



PHOTOS BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT

Stephanie Flick, Jason Joy, Joshua Hesse and Rory Colburn opened The Missouri Barber Company on Tuesday. Wednesday, the barbers are seen enjoying their new business.

Missouri Barber Company opens on Broadway

By Chris Howell
chrish@sedaliademocrat.com

Tuesday, the Missouri Barber Company opened its doors after four friends joined forces to take over 520 W. Broadway Blvd., formerly Wolfy's.

Jason Joy, Joshua Hesse, Stephanie Flick and Rory Colburn are so comfortable together that walking into the Missouri Barber Company is like coming home for them and their clients.

"I've known Rory for a long time now," Joy said. "Then Josh and I worked together, and then Rory and Stef worked together, and it just kind of happened that we all converged at the same time."

The perfect space became available when Wolfy's relocated, and The Missouri Barber Company was founded.

"Well, we're on Missouri and Broadway, which is pretty helpful," Joy said. "For some

reason, no one else in the State of Missouri had taken that name yet, and it just works, so we went with that."

Sedalia's roots are in the very building, once the headquarters for the Bothwell Corporation.

"I suppose the people that built the Bothwell Hotel and the lodge and all that, this was their offices and so they built this too, which is kind of cool, it's got some cool history," Joy added.

Already set up as a barbershop, the new owners had little to do to make the space their own. A decorated guitar is hung on the wall, tuned-up and ready to play, Jimi Hendrix looks down from a poster, bringing the conversation back to good music, and a tennis ball is tossed around the open space to keep everyone engaged.

Hesse describes it as the antithesis of an old-time barbershop.

See BARBER | 6A

Smith-Cotton, Public Library partner up

By Skye Melcher
skiem@sedaliademocrat.com

On Jan. 5, Smith-Cotton High School's library and the Sedalia Public Library formed a partnership to increase students' access to digital reading material from the public library.

S-C Library Media Specialist Lorin Blackburn Thierfelder said she wanted to find an easier way for students to get audio and e-books, which led her to Sora.

"When I was talking to the original rep, it was right before COVID hit in 2020, so when we did have to go home and go virtual, it was amazing to still do library programs," Thierfelder said.

Thierfelder expanded the program and bought the Gateway Awards, the most popular books in Missouri for teens, so that the school would have them virtually.

"The rep said there is the program called Sora Connect where we could partner with the

public library and so I reached out and told them how awesome it is," Thierfelder added. "I think because Jamie (Sparks) is new and excited, she jumped right on it and we signed up for the partnership."

Now Smith-Cotton students have access to all the school's e-books and audiobooks, plus access to almost 4,000 Sedalia Public Library titles.

Sparks became the director of the public library in October and as soon as she started, Thierfelder contacted her about creating the partnership.

"I tried not to overwhelm her, but I was really excited about building some connections between our school and library," Thierfelder said.

This program is all done through an app, so students can download it on any device as long as they have a Smith-Cotton High School email address.

See LIBRARY | 5A



PHOTO BY SKYE MELCHER | DEMOCRAT

Smith-Cotton High School students sit in the high school library Wednesday morning to read.

Multiple area school districts cancel school

By Democrat Staff

Two school districts in Pettis County have canceled school the rest of the week due to illness-related reasons.

On Wednesday, Sedalia School District 200 posted on its Facebook page that due to inclement weather and staff shortages, classes will be canceled on Jan. 20 and Jan. 21. The current forecast is calling for wind chills to be between -5 and -10 over the next two days. The post states there were 108 staff members out on Wednesday due to illness and other personal reasons, with only 21 substitute teachers available.

Typically, when Sedalia 200 cancels school, the Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri are also closed. However, the Club posted on its Facebook page Wednesday night that it would host drop-in days

for registered members from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday at the downtown location in the First Baptist Church basement, 200 E. Sixth St. Members should bring a sack lunch.

On Tuesday, the Pettis County R-V (Northwest) School District also announced on its website that due to excessive absences related to illness, classes would be AMI (alternative methods of instruction) the rest of the week instead of in-person.

Many schools and districts across the state have closed multiple times since the beginning of the spring semester due to excessive student and staff absences because of illness and not enough substitute staff members to fill the empty spots. Several area schools near Pettis County like Marshall, Warrensburg and Knob Noster have all closed due to the same reasons.

Two arrested in South Lamine raid

Search warrant uncovers drugs, guns

By Chris Howell
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Around 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sedalia Police Department officers with the Crime Resolution Unit served a search warrant in the 1300 block of South Lamine Avenue related to an ongoing drug investigation.

"Originally we had gotten some complaints from neighbors in the area," Sgt. Kevin Klein said. "We started doing some surveillance on the residence, developed leads, did some other investigative techniques to establish probable cause and got a search warrant."

While detectives were speaking with a resident at the front door, 24-year-old Cameron D. Williams, of the residence, was spotted by officers covering the perimeter exiting a second-story window onto the roof.

"He started hiding things in the gutters," Klein said, "and then when officers approached him to make contact he ran across the roof and jumped off and was immediately taken into custody."

Williams was found in possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. He was transported by the Pettis County Ambulance District to Bothwell Regional Health Center to be evaluated for injuries sustained from jumping off the roof.

Police proceeded with clearing the residence, and three additional adults were taken into custody without incident.

Officers performed a detailed search of the home, and on the roof where Williams had previously been observed, officers located two handguns, a large amount of methamphet-

amine, and marijuana. One of the firearms was discovered to be stolen out of the St. Louis area. Additional evidence indicated methamphetamine was being distributed from the home.

At the conclusion of the investigation, Williams and a 38-year-old female were arrested and transported to the Pettis County Jail. Williams was placed on a 24-hour hold after receiving treatment at the hospital.

Williams has been charged with second-degree trafficking drugs, receiving stolen property, unlawful possession of a firearm, unlawful use of a weapon, and possession of 11-35 grams of marijuana. He has been issued a \$16,000 bond, cash or surety. Arraignment took place Wednesday and a hearing is scheduled for Jan. 25.

Formal charges had not been filed for the female by press time.

The Crime Resolution Unit was formed to stop criminal behavior within neighborhoods.

"A lot of what we do stems from complaints from neighbors in the area," Klein said. "They notice activity at a house has picked up, strange behavior from people coming and going. They call and let us know, and we start looking into it. This happens to be one of those circumstances."

In addition to the arrest and state charges, the residence at 1312 S. Lamine Ave. was determined to be in violation of Sedalia city ordinance 36-96, prohibition against maintaining a nuisance property. The residence was posted with a notice of the violation mandating the property owner resolve the violations within 60 days.

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



Cameron D. Williams



Tara M. Dillon



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• Sports 1B

OBITUARIES

Julius Gail Ronnie Antoine

1937-2021
Julius Gail Antoine, of Oakland, CA, passed away Monday, January 10, 2022, at his home.

He was born September 20, 1937, in Sedalia, MO, one of five children of Marie and Julius Antoine.

On May 30, 1981, he married Melodie Limosnero, who survives of the home.

Julius served in the United States Marine Corps, which is what took him to California. After discharge, he became employed with the Southern Pacific Railroad. He worked 40 years as a switchman with the railroad.

He enjoyed traveling, coin collecting, fishing, and finer things in life.

He is survived by his wife, Melodie Antoine, of Oakland, CA; daughter Juanita (Bob) Nicholson of Maryville, TN, Melinda (Denny) Vinson of Sedalia, MO; step-daughter



Marife (David) of Benicia, CA; five grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Charles Duane Antoine, Gerald Robert Antoine, Darrell Lee Antoine, and a sister Juanita Mae Eklund.

Donald Roy Kennedy

Donald Roy Kennedy, 96, of Sedalia, MO, formerly of Marshall, MO, died Monday, Jan. 17, 2022, at his home.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, January 24, 2022, at First Christian Church in Marshall with William W. Harlow officiating. Visitation will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at the church. Burial with military rites will be in Sunset Gardens Cemetery in Marshall. Memorials may be made to First Christian Church in care of Campbell-Lewis Funeral Home in Marshall. Friends may sign the online register book at www.campbell-lewis.com.

Born January 3, 1926, in Mendon, MO, he was the son of the late James Nolan Kennedy and Bessie Ellen McPherson Kennedy. He served in the U.S. Navy from June 1, 1943, to April 1, 1946, stationed in Great Lakes Center, Gulfport, Miss., New London, Conn., Mare Island, Calif, Hono-

lulu and the Pacific.

On July 22, 1950, in Moberly, MO, he married Betty J. Halsey who preceded him in death on July 4, 2019.

He retired from the Marshall Democrat-News after many years of service. He was a member of the First Christian Church and was an avid supporter of Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Survivors include six children, Donna Pointer (Lacy) of Sedalia, Lolly Morrow (Barry) of Deepwater, Steve Kennedy (Debbie) of Sedalia, Fred Kennedy (Jana) of Cole Camp, John Kennedy (Laura) of Warrensburg and Paul Kennedy (Christi) of Kansas City; 16 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Don was preceded in death by his parents; wife; four brothers, Vernon, Bill, James William and Ralph Nolan Kennedy; and one sister, Marjorie Morgan.

Shawn Richard Davis

Shawn Richard Davis, 44, of Sedalia, passed away suddenly at his home on Tuesday, January 18, 2022.

He was born March 8, 1977, in Sedalia, son of Richard and Cynthia (Crouch) Davis. On August 12, 2000, he married Shannon (Lake) Davis, who survives of the home.

Shawn was a 1995 graduate of Smith-Cotton High School and attended State Fair Community College. He was an avid soccer player in high school and college. He shared the love of the game with his kids and was actively coaching at the time of his passing.

He was a service technician for Spire Energy. He loved to hunt, fish and anything outdoors. Even more, he loved his family, and his dogs, Dooley and Diesel. He was a people person and always ready

to help anyone in need. Shawn will be remembered for his love of family, strong work ethic, big heart and great sense of humor.

In addition to his wife, Shannon, he is survived by his mother, Cynthia "Cindy" Davis, of Warrensburg; two daughters, Lindsey Davis

and Casey Davis, of the home; a sister, Amber Davis, of Lee's Summit; two nieces, Lexie and Lauren; and a nephew, Ryan.

He was preceded in death by his father.

A Celebration of Shawn's Life will be from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, February 5, 2022, at Heckart Funeral Home.

The family suggests memorial contributions to KU Endowment (designated to the Grantham Endowed Fund for the Kidney Institute) in care of the funeral home.



FUNERALS

Conaway, Virginia M.

10 a.m. Friday at Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Lynch, Claude L. Jr.

1 p.m. Friday at Meierhoffer Funeral Home & Crematory in St. Joseph. Arrangements are under the direction of Meierhoffer Funeral Home & Crematory.

Singer, Shirley A.

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

Blaylock, Teddy J. "Jack"

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.

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

in Sedalia.

Borchers, John R.

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

Kennedy, Donald R.

2 p.m. Monday at First Christian Church in Marshall. Arrangements are under the direction of Campbell-Lewis Funeral Home in Marshall.

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.

Davis, Shawn R.

1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5 at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

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. 18

2:47 a.m.: Melissa D. Cartmill, 40, of the 400 block of North Hurley Avenue, was arrested after a vehicle stop in the area of Moniteau Avenue and Broadway Boulevard for failing to dim headlights and indicators of impairment. She was taken to a hospital

and then to the Pettis County Jail where she was placed on a 24-hour hold pending charges of driving while intoxicated - drugs, possession of drug paraphernalia, and two counts of possession of a controlled substance.

8:26 a.m.: Thomas Russell Beck, 57, of the 1600 block of Honeysuckle Road, was arrested after officers responded to a hit-and-run on West 16th Street and Clarendon Road. A MoDOT crosswalk sign was discovered still in the street along with various truck parts. Officers located the driver and arrested him for driving with a suspended license,

driving while intoxicated, and leaving the scene of an accident. Formal charges have been submitted to the Sedalia municipal prosecutor.

12:10 p.m.: Angel Escobar, 23, of Sedalia, was arrested after loss prevention personnel from a business in the 3200 block of West Broadway Boulevard reported a theft that occurred Jan. 8. Escobar came to the SPD to turn himself in and was arrested, transported to the Pettis County Jail, and placed on a 24-hour hold pending the filing of a state charge of stealing.

Compiled by Chris Howell.

LOCAL BRIEFS

Fitzgibbon Hospital seeks input on community health needs assessment

To ensure the health care services and programs it offers meet the needs of the community it serves, Fitzgibbon Hospital in Marshall is seeking input from citizens throughout Saline County and its service area. Fitzgibbon is encouraging interested stakeholders and patrons to complete an online health needs assessment that is designed to take less than 10 minutes to complete.

Data released by state and national health agencies ranks Saline County residents low in "healthy behaviors" and high in several indicators of poor health, including high numbers of people who are obese, who smoke and who suffer from chronic diseases such as diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease. Additionally, the number of uninsured individuals remains high.

