

## City to apply for grant to help with sidewalk repairs

By Chris Howell  
chrish@sedaliademocrat.com

At Tuesday evening's Sedalia City Council meeting, the City had to pass two seemingly random resolutions to qualify for a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant. Worth potentially \$1 million a year with matching funds, the grants will go a long way toward fixing Sedalia's crumbling sidewalks.

The resolutions both passed unanimously. The first, which City Administrator Kelvin Shaw said was already in place, was a resolution establishing rules and regulations regarding the use of excessive force during non-violent civil rights demonstrations.

"This is not because we've had any problems," Shaw said. "It's not because we're going to do anything different, we're just checking a box."

The second resolution needed to qualify for the block grant ensured Sedalia uses fair housing practices, which it also already does.

Ward 1 Councilman Thomas Oldham then presented a call for a resolution authorizing the application for funding through the State of Missouri's Community Development

Block Grant program; this resolution passed unanimously.

Shaw presented the financial update and this month broke sales tax revenue down by month in each of the last 10 years.

"It was really surprising to us that the month of July was actually the highest month for sales revenue, by quite a bit actually," Shaw said. "August, which you would think would be one of our highest months, was actually the seventh."

The second-highest sales revenue month was October, and third was January, according to Shaw. The average sales tax revenue per month over the last 10 years was \$969,000.

The City voted unanimously to authorize a contract amendment for a supervised work release program agreement between the City and the Tipton Correctional Center allowing inmates to work mowing and doing maintenance work for another year. Councilmembers Jeff Leeman and Rhiannon Foster voted remotely.

"It provides a lower cost for seasonal labor such as mowing and weed eating the cemetery," Ward 4 Councilman Steve Bloess

See CITY | 8A



PHOTO BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT

The Sedalia City Council approved to apply for a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant to fix sidewalks, ramps and curbs, like this Third Street sidewalk seen Tuesday, during Tuesday night's meeting.



PHOTO BY SARA LAWSON | WARRENSBURG STAR-JOURNAL

K9 Deputy Boss will retire from the Johnson County Sheriff's Office effective Jan. 31.

## K9 Deputy Boss to retire Jan. 31

By Sara Lawson  
saral@warrensburgstarjournal.com

JOHNSON COUNTY — K9 Boss will be retiring from the Johnson County Sheriff's Office at the end of January.

"His age is starting to catch up to him," K9 handler Robert Watkins said. "He's been on the road since July of 2016, so a little over five years. He is 7 and a half years old."

Boss started his career with the Sheriff's Office with Eric Norris. Watkins became Boss' handler in January 2018 when Norris retired.

Watkins said the average age for a dog to retire from service is 8 years old.

Watkins said there were other factors, including Boss' canine teeth needing to be removed, heartworm and an emergency surgery for his spleen.

"All of those combined health issues over the past five years of his life ... those start to take a toll on his body," Watkins said. "As we were progressing I kinda noticed he started to have a limp due to arthritis in his right wrist and he was becoming just a little

bit more winded during certain tracks and trainings and stuff like that. I noticed that age was kinda catching up with him."

Watkins is also the handler for K9 Deputy Ammo, who joined the department in 2021.

Boss works with the narcotics division, specializing in interdictions, narcotics investigations and criminal apprehension.

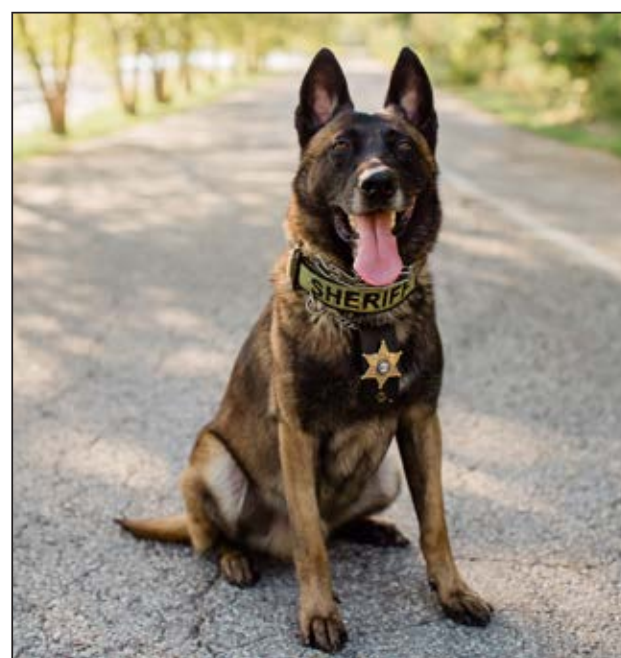
Ammo previously worked in the patrol division before Watkins became his handler.

Watkins said having two dogs within the department helped alleviate some of the workload.

"We do plan to add a second K9 back to the road patrol within the year," Watkins said.

Watkins said there is no set timeline for when a new dog will be added to the Sheriff's Office.

"Boss has apprehended several violent subjects who have resisted law enforcement or resisted arrest via law enforcement," Watkins said. "His biggest narcotics find, we assisted the Lafayette County Sheriff's Office and he alerted to a vehicle that contained 150 pounds



K9 Deputy Boss has served with the Johnson County Sheriff's Office since 2016.

of illegal marijuana."

The Sheriff's Office often coordinates with other agencies and their K9 units depending on the situation, including Officer Adam Wade and K9 Neegan with the Warrensburg Police Department, Odessa Police Department, Higginsville Police Department and the Lafayette County Sheriff's Office

Boss' last day with the Sheriff's Office will be Jan. 31.

"All dogs, just like humans, they deserve a time to retire and just be a dog," Watkins said. "I felt like now is the best time for him to kinda go into that retirement," Watkins said.

Upon his retirement, Boss will continue to live with Watkins as a pet.

Watkins said Boss will spend retirement lazing about in the sun and will get lots of treats.

Sara Lawson can be reached at 660-747-8123.

## Parks & Rec to expand current programs, then offer more

By Skye Melcher  
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In two months, the Heckart Community Center will officially be open to the public with expansions on current classes and programs offered by the Sedalia Parks and Recreation Department.

"There is going to be a lot for people to do at the community center. It's not just a pool, it is a huge building," Special Events and Marketing Manager Savannah Lynde said.

There will be three courts to play basketball, pickleball and volleyball, plus batting cages that

will drop down from the ceiling. There will be a fitness center upstairs, and guests can use the walking track for free without a membership.

"With your membership, there will be extra classes included. I know one that has been talked about is the water aerobics, so that will be something that people can look forward to doing inside..." Lynde said.

Water aerobics is currently only offered in the summertime, but the new indoor pool at the Heckart Center will allow swimmers to participate year-round. Parks and Rec will continue to pro-

vide all its original aquatics classes plus more once the center opens, such as an underwater Easter egg hunt just a few weeks after the grand opening.

Fitness and Wellness Coordinator Jaymi Wells will handle all fitness programs, Recreation Supervisor-Aquatics Clara Scott will oversee all aquatics programs and Recreation Supervisor-Sports Tanner McKee will coordinate all sports programs.

The Heckart Community Center will also allow some seasonal employees to work all year long as well.

Parks and Rec Director Amy Epple said the inau-

gural activity guide that was mailed out late last year lists the programs offered for the upcoming season, but the staff is already looking at new programs that will start in the fall and winter. Many of the new programs and activities won't open until the fall due to the summer preparation the Parks and Rec staff must take care of, as summer is one of their busiest times of the year.

"This gives us an opportunity to offer everything that we always offer but in a bigger, nicer facility so that we can take more people, but a lot of the new and fun events

won't come 'til fall and winter," Epple added.

Community center rooms can be rented beginning Feb. 1, so people can start booking birthday parties, reunions, graduation parties and other events. Epple noted rooms will be available for graduation parties since graduation will take place just a few months after the grand opening.

Epple said the staff members are eager and excited to offer new options with the new building. They are currently limited on how many programs and the number of classes they can offer due to space constraints at

Convention Hall and the outdoor pools. Convention Hall will continue to host programs and events once the Heckart Community Center opens, allowing for even more options.

"I think just the excitement and just having people in..." Epple said. "I think the big thing that we have been talking about is that hub for the community, that one place that everyone can call their own and it's a place that makes the community stronger."

Skye Melcher can be reached at 660-530-0144.



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## OBITUARIES

### Robert "Bob" Joseph Baxter

Robert "Bob" Joseph Baxter, of Phoenix, Arizona, passed quietly in his sleep on Saturday, January 1, 2022, after a brief battle with cancer. He was 86 years old.

Born in Smithton, Missouri, on July 16, 1935, to Walter and Kathryn Baxter, he was the oldest of two sons.

A graduate of the University of Central Missouri and a licensed pilot, he had a lifelong passion for education, business and music.

After moving to Phoenix more than 50 years ago, Bob became very involved in his community, serving as an officer in several government and civic-minded organizations, including the Arizona Silver Haired Legislators, the Rotary Club and the Lions Club. After retirement, he served as president of the Arizona State Retired Employees Association.

With a penchant for ancestry and history,

Bob was a member of the National Society Magna Charta Dames and Barons, Arizona

Division, as well as the Sons of the American Revolution and the Phoenix Corral of Westerners, in addition to other groups. An active member of the Republican Party, Bob also served eight years in the National Guard.

Among his close and dear friends, he will be remembered for his love of horses and roses, his generosity, easy-going demeanor and ability to make friends with everyone he met.

He is survived by his brother, Ralph (Mary) Baxter of Olathe, Kansas, and a number of nieces, nephews and cousins.

A graveside service will be held at Mountain View Cemetery in Mesa, Arizona, on Friday, January 28, at 12:30 p.m.

We love you, Bob, and will carry you in our hearts always.



### John R. Borchers

John R. Borchers, 100, of Sedalia, passed away Sunday, January 16, 2022, at Sylvia G. Thompson Residence Center.

He was born March 20, 1921, in Sedalia, son of the late John Henry and Rosa (Ehlers) Borchers. On April 18, 1948, at Mount Hulda Lutheran Church, near Cole Camp, he was united in marriage to Irene K. Kullman, who preceded him in death on March 1, 2017.

He was a graduate of Cole Camp High School. He served his country honorably from 1942-1946 as a Medical Technician in the United States Army during World War II.

John was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Sedalia. He worked in the shipping department at Pittsburgh Corning for 33 years, retiring in 1984. He was a member of the American Legion Post 305 in Cole Camp. He enjoyed

watching Cardinals and Chiefs games.

He is survived by a son, Larry Borchers, of

Green Ridge; a daughter, Linda Mosier, of Mesa, AZ; four grandchildren, Kyle Borchers (Jessica), of Sedalia, Kent Borchers (Lacie), of Independence, Melissa Wirth

(Michael) and Wendy Mosier, all of Mesa, AZ; a special friend, Terry Dotson-Borchers, of Sedalia; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Richard and Paul Borchers.

A viewing will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Monday, January 24, 2022, at Heckart Funeral Home. Graveside service will follow at 1 p.m. at Memorial Cemetery, Cole Camp, with full military honors.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the family in care of Heckart Funeral Home.



### Teddy J. ("Jack") Blaylock

Teddy J. ("Jack") Blaylock entered into his eternal home on January 15, 2022, in Columbia, Missouri, after a long battle with declining health.

Jack was born on March 2, 1931, in Beaman, MO, to Jim and Susan Blaylock and grew up on a farm in Pettis County with his nine siblings: Henry, Lenore, Mac, Evelyn, Earl, Frank, Clay, [Jack], Don and Glenda. Over the years, stories about Jack and his siblings have been the subject of much laughter and some tears.

Jack graduated from Smithton High School in 1948. He graduated from Southwest Baptist University's junior college program before serving in the United States Air Force with his brother Clay, where Jack was especially proud of his time flying on the B-36 "Peacemaker" strategic bomber during the Cold War years. After his military discharge, Jack went on to graduate from the University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. In 1981, the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was bestowed on him by Southwest Baptist University.

On July 30, 1955, Jack married his childhood sweetheart JoAnn Hyatt at Olive Branch Baptist Church. Jack and JoAnn had two children, Jeffrey ("Jeff") Hyatt and Julia ("Julie") Lea, both of whom survive Jack and reside in Columbia.

Jack spent most of his professional career in the real estate business, 17 years of which was with his older brother and partner Frank, also a resident of Columbia. Jack often pointed out that he had a business address on Broadway for more than 50 years, a remarkable feat. Frank and Jack and their wives JoAnn and Dorothy were charter members of Parkade Baptist Church in Columbia, where Jack and JoAnn willingly served their Lord and Savior in a countless variety of ways until Jack's declining health prevented them from doing so.

Before his membership at Parkade Baptist Church, Jack chaired the Missions committee of Calvary Baptist Church that parented the creation of the Grand Avenue Baptist Church in Ames, Iowa in 1960 and Parkade Baptist Church in Columbia in 1965. Both churches continue to serve their communities and spread the Gospel.

For 17 years, Jack served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Southwest Baptist University, including Chairman of the Board, where he had the privilege of handing his daughter Julie's diploma to her on the occasion of her graduation. He also served as a member of the Advisory Board of the Columbia COLT railroad. He spent numerous years serving

city boards and committees including seven years of service on the Planning and Zoning Commission of Columbia.

Jack had many interests including farming, barbershop quartet singing, sports, hunting and fishing, and others too numerous to

name. But after his service to the Lord, his passion in life was his family. His love and devotion to his wife JoAnn was without equal; he loved his children dearly, and unabashedly doted — some might say spoiled — on his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He made himself available for advice and wisdom to many in his extended family over the years and supported all of them in their times of success as well as times of distress and turmoil. His was a shoulder always available to lean on and he was at his happiest when helping others. He was a friend, advisor, and mentor to all whose paths he crossed, and always had a smile on his face and kind words of encouragement. Many consider him the "glue" that held the family together and a prime example of how a man should lead his life.

Jack is survived by wife JoAnn; son Jeff (Kim); daughter Julie (Heather), grandchildren James N. ("Nick") Blaylock (Amanda) and Alexandra ("Allie") A. Blaylock; great-granddaughters Genevieve ("Evie") Marie Blaylock and Harper Carolina Blaylock; and too many cousins, nieces, nephews to count or name, but all of whom were beloved and cherished by Jack. He was preceded in death by his mother, father, nine siblings and their spouses.

Jack's passing will leave a hole too deep and wide to fill, with countless memories of his life well-lived that will no doubt serve as the basis of many stories, laughter, and tears.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, the family suggests donations to Parkade Baptist Church, 2102 N. Garth Ave., Columbia, MO, 65202.

There will not be an in-person memorial service due to the ongoing pandemic. Instead, a virtual service will be conducted by Parker Funeral Home beginning at 10:45 a.m. on Saturday, January 22, 2022. The service can be accessed at the following link: [www.facebook.com/parkadebaptistchurch](http://www.facebook.com/parkadebaptistchurch).

The Rev. Christopher Cook will officiate, with interment at Olive Branch Cemetery in Beaman, Missouri, immediately following.

Arrangements are under the direction of Parker-Millard Funeral Service & Crematory, 12 E. Ash St., Columbia, MO, 65203 573-449-4153. Condolences may be left online for the family at [www.parker-millard.com](http://www.parker-millard.com).



### Robert "Bob" Leo Schwickrath

Robert "Bob" Leo Schwickrath, formerly of Sedalia, passed away Saturday, January 15, 2022, in Tampa, Florida, with family at his bedside. Bob was born May 16, 1931, in Tipton to John and Louise Schwickrath and graduated from Tipton High School in 1949.

His next stop was U.S. Submarine Base Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, where he spent four years in the Navy. Bob remained proud of his service for the rest of his life.

Following his discharge, he spent a year at Ford Aircraft making wings for B-47s.

He then attended the Research Hospital radiology technology program in Kansas City, graduating in 1955. This is where he met fellow student Jane Griffith.

Bob went on to be Chief Tech and Director of Radiology at Bothwell Hospital for 42 years. Over the years, Bob led the expansion of the department from a small and antiquated unit into a modern state-of-the-art facility by the time he retired.

He married Jane Griffith on June 14, 1962. They were married for 53 years until her death in 2015. Bob was a devoted husband and father. When his children were young, he devoted his spare time to the development and leadership of the Sedalia Soccer Program. During his tenure, three additional soccer fields at Centennial Park were created, many team sponsors found, followed by years of lining the fields, hauling of the nets, balls and kids to games and soccer camps in the area. Bob was just as active and present with the Sedalia Swim Team. An official race starter and timer with the skin cancer to prove it! There was never a game, swim meet, track meet or band performance missed.

Bob was artistic with an engineer's mind and loved working with his hands. For many years he was an avid woodcarver. In 2006

he and dear friend (and partner in mischief) Dr. Doug Kiburz founded Cave Folk Creations, which created a variety of award-winning copper-wire trees. They modeled one of their trees after the Tree of Andry, which is the symbol for the orthopedic profession.

Those were highly regarded by orthopedic schools across the world and presented as graduation gifts, some sent as far away as Sweden and Japan.

