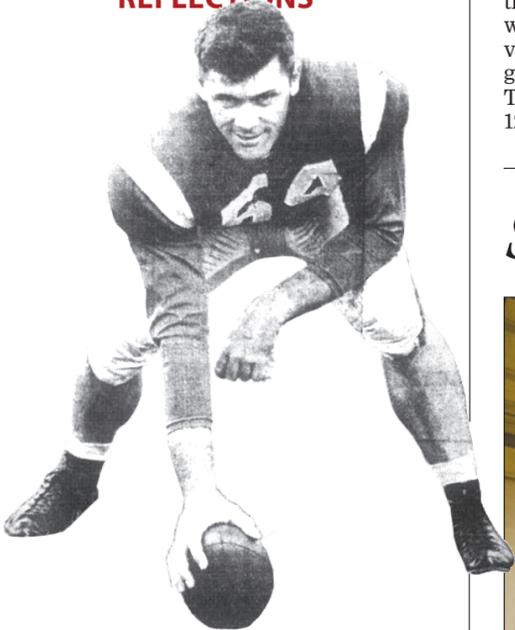


**INSIDE SUNDAY**

4 SECTIONS, 24 PAGES | VOL.124, NO. 56

**REFLECTIONS**



**The first part of a 3-part look at the Shaw Fliers football teams**  
**C2**

**PANORAMA**

**Do you have medical debt? Tips could make it more manageable** **A5**

**SPORTS**

**Preview of the National Championship** **B1**

**DEATHS, B6**

- Thomas F. Coffey Sr.
- Jon K. Easton
- Paulaner Addison
- Theodis Parsons Palmer
- Antonio Terrell Wright
- Willie Mitchell Jr.
- Linda D. Goodman
- Louise Sessions-Galloway
- Helena L. Fleming
- Hattie M. Dow
- Susie M. Witherspoon

**WEATHER, A10**

**FINALLY, THE SUN**  
 Sunny and mild today; clear tonight  
**HIGH 69, LOW 43**

**INSIDE**

- Classifieds C4
- Comics D1
- Opinion A9
- Outdoors C1
- Television A8
- Yesteryear C3

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# Legislators say education reform a priority for 2019

Sumter's Smith, other lawmakers preview session at media workshop

**BY KAYLA ROBINS**  
 kayla@theitem.com

If last year's legislative session was the Year of the Santee Cooper Nuclear Reactor Fallout, then South Carolina lawmakers are hoping this is the Year of Education Reform.

Select members of the state House and Senate attended a legislative workshop for media from throughout the state on Thursday, with panels and Q&A sessions previewing key topics for the year of government and politics ahead. The first regular session of the 123rd South Carolina General As-



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**Rep. Murrell Smith, R-Sumter, speaks to the media on Thursday.**

sembly will convene at the capitol in Columbia on Tuesday.

"I would say it's realistic, and

that's the goal to pass holistic education reform this year," said Rep. Murrell Smith, R-Sumter, the new chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, which gets the first crack at writing the state's \$8 billion-plus budget.

There was vast agreement on the need to focus on education in South Carolina's public schools, especially because that and many other legislation goals were stymied last year by the overarching, emergency need to deal with the fallout from the failed construction of reactors

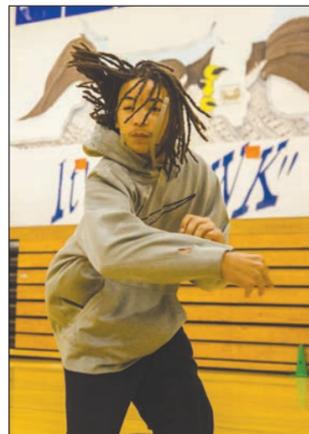
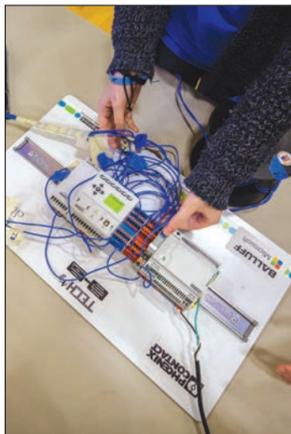
SEE SESSION, PAGE A7

## Sumter students compete using TechFit



PHOTOS BY MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Students at Alice Drive Middle School have been creating a game since class began in August using elements of technology and physical exercise. The activity follows a TechFit curriculum, which seeks to spark science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) interest in middle-schoolers by getting them to design and implement technology-based fitness games. The students were going to compete with their dodgeball-like game at Purdue, which was canceled because of snow, but got to compete virtually via Skype. They also did a video explanation of the project and fundraising that won them an award. For more, check out Friday's episode of Sumter Today at [www.theitem.com/studiosumter](http://www.theitem.com/studiosumter).



## Lakewood choir to perform at McMaster's swearing in

Guest singers from Morris to also participate

**BY BRUCE MILLS**  
 bruce@theitem.com

The Lakewood High School Concert Choir along with guest singers from Morris College are among a select group of musical performers that will be a part of Gov. Henry McMaster's inaugural ceremony on Wednesday at the Statehouse in Columbia.

A Sumter School District spokeswoman and a staff member from the state's In-

augural Committee shared details Friday about Wednesday's ceremony.

Lakewood's choir and three singers from Morris will sing as one performing group just before McMaster's public swearing-in ceremony, which begins at 11 a.m., said Caroline Anderegg, communications director for the Inaugural Committee.

Only three other choirs

SEE LAKEWOOD, PAGE A7



SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTO

Members of the Lakewood High School Choir practice in April 2018 before a performance at the New York City Jazz Festival.

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# SECOND FRONT

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## Manning businessman killed in single-car wreck

BY SHARRON HALEY  
Special to The Item

MANNING — A 72-year-old Clarendon County businessman was killed early Friday morning in a single-vehicle wreck on S.C. 260.

"Thomas Finley Coffey Sr. died at the scene from head trauma around 6:35 a.m.," said Clarendon County Coroner Bucky Mock.

Coffey, who was known affectionately as "Fin" to his family, friends and customers, was the owner of Rigby Oil Co.

According to Lance Cpl. Matt

Southern with the South Carolina Highway Patrol, Coffey was traveling (north) on S.C. 260 when the vehicle he was driving, a 2002 GMC SUV, ran off the left side of the road striking a culvert and then a tree. Southern said that Coffey was not wearing a seat-belt.

The wreck is under investigation by the South Carolina Highway Patrol, Southern added.

Funeral services for Coffey will be held at 3 p.m. Monday, Jan. 7, at Manning United Methodist Church with burial following the service at the Manning Cemetery.

## Indiana natives identified in fiery Clarendon wreck

BY SHARRON HALEY  
Special to The Item

MANNING — Two Indiana men were killed in a single-vehicle wreck on Interstate 95 on Thursday afternoon.

"The accident occurred around 4:50 p.m.," Clarendon County Coroner Bucky Mock said Thursday evening.

Kyle Oakes, 24, died at the scene and Jason Beene, 21, died a short time later at McLeod Clarendon, Mock said.

According to Lance Cpl. Matt Southern of South Carolina High-

way Patrol, the wreck occurred at mile marker 113 in the southbound lanes of the interstate.

The driver and passenger were traveling in a 2005 Hyundai SUV when the vehicle ran off the left side of the roadway, Southern added.

"The vehicle struck a tree and caught on fire," the trooper said.

Because of the fire, Southern said he was unable to determine whether Oakes and Beene were wearing seatbelts.

He said the wreck is under investigation by South Carolina Highway Patrol.

## Scott named to 5 Senate committees

BY KAYLA ROBINS  
[kayla@theitem.com](mailto:kayla@theitem.com)

One of South Carolina's Washington senators has been named to five committees for the 116th United States Congress, which convened on Thursday.

Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., will sit on the Committee on Finance; the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship; and the Special Committee on Aging, according to a news release from his office.

"I have been blessed to represent the best state in the nation and serve on some of the most important committees during my time in the United States Senate," Scott said in the release. "This Congress is no different. I look forward to working alongside my new and old colleagues in our expanded Senate majority to consider the real issues affecting everyday Americans. Now is the time we need to ensure that civility, fairness and opportunity are top of mind as we continue to build a brighter future for families across the nation."



SCOTT

## Sumter County Council members sworn in for new terms



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Three members of Sumter County Council — Artie Baker, Charles Edens and Jim McCain — started the new year by renewing their four-year terms after they were sworn in on Wednesday and Thursday. McCain, above, and Edens, lower left, were sworn in by S.C. Supreme Court Justice George C. "Buck" James Jr. Baker, top left, was sworn in by Sumter County Clerk of Court Jamie Campbell in county council chambers.

## Porch pirates to walk the plank if bill passes

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS  
[adrienne@theitem.com](mailto:adrienne@theitem.com)

Porch pirates in South Carolina could spend a minimum of five years in the brig if a bill introduced by a state representative is approved by the governor.

The very serious bill, the Defense Against Porch Pirates Act, addressing criminals with a funny name is sponsored by Rep. Cezar McKnight of Clar-

endon and Williamsburg counties and Rep. Lonnie Hosey of Allendale, Barnwell and Orangeburg counties.

The bill states it is unlawful for a person to steal packages delivered to a dwelling's porch or the vicinity of any entrance or exit of a dwelling and would classify such acts as felony package theft.

And the inclusive definition of dwelling essentially protects any shelter that can be occupied by a person.

A dwelling is defined as any house, outhouse, apartment, building, erection, shed or box in where a person lodges, which essentially protects man.

If approved by the governor, the bill would penalize anyone convicted of stealing packages from the front of a dwelling to a minimum five years in prison with no possibility of suspension nor probation. Punishment also includes a fine of no more than \$5,000.

## Clerk allegedly forced to fill bags for armed robber

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS  
[adrienne@theitem.com](mailto:adrienne@theitem.com)

Sumter Police Department is seeking an armed robbery suspect accused of taking an undetermined amount of clothing and cash from a Broad Street business on Thursday night.

Officers responded to an armed robbery call at Elite Sole Loverz in the 500 block of Broad Street before 8 p.m., said Tonyia McGirt, public information officer for the police department.

McGirt said an employee of the store said she was confronted by an armed man, wearing a gray hoodie

and black mask, who gave her trash bags and instructed her to fill them with shoes and clothing.

The employee was then told to load the bags into a dark-colored, four-door vehicle parked at the back of the store, she said.

The suspect is also accused of taking an undetermined amount of cash,

she said, before leaving the building and driving away.

McGirt said the employee was not injured during the encounter.

Anyone with information about this alleged incident is asked to call the police department at (803) 436-2700 or Crime Stoppers at 1-888-CRIME-SC (1-888-274-6372).

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# American held for spying is also British, Irish, Canadian

MOSCOW (AP) — The American former Marine who is being held in Moscow on spying charges also holds British, Irish and Canadian citizenship, officials said, and Britain's foreign secretary charged Friday that Russia is trying to use him as a pawn in its geopolitical games.

Both Ireland and the U.K. have asked that their diplomats be allowed to visit Paul Whelan.

The news that Whelan holds citizenship in four countries adds complexity to an already-murky case, and brings international pressure on Russia from several fronts.

Whelan, the 48-year-old global security director for a U.S. auto parts company, was arrested a week ago in Moscow. At the time, he was identified only as an American.

Russian authorities have released no information about the charges against Whelan, who could face up to 20 years

in prison if convicted of spying. Russian media reported Thursday that Whelan had been formally indicted for spying, and the Interfax news agency said he denied the allegation.

Whelan's family says he was in Russia to attend a friend's wedding. A Russian lawmaker, meanwhile, hinted Friday that the detainee could possibly be swapped for a Russian woman who has pleaded guilty to trying to influence U.S. politics.

Relations between Moscow and London have hit a low point in the wake of Britain's allegations that Russian military intelligence agents were behind the nerve-agent poisoning of a Russian former double agent and his daughter in the British city of Salisbury in March.

British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt said his government was helping Whelan.

"We are giving him every support that we can, but we don't agree with individuals being used in diplomatic chess games," Hunt said Friday on Sky News.

"We are extremely worried about him and his family."

Whelan's British citizenship was reported by the U.S. embassy to British officials on Thursday, according to Britain's Press Association. That was a day after U.S. Ambassador Jon Huntsman Jr. met with Whelan at Lefortovo Prison in Moscow.

"He has British citizenship. The British side has sent a request for a consular visit. Work on it is in progress," the Russian state news agency Tass cited Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova as saying.

Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs on Friday confirmed that Whelan also holds Irish citizenship and said it also is requesting consular access to him in Moscow.

Asked about Whelan, Canadian Global Affairs spokesman Richard Walker said "consular officials are aware that a Canadian citizen had been arrested in Russia."

Whelan's twin brother, David, said in

a statement for the family that they were "very pleased to know that staff of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow have been given consular access to Paul and confirmed that he is safe."

He said the family's "focus remains on ensuring that Paul is safe, well treated, has a good lawyer and is coming home." He urged both the U.S. Congress and the State Department to help get his brother freed.

Whelan's arrest came two weeks after Russian gun-rights activist Maria Butina pleaded guilty in the United States to conspiring to act as a foreign agent by trying to infiltrate conservative circles and the National Rifle Association to influence U.S. politics.

Butina has become a cause celebre for Russia — her face is being used as the profile picture on the Foreign Ministry's Facebook page — and the timing of Whelan's arrest has led to suggestions that he is being seen as a potential swap for her.



WHELAN

# 'I lost my Crocs:' 81-year-old jet skier is laughing after rescue

BY KATHERINE KOKAL  
The Island Packet of Hilton Head

HILTON HEAD ISLAND — An 81-year-old man was on a New Year's Eve jet ski ride when he got stuck near Skull Creek off Hilton Head Island, according to a news release from the U.S. Coast Guard.

Joe Patton said he left his Hilton Head home to take a sunset cruise around 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 31. He said he frequently takes circular rides on his jet ski around Skull Creek near Hudson's Seafood House on the Docks.

"It was a beautiful evening with fairly clear water and a beautiful sunset," Patton said. "I would have been out and back at the dock before dark."

Just before 8 p.m., his peaceful ride changed.

Patton's jet ski got stuck in a sand bar in a marshy area of the creek.

"There was so much pluff mud that I couldn't get the jet

ski loose, and the tide was dropping," Patton said.

Patton said he used his cellphone to call Sea Tow, the nationwide boat towing service. A crew tried to rescue him but was unsuccessful due to the shallow water and pluff mud.

"Sea Tow couldn't get closer than a football field away," Patton said of the rescue attempt.

That's when Sea Tow and the Hilton Head Fire Rescue called in the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Coast Guard arrived on the scene via Dolphin helicopter around 8:55 p.m., according to petty officer 3rd class Ryan Dickinson with the U.S. Coast Guard.

Patton said he used his phone as a flashlight to help crews identify him. He said he used the last one percent of his remaining battery life to call his wife so she knew he was OK.

Dickinson said Patton told the Coast Guard he could "just wait until high tide came in" to help him coast to the nearest shore, citing that would be likely happen around 5 a.m.

"I'm not sure if that would have happened or not," Dickinson said.

But Patton told *The Island Packet* he could have held on.

"It was not that uncomfortable out there because the temperature was in the 60s, I had on warm enough clothes, and there were no bugs," he

said. "I'm in good health, I had plenty of water and I was safe just sitting there."

As weather conditions worsened due to fog, the Coast Guard hoisted Patton from the water and reunited him with his wife — who was waiting at the Hilton Head Airport.

Patton did not appear to have any medical concerns, Dickinson said. The report did not include any indication that Patton was under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

The experience left Patton laughing.

"I'm very appreciative of what everybody tried to do to get me out of there," Patton said. "I haven't had that much fun since I was a captain and paratrooper in the Army."

The most significant loss from his four hours alone on the water?

"I lost my Crocs," Patton said of the rubber shoes he typically wears when he's on the jet ski. "Pluff mud will suck anything off your feet."

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# China: U.S. envoys due in Beijing on Monday for talks on trade fight

BEIJING (AP) — American envoys are due in Beijing for talks Monday in a tariff battle over Chinese technology ambitions that threatens to hobble global economic growth.

The two days of meetings are aimed at carrying out the Dec. 1 truce by Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping that postponed additional tariff hikes, the Ministry of Commerce announced Friday. It said the American delegation will be led by deputy U.S. trade representative Jeffrey Gerrish but offered no other details.

The talks are going ahead despite tension over the arrest of a Chinese tech executive in Canada on U.S. charges related to possible violations of trade sanctions on Iran.

The two governments express interest in a settlement but give no indication their stances have shifted.

They hope to have "positive and constructive discussions," said a Chinese foreign ministry spokesman, Lu Kang.

The clash reflects American anxiety about China's emergence as a competitor in telecoms, solar power and other technologies and complaints by Washington, Europe and other trading partners that Beijing's tactics violate its market-opening obligations.

Trump wants Beijing to roll back initiatives including "Made in China 2025," which calls for state-led creation of champions in robotics, artificial intelligence and other fields. American officials worry those might erode U.S. industrial leadership.

China's leaders have offered to narrow its politically sensitive trade surplus with the United States by purchasing more soybeans, natural gas and other American exports. But they reject pressure to scrap technology initiatives they see as a path to prosperity and global influence.

Both governments face economic pressure to reach a settlement.

Chinese economic growth fell to a post-global crisis of 6.5 percent in the quarter ending in September. Auto sales tumbled 16 percent in November over a year earlier, and weak real estate sales are forcing developers to cut prices.

Third-quarter U.S. growth was 3.4 percent, and unemployment is at a five-decade low. But surveys show consumer confidence is weakening due to concern growth will moderate this year.

Beijing has tried in vain to recruit France, Germany, South Korea and other governments as allies against Trump. They criticize his tactics but echo U.S. complaints about Chinese industrial policy and market barriers.

The European Union filed its own challenge in the World Trade Organization in June against Chinese regulations the 28-nation trade bloc said hamper the ability of foreign companies to protect and profit from their own technology.

Washington has imposed punitive tariffs of up to 25 percent on \$250 billion of Chinese goods. Beijing responded by imposing penalties on \$110 billion of American goods, slowing down customs clearance for U.S. companies and suspending issuance of licenses in finance and other industries.

Trump and Xi agreed to a 90-day postponement of more tariff hikes due to take effect Jan. 1. But economists say that is too little time to resolve the sprawling disputes that bedevil U.S.-Chinese relations.

The decision to hold this week's talks at a deputy minister level reflects the need to work out technical details before higher-level officials make "hard political decisions on major issues," said Tu Xinquan, director of the China Institute for World Trade Organization Studies at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing.

In addition to Gerrish, the U.S. team will include the Of-

fice of the U.S. Trade Representative's top negotiator on agricultural issues, Gregg Doud; Treasury Under Secretary for International Affairs David Malpass; Commerce Under Secretary for International Trade Gilbert Kaplan; the U.S. Agriculture Department's under secretary for trade and foreign affairs, Ted McKinney; the U.S. Department of Energy's assistant secretary for fossil energy, Steven Winberg; and other senior officials.

The makeup of the U.S. team was announced Friday by the trade representative's office.

The dispute has rattled companies and financial markets that worry it will drag on global economic growth that is showing signs of declining.

For their part, Chinese officials are unhappy with U.S. curbs on exports of "dual use" technology with possible military applications. They complain China's companies are treated unfairly in national security reviews of proposed corporate acquisitions, though almost all deals are approved unchanged.

Chinese exports to the United States held up through late 2018 despite Trump's tariff hikes. But that was due partly to exporters rushing to beat new duties — a trend that is fading.

## U.S. gets reassurance; employers add a stellar 312,000 jobs in December

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. employers dramatically stepped up their hiring in December, adding 312,000 jobs in an encouraging display of strength for an economy in the midst of a trade war, slowing global growth and a partial shutdown of the federal government.

The Labor Department said Friday that the unemployment rate rose slightly to 3.9 percent, but that reflected a surge in job-seekers — a positive for growth.

Average hourly pay improved 3.2 percent from a year ago, up from average wage growth of 2.7 percent at the end of 2017.

The jolt in hiring offers a dose of reassurance after a tumultuous few months as the outlook from the financial markets has turned decidedly bleaker. Job growth at this pace is a sign that the economy will continue to expand for a 10th straight year, even if overall growth slows somewhat because of the waning stimulus from President Donald

Trump's tax cuts. "The labor market is very strong even though the economy appears to be slowing," said Eric Winograd, senior U.S. economist at the investment management firm AllianceBernstein. "Those two things cannot coexist for very long. Either weakening demand will lead firms to dial back the pace of hiring or the robust pace of hiring will lead firms to ramp back up production."

Stocks jumped Friday in response to the jobs figures. The Dow Jones industrial average climbed roughly 450 points in morning trading, an increase of about 2 percent.

But in recent weeks, financial markets have been increasingly worried about the path of economic growth this year. The Dow suffered its worst December decline since the middle of the Great Depression in 1931 as surveys of economists and business leaders suggested the United States could be in a recession by 2020.

## 5.25 million unencrypted passport numbers accessed in Marriott hack

BETHESDA, Md. (AP) — Fewer Marriott guest records than previously feared were compromised in a massive data breach, but the largest hotel chain in the world confirmed Friday that approximately 5.25 million unencrypted passport numbers were accessed.

The compromise of those passport numbers has raised alarms among security experts because of their value to state intelligence agencies.

The FBI is leading the investigation of the data theft and investigators suspect the hackers were working on behalf of the Chinese Ministry of State Security, the rough equivalent of the CIA.

The hackers accessed about 20.3 million encrypted passport numbers. There is no evidence that they were

able to use the master encryption key required to gain access to that data.

Unencrypted passport numbers are valuable to state intelligence agencies because they can be used to compile detailed dossiers on people and their international movements.

In the case of China, it would allow that country's security ministry to add to databases of aggregated information on valued individuals. Those data points include information on people's health, finances and travel.

"You can identify things in their past that maybe they don't want known, points of weakness, blackmail, that type of thing," said Priscilla Moriuchi, an analyst with Recorded Future who specialized in East Asia at the

U.S. National Security Agency where she spent 12 years. She left the agency in 2017.

When the Bethesda, Maryland, hotel chain initially disclosed the breach in November, the company said that hackers compiled stolen data undetected for four years, including credit card and passport numbers, birthdates, phone numbers and hotel arrival and departure dates.

The affected hotel brands were operated by Starwood before it was acquired by Marriott in 2016. They include W Hotels, St. Regis, Sheraton, Westin, Element, Aloft, The Luxury Collection, Le Méridien and Four Points. Starwood-branded timeshare properties were also affected. None of the Marriott-branded chains were threatened.

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# the Sumter ITEM PANORAMA

## Expert: Medical bills plague millennials

These tips may be the cure

BY SEAN PYLES  
NerdWallet

Chrystal McKay knew enough about medical care costs that she skipped the ambulance ride after a car accident. A friend drove her to the emergency room.

That saved her one bill, but she faces another for more than \$20,000 after her ER visit. The 29-year-old Stockton, California, woman must balance paying her debt with getting care for a sprained shoulder that may need surgery: "I have to weigh the pros and cons. I'm already \$20,000 in debt, and any more treatment will just put me more in debt."

Uninsured at the time and facing a bill she doesn't know how to handle, McKay finds herself in a position familiar to many in her generation. If she can't cover the cost, her bill may wind up in collections.

No matter your age or insurance status, there are ways to make medical debt more manageable, whether you just got the bill or it's already in collections.

### MEDICAL COLLECTIONS PEAK IN LATE 20S

Young adults incur medical collections debt at a higher rate than older age groups, according to a study published in Health Affairs, a health policy journal.

The report looked at 2016 data from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Consumer Credit Panel. It found that the frequency of medical debt in collections peaked at 11.3 percent, for people age 27, and stayed near that level until the mid-40s — even though medical spending in general is low for people in their 20s. The median amount in collections also peaked at age 27, at \$684. In contrast, people in their 60s had higher rates of medical spending but fewer medical collections.

That puts millennials — those born 1981-1996 — in the crosshairs. "There are a number of things that add up that make younger adults more prone

to this kind of debt," says economist Ben Ippolito, one of the study's authors.

Among them:

- **Less earning power:** Americans ages 25 to 34 had a median income of \$36,664 in 2017, according to the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey.

- **Lack of insurance:** Just under 20 percent of millennials in their late 20s and early 30s were uninsured, the highest rate seen in the Health Affairs report.

- **Mobility:** Younger people tend to move more frequently, increasing the chances for lost bills leading to collections.

