

KIRKSVILLE Daily Express

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A rendering of what one of the homes in the proposed Autumn Ridge subdivision will look like. PROVIDED BY CHRIS HARRIS

Subdivision with smaller homes in development for Kirksville

Austin Miller
Daily Express

A new housing subdivision focused on smaller homes is in development for the northside of Kirksville.

Autumn Ridge, the name of the new subdivision, will be located along Lincoln Street, Woodwinds Court and a yet-to-be expanded Maple Street. It will be right across from the burgeoning Greystone subdivision, which is owned and developed by the same group, Great Plains Contractors.

Phase one of this project includes eight homes, which will be between 1,500 and 1,600 square feet. Chris Harris of Great Plains Contractors said this project stems from feedback during the development of Greystone. He said he had several older couples who were interested

in those homes but wanted something smaller.

So his plan turned to building those smaller homes down the road.

“What this subdivision, Autumn Ridge, is geared toward is the retired couples or new couples wanting a starter house,” Harris said.

Harris estimated these homes will cost between \$200,000 to \$275,000 once completed. There are variations of the homes, such as adding a basement or room above the garage, or the foundation type, that could raise the final cost.

Kirksville’s Planning and Zoning Commission discussed this plan during its Jan. 12 meeting. The commission ultimately voted to recommend the preliminary plat upward to the City Council. That vote wasn’t unanimous, though, as one mem-

ber abstained and another voted against it.

There was some concern about the size of the homes and their quality. Harris said the homes will be well-made and that the size came directly from feedback he had. He said he expects smaller homes to become a trend in the coming years.

From the city’s perspective, a diverse market for housing options is critical. It doesn’t want four-bedroom homes all over town because not everyone needs or can afford something like that. Having smaller options helps cover every base.

“From a community and economic development perspective, diversity of housing types is important to the city, and density is important to the city,” said Kirksville Assistant City Manager Ashley Young.

The city is in the early stages of conducting a housing study. That will get valuable housing data that the city hasn’t had. There could be some housing needs that need addressed more, or some that haven’t been addressed at all. That study is expected to be completed by the summer. Anecdotally, there appears to be a need for smaller homes, but that study will find out the exact need.

The Greystone and Autumn Ridge subdivisions are also key for street expansion in that area. As part of the phase one plat for Greystone, it included Maple Street. The city’s future street plan then projected to extend Maple Street to connect with Route P. With the Autumn Ridge subdivision, that Maple Street extension will have to happen.

See **HOMES**, Page A3

Supreme Court blocks Biden workplace vaccine rule, allows health care workers mandate

Jacob Fischler
Missouri Independent

The U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday dealt a blow to the Biden administration’s fight against the pandemic, blocking a federal mandate that workers be vaccinated or regularly tested for COVID-19 — though the court allowed a separate rule requiring vaccinations for some health care workers.

The two rulings represented a split victory for Republican attorneys general from Ohio, Missouri, Louisiana and other states who went to court to battle the White House on its COVID-19 policies.

The emergency Occupational Safety and Health Administration mandate, which President Joe Biden announced in September, required employers with 100 or more workers to check employees’ COVID-19 vaccine status or test them regularly and require them to wear a mask on the job.

In a statement, Biden said he was disappointed the court struck his vaccinate-or-test requirement and called for states and private companies to pick up where the court said federal authorities must leave off.

“It is now up to States and individual employers to determine whether to make their workplaces as safe as possible for employees,” he said.

“The Court has ruled that my administration cannot use the authority granted to it by Congress to require this measure, but that does not stop me from using my voice as President to advocate for employers to do the right thing to protect Americans’ health and economy.”

The health care worker ruling would save lives, Biden said. He vowed to enforce it.

The OSHA standard took effect last Monday, but the government allowed several weeks before workers were required to be fully vaccinated.

The court majority sided with 27 Republican attorneys general, who claimed Congress had not given the executive branch the power to require vaccines.

“The question before us is not how to respond to the pandemic, but who holds the power to do so,” Justice Neil Gorsuch, joined by Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito, wrote in a concurrence with the unsigned order in the workplace decision. “The answer is clear: Under the law as it stands today, that power rests with the States and Congress, not OSHA.”

See **MANDATE**, Page A3

Friends of Adair County Public Library selected for Hy-Vee Red Bag Program

Submitted by the
Adair County Public Library

Friends of the Adair County Public Library has been selected as a beneficiary for the month of February in the Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program that supports local non-profits.

The Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program, which launched in November 2019, is a reusable bag program that facilitates community support with the

goal to make a difference in the communities customers live and work.

Friends of the Adair County Public Library was selected as the February beneficiary of the program by store leadership at the Hy-Vee located at Kirksville, MO. Friends of the Library will receive a \$1 donation every time a \$2.50 red “My Heart” Reusable Bag is purchased at this location during February, unless

otherwise directed by the customer through the Giving Tag attached to the bag.

“This is a great opportunity for the community to help out the Friends of the Library! It is easy and painless!” said Jami Livingston, Executive Director of Adair County Public Library. “The Friends of the library support the library in countless ways. A major area of support is the Children’s Summer Reading Program every

June and July.”

Friends of the Adair County Public Library is a non-profit based in Kirksville, MO. Founded in 1989, The Friends has purchased books, materials, and paid for lots of events at the library. Learn more about Friends group by visiting www.youseemore.com/adaircpl.

For more information on the Hy-Vee Reusable Bag Program, visit hy-vee.bags-4mycause.com

COVID task force issues recommendations for small businesses

Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — A task force created to consider how to help Missouri’s small businesses recover from the financial strain caused by the COVID-19 pandemic issued several recommendations on Monday.

The Show Me Strong Recovery Task Force, created by Gov. Mike Parson last year, met with small business owners in seven cities, conducted a statewide survey of small business owners and worked with the Federal Reserve to analyze the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

on small businesses, the governor’s office said in a news release.

Some of the recommendations include improving child care availability and affordability; expanding hospitality industry apprenticeships; creating a single business portal to streamline interaction

with state agencies; and promoting existing state programs to support small, women- and minority-owned businesses.

The task force, which disbanded Dec. 31, also recommended developing strategies to help improve supply chain disruptions, especially for manufac-

turing, distribution and commercial trucking.

In other focus area, the recommendations include establishing a program to connect more Missourians to high-speed internet and expand a cell tower network to expand wireless access across the state.

“As our state’s economy

has recovered, it’s important to continue to support our small businesses, which are the backbone of our economy,” Parson said in a statement.

He said the task force produced “thoughtful recommendations designed to benefit hardworking business owners statewide.”

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OBITUARIES INSIDE

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In Your Own Backyard: Kirksville events for Jan. 20-26

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.

Thursday, January 20

Kirksville Young Professionals are hosting a new member mixer at 5:30 p.m. at Maxwells, 215 W. Washington. If you are a professional working in Kirksville and you are 21-40 years old then you are encouraged to attend. For more information call 660-665-3766.

Sunday, January 23

Kirksville Parks and Recreation Department invites you to participate in their annual cardboard boat race. The race begins at 2:00 p.m. at the Aquatic Center indoor pool, 801 E. Mill. Children ages 5-16 can participate. Sign up as an individual or as a team of up to 4 people. The goal is to construct a boat structure using cardboard, duct tape and water-based paint and attempt to make it across the pool in the fastest time. Register for this free event at <https://parks.kirksvillecity.com>. For more information call 660-627-1485.

Sunday, January 23

Plan to attend a wind symphony concert at 7:30 p.m. at the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall on the Truman campus. Enjoy this performance of Wind Symphony I as they prepare to perform at the MMEA conference. Masks are required inside buildings on the Truman campus. For more information call 660-785-4417.

Monday, January 24

Today is National Peanut Butter Day according to the National Day Calendar. Dr. Ambrose Straub of St. Louis is responsible for patenting a peanut butter making machine in 1903. C.H. Sumner introduced peanut butter to audiences at the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair. Celebrate by eating a peanut butter sandwich. Email me at debi.boughton@visitkirksville.com for my favorite peanut butter cookie recipe.