To validate these findings and to assist in identifying additional important health needs in the community, Fitzgibbon Hospital is encouraging area citizens to complete the survey. Responses are confidential, and no personally identifiable informa-

tion is gathered.

To facilitate the data gathering, representatives from Fitzgibbon also will be undertaking outreach activities in collaboration with other local agencies and employers, ensuring they receive input from the underserved.

When the Community Health Needs Assessment is complete, data will be compiled, and the results will be made available to the public through a variety of outlets, including online and in the local media.

To complete the survey, visit www.fitzgibbon.org/CHNA2022.

Sedalia Public Library begins winter reading

The Sedalia Public Library invites preschool through 12th grade library patrons to sign up for Winter Reading 2022 starting Jan. 18.

This year's theme is "Winter Wonderland of Books," so grab your winter coat and join the fun. For more information, stop by the library and pick up a January newsletter, visit sedalialibrary.com, or call 660-826-1314 and talk to the Children's Librarian.

Missouri redistricting plan could upend primary election

By David A. Lieb

Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Missouri House gave lukewarm approval Wednesday to a plan for redrawing the state's eight congressional districts that left both Democrats and some conservative Republicans unhappy and could upend the state's calendar for holding its primary election.

The plan, which received barely enough votes to pass, is projected to keep the state's current political split of six Republicans and two Democrats in the U.S. House. But it failed to receive enough votes to take effect before the state's Aug. 2 primary, raising the potential that the election could be delayed or that district boundaries could change in the middle of the campaign season.

The redistricting legislation now goes to the Senate, where some conservative Republicans are already vowing to push for a map that would give the GOP a chance at winning seven districts.

"We all know there is

going to be a war on the other side of the building — there are going to be compromises made," said state Rep. Jim Murphy, a Republican from St. Louis who urged colleagues to pass a plan to at least keep the process going.

The action in the Missouri Legislature on congressional redistricting came on the same day that a separate bipartisan citizens commission gave final approval to a plan for redrawing Missouri's 163 state House districts. It marked the first time since 1991 that the commission agreed on a state House redistricting plan.

Democratic Commissioner Harvey Ferdman said the panel "brought honor to our flag today, showing that we can cooperate, we can get things done, we can negotiate, we can compromise."

Republicans won 114 of the 163 state House seats in the last general election. The Missouri Democratic Party said Wednesday that the new districts approved by the commission create the potential for Democratic gains. The new map boosts the number

of districts carried by President Joe Biden in the 2020 election, increases the number of politically competitive districts and also adds majority Black and Latino districts, Democrats said.

A separate bipartisan citizens commission charged with redistricting the state's 34 Senate seats failed to agree on a plan after devolving into partisan camps last month. That map likely will have to be drawn by a panel of judges.

Redistricting is occurring in states across the country to account for population shifts noted in the 2020 census. The battle to redraw U.S. House districts has been especially intense, as both Democrats and Republicans seek boundaries that give their candidates the best chance of winning and their parties a shot at taking control of the narrowly divided chamber.

Lawmakers in Democratic-led Illinois and Republican-led North Carolina, for example, both passed maps that critics describe as gerrymandered in their favor. In Tennessee, Republi-

cans have put forth plans to split up a Democratic-held district in Nashville that would give the GOP a shot at winning an 8-1 advantage in U.S. House seats.

Some conservative Republicans in Missouri want to take a similar approach by splitting up a Kansas City-area district held by Democratic U.S. Rep. Emanuel Cleaver and pairing the urban residents with Republican-leaning rural residents.

Though the proposed map passed by the House is projected to retain a 6-2 Republican edge, the Republican margins in the Second District in suburban St. Louis are not as high as some Republicans prefer. Some conservatives argue the Second District could potentially flip to Democrats over the course of a decade.

The map approved by the state House is "completely out of step with the values and perspectives of the people of this state," said Sen. Bill Eigel, a St. Charles County Republican who is part of that chamber's conservative caucus.



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PHOTO COURTESY OF STATE FAIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Gene Haas Foundation recently donated \$18,000 to SFCC's Precision Machining Technology program and awarded scholarships to SFCC students.

Gene Haas Foundation gives \$18,000 to SFCC, awards scholarships

The State Fair Community College Foundation recently received another \$18,000 gift from the Gene Haas Foundation for the college's Precision Machining Technology program. The Gene Haas Foundation's primary goal is to build skills in the machining industry by providing grants and scholarships for CNC (computer numerically controlled) machine technology students and NIMS (National Institute for Metalworking Skills) credentials.

SFCC's relationship with the foundation developed about seven years ago when the college purchased nine CNC machines for its machining program from Haas Automation Inc., headquartered in Oxnard, California. The company, founded by Gene Haas in 1983, is the largest machine tool builder in the western world, manufacturing a complete line of CNC vertical machining centers, horizontal machine centers, CNC lathes, and rotary products.

"The Gene Haas Foundation is so much more than just a scholarship; it is truly a partnership between a top CNC manufacturer and SFCC," said Justin

Wright, SFCC's Precision Machining program coordinator and instructor. "The SFCC machining program sees Haas as a primary partner in creating one of the strongest Machining programs in the state of Missouri. This partnership, coupled with the drive for SFCC to offer the best technical training, is the catalyst that drives all of SFCC's technical programs. The machining program at SFCC has positioned itself to be a direct pipeline to the Machining industry by recently hiring another full-time instructor, adding new equipment throughout the classrooms and shop space, not to mention the new Olen Howard Workforce Innovation Center, which will double the size of the existing Machining and Welding programs."

Haas created his foundation in 1999 because of a strong social conscience instilled in him by his family. The foundation awards grants and scholarships for CNC machinist training to high schools, community colleges and trade schools in the United States and Canada. The Gene Haas Foundation donates millions of dollars every year to

manufacturing education and the community. In 2020, the Gene Haas Foundation provided more than \$17 million in grants, bringing the total since inception to more than \$100 million.

SFCC's Precision Machining Technology program offers Skills Certificates in Machinist Level I, a Professional Certificate in Machine Tool Technology, and an Associate of Applied Science degree in Manufacturing Technology with an emphasis in Precision Machining Technology. Later this spring, the program's classrooms and labs will be moving from the Fielding Technical Center into the new Olen Howard Workforce Innovation Center. The new center will increase the college's capacity to deliver workforce training to more students.

For more information about the program, visit www.sfccmo.edu/machinetool or contact Wright at 660-596-7392 or jwright4@sfccmo.edu. To learn more about the Olen Howard Workforce Innovation Center project and capital campaign, visit www.sfccmo.edu/OHWIC.

Release courtesy of State Fair Community College.

Cattlemen's Association elects 2022 leadership

The Missouri Cattlemen's Association elected its 2022 leadership during the 54th annual Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show.

Bruce Mershon, of Jackson County, will serve as the 2022 MCA President.

"I'm incredibly grateful to the members for the opportunity to help lead MCA in 2022," Mershon said. "Working together, we can meet the challenges facing our industry and improve the livelihood of Missouri cattle producers."

David Dick, of Pettis County, will serve as president-elect. Chuck Miller, of Miller County, was elected to serve as vice president. Marvin Dieckman, of Benton County, will serve as

treasurer, and Charlie Beshler, of Bollinger County, will serve as secretary.

Regional vice presidents were elected based on the region they reside in across the state. Region one will be represented by Joseph Lolli from Macon County. Jeff Reed, of Wayne County, will serve as the region three vice president. Deb Thummel, of Worth County, will serve as the region four vice president. The region five vice president will be Alex Haun of Johnson County. Region six will be represented by Warren Love of St. Clair County. Josh Worthington, of Dade County, will represent region seven. The Region 2 Vice President position is currently vacant.

Other leadership elected include, as Cow/Calf Council Representative, John Harris of Lafayette County; as Seedstock Council Representative, Rex Ricketts of Boone County; as Stocker/Feeder Council Representative, Jared Anstine of Johnson County; and, as Dairy Industry Council Representative, Ted Sheppard of Texas County.

The 54th annual Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show concluded Jan. 9.

Release courtesy of Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

PETTIS COUNTY R-V HONOR ROLL

The following students were named to the Pettis County R-V (Northwest) School District honor roll for the first semester of the 2021-22 school year.

A Honor Roll

Veronica Fayuk, Deanna Kozlenko, Natalia Kyvyrzhik, Elaina Buckley, Emma Kirchu, Bevin Kreisel, Caleb Martin, Gabby Meyer, Emma Newton, Elliot Nieters, Kimbree Pummill, Carlee Sanders, Lianna Silchuk, Izzabella Ulmer, Maryann Walker, Allison Ballenger, Olivia Butler, Kaelin Garrigus, Aubrey Hollon, Gage Killion, Matthew Kozlenko, Kayden O'Bryan, Kevin Zarate, Shelby Dotson, Abby Martin, Valerie Meyer, Maisie Richardson, Zoe Richardson, Kit Shane, Karli Smith, Grace Walker, Hannah Waterson, Austynn White,

Maddie Willmuth, Gavin Killion, Katie Martin, Isaac Nieters, Esther Pichinevsky, Monty Cornine, Nick Crosswhite, Sidney Douglas, Alexis Henderson, Blaine Kreisel, Matthew Richardson, Kristen Streck, Alice Yatskivskaya, Daniel Younger Loesing.

B Honor Roll

Matthew Adams, Hunter Benson, Lilly Burlingame, Justin Clark, Nouvelle Debord, Bristen Douglas, Kyrsten Hursman, Alina Orlov, Brandon Pinion, Isabella Plotnic, Chase Sanders, Connor Thorp, Kimberly Watterson, Cooper White, Arthur Zeisset, Sofi Amaya, Jake Bales, Abby Davis, Anastasia Donets, Ava Frame, Dimitrey Galuha, Kinley Garrigus, Bryce Hieronymus, Elijah Loesing, Tucker Narron, Dane Palmer,

Grayson Vaughan, Aiden Weber, Timmie Allee, Treshaun Allee, Blaine Arnett, Hunter Arnett, Nichole Banner, Jazminn Butts, MacKenzie Eager, Ruslan Fayuk, Nicholas Hall, Tanner Johnson, Olivia Lyne, Madilyn Meyer, James Nease, Kinlee Rae, Alyssa Wombles, Jason Boss, Owen Caton, Mason Cornine, Cade Fagg, Lilia Galuha, Sherradee Hood, Kenneth Johnson, Alexis Jolly, Hayden Persinger, Marina Rechun, Mariam Smolyuk, Korbin Stovall, David Thomson, Harley Allee, Braden Allred, Jace Bales, Grant Burson, Caitlin Chitwood, Emily Davis, Devon Halsey, Samantha Johnson, Lain Tichenor, Kamron Gilmore, Jordan Hensley, Savannah Smith, Pierson Tichenor, Sophie Walbourn, Jackson Weathers.

Gov. Parson calls for higher teacher pay, child care access

By Summer Ballentine

Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — Missouri's Republican Gov. Mike Parson in his State of the State address Wednesday proposed spending hundreds of millions of dollars to boost child care services and teacher wages as the state battles the latest COVID-19 surge.

Parson asked the GOP-led Legislature for \$722 million to prop up child care centers and close to \$22 million for matching grants to raise teacher salaries to a minimum of \$38,000 a year. He praised most Missouri schools for staying open throughout the pandemic and said teachers, such as his daughter, should be thanked and paid more.

"Missouri is currently ranked 50th in United States for starting teacher pay and half of our new teachers leave the profession by their fifth year," he said. "This is unacceptable, and we must do better."

House Democratic Leader Crystal Quade praised the Republican governor for proposing \$400 million for high-speed internet and to boost spending on child care, mental health services and teacher wages, though she said a \$38,000 minimum teacher salary is still not enough.

"We are going to be defending the governor's budget in a lot of those places," Quade said.

Parson delivered his speech in a nearly full House chamber, where Republicans sat without masks while many Democrats wore them.

At least nine lawmakers have come down with COVID-19 since the session began Jan. 5, though that number may be higher because not all absent lawmakers have provided a reason. Last

year, Parson's speech was shifted at the last moment from the House to the Senate chamber amid COVID-19 concerns.

Parson largely left it up to local health departments to decide how to address the pandemic when the virus first spread to the state.

While Parson supports COVID-19 vaccinations and lauded state vaccination rates, he also repeated his opposition to health mandates Wednesday. He credited the state's economic rebound and 3.5% unemployment rate in November to his decision never to enact statewide business closures.

"I don't support and have never supported mandates," he said. "Missourians can rest assured that my position will not change."

Quade said Parson's "hands-off approach" to the coronavirus pandemic "continues to extract a heavy toll, with new cases shattering records almost daily."

Parson said nearly 95% of residents age 65 and older and 73% of adults have received at least one shot. For more context, closer to 86% of seniors and 65% of adults are fully vaccinated, according to the state's health department.