Bob is survived by his two children, Mark Schwickrath of Newark, New Jersey, and Kristi Mogg and her husband Paul of Tampa Florida. He adored and was extremely proud of his two grandchildren, Katherine of Denver, Colorado, and Kye of New York City. He also leaves many wonderful nieces, nephews, and friends. Preserving Bob's legacy in Sedalia are Doug and Connie Kiburz, who with their daughters Beth and Alice became a second family to Jane and Bob. Remaining as the last of the "old breed" is Jane Stewart who still lives, at age 100, in Sedalia.

In addition to his wife Jane and his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers Joe Schwickrath and Cecil White and sisters Dorothy Kutenkuler and Jackie Cullen.

Per Bob's request, there will be no memorial service. He asks that you remember him in your hearts as you knew him. Whether that is S.O.B (Sweet Old Bob) or otherwise. Bob will join Jane during a casting of his ashes off their favorite beach, Pass-a-Grille, Florida.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations are sent to the Trail's End Monument, Missouri State Fair Foundation 2503 W. 16th St., Sedalia, Missouri, 65301. Online condolences can be left at the following link: [obituaries.neptunesociety.com/obituaries/palm-harbor-fl/robert-schwickrath-10282829](http://obituaries.neptunesociety.com/obituaries/palm-harbor-fl/robert-schwickrath-10282829).



### Shirley Ann Singer

Shirley Ann Singer, 89, of Sedalia, MO, passed away January 17, 2022, at EW Thompson Health and Rehabilitation Center in Sedalia.

On March 19, 1932, she was born in Sedalia, the daughter of William and Bertha (Busker) Shepard, who preceded her in death.

In 2006, she was united in marriage to Virgil Singer, who preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by her first husband, John H. Heineman, who passed in 1996.

Shirley was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Sedalia. She was baptized and confirmed on December 18, 1949, by Pastor Walter Strickert. Shirley loved the Lord and was very active in her church. She enjoyed traveling and especially enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Shirley is survived by one son, Steve Heineman (Kathy), of Sedalia; one daughter Cynthia Ross (Mark); four grandchildren Tara Hubbard (Jeff), of Westminster, CO, Andrew

Heineman (Britni), of Arvada, CO, Julie Fields, of Sedalia, and John Ross, of Columbia, MO; four great-grandchildren, Zane, Mason, Etta, and Ellee; and two siblings Jack Shepard, of Sedalia, MO, and Helen Barry (Dean), of Independence, MO.

In addition to her parents and husbands, she was preceded in death by one brother, Billy Shepard, and two sisters, Dorothy Lees and Norma Marcum.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, January 21, 2022, at Rea Funeral Chapel with Pastor Doug Dubisar officiating.

The family will receive friends one hour before the service at the chapel.

Burial will be at Memorial Park Cemetery, Sedalia, MO.

Pallbearers will be Andrew Heineman, John Ross, Mark Ross, Mason Fields, Robin Shepard, and Shon Stutes.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church of Sedalia in care of Rea Funeral Chapel.

### CLARIFICATION

In Tuesday's edition, the date and location of the Mercy Rest Stop public forum were inadvertently left out of "City of Sedalia to host Mercy Rest Stop public forum" in Local Briefs. The forum will be hosted at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 20 at the Sedalia Municipal Building, 200 S. Osage Ave., in Council Chambers.



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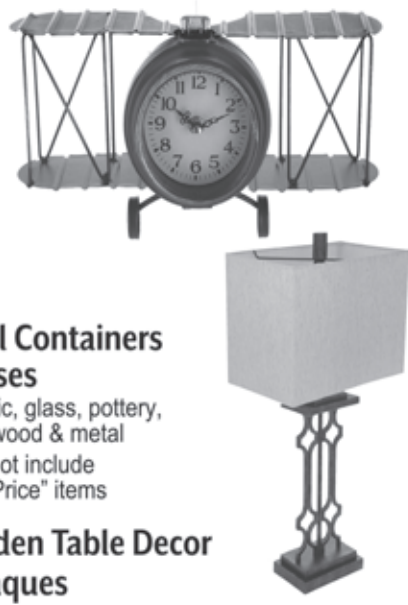
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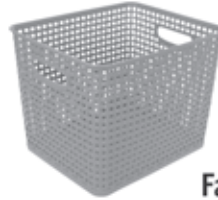
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## Cole Camp High School Honor Roll

The following students were named to the Cole Camp High School honor roll for the second quarter of the 2021-22 school year.

### Honorable Mention

Ninth Grade: Nickolaus Botelho, Luis Chavez, Spencer Godwin, Adam Kammeyer, Emelia Root.

10th Grade: Katya Boychuk, Dalton Brandt, Austin Clark, Morgan Wagner.

11th Grade: Abigail Bowlin, Kimberly Corpening, Braden Jonson, Sergey Timoshchuk.

12th Grade: Gage Cross, Vivian Eddingfield, Patrick Olsen.

### Honor Roll

Ninth Grade: Patience Butler, Alex Chavez, Dorothy Graves, Carson Hoke.

10th Grade: Emily Burdick, Renee Hakala, Tori Luebbing, Gracie Thompson, Madison Treece.

11th Grade: Colton

Banks, Judd Harms, Macie Robb.

12th Grade: Wyatt Bryan, Andrew Hahn, Paityn Massingill.

### Principal's List

Ninth Grade: Colby Benn, Kolby Bohon, Lillian Brown, Alexis Casdorph, Madison Cooper, Dalila Fanin, Elizabeth Gavrishchuk, Summer Hagen, Eastynn Holt, Grace Koenke, MacKenzie Moellman, Anastasia Procopisen, Lacy Rambo, Ashlyn Russell, Alyssa Smasal, Bailey Stoppel, Megan Tenold, Emma Thayer, Kyle Thomas, Shane Wallace.

10th Grade: Jerra Allen, Matthew Bright, Cassidy Carl, Kennlee Cooper, Ashlyn Degraffenreid, Gentry Dieckman, Reid Harrison, Tyler Howard, James Matychenko, Randy Mitchell, Cora Oelrichs, Connor Rogers, Camille Schear, Chase Stone, Grady Strathman, Isaac Vosmith, Peyton Webb,

Ashton Whitson.

11th Grade: Gabe Adams, Toby Benn, Madison Boyd, Hailey Brown, Emily Burke, Ashley Campbell, Chloe Daily, Mikayla Doll, Mikayla Doogs, Jesus Geronimo, Amanda Godwin, Lillie Gottschalk, Kyla Harms, Wyatt Hesse, Owen Ives, Reyna Kammeyer, Dylan LeCroy, Preston Oelrichs, Anna Procopisen, Ethan Shearer, Reaganne Smart, Dylana Stoppel, Karley Thayer, Laci Thompson, John Uzun, Olivia Watson, Michael Wissman.

12th Grade: Triston Arne, Kinser Brockman, Madysen Brown, Abigail Brown, Kian Clark, Ethan Corpening, Willa Ellison, Malachi Fox, Aubrey Horstman, Kira Kintzel, Sierra Koenke, Matthew Luetjen, Alisa Schlesselman, Kaelyn Teague, Zachary Thomas, Cecilia Thomas, Brett Twenter, Daniel Vosmith.

## Pettis County adds more than 600 new COVID cases

### By Democrat Staff

Pettis County added 632 confirmed cases of COVID-19 on Monday, bringing the total number of cases to 9,684, according to the Pettis County Health Center.

“The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services website is reporting Pettis County has a positivity rate of 30.5% for the past seven days, which is an increase from 25.5% for the previous week with PCR testing,” the Pettis County COVID-19 Task Force briefing stated on Tuesday. “The case count per 100,000 for the past seven days is 864/100,000. This week there were 1,225 PCR tests and 816 antigen tests for a total of 2,041. Last week there were 1,718 tests.”

The case counts by age will be posted on the Pettis County Health Center Facebook page and website.

Due to the high number of cases, the vaccine breakthrough information is not available this week.

Influenza cases continue to increase. There are approximately 430 cases for the season thus far. The information is still being received. During the entire 2020-21 influenza season, there were less than 10 reported cases.

As of Friday, there were 3,507 hospitalized in Missouri with COVID as compared to 3,202 hospitalized with COVID last week. There are 658 people in ICU as compared to 641 people in ICU last week. The number on ventilators was not available.

There are 19 individuals hospitalized at Bothwell Regional Health Center as compared to 15 last week. There are two patients on a ventilator. Seventy-four percent of the patients were not vaccinated. All inpatients will be tested upon admission.

The DHSS website reports 113 deaths in Pettis County with a confirmed PCR test and 19 deaths with a positive antigen test. This is an increase of one since last week. The Health Center received reports of four Pettis County residents who died in the last two weeks.

Approximately 46.4% of the population of Pettis County residents have started vaccination. According to the state website, 19,634 Pettis County residents have started vaccination and 17,448 are considered fully vaccinated, which is approximately 41.2%

of the population. Pettis County is falling behind the state rate of 61.9% who have started vaccination and 54.6% fully vaccinated. The state is reporting 72.9% of the population over 18 has started and 64.3% are fully vaccinated. For Pettis County, 57.8% of the population 18 and older have started vaccination (18,451) and 51.8% (16,516) are considered fully vaccinated. According to the DHSS website, 15.6% (1,180) of 5-17-year-olds have started vaccination and 12.3% (931) are fully vaccinated. For the 65 and older age group, 79.2% (5739) have started vaccination and 72.1% (5,223) are considered fully vaccinated.

The vaccine is available for everyone 5 years of age and older. Booster doses are given five months after the last dose for Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or two months after the Johnson & Johnson. Vaccines are available for those 12 years and older through the Health Center, Katy Trail Community Health and Bothwell. All vaccines are free.

Pettis County Health Center provides vaccines for homebound individuals. Call 660-827-1130 to make arrangements.

The Health Center has regular walk-in clinics from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, from 8:30 a.m. to noon Thursdays and from noon to 3 p.m. Fridays.

Bothwell has established a centralized COVID-19 outpatient management clinic to coordinate the complex clinical situation and add additional capacity to evaluate patients quickly. Dr. Gregory Doak is the practicing physician in this clinic, which is located on the third floor of the Bothwell Healing Arts Center.

The new outpatient treatments are only for patients with a confirmed positive COVID-19 test. Patients who test positive need a referral from a local physician to the centralized COVID-19 outpatient management clinic. Don't wait to contact your provider after testing positive because two of the four medications are required to be given within five days of onset of symptoms. Patients will no longer be able to self-refer for infusions by calling the hospital.

If you are concerned you have COVID-19, know where to go for testing and care. For mild or moderate

symptoms (fever, cough, tiredness, sore throat, loss of taste or smell or headache), contact your primary care provider for care (open Monday through Friday) or visit the Bothwell Walk-In Clinic, 3700 W. 10th St., from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. For specific testing hours and instructions, visit [www.brhc.org](http://www.brhc.org). Due to high demand and staffing shortages, the Walk-In Clinic is currently experiencing longer wait times.

For severe symptoms (shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chest pain, loss of speech or mobility, confusion, high fever, or inability to eat or drink), go to the Emergency Department.

Do not visit the ED for COVID-19 testing if you have mild symptoms or only need a test for work, school or travel.

The wait time for results from standard PCR COVID-19 tests has been extended to four or five days as Bothwell is now sending these tests to an external lab due to widespread supply shortages. If a standard PCR test is not needed, a rapid antigen test, anticipated to be available by Friday, will be done at Bothwell testing locations.

This week's COVID-19 vaccine clinics for the two-dose primary series and booster doses are from 2 to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 19 (Pfizer) and from 1 to 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21 (Moderna) at Bothwell Healing Arts Center on the second floor. People may walk in, however, appointments are encouraged by calling 660-829-8888 or scheduling in Bothwell's patient portal, MyBothwellHealth at [www.brhc.org/portal](http://www.brhc.org/portal) or in the MHealth app.

This year's flu vaccine is available at all Bothwell COVID-19 vaccine clinics. All flu vaccines are quadrivalent (four-component) meaning they are designed to protect against four different flu viruses, and flu vaccines and COVID-19 vaccines can be given at the same time.

Katy Trail Community Health is providing vaccines to current patients at all its locations by appointment. Community vaccines are at 816 Westwood Drive in Sedalia for all family members from 1 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Friday, and Saturday appointments are available.

## Vehicle chase ends with stop-sticks, two arrested

### K-9 Charlie finds thrown gun

### By Democrat Staff

Tuesday, the Pettis County Sheriff's Office announced two Sedalia residents were arrested after a Sunday evening vehicle pursuit.

The incident started at 7:51 p.m. when Sedalia Police Department officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop in the area of West 16th Street and South Kentucky Avenue for a vehicle failing to stop at a stop sign. The driver, later identified as 32-year-old Travis D. Martin, failed to stop and the officers initiated a vehicle pursuit, which continued into the county where officers terminated the pursuit.

One minute later at 7:52 p.m., the Pettis County K-9 unit observed the same vehicle roll through a stop sign

in the area of South Park Avenue and Forest Park Road. The vehicle did not have a Missouri license plate and the deputies initiated a vehicle pursuit north on South Grand Avenue toward Sedalia city limits.

Deputies requested mutual aid from Sedalia police officers who were able to deploy stop sticks at 35th Street and South Park Avenue. Martin exited the vehicle and surrendered to deputies, officers, and the Pettis County K-9 unit.

The passenger, Jasmine C. Walker, 22, was taken into custody without incident. Walker was later found in possession of a crystal substance after entering the Pettis County Jail. As deputies spoke with Walker, she informed them of a firearm that was thrown

from the vehicle during the incident.

The Pettis County K-9 unit with the SPD K-9 unit started to search the area for the firearm. Sedalia K-9 Charlie later located the firearm that was reported to be thrown from the vehicle. Both K9s were utilized to search the large area for the weapon and any illegal substance that could have been thrown from the vehicle.

Martin has been charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance, unlawful use of a weapon, and resisting arrest. He has been issued a \$150,000 bond, cash or surety.

Walker has been charged with possession of a controlled substance. She has been issued a \$25,000 bond, cash or surety.

## STATE BRIEFS

### Arrest made after 18-year-old shot to death in Columbia

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Columbia police have arrested a suspect in the shooting death of an 18-year-old high

school student.

Officers found Roberto Angel Lauer dead of a gunshot wound Monday night at a home in northeast Columbia, police said.

Lauer was a senior at Battle High School, said Michelle Baumstark, spokeswoman for the Columbia school district.

An 18-year-old suspect was arrested on possible charges of involuntary manslaughter and armed criminal action.

Baumstark said the suspect is not a current student in the Columbia district.

No other information has been released.



**2022 CENTRAL MISSOURI AG EXPO**

**FEBRUARY 4TH, & 5TH**  
Mathewson Exhibition Center/Mohler Hall  
Missouri State Fairgrounds, Sedalia

**FREE ADMISSION**

Central Missouri Agriculture Club

**Custom Applicator 9 AM Fri & Sat**  
**Quality Assurance Seminar Sat only 11 am**  
**Mixture of seminars on flowers, trees & plants throughout the day, both days**

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**573-378-2655**  
From Versailles take Hwy 52 east to Hwy C, east to Kelsay Road, 1.3 miles north on Kelsay Road  
[www.morgancountyseeds.com](http://www.morgancountyseeds.com)

636028s



## 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

**Jan. 11**  
2:05 p.m.: Shyanne Nicole Meyer, 25, of the 19000 block of Maltsberger Road, was arrested after a vehicle stop near East Fourth Street and South Massachusetts Avenue for improper registration. A check revealed the driver did not have a driver's license and drug paraphernalia was found. Meyer was arrested but ultimately released so she could make a court appearance.

**Jan. 14**  
8:53 p.m.: Cecil Glenn Keller, 29, of the 1500 block of South Barrett Avenue, was arrested after officers responded for a physical domestic. Officers contacted two male subjects that resided together and determined Keller was the primary aggressor. He was transported to the Pettis County Jail and placed on a 24-hour hold pending state charges of fourth-degree domestic assault.

**Jan. 15**  
12:16 a.m.: Tonya D. Scutnick, 32, of Versailles, was arrested after officers

were dispatched to the 1600 block of East Seventh Street for a reportedly intoxicated subject trying to leave in a vehicle. Due to other priority calls a request for assistance from the Pettis County Sheriff's Office was made. While deputies were en route to the call, dispatch updated them that the suspect was now hitting two females known to her. Scutnick was arrested and transported to the Pettis County Jail where she was placed on a 24-hour hold pending the filing of fourth-degree domestic assault charges.

3:14 p.m.: Jeremy A. McDaniel, 30, of Cedar Springs, was arrested after a vehicle stop near West Ninth Street and South Grand Avenue for expired registration. McDaniel was transported to the Pettis County Jail where he was charged with driving with a suspended license, booked, and released.

7:35 p.m.: Michele Ann Davenport, 54, of the 100 block of West Cooper Street, was arrested after an officer was dispatched to a disturbance. Davenport was determined to be the primary aggressor and was arrested, transported to the Pettis County Jail, and placed on a 24-hour hold. A request for a charge of fourth-degree domestic assault has been submitted to the prosecutor.

