

THE MORNING SUN

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MORNINGSUN.NET

Schmidt selects running mate with local ties

By Jonathan Riley
Morning Sun Editor

PITTSBURG, Kan. — Republican gubernatorial candidate and Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt has announced the selection of Katie Sawyer, a former staffer for U.S. Sen. Roger Marshall with ties to Pittsburg, as his running mate in the governor's race.

"Katie Sawyer brings a new generation of young and energetic leadership to help us move Kansas forward to a bright and better tomorrow," Schmidt said in making the announcement. "Katie's intellect, values, tenacity, and passion for serving Kansans are what we need to leave our state better than we found it."

Both Schmidt and Sawyer discussed their campaign plans as well as their connections to the local area in an interview Wednesday.

"I'm excited and humbled by the opportunity,

and I look forward to hitting the ground running and talking to Kansans, and figuring out how we get this state back on track, and working alongside Derek to do that," Sawyer said of being chosen as Schmidt's running mate.

If elected, Sawyer, who is 38, will be the youngest Republican lieutenant governor nationwide. Although she grew up in McPherson, Sawyer is not only a Pittsburg State University graduate, but also a former reporter for the Morning Sun. She later went on to work as managing editor of the McPherson Sentinel. Working in journalism, Sawyer said, was "great preparation" for getting into politics.

"As a journalist you need to know what people think and what's going on in your community, especially at these local papers, and so my job at both papers was to understand the issues, talk to people, and understand



Republican gubernatorial candidate and Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt, left, with his newly announced running mate Katie Sawyer. COURTESY PHOTO

their thoughts and feelings about an issue and its impact," she said.

"That's what we're doing on this campaign. We're going to go out and we're going to talk to Kansans and we're going to

talk about, you know, the issues and opportunities that they have in front of them, and talk about our vision for growing Kansas and making their communities better."

Schmidt also highlight-

ed his local ties in making the case for why voters should pick him over Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly in November.

"I'm a proud Southeast Kansan. Independence is home. I love our corner of

the state," Schmidt said, adding that his wife is a former Pittsburg State University instructor.

"So we have some long and deep ties to the region and to Crawford County in particular," he said, "and so, you know, I understand our region's needs, I understand our challenges."

Like Schmidt, Sawyer noted the importance of PSU to the local economy in Southeast Kansas.

"Pittsburg State is a regional leader and they do important work down there, and I think we want to make sure and concentrate on keeping all those students that Pittsburg State trains and keeping them in Kansas," she said. "We want to put that talent to work in our communities, both there in Southeast Kansas and from whatever community they originated out of."

Besides Pittsburg State, Schmidt also commented on local infrastructure work, as well as the med-

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Farmers Market Nutrition Program now available for seniors

Staff Reports
news@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. — The City of Pittsburg announced on Facebook on Wednesday that the Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Programs (KSMNP) is now available for seniors in the area.

The KSMNP provides low-income seniors who meet age and income requirements with \$35 in checks to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, herbs, and honey from authorized farmers at local participating farmers markets, June 1 through Sept. 30, 2022. Checks are available in \$5 increments.

In order to be eligible to receive KSMNP checks, the participants must be 60 years old or older on

the day the money is issued and have an annual gross household income (before taxes are withheld) at or below 185% of the federal poverty level. For example, a household of one must have an annual gross income at or below \$25,142 or a monthly gross income at or below \$2,096.

The KSMNP is funded through the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service. According to its website, the program's goals are to increase consumption of fruits and vegetables for optimal health, increase direct marketing of Kansas foods, increase the domestic consumption of agricultural commodities by expanding or aiding in the expansion of domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, and CSA

programs, and develop or aid in the development of new and additional farmers markets, roadside stands, and CSA programs.

Applications for the KSMNP will be available starting on Wednesday, June 1 at the Pittsburg Public Housing Authority at 216 N. Broadway, Suite G. Seniors may apply on-site from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday with the office being closed between noon and 1 p.m. for lunch. Seniors will need to present a valid ID. Funds are limited and benefits will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about the Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program, call the Pittsburg Public Housing Authority at 620-232-1210.

Jefferson Highway conference kicks off in Pittsburg

Staff Reports
news@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. — The 2022 Jefferson Highway Association Conference got underway in Pittsburg on Wednesday, and while much of the four-day event is open only to registered conference attendees, there are also some public activities planned for this weekend.

The Jefferson Highway was one of the earliest automobile highways developed across the country, established in 1915, and built from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, to New Orleans, Louisiana. Nicknamed the "Pine to Palm" highway, the route went through Pittsburg, which was an important leader of development of the highway in Kansas.

Pittsburg's heritage



The Crawford County Historical Museum hosted an informal meet and greet event Wednesday complete with drinks, cookies, and deli meats, as members of the Jefferson Highway Association representing 11 different states began arriving in Pittsburg for the four-day JHA Conference. DUSTIN R. STRONG / THE MORNING SUN

with the route will be celebrated during several special community events on Saturday, June 4.

These activities are being planned as part of the Jef-

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Honoring Samantha Milburn

Family to host annual memorial barrel race event

By Antjea Wolff
Morning Sun Staff

PITTSBURG, Kan. — To honor the memory of her daughter Samantha Milburn, also known as Sami, Deborah Russell with the help of others will be hosting the 3rd Annual Sami's Legacy 5D Barrel Race at the Civil War Arena in Carthage, Missouri. This event usually takes place in Girard, but due to weather conditions, it will be held in Carthage this year.

Milburn was diagnosed with an ultra-rare cancer called Ewing's Sarcoma in 2017 when she was 20

years old. After undergoing a year and a half of treatments and having part of her lung removed, Milburn passed away in December of 2019. In September 2019, however, she was able to participate in the activity she loved to do one last time — compete in the National Barrel Horse Association (NBHA) State Finals with her horses CJ and Hemi.

When Milburn was a child, she attended a rodeo and bible camp that blended bible teachings with horse rodeo training, and fell in love with it, Russell said. Then when area residents Chuck and Darlinda Harris opened their own version in Crawford County called Cross Trails Rodeo and Bible Camp roughly five years ago, Milburn was the new camp's first youth rodeo coach.

"She was all about the kids," Russell said. "She loved coaching the kids."

After Milburn passed, Russell set out to fulfill her daughter's wish of having her legacy live on by hosting an annual barrel race and youth rodeo for children.

"When Sami was sent home on hospice, and we knew it wasn't going to get any better, we asked her 'what can we do to carry on your name?'" Russell said. "And that's when we came up with Sami's Legacy."

Milburn said she wanted Russell to have a youth rodeo, and if possible, an open rodeo every year. Russell said that an open rodeo is still out of reach for them to host every year because of the cost. But Chuck and Darlinda Harris organize the youth rodeo every year, and Russell handles the barrel racing event because Milburn traveled to several states including Illinois,

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Samantha Milburn participating in a barrel race. COURTESY PHOTO

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- William Morgan, 87, Pittsburg, KS
- Laura Elaine Getty Casper

Little Balkans Chronicles

Milk money, pigeons, and mayo sandwiches
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Lifetime award

Chuck Smith receives a lifetime achievement award from the Coach Bill Snyder Family/Sunflower Chapter of the National Football Foundation.
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COMMUNITY

Obituaries

William Thomas “Tom” Morgan

William Thomas “Tom” Morgan passed away peacefully at Ascension Via Christi Village in Pittsburg, Kansas on May 24, 2022, at the age of 87. Tom was born in 1934 in Mulberry, Kansas, to Clayton and Lauretta Morgan. He attended Curranville schools and graduated from College High School in Pittsburg in 1951.

Tom served in the Air Force during the Korean War as a medical technician at the U.S. Air Force Hospital from 1951-1955. He received the National Defense, Korean Service, United States Service and Good Conduct medals. After the war, Tom lived in Wichita, Kansas, and worked for his entire career at the Cessna Aircraft Company as a foreman for approximately 40 years. Following his retirement from Cessna, he settled in Crestline, Kansas.

Tom is survived by his son Ripp Morgan of Derby, Kansas, and daughter Robin McClanahan, and her husband Jim of Wichita, Kansas, his brothers Joe Morgan and wife Charlotte of Riverton, Kansas, Carney Morgan and wife Betty of Crestline, Kansas, and his sister Donna Caruthers and husband Dale of Pittsburg, Kansas, as well as several nieces and nephews. Tom is remembered by his family as a man who was very opinionated, quick to laugh at jokes, and also fond of sweets. A family burial service will be scheduled at a later date at the Fort Scott National Cemetery.



Laura Elaine Casper

Laura Elaine Getty Casper was complex. Rooted in small town Kansas, she was the sixth child born into a household of seven. The place, Downs, Kansas, is a speck of a town just off Highway 24, where everyone listened on the party-line and knew what an ornery and impetuous Elaine Casper was up to—even before her doting father and stern mother found out—unless they too were listening. The community was tight knit and so were the Gettys. It was this environment that shaped her loyalty to family and a consciousness that kept her anchored and resilient during her most difficult life challenges. Elaine was musically trained in both the saxophone and piano, entered College at Fort Hays State University (FHSU) with aspirations to teach, become a sorority girl with Delta Zeta, and maybe find a husband. She fulfilled all of her aspirations. It was at FHSU where Elaine met Jim Casper on the steps of Sheridan Hall. She was neither impressed or interested in going for coffee with Jim. When he declared that she would marry him one day, Elaine laughed and walked away. His dogged persistence eventually won her over. Their 54-year marriage was one of devotion, negotiation, confrontation, teamwork and love.

Elaine could see herself in all of her children—the good and the complicated. She knew how to push all of their “buttons” which often resulted in her end-goal—to manage the chaos created by equally ornery and willful children. An often-heard declaration when she was at her breaking point: “Wait until your father gets home.” She learned this well from her mother and watching the world from a younger sibling vantage point. Elaine did become a teacher but left the profession for an equally noble career as Mom. She was her children’s first and best teacher, educating them in the basics (reading, writing and arithmetic) and guiding them to navigate the world with humility, humanity, resilience and introspection. She was stern and yet soft, intensely loyal and awed by the intellectual curiosity and adventure inherent in her children and grandchildren. Her six children, (with their mother) have been an eclectic cabal, fiercely loyal to each other and to the larger Getty/Casper family. With Elaine’s passing the family has lost its anchor and its haven.

When she was Elaine, she was a funny, sarcastic, irreverent, moody and a curious aficionado of whodunits. When she was Laura, she was intellectual, well-read, observant, an attentive listener, steeped in good etiquette, and a thoughtful caregiver. Her best self was when her Laura and Elaine merged together—which was most of the time. She was wonderfully, amazingly, frustratingly, complex.

Laura Elaine was preceded in death by her parents, William and Hazel Getty; three sisters, Jeannie, Helen, and Liz; her beloved husband Jim, and grandsons Nicholas and John Patrick Short. She is survived by brothers, Bill and Steve Getty and sister, Patricia Steen. Elaine’s legacy is her six children: Stephanie Grinage (Richard), Sarah Short (John), Timothy Casper (Jennifer), Todd Casper (Julie), Suzanne Steele (Walter) and Thomas Casper (Heidi). She was smitten with her grandchildren Katherine and Alaura Short and Jaxson and Rylinn Pross; Andie Stalder (Garrett), Allie, Abigail and Charlie Casper and Gracie and Ayden Crozier; Matthew Casper (Shannon); Sturling Steele (Tara); Trisha Schumer (Scott); Hannah Bradbury (David), Sophie, TJ, Sadie, Michael, William and Drew Casper. Elaine’s great grandchildren Shiloh and Silas Stalder and Brytnee Berthot; Lyla Steele; and Wilkes Schumer were her joy.

Elaine’s influence extended to her nephews Scott Hesse (Anne) and Greg Hesse (Trish); Brent (CJ) and Marc Getty (Angela) and niece, Lynne Getty.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, June 3, 2022, at 3 p.m. in the St. Peter’s Episcopal Church with Father Ryan Willis officiating. The service will be live streamed on our website (brennermortuary.com) through Laura Elaine’s obituary page. The Family requests that no flowers be sent to the home or memorial service. Memorial gifts honoring Laura Elaine may be made to the Short Fine Arts Scholarship held at the Community Foundation of Southeast Kansas, 100 South Broadway Street, Suite 100, Pittsburg, Kansas 66762 or to the Casper Family Education Scholarship honoring both Jim and Laura Elaine, held at Fort Hays State University Foundation, One Tiger Place, Hays, Kansas 67601. Arrangements are under the direction of the Brenner Mortuary, 114 E. 4th St., Pittsburg, KS 66762.



CLUB NOTES

Thursday, June 2

Valley of Southeast Kansas Lodge of Perfection

All members of the Valley of Southeast Kansas Lodge of Perfection are asked to attend the Stated Dinner and Meeting on Thursday, June 2, at the Armstrong Masonic Lodge, 3105 N. Joplin St., Pittsburg, Kansas. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will start at approximately 7 p.m. Reservations are required, so please RSVP by Wednesday, June 1 at sekcottishrite@sbcglobal.net or by calling 620-223-1330. But please, if you don't feel safe, please don't attend. And if you don't feel well or are in any way symptomatic, please stay home. Social distancing will be practiced and masks are highly recommended.

Pittsburg Coin Club

The Pittsburg Coin Club meets at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at 407 E. 11th St., Pittsburg. Meetings are open to the public. Membership fees are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children ages 18 and under. Contact Janie Collins at 620-238-9681 for more information.

Saturday, June 4

Sunflower Kiwanis

Don't throw away those aluminum cans! Bring them to Dillon's parking lot on Saturday, where Sunflower Kiwanis members will be collecting from 8 a.m. to noon. Cans are collected the first Saturday of each month.

Monday, June 6

TOPS #0599 Pittsburg

TOPS KS 0599 Pittsburg, Kansas meets Monday evenings for confidential weigh-ins and an informational meeting at the Homer Cole Center at 3003 N. Joplin, Pittsburg, KS. Weigh-ins begin at about 5:15 p.m. and the meeting starts at 6:05 p.m. For more details about TOPS #0599, contact Wanda Porter at 620-231-9091.

Co-Dependents Anonymous

As COVID-19 and social distancing has curtailed CoDa meetings, there is now a weekly audio only conference call meeting at noon on Mondays. For more information call 620-704-1309 or email jtknoll@swbell.net.

