



# SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

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SedaliaDemocrat.com • \$1

## Sedalia CASA receives \$85K donation

By Faith Bemiss  
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A donation of \$85,000 is making it possible for CASA in Sedalia to extend services into Benton County.

Lori Haney, executive director at CASA, said the organization received a donation of \$85,110.68 on July 21 from Becka Whittington, board treasurer for The Place at the Lake in Benton County. The Place at the Lake, a service for domestic abuse, recently closed.

"We had been approached by them about a year ago," Haney explained. "And sadly, they had made the decision to close. And when non-profits dissolve, obviously, they cannot hold any revenue, so the solution is to distribute all the assets."

"We're still very committed to the work of ending rape and abuse," she continued. "And wanted to ensure that survivors in the Benton County area still have access to services."

The proceeds from The Place at the Lake

were split between CASA and Citizens Against Domestic Violence in Camden County.

"So, both Camden County and Pettis County will support Benton County," she explained. "At this time, it's still a work in progress. But we are definitely committed to helping meet the needs of survivors in Benton County."

She added much of the services would be through outreach means.

"But of course, if there is a survivor in Benton County needing shelter, we will do our best to get them shelter here at our facility in Pettis County," Haney said. "As fortunate as we are to receive these funds, I think the hardest thing for me to see is a lot of domestic, sexual violence shelters or agencies close in the last five-plus years."

The first, Haney noted, was the FAITH program that closed in Henry County. The Lighthouse in Saline County also closed in late 2020.

See CASA | 6A



CASA in Sedalia recently received an \$85,110.68 donation from The Place at the Lake in Benton County. From left are Becka Whittington, board treasurer for The Place at the Lake, Lori Haney, executive director of CASA, and Turf Martin, president of CASA's Board of Directors.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CASA

## State Fair Museum offers years of history



Missouri State Fair Museum guests look toward the Gallery of Queens on Wednesday morning. The museum, which also includes the gift shop, is located on the bottom floor of the Womans Building. According to the MSF website, the museum and gift shop debuted at the 2003 fair. All proceeds from the gift shop are used for preservation and improvement initiatives on the Missouri State Fairgrounds.

PHOTOS BY SKYE MELCHER | DEMOCRAT



An old Post Dispatch from 1912 features Gov. Hadley as a golfer. This sign is framed and displayed in the Missouri State Fair Museum. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 11-20 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 21.



The Missouri State Fair Museum has multiple displays that tell the history of the Missouri State Fair. Exhibits and memorabilia have been donated or loaned by individuals throughout the state. See HISTORY | 6A

## SPD invites people to join the Citizen's Police Academy

By Chris Howell  
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The Sedalia Police Department is inviting people interested in law enforcement to join this year's Citizen Police Academy. The free, seven-week program, hosted Tuesday evenings from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., will teach citizens about the inner workings of the Sedalia Police Department.

"We provide dinner every night of the academy to the attendees," SPD Cmdr. David Woolery said, "then we put on a program while

they eat and talk about different parts of the department and the profession."

Those who pass a brief background check and have no extensive criminal history are given access to areas of the police department normally reserved for officers.

"We do a breakdown of

the department, talk about our function and the different parts of our agency," Woolery said. "We'll take a tour of our new facility, talk about the crisis intervention teams and how we deescalate situations. We talk about disturbances and have a lot of practicals."

See SPD | 6A



Sedalia Police Department Cmdr. David Woolery, back left, and Police Chief Matthew Wirt, back right, with the 2011 Class of the Citizen's Training Academy.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SEDALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Car smashes into building on Winchester Drive

By Chris Howell  
chrish@sedaliademocrat.com

Robert Meyer with Show Me Real Estate was happy to be home in bed at 2 a.m. Wednesday. "If I'd been sitting at my desk, I may not be here today," Meyer said Wednesday. He was at home early Wednesday when he received a phone call from the Sedalia Police Department regarding an incident at the business. At 1:38 a.m., Sedalia police responded to reports of a vehicle smashed into a building. "Dispatch called me in the middle of the night," Meyer said.

Officers also located a woman lying on the ground, apparently intoxicated. She was arrested and transported to Bothwell Regional Health Center for care. Meyer drove to his office at 800 Win-



Show Me Real Estate on Winchester Drive has a destroyed storefront due to a drunk driving accident early Wednesday morning. The driver was transported to Bothwell Regional Health Center.

PHOTO BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT

chester Drive to find a disturbing scene. "A car through the corner of my building," Meyers said. The dark-colored SUV was yet to be towed from what was left of his corner office. "It took out two walls and of course, you can see the damage on the inside," Meyer had already summoned

crews by early morning to jack the corner of his building, keeping it from collapsing, and men were busily re-framing the destroyed walls. The woman was charged with driving while intoxicated and driving with a suspended driver's license.

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



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# OBITUARIES

## Ura Jackson “Jack” Bryant

Ura Jackson “Jack” Bryant was born to Adren and Mae (Sharp) Bryant in Bolivar, MO, on March 10, 1942. On Sunday, August 14, 2022, he crossed the River Jordan surrounded by his family at his home in Warrensburg, MO.



Jack was baptized into the Christian faith in his youth, serving his Lord for more than 30 years as a member of the Knob Noster First Baptist Church.

Jack enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1961 at the age of 19 and served his country in multiple capacities for over 50 years. He first served as active duty Air Force from 1961 to 1991, attaining the rank of Chief Master Sergeant and was Senior Enlisted Advisor at Whiteman Air Force Base. Although selected to be the Chief of the United States Air Force, he was more proud to have served as a first sergeant for 10 years at WAFB. Immediately after retiring from active duty, he joined the civil service as the founding director of the WAFB Family Support Center, a role he would relish for 20 years. After leaving the Family Support Center, he went on to work at the FDIC for three years before retiring for the final time.

Throughout his life, Jack was a strong proponent of continuing one's education. He was the first person in his family to attend college and went on to obtain a bachelor's degree from Park University and a Master's degree from Webster University. He passed on this ambition to his children and grandchildren, with both his daughters and a granddaughter obtaining college degrees. His advice was, “Get your education; it's the one thing that no one can take

from you. Ever.”

Throughout his life, Jack was an avid sportsman. He was catcher on the USAF All-European baseball team and was selected for the All-Air Force Baseball team in the early 1960s. He passed his love of baseball on to his daughter Polly, teaching her to play softball and to love the subtlety and strategy of the game. Naturally, the Royals' 2015 World Series Championship and the Chiefs' 2019 Super Bowl Championship were two of the highlights of his years living with Polly and Adam. He was an avid quail and deer hunter, having learned to hunt at the age of 12 from his grandmother, Dollie Russell, and the gun with which she taught him was one of his most prized possessions. He instilled his love of nature and animals in Tabby, who restores botanical ecosystems for a living.

Jack is survived by his two daughters Polly (Adam) Endel and Tabatha Bryant, grandchildren Martha Deitrick and Remi Bryant, and nephews David (Beth) Dixon and Michael (Jan) Dixon, as well as several great-nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents Adren and Mae Bryant, son Timothy Bryant, brother Jimmy Bryant, and sister Shirley Dixon.

A visitation will be held Monday, August 22, 2022, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Sweeney-Phillips and Holdren Funeral Home. A funeral service will be held Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at 11 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Knob Noster, MO.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Multiple System Atrophy Coalition or the Wounded Warrior Project and left in the care of the funeral home.

## Teresa Jeanette Still

Teresa Jeanette Still, 68, of Sedalia, MO, passed away Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at Bothwell Regional Health Center in Sedalia. She was born on October 8, 1953, in Carrollton, MO, the daughter of Ernest Junior Kelly and Billie June Kelly, who preceded her in death.



On January 20, 1973, in Independence, MO, she was united in marriage to Ricky Lee Still, who resides in the home.

Teresa worked as a pharmacy technician in Kansas City, MO. She and her husband moved to Sedalia from Independence, MO.

Teresa attended Life Pointe Church. She was an avid Dallas Cowboys fan. Teresa enjoyed watching NASCAR, playing Pokemon, and collecting Betty Boop memorabilia.

Along with her husband, Teresa is survived by two daughters, Kellie Carver (Todd) of North Carolina and Vicki Hedrick (Mike) of Sedalia; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; three brothers and three sisters.

In addition to her parents, Teresa was preceded in death by a sister.

Arrangements are in the care of Rea Funeral Chapel.

# DEATH NOTICE

## Rabourn

Carol Jean Rabourn died Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2022, in Springfield.

A celebration of life will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 19, 2022, at Schweitzer Methodist Church in Springfield.

There will be a luncheon to follow in the reception area. Arrangements are under the direction of Gorman-Scharpf Funeral Home Inc. in Springfield.

# FUNERALS

## Casdorff, LeAndra Kaye

4 to 6 p.m. today at Heckart Funeral Home in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

## Rabourn, Carol Jean

11 a.m. Friday at Schweitzer Methodist Church in Springfield. Arrangements are under the direction of Gorman-Scharpf Funeral Home, Inc. in Springfield.

## Howe, Shelli Linn

3 p.m. on Friday

at Ozark Tabernacle Church near Cole Camp. Arrangements are under the direction of the Fox Funeral Home in Cole Camp.

## Galvan-Rizo, Maria “Mary” De Jesus

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

## Moon, Leroy D.

10 a.m. Saturday at First Baptist Church of Otterville. Arrangements are under the direction of Meisenheimer-Page-Dady Fu-

neral Home in Tipton.

## Bishop, John Douglas “JD,”

10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Clifton City Community Building. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home and Cremation Services in Sedalia.

## Pierce, David Edward

2 p.m. Saturday at Fitters 5th Street Pub in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

## Stohr, Mary Ann (Kuhlman)

2 to 4 p.m. Saturday at Bopp Chapel in Kirkwood. Arrangements are under the direction of Bopp Chapel.

## Buller, Ruth A.

3 p.m. Saturday at First Christian Church. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

## Bryant, Ura Jackson “Jack,”

11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23 the First Baptist Church in Knob Noster. Arrangements are under the direction of Sweeney-Phillips and Holdren Funeral Home in Warrensburg.

# 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 Incidents Aug. 15

12:45 p.m.: An officer responded to the 600 block of East 12th Street for a theft report. The

victim stated two cultivator wheels were stolen from his back porch around the end of June. The wheels were valued at \$500. At the time of the report, no suspect had been located.

## Aug. 16

3:24 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to a business in the 2400 block of South Limit Avenue for a report of stealing. Employees stated that Saturday evening, two men stole \$4,100 worth of equip-

ment. Surveillance video from a nearby business showed two men using a white pickup truck to haul items away. At the time of the report, the suspects had not been identified.

8:38 p.m.: Officers responded to the 900 block of Sue Lane in reference to a missing juvenile. Officers determined a subject known to the juvenile took them for a walk and never returned. Sedalia police officers,

Pettis County deputies and Missouri State Highway Patrol troopers began a search for the subject and the juvenile. Troopers assigned to the Missouri State Fair detail were able to locate the subject and juvenile within minutes. Officers determined the subject was having a medical episode and got them medical treatment. The juvenile was returned to the family unharmed.

*Compiled by Chris Howell.*

# CRASH REPORTS

## Cross Timbers woman in serious condition after Benton accident

Mathilda Tarbet, 34, of Cross Timbers, sustained serious injuries at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday in a Benton County accident.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Tarbet was driving a 2005 Ford F-150 north on US 65 and attempted to pass a 2002 Kia Telluride driv-

en by Lyndon S. Nichols, 44, of Richmond, near a hill crest. To avoid striking a southbound vehicle that also crested the hill, Tarbet swerved back into the northbound lane and collided with the right rear of the Kia, sending the Ford off the road and into a tree.

Both drivers were wearing seat belts, Tarbet was transported to Bothwell Regional Health Center.

## Warrensburg man hurt in Johnson accident

Tyler J. Kelsey, 27, of Warrensburg, sustained minor injuries at 6:44 a.m. Tuesday in a Johnson County accident.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Kelsey was eastbound on the 600 block of NE 50 Hwy in a 1999 Toyota Camry when he hydroplaned and lost control of the vehicle, which traveled

off the left side of the road into the median.

Kelsey was wearing a seat belt and was transported by private vehicle to Western Missouri Medical Center in Warrensburg.

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

*Compiled by Chris Howell.*

# LOCAL BRIEFS

## Patrol invites public to provide feedback

Col. Eric T. Olson, superintendent of the

Missouri State Highway Patrol, invites the public to take part in a public opinion survey regarding safety and security, officers' attitudes and competency, overall agency performance, and concerns regarding crime

and social issues. The 2022 Public Opinion Survey opened Aug. 16, and runs to the end of the month. Members of the public will find the survey at [statepatrol.dps.mo.gov](http://statepatrol.dps.mo.gov). Click on the “Complete the 2022

Public Opinion Survey” link at the top, left side of the Patrol's home page to initiate the survey, or visit the survey link directly via [www.surveymonkey.com/r/9WMXW7Y](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9WMXW7Y) from any computer or mobile device.

# US traffic deaths, once in decline, continue to rise in 2022

DETROIT (AP) — U.S. traffic fatalities began to climb two years ago and that deadly trend is continuing in 2022.

Roadway deaths rose 7% during the first three months of the year to 9,560 people, the highest number for a first quarter in two decades, according to estimates by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Traffic deaths have risen ever since pandemic lockdowns eased in 2020 as people returned to work and started taking more road trips. People drove about 40 billion more miles in the first quarter than a year earlier,

a 5.6% increase, the agency said.

But the rate of traffic deaths per 100 million miles traveled also increased during the quarter from 1.25 deaths, to 1.27, according to the agency.

Before 2020, the number of fatalities had fallen for three consecutive years.

The government has blamed the increase on speeding, impaired driving and other reckless behavior, and it has pledged to fund investments in speed enforcement and to build safer roads.

“The overall numbers are still moving in the wrong direction,” NHTSA Administrator

Steven Cliff said in a prepared statement.

“Now is the time for all states to double down on traffic safety.”

The infrastructure law has money for significant investments in highway safety, Cliff said.

The agency has started running ads urging people to slow down and not to drive while impaired. On Wednesday it announced the annual national impaired driving enforcement program with local police for the weeks around the Labor Day holiday.

Nearly 43,000 people were killed on U.S. roads last year. That's the highest number in

16 years.

Traffic deaths rose 10.5% last year over 2020, the largest percentage increase since NHTSA began its fatality data collection in 1975. The agency will release final numbers for 2021 in the fall.

NHTSA's fatality estimates are usually close to the actual numbers.

Cliff, who was confirmed by the Senate to run NHTSA just three months ago, is leaving the agency next month to run the California Air Resources Board, which regulates pollution. Chief Counsel Ann Carlson will run the agency until a new administrator is nominated.

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### Photo Submissions

We invite readers to submit photos for “Community Snapshot,” which features images of local residents and events. Images must be current, in JPEG format and must be the property of the person submitting the photo. Please include your name, city and a contact telephone number with your submission (phone numbers will not be published). Please also include the names of all persons in the photo and any additional information. Email your submissions to [news@sedaliademocrat.com](mailto:news@sedaliademocrat.com).

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# CDC director announces shake-up, citing COVID mistakes

By Mike Stobbe  
AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The head of the nation's top public health agency on Wednesday announced a shake-up of the organization, saying it fell short responding to COVID-19 and needs to become more nimble.

The planned changes at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — CDC leaders call it a "reset" — come amid criticism of the agency's response to COVID-19, monkeypox and other public health threats. The changes include internal staffing moves and steps to speed up data releases.

The CDC's director, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, told the agency's staff about the changes on Wednesday. It's a CDC initiative, and was not directed by the White House or other administration officials, she said.

"I feel like it's my responsibility to lead this agency to a better place after a really challenging three years," Walensky told The Associated Press.

The Atlanta-based agency, with a \$12 billion budget and more than 11,000 employees, is charged with protecting Americans from disease outbreaks and other public health threats. It's customary for each CDC director to do some reorganizing, but Walensky's action comes amid a wider demand for change.

The agency has long been criticized as too ponderous, focusing on collection and analysis of data but not acting quickly against new health threats. Public unhappiness with the agency grew dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic. Experts said the CDC was slow to recognize how much virus was entering the U.S. from Europe, to recommend people wear masks, to say the virus can spread through the air, and to ramp up systematic testing for new variants.

"We saw during COVID that CDC's structures, frankly, weren't designed to take in information, digest it and disseminate it to the public at the speed necessary," said Jason Schwartz, a health policy researcher at the Yale School of Public Health.

