REMOTE

Economist op-ed: 'We are never going back to the workplace of 2019.' C1



Packers and Broncos still waiting on Aaron Rodgers' decision. **D3** 'THE BATMAN'

Pattinson flick is the perfect film for our troubled times, John Moore writes. **E1**

The Denver Gazette

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SNOW

SNOW • HIGH 27; LOW 20

SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022

UKRAINE CRISIS

PUTIN COMPARES SANCTIONS TO WAR

Russian president says continued resistance calls into question future of Ukrainian statehood. **A14**

In hourlong Zoom call, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky asks for air support. **A15**

Leadville's mane event

Jade Neves pulls Bruce Stott on Saturday during the 75th running of the Leadville Ski Joring. During the weekend event, horses and riders pull skiers via ropes down a snow-packed Harrison Avenue. As the horse gallops. the skier flies over jumps and spears rings set up along the course.



CHRISTIAN MURDOCK, THE DENVER GAZETTE

CORONAVIRUS IN COLORADO

The vaccination rate for Hispanic Coloradans is almost half that of white Coloradans, a frustrating but unsurprising trend to advocates working hard to ensure equitable vaccine uptake and access. **A4**

Letters show state high court stalled scandal investigation

BY DAVID MIGOYA
The Denver Gazette

In the months following the disclosure that a high-ranking former employee of Colorado's Judicial Department allegedly threatened to reveal in a lawsuit years of hidden judicial misconduct, the Colo-

rado Supreme Court threw up roadblock after roadblock — at times even refusing outright to hand over information — at the efforts to investigate the scandal by the body that disciplines judges.

In a back-and-forth series of letters with Chief Justice Brian Boatright last year, the Colorado Commission

on Judicial Discipline repeatedly admonished the court for not being forthcoming with information it said it needed to determine whether a deeper investigation was necessary — a problem that seemingly still exists — according to copies of the correspondence obtained by The Denver Gazette via open-records requests.

COLORADO

WATCH

Despite Boatright's public assurances of transparency and cooperation with inquiries into the

SEE LETTERS • PAGE 8

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DAILY ROUNDUP

TODAY IN THE GAZETTE



PARADE

Country icon
Dolly Parton and
bestselling author
James Patterson
join forces to create a brand-new
thriller. **F1**



NATION & WORLD

Iditarod dogs, fans and mushers pack Anchorage for race's ceremonial start Saturday amid snowstorm. **A21**

Denver Gazette Guide

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REUTERS

SOUTH KOREA: Government issues natural-disaster alert after a wildfire breaks out in Uljin.



ANTARCTICA: Weddell seals have been helping Japanese researchers survey the waters under the thick Antarctic ice.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARGENTINA: Tourists capture on camera the moment a large portion of the Perito Moreno Glacier collapsed.

The Denver Gazette

555 17th St., Suite 425, Denver, CO 80202

KEY GAZETTE CONTACTS

Publisher: Christopher P. Reen 303-569-5804 • chris.reen@gazette.com

Editor: Vince Bzdek
303-569-5802 • vince.bzdek@gazette.com
Managing Editor: Jim Bates
303-299-1601 • Jim Bates@gazette.com

City Editor: Tony Raap

DEPARTMENTS

Subscriber Services 1-800-862-8971 (Payments and digital access)

General Information	303-569-5820
Newsroom	. 303-569-5810
Sports	303-569-5812
Letters to the Editor	303-569-5814
Advertising	303-569-5803
Human Docourcos	303-560-5805

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LOTTERIES

Powerball: Est. jackpot: \$90 million; 8, 23, 37, 52, 63

Powerball 13 – Powerplay 2

Powerball Double Play: 2, 25, 32, 33, 50; Powerball 12 **Mega Millions:** Est. jackpot: \$126 million; 11, 19, 28, 46, 47

Megaball 5 - Megaplier 4

Lucky for Life: \$1,000 a day for life; 7, 10, 24, 35, 46 Lucky Ball 12 **Colorado Lotto:** Est. jackpot: \$2.8 million; 5, 6, 16, 23, 27, 40

Colorado Lotto Plus: 12, 15, 25, 36, 37, 40 **Cash 5:** 7, 14, 22, 24, 31 – Drawing held daily.

Pick 3: Midday: 2, 7, 1; Evening: 3, 0, 8; - Drawings held daily.

SOURCE: COLORADOLOTTERY.COM

CORRECTIONS

The Denver Gazette corrects errors of fact in this space. If you find mistakes, please call 303-569-5810 during business hours.

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DENVER&STATE

DENVERGAZETTE.COM/NEWS SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022

Q&A

A horrified parent's blatantly alarmist guide to fentanyl

EDITOR



VINCE BZDEK
The Denver Gazette

America's decades-old casual drug habit has suddenly shifted into a new nightmare realm.

No longer are illicit drugs a recreational, renegade, college kind of thing to do. Now they could actually kill you in seconds.

Because drugs of all sorts are being laced with the powerful opioid fentanyl, dying of a drug overdose is no longer just a phenomenon of addicts or people with mental health issues. Folks who are not intending on abusing drugs but think they're simply taking a Xanax, a party drug like cocaine or even Adderall are now dropping dead of overdoses.

That's apparently what happened in Commerce City recently, when five people who thought they were doing cocaine at a party all wound up dead in what is being called the worst single

case of mass fentanyl overdose in the country.

"This is the nightmare scenario," 17th Judicial District Attorney, Brian Mason, told our reporter, Lindsey Toomer. "This is five people dying without realizing the drug they're putting into their bodies."

Our reporters have documented far too many heart-breaking cases in Colorado lately in which parents have lost children who had no idea they were taking a deadly drug. As a father of two college-age kids, these stories keep me awake at night worrying about their safety.

So after hearing from several of our reporters about the noxious deadliness of this new scourge, I've assembled a Horrified Dad's Blatantly Alarmist Guide to the Dangers of Fentanyl. To wit:

Are the risks of my kids dying from fentanyl higher in Colorado?

Yes. The number of fentanyl fatalities in Colorado is rising faster than in every other state, except Alaska. In 2021, illegal fentanyl killed 709 people in Colorado — which is 645 more people than in 2015, according to CDC data from Families Against Fentanyl.

SEE FENTANYL • PAGE 5

Colorado still has a gulf between white, Hispanic vaccination rates

BY SETH KLAMANN The Denver Gazette

More than 12 months since the COVID-19 vaccine first arrived in Colorado, the vaccination rate for Hispanic residents is almost half what it is for white Coloradans, a trend that is frustrating but unsurprising to advocates working to ensure equitable vaccine uptake and access across the state.

The gulf between white and Hispanic vaccination rates is the result of access issues, advocates and experts said, and a lack of culturally aware outreach and efforts. It also speaks to broader racial disparities within the health care system, inequities that were laid bare by the pandemic. Nationally, people of color have been more likely to be infected and die from COVID-19 than white people, multiple analyses over the past two years have found. In Colorado, the industries and occupations with the highest COVID-19 death rates employed workers of color at disproportionate rates.

As of Friday afternoon, fewer than 40% of the state's Hispanic residents are at least partially vaccinated against COVID-19, according to state data. In comparison, 76.8% of white residents are partially inoculated.

The state Department of Public Health and Environment said that Hispanic residents are less likely to self-report their ethnicity when getting vaccinated than other groups, which, the agency said, may warp the numbers. The health department has projected that as much as 47.4% of Hispanic residents in Colorado are at least partially vaccinated. Even if that number is closer to reality, it's still 25 points below the modeled white rate.

"While our data work is meant to help us gain a deeper understanding of the portion of vaccinated Coloradans who have unknown ethnicity in our data, it also shows what additional work we have to do to reach historically underserved communities," said AnneMarie Harper, spokeswoman for the health department's division of disease control and public health response. Communications Director, Division

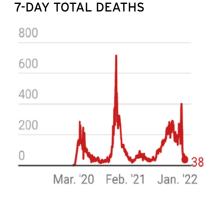
In an early February brief, the Kaiser Family Foundation found that Colorado has the second-largest disparity between white and Hispanic vaccination rates of any state in the county. At a meeting of the Governor's Expert Emergency Epidemic Response Committee last month, state officials showed data indicating that Coloradans of color have a vaccination rate that's 15 points lower than the population as a whole.

Harper said the health department is aware of Kaiser's analysis and is "learn-

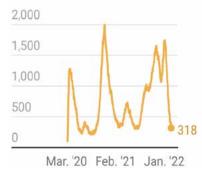
SEE VACCINATION • PAGE 5

CORONAVIRUS IN COLORADO

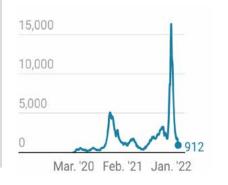
As of Friday



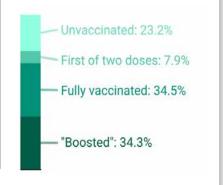




7-DAY AVERAGE OF NEW DAILY CASES



VACCINATIONS IN COLORADO



SOURCE: COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT; CHARTS BY EVAN WYLOGE, THE DENVER GAZETTE

DENVER & STATE

FENTANYL

FROM PAGE 4

Why is this so bad in Colorado?

Colorado's highways - I-25 and I-70 - are major transport corridors for fentanyl smuggled in from Mexico. Colorado had more drug seizures, per pound, from 2017 through 2021 than any other state in the country, a 403% increase, according to the Denver field division of the Drug Enforcement Administration. And right now, possession of less than four grams of fentanyl in Colorado is only a misdemeanor, which many in law enforcement believe encourages dealers to come here.

What should I tell my kids about the risks of fentanyl?

Tell them what DA Mason said: "No drug is safe" right now. Tell them fentanvl has been found mixed with cocaine. meth, heroin, oxycontin, Adderall, Xanax, and in some cases, even marijuana, so they should stay away from everything except their prescriptions.

Why would drug dealers sell something that can kill their clients?

David Olesky, acting special agent in charge of the DEA office in Denver, told our reporters that fentanyl is so cheap, available and powerful it increases the potency of the drugs they sell, making them more addictive, and that in turn increases their profit margins.

"The nature of how cheap it is," Olesky told our reporter "and there is no



JERU FE BENNETT, THE DENVER GAZETTE Matt Riviere holds the portraits of his sons, A.J., left, and Stevie, who died side by side in their apartment after ingesting fentanyl that was laced into what they thought was OxvContin.

care for human life by the traffickers when they are deciding what to put inside their package, their concoction, so to speak. They're not concerned about the end user and their wellbeing."

If a drug dealer knowingly sells someone a lethal dose of fentanyl, isn't that attempted murder?

In Boulder County, the local drug task force is investigating four recent overdose deaths in hopes of filing criminal charges, possibly homicide, according to an Associated Press report.

Federal prosecutors can now levy a "distribution resulting in death" charge, but they must show that the fentanyl sold to the person was the sole cause of their death and that the dealer knew it was fentanyl.

Attornev General Phil Weiser said he supports a sentence enhancement or additional homicide charge for dealers in Colorado, but others worry that such charges would be further criminalizing drug use rather than focusing on public health efforts to solve the fentanyl problem.

How deadly is fentanyl?

Fentanyl is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine and heroin, according to Denver Police Chief Paul Pazen.

According to the DEA, 2 milligrams of fentanyl is generally considered a lethal dose for most people. One pound of fentanyl could kill as many people as have died to date in the U.S. from the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the DEA.

Is China trying to purposefully kill Americans with fentanyl?

Good question. Currently, China is the primary source of fentanyl and fentanyl-related substances trafficked into the United States, according to the DEA.

James Rauh, founder of Families Against Fentanyl, has filed a wrongful-death lawsuit alleging that Chinese supplier Fujing Zheng and others shipped the fentanyl that killed Rauh's son. Rauh wants the Chinese government also held accountable for not doing more to stop the trafficking.

How does fentanyl work?

Fentanyl works by binding to the body's opioid receptors, which are found in areas of the brain that control pain and emotions. Its effects include extreme happiness, drowsiness, nausea, confusion, constipation, sedation, tolerance, addiction, respiratory depression and arrest, unconsciousness, coma, and death, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

How do people use fentanyl?

When prescribed by a doctor, fentanyl can be given as a shot, a patch that is put on a person's skin, or as lozenges that are sucked like cough drops, according to NIDA.

The illegally used fentanyl most often associated with recent overdoses is made in labs. This synthetic fentanyl is sold illegally as a powder, dropped onto blotter paper, put in eye droppers and nasal sprays, or made into pills that look like other prescription opioids, according to NIDA.

How do you treat someone who has taken fentanvl?

Naloxone is a medicine that can reverse a fentanyl overdose when given right away.

Medication combined with behavioral therapies has been shown to be effective in treating people with an addiction to fentanyl and other opioids.

Can I do anything to help my kids avoid fentanvl?

Three things: Education. Education. Education. And the Colorado Health Network provides fentanyl test strips that can detect the presence of fentanyl in substances and naloxone to anyone that asks for it.

What do I do if I think my son or daughter has overdosed?

Call 911 immediately. Once medical personnel arrive, they will administer naloxone if they suspect an opioid drug is involved.

If I catch a dealer trying to sell drugs to my kids, what should I do?

I refuse to answer that on the grounds that it may incriminate me.

VACCINATION

FROM PAGE 4

ing more about how they've collected and analyzed their data. We realize there are disparities in our vaccine uptake, but we are not yet clear how Kaiser researchers determined that level of gap."

"We really are behind in everything. It's not surprising," said Diana Pineda, the CEO of Vuela for Health, referring to broader disparities facing the Hispanic community. "I think this is history, every time. If you check diabetes, we're the same. If you check overweight, we're the same. Education, we're the same. We're behind all the time, no?"

Julissa Soto, a consultant and community leader who's worked with the state to improve vaccine uptake among Hispanic Coloradans, was caustic in her assessment. She said "every single



MICHAEL CIAGLO.

SPECIAL TO THE DENVER GAZETTE, FILE Elizabeth Hudgens, 97, receives a dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine outside St. Cajetan Catholic Church on Feb. 5, 2021, in Denver.

clinic" recently organized by the state to reach Hispanic residents "has gone wrong." She said racially insensitive comments are common — she said she had personally been called a racial slur by someone working with a state mobile clinic — and the scheduling and lo-

gistics of events aren't culturally aware. She, too, was unsurprised by the vaccine rate disparity.

"Let me tell you why: Because nobody cares about my community," she said. "We organize clinics Monday through Friday, 8 to 5, 8 to 12, 8 to 1. Most of us have to two to three jobs. So what time do you want us to get vaccinated, when we need to have after-hour clinics and be available to the communities?"

Soto said clinics are often not culturally relevant or sensitive to Hispanic residents, and mistreatment at — or distrust for — traditional health care settings and clinics further drive the community away. She said people would rather stand in line for vaccines in cold weather than go to established clinics, where they feel disrespected and insulted.

She said she hasn't been successful bringing concerns to the state. She praised Tri-County Health Department, which oversees Adams and Arapahoe counties, for holding a culturally aware event at a church last week.

"The solution should be: Let's go to the communities, let's go to the hood, to the barrios, where the community is at, let's show up so happy to see them," she said.

"It's a deadly embarrassment that Colorado is still doing so poorly at vaccinating our Latino/Hispanic residents," said Matt Wynia, the director for the Center for Bioethics and Humanities at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. "While other states have narrowed the gap, or even eliminated it, we have not. We need to do more outreach and make it super easy for folks in this community to get vaccinated. With only about 40% of Colorado's Latinx population vaccinated, we remain a set-up for future waves of infections in that community."

Heather Roth, the immunization branch chief with the state health department, said that equity "has been at the forefront of both our planning and

SEE VACCINATION • PAGE 6

CDOT moves to remove diesel, gas powered trucks by 2050

BY SCOTT WEISER The Denver Gazette

The Colorado Department of Transportation announced yesterday the release of a draft strategy to remove gas and diesel trucks, including pickup trucks, from Colorado's roadways.

Governor Jared Polis' Clean Truck Strategy "to encourage the adoption of zero-emission medium and heavy-duty trucks by 2050" is open for public comment.

In a press release, Executive Director of the Colorado Energy Office Will Toor said, "We have a historic opportunity to support a transition to clean, zero-emission trucks and buses that will reduce harmful air pollution, make progress on our climate goals and save fleets millions of dollars a year in fuel

Elements of the strategy include:

· "A vision statement focused on delivering an "efficient, affordable, and equitable large-scale transition of Colorado's medium- and heavy-duty vehicle sector to zero-emission technologies,"

• "A prioritized set of 34 actions that state agencies will implement to support this transition, including nearterm actions in 2022 and 2023, as well as medium-term priorities agencies will initiate as capacity allows or once necessary planning is completed.

The press release says. "The administration will, by the end of the year. submit a request to set a hearing to the state Air Quality Control Commission to consider adopting rules to reduce pollution from diesel vehicles and to further support the transition to zero-emission trucks and buses."

These goals are part of an interstate Memorandum of Understanding signed by 15 states and the mayor of Washington, D.C. on July 10, 2020, California recently adopted its Advanced Clean Truck Regulation, which says every new truck sold in California be zero-emission by 2045.

A parallel global MOU calling for ZEV trucks has so far been signed by 15 nations including Austria, Chile, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Scotland, Turkey Uruguay, Wales and the United Kingdom.

The California Air Resources Board says the signatories are "committing to work collaboratively to advance and accelerate the market for electric mediumand heavy-duty vehicles, including large pickup trucks and vans, delivery trucks, box trucks, school and transit buses, and long-haul delivery trucks (big-rigs). The goal is to ensure that 100 percent of all new medium- and heavy-duty vehicle sales be zero emission vehicles by 2050 with an interim target of 30 percent zero-emission vehicle sales by 2030."

The state signatories are California, Connecticut, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington.

Input from public meetings and stakeholder groups the state produced the Colorado Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Study, upon which the draft strategy is based.

The Polis administration, Colorado Energy Office, Colorado Department of Transportation, and Air Pollution Control Division will share the draft Clean Truck Strategy with Coloradans and invite their input. Public webinars will be held March 30 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and March 31 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Written comments can be sent to cleantruckstrategy@state.co.us the public comment period will be open through April 4.

More details can be found at: https:// sites.google.com/state.co.us/cotriporgfreight/clean-truck-strategy.

VACCINATION

FROM PAGE 5

our implementation of vaccines." When vaccine supply was thin last year, she said, the state set aside 15% of its allotments for equity clinics. It launched mobile buses and popup clinics to reach underserved communities, and it reimbursed providers who purchased equipment needed to store vaccines so they could better distribute them to communities who needed doses.

State officials are aware of the disparity, she said, "and we're not happy with it." But she said they're continuing to work to address it. A state spokeswoman said that, as part of the state's vaccine equity efforts, "2,161 equity pop-up clinics have administered approximately 523,000 vaccine doses, and 2,830 mobile vaccine clinics have been held in key equity areas, administering 217,000 doses."

"We know that we're not going to undo 200 years of systemic racism and inequality in a two-year vaccine response. We're just not," Roth said. "But I think we're being, again, really intentional about creating and maintaining these relationships."

Soto, Pineda and other advocates and experts stressed the importance of trusted messengers: People familiar to particular communities who are better equipped to answer questions in a culturally relevant way. State leaders have talked of the importance of trusted messengers, too.



CHANCEY BUSH, THE DENVER GAZETTE FILE UCHealth RN Karen Nerger takes a pause between vaccinations during UCHealth's large-scale COVID-19 vaccination drive-thru site at the Coors Field parking lot Jan. 30, 2021, in Denver.

Pineda said her organization has helped vaccinate 11,000 people. Early on, requirements for online registration or reliance upon technology — like text messages about appointment availability or eligibility - hurt uptake in the Hispanic community. Vuela for Health began hosting events on the weekends, particularly in churches, to better reach people when they were free. Initially, police were present at events, and Pineda said that — along with concerns about money, insurance and showing ID - kept some

people away. Materials weren't initially available in Spanish or in paper form.

After some residents expressed concern about missing work from shortterm side effects of the vaccine, she said, they began offering Friday evening clinics, so people could have the weekend to shake off any lingering effects before the workweek began again. Clinics weren't left open to the broader public to ensure events set up for communities of color weren't overtaken by white residents seeking available vaccines.

Pineda said she was "really proud" of her organization's success. It's validation, she said, that local organizations are best equipped to serve their communities and that the state should support them in doing so. It may cost the state \$10,000 to run one event, she said, but if they give her organization that amount of money, she can do 10.

"In our community, this was a big push, and I think, finally, the state sees us," she said. "Finally, they see the benefit to work with the community organizations, that we really know our community."

Pineda said she had reached out to state government officials so Gov. Jared Polis could visit some of Vuela's events and thank the volunteer-reliant efforts. She never heard back, she said.

"In one way, I completely understand, it takes time," she continued, referring to the effort needed to work with distinct communities. "In another way, we're really frustrated. It's like, we are here, so don't wait until you find someone that you can put in your payroll when you can collaborate with organizations. We are the experts in our community."

Lisa DeCamp, a pediatrician and professor with the Latino Policy Research Center at the Colorado School of Public Health, said grass-roots organizations had worked to their limits to improve uptake in their communities and needed more resources to keep protecting their communities going forward.

She said she thought the state had worked hard to vaccinate the Hispanic population, an effort, she said, that was complicated by lack of access to medical care. The state needs to work now to figure out where the gaps are.

"I really think that there has been that effort there, and now I think we need to drill down and understand, where are the communities that are not being vaccinated?" she said, referring to specific areas within the Hispanic community in Colorado. "These are local organizations I'm aware of. But they serve a particular catchment area. So are there not organizations in parts of the state?"

Efforts likely need to be improved in rural areas, DeCamp said, and in continuing to combat misinformation that's common across every population in the United States. Regular clinics and events targeted to the Hispanic population and run by community organizations can continue to chip away at the disparity.

For Soto, it comes down to respecting the community, the people best equipped to reach it and the efforts that will most successfully serve it.

"It's about the messenger, my friend," she said. "Lots of love. Give me love, man, and treat me with respect. Give me respect, please."

Study: Exposure to outdoors boosted mental health

BY DAVID MULLEN The Denver Gazette

People who spent more time outdoors during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic experienced less anxiety and depressions than others, according to a new study published by the University of Colorado Boulder researchers.

The new study published in the journal PLOS One on Wednesday also found that as mental health issued soared during the height of the pandemic, more than a third of the studies participants stated they spent more time outdoors during this time than they did before the pandemic began.

"This research shows how critical it is to keep parks and green spaces open in times of crisis," said Collen Reid, an assistant professor at the universitv and senior author of the study. "It also shows, as a public health measure, more effort should be made to put green spaces and make them accessi-

The leaders of the study administered a survey between November 2019 to January 2021 to nearly 1,200 people. The survey gauged the participants viewpoints on green spaces near their homes and included questions regarding visibility, accessibility, use and quality, according to the university.

"Not surprisingly, we found that the pandemic impacted mental health negatively," said Co-Author Emma Rieves, a master's student at the university. "But we also found that green space could have a powerful protective effect, even at a time of such extraordinary stressors.'

The survey also gauged the partic-

ipants levels of stress relating to the pandemic, supply shortage issues and job losses.

To the authors surprise, they found no association between people being diagnosed with the virus and poor mental health. However, participants indicated when they showed symptoms and couldn't be tested was a major stressor, according to the study.

Participants who lost their jobs, indicated they worked in an "unsafe work environment" or increased the amount of time reading about the virus had poorer mental health.

The biggest stressor was the fear of supply shortages in items such as toilet paper and food, according to the study.

Many of the recipients reported on the survey to alleviate the stress, they went outside, which they said helped lower depression and anxiety.

"It's not just about being able to see trees from your home. The amount, quality and accessibility of that green space matters," said Rieves.

This study adds to a growing body of evidence that suggests green space has a measurable impact on health. One theory known as the "biophilia hypothesis" states humans innately seek connections with the outdoors as the environment "influences stress hormones in a way that promotes healing and fends off disease," according to the

In the past, correlations between outdoor green spaces and human health have been scrutinized due to the fact that people with higher incomes have more access to green spaces, according to the study.



CHRISTIAN MURDOCK, THE DENVER GAZETTE

Colorado College freshmen Katerine Beard, left, and Kendall Havill wear masks Aug. 17 as they walk across campus.

Although researchers differ on opinions of the correlation, Rieves said one thing is clear.

"Spend more time outside," she said. "Pandemic or no pandemic, it's good for your mental health."

BRIEFLY

Box of human heads stolen from truck

A box containing human heads has been stolen in Denver, according to the Denver Police Department.

The theft happened in the 7700 block of East 23rd Avenue between 2:30 p.m. Wednesday and 9:30 a.m. Thursday. The thieves took a dolly and a blue and white box labeled "exempt human specimen," according to a release from the department.

Police did not disclose how many heads were inside the box, but said they were intended to be used for medical research purposes.

No arrests have been made as of Saturday afternoon but police urge anyone who comes across the box to call law enforcement immediately.

Anyone with information about the theft is urged to contact the Metro Denver Crime Stoppers at 720-913-7867.

Suspect in September hit-and-run arrested

A 22-year-old man who allegedly hit a pedestrian on East Colfax Avenue in September and left the scene was arrested on Friday, according to the Aurora Police Department.

Adan A. Tobias-Ramirez is being held in the Arapahoe County Detention Center on suspicion of multiple counts of fugitive of justice and two counts of failure to pay or comply, according to the jail roster.

Tobias-Ramirez is accused of striking a 35-year-old man in the area of East Colfax Avenue and North Akron Street just before midnight on Sept. 7.

The man was found lying in the street and suffering from a significant head injury. He later died at a hospital, police said at that time.

Police did not say where Tobias-Ramirez was arrested.

Tobias-Ramirez is being held on a \$32,000 bail. He is scheduled to appear in court on March 28, according to online court records.

One dead after shooting in southeast Denver

One person is dead after being shot

in southeast Denver on Friday night, according to the Denver Police Depart-

Denver officers responded to a report of a shooting in the 10100 block of East Virginia Avenue at 11:10 p.m. A man was found on scene suffering from a gunshot wound, according to the department.

The man was transported to a local hospital where he later died. His identity will be released at a later date by Denver's Office of the Medical Examiner.

Police had not made an arrest or released information about a potential suspect as of Saturday morning.

Anyone with information regarding the shooting should contact the Metro Denver Crime Stoppers at 720-913-7867. **DAVID MULLEN, THE DENVER GAZETTE**

COVER STORY

LETTERS

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misconduct allegations, the letters portray a broader showdown between two constitutionally created entities, each pressing for control of what it deems to be its mandate.

At issue is the commission's charge to investigate any form of judicial misconduct, no matter whether the Judicial Department had already deemed it to be inconsequential, and the Supreme Court's view that judges need only report the misbehavior of a colleague if they witnessed it firsthand.

Much of the commission's annoyance appears rooted in concerns it was learning the details of the scandal through press reports and not from the judiciary itself. As each new allegation surfaced, the commission requested information from the court that corroborated or refuted what it was reading, according to the letters.

Rather than answer, Boatright — and by extension the Judicial Department — appeared to dawdle, asking the commission for more specifics or that it provide a "better understanding" of what it wanted.

For its part, the commission said it merely needed the court to report what it knew.

"Our preference ... is to hear directly from your office and the Judicial Department about their knowledge and views on these topics rather than await press reports," then-commission Chairman Christopher Gregory wrote Boatright on May 18, 2021. "We ask you again to please convert your assurances of disclosure and cooperation into concrete action."

Gregory became the commission's executive director in January after Gov. Jared Polis chose not to re-appoint him last year as a commission member.

The struggle peaked in January 2022 when the commission, in a highly unusual public airing of its frustration with the Supreme Court, told legislators it not only wasn't getting the kind of unfettered access to information Boatright said other investigators had, but that the high court had attempted to manipulate how the commission did its work.

The court controls the commission's funding through the Office of Attorney Regulation Counsel and for months has not approved the additional dollars the commission needs to pay for a law firm it hired to help it investigate the scandal.

As a result, lawmakers are contemplating the creation of a new Office of Judicial Discipline that would be a



COURTESY PHOTO

The Colorado Supreme Court conducts oral arguments in 2021.

more independent body that isn't beholden to the Supreme Court's purse strings.

The Denver Gazette received 13 pages of correspondence that occurred last year between the commission and the Supreme Court through an open-records request to the Judicial Department — and was required to pay \$460 for them. About half of the pages were blacked out.

The department said the redactions were to protect information it said the law allowed to be kept secret.

The information that was released indicates at least two other letters between the bodies were withheld entirely, one of them from Boatright and the other from State Court Administrator Steve Vasconcellos.

The department refused a request from The Denver Gazette for it to generally describe what was redacted or withheld, a provision that generally is allowed under Colorado Open Records Act, but which does not apply to the Judicial Department.

The Judicial Department has its own open-records policy — known as P.A.I.R.R.2 — that is similar in some ways to CORA. The commission is not covered by any open-records provision.

The unredacted portions of the letters provided to The Denver Gazette, however, give a picture of two entities at odds with how they are treating the scandal and the court's reticence to be candid.

Neither body would comment to The Denver Gazette about the correspondence.

The commission is made up of 10 peo-

ple: Two district court and two county court judges appointed by the Supreme Court; two lawyers with at least a decade practicing in Colorado, and four citizens who are not lawyers or have ever been a judge, appointed by the governor with the consent of the state Senate.

The dustup began in February 2021 when The Denver Post revealed former Judicial Department chief of staff Mindy Masias was allegedly given a \$2.5 million contract — approved at the highest levels of the department — to prevent her from filing a tell-all sex-discrimination lawsuit.

At the core was a two-page memo allegedly written by the department's former human resources director, Eric Brown, that laid out all the department's misdeeds Masias had seen over a 20-year career, including the actions of several high-ranking judges as well as its chief justice, all of it kept from public view.

The memo also outlined how the department had created a culture that fostered misogyny and harassment.

The department's former court administrator — its highest civilian position — has insisted former Chief Justice Nathan "Ben" Coats approved the Masias deal after hearing some of the details contained in the memo during a private meeting in January 2019, then asking what could be done to prevent the information from becoming public.

The stories set off a firestorm of reaction. In a public statement, Boatright assured accountability.

"The people of Colorado deserve a

judiciary that they know is being held accountable to the highest standards of professionalism and ethical behavior, regardless of title or position," he said in a Feb. 16, 2021, press release. "As Chief Justice, I am personally committed to restoring this public trust."

Additionally, Boatright had "directed that he be notified and receive weekly updates on all future misconduct complaints across the department to ensure each incident is fully investigated and acted on as appropriate without delay," according to the press release.

Within days, officials chosen by the governor, attorney general, and the leaders of both legislative houses named a panel to hire independent investigators to delve into the scandal.

Shortly after, the judicial discipline commission told Boatright it had concerns over how the investigation was being set up, particularly how it related to the commission's work. Because it is to operate independently of the Supreme Court, the commission was concerned information culled by the independent investigators might not be shared with it.

"The Commission would like a better understanding of the investigating entity you are creating ... (and) has some concerns that your April 26th letter suggests your office and the Judicial Department view the plan to create the new (investigative) entity as a substitute for the Commission's role or as a basis for delaying the work of the Commission," Gregory wrote on May 18. "The Commission disagrees with these

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Students face razors to fight cancer





PHOTOS BY CHRISTIAN MURDOCK, THE DENVER GAZETTE

Left, Ranch Creek Elementary School student Sebastian Foley, 8, feels his shaved head Friday during the 15th annual Bald 4 Bucks fundraiser at Rampart High School in Colorado Springs. Right, senior Ashlee Warren reacts to her bald head after Staci Burtschi cut her shoulder-length hair. The Rampart community has raised more than \$545,000 over the past 15 years for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

BY DEBBIE KELLEY

The shear bravery (pun intended) of Bald 4 Bucks never disappoints.

During Friday's 15th annual fundraiser, about 160 Academy School District 20 students closed their eyes, scrunched their faces and listened to razors and scissors fashion a shaved head or lopped locks.

"It feels so weird," yelled 8-year-old Sebastian Foley, a third grader at Ranch Creek Elementary School, as the stylist's cape came off and he ran his hands over his bald 'do. "It's pretty cool," Sebastian declared. "I like it."

The courageous act is all about showing cancer who's boss. Sebastian and other elementary, middle and high school students spent weeks collecting pledges from family and friends.

At the Rampart High School gymnasium or in their own schools, they were treated to a buzz cut or shortened look from volunteer stylists like Amanda Corralez-Rasberry of Great Clips.

Money raised benefits the Colorado Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, funding research for pediatric blood cancers and helping families pay for expenses such as co-pays.

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views, if they are held."

The department refused to give The Denver Gazette the April 26th letter Boatright wrote to the commis-

Boatright responded to the commission on June 11, 2021, saying it seemed to misunderstand when a judge is required to report allegations of misconduct by another judge. They need only do so if they actually witnessed the event.

"Based on the tone and substance (of the commission's letter), I'm concerned that the duty of individual judicial officers to report known violations of the Colorado Code of Judicial Conduct (to the commission) ... has been misconstrued as encompassing the duty to report either unsubstantiated allegations of judicial misconduct leveled indirectly by a third-party long after the fact," Boatright wrote on June 11, 2021.

"We need to start with the same basic understanding ... because 'knowledge' ... is limited to 'actual knowledge," Boatright wrote.

Boatright added that "I of course recognize and take very seriously" the obligation "to report known violations" to the commission and would "promptly comply" when the court had "actual knowledge" of them.

The commission shot back that Boatright was wrong and doing little more than stalling.

"The Commission does not agree with the suggestion ... that your office and the department are relieved of disclosure and cooperation obligations if information is outside the 'actual knowledge' of an individual judicial officer," El Paso County District Judge David Prince, the vice chairman of the commission, wrote on July 23, 2021. "The Commission renews its prior requests to you for disclosure and active cooperation in the Commission's fulfillment of its constitutional obligations."

Prince added that Boatright's responses are contrary to the chief justice's public statements of cooperation and transparency.

"Actual implementation of those statements will, in

the long run, best serve the interests of our respective institutions as well as the interests of the People of Colorado," Prince wrote.

Prince noted that Vasconcellos had written the commission — the letter was not provided to The Denver Gazette - in response to a request for information and "invited (it) to confer with our counsel to pursue our requests further ..."

The commission then subpoenaed the Judicial Department, and by extension the Supreme Court, in an unprecedented display of authority.

Days after it was revealed the commission had issued the subpoena, the 7-member Supreme Court jointly said in an internal department email that it had been cooperating with the disciplinary body all along, intimating allegations otherwise were inaccurate.

The commission publicly said it stood by its allegations.

The memo scandal has resulted in at least six separate investigations. The state auditor last month referred four people tied to the scandal for criminal investigation after completing its inquiry.

AROUND COLORADO

For Colorado artist, dragons both art, therapy

BY STEPHANIE EARLS

The Denver Gazette

Reforming a monster is easier in art than in life. So is repairing one.

That doesn't mean it's not a challenge. Sabra Overby stooped to peer into the maw of her papier-mâché beast, positioned on a pedestal on the dining room table in her home "studio" in Colorado Springs. She pointed to several fangs in the creature's mouth that were a lighter, matte hue.

The day after the buyers picked up the piece last month, their son was playing and accidentally toppled it from the mantle.

"I felt so bad. Three of the teeth broke off. And his horns, those were really damaged too," said Overby.

So the flightless dragon who'd plummeted to earth was returned to the nest for emergency surgery and some new chompers, which Overby fashions from a material similar to polymer clay, then cooks in the oven 'til it's rock hard.

"It was just so hard to get going on it again, to fix it, after I'd spent so much time on making it in the first place," she said. "You know what I mean? I was afraid I wasn't going to be able to do it as good as I did the first time."

The only thing harder than taking a first step, is taking it again down a road you thought was in the rearview. But papier-mâché dragons don't heal themselves

"Everything's a process, you've just got to start the process," Overby said.

And if you're lucky, that's where passion takes over. Again.

Overby is a 42-year-old Army veteran, with a quick and disarming laugh and long hair she wears in dreadlocks that spill down her back, one outward expression of the artistic flair that for years took a back-burner to her career in the military and as a mother raising three kids.

She's sold a dozen sculptures since first marketing her wares through word of mouth and then social media last year. The mounted heads go for \$600, an amount Overby's boyfriend, Greg Ciani, said doesn't reflect the time that goes into each piece, which with construction and drying takes about 16 weeks.

During that time, it also takes over her life.

Ciani thought his girlfriend was doing too much work last year, so made plans for the pair to camp on state lands near Buena Vista, where they could relax and soak in the natural hot springs. They drove down and Ciani found the perfect spot to set up camp, by a creek



PHOTOS BY CHRISTIAN MURDOCK, THE DENVER GAZETTE



that trickled down the mountain.

Overby woke at 3 a.m. and told Ciani they needed to leave. She'd had an epiphany about a piece she was working on.

"I had to turn around and bring her home. I was mad as hell, but I got over it." Ciani said.

It's impossible to hold a grudge against something whose outcome seems to make everyone involved so happy.

"Whatever she imagines it seems like she can do it, and I think that's pretty cool. One guy, when he came to pick his dragon up, he actually had tears in his eyes when he saw it," said Ciani, gazing around the living room of the home they share, a veritable gallery of artworks whose final forms belie their makeup.

Cats riding bicycles and skis, and

CONTACT THE ARTIST

For more about Sabra Overby's creations and commissions, contact the artist at pinkdalicat-creations@gmail.com or by phone at 281-904-9741.

Sabra Overby started making papier-mâché dragons, seen at left and top Feb. 17 at her Colorado Springs home, during the pandemic.

wielding samurai swords. A foot-tall Erte-esque sculpture of a dancer, whose core is a Coke bottle.

And those amazing dragons.

Imagine a not-quite-to-scale shoulder-mounted taxidermied buck, only as a scaled and spiked dragon so lifelike (if one can say such a thing) it seems poised to spring forth in glistening ferocity.

"It amazes me, because everything looks like crap at first and while she's working on it, and the next thing I know she's got this amazing thing going," said Ciani. "I can carve, so I understand the idea of taking something big and making it into something smaller. But she builds things up, and I can never see how she comes out with what she does."

Vision requires commitment, and

vice versa

Overby is entirely self-taught, with assists from Google and other papier-mâché dragon artists around the country.

She's always had a love and flair for art, but when she was working full-time and her kids were young it was tough to find the time, and space, for such indulgences, said Overby, whose oldest will graduate this year from high school. Her kids, all teens who live with her ex-husband in Texas, were the recipients of some of her earliest works, including a wall-mounted papier-mache T-Rex and a moose.

The Army brought Overby from Texas to the Springs, and Colorado was where she fell in love — with the landscape, and with Ciani. She decided to stay after retiring from the military in 2016.

It's hard to believe her creations, with their bones of wire, guts of paper and foam, and skin of fabric, phone book pages, cardboard egg crates and disposable blue shop towels, are the output of an artist who only found her groove two years ago, when the pandemic shut-down led to a void in social schedules and obligations.

Overby's projects started small, with mushed up glue and paper slurries she turned into beads, then necklaces, then coiled into bowls.

"Just all kinds of different bowls. Then she decided, 'I'm going to try sculpture.' And of course she likes cats, so her first things were cats," Ciani said. "Next thing I know, it's 'I'm not going to do cats now. I'm going to do dragons."

Looking back, Overby sees a greater — and deeper — arc at play in her artistic evolution.

Like her creations, the truth took shape slowly.

"I was just having a bad day, and that's when I was like, lemme try these dragons. And the more I thought about it, the more I realized why I was doing this," said Overby, who is a survivor of sexual assault in the military. "A lot of my dragons portray some of the monsters I have met in real life. I take some of those monsters I met and I worked with and I make them beautiful, and kind, and give them cute names. That's my way of coping."

Each dragon, once complete, carries away some of that weight.

"I thought, maybe this is what I need. Because the therapy at the VA is sure not helping," she said. "This was my way of sort of repairing myself, I guess you could say. My personal therapy has been creating art, creating dragons."

Citizen legislature grapples with parental leaves

BY MARIANNE GOODLAND Colorado Politics

As Colorado's Legislature becomes younger, policymakers find themselves contending with how to tackle parental leaves, particularly because no specific rule governs such situations and it's complicated to write rules for politicians, who are elected by the people and not hired by the state.

Decades ago, often the only times a baby or a young child was seen on the floor of the House or Senate was on the first day of session, when lawmakers brought in their grandchildren to witness proceedings. But Colorado's General Assembly has gotten younger since then, and with a lot more women, including those of childbearing age, joining the policymaking body.

Indeed, the issue of how a citizen legislature that meets 120 days out of 365 every year handles parental leave will likely become more pronounced as the assembly attracts younger and younger policymakers - and more women. Currently, women are the majority in the House, and the majority in the Senate Democratic caucus.

In the past six years, at least a dozen of Colorado's lawmakers have added babies to their families. That includes Senate President Steve Fenberg, House Speaker Alec Garnett, House Majority Leader Daneya Esgar, two Democratic senators, and six other members of the House on both sides of the aisle.

There are differences in how lawmakers have so far handled parental leaves, with some continuing to work and others taking full advantage of time away from the job to bond with their infant.

In 2020, Sen. Brittany Pettersen, D-Lakewood, became the first lawmaker in 37 years to give birth during a legislative session. Pettersen, whose son Davis was born Jan. 19, was excused from Jan. 21 to Feb. 27, a total of 36 days, in the 2020 session that was shortened to 84 days due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pettersen sponsored six Senate bills and eight House bills in that session, and served as vice chair of transportation and also sat on the Senate Finance Committee. Three of her six Senate bills were introduced prior to going on maternity leave; two more were introduced while she was on maternity leave.

More recently, House Majority Leader Daneya Esgar took maternity leave after giving birth to daughter Marlo last July. Although the Legislature was not





PHOTOS COURTESY OF COLORADO CHANNEL

Left, Marlo, daughter of House Majority Leader Daneya Esgar, D-Pueblo, and wife Heather Palm, gets her formal introduction to the House on Jan. 14 and lots of applause. Right, newly installed Senate President Steve Fenberg of Boulder uses his daughter, Isa, to get people's attention.

in session at the time, lawmakers in leadership have full-time duties.

"We're tackling this responsibility the same way working parents have been doing this for years," Esgar told Colorado Politics.

"My bosses are the folks who sent me here, the folks in my district, and making sure I really represent them," she said, adding that "being a working mom" accomplishes that.

Even though her emails had a standard line that she was on maternity leave, Esgar said she still checked emails to make sure she didn't miss anything important, such as a constituent who needed immediate attention, and held stakeholder meetings while she was on leave, which made Marlo famous on Zoom before people even knew about her.

It wasn't always wonderful and great, Esgar said, adding she wished for more job-family boundaries during that time, but at the same time, "that's my job, and I knew I would always be representing the folks who sent me here."

Esgar also said she relied heavily on her staff to keep her up to date.

"If I missed an email ... and there was a big issue, my staff alerted me," she said, adding she would then figure out steps to take and the staff took the directive and handled it.

"When you sign up for this job, it's a job you're constantly doing, and for better or worse, a lot of us have tried to draw boundaries ... Was it completely off work? No," she said, adding she is "no different" than any other lawmaker who has a family. "We're constantly juggling that balance and taking care of the work we're here to do," she said.

Colorado's General Assembly has no policy on how parental or maternal leave is handled for its member lawmakers, and Colorado's Legislature is not alone. The National Conference on State Legislatures said only one legislative body, the Massachusetts Senate, has a rule addressing an absence due to childbirth.

Massachusetts Senate Rule 57 says if a member is prevented from voting in the Senate because "of disability or due to a condition related to pregnancy, childbirth or nursing a child," the chamber's president shall assign a "court officer to answer the roll call on behalf of the member so long as the disability continues." That court officer will continue to answer the roll call as long as the condition continues, the rule says.

The absence of a clear policy applying to elected officials extends to the U.S. Congress.

In 2020, Congress passed a law granting 12 weeks of paid family leave to the federal workforce, including for congressional staffers. The law, however, doesn't apply to lawmakers — it's up to each individual lawmaker on whether to take paid parental leave. In recent years, U.S. Rep. Colin Allred, D-TX, took parental leave twice, while U.S. Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-IL, the first sitting senator to give birth, took 12 weeks in 2018.

Colorado's lone statute on the subject isn't about maternity or parental leave;

rather, it's about compensation, tied to long-term illness, not family leave. CRS 2-2-307(2)(b) says that if a lawmaker is absent for one-third of the session for any purpose other than long-term illness, one-third of their compensation "shall be forfeited," but that law also says it would be waived if the absence is approved by the presiding officer of

The lack of a paternal leave policy means it's up to individual legislators to negotiate their time away from work with presiding officers.

Sen. Jessie Danielson, D-Wheat Ridge, who has been on maternity leave since giving birth to a son on Dec. 7, decided to fully focus on caring for her infant for the first few months. With permission from her chamber, she has been excused for 50 out of the first 51 days as of March 3, thereby missing all but three votes she registered when she participated remotely on the first day of session. Danielson, who was removed from all committee assignments for the entire 2022 session, has yet to submit a single bill in the 2022 session.

