

Investigation underway after Shaw general's death Sunday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Jeffrey L. Bannister died Sunday while on transition leave in Lake Murray, according to a news release from U.S. Army Central and Third Army Public Affairs Office. The cause of his death is under investigation.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with Maj. Gen. Bannister's family. Our top priority is ensuring the family has all the local support and resources they need during this emotionally difficult time," Lt. Gen. Michael Garrett, the commanding general for U.S. Army Central, said in the release.

Bannister was assigned to U.S. Army Central at Shaw Air Force Base working as a special projects officer for the Chief of Staff of the Army as he awaited retirement in the local area. He is survived by his wife, Trese, and their daughter, Lindsey. His home of record is Rome, Georgia.

Before his assignment at USARCENT headquarters, Bannister served as the 10th Mountain Division commander and senior commander at Fort Drum, New York, for 27 months until he relinquished command in April 2017. Years earlier, Bannister served as the division's deputy commanding general.



BANNISTER

SEE **BANNISTER**, PAGE A6

DEATHS, B7

- O. Lamar Johnson
- Ethelle Gregg Webb Wilson
- Derrick Sweetenburg
- Bobby Leon Moses
- Lucille Scarborough Damon
- Joanne Walton Norris
- David Arnett Sanders
- Edith Jackson
- Albert Smith Sr.

WEATHER, A8

STORMS POSSIBLE

Showers and storms; mostly cloudy with a storm possible tonight
HIGH 86, LOW 72

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County council hears district's tax request

Sumter schools would get \$1M funding increase if it passes

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
 adrienne@theitem.com

Sumter County Council had multiple questions and comments after listening to a presentation from Sumter School District regarding a 5.84 mill increase, equal to about \$1,057,121 million, during its bud-

get workshop on Tuesday.

Though the district's budget is balanced at \$131,854,396 million, it does not leave room for the entity to pursue its goals to add more positions, which makes up three of the school district's four recommended uses for the proposed increase.

Those positions include five teaching positions, estimated at \$400,000 with the inclusion of benefits; a grant writer/development coordinator, \$80,000; and a technology project manager, \$75,000.

"We wanted to show you that we

SEE **REQUEST**, PAGE A6

Thousands enjoy 78th Iris Festival

Event organizers estimated about 47,000 people attended the annual Iris Festival, which included 146 vendors selling everything from juice to plants and soap. The festival began Thursday with Taste at the Gardens, and the rain forecast for the weekend held off after Friday.

This year the Southern Sportsman Expo was held for the first time at the event. Visitors to the Iris Festival also could take a pontoon boat ride, watch the annual parade, create art and more.



PHOTOS BY MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM



Lakewood High School's band marches in the parade on Saturday morning.



Dancers from Miss Libby's School of Dance perform for family and friends Saturday morning.



Shawn Fletcher checks out one of her Japanese irises that she bought from the Sumter Master Gardeners, who sold out of nearly 400.



Lindsay Holley, the Iris Festival queen, takes a big bite out of a funnel cake Saturday morning after the parade.



Jeremy Ketchum, front right, and others ride around Swan Lake on a pontoon boat Sunday during the Iris Festival, the only time of year boats are allowed on the lake.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Thomas Sumter Academy students take part in an exercise this year in the school's STEAM Lab to investigate thermal energy changing solids (or ice) to liquids (or water) and characteristics of the particles involved.

State group recognizes TSA as its 1st school certified for STEAM learning

BY BRUCE MILLS
 bruce@theitem.com

REMBERT — As today's economy and the future job market continue to emphasize science, technology and math skills, Thomas Sumter Academy is keeping up with the times.

On Thursday, the South Carolina Independent School Association recognized the school as one of just five private schools in the state this year to receive its inaugural Science,

Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) certification. The other four officially certified schools are in Florence, Myrtle Beach, Summerville and Pawleys Island, according to SCISA.

Sally Faulling of SCISA made the formal presentation to TSA Headmaster Frank Martin at a school awards ceremony in the academy's main auditorium.

Officially, the STEM certification by the indepen-

dent school association to Thomas Sumter is modified to a STEAM certification — because of the school's high standards in music and the arts, according to Faulling. The new certification is actually for TSA's elementary school (K-5), with the condition of later adding the academy's middle and high schools.

Any way one looks at it, TSA is the state's first-ever SCISA STEAM school, she said.

To earn the certification, Thomas Sumter met SCISA STEM standards developed this year by the agency's executive director, Larry Watt.

Those include having an inquiry-based learning environment for students that encourages problem solving, teamwork and thinking outside the box, Faulling said. Other STEM standards developed by SCISA include students

SEE **TSA**, PAGE A6



SECOND FRONT

Call: (803) 774-1226 | E-mail: pressrelease@theitem.com

Operation Summer Salvation returns for 3rd year

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

Operation Summer Salvation, a local initiative to provide new air conditioners to some of the community's most vulnerable members, has returned for the summer and could expand to more areas of the state.

Started in 2016, the initiative is organized by Derek Gamble, executive director of Clean Slate Reentry Program — a re-entry program for former inmates — to install wall air-conditioner units for the elderly and disabled in Sumter, Lee, Clarendon, Williamsburg and Darlington counties.

These are the people who are more susceptible to heat-related issues, Gamble said.

Though the program fell short of its goal to collect 150 air conditioners, by 40 units, Gamble thinks there is enough public interest to grow the project, with the help of the South Carolina Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging.

The goal this year is to install at least 500 air conditioners in low-income households throughout the state, he said.

The first air conditioner was installed on Mother's Day, he said.

Gamble said he plans to meet with members of the lieutenant governor's office in June to discuss the logistics of making Operation Summer Salvation a statewide project.

If the plan is approved, air conditioners will be installed in the 10 re-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Operation Summer Salvation will collect donations and install air-conditioning units until Sept. 22.

gions — which cover the entire state — assisted by the office on aging.

More air conditioners will be provided to the counties that have the lowest median household income in each region, Gamble said.

Those who would like to participate in Operation Summer Salvation can purchase a 5000 BTU Air Conditioner unit at a discounted rate, \$98, at Simpson Hardware stores.

After letting store staff know the unit is for Operation Summer Salvation, a volunteer from the initiative will pick up, deliver and install the unit.

Gamble said he is also looking to partner with other stores so that donors can have more opportunities to purchase discounted units and help more people in need.

He also asks that more Greek orga-

nizations, businesses and churches participate this year.

The application period for Operation Summer Salvation started on March 23 and will end on Sept. 22.

Though September is the start of fall, it can still be pretty hot in South Carolina, Gamble said.

"We will give out air conditioners as long as we have them," he said.

Those eligible to receive an air conditioner are people who:

- Have a household income less than 125 percent of the current Federal Poverty Level;
- Are at least 65 years old;
- Are disabled and can provide proof of disability;
- Do not currently have an air conditioner in the home, have a non-functioning window unit or a non-functioning central HVAC system; and
- Are willing to sign a release of liability waiver.

Eligible individuals will be interviewed before an air conditioner is installed.

For more information about Operation Summer Salvation, visit the Air Conditioners for the Elderly and Disabled of South Carolina page on Facebook.

Anyone interested in making an online financial donation can send a message to the Facebook page for more information.

Other questions can be directed to Derek Gamble at (803) 316-9169 or David Johnson at (803) 529-5334.

Trinity UMC presents choral masterpieces

Chancel choir offers pre-Spoleto preview at 6:40 p.m. today

BY IVY MOORE
Special to The Sumter Item

The Trinity United Methodist Church Chancel Choir will present its 9th concert at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at St. Philip's Church in Charleston. For those who can't make the trip, the choir will perform a pre-Spoleto concert at Trinity UMC at 6:40 p.m. today.

Music minister Charles Haraway will direct the choir in singing "modern choral masterpieces," he said. "All of the pieces were written in the 21st century, and they are beautiful. They are just hitting church choirs. They're really exciting."

Piano and a string quartet with Trinity's new artist-in-residence, violinist Worth Lewallen, will be featured, as well. Haraway said Lewallen is a senior string major at University of South Carolina in Columbia.

"Many of these works, while quite beautiful, were written by some relatively unknown composers that in the future might become more well-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Trinity United Methodist Church Chancel Choir will present a preview of its June 9 Piccolo Spoleto concert at 6:40 p.m. today in the sanctuary of the church at 226 W. Liberty St. Admission is free, and the public is invited to attend.

known," Haraway said, "like the rising star Dan Forrest, who is becoming one of the most celebrated new choral composers of his generation.

"All of the music sung during this event deals with the aspect of faith, from a Jewish poem scribbled on a stone wall in Germany during the rise of the Nazi party in World War II to the simple, but poignant statement of faith offered in the spiritual 'Give Me Jesus,' to the learned words of Charles Wesley."

Each piece represents a different take on the nature of faith, he said.

Among them are Elaine Hagenberg's "I Will Be a Child of Peace," and Mark A Miller's "I Believe," which begins the program.

Haraway explains in his program notes that the poem "I Believe" was "written in a dark, damp cellar in Cologne, Germany, (by) an anonymous Jewish writer ... as he/she hid from the Nazi soldiers during World War II. This is a powerful profession of

faith during a time of utter turmoil, fear and chaos beautifully set to music by Mark A Miller."

"A New Millennium of Choral Masterpieces" will be presented by the Trinity United Methodist Church Chancel Choir at 6:40 p.m. today at the church, 226 W. Liberty St. The concert will also be performed for the Piccolo Spoleto Festival at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 9, at St. Philip's Church, 142 Church St., Charleston. Admission to both is free to the public.

8 traffic deaths reported during holiday weekend

BY STAFF REPORTS

Memorial Day leaves South Carolinians with more to think about after eight deaths, a preliminary number, were reported during the 78-hour travel period during the holiday weekend, according to the S.C. Department of Public Safety.

Thirteen traffic fatalities were reported over the same holiday travel period — from 6 p.m. the Friday to midnight on Memorial Day — last year.

Of the eight reported traffic deaths during Memorial Day weekend this year, three of the deceased were pedestrians, and one was a motorcyclist. Of the four vehicular deaths, only one person wore a seatbelt.

Between Jan. 1 and May 28, 387 people have died on South Carolina highways, compared to 429 highway deaths during the same time period in 2017, states a release from SCDPS.

So far this year, 277 vehicle occupants have died, and about half of those individuals, 183, were not wearing seatbelts.

During that same period, 60 pedestrians have died compared to 55 in 2017; 37 motorcyclists have died compared to 47 in 2017; and six bicyclists have died compared to eight in 2017.

HIGHWAY FATALITIES JAN. 1-MAY 28

	2018	2017	2016
Sumter	7	8	7
Clarendon	3	10	9
Lee	1	3	4



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LOCAL & STATE BRIEFS

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

\$25,000 winning ticket sold at Sumter store

Mozingos Grocery, 3350 N. Main St., was the site of a \$25,000 a Year for Life winning ticket. Last night's ticket matched the first five numbers drawn in Monday's drawing.

The winner will decide between \$25,000 a year for life or a one-time cash payment of \$390,000 if there are less than 21 winners. The "for life" prize is payable for the length of the winner's natural life, with payments guaranteed for a minimum of 20 years. The numbers for the Lucky for Life drawn on Monday are: 4, 6, 13, 16 and 3; Lucky Ball 7.

According to a news release from the S.C. Education Lottery, the winner is encouraged to sign the back of the ticket and put it in a safe location until you're ready to come forward to claim the prize. Speak with someone you trust to help

you decide whether to choose the "for life" prize option or the one-time lump sum payment.

In S.C. alone, 7,900 players hold tickets for prizes from \$3 up to \$25,000 a year for life. Players have 180 days from the date of the drawing to claim their prizes. For complete information on claiming prizes, visit sceducationlottery.com.

100,000-gallon sewer water spill near coast

MYRTLE BEACH — Officials estimate more than 100,000 gallons of sewer water have spilled near the South Carolina coast.

Myrtle Beach spokesman Mark Kruea told news outlets that a 24-inch sewer line broke Monday morning. Kruea said the pipe is around 30 or 40 years old.

He said the pipe walls had become thin through corrosion and that heavier-than-normal volume may have caused the pipe to break.

Kruea said most of the water was contained and collected.

Water quality was being tested at several areas, including a drainage basin and in the ocean.

76-year-old man found dead, home burglarized

WAGENER — A South Carolina man has been found dead at his home, and officials say it appears his home had been burglarized.

The Aiken County sheriff's office and coroner's offices are investigating the

death of 76-year-old Kenneth Goodwin at his home in Wagener on Monday afternoon.

Coroner Tim Carlton said in a news release that it appeared Goodwin's home had been burglarized and several items were missing. Carlton said an autopsy was planned in Newberry on

Tuesday. Sheriff's Capt. Eric Abdullah said the death appeared to be suspicious.

Abdullah said Goodwin's body was in the yard of his home. The victim's pickup truck was missing from the home.

No arrests have been made.



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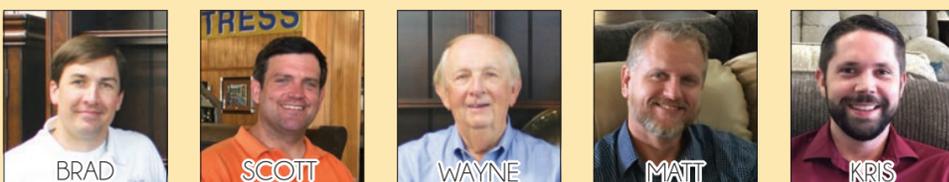
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Man kills 3 in Belgium with guns of stabbed female police officers

BY RAF CASERT AND SYLVAIN PLAZY
Associated Press

LIEGE, Belgium — A knife-wielding man stabbed two female police officers in the Belgian city of Liege, stole their service weapons and shot them and a bystander dead in an attack Tuesday that prosecutors fear could be terror-related.

Justice Minister Koen Geens said the assailant, who was later killed by police, was released from prison on a two-day leave Monday. Geens described him as a multiple repeat offender who had been incarcerated since 2003.

Liege Police Chief Christian Beaupere said at a news conference that the slain officers were 45 and 53, the latter the mother of twins. Four other officers were wounded in the attack, one of them seriously with a severed femoral artery.

State broadcaster RTBF identified the suspect as Benjamin Herman. Herman, a Belgian national born in 1982, had a criminal record that included theft, assault and drug offenses, RTBF reported.

The federal prosecutor's office declined to comment.

Earlier, Liege prosecutors' spokesman Philippe Dulieu said the man crept up on the two officers from behind carrying a knife and stabbed them several times.

"He then took their weapons. He used the weapons on the officers, who died," Dulieu told reporters. The two police handguns had a total of 17 bullets.

Dulieu said the attacker then shot dead a 22-year-old man in a vehicle that was just leaving a parking place outside a nearby high school. The attacker then took a woman hostage inside the school.

"Liege police intervened. He came out firing at police, wounding a number of them, notably in the legs. He was shot dead," the spokesman said.

A senior official at the federal prosecutor's office told The Associated Press that "there are indications it could be a terror attack."

Despite this, Belgium's crisis center said it saw no reason to raise the country's terror threat alert for now.

When asked about the report that the attack was terror-related, Liege city hall spokesman Michel Firket told the AP: "I know nothing formal about that. The police is doing its investigation. There are no formal conclusions." A spokeswoman for the city mayor's office, Laurence Comminette, told the AP that the children at the school were all safe.

Belgium's King Philippe, Prime Minister Charles Michel and the country's justice and interior ministers traveled to Liege to confer with local officials.

"I want to offer my government's support for the victims, for the victims' families," Michel said.

Yves Stevens of Belgium's federal crisis center said that security in Liege is under control, and that there was no reason yet to raise the national terror threat level.

"There is absolutely no confirmation yet that the incident is terror-related," Stevens told the AP.

Video posted on Twitter by a person claiming to be a witness showed people running in the area. About six gunshots could be heard.

Belgian police and military have been on alert since suicide bombers killed 32 people at the Brussels airport and subway system in 2016.

It's not the first time Liege has been hit by a similarly violent attack. In December 2011, a man with a history of weapons and drug offenses left home with hand grenades and guns before he lobbed the grenades into a square filled with Christmas shoppers and fired on those who escaped. Five were killed, including the assailant.



Police try to calm a man who crossed over a police line at the scene of a shooting in Liege, Belgium, on Tuesday. A gunman killed three people, including two police officers, in the Belgian city of Liege on Tuesday, a city official said. Police later killed the attacker, and other officers were wounded in the shooting.

Kid Scoop
THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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© 2018 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 34, No. 25

Find these hidden things in the picture below:

Take a Trip to the Museum!

There are many different kinds of museums: art museums, history museums, nature museums and more. It can be fun to go to a museum, but sometimes that is just not possible.

This week, Kid Scoop takes you on a pretend visit to a few different kinds of museums. Grab your imagination and let's go!

Museum Maze

There are many museums devoted to food! In Vermont there is a Maple Syrup Museum. In California, there is a Banana Museum. In Wisconsin there is a museum dedicated to this food product. Take a guess, then gather the letters along the correct path of the maze to spell the name of the food.

Nature Museums

Nature museums are full of amazing things to observe. Test your observation skills by seeing how many squirrels you can find here:

Look Closely!

A museum has lots of things to look at. Draw squares on the picture above to show where each of these photos was taken.

Scavenger Hunt

Look through the newspaper to find:

- A number greater than 100
- A three-syllable word
- A happy person
- Something that is man-made
- Something made by nature

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Family Memories

Long before there were cameras, people had paintings made of their family members. How many differences can you find in these portraits?

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Kid Scoop Word Search

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

T	E	C	H	N	O	L	O	N	H	C	E
Y	G	O	L	O	N	H	C	E	T		
W	A	R									
F	O	L	K								
V	I	D	E	O							
S	C	I	E	N	C	E					
H	I	S	T	O	R	Y	N	O			
O	H	I	S	T	O	R	Y	N	O		
L	M	A	R	I	T	I	M	E	P		
G	O	S	O	F	P	G	A	S	A		
E	L	M	Y	T	E	A	X	C	N		
G	E	O	L	O	N	H	C	E	T		
K	F	I	N	S	D	E	W	A	R		
S	N	E	R	D	L	I	H	C	T		

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE LESSON LIBRARY

Community Landmarks

Reading a newspaper is like taking a little trip through your community. Make a list of all of the different locations you can find mentioned in the newspaper. How many are places that you have been or know about?

Standards Link: Use the newspaper to locate information.

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Body found of man who disappeared in Maryland flooding

BY DAVID MCFADDEN
Associated Press

ELLICOTT CITY, Md. — Searchers scouring a river Tuesday that runs alongside a historic Maryland town ripped apart by flash flooding found the body of a man last seen being swept away by brown waters racing downhill, gutting shops and pushing parked cars into bursting tributaries.

Volunteers and crews with trained dogs had been methodically hunting for 39-year-old Eddison Hermond who disappeared Sunday afternoon, following torrential rains that prompted destructive flash flooding in historic Ellicott City for the second time in less than two years.

On Tuesday afternoon, his body was located in the Patapsco River. He was the only person reported missing in Ellicott City — established in 1772 as a mill town surrounded by hills — where many now can't get the roar of rushing floodwaters out of their heads.

"To have died helping somebody else is incredible. And I can't even imagine the loss his family is suffering," said Nicholas Johnson, owner of a store near the spot where Hermond vanished while trying to help a woman who had escaped through a window with her cat.

Hermond, of Severn, Maryland, was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and a sergeant in the Maryland Army National Guard. He was described by those who knew him as an affable, generous man.

With waters receded, residents of the flood-prone Maryland town are facing another daunting comeback less than two years since another terrible flood deluged their beloved downtown, smashing inventory and ripping up floors and pavement.

Some people in Ellicott City's historic downtown say they are deter-



Residents gather by a bridge to look at cars left crumpled in one of the tributaries of the Patapsco River that burst its banks as it channeled through historic Main Street in Ellicott City, Maryland, on Monday. Sunday's destructive flooding left the former mill town heartbroken as it had bounced back from another destructive storm less than two years ago.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

mined to rebuild after Sunday's devastation. Their hope: to pull together as a community once again and live up the nickname "Ellicott City Strong," which many locals are now repeating as a sort of mantra.

Simon Cortes, owner of La Palapa Grill & Cantina, said it's "a horrible time," and his business took on about a foot of water. But he notes the quaint old town has been through it all before, and he'll do his part to spur another revival.

"I feel like it's our duty to make sure that we rebuild and open back up," said Cortes, whose restaurant Hermond was visiting before being swept away by Sunday's raging floodwaters.

Others are stretched to the breaking point by the floods, which tore up streets and swept away dozens of cars in the quaint downtown of historic 18th and 19th century buildings,

which sit in a ravine some 13 miles west of Baltimore.

Another massive cleanup, serious economic losses and a daunting comeback couldn't come at a worse time. Sunday's torrential rains came just as the commercial district seemed to come back stronger than ever from a dreadful July 2016 flash flood that killed two people.

Getting flood insurance around old Ellicott City was a pricy proposition before. Now, people don't even want to think about how much it might cost, on top of the debts they're still paying from the last time their homes and businesses were destroyed.

Nathan Sowers, owner of the River House Pizza Co., an outdoor eatery in the old mill town's business district, said that after all the hard work rebuilding from the 2016 flood, he's feeling a bit overwhelmed at attempt-

ing yet another comeback.

"We'll see. It takes a lot of money and a lot of time, a lot of energy," he said, speaking near a bridge where several crushed cars were swept into a muddy tributary's banks.

But Sowers said he saw other hard-hit locals laughing and joking about their troubles first thing Monday morning — a good sign the Maryland town will launch yet another rebirth.

