



SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

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Candlebox to perform with 3 Doors Down on Saturday

By Faith Bemiss
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The band plays its final tour

Multi-platinum-selling Seattle rock band Candlebox performs in Sedalia on Saturday, Aug. 12, at the Missouri State Fair Grandstand. This is Candlebox's final tour, and they are opening and supporting 3 Doors Down on their 46-date "Away From The Sun" amphitheater tour.

The band is celebrating 30 years of success. Candlebox's powerful songs, "Far Behind," "You," and "Cover Me," were recently revealed in their final studio album, titled "The Long Goodbye," which will be released on Friday, Aug. 25 through Round Hill Records.

The album's first single, "Punks," was released on Friday, July 14. The new single is a cautionary message to young bands that they won't be the "hot new thing forever." Bari Leiber, the band's music/entertainment publicist, said in a media release the song charges "forward with a

slashing guitar riff and rapid-fire drums, (while) frontman and songwriter Kevin Martin howls about quick-burning success and vacuous trends."

Candlebox is composed of Kevin Martin (lead vocals), Adam Kury (bass), Brian Quinn (guitar), Island Styles (guitar), and BJ Kerwin (drums). The band is on the road through early fall, crossing the country with fellow rockers 3 Doors Down and their headlining shows as they say their final and long goodbye.

Leiber noted "The Long Goodbye," produced by Don Migs, finds Candlebox exploring the ideas of evolving maturity, fleeting time, and lasting love, "all while kicking a lot of ass."

See **BAND | A5**



Multi-platinum-selling Seattle rock band Candlebox will perform Saturday night, Aug. 12 at the Missouri State Fair Grandstand. The concert is part of the band's final tour. PHOTO COURTESY OF CANDLEBOX



A Sedalia Parks and Recreation employee prepares Centennial Pool for its last day of operation Wednesday, Aug. 9. After more than 50 years, the pool is closing and will be demolished this spring. A new aquatics facility is projected to open in Summer 2025 on the east side of Sedalia. PHOTO BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT

Centennial Pool closes after 51 years

By Chris Howell
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Wednesday, Aug. 9 was the final day of swimming at Centennial Pool, a Sedalia landmark most people remember as being in the same location at East 16th Street and New York Avenue for half a century. But Sedalia Parks and Recreation Director Amy Epple told the Democrat that just isn't so.

"This is 51 years," Epple admitted, "but the one thing I try to tell people is that was the location they put Centennial Pool

in 1972, then it came to his life expectancy about 20-25 years. 1997 is when they rebuilt Centennial Pool at the same location. This pool that we're seeing right now is not the pool that was there 51 years ago, it's a different pool."

Municipalities understand local pools generally have life expectancies of around 20 years and plan for replacement in advance. Around 1995, Centennial started to hit its life expectancy and a three-eighths percent sales tax was passed to build the baseball fields, rebuild Centennial Pool and build the new Liberty Pool.

See **POOL | A6**



Wednesday, Aug. 9 started with stormy skies in Sedalia, but the weather eventually cleared for Centennial Pool's last day. The final event at the pool was the annual Doggie Dive hosted Wednesday evening. PHOTO BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT

US inflation has steadily cooled

By Christopher Rugaber

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — Over the past year, inflation in the United States has tumbled from 9% all the way to 3%, softening most of the price pressures that have gripped the nation for more than two years.

Now comes the hard part.

Squeezing out the last bit of excess inflation and reducing it to the Federal Reserve's 2% target rate is expected to be a much harder and slower grind. A measure called "core"

Getting it to Fed's target rate will be toughest mile

inflation, which excludes volatile food and energy prices, is even higher than overall inflation. It, too, seems likely to slow only gradually. The Fed pays particular attention to core prices as a signal of where inflation might be headed. In June, core prices were up 4.1% from a year earlier, according to the Fed's preferred gauge.

"We see some challenges in getting that all the way back to 2% quickly," said Michael Hanson, senior global economist at J.P. Morgan.

The stickiness of inflation could endanger the possibility that the Fed will achieve a rare "soft landing" — a scenario in which it manages to slow inflation down to its target level through higher interest rates without derailing the economy. If inflation were to remain elevated for too long, the Fed might feel compelled to further raise its key rate from its current 5.4%, a 22-year high. Most economists

say they think the central bank is done hiking, but only if inflation continues to cool.

At the same time, the Fed has acknowledged that inflation pressures have eased significantly over the past year. Encouragingly, that slowdown has occurred even while the economy has continued to expand and employers have steadily hired at a healthy pace.

On Thursday, when the government will issue inflation data for July, economists expect it to show a slight pickup in year-over-year inflation to 3.3%. It would be the

first such increase after 12 months of declines.

In part, any rebound in annual inflation for July will reflect higher gas prices. Unless they ease, gas prices could keep overall inflation above 3% through the end of the year. The national average pump price has jumped about 30 cents, to \$3.83, in the past month, partly because the cost of oil has risen.

One obstacle in bringing inflation down to the Fed's 2% target is that the price slowdown so far has reflected mainly relatively painless changes not likely to be repeated. Until last

month, for example, gas prices had already plunged from a peak national average of \$5. And supply-chain snarls that had swollen the prices of cars, furniture, appliances and other physical goods have mostly unwound. The cost of long-lasting manufactured goods actually declined slightly in June from a year ago.

Another factor is that prices had soared in the first half of 2022 before slowing in the second half. So any increase in July would have the effect of boosting the year-over-year inflation rate.

See **INFLATION | A5**



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OBITUARIES

Kathleen Gail Creighton

Kathleen Gail Creighton, 49, of Warrensburg, MO, passed away Sunday, August 6, 2023, at St. Luke's North Hospital in Kansas City and is now in the presence of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



She was born April 22, 1974, in Joliet, IL, daughter of Oliver and Gail Bookhout Jones.

On June 22, 2002, in Plainfield, IL, she was married to Robert Creighton.

Kathy was a 1992 graduate of Plainfield High School. She earned a B.A. in English/Creative Writing, Summa Cum Laude, from Southern New Hampshire University. Her academic successes in college earned her membership in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Kathy enjoyed crocheting and crafting and delighted people with her homemade birthday and greeting cards. She was an avid reader and enjoyed writing stories. She loved

music and shared her beautiful voice in high school choir and in church choirs. Additionally, she liked watching Cubs baseball, video games, and occasionally contributing to Rob's radio shows. She was

a cancer survivor and will be remembered as kind, loyal, loving, and fierce.

Surviving are her husband, Rob, of the home; her parents, Oliver and Gail Jones, of Little Elm, TX; two brothers, Erik Jones of Lewisville, TX, and Mark (Laurel) Jones of Maple Valley, WA; niece and nephews Isabel, Caden, Wesley, Ryne; and mother-in-law Mary Ellen Creighton.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Vernon and Lucile Bookhout, Dale and Katie Jones, and father-in-law Robert Creighton.

Services will be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements are in the care of Heckart Funeral Home.

Richard "Rick" Alan Purvis

Richard "Rick" Alan Purvis, 69, of Sedalia, MO, passed away on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at Boone Hospital Center in Columbia, MO. He was born on October 24, 1953, in Kirksville, MO, the son of William Roscoe Purvis and Dora Dean Penny, who preceded him in death.



On October 27, 1974, at the Downing Baptist Church in Downing, MO, he was united in marriage to Betty Jo (McNary) Purvis, who resides in the home.

Rick served his country 20 years honorably in the United States Air Force, serving 17 of those at Whiteman Air Force Base and the other three years at Vandenberg AFB, California. He worked another 17 years at Whiteman in civil service before retiring the second time. He later went on to teach at State Fair Community College.

He was an amazing leader, mentor, always had a smile on his face, and was a natural teacher. He was a great husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend.

Besides his wife, Rick is survived by two sons,

Jeffrey Alan Purvis, Christopher Mark Purvis, and his wife Sarah Beth; six grandchildren, Isaac, Noah, Zach, Nevaeh, Zoey, and Connor; and three siblings, Larry Purvis, Phyllis Purvis, and Lynn Purvis.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, August 13, 2023, at LifePointe Church, Sedalia, with Pastor Rusty Thomas officiating. The Whiteman Air Force Base Honor Guard will perform full military honors.

A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church.

The burial will be held at a later date at Highland Sacred Gardens, Sedalia, MO.

Pallbearers will be Isaac Purvis, Noah Purvis, Zach Blakey, Lonnie Vance, Phillip Purvis, and Shawn Blakey.

Honorary bearers will be Kurt Brashear, Bobby "Biff" Gentry, and Brandon Wilson.

Memorial contributions may be made to the John Birch Society in the care of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Biden issues order restricting investments in Chinese technology

By Josh Boak

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a sign of growing strains between the world's two biggest powers, President Joe Biden signed an executive order Wednesday that would block and regulate high-tech U.S.-based investments going toward China. It covers advanced computer chips, micro electronics, quantum information technologies and artificial intelligence.

Senior administration officials said that the effort stemmed from national security goals, rather than economic interests and that the categories it covered were narrow in scope. The order seeks to blunt China's ability to use U.S. investments in its technology companies to upgrade its military while also preserving broader levels of trade that are vital for both nations' economies.

The United States and China appear to be increasingly locked in a geopolitical competition, along with their deep trade relationship as the world's two largest economies. Biden administration officials have insisted that they have no interest in "decoupling" from China, yet the U.S. has limited the export of advanced computer chips, sought to limit investments into China and

kept the expanded tariffs set up by President Donald Trump.

Biden has suggested that China's economy is struggling and its global ambitions have been tempered as the U.S. has reenergized its alliances with Japan, South Korea, Australia and the European Union. The administration consulted with allies and industry in shaping the executive order. "Worry about China, but don't worry about China," Biden told donors at a June fundraising event in California.

The officials previewing the order said that China has exploited U.S. investments to support the development of weapons and modernize its military. The new limits would complement the export controls on advanced computer chips that were announced last year. The Treasury Department, which would monitor the investments, will announce a proposed rulemaking with definitions that would conform to the presidential order and go through a public comment process.

The goals of the order would be to have investors notify the U.S. government about certain types of transactions with China as well as to place prohibitions on some investments. Officials said the order is focused on

areas such as private equity, venture capital and joint partnerships in which the investments could possibly give countries of concern such as China additional knowledge and capabilities regarding their military.

The issue is also a bipartisan priority. In July by a vote of 91-6, the Senate added as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act requirements to monitor and limit investments in countries of concern, including China.

Yet reaction to Biden's order on Wednesday showed a desire to push harder on China. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, D-Ill., said the order was an "essential step forward," but it "cannot be the final step." Republican presidential candidate Nikki Haley, a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said Biden should be more aggressive, saying, "we have to stop all U.S. investment in China's critical technology and military companies — period."

Biden has called Chinese President Xi Jinping a "dictator" in the aftermath of the U.S. shooting down a spy balloon from China that floated over the United States. Taiwan's status has been a source of tension, with Biden saying that China had become coercive regarding its independence. China has supported

Russia after its 2022 invasion of Ukraine, though Biden has noted that the friendship has not extended to the shipment of weapons.

U.S. officials have long signaled the coming executive order on investing in China, but it's unclear whether financial markets will regard it as a tapered step or a continued escalation of tensions at a fragile moment.

"The message it sends to the market may be far more decisive," said Elaine Dezenski, a senior director at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies. "U.S. and multinational companies are already reexamining the risks of investing in China. Beijing's so-called 'national security' and 'anti-espionage' laws that curb routine and necessary corporate due diligence and compliance were already having a chilling effect on U.S. foreign direct investment. That chilling now risks turning into a deep freeze."

China's strong economic growth has stumbled coming out of pandemic lockdowns. On Wednesday, its National Bureau of Statistics reported a 0.3% decline in consumer prices in July from a year ago. That level of deflation points to a lack of consumer demand in China that could hamper growth.

FUNERALS

Violet E. Murray

11 a.m. Friday at the La Monte Christian Church in La Monte. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

William Elbert Van Dyke

2 p.m. Friday at Pleasant Hill Cemetery near Sedalia.

Cecil Warren Bohon Jr.

11 a.m. Saturday at Calvary Episcopal Church in Sedalia. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home and Cremation Services in Sedalia.

Richard "Rick" Alan Purvis

3 p.m. on Sunday at LifePointe Church in Sedalia.

Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel in Sedalia.

Bonnie Monahan

11 a.m. Monday at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Cole Camp. Arrangements are under the direction of the Fox Funeral Home in Cole Camp.

John D. Hampton

11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 19 at County Distributing Company in Sedalia.

Rick Schlesselman

11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 19 at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Cole Camp. Arrangements are under the direction of the Fox Funeral Home in Cole Camp.

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

Aug. 8
7:04 p.m.: Hakeem S. Dickson, 26, of the 1000 block of Royal Boulevard, was arrested after officers were dispatched to a business in the 700 block of East Broadway Boulevard in reference to the theft of a Coleman mini-bike. Officers were given a description of the suspect, and he was spotted riding the mini-bike in the area. As officers converged, the suspect hid the motorcycle near a shed behind a residence in the 1000 block of East Seventh Street. Officers took Dickson into custody and found drug-related items during the arrest. He was arrested for first-degree tampering with a motor vehi-

cle, felony tampering with physical evidence and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was transported to the Pettis County Jail and placed on a 24-hour hold.

Incidents

Aug. 8
10:17 a.m.: An officer was dispatched to a business in the 1900 block of West Main Street in reference to a theft report. The manager said a man came into the store earlier in the morning and stole items before leaving.
10:46 a.m.: An officer began an investigation into a report of scamming on a mobile game. A victim who lives outside the country contacted police by email to begin the investigation. The total amount of money stolen was \$1,940.41.
10:39 p.m.: An officer was dispatched to the 200 block of South Moniteau Avenue in reference to property damage. The caller reported finding three bullet holes in her vehicle. She said the bullet holes

were not there the night before. No arrests have been made.

Pettis County Sheriff's Office Incidents

Aug. 7
8:40 a.m.: The sheriff's office received several reports of damaged mailboxes from Sacajawea Road, Quisenberry Road and West Main Street Road. The investigation continues.

Missouri State Highway Patrol Arrests

Aug. 8
9:36 p.m.: Arthur O. Baxley, 43, of Versailles, was arrested in Morgan County for possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance, no rear license plate lamp, headlights not white enough, auxiliary lamps not white or yellow, and failure to register a motor vehicle. He was transported to the Morgan County Jail and placed on a 24-hour hold.

Compiled by Chris Howell.

Get the whole story. **SEDALIA DEMOCRAT**

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OPENING DAY!



THURSDAY • AUG 10

Mizzou Day, presented by the University of Missouri
\$7 gate admission all day (age 13+); \$2 Youth (6-12)
Opening Ceremony & Parade

FRIDAY • AUG 11

Missouri Department of Conservation Day

SALUTE TO OUR HEROES

SATURDAY • AUG 12

Law Enforcement/Firefighter Appreciation Day
Sponsored by Pepsi
FREE gate admission for law enforcement/
firefighters-EMTs-paramedics
\$1 admission for immediate family members

SUNDAY • AUG 13

Military Appreciation Day
Sponsored by GoNetspeed
Free gate admission for military
\$1 admission for immediate family members
Military Resource Fair & Appreciation Ceremony

MONDAY • AUG 14

Farm Bureau/Farm Family Day
Gate admission, carnival wristband & truck/tractor
pull coupons available at county Farm Bureau offices
Free tram rides for all ages, Sponsored by Missouri
Soybean Merchandising Council & Soy Checkoff

TUESDAY • AUG 15

Missouri Farmers Care Food Drive
\$2 Tuesday to benefit Feeding Missouri
• \$2 ADMISSION with minimum donation of
2 cans of food or \$2 donation, age 13+
• \$2 CARNIVAL RIDES most rides, all day
• \$2 VENDOR/CONCESSION SPECIALS
Missouri FFA Food Insecurity Service Day

WEDNESDAY • AUG 16

Senior Appreciation Day
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\$2 off adult & senior gate admission with special
front page coupon from Sedalia Democrat

THURSDAY • AUG 17

Governor's, Legislators' & Judges' Day
Sponsored by Buckle Up Phone Down
Governor's Ham Breakfast
Missouri Travel Alliance Tourism Trade Show

FRIDAY • AUG 18

Missouri Electric Cooperatives Day
FREE LED nightlight to first 1,500 visitors
to the MEC Building today

SATURDAY • AUG 19

Youth in Agriculture Day
Sponsored by Missouri Department of Agriculture
Sale of Champions

SUNDAY • AUG 20

Family Preparedness/Half Price Day
Sponsored by Missouri Department of Public Safety –
State Emergency Management
\$7 gate admission all day (age 13+), \$2 Youth (6-12)

\$5 ADMISSION

AFTER 5PM AUG 13-17

FREE LARGE PUBLIC CAMPGROUND PARKING
Unreserved Spot \$35/day per vehicle/tent

REGULAR GATE ADMISSION

Adult: \$15
Senior (age 60+): \$10
Youth (age 6-12): \$4
Child (5 & Under): FREE



ACCEPTED AT:

- Centennial Gate
- Gates 4, 6, 8 & 11
- Public Campgrounds

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



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THE READING SPOT

Reading real-life stories

By Jamie Sparks
Library Director



Our book club this month is reading the memoir, "Educated" by Tara Westover. Even though this book came out in 2018, I had not gotten to it on my reading list yet. At the end of July, my family went on vacation and I was finally able to read it. Wow! What a story!