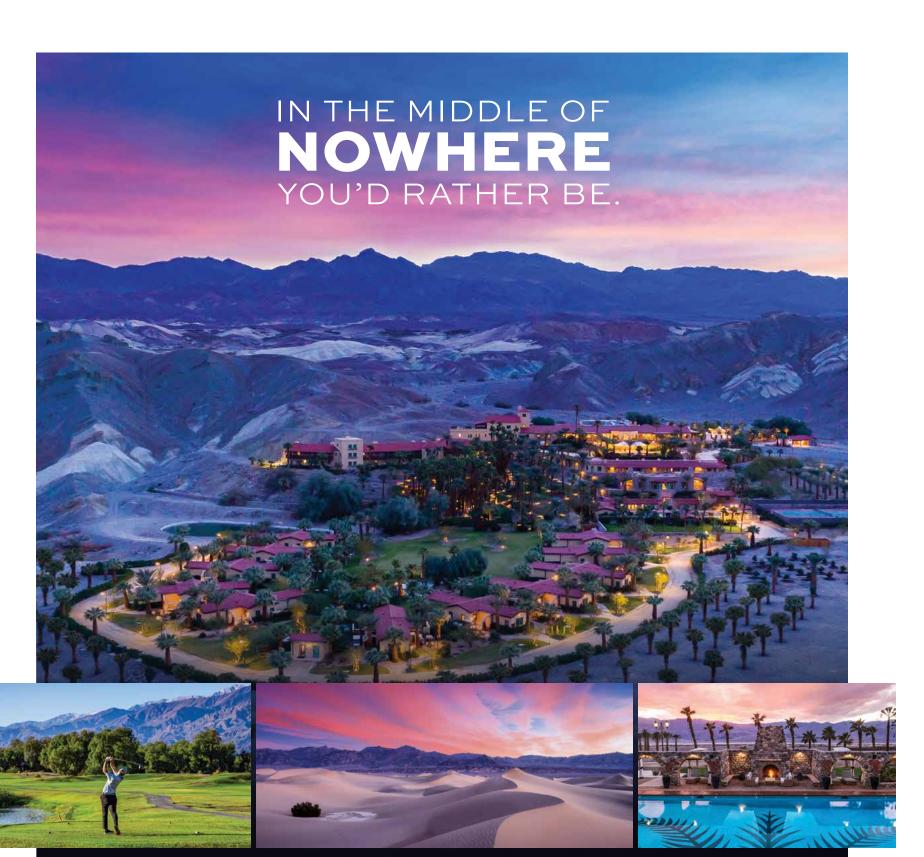
The Wheat Ridge Democrat said she prepared for her eventual leave by ensuring she's ready to hit the ground running once she's back at the Capitol. She told Colorado Politics two weeks ago that, prior to giving birth and in anticipation of going on maternity leave, she spent months crafting legislation she intends to introduce this year.

That will include, she said, legislation to provide security for Colorado seniors, build safe wildlife passages to protect motorists and wildlife, combat wage theft for Colorado workers, and address the issue of missing and murdered indigenous relatives - measures she said she will introduce when she returns. Danielson also pointed out that her bill requests were all submitted well in advance of the deadlines set by the General Assembly.

As noted, Danielson isn't the only one who's recently been excused in the state Senate an extended amount of time after having a child. What's clear is that state leaders recognize the importance of time away from work for new mothers and for parents to bond with infants.

That's been the case for both Pettersen and Danielson - their maternity leave absences were both approved by then-Senate President Leroy Garcia, D-Pueblo.

SEE LEAVE • PAGE 13



You don't come to Death Valley because abundant life flourishes here. Which is exactly why a four-diamond resort in the middle of it is so special. Join us to experience two unique hotels in one amazing location: North America's only authentic desert oasis. Learn more at OasisAtDeathValley.com



XANTERRA TRAVEL COLLECTION

New bill could bring digital license plates to Colorado

On first glance, it may look like any other license plate.

But should a vehicle be stolen, the plate expired, or an Amber Alert issued, a digital license plate could become a public safety tool.

So far, digital license plates have been tried out in California, Florida, Texas, Georgia, Illinois and Arizona. Now, they could be coming to Colorado, should House Bill 1162 win approval from the General Assembly and the governor.

A digital license plate emits a wireless signal used for tracking and digital monitoring services. The concept was patented in 2002 but didn't start to take off until 2016, when California became the first state to put the technology into state law. California-based Reviver is so far the only company making the plates.

Bill sponsor Rep. Tony Exum, D-Colorado Springs, told the House Transportation & Local Government Committee last week that while those who buy the digital plates will still have to buy the traditional metal plates as well, it will save drivers a trip to the DMV.





PHOTOS COURTESY JAGUARSANTAMONICA.COM

Reviver's digital license plate shows an example of a stolen car, left, and an Amber Alert.

"What's nice about these digital license plates is that they can be easily updated," Exum said. No more replacing registration stickers every year, and they can be used to display other messages, such as when the vehicle is stolen.

Readability is an issue for these plates; HB 1162 requires that the plate can be read clearly from 100 feet in normal sunlight. The digital plate would be at the vehicle's rear; the metal plate would still be required for the front.

Drivers who put the plates on their vehicles can display banner messages below the actual plate number; the Detroit Free Press reported in 2020 that one man put "Kobe RIP" on his plate after NBA basketball player Kobe Bryant died in a helicopter crash.

The other issue is how you get the plate: It must be purchased directly from Reviver, not the Division of Motor Vehicles, Exum said.

At around \$600 to \$900 per plate, plus a monthly fee, the cost could also mean it's not for everyone.

The concept does have critics. Ride-TechNews, in a 2019 video, said that while the plates will be useful for fleets or other businesses, it does track the vehicle's location, raising privacy concerns. They also said there's a risk of hacking, and that the black-and-white design is "boring."

Esteban Nunez, Reviver's legislative director, explained each plate is equipped with a radio receiver and transmitter that allows for wireless communication. That, in turn, allows the plate to receive real-time updates and communicate with the Reviver app. The plates can operate in weather as low as minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit to 185 degrees Fahrenheit, he said, and the plates can operate for an indefinite amount of time when disconnected from a power source.

As for hacking concerns, Nunez said the technology is encrypted with the same kind of encryption used by banks. He explained the only way to hack the plate would be to deconstruct the plate and the chip inside.

HB 1162 got a hefty rewrite through an amendment requested by the Colorado State Patrol, to address rulemaking around data sharing, privacy, security, and a one-year review after the rules go into effect.

The bill won a unanimous vote of approval from the committee and is now awaiting action from the full House.

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Garcia, in a statement to Colorado Politics before he stepped down, said Danielson is "on maternity leave, a critically important time for new mothers to recover from childbirth and for families to bond during the first months of their child's life. Senator Danielson will be returning to the Senate soon, and looks forward to continuing her work representing her constituents at the Capitol."

"Senator Danielson is still a sitting Senator representing SD 20," his statement added.

The lack of a policy for maternity or paternity leaves isn't confined to American legislatures.

In Ireland, a member of that country's version of the House has pushed for a bill in each of the last three years to allow elected officials to take maternity leave. Holly Cairns, the House member, told the Irish Times when she was first elected to the Cork County Council that "female councilors spoke of the 'trauma' of giving birth while being an elected official."

"They were working from their maternity beds, they had to take sick leave which is, quite frankly, insulting, and their wages were being docked. Of course, they felt like they were being judged by the electorate for not being at council meetings and it's just ridiculous in 2020 that we're even talking about this," she said.

Cairns' bill would not only provide a means for councilors to access family leave, but also to "contribute, I think, to a cultural shift. We need to normalize politicians taking maternity and parental leave," she said.

Stella Creasy, a Member of Parliament in the United Kingdom, learned firsthand how maternal leave is different for politicians than it is for employees. Since they're not legally classified as employees, MPs also aren't entitled to that country's statutory leave. Creasy met with government officials the day after she had a cesarean and fought for the right to hire a stand-in, known as a locum, to take care of her duties, save for voting in the House of Commons.

Then there's the issue of what happens to constituent needs when a lawmaker is gone. The Guardian reported "there is no official leave from dealing with constituents' problems, an unsung but vital part of the job. So, MPs have traditionally fudged their way through, post-childbirth, trying to take some time off without letting voters down."

Nine states have adopted paid parental or family leave laws in the past several years, including Colorado. But that law, passed by voters in 2020, applies only to the relationship between employers and employees.

That doesn't apply to lawmakers, Fenberg said. Lawmakers are accountable to their voters and constituents - their bosses, not the Senate President or House Speaker, he explained.

The assumption has been, whether for maternity, illness or other issues, that, since lawmakers are elected by constituents, if voters have an issue with their absence, that's what elections are for, Fenberg said.

"We're a citizen legislature, which means we're people and we have jobs. It's a side-effect of a citizen legislature. It's something we have to balance," he said.

Has the time come for a formal policy? Not yet, although Fenberg said he went so far as to pull a bill title on the issue this year. But he hasn't gone beyond that, he told Colorado Politics. He also questioned whether a law dictating how the General Assembly handles family leave would be constitutional.

"We've made sure people have the time we need, and the entire chamber respects that. Are there clarifications that can be made? Probably," he said.

It's complicated for legislatures to modernize and evolve with other workplaces because it isn't a "normal" workplace, Fenberg said. The other issue is that the General Assembly cannot pass a law that binds future legislatures. The most that they could do is a rule change, which is done when a problem rises - and Fenberg doesn't see it as a problem.

"I do think the experience of Sens. Pettersen and Danielson ... is an example that shows you can serve in elected office, you can have a family, grow your family and still serve," he said. "My hope is that over the next few years, we can change some policies. But at the end of the day, the best way to prove you can be young and serve in a legislature is by showing that it's possible and we welcome it."

Putin escalates rhetoric, military escalates attacks

The Associated Press

LVIV, UKRAINE • Russian President Vladimir Putin warned Saturday that Ukrainian statehood is in jeopardy and likened the West's sanctions on Russia to "declaring war," while a promised cease-fire in the besieged port city of Mariupol collapsed amid scenes of terror.

With the Kremlin's rhetoric growing fiercer and a reprieve from fighting dissolving, Russian troops continued to shell encircled cities and the number of Ukrainians forced from their country grew to 1.4 million. By Saturday night Russian forces had intensified their shelling of Mariupol, while dropping powerful bombs on residential areas of Chernihiv, a city north of Kyiv, Ukrainian officials said.

Bereft mothers mourned slain children, wounded soldiers were fitted with tourniquets and doctors worked by the light of their cellphones as bleakness and desperation pervaded. Putin continued to pin the blame for all of it squarely on the Ukrainian leadership and slammed their resistance to the invasion.

"If they continue to do what they are doing, they are calling into question the future of Ukrainian statehood," he said. "And if this happens, it will be entirely on their conscience."

He also hit out at Western sanctions that have crippled Russia's economy and sent the value of its currency tumbling.

"These sanctions that are being imposed, they are akin to declaring war," he said during a televised meeting with flight attendants from Russian airline Aeroflot. "But thank God, we haven't got there yet."

Russia's financial system suffered yet another blow as Mastercard and Visa announced they were suspending operations in the country.

Ten days after Russian forces invaded, the struggle to enforce the temporary cease-fires in Mariupol and the eastern city of Volnovakha showed the fragility of efforts to stop the fighting across Ukraine.

Ukrainian officials said Russian artillery fire and airstrikes had prevented residents from leaving before the agreed-to evacuations got underway. Putin accused Ukraine of sabotaging the effort.

A third round of talks between Russia and Ukraine will take place Monday, according to Davyd Arakhamia, a member of the Ukrainian delegation.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukrainian paramedics cover with the national flag the grave of their colleague, Valentyna Pushych, who was killed by Russian troops, Saturday in a cemetery in Kyiv, Ukraine.

He gave no additional details, including where they would take place.

Previous meetings were held in Belarus and led to the failed cease-fire agreement to create humanitarian corridors for the evacuation of children, women and older people from besieged cities, where pharmacies have run bare, hundreds of thousands face food and water shortages, and the injured have been succumbing to their wounds.

In comments carried on Ukrainian television, Mariupol Mayor Vadym Boychenko said thousands of residents had gathered for safe passage out of the city of 430,000 when shelling began and the evacuation was stopped. Later in the day, he said the attack had escalated further.

"The city is in a very, very difficult state of siege," Boychenko told Ukrainian TV. "Relentless shelling of residential blocks is ongoing, airplanes have been dropping bombs on residential areas. The Russian occupants are using heavy artillery, including Grad multiple rocket launchers."

Russia has made significant advanc-

es in the south, seeking to cut off Ukraine's access to the sea. Capturing Mariupol could allow Russia to establish a land corridor to Crimea, which it annexed in 2014.

Meanwhile the head of the Chernihiv region said Russia has dropped powerful bombs on residential areas of the city of the same name, which has a population of 290,000. Vyacheslav Chaus posted a photo online of what he said was an undetonated FAB-500, a 1,100-pound (500-kilogram) bomb.

"Usually this weapon is used against military-industrial facilities and fortified structures," Chaus said. "But in Chernihiv, against residential areas."

In a speech to Ukrainians on Saturday, President Volodymyr Zelensky pointed to "the 500-kilogram bombs that were dropped on the houses of Ukrainians. Look at Borodyanka, at the destroyed schools, at the blown-up kindergartens. At the damaged Kharkiv Assumption Cathedral. Look what Russia has done."

The West has broadly backed Ukraine, offering aid and weapons and slapping Russia with vast sanctions. But the

fight itself has been left to Ukrainians, who have expressed a mixture of courageous resolve and despondency.

"Ukraine is bleeding," Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said in a video released Saturday, "but Ukraine has not fallen."

Russian troops took control of the southern port city of Kherson this week. Although they have encircled Kharkiv, Mykolaiv, Chernihiv and Sumy, Ukrainian forces have managed to keep control of key cities in central and southeastern Ukraine, Zelensky said.

Diplomatic efforts continued as U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken was in Poland to meet with the prime minister and foreign minister, a day after attending a NATO meeting in Brussels in which the alliance pledged to step up support for eastern flank members.

In Moscow, Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett met with Putin at the Kremlin. Israel maintains good relations with both Russia and Ukraine, and Bennett has offered to act as an intermediary in the conflict, but no details of the meeting emerged immediately.

However, Bennett's office said he spoke twice with Zelensky afterward. Bennett also had a conversation with French President Emmanuel Macron.

In the wake of Western sanctions, Aeroflot, Russia's flagship state-owned airline, announced that it plans to halt all international flights except to Belarus, starting Tuesday.

The death toll of the conflict was difficult to measure. The U.N. human rights office said at least 351 civilians have been confirmed killed since Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, but the true number is probably much higher. The Russian military, which doesn't offer regular updates on casualties, said Wednesday that 498 of its troops had been killed.

Ukraine's military is vastly outmatched by Russia's, but its professional and volunteer forces have fought back with fierce tenacity. Even in cities that have fallen, there were signs of resistance.

Onlookers in Chernihiv cheered as they watched a Russian military plane fall from the sky and crash, according to video released by the Ukrainian government. In Kherson, hundreds of protesters waved blue and yellow Ukrainian flag sand shouted, "Go home"

Zelensky calls for airpower in Zoom meeting

BY ERNEST LUNING
The Denver Gazette

Calling Ukraine's leader "a modern-day hero," U.S. Rep. Doug Lamborn said President Volodymyr Zelensky's private video call with U.S. lawmakers Saturday morning conveyed the urgency of responding quickly as the Russian invasion of its European neighbor enters its 11th day.

Lamborn, a Colorado Springs Republican and a member of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, took part in the hourlong Zoom call along with nearly 300 senators, fellow House members and their aides.

"He is showing so much bravery, along with the Ukrainian people, and that comes through with everything he says," Lamborn told The Denver Gazette. "It felt like I was part of history, being able to interact with him."

Lamborn said the U.S. should facilitate efforts to transfer military aircraft from nearby Eastern European countries to Ukraine in response to Zelensky's plea, though the lawmaker expressed skepticism about establishing a NATO-enforced no-fly zone.

"He said they need airpower. The Russians dominate in the air, and they need aircraft," Lamborn said, noting that ground-to-air Stinger missiles supplied to Ukraine by the U.S. have a limited range, leaving the Ukrainian Air Force heavily overmatched by the Russians.

"He said that, or he wants a no fly zone — either of those two things, aircraft or a no-fly zone," Lamborn said. "And those are both hard things to do in the middle of a war. In fact, I'm not even sure we can do a no-fly zone without getting into a war with Russia ourselves."

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday that Moscow would consider any third-party declaration of a no-fly zone over Ukraine as "participation in the armed conflict," The Associated Press reported.

NATO has refused Zelensky's recent requests for a no-fly zone, saying the likelihood of direct military confrontation with nuclear-armed Russia could provoke a widespread war, a conclusion Lamborn said he shares.

Another member of Colorado's congressional delegation, U.S. Rep. Jason Crow, participated in the videoconference with Zelensky but declined through a spokeswoman to comment on what was said during the call.

The Centennial Democrat — like Lamborn, a member of the House Armed Services Committee and the Congress-



UKRAINIAN PRESIDENTIAL PRESS OFFICE VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky speaks to the nation Thursday in Kyiv, Ukraine. Zelensky spoke with U.S. lawmakers Saturday via videoconference.

sional Ukrainian Caucus — took to Twitter on Saturday, however, to rebuke fellow lawmakers who ignored a reported request from the Ukrainian ambassador at the beginning of the meeting to refrain from posting anything during the call in order to protect Zelensky from threats of assassination.

"The lack of discipline in Congress is truly astounding," wrote Crow. "If an embattled wartime leader asks you to keep quiet about a meeting, you better keep quiet about the meeting. I'm not saying a damn thing. Lives are at stake."

Republican U.S. Sens. Marco Rubio of Florida and Steve Daines of Montana came under heavy criticism for posting screenshots of Zelensky speaking on the call during the Zoom meeting. Other lawmakers described the call and its contents in social media posts and interviews after it had concluded.

Calling Rubio and Daines "two great guys," Lamborn told The Gazette he wasn't aware of the controversy over their posts and said he was "hesitant to criticize them," adding, "Hopefully, it's just an oversight, but it does run the risk of a security breach. My understanding is there are assassins looking for Zelensky right now."

Zelensky, who opened the call by telling lawmakers it could be the last time they see him alive, made clear the heavy toll the invasion has taken on ci $vilians,\,Lamborn\,\,said.$

"He first talked to us about some of the atrocities and, frankly, war crimes that the Russians are committing, including — maybe not intentionally, but they're ending up killing a lot of men, women and children," Lamborn said.

The U.N. human rights office said Saturday that it has confirmed the deaths of 351 civilians in Ukraine since the Russian invasion began, along with 707 civilians injured, the AP reported. The office said it believes the actual figures are considerably higher because confirming casualties in areas with intense fighting has been delayed.

Lamborn reiterated his support for a U.S. ban on importing oil from Russia, something else Zelensky told lawmakers will help his country defend itself from the Russian invasion. Lamborn said he doesn't understand why the Biden administration has been resisting the ban, which has gained widespread, bipartisan support, including from Colorado's two Democratic U.S. senators, Michael Bennet and John Hickenlooper.

"Seems to me he's putting domestic political considerations above the survival of a democratic country," Lamborn said, referring to Biden.

While Lamborn suggested that the administration is worried about provoking from American consumers if

a ban increases prices at the pump, officials have said they're concerned the move would drive the worldwide price of oil higher, which could result in rewarding Russia if it's able to evade sanctions and sell its oil elsewhere.

In addition, Lamborn said it's time for Biden to reverse his decision to shut down the Keystone XL pipeline, which would move oil from Canada to the Gulf Coast for refining, and to allow more drilling on federal lands.

Hours after the call, Hickenlooper posted to Twitter that he had taken part in the meeting.

"The U.S. unequivocally stands with Ukraine," he wrote. "We need to send humanitarian aid and ban Russian oil imports."

Lamborn said he was encouraged at the broad support among his colleagues for standing with the U.S. ally.

"I think everyone is supportive, and that's heartening to see — it's very bipartisan — to see this support for Ukraine," he said.

When asked what average Coloradans can do to help, Lamborn said, "Keep Ukrainians in your thoughts and prayers, and if called upon to sacrifice through higher gas prices, know it's for a very good cause."

Denver Gazette editor Vince Bzdek and The Associated Press contributed to this story.



Daughters of oligarchs blast invasion on social media

BY ELIZABETH FADDIS The Washington Examine

The daughters of Russian oligarchs have spoken out against the full-scale invasion of Ukraine launched by Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Sofia Abramovich, Elizaveta Peskova, and Maria Yumasheva took to Instagram to share their stances on the war in Ukraine and call for an end to the violence. Abramovich is the daughter of Roman Abramovich, the departing owner of the Chelsea soccer team, and Peskova's father is Dmitry Peskov, the spokesman for the Kremlin. Yumasheva's parents are Valentin Yumashev, a former reporter and now Kremlin official, and his wife, Tatyana Borisovna, is the daughter of former Russian President Boris Yeltsin, according to the New York Post.

"The biggest and most successful lie out of the Kremlin propaganda is that most Russians are with Putin," 27-year-old Sofia Abramovich shared in a now-deleted Instagram post, according to the outlet.

Peskova similarly shared the words "no to the war" in a now-deleted post, reports said. Yumasheva, 19, also shared a photo of the Ukrainian flag with the words "no war."

The latter's father played an instrumental role in Putin becoming president, according to the BBC. Valentin Yumashev, who worked as the chief of staff in Yeltsin's administration before marrying his daughter, hired Putin, a former KGB officer, to serve as his deputy in 1997, according to the outlet. When asked by Yeltsin whether Yumashev thought Putin would make a good successor, he urged the former president to "consider him."

The White House announced Thursday that it would impose sanctions on Russian oligarchs and people within Putin's inner circle. Measures enacted to put more pressure on Putin included removing Russian billionaires, business executives, and allies of Putin from the U.S. financial system, freezing their assets and property, and preventing them from traveling to the United States.

Family members of the Russian oligarchs and Putin allies were also hit with these sanctions. Abramovich, who has an estimated net worth of around \$12.4 billion, said on Wednesday that he was selling the Chelsea Football Club, stating in his announcement that it was "in the best interest of the Club."



PHOTOS BY ARMOND FEFFER, SPECIAL TO THE DENVER GAZETTE Dozens of protesters stand behind a large sign reading, "Stand With Ukraine," during a protest against the Russian invasion of Ukraine on Saturday in Denver. A similar protest will be held next Saturday, March 12.

Making themselves heard

Chilly weather and the threat of snow didn't stop a group of Colorado Ukrainians and their supporters from gathering outside the state Capitol on Saturday afternoon in Denver for a protest against the Russian invasion.







ABOVE: Protesters wave flags and chant, "Slava Ukraini," meaning "Glory to Ukraine."

ABOVE LEFT: Brooke Harmon, left, and Alexi Drozd stand in front of the Colorado state Capitol on Saturday in Denver during a protest against the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Drozd created the Facebook group that organized the protest.

LEFT: Ukrainian protesters bow their heads for a prayer in front of the Capitol as people from all sorts of nationalities met to show solidarity with Ukrainians currently fighting against Russia.

National flower becomes symbol of solidarity

BY ABIGAIL ADCOX

Ukraine's national flower, the sunflower, has become a symbol of solidarity as natives hope to nip Russian aggression in the bud.

Within the past week, sunflowers have been held up by anti-war protesters in Venezuela, pasted on the windows of London's Downing Street, and painted in communities around the world to show support for the Ukrainian people as Russia wages a brutal invasion of the country.

United Kingdom Prime Minister Boris Johnson's office shared a photo Friday of Downing Street adorned with illustrations of sunflowers designed by children from around the country in support of Ukraine.

The day before, an anti-war protester outside the European Union offices in Venezuela was seen holding up a sunflower with a message that read, in Spanish, "Putin Killer."

Others have added sunflower emojis to their social media accounts or shared photos of the plant in their communities in a show of unity with the Ukrainian people.

Among those showing their support is first lady Jill Biden, who was spotted with a face mask featuring a yellow sunflower embroidered on the side. Biden wore a blue dress to Tuesday's State of the Union address with a sunflower

sewn into the arm as she sat next to the Ukrainian ambassador.

The symbol rose in prominence in the resistance movement against Russia after one woman offered sunflower seeds to a Russian soldier so that they would grow when he died.

• "What the fare you doing on our land with all these guns? Take these seeds and put them in your pockets, so at least sunflowers will grow when you all lie down here," the woman was heard saying in a video shared on Feb. 24.

The video, as of Friday, has been viewed more than 8 million times.

Though the sunflower has taken on a new wartime meaning, it is deeply rooted in Ukrainian tradition. The flowers have long been seen on clothing at celebrations and planted across the country.

Ukraine also supplies over half of the world's crude sunflower and safflower oil, according to Quartz India.

On June 4, 1996, the flower was used as a sign of peace between Ukraine and Russia. Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, Ukrainian Defense Minister Valery Schmarov, and U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry were photographed planting sunflowers to mark the disarmament of nuclear weapons in Ukraine.

The sunflowers were planted at the former Soviet Pervomaysk missile base following the Cold War



THE CANADIAN PRESS VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ABOVE: A person wears a sunflower crown as they rally against Russia's invasion of Ukraine during a Feb. 27 protest outside City Hall in Ottawa, Ontario.

LEFT: First lady Jill Biden wears a mask with a sunflower, the national flower of Ukraine, in support of the Ukrainian people.

Calls to boycott Coke grow after company refuses to pull out

BY ANDREW KERR

The Washington Examiner

Calls to boycott Coca-Cola products reached a fever pitch Friday afternoon as the beverage company reportedly signaled it would continue doing business in Russia amid the invasion of Ukraine.

Three Ukrainian supermarket chains announced they would remove Coca-Cola products from their shelves, and #BoycottCocaCola became the No. 1 national trending Twitter topic Friday evening after a spokesperson for the beverage company's exclusive bottler in Russia

reportedly told a Russian state-owned news agency that it would continue all business operations in the country.

"This shameless company continues to work for the invaders in full strength," the Ukrainian supermarket chain Novus said in a statement, according to the Kyiv Independent.

Russian state-owned news agency TASS reported that the Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company, the bottling company with exclusive rights to distribute Coca-Cola products in Russia and 28 other countries, had no plans to cease operations in Russia.

"All operational, production, and logistics facilities of Coca-Cola in Russia are working. We are fully responsible to partners, society, and thousands of our employees in Russia. Our top priority is the safety of our employees," a Coca-Cola HBC spokesperson told TASS.

While Coca-Cola did issue a statement Thursday offering monetary support for humanitarian relief efforts in Ukraine amid the invasion, the statement did not offer any condemnation of Russia or Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Scores of Western companies in the energy, technology, entertainment, re-

tail, automobile, and other sectors have suspended operations in Russia since Putin launched his invasion of Ukraine in late February.

The British energy company BP, Russia's largest foreign investor, could see a \$25 billion loss following its announcement Sunday that it will exit its 19.75% stake in the Russian state-controlled oil company Rosneft.

BP Chairman Helge Lund said the company's involvement in the state-owned enterprise "simply cannot continue" following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

MARIUPOL DIARY

Scenes of despair, resolve in Ukraine city

BY MSTYSLAV CHERNOV AND EVGENIY MALOLETKA The Associated Press

MARIUPOL, UKRAINE • A man dashes into a hospital with a desperately wounded toddler in his arms, the child's mother on his heels. Doctors use smartphone torches to examine patients' wounds.

New mothers nestle infants in makeshift basement bomb shelters.

A father collapses in grief over the death of his teen son when shelling ravages a soccer field near a school.

These scenes unfolded in and around the Azov Sea port of Mariupol in southern Ukraine over the past week, captured by Associated Press journalists documenting Russia's invasion.

With nighttime temperatures just above freezing, the battle plunged the city into darkness late in the week, knocked out most phone services and raised the prospect of food and water shortages. Without phone connections, medics did not know where to take the wounded.

A limited cease-fire that Russia declared to let civilians evacuate Mariupol and Volnovakha, a city to its north, quickly fell apart Saturday, with Ukrainian officials blaming Russian shelling for blocking the promised safe passage.

Russia has made significant gains on the ground in the south in an apparent bid to cut off Ukraine's access to the sea. Capturing Mariupol could allow Russia to build a land corridor to Crimea, which it seized in 2014.

The pain of mothers

A man dashes through the doors of a hospital carrying a desperately wounded toddler wrapped in a pale blue, bloodstained blanket. His girlfriend, the baby's mother, is on his heels.

Hospital workers surge round, trying to save the life of 18-month-old Kirill, but there is nothing to be done.

As Marina Yatsko and her boyfriend Fedor weep in each other's arms, distraught staff sit on the floor and try to recover themselves before the next emergency arrives.

It's a scene repeated over and over again in Mariupol. Days earlier, hospital workers had pulled a wounded 6-year-old girl from an ambulance as her mother stood alone, helpless.

Multiple attempts at resuscitation



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Marina Yatsko and her boyfriend, Fedor, comfort each other after her son, Kirill, 18 months, was killed by shelling in a hospital Friday in Mariupol, Ukraine.

failed until eventually the frenetic activity stopped and the mother was left with her grief. A doctor looked straight into the camera of an AP videojournalist allowed inside.

He had a message: "Show this to Putin."

Hospital has no power

Smoke from shelling rises over a snow-covered residential part of Mariupol, as in the city's hospital the bangs send women dropping to the floor for shelter. One raises her arms in prayer.

Doctors use their smartphone torches to examine patients' wounds, as the hospital lacks electricity and heating.

"We work more than a week without a break, (some of us) even more," said doctor Evgeniy Dubrov. "(We) continue working, everyone on their positions."

Grappling with the pain of their wounds, Ukrainian soldiers are in shock at the loss of their comrades.

"I don't understand what had happened, blast, my eyes getting dark and vision blurring," said Svyatoslav Borodin. "I continued to crawl ... but I didn't understand if I had legs or not. Then I turned and saw my leg."

Death comes to a soccer field

Flashes from shelling light up the medics as they stand in a parking lot waiting for the next emergency call.

In the hospital nearby, a father bur-

ies his face into his dead 16-year-old son's head. The boy, draped under a bloodstained sheet, has succumbed to wounds from shelling on the soccer field where he was playing.

Hospital staff wipe blood off a gurney. Others treat a man whose face is obscured by blood-soaked bandages.

The medics prepare to go out, strapping on their helmets.

They find a wounded woman in an apartment and take her in an ambulance for treatment, her hand shaking rapidly from apparent shock. She yells out in pain as the medics wheel her into the hospital.

On the darkening horizon, orange light flashes at the edge of the sky and loud bangs reverberate in the air.

Children will play

The resting toddler, perhaps responding instinctively to the sight of a camera, raises an arm and waves.

But the mother underneath has tears in her eyes.

They're lying together on the floor in a gym-turned-shelter, waiting out the fighting that rages outside.

Many families have young children. And as children can do anywhere, some giggle and run around the floor covered with blankets.

"God forbid that any rockets hit. That's why we've gathered everyone here," says local volunteer Ervand Tovmasyan, accompanied by his young son.

He says locals have brought supplies. But as the Russian siege continues, the shelter lacks enough drinking water, food, and gasoline for generators.

Many there remember the shelling in 2014, when Russia-backed separatists briefly captured the city.

"Now the same thing is happening — but now we're with children," says Anna Delina, who fled Donetsk in 2014.

Tanks in a row

In a field in Volnovakha on the outskirts of Mariupol, a row of four green tanks hold their cannons at roughly 45 degrees.

Two of them fire, jolting the machines backward slightly, and sending clouds of white smoke skyward.

The tanks are painted with the letter "Z" in white, a tactical sign intended to quickly identify military units and help troops distinguish friend from foe in combat.

The tanks with the "Z" move around inside Russian-held territory and are believed to be used by Russian forces.

Amid death, the joy of birth

A nurse fits a shirt on a newborn who fusses at first and then cries loudly. It is a joyful sound.

Babies born at a Mariupol hospital are taken down flights of stairs to a makeshift nursery that also serves as a bomb shelter during shelling.

Sitting in the dimly lit shelter, new mother Kateryna Suharokova struggles to control her emotions as she holds her son, Makar.

"I was anxious, anxious about giving birth to the baby in these times," the 30-year-old says, her voice shaking. "I'm thankful to the doctors who helped this baby to be born in these conditions. I believe that everything will be fine."

Above the basement, hospital staff labor to save people wounded in the shelling. A woman with blood streaming from her mouth cries out in pain, A young man's face is ashen as he is wheeled into the hospital. Another, who did not survive, is covered by a thin blue sheet.

"Do I need to say more?" says Oleksandr Balash, head of anesthesiology department.

"This is just a boy."

NATIONAL POLITICS

Six states move toward major abortion restrictions

BY CASSIDY MORRISON The Washington Examiner

Six red states have advanced bills to limit access to abortion, with Florida's proposed 15-week ban the closest to

passage.

Republican-majority states have been emboldened by signals that the Supreme Court will issue a ruling in June that essentially overturns the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, which legalized abortion nationwide. The case, Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, poses the question of whether states can ban abortion before viability, the point at which survival is possible outside the womb — commonly estimated to be between 22 and 24 weeks of pregnancy. Justices held oral arguments in December, with the majority-conservative court signaling willingness to uphold the Mississippi law, possibly delivering a death blow to the precedent set by the Roe ruling.

Republican majorities in some states have also seen the unique law enacted in Texas survive early legal challenges and sought to re-create it. In Texas, abortion after a fetal heartbeat is detected is banned. It employs an unusual enforcement mechanism that gives private citizens, not state authorities, the power to sue rule-breakers with the promise of winning no less than \$10,000. Under the Texas law, which was implemented in September last year, anyone who is believed to be aiding and abetting an abortion can be charged.

Florida

Florida has appeared at the forefront of culture wars over policies concerning abortion access, education about gender, and the coronavirus pandemic. Gov. Ron DeSantis, a Republican and an ally to former President Donald Trump, is becoming a political heavy hitter who is considered a possible top candidate for the top office in 2024.

The state Legislature cleared a bill Thursday night that will shorten the deadline for legal abortion from 24 weeks to 15 weeks and would only allow for exceptions in the cases of fetal abnormalities or extreme danger to the life of the mother.

"As the evening hours winds down, the Florida Senate's light shines bright. Thank you to Senator Kelli Stargel, President @WiltonSimpson and the Senators who believe that life matters," Florida House Speaker Chris Sprowls tweeted after the vote.

The 15-week ban closely resembles the



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Members of the Florida House of Representatives convene during a legislative session April 30 at the state Capitol in Tallahassee, Fla.

one being considered in the Supreme Court. DeSantis, who has signaled support for anti-abortion legislation in the past, is poised to sign it. If he does and the law is not successfully challenged in the courts, it is slated to go into effect on July 1.

South Dakota

In South Dakota, the state Legislature passed a proposal on Wednesday from Gov. Kristi Noem to require women seeking abortion-inducing medication to see a doctor in person three different times in order to undergo the procedure. The legislative effort comes after a federal judge struck down a state health department rule with the same objective. Under current state law, women take the first of two abortion-inducing drugs in the presence of a doctor but can take the second pill one or two days later at home. They have to see a physician for a follow-up visit.

The measure would make it illegal for women to be prescribed the pills through virtual doctor visits, a service that has proliferated during the pandemic due to concerns about exposure to COVID-19. The Biden administration recently made permanent a change in prescribing policy from the Food and Drug Administration, which authorized healthcare providers to prescribe the medications after a virtual consultation and send them through the mail.

The bill would not actually be enacted unless the state prevails in the federal court battle over the state Department of Health rule.

Oklahoma

In Oklahoma, the state Legislature is pushing several anti-abortion bills. The state House Committee on Public Health advanced a total abortion ban on Wednesday that would implement an enforcement mechanism similar to that of Texas. Last month, the Senate Health and Human Services Committee agreed on party lines to advance five anti-abortion bills to the full floor for a vote. Among those was a ban on abortions once a heartbeat is detected with the same enforcement tool as the Texas law. Another bill called for a ballot measure to amend the Oklahoma Constitution to stipulate that there is no guaranteed right to an abortion enshrined in the document.

Idaho

The Idaho Senate voted on Wednesday to advance a similar heartbeat bill that makes exceptions for cases of rape or incest. It would also open the door for an abortion provider to be sued by a patient, the unborn child's father, grandparents, siblings, aunts, or uncles up to four years after the abortion is performed or attempted.

"This bill establishes civil liability for

abortionists who perform abortions after a heartbeat can be detected," Republican Sen. Patti Anne Lodge said. "This civil cause of action exists independent of any criminal charges."

Anyone who sues can seek up to \$20,000 in damages. The bill now goes to the House for further action.

Wyoming

The Wyoming House on Wednesday passed a piece of abortion legislation known as a "trigger" law. If passed, it would ban abortion outright in the state in the event that the Supreme Court rules to uphold the Mississippi abortion law in June. The bill will now be considered in the Senate. The law would allow for exceptions in the event that the woman's life will be endangered or if there is a risk of "irreversible physical impairment" if she carries the pregnancy to term. It does not make exceptions for cases of rape and incest.

Kentucky

The Kentucky House of Representatives voted 77-20 Wednesday to ban the telemedicine dispensing of abortion pills. The bill now moves on to the Senate, which is also ruled by a Republican supermajority. Shipment of the pills by mail would be banned under the measure, and it would require an in-person visit with a doctor, rather than a telebealth visit.

NATION&WORLD

DENVERGAZETTE.COM SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022

Iditarod dogs pack Anchorage for ceremonial start

The Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA • Fans, dogs and mushers returned in droves Saturday to downtown Anchorage in the midst of a snowstorm for the ceremonial start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

The ceremonial start was canceled last year due to the pandemic. This year, fans attending the 50th running of the race were limited in their interactions with participants but still were able to watch from behind fences as mushers left the starting line two minutes apart.

Mushers took a leisurely jaunt through Alaska's largest city, waving at fans that lined downtown streets. The competitive race for mushers and their dogs starts Sunday in Willow, about 75 miles north of Anchorage, with the winner expected about nine days later in Nome.

Mushers had to show proof of vaccination to race this year, and they will isolate at checkpoints so they don't bring COVID-19 to the rural, largely Alaska Native villages along the nearly 1.000-mile route to Nome.

Some villages opted not to be check-points because of the ongoing pandemic, leaving mushers to bypass towns, while other arrangements were made in some communities. In White Mountain, where mushers must take an eight-hour layover before making the final 77-mile run to Nome, the community building will not be used to house mushers waiting for the final push.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Instead, lumber was delivered, and an elaborate tent camp was being built, including new outhouses, race marshal Mark Nordman said.

There are 49 mushers in this year's race, including defending champion Dallas Seavey, who is seeking to make history as the first musher to win six Iditarod titles. He's tied with Rick Swenson with five victories apiece. Win or lose, the 35-year-old indicated this is probably his last race for a while as he wishes to spend more time with his pre-teen daughter.

Also in the race are two four-time

winners, Martin Buser and Jeff King.

King, who last raced in 2019, stepped in just this week to run in the place of Nic Petit, who announced on Facebook he had contracted COVID-19. Mitch Seavey, a three-time winner and Dallas' father, is also back this year, as are 2018 winner Joar Leifseth Ulsom and 2019 champion Pete Kaiser.

Moose are a concern for mushers on the trail this year. A heavy snow year in some parts of Alaska has made moose aggressive toward people in the backcountry, including mushers.

On a training run last month, rookie

musher Bridgett Watkins had four of her dogs seriously injured by a moose, which wouldn't leave and at times stood over the dogs. The incident only ended when a friend shot the bull moose with a high-powered rifle.

Sean Williams, a

Chuqiak, Alaska,

through a snow-

the ceremonial

The competitive start of the nearly

rookie musher from

takes his sled dogs

storm Saturday in

downtown Anchorage, Alaska, during

start of the Iditarod

Trail Sled Dog Race.

1,000-mile race will

Willow, Alaska, with

the winner expect-

ed in the town of

Nome about nine

days later.

be held Sunday in

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals remains the race's biggest critic and has caused some financial hardship for the race by targeting big-name corporations, which have dropped sponsorships. The Anchorage hotel that has been the race headquarters for three decades will drop its affiliation next year.

Fire forces evacuation of hundreds of homes in Florida Panhandle

The Associated Press

PANAMA CITY, FLA. • Residents of hundreds of Florida Panhandle homes were evacuated as a wildfire destroyed two houses and damaged 12 others in an area that has spent years recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Michael, officials said Saturday.

Hundreds of thousands of acres of downed trees from the 2018 hurricane, along with low humidity and strong winds, have created "the perfect storm" for hazardous fire conditions in Bay County, Florida, Gov. Ron DeSantis said at a news conference in Panama City.

"This is not a surprise," DeSantis said.

More than 200 firefighters and emergency workers from around the Panhandle worked overnight to strengthen containment lines and protect homes. As of Saturday morning, the 1,500-acre Adkins Avenue Fire was 30% contained, according to the Florida Forest Service.

The agency has deployed more than a dozen tractor plow units as well as multiple helicopters, and burn bans were in effect in parts of the region, officials said in a news release.

At least 600 homes had been evacuated as of Saturday morning, but that figure was expected to grow as new neighborhoods were placed under

evacuation orders throughout the day. DeSantis praised firefighters for saving scores of homes overnight.

"This is a really significant, fast-moving fire," DeSantis said.

Michael was the first Category 5 hurricane to make landfall in the U.S. since Hurricane Andrew in 1992, and only the fourth on record, when it tore through Mexico Beach and Tyndall Air Force Base in October 2018.

The hurricane was directly responsible for 16 deaths and about \$25 billion in damage in the U.S., according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

It also left behind 2.8 million acres of shredded and uprooted trees in the Florida Panhandle, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Nikki Fried said at the news conference.

"Hurricane Michael left an additional threat to our communities — wildfires," Fried said. "Wildfires are never easy control. This added fuel and dense pockets of vegetation from Hurricane Michael will increase the intensity of wildfires."

Officials with the Florida Forest Service said there was no timeline for when residents would be allowed to return to their homes.

Iran says Russian demand could slow nuclear talks

Reuters

VIENNA • Russia's demand for written U.S. guarantees that sanctions on Moscow would not harm Russian cooperation with Iran is "not constructive" for talks between Tehran and global powers to revive a 2015 nuclear deal, a senior Iranian official said on Saturday.

The announcement by Russia, which could torpedo months of indirect talks between Tehran and Washington in Vienna, came shortly after Tehran said it had agreed a roadmap with the U.N. nuclear watchdog to resolve outstanding issues that could help secure the nuclear pact.

"Russians had put this demand on the table (at the Vienna talks) since two

days ago. There is an understanding that by changing its position in Vienna talks Russia wants to secure its interests in other places. This move is not constructive for Vienna nuclear talks," said the Iranian official in Tehran, speaking to Reuters.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Saturday that the Western sanctions imposed over the war in Ukraine had become a stumbling block for the Iran nuclear deal, warning Russian national interests would have to be taken into account.

Lavrov said Russia wanted a written guarantee from the United States that Russia's trade, investment and military-technical cooperation with Iran would not be hindered in any way by the sanctions.

New U.S. sanctions imposed on Russia following its invasion of Ukraine should not have any impact on a potential revival of the Iran nuclear accord, the U.S. State Department said.

"The new Russia-related sanctions are unrelated to the JCPOA and should not have any impact on its potential implementation," a State Department spokesperson said, referring to the 2015 deal by its formal name, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

"We continue to engage with Russia on a return to full implementation of the JCPOA. Russia shares a common interest in ensuring Iran never acquires a nuclear weapon."

When asked whether Russia's de-

mand would harm 11 months of talks between Tehran and world powers, including Russia, Iran Project Director at the International Crisis Group, Ali Vaez, said: "Not yet. But it's impossible to segregate the two crises for much longer."

Two diplomats, one of them not directly involved in the talks, said China also has demanded written guarantees that its companies doing business in Iran wouldn't be affected by U.S. sanctions.

Such demands may complicate efforts to seal a nuclear deal at a time when an agreement looked likely. All parties involved in the Vienna talks had said on Friday they were close to reaching an agreement.

Trucks, RVs, cars near D.C. to protest COVID restrictions

Reuters

WASHINGTON • More than a thousand large trucks, recreational vehicles and cars are gathering on the outskirts of Washington as part of a protest against COVID-19 restrictions that threatens to roll on the capital in the coming days.

The so-called "People's Convoy," which originated in California and has drawn participants from around the country, is calling for an end to all pandemic-related restrictions. It was inspired by demonstrations last month that paralyzed Ottawa, Canada's capital city.

The convoy's message has been undercut in recent weeks as major U.S. cities have rolled back mask mandates and other measures against COVID-19, which has led to more than 950,000 deaths in the United States but has been mitigated with vaccines and therapeutics. President Joe Biden signaled in his State of the Union speech on Tuesday that the country was entering a new, more controlled phase of the pandemic without business lockdowns or school closures.

Still, more than 100 18-wheeler trucks amassed with other vehicles on Friday evening at the Hagerstown Speedway, a racetrack about 80 miles from downtown Washington, according to witnesses. Drivers continued to stream into the parking lot on Saturday morning, one witness said.

A website for the protest said they did not plan to enter "D.C. proper" and social media posts suggested they could remain at the racetrack on Saturday. But one participant who described himself as the lead trucker told a cheer-



REUTERS

Vehicles are parked as part of a rally at Hagerstown Speedway on Saturday in Hagerstown, Md., after some of them arrived as part of a convoy that traveled across the country to protest COVID-19 mandates and other issues.

ing crowd at the racetrack on Friday night that he would drive his truck into the heart of the American capital.

"D.C., the government, whomever, can claim that they have all this opposition for us waiting in D.C.," the man said. "But that flag on the back of my truck will go down to Constitution Avenue between the White House and the Washington Monument."

A little more than a year ago, supporters of former Republican President Donald Trump stormed the U.S. Capitol in an attack that left five people dead and more than 100 police officers injured.

Federal law enforcement agencies have been coordinating with state and local authorities for weeks in preparation for the possible arrival of the convoy, said one U.S. official who requested anonymity.

A Feb. 26 Department of Homeland Security bulletin to law enforcement reviewed by Reuters said trucker convoys could hinder emergency responders depending on the size of the protest.

The bulletin said federal law enforce-

ment was not aware of any substantiated threats from domestic violent extremists, but that some extremists "probably will be drawn to the event and could engage in premeditated or opportunistic violence."

DHS said the possibility of an attack could be higher because COVID restrictions have been a "key driver" of domestic extremist violence over the last two years.

Federal law enforcement is also cognizant of the need to respect the right to peaceful protest, the official said.

Mexico's efforts paltry in face of nearly 100,000 missing

BY MARÍA VERZA

NUEVO LAREDO, MEXICO • For the investigators, the human foot — burned, but with some fabric still attached — was the tipoff: Until recently, this squat, ruined house was a place where bodies were ripped apart and incinerated, where the remains of some of Mexico's missing multitudes were obliterated.

How many disappeared in this cartel "extermination site" on the outskirts of Nuevo Laredo, miles from the U.S. border? After six months of work, forensic technicians still don't dare offer an estimate. In a single room, the compacted, burnt human remains and debris were nearly 2 feet deep.

At the site — to which The Associated Press was given access this month — the insufficiency of investigations into Mexico's nearly 100,000 disappearances is painfully evident. There are 52,000 unidentified people in morgues and cemeteries, not counting places like this one, where the charred remains are measured only by weight.

And people continue to disappear. And more remains are found.

"We take care of one case and 10 more arrive," said Oswaldo Salinas, head of the Tamaulipas state attorney general's identification team.