But the bad news just kept coming following the torrential rains: On Tuesday morning, county authorities issued what they called a "precautionary health alert" after a sewage main broke about 2 miles away from Ellicott City's historic main street.

The sewage overflow, which was first noticed early Monday, has been stopped. But as much as 500,000 gallons of sewage had already spilled and residents were being told to stay away from the affected area.

Falling tree kills 2 journalists reporting on severe weather

Tree uprooted by rain fell on SUV

TRYON, N.C. (AP) — North Carolina's governor is urging his state's residents to exercise caution as rains from a subtropical depression spread into his and other Southern states, noting the deaths of two broadcast journalists killed by a falling tree as they reported on the severe weather associated with Alberto.

The TV news anchor and a photojournalist colleague were killed Monday in North Carolina while covering the very fringes of the large system whose core made landfall hundreds of miles away on the northern Gulf Coast. Authorities said a tree became uprooted from rain-soaked soil and toppled on the news team's SUV, killing the two instantly.

"Two journalists working to keep the public informed about this storm have tragically lost their lives, and we mourn with their families, friends and colleagues," Cooper said in a statement. "North Carolina needs to take Alberto seriously. I urge everyone to keep a close eye on forecasts, warnings and road conditions, especially in western North Carolina where even heavier rain is predicted."

The dead were identified as working for a station based in Greenville.

WYFF-TV Anchor Mike McCormick and photojournalist Aaron Smeltzer both had worked in the Greenville market for more than a decade, anchor Carol Goldsmith said on air, breaking the news of their deaths Monday.

"Mike and Aaron were beloved members of our team — our family," Goldsmith said.

The men were driving on U.S. 176 near Tryon when the large tree fell on their vehicle, North Carolina Highway Patrol Master

Trooper Murico Stephens said.

McCormick and Smeltzer had just interviewed Tryon Fire Chief Geoffrey Tennant. They told Tennant to be careful with Alberto's remnants expected to bring more heavy rains and mudslides to North Carolina. He told them to be careful too.

"Ten minutes later we get the call, and it was them," Tennant said at a news conference, his voice cracking.

A woman died in a mudslide on May 19 not far from the area, and officials in one especially hard-hit county were asking people living in vulnerable areas to voluntarily leave before the weather got worse.

Neither Stephens nor Tennant directly blamed the up to two inches of rain that fell Monday for the deaths. The fire chief said the roots of a large tree were loosened in ground saturated by a week of rain. The TV vehicle's engine was still running and the transmission was in drive when crews found it. The men died instantly, said Tennant.

McCormick was a weekend anchor for the Greenville station and covered Spartanburg and surrounding areas. He came to the station in April 2007.

Smeltzer worked in Greenville for more than a decade, coming to WYFF-TV from a different station in the market. He touted on his Twitter biography of winning four Emmys.

WHNS-TV reporter Derek Dellinger competed with McCormick and Smeltzer, but also considered their friends. He called Smeltzer a perfectionist and McCormick a hard worker and a nice guy.

"Despite being the competition, I had interactions with (McCormick) both in and out of work, and we would talk about work issues, talk about life — everything," Dellinger said, calling him "a good guy" with a warm heart.

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REQUEST FROM PAGE A1

had balanced the budget without including the millage rate increase," said Chris Griner, chief financial officer for the district.

The remaining \$502,121 of the \$1,057,121 million millage increase would go toward building the district's fund balance to have on hand one month's operating expenses, \$10.8 million, based on the proposed \$131.8 million budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Sumter School District forecasts that its fund balance for fiscal year 2019 will be \$6 million, or about \$6.5 million if the millage request is approved.

If approved, in full or partially, the millage increase would only affect people who have commercial, industrial and rental properties and additional homes.

The district is entitled to the 5.48 mills requested, in accordance with state law Act 388; however, county council determines if that increase will take place. Act 388, passed in 2006, swapped the burden of paying operating taxes for school districts from homeowners to businesses and industries.

There is a cap on how much the school district can request based on a formula set by the state which includes population growth and inflation, according to Interim Superintendent Debbie Hamm.

Councilman Gene Baten asked Hamm if she has considered seeking fiscal autonomy for the school board which would allow the entity to increase its mills, in accordance with Act 388 and the state formula, without the approval

of county council. "We really don't have the expertise to deal with a budget of your size and the line items that you have," Baten said after commenting that the county's budget is about half of the school district's. He asked Hamm if it bothers her that the nine non-partisan members on the school board can be outvoted by seven partisan members of county council. "I'm saying that because I want us to be able to have that school district, that quality school district, that you want," Baten said, "and I want your trustees to be in charge of it and not this council."

While Hamm said she thinks the school district board of trustees are more knowledgeable about issues affecting the schools, she understands that there is a bigger picture that includes the consideration of local businesses. "My impression right now is that our business community desperately wants to see improvements in our educational system," she said, "and is willing to support a modest increase in our millage."

Baten also commented on academics and said test scores are some of the lowest in the state and some high school graduates are not as prepared as they should be for college.

"I was sort of demoralized that our test scores were so low compared to state standards," he said. He also said, after speaking with local college officials, some students are having to take remedial classes before they can begin training for their areas of study.

Related to Baten's comments, Chairman Jim McCain said he appreciates the district's new plans to put added emphasis on improving the skills and learning

environments for its students. At one time, there were nearly 400 jobs paying between \$40,000 and \$50,000 salaries that could not be filled because applicants did not have the skill, he said. "We're going to continue to do our part on county council and bring jobs," he said. "The school district has got to train the kids."

Councilman Charles Edens said after looking on the district's website he found that the entity's budget had increased by 23 percent in the last five years.

During that time, there was also a loss of teachers so where is that money going, he asked.

Hamm said while the district has fewer teachers, about 60 or 40 fewer, a big chunk of the district's expenses go toward increasing state-mandated costs — retirement and insurance — for its remaining employees.

"So you don't necessarily get more teachers for your money," she said. "It ends up being much more expensive per employee."

Griner said benefits are equal to about 40 percent of an employee's salary.

County council will vote on the school district's millage increase request during its next regular meeting on June 12 when it will also consider third and final reading of the county's 2019 budget and a \$2.5 million capital bond.

Since the district's request will be presented to council as a resolution on June 12, it requires only one vote and no public hearing.

In the county, ordinances require three approval votes and one public hearing before they are passed.

BANNISTER FROM PAGE A1

News of his sudden passing was received with shock and sadness throughout Fort Drum and local community there.

"Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Bannister was a legendary soldier and good man who dedicated his life to his family and his country. His wife and daughter are forever a part of the 10th Mountain Division Family, and we are grieving with them during this very difficult time," Maj. Gen. Walter Piatt, senior commander, Fort Drum and the 10th Mountain Division, said in the release. "We mourn his loss deeply and recognize the significance of a life so well lived as a part of our lasting legacy."

Bannister was commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps as an infantry officer after graduating from Campbell University in 1984. He began his 34-year career as a scout platoon leader and rifle platoon leader with the 1st Battalion, 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia.

TSA FROM PAGE A1

using technology resources to conduct research, learning through performance-based assessments and demonstrating critical thinking. For STEM teachers, they must collaborate as a team and participate in a continuous program of STEM-specific professional learning, among other activities.

Most of the elementary school's STEAM activities this year took place in the school's STEAM Lab, according to Martin and Paige Crowe, the school's STEAM coordinator and a teacher on staff.

Students took on STEM projects that incorporated the fundamentals of physical science, thermal energy, electrical circuits (for Christmas cards that actually light up when opened) and astronomy to name just a few, Crowe said. The lab's curriculum was based on the national Next Generation Science Standards.

Limited in funding unlike a public school, Crowe described that students' science projects required outside-the-box thinking, such as using a recycled tire to design and create a structure that will support plant life — by holding

water, but with every layer still receiving sunlight. She said some of the best science projects often require some of the cheapest materials. Also, some of the most important lessons learned in the STEAM Lab involve problem solving and learning how to build and be successful.

"I think the best thing that happens in the lab is students learn to make a mistake and sometimes fail when they test a project," Crowe said. "The students learn from that mistake and problem solve. I often tell them the only bad mistake is one you don't learn from."

Martin said the STEAM certification for TSA involved a great team effort and also applies to the school's Columbia campus, which has 36 students.

At the presentation, he recognized the STEAM team of teachers, which included Crowe, Heather Gore, Carly Smith, Sandi Dixon and Cheryl Hale. Hale is a teacher at the academy's Columbia campus, Martin said.

TSA's enrollment at the local campus is 355 students, according to Martin.

"This, I believe, is very important as we move forward from an academic standpoint," Martin said.

5 SCISA SCHOOLS RECEIVING STEM CERTIFICATION

- Thomas Sumter Academy (Rembert)
- Christian Academy of Myrtle Beach (Myrtle Beach)
- Lowcountry Preparatory School (Pawleys Island)
- Pinewood Preparatory School (Summerville)
- All Saints Episcopal Day School (Florence)

Source: South Carolina Independent Schools Association



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COMMENTARY

Young people ignorant about capitalism vs. socialism

Several recent polls, plus the popularity of Sen. Bernie Sanders, demonstrate that young people prefer socialism to free market capitalism. That, I believe, is a result of their ignorance and indoctrination during their school years, from kindergarten through college. For the most part, neither they nor many of their teachers and professors know what free market capitalism is.

Free market capitalism, wherein there is peaceful voluntary exchange, is morally superior to any other economic system. Why? Let's start with my initial premise. All of us own ourselves. I am my private property, and you are yours. Murder, rape, theft and the initiation of violence are immoral because they violate self-ownership. Similarly,

the forcible use of one person to serve the purposes of another person, for any reason, is immoral because it violates self-ownership.

Tragically, two-thirds to three-quarters of the federal budget can be described as Congress taking the rightful earnings of one American to give to another American — using one American to serve another. Such acts include farm subsidies, business bailouts, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps, welfare and many other programs.

Free market capitalism is disfavored by many Americans — and threatened — not because of its failure but, ironically, because of its success. Free market capitalism in America has been so successful in eliminating the traditional problems of mankind — such as disease, pestilence, hunger and gross poverty — that all other human problems appear both unbearable and inexcusable. The desire by many Americans to eliminate these so-called unbearable and in-

excusable problems has led to the call for socialism. That call includes equality of income, sex and race balance, affordable housing and medical care, orderly markets and many other socialistic ideas.

Let's compare capitalism with socialism by answering the following questions: In which areas of our lives do we find the greatest satisfaction, and in which do we find the greatest dissatisfaction? It turns out that we seldom find people upset with and in conflict with computer and clothing stores, supermarkets and hardware stores. We do see people highly dissatisfied with and often in conflict with boards of education, motor vehicles departments, police and city sanitation services.

What are the differences? For one, the motivation for the provision of services of computer and clothing stores, supermarkets and hardware stores is profit. Also, if you're dissatisfied with their services, you can instantaneously fire them by taking your business else-

where. It's a different matter with public education, motor vehicles departments, police and city sanitation services. They are not motivated by profit at all. Plus, if you're dissatisfied with their service, it is costly and in many cases even impossible to fire them.

A much larger and totally ignored question has to do with the brutality of socialism. In the 20th century, the one-party socialist states of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Germany under the National Socialist German Workers' Party and the People's Republic of China were responsible for the murder of 118 million citizens, mostly their own. The tallies were: USSR 62 million, Nazi Germany 21 million and PRC 35 million (<http://tinyurl.com/zafgs5p>). No such record of brutality can be found in countries that tend toward free market capitalism.

Here's an experiment for you. List countries according to whether they are closer to the free market capitalist or

to the socialist/communist end of the economic spectrum. Then rank the countries according to per capita gross domestic product. Finally, rank the countries according to Freedom House's "Freedom in the World" report. You will find that people who live in countries closer to the free market capitalist end of the economic spectrum not only have far greater wealth than people who live in countries toward the socialistic/communist end but also enjoy far greater human rights protections.

As Dr. Thomas Sowell says, "socialism sounds great. It has always sounded great. And it will probably always continue to sound great. It is only when you go beyond rhetoric, and start looking at hard facts, that socialism turns out to be a big disappointment, if not a disaster."

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University.

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Walter Williams

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

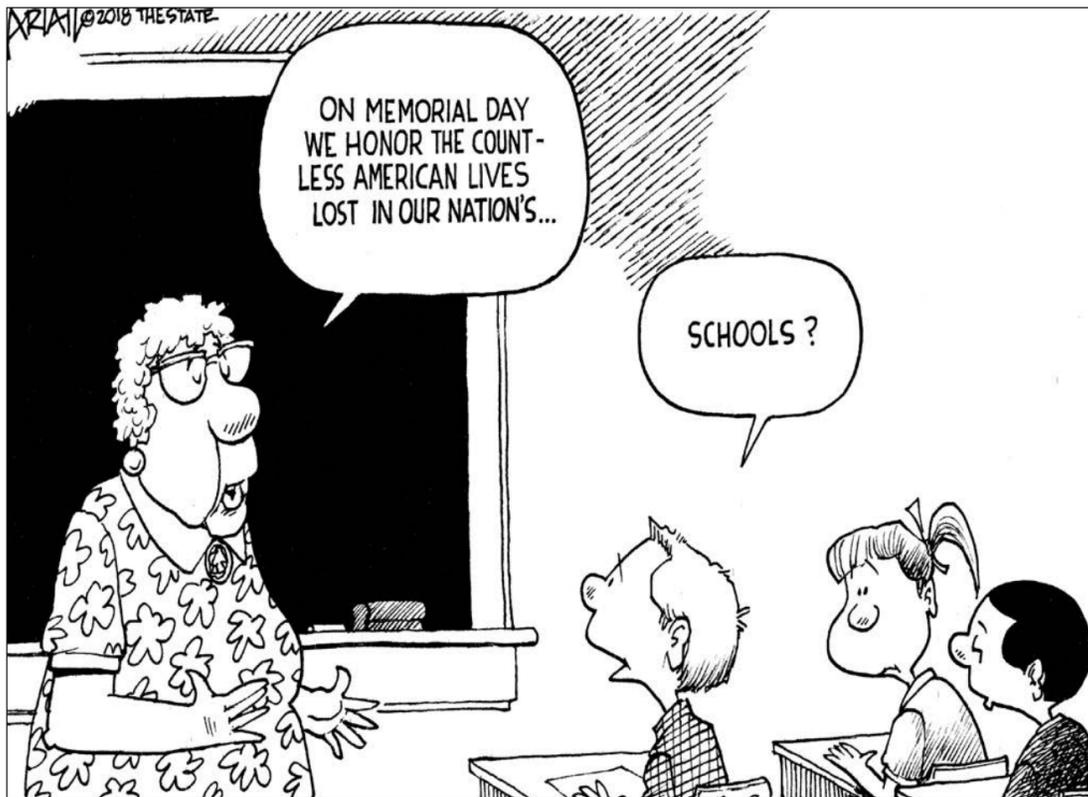
CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE SHOULDN'T BE SEEKING TO BECOME RICHER

I am writing to inform I attended the Sumter County Democratic Party Breakfast on May 26 on Broad Street, Sumter. This was an opportunity for me to listen and meet those who are running for office. I can tell you the words I heard from one candidate in particular left me in shock and disbelief. I am very concerned about the state of South Carolina including Sumter and Clarendon counties if he is elected.

I had the opportunity of meeting Mitch Ellerby, candidate for state representative for District 64. I spoke with him about my nonprofit organization whose mission is to mentor children within the public school system. He responded, "Why do I have a nonprofit organization that supports children, there is no money to be made in that."

If the only reason Mr. Ellerby is running for state representative is because of the money, he needs to choose another profession. Our children are the future, and we need to make sure we invest in them. I plan on speaking with the people in Sumter and informing my family in Sumter that we do not need someone in office whose purpose is to increase the wealth in his pocket!

AKAMBREKU ESHUN-FURROWH
Sumter



COMMENTARY

What is America's cause in the world today?

After being sworn in for a fourth term, Vladimir Putin departed the Kremlin for Annunciation Cathedral to receive the televised blessing of Patriarch Kirill of the Russian Orthodox Church.

The patriarch and his priests in sacred vestments surrounded Putin, who, standing alone, made the sign of the cross.

Meanwhile, sacred vestments from the Sistine Chapel were being transported by the Vatican to New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art to adorn half-clad models in a sexy show billed as "Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination." One model sported a papal tiara.

The show proved a sensation in secular media.

In Minsk, Belarus, on May 17, to celebrate International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia, Britain's embassy raised the rainbow flag. Belarus' Ministry of Internal Affairs was not amused:

"Same-sex relationships are a fake. And the essence of fake is always the same — the devaluation of truth. The LGBT community and all this struggle for 'their rights,' and the day of the community itself, are just a fake!"

Belarus is declaring moral truth —

to Great Britain.

What is going on? A scholarly study sums it up: "The statistical trends in religion show two separate Europes: the West is undergoing a process of secularization while the post-socialist East, de-secularization."

One Europe is turning back to God; the other is turning its back on God.

And when Vladimir Putin and Belarus' Alexander Lukashenko are standing up for traditional values against Western cultural elites, the East-West struggle has lost its moral clarity.

And, so, what do we Americans stand for now? What is our cause in the world today?

In World War II, Americans had no doubt they were in the right against Nazism and a militaristic Japan that had attacked us at Pearl Harbor.

In the Cold War, we believed America was on God's side against the evil ideology of Marxism-Leninism, which declared the Communist state supreme and that there was no such thing as God-given rights.

With the moral clarity of the Cold War gone, how do we rally Americans to fight on the other side of the world in places most of them can't find on a map?

A weekend article in *The Washington Post* discusses the strategic difficulty of our even prevailing, should we become involved in wars with both Iran and North Korea.

"You would expect the U.S. and its allies to prevail but at a human and

material cost that would be almost incalculable, particularly in the case of the Korean example," said Rand researcher David Ochmanek.

Added John Hopkins professor Mara Karlin, "If you want to ensure the Pentagon can actually plan and prepare and resource for a potential conflict with China or Russia, then getting into conflict with Iran or North Korea is the exact wrong thing to do."

One wonders: How many of these potential wars — with North Korea, Iran, Russia, China — could we fight without having America bled and bankrupted? What conceivable benefit could we derive from these wars, especially with a China or Russia, to justify the cost?

Looking back, only one great power survived the last century as a world power. The German, Russian, Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman empires did not survive World War I. World War II brought to an end the British, French, Italian and Japanese empires.

The Soviet Union and the United States were the only great surviving powers of World War II, and the USSR itself collapsed between 1989 and 1991.

Then, in 1991, we Americans started down the well-traveled road of empire, smashing Iraq to rescue Kuwait.

Heady with that martial triumph, we plunged into Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria and Yemen.

Though still embroiled, we are now talking war with North Korea or Iran, or even Russia or China, the former

over its annexation of Crimea, the latter over its annexation of the South China Sea.

Donald Trump is president today because he told the people he would "Make America Great Again" and put "America First."

Which bring us back to the question: What is America's cause today?

Defeating Nazism and fascism was a cause. Defending the West against Communism was a cause. But what cause now unites Americans?

It is certainly not Christianizing the world as it was in centuries long ago, or imposing Western rule on mankind as it was in the age of empires from the 17th to the 20th century.

Democracy crusading is out of style as the free elections we have demanded have produced Hamas, Hezbollah, the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, Muqtada al-Sadr in Iraq and nationalists, populists and autocrats from Asia to the Middle East to Europe.

Perhaps our mission is to defend and protect what is vital to us, to stay out of foreign wars where our critical interests are not imperiled and to reunite our divided and disputatious republic — if we are not too far beyond that.

Patrick J. Buchanan is the author of a new book, "Nixon's White House Wars: The Battles That Made and Broke a President and Divided America Forever."

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SUPPORT GROUPS

AA, AL-ANON, ALATEEN:

AA — Monday-Friday, noon and 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.

AA Women's Meeting — Wednesdays, 7 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.

AA Spanish Speaking — Sundays, 4:30 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.

AA "How it Works" Group — Mondays and Fridays, 8 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. Call (803) 494-5180.

441 AA Support Group — Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, 8 p.m., Hair Force, 2090-D S.C. 441.

AA Summerton Group — Wednesday, 8 p.m., town hall.

Manning Al-Anon Family Group — Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Behavioral Health Building, 14 Church St., Manning. Call Angie at (803) 435-8085.

C/A "Drop the Rock" Group — Thursdays, 9:30 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. Call Elizabeth at (803) 607-4543.

MONDAY MEETINGS:

Sumter Vitiligo Support Group — Second Monday, 5:45-6:45 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Call Tiffany at (803) 316-6763. The group is also on Facebook.

TUESDAY MEETINGS:

Celebrate Recovery — Tuesdays, 6:45 p.m. coffee / snacks, 7 p.m. meeting, Alice Drive Baptist Church, Studio 4.3 (youth building), 1305 Loring Mill Road. For help with struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, addictions, pornography, smoking, anxiety, etc.

Heroin Anonymous — Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 p.m., 4742 Broad St. Call (803) 494-5180.

Sumter Connective Tissue Support Group — First Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November, 7 p.m., 180 Tiller Circle. Call (803) 773-0869.

Sumter Combat Veterans Group Peer to Peer — Tuesdays, 11 a.m., South HOPE Center, 1125 S. Lafayette Drive. Veterans helping veterans with PTSD, coping skills, claims and benefits.

"The Gathering" — Second Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Support group for teens and adults with special needs. Call Joan at (803) 972-0051 or Carrie at (803) 468-5745 or email thegathering23@aol.com.

Sumter Amputee Support Group — Second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Sumter Prosthetics & Orthotics, 259 Broad St. Call (803) 883-4356.

