

SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

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SedaliaDemocrat.com • \$1

Theatre program at Liberty Center is well-rounded

By Faith Bemiss
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Theatre productions at the Hayden Liberty Center are excelling this year with a well-rounded production agenda.

Live theatre is bouncing back after the COVID-19 pandemic with musicals, improv comedies, essential theatre readings, and junior and adult theatre productions. Jan Bahner, a Liberty Center Association of the Arts board member on the Theatre Committee, said several shows are in the works in the next few months.

“The first event coming up is our Junior Theatre show. They are currently in rehearsal,” she noted. “(It’s) ‘Zanadu,’ it’s based on a movie ... with pop songs that are really popular from the disco era.

“It is a disco-era show,” she continued. “That’s one of the things they’re emphasizing.”

“Zanadu” will be performed next weekend, June 23 through 25.

An essential theatre production will also take place this summer.

“Essential theatre is what a lot of people call reader’s theatre,” she explained. “Some people see that and go, ‘That would be boring,’ but it’s really not.

“Essential theatre really

Junior musical, essential Theatre, improv shows slated for summer

lets us do shows that we wouldn’t ordinarily get to do,” she continued. “Because of constraints of rehearsal time and money. So, essential theater is a staged reading from a play, usually one in the public domain. Because those are free for us to perform.”

She added that this type of production is excellent for people who are interested in acting but don’t have time to commit to eight weeks of practice. Essential theater can be rehearsed in a week.

“It’s also good for people who don’t feel they can memorize lines,” she noted. “Because they read from the script.”

Participants can choose to wear a costume and use a set, or they don’t have to. This particular production is “Taming of the Shew,” presented on Saturday, July 8. The event is one night only and costs \$5.

See THEATRE | A6



On April 24, actors, from left, Amollie Stoermer as Rona Lisa Peretti, Matthew Dillon as Chip Tolentino, and Megan Drainis as Logainne Schwartz and Grubenierre rehearse a scene from the musical, “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.” The show is one of a variety of productions performed this year at the Liberty Center.

FILE PHOTO BY FAITH BEMISS | DEMOCRAT



Primrose Retirement Communities President B.J. Schaeffbauer cuts the ribbon re-opening the retirement community, formerly Cedarhurst, he and his partners purchased in March. Mayor Andrew Dawson, members of the Sedalia City Council, Primrose employees and residents, and community members were on hand for the festivities.

PHOTO BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT

Primrose Retirement Community celebrates grand re-opening

By Chris Howell
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Primrose Retirement Community hosted a re-opening ceremony Thursday, June 15.

The property, 3751 W. 10th St. in Sedalia, houses 52 independent-living apartment homes and 77 assisted-living apartment homes. Primrose purchased the property from Cedarhurst in early March and invited the public to its ribbon cutting.

Janet and Marion Thomas have been living at Cedarhurst, now Primrose, for two years now. They aren’t too worried about the retirement community’s new ownership.

“They seem very nice, very friendly, cooperative,” Janet said.

The couple enjoyed seeing the visitors, including Mayor Andrew Dawson and members of the Sedalia City Council, who witnessed the ribbon-cutting ceremony and sampled snacks and refreshments. Kay’s Bridal even made custom floral arrangements for the occasion.

“It’s a nice place to be,” Janet added. “The people are friendly, the nurses are here to serve us. It’s just a very comfortable, easy, friendly place to live.”

“Primrose Retirement Communities is based out of Aberdeen, South



Primrose Retirement Community, 3751 W. 10th St. in Sedalia, houses 52 independent living apartment homes and 77 assisted living apartment homes with a maintenance free lifestyle.

PHOTO BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT

Dakota,” President B.J. Schaeffbauer told the Democrat. “We are developer-operators of senior living communities. We’ve been in the business for 34 years. This is (property) number 36 in 17 different states around the country.”

Primrose’s four principal owners were attracted to Sedalia because they like small towns, and especially liked Sedalia.

“We don’t typically acquire senior living communities,” Schaeffbauer said. “This is our fourth one in our whole portfolio of the 36 that we have. In Aberdeen, we’re 25,000 people, there’s four principal owners: myself, Brian Morgan who’s our CFO, Jim Thayer who’s our founder-CEO, and Jim McNeery who’s our in-house legal counsel.”

See OPEN | A4

‘Kick it with Kass’

By Faith Bemiss
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Some Sedalia friends have banded together to ensure 32-year-old Kassie Wehmeyer, a single mother of two, doesn’t have to stress as she goes through 16 weeks of aggressive chemotherapy for breast cancer.

Auto meet to benefit local woman battling cancer

Kelsey Ehlers, Christina Crook, and Susan Dawson-Parnell, the owner of Custom Auto, have created a benefit, “Kick it with Kass” Auto Meet, that will be hosted Saturday, June 17 in downtown Sedalia. South Ohio Avenue will be blocked off from Third to Sixth streets, and the event will host the auto meet, a live auction, music, food, and a gun raffle.

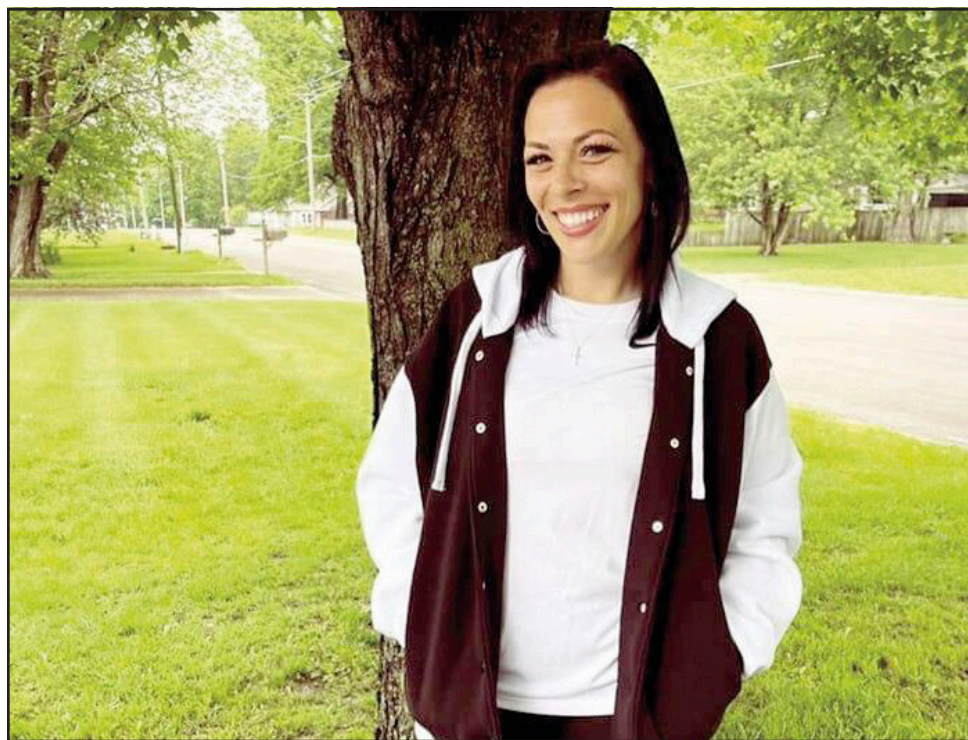
On Thursday, Crook

noted the families go way back, with Wehmeyer’s father, David, being her softball coach when she was 6.

“I grew up playing softball with them,” she added. “And David coached me up into high school.”

Crook said Wehmeyer, of Sedalia, has two children, Howard “Howie” Lee Johnson, 2, and Karley Weymeyer, 13.

See BENEFIT | A6



A Saturday benefit being hosted in downtown Sedalia will go toward Kassie Wehmeyer, 32, of Sedalia, who has breast cancer. Wehmeyer, a single mother of two, is undergoing 16 weeks of chemotherapy and taking a leave of absence from work.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTINA CROOK



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CRASH REPORTS

Five hurt in Pettis County crash

A female infant from Pekin, Illinois; a 1-year-old female from Pekin, Illinois; Jennifer L. Catt, 29, of Pekin, Illinois; Tammy L. Mincey, 51; and Paul W. Nash, 41, of Liberty, all received minor injuries at 7:53 a.m. Wednesday in a Pettis County accident.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, a 2019 Freightliner Cascadia driven by Cameron M. Galloway, 33, of Sycamore, Illinois, was southbound on U.S. Highway 65, as was a 2019 Nissan Pathfinder driven by Mincey. As they slowed for a red light, the Pathfinder was struck in the rear by a 2009 Subaru Forester driven by Nash, which pushed the Pathfinder into the Cascadia's trailer.

Everyone was wearing a seat belt and was transported to Bothwell Regional Health Center except for Nash, who refused transport.

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

Compiled by Chris Howell.

POLICE REPORTS

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

Sedalia Police Department Arrests June 14

8:28 p.m.: Ronnie Delaine Johnson, 47, of the 800 block of Ruth Ann Drive, was arrested after a traffic stop after being identified as having an active warrant. Johnson was searched and officers located substances testing positive for methamphetamine and fentanyl. He was transported to the Pettis County Jail and placed on a 24-hour hold

for possession of a controlled substance and the warrant.

Incidents June 9

5:18 p.m.: Officers were notified of a private property accident in a parking lot in the 900 block of Thompson Boulevard. The owner of a blue Toyota Avalon reported it was damaged while on the lot. Investigation is ongoing.

June 14

6:45 p.m.: A theft report was taken in the 900 block of Winchester Drive regarding two packages stolen June 9 from the front porch of an apartment building. The items were valued at \$174.

Compiled by Chris Howell.

DEATH NOTICE

Duren

Raymond Keneth "Pops" Duren, 84, of Sedalia, died Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at his home.

A Celebration of Life gathering will begin at 10 a.m. Monday, June 19, 2023, at Centennial Park in Sedalia. Arrangements are in the direction of Heckart Funeral Home and Cremation Services in Sedalia.

Sullivan

Ann (Vaughn) Sullivan, 66, of Green Ridge, died Monday evening, May 29, 2023, at her home.

The family will receive friends and celebrate Ann's life from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, June 19, 2023, at Hadley Funeral Home in Windsor. Arrangements are under the direction of Hadley Funeral Home.

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

Madd Hoss Jackson to play at Liberty Center

Madd Hoss Jackson will perform at 8 p.m. Friday, June 16 for Live on the Lot behind the Hayden Liberty Center, 111 W. Fifth St.

The band's musicians include Matt Bullard on guitars and vocals, Andy Ham on guitars, fiddle, bass and vocals, Mark Behymer on bass, keyboards and vocals, and Jim Jennings on drums and vocals.

Madd Hoss Jackson's 2014 album, "Better with Time," has received numerous praises from

radio test markets across the country. Information from the Liberty Center states the group's "uncanny ability to change style and instrumentation to make every song sound like it is one of their own has become a trademark of the band."

There is a \$10 cover charge at the gate. Purchase tickets by visiting libertycentersedalia.com or calling the Liberty Center box office at 660-827-3228. Hours are from 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

COLLEGE OF ST. SCHOLASTICA GRADUATES

Jennifer Norton, of Sedalia, graduated from The College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minnesota, with a Master of Science degree in Health Information Management.

FUNERALS

Erma Lee Booth

11 a.m. today at Mt. Pleasant Church near Lincoln. Arrangements are under the direction of Fox Funeral Home in Cole Camp.

Martha Sue Dhority-Petree

11 a.m. today at Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Linda Sue Saylor

5 to 7 p.m. today at Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Pauline R. Grant

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

Raymond Keneth "Pops" Duren

10 a.m. Monday, June 19 at Centennial Park in Sedalia. Arrangements are in the direction of Heckart Funeral Home and Cremation Services in Sedalia.

Melvin Dale Poundstone

11 a.m. Monday, June 19 at Memorial Park Cemetery in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of the Fox Funeral Home in Cole Camp.

Susan "Suzie" Diane Young

11 a.m. Monday, June 19 at Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Ann (Vaughn) Sullivan

4 to 6 p.m. Monday, June 19 at Hadley Funeral Home in Windsor. Arrangements are under the direction of Hadley Funeral Home.

Shirley Diann Rollings

6 p.m. Monday, June 19 at Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Ralph Lee Shanahan

Noon Wednesday, June 21 at La Monte Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of McLaughlin Funeral Home in Sedalia.

Christie Lynn Nixon

2:30 p.m. Saturday, June 24 at First Baptist Church in Cole Camp. Arrangements are under the direction of the Fox Funeral Home in Cole Camp.

Jeffrey Dean Mann

Noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 1 at Liberty Park Shelter No. 3 in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of the Fox Funeral Home in Cole Camp.

LOCAL BRIEFS

CMFCAA calls for volunteers at summer events

To ensure the success of upcoming summer events, the Central Missouri Foster Care & Adoption Association is seeking dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers to join the team.

CMFCAA encourages individuals from all walks of life to volunteer. Background/fingerprint checks are required since volunteers work with children. No prior experience is necessary, just a willingness to contribute and engage. Volunteers will receive training, support, and the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on the lives of families in the community.

For more information or to sign up, visit mofosteradopt.com/volunteer or contact Volunteer Coordinator Becca

Hickman at 573-301-1615 or becca@mofosteradopt.com.

CMFCAA is a nonprofit agency that provides essential services such as training, advocacy, and respite events, as well as programs to help to assist in housing, furniture, and backpacks for children of Mid-Missouri.

Windsor Alumni Association to host reunion

The Windsor Alumni Association welcomes all alumni to the All-Classes Class Reunion on Saturday, June 24.

A luncheon will be hosted from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Farington Park Shelter House B. Paw Paw D's food truck will be there. An evening social will be hosted from 4 to 9 p.m. at the American Legion.

For more information, email windsoralumnicommittee@yahoo.com.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB NAMES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri announced graduating seniors Cooper Sparks and Matti Mergen have been named the winners of the Boys & Girls Club Alumni Scholarship. Both will receive \$1,000, thanks to a matching gift from McCarthy Toyota of Sedalia.

"It's always a tremendous honor to recognize our students with a scholarship to further their education," said Executive Director Gary Beckman. "We acknowledge the dedication, commitment and determination to get to graduation and that these things didn't occur overnight, but started years ago with encouragement and support from many. Our hope is that this investment in our outstanding youth will pay future dividends that will change our world."

The Boys & Girls Club Alumni Scholarship honors two graduating seniors who previously attended a Boys & Girls Club Site. As part of the application, students had to write a short essay about what attending Boys & Girls Club meant to them, in addition to providing letters of recommendation and transcripts.

Sparks, who graduated from Smith-Cotton High School, attended BGC for six years and noted during his time there, he had opportunities to interact with other students who he otherwise wouldn't have known.

"I always enjoyed getting to talk with my friends, meet new people and just have fun," Sparks said in his essay. "The opportunities for socialization, mentoring and leadership at Boys & Girls Club have greatly impacted me as I have transitioned through my high school years and my involvement with Team SCREAM (Smith-Cotton's robotics team)."

Mergen, who graduated from Green Ridge High School, attended BGC for seven years and was named Elementary Youth of the Year when she was in fourth grade.