I've always loved reading memoirs and autobiographies – hearing real-life stories has always been interesting to me. This book was such a moving and powerful story of Westover's recounts of overcoming her survivalist Mormon family and how she defied the odds in order to attend college.

The entire book just reaffirmed my belief that no matter where you come from or who your family is, an education can truly change your life. As a former educator, I often told kids that where they came from shouldn't hold them back – dream big, even if you didn't come from somewhere big. An education is a powerful thing!

Westover definitely dreamed big and her accomplishments are amazing. Definitely put this book on your reading list. Of course, we have it at the library and it's on the Libby app.

This month, I'm sharing a list of popular memoirs and autobiographies for you to enjoy. The main difference between the two is that an autobiography is an account of one's entire life, but a memoir is usually only about one part of a person's life.

Mark your calendar for the month of September, as we are celebrating library card sign-up month with some fun activities.

I hope to see you at the library soon! Happy reading!

1. "Spare" by Prince Harry
 2. "Becoming" by Michelle Obama
 3. "Untamed" by Glennon Doyle
 4. "The Glass Castle" by Jeannette Walls
 5. "Tuesdays with Morrie" by Mitch Albom
 6. "Pageboy" by Elliot Page
 7. "I'm Glad My Mom Died" by Jennette McCurdy
 8. "Negroland" by Margo Jefferson
 9. "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance
 10. "Educated" by Tara Westover
 11. "Good Friday on the Rez" by David Bunnell
 12. "Kitchen Confidential" by Anthony Bourdain
 13. "Born a Crime" by Trevor Noah
 14. "How to be an Antiracist" by Ibram Kendi
 15. "B.F.F." by Christie Tate
 16. "Finding Me" by Viola Davis
 17. "The Year of Magical Thinking" by Joan Didion
 18. "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" by Maya Angelou
 19. "The Yellow House" by Sarah M. Broom
 20. "From Scratch" by Tembi Locke
- Jamie Sparks is the Director of the Sedalia Public Library.

Looking for ... book recommendations or other literary information? The Democrat publishes a monthly column from the Sedalia Public Library. For more information, call 660-826-1314 or visit facebook.com/sedalialibrary or sedalialibrary.com.

Scientists look beyond climate change, El Nino for factors that heat up Earth

By Seth Borenstein
AP Science Writer

Scientists are wondering if global warming and El Nino have an accomplice in fueling this summer's record-shattering heat.

The European climate agency Copernicus reported that July was one-third of a degree Celsius (six-tenths of a degree Fahrenheit) hotter than the old record. That's a bump in heat that is so recent and so big, especially in the oceans and even more so in the North Atlantic, that scientists are split on whether something else could be at work.

Scientists agree that by far the biggest cause of the recent extreme warming is climate change from the burning of coal, oil and natural gas that has triggered a long upward trend in temperatures. A natural El Nino, a temporary warming of parts of the Pacific that changes weather worldwide, adds a smaller boost. But some researchers say another factor must be present.

"What we are seeing is more than just El Nino on top of climate change," Copernicus Director Carlo Buontempo said.

One surprising source of added warmth could be cleaner air resulting from new shipping rules. Another possible cause is 165 million tons (150 million metric tons) of water spewed into the atmosphere by a volcano. Both ideas are under investigation.

THE CLEANER AIR POSSIBILITY

Florida State University climate scientist Michael Diamond says shipping is "probably the prime suspect."

Maritime shipping has for decades used dirty fuel that gives off particles that reflect sunlight in a process that actually cools the climate and masks some of global warming.

In 2020, international shipping rules took effect that cut as much as 80% of those cooling particles, which was a "kind of shock to the system," said atmospheric scientist Tianle Yuan of NASA and the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

The sulfur pollution used to interact with low clouds, making them brighter and more reflective, but that's not happening as much now, Yuan said. He tracked changes in clouds that were associated with shipping routes in the North Atlantic and North Pacific, both hot spots this summer.

In those spots, and to a lesser extent globally, Yuan's studies show a possible

warming from the loss of sulfur pollution. And the trend is in places where it really can't be explained as easily by El Nino, he said.

"There was a cooling effect that was persistent year after year, and suddenly you remove that," Yuan said.

Diamond calculates a warming of about 0.1 degrees Celsius (0.18 degrees Fahrenheit) by midcentury from shipping regulations. The level of warming could be five to 10 times stronger in high shipping areas such as the North Atlantic.

A separate analysis by climate scientists Zeke Hausfather of Berkeley Earth and Piers Forster of the University of Leeds projected half of Diamond's estimate.

DID THE VOLCANO DO IT?

In January 2022, the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Haapai undersea volcano in the South Pacific blew, sending more than 165 million tons of water, which is a heat-trapping greenhouse gas as vapor, according to University of Colorado climate researcher Margot Clyne, who coordinates international computer simulations for climate impacts of the eruption.

The volcano also blasted 550,000 tons (500,000 metric tons) of sulfur dioxide into the upper atmosphere.

The amount of water "is so absolutely crazy, absolutely ginormous," said Holger Vömel, a stratospheric water vapor scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research who published a study on the potential climate effects of the eruption.

Volmer said the water vapor went too high in the atmosphere to have a noticeable effect yet, but that effects could emerge later.

A couple of studies use computer models to show a warming effect from all that water vapor. One study, which has not yet undergone the scientific gold standard of peer review, reported this week that the warming could range from as much as 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) of added warming in some places to 1 degree Celsius (1.8 degrees Fahrenheit) of cooling elsewhere.

But NASA atmospheric scientist Paul Newman and former NASA atmospheric scientist Mark Schoeberl said those climate models are missing a key ingredient: the cooling effect of the sulfur.

Normally huge volcanic eruptions, like 1991's Mount Pinatubo, can cool Earth temporarily with

sulfur and other particles reflecting sunlight. However, Hunga Tonga spouted an unusually high amount of water and low amount of cooling sulfur.

The studies that showed warming from Hunga Tonga didn't incorporate sulfur cooling, which is hard to do, Schoeberl and Newman said. Schoeberl, now chief scientist at Science and Technology Corp. of Maryland, published a study that calculated a slight overall cooling — 0.04 degrees Celsius (0.07 degrees Fahrenheit).

Just because different computer simulations conflict with each other "that doesn't mean science is wrong," University of Colorado's Clyne said. "It just means that we haven't reached a consensus yet. We're still just figuring it out."

LESSER SUSPECTS

Lesser suspects in the search include a dearth of African dust, which cools like sulfur pollution, as well as changes in the jet stream and a slowdown in ocean currents.

Some nonscientists have looked at recent solar storms and increased sunspot activity in the sun's 11-year cycle and speculated that Earth's nearest star may be a culprit. For decades, scientists have tracked sunspots and solar storms, and they don't match warming temperatures, Berkeley Earth chief scientist Robert Rohde said.

Solar storms were stronger 20 and 30 years ago, but there is more warming now, he said.

LOOK NO FURTHER

Still, other scientists said there's no need to look so hard. They say human-caused climate change, with an extra boost from El Nino, is enough to explain recent temperatures.

University of Pennsylvania climate scientist Michael Mann estimates that about five-sixths of the recent warming is from human burning of fossil fuels, with about one-sixth due to a strong El Nino.

The fact that the world is coming out of a three-year La Nina, which suppressed global temperatures a bit, and going into a strong El Nino, which adds to them, makes the effect bigger, he said.

"Climate change and El Nino can explain it all," Imperial College of London climate scientist Friederike Otto said. "That doesn't mean other factors didn't play a role. But we should definitely expect to see this again without the other factors being present."

Washington University Spring 2023 Dean's List

The following local students have been named to the dean's list for the spring 2023 semester at Washington University in St. Louis.

Sedalia: Makenna Fluegel, College of Arts & Sciences; Eduard Toderescu, graduated in May from College of

Arts & Sciences; Noe Umana-Ramos, College of Arts & Sciences.

To qualify for the dean's list in the College of Arts & Sciences, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 or above and be enrolled in at least 14 graded units.

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- Irish Nachos
- Pulled Pork Nachos
- Jumbo Nachos
- Pulled Pork Sandwich
- Fresh Cut Gator Taters
- Fresh Cut French Fries
- Deep Fried Green Beans
- Deep Fried Pickles Spears
- Deep Fried Mushrooms
- Deep Fried Mozzarella Sticks
- Deep Fried Jalapeños
- Beer Battered Onion Rings
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- Deep Fried Pie
- Deep Fried Candy Bars
- Cherry & Strawberry Limeade's
- Soda & Iced Tea

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STATE BRIEFS

Child wounded when shots fired into home in St. Louis area

ST. LOUIS — Someone fired several shots into a house and wounded a 9-year-old child Wednesday, the third shooting involving a child this week in the St. Louis area, police said.

The shooting happened around 9:40 a.m. Wednesday in north St. Louis County. County police said the child was hospitalized with what they described as non-life-threatening injuries.

On Monday, 7-year-old Darnell Macon died while playing with a loaded gun in a pickup truck in the St. Louis County town of

Berkeley. The boy's grandfather was charged with child endangerment and armed criminal action.

Also Monday, 5-year-old Dariyah Lathan was shot and killed in Belleville, Illinois, near St. Louis. Police have not released information about the circumstances of the shooting, but said they do not believe a suspect is at large.

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SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

The right plants, TLC can help your garden get through the heat

By Jessica Damiano

Associated Press

With record-breaking heat striking many places across the country and around the world, my social media feeds are filling up with gardeners' laments – and photos of their fallen annuals and perennials.

Although my tomatoes in suburban New York have been stalled at green for the past few weeks, my flower garden is thriving. This despite having to endure 100-degree temperatures, mainly without supplemental irrigation (I've watered my flower beds and borders just twice this summer, and even then, only as a precaution).

But I'm not doing anything special to turn my plants into superheroes. All I did was select the right ones at planting time – and plant them with TLC.

CHOOSING HEAT-TOLERANT PLANTS

In extreme heat, especially when that heat is dry, soil moisture evaporates quickly, and plants turn to their own limited moisture reserves to rehydrate. This requires them to direct their energy, which should be spent on growth, flowering, fruiting and reproducing, toward cooling and hydrating. The stress often depletes them.

When plants are native to a region, they have naturally developed deep, extensive root systems that can reach distant moisture sources when the immediate area around them dries out.

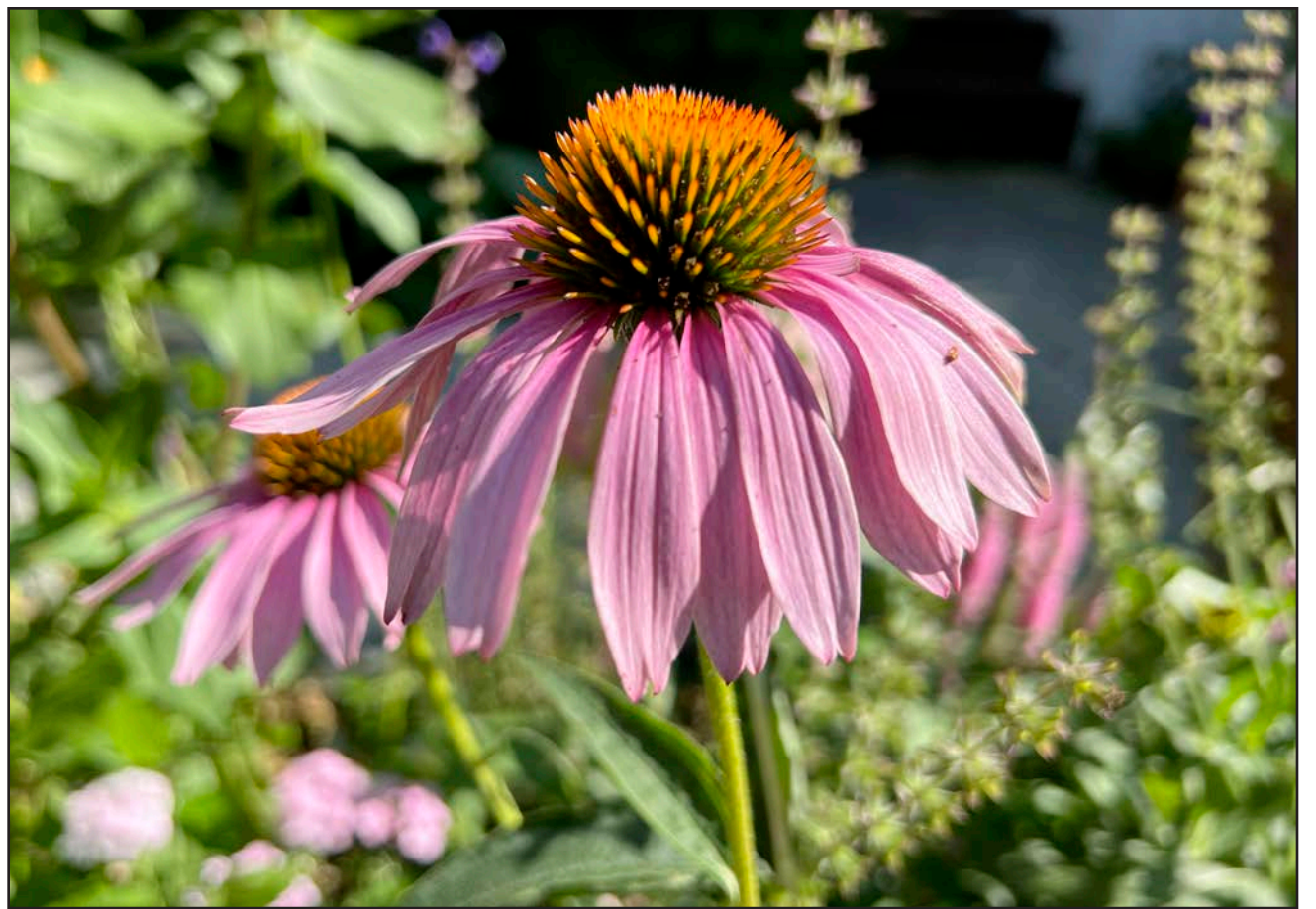
Many exotics, however, including most annuals, have shallow root systems. That means they must rely on the top few inches of soil for all their water needs. When it dries up, so do they.

To save water, money – and heartache – research which plants are native to your area. You might start your search with the resources at Homegrown National Park's website.

In my New York region, that means perennials like bee balm (*Monarda didyma*), black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*), gayfeather (*Liatris spicata*), gray goldenrod (*Solidago nemoralis*), lanceleaf coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*), New York (*Aster novi-belgii*) and New England (*Aster novae-angliae*) asters and butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), all recurring themes throughout my garden.

But I also have some well-behaved, non-native, heat- and drought-tolerant perennials in my flower beds, and annuals in pots.

Mildew-resistant "Bounce" impatiens, for



This July 28, 2023, photo provided by Jessica Damiano shows a purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*) growing in a Long Island, New York, garden. The plants are heat- and drought-tolerant. PHOTO BY JESSICA DAMIANO VIA AP

instance, live up to their name in my containers, bouncing back from heat wilt with a good soaking at the end of a brutal day.

Annual and perennial succulents, like sedums (also called stonecrop), are highly tolerant to dry, hot weather due to their thick, sap-filled leaves, which – sort of like a camel's hump – store moisture and release it as the plants need it.