Uncounted bone fragments were spread across 75,000 square feet of desert scrubland outside Nuevo Laredo. Twisted wires, apparently used to tie the victims, lie scattered amid the scrub.

Each day, technicians place what they find — bones, buttons, earrings, scraps of clothing — in paper bags labeled with their contents: "Zone E, Point 53, Quadrant I. Bone fragments exposed to fire."

They are sent off to the forensic lab in the state capital Ciudad Victoria, where boxes of paper bags wait their turn along with others. They will wait a long time; there are not enough resources and too many fragments, too many missing, too many dead.

Meanwhile there is no progress in bringing the guilty to justice. According to recent data from Mexico's federal auditor, of more than 1,600 investigations into disappearances by authorities or cartels opened by the attorney general's office, none made it to the courts in 2020.

Still, the work goes on at Nuevo Laredo. If nothing else, there is the hope of helping even one family find closure, though that can take years.

That's why a forensic technician smiled amid the devastation on a recent day: She had found an unburnt tooth, a treasure that might offer DNA to make an identification possible.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Forensic technicians excavate a field on a plot of land referred to as a cartel "extermination site" where burned human remains are buried on Feb. 8, on the outskirts of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. The insufficiency of investigations into Mexico's nearly 100,000 disappearances is evident. There are 52,000 unidentified people in morgues and cemeteries, not counting places like this one, where the charred remains are measured only by weight.

When Jorge Macías, head of the Tamaulipas state search commission, and his team first came to the Nuevo Laredo site, they had to clear brush and pick up human remains over the final 100 yards just to reach the house without destroying evidence. They found a barrel tossed in a trough, shovels and an axe with traces of blood on it. Gunfire echoed in the distance.

Nearly six months later, there are still more than 30,000 square feet of property to inspect and catalog.

The house has been cleared, but four blackened spaces used for cremation remain. In what was the bathroom, it took the technicians three weeks to carefully excavate the compacted mass of human remains, concrete and melted tires, said Salinas, who leads work at the site. Grease streaks the walls.

Macías found the Nuevo Laredo house last August when he was looking for more than 70 people who had disappeared in the first half of the year along a stretch of highway connecting Monterrey and Nuevo Laredo, the busiest trade crossing with the United States.

Most who disappeared here were

truck drivers, cabbies, but also at least one family and various U.S. citizens. About a dozen have been found alive.

Last July, Karla Quintana, head of the National Search Commission, said the disappearances appeared to be related to a dispute between the Jalisco New Generation cartel, which was trying to enter the area, and the Northeast cartel, which wanted to keep them out. It's not clear if the victims were smugglers of drugs or people, if some were abducted mistakenly or if the goal was simply to generate terror.

The phenomenon of Mexico's disappearances exploded in 2006 when the government declared war on the drug cartels. For years, the government looked the other way as violence increased and families of the missing were forced to become detectives.

It wasn't until 2018 — the end of the last administration — that a law passed, laying the legal foundations for the government to establish the National Search Commission. There followed local commissions in every state; protocols that separated searches from investigations, and a temporary and independent body of national and international technical experts supported by the U.N. to help clear the backlog of unidentified remains.

The official total of the missing stands at 98,234. Even without the civil wars or military dictatorships that afflicted other Latin American countries, Mexico's disappeared are exceeded in the region only by war-torn Colombia. Unlike other countries, Mexico's challenge still has no end: authorities and families search for people who disappeared in the 1960s and those who went missing today.

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador's government was the first to recognize the extent of the problem, to talk of "extermination sites" and to mount effective searches.

But he also promised in 2019 that authorities would have all the resources they needed. The national commission, which was supposed to have 352 employees this year, still has just 89. And Macías' state commission has 22 positions budgeted, but has only filled a dozen slots. There the issue isn't money; the difficulty is finding applicants who pass background checks.

"This issue is a monster," Macías said.

SCIENCE

Experts: Central U.S. needs to be ready for next earthquake

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS • Experts have warned for decades that a large swath of the central U.S. is at high risk for a devastating earthquake. They know that overcoming complacency is among their biggest hurdles.

Hundreds of emergency managers, transportation leaders, geologists and others devoted to earthquake preparedness gathered Thursday in St. Louis for the annual Missouri Earthquake Summit to discuss the latest information on risks, preparedness strategies and recovery planning.

Large and devastating earthquakes in the U.S. are most commonly associated with the West Coast — for good reason since the worst quakes in recent years, including the massive 1989 quake in the San Francisco area that killed 63 people and injured nearly 3,800 — have mostly been in the West.

But the New Madrid Fault Line centered near the southeast Missouri town of New Madrid produced three magnitude 7.5 to 7.7 earthquakes that rang church bells as far away as South Carolina, caused farmland to sink into swamps and briefly caused the Mississippi River to flow backward.

Those quakes happened in late 1811 and early 1812. Though the fault line still produces about 200 small earth-quakes each year, people within the region have heard warnings for so long about the next Big One that, for many, it goes in one ear and out the other.

"Because it hasn't happened, and with people's busy everyday lives, it kind of falls into the background," said Robbie Myers, emergency management director for Butler County, Missouri, in the heart of the New Madrid zone.

The earthquake threat received the most attention more than three decades ago when climatologist Iben Browning predicted a 50-50 chance of a big earthquake on a specific day



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

The Gateway Arch dominates the skyline on Jan. 7, 2014, in St. Louis. The iconic Arch, built as a monument to westward expansion, stands 630 feet tall along the banks of the Mississippi River. For a fee, visitors can ride a tram to the top of the Arch and gaze over downtown St. Louis to the west or the cornfields of Illinois to the east, but many attractions at and around the Arch are free

- Dec. 3, 1990. His prediction drew scores of journalists and onlookers to New Madrid to see - nothing.

Still, experts believe there is a 7-10% chance of a magnitude 7.0 or greater earthquake in the next 50 years within the New Madrid zone, and a 25-40% chance of a smaller but still potentially devastating magnitude 6.0 quake. The Midwestern risk is "similar to the chances in California," said Thomas Pratt, Central and Eastern U.S. coordinator for the U.S. Geological Survey's Earthquake Hazards Program.

In addition to thousands of deaths, bridges crossing the Mississippi River could fall, major highways including Interstate 55 could buckle, and oil and gas pipelines could break, causing na-

 $tion wide\ disruptions,\ experts\ said.$

Matthew Clutter, a Federal Emergency Management Agency operational planner, said a magnitude 7.7 earthquake in the New Madrid zone could displace nearly 850,000 people in up to eight states. With roads and bridges compromised, emergency aid might be cut off from the impacted areas due to road and bridge damage.

"If all eight states are affected there's going to be a fight for resources," Clutter said.

Memphis, Tennessee, is within the zone. St. Louis, Indianapolis and Little Rock, Arkansas, are close enough for concern. All told, about 45 million people live within the area that would be most impacted.

Some communities have been more proactive than others in their preparations.

In Memphis, the Interstate 40 bridge into the city received a \$260 million retrofit to protect against a strong earthquake. Building codes were upgraded a decade ago to require stricter construction standards with earthquake risk in mind.

In St. Louis, designers say the 29-story apartment tower overlooking Busch Stadium that opened in 2020 sway rather than collapse in the event of a big quake. It's the same engineering protection built into St. Louis' most prominent landmark. The Gateway Arch, completed in the 1960s, would sway up to 18 inches (45 centimeters) if an earthquake rumbles.

Meanwhile, a new St. Louis bridge over the Mississippi River that opened in 2014 was built with foundations all the way into bedrock to keep it steady and standing in the event of a quake. The region's busiest river crossing, the Poplar Street Bridge, has been retrofitted for extra protection.

Still, most homes and commercial buildings within the region aren't earthquake ready.

"Many places in the region have no building codes, and very few of the existing building codes require earthquake-resistant design," according to a fact sheet from the American Geosciences Institute.

Emergency managers from the city, county and state level say they're trying to raise awareness with residents.

The Missouri Department of Commerce and Insurance said the percentage of homeowners with quake insurance in the Missouri counties at the heart of the New Madrid zone dropped from 60.2% in 2000 to 12.7% in 2020. The agency blamed the skyrocketing cost of the insurance, which rose 760% in those counties over the 20-year period.

Smokies visitors asked to record plants, animals for science

The Associated Press

GATLINBURG, TENN. • Great Smoky Mountains National Park and its non-profit science research partner, Discover Life in America, need the public's help with their Smokies Most Wanted program. The initiative allows visitors

to help preserve park species by recording sightings on their smartphones using the iNaturalist app.

Smokies Most Wanted encourages visitors to document any organism they encounter while exploring the Smokies. Discover Life in America uses the

data to record new park species, detect invasive species and learn more about understudied or rare species.

Smokies Most Wanted is an extension of the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory, the nonprofit's ongoing project to catalog all life in the Smokies. More information about the Smokies Most Wanted project is available on the Discover Life in America website at dlia.org/smokiesmostwanted.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee and North Carolina is the country's most visited national park.

TODAY IN HISTORY

KEY EVENTS FOR MARCH 6



Video online Check out today's video from The Associated Press.

In 1834, the city of York in Upper Canada was incorporated as Toronto.

In 1836, the Alamo in San Antonio fell as Mexican forces led by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna stormed the fortress after a 13-day siege; the battle claimed the lives of all the Texan defenders, nearly 200 strong, including William Travis, James Bowie and Davy Crockett. In 1857, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Dred Scott v. Sandford, ruled 7-2 that Scott, a slave, was not an American citizen and therefore could not sue for his freedom in federal court.

In 1912, Oreo cookies were first introduced by the National Biscuit Co.

In 1933, a national bank holiday declared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt aimed at calming panicked depositors went into

In 1944, U.S. heavy bombers staged the first full-scale American raid on Berlin during World War II.

In 1964, heavyweight boxing champion Cassius Clay officially changed his name to Muhammad Ali.

In 1970, a bomb being built inside a Greenwich Village townhouse in New York by the radical Weathermen accidentally went off, destroying the house and killing three group members.

In 1973, Nobel Prize-winning author Pearl S. Buck, 80, died in Danby, Vt.

In 1981, Walter Cronkite signed off for the last time as principal anchorman of "The CBS Evening News."

In 1998, the Army honored three Americans who had risked their lives and turned their weapons on fellow soldiers to stop the slaughter of Vietnamese villagers at My Lai in 1968.

In 2002, Independent Counsel Robert Ray issued his final report in which he wrote that former President Bill Clinton could have been indicted and probably would have been convicted in the scandal involving former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

In 2012, in Super Tuesday contests, Republican Mitt Romney narrowly won in pivotal Ohio, seized a home-state victory in Massachusetts, triumphed in Idaho. Vermont and Alaska and won easily in Virginia, where neither Rick Santorum nor Newt Gingrich was on the ballot; Santorum won contests in Oklahoma, Tennessee and North Dakota, while Gingrich won at home in Georgia.

Former Texas tycoon R. Allen Stanford was convicted in Houston of bilking his investors out of more than \$7 billion through a Ponzi scheme. (Stanford was sentenced to 110 years in prison.)

In 2016, former first lady Nancy Reagan died in Los Angeles at age 94.

In 2017, without fanfare, President Don-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

In 1963, French actress Pascale Roberts rehearses her performance on the trapeze at the Cirque d'Hiver (Winter Circus) in Paris.

ald Trump signed a scaled-back version of his controversial ban on many foreign travelers, one that still barred new visas for people from six Muslim-majority countries and temporarily shut down

America's refugee program. In 2021, after working through the night on a mountain of amendments, the Senate narrowly approved a \$1.9 trillion

COVID-19 relief bill, setting up final ap-

proval by the House. Carla Wallenda, a member of "The Flying Wallendas" high-wire act and the last surviving child of the famed troupe's founder, died at 85 in Sarasota, Fla.

FROM THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS ARCHIVES



Editor's note: Every day, The Denver Gazette reprints some of the best front pages of the Rocky Mountain News as pulled from its 100-plus-year archives.

100 YEARS AGO IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS

The cartoon is Prohibition-related. A woman labeled "light wine and beer" mourns at the grave of John Barleycorn, catching the eye of a citizen, but his wife, labeled "dry," yanks him back as if it were a meme.

We are not at peak Denver Klan, but the presence is there. One hundred brave men in a Bible class sign a proclamation calling the organization un-American and denouncing its threats.

Again, they will NOT solve the murder of the film director.

But they are right about the economy. It is coming back and the Twenties are about to roar.

Page from Pikes Peak Library. The full archives of the Rocky Mountain News were donated to the Denver Public Library. Clarity Media, which publishes the Denver Gazette and the Colorado Springs Gazette owns the right to The Rocky Mountain News nameplate. Founded in 1859, the Rocky published its last issue in 2009 just shy of its 150th birthday.

OBITUARIES & LIFE TRIBUTES

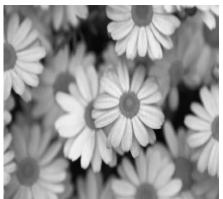
LEE WILLIAM FORKER

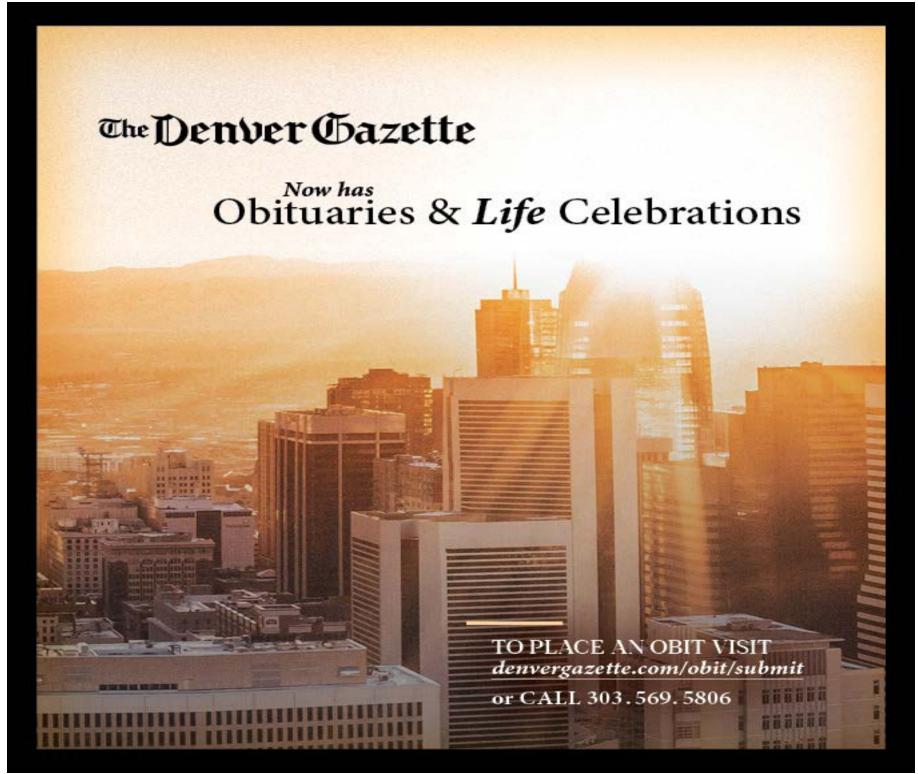
February 2, 1932 December 24, 2021

Loving father, grandfather, uncle & dear friend...he is greatly missed.

Service & reception
Friday, 3/11/22:
https://www.horancares.com/
obituary/Lee-Forker







SUNDAY PERSPECTIVE

DENVERGAZETTE.COM

GOP grapples with Trump dilemma

BY W. JAMES ANTLE III The Washington Examine

In a ritual dating to that June 2015 ride down the escalator, the Republican Party is having a debate over what to do about Donald Trump. Some GOP power brokers, chief among them Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, are doing what they can to put this tradition, and the entire question, in the rearview.

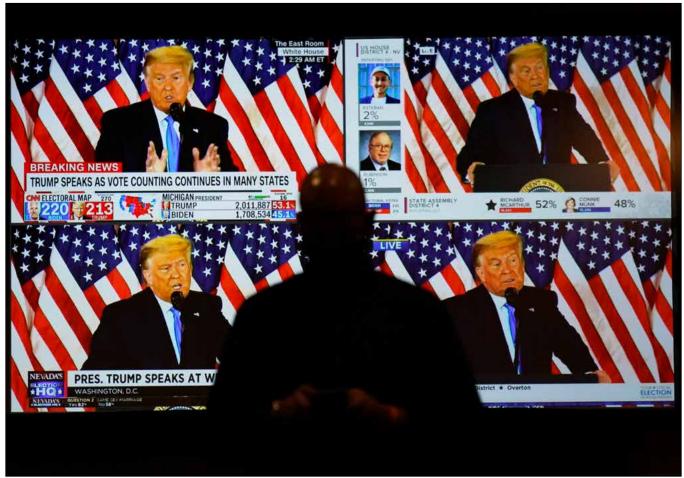
It won't be easy. The former president is constitutionally eligible to seek a second, nonconsecutive term in 2024, a possible rematch with President Joe Biden, and is seriously considering it. Whether he runs or not, Trump has always been reluctant to cede the spotlight to others, going back to his days as a reality TV star and real estate mogul.

His entire career has been a running affirmation of the saving attributed to P.T. Barnum: "There's no such thing as bad publicity.'

A political party seeking to win elections and govern the country is apt to feel differently, however. "My guiding principle is: Don't do things that are stupid and that take the subject off of what we want it to be on," McConnell recently told the Washington Examiner. He was referring to the debt ceiling, but it distills in Old Crow Kentucky bourbon fashion the difference between his approach and Trump's.

McConnell said much the same thing at the Wall Street Journal CEO Council Summit late last year. He advised would-be Republican Senate candidates, "I'd be talking about what this administration is doing and how do you feel about it, because the American people are looking to the future." In other words, not relitigating the 2020 presidential election.

The longtime Kentucky lawmaker knows whereof he speaks. Republicans faced a similar positive political environment in 2010 - a Democratic president whom independent voters were souring on, a motivated base, an opening to add a number of congressional seats to end the Democrats' unified control of the federal government's elected branches. They gained 63 House seats to send Speaker Nancy Pelosi back into the minority, but it



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

A live broadcast of then-President Donald Trump speaking from the White House is shown on screens during an election-night party Nov. 3, 2020, in Las Vegas.

took another four years for Republicans to retake the Senate.

The GOP failed to harness the Tea Party wave to productive purposes in many key statewide elections. As a result. Republican primaries produced nominees who frittered away winnable Senate races, keeping the chamber in Democratic hands until midway through former President Barack Obama's second term. Some Republicans fear Trump's interventions in the primaries, motivated by personal fealty more than objective candidate quality, could risk a similar outcome this year.

But old habits die hard. The Republican National Committee voted to censure Reps. Liz Cheney and Adam Kinzinger, the token GOP lawmakers on the Democratic committee to investigate the Jan. 6 Capitol riot. The resolution described them as "participating in a Democrat-led persecution of ordinary citizens engaged in legitimate political discourse, and they are both utilizing their past professed political affiliation to mask Democrat abuse of prosecutorial power for partisan purposes."

McConnell demurred, "Traditionally, the view of the national party committees is that we support all members of our party, regardless of their positions on some issues," he told reporters. "The issue is whether or not the RNC should be sort of singling out members of our party who may have different views of the majority. That's not the job of the RNC."

Then there is the case of Rep. Nancy Mace, the first-term South Carolina Republican facing a Trump-endorsed primary challenger. That opponent is Katie Arrington, the same candidate Trump successfully backed against former Rep. Mark Sanford - and who promptly lost the general election to the Democrats. Mace made this point in a video hitting back at Trump's endorsement, which she filmed outside Trump Tower in New York City to send the message she was the better vehicle for Trumpism. Mace is supported by Nikki Haley, the former ambassador to the United Nations and South Carolina governor, who has made her own declarations of independence from Trump

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PERSPECTIVE

FROM PAGE 1

and then walked them back.

Mace didn't vote for Trump's second impeachment, unlike many of the former president's intraparty targets. But she did say she had lost faith in Trump, telling CNN his "entire legacy was wiped out" by the events of Jan. 6 and commenting to Fox News that she did not think he had a future in the party. Trump has since called her "terrible" and "very disloyal."

Trump retains a large following among the Republican primary electorate. It's also true that the party's governing class has tried to resist him before without much impact, since rank-and-file GOP voters often view the Republican establishment with suspicion or contempt. Others would like to see Trump's populist energy married to a positive agenda. "When Trump and McConnell worked together, we got our best results," said one Republican strategist.

Still, McConnell isn't alone. Former Vice President Mike Pence spent four years by Trump's side. The loyal understudy broke with the boss over certifying Biden's Electoral College victory last January. Contemplating a presidential bid of his own, Pence has taken Trump on directly over the contention they could have denied Biden the White House with a procedural maneuver.

"President Trump is wrong," Pence told the Federalist Society, an important conservative legal network that proved influential in the Trump-Pence federal judicial nominations process. "Under the Constitution, I had no right to change the outcome of our election, and (Vice President) Kamala Harris will have no right to overturn the election when we beat them in 2024," he said.

These lines are virtually guaranteed to appear in attack ads deployed against Pence. Yet the former vice president's words were validated by Republican voters in a subsequent poll. According to Quinnipiac University, 53% of self-described Republicans reported Pence's view was "closer in line to their way of thinking" about the election, compared to 36% who were closer to Trump's. (Among all voters, those numbers are 72% and 17%, respectively.)

Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin was elected as a Republican in an increasingly blue state because he threaded the needle skillfully: He didn't disavow Trump, but he did not overly embrace him or fight old battles at the expense of issues that were on voters' minds under Biden and the Democrats.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Donald Trump, accompanied by wife Melania, is applauded by daughter Ivanka, right, as he is introduced before his announcement that he will run for president in 2016 in the lobby of Trump Tower on June 16, 2015, in New York.

Many Republicans viewed Youngkin as a model for future candidates and officeholders, somewhere in between Liz Chenev and Matt Gaetz, both of whose political fortunes are tied one way or another to Trump's standing among voters. "I think Glenn Youngkin's handling of Trump was brilliant and could be a model for Republicans running in bluish states," said a veteran GOP operative in Washington, D.C. "Embrace him with the right audience. Keep him at arm's length when you're not.

In reddish states, too, there were possible lessons for Republicans. Run on matters of importance to the base; be assertive in the face of media and institutional liberal pressure; fulfill campaign promises; pass strong election integrity measures without questioning the 2020 results — but don't get distracted by needless fights. It's a strategy that could pay dividends for the party as Biden's approval ratings continue to tank.

"My mom used to tell me that if you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all," said Republican strategist John Feehery. "Seems like a pretty good strategy with Trump. Agree with Trump when you can, keep your focus on Biden and Pelosi, and keep your negative comments to a minimum."

Electoral success, or even positive feedback from GOP voters, further incentivizes these strategies. A poll in South Carolina's 1st Congressional District showed Mace beating Trump-endorsed Arrington by double digits, 46% to 31%. Those numbers are confidence-boosting. "I'm gonna win without him," she told the State newspaper. Asked why she had a falling out with Trump after working as a coalitions and field director for his 2016 campaign, she replied, "I don't know. You'll have to ask him." By contrast, Arrington's pitch to a local Republican gathering was to say this of Mace: "She sold out President Trump. She sold out this district. She sold me out."

Some recent polls show businessman Mike Gibbons leading former state Treasurer Josh Mandel and Hillbilly Elegy author J.D. Vance for the Ohio Republican senatorial nomination. Gibbons isn't anti-Trump by any means, but Mandel and Vance have been more actively vying for the ex-president's support and have been emulating his combative style. Vance was an early critic of Trump's, so his shift suggests a strategic calculation about the direction of the party, at least in Ohio.

Trump will nevertheless emerge as a campaign issue for many candidates who would prefer to be talking about Biden. "I think it depends on the state and the office being sought," said the D.C.-based GOP operative. "A Republican primary for governor of a blue state is different than a Senate race in Ohio or Missouri. Trump's endorsement of Dan Cox in Maryland won't do much to move the needle in the primary, especially since Kelly Schulz has been endorsed by (Gov. Larry) Hogan, whose numbers are almost as high as Trump's."

"In those two Senate races, however, his endorsement in the primary will matter," the operative continued. "The question then becomes, can his endorsed candidates win in a general? The jury is still out on that."

Trump complicates the GOP message in other ways. In an interview with Clay Travis and Buck Sexton, he made



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., speaks to reporters Feb. 15 at the Capitol.

the obvious points about Russian President Vladimir Putin invading Ukraine under Biden's watch rather than during his term in the White House, despite persistent Democratic allegations about Trump-Russia connections. "By the way, this never would have happened with us. Had I been in office, not even thinkable," he said. But Trump could not let it go at that and appeared to be in awe of Putin compared to Biden. "You've got to say that's pretty savvy," he said of Putin's peacekeeping gambit in Ukraine's breakaway regions. "I said, 'How smart is that?' He's going to go in and be a peacekeeper."

This enabled White House press secretary Jen Psaki, whose boss is presiding over this heightened threat to Ukraine after many GOP lawmakers pressed the administration on Russia sanctions, to blame Trump and Republicans. "As a matter of policy, we try not to take advice from anyone who praises President Putin and his military strategy," she said. When asked by a reporter whether Trump's comments would erode the bipartisan commitment to confronting Russian aggression, Psaki replied, "I think that is up to members of the Republican Party to make the decision and make the determination."

While they would undoubtedly disagree with Psaki's framing of the Russia-Ukraine crisis, that's what Republicans who would like to focus on the future rather than Trump-era controversies are saying, too.

This article originally ran in The Washington Examiner, a sister publication of The Denver Gazette. W. James Antle III is the Examiner's politics editor.

GAZETTE EDITORIAL

Pot imperils Colorado's streets, highways

Big Marijuana's PR machine will have to work overtime following news last week about the alarming role pot is playing in Colorado's soaring rate of traffic fatalities.

It's disturbing enough that the number of fatalities on our roads has surged 50% since 2011 - to 692last year, according to the Colorado Department of Transportation. More troubling still is that more than a third of those -246 – involved drivers impaired by alcohol, drugs or both. Indeed, just since 2019, there has been a 44% increase in the number of fatalities in Colorado involving an impaired driver, according to state data.

And what's even more alarming is the impact marijuana has had on those numbers since its legalization in 2012. As reported by The Gazette on Friday, an analysis of 26,000 impaired-driving cases in Colorado in 2019 shows 45% of drivers tested positive for more than one substance, according to the state's Division of Criminal Justice. The most common combination was alcohol with THC the psychoactive drug in marijuana - followed by alcohol combined with

... an analysis of 26,000 impaired-driving cases in Colorado in 2019 shows 45% of drivers tested positive for more than one substance, according to the state's Division of Criminal Justice.

other drugs.

Those cases involved incidents of all kinds, including crashes, and authorities say the data tells us a lot about what is fueling the spike in deaths on Colorado's roadways.

"Colorado's increase in traffic fatalities can be attributed to numerous causes, but impaired driving is a big one. And when we see increases in impairment involving multiple substances, we have to address them immediately," transportation department official Darrell Lingk said in a press statement. "It's our job to make sure people know that driving after combining alcohol and cannabis or other drugs is extremely dangerous."

Another report cited by the state and issued by AAA found drivers who said they used both marijuana and alcohol

were more likely to report lawbreaking like speeding, aggressive driving and texting while driving.

Meanwhile, a 2018 survey by the transportation department of more than 18,000 Colorado motorists found that the more often they used marijuana - the less dangerous they considered driving high to be. Good grief; that's probably no surprise.

All of which raises questions once again about Colorado's experience with the legalization of retail, recreational marijuana. The rise of pot tourism; the expansion of retail sales into "hospitality" licenses in Denver and elsewhere — allowing pot to be consumed on site, like alcohol at a bar — and the insidious promotion of THC-laced edibles all pose significant perils to public safety.

There's also the increasing likelihood of legal recreational marijuana falling into the hands of minors. That equates to more novice teen drivers combining pot, alcohol and a night on the town.

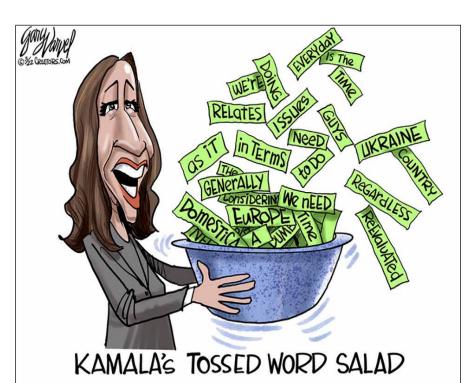
Ironically, Colorado and the rest of the country had been making great strides in cracking down on drunken driving since the bad ol' days of the 1980s and earlier.

By increasing penalties, far more rigorously screening the streets and raising awareness, authorities were starting to contain drunken driving. Nationwide, drunken-driving fatalities on our nation's roadways have decreased 45% since 1982, according to the group responsibility.org.

What a tragedy if Colorado backslides on that progress in a big way due to the growing prevalence of pot.

State and local policy makers ought to explore new restrictions on the rapidly growing marijuana industry to rein in the havoc it is wreaking on our roads. Perhaps new excise taxes on the profits of pot's purveyors are also warranted — to pay for more police patrolling our roads.

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"The more refined and subtle our minds, the more vulnerable they are."

Paul Tournier, Swiss writer

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL

Marijuana legalization is not harmless

A new working paper from the National Bureau of Economic Research contains some inconvenient news for the rosy worldview of those who claim that marijuana is a completely harmless drug.

The paper reviews data on opioid and marijuana use and makes two key findings — first, that "medical marijuana, particularly when available through retail dispensaries, is associated with higher opioid mortality."

The second finding is that data "for recreational marijuana, while less reliable, also suggest that retail sales through dispensaries are associated with greater death rates relative to the counterfactual of no legal cannabis."

The increase in opioid deaths associated with marijuana use is greater for men, nonwhites and young people.

That may be somewhat disturbing, but the details appear even more devilish. The study importantly addresses earlier results, based on data from 1999 to 2010, that had seemed to suggest a more beneficial effect.

"Medical marijuana, particularly when available through retail dispensaries, is associated with higher opioid mortality. ... (Data) for recreational marijuana, while less reliable, also suggest that retail sales through dispensaries are associated with greater death rates relative to the counterfactual of no legal cannabis."

National Bureau of Economic Research

It turns out, though, that the results abruptly changed.

If you include data from 2010 to 2017, the period when medical and/or recreational marijuana legalization began in earnest in the states, the results swing from a 21% reduction in opioid deaths to a 23% increase.

The results are complex, but the study undercuts a key claim of marijuana legalization proponents who

argue that marijuana is a harmless substance that causes a cheap, temporary high and nothing more.

Here, the relationship between cannabis and opioid deaths is interesting in that it reinforces a much-mocked description of marijuana as a "gateway drug." Different drug habits might well be related in ways we do not yet understand.

And of course, this is not the only

pitfall associated with marijuana use that marijuana campaigners work hard to minimize. For example, habitual marijuana use as late as one's mid-20s can cause permanent brain damage. That's because it prevents proper development of the frontal cortex, which the American Psychological Association describes as one of the last regions of the brain to develop fully. This brain structure is "critical to planning, judgment, decision-making, and personality."

This means that use among teenagers, which is a lot more common than people would like to admit, and even use among young adults has deleterious and permanent health effects.

This is something to remember when these campaigners come to your state and try to sell you on the idea of cannabis as something completely harmless.

One need not exaggerate the dangers of marijuana to acknowledge that they at least exist.

THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER







ED GAMBLE, KING FEATURES

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- INCLUDE FULL NAME AND CITY

Polis must stop empowering Russia

OPINION



CALDARA

You cannot condemn the Russian war against Ukraine while simultaneously declaring war on Colorado's oil and gas industry.

Over the last two weeks Gov. Jared Polis added the Ukrainian flag to his portrait on all his social media

pages. Daily he has posted his support of Ukraine and condemnation of Russia. He has made personal appearances at pro-Ukraine rallies.

He has urged all of Colorado's public colleges and universities, the Treasurer's Office, and the state pension fund to divest any investments and cancel any contracts with Russian interests.

And he urged Washington to "immediately suspend the federal gas tax." Remember Polis signed the bill that, without voter consent, jacked our state gas tax up 8-cents-a-gallon, the increase he now wants to "delay" until after his re-election.

Polis has no authority in Washington, but he and his fellow progressives have complete and total control of Colorado's government. Tomorrow they could suspend the state's 22-centa-gallon gas tax, along with their new 8-cent hike.

Speaking of divesting from Russia, if the Colorado media wasn't so enamored with our governor one of them would ask if he personally has divested, and to prove it. Which I doubt would happen given that Polis refused to release his tax returns when running for governor, exposing yet another Jared duplicity.

Congressman Polis demanded candidate Donald Trump release his tax returns, even supporting legislation to require it. Open Secrets way back in 2014 guessed Polis' wealth at \$387 million, but no one knows for sure. One can only imagine it's higher today and could include worldwide investments, partly Russian.

Cutting ties with Russia ain't cheap. Former Gov. Bill Owens, who came to office as a middle-class man, after his time in office and as a private entrepreneur did business in Russia. He became the chairman of the board of one of Russia's largest banks, the Credit Bank of Moscow.

I have no idea what a gig like that



THE DENVER GAZETTE FILE

Gov. Jared Polis waves on his way into an event to announce his reelection campaign Feb. 16 at Raices Brewing Company in Denver.

pays, but I imagine it pays well. After Russia rolled into Ukraine he resigned. Now, that's an expensive divestiture.

Russia's military aggression is financed by its sale of oil and gas to most parts of the world. That includes the U.S. If it isn't painfully clear, I'll spell it out.

We, the United States, the State of Colorado are funding the Russian invasion of Ukraine by buying that oil instead of producing our own.

When I was a kid the notion that America could be energy independent was pure science fiction. It simply could never happen. Thus, on the energy front, our national security would always be at risk.

America put a man into air-flight. America put a man on the moon. And thanks to new drilling technologies, America became energy independent. Science fiction turned reality.

The U.S. became a net exporter supplying energy to a hungry Europe, and started to check Russia's stranglehold to Europe, especially the Baltic States.

Then anti-energy progressives (if they were just anti-fossil fuel, they'd decriminalize nuclear power) changed

President Biden is pleading to OPEC to pump more oil as he chokes the American oil and gas supply with new rules and canceling pipelines.

Biden's actions create both a colossal national security and economic threat.

Proportionally, what Polis has done to Colorado is even crueler.

His anti-energy radicals in his Public Utilities Commission, his Energy Office, his Air Quality Control Commission, his activist Oil and Gas Commission, among so many other nooks and crannies of government, are making oil and gas companies flee

Colorado like refugees from, well you know where.

His signature on Senate Bill 18-181 ensured that Colorado oil and gas producers are ratcheted out of existence. These are the companies and people who brought a better quality of life, a more affordable life and freed us from Russian oil.

Gov. Polis, please, if you care about children being killed in Ukraine, if you want to stand up to Russia, please, please stop virtue signaling.

Use your authority and legislature to repeal SB-181. Replace the activists on your cabinet, boards, and commissions and reverse their policies and save Ukrainian lives.

Jon Caldara is president of the Independence Institute in Denver and hosts "The Devil's Advocate with Jon Caldara" on Colorado Public Television Channel 12.

Improve air quality, but spare the economy

GUEST OPINION



BENEVENTO

A bipartisan coalition of political leaders has achieved significant environmental success over the past 50 years on issues ranging from the cleanup of facilities like Rocky Flats and the Rocky Mountain Arsenal to

designation of wilderness areas such as Spanish Peaks and James Peak. But perhaps the greatest environmental and public health success has been the improvement in Colorado's air quality.

A Christian Science Monitor story in 2002 aptly described our air quality issues: [b]efore there was a Denver International Airport, a Colorado Rockies baseball team, or even the Denver Avalanche hockey team, the Mile High City was best known for smudged skies. Two decades ago, Denver was violating federal air-quality standards more than 200 days a year. Denver's notorious "brown cloud" regularly shrouded the city, obscuring snow-topped mountains that crown

The Christian Science Monitor wrote the story at that time because Colorado was about to do something no other state had done before - after having been out of compliance with all federal health-based air quality standards, we were about to reverse that and obtain compliance with ALL of them. This was an amazing accomplishment, not only because it was a capstone achievement for public health, but also because it was a collaborative effort by both Republicans and Democrats and by both industry and environmentalists. It was a success story with its beginnings in the 1970s and finally achieved during my tenure as Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment during the administration of Governor Bill Owens, who made clean air a priority during his two terms in office.

The Denver Metro Area is once again facing air quality challenges from ozone, but as the state contemplates how to move forward it is important to first recognize that air quality is better now than it has been decades. Air quality in the Metro Area has not degraded, rather, the standard we are



A temperature inversion holds Denver's air pollution over downtown while a pair of mule deer overlook the skyline from Golden's South Table Mountain.

... the state needs to find a workable solution and resist the urge to put together a plan that fails to solve the ozone problem but places another economic burden on employers and citizens.

being measured against has become more stringent. The threshold of acceptable ozone was lowered in 2008 and again in 2015 and may be lowered again in 2022. Each time the standard is lowered the Denver Metro Area is at risk of failing the latest test, and consequently having to take steps to reduce emissions.

In addition to the tightening air quality standards, we are challenged by the changing nature of the problem. To show the status of our ground level ozone, the Regional Air Quality Council has released an emissions index, which is the basis for its future year projections. Based on this data, the state finds that emissions from light duty vehicles are at 5.7 parts per

billion — approximately 7.3% of all contributions. Right behind that is the oil and gas industry, which contributes approximately 5.3 ppb — or just under 7%. Contrast this with what the state calls background sources — such as smoke generated from wildfires, and any pollution that blows eastward from California or China: the inventory lists this at 47.3 ppb - approximately 60% of our ground level ozone. Yet Colorado's regulations only target the marginal contributors, limiting us to marginal reductions even if the regulations are successful.

Regulatory solutions should not be developed in a vacuum without recognizing the clear facts about contributing sources. Developing an air

quality plan which ignores the massive contribution of ozone from outside sources that cannot be controlled risks significant economic displacement in Colorado that will not solve the problem. After spending significant time as a regulator at both the state and federal levels, it is clear to me that Colorado must act, and I believe that creativity and collaboration are necessary to arrive at enduring solutions that improve air quality without degrading our economy. Although Colorado missed an opportunity a couple of years ago for greater flexibility to address ozone, there are still pathways to success, but it will require the kind of effort that allowed us to bring Colorado in compliance with all air quality standards in 2002.

Achieving compliance with ozone standards will be challenging. First, as in 2002, the state needs to find a workable solution and resist the urge to put together a plan that fails to solve the ozone problem but places another economic burden on employers and citizens. This is all the more difficult because regulators will have to recognize that a significant amount of the state's ozone is the result of sources that are not created by vehicles or industry. Second, regulators need to build consensus on next steps with all stakeholders - industry, environmental and political. Any plan will be better accepted by those who must implement it and live under it if they have a serious role in developing it, and that outreach needs to go beyond the normal stakeholder process. A regulatory approach that crams down incomplete or inequitable solutions will be unsuccessful.

There are no easy solutions available to address Colorado's most recent air quality issues, which are created by pollution transported by out of state sources into Colorado. While there is an obligation to act, there is also an obligation to protect Colorado's economy from regulatory actions that will not solve the problem.

Doug Benevento was administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency's Region 8 and EPA deputy administrator. He was previously environmental programs director and then executive director of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. He is currently an attornev in Denver and also serves as the president of the Douglas County Board of Health.

- 250 WORDS OR LESS
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What Biden should have said about Ukraine

OPINION



THIESSEN

WASHINGTON • Great presidential speeches come from great moments in history. With Ukrainians making a valiant stand to repel Russian invaders, President Biden had just such a moment on Tuesday night - and utterly failed to meet it.

He took a State of the Union address that was first drafted weeks before and stapled a new Ukraine section on the top - one that did little more than pat himself on the back for the great job he has done rallying the world to punish Putin. He did not explain what was at stake if Putin were allowed to succeed or commit the United States to doing what is necessary to help Ukraine stop him. And he failed to deliver a clear message to Putin that his aggression will not stand.

Here is what Biden should have said on Ukraine in his State of the Union address:

My fellow Americans, as we gather in this chamber, war is raging in the heart of Europe — and brave Ukrainians are risking their lives to defend their country. So, tonight, I want to speak with you about what is at stake in this struggle. We have just witnessed the worst act of unprovoked aggression in Europe since World War II. This is a threat not just to Ukraine but to the peace and security of the entire free world. If Vladimir Putin is allowed to conquer his neighbor, then tyrants from Asia to the Middle East will be emboldened to do the same. If a nation that gave up its nuclear weapons based in part on U.S. security guarantees is subjugated, then the United States' credibility will lie in tatters - and more nations will seek the world's most dangerous weapons. And if Putin is allowed to swallow up Ukraine's young democracy, make no mistake — he will not stop in Kyiv.

American troops will not fight this war. Brave Ukrainians are ready and willing to fight and die for their country. All they ask for is our support — and they will have it. During the Cold War, the United States stood with freedom fighters across the world who defended their countries against an expansionist empire. We will do the same for the freedom fighters in Ukraine today. We will provide the



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The remains of a Russian missile lie on the ground Thursday in Kyiv, Ukraine.

arms and intelligence they need to fight. We will provide the humanitarian aid they need to alleviate suffering. And we will rally the free world to support them as they defend their land from an unjust aggressor.

This will require sacrifice on our part. I know Americans are struggling today with record inflation. I also know that Americans do not want to subsidize Putin's bullets and bombs every time we fill up our gas tanks. The fact is every barrel of oil we buy from Russia today comes with Ukrainian blood on it. So, tonight I am announcing crippling new sanctions on Russia's oil and gas industry. And to ease the burden on American consumers. I am lifting all restrictions my administration has placed on domestic energy production. Yes, we must save the planet - but first we must save Ukraine.

Tonight, I have a message for the Ukrainian people: Americans have been inspired by your daring and resilience. We will help you as you defend your capital. And whether Kyiv stands or falls in the coming days, we will continue to support the forces of a Free Ukraine. Just as the United States never recognized the Soviet occupation of the Baltic states, we will never recognize a Russian occupation of Ukraine. You will not rest until every uninvited Russian soldier has been driven from your land — and neither will we. So, I ask everyone in this chamber, Republican and Democrat, to stand up and join me in sending you this unmistakable message: We support you. We stand with you. Slava Ukraini! (Glory to Ukraine!) (Audience says: Slava Ukraini!)

Tonight, I have a message for the Russian people: I know most of you do not support Putin's aggression. You do not want your children committing atrocities on Putin's orders or dying for an unjust cause. But now we have reached a moment of truth, and every Russian must make a choice. From his prison cell, Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny has called on Russians to take to the streets and deliver this message: "Putin is not Russia" and "We - Russia - want to be a nation of peace." Heed his call. Make clear to the world that Putin is not Russia, that Russia is a nation of peace and that you will no longer tolerate the slaughter of innocents in your name.

I also have a message for Russia's oligarchs: Putin has made you interna-

tional pariahs. Thanks to his reckless belligerence, your assets are being blocked, your wealth is being seized and your families can no longer travel or study in the West. It does not have to be this way: Stand up to Putin. Tell him to stop this madness.

Finally, I have a message tonight for Vladimir Putin: By invading Ukraine, you have violated international law. By targeting innocent civilians, you have committed crimes of war. By threatening the world with nuclear weapons, you have shown what a reckless tyrant you are. You have gravely miscalculated. Unless you turn back now, your misadventure in Ukraine will end the same way as the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan — in retreat, humiliation and collapse. The Ukrainian people will fight until all Russian forces are expelled from their country - and they will have the support of the American people, the NATO alliance and the entire free world.

Mr. Putin, your aggression against Ukraine is unlawful; your aggression is unjust; and your aggression — Will. Not. Stand.

> Follow Marc A. Thiessen on Twitter at @marcthiessen.

 250 WORDS OR LESS INCLUDE FULL NAME AND CITY

How history is shaped by individuals

OPINION



ROBINSON

WASHINGTON • Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine and the resolute international response are illustrating an eternal truth: History turns not just on grand geopolitical concerns and vital national interests but

also on the actions, and character, of individuals.

Perhaps any Russian leader would feel some measure of frustration or even rage at the way their nation's status has diminished since the Cold War ended. Perhaps anyone calling the shots in Moscow would resent seeing former Soviet republics turn their backs on Russia and embrace the West. Perhaps any master of the Kremlin would believe, deep inside, that Ukraine really is an integral part of Russia.

But Russian President Vladimir Putin holds those views with a tragic intensity. He imagines a Western plot to humiliate Moscow and deny Russia the superpower status it deserves, and he appears to take this grievous insult personally. Putin has an unusually high tolerance for risk - since World War II, sovereign nations simply do not invade and conquer their neighbors - and he is almost inhumanly callous to civilian casualties, as evidenced by the way he reduced the Chechen city of Grozny to rubble in 1999 when he waged war as prime minister.

And while attempts at long-distance psychoanalysis are generally worthless, recent images of Putin meeting with high-ranking aides are undeniably weird - Putin keeping them at an unnatural distance and speaking to them as if they were schoolchildren. A different Russian president might have been given a more realistic assessment of how ready his military was to conduct a large-scale invasion, how fiercely Ukrainians would resist and how the international community might react. Putin either didn't ask to hear such truth or decided to ignore it.

Perhaps any Ukrainian president would have bravely resisted the Russian invasion, but it's hard to imagine anyone else matching the way Volodymyr Zelensky has performed. Zelensky's defiance and bravery have



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky attends a talk with journalists Oct. 10, 2019, in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Zelensky's defiance and bravery have rallied Ukrainian soldiers and civilians to fight tooth and nail for every square inch of their homeland.

rallied Ukrainian soldiers and civilians to fight tooth and nail for every square inch of their homeland. And it is no overstatement to say that his decision to put his life on the line by remaining in Kyiv has inspired support for the Ukrainian cause around the world.

Who could have imagined that a former comedian, famous for winning the local version of "Dancing With the Stars" and playing an accidental Ukrainian president on television, would so rise to the occasion and become such a hero?

"You have to remember that he is a performer, and performance is a big part of this," former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine William B. Taylor Jr., who knows Zelensky well, told me this week. Indeed, Zelensky knows not just what to say but also how to say it for maximum impact. He understands the visual impact of the olive-drab military T-shirts he wears and the backdrops he chooses for his social media messages.