Sumter Chapter Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) — Third Tuesday, 5:30-7 p.m., Birnie HOPE Center, 210 S. Purdy St. Open to anyone who has lost

a loved one to murder in a violent way.

Mothers of Angels (for mothers who have lost a child) — Third Tuesday at 6 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church. Call (803) 469-6059, (803) 979-4498 or (803) 316-4506.

EFMP Parent Exchange Group — Last Tuesday, 11 a.m.-noon, Airman and Family Readiness Center. Support to service members who have a dependent with a disability or illness. Call Dorcus at (803) 895-1252/1253 or Sue at (803) 847-2377.

WEDNESDAY MEETINGS:

Sickle Cell Support Group — Last Wednesday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., South Sumter Resource Center, 337 Manning Ave. Call Bertha at (803) 774-6181.

Divorce Care — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

Grief Share — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

THURSDAY MEETINGS:

TOPS S.C. No. 236 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) — Thursdays, 9 a.m., Spectrum Senior Center, 1989 Durant Lane. Call Diane at (803) 775-3926 or Nancy at (803) 469-4789.

Alzheimer's Support Group through S.C. Alzheimer's Association — First Thursday, 6-8 p.m., National Health Care, 1018 N. Guignard Drive. Call Cheryl at (803) 905-7720 or the Alzheimer's Association at (800) 636-3346.

Journey of Hope (for family members of the mentally ill), Journey to Recovery (for the mentally ill) and Survivors of Suicide Support Group — Each group meets every first Thursday, 7 p.m., St. John United Methodist Church, 136 Poinsett Drive. Call Fred at (803) 905-5620.

FRIDAY MEETINGS:

Celebrate Recovery — Fridays, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. program, Salt & Light Church, Miller Road (across from Food Lion). For help with struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, smoking, etc.

Wateree AIDS Task Force Support Group — Third Friday, 11:30 a.m., 508 W. Liberty St. Call Kevin at (803) 778-0303.

SATURDAY MEETINGS:

Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy/Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Support Group — Third Saturday, 1:30 p.m., 3785 Blackberry Lane, Lot 7. Call Donna at (803) 481-7521.

SUNDAY MEETINGS:

Sumter MS Support Group — First Sunday, 3 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church, 2751 S. Wise Drive. Call (803) 481-5344 or (803) 464-6440. Email me.not.ms@gmail.com or msmiles013@gmail.com.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
86°	72°	85° / 72°	89° / 74°	94° / 72°	89° / 68°
Chance of rain: 65%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 40%	Chance of rain: 55%	Chance of rain: 70%
5-12 mph	SSW 4-8 mph	SSW 6-12 mph	W 6-12 mph	W 7-14 mph	SSW 4-8 mph

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

Temperatures shown on map are today's highs and tonight's lows.

IN THE MOUNTAINS

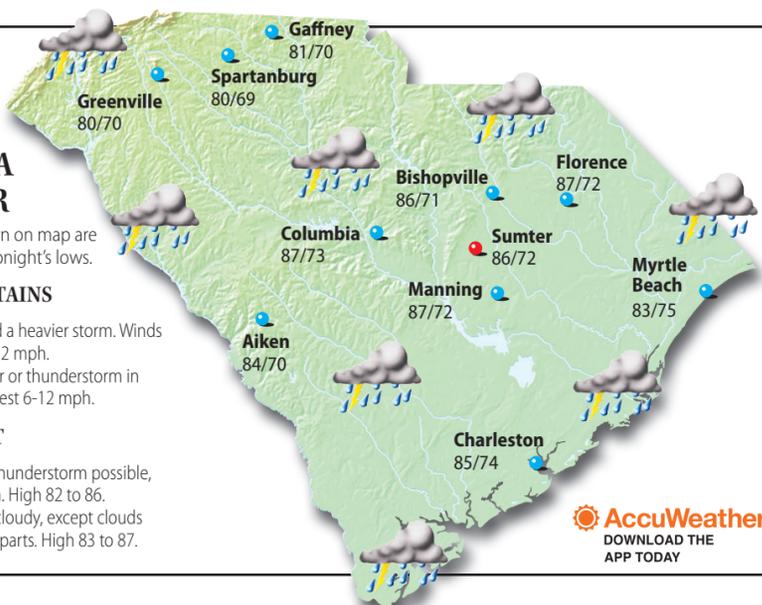
Today: Showers and a heavier storm. Winds south-southwest 6-12 mph.

Thursday: A shower or thunderstorm in spots. Winds southwest 6-12 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: A morning thunderstorm possible, then a heavy t-storm. High 82 to 86.

Thursday: Humid; cloudy, except clouds and sun in southern parts. High 83 to 87.



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Record high	Record low
High	87°					
Low	74°					
Normal high	85°				100° in 1982	
Normal low	61°				47° in 1961	

Precipitation	24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	Month to date	Normal month to date	Year to date	Last year to date	Normal year to date
24 hrs ending 2 p.m. yest.	0.05"					
Month to date	3.53"					
Normal month to date	3.01"					
Year to date	13.00"					
Last year to date	18.15"					
Normal year to date	17.36"					

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	357.97	-0.01
Marion	76.8	75.75	+0.08
Moultrie	75.5	74.66	+0.03
Wateree	100	97.42	+0.29

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	8.85	+0.74
Congaree River	19	8.41	+1.24
Lynchies River	14	5.28	+0.49
Saluda River	14	8.51	+1.20
Up. Santee River	80	80.29	+0.23
Wateree River	24	15.90	-0.01

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:12 a.m.	Sunset	8:27 p.m.
Moonrise	9:28 p.m.	Moonset	7:08 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
June 6	June 13	June 20	June 28

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH				
	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	10:19 a.m.	2.7	5:09 a.m.	0.0
	10:51 p.m.	3.3	5:02 p.m.	0.1
Thu.	11:00 a.m.	2.7	5:50 a.m.	0.1
	11:29 p.m.	3.2	5:40 p.m.	0.2

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.
Atlanta	84/71/t	87/72/t
Chicago	77/70/r	91/66/t
Dallas	98/74/s	97/74/s
Detroit	85/72/t	88/67/t
Houston	94/73/pc	95/75/pc
Los Angeles	71/59/pc	69/56/sh
New Orleans	91/76/t	92/76/t
New York	75/60/pc	70/65/sh
Orlando	84/73/t	89/72/pc
Philadelphia	77/64/c	79/68/c
Phoenix	103/74/s	101/74/s
San Francisco	65/55/pc	64/52/pc
Wash., DC	77/69/t	84/72/t

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.	City	Today	Thu.
Asheville	78/66/t	82/66/t	Florence	87/72/t	86/73/t
Athens	83/69/t	85/70/t	Gainesville	83/71/t	87/72/pc
Augusta	86/70/t	85/70/t	Gastonia	83/70/t	84/69/t
Beaufort	86/74/t	87/74/t	Goldsboro	86/71/t	87/71/t
Cape Hatteras	82/72/c	83/75/t	Goose Creek	85/73/t	86/73/t
Charleston	85/74/t	86/73/t	Greensboro	83/71/t	84/70/t
Charlotte	84/71/t	85/71/t	Greenville	80/70/t	84/70/t
Clemson	80/70/t	84/70/t	Hickory	79/68/t	83/68/t
Columbia	87/73/t	86/74/t	Hilton Head	84/75/t	85/75/t
Darlington	87/72/t	88/72/t	Jacksonville, FL	84/69/t	85/69/t
Elizabeth City	83/71/t	87/73/t	La Grange	83/71/t	87/71/t
Elizabethtown	87/72/t	87/72/t	Macon	84/72/t	84/71/t
Fayetteville	87/73/t	87/73/t	Marietta	82/70/t	86/71/pc
			Marion	78/66/t	82/64/t
			Mt. Pleasant	84/75/t	85/74/t
			Myrtle Beach	83/75/t	84/74/t
			Orangeburg	85/71/t	84/71/t
			Port Royal	85/74/t	86/74/t
			Raleigh	85/72/t	86/72/t
			Rock Hill	84/71/t	84/70/t
			Rockingham	87/73/t	88/72/t
			Savannah	86/72/t	87/73/t
			Spartanburg	80/69/t	83/69/t
			Summerville	85/72/t	85/71/t
			Wilmington	85/74/t	86/74/t
			Winston-Salem	83/71/t	85/70/t

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take part in outside interests.

Distance yourself from anyone putting demands on you. Be direct when dealing with people asking for something. Don't take over or take on something you don't have time for.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Remain silent when it comes to conversations that might reveal your financial, legal or medical situation. The less others know, the easier it will be for you to take care of important matters without interference. Stabilize a romantic situation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Talks will lead to actions. Don't sit back when you should be making a difference that will impact your life. Start the ball rolling and don't stop until you reach your goal. Physical challenges will help build strength and stamina.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Personal changes will turn out well if you let your creative imagination take over. Relationships will undergo an adjustment that will change your life. Children, friendships and elders will play a role when it comes to making a decision.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Think before you end up in a compromising position. If your objective is to have a little fun, find a way to do so without being excessive or inconsiderate. Focus on health, personal relationships and living within your means.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Listen carefully and document what's going on around you. Someone will mislead you or withhold information that can cause an emotional situation to fester. Take the high road and enforce positive thought and integrity in everything

you do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Be open to suggestions, but gather your own research and facts. The time and effort you put in will ensure that someone trying to control or manipulate you will not take advantage of you. Trust your judgment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Settle into whatever it is you are trying to accomplish. Give your undivided attention to doing the best you can and to finishing what you start. Your effort will not go unnoticed, and an unusual reward will be offered.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Face whatever comes your way. Don't take anyone's word or leave personal decisions up to someone else. Your involvement will be necessary if you want situations to unfold fairly. Focus on alternative methods when dealing with health and finance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Observe what other people do, but don't follow suit. You are better off biding your time and making decisions that will add to your security and stability, not tear it apart. Do your own thing and don't look back.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Stick close to home and make changes that will require you to use your physical and mental attributes to alter your current personal situation. Know what you want; don't stop until you have made it happen.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Stick close to home, and don't share personal information. Problems with a friend, relative or communications in general will leave you in an uncertain position. Concentrate on yourself and the physical changes you'd like to make.

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SUMTER ANIMAL CONTROL PETS OF THE WEEK



TOP: Trevor needs a hero. This adorable boy is approximately a year old and weighs 30 pounds. He is a sweet, friendly boy who gets along well with other dogs and loves people. This poor little guy thought he had found his forever home and his way out of Animal Control but, sadly, he was returned. It seems Trevor is terrified of kennels, even a large outdoor kennel, and becomes a little aggressive when put in one. Unfortunately, his family needed to kennel Trevor at times so they could not keep him. Trevor is precious otherwise. If you can provide Trevor with a forever home where he will never have to be kept in a kennel, please come see him.

BELOW: Lacie was found at Dillon Park inside the fence all alone. Animal Control picked her up, and she has quickly become a volunteer favorite. Approximately 10-12 months old, Lacie is a sweet, snuggly and happy little girl. She likes people and dogs. She needs a family of her own to give her the forever home she deserves. If you're looking for a loving, adorable small to medium pup who thrives on human companionship and interaction, Lacie is waiting for you at Sumter Animal Control.

Sumter Animal Control is located at 1240 Winkles Road. Call the adoption coordinator at (803) 774-3232 or email at rescuenumtersc@gmail.com. As with all of our adoptable dogs, a spay or neuter agreement is required, and it is strictly enforced. We have many other adoptable dogs as well as animals who were found and are waiting for their owners to claim them. Check Sumter Animal Control on Facebook.

CAN'T ADOPT BUT WOULD LIKE TO HELP IN SOME WAY?
Sumter Animal Control gladly accepts donations of the following: Capstar flea control pills (at Petco or Tractor Supply), bleach (gallons or spray bottle), metal food and water bowls in all sizes, towels, waterless pet shampoo, dog cologne, kibble, puppy food, newspapers and leashes and collars. Tax-deductible donations can be made via Paypal at sumterstrays@gmail.com. One hundred percent of your donation will be used for the animals at Sumter Animal Control.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

LMA standout Osteen to play baseball at FMU

BY DENNIS BRUNSON
dennis@theitem.com

MANNING — Like many young men, Braydon Osteen grew up wanting to emulate his father. Now Osteen will get the chance to follow in the footsteps of his dad, Layne.

Braydon Osteen will get the chance to play college baseball like his father did. The younger Osteen, who helped lead Laurence Manning Academy to consecutive SCISA 3A state titles as a pitcher and position player, recently signed to play with Francis Marion University in Florence.



OSTEEN

The elder Osteen was a standout left-handed pitcher for both LMA and Manning-Santee Post 68 before going on to have a strong career at Coker College in Hartsville. That has always fueled a desire in Braydon to do the same.

"It means a lot to me to get this opportunity," Braydon said. "My dad was a good pitcher at Coker, and I've had people tell me stories about it. That has pushed me to do this. This is something that I love to do, and it's something that I've done since I was little."

Osteen was a major cog in the Swampcats winning state titles in both 2016 and 2017. Laurence Manning saw its run come to an end this season as it was eliminated in the semifinals.

"During his sophomore year ('16), Braydon stepped up in sometimes really tight spots," said LMA head coach Barry Hatfield. "He's battled through some injuries and helped us win a lot of playoff games."

"He's contributed for us in a big way on both the mound and at the plate."

SEE OSTEEN, PAGE B3

PRO BASEBALL

Braves grateful Acuna's injuries not worse as he lands on DL

ATLANTA (AP) — Braves left fielder Ronald Acuna Jr. is grateful that his knee and back injuries aren't as serious as he first thought.

"To be honest, I feel better than I did yesterday," Acuna said Monday through an interpreter. "I just give thanks to God it's not worse than it was."



ACUNA

Atlanta placed Acuna on the 10-day disabled list with a mild ACL sprain in his left knee and bruises to his knee and lower back.

Acuna's leg buckled while running out a grounder Sunday in Boston. He fell on his back after crossing the bag, then rolled over on his front side with what looked to be a gruesome injury. The 20-year-old surprisingly walked off the diamond, declining a wheelchair.

"I thought his season was over when it happened and I went out there," manager Brian Snitker said. "Now it's very optimistic."

Acuna, who is hitting .265 with five homers and 13 RBIs in 51 games, is walking without a brace and even tried to talk his way into the lineup for the second game of a doubleheader before he was placed on the DL.

SEE ACUNA, PAGE B3

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

New faces, new places



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Dalzell-Shaw's Chris Parrish delivers a hit in a game against Sumter last season. Parrish is back this season for Post 175, which opens play today at Lexington.

Jets hoping influx of talent improves 2018 outlook

BY TREVOR BAUKNIGHT
trevor@theitem.com

The Dalzell-Shaw Post 175 American Legion baseball team has won only four regular-season games over the last three seasons. However, as the Jets' 2018 season begins today with a League III road contest against Lexington at 7 p.m., there is reason for optimism.

"We're looking forward to getting started and finding out what we've got," said Dalzell-Shaw head coach Jamey Lisenby, in his second year in

the pilot's seat with the Jets. "We've got a lot of new faces that we didn't expect, but that's just the way Legion ball works. We've got a lot of talent."

"We played in a preseason tournament and put everybody where we thought they needed to be," Lisenby said, speaking of his team's 1-3 outing in a preseason tournament in Florence. "We haven't had a lot of time to practice with state playoffs just getting over, and the weather. So the preseason tournament was a pretty good practice round for us, basically, and we did pretty well."

The Jets fell 8-5 to Manning and 14-0 to Florence in the tournament, but beat Beaufort 8-3 and finished with an 11-5 loss to Horry that was more of a pitching warmup than anything, according to Lisenby.

"Defensively, we played pretty well this weekend, and we swung the bats pretty well," Lisenby said. "We've just got to calm our pitchers down and get them to throw strikes, and if we can keep them (the opposition) off the bases, we'll have good days."

SEE JETS, PAGE B3

NBA PLAYOFFS

Round 4: It's Cleveland vs. Golden State, again

BY TIM REYNOLDS
The Associated Press

Here we go again. And again. And, well, again. Round 4 — as many predicted, and others probably lamented — is happening. Cleveland and Golden State will meet for the fourth straight year in the NBA Finals, the Warriors looking for a third championship in that span and LeBron James and the Cavaliers trying to wrestle the crown away just as they did in the 2016 series.

On one side, the best team of this era.

On the other, the best player of this era and maybe any era.

Game 1 will be hosted by the Warriors at Oracle Arena on Thursday night.

"You've got to appreciate the moment," Warriors guard Stephen Curry said.

"Somebody asked, 'Four years in a row getting to the finals, do you appreciate it?' Yes."

Both teams are entering this title matchup with injury concerns. Cleveland's Kevin Love is in the concussion protocol and will need to complete a series of tests before he's cleared to return, and Golden State's Andre Iguodala — a former NBA Finals MVP — wasn't able to finish the Warriors-Rockets series because of a bone bruise



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Golden State guard Stephen Curry, right, celebrates after the Warriors defeated the Houston Rockets in Game 7 of the Western Conference finals on Monday in Houston.

in his leg.

The Warriors hoped Iguodala would return to the Houston series, but his progress stalled.

"That's just not an easy injury to predict in terms of recovery," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said.

There wasn't a lot of similarity in Cleveland's and Golden State's seasons, but their last few days have been mirror images of one another — both teams had to win Game 6s at home to fend off elimination, then

had to go on the road and prevail in Game 7s to win their respective conference finals.

"One of the most challenging seasons I've had," said James, who may be playing the best basketball of his life right now at the end of his 15th season.

Here's some of what the Cavaliers have dealt with since Golden State-Cleveland III ended last June: Kyrie Irving got traded for Isaiah Thomas over the summer, coach Tyrone

Lue had to miss time to deal with health issues, Love missed two months, they lost 11 games by 16 or more points, revamped their roster in February and spent much of the season unable to guard anybody.

They're in the finals again anyway, led by someone who will play in the last series of the season for an absurd eighth consecutive year.

SEE NBA, PAGE B4

FRENCH OPEN

Way to go, Mom: In Paris, Serena Williams wins Slam return

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
The Associated Press

PARIS — For all that has changed in the 16 months since Serena Williams last played in a Grand Slam tournament — she is now married and a mother — so much was familiar about her at the French Open on Tuesday.

The fashion statement, this time in the form of a black bodysuit with a red belt that she said made her feel like a "warrior princess." The cries of "Come on!" The big serves that provided 13 aces. The returns that eventually produced three consecutive breaks of serve.

And, yes, the victory. Competing as a mom for the first time at a major, and only about nine months since giving birth to her daughter, Alexis Olympia, then dealing with postpartum complications, Williams edged 70th-ranked Kristyna Pliskova of the Czech Republic 7-6 (4), 6-4 at Roland Garros.

Already a transcendent sports star and cultural icon,



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Serena Williams serves against Krystina Pliskova during their first-round match in the French Open at Roland Garros in Paris on Tuesday. Williams won 7-6 (4), 6-4 in her first match back after having a baby.

Williams now carries a new title: working mother.

"Well, my priority is Olympia. No matter what, that's my priority. I have given tennis so much, and tennis has actually given me a lot, and I couldn't be more grateful," Williams said. "She's my priority, and I work everything around her."

The 36-year-old American had not played in one of ten-

nis's biggest tournaments since winning the Australian Open in January 2017 for her 23rd Grand Slam title, breaking a tie with Steffi Graf for the most in the professional era.

Williams, the world found out later, was pregnant at the time. Her baby was born Sept. 1; Williams married Reddit co-founder Alexis Ohanian in November.

Williams eventually revealed that she had an emergency cesarean section, then encountered trouble breathing afterward because of a pulmonary embolism and needed a follow-up operation.

"Just literally not sure if I was going to make it or not at several different times," Williams said. "A lot of people have really reached out, because they have so many similar stories, too. I feel like a lot of people don't talk about it. They talk about the baby and how happy they are. But it's a lot that goes into it with the pregnancy and with giving birth, and it's called a 'miracle' for a reason."

The first match of her comeback was in doubles alongside her older sister, Venus, for the U.S. Fed Cup team in February. She entered two tournaments in singles the next month, going 2-2. An absence of more than two months followed, until Tuesday in Paris.

So a woman who has spent hundreds of weeks ranked

No. 1 is currently No. 451 and unseeded at the French Open, a subject of some debate: Should her past success accord her the protection a seeding offers? Williams faces 17th-seeded Ash Barty of Australia next.

"She's a genuine champion," Barty said. "What she's done to be able to get back ... is a pretty amazing thing."

Tuesday's return was striking, from Williams' powerful shots to her outfit, which called to mind the "catsuit" she wore at the 2002 U.S. Open.

It was by far the most significant event of Day 3 at Roland Garros, even though there were so many other Grand Slam champions in action. Rafael Nadal finished off a rain-interrupted victory as he begins his try for a record-extending 11th French Open title. Maria Sharapova, a two-time champ in Paris, was pushed to three sets in a win. Garbine Muguruza, who beat Williams in the 2016 final at Roland Garros, beat another past champion, Svetlana Kuznetsova.