10:47 p.m.: Lacey Renee Battles, 37, of Sedalia, was arrested after officers

responded to Bothwell Regional Health Center in reference to a combative patient assaulting hospital staff. Officers made contact with Battles and she was arrested and transported to the Pettis County Jail. Battles was placed on a 24-hour hold pending state charges of fourth-degree assault.

**Jan. 16**  
3:13 a.m.: Pedro Marcos, 22, of the 400 block of South Quincy Avenue, was arrested after a traffic stop at East Broadway Boulevard and South New York Avenue for swerving. It was determined Marcos was intoxicated so he was arrested, transported to the Police Department, transported to Bothwell for a blood draw, then transported to the Pettis County Jail. He was placed on a 12-hour protective custody hold. A request for a charge of driving while intoxicated has been submitted.

1:30 p.m.: Michael T. Riedl Jr., 55, of Houstonia, was arrested after a vehicle stop for failing to signal. It was determined the driver was intoxicated and he was arrested, transported to the Sedalia Police Department, processed and issued a summons for driving while intoxicated.

### Incidents

**Jan. 11**  
3:31 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to a business in the 1400 block of South Limit Avenue in reference to a trespassing call. A suspect came into the store looking for a specific employee and

went to a marked employee-only area of the store. State charges of trespassing were submitted to the prosecutor.

**Jan. 12**  
6:47 a.m.: An officer responded to the 1400 block of South Carr Avenue for a porta-potty that was on fire. Contact was made with the property owner and Hank's Portable Toilets. At the time of the report, no formal charges are being sought.

**Jan. 13**  
4:59 p.m.: Officers were dispatched to the 100 block of Summer Avenue in reference to an assault. A juvenile male had assaulted a pregnant woman known to him by hitting and kicking her in the stomach. A subject refused treatment at the scene. A report was completed for documentation.

**Jan. 14**  
9:43 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to a Liberty Life Center in the 1500 block of Driftwood Drive. A suspect broke into the building and stole approximately \$150 in cash. There is video footage.

**Jan. 15**  
2:43 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to Katy Park Baptist Church, 901 W. 24th St., in reference to a burglary. The building was cleared and it was discovered a safe valued at \$750 was missing. No arrests have been made at this time.

9:35 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to the 3100 block of Katy Trail Avenue for a theft report. An unknown suspect stole items from the victim's vehicle overnight.

1:35 p.m.: An officer met an employee from a business in the 3200 block of West Broadway Boulevard in the SPD lobby in reference to a theft. They advised someone known to them came into the store and stole items of clothing worth \$32.91. The suspect was identified and charges are being sought.

**Jan. 16**  
4:49 p.m.: An officer responded to a residence in the 1700 block of South Harrison Avenue for a burglary report. Suspects cut the lock from an outbuilding on the property and took antiques.

1:09 p.m.: An officer responded to the 3200 block of Buckingham Drive in reference to property damage. Two residents said someone drove a vehicle into the vacant lot and performed a donut, causing debris to strike the privacy fence and the victim's residences. The vehicle then left the area. A suspect has not been identified.

1:12 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to the 300 block of South Lamine Avenue for a report of an assault. The victim stated he was assaulted by a man known to him. Charges against the suspect are being submitted.

1:49 p.m.: Officers responded to the 100 block of West Pacific Street for a report of a burglary. Contact was made with a male subject who reported that a lock to his storage unit was cut off and some items were stolen from inside.

6:04 p.m.: An officer was

dispatched to a business in the 3200 block of West Broadway Boulevard in reference to a theft. Reportedly a female had walked around the store placing several items in a cart and attempted to leave without paying. The individual stopped at the door and ran, leaving the item. The total value of the items stolen is \$970.15. No arrests have been made at this time.

**Jan. 17**  
7:49 a.m.: Officers were dispatched to a business in the 200 block of West Third Street in reference to property damage. Overnight, the north glass door of the business was damaged.

8:20 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to a business in the 400 block of West Main Street for a report of vehicle theft. The caller stated a 2021 cargo van valued at \$38,000 was rented and not returned. At the time of the report, the suspect and vehicle have not been located.

9:37 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to the 300 block of McAnally Court for a report of tires being punctured. The estimated damage was \$200. There are no suspects at this time.

10:45 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to the 1300 block of South Marshall Avenue for a report of a stolen car part. The victim stated someone stole the center cap to the front passenger side wheel on her vehicle estimated at \$62. There are no suspects at this time.

Continued on | 7A

## DEATH NOTICE

### Finley

Kay Beth Finley, 71, of Sedalia, died Jan. 15, 2022, at KU Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022, at Taylor Chapel Church with Pastor Calvin Pritchard officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

William H. Labus, 93, of Sedalia, died Monday, Jan. 17, 2022, at Rest Haven Convalescent and Retirement Home.

### Labus

Arrangements are pending at McLaughlin Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

## FUNERALS

### Houseworth, Jerry

10:45 a.m. Saturday at www.facebook.com/parkadebaptistchurch. Arrangements are under the direction of Parker-Millard Funeral Service & Crematory in Columbia.

### Conaway, Virginia M.

2 p.m. Saturday at Taylor Chapel Church. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

### Lynch, Claude L. Jr.

1 p.m. Monday, Jan. 24 at Memorial Cemetery in Cole Camp. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia.

### Singer, Shirley A.

11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 28 at Wesley United Methodist Church in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

### Blaylock, Teddy J. "Jack,"

12:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28 at Mountain View Cemetery in Mesa, Arizona.

10:45 a.m. Saturday at www.facebook.com/parkadebaptistchurch. Arrangements are under the direction of Parker-Millard Funeral Service & Crematory in Columbia.

### Finley, Kay B.

1 p.m. Monday, Jan. 24 at Memorial Cemetery in Cole Camp. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia.

### Borchers, John R.

Wakley, Rube Richard "Dick,"

11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 28 at Wesley United Methodist Church in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

### Baxter, Robert "Bob" J.

12:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28 at Mountain View Cemetery in Mesa, Arizona.

## CRASH REPORTS

### Warsaw man seriously injured in Benton motorcycle crash

Richard A. Richardson, 53, of Warsaw, sustained serious injuries, and Katrina A. Moore, 50, of Warsaw, sustained moderate injuries at 5:05 p.m. Monday in a Benton County accident.

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

Both riders were exempt from safety devices. Moore refused treatment on scene and Richardson was taken by Life Flight to University Hospital in Columbia.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Richardson was driving a 2006 Harley Davidson motorcycle west on Golf Road at Truman Road when he failed to stop at the

intersection and traveled off the roadway. The vehicle overturned and both occupants were ejected.

## Generations of Missouri

Written by Carolyn Mueller | Illustrated by Philip Goudeau

### Dred and Harriet Scott Chapter Two

Annie, age 48 & Sarah, age 8 | 1857

Sarah stood in a crowd on the steps of the courthouse next to her grandmother. It was a beautiful spring day with fluffy clouds floating above the muddy Mississippi. Sarah could feel her Grandmother Annie's thin hand clinging to hers as they stood among the onlookers. Sarah would much rather be spending such a spring morning playing with neighbors. But her grandmother had insisted that they walk down to the courthouse together.

"Grandmother," Sarah whined. "What are we waiting for?"

"Hush now, Sarah," her grandmother told her, craning her neck to see above the crowd. "We're waiting to hear the outcome of a significant legal case. I know it's hard to be patient," she told Sarah. "But my father brought me downtown on another important day, and now it's your chance to see history!"

In Sarah's mind, history was something that happened a long time ago to old people!

The crowd quieted down when a man in a suit came out of the courthouse.

"They've been freed!" Sarah's family didn't own slaves, but she knew others who did. She saw them in her community, just as her grandmother had, throughout her lifetime. The adults around her seemed to be arguing a lot about slavery. Some people wanted there to be slaves while others wanted slavery to end. The anger from both sides seemed to be reaching a boiling point.

Standing side by side, Sarah and Grandmother Annie watched the Scotts leave the courthouse. They looked tired, weathered even. But Dred and Harriet stood with their shoulders straight and their backs proud.

As they began the walk home, Annie told Sarah a little bit more about the case.

"The Scotts have been fighting for their freedom in the courts for over a decade now," she told her. "Just a few months ago, their case went all the way to the Supreme Court! But the judges said that people of African descent were not intended to be included as citizens in the United States Constitution. The Supreme Court did not grant the Scotts their freedom."

"So, how did they get to be freed today?" Sarah asked.

"Their owners now live in Massachusetts. They transferred ownership to the Blow family here in St. Louis, and the Blows emancipated them."

"Emancipated?" Sarah asked.

"Freed."

Sarah wondered what it would feel like to be "owned" and then "freed." She'd been free for her entire life. She and her family had always been citizens.

She listened to the strident voices debating the day's events. She pictured the Scotts standing weary yet proud on the courthouse steps.

The tension in the air bothered Sarah. It felt as if something big was coming. She held her grandmother's hand the entire way home.



"Judge Alexander Hamilton has formally approved freedom for Mr. and Mrs. Dred Scott!"

There were shouts, jeers, and cheers; some sounded angry, and some sounded joyful.

"Did you hear that?" Sarah's grandmother asked excitedly.

NEWSPAPER CONNECTIONS

Make a list of legal words in the newspaper, like decision or Supreme Court.



# EDITORIAL

## CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

### Make time for love

Do those you love really know how much you love them?

When we are first married, the honeymoon period is fantastic! All we think about is how much we love each other and how sparkly life is going to be now that we know that we will be together forever. That feeling is so special.

But suddenly we find ourselves doing the everyday tasks of working, cleaning, cooking, paying bills and meeting other commitments.

When life becomes "normal" we sometimes forget to say, "I love you" or "I love spending time with you." It's not that we don't want to, we simply begin to focus on other things that require our attention.

Add children to the mix and time alone together becomes difficult to obtain, let alone manage.

The love for our children becomes our priority. Meeting their needs and making sure they know they are loved overrides everything.

As children grow, there are more and more things to accomplish in the 24 hours that are provided to us each day.

Sometimes there isn't enough time to manage the basic things in life, let alone think about the needs of our spouse.

As you go, there might come a time when one or both spouses begin to feel unappreciated or neglected. That's rarely ever true, but because we didn't make time to purposefully let the other know how special they are, it becomes a problem.

More often than not, it's a problem that goes unattended. We don't talk about it. We hold it in and allow it to consume us. We make ourselves believe that because our spouses are busy with life, they don't love us.

This is a slippery, dangerous course.

Everyone wants to feel loved and adored. We need that from a relationship. If we don't feed it, love won't grow.

It's not inclusive to our spouses. It can unintentionally happen with our children as well. We go, go and go some more. We become tired and sometimes it's all we can do to get a few hours of sleep only to get up and do it again.

When I was in that stage of life I made it a habit to say, "I love you" every time I parted ways with my kids and husband. But I look back now and wonder about the ways in which I actually showed them that what I said was true.

If you are a young married couple with children I have a piece of advice: Your house will be there to clean tomorrow, your friends will sometimes have to wait and you don't have to belong to every booster club for every activity that your children par-



**STEPHANIE LEFEVERS**  
Contributing Columnist

ticipate in.

Take time to talk to your spouse about life. Look each other in the eyes when you say, "I love you." Smile, hug and let them know that you are there if they need you.

Set aside alone time with each child at least once a week. Have game and movie nights. Make chores a family event. Create a secure bond that allows everyone in your immediate family to feel like a team. Be sure that they feel your love.

In the thickness and clutter of life, we often fail to prioritize correctly. We start out with the best intentions but we fall out of line when we allow insignificant things (or people) to distract us.

Going to church is one of those things that often takes a backseat because by Sunday morning, all we want to do is get a couple of extra hours of sleep. But again, it all comes down to how we prioritize our time.

One day, you'll wake up and the last child will be leaving the nest. There are no second chances with them. We only have one. Ask yourself if you are being who you need them to be. Are they feeling love by your actions or only hearing the words? Sometimes we even forget to say the words.

The same things apply to our spouses. On the day that you wake up and the last child is leaving the nest, will you even know who your spouse is? Have you spent enough time nurturing that relationship?

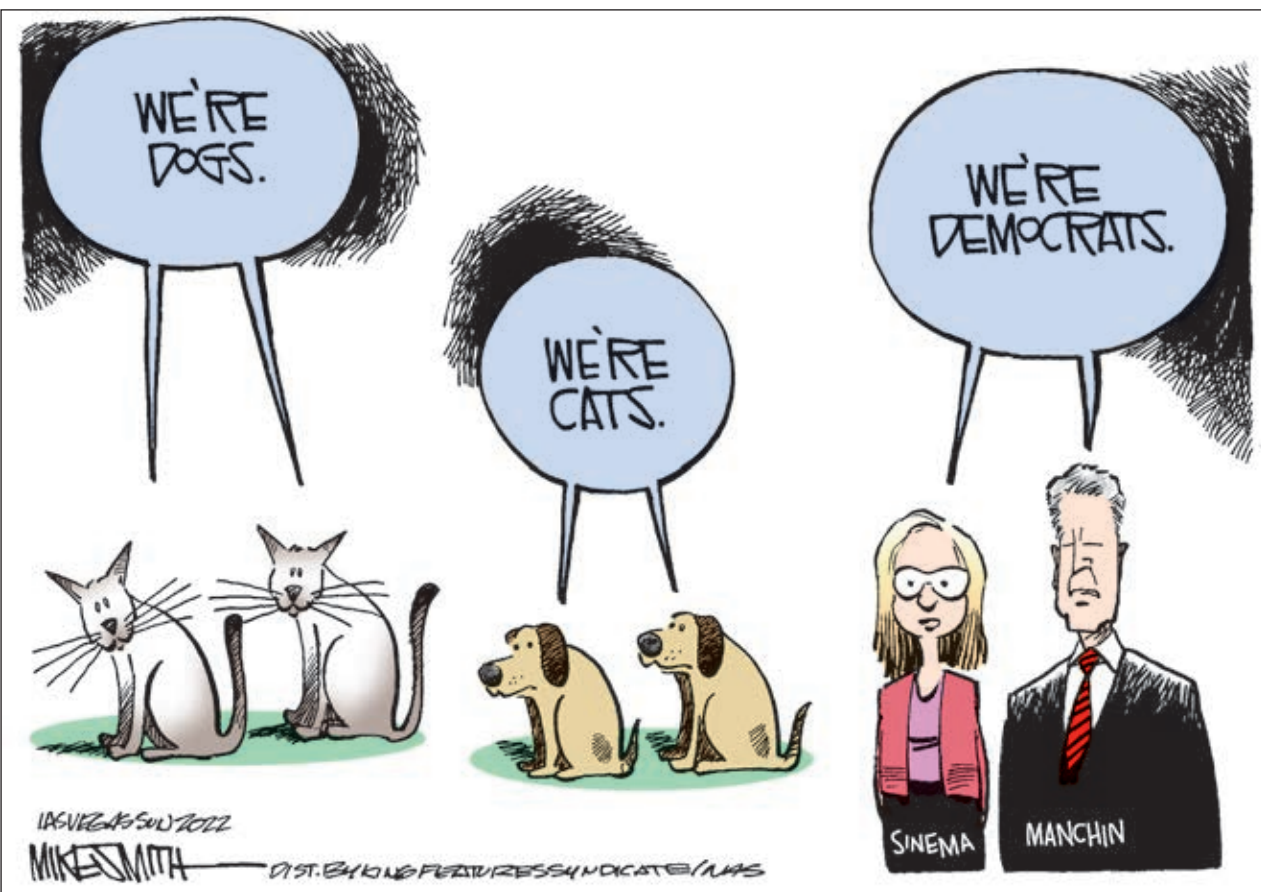
You don't have to be everything to everyone outside of your immediate family. You can learn to discern what is truly important and what is not.

If you do that, so many good things will come to you later in life.

There will be time to join organizations, spend time with friends and enjoy hobbies. And along with it, the people you love the most will love you right back in ways that you would never expect.

Make time to love — really love. You won't regret it.

*Stephanie Lefevers is a local business owner, former member of the Sedalia 200 Board of Education and a resident of Sedalia for more than 40 years.*



## CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

### Mrs. Mildred Yount: A clubwoman of Sedalia

Author's note: I apologize for the incorrect information in last week's column. I gave 1919 as the year of Thomas Yount's birth rather than the correct year of 1892.

Thomas Yount was a successful insurance agent who actively worked to better Sedalia through his participation as a fire warden for the Council of Defense during World War II, for his work selling war bonds during World War II, and through his membership in Kiwanis, a service club.

His wife, Mildred, was a homemaker who followed the stereotype of the time that a man's success could be seen in his wife's appearance and the way she decorated the family home and entertained guests. Mildred filled this role well as she took good care of the family home at 1809 W. Third St. and of her husband and two children.

She gave a positive reflection of her husband when she went out, always meticulously dressed in the hat and gloves considered appropriate for a lady. She drove what some Sedalians remembered as a "big ole' blue Cadillac" that also reflected positively on her husband's ability to support and pamper his wife.

Mildred, however, had grown up at a time



**RHONDA CHALFANT**  
Contributing Columnist

when society was being changed by a force of nature called "the clubwoman," a woman who, prohibited by the attitudes of the time from working outside the home, devoted her considerable talents to improving her community.