Community Grief Support Group

Meeting the first Monday of each month at Root Coffee House, 402 N Broadway, Pittsburg, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 7

Pittsburg Noon Rotary

Pittsburg Noon Rotary meets at noon on Tuesdays at Via Christi Hospital. To allow more time for networking, the group has added a monthly "Social Hour" on the first Tuesday of every month throughout the community. Ask a Rotarian for the next social hour location or visit the group's Facebook page, Pittsburg Noon Rotary Club.

Pittsburg Duplicate Bridge Club

The Pittsburg Duplicate Bridge Club meets on Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. at the Homer Cole Community Center. Fully vaccinated bridge players are welcome to come play with their partners. Masks are mandated at this time, but this policy will be reviewed when possible.

Dr. Dakota Bunch joins Girard Medical Center

news@morningsun.net



Dr. Dakota Bunch COURTESY PHOTO

GIRARD, Kan. — The Girard Medical Center has a new Primary Care Physician, Dakota Bunch, MD, at the Arma and Cherokee clinic locations. Dr. Bunch will begin seeing patients at these clinic locations starting on Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2022. Dr. Bunch will be in the Arma Clinic two days a week and in the Cherokee Clinic two days a week.

Dr. Bunch is originally from Gardner, Kansas, and received his undergraduate degree at the University of Kansas. He earned his doctorate from the University of Kansas School of Medicine and completed his residency at Smoky Hill Family Medicine Residency Program in Salina.

Dr. Bunch, and his fiancé Carissa, will be moving to the area this summer.

Dr. Bunch is accepting patients. If you would like to schedule an appointment or talk about how GMC can best meet your healthcare needs, call 620-347-4711 for the Arma Clinic or 620-457-8101 for the Cherokee Clinic.

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Frank D Rudnik
 Service: A service for Mr. Rudnik is set for Saturday June 4th at 10:30 a.m. The service is located at Brenner Mortuary, Pittsburg Kansas. Burial will follow at the McCune City Cemetery in McCune Kansas

Obituary Policy

Obituaries are published in the Pittsburg Morning Sun as a service to our readers. We do not charge for this service and encourage photos to accompany the article telling about the life of the person.

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1 month	\$14.36	\$16.77	\$—	\$8.71*

*includes tax

NEWS

Baxter Springs man arrested for pointing gun at residents

Staff Reports

news@morningsun.net

BAXTER SPRINGS, Kan. — On Saturday, Cherokee County sheriff's deputies responded to a reported dispute, which had occurred at a home outside of Baxter Springs. During their investi-

gation, deputies learned a man had allegedly approached two other men while they were on their own property, pointed a handgun at them and threatened them.

The suspect, however, had fled prior to law enforcement being notified.

On Wednesday, the Cherokee County Sheriff's

Office announced that deputies had located and apprehended the suspect, 37-year-old Nicholas Patton of Baxter Springs.

Patton was arrested on allegations of aggravated assault and transported to the Cherokee County Jail, where he was being held Wednesday in lieu of \$16,000 bond.



Patton

AREA EVENTS

Thursday, June 2

Homeschool Thursday

Open to all homeschool families. All ages welcome. If children are under the age of 7, a parent/caregiver will need to be present during the program. Play chess or learn how to play. Other game options will be available too. 1 to 2 p.m. at Girard Public Library.

Frontenac American Legion Bingo

Held the first and third Thursdays of the month at the Frontenac Senior Citizen Center. Open to the public. Doors open at 5 p.m. Play begins at 6:30 p.m. Includes Rollover Progressive Blackout game, a Progressive Blackout Jackpot, Instant Bingo Cards (pull tabs).

Heartland Beekeepers Association of Southeast Kansas meeting

HBASEK is having their monthly meeting from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 3 at Yates Hall on Pittsburg State University's campus. The HBASEK meets the first Thursday of every month and it is open to the public.

Friday, June 3

Friday Music on the Lake

Friday Music on the Lake returns to Crawford State Park at the Lake View Café patio on the northwest end of Crawford Lake ("Farlington Lake") and is hosted by Friends of Crawford State Park. Musicians play for tips only so please tip generously. Music begins at 6 p.m. and ends at 8 p.m. Some seating is available but bringing your own lawn chair is recommended. Food and drink are available in the café. Please practice physical distancing as much as possible for safety to all. This Friday BJ Pruitt will be performing.

Saturday, June 4

Pittsburg Area Farmers' Market

Vendors offer seasonal fruits and vegetables, meats, baked goods, and more. Local artisans sell handmade crafts. The farmers' market accepts EBT/Vision/SNAP cards. Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon April 16 to Oct. 30 at the Farmers' Market Pavilion, 119 E. 11th St., Pittsburg.

Parade of Cars and Jefferson Highway Activities

The Rolling Nostalgia Car club and Jefferson Highway Annual Conference will be hosting a parade of cars starting at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 4, starting at the Meadowbrook Mall 202 E. Centennial. This parade will travel through downtown Pittsburg, Lincoln, and the Franklin and Arma areas. More activities involved with the Jefferson Highway will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Crawford County Historical Museum.

Children's Book Fair at YMCA

United Way of Southwest Missouri and Southeast Kansas is partnering with the Pittsburg YMCA and Craw-Kan to support childhood literacy and encourage summer reading by providing free books for children during the Read, White & Blue Children's Book Fair from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 4 at the Pittsburg Family YMCA. The book fair is open to children from pre-k to third grade as well as parents, grandparents, and caregivers. During the event, children will be able to select free books to take home and keep. The book fair will also feature an appearance from PSU's Gus Gorilla at 10 a.m., a special story time at 11:30 a.m., plus other fun activities.

Sunflower Kiwanis

Look for Sunflower Kiwanis members collecting aluminum cans on the southwest corner of Dillon's parking lot from 8 a.m. until noon. Cans are collected the first Saturday of each month.

Mother accused of decapitating son found unfit for trial

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — A Kansas City woman accused of decapitating her 6-year-old son has been found mentally unfit to stand trial.

A Jackson County judge last week placed Tasha Haefs, 35, in the custody of the Missouri Department of Mental Health after finding her incompetent to stand trial, the Kansas City Star reported. Haefs

had been charged with first-degree murder and armed criminal action in the killing of Karvel Stevens.

Officers who were called in February to a home in eastern Kansas City found the boy and a family dog decapitated inside and Haefs covered in blood. They also found bloody knives, and officials said Haefs told police she killed

her son in the home's bathtub.

Police went to the home after a woman believed to be Haefs called and said the devil was trying to attack her. Haefs' family members later told the Star that she had struggled for years with drug addiction, depression, severe trauma and hallucinations.

A phone message left

Wednesday morning with Haefs' public defender, Laura O'Sullivan, seeking comment was not immediately returned.

Mike Mansur, a spokesman for the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office, said Haefs' mental competence will be re-evaluated after several months of treatment to see if she can stand trial at a later date.

3 killed in shooting at Tulsa medical building; shooter dead

TULSA, Oklahoma (AP) — Three people were killed Wednesday in a shooting at a Tulsa medical building on a hospital campus, a police captain said.

Capt. Richard Meulenberg confirmed the number of dead. Meulenberg said the shooter also was dead.

It was unclear how the shooter died or what prompted the deadly assault.

"Officers are currently going through every room in the building checking for additional threats," police said in a Facebook

post just before 6 p.m. "We know there are multiple injuries, and potentially multiple casualties."

Meulenberg also said multiple people were wounded and that the medical complex was a "catastrophic scene."

St. Francis Health System locked down its campus Wednesday afternoon because of the situation at the Natalie Medical Building. The Natalie building houses an outpatient surgery center and a breast health center.

Aerial footage from a TV helicopter appeared to show first responders

wheeling someone on a stretcher away from the hospital building.

Dozens of police cars could be seen outside the hospital complex, and authorities shut down traffic as the investigation went on.

A reunification center for families to find their loved ones was set up at a nearby high school.

Agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives were also at the scene, a spokesman said.

The shooting Wednesday comes eight days after an 18-year-old

gunman armed with an automatic rifle burst into Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, and killed 19 children and two teachers before being fatally shot himself and just more than two weeks after shooting at a Buffalo supermarket by a white man who is accused of killing 10 Black people in a racist attack. The recent Memorial Day weekend saw multiple mass shootings nationwide, even as single-death incidents accounted for most gun fatalities.

Man found guilty of killing woman he was accused of stalking

OLATHE, Kan. (AP) — A Missouri man has been convicted of killing a woman he was accused of stalking and faces life in prison when he's sentenced in October.

On Tuesday, a Johnson County jury found Clyde

James Barnes Jr., 44, of Kansas City, guilty of first-degree murder and other counts in the 2020 killing of 42-year-old Jessica Smith in her Olathe home, the Kansas City Star reported. Barnes was also found guilty of aggra-

vated burglary, unlawful tampering with electronic monitoring, criminal threat and violation of a protection order.

Olathe police who were responding to a burglary call at Smith's home on July 5, 2020, found her

body inside and arrested Barnes hours later. At the time, authorities said Barnes was out on bond for a stalking charge involving Smith, but the charge was later dismissed.

SCHMIDT

Continued from Page 1A

ical sector that plays a significant role in the area's economy.

"In terms of trying to encourage more investment in our region, we understand the importance, for example, of transportation infrastructure and the critical importance of finishing the US 69 project, so that that promise is kept and not left hanging," he said.

Healthcare facilities in the Pittsburg and Joplin area "are regional centers," Schmidt said, "and it's really important that they have not only sort

of general practitioner investment, but that you also have the ability from throughout the Southwest Missouri/Southeast Kansas area to access certain specialty services in the area, so it's not necessary to go to Kansas City or Springfield or Tulsa for, you know, every type of medical treatment that's available."

Another priority that Schmidt said he will focus on if elected is tackling the problem of drug and alcohol abuse.

"It's very real, it's not always the happiest subject to talk about, but as a Southeast Kansan, I am very mindful of it. Throughout Kansas and the region, including in

our area, we have significant challenges regarding substance abuse — addiction, whether it's alcohol or drugs," Schmidt said.

"And that affects not only [...] the individuals involved and their health situation, it also affects our workforce in the region, which is critical to being able to ensure that our base employers, our manufacturers for example, can continue to find and employ the people they need in order to remain and grow in our communities."

Schmidt said his other plans include increasing support for public safety, as well as lowering taxes.

"Perhaps not surprisingly, having served as

attorney general now for nearly 12 years, community safety is very high on my list of priorities. We've done a lot over the last decade-plus, but I believe there's more we can do from the governor's office in terms of supporting some of the community safety issues, public safety issues, criminal justice issues, and so we'll stay focused on that," he said.

"We will certainly be focused on the high cost of living in Kansas, and obviously one of the things that government policy affects in that regard is the tax burden and the tax load. I think there are a number of different areas where we'll be advocating for tax relief for working

families, for middle class families, for Kansans who are sort of the backbone of our communities."

Overall, Schmidt stressed that he will prioritize a small-government approach toward encouraging economic growth.

"At the end of the day, state leaders need to listen to leaders in the communities, so that we understand what the game plan is, what the strengths and the strategy for growing and making our communities the best they can be is, and then we fall in behind and offer the state's support," Schmidt said. "It's rarely a good idea to show up and say 'We're here from Topeka and we're here to help,'" he added, echoing

the famous quote from Ronald Reagan ("The nine most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government and I'm here to help.")

"We will wake up every day and go to work with a focus on how we grow Kansas, how we persuade more of our young folks and young families to choose to remain here or to return home, how we encourage more investment and more opportunities in this state, because we want to leave it better than we found it," Schmidt said, "and that will be an overarching theme that colors everything that we do."

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OPINION PAGE

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Letters must be original, up to 250 words and signed. Include the writer's address and phone number for verification. Letters may be edited. Send letters to: The Editor, 701 N. Locust St., Pittsburg, KS 66762, news@morningsun.net, or fax to 620-231-0645.

LITTLE BALKANS CHRONICLES

Milk money, pigeons, and mayo sandwiches



J.T. Knoll
news@morningsun.net

This week we return to Ben George's memoir and his early days in Frontenac. — J.T.K.

Mrs. Pichler was my first teacher at Sacred Heart. She taught third and fourth grade and was so nice. I didn't get my ear pinched off down the hallway until the fifth grade. (Thanks Sister Henrietta.) We had milk count each day right after the Pledge of Allegiance. The milk came right after our first recess. I believe it was \$.03 a carton.

Once every week or so, chocolate milk was offered for \$.05 a carton. Yep, the old black tennis shoe trick again, the George kids stuck with the white milk to save the two cents.

When it was extremely hot outside and all the windows were open, Mrs. Pichler would let the boys take off their shirt and sit in class after the afternoon recess in their T-shirt. Guess what? Me and Bob were the only boys with

undershirts instead of T-shirts and didn't qualify. Oh well.

I made some friends at Sacred Heart and we'd play often after school. One Monday, after I had visited my Grandpa George's over the weekend, I let John Arthur in on a little secret. While at Grandpa's I had knocked a pigeon out with a rock and I brought him home for a pet. All excited, John Arthur says he'd be over after school. I'm sitting on the front porch with my pigeon in a shoe box when John Arthur shows up with 300 feet of kite string! You guessed it — within 10 minutes we had the bird circling the house at 150 feet. Genius! Mom comes out to see half the neighborhood marveling at our live kite and gives the "Let the poor thing go" speech. Since the pet was tiring and thinking about landing on a rooftop, we decided we'd let him go and that he'd find his way back to Greenbush. Our thinking was that pigeons knew their way home. We tied a small twisty tie on one of his legs and the plan was I'd see him back at Grandpa's Barn in a

couple of weeks. He must have been adopted or something around Girard as I never saw him again.

It took a few more years for Dad to tell us kids his pigeon story. He and his brother Chris, several years earlier, caught a pigeon in the same barn. They had access to a couple dynamite caps which was rather common back on farms with large rocks to break up for a better crop. Dad's story was that they tied the cap on the pigeon's leg, lit the fuse and threw the bird up in the air. The dynamite cap was a little heavy for a long flight, so the pigeon lands on the chimney of the house. Soon several bricks are flying, and Grandma comes running out of the house screaming. Dad didn't share his punishment for that caper!

