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Gov. Mike Parson wants ‘big ideas’ for using Missouri budget surplus

Rudi Keller
Missouri Independent

Gov. Mike Parson wants to do big things with the budget surplus of billions of dollars and federal aid coming to Missouri, state lawmakers were told last week.

During a hearing of the Federal Stimulus Spending Subcommittee, higher education leaders offered their wish-list for projects the state couldn’t afford in the past.

Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau wants \$11 million for an expanded performing arts center. The State Technical College of Missouri in Linn wants \$20 million to renovate its engineering and welding technology centers.

And the University of Missouri wants \$115 million to develop a new research complex in Columbia centered on nuclear medicine and the campus research reactor.

“I don’t want to speak for the governor’s office, but I can tell you that they’re really interested in, you know, making a proposal that includes some of the big ideas that haven’t been within our reach in previous budgets,” Zora Mulligan, Parson’s higher education commissioner told the committee.

The committee heard from K-12 schools, higher education and the Department of Natural Resources.

If Parson wants to go big in the budget proposal due in January, he will have a lot of money to do it with.

The treasury already holds more than \$4 billion in unappropriated funds, with \$2.6 billion available for almost



In this July 7, 2020, file photo, Missouri Gov. Mike Parson speaks during a “National Dialogue on Safely Reopening America’s Schools,” event in the East Room of the White House, in Washington. (AP PHOTO/ALEX BRANDON, FILE)

any purpose allowed by the Missouri Constitution.

The other \$1.4 billion is federal pandemic aid from the American Rescue Plan Act passed by Democrats in March, which has an expansive list of uses related to recovery, economic development and infrastructure.

Money on the way is almost \$4 billion more. There’s another \$1.4 billion more in federal aid for general purposes and \$1.2 billion over the next two years because the state expanded eligibility for Medicaid.

The money with the fewest restrictions is general revenue. On Oct. 31, the general revenue fund held \$2.3 billion,

almost five times the balance two years earlier.

Taxes brought in \$1 billion more than expected above last fiscal year. That is enough to generate another \$1 billion surplus in the current year because the budget was written with much lower expectations.

Lobbyist Jim Moody was state budget director when lawmakers spent \$600 million – \$1.5 billion in current dollars – from a bond issue in the mid 1980s.

“I think you are going to get some spending that is going to be a pretty good size multiple of what the Third State Building Fund was, say \$2-, \$3-, or even \$4 billion,” Moody said. “The big challenge is, if you

get a package that big, how do you make sure you are not creating ongoing obligations.”

The subcommittee’s work began in April, when the Missouri State Highway Patrol asked for \$88 million for a new academy building amid other pitches for funding. Those seeking federal money, subcommittee Chairman Doug Richey, R-Excelsior Springs, said last week, must prove the long-term value to the state.

The state’s share is from money borrowed by the federal government, he said. If Missouri doesn’t spend it, he added, it won’t be spent.

“We have to steward these

See **SURPLUS**, Page A2



Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt speaks during a news conference in St. Louis on Aug. 6, 2020. JEFF ROBERSON - STAFF, AP

Biden vaccine rule for health workers blocked in 10 states

By DAVID A. LIEB
Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — A federal judge on Monday blocked President Joe Biden’s administration from enforcing a coronavirus vaccine mandate on thousands of health care workers in 10 states that had brought the first legal challenge against the requirement.

The court order said that the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid had no clear authority from Congress to enact the vaccine mandate for providers participating in the two government health care programs for the elderly, disabled and poor.

The preliminary injunction by St. Louis-based U.S. District Judge Matthew Schelp applies to a coalition of suing states that includes Alaska, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. All those states have either a Republican attorney general or governor. Similar lawsuits also are pending in other states.

The federal rule requires COVID-19 vaccinations for more than 17 million workers nationwide in about 76,000 health care facilities and home health care providers that get funding from the government health programs. Workers are to receive their first dose by Dec. 6 and their second shot by Jan. 4.

The court order against the health care vaccine mandate comes after Biden’s administration suffered a similar setback for a broader policy. A federal court previously placed a hold on a separate rule requiring businesses with more than 100 employees to ensure their workers get vaccinated or else wear masks and get tested weekly for the coronavirus.

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Adair County Health Dept. offering several vaccine opportunities

The Adair County Health Department

The Adair County Health Department has scheduled several opportunities for residents to get vaccinated against COVID-19 from through Dec. 30, 2021. The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine will be administered at the clinic, 1001 S. Jamison, and residents must call the Health Department at 660-665-8491 to register.

Residents may schedule first, second, third, and booster doses for all adult COVID-19 vaccine clinics. Adult doses are for those ages 12 and older. The pediatric clinics are only for children ages 5-11.

Residents are encouraged to stop by the Health Department any time to pick up a COVID vaccine consent form and bring the completed form to your appointment. Forms are available in marked contain-



The Adair County Health Department.

ers outside the clinic entrance. White forms are for those consenting to first, second, third or pediatric dose. Green forms are for those consenting to a booster shot.

COVID-19 vaccines and

boosters are free, but you must bring proof of prior vaccination. Masks are required, and short or loose sleeves recommended.

See **VACCINES**, Page A2

Two weeks remaining in Hope’s Kitchen Fundraiser

Daily Express staff

There are two weeks remaining in the annual Daily Express Hope’s Kitchen Fundraiser, with the fundraiser concluding on Dec. 11.

The fundraiser has raised \$1,565 as of Nov. 29.

For anyone interested in donating who hasn’t yet, they can do so in-person or by at the new

Daily Express office, located at 701 East LaHarpe Street, Suite C. People can also mail donations to A.T. Still University (800 West Jefferson Street) with “ATSU/Hope’s Kitchen” in the subject line. There is also a Paypal link on the kitchen’s website (hopes-kitchen.com).

For any extra info about Hope’s Kitchen, contact them at 660-988-8972 or email them

at hopesvolunteer@gmail.com.

To catch up on donations, here are folks who have donated since Nov. 15.

Richard and Donna Rhine-smith; Linda Seidel; In memory of Gerald B Crow and Suzie by Annabel Crow and Angel; Mark Laughlin; Janet White, in memory of Raymond “Ray” White; Robert “Bob” Goodwin; Charles and Ida Gregg; Ron and

Peggy Foster; David Giovannini and Annette Kenney, John Giovannini and Tinley, Hunter Giovannini, Kemper and Brian-na Shimansky, Andrew Giovannini; Beth and Bobby Poston, Dillon, Monika Poston, Claire and Anna, Travis Poston and Angela Anderson, Katy Poston and Brayton Glaspie, Mary and Charles Giovannini; Carolan Farms.

Marilyn Gibbons; B. Colleen Allen; Louise Morris, Vicki and Gary Watts and Ryan, Paula and Bruce McCarney, Brice, Briana and Hayden, Alon Sanders, John Sanders and Lacy; In memory of Tom “T.K” Murphy, Carole Murphy, Alan and Sheila Hubbard, Austin and Alyssia Thompson and Degan and Korban, Justin and Trinity Hubbard-Day.

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OBITUARIES INSIDE

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IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD: KIRKSVILLE EVENTS FOR DEC. 2-8

Submitted by Debi Boughton

Debi Boughton, Kirksville Tourism Director, has some suggestions for enjoying time “In Your Own Backyard.” For any activities, be sure to follow the CDC guidelines for health and safety. If you have ideas or suggestions email: debi.boughton@visitkirksville.com.

December 3-4

The Missouri Livestock Symposium begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday with a trade show and Beef Dinner at the William Matthew Middle School, 1515 S. Cottage Grove. The keynote speaker, Dr. Frank Mitloehner, will speak at the evening program which begins at 7:00 p.m. on Friday. On Saturday the trade show begins at 8:00 a.m. and the Educational Programs are from 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. For more information call 660-665-9866 or go to: missourilivestock.com.

Saturday, December 4

The Kirksville Kiwanis Christmas Parade will be held at 5:00 p.m. in downtown Kirksville. The theme this year is Storybook Christmas. The Kiwanis Club is collecting new mittens, hats, coats, and scarves for children in need. For more information email: kirksvillekiwanis@gmail.com.

Saturday, December 4

Santa arrives in town today! He will be in the Kirksville Kiwanis Christmas parade. Then he will be at the Downtown Cinema 8 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. to meet children. For more information go to: <https://www.facebook.com/downtownkirksville/>.

Sunday, December 5

The Truman State University Chorus Concert begins at 2:00 p.m. in the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall on the Truman campus. The concert is free. Masks are required inside all buildings on the campus. For more information call 660-785-4417.

Monday, December 6

Do you have your Christmas tree yet? This is the last season for Fouch’s Christmas Tree Farm. They are open 1:00-4:30 p.m. weekdays and 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekends. Hike over the rolling hills and saw down your own tree. They also have fresh wreaths, tree stands, and candy available. For more information call 660-216-7986.

Tuesday, December 7

The Truman Brass Choir concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in Baldwin Hall Auditorium on the Truman campus. The concert is free. Masks are required inside all buildings on the campus. For more information call 660-785-4417.

BLOCKED

Continued from Page A1

Biden’s administration contends federal rules supersede state policies prohibiting vaccine mandates and are essential to slowing the pandemic, which has killed more than 775,000 people in the U.S. About three-fifths of the U.S. population already is fully vaccinated. But the judge in the health care provider case

wrote that federal officials likely overstepped their legal powers.