Other plants that hold their own under harsh

heat include angelonia, beardtongue (*Penstemon* spp.), begonia, million bells (*Calibrachoa* spp.), catmint (*Nepeta* spp.), floss flower (*Ageratum* spp.), lantana, lavender (*Lavandula* spp.), marigold (*Tagetes* spp.), moss rose (*Portulaca oleracea*), petunia, salvia, verbena and zinnia.

PLANTING TIPS

When planting, I always dust root balls with powdered mycorrhizae fungi, which colonize roots

and help plants tolerate environmental stresses, including severe heat. I also treat them to a monthly dose of a seaweed-containing fish emulsion and a vitamin-hormone-kelp product.

Seaweed, which includes kelp, has been shown to improve stress tolerance in plants. I find the protocol also helps plants adjust quickly after dividing and transplanting.

Finally, a liberal mulch

application is the proverbial cherry on top of your soil. Mulch not only keeps things looking tidy, it also suppresses weeds, keeps soil temperatures even, and retains soil moisture, which can mean the difference between plant life and death when the going gets hot.

—
Jessica Damiano writes the award-winning *Weekly Dirt Newsletter* and regular gardening columns for *The AP*.

Band

From Page A1

Along with the hard-rock lead single "Punks," the 10-track collection includes the "sneering statement of independence" "What Do You Need," co-written by Nick Brown of the alt-rock band Mona, who also appears on the track, and the "moody, atmospheric" "Elegante," where Kevin "dives headlong into creative word-play" "The Long Goodbye" is Candlebox's eighth studio album.

The band began in 1991 with Martin and Scott Mercado; it took a hiatus in 2000 and reunited in 2006. Wednesday afternoon, Aug. 9, Martin spoke to the Democrat about the band's final tour.

"It's bittersweet," Martin said of the final tour and album. "Looking back, it's been 30 years, and it's hard to know the right time to do it."

He added the final show would be complex emotionally. And he said he tries not to think about that last concert, which will be on Oct. 14 in Santiago, Chile.

The band has been on tour since May 31, and Martin said they are "beat-up" but in a fantastic way. Being on the road with 3 Doors Down and opening for them non-stop is grueling, but the bands enjoy playing together. Martin said they have been good friends for 20 years.

He added the music on the album, "The Long Goodbye," provides a look at the "good, the bad and the ugly, of all the stuff that goes along with being a touring musician."

"And a musician that's had a 30-year career," he noted. "There are songs on here like, 'Punks,' which is basically, it doesn't matter what you think you're doing, it's all been done before — just do it better, and don't try to be something that you're not."

"Then there's a song like

"Cellphone Jesus," he continued. "Which is about everybody's needs right now in life. And if you had the opportunity to pick up the phone and call Jesus, would you do it for the things that you need or would you do it for the right reasons?"

He added the album is about humanity, humility, patience, and life.

"Every song has kind of a different statement to it," Martin said. "But it is really just about the things I've experienced and what I've learned over 30 years."

Martin added that he and the band wrote all the songs as a collaborative effort. The next single, "What Do You Need," will be released Aug. 16, and it addresses the question, how much more does anyone need?

"Is greed a good thing or a bad thing?" Martin said. "Is desire a good thing or a bad thing, you know? How far are you willing to push yourself for those things? And be careful what you wish for."

Martin said he wants to thank the band's Missouri fans for supporting them for 30 years. He added he has roots in Missouri and attended school in St. Joseph.

"Missouri's got a special place in my heart," he noted. "My dad moved us there when I was about 6 years old. I went to kindergarten there, and I loved it."

"A lot of the formation of who I am as a human being comes from the Midwest," he continued. "And I'm just so grateful that I've been able to do this, thanks to the people who have let me do it for 30 years."

When asked what his plans are once the last concert is over, Martin said with a laugh he plans to sleep for a year.

Candlebox will play at the State Fair Grandstand at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12. Tickets are \$35 and \$45 and may be purchased at the Missouri State Fair Box Office.

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

Inflation

From Page A1

What's now sending prices up is mostly the cost of services — everything from dental care and auto insurance to restaurant meals and summer concerts. Those costs mostly reflect healthy wage gains for workers, which are often passed on to customers in the form of higher prices.

"Energy prices are off, commodity prices off, core goods fell," said Kristin Forbes, an economist at MIT and a former member of the Bank of England's interest-rate setting committee. "That's the quick, easy stuff. What's left is this underlying wage-service inflation. And that's the part that's harder to slow down and will take longer."

Many employees, especially in the economy's service sector, could push for further raises in the coming months. With labor shortages still a problem for service industries, workers have leverage to demand higher pay. For most Americans, pay gains have trailed inflation over the past two years.

Higher pay is one key issue driving strikes among Hollywood writers and actors. It was also a focus of the Teamsters union in its negotiations with UPS, which led to large pay gains. The United Auto Workers is also pushing for robust raises in its talks with U.S. auto-makers.

Hanson, of J.P. Morgan, notes that measures of health insurance costs will start to rise this fall because of quirks in how the government measures them. And auto insur-

"I wouldn't use the term optimism about this yet..."

ance and repair costs have been surging. A key reason is that vehicle prices soared after parts shortages developed when the pandemic erupted; costlier cars are more expensive to fix and insure. Auto insurance prices have soared nearly 17% in the past year.

As a result, economists generally expect core prices, under the Fed's preferred measure, to still rise at a 3.5% annual pace by year's end — far above its 2% target. The Fed's latest forecasts show that its policymakers expect core inflation to still be 2.6% at the end of 2024.

Still, there are some hopeful signs that hiring and wages are slowing, which would cool inflation over time. On Friday, the government reported that employers added 187,000 jobs in July, a solid total but still reflective of a slowdown: Job growth over the past three months has averaged only about half the pace of the same period in 2022. And wage growth slipped to 4.6% in the April-June quarter, the government said, the slowest pace in a year and a half.

"That trajectory tells

us where things will go in the next 12 months," said Skanda Amarnath, executive director of Employ America, an advocacy group.

At his most recent news conference, Fed Chair Jerome Powell sounded some cautious but hopeful notes about the prospect of a soft landing.

"I wouldn't use the term optimism about this yet," he said. "I would say though that there's a pathway... We've seen so far the beginnings of disinflation without any real costs in the labor market. And that's a really good thing."

Yet a defining characteristic of the post-pandemic economy has been resilience, with consumers in particular showing a surprisingly persistent willingness to spend. Some economists worry that it will take a sharp rise in unem-

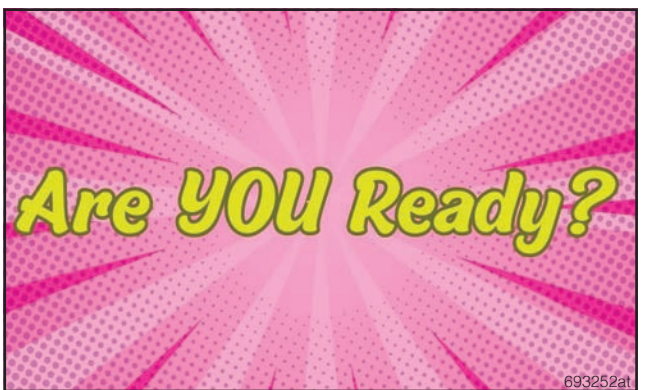
ployment to reverse that trend and finally conquer inflation.

The Fed has already been coming under some criticism for sharply raising rates and potentially putting the job market at risk. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, a Massachusetts Democrat, wrote Powell before the Fed met last month and urged him to forgo another rate increase. The central bank, though, went ahead with its 11th rate hike since March 2022.

"The Fed's aggressive rate hikes disproportionately threaten Black workers and their families and risk fully reversing the extraordinary labor market gains we have seen," Warren, a frequent Fed critic, wrote.

With political pressure on the Fed rising, Powell and other officials may soon see the precipitous drop in inflation in the first half of this year as having been the easy part.

"The Fed has got lucky so far in what it's gotten," said Steven Blitz, chief U.S. economist at GlobalData TS Lombard. "Most of the decline in inflation was going to happen anyway. They really own the part that's to come."



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Pool

From Page A1

“(Former Parks and Rec Director) Mark Hewitt, who was actually the first manager at Centennial, when he became director, knew aquatics,” Epple said. “He knew to start putting money away, and when he got to where he could do that, he started putting money aside. When he retired in 2017, he had \$2 million put away in reserve for a new aquatic facility.”

Park planners knew they would have to reevaluate the cost of building two separate outdoor facilities, with a staggering cost of up to \$20 million.

“If we do one large aquatic facility, you’re looking at around \$8 million and it’s cheaper to operate and everything,” Epple said. “Mark put that \$2 million aside, in my five years, I’ve put a million aside, so we have \$3 million in reserve that goes to that pool.”

With no tax increase planned, loans would cover the cost of building the single outdoor aquatics facility.

“We just can’t afford to do two new pools. We’re going to need to do one large big one,” Epple said. “The Park Board is already set on the east side of town, so we hope here in the next couple weeks to be able to release the information on where it’s going and to do a story and let people know where the new Aquatic Center is going to be located.”

Demolition of Centennial Pool will begin next spring and will cost roughly \$100,000. A baseball-themed splash pad will be built on the site.

On Wednesday, admission was free for Centennial Pool’s last day of operation, and snow cones were handed out to patrons from 5:30 to 6 p.m. According to the Sedalia Parks and Rec Facebook page, Hewett and his grandchildren were planned to be the last swimmers in the pool when it closed at 6 p.m. The final event at Centennial Pool was the annual Doggie Dive on Wednesday evening, which took place after the official closing time.

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

Carcinogens found at Montana nuclear missile sites

By Tara Copp
Associated Press

Reports of hundreds of cancers surface

WASHINGTON — The Air Force has detected unsafe levels of a likely carcinogen at underground launch control centers at a Montana nuclear missile base where a striking number of men and women have reported cancer diagnoses.

A new cleanup effort has been ordered.

The discovery “is the first from an extensive sampling of active U.S. intercontinental ballistic missile bases to address specific cancer concerns raised by missile community members,” Air Force Global Strike Command said in a release Monday. In those samples, two launch facilities at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana showed PCB levels higher than the thresholds recommended by the Environmental Protection Agency.

PCBs are oily or waxy substances that have been identified as a likely carcinogen by the EPA. Non-Hodgkin lymphoma is a blood cancer that uses the body’s infection-fighting lymph system to spread.

In response, Gen. Thomas Bussiere, commander of Air Force Global Strike Command, has directed “immediate measures to begin the cleanup process for the affected facilities and mitigate exposure by our

airmen and Guardians to potentially hazardous conditions.”

After a military briefing was obtained by The Associated Press in January showing that at least nine current or former missileers at Malmstrom were diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma, a rare blood cancer, the Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine launched a study to look at cancers among the entire missile community checking for the possibility of clusters of the disease.

And there could be hundreds more cancers of all types, based on new data from a grassroots group of former missile launch officers and their surviving family members.

According to the Torchlight Initiative, at least 268 troops who served at nuclear missile sites, or their surviving family members, have self-reported being diagnosed with cancer, blood diseases or other illnesses over the past several decades.

At least 217 of those reported cases are cancers, at least 33 of them

non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

What’s notable about those reported numbers is that the missileer community is very small. Only a few hundred airmen serve as missileers at each of the country’s three silo-launched Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile bases any given year. There have been only about 21,000 missileers in total since the Minuteman operations began in the early 1960s, according to the Torchlight Initiative.

For some context, in the U.S. general population there are about 403 new cancer cases reported per 100,000 people each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and non-Hodgkin lymphoma affects an estimated 19 of every 100,000 people annually, according to the American Cancer Society.

Minuteman III silo fields are based at Malmstrom, F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming and Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota.

Missileers are male and female military officers who serve in underground launch control centers where they are responsible for monitoring, and if needed, launching fields of silo-based nuclear weapons. Two missileers spend sometimes days at a time on watch in underground bunkers,

ready to turn the key and fire Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles if ordered to do so by the president.


The Minuteman III silos and underground control centers were built more than 60 years ago. Much of the electronics and infrastructure is decades old. Missileers have raised health concerns multiple times over the years about ventilation, water quality and potential toxins they cannot avoid as they spend 24 to 48 hours on duty underground.

The Air Force discovery of PCBs occurred as part of site visits by its bioenvironmental team from June 22 to June 29 in the Air Force’s ongoing larger investigation into the number of cancers reported among the missile community. During the site visits a health assessment team collected water, soil, air and surface samples from each of the missile launch facilities.

At Malmstrom, of the 300 surface swipe samples, 21 detected PCBs. Of those, 19 were below levels set by the EPA requiring mitigation and two were above. No PCBs were detected in any of the 30 air samples. The Air Force is still waiting for test results from F.E. Warren and Minot for surface and air samples, and for all bases for the water and soil samples.

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SCAN ME

THE WEATHER



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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
83 / 67	93 / 70	89 / 69	85 / 67	83 / 63	85 / 64	93 / 70
Warmer with clouds and sun	Mostly sunny and warmer	Humid with a strong t-storm	Some sun, a t-storm; humid	Sunny, nice and less humid	Pleasant with plenty of sun	Sunny

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 6:22 a.m.
Sunset tonight 8:14 p.m.
Moonrise today 12:58 a.m.
Moonset today 4:32 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
Aug 16	Aug 24	Aug 30	Sep 6

WEATHER HISTORY

An East Coast hurricane favored the British on Aug. 10, 1778. In the monstrosous waves, smaller British ships had the advantage over larger French ships.

ALMANAC

Sedalia Regional Airport Tuesday

TEMPERATURES

High	87
Low	64
Normal high	87
Normal low	66
Record high	106 in 1946
Record low	45 in 1989

PRECIPITATION

Tuesday	0.00"
Month to date	6.84"
Normal m-t-d	1.13"
Year to date	26.00"
Normal y-t-d	28.03"

COOLING DEGREE DAYS

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

Tuesday	11
Month to date	106
Year to date	1048
Normal year to date	813
Last year to date	1178

RIVER LEVELS

In feet as of 7 a.m. Wednesday

Blackwater	Stage	Chg	Fid Stg
Blue Lick	7.13	-0.21	24
Valley City	2.43	-0.03	22

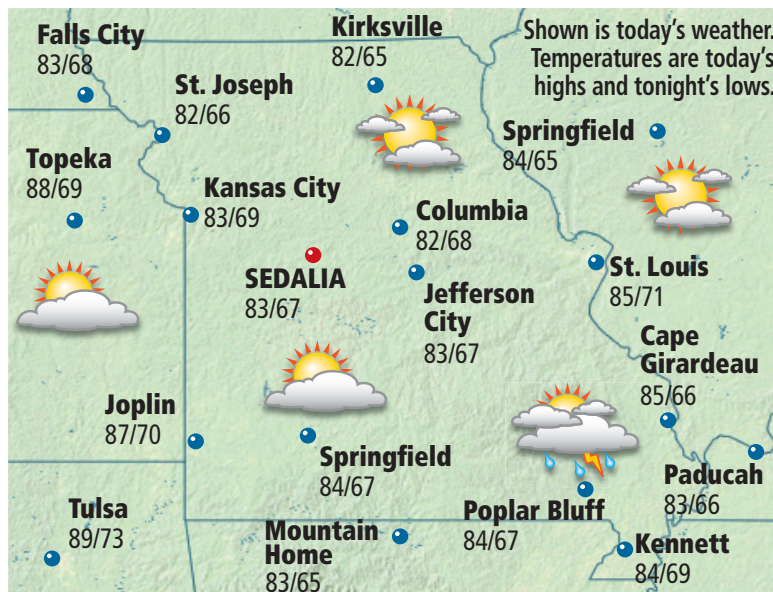
Lamine

Otterville	1.91	-0.33	15
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Missouri

Boonville	11.82	-1.67	21
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Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2023



BRANSON
High: 86. Low: 64. Humid today with sunshine and some clouds. Mainly clear tonight. A heavy thunderstorm tomorrow.

KANSAS CITY
High: 83. Low: 69. Humid today with clouds and sun. Mainly clear and humid tonight. Tomorrow: mostly sunny and humid; a heavy thunderstorm at night.

