-ATP, Early Rounds

4 a.m. (Friday)

TENNIS — Munich-ATP & Estoril-ATP Quarterfinals, Madrid-WTA: Early Rounds

5 a.m. (Friday)

TENNIS — Munich-ATP & Estoril-ATP Quarterfinals, Madrid-WTA: Early Rounds

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Kim Horstman, Agent

HOROSCOPES

By Jacqueline Bigar

A baby born today has a Sun in Taurus and a Moon in Sagittarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, April 29, 2021:

Steady, confident and helpful, you've come to realize that making positive changes will open doors. This year, you need to protect yourself from self-doubt and excess humility. A deeper involvement in your community will lift your spirits. If single, an exotic type will catch your eye and win your heart. If attached, make sure you and your partner are on the same page. LEO shows you how to have fun.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:
5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Teach a colleague something that gives you both a sense of mastery. Sharing what you know with someone you respect makes you more confident in your abilities. You'll feel deeply satisfied after an intellectual conversation. Tonight: Imagine your fantasy vacation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Dig deeper into a conversation, and you'll get past the superficial level in your relationship. Ask questions that show your need to understand. Friends and lovers appreciate feeling as though you really want to hear them. Tonight: Practice an instrument.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Make a fun experience much more memorable by sharing it with your life partner or your best friend. Try to stay focused on being in the moment with just that one other person. Avoid distractions. Tonight: Share a deep secret.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Dig into physical exercise that makes you feel awake and alive. Eating right helps you keep your body running at its best. Treat yourself to healthy habits that improve every facet of your life. Tonight: Crossword puzzle or word game.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Don't even try to contain your high spirits today. Plans for a future party or even a delicious date will fuel your cheerful, generous attitude. Don't push a friend into a social circle. Tonight: Make your own fun at home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Home and family attract your attention now. Call a lonely relative or friend. Your voice will make them light up. Buy a colorful pillow or throw rug to bring warm weather joy into your home. Tonight: Get cozy on the couch.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Keep an eye on your email and news feeds. A message or story that touches your heart will make your day. Get in touch with old neighbors and find out how they're doing. You'll make them smile. Tonight: Gathering after dinner.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Buy an item you've been ogling for some time. Quality means more to you than anything, so don't settle for less than the top of the line. Someone who loves you might offer a gift of appreciation. Tonight: Quiet moments.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ A needy friend could reach out for help. Avoid getting dragged into someone else's drama since it is not the first time. Focus on what you want and treat yourself to it. Make today all about you. Tonight: Get a massage.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Retreat from a social obligation that just seems like too much noise. You'll get much more out of alone time. Meditate and relax. When you rest your mind, inspiring ideas bubble up. Take good notes. Tonight: Listen to soft music.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Seek out friends who share your passions. Whether it's just for fun or in support of a meaningful purpose, gathering with a group makes it even better. Be ready for a lucky break. Tonight: Watch a comedy special.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ It's time for your moment in the spotlight. Humble to a fault, you don't always like to take credit for your good deeds. This time it's different. Let influential individuals see what you can do. Tonight: Update your professional profile.

BORN TODAY

Comedian Jerry Seinfeld (1954), actress Uma Thurman (1970), football player Jay Cutler (1983)



PHOTO BY SAM HODDE | AP PHOTO

In this Saturday, Jan. 11, 2020, file photo, North Dakota State quarterback Trey Lance (5) winds up to throw during the first half of the FCS championship NCAA college football game against James Madison in Frisco, Texas.

NFL draft could see record run of quarterbacks taken

By Josh Dubow

AP Pro Football Writer

As soon as the San Francisco 49ers traded three first round picks to move up to No. 3 overall, it became clear that quarterbacks would come off the board at a record pace at the NFL draft.

While QBs are widely expected to go 1-2-3 for just the third time in the common draft era that started in 1967, there are still questions about how many others will follow in the top 10 and first round.

Trevor Lawrence and Zach Wilson are expected to be the top two picks, to Jacksonville and the New York Jets, with the Niners likely choosing among Mac Jones, Trey Lance and Justin Fields at No. 3.

That would match 1971 (Jim Plunkett, Archie Manning, Dan Pastorini) and 1999 (Tim Couch, Donovan McNabb, Akili Smith) as the only drafts with quarterbacks taken with the top three picks.

A record could be set with four QBs going in the top four if Atlanta drafts the successor to Matt Ryan or trades down to a quarterback-needy team.

If Fields, Jones and Lance all get taken in the top 10, that would also be a first, beating the four top-10 QBs taken in the 2018 draft when Baker Mayfield, Sam Darnold, Josh Allen and Josh Rosen all went off the board quickly.