"Boys & Girls Club was not only a place I went to after school and during the summer...it was somewhere I made friends, learned about myself, gained knowledge and developed leadership," Mergen wrote.

"We're so proud of our alumni scholarship winners. They both provided touching essays about what their Club experience meant to them and the great staff who helped them along the way," said Director of Operations Tyler Hudson. "We're happy to help them as they start their journey into adulthood."

Release courtesy of Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Missouri.



Matti Mergen



Cooper Sparks

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.

Get the whole story. **SEDALIA DEMOCRAT**

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Miami Mayor Francis Suarez announces GOP presidential bid

By Adriana Gomez Licon

Associated Press

MIAMI — Miami Mayor Francis Suarez announced his bid for the Republican presidential nomination on Thursday, jumping into the crowded race just days after GOP front-runner Donald Trump appeared in court on federal charges in Suarez's city.

The 45-year-old mayor, the only Hispanic candidate in the race, declared his candidacy in paperwork with the Federal Election Commission on Wednesday. He had previously teased an announcement, noting that he would be making a "big speech" on Thursday at the Reagan Library in California.

Announcing his run on ABC's "Good Morning America" on Thursday, Suarez repeatedly tried to avoid answering questions about Trump's behavior and the charges in his indictment, saying he didn't know "all the details about how he handled classified information."

When reminded that he was running against Trump, Suarez replied, "You see, that's where you're wrong. I'm running to be the president of the United States, and I'm running against Joe Biden's America — an America where the poor get poorer, an America where America gets weaker, an America where if things don't change China will be the lone superpower. That's what I'm running for."

Suarez, the president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, is the son of Miami's first Cuban-born mayor. He has gained national attention in recent years for his efforts to lure companies to Miami, with an eye toward turning the city into a crypto hub and the next Silicon Valley.

Suarez is vying to become the first sitting mayor or elected president, join-

ing a GOP primary fight that includes Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, former Vice President Mike Pence, Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina, former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley and former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie. Despite having a candidate field in the double digits, the race is largely seen as a two-person contest between Trump and DeSantis.

But the other competitors are hoping for an opening, which Trump has provided with his myriad legal vulnerabilities — none more serious than his federal indictment on charges of mishandling sensitive documents and refusing to give them back. He pleaded not guilty on Tuesday in Miami federal court to 37 felony counts.

Before Trump arrived at the Miami courthouse on Tuesday, Suarez toured the media encampment wearing a T-shirt with a police logo, as his city's police force had jurisdiction over the downtown area.

Suarez has said he didn't support Trump in the 2016 or 2020 presidential elections, instead writing in the names of U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio and then-Vice President Pence. In 2018, Suarez publicly condemned Trump after reports came out that he had questioned why the United States would accept more immigrants from Haiti and Africa, which Trump described using a vulgar epithet.

But times have changed, with Trump advisers now praising Suarez's work and helping him promote what he calls "the Miami success story." Trump's former White House counselor Kellyanne Conway has even floated Suarez's name as a possible vice presidential pick.

Suarez, who is married with two young children, is a corporate and real estate attorney who previously served as a city



Miami Mayor Francis Suarez speaks during a news conference June 12, 2023, in Miami. Suarez is running for president in 2024 and filed paperwork Wednesday, June 14, with the Federal Election Commission to make his bid official.

FILE PHOTO BY WILFREDO LEE | AP PHOTO

of Miami commissioner. He has also positioned himself as someone who can help the party further connect with Hispanics. In recent months, he has made visits to early GOP voting states as he weighed a possible 2024 campaign.

He is more moderate than DeSantis and Trump but has threaded the needle carefully on cultural issues that have become popular among GOP politicians.

Suarez has been critical of DeSantis, dismissing some of the state laws he has signed on immigration as "headline grabbers" lacking in substance. He has said immigration is an issue that "screams for a national solution" at a time when many Republicans back hard-line policies.

The two-term mayor previously expressed support for a Florida law championed by DeSantis and dubbed "Don't Say Gay" that bans classroom

instruction on sexual orientation or gender identity in kindergarten through third grade, but he has not specified whether he supported the expansion of the policy to all grades. Like other Republicans, Suarez has criticized DeSantis' feud with Disney over the same law, saying it looks like a "personal vendetta."

Further ingratiating himself with the Trump team, Suarez has echoed Trump's attacks on DeSantis' demeanor, saying the governor doesn't make eye contact and struggles with personal relationships with other politicians.

In 2020, the mayor made a play to attract tech companies to Florida after the state relaxed its COVID-19 restrictions. He met with Big Tech players and investors such as PayPal founder Peter Thiel and tech magnate Marcelo Claure, began appearing on national

television and was profiled by magazines.

Suarez, who has said he takes his salary in Bitcoin, has also hosted Bitcoin conferences and started heavily promoting a cryptocurrency project named Miami Coin, created by a group called City Coins.

But the hype dissipated as coronavirus restrictions eased elsewhere, eliminating Miami's advantage on the COVID-19 front. Suarez's vision also hit roadblocks with the collapse of the cryptocurrency exchange FTX, which was set to move its U.S.

headquarters to Miami's financial district before its founder and CEO, Sam Bankman-Fried, was arrested in the Bahamas last December.

The only cryptocurrency exchange that traded Miami Coin suspended its trading, citing liquidity problems, not living up to its promise to generate enough money to eliminate city taxes.

Miami also ranks among the worst big U.S. cities for income inequality and has one of the least affordable housing markets.

The Matthews-Crawford Post 131 in Warrensburg will NOT be serving Thursday night Dinner between June 16 and July 31, 2023.

Thursday night dinners will resume on Thursday August 3, 2023, at 5:00 pm.

**Matthews Crawford
American Legion Post 131
733 E. Young St., Warrensburg, MO**

68512541

Guardisman indicted on charges of disclosing classified information

WASHINGTON — The Massachusetts Air National Guardsman accused of leaking highly classified military documents has been indicted on federal felony charges, the Justice Department said Thursday.

Jack Teixeira faces six counts in the indictment of willful retention and transmission of national defense information.

He was arrested in April on charges of sharing highly classified military documents about Russia's war in Ukraine and other top national security issues in a chat room on Discord, a social media platform that started as a hangout for gamers. The stunning breach exposed to the world unvarnished secret assessments of Russia's war in Ukraine, the capabilities and geopolitical interests of other nations and other national security issues.

"As laid out in the

indictment, Jack Teixeira was entrusted by the United States government with access to classified national defense information — including information that reasonably could be expected to cause exceptionally grave damage to national security if shared," Attorney General Merrick B. Garland said in a statement announcing the indictment.

Each count in the indictment is punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

A judge last month ordered him to remain jailed as he awaits trial, saying that releasing Teixeira would pose a risk that he would attempt to flee the country or obstruct justice.

His family has expressed support for him, and his lawyers had pressed the judge to release him to his father, saying he has no criminal history.

ANSWERS TO Sedalia Democrat's PRIZEWEEK PUZZLE

June 3rd Answers
\$1100 Could Have Been Yours!

There was NO WINNER last week, so be sure to look in Saturday's Sedalia Democrat for your chance to win up to **\$1150**

ACROSS

- TRAIL not train. The reference to "ambushes" fits best with a TRAIL since an ambush is defined as a surprise attack by people lying in wait in a concealed position. A "series of" "ambushes" could be quite difficult onboard a train with a limited space in which to hide as well as limited escape possibilities.
- NORMAL not formal. Formal is defined as "conventional," proper or correct, and since "conventional" is used in the clue, formal is superfluous. NORMAL has no such connection.
- RILE not rule. "You can't routinely" RILE your "partner" without negative consequences, but rule needs further qualification since unfortunate circumstances in life, such as illness or job loss, might make it necessary for one partner to take control of a situation.
- TRY not dry. Drying the "dishes" would be one way of TRYING to join in on the dishwashing, making TRY all-encompassing.
- FEES not feet. "Very big" FEES "can cause anxiety." But any adult has had a lifetime to adjust to his "big" feet so that, through the years, he's accepted his particular oddity.

DOWN

- FAIL not fall. To FAIL "in front of others" would be "embarrassing," but a serious fall would likely be painful; it wouldn't be simply "embarrassing."
- GONG not song. GONG is apt. Grammatically speaking, the clue should read "the sound of" singing rather than "the sound of" a song.
- JAM not jar. JAM is best. Since the definition of jar is a sudden, forceful unpleasant "shaking," the clue words "suddenly shaking" are unnecessary.
- PARKS not Paris. She might well be "disappointed" in "a book" without "photos" of PARKS since it's generally a PARK'S visual point of view that's of interest. "A book" about Paris might be filled with a lot of text and explanatory illustrations about the city as well as historical data and opinion.
- REST not rust. "An inordinate amount of" REST after being bedridden can result in initial difficulty in moving. However, excessive rust can result in no "movement" whatsoever.
- FARM not firm. People in positions of authority are usually well aware of "the benefits of using a" firm "hand" by setting rules, for example, in order to get positive results. However, it could be "surprising what" a FARM hand "can do" since each FARM worker is different, with their own individual skills or characteristics.
- TRUNK not truck. The fact that there was more than one mover fits best with TRUNK, which would probably have to be carried by two movers along the narrow passageway. Maneuvering a "large" truck could be done by one person.
- MUTE not lute. Even an amateur "musician" would probably realize her instrument (i.e., lute) was "missing" prior to her being "about to perform." However, an add-on to an instrument, such as a MUTE, might possibly be overlooked, especially if the "musician" rarely uses one.

Get the whole story.

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CHURCH NEWS

Taylor Chapel to host fish dinner

Taylor Chapel United Methodist Church, 400 N. Lamine Ave. in Sedalia, will host a fish dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 17.

The menu is fish, spaghetti, coleslaw, bread, and dessert for a donation of \$10. For more information, call 660-281-6012.

Holy Cross to host smoked pork dinner

A smoked pork supper will be hosted from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 17 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, state Route JJ in Cole Camp.

Proceeds will benefit children's ministry projects. Customers can drive-thru and order right from their car to take the meal home or dine in the basement buffet style. All drive-thru orders are adult portion/price and include pork, baked beans, corn and homemade bread; choose from plain or posh mashed potatoes,

coleslaw, or applesauce, and a variety of pies.

Advance tickets are \$11 and are available at the Cole Camp Pharmacy and the main Cole Camp bank at the four-way stop or by contacting 660-287-5728. Adult tickets purchased at the dinner are \$12. Children ages 5-12 can dine in for \$7.

For more information, visit facebook.com/Holy-CrossLutheranCC.

Porter seeking to begin a church

Adam Porter is looking for anyone interested in starting a Bible-believing, King James Bible teaching and preaching church. This will be a church built from the ground up on biblical doctrine and authority without prejudice or personal preferences. He is looking to start with a Bible study and/or to jump right in and have Wednesday and Sunday services.

Contact Porter at prtradm@icloud.com or 563-379-9059.

PASTOR'S PULPIT

The perfect father

By Bob Wauchope

Lead pastor, Maplewood Church

There are a number of bad fathers in the Bible. Isaac plays favorites with his two children, Jacob and Esau. Jacob followed his father's pattern and chose Rachel and Joseph as favorites. Eli's sons were out of control, committing all kinds of evil. Samuel was a wonderful prophet but a poor father because Israel did not want his sons to lead them. David was a bad father and it led to his own son overthrowing his kingdom. Solomon had so many children that he could not have been a good father to all of them.

As humans, we are flawed and sinful and selfish. It is why some of us celebrate Father's Day and others wish we had a father to celebrate.

I had a wonderful father growing up, but he was not perfect. He pushed us toward perfection and an incredibly high standard. He was the kind of man who could do it better than I could and became impatient when I did not do it his way. My father

was frustrated with me sometimes when he did not think I was doing enough.

It ingrained in me something I still battle today as a father to my own children. Not to pass on the flaws of perfection, not to be overly critical, and not to be impatient. I have failed many times at these and asked for forgiveness and been intentional about changing patterns. I am not a perfect father; there is only one of those in God the Father.

Psalm 18:30 says, "This God — his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him." David speaks these words about God the Father. God the Father's ways are perfect because He is perfect. In creation, God created a perfect world. He knew that people would choose to rebel and sin; this did not catch God by surprise. God provided a way for salvation because He is the perfect Father.

In Genesis 3:15, God shows that Jesus will come

and be the way, the truth, and the life. Hebrews 12:2 reminds us, "looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." Jesus is the perfecter of our faith. We could not save ourselves, so God the Father, the perfect one, sent His Son to die on a cross and be raised again three days later.

Do you want a perfect father? The only one we can have is God the Father. I encourage you to celebrate Father's Day by placing your faith in Jesus Christ. It is in that moment that we are adopted into the family of God. Romans 8:16 calls us "children of God" when we put our faith in Jesus alone. It is not in works, it is not about how good we are, it is in Jesus alone. God the Father is the only one who will not let us down, not be overly critical, and not hurt us. Jesus tells us that he came to bring abundant life in John 10:10. Accept

that gift of abundant life today by placing your faith in Jesus.

I said I had a wonderful father, in spite of his imperfections. He loved me and worked hard to provide for our family. Throughout my life, until the day he died, I knew that he would do anything he could to help me. My father made sure I was in church every time the doors were open. This resulted in me coming to faith in Jesus at a young age and me following God's will to be a pastor. My father taught me the importance of serving other people and being kind to them.

It has been three years since he passed, and I miss him every day as I try to do the same for my children. I think of him when I hold my grandson in my arms or play with him on the floor. Because of his faith and my faith in Jesus, I know that I will see my father again. I know that I will spend eternity with God and my earthly father. That is something to celebrate this Father's Day.

Open

From Page A1

All four are from the Aberdeen area, a town of a similar size to Sedalia.

"We're small-town guys, we love small towns," Schaeffbauer said. "We love coming in and being part of the community. That's what attracted us to come in and acquire this building — this community and we're very happy to be here."

Primrose will be retaining the current staff and is impressed with their skill and dedication.

"Can't say enough good things about the staff here," Schaeffbauer said. "A very loyal staff too. We plan on keeping them, we just want to come in and be a part of this community, we're excited. We love the location. We looked at this and came down and looked at the

whole area, talked to a few locals and found out it's just a good spot to be. I like the fact that the State Fair is in town, that's really cool."

Primrose of Sedalia is currently at 80% capacity, but the new owners expect to make a big enrollment push as soon as the staff acclimates to their management style.

"We're coaching staff to understand how we do things at Primrose, and it's a little bit different," Schaeffbauer said, "but now, from this grand opening forward, we're going to hit the sales hard, get people in here and get them touring and we expect occupancy to grow. Every market we're in, we're the best in the market."

For more information, visit primroseretirement.com/sedalia-missouri-senior-living-communities.

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

Court preserves law that aims to keep Native American children with tribal families

By Mark Sherman

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Thursday preserved the system that gives preference to Native American families in foster care and adoption proceedings of Native children, rejecting a broad attack from some Republican-led states and white families who argued it is based on race.

The court left in place the 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act, which was enacted to address concerns that Native children were being separated from their families and, too frequently, placed in non-Native homes.