“CMS seeks to overtake an area of traditional state authority by imposing an unprecedented demand to federally dictate the private medical decisions of millions of Americans. Such action challenges traditional notions of federalism,” Schelp wrote in his order.

Even under an exceedingly broad interpretation of federal powers,

Congress did not clearly authorize CMS to enact “this politically and economically vast, federalism-altering, and boundary-pushing mandate,” wrote Schelp, who was appointed to the bench by former President Donald Trump.

While a vaccine requirement might make sense for long-term care facilities, Schelp wrote, CMS lacks evidence for imposing it on other health care providers and

ignored evidence that the mandate could jeopardize understaffed facilities. The judge also said CMS improperly bypassed public notice and comment requirements when issuing the emergency rule, which “feeds into the very vaccine hesitancy CMS acknowledges is so daunting.”

A CMS spokesperson said the agency was reviewing the court order.

“Staff in any health care setting who remain

unvaccinated pose both direct and indirect threats to patient safety and population health,” CMS said in a statement Monday. “That is why it is critical for health care providers to ensure their staff are vaccinated against COVID-19.”

Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt, who spearheaded the lawsuit, said the ruling “pushes back on the overreach of power” by those who are “using the coronavirus as

a tool” for control over people.

Officials in several states also praised the court ruling. New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu said “nursing homes were at risk of closure” if the mandate remained.

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds said the vaccine is the best defense against COVID-19, but medical providers “deserve the freedom and ability to make their own informed health care decisions.”

VACCINES

Continued from Page A1

Upcoming adult COVID-19 vaccine clinics are from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on the following Tuesdays, Nov. 30 and December 7, 21 and 28. On Tuesday, Dec. 14, the adult clinic is from 2 to 4 p.m. Upcoming pediatric COVID-19 vaccine clinics are from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays, December 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.

Those who initiate a COVID-19 vaccine, including pediatric residents, will receive a \$50 gift card to local Casey’s, Hy-Vee, Walgreens or Walmart stores. Those who get their second dose will also receive a \$50 gift card. The incentive program does not include those receiving third doses or boosters.

The Adair County Health Department will host a community drawing for residents who received a first or second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine from December 2020 through December 31, 2021 at the Adair County Health Department or at a mass vaccination event sponsored by the Health Depart-

ment at The Crossing in Kirksville.

Qualifying residents who want to register for the drawing should use the “Contact Us” form on the Health Department website. Make sure you include your name, telephone number, and write in the “Message” portion that you wish to be entered in the community drawing.

Qualified residents without internet access can pick up a form from a box outside the Clinic entrance at the Adair County Health Department at 1001 S. Jamison Street. Once completed, they can drop it off inside during office hours, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Four winners will be drawn in the community drawing, and each will receive a \$250 gift card to their choice of the four participating stores. With every 10 new participants in the incentive program, the Health Department will hold another community drawing. You can register only once for the community drawing. Those who wish to register can do so as of today.

SURPLUS

Continued from Page A1

dollars effectively because we are contributing to debt ultimately, that will have to be paid at some point by future generations,” Richey said. “So with that being said, that does not mean that ideas that come across this committee’s desk are just simply going to receive a no, but those that receive a yes will be projects that are worth the debt.”

K-12 schools

In testimony last week, Commissioner of Education Margie Vandeven asked lawmakers to find money to increase teacher pay.

Missouri is 50th in the nation in teacher starting pay and 45th for average pay. Only Montana has lower starting pay. Only Arkansas has lower average pay among surrounding states, Vandeven said, and that state is spending money to increase salaries.

Pay is one of the big reasons the state is struggling to keep enough teachers in classrooms, Vandeven said.

“It is very, very easy for our teachers to cross state lines, and that’s something we need to pay very close attention to,” she said.

Missouri has a minimum teacher pay law, but there is no mechanism in state law for directing how much local districts pay above that amount. The state does not make direct appropriations for teacher pay.

Vandeven said she wants to spend \$52 million on a pro-

gram called Grow-your-own, a development program providing scholarships to high school students who want to be teachers and will promise to return to the sponsoring district after graduation.

But her suggestions that lawmakers should devote money for raising pay drew some pushback from some members of the committee. Richey said comparisons leave out Missouri’s generous pension system.

He also said local districts, like the one where he lives, can ask voters to approve new taxes to raise pay.

“So it’s not that the state of Missouri and our budget in terms of funding the foundation formula is holding us back,” Richey said. “There are other options.”

Vandeven, however, noted that state funding is intended to minimize the differences between rich and poor districts. School districts rely on property taxes and many have too small a base to generate significant new funds. “It creates a greater challenge in our communities who cannot do that,” she said. “And in many cases, those are the communities who really need great teachers.”

Higher education

The \$172 million the state’s smaller higher education institutions requested during last week’s hearing wasn’t nearly visionary enough for one subcommittee member.

“I want to know what it looks like to have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to revitalize institutions, not

just a shiny building for each campus or a renovation, one per campus,” said state Rep. Kevin Windham, D-Hillsdale. “What does it look like to make institutions look like state of the art institutions throughout the state?”

Paul Wagner, executive director of the Council on Public Higher Education, had just presented the list. It totaled \$172.5 million spread over 10 schools, the smaller four-year universities and the State Technical College.

“I would say that this list is tailored to what the governor asked us to provide, which was big, the bigger, more transformational type of projects,” Wagner said.

The University of Missouri, with four campuses, is asking for \$263 million, Ryan Rapp, vice president for finance, told the committee. Along with the new research center in Columbia, the request is for \$50 million for each of the other three campuses.

All the higher education requests represent 50 percent or less of the total cost, with each campus promising fundraising or internal funds for the balance.

At Missouri University of Science & Technology in Rolla, UM would put the money toward the Missouri Protoplex, an advanced manufacturing research center. At the Kansas City campus, the money would support the Health Sciences District Development and a 25 percent increase in graduates from the UMKC School of Medicine, Rapp said.

At the St. Louis campus, the funds would support campus consolidation and redevelopment of the property no longer used.

The largest request, Rapp said, is intended as the next move for the university following the opening of the Roy Blunt NextGen Precision Health building, a \$214 million, 265,000 square-foot research center built with minimal state support.

The university has the nation’s largest campus-based research nuclear reactor and wants to develop its potential for supplying isotopes used in medicine.

“So it’s really wanting to set forward to say over the next 10 years, how do we rebuild that research infrastructure at Mizzou?” Rapp said.

For Windham, the request from the UM System begins to meet his expectations.

“I wish everybody was as aggressive as Mizzou when making an appropriation request,” he said.

In an interview after the hearing, Wagner said the institutions he represents could present more ideas. While Windham wants more, Richey is cautioning that lawmakers will be picky as they spend federal stimulus funds.

The schools think that is a workable deal, Wagner said.

“We are happy to do business with the committee on those terms,” Wagner said. “Facilities that improve educational opportunity and improve the workforce at the same time are exactly the kind of investments that would fit that criteria.”

Duck-billed dinosaur may be one of many at Missouri site

By JIM SALTER
Associated Press

Finding the fossils of a large duck-billed dinosaur in southern Missouri is exciting enough, but a paleontologist who helped lead the dig believes there are many more in the same area.

The latest fossils are a specimen of Parrosaurus missouriensis, first discovered at the same site in Bollinger County nearly 80 years ago but not confirmed as a new species until the latest dig. Experts believe the plant-eating dinosaurs grew to around 35 feet (11 meters) in length. Remains of four of the species have been found in the same area about 110 miles (180 kilometers) south of St. Louis.

Last month, a crane hoisted a 2,500-pound (1,130-kilogram) chunk of remains from the latest find from the glen of a wooded area. The fossils will go to Chicago’s Field Museum for further research.

University of Minnesota Paleontologist Peter Makovicky, who helped lead the dig, said Monday that he believes

the remains of many other dinosaurs will be found at the site.

“We actually have something that’s probably a mass death locality, where we have a herd of dinosaurs dying and being sort of buried together, and individuals of different ages,” Makovicky said.

“We can start looking at how these dinosaurs grew, start to understand a little bit about their biology and their possible herd structure. And that’s unique for a site east of the Great Plains. Most of what we know about the North American dinosaur comes from out west,” Makovicky said.

The first dinosaur fossils at the Missouri site were found in the early 1940s, uncovered by a family digging a well. Experts weren’t sure what sort of dinosaur it was and the bones were shelved for a long time.

A Missouri paleontologist purchased the property in the 1980s. A second set of dinosaur bones were found then.

Meanwhile, Guy Darrough, a fossil enthusiast and curator of the Sainte Genevieve Museum Learning Center in

Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, got permission to start digging around. About 10 years ago, he found fossils confirmed to be a juvenile dinosaur.

That discovery led Makovicky and his team to the site in 2017. Bones of the latest adult dinosaur were discovered, and experts determined that the Missouri dinosaurs were part of their own species. Makovicky believes they roamed the region 75 million to 90 million years ago.

The latest dig was a slow one, in part because of delays connected to the COVID-19 pandemic, but also because the teams had to work cautiously in the wet clay of the Missouri site — fossils are more typically excavated from rock.

“It’s a lot less power tools and a lot more clay sculpting tools you might get an art store,” Makovicky said.

Beyond dinosaur bones, the teams have found remains of massive turtles, prehistoric fish, even crocodiles that may have been to up 50 feet (15 meters) long, Darrough and Makovicky said.