Walensky, who became director in January 2021, has long said the agency has to move faster and communicate better, but stumbles have continued during her tenure. In April, she called for an in-depth review of the agency, which resulted in the announced changes.

"It's not lost on me that we fell short in many ways" responding to the coronavirus, Walensky said. "We had some pretty public mistakes, and so much of this effort was to hold up the mirror ...

to understand where and how we could do better."

Her reorganization proposal must be approved by the Department of Health and Human Services secretary. CDC officials say they hope to have a full package of changes finalized, approved and underway by early next year.

Some changes still are being formulated, but steps announced Wednesday include:

—Increasing use of preprint scientific reports to get out actionable data, instead of waiting for research to go through peer review and publication by the CDC journal Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

—Restructuring the agency's communications office and further revamping CDC websites to make the agency's guidance for the public more clear and easier to find.

—Altering the length of time agency leaders are devoted to outbreak responses to a minimum of six months — an effort to address a turnover problem that at times caused knowledge gaps and affected the agency's communications.

—Creation of a new executive council to help Walensky set strategy and priorities.

—Appointing Mary Wakefield as senior counselor to implement the changes. Wakefield headed the Health Resources and Services Administration during the Obama administration and also served as the No. 2 administrator at HHS. Wakefield, 68, started Monday.

—Altering the agency's organization chart to undo some changes made during the Trump administration.

—Establishing an office of intergovernmental affairs to smooth partnerships with other agencies, as well as a higher-level office on health equity.

Walensky also said she intends to "get rid of some of the reporting layers that exist, and I'd like to work to break down some of the silos." She did not say exactly what that may entail, but emphasized that the overall changes are less about redrawing the organization chart than rethinking how the CDC does business and motivates staff.

"This will not be simply moving boxes" on the organization chart, she said.

Schwartz said flaws in the federal response go beyond the CDC, because the White House and other agencies were heavily involved.

A CDC reorganization is a positive step but "I hope it's not the end of the story," Schwartz said. He would like to see "a broader accounting" of how the federal government handles health crises.

# US retail sales were flat in July as inflation takes a toll

By Paul Wiseman and Anne D'Innocenzio  
AP Business Writers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The pace of sales at U.S. retailers was unchanged last month as persistently high inflation and rising interest rates forced many Americans to spend more cautiously.

Retail purchases were flat after having risen 0.8% in June, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday. Economists had expected a slight increase.

Still, Wednesday's report contained some positive signs: Excluding autos and auto parts, retail sales rose 0.4% in July.

Lower gas prices likely freed up money for people to spend elsewhere. Gasoline sales slid 1.8%, reflecting the drop in pump prices.

"As gas prices fell, consumers had more money in their pockets for other items such as furniture and electronics," said Jeffrey Roach, chief economist at LPL Financial.

Sales of building supplies and garden equipment held up, as did sales at electronics and appliance stores.

At the same time, consumers remained wary of spending much on non-essentials: Sales were down

0.5% at department stores and 0.6% at clothing stores.

Compared with 12 months ago, overall retail sales rose 10.3% in July.

America's consumers, whose spending accounts for nearly 70% of U.S. economic activity, have remained mostly resilient even with year-over-year inflation near a four-decade high, rising economic uncertainties and the surging costs of mortgages and borrowing money. Still, overall spending has weakened, and it has shifted increasingly toward things like groceries, and away less necessary things like electronics, furniture and new clothes.

The government's monthly report on retail sales covers about a third of all consumer purchases and doesn't include spending on most services, ranging from plane fares and apartment rents to movie tickets and doctor visits. In recent months, Americans have been shifting their purchases away from physical goods and more toward travel, hotel stays and plane trips.

Inflation continues to pose a severe hardship for many families. Though gasoline prices have fallen from their heights, food, rent, used cars and other necessities have become far more expensive, beyond whatever

wage increases most workers have notched.

Despite a still-robust job market, the U.S. economy shrank in the first half of 2022, raising fears of a potential recession. Growth has been weakening largely as a consequence of the Federal Reserve's aggressive interest rate hikes, which are intended to cool the economy and tame high inflation.

The impact of the Fed's hikes has been felt especially in the housing market. Sales of previously occupied homes have slowed for five straight months as higher loan rates and high sales prices have kept many would-be buyers on the sidelines.

But the most important pillar of the economy — the job market — has proved durable. America's employers added a hefty 528,000 jobs in July, and the unemployment rate reached 3.5%, matching a near-half-century low reached just before the pandemic erupted in the spring of 2020.

Americans are still spending, but that money is going to different places as the pandemic eases. Walmart, the nation's largest retailer, posted better than expected quarterly sales and profits, but noted that customers are favoring lower-priced grocery items.

And it's gaining more customers who might more typically shop at Whole Foods. The company, long associated with price-conscious and lower-income consumers, disclosed that roughly 75% of its grocery sales last quarter were to households with incomes of at least \$100,000.

It also noted that lower income customers were trading down within the store, for example swapping out sliced deli meats for hot dogs to save money.

On Wednesday, Target reported that its profit plunged nearly 90% despite solid sales, largely because it was forced to slash prices to clear huge inventories of things in heavy demand during the pandemic like furniture, appliances and electronics.

Signet Jewelers, which operates stores under such names as Zales and Jared, lowered its full-year sales forecast last week as Americans cool spending on luxuries and more on groceries.

"They're being intentional," said Jamie Singleton, president of Signet. She said customers may be taking home fewer items, but they're spending more on the things they buy.

D'Innocenzio reported from New York.

# Missouri voters to weigh forgiveness for past weed crimes

By Summer Ballentine  
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — Missouri could become the first state to pass a voter-led effort to require courts to automatically forgive past marijuana crimes as part of a constitutional amendment to legalize recreational pot on November's ballot.

Of the 19 states where recreational marijuana is legal, only seven states require some sort of judicial forgiveness for those punished for committing crimes that have since been decriminalized, according to the advocacy group National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

It was lawmakers in California, Connecticut, Vermont, Illinois, New York, New Jersey and Rhode Island who took action to provide amnesty for past marijuana crimes.

Missouri voters would be the first to spearhead what's called automatic expungement on their own, said John Payne, the campaign manager for the push to legalize recreational marijuana.

Payne said the goal is to allow people with pot-related convictions to "reclaim their lives."

"This is going to allow those people to live more full and complete lives," he said. "That also helps society at large, because they're essentially being somewhat locked out of the economy and productive lives by that burden. We're going to remove that for them."

Missouri's Republican-led Legislature for years resisted addressing marijuana policies, prompting voters to lead a successful effort in 2018 to amend the state constitution to allow medical marijuana.

Thanks to another ad-

vocate-led ballot initiative, Missouri voters in November will decide whether to allow those age 21 and older to buy and grow weed for personal consumption and whether to grant automatic expungement to past marijuana-related crimes.

Recreational legalization proposals are also on the ballot this fall in South Dakota and Maryland. The Maryland measure would similarly require automatic expungements, although that proposal was referred to the ballot by state lawmakers.

The Missouri proposal would erase past marijuana-related convictions for nonviolent offenders and those whose convictions didn't include selling to minors or driving while high.

Under current Missouri law, it's up to past offenders to request a clean slate. Missouri lawmakers in 2016 passed legislation that allowed people to apply to expunge two misdemeanor or ordinance violations that

carry jail time and one felony. Certain felonies, such as sex offenses and dangerous felonies, are not eligible for expungement.

Leslie Corbett, executive director of the low-income legal aid group Illinois Equal Justice Foundation, said she's concerned an Illinois law that's described as automatic expungement but requires past offenders to take action has been underused because it's confusing.

Corbett said the law, which has been described by supporters as automatic expungement because police records are immediately

wiped, requires the majority of past offenders to request to also have their court records cleared.

"Folks don't realize that they still need to take action, even if it was auto-expunged," she said.

In most cases, Payne said the Missouri amendment puts the responsibility on courts, not past offenders, to wipe records, although prisoners would need to petition courts for early release on marijuana charges.

The amendment gives courts six months to expunge past misdemeanors and a year for eligible felonies.

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Italian Blend Shredded Cheese <b>\$12.99</b> <small>5lb.</small>	Cottage Cheese w/Pineapples <b>99¢</b> <small>16 oz.</small>	Ball Park Hot Dogs <b>\$7.99</b> <small>5lb.</small>
Juicy Juice Fruit Punch <b>\$2.49</b> <small>8 pk 6.75 oz.</small>	Hard Salami Ends & Pcs <b>75¢</b> <small>lb.</small>	Tyson Chicken Wing Sections <b>\$8.99</b> <small>4.4 lb.</small>

**Sale Prices Good thru Aug. 23rd, while supply lasts**

Check out our pallet areas for even larger savings on case quantities!

**STORE HOURS:** Mon-Sat 8am - 5pm  
Fri 8am - 7pm • Closed Sunday





We Now Accept EBT

# Beautiful weather hits the fair



BMX stunt cyclist Skyler Anderson balances on one wheel at the BMX Pro's Trick Team performance on Wednesday. The team can be found across from the Poultry Barn and offers performances throughout the day.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT



Steve Russell looks on as Alana Jacobs gives a pie full of "circus soap" to Kobi Shaw during the Circus Science Spectacular.



Steve Russell with the Circus Science Spectacular balances an 18-foot flag pole on his chin to the delight of children.

## FAIR BRIEFS

### Champions for Steer announced

Mikaela Rojas, daughter of Bryon and Alicia Rojas, is the exhibitor of the 2022 Grand Champion Market Steer at the Missouri State Fair. Rojas is from New Boston and is a member of the Shelby 4-H Club.

Rojas' prize-winning steer weighed 1,310 pounds. The Reserve Grand Champion Market Steer honor went to Laurin Dilly, of Deerfield. She is the daughter of Kevin and Dolynn Dilly and is a member of the Nevada FFA Chapter. Dilly's steer weighed 1,350 pounds. On Aug. 20, both Rojas

and Dilly will sell their steers in two of 16 lots offered in the Missouri State Fair Sale of Champions. Proceeds from the annual sale benefit both the winning exhibitors and the Missouri State Fair Youth in Agriculture (YIA) Scholarship Program, administered by the Missouri State Fair Foundation.



Rock-it the Robot rides his Segway through the fairgrounds Wednesday.

## FAIR WATCH

While it is only halfway through the week, I have managed to see rowdy baby animals every single day while walking the fairgrounds. Monday, I came across a very upset shepherd puppy in the Swine Barn, a happy little baby goat that I have

decided to call Hopper on Tuesday and then on Wednesday, I was yelled at by a calf for trying to take a picture of it. Of course, they were all adorable and I now plan to have my own farm in the future. — Reporter Skye Melcher

# PLAN YOUR VISIT! MISSOURI STATE FAIR



## FRIDAY • AUGUST 19

### REGULAR ADMISSION TICKETS

Adult: \$12  
Senior (age 60+): \$8  
Youth (age 6-12): \$3  
Kids (5 & Under): FREE

ACCEPTED AT:  
• Centennial Gate  
• Gates 4, 6, 8 & 11  
• Public Campgrounds

### LARGE PUBLIC CAMPGROUND

FREE PARKING P  
Unreserved Spot \$35/day per vehicle/tent

In accordance with Missouri State Statute, a convenience fee will be assessed to the customer for all credit card payments.



**MEC DAY** FREE LED light bulbs to the first 1,500 visitors to the MEC Building today! \$5 off unlimited carnival ride wristband with coupon from *Rural Missouri* Magazine

### ENTERTAINMENT STAGES & EVENTS

#### BLACKSMITH DEMONSTRATIONS

9 am-7 pm  
**BMX PROS TRICK TEAM**  
Sponsored by AOK RVs, 1:30, 4:30 & 7 pm  
**BUDWEISER CLYDESDALES**  
On display; Open the Draft Horse Show then parade grounds, 6 pm  
**BUDWEISER STAGE**  
Honky-Tonk Dream, 2 & 6 pm  
Homegrown Singer Contest Semi Finals Round  
Sponsored by *Bimbo Bakeries*, USA, 4 pm  
**DIRT ROAD ADDICTION**, 9 pm  
**DITZFELD STAGE**  
Lindley Creek, 12, 3 & 6 pm  
The Farnum Family, 1:30, 4:30 & 7 pm  
**HEDRICK'S RACING PIGS SHOW**  
Sponsored by *Jim's Tire Service*, Inc.  
10 am, 12:30, 3, 5:30 & 8 pm  
**HISTORIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**  
Military Flag Retreat Ceremony, 5:30 pm

#### KIDS STAGE

Sponsored by *Your Local McDonald's*  
Randy Kalin, Magician, 12, 3 & 5:30 pm  
The Circus Science Spectacular, 12:45, 3:45 & 6:15 pm  
Freeze Dance Contest, 2 pm  
**PAUL BUNYAN LUMBERJACK SHOW**  
2, 5 & 7:30 pm  
**STATE FAIR FIREHOUSE**  
Fire Extinguisher Demo, 10 am - 11 am  
Apparatus Tours, 10 am - 4 pm  
**STROLLING ENTERTAINMENT**  
Professor Farquar, Polecat Annie  
Rock-it the Robot  
MSF Mascot, BARTholomule  
**TOUCHSTONE ENERGY STAGE**  
The Groovy Guy Show, 1 & 5 pm  
Motown & More, 3:30 & 7:30 pm  
Electric Line Dances Contest, winner receives two tickets to see KC & the Sunshine Band tonight, 6 pm

### BUILDINGS

#### 4-H BUILDING

9 am-12 pm Cooking with Honey Specialty Contest  
9 am-6 pm Natural Resources Activity  
1 - 7 pm Youth Demos  
**ASSEMBLY HALL**  
9 am Jaycee Access Day  
**COLISEUM**  
8 am Open Holstein Show  
8:30 am Open Brown Swiss Show  
11:30 am Open All Other Dairy Cattle Breeds Show  
1:30 pm Open Guernsey Show  
2 pm Open Jersey Show  
**CONSERVATION BUILDING**  
11 am & 1:30 pm Scale Model Sawmill Demo  
**DONNELLY ARENA**  
8 am 4-H/FFA Shorthorn Show  
1 pm 4-H/FFA Limousin Show  
**FINE ARTS BUILDING**  
9 am-5 pm Artists-In-Residence: Travis Baker, Sculptor & Linda Hoover, Painter  
**FLORICULTURE BUILDING**  
9 am Dahlia Show  
**HOME ECONOMICS BUILDING**  
10 am Rabbit Cooking Contest  
11:30 am Missouri CattleWomen, Beef Entrées  
12 pm Margaret Kuper, Tupperware  
1 pm Granny Jo, Sewing Is Fun

#### HOME ECONOMICS BUILDING (CONTINUED)

2 pm Honeysuckle White Turkey Recipe Contest  
3:30 pm Billie Long, Horticulture Moles & Voles  
**MATHEWSON EXHIBITION CENTER**  
9 am Gypsy Horse Show  
6 pm Draft Horse Hitches  
**MEC BUILDING**  
9 am-4 pm Rural Missouri's "People From Our Pages" Bobby Walker, Devils Backbone Knives  
**MFA LIVESTOCK ARENA**  
2 pm 4-H/FFA Beefalo Show  
7 pm Open Supreme Dairy Cattle Champion  
**MSF WINE TENT**  
12 & 2 pm Wine 101  
**SHEEP PAVILION**  
8:30 am FFA Dairy Goat Show  
10:30 am 4-H Dairy Goat Show  
7 pm Dairy Goat Milking Contest  
**SWINE BARN**  
8 am 4-H Duroc, Hampshire, Yorkshire & Crossbred Breeds Shows (North Arena)  
8 am FFA Duroc, Hampshire, Yorkshire & Crossbred Breeds Shows (South Arena)  
**WOMANS BUILDING**  
9 am-5 pm Displays inside & on front lawn



## MISSOURI'S LARGEST AGRICULTURAL EXPO

### BUILDING HOURS

Aug 19 & 20: 9 am-9 pm  
Aug 21: 9 am-6 pm

Unless noted otherwise below. Most buildings are air-conditioned.

