

PEN CITY CURRENT

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Monday, September 14, 2020 | 8 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 167



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“A lil South in ya mouth”

BBQ OPENS: Pit Master Solomon Lynn opens BBQ on alternating weekends in FM

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The lines were long and the all the smells were in place, as a new BBQ joint opened on the city’s west side Saturday.

Lynnwood BBQ opened in the former Vels Amigo’s carry out location.

We sold in about 2.5 hours on Friday.

“I got started doing some professional competitions about four years ago and then did a few caterings and it’s grown from there,” Solomon Lynn said.

Lynn said Friday he cut everything to order which slowed things down. On Saturday, he pre-cut everything except the ribs.

Currently the BBQ is open every other weekend starting at noon. Lynn says he will stay open until he sells out of product. Currently he services, brisket, chicken and pork ribs.

Customers can get a meal or a platter for two. A half or a full rack of ribs, homemade sides, corn bread and drinks.

Lynn has five staff and is hoping to get some additional people trained.

“Right now I’m really the only one that can do the smoking



and all that stuff so you to train some people. It will just take some time so people just need to be patient with us,” he said.

His works full-time at Silgan Containers and then during the weekends he’s opened he smokes meats for up to 16 hours on just wood smokers. He doesn’t use any electricity or

See BBQ, page 3

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



Birthday ends on Wall Street

On August 27, the night before Ginnie’s birthday, the moon and Mars lined up side-by-side, announcing Ginnie’s grand and glorious birthday. Ginnie and I viewed it together, her eyes starry, wondering what I had in store for her big day.

I pulled out my daily meditation book and, lo and behold, read, “Happiness is a byproduct of right living.” It all came flooding back, how Ginnie and I met. I had written about happiness in my Empty Nest column using the above quote as its basis. Ginnie, living in Ottumwa and single, sent me an email complimenting me on my “Happiness” article, and asking what meditation book I used. Quick like Curtis thinks, I invited her to lunch (to show her the meditation book—ha!). We met at the Riverside Family Restaurant in Ottumwa.

And then a year later, on her birthday five years ago, I got down on my knees in the Riverside Restaurant, in exactly the same booth, and proposed to Ginnie. I had the waitresses sing, “Going to the Chapel” by the Shirelles. I’m not kidding. Fortunately Ginnie said yes.

Back to the present, it was time to open birthday gifts. First, a hand fired platter and bowl made by an artist friend in Macomb, IL. Second, a necklace made by another artist friend in Keokuk. Third, a primitive hay-trolley chandelier for our kitchen, made by an artist in Downing, Missouri (we obviously support the arts); and fourth, a two-night stay in a cottage in Bentonsport on the Des Moines River.

See SWARM, page 4



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Trump flotilla

Trump supporters took to the waters on Sunday in Fort Madison. A boat rally made its way from Burlington down to the Fort Madison Marina Sunday with Trump 2020 flags along with a myriad of other flags attached to close to 50 boats

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WEATHER

MON 14 Sep.....	Sunny, Clear Skies, 77° F/ 57° F	☀
TUE 15 Sep.....	Sunny, Clear Skies, 79° F/ 57° F	☀
WED 16 Sep.....	Clear Skies, Warm, 82° F/ 56° F	☀

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 09/12.....	12 19 22 35, Star Ball: 6, All Star Bonus: 4
LUCKY FOR LIFE 09/10.....	4 13 25 28 33, Lucky Ball: 15
MEGA MILLIONS 09/11.....	3 15 42 48 56, Mega Ball: 13 Megaplier: 2
PICK 3 09/10, 09/11, 09/12 MIDDAY.....	0 3 6, 11 5, 0 8 0
PICK 3 09/10, 09/11, 09/12 EVENING.....	6 41, 8 4 4, 9 1 8
PICK 4 09/10, 09/11, 09/12 MIDDAY.....	7 0 9 3, 8 4 7 8, 8 6 9 9
PICK 4 09/10, 09/11, 09/12 EVENING.....	0 7 8 3, 0 9 4 0, 3 3 7 1
POWERBALL 09/12.....	16 17 20 53 67, Powerball: 4, Power Play: 2

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Obituaries/Local News

OBITUARIES

DAVID J. FRAISE

David J. Fraise, 68, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 3:14 a.m. on Saturday, September 12, 2020 at Fort Madison Community Hospital. He was born on September 26, 1951 in Fort Madison, IA to James T. & Welda B. Fraise. He married Kenna Lea Fraise on March 26, 1977 in Fort Madison, IA. She preceded him in death on October 1, 2019. He worked at Anchor Metals in Fort Madison and later at Metromail and Alaniz in Mt. Pleasant. He enjoyed bicycling, bowling in his younger years and spending time with his grandchildren.