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY
5 a.m. — Professional Tennis: French Open Men's and Women's Second-Round Matches from Paris (TENNIS).
10 a.m. — Professional Tennis: French Open Men's and Women's Second-Round Matches from Paris (TENNIS).
1 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Toronto at Boston or Chicago White Sox at Cleveland (MLB NETWORK).
4 p.m. — College Golf: NCAA Men's Championships Team Match Play Championship Match from Stillwater, Okla. (GOLF).
4 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Cincinnati at Arizona (Joined In Progress) (MLB NETWORK).
6:05 p.m. — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).
6:30 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Houston at New York Yankees (ESPN).
7:30 p.m. — Major League Baseball: New York Mets at Atlanta (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST, WWFN-FM 100.1, WPUB-FM 102.7).
7:30 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Atlanta at New England (FOX SPORTSOUTH).
8 p.m. — NHL Hockey: Stanley Cup Playoffs Stanley Cup Finals Game 2 — Washington at Vegas (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	37	17	.685	—
New York	33	17	.660	2
Tampa Bay	26	26	.500	10
Toronto	25	29	.463	12
Baltimore	17	37	.315	20

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	27	25	.519	—
Detroit	24	29	.453	3½
Minnesota	22	27	.449	3½
Kansas City	18	36	.333	10
Chicago	16	35	.314	10½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	35	20	.636	—
Seattle	33	20	.623	1
Los Angeles	29	25	.537	5½
Oakland	28	26	.519	6½
Texas	22	34	.393	13½

MONDAY

Boston 8, Toronto 3
Houston 5, N.Y. Yankees 1
Washington 6, Baltimore 0
Detroit 9, L.A. Angels 3
Tampa Bay 1, Oakland 0, 13 innings
Cleveland 9, Chicago White Sox 6
Seattle 2, Texas 1
Minnesota 8, Kansas City 5

TUESDAY

Chicago White Sox at Cleveland, 6:10 p.m.
Houston at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
Washington at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Detroit, 7:10 p.m.
Toronto at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Minnesota at Kansas City, 8:15 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Oakland, 10:05 p.m.
Texas at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

TODAY

Toronto (Gaviglio 2-0) at Boston (Rodriguez

5-1), 1:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Lopez 1-3) at Cleveland (Kluber 7-2), 1:10 p.m.
Houston (Keuchel 3-6) at N.Y. Yankees (Severino 7-1), 6:35 p.m.
Washington (Scherzer 8-1) at Baltimore (Hess 2-1), 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Ohtani 4-1) at Detroit (Fiers 4-3), 7:10 p.m.
Minnesota (Romero 2-1) at Kansas City (Keller 1-1), 8:15 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Eovaldi 0-0) at Oakland (Manaea 5-5), 10:05 p.m.
Texas (Moore 1-5) at Seattle (Paxton 4-1), 10:10 p.m.

THURSDAY

L.A. Angels at Detroit, 1:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Oakland, 3:35 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Boston at Houston, 8:10 p.m.
Cleveland at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.
Texas at Seattle, 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	31	22	.585	—
Washington	30	22	.577	½
Philadelphia	29	22	.569	1
New York	26	25	.510	4
Miami	20	33	.377	11

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	35	20	.636	—
Chicago	28	22	.560	4½
St. Louis	28	23	.549	5
Pittsburgh	28	25	.528	6
Cincinnati	19	36	.345	16

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Colorado	29	25	.537	—
Arizona	27	26	.509	1½
Los Angeles	25	28	.472	3½
San Francisco	25	29	.463	4
San Diego	22	33	.400	7½

MONDAY

Washington 6, Baltimore 0
Atlanta 4, N.Y. Mets 3, 1st game
Chicago Cubs 7, Pittsburgh 0
Milwaukee 8, St. Louis 3
Arizona 12, Cincinnati 5
Miami 7, San Diego 2
Colorado 6, San Francisco 5, 10 innings
N.Y. Mets 8, Atlanta 5, 2nd game
L.A. Dodgers 5, Philadelphia 4

TUESDAY

Chicago Cubs at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
Washington at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets at Atlanta, 7:35 p.m.
St. Louis at Milwaukee, 7:40 p.m.
San Francisco at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
Cincinnati at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.
Miami at San Diego, 10:10 p.m.
Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

TODAY

St. Louis (Reyes 0-0) at Milwaukee (Guerra 3-3), 1:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 4-3) at Pittsburgh (Musgrove 1-0), 7:05 p.m.
Washington (Scherzer 8-1) at Baltimore (Hess 2-1), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Syndergaard 4-1) at Atlanta (Tehe-

ran 4-2), 7:35 p.m.
San Francisco (Holland 2-6) at Colorado (Gray 5-6), 8:40 p.m.
Cincinnati (Romano 2-6) at Arizona (Corbin 5-1), 9:40 p.m.
Miami (Urena 0-7) at San Diego (Richard 3-6), 10:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Eflin 1-1) at L.A. Dodgers (Stripling 2-1), 10:10 p.m.

THURSDAY

Chicago Cubs at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 7:15 p.m.
Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers, 7:35 p.m.
Washington at Atlanta, 7:35 p.m.
Miami at San Diego, 9:10 p.m.

NBA PLAYOFFS

NBA FINALS

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
Thursday, May 31: Cleveland at Golden State, 9 p.m.
Sunday, June 3: Cleveland at Golden State, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, June 6: Golden State at Cleveland, 9 p.m.
Friday, June 8: Golden State at Cleveland, 9 p.m.
x-Monday, June 11: Cleveland at Golden State, 9 p.m.
x-Thursday, June 14: Golden State at Cleveland, 9 p.m.
x-Sunday, June 17: Cleveland at Golden State, 8 p.m.

NHL PLAYOFF

STANLEY CUP

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
Vegas 1, Washington 0
Monday, May 28: Vegas 6, Washington 4
Wednesday, May 30: Washington at Vegas, 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 2: Vegas at Washington, 8 p.m.
Monday, June 4: Vegas at Washington, 8 p.m.
Thursday, June 7: x-Washington at Vegas, 8 p.m.
Sunday, June 10: x-Vegas at Washington, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, June 13: x-Washington at Vegas, 8 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

TUESDAY

BASEBALL
American League
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Selected the contract of LHP Jeff Beliveau from Columbus (IL). Optioned RHP Adam Plutko to Columbus (IL). Sent RF Brandon Guyer on a rehab assignment to Columbus.
HOUSTON ASTROS — Placed C Brian McCann on the 10-day DL. Selected the contract of C Tim Federowicz from Fresno (PCL).
MINNESOTA TWINS — Sent RHP Ervin Santana on a rehab assignment to Fort Myers (FSL).
NEW YORK YANKEES Sent RHP Adam Warren on a rehab assignment to Trenton (EL).
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Sent RHP Yonny Chirinos on a rehab assignment to Durham (IL).
TEXAS RANGERS — Activated RHP Ricardo Rodriguez from 60-day DL and optioned him to Round Rock (PCL). Designated OF Eliezer Alvarez for assignment.

Panthers' Smith: NFL anthem policy paints Kaepernick as 'villain'

BY STEVE REED
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE — Panthers wide receiver Torrey Smith believes the NFL "dropped the ball" with its new policy that forbids players from sitting or taking a knee on the field during the national anthem.

Smith is upset because he feels like the ruling has created a "false narrative" surrounding the message former NFL teammate Colin Kaepernick was originally trying to convey while taking a knee prior to NFL games.

He said it also paints players as anti-American.

"Guys aren't against the military," Smith said. "Kap originally started that against police brutality. It was never against the military. It was never about the military, but that narrative changed."

Smith, acquired in an off-season trade with the Eagles, denounced the league's ruling following Carolina's practice on Tuesday — its first since it was announced last week at the NFL owners meetings.

He said the restrictions imposed by the league on players go against the beliefs that protesters like Kaepernick have stood up for the past couple years.

"When you see reactive policy ... I always think that's a problem," Smith said. "Especially when the message has been changed. ... It makes it seem like Kaepernick or Eric Reid and the guys who started it, what they did was in vain — like they were villains. And that is not the case."

Smith reacted quickly to the league's change in policy on social media last week.

He tweeted: "Appropriate respect for flag and anthem" implies that guys were being disrespectful towards it. Which is an opinion. Most people who believe that ig-

nore the responses from the players and more importantly why men chose to protest."

Smith was teammates with Kaepernick in San Francisco in 2015 and 2016 and got to

know him well.

The league made the decision to fine teams whose players don't stand during the national without consulting with the NFL Players As-

sociation. There have been protests in different cities since the ruling came down with claims the league is interfering with the right to free speech.



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JETS FROM PAGE B1

The Jets doubled their tally of victories last season over the two previous seasons, going 2-10 after posting only a single win in both 2015 and 2016. Lisenby said at the end of last season though that he felt his team had its chances to win more games.

To do that this season they'll need to find an arm to replace ace Josh Whitley, who accounted for both of Dalzell-Shaw's victories in 2017.

Whitley moved on along with Post 175 standouts Ron York and Lenny Gonzalez. Lisenby said he has a solid core group returning and should continue to improve, especially if some of the unexpected additions to the team are able to shine.

"We had a home for them, and we upgraded our team," Lisenby said. "We made our team better by picking up some of these players, and any time we can upgrade, I'll take that. We've got a lot of new faces and a lot of new places, and we're just ready to get out there and play and see what happens and see if we can't improve on last year.

Lisenby responded to changes in the American Legion's pitch-count rule, which lowered the number of pitches a pitcher is allowed to throw in an appearance from 120 to 105, by putting together a team full of players that can be used on the mound, even if that isn't their usual roles.

One of the Jets' most experienced players, Eric Lisenby, returns after his first year at Erskine College in Due West. Lisenby will play outfield most of the time and will see some time on the mound, as will centerfielder Tyler Warren and left fielder Tyler Twiford.

Behind the plate, Twiford's teammate at Lamar High

School, Jacob Grant, will be on the receiving end of most of the pitches. Around the infield, Robert E. Lee Academy's Gavin Melton and Malcolm Brown will split time at first base, Chris Parrish and Josh Galloway will be in the middle infield at second and short-stop, respectively, and Hunter McGee will play third.

On the mound, Coach Lisenby's top four will be Dayton Ingram, Michael Love, Shane Gaymon and A.J. Herrera. Thomas Sumter Academy's Trey Bolton will see time on the mound as well, and Camden's Parker Gogan adds a left-handed pitcher to the mix.

Coach Lisenby said of his top four hurlers, Love, out of Sumter High, had the best outing in the preseason tournament, giving up only two hits and one run in six innings pitched. Love will get the start in the Jets' home opener against Lexington on Thursday, while Ingram will pitch today's game.

Versatile utility player Hunter Day played five different positions in the preseason, and Ethan Lisenby will see some time at second base.

One of the off-season changes in American Legion baseball that may benefit the Jets is the switch from the traditional 9-inning games to 7-inning contests. Coach Lisenby expects that, along with the pitch-count changes and the limit of two pitching appearances in a 3-day period, to make things a bit easier on his team.

"In the past, we haven't had the number of pitchers that we needed," Lisenby said. "This year, we made sure that everybody we kept could help us in some sort of way on the mound, even if it's just to eat innings. I think it will help the pitchers and make for better baseball because you're not going to see teams run out of pitchers and get demolished,



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Dayton Ingram will be back as one of the starting pitchers for Dalzell-Shaw Post 175 this season. The Jets open their season today with a road game against Lexington.

and it lets you set up your middle relief and closers."

Also, changes to the league structure have Dalzell-Shaw playing in League III along with Manning-Santee, Or-

angeburg and Lexington.

The Jets will face each of those teams twice in the regular season, and will also have two games against both Camden and upper-state pro-

gram West Columbia and three games against Hartsville. They'll play their home games at the Robert E. Lee Academy field in Bishopville.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL SCHEDULES

SUMTER P-15'S

Friday Orangeburg, 7 p.m.
Saturday Goose Creek, 7 p.m.
Monday at Hartsville, 7 p.m.
Tuesday Hartsville, 7 p.m.
Wednesday at Manning, 7 p.m.
June 8 Hampton, 7 p.m.
June 9 Beaufort, 4 p.m.
June 11 at Orangeburg, 7 p.m.
June 12 at Hampton, 7 p.m.
June 13 Camden, 7 p.m.
June 14 at Camden, 7 p.m.
North/South Tournament in Salisbury, N.C.
June 16 vs. Garner, N.C., 4 p.m.
June 16 vs. Rowan County, N.C., 7:30 p.m.
June 17 vs. Randolph County, N.C., noon
June 18 Dalzell, 7 p.m.
June 19 Dalzell, 7 p.m.
Palmetto Invitational at Riley Park
June 20 Kentucky, TBA
June 21 Ohio, TBA
June 22 Chapin/Newberry, 7:30 p.m.
June 23 Troy, Ala., 6:30 p.m.
June 24 Tallahassee, Fla. 1 p.m.
July 2 at Lexington, 7 p.m.
July 3 Lexington, 7 p.m.
July 5 at Florence, 7 p.m.
July 6 Florence, 7 p.m.

MANNING-SANTEE POST 68

Friday at Hartsville, 7 p.m.
Tuesday at Lake City, 7 p.m.
Wednesday Sumter, 7 p.m.
June 7 Lake City, 7 p.m.
June 12 Orangeburg, 7 p.m.
June 14 at Orangeburg, 7 p.m.
June 15 Dalzell, 7 p.m.
June 19 at Camden, 7 p.m.
June 21 Camden, 7 p.m.
June 22 Hartsville, 7 p.m.
June 27 at Lexington, 7 p.m.
June 28 Lexington, 7 p.m.
July 2 Dalzell, 7 p.m.
July 3 at Dalzell, 7 p.m.

DALZELL-SHAW POST 175

Today at Lexington, 7 p.m.
Thursday Lexington, 7 p.m.
Friday Camden, 7 p.m.
Tuesday at Orangeburg, 7 p.m.
June 7 Orangeburg, 7 p.m.
June 11 West Columbia, 7 p.m.
June 12 Hartsville, 7 p.m.
June 13 at West Columbia, 7 p.m.
June 15 at Manning, 7 p.m.
June 18 at Sumter, 7 p.m.
June 19 at Sumter, 7 p.m.
June 20 at Hartsville, 7 p.m.
June 26 at Hartsville, 7 p.m.
June 28 at Camden, 7 p.m.
June 29 Hartsville, 7 p.m.
July 2 at Manning, 7 p.m.
July 3 Manning, 7 p.m.

ACUNA FROM PAGE B1

"Obviously I have some pain, and it definitely feels sore and hurts, but I'm not worried about it," he said. "I know the pain's going to go away."

Preston Tucker went 0 for 3 as he took Acuna's place in the field during the Braves' 4-3 win in the first game of a doubleheader against the New York Mets.

Ozzie Albies, the usual lead-off hitter, batted in Acuna's No. 2 spot and Ender Inciarte batted first. Charlie Culberson, who won the first game with a pinch-hit, two-run homer in the ninth, started the second game in left field.

The Braves selected the contract of outfielder Dustin Peterson to take Acuna's place on the roster.

OSTEEN FROM PAGE B1

Osteen was selected as the Region II Player of the Year this season and shares the High School Sports Report 3A Player of the Year with teammate Taylor Lee.

Osteen batted .347 and drove in 12 runs, while scoring 24 times. He also stole 10 bases. As a pitcher, the right-hander had a 4-0 win-loss record with a 1.75 earned run average and two saves.

Osteen is hoping he gets the opportunity to be a 2-way player for the Patriots as well.

"The main thing they want me to do when I get there is throw," he said. "I should get the chance though to see what I can do as a position player."

Braydon said Francis Marion started showing him attention in the last couple of months, and he thought the it was a good opportunity for him.

Francis Marion is a member of the Peach Belt Athletic Conference, an NCAA Division II league. The Patriots were 18-28 this past season.

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NBA PLAYOFFS



Cleveland forwards LeBron James, right, and Jeff Green celebrate a play during the second half of the Cavaliers' Game 7 victory over Boston in the Eastern Conference finals on Sunday in Boston.

Why the Cleveland Cavaliers will be the NBA champions

BY BRIAN MAHONEY
The Associated Press

LeBron James has rescued the Cavaliers from a 3-1 deficit in the NBA Finals and just pulled them out of a 2-0 hole against Boston.

Neither such comeback had ever been accomplished, so James has stared down tough situations before.

Winning another championship now, leading this group of Cavaliers past a much mightier Golden State team, might even be a bigger challenge. Perhaps it's simply too much to ask.

Except for the guy being asked.

James is playing at such an extraordinary level that anything is possible, including what would go down as one of the biggest upsets in NBA history.

"No matter what the story line is going to be, no matter if we're picked to win or not, let's just go out and play ball," James said. "We're going to have a great gameplan. We're going to try to get better throughout the series, and we'll see what happens."

The Warriors are better, and few outside James' native Ohio would bother to argue. Golden State is deeper, quicker, more potent offensively and much more reliable defensively. The Cavaliers only got one game off them in last year's finals, and that Cleveland team, with Kyrie Irving, was better than this year's version.

But none of their weaknesses have stopped the Cavaliers from pulling out two Game 7s in this postseason, or from stomping on a 59-win Toron-

to team in four straight games. They find a way to play well enough to keep the games in striking distance so James can will the Cavs across the finish line, and that will be the strategy again starting Thursday at Oracle Arena.

As Stephen Curry noted, the Cavaliers are more than just James. Tristan Thompson rarely showed up anywhere but the gossip pages for much of the season, but has regained his role as a rugged rebounder and defender in the postseason. If All-Star Kevin Love is cleared from his concussion in time to play, Cleveland can surround James with dangerous perimeter shooters such as himself, Kyle Korver, George Hill and JR Smith, forcing the Warriors to play James 1-on-1 — and possibly without one of their top defenders in Andre Iguodala if he can't return from his leg injury.

Golden State won two of the three finals meetings and is heavily favored to take this one. But the one Cleveland got is perhaps King James' crowning achievement, when the Cavaliers overcame that 3-1 deficit to beat the 73-win Warriors in Oakland in Game 7.

Another title now wouldn't be far behind. It might require four games of around 34 points, nine rebounds and nine assists — about what James is averaging in 18 games this postseason. It's hard to expect that level of anyone, but that's what's demanded of No. 23 in Cleveland.

James can do it. Believe it or not, so can the Cavaliers.

The pick: Cavaliers in seven.

NBA PLAYOFFS

Why Golden State will win the title

BY TIM REYNOLDS
The Associated Press

If there is a glaring hole on Golden State's championship resume, it's that the Warriors have never gone back-to-back.

That will change.

The Warriors are about to win their second straight NBA championship and their third in the last four seasons — all of them coming at the expense of the Cleveland Cavaliers, who won't have enough even if LeBron James plays to the absolute utmost of his capabilities. The Warriors have home-court advantage, and have three of the best four players who will appear in the series.

They're just too good to lose.

If they were going to lose, it would have been in the Western Conference finals against the Houston Rockets. Houston was a team that was built for one purpose — beating the Warriors. And the Rockets might have done it, too, had Chris Paul's hamstring not popped in the final seconds of Game 5 and forced him to the sideline for the rest of the series.

Golden State rallied in both Game 6 and Game 7, as Paul looked on helplessly. Yes, the Warriors caught a huge break. They won't waste this chance.

The teams have changed mightily over the last four seasons. There were 20 players who appeared in first Cavaliers-Warriors game of the 2014-15 season — only eight of them will be in uniform during this series. Kevin Durant is in Golden State now, Kyrie Irving isn't with the Cavaliers anymore, the benches are very different particularly in Cleveland's

case.

But the principals are still there: James, Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson, Draymond Green.

And over these four years since James returned to northeast Ohio, the Warriors are 17-9 against the Cavaliers. Golden State needed six games to beat Cleveland for the title in 2015, five games last season and if Andrew Bogut didn't get hurt in Game 5 of the 2016 Finals the Warriors — who ended up blowing a 3-1 lead that year — probably would have won that series as well.

James might be playing the best basketball of his life. That's why Cleveland is still in these playoffs.

Even he won't be able to save the Cavs this time.

Cleveland looked like a team that couldn't guard anyone in the regular season, and to its credit has greatly improved on that end of the court during this postseason. But facing Golden State will be such a bigger challenge than Indiana, Toronto and Boston could provide. And if the Warriors get Andre Iguodala back, their spacing will be even better and put further demands on the Cavs.

The Cavs won't have any pressure on their shoulders. The Warriors will have it all, but after Curry, Durant and Thompson found a way to rally from 15 points down in Houston to win a Game 7 on the road and capture the Western Conference, Golden State will come into this series brimming with confidence.

That confidence will keep growing until they get handed another Larry O'Brien Trophy.

The pick: Warriors in five.



Golden State forward Kevin Durant (35) celebrates with teammate Draymond Green (23) during the second half of the Warriors' Game 7 victory in the Western Conference finals against the Houston Rockets on Monday in Houston.

NBA FROM PAGE B1

"It's been a roller coaster," said James, who is seeking a fourth ring in his ninth finals appearance overall. "It's been good, it's been bad. It's been roses. There have been thorns in the roses. There's been everything that you can ask for."

This wasn't all peaches for Golden State, either. The Warriors didn't get the No. 1 seed out West, lost Curry to a knee injury late in the regular season, lost 10 of their final 17 games and got pushed to the brink.

"I'm glad we're going back," Warriors forward Kevin Durant said.

The Warriors swept the two regular-season meetings with the Cavaliers, winning by seven at home on Christmas Day (without Curry) and prevailing by 10 in Cleveland about three weeks later.

Film-wise, those two games are meaningless now. Of Cleveland's five leading scorers against Golden State this season, three no longer play for the Cavaliers. James and Love combined to score 100 points in the two games, but Dwyane Wade, Jae Crowder and Isaiah Thomas were all shipped elsewhere by the Cavs in a series of trade-deadline moves.

"We obviously know what

LeBron's capable of," Curry said shortly after the Warriors' Game 7 win at Houston ended. "It's a new team over there, so the other guys, we've got to lock in on their tendencies. But we'll worry about that when we get home."

If the Cavaliers win this championship, it might be time to declare the regular season irrelevant.