All five of those QBs are almost assuredly first-round picks, something that also happened in 1999 when the five came off in the top 12, and in 2018 when Lamar Jackson was picked 32nd to join the four top-10 QBs.

If somehow, Kyle Trask, Kellen Mond or Davis Mills go off the board late in the first round, the 2021 draft could match the 1983

class with six first-round QBs.

That class that featured Hall of Famers John Elway, Jim Kelly and Dan Marino, along with Todd Blackledge, Tony Eason and Ken O'Brien, is widely considered the best ever for quarterbacks.

TOP PICKS

With Lawrence set to be the 26th quarterback to be picked first overall since the merger, quarterbacks will account for exactly half of the top picks since 1970.

This will be the sixth time in the past seven years that a QB went first overall, with Cleveland defensive end Myles Garrett the only other player to break through in 2017.

It wasn't always this way, with a stretch from 1994-97 when the top picks were defensive tackle Dan Wilkinson, running back Ki-Jana Carter, receiver Keyshawn Johnson and tackle Orlando Pace.

There was even an 11-year stretch from 1976-86 when Elway was the only QB to go first overall.

The most popular position besides quarterback to go first overall since the merger is defensive ends with 11, followed by running backs (six), offensive linemen (3), receivers (2), linebackers (2) and defensive tackles (two). There has never been a tight end or defensive back drafted first.

WAITING FOR D

With most of the teams at the top of the draft appearing to be targeting quarterbacks and other offensive players, this could be the longest wait ever for a defensive player to come off the board.

The latest the first defensive player has gone in the common draft era beginning in 1967 was seventh overall in 1999, when Hall of Famer Champ Bailey was taken by Washington.

As recently as 2019, four of the

first five players drafted came on the defensive side, with Nick Bosa, Quinnen Williams, Clelin Ferrell and Devin White following top pick Kyler Murray that year.

This could also mark the first time since 2012 that a defensive lineman didn't get picked in the top 10. Dontari Poe was the first one off the board that year at No. 11 to Kansas City.

RARE TERRITORY

Florida tight end Kyle Pitts could make some draft history this week. If Atlanta picks Pitts at No. 4 overall, he will be highest drafted tight end in the common draft era.

The only time a tight end was picked in the top five came in 1972, when Denver took Riley Odoms fifth overall. Odoms was a two-time All-Pro and four-time Pro Bowler with 396 catches in 12 seasons.

Just 15 tight ends in all have gone in the top 10 in the draft since 1967, with the players doing it in the past 25 drafts being T.J. Hockenson (eighth to Detroit in 2019), Eric Ebron (10th to Detroit in 2014), Vernon Davis (sixth to San Francisco in 2006), Kellen Winslow Jr. (sixth to Cleveland in 2004) and Ricky Dudley (ninth to the Raiders in 1996).

DOUBLE TROUBLE

Alabama is set to have a pair of receivers picked in the first round for the second straight year, with DeVonta Smith and Jaylen Waddle set to follow 2020 first-rounders Henry Ruggs III and Jerry Jeudy.

The only other colleges to have a pair of receivers picked in the first round in the common draft era are 2007 LSU (Dwayne Bowe and Craig Davis), 2007 Ohio State (Ted Ginn Jr. and Anthony Gonzalez), 2001 Miami (Santana Moss and Reggie Wayne) and 1997 Florida (Ike Hilliard and Reidel Anthony).

AP Source: WR Antonio Brown returning to Bucs on 1-year deal

By Fred Goodall

AP Sports Writer

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Receiver Antonio Brown has agreed to return to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on a one-year contract that could be worth up to \$6.5 million, including incentives, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on the condition of anonymity Wednesday because the agreement, which includes a \$2 million signing bonus and a little more than \$3 million guaranteed, had not been announced by the reigning Super Bowl champions.

NFL Network was first to report the deal.

The Bucs were already

assured of returning all 22 starters from their 31-9 victory over the Kansas City Chiefs in the NFL title game in February. Bringing back Brown ensures Tom Brady will pursue an eighth Super Bowl ring with the entire "band" of offensive playmakers assembled around the 43-year-old quarterback last season.

General manager Jason Licht made good on a promise to keep the team together by placing the franchise tag on receiver Chris Godwin, signing linebackers Shaquil Barrett and Lavonte David to multi-year contracts, and bringing back tight end Rob Gronkowski, running back Leonard Fournette and defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh

on one-year deals.

Brady and left tackle Donovan Smith contributed to the effort by signing salary-cap-friendly contract extensions that freed money to help Licht get it done.

The agreement with Brown comes after the receiver, who joined the Bucs midway through last season after serving an eight-game suspension for violating the NFL's personal conduct policy, settled a civil lawsuit filed against Brown by a former trainer.