It wasn't too long after we arrived in Frontenac that we became altar boys. We had to learn all the Latin responses used in Mass plus where to be on the altar for the priest, ring the bell at the right times, hold the communion plate so the Holy Eucharist wouldn't hit the floor, etc. After we knew all the

steps, we were put on a rotation with other altar boys for Sunday and daily Mass. Sometimes during weekdays, we would run to church, serve the 6:45 a.m. Mass, run back home, get a bowl of cereal, then head back to school for the 8:00 a.m. bell. One of the duties of an altar boy was also funerals. Sister Beatrice would assign us as needed and I'm thinking I served maybe 20 or 30 funerals over those last couple years. It was not uncommon in the late '50s to have the deceased lay in state at the home for a couple of days. I remember going to a home in Frontenac to view and say the Rosary for the grandmother of a couple school mates. The casket would stay open for the two or three days, then closed and moved for the funeral. I was one of only a handful of altar boys at Sacred Heart to become a Supreme Grand Knight. Like the quizzes on the Catholic Catechism, every test was a one-on-one verbal response administered by a Priest or Nun. It was a lot of memorizing and work, so I was disappointed my cassock during Mass didn't have stripes

on the sleeves or medals like the Army uniform to let everyone know I was a Supreme Grand Knight. I was a big deal!

There was a time during my early years in Frontenac that we only had one car. Mom would call Pallucca's and give her list of groceries. Jeannie, Bill, and I would pull our Red Flyer Wagon the mile or so to the store and load up the pre-pulled groceries. (This is pretty much what is happening in today's grocery business and the internet only without the wagon.) Sometimes it was hot and us kids would have a spare quarter or so. We would indulge in an ice milk bar on our way home. Ice milk bars were a nickel whereas ice cream bars were a dime. The household almost always had some food for our growing bodies. Mainly "comfort food" as it's known today. Lot of meat, potatoes, vegetables and of course lots of gravy. It sounds crazy today, but not once as a child did Mom ever serve rice. I had my first taste of rice at the St. Mary's cafeteria my freshman year in high school. That Spanish rice tasted pretty good.

Fridays were meatless back then for Catholics, so we had navy beans (but no ham), grilled cheese sandwiches and sometimes fish sticks (as in TWO). I think Dick Pallucca cut Mom a deal for ten cents a pound if she would take the bologna butts and uneven slices off the end of the long stick. If by chance the cupboard was completely bare, we improvised with a Kayro syrup sandwich or mayo sandwich. In the summer months, a few times, after saving ice milk sticks on Mom's orders, we proceeded to make our own Kool-Aid popsicles in the ice trays. Those little squares of colored ice tasted pretty good at the time. Tang, the Astronauts' drink, ran its course rather quickly in our home.

— Ben George

If you have a remembrance and/or photo to share, send it — along with your name, address and phone number — by email to jtknoll@subell.net or by land mail to 401 W. Euclid, Pittsburg, Kansas 66762. You can phone and text photos to 620-704-1309.

Evil in Texas

By Kathryn Jean Lopez
National Review

Is there anything more painful than parents burying their children? How about children losing both of their parents in the same week? There's so much pain emanating out of the Uvalde, Texas, Robb Elementary School shooting.

We pray and we offer our aid, but the families who are burying their young children because of a disturbed young man on a rampage are inconsolable. As I write, many questions surround the circumstances of the shooting. But if there is a foolproof way to keep disturbed people from getting guns, I think most people of goodwill would agree we should pursue it. But there's also something much simpler, and, in theory, much less controversial that we can do right now.

Pope Benedict XVI once said: "We learn from God to seek only what is good and never what is evil. We learn to look at each other not only with our eyes, but with the eyes of God, which is the gaze of Jesus Christ. A gaze that begins in the heart and does not stop at the surface, that goes beyond appearances and manages to capture the deepest aspirations of the other: waiting to be heard, for caring attention, in a word: love."

That's a tall order when we are overwhelmed with so much tragedy and locked in argument over how to prevent it. But we

need to try.

The writer Elizabeth Bruenig shared on Twitter a paragraph that she'd had to cut from a recent Atlantic magazine essay, for space reasons. It's far from throwaway writing, however: "You are a wondrous creation. ... You are part of the human family, and humankind is the crown jewel of the known universe. It is good that you are alive, and you should live; it's good that all of us are alive, here, together, and we should all of us live, and the human race ought to go on ... I only want to state what I think we stand to lose if we can't cure the cultural rot at the heart of American life."

She's hit at the problem: Too many people believe that their own lives don't matter.

Some of this is a spiritual problem. When we have some understanding that we are made by a loving God, we know there is something greater. We have some gratitude, because our lives are not a given. And we wonder: How can we be good stewards of them? This leads to all sorts of questions, dreams and prayers. But a culture that is so drowning in the violence of death instead of being uplifted by all the good in its midst leads to hopelessness, despair and warped thinking.

Just two days before the latest slaughter, the Catholic magazine Magnificat had a meditation from the British poet Caryl Houselander, who died in 1954, that is hauntingly timely: "Too many anxious Chris-

tians today think that their efforts to preach and teach and enter into outward activities can do more to save the world than the surrender of their souls to God, to become Christ-bearers. They believe that they can do more than our Lady did, and they have not time to stop to consider the absurdity of this. ... However dark our days seem to be for Christianity, they are not so dark as the night following the crucifixion must have seemed to the apostles."

Christians will soon mark the feast of Pentecost, a supernatural outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on the world. If Christians consistently lived as though the Holy Spirit really were still active in everyday life, things would be less unbearable, because we would see the miracle and beauty of existence, no matter how much evil got in the way. I truly believe that the children who were murdered in Texas are now in a better place. Pray for us that we might be as well, and that we do better by the innocents still among us.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book "A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living." She is also chair of Cardinal Dolan's pro-life commission in New York. She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.

EDITORIAL CARTOONS



Self-centered brother has siblings at their wits' end



DEAR ABBY
Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I come from a nice family. My siblings are thoughtful and kind, but one of my brothers is a conversational narcissist. He drones on for hours (if we let him) without asking a single question to engage another person. He sees nothing wrong with talking endlessly about his work and his acquisitions, which interest no one. He will compare, indirectly, my home with his, assuming that his is far superior and better decorated — never considering that my home

is just right for me and that I do not lust for more. All of us listen to him and do our best to show an interest without ever receiving that courtesy in return. How can we nudge him toward showing an interest in others? In his times of need, I have been there for him and listened to his troubles, and I have gotten the impression that he's kinder than any of us have assumed, given his self-centered ramblings. Is there any way to influence him toward being a more thoughtful conversationalist? — SORE-EARED SIBLING

DEAR SIBLING: Yes, there is. "Someone" is going to have to tell this brother — in as gentle language as possible — that hogging the conversation is as

unwelcome as hogging all the food at the buffet. He should also be told that comparing what he has to that of his siblings, who may have less, comes across as bragging, which makes them uncomfortable. If no one has the courage to address this, a group intervention may be needed to stanch the motormouth. However, if this is more than any of you want to risk, see this sibling separately one-on-one. If he's not playing to a crowd, he may behave differently.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-husband and I divorced three years ago after he had an affair and destroyed our lives (including his daughter's, who considered me her only real mom). The divorce took about a year. Since then,

he has stopped communicating with me and pretends I never existed. My stepdaughter, "Dana," however, never let go. I held on as well for a couple of years, but as time goes on, I am feeling I'm in an increasingly impossible situation. What my ex did and his actions that followed were incredibly cruel. They devastated me. Staying in touch with Dana has slowly become a painful reminder of that and has made it difficult for me to close this unhappy chapter of my life. I don't want to hurt Dana. I hope that one day she'll understand, but I feel the need to cease contact in order to heal fully. Is this too cruel? — TRAUMATIZED IN FLORIDA

DEAR TRAUMATIZED: What a sad situation. I'm sorry you feel there is no other way to heal from your ex-husband's betrayal than to distance yourself from Dana, who loves you. However, feeling as you do, you must take care of yourself. Please do not "ghost" her. It is important that you explain to her, as kindly as possible, your reasons for ending your relationship, so she understands this is not her fault.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

AGRICULTURE

Sustainability is important to Kansas Farmers

Sustainable agriculture ensures these farms continue for years to come

By Meagan Cramer
Kansas Living Magazine

Sustainability is a buzz word we often hear when we're talking about food and farming. What does it mean to you? If you asked your neighbor or coworker, would they define it differently?

We asked a handful of Kansas farmers and ranchers to share what sustainability looks like on their farms. Not surprisingly, each had a varying definition, but when you drill down to the basics, each one plans to leave everything in better shape so future generations can carry on the farming and ranching tradition.

Sustainable Beef

Debbie Lyons-Blythe and her husband, Duane, raised five kids on their Flint Hills ranch — the same ranch that was homesteaded by Duane's great-great-grandfather in 1890. When you ask Debbie to define sustainability, she shares it's always at the forefront of their minds.

"Farmers and ranchers have always been focused on sustainability," she says. "But we may not have called it that. We may have said heritage or legacy or simply doing a better job with what we have, but it all comes back to sustainability."

She explains there are three pillars they focus on: the environment, social issues like caring for livestock and people, and economics. The economics of a farm and ranch are often overlooked in conversations about the sustainability of today's food system, but Debbie shares this is an important piece of the puzzle.

"If I don't make money on my ranch, then I don't have money to put back into the environment or people," she says. "It's fundamental for a business."

Cattle play an interesting role in the overall sustainability landscape. Not all land is great at growing food suitable for humans. The Flint Hills, where Debbie and Duane ranch, are full of rock. Underneath the soil you'll find chert and limestone,

which means it can't be tilled so crops like wheat and corn aren't grown there. Instead, grass grows, and this grass is high-quality feed for cattle. Debbie's cattle can eat this grass and upcycle it to a nutritious (and delicious) source of protein we can digest. For that reason, they're sometimes called nature's great recyclers or "superheroes," as Debbie prefers.

These superheroes also help with carbon sequestration.

"If we did not have cows grazing this area, it would grow up into a scrubby forest, and the trees that would grow here do not sequester carbon," she says.

The roots of the grasses that grow in the Flint Hills reach into the soil (sometimes up to 20 feet) and help put carbon back in the ground. Those root systems also help rain infiltrate the soil.

Sustainable Dairy Production

In 1930 Arnold Hildebrand and his wife, Rose, started a small hobby farm in Junction City. Today, there are four generations of Hildebrands who have continued the legacy started by Arnold and Rose, and the farm has an on-site bottling plant, which bottles the seven varieties of Hildebrand Farms Dairy milk available in more than 120 stores throughout Kansas.

Melissa Hildebrand-Reed shares her role as the operations manager at Hildebrand Farms Dairy means she's continually thinking about sustainability and for her, the health of the cows (whom she calls her girls) and the land is at the forefront.

"For my girls and our future, everything is dependent upon the land," she says. "For us, that means we have to give back what we take. We have to take care of the water, the soil and every piece that surrounds that."

They're able to collect manure from the cows and spread it on their fields to provide nutrients back to the soil. Doing this adds organic material and recycles the manure. They also carefully watch their water usage. For example, in the summer it's crucial to keep the cows cool and they use sprinklers to achieve this. To conserve water, they added sensors, so the sprinklers are only active when a cow is underneath them.

For their family, using technology and innovation has been a key to



Sustainability in agriculture on a crop farm with Ray Flickner KANSAS LIVING MAGAZINE

their success. In 2008, after two years of studying and planning, an on-site bottling plant opened on the farm. The ability to process their milk on the farm means the farm can support many families and potential generations to come. Hildebrand-Reed smiles and says, "If they so wish. They would never be forced to stay on the farm."

Growing Sustainable Crops in Kansas

On Ray Flickner's farm in McPherson County, technology and research help the fifth-generation farmer leave the natural resources like soil, water, trees and wildlife in better condition for the next generation. He and his wife, Susan, collaborate with more than a dozen university, industry and agency partnerships on their 147-year-old farm where they grow irrigated corn, soybeans, sorghum and wheat.

For the past four decades, Flickner has used minimum and conservation tillage. That means he tills the ground as little as possible. This keeps the soil from blowing away in the wind or being swept away by the rain. It also means there's more biological activity (worms, bugs, fungi, bacteria, etc.) and the soil can hold more water.

When talking about water, he shares they're in an area where there's a declining aquifer, so they looked for different ways to practice water conservation.

Twenty years ago, they moved from flood irrigation (where a field is essentially flooded with

water) to using subsurface drip irrigation. In subsurface drip irrigation, lines are buried beneath the surface of the soil and small amounts of water are placed directly on the roots of crops. This change alone has resulted in an average of 40 percent less water use over the past decade compared to the county average.

Ray is also experimenting with cover crops, studying how those can impact soil health, reduce erosion, improve water quality and help with weed suppression. Cover crops are plants seeded into fields with the primary purpose of improving the soil. Examples of cover crops are alfalfa, mustard, red clover and rye grasses.

Ray knows sustainability is a journey and says, "One of my goals is to leave the place in a better situation than when I took it over. I'm not belittling my forefathers, but today we have different technology. Things are different now. Can we move the needle so it's profitable and sustainable?"

No matter how you define sustainability, all the pieces must work together. For Debbie Lyons-Blythe, it's simple to explain. "If we can take care of the land, take care of the animals, take care of the people and make money, I will be able to pass on my ranch to my kids and grandkids. That's sustainability."

This article was originally published by Kansas Living Magazine, a publication of Kansas Farm Bureau.