Cleveland was only 50-32 this season. Should James and his mates get it done, that would be the second-worst, regular-season record for an eventual champion in the last 40 seasons. Houston went 47-35 on the way to the 1995 title; to find another champion who was worse, go back to Washington in 1978 when the Bullets were a mere 44-38.

"Everybody doubted us," Cavaliers forward Jeff Green said. "Everybody had their

opinions on what our team was, what we would do, what we can't do, from the start. ... And now, I mean, we're

where we want to be. We're where we set out to be and where we knew we could be at this point."

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COLLEGE BASEBALL

Never much doubt with Gators as No. 1 seed for NCAA tourney

BY ERIC OLSON
The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Losses in six of its last seven games didn't diminish defending national champion Florida's overall body of work when it came to seeding the NCAA baseball tournament.

The Gators (42-17) are No. 1, and there never was much doubt, NCAA Division I Baseball Committee chairman Ray Tanner said Monday after the 64-team field was unveiled.

Kevin O'Sullivan's program is the first to earn the No. 1 overall seed three times since the tournament went to its current structure in 1999. The Gators also were top seeds in 2012 and 2016.

"They were incredible the majority of the season and didn't finish strong," said Tanner, athletic director at South Carolina. "As we were finishing up our data last week before coming to Indianapolis, I was curious to see if they were going to be a clear-cut (choice) once we got into the committee room, and they continued to be, despite not finishing the way coach O'Sullivan would have wanted them to finish. They clearly were the No. 1 seed with all the metrics considered."

Play begins Friday in 16 regionals. Winners advance to eight best-of-three super regionals. Those winners move on to the College World Series in Omaha.

The NCAA seeded 16 teams for the first time. There had been eight seeds previously.

Stanford (44-10) is the No. 2 seed, followed by Oregon State (44-10-1), Mississippi (46-15), Arkansas (39-18), North Carolina (38-18), Florida State (43-17) and Georgia (37-19).

Seeds nine through 16 are Texas Tech (39-17), Clemson (45-14), Stetson (45-11), East Carolina (43-16), Texas (37-20), Minnesota (41-13), Coastal Carolina (42-17) and North Carolina State (40-16).

Florida, the regular-season champion in the Southeastern Conference, is the only team to earn a national seed in each of the last five seasons.

"Obviously, we haven't played well lately, but coming home and having a full week of practice before the regional will certainly help," O'Sullivan said. "We'll try to get healthy ahead of the weekend and get some guys back on track before we play Columbia on Friday. At the end of the day, everybody has a clean slate now, and our guys will be as motivated as anyone to show everyone how good they are."

Florida State, at 41 appearances in a row, has the longest active streak, but no national championships to show for them.

"For me to say a national championship isn't important is as dumb a thing as anybody can say. Darn right it's important," said Seminoles coach Mike Martin, whose 1,987 career wins are an NCAA record. "Every coach that works is striving to be known as the top dog when

it's all said and done. That is something our program is lacking and we're working very hard to achieve that."

The last four teams to make the field were Dallas Baptist (40-19), Northeastern (36-19), Oklahoma State (29-24-1) and Troy (41-19). The first four out were Arizona (34-22), Illinois (33-20), Kentucky (34-22) and Central Florida (35-21).

Perhaps the biggest surprise was Kentucky's exclusion and Northeastern's inclusion.

At No. 30, Kentucky had the highest RPI of any team not selected. The Wildcats went 3-0 in a March tournament in Houston, including a win over the host and American Athletic Conference regular-season champion Cougars. They won two of three each against national seeds Texas Tech and Georgia.

Northeastern, No. 35 in the RPI, lost two of three at Auburn, was outscored 56-12 in losing four straight at Texas Tech, and lost four of six to No. 65 RPI team UNC-Wilmington.

Kentucky was punished for going 13-17 in the SEC and losing its league tournament opener. Northeastern went 17-6 and was first in the Colonial Athletic Association.

Tanner said the committee placed emphasis on conference play perhaps more than previous committees. He pointed out that only one team in the field, Texas A&M, had a below-.500 conference record. The Aggies are No. 15 in the RPI, though.

PRO BASEBALL

Switch hitters not any more frequent in age of analytics

BY PAT GRAHAM
The Associated Press

DENVER — The profile page of touted teenage shortstop Xavier Edwards reads: "Bats: S."

A bona fide switch-hitter, the Florida native is among six on MLB.com's list of top 100 prospects for the amateur draft that starts June 4.

The art of batting from both sides of the plate would figure to be at a premium in this age of shifting defenses and advanced analytics. But in a sport of constant change, the amount remains remarkably steady.

The number of switch hitters with 300 or more major league at-bats per season has been at least 30 but no more than 42 since expansion to 30 teams in 1998, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. There were 33 switch hitters on pace to reach that figure at the quarter mark of this season.

The simple explanation for why it hasn't soared in popularity is because, well, it's far from as easy as Chipper Jones, Pete Rose, Eddie Murray, Tim Lincecum, Mickey Mantle and a host of others have made it appear.

"Hitting is extraordinarily difficult to do at a high level, and asking someone to do it from both sides of

the plate is encroaching on impossible," said Brian Sakowski, the national scouting supervisor for the website Perfect Game. "That's what makes the guys who do it successfully at the major league level so special."

As of Monday, 48 switch-hitting position players were on active rosters, including Philly with five. In addition, five teams didn't even have one.

This in an era when teams frequently carry 13 pitchers to create favorable right-on-right, left-on-left matchups. Imagine the late-game possibilities if a manager stacked a lineup early with lefties against a right-handed starter and they could turn around to bat right should a lefty be brought out of the bullpen.

Budding switch hitters need plenty of time to learn the skill — and plenty of room to fail.

"Younger kids get discouraged without immediate success and it becomes difficult to see it through to the end result, which could be years down the road," said Jones, the Atlanta Braves standout who will be inducted into the Hall of Fame in a July ceremony. "It takes diligence, more failure than you can imagine and acceptance that the short term must be sacrificed for the long term."

NCAA DIVISION I BASEBALL REGIONALS

All Times EDT
Double Elimination; x-if necessary
At Boshamer Stadium
Chapel Hill, N.C.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — N.C. A&T (32-23) at North Carolina (38-18), 2 p.m.
Game 2 — Purdue (37-19) vs. Houston (36-23), 7 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 1 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 6 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 1 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 6 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 4 p.m.
At Doak Field at Dail Park
Raleigh, N.C.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — Auburn (39-21) vs. Northeastern (36-19), 2 p.m.
Game 2 — Army (36-22) at N.C. State (40-16), 7 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 2 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 7 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 2 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7 p.m.
At Lewis Field at Clark-LeClair Stadium
Greenville, N.C.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — South Carolina (33-24) vs. Ohio State (36-22), 2 p.m.
Game 2 — UNC Wilmington (37-21) at East Carolina (43-16), 7 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, Noon
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 5 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, Noon
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 6 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 4 p.m.
At Doug Kingsmore Stadium
Clemson, S.C.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — Vanderbilt (31-25) vs. St. John's (39-15), Noon
Game 2 — Morehead State (37-24) at Clemson (45-14), 6 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, TBA
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, TBA
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, TBA
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, TBA
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, TBA
At Springs Brooks Stadium
Conway, S.C.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — UConn (35-20-1) vs. Washington (30-23), Noon
Game 2 — LIU Brooklyn (31-24) at Coastal Carolina (42-17), 6 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, Noon
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 6 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, Noon
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 6 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, TBA
At Foley Field
Athens, Ga.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — Duke (40-15) vs. Troy (41-19), 2 p.m.
Game 2 — Campbell (35-24) at Georgia (37-19), 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 2 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 2 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7:30 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7:30 p.m.
At Dick Howser Stadium
Tallahassee, Fla.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — Mississippi State (31-25) vs. Oklahoma (36-23), Noon
Game 2 — Samford (36-24) at Florida State (43-17), 7 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, Noon
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 5 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, Noon
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 6 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 1 p.m.
At Alfred A. McKethan Stadium
Gainesville, Fla.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — Jacksonville (39-19) vs. FAU (40-17), Noon
Game 2 — Columbia (20-28) at Florida (42-17), 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 1 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 7 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 1 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 6 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 1 p.m.

At Melching Field at Conrad Park
DeLand, Fla.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — South Florida (35-20) vs. Oklahoma State (29-24), 1 p.m.
Game 2 — Hartford (26-29) at Stetson (45-11), 7 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 1 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 7 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 1 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, TBA
At Siebert Field
Minneapolis
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — UCLA (36-19) vs. Gonzaga (32-22), 2 p.m.
Game 2 — Canisius (35-20) at Minnesota (41-13), 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 2 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 8 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 3 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 9 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7 p.m.
At Oxford-University Stadium/Swayze Field
Oxford, Miss.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — Tennessee Tech (48-9) vs. Missouri State (39-15), 3 p.m.
Game 2 — Saint Louis (38-18) at Mississippi (46-15), 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 2 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 6 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 2 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 6 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7 p.m.
At Baum Stadium at George Cole Field
Fayetteville, Ark.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — Oral Roberts (38-18) at Arkansas (39-18), 3 p.m.
Game 2 — Southern Miss. (43-16) vs. Dallas Baptist (40-19), 8 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 3 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 8 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 3 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 8 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7:30 p.m.
At Dan Law Field at Rip Griffin Park
Lubbock, Texas
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — New Mexico State (40-20) at Texas Tech (39-17), 2 p.m.
Game 2 — Louisville (43-17) vs. Kent State (39-16), 7 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 3 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 8 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 3 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7 p.m.
At UFCU Disch-Falk Field
Austin, Texas
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — Indiana (38-17) vs. Texas A&M (39-20), 5 p.m.
Game 2 — Texas Southern (27-26) at Texas (37-20), 9 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 2:30 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 7 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 3 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 9 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 7 p.m.
At Goss Stadium at Coleman Field
Corvallis, Ore.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — LSU (37-25) vs. San Diego State (39-19), 4 p.m.
Game 2 — Northwestern State (37-22) at Oregon State (44-10-1), 10:30 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, 4 p.m.
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, 10 p.m.
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, 3 p.m.
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 9 p.m.
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 10 p.m.
At Klein Field at Sunken Diamond
Stanford, Calif.
Friday, June 1
Game 1 — Baylor (36-19) vs. Cal State Fullerton (32-23), 5 p.m.
Game 2 — Wright State (39-15) at Stanford (44-10), 10 p.m.
Saturday, June 2
Game 3 — Game 1 loser vs. Game 2 loser, TBA
Game 4 — Game 1 winner vs. Game 2 winner, TBA
Sunday, June 3
Game 5 — Game 3 winner vs. Game 4 loser, TBA
Game 6 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, TBA
Monday, June 4
x-Game 7 — Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, TBA



A Reason to Sit on Your Hands

If you have on a ring that is hard to get off, you probably wash your hands and then slip it over your knuckle. Soap, of course, is slippery, but so is water. Walking on wet pavement, trying to keep you balance as you step from one stone to another while crossing a stream, or, as I can attest from personal experience, trying to climb on the hood of a wet car to reach a sprig of mistletoe in a parking lot means risking a fall.

Water has the same effect on soils. A block of soil which seems solid is actually half solids, mostly the small minerals that have been broken down to form sand, silt, and clay. The other portion of that unit of soil is voids – pore spaces. When a soil is healthy, the smaller pore spaces hold water while the larger ones are filled with air—the ambient air that diffuses down through the soil. Remember that soil roots absorb oxygen from those pore spaces to power the respiration cycle plants use to burn carbohydrates produced during photosynthesis.

Good soil structure encourages pore spaces. Have you seen a freshly plowed field after a heavy rain and noticed the pools of water sitting on the surface? Our traditional system of plowing fields or tilling gardens tends to destroy soil structure. A soil with good structure is full of voids of different sizes – allowing air, water, nutrients, and plant roots to easily move through the soil.

When it rains or you irrigate thoroughly, water replaces the air that was in the larger pore spaces and the soil becomes saturated. With all that moisture making every soil particle thoroughly wet, the soil is very slippery and easily compacted. If you mow your

grass, walk around in your garden, or till the soil while it is saturated, you damage the soil structure. You might think you just need to till to get it back to a friable state perfect for plant growth, but every time you disturb it, you actually do more damage.

We've been getting some really heavy rains lately. How can you tell if your garden is too wet to work in? One expert says to make a two-inch ball of soil and throw it in the air. If it is still intact when it hits the ground, your soil is too wet to work without damaging the structure.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service, a part of the US Department of Agriculture, is undertaking remarkable research and out-reach education in no-till and minimal tillage methods of raising crops, and promoting the practice of always having living plants growing in the soil (cover crops are planted during the time the fields would have been fallow). Farmers who have converted to this method use dramatically less fertilizer and water and have a healthy macro (earthworms and others) and microbiotic population. Instead of working in your garden (or mowing your grass) when the soil is wet and easily compacted, search USDA NRCS Soil Health video series, and learn how you can emulate some of the most progressive, environmentally sustainable, and successful growers in the country.

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STANLEY CUP

6 of a kind: Golden Knights outlast Caps 6-4

BY GREG BEACHAM

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — In a single nine-minute stretch of the third period, the Washington Capitals dramatically took the lead before the Vegas Golden Knights replied with two goals of their own. Washington's Tom Wilson also flattened Vegas forward Jonathan Marchessault with a blindside hit that could reverberate through the Stanley Cup Final.

After 10 goals and a Final-record four lead changes overall in a fantastically entertaining opener, it's tough to imagine what these unlikely opponents will do for an encore.

But the upstart Golden Knights have spent their entire inaugural season speeding past all expectations, and their first Final game didn't slow them down in the slightest.

Tomas Nosek scored the tiebreaking goal midway through the third period, and the expansion Golden Knights surged past the Capitals for a 6-4 victory on Monday night.

"We put fun ahead of everything, and you can tell," said Ryan Reaves, who scored the Knights' tying goal in the third period. "Guys have been having fun and they're smiling."

The Eastern Conference champion Capitals hadn't given up this many goals in 29 games since March 18, but they hadn't seen anything like this charmed run by the upstart Knights.



Washington goaltender Braden Holtby, left, is scored on by Vegas left wing Tomas Nosek during the third period in Game 1 of the Stanley Cup Finals on Monday in Las Vegas. The Knights won 6-4.

With its sellout crowd of hometown fans at deafening volume all night, Vegas put its usual speed and relentlessness on full display while overcoming that third-period deficit to win the opener of a matchup between two franchises seeking their first Stanley Cup titles.

Marc-Andre Fleury made 24 saves in an occasionally shaky performance, but the three-time Stanley Cup winner's new teammates carried

the goalie who has so often carried them with a relentless outburst of offense.

"We're a good defensive group, but we weren't tonight," Marchessault said. "They're a team that's very fast in the neutral zone, and we gave them too much respect with the puck. We need to be faster in the defensive zone. We're going to fix that in our game."

The Game 1 winner has won the last six Cups and 61 of 78 overall.

Braden Holtby stopped 28 shots for the Capitals, whose first Stanley Cup Final game in 20 years was a defensive nightmare. Washington still played a strong offensive game and had chances to win, but never slowed the Knights.

"I think next game is going to be different, and all the nervousness, all the bad thing goes away in this game," said captain Alex Ovechkin, who had an assist. "We just have to forget about it and bounce back (in the) next one."

Wilson got credit for the goal that put the Caps up 4-3 early in the third period when Fleury back-heeled a loose puck into his own net, but Reaves evened it 91 seconds later for Vegas.

Nosek then put the Knights ahead after Shea Theodore kept the puck in Washington's zone, sidestepped a defender and fired a beautiful cross-ice pass to the Czech forward, who buried a one-timer for his second goal of the playoffs.

Colin Miller, William Karlsson and Reilly Smith scored early goals before Nosek added an empty-netter for the Knights, who are three wins away from one of the most improbable championships in recent North American team sports history. Just 342 days after the Knights selected the backbone of their first roster in the expansion draft, Vegas had another party on the Strip with its remarkable collection of castoffs.

RECRUITING CORNER

Gamecocks land 5-star commitment from T.L. Hanna

Last week was a big one for University of South Carolina football head coach Will Muschamp, and he's got a big weekend ahead with the first June weekend for official visits in school history.

Muschamp added two major defensive commitments last week in defensive end **Zach Pickens** of T.L. Hanna High School in Anderson and linebacker **Jahmar Brown** of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Pickens announced his commitment to USC over Clemson, Georgia and several others following his spring football game on Friday. Muschamp made Pickens a personal recruiting target and that was a big reason he chose USC.

"That means a lot and that says a lot," said Pickens, whom analysts consider as the top player in the state for the 2019 class. "He took time out of his busy schedule to talk to me and I respect that. It was a big point (in his decision), I'm not going to lie to you. Me and Muschamp's relationship is like really, really good. Muschamp was always encouraging me and telling me to keep my head on straight, don't worry about too much and just calm down, relax. It's all going to come to you. He was really just coaching me up, just being there for me."

The night before, Brown announced his pledge to USC, choosing it over Miami and Stanford.

"They do a lot of things that excite," Brown said. "They run 3-4, 4-3 (schemes), plenty of different defenses that can showcase my abilities to coaches in the NFL (National Football League) when that time comes."

Brown will take his official visit to USC this weekend. Those two commitments put USC at an even dozen for the '19 class.

Muschamp also is in position to land former Clemson defensive lineman **Josh Belk**. The Lewisville High product visited USC and UGA last week. He said he's heard from up to 25 schools since he announced his transfer, but he's not sure he'll take any more visits as he lets the transfer process play out.

"It was like, the relationship hasn't changed," Belk said of his visit with Muschamp. "They still welcomed me in like it was the beginning of the recruiting process. Just talked to Coach Muschamp, and he showed me the new facility they are building and told me about how I can help the team out and how good of a player I can be."

Belk said he was flattered



Phil Kornblut

by Muschamp's approach to him this time around.

"I was like, 'Coach, I appreciate ya'll still being there for me, welcoming me in like

nothing happened, like I didn't take a different route,'" Belk said.

He said he also met with strength coach Jeff Dillman while on the visit, and he's in regular telephone contact with DL coach Lance Thompson.

"Carolina's been up there with the distance situation and all that. I'm still kind of praying and talking to my family about it. We're trying to take it slow this time. Last time I kind of like went fast with it."

Belk said he plans to make a decision no later than Aug. 1.

Muschamp has certainly taken advantage of the new recruiting calendar, which allows official visits from April through June. USC has had a few official visits this year but are scheduled to have a full load of official visits this weekend. Those who have said they are coming in at this point include DE **Joseph Anderson**, LB **Derek Boykins**, DL **CJ Clark**, DE **Savion Jackson**, defensive back **Jammie Robinson**, DB **JR Walker**, offensive lineman **Anthony Whigan** and newly committed Brown.

USC is in the top nine with DE **Jashon Watkins** of Nashville, Tenn. The others are Mississippi State, Memphis, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Central Florida, Louisville, Mississippi and Arkansas.

USC made the top 10 with DL **Ben Smiley** of Chesapeake, Va. The others on the list are Alabama, Nebraska, North Carolina State, Miami, Oklahoma, Penn State, Texas A&M, Tennessee and Virginia.

Darrell Harding, a 6-foot-4-inch player from Winter Garden, Fla., picked up a recent offer from USC and there's strong interest each way.

"They are definitely one of the schools that I want to plan to visit," Harding said.

He also has offers from West Virginia, Pitt, Syracuse, Duke, Cincinnati, Florida Atlantic and UCF. He has visited Duke and will take an official to Pitt on June 15 and an unofficial to Stanford on June 20. He is talking with USC about a visit this summer.

LB **Lakia Henry** of Dodge City Junior College in Kansas has committed to Tennessee, but said he will continue to

take visits. He has been to Tennessee and Ole Miss, and he has planned to visit USC this summer.

USC played host to '20 running back **Trenton Simpson** of Charlotte for an unofficial visit on Saturday. USC offered him last month and Saturday's visit gave him a chance to meet up with recruiter Bobby Bentley and see up close what USC has to offer.

"They feel like I would be a great addition to the backfield with my downhill running style and my abilities to catch the ball out the backfield," Simpson said.

Simpson also holds offers from North Carolina, Colorado State and Charlotte, and he's drawing interest from Virginia Tech and NCSU. USC stands in good position following the visit.

"Right now in my recruitment, USC is one of my top schools," Simpson said.

He plans to return to USC for camp this summer. He also listed UNC, VT, Wake Forest and Colorado State as some other favorites. Last season, he rushed for 700 yards and five touchdowns.

New USC offers went to '20 RB **DJ Lundy** of Ocilla, Ga., and '21 RB **Rodney Hammond** of Norfolk, Va.

CLEMSON

For Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney, last week was forgettable. He's had to deal with the loss of Belk from his program, and he also missed on tight end target **Luke Deal** of Emerald High in Greenwood. The lifelong Clemson fan and frequent visitor to Death Valley committed to Auburn on Friday.

Clemson also missed on DB target **Tyler Rudolph** and LB target **Brandon Smith**, both of whom committed to Penn State.

Clemson does have one TE committed for the class already, and the Tigers are in the top five with TE **Hudson Henry** of Little Rock, Ark. The others are PSU, Wisconsin, Stanford and Arkansas.

DB **Devin Bush** of New Orleans has Clemson in his top three along with Tennessee and Louisiana State.

Clemson made the top five with DL **Faatui Tuitele** of Honolulu. The other four on the list are Ohio State, Texas, Washington and Alabama.

LB **Donte Starks** of Marrero, La., has Clemson in his top 10. The others are Arkansas, Auburn, Florida, UGA, Michigan, Oklahoma, Oregon, LSU and Tennessee.