#### AGRICULTURE BUILDING

Hours: 9 am-8 pm, Aug 19-20  
9 am-6 pm, Aug 21  
• Missouri Grown Market  
• Kid-friendly & food demos  
• AgVenture: Explore Missouri agriculture from farm to fork  
• Live plants showcasing Missouri's top commodities  
• Largest pumpkin & watermelon display  
• Ham & Bacon Demos

#### CONSERVATION BUILDING

Hours: 9 am-7 pm, Aug 19-20  
9 am-6 pm, Aug 21  
• Serving nature & you with fish aquaria & other exhibits  
• Xplor Zone Hours: 10 am-6 pm, Aug 19-20; 10 am-5 pm, Aug 21

#### FFA BUILDING

Exhibits by Missouri FFA youth

#### 4-H BUILDING

Hours: 9 am-8 pm, Aug 19-20  
9 am-6 pm, Aug 21  
• Exhibits & specialty demos by Missouri 4-H youth

#### FARM BUREAU BUILDING

Hours: 9 am-5 pm, daily  
• Register to win a FREE John Deere lawn mower  
• Get ice cold milk for 25¢  
• Shop the Farmer's Market for t-shirts, hats & more

#### FINE ARTS BUILDING

• Award-winning exhibits including Missouri 50 & Missouri Junior 50  
• Artist-in-Residence daily

#### FLORICULTURE BUILDING

• Award-winning florals for show & purchase

#### GERKEN DAIRY CENTER

Sponsored by *Midwest Dairy*  
Hours: 9 am-8 pm, Aug 19-20  
9 am-6 pm, Aug 21  
• Milking demos 9:30 am & 6 pm, daily  
• Butter Sculpture theme  
"Nothing Better than Cow Cuddling"

#### HOME ECONOMICS BUILDING

• Consumer Showcase Stage demos  
• Contests, award-winning foods, household arts & preservation exhibits

#### LET'S TALK LIVESTOCK

Sponsored by *Tractor Supply Company*  
• Learn about livestock from Missouri 4-H & FFA youth exhibitors  
• Full demonstration schedule available at Information Booths

#### MACHINERY AREA

• Exhibits, products, services & experts  
• Ag-Power, Inc. & Sydenstricker Nobbe Partners  
*Official Equipment Providers of the MSF*

#### MEC BUILDING/MEDIA CENTER

Hours: 9 am-7 pm, Aug 19-20  
9 am-6 pm, Aug 21  
• Green initiatives, exhibits & kids activities  
• Rural Missouri's "People from our Pages" daily  
• Prize drawings & giveaways  
• Ask about the MEC scholarship opportunity

#### MO-AG THEATRE/MIZZOU CENTRAL

Hours: 9 am-6 pm, daily  
• Exhibits by University of Missouri Colleges & Programs  
• Tiger Stripe Ice Cream at Bucks  
• Tiger Team Store - Official game gear outlet  
• Eat Smart on the Go Cooking Demos: 10 am, 12 & 4 pm  
• Eat Smart on the Go Guest Cook Off: 2 pm  
• 4-H Show Me Wares: 9:30 am - 4 pm  
• Free Soy Donuts: 9 am-noon, Aug 20-21

#### MO DOT HIGHWAY GARDENS/ EXPO CENTER

Hours: 9 am-6 pm, daily  
• Pick up a FREE copy of the Missouri State Map  
• Relax in the beautiful, shady Highway Gardens  
• Cool off in the air-conditioned Expo Center  
• Take photos with Barrel Bob

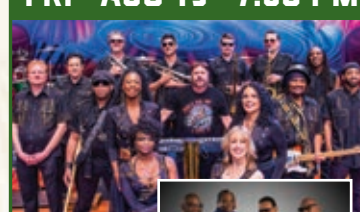
#### WOMANS BUILDING/DNR

Hours: 9 am-5 pm, daily  
• Displays, demos & activities from Missouri DNR, Missouri State Parks & other partners  
• Missouri State Parks drawing

## STATE FAIR GRANDSTAND

Presented by CFM Insurance

### FRI • AUG 19 • 7:30 PM



**KC & The Sunshine Band**  
The Four Tops  
\$40, \$30



### SATURDAY • AUG 20

**Justin Moore**  
**Heath Sanders**  
7:30 PM  
\$45, \$40, \$35, \$30



### SUNDAY • AUG 21

**POWRi 410 Sprint Cars, B Modifieds, Show Me Vintage Cars**  
**2nd Annual Ron Ditzfeld Memorial Race**  
Hot Laps 6 pm | Heat Races 7 pm  
\$20 Adults, \$18 Military/Senior (65+), \$10 Students (13-17), \$5 Youth (6-12), FREE Kids (5 & Under)

BUY TICKETS TODAY!

Grandstand & State Fair Arena tickets are available for purchase from the Box Office

## STATE FAIR ARENA

Unless otherwise noted, all State Fair Arena ticketed events are FREE for ages 5 & under (must sit on parent's lap)

### FRIDAY • AUG 19

**8 PM**  
**Bull Riding Competition**  
\$12 Adults, \$6 Youth (6-12)

### SATURDAY • AUG 20

**8 PM**  
**Bull Riding Competition**  
\$14 Adults, \$7 Youth (6-12)

### SUNDAY • AUG 21

**2 PM**  
**Demolition Derby**  
\$15 Adults, \$8 Youth (6-12)

## ENJOY FAMILY FUN

### TOUCHSTONE ENERGY STAGE

**Aug 19-20**  
The Groovy Guy Show  
**Aug 19-20**  
Motown & More

### KIDS STAGE

Sponsored by your local *McDonald's*  
**Aug 19-21**  
The Circus Science Spectacular  
**Aug 19-21**  
Magician Randy Kalin

### AUG 19-21

**BMX Pros Trick Team**  
Sponsored by *AOK RV's*  
**Children's Barnyard**  
Feed provided by *Kent*  
**Hedrick's Racing Pigs Show**  
Sponsored by *Jim's Tire Service*  
**Family Fun Center**  
Sponsored by *Children's Trust Fund*  
• Interactive play ages 2-10  
• Baby feeding & changing area  
**Hedrick's Petting Zoo**  
Professor Farquar & Polecat Annie  
Rock-it the Robot



**AUG 11-21 2022 SEDALIA**  
**MOSTATEFAIR.COM**





A thrills and spills display found in the museum tells the story of some of the crazy and fun activities the Missouri State Fair used to have.

PHOTOS BY SKYE MELCHER | DEMOCRAT



Old race and show posters sit on display next to the dress that the Missouri State Fair Queen wore in 2001. To donate items or for more information about the museum, contact the Missouri State Fair Foundation office at 660-530-5620 or msffoundation@sbcglobal.net.

# CASA

From Page 1A

"And now to lose The Place at the Lake, we're definitely feeling that," she

said. "In Pettis County, we're getting a lot more calls from outside the area."

"So, we are looking at expanding our service area," she continued. "And those are definite conversations that we are having

as an agency is ... taking a much more regional approach."

She added the agency, which has been in Pettis County for 39 years, is looking at not only growing its services but also

growing as an agency.

For more information about Sedalia CASA, call 660-827-5555 or visit [www.casa-sedalia.org](http://www.casa-sedalia.org).

Faith Bemiss can be reached at 660-530-0289 or on Twitter @flbemiss.

# SPD

From Page 1A

The attendees will do the role of a police officer and deal with disturbances, building searches, and vehicle stops. They get a

chance to kind of experience what we experience out on patrol."

Attendees will get inside tips from officers and may even get to pet Kyah, the department therapy dog.

"It's mostly about relationships," Woolery said. "Building relationships with the people that we serve and

giving them a real look into their Police Department, because it is their Police Department."

Last year Mr. Goodcents provided meals, as did Bandanas, Mazzio's, Papa John's, Steak and Shake and Fazoli's, with Walmart providing snacks.

People wanting to get in

on this unique opportunity may get an application at the police department lobby at 300 W. Third St., reach out to SPD through its Facebook page, or contact Woolery at [dwoolery@sedaliapolice.com](mailto:dwoolery@sedaliapolice.com).

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

# Yellen tells IRS to develop modernization plan in 6 months

By Fatima Hussein  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Now that President Joe Biden signed Democrats' expansive climate, tax and health care bill into law, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen has directed the IRS to develop a plan within six months outlining how the tax agency will overhaul its technology, customer service and hiring processes.

In part, the improvements are meant to "end the two-tiered tax system, where most Americans pay what they owe, but those at the top of the distribution often do not," Yellen said in a Tuesday memo to IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig, whose term ends in three months.

Yellen's memo, obtained by The Associated Press, outlines the importance of modernizing IRS comput-

er systems and ensuring the agency has an adequately-staffed workforce now that the tax collector is set to receive nearly \$80 billion over the next 10 years.

That funding is needed for more than technology. At least 50,000 IRS employees are expected to retire over the next five years.

Yellen has called for the IRS to "fully resolve the inventory backlog and make significant improvements in taxpayer services," "to overhaul an information technology system that is decades out of date" and invest and train employees "so they can identify the most complex evasion schemes by those at the top."

This year's tax season resulted in the worst backlog in history for the beleaguered IRS, which has also been tasked with administering pandemic

related programs, including sending out stimulus checks, emergency rental assistance and advance child tax credit checks.

In its June report to Congress, the National Taxpayer Advocate, an independent watchdog within the IRS, also said taxpayers have experienced longer wait times on the telephone, and delays in processing paper returns have been running six months to one year.

Additional funding for the agency has been politically controversial since 2013, when the IRS under the Obama administration was found to scrutinize political groups that applied for tax-exempt status.

A Treasury Department Inspector General report found that both conservative and liberal groups were chosen for scrutiny.

Most recently, Republican politicians and

candidates have distorted how the climate, tax and healthcare bill would reform the IRS and affect taxes for the middle class.

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) last week tweeted that "Democrats' new army of 87,000 IRS agents will be coming for you -- with 710,000 new audits for Americans who earn less than \$75k."

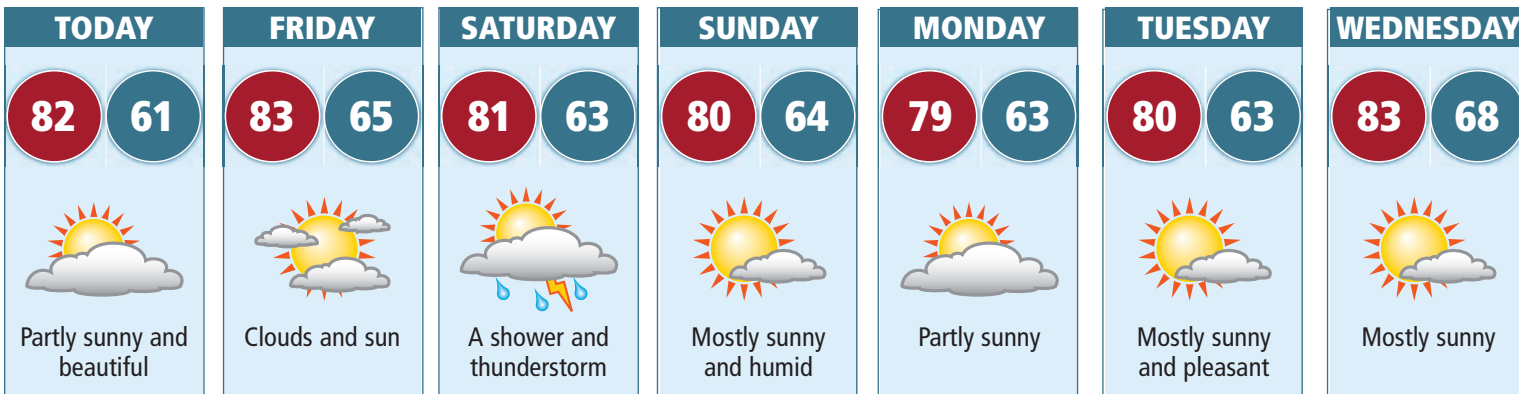
Yellen last week sent instructions to IRS leadership not to increase audit rates on Americans making under \$400,000 a year annually.

"Instead, enforcement resources will focus on high-end noncompliance," she said in her Aug. 11 guidance. "There, sustained, multi-year funding is so critical to the agency's ability to make the investments needed to pursue a robust attack on the tax gap."

# THE WEATHER

AccuWeather | Go to [AccuWeather.com](http://AccuWeather.com)

## SEVEN-DAY FORECAST



## SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	6:29 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:04 p.m.
Moonrise today	11:50 p.m.
Moonsset today	1:40 p.m.



## WEATHER HISTORY

Hurricane Bob was 45 miles south of Cape Hatteras, N.C., at 9 a.m. EDT on Aug. 18, 1991. It had sustained winds of 115 mph and gusts to 130 mph. Hurricane warnings were issued from the Carolinas to New England.

## ALMANAC

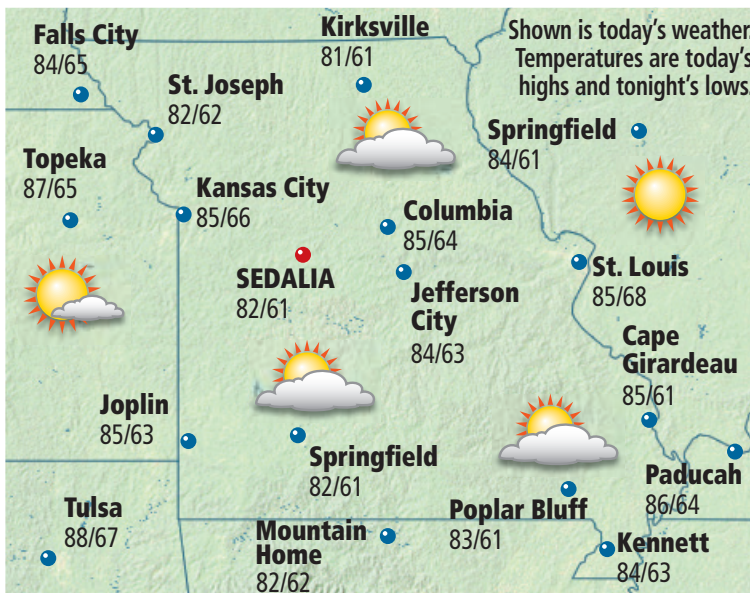
Sedalia Regional Airport Tuesday

TEMPERATURES	
High	72
Low	65
Normal high	86
Normal low	65
Record high	99 in 2007
Record low	41 in 1992

PRECIPITATION	
Tuesday	3.61"
Month to date	3.71"
Normal m-t-d	2.09"
Year to date	29.12"
Normal y-t-d	28.99"

COOLING DEGREE DAYS	
Index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the average temperature was above 65 degrees for the day.	
Tuesday	4
Month to date	235
Year to date	1265
Normal year to date	901
Last year to date	1077

RIVER LEVELS			
In feet as of 7 a.m. Wednesday			
Blackwater	Stage	Chg	Fld Stg
Blue Lick	7.79	+1.00	24
Valley City	6.14	+3.51	22
Lamine			
Otterville	4.86	+4.19	15
Missouri			
Boonville	5.85	+0.33	21



**BRANSON**  
High: 85. Low: 60. Pleasant today with clouds and sunshine. Clear to partly cloudy tonight. Mostly sunny and delightful tomorrow.

**KANSAS CITY**  
High: 85. Low: 66. Sunny to partly cloudy and pleasant today. Partly cloudy tonight. A thunderstorm in spots tomorrow.

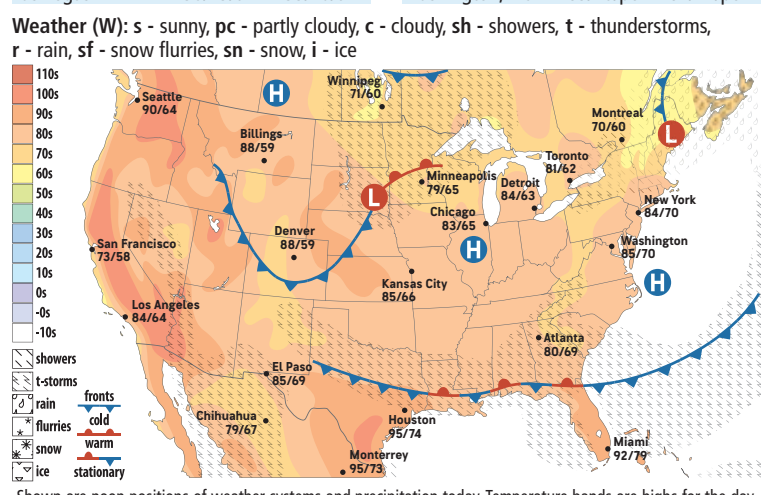
**ST. LOUIS**  
High: 85. Low: 68. Mostly sunny and delightful today. Mainly clear tonight. Partly sunny and beautiful tomorrow. Saturday: widely separated thunderstorms.

**NEW YORK CITY**  
High: 84. Low: 70. Partly sunny today. Clear to partly cloudy tonight. Mostly sunny and very warm tomorrow. Saturday: sunshine and some clouds.