McKay's income took a hit when she had to quit her dog-grooming position as a result of her injuries; she expects to make about \$30,000 for the year. And she was recently approved for state-run health insurance. But insurance doesn't entirely shield people from medical collections. The study found that "most medical debts

are relatively modest in size, which means they could be incurred before the insured person meets their deductible."

### UNCERTAIN HOW TO COVER MEDICAL BILLS

McKay made a GoFundMe page to drum up some money but has only about \$1,300 so far. However, she has the right idea in trying to take some type of action, even if the bill seems overwhelming.

If your bill isn't paid for several months, the debt could go into collections, which can drag down your credit score and make you appear riskier to potential creditors.

"I find, by and large, people have no clue about how to handle a bill," says Adria Gross, a medical bill advocate in New York. In nearly 30 years of experience, working at one point for an insurer and now negotiating bills on behalf of consumers, she's seen the confusion medical bills can cause.

"First thing people need to do if

they can't afford a bill is call their provider and see if they can negotiate it. And the provider probably can reduce what you owe," Gross says. She advises having details of your income and how much you can pay at hand to help you make your case.

Other options for handling your medical debt include:

- **Pursue a payment plan:** Ask the provider to break up your bill into a number of payments to cover the cost over time. If they refuse, you can create your own by transferring the debt to a 0 percent APR credit card (though you'll need good credit to qualify for one).

- **Hire a professional:** Medical bill advocates may be able to negotiate your bill down to a fraction of the original amount.

- **Try DIY settlement:** You may be able to negotiate a lump sum settlement on your own, especially if the debt is already in collections. The creditor may accept your offer to pay less than you owe rather than risk receiving no payment at all.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## The Cotillion Club presents 1 debutante



PHOTO PROVIDED  
The Cotillion Club presented one debutante on Dec. 19, 2018, at Sunset Country Club. Catherine Stout McCreight, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stewart McCreight, was escorted by John Evans Boyle and William Thomas Sansom.

## ENGAGEMENT

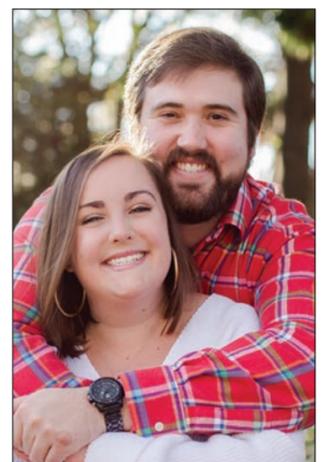
### Allen-Barnes

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Harper Allen of Greenville announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Margaret Allen of Columbia, to Allen Jackson Barnes Jr. of Columbia, son of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Jackson Barnes of Sumter.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Van Flemming Allen and Mrs. Margaret Wilkinson, all of Greenville. She graduated from Clemson University and is a fourth-year medical student at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia.

The bridegroom-elect is the grandson of Mr. Charles Arthur Segars and the late Mrs. Segars of Sumter and the late Mr. and Mrs. James Paul Barnes of Florence. He graduated from Clemson University and is a fourth-year medical student at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia.

The wedding is planned for March 2, 2019, at Charles E. Daniel Memorial Chapel at Furman University, Greenville.



MISS ALLEN, MR. BARNES



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## 6 debutantes presented at The Carolinian Ball

The Carolinian Ball presented six debutantes at its ball on Dec. 20, 2018, at Sunset Country Club. From left: Gillian Ann Hagerty escorted by Caleb Robert Turner and Kiel Curran Bilton; Cassidy McKay Williams escorted by James Douglas Chandler and Ashton Clarke Hines; Corbett Elizabeth Moore escorted by Patrick Scott Bell and Richard Banks Burns; Lauren Elizabeth Elmore escorted by Andrew James Reynolds Jr. and John Austin Peters; Katherine Gilland Duffy escorted by Stephen Calbreth Hucks and John Evans Boyle; and Margaret Snow Segars escorted by Ronald Hunter Hendrix and George Trask Gore Jr. The Carolinian also presented four sophomore sons that evening: Kiel Curran Bilton, Ronald Hunter Hendrix, Jacob Charles Mossell and Andrew James Reynolds Jr.



PHOTO PROVIDED

## Lemira Golden Steppers step up for the community



PHOTO PROVIDED

At the beginning of the school year, Lemira Elementary School Principal, Dr. Vanessa Smith-Canty, challenged the Lemira Golden Steppers to engage in community service projects. The Golden Steppers have participated in two community service projects so far. During a school/community clean-up day, the steppers, parents and Lemira staff cleaned the grounds near the school. Through the project, the students learned that everyone has a responsibility to help keep the community clean and the importance of not littering. During the cleanup, it was observed that there were several homeless individuals living within the community, which inspired the steppers to do their second community service project, "Share Your Warmth Winter Drive." The goal of the drive was to collect items to keep the displaced neighbors warm during the winter season. From October through December, the Golden Steppers, along with parents, community donors and Sumter School District employees, donated items including blankets, gloves, socks, mittens, gloves and scarves. On Dec. 22, 2018, the items were delivered to the homeless individuals in the park off Lafayette Drive. The steppers also performed a step routine for the recipients. The remainder of the donated items was delivered to the emergency shelter located on Oakland Avenue.

## Club Digest

### SUMTER ART ASSOCIATION

The Sumter Art Association on Dec. 4, 2018, in the parish hall of the Church of the Holy Comforter. President Patti Sosnowski welcomed members, and Rosemary Drakeford offered a devotional focusing on the advent season as a period of preparation for Christmas. She concluded by using the final stanza of a poem by Christina Rossetti as a prayer.

Andrena Ray, recording secretary, read aloud the minutes from the October 2018 meeting. There were no additions or corrections, and the minutes were approved as read. Treasurer Susan Brabham reported the current balance. Corresponding secretary Vicki Goodwin reported on notes sent. Attendance chairman Ginger Barwick reported that 46 members and one guest were present. Linda Hogan reported on numerous cultural events taking place during the Christmas season in Sumter and the surrounding area.

Dotty Lyles introduced Kipper Ackerman, Harpist for All Occasions. Kipper discussed two well-loved Christmas pieces and played them on the harp. She performed "In the Bleak Midwinter" and "O Holy Night."

Patti thanked Kipper for her program and announced that the next meeting will be held Jan. 15. It will be an open meeting. She then adjourned the meeting and invited everyone to the refreshment table, thanking the hostess committee for their hospitality. Chairwoman was Carmen Burgess. Kathy DuBose served as co-chairwoman. Committee members assisting were Kathy Creech, Jayne Fort, Martha Greenway, Hon Keith, Annette Matthews, Shirley Patterson, Mildred Ramsay, Troy Rogers, San Rosefield and Carla Young. A beautiful Christmas centerpiece adorned with red candles was created by Kathy DuBose.

## Campus Corner

### Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

The following area students have been named honor students for the fall 2018 academic term at Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College:

#### President's List (full-time)

- Eutawville — Alexis Singletary
- Santee — Damien Jones
- Summerton — Summer Barnes

#### President's List (part-time)

- Elloree — Caroline Abrecht, Diane Bowman, Araceli Carrillo, Jaquise Dunn, Nisavion Moorer
- Eutawville — Jesus Barragan-Hayes, Cordell Butler, Labron'Jai Lee,

Jervon Polite, Armani White

- Santee — Iyanna Chancy, Paulette Clark, Ryan Keitt, Jaiden Mosley, Ashley Stevens

#### Dean's List (full-time)

- Elloree — Chelsea Nester, Alante Snell
- Eutawville — Elexiz Foster, Devon Gadsom, Tamera Rhodes
- Rembert — Tiffany Davis
- Santee — Deandre Davis, Baron Frazier, Saquan Powell
- Summerton — Kenneth Gray

#### Dean's List (part-time)

- Elloree — Nay'tashia Fogle
- Eutawville — Labrishia

Lee, Rhayna Lee

- Santee — Kerristen Fogle, Shaneal Grant, Danielle Smalls, Malasia Williams
- Summerton — Aaron Dingle, Kristie Murphy

### Columbia College

COLUMBIA, Missouri — Samantha Davis of Sumter

was named to the dean's list for the fall semester (August-December 2018).

To be named to the dean's list, a student must have completed 12 semester hours in a 16-week period and achieved a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0-point scale.

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VINCE JOHNSON / THE SUMTER ITEM

Rep. Murrell Smith, R-Sumter, third from left, and members of the South Carolina House and Senate hold a legislative workshop for the media on Thursday in Columbia.

## WORKSHOP

FROM PAGE A1

at the V.C. Summer Nuclear Station near Columbia where customers of the state-owned utility company are being expected to pay billions to shoulder the loss.

Legislators said they hope the debacle will not suck all the energy out of the room again this year.

Education reform is not a new idea in South Carolina, which consistently ranks among the bottom of states nationwide.

“We’re right where we’ve been for 75 years,” Sen. Greg Hembree, R-Horry, said, emphasizing a complete fix won’t be passed and effects seen in the next year or two.

Hembree agreed the foundation for improving education in public schools is finding ways to recruit, retain and train high-quality teachers.

The differences from politicians come in the how of that declaration.

Hembree said he wants to immediately increase salaries 10 percent for teachers and all state employees who make less than \$100,000 a year.

*I grew up in Sumter, and it's got a lot of rural aspects to it, and that develops my perspective on how I look at politics ... it's nice to have somebody from Sumter in a position of leadership over here in the House now.*

### REP. MURRELL SMITH, R-SUMTER

Chairman, Ways and Means Committee

Smith mentioned a desire to pass legislation expanding flexibility in schools on how they spend their state funding in conjunction with increased accountability.

Smith and Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter, D-Orangeburg, agreed that bringing industry into rural districts is vital and that the General Assembly needs to figure out how to properly

fund infrastructure in those smaller districts that cannot afford the necessary renovations on their own.

Cobb-Hunter also said there are too many school districts for “this small of a state” and pointed to those like Sumter where they have already been consolidated. Based on direction from the state Department of Education, small districts like those in Clarendon County are also in talks about combining services with similar and nearby districts.

Other differences came Thursday in where more funding should come from, such as from the lottery (Sen. Tom Davis, R-Beaufort) or the general fund (Cobb-Hunter).

Smith spoke highly of the connection between workforce development and industry and economic development in rural communities to boost education, which boosts the talent pool, which increases pay, which brings more people to a community, and so on.

“We’re acutely aware of those issues in our area of the state,” he told *The Sumter Item* on Thursday. “The way to lift up rural communities is to bring good-paying jobs. It increases the workforce. It increases

the income to the community. It increases the quality of life, and we’ve got to really concentrate on rural industrial development.”

Smith said Sumter has demonstrated good practices in bringing industry to a small community, using the industrial park where Caterpillar, BD and other massive manufacturing facilities are as an example. The county made sure the proper water and sewer infrastructure was in place for the area so companies would be incentivized to build.

Sumter is not usually in the conversation at the highest levels of budget talks, but that is different now that there is a Sumterite in a chairman’s office.

Smith oversees the committee that looks at the entire state’s budget, but it can’t hurt to have a legislator from a smaller community at the helm to make sure it doesn’t get left out.

“I grew up in Sumter, and it’s got a lot of rural aspects to it, and that develops my perspective on how I look at politics,” he said. “I think that’s going to be good, and it’s nice to have somebody from Sumter in a position of leadership over here in the House now.”

# Trump says shutdown could last ‘months or even years’

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump declared Friday he could keep parts of the government shut down for “months or even years” as he and Democratic leaders failed in a second closed-door meeting to resolve his demand for billions of dollars for a border wall with Mexico. They did agree to a new round of weekend talks between staff members and White House officials.

Trump met in the White House Situation Room with congressional leaders from both parties as the shutdown hit the two-week mark amid the impasse over his wall demands. Democrats emerged from the two-hour meeting, which both sides said was contentious at times, to report little if any progress.

Appearing in the Rose Garden, Trump spoke more positively, calling it a “very good meeting.” He confirmed he “absolutely” made the comment about the possible length of the shutdown but said he hoped it wouldn’t last that long.

He also said he could declare a national emergency and authorize more wall funding on his own but would first try a “negotiated process.” Trump previously described the situation at the border as a “national emergency” before he dispatched active duty troops in what critics described as a pre-election stunt.

Asked if he was still proud to own the shutdown as he has previously declared, Trump said: “I don’t call it a shutdown. I call it doing what you have to do for the benefit

and the safety of our country.”

As anxiety mounts over the length of the shutdown, Trump said the hundreds of thousands who are furloughed or working without pay would want him to “keep going” and fight for border security. He said, “These people in many cases are the biggest fan” of his actions.

Democrats, on the other hand, spoke of families unable to pay bills and called on Trump to reopen the government while negotiations continue on border security. Senate Democratic Minority Leader Chuck Schumer said, “It’s very hard to see how progress will be made unless they open up the government.”

Friday’s meeting came after House Democrats muscled through legislation Thursday night to fund the government but not Trump’s proposed wall. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said those measures are non-starters on his side of the Capitol without the president’s support.

As the impasse dragged on, however, some GOP senators up for re-election in 2020 voiced discomfort.

Cory Gardner of Colorado said Congress should pass bipartisan bills to fund government “while we continue to fight for more border security money.” And Susan Collins of Maine said her “goal is to get government reopened as quickly as possible.”

“Negotiations on border security should continue while a stopgap funding resolution

is approved for the Department of Homeland Security,” she said.

Trump designated Vice President Mike Pence, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen and adviser Jared Kushner to work with a congressional delegation over the weekend.

## LAKESWOOD

FROM PAGE A1

from across the state will perform at the ceremony, according to Anderegg. Those include an ensemble from the private Hammond School in Columbia, the Claffin University Concert Choir from Orangeburg and a choir from the S.C. Governor’s School for the Arts and Humanities, based in Greenville.

Each performing group was selected to participate in the event, she said.

At the end of the swearing-in ceremony, all the choirs will perform “God Bless America” together, Anderegg said.

Lakewood’s choir has achieved numerous accolades in recent years, including being recognized in 2015 as a Grammy award-winning music program in the education category. The choir has performed at the world-famous Apollo Theater for the New York City Jazz Festival, at Carnegie Hall and in New York City and in Chicago, among other cities.



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# OPINION

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## COMMENTARY

# Trump and the *Post*: Whose side is Mitt on?

If there is a more anti-Trump organ in the American establishment than *The Washington Post*, it does not readily come to mind.

Hence, in choosing to send his op-ed attack on President Donald Trump to the *Post*, Mitt Romney was collaborating with an adversary of his party and his president.



Pat Buchanan

And he knew it, and the *Post* rewarded his collusion.

"The president has not risen to the mantle of his office," said Romney; in "qualities of character" Trump's "shortfall has been most glaring."

Our leaders must "inspire and unite us," not "promote tribalism," wrote Romney. We must defend the "free press."

All music to *Post* ears.

As senator, Romney promised, "I will speak out against significant statements or actions that are divisive, racist, sexist, anti-immigrant."

Sounds like a litany of media slanders against Trump, some of which, seven

years ago, were lodged against a GOP presidential nominee whose name was Mitt Romney.

Thursday, the *Post* paid Romney in its special currency, with a Page 1 photo and headline about having discovered "a new voice of resistance."

But Romney had not exactly pledged his life, fortune and sacred honor to dethrone the tyrant. Rather he declared, "I look forward to working on these priorities ... with Mitch McConnell."

A day later, *The New York Times*, perhaps miffed it had not been the beneficiary of Romney's dump on Trump, dumped all over him:

"Romney Cools Fiery Tone After Trump Allies Assail Him," ran the headline. A CNN interview, wrote the *Times*, found Romney "repeatedly declining to escalate his attacks on the president and explaining that he would only speak out against Mr. Trump on issues of 'great significance.'"

Does Romney not see presidential character as an issue of "great significance"? *The Washington Times* said Romney appeared to be auditioning for the role of Jeff Flake in the new Senate.

Though the Romney

screenplay seemed to fizzle after the early negative reviews, the episode is revelatory.

Clearly Romney senses Trump is in trouble, and may not survive, or may not run, and there may be an opening for him. He seems to want to be properly positioned with the anti-Trumpers and never-Trumpers, should that happen.

Yet, in seeing Trump as besieged, Romney is not wrong.

With loss of the House and resignation of his defense secretary, the president had a rough year's end. Now the expectations of his enemies and the hopes of this hostile city for his fall are greater than ever.

Blood is in the water. If Trump seeks re-election, he will be challenged in the primaries. And as presidents from Truman to LBJ, to Carter, Ford and Bush 41 discovered, these can prove problematic.

Looking over to the other side of the aisle, however, that party, too, has problems. The more hot-headed of the House majority have already said they will introduce articles of impeachment against the president.

And when the militant members are rewarded by

major media with favorable coverage and commentary, this will induce others to join in, in anticipation of the same media rewards.

An impeachment battle thus seems inevitable.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi and her Democratic leadership may see this rush to impeachment as a strategic blunder. But they will be unable to contain or control what will by spring resemble a mob.

Today, unelected media, not elected politicians, decide what gets attention. For our media, President Trump is the issue, as he was in 2016, 2017 and 2018, and removing him from the presidency the strategic goal.

But beyond the issue of Trump, 2019 looks to be a rough year for America. The deficit will reach a trillion dollars. National debt is near \$22 trillion. The budget is out of balance. No consensus exists in Congress on how to deal with it.

If sanctions are not first lifted on North Korea, there will be no nuclear deal, and the probability grows that "Little Rocket Man" will begin anew to test his missiles and nuclear warheads.

With U.S. troops pulling out of Syria and Afghanistan, the

day is coming, and soon, when we must face up to and act upon these facts:

America lost both wars. Afghanistan will fall to the Taliban from whom we took it in 2003, and Bashar Assad, Russia, Iran and Hezbollah are, for the near term, dominant in Syria.

As for our Kurdish allies, they will have to turn to Assad and offer to give him the Syrian lands they captured from ISIS, in return for the Syrian regime's protection from the Turks.

And as for Russia and China, our great adversaries, our foreign policy elite succeeded in this century in undoing the best work of Nixon and Reagan.

Where those presidents split China from Russia and ensured that Beijing and Moscow would have better relations with us than with each other, our elite revels in that it has alienated both China and Russia — and united both against us.

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

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### THANK YOU TO GAIL, STAFF OF DINER FOR SUPPORT IN 2018

Happy New Year! The members of the Dalzell Volunteer Firehouse would like to publicly thank Gail Turk and the kind staff of D&L diner on Peach Orchard Road for their kind support in 2018.

These great folks have provided the meals for our firehouse meetings and during a recent hurricane deployment.

We first responded to Ms. Gail during a time of personal tragedy in her life. She was able to turn tragedy into blessings for others. Ms. Gail, we appreciate you and the staff of the diner! We wish a grand and blessed 2019 for you all.

REV. DAVID E. BAGWELL JR. —  
K4FIR  
Department chaplain — Firehouse captain  
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## COMMENTARY

# Today's Germany is the best Germany the world has seen

BERLIN — In one of contemporary history's intriguing caroms, European politics just now is a story of how one decision by a pastor's dutiful daughter has made life miserable for a vicar's dutiful daughter. Two of the world's most important conservative parties are involved in an unintended tutorial on a cardinal tenet of conservatism, the law of unintended consequences,

which is that the unintended consequences of decisions in complex social situations are often larger than, and contrary to, those intended.

In 2015, Angela Merkel, the Federal Republic of Germany's first chancellor from what was East Germany, chose to welcome into Germany about 1 million people, many of them Syrians, fleeing Middle Eastern carnage. (As a percentage of Germany's population, this was equivalent to America receiv-

ing 4 million.) This influx stoked European anxieties about immigration threatening social cohesion, anxieties that contributed to the 52 percent-48 percent vote in Britain's 2016 referendum directing the government to extricate the United Kingdom from the European Union. In 2019, Theresa May, who was not yet Britain's prime minister when the referendum occurred and who voted to remain in the EU, is leading, or trying to lead, a fractious party that cannot govern because there is no majority for any plan to effectuate what in 2016 was, but might not still be, the voters' Brexit desire.

For many years, Merkel has been the closest approximation to an answer to the famous question attributed to Henry Kissinger: If I want to talk to "Europe," who do I call? She also has embodied Germany's primal desire for stability, a desire that is the great national constant since Konrad Adenauer served as the Federal Republic of Germany's first chancellor from 1949 to 1963. In 2000, Merkel became leader of Adenauer's Christian Democratic Union, which until she ceded party

leadership last month had had only three leaders in 45 years. In 2005, she became chancellor, a position she will have held for 4,800 days — Franklin Roosevelt was president for 4,422 days — on Jan. 13. She is in her fourth and final term.

Britain is perhaps, or sort of, exiting the EU. France's "yellow vest" protesters recently commented on President Emmanuel Macron's policies with a Gallic vigor (burning cars, smashing shop windows) sufficient to change governance in the predictable direction (taxes decreased, entitlements increased). So, stable Germany is even more important to Europe than it was when Kissinger said that Germany is too large for Europe and too small for the world.

The two greatest leaders of post-1945 Europe, Charles de Gaulle and Margaret Thatcher, opposed the aspiration of an ever-deeper political unification of Europe. Germany precipitated the post-1945 recoil against nationalism, which has been interpreted to dictate the dilution of nationalities by submersion of them into a transnational broth.

For most Germans, tiptoeing through modern memory, disputing this interpretation still seems transgressive.

No European nation was as enchanted as Germany was by Barack Obama's studied elegance, and none is more repelled by Donald Trump's visceral vulgarity. This especially matters at this moment when events are underscoring Germany's necessary dependence for security on the United States: Germany lives in the neighborhood with two nations, Poland and Hungary, that have illiberal populist regimes. And not far over the horizon, Vladimir Putin is destabilizing and dismembering Europe's geographically largest nation, Ukraine. Germany's dependence was inadvertently highlighted by Macron's delusional statement that there must be a "true European army" to "protect ourselves with respect to China, Russia and even the United States."

Germany has two of the world's great parties, the CDU and the Social Democratic Party, which in the 19th century invented social democracy that helped to drain the revolutionary

steam from the left. Both are in flux. The CDU is challenged from the right by Alternative for Germany (the subject of a subsequent column) and the SPD, which withered as the junior partner in Merkel's coalition. The SPD is being eclipsed by the Green Party, whose support rivals that of the CDU, and which is the most popular party with German women. Extremism, however, is quarantined by the civic culture that so values stability that a poll in this decade showed that more Germans fear inflation — the hyperinflation of 95 years ago was the ultimate destabilizer — than fear cancer or other serious illnesses.

Next year will be the 30th anniversary of German reunification. This will be an occasion for the world to acknowledge that, as has been truly said, today's Germany is the best Germany the world has seen since it became Germany in 1871.

*George Will's email address is georgewill@washpost.com.*

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FYI

The National Kidney Foundation of South Carolina is in need of unwanted vehicles — even ones that don't run.

Foundation Inc. (MDFF), a non-profit organization, accepts vehicle contributions.

PUBLIC AGENDA

- SANTEE-LYNCHES REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Monday, noon, Central Carolina Technical College Advance Manufacturing Technology Training Center, 853 Broad St.

- SUMTER COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Tuesday, 5 p.m., library
LYNCHBURG TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, 6 p.m., Teen Center on Magnolia Street, Lynchburg

The last word in astrology

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Stay focused on what needs to be

your life forever. A romantic encounter looks promising.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Rest will do you a world of good. Don't let anyone bait you into an argument or pressure you to do something you don't want to do.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Prepare for the future. Travel linked to business or educational pursuits should be considered and researched.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Simplicity and moderation will be the keys if you want to avoid making a mistake.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take care of matters concerning important relationships. Emotions will surface, causing you to make a rash move that can disrupt an important relationship.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Get into a fitness routine that is sustainable. Find something you enjoy doing that will keep you in shape and looking great.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Share with someone you have collaborated with in the past to come up with an idea that will encourage a new beginning.