Tribal leaders have backed the law as a means of preserving their families, traditions and cultures and had warned that a broad ruling against the tribes could have undermined their ability to govern themselves.

The "issues are complicated" Justice Amy Coney Barrett wrote for a seven-justice majority that included the court's three liberals and four of its six conservatives, but the "bottom line is that we reject all of petitioners' challenges to the statute."

Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito dissented, each writing that Congress lacks the authority to interfere with foster care placements and adoptions, typically the province of the states. The decision, Alito wrote, "disserves the rights and interests of these children."

But Justice Neil Gorsuch, a Colorado native who has emerged as a champion of Native rights since joining the court in 2017, wrote in a separate opinion that the decision "safeguards the ability of tribal members to raise their children free from

interference by state authorities and other outside parties."

The leaders of tribes involved in the case called the outcome a major victory for tribes and Native children.

"We hope this decision will lay to rest the political attacks aimed at diminishing tribal sovereignty and creating instability throughout Indian law that have persisted for too long," said a joint statement from Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin, Jr., Morongo Band of Mission Indians Chairman Charles Martin, Oneida Nation Chairman Tehassi Hill and Quinault Indian Nation President Guy Capoman.

President Joe Biden, whose administration defended the law at the high court, noted that he supported the law 45 years ago when was a Democratic senator from Delaware.

"Our Nation's painful history looms large over today's decision. In the not-so-distant past, Native children were stolen from the arms of the people who loved them," Biden said in a statement.

Congress passed the law in response to the alarming rate at which Native American and Alaska Native children were taken from their homes by public and private agencies.

The law requires states to notify tribes and seek placement with the child's extended family, members of the child's tribe or other Native American families.

Three white families, the state of Texas and a small number of other states claimed the law is unconstitutional under the equal protection clause because it was based on race. They also contended it puts the interests of tribes ahead of children and im-

properly allows the federal government too much power over adoptions and foster placements, areas that typically are under state control.

The lead plaintiffs in the Supreme Court case — Chad and Jennifer Brackeen of Fort Worth, Texas — adopted a Native American child after a prolonged legal fight with the Navajo Nation, one of the two largest Native American tribes, based in the Southwest. The Brackeens are trying to adopt the boy's 5-year-old half-sister, known in court papers as Y.R.J., who has lived with them since infancy. The Navajo Nation has opposed that adoption.

At last fall's arguments, several conservative justices expressed concern about at least one aspect of the law that gives preference to Native parents, even if they are of a different tribe than the child they are seeking to adopt or foster.

Among them was Justice Brett Kavanaugh, who was in the majority Thursday in favor of the tribes. But Kavanaugh injected a cautionary note in a separate opinion focused on the preferences for Native foster and adoptive parents.

"In my view, the equal protection issue is serious," Kavanaugh wrote, commenting that the race of prospective parents and children could be used to reject a foster placement or adoption, "even if the placement is otherwise determined to be in the child's best interests."

The Supreme Court dealt with that issue by determining that neither Texas nor the parents had legal standing to make that argument in this case.

The Brackeens and others can make those

arguments in state court proceedings, the justices said.

Matthew McGill, who represented the Brackeens at the Supreme Court, said he would press a racial discrimination claim in state court.

"Our main concern is what today's decision means for the little girl, Y.R.J. — now five years old — who has been a part of the Brackeen family for nearly her whole life. The Court did not address our core claim that ICWA impermissibly discriminates against Native American children and families that wish to adopt them, saying it must be brought in state court," McGill said in a statement.

All the children who have been involved in the current case at one point are enrolled or could be enrolled as Navajo, Cherokee, White Earth Band of Ojibwe and Ysleta del Sur Pueblo. Some of the adoptions have been finalized while some are still being challenged.

More than three-quarters of the 574 federally recognized tribes in the country and nearly two dozen state attorneys general across the political spectrum had called on the high court to uphold the law.

The Supreme Court had twice taken up cases on the Indian Child Welfare Act before, in 1989 and in 2013, that have stirred intense emotion.

Before the Indian Child Welfare Act was enacted, between 25% and 35% of Native American children were being taken from their homes and placed with adoptive families, in foster care or in institutions. Most were placed with white families or in boarding schools in attempts to assimilate them.

June temperatures briefly passed key climate threshold

BERLIN — Worldwide temperatures briefly exceeded a key warming threshold earlier this month, a hint of heat and its harms to come, scientists worry.

The mercury has since dipped again, but experts say the short surge marked a new global heat record for June and indicates more extremes ahead as the planet enters an El Niño phase that could last years.

Researchers at the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service said Thursday that the start of June saw global surface air temperatures rise 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels for the first time. That is the threshold governments said they would try to stay within at a 2015 summit in Paris.

"Just because we've temporarily gone over 1.5 degrees doesn't mean we've breached the Paris Agreement limit," cautioned Samantha Burgess, deputy director of the Copernicus program. For that to happen the globe needs to exceed that threshold for a much longer time period, such

as a couple of decades instead of a couple of weeks.

Still, the 11 days spent at the 1.5-degree threshold shows how important it is for scientists to keep a close watch on the planet's health, not least because previous spikes above 1.5 have all happened during winter or spring in the northern hemisphere, she said. "It's really critical to monitor the situation, to understand what implications this has for the summer to come."

"As a climate scientist I feel like I am watching a global train wreck in slow motion. It's quite frustrating," said University of Victoria's Andrew Weaver, who wasn't part of the measurements.

That's because a three-year La Niña phase — which tends to dampen the effects of global warming — has given way to the opposite, an El Niño period, which could add another half-degree or more to average temperatures.

"The expectation is that 2024 will be even warmer than 2023 as this El Niño continues to develop," said Burgess.

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Pettis County Church Directory

For more information on how to become a sponsor of this informative church directory, please contact **Kim Robertson** at 931.237.7923 or email kim@burchettmedia.com

FEATURED CHURCH OF THE WEEK

First Baptist Church
1110 Butterfield Trail - Cole Camp, MO.

This local Church Directory is made possible by these businesses. The Church Listings are provided at no charge to our area churches in Pettis County. If your church is not listed, please contact news@sedaliademocrat.com.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Encounter Church — 1201 N. William Parkhurst Drive (behind Sierra Bullets). Rev. Chris Gray, pastor. Sunday worship 9:00 a.m., 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday service 7 p.m., www.encounterchurch.org
Living Waters Assembly of God — 909 S. State Fair Blvd., Sedalia, 660-826-9236. Rev. Ancel Compton - Pastor. Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m., Children's Church 10:00; (2nd & 3rd Sunday of month), Fellowship 5:30 (4th Sunday of month).

BAPTIST
Antioch Baptist — Southeast of Green Ridge on Route E, Pastor Dan Hankins, 660-221-0283. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.
Bethany Baptist — 500 North Park, 826-8743. Pastor Travis Battershell. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, 6 p.m.
Bethlehem Baptist — Anderson School & Wingate. Rev. Jason Kindle. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday, 6 p.m.
Broadway Baptist — 2119 East Broadway, 826-1557. Dr. Nicholas J. Gray, pastor. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday prayer, 6:30 p.m.; Sunday Bible study, 5:00 p.m.
Burns Chapel Free Will — 207 East Pettis. Bishop Paul Jones, pastor. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; worship service, 11 a.m.; prayer meeting, 7 p.m. Thursday.

Calvary Baptist — 1015 West 16th, 826-5011. Pastor Jonathan Wallenbeck. Sunday school, 8:50 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wed, Mid Week Bible Study & Prayer 6:00 p.m.
Camp Branch Baptist — 18020 West 32nd Street, (660) 527-3539. Pastor Rob Ayers. Sunday school, 9a.m.; Sunday worship, 10a.m. & 6p.m.; Wed. worship, 7 p.m.
Cornerstone Baptist Church — 19856 Hwy. Y (three miles past SFCC), 827-4833. Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Bible Study & 10:00 a.m. Worship; Celebrate Recovery Mon. 6:00 p.m.; Awana Wed. 6:00 p.m.; Student Ministry Sunday 5:00 p.m.
East Sedalia Baptist Church — 1019 East Fifth, 826-3887. Sunday School 9:15 AM, Sunday worship 10:30 AM, Wednesday Adult Bible Study 11:00 AM.
Emmet Avenue Baptist — 400 East Walnut. Pastor Steve Cardwell. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.
Faith Baptist — 2331 South Ingram, 827-1394. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday worship, 7 p.m. Pastor Matt Edwards.

First Baptist - Sedalia — 200 E. Sixth Street, Sedalia, MO - 660-826-2160. Pastor Jeremiah Greer; www.fbcsealia.org. 10:15 Morning Worship; 9:00 Sunday School/Bible Study - All Ages.
First Baptist - Cole Camp — 1110 Butterfield Trail, Cole Camp, Pastor Rodney Baumgarten, 660-668-3413; Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.; Wed. Evening Service 6:30pm.
First Baptist - Otterville — 101 Union Stret, Otterville; 660-366-4772. Rev. Russ Slocum. Sunday morning church, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School 10:45am; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Fiat Creek — 30501 Carpenter Road; Sunday school 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m.
GDP Sedalia — 600 S. Summit Ave. 660-826-0621; Sunday: Worship Service 12 p.m. & 6 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer Worship 7 p.m.; Friday: Union of Preparation 7 p.m.

Grace Baptist — 3304 South Ingram, 826-2918. Pastor Alvin Sipe. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study, 7 p.m.
Green Ridge Baptist — Bible study, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.
Harmony Missionary Baptist — LaMonte. (660) 347-5544. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.
Heath Creek — Exit 84, Highway J, Nelson. 660-287-0085. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; worship 11 a.m.
Hopewell Baptist — Pastor Dan Dickey, Hwy. EE., Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study, 7 p.m.
Houstonia Baptist Church — Morning Worship 9:00am; Fellowship 10:00am; Sunday School 10:15am; Wednesday Kid's Club 6:00-7:00pm.
Hughesville Baptist Church — Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.

Katy Park Baptist — 901 West 24th, 826-7497. Pastor Jon Church. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m. Sunday Evening, various times; Wednesday prayer service, 6:30 p.m.
Lamine Baptist — Pastor John Durnsday. Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.
LaMonte Baptist — 1005 Midland, (660) 347-5412. Pastor Larry Chappel. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday service, 6 p.m.
Memorial Baptist Church — 13998 Hwy Z, Nelson, MO, 660 827-3699. Rev. Bill McDowell. Sunday school, 9a.m.; Worship, 10a.m.; Sunday evening service 6 p.m.

Mount Herman Baptist Church — 25229 Mount Herman Road, Sedalia. Rev. Robert Sisney, Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; church services, 10:30 a.m.
New Hope Baptist — 664 East 16th, 826-6277. Pastor Duane Duchesne. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:40 a.m.; Wednesday worship, 6:15 p.m.
Olive Branch Baptist — 20657 Highway O, 827-4529. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.; Pastor Jason McClain; Associate Pastor Donnie Hayworth
Parkway Freewill Baptist — 120 South Park, 827-1832. Pastor Dan Talbott. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Providence Baptist Church — Hwy 35N & Providence Rd., Smithton; Sunday Worship; 9:00 a.m. Rev. Leroy Moon Sunday School 10 a.m.
Smithton Baptist — (660) 343-5213. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:40 a.m.; Sunday evening Bible study, 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday evening prayer and discipleship, 6:30 p.m.

Ward Memorial Missionary Baptist — 412 North Osage, 826-5366. Rev. John Williams. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m.
CATHOLIC
Sacred Heart — 421 West Third, 827-2311. Fr. Joe Corel & Fr. David Veit. Sunday Mass, 8 and 10 a.m.
St. John's — Bahner. Fr. Joe Corel & Fr. David Veit. Saturday Mass, 7:30 p.m.
St. Patrick's — 415 East Fourth, 826-2062. Fr. Joe Corel & Fr. David Veit. Saturday Mass, 4 p.m.; Sunday Mass, 9 & 11:30 a.m.
CHRISTIAN
Bethel Temple Church - 207 E. Allen Street, Knob Noster, MO 65336. 660-624-1971. Wednesday: Bible Study 7:00pm; Sunday Worship Service: 11:00am. Pastor, S.L. Fisher
First Christian Church, 101 S. Monroe, Knob Noster, MO 660-563-2827 Sunday School 9:00am; Worship 10:00am
First Christian, Disciples of Christ — 200 South Limit. Traditional Sanctuary Service - 9:00 a.m., Sunday School for all ages - 10:15 a.m., Rest Haven - 10:30 a.m., CrossWalk Contemporary Service - 11:00 a.m. Rev. Dr. Chad McMullin.
LaMonte Christian Church — 902 South Oak, LaMonte, MO, Michael Wood, Minister. Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. and Worship, 10:00 a.m. Ph# 660-347-5400
Parkview Christian — 1405 East 16th, 826-3624. Jeff Randleman, minister. Sunday school, 9:40 a.m.; Sunday worship, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

EPISCOPAL
Calvary Episcopal — 713 South Ohio, 826-4873. The Rev. Anne Kyle, Rector. Worship, 9 a.m.; Fellowship time, 10 a.m. www.calvarye.org
EVANGELICAL
Community Church of Sedalia — Sixth and Osage. Sunday worship, 9:30 a.m.
Ecclesia Chapel — 900 East Ninth, Sunday 7:30 p.m. Worship & Ministry of the Word. Joey Beaher, 660-281-1286; P.C. Thomas, 826-9988, p.c.thomas@charter.net.
Maplewood — 25396 State Route O, 827-0532. Pastor Robert Wauchope. Sunday school, 8:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10 a.m., AWANA 4:30pm, Youth Group ("ANCHOR") Sundays, 4:30-6pm & Wednesdays, 6:30-8pm, Women's Bible study Tuesday 9:00am, Grow Groups at various times
FOURSQUARE
Bethel Family Church — 120 E. 5th, Sedalia. www.bethelfamilychurch.org. Sunday Services at 10:30am; Wednesday Services at 6:30pm.
LUTHERAN
Amigos de Cristo Mission — 3003 West 11th, 826-2788. Sunday school, 10:30 a.m.; worship, Noon.
Christ & Trinity Evangelical Lutheran—2101 W. 32nd St. 826-8764. Pastor Anne Kyle. Sunday school; Sunday worship, 11:00 a.m.
Holy Cross Lutheran — 11357 Lake Creek Ave., Cole Camp. Pastor Tyler Poppen. Worship Service 10:30 am and Sunday school and bible class to 9:30 a.m.
Our Savior Lutheran — 3700 West Broadway, 827-0226. Pastor Andrew Tesson, Sunday school, 10:15 a.m.; Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m.
St. John's Lutheran — 24295 Cheese Creek Rd., Cole Camp. Pastor Tyler Poppen. Sunday worship, 8:00 a.m.; Sunday school and Bible class, 9:00 a.m.
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran — 701 South Massachusetts. 826-1164. Pastor Jeremy Freeman. Sunday school and Bible classes, 10:15 a.m.; Saturday worship, 5:30 p.m. Sunday worship, 9 a.m.