Wednesday, January 26

Kirksville Young Professionals are hosting a Lunch and Learn entitled Insider Secrets: Home Loans, Financing and Budgeting, at the Hampton Inn from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This panel discussion is sponsored by Alliant Bank, Century 21, and Financial Planners of Missouri. For more information call 660-665-3766.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Upcoming climate discussion

It seems that every day we encounter more evidence that the Earth’s climate is spinning out of control. The climate crisis not only threatens our welfare, but also the welfare of all other living things with which we share the only planet we have, and on which we depend to keep ourselves safe and sane. Maintaining a viable biosphere requires that we quickly stop depending on fossil fuels, and renewable energy is a path to that goal.

On Tuesday January 25, experts on wind and solar energy, including professionals from Ameren UE and RENEW Missouri, the state’s foremost non-profit advocate for clean energy, will discuss the current promise of renewable energy for northeast Missouri. In particular, new opportunities for employment, service to farming communities, and economic rejuvenation for Kirksville and the region.

This discussion occurs at 7 pm in Magruder Hall 1000 on the Truman State University campus. This facility seats approximately 75 people. Attendees are required to wear masks. In addition to attending in person, all can join the event by Zoom: [zoom.us/j/94042128055](https://us02jz94042128055.zoom.us/j/94042128055). The conversation ends at about 8:15 pm.

The NEMO Citizens Climate Lobby and Truman State University’s Environmental Studies Program and its President’s Sustainability Action Committee sponsor this event.

Submitted by Peter Goldman, Kirksville



FILE - Vivek Shandas, a professor of climate adaptation at Portland State University, takes a temperature reading of almost 106 degrees in downtown Portland, Ore., on Aug. 12, 2021. On Thursday, Jan. 13, 2022, NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration released measurements showing 2021 was the sixth hottest year on record globally, part of a long-term warming trend. NATHAN HOWARD - FREELANCER, FR171771 AP

The heat stays on: Earth hits 6th warmest year on record

By SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

Earth simmered to the sixth hottest year on record in 2021, according to several newly released temperature measurements.

And scientists say the exceptionally hot year is part of a long-term warming trend that shows hints of accelerating.

Two U.S. science agencies — NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration — and a private measuring group released their calculations for last year’s global temperature on Thursday, and all said it wasn’t far behind ultra-hot 2016 and 2020.

Six different calculations found 2021 was between the fifth and seventh hottest year since the late 1800s. NASA said 2021 tied with 2018 for sixth warmest, while NOAA puts last year in sixth place by itself.

Scientists say a La Nina — natural cooling of parts of the central Pacific that changes weather patterns globally and brings chilly deep ocean water to the surface — dampened global temperatures just as its flip side, El Nino, boosted them in 2016.

Still, they said 2021 was the hottest La Nina year on record and that the year did not represent a cooling off of human-caused climate change but provided more of the same heat.

“So it’s not quite as headline-dominating as being the warmest on record, but give it another few years and we’ll see another one of those” records, said climate scientist Zeke Hausfather of the Berkeley Earth monitoring group that also ranked 2021 the sixth hottest. “It’s the long-term trend, and it’s an indomitable march upward.”

Gavin Schmidt, the climate scientist who heads NASA’s temperature team, said “the long-term trend is very, very clear. And it’s because of us. And it’s not going to go away until we stop increasing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.”

The last eight years have been the eight hottest on record, NASA and NOAA data agree. Global temperatures, averaged over a 10-year period to take out natural variability, are nearly 2 degrees (1.1 degrees Celsius) warmer than 140 years ago, their data shows.

The other 2021 measurements came from the Japanese Meteorological Agency and satellite measurements by Copernicus Climate Change Service in Europe and the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

There was such a distinctive jump in temperatures about eight to 10 years ago that scientists have started looking at whether the rise in temperatures is speeding up. Both Schmidt and Hausfather said early signs point to that but it’s hard to know for sure.

“If you just look at the last the last 10 years, how many of them are way above the trend line from the previous 10 years? Almost all of them,” Schmidt said in an interview.

There’s a 99% chance that 2022 will be among the 10 warmest years on record and a 10% chance it will be the hottest on record, said NOAA climate analysis chief Russell Vose in a Thursday press conference.

Vose said chances are 50-50 that at least one year in the 2020s will hit 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) warming since pre-industrial times — the level of warming nations agreed to try to avoid in the 2015 Paris climate accord.

While that threshold is important, extreme weather from climate

change is hurting people now in their daily lives with about 1.2 degrees Celsius (2.2 degrees Fahrenheit) warming, Vose and Schmidt said.

The global average temperature last year was 58.5 degrees (14.7 Celsius), according to NOAA. In 1988, NASA’s then-chief climate scientist James Hansen grabbed headlines when he testified to Congress about global warming in a year that was the hottest on record at the time. Now, the 57.7 degrees (14.3 Celsius) of 1988 ranks as the 28th hottest year on record.

Last year, 1.8 billion people in 25 Asian, African and Middle Eastern nations had their hottest years on record, including China, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Iran, Myanmar and South Korea, according to Berkeley Earth.

The deep ocean, where most heat is stored in the seas, also set a record for warmth in 2021, according to a separate new study.


“Ocean warming, aside from causing coral bleaching and threatening sea life and fish populations, ... is destabilizing Antarctic ice shelves and threatens massive ... sea level rise if we don’t act,” said study co-author Michael Mann, a Pennsylvania State University climate scientist.

The last time Earth had a cooler than normal year by NOAA or NASA calculations was 1976. That means 69% of the people on the planet — more than 5 billion people under age 45 — have never experienced such a year, based on United Nations data.

North Carolina state climatologist Kathie Dello, 39, who wasn’t part of the new reports but said they make sense, said, “I’ve only lived in a warming world and I wish that the younger generations did not have to say the same. It didn’t have to be this way.”

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OBITUARIES

Braxton Cottrill

May 23, 1999 - Dec 30, 2021

Braxton Cottrill, age 22 of La Plata, Missouri, passed away Thursday, December 30, 2021 at University Hospital in Columbia, Missouri.

Born May 23, 1999 in Kansas City, Missouri, the son of Todd and Kelli (Bollin) Cottrill.

Surviving are his grandparents, Don and Sue Cottrill and Jodie and Scott Pommerenze; mother, Kelli Cottrill; one son, Kenton Cordell Kaise Cottrill and his mother, McKenzie Rummerfield; one brother, Nathan Cottrill; and two sisters, Cyera Cottrill and Heidi McKim.

Preceding him in death were his father, Todd Cottrill; paternal grandmother, Nancy Dickenson; maternal grandfather, William Edward Bollin; and one sister, Jolena Cottrill.

Braxton had a heart of gold. He enjoyed making new friends and loved his family.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Sunday, January 23, 2022 at the Travis Funeral Chapel in La Plata, Missouri. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 12:00-2:00 p.m. Burial will be in the La Plata Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations made to Travis Funeral Chapel, 125 S. Church St., La Plata, MO 63549.



Nancy Ellen Scriven

Jul 27, 1946 - Jan 12, 2022

Nancy Ellen Scriven, 75, of Kirksville, Missouri, passed away Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at The Pines in Kirksville.

Born July 27, 1946 in Youngstown, Missouri, Nancy was the daughter of the late Leslie Martin and Mary Jane (Gates) Scriven. She was also preceded in death by her sister, Helena Woods.

Nancy is survived by one brother, Leslie Martin Scriven Jr. of Springfield, MO; two sisters, Jeannie Childress of St. Louis, MO, and Joan Leslie Byrd of Brookfield, MO, as well as a number of nieces and nephews.