FRAISE

David is survived by: 1-daughter: Carrie Fraise of Fort Madison, IA; 3-grandsons & 1-brother: Dennis (Sharon) Fraise of Burlington, IA.

He was preceded in death by: his parents, wife and 1-sister, Diane Fleshin.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and a memorial service will be held at a later date. Online condolences to David's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Bloodhound Football Moms said Thank You and appreciate the support of Ft. Madison Football to the following businesses and sponsors. HyVee, Sub Arena, Connections Bank, Brad's Pad, Midwest One, Tony and Tara Johnson, Tom and Suzi Walljasper, Jake and Marilyn Broadfield.

FMCS D to keep offering free meals through Nov. 13

FORT MADISON – The USDA has extended FREE meals for all students ages 1-18 years. The FMCS D will continue to provide meals to face to face students, students who are learning at home and to community residents ages 1-18 for the rest of the 1st trimester which ends November 13th. There is no charge for these meals as long as USDA funds remain available. We will communicate with the public if this changes prior to November 13, 2020.

Families picking up meals are encouraged to sign up for meals online. Please go to <https://forms.gle/aMEkXHnu3szzAY2z8> to order meals.

Meals are available to pick up at the Middle School on Sundays and Wednesdays from 6:00 – 7:00 pm. Please go to the back side of the Middle School (entrance off of Bluff Road).

WB Community Health Center gets \$1M grant

IOWA CITY - Congressman Dave Loebsack released the following statement today after the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced that three community health centers across Iowa's Second Congressional District will receive funding to make capital improvements to buildings that were impacted by a natural disaster.

These grants come from the Capital Assistance for Disaster Response and Recovery Efforts (CAD-RE) program. Details are below.

"Community health centers are an integral part of Iowa's healthcare system and it is important that they have the necessary space to properly treat and care for Iowans," said Loebsack. "Natural disasters do not discriminate, leaving all types of homes and businesses

at risk of damage and destruction. We must ensure that the physical buildings that house the community health centers are safe and secure and can maintain operations during a crisis."

Specifically, funding provided in the CADRE program for community health centers in Iowa's Second District, includes:

West Burlington – \$1,000,000 for Community Health Centers of Southeastern Iowa, Inc.

FMCH Pediatrics Welcomes Dr. Bryan Blacker



Fort Madison Community Hospital is pleased to welcome Dr. Bryan Blacker. Dr. Blacker is a Board eligible Pediatrician and will join the FMCH Pediatric Clinic on Monday, August 3, 2020.

Dr. Blacker is coming to FMCH after completing his Pediatric Residency at the University of South Dakota. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Nutritional Sciences from Brigham Young University and his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University Of New Mexico School Of Medicine.

Pediatricians specialize in the health care of children from preventive to diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases. They collaborate with the child's parent or guardian to deal with the physical, emotional and social development of their children.

Dr. Blacker will see patients from newborn through the teenage years in the clinic along with Dr. Kolleen Burnett, Dr. Libby Balbort, Dr. Greg Gorski and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Susan Holtkamp.



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"I love to watch my patients grow, learn and change from year to year. The most rewarding part of my day is empowering and educating parents. Most parents work hard to be the best they can and do the right thing for their children. My job is to help give them the tools and knowledge to keep their kids healthy."
- Dr. Bryan Blacker



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Iowa News/From the Front

AG Miller partners with Summer to help with student debt relief

DES MOINES - Attorney General Tom Miller announced a partnership today with social enterprise Summer to assist Iowa's student loan borrowers in securing relief in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Summer, a certified B Corp, gives student loan borrowers guidance to save on and simplify their student loan repayment. Summer's technology tools and team of student loan experts help borrowers find, compare, and enroll in loan assistance and forgiveness programs.

Iowans can now access Summer's digital platform free of charge to receive customized loan savings recommendations at www.meetsummer.org/IA/.

Despite the recent extension of the CARES Act through the end of the year, millions of borrowers remain unsure whether their loans are eligible for the payment suspension and interest waiver. Across the country, as many as 24 million borrowers with private student loans and commercially held FFEL and Perkins federal loans are still required to make monthly loan payments.

"This partnership is a new step in our efforts to educate student loan borrowers of their rights and avoid predatory practices," Miller said.

The average debt carried by new college graduates in Iowa has been rising. In 2014, the average undergraduate borrower left college owing \$23,379, and by 2018 that number was \$25,421 — a 9 percent increase in four years.