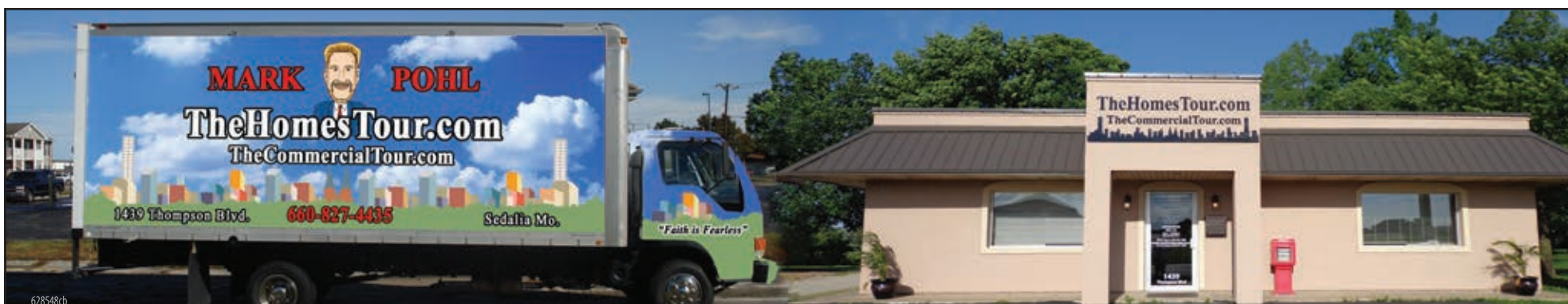
**LOS ANGELES**  
High: 84. Low: 64. Plenty of sunshine today. Clear to partly cloudy tonight. Hazy sunshine tomorrow. Saturday: hazy sun. Sunday: partly sunny.

## NATIONAL WEATHER

	Today	Friday		Today	Friday
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	80/69/t	78/69/t	Milwaukee	81/65/pc	82/65/pc
Baltimore	87/67/pc	88/69/pc	Nashville	86/69/pc	86/68/t
Billings	88/59/s	84/58/s	New Orleans	87/76/t	85/76/t
Boston	82/66/pc	86/69/s	Norfolk	83/69/pc	83/72/sh
Buffalo	79/64/pc	84/63/s	Oklahoma City	86/63/s	94/68/s
Charlotte	82/68/t	76/68/t	Orlando	93/77/t	90/76/t
Chicago	83/65/s	85/65/s	Phoenix	99/81/t	91/75/t
Cleveland	80/61/s	83/64/s	Pittsburgh	79/60/pc	82/65/s
Dallas	84/73/t	94/76/s	Portland, ME	71/59/r	83/60/s
Denver	88/59/s	85/58/c	Portland, OR	96/68/s	82/63/pc
Detroit	84/63/s	86/65/s	Sacramento	99/63/s	102/66/s
Honolulu	89/78/pc	90/76/pc	St. Louis	85/68/s	86/70/pc
Houston	95/74/t	89/76/t	San Francisco	73/58/pc	74/59/pc
Indianapolis	83/64/s	85/65/s	Seattle	90/64/s	77/60/pc
Las Vegas	96/79/t	95/76/t	Washington, DC	85/70/pc	87/72/pc



Summary: Thunderstorms capable of causing flash flooding will stretch from northern Texas to northern Florida today. More storms will target the interior Southwest and erupt in parts of the Midwest and Northeast.



## U.S. midterms bring few changes from social media companies

By Barbara Ortutay and Amanda Seitz  
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Social media companies are offering few specifics as they share their plans for safeguarding the U.S. midterm elections.

Platforms like Facebook and Twitter are generally staying the course from the 2020 voting season, which was marred by conspiracies and culminated in the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

Video app TikTok, which has soared in popularity since the last election cycle while also cementing its place as a problem spot for misinformation, announced Wednesday it is launching an election center that will help people find voting locations and candidate information.

The center will show up on videos about U.S. elections and in the feeds of users who search election-related hashtags. TikTok is also partnering with voting advocacy groups to provide specialized voting information for college students, people who are deaf, military members living overseas and those with past criminal convictions.

TikTok, like other platforms, would not provide details on the number of full-time employees or how much money it is dedicating to U.S. midterm efforts, which aim to push accurate voting information and counter misinformation.

The company said it is working with over a dozen fact-checking organizations, including U.S.-based PolitiFact and Lead Stories, on debunking misinformation. TikTok declined to say how many videos have been fact-checked on its site. The company will use a combination of humans and artificial intelligence to detect and remove threats against election workers as well as voting misinformation.

TikTok said it's also watching for influencers who break its rules by accepting money off platform to promote political issues or candidates, a problem that came to light during the 2020 election, said TikTok's head of safety Eric Han. The company is trying to educate creators and agencies about its rules, which include bans on political advertising.

"With the work we do, there is no finish line," Han said.

Meta Platforms Inc., which owns Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp, announced Tuesday that its approach to this election cycle is "largely consistent with the policies

and safeguards" from 2020.

"As we did in 2020, we have a dedicated team in place to combat election and voter interference while also helping people get reliable information about when and how to vote," Nick Clegg, Meta's president of global affairs, wrote in a blog post Tuesday.

Meta declined to say how many people it has dedicated to its election team responsible for monitoring the midterms, only that it has "hundreds of people across more than 40 teams."

As in 2020, Clegg wrote, the company will remove misinformation about election dates, voting locations, voter registration and election outcomes. For the first time, Meta said it will also show U.S. election-related notifications in languages other than English.

Meta also said it will reduce how often it uses labels on election-related posts directing people toward reliable information. The company said its users found the labels over-used. Some critics have also said the labels were often too generic and repetitive.

Compared with previous years, though, Meta's public communication about its response to election misinformation has gone decidedly quiet, The Associated Press reported earlier this month.

Between 2018 and 2020, the company released more than 30 statements that laid out specifics about how it would stifle U.S. election misinformation, prevent foreign adversaries from running ads or posts around the vote and subdue divisive hate speech. Until Tuesday's blog post, Meta had only released a one-page document outlining plans for the fall elections, even as potential threats to the vote persist.

Twitter, meanwhile, is sticking with its own misinformation labels, though it has redesigned them since 2020 based in part on user feedback. The company activated its "civic integrity policy" last week, which means tweets containing harmful misinformation about the election are labeled with links to credible information. The tweets themselves won't be promoted or amplified by the platform.

The company, which like TikTok does not allow political advertisements, is focusing on putting verified, reliable information before its users. That can include links to state-specific hubs for local election information as well as nonpartisan public service announcements for voters.

# Scientists say new climate law is likely to reduce warming

By Seth Borenstein  
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Massive incentives for clean energy in the U.S. law signed Tuesday by President Joe Biden should reduce future global warming "not a lot, but not insignificantly either," according to a climate scientist who led an independent analysis of the package.

Even with nearly \$375 billion in tax credits and other financial enticements for renewable energy in the law, the United States still isn't doing its share to help the world stay within another few tenths of a degree of warming, a new analysis by Climate Action Tracker says. The group of scientists examines and rates each country's climate goals and actions. It still rates American action as "insufficient" but hailed some progress.

"This is the biggest thing to happen to the U.S. on climate policy," said Bill Hare, the Australia-based

director of Climate Analytics which puts out the tracker. "When you think back over the last decades, you know, not wanting to be impolite, there's a lot of talk, but not much action."

This is action, he said. Not as much as Europe, and Americans still spew twice as much heat-trapping gases per person as Europeans, Hare said. The U.S. has also put more heat-trapping gas into the air over time than any other nation.

Before the law, Climate Action Tracker calculated that if every other nation made efforts similar to those of the U.S., it would lead to a world with catastrophic warming — 5.4 to 7.2 degrees (3 to 4 degrees Celsius) above pre-industrial times. Now in the best case scenario, which Hare said is reasonable and likely, U.S. actions, if mimicked, would lead to only 3.6 degrees (2 degrees Celsius) of warming. If things don't work quite as optimistically as Hare thinks, it would be 5.4

degrees (3 degrees Celsius) of warming, the analysis said.

Even that best case scenario falls short of the overarching internationally accepted goal of limiting warming to 2.7 degrees (1.5 degrees Celsius) since pre-industrial times. And the world has already warmed 2 degrees (1.1 degrees Celsius) since the mid-19th century.

Other nations "who we know have been holding back on coming forward with more ambitious policies and targets" are now more likely to take action in a "significant spillover effect globally," Hare said. He said officials from Chile and a few Southeast Asian countries, which he would not name, told him this summer that they were waiting for U.S. action first.

And China "won't say this out loud, but I think will see the U.S. move as something they need to match," Hare said.

Scientists at the Climate Action Tracker calculated

that without any other new climate policies, U.S. carbon dioxide emissions in 2030 will shrink to 26% to 42% below 2005 levels, which is still short of the country's goal of cutting emissions in half. Analysts at the think tank Rhodium Group calculated pollution cuts of 31% to 44% from the new law.

Other analysts and scientists said the Climate Action Tracker numbers makes sense.

"The contributions from the U.S. to greenhouse gas emissions are huge," said Princeton University climate scientist Gabriel Vecchi. "So reducing that is definitely going to have a global impact."

Samantha Gross, director of climate and energy at the Brookings Institution, called the new law a down payment on U.S. emission reductions.

"Now that this is done, the U.S. can celebrate a little, then focus on implementation and what needs to happen next," Gross said.

## How to take your garden and yard back from the mosquitoes

By Jessica Damiano  
Associated Press

Life comes with lots of little annoyances, few of them littler or more annoying than mosquitoes. Just about everyone who spends any time outdoors will be bothered by the bloodsucking party poopers at one point or another.

Although it may seem difficult to avoid mosquitoes, there are several easy measures you can take to reduce or eliminate them from your yard and garden. The best control is prevention.

With the exception of those who live near a lake, marsh or swamp -- or in densely packed neighborhoods -- most of the blame for mosquito invasions usually falls on the property's residents. Mosquitoes need only one-quarter inch of water to breed — and a female can lay hundreds of eggs at a time.

Inspect your property for standing water. Even the most diligent among us will likely find water collected in a children's playset, tire, clogged gutter, pot saucer, overturned trash can lid or flying disc toy. Drain or dump water as you see it, even if the amount appears insignificant, and drill drainage holes in the bottoms of vessels like tire swings.

For water that's intended to stand, such as in ponds and bird baths, the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti) is a safe and effective way to kill mosquito larvae. Several strains of Bt are available, each targeting different insects, so be sure to buy the israelensis strain to target mosquitoes. The product is also effective against black flies and fungus gnats.

Bti comes in various forms, including do-not-shaped briquettes called "Mosquito Dunks." The floating rings offer 30 days of protection and "will not harm people,

pets and other animals, aquatic life, or other insects, including honeybees," according to the CDC.

If you don't have a pond or bird bath, you can make a DIY mosquito trap: Add a handful of straw, hay or grass clippings to a (preferably dark-colored) pail filled with water, and let it sit for 1-2 days. Then add one mosquito dunk. For large infestations, tuck several buckets around the yard. The decomposing organic matter will attract the insects, which will lay eggs on the treated water. Replace water and add a fresh dunk every 30 days to thwart future generations of mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes also like to hunker down among weeds and overgrown vegetation. Keep the yard tidy.

Running a standing or box fan at high speed will significantly reduce mosquito activity on your porch, deck or patio. It works by literally blowing the insects away and dispersing our exhaled carbon dioxide, which would otherwise attract them. You'll keep cooler, too.

Avoid using insecticidal foggers or sprays, which threaten essential pollinators and other beneficial insects while controlling only a small portion of the adult mosquito population. In addition, such applications would need to be repeated multiple times per season.

So-called "mosquito plants" and other plants marketed as repellents do, indeed, contain oils or chemicals that the insects find unappealing. But they're not effective unless those compounds are released, such as by crushing the leaves. Merely having such a plant in the garden or a pot will not provide any benefit.

Various research studies have shown citronella candles containing

lemongrass oil provide mild-to-moderate protection. The jury is out on whether the benefit can be attributed to the repellent properties of the active ingredient, the candle's ability to mask the human scent or if the flame itself is the deterrent.

In case you're wondering, mosquitoes do serve a purpose — as pollinators and bird food. Still, because the roles they serve in these areas are minor, eliminating them from your yard will not adversely affect the ecosystem.

Itchy welts aside, many of us live or vacation in areas where mosquitoes can transmit viruses like

West Nile, Zika, dengue and chikungunya, and parasitic illnesses like malaria. Pets are at risk, too, with heartworm disease posing the most significant threat.

Wearing long sleeves and pants, reducing time spent outdoors between dusk and dawn, when mosquitoes are most active, and keeping up to date with pets' heartworm prevention treatments will go a long way toward reducing mosquito bites.

And remember, you don't live in a barn. Keep the door closed.

— Jessica Damiano writes regular gardening columns for The Associated Press.

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# Youth mental health is in crisis. Are schools doing enough?

**By Jocelyn Gecker and Dylan Lovan**  
Associated Press

CECILIA, Ky. (AP) — For fourth-grader Leah Rainey, the school day now begins with what her teacher calls an "emotional check-in."

"It's great to see you. How are you feeling?" chirps a cheery voice on her laptop screen. It asks her to click an emoji matching her state of mind: Happy. Sad. Worried. Angry. Frustrated. Calm. Silly. Tired.

Depending on the answer, Leah, 9, gets advice from a cartoon avatar on managing her mood and a few more questions: Have you eaten breakfast? Are you hurt or sick? Is everything OK at home? Is someone at school being unkind? Today, Leah chooses "silly," but says she struggled with sadness during online learning.

At Lakewood Elementary School, all 420 students will start their days the same way this year. The rural Kentucky school is one of thousands across the country using the technology to screen students' state of mind and alert teachers to anyone struggling.

In some ways, this year's back-to-school season will restore a degree of pre-pandemic normalcy. But many of the coronavirus' longer-lasting impacts remain a troubling reality for schools. Among them: the harmful effects of isolation and remote learning on children's emotional well-being.

Student mental health reached crisis levels last year, and the pressure on schools to figure out solutions has never been greater. Districts across the country are using federal pandemic money to hire more mental health specialists, rolling out new coping tools and expanding curriculum that prioritizes emotional health.

Still, some parents don't believe schools should be involved in mental

health at all. So-called social-emotional learning, or SEL, has become the latest political flashpoint, with conservatives saying schools use it to promote progressive ideas about race, gender and sexuality, or that a focus on well-being takes attention from academics.

But at schools like Lakewood, educators say helping students manage emotions and stress will benefit them in the classroom and throughout life.