Cosby prosecutors urge Supreme Court to restore conviction

MARYCLAIRE DALE
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Prosecutors urged the U.S. Supreme Court to reinstate Bill Cosby’s sexual assault conviction, complaining in a petition released Monday the verdict was thrown out over a questionable agreement that the comic claimed gave him lifetime immunity.

They said the Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision in June to overturn Cosby’s conviction created a dangerous precedent by giving a press release the legal weight of an immunity agreement.

Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin Steele called the court’s decision “an indefensible rule,” predicting an onslaught of criminal appeals if it remains law.

“This decision as it stands will have far-reaching negative consequences beyond Montgomery County and Pennsylvania. The U.S. Supreme Court can right what we believe is a grievous wrong,” Steele wrote in the filing, which seeks review under the due process clause of the U.S. Constitution.

Cosby’s lawyers have long argued that he relied on a promise that he would never be charged when he gave damaging testimony in an accuser’s civil suit in 2006. The admissions were later used against him in two criminal trials.

The only written evidence of such a promise is a 2005 press release from then-prosecutor Bruce Castor, who said he did not have enough evidence to arrest Cosby.

The release included an ambiguous “caution” that Castor “will reconsider this decision should the need arise.” The parties have since spent years debating what that meant.

Steele’s bid to revive the case is a long shot. The U.S. Supreme Court accepts fewer than 1% of the petitions it receives. At least four justices on the nine-member court would have to agree to hear the case. A decision on the petition, filed Wednesday but only made public Monday, is not expected for several months.

Castor’s successors, who gathered new evidence and arrested Cosby in 2015, doubt Castor ever made such a deal. Instead, they say Cosby had strategic reasons to give the deposition rather than invoke his Fifth Amendment right to remain silent, even if it backfired when “he slipped up” in his rambling testimony.

Cosby’s spokesperson called Steele “obsessed” with the actor and said he only hoped to please “the #MeToo mob.” Defense lawyers have long said the case should never have gone to trial because of what they call a “non-prosecution agreement.”

“This is a pathetic last-ditch effort that will not prevail. The Montgomery’s County’s DA’s fixation with Mr. Cosby is troubling to say the least,” spokesperson Andrew Wyatt said in a statement.

Cosby, 84, became the first celebrity convicted of sexual assault in the #MeToo era when the jury at his 2018 retrial found him guilty of

drugging and molesting college sports administrator Andrea Constand in 2004.

He spent nearly three years in prison before Pennsylvania’s high court ordered his release.

Legal scholars and victim advocates will be watching closely to see if the Supreme Court takes an interest in the #MeToo case.

Two justices on the court, Clarence Thomas and Brett Kavanaugh, were accused of sexual misconduct during their bitterly fought confirmation hearings.

Appellate judges have voiced sharply different views of the Cosby case. An intermediate state court upheld the conviction. Then the seven justices on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court wrote three separate opinions on it.

The majority found that Cosby relied on the decision not to prosecute him when he admitted giving a string of young women drugs and alcohol before sexual encounters. The court stopped short of finding that there was such an agreement, but said Cosby thought there was — and that reliance, they said, marred his conviction.

But prosecutors call that conclusion flawed. They note that Cosby’s lawyers objected strenuously to the deposition questions rather than let him speak freely.

Cosby himself has never testified about any agreement or promise. The only alleged participant to come forward is Castor, a political rival of Steele’s who went on to represent President Donald Trump in his second impeachment

trial. Castor said he made the promise to a now-dead defense lawyer for Cosby, and got nothing in return.

He never mentioned it to his top assistant, who reopened the case in 2015 after a federal judge unsealed Cosby’s deposition.

At a remarkable pretrial hearing in February 2016, Castor spent hours testifying for the defense. The judge found him not credible and sent the case to trial.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court, in its ruling, called Cosby’s arrest “an affront to fundamental fairness.”

Weeks later, the ruling prompted the state attorney general to dismiss charges against a jail guard accused of sexually abusing female inmates, because of an earlier agreement with county prosecutors that let him resign rather than face charges.

Cosby, a groundbreaking Black actor and comedian, created the top-ranked “Cosby Show” in the 1980s. A barrage of sexual assault allegations later destroyed his image as “America’s Dad” and led to multimillion-dollar court settlements with at least eight women. But Constand’s case was the only one to lead to criminal charges.

Five of Cosby’s accuser’s testified for the prosecution to support Constand’s claims, testimony that Cosby’s lawyers also challenged on appeal. However, the state’s high court declined to address the thorny issue of how many other accusers should be allowed to take the stand in a criminal case before the testimony becomes overkill.

Iowa teens plead not guilty in high school teacher’s death

Associated Press

FAIRFIELD, Iowa (AP) — Two southeastern Iowa teenagers pleaded not guilty Monday to killing their high school Spanish teacher, whose body was found earlier this month in a park where she took daily walks.

Willard Noble Chaiden Miller and Jeremy Everett Goodale, both 16, are charged with first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder in the killing Nohema Graber in Fairfield. Graber, 66, was reported missing Nov. 2 and her remains were found later that day in the local park. Authorities said she suffered “inflicted trauma to the head.”

Authorities haven’t disclosed a possible motive for the killing.

Miller and Goodale, who are being held in juvenile detention centers, entered their pleas in arraignment documents filed with the court Monday. They waived their right to a speedy trial, meaning prosecutors wouldn’t have to try them within 90 days of them being charged, and Judge Joel Yates scheduled the trial to begin April 19. He told lawyers to plan on a pretrial conference on March 21 to discuss issues involving evidence, trial length and jury selection method.

Last week, the teens’ lawyers asked Yates to lower their bond so they could be released to their parents’ supervision, saying they had no way to flee prosecution. Miller’s attorney, Christine Branstad, said research shows that detaining juveniles away from family for prolonged periods before trial can have a detrimental effect on them and stunt their development.

Prosecutors, though, called for the bonds to be kept at \$1 million or even raised to \$2 million. Assistant Iowa Attorney General Scott Brown said the “extremely brutal murder of an innocent person” justified keeping them the defendants in custody.

Yates indicated he would rule on the bond issue this week.

OBITUARIES

Alice Fox

Alice A. Fox was peacefully welcomed into the arms of our Lord, Jesus Christ, in the early morning on Sunday, November 21, 2021.

Alice was born on June 1, 1948 to Charles Parx “Hoppy” Fox and Ethel Lillian (Lockhart) Fox. She attended Kirksville schools and took great pride in her brief time working at the Sheltered Workshop.

She was a longtime member of the Salvation Army Church and, in recent years, a member of Kirksville Church of Christ. She had no children of her own, but loved many other children and babies as well as her beloved dog, Kathy, who brought her much comfort and joy.

Alice will always be remembered for her warm welcome to everyone and her positive personality in all circumstances. Her heartfelt love and concern for others was extraordinary and will be deeply missed by all. Alice never met a stranger and you could be most certain that if she saw you walking by her apartment or met her in the store she would be waving and asking how you were doing.

Most importantly, her devotion to her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, was her top priority; she always looked forward to the day He would call her home. Alice was a walking miracle throughout her life, but she never wanted her health to hold her back and lived her life to the fullest to the very end. Her last days were spent at The Pines nursing home, where the staff and other residents grew to love and appreciate her as well as those who have known her for years. Their love and compassion for her during her last months will always be remembered. As well as her daily devotions and prayers for all, Alice loved to sing. You might hear her singing one of her favorite gospel hymns or “You Are My Sunshine”.

Alice is survived by her niece and caretaker, LaDonna (Danny) Williams of Kirksville, Missouri, brothers Larry R. Fox of Princeton, Iowa and Clarence “Hank” Fox (wife Jongsun “Nabie”) of San Antonio, Texas and sister-in-law Betty Fox of Kirksville, Missouri and a host of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers, Lester Fox, Dennis D. Fox Sr., Jerry “Bob” Fox, brother-in-law, Glen Yardley as well as her sisters, Emma Lea Winkler, JoAnn Yardley and sister-in laws Frances C. Fox, Lou Fox, Virginia Fox and Edie Fox.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Rural Advocates for Independent Living (RAIL) in Kirksville, Missouri. RAIL and RAIL In-Home Support Care played an integral role in allowing Alice to live independently for the later years of her life.

Alice’s life will always be celebrated, however there will be no services at this time. Davis Playle Hudson Rimer Funeral Home will be in charge of interment at Highland Park Cemetery at a later date.

A Note of Thanks: The family would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy, prayers and all acts of kindness extended to them during this difficult time of bereavement.



TODAY’S OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES

| Name | Age | Town, State | Death Date | Arrangements |
|--------------|-----|--------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| *Hays, Sammy | 86 | La Plata, MO | 23-Nov | Travis Funeral Chapel- La Plata |

*** Additional information in display obituaries**
Obituaries appear in print and online at legacy.com/obituaries/kirksvilledailyexpress

Sammy Hays

LA PLATA - Sammy J. Hays, age 86 of La Plata, Missouri, passed away Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at University Hospital in Columbia, Missouri. Born July 30, 1935 in Yarrow, Missouri, the son of Samuel Lloyd and Amy Lorene (Mikel) Hays. On August 12, 1956 in Kirksville, Missouri, he was united in marriage to Shirley Pickett who preceded him in death on December 14, 2004.