"Student debt was already a concern before the pandemic," Iowa College Aid Executive Director Mark Wiederspan said. "The most powerful tool we can offer to borrowers is clear information about their repayment options."

For instance, a fixed repayment plan is the default for federal student loans, but it might not be the best plan for everyone. Borrowers who have experienced a significant reduction in income could be eligible for a monthly payment as low as \$0 by enrolling in a federal Income-Driven Repayment (IDR) plan. With the average borrower in the U.S. paying approximately \$300 a month on student loans, an IDR plan can result in an annual savings of \$3,600 — three times the amount of the \$1,200 CARES Act stimulus checks.

Similar to online tax software, Summer's digital platform can help Iowans check their eligibility across IDR plans and facilitates the entire application process if the borrower qualifies. In addition, Summer helps students identify loan forgiveness programs and track their progress toward meeting the requirements to qualify.

"With unemployment still at record high levels, borrowers need all the help they can get to manage the burden of student loan repayment," said Will Sealy, Summer's co-founder and CEO.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The lines were long at the opening of Lynnwood BBQ on Friday and Saturday this week. The BBQ was opened by Solomon Lynn and is available every other weekend starting at noon, until the smoked meats are gone.

Lynn starting small to see how public responds

BBQ - Continued from Page 1

pellet smokers.

He's not taking any call-in orders at the outset and is currently only accepting local checks and cash as payment.

"I just want to take it slow to start and see if we're gonna be around before we get into all the gadgetry and stuff," he said.

Lynnwood's Facebook page can be found at the following link: https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=126232812537367&id=111502264010422.

Great River Medical Center receives AHA quality award

WEST BURLINGTON - Great River Medical Center has received the Mission: Lifeline® Gold Plus Receiving Quality Achievement Award for implementing specific quality improvement measures outlined by the American Heart Association for the treatment of patients who suffer severe heart attacks.

Every year, more than 250,000 people experience an ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), the deadliest type of heart attack, caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart that requires timely treatment. To prevent death, it is critical to restore blood flow as quickly as possible, either by mechanically opening the blocked vessel or by providing clot-busting medication.

The American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline program's goal is to reduce system barriers to prompt treatment for heart attacks, beginning with the 911 call, to EMS transport and continuing through hospital

treatment and discharge. The initiative provides tools, training and other resources to support heart attack care following protocols from the most recent evidence-based treatment guidelines.

Great River Medical Center earned the award by meeting specific criteria and standards of performance for quick and appropriate treatment through emergency procedures to re-establish blood flow to blocked arteries in heart attack patients coming into the hospi-

tal directly or by transfer from another facility.

"We commend Great River Medical Center for this award in recognition for following evidence-based guidelines for timely heart attack treatment," said Tim Henry, MD, chair, Mission: Lifeline Acute Coronary Syndrome Subcommittee. "We applaud the significant institutional commitment to their critical role in the system of care for quickly and appropriately treating heart attack patients."



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Sports/From the Front

Mid-Prairie runs for 447 in shut out over Hawks

BY PCC STAFF

MID-PRAIRIE- Central Lee managed just 39 yards of total offense against the stifling defense of Mid-Prairie in a 49-0 shutout on the road Friday night.

The Hawks were without senior quarterback Dylan Stuecker who plays on both sides of the ball.

Senior running back Jaedon Betker was held to just six yards on nine carries as Central got behind early and had to try and go to the air to get back in the game.

Mason Schau completed five of 18 passes for 54 yards and was picked off a couple times in the loss. The Hawks tried all kinds of things out the backfield with seven different players having carries, but the Mid-Prairie



defense bottled everything up holding Central Lee to minus 15 yards on 21 attempts.

The Hawks suffered 12 tackles for loss, three by Mid-Prairie's Kayden Reinier who led Mid Prairie with four total tackles.

Reinier also had Central's number out of the backfield rushing for 316 yards on just 12 carries including a 67-yard touchdown run, one of five on the night for the senior.

All Mid-Prairie's offense came on the ground with 447 yards

on 38 carries. It was their ninth win in the pass 11 games against the Hawks.

Senior Chance Hocker led the Central defense with 5.5 tackles, Betker had five on the night.

The Hawks return home Friday for a 7:30 game kickoff with Davis County. The Central Lee Homecoming game has been moved to Sept. 25 against Ed-dyville-Blakesburg-Fremont due to the high school being in hybrid learning through Sept. 18.

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Bentonsport fits the bill for quiet getaway

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

I spoil her.