Licht was asked last week if Brown resolving the civil dispute would improve the chances of the 32-year-old receiver coming back.

"We've had discussions through the offseason,

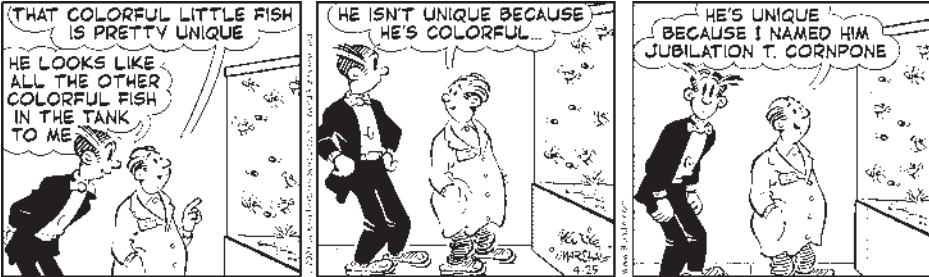
and as you can tell we've put an emphasis on bringing back players from last year that contributed to our success, and he would be no different," the GM said. "We'll continue to have talks and see where it goes."

A four-time All-Pro, Brown had 45 receptions for 483 yards and four touchdowns in eight regular-season games in 2020. He caught a TD pass in the Super Bowl, capping a postseason in which he had eight catches for 81 yards and two TDs.

In 139 regular-season games over 11 seasons with Pittsburgh, New England and Tampa Bay, Brown has amassed 886 career receptions for 11,746 yards and 79 TDs.

BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



BEETLE BAILEY

BY MORT, GREG AND BRIAN WALKER



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

BY CHRIS BROWNE



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



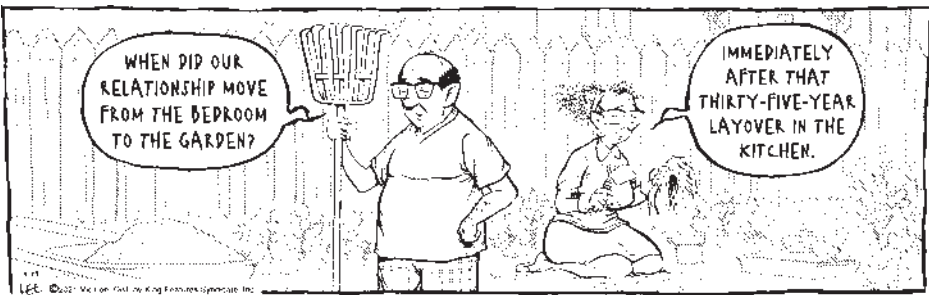
HI AND LOIS

WRITTEN BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER; DRAWN BY CHANCE BROWNE