Also preceding him in death were his parents; one brother, Jim Hays; and one son-in-law, Steve Shoop.

Surviving are two sons, Randy (Debbie) Hays and Danny (Tonia) Hays, all of Macon, Missouri; two daughters, Jana (John) Budzyn of Palmyra, Missouri and Erin Shoop of Fulton, Missouri; three grandchildren, Bryce (Rebecca) Hays, Whitney (Justin) Harlan, and Katlyn (Cody) Howard; four great grandchildren, Landon, Tessa, Hardin J., and Jarrett; one sister-in-law, Carol Hays of La Plata, Missouri; and his special friend, Mary VanMeter of Quincy, Illinois.

Sam lived and farmed all of his life in Adair and Macon Counties. He was a 1954 graduate of Kirksville High School. He moved to his farm east of Atlanta, Missouri in 1970 before retiring and moving to La Plata in 2004.

Sam loved playing baseball. He was a catcher for the Yarrow Baseball Team in his teens. Later he played for Art Gaines baseball teams where he caught several pitchers who later made it to the major leagues. He also played in a National Contest in Busch Stadium. Sam loved playing golf and square dancing.

Funeral services will be 1:30 p.m. Sunday, November 28, 2021 at Travis Funeral Chapel in La Plata, Missouri. Burial will be in the La Plata Cemetery.

Visitation will be Saturday, November 27, 2021 with the family receiving friends from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials in memory of Sam Hays may be made to La Plata R-II Schools to support the high school golf teams. They may be sent to or left at Travis Funeral Chapel, 125 S. Church St., La Plata, MO 63549.





To the Patriot Guard standing and escorting Dad to his final resting place and
To the Adair County Military Funeral Honors Program conducting Dad’s gravesite military service,

THANK YOU

We have been deeply touched by your support
and honor of our father.
God bless you.
The Family of Walter Gladbach

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People stand holding shopping bags on Regent Street in London, Monday, Nov. 29, 2021. Countries around the world slammed their doors shut again to try to keep the new omicron variant at bay Monday, even as more cases of the mutant coronavirus emerged and scientists raced to figure out just how dangerous it might be. In Britain, mask-wearing in shops and on public transport will be required, starting Tuesday. (AP PHOTO/MATT DUNHAM)

WHO warns that new virus variant poses ‘very high’ risk

JAMEY KEATEN, RAF CASERT and MARI YAMAGUCHI
Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — The World Health Organization warned Monday that the global risk from the omicron variant is “very high” based on the early evidence, saying the mutated coronavirus could lead to surges with “severe consequences.”

The assessment from the U.N. health agency, contained in a technical paper issued to member states, amounted to WHO’s strongest, most explicit warning yet about the new version that was first identified days ago by researchers in South Africa.

It came as a widening circle of countries around the world reported cases of the variant and moved to slam their doors in an act-now-ask-questions-later approach while scientists race to figure out just how dangerous the mutant version might be.

Japan announced it is barring entry to all foreign visitors, joining Israel in doing so. Morocco banned all incoming flights. Other countries, including the U.S. and members of the European Union, have moved to prohibit travelers arriving from southern Africa.

WHO said there are “considerable uncertainties” about the omicron variant. But it said preliminary evidence raises the possibility that the variant has mutations that could help it both evade an immune-system response and boost its ability to spread from one person to another.

“Depending on these characteristics, there could be future surges of COVID-19, which could have severe consequences, depending on a number of factors, including where surges may take place,” it added. “The overall global risk ... is assessed as very high.”

The WHO stressed that while scientists are hunting evidence to better understand this variant, countries should accelerate vaccinations as quickly as possible.

While no deaths linked to omicron have been reported so far, little is known for certain about the variant, including whether it is more contagious, more likely to cause serious illness or more able to evade vaccines. Last week, a WHO advisory panel said it might be more likely to re-infect people who have already had a bout with COVID-19.

Scientists have long warned that the virus will keep finding new ways to exploit weaknesses in the world’s vaccination drive, and its discovery in Africa occurred in a continent where under 7% of the population is vaccinated.

“The emergence of the omicron variant has fulfilled, in a precise way, the predictions of the scientists who warned that the elevated transmission of the virus in areas with limited access to vaccine would speed its evolution,” said Dr. Richard Hatchett, head of CEPI, one of the founders of the U.N.-backed global vaccine sharing initiative COVAX.

Spain on Monday became one of the latest countries to report its first confirmed omicron case, detected in a traveler who returned Sunday from South Africa after making a stopover in Amsterdam.

While the majority of omicron infections recorded around the world have been in travelers arriving from abroad, cases in Portugal and Scotland have raised fears that the variant may already be spreading locally.

“Many of us might think we are done with COVID-19. It’s not done with us,” warned Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO’s director-general.

Days after the variant sent a shudder through the financial world nearly two years into the pandemic that has killed over 5 million people, markets had a mixed reaction Monday. European stocks rebounded and Wall Street steadied itself, while Asian markets fell further.

U.S. President Joe Biden called the omicron variant a cause for concern but “not a cause for panic.” He said he is not considering any widespread U.S. lockdown and instead urged mask-wearing and vaccinations, even as a federal judge blocked his administration from enforcing a requirement that thousands of health care workers in 10 states get the shot.

Dr. Rochelle Walensky, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, reacted to the potential threat by urging everyone 18 and older to get booster shots, because “strong immunity will likely prevent serious illness.” Earlier this month, the U.S. opened boosters to all adults but recommended them only for those 50 and older or people in long-term care.

The omicron infections have underscored the difficulty in keeping the virus in check in a globalized world of jet travel and open borders. Yet many countries are trying to do just that, against the urging of the WHO, which noted that border closings often have limited effect and can wreak havoc on lives and livelihoods.

Some have argued that such restrictions can buy valuable time to analyze the new variant.

While the initial global response to COVID-19 was criticized as slow and haphazard, the reaction to the omicron variant came quickly.

“This time the world showed it is learning,” said EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, singling out South African President Cyril Ramaphosa for praise. “South Africa’s analytic work and transparency and sharing its results was indispensable in allowing a swift global response.”

Late last week, von der Leyen successfully pushed the 27-nation EU to agree to ban flights from seven southern African nations, similar to what many other countries are doing.

Cases have been reported in such places as Canada, Germany, Britain, Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands and Portugal, where authorities identified 13 omicron infections among members of the Belenenses professional soccer team.

Taking no chances, Japan, which has yet to detect any omicron cases, reimposed border controls that it had eased earlier this month.

“We are taking the step as an emergency precaution to prevent a worst-case scenario in Japan,” Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said.

Israel likewise decided to bar entry to foreigners, and Morocco said it would suspend all incoming flights for two weeks.

Britain reacted by expanding its COVID-19 booster program to everyone 18 and older, making millions more people eligible. Up until now, booster shots were available only to those 40 and over and people particularly vulnerable to the virus. The U.K. has reported about a dozen omicron cases.

Despite the global worry, doctors in South Africa are reporting patients are suffering mostly mild symptoms so far. But they warn that it is early. Also, most of the new cases are in people in their 20s and 30s, who generally do not get as sick from COVID-19 as older patients.

Conservationists work to keep Missouri’s wild turkey numbers up

Rebecca Rivas
Missouri Independent

A thick blanket of fallen leaves completely covered the hikers’ feet on Turkey Ridge Trail in St. Louis County.

A leafless forest is great for spotting Missouri’s largest bird — the wild turkey — this time of year, said Ed Leutwiler, a longtime volunteer with Missouri Department of Conservation.

But unfortunately, the loud crunching sounds of Leutwiler’s group of seven hopeful turkey watchers during a Nov. 18 hike in Rockwood Reservation were not ideal.

“They hear us coming, and they run,” he said, explaining that wild turkeys have excellent hearing.

Leutwiler has led an annual turkey-watching hike the weekend before Thanksgiving for more than 10 years, and countless other times through the year.

But he’s only seen a turkey once.

In Missouri, the wild turkey was once so plentiful that people could’ve walked out their back doors and killed one for dinner, Leutwiler said. But by the 1930s, the population dropped to just a couple thousand, as more and more land was being used for agriculture and development.

Through the Missouri Department of Conservation’s efforts starting in 1950, the wild turkey population rebounded and came to a peak in 2004 of about 600,000. But now the numbers are on a slow decline, with the current number just over 400,000.

The problem isn’t the over-hunting of adult turkeys, conservationists say. It’s that the chicks, or poults, aren’t surviving at the rates they once were, says the department’s turkey expert Reina Tyl.

“The number of turkeys we see is driven primarily by production, not survival or harvest of adult turkeys,” Tyl said during a June webinar about why Missourians are seeing fewer wild turkeys.

Missouri has seen some wetter springs, which complicates nesting conditions for hens, she said. The protein-rich insects and invertebrates that young turkeys find delicious may not be as abundant. That means it’s taking poults longer to get stronger, leaving a longer period that they’re vulnerable to predators.

For the last year, Tyl has been working with the University of Missouri to study the most successful nesting conditions for hens and their young. They are currently analyzing their first batch of data.

“Quality habitat will provide everything a hen and her brood needs – food, water, and shelter from bad weather and predators,” Tyl said.

Standing on a narrow ridge in Rockwood Reservation — one of the state’s oldest wildlife conservation areas — volunteer Marilyn Motchan explained that wild turkeys largely live in Missouri’s woods.