COMMODITIES

Chicago Merchandise Exchange

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
CATTLE					
40,000 lbs.; cents per lb.					
Jun	130.95	132.92	130.92	132.80	+2.28
Aug	130.82	133.15	130.72	132.90	+2.53
Oct	136.55	138.17	136.30	137.90	+1.75
Dec	142.70	143.90	142.47	143.75	+1.45
Feb	147.97	149.00	147.80	148.90	+1.38
Apr	151.50	152.62	151.47	152.52	+1.27
Jun	147.12	147.82	146.87	147.70	+1.10
Aug	147.40	147.87	147.05	147.65	+0.68
Oct	150.50	150.80	150.50	150.80	+0.25
Est. sales 74,700.Tue.'s sales 71,086 Tue.'s open int 299,155, up 2,304					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
FEEDER CATTLE					
50,000 lbs.; cents per lb.					
Aug	165.27	170.22	165.02	169.72	+4.60
Sep	168.35	172.77	168.02	172.40	+4.28
Oct	170.77	175.15	170.67	174.77	+4.07
Nov	173.07	177.00	173.05	176.57	+3.85
Jan	173.97	177.10	173.55	176.90	+4.03
Mar	175.00	178.47	175.00	178.45	+4.28
Apr	178.75	179.62	178.75	179.62	+3.27
May	180.00	181.00	180.00	181.00	+2.63
Est. sales 12,859.Tue.'s sales 9,175 Tue.'s open int 47,357					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
HOGS,LEAN					
40,000 lbs.; cents per lb.					
Jun	109.00	110.12	108.60	109.80	+1.83
Jul	108.70	112.75	108.70	112.42	+4.42
Aug	107.00	109.80	106.72	108.92	+2.50
Oct	93.22	94.72	92.87	93.85	+0.80
Dec	86.75	87.47	86.35	87.05	+0.28
Feb	90.52	90.87	90.20	90.37	-0.13
Apr	93.80	93.95	93.27	93.45	-0.35
May	96.72	-	-	-	-
Jun	101.90	101.90	101.45	101.45	-0.45
Jul	101.70	101.75	101.67	101.67	-0.03
Aug	100.75	100.75	100.55	100.57	+0.20
Oct	87.42	+0.20	-	-	-
Est. sales 57,061.Tue.'s sales 49,813 Tue.'s open int 193,769					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg
PORK BELLIES					
40,000 lbs.; cents per lb.					
No open contracts.					

Chicago Board of Trade

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
WHEAT					
5,000 bu minimum; cents per bushel					
Jul	1091	1098	1027 1/4	1041 1/4	-46 1/4
Sep	1100 1/4	1106 3/4	1037 1/2	1052 1/4	-45 1/4
Dec	1108	1115 3/4	1049 1/4	1063 3/4	-43 1/4
Mar	1114	1120 1/4	1057	1070 1/4	-41 3/4
May	1106 1/4	1108 3/4	1051 1/4	1063 1/4	-39 1/4
Jul	1071	1077	1020	1030	-41
Est. sales 147,120.Tue.'s sales 130,523 Tue.'s open int 331,136, up 1,135					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
CORN					
5,000 bu minimum; cents per bushel					
Jul	753 3/4	756 1/4	720 1/2	731 1/4	-22 1/4
Sep	725	728 1/4	694 3/4	703 3/4	-21 1/4
Dec	712	716	682	691 1/2	-20
Mar	717	720 1/4	687 1/4	696 1/2	-20
May	718 1/4	720	688 1/2	697 3/4	-19
Jul	712 1/4	715 1/4	685	694 1/4	-17 3/4
Sep	656 1/4	658 1/2	636 1/4	643 3/4	-13 3/4
Dec	635	637 3/4	615 1/2	621 1/4	-13 1/4
Est. sales 454,796.Tue.'s sales 347,039 Tue.'s open int 1,564,217, up 17,633					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
OATS					
5,000 bu minimum; cents per bushel					
Jul	670 1/4	670 1/4	645 1/4	646 1/2	-23 1/4
Sep	633 1/2	633 1/2	625	626	-15 1/2
Dec	628 1/2	628 1/2	623	623 1/2	-4
Mar	623 1/4	625	623 1/4	625	+1 1/2
May	621 1/4	+1 1/2	-	-	-
Jul	621	+1 1/2	-	-	-
Est. sales 598.Tue.'s sales 818 Tue.'s open int 3,054, up 3					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
SOYBEANS					
5,000 bu minimum; cents per bushel					
Jul	1687 1/4	1706 1/2	1675 1/4	1690 1/4	+7
Aug	1623	1642 1/2	1612 1/2	1625	+4 3/4
Sep	1547 1/4	1569	1540	1550 1/4	+5 1/2
Nov	1511 1/2	1534 1/2	1503 1/4	1515 1/4	+5 3/4
Jan	1516 1/4	1539 1/2	1508 1/2	1520	+5 3/4
Mar	1510	1531 3/4	1502 1/4	1514 1/2	+6 3/4
May	1509 3/4	1531	1506	1514 1/4	+6 1/4
Jul	1505	1529	1503 3/4	1512 1/4	+5 3/4
Est. sales 186,282.Tue.'s sales 250,990 Tue.'s open int 753,373					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
SOYBEAN OIL					
60,000 lbs; cents per lb					
Jul	78.13	79.15	76.61	78.11	+1.9
Aug	76.63	77.33	75.21	76.74	+3.6
Sep	75.58	76.53	74.51	75.93	+3.5
Oct	74.94	75.81	73.82	75.26	+3.4
Dec	74.73	75.65	73.64	75.09	+3.7
Jan	74.35	75.20	73.47	74.71	+3.4
Mar	73.63	74.39	72.72	73.97	+3.2
May	71.86	73.55	71.86	73.33	+3.5
Jul	72.25	72.83	71.46	72.67	+3.4
Aug	71.90	71.90	71.75	71.75	+3.6
Sep	71.05	71.09	70.92	70.92	+3.3
Oct	70.32	70.36	70.13	70.13	+3.1
Dec	69.07	70.09	69.07	69.86	+2.7
Jan	69.45	+2.7	-	-	-
Est. sales 123,843.Tue.'s sales 123,725 Tue.'s open int 383,135, up 4,275					

	Open	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
SOYBEAN MEAL					
100 tons; dollars per ton					
Jul	415.90	419.80	410.50	412.70	-2.10
Aug	411.20	415.40	405.80	407.10	-3.30
Sep	407.40	411.10	401.10	402.10	-4.20
Oct	402.30	406.10	395.90	397.00	-4.20
Dec	403.00	407.30	396.70	398.40	-3.60
Jan	400.50	405.50	395.50	397.30	-2.80
Mar	397.30	399.40	390.60	392.90	-1.70
May	396.40	396.80	389.20	391.20	-4.0
Jul	393.20	394.40	389.20	390.90	+8.0
Est. sales 105,443.Tue.'s sales 142,798 Tue.'s open int 370,669, up 2,910					

Producers Cooperative Association	
Bushel	
Soft wheat.....	\$9.81
Soybean.....	\$14.45
Yellow shell corn.....	\$6.67
Milo.....	\$6.52

Columbus Grain	
Bushel	
Hard wheat.....	\$10.53
Soft wheat.....	\$9.61
Soybean.....	\$16.55
Yellow shell corn.....	\$7.31
Milo.....	\$7.19

McCune Farmers Union Coop Association	
Bushel	
Hard wheat.....	\$10.53
Soft wheat.....	\$9.61
Soybean.....	\$16.55
Yellow shell corn.....	\$7.31
Milo.....	\$7.19

Watch out for blue-green algae

By Adaven Scronce
Wildcat Extension District

Soon we will be experiencing warmer weather, and as the weather starts to warm up it is important to be on the lookout for toxic Blue-green algae in ponds. Blue-green algae can occur in a pond because of runoff that carries nitrogen or phosphorus into the pond. When the temperature reaches 75 degrees or higher the algae will grow and bloom. A period of hot, sunny days with little wind following an increase in runoff from rain

will also increase the likelihood of blue-green algae blooms. Blue-green algae includes many species of photosynthetic cyanobacteria (bacteria capable of photosynthesis) that live in the water. Cyanobacteria are a species of blue-green algae that produce toxins that are poisonous to animals. The toxins that result from harmful blooms of blue-green algae are stored in the cyanobacteria until they die, and as the cyanobacteria decompose, the toxins are released into the water.

When blue-green algae rapidly reproduce, they

form blooms that appear as scum on the surface of a pond and may change the color of the water. These blooms of blue-green algae are cyanobacteria, also referred to as harmful algal blooms. Blue-green algae blooms are typically the worst in areas of the pond where water is stagnant due to minimal disturbance of surface water from the wind and higher water temperature, such as a cove or inlet. Floating algal scums may also accumulate on downwind shores of lakes and ponds. Ponds that have little movement of surface wa-

ter and are relatively clear are more likely to produce harmful blooms of blue-green algae due to the high amount of sunlight that can pass through the surface water of the pond.

Toxins from blue-green algae can affect the liver or the nervous system of animals that drink affected water. Animals that have consumed water from affected ponds may recover from toxins that affect the liver. However, if the toxins affect the nervous system of the animal, it often results in death. While there is currently

See ALGAE, Page 6A

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LOOKING BACK

FROM OUR HISTORY

The clash of swords and clank of armor rang out over Lincoln Park

By Phil Burgert
news@morningsun.net

Excerpted stories in Crawford County newspaper archives

100 Years Ago

June 2, 1922

Dedication of Crawford county's magnificent new courthouse and the 54th anniversary of the founding of the city of Girard were celebrated yesterday. Registration of "old settlers" was carried out through most of the day, and prizes of \$5 each for the man and woman who are the longest residents of the county were offered. Mrs. R. B. Laughlin, who settled in 1858, and A. Hicks, who came in 1865, won the prizes.

Tentative plans for the new women's dormitory to be erected at the Normal were submitted to President W. A. Brandenburg yesterday afternoon by H. L. Gamble, state architect. The site selected for the new building is just south of the normal campus, across Lindburg avenue. The dormitory will house

105 girls, and will be four stories in height. There will be between 50 and 75 rooms.

Governor Allen today received a communication from the Missouri federation of labor, signed by R. T. Wood, Springfield, president, urging him to pardon Alexander Howat and other deposed members of the Kansas miners union. Governor Allen indicated no action will be taken on the request.

50 Years Ago

June 2, 1972

William G. Foust has been employed as principal of Roosevelt Junior High School by the board of education of the Pittsburg Unified School District, Supt. Jack L. Reed said yesterday. This is effective for the 1972-73 school year. Roosevelt and the Pittsburg High School previously have been considered as a single unit with only one principal, Harold Hardy. Regulators have deemed this unacceptable, Reed explained.

One way for a farmer to show he has pride in both his work and his community is to encourage his

fellow man to be happy. A local farmer did this through a bit of quote "plow riding" spelling out "SMILE" in big letters in his field just east of Atkinson Municipal Airport. It is not easily seen, except from the air. Pilots approaching the airport get a good view of the farmer's craftsmanship.

Mulberry defeated Farlington last night in semi-pro action in the Mo-Kan league. Ron Wolf, with two homers and a double, led Mulberry to a 3-2 victory. Joe Broyles backed up Wolf's hitting by striking out four and allowing only six hits. For Farlington Jim McKinnis and Jim Sarwinski led the hitting with two singles apiece. Jerry Sigafoose was on the mound for Farmington and struck out 10 while giving up seven hits.

25 Years Ago

June 2, 1997

The clash of swords and clank of armor rang out over Lincoln Park as the Society for Creative Anachronism held a demonstration of Renaissance and Medieval crafts and living. Around 40

SCA members came to indulge in sword fights and demonstrations of spinning and other crafts, and view displays of authentic costumes and books.

Urologist Elias Tawil, M.D., has been elected vice president of the National Arab Medical Association in Birmingham, Mich. The organization has 1,800 members, who are American physicians of Arab origin, representing all specialties. There are 22 chapters around the United States. Activities of the group range from medical and educational to social throughout the U.S. and Arab world.

Mount Carmel Medical Center officials recently honored 58 of their employees during a service awards banquet at Pittsburg's Memorial Auditorium and Convention Center. Kathleen Johnson was a recipient of the longest service award. She has been employed at Mount Carmel for 30 years. Twenty-five-year service awards were presented to Bobbie Bouchard, Gracie Hall and Anna Younger.

Meals on Wheels delivers

Staff Reports

news@morningsun.net

PITTSBURG, Kan. — During the month of May 2022, 704 meals were delivered to the elderly and disabled in Pittsburg. Ascension Via Christi Hospital Nutritional Services prepares the meals. Special diets are available upon request.

The following people delivered meals weekly: Bob and Donna Backes, Jamie and Becky Canada, Mary Cashero, Theresa Noland, Elwin and Karen Davis, Steve Davis, Kathy Ebbs, Denise Fitzpatrick, Beth Gor-

man, Tammy Grotheer, Jane Park, Cindy Jones, Glen Harvey, Diann Mazurek, Jeanette Nepote, Cynthia Phannensteil, Kathy Rosenblad, Paula and Rick Shaw, Alice and Harold Thomas, Jim and Connie Huddleston, Geanette Stroud and Brandon White.

Call the Meals on Wheels office at 620-235-3515 to volunteer or to place someone on our meal program. Regular and substitute drivers are needed. Volunteers drive one day per week and finish routes in one hour or less.

MILBURN

Continued from Page 1A

Texas, and Oklahoma competing in these races with her mentor Shannon Durbin.

"We really try to do a lot of stuff for the youth division and the peewees because we want these kids to keep going," she said. "We want them to be excited and have fun and do those kinds of things, but also that's what she wanted."

When Milburn was a child, Durbin had her do most of showing horses at competitions, but Milburn decided at a young age that she liked going fast better than dressing up and having her horse look fancy.

"So she liked to look classy and go fast, and to impress a clock rather than a judge," Russell said.

For Sami's Legacy 5D Barrel Race, the different races include peewee, youth, senior, open, and a man race which consists of men barrel racing in fun costumes. Russell said last year they had a man dressed as a tyrannosaurus rex

riding.

The money raised during this event goes into a scholarship fund that goes specifically to high school students involved in 4-H who wish to go to a technical school or a non-traditional school that isn't a four-year college. Russell said she wanted to help those high-school kids that didn't want to attend a university.

Milburn was a cosmetologist, but her true focus was the kids she coached for rodeos, her horses, and her family, Russell said.

"She was a fighter," she said. "When we met with the doctors, I asked 'what are her chances on this?' and she said 'it doesn't matter, I'm going to fight it anyway,' and she did. She fought a great fight and she tried to do as much as she could for as many people as she could while she was here."

Sami's Legacy 5D Barrel Race will begin at 3 p.m. Saturday, June 11 at the Civil War Arena in Carthage. For more information about this event, search for "Sami's Legacy" on Facebook.

TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1966, U.S. space probe Surveyor 1 landed on the moon

Associated Press
news@morningsun.net

Today is Thursday, June 2, the 153rd day of 2022. There are 212 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 2, 1997, Timothy McVeigh was convicted of murder and conspiracy in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people. (McVeigh was executed in June 2001.)