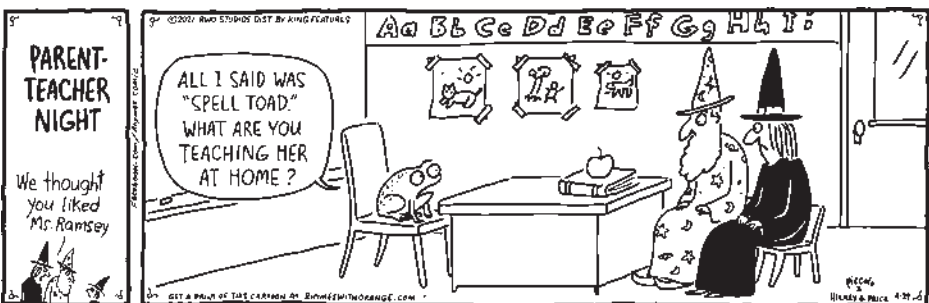
PARDON MY PLANET

BY VIC LEE



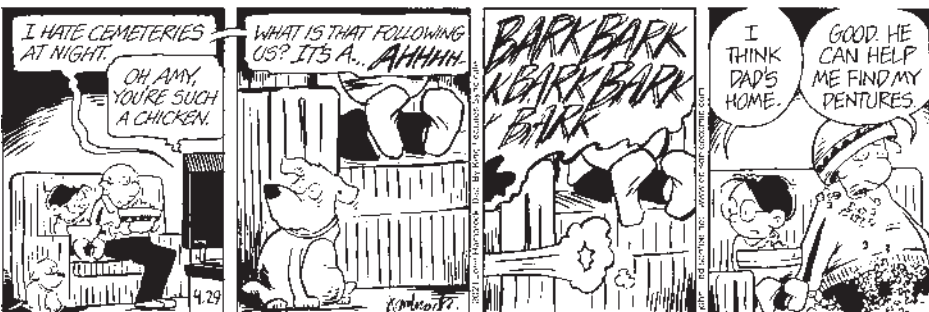
RHYMES WITH ORANGE

BY HILARY PRICE



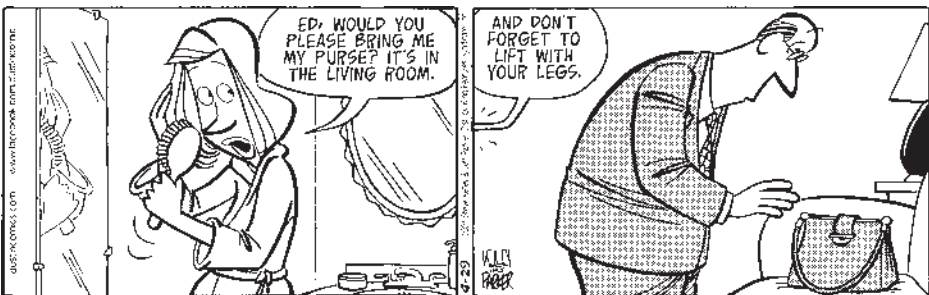
THE BRILLIANT MIND OF EDISON LEE

BY JOHN HAMBROCK



DUSTIN

BY STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 California wine valley
- 5 Dance studio features
- 11 Oodles
- 12 "Anchors —"
- 13 Sister of Amy, Jo, and Meg
- 14 Chiding words to Fido
- 15 Crafty people
- 17 Early hour
- 18 Liner parts
- 22 Dropped-tomato sound
- 24 Spa room
- 25 Silent approval
- 26 Chapel sight
- 27 Manual readers
- 30 Aspirin targets
- 32 Floppy top
- 33 Summer sign
- 34 Silver-backs, e.g.
- 38 Eyetooth
- 41 Goofing off
- 42 Shrewd-ness

43 High

home

44 Loathe

Aphrodite's son

DOWN

1 Arrests

Baldwin of "30 Rock"

3 Cook's protector

Wise goddess

Paul Bunyan's ox

Tony and Oscar

View from Jiddah

Vault part

Swelled head

10 Retiring

Got together

Spot for a driver's drink

Pants part

Shop tools

Rebuff

Do some modeling

Ruling group

29 Go pieces

Ring great

Singer Dion

Tenant's fee

To boot

Match parts

Scoundrel

Casino card

Bolt's partner

B	A	J	A		S	P	L	A	S	H
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C	A	L	F						O	A
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Yesterday's answer

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4-29

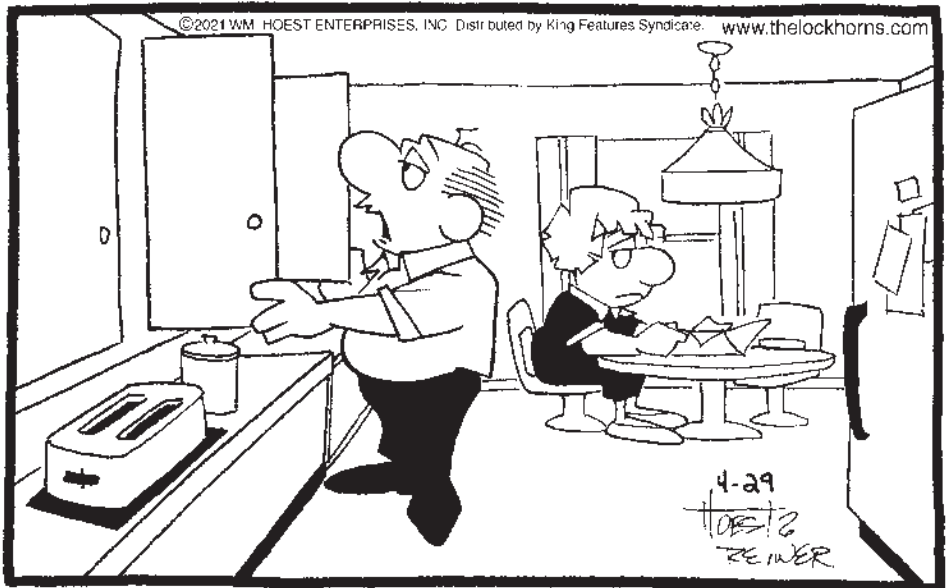
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT & RICK KIRKMAN



THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST & JOHN REINER



SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★

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Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

4-29

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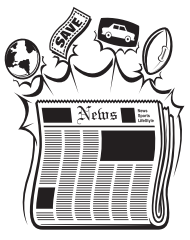
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Pettis County

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multi-family, lots of stuff, 2015 Dodge Charger, loaded, excellent condition. Set of 4 like new polished Fuel wheels, 33x12.50R22LT

4 Family Garage Sale 3232 Buckingham Dr Thursday 9-2 Friday 8-3

Kids and adult clothes, shoes, toys, books, lamps, table saw, dishes, decorations, luggage, lots of miscellaneous.