We found the cottage one Sunday afternoon when we were driving through Bentonsport. Ginnie noticed a sculpture in a yard and said, "That looks familiar." I stopped the car and looked. Sure enough, the sculpture was familiar—it was mine! Not being able to contain myself, I pulled in the driveway. The people were out in their yard. I introduced myself and said that the sculpture they had was one I made. They said, "Yes, we have three of your sculptures!"

Well, that was just overwhelming. And here I was thinking about giving up sculpture making. Maybe I should rethink that.

One thing led to another. The people have a cottage they rent, and we reserved it for Ginnie's birthday. It's on Wall Street in Bentonsport. Yep. Bentonsport has a population of around 40, give or take. Wall Street in Bentonsport does not look bullish or bearish. If anything, it looks birdish—the hummingbirds and Baltimore Orioles are quite active, the hummingbirds high on sugar water and the orioles on grape jelly. Bentonsport is ideal for a relaxing, peaceful getaway. You can walk down to the river, cross the bridge to Vernon, and view the old schoolhouse which was once the home of artist, Wendell Mohr. On Sunday afternoons the young Amish go courting, and drive their horse drawn buggies through town, one hand on the reins, the other arm around their sweetie, boom boxes blasting heavy metal. What a scream! Cell phones can be seen flashing. For dinner, slip over to the Bonaparte Retreat in Bonaparte for ribeye steak or jumbo shrimp. A morning jog or walk along the river sets the pace for the day.

I'm going to amend my formula for happiness. Not only is it a byproduct of right living, happiness usually involves someone to share it with, especially when the moon and Mars line up side-by-side.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com, or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com.

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Sports

Hounds can't find offense in loss to No. 5 Demons

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WASHINGTON – If you pull a couple big plays out of the mix, the Bloodhounds hung around with one of the better teams in the state Friday night.

But the Hounds couldn't overcome a 72-yard left end scamper by Washington quarterback Trashaun Willis, and a 52-yard interception return for a touchdown and fell to Class 3A No. 5 Washington 29-7 on the road to kick off District 5 action.

Fort Madison Head Coach Derek Doherty said when the Hounds got off the bus at Case Field, they were a little wide-eyed, and it showed early.

On the second play from scrimmage, at the Hounds 23, quarterback Will Larson found Tate Johnson open on the left side, but Johnson got bottled up and headed back to his right behind the line of scrimmage and was taken down for 13-yard loss.

On the next play, Larson was sacked for the safety and Washington was up quick 2-0.

"We got stabbed with a double edged sword," Doherty said. "They are a really good football team, but then we do things that we typically don't do – running backwards, dropped some footballs, and missed a lot of tackles. And that hurts."

Fort Madison then played even football with the Demons for the next three series. Both teams would go four and out before the Hounds would put together a six-play drive that stalled when a Larson pass to Johnson down the left sideline bounced off the junior wideouts hands on a dive on 3rd and 14 forcing a punt.

Washington would take over at their own 28, and Willis, who plays quarterback with one hand, took the first snap and ran to the left off tackle, got to the outside, and ran down the sideline shaking tackles for 72 yards and the score.

Fort Madison would block the kick, but a roughing the kicker penalty reset the extra point attempt which was good for a 9-0 lead. Neither team would score again in the half until Fort Madison was forced to punt on 4th and 24 from their own 27 with 14 seconds left in the half.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison junior Tate Johnson looks for running room against the Washington defense in Friday's 29-7 loss. Johnson would score on the play, but a holding penalty on the Hounds nullified the touchdown.

Washington's Jacob Miller took the punt at about midfield and raced it down the right side. Miller cut back into the field from the sideline with time running out but was tackled with 6 seconds remaining.

Willis then dropped back on the first play and found Spencer Sotelo open in the middle of the endzone as the Hounds' Brock Califf broke on the ball and just missed tipping it away, to give the Demons a 15-0 lead going into the locker room.

The Bloodhounds came out of the half and stuck the Demons deep in their own territory with a 4th and 26

on the 15. Califf would fair catch the punt at the Washington 45, but on the first play, Johnson would catch a screen from Larson on the left and get popped trying to

See **HOUNDS**, page 8

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
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Pledge of Allegiance

Approve Agenda

Public Input

Consider Approval of Tuesday, September 8, 2020 Board Minutes

Consider Approval of Claims

Consider Approval of Amendment of FY21 Budget and Set Public Hearing Date

Consider Approval of Resolution Setting Public Hearing for Bonding for

Maintenance Projects And Cameras for the Jail

Consider Acceptance of Proposal from Baker Concrete for Retaining Wall and Sidewalk At Courthouse in Fort Madison

Discuss and Consider Approval of Updating Employee Pandemic Policy

Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolution for Matthew and Lindsay Krogmeier