On this date:

In 1924, Congress passed, and President Calvin Coolidge signed, a measure guaranteeing full American citizenship for all Native Americans born within U.S. territorial limits.

In 1941, baseball's "Iron Horse," Lou Gehrig, died in New York of a degenerative disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; he was 37.

In 1953, the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II took place in London's Westminster Abbey, 16 months after the death of her father, King George VI.

In 1961, playwright and director George S. Kaufman, 71, died in New York.

In 1962, Soviet forces opened fire on striking workers in the Russian city of Novocherkassk; a retired general in 1989 put the death toll at 22 to 24.

In 1966, U.S. space probe Surveyor 1 landed on the moon and began transmitting detailed photographs of the lunar surface.

In 1979, Pope John Paul II arrived in his native Poland on the first visit by a pope to a Communist country.

In 1981, the Japanese

video arcade game "Donkey Kong" was released by Nintendo.

In 1999, South Africans went to the polls in their second post-apartheid election, giving the African National Congress a decisive victory; retiring president Nelson Mandela was succeeded by Thabo Mbeki (TAH'-boh-um-BEH'-kee).

In 2011, a judge in Placer, California, sentenced serial sex offender Phillip Garrido to life in prison for kidnapping and raping Jaycee Dugard; Garrido's wife, Nancy, received a decades-long sentence.

In 2016, autopsy results showed superstar musician Prince died of an accidental overdose of fentanyl, a powerful opioid painkiller.

In 2020, defying curfews, protesters streamed back into the nation's streets, hours after President Donald Trump urged governors to put down the violence set off by the death of George Floyd. Police said four officers were hit by gunfire after protests in St. Louis that began peacefully became violent. The bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington sharply criticized Trump for staging a visit to St. John's Church across from the White House after authorities had cleared the area of peaceful protesters. Mayors and governors from both parties rejected Trump's threat to use the military against protesters.

Ten years ago: Ousted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was sentenced to life in prison after a court convicted him on charges of complicity in the killing of protesters during the 2011 uprising

that forced him from power (Mubarak was later acquitted and freed in March 2017; he died in February 2020). Richard Dawson, 79, a British-born entertainer who made his mark in the 1960s television sitcom "Hogan's Heroes" and later became a popular TV game show host, died in Los Angeles.

Five years ago: Environmental campaigners protested President Donald Trump's decision to pull the United States out of the Paris climate accord, while nations around the world pledged to double down on their efforts to curb global warming. Three former Penn State administrators were handed jail and house-arrest sentences ranging up to nearly two years for burying child sexual abuse allegations against Jerry Sandusky.

One year ago: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's opponents announced that they had reached a deal to form a new governing coalition, paving the way for the ouster of the longtime Israeli leader. The NFL pledged to stop the use of "race-norming" in a \$1 billion settlement of brain injury claims; the practice had made it harder for Black players to show a deficit and qualify for an award. Trainer Bob Baffert was suspended for two years by the Churchill Downs racetrack in Louisville, Kentucky, after an additional drug test of Kentucky Derby winner Medina Spirit confirmed the presence of a steroid. (Medina Spirit was later disqualified from his Derby victory; the colt collapsed and died in December 2021 following a training run at Santa Anita.) Duke University

basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski (shuh-SHEF'-skee) announced that the next season would be his last with the Blue Devils.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Ron Ely (EE'-lee) is 84. Filmmaker and movie historian Kevin Brownlow is 84. Actor Stacy Keach is 81. Actor Charles Haid is 79. R&B singer Chubby Tavares (Tavares) is 78. Movie director Lasse (LAH'-suh) Hallstrom is 76. Actor Jerry Mathers is 74. Actor Joanna Gleason is 72. NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman is 70. Actor Dennis Haysbert is 68. Comedian Dana Carvey is 67. Actor Gary Grimes is 67. Pop musician Michael Steele is 67. Rock singer Tony Hadley (Spandau Ballet) is 62. Actor Liam Cunningham is 61. Actor Navid Negahban is 58. Singer Merrill Bainbridge is 54. TV personality-producer Andy Cohen ("The Real Housewives" TV franchise) is 54. Rapper B-Real (Cypress Hill) is 52. Actor Paula Cale is 52. Actor Anthony Montgomery is 51. Actor-comedian Wayne Brady is 50. Actor Wentworth Miller is 50. Rock musician Tim Rice-Oxley (Keane) is 46. Actor Zachary Quinto is 45. Actor Dominic Cooper is 44. Actor Nikki Cox is 44. Actor Justin Long is 44. Actor Deon Richmond is 44. Actor Morena Baccarin is 43. R&B singer Irish Grinstead (702) is 42. Rock musician Fabrizio Moretti (The Strokes) is 42. Olympic gold medal soccer player Abby Wambach is 42. Singer-songwriter ZZ Ward is 36. Rapper/actor Awkwafina is 34. Actor Brittany Curran is 32. Actor Sterling Beaumon is 27.

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NEWS

JEFFERSON

Continued from Page 1A

erson Highway Association's national conference, which is being held in Pittsburg from June 1 to 4. "We are extremely excited to be having our conference in Pittsburg," said JHA President Roger Bell of Muskogee, Oklahoma. "Pittsburg has a special place in the history of the highway. The original Jefferson Highway Garage building here will be a special site for our conference attendees. We will be bringing people from all over the United States to this conference and we know they will love being here in Pittsburg. We hope that Pittsburg and other communities nearby will

join us in our efforts to promote the highway as a historic tourism byway across the United States." Members of the Jefferson Highway Association have access to several scheduled events held Wednesday through Thursday, which include a bus and trolley tour to and around Fort Scott, a special historical presentation at Miners Hall Museum in Franklin, and a visit to Pittsburg's Colonial Fox Theatre, among others. Activities on Saturday will be community focused and open to the public. These activities will start with a historic sign unveiling at the site of the former Jefferson Highway Café in Pittsburg at 816 N. Broadway. The sign is part of the Jefferson High-

way Association historic signage program and will identify the historic café's site for travelers along the route. The featured "Parade of Cars" event will follow at 11 a.m. and is being co-sponsored and led by the Rollin' Nostalgia Car Club of Pittsburg. This historic parade will feature vintage cars from many decades. The parade will start at Pittsburg's Meadowbrook Mall and proceed down the historic route of the Jefferson Highway through Pittsburg. Cars will be lined up and driven down the route in timeline succession with the earliest of cars going first. A special designated viewing area will be set up along Broadway in the downtown area and interested people and families

are encouraged to gather along the route. The Crawford County Museum at 651 South Highway 69 will be the center of activities in the afternoon with many of the vintage cars arriving at 1 p.m. A special presentation on the history and future of the Jefferson Highway will be presented by the organization's president, Roger Bell, at 2 p.m. There will also be informative displays, a special vintage automobile photo booth, merchandise vendors and information tables on hand at the museum from 1 to 4 p.m. Chicken dinners will be available for purchase at the museum for lunch. The Jefferson Highway conference is drawing attendees from across the United States to Pittsburg

with registrants from more than 11 different states. In addition to the bus tour to Fort Scott, conference events during the week for these registrants include a tour of the Jefferson Highway National Archives at Pittsburg State University and an Awards Banquet among other activities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the organization has not held a conference since 2019, when the JHA conference was held in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Although the Jefferson Highway was one of the first automobile highways developed nationwide, the route would lose its named identity when "named highways" were largely discontinued in the United States in favor of numerical designations. Much

of the original route and roadbed remain, however, and are now being rediscovered as a heritage tourism route in states across the route. The current Jefferson Highway Association was established in 2011 and has been working to preserve the history of the route and promote tourism and travel on the historic roadbed. The route goes through seven states (Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana) and one province, Manitoba, in Canada. The route is completely marked with signage in Iowa and is expected to be in Oklahoma by 2023.

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The Doggie Bag And How It Helps The Sek Humane Society



It started as a garage sale back in the 1980s. A group of people got together to raise some money for the SEK Humane Society.

So with a little perspective, it's easy to see that the Doggie Bag's recent move to their new home at 514 N. Broadway was more than just a scoot down Broadway. It's a symbol of the unending effort to care for a local organization and local animals.

"It has always been all about the animals," said Manager Victoria Lewis. "All profits from the shop go to the shelter to keep the lights on, purchase food, cover medical bills, you name it."

The Doggie Bag has always been 100 percent donation-based, and 100 percent of the profits benefit the SEK Humane Society. The shop sells a variety of previously-used items ranging from clothes and furniture to dishes and home decor.

Since first opening as a brick-and-mortar shop in the mid-1990s, The Doggie Bag has evolved and changed with the times. Along with its new location, recent changes have included a bit more emphasis on design and creativity, thanks in part to Lewis's education and passions. She received a Fashion Merchandising degree from Pittsburg State, where she also earned a minor in

history.

"A lot of shoppers have noticed over the last couple of years that the store has been looking a little different," Lewis said. "We have devoted our time and efforts to creating a unique, eclectic atmosphere for people to shop."

Lewis said she appreciates the support from throughout Pittsburg, including from donors, shoppers, and the business community.

"Pittsburg somehow manages to be a small town, where you feel like you belong, but with a big city mentality," she said. "Change is always welcome and we all want the same thing: to see Pittsburg thriving. So you don't see competition from shop to shop or restaurant to restaurant, but instead you see businesses supporting businesses."

"From where we're standing we see generosity in all forms," she said. "The donors, the shoppers, the fundraiser supporters, the social media sharers. We wouldn't be here without the wonderful people in this wonderful community."

Watch for these stories. . .
and more about Imagine Pittsburg
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SPORTS



AROUND THE MIAA
Jim Henry

MIAA adds 2 national crowns

Not a bad way for the MIAA to conclude its athletic competition this school year.

Last Saturday, Pittsburg State's men's track and field team won the NCAA Division II Outdoor Championships in Allendale, Mich., spoiling host Grand Valley State's quest for the national "triple crown." The Lakers had already won cross country and indoor track and field titles.

The Gorillas, who finished third in the indoor championships in March at PSU, gave the MIAA its first outdoor track and field team title since Division II began holding outdoor nationals in 1963 in Chicago.

Then just three days later, Rogers State claimed the softball national championship with a 6-1 victory over Cal State Dominguez Hills in Denver. The Hillcats won the opener in the best-of-3 championship series 6-5 on Monday after falling behind 5-0, and they decked top-seeded UT-Tyler 9-3 to qualify for the championship round. It was the league's first softball championship since Central Oklahoma in 2013.

There were more strong performances by MIAA schools in the last few weeks.

Central Oklahoma lost to Barry (Fla.) in the national championship match of the women's tennis tournament. And the Bronchos wound up fifth in the rowing championships, ending UCO's string of three straight national titles.

Central Missouri won the stroke play portion of the men's golf national tournament, but the Mules lost in the semifinals of the match play bracket, which determines the national champion.

The titles by the Gorillas and Hillcats gave the MIAA four national championships for the school year and 51 in league history.

During the winter season, Northwest Missouri's men's basketball captured its third consecutive national championship, and Nebraska-Kearney earned the wrestling national crown.

Washburn's volleyball team lost in the national championship match, and three league schools were eliminated in the quarterfinal round of the national tournament -- Central Missouri in women's soccer, Fort Hays State in men's soccer and Missouri Western in women's basketball.

And back to track and field, Pittsburg State's women and Central Missouri's men were fifth in the indoor championships, and Lincoln's women finished fifth outdoors.

INDIVIDUALLY SPEAKING

Reviewing the outdoor track championships, 10 MIAA athletes won individual national championships.

The men who won gold medals were Pittsburg State's Louis Rollins (110 high hurdles) and Braylen Brewer (400), Nebraska-Kearney's Wes Ferguson (800), Northwest Missouri's Reece Smith (3000 steeplechase), Central Missouri's Christopher Goodwin (long jump) and Lincoln's 4x400 relay team of Kewani Campbell, Reuben Nichols, Shanthamoi Brown and Troy Whyte.

Kelly-Ann Beckford of Lincoln won the 800 and was the lone MIAA women's individual champion.

JIM HENRY is sports editor of The Morning Sun and receives correspondence at jhenry@morningsun.net. Follow him on Twitter at @Jim_Henry53.

Arenado sparks Cardinals to 5-2 win over Padres

By WARREN MAYES
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Nolan Arenado hit a two-run homer and drove in three, Dakota Hudson threw seven strong innings and the St. Louis Cardinals beat the San Diego Padres 5-2 Wednesday to complete a three-game sweep.

Nick Wittgren earned his first save as a Cardinal by getting the last out of the game when he retired pinch-hitter Robinson Canó on a fly ball with the bases loaded. The Cardinals have won five of six games. The Padres have lost four of five.

"I've done that quite a few times in my career, come with the bases loaded," Wittgren said. "It never gets old. You want the ball in your hand as a reliever."

Paul Goldschmidt extended his hitting streak to 23 games and reached safely for a career-best 37th consecutive game. Goldschmidt went 1 for 2 with two walks and two runs scored. He is hitting .353 this season.

Hudson (4-2) gave up a run in the first inning but shut out the Padres over the next six innings. He allowed one run on four hits with a walk and three strikeouts. At one point, Hudson retired 18 consecutive hitters.

"He stepped it up and gave us exactly what we needed," St. Louis manager Oliver Marmol said.

Yu Darvish (4-3) pitched 7 2/3 innings, giving up five runs and seven hits.

"I thought everything was working pretty good," Darvish said through a translator. "I couldn't locate the fastball to Arenado and we got hurt there."

Arenado's 10th home run came after Goldschmidt extended his hitting streak with a one-out single in the sixth. Arenado sent an 0-1 fastball over



St. Louis Cardinals' Nolan Arenado (28) scores past San Diego Padres catcher Austin Nola during the eighth inning of a baseball game Wednesday in St. Louis. AP PHOTO/JEFF ROBERSON

the left-field fence, giving St. Louis a 3-1 advantage.

"Today it was just cool to get back-to-back hits," Arenado said about him and Goldschmidt. "When he's swinging it, I'm not swinging it. It felt great for me individually. But it felt good today is help us out."

Goldschmidt's career high-hit streak is 26, from Sept. 10, 2013 to April 4, 2014 with Arizona.

In the eighth, Arenado chased Darvish with a run-scoring single with two outs. He scored on a double by Juan Ypez, who drove in two runs.