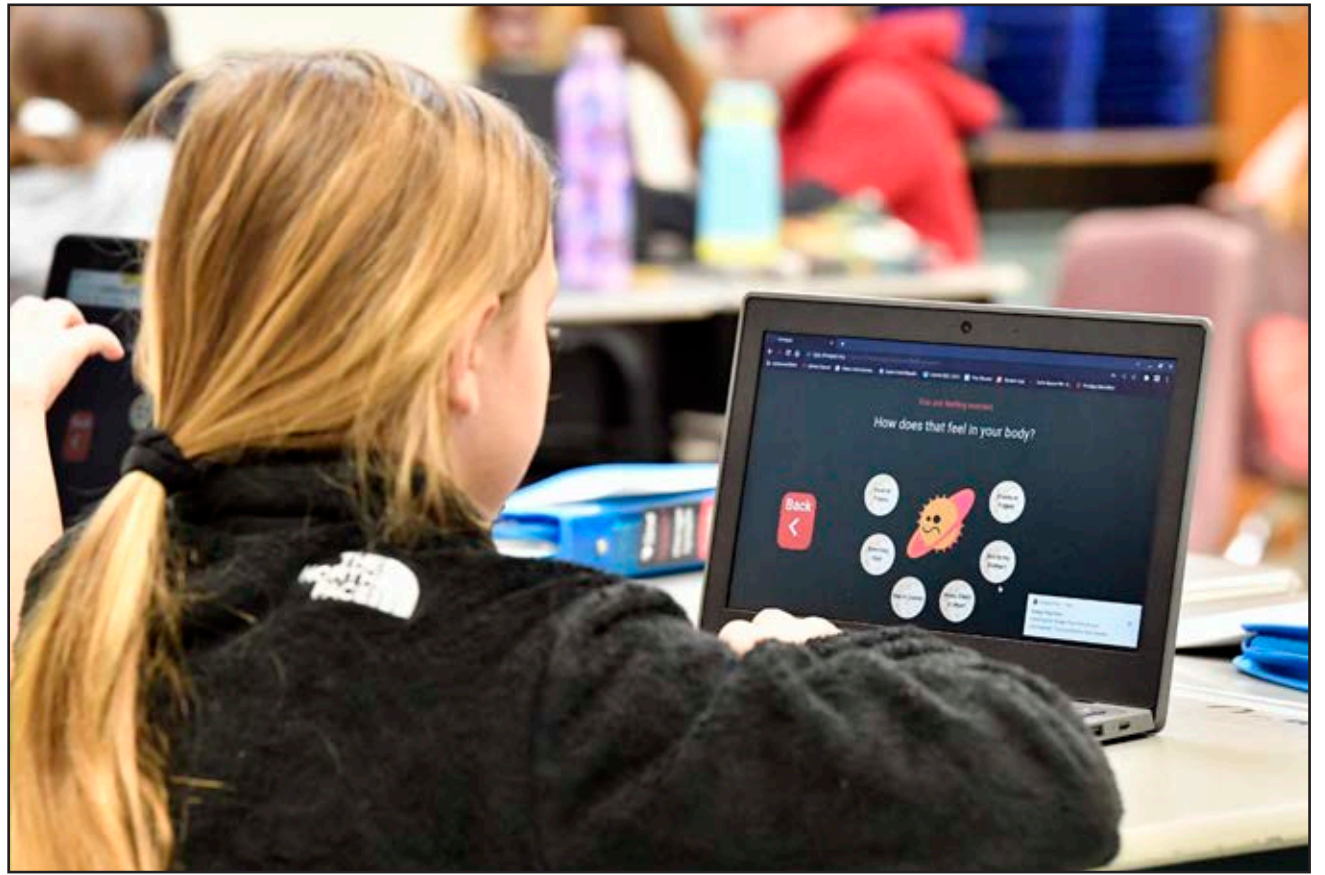
"We are finally beginning to recognize that school is more than just teaching the kids reading, writing and arithmetic," said Dan Domenech, executive director of the national School Superintendents Association. Just as free lunch programs are based on the idea that a hungry child can't learn, more and more schools are embracing the idea that a cluttered or troubled mind cannot focus on schoolwork, he said.

The pandemic magnified the fragility of mental health among American youth, who had been experiencing a rise in depression, anxiety and suicidal thoughts for years, experts say. A recent report issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found 44% of high school students said they experienced "persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness" during the pandemic.

If a silver lining exists, the pandemic raised awareness of the crisis and helped de-stigmatize talking about mental health, while also bringing attention to schools' shortcomings in handling it. President Joe Biden's administration recently announced over \$500 million to expand mental health services in the country's schools.

Still, many are skeptical schools' responses are enough — or appropriate.

Asra Nomani, a mom from Fairfax County, Virginia, says schools are using the mental health



**A student at Lakewood Elementary School in Cecilia, Ky., uses her laptop to participate in an emotional check-in at the start of the school day, Thursday, Aug. 11, 2022. The rural Kentucky school is one of thousands across the country using the technology to screen students' state of mind and alert teachers to anyone struggling.**

PHOTO BY TIMOTHY D. EASLEY | AP PHOTO

crisis as a "Trojan horse" to introduce liberal ideas about sexual and racial identity. She also worries schools lack the expertise to deal with student mental illness.

"Social-emotional well-being has become an excuse to intervene in the lives of children in the most intimate of ways that are both dangerous and irresponsible," Nomani said, "because they're in the hands of people who are not trained professionals."

Despite the unprecedented funding, schools are having trouble hiring counselors, mirroring the shortages in other American industries.

Goshen Junior High School in northwest Indiana has been struggling to fill a vacancy of a counselor or who left last year, when student anxiety and other behavioral problems were "off the charts," said Jan Desmarais-Morse, one of two counselors left at the school, with caseloads of 500 students each.

The American School Counselor Association recommends a ratio of 250 students per school counselor, which few states

come close to meeting.

For the 2020-21 school year only two states — New Hampshire and Vermont — achieved that goal, according to an Associated Press analysis of national data. Some states face staggeringly high ratios: Arizona averages one counselor to 716 students; in Michigan, 1 to 638; and in Minnesota, 1 to 592.

Also in Indiana, the School City of Hammond won a grant to hire clinical therapists at all 17 of its schools but has not been able to fill most of the new jobs, said Superintendent Scott Miller. And despite more funding, school salaries can't compete with private counseling practices.

Another challenge for schools: identifying struggling children before they're in emotional crisis. At the Houston Independent School District, one of the largest in the country with 277 schools and nearly 200,000 students, students are asked each morning to hold up fingers showing how they feel. One finger means a child is hurting deeply; five means she or he feels

great.

"It's identifying your brush fires early in the day," said Sean Ricks, the district's senior manager of crisis intervention.

Grant-funding helped Houston build relaxation rooms, known as Thinkeries, at 10 schools last year, costing about \$5,000 each. District data show campuses with Thinkeries saw a 62% decrease in calls to a crisis line last year, Ricks said. The district is building more this year.

But the rooms themselves are not a panacea. For the calming rooms to work, schools must teach students to recognize they feel angry or frustrated. Then they can use the space to decompress before their emotions erupt, said Kevin Dahill-Fuchel, executive director of Counseling in Schools, a nonprofit that helps schools bolster mental health services.

In the last days of summer vacation, a "Well Space" at University High School in Irvine, California, was getting finishing touches from an artist who painted a mural of a giant moon over mountains.

When school starts this week, the room is to be staffed full-time with a counselor or mental health specialist.

The goal is to normalize the idea of asking for help and give students a place to reset. "If they can re-center and refocus," said Tammy Blakely, the district's director of student support services, "they can then, after a short break, go back into their classrooms and be prepared for deeper learning."

Gecker reported from San Francisco. Associated Press reporters Heather Hollingsworth in Mission, Kansas; Arleigh Rodgers in Indianapolis; Brooke Schultz in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and Kavish Harjai in Los Angeles also contributed.

Rodgers, Schultz and Harjai are corps members for the Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a nonprofit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on undercovered issues.

## RISE Racks provides affordable clothing

**By Dillon Seckington**

news@warrensburgstarjournal.com

WARRENSBURG — Warrensburg is now home to the new thrift clothing store, RISE Racks. The shop is filled with men's, women's and children's clothing items, all marked at an affordable price. Through RISE, the thrift store plans to serve the

Warrensburg community in more ways than simply providing affordable clothing.

"The goal behind RISE Racks is really to create jobs and those social skills and work skills for our individuals," said Community Outreach Director Jessica Lagasse. "All the proceeds go right back into our program. So the mission for this store and

the vision is to serve our community, to give our community members a place where they can go to buy affordable clothing and then also give those skills to our individuals."

While RISE Racks is there to serve its customers in the community, it also serves its employees and others in need. RISE, which stands for Respecting Individuals Skills and

Efforts, offers vocational employment, transportation, community integration, and more services for those in need. RISE Racks is only one way that RISE serves the Johnson County community.

"We're hoping to get more job openings," said Lagasse. "Like part-time employment, even from our own individuals, bringing in more positions

the busier that we get. We want to reach outside of Johnson County."

RISE Racks participated in the Dog Days of Summer community-wide sale this year on Aug. 12 and 13. Lagasse mentioned some plans for future events and sales at the 1125 N. Simpson Drive location as well.

"We want to partner with businesses in this

strip and then also with the Johnson County board," said Lagasse. "We want to kind of partner with our sponsors and do like a block party, maybe a food truck war."

To learn more about RISE and its new thrift shop, visit [www.facebook.com/RiseCommunityServices](http://www.facebook.com/RiseCommunityServices).

Dillon Seckington can be reached at 660-747-8123.



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# AP interview: Census director aims to restore trust in count

By Mike Schneider  
Associated Press

Indifference. Distrust of government. Budget uncertainties.

The next U.S. census isn't until 2030, but already Census Bureau leaders are looking for ways to adapt to a roiled civic climate that only seems to be getting more contentious. So this week they are issuing a call for public recommendations to make sure everyone is counted in the next once-a-decade U.S. head count that determines political power and federal funding.

Census Bureau Director Robert Santos said Tuesday in an interview with The Associated Press that the statistical agency is planning to start its outreach efforts with hard-to-reach communities earlier, rather than just before the count, and it may start door-knocking efforts sooner than in the past. Santos also addressed a backlash against a controversial confidentiality method in the wide-ranging interview.

"We are looking to restore trust on a continuous basis, not just a couple of years before a decennial census," Santos said.

The call for public recommendations in a Federal Register notice came as the Census Bureau on Tuesday released further metrics on how well it did in the 2020 count, which was challenged by political interference from the Trump administration, the coronavirus pandemic and natural disasters.

Census data is used to determine how many congressional seats each state gets. It's also utilized for redrawing political districts and to help determine the distribution of \$1.5 trillion in federal funding each year.

A report card issued in May showed that, in the 2020 census, the Black population was undercounted by 3.3%, those who identified as some other race had a 4.3% undercount, almost 5% of the Hispanic population was missed and more than 5.6% of American Indians living on reservations were undercounted. The non-Hispanic white and Asian populations were overcounted by 1.6% and 2.6%, respectively.

The metrics released Tuesday showed the count of housing in the 2020 census was fairly accurate — a statistically insignificant overcount of 0.04%. Small apartment buildings were overcounted while mobile homes were undercounted. Homes headed by Black, Asian, Native Hawaiian residents, as well as householders who classify themselves as some other race, also were overcounted.

The discrepancy between overcounts in housing but undercounts of people among minority groups may be because the housing count relies on an address list while the count of people relies on their responses, according to the Census Bureau.

"We still need to do the analyses to see how one could overcount housing



Then-Census Bureau Director nominee Robert Santos, testifies before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs committee, Thursday, July 15, 2021, on Capitol Hill in Washington. Santos, now the Census Bureau director, said Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2022, in an interview with The Associated Press that the statistical agency was starting its outreach efforts with hard-to-reach communities earlier, rather than just before the next count, which is in 2030.

FILE PHOTO BY JACQUELYN MARTIN | AP PHOTO

units and undercount population," Santos said.

Tuesday's report card also showed that residents of Puerto Rico were overcounted by 5.7%, which wasn't statistically different from the 2010 census. Santos said these evaluations on the quality of the 2020 count can't "uncover the 'whys this happened' — all we can do is estimate what happened."

Santos also addressed the backlash from some researchers over a new confidentiality method the Census Bureau implemented for the first time with the 2020 census data.

Last week, demographers and other researchers began gathering signatures for a letter they plan to present to Santos asking that the Census Bureau abandon differential privacy for the 2030 census, as well as other Census Bureau data products like the American Community Survey. The survey provides the most comprehensive data on how people in the U.S. live by asking questions about commuting times, internet access, family life, income, education levels, disabilities, military service and employment.

Differential privacy

algorithms add intentional errors to data to obscure the identity of any given participant. It is most noticeable at the smallest geographies, such as census blocks. The Census Bureau says they are needed since, without them, the growth of easily available third-party data combined with modern computing could allow hackers to piece together the identities of participants in its censuses and surveys in violation of the law. Previous methods of protection are no longer effective, according to the statistical agency.

Santos said he wasn't

prepared at this point to say differential privacy will be used for the 2030 census since "there may be new revelations in terms of new techniques that are available." He also said it may take longer than planned to decide how to implement differential privacy algorithms on American Community Survey data, a change that had been expected no earlier than 2025.

"Anything is possible over the course of the next several years because of the way technologies and algorithms are advancing," Santos said.

## EXPLAINER: Dueling views remain a year after Afghan pullout

By Lolita C. Baldor  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A year after America's tumultuous and deadly withdrawal from Afghanistan, assessments of its impact are divided — and largely along partisan lines.

Critics slam the August 2021 evacuation of more than 120,000 American citizens, Afghans and others as poorly planned and badly executed. They say the complete withdrawal of U.S. forces opened the door to a resurgence of al-Qaida and Islamic State militants in the country. And the exit, they say, signaled the United States' lack of commitment to the broader Middle East and its unwillingness to stand by a partner in need.

Supporters counter that it was time to end America's longest war and that leaving forces in the country would risk their lives and gain little. It was time, they said, for the Afghan people to take charge of their own country and its security so that the U.S. could focus on threats from China and Russia, and on other critical issues such as climate change and the pandemic.

What is certain is that the government of Afghanistan collapsed at the hands of the Taliban, hundreds of Afghans who supported the U.S. during the war were left behind fearful of retribution, and the leader of al-Qaida found sanctuary in Kabul.

On the political front, the withdrawal marked a turning point for President Joe Biden. His high approval ratings started falling as Americans saw horrifying images of desperate Afghans swarming the airport, U.S. troops and Afghan civilians being

killed in a suicide attack, and an innocent Afghan family mistakenly targeted and killed by an American drone strike.

Now, one year after the last troops left Afghanistan — and with midterm elections approaching — the White House, congressional Republicans, and outside analysts are offering their views of the withdrawal and its impact.

A look at what they are saying:

### WHAT THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION SAYS

When Biden took office, the U.S. was already committed to a withdrawal agreement that had been reached between the Taliban and his predecessor Donald Trump. Many GOP leaders — such as House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy — praised the deal, while others — including then-Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell — slammed it as shortsighted.

Biden favored the withdrawal then and continues to defend it. He says the U.S. had accomplished its goal in Afghanistan — to prevent al-Qaida from planning and launching attacks against the U.S. from within the country again. He said it was not in America's national interest to fight the war indefinitely, and instead the U.S. would develop an "over-the-horizon" capability to keep an eye on the terror threat and take it out if needed. The U.S., he said, must fight the battles of the next 20 years, not the last.

Today, the administration and its Defense Department praise the execution of the withdrawal — the largest air evacuation in U.S. history — as largely successful under extraordinarily dangerous

and dynamic conditions. But the U.S. has also called the drone strike on Afghan civilians a tragic mistake.

The White House released portions of an unclassified intelligence assessment summary on Sunday that concluded that al-Qaida hasn't rebuilt and doesn't have the ability to launch an attack against the U.S. from Afghanistan. And it argues that the successful airstrike last month that killed al-Qaida leader Ayman al-Zawahri in a Kabul safe house is proof the U.S. can monitor and eliminate terror threats in Afghanistan.

### WHAT THE REPUBLICANS SAY

The Republican minority on the House Foreign Affairs Committee released an interim report this week that blasted the evacuation, saying it was poorly planned, poorly operated and plagued with delays. It said poor organization left many would-be evacuees unable to get into the airport and onto the swiftly departing planes.

It noted that outside groups, including former military troops who had worked with Afghan interpreters and others, began coordinating their own networks to get people out. And, it said that some Afghan commandos who couldn't get on U.S. flights fled into Iran, where they may pose a security threat to the U.S. if they are captured.

The report had few new findings, but it underscored the chaos of the withdrawal and complaints that the State Department

waited too long to request military assistance for the exit process. It also charged that Biden's assurance that al-Qaida would not be allowed to regroup was clearly wrong, since Zawahri was discovered living in a tony Kabul neighborhood.

Critics also question the decision to fully withdraw from Afghanistan, noting that initially the military argued to keep about 2,500 forces on the ground, along with several thousand NATO troops. Ultimately, as conditions in Afghanistan deteriorated, Pentagon leaders concluded that clearing the Taliban out of Kabul and reclaiming land could require up to 20,000 troops, and could cost many lives. So they endorsed the full withdrawal by Aug. 31.

### WHAT OTHERS SAY

Retired Gen. Frank McKenzie, who as the top military officer for the Middle East oversaw the withdrawal, said he regrets "very bitterly" the people the U.S. couldn't get out, including Afghans who worked with troops there.

"I believe we got out all the Americans that wanted to come out," he said. "If someone stayed, there was a reason why they wanted

to stay."

But his biggest concern, he said, is that al-Qaida, Islamic State militants or other affiliated insurgents will be able to generate an attack against the U.S. from a haven in Afghanistan. The CIA strike that killed Zawahri shows the U.S. can and will detect and go after threats, but also underscores that it is a very rare and difficult task. He also said that efforts to set up terrorist training camps in Afghanistan has already begun.

Ryan Crocker, a former U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan, said Tuesday that he and others warned "right from the beginning that if the Taliban could ever get back in power, they would bring al-Qaida with them." So, despite Taliban promises to not harbor terrorists again "they have brought al-Qaida back."

Crocker, McKenzie and others also point to what they said was a predictable erosion of women's rights, widespread hunger and other Taliban problems running the government.