WEATHER

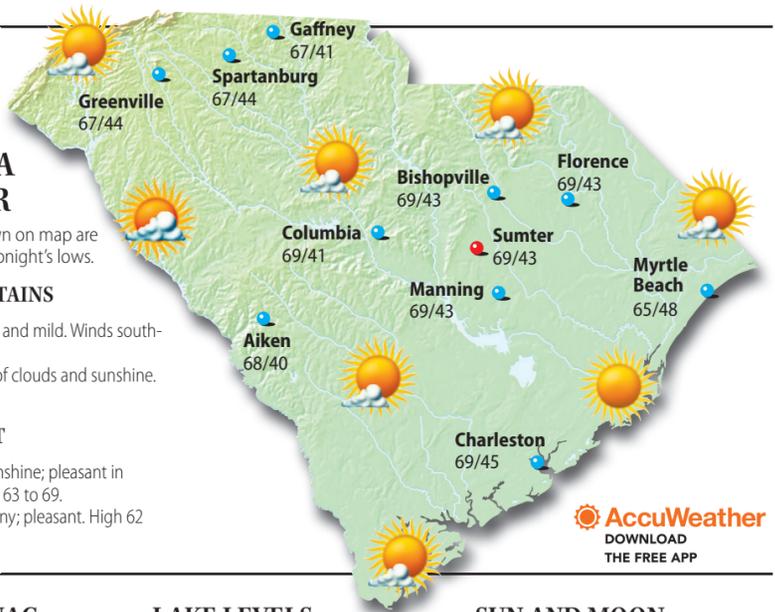
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AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

Table with 6 columns: TODAY, TONIGHT, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY. Includes weather icons, temperature ranges, and wind directions.

TODAY'S SOUTH CAROLINA WEATHER

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



IN THE MOUNTAINS

Today: Partly sunny and mild. Winds south-west 3-6 mph. Monday: Intervals of clouds and sunshine. Winds east 4-8 mph.

ON THE COAST

Today: Plenty of sunshine; pleasant in northern parts. High 63 to 69. Monday: Partly sunny; pleasant. High 62 to 70.

LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 2 P.M. YESTERDAY

Table with 2 columns: Temperature (High, Low, Normal high, Normal low, Record high, Record low) and values.

Table with 2 columns: 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) and values.

LAKE LEVELS

Table with 4 columns: Lake, Full pool, 7 a.m. yest., 24-hr chg. Lists lakes like Murray, Marion, Moultrie, Wateree.

RIVER STAGES

Table with 4 columns: River, Flood stage, 7 a.m. yest., 24-hr chg. Lists rivers like Black River, Congaree River, etc.

SUN AND MOON

Table with 4 columns: Sunrise, Moonrise, Sunset, Moonset. Includes moon phase icons for Jan. 14, Jan. 21, Jan. 27, Feb. 4.

TIDES

Table with 4 columns: High, Low, and times for AT MYRTLE BEACH on Today and Mon.

NATIONAL CITIES

Table with 3 columns: City, Today Hi/Lo/W, Mon. Hi/Lo/W. Lists cities like Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, etc.

REGIONAL CITIES

Table with 3 columns: City, Today Hi/Lo/W, Mon. Hi/Lo/W. Lists regional cities like Asheville, Athens, Augusta, etc.

Advertisement for 'We have a NOSE for NEWS' featuring a cartoon dog detective and contact information for The Sumter Item.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for 1-34 across and 1-34 down.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for 37-106 across and 37-106 down.

SATURDAY'S ANSWERS

Crossword answers grid for Saturday's puzzle.

SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzle grid with numbers 1-9.

JUMBLE

GUEST WOMAN KITTEN POLISH
His attempt to give up cigarettes — WENT UP IN SMOKE

Vertical crossword puzzle grid with clues for 37-106 across and 37-106 down.

Vertical crossword puzzle grid with clues for 37-106 across and 37-106 down.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

## Clemson's quarterback switch

Tigers thrived after freshman's promotion

BY PETE IACOBELLI  
The Associated Press

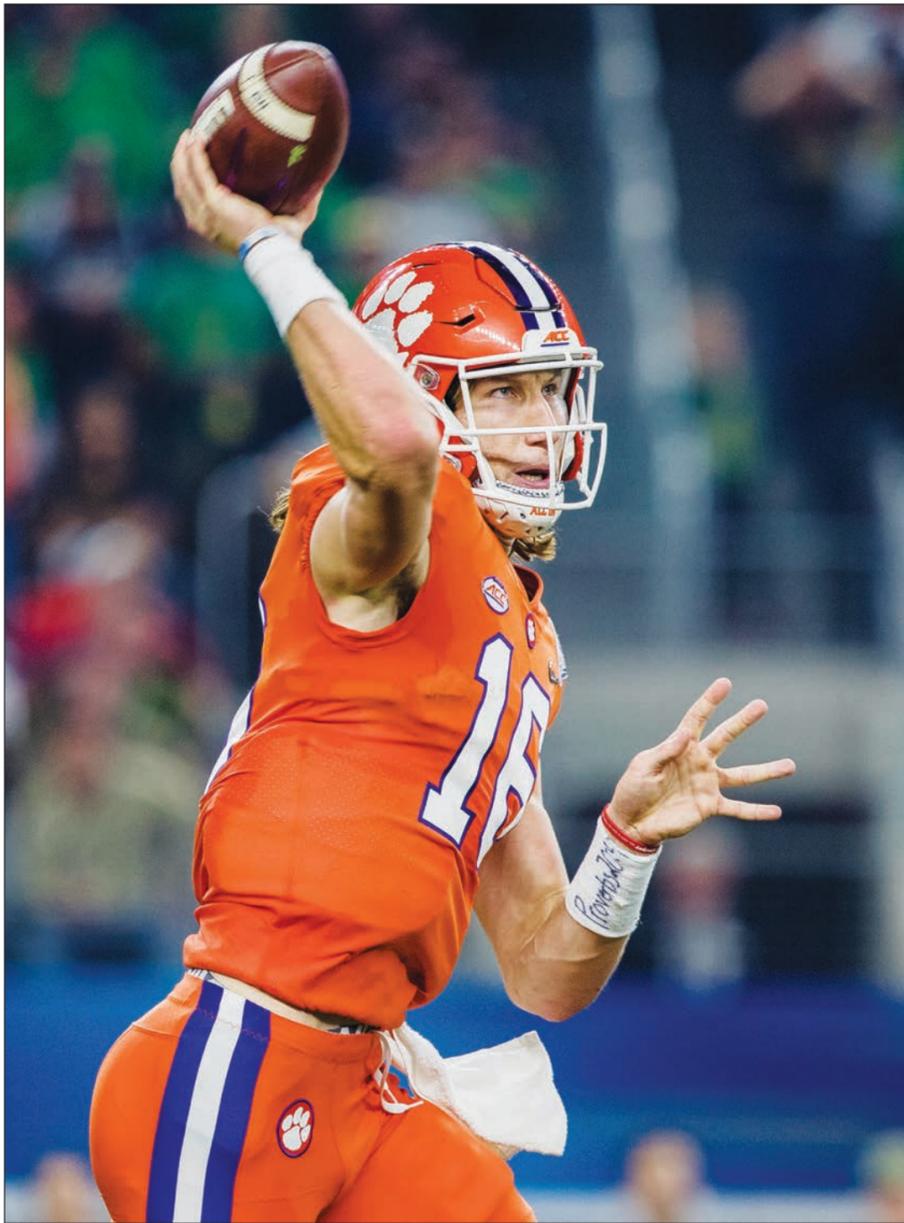
SAN JOSE, Calif. — The choice was clear for Clemson coach Dabo Swinney last September — freshman quarterback Trevor Lawrence deserved to start over well-liked, well-respected senior Kelly Bryant.

It's a move that could've led to dissension, in-fighting and a divided locker room. Instead, the switch started the second-ranked Tigers on a glide path to the national championship game where they'll take on defending champion Alabama on Monday night.

"It's just a situation where (Lawrence) has been in the game, he has been productive and to be fair to competition, just like we do at every position, coach (Swinney) decided to name him the starter," Clemson co-offensive coordinator Tony Elliott said.

Swinney insists, that despite Lawrence's talent, the swap wasn't made with Alabama in mind.

"You've got to prove that you deserve to be the starter this year," he said Saturday. "That's just the culture we have."



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Clemson true freshman quarterback Trevor Lawrence has led the Tigers to the College Football Playoff championship game against Alabama on Monday in Santa Clara, Calif.

SEE TIGERS, PAGE B3

PRO FOOTBALL

## Jeffery's return to Chicago all business

BY ROB MAADDI  
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Alshon Jeffery is all business this week. The talented wide receiver is playing in Chicago for the first time since he left the Bears after five seasons and joined the Philadelphia Eagles. He's not feeling sentimental. The Eagles (9-7) have a tough road trying to defend their Super



JEFFERY

Bowl title, starting with a wild-card game against the Bears (12-4) on Sunday.

"I don't have any emotions. I don't have any feelings, honestly," Jeffery said.

"It's a playoff game and they're just in the way of where we want to go. I can't wait for this game, for sure. That's all I got to say. We're playing the Bears, but if we were playing anybody else I still couldn't wait to play this game. I'm excited to be in the playoffs."

Jeffery established himself as one of the NFL's top receivers during his time in Chicago. He went to the Pro Bowl after the 2013 season when he caught 89 passes for 1,421 yards and seven touchdowns. He followed with 85 receptions for 1,133 yards and 10 TDs in 2014. Jeffery missed 11 games over the next two years and his numbers dipped.

He turned down more money in free agency from the Vikings and signed a one-year, \$9.5 million deal to play for the Eagles in 2017. Jeffery played a key role in helping Philadelphia capture its first Super Bowl championship and was rewarded with a four-year, \$52 million contract.

Jeffery had no problem adjusting to a different role his first season in Philadelphia, where he became one of several targets instead of being the main guy. He had 57 catches for 789 yards and nine TDs in 2017 while playing through a shoulder injury that required surgery after the season. He missed the first three games this season and still posted 65-843-6 in 13 games.

"The way he approaches each and every day and each and every practice, the way he takes care of himself, and certainly from a competitive maturity standpoint," Eagles wide receivers coach Mike Groh said, explaining how he's seen Jeffery grow since they were together in Chicago. "He

SEE JEFFERY, PAGE B4

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

## Everything matters in building champs

BY RALPH D. RUSSO  
The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — At Alabama and Clemson, being the best at one thing means being the best at everything.

That sounds like coach speak or corporate-retreat lingo, but Crimson Tide coach Nick Saban and Clemson coach Dabo Swinney strive to make it a reality. It is the common thread that runs through the very different personalities leading college football's most dominant programs. From social media to branding to career development to training table, every aspect of the organization is connected to success on the field.

Thad Turnipseed, Clemson's director of recruiting operations and external affairs, has worked with both Saban

SEE CHAMPS, PAGE B3



Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney (front) celebrates with his team after the Tigers won the Cotton Bowl College Football Playoff semifinal game 30-3 over Notre Dame last weekend.

MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

PREP BASKETBALL

## Lady Barons cruise past Heathwood Hall 58-45; boys fall



TREVOR BAUKNIGHT / THE SUMTER ITEM

Wilson Hall's Becca Cromer, left, looks to pass during the Lady Barons' 58-45 victory over Heathwood Hall on Friday at Wilson Hall's Nash Student Center.

BY DANNY KELLY  
danny@theitem.com

The Wilson Hall girls varsity basketball team had to play without star senior forward Natalie Jackson on Friday against Heathwood Hall. Those who were on the floor though stepped up and filled the void.

The Lady Barons defeated Heathwood 58-45 at the Nash Student Center. Jackson was sidelined with a possible hyperextended knee. It is uncertain when she will return.

The Lady Barons were led in scoring by Haley Roone McCaffrey with 16. Senior forward Cameron Duffy had nine, senior guard Susanna Hutson and senior forward Sydney Jarecki both added eight, and junior point guard Maddie Elmore had seven.

"Haley Roone McCaffrey did a tremendous job on (guard Morgan) Goodwin, their best player, and held her to a few points," Wilson Hall head coach Glen Rector said. "She's a defensive stopper and can deny the ball. She scored a lot in

the first half and was hitting baskets and playing great defense. She's stepped up in the last couple weeks."

The win improved Wilson Hall's record to 9-1 on the season, while Heathwood Hall fell to 1-7.

In the first quarter, the game was tied 10-10 with 1:33 to when the Lady Barons went on a 6-0 run to take a 16-10 lead at the end of the quarter.

Wilson Hall would start to assert itself in the second quarter and take a 37-26 lead at the half.

With 4:15 to go in the third quarter, the Lady Barons led 43-32 before going on a 9-2 run that included a layup and a 3-point basket from Hutson, a jumper from sophomore guard Becca Cromer and a layup from Duffy to give the Lady Barons a commanding 52-35 lead at the end of the third.

"(It's about) two things — defensive intensity and conditioning," Rector said. "Our goal is to keep defensive pressure on teams to make a run."

SEE BARONS, PAGE B2

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

**TODAY**  
**Noon** — College Basketball: Xavier at Marquette (WACH 57).  
**Noon** — Women's College Basketball: Southern Methodist at Cincinnati (ESPN2).  
**Noon** — College Basketball: Richmond at Dayton (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).  
**Noon** — Women's College Basketball: Connecticut at Houston (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).  
**Noon** — Women's College Basketball: Alabama at South Carolina (ESPN, WNKT-FM 107.5).  
**1 p.m.** — NFL Football: American Football Conference Playoffs Wild-Card Game — Los Angeles Chargers at Baltimore (WLTX 19).  
**1 p.m.** — College Basketball: Seton Hall at DePaul (FOX SPORTS 1).  
**1 p.m.** — NHL Hockey: Carolina at Ottawa (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).  
**1 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: St. John's at Butler (FOX SPORTS 2).  
**1 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Florida State at North Carolina (FOX SPORTSOUTH).  
**1 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Auburn at Florida (SEC NETWORK).  
**2 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Georgetown at Creighton (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).  
**2 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Missouri at Tennessee (ESPN2).  
**2 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Texas Christian at Oklahoma State (ESPN).  
**2 p.m.** — College Basketball: George Washington at St. Joseph's (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).  
**2 p.m.** — College Basketball: American at Colgate (STADIUM).  
**3 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Notre Dame at Georgia Tech (FOX SPORTSOUTH).  
**3 p.m.** — Professional Basketball: Capital City at Westchester (NBA TV).  
**3 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Arkansas at Mississippi (SEC NETWORK).  
**4 p.m.** — College Basketball: Temple at Wichita State (ESPNNEWS).  
**4 p.m.** — College Basketball: Rhode Island at St. Louis (ESPN).  
**4 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Texas at West Virginia (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).  
**4 p.m.** — College Basketball: St. Bonaventure at George Mason (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).  
**4:30 p.m.** — College Basketball: Indiana at Michigan (WLTX 19).  
**4:30 p.m.** — NFL Football: National Football Conference Playoffs Wild-Card Game — Philadelphia at Chicago (WIS 10, WNKT-FM 107.5).  
**5 p.m.** — Women's College Basketball: Kentucky at Mississippi State (SEC NETWORK).  
**6 p.m.** — College Basketball: Memphis at Houston (ESPNNEWS).  
**6 p.m.** — College Wrestling: North Carolina State at Ohio State (ESPN2).  
**6 p.m.** — College Basketball: Miami at Louisville (ESPN).  
**6 p.m.** — PGA Golf: Tournament of Champions Final Round from Maui, Hawaii (GOLF).  
**6 p.m.** — Professional Tennis: ATP Auckland Early-Round Matches, ATP/WTA Sydney Early-Round Matches and WTA Hobart Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).  
**7:30 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Indiana at Toronto (NBA TV).  
**8 p.m.** — College Basketball: Stanford at Southern California (ESPN).  
**8 p.m.** — NBA Basketball: Charlotte at Phoenix (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).  
**8 p.m.** — NHL Hockey: Chicago at Pittsburgh (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).  
**10:30 p.m.** — Professional Tennis: ATP Auckland Early-Round Matches, ATP/WTA Sydney Early-Round Matches and WTA Hobart Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).  
**3 a.m.** — Professional Tennis: ATP Auckland Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).

**MONDAY**  
**6 p.m.** — Professional Tennis: ATP Auckland Early-Round Matches, ATP/WTA Sydney Early-Round Matches and WTA Hobart Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).  
**6:05 p.m.** — Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).  
**8 p.m.** — College Football: College Football Playoff Championship Game from Santa Clara, Calif. — Clemson vs. Alabama (ESPN, ESPNNEWS, ESPN2, ESPN, SEC NETWORK, WWB-FM 94.7, WPUB-FM 102.7).  
**10:30 p.m.** — NHL Hockey: Los Angeles at San Jose (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).  
**11 p.m.** — Professional Tennis: ATP Auckland Early-Round Matches, ATP/WTA Sydney Early-Round Matches and WTA Hobart Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).  
**3 a.m.** — Professional Tennis: ATP Auckland Early-Round Matches, ATP/WTA Sydney Early-Round Matches and WTA Hobart Early-Round Matches (TENNIS).

NFL PLAYOFFS

**WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS**  
 Saturday, Jan. 5  
 Indianapolis 21, Houston 7  
 Seattle at Dallas, 8:15 p.m. (FOX)  
 Sunday, Jan. 6  
 L.A. Chargers at Baltimore, 1:05 p.m. (CBS)  
 Philadelphia at Chicago, 4:40 p.m. (NBC)  
**DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS**  
 Saturday, Jan. 12  
 Indianapolis at Kansas City, 4:35 p.m. (NBC)  
 Chicago/Dallas/Seattle at L.A. Rams, 8:15 p.m. (FOX)  
 Sunday, Jan. 13  
 Baltimore/Los Angeles Chargers at New England, 1:05 p.m. (CBS)  
 Dallas/Seattle/Philadelphia at New Orleans, 4:40 p.m. (FOX)  
**CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
 Sunday, Jan. 20  
 AFC  
 TBD, 3:05 p.m. (FOX)  
 AFC  
 TBD, 6:40 p.m. (CBS)  
**PRO BOWL**  
 Sunday, Jan. 27  
 At Orlando, Fla.  
 AFC vs. NFC, 3 p.m. (ABC/ESPN)  
**SUPER BOWL**  
 Sunday, Feb. 3  
 At Atlanta  
 AFC champion vs. NFC champion, 6:30 p.m. (CBS)

NBA STANDINGS

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	28	12	.700	—
Philadelphia	25	14	.641	2½
Boston	23	15	.605	4
Brooklyn	19	21	.475	9
New York	10	29	.256	17½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	19	18	.514	—
Charlotte	18	20	.474	1½
Orlando	17	21	.447	2½
Washington	15	24	.385	5
Atlanta	11	27	.289	8½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	27	10	.730	—
Indiana	26	12	.684	1½
Detroit	17	19	.472	9½
Chicago	10	29	.256	18
Cleveland	8	31	.205	20

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	22	15	.595	—
San Antonio	22	17	.564	1
Memphis	18	20	.474	4½
Dallas	18	20	.474	4½
New Orleans	17	22	.436	6

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	26	11	.703	—
Oklahoma City	25	13	.658	1½
Portland	22	17	.564	5
Utah	19	20	.487	8
Minnesota	18	21	.462	9

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	25	14	.641	—
L.A. Clippers	22	16	.579	2½
L.A. Lakers	21	18	.538	4
Sacramento	19	19	.500	5½
Phoenix	9	31	.225	16½

**FRIDAY'S GAMES**  
 Utah 117, Cleveland 91  
 Boston 114, Dallas 93  
 Brooklyn 109, Memphis 100  
 Indiana 119, Chicago 116, OT  
 Miami 115, Washington 109  
 Minnesota 120, Orlando 103  
 Milwaukee 144, Atlanta 112  
 L.A. Clippers 121, Phoenix 111  
 New York 119, L.A. Lakers 112  
 Oklahoma City 111, Portland 109

**SATURDAY'S GAMES**  
 Denver 123, Charlotte 110  
 Utah at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
 Dallas at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.  
 New Orleans at Cleveland, 8 p.m.  
 Memphis at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.  
 Toronto at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.  
 Golden State at Sacramento, 10 p.m.  
 Houston at Portland, 10 p.m.

**SUNDAY'S GAMES**  
 Brooklyn at Chicago, 3:30 p.m.  
 L.A. Lakers at Minnesota, 3:30 p.m.  
 Orlando at L.A. Clippers, 3:30 p.m.  
 Miami at Atlanta, 6 p.m.  
 Washington at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.  
 Indiana at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.  
 Charlotte at Phoenix, 8 p.m.

**MONDAY'S GAMES**  
 San Antonio at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
 Brooklyn at Boston, 7:30 p.m.  
 Denver at Houston, 8 p.m.  
 Memphis at New Orleans, 8 p.m.  
 Utah at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.  
 L.A. Lakers at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.  
 New York at Portland, 10 p.m.  
 Orlando at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

**TUESDAY'S GAMES**  
 Indiana at Cleveland, 7 p.m.  
 Washington at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.  
 Atlanta at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.  
 Denver at Miami, 7:30 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.  
 Sacramento at Phoenix, 9 p.m.  
 Charlotte at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.  
 New York at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

PROFESSIONAL GOLF

**TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS PAR SCORES**

**Friday**  
**At Plantation Course at Kapalua**  
**Kapalua, Hawaii**  
**Purse: \$6.5 million**  
**Yardage: 7,518; Par 73**

**Second Round**

Gary Woodland	67-67—134	-12
Bryson DeChambeau	69-68—137	-9
Rory McIlroy	69-68—137	-9
Kevin Tway	66-71—137	-9
Marc Leishman	68-70—138	-8
Xander Schauffele	72-67—139	-7
Cameron Champ	71-68—139	-7
Justin Thomas	67-72—139	-7
Ian Poulter	71-69—140	-6
Jason Day	69-71—140	-6
Patton Kizzire	69-71—140	-6
Jon Rahm	70-71—141	-5
Dustin Johnson	67-74—141	-5
Webb Simpson	70-72—142	-4
Andrew Putnam	69-73—142	-4
Michael Kim	71-72—143	-3
Brandt Snedeker	75-69—144	-2
Francesco Molinari	73-71—144	-2
Charles Howell III	74-70—144	-2
Paul Casey	73-71—144	-2
Troy Merritt	73-71—144	-2
Andrew Landry	69-75—144	-2
Aaron Wise	74-71—145	-1
Brice Garnett	73-72—145	-1
Matt Kuchar	72-73—145	-1
Patrick Reed	70-75—145	-1
Keegan Bradley	77-69—146	E
Brooks Koepka	76-70—146	E
Billy Horschel	72-75—147	+1
Scott Piercy	76-72—148	+2
Ted Potter, Jr.	75-73—148	+2
Bubba Watson	70-79—149	+3
Satoshi Kodaira	77-76—153	+7



TREVOR BAUKNIGHT / THE SUMTER ITEM

Wilson Hall's Chandler Scott (5) puts up a shot during the Barons' 42-35 loss to Heathwood Hall on Friday at Nash Student Center.

BARONS FROM PAGE B1

Center Brooklyn led the Lady Highlanders in scoring with 17 and Goodwin poured in 15.

The Lady Barons rolled into the game after winning the Patriot Division of Carolina Invitational at Porter-Gaud School in Charleston last weekend.

Wilson Hall defeated Porter-Gaud 58-51 in the championship game. The Lady Barons had five players score in double figures. McCaffrey led WH with 13 points. Jackson had 11 points, while Liza Segars, Elmore and Jarecki each had 10. Duffy grabbed nine rebounds.

Segars was named the most valuable player. Jackson and Elmore were named to the all-tournament team.

Wilson Hall beat Augusta Christian School 65-27 in the semifinals.

Elmore led the Lady Barons with 14 points. Jackson added 10, while Jarecki and Duffy both had nine.

The Wilson Hall boys did not fare as well as the girls on Friday, as the Barons fell to Heathwood Hall 42-35.

Senior guard Chandler Scott led Wilson Hall in scoring with 12 and senior forward Grey Holler added nine.

"We had great effort in the first half," Wilson Hall head coach Eddie Talley said. "We moved the ball, got inside, had extra passes and were running stuff. In the second half, we

didn't do so much. We had nine points in the second half."

Senior guard Cam Carraway led the Highlanders in scoring with 16, junior guard Isaiah Caldwell had 15 and junior guard Maurice Bell had nine.

At the end of the first quarter, the game was tied 9-9. Heathwood went on a 15-6 run to take a 24-15 lead with 2:55 to go before the half. However, the Barons ended the quarter on an 11-0 run that included a 3-point play from Scott, a three-pointer from senior guard Grant DeVarona, a layup from Holler and a 3-pointer from Scott to take a 26-24 lead at the half.

The Highlanders outscored the Barons 10-5 in the third quarter to take a 34-31 entering the fourth. Seven of those points came from Caldwell, including a vicious putback dunk.

Wilson Hall continued to struggle offensively in the fourth quarter and was outscored 8-4 in the final frame.

Although his team lost, Talley is still optimistic that his team can improve.