Ypez' first RBI made it a 1-1 tie in the fourth. His sacrifice fly scored Goldschmidt, who drew his second walk to begin the inning. He went to third with aggressive baserunning on a single by Arenado.

San Diego scored a run in the first on an RBI single by Manny Machado. Jurickson Profar led off the game with a double.

The Padres' second run came in the ninth on a one-out homer by St. Louis native Luke Voit off reliever Kodi Whitley. It was Voit's first homer off St. Louis, which drafted him in 2013.

"When you're dealing with a small margin for error with us not scoring much offensively, it makes it a little more difficult," Padres manager Bob Melvin said.

DEFENSIVE GEM

CF Harrison Bader dived head first and hit the grass as he caught a shallow fly by Ha-Seong Kim in the first inning with two outs and runners on second and third base.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Padres: OF Matt Beaty (left shoulder impingement) was temporarily shut down in his rehab assignment and was sent to the team's training facility in Arizona.

Cardinals: 2B Nolan Gorman (lower back tightness) missed his second consecutive game. The 22-year-old rookie is hit-

ting .387 since he joined the club May 20. He can swing a bat but bending over to field causes some pain. ... LHP Steven Matz (shoulder impingement) has played catch twice. His likely next move will be to throw two side sessions. If there are no setbacks, Matz may have a short rehab outing or return to the Cardinals on a limited-pitch basis. ... RHP Alex Reyes (shoulder) was slated to undergo surgery Wednesday that's likely to end his season.

UP NEXT

Padres: LHP Sean Manaea (2-3, 4.02) will face RHP Adrian Houser in Milwaukee. Manaea pitched seven innings against Pittsburgh in his last start, allowing three runs on four hits and three walks while striking out five.

Cardinals: LHP Matthew Liberatore (1-0, 3.72) will face the Chicago Cubs and RHP Keegan Thompson (5-0, 1.58) for the first time.

Smith receives lifetime achievement award

Staff Reports
sports@morningsun.net

Chuck Smith, the second-winningest high school football coach in Kansas history, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Coach Bill Snyder Family/Sunflower Chapter of the National Football Foundation last month in Lawrence.

Smith retired after the 2016 football season after compiling a 346-81 record during a 38-year career. Only C.J. Hamilton of Silver Lake has won more games -- 447 games in 47 years before announcing his retirement in April.

Smith coached his first year at Topeka Hayden in 1979 and then came to St. Mary's Colgan for the final 37 years. Smith's Panthers won five state championships, finished second six times, and from 2000-04 Colgan set a state record with 66 consecutive victories -- a record that has been broken by Smith Center's 79-game streak before it ended in 2009.

The foundation also honored Olpe coach Chris Schmidt and official Doug Simpson.

Schmidt was named the Don Fambrough Coach of the Year, named after the former Kansas Jayhawks football coach.

Schmidt has coached Olpe to Class 1A state championships in football and boys basketball the last two years, joining Hanover (2008-09 and 2009-10) as the only schools to achieve that feat. Schmidt, an Olpe native, has a 141-33 record in 15 seasons as the Eagles' football coach, and Olpe has posted 17 shutouts in the last two seasons.

Simpson, from Lenexa, received the John and Phil Laurie Officiating Award. He has been an official for 45 years.

"We are blessed to have two outstanding mentors such as Coach Schmidt and Coach Smith and a high quality official like Doug Simpson in the



Chuck Smith

state of Kansas," Chapter President Gerry McGuire said in a release. "They have the respect of their peers because they not only have been successful on the field, but also because they have helped students to achieve outside of athletics. We congratulate them on their success."

The Kansas Chapter received its National Football Foundation Charter on Nov. 25, 1991, during halftime ceremonies of the Kansas-Missouri football game. It then evolved into the Jayhawk Chapter and later transitioned to the Sunflower Chapter.

This year, it was renamed the Coach Bill Snyder Family Sunflower Chapter. Its mission is to recognize high school seniors who excel on the gridiron, in the classroom and as leaders in their schools and communities. More than 300 high school football players from Kansas have been honored by the chapter.

The National Football Foundation was founded in 1947 with early leadership from General Douglas MacArthur, Army coach Earl "Red" Blaik and journalist Grantland Rice. The NFF is a non-profit educational organization that runs programs designed to use the power of amateur football in developing scholarship, citizenship and athletic achievement in young people.



Kansas City Royals' Andrew Benintendi watches his hit with Cleveland Guardians catcher Luke Maile during the third inning of a baseball game in Cleveland on Wednesday. AP PHOTO/PHIL LONG

Pilkington gets first major league win, Guardians sweep KC

By STEVE HERRICK
Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Rookie Konnor Pilkington struck out eight in five innings for his first major league win and the Cleveland Guardians beat the Kansas City Royals 4-0 Wednesday to complete a three-game sweep.

Pilkington, making his third career start and sixth appearance, worked out of a bases-loaded, one-out jam in the fourth. The left-hander is taking the rotation spot of injured Aaron Civale.

Pilkington was showered with beer by teammates to commemorate the win. He knew the importance of getting out of the fourth inning.

"I know I needed some kind of action, maybe a strikeout, maybe a double-play ball, something like that," he said. "Cards fell my way and I just

kept executing pitches."

José Ramírez had a run-scoring groundout in the fifth for his major league leading 52nd RBI. Amed Rosario, Andrés Giménez and Richie Palacios also drove in runs for Cleveland.

Kansas City has dropped 11 of 13 and has the worst record in the majors at 16-33.

Brad Keller (1-6) allowed four runs and six hits in six innings.

Four Cleveland pitchers combined for 15 strikeouts. Royals manager Mike Matheny thought Keller gave his team a chance to win but pointed to those strikeouts as a major factor in another difficult day.

"It continues to be tough," Matheny said. "We've had some really hard losses and every one of them now continues to pile on the frustration in that room."

BASEBALL
MLB STANDINGS

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	34	15	.694	—
Toronto	28	20	.583	5½
Tampa Bay	28	21	.571	6
Boston	23	27	.460	11½
Baltimore	21	30	.412	14

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	30	21	.588	—
Chicago	23	24	.489	5
Cleveland	22	24	.478	5½
Detroit	19	30	.388	10
Kansas City	16	33	.327	13

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	33	18	.647	—
Los Angeles	27	23	.540	5½
Texas	24	24	.500	7½
Seattle	21	28	.429	11
Oakland	20	33	.377	14

Tuesday's Games

Minnesota 8, Detroit 2, 1st game
Cleveland 8, Kansas City 3
Detroit 4, Minnesota 0, 2nd game
Seattle 10, Baltimore 0
N.Y. Yankees 9, L.A. Angels 1
Cincinnati 2, Boston 1
Texas 3, Tampa Bay 0
Toronto 6, Chicago White Sox 5
Houston 3, Oakland 1

Wednesday's Games

Cleveland 4, Kansas City 0
Houston 5, Oakland 4
L.A. Angels at N.Y. Yankees
Seattle at Baltimore
Chicago White Sox at Toronto
Cincinnati at Boston
Minnesota at Detroit
Tampa Bay at Texas

Thursday's Games

Minnesota (Archer 0-2) at Detroit (Faedo 1-2), 12:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Kluber 1-2) at Texas (Hearn 3-3), 1:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Cueto 0-1) at Toronto (Manoah 5-1), 2:07 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Ohtani 3-3) at N.Y. Yankees (Taillon 5-1), 6:05 p.m.
Seattle (Flexen 2-6) at Baltimore (Lyles 3-4), 6:05 p.m.

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	35	17	.673	—
Atlanta	24	27	.471	10½
Miami	20	27	.426	12½
Philadelphia	21	29	.420	13
Washington	18	34	.346	17

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	32	19	.627	—
St. Louis	29	21	.580	2½
Pittsburgh	21	27	.438	9½
Chicago	20	29	.408	11
Cincinnati	17	31	.354	13½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	33	16	.673	—
San Diego	30	20	.600	3½
San Francisco	27	21	.563	5½
Arizona	25	27	.481	9½
Colorado	22	27	.449	11

Tuesday's Games

Cincinnati 2, Boston 1
N.Y. Mets 10, Washington 0
St. Louis 3, San Diego 2, 10 innings
San Francisco 7, Philadelphia 4, 11 innings
Chicago Cubs 8, Milwaukee 7
Arizona 8, Atlanta 7, 10 innings
Pittsburgh 5, L.A. Dodgers 3
Miami at Colorado, p.pd.

Wednesday's Games

St. Louis 5, San Diego 2
N.Y. Mets 5, Washington 0
Miami 14, Colorado 1, 1st game
Atlanta 6, Arizona 0
San Francisco at Philadelphia
Miami at Colorado 2nd game
Cincinnati at Boston
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs
Pittsburgh at L.A. Dodgers

Thursday's Games

San Francisco (Wood 3-4) at Miami (Alcantara 5-2), 5:40 p.m.
Washington (Adon 1-8) at Cincinnati (Ashcraft 1-0), 5:40 p.m.
San Diego (Manaea 2-3) at Milwaukee (Houser 3-5), 6:40 p.m.
St. Louis (Liberatore 1-0) at Chicago Cubs (Thompson 5-0), 7:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Anderson 3-3) at Colorado (Gomber 2-5), 7:40 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Walker 3-0) at L.A. Dodgers (Gonsolin 5-0), 9:10 p.m.

Defending champ Oklahoma expects challenge from WCWS field

By **CLIFF BRUNT**
AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Many of the top seeds and familiar teams will be absent when the Women's College World Series starts Thursday.

Oklahoma coach Patty Gasso believes those are good reasons for her top-seeded, defending national champion Sooners to be concerned heading into their opener against No. 9 seed Northwestern.

Florida State, Virginia Tech, Arkansas and Alabama are top six seeds that didn't make it to Oklahoma City. Gasso said that means there are more teams left that overcame the odds on the road to qualify.

Northwestern, for example, rallied from a 5-0 deficit in its deciding super regional game to knock off Pac-12 champion Arizona State on the road and punch its ticket.

"It's that kind of fresh, free 'let's go for it, we got nothing to lose' mentality," Gasso said. "That's

what you are seeing around the country right now, which makes for a pretty exciting World Series because any of these teams can win this. It's not just two or three."

It's been a strange year, indeed. Florida is the only representative from the Southeastern Conference — a league that had sent at least two teams in each of the past 13 tournaments, including five in 2015 and four in 2016.

But parity is a real thing. Even with two-time USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year Jocelyn Alo and a team that leads the nation in batting average, scoring and earned run average, Gasso doesn't expect an easy run. Oklahoma's two biggest rivals — Big 12 opponents Texas and Oklahoma State — qualified. Those two teams are responsible for the Sooners' only two losses this season.

"Those teams that got here are still on a crazy roll," Gasso said. "They haven't been home for



Oklahoma's Alyssa Brito (33) and Jocelyn Alo (78) celebrates next to Central Florida's Ashleigh Griffin (27) in the second inning of an NCAA softball tournament super regional game in Norman, Okla. on May, 27, 2022. SARAH PHIPPS/THE OKLAHOMAN VIA AP

weeks, but they don't care because they're in this beautiful bubble right now that they don't want to get burst with."

Texas will face No. 5 seed UCLA and No. 7 Oklahoma State will play Arizona. No. 14 Florida will play Oregon State in the other Thursday matchup. The World Series starts with a double-elimination tournament and concludes with a best-of-three champion-

ship series that will begin June 8.

The Pac-12 got three teams in — just not the ones that might have been expected. UCLA had its usual dominant year on its way to getting into the field. But Oregon State went 9-15 in conference play and broke through.

Traditional power Arizona tied for last place in league play at 8-16, yet still found its way into the field in coach Caitlin

Lowe's first year stepping in for the retired Mike Candrea.

"They finished last in their conference, but they're Arizona," Gasso said. "They'll always be Arizona."

ALO REPEATS
Alo repeated as USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year, becoming the just the fifth player to win the award in consecutive seasons. Alo has the career Division I record with 117 home runs. She has 29 homers this season and ranks second nationally with a .497 batting average.

HEALING PITCHER
Oklahoma pitcher Jordy Bahl, the NFCA Division I Freshman of the Year, will return to the circle after an arm injury slowed her late in the season. The Papillion, Nebraska, native hasn't pitched since the Sooners' regular-season finale on May 7.

"You're going to see her pitch this week," Gasso said. "How much? We're still working."

Warriors, Celtics built Finals teams through draft

By **JOSH DUBOW**
AP Sports Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — When Steve Kerr looks at the way the Boston Celtics built a championship-caliber team he sees plenty of similarities to how his Golden State Warriors got to the NBA Finals in 2015.

Boston built a core through the draft by taking Marcus Smart, Jaylen Brown and Jayson Tatum during a four-year span from 2014-17 and added the necessary pieces to get over the hump this year to make it to the Finals.

Waiting for the Celtics in Game 1 on Thursday night will be Kerr's Warriors, who are making their sixth trip in eight years led by the home-grown core of Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson and Draymond Green.

"Traditionally, this



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry speaks to members of the media during NBA basketball practice in San Francisco on Wednesday. The Warriors are scheduled to host the Boston Celtics in Game 1 of the NBA Finals on Thursday. AP PHOTO/JED JACOBSON

is how it's supposed to work in the NBA," Kerr said. "If you look over the years, you grow a team through the draft, you take your lumps through the playoffs, you climb up and then you get to the Finals. Our team was built

somewhat the same way. ... I think that's good for the sport."

That approach bucks a growing trend around the league of megastar movement as teams have tried to build more through free agency and trades

than in the draft.

Both teams have eight players on the roster acquired originally in the draft and this is the first Finals since Chicago-Utah in 1998, according to ESPN, when the top three playoff scorers from both teams made their NBA debuts with their current teams.

The similarities between the teams isn't complete, with the biggest discrepancy being experience. Led by Curry, Thompson and Green, the Warriors have a total of 123 games played in the Finals on their roster compared to none for the Celtics, who lost in the Eastern Conference finals three times in the previous five years.

"There are obviously nerves and adrenaline and anxiety and nerves — like everything in terms of the emotions of playing at this stage," Curry

said about his first Finals appearance. "That first game is sometimes all over the place because of that. And once you settle in, it does become about basketball, like it normally is."

Celtics coach Ime Udoka, who was an assistant on two teams that went to the Finals in San Antonio, isn't overly concerned, citing the experience his top players have gotten in the postseason in recent years.