Sedalia's first generation of clubwomen included the women described in "Rosa Pearle's Paper" for their activism. The second generation of clubwomen included Lillian Heard, Helen Gallie Steele, Jennie Jaynes, Clemence Kahn and many others.

Mildred Yount was part of this group of clubwomen, a role that moved her beyond the stereotype of homemaker. She was an intelligent woman who used her considerable talents in a variety of service organizations.

Despite the responsibilities of caring for her home and children, she also helped her husband's career by entertaining. Newspaper

society and club columns from the mid-1920s through the 1960s reported regularly on the luncheons and teas she hosted for the women members of the Country Club. She also served on the program committee for the Country Club.

Tom and Mildred were members of one of Sedalia's many bridge clubs. An avid bridge player, she frequently won prizes at bridge club meetings and hosted regular Friday luncheons for the West End Bridge Club at the La Moore Hotel.

Mildred was not only active in social organizations, she devoted a great deal of time and energy to community service.

As a member of the Pettis County Historical Society, she gave slide presentations about Sedalia history to local clubs, using slides taken by J.O. Jenkins, another active member and skilled amateur photographer.

She applied her considerable skills to her participation in Sorosis, a women's educational club that had a limited number of members. As immediate past president of the club in 1956, she worked vigorously to organize the club's historic costume collection, a collection that continues to exist today with conserved clothing dating back to the 1700s.

At the time, the local garden clubs maintained flower beds at public buildings and in the median strips of State Fair Boulevard and the divided portions of 16th Street and West Third Street leading to the Missouri State Fairgrounds. She was active in Garden Circle #3 and demonstrated her management skills by serving as president of the Council of Sedalia Garden Clubs.

She further demonstrated her concern for the community through her membership on the American Red Cross Board. Her volunteer activities for the Red Cross in the late 1940s included working at mass draft inductions.

Her sons were active in Boy Scouts, which required parental involvement. She also served on the Girl Scout Board.

Mildred Yount moved far beyond the stereotype of the middle-class matron to become a powerful force for good in Sedalia. Her activities left a permanent impression on the clubs she participated in and on the city of Sedalia, which with her help became a more beautiful, more educated, and more patriotic city.

*Rhonda Chalfant is active in the Sedalia/Pettis County chapter of NAACP and the Pettis County Historical Society.*

## GUEST COLUMN

### The holidays during the COVID era

The Christmas and New Year's holidays have come and gone; the leftover candy has almost disappeared, and the only thing remaining of the leftover food in our house is a ring around my middle that I fear will last all through the year.

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year as I did. There was a COVID hitch to my wife and I's holiday, however, as part of our family refused to get the vaccine, which meant we had to have two Christmases. The upside of that was our house was not crowded, and I got to eat holiday deserts twice. The downside was our house was not overcrowded and the



**JACK MILLER**  
Guest Columnist

family could not be together.

I have spent a lot of time praying that my unvaccinated family members will not regret their decision not to get the shots for themselves and their children. I know I am not alone in my prayers because I hear the horror stories on television delivered by crying relatives of someone who refused the vac-

cine that would have made COVID a mild form of the disease instead of a deadly one. My prayers go out to the loved ones of those people who must end their life begging for the vaccine that they had refused for so long.

There will be holidays in 2022 that families could enjoy together if everyone were vaccinated; the Fourth of July comes to mind, with its burnt hamburgers and hot dogs; the whole family has always enjoyed those at my house each year. It has always been a time I could enjoy seeing all of my grandchildren playing together in my yard, waiting for the darkness to come so the fireworks could start.

Christmas, however, is the time when most people consider the closeness of the family a real necessity and plan all year for that day, as my wife does.

This year there is only one gift my wife and I would appreciate receiving from all my children and grandchildren, and it doesn't even need to be wrapped. I want each one to give me a Christmas card in the form of their vaccination card with all the spaces filled. That would make it a Merry Christmas in 2022!

*Jack Miller is a longtime Sedalia resident, former radio news reporter and former Democrat contributing columnist.*



# Missouri House rejects bid to bolster GOP congressional map

By David A. Lieb  
Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Missouri House endorsed a congressional redistricting plan Tuesday that is projected to maintain the state's Republican edge but turned back an attempt by some GOP members to more aggressively redraw districts to their advantage.

The proposed map for Missouri's eight U.S. House districts adjusts the boundaries to account for population changes in the 2020 census. It's expected to continue the current representation of six Republicans and two Democrats — one each from the urban centers of St. Louis and Kansas City.

Some Republicans — seeking to follow aggressive gerrymanders elsewhere — pushed for a map that could have delivered a 7-1 Republican advantage by splitting up the Kansas City-area district represented by Democratic Rep. Emanuel Cleaver. Their proposals would have merged urban Democrats with large numbers of rural

Missourians who favor Republicans.

The attempt was similar to what has been proposed in neighboring Tennessee, where Republicans have put forth plans to split up a Democratic-held district in Nashville. Lawmakers in some other states — including Democrats in neighboring Illinois and Republicans in North Carolina — also have drawn maps that give their party a boost.

But in Missouri, one attempt to split Kansas City was rejected for not maintaining equal populations in the districts and a second attempt failed by a 23-120 vote.

The House later voted 84-60 to give first-round approval to a predominantly status quo plan put forth by the House Special Committee on Redistricting. That legislation, which would keep the districts mostly unchanged, needs a final vote, expected Thursday, to advance to the Senate.

To take effect in time for the August primary elections, the plan must pass the House with a two-thirds majority of

109 votes. Although Tuesday's vote was far short of that threshold, sponsoring Rep. Dan Shaul said he believes some lawmakers who initially voted against the bill will ultimately vote for its emergency passage to ensure elections aren't disrupted.

Shaul, a Republican, described the plan as a "fair map" that is likely to sustain Republicans' current edge without stretching so far that it invites a strong court challenge or spreads Republicans so thin that they are susceptible to losing seats if political winds shift.

He said the plan also reduces the number of counties that are split among districts and keeps communities of interest intact.

The House voted down Democratic attempts to slightly boost the already sizable minority population in a St. Louis district represented by Democratic Rep. Cori Bush and to exclude a Republican-leaning area of suburban Kansas City from the district represented by Cleaver.

Democrats argued that Missouri's statewide elections indicate they should be able to win three seats in Congress. Although no Democrats voted for the plan endorsed Tuesday, some expressed satisfaction with at least keeping two districts in their favor. Democratic Rep. Doug Clemens said the map was "quasi-fair."

Republicans who wanted to more aggressively gerrymander districts said it was justified to counter Democratic attempts in Congress to pass liberal priorities, such as a nationwide voting rights law and federal funding for abortions.

"We are trying to save this republic. We are trying to ensure that the representatives that we are putting forth with these boundaries are representing the core values of the people here in the state of Missouri," said Republican Rep. Nick Schroer.

Democratic Rep. Peter Merideth said Republicans pushing for a 7-1 advantage among districts were "overtly gerrymandering the map" in "a radical way."

## POLICE REPORTS Cont. from 5A

Jan. 18

12:39 a.m.: Officers observed a vehicle known to them traveling at 81 mph in a 25 mph zone. After attempting to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle, it fled and continued at a rate of 102 miles per hour out of the city limits. Charges are being sought.

### Pettis County Sheriff's Office Arrests

Jan. 17

4:38 a.m.: Colleen Nichols, 34, and Thomas Capleton, 55, both of Sedalia, were arrested after deputies responded to the 100 block of Villa Drive in Pettis County in reference to a physical assault. They were transported separately to the Pettis County Jail and placed on 24-hour holds awaiting formal charges.

### Incidents

Jan. 10

10:30 a.m.: Depu-

ties took a report of theft on Pleasant Green in La Monte.

Jan. 15

8:25 a.m.: Deputies responded to the area of U.S. Highway 65 and Bothwell Park Road in reference to a vehicle that slid off the roadway and down an embankment due to inclement weather. The driver, Jose Rodriguez Talavera, of Sedalia, and two other occupants were transported to Bothwell Regional Health Center with minor injuries.

### Missouri State Highway Patrol Arrests

Jan. 17

1:15 p.m.: Danny R. Mullins, 68, of Lone Jack, was arrested in Benton County for felony driving while intoxicated. He was transported to the Benton County Jail and released.

Compiled by  
Chris Howell.

## STATE BRIEFS

### Potential settlement in lawsuit against Kansas City police

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Kansas City police on Tuesday agreed to pay \$110,000 to settle a lawsuit that was filed by a teenage girl who was hit in the eyes with pepper spray during a demonstration in 2020.

The lawsuit accused three officers of assault and two of them with battery against a 15-year-old girl and her father, Tarence Maddox, during a demonstration on Kansas City's Country Club Plaza.

The settlement must still be approved by a circuit court judge, The Kansas City Star reported.

A video of the confrontation showed Maddox yelling at the police during the protest. Six officers then approach and spray him and his daughter with pepper spray.

Tarence Maddox was pulled into the street and taken into custody. One of the officers was shown pulling the teenager toward him and spraying her in the eyes from about 4 inches away, according to the lawsuit.

That officer, Nicholas McQuillen, was later indicted by a Jackson County grand jury with fourth-degree assault, a misdemeanor. He is scheduled to go to trial April 11.

Maddox dismissed his lawsuit against the police department in October.

Police spokeswoman Leslie Foreman said the department could not comment because of an ongoing investigation.

### Former priest named in dozens of child abuse lawsuits dies

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — A former Roman Catholic priest who was named in dozens of child sexual abuse lawsuits was found dead in Kansas City on Sunday, police said.

Emergency responders found Thomas Reardon, 80, a former priest in the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, dead Sunday at the Brookdale Wornall

Place, a senior living facility where he lived.

Police said there was no evidence of suspicious circumstances or foul play in Reardon's death.

Reardon resigned as a priest in 1989 and was later removed by the diocese from the priesthood.

In 2019, he was among 24 priests whose names the diocese released as being credibly accused of sexual abuse of minors.

Reardon was among 12 current and former priests named in a sexual abuse case involving 47 plaintiffs that the diocese settled for

\$10 million in 2008, the Kansas City Star reported.

He also was included in a \$10 million settlement by the diocese in 2014 that covered 32 lawsuits involving 14 current and former priests facing allegations of sexual abuse over three decades.

For whom  
do the bells toll?  
...for **63,482,974**  
innocents killed  
since Roe v Wade

49th Memorial  
Prayer Service  
and Walk of  
Remembrance  
12 noon, Friday,  
January 21,  
Pettis County  
Courthouse

The Sedalia Chapter of the Missouri Right to Life  
(660) 620-4773 for more information



## SMITH WELDING COMPANY AUCTION

We will sell all the following items located at  
**500 Franklin Ave Warrensburg, MO 64093 on**  
**Friday, January 21, 2022 • 10:00 AM**

AUCTIONEER NOTE: Smith Welding has been in business since 1958. Vehicles sell at 12:00 noon. This is a partial list, many items not listed!  
OWNER: SMITH WELDING SHOP



### Shop Tools & Supplies

- Lincoln 7015 4 post car lift drive on w/alignment pads 220 volt
- Large bench grinder on floor stand 110 volt
- Central machine 30" finger brake
- Central machine mini lath 3" chuck SKU N033684
- Key grinder/maker w/multiple blank keys, various
- 3 ton floor jack
- Heftee 4000lbs multi use lift w/boom & accessories
- Wiko manual tire machine
- Air bead blaster
- Sheet metal roller
- Clark upper & lower tool chest
- Multiple chainsaw sharpener - Oregon & Stihl
- Parts washer
- Handi lawn mower lift
- Tabletop belt sander
- Kalamazoo 7AW 14" metal band saw
- Yale 2000lbs propane forklift w/5ft forks
- Radiator boiling tank
- Clark 2000 lbs forklift
- Radial arm saw
- Engine stands
- Welding table
- Car rotisserie, new never used
- Engine test stand
- Walker Turner drill press
- Lincoln AC 225 arc welder & supplies
- Transmission stand/lift
- 1 ton chain hoist
- AC Delco engine lift/cherry picker
- Airco push-pull mig (2SCRS224)
- 3 ton manual press
- 220 ext. cords
- Large shop fans, multiple
- Manual pipe bender
- Retractable cords & hose reels
- Wire dispenser
- 8ft x 8ft A-frame
- Shop refrigerator
- Shop Smith - tablesaw - plainer - sander set
- Socket set 3/4 drive 21 piece
- 4 qty car roller dollies
- Several ACC/Argen/Co2 bottles
- Shop tables
- Misc muffler pipe
- Shop carts & racks
- Robin air AC - relaimer model 17-700
- Sockets & Hand Tools

- 2 old scales fairbanks w/20" platform
- Vintage lawn boy garden tiller
- Storefront toledo scale
- Horse drawn 2 seat buggy w/shafts (very old-hand to view)
- 1950's & 60's chainsaws - Cox - Stihl - Homelight - Pioneer-echo.
- 1950 Maul chainsaw w/10ft bar - chainsaw on display

### Collector Cars & Parts

- 1959 Studebaker lark V8 3 speed 4 door
- 1960 Studebaker Ranchero "custom modified" V8 power steering - brakes - AC - one of a kind
- 1950 Studebaker champion 2 door (not running)
- Studebaker engines, various
- Studebaker parts & accessories - 100's of different parts - from - wheels - chrome - body parts - fenders and much much more, new old stock
- Studebaker truck cab, no title

### Antiques & Collectibles

- Toy elect. car 36" power bird by Marx
- Metal - Tonka toys, various amounts
- Elect. toy train set - Southern Pacific
- Iris bowls
- Army box
- Green depression glass
- Peddle car
- Pool table and all accessories
- Oak dresser w/mirror
- 3 piece bedroom set, full
- Dinette table and 4 chairs
- Maple dresser w/mirror
- SKelly oil cans

### Lawn Mower Parts & Misc

- Lawn mower advertisement misc items
- Lighted clocks & signs - small amount some newer
- Counter stools
- Nut & bolt display
- Shop/breakroom refrigerator
- Gondola shelving
- 2ftx2ft combo safe/cabinet
- Lots of lawn mower parts - Briggs - Echo - Kohler - Kawasaki - Eriws - Gravely - Tire & Wheels - various amount
- Misc fluids & pois
- Swisher seats

### Trailers

- 14ft flatbed bumper hitch trailer w/lawn gate and wench
- 8ftx5ft flatbed trailer





# City

From Page 1A

“Through the pandemic, this has not been available to us over the past years. In case this becomes available to us this summer the staff recommends extending the contract for another year.”

A bid and an ordinance

passed unanimously for a quote and budget amendment to purchase two dual-band radios for the Sedalia Police Department. Purchased through Motorola Solutions, the radios cost \$11,780.

A budget amendment regarding the Sedalia Fire Department vehicle maintenance account in the amount of \$24,000.00 was passed unanimously. This authorized an

increase in budgeted expenditures for fiscal year 2021-22 relating to the vehicle and equipment repair and parts expenses for the SFD.

A call for a resolution authorizing the submission of an evaluation of industrial pre-treatment local limits and update to City Code related to Sewers and Local Limits to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources

passed unanimously. A speed limit reduction on Tiger Pride Boulevard from 25 mph to 15 mph passed, as did an ordinance to establish a No Parking Zone on the south side of West Fifth Street school days from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

An ordinance to establish a four-way stop at the intersection of North Engineer Avenue and East Saline Street passed

unanimously. A Sedalia Middle School student was killed at this intersection last year.

A speed limit reduction on Engineer Avenue from Reine Avenue to the Union Pacific Railroad – 30 mph to 25 mph – also passed unanimously.

A water and wastewater modeling software purchase from Carahsoft Technology Corporation for \$34,946 was passed

as was a \$5,000 budget amendment for a timber inventory at Spring Fork Lake. The City intends to harvest some of the lumber there and needs an inventory to make a decision.

Finally, a lease agreement with OATS for office space at the Amtrak Depot also passed unanimously.

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

## STATE BRIEFS

### St. Louis County man pleads guilty in death of co-worker

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A St. Louis County man was sentenced Tuesday to 14 years in prison after he admitted stabbing a co-worker to death in September 2019.

Alipasha Ibragimov, 28, of unincorporated south St. Louis County, was sentenced after he pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and armed criminal action in the death of Steven Tyrell Hill, 20, of St. Louis.

The two men were working for the Two Men and a Truck moving company when Hill's throat was slashed as he sat in a truck in the Mount Pleasant

neighborhood of St. Louis, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

Surveillance video showed Hill getting into the cab of the company truck. The video showed Ibragimov also getting into the truck and then running into the warehouse covered in blood.

A motive is still unclear and the murder weapon was never found, said Steven Waterkotte, Ibragimov's lawyer.

### Two dead in Missouri house; murder-suicide suspected

FENTON, Mo. (AP) — Authorities believe a suburban St. Louis man killed his wife before fatally

shooting himself.

Jefferson County Sheriff Dave Marshak on Tuesday identified the victims as 47-year-old Kirstin Gentemann and her 57-year-old husband, Steven Gentemann. Their bodies were discovered Monday inside a home near Fenton.