MESSIANIC
Beit Mayim Chayim, Home of Living Waters — 1200 E. Broadway, Sedalia, MO 65301; Meeting every Saturday/Sabbat at 10:00 am. Contact 660-829-5581.
METHODIST
Bethel United Methodist — 22150 Smelser Rd., Sunday worship service, 9:15 a.m. Follow Us On Facebook.
Eldorado Methodist — 10405 Eldorado Road, Green Ridge. 816-331-5686. Pastor Deb Galey. Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m.

EWORTH UNITED — 1124 East Broadway, 826-1302., Worship service, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 10:30 a.m.
First United — Celebration Center - 1701 W. 32nd. Saturday, 5:30 pm; Sunday, 8:35 and 9:45 am; Sunday at 916 Thompson (site), 11 am. 827-2993. Pastor Candace Fowler
Florence United — Highway 135. (660) 368-2098, Rev. Vonda Veale. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m.
Georgetown United — (660) 826-6457. Pastor Kenneth Cripe. Sunday school 9:00 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:00 a.m., first, third and fifth Sundays.
Goodwill Chapel United — 26400 Goodwill Chapel Road. Pastor Vonda Veale, 660-596-2548. Worship Service, 9:00 a.m., Sunday school, 10:15 a.m.
Lake Creek United — Six miles south of Smithton on Highway W. (660) 343-5222. Pastor Jason Veale. Sunday worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday school, 10 a.m., Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m.
LaMonte UMC — 400 North Main, 347-5557. Pastor Deb Galey. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m.
New Bethel UMC — Five miles south on U.S. 65, 826-9388. Sunday worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday school, 10 a.m.
Pleasant Hill United Methodist — 30219 Pleasant Hill Road, 826-8856. Sunday worship, 10:15 a.m.
Smithton UMC — Walnut and Webster Streets. (660) 343-5560. Rev. Jason Veale. Sunday worship service, 10:30 a.m.
Taylor Chapel UMC — 400 North Lamine. Pastor Calvin Pritchard. Sunday school, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.
Wesley UMC — 1322 West Broadway, 826-4502. Rev. Dennis Harper. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL
Agape House Ministries — 200 S. Montaveau, 826-5581. Pastor Gloria Perez. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11 a.m.; Tuesday Making Disciples, 7 p.m.; Thursday Behind the Veil, 7 p.m., agapehouseministries@yahoo.com
Ancient of Days — 1201 South Summit. Pastor Gordon Adair. Sunday morning Bible Study & Worship, 10:00 a.m.; Sunday evening Bible Study, 5:30 p.m.
Antioch Fellowship — 507 West 24th, 827-3739. Apostle Harvey Miller; Pastor Steve Graft; Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday worship, 7 p.m.
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints — 1201 West Broadway, 827-3166. Bishop Evan R. Stout. Sacrament meeting, 10 a.m.; Sunday school 11:10 a.m.; Wednesday meetings, 6:45 p.m.
Church of New Beginnings — 1200 E. Broadway (Salvation Army Building), Sedalia, 827-3302. Pastor Wayne Pacheco. Friday evening worship, 7 p.m.
Community of Christ Church — 2000 South Ingram, 826-2881. Pastor Marilyn Grechus. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Prayer Service, 7:00 p.m.
Abundant Harvest Worship Center — 2825 South Ingram, 827-5153. Sr. Pastors Tony & Mary Kroeger. Service 10am Sunday; 7pm Wednesday.
Abundant Life Christian Center — 15423 Centerline Ave. Hwy 65 & Cole Camp Jct., Cole Camp, MO, Pastor's Herbert & Renee Robertson. Sunday Worship 10:00 am, Children's Church 10:00 am. Bible Study Wed. Night 7pm, all ages.
Houstonia Community Church — Cowboy Church 4 pm Sunday
Kingdom Hall Jehovah's Witnesses — 2810 East Broadway. Sunday worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Watchtower Study, 10:20 a.m.
LifePointe Church — Rusty Thomas-Lead Pastor; 2921 W. Broadway Blvd, Sedalia, MO, 573-301-0544; Sunday 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
New Apostolic Church — Pastor Ricky Rehok; 28th & Grand, Sedalia, MO, 660-909-4993; Sunday Morning Service, 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
Sedalia Christian Center Faith Church — 3240 South Kentucky, 827-0559. Pastors Jack and Sue Menges. Worship, 10 a.m.
Sedalia Healing Rooms Church — Craig Shorey, Director; Service Tuesday, 7pm; 660-826-1963; 305 S. Ohio, Sedalia
Stewart Avenue Church of Christ — 14th and Stewart. Bible classes, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:40 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Every 2nd & 5th Sunday - 10:40am & 1:30pm; Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
The Gathering Church — Sunday Service 10:45 a.m. 206 W. Main St., Sedalia, MO 65301. For more information email cale_Joanna@yahoo.com.
True-Vine Church of God in Christ (formerly Jones Holy Temple) — 600 North Montaveau. Pastor Javion Jones. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 11:15 a.m. Bible Study-Tuesday 6:00PM
Vision Church — 723 E. 13th. Pastor Dave Hague. Prayer service Wednesday 6:30 p.m.; Sunday school, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m.
W.A.T.E.R. Ministries — Dresden- 19131 Third Road, 660-343-3650. Pastors Reed & Kim Lange; Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Word of Life Apostolic Temple — 701 W. Main, 573-644-2132. Elder Willie Cunningham. Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.; Bible Class, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Worship House — 701 E. 5th St., Sedalia. Sunday Service, 10:00 a.m.; Bible Study, Communion & Prayer Wed., 6:00 p.m.
OPEN BIBLE
Liberty Life Center — 1501 Driftwood Dr., 826-5145 or 281-7404. Pastor Gary & Linda Smith. Sunday Nurture 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday night service 6:30 p.m.
New Life Open Bible — 23000 Route B, 826-8712. Lead Pastor Ed Spencer, Jr., Associate Pastor David Simmons. Sunday worship, 10 a.m. Family Night 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.
PENTECOSTAL
Crossroads Church of God — 2119 East Ninth, 864-948-9257. Pastor Chris King, Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Night Service, 6:30 p.m.
First United Pentecostal — 2805 South Ohio, 826-4556. Pastor Steven Palmer. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday worship, 7:30 p.m.
New Life Apostolic Church — 22743 Hwy T, Dresden. Service time: Sunday 11am; Wednesday 7:30pm Bible Study; Friday night prayer meeting 7:30pm; Pastor Stephen Zingre 660-281-9584
New Life United Pentecostal Church — 356 SW State Route 13, Warrensburg, MO 64093. Sunday School, 10am; Sunday Night Worship, 4pm; Wednesday Night Bible Study, 7pm; Pastor Mike Jackson (660) 596-3452
Real Life Church — 24th and Ohio, 826-5330. Logan Patrick, pastor. Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wed. Bible study, 7 p.m.
Victory Tabernacle — 505 W. Gay St, Warrensburg, 816-304-2914. Pastor Harry D. Stevens, Christian Education, Sunday 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.; Tues. Bible class, 11 a.m.
PRESBYTERIAN
Broadway Presbyterian — 209 W. Broadway, 826-1708. Pastor Rob Hughes. 9:30 a.m. Faith education; 10:30 a.m. Worship.
Green Ridge Presbyterian — 310 South Main, (660) 527-3533. Randy & Dianna Marcum, pastors. Sunday Morning: Worship, 10 a.m.;
Longwood Presbyterian — Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m.; Sunday school, 10:00 a.m.; Rev Phillip Olson
Otterville Presbyterian — (660) 366-4280. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10 a.m.; Pastor Dianna Marcum
Range Line Presbyterian — Houstonia, Sunday worship, 9:00 a.m.; Sunday school, 10:00 a.m.
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Seventh-Day Adventist — 29525 Highway 50. Pastor Al Oetman. Sabbath school and Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Saturday worship, 11 a.m.
Sharon Chapel — 105 East Johnson. Pastor Donnie McClure. Saturday Sabbath school, 9:30 a.m.; Saturday worship, 11 a.m.
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Immanuel United Church of Christ — 418 W. Fourth, 826-3553. Sunday worship and Children's Sunday school, 10:30 a.m. www.uccsedalia.com

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Theatre

From Page A1

"It's going to be a gender-bender with reversed roles," Bahner said.

The local 5th Street Improv troupe will perform on July 21 and 22.

"That's always a lot of fun," she said. "It's very audience participatory and funny. Every time I see them, they just get better and better. They are a regular troupe, and they get together and rehearse once a week."

Later this summer, LCAA Junior Theater will perform its "Play in a Week."

"They write their entire show, do the costumes, sets, and everything, rehearse and present it all in a week," Bahner explained. "And that is Aug. 5."

"I saw the show last year, and it was so much fun," she continued. "They did a pirate theme."

Bahner added that theater is vital to everyone because it keeps people "in touch with our humanity."

"All aspects of our humanity," she said. "Both the tragic and the comic. And even when it's set in a fantasy world, that human aspect is still there. It's also important because it's entertaining."

This fall, LCAA will present another theatre, "The Hound of the Bask-

ervilles" by Arthur Conan Doyle, on Saturday, Sept. 9. And the main stage show, "Then There Were None" by Agatha Christie, will be performed Sept. 28 through Oct. 1.

The 5th Street Improv troupe will host a performance on Oct. 7 and 8, and the Junior Theater students will present its fall show, "Witches United II," on Nov. 4 and 5. And as usual, the play "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" will be performed Dec. 7 through 10.

Bahner noted LCAA is always looking for theatre volunteers.

"I'd just like to invite people to get involved," she added. "We have a tremendously talented group of people, but we are always looking for more, whether on stage, backstage or in front of the house as volunteers."

"If you only have a night to contribute, you can come and be an usher," she continued. "If you have longer, you can commit to the eight weeks and be on a stage production."

Those interested in learning more about the Liberty Center Association for the Arts theater may call 660-827-3228. LCAA, 111 W. Fifth St., is open from 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

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

Benefit

From Page A1

She received her pharmacy studies degree and worked at the Bothwell Regional Health Center Walk-In Clinic when she became sick. Due to her cancer diagnosis, she is on a leave of absence.

The event is a car meet instead of a car show.

"Because we're not judging rides," Crook explained. "We want it more about Kassie and not to lose focus in the midst of a competition."

Each vehicle will have a donation bucket where people can vote on their favorite ride. The ride with the most money will win a People's Choice trophy.

The benefit will also have a bounce house, donated by Ariel Netz with Buckaroos' Bounce House,

cotton candy set up with T.J. Wiseman of Fuzzy Gourmet Cotton Candy, and face painting with Angie Keele with Two-Bit Barbershop.

The Sedalia Fire Department is bringing a firetruck for the children to see, and Deputy Jimmy Moore with the Pettis County Sheriff's Office will be there with K-9 Cav. Sheriff Brad Anders donated the department's dunk tank. Entertainment will include the Clay Clear Band on the patio at Fitter's 5th Street Pub.

Ehlers said many volunteers are providing food and grilling hamburgers and hot dogs for the event.

"Volker's has donated their kettle chips to us," she added. "Polly Walters from Sonic has donated all the buns that we'll need and the ice."

Crook said there is no charge to enter the Auto

Meet, but donations are "welcomed and appreciated."

The women talked about the thoughtfulness of their friend Wehmeyer, who coached soccer and played on a softball team, noting how she's been involved in the community.

"She and her family have always been heavily involved in the community," Ehlers said. "Her and her family do so much for the kids and sports in this community."

"The biggest thing that we take away from this is cancer doesn't discriminate," she continued. "No one ever thinks this will happen to us or someone we love until it does. I can't imagine going through it by myself, let alone with two young kids."

Crook said Wehmeyer is always smiling, laughing, and dancing.

"The girl lights up a

room," Crook added. "She really does."

Ehlers noted her friend is a "big bubble of energy."

"She'll talk to anybody," Ehlers added. "She's just great, and someone like that has to go through all of that."

They both agreed that although Wehmeyer is battling cancer, she inspires everyone.

"It's almost inspiring because if anybody can beat something like this and get through it with a smile on her face ... it's going to be somebody like her," Ehlers noted.

The benefit "Kick it with Kass" Auto Meet will be hosted from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday in downtown Sedalia. For more about the event information or to donate, call Ehlers at 660-281-7332.

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

FDA advisers endorse updating COVID vaccines to target latest omicron strain

By Lauran Neergaard and Mike Stobbe

AP Medical Writers

The COVID-19 vaccines are on track for a big recipe change this fall.

Today's vaccines still contain the original coronavirus strain, the one that started the pandemic — even though that was long ago supplanted by mutated versions as the virus rapidly evolves.

Thursday, the Food and Drug Administration's scientific advisers said the next round of shots in the U.S. should only include protection against the newest variants that are

now dominant worldwide — a branch of the omicron family tree named XBB.

The FDA will make the final decision. Vaccine makers said during the meeting that they could have updated vaccines available within months, depending on the strain.

While infections have declined, the virus could be a real concern next winter, FDA's vaccine chief Dr. Peter Marks said as the daylong meeting began.

"We're concerned that we may have another wave of COVID-19 during a time when the virus has further evolved, immunity of the population has waned further, and we

move indoors for winter-time," he said.

Here are some things to know:

WHY ANOTHER ROUND OF SHOTS?

The FDA had told Americans to expect an updated fall vaccine against COVID-19, just like they get a new flu shot every fall. Even though most of the population has either been infected or had at least one round of vaccinations, the coronavirus keeps churning out new varieties.

What's in use in the U.S. now are combination shots from Pfizer and Moderna that mix the original strain with protection against last year's most common omi-

cron variants, called BA.4 and BA.5. But just 17% of Americans rolled up their sleeves for a combo booster.

And while the FDA did allow seniors and others at high risk to get an extra booster dose this spring, most people will be many months beyond their last shot by fall.

Those currently available shots do still help prevent severe disease and death even as XBB variants have taken over. But protection gradually wanes over time and was short-lived against milder infection even before the virus, inevitably, evolved again.

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THE WEATHER



SEVEN-DAY FORECAST

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
90 / 66	88 / 66	77 / 63	86 / 67	89 / 68	89 / 67	87 / 68
A blend of sun and clouds	Mostly cloudy with t-storms	Periods of rain and a t-storm	Warmer with some sun	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny and humid	Mostly sunny

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 5:48 a.m.
Sunset tonight 8:40 p.m.
Moonrise today 4:20 a.m.
Moonset today 7:43 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
Jun 17	Jun 26	Jul 3	Jul 9

ALMANAC

Sedalia Regional Airport Wednesday

TEMPERATURES
 High 86
 Low 57
 Normal high 82
 Normal low 63
 Record high 95 in 2021
 Record low 40 in 1942

PRECIPITATION
 Wednesday 0.00"
 Month to date 0.63"
 Normal m-t-d 2.32"
 Year to date 12.66"
 Normal y-t-d 19.09"

COOLING DEGREE DAYS
 Index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the average temperature was above 65 degrees for the day.
 Wednesday 7
 Month to date 110
 Year to date 272
 Normal year to date 197
 Last year to date 297

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

Blackwater	Stage	Chg	Fid Stg
Blue Lick	7.65	-1.13	24
Valley City	3.11	-0.34	22

Lamine

Otterville	0.36	-0.01	15
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Missouri

Boonville	6.14	-0.18	21
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Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Falls City	90/66	Kirksville	85/58	Springfield	83/56
St. Joseph	91/65	Columbia	91/65	St. Louis	87/63
Topeka	91/64	Kansas City	89/67	Cape Girardeau	91/58
Sedalia	90/66	Jefferson City	92/65	Paducah	91/59
Joplin	90/65	Springfield	88/65	Poplar Bluff	91/64
Tulsa	90/70	Mountain Home	87/64	Kennett	92/66

BRANSON
High: 89. **Low:** 63. Heavy thunderstorms in the morning; otherwise, mainly cloudy and humid today. Mostly cloudy tonight.