“They use their feet and scratch the dirt,” said Motchan, who assisted Leutwiler on the hike. “They’re looking for acorns and seeds and berries. Believe it or not, they will also eat some little bitty frogs or reptiles or insects.”

The children hikers gasped.

In the fall, people like to hunt turkeys, Motchan said, which is their main predator. But they also face other dangers like raccoons, coyotes, skunks and possums.

Hens will lay 14 to 18 eggs in nests on the ground, she said as she passed around a model of a turkey egg to the group.

Missouri’s researchers have found that it’s the nesting pe-

riod that’s raising a “big red flag.”

These chicks’ survival is about half of what it was in the 1980s, Tyl has found in her research.

“We saw on average during our recent study 23% of poults surviving their first four weeks of life,” Tyl said. “And back in the 80s, that was closer to 46%.”

That’s why researchers are focusing their time this year on studying the habitat turkeys need to nest successfully and that also provides broods with quality forage.

In February, Tyl and her collaborators at Mizzou captured and marked 51 hens with GPS transmitters in Putnam County in northern Missouri.

About 80% of the hens had a “nest attempt” that reach the incubation period, meaning that the hen laid a full clutch of eggs and began sitting on them, Tyl said. Unfortunately, only about 21% of nests successfully hatched, which was a lower nesting success rate than they observed during a study of turkey productivity from 2014 to 2018.

The researchers weren’t just monitoring the hens.

The team also marked and tracked nest predators during the spring to estimate how many were in the area. For the larger predators, such as coyotes, bobcats, and foxes, they used trail cameras and scent stations to lure the predators to the camera traps.

They also surveyed the abundance of vegetation and arthropods around the nest sites, as well as collected temperature and precipitation data using weather stations deployed across the study area.

“It was a busy field season for our research team,” Tyl said. “They are currently sorting through photos from the trail cameras, identifying arthropods, and preparing for the start of the next field season.”

On a basic level, the researchers know that hens need a forest that isn’t too overgrown or mature — but the hens also can’t survive in an open field that would leave them vulnerable to predators, Tyl said.

Some of the best ways to improve nesting and brood-rearing habitat, she said, is planting native warm-season grasses and wildflowers, prescribed burning, edge feathering, timber stand improvement, and woodland restoration.

A common question that Tyl gets is why the department doesn’t just put a pause on hunting turkeys, particularly hens. But that alone won’t solve the problem, she said.

The fall harvest rate in Missouri is actually lower than it was in the 1980s, she said, when about 4% of hens were removed during the fall seasons. Recently it was closer to 1%.

According to their projections, even if Missouri eliminated that one percent of hens that are hunted over five years, the state would still see a decline in the turkey population. It’s all about protecting the young turkeys, conservationists say.

It’s also about the work that Leutwiler and Motchan are doing to get people interested in learning more about wild turkeys.

At the end of the hike, Leutwiler used a tool to make the turkey gobble sounds, and the children laughed and made him do it over and over again.

“Conservation is really, really amazing,” Leutwiler said, as people began heading home. “We almost lost our turkeys. We almost lost our whitetail deer. We almost lost our river otter and beaver. All of them are thriving today.”

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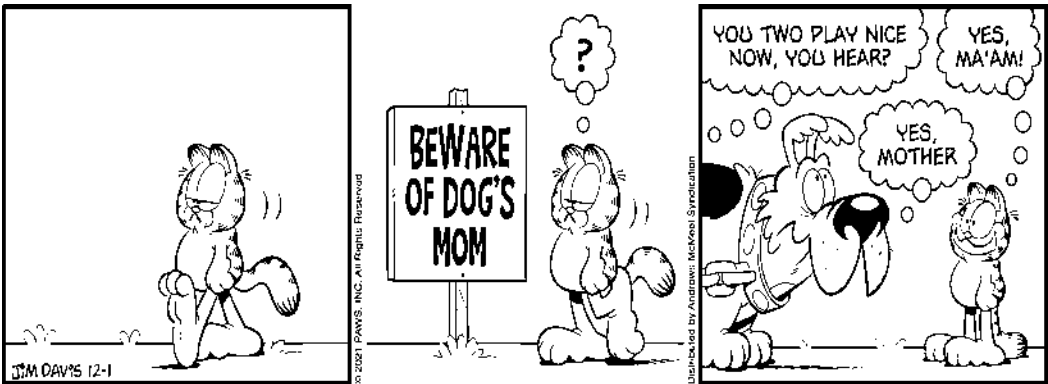
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SUDOKU

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

PREVIOUS ANSWER

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

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Pot-bellied pet

4 "— Pinafore"

7 "I'm f-f-freezing!"

8 Bounds

10 Bakery lure

11 Take

13 HBO sitcom set in New York

16 Snoop

17 Author Joyce Carol —

18 Iowa college

19 Shoppe description

20 Gov. division

21 Musical endings

23 Taters

25 Blockhead

26 Kristen of "Bridesmaids"

DOWN

1 Stand-in

2 "— la Douce"

3 Yogurt topping

4 Anne of "Wag the Dog"

5 Spiked clubs

6 Detail, briefly

7 Rabbit's title

8 Coffee bar offering

9 Like mulled cider

10 Nile viper

27 Trio after Q

28 Kin of "Presto!"

30 Calendar abbr.

33 Capital of Missouri

36 Strong-arm

37 Peace goddess

38 Doppler device

39 Antitoxins

40 "— the season ..."

41 Prefix with night

12 Sporty car

14 June honorees

15 Still

19 Praise in verse

20 Burrowed

21 Trig ratio

22 Choose

23 Missile shelter

24 Chopin, for one

25 Julius Erving's nickname

26 More learned

28 "Aida" composer

29 Killer whales

30 Celebrity chef Guy

31 Sicilian spouter

32 "Adios!"

34 Accomplishment

35 Ship's staff

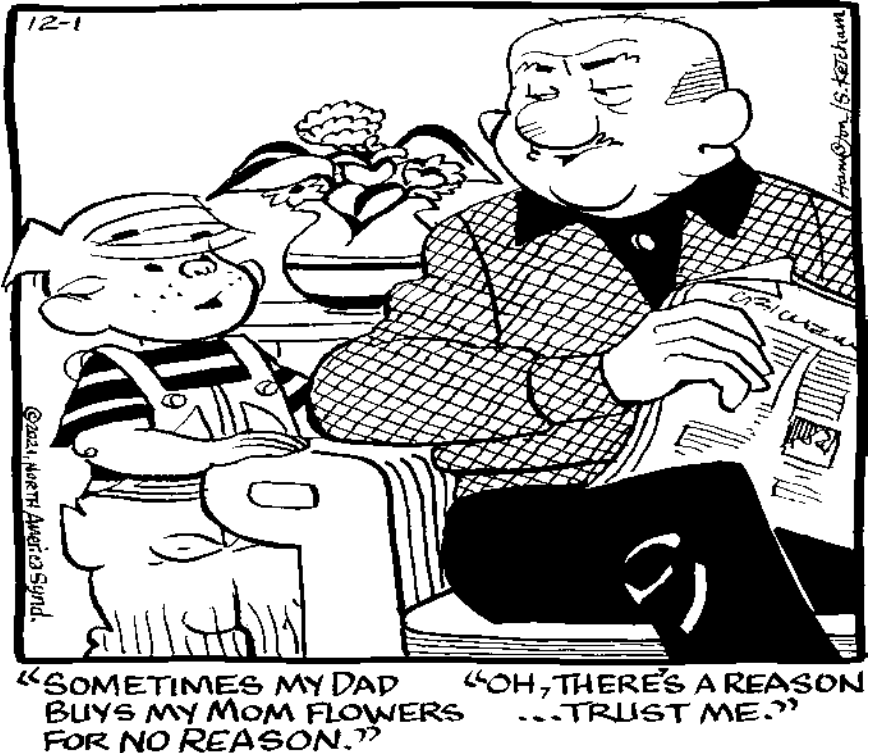
Solution time: 23 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 12-1

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| | | | 40 | | | | | 41 | | | | |

DENNIS THE MENACE



HOROSCOPE BY GEORGIA NICOLS

Moon Alert: After 7 a.m. EST today (4 a.m. PST) there are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions. The Moon is in Scorpio.