Marshak said in a news release that two juveniles were inside the home but ran out just prior to the shooting and were unharmed. Marshak did not disclose a potential motive but said there was no apparent history of domestic violence.

Marshak said Kirstin Gentemann was shot several times. Steven Gentemann died of a single gunshot wound.

### Freed Missouri inmate sues over medical care in prison

KANSAS CITY, Mo.

(AP) — A Kansas City man released from prison after serving more than 40 years for a wrongful conviction is suing the company that provides medical care for Missouri prison inmates.

Kevin Strickland alleges in his lawsuit that medical care provided by Corizon LLC officials left him dependent on a wheelchair and able to stand for only brief periods, KMBC-TV reported.

Strickland, of Kansas City, was released from prison in November after a judge ruled he was wrongfully convicted of committing a triple murder in Kansas City in 1979.

In his lawsuit, Strickland said Corizon employees at Crossroads Correctional Center and Western Missouri Correctional Center repeatedly denied, delayed and deferred his requests for treatment for spinal stenosis and neurologic problems.

## HOOVER'S

BULK FOOD STORE, LLC

HooversBulkFoodStore.com Prices Good til Jan 25

<b>Deli Sale</b> Sweet Bologna or \$5.99 @ pound Horseradish Cheddar	<b>Rada Kitchen Knives 10% OFF</b> The Knives Your Grandma Used <b>Made in USA</b>
<b>Local Homegrown Tomatoes</b> Ball Jars & Lids	<b>Beat The Cold</b> Fox Coffee 10% OFF Medium and Dark

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CLOSED SUNDAY 573 378 6699

## RE/MAX OF SEDALIA

### Nicci Ragsdale

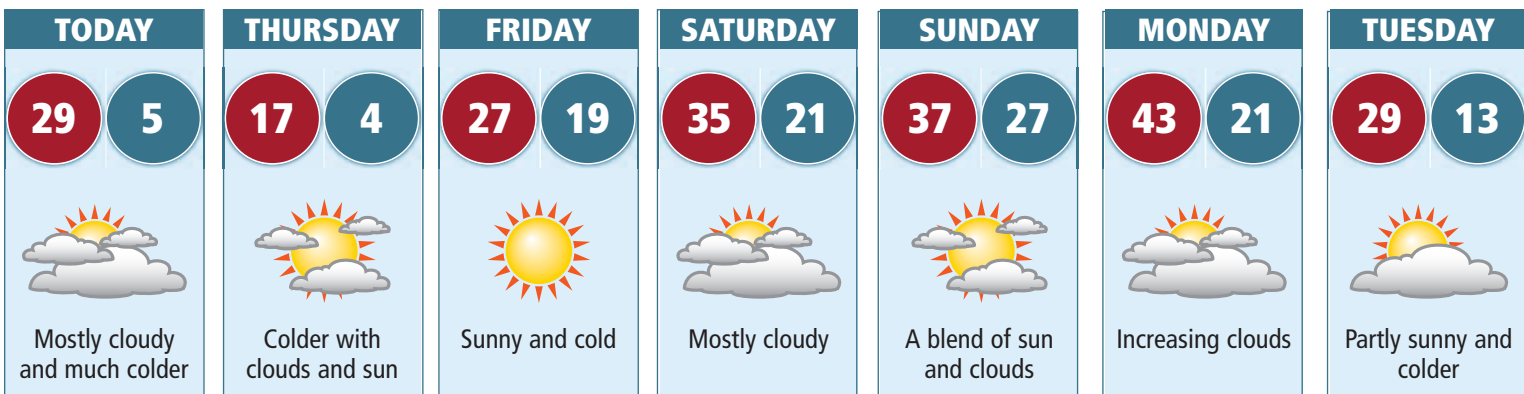
Cell: 660-620-7777  
Office: 660.826.9911  
Fax: 660.826.4224

1435 Thompson Blvd  
Sedalia, MO 65301  
niccicashman1@remax.net

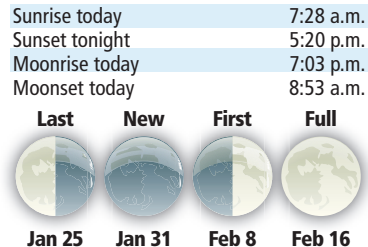
# THE WEATHER

AccuWeather | Go to AccuWeather.com

## SEVEN-DAY FORECAST



## SUN AND MOON



## ALMANAC

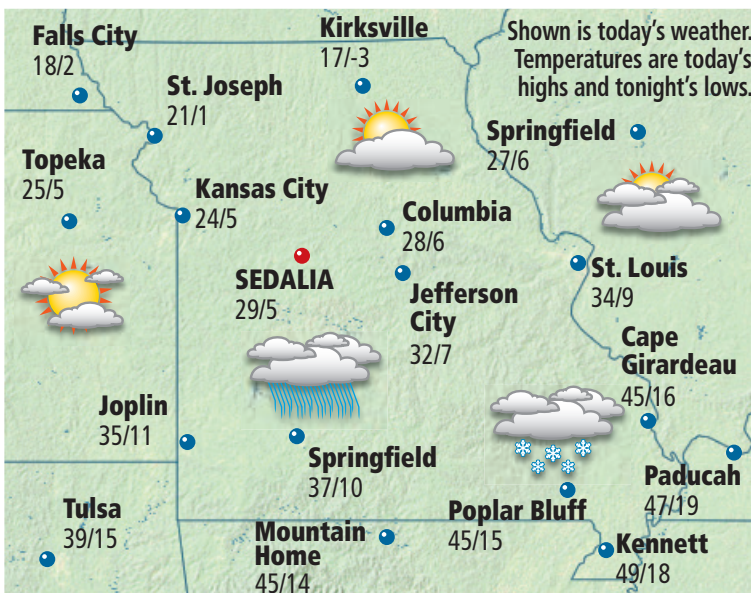
Sedalia Regional Airport Monday

TEMPERATURES	
High	40
Low	28
Normal high	38
Normal low	18
Record high	69 in 1990
Record low	-21 in 1977

PRECIPITATION	
Monday	0.00"
Month to date	0.65"
Normal m-t-d	1.02"
Year to date	0.65"
Normal y-t-d	1.02"

HEATING DEGREE DAYS	
Monday	31
Month to date	586
Season to date	1868
Normal season to date	2664
Last season to date	2170

RIVER LEVELS				
In feet as of 7 a.m. Tuesday				
Blackwater	Stage	Chg	Fld	Stg
Blue Lick	7.45	+0.14	24	
Valley City	3.61	-0.11	22	
Lamine				
Otterville	1.16	+0.13	15	
Missouri				
Boonville	3.81	+0.52	21	



**BRANSON**  
**High:** 41. **Low:** 12. Mostly cloudy today with a bit of snow and sleet in the afternoon, accumulating a coating to an inch.

**KANSAS CITY**  
**High:** 24. **Low:** 5. Breezy and much colder today with intervals of clouds and sun. Bitterly cold tonight. Times of sun and clouds tomorrow.

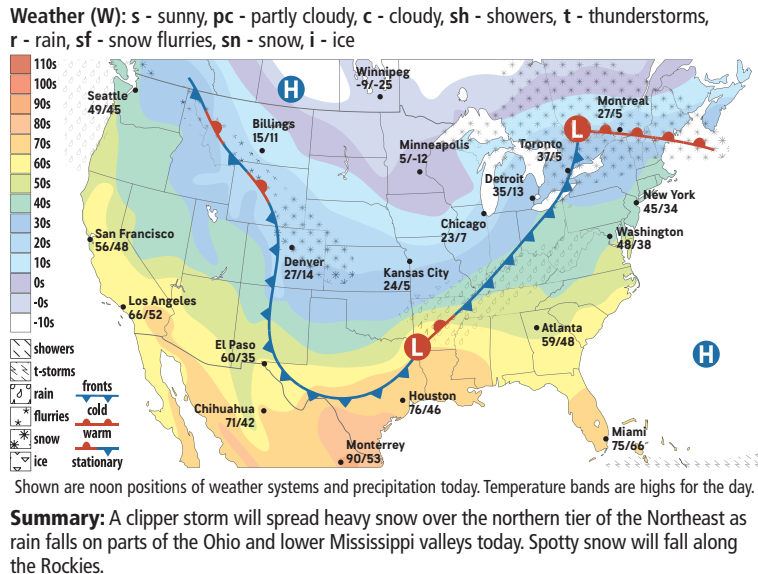
**ST. LOUIS**  
**High:** 34. **Low:** 9. Mostly cloudy today; breezy during the afternoon. Frigid tonight; frostbite to exposed skin within 15 minutes. Mostly sunny tomorrow.

**NEW YORK CITY**  
**High:** 45. **Low:** 34. Mostly cloudy and windy today. Snow and rain at times with little or no accumulation tonight. Breezy tomorrow with periods of snow.

**LOS ANGELES**  
**High:** 66. **Low:** 52. Mostly sunny today. Clear tonight. Delightful tomorrow with plenty of sun. Friday and Saturday: sunshine and patchy clouds.

## NATIONAL WEATHER

	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thursday Hi/Lo/W	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thursday Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	59/48/c	49/35/r	Milwaukee	19/7/pc
Baltimore	49/35/c	37/16/r	Nashville	53/27/r
Billings	15/11/c	39/33/pc	New Orleans	73/56/c
Boston	45/33/c	34/10/sn	Norfolk	54/42/c
Buffalo	39/13/sn	14/1/c	Oklahoma City	36/15/pc
Charlotte	56/43/pc	49/29/r	Orlando	75/54/pc
Chicago	23/7/pc	16/7/s	Phoenix	67/48/pc
Cleveland	40/17/c	21/12/sn	Pittsburgh	41/20/c
Dallas	59/26/s	40/24/pc	Portland, ME	35/29/c
Denver	27/14/sf	39/22/pc	Portland, OR	48/45/r
Detroit	35/13/c	21/10/pc	Sacramento	58/38/pc
Honolulu	80/66/pc	80/65/pc	St. Louis	34/9/c
Houston	76/46/t	46/33/r	San Francisco	56/48/pc
Indianapolis	39/15/c	23/12/pc	Seattle	49/45/c
Las Vegas	63/42/pc	62/41/s	Washington, DC	48/38/c



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## Steelers' Tomlin: 'all options' on the table at QB in 2022

By Will Graves  
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — For the first time in Mike Tomlin's long tenure as the head coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers, he enters the offseason unsure of who his starting quarterback will be in the fall.

The only certainty is that it won't be Ben Roethlisberger, who has given every indication he will retire after an 18-year career.

Maybe it'll be Mason Rudolph, who has spent four years as an understudy with mixed results and is currently the only quarterback on the roster under contract for next season. Maybe it'll be Dwayne Haskins, who flamed out in Washington before being given a lifeline by Tomlin last January. Maybe it'll be a rookie. Or maybe a veteran free agent in need of a job.

To Tomlin, it's a little exciting. And yeah, maybe a little weird.

"It's a challenge, man," Tomlin said Tuesday after his 15th season at the helm ended with a thud in a blow-out loss to Kansas City in the opening round of the playoffs. "It kind of makes you uneasy. But I've learned to run to those challenges. I've learned to appreciate those challenges. The uncertainty surrounding them is inspiring to me in terms of producing work."

Rudolph is 5-4-1 in his career as a starter, but struggled in his lone extended appearance this season, throwing a touchdown and an interception in an ugly tie with Detroit in November after Roethlisberger tested positive for COVID-19. Haskins flamed out in less than two seasons with Washington after being taken with the 15th overall pick in 2019 and served as Pittsburgh's third quarterback in 2021.

See **TOMLIN** | 8B



PHOTO BY ED ZURGA | AP PHOTO

Pittsburgh Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin watches from the sideline during the first half of an NFL wild-card playoff football game against the Kansas City Chiefs, Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022, in Kansas City, Mo.



PHOTO BY BRYAN EVERSON | DEMOCRAT

S-C senior Jason Diep (six points) attempts a 3-pointer in Tuesday night's home game against Republic.

## Smith-Cotton gets coveted first win

By Bryan Everson  
bryane@sedaliademocrat.com

Even if last season was less than ideal, Smith-Cotton boys basketball didn't have the prospect of a winless season hanging over its head. The team collected a pair of wins in its third and fourth games of the year at the Willard Tournament.

It wasn't until an extended quarantine that a losing streak began on Jan. 9, 2021, and followed the Tigers the rest of the year, amounting to 11 losses by the end.

This winter the losses have kept piling up. Some reasonable opportunities to get the upper-hand have been within reach thus far; an overtime loss at home to Versailles is the clear standout. An 18-point defeat

at Marshall also comes to mind.

Finally, the Tigers put the kibosh on ideas of a historically unforgettable year to bed with a 60-51 victory over Clinton on Wednesday, Jan. 12.

Ironically, it came without head coach Mike Franklin, who missed last week due to a positive COVID-19 test.

"It was deja vu all over again for me," said Franklin, who missed a handful of the team's games last year after being quarantined. "It's nerve-wracking; I'm screaming at the laptop. It's one of the most frustrating things not being able to be there to coach with your guys."

Franklin stayed connected as best he could. "I was staying in constant contact, even during practices," he said. "I would talk to some parents

[who were] giving me updates as the game was going on just so I could stay tuned in. One thing I was impressed with was in those couple of games, the effort was where I've wanted to get to all year. It's something we've been constantly preaching."

"Having Frank out with COVID, we had to dig deep and pick up a win for him," said Tigers senior Carson Hunolt, who scored a team-high 18 points on 6-of-9 shooting in the win.

Hunolt, who was joined in the winning effort by efficient shooting nights from Ayden Perkins (15 points) and Karson Weymuth (11), spoke of the difficulty that the run brought about.

See **SMITH-COTTON** | 8B



PHOTO BY JOSHUA BESSEX | AP PHOTO

Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen reacts after tight end Dawson Knox scores a touchdown during the first half of an NFL wild-card playoff football game against the New England Patriots, Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022, in Orchard Park, N.Y.

## Allen vs. Mahomes revisited as Bills face Chiefs once more

By John Wawrow  
AP Sports Writer

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — A second consecutive postseason matchup pitting Buffalo's Josh Allen against Kansas City's Patrick Mahomes seemed almost inevitable after two of the NFL's top young quarterbacks met in last year's AFC championship game.

The same could not have been envisioned as recently as four years ago.

What might be lost in all the

hype leading up to the divisional playoff meeting at Kansas City on Sunday is both players' connections to Buffalo, and the second-guessing which followed two key Bills decisions in finally arriving on their franchise quarterback.

The Bills were roundly panned during the 2017 draft for passing up the chance to select Mahomes. They instead traded the 10th pick to Kansas City, allowing the Chiefs to land an electrifying player who has led them to Super Bowl appearances

in each of the past two years.

Though even Bills owners Terry and Kim Pegula favored selecting Mahomes, first-year coach Sean McDermott and then but soon to be fired GM Doug Whaley balked by placing a priority on stock-piling draft picks to rebuild what had been a losing team.

That didn't stop more criticism being directed at Buffalo a year later during general manager Brandon Beane's first draft in Buffalo.

See **ANALYSIS** | 8B

## Alabama trying to reverse 3-game skid, fall from rankings

By John Zenor  
AP Sports Writer

Alabama, one of college basketball's high-flying teams in early December, is looking to rebound following three straight close losses.

The Crimson Tide (11-6, 2-3 Southeastern Conference) fell out of the rankings this week after rising to No. 6 on Dec. 13, with a win over current No. 1 Gonzaga on the résumé.

The defending SEC champions, who were picked to finish second in the league, hope they have corrected their recent struggles when they host No. 13 LSU (15-2, 3-2) Wednesday night. Alabama has five losses by six points or less, including the past three.

"We've got to get to the point where we're playing hard

every day," Tide coach Nate Oats said Tuesday. "That's who we are. I think we've lost a little bit of our confidence. I think a lot of that came from when we quit playing as hard as we need to play."

"It affects you on both sides of the ball."

It's the first three-game skid under Oats, who led Alabama to a 26-7 record last season that included going 16-2 in SEC games.

Alabama fell from the rankings for the first time this season with last weekend's 78-76 road loss to Mississippi State, when Keon Ellis missed a last-gasp 3-pointer. Afterward, Oats suggested his team is "just not quite as tough as we need to be to compete for a league title at this point."

See **ALABAMA** | 8B



PHOTO BY VASHA HUNT | AP PHOTO

Alabama head coach Nate Oats tracks his team during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game against Davidson, Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021, in Birmingham, Ala.



## SPORTS CALENDAR

### Wednesday

#### ON TAP

#### COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

7:30 p.m. Mineral Area College at State Fair Community College

#### COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

5:30 p.m. Mineral Area College at State Fair Community College

#### ON AIR

#### CHL HOCKEY

6 p.m. NHLN - TBA

#### COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)

5:30 p.m. BTN - Minnesota at Penn St.