Nancy was a lifelong resident of Adair County and was employed twenty-one years for RSVP. She loved all animals and enjoyed puzzles, watching deer and humming birds. Nancy will be remembered for being a very sweet and loving person who loved joking around, for never meeting a stranger and for her love of everyone.

Public visitation will be held Saturday, January 22, 2022 from noon to 2:00 p.m. in the chapel of Travis-Noe Funeral Home, with services to follow. Interment will follow the service at Sloan's Point Cemetery, southwest of Kirksville, Missouri.

Expressions of sympathy in memory of Nancy may be made to the Adair County Humane Society and may be left at or mailed to Travis-Noe Funeral Home, P.O. Box 306, Kirksville, MO 63501.



Jeri McKinley

Oct 23, 1945 - Nov 25, 2021

Jeri McKinley, 76 of Unionville, Missouri passed away, Thursday, November 25, 2021 at his home.

Jeri was born to Ronald & Evelyn (King) McKinley on October 23, 1945 in Mendota, Missouri. He received his education from Unionville Missouri High School, graduating in 1963. Jeri grew up on the family farm and remained there his entire life. Jeri was united in marriage on May 6, 1995 to Leora Lynn Lamb.

Jeri enjoyed farming and taking care of his sheep and his cattle. He was a great neighbor who enjoyed working not only his land but helping out his neighbors when needed. He was a member of the Feeder Calf Sale Board at the Unionville Sale Barn until it closed, Lincoln Township Board Member for 30 years, Mendota Cemetery Board Member for 27 years, Unionville Cemetery Board Member for 5 years and a proud owner of the original family Century farm since 1856. His home place of 142 acres has never been sold but always passed down through his family.

Survivors include his wife, Leora Lynn McKinley, step-son, David Lamb, cousin, Marcy Wanders (Kenny) and their children; Tanner, Trent and Bailey Wanders. Jeri was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral service were held 2:00 pm, Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at Thomas Funeral Home in Centerville. Interment will immediately follow at Unionville Cemetery. Visitation will be Tuesday, November, 30, 2021 at Thomas Funeral Home in Centerville with family present from 5-7 pm. Memorials may be given in lieu of flowers to Mendota Cemetery, Unionville Cemetery or NEMO Hospice. Condolences may be shared at www.thomasfh.com.



HOMES

Continued from Page A1

If the project receives approval from the City Council, which is expected to have this topic on its Feb. 7 agenda, a final plat will still need to be submitted to the city. After that, Harris said the plan is to begin construction on the first home immediately after. The goal for he and partner Roger Wilson is to have that first house built by June.

But this is also just phase one for Autumn Ridge. Harris plans to further develop that area, with more than 20 additional lots tentatively mapped out.

Harris said the neighborhood having a “community feel” is an important part of the project. There will be sidewalks, lantern lights and a communal greenspace once other sections are built out.

That follows what is happening in the Greystone subdivision. That area is nearly completed with its phase one. Harris said 11 of the 13 lots there have been sold, with six homes either built or in the process of being built. He said phase two of Greystone is currently being designed and hopes to be completed by this fall.

Both Greystone and Autumn Ridge are being built in sections, so Harris has to submit plats with the city for each new add-on.

MANDATE

Continued from Page A1

OSHA is empowered to regulate workplace safety, but a virus that has affected virtually every part of life for the past 22 months is outside the agency’s scope, the conservative justices wrote.

In a dissent, the court’s three liberal justices, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan, said the majority opinion would result in thousands of unnecessary deaths and more sickness.

The justices wrote that the 1970 law creating OSHA did empower the agency to regulate threats that are found both inside and outside the workplace. Further, the risk from COVID-19 is greater at work, where employees may have little capacity to manage their own risk, they said.

The order misread the law, they wrote.

“And in so doing, it stymies the Federal Government’s ability to counter the unparalleled threat that COVID-19 poses to our Nation’s workers,” they wrote. “Acting outside of its competence and without legal basis, the Court displaces the judgments of the Government officials given the responsibility to respond to workplace health emergencies.”

Biden and other high-profile Democrats agreed with the liberals’ dissent.

The decision “undermines a 50-year-old workplace safety law and threatens OSHA’s authority to protect workers during a public health emergency,” said U.S. Rep. Bobby Scott, a Virginia Democrat who leads the House Education and Labor Committee. “The Court’s failure to uphold the vaccine-or-test policy eliminates a critical tool for saving lives and ending the pandemic.”

Republicans, including the attorneys general who challenged the mandates, praised Thursday’s ruling.

In a statement, Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt, who filed the first suit against the OSHA mandate, called the ruling striking it down “a massive win for millions of workers and businesses across the country.”

“I’m proud to have delivered this critical decision for Missourians and Americans, and to hand the Biden Administration its biggest loss to date,” he said. “While we’re disappointed in the Supreme Court’s ruling on our lawsuit against the health care worker vaccine mandate, that fight is far from over.”

Health care workers

In the decision on the health care staff mandate, Chief Jus-

tice John Roberts and Justice Brett Kavanaugh joined the court’s liberals to allow the Department of Health and Human Services requirement that workers at health care centers that receive Medicare and Medicaid funds be vaccinated.

The opinion overrules lower courts in Missouri and Louisiana that had blocked enforcement of the rule while the cases were ongoing. The legal challenges to the rule will continue, but Thursday’s ruling allows the mandate to take effect while those challenges are pending.

The Department of Health and Human Services, the department that oversees the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, can condition federal funding on whatever requirements the secretary finds necessary, the majority wrote in an unsigned opinion.

“The rule thus fits neatly within the language of the statute,” they wrote. “After all, ensuring that providers take steps to avoid transmitting a dangerous virus to their patients is consistent with the fundamental principle of the medical profession: first, do no harm.”

In a dissenting opinion, Thomas, joined by Gorsuch, Alito and Justice Amy Coney Barrett, wrote that the federal

government had much narrower authority to dictate the terms of state programs.

Vaccination requirements go far beyond what the agency has previously mandated, he wrote.

“If Congress had wanted to grant CMS authority to impose a nationwide vaccine mandate, and consequently alter the state-federal balance, it would have said so clearly,” Thomas wrote. “It did not.”

The rulings came less than a week after the justices heard arguments on the mandates – an unusually fast turnaround for the court.

The states challenging the OSHA mandate included Ohio, whose Solicitor General Brandon Flowers argued the case remotely because he tested positive for a breakthrough COVID-19 case, Tennessee, Idaho, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Arizona, New Hampshire, Florida, Georgia, Iowa and Louisiana.

Louisiana Solicitor General Elizabeth Murrill and Missouri Deputy Solicitor General Jesus A. Osete argued for the states challenging the health worker mandate. Murrill also appeared remotely, reportedly because of a positive COVID test. Montana, Georgia, Arizona, Idaho, Iowa and New Hampshire are also part of the challenge.

Share Some

GOOD NEWS!

Wedding & Engagement Announcements



Garrett-Vogel Nuptials
Allison Jean Garrett and Carter James Vogel of Moberly, MO, were united in marriage on May 18, 2019.

Birth Announcements



Welcome, Hayley Ryan!
Born April 22, 2019
9 lbs. 22 inches
Proud Parents
Lydia & Mike Ryan

Celebration Announcements



Cunningham Graduation
Allison Jean Cunningham, daughter of Pam and Mark Cunningham, graduated from Mizzou on October 6, 2019.