KANSAS CITY
High: 89. **Low:** 67. Cloudy today. Partly cloudy and humid tonight. Rather cloudy and humid tomorrow with a couple of showers and a thunderstorm.

ST. LOUIS
High: 87. **Low:** 63. Mostly sunny today. Clear to partly cloudy tonight. Sunny to partly cloudy tomorrow. Sunday: periods of rain and a thunderstorm.

NEW YORK CITY
High: 77. **Low:** 62. Rather cloudy today with a couple of showers and a heavy thunderstorm. Mostly cloudy tonight with a couple of showers and a thunderstorm.

LOS ANGELES
High: 73. **Low:** 62. Low clouds followed by sunshine today. Mainly clear this evening followed by patchy low clouds late.

NATIONAL WEATHER

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Saturday Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	87/69/s	91/69/pc
Baltimore	81/63/t	83/60/s
Billings	71/52/pc	75/56/s
Boston	79/61/pc	65/56/r
Buffalo	68/55/sh	74/54/pc
Charlotte	87/61/pc	84/62/pc
Chicago	73/56/s	81/61/s
Cleveland	70/54/sh	76/57/s
Dallas	96/77/pc	95/78/pc
Denver	63/48/t	67/52/t
Detroit	76/53/pc	80/57/s
Honolulu	87/74/sh	88/76/sh
Houston	100/79/pc	100/78/s
Indianapolis	77/57/s	83/62/s
Las Vegas	88/73/t	98/80/s

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Saturday Hi/Lo/W
Milwaukee	70/55/s	75/59/pc
Nashville	92/62/c	89/62/pc
New Orleans	95/80/pc	94/78/pc
Norfolk	85/67/t	81/65/s
Oklahoma City	83/69/s	89/65/pc
Orlando	95/76/t	93/72/t
Phoenix	103/75/pc	102/79/s
Pittsburgh	70/52/t	78/51/s
Portland, ME	75/56/c	61/54/r
Portland, OR	76/58/c	71/52/pc
Sacramento	88/55/pc	86/56/s
St. Louis	87/63/s	88/69/s
San Francisco	73/58/pc	69/55/pc
Seattle	68/53/c	63/46/c
Washington, DC	81/65/t	83/62/s

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

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

Summary: Showers and gusty thunderstorms will affect the Northeast today. Areas of severe weather will extend from Kansas and Oklahoma to northern Florida. Storms will rumble from southern Nevada to the Dakotas.

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"Faith is Fearless"



Chiefs enjoy spoils of Super Bowl win during wild offseason

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Whoever came up with the saying, “To the victor go the spoils,” could never have had the Kansas City Chiefs in mind.

They wouldn’t have believed the amount of spoils that have come their way since their Super Bowl title.

There was Patrick Mahomes, the All-Pro quarterback and widely regarded as the league’s best player, jetting from the Kentucky Derby to the Formula One race in Miami to the Met Gala, where he walked the red carpet alongside his wife, Brittany.

There was Travis Kelce, the All-Pro tight end widely regarded as the league’s best at his position, taking some time out from his popular podcast with his older brother, Jason, to handle

hosting duties on “Saturday Night Live.”

Then there was the entire team who, along with two-time Super Bowl-winning coach Andy Reid, flying to the White House for a meeting with President Joe Biden. It’s a trip the Chiefs were unable to make after hoisting the Lombardi Trophy in 2020 because of the pandemic, and one they certainly relished after topping the Philadelphia Eagles in February.

“The hospitality was phenomenal,” Reid said. “They had different military guys in each of the rooms they let us go in, and the guys were experts on the paintings and the architecture and who’s special room this was and that room, so you got the history, from the oldest table to the oldest picture, and you got the history of that. I think the guys appreciated that.”

See CHIEFS | A9



President Joe Biden poses with the Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes, center, and Kansas City Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce, and the Super Bowl LVII champion during a ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House Monday, June 5, 2023, in Washington. PHOTO BY MANUEL BALCE CENETA | AP PHOTO

Shipleigh hands off S-C volleyball reins to Ruckman

By Bryan Everson
bryane@sedaliademocrat.com

One of the area’s most experienced volleyball coaches is handing off the Smith-Cotton varsity program to a fresh but familiar face.

Diane Shipleigh, the Lady Tigers’ head coach since 2017, recently resigned, with the district hiring S-C Junior High head coach Emily Ruckman to take her place.

Ruckman was hired as a sixth grade science teacher at the junior high in 2018-19 and teaches English language arts there now.

“We are very excited to have Coach Ruckman become the head of the volleyball program here at Smith-Cotton,” S-C Athletic Director Kyle Middleton said. “Her passion, enthusiasm and experience will help grow and build the volleyball team.”

He added that he has “very high expectations for these two coaches as they will help set the tone and culture for our activities department.”

The idea of passing the torch to Ruckman, who was an assistant under Shipleigh in 2019, dates back to that season.

“We were in talks of [Diane] being done and me taking over,” Ruckman said. “I ended up getting pregnant, and was like, ‘Maybe that’s not what I should be doing right now with a newborn.’ It hasn’t been

the biggest surprise. The past couple years, it’s been a preseason question. A week-and-a-half ago, Kyle called and asked...I had to think about it, see where my family was and talk about it with everybody, [check on daycare], all that. And I said let’s do it. It seemed like the right time finally, and things fell into place, I guess.”

Shipleigh had her personal reasons for why the time was right. “Life just happens, and it was what was best for myself and the girls,” she said. “I was [already] going to be gone in September for a week because my daughter’s having a baby...I’m going to miss the girls and I had a lot of sweet messages from parents and girls. I told them I’d still be around. I’ll watch them and cheer them on. I’m excited about their growth. They’re a good group.”

A 2014 graduate from Rolla High School, Ruckman played volleyball four years at Missouri Valley College, including the program’s first time appearing in the national tournament. She said that coaching during that time began to give her an idea that being a head coach was something she aspired towards in the future.

“I’d say once I realized that teaching was a career I enjoyed, and the first year I coached club volleyball in college, the two-and-two clicked, and it was, like this is

what I want to be doing for a while,” Ruckman said.

Ruckman’s teaching position gives her a familiarity with the players that she’ll be working with in the coming years. “I have quite a few of them in class at the junior high, and every girl at the high school level I’ve known or met at some point,” she said. “Getting to know these girls at the junior high last year and seeing the work they put in, and being able to add to it at this next level is super exciting to think about.”

I was at their open gym Tuesday. I know the ones coming up are super hard workers, what I saw was a lot of those girls have a lot of fun, but they’re willing to put in a lot of work. I’m excited to push them in the right direction, bring some fun to the gym, and hopefully make those girls fall in love with [the sport] as much as I have my whole life.”

Shipleigh began as an assistant coach under Darren Pannier at State Fair Community College in 1998, serving in that role for six years before taking over as the head coach. During her handful of seasons as head coach, Shipleigh compiled a record of 107-85, and in 2006, Shipleigh was selected as the NJCAA Division I Region 16 Coach of the Year.

From there, Shipleigh was head coach at Central Methodist University for three years, then



Emily Ruckman

helped become Otterville’s first head coach when its program was started and spent four years there.

Shipleigh compiled a record of 62-83-10 while in charge of the Lady Tigers. She called a 2018 win over Rock Bridge a highlight of her tenure, as well as a 2019 victory over Santa Fe when the Lady Chiefs took third place in Class 1.

“[Santa Fe’s] a powerhouse — it’s Class 1, but still a powerhouse, and we beat them to take first in our tournament, which was one of the first times we’d won [our own tournament],” Shipleigh said. “We were the only team that beat them until they went to state, and that was exciting.”

On last season, Shipleigh said, “The girls never rolled over. For the most part, they worked hard, and we played a lot of five-set matches. We lost some we shouldn’t have, won some maybe we shouldn’t have...anytime you can not roll over, and work hard and do the best you can, that’s good.”

Broncos wrap up 1st offseason program under Payton

By Arnie Stapleton
AP Pro Football Writer

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — The Denver Broncos wrapped up their first offseason program under head coach Sean Payton in relative isolation Thursday about 20 miles south of the Nuggets’ championship celebration that drew tens of thousands of revelers downtown.

Rejecting the “field day” finishes that some of his predecessors preferred, Payton ran a spirited indoor practice before dismissing his players for their five-week summer break.

“Definitely seeing another team in the same city win it all” is an inspiration, veteran safety Kareem Jackson said. “Those guys had a great year. It’s definitely encouraging for us. We definitely want to do the same thing.”

The Nuggets dispatched the Miami Heat in five games in the NBA Finals, winning the franchise’s first championship in 47 years in the league.

Their fellow Ball Arena tenants won the Stanley Cup last summer when the Colorado Avalanche topped Tampa Bay in six games.

That makes Denver the only city that’s celebrated an NBA, NHL and NFL champion since 2015, although the Broncos haven’t made



Denver Broncos head coach Sean Payton looks on as players take part in drills during a mandatory NFL football mini-camp at the Broncos’ headquarters Tuesday, June 13, 2023, in Centennial, Colo. PHOTO BY DAVID ZALUBOWSKI | AP PHOTO

the playoffs since winning Super Bowl 50 seven years ago.

Since beating Carolina 24-10 in Hall of Famer Peyton Manning’s final game, the Broncos have churned through 13 starting quarterbacks and Payton is their fifth head coach since Gary Kubiak stepped away a year after winning it all.

Payton was a court-side mainstay during the Nuggets’ playoff run along with Manning and current quarterback Russell Wilson, and the coach donned a Nuggets visor on Thursday as an homage to the NBA champions.

“Well, the first thing that I’m going to tell you is I have a big dome, so it clearly looks small on my head,” Payton said on an early morning Zoom call

accommodating the reporters covering the basketball parade.

“If I showed you the back of it, you would see that I’m on the last button. (Chief Communications Officer) Patrick Smyth had this thing on my desk this morning at 6 a.m. because we knew the parade was taking place.

“Obviously, there is a lot of excitement in the city. It was the perfect time to show our support,” Payton added. “I know that the fans are excited. We are proud of the Nuggets organization. ... Those guys will walk together forever. The parade is the culmination of so much work by so many different people. It’s amazing. It’s great for them to experience it today, and we’d like to be there.”

See WRAP | A9

Fowler, Schauffele break US Open record with 62s

By Doug Ferguson
AP Golf Writer

LOS ANGELES — Rickie Fowler can always say he was the first to shoot 62 in the U.S. Open.

But only by about 15 minutes.

Xander Schauffele soon matched him on the North course at Los Angeles Country Club with an 8-under 62 of his own, making Thursday a most extraordinary day for scoring in the major known as the toughest test in golf.

The tough part was keeping track of their birdies.

“It’s not really what you expect playing a U.S. Open,” Schauffele said. “But monkey see, monkey do. Was just chasing Rickie up the leaderboard. Glad he was just in front me.”

Fowler was the first, a round so remarkable it included two bogeys when he missed the green on the 254-yard 11th and missed the fairway on the 17th on his front nine. But starting with a 15-foot birdie putt on the 18th, he ran off four straight birdies. The streak ended on the par-3 fourth when he came 2 inches away from holing

a long bunker shot.

He set the record with a two-putt from just under 60 feet on the par-5 ninth. That’s also when he noticed the leaderboard.

“I knew where I was at,” Fowler said. “I would say from the middle of the round up until the ninth green, our last hole, I didn’t really know or see any scores. And then I saw that Xander was at 7 (under) at that point, and I’m not sure if he even knew where I was or anything.”

“But it was kind of cool if he did to see he kind of latched on and we were taking off a bit.”

Schauffele was two groups behind and never too far away. He lost one birdie chance on the short par-4 sixth by trying to

drive the green, but then picked up a rare birdie on the 258-yard seventh hole with what he called a “tomahawk 4-iron” to 5 feet.

“That’s pretty much all I have in my body,” Schauffele said.

He got up-and-down from just short of the green on the par-5 eighth, and then had a birdie chance from just inside 30 feet that would have topped Fowler and send him into the major championship record book alone. He left it short and settled for a 62.

They now share the major championship record with Branden Grace, who had a 62 in the third round at Royal Birkdale in the 2017 British Open.

See OPEN | A9



Rickie Fowler hits from the fairway on the second hole during the first round of the U.S. Open golf tournament at Los Angeles Country Club on Thursday, June 15, 2023, in Los Angeles. PHOTO BY GEORGE WALKER IV | AP PHOTO

SPORTS CALENDAR

Friday ON TAP
COLLEGE BASEBALL
 5 p.m. Sedalia Bombers at Carroll Merchants (DH)

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL
 Sedalia Travelers at Joplin Tournament

9 a.m. 643KC Grey at Sedalia Post 642 AUX

ON AIR
AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL
 4:30 a.m. FS2 — AFL: Sydney at Brisbane

4 a.m. (Saturday)
 FS2 — AFL: St. Kilda at Richmond

AUTO RACING
 12:25 p.m. ESPN2 — Formula 1: Practice, Circuit Gilles Villeneuve, Montreal

3:55 p.m. ESPN2 — Formula 1: Practice, Circuit Gilles Villeneuve, Montreal

CFL FOOTBALL
 8 p.m. CBSSN — Winnipeg at Saskatchewan

COLLEGE BASEBALL
 1 p.m. ESPN — College World Series:

Oral Roberts vs. TCU, Game 1, Omaha, Neb.

6 p.m. ESPN — College World Series: Virginia vs. Florida, Game 2, Omaha, Neb.

GOLF
 Noon USA — PGA Tour: The U.S. Open, Second Round, Los Angeles Country Club, Los Angeles

2 p.m. GOLF — LPGA Tour: The Meijer LPGA Classic, Second Round, Blythefield Country Club, Belmont, Mich.