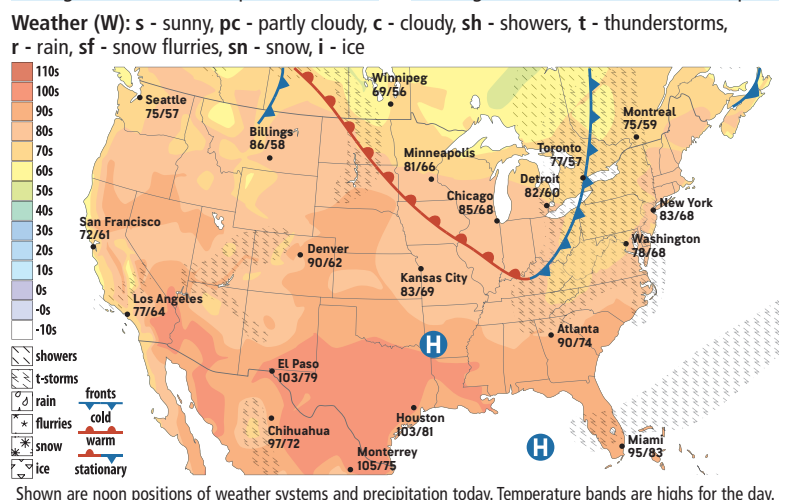
ST. LOUIS
High: 85. Low: 71. Partly sunny and humid today. Mainly clear tonight. Tomorrow: mostly sunny and humid; a heavy thunderstorm at night.

NEW YORK CITY
High: 83. Low: 68. Rather cloudy and more humid, heavy rain and a thunderstorm this afternoon; there can be flooding in low-lying and poor drainage areas.

LOS ANGELES
High: 77. Low: 64. A passing shower during the morning; otherwise, mostly cloudy and humid today.

NATIONAL WEATHER

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	90/74/t	92/74/t	Milwaukee	84/69/s	81/68/t
Baltimore	76/64/t	88/67/pc	Nashville	85/71/t	89/75/pc
Billings	86/58/pc	85/60/s	New Orleans	100/82/pc	100/81/pc
Boston	85/68/r	82/65/s	Norfolk	87/72/t	88/73/pc
Buffalo	75/60/t	74/64/s	Oklahoma City	91/71/s	98/76/pc
Charlotte	87/70/t	89/70/t	Orlando	98/79/t	98/78/t
Chicago	85/68/s	85/68/t	Phoenix	108/86/s	107/87/s
Cleveland	80/64/t	81/66/pc	Pittsburgh	74/62/r	82/63/pc
Dallas	106/84/s	106/83/s	Portland, ME	83/63/pc	80/58/pc
Denver	90/62/pc	89/61/pc	Portland, OR	82/60/pc	83/61/s
Detroit	82/60/t	80/68/pc	Sacramento	87/59/s	85/59/s
Honolulu	89/77/pc	89/77/s	St. Louis	85/71/pc	82/75/s
Houston	103/81/s	103/80/pc	San Francisco	72/61/pc	72/60/pc
Indianapolis	83/66/c	85/69/pc	Seattle	75/57/pc	76/59/pc
Las Vegas	101/81/pc	100/80/s	Washington, DC	78/68/t	86/70/pc



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"Faith is Fearless"

Millions struggle to pay AC bills in heat waves

By Jesse Bedayn

Associated Press/Report for America

Federal aid reaches only a fraction

DENVER — Bobbie Boyd is in a losing battle against near triple-digit temperatures in northwest Arkansas.

Her window air conditioner runs nonstop and the ballooning electric bill carves about \$240 out of her \$882-a-month fixed income. So the 57-year-old cuts other necessities.

Boyd eats one meal a day so her 15-year-old grandson, who she's raising alone, can have two. She stopped paying car insurance and skips medical appointments.

"The rent and the light bill. And I'm broke," said Boyd, who needs the cooling to stave off her heat-induced asthma attacks.

As climate change ratchets up temperatures across the U.S., millions of the poorest Americans grapple with the same agonizing decisions as Boyd — between perilous indoor heat or paying costly bills. While President Joe Biden has invested billions into federal programs that subsidize the poorest Americans' energy costs, the money reaches only a fraction of the most vulnerable during the sweltering summer months.

Nationwide, nearly 30 million American households struggle to pay their energy bills and qualify for the subsidy, but less than 3% receive it for their summer bills, according to the latest, preliminary federal data.

Compared to food stamps, which reach over 80% of the eligible pop-

ulation nationwide, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, or LIHEAP, falls far short even as climate change helped make July Earth's hottest month on record and air conditioning becomes a means of survival.

That's because most states run out of their federal funding every year, according to the Department of Health and Human Services, which oversees the program.

"We're likely to see the energy insecure population grow unless we have some pretty significant and substantial government intervention," said Michelle Graff, who studies the federal subsidy at Cleveland State University.

As it stands, many states don't even offer the assistance for summer months, and those that do often run out of funds before the hottest days roll around. The program was founded decades ago with a focus on winter heating bills and has been slow to adapt to climate change's hotter summers.

Biden has promoted LIHEAP as "crucial for low-income families to help with their energy bills," saying last week that during the sweltering summer, "even when the heat is over, many of our families may see their largest-ever energy bill."

On a visit Tuesday, Biden told a crowd north of Phoenix — where residents endured 31 straight days above 110 degrees in which at least 18 people

died indoors without air conditioning — that "extreme heat is America's No. 1 weather-related killer."

Still, in Arizona, the nation's hottest state where roughly 650,000 low-income households qualify for the federal energy help for cooling assistance, only about 11,600 actually received it, according to the federal data.

Samira Burns, a Health and Human Services official, said in a statement that the Biden administration doubled the LIHEAP budget through the American Rescue Plan and that HHS has updated guidance to help states target support during extreme heat.

"The Biden-Harris Administration has prioritized ensuring that eligible households seek and receive the utility assistance they need," she said. "We know we must continue to do all that we can."

Just outside Phoenix five years ago, the death of 72-year-old Stephanie Pullman on a sweltering day after her electricity was cut off because of a \$51 unpaid bill brought attention to the danger heat poses to people who are energy insecure.

While Arizona power companies are now banned from cutting off customers during the hottest months, last year nearly 3 million people had their power disconnected for failing to pay bills — a third within the three hottest summer

months, according to data collected by the Energy Justice Lab.

"In the more extreme, but not at all rare circumstance, the risk is death," said Sanya Carley, who studies energy policy at the University of Pennsylvania and is co-director of the Energy Justice Lab.

When Candace Griffin of Houston, Texas, received disconnection notices this summer, she scrambled to keep the electricity flowing by seeking nonprofit assistance to pay monthly bills that surpassed \$400. There wasn't anywhere else to pull extra money from.

"I have to pay the energy bill, I have to have lights, I have to have AC," the 51-year-old said. And, "I have to eat."

The poorest Americans and minority communities already live in hotter neighborhoods and many suffer without air conditioning at all. While there are tax credits and rebates to help install air conditioning, most remain out of reach for impoverished households.

But even with air conditioning, those with the lowest incomes face higher costs than their wealthier counterparts — in part because they are more likely to live in older, less insulated and drafty homes.

Energy insecure households paid 20 cents more per square-foot for energy usage than the national average, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The federal Weatherization Assistance Program helps shore up low-income homes to make them better insulated, less leaky and reduce reliance on air conditioning and heating altogether. Still, while almost 40 million low-income households are eligible, only about 35,000 households get the help each year, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

"It's because, just, lack of funds," said Bruce Tonn, who studies the program at a Tennessee research nonprofit. Biden has since infused billions into the program, investments he touted Tuesday.

The program is critical because it reduces energy bills, which tip roughly a quarter of low-income households into debt, according to Carley of the Energy Justice Lab. And, if electricity is disconnected, costs just add up. The fridge warms and the food goes bad; utility companies charge hefty reconnection fees.

"It becomes very, very difficult for them to dig out and to be able to ... pay their next energy bill," said Carley, who added that about half of households who are disconnected have been disconnected before.

National nonprofits, including the The Salvation Army and Catholic Charities, offer emergency financial aid, which thousands rely upon, especially since LIHEAP requires a multi-step application

every year. Vivian Romero, who is raising two teenage granddaughters outside Phoenix, has used federal LIHEAP money in the past to pay her electric bill, before the family experienced a few months of homelessness.

But Romero hadn't reupped her request for LIHEAP this year, so to pay her \$314 June power bill she looked to Catholic Charities, which wrote a check.

Still, nonprofits often can only provide relief once a year, said Romero, adding she will reapply for LIHEAP help. "The Catholic Charities funding was a one-time thing."

In Arkansas, Boyd recently got a disconnection notice if she didn't pay the electric bill after receiving an extension. Last time her power got shut off, she and her grandson slept in the car. This time, The Salvation Army kept Boyd from being disconnected.

Boyd doesn't receive LIHEAP; she didn't even know that the financial aid was available.

"The only thing between me and the sun is the roof," she said.

Associated Press writer Anita Snow in Phoenix contributed. Bedayn is a corps member for the Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a nonprofit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on undercover issues.

Perseid meteor shower peaks this weekend and it's even better this year

By Maddie Burakoff

AP Science Writer

NEW YORK — The annual Perseid meteor shower reaches its peak this weekend, sending bright trails of light streaking across the night sky.

With only a sliver of moon in the sky, conditions this year will be ideal for seeing lots of meteors.

"If you've got nice clear weather and a good dark sky, you go out just before dawn and you'll see a Perseid per minute or so," said NASA meteor scientist Bill Cooke. "That's a pretty good show."

Here's how to watch the meteor shower: **WHAT ARE THE PERSEIDS?**

The Perseids — one of the biggest meteor showers we can see — occur every year in the late summer. Meteor showers happen when the Earth moves through fields of debris floating around in space. The Perseids come from comet Swift-Tuttle, a

big ball of ice and rock that sheds pieces of dusty debris as it orbits around the sun. When the Earth passes by, those bits get caught in our atmosphere and burn up, creating the streaking lights. The Perseids get their name from the constellation Perseus, because the meteors' paths appear to start out from this point in the sky.

WHEN IS THE SHOWER?

This year's shower is already active, but the main event will be this weekend, when the shower reaches its peak from Saturday night into Sunday morning. Starting around 11 p.m. local time Saturday, a few meteors will start to show up — maybe one every 15 minutes, Cooke estimated. They'll keep picking up the pace until before dawn on Sunday, when "you'll see meteors appear all over the place," he said.

HOW CAN I SEE THEM?

During this weekend's peak, the moon

will be a waning crescent — just a small slice in the sky. That's good news because a bright moon can make it harder to spot the meteors. Last year, the moon was full during the peak. Anyone in the Northern Hemisphere will have a good view this year, as long as the sky is clear of light pollution and clouds. You don't need any equipment to see them, but you will need to give your eyes around half an hour to adjust to the dark. Avoid looking at your cellphone since that can ruin your night vision.

The Perseids can appear anywhere in the sky. So just "lie on your back, look away from the moon and take in as much sky as you can," Cooke said.

Utah man suspected of threatening Biden shot, killed as FBI served warrant

By Lindsay Whitehurst and Sam Metz

Associated Press

PROVO, Utah — An armed Utah man accused of making threats against President Joe Biden was shot and killed by FBI agents hours before the president was expected to land in the state Wednesday, authorities said.

Special agents were trying to serve a warrant on the home of Craig Deleuw Robertson in Provo, south of Salt Lake City, when the shooting happened at 6:15 a.m., the FBI said in a statement. Robertson was armed at the time of the shooting, according to two law enforcement sources who spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity to discuss details of an ongoing investigation.

Robertson posted online Monday that he had heard Biden was coming to Utah

and he was planning to dig out a camouflage suit and "clean the dust off the m24 sniper rifle," according to court documents.

In another post, Robertson refers to himself as a "MAGA Trumper," a reference to former President Donald Trump's "Make America Great Again" slogan.

The posts indicated he did appear to own a long-range sniper rifle and numerous other weapons, as well as camouflage gear known as a "ghillie suit," investigators

said in court records. Robertson was charged under seal Tuesday with three felony counts, including making threats against the president, court documents show.

Robertson also referenced a "presidential assassination" and made a long list of other online threats, including against top law enforcement officials overseeing court cases against Trump: Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland and New York Attorney General Letitia James.

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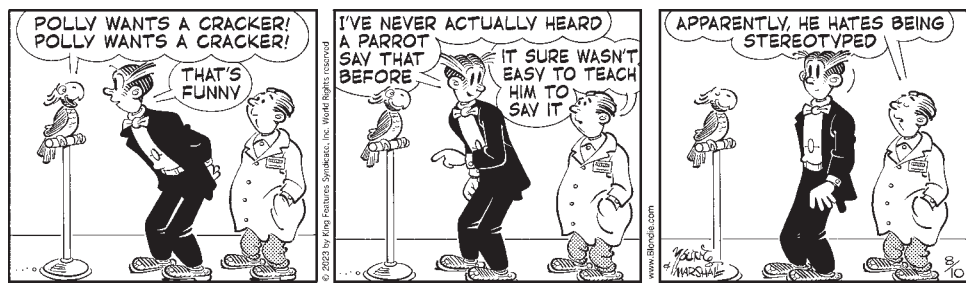
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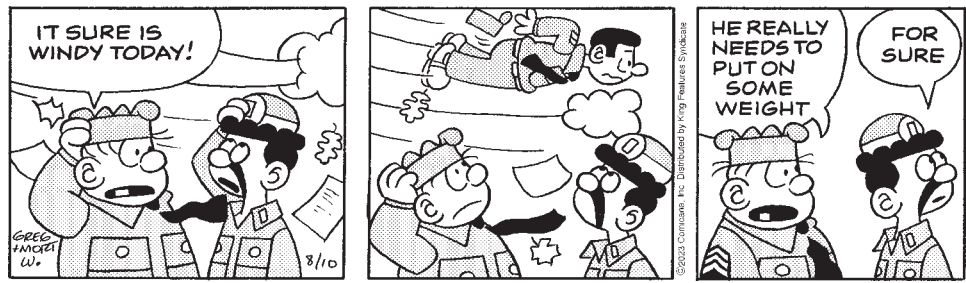
BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



BEETLE BAILEY

BY GREG WALKER, BRIAN WALKER AND NEAL WALKER



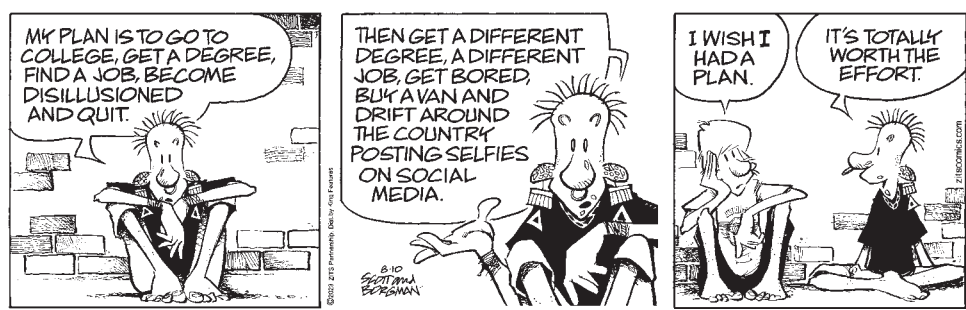
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

BY CHRIS BROWNE



ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



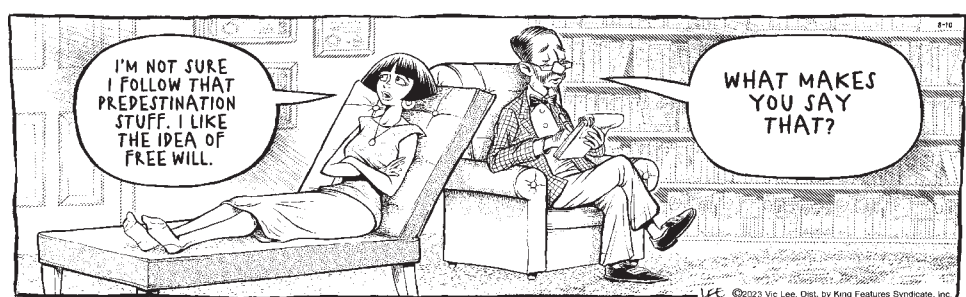
HI AND LOIS

WRITTEN BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER; DRAWN BY CHANCE BROWNE