About 58% of Missouri residents eligible for the vaccine — meaning children who are at least 5 years old and adults — are fully vaccinated, compared to 67% nationally, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Of Missouri's total population, 55% are fully vaccinated compared to the national rate of 63%.

"While there will

always be endless critics to tell us how we could have done it better, the facts are we were the ones in the arena," Parson said. "We made the tough decisions and never cowered to the challenge."

Parson's budget proposal includes \$400 million in American Rescue Plan Act aid for personal protective equipment, emergency staff, vaccines, testing and treatment.

His total budget request to lawmakers is a whopping \$46.7 billion bolstered largely by federal funding, including roughly \$2.8 billion in American Rescue Plan Act coronavirus relief aid. The current fiscal year budget is about \$35 billion.

Roughly \$955 million would go to increase pay rates for nursing homes and care for people with disabilities under Parson's budget, plus more than \$106 million for home- and community-based services for people with disabilities and the elderly.

Parson's top priorities for the 2022 legislative session also include a 5.5% pay raise for state workers to be implemented as soon as February, another budget proposal supported by Democrats.

"Let's raise wages for state employees this year to prevent massive turnover and service disruptions later," Kansas City Sen. Lauren Arthur said in prepared remarks.

Parson asked lawmakers for an extra \$91 million to bring state worker pay to a minimum of \$15 an hour for the remainder of this fiscal year, which ends in May.

For a full year, the total cost of a statewide worker pay raise is estimated at \$218 million.



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Pets of the Week



Oompa
BREED Domestic Shorthair / Domestic Shorthair
SEX Male
AGE 1Y/1M/0W



Loompa
BREED Domestic Shorthair / Domestic Shorthair
SEX Male
AGE 1Y/1M/0W

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
50 Hours — Lanyard 150 Hours — Shirt
250 Hours — Water Bottle

DONATIONS NEEDED
Bleach, Wet Cat Food, Purina Kitten Chow, Paper Towels, Dawn Dish Soap, Leashes, Grooming Supplies & Toys

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Sub-zero temperatures expected this week

By Democrat Staff

Below-freezing wind chill values are expected through the end of the week.

According to the National Weather Service, northwest winds gusting to 25 to 30 mph were expected throughout Wednesday in west central Missouri. Wind chill values were expected to fall below zero Wednesday evening and remain below zero through Thursday morning. The coldest wind chills of 15 to 20 below are expected along and north of Highway 36.

Sub-zero wind chills are expected Friday morning along and north of I-70.

On Thursday, skies will be sunny with a high near 16, a low around 2, and wind chill values between -10 and zero. Wind will become lighter into the night.

Friday will also be sunny with a high near 27, a low around 16, and wind chill values between -4 and 6.

Over the weekend, it will be partly cloudy with highs in the low 40s and high 30s along with lows in the 20s. Monday will see a high of almost 50, but the low will be near 17. Temperatures will drop again Tuesday and Wednesday with highs around 30 and lows in the teens.

AP FACT CHECK: Biden puffs up claims of virus, job gains

By Amanda Seitz and Christopher Rugaber

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a self-appraisal that didn't always fit with the facts, President Joe Biden on Wednesday made the dubious assertion that he's outperformed all expectations on the pandemic in his first year and inflated his contribution to COVID-era economic growth.

A look at some of Biden's comments in a news conference that stretched for nearly two hours:

PANDEMIC BIDEN on COVID-19: "I didn't overpromise. I have probably outperformed what anybody thought would happen."

THE FACTS: That's a stretch. The month before the election, he vowed: "I'm going to shut down the virus, not the country." The pandemic is obviously far from being shut down — instead it's been surging. The world may be headed to a future in which the virus becomes a manageable risk, not one in which it vanishes.

It is not true that he has outperformed everyone's expectations on the coronavirus. Vaccine supplies have been a success; COVID-19 tests have been a widely acknowledged failure that the administration is trying to fix by making the tests free and sending them to homes. Biden conceded Wednesday that more tests should have been available sooner.

Biden himself set higher expectations than have been met when he held a July 4 event headlined a celebration of "Independence Day and Independence from COVID-19." His remarks acknowledged the rising delta variant while stating "we're closer than ever to declaring our independence from a deadly virus."

BIDEN: "We just made surprise medical bills illegal in this country."

THE FACTS: He ignores the fact that President Donald Trump signed that consumer protection into law before leaving office in December 2020. The achievement is Trump's.

The act prevents patients from being hit with "surprise" medical bills if they seek emergency care from a health provider that is not in their insurance plan's network. It also protects patients from unanticipated charges if an out-of-network medical provider works on a patient at an in-network hospital. It requires hospitals, doctors and insurers to sort out those charges in a resolution process.

Biden's administration developed rules implementing the law over the past year, before it took effect Jan. 1.

ECONOMY

BIDEN: "We created 6 million new jobs, more jobs in one year than any time before."

THE FACTS: He's taking too much credit. As Trump did before him, Biden makes some grandiose economic claims that gloss over one central reason for historic growth — the U.S. population is far larger than in past decades (and continued to grow last year, despite COVID-19 deaths).

The economy added 6.4 million jobs in 2021, the most on government records dating back to 1939, but part of that is just a natural rebound from what had been the steepest job loss on record in 2020, when 9.4 million jobs were cut.

And since the late 1970s, the U.S. population has grown by more than 100 million people, so any hiring surge under Biden will be larger in raw numbers than that achieved by his predecessors. On a percentage basis, the number of jobs in the U.S. grew 4.5% in 2021. That is still a sizeable increase — the biggest since 1978 — but not a record-breaker.

Many economists do credit Biden's \$1.9 trillion financial rescue package, approved in March, for accelerating growth and hiring, but some also blame it for fueling a surge in demand that overwhelmed supply chains and pushed inflation up to four-decade highs.

Biden says nation weary from COVID but rising with him in WH

By Zeke Miller and Josh Boak

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden acknowledged Wednesday that the pandemic has left Americans exhausted and demoralized but insisted at a news conference marking his first year in office that he has "outperformed" expectations in dealing with it.

Facing sagging poll numbers and a stalled legislative agenda, Biden conceded he would likely have to pare back his "build back better" recovery package and instead settle for "big chunks" of his signature economic plan. He promised to further attack inflation and the pandemic and blamed Republicans for uniting in opposition to his proposals rather than offering ideas of their own.

This is a perilous time for Biden: The nation is gripped by a disruptive new surge of virus cases, and inflation is at a level not seen in a generation. Democrats are bracing for a potential midterm rout if he can't turn things around.

Biden insisted that voters will come to embrace a more positive view of his tenure — and of his beleaguered party — in time. His appeal to voters for patience came with a pledge to spend more time outside Washington to make the case to them directly.

Biden also addressed the brewing crisis on the Ukraine border, where Russia has massed some 100,000 troops and raised concerns that Moscow is ready to launch a further invasion.

The president said his "guess" is Russia may move further but he believes President Vladimir Putin doesn't want full-blown war. He declared Russia would pay a "dear price" if Putin launches a military incursion.

"He has to do something," Biden said of Putin. "He is trying to find his place in the world between China and the West."

Biden suggested a "minor incursion" might elicit a lesser response than a full-scale invasion of the country, a comment that drew immediate condemnation from some corners.

"President Biden basically gave Putin a green light to invade Ukraine by yammering about the supposed insignificance of a 'minor incursion,'" said Republican Sen. Ben Sasse.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki indicated in a subsequent statement that that wasn't necessarily about tanks and troops.

"President Biden also knows from long experience that the Russians have an extensive play-



PHOTO BY SUSAN WALSH | AP PHOTO

President Joe Biden speaks during a news conference in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022.

book of aggression short of military action, including cyberattacks and paramilitary tactics. And he affirmed today that those acts of Russian aggression will be met with a decisive, reciprocal, and united response," she said.

Biden held forth for 1 hour and 50 minutes in the East Room of the White House, appearing to relish the opportunity to parry questions from two dozen journalists with doses of wit and a few flashes of anger. At several points, he looked at his watch, smiled and kept calling on reporters.

He fielded questions about inflation, nuclear talks with Iran, voting rights, political division, Vice President Kamala Harris' place on the 2024 ticket, trade with China and the competency of government. Those questions showed the multitude of challenges confronting the president, each of them as much a risk as an opportunity to prove himself.

The president began by reeling off early progress in fighting the virus and showcasing quick passage of an ambitious bipartisan roads-and-bridges infrastructure deal. But his economic, voting rights, police reform and immigration agenda have all been thwarted in a barely Democratic-controlled Senate, while inflation has emerged as an economic threat to the nation and a political risk for Biden.

Despite his faltering approval numbers, Biden claimed to have "probably outperformed what anybody thought would happen" in a country still coping with the coronavirus.

"After almost two years of physical, emotional and psychological impact of this pandemic, for many of us, it's been too much to bear," Biden said.

"Some people may call what's happening now 'the new normal,' he added, his voice rising. "I call it a job not yet finished. It will get better."

On his nearly \$2 trillion economic agenda that West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin has blocked from moving forward,

Biden said he'll pass the parts of the package that can net sufficient votes. This likely means not extending the expanded child tax credit or providing financial support to community colleges, Biden said.

"I think we can break the package up, get as much as we can now, come back and fight for the rest," he said, later adding that he would apply the same strategy to his voting reform agenda.

The social spending bill was once viewed as a catch-all home for various progressive priorities, but now Democrats are sensing a need to deliver a solid accomplishment to voters in the midterm year and are beginning to come to terms with a slimmed-down package that can overcome Manchin's reticence.

The White House and congressional Democratic leaders are expected to refocus their attention on it beginning next week, after the all-but-certain collapse of the Democrats' push on voting rights legislation. Talks to craft a new bill that meets Manchin's demands and can garner the virtually unanimous Democratic support needed to pass Congress will likely take weeks.

The Democrats' goal is to have a package — or be on the cusp of one — that Biden can highlight in his March 1 State of the Union address.

If Biden seemed to have one set of regrets so far, it was his inability because of the coronavirus to connect with more Americans outside the capital. He noted that this challenge was most acutely felt by Black voters who wanted him to push more aggressively on expanding access to voting.

"I don't get a chance to look people in the eye because of both COVID and things that are happening in Washington," he said.

Speaking as Democrats were mounting a doomed effort to change Senate rules to pass the voting measure, Biden said he still hoped that it would pass in some form and wasn't prepared yet to

discuss possible executive actions on the issue. The vote spotlighted the constraints on Biden's influence barely a week after he delivered an impassioned speech in Atlanta suggesting opponents of the measures were taking a historical stance alongside segregationists and exhorting senators to action.

Still, he said he understood that civil rights groups were anxious and frustrated about the lack of action, particularly Black voters who question why he didn't press the issue harder and earlier.

There are at least 19 Republican-backed laws in states that make it harder to vote, and Jan. 6 insurrection supporters are filling local election posts and running for office.

It was Biden's seventh solo news conference as president. The ongoing threat from the coronavirus was evident in the setup of Wednesday's gathering: A limited number of reporters were allowed to attend and all had to have been tested for the virus and wear masks.

The president used the event to pay heed to growing anxiety about rising prices. Staring down an inflation rate that has gone from 1.7% at his inauguration to 7%, he called on the Federal Reserve to lessen its monetary boosting of the economy by raising interest rates, which would in theory help to reduce inflation.

"Given the strength of our economy, and the pace of recent price increases, it's important to recalibrate the support that is now necessary," Biden said. "Now, we need to get inflation under control."

Despite it all, Biden said he's convinced the country is still with him — even if they don't tell that to pollsters.

"I don't believe the polls," he said.

AP Congressional Correspondent Lisa Mascaró contributed to this report.

STATE BRIEF

Kansas City man sentenced for role in U.S. Capitol riot

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — A Kansas City man who participated in last year's riot at the U.S. Capitol was sentenced Wednesday to home detention and probation.

Carey Jon Walden was sentenced to 30 days of home detention, three years' probation, 60 hours of community service and a \$500 fine after pleading guilty to one misdemeanor, The Kansas City Star reported.

"I didn't see a lot (of) what I saw on TV when I was there," Walden told the judge just before his sentencing. "It was a terrible day, and I'm really ashamed of myself that I was a part of that."

U.S. District Judge Dabney Friedrich noted the Walden did not injure anyone, damage property, carry weapons or help plan the events on Jan. 6, 2021.

But she said, "He was a willing participant in a riot, or an insurrection, that undermined our democratic electoral process and values."

Walden, a Navy and Marine Corps veteran, pleaded guilty to parading, demonstrating or picketing in any of the Capitol buildings.

Library

From Page 1A

"I have loved the aspect of being a librarian and being able to introduce books to kids and get books out there," Thierfelder said. "I'm also the secretary of the Missouri Gateway Committee and the whole purpose is to bring the award-winning books or the best books of the year to the students, so I get around 400 books donated to me and the school each year to give out for prizes or to donate to the school."