Zelensky has single-handedly changed the trajectory of the war. He may not be able to change its outcome, but statues of him will be erected in Ukrainian exile communities around the world — and someday, I am confident, in Kyiv.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz has reacted to Russia's invasion by abandoning the quasi-pacifist stance that has characterized German foreign policy since the end of World War II. He immediately suspended the Russia-to-Germany Nord Stream 2 natural gas pipeline and soon announced a dramatic increase in defense spending and vowed to send lethal weapons directly to the Ukrainian resistance.

What if former chancellor Angela Merkel had delayed her retirement for a year? Merkel, who speaks fluent Russian, served for years as a kind of Putin whisperer who sought to explain Russia and the West to each other. I doubt Merkel would have attempted to take any sort of neutral position

on the invasion. But I also doubt she would have acted as swiftly or decisively as her successor.

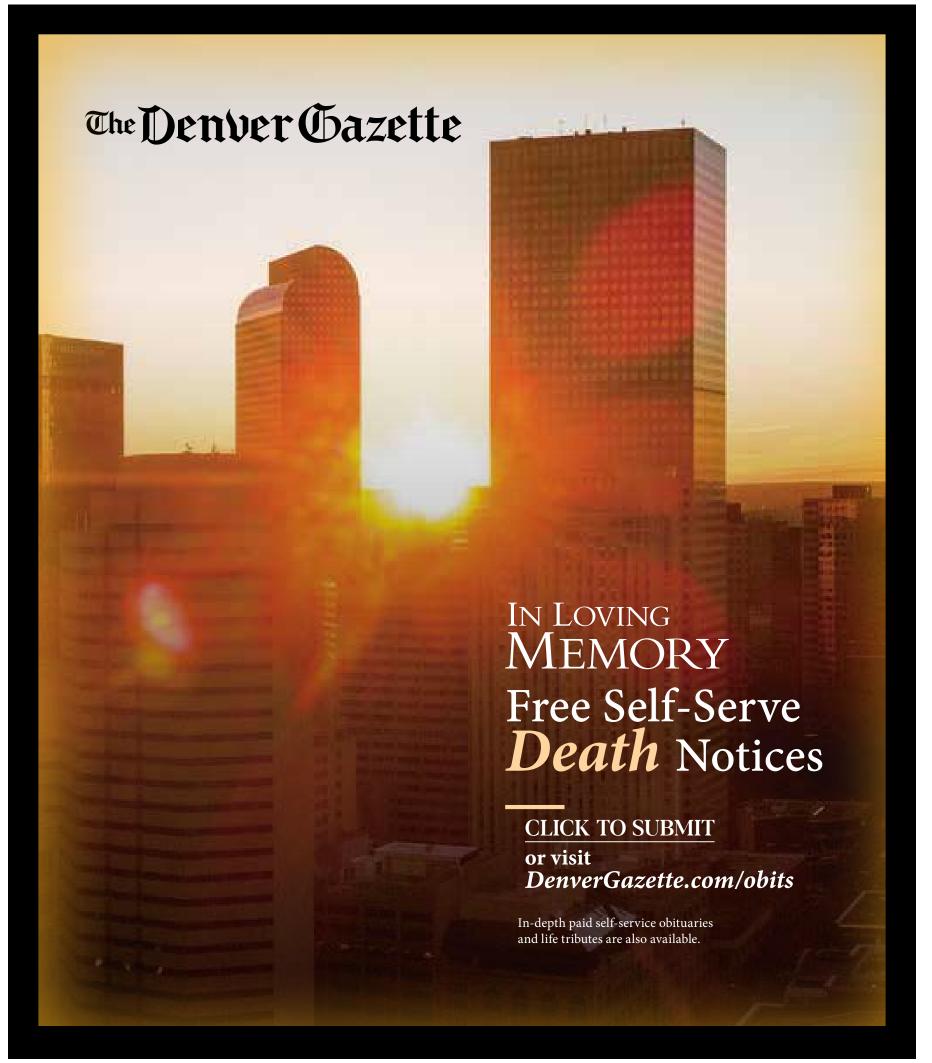
And President Joe Biden has done what only a U.S. president could do - organized and led an international response that has put Putin back on his heels. Unprecedented economic sanctions have reduced the value of the Russian ruble to less than a penny, and coordinated action by Western central banks have cut Putin off from most of the roughly \$630 billion he had amassed in reserves.

The oligarchs who abet and profit from his rule are having their luxury yachts seized.

Biden's stirring words in support of Ukraine in his State of the Union address brought even his harshest Republican critics to their feet. But what if Biden had lost the election? Or what if the Jan. 6 insurrection had succeeded? What if Donald Trump were still president? Would he now be taking Putin's word about, say, civilian casualties in Kharkiv over the assessment of the U.S. intelligence community?

Be glad our democracy survived. Pray that Ukraine survives as well.

> Eugene Robinson's email address is eugenerobinson@washpost.com.



BUSINESS

DENVERGAZETTE.COM/BUSINESS SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022

Remote jobs changing work for good

BY MITCHELL SCHNURMAN

Dallas Morning News

When the pandemic hit two years ago, millions of people started working from home because they had to. As the pandemic starts to ease, millions are still working from home - this time because they prefer to.

Such flexible arrangements vary widely by industry. But where jobs can be handled remotely, employers are having to adjust, both to accommodate an emboldened workforce and to create reasons to actually get together in

The pandemic is the biggest shock to American working life since World War II, Stanford University economist Nicholas Bloom wrote in a recent oped. "And we are never going back to the workplace of 2019."

According to surveys by Bloom and colleagues, almost 8 in 10 employees able to work from home want to continue doing so in some form. On average, they prefer remote work for 2.5 days a week.

After the pandemic ends, nearly 28% of full-paid work hours are expected to be remote, up from 20% in the past year, Bloom said. And many businesses will choose a hybrid arrangement.

Research by Ladders, a careers website, found almost 19% of high-paying jobs were available for remote work in December. That's projected to rise to a quarter of high-paying jobs — those paying over \$80,000 annually — by the end of the year, the site said.

Working from home has become so popular that over 40% of employees said they'd look for a new job or simply quit if required to go to the worksite five days a week.

Among women and people of color, an even higher share of workers said they'd depart if they lost the remote option. Women with young children especially value flexibility.

"Employers that ban working from home will risk driving these employees out the door," Bloom wrote, and that undermines corporate goals to improve workplace diversity.

Of course, many jobs cannot be done remotely because front-line workers must be where they're needed. Nationwide, just over a third of private com-



BRIAN ELLEDGE, DALLAS MORNING NEWS FILE VIA TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

panies increased remote work since the pandemic, according to a 2021 business survey by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

But in accommodations and food services, fewer than 4% of employers boosted remote work. In retail trade, 15% increased that option.

At the other end of the spectrum, remote work grew at over half the companies in educational services, information, financial activities and professional and business services. In total, nearly 60 million U.S. workers had the option to work from home in the past two years, including 4.7 million in Texas, the government estimated.

Remote workers also believe they're more productive and efficient, and some bosses agree.

New York Life Insurance Co. has over 500 employees in seven offices in North Texas. Before the pandemic, about 80% of them came to the office regularly; now about 20% come in and usually for no more than three days a week, said Michael Scovel, managing partner of the Dallas-Fort Worth office.

People love the opportunity to improve their work-life balance, he said. And Zoom calls make it easier to meet with clients and each other. That speeds up training for new hires and

eliminates travel time for advisers who used to fly to clients in New York and

"It's created a far more efficient business model, and we just had our greatest growth year ever," Scovel said about remote work. "It's basically made the world so much smaller."

What's at risk, he said, is a corporate culture created over many years. He's trying other approaches to engage people, including a recent trip to Las Vegas for Dallas employees.

"We're doing things we could have done in Dallas," he said in a phone call from Vegas. "We just thought this would be more enjoyable — and it is."

Scovel said companies should find a way to accommodate employees who want to work from home and those who prefer the office: "The key to the future is providing both - and allowing people to determine what's best for them."

The Dallas Regional Chamber has been operating under a hybrid work arrangement since October. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays are considered "core" hours with employees required to be in the downtown Dallas office, said Angela Farley, chief operat-

On Mondays and Fridays, employees

usually work from home, and that's when she encourages them to focus on solo work, such as writing projects and slide presentations.

While downtown, they have all-staff meetings, training classes, team-building and lots of in-person contact from sidebar conversations to after-work happy hours.

"We're definitely having to do a lot more to make it interesting for people," Farley said. "I don't know how sustainable that is over the long term. But we want people to feel like it was meaningful that they came into the office."

Morale has improved with the hybrid model, she said, especially among young employees who started during the pandemic. "It's really been good for mental health to be back in that collaborative environment, at least for part of the week," she said.

Many local employers have adopted a hybrid approach, as long as it can work in their industry. They're often concerned about remote employees' productivity, she said, and the longer time required to really understand how the company operates.

But another issue is more pressing: "It's harder to keep talent if you're not allowing at least some virtual option," Farley said.

As travel rebounds, airlines offer perks to land workers

BY SARAH FREISHTAT Chicago Tribune

Airlines are racing to hire workers as they anticipate more travelers returning to the skies, and some are offering incentives to try to draw new employ-

In Chicago alone, United Airlines is offering a \$10,000 signing bonus to new part-time ramp agents, baggage handlers, belt and cargo loaders and other positions. Southwest Airlines will increase starting pay for some Chicago roles to \$18 an hour beginning last

Major airlines are looking to add thousands of employees this year, as they continue efforts to build back workforces reduced during the pandemic. At the same time, they are contending with tough hiring markets and could face a potential pilot shortage that has loomed since before the pandemic.

Staffing has come into sharper focus as airlines are predicting more travelers will return in the spring and summer after dips because of COVID-19's omicron variant. In mid-February, the number of passengers on one group of U.S. airlines was down 22% from 2019, according to the trade group Airlines for America.

Southwest Airlines was anticipating a rebound from omicron in March, then-CEO Gary Kelly said in a January earn-

While pilots pose the most critical challenge for airlines, some have also struggled to hire people to work at gates and ticket counters, to fuel planes and help load and unload jets, said Henry Harteveldt, travel industry analyst and president of the Atmosphere Research Group.

Filling those roles requires airlines to not only find capable employees but also workers who can pass sometimes stringent security and drug checks, Harteveldt said. Working in an airport can be stressful, as workers have to deal with unruly passengers and bad behavior. Other industries can lure workers to more lucrative, less stressful roles, he said.

"With the Great Resignation taking place and hitting all companies and industries, airlines are certainly not unusual in this," he said. "But the challenge is that many airline jobs don't offer you the ability to work from home."

United's signing bonus is one attempt to address hiring challenges, though the incentive is unusual in some ways, Harteveldt said.

"These have been jobs that have been traditionally close to minimum wage jobs," he said. "Not at minimum wage, but certainly not paid a hefty premium.



CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A ramp worker with United Airlines guides a plane out of a gate last month at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago.

They've never been jobs that have had signing bonuses attached to them."

United is having "small pockets of hiring challenges," company President Brett Hart said in a January earnings call. Those challenges are not affecting the carrier's ability to operate, according to Hart, who said he was confident the company would hire enough people in 2022.

"We are taking it market by market," he said. "And certainly, we are seeing some parts of the country where there is some more difficulty in small pockets we're hiring, and we're making necessary adjustments in those markets."

United is offering the bonus to employees in Chicago, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Denver and other areas. spokesman David Gonzalez said.

In Chicago, the carrier is looking to hire about 200 people just for the department that includes baggage handlers, aircraft marshalers and ramp

A worker shortage is affecting many carriers, though United might be particularly hard hit, said Mike Klemm, president of the union that represents ramp agents, customer service workers, baggage handlers and others at United and other airlines. Until recently, some employees were required to work longer hours to keep up with the airline's schedules, he said.

He couldn't pinpoint a reason for a shortage, beyond labor challenges affecting a wide swath of industries. United has a strict vaccine mandate for employees, but he said that didn't seem to be contributing to the challenges.

"They just can't get people to come work," Klemm said.

Southwest Airlines plans to add at least 8,000 people across the company this year and raised starting wages to be competitive and because of the effects of the omicron variant and staffing challenges, CEO Bob Jordan said during a January earnings call.

The airline was curbing flights in the first half of the year to "provide additional buffer," he said.

"We just need to get the staffing levels to the point where we can operate our aircraft, operate them reliably, produce the kind of operational performance that our customers need and want and deserve," Jordan said. "And it's just going to take staffing to do that."

Southwest was among the airlines that experienced staff shortages as the omicron variant picked up steam. About 5,000 Southwest employees got sick during the first three weeks of January, and the carrier canceled 1,600 flights in the first week of that month because it was short-staffed, company President Mike Van de Ven said. More flights were canceled that week because of weather and other reasons.

As the carrier looks to hire thousands of employees, a large portion are intended to be for airport roles, such as customer service, operations and ramp agents, Southwest spokesman Dan Landson said.

American Airlines is looking to hire 18,000 people this year, on top of 16,000 last year.

American Airlines is among those anticipating a potential shortage of pilots. That airline and other large carriers said they weren't having trouble finding pilots, but in the short run, smaller, regional airlines could face challenges.

"The imbalance is really going to be played out in the regional carriers," American Airlines President Robert Isom, who will take over as CEO at the end of March, told investors in January. "And on that front, like other carriers, we're going to have issues as well. We have them right now. We're working very hard on that. It's impacting us to a certain degree, but we're going to do everything that we can to make sure that it's not a material impact over

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As troubles mount, is now the time to panic?

IT'S YOUR MONEY



LEITZ

In the middle of a difficult situation, a calm individual often someone who can help solve the difficulties — will tell everyone involved that this is not a time to panic.

You might wonder, though, if now is

indeed a good time to panic. Inflation is at a 40-year high. A world military superpower is invading another country. The stock market is jumping up or falling more than a full percentage point on multiple days. Many people are wondering what to do about their finances.

It's important to recognize the difference between what you can control and what you can't. None of us can singlehandedly end the military action half a world away, stop inflation or control stock market volatility.

But we can control our actions. And how we react to conditions like this



will often do much more to influence how we're impacted.

Inflation has been unusually low for several years. It's reasonable to expect that there will be some stabilization of inflation, either with gradual rises or - as has happened - with a spike

in the rate of inflation. Economists do not expect inflation to be at the current level long term, and the Federal Reserve is taking steps to impact the

While inflation was at low rates, the stock market has been producing higher than usual returns for years. Economists and financial professionals have been expecting these returns to normalize for a while.

This normalization can be either lower returns or even negative returns for some time. This doesn't mean the stock market isn't a good investment.

In fact, investing in good-quality stock mutual funds when the market is down can be a good long-term move. Any money that you put in the stock market should be money you don't need for five years or more.

But for long-term investing, stock investments help you counteract the long-term impacts of inflation as well as help your savings grow to meet your future needs.

Wars often impact financial markets.

Sometimes they fuel market growth or growth within specific industries. And sometimes the concerns about world affairs cause a dip in financial

The best time to plan for events like we are now experiencing is before they happen. You might think that's just silly, since you don't know what's going to happen in the future — which is actually the point of planning for

You plan for what you think will probably happen, then you plan for negative things that you can't imagine happening. If things are rosier than anticipated, then you've come out ahead.

What if you didn't plan for the unexpected? Start now. And don't overreact. Selling stock investments when the market is down or not budgeting for higher prices makes you a victim of the issues you can't control.

Linda Leitz is a certified financial planner. She can be reached at linda@peaceofmindfin.com.

Courts, lawmakers wrangle over 'premises liability'

& THE LAW



As this column has occasionally noted, the Legislature has the last say when it disagrees with a court decision. An example of this is now in play at the Colorado General Assembly, in the form of Senate Bill 22-115.

At issue is the Colorado Premises Liability Act, enacted in 1986 and amended a couple of times, and a 2020 decision by the Colorado Supreme Court in a case brought by victims of Robert Dear's 2015 attack on a Colorado Springs clinic operated by Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains.

In this case, the trial court concluded Dear's actions were so overwhelmingly the cause of the plaintiffs' injuries (technically, the "predominant cause") that there was no room under the Premises Liability Act for a damages award against Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains.

The trial court accordingly dismissed the case.

The Colorado Court of Appeals disagreed and said the case needed to proceed to trial, where a jury, and not a judge, would decide issues of

causation. The Supreme Court upheld the Court of Appeals' decision.

By way of background, the law has struggled with "premises liability' for centuries. In Colorado, premises liability has regularly bounced back and forth between the courts and the Legislature, resulting in a set of rules providing abundant employment opportunities for lawyers.

Under the state's Premises Liability Act, an injured party is placed in one of three categories — trespasser, licensee or invitee — and there is a different standard of care for each category. Invitees are given the greatest protection; trespassers the least.

According to the act:

- A trespasser is someone on the property without the landowner's consent. Trespassers can only recover for injuries caused by a willful or deliberate act of the landowner.
- A licensee is someone on the property with the landowner's consent but for that person's own convenience or to advance his or her own interests. Licensees can recover if an injury is caused by the landowner's "unreasonable failure to exercise reasonable care with respect to dangers created by the landowner of which the landowner actually knew."

• An invitee is someone on the property with the landowner's consent and where the landowner has an interest in the transaction or has allowed the public onto the property. Invitees can recover for an injury caused by the landowner's "unreasonable failure to exercise reasonable care to protect against dangers" of which the landowner "actually knew or should have known."

In the Planned Parenthood case, the plaintiffs were correctly treated as invitees and the legal controversy the courts had to struggle with dealt with causation; is there room under the act to find that a property owner "caused" injuries arising out of a mass shooting?

The Supreme Court, like the Court of Appeals, concluded that, because Planned Parenthood was a controversial organization, Dear's attack was foreseeable and there were things the group could have done, but didn't, to protect against such an attack.

Therefore, Planned Parenthood could be found to have been a "substantial cause" of the plaintiffs' injuries and liable for those injuries.

The Supreme Court's dissenting justices felt foreseeability should not be the test. Otherwise, any property owner thought to be controversial will end up being held to a higher standard of care than other property owners and that's not what the act intended.

This is where Senate Bill 22-115 enters the picture.

Bizarrely, the bill doesn't actually seek to amend the Premises Liability Act. Instead, it states that the Planned Parenthood case was "improperly decided" and other courts may not rely on the Supreme Court's opinion to the extent the opinion determined that "the foreseeability of third-party criminal conduct" is based upon whether the goods or services offered by a landowner are "controversial."

In other words, all property owners, whether controversial or not, are to be held to the same standard of care.

Because the Premises Liability Act will continue to contain abundant weasel words if Senate Bill 22-115 makes it through the legislative gauntlet and becomes law, it seems unlikely passage of the bill will diminish lawyer employment opportunities to any great extent.

Jim Flynn is with the Colorado Springs firm of Flynn & Wright LLC. You can contact him at moneylaw@jtflynn.com.

Watchdog pushing to limit illegal vehicle repossessions

COLOR OF MONEY



SINGLETARY

WASHINGTON •

Repossessing a car is supposed to be the last resort for lenders, who can usually make more money working out a payment plan with borrowers than selling the car at an auction for a loss.

But the pandemic has changed so much in the world of finance.

A global semiconductor chip shortage is leading to historically high prices for used cars. This surge might tempt the companies that service auto loans to be too quick to repossess cars to take advantage of an overheated used-car market, said Rohit Chopra, director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB).

So Chopra has a message for the companies that service auto loans: Don't illegally repo people's vehicles. We are watching.

Used-car prices, a large factor in boosting inflation, have been surging. The prices for used cars and trucks have increased 40.5% since January 2021, compared with a 12% increase for new cars, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"The concern I keep raising is this is going to create incentives for more aggressive repossession conduct because you can quickly resell this in the usedcar market, in some cases over Kelley Blue Book level," Chopra said.

Here's why this should matter to the agency charged with protecting consumer rights. Repossessing cars could be financially critical for struggling consumers because increasingly people don't just use their cars to get to work - they need their cars to do their work, Chopra said.

Gig workers pick up people's food or take on odd jobs that require reliable transportation.

Others are making a living or supplementing their regular income by driving for Uber or Lyft. Their cars are fundamental to their livelihoods.

"You have a lot more people who are involved in moving goods, driving, and actually so much of the independent construction trades depend on people having light trucks," Chopra said.

In a preemptive move, the CFPB issued guidance last week saying it would be closely reviewing repossession practices by loan servicers that might be tempted to circumvent the law in a rush to sell cars as prices surge rather than chasing people down for late payments.

Illegal repossessions have been an



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Used Challengers sit at a Dodge dealership in Littleton.

ongoing problem, the agency said.

Without admitting or denying any wrongdoing, in 2020 the auto financing subsidiary of Nissan North America, which services auto loans and leases originated by Nissan and Infiniti dealerships, agreed to settle allegations by the CFPB that it illegally repossessed vehicles. The company agreed to a \$4 million fine and to pay up to \$1 million in restitution to consumers.

In other cases, the agency said some auto loan servicers have refused to release personal property found in vehicles unless delinquent borrowers paid a storage fee.

Servicers have been slammed for sloppy bookkeeping in which consumers were incorrectly coded as being delinquent. Servicers have ignored bankruptcy rules that would have — at least temporarily — stopped a repos-

"I just am projecting the problems could get much worse unless we stay ahead of it," Chopra said.

Generally, auto loan servicers don't immediately move to repossess a vehicle. They contact borrowers, giving them a chance to catch up on their loan payments. Except this doesn't always happen.

The CFPB pointed out situations in which servicers sent letters stating

that their loans would not be considered past due if the borrower paid by a specific date. Yet the cars were repossessed before the date indicated in the letters. In other cases, contrary to stated payment practices, servicers applied partial payments to late fees first. Reordering payments can make it appear that people are further behind than they might be, triggering a repo.

Unscrupulous servicers have additional "incentives for risky auto repossession practices since repossessed automobiles can command these higher prices when resold," the agency said.

It has also become easier to locate cars slated for repossession. The repo man isn't just in a tow truck anymore. Chopra said repossessions have gotten much cheaper now because cars can be tracked with GPS or through license plate recognition cameras, which can scan for cars that are earmarked for repossession.

Exacerbating the problem the CFPB is trying to head off is borrowers' growing auto debt. As car prices continue to rise, loan amounts are also increasing, which results in longer loan terms to make the payments more affordable.

As of the last quarter of 2021, the average monthly payment for new vehicles was expected to reach an all-time high of \$636, according to

Edmunds, an auto market research firm. The average monthly payment for used vehicles was also expected to break a record, climbing to \$520, compared with \$437 in the fourth quarter in 2020.

Auto loans are already the third-largest consumer credit market in the United States, standing at more than \$1.46 trillion, double the amount from 10 years ago, the CFPB said.

To prevent unfair, deceptive or abusive practices, Chopra said, the CFPB wants auto loan servicers to review their policies and procedures, including call scripts, to thwart unnecessary repossession.

"We want to make sure that systemically this gets eradicated," Chopra said.

Repossessions are unavoidable when people get in financial trouble and can't pay their auto loans. But the CFPB is right to drive home the point that servicers shouldn't wrongfully snatch people's cars if they are making a good-faith effort to catch up on their payments.

Call Michelle Singletary at 1-800-Ask-Post. Readers can also write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle. singletary@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/ MichelleSingletary).

BUSINESS

Money at the start of the start

By Andy Rosen NerdWallet

The events of 2021 didn't always play out as expected. A lingering pandemic, a shifting government response and a wave of career moves meant many people ended the year in a far different place than where they began.

Now, as the income tax filing deadline approaches, those life changes may bring a new wave of surprises for U.S. taxpayers.

Whatever your situation, it may take longer than you expect to gather information and understand provisions that may not have applied to you before.

"Take nothing for granted. Question everything. Don't make assumptions, even about your own situation," says Akeiva Ellis, a certified public accountant and certified financial planner in Waltham, Massachusetts.

IF YOU JOINED THE GREAT RESIGNATION

Through November, an average of 3.9 million people guit their jobs each month of 2021, according to the Society for Human Resource Management. That's the highest number since the federal government began publishing the data in 2000

How a career change affects your taxes depends in part on why you left.

IF YOU GOT A NEW JOB

You'll get W-2 forms from each employer, and the combined pay reported on those will help you calculate your total income for the year. It's pretty straightforward, as long as you withheld the correct amount.

IF YOU STARTED WORKING FOR YOURSELF

People who became their own bosses will have to pay self-employment taxes; the



federal rate is 15.3%

If you have people working for you, you'll be responsible for sending tax forms to contractors or employees. People working for themselves can also manage their tax liability by carefully accounting for both their income and their expenses.

IF YOU JOINED THE INVESTING BOOM

Trading by individual investors reached historic highs during the early part of 2021, according to Nasdaq. Meanwhile, investments in cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin reached all-time records last year.

If you didn't sell any assets, Ellis says, you won't have to pay taxes on them even if your portfolio did well.

If you bought and sold investments for the first time in 2021, you'll soon get a crash

course on capital gains taxes. You'll have to gather records of your gains and losses. You'll also want to distinguish between long-term capital gains (typically, for assets held longer than a year) and short-term capital gains (for assets held a year or less).

If you bought or sold stock, your brokerage will send you a tax form detailing your activity. Cryptocurrency exchanges, however, are not yet required to do so. It's critical when filing your taxes to review any records sent by the investment platforms on which you've traded If you don't receive any records, you can log in to review your history.

IF YOU WERE AFFECTED BY COVID-19

Perhaps 2021's most discouraging surprise was the persistence of COVID-19. If you spent more than 7.5% of your income on medical

care, it may be possible to write off any expense beyond that threshold.

IF YOU HAVE KIDS

Anyone with kids — whether or not they joined your family in 2021 — will have to navigate the child tax credit, which saw a one-time expansion under the COVID-19 relief measures enacted early last year.

The federal government distributed payments from the child tax credit in advance based on income tax data from the 2020 tax year. Taxpayers were able to opt out, choosing to claim the deduction on their tax returns instead, but many did not.

The credit phases out at higher incomes. That means if you got a raise last year, you may no longer be eligible for the payment

ΑP

Stocks are cheaper, if not cheap, coming off bubble warnings

By Stan Choe;

Stock prices have tumbled 10% since the S&P 500 set its record high early this year, hurt by worries about interest rates, inflation and conflict in Ukraine. But based on measures that

Wall Street uses to gauge stocks, they look perhaps 15% cheaper, shaving off some of the concerns about an overly hot market.

One of the most popular measures of a stock's value divides its price by how much profit the company earned in the prior 12 months. That's dropped more than 15% for the S&P 500 since its record high on Jan. 3. A similar gauge, which looks at how much profit a company is forecast to earn over the ensuing 12 months, is down more than 12%

How can those valuation measures drop more than stock indexes did? It's because profits are growing

> strongly, and analysts expect them to go higher.

Companies in the S&P 500 are on track to report fourth-quarter growth of better than 30% from a year earlier. Analysts are forecasting further growth of nearly 9% across 2022, according to FactSet. And that's why the S&P 500's valuation is back to where it was in the summer of 2020, shortly after the

collapse caused by the pandemic.

Cheaper doesn't necessarily mean cheap, particularly when it comes to a stock market that critics were saying was in a dangerous bubble.

S&P 500 valuation



Source: FactSet ΑP

As pandemic wanes, inflation leads people to scrimp

AND GITA SITARAMIAH Tribune News Service

For the past few months, Shirley Hatfield has bought mostly generic brand foods and has gone as far as to unplug her lamps and microwave when they are not in use.

Hatfield, who is 54 and works in a middle school nurse's office in Robbinsdale. Minn., never saw herself as a big spender. But now, the constant monitoring of her spending has started to become all-consuming.

"There are things I never would have thought of before, but now with the price increases ... it all is adding up,"

Facing the biggest jump in consumer prices in decades, many people have dramatically changed their routines to cut costs. This adjustment comes after COVID-19 upended everyday life and left many exhausted.

"We've had two years of uncertainty, loss, anxiety and fear and now inflation, too, so the one thing that's been stable over 40 years, inflation, is now uncertain," said Mark Bergen, a professor at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management.

Consumer prices in January were 7.5% above year-ago levels, the biggest year-on-year increase since 1982. In the Twin Cities, the jump was 7.2%. The price hikes have been led by cars, gas, heating and food, particularly meat.

At her home in New Hope, Minn., recently, Hatfield used half the amount of ground beef she would normally cook for her chili because she needed to save it for another meal. Hatfield joked her tabby cat, whose picky eating keeps her buying name-brand cat food, ate better than she did.

"I'm sure there's probably more meat content in his food than in this chili tonight," she said.

When the pandemic began to unfold and she could no longer go out with friends, she would order from a restaurant occasionally as a treat.

But today, she said, "It is those little indulgences that have just gone by the wayside."

Hatfield keeps her fridge and cabinets meticulously organized, writes down her yearly and monthly budgets to include the cost of everything, from children's birthdays to vet visits. She recently decided not to attend a family member's funeral because she didn't know if she could afford the gas.

She said her penny pinching reminds her of when she used to struggle to save money as a young mother, a lifestyle that Hatfield had hoped at her age to have left behind.



TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Shirley Hatfield takes a package of hamburger out of her fridge to put in a pot of chili, which will give her four days' worth of lunches from the leftovers, while cooking after work Feb. 15 in her condo in New Hope, Minn.

"I know how to survive, but I'm tired of surviving," she said. "I want to live a little."

Money is one of the top contributors to stress, but many people don't like to talk about it and the emotional aspects behind why they spend money, said Derek Hagen, a certified financial therapist who runs Money Health Solutions in Minnetonka, Minn. Change, even for the better, is often stressful — especially when it has to do with money, he

"I used to be able to buy this much and I now have to save a little bit more.' Anything that threatens this status quo – it's going to be stressful," Hagen said.

The pandemic has made consumers' relationship with money even more complicated. Many people coped with the disruptions and risk to health by buying things because it gave a sense of temporary pleasure, Hagen said.

And consumers more often turned to shopping on the computer or phone, which have lower obstacles to purchases, Hagen said. The end result for some was that it was harder to keep track of

"We fully acknowledge that our finances are not just numbers. Our feelings are interwoven in our financial decisions every day," said Kim Miller, a financial counselor at Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota.

"When we need to reduce spending, our brains fight us because we don't like less," Miller added.

Bridget Littlefield has been living on the financial edge for years, but the anxiety around the pandemic and skyrocketing prices has pushed her to focus on building savings for future emergencies.

"I want to get myself in shape and my family in shape and make the best of the situation," she said.

Five years ago, her husband, Kevin, quit his job to care for his father who suffered from dementia. Ever since, things have been tight for the Rosemount, Minn., couple.

They have two teenage daughters as well as a niece living with them, all on Bridget's \$35,000 income. The couple's car died months ago so she walks or uses public transportation. Her fatherin-law passed away in recent months and so did her mother.

Meanwhile, she sees higher prices everywhere, even the Dollar Tree, which has raised them to \$1.25.

"I was floored when I went in to get my toilet paper and it was at \$2.50," said Littlefield of the two four-packs she purchases there. She sometimes stops at the Open Door Pantry food shelf to fill in the gaps.

Still, Littlefield is optimistic about the future. She is starting a new job at the airport with a \$40,000 salary. Her husband is returning to lawn work. They plan to use a tax refund for a car. "We're in the rebuilding stage," she said.

Cindy Ferris of Minneapolis has a successful career in digital marketing but, at 65, is being intentional about countering inflation as she prepares to

"I have a good job, but my salary isn't going as far as it used to, so I've dialed down my spending because inflation is increasing at a faster rate than my annual bonus and raise," she said.

Ferris has cut her costs by about 7%. She used to set her thermostat at 69 and has turned it down to 67 and, at night, 64. Ferris also trimmed her cable bill. No more Target runs. She skips salmon frequently and no longer eats sugar, a plus for her health.

Ferris makes a pot of soup every week and freezes portions, and she eats produce she grows in her basement.

"Sometimes I'll even have eggs for dinner to save money and yet get protein in my diet," she said.

Ferris wants to be prepared for the worst. "I took steps in all of those areas because I felt it necessary," she said. "It wasn't that there was a crisis in my life. It's that I wanted to be prepared because we're in such a state of the unknown."

As Hatfield stirred her chili over the stove, she tried to think how far she could make the dish stretch. Her guess was four meals.

"I do find that you have to treat this more like a game," she said. "How much

AVALANCHE

Avs rally, but fall to Flames after goal 37 seconds into overtime. **D5**



COACH K

No. 4 Duke falls at home to UNC in longtime coach's final game at Cameron. **D9**



SPORTS

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BRONCOS

Fans should be wary of new ownership in Denver

COMMENTARY



WOODY PAIGE

The Denver Gazette

Broncos advocates should be very suspicious, skeptical and cynical about the franchise's new ownership.

Many of the more than 50 majority and minority owners of professional teams in Denver sports history weren't so admirable, honest, wealthy and intelligent. In fact, several were con artists in the "Music Man" tradition of Harold Hill. Others were real crooks.

Denver franchise owners went to prison, Ottawa and New Jersey, court to sue each other, into bankruptcy, quickly and bonkers, berserk and bananas.

The brothers who owned the Denver Comets of the International Volleyball Association were raided by police immediately after a game and arrested on drug chargers.

Mickey Monus, one of the original owners of the Colorado Rockies baseball team, was convicted of 109 felony fraud counts and spent 10 years in prison. The office of Oren Benton, another Rockies ownership partner, was searched by federal custom officers. Later the IRS announced Benton owed \$279 million in back taxes. He filed for bankruptcy with approximately \$1.2 billion in debts and would be banned from the banking industry.

Peter Bynoe and Bertram Lee were once recognized as the first African American owners of a major professional franchise. In reality, the NBA connected satellite conglomerate Comsat (62.5%) with Bynoe and Lee (32.5%) to buy the Nuggets in 1989. Bynoe and Lee served as managing partners until Lee was removed from the ownership and evicted from his downtown Denver apartment in 1991. Bynoe sold his shares the following

Car dealer Doug Spedding bought the USFL's Denver Gold from Ron Blanding, who owned fitness clubs, for \$10 million. When the league folded, Spedding sued Blanding for \$24 million. Edgar Kaiser and Pat Bowlen battled legally for years as the former Broncos' owner sued his successor over rights to reacquire a minority share of the franchise.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Rams owner Stan Kroenke walks on the field before a Dec. 2, 2018, game against the Lions in Detroit.

Kaiser named his fellow Canadian and lawver Hein Poulus, who had never seen an NFL game before Kaiser bought the Broncos, as GM. Kaiser, grandson of a legendary industrialist, later created a french-fry vending machine company that bankrupted.

One of the ABA's organizing owners, Dick Ringsby, put his trucking company's logo on the uniforms of the Rockets, who ultimately became the Nuggets. The team had the best young player in pro basketball in Spencer Haywood. Ringsby announced he signed the league's Rookie/MVP of the year to a \$1.9 contract. Haywood discovered he really would receive \$400,000 over six years, so he bolted to the NBA.

Ivan Mullenix, owner of the minor-league Denver Spurs, was promised a team by the NHL for 1976-77, but he instead joined the fledging World Hockey Association in 1975. In the new Big Mac Arena, Mullenix had no liquor license or scoreboards for the opening game that drew 5,000. On Jan. 2, 1974, during a Spurs road trip, Mullenix moved the team to Ottawa and, two weeks later, folded the fran-

A season later Jack Vickers bought the NHL Kansas City Scouts and moved them to Denver as the Colorado Rockies. But, after losing \$7 million, Vickers

sold the franchise to the second of four owners in six seasons. The last, Astros owner John McMullen, claimed he had no plans to remove the team from Denver, but he did, anyway, as the Rockies became the New Jersey Devils.

In 1999 Ascent Entertainment — the ownership company of the Nuggets, the Avalanche and the teams' future home at The Can — announced the two franchises and the arena were being acquired by Bill and Nancy Walton Laurie, of Columbia, Mo., for \$400 million. Ascent stockholders sued, claiming the price was undervalued. The Laurie couple backed out. Denver businessman Donald Sturm bid \$461 million and apparently won, but his deal collapsed.

The Denver sports assets were sold at auction for \$250 million to Stan Kroenke, who owned a farm next to the Lauries in Columbia. Kroenke's wife is Nancy's sister Ann. Both are Walmart heirs.

Ann Walton Kroenke now is the first woman owner of Denver franchises. Stan "turned over" the Avs and the Nugs when the NFL finally forced the Rams owner to divest his financial interest in the teams.

Read between the two lines in the previous paragraph.

Their combined \$20 billion worth is tied for 36th by Forbes, but they

have been unwilling for three seasons to reach an accord with Comcast and Dish network to telecast Nuggets and Avalanche games.

Brittany Bowlen was groomed to become the second woman to be a controlling owner in Denver. But the Broncos will be sold, and Brittany, as one of the sellers in the Bowlen Trust, may not have any role with the team beyond this year.

Commissioner Roger Goodell acknowledged the league prefers its first Black owner with the Broncos. Former comedian and current media mogul Byron Allen declared he will be a bidder for the potential \$4 billion number, highest in sports history. However, the NFL reportedly demands \$2.5 billion in cash from one owner, and Allen's financial worth is estimated to be \$450 million.

Several other individuals and alliances are considering auction offers, and Peyton Manning and John Elway would like to be involved with the winning bidder.

The next steward of the Broncos' public trust must become another Pat Bowlen, the most successful and super owner ever.

This Dusty Old Cowtown certainly doesn't deserve another Flim-Flam sports franchise owner.

Beware and be wary.

BRONCOS

Packers, Broncos still waiting on Rodgers' decision

BY GEORGE STOIA The Denver Gazette

The Broncos, Packers and the rest of the NFL are still waiting on a decision from Aaron Rodgers with free agency quickly approaching.

Rodgers, the back-to-back league MVP, has yet to inform the Packers what he intends to do next season after spending his entire career in Green Bay.

According to a report by NFL Network's Ian Rapoport, Rodgers is "torn" on where to play next year, but that if it's not with the Packers, Rodgers would want to play for the Broncos.

"Broncos has always been the potential trade location," Rapoport reported Friday night. "In Rodgers' mind, if he was not in Green Bay, it seems (Denver) would be the other spot he would want to be."

The Broncos — like several other teams — are interested in acquiring Rodgers. And the Broncos have the most assets to offer the Packers in a potential trade, with five top 100 picks in the upcoming NFL Draft and several young prospects they could send to Green Bay in a package deal. Denver also has nearly \$40 million in cap



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers is seen before a Jan. 9 game against the Lions in Detroit.

space, meaning they would be able to pay Rodgers as much as any other team in the NFL.

A timeline for when Rodgers will make a decision is unknown, but many believe he will inform the Packers before free agency, which officially starts March 16. Until then, many teams around the league, including the Broncos, will likely wait to make a move at quarterback.

The Broncos, Saints, Steelers, Pan-

thers and Commanders are the five teams most in need of a quarterback this off-season and the Broncos have made it clear they are going to explore all avenues to get a franchise quarterback.

"I think it's always a priority," Broncos GM George Paton said this week at the NFL Combine. "We're always looking. No stone unturned to find that guy. We know we need better play out of the quarterback position. So we're going to be aggressive."

If the Broncos don't trade for Rodgers, there are several other options. Seattle's Russel Wilson, San Francisco's Jimmy Garappolo and Minnesota's Kirk Cousins might soon be on the trading block. T

here are also several free agent options, including Marcus Mariota, Mitchell Trubisky and Teddy Bridgewater who the Broncos could pursue. And there's the draft, in which the Broncos could take a top quarterback at No. 9 overall.

But until Rodgers decides, the Broncos and other are willing to wait. In many ways, Rodgers is the first domino to fall this off-season in the quarterback market.

NFL ROUNDUP

AP source: 49ers hire ESPN analyst Griese as QBs coach

The Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, CALIF. • The San Francisco 49ers are hiring ESPN analyst Brian Griese as their new quarterbacks

A person familiar with the move said Friday that Griese will leave the "Monday Night Football" booth to join coach Kyle Shanahan's staff. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team hadn't announced the hiring.

ESPN first reported the move.

Griese has never held a coaching job but did play 11 seasons in the NFL, including two in Tampa Bay when Shanahan was an assistant there in 2004-05. Griese was drafted by Denver by Shanahan's father, Mike, and spent his first five seasons with the Broncos.

Griese spent more than a decade after his playing career as a college analyst at ESPN before joining the "Monday Night Football" booth in 2020. Griese was expected to be replaced in that role by Troy Aikman. The New York Post reported last week that Aikman will sign a five-year deal with ESPN to become the lead NFL analyst.

Griese replaces Rich Scangarello, who left the Niners last week to take the offensive coordinator job at Kentucky.

Griese will be counted on to work closely with Trey Lance, who was drafted third overall by San Francisco in 2021. Lance started only two games as a rookie, but is expected to fill that role this season with starter Jimmy Garoppolo likely to be traded.

The 49ers have lost several assistants this offseason with offensive coordinator Mike McDaniel getting hired as head coach in Miami and taking receivers coach Wes Welker and tight ends coach Jon Embree with him.

Special teams coordinator Richard Hightower was hired for the same job in Chicago and running backs coach Bobby Turner is planning to take the year off to deal with medical issues.

LSU star Stingley says Lisfranc injury sidelined him in 2021

INDIANAPOLIS • LSU star cornerback Derek Stingley Jr. said Saturday that he isn't working out at the NFL's scouting combine because he's still on the mend after tearing a ligament in his left foot last fall.

Stingley provided the specifics of his injury for the first time since getting hurt ahead of the Tigers' Week 4 game against Mississippi State. He said he underwent surgery Sept. 29 for a Lisfranc injury and was told rehab would take four to six months.

Several teams expressed disappointment that the projected top 10 draft pick wouldn't participate in the onfield workouts at Lucas Oil Stadium on Saturday night.

Stingley said he's still working his way back to full speed and he expects to be a full participant at LSU's pro day April 6.

"My rehab is ahead of schedule right now," Stingley said, adding, "I'm on pace to do what I have to do at pro day." He said he was close to 100%.

"Right now getting into running, starting to do a couple plants, breaking downhill, that's really where I'm at," said Stingley, the grandson of Darryl Stingley, a former wide receiver whose NFL career ended at age 26 when he was left paralyzed from a hit by Jack Tatum in a 1978 preseason game.

Stingley had six interceptions and broke up 21 passes as a true freshman in 2019 and was named second-team All-America, first-team All-SEC and SEC Newcomer of the Year.

He didn't pick off any passes in the pandemic-shortened 2020 season or in the three games he played last year before he aggravated an injury he sustained in preseason practice.

That hasn't prevented talent evaluators from projecting him as a top six or seven pick in the April 28 NFL draft.

How sports are a reflection of the real world right now

COMMENTARY



PAUL KLEE The Denver Gazette

This won't be the last time they pull this crap. It was too easy this time, and when rich, powerful people see it's that easy to get richer and more powerful, they'll do it again.

They didn't get rich and powerful by passing up an easy mark, you know.

Major League Baseball just canceled part of the Rockies' season. After what you've gone through the last two years? Really? The Avalanche and Nuggets for three seasons have not been available on Colorado's most popular cable provider. Really? Still?

But punching down is the usual in the real world, too. You just endured a pandemic response that crushed kids while billionaires added billions. You just survived a historic and horrible crime wave in Denver after a 2020 spent bashing police. Now the likes of mayor Michael Hancock are pledging to empower cops. Must've gotten the polling memo.

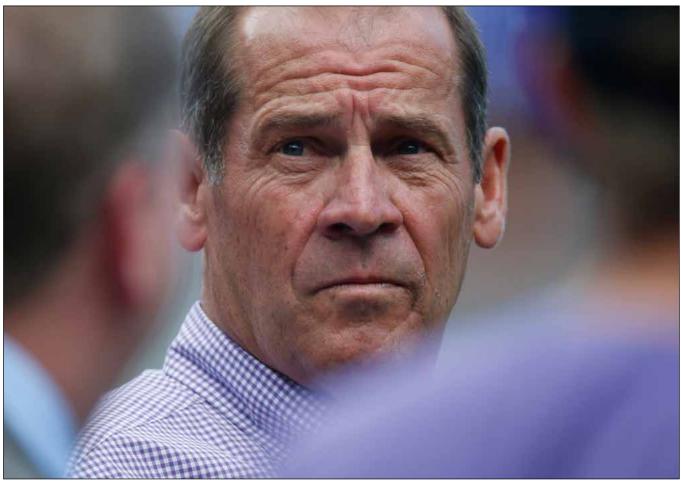
From sports to the real world, the last two years drove home one very valuable lesson: They. Don't. Care. About. You.

They are the people in charge. They don't care about you. They care about what makes them rich or what keeps them in charge, and sports are no different than the real world.

Can't watch the Avs and Nuggets on Comcast. Can't feel safe in the neighborhood where you grew up. Don't know when or if baseball's lockout is going to end. Don't know why 6-yearolds were forced into masks while celebrities partied at the Super Bowl. Different stakes, same model. They don't care about you.

Losing seven games of a long Rockies season may not seem like a big deal to the casual baseball fan. Shoot, it wasn't even a big deal to MLB commissioner Rob Manfred, who very clearly is not a baseball fan. He was laughing the other day as he announced the baseball season would be cut short. But it is a big deal to the guy pitching strawberries on a stick at Coors Field. Maybe he has another gig lined up the first week of April, or maybe this is the second time in three seasons he's out of work.

Bummer. But they don't care.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Rockies co-owner Dick Monfort looks on as his team faces the Rangers in the first inning of a July 22, 2015, interleague game in Denver.

I spend a good chunk of life with ushers, concessionaires, beer guys, security guards, parking lot attendants. One Coors Field usher is now a close friend. We swap flies and share secret fishing spots on the Gunnison River. A parking lot guru once helped me report Jusuf Nurkic left a Nuggets game during the game. These days we'll play 9 holes together.

These good folks are often how I learn which athletes are kind people and which ones should be traded. And I can tell you they are not at the game to watch the game. They often don't know the score. They are there for the

For one week of the Rockies season, at the very least, that paycheck's gone. Because the people in charge don't care about you. Your betters decided they should determine how you live, and an incurious media assigned to question the people in charge are firmly on the side of the people in charge.

Both have been wrong about almost everything when it comes to the COVID-19 response. School closures, vaccine passports, masks, whatever if your state had them or if it didn't,

the difference in outcomes was negligible. The rules did nothing positive and were driven by politics, as I've written for two years. But the rich got richer, the poor poorer, so they're going to pull this crap all over again.