****CAMBRIDGE VILLAGE** NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE 2 DAYS FRI 4/30 & SAT 5/1 8am 32nd St & Buckingham Dr 32nd St & Cunningham Dr.**

GARAGE SALE 1207 E 22ND S ON ENGINEER TO 22ND FRI & SAT 8:00 TO 4:00

Men's, western hats, shirts, jeans, lots of brand new shoes and clothes, infant to 2x clothes, purses, large lot of tools, sander & saw on stand, curtains, sheets, desk, small furniture & lots of miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE 1745 CYPRESS (WALNUT HILLS) SAT ONLY MAY 1ST 7:30AM-1PM

lot's of nice kids clothes and kids toys, DVD's, home decor, lot's of miscellaneous.

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Pettis County

Garage Sale 2 locations 30640 Lee Rd Sat, May 1st Only

Multiple family's .worth the drive!! Adult and junior name brand clothing, girls 4-7-8. Antique furniture and decor, flexsteel reclining couch and chairs . Complete compound bow set, tiller, barn wood chairs ,misc

Garage Sale 3216 Cunningham Ct. April 30-May 1 8:00 a.m.-noon

Coleman 4 person tent Baby Trend double jogging stroller Two 16 inch girls bikes/training wheels Stereo speakers Dresser/mirror and matching desk/chair Double vanity size wall mirror Toys, Books, Games, Puzzles, Pictures Bedding and pillows, lamp Desk Chair, Grandfather clock, 8 x 6 oriental rug

Garage Sale 3540 Ashland Ln Covered Bridge Estates Last street in neighborhood Friday Only 7-3

Lots of Everything!

Huge Multi-family Yard Sale 3961 Suburban Ln Fri & Sat 7AM-?

Baby girl clothes, toys, ping pong table, high chairs, plants, small trailer, makeup, bath-room vanity, compound miter saw, armoire, bed, charcoal grills, camping items, duck decoys, tools, tool carriers, household appliances, window AC unit, Blu Ray player, Chromecast, Firestick, wireless routers, table/chairs, desk, adult clothes XS-XXL, home decor, kitchen items, canning jars, books, treadmill, wooden rocking chair, entertainment centers, couch/recliner combo, deer antlers, many misc. items

Multi Family Garage Sale 1115 S Emmet Fri & Sat 8-4

Downsizing. Too much to list!

Rummage Sale 38345 Hoffman Rd Ionia, MO April 30th 9-6PM

Old school desk, old wardrobe, some antiques, lady's clothes size 3x and 4x, fence post & panels + more, Old spool bed, old steamer trunk, 1999 van- as is. May have something you cant live without!

Slater City Wide Garage Sales May, 1st 2021

YARD SALE 1011 S MONROE AVE FRI ONLY 8:00-?

Kitchen table and chairs, flat screen TV with DVD player, wreaths and some floral and much miscellaneous.

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Legal Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI In Re the Marriage of: JENNIFER LEANN RICHARDSON, Petitioner, vs. ESTELA ERLINDA ULIBARRI-RICHARDSON, Respondent.

Case No.:21PT-DR00248 **NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

The State of Missouri to Respondent, ESTELA ERLINDA ULIBARRI-RICHARDSON. You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court for the County of Pettis, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is for Dissolution or Marriage affecting the following property: 2012 Ford Focus.

The names of all parties to said action are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the attorney for Petitioner is *Kimberly L. Tanner, 110 East 5th Street, Sedalia, Missouri, 65301.*

You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within forty-five (45) days after the 15th day of April, 2021, judgment by default will be rendered against you.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 12th day of April, 2021.

Susan Sadler, Clerk By: /s/Cindi Ross, Deputy Clerk 4x-4/15, 22, 29, 5/6, 2021

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI TIFFANY N. MULLINS, Individually, and as Next Friend for I. E. R. and W. E. N. R., minors, Petitioners, v. BRIAN E. RICHARDS, Respondent.

Case No. 21PT-DR00244 **REQUEST FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

State of Missouri to: BRIAN E. RICHARDS

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that there has been filed in the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri, a Petition for Custody, Visitation and Support, the object and general nature of which is an action for sole legal and sole physical custody and consolidation of a current order of child support issued in an action titled *Tiffany Nichole Mullins v. Brian Edward Richards*, bearing Saline County, Missouri Case No. 08SA-MC00076-01. The name and address of Petitioner is:

Tiffany N. Mullins, 1405 S. Mildred Ave., Sedalia, MO 65301.