Clemson is in the top 10 with Florida State DE commitment **Quashon Fuller** of Fort Myers, Fla., who said he

remains committed but is still open to other opportunities. The others on his list are FSU, Miami, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Maryland, UGA, Auburn and Louisville.

Clemson is in the final eight with OL **Devontae Dobbs** of Detroit. The others on the list are Southern California, Michigan State, UGA, Oklahoma, Auburn, Ohio State and FSU.

LB **Nakobe Dean** of Horn Lake, Miss., made stops at Clemson and Georgia last week. Dean is a national recruit and has Clemson among his favorites at this point and his visit there further enhanced the Tigers' chances of landing him. He had a sit-down meeting with defensive coordinator and LB coach Brent Venables.

"He basically reiterated to me how well I would fit into his system," Dean said. "He also told me about how he guides players, not only on the field but off the field."

The Clemson and UGA visits were just two of several Dean plans to make as he works on his decision. Next month he will take an official visit to Alabama and will also see Mississippi State and A&M. Dean has taken multiple visits to Ole Miss, and he's also been to LSU.

New Clemson offers went out to DB **Chris Steele** of Bellflower, Calif., '20 OL **Turner Corcoran** of Lawrence, Kan., '20 OL **Paul Tchio** of Alpharetta, Ga., and '20 DE **Desmond Evans** of Sanford, N.C.

Steele, who is also a USC target, made an unofficial visit to UF weekend before last, and he plans a return for an official this weekend. He's also been officially to LSU and Oklahoma and plans officials with Southern Cal and Miami. He visited USC earlier this year unofficially.

OL **John Gelotte** of Dorman High in Roebuck was offered recently by Duke, UNC, Louisville and Pitt. Clemson is showing interest, and he plans to work out for the Tigers in camp this summer. He will take an unofficial visit to North Carolina on June 16.

CLEMSON AND USC

Athlete **Jalon Calhoun** (5-11, 177 pounds) of Southside Christian in Greenville is starting to draw recruiting attention of the big guys. Last week, PSU stepped up with his first Power Five offer. PSU Lions see him as a slot receiver, according to his head coach, Jeremy West.

Calhoun will be at USC for a camp and a 7-on-7 competition on June 15. Clemson also wants to see him this summer. Calhoun plays quarterback,

though West hopes to be able to move him to the slot this season. Most schools like him as a DB/returner. Calhoun also reports offers from Air Force, The Citadel, Wofford, Furman, East Carolina, Coastal Carolina, Mercer and Kent State.

OTHERS

DB **Storm Duck** of Boiling Springs High was offered by WVU, and DB **Cam Smith** of Westwood High in Blytheville was offered by FSU. Irmo High wide receiver **Kendrell Flowers**, a WF commitment, was offered by PSU.

WR **Deonte Stanley** of Latta High was offered by Georgia State, and '20 QB **Luke Doty** of Myrtle Beach High was offered by Auburn.

BASKETBALL

AJ **Lawson**, a 6-6 player from GTA Prep in Brampton, Ontario, will take an official visit to USC this weekend. He recently reclassified for the '18 class.

"When we looked to reclassify, they jumped all over it," GTA head coach David Cooper said of USC. "They would love to have a player like him in the '18 or '19 class."

Lawson's father is a Columbia native and USC fan. He's also getting attention from Oregon and Tulane.

Cooper said Lawson averaged around 21 points per game last season. Lawson is one of two prospects USC head coach Frank Martin and his staff are known to still be pursuing for the '18 class. The other is 6-9 DJ Burns of York Prep in Rock Hill, who appears to be focused on USC and Tennessee at this point.

USC offered 6-7 **Aundre Hyatt** of White Plains, N.Y., according to a tweet by the Boo Williams AAU. He was in the '19 class but decided to graduate now. He's not sure if he'll sign now with a college or go post-graduate for a season. Vanderbilt, Georgia Tech, Louisville, Pitt and Texas Tech are some other offers.

Juwon Gary, a 6-6 '19 recruit from Gray Collegiate in Columbia, has set Nov. 15 for his decision, according to Lou Bejak of The State. USC, Clemson, Alabama, VT and NCSU are his top five.

Wendell Moore, a 6-5 '19 recruit from Concord, N.C., has set official visits to NCSU on Aug. 31 and to USC on Sept. 8. He also has Duke, UNC and WF in his top five. He has visited all of his finalists unofficially several times, including three trips to USC.

Clemson offered 6-8 '19 recruit **Daniel Ramsey** of Albany, Ga. Some other offers for Ramsey are UF, UGA, GT, Tennessee and Vandy.

AUTO RACING

Harvick, Busch out front at halfway point of NASCAR slate

CONCORD, N.C. (AP) — At NASCAR's halfway point, it sure looks like a two-man race to the title between past champions Kevin Harvick and Kyle Busch.

They have combined to win nine of 13 races — 10 of 14 counting this month's All-Star race — and neither expects to slow down during the second half of NASCAR's 26-race regular season.

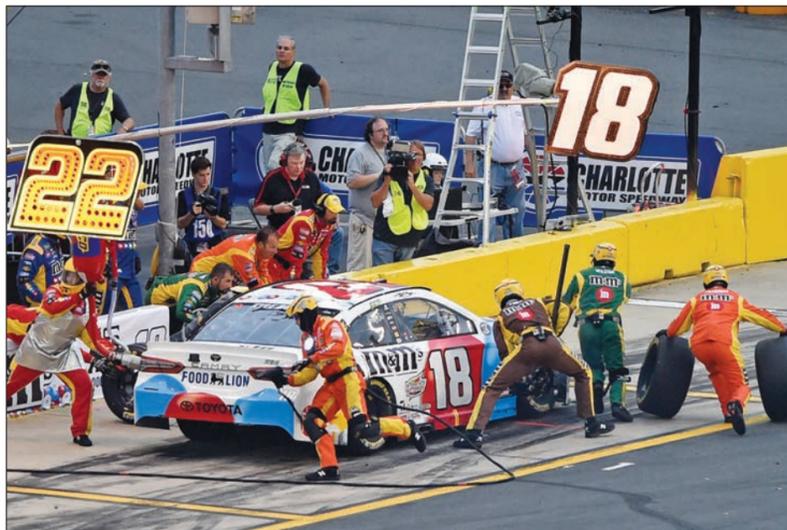
Busch and Harvick were the headliners again Sunday night. Busch led 377 of 400 laps to win the Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte Motor Speedway. Harvick, who had won the past two points races and the All-Star race, was not around at the end. But he did make a charge from 39th to fourth over the first 70 laps before an accident took him to the garage.

While the rest of NASCAR is scrambling to make a summer playoff run, Harvick and Busch are preparing for bigger things.

"Our goal is to playoff race every week," said Harvick, the 2014 series champion. "I think as we're doing that right now as an organization that's still the goal going forward."

Busch, like Harvick in March, won three straight races earlier this year and both teams look capable of running off several more victories before the playoffs begin in Las Vegas in September.

After 13 races last season, there were 10 drivers with a victory, securing them a spot in the 16-man playoffs. The dominance of Harvick and Busch this year means only six drivers have



Crew members perform a pit stop on Kyle Busch's car during the Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte Motor Speedway in Charlotte on Sunday.

won races, perhaps making points racing to qualify more a focus in the second half.

Denny Hamlin, who has missed the playoffs just once from 2006 through 2017, stands seventh in the points and is one of those winless drivers who could be shuffled to the outside without that victory. Hamlin, Busch's Joe Gibbs Racing teammate, said the difference this year has been finding that little bit of speed that's the difference between ending up out front or further down standings.

"We're disappointed," said Hamlin,

third at Charlotte. "It's something we're going to continue to look for."

Truex won last year's title with eight victories. He won the Auto Club 400 in California this season to lock into the playoffs. Still, he said he and his team are fighting to find the speed and make another run at the top.

"We've still got a long way to go,"

Truex said.

Not much searching is required at the moment for Busch, the pole-sitter who won every stage at a track where he had never won a points race before.

Busch had a race-day aura about

him, crew chief Adams Stevens said, that showed he was prepared to finally break through at Charlotte. Busch kept pulling away from the field on restarts and had a six-second lead on runner-up Martin Truex Jr. on the final laps.

"It's important for me to help Kyle reach his goals," Stevens said. "And this was a big one for him."

Busch is 33 and racing at his best. He's looking forward to the rest of the season, no matter who stands in his way. Few things make him happier than being in the car competing for a victory.

"He doesn't settle for less from himself and doesn't settle less from the people around him," Stevens said. "I take comfort for that, personally. You know what you are going to get. He's hard to beat."

So is Harvick, who shook off a terrible week with an amazing — albeit brief — run to the front.

Harvick failed inspection several times Thursday, meaning he couldn't qualify and was moved to the back of the field. He then lost practice time Saturday as his team worked to resolve the issues. Harvick was not fazed by any of it, steadily working his way up the grid Sunday to sit in fourth before hitting the wall on lap 83 and heading to the garage.

Despite finishing dead last in the 40-car field, Harvick was thrilled about his season so far — and the power he showed before leaving.

"It was fun to come through there," he said.

OBITUARIES

O. LAMAR JOHNSON

PINEWOOD — O. Lamar Johnson, 86, husband of Iris Hall Johnson, affectionately known as "Bubba," has gone to be with his heavenly father on Sunday, May 27, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born on June 25, 1931, in Sumter, he was a son of the late Ollie Lester "Rooster" Johnson and May Bell Johnson Johnson. Mr. Johnson was a longtime deacon for many years and served his church, Pinewood Baptist Church, where he also served as a trustee, taught the Forever Young Sunday School class and was awarded deacon emeritus and Young at Heart member forever. He was faithful to his church since he was two years old. He was also awarded outstanding senior adult and served on many committees for the church he loved so well. He was a member of the Pinewood Lions Club, where he served as president for many years and was longtime chairman of the Pinewood Cemetery. He was a U.S. Army veteran who served during the Korean War. He was a third generation farmer and co-owner of Johnson Farms. He loved the land he farmed and cared for the people who worked for him and loved his family with roots deeply ingrained in agriculture. He was a leader in the farming community.

Surviving are his wife of 44 years of Pinewood; one daughter, Chérie (William) Floyd of Lynchburg; two sons, William Rodney Johnson of Surfside Beach and Brian Edgar Johnson of Pinewood; two sisters, Margaret Ann Smith McIntosh of Pinewood and Rosa Lee Bradley of Sumter; four grandchildren, Abbey Johnson, Meg Johnson, Oldin "Lee" Johnson and Anna-Margaret Floyd; numerous nieces and nephews; a sister-in-law, Diane Johnson; and a brother-in-law, Tom Baker.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Margaret White Johnson; an infant daughter; a brother, Willie Edward "Billy" Johnson; a sister, Thelma Baker; a brother-in-law, Buddy Bradley; and a nephew, Larry Morse.

Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. on Friday at Pinewood Baptist Church with the Rev. Brian Gray and the Rev. Bennie Barwick officiating. Burial will follow at Pinewood Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 3 to 4 p.m. on Friday in the Pinewood Baptist

Church Fellowship Hall and other times at the home on Rooster Circle in Pinewood.

Pallbearers will be W.E. "Mickey" Johnson Jr., Paul Smith, Greg White, Henry Barnett, David Harris and Michael Avin.

Honorary pallbearers will be Israel "Sonny" Conyers, Lee Gooden and members of the Forever Young Sunday School class.

Memorials may be made to Pinewood Baptist Church, P.O. Box 176, Pinewood, SC 29125.

Online memorials may be sent to www.sumterfunerals.com

Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home & Crematory, 221 Broad St., Sumter, is in charge of the arrangements, (803) 775-9386.



ETHELLE W. WILSON

Ethelle Gregg Webb Wilson, widow of Moses Wilson Jr., departed this life on May 25, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

She was born on March 6, 1935, in Sumter County, a daughter of the late Willie Gregg and Pearlina McCoy Gregg. She was a

1954 graduate of Lincoln High School and attended Morris College. She completed an associate degree from Sumter Area Technical College and worked in retail for several years in New York City and Sumter. While living in New York, she also attended the Nancy Taylor School of fashion and design. She was employed by the City of Sumter as the coordinator of the senior citizens and youth program at the former Silver Center. Ethelle enjoyed working and helping people, which led her to work in mental health at Carriage House as a medical technician. Ethelle never met a stranger. She was a sweet, sweet spirit that filled the house with joy. Due to her love for people, she became an entrepreneur by opening Pearlina's Adult Care.

Ethelle, known by some as Ethel or Ethel Lee, was reared in a Christian home and she accepted Christ as her Savior at an early age. While living in New York, she was a member of Calvary AME Church. Upon her return to Sumter, she rejoined Saint Paul AME Church, where she faithfully served in many capacities: as a steward; a member of the

Women's Missionary Society; president of Stewardess Board 2; member of the Pastor's Aide Ministry; and member of the Deliverance Choir.

She leaves to cherish her memories: a son, the Rev. Alvin E. (the Rev. Marie) Webb; a daughter, Jacquetta T. Wilson; three grandchildren who she truly loved and adored, Jacque' N. Scott, Jabari N. Scott and Jy'Asia N. Scott; a sister, Lou Emma Gregg Crayton-Baker; three brothers, Willie Lewis Gregg, Johnathan (Agnes) Gregg and Harold Gregg of Sumter; a sister-in-law, Jackie Gregg of Maryland; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by a son, Moses Wilson III (Randy); and a brother, Robert E. Lee Gregg.

Public viewing will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. today at Job's Mortuary, 312 S. Main St. The body will be placed in the church at 11 a.m. on Thursday for viewing until the hour of service.

Funeral service will be held at noon on Thursday at St. Paul AME Church, 835 Plowden Mill Road, Sumter, with the Rev. Robert E. Galloway officiating and the Rev. Frederick Graves, eulogist. Interment will be at Hillside Memorial Park.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her son, the Rev. Alvin Webb, 3765 Cottage Path, Sumter, and at the home of her daughter, Jacquetta Wilson, 311 Brent St., Sumter.

Online memorials may be sent to jobsmortuary@sc.rr.com or the website www.jobsmortuary.net.

DERRICK SWEETENBURG

BISHOPVILLE — Derrick Sweetenburg entered eternal rest on May 28, 2018, at Ivy Terrace Apartments, No. 4-D, 560 S. Lee St., Bishopville.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his father, Darvin Sweetenburg, 3178 Stephens Road, Bethune. Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Wilson Funeral Home, 403 S. Main St., Bishopville.

BOBBY LEON MOSES

BISHOPVILLE — Funeral services for Bobby Leon Moses, who passed away on Thursday, May 24, 2018, will be held at 3 p.m. today at Mount Hermon Missionary Baptist Church, Bishopville, with burial to follow at Thomastown Cemetery, Bishopville. A public viewing was held on Tuesday at JP Holley Funeral Home, Bishopville Chapel, 114 E. Church St., Bishopville, SC 29010.

LUCILLE S. DAMON

Lucille Scarborough

Damon, 82, widow of Felix Damon, departed this life on Sunday, May 27, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

She was born on Oct. 6, 1935, in Lee County, a daughter of the late Murray Scarborough and Lula Scarborough Scarborough. The family will receive friends at the home, 67 Hugh St.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, is in charge of arrangements.

JOANNE W. NORRIS

Joanne Walton Norris, 74, wife of Martin Thomas Norris Sr., died on Monday, May 28, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

Born in Sumter, she was a daughter of the late Johnnie James Walton and Ruby Lee Lloyd Walton. Mrs. Norris was a member of St. Anne Catholic Church and was a retired licensed practical nurse at Tuomey hospital.

Surviving are her husband of Sumter; one son, David Anthony Norris (Veronica) of Sumter; one brother, Johnny Mack Walton (Nancy) of Sumter; one sister, Jean Mimmick of Myrtle Beach; a daughter, Dawn Helen Francis (Ronnie) of Clyde, North Carolina; and three grandchildren, Austin Goff, Jordan Goff and Angel Christmas.

She was preceded in death by a son, Martin "Mark" T. Norris Jr.; and two brothers, Earl Preston Walton and Robert "Bobby" Walton Sr.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, Memorial & Tribute Processing Center, 4217 Park Place Court, Glen Allen, VA 23060-9979.

Online condolences may be sent to www.sumterfunerals.com

Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home & Crematory, 221 Broad St., Sumter, is in charge of the arrangements, (803) 775-9386.



DAVID A. SANDERS

David Arnett Sanders was born on Oct. 4, 1944, the second son of the late Deacon William Baker Sanders Sr. and Dr. Beatrice Gregg Sanders. He departed this life on May 24, 2018.

He was baptized at a young age at Rafting Creek Baptist Church and was a member of West End Community Church. David attended Mather Academy; matriculated at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia; received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Morris College; Advanced

Studies in Art Education at Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York; with further studies at the University of South Carolina.

He taught at Lincoln High School, Morris College, and the S.C. Arts Commission for the Arts in Prison and Arts in Motion programs. He became owner/executive director of the Manning Avenue Free Studio Incorporated.

His humanitarian services included: former School District 17, the Sumter Artist Guild, the Sumter County Cultural Commission and the initiator of the annual Festival on the Avenue. He also founded the South Sumter Community Project through his Manning Avenue Free Art Studio, where he mentored many aspiring young people who became acclaimed artists.

His beloved immediate family includes his wife of 52 years, Patricia Kennedy Sanders; sons, Ivan and Omar Sanders; daughter, Jacqueline Wright; and seven grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday at West End Community Church, 101 S. Salem Ave., Sumter, SC 29150, followed by a gathering of friends and a musical tribute at 2 p.m. at the Manning Avenue Free Art Studio, 241 Manning Ave.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, is in charge of arrangements.

Online memorials may be sent to the family at jobsmortuary@sc.rr.com or visit us on the web at www.jobsmortuary.net.

EDITH JACKSON

Edith Jackson, 72, of Summerton, died on Monday, May 28, 2018, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

She was born on April 27, 1946, in Clarendon County, to the late Charlie and Georgia Ragin.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced at a later date by King-Fields Mortuary, Summerton, (803) 485-5039.

The family is receiving friends at 8697 Alex Harvin Highway, Summerton, SC 29148.

ALBERT SMITH SR.

Albert Smith Sr., 70, died on Monday, May 28, 2018, at his home.

Born on Jan. 26, 1948, in West Virginia, he was a son of Albert Collins and Ethel Smith.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 925 Miller Road, Poplar Square Apartments, apartment E7, Sumter.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Williams Funeral Home Inc.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lost & Found

Yorkie found in Sumter. Call to identify. Call 803-236-9007

In Memory



Karon T. Cole
May 8, 1948 - May 30, 2017
This has been the longest year of my life. The Lord needed another tender flower and he chose you. Love and miss you!
Love, Poochie

BUSINESS SERVICES

Business Services

KNOPSNIDER HAULING & LAWN SERVICES, LLC
Serving Sumter Area
Call Larry at 803-869-4570

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H.L. Boone, Contractor: Remodel paint roofs gutters drywall blown ceilings ect. 773-9904

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Robert's Metal Roofing
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All Types of Roofing & Roofing Repairs All work guaranteed. 30 yrs exp. SC lic. Virgil Bickley 803-316-4734.

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Tree removal, stump grinding, & pressure washing. Jenkinson Tree Service, LLC. Fully insured. Call 803-847-8014 for a free estimate.

Ricky's Tree Service Tree removal, stump grinding, Lic & ins, free quote, 803-435-2223 or cell 803-460-8747.

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Wellcraft Boat
Enclosed Trailer
Jet Skis, Welder
Tailgate Grill, Tools
Air Compressors
Much More Live Auction at 10AM, Saturday, June 2 230 Haile Street, Sumter
Pictures and info at:
www.jrdixonauctions.com
J.R. Dixon Auction & Realty, LLC Rafe Dixon, SCAL 4059 (803) 774-6967

Garage, Yard & Estate Sales

447 Ridgeway St. Gigantic Estate Sale
Carried over for just 1 more weekend, this Thurs.-Sat. 9-7 We finally finished getting everything else out of grannies closets, attic & sheds. 50+ years of treasures, everything must go! Come on back or come on down for some REALLY GOOD DEALS this weekend. Cash only.

Sat. June 2nd 8-4 at 16 Martha Ct. Furniture, household items, crafts item, and lady's hats.

Estate Sale 116 Runnymede Blvd. Sat. June 2nd 7AM-5PM. Furniture, (includ. complete LR & DR sets), appl., linens, curtains, much more.

Lawn / Garden / Nursery

CENTIPEDE SOD 100 sqft - \$25; 250 sqft - \$55; 500 sqft - \$100. Call 499-4717 or 565-4403

For Sale or Trade

4 Cemetery Plots in Evergreen Cemetery \$400 for all 4 OBO Call 803-775-4045

New & used Heat pumps & A/C. Will install/repair, Call 803-968-9549 or 843-992-2364

Commercial Speed Queen Washers and Dryers, Multiple Frontload Units Available. \$350 Set or \$275 Washer & \$150 Dryer Call 803-775-4119 M-F, 8-5

For Sale or Trade

Antique Stuff Red, White, & Blue Sale 40% off. Many other discounts up to 75% off. Free book with purchase, spend \$50 get free jewelry. May 22nd-June 2nd 11-5 Tues.-Sat. 2726 Cleveland St. Ellore SC

EMPLOYMENT

Help Wanted Full-Time

PT MAINTENANCE personnel needed at local apt. complex. Must have drivers license & own tools. HVAC exp. a plus. Apply in person at 625 S. Mill St. Manning or call 803-435-2751.

The Ivy Pearl Salon

Stylists wanted for newly opened salon with three booth spaces available. Looking for professional hair stylists who work primarily by appointments. Good location, clean and friendly work environment. For more information, please call (803) 774-6997 or (803) 406-4913.