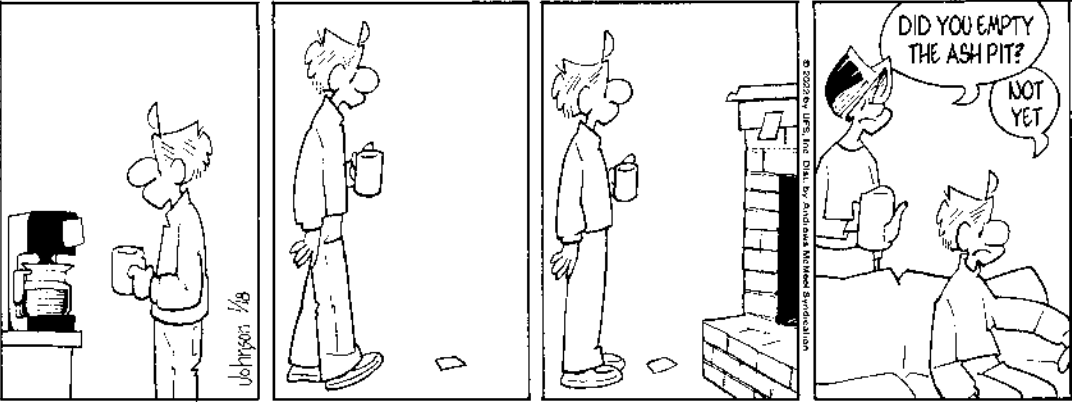
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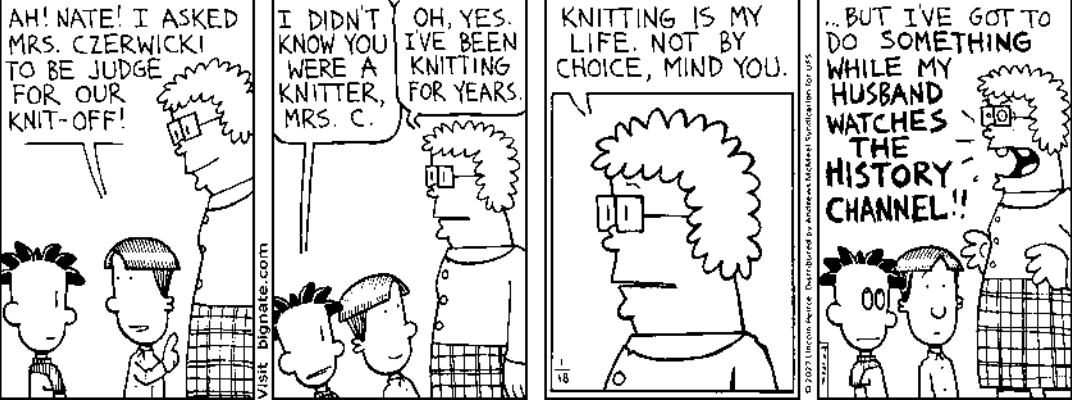
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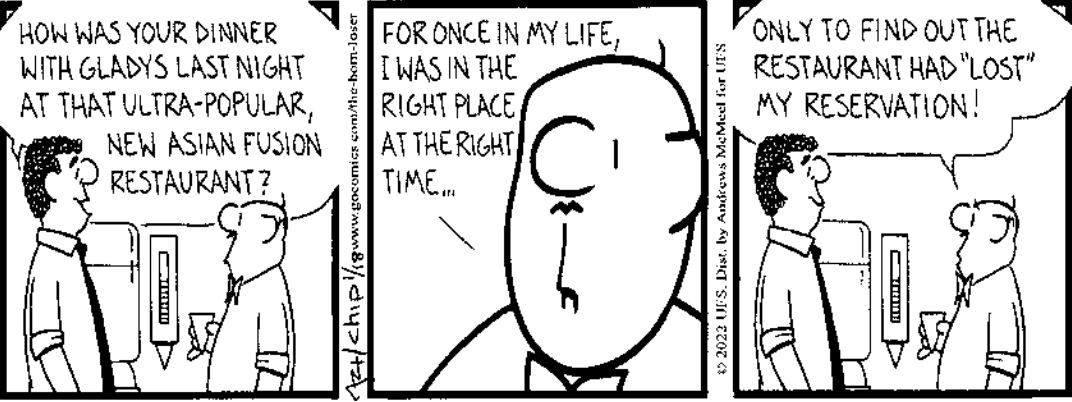
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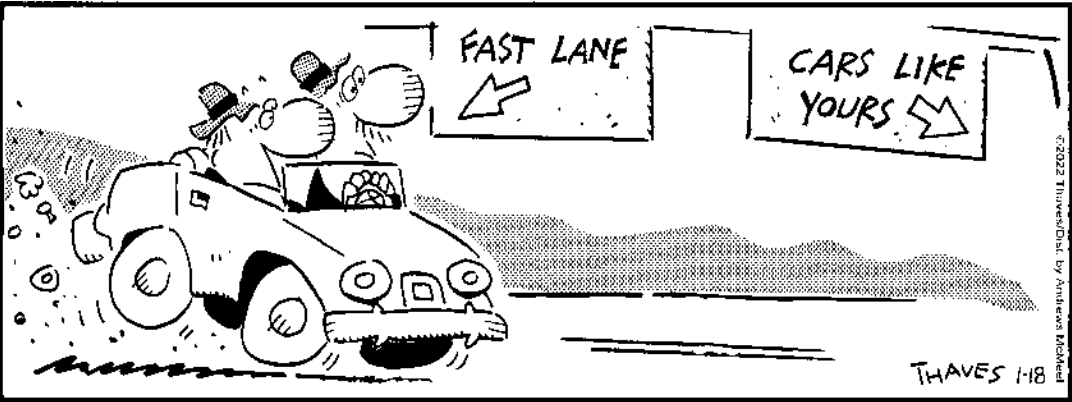
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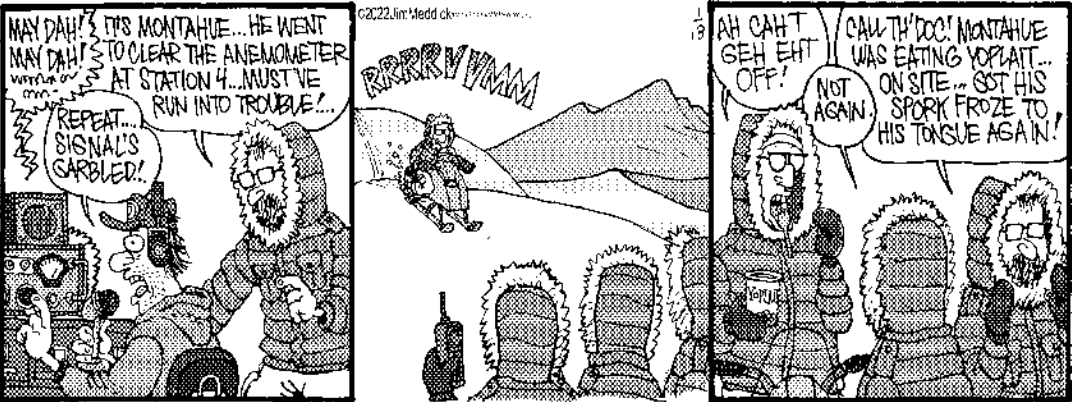
THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



MONTY



THAT A BABY



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

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

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

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Fetched
4 Bring to an end
8 Diner fare
12 Henri's island
13 Sanskrit dialect
14 To boot
15 Octopus home
16 It's rolled out for celebs (2 wds.)
18 Nut cake
20 Sound booster
21 Director — Craven
23 Certain votes
26 Hindu attire
29 Blackjack
32 Hgt.
34 Be next to
35 Jacques' friend
36 Yak
37 Web suffix
38 Noise
39 Arms the alarm
40 Hero sandwich
41 Is, in Madrid

DOWN

1 Pith
2 Dairy case buy
3 Get dewy-eyed
4 Wild time
5 — kwon do
6 Dilapidated
7 Type size
8 Half-woman, half-bird
9 High peak

42 Kind of school
43 Bakery item
45 Corporate ending
47 Sitcom planet
49 Paves the way
53 Spanish port
58 Potato st.
59 Norwegian name
60 Always
61 Playground game
62 Claims
63 Hits the buffet
64 Thurman of "The Golden Bowl"