Personnel Actions:

A. Step Increases – (3)-Health Department

B. Merit Increase – Sheriff's Office

Reports:

A. Manure Management Annual Update for Mehmert Farms in Pleas-

ant Ridge Township

B. Sheriffs Monthly Report

C. Manure Management Annual Update for Schwartz in Marion Township

D. Recorder's Report of Fees Collected

E. Manure Management Annual Update for

Ball Family in Charleston Township

Commission or Committee Reports

Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

PUBLIC MEETING
CITIZENS WELCOME

Vision and hearing assistance available upon request

Contact Title VI Administrator

319-372-3705 County Website:

www.leecounty.org

HELP WANTED

General Manager

The Great River Regional Waste Authority Commission is accepting Applications and resumes for the position of General Manager.

This position manages a MSW landfill, Recycling Center, Transfer Station, Household hazardous Regional Collection center, and all other programs for GRRWA

Please contact Great River Regional Waste Authority at 319-372-6140 for applications.

Resumes and applications will be received until 4:00p.m. September 14th, 2020.

Applications and resumes can be e-mailed to whamm@grwa.com.



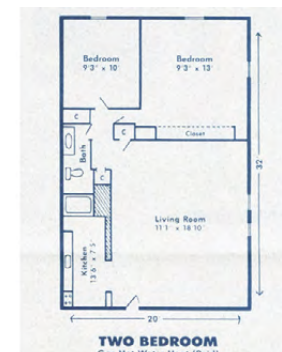
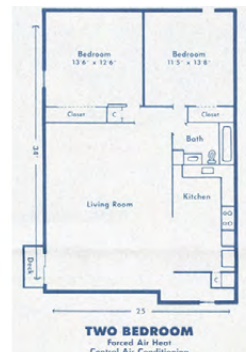
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HELP WANTED

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Position – Fort Madison Housing Authority (FMHA) of Fort Madison, Iowa, is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Executive Director to lead the Authority in its management of its Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program. The FMHA administers 134 units of Public Housing, 70 Housing Choice Vouchers, and management / maintenance of 22 units for the Lee County Housing Initiative Program. The Executive Director is responsible for all aspects of its Public Housing and Voucher Program including but not limited to supervising a staff of six employees.

The qualified applicant should possess a wide range of skills in public housing operations, office management, accounting, customer service; computer proficiency and the ability to function courteously with residents and employees. The applicant must be PHA certified or certifiable within one year of employment.

Salary is negotiable and the Housing Authority offers an excellent benefit package and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Interested applicants must submit a resume and cover letter marked Confidential to:

Chairman of the Board, Fort Madison Housing Authority, 1102 48th Street, Suite #1, Fort Madison, IA 52627. Or email to: fortmadisonha@mchsi.com.

Deadline for resumes: October 15, 2020

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Bloodhounds manage just 42 yards of offense

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 5

make a move jarring the ball loose and the Demons would recover.

Willis would then take the hosts 55 yards in seven plays and score on play action keeper to the right side for a 21-0 lead.

Washington would get it's final score when the Demons' Ethan Zieglowski would jump in front of a Larson pass intended for Calem Maclearn, and race it back 52 yards for a 29-0 lead.

Fort Madison would get on the board on its final series where five Demon penalties, including one on the bench for arguing a call, kept the drive alive and allowed Califf to shoot in over the right tackle on 4th and goal from the one.

Doherty said he told the Hounds they had to be ready for a fast start and they didn't react.

"Our guys were kind of wide-eyed and we told them you gotta be ready. This is a team that starts fast and they won't slow down. And then we started really slow on offense," he said.

Fort Madison mustered just 42 yards of total offense on the night, 35 in the air. Larson was 10 of 20 for 23 yards. Jakob McGowan and Keaton Poe rushed for a combined 51 yards, but sacks and tackles for losses reduced the Hounds ground production to just seven yards total.

Senior Bryce Britton led the Hounds with 5.5 tackles and Poe had 3.5 tackles, including two sacks to go along with an interception

"I was proud of the way the defense played. We gave up a huge run and some other things. but overall I thought our defense played well and gave our offense some chances that they just didn't capitalize on," Doherty said.

"This one really sucks, but you gotta flush it. There's nothing we can do but learn and move on from this."

The Hounds fall to 2-1 on the year and will take on Keokuk (2-1) for the coveted County Seat on Friday at Richmond Stadium.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison senior Keaton Poe returns an interception in the 2nd quarter for 19 yards giving the Hounds a 1st and 10 at the Demons' 41, but Fort Madison would go 4 and out on the next series.

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