"I liked some stuff from the team tonight," he said. "We'll build on that and try to get better."

The loss dropped the Barons to 3-5 on the season, while the Highlanders improved to 10-3.

Wilson Hall begins SCISA Region II-3A on the road against Orangeburg Prep.

GIRLS AREA ROUNDUP

Lady Stallions cruise past Crestwood 46-35

Lee Central High School's varsity girls basketball team improved to 9-6 on the season with a 46-35 victory over Crestwood on Friday at The Castle.

A'yannah Lucas led the Lady Stallions with 12 points.

**MANNING 59**  
**ACADEMIC MAGNET 38**

MANNING — Manning High School opened its Region VII-3A schedule with a 59-38 victory over Academic Magnet on Friday at John Thames Arena.

Ariyonia Busby led the Lady Monarchs, 13-3 overall, with 21 points. Measha Jones had 16 points and Niyah Brand had 10.

**EAST CLARENDON 48**  
**JOHNSONVILLE 34**

JOHNSONVILLE — Talaysia Cooper scored 23 points to lead East Clarendon High School to a 48-34 victory over Johnsonville on Friday at the JHS gymnasium.

Rhamey Floyd added 10 points for the Lady Wolverines, who led 28-15 at halftime.

**EAST CLARENDON**

Anderson 7, Cooper 23, Floyd 10, Wilson 4, K. Floyd 4.

**JOHNSONVILLE**  
 Lewis 6, Nesmith 13, Graham 9, Blakely 4, Eaddy 2.

**CHRISTIAN ACADEMY 57**  
**ROBERT E. LEE 41**

BISHOPVILLE — Robert E. Lee Academy fell to 1-1 in SCISA Region IV-2A with a 57-41 loss to Christian Academy on Friday at the REL gymnasium.

Carson Shannon led the Lady Cavaliers, 9-2 overall, with 19 points and nine rebounds. Caleigh Barrett added 10 points and eight rebounds, while Rebecca Dinkins had seven points and three blocked shots. MJ Logan grabbed nine rebounds.

**HAMMOND 54**  
**LAURENCE MANNING 41**

MANNING — Laurence Manning Academy lost to Hammond 54-41 on Friday at Bubba Davis Gymnasium.

Lexi Bennett and Aubrey Bennett both scored nine points to lead LMA.

JV BASKETBALL

**WILSON HALL 45**

**HEATHWOOD HALL 36**

Wilson Hall improved to 5-1 with a 45-36 win over Heathwood Hall on Friday at Nash Student Center.

Gracyn Coker led the Lady Barons with 14 points. Lucy Matthews added 13 and Abbie Beatson had eight.

**LAURENCE MANNING 28**  
**HAMMOND 6**

MANNING — Laurence Manning Academy evened its record at 3-3 with a 28-6 win over Hammond on Friday at Bubba Davis Gymnasium.

Madison Truett led LMA with 10 points. Eaddy Gamble added six points.

B TEAM BASKETBALL

**WILSON HALL 36**  
**HEATHWOOD HALL 15**

Wilson Hall improved to 5-0 with a 36-15 win over Heathwood Hall on Friday at Nash Student Center.

Mary Beth VanPatten led the Lady Barons with 13 points. Aubrey Payne and Maggie Norris both had five.

From staff reports

BOYS AREA ROUNDUP

Monarchs open region play with 61-37 win over Military Magnet

MANNING — Manning High School's varsity boys basketball team opened its Region VII-3A schedule with a 61-37 victory over Military Magnet on Friday at John Thames Arena.

Jordan Loudon had 19 points to lead the Monarchs, who improved to 12-1 on the season. Israel Brown added 11 points.

**LEE CENTRAL 48**  
**CRESTWOOD 41**

Lee Central High School improved to 10-3 with a 48-41 win over Crestwood on Friday at The Castle.

Lebron Thomas led the Stallions with 15 points. Kentavious Reed added 13.

Crestwood fell to 4-9. KJ Richardson led the Knights with 17 points.

**HAMMOND 69**  
**LAURENCE MANNING 61**

MANNING — Laurence Manning Academy lost to Hammond 69-61 on Friday at Bubba Davis Gymnasium.

Umar Lawson led the Swampcats with 22 points.

Chase Lee added 21.

**EAST CLARENDON 53**  
**JOHNSONVILLE 49**

JOHNSONVILLE — East Clarendon improved to 3-1 in Region VII-2A with a 53-49 victory over Johnsonville on Friday at the JHS gymnasium.

Keyon Wilson led the Wolverines, 4-5 overall, with 16 points. Marquis Pearson added 13.

**EAST CLARENDON**  
 Calvin 4, K. Wilson 16, Pearson 13, J. Wilson 7, Bryant 8, Barnes 5.

**JOHNSONVILLE**  
 Graves 15, Lewis 9, Graham 7, Gillard 6, Moore 4, Williams 5, Langley 3.

JV BASKETBALL

**LAURENCE MANNING 32**  
**HAMMOND 20**

MANNING — Laurence Manning Academy improved to 7-1 with a 32-20 victory over Hammond on Friday at Bubba Davis Gymnasium.

Jaden Sanders led LMA with 14 points. Denzell Sigler and Coleman Yates both had six points.

From staff reports

## NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

## Matchups that could determine Alabama vs. Clemson Part IV

BY RALPH D. RUSSO

The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Clemson and Alabama are playing in the College Football Playoff for the fourth straight season, and the third time for the national championship.

The winner Monday will become the first 15-0 FBS champion.

With the help of SEC Network analyst Cole Cubelic, a former Auburn offensive lineman, a breakdown of some of the key matchups that could decide Tide-Tigers Part IV.

## CLEMSON ON LINE

There are few one-on-one matchups where Alabama is ever going to be at a disadvantage. Clemson's defensive line might be good enough to capitalize on some small vulnerability even without suspended 340-pound run stuffer Dexter Lawrence.

Tigers All-America defensive tackle Christian Wilkins against Alabama left guard Lester Cotton is a place where the Tigers can win one-on-one.

"Wilkins is a player who has really good quickness inside. Could be very disruptive against a player who was benched in the middle of the season for a younger player that came in and sort of took his spot and is now suspended and not going to play," Cubelic said.

Deonte Brown was suspended for an undisclosed NCAA violation, Alabama coach Nick Saban has said.

Alabama right tackle Jedrick Willa has occasionally had some problems in pass protection. The Tide might need to provide some help for



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Clemson sophomore linebacker Isaiah Simmons (11) reacts after making a defensive stop during the Tigers' 30-3 victory over Notre Dame in the Cotton Bowl College Football Playoff semifinal game last weekend. Simmons, a former safety, matched up well against the Irish's top receiver, Miles Boykin, during the game.

the sophomore to deal with Clemson's defensive ends, whether it's All-American Clelin Ferrell, Cotton Bowl defensive MVP Austin Bryant or freshman Xavier Thomas, who looks like Clemson's next great pass rusher.

Clemson leads the nation with 52 sacks, led by Ferrell with 11 1/2 and Bryant with eight, including two against Notre Dame. The Tigers also lead the nation in yards per play allowed at 4.05.

Cubelic said he would expect Clemson to rely on the defensive line to hold its own against the run and commit more players to coverage. It sounds weird to say of Alabama, but challenging this Tide team to run the ball is probably the way to go.

"They're kind of greedy," Cubelic said of Alabama's offense, led by quarterback Tua Tagovailoa. "They know

they're really good throwing the ball. They know they have an elite quarterback and elite wide receivers. Why not go out there and pitch it around?"

Tagovailoa, the Heisman runner-up, has a 205.19 passer efficiency rating, which would break Baker Mayfield's single-season record from last year.

Senior Albert Huggins played well filling in for Lawrence against Notre Dame, but the junior is more likely to be missed this week.

"He's probably one of the best linemen in college football, no doubt, in terms of his production and his performance," Saban said. "He's played really well against us in the past."

## Q RATING

If there was a defensive player with a case to the win the Heisman Trophy this season, Alabama's Quinnen Williams was the guy. He has

hardly been slowed down and it's doubtful Clemson center Justin Falcinelli, an All-ACC player, and guards John Simpson, Gage Cervenka and Sean Pollard will be a physical match for the future top-five NFL draft pick.

Williams, an All-American and Outland Trophy winner, plays differently than the recent dominant Tide nose guards such as Terrence Cody and Daron Payne. Williams often lines up in one gap, and then shoots into another gap or works his way from one shoulder of a blocker to the other. Clemson uses a lot of zone- and gap-blocking schemes, where its linemen are assigned to block a particular space rather than a man.

"The scheme is not very friendly to handle not only a guy as talented as Quinnen Williams, but the way he plays," Cubelic said.

The 295-pound Williams had 18 tackles for loss, including eight sacks.

## FLUSTERING THE FRESHMAN

Clemson freshman quarterback Trevor Lawrence has all the physical gifts. From that standpoint, he is ready for Alabama. The challenge against the Tide for Lawrence will be as much mental as physical.

Alabama's overwhelming talent sometimes overshadows just how well-coached the players are. The Tide doesn't make many mistakes and Saban's defenses throw a lot at quarterbacks.

"The windows are going to close faster," Cubelic said. "The pressure is going to be applied more quickly. The decisions are going to have to be

made faster."

Lawrence has completed 65.5 percent of his passes, with 27 touchdown passes and only four interceptions.

An underrated part of Lawrence's game is his mobility, but he hasn't used it much until late in the season. He has 86 yards on 10 carries in the last three regular-season games. Swinney said he'd like to see Lawrence take off more.

"Sometimes people will drop and play coverage and receivers will have to work and work and work to try to get open and he's confident he can rip it there," Swinney said.

Because Alabama is so good up front with Williams, Raekwon Davis and Isaiah Buggs (team-high 9.5 sacks), it is likely Lawrence will see a lot of seven- and eight-man coverage and get some opportunities to run.

"If Alabama is going to give you anything, you damn well better take it," Cubelic said.

Alabama's excellent pass rush has helped bring along a secondary that relies on talented but inexperienced corners such as freshman Patrick Surtain.

"I don't know how good the Alabama secondary is," Cubelic said. "And I don't think anybody else really knows."

Clemson has a versatile group of receivers with Tee Higgins (11 touchdowns) and Justyn Ross (eight touchdowns) both checking in at 6-foot-4, Amari Rogers (four touchdowns), who is built like a running back, and senior Hunter Renfrow, who has scored four touchdowns in two previous championship games against Alabama.

## CHAMPS FROM PAGE B1

and Swinney to implement their holistic approaches to building championship teams.

"Everything matters in every area of your program," Turnipseed said Saturday at media day for the College Football Playoff national championship game. "That's hard for a lot of programs to buy into. If you're not willing to be the best at every single one of those categories, whatever it maybe, Clemson and Alabama are dedicated to that so we're going to continue to move ahead."

No. 1 Alabama (14-0) and No. 2 Clemson (14-0) will meet Monday night at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, the fourth straight year the Crimson Tide and Tigers have played in the playoff and third time they will decide the title.

Turnipseed is a former teammate of Swinney's on Alabama's 1992 national championship team who was working as an administrator in Tuscaloosa even before Saban took over in 2007. Turnipseed oversaw facilities projects, but Saban expanded that role.

"He just started calling me out of the blue his director of football exter-

nal affairs. I was associate AD for special projects. Nothing to do with Xs and Os," Turnipseed said.

Analytics, recruiting, branding the program through graphic design, Turnipseed's job was to build a structure for Saban's process to thrive.

After former Alabama athletic director Mal Moore died in 2013, Swinney and Turnipseed reconnected.

"And he really just said come make us better," Turnipseed said.

Swinney said: "I mean, he's just been one of the best hires that I've ever made for sure."

The first big project at Clemson was a massive restructuring of the recruiting department, using Alabama's war-room evaluation as a blueprint and increasing staff from a handful to dozens of evaluators. The difference was Swinney wanted to place greater emphasis on how players fit Clemson's culture, which flows from the head coach's warmer approach and emphasis on a family feel.

Saban might lack Swinney's personal touch and easygoing manner, but in his own steely way he is very much a players' coach. When talking about his program, Saban constantly references the need to create value for the players.

"I think being successful is really the same formula, whether it's as a football player or being an executive at Apple," Saban said. "So we try to teach our players that, and hopefully some of the experiences that they sort of have competitively as football players can carry over and help them be more successful in life."

ESPN announcers Chris Fowler and Kirk Herbstreit, who have called all four CFP national championship games, get a look behind the curtain at Alabama and Clemson more than maybe any other members of the media.

"The similarities are an absolute rock-solid top-down commitment from each school," Fowler said. "They pour resources in, human resources, financial resources, incredible attention to detail. The recruiting machine at each school, they know that's the fuel that keeps the engine running. They're both great at it in different ways, different styles perhaps. The way they round up talent is what sets them apart."

Herbstreit said Saban and Swinney have far more differences than similarities in how they set the tone for their programs. But the similarities are crucial to explaining their success.

"I think it's the competitive spirit and drive that both these guys have," Herbstreit said. "It's the creativity of trying to change things while they have success, not allowing complacency to set in. I think that's a big part."

At Clemson, Turnipseed has overseen the building of Clemson's \$55 million Allen N. Reeves Football Complex, which opened in 2017. The one with a slide, which is definitely more Swinney than Saban.

Turnipseed took control of the food services in the facility to ensure higher quality and more involvement with Clemson's nutritionists. To emphasize the work former Clemson linebacker Jeff Davis has done for years mentoring players and promoting community service, Turnipseed studied what Alabama does, as well as schools such as Tennessee and Michigan, and created P.A.W. (passionate about winning) Journey. Davis' office is right at the front of the building.

"This culture that we're building at both places, everything we're doing benefits the student-athletes," Turnipseed said. "We should be passionate about building the man before the athlete. That's kind of what Nick does in his own and Dabo does in his own way."

## TIGERS

FROM PAGE B1

Lawrence's play has borne that out.

He's thrown for 2,933 yards with 27 touchdowns with just four interceptions. Clemson has averaged more than 45 points and 540 yards a game since Lawrence took over against Syracuse in game five.

Swinney said Lawrence never acted like he didn't belong, showing a mix of confidence, poise and ability that stood out. Swinney realized that last spring when he "saw how quickly (Lawrence) processed things, how easy it was for him," the coach said.

The hard part for Swinney came in September when he elevated Lawrence to starter over Bryant.

The quarterback selection was a choice looming since the 6-foot-6, strong-armed, long-haired Lawrence arrived on campus. Two experienced reserve passers in Zerrick Cooper and Tucker Israel transferred in January. Another five-star quarterback in Hunter Johnson left in May for Northwestern after going through spring ball.

Bryant, who went 16-2 as a starter, led Clemson to the Atlantic Coast Conference title

and the College Football Playoff a season ago. But he struggled in the Tigers' passing game and a poor showing in the 24-6 loss to Alabama in the Sugar Bowl last year left the door wide open for speculators to pencil in Lawrence ahead of the popular Bryant.

Bryant kept the job into the season and started Clemson's first four games until Swinney knew what he had to do.

"At the end of the day, this is not middle school," Swinney said in September. "There's tough decisions that have to be made at his level and you have to do what's best for the team."

Some programs might not have moved forward unscathed after such a switch. Clemson All-American defensive tackle Christian Wilkins never had a doubt the Tigers would remain on track.

"I'm sure a lot of you all would've liked more controversy," Wilkins joked this week. "That's more of a testament to our leadership. We've got a lot of older guys who've been around for a while, just experienced a lot and we weren't going to let that faze us."

Wilkins said they all still love and respect Bryant, who has transferred to Missouri, "but we weren't going to let that stop us."

Wilkins, the 6-4, 315-pound

senior, went a long way to calming any locker room concerns about the switch when he took Lawrence to breakfast the week of Bryant's demotion. Wilkins downplays the meeting — "I was going to eat breakfast anyway," he said — but Lawrence believes it gave him instant credibility to lead a veteran-stocked club.

"It meant a lot," Lawrence said.

Things couldn't have started worse for Lawrence and the Tigers when the freshman left with an injury before halftime of his first college start against Syracuse on Sept. 29 and the Tigers trailed 23-13 with less than 13 minutes left. But Clemson rallied with one-time sixth-string passer Chase Brice in the game and tailback Travis Etienne rushing for two TDs down the stretch of the 27-23 win.

Lawrence threw two touchdown passes in his next start, a 63-3 win at Wake Forest, and has not slowed down since.

Swinney is pleased with Lawrence's progress, but still hurts when thinking about the quarterback change. Bryant gave his all to the Tigers during his time there, Swinney said, but this was simply a football decision.

"I'm not going to apologize for doing my job," Swinney said.

Memories that last...

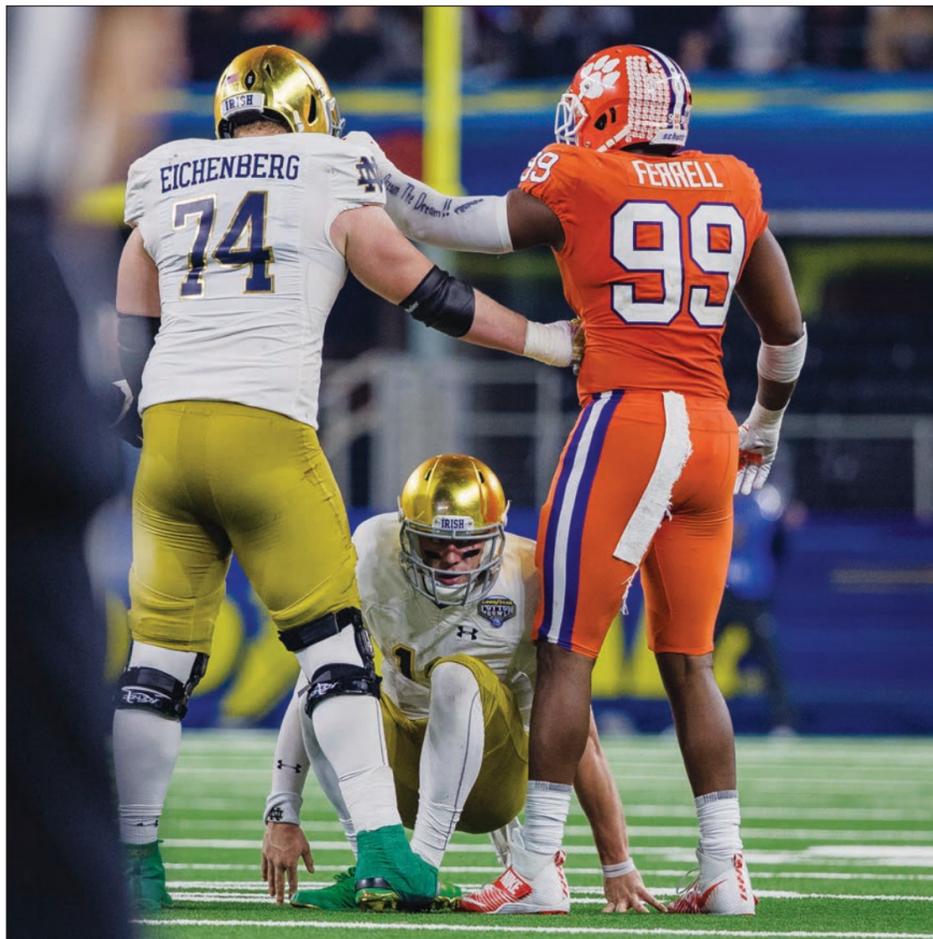
Happy New Year!

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF



MICAH GREEN / THE SUMTER ITEM

Clemson defensive lineman Clelin Ferrell stands over Notre Dame quarterback Ian Book during the Tigers' 30-3 victory in the Cotton Bowl College Football Playoff semifinal game last weekend in Arlington, Texas. Clemson faces Alabama on Monday for the national championship.

# 'Bama-Clemson loaded with NFL draft picks along D-line

BY RALPH D. RUSSO  
The Associated Press

Quality defensive linemen are just about the toughest find in football.

"Well, I do think that most people would agree, whether it's the NFL draft or trying to find guys and recruit guys when they're in high school that have the size and athleticism to be effective in terms of their power, ability to strike, as well as athletic enough to pass rush," Alabama coach Nick Saban said. "I think it's even more difficult now with sort of the spread because there's more loose plays, plays in space, where it requires guys to be able to run and play in space."

No. 1 Alabama and No. 2 Clemson belie conventional wisdom — which helps explain why the Crimson Tide and Tigers are playing in the College Football Playoff for the fourth straight season and third time in the national championship game.

The 2015 title game between the Tide and Tigers featured 10 defensive linemen who were drafted from 2016-18, including six from Alabama. Two more from Clemson who played in that game — defensive tackle Christian Wilkins and end Austin Bryant — will be picked in April.

Wilkins and Bryant are part of a group of 10 edge rushers and interior defensive linemen who will be at

Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, California, for Monday night's national championship game who are likely to be selected in the NFL draft this year.

"The fact that we could have three to four maybe five first-round picks off two defensive lines, that just doesn't happen," said Matt Miller, a draft analyst for Bleacher Report. "Alabama has three starters who are going to be top 75 picks. The top-end talent for 'Bama is crazy. Then you have Clemson, where all four starters and the top reserve are going to be drafted. It's great recruiting. The really aced it with these groups."

Alabama defensive tackle Quinnen Williams is a contender to be the first overall pick, held by the Arizona Cardinals.

Go beyond the defensive lines and more than 20 players from Alabama and Clemson could be selected in the next draft, depending on how many juniors declare.

Miller said for Clemson he has first-round grades on Wilkins, defensive end Clelin Ferrell, suspended defensive tackle Dexter Lawrence and cornerback Trayvon Mullen.

On the Alabama side, Williams is one of five players with first-round grades, along with defensive end Raequan Davis, offensive tackle Jonah Williams, safety Deionte Thompson and line-

backer Mack Wilson. Tight end Irv Smith Jr. is borderline first round.

Quinnen Williams was a rotational player last season, playing behind first-round draft pick Daron Payne. Davis was expected to be the star of this season's Alabama defensive line. Instead, Williams, a third-year sophomore, has put together one of the most dominant performances for a defensive lineman in recent memory.

"A guy who can stop the run, who can rush the quarterback. He embarrassed Oklahoma's O-line. That's the best offensive line in college football," said Miller, who compared the 295-pound Williams to Philadelphia Eagles star Fletcher Cox and Chris Jones of the Kansas City Chiefs.

Alabama senior Isaiah Buggs has had a breakout senior year with 9½ sacks and could slide into the second round. Anfernee Jennings (6-3 and 266 pounds) and Christian Miller (6-4 and 244) are listed as linebackers in Alabama's 3-4 defense, but are first and foremost pass rushers who could be second- or third-rounders.

Clemson's defensive line came into the season with a ton of hype after Wilkins, Bryant and Ferrell all bypassed the chance to go to the NFL after 2017. Ferrell, an explosive pass rusher, has the most NFL upside.

## JEFFERY

FROM PAGE B1

understands the moment and what it takes and when he has to ramp it up and when he has to make plays to help us win. He's in a really good groove right now. I think he is playing with a lot of confidence."

Jeffery has been at his best with Nick Foles at quarterback and in the biggest games. He caught 16 passes for 301 yards and a touchdown in the past three games, all must wins with Foles behind center.

Jeffery knows he might hear some boos when he walks out onto Soldier Field, which he called "terrible" from a footing standpoint.

"Boos? It don't matter to me," Jeffery said. "I play for the Eagles. That comes with the nature of the business."

Jeffery already faced the Bears last season in Philadelphia, a 31-3 rout for the Eagles. He had five catches for 52 yards and one TD.

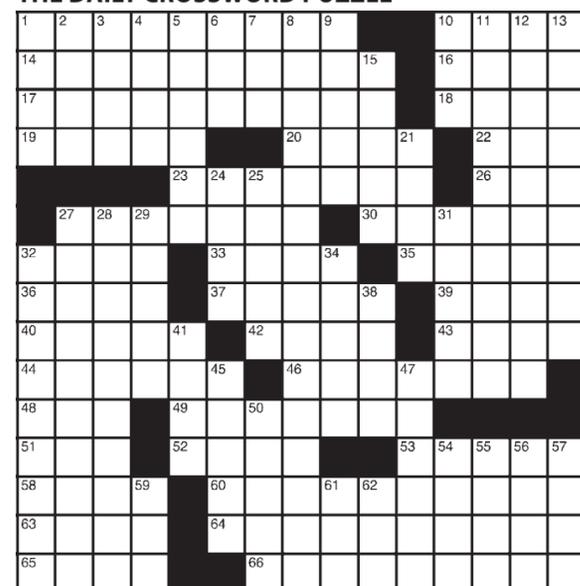


THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Philadelphia wide receiver Alshon Jeffery (17) pulls in a touchdown pass under pressure from Washington cornerback Josh Norman (24) during the Eagles' win last Sunday in Landover, Maryland.