Thierfelder said this, along with the new partnership, has made it amazing for kids because it provides titles they may see right now.

"I think it helps kids with learning disabilities or that struggle with liking to read because they might like listening to a book more or have an e-book, so instead

of scrolling through Facebook, they can scroll through a book," Thierfelder added.

A Smith-Cotton student was able to borrow a hard copy book from the school library and download the audio-book, so they could use both to work on a project.

"It's not just an extension for outside of class reading, but it can help in the classroom as well," Thierfelder said.

Sparks, a former Sedalia educator, added that any way to get students excited about reading is helpful, so if there is any way for the public library to help, it's a no-brainer.

"With the ability to have access to audio-books, so many kids use that nowadays as opposed to picking up an actual book but it doesn't limit kids on reading ability," Sparks said.

With Sparks' background in literacy and education, she's eager to

help students through the library. She said Sora opens up new opportunities for students who may have a lower reading level but higher comprehension and interest. Listening to those books may be more helpful.

"It gives them access to so many types of books. It also has some components where teachers are able to track what students are reading and has some support materials," Sparks said.

Sora can help teachers and the library track what types of books students are reading.

"I would love to have that partnership grow in whatever capability that happens to be..." Sparks added. "It's not just restricted to the high school; it just happened that it was the first place where it went as far as this partnership."

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

US begins offering 1B free COVID tests, but many more needed

By Matthew Perrone and Kate Brumback

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — For the first time, people across the U.S. can log on to a government website and order free, at-home COVID-19 tests. But the White House push may do little to ease the omicron surge, and experts say Washington will have to do a lot more to fix the country's long-troubled testing system.

The website, COVIDTests.gov, allows people to order four at-home tests per household, regardless of citizenship status, and have them delivered by mail. But the tests won't arrive for seven to 12 days, after omicron cases are expected to peak in many parts of the country.

The White House also announced Wednesday that it will begin making 400 million N95 masks available for free at pharmacies and community health centers. Both initiatives represent the kind of mass government investments long seen in parts of Europe and Asia, but delayed in the U.S.

"Should we have done more testing earlier? Yes, but we're doing more now," President Joe Biden said Wednesday, recapping his first year in office.

Experts say the plan to distribute 1 billion tests is a good first step, but it must become a regular part of the pandemic response. In the same way that it has made vaccines free and plentiful, the government must use its purchasing power to assure a steady test supply, they say.

"The playbook for rapid

tests should look exactly like the playbook for vaccines," said Zoe McLaren, a health economist at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. "They're both things that help keep cases down and help keep COVID under control."

A home test two-pack commonly sells for more than \$20 at the store — if you can find one, amid the omicron-triggered rush to get tested. Since last week, insurance companies have been required to cover the cost of up to eight at-home rapid tests bought at drug-stores or online retailers.

The four tests per home made available through the government website may not go very far in some households.

Kristen Keymont, 30, is a voice and piano teacher who teaches online and shares a house in Ipswich, Massachusetts, with her partner and two other people. When one of her housemates tested positive just before Christmas, she and her partner spent \$275 buying more than a dozen tests.

"One test each is nice, I guess," she said. "I'm glad we have them, but we're still going to need to buy more if one of us gets exposed."

It would be better, she said, if requests were linked to each person rather than each residential address.

Also, some people who live in buildings with multiple units had their requests for tests rejected, with the website saying tests had already been ordered for that address. As those complaints surfaced on social media, people began sharing advice on how to enter apartment or unit numbers in a way

that the website would accept them.

There have been nearly 50 million visits to the test-ordering website since it went online Tuesday, according to a federal analytics site.

The U.S. bungled its initial rollout of government-made COVID-19 tests in the early days of the outbreak and has never really gotten back on track. While private companies are now producing more than 250 million at-home tests per month, that is still not enough to allow most Americans to frequently test themselves.

The Biden administration focused most of its early COVID-19 efforts on rolling out vaccines. As infections fell last spring, demand for testing plummeted and many manufacturers began shutting down plants. Only in September — after the delta surge was in full swing — did the Biden administration announce its first federal contracts designed to jump-start home test production.

Countries like Britain and Germany purchased and distributed billions of the tests soon after they became available last year.

"If you leave the manufacturers to their own devices, they're just going to respond to what's happening right now," said Dr. Amy Karger, a testing specialist at the University of Minnesota Medical School. "And then there's not a lot of bandwidth if something surprising happens, as it did with omicron."

Even with government intervention, the U.S. faces a massive testing load because of its population, which is five times larger than Britain's.

STATE BRIEF

St. Louis notary ordered 989 fake COVID-19 vaccination cards

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A notary from St. Louis has admitted to ordering 989 fake COVID-19 vaccination record cards from China.

The plea agreement from Morgan Webb, 23, does not indicate her motive or whether she sold any of the cards, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

Webb pleaded guilty Tuesday to a federal misdemeanor of possession of an imitation insignia of a U.S. agency.

The cards had a fake insignia and seal of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

They were labeled on the shipping manifest as thank-you cards. The cards were intercepted by Customs and Border Protection officers in September at a DHL shipping hub in Kentucky, and then delivered to Webb's apartment in St. Louis.

Webb is scheduled to be sentenced April 20. Attorneys have agreed to recommend that she get probation.

Webb became a notary public in May, according to state records, and registered a notary business in July.

Webb's lawyer, Diane Dragan, declined to comment and said her client did not wish to comment, the Post-Dispatch reported.



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Barber

From Page 1A

"Farthest from that," Hesse said. "So stuffy, I don't like the old barber-shops. I enjoy this, like everybody has their own vibe. Jason is very into music, Rory is also, I'm kind of a country boy and Stef is just professional, like she's just very good at what she does. We all have different vibes and I think they just mesh really well."

The personalities do match, and the 12-foot ceilings and great light from big windows allow for a breezy, conversational environment reminiscent of a "Friends" episode.

"Jason's got the tennis ball, playing catch," Hesse said. "We play good music and joke around, it's really probably the easiest, most laid-back work environ-



Jason Joy tosses a tennis ball to Rory Colburn as Joshua Hesse and Stephanie Flick enjoy their company Wednesday.

ment I've ever been in." Stephanie fits in with the boys and gets dragged into the fun as well.

"It's like working with my brothers, like little brothers that I just want to thump in the head but I can't," Flick said. "Get some good clients coming in here and more

people rolling through the door, and it'll be even more homey."

Having only been in the building for 24 hours, Colburn is convinced they have all come home.

"The freedoms that come with this industry are just limitless," Colburn said. "For us to be able to

come together, make it ours and create our own vibe that literally fits every angle of our lives, you know, this is like a home away from home."

The Missouri Barber Company is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon Saturday. The new business will host a grand opening Feb. 1.

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



Stephanie Flick and Rory Colburn enjoy a moment as Jason Joy, back left, and Joshua Hesse enjoy the antics.



Jimi Hendrix looks down from a poster as Jason Joy and Joshua Hesse listen to music and wait on the next customer Wednesday.

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Jumbo Marshmallows 99¢ <small>24 oz</small>	Vanilla Cookie Dipped Cones \$1.25 <small>18 oz. 4ct</small>	73/27 Ground Beef \$2.49 <small>lb.</small>
Triple Cheese Mac & Cheese Cups 50¢ <small>\$3.99 cs of 10</small>	Thin Cut Boneless Pork Chops \$2.25 <small>lb.</small>	NSA Apple Pie Filling 75¢ <small>15 oz</small>

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STATE BRIEFS

Missouri Highway Patrol mistakenly sends Batman-themed alert

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Missouri State Highway Patrol alert sent cellphones blaring statewide: Authorities in Gotham City, Missouri, were searching for a purple and green 1978 Dodge 3700GT.

But there is no Gotham City, Missouri, and the car referenced was the one used by the Joker in the 1989 "Batman" movie. Soon after the Tuesday evening alert, the patrol sent another saying to disregard it.

In a brief news release, the patrol said a routine test of Missouri's Blue Alert system was inadvertently transmitted statewide. The system is meant to let the public know when a police officer is killed or seriously injured in the line of duty.

"During the test, an option was incorrectly selected, allowing the message to

be disseminated to the public," the news release stated. A message left with patrol on Wednesday seeking additional information wasn't immediately returned.

Man convicted in deadly 2016 carjacking sentenced to prison

JENNINGS, Mo. (AP) — A St. Louis man who pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and nine other felonies in a deadly 2016 carjacking has been sentenced to 25 years in prison.

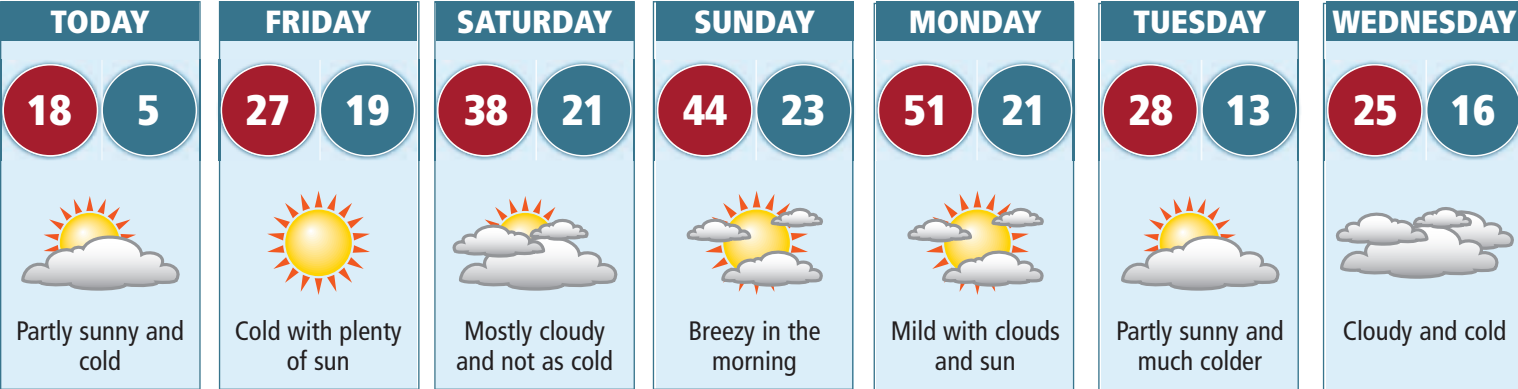
Melford Newlon, 22, was sentenced Tuesday for the September 2016 shooting death of 71-year-old Steven White in Jennings, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

Police said Newlon was 17 when he and an accomplice, Keishon Jennings, confronted White in a driveway and demanded his keys at gunpoint. When White refused, Newlon shot him in the head, police said, and the teens then rummaged through his pockets and took a cellphone.

THE WEATHER

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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST



SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:27 a.m.
Sunset tonight	5:21 p.m.
Moonrise today	8:07 p.m.
Moonsset today	9:24 a.m.



WEATHER HISTORY

Extreme cold froze the Midwest and the East in January 1994. In Detroit, the temperature stayed below zero for 57 straight hours, the second longest period on record.

ALMANAC

Sedalia Regional Airport Tuesday

TEMPERATURES

High	58
Low	36
Normal high	38
Normal low	18
Record high	67 in 1996
Record low	-15 in 1978

PRECIPITATION

Tuesday	0.00"
Month to date	0.65"
Normal m-t-d	1.09"
Year to date	0.65"
Normal y-t-d	1.09"

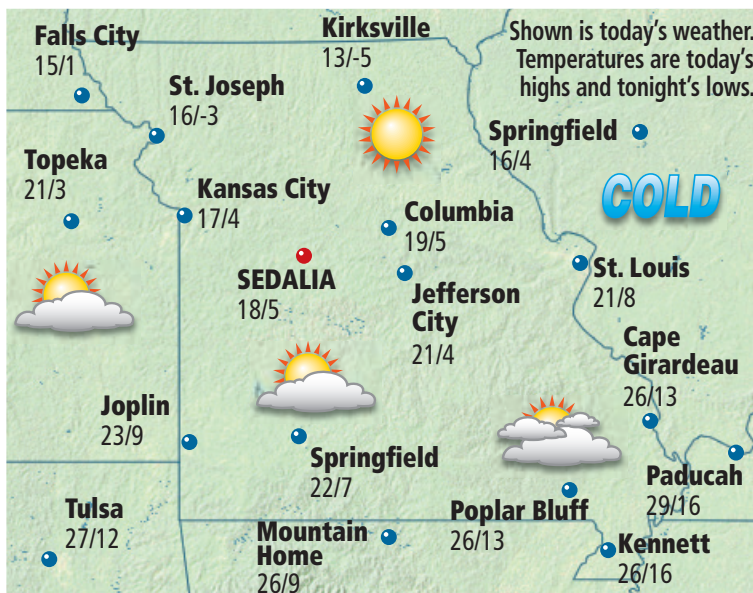
HEATING DEGREE DAYS
Index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the average temperature was below 65 degrees for the day.