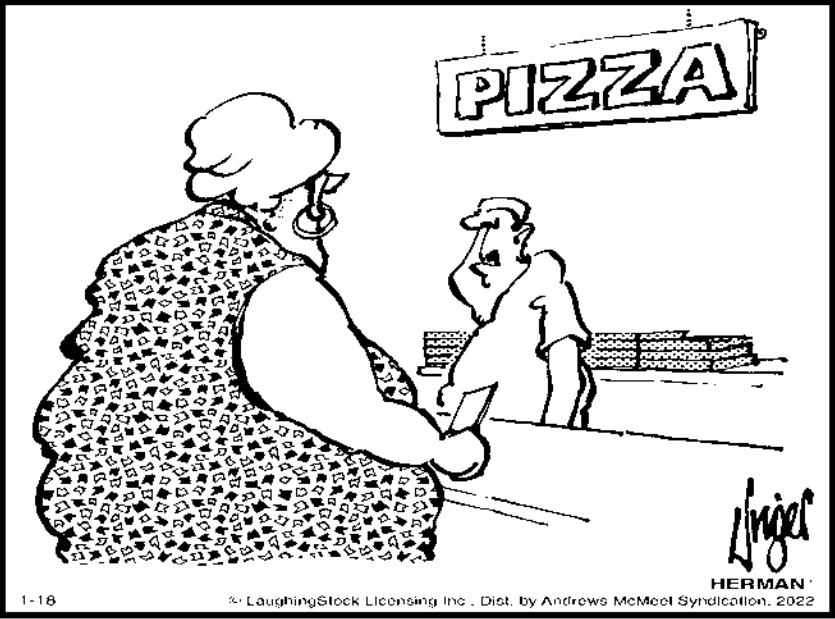
10 NNW opposite
11 Dog days weather
17 Rani's servant
19 Kid
22 Oodles
24 Anxious to start
25 List of candidates
26 Kangaroo pouches
27 Concerning
28 Carmen Miranda's dance
30 Leave unmentioned
31 Egyptian peninsula
33 Cough syrup meas.

39 Pet lovers' grp.
41 To be, to Balzac
44 Pebbles
46 Moves toward
48 "Or the Mocked Mocker" artist
50 In — (as found)
51 Party tray cheese
52 Epic
53 Place to sleep
54 "Exodus" name
55 Tease
56 Roe
57 Table tennis divider

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
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			21		22			23		24	25	
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59					60					61		
62					63					64		

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HERMAN



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"Small, medium or large?"

ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

Take your time, think things through and make decisions based on your needs. Put your health and well-being first and strive to look and feel your best. A domestic change will encourage you to let go of the past and strive for a better future. Tac and diplomacy will be necessary this year.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Take time to make your surroundings conducive to your success. A personal change will lift your spirits and fetch compliments. An affectionate signal will spark your interest.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Take notice of what's going on around you. Be open to suggestions, but don't go out of your way to please someone who doesn't reciprocate. Be fair, not gullible. Don't let anyone manipulate you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Leave nothing to chance or unfinished. A spontaneous act will result in an emotional setback. Work alongside people who are striving for the same results as you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Use your intelligence wisely. Get involved in events that offer eye-opening information. Being prepared will help you make better decisions when the time is right.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- You'll find it challenging to stick to one thing. Avoid promising more than you can deliver. Put your physical strength and energy where they will bring the highest return.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Spend more time with your peers, and you will gain perspective regarding the best way to move forward. Avoid individuals who are indulgent or exaggerate. Intelligence and determination will be needed.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Think about the changes you can make to improve your community, relationships, qualifications and ability to get ahead. Broaden your interests and skills. Romance is featured.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Emotions will surface if someone tries to interfere with your plans. Don't make changes because someone else does; do what's best for you. Take an intelligent and healthy approach to life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- You'll gravitate toward unique people and pastimes. The more you indulge in something foreign to you, the easier it will be to recognize what's possible. Romance is in the stars.

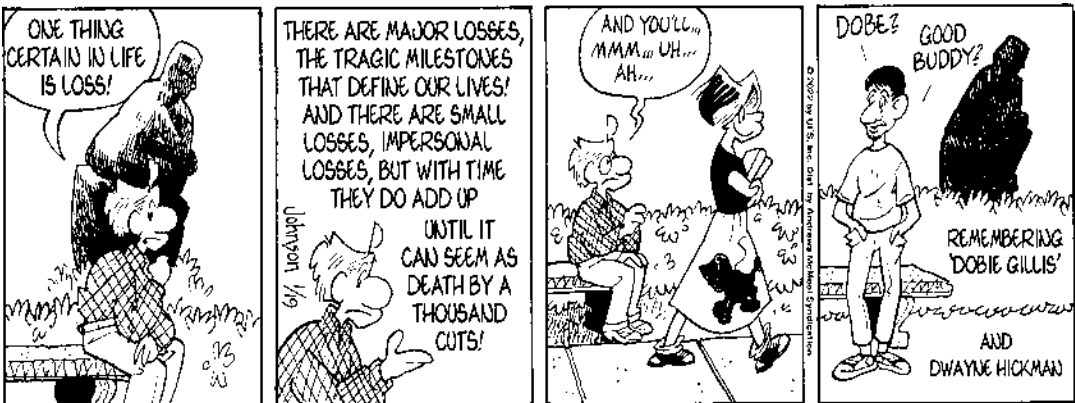
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Be smart; provide valid reasons for the changes you make or the plans you pursue. A proactive approach and open mind will help keep the peace and get you the help you require to reach your goal.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Don't labor over something you can't change. Take physical action and do what you can to make your life better. Expand your interests, friendships and physical activities.

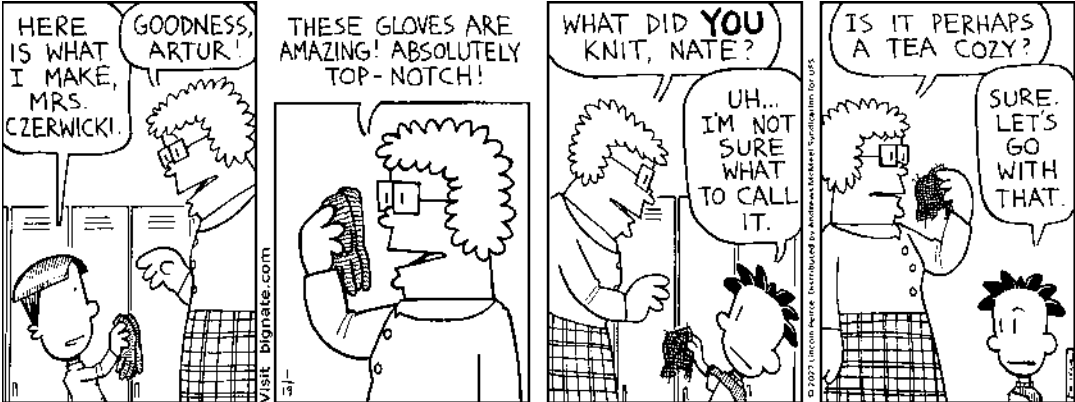
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Money problems will lead to confusion and costly mistakes. Rethink your financial plan and put spending limits in place. Refuse to let anyone talk you into an indulgent expense..