SECN - Mississippi St. at Florida

6 p.m. ACCN - Virginia Tech at NC State

ESPN2 - LSU at Alabama

ESPNU - Wake Forest at Georgia Tech

FS1 - St. John's at Creighton

7 p.m. CBSSN - Marquette at Villanova

7:30 p.m. BTN - Iowa at Rutgers

SECN - Kentucky at Texas A&M

8 p.m. ACCN - Virginia at Pittsburgh

ESPNU - Georgia at

Auburn

FS1 - Xavier at DePaul

9 p.m. CBSSN - New Mexico at Colorado St.

#### GOLF

1 a.m. (Thursday) GOLF - EPGA Tour: The Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship, First Round, Yas Links, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

#### NBA BASKETBALL

6:45 p.m. ESPN - Charlotte at Boston

9:05 p.m. ESPN - LA Clippers at Denver

#### NHL HOCKEY

6:30 p.m. TNT - Toronto at NY Rangers

9 p.m. TNT - Colorado at Anaheim

#### ROBERTO CLEMENTE PBL BASEBALL

5 p.m. FS2 - Playoff: Indios de Mayagüez vs. Criollos de Caguas, Final, Game 4

#### SOCCER (MEN'S)

1:30 p.m. USA - Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur at Leicester City

#### TENNIS

1 p.m. ESPN2 - ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Second Round, Melbourne, Australia (Taped)

8 p.m. ESPN2 - ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Second Round, Melbourne, Australia

# Warriors minority owner under fire for comments on Uyghurs

By Janie McCauley

AP Sports Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A Golden State Warriors minority owner who said "nobody cares" about the Uyghurs in China is under fire and the team is distancing itself from him.

On the latest edition of his All-In Podcast, billionaire Chamath Palihapitiya dismissed the situation in China, which is accused by the U.S. of genocide and crimes against humanity because of the treatment of the Uyghurs Muslim minority population in the Xinjiang region in northwest China.

"Nobody cares about what's happening to the Uyghurs, OK?" Palihapitiya said at the nearly 15-minute mark of the show from Saturday. "... I'm telling you a very hard, ugly truth, OK, of all the things that I care about, yes it is below my line."

Golden State swiftly reacted Monday by saying Palihapitiya's views aren't reflective of those of the team.

"As a limited investor who has no day-to-day operating functions with the Warriors, Mr. Palihapitiya does not speak on behalf of our franchise, and his views certainly don't reflect those of our organization," the Warriors said in a statement.

Palihapitiya, who was born in Sri Lanka, later backtracked. In a Twitter post to his 1.5 million followers, he wrote that "important issues deserve nuanced discussions. Some clarifying comments:

"In re-listening to this week's podcast, I recognize that I come across as lacking empathy. I acknowledge that entirely. As a refugee, my family fled a country with its own set of human rights issues so this is something that is very much a part of my lived experience. To be clear, my belief is that human



FILE PHOTO BY RICHARD DREW | AP PHOTO

Social Capital Hedosophia Holdings Corp. CEO, Founder and Chairman Chamath Palihapitiya, center, rings a ceremonial bell on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017. Palihapitiya, a Golden State Warriors NBA basketball team minority owner who said "nobody cares" about the Uyghurs in China, is under fire and the team is distancing itself from him. On the latest edition of his All-In Podcast, the billionaire dismissed the situation in China, which is accused by the U.S. of genocide and crimes against humanity with treatment of the Uyghurs Muslim minority population in its Xinjiang region of Northwest China.

rights matter, whether in China, the United States, or elsewhere. Full stop."

Swiss-born Boston Celtics center Enes Kanter Freedom expressed his outrage on social media.

"When (at)NBA says we stand for justice, don't forget there are those who sell their soul for money & business like (at)chamath the

owner of (at)warriors who says 'Nobody cares about what's happening to the Uyghurs.' When genocides happen, it is people like this that let it happen. Shame!"

After Tuesday's shootaround, Warriors star Andrew Wiggins was asked about Palihapitiya's comments and made it clear they have different beliefs.

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## W-K ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

The Sedalia Democrat is pleased to announce Carson Hunolt and Kaylani Hoskin as area players of the week for Monday, Jan. 10 to Saturday, Jan. 15.

**BOYS:** Smith-Cotton senior Carson Hunolt went for 18 points in a 60-51 win over Clinton on Wednesday, Jan. 12. He was one of three Tigers in double-figures to collect the team's first victory of the season.



**GIRLS:** State Fair Community College freshman Kaylani Hoskin had 18 points in Friday's 59-48 home win over Jefferson College. The output was a season-high for Hoskin, who scored 10 of her points in the fourth quarter for the Lady Roadrunners.

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## Missouri beats Ole Miss 78-53 behind 23 points from Davis

By The Associated Press

OXFORD, Miss. (AP) — Amari Davis scored 23 points, Kobe Brown added 15 and Missouri beat Mississippi 78-53 on Tuesday night.

Missouri won just its fourth game in 19 meetings with Ole Miss since the Tigers joined the Southeastern Conference in the 2012-13 season.

Missouri led by double figures the entire second half. Ole Miss pulled within 57-47 after a 9-0 run, but the Tigers answered by scoring the next 15 points — with six points from Brown — for a 25-point lead with three minutes left.

Javon Pickett and Ronnie DeGray III each had 11 points for Missouri

(8-9, 2-3). Point guard Jarron Coleman grabbed a career-high 13 rebounds, to go with eight points and seven assists, to help the Tigers hold a 40-26 edge on the glass.

Davis scored 13 points in the first half and Missouri led 38-23 after shooting 55.6% from the field. Ole Miss was just 8 for 31 (25.8%) in the opening 20 minutes and finished at 34.4%.

Daeshun Ruffin scored 12 points for Mississippi (9-8, 1-4), which has lost five of its last six games. Nysier Brooks had eight points and 10 rebounds.

Both teams play familiar foes on Saturday. Missouri looks for its second victory against Alabama this season, while Ole Miss tries for the same against rival Mississippi State.

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## HOROSCOPES

### By Georgia Nicols

**Moon Alert:** There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Leo.

### Happy Birthday for

**Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022:**

You are a creative optimist who has a sharp mind. You enthuse and inspire others. You have a great sense of humor and your own definite style. You have a strong sense of will and determination. Great news! This year you will get promotions, kudos and recognition. Bravo!

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)

★★★★ You'll be more popular in the next four weeks. Friendships will be more important, and likewise, your involvement with clubs, groups and organizations will be more meaningful and certainly more active. Enjoy good times! Tonight: Socialize!

### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ In the next four weeks, you will be much more high-viz than usual. People will notice you and admire you even if you don't do anything special. Because of this "magic lighting," this is obviously the time to make your move. Oh yeah, demand the advantage! Tonight: Home and family.

### GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Grab every opportunity to travel, take courses or learn something new in the next four weeks, because you want to expand your world. You want to do things you've never done before. You want to see places you've never seen before. You want to meet new people. Tonight: Communicate.

### CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Life will be more intense than usual in the next four weeks because of the placement of the Sun in your chart. This will make you feel passionately about everything, including intimate relationships. You also might have a desire to turn over a new leaf. Tonight: Check money issues.

### LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You will need more sleep in the next four weeks because your energy will be flagging somewhat. Therefore, respect your need for more rest and take naps or get more sleep. During this window of time, your focus on close friendships and partners will be strong. Tonight: Get some rest.

### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ You're gung-ho to get better organized during the next four weeks, which is why you will not only work hard, you will work smart. You'll be efficient, effective and therefore productive! You want to improve your health as well. (I'm impressed.) Tonight: Seek solitude.

### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Lucky you! The next four weeks will be playful and fun-loving. You will enjoy fun activities with children as well as the arts and the entertainment world. Sports events and social outings will appeal to you. Romance will blossom! Tonight: Talk to a friend.

### SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Home, family and your private life will be your primary focus in the next four weeks. You might be involved more than usual with a parent. Expect to hear from family relatives you haven't seen in a while. (Relatives are popping out of the woodwork.) Tonight: You are admired.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ The pace of your days will accelerate in the next four weeks because you will be busy with errands, appointments and short trips as well as increased reading, writing and studying. Oh yes, your dance card is full. Learn as much as you can. (This will be a busy, exciting time for you.) Tonight: Shake things up.

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Your focus on money, cash flow and earnings will be stronger in the next four weeks. Many of you are planning a major purchase. You will also give serious thought to your basic values in life. It's important to know what really matters. Do you know? Tonight: Check your finances.

### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ The Sun will be in your sign for the next four weeks, giving you a chance to recharge your batteries for the rest of the year. This will also attract people and favorable situations to you. This is good. Major horseshoes for you! Tonight: Cooperate.

### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Keep a low profile in the next four weeks before your birthday month arrives. Use this time to make plans and set goals for what you want your new year to be all about. How do you want it to be different from last year? Jot down some ideas. (This could be a helpful reference.)

Tonight: Get organized.

### BORN TODAY

Actor Luke Macfarlane (1980), singer, humanitarian Dolly Parton (1946), singer Janis Joplin (1943)



PHOTO BY SUE OGRÖCKI | AP PHOTO

**Kansas guard Dajuan Harris Jr. (3) goes to the basket in front of Oklahoma forward Tanner Groves (35) in the first half of an NCAA college basketball game Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2022, in Norman, Okla.**

# Wilson, Braun lead No. 7 Kansas past Oklahoma 67-64

By Cliff Brunt

AP Sports Writer

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Jalen Wilson scored 16 points, Christian Braun hit a tiebreaking 3-pointer with 10.9 seconds left and No. 7 Kansas defeated Oklahoma 67-64 on Tuesday night.

Braun's corner 3 gave the Jayhawks a 65-62 lead. They fouled Jordan Goldwire with 6.1 seconds remaining to prevent him from shooting a potential tying 3, and he made both free throws to make it 65-64.

Braun then drained two at the other end with four seconds to go. Oklahoma, out of timeouts, missed a desperation heave from beyond halfcourt that could have forced overtime.

Braun shot his late 3-pointer a bit earlier than Kansas coach Bill Self wanted.

"Well, it won the game, I mean, so I think it's pretty big," Self said. "I mean, a tie game and he shoots it five seconds too early. It better — it's got to go in."

Braun finished with 15 points and Ochai Agbaji, the Big 12 scor-

ing leader, had all 10 of his points in the final six minutes for the Jayhawks (15-2, 4-1).

Though Kansas won its third straight, Self said he'd like his team to embrace the ugly games more.

"I don't think we did a great job of that tonight, but we did a good enough job," he said. "I thought the ball stuck. I didn't think we did a lot of things very well. But we ... played pretty well the last four minutes, which is obviously the most important stretch of the game."

Goldwire scored 15 points for Oklahoma (12-6, 2-4), which lost its third in a row. It was a disappointing finish for the Sooners, who nearly pulled off their fourth win over a ranked team this season.

"You can't forget how this feels because this is where we want to go," coach Porter Moser said. "We want to win these games."

Agbaji, who was averaging 20.6 points per game, headed back to the locker room midway through the first half after hurting his left wrist. Oklahoma took advantage

and went on an 11-0 run to grab a 28-24 lead.

Self said X-rays were negative.

"Yeah, if he broke his wrist or something, I don't know what we'd do in that situation," Self said.

Agbaji returned to the game with his wrist taped, and Kansas recovered to take a 34-32 half-time lead.

Consecutive 3-pointers by Braun and Wilson put the Jayhawks up 42-32 and caused the Sooners to call a timeout. Oklahoma missed its first four shots after the break, and the Jayhawks went on a 10-0 spurt before the Sooners scored nearly four minutes into the second half.

Oklahoma rallied, and Umoja Gibson's nasty step-back into a 3-pointer gave the Sooners a 47-46 lead.

Agbaji scored his first points on a layup that tied it at 52 with about 5:30 to play, and he later made a 3 that evened the game at 58.

Agbaji's layup with just under a minute left put the Jayhawks up by two, but Goldwire scored in close to tie it 62-all and set up the final sequence.

# AP source: Vikings seek interview with Rams' Raheem Morris

By Dave Campbell

AP Pro Football Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings have added Los Angeles Rams defensive coordinator Raheem Morris to their candidate list for head coach.

According to a person with knowledge of the process, speaking Tuesday to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the organization is not announcing interviews before they're completed, the Vikings have requested a virtual meeting with Morris about the vacancy created when Mike Zimmer was fired last week.

The Rams play Sunday at Tampa Bay in the divisional round of the playoffs. Morris is in his first season in Los Angeles, after six years with Atlanta. He spent time with both offense and defense with the Falcons, who promoted him to defensive coordinator in 2020. Morris was interim head coach for 11 games last season after the firing of Dan Quinn.

The 45-year-old Morris was Tampa Bay's head coach for three seasons, compiling a 17-31 record from 2009-11. This is his 19th year coaching in the NFL.



FILE PHOTO BY KEVORK DJANSEZIAN | AP PHOTO

**Los Angeles Rams defensive coordinator Raheem Morris talks on the sideline during the first half of an NFL football game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Sunday, Sept. 26, 2021, in Inglewood, Calif.**

The Vikings have interviewed Green Bay offensive coordinator Nathaniel Hackett and requested meetings with six other candidates besides Morris: Tampa Bay defensive coordinator Todd Bowles, Philadelphia defensive coordinator Jonathan Gannon, Dallas offensive coordinator Kellen Moore, Rams offensive coordinator Kevin O'Connell, San Francisco defensive coordinator DeMeco Ryans, and Quinn, currently the defensive coordinator of the Cowboys.

On the general manager front, the Vikings completed videoconference interviews

Tuesday with Philadelphia director of player personnel Brandon Brown and Kansas City executive director of player personnel Ryan Poles. Rick Spielman was fired last week along with Zimmer.

Brown finished his fifth season with the Eagles, the first in his current role. He previously worked two years in scouting for Indianapolis and spent two seasons with the program at Boston College. Brown played defensive back at Fordham.

Poles is in his 13th year with the Chiefs, his first in the current leadership role. He

played offensive tackle at Boston College.

The Vikings previously completed interviews with Cleveland vice president of football operations Kwesi Adofo-Mensah, Tennessee director of player personnel Monti Ossefort, Philadelphia vice president of football operations Catherine Raiche and Tampa Bay vice president of player personnel John Spytek.

Raiche is in her third season with the Eagles. She was hired in 2019 as a coordinator of football operations and player personnel. Prior to that, the Montreal native worked five years in the Canadian Football League in the front offices of both the Toronto Argonauts and Montreal Alouettes.

Adofo-Mensah, who has degrees from Princeton and Stanford, finished his second season with the Browns. He came to the league from a career on Wall Street as a trader and manager.

Spytek is in his sixth year with the Buccaneers. He's a native of Wisconsin, who played linebacker at Michigan and has worked 18 seasons in the NFL with stints in scouting with Detroit, Philadelphia, Cleveland and Denver.



## Becky Hammon: 'Right time' to leave NBA, return to WNBA



FILE PHOTO BY ERIC GAY | AP PHOTO

San Antonio Spurs assistant coach Becky Hammon during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Dallas Mavericks, Friday, Nov. 12, 2021, in San Antonio. Hammon is finalizing a deal to become the next coach of the Las Vegas Aces. A person familiar with the situation confirmed the move to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because no official announcement has been made. She's expected to be the highest paid coach in the WNBA, earning way more than the highest paid player in the league.

**By Doug Feinberg**

AP Basketball Writer

Becky Hammon said she has always followed her heart and not worried about what other people think of her career decisions.

There were concerns when she chose to play at Colorado State instead of a bigger school. There was backlash about her playing for Russia in the Olympics and now she has heard rumblings about leaving the NBA and coach the WNBA's Las Vegas Aces.

"My heart was saying it was time to go. This is where I am supposed to be right now," she said in a phone interview with The Associated Press. "There were a lot of sleepless nights getting to this conclusion."

She spent eight years as an assistant for the San Antonio Spurs becoming the first fulltime female coach in NBA history. She learned from one of the NBA's best in Gregg Popovich and now feels it is time for a different path, so she pivoted to the WNBA, where she played for many years.

"Las Vegas sees me as a head coach now," she said. "The WNBA has called every year with job openings. ... I've always said thank you I'm very flattered, but stayed on this path. This was the first time where I was like I'll listen."

She's proud of her still—being-written legacy as a trailblazer, having interviewed for several NBA head coaching jobs. But for now, her dream of becoming the first woman to lead an NBA team is on hold.

"Women are getting hired in all sorts of positions now. Not just the NBA, but across professional sports leagues," she said. "For anyone to say the needle hasn't moved is wrong. The process (interviewing) in Portland moved the needle. It was a great process for me."

Hammon has heard the outside noise that taking the WNBA job is a step down and she takes umbrage with any who believe it.

"I think it's an ignorant statement. To think I've outgrown the WNBA in a

coaching capacity is ridiculous," she said. "I'd rather be a coach in the WNBA and have my own organization and be running a team."

There are still a half dozen women assistant coaches in the NBA. Hammon's resume has earned her plenty of respect: A person familiar with her contract says she will be the WNBA's highest-paid coach. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because details of the deal has not been publicly announced, and they are still unclear.

"It's a great opportunity to have a head coaching job at that level," Popovich said. "To prove herself. She's already proven herself to me, but that doesn't matter in the long run. She's interviewed for a few jobs in the NBA, and she's more than qualified and would have done a great job."