Tuesday	18
Month to date	604
Season to date	1886
Normal season to date	2701
Last season to date	2201

RIVER LEVELS
In feet as of 7 a.m. Wednesday

Blackwater	Stage	Chg	Fld Stg
Blue Lick	7.56	+0.11	24
Valley City	3.56	-0.05	22
Lamine			
Otterville	1.18	+0.02	15
Missouri			
Boonville	4.13	+0.32	21

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2022



BRANSON
High: 25. **Low:** 7. Partly sunny and colder today. Bitterly cold tonight; frostbite to exposed skin within 15 minutes. Plenty of sunshine tomorrow.

KANSAS CITY
High: 17. **Low:** 4. Partly sunny and cold today; frostbite to exposed skin within 15 minutes. Bitterly cold tonight. Mostly sunny tomorrow.

ST. LOUIS
High: 21. **Low:** 8. Mostly sunny today. Clear and very cold tonight; limited outdoor activity recommended. Cold tomorrow with plenty of sun.

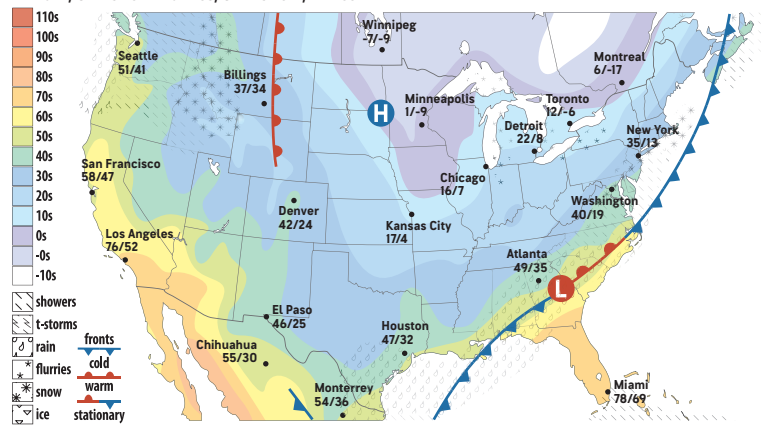
NEW YORK CITY
High: 35. **Low:** 13. Morning snow today, accumulating 1-2 inches; otherwise, mostly cloudy and windy; storm total 1-3 inches. Roads could be slippery.

LOS ANGELES
High: 76. **Low:** 52. Delightful today with plenty of sun. Patchy clouds tonight. Mostly sunny tomorrow and Saturday. Sunday: sunny and pleasant.

NATIONAL WEATHER

	Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W		Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	49/35/r	37/28/sn	Milwaukee	16/6/s	25/16/s
Baltimore	37/15/r	26/16/pc	Nashville	32/21/pc	31/18/pc
Billings	37/34/pc	40/28/sf	New Orleans	56/34/r	42/32/r
Boston	34/10/sn	20/13/pc	Norfolk	49/27/sh	31/28/sn
Buffalo	14/1/c	14/-3/s	Oklahoma City	28/10/c	36/19/s
Charlotte	50/30/r	31/22/sn	Orlando	78/57/s	77/58/c
Chicago	16/7/s	23/16/s	Phoenix	71/47/s	70/48/s
Cleveland	20/13/sn	21/2/c	Pittsburgh	22/4/pc	17/-3/pc
Dallas	36/21/pc	44/24/s	Portland, ME	34/3/pc	15/3/s
Denver	42/24/pc	37/20/sn	Portland, OR	54/41/r	49/35/c
Detroit	22/8/pc	22/11/s	Sacramento	60/40/s	66/42/s
Honolulu	80/65/pc	81/68/s	St. Louis	21/8/s	27/15/s
Houston	47/32/r	46/30/c	San Francisco	58/47/s	62/49/s
Indianapolis	26/13/pc	25/10/s	Seattle	51/41/sh	49/36/c
Las Vegas	61/41/s	62/44/s	Washington, DC	40/19/r	27/20/c

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



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation today. Temperature bands are highs for the day.
Summary: Snow and slush will create slippery travel in the Interstate 95 Northeast for a time today. Rain will fall over the Southeast as lake-effect snow pesters the Upper Midwest. The Northwest will be wet.

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PHOTO BY BRYAN EVERSON | DEMOCRAT

Roadrunners guard Jamar Madge Jr. shoots a corner 3-pointer in the first half of Wednesday night's game against Mineral Area College in Sedalia.

Madge Jr. returns for Roadrunners

By Bryan Everson
bryane@sedaliademocrat.com

Sometimes a player returning from injury is just as good as a mid-season impact transfer.

Probably even better in the case of Jamar Madge Jr.

A 6-foot-3 guard out of Raytown South, where he was a Class 4 All-State player, Madge arrived in Sedalia last season after committing to Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where he spent a season and appeared in 26 games.

Upon stepping on the floor as a Roadrunner, Madge looked the part of a player who would find his way back to Division I. He

scored in double-figures in his first 10 games, including a high of 21 points in a win over Missouri Baptist. His year came to a premature end, however, when he suffered a season-ending ACL injury on March 3 at Mineral Area College, the Roadrunners' opponent Wednesday night in Sedalia.

"We were playing Mineral and in the first few minutes of the game I was trying to get back and block a shot and felt a pop," Madge said. "I tried to come back in the second half, took a run in warmups and felt my knee hitting the floor. That's when I knew it was something serious."

His loss left a void in the lineup. Madge had been averaging 45.5% on 3-pointers, while the team as a whole shot just 31.8% from outside on the year. Roadrunners head coach Matt Brown kept going back to the toughness that he brings when asked about his best qualities.

Still, even the toughest struggle with a long-term layoff.

"It was about a month [between the injury and] my surgery, and that was probably the toughest of all," Madge said. "I was in limbo, not really knowing what was next; I was pretty down."

See SFCC | 6B

Foot feels fine as Henry preps for playoff return

By Teresa M. Walker
AP Pro Football Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Derrick Henry, the man who literally ran the Tennessee Titans to the AFC championship game two years ago, is ready to play again.

The 2020 AP NFL Offensive Player of the Year says his surgically repaired right foot, fixed with a steel plate, feels no different than his left, and he's happy to be back on a football field.

Just in time for Saturday's divisional playoff game against Cincinnati.

As long as the Titans make the final step, moving Henry from injured reserve to the active roster by Friday afternoon. Henry talking to reporters Wednesday for the first time since breaking his foot Oct. 31 sure seems a strong indicator he will be back in

time for kickoff.

So will he play Saturday? "See how this week goes, and we'll see where I'm at on Saturday," Henry said.

This was the first time Henry, the 2015 Heisman Trophy winner, had ever dealt with an injury during a football season. He called it "definitely shocking," though Henry simply turned his attention to surgery and working his way back to the football field.

The injury cost him the final nine games of the season. The NFL's 2019 and 2020 rushing leader led the league again when he was injured, and Henry still finished the season ninth with 937 yards.

"It was the first time that I got injured during the season and had to miss you know the rest of the season, so it was definitely different ...," Henry said.

See TITANS | 6B



FILE PHOTO BY ZACH BOLINGER | AP PHOTO

Tennessee Titans running back Derrick Henry (22) is shown on the sidelines during an NFL football game against the Indianapolis Colts, Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021, in Indianapolis. It's been nearly 12 weeks since Derrick Henry broke his right foot. The 2020 AP NFL Offensive Player of the Year has been practicing while still on injured reserve with the Tennessee Titans targeting his return Saturday for their divisional game with Cincinnati.



PHOTO BY COLIN E. BRALEY | AP PHOTO

Kansas City Chiefs running back Jerick McKinnon (1) scores on a 4-yard touchdown reception during the first half of an NFL wild-card playoff football game against the Pittsburgh Steelers, Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022, in Kansas City, Mo.

Chiefs keep leaning on McKinnon, other unsung players

By Dave Skretta
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Jerick McKinnon probably shouldn't have been surprised to spend all season buried on the Chiefs depth chart.

The journeyman running back had been passed over plenty of times before.

Start with those early years in Minnesota, when he backed up Adrian Peterson. An injury back gave McKinnon a chance, only for the Vikings to give Matt Asiata the starting nod the following week.

Or the later years in Minnesota, when Dalvin Cook

was given the top job and tore ligaments in his knee. McKinnon was passed over by Latavius Murray that time, hastening his exit to San Francisco in free agency.

So even though the Chiefs had Clyde Edwards-Helaire atop the depth chart, and Darrel Williams behind him, McKinnon chose to sign with Kansas City after three injury-filled years with the 49ers. He was confident that he would eventually have an opportunity to make a difference, and when that happened, it would be on a Super Bowl contender.

"When you get in a place like that and you are fighting and battling back, the only

thing you can do is just put your head down and keep working," McKinnon said, "and know in the back of your mind that the hard work is going to pay off."

Did it ever.

With Edwards-Helaire still sidelined by a shoulder injury, and Williams dealing with a sore toe, McKinnon got the nod in the wild-card round against Pittsburgh. He responded by carrying 12 times for 61 yards, catching six passes for 81 yards and a score, and gaining more yards from scrimmage than anybody else in the playoffs last weekend.

See CHIEFS | 2B

Earnhardt Jr. matches his father as NASCAR Hall of Famer

By Jenna Fryer
AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Dale Earnhardt Jr. recognized early he would never be a seven-time NASCAR champion like his dad.

It was unrealistic to believe he would match the late Dale Earnhardt on the track. The Intimidator was tough as nails, didn't tolerate any nonsense and built a winning resume that made him a first ballot Hall of Famer in NASCAR's 2010 inaugural class.

Junior never hoisted the Cup. But what he did do was build a career as NASCAR's top ambassador, finding a crossover audience that stretches far beyond his father's reach.

"Once I realized that I wasn't

going to match dad's statistics on paper ... to me, my dad was this really important part of the puzzle, and he was important because of his success but also because of the reaction to whatever he did," Earnhardt told The Associated Press this week. "I thought, 'Wow, that is an asset, that's what being an asset to the sport is and this guy is valuable.' I wanted to have that same value."

Earnhardt will join his father in the NASCAR Hall of Fame on Friday night when he is inducted alongside Red Farmer and Mike Stefanik. The hall welcomed five members each of its first 11 years, then tweaked the rules to cut the inductees down to three for the 2021 class.

See NASCAR | 6B



FILE PHOTO BY CHRIS O'MEARA | AP PHOTO

Dale Earnhardt, left, hugs Dale Earnhardt Jr. in Victory Lane on Friday afternoon, Feb. 18, 2000, after the elder Earnhardt won the International Race of Champions round at the Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla. The younger Earnhardt finished fifth. As he prepares to join his late father in the NASCAR Hall of Fame, Dale Earnhardt Jr. can't help but wonder what his Dad would make of the career he's built on and off the track.

SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday ON TAP	6 p.m. SECN — Florida at Kentucky
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL	6:30 p.m. ESPN — Louisville at NC State
Archie at Windsor	7 p.m. ACCN — Pittsburgh at Virginia Tech
Clinton at Sacred Heart	BTN — Iowa at Minnesota
Cole Camp at Warsaw	8 p.m. SECN — Arkansas at Alabama
Lincoln at Osceola	8:30 p.m. PAC-12N — Southern Cal at UCLA
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL	GOLF
Archie at Windsor	11 a.m. ESPN2 — The Latin America Amateur Championship: First Round, El Camaleón Golf Club, LA Romana, Dominican Republic
Clinton at Sacred Heart	GOLF — PGA Tour: The Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament Of Champions, First Round, Lake Nona G&CC, Orlando, Fla.
Lincoln at Osceola	2 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour: The American Express, First Round, La Quinta Country Club, La Quinta, Calif.
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS WRESTLING	6 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour Champions: The Mitsubishi Electric Championship, First Round, Hualalai GC, Kaupulehu, Hawaii
Cole Camp at Carrollton Triangular	1 a.m. (Friday)
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS WRESTLING	GOLF — DP World Tour: The Abu Dhabi HSBC Championship, Second Round, Yas Links, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Cole Camp at Carrollton Triangular	NBA BASKETBALL
ON AIR COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)	6:30 p.m. TNT — Phoenix at Dallas
4 p.m. FS1 — Georgetown at Providence	9 p.m. TNT — Indiana at Golden State
6 p.m. CBSSN — W. Kentucky at FAU	NHL HOCKEY
ESPN2 — SMU at Memphis	8:30 p.m. ESPN — Colorado at Los Angeles
ESPNEWS — Belmont at Morehead St.	ROBERTO CLEMENTE PBL BASEBALL
ESPNU — Charlotte at N. Texas	5 p.m. FS2 — Playoff: Criollos de Caguas vs. Indios de Mayagüez, Final, Game 5
FS1 — Purdue at Indiana	TENNIS
6:30 p.m. PAC-12N — Southern Cal at Colorado	1 p.m. ESPN2 — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Second Round, Melbourne, Australia (Taped)
9 p.m. CBSSN — Santa Clara at St. Mary's (Cal)	8 p.m. ESPN2 — ATP/WTA: The Australian Open, Third Round, Melbourne, Australia
ESPNU — Tulsa at Cincinnati	
FS1 — UConn at Butler	
10 p.m. CBSSN — San Francisco at Gonzaga	
ESPNU — Arizona at Stanford	
FS1 — UCLA at Utah	
10:30 p.m. PAC-12N — Washington at Oregon St.	
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S)	
4 p.m. ESPNU — SIU-Edwardsville at Tennessee Tech	
5 p.m. ACCN — Georgia Tech at Syracuse	
BTN — Maryland at Ohio St.	