## SATURDAY PUZZLES

### THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Jeffrey Wechsler 1/5/19

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Everything is ruined!"
  - 10 Felipe's assent
  - 14 Teacher and student in one
  - 16 On \_\_\_ streak
  - 17 Gray day feature
  - 18 Buds
  - 19 Red-and-white hat wearer
  - 20 Units
  - 22 Weed-gathering org.
  - 23 "Put your wallets away"
  - 26 Rich beverage
  - 27 They need receivers
  - 30 A parade may require one
  - 32 Well-judged
  - 33 Word before stand or hold
  - 35 Snow
  - 36 Mounted, in a way
  - 37 Word from the Arabic for "friend"
  - 39 Unemployed
  - 40 Homophone for a word of permission
  - 42 Deceive on the ice
  - 43 "Being so great, I have no \_\_\_ to beg": "King Richard II"
  - 44 Cattle drive figures
  - 46 Timon of "The Lion King," e.g.
  - 48 Panamanian pronoun
  - 49 Back
  - 51 USN bigwig
  - 52 Bad lot
  - 53 Unskilled workers
  - 58 Hippie era activity
  - 60 Site for old wheels
  - 63 Strike zone, at times
  - 64 Where love doesn't conquer anything
  - 65 Remove an apostrophe from, say
  - 66 It may be the best thing to do when you're stuck
  - 6 Podium fixture
  - 7 Tokyo, long ago
  - 8 Drinks it all in
  - 9 View
  - 10 Patsy
  - 11 "You could've fooled me"
  - 12 Exclusive source
  - 13 Words of concord
  - 15 Step
  - 21 Hearty fare
  - 24 Ornamental shrubs
  - 25 Common chord
  - 27 '60s music conspiracy theory
  - 28 Dating clarification
  - 29 Smooth shift
  - 31 IBM's exhibit
  - 32 Like some big entrées
  - 34 Backpack carrier
  - 38 Drones, e.g.
  - 41 1856 Stowe novel
  - 45 Muzzle
  - 47 Meal
  - 50 Specifications on vials
  - 54 Cartesian connection
  - 55 Name of five Norwegian monarchs
  - 56 Northwestern U.S. city
  - 57 Analog of -ist
  - 59 64-Across need
  - 61 23-and-Me test subject
  - 62 Frequently complex traffic pattern: Abbr.

**Previous Puzzle Solved**

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

**DOWN**

- 1 Their 1943 manual said, "Be Ready To Take Over"
- 2 Entertainment with swaying
- 3 Very much
- 4 Praise
- 5 Extravagantly Cartoonist with an Edgar Award

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

EGTUS

MNOWA

TINKET

SLOPIH



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GLAND HENCE GLOBAL MISFIT  
Answer: The delays at the skydiving school were a result of — FALLING BEHIND

## 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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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THE ANSWERS TO THESE PUZZLES CAN BE FOUND ON TODAY'S DAILY PLANNER PAGE.

## TOP 25 ROUNDUP

# Mack, Alabama upset No. 13 Kentucky 77-75 in SEC opener

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Tevin Mack made six first-half 3-pointers on his way to 22 points, and Alabama held off No. 13 Kentucky 77-75 on Saturday in the Southeastern Conference opener for both teams.

Dazon Ingram scored all 11 of his points after halftime, including some key free throws in the Crimson Tide's fifth consecutive win. The Wildcats gave them a big scare in the final seconds after surging back from 11 points down.

Ingram made two free throws with 23 seconds left in between back-to-back layups by Ashton Hagans. Hagans' second cut it to 76-73 with 16 seconds left. Alabama (10-3) got the ball across midcourt but Hagans came away with the ball on a steal from Ingram.

PJ Washington scored on a dunk with 5 seconds to play and Kentucky (10-3) quickly fouled John Petty, who made one of two from the line.

Tyler Herro's 3-point try for the win at the buzzer bounced off the rim.

Kira Lewis Jr. had 12 points for the Tide, which had five players score in double figures. Donta Hall had 11 points and 10 rebounds. Herbert Jones finished with 10 points, eight rebounds and six assists.

Washington led the Wildcats with 15 points and they also had all five starters reach double figures. Keldon Johnson finished with 13.

Herro, Reid Travis and Hagans all scored 12. Hagans also had six assists and three steals.

Hall scored on a tap-in to push Alabama's lead to 72-61 with 3:12 left. Johnson answered with a 3-pointer for the Wildcats, who whittled away at the lead but could never quite catch up.

Herro's 3-pointer cut it to 74-69 with 40 seconds left after Travis grabbed the offensive rebound. The Wildcats forced a turnover on the inbounds play and Hagans drove for a layup.

Alabama scored the first eight points after halftime to take a 46-40 lead. The Wildcats were called for three offensive fouls in the first two minutes.

It was the first time Kentucky played in Coleman Coliseum since Feb. 11, 2016.

**(3) TENNESSEE 96**  
**GEORGIA 50**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Jordan Bowden scored 20 points off the bench as No. 3 Tennessee opened Southeastern Conference competition by trouncing Georgia 96-50 on Saturday for its eighth consecutive victory. Tennessee recorded the most lopsided triumph in this series' 146-game history, surpassing a 105-69 Volunteers victory from Feb. 1, 1975.

The Vols (12-1, 1-0 SEC) were one point away from matching their most decisive win over any SEC opponent. Tennessee beat Mississippi 102-55 on Jan. 8, 1966.

Tennessee delighted a sell-out crowd with its 17th consecutive home victory. Tennessee's last home defeat was a 94-84 setback against Auburn on Jan. 2, 2018.

Grant Williams and Admiral Schofield scored 18 points each for Tennessee. Kyle Alexander had 12 points and 14 rebounds, and Jordan Bone added 11 points.

Derek Ogbeida scored 17 points for Georgia (8-5, 0-1), which had a three-game winning streak snapped.

**(4) VIRGINIA 65**  
**(9) FSU 52**

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Kyle Guy scored 21 points and No. 4 Virginia limited No. 9 Florida State to just 15 field goals in a 65-52 victory Saturday.

Guy scored 18 of his points in the first half as the Cavaliers (13-0, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) took a 42-23 lead. Braxton Key added 12 points in the half and finished with 20 for Virginia, off to its best start since the 2014-15 team



Kentucky guard Keldon Johnson (3) shoots against Alabama guard Herbert Jones (10) during the first half of the Crimson Tide's 77-75 upset win in their SEC opener on Saturday in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

won its first 19 games.

Phil Cofer scored nine points to lead the Seminoles (12-2, 0-1 ACC). Florida State shot just 34 percent (15-44) and became the 11th team held below 60 points by Virginia this season. The Cavaliers led the nation in scoring defense, allowing an average of 51.4 points.

**(8) MICHIGAN STATE 86**  
**(14) OHIO STATE 77**

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Casius Winston scored 25 points, Nick Ward added 21 and No. 8 Michigan State extended its unbeaten streak to eight games with an 86-77 victory over No. 14 Ohio State on Saturday.

The second half was tied six times before the Spartans took the lead on a Ward foul shot, and a layup by Kenny Goins put them up by three with 3:28 left.

A Kyle Ahrens put-back at the 2:35 mark, a turnover by Ohio State's Keyshawn Woods and a pair of Aaron Henry foul shots all but sealed it for Michigan State. Ohio State got to within six points twice in the last minute but couldn't get closer.

**(10) VIRGINIA TECH 77**  
**BOSTON COLLEGE 66**

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Nick-eil Alexander-Walker scored 25 points to lead No. 10 Virginia Tech to a 77-66 victory over Boston College on Saturday.

Alexander-Walker made 9 of 14 from the floor for the Hokies (13-1, 2-0 ACC), who overcame a cold-shooting first half to win their eighth straight game. Virginia Tech shot 55.6 percent in the second half (15 of 27).

Boston College (9-4, 0-1) led early in the second half, but Virginia Tech took control with an 11-0 run. Alexander-Walker scored six of those points as the Hokies took a 43-36 lead and never trailed. Alexander-Walker set a career high in scoring in an ACC game.

**(11) TEXAS TECH 63**  
**KANSAS STATE 57**

LUBBOCK, Texas — Davide Moretti scored 19 points and Matt Mooney added 14 to help No. 11 Texas Tech hold off Kansas State 63-57 on Saturday in a matchup of defensive-minded teams.

Barry Brown led the Wildcats with 16 points and Cartier Diarra added 11 on a day when they struggled to make shots and hit just 33 percent (19 of 57) from the field.

Kansas State (10-4, 0-2 Big 12) erased most of a 34-19 half-time deficit when Brown knocked down a 3-pointer with 6:55 to go that pulled the Wildcats to within 43-42.

But Texas Tech (13-1, 2-0) found some offensive rhythm to pull away, despite some struggles at the free-throw

line in the second half (15 of 23). Moretti hit a series of big shots in the second half to account for 10 straight points and help the Red Raiders overcome 13 turnovers in the half.

**(15) NORTH CAROLINA 85**  
**PITTSBURGH 60**

PITTSBURGH — Cam Johnson scored 15 points in his homecoming and No. 15 North Carolina made quick work of Pittsburgh in an 85-60 victory on Saturday.

Johnson, a graduate transfer from the Pittsburgh suburbs who left the Panthers in the spring of 2017, shook off the boos and hit his first three shots as the Tar Heels (11-3, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) opened league play by providing the rebuilding Panthers a reminder of how far they still have to go under first-year head coach Jeff Capel.

Johnson grabbed a season-high nine rebounds for North Carolina. Coby White led the Tar Heels with 22 points, Luke Maye added 17 points and 11 rebounds and North Carolina used a 16-0 run in the first half to subdue the first sellout crowd at the Petersen Events Center in nearly two years.

Trey McGowens scored 17 points for the Panthers (10-4, 0-1) and fellow freshman Xavier Johnson chipped in 14, but Pitt lost its 23rd straight regular-season ACC game. The Panthers shot just 31 percent (19 of 62) from the field and struggled to get into any kind of rhythm. Pitt turned it over 15 times, made only 2 of 19 3-pointers and couldn't keep up once the adrenaline wore off.

**(23) OKLAHOMA 74**  
**OKLAHOMA STATE 64**

NORMAN, Okla. — Kristian Doolittle had 16 points and eight rebounds, and No. 23 Oklahoma beat Oklahoma State 74-64 on Saturday.

Brady Manek scored 15 points and Christian James added 14 points and 11 rebounds for the Sooners (12-2, 1-1 Big 12), who bounced back from a 70-63 loss at No. 5 Kansas on Wednesday.

It was another stellar defensive effort for Oklahoma. Oklahoma State, which entered the day leading the Big 12 in 3-point percentage at 39 percent, went 6 of 26 from long range. The Cowboys shot just 34 percent overall.

Thomas Dziagwa scored 16 points and Michael Weathers added 13 for Oklahoma State (6-8, 0-2).

It might have been a costly victory for the Sooners. Center Jamuni McNeace, who has missed much of the season with a right ankle injury, left in the second half after coming down hard on his ankle.

*From wire reports*

## SPORTS ITEMS

## Luck's 2 TD passes helps Colts over Texans 21-7 in wild-card

HOUSTON — Andrew Luck threw for 222 yards and two touchdowns and the Indianapolis Colts raced out to a big lead and cruised to a 21-7 win over the Houston Texans in the wild-card game on Saturday.

Luck put on a show in his hometown, throwing for 191 yards and two touchdowns before half-time to help the Colts (11-6) build a 21-0 lead.

Indianapolis advances to face the top-seeded Kansas City Chiefs in the divisional round next weekend.

Houston (11-6), which overcame a 0-3 start to win the AFC South, gave up too many big plays and couldn't get anything going on offense in the first half to fall into the huge hole.

Deshaun Watson, who was sacked an NFL-leading 62 times in the regular season, was sacked three times and hit eight more times in a disappointing playoff debut. He finished with 235 yards passing with a touchdown and an interception.

**USC QB JAKE BENTLEY RETURNING TO SCHOOL**

COLUMBIA — South Carolina quarterback Jake Bentley is returning for a final season with the Gamecocks.

Bentley announced Friday on Twitter that he would come back for his senior season.

The 6-foot-4, 224-pound passer was a junior who had been South Carolina's starter since the middle of his freshman season in 2016. Bentley was considering turning pro and had received an evaluation from the NFL Draft Advisory Board about his chances at the next level.

Bentley threw for 3,171 yards, 27 touchdowns and 14 interceptions in an up-and-down season.

Bentley set career highs with 510 yards and five TDs passing in a 56-35 loss at Clemson. But he completed just 17 of 40 throws without a touchdown in a 28-0 loss to Virginia in the Belk Bowl.

**WEST VIRGINIA HIRES TROY'S BROWN FOR 6 YEARS, \$19.05M**

MORGANTOWN — West Virginia has hired Troy's Neal Brown on a six-year, \$19.05 million contract to coach the Mountaineers.

Brown replaces Dana Holgorsen, who left West Virginia to become Houston's coach.

The school announced Brown's hiring on Saturday. President E. Gordon Gee says he's confident the 38-year-old Brown is a "good fit" for West Virginia, its football program and the state.

Brown coached Troy since 2015 and went 35-16 at the Sun Belt Conference school in Alabama, including 3-0 in bowl games. His teams won at Nebraska this past season and at LSU in 2017. The Trojans lost 30-24 at Clemson in 2016, the season the Tigers won the national title.

Before his tenure at Troy, Brown spent two years as offensive coordinator at Kentucky. He has Big 12 experience, having spent

three years at Texas Tech as offensive coordinator.

Holgorsen went 61-41 in eight seasons at West Virginia.

**HALL OF FAME COLLEGE FOOTBALL COACH GEORGE WELSH DIES**

CHARLOTTESVILLE — George Welsh, who coached football at Virginia for 19 years and retired as the Atlantic Coast Conference's career victories leader, has died.

The school made the announcement in a release Friday, saying Welsh's family says he died peacefully in Charlottesville on Wednesday. He was 85.

Welsh compiled a 134-86-3 record at Virginia from 1982-2000. He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2004.

A former quarterback at Navy, Welsh took over a Cavaliers program that had had just two winning seasons in 29 years. He guided Virginia to an 8-2-2 record in his third season, which ended with the school's first appearance in a bowl game. Virginia went to bowl games 11 more times during his tenure.

Welsh also coached at Navy from 1973-81, compiling a 55-46-1 record.

**WOODLAND STAYS IN FRONT WITH A BIG PUTT AT KAPALUA**

KAPALUA, Hawaii — Gary Woodland made a 65-foot eagle putt and finished with a birdie for a 5-under 68 to keep his three-shot lead in the Sentry Tournament of Champions on Saturday.

Rory McIlroy starts the new year playing in the final group after a 68.

They were tied late in the third round when McIlroy missed birdie chances at the par-5 15th and had to scramble for par on the 16th. In the group behind him, Woodland made his long eagle putt to regain the lead.

He was at 17-under 202. Marc Leishman, who made a double bogey on Thursday and a triple bogey on Friday, eliminated big numbers and had a 68. He was four behind.

**GIANTS ACQUIRE UTILITY PLAYER VALERA FROM ORIOLES FOR CASH**

SAN FRANCISCO — The Giants have acquired switch-hitting infielder and outfielder Breyvic Valera from the Baltimore Orioles for cash, adding another former Dodgers player Saturday who new San Francisco president of baseball operations Farhan Zaidi had in Los Angeles.

Valera batted .234 with eight RBIS while playing in 32 games between the Dodgers and Orioles last season while also playing for both clubs' Triple-A affiliates. He was traded to Baltimore in the Manny Machado deal last July 18.

Zaidi has said he likes to find versatile players who can play multiple positions. Valera, who turns 27 on Tuesday, played second base, third, shortstop, left field and center in 94 games between Oklahoma City and Norfolk in 2018. He batted .261 with nine home runs and 39 RBIs.

*From wire reports*



Houston quarterback Deshaun Watson (4) is sacked by Indianapolis defensive tackle Al-Quadin Muhammad (97) during the first half of their NFL wild card playoff game Saturday in Houston. Indianapolis won 21-7.

## STATE ROUNDUP

## James Madison shoots lights out in 69-58 win over Charleston

HARRISONBURG, Va. — Darius Banks hit four 3-pointers and scored 21 points and James Madison shot the lights out in the first half on its way to a 69-58 victory over Charleston on Saturday.

Banks sank 7 of 12 shots from the floor, including 4 of 5 from 3-point range, and the Dukes (8-9, 1-3 Colonial Athletic Association) picked up their first conference win of the season by shooting 65 percent (15 of 23) in the first half. Banks had 10 points and James Madison buried 7 of its 10 shots from distance in the opening half to take a 43-26 lead at intermission. The Dukes cooled off a bit in the second half, but still managed to shoot 54.5 percent from the floor and 53 percent from beyond the arc.

Jarrell Brantley and reserve Jaylen Richard topped the Cougars (13-3, 2-1) with 15 points apiece. Grant Riller scored 13 before fouling out. Charleston shot 39 percent from the floor and made just 4 of 18 3-point tries (22 percent).

The Cougars were trailing 52-36 when Richard's 4-point play keyed a 14-0 run that pulled them within 52-50 with 10:10 left in the game. But Mosley stuck a 3-pointer and made a layup off



a turnover for a 57-50 lead with 8:37 left and Charleston would get no closer than four points from there.

#### FURMAN 101 THE CITADEL 85

GREENVILLE — Matt Rafferty scored a career-high 28 points and grabbed 12 rebounds and Furman beat

The Citadel 101-85 on Saturday, handing the Bulldogs their third straight loss.

Clay Mounce scored 15 points with 13 boards and Jordan Lyons scored 17 with three of Furman's 13 3-pointers. The Paladins (14-2, 3-1 Southern Conference) outscored the Bulldogs 48-34 in the paint, outrebounded them 53-28, and scored 25 second-chance points off of 20 offensive boards. Noah Gurley added 15 points with eight rebounds and Alex Hunter had 13 points.

LeW Stallworth scored 23 points and Alex Reed added 20 points with four 3s for the Bulldogs (9-5, 1-2), who led 46-43 at halftime. Kaiden Rice scored 18 points with five 3s and Zane Najdawi added 11 points with 10 boards and the Bulldogs made 14 of 43 3-pointers.

Reed's 3 tied it at 53 after 10 lead changes, but Lyons made a go-ahead layup and the Paladins pulled away to a 76-70 lead with 8:31 to play. Lyons' 3 sparked an 18-2 run and Furman led by 20 on Tre Clark's 3 with 3:54 left.

#### WINTHROP 80 UNC ASHEVILLE 65

ASHEVILLE, N.C. — Austin Awad hit 6 of 9 from 3-point range and Win-

throp held UNC Asheville scoreless for the final 3½ minutes as the Eagles won the Big South opener, 80-65 on Saturday afternoon.

The Eagles have now won seven straight conference openers.

Kyle Zunic's jumper got Winthrop within one, 17-16, with under four minutes to play in the first half, but UNC Asheville closed the half on a 14-3 run fueled by three 3-pointers by Coty Jude. Awad's 3 with :25 left stopped a string of 14 straight points by the Bulldogs.

Charles Falden hit a 3 with 13:25 left to tie the game at 39. But after LJ Thorpe hit two free throws with 3:28 left to tie at 65, Winthrop closed on a 15-0 run.

Awad made all nine of his attempts from beyond the arc and finished with 19 points for Winthrop (9-5). Falden finished with 13 points off the bench. Josh Ferguson added 10 points and grabbed 12 rebounds and Michael Anumba added nine points, grabbed 11 rebounds and dished seven assists.

Devon Baker had 23 points for the Bulldogs (2-13).

From wire reports

## OBITUARIES

## THOMAS F. COFFEY SR.

MANNING — Thomas Finley Coffey Sr., 72, husband of Carolyn Burriss Coffey, died on Friday, Jan. 4, 2019, as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident.



COFFEY

Born on Jan. 9, 1946, in Kingstree, he was a son of the late William Columbus Coffey Sr. and Adela Bozard Coffey. He was a 1968 graduate of The Citadel, a former Rotarian and Paul Harris Fellow. Fin was the owner of Rigby Oil Co., a member of the Mullet Club, an avid hunter, fisherman, and a loyal member of Manning United Methodist Church.

Surviving in addition to his wife are two sons, Thomas Finley Coffey Jr. and Frank Burriss Coffey (Georgina); four grandchildren, Wells, Finley Anne, John and Meredith Coffey; a brother, William C. Coffey Jr. (Betty), all of Manning; two sisters, Carolyn Coffey Boucher of Greenville and Jane Coffey Sandel (Bobby) of Roanoke, Virginia; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. on Monday at Manning United Methodist Church with the Rev. Kem Thomas officiating. Burial will follow at Manning Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be A.B. Jordan, Ferrell Cothran, Harold Furse, Harold Wilcox, Tommy Cooper and Tommy Bozard.

Honorary pallbearers will be Frank Drose, John Kneece, Bob Tarrant, W.E. Horton, faithful employees of Rigby Oil Co. and members of the Mullet Club.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. today at the residence, 1182 Hickory Ridge Circle, Manning.

Memorials may be made to Manning United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 68, Manning, SC 29102.

Stephens Funeral Home & Crematory, 304 N. Church St., Manning, is in charge of arrangements, (803) 435-2179. [www.stephensfuneralhome.org](http://www.stephensfuneralhome.org)

## JON K. EASTON

Jon Kent Easton, 79, died Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019, at his home.

Born in Seattle, Washington, he was a son of the late Gerald Everett Easton and Dorothy Eleanor Laney Easton.

Mr. Easton was a U.S. Army veteran. He was retired from

Sumter Behavioral Health Services and then remained very involved in Alcoholics Anonymous. He served in many levels of service and literally changed the lives of hundreds of people. He touched many people by introducing them to recovery. Jon stayed on the fringes of so

many lives and things one never truly realized that he was a part of. He literally helped hundreds of people and changed and saved lives both locally as well as statewide.

He had a passion for the outdoors, camping with the Coffee Cup Campers, loved the Smokey Mountains and the Cherokee and Flat Rock areas, as well as for golf, photography, southwest Indian art and culture. He loved his family, his children and extended family and had a kind heart and gentle soul.

Surviving are three sons, Joel Easton of Columbia, Kent Easton of Monroe, North Carolina, and David Easton of Seattle, Washington; two daughters, Beth Thompson of Canada and Diane Cameron of Seattle, Washington; numerous grandchildren; and his special friend Suzanne.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday in the Chapel of the Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home.

The family will receive friends at the Elmore Hill McCreight Funeral Home following the service.

Memorials may be made to Sumter Group Alcoholics Anonymous, 1 Warren St., Sumter, SC 29150 or to the 441 Group, 2090 Hwy. 441 Suite D, Sumter, SC 29154.

Online condolences may be sent to [www.sumterfunerals.com](http://www.sumterfunerals.com).

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



## PAULANER ADDISON

BISHOPVILLE — Paulaner Addison, 92, passed on Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019, at her residence.

Born in Lee County, she was a daughter of the late Rev. Frank and Pauline Mack Addison.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 315 Quinn St., Bishopville.

Funeral arrangements will be announced by Square Deal Funeral Home, 106 McIntosh St., Bishopville.

## THEODIS PARSONS PALMER

Theodis Parsons Palmer, 92, widow of Robert John Palmer, transitioned on Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019, at Agape Hospice and Suites in Lexington.

Born in New Hartford, Missouri, she was a daughter of the late Richard and Evelyn Douglas Parsons. Mrs. Palmer was the executive director of the YWCA of the Upper Lowlands for more than 42 years. She was the owner and CEO of Palmer Memorial Chapel — Sumter.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Palmer Memorial

Chapel Inc.

Please visit our website for further instructions at [www.PalmerMemorialChapel.com](http://www.PalmerMemorialChapel.com).



## ANTONIO TERRELL WRIGHT

Antonio Terrell Wright, husband of Patricia W. Wright, entered eternal rest on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019, at McLeod Regional Medical Center, Florence.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the residence, 4055 Lynchburg Highway, Lynchburg.

Funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. today at Mount Pleasant African Methodist Episcopal Church, Lynchburg, with the pastor, the Rev. Abraham Temoney Jr., officiating.