7 p.m. NBC — PGA Tour: The U.S. Open, Second Round, Los Angeles Country Club, Los Angeles

HORSE RACING
 Noon FS2 — NYRA: America's Day at the Races

3:45 p.m. FS2 — NYRA: America's Day at the Races

MLB BASEBALL
 1 p.m. MLBN — Regional Coverage: Baltimore at Chicago Cubs

6 p.m. MLBN — Regional Coverage: NY Yankees at Boston OR Miami at Washington

7:10 p.m. APPLETV+ — Pittsburgh at Milwaukee

9:10 p.m. APPLETV+ — Chicago White Sox at Seattle

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS
 8 p.m. SHO — Bellator 297 Main Card: Vadim Nemkov vs. Yoel Romero (Light Heavyweights), Chicago

9 p.m. ESPN — PFL Regular Season Main Card: Heavyweights & Women's Featherweights, Atlanta

RUGBY (MEN'S)
 11:55 p.m. FS2 — NRL: Sydney at Newcastle

SAILING
 4 p.m. CBSSN — SailGP: Day 1, Chicago

SOCCER (MEN'S)
 1:30 p.m. FS1 — UEFA Euro Qualifying Group Stage: Malta vs. England, Group C, Attard, Malta

FS2 — International Friendly: Poland vs. Germany, Warsaw, Poland

5:55 p.m. FS2 — CONCACAF Gold Cup Preliminary Round: Martinique vs. Saint Lucia, First Round, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

8 p.m. FS1 — UEFA Euro Qualifying Group Stage: Gibraltar vs. France, Group B, Almancil, Portugal (Taped)

8:15 p.m. FS2 — CONCACAF Gold Cup Preliminary Round: Curacao vs. Saint Kitts and Nevis, First Round, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

TENNIS
 4 a.m. TENNIS — Stuttgart-ATP, Nottingham-WTA, s-Hertogenbosch-ATP/WTA Quarterfinals

5 a.m. TENNIS — Stuttgart-ATP, Nottingham-WTA, s-Hertogenbosch-ATP/WTA Quarterfinals

4 a.m. (Saturday)
 TENNIS — Stuttgart-ATP, Nottingham-WTA, s-Hertogenbosch-ATP/WTA Semifinals

5 a.m. (Saturday)
 TENNIS — Stuttgart-ATP, Nottingham-WTA, s-Hertogenbosch-ATP/WTA Semifinals

WNBA BASKETBALL
 7 p.m. ION — Phoenix at Washington

9 p.m. ION — Minnesota at Los Angeles

Oral Roberts embraces underdog status heading into CWS opener

By Cliff Brunt

Associated Press

The Oral Roberts baseball team embraces its underdog status in a college sports landscape dominated by Power Five money, name, image and likeness deals and the transfer portal.

The small, private Christian school that competes in the Summit League lacks the money and facilities of the top programs. The Golden Eagles can show other factors matter when they play in the College World Series, starting Friday against TCU.

"A lot of times, we'll say for what we lack in cash, we'll make up in culture," Oral Roberts athletic director Tim Johnson said. "And so that's been a big part of what we've done."

TCU will make its sixth World Series appearance since the start of the 2010 season. The Big 12 tournament champion Horned Frogs have won 11 straight games and 19 of 21. None of that matters to Oral Roberts (51-12) which has won 23 of 24 to reach the World Series for the second time ever and the first time since 1978.

The school grabbed headlines two years ago when its men's basketball team made a stirring run to the Sweet 16; the Golden Eagles reached the NCAA Tournament again earlier this year.

"When you're a giant killer, the last thing you

worry about is the giant," Johnson said. "And so if you worry about beating the team on your own chest and what you do well and focus on the process and the purpose and the progress of what you're doing, that's how you beat teams that are a lot bigger than you."

The Golden Eagles won at Oklahoma State in their regional opener, then rallied from an eight-run deficit to beat Washington 15-12. They squandered an 8-0 lead to lose Game 1 of their super regional at Oregon. With their season on the line in Game 2, they came back from a 7-4 deficit to defeat the Ducks 8-7. They won the decisive game Game 3 11-6 to advance.

Coach Ryan Folmar said his team constantly finds ways to succeed in difficult situations.

"I think our guys have a really healthy perspective, not only about the game, but about moments and how moments get away from you and how you recover from some of those moments," he said. "So I think to be able to do that takes a lot of maturity, takes a lot of toughness, takes a lot of discipline, and this group is all of those things."

TCU coach Kirk Saarloos said Oral Roberts belongs with the best. His team learned mid-major programs can be tough when they battled Indiana State from the Missouri



Oral Roberts' Jacob Godman, left, Drew Stahl, center, and Dalton Patten, right, celebrate their 11-6 win over Oregon in an NCAA college baseball tournament super regional game, Sunday, June 11, 2023, in Eugene, Ore.

PHOTO BY AMANDA LOMAN | AP PHOTO

Valley Conference in super regionals.

"For me, the only difference is maybe just resources," he said. "You know, in the Power Five, you get a little bit more resources than maybe than you do in the Group of Five. But does that mean that they're not as good? Heck no. They're here. They have 51 wins. And them, like anybody else, can win this thing."

The Golden Eagles feature a deep pitching staff with a team earned run average of 3.97 — seventh nationally — and they lead the nation with a .984 fielding percentage.

Cade Denton, a junior, is tied for the national lead with 15 saves and has a 1.58 ERA. He has 78 strikeouts in 58 1/3 innings. Brooks Fowler has a 9-1 record with a 3.27 ERA. Harley Gollert, a senior who transferred from Austin Peay before this season, has a 10-1 record and a 4.30 ERA.

The Golden Eagles can hit, too — they rank fourth nationally with a .323 batting average. Center fielder Jonah Cox is on a 47-game hitting streak, tied for the third-longest in Division I history. The junior college transfer has a .420 batting

average, leads the nation with 110 hits and has a hit in all but one game this season. Matt Hogan, a transfer from South Carolina, is batting .332 while senior first baseman Jake McMurray his hitting .327.

Many of those players chose Oral Roberts for the reasons others stay away. Johnson said there's a market for programs that shy away from glitz and glamour.

"The name of the game is recruiting and retention," Johnson said. "So you've got to find out wherever you are, what levers you can pull with what resour-

es you have to make the big time wherever you are."

Just like the basketball team during its NCAA Tournament trips, Oral Roberts has gained a national following. Johnson said the school had multiple times more requests than its 700 ticket-per-game allotment.

"As the landscape changes, what we as an industry have got to be careful of is we can't lose these kinds of stories because these kinds of stories are what fuel the fire for a lot of the college athletics fans and what makes college athletics so unique," Johnson said.

Heat, NBA investigating allegation that Conor McGregor assaulted woman at game

By The Associated Press

MIAMI — The NBA and the Miami Heat are investigating an allegation that former UFC champion Conor McGregor sexually assaulted a woman inside an arena bathroom after Game 4 of the NBA Finals.

The woman's attorney, Ariel Mitchell, said her client has provided Miami police with the clothing she was wearing that night and that a report was filed.

McGregor's attorney said the fighter denied any wrongdoing. "Mr. McGregor will not be intimidated," said the attorney, Barbara Llanes.

In letters sent to the NBA, the Heat and McGregor's representatives, Mitchell detailed her client's allegations and said the client would discuss "reasonable settlement offers" before June 12 or else proceed with

litigation.

"We are aware of the allegations and are conducting a full investigation," read a statement from the Heat. "Pending the outcome of the investigation, we will withhold further comment."

The NBA had a similar statement, saying it was working with the Heat to gather information.

The alleged incident happened on the same night McGregor knocked out the Heat mascot in a midgame bit that went wrong.

Burnie — more specifically, the man who occupies Burnie's costume — briefly sought medical attention Friday night after taking two punches from McGregor during a third-quarter stoppage of Game 4 of the NBA Finals between the Heat and the Denver Nuggets.

The employee, who was not identified, received pain

medication and was recovering, the team said.

McGregor was there as a promotional gimmick for a pain-relief spray — and was booed by many in the Miami crowd even before the bit started. The flame mascot was wearing oversized boxing gloves and a robe akin to what a fighter would wear entering the ring for a bout. McGregor hit Burnie with a left hook, knocking him down, then punched the mascot again after he hit the floor.

McGregor then tried to "spray" the mascot with the pain-relief product, while several members of the Heat's in-game promotional team dragged Burnie off the court.

McGregor hasn't fought since injuring his left leg in a loss to Dustin Poirier at UFC 264 in July 2021. His last win came in January 2020.



Former MMA fighter Conor McGregor punches Burnie, the Miami Heat mascot, during a break in Game 4 of the basketball NBA Finals against the Denver Nuggets, Friday, June 9, 2023, in Miami. The man who occupies Burnie's costume needed medical attention.

PHOTO BY LYNN SLADKY | AP PHOTO

HOROSCOPES

By Georgia Nicols

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

Happy Birthday for Friday, June 16, 2023:

You are both adventurous and cautious, as well as innovative and imaginative. You are often cutting-edge when it comes to life trends. It's important to stay flexible. This year is slower-paced. It's an opportunity to rejuvenate yourself and focus on personal relationships with extra kindness and concern.

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)

★★★★★ Today begins with a few challenges because you might feel critical of others this morning. "What's wrong with this picture?" Fortunately, as the day wears on, your desire to socialize and have fun with others, especially kids, will increase. Accept invitations to party! Tonight: Busy conversations.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Financial issues might look dim this morning. You're not happy. However, as the day wears on, you see interesting ways to improve your home and make it look more attractive. You also might want to entertain at home, which will certainly please someone! Tonight: Check your possessions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Be patient with parents, bosses and the police this morning, because your dealings with authority figures might be a bit crunchy. Don't push your luck. Fortunately, as the day wears on, you become more charming and likable! Soon everyone wants to see your face! Tonight: You're strong.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ The Sun is hiding in your chart, and this is why you want to be low-key as well. However, your ability to ferret out secrets and do research is excellent. Ignore feelings of self-doubt this morning. As the day wears on, you will feel happier — and richer. Tonight: Solitude.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Do not be discouraged by a comment from a friend or a member of a group this morning. (You need positive support from others.) Later in the day, relations with friends and groups are excellent. Enjoy meeting the gang at happy hour. Everyone will be glad to see you. Tonight: Enjoy friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ This morning, an exchange with someone in authority — a parent, boss, teacher or the police — might be depressing. Don't let this get you down, because the rest of the day is quite different. As the day wears on, you look better and better in the eyes of others. Ultimately, you win! Tonight: You're strong.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Don't be discouraged by travel disappointments or something related to legal matters or politics this morning. Move on. Instead, focus on socializing with artistic, creative people. You also might get involved in a physical competition with a friend or a group that is exciting. Enjoy your day! Tonight: Study.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You might be disappointed by the lack of financial or practical support from someone this morning. However, later in the day, this issue is resolved. In fact, you can count on the support of bosses and people in authority to help you. (This is a sexy, affectionate day.) Tonight: Check your finances.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Be prepared to go more than halfway when dealing with others today, especially in the early morning. Someone might challenge you, which could be discouraging. Later in the day, you find people to be welcoming and charming. Enjoy socializing with others! What starts out as challenging becomes a fun day! Tonight: Cooperate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Criticism from a boss this morning might discourage you. Don't let this get you down. In fact, later in the day, you will get financial and practical support from others, which you will appreciate. Romance is also forthcoming, especially in a work-related encounter. Tonight: Work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Children might be an increased responsibility this morning. Be patient. It goes with the territory, especially at breakfast and during hectic mornings. Later today, it's a fun-loving day! Enjoy sports events, fun activities with kids and romantic get-togethers. It's a great date evening! Tonight: Socialize!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Be patient with parents and family who might be critical this morning. Let it go. Ironically, your home life will improve as the day wears on, which is why you might enjoy entertaining friends and family where you live. You also might invite work colleagues or co-workers to your home. Tonight: Cocoon.

BORN TODAY

Actress Missy Peregrin (1982), actor John Cho (1972), actor Daniel Bruhl (1978)

Chiefs

From Page A7

That, and the food. "I've never had this before," Reid said, "but they had a French toast-grilled cheese-and-ham sandwich that they sprinkled a little bit of powdered sugar on. It was phenomenal. There was an abundance of this. Then they had chicken fingers — exotic chicken fingers. Maybe the best part was, which I hadn't seen before, little bit-sized squares of the heart of the watermelon. My hat went off to the chef. I went back and talked to him and I just go, 'You guys are unbelievable.'"

Unbelievable is a good way to describe the Chiefs they days.

They wrapped their final mandatory minicamp of the offseason Thursday, and now have about a month before reporting to training camp. They will do so having won eight consecutive division titles, three of the past four conference

championships and with two championship rings — they got their latest in a closed-door ceremony Thursday night.

So quite naturally, the biggest stars on the league's best team have been in demand.

"I've always wanted to go to the Kentucky Derby," said Mahomes, who gave the call for riders up in May, "but I wanted to win the Super Bowl before I went, and obviously the last one we had COVID that canceled that, so I was glad we were able to experience that. It was an awesome race. It's just about picking and choosing what you can do."

Mahomes will be in the spotlight some more in the coming weeks.

He's the central figure alongside Kurt Cousins and Marcus Mariota in "Quarterback," an eight-part docuseries produced by the NFL and Netflix that takes viewers behind the scenes last season. The show, which premieres July 12, is produced in part by Hall of Fame quarterback Peyton Manning and

his Omaha Productions company.

"I wanted to for sure have some editing rights," Mahomes said Thursday, "because I've realized I'm kind of wild on the field. I don't even remember the things I say. It was cool to go through that process, having Peyton and his company. I have full trust in him. Thanks to the Chiefs and Coach Reid for having full trust in us during the season. It's going to be cool for people to see."

Mahomes, who became a father of two last November, is also trying to squeeze in some time on the links. He's teaming with Kelce to play the Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson in the latest edition of "the Match," an exhibition golf event June 29 at the Wynn Golf Club in Las Vegas. It will air on TNT.

"I'll play a little here and there. I have a charity golf tournament coming up. Other than that, we'll roll when the lights come on," Mahomes said. "Tra-

vis hits the ball really far, just not always straight. If I can hit it straight, Travis will hit some shots that help."

Kelce has been busy, too.

There was the moment he went viral for his epically poor first pitch before a Cleveland Guardians game, and an opportunity this past week to redeem himself before a Kansas City Royals game. He hosted a music festival in Kansas City the same weekend as the city hosted the NFL draft. And he earned mostly positive reviews for his hosting duties on "Saturday Night Live," highlighted by an opening monologue that featured his entire family.

"It was a machine, man. It was a very strategic, structured machine," said Kelce, who has since hired acting representation with an eye on a post-playing career. "Everyone works great together. All the writers, the production — it's like a team effort."

The Chiefs certainly know something about that.

Wrap

From Page A7

Payton may not have taken it easy on his team this week by letting them goof around with dunk tanks and golf challenges as the Broncos have done on the final day of their mandatory minicamps in recent years. But unlike his predecessor Nathaniel Hackett, Payton took it easy on them this offseason with designs on a more rugged training camp. Hackett operated what

came to be known as "Camp Cupcake" last summer with walkthroughs, jog-throughs and no-contact days dominating the schedule in hopes of maintaining the team's health.

It backfired as the Broncos lost a slew of players during a 5-12 debacle that cost Hackett his job before the season was over.

Payton has scoffed at the notion of ditching 7-on-7 drills in training camp or holding starters out of preseason games as Hackett did, saying players need to get their bodies calloused at

practice and participate in the preseason to really get ready for the grinds of the 17-game schedule.