Happy Birthday for Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021: You are ambitious, resourceful, passionate and fiercely independent. You have big dreams and fantasies. People love your wit. This year is the end of a nine-year cycle for you, which is why it is totally appropriate for you to wrap up things and finish projects and certain events in your life. Clean your slate to begin something new next year.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:
5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
*** Be smart and check everything about banking, shared property, debt and credit cards, because something unexpected could impact these areas and catch you off guard. It might put you at odds with an authority figure. (Yikes!) Know what's happening, because this could affect you financially. Tonight: Vigilance!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
** Slow down and take it easy today, because today is a bit dicey and certainly full of surprises. Difficulties with parents, bosses or authority figures might arise. (Never forget the power of courtesy.) Someone you know will throw you a curveball. Tonight: Be mindful.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
** Your work routine will be interrupted today. Computer glitches, staff shortages, broken equipment, misplaced papers, canceled appointments — something. You also might be thwarted by rules and regulations or that old "we've always done it this way" excuse. Tonight: Listen.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
**** Parents take note: This is an accident-prone day for your kids, so be extra vigilant. Know where they are at all times. Meanwhile, social events might be canceled. Possibly, an unexpected invitation will surprise you. Guard against sports accidents. Tonight: Canceled plans.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
** Get dressed, because something will interrupt your home routine today. Someone might knock at your door. Meanwhile, small appliances might break down or a minor breakage could occur. The thing to know is that things will not flow as you expect them to go. Tonight: Patience.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
*** Pay attention to everything you say and do, because this is an accident-prone day for you. On the upside, because you can think outside the box, you might have a clever, original idea. More

likely, someone in authority or someone older than you will squelch your plans. Tonight: Be alert.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
** Keep an eye on your money and possessions today, because it's a crapshoot. Anything can happen. You might find money; you might lose money. Your possessions might be harmed or stolen. Restrictions related to children, sports or social activities might arise. Tonight: Eyes open!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
**** Today the Moon is in your sign at odds with stern Saturn and opposite wild, wacky Uranus. It's not an easy day. Keep your head down and your powder dry. Expect the unexpected. Expect to be thwarted by rules, regulations and authority figures. Tonight: Stay calm.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
*** Today you feel restless. You have that feeling that you're waiting for the other shoe to drop. This is totally appropriate, because in your chart, the Moon is "agitated" and it's hiding as well. This means your subconscious is being rattled by the universe. No biggie. It's gone by tomorrow. Tonight: Expect a surprise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
** Relations with friends and members of groups are dicey today. They might say or do something that surprises you. They also might try to restrict you, or they might oppose your ideas. Don't take this too seriously because this is just a temporary dark cloud on your horizon. Tonight: Listen to someone.

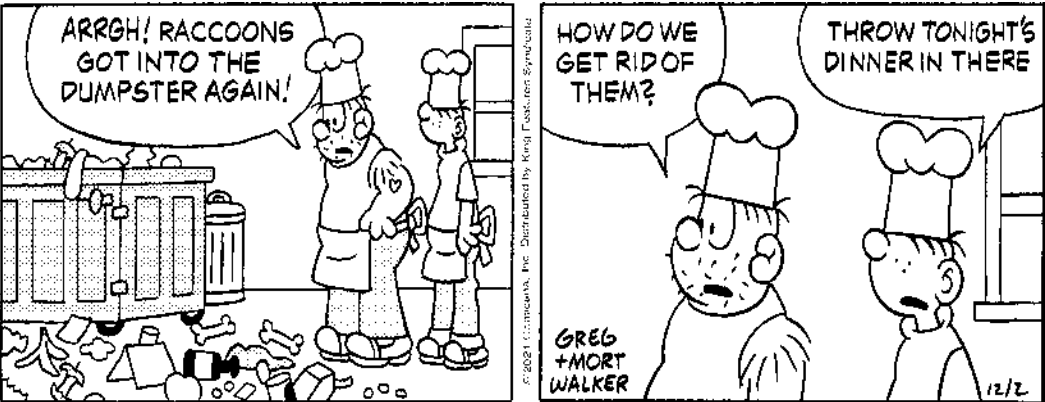
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
* This is a poor day to ask a boss, parent, teacher or the police for permission or approval. Give these people a wide berth. If you do ask them for a favor, their response will likely be, "Talk to the hand." Although, they might surprise you. Tonight: Tread carefully.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
*** Travel plans and anything to do with college and university schedules will be interrupted today. Almost certainly. Give yourself extra time to have wiggle room to deal with the unexpected. Surprising news in the media might catch you off guard. Someone might lay down the law. Tonight: Caution.

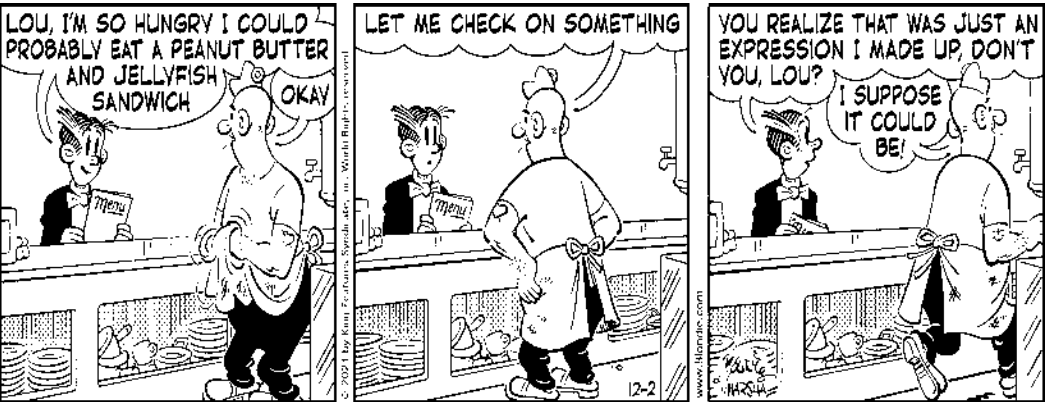
BORN TODAY
Actor, rapper Riz Ahmed (1982), actress Zoe Kravitz (1988), co-median Sarah Silverman (1970)

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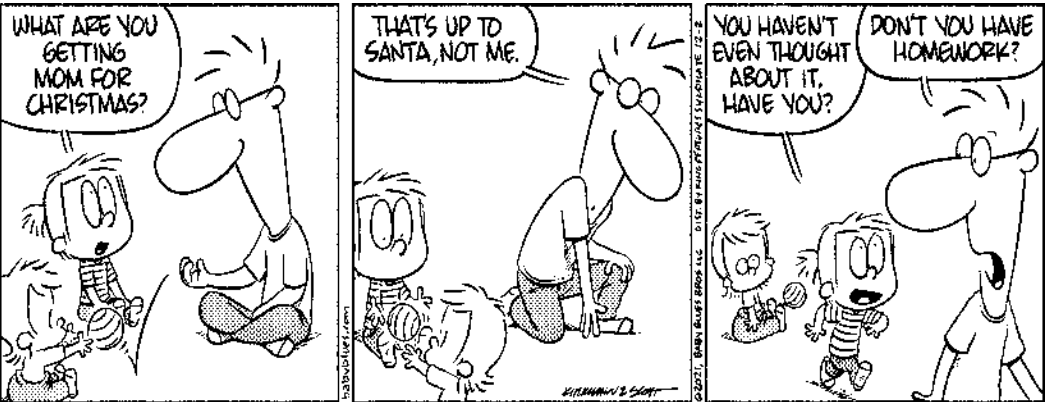
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PREVIOUS ANSWER

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Drain blockage

5 Zing

8 Transcript stats

12 Extended lunch?

13 Gardner of "Mo-gambo"

14 Move, in Realtor-speak

15 Sunrise direction

16 Snooze

17 Very small batteries

18 Goldberg on "The View"

20 PC programs

22 "Vanity Fair" protagonist

26 — d'art

29 Snitch

30 Prefix with natal

31 Praise

32 Insult

33 Dance move

DOWN

1 Enjoy bubble gum

2 Wife of Jacob

3 Approximately

4 Retire

5 Freak out

6 Actress Mendes

7 Tropical fruits

8 Sales report

9 Field workers

10 — carte

11 "Mayday!"

19 Favorite

21 Calif. clock setting

34 Name

35 Cowboy's sweetie

36 Walrus features

37 "The Young Victoria" actress

40 Branch

41 Wall plaster

45 Noggin

47 Lucy of "Kill Bill"

49 — avis

50 First-rate

51 Mess up

52 Coup d—

53 Pismires

54 Utter

55 Society newbies

23 Shrimp-like crustacean

24 Stink

25 Band in Boston?

26 Shoppe descriptor

27 Oz creator L. Frank —

28 Over the moon

32 Tinkers

33 Stitched up

35 Workout site

36 Potent stick

38 Queues

39 Loan shark's crime

42 Actress Blanchett

43 Beach crawler

44 Stable diet

45 Cote cry

46 A billion years

48 Lyricist Gershwin

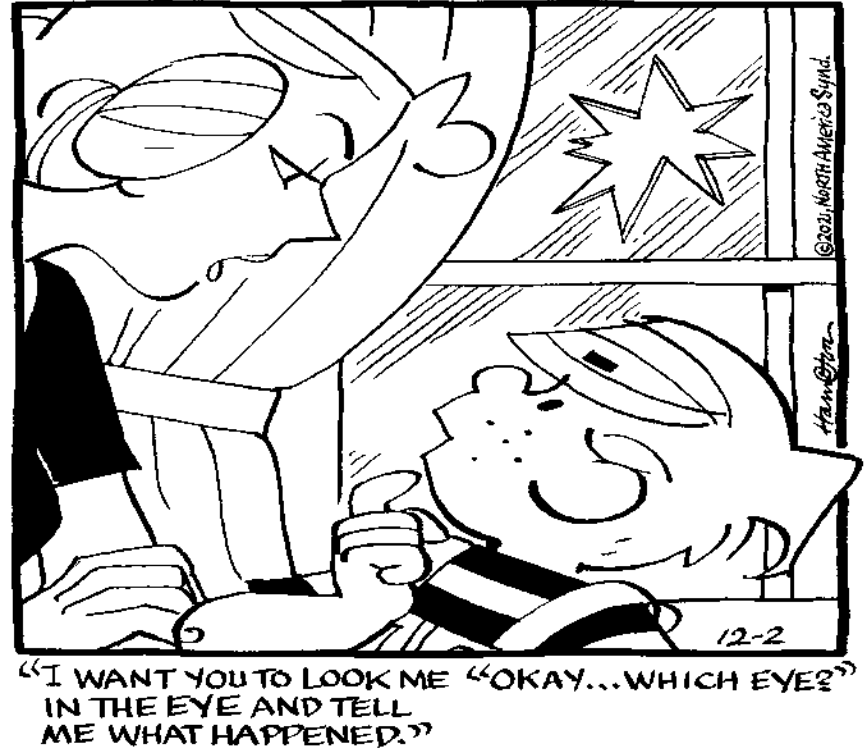
Solution time: 24 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 12-2

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DENNIS THE MENACE



HOROSCOPE BY GEORGIA NICOLS

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today until 9:15 p.m. PST. The Moon is in Scorpio.