Hammon will be pulling double-duty for the next few months until the Spurs' season is over. One of the first things that she'll have to do is hire her own coaching staff. She's begun calling Aces' players to get to know them.

"Right now I'm reaching out to all the players on the roster," she said. "Establish a relationship with them and talk a little bit about roles and what we're doing offensively and defensively."

The Aces finished with the second-best record in the WNBA last season at 24-8 before falling to the Phoenix Mercury in the semifinals. The franchise, looking for its first WNBA title, has a solid core led by former MVP A'ja Wilson.

Hammon was coy about what her on-court philosophy will be, only saying that the team which was last in 3-pointers attempted will definitely shoot more this season. The 44-year-old former WNBA player says she just wants to coach for now and not worry about being the team's general manager.

"Down the road we'll talk. I just want to coach. That's it. Get out there, get with the players," Hammon said. "Get in the foxhole with each other."

## Expectations skyrocket in Grizzlies' Ja Morant's 3rd season

**By Teresa M. Walker**

AP Sports Writer

A season that started with All-Star goals for Memphis guard Ja Morant has grown far beyond that.

The third-year point guard has emerged as a legitimate MVP candidate.

Opposing coaches use words like "special," a "true All-Star" and "one of the NBA's best players period" to describe Morant.

"I don't know any other way to put it," Lakers assistant coach David Fizdale said. "The guy is a superstar. I don't see anybody that's had a real true answer for the guy. What he's done against some of the best teams in the league, the best defensive coaches, the best defensive minds, has been really impressive."

Morant has had high expectations since Memphis drafted him with the No. 2 overall selection in 2019. He helped end a playoff drought leading the Grizzlies to play-in wins over San Antonio and Golden State to earn the No. 8 seed before Memphis lost to Utah in five games to cap his second season.

Now he's helped Memphis become one of the NBA's best. The Grizzlies have won 22 of 27, including 12 of the last 13, and only Phoenix has more wins than Memphis' 31 tied with Golden State. Memphis also has road wins over both the Suns and Warriors this season.

And Morant is a major reason why.

Morant has improved his scoring each of his first three seasons, and he is averaging a career-high 24.4 points a game along with 5.7 rebounds and 6.7 assists. He joins Stephen Curry, LeBron James, Luka Doncic and Nikola Jokic as the only NBA players averaging at least 24 points, 5 rebounds and 6 assists a game.

Curry, James and Jokic have a combined seven MVP awards.

"I've been working to be in the position that I am right now," Morant said after becoming the only NBA player this season to win consecutive player of the week awards. "I've just got to continue to keep playing my game. Continue to be aggressive out there on the floor and do whatever it takes for us to get a win."

Coaches around the league are taking notice.

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said Morant reminds him of Tony



PHOTO BY BRANDON DILL | AP PHOTO

Memphis Grizzlies guard Ja Morant (12) reacts in the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Minnesota Timberwolves, Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022, in Memphis, Tenn.

Parker with how easily the Grizzlies guard gets to the rim no matter what a team does to try to stop him.

"He also has a little mid-range game with the floater, he's starting to shoot the three ball well, his speed is uncommon and when you put all those things together and add unselfishness and competitiveness to that, you've got a hell of a player on your hands," Popovich said.

Morant has ramped up his scoring to a new level as well.

He became the first player ever to score at least 40 points in back-to-back games against a team led by James in the same season and the first player since the merger with consecutive 40-point double-doubles against the Lakers, according to Elias Sports Bureau. The Grizzlies won both.

Morant came into the NBA showing the ability to slice to the basket or drive to the paint before dropping in a floater. He keeps increasing his creativity, including a spinning move after leaving his feet for a layup late in Monday's 119-106 win over Chicago.

He's also third in the NBA averaging 14.8 points per game in the paint. The guard uses his speed to zoom down the court to finish fast breaks, putting him second in the league averaging 4.3 points per game.

What other coaches are saying:

— Steve Kerr. The Golden State coach believes Morant's confidence is at an all-time high.

"We caught him last year on kind of a lull, and he struggled in a few games when we were here," Kerr said. "Even though he was

great over the course of the year, I think he's (consistent) night in and night out and that's the sign of a true all-star, top level player, which he is."

Morant spent the off-season working on his game, especially his 3-point shot. He's shooting a career-best 35.5% beyond the arc.

— Detroit coach Dwane Casey. He grew up in Kentucky and heard former Murray State coach Tevester Anderson rave about Morant.

"The young man can carry a game," Casey said. "He can control a game with the basketball. He's smart, he's gritty, he's tough, so that's what worries you the most about the Memphis Grizzlies right now."

— Minnesota coach Chris Finch. He calls Morant fearless and an uncanny shotmaker who can make tough shots.

"At the end of the game, he can make the tough shots, draw the contact, make the right play," Finch said. "He can get to the rim and make the shot in the paint and has great closing ability. The athletic package, the speed and the size. There's a lot of things to admire about what he does."

That's why the Grizzlies turn to Morant needing a bucket at the end of games. Morant drove through three Suns for the winning bucket Dec. 28 in the final second on the clock and says he welcomes that pressure.

"It feels like that's when I shine the most," Morant said. "I like to be the one to take that shot, make or miss, just have to deal with it. I can't help it."

AP Freelance Writer Clay Bailey in Memphis contributed to this report.

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Monday, January 24

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# Ovechkin scores 27th, Capitals beat Jets 4-3 in OT

**By The Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alex Ovechkin scored his league-leading 27th goal of the season, Tom Wilson scored in overtime and the Washington Capitals beat the Winnipeg Jets 4-3 Tuesday night.

Wilson's goal 26 seconds into the 3-on-3 OT gave the Capitals their first victory in that situation this season. They lost their previous seven games decided after regulation but before a shootout.

Washington needed overtime after Pierre-Luc Dubois tied it with 1:05 left. Vitek Vanecsek stopped 30 of the 33 shots he faced, rebounding from allowing two goals in the opening minutes.

Ovechkin beat Connor Hellebuyck, who made 27 saves. It was Ovechkin's 757th goal was also his 1,375th point, putting him ahead of Mike Modano for 24th on the career scoring list.

## HURRICANES 7, BRUINS 1

BOSTON (AP) — Jesperi Kotkaniemi scored twice during Carolina's five-goal first period, Jacob Slavin added a goal and two assists after a two-game absence, and the Hurricanes snapped Boston's five-game winning streak.

Teuvo Teravainen, Seth Jarvis, Derek Stepan and Andrei



Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin (8) celebrates his goal with teammates in the first period of an NHL hockey game against the Winnipeg Jets, Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2022, in Washington.

PHOTO BY PATRICK SEMANSKY | AP PHOTO

Svechnikov also scored for the Hurricanes, who have won two straight and seven of nine. They earned the win playing in their first road game in 17 days because of COVID-19 postponements.

Frederik Andersen had 31 saves for Carolina.

The Hurricanes' early barrage caused the Bruins to pull goaltender Tuukka Rask in favor of Linus Ullmark after Rask

allowed five goals on 12 shots in the first period. It marked the first time Boston had allowed five goals in the opening period since March 3, 2008, at Washington.

## ISLANDERS 4, FLYERS 3, SO

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Oliver Wahlstrom scored in the ninth round of a shootout and New York sent Philadelphia to its ninth straight loss.

The shootout went on and on until Wahlstrom finally got one past Carter Hart to help the Islanders beat the Flyers for the second straight night.

Casey Cizikas tied it for New York with 4:28 left in regulation. Robin Salo and Josh Bailey also scored.

Claude Giroux snapped a tie with his 12th goal early in the third period for the Flyers. Travis Konecny and James van Riems-

dyk also scored.

Semyon Varlamov stopped 31 shots for New York, and Hart had 28 saves.

## SABRES 3, SENATORS 1

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — Michael Houser made 43 saves in his season debut and Buffalo beat Ottawa.

Houser became the sixth goalie to start a game for Buffalo this season. Mark Jankowski, Dylan Cozens and Alex Tuch scored for the Sabres.

Drake Batherson had the lone goal for Ottawa, and Anton Forsberg stopped 30 shots.

Ottawa's first home game since Dec. 11 was played without fans because of COVID-19 regulations.

## CANUCKS 3, PREDATORS 1

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Thatcher Demko made 31 saves to lead Vancouver over skidding Nashville.

Elias Pettersson, Brock Boeser and Juho Lammikko scored in Vancouver's second consecutive victory. The win ended the Canucks' stretch of nine straight road games on a high note. Vancouver last played at home Dec. 14.

Philip Tomasino scored and David Rittich stopped 21 shots for Nashville, which has lost four in a row. The Predators went 12-1-1 in their 14 previous games before the slide.



Florida State forward Malik Osborne (10) and forward John Butler (22) celebrate beating Duke 79-78 in overtime of an NCAA college basketball game in Tallahassee, Fla., Tuesday Jan. 18, 2022.

PHOTO BY MARK WALLHEISER | AP PHOTO

# Smith, Pack lead Kansas State past No. 23 Texas 66-65

**By Mark Rosner**

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Mark Smith scored 22 points, Nijel Pack made a go-ahead layup with 1:13 left, and Kansas State held No. 23 Texas scoreless for the final 3 1/2 minutes to rally for a 66-65 win on Tuesday night.

Marcus Carr scored 19 of his season-best 25 points in the second half for Texas but missed a jumper with 2 seconds left, one of Texas' two chances to take the lead in the final minute. Courtney Ramey also misfired on a potential go-ahead jumper as Texas missed its last four shots from the field.

Pack finished with 16 points and Mike McGuirl added 13 for Kansas State (10-7, 2-4 Big 12), which closed the game with a 6-0 run.

Timmy Allen scored 15 points for Texas (13-5, 3-3), and his layup with 3:32 left put the Longhorns ahead 65-60. He missed two free throws with 2:26 left and Texas leading 65-62. Markquis Nowell followed with two free throws for the Wildcats.

The game was tied at 55 when Texas' Christian Bishop blocked a driving attempt by Nowell. Carr followed that play with consecutive mid-range jumpers, giving the Longhorns a four-point lead.

Texas led 35-31 after a first half in which both teams got into foul trouble. Each was whistled 12 times. Texas had five players with two fouls while Kansas State had four.

Smith, a rugged 6-foot-4, 225-pound guard who played at Illinois and Missouri before Kansas State, was too tough inside for Texas to handle. He hit 5 of 7 shots in the first half.

# Butler's block seals Florida State's OT win over No. 6 Duke

**By Bob Ferrante**

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — RayQuan Evans made a pair of free throws with 12 seconds left in overtime, John Butler blocked Wendell Moore Jr.'s driving attempt in the lane with 2 seconds remaining, and Florida State stunned No. 6 Duke 79-78 on Tuesday night.

Florida State (11-5, 5-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) let a nine-point lead slip away in regulation and needed Evans' driving layup high off the glass with 2 seconds left to send the game to overtime. The

Seminoles held on for their first win over a ranked Duke team since Jan. 10, 2017.

Paolo Banchero had 20 points and 12 rebounds for Duke (14-3, 4-2).

Caleb Mills had 16 of his 18 points in the second half and overtime for Florida State, which won its fourth straight game. Butler scored 14 points, and Naheem McLeod had a season-best nine points and seven rebounds for the Seminole.

Duke trailed 59-50 with 6:53 remaining, but a 3-pointer by Moore kicked off a furious rally by the Blue Devils, who went ahead 67-65 on Mark Williams' dunk with 30 seconds to go. Banchero scored seven

points during the closing stretch and assisted on two dunks by Williams, who finished with 15 points. Moore scored 13 points.

## THE TAKEAWAY

Duke: The Blue Devils had 15 turnovers, were outrebounded 43-37 and were hindered by the loss of guard Trevor Keels to injury.

Florida State: The Seminole had nine steals as they picked up their 14th win over a ranked opponent in the last four seasons.

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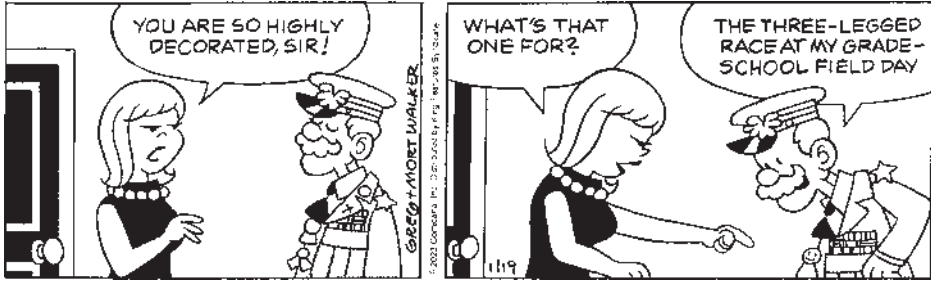
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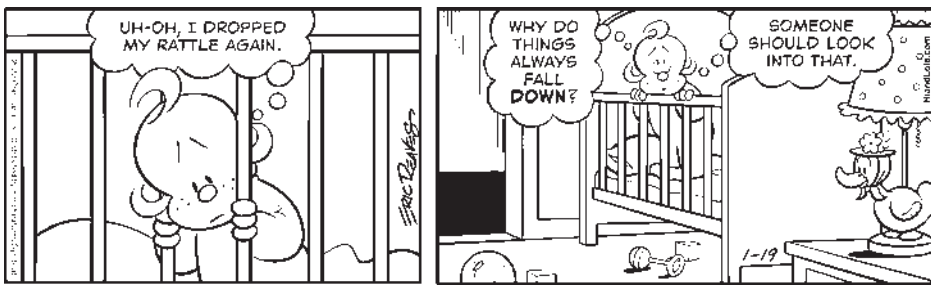
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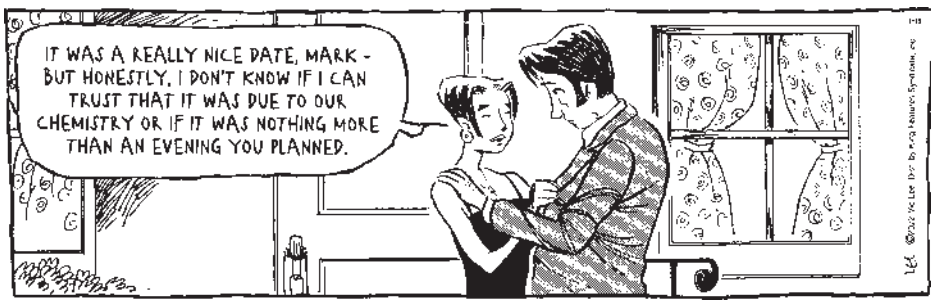
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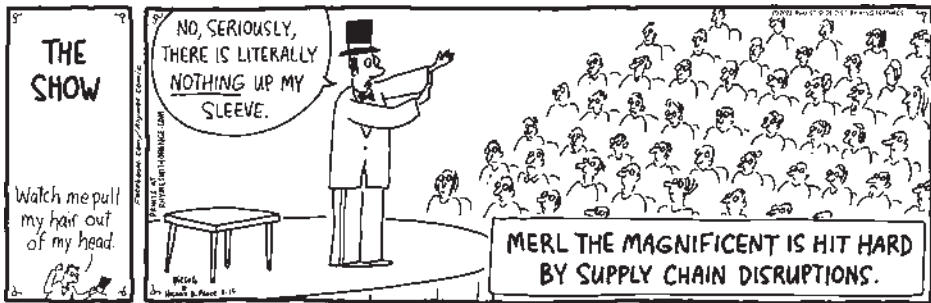
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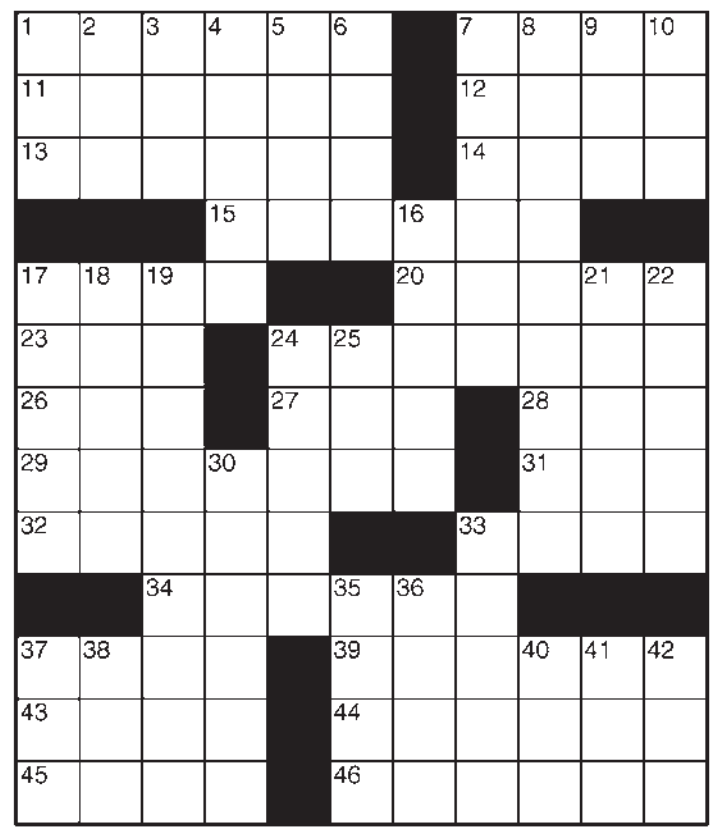
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Heathens
  - 7 Guitar boosters
  - 11 Spotted cat
  - 12 Aim
  - 13 Strike out
  - 14 Prententious
  - 15 Meal
  - 17 Schism
  - 20 Putting to work
  - 23 Spanish gold
  - 24 Evergreen tree
  - 26 Army address
  - 27 Small worker
  - 28 Hot blood
  - 29 Manor settings
  - 31 Cain raiser
  - 32 Polish
  - 33 Unspoiled spot
  - 34 Dressy
  - 37 Bill stamp
  - 39 Overrun
  - 43 Olympics weapon
  - 44 Rooftop shooter
  - 45 Cincinnati team
  - 46 Wine expert
- DOWN**
- 1 Okra unit
  - 2 Top pitcher
  - 3 Salon stuff
  - 4 Wide awake
  - 5 Staff symbol
  - 6 Dance move
  - 7 Tennis star Andre
  - 8 Completely ashamed
  - 9 Contrived
  - 10 Devious
  - 16 Mom's sisters
  - 17 Derby prize
  - 18 Limerick people
  - 19 Made stronger
  - 21 Audacity
  - 22 Putting site
  - 24 Supply the food for
  - 25 Some person
  - 30 Battery ends
  - 33 "The King"
  - 35 Atomizer's output
  - 36 Tolstoy heroine
  - 37 For every
  - 38 Gibbon or gorilla
  - 40 Fitting
  - 41 Ruby of movies
  - 42 Bungle