Boston won two Game 7s just to get here this season, beating defending champion Milwaukee at home in the second round and winning at Miami in the conference final.

"I think once you get out of the initial media circus and the intensity and how everything is much more exaggerated, obviously it's not much different when you get on the court," he said.

Getting defensive: Avs, Oilers shoring up 'D' before Game 2

By **PAT GRAHAM**
AP Sports Writer

DENVER (AP) — Colorado goaltender Darcy Kuemper remains questionable for Game 2. Same with Edmonton's Mike Smith.

Same with the defense in front of them, for that matter.

To put it kindly, the "D" for the Avalanche and Oilers was shaky in Game

1 of a Western Conference final that produced 14 goals and 84 shots. It was the highest-scoring conference finals game in 37 years.

There could be more fireworks in store on Thursday night (8 p.m. ET, TNT). That's just the by-product of the fast-paced style both teams like to play even if it may come at a cost on the other end.

"As a group, we can be better defensively," said Avalanche defenseman Cale Makar, who had a goal and two assists in the 8-6 win. "Definitely not the way you want to play games with these guys."

The over/under for Game 2 was placed at a respectable 7 1/2 goals, according to FanDuel Sportsbook.

Betting on adjustments being made?

"I would expect it to tighten up because I'm sure they're feeling the same way," Colorado coach Jared Bednar said. "You're not going to win a lot of playoff games when you give up six or seven."

Bednar had no status update on Kuemper, who left in the second period with what the team said was an upper-body injury. Bednar wouldn't specify if Kuemper's injury had anything to do with the stick that went through his mask and caught him near the eye during the Nashville series. Kuemper allowed three goals on 16 shots before departing.

"I'm not going to get into his injury," Bednar said Wednesday. "Especially not this time of year."

Backup Pavel Francouz took over and surren-

dered three goals on 21 shots.

"We have the utmost confidence in him," Avalanche forward Logan O'Connor said of Francouz, who also stepped in when Kuemper was hurt against the Predators. "Tons of confidence."

There are goaltender quandaries on Edmonton's side, too. Smith was taken out in the second period after allowing six goals on 25 shots. Mikko Koskinen held the Avalanche in check — one goal on 21 shots.

Oilers coach Jay Woodcroft was noncommittal about his net situation Wednesday. Smith also was yanked during a 9-6 loss in Game 1 at Calgary in the second round, only to respond with four straight wins.

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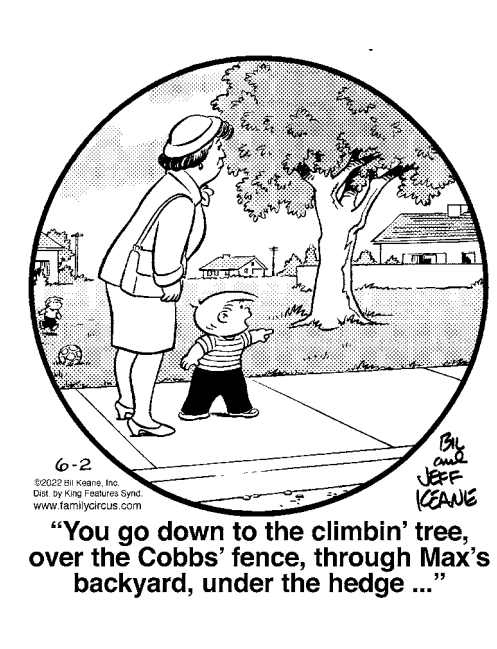
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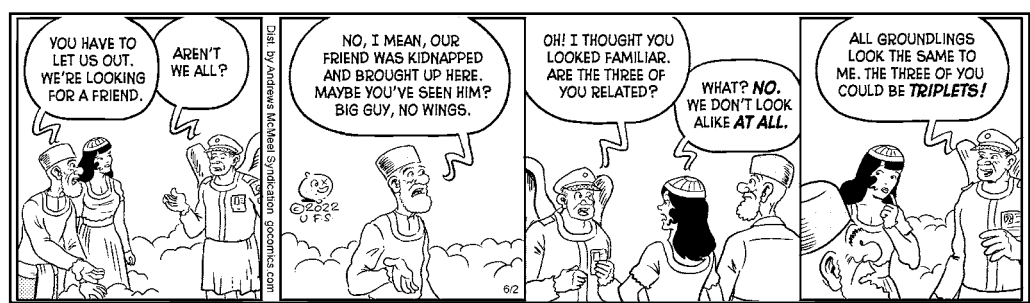
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PREVIOUS ANSWER

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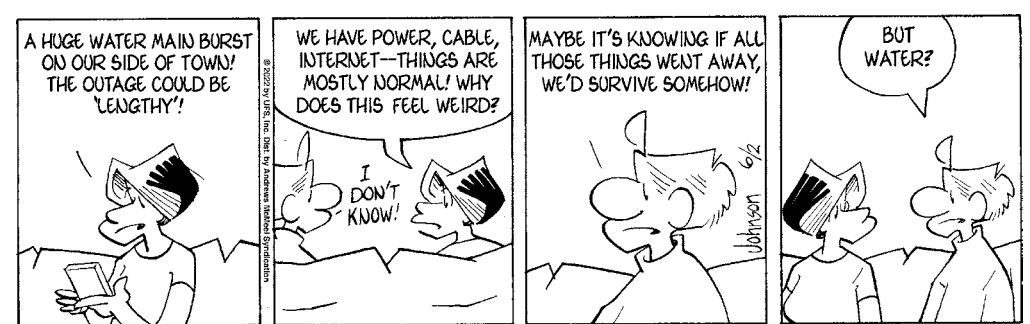
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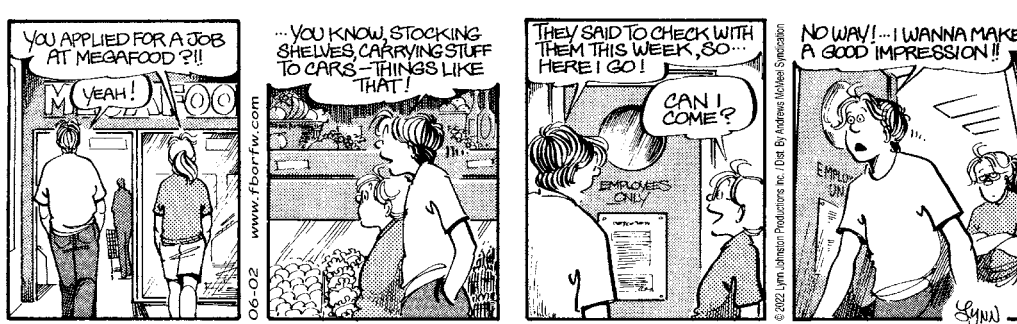
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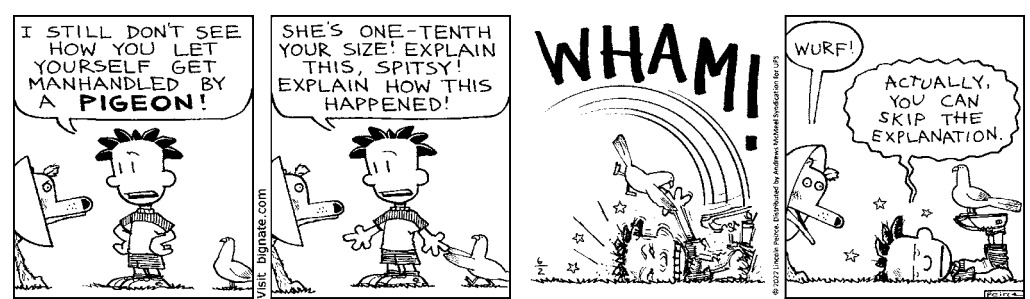
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FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



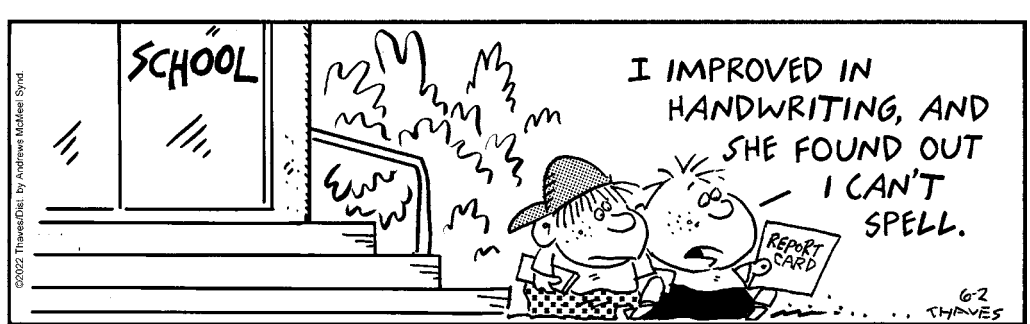
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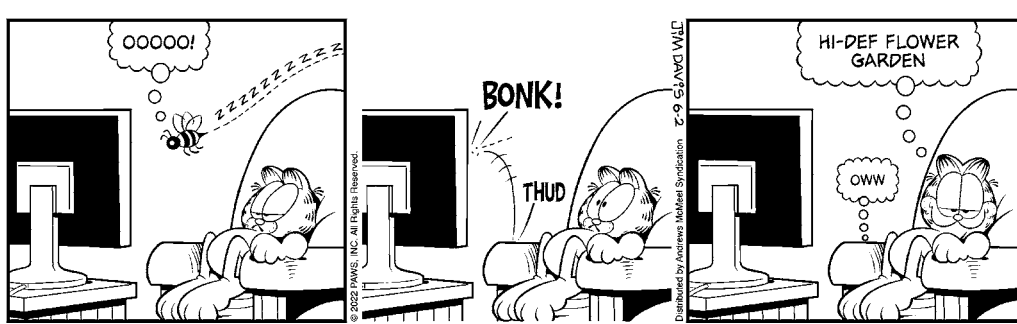
THE GRIZZWELLS



FRANK AND ERNEST



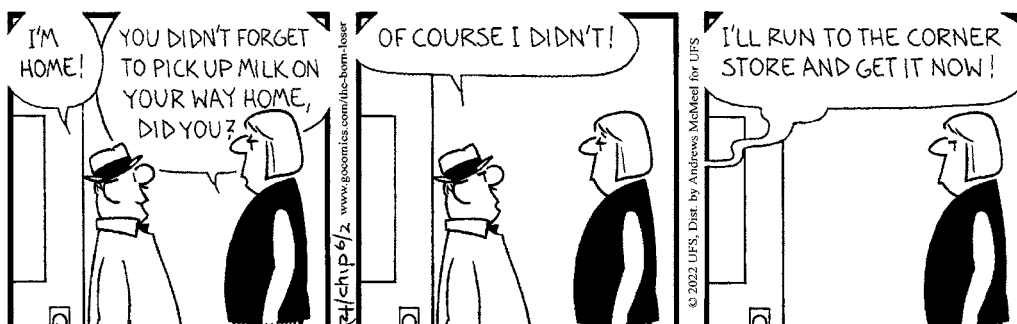
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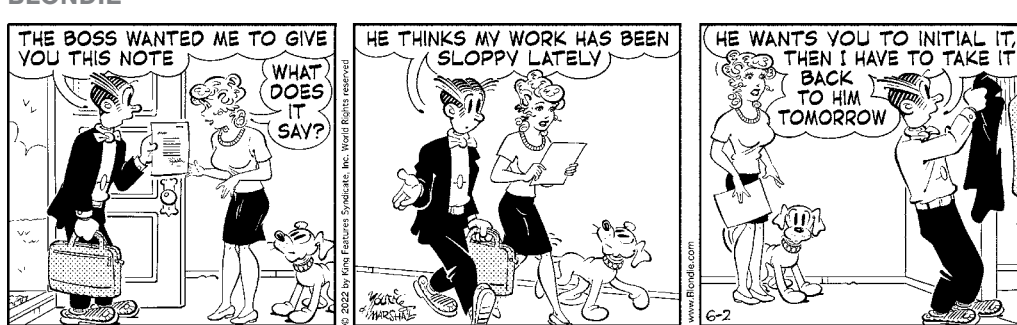
THE BORN LOSER



BEETLE BAILEY



BLONDIE



ASTROGRAPH by Eugenia Last

Arrange your plans any way you see fit, but don't count on others to help you pull things together. You'll get plenty of input about what you already know, but not a lot of hands-on help or information that will help you gain ground. Own what you say and do, and stick to a logical path. Rewards will come your way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Use your imagination and put an intelligent plan in place. Make a positive change by going through the proper channels and tidying up paperwork. Leave nothing to chance for best results.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Leadership builds strength. Don't let someone steal your thunder with empty promises. Show compassion and understanding, offer incentives and do your part to make a difference.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Let experience guide you to bigger and better opportunities. Refuse to let someone's emotional restraint stop you from embracing the changes that lead to the type of lifestyle you want to live.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- You may not like how others respond, but your decisions and actions should reflect what's in your heart. Don't let anger lead to regret; follow through with your commitments.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Gather information and unite with people who share your concerns and can help bring about change. A family gathering or outing with a loved one will lift your spirits.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Tally up your assets and liabilities. Knowing where you stand financially will help you make decisions regarding expenditures and your lifestyle. Discipline and moderation will help.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Take care of unfinished business before engaging in social pastimes. Put more emphasis on how you look and how you present yourself to others. Discuss your intentions with someone important.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- A stable front will help head off interference. Someone will play with your emotions, and guilt will set in if you are too accommodating. Look out for yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- When dealing with friends and relatives, pa-

tience is required. You can offer suggestions, but don't get involved in other people's decisions. Personal improvements are favored.

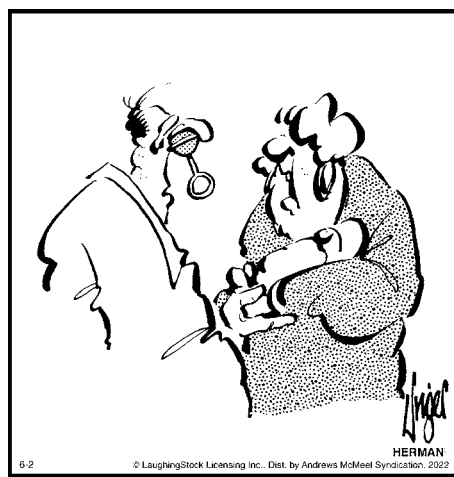
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Put together a strategy that will benefit you financially and make room for something you want to pursue. Worry less about what others think or do and focus on what's important to you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Keep an open mind, and you'll discover new ways to make the most of your skills, experience and knowledge. A change of plans will work in your favor and give you a chance to discuss your intentions.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Keep promises to a minimum. If you take on too much, it will cause emotional angst, stress and criticism. Have a strategy in place and a backup on hand. Avoid making assumptions if possible.