Wilson Funeral Home, 403 S. Main St., Bishopville, is in charge of arrangements.

## WILLIE MITCHELL JR.

Willie Mitchell Jr., of Washington, D.C., son of Willie Mitchell Sr. and Josephine Alston Waiters, departed this earthly life on Monday, Dec. 24, 2018, after a brief illness.

His memories will be cherished by his siblings, Esther Waiters Gardner (Hampton), Deloris Waiters Furgess (Weston) and Thomas Waiters (Nikki); and a host of other relatives and friends.

Viewing and visitation were held at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Celebration of life services were held at 11 a.m. Saturday at Lets Rock Outreach Ministries, 6701 Suitland Road, Morningside, Maryland. Burial was at Heritage Memorial Cemetery, 13472 Poplar Hill Road, Waldorf, Maryland.

These services were entrusted to the management and staff of Ronald Taylor II Funeral Home, 1722 N. Capital St. NW, Washington, DC 20002.

This is a courtesy announcement of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter, SC 29150.

Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at [williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com](mailto:williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com) or [info@levettfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@levettfuneralhome.com)

Visit us on the web at [www.williamsfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.williamsfuneralhomeinc.com).

## LINDA D. GOODMAN

Linda D. Goodman, 51, daughter of the late Will Henry Goodman Sr. and Rosanna Fulwood Goodman, was born July 17, 1967, in Florence County. She entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019, at Prisma Health Tuomey Hospital, Sumter. She received her formal education in the public schools of Sumter County. She attended Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church, Sumter. Linda was employed at Piggly Wiggly for many years and also worked for the Salvation Army.

She leaves to cherish her memories one daughter, Vanessa K. Goodman of Manning;

two sons, Emanuel Goodman and Arthur R. Goodman, both of Sumter; six brothers, Nathan Burrough, Will H. Goodman Jr., Theodore Goodman, Leroy (Joyce) Goodman, all of Sumter, Robert (Theresa) Goodman of Dalzell; three aunts, Mary Jane Fulwood Butler of Sumter, Sylvia J. Goodman of Olanta, and Viola (Herbert) Wilson of Lynchburg; one uncle, Tommy Goodman of Timmonsville; one granddaughter, Sha'Nyiah D. Burgess; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home, 18 Lakeside Drive, Sumter.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday at 11 a.m. from the John Wesley Williams Sr. Memorial Chapel, Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter, with the Rev. Geneva Stafford, pastor of St. Mark United Methodist Church, officiating, eulogizing.

Burial was in the St. John United Methodist Church Yard Cemetery, Lynchburg.

Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St. Sumter, SC. Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at [williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com](mailto:williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com). Visit us on the web at [www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com](http://www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com).

## LOUISE SESSIONS-GALLOWAY

Mrs. Louise Sessions-Galloway, beloved and devoted wife of the Rev. Robert E. Galloway for 45 years, was born the third of five children to James Arthur and Louise Rose-Sessions on Feb. 8, 1953, in Sumter. She entered eternal rest on Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019.

She was educated in the public schools of Sumter, graduating from Sumter High School with the Class of 1971. Louise was employed for 23 years as a human resources coordinator at Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, where she worked faithfully until her health declined.

Her journey for Christ in the church started at an early age and continued in her marriage to walk with her husband faithfully, becoming the First Lady of five churches pastored by her husband. Louise had a quiet, soft spoken spirit and was loved by everyone she touched along her journey of life. She worked with total commitment in the church serving in various capacities: Women's Missionary Society President, an active missionary member, choir member, Stewardess Board active and as advisor and mentor in the children's mentoring program.

She leaves to cherish her memories and legacy: her husband, Robert E. Galloway; a son, retired Army Capt. Maurice L. Galloway of Atlanta, Georgia; two daughters, Doctor Anita J. Edwards of Nashville, Tennessee, and Ingrid T. Galloway of Sumter; five grandchildren, Tanaya and Ja'Lyn House, Jaylor Galloway, Savannah Edwards and Myles Jones; her mother, Mrs. Louise Rose-Sessions; two

brothers, Willie Sessions and Jose' (Keisha) Sessions; two brothers-in-law, Burroughs James Jr. of Sumter and Charles (Sharon) Butler of New York City, New York; four sisters-in-law, Cassandra (Gbenga) Adedipe of Bamberg, Helen G. Williams and Patricia Garcia, both of Brooklyn, New York, and Ruth G. Charles of Sumter; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Louise was preceded in death by her father; a brother, James Sessions; and a sister, Dianne Campbell.

Public viewing will be held today from 2-6 p.m. at Job's Mortuary.

Mrs. Galloway will be placed in the church tomorrow at 10 a.m. for viewing until the hour of service.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. tomorrow at St. Paul AME Church, 835 Plowden Mill Road, Sumter, SC 29154, with the Rev. Frederick Graves, Pastor and Presiding Elder James S. Cooper, Eulogist.

Entombment will follow in Evergreen Memorial Park.

Family will receive friends at the home, 1014 Decatur St., Sumter, SC 29150.

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

Online memorials may be sent to the family at [jobsmortuary@sc.rr.com](http://jobsmortuary@sc.rr.com), or visit us on the web at [www.jobsmortuary.net](http://www.jobsmortuary.net).

## HELENA L. FLEMING

MANNING — Helena L. Fleming, 72, died Friday, Jan. 4, 2019, at MUSC Hospital Charleston. She was born Nov. 2, 1946, in Manning, a daughter of the late Vander Fleming Jr. and Nancy Mae Dupree Fleming.

Arrangements are incomplete.

These services have been entrusted to Samuels Funeral Home LLC of Manning.

## HATTIE M. DOW

MANNING — On Friday, Jan. 4, 2019, Hattie Mae Miller Dow heard her Master's call at McLeod Health Clarendon.

Born on Dec. 8, 1952, in Manning, she was a daughter of the late Thomas and Agnes Montgomery Miller.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the residence of her son and daughter in law, Michael and Falecia Snider Miller, of 3156 Durant Lane, Jordan community, Manning.

Funeral services are incomplete and will be announced by the Fleming & DeLaine Funeral and Chapel.

## SUSIE M. WITHERSPOON

Susie Mae Witherspoon, 88, widow of Ronnie Witherspoon Sr. and daughter of the late Mike Leon Watson and Mozell E. Watson, was born on April 4, 1930, in Pinewood. She departed this life on Saturday, Jan. 5, 2019, at her residence.

Family will receive friends at the home, 995 Manchester Circle St., Sumter, SC 29154, from 2-6 p.m. daily.

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

# Sumter ITEM OUTDOORS

Call the newsroom at: (803) 774-1226 | E-mail: [pressrelease@theitem.com](mailto:pressrelease@theitem.com)

## Exploring new country

It's an unusual sound. I've heard it here and a few other places before, but it's not heard very often. I had walked away from the truck about 30 yards and stopped in an old road bed. The carpet of pine straw and fallen leaves was soggy from a recent rain and made no sound where I tread.



**Dan Geddings**

There was no wind. There were no birds calling. No muffled sounds of traffic in the distance.

It was the sound of silence. Not just quiet, but total silence. It's only unusual because it is

so different from what we're accustomed to hearing. I lingered, just standing there, listening to this spell of serenity. I didn't want it to end, but I needed to move on.

The road followed the edge of a wide swamp. Hardwoods and low lands on one side and a steep hill of mixed oak and pineland on the other side. The woodlands here are towering and beautiful. These old trees must have many secrets to tell.

After walking a short distance, I stopped again. I noticed a soft breeze overhead in the pine tops and a faint whisper in the wind. The spell of silence was gone now. I moved on, and another sound soon caught my interest. It was farther ahead, and familiar.

"The tinkling melody of a small brook," I thought to myself. It would have been absurd to say it out loud. Out here.

A smaller, rougher road branched off here, into the swamp. Of course, I had to go. It was a little wet but not too bad.



DAN GEDDINGS / SPECIAL TO THE SUMTER ITEM

**Finding a bridge on the creek was a nice surprise.**

Around a turn was a wooden bridge. It spanned a rain-swollen creek that was the source of the sound I had heard. This was no little brook. The bridge was well made and in very good shape. The trail beyond was flooded and blocked by some fallen trees. I could see a powerline just down the trail. Better boots and a chain saw would be needed to explore this area, so I turned back.

Back on the main road, I noticed the sky overhead clearing and blue sky showing. Birds were calling in the thickets now. The breeze was stronger. The road headed up, away from the swampland into the pineland. An unusual color on the ground, at the side of the road, caught my attention.

Pink leaves littered the bronze-colored ground. I stopped to look and picked one up. The underside was matte pink. The top side was glossy, scarlet red. A small, bare bush was the source. All the leaves had fallen to the ground around the bush, and all were lying with the underside turned

up. They were so unusual I took a picture and put one in my pocket.

Farther ahead, I noticed a small clear spot in the road where the leaves had been raked away. The bare ground showed hoof marks. A small branch hung over the road. It was a scrape and licking branch. A small sapling nearby had the bark rubbed and gouged by the antlers of a buck. I looked around and could see other saplings and spindly trees that had been rubbed. This was a good sign. I smiled and moved on down the road.

An open area in the pines beckoned. It was a small wildlife food plot. The ground had been plowed earlier but had not been planted. Rains had washed the sandy soil smooth. A large set of tracks was pressed into the hard-packed ground. Hog tracks. They were fresh. Made after the rain that had ended that morning. There were also a few deer tracks and a set of turkey tracks. I could see another food plot and a deer stand through the pines.

This highcountry hunt club land is new to me. There is much exploring to do, and I can't do it all in one day. I've looked at some of the low lands but not much of the high ground yet. I need to see as much as I can before the spring turkey season opens in March. Being familiar with the lay of the land is a turkey hunting basic.

Just being outside in the outdoors is a treat for me. Exploring new country, finding a bridge, following an old road are things that I love to do. Pink leaves, buck rubs and animal tracks are extra-special things.

Reach Dan Geddings at [cdgeddings@gmail.com](mailto:cdgeddings@gmail.com).

## Boy kills his 1st deer in Sumter



PHOTO PROVIDED

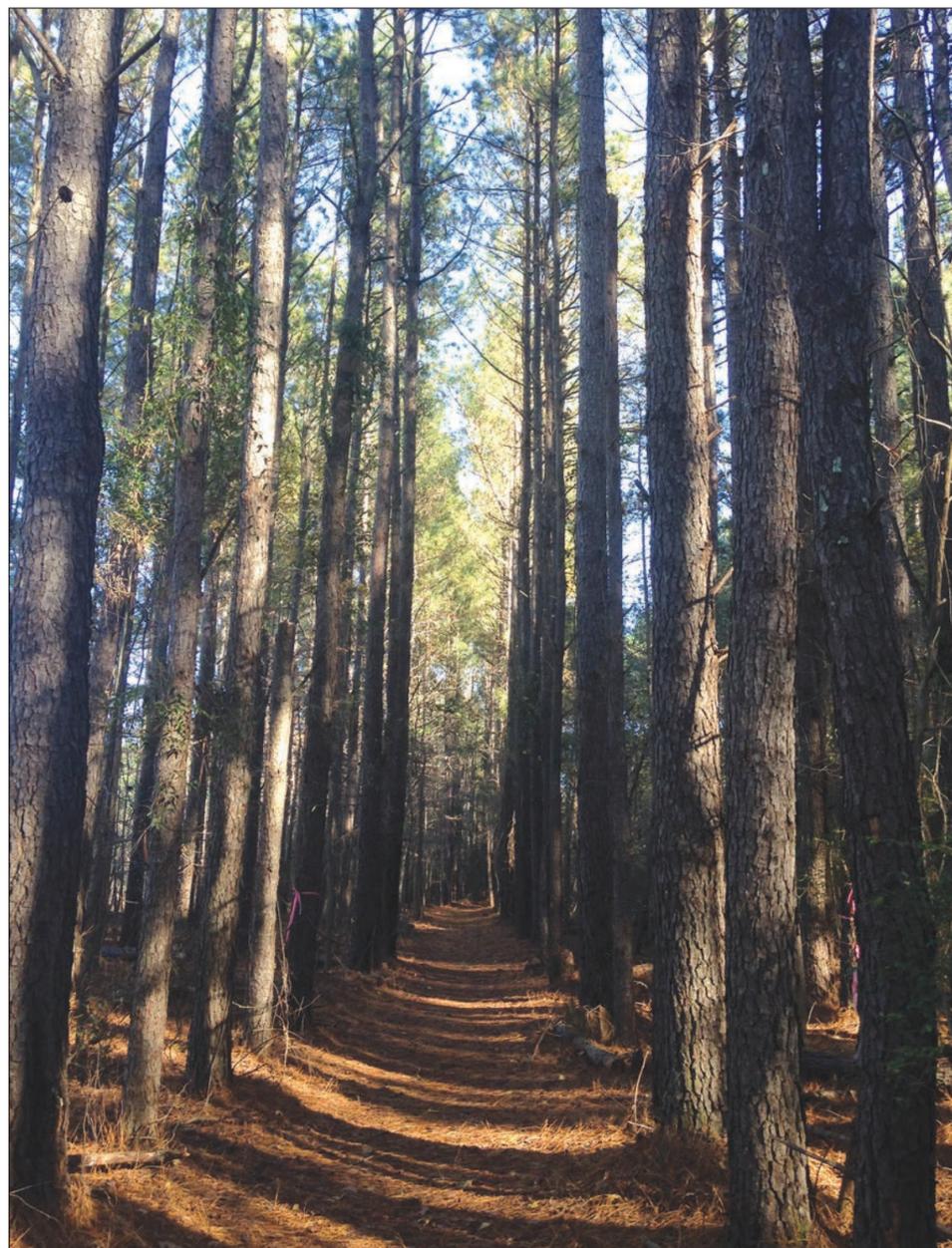
Karson Kinder, 7 years old, the son of Brandon and Daniele Kinder and the grandson of Scott and Cristi Kinder, shot his first deer New Year's Eve at a friend's farm in Sumter.

**Did you kill a big buck? Kill your first deer? Catch a big fish? Catch your first fish?**

We want to share your outdoor photos with our readers. Email your photo submissions to [pressrelease@theitem.com](mailto:pressrelease@theitem.com).

Please include name of person in the photo, where the catch or kill took place and any other pertinent information.

## Cypress Trail offers 6 miles of hiking through Sumter



MELANIE SMITH / THE SUMTER ITEM

Pine trees tower over part of Cypress Trail in Sumter during the late afternoon recently. The trail begins in a corner of Dillon Park and winds for 6 miles through forest, across roads, past a lake and over old railroad ties, parallels the golf course and ends back at Dillon Park.

## Premium programs to be offered at S.C. parks during 2019

### BY SC DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM

COLUMBIA — In 2019, state parks in South Carolina will offer programming that combines art, culture, heritage and ranger-guided recreational excursions to some of the state's most beautiful and significant settings.

Many of the events in the series are hours-long or overnight premium experiences and can be found at [www.SCParkStore.com](http://www.SCParkStore.com) as their registration deadlines approach.

A Winter Nature Photography Workshop with renowned photographer Robert Rommel, for example, will be held Jan. 11-14 at Santee State Park. Participants will spend an entire weekend studying the art, creativity and technical aspects of nature photography, concentrating on landscape, wildlife and up-close shots.

Other programs involve yoga, painting, paddling and 5K running. People who are interested in these exceptional experiences should check [www.SCParkStore.com](http://www.SCParkStore.com) often throughout the year for registration details.

You can also mark your calendars for the following programs on these dates:

- **5K runs** at Sadlers Creek (Feb. 23), Hickory Knob

(March 16), Huntington Beach (April 6) and Sesqui-centennial (May 11).

- **Yoga in the Park with Cheryl Mason** at Santee State Park on April 7-9. This weekend event also will be held Oct. 27-29 at Table Rock State Park.

- **Indigo Painting** at Santee State Park on March 3. The event also will be held

March 19 and Sept. 17 at Devils Fork and Oct. 8 back at Santee.

- **Watercolor journaling** at Santee State Park on March 10-12.

- **Kayak with**

a **Ranger** at Colleton State Park on the fourth Fridays of every month beginning March 22 and ending Oct. 25.

- **Kayak with a Ranger** at Givhans Ferry State Park on the first Fridays of every month beginning April 5 and ending Nov. 1.

- **Watercolor Painting with Amelia** at Santee State Park on April 14-16.

- **Stand-Up Paddleboarding with a Ranger** at Table Rock State Park on the third Friday of every month beginning May 17 and ending Oct. 18.

Fees for these premium programs range from \$35 for a single-day event to \$225 for an event that covers an entire weekend. Details, including when and how to register, any available discounts and how to book lodging, can be found at [www.SCParkStore.com](http://www.SCParkStore.com).



# REFLECTIONS

## Shaw football garnered national attention

At this time of the year, our attention is often focused on football, with dozens of bowl games and the crowning of champions on the high school, college and professional levels.

However, Reflections has researched one of the most memorable football teams to play in Sumter County, the Shaw Fliers. This team became the most successful sports endeavor attempted by the newly created military base. The team was known by such names as the Fliers, Recce-Jets, The Thunder Jets and The Commanders. The achievements it experienced were considered a marvel by the participants and local citizens.



**Sammy Way**  
REFLECTIONS

Reflections provides its readers with a brief history of the team, which brought the air base a high degree of acclaim. The information and photos used to produce this article were taken from *The Sumter Item* archives. The research will be presented in two segments because of the volume of data available.

In August of 1942, Col. Burton M. Hovey Jr., "commanding officer of Shaw Field, placed his stamp of approval on a football program for the field, ensuring a complete fall sports program for officers and enlisted men," according to an article appearing in *The Sumter Daily Item*. Lt. C. E. Clarke, the post athletics officer, noted that Shaw had a wealth of football talent available to form a nucleus for an excellent team. Whether the games would be played on base or at Sumter's athletic facilities had not been determined.

With the onset of World War II, the installation of competitive football was delayed until September of 1948. Shaw's initial team featured "a number of former college and professional stars." The coaches of the team were assured that the football fans in this area would see a brand of competition equal to most college teams.

"It was determined that all of Shaw's home games, with one exception, would be played on Saturday nights at the Sumter fairgrounds stadium. This was the first time, since the base was established, that a football team was organized."

Season tickets for home games were priced at \$1.80, and admission to individual games was placed at 60 cents for adults and 30 cents for children. The first game scheduled for the new Shaw team was a strong unit from Fort Jackson in Columbia. The Fort Jackson 11 soon became Shaw's archrival. The first team to take the field at Shaw featured Capt. Joseph Michaelowski, a bruising fullback from Worcester, Massachusetts. He was chosen as an all-state full-back in 1936 and before that as all-city at end. He attended Becker College in Wooster, Massachusetts, and continued to play football. He enlisted in the Air Corps attending Cadet School, where he graduated in 1942. He earned the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with 13 clusters during World War II. It was his contention that the Shaw football team had potential to become the South's leading service team. The team known as The Fliers experienced a tough initial season as constant maneuvers and deployment greatly reduced their practice time. The majority of their games were played at the fairgrounds stadium.

Following the 1948 season, the program was put on hold because of the Korean conflict. In August of 1951, Shaw would return to the field in earnest, featuring a larger team and new coach, Dino Del Vecchio. According to their new mentor, the team was "primed and would feature several athletes with collegiate and service play experience."

### SHAW FOOTBALL 1951 TO 1954

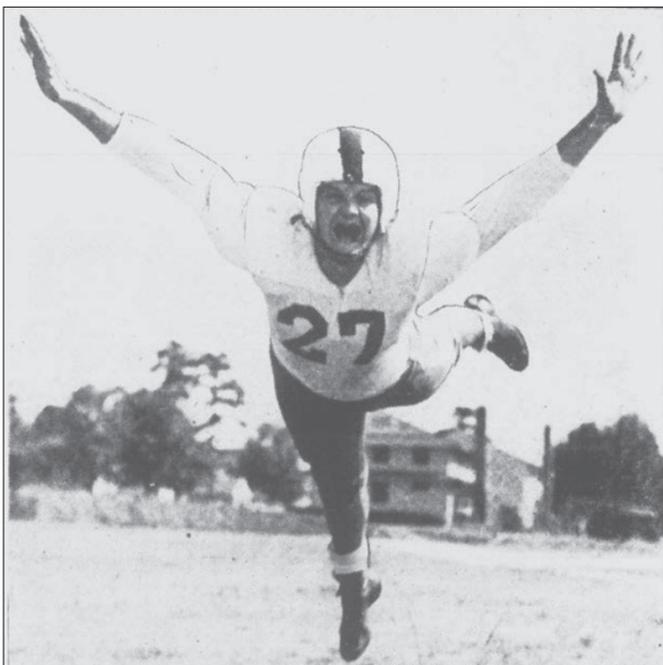
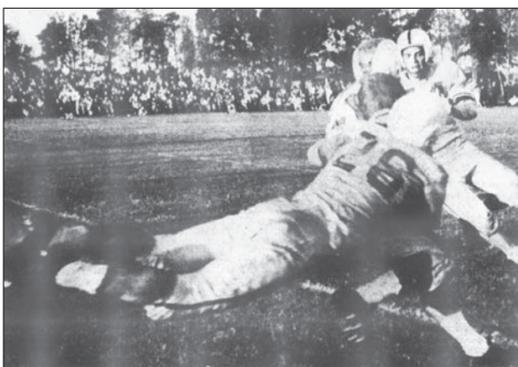
The 1951 edition of Shaw football featured an experienced squad led by "Windy" Wyndham (Clemson), Anson (VMI), Creech and Thomas, who operated from a single wing. This foursome was adept at running and passing and allowed the Shaw team to take chances if it had to. Coach Del Vecchio was an adept football coach with more than 18 years of college and professional experience. Under his tutelage, the program rapidly became a power in service ball. One of the changes evident about the team was its name changed from the Recce Jets to the T-Jets (thunder). Under the leadership and stellar play of Windy Wyndham, the team amassed a winning record, and its games attracted increasing numbers of fans.

The 1952 season saw continued success for the Shaw program, as evident with the increased turnout of athletes and an expanded coaching staff including Head Coach Capt. George Wright, Assistant Coach Leonard Pitts, Backfield Coach Edgar Lewis and Line Coach Martin Richman. The team defeated Donalson Air Force Base before a crowd of 2,500 Sumterites by the score of 27-0 in what was referred to as the Community Chest Bowl. The team dedicated the proceeds of the game to the local Community Chest drive.

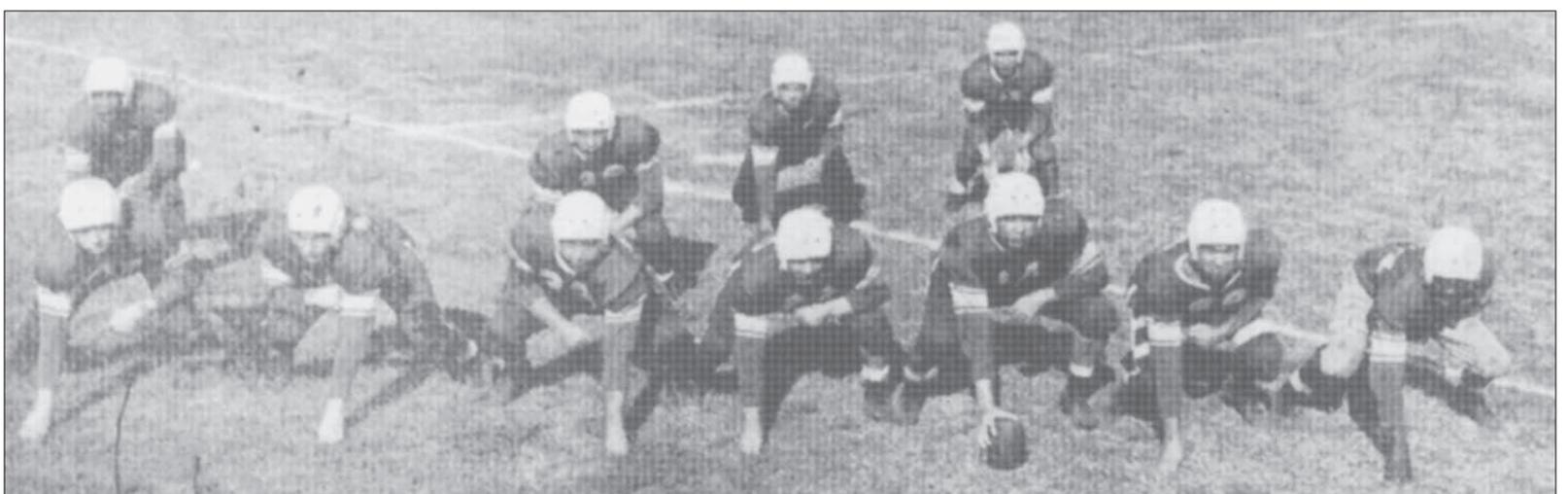


SUMTER ITEM FILE PHOTOS

ABOVE: Four standout performers on the Shaw Recce-Jet football squad in the 1954 season are seen with Winfield Scott, former coach who was replaced by Capt. George Wright. Scott was transferred from the base. From left are Tony DiCiccio, left half from Midland, Pennsylvania; Edgar Lewis, quarterback from Lake Charles, Louisiana; Scott; Bruce Cobb, halfback from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, who at the time the picture was taken was no longer with the team; and Leonard Pitts, the guard from Newberry. BELOW LEFT: George Maloof, sparkplug of the Shaw Field football team, stops ex-Vanderbilt star Jimmy Ray at the sideline with a sensational flying tackle. Ray had eluded most of the Flier defenders and was almost in the clear when torpedoed by the flying Flier. BELOW RIGHT: Johnny Gramling throws the ball during the 1954 season.