Jackson, who's entering his 14th NFL season, said he's never worked under a head coach more focused on strength and conditioning as a foundation.

"A lot of the head coaches have so much other stuff going on" that they don't get involved with the training, Jackson said. "But you know, just seeing how involved he is with it and how much he harps on it in meetings and things like that, I think it's

pretty amazing."

Payton's parting message to his players was not to stray too far from their conditioning during vacation lest they fall out of shape by the time the real evaluation begins in late July.

"I'm anxious to see what kind of team we have," Payton said. "There are a lot of things that can dictate that, especially in the first four weeks of the season. To the conditioning level, to the strength, to the running, and to the offseason program, I like where we are at now."

Open

From Page A7

Their record day came on the 50-year anniversary of Johnny Miller posting the first 63 in U.S. Open history. Since then, five players have shot 63 in a U.S. Open, most recently Tommy Fleetwood in 2018 at Shinnecock Hills.

Jack Nicklaus and Tom Weiskopf each shot 63 in the opening round at Baltusrol in the 1980 U.S. Open, which Nicklaus went on to win.

The conditions were prime for scoring — overcast, mild with barely any wind. Condensation in the morning felt like a like mist, and it kept the greens receptive.

Even so, the next best score from the morning wave was a 3-under 67 by a group that included Scottie Scheffler and Bryson DeChambeau.

The low scoring was sure to raise questions about LACC, a century-old club hosting a major championship for the first time. Schaufele wasn't interested in that.

"My job is just to play. I try not to speculate too much," he said. "I'm going to take what the course can give me, and today it gave me a low one."

He also wasn't expecting this to continue. The USGA's idea of a good test is something around par, and there wasn't much that could be done against increasing depth of talent in golf and pristine weather conditions.

"It's just Thursday. It's literally just the first day of a tournament. It's a good start," Schaufele said. "You just wait until this place firms up. It's going to be nasty."

It already proved to be just that for some players. Justin Rose, the Pebble

Beach winner this year who is returning to good form, opened with a 76. Justin Thomas, Jason Day and Tommy Fleetwood could only manage 73.

PGA champion Brooks Koepka was among the late starters and was 3 over through his first five holes.

Masters champion Jon Rahm, playing alongside Schaufele, opened with a 69. That's typically a solid start in the U.S. Open. This one left him seven shots behind.

Schaufele tends to play his best in the U.S. Open — five top 10s in his six appearances, and he has been among the elite on the PGA Tour the last several years even without winning a major.

Fowler is different. He once finished in the top 5 at all four majors in 2014. But a recent slump made a challenge just to get in them. He was the first alternate last year at Brook-

line and had to go home without hitting a shot.

But he went back to instructor Butch Harmon in September and has played well enough to get back into the top 50 in the world after being in danger of falling out of the top 200 a year ago.

And there he was at a major, putting his name in the record book for all the right reasons.

"It's definitely been long and tough — a lot longer being in that situation than you'd ever want to," Fowler said. "But it makes it so worth it having gone through that and being back where we are now."

But even he offered a degree of caution for the rest of the week.

"There's still plenty of golf to be played. It's going to be tough tomorrow afternoon," he said. "But at least got out of the gate and we're off to a good start."

Devils forward Jesper Bratt gets 8-year, \$63M extension

By The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — The New Jersey Devils locked up one of their talented young players on Thursday, signing Swedish forward Jesper Bratt to an eight-year, \$63 million contract extension.

General manager Tom Fitzgerald announced the deal, which will pay the 24-year-old an average of \$7.875 million annually. The contract starts out with a \$10 million salary next season and gradually

decreases to \$6 million in the final year, 2030-31.

Bratt, who earned \$5.45 million last season, was a restricted free agent. He had 32 goals and 41 assists as the Devils made the playoffs for the first time since 2018. His 32 goals and plus-14 rating were career highs.

"It was always a priority to keep Jesper Bratt here long term and both parties are thrilled that a deal was completed," Fitzgerald said. "I value and commend the commitment Jesper made to this

organization. We believe that he is a special player and a key member of our core group of talent who will contribute toward the team's long-term success, and organizational goal of bringing the Stanley Cup back to New Jersey."

Bratt has played six seasons with the Devils, starting in 2017-18. He is one of 10 players in franchise history to have 70-plus points in multiple seasons. He is also the first Devils player since Zach Parise (2008-09 to 2009-10) with at least

70 points in consecutive seasons.

Bratt slumped in the playoffs, scoring a goal and five assists as New Jersey beat the Rangers in seven games in the first round and lost to the Carolina Hurricanes in five in the second.

Bratt has 102 goals and 174 assists in his career, the most points earned by a player drafted after the second round from the 2016 draft.

Prior to the NHL, the winger spent two seasons playing in Sweden.

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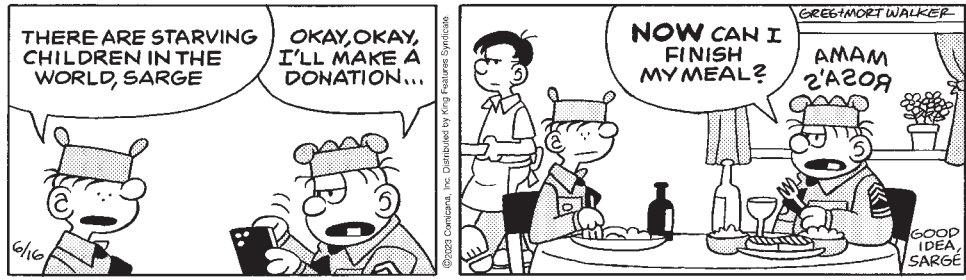
BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



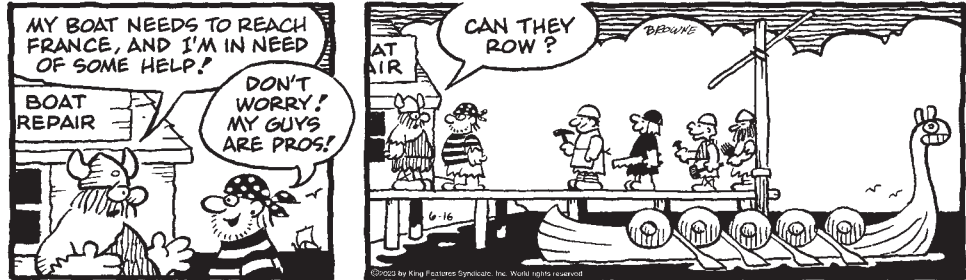
BEETLE BAILEY

BY GREG WALKER, BRIAN WALKER AND NEAL WALKER



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

BY CHRIS BROWNE



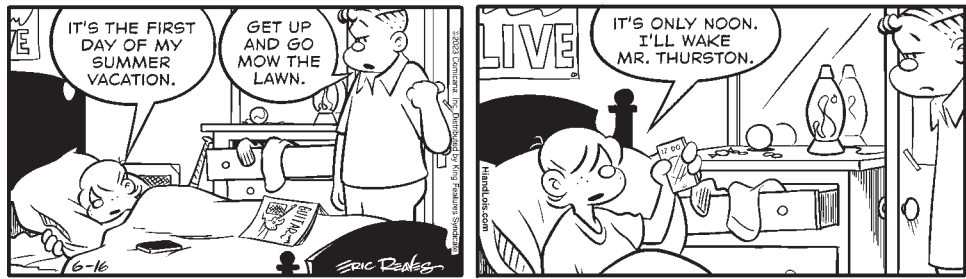
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



HI AND LOIS

WRITTEN BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER; DRAWN BY CHANCE BROWNE



PARDON MY PLANET

BY VIC LEE



RHYMES WITH ORANGE

BY HILARY PRICE



THE BRILLIANT MIND OF EDISON LEE

BY JOHN HAMBROCK



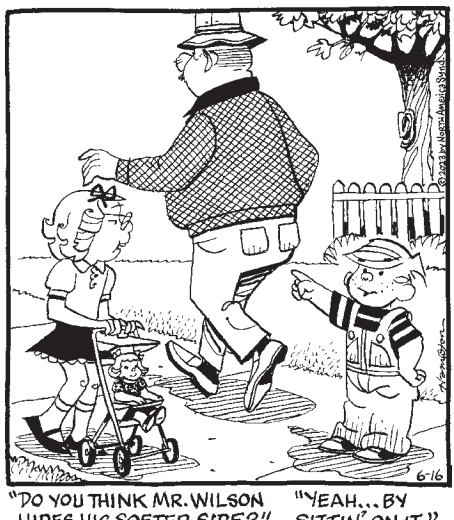
DUSTIN

BY STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER



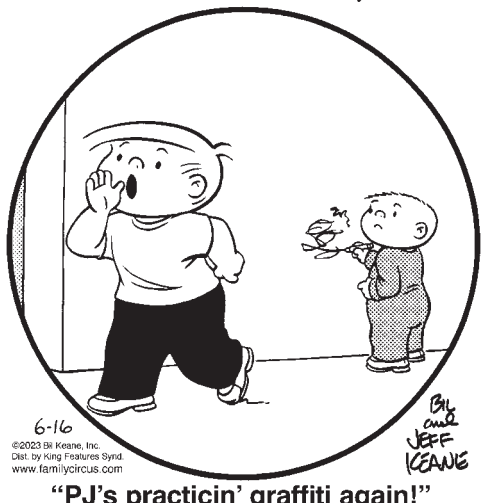
DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 38 Stone unit
 - 1 Roulette rounds
 - 6 Reuben layer
 - 11 Wine grape
 - 12 Decimal part
 - 13 Prologue
 - 14 Texas player
 - 15 Bleachers cry
 - 16 Letter before omega
 - 18 In what way
 - 19 Pigged out
 - 20 Stock holder
 - 21 Cain raiser
 - 22 Survived
 - 24 Ran, as color
 - 25 Hamlet's pal
 - 27 Flat-bottomed boat
 - 29 Beach footwear
 - 32 Golf goal
 - 33 Clinic cost
 - 34 "My word!"
 - 35 Tiny worker
 - 36 Pharaoh's symbol
 - 37 Stroller user
- DOWN**
- 8 Over much time
 - 9 Tried hard
 - 10 Exhibited
 - 17 Calms down
 - 23 Pull
 - 24 Book jacket bit
 - 26 Bad thing to live in
 - 27 Moved apart
 - 28 Second-largest nation
 - 30 Elroy Jetson's dad
 - 31 Hunting dog
 - 33 Trio of myth
 - 39 Great service
 - 41 Fragrant neckwear

H	O	P	E	S		A	C	H	E	D
A	L	E	R	T		R	O	U	G	E
S	E	P	I	A		G	O	T	O	N
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A	D	I	E	U		L	E	N	I	N
G	E	E	S	E		T	W	I	N	S

Yesterday's answer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Helix shape
 - 2 Target at a party
 - 3 Over little time
 - 4 Neither follower
 - 5 Plug
 - 6 Laundry problem
 - 7 Director Anderson
 - 8 Over much time
 - 9 Tried hard
 - 10 Exhibited
 - 17 Calms down
 - 23 Pull
 - 24 Book jacket bit
 - 26 Bad thing to live in
 - 27 Moved apart
 - 28 Second-largest nation
 - 30 Elroy Jetson's dad
 - 31 Hunting dog
 - 33 Trio of myth
 - 39 Great service
 - 41 Fragrant neckwear

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
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15					16	17			18	
19					20				21	
22					23				24	
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27	28					29				30 31
32					33				34	
35					36				37	
38				39			40	41		
42							43			
44							45			

6-16

MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG



THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST & JOHN REINER



"THREE VOTES FOR STANDING DESKS, TWO FOR REGULAR DESKS AND ONE FROM LEROY FOR RECLINERS."

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

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

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty: ★★★

6/15

Difficulty: ★★★

6/16

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THE NICEST, all one level, 2-3 bedroom 2 bath Twin homes with garages in the area. West-side location, near medical, shopping & College. Fully appointed kitchens, with all appliances, including washers/dryers, security systems, walk out back patios and garages with auto garage door openers. Call 660-619-0384 See us on Face book at Ensign Properties.

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2016 FORREST RIVER Freedom Express 24 ft. camper. Garage stored. Used only twice due to illness. Slide out, queen walk-around bed, large bath with/large shower, power canopy. Load leveling hitch & power front leveler. Braces for slide out. Like new \$19,999.00 660-438-2261.

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Little ads. Big results. The Marketplace is a great place to advertise.

YARD SALES

Pettis County

Deer Brook Villas 2 Community Sale
970 Mitchell Rd.
Sat 17th & Sun 18th 8 am-4 pm
Look for participating yards with signs! There is Deer Brook Villa 1-3- this weekend's sale is only section 2.

GARAGE SALE
1205 McVey
Friday 8-5
RAIN OR SHINE!!!
Come shop in our dry garage! Mens Large-4X, Womens Large-3X, shoes, prom dresses, crafts, books, linens, electric car extension cable, kitchen, holiday, candles, jewelry, purses. New stuff added! Lots of misc!!