None of the COVID nonsense made a lick of sense until you considered the money and power involved. Monday, Joe Biden wobbled across the White House lawn, alone, outdoors, wearing a mask. Tuesday, President Vegetable breathed all over random women without wearing a mask. Follow the science or something. It's definitely something. It's rotten, and it can't be forgotten or forgiven.

Notice how the Democrats in charge didn't backtrack on defunding the police when Black Americans were being killed at generational rates. They adjusted when poll numbers got bad, when their power was being threatened.

They don't care about you. They're playing you.

Now the same incompetent monsters who butchered the COVID response are in charge of a war response. Super! No apology for trashing the mental

health of kids, no sorry for collapsing your business. Just a seamless transition into the next emergency they inevitably will make worse — for you, not them.

Rinse, repeat.

And Colorado sports fans continue to be treated as if their entertainment dollars are guaranteed.

The Avs are the best team in the NHL and most of Colorado hasn't been able to watch them, legally, over three seasons. The Nuggets have the league MVP in Nikola Jokic.

They also the lowest local TV ratings for an NBA team in at least 15 years. according to Sports Business Journal, because Altitude still isn't available on Comcast. Ball Arena still requires fans to show their papers or get a COVID-19 test before attending a game. You can't find a single place in the world where mandates stopped COVID-19, and Ball Arena is still mandating nonsense.

Time after time, in sports and real life, the people in charge make life worse, not better.

They don't care about you. Why care about them?

FLAMES 4, AVALANCHE 3, OT

Avs fall to Flames in OT in battle of West heavyweights

BY KATE SHEFTE The Denver Gazette

A collective goof in 3-on-3 overtime decided Saturday's first clash between the Western Conference's established division leaders.

Colorado's Mikko Rantanen gave up the puck along the boards as Calgary's Johnny Gaudreau drifted behind Nathan MacKinnon and Devon Toews. Gaudreau took a pass and went in alone. He beat Avalanche goaltender Pavel Francouz low 37 seconds into overtime for a 4-3 Flames win.

"We worked so hard, especially for the final 40 minutes. We checked hard, we played hard. We were on the attack," Avalanche coach Jared Bednar said. "And then we just let a guy go in behind us in overtime and they put it away. To sort of forget about our checking game when it goes to 3-on-3, when it's even more important, is disappointing.

"Lot of positives to take out of the game, but still clearly, lots to work on."

Colorado starting goaltender Darcy Kuemper was pulled after allowing three goals on 15 shots. That failed to fire up the Avalanche immediately. Kurtis MacDermid then dropped the gloves with the Flames' Milan Lucic. It was a long tilt with plenty of swinging and no clear victor.

Francouz, who entered the in relief, had a significant part in turning the tide. He came in cold but steadied the Avalanche, playing conservatively and stopping every shot through almost two periods.

"I don't think it was me," Francouz said. "I think we just picked up our game right away.

"It's kind of (a) cliché, but what coach meant to do was fire us up, and that's exactly what happened."

Both times Kuemper has been pulled for performance reasons this season, the Avalanche have gone to overtime. Last time, Jan. 8 against Toronto, Colorado completed the comeback.

"At that point, we needed a little bit of something," Bednar said. "Tough call to make. Darcy's start, and those certainly weren't on him. But for me, I just felt like we've seen him sharper."

While MacDermid and Lucic watched from the penalty boxes, Cale Makar bailed out the Avalanche after a turnover, dipping and sliding to break up a Calgary 2-on-1. He then burst out of the mess with the puck. Colorado took it end-toend and MacKinnon tied the game at 3.

It was easy come, easy go for the Avalanche's first two leads of the game. Colorado came at Calgary goaltender Daniel Vladar (33 saves) in waves on



PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Avalanche goaltender Darcy Kuemper reacts after giving up a goal against the Flames during the second period of a game on Saturday in Denver.



Avalanche right wing Mikko Rantanen, front, drives past Flames left wing Matthew Tkachuk during a game on Saturday in Denver.

the first shift of the first period. Gabriel Landeskog went around the net, spotted the puck when he resurfaced and buried a shot 42 seconds in.

Less than two minutes later, it was determined Kuemper fired the puck directly over the glass. Five seconds into his delay-of-game penalty, served by Nicolas Aube-Kubel, the Flames' Elias Lindholm tied the game at 1.

Andre Burakovsky's power-play goal gave the Avalanche a 2-1 lead that lasted just 1:06. Lindholm scored again



Avalanche at Islanders, 5:30 p.m. Monday, ALT

with an assist to former Colorado fan favorite Nikita Zadorov. It was Zadorov's first game back in Denver following the trade that brought Brandon Saad to the Avalanche in 2020.

Valeri Nichushkin returned to the lineup after missing two games with an upper-body injury. He assisted on each of the Avalanche's first two goals.

Colorado's Tyson Jost was hit by a puck in the third period and headed down the tunnel holding a towel to his head. He didn't return.

With a helper on MacKinnon's goal, Makar pushed his assist streak to 11 games, one short of Joe Sakic's franchise record set in 1991-92.

"Especially once Nate tied it up there, I thought we took over and played real-

First Period—1, Colorado, Landeskog 30 (Kadri, Nichushkin), 0:42. 2, Calgary, Lindholm 26 (Tkachuk, Gaudreau), 2:29 (pp). 3, Colorado, Burakovsky 18 (Newhook, Nichushkin), 18:18 (pp). 4, Calgary, Lindholm 27 (Tkachuk, Zadorov), 19:24. Second Period-5, Calgary, Gudbranson 5 (Gaudreau, Tkachuk), 1:27. 6, Colorado, MacKinnon 17 (Makar, Kadri), 9:40. Third Period—None. Overtime—7, Calgary, Gaudreau 22 (Lindholm), 0:37.

Shots on Goal—Calgary 14-11-11-1_37. Colorado 9-12-14-0_35. Power-play opportunities—Calgary 1 of 2; Goalies-Calgary, Vladar 8-3-1 (35 shots-32 saves). Colorado, Kuemper 27-6-2 (15-12), Colorado, Francouz 9-3-1

A-18,087 (18,007). T-2:35. Referees-Brandon Schrader, Kelly Sutherland.

Linesmen-Scott Cherrey, Andrew Smith.

ly well," Landeskog said.

The Avalanche and Flames will have another crack at each other soon. They meet again at Ball Arena after the Avalanche's upcoming three-game road trip.

NHL ROUNDUP

Coyotes' Schmaltz has franchise-record 7 points

The Associated Press

GLENDALE, ARIZ. • Nick Schmaltz scored twice and had five assists for a franchise-record seven points as the Arizona Coyotes recovered from a fivegoal Ottawa rally to beat the Senators 8-5 on Saturday.

Schmaltz helped set up four straight goals in the third period after the Covotes fell behind. Carson Keller scored twice, including a goal that made it 5-all, and Lawson Crouse put Arizona ahead with a power-play tally.

Capitals 5, Kraken 2

WASHINGTON • Alex Ovechkin took another step toward tying Jaromir Jagr on the NHL career goals list, linemate Tom Wilson scored his 18th goal of the season and Washington beat Seattle.

The Capitals have won two in a row at home after losing their previous six games in Washington. The Kraken lost for the eighth time in nine games.

Predators 8, Sharks 0

SAN JOSE, CALIF. • Juuse Saros made 20 saves for his third shutout of the season, Matt Duchene scored twice and Nashville handed San Jose its most lopsided shutout loss at the Shark Tank.

Matt Luff and Michael McCarron also scored two goals apiece for Nashville.

Bruins 5, Blue Jackets 4, SO

COLUMBUS, OHIO • David Pastrnak scored in the shootout and had an assist to lift surging Boston over Columbus.

Boston has won seven of eight and is three points ahead of Washington for the top wild card and seventh seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Flyers 4, Blackhawks 3

PHILADELPHIA • Cam Atkinson had two goals and an assist, Joel Farabee chipped in three assists and Philadelphia edged Chicago.

Oskar Lindblom and Derick Brassard also scored for the Flyers, who won for just the fourth time in the last 25 games while continuing their home-ice dominance of the Blackhawks.

Islanders 2. Blues 1

NEW YORK • Oliver Wahlstrom and Brock Nelson each scored, Ilya Sorokin made 27 saves and New York held on to beat St. Louis.

Sorokin had 14 stops in the third period as the Islanders snapped a twogame skid.

Panthers 6, Red Wings 2

SUNRISE, FLA. • Anton Lundell scored twice, Aleksander Barkov had three assists and Florida beat Detroit to finish



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Coyotes' Nick Schmaltz, center, scores a goal against Senators goaltender Matt Murray, right, Saturday in Glendale, Ariz.

a five-game homestand 2-3-0.

Canucks 6. Maple Leafs 4

TORONTO • Alex Chiasson had the goahead score in Vancouver's three-goal third period, Thatcher Demko made 34 saves and the Canucks rallied to beat Toronto.

Canadiens 5, Oilers 2

EDMONTON, ALBERTA • Nick Suzuki scored the winner and added two assists as Montreal remained on a hot

Brendan Gallagher and Cole Caufield each had a goal and an assist for Mon-

STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Florida Montreal Metropolitan Divisi

GP W L
55 38 12
57 34 14
55 35 15
57 30 18
56 28 25
52 21 23
55 17 28
55 19 31 Pts GF GA 81 188 132 77 185 152 75 165 138 69 185 158 59 186 205 50 133 147 44 139 192 43 168 200 Carolina Pittsburgh N.Y. Rangers Washington Columbus N.Y. Islanders

WESTERN CONFERENCE

GP W L OT Pts GF GA 56 40 11 5 85 222 159 54 32 16 6 70 192 148 53 32 18 3 67 200 171 55 31 20 4 66 174 155 54 31 20 3 65 159 157 55 24 21 10 58 166 170 56 20 28 8 48 141 192 55 16 35 4 36 132 201 Colorado St. Louis Winnipeg **Pacific Division** GP W L
54 33 14
56 30 19
56 31 21
56 30 22
57 28 23
57 26 22
55 24 25
57 17 35 190 133 166 160 182 166 184 180 Vegas Edmonton

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild

COLLEGE HOCKEY

No. 3 DU completes season sweep of CC with 5-2 win

BY EDEN LAASE The Denver Gazette

Two Denver Pioneers rank in the top 10 nationally for points per game. At the top of the list is Bobby Brink, a Hobey Baker nominee, and coming in 10th is Carter Savoie, another Hobey Baker nominee.

There's no shortage of talent on this DU team, and Brink and Savoie wasted no time showing it on Saturday at Magness Arena.

After Nicklas Andrews was called for tripping, the Pioneers immediately went to work, firing three quick shot attempts. CC held them off, but on the fourth attempt, Brink found Savoie, who put the puck in the back of the net.

It was Brink's NCAA-leading 38th assist, Savoie's 19th goal, and the first of many DU highlights in a 5-2 win over Colorado College.

'They got a little bit more momentum

and they did a nice job," CC coach Kris Mayotte said of the Pioneers. "I didn't think we were playing bad, but then you look at the scoreboard and it's 4-0. That's what they have the ability to do."

Before the first period ended, DU got another goal, this time from Brett Stapley, who fired from between the faceoff circles, and then skated toward his bench with celebratory hands in the

One minute later, with 6:27 left in the first, CC's Stanley Cooley was gliding uninhibited toward the net. Shia Buium hustled behind him, and attempting to stop the breakaway, was whistled for hooking.

Cooley was awarded a penalty shot, but Matt Davis came up with the oneon-one save for the Pioneers. Instead of going into the books as CC's first score against DU this season, the attempt was added to a list of missed opportu-

The advantage went from two goals to three just 18 seconds into the second frame as Ryan Barrow fielded a pass from Stapley into the right faceoff circle.

The senior's one-timer soared into the top left corner of the net.

CC kept DU at bay for most of the period after that, but before the Pioneers left the ice for the second intermission. Savoie added another goal and Brink tallied one more assist. The goal, which came with 1:18 left in the frame, was also assisted by Cole Guttman.

This was CC's fourth loss to DU this season, but despite the similar outcome, one thing was different: The Tigers got on the board.

Marc Pasemko came up with a loose puck with 1:28 gone by in the third frame, and the sophomore was able to score his first career goal. Pasemko was

inserted into the lineup after Mayotte said on Friday that the Tigers needed to shake things up.

"For us, we are taking positives," Mayotte said. When we scored in the third period, it felt like the monkey got off our backs a little bit there. Pasemko, I thought, was phenomenal."

A few minutes later, Guttman tacked on another goal for DU, this one coming on a CC power play. The short-handed score was the senior's 15th of the season.

CC ended the contest with a final goal off the stick of Cooley on a power play with a minute to play. The freshman's goal gave CC the advantage in the third period, 2-1.

With the win, and North Dakota's 4-1 loss to Omaha, DU (25-8-1, 18-6-0) clinches the No. 1 seed in the NCHC playoffs. The Pioneers will play Miami at home.

SPORTS ODDS

Sunday's top betting videos



Online betting

For more betting content powered by SportsGrid, go to betting.denvergazette.com.



Which QB Will Be First Up In The 2022 Draft?



PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kevin Durant Is Finally Back On The Court



Does Cade Cunningham Have All-Star Potential?



Cavaliers Join In-House Betting Trend With Caesars Sportsbook Partnership

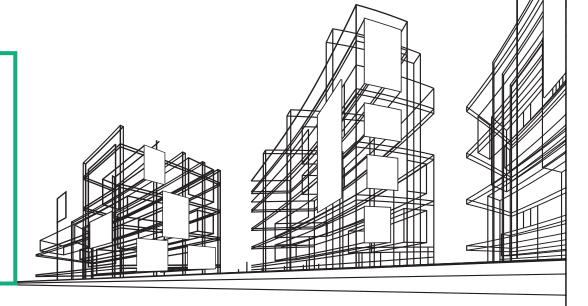
BETTING LINE

NBA Sunday				Houston at OHIO STATE	2 4	at MEMPHIS Michigan
FAVORITE	LINE	0/U	UNDERDOG	UCF	21/2	at TULSA
at BOSTON	3	(OFF)	Brooklyn	at WISCONSIN	13	Nebraska
at MILWAUKEE	7	(OFF)	Phoenix	at TEMPLE	9	South Florida
at WASHINGTON	3	(OFF)	Indiana	at DREXEL	PK	Delaware
Memphis	121/2	(OFF)	at HOUSTON	at SMU	91/2	Tulane
Utah	13	(OFF)	at OKLAHOMA CITY	at MICHIGAN STATE	6	Maryland
at CLEVELAND	4	(OFF)	Toronto	at UNC WILMINGTON	4	Elon
at DENVER	3	(2281/2)	New Orleans	at UMKC	PK	South Dakota
at LA CLIPPERS	31/2	(OFF)	New York	at ILLINOIS	31/2	lowa
College Basket	tball			at NORTHWESTERN	71/2	Minnesota
Sunday				at HOFSTRA	3	Charleston (SC)
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG		at ORAL ROBERTS	6	Western Illinois

NHL			
Sunday			
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
Los Angeles	-172	at BUFFALO	+140
St. Louis	-194	at NEW JERSEY	+160
at MINNESOTA	-122	Dallas	+102
at CAROLINA	-295	Seattle	+235
at WINNIPEG	-122	N.Y Rangers	+102
Tampa Bay	-235	at CHICAGO	+190
at ANAHEIM	-182	San Jose	+150
at LAS VEGAS	-490	Ottawa	+365

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL

UNC spoils Coach K's final home game at Duke

DURHAM, N.C. • North Carolina ignored all the attention surrounding the final home game for retiring Hall of Fame coach Mike Krzyzewski, as well as the fourth-ranked Duke's emotionally charged, rowdier-than-usual crowd.

Instead, the rival Tar Heels walked into Cameron Indoor Stadium and fearlessly spoiled Coach K's perfect send-off to the postseason.

Armando Bacot scored 23 points and the Tar Heels shot 59% after halftime to upset the Blue Devils 94-81 on Saturday night, a major reversal from a blowout loss in the first meeting that raised questions about UNC's ability to compete against the nation's top teams.

First-year coach Hubert Davis had shrugged off the "pageantry" from Krzyzewski's final home game, saying the team needed to tune out all the extra emotion and do one thing: compete.

"All week, we just talked about our competitive fight," Davis said, "that we had to do three things: We had to plant our feet, we had to stand our ground and we had to fight. ... I just felt like, as the game went on, we started to just gain more and more confidence."

In the final minutes, the Tar Heels (23-8, 15-5 Atlantic Coast Conference) were stretching the lead to double figures, hitting clinching free throws and leaving the "Cameron Crazies" in disbelief that Krzyzewski's final home game after 42 years at the helm of Duke would end this way.

The day had begun with more than 90 former Blue Devils players joining Krzyzewski on the court for a pregame photo and the coach with 1,196 career victories and five NCAA championships. There were also celebrities like comedian Jerry Seinfeld and NBA commissioner Adam Silver in attendance at a game where tickets rocketed into four- and five-figure costs.

The emotions were too much for even the most veteran of coaches.

"I didn't think I'd cry," Krzyzewski said. "But I did. But that's all right, it's all right."

He paused, then added with a chuckle: "I'm glad this is over."

Krzyzewski had tried all season to deflect questions about his looming retirement - even eschewing the use of the word "last" — and trying to avoid being a distraction or creating additional pressure on his team. That began to change more in recent days as the moment drew near for a coach who has long taken a live-in-the-moment approach.

The Blue Devils (26-5, 16-4) still felt



Surrounded by former players, Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski applauds while being recognized prior to the team's game against North Carolina on Saturday in Durham, N.C.

that pressure.

"It was a big moment, actually a huge moment this week," Wendell Moore Jr. said. "I felt like we kind of got lost in everything."

Freshman Paolo Banchero scored 23 points for the Blue Devils, who shot just 42% after halftime as the Tar Heels took over. But Krzyzewski was particularly frustrated by his team's play at the other end.

"They didn't talk at all on defense," he said. "That's why the second half, our defense was just horrible."

When the horn sounded, the Tar Heels mobbed each other to celebrate on the court, while Caleb Love - who overcame an 0-for-8 shooting start to score 15 of his 22 points after halftime iawed at the Crazies.

It also included Krzyzewski taking the microphone to address the still-full arena before the school's postgame ceremony in his honor.

"I'm sorry about his afternoon," he said, calling the performance "unacceptable."

It marked the first time an unranked North Carolina team had beaten a top-



North Carolina guard Caleb Love, left, celebrates with, from left, guard R.J. Davis, guard Leaky Black and forward Armando Bacot late in the second half Saturday against Duke in Durham, N.C.

5 Duke team in Cameron since 1990, when Davis was a sophomore guard for the Tar Heels under late Hall of Famer Dean Smith.

"We know how good of a team we are," Bacot said. "We know at times we've had lapses. But we came in and we knew we were going to win the game."

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Battey's career night leads Buffs to rout of Utah

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY • Evan Battey used a career-best six 3-pointers on his way to a career-high 27 points and Colorado breezed to an 84-71 victory over Utah on Saturday night to earn the No. 4 seed in the Pac-12 Conference tournament.

Battey hit four 3-pointers and scored 19 points in the first half to spark the Buffaloes (20-10, 12-8) to a 50-29 lead at intermission.

He sank 10 of 17 shots on the night -6 of 9 from 3-point range - and grabbed six rebounds.

Jabari Walker pitched in with 22 points, 12 rebounds and five assists for Colorado. Walker's 16th double-double of the season helped the Buffaloes win their 20th game in a season for the 13th time in school history and the ninth time in 12 seasons under Tad Boyle, including four straight. Boyle's 253 wins at Colorado are eight shy of Sox Walseth's program record.

The Buffaloes picked up right where they left off after posting a program-record-tying 79-63 win over No. 2 Arizona last time out. It matched the highest ranked opponent Colorado has beaten, tying a win over No. 2 Oklahoma State in 1992.

Nique Clifford added 11 points for the Buffs, who earned a first-round by in the Pac-12 tourney.

David Jenkins Jr. and Branden Carlsen scored 18 apiece for Utah (11-19, 4-16). Lazar Stefanovic had 12 points off the bench.

Colorado State 71, Boise State 68

FORT COLLINS • James Moors scored at the basket with just under a minute to play to give Colorado State the lead and Kendle Moore added two free throws as the Rams beat Boise State, 71-68 on Saturday night.

David Roddy had 23 points Moore had 19 points for Colorado State (24-4, 14-4 Mountain West Conference), which earned its fourth consecutive home victory.

Isaiah Stevens added 12 points and seven assists.

Abu Kigab had 15 points and five assists for the Broncos (24-7, 15-3), whose five-game winning streak was broken. Marcus Shaver Jr. added 13 points. Max Rice had 11 points.

The Rams improve to 2-0 against the Broncos for the season. Colorado State defeated Boise State 77-74 on Feb. 13.

No. 17 UCLA 75, No. 16 USC 68

LOS ANGELES • Jaime Jaquez Jr. scored 27 points and No. 17 UCLA defeated 16th-ranked Southern California



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Colorado forward Evan Battey runs upcourt after making a 3-pointer Saturday against Utah in Salt Lake City.

75-68 on Saturday night to claim the No. 2 seed in next week's Pac-12 Tournament.

Jules Bernard added 19 points for the Bruins (23-6, 15-5 Pac-12), who came into the teams' regular-season finale tied for second in the league with their crosstown rival.

They snapped a five-game skid against the Trojans with their first win in the series since Feb. 28, 2019.

Johnny Juzang returned for UCLA after missing two games with a sprained right ankle. He finished with eight points, missing two free throws with 30 seconds left and the Bruins clinging to a four-point lead.

Bernard went 3 of 4 at the free-throw line over the final seconds to close out the win

The Trojans (25-6, 14-6) were led by Isaiah Mobley with 20 points and eight rebounds. Boogie Ellis and Drew Peterson added 13 points each.

Except for scoring the game's first basket, the Trojans trailed the rest of the way. But they made it close at the end.

No. 2 Arizona 89, California 61

TUCSON, ARIZ. • Oumar Ballo scored 16 points and Bennedict Mathurin added 13 as Arizona became the first Pac-12 team to win 18 conference games.

The Wildcats (28-3, 18-2) finished 17-0 at home in its first season under coach Tommy Lloyd.

Pelle Larsson and Justin Kier scored 13 points each.

Cal (12-19, 5-15) played well for stretches but couldn't recover from a big early Arizona run. Jordan Shepherd led the Bears with 16 points.

No. 22 Murray State 71, Morehead State 67

EVANSVILLE, IND. • Tevin Brown scored 23 points to lead Murray State over Morehead State to give the Racers their 20th consecutive victory, the Ohio Valley Conference tournament title and an automatic spot in the NCAA Tournament.

MVP Justice Hill added 21 points for the Racers (30-2), who shot just 38% from the field but won the rebounding battle 47-31 and had an edge on second-chance points (16-7).

The defending OVC tournament champion Eagles (23-11) got 32 points and eight rebounds from forward Johni Broome.

No. 3 Baylor 75, Iowa State 68

WACO, TEXAS • James Akinjo scored 20 points and Baylor clinched a share of the Big 12 title with its fifth consecutive win.

Akinjo put the Bears (26-5, 14-4) ahead to stay with a 3-pointer with 3:37 left, followed seconds later by a driving reverse layup. They had fallen behind after building a 25-point lead in the game's first 12 minutes.

Baylor (26-5, 14-4) had never won a Big 12 title before claiming it outright last season on the way to its first national championship. The Bears are conference co-champs this time with sixth-ranked Kansas.

Kendall Brown had 16 points and 10 rebounds for Baylor. Adam Flagler

SEE ROUNDUP • PAGE 11

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP



Kansas forward David McCormack celebrates after his dunk against Texas during overtime Saturday in Lawrence, Kan.



FROM PAGE 10

scored 13 points and Jeremy Sochan 12. Gabe Kalscheur had 18 points for Iowa State (20-11, 7-11).

No. 5 Auburn 82, South Carolina 71

AUBURN, ALA. • Jabari Smith scored 21 points and K.D. Johnson had 18 as Auburn won its fourth Southeastern Conference title.

The Tigers (27-4, 15-3 SEC) celebrated on the court amid a flurry of orange and blue confetti.

The team held at least a share of the SEC lead all season.

Smith made 3 of 3 3-pointers and is 21 of 37 over the last six games, when he's averaging 25 points.

Jermaine Couisnard led South Carolina (18-12, 9-9) with 22 points, 16 in the second half. James Reese V scored 18 and Erik Stevenson added 13 points and eight rebounds.

No. 6 Kansas 70. No. 21 Texas 63. OT

LAWRENCE, KAN. • David McCormack had 22 points and 10 rebounds and threw down the clinching dunk in overtime as Kansas clinched the No. 1 seed in the Big 12 Tournament.

Jalen Wilson had 17 points and 13 rebounds, and Christian Braun had 13 points and 11 boards as the Jayhawks (25-6, 14-4) wrapped up at least a share of the regular-season conference title.

The Jayhawks tied it 61-all when Ochai Agbaji, who was 0-for-10 shooting at that point, hit his only field goal with 2:37 left in overtime.

Courtney Ramey came up empty at the other end for Texas, and McCormack made two foul shots to give Kansas the lead before Wilson added two more to provide some breathing room. Ramey finished with 18 points for the Longhorns (21-10, 10-8).

No. 7 Kentucky 71, Florida 63

GAINESVILLE, FLA. • Oscar Tshiebwe had 27 points and 15 rebounds for his 25th double-double of the season as the Wildcats secured the No. 3 seed in next week's Southeastern Conference Tournament.

The Wildcats (25-6, 14-4 SEC) ended a two-game road skid in league play and won their fourth straight in Gainesville. They never trailed in this one, and Tshiebwe was a big reason why.

The 6-foot-9, 255-pound forward and national player of the year candidate scored 17 of Kentucky's 19 points over a 7 1/2-minute span that included both halves. The junior scored the team's first 11 points of the second half — all in the paint while almost single-handily building a double-digit lead for the Wildcats.

Colin Castleton led the Gators (19-12, 9-9) with 23 points and 11 rebounds.

No. 8 Purdue 69. Indiana 67

WEST LAFAYETTE, IND. • Eric Hunter Jr. scored 17 points and Sasha Stefanovic added 15 to help Purdue rally past its archrival.

Zach Edey added 10 points and 11 rebounds as the Boilermakers (25-6, 14-6 Big Ten) snapped a season-high, twogame losing streak.

Xavier Johnson led the Hoosiers with 18 points and a career-high 12 assists, but his half-court heave to win it with 0.3 seconds left was an air ball.

Trayce Jackson-Davis had 15 points and six rebounds while Miller Kopp scored 14 points for Indiana (18-12,



PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tennessee forward Jonas Aidoo, right, and guard Santiago Vescovi, left, block out against Arkansas guard Stanley Umude during the second half Saturday in Knoxville, Tenn.

No. 11 Villanova 78. Butler 59

INDIANAPOLIS • Justin Moore scored 16 points and Jermaine Samuels added 15 as Villanova built a big early lead and handed Butler its fifth straight loss.

Caleb Daniels and Collin Gillespie each scored 11 points and Jordan Longino had 10 for Villanova.

The Wildcats (23-7, 16-4 Big East) will be the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament.

Chuck Harris had 19 points to lead Butler (13-18, 6-14) and Bo Hodges had 12 points and six rebounds.

Villanova scored 11 straight points during a 20-1 run that made it 23-4 at the outset and the Wildcats were up by 28 midway through the second half.

Oklahoma St. 52, No. 12 Texas Tech 51

STILLWATER, OKLA. • Bryce Thompson made a go-ahead 3-pointer with 19.4 seconds left as Oklahoma State eliminated the Red Raiders from the Big 12 title race.

Terrence Shannon missed a contested jumper just before the buzzer for Texas Tech, and Oklahoma State (15-15, 8-10) celebrated a win in its season finale.

Oklahoma State is banned from postseason play because of NCAA rules violations, so the Cowboys can't play in the Big 12 Tournament next week.

The Red Raiders (23-8, 12-6) needed a victory and losses by Baylor and Kansas to finished tied for the Big 12 lead.

Kevin Obanor led Texas Tech with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

Rondel Walker led the Cowboys with 12 points and Thompson had 11.

No. 13 Tennessee 78. No. 14 Arkansas 74

KNOXVILLE, TENN. • Freshman guard Zakai Zeigler, whose family was left homeless by a fire in New York City last

weekend, made two key free throws in the final seconds to help the Vols hold on against Arkansas.

Tennessee (23-7, 14-4 Southeastern Conference) wrapped up the No. 2 seed for the SEC Tournament. Zeigler finished with 13 points.

Kennedy Chandler and Santiago Vescovi each scored 15 and Josiah-Jordan James added 12 for Tennessee.

Notae scored 15 of his 20 points in the second half for the Razorbacks (24-7. 13-5). Stanley Ummude and Chris Lykes both had 15.

No. 18 UConn 75, DePaul 68

STORRS, CONN. • Adama Sanogo scored a game-high 26 points as UConn snapped DePaul's three-game winning streak. Sanogo also had 11 rebounds, giving him his eighth double-double of the season.

Tyrese Martin added 19 points and 16 rebounds for UConn, which held a 49-31 edge on the boards. UConn (22-8, 13-6 Big East) has won six of its last seven games.

Javon Freeman-Liberty led DePaul (15-15, 6-14) with 22 points, while Brandon Johnson had 14.

LSU 80. No. 25 Alabama 77. OT

BATON ROUGE, LA. • Tari Eason scored 20 points and had a key block that led to his go-ahead dunk with 38 seconds left in overtime as LSU scored the final six points to escape.

Darius Days had 24 points and Brandon Murray finished with 17 for LSU (21-10, 9-9 Southeastern Conference), which had lost three of four.

Keon Ellis scored 19 points for Alabama (19-12, 9-9) and Jahvon Quinerly added 16, including a 3-pointer in OT that gave the Crimson Tide a 75-74

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

N.C. State tops Virginia Tech to reach ACC title game

The Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. • Elissa Cunane had 20 points and 13 rebounds and No. 3 North Carolina State used a strong second half to pull away from No. 21 Virginia Tech 70-55 on Saturday and return to the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament championship game.

Jada Boyd added 16 points and Raina Perez had nine points for NC State (28-3), which is seeking its third straight tournament title. The Wolfpack (28-3) will face the Miami-Notre Dame winner on Sunday.

Kayan Traylor had 18 points for Virginia Tech (23-9), which was without Elizabeth Kitley. The ACC women's player of the year injured her right shoulder in the Hokies' 87-80 quarterfinal win over North Carolina on Friday. Kitley participated in warmups, but did not play.

Without the 6-foot-6 Kitley in the middle, the Hokies faced a severe size disadvantage.

No. 1 South Carolina 61, Mississippi 51

NASHVILLE, TENN. • Aliyah Boston posted her 23rd consecutive double-double with 15 points and 12 rebounds as South Carolina beat Mississippi in the Southeastern Conference women's tournament semifinals.

The Gamecocks (29-1) won their 17th straight to reach their seventh tournament championship game in eight seasons.

They will play either No. 18 Tennessee or seventh-seeded Kentucky on Sunday looking for South Carolina's third straight title and seventh overall.

Ole Miss (23-8) tried to rally, scoring 20 of the first 25 points in the fourth to get within 58-50 on Shakira Austin's three-point play with 1:40 left.

That was the last bucket the Rebels would make as South Carolina clinched their latest berth in the title game.

No. 7 UConn 84. Georgetown 38

UNCASVILLE, CONN. • Paige Bueckers came off the bench and scored 16 points in her third game back from knee surgery and UConn routed Georgetown in the quarterfinals of the Big East Tournament.

Bueckers, who suffered a tibia plateau fracture and torn meniscus in her left knee on Dec. 5, played 18 minutes. She shot 6 of 9 overall, and was 4 of 5 from 3-point range.

Christyn Williams added 15 points, Aaliyah Edwards had 14 and Azzi Fudd scored 11 for the Huskies (23-5).

Mary Clougherty had 10 points for Georgetown, which had won three in a row and finished at 10-19.



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North Carolina State's Jada Boyd, center, looks to pass the ball while guarded by Virginia Tech's Azana Baines, left, and Georgia Amoore during the first half of Saturday's semifinal game in the Atlantic Coast Conference women's tournament in Greensboro, N.C.

No. 8 Iowa State 74, West Virginia 57

MORGANTOWN, W.VA. • Emily Ryan scored a career-high 29 points and Iowa State clinched the second seed in the Big 12 women's tournament with a victory over West Virginia.

The Cyclones (25-5, 14-4 Big 12) bounced back from a blowout loss at home to No. 5 Baylor on Monday that handed the Bears a share of their 12th consecutive regular-season title. Baylor can earn it outright Sunday with a victory against Texas Tech.

A Baylor loss would give Iowa State a share of the championship for the first time since 2000.

Ryan scored 15 points in the third quarter, hitting all five of her field goal attempts, and the Cyclones extended a six-point halftime lead to 55-38.

West Virginia (14-14, 7-11) got no closer than nine points the rest of the game.

No. 9 Texas 65. Oklahoma State 50

AUSTIN, TEXAS • Senior Lauren Ebo scored a career-best 17 points and Rori Harmon added 13 along and four steals to help No. 9 Texas extend its winning streak to eight games with a victory against Oklahoma State in the final regular season game ever at the 45-year-old Frank Erwin Center.

Texas (23-6, 13-5 Big 12) finished the regular season with those eight straight wins after losing three in a row, including two to No. 5 Baylor.

Lexy Keys and Lauren Fields scored 10 apiece to lead Oklahoma State (8-19, 3-15), which finished the regular season with five straight defeats.

No. 14 Iowa 83, Nebraska 66

INDIANAPOLIS • Caitlin Clark scored 41 points, becoming more efficient in the second half, and No. 14 Iowa pulled away from Nebraska for a win in the semifinals of the Big Ten Conference tournament.

The second-seeded Hawkeyes (22-7), who have won five straight, face No. 14 Indiana, the fifth seed, in Sunday's championship game.

Iowa beat the sixth-seeded Cornhuskers (24-8), who knocked off top-seeded and 10th-ranked Michigan on Friday, twice in the regular season and Clark had 31 points in each game. She had a double-double in one game, a triple-double in the other.

Isabelle Bourne scored 16 points to lead the Cornhuskers, who had won five straight.

No. 14 Indiana 70, No. 13 Ohio State 62

INDIANAPOLIS • Nicole Cardano-Hillary led a balanced attack with 16 points and grabbed 10 rebounds and Indiana moved within a game of making Big Ten Conference history with a win over Ohio State in the semifinals on Saturday.

If the fifth-seeded Hoosiers can beat

the winner of the Nebraska-Iowa game in Sunday's championship game they will become the first team to win four straight to win the tournament.

Indiana was a five-seed in 2002 when it won the title but there were fewer teams in the league and hasn't been back to the title game since. Ali Patberg scored 15 points for the Hoosiers (22-7),

Jacy Sheldon scored 22 points for top-seeded Ohio State (23-6), league co-champion with Iowa, and Taylor Mikesell and Braxtin Miller had 12 apiece.

Kentucky 83, No. 18 Tennessee 74

NASHVILLE, TENN. • Rhyne Howard scored 24 points, and the Kentucky Wildcats never trailed beating Tennessee in the Southeastern Conference women's tournament semifinals.

The seventh-seeded Wildcats (18-11) reached their first tournament championship game since 2014 and their sixth all-time.

They did it by beating Tennessee in the semifinals for the first time in three tries, and Kentucky will play topranked South Carolina, a 61-51 winner over Mississippi, on Sunday for the championship.

This game meant a bit more. The Wildcats are coached by Kyra Elzy with assistant Niya Butts and both were teammates of Lady Vols coach Kellie Harper at Tennessee playing together on Tennessee's national championships in 1997 and 1998.

Miami 57, No. 20 Notre Dame 54

GREENSBORO, N.C. • Kelsey Marshall scored 18 points and Miami pulled off its second straight upset in the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament, defeating Notre Dame to advance to the championship for the first time.

Miami (20-11), which was 0-3 in semifinals, faces third-ranked North Carolina State, the two-time defending champions, in the title game on Sunday. Miami coach Katie Meier will be going for her 400th win.

Kansas 73, No. 19 Oklahoma 67

NORMAN, OKLA. • Aniya Thomas shot 8 of 11 from the field and scored 10 of her 19 points in the fourth quarter, Taiyanna Jackson added 17 points and Kansas gave up a 13-point second-half lead before the Jayhawks used a late run to beat Oklahoma.

Jackson was 7-of-11 shooting and finished with six rebounds, three assists, four blocks and three steals for Kansas (20-8, 11-7 Big 12). Zakiyah Franklin added 12 points, seven rebounds and three steals.

NBA ROUNDUP

LeBron scores 56 points as Lakers beat Warriors

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES • LeBron James scored a season-high 56 points and the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Golden State Warriors 124-116 on Saturday night to snap a four-game losing streak.

James had his third-most points in a regular season game, finishing with at least 50 for the 13th time. He had a career-best 61 for Miami against Charlotte in 2014.

James was 19 of 31 from the field, shaking off a blow to his right elbow in the first half. Russell Westbrook added 20 points, and Carmelo Anthony had 14.

Stephen Curry had 30 for Golden State, and Jordan Poole added 23. The Warriors have lost four straight to drop to third overall in the NBA.

Mavericks 114. Kings 113

DALLAS • Dorian Finney-Smith hit a 3-pointer from the right corner with 3.3 seconds left and Dallas, playing without All-Star guard Luka Doncic, overcame a 19-point deficit for the second time this week to beat Sacramento. Doncic was listed as having a toe sprain.

Spencer Dinwiddie scored a season-high 36 points in his first start for Dallas since being acquired from Washington on Feb. 10. Jalen Brunson added 23 points and assisted on the winning basket, driving the length of the court before passing to Finney-Smith for a 114-111 lead.

Heat 99. 76ers 82

MIAMI • Tyler Herro and Jimmy Butler each scored 21 points and Miami pulled



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lakers forward LeBron James drives against Warriors forward Andrew Wiggins during the first half Saturday in Los Angeles.

away in the fourth quarter to beat Philadelphia. Gabe Vincent scored 16 points and Caleb Martin added 14 for the Heat. They are 11-2 in their last 13 games. Miami was again without Kyle Lowry, who missed his fourth consecutive game because of personal reasons.

Hornets 123, Spurs 117

CHARLOTTE, N.C. • Terry Rozier scored 31 points and Charlotte beat San Antonio, leaving Spurs coach Gregg Popovich a victory short of the tying the NBA record. San Antonio has lost four straight since beating Washington on Feb. 25 to move Popovich within one of Don Nelson's record of 1,335 regular-season victories.

Grizzlies 124, Magic 96

MEMPHIS, TENN. • Ja Morant had 25 points and seven assists, Desmond Bane scored 24 points on 10-for-15 shooting and Memphis routed Orlando. Tyus Jones added 14 points for Memphis. The Grizzlies have won three of four.

Timberwolves 135. Trail Blazers 121

MINNEAPOLIS • Karl-Anthony Towns had 36 points and 15 rebounds and

STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFI		Ē		
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	39	24	.619	_
Boston	38	27	.585	2
Toronto	34	29	.540	5
Brooklyn	32	32	.500	71/2
New York	25	38	.397	14
Southeast Divisi	on			
	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	43	22	.662	_
Atlanta	31	32	.492	11
Charlotte	32	33	.492	11
Washington	28	34	.452	131/2
Orlando	16	49	.246	27
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	39	25	.609	_
Chicago	39	25	.609	_
Cleveland	36	27	.571	21/2
Indiana	22	43	.338	171/2
Detroit	17	47	.266	22
WESTERN CONF Southwest Divis	ion W	L	Pct	GB
Memphis	44	21	.677	-
Dallas	39	25	.609	41/2
New Orleans	27	36	.429	16
San Antonio	24	40	.375	191/2
Houston	15	48	.238	28
Northwest Divis				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	39	23	.629	
Denver	37	26	.587	21/2
Minnesota	36	29	.554	41/2
Portland	25	38	.397	141/2
Oklahoma City	20	43	.317	191/2
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	51	12	.810	-
Golden State	43	21	.672	81/2
L.A. Clippers	34	31	.523	18
L.A. Lakers	28	35	.444	23
Sacramento	24	42	.364	281/2

Minnesota beat short-handed Portland for its fourth straight win.

The Timberwolves are averaging 133.3 points during the stretch and trail Denver by two games. Anfernee Simons had 38 points, including a career-high tying nine 3-pointers, for Portland.

WNBA

All-Star Brittney Griner arrested in Russia on drug charges

The Associated Press

WNBA All-Star Brittney Griner was arrested last month at a Moscow airport after Russian authorities said a search of her luggage revealed vape cartridges.

The Russian Customs Service said Saturday that the cartridges were identified as containing oil derived from cannabis, which could carry a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. The customs service identified the person arrested as a player for the U.S. women's team and did not specify the date of her arrest. Russian media reported the player was Griner, and her agent, Lindsay Kagawa Colas, did not dispute

those reports.

"We are aware of the situation with Brittney Griner in Russia and are in close contact with her, her legal representation in Russia, her family, her teams, and the WNBA and NBA," Kagawa Colas said Saturday. "As this is an ongoing legal matter, we are not able to comment further on the specifics of her case but can confirm that as we work to get her home, her mental and physical health remain our primary concern."

On Saturday, the State Department issued a "do not travel" advisory for Russia because of its invasion of Ukraine and urged all U.S. citizens to depart im-

mediately, citing factors including "the potential for harassment against U.S. citizens by Russian government security officials" and "the Embassy's limited ability to assist" Americans in Russia.

Griner, who plays for the WNBA's Phoenix Mercury, has played in Russia for the last seven years in the winter, earning over \$1 million per season more than quadruple her WNBA salary. She last played for her Russian team UMMC Ekaterinburg on Jan. 29 before the league took a two-week break in early February for the FIBA World Cup qualifying tournaments.

More than a dozen WNBA players

were playing in Russia and Ukraine this winter, including league MVP Jonquel Jones and Courtney Vandersloot and Allie Quigley of the champion Chicago Sky. The WNBA confirmed Saturday that all players besides Griner had left both countries.

The 31-year-old Griner has won two Olympic gold medals with the U.S., a WNBA championship with the Mercury and a national championship at Baylor. She is a seven-time All-Star.

"Brittney Griner has the WNBA's full support and our main priority is her swift and safe return to the United States," the league said in a statement.

MLB

CBA talks resume; Scherzer favors playoff 'ghost win'

The Associated Press

NEW YORK • Max Scherzer favors a radical reworking of the playoffs, one that would have the higher seed in the first round of an expanded postseason start a best-of-five series with a 1-0 lead.

Major League Baseball and lockedout players, who resume talks Sunday, both would expand the postseason from 10 teams — that's been the field since 2012, other than the 16 teams in the pandemic-shortened 2020 season.

The union prefers 12 and the parties appear headed toward that number, but Scherzer said players would consider 14 if clubs would agree to the "ghost win" format.

Under MLB's 14-team plan, the division winner with the best regular-season record in each league would get a bye and advance directly to the Division Series. The two other division winners would choose their opponents and be at home for an entire best-of-three round.

The division winner with the second-best record would choose its opponent from among the three lowest-seeded wild-card teams. The division winner with the third-best record would then get to pick from among the remaining two wild cards. The top wild card would face whichever team is left over after the division winners make their choices and also play all games at home.

Selections would be made on a televised show.

"We felt like competition could be eroded in that scenario, and we had specific examples of different players who spoke up that highlighted that specifically," Scherzer said after Tuesday's breakdown in labor talks.

"Continuing on from those division winners down, we didn't see the proper incentive for those other two division winners," the New York Mets pitcher added. "We didn't understand why they didn't want to take us up on a more competitive format."

The lockout was in it 94th day Saturday, four days after Commissioner Rob Manfred canceled the first two series of the regular season, which had been scheduled to start March 31.

Players are expected to respond Sunday to MLB's latest offer, the last before talks ended Tuesday.

Before talks broke down, players said they could agree to a 12-team postseason subject to an overall agreement. There remains a possibility 14 teams could return to discussions, depending on tradeoffs in the end stages of negotiations.

Under the postseason plan the union



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mets pitcher Max Scherzer, standing, talks with other players attending a news conference Tuesday in Jupiter, Fla. Major League Baseball has canceled opening day. Commissioner Rob Manfred announced Tuesday the sport will lose regular-season games over a labor dispute for the first time in 27 years after acrimonious lockout talks collapsed in the hours before management's deadline.

has discussed verbally but is undecided whether to formally propose, the higher seed would be home for all games and need two wins to advance, while the visiting team would have to win three times.

A team with the first-round bye would be off at least five days, possibly complicating starting pitcher plans, and the fans of the lower seed in the opening round would not have any home games.

Scherzer argued for the plan during a Monday meeting with Colorado CEO Dick Monfort, and MLB told the union it is not interested. MLB does not think the "ghost game" is the preference of broadcasters and thinks the concept would not be well-received by fans.

"The 14-team format MLB originally proposed offers significant advantages to division winners and provides incentives to win at every level of the bracket," MLB spokesman Glen Caplin said Saturday.

"In an effort to compromise, MLB accepted a 12-team format after the discussion of formats including a `ghost game.' MLB made clear that the `ghost game' raises serious issues and is not a viable path forward."

The "ghost win" has been used in the Korea Baseball Organization since 2015, when its playoffs expanded from four teams to five in the 10-club league.

The new best-of-three wild-card round has ended in one game in five of seven seasons, with the lower seed team forcing another game in 2016 and last year, then losing the finale both times.

"Working with the economists on the union staff, we felt like we had devised a format that you would incentivize competition throughout all the season, especially for division winners," Scherzer said

"We didn't see that that solely home-

field advantage was going to be the necessary piece to try to go out there and win your division."

Without the "ghost win" format, Scherzer said "a 12-team format made more sense to us."

Pitcher Andrew Miller, like Scherzer a member of the union's eight-man executive committee, said Scherzer's thoughts on the postseason carry weight within the union.

"A core goal of this negotiation is to increase competition, and there's no way we're leaving the table without something that does that," Miller said. "We've spent a lot of time debating the merits of various playoff formats and there's probably not a better guy to ask in the room than Max. But we're not going to do anything to sacrifice this competition of the season. Anything that points towards mediocrity, that's the antithesis of our game and what we're about as players."