ABOVE LEFT: Leonard Pitts, first string guard and assistant coach for the Shaw Air Force Recce-Jets, was an ex-Newberry College player. Pitts tipped the scales at 225 pounds and made his weight count in games during the 1952 season with other service squads. A member of Headquarters Squadron, 363rd Air Base Group, he called Newberry home. ABOVE RIGHT: Captain Joseph Michaelowski, seen with his new bride Eleanor Barwick on their wedding day, was a bruising full-back and offensive end for Shaw's earliest teams in the 1940s.



This was Shaw's starting lineup in the 1947-48 season for their first game against the Bolling Air Force Base Generals in Washington, D.C. In the backfield, from left, are Thomas, Wyndham, Creech and Anson. The line, from left, is Kirk, Norwood, Powers, Townsend, Reid, Rice and DeBerry. During the weeks after the first game, Shaw was to meet service teams in the Southeast, including the Parris Island Marines, Atlanta General Depot and several Air Force teams.

## Residents urged to collect paper for drive; fire deaths increase

**75 YEARS AGO — 1944**

July 29 — Aug. 4

• Pfc. William D. (Billy) Scott, USMC, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Scott, is at West Coast Hospital recovering from wounds received in fighting on Saipan Island on June 27. Overseas since last November, the Saipan conquest was the first major battle in which the Sumter boys had participated. He was shot by an enemy sniper in the left arm, and the bone was broken above the elbow. Along with the other wounded, he was evacuated from the Pacific area and arrived at San Diego on July 17. After about two months in the hospital, he expects to get leave to come home.

• The WAVES, who are celebrating the second anniversary of their organization, will number another Sumter girl in their ranks shortly. Miss Elizabeth Hodges, daughter of Mrs. B. D. Hodges of Sumter, has been accepted for officer training and will report the end of August. Miss Hodges has been working this summer on a farm in Maine as a member of the WEFS or Women's Emergency Farm Service. Miss Emilie Haynsworth and Miss Marie Hodges, sister of the newly accepted WAVE, are also in Maine. The Navy recruit is a graduate of Radcliffe College and has taught for several years at St. Timothy's, Catonsville, Maryland.

• Pfc. Jess W. Davis has been wounded in action in France, his mother, Mrs. Mary H. Davis of Route 1, has been notified by the War Department. The extent of his wounds, received on July 5, is not known. Pfc. Davis has been transferred to an English hospital. He has served in the Army since October 1942 and was employed by Williams Furniture Co. before entering the service.

• Waste paper is the No. 1 item in the national salvage campaign, and local residents are urged to lend every effort to get in as much of this much-needed material as possible. Boy Scouts are planning a big collection drive around the middle of August. However, bundles of paper will be picked up along with garbage collections.

• The parents of Lt. Col. Francis S. Gabreski, top scoring ace in the U. S. Air Force with 31 planes to his credit, were notified by the War Department that he has been "missing in action" since July 20. The telegram said that "The Secretary of War desires me to express deep regret that your son, Lt. Col. Francis S. Gabreski, has been reported missing in action since July 20 over Germany. As further details or other information are received you will be promptly notified." Up to July 20, Lt. Col. Gabreski had shot down 28 planes in the air and destroyed three on the ground.

• Sgt. Jesse B. Brown was wounded in action in France on June 19, his mother, Mrs. J. E. Brown, has been notified. Mrs. Brown has received a letter from her son in which he states that he has been evacuated to an English hospital and is doing well.

• George Turbeville of the Shaw Field Fliers showed some of the stuff that took him into the big-league circles when he pitched and batted the airmen to a 3-2 win over the 347th Infantry division team of Fort Jackson at Columbia. He fanned 12 of the infantrymen, allowing only six hits in all, and sparked his team's attack with three hits out of three times at bat, one of them a homer, his other hits being singles. Manning pitched for the host team. All of the Fliers' games will be played away from home next week, a Shaw official said.

• Mrs. Johnston, wife of the governor and U.S. senator-nominate, may make a speaking tour for the Democratic Party in the interest of the



1969 — W.E. Covington, left, received the Sumter Sertoma Club's Service to Mankind award. Cecil Crayton, chairman of the club's award committee, made the plaque presentation as club president Ralph Ardis looked on.

election of the Roosevelt-Truman ticket, the governor said. "She was asked by party officials in Washington to make a tour, which will be assigned later," the governor said. "Four years ago, she toured Missouri, a doubtful state, and though the Democratic gubernatorial candidate was defeated, every county in which she spoke went overwhelmingly for Roosevelt, who won the state handily."

• Capt. L. F. (Butch) Cuttino, commanding officer of Company I, State Guard, was honored by Adjutant General James Dozier during the recent encampment at Myrtle Beach when the latter called upon the Sumter officer to address the guardsmen on emergency mobilization. Previously, Dozier had asked commanding officers to send in plans for such mobilization. Capt. Cuttino's plan was chosen from among all the others in the state, and his talk to the men was highly interesting. What he had to say is restricted for security reasons, but Sumter guardsmen state that it was a fine talk.

• A. J. Hatfield of Sumter, new chairman of the South Carolina Unemployment Compensation Commission, will be among the three honored guests at Jefferson Hotel in Columbia. C. H. Gresham and M. J. Ashley, commissioners, will be the other honorees. The affair will be given by the Employee Activities Association.

**50 YEARS AGO — 1969**

March 30 — April 5

• Officials of Sumter School District 17 today issued plans for desegregation of local schools through implementation of what they have described as a "Freedom of Choice or Assigned Placement Program." Announcement of the new plan was the first step taken by District 17 since the Board of Trustees notified Robert H. Finch, secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, that they could not put a previously proposed zoning plan into effect.

• For the first time in the 15-year history of the Clarendon County Elementary Athletic Association Conference, Alcolu Elementary School of Clarendon County is the only one to win four championship trophies in one season. The girls have won 85 out of 99 games. The boys have won 65 out of 95 and have lost only five out of their past 25 encounters.

• Mrs. David W. Cuttino Jr., Mrs. Lillian P. Brailsford, Mrs. Kate C. Pate and Mrs. Samuel F. Suggs were hostesses for the monthly meeting of the Dick Anderson Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, at the home of Mrs. Cuttino. Plans were made for delegates to attend the district meeting to be held in Columbia at the Capitol Cabana Motel. The annual picnic for members and guests will be held May 15. A report was received from the nominating committee, Miss Ruth Lyons reported, and of-

ficers for the new year, beginning in September, will be installed at the April meeting.

• Fashions for play, daytime and evening were modeled at the Newcomers' Club Luncheon at the Elks Club. The fashions, furnished by a local dress shop, were modeled by members in the club. Each modeled three different outfits including bell bottoms, short sets, pant dresses and slacks. Newcomers welcomed into the club included two well-known names. Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, who is from England, has a husband stationed at Shaw Air Force Base. The second name was Mrs. Shirley Temples, who has recently moved to Sumter from Texas.

• Sgt. Wendell L. Morris of Sumter, who is with the 10th Cavalry in Vietnam, has been awarded the Bronze Star with "V" device for heroism. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Morris. Sgt. Morris has been in the service 11 years. He graduated from Edmunds High School.

• "Well, I don't know who you are," the woman offered, "but son you don't belong here. You're just too young and good looking to be around us." She was talking to Thomas C. Spann Jr., a senior ministerial student at Payne Theological Seminary of Wilberforce University. The Rev. Spann was posing as a bum in a bar on the fringe of Chicago's infamous Skid Row. It was part of the "Plunge," tactics of the Urban Training Center in Chicago requiring young ministers to go and live with the inhabitants of Skid Row and the ghettos and experience their fears and endure their frustrations.

• A special meeting is scheduled at Sumter Speedway with the purpose being to discuss rules and procedures for the coming season. The first event of the season will begin with an abundance of cars expected in the late-model sportsman and late-model rookie classes.

• Edmunds High School's Gamecocks turned around what was becoming a "comedy of errors" to beat Florence 5-2 for their second-straight conference baseball victory. The win left Edmunds in at least a tie for the regional lead with a perfect loop ledger of 2-0. The overall Edmunds record is now 3-1.

• The Edmunds High School Distributive Education Chapter was selected as the state's outstanding "Chapter of the Year." In receiving the highest honor that a chapter may receive, Edmunds outpointed Greenwood High, last year's winner of the award. More than 70 schools participated in the competition.

• All three publications of Edmunds High School have won awards in the Southern Interscholastic Press Association's annual convention being held at Washington and Lee University. A total of 175 schools are represented at the 40th-annual convention, with 362 publications competing.

First-place awards were given to the school paper, HI-NEWS, and magazine, SIGNATURE. HI-WAYS, the school annual, is listed in the Achievement Award group.

• The body of Dwight David Eisenhower was laid to rest at the end of the long trail that had carried him to the pinnacle of American military and political power. The tomb of the 34th president of the United States was a vault — next to that of a long-dead son — beneath the floor of a tiny chapel near the Eisenhower Library in the quiet farm town of his youth.

• James Lee Graham, student director of the LHS Band, has been selected as a member of the All State Concert Band, following tryouts at West Side High School in Anderson. His participation in the tryout was of a voluntary nature. Graham began playing in the band in his freshman year, when he joined the Junior Band.

• Dr. William E. Dufford, director of the education development staff for Richland, Orangeburg, Aiken and five other South Carolina counties, will join the District 17 staff this fall. He will be administrative head of Edmunds High School and coordinator of secondary education at the level of assistant superintendent.

• Dr. Hugh T. Stoddard, superintendent of School District 2, leaves for a two-week visit to the Soviet Union as part of a study mission to examine the schools of the Russian nation. Dr. Stoddard is among 20 educators invited to participate in the trip by the executive committee of the American Association of School Administrators.

• Edmunds girls won one match and the boys remained undefeated with two wins this week in tennis matches by the school. The boys are unmarked at 6-0 and travel to Darlington. Lady Birds are 2-3 on the season and plan a match with Darlington.

**25 YEARS AGO — 1993**

Dec. 30 — Jan. 5

• The battle to save a downtown landmark highlighted 1993 for the city of Sumter. When Ed Good, a Greenville-based developer, announced his intention in April to tear down the old Shelley-Brunson Funeral Home to build a supermarket, local activists immediately organized efforts to save the 170-year-old house. Preservationists presented a petition with more than 3,000 signatures opposing the demolition when the rezoning plan for the supermarket came before the Sumter City-County Planning Commission.

• Perhaps only a war could have wrought more change at Shaw Air Force Base than it experienced in 1993. The loss of one squadron and the gain of another two, ongoing restructuring, a mission change, a conversion to new jets and the announcement that the base's fighter wing will be re-designated combined to make 1993 a year of dramatic developments at the F-16 and A-10 fighter bases. But perhaps the biggest Shaw news of the year was what didn't happen. In March, for the third time in the current cycle of military base closings, local residents breathed a sigh of relief as the base was again not slated for closure by the Air Force.

• Fire deaths went up dramatically in 1993, and state officials hope to increase fire safety in the coming year. There were 124 South Carolinians killed in fires this year, up from 100 in 1992. Locally, fire deaths increased in Sumter County but decreased in Clarendon County. Four fire deaths were reported in Sumter this year, compared to three in 1992, according to the state Fire Marshal's Office in Columbia. In Clarendon County, there was one fire death this year and two in 1992.

• With the score tied at 54-54 and Furman in possession of the basketball against McBee with 40 seconds left in the game, Indian head coach Marty Jacobs wanted a timeout. What he got instead was a three-point attempt. It was a good one, though, as Brian Albert banked home a shot from the top of the key that proved to be the difference in Furman's 61-58 victory in the opening round of the Lee County Invitational Christmas Tournament at the Bishopville High School gymnasium.

• Sumter Firefighter Mike Baird examined the lid of an oil drum that exploded at Gibson's Contract Welding on Manning Avenue. The explosion sent one man to the hospital, broke several windows and blew out a wall. According to reports, a man was apparently cutting a steel drum with an acetylene blow torch when the drum exploded. Gibson was transported to Tuomey Regional Medical Center. The blast also damaged the back wall of Avenue Auto Parts, knocking papers and supplies onto the floor.

• As Sumter native Mattie Wilder approaches her 100th birthday, she does not have one regret. "I think I was a little too strict with my children," Wilder said from her home on U.S. 521. "I was always worried about spoiling them, but I didn't want to be too strict, either." Born on Jan. 3, 1894, Wilder has many pleasant memories of growing up on her farm in Sumter County. She also fondly remembers working for one of the finest dressmakers in town. "I made hats for Schwartz Brothers Dress Shop," Wilder said.

• The year 1993 saw Sumter County Council continue to grapple with finances as it stared down expensive future projects and looked for ways to raise more money and control spending. Council passed a tax increase last June to pay for a \$19.6 million budget that was about \$1.8 million larger than the previous year's. Council also spent about \$850,000 from its \$2.7 million reserve fund.

• Cheryl B. Davids has been named Central Carolina Technical College's nominee for the Governor's Professor of the Year Award for 1993. Davids is the department head for math and science at Central Carolina. She has had a total of 13 years of teaching experience. At the present time, she teaches Intermediate Algebra and College Trigonometry.

• If a strip running down the Interstate 95 corridor from Lee County to Orangeburg County is tapped next year by the federal government as one of 35 new rural "enterprise zones," it will mean \$23 million — and maybe much more — for an area with widespread poverty, unemployment and other problems. The Santee-Lynch Regional Council of Governments is trying to sell local governments on a plan to ask the federal government to pick as a rural enterprise zone a strip that includes the town of Lynchburg in Lee County, the Shiloh community of Sumter County, the Black River community and towns of Alcolu, Manning and Summerton in Clarendon County, and the towns of Santee, Ellore and Vance on the opposite side of Lake Marion in Orangeburg County.

• Music concerts, theater productions, off-the-wall comedians and a bit of magic are just a few of the events awaiting USC Sumter students when they return to campus after the holidays. "Our Campus Activities Board (CAB) members have put a lot of work into assembling a great lineup of student activities for the 1994 Spring Semester," according to Anthony Rice, USC Sumter's coordinator of student activities.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Happy Ads

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### Announcements

Tuesday, January 8, 2019 is the last day to redeem winning tickets in the following South Carolina Education Lottery Instant Games: (SC1006) CASH DOUBLER, (SC1034) \$

FDA Registered, 100% Digital hearing aids as low as \$199 each. American Made Technology. Call 800-937-2218 use promo 88270 for a risk-free trial! FREE SHIPPING!

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## EMPLOYMENT

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

**Secretary** position, must have income tax exp. temp. seasonal position. **Apply in person** at: 507 Broad St Mon.-Weds. 10-12

### HORTICULTURE

**Bonnie Plants, Inc., Alcolu, SC** now hiring 8 temporary Greenhouse Laborers to work in Clarendon County, SC from 2/1/2019 to 5/24/2019. Hourly wage of \$11.13. Perform manual labor to cultivate and transplant vegetable, herb, and flower seedlings and cuttings within a seedling line. Operate tractors, equipment, vehicles and machinery. Load and unload racks. Walk, sit, stand on concrete or other surfaces. Push and pull. Bend, stoop and crouch for long periods of time. Use of repetitive hand and finger movements. Work outside in inclement weather. Lift, carry, and load up to 50 lbs. Three months of agricultural work experience required. Three quarters of an average of 40 hrs./wk guaranteed. Tools, supplies and equipment provided at no cost. Housing provided at no cost if outside commuting area. If applicable, transportation and subsistence expense to the job will be paid upon completion of 50% of the employment period, or earlier. Apply for this job by reporting to the nearest SWA in the state in which this ad appeared or contact the Sumter Workforce Center, 31 E Calhoun Street, Sumter, SC 29150, (803) 774-1300, JO#SC822516.



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**Local Company looking for full-time Lawn Care Mechanic**

Applicant needs experience and knowledge of general aspects of lawn care including maintaining industrial lawn equipment. We offer a benefits package including holiday pay and leave, health insurance and retirement. Please send resume to: P.O. Box 1030 Sumter, SC 29150

**DAYCARE STAFF NEEDED for part time, full time, and sub time.** Please resume to P-481 c/o The Item, PO Box 1677 Sumter SC 29151

### Work Wanted

**Job Wanted:** Elderly Care 803-565-2068 18 years experience.

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**Senior Living Apartments for those 62+ (Rent based on income)**  
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### Mobile Home Rentals

**2BR/1BA MH** on private lot, near Shaw AFB. Unfurnished Non smoker. \$500/mo + \$250/dep. Call 803-499-4721

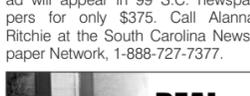
**American MHP, 2 & 3/BR,** lot rentals, water/sewer/garbage pickup inc'd. 803-494-4300.

**I PAY TOP DOLLAR** - For Used Mobile Homes! Call (803) 607-6353

**Sumter/Scenic Lake 2 Br/2 ba, No pets, housing accepted.** 469-6978/499-1500 betw. 9am-5pm

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### Abandon Vehicle / Boat

**Abandoned Vehicle Notice:**  
The following vehicle was abandoned at White's Automotive, 1760 Peach Orchard Road, Sumter, SC 29154. Described as a 2004 GMC Yukon. VIN # 1GKFF66U24J102387. Total Due for storage is \$4,416.00 as of August 17, 2018, plus \$30.00 per day thereafter. Owner is asked to call 803-240-3104. If not claimed in 30 days, it will be turned over to the Magistrate's Office for public sale.

### Summons & Notice

## SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING OF COMPLAINT IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CASE NO. 2018-CP-43-02016

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

Broker Solutions, Inc. dba New American Funding, PLAINTIFF,

VS.

Ian J. Furman, as Personal Representative, individually, and as Legal Heir or Devisee of the Estate of Josh D. Charles a/k/a Josh Deandra Charles, Deceased; Deandra Charles, individually, and as Legal Heir or Devisee of the Estate of Josh D. Charles a/k/a Josh Deandra Charles, Deceased; Dominique Charles, individually, and as Legal Heir or Devisee of the Estate of Josh D. Charles a/k/a Josh Deandra Charles, Deceased; Tiffany Charles, individually, and as Legal Heir or Devisee of the Estate of Josh D. Charles a/k/a Josh Deandra Charles, Deceased; Any Heirs-at-Law or Devisees of the Estate of Josh D. Charles a/k/a Josh Deandra Charles, Deceased, their heirs or devisees, successors and assigns, and all other persons entitled to claim through them; all unknown persons with any right, title or interest in the real estate described herein; also any persons who may be in the military service of the United States of America, being a class designated as John Doe; and any unknown minors or persons under a disability being a class designated as Richard Roe; and Patriot Village 1 Homeowners Association, Inc., DEFENDANT(S).

## IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CASE NO. 2018-CP-43-02016

## SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF FILING OF COMPLAINT (181164.00015)

TO THE DEFENDANT(S) IAN J. FURMAN, AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, INDIVIDUALLY, AND AS LEGAL HEIR OR DEVISEE OF THE ESTATE OF JOSH D. CHARLES A/K/A JOSH DEANDRA CHARLES DECEASED; AND TIFFANY CHARLES, INDIVIDUALLY, AND AS LEGAL HEIR OR DEVISEE OF THE ESTATE OF JOSH D. CHARLES A/K/A JOSH DEANDRA CHARLES, DECEASED ABOVE NAMED:

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to answer the Complaint in the above entitled action, copy of which is herewith served upon you, and to serve copy of your answer upon the undersigned at their offices, 2712 Middleburg Drive, Suite 200, P.O. Box 2065, Columbia, South Carolina 29202, within thirty (30) days after service hereof upon you, exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer the Complaint within the time aforesaid, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the Complaint, and judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

**YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE** that should you fail to Answer the foregoing Summons, the Plaintiff will move for a general Order of Reference of this cause to the Interim Master in Equity for Sumter County, which Order shall, pursuant to Rule 53(e) of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure, specifically provide that the said Interim Master in Equity is

### Summons & Notice

authorized and empowered to enter a final judgment in this cause.

TO MINOR(S) OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND/OR MINOR(S) UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND THE PERSON WITH WHOM THE MINOR(S) RESIDES AND/OR TO PERSONS UNDER SOME LEGAL DISABILITY:

**YOU ARE FURTHER SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED** to apply for the appointment of a Guardian Ad Litem to represent said minor(s) within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by the Plaintiff(s) herein.

**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 November 1, 2018.

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGOR'S RIGHT TO FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION

**TO THE DEFENDANT(S) JOSH D. CHARLES:**  
**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT** pursuant to the Supreme Court of South Carolina Administrative Order 2011-05-02-01, you may be eligible for foreclosure intervention programs for the purpose of resolving the above-referenced foreclosure action. If you wish to be considered for a foreclosure intervention program, you must contact Scott and Corley, P.A., 2712 Middleburg Drive, Suite 200, Columbia, South Carolina 29204 or call (803) 252-3340 within thirty (30) days after being served with this notice.

Scott and Corley, P.A. represents the Plaintiff in this action. We do not represent you. The South Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct prohibit our firm from giving you any legal advice.

**IF YOU FAIL, REFUSE, OR VOLUNTARILY ELECT NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FORECLOSURE INTERVENTION PROCESS, THE FORECLOSURE ACTION MAY PROCEED.**

**NOTICE:** THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. EXCEPT AS STATED BELOW IN THE INSTANCE OF BANKRUPTCY PROTECTION.

**IF YOU ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT OR HAVE BEEN DISCHARGED AS A RESULT OF A BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDING, THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN TO YOU PURSUANT TO STATUTORY REQUIREMENT AND FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES AND IS NOT INTENDED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT OR AS AN ACT TO COLLECT, ASSESS, OR RECOVER ALL OR ANY PORTION OF THE DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY.**

**SCOTT AND CORLEY, P.A.**  
Ronald C. Scott  
(rons@scottandcorley.com), SC Bar #4996  
Reginald P. Corley  
(reggiec@scottandcorley.com), SC Bar #69453  
Angelia J. Grant  
(angij@scottandcorley.com), SC Bar #78334  
Allison E. Heffernan  
(allisonh@scottandcorley.com), SC Bar #68530  
Matthew E. Rupert  
(matthewr@scottandcorley.com), SC Bar #100740  
Louise M. Johnson  
(ceasiej@scottandcorley.com), SC Bar #16586  
Tasha B. Thompson  
(tashat@scottandcorley.com), SC Bar #76415  
H. Guyton Murrell  
(guytonm@scottandcorley.com), SC Bar #64134  
Craig T. Smith  
(craigst@scottandcorley.com), SC Bar #102831  
ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF  
2712 Middleburg Drive, Suite 200  
Columbia, SC 29204  
803-252-3340

## IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS C/A NO.: 2018-CP-43-01846

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF SUMTER

## SUMMONS AND NOTICES

### Summons & Notice

## (Non-Jury) FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE

**J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp.,** Plaintiff,

vs.

**Paul C. Yothers, Jr.; Amy K. Yothers; Midland Funding, LLC,** Defendant(s).

**TO THE DEFENDANT(S) ABOVE NAMED:**  
**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and required to appear and defend by answering the Complaint in this action, a copy of which is hereby served upon you, and to serve a copy of your Answer on the subscribers at their offices at 508 Hampton Street, Suite 301, Columbia, SC 29201, within thirty (30) days after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; except that the United States of America, if named, shall have sixty (60) days to answer after the service hereof, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to do so, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

**YOU WILL ALSO TAKE NOTICE** that Plaintiff will move for an Order of Reference or the Court may issue a general Order of Reference of this action to a Master-in-Equity/Special Referee, pursuant to Rule 53 of the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure.