CITY OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI
UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

REVENUES	GENERAL FUND	LIBRARY FUND	PARK FUND	CENTRAL BUSINESS & CULTURAL DIST FUND	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	MIDTOWN TIF	COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS	SALES TAX SHARING FUND	FIRE & POLICE PENSION FUND	FIRE ACADEMY FUND	TRANSPORTATION FUND	ENTERPRISE FUNDS	TOTAL MEMORANDUM ONLY
Taxes	12,581,227	780,902	4,225,029	40,908	3,985,041	263,277	134,749	0	164,557	0	3,559,907	0	25,735,598
Licenses & Permits	1,044,210	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	37,157	1,081,367
Intergovernmental Contributions	2,038,504	22,743	0	5,000	625,268	1,497	0	0	0	0	1,074,372	0	3,767,383
Charges For Services	159,204	8,907	1,367,632	0	0	0	0	0	0	15,500	4,853	13,364,712	14,920,807
Fines & Forfeitures	131,378	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	131,378
Miscellaneous	3,040,495	29,852	-788,152	13,894	3,479,192	-251,536	83,931	105,336	-292,774	404	142,617	-1,962,261	3,600,999
Total Revenues	18,995,018	842,404	4,804,509	59,803	8,089,500	13,238	218,681	105,336	-128,217	15,904	4,781,749	11,439,609	49,237,533
Expenditures	0												
Administrative	901,308	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	901,308
Finance	1,095,038	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,095,038
Records	263,171	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	263,171
Personnel	298,014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	298,014
Airport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	820,004	0	820,004
Fire	3,760,465	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	957,852	10,388	0	0	4,728,706
Police	5,614,100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,614,100
Street & Alley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,932,224	0	2,932,224
Community Development	904,040	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	904,040
Building Maintenance	432,792	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	432,792
Information Solutions	286,946	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	286,946
Management Of Public Works	442,645	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	442,645
Cemetery	371,081	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	371,081
Vehicle Maintenance	338,645	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	338,645
Animal Control	411,925	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	411,925
Municipal Court	2,100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,100
Debt Service	-1,064,651	100,193	0	0	3,270,718	0	0	0	0	0	0	53,035	2,359,295
Capital Outlay	2,300,208	6,901	0	17,582	4,736,148	0	0	0	0	0	1,189,933	2,811,416	11,062,188
Capital Projects	0	0	726,517.30	0	52,383	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,855,984.30	2,634,884
Library	0	599,183	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	599,183
Park	0	0	4,447,672	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,447,672
Central Bus. /Cultural Dist	0	0	0	12,695	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,695
Midtown Tif	0	0	0	0	0	48,444	0	0	0	0	0	0	48,444
Community Improvement Districts	0	0	0	0	0	0	306,813	0	0	0	0	0	306,813
Sales Tax Sharing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63,235	0	0	0	0	63,235
Sanitation Sedalia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22,750	22,750
Redevelopment Corporation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,768,050	1,768,050
Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,887,814	2,887,815
Water Pollution Control	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,328,685	4,328,685
Total Expenditures	16,357,827	706,277	5,174,189	30,277	8,059,249	48,444	306,813	63,235	957,852	10,388	4,942,161	13,727,734	50,384,447
Excess Of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	2,637,191	136,127	-369,681	29,525	30,251	-35,206	-88,132	42,101	-1,086,069	5,515	-160,412	-2,288,125	-1,146,914
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	0												
Loan Proceeds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Transfer In/Out	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Operating Rev/(Exp)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Payables Not Expensed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Certificate Of Participation Proceeds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Excess Of Revenue And Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures And Uses	2,637,191	136,127	-369,681	29,525	30,251	-35,206	-88,132	42,101	-1,086,069	5,515	-160,412	-2,288,125	-1,146,914
Prior Period Adjustment	0												
Audited Fund Balance March 31, 2022	9,154,344	1,209,763	2,839,369	130,589	5,898,990	40,193	135,289	-89,131	0	10,652	1,542,619	47,513,807	68,386,484
Unaudited Fund Balance March 31, 2023	11,791,535	1,345,890	2,469,688	160,114	5,929,241	4,987	47,157	-47,030	-1,086,069	16,167	1,382,207	45,225,683	67,239,570

Additional Information Available From Jessica Pyle, Finance Director, Municipal Bldg., Sedalia, Mo

Pettis County

GARAGE SALE
2202 2ND ST TERR
SAT ONLY
7:00AM-?

Two bedspreads (full/queen) throws, couch pillows, towels, kitchen items, printer, wall & home decor, books/cookbooks, magazines, flags, Christmas, candles, puzzles, ladies clothing, Miscellaneous. Cash Only.

GARAGE SALE
2405 DENNIS RD
FRI 7-3 & SAT 7-1

Entertainment center, carpet cleaner, kitchen stuff, movies, clothes. And Much More!

GARAGE SALE
2607
STEPHENSON AVE
(SOUTHWEST VILLAGE)
FRIDAY 7-3

50 years of accumulation! Lots of vintage items including: toys, games, home decor, kitchenware, frames, lamps, Newer clothing (Jr 0-7, Women's size 12, Men's XL), shoes, like new large oblong baskets, golf clubs. Rain or Shine!

Garage Sale
2725 S. Grand
Fri- Sat - Sun
8-Late

Extra nice clothes, lots of jeans all sizes, jewelry, baby stuff, knick knacks, tools, free items!

GARAGE SALE
3213
CUNNINGHAM DR
FRIDAY
7:30AM-5PM
SATURDAY
7:30AM-UTC

Kids clothes newborn to 10/12. Women's clothes small to XL. Other: twin stroller, crib, glider chair, women's and children's shoes, desk, decor, maternity, and miscellaneous.

GARAGE SALE
3217
CUNNINGHAM DR
FRIDAY 8-2
SATURDAY 8-12

Deep freeze, men's & women's clothing, tools, kitchenware, dishes, Lot's of miscellaneous.

Garage Sale
3400 State
Highway M
Saturday Only
7am-2pm

Men & Woman's Clothes Designer Purses, Home Decor, Tool Boxes, Dome Grill, Weight Lifting Set, and other items.

MAPLEWOOD
NEIGHBORHOOD
GARAGE SALES

Several homes in the Maplewood neighborhood will be having garage sales Friday, June 16th through Sunday, June 18th 8am to ?? Lots of items for sale. Maplewood is located off east 50 highway, turn south on TT Highway and follow the signs.

Professional Service Directory

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Free estimates • locally owned
HAIL • WIND
STORM DAMAGE



Pettis County

Multi-Family Garage Sale!!
SATURDAY Only!
517 E 27th St.

Name brand Men's, Women's, & Junior girls clothing size med-2X, Baby clothes/items, bedding, appliances, tableware, shoes, exercise bike, tons of home décor & miscellaneous

Multi Family Sale
817 S Wood Dr
Sat Only 7-1

Clothing, S-2XL, boys 10/12, teacher items, scrubs, treadmill, exercise bike, dog kennel, baseball pitching net, weed eater, home decor, couch, kids toys, lots of Miscellaneous.

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

For default in the payment of debt secured by a deed of trust executed by Clarence W. Aldrich and Katherine A. Aldrich, dated March 16, 2007, and recorded on April 5, 2007, Document No. 2007-2257 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Pettis County, Missouri, the undersigned Successor Trustee will on July 7, 2023, at 9:00 AM, at the West Front Door of the Pettis County Courthouse, Sedalia, Missouri, sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash: BEGINNING AT A POINT 65 FEET 6 FEET 6 INCHES WEST OF THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT 16 OF MCVY'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI THENCE SOUTH 222 FEET AND 6 INCHES, MORE OR LESS, TO THE NORTH LINE OF AN ALLEY RUNNING EAST AND WEST, THENCE WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID ALLEY 45 FEET, THENCE NORTH 222 FEET AND 6 INCHES, MORE OR LESS, TO THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 16, THENCE EAST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 45 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, commonly known as 1528 E 5th St, Sedalia, MO, 65301

subject to all prior easements, restrictions, reservations, covenants and encumbrances now of record, if any, to satisfy the debt and costs.

SouthLaw, P.C. Successor Trustee
First Publication: June 9, 2023.
For more information, visit www.southlaw.com

NOTICE

Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. §1692c(b), no information concerning the collection of this debt may be given without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector or the express permission of a court of competent jurisdiction. The debt collector is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose (Casefile No. 239228-1000561).
4x-6/9, 16, 23, 30, 2023

If you are an employer looking to recruit the finest, you can count on qualified candidates getting your message through us.

Manfred suspects many MLB pitchers using banned sticky stuff

By **Ronald Blum**

AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred thinks the use of banned sticky stuff is more widespread than the three pitchers ejected this season for illegal grip aids.

"I am sure that out of an abundance of caution and good judgment, umpires have had questionable situations that they decided: just not quite sure," Manfred said Thursday following an owners meeting. "And I am 100% certain they err on the side of no viola-

tion."
New York Mets pitcher Drew Smith was suspended for 10 games Wednesday, a day after he was ejected. That followed similar bans for Mets teammate Max Scherzer on April 20 and Yankees pitcher Domingo Germán on May 17.

"We talk to the umpires after each situation like that. I think it is fair to say across the board the violation situations were in the unquestionable zone," Manfred said. "It was absolutely clear that the level of stickiness in each situation could not

be have been produced by the allowable use of a rosin bag,"
Five pitchers have been suspended since MLB began its crackdown on foreign substances in June 2021, Seattle's Hector Santiago and Arizona's Caleb Smith served suspensions in 2021.

"Nothing arbitrary about the enforcement," Manfred said. "The umpires all receive uniform training on what the use of rosin on the mound in the way that is allowed under the rules, what that feels like and what it feels like when you're doing

something illegal, either combining it with rubbing alcohol or sunscreen or some other sticky substance.

"I don't accept the premise that that it's arbitrary. And, look, the sticky substance phenomenon was altering the way the game was being played on the field. And we feel that from an integrity and fairness perspective it's our obligation to do everything we can to make sure those rules are enforced. Where the violations happen to fall, that's a product of who's violating, in my view."

College World Series' slugging squads know the long ball only goes so far in Omaha

By **Eric Olson**

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — The batting statistics for the eight College World Series teams suggest there will be home runs aplenty at Charles Schwab Field over the next 10 days.

Five of the top 10 home run-hitting squads are in Omaha, and so are individual national leaders Jac Caglianone of Florida and Wake Forest's Brock Wilken.

"Balls were flying today," Florida shortstop Josh Rivera said Thursday after batting practice. "We had Jac Caglianone hitting balls out of the stadium. It was really cool. All of us from a BP standpoint, we were seeing the balls fly."

Conditions were favorable during the teams' practice day with a light wind blowing out to left. The forecast calls for the wind to blow in from center when the CWS opens Friday.

"It was flying out to all parts of the field," Tennessee's Jared Dickey said. "We have some strong guys. If it plays like it did today, I think we're in a good spot."

Experience has taught TCU coach Kirk Saarloos it takes more than the ability to hit the long ball for a team to leave Omaha with a championship.

Saarloos pitched in two College World Series at

hitter-friendly Rosenblatt Stadium, and he was a TCU assistant when the Horned Frogs played at Schwab during the college game's dead ball period of the early 2010s.

"You're going to face the best of the best on the mound," he said. "So you can't sit there and think that you're going to get your three-run home runs. You're going to have to run the bases and be aggressive and steal bases, maybe use the bunt game."

The CWS features four pitchers projected to be first-round draft picks next month in LSU's Paul Skenes, Tennessee's Chase Dollander, Wake Forest's Rhett Lowder and Florida's Hurston Waldrep.

"It gets tougher and tougher as you move on in the tournament because you are facing the best of the best pitching staffs," said Stanford coach David Esquer, whose team has had back-to-back 100-homer seasons. "We know that good pitching can stop good hitting a lot of times."

TCU (42-22) begins bracket play Friday against Oral Roberts (51-12), the first No. 4 regional seed since Stony Brook in 2012 to make the final eight of the NCAA Tournament. No. 2 national seed Florida (50-15) meets No. 7 Virginia (50-13) on Friday night.

Saturday's games match

No. 1 Wake Forest (52-10) against No. 8 Stanford (44-18) and No. 5 LSU (48-15) against Southeastern Conference rival Tennessee (43-20).

LSU's home run production has been reminiscent of the prodigious numbers put up by Skip Bertman's teams of the 1990s. The Tigers' 133 homers are third most in program history and most for a team entering a CWS since the Tigers arrived in Omaha with 148 in 1998.

"This is the 'Gorilla Ball' program," coach Jay Johnson said. "I think about the teams that achieved those (numbers) that maybe this team is close to. Those are college baseball legends."

Florida and Wake Forest has 129 homers each, Tennessee has 125 and Stanford has 117. Florida's Caglianone has 31 and the Demon Deacons' Wilkens has 30.

There have been 28 homers hit each of the last two years at the CWS, the most since Schwab opened in 2011.

Wake Forest hit 19 homers in regionals and super regionals, led by Danny Corona's six. Deacons coach Tom Walter said he doesn't expect his team to rely on the home run here.

"I thought it carried a little better than I expected it to today," Walter said, "but we still have

to, in general, live lower than we've been living. We certainly can't expect some of the home runs we've hit at our ballpark or other ballparks in the ACC. We definitely have to lower our ball flight."

Virginia comes in with the fewest homers (82), but it leads the nation in doubles (169) and batting average (.335). Coach Brian O'Connor said the expansive outfield could play to his team's advantage.

"I think the key is to stay in the gaps. It really is," O'Connor said. "Somebody told me this morning, and I didn't even realize it, that we were leading the country in doubles. That's a pretty important stat, I believe, in this ballpark."

PITCHING MATCHUPS

Oral Roberts' Jakob Hall (8-3, 3.56 ERA) vs. TCU's Kole Klecker (10-4, 3.84)

Virginia's Nick Parker (8-0, 3.81) vs. Florida's Brandon Sproat (8-3, 4.69)

Stanford's Quinn Mathews (10-4, 3.60) or Joey Dixon (7-0, 4.86) vs. Wake Forest's Rhett Lowder (15-0, 1.92).

Tennessee's Andrew Lindsey (3-3, 2.79) vs. LSU's Paul Skenes (12-7, 1.77).

AP Sports Writer Brett Martel in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, contributed.

Wembanyama bids adieu to France with a defeat as teen prodigy prepares for NBA career

By **Jerome Pugmire**

Associated Press

PARIS — Adieu France, hello America.

They were hugs of goodbye — not of joy — for Victor Wembanyama as he bid farewell to his teammates and the French league, before jetting off for what many predict will be a glittering NBA career.

Wembanyama's performance — 22 points, seven rebounds and four blocks — couldn't prevent his Boulogne-Levallois team losing 92-85 to Monaco in a must-win Game 3 in the best-of-five French league championship series on Thursday.

To accommodate escalating interest in seeing the 19-year-old French prodigy, Game 3 — and 4 if they had won — were switched from a 4,000-seat venue to Court Philippe Chatrier at Roland Garros, home of the French Open tennis

championship which seats more than 14,000.

Fans sang "Merci, Wemby" as the hugely popular Wembanyama waved and clapped at them.

"I'm sorry for the fans who love to see a show," Wembanyama said on beIN Sports television after the game. "Of course I'm proud of what I've managed to do along with my coach (Vincent Collet), in bringing the team to the finals. But I'm not satisfied."

Next week, the San Antonio Spurs are expected to make the 7-foot-3 Wembanyama the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft, where he'll follow in the footsteps of France great Tony Parker and Hall of Famers David Robinson and Tim Duncan.

With Sacramento Kings owner Vivek Ranadivé among the crowd — likely with an eye on Wembanyama teammate Bilal Coulibaly ahead

of the draft — the Mets opened up big leads but with 50 seconds left the score was tied at 85-85. Jordan Loyd, a former NBA player with the Toronto Raptors, sank two 3-pointers to end Wembanyama's hopes of signing off with a French crown.

Ranadivé told beIN Sport that Wembanyama is "amazing" but that "I'm also excited about Bilal. Young guy, lot of skills, so French basketball is in great shape."

Wembanyama, who opened the scoring with a reverse alley-oop dunk, looked sad as he hugged his teammates while Monaco celebrated.

"Wemby had a great game, but this team's unbelievable," said Loyd, who finished with 22 points.

Everything had pointed to a special night for Wembanyama and then a Game 4 on Saturday. Wembanyama clenched

his fist when his pass inside for Devante Jones made it 24-10, then drew roars when he used his giant frame to block a shot early in the second quarter.

The "Wemby, Wemby" chants became louder when he hit a 3-pointer to make it 47-37, louder still when he dished to Coulibaly for a dunk early in the third quarter.

It was not enough, though, and it was "Wemby" who put Elie Okobo on the foul line to give Monaco its first lead, 82-81, with just over three minutes left.

Loyd — not Wembanyama — ended up with the MVP award and the winners' medal on the court where Novak Djokovic made men's Grand Slam history last Sunday with his 23rd men's major title.

Wembanyama's journey to greatness in his sport, however, might only just be starting.