Military leaders are also working to shore up allies in the Middle East who now question America's

commitment to the region. They see persistent reports about America's increased focus on threats from a rising China and an aggressive Russia and watch as military ships and assets are pulled away. And they worry that the U.S. won't be there if threats from Iran spike again.

"We have given populations and nations all around the world a significant reason to no longer trust us," retired Army Lt. Gen. Michael Nagata said during a Monday event at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "In order to rise to the occasion in the competition we have underway with actors like Russia, China, Iran, North Korea, this is a particularly awful time for people not to trust us."

Associated Press writer Ellen Knickmeyer contributed to this report.

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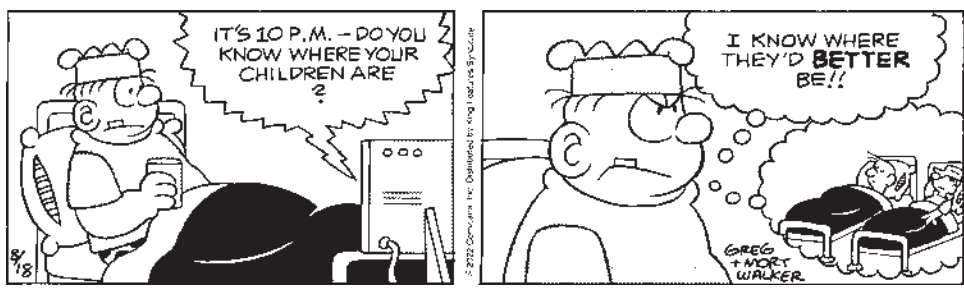
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### BEETLE BAILEY

BY MORT, GREG AND BRIAN WALKER



### HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

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### ZITS

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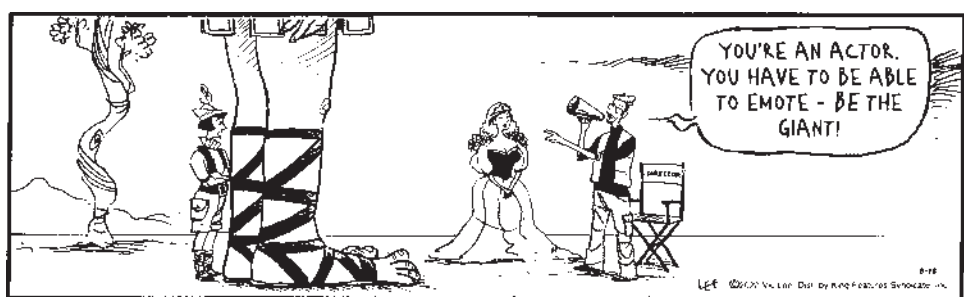
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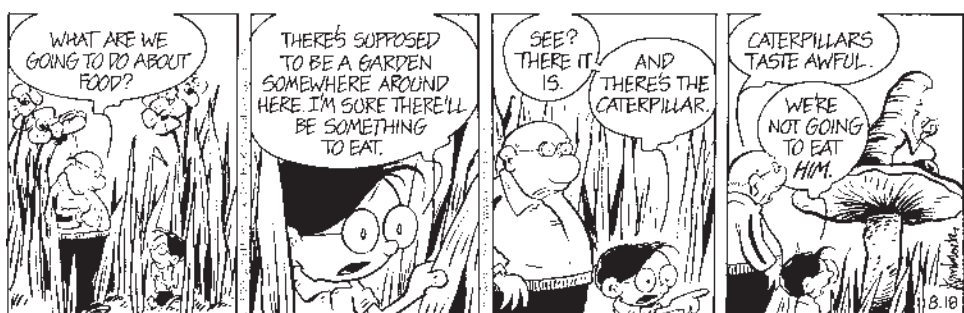
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### THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 43 Big ringer
  - 1 Bugler's evening call
  - 5 Plot
  - 11 Trumpeter
  - 12 Blackout thief
  - 13 Smell
  - 14 White Rabbit's cry
  - 15 Turned over a new leaf
  - 17 Eden name
  - 18 Check marks
  - 22 English county
  - 24 Peach center
  - 25 —
  - 26 Veto
  - 27 Pretentious people
  - 30 Grant's bill
  - 32 Snowy wader
  - 33 Top pitcher
  - 34 Theater seat features
  - 38 Chin cover
  - 41 Tibet setting
  - 42 Confuses
- DOWN**
- 1 Hammer wielder
  - 2 Staff member
  - 3 College figure
  - 4 Tried hard
  - 5 Slender
  - 6 Astro-nomical sightings
  - 7 "Wait a sec!"
  - 8 Greek vowel
  - 9 Convened
  - 10 Before, to bards
  - 16 Sheepdog in "Babe"
  - 19 Priest, at times
  - 20 Polo shirt, e.g.
  - 21 Hot
  - 22 Different
  - 23 Musical number
  - 28 John or Paul
  - 29 Manhole setting
  - 30 Way off
  - 31 Pleis-tocene period
  - 35 Clutter
  - 36 Turner of song
  - 37 Yields to gravity
  - 38 Chatter
  - 39 Dedicated verse
  - 40 Spots

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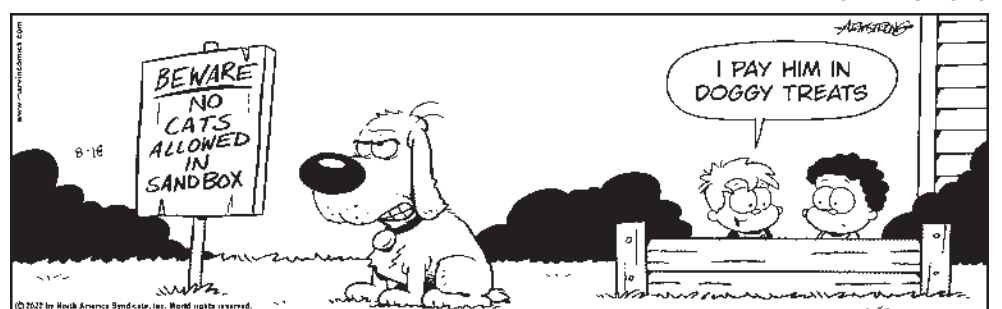
Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12					
13					14					
15				16						
		17				18		19	20	21
22	23					24				
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38	39	40						41		
42								43		
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8-18

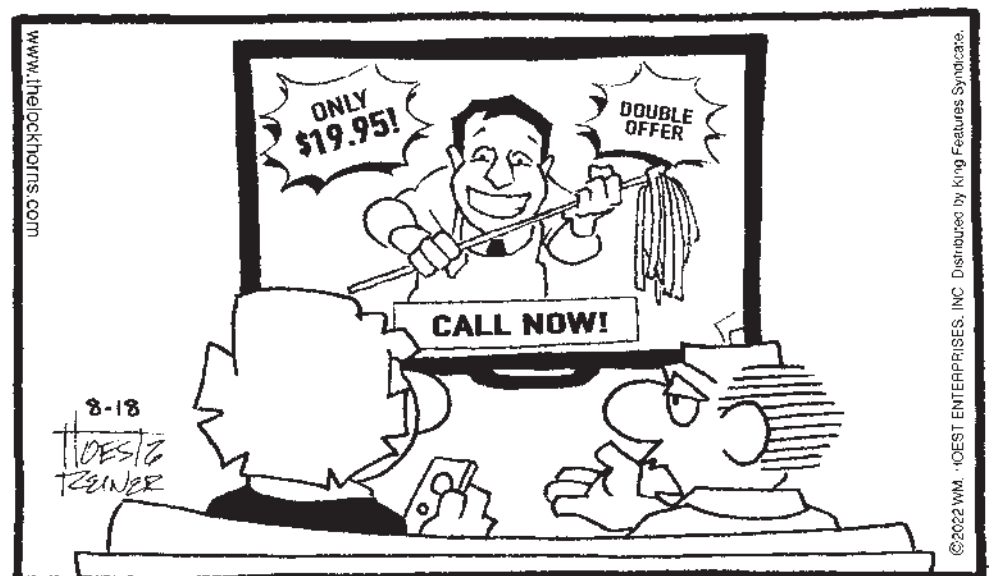
### MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG



### THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST & JOHN REINER



"IF THAT'S THE ONLY MOP WE'LL EVER NEED, WHY ARE THEY TRYING TO SELL US A SECOND ONE?"

### 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 Concepts Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Concepts Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

8/18



## Smith-Cotton volleyball aims to stay healthy, improve

By Bryan Everson  
bryane@sedaliademocrat.com

If Smith-Cotton volleyball is looking for a tagline for this season, that famous Yoda line that “size matters not” might be a rather good fit.

With the graduation of a group that included 6-footer Bailey Brown, the team's leader in kills and blocks, height is going to be something of a deficiency for the Lady Tigers this year.

“We don't have big size, but they'll give it all they have,” S-C head coach Diane Shipley said. “We're going to have to play great defense.”

A lack of size wasn't the backbreaker for Smith-Cotton in 2021, but rather injury and ailments. Shipley knocked on wood that this campaign goes differently. “We had to switch things around so much,” she said. “We got shut down for a week when six girls had COVID. The younger girls had to [alternate from playing] JV to varsity in one week because we were hurt or sick.”

After winning seasons in Shipley's first three years, what could have been another step in the right direction amounted to a second year with five wins in a row. Clearly, though, there's still plenty of excitement from all parties after 38 girls came for tryouts. This is the first time there's been enough that cuts have been required.

That energy was tangible in the offseason work, some of which took place for the first time at the Heckart Community Center.

“They've been trying harder for balls, even this summer,” Shipley said. “Every last ball [in practice] was ‘one more ball, one more ball.’ Fifteen minutes later, I'm like, ‘We're done.’ But the important thing is that they're having fun, and if you have fun I think you can get better and compete better.”

Looking to replace a bunch that included Brown, Paige Abney and Zoey Hieronymus, Izzy Lyles is back and healthy as one that Shipley says has made strides since last fall. Other returners include Alyssa Gear, Mackenzie Graff, Sydney Toops, Mackenzie Allison and Lauren Grupe. In addition, contributions from a big freshman contingent could sway the team's fortunes; Piper Cantrell is one entering the fray and expected to fill the libero vacancy.

See VOLLEYBALL | 14A



Smith-Cotton senior Izzy Lyles serves in a home match with Eldon on Oct. 19, 2021. She's one of the returners for a group aiming to stay healthy, supplemented by a talented group of incoming freshmen.

FILE PHOTO BY BRYAN EVERSON | DEMOCRAT

## Mahle exits early; Twins beat Royals 4-0 for 3-game sweep

By Mike Cook  
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Emilio Pagán pitched two scoreless innings after Tyler Mahle departed with right shoulder fatigue, and the Minnesota Twins beat the Kansas City Royals 4-0 on Wednesday for a three-game sweep.

Jose Miranda homered for Minnesota, which is fighting with Cleveland and the Chicago White Sox for control of the crowded AL Central. Miranda finished with two hits and two RBIs, and Nick Gordon had a run-scoring double.

After Mahle left in the third, Pagán (4-6), Griffin Jax, Jhoan Duran, Michael Fulmer and Trevor Megill finished Minnesota's second straight shutout. A diving catch by center

fielder Gilberto Celestino saved a run in the seventh.

“Yeah, we've got a super-talented group, and to be able to pick up the team like that is huge, especially when it caps off a sweep. So, that was a lot of fun,” Pagán said.

Making his third start since he was acquired from Cincinnati at the trade deadline, Mahle faced eight batters before manager Rocco Baldelli and a team trainer visited the mound in the third inning.

Mahle pitched 2 1/3 innings of hitless ball, walking one. He threw 29 of his 42 pitches for strikes, but his velocity was diminished.

Mahle is going to get an MRI and the team is expected to provide an update later Wednesday or Thursday.

See ROYALS | 14A



Minnesota Twins infielder Luis Arraez throws to first for a double play after forcing out Kansas City Royals' Vinnie Pasquantino during the fourth inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2022, in Minneapolis.

PHOTO BY ABBIE PARR | AP PHOTO

## AP source: LeBron James inks 2-year extension with Lakers

By Greg Beacham  
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — LeBron James has agreed to a two-year, \$97.1 million contract extension through the 2024-25 season with the Los Angeles Lakers, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because James and the Lakers haven't yet announced the league-maximum deal, which includes a player option that would keep the second-leading scorer in NBA history with the Lakers past his 40th birthday in December 2024.

James is headed into the final year of his most recent contract with the Lakers, who signed the four-time NBA Most Valuable Player and four-time league champion in July 2018. The new deal means the 18-time All-Star will make \$46.7 million this season.

Barring injury, James is likely to surpass Kareem Abdul-Jabbar as the NBA's career scoring king this winter. James and the Lakers also still hope to be in contention for another title if James and Anthony Davis can return at full health



Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James (6) controls the ball during an NBA basketball game against the New Orleans Pelicans in Los Angeles, Friday, April 1, 2022. The NBA schedule comes out Wednesday afternoon, Aug. 17, 2022, and it'll provide the first look at, among other things, when LeBron James might pass Kareem Abdul-Jabbar as the NBA's all-time scoring leader.

FILE PHOTO BY ASHLEY LANDIS | AP PHOTO

after an injury-plagued 2021-22 ended without a playoff appearance.

James' new deal syncs with Davis' most recent contract extension with the Lakers, allowing both superstars to leave the Lakers or to negotiate new deals in 2024.

James' recommitment to the Lakers also silences persistent talk of his possible departure as a free agent or in a trade. James hasn't appeared to be going anywhere on social media or in his public ap-

pearances, and he praised the hiring of new Lakers coach Darvin Ham.

James has missed significant portions of the season due to injury in three of his four years with the Lakers. He was largely healthy in the elongated 2019-20 season when the Lakers won the franchise's 17th NBA title in the Florida bubble, and he has been every bit the dominant player of his prime when at full strength in the ensuing two years.

## Chargers sign Derwin James to 4-year, \$76.5M extension

By Joe Reedy  
AP Sports Writer

COSTA MESA, Calif. (AP) — Derwin James signed a four-year, \$76.5 million contract extension with the Los Angeles Chargers Wednesday morning, making him the NFL's highest-paid safety.

The deal includes \$42 million in guaranteed salary. James is going into his fifth season and was expected on the field when the Chargers begin two days of joint practices with the Dallas Cowboys. He did not participate in the first two weeks of practice and took part only in walkthroughs as the two sides worked on an extension.

James' deal eclipses the four-year, \$72.98 million extension Pittsburgh's Minkah Fitzpatrick signed in June. That included \$36 million in guaranteed salary.

The Chargers have spent nearly \$112 million in guaranteed salaries since the end of last season to improve a defense that was 23rd overall and near the bottom in key categories, including run defense, third down conversions and points allowed after halftime.

James — the defensive signal-caller in the huddle — will be counted on as the leader of a unit that



Los Angeles Chargers safety Derwin James Jr. speaks to reporters after an NFL football practice at the Chargers practice facility in Costa Mesa, Calif., Monday, May 23, 2022. Derwin James has agreed to a four-year, \$76.5-million extension with the Los Angeles Chargers, making him the NFL's highest-paid safety. James is going into his fifth season and will be on the field Wednesday morning, Aug. 17, when the Chargers begin two days of joint practices with the Dallas Cowboys.

FILE PHOTO BY ASHLEY LANDIS | AP PHOTO

made significant upgrades over the offseason. Los Angeles signed cornerback J.C. Jackson, defensive linemen Sebastian Jones-Day, Austin Johnson and Morgan Fox and edge rusher Kyle Van Noy, along with trading for linebacker Khalil Mack.

“I don't look at Derwin as a safety. I look at Derwin as an impact player. I think the reason why, if you were just looking at him as safety, that wouldn't be doing Derwin justice,” coach Brandon Staley

said of James on Tuesday. “For me, I look at him as a defensive back because he can play anywhere; he can play either safety spot, he can play corner, he can play 'Star' or 'Money,' he can rush the quarterback and make an impact as a blitzing, he can make an impact in man-to-man coverage, and then he can make an impact in zone defense, whether he's playing low or high — and he's our signal-caller and the heartbeat of our defense.”

See SIGN | 12A



Texas Rangers general manager Chris Young, left, and Rangers President of Baseball Operations Jon Daniels listen to a question during a news conference after announcing the firing of manager Chris Woodward, Monday, Aug. 15, 2022, in Arlington, Texas. PHOTO BY ELIAS VALVERDE II | THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS VIA AP

# Daniels out as Rangers president after 17 years leading club

By Stephen Hawkins  
AP Baseball Writer

Jon Daniels is out as president of baseball operations for the Texas Rangers after two World Series appearances during 17 years leading the club, likely finishing his tenure with a string of six consecutive losing seasons.