RAPIDS

Rubio delivers strong performance in win over Atlanta

BY VINNY BENEDETTO The Denver Gazette

COMMERCE CITY • The goal and assist provided all the scoring the Colorado Rapids would need in a 3-0 win Saturday over Atlanta United at Dick's Sporting Goods Park, but Diego Rubio also delivered much more.

When asked what stood out about Rubio's performance in the Rapids' Major League Soccer home-opener, the involvement in two of Colorado's three goals came last.

"The first one is his diligence to his defending and his willingness to get into spots to help us win balls back. I thought it was really good. Then, I think about some of his decisions around the field, holding the ball for us, being able to — under pressure — get us off one side, get into the other side. It was a very, very mature performance from Diego," Fraser said.

"Finally, the stuff in front of goal. The header - fantastic - and the ball into Jonny (Lewis) for the assist, the second goal, was absolutely fantastic as well."

Rubio's header in the 33rd minute gave the Rapids a 1-0 advantage at halftime. Michael Barrios collected an overpowered cross on the right flank and played the ball back into the box where Rubio was in position to beat Atlanta United keeper Brad Guzan from close range.

"I believe in him. The coaching staff believes in him. He's a top striker in this league, and I've always said that,"



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rapids defender Lucas Esteves kicks the ball as Atlanta United defender Ronald Hernandez covers Saturday in Commerce City.

Lewis said. "He had a fantastic game today, and you saw what he can do."

Lewis and Danny Wilson had chances to double the lead before the end of the first half, but the Rapids settled for a one-goal lead as both teams produced five shots, one on target for each team, in the first half. Wilson was replaced by Steven Beitashour at half time after he felt something off in his hamstring, the Rapids coach said.

"Hopefully, Danny's injury is not a serious one," Fraser said. "We'll just find out more about that over the next couple of days."

Rapids goalkeeper William Yarbrough made his only save of the first half eight minutes in when he threw his right boot at Tyler Wolff's shot. Yarbrough made three more saves in the second half for his first clean sheet of the season, while the Rapids buried all three of their shots on goal.

"It started with the defensive foundation that we had today," Lewis said. "They couldn't penetrate us. "

Lewis scored his first goal of the season in the first five minutes of the second half. Rubio won the ball and played a well-weighted pass to Lewis, who converted with his first touch to double the lead.

"I don't want to say it's relief, because we all know we can score goals," Lewis said, citing the Rapids top-five finish in goals scored among Western Conference teams last season.

"It's just having that breakthrough game. For us, I think it's a big confidence boost."

Andre Shinyashiki wasted little time after Atlanta defender Miles Robinson was sent off in the 86th minute after earning his second yellow card. A minute later, Shinyashiki received a pass from Lucas Esteves, took a couple of touches and slotted his shot past Guzan.

"The decision making in the final third was one of the things we talked about last week, and I thought tonight it was really quite good for the most part." Fraser said. "When we do that well, then we create real goal-scoring opportunities."

Colorado continues its MLS schedule at home Saturday against Sporting Kansas City. A similar showing from Rubio would be more than welcomed.

"Diego's one of the experienced players on this team that we lean on for leadership," Fraser said. "I thought tonight in his play, in his work rate, in his determination, that he did a fantastic job of leading from the front."

MLS ROUNDUP

L.A. Galaxy 1, Charlotte FC 0

Charlotte, N.C.: Charlotte FC made a record-breaking home debut Saturday night, setting a Major League Soccer attendance mark of 74,479 in a 1-0 loss to the LA Galaxy.

Fans dressed in the team's light, blue colors and wearing FC Charlotte scarves celebrated the team's first game at Bank of America Stadium, the home of the NFL's Carolina Panthers since 1996.

Real Salt Lake 1, Sounders 0

Sandy, Utah: Bobby Wood scored soon after a two-hour lightning delay and Zac MacMath made it stand up with five saves as Real Salt Lake earned a 1-0 victory over the Seattle Sounders at snowy Rio Tinto Stadium.

Wood's game-winner came in the 46th minute after the weather delay halted play with two minutes left before halftime.

Minnesota United 1. Nashville SC 1

St. Paul, Minn.: Hassani Dotson scored the

equalizer for Minnesota United in a 1-1 draw with Nashville.

Dotson scored the equalizer in the 72nd minute for United (0-0-2). C.J. Sapong was the only member of Nashville (1-0-1) to score.

Chicago Fire 0, Orlando City

Chicago: Pedro Gallese had five saves to help Orlando City earn a 0-0 draw with the Chicago

The Fire came close to scoring twice. Gallese made an acrobatic save on a Stanislav Ivanov curling corner kick in the 18th minute. Kacper Przybylko just missed on a header in the 85th

D.C. United 2, Cincinnati 0

Cincinnati: Bill Hamid delivered a seven-save shutout while Ola Kamara scored a pivotal goal in D.C. United's 1-0 win over Cincinnati.

Kamara's game-winner came on a penalty kick in the ninth minute of second-half stoppage time to seal the win for United (2-0-0).

New York City FC 0, Whitecaps 0

Vancouver, British Columbia: Thomas Hasal made four saves for his third career MLS shutout in the Vancouver Whitecaps' 0-0 tie with New York City FC.

Hasal volleved Thiago Andrade's vollev over the bar in the 89th minute.

Earthquakes 3. Crew 3

San Jose, Calif.: Francisco Calvo scored the equalizer for the San Jose Earthquakes in a 3-3 draw with the Columbus Crew.

Calvo scored the equalizer in the seventh minute of second-half stoppage time for the Earthquakes (0-1-1). Calvo totaled two goals in the game. The Earthquakes also got one goal from Cristian Espinoza.

Revolution 1, FC Dallas 0

Foxborough, Mass.: Carles Gil scored a pivotal goal in New England's 1-0 win over Dallas and Revolution coach Bruce Arena became all-time wins leader in MLS.

Arena has 241 regular season wins, breaking a tie with the late Sigi Schmid. Arena, who has won five MLS Cup titles, also owns the records for wins in the regular season and playoffs combined (276) as well as most victories in the MLS Cup playoffs (35).

Sporting KC 1, Dynamo 0

Kansas City, Kan.: Remi Walter's goal and Tim Melia's two saves led Sporting Kansas City to a 1-0 win over the Houston Dynamo.

Walter's game-winner came in the 60th minute to secure the win for Sporting KC (1-1-0).

Union 2, Montreal 1

Montreal: Alejandro Bedoya and Daniel Gazdag scored in a three-minute span early in the second half to help the Philadelphia Union beat Montreal 2-1. Bedoya tied it in the 53rd minute and Gazdag gave Philadelphia (1-0-1) the lead in the 56th. Lassi Lappalainen opened the scoring for Montreal's (0-0-2) in the 32nd.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOLF ROUNDUP

Horschel, Gooch share lead on brutal day at Bay Hill

The Associated Press

ORLANDO, FLA. • No lead was safe Saturday at Bay Hill. No one ever felt comfortable until they were finished. In the toughest conditions of the year, Billy Horschel and Talor Gooch were up to the task at the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

Horschel got a good break on a day where those were hard to find, turning a tough par into an unlikely birdie on the 18th hole for a 1-under 71. That gave him a share of the lead with Gooch, who made his only bogey on the back nine at the last hole for a 72.

They still managed to find some semblance of pleasure in the test Bay Hill offered with its strong wind and greens with so little grass from being baked by the sun, making it hard to predict how putts would roll — or glide, in this case.

This is supposed to be the March run on the way to the Masters. It felt more like mid-June and a traditional U.S. Open.

"It's a grind, but I think we don't get this enough on the PGA Tour," Gooch said. "So I think that's part of why we like it when we do get it. It's nice to not have a week of a birdie fest. And you've got to be playing your best golf to have a chance. You can't fake it at all."

It was a grind, all right.

Viktor Hovland lost a four-shot lead at the turn, shot 40 on the back nine for a 75 and went from control of the tournament to one-shot behind in a matter of two hours. Rory McIlroy was making his move until a tee shot out-of-bounds on the 15th led to double bogey.

Matt Jones had enough of his putter on the 11th hole and heaved the club into a lake.

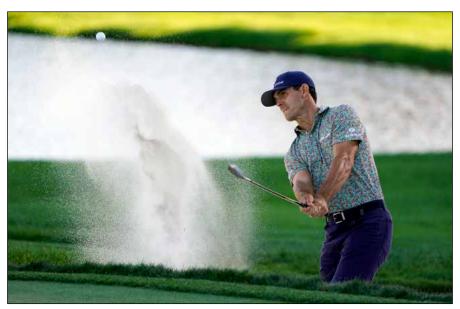
Horschel's runner from the left rough raced through the length of the 18th green and into the rough, buried. The chip was scary fast. But his foot was on a sprinkler, and the free drop allowed him to move it to the collar.

Instead of a dicey chip, he used putter for a 30-footer that trickled into the cup for one of only seven birdies on the day.

"To make that putt on 18, to shoot 1 under on a really tough day is really satisfying," he said.

Scottie Scheffler managed to make a charge. After missing three straight par putts from 6 feet or closer to cap off his front nine, Scheffler made three birdies and a 20-foot eagle for a 31 on the back for a 68, matching the low score of the day.

He started the day eight shots behind. He ended it two shots out of the lead. The final group was making the turn



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Billy Horschel hits a shot from a sand trap to the 17th green during the third round of the Arnold Palmer Invitational on Saturday in Orlando, Fla.

when Scheffler finished and he was asked if his round put him back into the tournament.

"I didn't really feel out of it at the beginning of the day," Scheffler said.

Gooch, the Oklahoman who won his first PGA Tour title in the final event of last year, made a 35-foot birdie on the tough 15th, followed with a 15-foot birdie on the next hole and was in the lead until a tee shot into ankle-deep rough on the final hole kept him from reaching the green.

Gooch and Horschel were at 7-under 209.

Hovland suffered as much as anyone. He three-putted from 10 feet on the par-3 second hole, only to recover by holing a bunker shot for eagle on the par-5 sixth with his ball on a slight downslope in the sand and not much green between his ball and the hole.

The back nine turned into a slow bleed, twice taking three putts for bogey and missing the fairway on two other holes. He shot 40 on the back nine for a 75.

Still, he was only one shot behind.

Former U.S. Open champion Gary Woodland overcame three bogeys for a round of 70 and was three shots behind, followed by the group of Chris Kirk (68), Graeme McDowell (69) and McIlroy, whose 76 could have been worse.

"I feel like I've never had as many 6-footers for bogeys as I've had today," he said.

McIlroy, the 18-hole leader, ran off back-to-back birdies early on the back nine and was making up ground until he lost a tee shot to the right on the 15th hole that bounced into a back-yard. That led to double bogey, and he bogeyed the last two holes to fall back.

"It's so tough out there. It's so tricky. It's just on knife's edge," McIlroy said. "You're literally talking like feet -2 feet here, 2 feet there from 200 yards can make a huge difference in where the ball ends up."

Cameron Beckman eagles 18th for 64 and Hoag Classic lead

NEWPORT BEACH, CALIF. • Cameron Beckman eagled the par-5 18th for a 7-under 64 and the first-round lead Friday in the PGA Tour Champions' Hoag Classic.

Beckman also had six birdies and bogey in cool, breezy conditions at Newport Beach Country Club.

"It was nice," Beckman said. "I got off to such a good start, birdied the first three. This golf course, you've got to be so patient on it, so I was able to kind of just be super patient and I made a couple of nice long putts, and eagle on the last hole was great."

The 52-year-old Beckman won the 2021 Dick's Sporting Goods Open for his lone senior title after winning three times on the PGA Tour.

Bernhard Langer missed shooting his age by a stroke, matching Stephen Dodd with a 65.

South Korean golfers lead after three rounds at LPGA Singapore

SINGAPORE • In Gee Chun shot a

6-under 66 Saturday to lead a trio of South Korean golfers at the top of the leaderboard after three rounds of the LPGA Tour's HSBC Women's World Championship.

Chun had a 54-hole total of 12-under 204 on the Sentosa Golf Club's Tanjong course. She had a one-stroke lead over Jeongeun Lee6 (65) and No. 1-ranked Jin Young Ko, who shot 69.

American Danielle Kang (68), Atthaya Thitikul of Thailand (70) and another South Korean player, Amy Yang (71), were tied for fourth. Canadian Brooke Henderson was seventh after a 71, four strokes behind In.

Australian Hannah Green also shot 71 and was tied for eighth, five strokes from the lead.

Chun hasn't won on the LPGA Tour in more than three years.

"I tried to make good focus on the putting green because I have spasm in my neck, so I didn't try to hit hard," said Chun, who tweaked a muscle in her neck during Thursday's first round and contemplated withdrawing.

"I think it went really well on the putting green, and then I could really bring the greens really well. That's how I made a good score today."

Chun's last win was at the 2018 LPGA KEB Hana Bank Championship in her home country.

Her first two career victories were major titles at the 2015 U.S. Women's Open and the 2016 Evian Championship.

Trying to keep PGA Tour status, Brehm leads Puerto Rico Open

RIO GRANDE, PUERTO RICO • Fighting to keep PGA Tour status, Ryan Brehm shot a 4-under 68 in rainy conditions Saturday to open a three-stroke lead in the Puerto Rico Open.

Brehm, with wife Chelsey at his side as his caddie, is making his final start on a minor medical extension and needs to win or finish second alone to retain status. He had a 15-under 201 total at Grand Reserve.

The 35-year-old Brehm is winless on the PGA Tour. He's ranked 773rd in the world

Michael Kim was second after a 70. Since winning the John Deere Classic in 2018, Kim has made only 16 cuts in 76 starts on the PGA Tour, including one stretch of 25 consecutive events without making it to the weekend. He was No. 75 in the world when he won and now No. 1,030.

Chad Ramey (68), Andrew Novak (69), Tommy Gainey (69) and Max Mc-Greevy (71) were 11 under.

AUTO RACING • NASCAR CUP SERIES

Hendrick squashes potential Larson-Elliott feud

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS • Rick Hendrick spoke and his drivers heard the boss loud and clear.

Hendrick intervened on a competition matter for the first time since Kyle Larson joined the team when he squashed any potential beef between his stars following their run-in last week in California.

Larson, the reigning Cup champion, caused Chase Elliott, NASCAR's most popular driver, to wreck last week as the two raced for the win. Larson did not see his teammate on his outside and his spotter missed Elliott, too, which led Larson to inadvertently run Elliott into the wall.

Elliott was furious and launched an expletive-filled tirade, while Larson was immediately apologetic.

Hendrick moved fast to ensure the first drama of the season didn't play out inside his very own building. The owner joined the weekly Hendrick Motorsports competition meeting and made clear his expectations to Elliott, Larson, Alex Bowman and William Byron.

"That's the only meeting since I've been there that Rick's been a part of in that sense," said Larson, who was hired in late 2020. "He's been to competition meetings and stuff like that. And we've had multiple meetings about different things. But as far as the racing and stuff, that's the first one I can remember him getting involved in.

"I think we all know his expectations and after the incident last week, it was good for him to get involved again and



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kyle Larson, left, and Chase Elliott answer questions after a practice session at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum on Feb. 5 in Los Angeles.

tell us what the expectations are."

Larson didn't get to actually speak to Elliott individually until Saturday at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, where Larson is the defending race winner and looking to start another streak. He was the fourth driver in NASCAR history to win three or more consecutive races multiple times last season as he dethroned new teammate Elliott as champion.

Although they are teammates, Larson and Elliott do not know each other well. Hendrick Motorsports has operated mostly under pandemic restrictions since Larson joined the team and its

presented few face-to-face interactions between the drivers.

Larson said of the Hendrick meeting "from my spot, it's always going to be awkward" but found Elliott to be professional on Saturday.

"We got to go over what happened from each of our vantage points. It was good to have a conversation and good to hopefully move along from it," Larson said. "It went well, honestly better than I anticipated. He's a great teammate and I'm going to do my part to be a great teammate each and every week.

"Hopefully we never have any incidents happen again like what hap-

pened last week."

Larson is listed as the favorite — 7-2 by FanDuel — for the third consecutive week and starts second alongside pole-sitter Christopher Bell on Sunday.

Bell to the front

Bell won the first pole of his career in his 75th Cup start, but one of his few true chances to master a qualifying session.

NASCAR set the field by points for much of the last two years because practice and qualifying had been scrapped in pandemic restrictions. The return this year of one short practice session and a shootout-style of qualifying helped Bell finally get to the front.

He turned a lap at 182.673 mph in his Toyota to put the Joe Gibbs entry on the pole. Larson was second, but the parity of the new Next Gen car showed behind the front row.

Daytona 500 winner Austin Cindric qualified third in a Ford for Team Penske. Cindric is the first rookie in NA-SCAR history to lead the Cup points standings for more than one race.

Chase Briscoe continued his strong start to his second season by qualifying fourth in a Ford for Stewart-Haas Racing. Briscoe opened the season with a third-place finish at Daytona and led 20 laps last week in California. He's currently fifth in the standings.

Richard Childress Racing also continued to show a strong turnaround: Tyler Reddick was seventh and Austin Dillon 10th. Reddick dominated last week at California until he was caught in a crash and Dillon finished second.

Gibbs recovers from early spat to win Xfinity race in Las Vegas

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS • Ty Gibbs recovered from a nasty first-stage spat and a failed attempt at retaliation to win the Xfinity Series race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Gibbs took the lead for the first time Saturday on a restart with six laps remaining in another sloppy showing for NASCAR's second-tier series. Gibbs got a push ahead of Las Vegas native Noah Gragson and then pulled away in clean air.

His Toyota had a comfortable lead when the 12th caution froze the field and gave Gibbs, the grandson of team owner Joe Gibbs, his first win of the year.

Gibbs climbed from his car and imme-

diately issued an apology to Ryan Sieg, who had feuded with Gibbs throughout the first stage.

Gibbs had made contact with Sieg to trigger the feud that only ended when Sieg wrecked himself trying to retaliate against Gibbs. The two had already spoken about the initial contact — the race was briefly stopped, for snow flurries, in the desert! — and Sieg said the issue wasn't over. Sieg acknowledged that Gibbs is driving the best car in NA-SCAR's second-tier series, and said the 19-year-old needed to be taught a lesson.

But when Sieg attempted to run Gibbs up the track when the race resumed, he lost control of his own car and destroyed it in his own crash.

"Wow, that was just really smart there," Gibbs said over his radio as Sieg limped his car into the garage.

After collecting the checkered flag, Gibbs was no longer poking his rival.

"I want to apologize to (Sieg) for the silly contact I made," Gibbs said. "It wasn't my best decision and I am sorry to that whole group, Ryan's family, they work so hard, so I want to apologize to them."

Gragson finished second for a second consecutive week. He's not finished lower than third through three races and had a comfortable lead on his home track until a crash with 12 laps remaining exposed him to another restart.

Gibbs thanked Justin Allgaier — Gragson's teammate at JR Motorsports — for a push on the restart that got him the lead. Gragson, who led five times for 52 laps, seemed shocked.

"Just kind of got beat at our own game there," Gragson said. "Restarts, just, you know came up short."

Daniel Hemric finished third for Kaulig Racing and Chevrolet drivers took eight of the top-10 spots.

The race ran just three minutes short of three hours, not including the stoppage for snow. Last week's race at California ran 3:05:05 and had a race-record 12 cautions.

OLYMPIC SPORTS ROUNDUP

'I just enjoyed skiing': Shiffrin finishes 2nd in super-G

The Associated Press

LENZERHEIDE, SWITZERLAND • After a stressful and surprisingly tough Beijing Olympics, Mikaela Shiffrin is happy just to enjoy her skiing again.

That approach paid off Saturday as Shiffrin took a clear lead in the World Cup overall standings by placing second in a tricky super-G won by the unheralded Romane Miradoli.

It was an impressive return to form on a steep, twisting course for the American star in her first race after poor results at the Winter Olympics, taking home no medals from six events.

"After the last couple of weeks I really appreciate this," said Shiffrin, who was congratulated course-side by tennis great Roger Federer, who has a home close to the Lenzerheide course.

Shiffrin and Petra Vlhova, the defending overall champion, started the race tied on points after 29 World Cup events this season and eight left this month.

Vlhova finished 18th, a massive 3.31 seconds back, skiing immediately before Shiffrin, who took advantage with a clean run to be just 0.38 behind the French leader.

Vlhova dropped 67 points in the overall standings behind Shiffrin, who is a three-time overall champion. Their duel will resume Sunday in a giant slalom.

"This is really great today, that's a positive thing of course, but I don't want to get ahead of myself," Shiffrin cautioned. "I finally just enjoyed skiing for a day"

"I think I've been actually pretty awful to be around with my team," she said. "The last weeks, not because of the Olympics but of course that's a big part of it, it's just been heavy. Everything felt really, really heavy on my mind and on mv heart."

Paris wins race as Kilde extends lead in downhill standings

KVITFJELL, NORWAY • Dominik Paris dominated the penultimate men's World Cup downhill of the season Saturday to keep his slim chance alive of winning the discipline title.

The Italian skier mastered the Olympiabakken course to beat home crowd favorite Alexander Aamodt Kilde by 0.55 seconds.

The result left four racers in with a shot at the crystal globe at the season-ending race in France on March 16: Paris and Kilde, as well as Switzerland's Beat Feuz and Austria's Matthias Mayer.

Paris, who was also the fastest in Thursday's final training, became the first skier to win the downhill in Kvitfjell more than twice, following his earlier victories in 2016 and 2019.

"I didn't know that, it's nice. But I'm just super happy that I was skiing fast today, really fast," he said.

Kilde missed out on a fourth downhill win this season, but was happy to settle for second.

"Dominik Paris was knocking out everybody today," the Norwegian said.

ON THE AIR SUNDAY

AHL HOCKEY

2 p.m. NHLN - Iowa at Chicago **AUTO RACING**

11:30 a.m. CNBC - MotoGP: The Grand Prix of Qatar, Losail International Circuit, Doha, Qatar (Taped)

1:30 p.m. FOX - NASCAR Cup Series: The Pennzoil 400, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas 8 p.m. CBSSN — GT America: The Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, Fla. (Taped) 10:30 p.m. CBSSN - FIM: The MX2, Mantova, Italy (Taped)

11:30 p.m. CBSSN - FIM: The MXGP, Mantova, Italy (Taped)
BOWLING

10 a.m. FS1 - WSOB PBA: The Roth/Holman Doubles Championship, Wauwatosa, Wis.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

10 a.m. ACCN — Florida at Miami 1 p.m. ACCN — South Carolina at Clemson

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)

10 a.m. BTN - Penn St. at Rutgers CBS — Houston at Memphis

ESPN2 — Big South Tournament: TBD, Championship, Charlotte, N.C. 10:30 a.m. FOX - Michigan at Ohio St.

12 p.m. BTN - Nebraska at Wisconsin CBS - Missouri Valley Tournament: TBD, Cham-

pionship, St. Louis CBSSN — Patriot League Tournament: TBD, Semifinal

ESPNU — UCF at Tulsa 2 p.m. CBSSN — Patriot League Tournament: TBD, Semifinal

ESPNU - Southern Tournament: TBD, Semifinal, Asheville, N.C.

2:30 p.m. CBS — Maryland at Michigan St. 4:30 p.m. ESPNU — Southern Tournament: TBD. Semifinal, Asheville, N.C.

5:30 p.m. BTN - Minnesota at Northwestern FS1 – Iowa at Illinois

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (WOMEN'S)

10 a.m. ESPN - Atlantic Coast Tournament: TBD. Championship, Greensboro, N.C.

12 p.m. ESPN - Southeastern Tournament: TBD,

Championship, Nashville, Tenn. ESPN2 — Atlantic 10: TBD, Championship, Wilmington, Del.

1 p.m. FS1 — Big East Tournament: TBD, Semifi-nal, Uncasville, Conn. 2 p.m. ESPN2 — Big Ten Tournament: TBD, Cham-

pionship, Indianapolis 3:30 p.m. FS1 — Big East Tournament: TBD, Semi-

final, Uncasville, Conn.

THREE GAMES OUT

MARCH

COLORADO MEN'S BASKETBALL



DENVER HOCKEY



Friday: TBD (NCHC Quarterfinals), TBD, NCHC.tv

AIR FORCE HOCKEY



Friday: at Army, 5:05 p.m., 1300 AM (AHA Quarter Saturday: at Army, 5:05 p.m., 1300 AM (AHA

4 p.m. ESPN2 - Pac-12 Tournament: TBD, Cham-

pionship, Las Vegas 6:30 p.m. ESPNU — Big South Tournament: TBD, Charlotte, N.C.

COLLEGE GYMNASTICS (WOMEN'S)

1 p.m. PAC-12N - California at UCLA **COLLEGE HOCKEY (MEN'S)**

5 p.m. FS2 — Big Ten Tournament: Michigan St. at Michigan, Quarterfinal Game 3 (If Necessary) **COLLEGE HOCKEY (WOMEN'S)**

7 p.m. ESPNEWS - NCAA Ice Hockey Selection

COLLEGE LACROSSE (MEN'S)

4 p.m. CBSSN - Utah at Jacksonville COLLEGE LACROSSE (WOMEN'S)

10 a.m. ESPNU — Northwestern at North Carolina **COLLEGE WRESTLING**

2:30 p.m. BTN — Big Ten Tournament: Championship, Lincoln, Neb.

5 p.m. ACCN — Atlantic Coast Tournament:

Championship, Charlottesville, N.C. 6 p.m. ESPN2 — Big 12 Tournament: Championship, Tulsa, Okla.

7 p.m. PAC-12N - Pac-12 Tournament: Championship, Tempe, Ariz.

2:30 a.m. GOLF - DP World Tour: The Kenya Open,

COLORADO AVALANCHE



Tuesday: at Devils, 5 p.m., ALT

CSU MEN'S BASKETBALL



Thursday: vs. TBD (Mountain West Tournament)

MORE COLLEGE SCHEDULES

Click on the links below to view schedules: DU: denverpioneers.com/calendar; CU: cubuffs.com/ calendar; CSU: csurams.com/calendar

Final Round, Muthaiga Golf Club, Nairobi, Kenya 10:30 a.m. GOLF — PGA Tour: The Arnold Palmer Invitational, Final Round, Bay Hill Golf Course, Orlando, Fla.

12:30 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour: The Puerto Rico Open, Final Round, Grand Reserve Country Club (Old), Rio Grande, Puerto Rico

NBC — PGA Tour: The Arnold Palmer Invitational, Final Round, Bay Hill Golf Course, Orlando, Fla. 2:30 p.m. GOLF - PGA Tour Champions: The Hoag Classic, Final Round, Newport Beach Country Club, Newport Beach, Calif.

NBA BASKETBALL

11 a.m. ABC - Brooklyn at Boston 1:30 p.m. ABC - Phoenix at Milwaukee 5:45 p.m. ESPN - Toronto at Cleveland 6 p.m. ALT — New Orleans at Denver 8:05 p.m. ESPN — New York at LA Clippers **NBA G LEAGUE BASKETBALL**

1 p.m. NBATV - Grand Rapids at Lakeland NFL FOOTBALL

12 p.m. NFLN — NFL Scouting Combine: Defensive Backs, Indianapolis

NHL HOCKEY

2 p.m. TNT — Dallas at Minnesota 5 p.m. NHLN — Tampa Bay at Chicago PARALYMPICS



Sunday: vs. Pelicans, 6 p.m., ALT, 92,5 FM Monday: vs. Warriors, 7 p.m., ALT, NBA TV, 92.5 FM Wednesday: at Kings, 8 p.m., ALT, 92.5 FM

AIR FORCE MEN'S BASKETBALL



Wednesday: vs. TBD (Mountain West Tournament). 2:30 p.m., Mountain West Network, 1300 AM

AIR FORCE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Monday: vs. University of Nevada (Mountain West

10 a.m. NBC - Daytime: Paralympics Coverage

7 p.m. USA — Men's Para Cross-Country Skiing (20km Race) (Taped)

9:30 p.m. USA — Women's Para Cross-Country Skiing (15km Vision Impaired) (Taped) 10:35 p.m. USA - Para Snowboarding (Snowboard Cross Finals) (Taped)

11:30 p.m. USA — Women's Para Cross-Country

Skiing (15km Standing) (Taped)

6 p.m. CBSSN — PBR: The Global Cup, Championship Round, Arlington, Texas (Taped)

SOCCER (MEN'S)

5 a.m. CBSSN — SPFL: Celtic FC at Livingston 7 a.m. USA — Premier League: Arsenal at Watford 9:30 a.m. USA - Premier League: Manchester United at Manchester City

10 a.m. CBSSN — Serie A: Spezia at Juventus 2 p.m. ESPN — MLS: Inter Miami CF at Austin FC 8 p.m. FS1 — MLS: Portland at LA FC FS2 — Liga MX: Atletico San Luis at Tijuana

SOCCER (WOMEN'S)

5 a.m. CNBC - FASL: Birmingham City at Arsenal

7 a.m. TENNIS — Lyon-WTA Final 3:30 p.m. TENNIS — Monterrey-WTA Final

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

MEN"S COLLEGE

Bryant 70, Mount St. Mary's 69 Canisius 67, Siena 64 Cornell 78, Columbia 64 Dartmouth 76, Harvard 54 Fordham 70, George Washington 66 lona 79, Quinnipiac 61 La Salle 85, Duquesne 76 Miami 75, Syracuse 72 Niagara 83, Marist 52 Princeton 93, Penn 70 Rider 74, Monmouth (NJ) 65 Saint Joseph's 70, Rhode Island 60 St. Peter's 57, Fairfield 41 UConn 75, DePaul 68 Wagner 82, LIU 62 West Virginia 70, TCU 64 Yale 74. Brown 65

Alabama St. 78, Grambling St. 75 Alcorn St. 100, Ark,-Pine Bluff 77 Appalachian St. 73, Georgia Southern 60 Auburn 82, South Carolina 71 Bellarmine 53, Liberty 50 Charlotte 70, Southern Miss. 67 Chattanooga 71, The Citadel 66 Clemson 63, Virginia Tech 59 FAU 84, FIU 76 Florida A&M 84. Bethune-Cookman 73 Florida St. 89, NC State 76 Furman 80, Mercer 66 Georgia St. 65, Arkansas St. 62 Georgia Tech 82, Boston College 78, OT Jackson St. 76, MVSU 69 Jacksonville 54, Jacksonville St. 51 Kentucky 71, Florida 63 LSU 80, Alabama 77, OT

LSU 80, Alabama 77, OT Longwood 79, SC-Upstate 70 Nicholls 92, New Orleans 85 North Carolina 94, Duke 81 Northeastern 68, William & Mary 63, OT Old Dominion 68, Middle Tennessee 64 SE Louisiana 85, Northwestern St. 80 Samford 66, UNC-Greensboro 64 Southern U. 50, Alabama A&M 49 Tennessee 78, Arkansas 74 Troy 69, UALR 62 UAB 87, Louisiana Tech 74 UMass 83, George Mason 80, OT Vanderbilt 63, Mississippi 61 Virginia 71, Louisville 61 W. Kentucky 78, Marshall 69 Winthrop 76, Gardner-Webb 67 Wofford 68, VMI 66

MIDWEST

Dayton 82, Davidson 76 Drake 79, Missouri St. 78, OT Kansas 70, Texas 63, OT Loyola Chicago 66, N. Iowa 43 Marquette 85, St. John's 77 Missouri 79, Georgia 69 Murray St. 71, Morehead St. 67 N. Dakota St. 82, Denver 62 Notre Dame 78, Pittsburgh 54 Oklahoma 78, Kansas St. 71 Purdue 69, Indiana 67 S. Dakota St. 87, Omaha 79 Saint Louis 69, VCU 65 Seton Hall 65, Creighton 60 Villanova 78, Butler 59 Wichita St. 70, East Carolina 62

Wichita St. 70, East Carolina 62
Xavier 97, Georgetown 75
SOUTHWEST
Abilene Christian 61, Tarleton St. 56
Baylor 75, Iowa St. 68
Cal Baptist 78, Lamar 66
Houston Baptist 149, McNeese St. 144, 40T
Louisiana-Lafayette 79, Texas St. 72
Oklahoma St. 52, Texas Tech 51
Texas A&M 67, Mississippi St. 64
Texas A&M-CC 77, Incarnate Word 68
Texas Southern 78, Prairie View 77 Texas Southern 78, Prairie View 77 UTEP 70, North Texas 68 UTSA 82, Rice 71

FAR WEST
Arizona 89, California 61
Arizona 85, California 61
Arizona St. 65, Stanford 56
Cal St.-Fullerton 62, UC Davis 59
Colorado 84, Utah 71 Colorado 84, Utah 71
Colorado St. 71, Boise St. 68
E. Washington 83, Portland St. 75
Grand Canyon 70, Dixie St. 53
Idaho 78, N. Arizona 69
Long Beach St. 73, UC Riverside 72, OT
Montana St. 87, N. Colorado 85
New Mexico St. 62, Utah Valley St. 46
S. Litah 80, Weber St. 76 S. Utah 80, Weber St. 70 Sacramento St. 72, Montana 69 Seattle 74, Chicago St. 66 Stephen F. Austin 93, Texas Rio Grande Valley 63 UC Irvine 66, CS Bakersfield 61 Washington 78, Oregon St. 67 Washington St. 94, Oregon 74 Wyoming 68, Fresno St. 64, OT **WOMEN'S COLLEGE**

EAST

Albany (NY) 49, New Hampshire 44 Buffalo 81, Bowling Green 62 Canisius 71, Iona 62

Fairfield 56, St. Peter's 43 lowa St. 74, West Virginia 57 Lafayette 58, Loyola (Md.) 49 Maine 63, Hartford 49 Manhattan 68, Marist 60, OT Marshall 58, W. Kentucky 51 NJIT 47, Mass.-Lowell 33 Navy 60, Colgate 55 Quinnipiac 71, Rider 49 Sacred Heart 62, CCSU 58 Siena 69, Monmouth (NJ) 65 Towson 69, Drexel 61 UConn 84, Georgetown 38 UMass 76, Saint Joseph's 58 Vermont 71, Binghamton 63 Villanova 76, St. John's 52 Yale 64, Brown 49 Alahama A&M 73. Southern U. 67. 20T Ark.-Pine Bluff 64, Alcorn St. 41
Belmont 51, Tennessee Tech 29
Bethune-Cookman 82, Florida A&M 40 Campbell 51, Gardner-Webb 50 Charlotte 70, Southern Miss. 49 Coll. of Charleston 73, Northeastern 64 Elon 49, William & Mary 45 FIU 72. FAU 56 Grambling St. 64, Alabama St. 56 Hofstra 67, UNC-Wilmington 52 Jackson St. 118, MVSU 57 James Madison 78, Delaware 62 Kentucky 83, Tennessee 74 Longwood 81, UNC-Asheville 56 Louisiana Tech 82, UAB 56 Miami 57, Notre Dame 54
Middle Tennessee 62, Old Dominion 44
NC State 70, Virginia Tech 55 New Orleans 72, Nicholls 67 Northwestern St. 56. SE Louisiana 51 South Carolina 61, Mississippi 51 MIDWEST Akron 73, Miami (Ohio) 72 Ball St. 92, E. Michigan 58 Dayton 59, VCU 48 Drake 86. Indiana St. 71 Illinois St. 62, Bradley 53 Indiana 70, Ohio St. 62 Iowa 83, Nebraska 66 Kent St. 59, Ohio 50 Loyola Chicago 60, Missouri St. 42 Marquette 105, DePaul 85 N. Illinois 69, Cent. Michigan 49 N. Iowa 83, Evansville 56 S. Dakota St. 86, Denver 59 Seattle 57, Chicago St. 54 Seton Hall 66, Creighton 65 South Dakota 75, W. Illinois 49 Toledo 74, W. Michigan 61 Valparaiso 67, S. Illinois 54 SOUTHWEST Abilene Christian 80, Tarleton St. 60 Houston Baptist 68, McNeese St. 61 Kansas 73, Oklahoma 67 Kansas St. 61, TCU 50 North Texas 56, UTEP 47 Prairie View 61, Texas Southern 56 Rice 86, UTSA 48 Texas 65, Oklahoma St. 50 Texas 65, Okialionia 51, 50 Texas A&M-CC 60, Incarnate Word 55 Texas Rio Grande Valley 76, Stephen F. Austin 74 FAR WEST
Cal Baptist 101, Lamar 76
Grand Canyon 65, Dixie St. 59
Portland 69, Loyola Marymount 44
San Francisco 72, Santa Clara 63
UC Davis 70, Cal St.-Fullerton 42
UC Irvine 67, CS Bakersfield 52
UC Riverside 66, Long Beach St. 61
UC San Diego 90, Cal Poly 48
Utah Valley St. 60, New Mexico St. 51 FAR WEST ARNOLD PALMER INVITATIONAL SATURDAY AT BAY HILL CLUB Orlando, Fla. Purse: \$12 million Yardage: 7.466: Par: 72 THIRD ROUND
Talor Gooch 69-68-72—209-7 Billy Horschel 67-71-71—209 V. Hovland 69-66-75—210-6 S. Scheffler 70-73-68—211-5 -7

S. Scheffler 70-73-68-211-5
G. Woodland 70-72-70-212-4
Chris Kirk 69-76-68-213-3
G. McDowell 68-76-69-213-3
Rory McIlroy 65-72-76-213-3
C. Conners 72-73-69-214-2
Ma. Fitzpatrick 73-71-70-214
Tyrrell Hatton 69-68-78-215-1
C. Howell III 68-77-70-215-1
Nick Watney 74-72-69-215-1
Vill Zalatoris 68-77-70-215-1
C. Bezuidenhout 73-74-69-216-1

C. Bezuidenhout 73-74-69-216 E

C. Bezuldelmout 73-74-69-21 K. Bradley 71-75-70-216E Sam Burns 72-69-75-216E Tom Hoge 78-69-69-216E Max Homa 69-74-73-216E

Beau Hossler 67-74-75—216 F

Martin Laird 72-69-75-216 E

Ion Rahm 72-70-74-216 E Aaron Wise 69-73-74—216 E T. Fleetwood 74-73-70—217+1 Patton Kizzire 69-72-76-217 +1 Troy Merritt 71-72-74-217+1
S. Munoz 72-74-71-217+1
T. Pendrith 71-72-74-217+1 67-75-75—217 +1 70-71-76—217 +1 71-70-77—218 +2 J.J. Spaun 73-71-74-218+2 L. Herbert S. Jaeger Si Woo Kim 70-73-75-218+2 Si Woo Kim 69-76-73 – 218 + 2 Jason Kokrak 73-74-71 – 218 + 2 Taylor Moore 71-75-72-218+2
Taylor Moore 71-75-72-218+2
Ian Poulter 68-75-75-218+2
Adam Scott 68-76-74-218+2
C. Champ 70-75-74-219+3 Adam Scott 68-76-74-218+2 C. Champ 70-75-74-219+3 Rickie Fowler 70-73-76-219+3 Lanto Griffin 70-73-76-219+3 Adam Long 69-78-72-219+3 T. Pieters 74-73-72-219+3 Nick Taylor 70-77-72-219+3 Brendon Todd 73-72-74-219+3 Wiren Whigher 72-75-219-3 Brendon Todd 73-72-74—219 +3
Vince Whaley 72-75-72—219 +3
Danny Willett 73-71-75—219 +3
Sergio Garcia 75-70-75—220 +4
David Lipsky 71-71-78—220 +4
Adam Schenk 70-74-76—220 +4
B. Steele 70-73-77—220 +4
L, Westwood 70-74-76—220 +4
Matt Jones 70-75-76—221 +5
M. Leishman 70-73-78—221 +5
P. Rodgers 72-75-74—221 +5
P. Rodgers 72-75-74—221 +5
Alex Smalley 73-71-77—221 +5
Dylan Frittelli 70-76-76—222 +6 Dylan Frittelli 70-76-76—222 +6 P. Harrington 73-74-75—222 +6 Zach Johnson 72-75-75—222 +6 Zacri Jollison 72-73-73-76-222 +6
A. Lahiri 73-73-76-222 +6
Pat Perez 71-75-76-222 +6
Sam Ryder 73-72-77-222 +6
M. Wolff 72-73-77-222 +6 Lucas Glover 74-72-77-223+7 M. McNealy 73-74-76-223+7 Danny Lee 73-74-77-224+8 Danny Lee 73-74-77-224+8 Keith Mitchell72-74-78-224+8 Keith Mitchell 12-14-18-224+8
Chez Reavie 72-75-77-224+8
Greyson Sigg 71-75-79-225+9
H. Buckley 69-73-84-226+10
Rory Sabbatini 77-6:
PGA HOAG CLASSIC 77-69-WD

SATURDAY AT NEWPORT BEACH CC Newport Beach, Calif. Purse: \$2 million Vardage: 6.612: Par: 71

SECOND ROUNDErnie Els 66-68-134
C. Beckman 64-71-135 Retief Goosen68-67—135 Lee Janzen 69-66—135 K.J. Choi 69-67-136 David Toms 67-69-136 68-69-137 Darren Clarke66-72—138 B. Langer 65-73—138
Doug Barron 70-69—139
Alex Cejka 69-70—139
S. Dodd 65-74—139
Rob Labritz 70-69—139

Tom Lehman 68-71-139 Jeff Maggert 66-73-139 R. Mediate 67-72-139 Rod Pampling 69-70-139 Tim Petrovic 71-68—139 M. Dawson 68-72—140 Tom Gillis 68-72—140 M. A. Jimenez 73-67-140

M. K. Jilliet 73-67 - 140 Jerry Kelly 68-72 - 140 C. Montgomerie 69-71 - 140 S. Verplank 69-71 - 140 Woody Austin71-70-141 Scott Dunlap 72-69-141 Brandt Jobe 71-70-141 Corey Pavin 70-71-141

Corey Pavin 70-71-141
Tom Pernice 69-72-141
Brett Quigley 68-73-141
Jeff Sluman 72-69-141
Kevin Baker 72-70-142
P. Broadhurst 68-74-142
Jim Furyk 69-73-142 Jim Furyk Tim Herron Scott Parel Dicky Pride 71-71-142 67-75-142 71-71-142 Gene Sauers 72-70-142 Wes Short 69-73-142 Kirk Triplett 75-67-142 Mike Weir 69-73-142 Vijay Singh 70-73-143 K. Sutherland 70-73-143 Tommy Tolles 71-72-143

Steven Alker 70-74-144 Billy Andrade 68-76-144

S. Appleby 69-75—144 Ken Duke 72-72—144

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Steve Flesch 71-73-144 T. Jaidee 72-72-144 Ken Tanigawa72-72-144 R. Rowland 71-74–145 Michael Allen 72-74–146 S. Bertsch 71-75–146 Bob Estes 71-75-146 lay Haas 71-75-146 D. Branshaw 68-79—147 John Daly 73-74—147 Glen Dav 72-75-147 Joe Durant 73-74—147 Paul Goydos 72-75—147 S. Leaney 71-76—147 S. Leaney 71-76-147 Billy Mayfair 72-75-147 Fred Funk 73-75—148 Jeff Hart 73-75—148 Duffy Waldorf76-72—148 Durid Duvid Duvid Duvid Duvid Duvid Duvid 73-76-149
S. McCarron 72-77-149
C. DiMarco 72-78-150
D. McKenzie 79-71-150
P. Stankowski 74-77-151 M. Calcavecchia 76-79-155 Sandy Lyle 79-76—155 Rick Garboski 76-80—156

HOCKEY

IDINCS

NCHC STANDINGS										
							OVERALL			
	W	L	Т	SW	Pts	GF	GΑ	W	L	Т
North Dakota	16	5	1	0	51	72	50	21	11	1
Denver	16	6	0	0	47	88	53	23	8	1
W. Michigan	12	9	1	0	37	76	65	20	10	1
Minn. Duluth	9	9	4	0	33	58	52	16	14	4
St. Cloud St.	9	9	4	0	32	80	66	17	11	4
Omaha	10	12	0	0	28	57	68	20	14	0
Colo. College	6	15	1	0	18	46	77	9	20	3
Miami (Ohio)	4	17	1	0	16	51	97	7	23	2

NASCAR

CUP SERIES LINEUP AT LAS VEGAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

AT LAS VEGAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY
LAS VEGAS.
Lap length: 1.50 miles
(Car number in parentheses)
1. (20) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 182.673 mph.
2. (5) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 182.014.
3. (2) Austin Cindric, Ford, 181.794.
4. (14) Chase Briscoe, Ford, 181.733.
5. (9) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 181.720.

(9) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 181.720.
 (22) Joey Logano, Ford, 181.348.
 (8) Tyler Reddick, Chevrolet, 181.202.
 (11) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 181.196.
 (47) Ricky Stenhouse Ir, Chevrolet, 179.760.
 (1) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 179.724.
 (12) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 180.947.
 (12) (19) Martin Truex Jr, Toyota, 180.699.
 (48) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 180.252.
 (474) William Burgn, Chaycolet 180.024.

13. (43) William Byron, Chevrolet, 180.222. 14. (24) William Byron, Chevrolet, 180.024. 15. (6) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 179.814. 16. (16) Daniel Hemric, Chevrolet, 179.402. 17. (23) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 179.122. 18. (1) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 179.051. 19. (21) Harrison Burton, Ford, 178.832. 20. (10) Aric Almirola, Ford, 178.725.

20. (10) Aric Almirola, Ford, 178.725.
21. (99) Daniel Suárez, Chevrolet, 178.696.
22. (34) Michael McDowell, Ford, 178.619.
23. (43) Erik Jones, Chevrolet, 178.518.
24. (41) Cole Custer, Ford, 177.883.
25. (4) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 177.819.
26. (44) Greg Biffle, Chevrolet, 177.241.
27. (17) Chris Buescher, Ford, 176.887.
28. (31) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 176.309.
30. (38) Todd Gilliland, Ford, 175.96.
31. (45) Kurt Busch, Toyota, 175.821.
32. (42) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 175.456.

33. (51) Cody Ware, Ford, 173.105. 34. (77) Josh Bilicki, Chevrolet, 171.964. 35. (78) BJ McLeod, Ford, 168.718. 36. (15) Garrett Smithley, Ford, 166.600.