PARDON MY PLANET

BY VIC LEE



RHYMES WITH ORANGE

BY HILARY PRICE



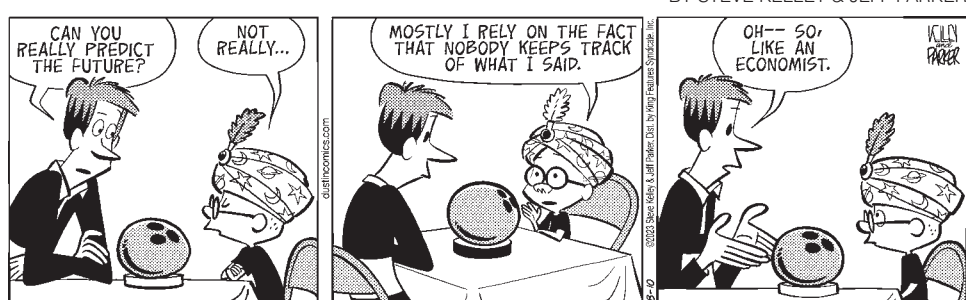
THE BRILLIANT MIND OF EDISON LEE

BY JOHN HAMBROCK



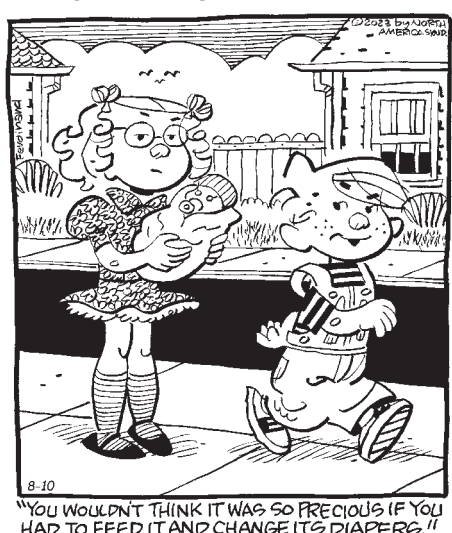
DUSTIN

BY STEVE KELLEY & JEFF PARKER



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Viking of the comics
- 6 "Hotline Bling" rapper
- 11 In the know
- 12 Desert spots
- 13 Principle along
- 14 Pulls along
- 15 Mechanic's place
- 17 — relief
- 19 One or more
- 20 Whale group
- 23 Unbroken
- 25 Face feature
- 26 "Licensed to Ill" hip-hop group
- 28 Brown songbird
- 29 Top-notch
- 30 Mess up
- 31 Add up
- 32 "— your loss!"
- 33 Reclining seat
- 35 Eminem collaborator
- 38 Wanderer
- 41 In the lead
- 42 Skip the ceremony

- 43 Fails miserably
- 44 Very serious

DOWN

- 1 Derby or boater
- 2 Reverent wonder
- 3 "Mass Appeal" hip-hop duo
- 4 Region
- 5 Take back
- 6 Potentially dangerous
- 7 Steak choice
- 8 High — kite
- 9 Tapped item
- 10 Snaky shape
- 16 Island near Barbuda
- 17 Preacher's book
- 18 Lend — (hear out)
- 20 "Survival Kit" hip-hop group
- 21 To date
- 22 Buttes' kin
- 24 Inquire
- 25 Magic org.
- 27 White weasels
- 31 Throws off
- 33 Beach crawler
- 34 Song for one
- 35 Bit of ointment
- 36 P lookalike
- 37 Rep.'s rival
- 39 Zoo beast
- 40 German article

T	H	O	N	G		T	O	G	A	
R	A	C	E	D		E	A	V	E	S
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Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	
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13						14					
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35	36	37					38			39	40
41							42				
43							44				

8-10

MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG



THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST & JOHN REINER



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

Answer to previous puzzle

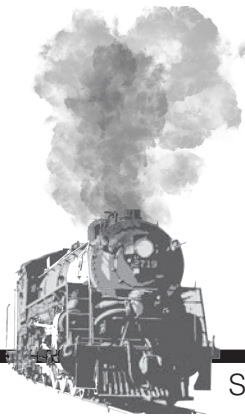
2	4	8	7	1	5	9	3	6
9	6	7	4	3	8	1	5	2
1	3	5	2	6	9	7	4	8
3	2	1	9	8	6	5	7	4
4	7	6	5	2	3	8	9	1
5	8	9	1	4	7	2	6	3
7	1	3	6	5	2	4	8	9
8	9	4	3	7	1	6	2	5
6	5	2	8	9	4	3	1	7

Difficulty: ★★★

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Difficulty: ★★★

8/10



Save the date: Fall sports matchups to circle

By Bryan Everson
bryane@sedaliademocrat.com

If local athletes are squeezing practices and a trip to the fair into their schedules, it can only mean that Friday nights and fall sports games are quick to follow.

Last season produced individual qualifiers at the state level as well as football teams that produced at or above expected levels. Predicting high school outcomes year-to-year can be about as reliable as forecasting the economy, but rivalries and returning standouts can provide a good idea of what games may prove make-or-break in a given season.

With that in mind, these are some of the key dates or matchups in the area for the fall sports season.

BOYS SOCCER Sacred Heart at Smithton, Sept. 12

Not to rule out other Kaysinger Conference programs, but until proven otherwise, this could be the matchup that decides who wins this year's regular season title yet again.

The Gremlins are expected to be the favorites this

time around as they return essentially all their production from last year's 16-9 squad, but timing seemed to benefit the Tigers when they scored a 3-2 victory in Sedalia in 2022 even if Sacred Heart took a meeting for the conference tourney title later in the slate.

The upcoming meeting will be held on Myrtle Avenue, so Smithton will have home-field advantage going its way in what could again be a preview of the Kaysinger tourney final.

FOOTBALL Warrensburg at Smith-Cotton, Sept. 8

An obvious pick with the Silver Tiger Trophy at stake. Last time Sedalia's own emerged victorious in the rivalry was a 34-12 win on Sept. 1, 2017.

That means five losses in a row in the series for S-C, with an average margin of over three touchdowns separating the sides, although last year's defeat was just by nine. Quarterback Kobe Westphal is back for 'Burg, as are some of the other skill positions, but there's turnover expected up front.

S-C will be coming off two games on the road, so there's no better opponent

for a home opener as head coach Josh Gray seeks his first win when the Tigers in red come to town.

Cole Camp at Lincoln, Oct. 6

After getting blanked by the Cardinals in three games from 2016-18, the battle for Benton County supremacy has gotten more exciting since the Bluebirds busted a seven-game losing streak in the series by knocking off their rivals in the 2020 playoffs.

A regular season meeting last October came down to the wire, then Lincoln won again with the stakes raised significantly in the form of a district championship, though Cole Camp went largely without the services of two-way star Reid Harrison, who suffered a serious injury in the first quarter. Harrison is back, while both teams will turn the page at QB, making this year's showdown as intriguing as ever.

MEN'S SOCCER St. Charles CC at State Fair Community College, Sept. 9

Matches between the Cougars and Roadrunners have been highly competitive in recent years. There's



Cole Camp's Grant Steenburgen attempts to wrap up Lincoln running back Ross Johnson in last year's playoff meeting between the two teams on Nov. 11, 2022. The two sides will meet this season on Oct. 6 in Cardinals' territory. FILE PHOTO BY BRYAN EVERSON | DEMOCRAT

no better example than a Region 16 Tournament game in which St. Charles ended SFCC's season in penalty kicks, 11-10.

Since then, the Roadrunners took two matchups, drew another after overtime, and lost in another postseason before a 2-0 defeat on the road last season, with all but the most recent meeting being decided by a single goal or less.

When the teams meet

in Sedalia this season, the Roadrunners will have already gotten four games under their belt, so it could provide more insight into what's in store than the back-to-back home games to start the year at the end of this month.

VOLLEYBALL Northwest at Stover, Oct. 3

Not to rule out a perennial contender in Sacred Heart, but the Kaysinger

Conference regular season crown could easily be determined in Morgan County with this one.

Of the 14 first-team All-Kaysinger players from 2022, six came from these combined schools. Just one, Stover's Tierra Stark, has graduated from the pair of sides that won 49 games altogether last season and should approach that number again. It'll be a fun night in the Stover Dome.

Ex-Raider Ruggs sentenced to 3-plus years in prison for fatal DUI crash

By Ken Ritter
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Former Las Vegas Raiders player Henry Ruggs was sentenced Wednesday to at least three years in a Nevada prison for killing a woman in a fiery crash while driving his sports car drunk at speeds up to 156 mph on a city street nearly two years ago.

"I sincerely apologize," the former first-round NFL draft pick said as he stood for sentencing in Las Vegas after pleading guilty in May to felony DUI causing death and misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter, a charge carrying a six-month jail sentence that will be folded in with his three-to-10-year prison term.

Ruggs, now 24, was cut by the Raiders while he was still hospitalized following the predawn crash on Nov. 2, 2021. The collision killed Tina Tintor and her dog, Max, and injured Ruggs' passenger, Kiara Je'nai Kilgo-Washington, his fiancée and mother of their daughter.

"I have no excuses," Ruggs



Former Las Vegas Raiders NFL football player Henry Ruggs III stands in the courtroom during his sentencing hearing at the Regional Justice Center, Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023, in Las Vegas. Ruggs pleaded guilty May to felony DUI causing death and misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter. PHOTO BY STEVE MARCUS | LAS VEGAS SUN VIA AP

gs said, citing pain the case has caused his family, teammates and Tintor's family. Ruggs said that after prison, he intends to counsel others "about the dangers of driving at unsafe speed and driving and drinking."

In a statement read in court by Tintor's cousin, David Strbac, Tintor's mother, Mirjana Komazec, offered grief, grace and memories of "what it was like to hug and embrace her, knowing we will never be able to kiss her on her forehead or tell her how much we love her and how

absolutely proud of her we are."

"We pray that Henry Ruggs is blessed with the opportunity to be able watch his beautiful daughter grow into the amazing woman she can be," Komazec's statement said. "And we pray that this terrible accident inspires positive change in the world. We pray that we all take away the importance of looking out for one another, remembering everyone we meet is another human's loved one."

See PRISON | A14

Monahan says PGA Tour, Saudi deal is on the right path

By Doug Ferguson
AP Golf Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Back to full health, Commissioner Jay Monahan said Wednesday the PGA Tour is on the right path to finalize a deal with the Saudi backers of LIV Golf. Whether he's the best person to lead the tour will be measured by results of the surprise agreement.

"I am confident when we complete this process, this will be a rewarding result for PGA Tour players and the fans," Monahan said in a roundtable media discussion.

He spoke publicly for the first time since returning to work July 17, having stepped away for five weeks with what had been described only as a "medical situation." Monahan said it was anxiety that had built up for two years, and there were no guarantees when he stepped away on June 14 that he would make it back.

The task ahead is just as big.

The agreement for a new commercial venture

with Saudi Arabia's national wealth fund and the European tour is to be finalized by Dec. 31 — that includes the future of LIV Golf — all the while Monahan is faced with regaining trust from players who felt betrayed about the PGA Tour's about-face deal with the Saudis.

He said his only regret about the deal was keeping players in the dark.

"I put players on their back foot," he said. "That's something I regret and will not do again."

Asked if he was the right person for the job, Monahan

said, "I understand the position I'm in in the short term. But I think the real answer to that question is where are we at the end of this year? And I think where we're going to be ... is going to be a very positive place."

Monahan offered few details on the negotiations with the Public Investment Fund with the media — and with players in his first formal meeting with them Tuesday afternoon — because negotiations are ongoing. Tour officials met with PIF last weekend.

See PGA | A14



PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan speaks during a news conference before the Travelers Championship golf tournament at TPC River Highlands, in Cromwell, Conn., June 22, 2022. FILE PHOTO BY SETH WENIG | AP PHOTO

NFL preseason could test how teams approach new kickoff rule

By Josh Dubow
AP Pro Football Writer

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — As a player who solidified his place in the NFL as a special teams standout with his skill covering kicks and blocking for returns, San Francisco 49ers linebacker Oren Burks has a keen interest in the preseason.

With a new rule on kickoffs giving return teams the ball at the 25 after fair catches in the field of play, Burks is waiting to see how often teams utilize the option and how often kicking

teams try to prevent it with squib kicks.

"I'm sure the preseason will be a time for coordinators to kind of play with the rules and see what works and what doesn't," Burks said. "But for a guy that loves covering kicks, I'm not a big fan of a lot of fair catches."

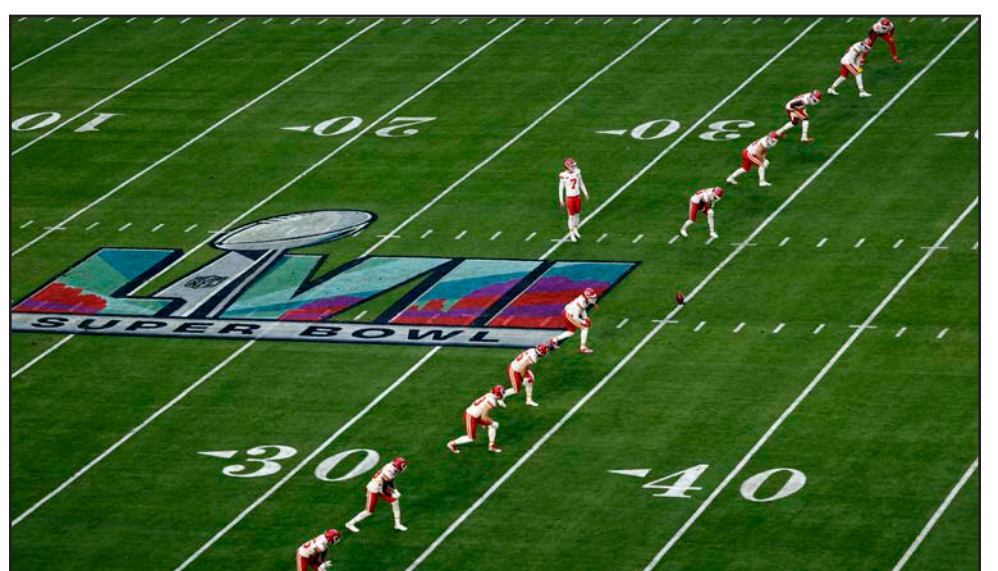
Burks is far from alone, as many of his fellow special teams standouts have been vocal about a rule change that was put in for safety reasons but could take away an aspect of the game that got many players into the NFL.

Despite their opposition, owners voted in May for a one-year trial of an enhanced touchback rule.

"I kind of take it as a slap in the face," said Jets special teams standout Justin Hardee, who made his first Pro Bowl team last season. "That's how guys feed their family, man. That's how I feed my family. So that's an opportunity that's taken away."

A group of special teams coaches rallied together and tried to lobby the NFL against the change but were unsuccessful.

See NFL | A14



FILE — Kansas City Chiefs place kicker Harrison Butker (7) waits to kick off to the Philadelphia Eagles during the NFL Super Bowl 57 football game Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023, in Glendale, Ariz. FILE PHOTO BY ADAM HUNGER | AP PHOTO

SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday ON AIR

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

4:30 a.m. (Friday)
FS2 — AFL: Geelong at Collingwood

AUTO RACING

8 p.m. ESPN — SRX: Racing Series, Rossburg, Ohio

CFL FOOTBALL

8 p.m. CBSSN — Winnipeg at Edmonton

FISHING

3 p.m. CBSSN — SFC: The White Marlin Open, Ocean City, Md.

GOLF

5 a.m. USA — LPGA: The AIG Women's Open, First Round, Walton Heath Old Course, Tadworth, England
1 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour: The FedEx St. Jude Championship, First Round, TPC Southwind, Memphis, Tenn.

5 p.m. GOLF — USGA U.S. Women's Amateur: Round of 16, Chambers Bay, University Place, Wash.

HORSE RACING

5 a.m. (Friday)
USA — LPGA: The AIG Women's Open, Second Round, Walton Heath Old Course, Tadworth, England

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

LEAGUE BASEBALL

Noon ESPN2 — Little League World Series: TBD, Midwest Region — Semifinal, Whites-town, Ind.

2 p.m. ESPN — Little League World Series: TBD, Regional, Bristol, Conn.

4 p.m. ESPN2 — Little League World Series: TBD, Regional, San Bernardino, Calif.

6 p.m. ESPN — Little League World Series: TBD, Regional, Bristol, Conn.

8 p.m. ESPN2 — Little League World Series: TBD, Regional, San Bernardino, Calif.

LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL

Noon ESPN — Little League Softball World Series: TBD, Game 15, Greenville, N.C.

4 p.m. ESPN — Little League Softball World Series: TBD, Game 16, Greenville, N.C.