**Yesterday's answer**

- 18 Limerick
- 19 Made stronger
- 21 Audacity
- 22 Putting site
- 24 Supply the food for
- 25 Some person
- 30 Battery ends
- 33 "The King"
- 35 Atomizer's output
- 36 Tolstoy heroine
- 37 For every
- 38 Gibbon or gorilla
- 40 Fitting
- 41 Ruby of movies
- 42 Bungle



1-19

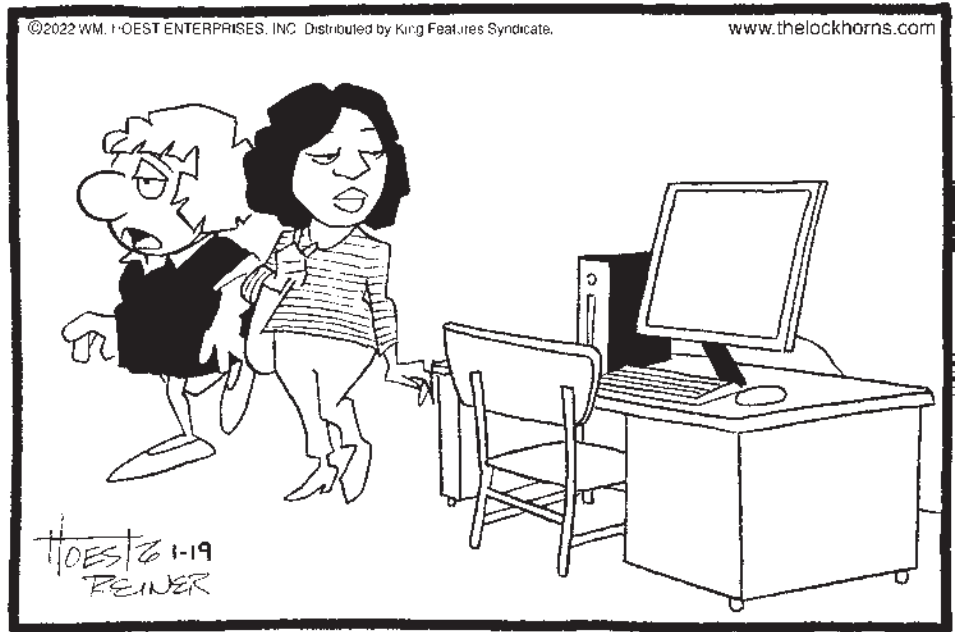
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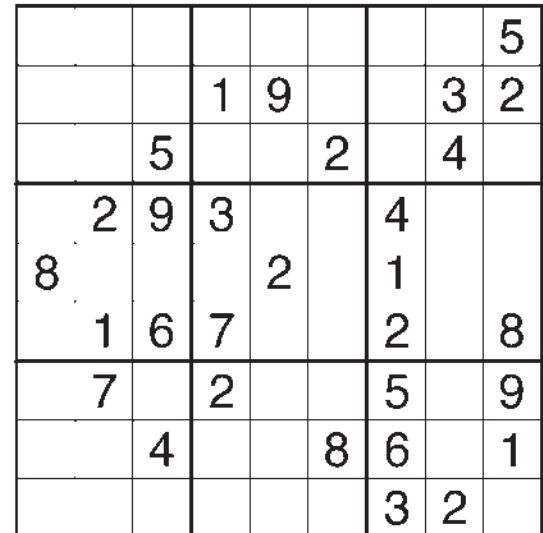


**SUDOKU**

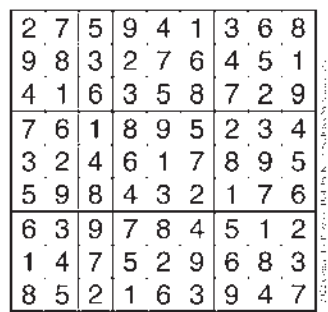
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**Concepts Sudoku**

By Dave Green



**Answer to previous puzzle**



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1-19



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# Tomlin

From Page 1B

"They're guys that started," Tomlin said. "I wouldn't characterize them as everyday starters ... And so they'll be given an opportunity to establish themselves, and there's going to be competition."

Tomlin has made no secret that he'd like to find a quarterback who can move, something that hasn't been in Roethlisberger's toolbox for several years.

"Man, quarterback mobility is valued not only by me, but everyone is just a component of today's game and increasingly so," Tomlin said.

While the identity of whoever might run the offense in 2022 is a mystery, there appears to be some clarity on who will be calling the plays. Tomlin acknowledged the offense fell short under first-year offensive coordinator Matt Canada while ranking in the bottom half of the league in yards and points, but hinted Canada will be given another shot.

"I'm not expressing satisfied satisfaction with any component of (the offense)," he said. "I'm just acknowledging that, you know, he brings things to the table that are attractive and we need to be better and we will be."

The situation appears more unsettled elsewhere on the coaching staff and front office. Pittsburgh shook up the staff after playoff losses in 2017 and 2020, and the next few weeks could be no different.

General manager Kevin Colbert, whose contract is up after the draft and just celebrated his 65th birthday, has hinted he may be ready to move into a more advisory role after more than two decades with the club. Longtime defensive coordinator Keith Butler, who turns 66 in May, has indicated in informal conversations that his 19th season with the organiza-

tion will be his last.

The Steelers have won two Super Bowls and been to three during Butler's long run, but the defense had its worst statistical season in 30 years and finished last against the run. A logical replacement for Butler is already on staff in Teryl Austin, who served as an assistant coach on three teams that reached the Super Bowl and joined the Steelers as a senior defensive assistant and secondary coach in 2019.

Pittsburgh could also look in-house to fill the offensive line coach opening created when Adrian Klemm left last month to take the same job at Oregon. Chris Morgan filled in over the final three games and the Steelers had their best rushing performance in four years in a victory over Cleveland on Jan. 3 in what was likely Roethlisberger's final home game.

For a team built on continuity, there could be considerable roster turnover — at least by Pittsburgh standards — over the next few months. The Steelers have more than \$40 million to spend in free agency, a number that could rise with additional roster moves before the league year officially begins.

The status of veterans such as defensive linemen Stephon Tuitt and Tyson Alualu is unknown. Alualu was lost for the season after fracturing his ankle in Week 2 and Tuitt didn't play at all after undergoing knee surgery over the summer. They are on the books for a combined \$11.5 million and Tomlin said he has yet to talk to them about 2022.

There will be difficult discussions in the coming weeks. Talks became necessary after going "one and done" in the playoffs for the third time in five years.

"I understand change is a part of our business and, you know, I don't run away from it," he said. "I'm not overly resistant to it. I don't run to it as well. I don't change for the sake of changing. I'm open to change where appropriate."

# Smith-Cotton

From Page 1B

"Yeah, it's definitely been a few of those [tough] days; everyone has them, especially being on the losing streak we were on," Hunolt said. "It's hard to go to practice every day, but you have to separate and have the desire to compete."

"I'm glad we could finally put a good four quarters together. It was motivating to see us put the pieces together and hold a lead for the entire game; definitely a confidence booster."

Of the increasing pressure, Franklin added, "It's been there all year, because speaking to the seniors before it started, we wholeheartedly believed we'd have a better start than we did. Then that pressure continued to build because we weren't winning, we weren't being competitive in most games. It's added to the pressure. So to not have that goose egg, it was really nice to get that first win, [have] a nice reset and hopefully build off it."

As for Tuesday, Smith-Cotton (1-14) will have to wait for a second win after falling at home, 76-44, to Republic (10-6). S-C hit four of its seven 3-pointers in the second quarter to keep it modest, but allowed too many offensive rebounds and got outscored in the odd quarters 43-15.

Devon McMillin and Ahlante Askew scored 24 and 17 points, respectively, to get the road win.

**Familiar faces on the sideline**

Though Franklin missed the defeat to Plattsburg two days before the Clinton win, another familiar face was down the sideline from the Tigers: former assistant coach Twydell Love Jr, now head coach of those Tigers.

On his return to Sedalia, he said, "It's always something special, because at one point in time that place meant something to you. It's always good to see familiar faces, people that supported you."

Plattsburg had a game fall through and Love Jr. reached out to Franklin to fill the gap in the slate.

The one-time S-C coach has jumped around as an assistant at both the high school and collegiate level over the past decade before settling in at the Class 2 school. One of those stops included Oak Park, where he coached current KU star, Ochai Agbaji.



PHOTO BY BRYAN EVERSON | DEMOCRAT

Junior James Bennett, pictured here preparing to go up for a shot against Hogan Prep, was one of several players missing for Smith-Cotton in the defeat to Republic.

"I'm usually at every KU home game supporting him along the way, because I was with him when nobody wanted him," Love Jr. said. "Dante Scroggins, I still have a really close relationship with him. He was Ochai before Ochai."

**The impact of COVID**

S-C was without Sam Cash in Tuesday's game, as well as James Bennett and Nicolae Simmons.

Thursday's home game against Southeast (KC) was announced earlier Tuesday as postponed. Both Franklin and S-C Athletic Director Rob Davis confirmed a make-up date is to be determined. That makes the next time out for the Tigers at next week's Eldon Boys Basketball Tournament.

# Alabama

From Page 1B

He's hoping the return of forward James Rojas against Mississippi State will help remedy that. Rojas hadn't played since left knee surgery in June.

Oats and forward Darius Miles say they've already sensed a difference, at least in practice.

"That's pretty much what people talk about when they talk about our team, is just where's the toughness factor?" Miles said. "The fact that he showed that being out for so long, I think it gave our team a little spark, especially in the last two days of practice."

"You can see the energy, the

toughness, the physicality and things like that picking up. It was good to have him back."

Alabama had a few days earlier erased a 14-point deficit late against No. 2 Auburn before falling 81-77. Before that was a 92-86 loss at Missouri.

The Tide still ranks among the SEC's top scoring and 3-point shooting teams. But Alabama is 13th in scoring defense, giving up 74.7 points a game, and last in rebounding defense with opponents grabbing an average of 36.7.

The team's top rebounders are guards Keon Ellis and Jaden Shackelford, who also ranks fifth in the SEC in scoring and tops in 3-pointers per game (3.1).

Alabama did win eight straight games at the end of last season, including a run to the SEC Tourna-

ment title, before falling to UCLA in the NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16.

But the Tide lost SEC player of the year Herbert Jones, 3-point specialist John Petty Jr. and NBA first-round draft pick Joshua Primo from that team.

Alabama did add five-star point guard JD Davison and one of the league's top shot blockers in 7-foot center Charles Bediako. Davison has been a key player off the bench, averaging 8.1 points and ranking behind only Jahvon Quinerly in assists.

Oats is still seeking that edge that last year's team certainly possessed.

"We definitely have to become tougher," he said. "I think some guys that are heavy in the rotation that have won at a high level with us in the past realize that. They've showed it in practice."

"We need to see it in the games."

# Analysis

From Page 1B

The Bills were questioned for trading up five spots to select Allen at No. 7, and ahead of Josh Rosen. Of the five quarterbacks — starting with Baker Mayfield going first — chosen in the first round in 2018, the strong-armed Allen was considered one of the bigger risks. He had issues with accuracy and was so overlooked on the college recruiting front the central California native wound up at Wyoming, of all places.

Four seasons later, Mayfield has yet to secure a second contract in Cleveland, Rosen is already on his third team, while Allen was locked up with a six-year, \$258 million contract extension in August.

In Buffalo, it's difficult to find anyone complaining about Allen, who is so revered his name is plastered on a banner hanging over a midtown intersection welcoming visitors to the city's "Allentown" bar and restaurant district.

Though Mahomes has more hardware, including a Super Bowl MVP and NFL MVP, Allen is no longer considered a consolation prize. And don't forget how Buffalo used the Chiefs' draft pick in 2017 to select Tre'Davious White, who has established himself as one of the NFL's top shutdown cornerbacks.

Allen overcame a bumpy rookie season to lead Buffalo to three straight playoff appearances — the Bills' best stretch since a six-year run spanning the 1988 to '93 seasons — and two consecutive AFC East titles while rewriting the franchise record book.

He's Buffalo's first player to top 4,000 yards passing and throw 30 TDs twice, let alone consecutive seasons, while his leadership ability is unquestioned.

Allen took another impressive step on Saturday by throwing for a franchise-playoff-record five touchdowns and overseeing seven consecutive TD drives in a 47-17 win over New England in a wild-card playoff. Mahomes, of course, matched Allen by throwing five touchdown passes of his own in a 42-21 wild-card win over Pittsburgh on Sunday night.

In effectively putting the division rival Patriots in the rearview mirror, it's now on Allen to be competitive against the Chiefs. He lost his first two meetings with Mahomes, including last year's championship game, before a 38-20 win in Week 5 this season.

Asked to look back on Monday, McDermott has no problems how Buffalo landed upon its quarterback.

"We're happy with the quarterback we have, and I'm sure (the Chiefs) are happy with Pat there," McDermott said. "I think it's worked out for both."

Only one, however, will come away the winner on Sunday.

**WHAT'S WORKING**

Offensive efficiency. The Bills scored 47 points on just 51 plays from scrimmage before backup Mitch Trubisky ended the game with three straight kneel-downs.

**WHAT NEEDS HELP**

Extra points. The Patriots found a hole in Buffalo's front by blocking two of Tyler Bass' extra-point attempts. It didn't mean much in a 30-point blowout, but could play a factor in a closer game against the Chiefs.

**STOCK UP**

Safety Micah Hyde. He made an acrobatic interception by racing from the middle of the field to make a leaping grab of Mac Jones' pass just before it reached Nelson Agholor's hands in the end zone to snuff out New England's opening drive. Hyde then nearly scored, returning a punt in the fourth quarter before being tripped up by a teammate at New England's 39 for a 52-yard return.

**STOCK DOWN**

WR Cole Beasley. The slot receiver caught just one pass for 19 yards in continuing to show he struggles to get open against man coverage.

**INJURIES**

DE Mario Addison did not finish the game due to a shoulder injury.

**KEY NUMBER**

9-0 — Buffalo's record this season when scoring a touchdown on its opening drive.

**NEXT STEPS**

McDermott faces his mentor, Andy Reid, for the fifth time as a head coach. The two have split the past four meetings.

# Giants' 2nd round of GM interviews include Chiefs' Poles

By The Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Buffalo Bills assistant general manager Joe Schoen kicked off the New York Giants' search for a GM last week and he got the opening second-round interview on Tuesday.

The Giants said the 42-year-old met with president John Mara, chairman Steve Tisch and senior vice president of player personnel Chris Mara at the team's headquarters. He also talked with other members of the team's front office and toured the facility.

New York plans to bring back Chiefs executive director of player personnel Ryan Poles on Wednesday.

It's not immediately known whether any of the other nine men the Giants interviewed would be getting a second interview.

The Giants GM job has been open since Dave Gettleman retired a week ago Monday, after the team finished its fourth straight losing season under the 70-year-old.

Coach Joe Judge was fired the following day, after posting a 4-13 record this past season and 10-23 in two years.

The first job for the new general manager will be to hire a head coach.

Schoen has 20 years of scouting and executive experience in the NFL, including the past five with the Bills. He spent most of the previous decade with the Miami Dolphins' front office.

Schoen's first NFL job was as a ticket office intern with the Carolina Panthers in 2000. He spent seven seasons (2001-07) working for the Panthers under current Bills general manager Brandon Beane.

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