Team owner Ray Davis said Wednesday that Daniels was being relieved of his duties immediately after the decision was made not to renew his contract at the end of this year.

Daniels' departure came two days after manager Chris Woodward was fired in his fourth season. It also occurred less than nine months after the Rangers committed more than a half-billion dollars to sign free agent infielders Corey Seager and Marcus Semien, and starting pitcher Jon Gray.

Daniels was the youngest general manager ever in the majors when he

got the job with the Rangers at age 28 in October 2005. He added the title of president of baseball operations in 2013, and held both roles until Chris Young was brought in as the team's general manager in December 2020.

"Jon's accomplishments in his 17 years running our baseball operations department have been numerous. ... His impact on the growth of our player development, scouting, and analytics groups has been immense. Jon has always had the best interests of the Rangers organization in mind on and off the field and in the community," Davis said. "But the bottom line is we have not had a winning record since 2016 and for much of that time, have not been competitive in the AL West division."

While Davis said he was certain the organization was heading in the right direction, he felt the team would benefit from a change in front-office leadership. The Rangers said Young will assume oversight of all aspects of their baseball operations department.

The Rangers went to the World Series in 2010 and 2011, then won AL West titles again in 2015 and 2016. They have since gone into the longest streak of consecutive losing seasons since moving to Texas a half-century ago. After splitting their first two games under interim manager Tony Beasley, they would have to win 29 of their last 46 games to avoid another losing season.

When addressing Woodward's firing on Monday, Daniels said he took a lot of responsibility for the team's performance over the last six years, and acknowledged that the Rangers haven't been good enough in that span.

"But ultimately, this is a team effort. ... When we were good, it wasn't about me. It's always been a team effort," Daniels said. "We have a ways to go. We have a lot of good people here. As far as my personal accountability or situation, that's something we'll address down the line."

## SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday

ON AIR

**AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL**

4:30 a.m. (Friday) FS1 — AFL Premiership: Melbourne at Brisbane

**COLLEGE SOCCER (WOMEN'S)**

5 p.m. PAC-12N — Weber St. at Colorado

6 p.m. BTN — Southern Cal at Purdue

SECN — Florida St. at South Carolina

7 p.m. PAC-12N — New Mexico St. at Oregon

9 p.m. PAC-12N — Iowa at UCLA

**GOLF**

6 a.m. GOLF — DP World Tour: The D+D Real Czech Masters, First Round, Albatross Golf Resort, Vysoký Újezd, Czechia

11 a.m. GOLF — USGA: U.S. Men's Amateur, Round of 32, The Ridgewood Country Club, Paramus, N.J.

2 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour: The BMW Championship, First Round, Wilmington Country Club, Wilmington, Del.

7 p.m. GOLF — Korn Ferry Tour: The Albertsons Boise Open (Final 1), First Round, Hillcrest Country Club, Boise, Idaho (Taped)

**HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL (BOY'S)**

11 a.m. ESPN2 — AXE European Tour: Calif. Basketball Club vs. Stella Azzurra (Italy), Rome

**HORSE RACING**

Noon FS2 — NYRA: Saratoga

**LACROSSE (MEN'S)**

1 p.m. ESPNU — World U-21 Championship: TBD, Semifinal, Limerick, Ireland

**LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL**

Noon ESPN — Little League World Series: Taipei City, Chinese vs. Bologna, Italy, Game 5, Williamsport, Penn.

2 p.m. ESPN — Little League World Series: Davenport, Iowa vs. Hagerstown, Ind., Game 6, Williamsport, Penn.

4 p.m. ESPN — Little League World Series: Guaynabo, Puerto Rico vs. Matamoros, Mexico, Game 7, Williamsport, Penn.

6 p.m. ESPN2 — Little League World Series: Pearland, Texas vs. Hollidaysburg, Pa., Game 8, Williamsport, Penn.

**MLB BASEBALL**

12:15 p.m. BALLY MIDWEST — Colorado at St. Louis

1 p.m. MLBN — Regional Coverage: LA Dodgers at Milwaukee OR Oakland at Texas

6 p.m. MLBN — Regional Coverage: Toronto at NY Yankees OR Boston at Pittsburgh

6:10 p.m. BALLY KC — Kansas City at Tampa Bay

**NFL FOOTBALL**

7 p.m. ESPN — Preseason: Chicago at Seattle

**RUGBY (MEN'S)**

3 a.m. (Friday) FS2 — NRL: New Zealand at North Queensland

**SOCCER (MEN'S)**

7 p.m. FS1 — Liga MX: León at Santos Laguna

**TENNIS**

10 a.m. TENNIS — Cincinnati-ATP/WTA Early Rounds

**WNBA BASKETBALL**

7 p.m. ESPNU — First Round Playoff: Dallas at Connecticut, Game 1

9 p.m. ESPN2 — First Round Playoff: Washington at Seattle, Game 1

## Sign

From Page 11A

James — the 17th overall pick in the 2018 draft — didn't participate in full-speed drills during the offseason program after having shoulder surgery once last season ended. He is cleared to go now that the contract issues are resolved.

James was an All-Pro selection as a rookie before being derailed the next two seasons because of injuries during training camp. A broken foot limited him to

five games in 2019, and he suffered a season-ending knee injury in 2020.

Last season James bounced back and reclaimed his spot as one of the top safeties in the league. He was the eighth defensive player and first defensive back since 2000 to have more than 100 tackles (118) after being sidelined the previous year.

James also had two interceptions, a pair of sacks and three forced fumbles. He wore No. 33 his first four seasons before switching to No. 3, which he wore during high school and college.

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Students (age 13-17)	\$10
Youth (age 6-12)	\$5

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Racing  
7:00pm  
Pit Gate Opens  
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## HOROSCOPES

By Georgia Nicols

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

**Happy Birthday for Thursday, Aug. 18, 2022:**

You are sensitive and intuitive, but you can also be tough. You are friendly, likable and very focused on whatever interests you. Because of this, you are knowledgeable and well-informed. This is a year of change and greater personal freedom for you. Stay flexible. Be open to new directions and new growth.

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)**

★★★★★ Make fun plans for today, because you will enjoy all outings, amusements and entertainments. Musical performances, the theater, movies and sports will delight. Plan for a long lunch, a wonderful dinner, a picnic by the beach -- whatever you can do. Tonight: Repair possessions.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**

★★★★ You couldn't pick a better evening to entertain at home, because people will be in good spirits. Furthermore, the Moon and fiery Mars are in your sign giving you lots of energy to socialize with others. This is also an excellent day to check out real estate speculation. Tonight: Intense feelings.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**

★★★★★ Enjoy a short trip or any chance to spend time with siblings, relatives and neighbors over a coffee or a beer, because this is a fantastic, social day! Slip away on a vacation. It's also a good day to begin any kind of enterprise or study. Tonight: Privacy matters.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**

★★★★ Although this is a wonderful day to socialize, it's also a great day for business and commerce, particularly for making financial investments for now and in the future. This could involve dealing with foreign countries or other cultures. Tonight: Intense discussions.

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

★★★★★ This is an amazing day for your sign! Both the Sun and fair Venus are in Leo, and Venus is dancing with lucky Jupiter in your fellow Fire sign. It's a great day to travel or take a vacation and explore new places and meet new faces. It's an excellent day for seeing other people. Enjoy! Tonight: Respect authority.

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

★★★★★ This is a feel-good day for you. Many people are out schmoozing and enjoying good times. You might choose to join them, or you might choose to play things low-key and relax in a lazy, self-indulgent way. It's your call. Either way, this is a lovely, laid-back day. Tonight: Avoid debates.

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

★★★★★ You are a social sign, and today is the day to socialize! Enjoy interacting with clubs and organizations. People want to talk to you. You will particularly enjoy hanging out with creative, artistic people. Dress up and go out to trip the light fantastic! Tonight: Check your finances.

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

★★★★ This is a powerful day for you, because you make a fabulous impression on everyone. (You don't have to do anything special to shine in the eyes of others.) Therefore, today is the day to make your pitch! Ask for what you want, because people will probably give it to you. (Yes!) Tonight: Patience.

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

★★★★★ This is the perfect day for a vacation or to travel anywhere. It's also a great day to explore new experiences as well as opportunities in medicine, the law and higher education. Romance with someone "different" might blossom. Spend time with people who like you. Tonight: Work hard.

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

★★★★ Business and financial arrangements with others are blessed today. This is an excellent day to get a loan or mortgage. People will give you favors or help your family or do something to benefit your home. Discussions about how to divide something will benefit you. Tonight: Keep things light.

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

★★★★ This is an excellent day to schmooze! Enjoy the company of others. It's a great day to seal the deal or begin an exciting project. Your relations with foreign countries and people from other cultures will benefit you. Tonight: Lighten up.

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

★★★★ Whatever you do today will please you, especially at work or with whatever task you set for yourself. Work-related travel will delight you. This is a lucky day to ask for a raise. It's a wonderful day to start a new job. It's a great day to socialize! Tonight: Be agreeable.

**BORN TODAY**

Actress Kaitlin Olson (1975), actor Andy Samberg (1978), actor, director Robert Redford (1936)



Notre Dame quarterback Tyler Buchner (12) throws while playing Toledo in the first half of an NCAA college football game in South Bend, Ind., on Sept. 11, 2021. New Notre Dame coach Marcus Freeman and quarterback Tyler Buchner are chasing history. It's been nearly 60 years since a first-year coach and a new starting quarterback joined forces to nearly win a national championship.

FILE PHOTO BY AJ MAST | AP PHOTO

## Buchner leads way in Freeman's first season with No. 5 Irish

By John Fineran

Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — It's been nearly six decades since a first-year head coach and a new starting quarterback faced similar stakes at Notre Dame.

Fighting Irish fans are hoping for similar results.

Back then, in 1964, 41-year-old Ara Parseghian and eventual Heisman Trophy winner John Huarte teamed up to nearly lead Notre Dame to a national championship. Today, it's 36-year-old Marcus Freeman and Tyler Buchner leading No. 5 Notre Dame into its blockbuster Sept. 3 season opener at Freeman's alma mater, No. 2 Ohio State.

Freeman and offensive coordinator Tommy Rees are convinced Buchner is the right guy for the job. "We just think that Tyler brings an element with his feet, the ability to extend plays and have a quarterback running game," Freeman said.

Buchner provided a glimpse of what he could do when he appeared in 10 games last season as a true freshman. He shared time with departed starter Jack Coan, working in special packages that took advantage of his dual skills.

Buchner rushed for 358 yards and three scores, completed 21 of 35 passes for 298 yards and three more touchdowns, and collected one honor Huarte didn't have at the start of his final college season — a letter. But he never started for the Irish, who went 11-2 and finished No. 8, and had to beat out his best friend, Drew Pyne, for the No. 1 job.

"The word we've preached all camp is confidence," said Rees, a former Notre Dame quarterback who started as a freshman. "I think Tyler's finding his stride right now, so we're going to continue to have an extremely confident and calm

quarterback."

For Freeman, the spotlight will shine even brighter.

The former Buckeyes linebacker was promoted from defensive coordinator following Brian Kelly's surprise December departure for LSU. Freeman has never been a head coach at any level.

And in an environment where one loss can ruin title dreams, Freeman knows Notre Dame can't avoid an early stumble — even against the highly-touted Buckeyes and their hostile home crowd.

"I'm sure it will be extremely loud," Buchner said. "I did play three quarters at Virginia Tech and have been in games in some really big spots. I feel confident in myself in those situations."

Parseghian and Huarte faced a similar scenario at Wisconsin all those years ago before a loss at Southern California ended their perfect season and their championship aspirations.

Now it's up to Freeman and Buchner to recreate the memories of that magical start with a slightly edited final chapter.

**STARTING UP FRONT**

Freeman wants Notre Dame to become a program with dominant offensive and defensive lines.

So far, he likes what he sees. Center Zeke Correll replaces Jarrett Patterson, who is moving to guard and will play opposite Josh Lugg. Joe Alt and Blake Fisher will man the tackle spots.

Isaiah Foskey anchors the defensive line after recording 11 sacks and forcing six fumbles last season. Rylie Mills and Chris Smith have impressed new position coach Al Washington.

"(Smith) is a beast," Washington said. "He's a fire hydrant — hard to move."

**MISSING OUT**

Buchner will be without one of his most experienced targets after sixth-year receiver Avery Davis tore a knee ligament. He missed the end of last season after injuring his other knee.

"You want to talk about heart-break for a program — everybody has felt that for Avery," Rees said. "Offensively, we've got enough talent and it's my job to put our guys in the right spots."

All-American tight end Michael Mayer does return after catching 71 passes for 840 yards and seven TDs in 2021. Speedster Braden Lenzy is the top returning receiver. He had 32 receptions for 350 yards and three scores. Freshman Tobias Merriweather has been a pleasant surprise.

**BACKFIELD IN MOTION**

Don't be surprised if shifty running backs Chris Tyree and Logan Diggs play in the slot. Kyren Williams did the same thing last year.

Tyree also could be the kick returner after returning one for a score last season. He also rushed 56 times for 232 yards and caught 24 passes for 258 yards with four touchdowns. Diggs is returning from shoulder surgery after producing 256 total yards in 2021.

**DEFENSE DOESN'T REST**

Former Temple and Miami coach Al Golden replaces Freeman as defensive coordinator and inherits a versatile, veteran unit.

The group includes linebackers JD Bertrand, Jack Kiser and Bo Bauer. Senior Marist Liufau also could play a key role after missing last season with a broken ankle. Notre Dame also added senior safety Brandon Joseph, a transfer from Northwestern.

**SCHEDULE**

Ohio State won't be Notre Dame's only big test this season. The Irish also face No. 25 BYU on Oct. 8 in Las Vegas, host No. 4 Clemson on Nov. 4 and close the season Nov. 26 at No. 14 Southern Cal.

## Ryan Blaney signs long-term extension with Team Penske

By Jenna Fryer

AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Team Penske signed Ryan Blaney to a multiyear contract extension ahead of his final push to make NASCAR's playoffs.

Blaney has been part of the Penske organization since he was 19 and ran three races in 2012 in the Xfinity Series. He's been part of the three-car Cup lineup at Penske since 2018 and the team said Wednesday his extension is a "long-term agreement" for him to remain in the No. 12 Ford.

"Team Penske has been family to me for 10 years, so I'm incredibly excited to continue with this family for the future," said Blaney. "Roger Penske is a legend in our sport, and I've always said getting to drive for him is something everyone dreams of doing. I look forward to continuing to win for Team Penske, Roger and all of our partners, as we work towards our goal of winning a Cup Series championship."

The seven-time Cup winner has made the playoffs every season since 2017 but finds

himself on the bubble with two regular-season races remaining. Blaney is ranked second in the standings — which in any other year would be good enough for one of the 16 spots in the playoff field.

But drivers qualify for the playoffs by winning a race and there have been 15 different race winners so far and Blaney's only victory this season came in the non-points All-Star race. Blaney is locked into a battle with 2017 NASCAR champion Martin Truex Jr. for the final spot in the field. Truex is ranked fourth in

the Cup standings.

The series races Sunday at Watkins Glen International, where Blaney finished a career-best fifth in 2019. His average finish is 11th in five career starts.

"Ryan has become one of the top competitors in the NASCAR Cup Series and we are excited for him to continue his career and build on his success with Team Penske," said Roger Penske. "He has been a key part of our team for more than a decade and we have seen him grow and develop, both on and off the track."

# Mike Trout plans to return for Angels on Friday in Detroit

By Greg Beacham  
AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Three-time AL MVP Mike Trout intends to return to the Los Angeles Angels' lineup on Friday in Detroit.

Trout hasn't played since July 12, missing the Angels' past 30 games with an injury to his upper back and ribcage. He faced live pitching Monday and worked out Wednesday, leaving him confident he will be able to play against the Tigers when the Angels open a 10-game trip.

"Ultimately, I want to be out there with the guys," Trout said Wednesday before the Angels hosted the Seattle Mariners. "I miss it. I think with downtime, you come to the field, go home. It's good to spend time with your son and your wife. That was good. But ultimately, you want to be out on the field. I'm excited. If everything goes well, hopefully I'll be in there Friday."

Trout earned an All-Star selection this summer while batting .270 with 24 homers and 51 RBIs in 79 games, but he has missed significant playing time — and the All-Star Game — due to injuries for the second straight season. The center fielder played only 36 games last season before he was sidelined for the year in mid-May by a calf strain.