Happy Birthday for Thursday, Dec. 2, 2021: You are a feeler. You are a naturally emotional person who is vibrant and has a sunny personality. You are very creative; however, you need a lot of variety in your life to stay fresh. This is a very exciting year for you because you are opening new doors and setting off in a new direction.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:
5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Be This is a good day to discuss how to share something, like an inheritance. Bosses and important people will be helpful, and you will enjoy schmoozing with friends and interacting with clubs and groups. You have strong feelings today! Tonight: You benefit.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Enjoy warm relations with partners and close friends, as well as members of the general public; however, note that people are opinionated! Expect to attract someone to you who has strong ideas. Meanwhile, you'll be attracted to someone who is "different." Tonight: Be friendly.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ This is a lovely day at work, whether you work in a slave wage job or for yourself, because you have lots of energy! (You might be a tad bossy.) Support and assistance from others will be forthcoming. People are in a good mood today! Tonight: Relax.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Today is a playful, lighthearted day! You have lots of energy to socialize and play. Enjoy sports events, long lunches, happy hours and fun times with others, especially playful activities with children. Relations with partners and close friends will be cozy. Tonight: Socialize!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Today it will please you to redecorate at home or do something to tidy up things. Certainly, increased chaos and activity on the homefront have been the state of affairs for you, perhaps because of visiting guests, renovations or residential moves. Tonight: Enjoy your home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You are supercharged about something today, which is why you're so persuasive. You probably will try to convince someone to agree with you. Fortunately, you'll be successful socializing with others. You also might entertain at home because your focus

on home and family is strong. Tonight: Take it easy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ "Show me the money!" This is a strong day for business and commerce because you have definite ideas about financial matters. Likewise, you might be intent on shopping or buying something. Some of you will shop for your home because you want to make where you live more attractive. Tonight: Gratitude.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Today the Moon is in your sign lined up with fiery Mars. This can make you aggressive, even argumentative. Fortunately, the Moon is also dancing with fair Venus and Jupiter, which promotes friendly encounters with others, especially relatives and neighbors. Tonight: Enjoy schmoozing!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You might be wise to play things low-key today to see which way the wind is blowing. Having said that, this is a good day for money and financial negotiations. Nevertheless, it's possible that someone is working against your best interests today. This means if you think something fishy is going on, it is. Tonight: Solitude.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ This is a great day to schmooze with friends and interact with groups, clubs and professional associations. Because you might be in competition with someone, a discussion could get heated. Fortunately, with Venus in your sign, you'll be as diplomatic as ever. Tonight: Listen to someone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ People notice you today. Do be aware of this. In fact, personal details about your private life might be under discussion. Possibly this is because you are coming on a bit strong. Or possibly it's due to a secret love affair. Tonight: Be discreet.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ This is a great day to make travel plans or talk to people from other countries, because you're eager to expand your horizons. Meanwhile, relations with friends and groups are excellent, and you continue to make a wonderful impression on bosses and authority types. Tonight: Explore!

BORN TODAY
Singer Britney Spears (1981), actress Lucy Liu (1968), actor Alfred Enoch (1988)

Find more Georgia Nicols horoscopes at georgianicols.com.
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Kirksville Daily Express

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DEADLINES: Classifieds: 2 Days prior at noon Display: Friday noon for Wednesday and Wednesday noon for Saturday.

AGRI-BUSINESS

Equipment & Supplies

New 3 pt. tillers, heavy duty, gear driven, 7' to 10' starting at \$3,050. 660-874-4455

WANTED TO BUY: Farm Machinery and Estates. Call James L. Johnston. 573-473-4904

Merchandise

Pets & Supplies

Registered AKC Labrador Retriever puppies; ready to go just in time for Christmas! Can leave Dec 22nd! Deposit is required. Up to date on puppy shots and wormed. MO health certificate from Vet. LAY'S LABS LaBelle, MO 660-956-2482

Real Estate Sales

Mobile Homes For Sale

AVAILABLE stock mobile homes immediately, double wide and single, 3 and 4 bedroom. 573-499-9993 columbiadiscountshomes.com

Stock mobile homes available: We gottem, single and doublewide 3 and 4 bedroom! Call Tuffy 573-657-2176 amegamobilehomes.com

TINY HOMES We gottem 573-881-3283

True modulars 30 to 60 day delivery available, 3 and 4 bedroom. 573-657-7040 chateauhomes.net

Recreation

Wanted

WANTED TO BUY: Harley Davidson's, any year, any condition, cash money. Days 660-263-1356 or 660-537-0068

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Chat/Dirt/Gravel

DIRT WORK All types of excavation, reclaiming overgrown fields, including CRP and WRP. Building site preparation, terrace and tiling maintaining and creating new trails and crossings, rock hauling, Food plot development and maintenance. Leveling and grading, wetland construction and maintenance. Pond and lake cleaning and construction. Call for quotes. 660-342-2701

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Miscellaneous

New 3 pt. tillers, heavy duty, gear driven, 7' to 10' starting at \$3,050. 660-874-4455.

Homemade Candies, fresh garlic, jams and jellies, spices, honey, blankets, stainless steel kitchen wares, steam table pans and lids. Kerosene lamps and parts, some Aladdin parts. Poly and wooden clothes pins, regular and wide mouth jar lids, glass jars, color books, boxed cards, children's books, Gift items, wooden handles and puzzles. Train Track Candies & More 11538 Iceberg Ave, La Plata 3rd Lane to your Left.

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Pasture and hay ground needed around Adair and Knox County. Please Contact 660-216-5887 or 417-773-2507

EMPLOYMENT

Work Wanted

HANDYMAN: Install interior and exterior doors and windows, siding, decks, showers and toilets, flooring and drywall, roofs and dirt work. 660-956-5135.

CITY OF NOVINGER
NOTICE OF FILING

Notice is hereby given that the following positions are to be filled at the General Municipal Election to be held on April 5, 2022

1. Two Alderpersons-two year terms
Opening date for filing is December 7, 2021
Closing date for filing is December 28, 2021
Candidates must be at least 21 years, a US Citizen, a resident of the city for one year prior to the election, a registered voter, must be current on all city, local, and state taxes and must not owe the city for any service provided.
Please call 660-216-9926 to make arrangements to file.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF ADAIR COUNTY, MISSOURI
JUVENILE DIVISION
Russell Steele, Judge

In the Interest of)
N. R. R.) Case Number: 21AR-JU00084
Male)
DOB: 10/29/2017)
Age: 4)

Notice Upon Order for Service by Publication

The State of Missouri to: UNKNOWN FATHER

You are notified that an action has been commenced against you in the Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri, the object and general nature of which is to terminate your parental rights in and to N.R.R., a minor child born October 29, 2017.
The names of all parties in this action are stated in the caption above and the name and address of the Juvenile Office attorney is:

C. David Rouser
ROUSER LAW OFFICE LLC
400 N. Franklin Street
Kirksville MO 63501
(P) 660.665.7515
(F) 660.665.7514

You are further notified that, unless you file an answer or other pleading or otherwise appear and defend against this action within 45 days after _____, judgment by default will be entered against you.

Dates of Publication: December 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2021

Equal opportunity bidding
for Forest Lake Trail – Phase II, Thousand Hills State Park, Project No. X1905-01, will be received by FMDC, State of MO, UNTIL 1:30 PM, 12/21/2021 via MissouriBUYS. Bidders must be registered to bid. Federal funds will be used to assist in the development of the project and all MBE/WBE/SDVE firms are encouraged to respond. For specific project information, go to: <http://oa.mo.gov/facilities>

LEGAL NOTICE
Kirksville R-III School District
Notice of School Board Candidate Filing

The Kirksville R-III School District encourages qualified persons interested in running for a position on the School Board to file to be a candidate in the April 5, 2022, election. Interested persons may file at the Superintendent's Office located at 1901 East Hamilton Street, Kirksville, Missouri. For more information contact Mr. Robert Webb, Superintendent at 660-665-8658. Filing will begin on December 7, 2021, at 8:00 a.m. and will continue during the district's regular business hours, which are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Except for the first and last day of filing, filing will not occur on days that the school district's central offices are closed due to inclement weather. If in the event of closure due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, candidates should call 660-665-8658 or email kpanos@kirksville.k12.mo.us. Filing will also not occur on the following holidays and breaks when the school district's central offices are closed: December 23, 24, 2021. Filing will end on December 28, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. There are two positions available with three-year terms.

IN THE 2ND JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT COURT, ADAIR COUNTY, MISSOURI

Case Number: 21AR-PR00129 (Date File Stamp)

Judge or Division:
PROBATE

In the Estate of NORMA JEAN RUGGLES, Deceased.