Kaitlin Hawayek and Jean-Luc Baker compete in the rhythm dance program during the U.S. Figure Skating Championships Friday, Jan. 7, 2022, in Nashville, Tenn.

Overcoming obstacles, US figure skaters ready for Beijing

By Dave Skretta
AP Sports Writer

Kaitlin Hawayek spent last summer dealing with a concussion that she got in practice, unsure of when she would be able to join ice dance partner Jean-Luc Baker on the rink again to prepare for the Beijing Olympics.

Ashley Cain-Gribble spent time in the hospital with COVID-19, an illness that left her with long-term asthma.

They are just two of the figure skaters in the American contingent headed to the Winter Games next month who have had to overcome obstacles — mostly illness and injury — to compete in the most important competition of their lives.

There is three-time world champion Nathan Chen, one of the favorites to win gold, who has a history of hip injuries and is dealing with a sore groin. And two-time U.S. champ Alysa Liu and Brandon Frazier, the partner of pairs skater Alexa Knierim, both of whom tested positive for COVID-19 earlier this month and had to withdraw from nationals.

"With full transparency," Hawayek said, "I didn't know what the course of the injury was going to look like as we entered the Olympic season. There was a lot of doubt whether we'd be able to get back to a competition-ready place."

Indeed, of all the injuries and illnesses, the concussion that Hawayek sustained was perhaps the most serious.

On a warm, early summer day in June, Hawayek and Baker were working on a new lift that they already had done several times without an issue. But they pushed

it to the limit, lost their balance and Hawayek cracked her head on the ice.

She was taken to the hospital for stitches and was diagnosed with a significant concussion.

Hawayek began working with Sarah El Queisi, a physiotherapist specializing in such injuries, and together they put a plan in place to get back to work. Hawayek was off the ice entirely for 10 days, then began with light workouts in which she kept close tabs on her heart rate. As time went on, Hawayek was able to add practice time in 15-minute increments, though she and Baker still had to withdraw from the U.S. Classic and their Grand Prix assignment at the NHK Trophy.

They finally made their season debut at the Rostelecom Cup in Russia, finishing in fifth place, then won a lower-level event in Croatia. That gave them momentum heading into nationals, where a third-place finish earned them their first Olympic berth.

"Thing is, it's not necessarily the injury I had. We both had so many obstacles, injury, working through health-related stuff," Hawayek said. "What I've learned is we can lean into each other without relying on each other. We have trust in ourselves to know what we need. We've really learned to communicate for ourselves in the best way, to communicate what we need and how other people can be there to support us. I think we've been able to just grow even closer together."

Cain-Gribble and her pairs partner, Timothy DeLuc, also said they grew closer after her bout with COVID-19 last year. She was hospitalized for a short period but eventually tested negative and was cleared to return to practice.

Cain-Gribble thought that was the end of it, but then she struggled through their program at the Autumn Classic.

"It was hard for me to breathe. I thought it was just me being out of shape," she said. "When we got back I went to see a pulmonologist and found out I got asthma. I'm healthy and I'm young and I thought I'd be able to recover quickly, but that wasn't the case for me. But luckily I was able to get help so that I can be here."

That help included a series of steroid injections to deal with inflammation and an inhaler she uses twice a day.

Liu didn't have nearly the same problem after her positive COVID-19 test. That occurred after her short program at nationals, and she was forced to quarantine in her hotel room until testing negative. But she was chipper when speaking by Zoom a couple of days later, when the selection committee chose her to compete in Beijing.

Frazier also was feeling better by that point, though his positive test before the start of nationals threw him for a loop. The pairs skater wrote in a social media post that he felt awful after contracting the coronavirus.

The worst part for him, though, was being unable to celebrate making the Olympic team with his partner.

"I think it's safe to say I'm 100% back to normal," he said. "I was very devastated. I know Alexa was, too. But she's the backbone of this team when I needed the support. ... Now I'm trying to take a deep breath and accept what is and what was and remind myself that, you know what? We still have a lot of work to do. We still have a lot in front of us."

Chiefs

From Page 1B

"I've seen it from training camp on that he's a playmaker," Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes said. "I mean, there's a reason he's been a playmaker in this league the last few years here. Obviously, he's dealt with injuries in his career, and he dealt with a little bit of injury this season, but he's kept his mindset right. He kept working hard. And I knew with some of the other guys kind of being down and dinged up, he would step up and fill in nicely."

He's not the only

unsung player on a team that features plenty of superstars.

— Byron Pringle was an undrafted free agent coming out of college that earned his stripes on the practice squad and elbowed his way into the lineup. He had five catches for 37 yards and two touchdowns in the 42-21 win over the Steelers.

— Mike Danna was a fifth-round pick who had one of the Chiefs' two sacks and two quarterback hits against Pittsburgh.

— L'Jarius Snead was a fourth-round pick who led the Chiefs in tackles against Pittsburgh, despite playing in the defensive backfield, and helped to blanket wide

receivers Diontae Johnson, Chase Claypool and JuJu Smith-Schuster.

Still, it was McKinnon had shined most brightly. His big game against the Steelers followed up a nice performance in their regular-season finale in Denver, when he reached the end zone for the first time with the Chiefs, and puts McKinnon in a position to get just as much work when the Bills arrive on Sunday for a rematch of last season's AFC title game.

"He gives you all kinds of confidence just by the way he handles himself," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said. "He's a confident guy, he works hard, takes care of himself — smart — and he's a good athlete. So you felt like if he got in there, he would do a good job. He can catch the football. He can run it. He's got good vision. So it was good to get him in there."

NOTES: Williams did not practice Wednesday while Edwards-Helaire practiced in a limited capacity. "He moved around well. We'll see tomorrow and how he back to backs these things," Reid said. "We'll just see how he does going forward." ... CB Rashad Fenton (back) also did not practice Wednesday. ... The Chiefs released CB Josh Jackson, TE Nakia Griffin-Stewart and LBs Shilique Calhoun and Elijah Sullivan from their practice squad.

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HOROSCOPES

By Georgia Nicols

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or making important decisions from 3 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. EST today (12 a.m. to 6:15 a.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Leo into Virgo.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022:

You are conscientious, capable and reliable. People like to know they can count on you. They also love your sense of humor. This year is the last year of a nine-year cycle, which means you are wrapping up things and letting go of what is no longer relevant in your life.

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)

★★★★ Because you're in a positive mood today, you will get a lot done. Even your health feels more vigorous. However, your enthusiasm about something might tempt you to overlook details. Be aware of this. Tonight: Be helpful.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ This is a playful day! You will want to interact with others and enjoy good times (within the restrictions you face dealing with your own bubble of contacts). Playful activities with children, sports and the entertainment world will appeal to you. Tonight: Enjoy fun times.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ This is a pleasant day at home. Group activities with the family or close friends might take place. You also might entertain big ideas for making improvements to where you live, because today you are enthusiastic and full of big ideas for the future! Tonight: Relax.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Today your thoughts are positive. Excellent! Everything begins with a thought. "From the thought springs the word; and from the word springs the deed. The deed soon becomes habit; and habit eventually hardens into character." This is why we must watch our thoughts! Tonight: Good conversations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Today you feel more optimistic about financial matters. However, make sure your facts are correct. It's easy to think something is better than it is today. When shopping, guard against going overboard and being extravagant. (Keep your receipts.) Tonight: Check your finances.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ This is a feel-good day because the Moon is in your sign dancing with lucky Jupiter. This is why you want to kick back and relax. You have that feeling that the world owes you a favor! It's OK to have your head in the clouds, but make sure your feet are on the ground. Tonight: You're confident!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ This is a feel-good day for you because you feel contented. This is a good thing. The future is just a hope or a fear, and the past is already gone. All you have is the present. Enjoy your present moment today. Mind games, puzzles and mental activities will delight. Tonight: Enjoy solitude.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Some kind of group activity, including Zoom conferences, might be the order of the day, because you will be involved with friends and groups more than usual today. Your reach will be far. You will want to talk to many people about future projects and goals. Tonight: A heartfelt conversation with a friend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Today you are high-viz. This means people notice you more than usual, especially bosses, parents and VIPs. (Incidentally, this includes the police.) Fortunately, the impression you create is one of being positive, successful and affluent. Tonight: Enjoy your good press.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Grab every opportunity to travel or do something to expand your world, because this is what you want to do today. You want to see new faces, new places and learn new ideas! Do what you can to increase your knowledge, perhaps with online learning or an old-fashioned book. Tonight: Make plans.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You feel flush today. Perhaps it is easier for you to get the financial and practical support of others, including your partner. That makes this a good day to make decisions about how to divide something, because you will end up laughing all the way to the bank. Tonight: Get organized.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Relations with partners and close friends are warm, friendly and upbeat today. People are in a good mood! In addition, people are also mutually generous and helpful today. You will benefit others, and they will benefit you. Tonight: Cooperate.

BORN TODAY

TV host Bill Maher (1956), actor Omar Sy (1978), astronaut Buzz Aldrin (1930)

Browns' Mayfield has surgery, starts road to 'true self'



PHOTO BY GENE J. PUSKAR | AP PHOTO

Cleveland Browns quarterback Baker Mayfield (6) warms up before an NFL football game against the Pittsburgh Steelers, Monday, Jan. 3, 2022, in Pittsburgh. Browns general manager Andrew Berry said Tuesday, Jan. 11 the team expects Mayfield to return as its starter next season and rebound after an injury-filled 2021 that raised questions about his future with Cleveland.

By Tom Withers

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — Baker Mayfield has shifted into comeback mode.

The Browns quarterback had successful surgery Wednesday to repair a torn labrum in his left shoulder, an injury that affected his play, led to a disappointing season and raised doubts about his future in Cleveland.

Mayfield posted a video on social media following the procedure, which was done in Los Angeles.

"Surgery went great," Mayfield said in the clip while sitting on a bed with his non-throwing arm in a sling. "It was a complete success. Had a great medical team. Took care of me and checked that box off to get this fixed, and now it's on the way to the road to recovery."

"This is one of those steps to get back to my true self."

The operation was performed by Dr. Orr Limpisvasti, the team physician for the Anaheim Ducks who examined Mayfield's shoulder during the season.

Mayfield, who only missed one game with the injury, will need up to six months of rehab, but is expected to be fully recovered by the time the Browns hold offseason workouts — assuming, of course, he's still with the team.

The Browns said they anticipate Mayfield will begin "light throwing" in April.

"Now it's on the way to the

road to recovery," he said. "It's not going to be an easy one, but it's going to be one that I'm going to remember, and it's going to be a special one."

Mayfield initially was hurt in Week 2 against Houston while trying to make tackle after throwing an interception. He continued to play while wearing a protective harness and then aggravated the injury and sustained a fracture to his shoulder against Arizona on Oct. 17.

He was fitted with a more restrictive harness, which prevented his shoulder from popping out of the socket.

Partly because of the injury affecting his throwing mechanics, Mayfield struggled and his uneven play contributed to the Browns (8-9) falling well short of expectations or making the postseason.

After being sacked nine times on Jan. 3 in a loss at Pittsburgh, Mayfield, who threw seven interceptions in his last three games, said he was "pretty damn beat up" and decided to skip the season finale.

In his video Wednesday, Mayfield alluded to a rough season during which he spoke of "internal noise" being an issue.

"This past year hasn't been very easy," he said. "A lot of stuff has gone down. It wasn't easy on me or my family, so I appreciate everybody that's reached out, that wished me well and good luck on the surgery. All the prayers and everything, it definitely did not go unnoticed, so thank you."

Mayfield's regression this season has spawned speculation that the Browns may move forward without the 2018 No. 1 overall pick. The team has not approached the QB's agent about a long-term contract extension. He's signed through next season for \$18.9 million after the team exercised his fifth-year option.

Last week, both coach Kevin Stefanski and general manager Andrew Berry offered support to Mayfield by saying they expect him to be the starter in 2022 and to "bounce back."