MLB BASEBALL

11:30 a.m. MLBN — Regional Coverage: Houston at Baltimore OR Atlanta at Pittsburgh

2:30 p.m. MLBN — Regional Coverage: Toronto at Cleveland (Joined in Progress)

5:30 p.m. MLBN — Regional Coverage: St. Louis at Tampa Bay OR Washington at Philadel-

phia
9 p.m. MLBN — Colorado at LA Dodgers

NFL FOOTBALL
6 p.m. NFLN — Pre-season: Houston at New England

9 p.m. NFLN — Pre-season: Minnesota at Seattle

RUGBY (MEN'S)
4:30 a.m. FS2 — NRL: Penrith at Manly-Warringah

SOCCER (MEN'S)
8:55 p.m. FS2 — CONCACAF Central American Cup Group Stage: Dirigangen FC vs. Comunicaciones, Group C, Diriamba, Nicaragua

SOCCER (WOMEN'S)
8 p.m. FOX — FIFA World Cup: Spain vs. Netherlands, Quarterfinal, Wellington, New Zealand

2:30 a.m. (Friday)
FOX — FIFA World Cup: Japan vs. Sweden, Quarterfinal, Auckland, New Zealand

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

WNBA BASKETBALL
6 p.m. PRIME VIDEO — Minnesota at Indiana
9 p.m. NBATV — Atlanta at Seattle
PRIME VIDEO — Connecticut at Phoenix



New York Governor Kathy Hochul, left, Buffalo Bills owner Terry Pegula and Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown, right, participate in the groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the new Bills Stadium in Orchard Park, N.Y., Monday June 5, 2023. Three months since construction began on their new stadium, the Buffalo Bills are already facing a potential cash crunch with latest projections having the team on the hook for as much as \$300 million in cost over-runs, four people with direct knowledge or briefed on the financial details told The Associated Press this week. FILE PHOTO BY JEFFREY T. BARNES | AP PHOTO

New Bills stadium cost overruns approaching \$300m, AP sources say

By John Wawrow
Associated Press

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Three months since construction began on their new stadium, the Buffalo Bills are already facing a potential cash crunch with the latest projections having the team on the hook for as much as \$300 million in cost overruns, four people with direct knowledge or who were briefed on the financial details told The Associated Press this week.

What was initially estimated to cost \$1.4 billion in March 2022, and increased to \$1.54 billion months later, is now projected to have jumped to \$1.65 billion and approaching \$1.7 billion, the people told the AP on the condition of anonymity because the team has not disclosed those figures.

The rising price tag is notable because the Bills are contractually required to cover any overruns beyond the then-agreed to cost of \$1.4 billion as part of the tentative deal the team reached with the state and Erie County 16 months ago.

Increased labor and material costs were cited for the increased price, with one person saying one line item has already come in at \$75 million over budget. Another person said a delay in sending out bids also had an effect in upping the cost.

The Athletic first reported on the cost overruns last weekend, and cited unidentified individuals as projecting the stadium's price tag

potentially reaching \$1.9 billion.

Newly appointed Bills COO John Roth called the projections premature and speculative at best.

"We don't know enough yet to confirm this," Roth told the AP on Wednesday, noting only a small percentage of the contracts and bids have been completed.

Roth took over three weeks ago after Ron Raccuia was abruptly fired.

Raccuia was involved in stadium negotiations and took on an even larger role over the final year after team co-owner Kim Pegula suffered a debilitating heart attack in June 2022. Raccuia was fired last month, with co-owner Terry Pegula taking over as team president and designating a three-person committee — headed by Roth — to oversee the Bills and the construction project.

A ballooning price tag would place a larger-than-expected burden on the Bills, who were initially committed to covering \$550 million of the construction costs. Their share now stands to potentially match the taxpayer contribution of \$850 million, with \$650 million due from the state, and the remainder from Erie County.

The Bills agreed to cover the cost overruns in exchange for having full control over the stadium's design and construction.

One of the people told the AP before negotiations began that overruns were expected based on the Bills' projected cost of \$1.4

billion. The Bills had initially pegged the cost of the stadium at about \$1.5 billion before switching design firms.

The Bills are funding their share through the NFL's G4 loan program. The rest of the money is being raised through a first-time seat licensing fee for season-ticket holders.

It's unclear how the Bills would make up the difference, and what cost-cutting measures they can make to the design of a 60,000-plus seat facility being built across from their current home in Orchard Park, New York.

The rising projections come as the Pegulas, who also own the NHL's Buffalo Sabres, are expected to soon approach the city to discuss long-needed renovations to the team's downtown arena.

KeyBank Center has not had a major upgrade since it opened in 1996, and needs work to its roof, concourses and seating bowls.

The renovation needs are so significant the project would have to be spread out over several offseasons.

Pegula has a projected net worth of \$6.7 billion and made his fortune through the natural gas industry by discovering and then selling off the drilling rights of tracts of gas-rich fields across the country.

Pegula, for example, helped fund his \$1.4 billion purchase of the Bills in 2014 by selling the drilling rights on about 75,000 acres of land in Ohio and West Virginia for \$1.75 billion.

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Fully Cooked Sausage Patties \$6.99 4 lbs.	<p>*** BONUS SPECIAL ***</p> <p>Fancy Shredded Co-Jack Cheese \$1.99 lb.</p>	
Premium Frying Cheese \$1.09 10 oz.	Smoked Pork Chops \$1.99 lb.	
Vanilla Cold Brew Coffee 2/\$1.50 32 oz.	<p>«« Deli »»</p> <p>Pepper Jack SALE \$4.25 lb. reg. \$4.99 lb.</p> <p>German Bologna SALE \$3.49 lb. reg. \$3.99 lb.</p> <p>Jalapeno Loaf SALE \$4.50 lb. reg. \$5.25 lb.</p>	
Golden Puff Cereal 99¢ 23.5 oz.	<p>Taking Orders for New York Concord Grapes</p> <p>\$15.50 Approx. 18 lb. box</p>	

Prices Good August 9 - 15, 2023 • While Supplies Last.

Sunshine Foods LLC

DELI • SURPLUS GROCERIES • BULK FOODS • BAKERY

19532 Hwy. C, Barnett, MO 65011
Between Versailles & Highpoint on Hwy. C

573-378-6500

Cheddar and Monterey Jack Cheese Shreds \$10.49 5 lb	Sedona Blend Dark Ground Coffee \$2.99 12 oz Sale was \$3.49	Oats and DK Chocolate Granola Bars \$1.99 17 oz
FC Boneless Ribeye Roast \$3.99 lb	Colby Jack Cheese Sticks \$1.25 9 oz	FC Seasoned Beef Taco Meat \$7.99 5 lb
Mesa Sunrise Organic Cereal \$2.75 26 oz	Cheese and Caramel Popcorn Mix 35¢ 1.5 oz \$5.99 cs 24	15% OFF Poly Furniture in Stock

Sale Prices Good thru August 15th, while supply lasts

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

STORE HOURS: Mon-Sat 8am - 5pm
Fri 8am - 6pm • Closed Sunday

We Now Accept EBT

HOROSCOPES

By Georgia Nicols

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

Happy Birthday for Thursday, Aug. 10, 2023:

You have excellent communication skills because you like to please others. You also like to benefit others. This is a year of reflection, both inwardly and outwardly. Explore philosophies and ideas that will give you a better self-awareness and get you closer to the truth of the meaning of your life.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Although you're eager to talk to others today, run errands and take short trips, be aware that conversations, especially related to your job or your health, might go south in a New York minute. People are touchy and things are glitchy. (But you can still have fun.) Tonight: Socialize!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Today is a positive day if you can avoid financial arguments with your kids or financial disputes about social occasions like perhaps who picks up the tab at lunch — that sort of thing. Steer clear of money talk. Actually, it's a nice day to entertain at home. Tonight: Business is good.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Today the Moon is in your sign, which gives you an edge over all the other signs. Why not ask the universe for a favor? Having said this, tread carefully when talking to family members, especially if you're involved in a home repair project. Tempers are a bit frayed. Tonight: You're happier.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ This is the kind of day that blows hot and cold. Discussions about money, earnings, purchases or anything to do with your belongings might go very well. Nevertheless, you might find yourself at odds with siblings, relatives and neighbors. Go figure. Easy does it. Tonight: Solitude.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Basically, relations with friends and members of groups can be a positive experience for you today. It might be a good day to share your hopes and dreams for the future to get someone's feedback. Having said that, disagreements about money and possessions are also likely. Tread carefully. Tonight: Be friendly.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ In some ways, relations with bosses, parents and VIPs will go well today, especially if this interaction is low-key or private. Nevertheless, especially later in the day, you might find yourself at odds with authority figures. Postpone asking for favors to another day. Tonight: Looking positive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Today you have an urge to travel or do something different to spice up your day. However, another influence is present, and it could create arguments if you get involved in controversial subjects like politics, religion or legal issues. Zip thy lip. Tonight: Explore!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ You make a great impression on others today, even if you're discussing shared property, funding or how to involve the responsibilities of others. But on the flipside, arguments with friends and members of groups about these same topics might arise. Be aware of this. Tonight: Check your finances.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Discussions about philosophy, religion, travel and other cultures will be exciting and will likely broaden your horizons today. You're eager to learn and talk to different people. However, go gently in discussions with bosses, parents and VIPs, because these will be dicey and challenging. Tonight: Cooperate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Steer clear of squabbles about politics, travel and legal or medical matters. These will not go well today. However, issues related to work budgets, funding and getting backup equipment or help from others will likely be successful. Today is a mixed bag. Tonight: Work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ This is a tricky day. Fun times, social outings and sports events will go well, especially when dealing with partners and close friends. This is the good part. The bad part is that the cost of social activities, sports matters, taking care of kids or perhaps vacation expenses could lead to squabbles. Tonight: Relax.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Even though things are going well at work today with co-workers as well as bosses, things might not go as well when dealing with close friends, partners or spouses. Patience is your best friend today. Remember, fiery Mars is opposite your sign, waiting to provoke you. Stay chill. Tonight: Entertain.

BORN TODAY

Actress Angie Harmon (1972), actor Antonio Banderas (1960), reality star Kylie Jenner (1997)



Los Angeles Chargers safety Alohi Gilman (32) works during the second half of an NFL football game against the Atlanta Falcons, Sunday, Nov. 6, 2022, in Atlanta. If Alohi Gilman is feeling any increased pressure or expectations over being a starter, he is doing a good job of not showing it. "I think Lo has been calm, as cool as the other side of the pillow," defensive coordinator Derrick Ansley said.

FILE PHOTO BY DANNY KARNIK | AP PHOTO

Chargers' Gilman keeps same level-headed approach despite raised expectations

By Joe Reedy

Associated Press

COSTA MESA, Calif. — If Alohi Gilman feels any increased pressure or expectations over being one of the Los Angeles Chargers' starting safeties, he has done a good job of not showing it.

"I think 'Lo' has been calm, as cool as the other side of the pillow," defensive coordinator Derrick Ansley said.

At first, Gilman didn't quite know how to take Ansley's compliment. After thinking about it for a minute, though, he took those words to heart.

"That means a lot, coming from Coach (Ansley)," Gilman said. "I just try to come out here and be me. That's been my mentality since I was in high school. Everything flows the way it should be if you put the right mentality to work."

Gilman is expected to start at safety with Derwin James when the Chargers open the season on Sept. 10 against the Miami Dolphins. Gilman started six games last season, including the AFC wild-card

game at Jacksonville.

Gilman, a sixth-round selection in the 2020 draft out of Notre Dame, moved into a starting role late last season. When Nasir Adderley retired after four seasons, that solidified Gilman's status.

"He's a guy that has been here for three years now, so a lot of reps have been invested in him, and he's invested a lot into the defense. You can see some of those dividends paying him now," Ansley said.

Gilman and James got plenty of work together during offseason workouts, which has helped build on-field chemistry throughout training camp. That didn't happen last season when James was recovering from shoulder surgery. James also sat out the first two weeks of training camp last season before signing a contract extension.

Coach Brandon Staley lauded the communication between James and Gilman during the early stages of camp when the installation process of putting in the defense is

heavy.

James described Gilman as a "ball hawk." Last season Gilman picked off Cleveland's Jacoby Brissett in the end zone during the fourth quarter to help preserve a 30-28 victory in Week 5. He also had two fumble recoveries and a forced fumble during the season.

During a Week 3 game in Kansas City in 2021, Gilman's fourth-quarter interception set up a game-winning drive.

Gilman's knack for interceptions has continued during training camp, where he has picked off Justin Herbert a couple of times during team drills.

"It's the same approach since I stepped in here with the Chargers. Everything has to be earned here. I don't take that for granted," Gilman said. "Even when I was a reserve guy, I felt like I was a starter. Some people may not have agreed with it, but I have viewed myself that way. I prepared myself that way so when I did get my shot, and I was out there, it was easy for me."

Ansley said Gilman's biggest strength is making adjustments before the snap.

"The game post-snap is a lot easier for him, a lot calmer for him. That's a testament to his work ethic on the field and in the classroom. He's one of those guys that studies," Ansley said.

Gilman will play limited snaps, if any, on Saturday when the Chargers have their preseason opener against the Los Angeles Rams. His most extensive preseason tests will come on Aug. 17-18, when the Bolts host the New Orleans Saints for two days of joint practices before their Aug. 20 game.

Despite what challenges may come, Gilman figures to be ready for it.

"Yes. I mean, we all get those butterflies, those nerves, I guess. But when I'm out there, I feel like a kid," he said. I feel like playing football for me is fun because it's creative like I can get creative. I can play the game, I can have fun. That's what drives me to just keep playing."

ESPN strikes \$1.5B deal to jump into sports betting

By David Hamilton

Associated Press

You know ESPN the sports media giant. Now brace yourself for ESPN Bet, a rebranding of an existing sports-betting app owned by Penn Entertainment, which is paying \$1.5 billion plus other considerations for exclusive rights to the ESPN name.

The deal, announced Tuesday, could take Walt Disney Co.-owned ESPN into uncharted waters. Disney is fiercely protective of its family-friendly image, not typically associated with the world of sports gambling.

Penn will operate ESPN Bet, which ESPN has agreed to promote across its online and broadcast platforms in order to generate "maximum fan awareness" of the app. ESPN Bet will also have unspecified "access" to ESPN talent, the compa-

nies said.

Penn's rights to the ESPN brand will initially run for a decade and can be extended for another decade by mutual agreement. In addition to the \$1.5 billion licensing deal, which will be paid out over a decade, Penn will also grant ESPN rights worth about \$500 million to purchase shares in Penn.

"Penn Entertainment is the perfect partner to build an unmatched user experience for sports betting with ESPN Bet," ESPN chairman Jimmy Pitaro said in a statement.

Disney has wrestled with the issue of adult-oriented entertainment in the past. Until about 15 years ago, its Walt Disney World park in Orlando, Florida, featured a gated late-night area known as Pleasure Island — actually a reference to the 1940 film "Pinocchio," whose

characters visited a den of iniquity by that name. Pleasure Island featured bars, music venues and nightclubs in addition to restaurants, shopping and a nightly countdown to "New Year's Eve" complete with fireworks.

When attendance waned, Disney closed down the Pleasure Island nightclubs in 2008 and redeveloped the site as a restaurant and shopping district now known as The Landing at Disney Springs.

ESPN added that it will use its platforms "to educate sports fans on responsible gaming" — for instance by continuing to cover the sports betting industry with "journalistic integrity," creating a "responsible gaming" committee within the company and developing marketing guidelines that "safeguard" fans.

Penn also announced that it sold Barstool

Sports, an irreverent sports media site, back to its founder Dave Portnoy. Penn took a 36% stake of Barstool Sports in February 2020 for about \$163 million and subsequently acquired the remainder of the company for about \$388 million in February 2023. Neither Penn nor Portnoy disclosed terms of the divestment deal.

In a video posted on X, the site formerly known as Twitter, Portnoy radiated excitement over the site's regained independence. The regulated gambling industry, he said, "was probably not the best place for Barstool Sports and the kind of content we make." Portnoy added that he will "never" sell the company. As part of the divestment deal, Penn would be owed 50% of the gross proceeds from any future sale or "monetization" of Barstool.