The name and address of the attorney for Petitioner is:

Tina M. Luper, Law Office of Tina M. Luper, LLC, 200 West Fourth Street, Sedalia, MO 65301.

You are further notified that unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within forty-five (45) days after April 15, 2021, the date of the first publication of this notice,



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Legal Notice

the Court may proceed upon the petition without notice to you and judgment by default may be rendered against you granting the Petitioner sole legal and sole physical custody of the above-named minor children and consolidating the cause of action bearing Saline County, Missouri Case No. 08SA-MC00076-01 with this case. Witness my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 12th day of April, 2021.

Susan Sadler, Clerk By: /s/Cindi Ross, Deputy Clerk 4x-4/15, 22, 29, 5/6, 2021

THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI PROBATE DIVISION

In The Estate of CAROL EILEEN MCFEETERS, Deceased Estate No. 21PT-PR000006 **SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING** TO: Faith Marie Smith 5043 Gray Fox Drive Florence, Missouri 65329 Steven Laurence Smith 10592 Hwy 78 Melba, ID 83641 Kimberley Elizabeth Smith 132 Monarch Road Madera, CA 93638

AND TO ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CLAIM ANY INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY OF Carol Eileen McFeeters, Deceased, as an heir of said decedent or through any heir of said decedent.

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in the above court by Faith Marie Smith, 5043 Gray Fox Drive, Florence, Missouri 65329, for the determination of the heirs of Carol Eileen McFeeters, deceased, and of their respective interests as such heirs in and with respect to the property owned by the decedent at the date of death, to-wit: 2505 Plaza Avenue, Sedalia, MO 65301 10,700.00 US Bank Account

Legal Notice

1 523 1604 5848, as of 12/20/2019 19,414.40 1999 Chrysler Van, VIN # 1,500.00 Household furnishings 1,000.00

You are hereby required to appear in answer to said petition on or before the 18th day of May, 2021, at 3:00 o'clock p.m., of said day in said court in Sedalia, Pettis County, Missouri, at which time and place said petition will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree may be entered in due course upon said petition.

Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk By: /s/Darla Ebeling, Deputy Clerk

James P. Buckley #40228 Buckley & Buckley 121 East Fourth Street P.O. Box 348 Sedalia, Missouri 65302-0348 Attorney for Petitioner 4x-4/15, 22, 29, 5/6, 2021

To Whom it May Concern: Notice is hereby given that by an order of the Circuit Court of the County of Pettis, Missouri, Division 4 Case No. 21PT-DR00173 Made entered April 13, 2021, the name of ALEXANDRO JIMENEZ was changed to MARCO ALFREDO CAESAR. 3x-4/15, 22, 29, 2021

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Roundup

From Page 1B

Tigers win S-C Invitational

Smith-Cotton boy’s track and field collected 226 points to win the S-C Tiger Invitational on Tuesday at Tiger Stadium in Sedalia.

Lady Tigers freshman Paris Wilson won the 800-meter run in 2:39.83, followed by junior Leia Goodwin in 2:45.80.

S-C junior Jesfina Reyes captured the 3,200-meter run in 14:31.69.

Smith-Cotton junior Jaren Washington won the 100-meter dash in 11.13.

Tigers senior Lane King captured the 800 in 2:13.41 and the 1,600-meter run in 5:02.82.

S-C senior Juan Herrera won the 3,200-meter run in 11:05.7, followed by sophomore Darren Sanchez followed with a time of 11:13.24.

Tigers sophomore Kaiden Smith was the winner in the 110-meter hurdles (18.65) and 300 hurdles (44.65).

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Tipton 3, Northwest 0

Cardinals senior Conner Wolf pitched a no-hitter to help advance Tipton to the conference championship Tuesday during a 3-0 victory over Northwest at the Kaysinger Conference Baseball Tournament in Cole Camp.

Wolf struck out 17 batters and issued one walk during the no-hit performance.

Tipton senior Blake Arnel drew a bases-loaded walk in the first inning and senior Hayden Embry scored on a passed ball in the second inning to give the Cards an early lead. Embry added an insurance run with an RBI single in the fifth.

Northwest’s pitching staff surrendered three hits, but issued 12 walks and committed three errors.

Tipton (10-5) challenges top-seeded Windsor 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Liberty Park Stadium in Sedalia.

Northwest (11-2) plays Cole Camp for third 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Centennial Park in Sedalia.

Windsor 4, Cole Camp 0

The Greyhounds rallied in the sixth inning Tuesday to beat Cole Camp in the Kaysinger Conference Baseball Tournament, reserving a spot in the conference championship with a 4-0 final Tuesday in Cole Camp.