**TO MINOR(S) OVER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE, AND/OR TO MINOR(S) UNDER FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND THE PERSON WITH WHOM THE MINOR(S) RESIDES, AND/OR TO PERSONS UNDER SOME LEGAL DISABILITY:**

**YOU ARE FURTHER SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED** to apply for the appointment of a guardian ad litem within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons and Notice upon you. If you fail to do so, application for such appointment will be made by Attorney for the Plaintiff.

**NOTICE OF FILING COMPLAINT**

**TO THE DEFENDANTS ABOVE NAMED: YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the original Complaint, Cover Sheet for Civil Actions and Certificate of Exemption from ADR in the above entitled action was filed in the Office of the Clerk of Court for Sumter County on October 5, 2018.

### Public Hearing

## NOTICE OF COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

The Sumter County Council will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Sumter Zoning Ordinance and Map on **Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.** in the County Council Chambers located on the Third Floor of the Sumter County Administration Building (13 East Canal Street, Sumter, South Carolina). The following request is scheduled for consideration:

### RZ-18-15, 2320 Beckwood Rd. (County)

Request to rezone a +/-46.99 acre parcel located at 2320 Beckwood Rd. from Agricultural Conservation (AC) to Residential-15 (R-15). The property is represented by Tax Map # 201-00-03-013.

### RZ-18-16, 160 Jefferson Rd. (County)

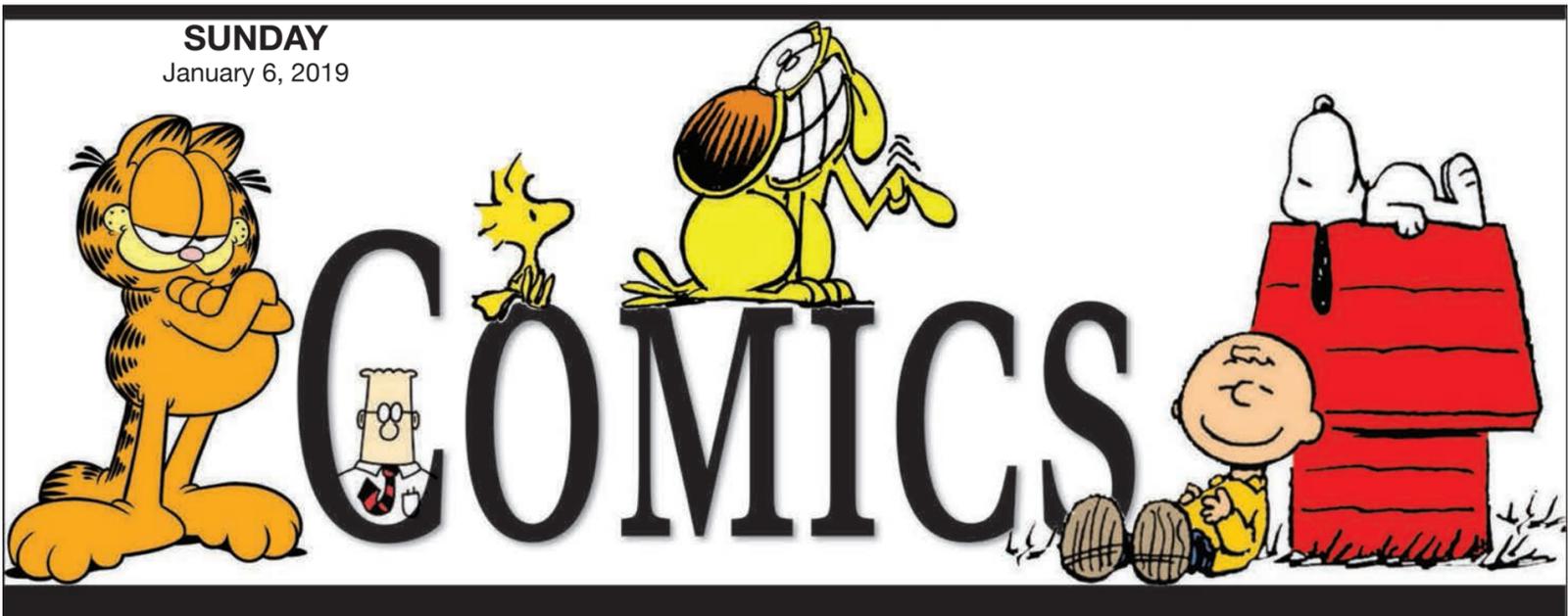
Request to rezone a +/-15.00 acre parcel and a 1.39 acre parcel located at 160 Jefferson Rd. from General Residential (GR) to Heavy Industrial (HI). The property is represented by Tax Map #s 231-00-04-006 and 231-00-04-007.

Documents pertaining to the proposed request(s) are on file in the Office of the Sumter City-County Planning Department and are available to be inspected and studied by interested citizens.

**SUMTER COUNTY COUNCIL**  
James T. McCain, Jr., Chairman  
Mary Blanding, Clerk

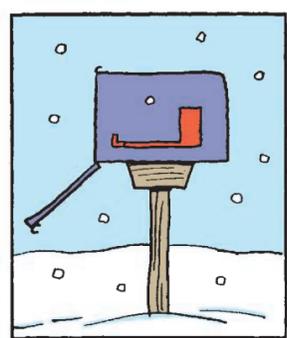
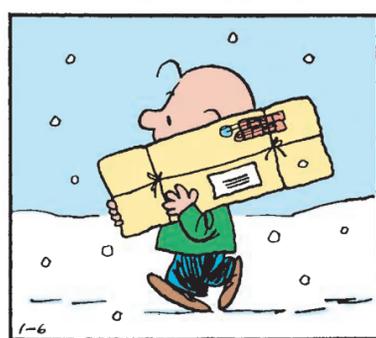
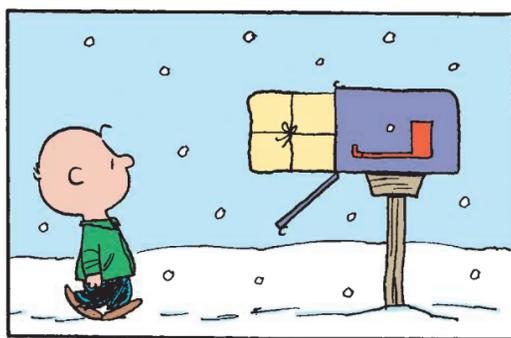
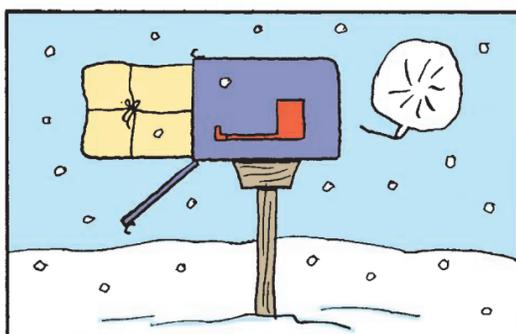
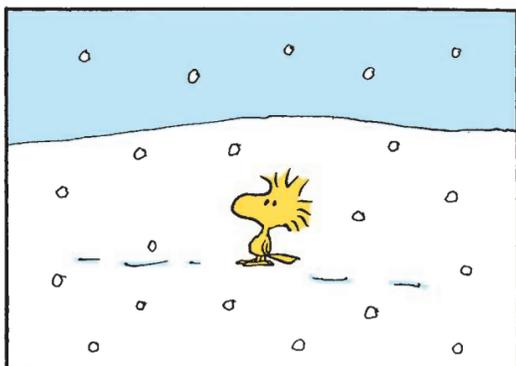
**GET THE SUMTER ITEM DELIVERED TO YOUR DOORSTEP.**

**START YOUR SUBSCRIPTION CALL (803) 774-1258**



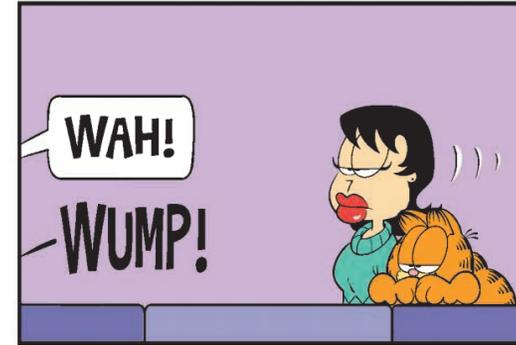
**PEANUTS**  
featuring  
"Good ol'  
Charlie Brown"  
by SCHULZ

SPECIAL DELIVERY  
FIRST CLASS  
AIR MAIL  
AIR MAIL  
SANTA ROSA  
JAN 9 PM



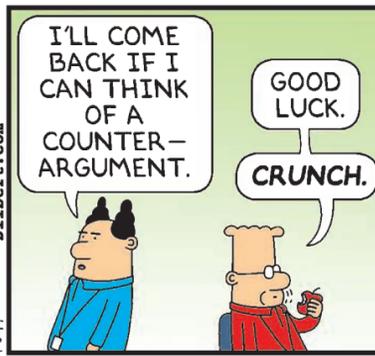
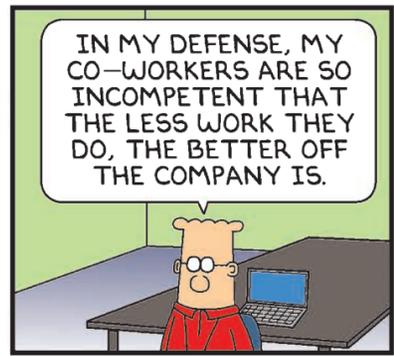
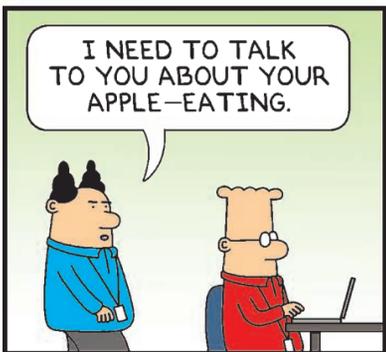
**GARFIELD**

BY JIM DAVIS



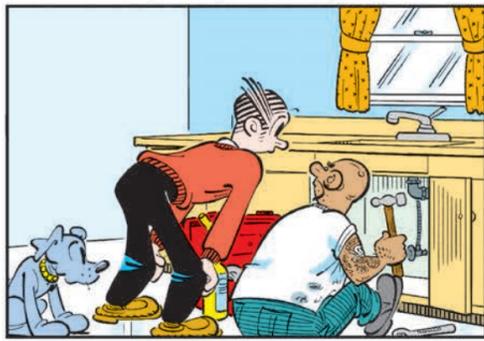
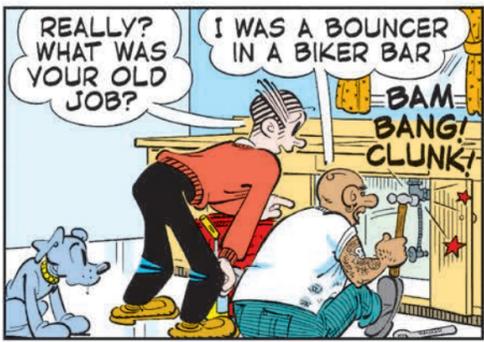
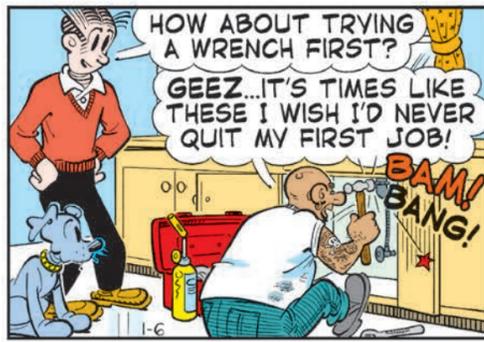
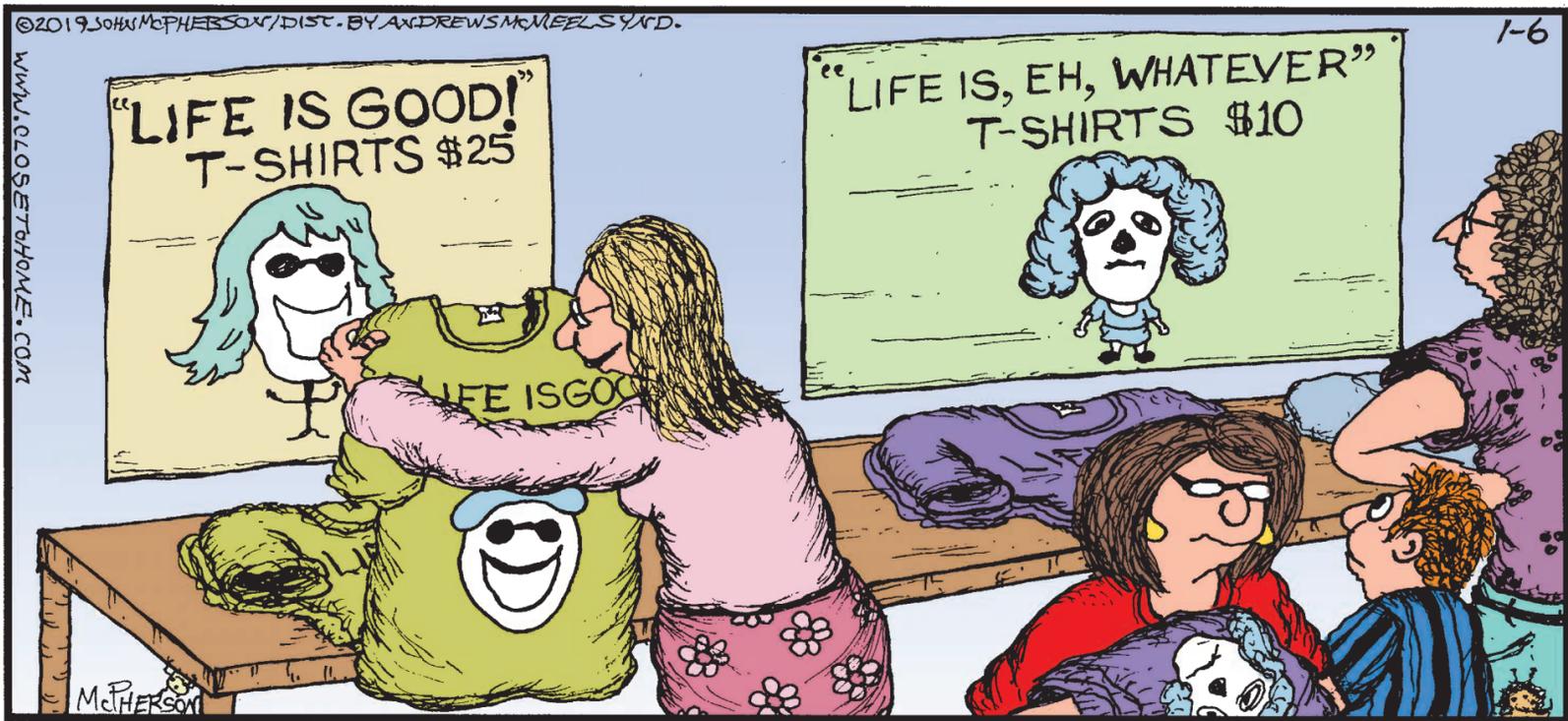
**DILBERT**

BY SCOTT ADAMS



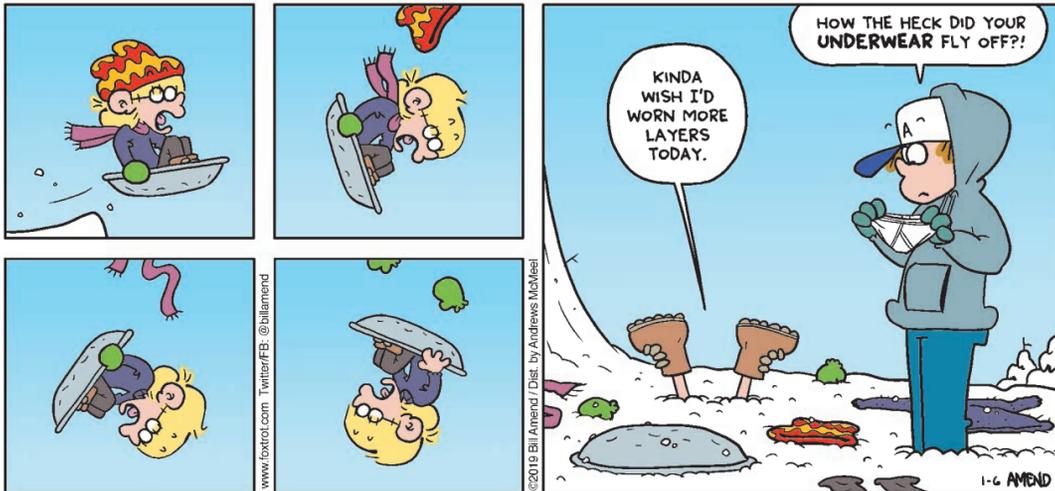
CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN MCPHERSON



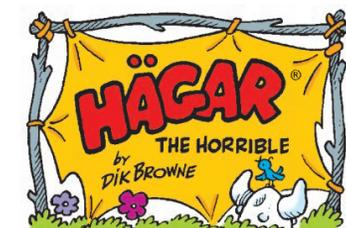
FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



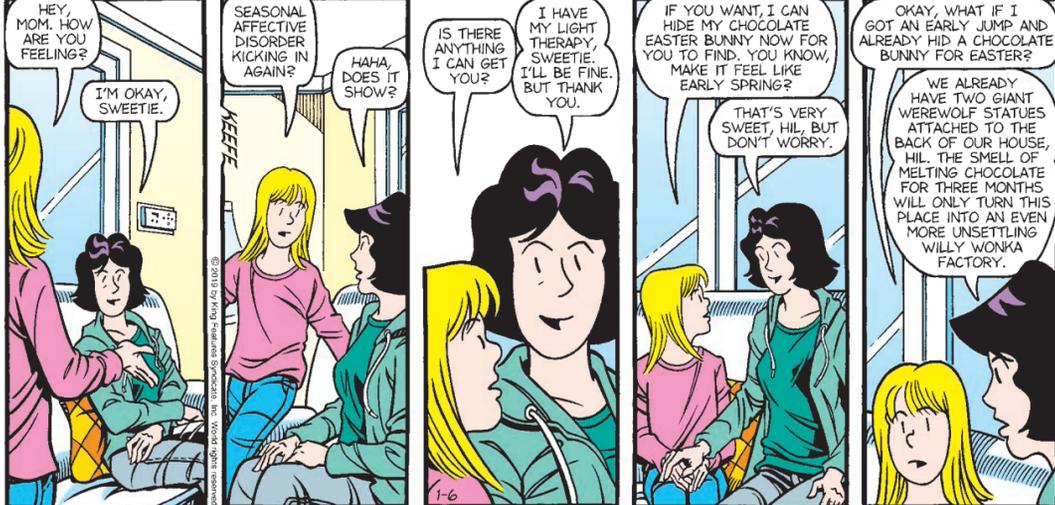
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



SALLY FORTH

BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO & JIM KEEFE



**DOODLES**  
By Foote & Sacko

I MADE IT TO HOLE EIGHTEEN!  
CAN YOU HELP ME REACH THE GREEN?

Send your riddles and puns to:  
Doodles, P.O. Box 105, Excelsior, MN 55331

**DOODLE ZOO**

IT MUST BE HARD TO BE A PENGUIN... EVEN WHEN YOU'RE ANGRY, YOU STILL LOOK CUTE.

**DRAW!!**

DRAW A GOLFER!

**RIDDLES!!!**

Q. WHAT'S PINK AND SITS ON YOUR TV SET?  
A. A FLY IN A TUTU.  
Billie Ellsworth, Buffalo, NY

Q. HOW DO YOU MAKE A COW FLOAT?  
A. ADD ROOT BEER, ICE CREAM AND ONE COW.  
Dale Olmsted, Sioux Falls, SD

**HOCUS-FOCUS** BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF

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Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Fork is missing. 2. Window is not as wide. 3. Box is taller. 4. Counter is wider. 5. Finger is moved. 6. Mouth is open.

**FRANK AND ERNEST**

PROFESSOR FRUMP IS THE MOST RESPECTED FACULTY MEMBER HERE. ALL THE OTHER PROFESSORS WANT TO BE NOTICED BY HIM.

THIS SEMESTER HE'S TEACHING THREE CLASSES, BUT FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON, LOTS OF STUDENTS ARE DROPPING THE SECOND ONE. HE ASKED WHY THIS IS HAPPENING.

HOPING TO IMPRESS HIM, SOCIOLOGY AND ECONOMICS SCHOLARS RUSHED TO PRESENT HIM WITH THEIR THEORIES.

I GUESS HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE SPECIFIC...

...WHEN HE QUESTIONED WHY THE MIDDLE CLASS IS DISAPPEARING.

**THE BORN LOSER**

by Art & Chip Sansom

THIS IS A YEAR-END REPORT ON OUR NEW PRODUCT LINE.

**MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM** BY MIKE PETERS

HI, I'M CARL, YOUR WAITER. THIS IS MY WIFE, MY THREE KIDS, OUR BABYSITTER, MY BARBER, MY PIZZA DELIVERY GUY, MY...

DIDN'T YOU ALREADY DO THAT, LAST WEEK, BRUTUS?

YES, BUT THE CHIEF WASN'T HAPPY WITH IT.

HE SAID THERE WERE SO MANY SPELLING ERRORS, I NEEDED TO REDO IT!

WELL, THAT'S EASY ENOUGH TO FIX! DIDN'T YOU KNOW THE COMPUTER HAS SPELL CHECK TO CORRECT MIS-SPELLED WORDS?

I KNOW, BUT EVIDENTLY MY SPELLING WAS SO BAD, SPELL CHECK COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT I WAS TRYING TO SPELL!

**WIZARD OF ID** by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker

HON, CAN YOU FOLD THE LAUNDRY?

I'LL GIVE IT MY BEST, DEAR

FOLD

TOSS

CATCH!

FOLD FOLD FOLD FOLD

WHAT IS YOUR MAGIC?

**GET FUZZY** BY DARBY CONLEY

WHOA, THERE! PASSING THROUGH THIS DOORWAY COSTS SEVEN DOLLARS.

BUCKY, I ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT YOU CAN'T CHARGE ADMISSION FOR YOUR BUCKY MUSEUM.

NO, NO, NO, THIS IS THE BUCKY KATT MEMORIAL DOORWAY. THE SEVEN DOLLARS IS A TOLL.

MAN, THIS HOUSE COULD NOT GET MORE STUPID...

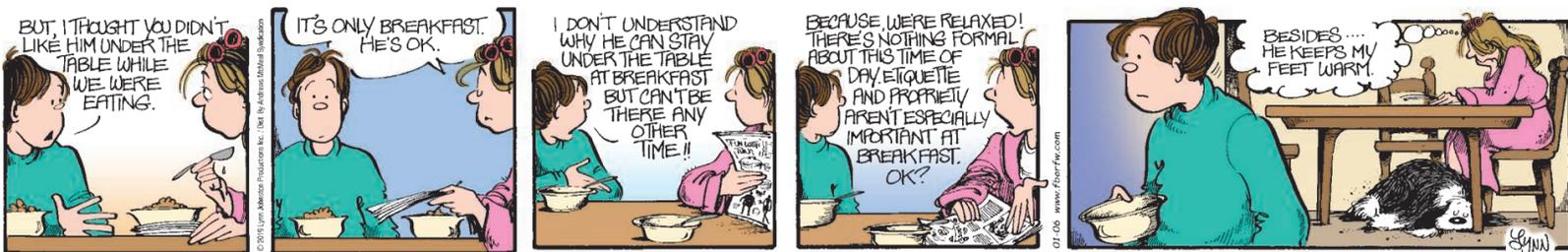
YOU CAN'T CALL IT THE MEMORIAL DOORWAY UNTIL YOU'RE DEAD.

OK, THEN IT'S THE BUCKY KATT CELEBRATORIAL DOORWAY. TEN DOLLARS.

ROB, CAN YOU HAND ME MY BONE, THERE? I CAN'T AFFORD TO GO OVER THERE AND GET IT.

SHOE

BY GARY BROOKINS & SUSIE MACNELLY



DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM