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ARLO AND JANIS



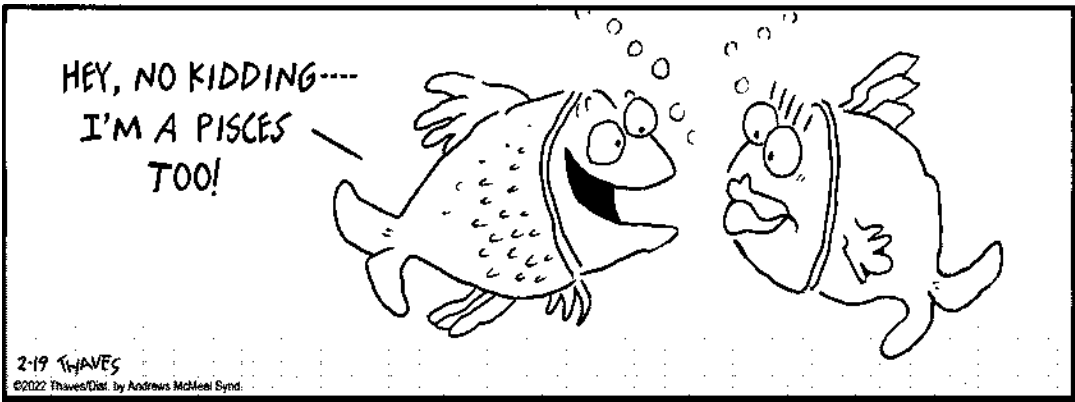
BIG NATE



THE BORN LOSER



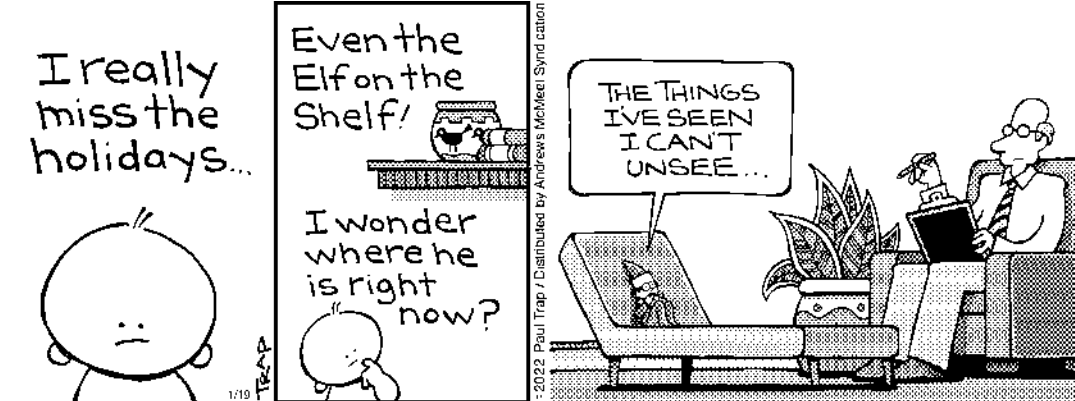
FRANK AND ERNEST



MONTY



THAT A BABY



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

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

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

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Europe's longest river

6 Outer coat

10 UFO pilots

12 More suggestive

14 Wyoming range

15 Smoothly

16 Contribute

18 Malt beverage

19 Western writer Zane

21 Spyglass part

23 "So long!"

24 — ammoniac

26 Fine sediment

29 Poet's eye

30 Delt neighbor

32 Dartboard locales

34 Verse

36 Before, to Blake

37 Tropical snake

38 Concrete foundation

40 Infant's sound

DOWN

42 Draw to a close

43 Durham university

45 Sit for a portrait

47 — Zedong

50 Was obedient

52 Decrees

54 Start a paragraph

58 Japanese pooches

59 Flaked off

60 Simple task

61 — and drabs

Answer to Previous Puzzle

GOT	STOP	HASH
ILE	PALI	ALSO
SEA	REDCARPET	
TORTE	AMP	
	WES	AYES
SARI	COSH	ALT
ABOUT	AMI	GAB
COM	DIN	SETS
SUB	ESTA	PREP
	TART	INC
	ORK	EASES
BARCELONA	IDA	
ERIK	EVER	TAG
DIBS	EATS	UMA

11 Job application info

12 Solar plexus

13 Some whiskey

17 Pollen, to some

19 Pita sandwiches

20 Break the rules

22 Little swallow

23 Early jazz

25 Tarzan companion

27 Garage jobs

28 Juicy steak (hyph.)

31 Business VIP

33 Bummed out

35 Ticked off

39 Unfair shake (2 wds.)

41 Used the key

44 Chocolate candy

46 More unusual

47 Flightless bird

48 Havens

49 Valhalla honcho

51 Dunk

53 Airport info

55 Yalie

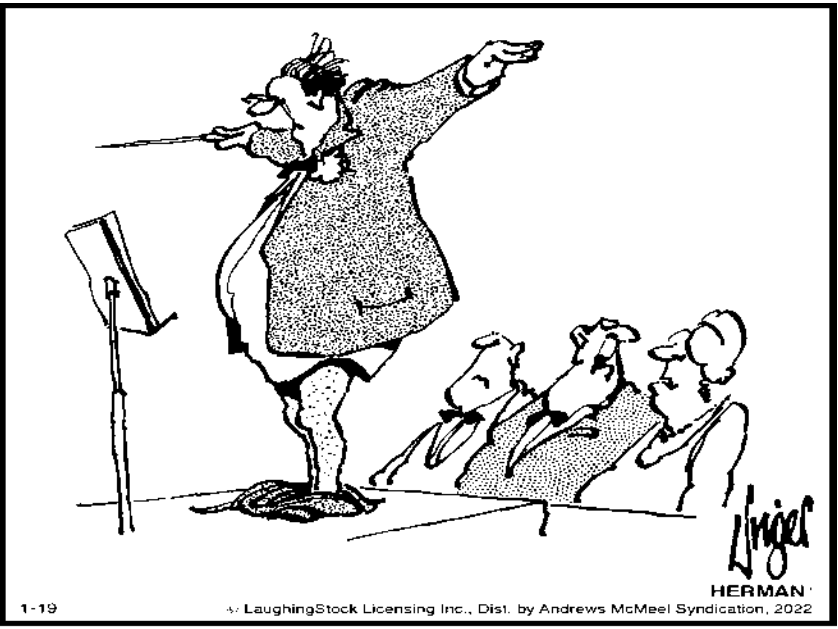
56 Bird's beak

57 NFL scores

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	
10					11		12			13
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	19	20				21		22		
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52			53			54			55	56
58						59				
	60						61			

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HERMAN



ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

If you work alongside others, you will find unique ways to make the most of your time and attributes. Using your skills to harness your dreams will encourage positive changes. Don't let pressure dictate what you do. Use common sense, and you'll discover what's best for you and how to get what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Speak from the heart, and you can resolve issues. Trust in your ability to get things done and offer your services to those you know will be grateful and who will return the favor.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Stretch your imagination, and you'll come up with splendid ideas that will benefit you as well as others. Refuse to let anyone interfere with your plans or mess with your emotions.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Go over small details and make adjustments that will address any problems. Expect someone to undermine you if given a chance. Call on people you trust to carry out your plans explicitly.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- A social event or on-line meeting will offer insight into something you want to pursue. An energetic attitude will help you convince others to lend their support you. Plunge ahead with optimism.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Changing your mind too much will send the wrong message. If you act decisively, people will trust and respect you. Follow your heart and do your own thing; doors will open.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Take time to make positive domestic changes. Steer clear of people who try to talk you into extravagant behavior or ask you to take on something you cannot handle. Let your experience lead the way.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Distance yourself from extreme or unhelpful situations. Focus on learning and honing your skills. Applying something you have recently learned will pay off. Romance is on the rise.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Gather information that helps you push forward with your plans. Refuse to let anyone talk you into something you don't comprehend or can't afford. If you lose control, it will cost you. Avoid aggressive people.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Pursue things that put a smile on your face. Mix business with pleasure or make a notable change to how you do things. Look for new ways to use your skills, talents and knowledge to get ahead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- You'll accomplish your goal if you stick to basics and remain on course. Jumping from one thing to another will be your downfall. Refuse to let anyone talk you into doing things differently.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- An emotional situation will result in uncertainty. Don't argue with a friend, relative or colleague. Listen attentively, then go about your business. Do what works for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Don't make snap decisions regarding your finances. Joint ventures or shared expenses will be fraught with uncertainty. Taking control of money matters is in your best interest.

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Truman upsets No. 1 Drury; gets first win over Panthers in program history

Austin Miller
Daily Express

Put them in.