Windsor seniors Nick Bowers, Jacob Berube and junior Dylan Witherspoon drove in runs during a four-run frame.

Dylan and Dalton Witherspoon combined to throw a two-hit shutout, with the former striking out seven in four innings.

Cole Camp freshman Gentry Dieckman scattered eight hits across 5 2/3 innings.

The Bluebirds (5-7) plays Northwest in the third-place game 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Centennial Park in Sedalia.

Windsor (15-1) goes for the tournament championship 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Liberty Park Stadium in Sedalia.

NFL

From Page 1B

“It is hard to interview someone who just got selected if they’re not there because this thing continues to move and the narrative shifts. If they’re not readily available to go, you probably won’t see a lot of those interviews,” Yook said.

“But that’s the body of this event. It just keeps going forward.”

NFL Network, ESPN and ABC will air coverage all three days. ABC will have its own unique broadcast the first two days before having the ESPN simulcast on Saturday.

DIFFERENT, YET THE SAME

NFL Network will have reporters at 11 team complexes, but ESPN will continue to have its reporters operate remotely.

Seth Markman, ESPN’s VP of Production, said the decision was mainly for health and safety concerns.

“I think we could have done that, but it’s something that we just looked at that wasn’t a must do for this year,” he said.

“We feel like our reporters are good enough at this point to be able to report on multiple teams from home. I know people like to be face to face, but that’s not really going to happen these days. So I think sending a reporter to a team facility would be more about style over substance anyway.”

Yook said it was important for NFL Network to have reporters there while observing all health and safety protocols.

NFL Network will debut new graphics along with having a higher level of high-lighting players along with one-on-one matchups.

SPOTLIGHT ON CLEVELAND

The night of the first round for many years was a rare chance Browns fans got to be in the spotlight, but after an 11-5 season and a play-off win for the first time since 1994, NFL Network host Rich Eisen is eager to see

how Cleveland will respond to this year’s festivities.

“I don’t recall ever being to an NFL draft where the Browns being put on the clock was met with anything but sarcastic derision by anyone in the stands,” he said.

“I expect there to be a huge moment when they’re on the clock and when the Steelers, Ravens and Bengals are on the clock.

“When we go to cities for the draft, it is different vibes because they have different regional interests. I love it. I absolutely love it.”

RUN RICH RUN

Eisen’s annual “Run Rich Run” fundraiser to support St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital will air on Saturday.

Eisen usually does his 40-yard dash in Indianapolis during the NFL combine, but the event wasn’t held this year.

Instead, Eisen did his run at SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles on April 17. It will also feature Jerry Rice, Ray Lewis, Cris Carter, Rod Woodson, Terrell Davis, Michael Vick, Torry Holt and Eric Metcalf.

With the Draft-A-Thon continuing for the second straight year, Eisen would like to see raising funds for charities made a permanent part of the draft.

GREENBERG’S DEBUT

Mike Greenberg becomes only the fifth host in ESPN’s 42 years of doing the draft. He will host the first two days on ESPN with Rece Davis handling the final day.

Greenberg said discussions started in January after he mentioned to ESPN president Jimmy Pitaro a couple of years ago that he would like to be a part of more live sports coverage.

Despite the ebbs and flows of the draft, Greenberg thinks he is ready for the assignment. He also doesn’t see it as long days on set after being accustomed to 4 to 5 hours of doing live television and radio a day.

“I know that this is a totally different animal, and a lot of things will be coming at me fast and furious. But at the end of the day, we’re there to present these incredibly important events that fans are interested in,” he said.



PHOTO BY REED HOFFMANN | AP PHOTO

In this Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020, file photo, Carolina Panthers quarterback Teddy Bridgewater (5) looks to throw against the Kansas City Chiefs during the second half of an NFL football game in Kansas City.

Panthers trading Teddy Bridgewater to Broncos

By Arnie Stapleton
AP Pro Football Writer

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (AP) — Drew Lock didn’t have to wait around for the NFL draft to get the serious competition for his starting job that new general manager George Paton has been promising for months.

Paton traded a sixth-round pick in this weekend’s draft to the Carolina Panthers in exchange for veteran QB Teddy Bridgewater on Wednesday.

“Acquiring Teddy Bridgewater adds competition, experience and a strong veteran presence to our quarterback room,” Paton said. “He’s a talented player and leader who’s had success in this league in a number of different situations. Being familiar with Teddy from Minnesota, he’s going to compete and do everything he can to help us win.”

Paton might not be done, either.