(Visit EugeniaLast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.)

HERMAN



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Not admit to
- 5 Ad award
- 9 Satchel
- 12 Mountain range near China
- 13 Pitch
- 14 "— had it!"
- 15 Decline, as stock prices
- 16 Like prime steak
- 17 Empty space
- 18 Volunteers
- 20 Desperado's fear
- 22 Dogma
- 23 Playful bark
- 24 Big cats
- 27 Capri's Blue —
- 30 Jagged rock
- 31 Deli loaf
- 32 Stick up
- 34 Morse code word
- 35 Thurman of "Kill Bill"
- 36 Rattle

DOWN

- 1 Short race
- 2 Supermodel
- 3 Join wood
- 37 Medieval adventures
- 40 Become edible
- 41 Naval off.
- 42 Slump
- 43 Volleyball shot
- 46 Turnpike
- 50 "All the King's —"
- 51 Throw off heat
- 53 Flooring piece
- 54 Code for O'Hare
- 55 Movie part
- 56 Columnist — Bombeck
- 57 Fellow
- 58 Realty sign
- 59 Emulate a bronco

Answer to Previous Puzzle

F	I	B		P	R	E		Q	U	A	Y		
R	O	E		R	A	R	E		U	N	T	O	
O	W	L		I	V	A	N		O	D	O	R	
M	A	L	I	C	E			C	H	R	O	M	E
				D	E	N		L	O	U			
A	B	B	E	Y		C	O	M	M	I	T		
L	E	I	A		W	I	S	E		R	E	L	
T	A	E		C	O	T	E		N	I	N	A	
		U	N	R	U	L	I		S	A	S	S	Y
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T	A	H	I	T	I		O	S	S	I	F	Y	
O	P	U	S		S	O	R	T		B	I	O	
I	S	L	E		H	A	R	E		I	L	K	
L	E	A	D		F	O	R		S	E	E		

- 4 Barking
- 5 Magnetism
- 6 Pulls laboriously
- 7 Wrathful feeling
- 8 Veteran player (2 wds.)
- 9 Slant
- 10 "We try harder" folk
- 11 Actor Richard —
- 19 Feminine ending
- 21 Poetic adverb
- 23 Scope
- 24 Arith. term
- 25 Syria neighbor
- 26 Waikiki setting
- 27 Exercise rooms
- 28 Pitfall
- 29 Leak
- 31 Grooves
- 33 Movie rat
- 36 Boxer
- 38 Response to a rodent
- 39 Expresses scorn
- 40 Type of doll
- 42 Headquarter
- 43 Metro haze
- 44 Cuzco locale
- 45 A famous 500
- 46 Grade
- 47 Metal thread
- 48 — mater
- 49 Time period
- 52 Bossy's comment

'We're moving on': Fisher says public spat with Saban done

BY RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

DESTIN, Fla. (AP) — The spat between Texas A&M coach Jimbo Fisher and Alabama's Nick Saban appears to be over -- at least publicly.

A jovial Fisher said repeatedly Wednesday that he was "moving on" from the war of words with his former boss that added some soap-opera drama to the Southeastern Conference's spring meetings this week.

Fisher said he and Saban had "normal conversations" during two days of meetings with the other 12 SEC football coaches. The coaches covered topics such as future scheduling models for the conference, transfer rules and how college sports can get a handle on the way athletes are compensated for

use of their names, images and likenesses.

"It's over with. We're done talking about it. We're moving on to the future of what goes on and try to fix the problems that we have in college football," Fisher said. "There's a lot more pressing needs than our arguments."

"We're done. We're moving on. I have no problem," he added.

The next time Saban and Fisher are guaranteed to get together is Oct. 8 when the Crimson Tide hosts the Aggies. Texas A&M upset then-No. 1 Alabama last season in College Station, Texas.

Earlier this week, Saban tried to put to rest the controversy he started. Saban said he never accused Texas A&M of doing anything wrong when talked about the lack of regulation



Texas A&M coach Jimbo Fisher addresses a new conference in Destin, Fla. on Wednesday. A jovial Fisher said repeatedly on Wednesday he was "moving on" from the war of words between he and his former boss that sprinkled soap-opera drama on the Southeastern Conference's spring meetings this week. AP PHOTO/RALPH RUSSO

around NIL two weeks ago at a speaking engagement in Birmingham, Alabama. Saban had called out Texas A&M and other schools, essentially accusing the Aggies of buying players.

Fisher responded angrily, saying Saban's comments were despicable and calling the seven-time national championship winning coach a "narcissist." Fisher denied is pro-

gram did anything wrong while landing the No. 1 recruiting class in the country for 2022.

Both coaches received a public reprimand from the conference office.

The SEC spring meetings — taking place in person for the first time since 2019 because of the pandemic — were the first opportunity for the two coaches to meet face-to-face since the dustup.

"Things were said. We're moving on to the next thing," Fisher said.

Fisher echoed Saban's comments on NIL and what college football needs to bring some order to this new landscape where players can profit off their fame. NIL rules vary from state to state depending on local laws, and the NCAA seems to have little power to enforce its bylaws.

"We've got to find some kind of uniformity for the betterment of the game," Fisher said.

Alabama athletic director Greg Byrne mostly sidestepped questions about the back-and-forth between two of the highest-paid coaches in the country, which included Fisher urging reporters to "go dig into wherever" Saban has been.

"I think Coach Fisher, he was fired up," Byrne said. "I know we feel very good about our compliance and what we do at Alabama and that's been in the past and it's going to continue into the future."

Fisher was asked multiple times if he regretted laying into Saban two weeks ago.

"We're moving on," he said with a smile. "We're moving on."

Names listed for Saudi golf league, battle lines drawn

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP) — The first Saudi-funded LIV Golf Invitational has Dustin Johnson and 12 other PGA Tour members as part of its 48-man field next week outside London. The next move falls to the PGA Tour, which must decide whether to allow them to come back.

The first fallout after the rival league released the names of players who will compete at its inaugural event came Wednesday when the Royal Bank of Canada said it was dropping Johnson and Graeme McDowell as corporate sponsors. Both are playing the LIV event, the same week as the RBC Canadian Open on the PGA Tour.

The PGA Tour's only comment was to mention a May 10 memo to players in which it denied releases for them to play the first LIV event. "Members who violate the tournament regulations are subject to disciplinary action," the statement said.

Matt Jones and Hudson Swafford were among the 42 players named on the field list (six other spots are being held for a special invitation and from an Asian Tour series). Neither ever had more attention from media as they practiced Wednesday before and after the pro-am at the Memorial.

Jones confirmed he received a signing bonus and is obligated to play multiple times among the eight LIV events, each with \$25 million in prize money and \$4 million to the individual winner. Five of the tournaments are in the United States.

The 41-year-old Australian, who is No. 68 in the world, said it was a "good choice for me" for business and family and what he hopes will grow the game.

But he hasn't given up on keeping his PGA Tour membership.

"My next tour stop is ... I don't know when it is, to be honest with you. We'll see. We'll find out what happens," Jones said. "I don't think banning players from playing on the PGA Tour as independent contractors is very good for golf. It's not a good look for anyone. I understand the tour wants to protect their players and the product they have out here, but I don't think that's a good



Dustin Johnson tosses his towel to his caddie on the 10th hole during the second round of the PGA Championship golf tournament at Southern Hills Country Club on May 20, 2022, in Tulsa, Okla. AP PHOTO/MATT YORK

way to go about it."

The Daily Telegraph reported Wednesday that Johnson was offered more than \$100 million just to sign up for the league Greg Norman is running. Johnson has been heavily recruited, and it was thought the courtship was over when he said in February he was "fully committed" to the PGA Tour. He was the biggest star on the list of 42 players.

Phil Mickelson, the chief recruiter of players until his inflammatory remarks about the Saudis and the PGA Tour caused him to step away from golf, was not on the list. He still could be added to the field.

Swafford, a 44-year-old from Florida who has two young children and is ranked No. 91 in the world, mentioned the appeal of team golf as part of the new league and less travel. He also wanted to stay part of the PGA Tour.

"Suspending players? That's not growing the game of golf. That's what LIV is trying to do — give more opportunities to more golfers," Swafford said. "I think it's going to be a great thing. There's going to be a lot of eyes on it. I'm excited to play."

Also in the field at Centurion Club on June 9-11 is U.S. Amateur champion James Piot, who turned pro last week at Colonial. Piot has received exemptions to PGA Tour events from his U.S. Amateur win. Joining the LIV circuit provides instant cash — there was no mention how much they received — that would not be available in the early days of trying to make it on the PGA Tour.

"It's just an opportuni-

ty to play golf, a big stage and travel the world. For me, it's a cool opportunity as a 23-year-old to do what you love to do," Piot said, referring to it as a "golden ticket this summer."

The LIV field currently has four of the top 50 in the world — Johnson (13), Louis Oosthuizen (20), Kevin Na (33) and Talor Gooch (35) — and 16 of the top 100.

Rory McIlroy described the field as not "anything to jump up and down about," particularly compared with the Memorial or the Canadian Open, which he called "proper tournaments."

But he also showed a softer side for those wanting to chase the big money.

"I certainly don't think they should drop the hammer," McIlroy said. "Look, they are well within their rights to enforce the rules and regulations that have been set. It's going to end up being an argument about what those rules and regulations are."

The regulations require a conflicting event release to play outside the PGA Tour. The next LIV event is the first week in July in Oregon. The PGA Tour does not grant releases for any tournament held in North America.

"Look, I have some very close friends that are playing in this event in London, and I certainly wouldn't want to stand in their way to, for them to do what they feel is right for themselves," McIlroy said. "I certainly understand why some of the guys have went, and it's something that we are all just going to keep an eye on and see what happens over these next few weeks."

Rahm ready to start over and get another chance at Memorial

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP) — Jon Rahm is ready to start over at the Memorial as tempting as it is to look back.

That last shot he hit at Muirfield Village was tapping in for par on the 18th hole that gave him a six-shot lead and a place in the tournament record book for sharing the lowest 54-hole lead. And that's as far as he got.

Rahm was notified of a positive COVID-19 test that knocked him out of the tournament.

"I was mad for about 10 minutes," Rahm said. "I allowed myself to be upset. But instantly, my switch flipped and I called my wife and I made sure that she was OK and my son was OK."

Moments later, he said he was sharing a laugh with his caddie as they sipped on a milkshake. What else was there to do?

"At that moment, I chose to just remember how good I had played," Rahm said, and that good form continued when he returned two weeks later and captured his first

major in the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines.

He returns to Memorial having won a month ago in the Mexico Open, and there is no feeling of Muirfield Village owing him anything. Patrick Cantlay wound up winning in a playoff over Collin Morikawa — oddly enough, Cantlay ended up beating Rahm again at the end of the season in the Tour Championship to claim the FedEx Cup.

"It's not like I get one more round. It's a whole new tournament," Rahm said. "Is it motivation? Yes. But you know, it's not much more added to what I already had. ... The good thing about golf is there's always a next week and a next year. I have another chance this time."

Winning the Memorial is motivation enough. It is one of three PGA Tour events of elevated status that offers a \$12 million purse and a three-year exemption. The others are the Arnold Palmer Invitational and the Genesis Invitational at Riviera with Tiger Woods as the host.

And the field, again, is among the strongest.

Even without Masters champion and world No. 1 Scottie Scheffler, the Memorial has attracted seven of the top 10 in the world ranking, many of whom see this as a strong test ahead of the U.S. Open in two weeks outside Boston.

Rahm missed out on his chance to join Woods as the only back-to-back winners at the Memorial. Even so, it's a reminder that he can play this course as well as any — a win in 2020 and everything but a trophy the following year.

It wasn't always that way.

A year after he received the Jack Nicklaus Award as the nation's best college player, Rahm made his Memorial debut in 2017 with rounds of 73-77 to miss the cut.

"I absolutely hated it. I didn't play good," Rahm said. "I was just like, 'I'm done. Never going back. And Adam (Hayes), my caddie, kept telling me, 'This place is great for you. You just need to learn certain holes and certain shots, and you'll be great for it.'"

He returned three years later and won.

Swiatek benefits from double bounce no-call

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

PARIS (AP) — Jessica Pegula reached the French Open quarterfinals before running into can't-seem-to-lose Iga Swiatek on Wednesday. And four months ago, at the year's first Grand Slam tournament, Pegula reached the Australian Open quarterfinals before running into eventual champion Ash Barty.

Two majors, two strong runs, two meetings with the No. 1 player at the time. So Pegula, a 28-year-old from New York, can offer a bit of a unique perspective on what it's like to face both Swiatek and Barty, who retired in March at age 25.

Swiatek, who replaced Barty atop the WTA rankings, benefited from the chair umpire's no-call on a double bounce that gave her a first-set service break during a key five-game run and moved into the semifinals at Roland Garros by beat-



Poland's Iga Swiatek clenches her fist after defeating Jessica Pegula of the U.S. during their quarterfinal match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium Wednesday in Paris. Swiatek won 6-3, 6-2. AP PHOTO/THIBAUT CAMUS

ing Pegula 6-3, 6-2 to extend her winning streak to 33 matches.

Swiatek's run is the longest on tour since Serena Williams won 34 in a row in 2013.

"To be honest, she kind of plays like a guy. And, I mean that as, Ash was a similar way, where they don't play like a typical girl where they hit kind of flat and the ball kind of goes through the court. She plays a little more unorthodox in the fact that she has, like, a really

heavy forehand," Pegula said about Swiatek, "but at the same time she also likes to step in and take it really early, and I think clay gives her more time, and I think it makes her forehand even harder to deal with."

Swiatek plays No. 20 Daria Kasatkina in one women's semifinal Thursday, when the other will be No. 18 Coco Gauff, an 18-year-old American, against unseeded Martina Trevisan, a 28-year-old from Italy.

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