CREATE YOUR TRADITIONS! MISSOURI STATE FAIR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION DAY

Visit the Conservation Building for live animal exhibits & demos



ENTERTAINMENT STAGES & EVENTS

- Blacksmith Demonstrations** 12 9 am-7 pm
- Budweiser Stage** 20
Show-Me Showcase, 2 pm
Presented by 16/65 Digital
Clay Clear Band, 4 & 6 pm
Soul Root, 9 pm
- Hedrick's Racing Pigs Show** 3
Sponsored by Jim's Tire Service, Inc.
10 am, 12:30, 3, 5:30 & 8 pm
- Historic Administration Building** 10
Military Flag Retreat Ceremony, 5:30 pm
- Kids Stage** 23
Sponsored by Your Local McDonald's
Mr. Stinky Feet, 12, 3 & 6 pm
Chicago Honey Bear Dancers, 12:45, 4:45, 6:45 pm
Fill the Bucket Contest, 2 pm
- ShenaniGuns Comedy Wild West Show** 20
Sponsored by AOK RV's
1:30, 4, 5:30 & 7:30 pm
- State Fair Firehouse** 40
Sponsored by Ditzfeld Transfer, Inc.
Smoke Demo, 10 am
MO CARES & CPR Trailer, 10 am - 4 pm
- Strolling Entertainment**
Professor Farquar, Polecat Annie
MSF Mascot, BARTholomule
The Strolling Piano
- Superior Sleep Stage** 46
The Farnum Family, 12, 3 & 6 pm
Helen Russell & Co., 1:30, 4:30 & 7 pm
- Touchstone Energy Stage** 28
Cirque Zuma Zuma, 1:30, 4:30 & 6:30 pm
Motown & More, 3:30 & 7:30 pm
Biggest and Best Bell Bottom Contest, winner goes in the Money Madness Machine!, 6 pm
- WOW Water Circus** 22
2, 4:30 & 7 pm

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

- 4-H Building** 24
9 am-5 pm STEM Activity
9 am-7 pm Youth Demos
- Assembly Hall** 25
9 am-9 pm Farm Toy Show
- Coliseum** 11
8 am Open Angus Show
7 pm Draft Mule Show (In-Hand)
- Conservation Building** 10
11 am & 1:30 pm Invasive Carp Fish Fry
- Donnelly Arena** 9
1 pm Open Salers Show
- Dr. Taylor Woods Youth Center** 9
9 am Dairy Products
- Fine Arts Building** 40
9 am-5 pm Artist-In-Residence: Allan Winkler
- Floriculture Building** 28
9 am Daylily & Lily Show, African Violet Show & Fairy Garden Show
- Home Economics Building** 28
10 am Tyson Chicken Recipe Contest
11:30 am Missouri Cattle/Women Beef Entrées
1 pm Andrea Schnetzler, The Berry Nutty Farm Recipes
2 pm Bothwell Regional Health Center's "Gluten-Free Baking Contest"
3 pm Billie Long, Lawn & Garden Horticulture
- Mathewson Exhibition Center** 24
10 am Exceptional Rodeo
11 am "Show-Me State Tailgate Throwdown" Barbecue Contest (East of Mathewson)
- MEC Building** 26
9 am-4 pm Rural Missouri's "People From Our Pages", Blacksmith Pat McCarty
- MFA Livestock Arena** 10
8 am Open Gelbvieh Show
6 pm Light Draft Mule Show
- MO-AG Theatre/Mizzou Central** 16
9:30 am-4 pm 4-H Show Me Wares
10 am, 12, 2 & 4 pm Eat Smart on the Go Cooking Demos
- MoDOT Highway Gardens** 44
10 am-2 pm Missouri Department of Conservation Invasive Species Partnership
- MSF Wine Tent** 20
12 & 2 pm Wine 101
- Poultry Building** 42
8 am 4-H/FFA & Open Chicken & Bantam Show
- Senior Lounge** 40
9 am-6 pm Vision Screenings
- Sheep Pavilion** 27
8 am 4-H/FFA Wether Dam Lamb Show
- Swine Barn** 20
8 am 4-H On-Foot Barrow Show (North Arena)
FFA On-Foot Barrow Show (South Arena)
5 pm 4-H/FFA Swine Judging Contest
- Womans Building** 14
9 am-5 pm Environmental Emergency Vehicle, Spillville Train Display & activities inside & on front lawn

COWBOY MOUNTED SHOOTING
Sponsored by Starline Brass
2:30 PM QUALIFYING
6 PM STARLINE SHOWCASE SHOOTOUT
Mathewson Exhibition Center 24

REGULAR GATE ADMISSION

Adult: \$15
Senior (age 60+): \$10
Youth (age 6-12): \$4
Child (5 & Under): FREE

\$5 ADMISSION
AFTER 5PM AUG 13-17

FREE PARKING

LARGE PUBLIC CAMPGROUND
Unreserved Spot
\$35/day per vehicle/tent

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

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

GRANDSTAND & STATE FAIR ARENA

Grandstand presented by CFM Insurance
Fireworks display, sponsored by Missouri S&T, following concerts on Aug 11, 12, 18 & 19

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>FRIDAY • AUG 11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Lainey Wilson, 7:30 pm with Jackson Dean 40 MRCA Show-Me State Rodeo, 7 pm <p>SATURDAY • AUG 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 3 Doors Down, 7:30 pm <i>Away from the Sun Anniversary Tour</i> with Candlebox 40 MRCA Show-Me State Rodeo, 7 pm <p>SUNDAY • AUG 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Missouri State Fair Shoot Out Truck & Tractor Pull 12 & 6 pm 40 Motocross, Final Round Missouri State Fair Cross Series, 7 pm <p>MONDAY • AUG 14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Pro Pulling League, 6 pm 40 ATV/Dirt Bike Rodeo, 7 pm | <p>TUESDAY • AUG 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Outlaw Nationals Monster Truck Show, 7 pm 40 MSF Truck & Farm Tractor Pull, 12 & 6 pm <p>WEDNESDAY • AUG 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Cory Asbury and CAIN, 7:30 pm 40 Antique Classic Tractor Pull, 10 am & 6 pm <p>THURSDAY • AUG 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 The Country Comeback Tour, 7:30 pm <i>Shenandoah</i> Billy Dean Wade Hayes 40 Garden Tractor & Mini Rod Pull, 10 am & 6 pm | <p>FRIDAY • AUG 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Nelly, 7:30 pm with Rahzel 40 Bull Riding Competition, 8 pm <p>SATURDAY • AUG 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Riley Green, 7:30 pm with Randy Houser 40 Bull Riding Competition, 8 pm <p>SUNDAY • AUG 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 POWRI 410 Sprint Cars, B Modifieds & Super Stocks, Show-Me Vintage Race Cars, Hot Laps 6 pm, Heat Races 7 pm 40 Demolition Derby, 2 pm |
|---|--|--|

GET TICKETS TODAY!

VISIT THE BOX OFFICE
AUG 11-20
9 AM - 9 PM



MISSOURI'S LARGEST AGRICULTURAL EXPO

BUILDING HOURS

Aug 11-12, 18 & 19: 9 am-9 pm
Aug 13-17: 9 am-8 pm; Aug 20: 9 am-6 pm
Unless noted otherwise below. Most buildings are air-conditioned.

AGRICULTURE BUILDING 27

- Hours: 9 am - 8 pm, Aug 11-19
9 am - 6 pm, Aug 20
- Missouri Grown Market
 - Kid-friendly & food demos
 - AgVenture: Explore MO Ag from farm to fork
 - Live plants showcasing top commodities
 - Largest pumpkin & watermelon display



CONSERVATION BUILDING 10

- Hours: 9 am - 7 pm, Aug 11-19
9 am - 6 pm, Aug 20
- Serving nature & you with fish aquaria & other exhibits
 - Xplor Zone Hours: 10 am - 6 pm, Aug 11-19; 10 am - 5 pm, Aug 20

FFA BUILDING 40

- Exhibits by Missouri FFA youth

4-H BUILDING 24

- Hours: 9 am - 8 pm, Aug 11-19
9 am - 6 pm, Aug 20
- Exhibits & specialty demos by Missouri 4-H youth

FARM BUREAU BUILDING 17

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

FINE ARTS BUILDING 40

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

FLORICULTURE BUILDING 28

- Award-winning florals for show & purchase

GERKEN DAIRY CENTER 9

- Sponsored by Midwest Dairy
- Hours: 9 am - 8 pm, Aug 11-19
9 am - 6 pm, Aug 20
- Milking demos 9:30 am & 6 pm, daily
 - Butter Sculpture theme "A Good 'ol Cow Lick"

HOME ECONOMICS BUILDING 28

- Consumer Showcase Stage
- Daily contests, award-winning foods, household arts & preservation exhibits



LET'S TALK LIVESTOCK

- Sponsored by Tractor Supply Company
- Learn about livestock from Missouri 4-H & FFA youth exhibitors
 - Full demos schedule available at Information Centers

MACHINERY AREA

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

MEC BUILDING/MEDIA CENTER 26

- Hours: 9 am - 7 pm, Aug 11-19
9 am - 6 pm, Aug 20
- Green initiatives, exhibits & kids activities
 - Rural Missouri's "People from our Pages" daily
 - Prize drawings & giveaways
 - Ask about the MEC scholarship opportunity

MO-AG THEATRE/MIZZOU CENTRAL 16

- Hours: 9 am - 6 pm, daily
- Exhibits and Activities by University of Missouri Colleges & Programs
 - Missouri Soybean featuring Soy Donuts
 - Tiger Stripe Ice Cream at Bucks
 - Tiger Team Store - Official game gear outlet



MODOT HIGHWAY GARDENS/ EXPO CENTER 44

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

WOMANS BUILDING/DNR 14

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

JUST FOR KIDS

*See the "Entertainment Stages & Events" section above to the left for full, daily Kids Stage schedule.

FAMILY FUN CENTER 2

- Sponsored by Children's Trust Fund
- 10 am - 8 pm; Aug 11-19
10 am - 6 pm; Aug 20
- Imagination & Creative Play** encouraged for kids age infant to 8!

BABY FEEDING & CHANGING AREA

Supplies provided by Walmart

CHILDREN'S BARNYARD 40

- Sponsored by Central Missouri Foster Care & Adoption Association; Feed provided by Kent
- Barnyard Story Time**
Join Missouri 4-H & FFA exhibitors for story time! 3:30 pm, Aug 11-19

KIDS ZONE STAGE* 23

Sponsored by Your Local McDonald's

FREE Shows & Contests

KIDS SHOWGROUND

HEDRICK'S EDUCATIONAL PETTING ZOO 9

Sponsored by Big Iron Auctions



AUG 10-20 2023
MOSTATEFAIR.COM



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notices

PLEASE READ YOUR ad carefully for accuracy. The classified advertising staff makes every effort to print your ad correctly. However, if an error is made in your ad, it must be reported immediately. We will only be responsible for errors the first time your ad runs. Call Mon.-Fri., 8:00am-5:00pm 660-826-1000; fax to 660-826-2413.

EMPLOYMENT

Maintenance

THE CITY OF Bunce-ton has a position open for a full-time Water & Sewer Operator/Maintenance person. Must be over 18 years of age, have a valid driver's license, be knowledgeable in maintenance work, various tools and equipment. Must be willing to take some classes during the day to become certified in water and sewer operations. Must be able to pass a criminal background check. Pay based on experience. Please call and leave contact information on City Hall's voice-mail for job applications at 660-427-5515 or mail your resume to Bunce-ton City Clerk, Amanda Maddex, 109 East College Street, Bunce-ton, Missouri 65237.

MERCHANDISE

Pets & Supplies



GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES

AKC REGISTERED WHITE German Shepherd puppies. Born 6-14-23. 7 males, 5 females. 660-221-3242 call or text. email at smithspineridgohomestead@gmail.com. or view our website for more details. smiths-pin eridgohomestead.pbwebs.com



FOR SALE: AKC REGISTERED GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES. \$300.00 660-287-5562.

REAL ESTATE RENTALS

Apartments

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.

RECREATION

Campers & Trailers

TRAVEL TRAILER FORCED RIVER ROCKWOOD, ultra light model 2304DS. Used once for 5 days. \$18,500. 660-620-5750 in Otter-ville, MO.

SERVICES

Child/Elderly Care-Services

TIFFANY'S PRIVATE CARE is a local private in-home health care company striving every-day to keep your loved ones at home. We are now accepting new clients. We provide day to day care, 24-hour care and end of life care. Please call Tiffany's today. 660-233-2213.

Cleaning

CLEANER NEEDED 3 days per week, 2 hours per night, Monday, Wednesday, Friday 5:30p - 7:30p Bank cleaning \$15.00 per hour. Trash Dust Vacuum Sweep Mop Glass. Interviews this Monday. Call to schedule appointment 417-866-1484

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

Find the Right Job Check Out Our Classifieds Today!

YARD SALES

Pettis County



ESTATE TAG SALE LOCATED IN SEDALIA, MO STATE FAIR SHOPPING CENTER 1400 S LIMIT SUITE 9A OPEN 10AM-5PM FRI-AUG 11 SAT-AUG 12 SUN-AUG 13 OR FOR APPOINTMENT CALL 660-317-3838 Antique & Vintage furniture, vintage vinyl, Roseville, Weller, Shawnee & Other pottery, art, glassware antique toys, comics and much more.

GARAGE SALE 1604 E HARVEY THURS - FRIDAY 8:00AM-4:00PM Books, pictures, deer blind, pup's, drill press, kneehold desk, Lot's of Miscellaneous, NO EARLY SALES

GARAGE SALE 2703 SOUTHWEST BLVD THUR/FRI 7AM-1PM Water & sewer systems equipment for camper, night stand, lingerie chest, household items.

Legal Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI AT SEDALIA IN RE THE MATTER OF: A.E.B. MISTI BYRD MAURICE BYRD Petitioners, vs. FELICIA L. BYRD and MYREON BRISCOE Respondents. Case No. 23PT-DR00002 NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION The State of Missouri to Respondent MYREON BRISCOE. You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court for the County of Pettis, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is a Petition for Third Party Custody and in the Alternative Petition for

Legal Notice

Guardianship of the minor child, A.E.B. The names of all parties to said action are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the attorney for Petitioner is Tomei O. Peppard, Harris, Harris, Sommer & Peppard, LLC, 206 N. Holden, Warrensburg, Missouri, 64093. You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within 45 days after the day of August 10, 2023, judgment by default will be rendered against you. Witness my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 7th day of August, 2023.

SUSAN SADLER Circuit Clerk by /s/ Cindi Ross Deputy Clerk 4X: 8/10, 17, 24, 31/23

IN THE 18TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI Judge or Division: PROBATE

Case Number: 23PT-PR00117 MICHAEL M LADISH JR, Deceased.