That doesn't mean the team won't explore other options at quarterback via trade of free agency during the offseason, but Berry stressed the team's time with Mayfield gives them faith he'll rebound next season.

"We know his work ethic," Berry said. "We know his drive and we have seen him as a talented passer in this league. We are looking forward to him getting healthy and continuing to make improvements. We expect him to bounce back next year."

Mayfield is already pointing toward a fresh start.

"This is not the end of my story," he said. "It's just going to be one of those little things that I'll look back and remember that it's one of those challenges and adversity that I'm going to try to take advantage of and make me a better person. So thank you for everybody that's reached out once again."

"Let's go get it."

Tottenham stages latest-ever comeback to win an EPL game

By Steve Douglas

AP Sports Writer

Tottenham staged the latest-ever comeback to win a Premier League game on Wednesday.

Manchester United's second-half turnaround was quite the surprise, too.

On a dramatic night in England's top flight, Tottenham was losing to Leicester after 94 minutes and 52 seconds. Within two minutes, Steven Bergwijn had scored two goals to seal a 3-2 win pretty much out of nowhere.

As an extra reward for Tottenham, the victory took the team above fierce rival Arsenal and into fifth place in the league — only one point off the Champions League positions

with games in hand.

"My team showed they don't want to give up and until the end we have to fight," said Tottenham manager Antonio Conte, whose unbeaten league record at the London club was preserved.

The previous latest comeback came in arguably the Premier

League's most famous game, when Manchester City scored in the 92nd and 94th minutes to beat Queens Park Rangers 3-2 and clinch the title in May 2012.

As for Man United, Ralf Rangnick's under-pressure team put in a wretched first-half display at Brentford and was lucky to be

0-0 at halftime, only for Anthony Elanga — with his first Premier League goal — Mason Greenwood and Marcus Rashford to score after the break in a 3-1 win.

Ivan Toney pulled a late goal back for Brentford. United stayed seventh but is one point behind Tottenham having played two games more.

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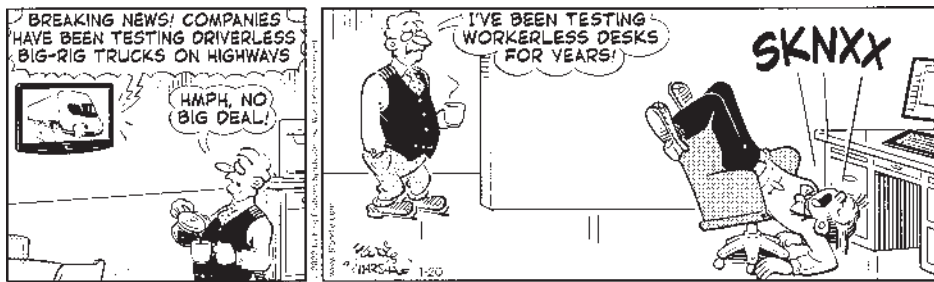


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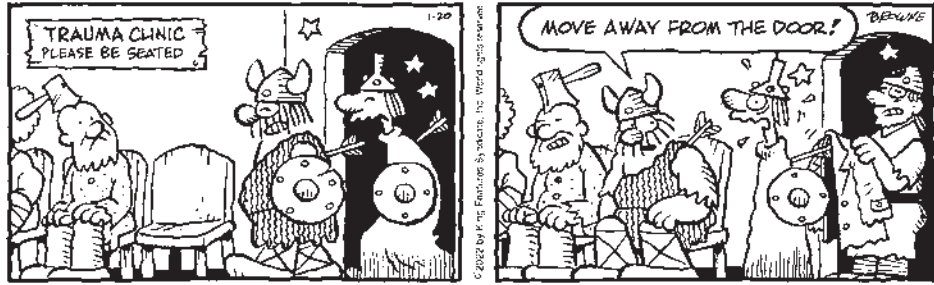
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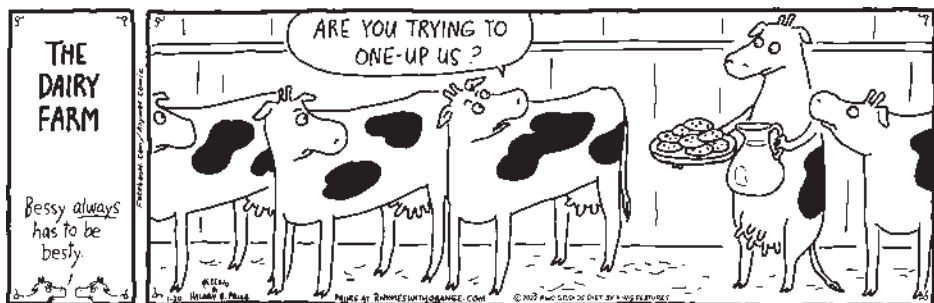
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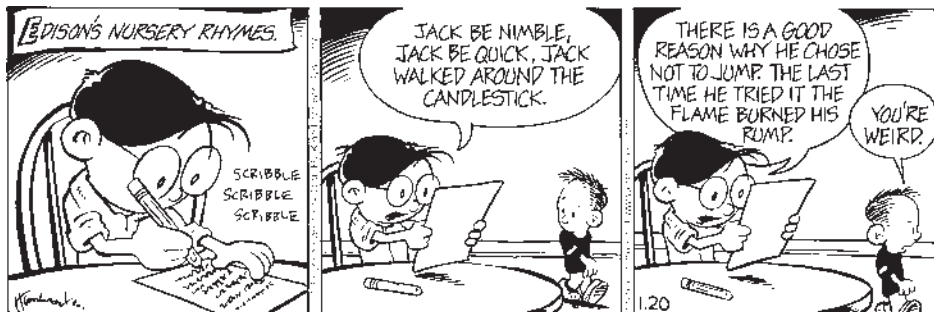
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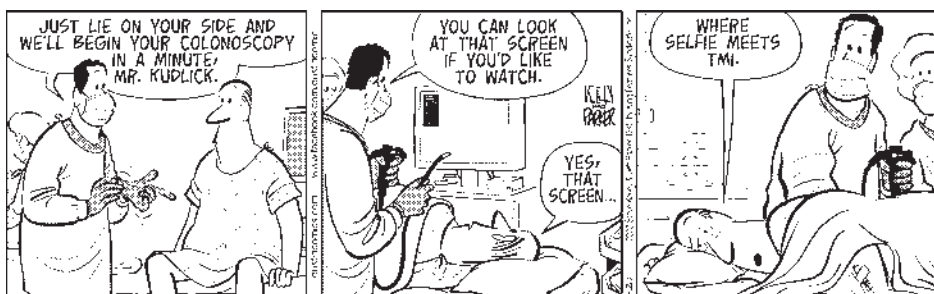
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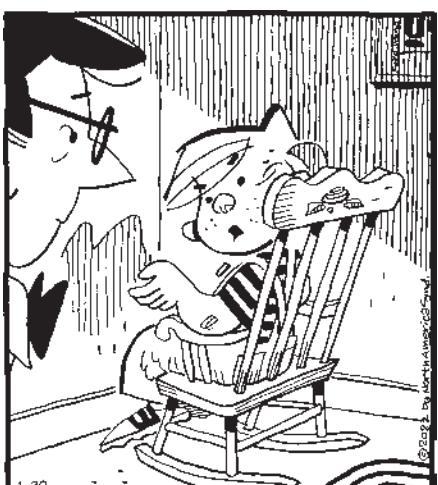
DUSTIN

BY STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER



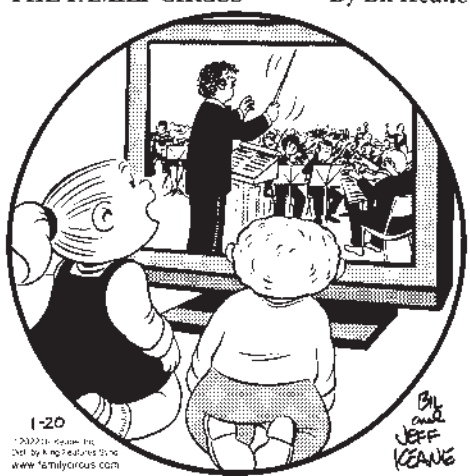
DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 45 Small porch
 - 1 Checkout act
 - 5 Back biter
 - 10 Seasonal song
 - 12 Spanish resort isle
 - 13 Sung story
 - 14 Kuwaiti coin
 - 15 Caterer's pot
 - 16 Shape with a knife
 - 18 Dot
 - 20 Twisty fish
 - 21 Vengeful goddess
 - 23 Place down
 - 24 Methods
 - 26 Defeat
 - 28 Craze
 - 29 Heroic tale
 - 31 Radius setting
 - 32 Petite
 - 36 Easily broken
 - 39 Crayon makeup
 - 40 Turning tool
 - 41 Lorelei's river
 - 43 Come in
 - 44 More rational
- DOWN**
- 1 Troop member
 - 2 Blue
 - 3 "— we all?"
 - 4 Neither follower
 - 5 Calf-length skirt
 - 6 Death notice
 - 7 Door toppers
 - 8 Flowery shrubs
 - 9 Almost never
 - 11 Anarchic
 - 17 That woman
 - 19 Belonging to thee
 - 22 African capital
 - 24 Arrest paper
 - 25 Acknowledged
 - 27 Cereal bit
 - 28 Aesop's output
 - 30 Everybody
 - 33 Baling need
 - 34 Bowling spots
 - 35 Use force
 - 37 Vincent's brother
 - 38 Maryland player, for short
 - 42 Derby, e.g.

P	A	G	A	N	S		A	M	P	S		
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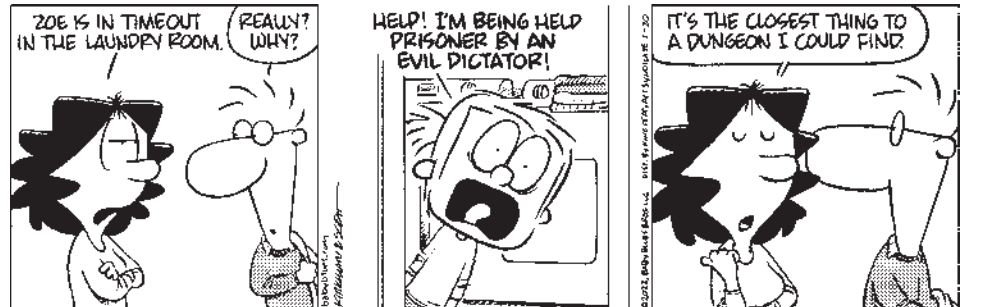
Yesterday's answer

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			21			22		23		
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40							41	42		
43							44			
45								46		

1-20

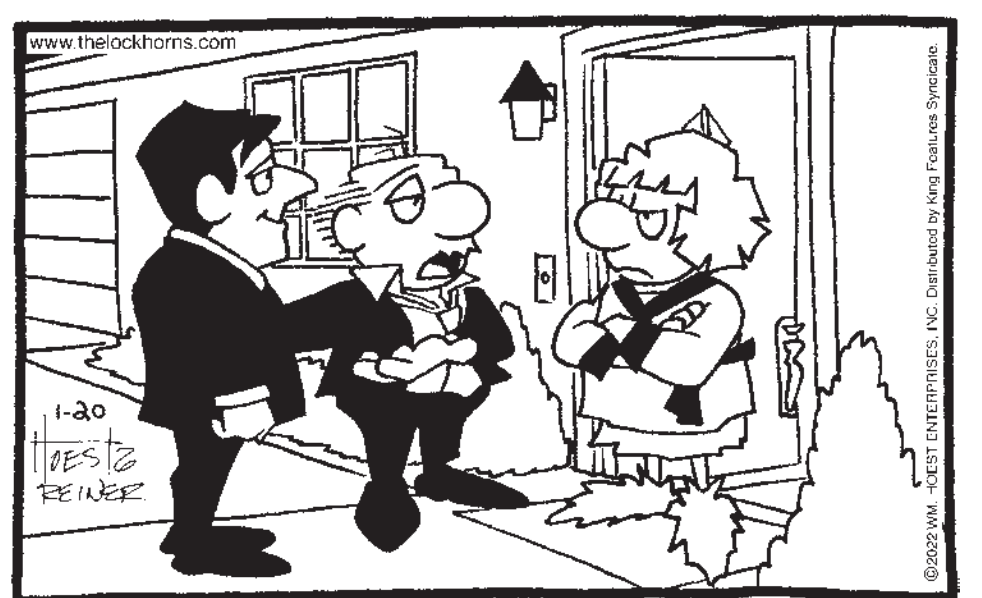
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT & RICK KIRKMAN



THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST & JOHN REINER



SUDOKU

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

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

1-20

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Weekend Edition: Friday at 2pm

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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LOST: SILVER DOME-RING, southwest etching, size 9+, lost the week before Christmas, Warrensburg Walgreens or dollar stores. Call 660-441-4741

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The following storage units at 900 Normandy Rd Sedalia MO will be auctioned online at www.storageauctions.com starting January 27 2022:

70 Roberto Ramirez-Ricardo
98 Tommy Short
106 Richard Hagen
110 James Bays
123 Addison Morris
158 Lloyd Decker

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Legal Notice

IN THE 18TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT, PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI Judge or Division: PROBATE Case Number: 22PT-PR00004 PAMELA JEAN TULL, Deceased.