That's what Truman forward Ellie Weltha told herself as she stepped to the free-throw line late in Monday's game against No. 1 Drury. Trailing the top team in the country, 67-66, with 1.4 seconds left, Weltha went to the line with the power to tie or take the win. She buried the first free throw and Drury took a timeout to make her think longer about the second one.

Weltha was not phased and hit the second one, handing Truman the upset win, 68-67. Those final 1.4 seconds were the only that Truman led all night.

"They scored eight points in the last quarter. We honed in, defended, and hit shots when we needed to," said Weltha, who had 19 points and 16 rebounds on the night. "Honestly, that's a great team win; everyone contributed. It just happens to be against the No. 1 team in the country."

Entering Monday's game, Truman was 0-18 all-time against Drury, with most of those losses coming by double digits. And the Panthers have been Goliath in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Drury has won the conference five years in a row and went to the national championship game last year.

Drury (18-2, 8-1 in GLVC) also hadn't lost on the road in 41 games, the longest road winning streak in DII women's basketball. Monday in Pershing Arena proved the night to put several streaks to rest.

"It's awesome. We have a lot of respect for Drury as a program, (Amy) Eagan's a great coach, but at the same time, they're another team in our conference," Weltha said. "We just go out there doing what we can and getting it done. It's just a good team win."

Drury was without Paige Robinson, the reigning Division II and GLVC Player of the Year, and starting guard Kaylee DaMitz, but the Panthers stormed out of the gate in the first quarter. Drury grabbed a 24-14 lead in the first quarter, riding a hot shooting start and good defensive play.

Drury shot better than 70 percent for most of the first half, but foul trouble helped Truman crawl back late in the second quarter after getting down by 16. The Bulldogs scored 10 of the last 11 points in the quarter, cutting Drury's lead at halftime to 39-32.

Truman (11-5, 7-1 in GLVC) continued that mojo into the second half, down eight heading to the fourth quarter.

Truman's post players are such a strength for the team. With Weltha, Allison Thomas and Maddie Re, that unit is one



Members of the Truman State women's basketball team and fans celebrate after the Bulldogs defeated No. 1 Drury, 67-66, on Jan. 17, 2022. AUSTIN MILLER



Truman senior forward Allison Thomas puts up a layup Monday against Drury, where she set a new personal single-game scoring record with 19 points. AUSTIN MILLER

of the best bunches of rebounders there is. And they were huge in the second half. To setup her go-ahead free throws, Weltha collected an offensive board off her own missed shot and drew hard contact on a second shot attempt to get the foul call.

Thomas set a new career scoring high with 19 points, also adding 10 rebounds. Thirteen of those points and nine of those rebounds came in the second half. Truman out-rebounded Drury 37-18.

"She's a senior. She's someone who's faced Drury more than almost anyone else on this team," said Dean of Thomas. "She's someone that's wanted to beat them for four years. When she tore her ACL two years ago, she said, 'I'm going to work to get back for Drury.' Of course she was unable to do it, but that's the team she always wanted to beat — even when Amy was here as her head coach. She knew that's a pinnacle of success, beating Drury. "Allison was huge. Great on

the offensive rebounding side, but also just her patience down low. She didn't turn the ball over against a team that wants you to get the ball down low so they can strip you. She did a great job getting to the free-throw line and shot (80-percent) from the field. That's amazing and what you expect out of your senior."

Drury coach Amy Eagan, who made her first trip back to Pershing Arena since departing as Truman's coach in 2019, felt rebounding was a major factor in Monday's result.

"When somebody needed to step up, they stepped up," Eagan said. "We kind of ran out of power against them, especially with the rebounding. I knew that was going to be a big factor heading into today. I thought really, when they needed that to happen, they made it happen."

Into the fourth quarter, Truman held Drury to eight points and scored 17 of their own to grab the win.

"It's huge for our program, shows the hard work they've put in all season long, and learning from mistakes," Dean said. "We've been down 16 before several times this season and lost early on in the year. It's them learning, staying poised."

In establishing itself as a national power, Drury has been powered by a frenetic defense that turns teams over and scores in transition. Truman kept that in check Monday night.

Drury forces opponents into 13.7 turnovers per game and scores 28.7 points off turnovers per game. Truman finished with 14 turnovers, though 11 came in the first half, and Drury only converted them into 13 points. Drury also scored zero fastbreak points against the Bulldogs.

Truman has now won eight straight games, which matches a school record set in 2014. If the Bulldogs want to top that record,



Truman's Ellie Weltha and Hannah Belanger celebrate after a 67-66 win over Drury, the first in Bulldog history. AUSTIN MILLER



Kansas City Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce (87) celebrates with teammate Tyreek Hill (10) during the second half of an NFL wild-card playoff football game against the Pittsburgh Steelers, Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022, in Kansas City, Mo. TRAVIS HEYING - FREELANCER, FR13364 AP

Chiefs open up offense against Pittsburgh, eye Buffalo next

By DAVE SKRETTA
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Chiefs had to learn to dink and dunk their way through this entire season, contrary to every instinct of go for broke quarterback Patrick Mahomes, as opposing defenses simply refused to let themselves get beaten deep.

You can bet they relished the opportunity to open up the offense against Pittsburgh on Sunday night.

Mahomes wound up throwing for 404 yards and five touchdowns, most coming in the final three quarters, as the Chiefs turned an early seven-point deficit into a 42-21 rout. It was a vintage performance by the Kansas City offense, a throwback of sorts to the past few years, when Mahomes and his fleet of playmakers made defensive backfields look silly.

"In the playoffs, teams get a little more aggressive," Mahomes explained. "They played a little bit more single-safety-middle, especially toward the end of the second

quarter, and we showed that we can always be explosive. That's who we are. We're going to make big plays happen if we get the looks, and I think over the season we've learned to be patient as well."

In truth, the Chiefs (13-5) probably didn't need quite the fireworks against the Steelers. Their defense simply shut down Ben Roethlisberger in his career finale, allowing the Chiefs to build a 35-7 lead and cruise to the finish.

They likely will need that this Sunday night, when they face the equally potent Bills in a rematch of last year's AFC title game.

Buffalo walloped the Chiefs 38-20 earlier this season.

"It's just another team that's holding us back from going to the AFC championship and on to the Super Bowl," Kansas City defensive tackle Frank Clark said. "We just have to go out there and compete. I believe execution is going to be important. It's going to be one of the main keys to victory, executing our assignments and going out there and competing."

WHAT'S WORKING

Travis Kelce the receiver caught five passes for 108 yards and a score. Kelce the quarterback threw a 2-yard TD pass to Bryon Pringle. In doing so, Kelce the tight end became the first NFL player to throw a touchdown pass, catch a touchdown pass and have at least 100 yards receiving in a single playoff game.

"I don't think I have ever had the (courage) to tell coach (Andy) Reid that I was a high school all-league player," said Kelce, who also played a bit of quarterback in college. "That really doesn't mean much at this level. He knew that I could throw the ball since the first day I got there. It just took me a while to get a completion."

WHAT NEEDS HELP

Despite the offensive output, the Chiefs actually punted on their first three possessions Sunday night. Not exactly well, either. Tommy Townsend averaged just 34.5 yards with a long of 41 for the game.

Climate change: Athletes flag the dangers of manmade snow

By MARTHA BELLISLE
Associated Press

A British skier crashes through wooden fencing on a downhill corner and slams into a pole, breaking his leg. An American hits an icy patch at the bottom of a hill and crashes into a fence, breaking one ski and twisting the other, also breaking his leg.

Another American, training before a biathlon race, slides out on an icy corner and flies off the trail into a tree, breaking ribs and a shoulder blade and punctures a lung.

These were not scenes from high speed Alpine or ski cross events. They happened on cross country ski and biathlon tracks made with artificial snow.

Many top athletes say crashes like these are becoming more common as climate change reduces the availability of natural snow, forcing racers to compete on tracks with the man-made version. Olympic and World Cup race organizers have come to rely on snow-making equipment to create a ribbon of white through the hills since natural snowfall is less reliable.