37. (18) Kyle Busch, Toyota, .000. XFINITY SERIES RESULTS AT LAS VEGAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

Las Vegas. Lap length: 1.50 miles 1. (11) Ty Gibbs, Toyota, 200 laps, 56 points. 2. (4) Noah Gragson, Chevrolet, 200, 55. 3. (6) Daniel Hemric, Chevrolet, 200, 42. 5. (0) Daniel Hall, Chevrolet, 200, 45. 4. (2) Josh Berry, Chevrolet, 200, 45. 5. (16) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 200, 33. 6. (5) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 200, 31. 7. (8) Sheldon Creed, Chevrolet, 200, 30. 8. (13) Brett Moffitt, Chevrolet, 200, 39. 9. (1) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 200, 33. 10. (21) Brandon Jones, Toyota, 200, 35. (21) Brandon Jones, 10yota, 200, 35.
 (12) Jeremy Clements, Chevrolet, 200, 26.
 (10) John H. Nemechek, Toyota, 200, 0.
 (35) Ryan Ellis, Chevrolet, 200, 24.
 (4) Rigy Herbst, Ford, 200, 23.
 (17) Alex Labbe, Chevrolet, 199, 22.

13. (17) Alex Eaube, Cileviolet, 193, 22. 16. (24) Kyle Sieg, Ford, 199, 21. 17. (25) Anthony Alfredo, Chevrolet, 199, 20. 18. (27) Bayley Currey, Chevrolet, 199, 19. 19. (38) Jeb Burton, Chevrolet, 198, 18.

20. (30) JJ Yeley, Toyota, 198, 17. 21. (34) Myatt Snider, Chevrolet, 198, 16. 22. (36) Joey Gase, Toyota, 198, 15. 23. (23) Kaz Grala, Chevrolet, 198. 0.

31. (15) Austin Hill, Chevrolet, accident, 188, 17. 32. (28) Ryan Vargas, Chevrolet, accident, 168, 5. 33. (29) Stefan Parsons, Chevrolet, accident, 168, 34. (37) Jesse Iwuii. Chevrolet, accident, 156. 3. 35. (19) Matt Mills, Chevrolet, accident, 130, 2. 36. (20) Ryan Sieg, Ford, accident, 25, 1. 37. (33) Brennan Poole, Chevrolet, engine, 3, 1. 38. (22) Joe Graf Jr. Ford, 194, 1. SOCCER **MLS GLANCE**

W L T Pts GF GA 2 0 0 6 7 2 2 0 0 6 4 0 D.C. United 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 Columbus Orlando City New England Philadelphia 1 0 1 1 0 0 2 0 1 Atlanta Chicago Inter Miami CF New York City FC 0 2 1 1 1 1 1 Toronto FC CF Montréal Charlotte FC 0 2 0 0 2 0 Cincinnati

24. (31) Cj McLaughlin, Ford, 198, 13.
25. (9) Sam Mayer, Chevrolet, 198, 29.
26. (26) Kyle Weatherman, Chevrolet, 196, 11.
27. (32) Mason Massey, Chevrolet, 195, 10.
28. (14) Jade Buford, Chevrolet, 195, 9.
29. (18) Brandon Brown, Chevrolet, 193, 8.
30. (7) Ryan Truex, Toyota, accident, 190, 15.

Western Conference

Eastern Conference

W L T Pts GF GA 2 0 0 6 2 0 1 0 1 4 2 1 1 0 1 4 1 0 1 0 0 3 5 0 LA Galaxy Nashville Real Salt Lake Los Angeles FC 1 0 0 3 3 2 1 1 Colorado 1 0 1 0 Sporting Kansas City 1 Minnesota United 0 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 1 1 Portland FC Dallas 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 Houston San Jose 0 4 0 Vancouver Seattle 0200

Seattle 0 2 0 0 0 2
NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5
New England 1, FC Dallas 0
New York 4, Toronto FC 1
Sporting Kansas City 1, Houston 0
Philadelphia 2, CF Montréal 1
Columbus 3, San Josa 3, tie Columbus 3, San Jose 3, tie D.C. United 1, Cincinnati 0 Orlando City 0, Chicago 0, tie Nashville 1, Minnesota 1, tie Colorado 3, Atlanta 0
Real Salt Lake 1, Seattle 0
New York City FC 0, Vancouver 0, tie LA Galaxy 1. Charlotte FC 0

SUNDAY, MARCH 6 Miami at Austin FC, 2 p.m. Portland at Los Angeles FC, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12 CF Montréal at New York City FC, 11 a.m. Toronto FC at Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

Los Angeles FC at Miami 1 1:30 a.m. La Galaxy at Seattle, 1:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Houston, 4:30 p.m.
Chicago at D.C. United, 5:30 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at New England, 5:30 p.m. Cincinnati at Orlando City, 5:30 p.m. San Jose at Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m. Nashville at FC Dallas, 6:30 p.m.

Sporting Kansas City at Colorado, 7 p.m. Austin FC at Portland, 8 p.m. SUNDAY, MARCH 13

Charlotte FC at Atlanta. 2:30 p.m. Minnesota at New York, 5 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASKETBALL
NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

BOSTON CELTICS - Signed Fs Kelan Martin and Malik Fitts to 10-day contracts. **HOCKEY**

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
ARIZONA COYOTES — Signed C Travis Boyd to a
two-year contract extension.
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS — Assigned D Jake
Christiansen to Cleveland (AHL).
NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Recalled C Otto Koivu-

la and D Parker Wotherspoon from Bridgeport

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS — Reassigned G Kirill Us-timenko to Reading (ECHL) from Lehigh Valley

SEATTLE KRAKEN — Placed C Austin Czarnik on waivers. Activated LW Jared McCann from injured

reserve.

AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE
BELLEVILLE SENATORS — Reassigned Fs Hugo
Roy and Mitch Hoelscher to Atlanta (ECHL).

DENVERGAZETTE.COM/LIFE SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2022

EVENTS

If you have an event taking place in the Denver area, email information to carlotta. olson@gazette.com at least two weeks in advance. All events are listed in the calendar on space availability. Events might be canceled due to COVID-19.

SUNDAY

Dairy Block Petite Parade — With petite floats, noon-3 p.m., Dairy Block Alley, 1800 Wazee St., Denver; dairyblock.com.

Marcus Rezak, Bellhoss and Austen Carroll & the Better Neighbors — 1-8 p.m., Number Thirty Eight, 3560 Chestnut Place, Denver; nmbr38.com/calendar.

Stories on Stage – "Wildest Women" – 2 p.m., Su Teatro Cultural & Performing Arts Center, 721 Santa Fe Drive, Denver, \$22. Tickets required: storiesonstage.org.

National Geographic Live — Kara Cooney: When Women Ruled the World — 2 p.m., Gates Concert Hall, Denver, \$18-\$34. Tickets required: newmancenterpresents.

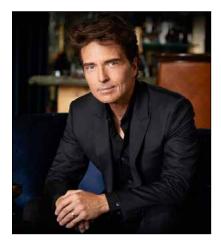
Dancing Through Time – Presented by Colorado Dance Machine, 3 p.m., Lakewood Cultural Center, 470 S. Allison Parkway, Lakewood, \$22 and up. Tickets required: lakewood.org/tickets.

March Madness '22 – With Satellite Pilot, Dayshaper, Undissassembled and more, 5:30 p.m., Cervantes' Masterpiece Ballroom and Cervantes' Other Side, Denver, go online for prices. Tickets required: cervantesmasterpiece.com.

Sepulture — With Sacred Reich, Crowbar & Art of Shock, 7 p.m., The Oriental Theater, Denver, \$25 and up. Tickets required: theorientaltheater.com.

Richard Marx – 7:30 p.m., The PACE Center, 20000 Pikes Peak Ave., Parker, \$74 and up. Tickets required: parkerarts.org.

CARLOTTA OLSON, THE DENVER GAZETTE



COURTESY OF PARKER ARTS Richard Marx

MOVIE REVIEW: 'THE BATMAN'



WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Robert Pattinson's Batman is a superhero with no illusions that his crimefighting crusade will make any real difference in the cesspool that is Gotham City.

The perfect film for our troubled times



JOHN MOORE

Everyone is talking about "The Batman" right now. Even people who don't know what they are talking about. (Like me.)

I'm not wellschooled in the DC universe. But I

know a zeitgeist movie when I see one, and "The Batman" really is the perfect movie for this imperfect moment in America.

It comes amid two years of pent-up pandemic anxiety. Nearly 1 million

COVID corpses. Hypocritical and feckless politicians. Indiscriminate violence in our streets. An epic mental-health care crisis and a corresponding opioid epidemic. Bizarre weather catastrophes. Martial law. Brainwashed valoos storming the Capitol building. A teenaged domestic terrorist made into a celebrity gun-rights hero. Faith in once-cherished institutions, from governments to churches to the media, up in smoke. Misinformation proliferating throughout the dark web like fungi. And just last week, Colorado's congressional shame, Lauren Boebert, gets the media attention she so cravenly desires by heckling the president while he is invoking his dead son.

At a time when we seem to be teetering on a collective razor's edge between order and chaos, along comes a comic-book movie that leaps with full fury into utter chaos. "The Batman" depicts a dystopian world of unchecked corruption, overt greed, unrepentant crime, drug abuse, vengeance and, perhaps most telling of all, a complete lack of hope.

SEE BATMAN • PAGE 2



WARNER BROS. PICTURES

As The Riddler, Paul Dano is a vigilante who is out to drain the swamp of Gotham City.

BATMAN

FROM PAGE 1

After living for three hours in Director Matt Reeves' cinematic urban cesspool that can only be cleansed with an intervention of Biblical proportions, it's hard to tell the two worlds apart. You walk out of the make-believe septic tank back into our own and wonder, "Is this all that different?

Depending on your perspective, the two most principled characters in this messed-up world turn out to be the misunderstood hero and the misguided villain who are tangled in a twisted kind of courtship. Our tormented hero seems just as likely to turn out to be a sociopath as the actual serial killer. The line is just that blurred.

The Riddler here is a sadistic killer (inspired in part by the Zodiac) who has taken it upon himself to do what the city's own corrupt law enforcement won't: Drain the swamp. At first, he targets powerful victims who clearly have it coming. But as often happens, this type of internet-fueled mob justice builds to a horrible climax that frankly, doesn't seem all that implausible after the Jan. 6 attack on Washington.

The Batman and The Riddler both operate outside of any official crime-fighting capacity. This is not good vs. evil. It's vigilante vs. vigilante. And it's easy to see Paul Dano's take on The Riddler emboldening anyone who has felt righteously disempowered to take up a gas mask and an AK-47.

This film is a conspiracy theorist's dream. One that confirms our cynicism about the integrity of public servants and affirms our lack of faith in institutions. It even ridicules our belief in the crime-fighting crusader himself. Because, as is often repeated throughout the film, The Batman is losing this fight - and he knows it. He is never going to restore justice

and order to Gotham City - if either ever actually existed there. It's a big city. He can't be everywhere. "I'm only one man," he tells us.

That grim reality takes whatever comfort we might glean from his determination to soldier on in his crime fighting seem all the more pointless. He's a tormented millionaire self-condemned to a fool's mission. It's like watching a Beckett play. "You must go on, I can't go on, I'll go on."

Nothing to be done.

"The Batman" is unlike any other film of its superhero genre. And a superb (if overly long) piece of filmmaking that feels more like an indie horror flick than a comic-book fantasy. A "Taxi Driver" for our times. The pulse it sets is seat-shaking, backed by a score fueled not by hard-driving rock but sinister tiny taps on a piano. It features stars at every turn, and a breakout performance by Zoë Kravitz as a vengeful grifter named Selina Kyle. (But you can call her Catwoman.)

In the end, it struck me just how "The Batman" makes for the perfect companion film to "Don't Look Up," Adam McKay's bitingly funny parable of our distracted times that uses satire to call attention to the existential climate crisis that is now barreling toward Earth in the form of a meteor. Unlike "The Batman," it's a broad comedy. But both films serve as cinematic primal screams that are trying to wake up their audiences.

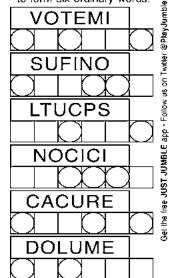
If this wasn't made plain before: "The Batman" is not a fun movie, per se. And yet, when it was over, a packed theater stood and cheered. Maybe because they really are fans of the source comic book. Maybe because finally, here comes a "Batman" film that pretty much gets it right. And maybe, for some, because they actually experienced a little bit of actual catharsis over the way things have been going in our real world.

Which is genuinely terrifying.

John Moore is the Denver Gazette's Senior Arts Journalist. Reach him at john.moore@denvergazette.com.



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



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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW



GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

SILENCE IS GOLDEN

Both vulnerable, West deals

NORTH ♦ KJ432 ♥ A 8 4 ♦ A K J 7 3 ♣ Void WEST **EAST ★** 10 9 **A** 7 5 ♥ K 2 **♥QJ963** $\Diamond 2$ **♦ KOJ98765 *** 10 4 3 2 SOUTH **♦** Q 8 6 ♥ 10 7 5 ♦ Q 10 9 8 6 4 A A

The bidding:
NORTH EAST SOUTH Dbl Pass All pass

Opening lead: Two of \(\bigcirc \)

Our thanks to Canadian expert John Carruthers, who was sitting West, for bringing this deal to our attention. It is from a Canadian Seniors team

competition.

Carruthers did not think there was much future for the defense in leading clubs and he found the inspired lead of a heart. The two is a better lead against a slam, according to Carruthers, as the king should only be led from a singleton or from king-queen. That way, partner can overtake the king if he has the ace and return the suit, knowing that you can win the second trick. Well done for any heart lead, as only a heart lead could defeat the slam. Nice lead!

At the other table the West player, remarkably, passed as dealer. It went one spade, pass, one no trump and, believe it or not, West passed again. North jump shifted to three diamonds and South, holding a hand that was brimming with slam potential, made a splinter bid of five clubs. North, alas, was not on the same wavelength and passed. West, showing no imagination in his card play, led a pedestrian 10 of spades. Declarer took one trick in every suit for down seven!

West's remarkable passes at his first two turns led to his getting to defend a contract holding eight pretty good trumps. He may never bid again.

Answer: SCULPT ICONIC

MOTIVE **FUSION**

ACCRUE MODULE

After two hours on horseback, they were done. Two hours was just the —

"RIDE" AMOUNT OF TIME

MOVIE REVIEW: 'DRIVE MY CAR'

Signaling a shift, Japanese drama rides into the Oscars

The Associated Press

NEW YORK • Since the flurry of text messages that greeted him when he stepped off a plane in Berlin on Oscar nominations morning, Ryusuke Hamaguchi has had some time to reflect on why his film, "Drive My Car," has resonated as it has.

But he's not so sure. There's only so many ways to reason how a three-hour Japanese drama in which the opening credits don't even arrive until 40 minutes in, can rise to Hollywood's highest summit. "Drive My Car," an emotional epic of grief, connection and art, is nominated for four Oscars, including best picture, best director and best adapted screenplay.

"The more I think about this, the less sure I am," says Hamaguchi. "But one thing I can say is that this is a very normal movie. It's about people who have all these different flaws each trying to have a better life for themselves. Loving someone or something is one way to do that. But when we love someone, one day you lose or separate from that person.

"It's almost like an oxymoron," he

adds. "That's sort of the normal aspect of this film, that it's about the loss and gain of love."

"Drive My Car," the first Japanese film ever nominated for best picture, shatters the mold of the traditional Oscar contender. Even Bong Joon Ho's "Parasite," which two years ago became the first non-English language best picture winner, was less surprising. "Parasite" was a stylish genre film from a world-renown filmmaker whose movie had already won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival.

The road taken by "Drive My Car" to the Academy Awards is, like the movie, more winding. While Hamaguchi's films — he last year also released the beguiling anthology film "Wheel of Fortune and Fantasy" — are internationally acclaimed, the 43-year-old filmmaker was far less known in Hollywood. "Drive My Car" won best screenplay at Cannes last summer, but the response to Hamaguchi's lengthy film, fittingly, needed time to gather force.

"Drive My Car" instead found its momentum from critics who championed the film (both New York and Los Angeles critics groups named it the best film of the year) and a steady rollout in theaters. There was also something undeniable about it. Just about everyone who has sat down and watched Hamaguchi's film has come away deeply moved. "Drive My Car" may be a tough sell, but it's proven easy to love.

"Audiences respond to great movies. They just do," says Jonathan Sehring, the longtime IFC Films chief who released "Drive My Car" with the newly launched distributor Sideshow, along with Janus Films.

Still, "Drive My Car" is less of an anomaly than it seems. Series like the small-screen sensation "Squid Game" have showed that subtitles aren't nearly the hurdle they were believed to be. At the same, the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, in striving to diversify its historically white and male membership, has in recent years welcomed waves of new international members.

"Drive My Car" is based on a Haruki Murakami short story and centers on a theater actor, Yûsuke Kafuku, played by Hidetoshi Nishijima, directing a multi-



JANUS FILMS AND SIDESHOW VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS Filmmaker Ryûsuke Hamaguchi directed "Drive My Car."

lingual production of Chekhov's "Uncle Vanya." Still mourning the death of his wife, Kafuku leads the cast in rehearsals where the actors sit and read their lines flatly, ingesting the language for days before acting it out."

TV REVIEW: 'WINNING TIME: THE RISE OF THE LAKERS DYNASTY'

New 10-episode dramedy series on HBO shoots and scores

BY MARK MESZOROS

Tribune News Service

Academy Award-nominated director Adam McKay is an executive producer on the consistently entertaining HBO dramedy series "Winning Time: The Rise of the Lakers Dynasty," debuting Sunday on HBO and HBO Max with its first of 10 hourlong episodes. It is based on Jeff Pearlman's 2014, nearly 500-page tome, "Showtime: Magic, Kareem, Riley and the Los Angeles Lakers Dynasty of the 1980s."

In "Winning Time," John C. Reilly portrays former Lakers owner Dr. Jerry Buss — portrayed as an almost- always-optimistic roller of the dice when it comes to business and a lover of the younger ladies.

Little-known Quincy Isaiah portrays Earvin "Magic" Johnson, the charismatic, ever-smiling and wizard-like point guard Buss and the Lakers drafted in 1979. Isaiah captures Magic's engaging personality, portraying him as a young man desperate to be liked and to see those around him happy. It is a challenge for Magic to bring together his new team, in part because he's a rookie — and thus has no immediate sway in the locker room — and in part because the team's captain, gifted center Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (Solomon Hughes), has interests he's prioritizing over basketball at the moment.

Ultimately, there are too many strong performances to single out, "Winning Time" being one of those shows with a huge ensemble that will have you running to IMDb to see who is playing whom.

The series is nicely scripted. All involved with writing, directing and performing contribute to a winning mix that prioritizes the lighter moments without sacrificing the serious ones.



HBC

From left, John C. Reilly, Quincy Isaiah and Jason Clarke appear in "Winning Time: The Rise of the Lakers Dynasty."

Get Help. Get Justice. Get McDivitt.



NONPROFIT NEWS

Beaux Arts Ball transports guests to Moulin Rouge

BY JOANNE DAVIDSON Special to The Denver Gazette

National Jewish Health

Denver

News: No visit to Paris is complete without a stop at the Moulin Rouge. but it didn't take a passport and a plane ticket to experience a taste of the fabled nightclub when National Jewish Health staged its signature fundraiser.

"Celebrating Moulin Rouge" was the theme for the 25th edition of the Beaux Arts Ball, held Feb. 26 at the Hyatt Regency at the Colorado Convention Center. Can-can dancers, opulent décor and food inspired by the bistros and cafés that line the grand boulevards were all part of a grand evening that raised an amount expected to top the \$1 million mark and bring the cumulative total to \$40 million.

And, it no doubt inspired quite a few to buy tickets to "Moulin Rouge! The Musical," which opens June 9 at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.

The Beaux Arts Ball, presented by the Morgridge Family Foundation, was chaired by Anne and Rich Baer, Rosaline and Richard Diecidue, Lindsey and Stanton Dodge, David Engleberg, Edward and Lisa Hansen, Abby Goldsmith and R.D. Sewald.

A tradition of the ball is to pay tribute to its Grand Marshals - community leaders whose service to National Jewish Health has been outstanding. The 2022 Grand Marshals were:



PHOTO BY STEVE PETERSON

From left are Grand Marshals U.S. Sen. John Hickenlooper and Robin Hickenlooper; John and Karen Ikard; Vic and Terri Lombardi; Mark and Maja Rosenguist; and Michele and Richard Right.

- U.S. Sen. John Hickenlooper and his wife, Robin, a senior vice president at Liberty Media
- Retired FirstBank CEO John Ikard and his wife, Karen, whose community involvement includes work on behalf of the Littleton Public Schools, Edwin A. Bemis Library and Integrated Family Resources
- Sportscaster Vic Lombardi and his wife, Terri, an actress and real estate
- Katzson Brothers President Richard Right and his wife, Michele, a former manages of sales and catering for Hilton Hotels and a former reporter for

The Denver Post

· Maja Rosenquist, senior vice president with Mortenson, and her husband Mark, a senior executive with Baron Glass. Mortenson, one of the nation's largest commercial general contractors and real estate developers, recently completed the development and construction of the National Jewish Health Center for Outpatient Health

Politicians — including U.S. Rep. Ed Perlmutter, D-Arvada; Denver Mayor Michael Hancock, and State Rep. Alex Valdez, D-Denver – were part of the crowd. Other attendees included iCIMS CEO Steve Lucas and his wife, Shelley; Mike Ferrufino, president/CEO of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce: Martin Semple, chairman of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, and his wife, JoAnn; NexGen Resources CEO Charlie McNeil and his wife, Judy; bankers Mariner Kemper, Hassan Salem and Chris Dinsdale: Richmond American Homes president David Mandarich and his wife, Bonnie; and Steve Kris, chairman of the National Jewish Health board, and his wife, Elizabeth.

About the organization: Founded 123 years ago, National Jewish Health is considered the nation's leading respiratory hospital, and is the only facility in the world dedicated exclusively to groundbreaking medical research and treatment of patients with respiratory, cardiac, immune and related disorders. In addition, said president/chief executive officer Dr. Michael Salem: "No other institution in the world has been better prepared and equipped to make seminal advances in COVID-19 testing, novel treatments and research. Our Center for Post-COVID Care and Recovery is caring for many who face ongoing challenges as they recover from COVID-19, including those who have long-term, debilitating symptoms for many months after being diagnosed."

Website: njhealth.org

Have news or announcements for the Nonprofit Calendar? Email nonprofits@coloradopolitics.com and include a contact name and number if more information is needed.

KIRKLAND MUSEUM LAUNCHES CELEBRATION OF ARCHITECT FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art

Denver

News: Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art launched a year-long celebration of the genius of architect/designer Frank Lloyd Wright with a lecture in the Denver Art Museum's Sharp Auditorium on March 3.

Boulder resident Jack Quinan, a distinguished service professor emeritus in the department of visual studies at the State University of New York at Buffalo, shared insights on Wright's Martin House in Buffalo, N.Y., construction on which began in 1903 and was completed in 1905.

Quinan, who also is curator emeritus of

Martin House, discussed the significance of the Kirkland Museum's return of two original windows, or light screens, as Wright had called them, to Martin House. The windows, currently on display near the east entrance of Kirkland Museum, had been part of Kirkland Museum's permanent collection.

"Along with two original windows, multiple Frank Lloyd Wright pieces are found in our permanent collection," said Renee Albiston. associate director of Kirkland Museum. "We can't wait to share these intriguing examples of Wright's work in a cohesive exhibition accompanied by a variety of programming that includes lectures with internationally renowned experts and other visitor engagement opportunities throughout the year."

Mary Roberts, executive director of Martin

House, added: "By making the extraordinary gift of these light screens. Kirkland Museum has asserted its leadership role as a steward of the public trust and reinforced its legacy as a center of cultural and artistic excellence. The light screens represent an excellent sampling of Wright's genius in glass, which is critical to the scholarly interpretation and general appreciation of the Martin House estate."

Other lectures are on Aug. 3, when Stuart Graff, president and chief executive officer of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, addresses the expression of unity in Frank Lloyd Wright's designs, and Oct. 13, when Julie Sloan, a New York-based expert on Frank Lloyd Wright's stained and architectural glass, discusses glass pieces featured in "Frank Lloyd Wright Inside the Walls," an exhibition at Kirkland Museum that runs from June 16 to Jan. 8, 2023.

The exhibition, presented by deputy curator Christopher Herron and chosen from a collection assembled by founding director and curator Hugh Grant, is included with admission and does not require a separate ticket.

About the organization: Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art, located at 1201 Bannock St. in Denver, carries on the curatorial vision of founding director and curator Hugh Grant, who was influenced by artist and educator Vance Kirkland. It serves the general public and scholars through exhibitions, the loan of works and public programs.

Website: kirklandmuseum.org

BY JOANNE DAVIDSON, SPECIAL TO THE DENVER GAZETTE

B()()KS

PAPERBACKS

Some of 2021's most acclaimed titles are making their way into paperback around now. Here are five fresh ones, to make the spring come faster:

"Who Is Maud Dixon?" by Alexandra Andrews (Little, Brown, \$16.99). Film rights sold quickly for Andrews' Highsmith-esque debut, a twisty tale of a young aspiring novelist who gets a job as assistant to a famously reclusive writer whose true identity is a secret.

"Klara and the Sun," by Kazio Ishiguro (Vintage International, \$16.95). Ishiguro, one of the most elegant prose stylists working today, wrote this bestselling tale of an Artificial Friend - for sale in a shop window, in a not-too-distant future society – as a companion piece to his earlier novel "Never Let Me Go."

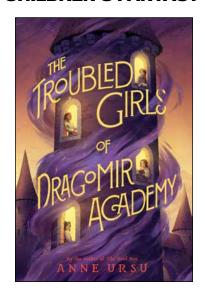
"No One Is Talking About This," by Patricia Lockwood (Penguin, \$17). This book, a 2021 Booker Prize finalist and one of The New York Times' 10 best of the year, is Lockwood's debut novel; she previously published two poetry collections and an acclaimed memoir, "Priestdaddy." In "No One Is Talking About This," a social media star navigates a worldwide appearance tour after going viral.

"How Beautiful We Were," by Imbolo Mbue (Random House, \$18). Named as one of the 10 best books of the year by The New York Times, Mbue's follow-up to her acclaimed debut "Behold the Dreamers" is set in a fictional African village, where representatives from an American oil company have come to meet with the people they are poisoning.

"The Rope: A True Story of Murder, Heroism, and the Dawn of the NAACP," by Alex Tresniowski (Simon & Schuster, \$18.99). Two threads intertwine in Tresniowski's nonfiction work: a Black man falsely accused of the murder of a child in 1910 and groundbreaking Black journalist Ida B. Wells' work to expose the truth about lynching.

MOIRA MACDONALD, THE SEATTLE TIMES

CHILDREN'S FANTASY



Characters stick with you

BY TRISHA COLLOPY Star Tribune

In the kingdom of Illyria, boys are groomed from a young age to be sorcerers, one of the land's most powerful roles, while girls are taught to conform to a rigid, secondary role.

The sorcerers protect the kingdom from threats, especially from a formless enemy known as the Dread, which attacks whole villages, sucking the life out of everything.

In the world of Anne Ursu's new fantasy "The Troubled Girls of Dragomir Academy," 12-year-old Marya Lupu has tried to

DETAILS

Girls of Drago-

mir Academy,'

by Anne Ursu;

Walden Pond

pages, \$16.99)

Press (432

"The Troubled

stay in the background.

While her mother polices Marya's "wild" tendencies, her older brother Luka receives the education and attention she craves.

Her sole respite is her time with her neighbor, Madame Bandu, a weaver who sees a future for Marya beyond housework.

When the Council for the Magical Protection of Illyria comes to test Luka for his magical abilities, a series

of unfortunate events leads Marya to embarrass the family in front of some of Illyria's most powerful men.

Luka fails the test and Marya receives a letter ordering her to report to a school for troubled girls.

At Dragomir Academy, students are told to remake themselves into girls who can be trusted to work for the kingdom's sorcerers.

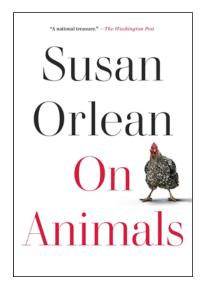
Those who don't follow the rules bring down harsh punishments, and others disappear for weeks at a time with a mysterious sickness.

Despite this rigid structure, Marya slowly begins to develop friendships, and her curiosity leads her to research the history of the kingdom, its past wars with the witches of neighboring Kel and clues to the identity of the Dread.

Ursu lays out the social levers that help one group (men) concentrate and hold power and the ways those a step below them (women) often are the enforcers of such unequal systems.

But it's her characters who make the biggest impact. Marya and her fellow students and teachers at Dragomir Academy lingered with me long after the story concluded.

NONFICTION



Animal lover's must-read

BY MICHAEL MAGRAS

Star Tribune

You can tell when the person you're talking to is passionate about a subject. Their eyes sparkle. Their speech pattern changes.

One is likely to imagine Susan Orlean's eyes sparkling as she composed the essays in "On Animals," a compendium of works, most of them written for the New Yorker, that showcase her curiosity about a wide range of animals - mules, mice, Rhode Island Reds, Welsh springer spaniels, homing

pigeons and killer whales.

DETAILS

"On Animals," by Susan Orlean; Avid Reader Press/ Simon & Schuster (288 pages, \$27)

"I was always a little animalish," she writes. After a 1980s move from Manhattan to a farm in the countryside, she was able to keep chickens, ducks, Black Angus cattle and guinea fowls, two of whom were named Prince Charles and Camilla. Their house, she writes, "bears a resemblance to a three-ring circus."

The pageant of animals in these pieces is equally spectacular, as is the writing. In an essay on chickens, she notes

she had "no pre-existing chicken condition," but after seeing a "mouth-to-beak resuscitation" in a documentary, she developed a passion that led to the day when the four Rhode Island Reds and plastic coop she had ordered arrived at her post office.

The amused clerk told her, "You have a package here, and it's clucking."

Orlean strikes a perfect balance between hilarious and informative. An essay about an "intentionally mysterious" New Jersey woman who keeps more than 24 tigers on her compound reveals that more than 15,000 tigers are in the U.S., "more than seven times the number of registered Irish setters

Throughout, Orlean has a gift for the indelible detail, as when she notes pandas produce the world's tiniest babies relative to the mother's size: "a 250-pound panda delivers a cub that is about the size of a stick of butter."

Lines like that are too numerous to mention here, but readers fond of seemingly effortless writing about animals will savor this book. One can imagine a sparkle in their eyes as they turn the page.

BOOKS

ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood-China ties examined

BY JOSHUA AXELROD Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

If you want to continue watching movies the way vou have, don't read "Red Carpet: Hollywood, China and the Global Battle for Cultural Supremacy."

Wall Street Journal entertainment reporter Erich Schwartzel dives deeply into Hollywood's complicated relationship with China and the many ways it tries to appease Chinese officials to gain access to the country's highly coveted movie market.

"Red Carpet" is essentially a "Matrix"-esque red pill that may render you unable to ever watch a movie again without clocking the on-screen elements that seem shoehorned in specifically to appeal to Chinese authorities and audiences. The book serves as

both a fascinat-

ing exploration

of the Chinese

entertainment

American films

can become in-

ternational flash-

If you've ever

wanted a crash

course in the last

100-plus years

of Chinese his-

tory, Schwartzel

provides a pretty comprehensive

one in "Red Car-

pet." It's neces-

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how the rise of

communism left

China culturally

stunted during

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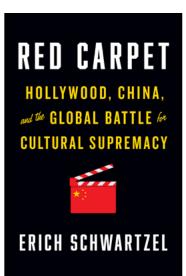
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DETAILS

"Red Carpet: Hollywood, China and the Global Battle for Cultural Supremacy," by Erich Schwartzel; Penguin Press (400 pages, \$28)

and American ideals.

There's a lot of ink spilled on American films that angered the Chinese political elite. The 1997 trifecta of "Kundun," "Seven Years in Tibet" and "Red Corner" were early examples of China beginning to realize its own power by pushing back against Hollywood movies that painted it in an unflattering

Schwartzel also found recent cases of China affecting Hollywood productions. There's a section about the 2022 action thriller "The 355" almost being unable to feature one of its stars, Chinese actor Fan Bingbing, after she became persona non grata in China due to allegations of tax fraud.

The author has a knack for revealing how China exerts its influence in the most bizarre places.

ESSAYS

Magic without secrets

BY JACOB GRIER

Special to The Washington Examiner

Any magician can tell you when they were first bitten by the magic bug. For me, it was on a childhood trip to Disney World where I witnessed a street magician perform an absolute miracle, effortlessly linking and unlinking large metal rings, solid steel melting through solid steel. The feat was all I could talk about for the rest of the day.

Back home in Texas, I insisted my parents take me to the local magic shop, where I picked up a bevy of trick cards, silks and false appendages. But the linking rings, selling for \$20 or so, were beyond my means on that first visit. And no matter how I entreated the proprietor to tell me how they worked, he wisely refused. If I wanted to know, I'd have to work on the tricks I'd purchased, save up my allowance and come back.

There were two lessons here. One was that the secrets of magic were not to be given freely. They had to be earned - or at least bought. The second, discovered when I eventually returned to purchase a set of linking rings, is that a secret learned without context can be shockingly disappointing. The secret by itself was rubbish. It was only when embedded in an elaborate routine, with careful handling and thoughtful presentational subtleties, that it could inspire wonder.

By its very nature, magic is uniquely difficult to discuss with nonpractitioners without giving away the very secrets that make it work. The challenge of doing so is taken up by Joshua Jay in his new book "How Magicians Think: Misdirection, Deception, and Why Magic Matters." An accomplished professional performer, Jay has written this book explicitly for laymen, and there's barely a secret in sight. Instead, in 52 short essays, he answers the questions he's often asked about how magic works and what it's like to be a magician. Jay

acknowledges upfront that most audiences have never witnessed truly excellent magic and that mediocre performances have lowered expectations of the art.

Like any worthwhile pursuit, the appreciation of magic is enhanced when one knows a little of the workings, if not specific methods. Without giving too much away, Jay dives into what makes a great trick. Ideally, a well-crafted routine cleverly plays with the audience's expectations, opening doors to possible methods and then subtly proving them false, leaving spectators with no route to backtrack.

In a book written for magicians, these principles would be implicit in the detailed explanations of specific tricks. In "How Magicians Think", Jay instead explores them through magic's greatest performers, with essays dissecting the work of Blaine as well as

David Copperfield and Penn and Teller, and introductions to prolific creators of who have never headlined a Las Vegas stage or scored a TV special.

When Jay does peel back the curtain to reveal a few secrets, it's unsurprising that Penn and Teller tend to be involved. The "bad boys of magic" famously violated norms against exposure, riling up London's stuffy Magic Circle and provoking at least one American magician to throw a punch.

In "Cups and Balls and Cups and Balls," they perform the classic routine of balls vanishing and reappearing under three inverted cups. Then they repeat the trick with clear plastic cups that show exactly when every move occurs. Unlike cheap exposure that demeans the art, Penn and Teller's lesson in choreography invites the audience to appreciate it at a deeper level. "The audience's best interest is most often served by not knowing how something is done," Tell-

> er reflects in the book. "But here and there, part of the delight is being taken on a backstage visit that is enchanting and beautiful."

> "Beauty" isn't a word typically associated with magic performance, which is often approached with detached irony, mockery, or the question every magician has heard a million times: "Do you do kids' birthday parties?" The subtitle of Jay's book, "why magic matters," acknowledges that the case for taking magic seriously needs to be made, not taken for granted.

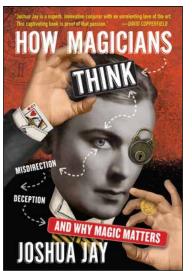
> Yet all magicians can also recall moments of pure wonder, whether in their own pasts, the faces of their spectators, or in stories shared by enthusiastic laymen. When someone experiences a feeling of true astonishment, they remember it for years.

> Jay recounts one such moment from his first book tour when he shared a stage with authors writing about heady topics such as the war in Afghanistan and living with cancer. He was there to do tricks and judge the pumpkin carving con-

test, which could have felt trivializing. But there was one child, a cancer patient himself, who couldn't get enough of the magic. Jay asked him why he kept asking for more. "Because I'm in and out of a hospital all the time," the child said. "I'm a full-time patient. When we're doing magic, I feel like myself."

The "we" was the part that stood out, a reminder that the best magic isn't performed at or to an audience, but with them. It's a dance.

As the world reopens and live entertainment returns, there is an opportunity for magic to be welcomed as more than a mere amusing distraction at cocktail parties. "How Magicians Think" won't teach readers how to do a card trick, but it may leave them more open to experiencing magic when the opportunity arises.



DETAILS

"How Magicians Think: Misdirection, Deception, and Why Magic Matters," by Joshua Jay; Workman Publishing Company (320 pages, \$27.50)

TRAVEL

What's new for travelers to Alaska in 2022

BY M.T. SCHWARTZMAN TravelPulse

After a nonexistent 2020 season and an abbreviated 2021 season, Alaska travel is gearing up across the board for a return to normal. Cruise lines expect to be back with a full slate of sailings. bringing up to 1.5 million passengers to Alaska's coastal communities. Elsewhere there are hotel happenings, anniversary celebrations and destination developments across the state.

All this is subject to a couple of important caveats: Will COVID-19 force another pullback of travel operations? Will Transport Canada allow cruise ships into Canadian ports? Here's a look at what's new for Alaska in 2022, assuming all goes as planned.

Cruise currents

Princess Cruises leads the charge with six MedallionClass ships, featuring the Discovery Princess, the line's newest ship and the youngest sailing in Alaska. Altogether Princess offers 12 cruise itineraries, 25 cruise-tour options and a choice of four embarkation points including Seattle, Vancouver, Whittier and San Francisco.

Norwegian Cruise Line sends five ships to Alaska for the first time ever: The Norwegian Bliss, Norwegian Encore, Norwegian Sun, Norwegian Jewel and Norwegian Spirit sail five- to 11-day cruises departing Seattle, Seward and Vancouver. Longer repositioning cruises to begin and end the season also are scheduled, such as 16-day voyages between Alaska and Hawaii or Japan.

Royal Caribbean International fields its first four-ship Alaska deployment. Two Quantum-class ships — the Ovation of the Seas and Quantum of the Seas — sail seven-day cruises roundtrip from Seattle. Two Radiance-class ships - the Radiance of the Seas and Serenade of the Seas - sail one-way, seven-day Gulf of Alaska cruises between Seward and Vancouver.

Carnival Cruise Line returns with three ships sailing the Inside Passage. The Carnival Spirit and Carnival Splendor depart on six- to eight-day cruises from Seattle, while the Carnival Miracle sails on 10-day cruises from San Francisco.

Windstar Cruises introduces the newly transformed, all-suite Star Breeze on itineraries as short as seven days. The Star Breeze features a whole new look since its lengthening with new suites and expanded restaurant facilities, plus an enlarged pool and spa.



TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Expedition news

Hurtigruten resumes its Alaska expedition cruises with a series of 14- and 18-day itineraries to the Aleutian Islands and Inside Passage. The Roald Amundsen remains the only hybrid, battery-powered ship in the region.

Lindblad Expeditions adds two ships to its Alaska fleet for a total of five vessels. The National Geographic Sea Bird, Sea Lion, Quest, Venture and Orion will sail eight itineraries of six to 15 days exploring the Inside Passage and Bering

American Queen Voyages (the new name for American Queen Steamboat Company, which includes Victory Cruise Lines) debuts Alaska expeditions with 12- and 13-day journeys aboard the brand-new Ocean Victory - one of a new generation of expedition ships featuring an x-bow for comfort and spacious staterooms with private balconies. Rail-tour extensions are available through Rocky Mountaineer.

Hotel developments

Alyeska Resort, located 40 miles south of Anchorage, plans to open Alaska's first-ever Nordic spa. Facilities will include a variety of indoor/outdoor hydrotherapy pools, steam rooms and saunas, plus an on-site wellness bistro.

The Anchorage Marriott has received a top-to-bottom facelift, upgrading its public spaces, dining areas and all 392 guest rooms. The renovation drew inspiration from the beauty of Alaska's great outdoors that lies at the doorstep of the state's largest city.

The Gustavus Inn at Glacier Bay re-

opens under new Native ownership by the Hoonah Indian Association and will once again serve as a base for visitors to experience Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve.

Glacier Bay Lodge reopens in May, offering the only overnight lodging accommodations within the boundaries of Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. Activities include a day-boat tour of the park's tidewater glaciers or a visit to the Huna Tribal House, where Huna Tlingit guides share their ancestral connection to the land.

Anniversary celebrations

John Hall's Alaska celebrates 40 years of bringing visitors to Alaska with an expanded lineup of itineraries. The family-owned company specializes in fully guided, inclusive cruises and tours and is Adventure Green certified for being environmentally responsible.

The Iditarod Sled Dog Race takes off for the 50th time on March 5 in Anchorage on its traditional route after an abbreviated course last year. The winner will cross the finish line some two weeks later in Nome — a historic journey of about 1,000 miles.

Holland America Line commemorates 75 years of bringing travelers to Alaska longer than any other cruise line with special programming aboard six ships. Three-, four- or seven-day cruises can be combined with land options as far afield as the Canadian Yukon for a total of 16 different Land+Sea Journeys.

Destination notes

Icy Strait Point opens its Mountain

Top Gondola at the new Wilderness Landing complex, leading to hiking trails and scenic overlooks. This will be the second high-speed gondola in Alaska, joining the destination's transporter gondola that began operation in

Whittier welcomes two new ships from Holland America Line, the Nieuw Amsterdam and Noordam, on turnaround calls from June through September.

HAL joins sister line Princess in using Whittier as the northern terminus for its Gulf of Alaska cruises.

Travel Juneau and UnCruise Adventures have joined together to promote Juneau's "Ironman" triathlon competition on Aug. 7. UnCruise will be the exclusive small-ship partner for the event, offering a 12-night VIP post-race adventure cruise of the Inside Passage and Glacier Bay.

Ketchikan's new Ward Cove docking facility north of town will be in full swing after a soft opening last year. Ships from Norwegian Cruise Line and Royal Caribbean International are among those scheduled to call.

Sitka anticipates a surge of cruise passengers thanks to its 40,000-square-foot cruise terminal. The first call is scheduled for May 2 when Radiance of the Seas visits.

Fairbanks expects a big boost in arrivals as cruise passengers, which make up 41% of its summertime visitors, return after a prolonged absence. Almost 250,000 cruise passengers rode the train to Fairbanks in 2019. That dropped to zero the past two years.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Screening key in fighting colorectal cancer

Cancer of the rectum and colon often are referred to together as colorectal cancer, but treatments can be different.

Dr. David Etzioni, a Mayo Clinic colorectal surgeon, reminds people that early diagnosis and treatment are crucial to ensure better outcomes, and that it all begins with scheduling a screening.

"Colorectal cancer is a type of cancer that arises from the skin that lines the inner surface of the colon and rectum."

Etzioni savs the colon and the rectum are in effect the same.

"The colon and rectum are what we call the large intestine. It's about 5 feet long and is the last part of the GI (gastrointestinal) tract, just before the GI stream exits the body. The rectum is the last 12 to 14 centimeters of the large intestine. And while they are somewhat geographically distinct, they are in effect one that runs into the other."

Colon and rectal cancers are similar in many ways, but their treatment can be different, depending on stage and location. "Usually when we find a colon cancer or rectal cancer, the operation involves removing a portion of the co-

Etzioni says it's much more effective to treat an earlier-stage cancer than a later one, and that's why screening is so important.

"Colorectal cancer screening is one of the most effective types of screening for a cancer because not only can we detect an early-stage cancer, but we can actually prevent a cancer from developing."

Resistance exercise may improve sleep more than aerobic

American Heart Association News

Resistance exercise that works on strengthening muscle may be better than aerobic exercise for improving the duration and quality of sleep, preliminary research shows. And that could be good for your heart.

"It is increasingly recognized that getting enough sleep, particularly high-quality sleep, is important for health, including cardiovascular health," study author Angelique Brellenthin said in a news release. Brellenthin is an assistant professor of kinesiology at Iowa State University in Ames. "Unfortunately, more than a third of Americans don't get enough sleep on a regular basis."

While aerobic activity often is recommended to improve sleep, Brellenthin pointed to a 2018 Department of Health and Human Services report that called for more research into resistance exercise and sleep outcomes. "Our study is one of the largest and longest exercise trials in a general adult population to directly compare the effects of different types of exercise on multiple sleep parameters."

Prior research shows not getting enough sleep, or getting poor sleep, can increase the risk for high blood pressure, elevated cholesterol and a buildup of plaque in the arteries, a condition known as atherosclerosis. Insufficient sleep also has been linked to weight gain, diabetes and inflammation, which are heart-related risk factors and can exacerbate cardiovascular disease. Too much or not enough sleep has been shown to increase the risk for stroke, heart attack and death.

In the new study, presented at the American Heart Association's Epidemiology and Prevention, Lifestyle and Cardiometabolic Health conference, re-

searchers randomly assigned 386 inactive, overweight adults with high blood pressure to one of several groups: supervised resistance or aerobic exercise three times a week for 60 minutes over a year; combined resistance/aerobic exercise; or a control group with no supervised exercise.

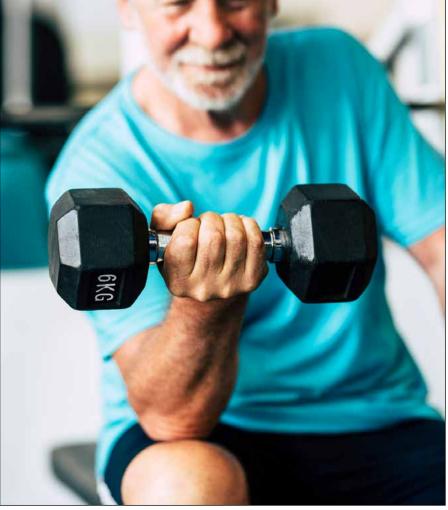
Resistance exercise participants worked all major muscle groups using 12 resistance machines to do three sets of eight to 16 repetitions on each machine. Aerobic exercise participants could choose among treadmills, upright or recumbent bicycles, or elliptical machines, which they used with moderate to vigorous intensity to get their heart rate into the target range. The combination group split their time between the types of exercise during each session.

Total sleep quality, sleep duration, the time it took to fall asleep, the time they spent in bed and the number and frequency of sleep disturbances were measured using self-reported questionnaires at the beginning of the study and again at the end of one year.