Notice of Grant of Letters of Administration With Will Annexed (Supervised Administration - Non-Resident Fiduciary)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of MICHAEL M LADISH JR, Decedent: On 6-30-2023, the last will of Decedent having been admitted to probate, the following individuals was appointed the personal representative of the estate of MICHAEL M LADISH JR, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of PETTIS COUNTY, Missouri. The personal representative's business address is: MICHAEL M. LADISH, III, 4520 WHISTLING WAY, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80916 The personal representative's attorney's name business address and phone number is: SEAN P PILLIARD, LAW OFFICES OF SEAN P PILLIARD, LLC, 322 SOUTH OHIO, SUITE 205, SEDALIA, MO 65301, 660-829-2008 The non-resident personal representative's designated agent's name, business address, and phone number is: SEAN P PILLIARD, LAW OFFICES OF SEAN P PILLIARD, LLC, 322 SOUTH OHIO, SUITE 205, SEDALIA, MO 65301, 660-829-2008 All creditors of said decedent are notified to file claims in court within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or if a copy of this notice was mailed to, or served upon, such creditor by the personal representative, then within two months from the date it was mailed or served, whichever is later, or be forever barred to the fullest extent permissible by law. Such six-month period and such two-month period do not extend the limitation period that would bar claims one year after Decedent's death, as provided in Section 473.444, RSMo, or any other applicable limitation periods. Nothing in Section 473.033, RSMo, shall be construed to bar any action against a decedent's liability insurance carrier through a defendant ad item pursuant to Section 537.021, RSMo. Date of the decedent's death: 09-APR-2023 Date of first publication: 03-AUG-2023

Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk By: /s/ Darla Ebeling, Deputy Clerk 4x-8/3, 10, 17, 24, 2023

TRUSTEE'S SALE

IN RE: **Samantha McNeal, unmarried Trustee's Sale:** For default in payment of debt and performance of obligation secured by Deed of Trust executed by Samantha McNeal, unmarried dated July 23, 2014 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Pettis County, Missouri as Document No. 2014-4057 the undersigned Successor Trustee, at the request of the legal holder of said Note will on Friday, August 18, 2023 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., (at the specific time of 2:15 PM), at the West Front Door of the Court House, City of Sedalia, County of Pettis, State of Missouri, sell at public vendue to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate, described in said Deed of Trust, and situated in Pettis County, State of Missouri, to wit: SITUATED IN PETTIS COUNTY MISSOURI TO WIT BEGINNING AT A POINT IN THE CENTER LINE OF A COUNTY ROAD, TWO HUNDRED SIXTY SIX AND FIVE TENTHS (266.5) FEET EAST OF THE WEST LINE OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION THIRTY ONE (31) IN TOWNSHIP FORTY SIX (46) NORTH, OF RANGE TWENTY (20) WEST OF THE FIFTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, RUNNING THENCE NORTH THREE HUNDRED SIXTY AND FOUR TENTHS (360.4) FEET, THENCE EAST THREE HUNDRED THREE AND EIGHT TENTHS (303.8) FEET, THENCE SOUTH THREE HUNDRED SIXTY SEVEN AND ONE TENTH (367.1) FEET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION THIRTY ONE (31), THENCE WEST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID QUARTER SECTION TWO HUNDRED NINETY NINE AND ONE TENTH (299.1) FEET TO

Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk By: /s/ Darla Ebeling, Deputy Clerk 4x-8/3, 10, 17, 24, 2023

Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk By: /s/ Darla Ebeling, Deputy Clerk 4x-7/27, 8/3, 10, 17, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI BEATRIZ RUBIO, Petitioner, vs. JESUS ORGANEZ GOMEZ, Respondent. Case No. 23PT-DR00475

NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The State of Missouri to Respondent Jesus Organez Gomez: You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court for the County of Pettis County, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is Petition for Dissolution of Marriage and division of property, including but not limited to the award of personal and real property, automobiles, financial accounts, retirement accounts and all debt. The names of all parties to said action are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the attorney for Petitioner is: Carmen L. Smith, 108 East 5th Street, Sedalia, Missouri, 65301. You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within 45 days after the 27th

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THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; EXCEPT THAT PART OF THE SOUTH SIDE USED FOR ROAD PURPOSES, IN THE COUNTY OF PETTIS AND STATE OF MISSOURI. to satisfy said debt and cost. MILLSAP & SINGER, P.C., Successor Trustee 612 Spirit Drive St. Louis, MO 63005 (636) 537-0110 File No: 200561.081823.432657 FC

IN THE 18TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI Judge or Division: PROBATE

Case Number: 23PT-PR00112 GARY LEON PILANT, Deceased.

Notice of Letters of Administration Granted (Supervised Administration)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of GARY LEON PILANT, Decedent: On 7-25-2023, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of GARY LEON PILANT, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri. The personal representative's business address is: TRAVIS DALE PILANT, 1942 MILLERS FJORD, COLE CAMP, MO 65325. The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is: CALE C SPANGLER, SPANGLER WARD LLC, 514 S OHIO, SEDALIA, MO 65301. 660/827-1770. All creditors of said decedent are notified to file claims in court within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or if a copy of this notice was mailed to, or served upon, such creditor by the personal representative, then within two months from the date it was mailed or served, whichever is later, or be forever barred to the fullest extent permissible by law. Such six-month period and such two-month period do not extend the limitation period that would bar claims one year after Decedent's death, as provided in Section 473.444, RSMo, or any other applicable limitation periods. Nothing in Section 473.033, RSMo, shall be construed to bar any action against a decedent's liability insurance carrier through a defendant ad item pursuant to Section 537.021, RSMo. Date of the decedent's death: 18-APR-2023 Date of first publication: 7-27-2023

Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk By: /s/ Darla Ebeling, Deputy Clerk 4x-7/27, 8/3, 10, 17, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI Respondent.

Case No. 23PT-DR00452

NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

The State of Missouri to Respondent Megan E. Stevens: You are hereby notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is a dissolution of marriage; the division of marital and non-marital property; paternity and custody of N.S.S. The names of all the parties to said suit are stated above in the caption hereof and the name and address of the attorney for petitioner is Randy K. Sparks, 414 South Ohio, Sedalia, Missouri 65301. You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or shall otherwise appear and defend against the aforesaid petition within forty-five (45) days after the 20th day of July, 2023, judgment by default will be rendered against you. It is ordered that a copy hereof be published according to law in the Sedalia Democrat, a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of

Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk By: /s/ Darla Ebeling, Deputy Clerk 4x-7/27, 8/3, 10, 17, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI Respondent.

Case No. 23PT-DR00475

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Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk By: /s/ Darla Ebeling, Deputy Clerk 4x-7/27, 8/3, 10, 17, 2023

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Case No. 23PT-DR00475

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Legal Notice

day of July, 2023, Judgment by default will be rendered against you. WITNESS my hand and the seal of the Circuit Court this 25th day of July, 2023.

Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk By: /s/Rebecca Campbell, Deputy Clerk 4x-7/27, 8/3, 10, 17, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI IN RE: THE MARRIAGE OF CASEY ALLEN STEVENS, Individually, and N.S.S., b/n/f CASEY ALLEN STEVENS, Petitioners, and

MEGAN E. STEVENS, Respondent. CASE NO: 23PT-DR00452

NOTICE UPON ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI Respondent.

Case No. 23PT-DR00452

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Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk By: /s/Rebecca Campbell, Deputy Clerk 4x-7/27, 8/3, 10, 17, 2023

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI Respondent.

Case No. 23PT-DR00475

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Case No. 23PT-DR00475

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Legal Notice

Pettis and State of Missouri. A true copy from the record. Witness my hand and seal of the Circuit Court this 18th day of July, 2023.

Susan Sadler, Circuit Clerk By: /s/Rebecca Campbell, Deputy Clerk 4x-7/20, 27, 8/3, 10, 2023

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Prison

From Page A9

Kilgo-Washington and a group of friends and supporters watched as Ruggs, wearing a dark suit, white shirt and blue tie, was handcuffed by a court officer when Clark County District Court Judge Jennifer Schwartz read the sentence. Ruggs was then led away. Ruggs had remained free on house arrest since shortly after the crash.

In court filings ahead of the sentencing, Ruggs' attorneys, David Chesnoff and Richard Schonfeld, included letters from high school administrators and teachers in Montgomery, Alabama, who praised Ruggs, and a testimonial from Democratic Alabama state Rep. Phillip Ensler.

"Mr. Ruggs is a man of good character who made a terrible mistake," the attorneys said in the presentencing memorandum. "His remorse is deep and sincere."

His plea deal avoided a trial that Clark County District Attorney Steve Wolfson said posed obstacles for conviction because Ruggs was not administered a field sobriety test following the crash and his defense attorneys argued that Ruggs' blood-alcohol test was improperly obtained at the hospital.

Wolfson, a Democrat, said the blood test provided "virtually" the only proof that Ruggs was under the influence of alcohol at the time of the crash. It revealed that Ruggs had

a blood-alcohol level of 0.16% — twice the legal limit in Nevada — after the rear-end wreck ignited a fire in Tintor's Toyota Rav 4.

Kilgo-Washington also was injured in Ruggs' demolished 2020 Chevrolet Corvette. Prosecutors said Ruggs suffered a leg injury, and Kilgo-Washington received an arm injury. Kilgo-Washington was not cooperative with prosecutors as a victim in the case.

Wolfson had said Ruggs would face a mandatory minimum of two years in prison if convicted and could get more than 50 years. The district attorney said investigators learned that Ruggs spent several hours drinking with friends at a sports entertainment site and golfing venue, and may have been at a friend's home for several more hours before he and Kilgo-Washington headed home.

Tintor was a Serbian immigrant who friends and family members said graduated from a Las Vegas high school, worked at a Target store, wanted to become a computer programmer and was close to obtaining her U.S. citizenship. The family statement called Max her best friend.

"The sentence isn't going to bring Tina back," Farhan Naqvi, an attorney who represented Tintor's family, said outside the courtroom. "What we're hoping for, more than anything, is that other deaths can be prevented from driving under the influence and reckless driving. It ruins lives. It destroys families."

PGA

From Page A9

Monahan was bullish that a deal would get done by the end of the year, and that the PGA Tour is not considering any outside investors at the moment.

"Our focus is on conversations with PIF," he said, adding later that he was "determined to get this right." He said a definitive agreement by the end of the year "is the target and that is realistic."

"There is the short term and there is the long term. Looking out over the horizon, we feel like this is the right move for the PGA Tour to create a new commercial model that allows PIF to invest ... and to be able to grow the PGA Tour that will reward players and fans."

"That's what we think is the right path forward."

The commercial venture has been referred to as "NewCo" in documents — typical in business transactions. The actual working title is PGA Tour Enterprises, a for-profit company that operates separately from PGA Tour Inc., which has 501-(c)-6 tax-exempt status.

Monahan said the Saudi deal contributed to his anxiety, though it had been building up over time and reached a point that he had to step away to continue.

"The reality for me was that I was dealing with anxiety, which created physical and mental health issues and challenges for me," Monahan said. "I needed to step away and deal with that."

The timing was difficult. The agreement was announced on June 6, and Monahan met with players at the Canadian Open later that afternoon. He described the meeting as "intense," with some players wanting him to resign.

A week later he announced he was taking a leave.

"My nature is to always ... run into a fight or a conflict, not run away from it," he said. "To step away at that point in time was very difficult for me, but I needed to take care of myself for my family, for myself, and ultimately to come back here stronger than I've ever been to lead the PGA Tour forward."

Emotions have cooled over the last two months. Monahan described the Tuesday afternoon meeting attended by 25 players as "productive." He said he was "entirely determined" to regain the players' trust. "I see a clear path doing that, as difficult as that might seem right now to some."

His only regret was how the deal was announced. Monahan said he was impatient on the eve of the announcement, and if he had a mulligan he would have flown to Canada to tell the players privately before anything was disclosed in public.

Players were to get a memo roughly a half-hour before Monahan and Al-Rumayyan went on CNBC, but when an embargo was broken, some players only read on social media about a merger with LIV before seeing the memo.

"Ultimately, the rollout on June 6 was ineffective," Monahan said. "And as a result there was a lot of misinformation, and I think anytime you have misinformation, that can lead to mistrust. That's my responsibility — that's me and me alone."

"I apologize for putting players on their back foot, but ultimately the move that we made is the right move for the PGA Tour. I firmly believe that. As we go forward, time will bear that out."



Washington Commanders assistant head coach and offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy approaches the field at the start of NFL football practice at the team's training facility, Friday, July 28, 2023, in Ashburn, Va. Ron Rivera said Wednesday, Aug. 9, 2023, he spoke to Eric Bieniemy about his comments that some Washington Commanders players expressed concern over the new offensive coordinator's coaching style, apologizing for the remarks that put him in hot water around the NFL. "I basically told him I put my foot in my mouth," Rivera said.

FILE PHOTO BY STEPHANIE SCARBROUGH | AP PHOTO

Commanders' Rivera clarifies statement about concerns with Bieniemy's coaching style

By The Associated Press

ASHBURN, Va. — Ron Rivera said Wednesday he spoke to Eric Bieniemy about his comments that some Washington Commanders players expressed concern over the new offensive coordinator's coaching style, apologizing for the remarks that put him in hot water around the NFL.

Rivera attempted to clarify what he said about players coming to him to ask about Bieniemy's vocal approach on the practice field.

"I basically told him I put my foot in my mouth," Rivera said. "I think what I said wasn't as clear as it needed to be. And I think the understanding of it is just the fact that I think everybody is making, in my opinion, a little more than needs to be made of this."

Rivera, who hired Bieniemy fresh off the longtime assistant winning a second Super Bowl with Kansas City, said it was his intent to explain that coaches have different ways of doing things. He did that by contrasting Bieniemy with defensive

coordinator Jack Del Rio, who like Rivera has been a head coach in the pros before.

Bieniemy has not been hired for a head job in the NFL, despite interviewing with nearly half the league.

Players who worked under Bieniemy with the Chiefs came to his defense, including now-Miami receiver Tyreek Hill, who said on social media, "There is no other coach that has your back" like Bieniemy.

"Take that coaching and get better," Hill posted on X, the plat-

form formerly known as Twitter. "It's tough but I promise you it will make you better."

Bieniemy defended himself Tuesday, saying he has always been an intense coach who demands a lot from players.

"My job is to make sure that we're doing it the right way," Bieniemy said. "There's a way to do it. Do they understand that? Yes, because they're seeing the results. Will everybody buy in? I believe so, but if not, it's OK, because you know what: My No. 1 job is to help take these guys to another level."

NFL

From Page A9

Now they have to figure out how to best adjust with the unknown of how the rule will play out. In the first exhibition game last week, there were no fair catches in the field of play and no squib kicks. But that figures to change at some point.

"There's going to be some different kicks," Raiders special teams coach Tom McMahon said. "That's the biggest thing that we're working on is there are going to be some weird kicks to try to force returns, and everyone knows they call them squibs. But you might get line drives, you might get all kinds of different kicks that get some spin on them and things like that."

It's just the latest move to

try to reduce the number of kickoff returns in hopes of cutting down on concussions.

What once was one of the NFL's more exciting plays, with gamebreakers like Devin Hester, Josh Cribbs and Mel Gray striking fear in the opposition with their ability to turn kicks into scores or long returns, is on the road to becoming nearly obsolete.

In the 20 years between 2002 and 2022, the percentage of kicks that went for touchbacks increased more than sevenfold from 8.2% in 2002 to 61.3% last season.

The NFL estimates the touchback rate will rise to nearly 70% this season with the new rule, which it also estimates will reduce concussions by 15%. Kickoffs are the most dangerous play in the game in terms of injuries because of the high-speed collisions they

generate.

The NFL previously moved the touchback spot from the 20 to the 25-yard line in 2016 and moved the spot for kickoffs from the 30 to the 35-yard line in 2011. There have also been changes in blocking rules the eliminated wedge blocking in order to reduce the collisions.

That has led to a reduction in kickoff return touchdowns from 23 in 2010 to just six last season.

"I do feel bad for the guys that make their money on kickoff," Commanders kicker Joey Slye said. "If they start taking away some of the reps from some of those guys that make their money that way, Jeremy Reaves goes to the Pro Bowl last year because he's making tackles on special teams all the time. I just hope guys like that don't get a lot of stuff taken away from them."

If these rules don't help, the NFL could consider a more drastic change by adopting a rule similar to the one in the XFL spring league where the kick coverage team lines up at the opposing 35-yard line — 5 yards away from the return blockers — and no one can move until the returner catches the ball.

"I would say as a military guy, I got real good at tell me what the rules are and I'll live by the rules," Bills special teams coach Matt Smiley said. "So the league has put this rule in place and very good intent behind the rule so it's my job to figure out what's the best way to follow the rule to the benefit of the Buffalo Bills."

AP Pro Football Writer Dennis Waszak Jr., and AP Sports Writers Mark Anderson, John Wawrow and Stephen Whyno contributed to this story.

Coyotes confirm Mesa land targeted for potential new arena

By The Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The Coyotes said Wednesday that owner Alex Meruelo has executed a letter of intent to buy a piece of land for a potential arena in Mesa, Arizona, a positive development for the NHL team in its lengthy search to find a permanent home in the desert.

The move comes months after voters in Tempe rejected a referendum to construct an arena there. The Coyotes say they remain committed to building a privately funded rink and entertainment district and continue

to explore other potential sites in the Phoenix area.

"We appreciate the tremendous support that we have received from many communities, elected officials and community leaders who have expressed their desire to see the Coyotes remain in the Valley permanently," the team said in a statement. "We would also like to thank NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman and Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly for their steadfast support of the club's efforts to find a permanent arena solution and for their recognition that Arizona is a tremendous hockey market."

The Coyotes are going into their second season at 5,000-seat Mullett Arena on the campus of Arizona State University. New NHL Players' Association executive director Marty Walsh has raised concerns about the situation there and said the union would like the team to figure out a sustainable long-term solution.

At the draft in Nashville in late June, team president and CEO Xavier Gutierrez said the Coyotes had identified six possible sites for a new building in the east valley in the 101 Highway corridor that covers the cities of Scottsdale, Phoenix and Mesa

— none of which would require a public vote.

"We still want to put our money where our mouth is and build something that'll be best in class," Gutierrez said at the time. "We were disappointed with the vote in Tempe, but we turned the page very quickly."

Weeks earlier at the start of the Stanley Cup Final in Las Vegas, Bettman reaffirmed the league's commitment to Arizona, where the team moved to in 1996 from Winnipeg. The team has since played in three different arenas, initially in downtown Phoenix, then Glendale and Tempe.