General or ASE cert. mechanic needed. Experience preferred. P-484 c/o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

Nesbitt Transportation is now hiring Class A CDL Drivers. Must be 23 yrs old and have 2 yrs experience. Home nights and weekends. Call 843-621-0943 or 843-659-8254

Air Conditioning Service Technician

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Boykin Air Conditioning Service offers year around work, job security, career opportunities, company vehicle, good benefits, and excellent base wages plus additional compensation through our unique commission program, allowing you to earn as much as you want. And, we furnish you over 80 hours of company paid training, annually.
Apply @ 845 S. Guignard Dr, Sumter SC or www.boykinacs.com

Full time stock person needed for busy liquor store. Call 917-660-5915.

Help Wanted Part-Time

Exp. Trailer switcher needed in Sumter to move trailers in yard. Do washouts & minor repairs. Thurs., Fri. & Sun. 7 am - 5 pm. Must have 2 yrs exp. CDL & clean driving record. 803-938-2708 M-F 9am-3pm lv msg with experience.

Help Wanted Part-Time

Exp. Trailer switcher needed in Sumter to move trailers in yard. Do washouts & minor repairs. Thurs., Fri. & Sun. 7 am - 5 pm. Must have 2 yrs exp. CDL & clean driving record. 803-938-2708 M-F 9am-3pm lv msg with experience.

PT Shop Assistant/Driver for the **Daisy Shop.** Must work Saturdays. Some heavy lifting required. Please bring official DMV 10 yr good driving record when applying in person @ 1455 S Guignard. No phone calls please.

RENTALS

Rooms for Rent

Male housemate wanted for nice home in downtown historic area. Two blocks from Tuomey Hospital. Call Stephen 803-565-7924.

Unfurnished Apartments

Senior Living Apartments for those 62+ (Rent based on income)
Shiloh-Randolph Manor
125 W. Bartlette.
775-0575
Studio/1 Bedroom apartments available
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OFFICE HOURS: MON-FRI 9-5

Unfurnished Homes

1BR/1BA \$600+\$600dep. All utilities included, no pets, upstairs apartment. Mature single person. Private in the country. 803-481-5592

Small 2BR home for rent. 407 E. Red Bay Rd. Sumter. \$450+dep. Call 803-494-3095.

Mobile Home Rentals

1BR 1BA MH in a small park. Appl. incl., heat pump. Water, sewage & trash provided. \$330 mo. Call (803) 464-3437 9am-8 pm

REAL ESTATE

Land & Lots for Sale

31.0 acres near Elliot. 13.5 acres near St. Charles, owner financing. Call 803-427-3888 or harrivives@hotmail.com

TRANSPORTATION

Miscellaneous



Refurbished batteries as low as \$45. **New batteries** as low as \$65. 6v golf cart battery as low as \$65. **Lawnmower batteries**, \$38.95.
Auto Electric Co.
102 Blvd Rd. 803-773-4381

LEGAL NOTICES

Beer & Wine License

Notice Of Application
Notice is hereby given that **Red Bay Grocery, LLC** intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license permit that will allow the sale OFF premises consumption of Beer & Wine at **204 E. Red Bay Road, Sumter, SC 29150.** To object to the issuance of this permit / license, written protest must be postmarked no later than **June 8, 2018.** For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information: (1) the name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest; (2) the specific reasons why

Beer & Wine License

the application should be denied: (3) that the person protesting is willing to attend a hearing (if one is requested by the applicant); (4) that the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within five miles of the business; and (5) the name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed. Protests must be mailed to: S.C. Department of Revenue, ATTN: ABL, P.O. Box 125, Columbia, South Carolina 29214; or Faxed to: (803) 896-0110.

Summons & Notice

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING OF COMPLAINT (Non-Jury) Foreclosure

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
C/A #: 2018-CP-43-00395

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

TRUSTMARK NATIONAL BANK, Plaintiff,

vs.

DAVID G. SMITH III, CONNOR CONSULTING & RENTALS and SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, Defendants.

TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said Complaint upon the subscribers, at their office, 1703 Laurel Street (29201), Post Office Box 11682, Columbia, South Carolina 29211, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the Complaint in the time aforesaid, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the original Complaint in the above entitled action was filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County on March 8, 2018.

Benjamin E. Grimsley
S.C. Bar No. 70335
Attorney for the Plaintiff
P.O. Box 11682
Columbia, S.C. 29211
(803) 233-1177
bgrimsley@grimsleylaw.com

CONTRACTORS WANTED

MANNING AVENUE LEWIS ROAD DOWNTOWN SUMTER HOME DELIVERY

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INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Bids for furnish all material, labor, equipment, and services required for the work known as HUD Capital Funds Project SC 16P023501 - 17, Sumter, SC will be received until **2:00 PM July 12, 2018** at the office of Sumter Housing Authority. All bids received will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time and place.

A mandatory pre-bid conference and walk through will be held at **10:00 AM, June 12, 2018** at the office of the Housing Authority, 15 Caldwell Street, Sumter, SC 29150.

Without force and effect on the Bidding Documents and the proposed Contract Documents, the work required is briefly described in the bid packets:

1. Removal and Replacement of Lavatory Cabinets
2. Removal and Replacement of Water Heaters
3. Alternate 01: Bathroom Floor Replacement

The work required is fully described in Bidding Documents consisting of this Project Manual which includes the contract forms. CONTRACT FORMS and PROJECT MANUEL are on file in the office of Public Housing Authority of the City of Sumter and may be obtained at that office on 15 Caldwell Street, Sumter, SC 29150.

Only general and residential builders who are bondable need apply. Each bid in excess of \$100,000 shall include a Bid Guaranty in an amount equal to five percent of the bid. Provided as one of the following:

- Σ A certified check or bank draft payable to The Housing Authority of the City of Sumter;
- Σ U.S. Government Bonds or as a properly executed Bid Bond with surety acceptable to the PHA. A Surety Company executing the Bid Bond must be authorized to transact business in the Project State, and must appear on the most current U.S. Treasury Department's Circular No. 570.
- Σ The successful bidder will be required to provide satisfactory Performance and Payment Bonds to prior to execution of the Agreement.

In addition to the Bid Guaranty requirements (IF REQUIRED), each bidder shall include THE SIGNED ORIGINAL AND ONE CONFORMED COPY of the following with the Bid:

- Σ 1. a fully completed HUD-5369-A Form
- Σ 2. Bidders Qualification Form
- Σ 3. Non-Collusive Affidavit

Refer to provisions for equal employment opportunities and payments of not less than minimum salaries and wages indicated in the Project Manual

Small businesses and minority firms are urged to submit proposals. Certification as a Minority-business Enterprise (or a number of partners, shareholders, employees who are members of minority classification or are women) should be included in the Bid proposal. Refer to Articles 38, 39, and 40 of The General Conditions.

The PHA reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and to waive irregularities and formalities in the bidding. No bids may be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days subsequent to the opening of bids without the PHA's consent.

To obtain a project manual please contact Wayne Turner, 15 Caldwell St. Sumter, SC 29150 or call (803)774-7309. Each project manual is available at \$15.00 each. The Housing Authority of the City of Sumter is an Equal Housing Opportunity.

TDD #1-800-545-1833 Extension 100.



BASE HOLOGRAM VIA AP

This undated artist rendering provided by BASE Hologram shows a prototype three-dimensional hologram display for a dinosaur exhibit. Jack Horner, a Montana paleontologist who consulted with director Steven Spielberg on the "Jurassic Park" movies, is developing a three-dimensional hologram exhibit that will showcase the latest theories on what dinosaurs looked like. Horner and entertainment company Base Hologram are aiming to have multiple traveling exhibits ready to launch in spring 2019.

'Jurassic Park' dinosaur expert's next big thing: 3-D hologram exhibit



BY MATT VOLZ
Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. — Forget the gray, green and brown dinosaurs in the "Jurassic Park" movies. Paleontologist Jack Horner wants to transport people back in time to see a feathered Tyrannosaurus rex colored bright red and a blue triceratops with red fringe similar to a rooster's comb.

Horner, who consulted with director Steven Spielberg on the "Jurassic Park" films, is developing a three-dimensional hologram exhibit that will showcase the latest theories on what dinosaurs looked like. He is working with entertainment company Base Hologram to create an exhibit that will let people feel as though they're on an archaeological dig, inside a laboratory and surrounded by dinosaurs in the wild.

"I'm always trying to figure out a

good way to get the science of paleontology across to the general public," Horner said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. "Like taking them into the field or taking them into my laboratory and then using the technology that we have to show people what dinosaurs were really like."

That understanding of what dinosaurs looked like has changed a lot since the original "Jurassic Park" in 1993. For example, researchers now think dinosaurs were much more bird-like than lizard-like, and scientists studying dinosaur skulls have found keratin, a substance that gives birds their bright colors.

"We can see at least areas that could be vividly colored, very much like birds, and there's no reason to make them different from birds," Horner said.

Horner and Base Hologram workers have been developing the exhibit's

story line for a couple of months, with plans to have multiple traveling exhibits ready to launch by spring 2019.

The company wants to place them in museums, science centers and other institutions where they might spur debate among scientists who don't share the theory that dinosaurs were colorful, feathered creatures.

"The controversy is OK because it makes people talk," said Base Hologram executive vice president Michael Swinney.

Live performances using holograms have gained attention in recent years, notably through concerts that feature likenesses of dead performers such as Michael Jackson and Tupac Shakur.

Until now, Base Hologram, a subsidiary of the live entertainment company Base Entertainment, has used the technology to put on concerts by late

singers Roy Orbison and Marie Callas.

As the field becomes more competitive, the company is seeking new

areas to apply the technology, such as science, CEO Brian Becker said.

Horner previously worked with Microsoft to create his dinosaur holograms that can be used with virtual and augmented reality technologies.

He noted the technology used in the exhibit can be applied even more broadly, including by paleontologists in their labs.

"What we do now is, when we want to envision something, we get an artist to paint it," Horner said. "Now, we're going to be able to create a 3-D immersive experience a lot better than a painting."

Is retiring to ocean breezes and cheap rent really for you?

BY LIZ WESTON
NerdWallet

The world is full of tropical paradises and other exotic places where a couple can live comfortably on \$2,000 a month or less. Plus, good health care abroad can cost a fraction of what it does in the U.S.

If living more cheaply is the only reason you'd retire to another country, though, you're likely to be unhappy.

Expatriate Dan Prescher says he's seen such "economic refugees" suffer when they discover how different daily life can be in other places.

"No matter what else the United States is, it is probably the most convenient country on the planet," says Prescher, a senior editor at International Living who currently lives in Ecuador. "You can get almost anything you want, almost any time you want with a phone call or the click of a mouse. The rest of the world is just not like that."

Another long-time expat, Kathleen Peddicord, says people who successfully retire abroad leave their expectations at the border and "learn what questions not to ask." Questions like, "Why is the sales clerk answering her phone in the middle of checking out a customer?" or "How can it take four months to install a new kitchen countertop?"

"Real control freaks struggle," says Peddicord, publisher



of Live and Invest Overseas, who lives in Paris. "I speak from firsthand experience."

People who do well living abroad tend to have some things in common, Peddicord and Prescher say. Those include:

THEY HAVE A SENSE OF ADVENTURE — AND HUMOR. The best candidates are open-minded, unafraid of change and ready to embrace the new and unexpected, Peddicord says. Plus, "You need to be able to laugh it off when the repairman stands you up for the fourth time in a row," Peddicord says.

THEIR SPOUSES ARE ON

BOARD. Often one member of a couple is more enthusiastic than the other, and it may take a vacation in the proposed location to win over the uncertain spouse. But Prescher warns that dragging a truly reluctant spouse abroad is likely to backfire.

"You see one spouse just suffering through it hoping that in a year or two it will be out of the other spouse's system, and they can go back home and live the way they want to," Prescher says.

THEY HAVE A RE-ENTRY PLAN. Many expat retirees intend to return to the U.S. someday, and

even those who expect to live abroad indefinitely can change their minds.

"At some point, they're going to be 80 years old and they might not want to be away from their family and friends anymore," Prescher says.

A re-entry plan could mean renting the family home instead of selling it, or setting aside enough money to fund a return. Prescher and Peddicord also recommend signing up for Medicare at 65, even though that government health care program can only be used in the U.S. The reason: The part of Medicare that pays for doc-

tor's visits and other costs, Part B, has a hefty penalty for not signing up when you're eligible. Monthly Part B premium increases 10 percent for each year someone could have had Medicare Part B but did not.

THEY HAVE A PURPOSE. We all need a reason to get out of bed in the morning. It can be challenging to find that purpose when you're struggling with language and cultural differences, Peddicord says.

After 20 years of living abroad, however, she's convinced having purpose is key to a positive experience in a new place. Every unhappy retiree she's known failed to find motivation and devolved into what she calls "the complaining expat."

"You find these folks holding court on barstools across the world," she says.

The happy ones may take up a long-deferred hobby, learn a new language or start a business, but many expat retirees find their purpose by volunteering.

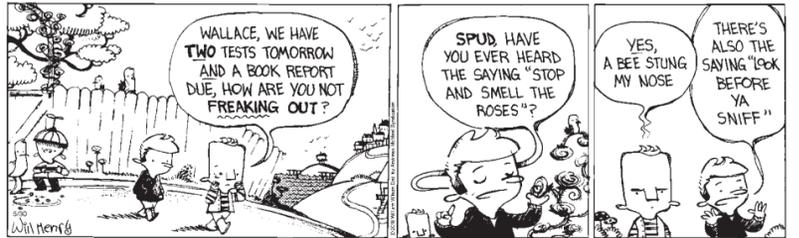
"I know dozens of expat-retirees in different places who are volunteering as teachers, in orphanages, in single-mother facilities," Peddicord says. "This can be the best way to become a real part of your new community."

This column was provided to The Associated Press by the personal finance website NerdWallet.

BIZARRO



WALLACE THE BRAVE



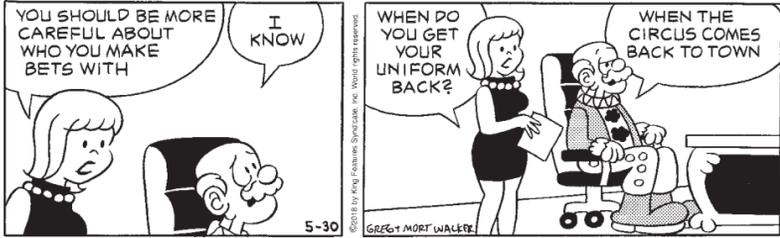
ANDY CAPP



GARFIELD



BEETLE BAILEY



BORN LOSER



BLONDIE



ZITS



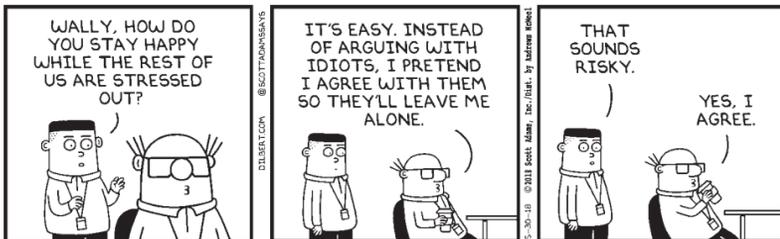
MOTHER GOOSE



DOG EAT DOG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Man must choose between wife, pregnant mistress



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY — My husband and I have been married for 13 years and have two beautiful children. I recently found out that for the last two years, he

has been having an affair, and his mistress is now three months pregnant. When I confronted him about the situation, he claimed he doesn't know what to do. I have told him I'm willing to work things out and be supportive of the child, but the affair has to stop. The problem is, he's having a hard time letting go. He says he's in love with both of us. I love my husband deeply and do not want to throw it all away for a mistake that I, too, once made. I know his mistress wants to be with him and has been slowly working her way into his life. Please give me some advice.

Lost in love in Houston
DEAR LOST — Insist that you and your husband talk with a licensed marriage and family therapist to see if you can get your marriage back on track. While it may be possible to be in love with two women at the same time, here in the USA plural marriage is frowned upon. Texas, thank the Lord, is a community property state, so it's important that you understand what that will mean to you and your children financially should a divorce become necessary. Discuss this with a lawyer, so you know your options. Your husband KNOWS what he should do; he just doesn't want to do it. Trust me on that.

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. For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

When I confronted him about the situation, he claimed he doesn't know what to do. I have told him I'm willing to work things out and be supportive of the child, but the affair has to stop. The problem is, he's

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LOYUS

AADNP

RZAHAD

NTENUL

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: NOISY ICING HERBAL HOTTER
Answer: She loved losing weight and seeing pounds vanish — INTO THIN AIR



SLEEPY HOLLOW'S INFAMOUS HORSEMAN WAS ABLE TO HELP HIS TUG-O-WAR TEAM

SUDOKU

HOW TO PLAY:
Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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

THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13					14					15				
16					17					18				
19					20			21						
22	23				24			25						
26	27						28	29						
30							31			32	33	34		
35					36	37	38		39		40			
41					42			43			44			
					45				46	47	48			
	49	50					51							
52						53	54		55			56	57	58
59								60			61			
62							63				64			
65							66				67			

C.C. Burnikel

ACROSS

- 1 Young chaps
- 5 Stitchless?
- 9 Right-leaning print; Abbr.
- 13 Tan shade
- 14 One picking a rock
- 15 It may fly by
- 16 Latter Day Saints' sacred text
- 19 Pirate's milieu
- 20 Mop & floor cleaner
- 21 The bubbles in bubble tea, usually
- 22 Youngest ever Nobel Prize laureate
- 25 Architect
- 26 Occupy oneself with trivial tasks
- 30 Butter substitute
- 31 How, to José
- 32 Retirement place
- 35 Beverage with a "Real Facts" Web page
- 39 Curious box opener
- 41 Meat in a typical Denver omelet
- 42 Succotash bean
- 44 Sportscaster Andrews
- 45 Like a budget with more
- 49 Jockey strap
- 51 Bright blue shade
- 52 Bygone heating fuel
- 55 Wall St. maneuver
- 56 Select, with "for"
- 59 Radical solutions ... and what this puzzle's circles literally represent
- 62 "In of flowers ..."
- 63 Mideast dignitaries
- 64 Disk slapped by Ducks
- 65 Croat neighbor
- 66 Boy, in Bilbao by birth
- 67 Tattoo parlor supplies
- 10 Divided island north of Australia
- 11 BP merger partner
- 12 Actress Olin
- 14 Canine neighbor
- 17 Eye wolfishly
- 18 Premiere, datewise
- 23 At the pinnacle of
- 24 Semicircle, e.g.
- 26 Like five-star hotels
- 27 Radius neighbor
- 28 "Alley"
- 29 Thurman of "Kill Bill"
- 32 Springsteen's first Top 40 hit
- 33 Red explorer?
- 34 Victor Borge, by birth
- 36 Fall precipitously
- 37 Short stories?
- 38 Broody rock genre
- 40 "Sold!"
- 43 Pro Bowl team, briefly
- 45 Massage option
- 46 Ravel classic used in the film "10"
- 47 Palestinian leader
- 48 Thailand neighbor
- 49 "Chicago" showgirl
- 50 Diner patron
- 52 Roger Rabbit frames
- 53 "I totally agree!"
- 54 Rig on the road
- 57 Quick kiss
- 58 Disapproving sounds
- 60 60 secs.
- 61 AP competitor

DOWN

- 1 "Why don't we?!"
- 2 Tylene target
- 3 Superstar lineup
- 4 Pinch hitter, say
- 5 Electricity pioneer Tesla
- 6 Kid-friendly card game
- 7 Nimble
- 8 "At Wit's End" columnist
- 9 "Did my best"

Previous Puzzle Solved

A	D	A	P	T	O	I	G	A	M	A	L					
T	O	M	E	I	I	T	O	L	I	V	E					
S	H	Y	A	M	A	L	A	N	D	A	R	I	N			
S	C	O	T	C	H	A	N	D	S	O	D	A				
P	I	N	C	H	A	N	D	S	C	R	A	P	E			
H	O	O	K	Y	I	P	A	D	E	X	E					
A	N	T	S	F	A	T	A	L	A	R	M	S				
T	I	C	T	A	S	K	A	C	M	E	S					
C	H	U	R	C	H	A	N	D	S	T	A	T	E			
N	O	T	E	R	I	E										
L	E	T	S	J	O	I	N	H	A	N	D	S				
A	L	O	H	A	M	O	R	T	I	F	I	E	S			
C	A	J	U	N	P	R	U	N	O	L	T	E				
K	N	O	T	S	S	A	S	E	R	O	D	E				