"We really don't have

that much time left in the season," Trout said. "I talked to the front office and I talked to the training staff just to get some at-bats here to see how I felt, and I felt really good."

Last season's disappointment seems to be a motivation for Trout to return with only seven weeks left in another lost season for the Angels (51-66), who haven't made the playoffs since 2014. Los Angeles has plummeted out of the postseason picture again this summer despite being in first place in the AL West on May 11.

After Angels athletic trainer Mike Frostad said last month that Trout's current injury might be something he must monitor for the rest of his career, Trout rushed to assure fans that his career isn't over.

A return to the lineup underlines that commitment by Trout, who is in the fourth season of a 12-year, \$426 million contract. He also said he plans to develop a workout plan to strengthen his back during another long offseason for the Angels.

Although his injury might benefit from some light days of action, Trout says he'll keep playing center field to allow AL MVP Shohei Ohtani to remain the Angels' designated hitter.

"I think we have a pretty good DH," Trout said with a grin.

# BMW Championship a pivotal playoff event on unfamiliar turf

By Doug Ferguson  
AP Golf Writer

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — Justin Thomas is among the few who have experience at Wilmington Country Club.

He was 20, still officially in college at Alabama, when he played in the 2013 Palmer Cup. Thomas didn't recall much when he returned for the BMW Championship, the second stop in the FedEx Cup playoffs, except for the shape of the hole when he played a practice round.

He doesn't remember his 2-and-1 win over Sebastian Cappelen of Denmark in Sunday singles or the team score, only that it was a big win.

Limited experience is still more than most at a pivotal juncture in the PGA Tour postseason.

The PGA Tour has never been to Delaware, though the BMW Championship was only 30 minutes away in 2018 at Aronimink outside Philadelphia, and last year was an hour down the road at Caves Valley outside Baltimore.

Still, no one has ever played it when every shot counts and \$15 million is at stake. Patrick Cantlay is the defending champion

and doesn't feel like he needs a deep study of Wilmington.

"This golf course is definitely just like last year, extremely distance-biased," Cantlay said. "You've got to hit it as far as you can and hit a lot of fairways. This course is a little narrower than last year, and I think most times you see when guys win they just got hot with the putter, which I did last year."

There won't be a repeat of last year, when Cantlay never looked like he would win until a birdie on the sixth playoff hole against Bryson DeChambeau before a highly charged crowd. That's mainly because DeChambeau is among more than a dozen players who have signed on with Saudi-funded LIV Golf and have been suspended or resigned.

If they had been eligible for the postseason, they didn't count in the standings.

That was a bonus for someone like Lucas Glover, who would have finished out of the top 125 in the FedEx Cup except that nine players ahead of him had played for LIV Golf. That meant Glover went from No. 130 to No. 121.

And then he tied for third in the playoff

opener, rocketing up to No. 34.

"I shouldn't even be here," Glover said.

But here is — first time playing in Delaware, like just about everybody else — with a shot at getting into the top 30, who advance to the Tour Championship to chase the FedEx Cup and its \$18 million prize.

Reaching the Tour Championship typically comes with an invitation to the Masters, U.S. Open and British Open. For those already locked into the top 30, the higher up the points list, the better the odds at East Lake.

For players like Jon Rahm, the objective hasn't changed.

"We are here to win the tournament. Pretty sure if I win the tournament, it takes care of itself," Rahm said.

He can point to Will Zalatoris winning last week — points are four times the value during the postseason and went from No. 12 to the top spot.

"I'm not going to be making a decision on the golf course coming down the stretch on the back nine thinking about my FedEx Cup position," Rahm said. "I will be thinking about my leaderboard position and if I can win or not."

Wilmington Country Club, which counts President Joe Biden among its members, is long and elevated, with enough room off the tee to encourage drivers even on the shorter holes. Dry weather could help create firm greens, the best defense on any course.

Rory McIlroy already likes what he sees, and he has seen plenty. McIlroy missed the cut last week at the FedEx St. Jude Championship. Instead of heading home to hot and muggy Florida, he came straight to Delaware and has been practicing at Wilmington every day since Saturday, including 18 holes of the pro-am Wednesday.

"It's a golf course that's a little more up my alley compared to last week in Memphis," McIlroy said. "I was a little rusty last week, as well, but a lot more drivers off the tee, a lot more scope to hit the driver. Length is an advantage here, where in Memphis it's not really. Just my sort of golf course that I feel like I can excel on."

"It's nice to get back out and prepare and get to know a new golf course, get a little bit of a head start on everyone else."

## Royals

From Page 11A

On July 6, the Reds placed Mahle on the 15-

day injured list with a strained right shoulder. An MRI ruled out any serious issues.

"I think we're thinking it's more along the lines of what guys do deal with over the course of the season," Baldelli said. "Guys do deal with things like this, maybe not quite to this extent, but guys do pitch through a lot of different soreness and tight here and tight there."

Minnesota outscored Kansas City 17-2 in the series, bouncing back nicely from an ugly 1-4 road trip.

"That's baseball," Twins catcher Gary Sánchez said. "We never put our heads down. We came home. We had a great series against Kansas City, and just moving forward."

The Royals led 2-0 in the first inning Monday, but have gone scoreless in 26 frames since.

Salvador Perez and Vinnie Pasquantino each had two hits for Kansas City, which has been shut out 15 times this season.

Royals left-hander Daniel Lynch (4-8) allowed four runs — three earned — in six innings.

One strike away from getting out of the first inning, Lynch surrendered a two-run drive by Miranda. Of the 50 runs Lynch has allowed in 19 starts, 18 have come in the first inning. Last season, 43.5% of the runs he allowed occurred in the opening frame.

"I think I just sort of came out a little flat," Lynch said. "I'm not sure, but I kind of came in after that first inning and told myself I need to turn it on and get going a little bit."

### KELLER TO THE 'PEN

Brad Keller has been moved from the Royals' rotation to the bullpen. The 6-foot-5 right-hander last worked as a reliever as a rookie in 2018.

Keller, who was scheduled to start Thursday, has six wins, an AL-high 13 losses and a 4.93 ERA in 22 starts. In two of his last three starts, he allowed

eight earned runs; in three innings against the Dodgers on Aug. 13, and in 5 2/3 innings Aug. 2 against the White Sox.

"Many of you probably remember when Brad came up and how dominant he could look in the 'pen. So, it's always been part of the conversation. Hate to go into the offseason wondering without actually taking a look," manager Mike Matheny said.

### TRAINER'S ROOM

Royals: RHP Joel Payamps was reinstated from the family medical emergency bereavement list and RHP Wyatt Mills was optioned to Triple-A Omaha.

Twins: 2B Jorge Polanco missed his second straight game after leaving Monday's game with left knee soreness after sliding into home plate, but Tuesday's tests all came back OK.

### UP NEXT

Royals: Open a four-game series Thursday at Tampa Bay.

Twins: Begin a four-game home series Friday against Texas.

## Volleyball

From Page 11A

If the Lady Tigers are to get it done, much of it will have to come outside of Pettis County. They begin the regular season at Jefferson City on Aug. 29, and have just nine dates in their own gym on the calendar, including the home opener Sept. 9 against California and the Smith-Cotton Invitational on Sept. 24.

Having yet to set season goals, Ship-

ley said consistency in effort out of her group of go-getters will go a long way.

"I want them to compete every game; I don't want them to roll over," Shipley said. "If we compete every time, we're getting better and we'll end up winning...stranger things have happened. A couple years ago, we beat Rock Bridge, and that was unheard of for Smith-Cotton. Hopefully, we can get some of those wins that aren't expected."

The Lady Tigers head to Camdenton for a jamboree with the hosts, Marshfield and Jeff City on Aug. 23.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on August 29, 2022 at the Pettis County Fire Protection District, Station No. 7, located at 23502 Radio Hill Road, Sedalia, Missouri, 65301 at which time citizens may be heard on the property tax rate proposal to be set by Fire Protection District No. 1 of Pettis County, a political subdivision. The tax rate shall be set to produce the revenues, which the budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2022 -- December 31, 2022 shows to be required by the current assessed valuation. The tax rate is determined by dividing the amount of revenue required by the current assessed valuation. The result is multiplied by 100 so the tax rate will be expressed in cents per \$100 assessed evaluation.

ASSESSED VALUATION (By Categories)	CURRENT TAX YEAR 2022	PRIOR TAX YEAR 2021
<b>Subject to final evaluations of Board of Equalization</b>		
REAL ESTATE Less TIF	173,868,290	170,680,640
PERSONAL PROPERTY	67,266,841	68,103,141
RAILROAD & UTILITY – Personal (State)	4,567,426	4,390,601
RAILROAD & UTILITY – Real Estate (State)	20,514,783	18,557,838
RAILROAD & UTILITY – Personal (Local)	347,335	255,496
RAILROAD & UTILITY – Real Estate (Local)	364,487	277,401
<b>Real Estate Total Less TIF</b>	<b>194,747,560</b>	<b>189,515,879</b>
<b>Personal Property Total Less TIF</b>	<b>72,181,602</b>	<b>72,749,238</b>
<b>TOTAL CURRENT VALUATION Less TIF</b>	<b>266,929,162</b>	<b>262,265,117</b>
New Construction RE	2,065,450	2,770,271
New Construction PP		0
TIF Increment		0
<b>ADJUSTED ASSESSED VALUATION</b>	<b>264,863,712</b>	<b>259,494,846</b>
	Amount of Property Tax Revenues Budgeted for 2022	Proposed Tax Rates for 2022 (Per \$100)
	\$740,000	\$ .30
<b>FUND</b>		
<b>Pettis County Fire Protection District No. 1</b>		
TOTAL	\$740,000	\$ .30

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Whereas, the City Planning & Zoning Commission and the City of Sedalia, Missouri have received application from Chad McNeal, owner of the property located at:  
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Requesting a Special Use Permit for a animal crematory building and that said application is acted upon as provided in Ordinance No. 6741. Therefore, in compliance with Chapter 89 of the revised Statutes of Missouri, 1969, as amended, other applicable statutes and Zoning Ordinance No. 6741, the City Planning & Zoning Commission will meet in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Building, 2nd & Osage Streets, Sedalia, Missouri at 5:30 pm on August 31, 2022 for the purpose of a public hearing in relation to said application at which time, site and place, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard.  
Dated at Sedalia, Missouri the 16th day of July, 2022.  
Handicapped citizens needing accommodation in order to attend this meeting should contact the office of the City Clerk (660) 827-3000 no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.  
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For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by Marion J. Crutchfield Single dated November 24, 2006 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Pettis County, Missouri as Document Number: 2006-8260 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will on Friday, September 2, 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 vendue 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:  
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Oklahoma head coach Brent Venables speaks during NCAA college football media day, Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2022, in Norman, Okla. PHOTO BY SUE OGRONKI | AP PHOTO

# New coach Venables handles early test at No. 9 Oklahoma

By Cliff Brunt  
AP Sports Writer

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Brent Venables got his first welcome-to-the-hot-seat moment well before his first game as Oklahoma's new coach. He attacked that controversy the same way he took on ball-carriers as a gritty, undersized linebacker at Kansas State -- head on.

Earlier this month, Oklahoma said assistant head coach Cale Gundy spoke a "racially charged" word multiple times during a film session as he was reading off of a player's device. Gundy, a popular ex-Sooners quarterback, quickly resigned and Venables accepted.

Public support around Gundy swelled in the hours that followed, but Venables stood fast. Still establishing his team's culture as a first-year coach, Venables came out with a definitive second statement, saying Gundy was wrong and his resignation was the right choice.

Days later, Venables spent most of a 30-minute media session laying out how the situation affected the program. He said the team had a three-hour meeting the day before Gundy stepped down, and the transparency and vulnerability displayed could make the ninth-ranked Sooners a more united group heading into their Sept. 3 season opener against UTEP.

"We talked about Murphy's Law one time," Venables said. "We talked about it, so here it is. And this won't be the last time there's a crisis and issues you got to deal with head on. Nobody asked for this

issue to happen, but we respond. Ultimately, we know it's going to help determine how we're defined."

Venables' approach has been shaped, in part, by some of the top coaches in the game over the last generation, including Dabo Swinney at Clemson, of course, but also Bill Snyder of Kansas State and the Sooners' Bob Stoops, who both are members of the College Football Hall of Fame.

Snyder, now 82, was the coach when Venables played linebacker for the Wildcats in 1991 and 1992. He said Venables hasn't changed his energy level or core values since.

"On numerous occasions I can just remember, you know, his intensity would rise to an extreme level," Snyder said. "Not a bad level, but just, he'd really get emotional about some things to try to make (his teammates) better, and he got people's attention and accomplished what his emotions intended to do. And it was virtually to make people better and get everybody to do things the right way and to get himself to do things the right way."

Snyder said it was clear then that Venables was special beyond his game performance.

"I think as a player, he replicated his personality on the field," Snyder said. "He was an extremely hard worker. He was very committed. He was very intense about what he did. I mean, all of this -- his personal life and his football life -- are very much, very much the same. You know, he is who he is."

Venables helped Kansas State rise to become a

national power in the 1990s. He was a graduate assistant there for three seasons, then Snyder hired him as Kansas State's linebackers coach. Said Venables: "I couldn't be happier for that opportunity. I made \$33,000 plus some change, and I was head-over-heels excited."

Stoops was Kansas State's co-defensive coordinator while Venables was a graduate assistant. Venables moved up to linebackers coach when Stoops left to become defensive coordinator at Florida. He said it was a natural progression for Venables at the time.

"He's an incredibly smart guy," Stoops said. "So we weren't changing our defense and no one really knew it any better than him, you know, as a linebacker playing for us and a GA. So it was really -- I don't want to say easy for him, but it was relatively easy."

When Stoops got his shot as Oklahoma head coach in 1999, he took Venables to be his co-defensive coordinator. Stoops appreciated how Venables worked with Mike Stoops, the other co-defensive coordinator. They helped the Sooners win the national title in 2000.

"I don't ever recall an argument or a disagreement," Bob Stoops, Mike's brother, said. "They'd hash things out together, and they were really good. That speaks to Brent's humility, and Mike's. They were willing to not worry about who gets the credit here and team together. And they did a great job."

Venables left Oklahoma to become defensive coordinator at Clemson before the 2012 season and even-

tually helped the Tigers win two national titles. Oklahoma approached him after Lincoln Riley stunned the program and left to become head coach at Southern California.

"He's always invested himself in the program that he is in," Snyder said. "Oklahoma went to him. He didn't go to them.

And you don't see him out trying to find jobs or interviewing for jobs all the time. He was patient and he was committed to every program that he was in when he was there. And that's pretty significant."

Swinney was happy for Venables.

"Brent -- honestly if it wasn't the Oklahoma job, he'd still be at Clemson," Swinney said in February. "I'm thrilled. I thought there was a couple jobs he probably should have taken, but he just didn't have peace about it. I mean, great jobs."

The fact that Venables took his time in becoming a head coach and learned from the greats might explain why he seemed only slightly shaken by the Gundy situation. Bob Stoops said he wasn't nearly as confident in his early days at Oklahoma.

"He's incredibly comfortable from day one in this position because he's been with three Hall of Fame coaches," Bob Stoops said. "The guy knows what works and what doesn't. And he's got great experience for this job. The fact that he's waited so long gives him a lot -- I think just more experience to handle all that comes with the job."

AP Sports Writer Pete Iacobelli contributed to this report.

# Chiefs' Jones, Hardman leave practice early with injuries

By The Associated Press

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. (AP) — Pro Bowl defensive tackle Chris Jones, starting wide receiver Mecole

Hardman and backup running back Jerick McKinnon left training camp early Wednesday as nagging injuries continued to mount for the Kansas

City Chiefs.

Jones left after about 10 minutes with a sore back while Hardman, who is being counted upon to help overcome the loss of Tyreek Hill, hurt his groin while going up for a catch in the end zone. McKinnon left with a hamstring injury.

They were joined on the sideline by wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster, who missed his second practice with a sore knee.

It's unclear how long any of the players will be out, but all are crucial to the Chiefs as they pursue

a fifth straight trip to the AFC title game. Jones is particularly important given the fact that he's coming off a season in which he had nine sacks in 14 regular-season games for a team that otherwise finished third-from-last in the NFL in total sacks.

The Chiefs have their final training camp practice at Missouri Western State University on Thursday, then play their second preseason game against Washington on Saturday. They resume camp at their own practice facility next week.

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