The Broncos own the ninth overall selection Thursday night and have had their eyes on several of the quarterback prospects rated a notch or two below Clemson’s Trevor Lawrence and BYU’s Zach Wilson, who are expected to go 1-2 to the Jaguars and Jets, respectively.

“We’re really high on Drew,” Paton said at his pre-draft news conference last week. “I like seeing Drew here every morning when I come in. He’s working hard and trending in the right

direction. As you know, he has a lot of talent. I think he’s becoming a better pro, but we’re still going to look at the quarterback position. I’ve said since I’ve gotten here that we want to bring in competition. That’s the goal, and we plan on doing that.”

Bridgewater became available when the Panthers traded for former Jets QB Sam Darnold three weeks ago.

Bridgewater went 4-11 as the Panthers’ starter last year and struggled to win close games down the stretch. He completed 69.1% of his passes, throwing 15 touchdown passes and 11 interceptions.

Those numbers are better than Lock’s.

The third-year pro from Missouri tied for the league lead with 15 interceptions in 13 starts and his passer rating ranked 32nd in the NFL last season. He was 4-9 overall with 16 touchdown throws and is 8-10 in two years as Denver’s starter.

After missing most of his rookie season with a thumb injury on his throwing hand, Lock missed 2 1-2 games with a rotator cuff injury to his throwing shoulder and another for COVID-19 tracing in 2020.

Bridgewater has a 26-23 career record as a starter over his six seasons in Minnesota, New Orleans and Carolina.

The Broncos have struggled for years to find a suitable replacement for Peyton Man-

ning, who retired a month after Denver’s 24-10 win over Carolina in Super Bowl 50 and is headed to the Pro Football Hall of Fame this summer.

Manning’s induction in Canton, Ohio, further highlights the franchise’s serpentine search for a competent successor.

The Broncos are the first team in NFL history to go five years without a playoff appearance following a championship parade, and they’ve had four consecutive losing seasons for the first time since ending a decade-long stretch of sub-.500 records in 1973.

Among the washouts were first-round bust Paxton Lynch, the worst pick in former GM John Elway’s tenure, trade dud Joe Flacco, and free agent flop Case Keenum.

It was widely believed Bridgewater wouldn’t become available until after the draft and maybe wouldn’t join a new team until June. But, according to the NFL Network, the Panthers agreed to pay a portion of Bridgewater’s salary in 2021.

Bridgewater’s three-year, \$63 million contract signed last year calls for him to make \$10 million guaranteed and up to \$7 million more in 2021.

The Panthers have the eighth overall pick in the draft and with Darnold in the fold can target other areas of need including offensive tackle, linebacker, tight end or cornerback.

Royals

From Page 1B

SENT DOWN

The Pirates reassigned OF Dustin Fowler, who was designated for assignment last week, to their alternate training site after he cleared waivers. He hit .171 in 18 games.

TRAINER’S ROOM

Prates: The team has no timetable yet for when 3B Ke’Bryan Hayes (left wrist stain) might resume

swinging. ... RHP Michael Feliz (cracked right middle fingernail) threw his first bullpen Wednesday since being injured. ... RHP Chad Kuhl (right shoulder discomfort) has started playing catch.

UP NEXT

Royals: RHP Brady Singer (1-2, 2.95 ERA) faces RHP Michael Pineda (1-1, 2.42) on Friday in Minnesota. Singer notched his first win of the season in his last start, holding Detroit to one run in seven innings.

Pirates: RHP JT Brubaker (2-1, 2.01) opposing St. Louis RHP John Gant (1-2, 2.25) on Friday. Brubaker had a tough-luck loss his last time out against the Twins when he allowed two runs in seven innings.

Hockey

From Page 1B

The Blues were the last team to beat the Wild, too, a 3-2 win in overtime on April 10 when Hoffman tied the game with 42 seconds remaining in regulation. Hoffman has seven goals and four assists in his last seven games.

BLUES BASH

The Wild brought the NHL’s

fourth-best penalty kill into the evening, but Perron found Hoffman with cross-slot passes for backdoor one-timers just 8 and 29 seconds into those power plays, respectively. This was the eighth straight game with a power play goal for St. Louis.

ODDS AND ENDLINES

Eriksson Ek left the game late in the third period after a neutral-zone collision with a Blues player. ... Blues defenseman Vince Dunn and Colton Parayko were out for the second straight game with upper

body injuries. Forward Zach Sanford, a healthy scratch for the last two games, returned to the lineup. ... The Wild have outscored opponents 52-30 in the first period. ... Foligno has three goals in his last four games.

UP NEXT

The rematches here are Thursday and Saturday. Then the Blues return home for a two-game set against Anaheim starting Monday, when the Wild play the first of two straight games versus Vegas.

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