SP	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	
LOCAL CHANNELS													
WIS	10	3	10	WIS News 10 at 7 (N)	Entertainment Tonight (N)	American Ninja Warrior "Dallas City Qualifiers" (Season Premiere) (N) (DVS)			Reverie "Apertus" (Series Premiere) People are lost in a virtual world. (N)	WIS News 10 at 11 (N)	(:34) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon		
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 at 7pm (N)	Inside Edition (N)	SEAL Team "Other Lives" The team finds innocents to rescue.	Code Black "Cabin Pressure" A pilot loses consciousness. (N)	Code Black "Hell's Heart" Willis and Rox search for a missing boy. (N)	News 19 at 11pm (N)	(:35) The Late Show With Stephen Colbert "Bryan Cranston; Jimmy Carter" Bryan Cranston; Jimmy Carter. (:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live (N)			
WOLO	25	5	12	Wheel of Fortune "America's Game" (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	The Goldbergs Barry joins the football team.	The Goldbergs "Dinner With the Goldbergs"	Modern Family "Catch of the Day" (DVS)	(:31) American Housewife "Selling Out"	Modern Family Mitchell and Cam throw a party.	(:31) American Housewife Taylor's new boyfriend.	ABC Columbia News at 11 (N)	
WRJA	27	11	14	Carolina Classrooms "Teacher of the Year" SC Teacher of the Year finalists.	Nature "Giraffes: Africa's Gentle Giants" Relocating the world's rarest giraffes. (DVS)	NOVA Wonders "What's the Universe Made Of?" Dark matter and dark energy. (N)		NOVA "Inside Einstein's Mind" Understanding gravity. (DVS)	Amanpour on PBS (N)	BBC World News	NHK Newline		
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory "The 2003 Approximation"	The Big Bang Theory	MasterChef "The Judges Do Battle; The Judges Do Battle, Pt. 2" (Season Premiere) Forty-three home cooks compete. (N) (DVS)		WACH FOX News at 10 (N) (Live)	Sports Zone	DailyMailTV (N)	TMZ (N)		
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing "Pilot"	Last Man Standing The family baby-proofs the house.	Supergirl "Dark Side of the Moon" Supergirl learns a secret about Krypton.	The Originals "What, Will, I, Have, Left" Hope sets off on a dangerous mission. (N)	Dateline "Bitter Pill" A mother of two mysteriously dies.	Dateline "Mean Girls" Teen mom gets caught up in murder case.	The Game Keira's feelings for Malik.			
CABLE CHANNELS													
A&E	46	130	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars: Northern	Storage Wars: Northern	Storage Wars: Northern	Storage Wars: Northern	(:04) Storage Wars	(:34) Storage Wars	(12:04) Storage Wars
AMC	48	180	(5:25) ** "Escape Plan" (2013, Action) Sylvester Stallone.	*** "Ocean's Thirteen" (2007, Comedy-Drama) George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon. Danny Ocean and his gang seek to right a wrong.			** "Run All Night" (2015) Liam Neeson. The estranged son of an aging hit man becomes a mob target.			(:02) River Monsters "Coral Reef Killer" Australia's			
ANPL	41	100	World's Scariest Animal Attacks	Australia's Deadliest Animals			Weird, True & Freaky: Real Monsters			(:02) Weird, True & Freaky (N)			
BET	61	162	(4:30) ** "Takers" (2010)	(:25) ** "Barbershop" (2002, Comedy) Ice Cube, Anthony Anderson, Cedric the Entertainer. A barbershop owner considers selling his establishment.	*** "Barbershop 2: Back in Business" (2004, Comedy) Ice Cube, Cedric the Entertainer, Sean Patrick Thomas. A barbershop owner considers selling his establishment.			Watch What Happens Live			The Real Housewives of New York City		
BRAVO	47	181	The Real Housewives of New York City "On an Island"	The Real Housewives of New York City The ladies visit the Berkshires.	The Real Housewives of New York City (N)			The Real Housewives of New York City			The Real Housewives of New York City		
CNBC	35	84	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank			Shark Tank (DVS)			Shark Tank		
CNN	3	80	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)			CNN Tonight With Don Lemon (N)			Anderson Cooper		
COM	57	136	(6:50) South Park "Ginger Cow"	(:25) South Park	South Park "Fat-bear"	South Park "Fish-sticks"	South Park	South Park "Cartman Sucks"	South Park "The List"	South Park "Marjorie"	The Daily Show With Trevor Noah	The Opposition w/ Jordan Klepper (N)	(12:01) South Park
DISN	18	200	Bunk'd	DuckTales (Part 2 of 2)	Stuck in the Middle			DuckTales			Andi Mack		
DSC	42	103	Misfit Garage "X Marks the Parts"	Misfit Garage: Fired Up (N)			Misfit Garage "Episode 5" (N)			Sticker Shock A 1929 Dodge hot rod.			
ESPN	26	35	(6:30) MLB Baseball Houston Astros at New York Yankees. From Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, N.Y.	SportsCenter (N) (Live)			SportsCenter (N) (Live)			SportsCenter			
ESPN2	27	39	NBA: The Jump	The Jump NBA Finals Preview			NBA Mock Draft Special			NBA: The Jump			
FOOD	40	109	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games "GGG Jrs."			Guy's Grocery Games (N)			Guy's Grocery Games "Grocery Rush"			
FOXN	37	90	The Story With Martha MacCallum (N)	Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	Hannity (N)			The Ingraham Angle (N)			Fox News at Night with Shannon		
FREE	20	131	(5:00) ** "The Notebook" (2004, Romance) Ryan Gosling.	Famous in Love (Season Finale) Futures are up in the air. (N)			(:01) ** "The Wedding Planner" (2001) Jennifer Lopez, Matthew McConaughey. An event organizer has eyes for her biggest client's beau.			The 700 Club Daniel Norris, Detroit Tigers pitcher.			
FSS	21	47	Braves Live!	MLB Baseball New York Mets at Atlanta Braves. From SunTrust Park in Atlanta. (N) (Live)			Braves Live! Post.			MLB Baseball New York Mets at Atlanta Braves.			
HALL	52	183	Last Man Standing "Haunted House"	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	The Middle "The Answer"	The Middle	The Middle "Flirting With Disaster"	The Middle "The Waiting Game"	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls
HGTV	39	112	Property Brothers: Buying & Selling	Property Brothers			Brother vs. Brother (N)			House Hunters (N)			
HIST	45	110	American Pickers "Slim Pickings"	American Pickers (N)			SIX "Critical" (DVS)			SIX "Ghosts" Graves and Ortiz clash.			
ION	13	18	Ghost Whisperer "Implosion" A ghost warns Melinda about a bomb.	Ghost Whisperer A soul is trapped in a haunted house.			Ghost Whisperer "On Thin Ice" Drawings predict encounters with ghosts.			Ghost Whisperer "Dead Eye" Ghost of a private investigator.			
LIFE	50	145	Little Women: LA "Lil Panty Droppers" The girls gather for a charity walk.	Little Women: LA Mika tries to apologize to Tonya. (N)			Little Women: LA "The Ultimatum" Tonya gives Terra an ultimatum. (N)			(:07) Little Women: LA Discussion of the latest episode. (N)			
MSNBC	36	92	Hardball With Chris Matthews (N)	All In With Chris Hayes (N)			The Rachel Maddow Show (N)			The Last Word			
NICK	16	210	Henry Danger	** "Journey to the Center of the Earth" (2008) Brendan Fraser.			Friends			Friends			
PARMT	64	153	Friends	Friends			** "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides" (2011, Adventure) Johnny Depp, Penelope Cruz.			The Fifth Element			
SYFY	58	152	(6:05) *** "Jurassic Park" (1993, Adventure) Sam Neill, Laura Dern, Jeff Goldblum. Cloned dinosaurs run amok at an island-jungle theme park. (DVS)	The Expanse "It Reaches Out" An old friend taunts Holden. (N)			** "The Lost World: Jurassic Park" (1997, Adventure) Jeff Goldblum, Julianne Moore, Pete Postlethwaite. An expedition returns to monitor dinosaurs' progress.			Conan "Kevin Hart; Nash Edgerton" Kevin Hart; Nash Edgerton.			
TBS	24	156	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	The Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee (N)	Full Frontal With Samantha Bee			
TCM	49	186	(6:45) * "The Saint Meets the Tiger" (1943, Mystery) Hugh Sinclair.	*** "Lassie Come Home" (1943) Roddy McDowall. A British boy's collie finds her way back home from Scotland.			(:45) ** "Son of Lassie" (1945, Adventure) Peter Lawford, Donald Crisp, June Lockhart. A young man and his dog are trapped behind enemy lines.			(:45) ** "Courage of Lassie" (1946) Elizabeth Taylor. (DVS)			
TLC	43	157	(:02) My 600-Lb. Life (N)	My 600-Lb. Life "Erica" Erica continues her weight loss journey. (N)			(:04) Skin Tight "Rafael & Anna" (N)			(:06) My 600-Lb. Life "Erica"			
TNT	23	158	NCIS: New Orleans "Broken Hearted" An organ is stolen. (DVS)	*** "American Sniper" (2014, War) Bradley Cooper, Sienna Miller, Jake McDormand. Navy SEAL Chris Kyle logs an incredible number of kills. (DVS)			Animal Kingdom "The Killing" Baz fights for his life. (DVS)			Hawaii Five-0			
TRUTV	38	129	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Carbonaro Eff.	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Impractical Jokers	Comedy Knockout	Comedy Knockout	Impractical Jokers
TV LAND	55	161	M*A*S*H	(:36) M*A*S*H	(:12) Everybody Loves Raymond			Love-Raymond			Love-Raymond		
USA	25	132	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A member of a church group is raped.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A hate crime against a Muslim family.			Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Benson works hard to make an arrest.			Colony "End of the Road" The group is interrogated. (N) (DVS)			
WE	68	166	CSI: Miami "Nothing to Lose"	CSI: Miami "Nothing to Lose"			CSI: Miami "Money Plane" Plane crash.			CSI: Miami "Game Over" Skateboarder.			
WGNA	8	172	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	

Broadcast TV going for milk-and-cookies comfort

BY LYNN ELBER
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — If provocative, psyche-jangling shows like "The Handmaid's Tale" are your taste, head directly to streaming or cable. But if you're feeling the urge for milk-and-cookies comfort, broadcast television wants to help.

The upcoming TV season will bring more sitcom nostalgia in the "Roseanne" and "Will & Grace" mode. More heartwarming dramas taking a circle-of-life page from "This Is Us." More crime and medical dramas in which the good guys always win, and in just an hour (minus commercial time).

As once-mighty broadcast ratings continue to be shredded by media alternatives, the networks are going where viewers are pointing them.

That means family-friendly shows in the reality genre as well as scripted: Say "awwww" for "Dancing With the Stars: Juniors," a kiddie version of the original. While networks have tried before to compete with the daring fare of the likes of HBO, FX, Hulu or Netflix, the 2018-19 season won't see much of that.

It's "good news for broadcast" that households gather to watch its shows, ABC Entertainment President Channing Dungey said this week. Amen, said CBS Corp. CEO Leslie Moonves, who lauded broadcasting as the "big tent" that brings America together.

Here are details on some upcoming series and the trends behind them.

you were to talk to Tim and our (producers), they would say Mike Baxter is a centrist," Gary Newman, chairman of Fox Television Group, said of Allen's character. As for "Roseanne," the show is headed "away from politics and more focused on family," said Dungey.

There's a likely dissenter: "Murphy Brown," back on CBS with Candice Bergen in the lead role of a TV journalist. In promotions, CBS recalls how the original series took on thorny political and social issues, including abortion, suggesting it would again. Talking up the show to advertisers, Bergen cracked a Fox News Channel joke.

And don't count out Barr's show. "The press has misrepresented what ABC President said about our new season," she tweeted.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
This image released by ABC shows Roseanne Barr, left, and John Goodman in a scene from the comedy series "Roseanne." Expect "Roseanne" to cool it on politics and concentrate on family stories when it returns for the second season of its revival next year.

ROOM FOR KUMBAYA? DEFINITELY

The success of "This Is Us" served as a reminder that there's more to life than comic book heroes and crimebusters — there's the real world, as in love, marriage, child-rearing and struggle. That's prompted a deep emotional response from the TV industry: Trend!

CBS' "God Friended Me" stars Brandon Micheal Hall as a radio host who espouses atheism. Then, just as the title says, he gets a social media friend request from God that turns him into an "agent of change," as the network put it. Think "Touched by an Angel" with a dash of "This Is Us."

ABC's "A Million Little Things" is about a group of friends who get a "wake-up call" to embrace life after one pal dies. Along the way, ABC said, "they discover that

ROOM FOR POLITICS?

friends may be the one thing to save them from themselves." Think "The Big Chill" with a hint of "This Is Us."

NBC, home of "This Is Us," won't be left out. Newcomer "The Village" is "a heartwarming ensemble drama set in a Brooklyn apartment building where the residents have built a bonded family of friends and neighbors." Think "Friends," presumably minus the laughs, and "This Is Us."

Everything old is new again, including sitcoms and how they're produced. The multiple-camera, aka "multi-cam," format that became popular in the 1950s with "I Love Lucy" has been steadily

overtaken by comedies shot more like films and without a studio audience.

But sitcom revivals — complete with their original casts and original multi-cam approach — has given new life to the format, heartily reaffirming laugh tracks included.

Fox jumped on the bandwagon with newcomer "The Cool Kids" and second-chance "Last Man Standing," the Tim Allen show dropped last year by ABC. They'll be paired on Friday night in hopes of drawing viewers who watched Fox's new Thursday NFL games, a Fox executive suggested.

It didn't seem like the smart move to air "highly serialized comedies" that might keep new viewers from dipping in and out, said Dana Walden, CEO of Fox Television Group. Interpretation: multi-cam shows have more jokes and less character nuance than, say, "Modern Family."

Even NBC, which network Entertainment Chairman Robert Greenblatt labeled a "more single-cam" network, is launching multi-cam sitcom "Abby's." The new twist: It's taped outside.

Creative progress!

ROOM FOR POLITICS?

Roseanne Barr's support for President Donald Trump was a conspicuous part of her character when "Roseanne" returned, but politics are a poor fit with broadcasting's wide-net approach. To that end, ABC and NBC are tamping down anticipation that "Roseanne" or "Last Man Standing," another show with an openly partisan star in Tim Allen, will be soapboxes.

"Tim's personal politics really aren't a big feature of the show, and I think that if

ROOM FOR POLITICS?

friends may be the one thing to save them from themselves." Think "The Big Chill" with a hint of "This Is Us."

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LIGHTS, MULTI-CAMERA, ACTION

Everything old is new again, including sitcoms and how they're produced. The multiple-camera, aka "multi-cam," format that became popular in the 1950s with "I Love Lucy" has been steadily

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Don't be intimidated,

There is nothing like homemade ribs

BY ELIZABETH KARMELE
Associated Press

It's officially barbecue rib season, and I couldn't be more excited. I have made them three times in the last week, and I am planning on making them for a party this weekend.

I might be a little rib obsessed — it is an occupational hazard of barbecuing for a living. But I don't know many people who can turn down a bone or two or three. My rib-awakening happened at the world's largest barbecue contest — Memphis in May. All it took was that first bite of a grill-smoked rib for me to realize that real barbecued ribs very rarely come out of a restaurant kitchen. They are usually much better made and enjoyed in your own backyard.

There is nothing like homemade ribs. And, once you get over the intimidation factor, you realize that they don't take nearly as long to cook as barbecue myth has it, and they are also very easy to prepare.

The most popular ribs to cook are back ribs, but spareribs and St. Louis style ribs are becoming more and more popular. This week, I cooked a slab of back ribs, a slab of spareribs and a slab of St. Louis to see which ones I liked better. Not surprisingly, they were all good. I re-discovered that it's important to look at the ribs in the store and choose them based on the

way they look more than the cut. They should be plump, heavy for their size and have some visible fat. The fat will render out during the cooking time, leaving flavor and help create a nice crust on the ribs. These days pork can be so lean that you don't see a lot of fat, even on the ribs.

In case you aren't familiar with the difference between the three cuts, here is a primer:

- Back ribs are cut from high up on the rib near the spinal column. Back ribs are meaty, leaner than spareribs and very flavorful — this is the area of the pig that "produces" the tenderloin. Back ribs are usually sold in full slabs (13 ribs). But you may find them in half slabs (seven ribs); since they are the most expensive cut of rib, some stores cut the rack in half so the single item appears less expensive. When they come from a pig that is less than a year old, they are referred to as "baby" back ribs. True baby back ribs generally weigh around 1 to 1 1/2 pounds each which makes them difficult to cook on the grill because they have so little meat on their bones.

- Spareribs are cut from the belly or side of the pig. Spareribs are longer and fatter than back ribs. While they have less meat, many parts of the country prefer them, and they are also a bargain. I paid about \$2.50 a pound for a full slab of spareribs, and the back ribs were nearly \$10 a pound.

- The St. Louis cut is a sparerib trimmed to remove the flap of meat on the underside of the breast bone and squared off to more easily fit on the grill. The St. Louis-style cut is becoming

more popular with restaurants, backyard barbecuers and the barbecue circuit.

Once you decide on which rib to buy, there are a few things to remember when purchasing your meat. No. one: Make sure that each slab weighs close to 2 pounds each and that the ribs have a nice layer of meat covering the bone. Slabs of ribs that are factory-cut often have "bone shine" or areas of the rack where the blade hit the bone and cut off all the meat, exposing the bone.

And, it goes without saying that you need to buy the best quality, freshest product available. This is especially true with meat, and there is a wide range of product in the marketplace. Plan on purchasing half a rack per person, more if you are serving big eaters. I always round up one rack, for example, if I am serving 7-8 people, I buy five racks of ribs. After taking the time to make the ribs, you don't want to run out.

If you have a local butcher who cuts the meat, frequent his or her shop. He'll give you tips on cooking, can cut meat to order and can special order meat as well.

If you don't have a local butcher, go to a grocery store that has high traffic and keeps the meat case rotated with fresh product every day. Beyond that, be sure to look at the expiration date on the label and give your purchases the old-fashioned smell test. If it smells "off" or a little funny, then it is probably old. I prefer buying ribs that are cryovac-ed as they are generally the freshest choice.

The next decision that you have to make is whether or not to remove the silver skin. Along the back (non-meaty) side of a slab of ribs there is a smooth covering or membrane that holds the ribs together. It is often referred to as the silver skin. Some people recommend removing it, but it is purely optional whether you take it off or not. If you leave it on, it is a good indicator of when the ribs are done because it lifts away from the meat when the meat is cooked. It is very crispy when done and looks a little like parchment paper and is slightly translucent.

Many people consider it a delicacy and really like eating it, and many more don't even know it is removable. A few cooks say that leaving the membrane intact prevents the seasoning from penetrating the meat and stops the rendering of the fat. I have never found this to be true; I think that it is mostly a cosmetic issue and a little known one at that. Be forewarned, if your rack of ribs has any "bone shine," the membrane will keep the rack intact and if you remove it, your rack will likely fall apart.

The final thing that you need to know is that the best way to test for doneness is to make sure that the meat has receded from the end of the bones and that you can bend the rack without breaking it in pieces. And, remember that the only way that the meat will fall off the bone, is if you par-boil them first (just say no!) or if you over-cook them. The best ribs should be tender but have a little "chew" left.

BACKYARD RIBS 101

Servings: 6-8

Start to finish: 4 hours

This recipe is my version of ribs that made me fall in love with backyard ribs. The Memphis in May barbecue team took me under their wing and shared their secret — slathering the ribs in fresh lemon juice before seasoning them.

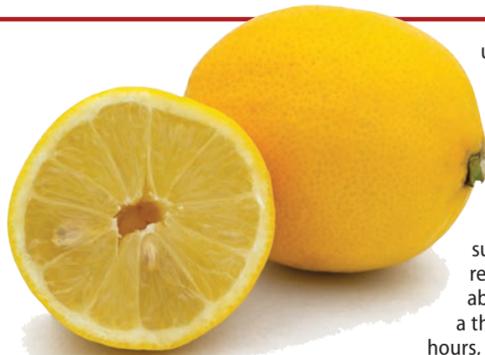
Grilling Method:

Indirect/Medium-Low Heat

4 racks pork ribs, about 2-3 pounds per slab
2 lemons, cut in half
1/4 cup Classic Barbecue Rub (see right) or favorite spice rub
Soaked wood chips, if desired
Favorite barbecue sauce

Build charcoal fire or preheat gas grill. Remove silver skin from back of ribs, if desired. I prefer to leave it on the ribs.

Set up the grill for indirect heat and if using wood chips, place soaked chips directly on charcoal, or in smoking box of gas grill. Rub the cut lemons over front and back of ribs squeezing to release as much juice as possible. Discard any lemon seeds. Set aside for 5 min-



utes. Sprinkle ribs liberally with spice rub and let sit, covered, for 15 minutes.

Place ribs (bone side down) in the center of the cooking grate or in a rib holder/rack, making sure they are not over a direct flame. Grill covered (at about 300 F, if your grill has a thermometer) for 2-3 hours, depending on how big your racks are.

Two-pound racks will take about 2 hours and 3-pound racks will take closer to 3 hours. The meat will be tender, and you can see that it has pulled back (receded) from the ends of the rib bones. Leave ribs untended for the first 30 minutes — this means no peeking; especially important if using wood chips. If the ribs start to burn on the edges, stack them on top of one another in the very center of the grill and lower your fire/heat slightly.

Twenty minutes before serving, un-stack ribs, if necessary, and brush with barbecue sauce. Remove ribs from grill and let rest 10 minutes before cutting into individual or 2-3 rib portions.

Warm remaining sauce in a saucepan and serve on the side, if desired.

BACKYARD RIB RUB

Makes about 1 1/2 cups

3 tablespoons white granulated sugar
2 tablespoons smoked paprika
2 tablespoons kosher salt
2 tablespoons dark brown sugar
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1 tablespoon freshly ground Worcestershire black pepper
1 tablespoon onion powder
1 tablespoon garlic powder
2 teaspoons chili powder
1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper

In a medium bowl, combine all the ingredients; mix well. For a smoother rub, process the ingredients in a spice grinder until well combined and all the pieces are uniform (the rub will be become a very fine powder and tan in color. It can be stored in an airtight container for up to 6 months.)

Nutrition information per serving: 221 calories; 115 calories from fat; 13 g fat (4 g saturated); 0 g trans fats; 72 mg cholesterol; 627 mg sodium; 5 g carbohydrate; 0 g fiber; 3 g sugar; 22 g protein.