Overall, the quality of sleep improved and the number of sleep disturbances decreased for all groups in the study. Among the 42% of participants who began the study getting less than seven hours of sleep a night, those doing resistance exercise - but none of the other groups — were able to extend their average sleep time by 17 minutes per night. Those doing resistance exercise also found it took three minutes less to fall asleep each night.

The results are considered preliminary until the full findings are published in a peer-reviewed journal.

"While both aerobic and resistance exercise are important for overall health, our results suggest that resistance ex-



Want to sleep better? Resistance exercise that works on strengthening muscle may help.

ercises may be superior when it comes to getting better ZZZs at night," Brellenthin said.

"If your sleep has gotten noticeably worse over the past two stressful years, consider incorporating two or more resistance exercise training sessions into your regular exercise routine to improve your general muscle and bone health, as well as your sleep.'

sweeps a

puck behind

pond hockey

tournament

Grand Lake.

The event,

which takes

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est natural lake, was held

Feb. 26 in

a goal at a

As planet warms, lakes see less ice cover

The Associated Press

GRAND LAKE • With a backdrop of mountain vistas and a rink of natural ice, the annual ice hockey tournament at Grand Lake offers a picturesque snapshot of Colorado's beauty. What's not apparent is the problem brewing under players' skates.

This year's tournament was held a month later than normal, with thin ice forcing organizers to postpone the event originally scheduled for the third weekend of January.

"We had slushy conditions and less than six inches of ice. There just was no way it could safely be held," said Steve Kudron, mayor of Grand Lake.

That is a reality that many communities that live near lakes, which freeze and provide myriad activities during winter months, are increasingly con-

According to a major UN report on climate released on Monday, as the planet warms, the amount of ice, and amount of time it keeps a body of water solid, are diminishing. Those changes are forcing communities to adapt and curtail some winter activities while also raising the specter of long-term environmental and health issues.

Sapna Sharma, an aquatic ecologist at Toronto's York University, analyzed 100 to 200 years of data for 18 North American lakes, finding that in the last 25 years, "we're losing ice six times faster than the historical average." Air temperature, particularly in winter, is the most significant driver of lake ice, she said.

In addition to shorter ice seasons, socalled "winter weirding events" are becoming more widespread, Sharma said.

"You'll have really cold days and some warm days with rainfall and cold days again and some more rain and the melting of snow," she said. "That's exactly the type of winter we're having in Toronto right now."

Some impacts of climate change can be addressed through efforts like building fire-resistant homes, reducing overfishing and building infrastructure that can with withstand intense storms. But there are no simple solutions for preserving lake ice cover; only sharply reducing greenhouse gas emissions can slow warming, and subsequent ice loss, in the decades to come.

According to handwritten records maintained by Northern Water, a major water provider for northeastern Colorado, the last 20 years at Grand



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lake saw a shorter ice season by about 14 days than the prior 20-year period. There, November's air temperature has warmed on average about five degrees Fahrenheit, according to data by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. This past November was the second hottest on record.

David Gochis, a hydrometeorologist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, says Colorado's trend of very hot summers and last year's unseasonably warm fall combined to raise the lake's water temperature, contributing to a delayed and gradual freeze.

That meant the hockey tournament in Grand Lake had to be pushed back, already a sign of community adaptation.

"Moving forward, I would schedule it the last weekend in January at the earliest, just to make sure in case we have another year like this," said organizer Brian Blumenfeld.

Beyond the hit to recreation activities and economic impacts, longer open water periods will affect "quality and quantity of downstream water resources," according to a 2021 study from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

"When a lake is frozen, it's not evaporating water," said Adam Jokerst, a water manager for Greeley, a rapidly growing Colorado city that just acquired an aquifer to support future growth. Water that's open for longer

periods increases your evaporative loss for the year, he said.

Additionally, warm, stagnant water can provide prime conditions for algal blooms, which can be toxic to humans and animals, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

"We can treat any water, but just get out your check book," Jokerst said, reciting a common phrase in the water utility world.

The warming temperatures are having an impact on lake communities around North America.

For example, much of Alaska is currently experiencing an unusual season - a warm start to the year followed below-average temperatures in late fall.

Lynnette Warren has led fishing groups around Alaska for 46 years. At popular ice fishing lakes across the Matanuska-Susitna Borough north of Anchorage, this year's warmer temperatures melted the snow, resulting in a chain reaction. The water weighed down the ice. The ice weakened. More water seeped up through cracks. Fishers avoided those lakes, and congregated on the handful of viable ones.

"When those lakes are the ones people are fishing all the time, then the catching opportunities are highly reduced because those lakes are overfished," Warren said.

A longer open-water season means

more time for tourists who pay premiums to fish from a boat.

But it also means more time for the sun to heat it - a threat to cold water fish that have faced die-offs in recent years coinciding with record-setting summer temperatures.

In parts of Alaska and Northern Canada, frozen lakes and rivers also serve a critical role connecting remote, often indigenous communities that are inaccessible by road. Without the ice, residents cannot access outside goods and services except by plane or boat. For both transportation and recreation, changes in ice trends can be deadly.

Back at Grand Lake, a Johnny Cash song blasts from a speaker as five simultaneous hockey games are played, the humidity in players' breath crystalizing in the frigid air as they cheer on their teammates.

Hockey player Rachel Kindsvatter, a caseworker who assisted people who lost their homes in a wildfire that ravaged the area in the fall of 2020, says she recognizes that delaying a tournament pales in comparison to many problems facing the world.

Still, having to push it back an entire month so that people don't fall in is

"Give it 10 to 20 plus years and who knows if (the tournament) could even happen," she said.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

WEATHER



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE Actor Lee Marvin, right, and his wife, Pamela, visit with Mitchell Ryan, star of Arthur Miller's play "The Price," backstage at the Playhouse Theater in July 1979 in New York.

'Dark Shadows,' 'Lethal Weapon' actor Ryan dies

LOS ANGELES • Mitchell Ryan, who played a villainous general in the first "Lethal Weapon" movie, a ruthless businessman on TV's "Santa Barbara" and had character roles on the soap opera "Dark Shadows" and the 1990s sitcom "Dharma & Greg," died Friday. He was 88.

Ryan died of congestive heart failure at his Los Angeles home, his stepdaughter, Denise Freed, told the Hollywood Reporter.

Rugged, granite-jawed and sporting a sleek mane of hair, Ryan was instantly recognizable on TV and the big screen. His career spanned more than a half-century, beginning with an uncredited role in the 1958 Robert Mitchum film "Thunder Road."

He was a general-turned heroin smuggler in "Lethal Weapon," police officer in "Magnum Force" and "Electra Glide in Blue," and the conniving, murderous Las Vegas businessman Anthony Tonell in the nighttime TV soap opera "Santa Barbara."

In the 1990s, he had a long-running role as Greg's wealthy, eccentric and boozy father on "Dharma & Greg."

Ryan played Burke Devlin on the cult 1960s soap opera "Dark Shadows" for one season but he was fired because of his alcoholism. Ryan acknowledged his drinking issues in his 2021 autobiography, "Fall of a Sparrow."

"I'm blessed that, 30 years a drunk, I've managed to live a working actor's life to be envied. And I've lived a great deal of real life while I was at it," he wrote. "Sober for the next 30 years, I'm told that I've come out of it all a good and useful human being."

Ryan had roles on many TV shows and in movies ranging from "High Plains Drifter" with Clint Eastwood to "Halloween: The Curse of Michael Myers."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

9NEWS&₺ FORECAST



AT A GLANCE 98%

Denver will likely get 2–5 inches of snow during the day. The snow should mostly be done by Monday morning, totaling about 3–6 inches with more likely in the foothills west of Denver.

For more: www.9news.com/forecast

FEATURED PHOTOGRAPH



PHOTO BY JERRY EAGLEN OF BROOMFIELD VIA 9NEWS

A resident of the Butterfly Pavilion. Have you taken a Colorado weather photo or video lately? Send it to **photos@denvergazette.com**; include your name and information about the photo or video.

ON TV

What to watch

SUNDAY

March 6, 2022

All times Mountain. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen quide.

2022 Paralympic Winter Games

NBC, 11 a.m.

Two hours of recorded event coverage from the 2022 Paralympic Winter Games in Beijing.

America's Got Talent: Extreme

NBC, 6 p.m.

In "Best of Auditions 2," look back at some of the most memorable acts from last week's second Auditions episode.

The Courtship

NBC, 7 p.m.; episodes stream next day on Peacock ■ New Series

When this dating show/social experiment started development as a Peacock series, it had the title Pride & Prejudice: An Experiment in Romance. Now moved to NBC for its premiere episodes and under a new name, the series' concept remains the same and should appeal to fans of Jane Austen. Transported to a castle in the English countryside re-created in the style of the late 18th-/early 19th-century Regency era, a group of suitors try to win the heart of a heroine using the courting methods of that time, from carriage and boat rides to archery outings and handwritten letters to communicate.

If Walls Could Talk

Lifetime, 9 p.m. ■ Original Film

Inspired by true events. After the death of her father, Olivia Garland moves home to help her mother, Rebecca. She becomes concerned about Rebecca's claims of a ghost in the house and wonders if Rebecca is beginning to decline mentally. When Rebecca breaks her hip, Olivia hires health aide Jake Winters, whose patience and warmth seem too good to be true, and when strange things keep happening, Olivia must decide who she can trust and how to keep her and her mother

safe. Stars Margo Parker, Conner Floyd and Nicole Danielle Watts.

Transplant

NBC, 9 p.m. ■ Season Premiere

This popular Canadian medical drama returns for its second-season run in the States beginning tonight. Season 2 picks up with Dr. Bashir "Bash" Hamed (Hamza Haq) and his fellow residents reeling after Dr. Jed Bishop (John Hannah) suffers a stroke. For Syrian refugee Bash, life at the Toronto hospital he had started to consider home suddenly feels precarious. As the team adjusts to new colleagues while dealing with the challenges of life, unexpected faces from the past leave Bash seriously doubting whether his transplant into this new world was successful.

Winning Time: The Rise of the Lakers Dynasty

HBO, 10 p.m. ■ New Series

This 10-episode drama explores the professional and personal lives of the Los Angeles Lakers in the 1980s as they become one of the most revered and dominant squads in basketball history. Coaches, executives, players, other staff and family members are all part of the mix as a spotlight is shone on



нво

behind-the-scenes wheeling and dealing, including ownership squabbles and tension among players. The superstar cast includes John C. Reilly, Quincy Isaiah, Sally Field, Adrien Brody, Jason Clarke, Solomon Hughes, Jason Segel, Gaby Hoffmann, Julianne Nicholson, Rob Morgan and Tracy Letts.

CATCH A CLASSIC

31 Days of Oscar: Best Screenplay Winners and 1990s & 2000s Winners

TCM, beginning at 4:15 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Like Saturdays, Sundays during Turner Classic Movies' 31 Days of Oscar celebration will be divided into two themes. From the morning into the early evening, the network will feature winners in a specific major Oscar category from throughout Hollywood history. The evening will then feature winners in various categories from the 1990s and 2000s specifically. Today's lineup, beginning in the early morning, starts out with the following films that took home Academy Awards for their screenplays (original or adapted from another source), either as their only wins or among other wins: Little Women (1933), Pygmalion (1938), The Lavender Hill Mob (1951), Citizen Kane (1941), The Great McGinty (1940). Woman of the Year (1942) and



Pillow Talk (1959). Starting in primetime, TCM then airs four Oscar-winning favorites from the 1990s and 2000s: The Iron Lady (2011, network premiere) – won in both of its nominated categories: Best Actress (Meryl Streep) and Best Achievement in Makeup; Shakespeare in Love (pictured) (1998) - 13 nominations, seven wins, notably including Best Picture, Best Actress (Gwyneth Paltrow), Best Supporting Actress (Judi Dench) and Best Original Screenplay (Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard); Jerry **Maguire** (1996) – five nominations, one win: Best Supporting Actor (Cuba Gooding Jr.); and Antonia's Line (1995) - won in its only nominated category: Best Foreign Language Film (The Netherlands). – *Jeff Pfeiffer*

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



DISNEY/PIXAR

Brave (2012, Children) Kelly Macdonald, Billy Connolly **Disney, 7 p.m.**

Neighbors (2014, Comedy) Seth Rogen, Zac Efron Comedy Central, 8 p.m.

Rampage (2018, Action) Dwayne Johnson, Naomie Harris TNT. 8 p.m.

Men in Black (1997, Action) Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith VH1, 8:30 p.m.

Step Brothers (2008, Comedy) Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly **E! 8:30 p.m.**

Charlie's Angels (2019, Action) Kristen Stewart, Naomi Scott **FX**, **9 p.m.**

A Million Ways to Die in the West (2014, Comedy) Seth MacFarlane, Charlize Theron Comedy Central, 10 p.m.

Colombiana (2011, Action) Zoe Saldana, Jordi Molla **SYFY, 10 p.m.**

Beetlejuice (1988, Comedy) Michael Keaton, Alec Baldwin **CMT**, **10:30 p.m.**

Bridesmaids (2011, Comedy) Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph **TBS**,

Scary Movie (2000, Comedy) Shawn Wayans, Marlon Wayans **VH1, 11 p.m.**

Young Guns II (1990, Western) Emilio Estevez, Kiefer Sutherland Sundance, 11:30 p.m.

Godzilla: King of the Monsters (2019, Science fiction) Kyle Chandler, Vera Farmiga TNT, 12:30 a.m.

The Change-Up (2011, Comedy) Ryan Reynolds, Jason Bateman **E! 12:30 a.m.**

From the editors of TV Weekly and tvinsider.com

тсм		Gardens (†75, l recluses in de	*** La Promesse ('96, Drama) (Jéréi teenager befriends a widowed illegal i				
TLC	My Knees A	/	Skin/Peeling N		My Baby Weighs N		Body/Shak
TNT	NBA Basket	ball Washingt	N	In NBA N	*** Shar		
TRAVEL	Delicious	Delicious	Bizarre Foods/Zimmern		Best Bars	Best Bars	Delicious
TRU	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Joker



ADVICE



DICKINSON

Dear Amy: My husband and I are good parents and grandparents.

We are always available when needed and our relationship with our daughter and her husband is pretty good. The problem is that they never come to our home, even though they live only 45

minutes away. Additionally, every time I have suggested that we take a family vacation together (one that I would pay for), they react with negativity.

I think her husband has some social issues, but he acts fine when we visit them for a few hours. We are not young and being with our grandkids is the highlight of our lives!

I think that our daughter believes that "family" is just the four of them. We try to respect her rules and boundaries, but her behavior is very hurtful.

Any suggestions? — Tired of Trying

Dear Tired: I realize that some families take three-generation vacations, but for many hardworking parents, a vacation entails actually leaving extended family in place while they break new ground and create memories with their children.

(And yes, once parents have children they form a nuclear family with their kids, and their siblings and parents become part of their extended family.)

Once COVID restrictions ease, you could explore the idea of taking your grandchildren on an Elderhostel retreat. These educational programs are designed for grandparents to enjoy alongside their grandkids.

Check roadscholar.org for adventures ranging from exploring Yosemite to seeing Broadway shows in New York City.

If the children are too young, or if this idea is too daunting, you might start smaller and see if your daughter and her husband are willing to relinquish the children for a weekend "staycation" at their home while the parents enjoy a brief getaway.

If that goes well for everyone, you can venture further afield, possibly hosting overnights at your home.

Send questions to askamy@amydickinson.com or to Ask Amy, P.O. Box 194, Freeville, NY 13068,

ADVICE



DR. ROIZEN

Question: My doctor says eating resistant starches will help me control my glucose levels. What are resistant starches and will that work? Stan A., Columbus, Ohio

Answer: Most carbohydrate foods contain starches - and some of it is resistant to being digested. The starch passes

right through your small intestines unchanged (that's why it doesn't raise your blood glucose levels like other starches do). It is then fermented in your large intestines - and that helps feed "good" gut bacteria.

The result is improved insulin sensitivity, lower blood-sugar levels and increased production of short-chain fatty acids such as butyrate that are essential for regulation of the immune system, appetite control and to protect you from everything from colon cancer to diabetes and obesity.

Foods that contain resistant starches include legumes and beans (white beans and lentils have the most), green bananas and plantains, whole grains, especially oats and rice (brown rice is most nutritious). Some foods that are cooked, then cooled overnight in the fridge, become even more loaded with resistant starch. Try cooking brown rice, sweet potatoes, beans and whole grain pasta ahead of time, refrigerating and then reheating the next day.

Eating resistant starches is a smart addition to a glucose-control diet. Other components include high-fiber foods like vegetables, fruits and 100% whole grains, and lean proteins as a complement to a plant-based approach. It's also important to avoid highly processed foods, added sugars or syrups, and inflammatory foods such as red and processed meats.

If you have pre- of full-blown Type 2 diabetes, keeping tabs on your glucose levels is important to help you control or reverse the condition. There are easy-to-use digital glucose monitors, including ones that require no finger stick. If you really want to know which foods are helping you maintain - or lose control, it might be smart to use a monitor before and after every meal.

Dr. Michael Roizen is chief wellness officer emeritus at the Cleveland Clinic and author of four No. 1 New York Times bestsellers. Reach him at questions@GreatAgeReboot.com. **ADVICE**



HINTS FROM HELOISE

Dear Heloise: Why do so many people think they can only have one email address? One of your writers didn't want to give an address when a website asks for one because of the junk email it produces. I have an email address that I use just for those situations, and then I never have to check the inbox.

I have another email address that I use for my commercial purposes (online purchases or payments made on-

line, etc.) that I will check the inbox occasionally for shipping or other information.

Then I have my personal email for friends and relatives that I check daily and only give out sparingly. There are many sites that give you free email addresses. Don't use an address provided with your paid services, like an internet provider, because if you need to change providers, you then have to lose that address and advise all your contacts of a new address. - Ken G., Prescott, Ariz

Dear Heloise: I just read your column about the guy who lay on the floor for four days with a broken leg. An even better suggestion than the cellphone nearby is a fall-detection watch that can be worn 24/7, even in the shower, and has connection both through Wi-Fi and telephone service. Thanks for all the helpful hints. I read your column every day in our local newspaper, the Morganton News Herald. — Rosamond Prince, via email

Dear Heloise: As an avid reader of your column, I've seen practical gift suggestions, from fire extinguishers to baking soda and other "Plan B" savers of the day. One of my favorite housewarming gifts (or anytime) is to give homeowners or renters a security key box. The boxes are super easy to mount. A spare key can be kept in them that it's easily accessible, if needed.

We often use our garage door opener to get into the house, but if the power is temporarily out, at least you'll have a way to get in the front door. Even if thieves try to steal the box, they are virtually impossible to open without a simple four-digit code.

I also highly recommend a camera doorbell - a bit costly but well worth the peace of mind. — Dr. Z., Maumelle, Ark.

Dr. Z., thanks for all this advice for home protection. There are many home-protection products that you can get to secure your home. Find the ones that fit your home's and family's needs. - Heloise

Send hints to heloise@heloise.com or Heloise, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001.

TODAY'S HOROSCOPES BY MAGI HELENA

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

An old flame could reenter the picture. This is not a good day to end or begin a relationship, but later in the week you can be free to pick and choose.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Put the brakes on for a few days. Honor your existing obligations but don't enter into additional agreements until the second half of the week.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Get organized and maintain everything in good working order within your immediate environment, but if it isn't broken, don't fix it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

Restrain your happy-go-lucky ways when you are enveloped in a no-nonsense atmosphere.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Pump up your self-confidence and belief in yourself with plenty of self-validation. Refresh yourself by spending some quiet time in serene surroundings.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

If you feel frustrated or blocked at work, a positive attitude can get you through. Luckily, loved ones should be there to help keep you sane.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Focus on fixing any issues within your home, sweet home. Spend extra time feathering your own nest.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Don't be afraid to reassess or adjust your plans. You may feel bogged down by family problems or obligations in the early part of the week.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Put finishing touches on existing projects but wait to start something of great importance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You seldom invest your time in half measures. You could become immersed in a new group or develop a wider network of friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Dealt lemons? Make limoncello. Use whatever resources are at your disposal to turn negatives into positives.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

The feeling of permanence you might sense today may inspire you to improve. You can mirror someone else's attitudes to get consensus and harmony.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

March 6

Fly by the seat of your pants as the next two to three weeks go by. Not only is your judgment likely better than usual, but you also may receive golden opportunities to begin something new. Make crucial plans, launch important project and ask for favors and advice from people who can send you in the right direction.



The Denver Gazette INTERACTIVE

PUZZLES CAMES

Click on the links below for today's puzzles:

Thomas Joseph Crossword

denvergazette.com/puzzles/jc

Eugene Sheffer Crossword

denvergazette.com/puzzles/sc

Premier Sunday Crossword

denvergazette.com/puzzles/psc

Word Sleuth

denvergazette.com/puzzles/ws

Classic Sudoku

denvergazette.com/puzzles/cs

Mega Sudoku

denvergazette.com/puzzles/ms

Junior Remind

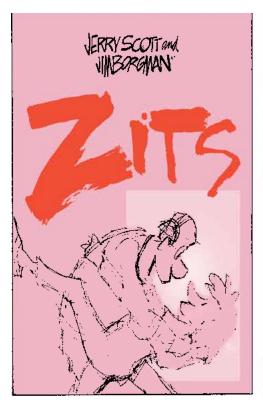
denvergazette.com/puzzles/jr

Battleships

denvergazette.com/puzzles/b

More puzzles

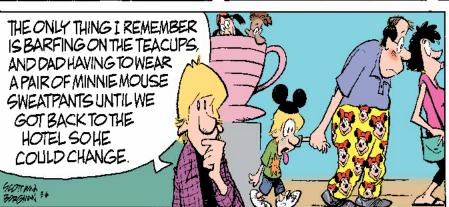
denvergazette.com/puzzles













POOCH CAFÉ



WHAT THE HECK, MAN? WHAT DIP EVOLUTION GIVE TO POSS?



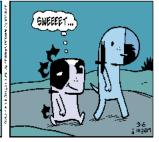
THE PADS OF OUR FEET SMELL

LIKE CORN CHIPS.



BY PAUL GILLIGAN





BY JOE MARTIN

BY MASON MASTROIANNI AND MICK MASTROIANNI





MISTER BOFFO







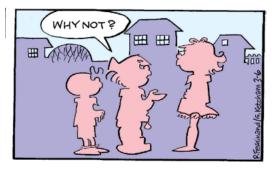




DENNIS THE MENACE BY HANK KETCHAM













THE FAMILY CIRCUS





THE ARGYLE SWEATER

BY SCOTT HILBURN

BY BIL KEANE



FRAZZ

BY JEF MALLETT

















FoxTrot





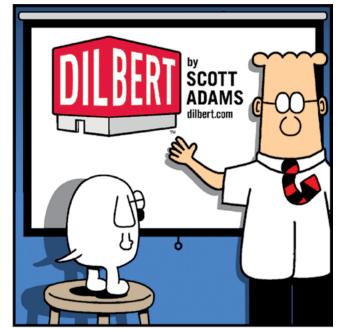








BY BRIAN CRANE











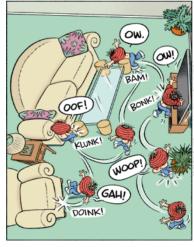












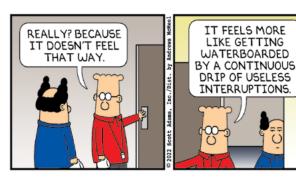






BY CANTÚ AND CASTELLANOS

CINDY'S SALADS!











PEDRO'S PORK HOUSE!













































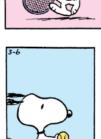
































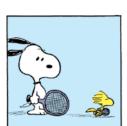




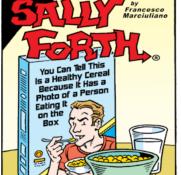


































PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



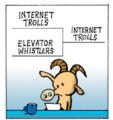




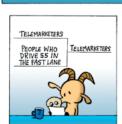


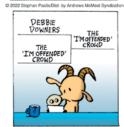




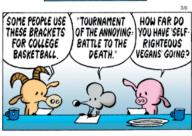






























GOMEDAY, WHEN YOU'RE MARRIED, YOUR GPOUSE WILL ASK YOU TO DO THIS











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HOLLYWOOD BRIDGES

Emmy winner **Beau Bridges**, 80, comes from a renowned acting dynasty. His latest project, *Acting: The First Six Lessons* (March 8 on iTunes and other streaming platforms), is a master class in performing, directed by his daughter, **Emily**, 35, and featuring interviews with his Hollywood family, including brother Jeff Bridges and their late father, Lloyd. Here are some other Bridges family don't-miss performances and fun facts.



◆The only time Beau and
Jeff teamed up was for
The Fabulous Baker
Boys (1989).

▶ Beau's Emmys are for The Second Civil War (1997), The Positively True Adventures of the Alleged Texas Cheerleader-Murdering

Mom (1993) and Without Warning: The
James Brady Story (1991).



■ Jeff won an Academy Award playing a country singer in Crazy Heart (2009), but he's perhaps best known as "The

Dude" in **The Big Lebowski** (1998).

Lloyd may be most famous for his TV drama series *Sea Hunt* (1958–61), but he wrapped up his career in a comedy bow with *Airplane!* (1980), *Hot Shots!* (1991) and *Mafia!* (1998).



RENÉE ZELLWEGER

The $Bridget\,Jones$'s $Diary\,$ star and two-time Oscar winner (for $Cold\,Mountain\,$ and Judy), 52, makes her network



television limited-series debut in **The Thing About Pam** (March 8 on NBC). It's based on a true-crime *Dateline* podcast about the 2011 murder of a Missouri insurance worker, Betsy Faria, that resulted in the conviction of her husband. Zellweger plays Pam Hupp, the woman whose diabolical scheme sent an innocent man to jail.

Pam is not an appealing woman. What made you take on the role? She's fascinating. What an interesting and complicated story. Like millions of people who listened to the *Dateline* podcast, when I first heard it, I thought, *Wow. It speaks to so many current topical issues and socially important issues.*So I felt like, let's tell this story.

Maya Angelou said, "When someone shows you who they are, believe them." Why didn't people see Pam for who she was and believe what she was doing? There are people who live next door to us, go to church with us, that we see at the supermarket, who are so familiar to us that we just make assumptions about who we think they are. Pam fit certain social markers that made it very easy to draw conclusions about who she might be. She wasn't somebody you might suspect of anything.

What's it like being so well known for playing Bridget Jones, the unlucky-in-love Londoner, in three rom-com films? I love Bridget. She makes me laugh. There's nothing more fun than going to that set. What a gift that experience has been. I make friends everywhere I go around conversations about Bridget. It's a pretty special thing, because we all share the same embarrassments and public humiliations.

Will you write a memoir? Oh, gosh, I'm not that interesting. I'm honestly not. The most interesting things about my life other people write and make up. So I think whatever's out there on the internet or in tabloids is much more interesting than something I could put together in my living room.

What new skill will she need to learn for an upcoming role? Go to **Parade.com/zellweger** to find out.



DEMENTIA DRAMA

Samuel L. Jackson and bestselling author Walter Mosley have teamed up to produce the six-episode limited series The Last Days of Ptolemy Grey (March 11 on Apple TV+). The iconic actor, whose many films include Pulp Fiction, Snakes on a Plane and entries in the Marvel superhero franchise, will star in the title role as a man with dementia who receives news of a "miracle" drug that can restore his memories. "My mom had dementia," says Jackson, 73. "Her sister had it, brother had it, my grandfather had it. My father's sister has it. So I'm kind of surrounded by it. I want people to be able to look at this story and know that there's not a miracle drug, like Ptolemy takes, but there is a way to care for these people and be gentle with them in their time of need."



ALL-STAR TIME TRAVEL

Ryan Reynolds, Mark Ruffalo and **Jennifer Garner** take on the future by diving into the past in the sci-fi timetravel adventure The Adam Project (March 11 on Netflix). Reynolds plays Adam, a man who travels back in time to get help from his younger self to confront his late father (Ruffalo), set things right and—oh, yeah—save the world. "Imagine if you could go [back] and have empathy for your parents, now that you know what you know as an adult," says director Shawn Levy, 53. "Imagine being able to tell your kid self, 'Yo, buddy, you're going to be OK.' It gives me goose bumps because this is a fundamental human journey."

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earest readers, the long wait for season two of *Bridgerton* is almost over (March 25 on Netflix). Narrated by unseen gossip columnist Lady Whistledown (the wonderful Julie Andrews), the Regency-era drama charmed the world with its inclusive casting, soapy debutante gossip, high-society escapades and steamy scenes, suitors and scandals. Here's something to help fans of Queen Charlotte, the Bridgerton family and their nouveau-riche neighbors, the Featheringtons, embrace the lavish "Bridgerton aesthetic" while we wait.

—Megan O'Neill Melle

Walls That Charm Heritage damask, toile and floral wallpaper designs, like Fine Décor Chinoiserie Blue Floral Paper, ooze Regency charm. \$19 per roll, homedepot.com

4 Hi, Tea! Pinterest and Etsy saw a dramatic increase in searches for antique tea sets, thanks to Bridgerton's elaborate tea parties. Mix and match Wedgwood's Butterfly Bloom Cup and Saucer patterns. Cup and saucer for \$75, bloomingdales.com



6 Period Portraits It's not Regency London without homes full of portraits. Hit local antique shops or estate sales for quirky vintage art or choose a whimsical print, like *Emma in* Blush. \$85, joshyoung designhouse.com

6 Ruffle Up You may not want to go grocery shopping in the romantic pastels used to clothe the old-money Bridgertons, but why not relax in this elegant Ruffled Chenille Robe? \$100, vermontcountry store.com

Visit Parade.com/bridgerton to find out about the books that inspired the hit series.



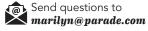
Ask Marilyn By Marilyn vos Savant

I enjoy reading the comic sections in newspapers, as I'm sure countless others do, and I've long been puzzled by the way writers come up with new ideas every day. (I'm not referring to the strips that have a continuing story line.) How in the world do they do it?

This kind of creativity looks like magic or a gift, but I hear it's just plain labor-intensive. A friend

—Tom Delia, Mount Pleasant, Mich.

who performed stand-up comedy in clubs told me his job was indescribably difficult. Great presentation came almost naturally to him, the way cartoonists draw with ease, but he said he was on the lookout for material during almost every waking hour and constantly making notes!



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DOLLY & JAMES

That time a country superstar and a bestselling author wrote a book together and became best buds.

By Mary Laura Philpott Cover and opening photography by Ashley Hylbert

E veryone on set is grinning. Country music superstar Dolly Parton and bestselling novelist James Patterson have been gamely striking poses for nearly an hour, the diminutive Parton perched in

vertiginous heels upon a wooden crate to bring her closer to Patterson's height. Horsing

around with props, ranging from a long-stemmed rose to a shiny red guitar—"You hold it,"

Parton says, laughing. "No, that's backwards!"—they have charmed the whole crew gathered at a studio

outside Nashville.

The pair recalls the first time they met, in early 2020. "We just clicked,

really," Parton says. Back then, Patterson had flown to Nashville to introduce himself and float the idea of writing a book together.

Now they've reunited to promote their partnership's result: a high-stakes thriller set in the glitzy world of country music.

Run, Rose, Run will be published on March 7, just three days after Parton debuts a new album of the same name, featuring 12 songs based on the book's characters.

What's clear from their camaraderie is that something even bigger than a book with its own soundtrack has emerged from their collaboration: a genuine friendship. While they may be mismatched

in height and glamour (no offense at all to Patterson, but who could possibly sparkle at comparable wattage to Dolly Parton?), these two

RUN

"Dolly is just what you would hope she would be. And she's very, very smart."

from page 8

highly uncommon figures have found they have a great deal in common.

"We're both from small towns," Patterson says. "The odds of us getting to where we are from where we started are about 10 million to one." Patterson was born in Newburgh, N.Y.; Parton in Pittman Center, Tenn. Both were raised in households where money was scarce. "And I think we're both kind of down-to-earth," he says.

All true, as is the fact that both are mind-bogglingly prolific creators and businesspeople who, still working nonstop in their mid-70s, reign over profitable and philanthropic empires branded under their names.

The Dream Team

Patterson, 74, began "scribbling," as he says, in his 20s. By the time he turned 30, he had penned his first mystery novel and won an Edgar Award for it. He continued to write novels on the side while ascending the ranks to CEO at ad agency J. Walter Thompson, before quitting in 1996 to write full-time. Today, sales of his books total a staggering 425 million worldwide, a number that rises rapidly as Patterson and his team of co-writers publish dozens of new books each year. In addition to stand-alone thrillers and series featuring popular characters such as Alex Cross—plus high-profile collaborations, including The President Is Missing with Bill Clinton—he produces books for children and teens. Beloved in the literary world, he has been honored with both the National Humanities Medal and the National Book Foundation's Literarian Award for Outstanding Service to the American Literary Commu-









(1) Patterson was 29 when he wrote his first novel, *The Thomas Berryman Number*, which was set in Nashville. (2) At 9, Parton was already using her East Tennessee roots as song fodder. (3) She celebrated 50 years of performing at the Grand Ole Opry in 2019. (4) Patterson received the National Humanities Medal in 1997.

nity. For several years, he has been recognized by Guinness World Records as the author with the most *New York Times* bestsellers.

Speaking of records: Parton, 76, may have risen to the level of cultural icon, but she began as a teenage singer-songwriter in the 1960s, stubbornly working her way through the male-dominated music industry to turn a guitar, notepad and raw emotion into hit songs. Nearly six decades later, she has sold more

"Jim has such a great depth and intelligence that I just feel honored to be in his presence."

than 100 million albums worldwide. surpassed 3 billion streams globally and shows no signs of slowing down. Case in point: In the past year and a half the same time period during which she was working on Run, Rose, Run with Patterson—she released a holiday album, A Holly Dolly Christmas, which debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard country chart; published a New York Times bestselling collection of song lyrics and stories, Songteller; launched a perfume; and continued her Emmywinning production deal with Netflix. She has racked up 10 Grammys, plus the Lifetime Achievement Award: nine Country Music Association Awards; nine Academy of Country Music Awards: and three American Music Awards—more than earning her place in the Country Music Hall of Fame.

What's left to reach for at this level of success? "Now it's time to have fun," Patterson says. Together, they dreamed up the story of AnnieLee Keyes, a young singer trying to make it in Nashville while on the run from a mysterious past, and Ruthanna Ryder, a Parton-like legend who takes the budding star under her wing. In imagining AnnieLee's journey, Patterson plumbed Parton's memories of moving to Nashville straight out of high school at 18 and imbued the character with her creators' own ambition and work ethic. "My grandmother used to have a saying: 'Hungry dogs run faster,'" Patterson says. "Dolly and I are both driven."

At mention of the word, Parton begins reciting the lyrics to "Driven," a song she wrote for the new album:

I've got drive
I try to do more than survive
Reachin' out to take what life has given
One thing you can say for me is
I'm driven

continued on page 10

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from page 9

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Parton came up with the album as a way to add an additional layer to the story, and also because she simply couldn't help herself. She processes what she's thinking and feeling by writing song lyrics. As she and Patterson honed the story, the songs Annie-Lee sang on fictional stages became real in Parton's mind.

Keeping It Real

When they first started working together, Patterson flew in from Palm Beach County, Fla., where he lives with his wife, Susan (with whom he raised their son. Jack, 24), to brainstorm in Nashville, where Parton lives with her husband, Carl Dean, After the pandemic made gathering in person too risky, they bridged the distance by phone. "We're old-timers," Parton says. "I still fax! I said, 'You've got to get a fax machine, because I'm going to be faxing you."

They reviewed drafts and sent each other notes, Parton paying special attention to the scenes set in the offices and performance spaces of the music industry. "I knew Jim could write the book himself and put my name on it, but I said, 'I'm not that kind of person. I have to do my part.' So I would critique things or say, I don't think they'd do it like that in the business."

Patterson says Parton's keen eye ensured the story's authenticity. Well, relatively speaking. This is a James Patterson novel, after all. "Anything that happens in the book, even if it's a little over the top—and who's to say in this day and age that anything's over the top?—it could happen like this," he says.

10 | MARCH 6, 2022



Married 56 years, Parton met Carl Dean in Nashville outside the Wishy Washy Laundromat in 1964.

The Cost of Fame

For all its larger-than-life plot twists, whizzing bullets and high-speed chases, Run, Rose, Run also poses a serious question facing any aspiring artist: What is the cost of fame? Of course, Parton and Patterson experience celebrity a bit differently. He's widely recognized by his name, not necessarily his face; her image—and famous figure went global through decades of film and TV appearances, her music and the branding of her businesses. But they agree that fame isn't something everyone can handle.

For Patterson, rolling with mega-success means keeping a healthy perspective. "I still look at the world the way I did as a kid in a small town. I just get a kick out of stuff."

"I'm a workhorse who looks like a show horse," Parton adds, chuckling. "I always wanted to sing. I always wanted to travel. I always wanted to get rich so I could have things for my family as well as myself. But celebrity is 24/7. You give up a lot. Many people in my own family have more talent than I do, but they

continued on page 14



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were too shy to get out and do it. I'm from a family of 12, and I kind of got lost in the shuffle. But when I started writing my songs, everybody started paying a lot of special attention to me. Some want celebrity, some don't. I did."

The Joy of Giving

One of AnnieLee's most relatable qualities is her tendency to vacillate between hope and despair as she chases her dream. Asked to consider

what in the real world inspires their own optimism or anxiety, Patterson leans forward in his chair and says, "My answer to both is maybe unusual. It's the pandemic."

Parton, who donated \$1 million to Vanderbilt University Medical Center for COVID-19 research in 2020, nods

as he continues. "What's hopeful and amazing to me is that in less than a year, everybody got together and created the vaccine. What's depressing is that having seen what happens when we get together to do something, we can't get that into our heads and make it the way we operate. Why can't we do that?"

"The Bible says, 'A house divided cannot stand," Parton says. "Neither can a country divided, nor a world divided. And that's really where we're at now."

Adds Patterson, "If we get together and look at the problem, we can solve it, whatever it is. We have to learn that lesson."

Each of them has set that example in their charitable work. Patterson has donated millions to students and universities, school libraries and independent booksellers, all with the goal of encouraging reading. "It's a matter of people's lives. If we get books into kids' hands, they stand a better chance at reading at grade level, and then doing better in high school or college or getting better jobs," he says.

In addition to her support of scientific research, Parton oversees the Dollywood Foundation, which includes the Imagination Library, an organization that gives millions of

> free books to children around the world each month. And her Dollywood Parks & Resorts has offered to pay all tuition costs, including fees and books, for employees pursuing higher education. "If you've got the money, and you've got the heart, and you're not too selfish,

you can do a lot of good," she says.



Patterson and his wife, Susan, with their son, Jack. Father and son wrote a children's book together in 2017.

Best Friends Forever?

Parton draws parallels between herself today and Ruthanna, the matriarchal mentor and retired superstar in the book. Like Ruthanna, Parton has a music studio in her home, keeps longtime band members on payroll and takes an interest in up-and-coming talent. But unlike her fictional counterpart, Parton hasn't stepped out of the spotlight. "I wouldn't know what to do. What does retirement even mean? I'm working all the time in my mind. I'm a creator."

Patterson says he has no plans to retire either. "Unless the doctor tells me to," he quips.

Do they mean to give the impression they might continue collaborating? Oh, yes, Parton confirms. "We're going to work together for a long time."

Visit **Parade.com/dolly** for 35 amazing photos of Parton through the years.



 $\stackrel{-}{\mathsf{D}}$ served with a simple dipping sauce, this fish is a delicious

weeknight meal. It's a recipe from the new cookbook Make This Tonight by the editors of Tastemade, an online food, travel and design platform. If you can't find red snapper, other fish options-cod, catfish, rockfish or grouper—will work just as well.

PAN-FRIED RED SNAPPER

Serve with steamed rice.

Cut 1 (1-lb) red snapper fillet into 2-inch pieces. In a large bowl, combine 2 cups water, juice of 1 lemon and 1 Tbsp kosher salt; stir to dissolve salt. Add fish; let stand 20 minutes. Drain. Spread fish on a wire rack to dry, about 10 minutes.

Preheat oven to 200°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a shallow bowl, combine 1/3 cup potato starch (or cornstarch), 1 tsp ground coriander, 1 tsp ground cumin and 1 tsp kosher salt. In a separate shallow bowl, beat 1 large egg.

In a large cast-iron skillet over medium-high, heat 2 Tbsp canola or grapeseed oil. Working in batches, dredge fish in potato starch mixture, pressing to adhere, and then dip into egg, allowing excess to drip off. Add fish to skillet; cook 3-4 minutes per side or until golden brown. Transfer fish to prepared baking sheet; keep warm in oven. Repeat with remaining fish, adding another 1 Tbsp oil to pan, if needed.

For dipping sauce: In a small bowl, whisk 2 Tbsp soy sauce; 1 Tbsp rice vinegar; 1 (1/2-inch) piece ginger, peeled and thinly sliced; and 1 green onion, thinly sliced.

Divide fish between 2 plates. Garnish with sesame seeds. Serve with dipping sauce. Serves 2.

Head to **Parade.com/pudding** for a super-easy banana-walnut bread pudding recipe.

Texas Grandmother with Leg and **Feet Problems Goes from Near Cripple to Walking Her Dog Daily**

You don't have to suffer anymore. Doctors never tell you about these 7 natural herbs, yet millions of people in China have used them for relief of leg and feet problems for 3,000 years. In fact, they are guaranteed to relieve your problems and provide soothing comfort - or you pay nothing.

twenty years from leg and feet problems. Doctors prescribed one prescription drug after another. Then electrical stimulation. Then surgery. But after all these treatments - her legs and feet actually felt worse.

Mary was fed up with suffering. She took matters into her own hands. At wit's end, she discovered the best herbs for natural relief. She took them, and within just days, her leg and feet problems began to disappear. Now she walks her Golden Retriever Max every day (which she couldn't do before), works in her garden and regularly plays tennis with friends.

"If I kept listening to my doctors, I'd be a cripple today. I'd be in a wheelchair or in a nursing home. I am so thankful for these remarkable herbs."

Leg and feet problems could have been almost like a death sentence for Mary - and a shame for her suffering family. It is a terrible way to live out what should be the best year of your life.

Neuropathy is like a wildfire. It starts with a small flame, but then quickly turns into a raging fire in your feet that never stops. Left alone or treated in a way that doesn't work, it can lead to constant suffering - or even one of the 86,000 Americans who need a limb amputated each year according to the National Institutes of Health.

At Last - You Don't Have To Suffer Anymore

Here's why you have these problems: Your ar-



"I had so much pain from burning nerves in my feet I could barely move...but this makes it calm down so I can walk and sleep. I really love this stuff. Other pills didn't work. It stops the nerves from hurting so bad. It is amazing. Neuro-Flo lets me move and sleep pain-free. It is wonderful." Katerina King-Mccausland, Murrieta, CA

Mary Lentz of Plano, Texas suffered for over teries have weakened. Your arteries can't carry enough blood, nutrients and oxygen down to your legs and feet. This damages your nerves and causes your burning, tingling and numbness.

> The 7 herbs in the pill NeuroFlo strengthen your arteries that carry blood, nutrients and oxygen to your feet and legs. It improves your circulation so oxygenated blood goes to the nerves and repairs them. This makes your nerves grow stronger so your pain fades away and your legs and feet feel much younger again.

> Until now, scientists could not combine all these herbs into one pill without losing their full potency, but finally, they have succeeded.

> Dr. Ryan Shelton, M.D. says "This is new and different. It works for people who've tried many other things before. It is natural with no side effects. Don't give up hope for your leg and feet pain, burning, tingling and numbing. This pill is working for countless people after other treatments have failed them." From word-of-mouth, over 30,000 doses of this Chinese miracle have already been sold in America.

> Instead of letting their doctors control their health with no real relief, people are taking this natural approach. They are staying active and independent as they age - and creating a bright future they are excited about, instead of fearing. Now you too can enjoy your best years yet.

Conventional Treatments All Wrong

In America, drugs and other OTC formulas try to superficially suppress the symptoms. This may be going after the problem completely wrong. Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) believes nerve problems are largely caused by stagnant blood circulation. This causes your legs and feet NOT to get enough oxygen-rich, nutrient-rich blood they need to heal. The ingredients in NeuroFlo get this crucial blood flowing to your legs and feet like a fast-running river stream so they can feel better fast.

Want proof? To show how important oxygenated blood flow is, hold your breath. Hold it too long and you'll pass out. This is what's happening to your feet and legs now -- they are not getting the oxygenated blood flow they need to feel healthy.

Now you can get a good night's sleep - peaceful,



Chinese herbs provide fast relief of leg and feet tingling, burning and numbness. They do this by improving the flow of blood, nutrients and oxygen to your legs and feet to repair damaged nerves.

restful sleep - with no pain, tingling, zinging, itching or zapping. Improve your balance and coordination. No side effects - safe to take with other medications. Enjoy your favorite activities and hobbies again. Be more active, have more fun, enjoy life more. Don't risk irreversible damage to your feet and hands. Don't get worse and wind up in the hospital or a nursing home.

Neuroflo is GUARANTEED to work great for you - or you PAY NOTHING with a 90-day unconditional money-back guarantee. It is NOT sold in stores or online. No prescription or doctor visit is required.

50% OFF FOR THE NEXT 10 DAYS

This is the official release of Neuroflo in the state. Therefore, everyone who calls within the next 10 days will receive 50% OFF their first order. A toll-free hotline number has been set up for local readers to call for this 50% OFF savings. The number will be open starting at 7:00 am Sunday, March 6th and only for the next 10 days.

All you have to do is CALL TOLL-FREE 1-888-201-0370 and provide the operator with the special 50% OFF discount approval code: **NEF158**.

Important: Due to Neuroflo's popularity and recent media exposure on ABC, CBS and FOX NEWS, phone lines are often busy. If you call and do not get through immediately, please be patient and call back. Those who miss the 10 day deadline for 50% OFF will have to pay more for Neuroflo.

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- Boneless Chicken Breasts (1 lb. total)
- Boneless Pork Chops (6 oz.)
- 4 Omaha Steaks Burgers (5 oz.)
- 4 Gourmet Jumbo Franks (3 oz.)
- pkg. All-Beef Meatballs (12 oz. pkg.)
- 4 Individual Scalloped Potatoes (3.8 oz.)
- 4 Caramel Apple Tartlets (4 oz.)
- jar Omaha Steaks Seasoning (3.1 oz.)
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