Notice to Creditors (Small Estate)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of PAMELA JEAN TULL, Decedent. On 1-10-2022, a small estate affidavit was filed by the distributees for the decedent under Section 473.097, RSMo, with the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri. All creditors of the decedent, who died on 12-JAN-2021, are notified that Section 473.444, RSMo, sets a limitation period that would bar claims one year after the death of the dece-

Legal Notice

dent. A creditor may request that this estate be opened for administration. Receipt of this notice should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient may possibly have a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, may possibly be determined from the affidavit on this estate filed in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri. Date of first publication is 1-13-2022.

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

2x-1/13, 20, 2022

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI IN THE ESTATE OF GERALD HARRIS MEYER, Deceased.

Case No. 07G3-PR00060 **ORDER TO SELL REAL PROPERTY**

It is hereby Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that Personal Representative's Second Amended Petition for an Order to Sell Real Property is approved.

1. The real property described

Legal Notice

as follows shall be sold at public sale:

A TRACT OF LAND BEGINNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE WEST LINE OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION TWO (2), IN TOWNSHIP FORTY-FOUR (44) NORTH, OF RANGE TWENTY-TWO (22) WEST OF THE FIFTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, AND THE CENTER OF AN EXISTING COUNTY GRAVEL ROAD, THENCE NORTH ALONG SAID QUARTER LINE FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE (435) FEET, THENCE EAST TWO HUNDRED (200) FEET, THENCE SOUTH FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE (435) FEET TO THE CENTER OF THE ROAD, THENCE WEST TWO HUNDRED (200) FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, ALL IN PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI.

2. Said sale shall take place on February 17, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Pettis County Courthouse with publication to run once per week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation. /s/Honorable R. Paul Beard, Judge

4x-1/20, 27, 2/3, 10, 2022

Legal Notice

TRUSTEE'S SALE
IN RE: Cary G. Earley and Esther E. Earley, husband and wife Trustee's Sale:

For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by Cary G. Earley and Esther E. Earley, husband and wife dated July 7, 1987 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Pettis County, Missouri in Book 396, Page 287 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will on Friday, February 11, 2022 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., (at the specific time of 2:15 PM), at the West Front Door of the Court House, City of Sedalia, County of Pettis, State of Missouri, sell at public venue to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate, described in said Deed of Trust, and situated in Pettis County, State of Missouri, to wit: THE WEST THIRTY NINE (39) FEET AND TWO (2) INCHES OF LOT THREE (3) AND THE EAST TEN (10) INCHES OF LOT TWO (2) IN BLOCK FIFTY EIGHT (58) OF THE JOHN H. ANDRUS SUBDIVISION OF BLOCKS TWENTY FIVE (25), FIFTY EIGHT (58) AND FIFTY NINE (59) OF

Legal Notice

MARTHA A. MARTIN AND SARAH E. SMITH'S SECOND ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SEDALIA, IN PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI.

to satisfy said debt and cost. MILLSAP & SINGER, P.C., Successor Trustee 612 Spirit Drive St. Louis, MO 63005 (636) 537-0110 File No: 200731.021122.405710 FC

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Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. 4x-1/20, 27, 2/3, 10, 2022

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SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

SFCC

From Page 1B

Roadrunners athletic trainer Kirstin Arnold did part of the work to help put Madge, who had his surgery in Kansas City, back on the road to returning. "He did a lot of his rehab in Warrensburg, but I did a lot of the beginning stuff with him; pre-hab is what they call it," Arnold said. "[It was] explaining the process and what it would be like, the timeline of it, and [just trying] to kind of keep the spirits up. With an injury like that, guys can get down easy. I tried to play a part in keeping him motivated, but he's pretty motivated himself, so you didn't have to do a lot of that with him. I think he did a great job with coming back."

Madge said he saw the



PHOTO BY BRYAN EVERSON | DEMOCRAT

State Fair freshman Cam Tweedy wraps around the basket for a make late in the first half against the Cardinals.

climb to get back on the floor as another competitor he was going against, and said that the recovery process brought him clarity. He continued to lean on his faith while working to build the strength to return.

He returned for 10 minutes and scored five points in State Fair's game at Missouri State-West Plains on Jan. 8, but made

a more extended return in Wednesday's 72-51 home defeat to the Cardinals, playing 20 minutes and scoring six points.

"It's full-circle to return and play them again," Madge said. "I'm confident in my knee, but it's really about getting my feel back for the game. Once you're out for a year you lose some things, so it's about making sure

I'm staying under control. I was turning the ball over so much [tonight]. But every game, every practice, I'm feeling more confident in myself.

"I know I won't get it all back in a day or a month, but I'll keep staying with it. My teammates and coaches will motivate me. I want to win for them, and for the fans."

Cam Tweedy scored 23 points and had 10 boards in the loss to the Cardinals (17-4), who entered ranked No. 14 in the latest NJCAA Division 1 Poll.

Mineral Area College 66, State Fair Community College 62

The Lady Roadrunners let a 10-point halftime lead slip in the first game of Wednesday's home doubleheader.

Ahead by 15 at one point in the second quarter, State Fair was outscored 28-9 in the third quarter. To start the fourth, Autumn Wallace and Kayla Dooley

(12 points) hit back-to-back 3-pointers, then a free throw by Wallace and a layup by Kaylani Hoskin pulled the Lady Roadrunners to within two.

A triple by Gracee Smith stretched the lead back to six for Mineral Area, but both teams largely struggled over the final five minutes. Quincenia Jackson was reliable from the line, but all four of her free-throw attempts that were on the money came in the final 30 seconds. Both pairs closed the game to two points, but the Cardinals responded from the stripe to stave off the comeback.

Jackson finished with a team-high 22 points on 6-of-17 shooting and led the Lady Roadrunners (7-9) in boards with 13. Paige Spencer had nine points and rebounds a piece.

The Lady Cardinals (14-7) also won when the two teams met Nov. 19 at the Mineral Area Region 16 Classic, 68-49.

NASCAR

From Page 1B

Earnhardt is the headliner of this first three-member class, whose induction was postponed a full year by the pandemic. He is being celebrated for his performance accomplishments — 26 career Cup Series victories that include a pair of Daytona 500 wins, and two championships in NASCAR's second-tier series — but also for the enormous role he's taken on since his father was killed 21 years ago on the final lap of the Daytona 500.

Earnhardt was a rising star at the start of his second Cup season when his father died. His dad had built a powerhouse race team at Dale Earnhardt Inc. and persuaded Budweiser to sponsor his kid; the brewer went all-in on introducing Junior to a mainstream audience.

The elder Earnhardt

was a superstar, but his fan base was filled with the blue-collar folks who drove Chevrolets and wore Wranglers, just like their favorite driver.

Earnhardt Jr. was profiled in Rolling Stone magazine and showed off the nightclub in his home on MTV's "Cribs." His crossover appeal landed him appearances in various music videos for artists ranging from Trace Adkins to Nickelback to Jay-Z.

A lot of it seemed silly to his old man, but when Earnhardt was killed his legacy immediately fell to a 25-year-old adjusting to his insane popularity. He admittedly suffers from severe anxiety, but Earnhardt navigated the heightened spotlight with brutal honesty and raw emotion.

The third-generation racer became a 15-time winner of NASCAR's fan-voted most popular driver award, and over the last two decades has built an empire centered around the sport his family holds

in such high regard. Earnhardt has a successful media company and both his television special series "Lost Speedways" and "The Dale Jr. Download" podcast are fan favorites.

He teamed with his sister, Kelley, to grow their JR Motorsports race team into one of the best in the Xfinity Series, and as a lead analyst for NBC Sports he plays a huge role in how the sport is delivered to its audience.

The late Earnhardt never got to see what his children accomplished, creating a nagging void his son says he can't shake.

"I think he would be surprised," Earnhardt told AP. He said his dad didn't believe his children would be successful race car drivers so his two Busch Series titles caught him off guard.

"I think he certainly would be happy and proud, but also typical Dad going, 'Well, if you try a little harder here,' or 'If you had done a little different there' and 'Maybe you should prioritize this,'"

Earnhardt said. "That's exactly what I would expect from him and I would welcome that type of criticism today."

Earnhardt left DEI six years after his father's death due to a difficult relationship with the elder Earnhardt's widow; the race team no longer exists. His free agency courting was among the most frenzied in NASCAR history and Earnhardt moved to powerhouse Hendrick Motorsports in 2008.

He believes his father would think he fell short of his on-track potential. He agrees.

"Once I got to Hendrick and really realized what being a driver is about, and really understood what kind of commitment it takes, I look back on the Bud years and go, 'Wow, I really could have done so much more with that because I had some really awesome race cars and we had a hell of a team,'" Earnhardt said.

"There's some regrets and mistakes and things that I wish I would have done differently. Dad would have pointed those out for sure."

Earnhardt reluctantly embraces his off-track success, which includes a near-daily influence on NASCAR. He tested the new Cup car last week at Daytona International Speedway so he can accurately discuss it for an audience, and he lobbied the Hall of Fame to allow Stefanik's widow to give a speech at Friday night's ceremony.

He has always followed the belief that he can convert NASCAR's toughest critic. And in his father's absence, he's spent the last 20 years holding NASCAR's vice chairman Mike Helton in the highest regard, confident that if his father's close friend respects him, then he was doing things right.

And yet Earnhardt deflected what his father might think, crediting instead his sister, co-owner of JR Motorsports.

"I think that he would be so proud of Kelley and who she has become, the amount of respect, her stature, I think that would matter a lot to him," Earnhardt said. "He would credit her and tell me that's she a lot of the reason why we've accomplished everything we have. And he would be right. But, you know, he wouldn't tell her. He'd tell me about Kelley, and he'd talk to Kelley about me."

"I would do anything to hear what he thinks about all the things we've done and everything we've been involved in. I would just do anything to really, really truly know what his words would be. I think about it all the time."

Titans

From Page 1B

"Just glad that I was able to get through it and had my support system and happy to be back."

Henry said he appreciates everyone who helped him get to this point. The Titans (12-5) started the 21-day window for Henry to practice with the team Jan. 5, and they also gave him an extra week to work himself closer to game shape by earning the AFC's first-round bye as the No. 1 seed.

Henry says the only difference now between his left and right foot is the steel plate that remains in his right foot. Asked about rust from being out, Henry says he's doing everything he can to be ready for kickoff with the work on the practice field.

The Titans running back will be monitored when he does return, a big difference for someone used to a heavy workload. He had 303 carries in the 2019 regular season with 83 more in three playoff games, and he followed with 378 rushes in 2020.

A lot of wear and tear on a body. To Henry, his injury is just a football issue.

"Injuries happen," Henry said. "And you just got to keep pushing forward and everything happens for a reason. You know, I don't try to get into all the what ifs and this and that that and this, just on focus on the right now and appreciate the journey. And that's all I can do."

The Titans practiced in shoulder pads Tuesday, and linebacker Jayon Brown and defensive lineman Larrell Murchison came over during one individual drill to give Henry a couple of defenders to thud up against and run through.

"Definitely felt good," Henry said.

The 6-foot-3, 247-pound Henry said it's all part of what he's had to work to overcome. He thanked the Titans' trainers, his girlfriend driving him to the team headquarters for physical therapy for the five weeks he couldn't drive, teammates who stayed in constant touch and fans who wrote him letters.

During his recovery, Henry says he was the Titans' biggest fan. The Titans didn't change how they played, replacing Henry with D'Onta Foreman and Dontrell Hilliard. Tennessee finished the regular season ranked fifth in the NFL in rushing.

But Henry has averaged 111.7 yards over six playoff games for his career. Henry is the man who turned in 2,027 yards rushing in 2020, the fifth-highest total in NFL history. He also ran for a team-high 10 touchdowns in just eight games.

The Bengals ranked fifth defending the run this season. They know Henry takes his biggest toll on defenses in the fourth quarter, and Cincinnati defensive tackle D.J. Reader said tackling is the key.

"You've got to want to tackle him just as much as he wants to run it," Reader said. "He wants to get in that end zone, so you've really got to want to tackle him. I think that's all tackling is anyway, effort and really wanting to and fundamentals. It's something you've been doin' since you were a kid, it's just a bigger person."

A bigger person with fresh legs too.

"I would think anybody who hasn't played in two months feels pretty good about their body," Henry said.

AP Sports Writer Mitch Stacy contributed to this report.

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