Notice to Creditors
(Small Estate)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of NORMA JEAN RUGGLES, Decedent.
On November 15, 2021, a small estate affidavit was filed by the distributees for the decedent under Section 473.097, RSMo, with the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri.
All creditors of the decedent, who died on July 29, 2021, are notified that Section 473.444, RSMo, sets a limitation period that would bar claims one year after the death of the decedent. A creditor may request that this estate be opened for administration.
Receipt of this notice should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient may possibly have a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, may possibly be determined from the affidavit on this estate filed in the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri.
Date of first publication is November 24, 2021.
Linda Decker
Adair County Circuit Clerk
PUBLICATION DATES: DECEMBER 1, 2021 and DECEMBER 8, 2021

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FOR THE
RIGHT PRICE

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and sell the stuff you
don't in the local
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FOR THE
PERFECT PRICE

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feathered or furry friend
in your local newspaper
classifieds!

Schrader chosen as Co-Offensive Player of the Year; 18 Bulldogs gets all-GLVC honors

Truman State running back Cody Schrader was named the Co-Offensive Player of Year for the Great Lakes Valley Conference on Monday as the conference announced its postseason awards.

The sophomore Bulldogs split the award with Southwest Baptist quarterback Cooper Callis. Schrader topped the conference and all of Division II with 1,855 rushing yards this season — the second-most by a Bulldog. He averaged 168.64 yards per game this season. Schrader also ran for 22 touchdowns.

Schrader is the first Bulldog to win conference offensive player of the year honors since Jarrett Anderson in 1996, when Anderson also won the Harlon Hill Trophy for the top player in Division II. Schrader is a finalist for that award, with the winner being announced in December.

In total, the Bulldogs (8-3) had 18 players earn all-GLVC honors. That is the most for the program since it had 22 in 1982. The most ever happened in 1981 when the Bulldogs had 23. Schrader was

a unanimous first-team selection. Joining him on the first team is defensive back Ben Watson, defensive tackle Robert Greco, and defensive utility Collin Alves.

Watson had 80 tackles this season, second-most on the team. He also had 2.5 sacks, two interceptions and five pass breakups.

Greco had 29 tackles — 11 for a loss — and three sacks. Alves finished with 10 tackles — four for a loss, 2.5 sacks and two fumble recoveries.

Bulldogs on the all-GLVC second team include kick returner/running back Jaylen Jefferson, kicker Josh Scheiderer, punter Taylor Cornish, tight end Matt Hall, fullback Jacob Morris, offensive linemen Nick Biesemeyer and Dane Eggert, defensive tackles Michael Neisler and Ben Miller, linebacker Isaiah Estes and defensive back Ben Thomas.

Receiver Dante Ruffin, linebacker Ulysses Ross and offensive lineman Justin Watson were honorable mentions.

Truman's season will wrap up this Saturday as it plays Hillsdale in the America's Crossroads Bowl.



Truman running back Cody Schrader carries against Indianapolis.

Red-hot Chiefs brimming with optimism after late-season bye

Dave Skretta
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The last time the Kansas City Chiefs had a week off at this point in the year, they didn't lose against until the next season.

There's a lot of reasons to believe this year's team can follow in the footsteps of the 2019 championship bunch.

Whether it's the return of several players from injuries to the continued involvement of a couple of late newcomers, or the improvement that was evident before the break to coach Andy Reid's downright incredible record after a bye, the Chiefs returned to work Monday brimming with optimism about the stretch run they're about to begin.

"Listen, there's always a little something you find out about yourself," Reid said Monday, "and yeah, because you have extended time you have an opportunity to look a little deeper. There weren't any huge surprises, but there's always a little nugget in there if you look hard enough."

On the injury front, Chiefs right tackle Lucas Niang could return from a rib injury and be available for Sunday night's game against the Broncos at Arrowhead Stadium. He began the season as the starter, lost the job to Mike Remmers, then started again when Remmers was knocked out for a couple of games with an injury of his own.

Niang's return would give the Chiefs valuable experience up front. And the way their offensive line was dec-

imated by injury by the time last year's Super Bowl kicked off, they'll take all the help they can get at the position.

That could include the addition of Kyle Long, too. The veteran came out of a year-long retirement with the hopes of earning a starting job in Kansas City. But Long broke his leg in training camp and wasn't designated for return from injured reserve until earlier this month, and his window to be added to the roster closes this week.

"We'll see how all of that goes here. We're sorting through all of that today," Reid said. "I appreciate having him here and doing what he's doing, and how he's handled everything."

On the other side of the ball, three-time All-Pro safety Tyrann Mathieu played through a knee injury in the Chiefs' 19-9 win over the Cowboys that sent them barreling into the bye with four consecutive victories.

Mathieu should be much closer to 100% when the Chiefs kick off a game against Denver that was flexed to prime time.

"He came out OK," Reid said. "He was able to push himself through, which was amazing. I mean, he's a tough kid, so tough-minded, and that carries over to the defense. Our players knew that he wasn't quite where he wanted to be, yet he didn't say anything. He just pushed himself through it."

The Chiefs also hope the bye allowed wide receiver Josh Gordon and defensive end Melvin Ingram to get more comfortable.

Gordon returned from his

NFL suspension to sign with Kansas City after the season began, and he was active for the first time in Week 5. Despite playing every game since then, Gordon still has just two catches for 18 yards.

Ingram has had more of an impact since arriving from Pittsburgh earlier this month. He's played the last three games, and while his numbers aren't necessarily amazing, he's allowed defensive tackle Chris Jones to slide from the outside back to the interior of the line. That has helped the entire Kansas City pass rush.

The Chiefs, who have a one-game lead on the Chargers, Broncos and Raiders in the AFC West race, face each of those teams in the next three week: Denver and Las Vegas visiting Arrowhead Stadium, then the Chiefs heading to Los Angeles.

After playing the Steelers, the Chiefs finish with playoff contenders Cincinnati and Denver on the road.

The Chiefs already were rolling into their bye behind that resurgent defense, which has held three straight opponents to 17 points or fewer. Their underwhelming offense is almost certain to be better after a week to digest the season.

Why? Reid has a 19-3 record when his teams are coming off a bye.

"I get asked about that every year. I'm not sure why that is," Reid said. "We go back and try to review everything and make whatever corrections. But I don't know what the secret — if there is any secret — what that secret is."



Members of the Kansas City Chiefs celebrate late in the second half of an NFL football game against the Dallas Cowboys Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021, in Kansas City, Mo. (AP PHOTO/CHARLIE RIEDEL)



FILE -Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Steven Matz throws to a New York Yankees batter during the third inning of a baseball game Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2021, at Yankee Stadium in New York. (AP PHOTO/BILL KOSTROUN, FILE)

Steven Matz finalizes \$44M, 4-year contract with Cardinals

Dave Skretta
Associated Press

Steven Matz and the Cardinals finalized a \$44 million, four-year contract Monday, giving St. Louis the shutdown left-hander it desperately sought for a rotation that otherwise returns intact next season.

Matz received a \$2 million signing bonus, payable within 30 days of the deal's approval by the commissioner's office, and salaries of \$8 million next season, \$10 million in 2022 and \$12 million each in 2023 and 2024.

He can earn \$1 million annually in performance bonuses for innings pitched: \$200,000 each for 130, 140, 150, 160 and 170. Matz also can earn \$50,000 for winning the Cy Young and \$25,000 for finishing second through fifth in voting, \$25,000 if he is voted NL Championship Series MVP and \$50,000 for World Series MVP.

"We're excited to have Steven join our rotation and bring his experience and talents to our team," Cardinals president of baseball operations John Mozeliak said. "Steven has proven himself to be a consistent contributor, and we think that his game will continue to excel here in St. Louis with the backing of our exceptional defense."

The 30-year-old Matz, who is originally from Long Island, spurned the Mets to sign with a National League rival. He pitched for New York from 2015-20 before he was traded last January to Toronto, where his career-best 14-7 record and 3.82 ERA in 29 starts for the Blue Jays made him a coveted starting pitcher in free agency.

He'll join a Cardinals rotation topped by longtime ace Adam Wainwright that also includes Jack Flaherty, Dakota Hudson and Miles Mikolas. The Cardinals also could use Alex Reyes, Jordan Hicks, Jake Woodford and Johan Oviedo.

The Cardinals were reportedly willing to give Matz a fourth year on his contract, whereas numerous other clubs were not, but they also offer arguably the best defense in baseball with five reigning Gold Glove winners: first baseman Paul Goldschmidt, third baseman Nolan Arenado, second baseman Tommy Edman, left fielder Tyler O'Neill and center fielder Harrison Bader. Arenado also won the Platinum Glove given to the best defensive player in each league.

Together, that group helped St. Louis lead the majors in runs saved last season, which in turn was a big reason why it was able to put together a club-record 17-game winning streak that allowed the Cardinals to sneak into the playoffs.

That wasn't enough to save the job of manager Mike Shildt, though. He was let go soon after the Cardinals were eliminated due to philosophical differences with the front office. Oliver Marmol was promoted from bench coach to replace him.

Matz was chosen by the Mets in the second round of the 2009 first-year player draft out of Ward Melville High School in East Setauket, New York. He has a 45-48 career record with a 4.42 ERA in 136 starts and five relief appearances.

Matz also has proven to be durable, throwing at least 150 innings in each of the past three full seasons.

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