Johanna Talihaarm, an Estonian Olympic biathlete, said racing on manmade snow comes with risks.

“Artificial snow is icier, therefore faster and more dangerous,” she said. “It also hurts more if you fall outside of the course when there is no fluffy snowbank, but a rocky and muddy hard ground.”

Manmade snow has a higher moisture content,

making it ice up quickly, skiers and experts say.

“It can be really rock hard out there and falling can feel like falling on concrete, and so it does make it a little bit more dangerous than if it was natural snow conditions,” said Chris Grover, head cross country coach for the U.S. Ski Team.

Some venues even make snow and then store it under wood chips through the summer and spread it around a track when it gets cold. Artificial snow, welcome as it may be, does not get better with age. Race organizers should take that into consideration when designing courses, skiers and experts say.

“It’s pretty universally recognized that courses are firmer and faster than before,” said Gus Schumacher, a member of the U.S. cross country team.

John Aalberg, a former Olympic cross country skier who designs Olympic Nordic ski courses, including for the Beijing Games, said they always consider icy conditions when designing a course. He said a bigger safety issue was the change in race formats from individual starts to mass starts.

“When you ski one-by-one like they used to do in the ‘90s, you could have gnarlier downhill and corners because they came one at a time,” he said.

Unlike Alpine equipment, cross country skis don’t have metal edges. They’re designed to be thin and lightweight for climbing hills and gliding over flats. The boots are flexible and connect to the ski with a single



FILE - Norway’s Vibeke Skofterud, left, escapes a crash involving Sweden’s Norgren Johansson, right, and Poland’s Paulina Maciuszek in the women’s 15-kilometer pursuit cross country skiing event at Whistler Olympic Park on February 19, 2010, at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Winter Games in Whistler, B.C. Many top Nordic skiers and biathletes say crashes are becoming more common as climate change reduces the availability of natural snow, forcing racers to compete on tracks with the manmade version. ANDREW VAUGHAN - FOREIGN SUBSCRIBER, CP

metal bar under the toe. Nordic skiers don’t use the edge of the ski to navigate around a corner. Instead, they take fast baby steps to get around the curve.

All of that is more difficult on manmade snow.

Olympic gold medalist and U.S. Nordic ski team member Jessie Diggins said she has reached 76 kilometers per hour (47 mph) going downhill on manmade snow “and it is scary because most of our race trails are built for natural snow.”

“I think it is getting a little more dangerous and I’ve noticed at the World Cup when it is manmade snow, it is scary because instead of sliding on snow you’re sliding on ice,” added Diggins, the overall World Cup winner for the 2020-21 season. “I think we’re seeing a higher percentage of falls. I feel it is a little more dangerous now.”

The International Ski Federation keeps track of injuries dating to 2006. The FIS Surveillance System was created to “monitor injury patterns and trends” and provide data “for in-depth studies of the causes of injuries.”

The reports track Alpine skiing, freestyle skiing, snowboarding and ski jumping. But there’s no data for injuries in Nordic events, which include cross country skiing, biathlon and Nordic combined.

When The Associated Press asked if the organization kept track of crashes in cross country and biathlon races, a FIS spokesman said: “We do track injuries during our races, but we do not make our researches public at the moment.” Asked about the concerns over manmade snow, FIS did not respond.

John Morton, a two-time Olympic biathlete and founder of Morton Trails, a Vermont company that designs ski trails, said there are international standards for Nordic ski races. He recalled attending a conference where they discussed banking turns on fast downhill, but there was resistance from some European officials who said it would make it too easy.

“There’s this constant drive to make it more exciting and more dramatic,” he said. “It’s very clear they want challenging courses, they want to push the athletes to the limits.”

In that context, he said, courses designed for natural snow “may have to be modified now because everything is faster - the skis are faster, the wax is faster.”

Manmade snow “isn’t really snow at all,” said Jim Steenburgh, professor of atmospheric sciences at the University of Utah. “What it is is water that’s blown through nozzles that break up the water into extremely small and tiny droplets that then freeze.”

Manmade snow has a higher water content so it has a high density and tends to be really durable, making it good for ski racing, at least for Alpine ski racing, Steenburgh said. But maybe not for Nordic athletes.

British skier Andrew Young was on the fourth lap of a 15-kilometer mass start cross country ski race in Sweden in January when he crashed on the downhill and went through a fence, breaking his leg. It ended his hopes for the 2021 world championships.



FILE - Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz watches from the sideline during the first half of an NCAA college football game against Minnesota, Saturday, Nov. 13, 2021, in Iowa City, Iowa. Ferentz has disbanded an alumni advisory committee that was created after a 2020 investigation found evidence of racial bias against Black players in his program and bullying behavior by some of his assistants. CHARLIE NEIBERGALL - STAFF, AP

Iowa coach disbands diversity group created after 2020 probe

The Gazette

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — Iowa football coach Kirk Ferentz has disbanded an alumni advisory committee that was created after a 2020 investigation found evidence of racial bias against Black players in his program and bullying behavior by some of his assistants.

The Gazette reports that Ferentz’ decision to end the committee came shortly after its leader, former offensive lineman David Porter, suggested it was time for Iowa to part ways with Ferentz. But Ferentz said he had decided to overhaul the committee last fall before Porter made his comment to other committee members in a text message.

“I have come to a decision that this is an appropriate time to dissolve our committee as it stands currently,” Ferentz wrote in an email to the 10-member committee on Tuesday. “As we start a new calendar year and prepare to move forward with our preparation for the 2022 season, I am giving thought to how we restructure the committee/board in a way that best serves our program moving forward.”

In 2020, the university hired the Husch Blackwell law firm to review the program after dozens of former players, most of them Black, spoke out on social media to allege racial disparities and mistreatment. Their activism came as protests against racial injustice swept the nation following the death of George Floyd and after attempts to raise concerns inside the program resulted in only minor changes.

The report said that some of the football program’s rules “perpetuated racial or cultural biases and diminished the value of cultural diversity.”

The program cut ties with longtime strength and conditioning coach Chris Doyle after agreeing to pay him \$1.1 million severance, but Ferentz resisted making other changes to his staff. Doyle has denied allegations that he bullied and discriminated against players.

Clearly, university leaders still have confidence in Ferentz because the Iowa Athletic Department announced Friday that his contract has been extended through the 2029 season. Ferentz, who has led Iowa since 1999, is the nation’s longest-tenured FBS head coach.

Ferentz said in a statement that his program learned from the committee’s work and he believes “we can be a team and celebrate players as individuals.” He said he appreciates “the time and dedication of those volunteer members who shared ideas and best practices.”

But Porter said he is disappointed that Ferentz appears to have ended the committee without a plan to continue its work, which remains unfinished.

“Our overarching theme was making sure that when kids go through the program they feel safe and protected,” Porter said. “Fear and intimidation is an issue we want to make sure we can address.”

Porter said the further away the group got from the 2020 report there seemed to be less urgency to address the issues even though a lawsuit 13 former players filed accusing the university of discrimination remains pending.

“For a while we were making good progress,” he said. “But as you get further away from the initial situation and issue, people tend to lose focus on why we were formed in the first place.”

CHIEFS

Continued from Page A7

STOCK UP

Clyde Edwards-Helaire missed another game with a shoulder injury and back-up Darrel Williams was dealing with a sore toe. So the start went to Jerick McKinnon, who had perhaps the best game by a Kansas City running back this season. McKinnon ran 12 times for 61 yards and caught six passes for 81 yards and a touchdown.

“Every day you have something to prove in this league,” he said. “I just wanted to prove to my teammates and my coaches that I can get the job done. My teammates allowed me to do that.”

STOCK DOWN

The Chiefs had high hopes for Josh Gordon

when they signed the former All-Pro wide receiver as a reclamation project early in the season. He wasn’t even active on Sunday as the Chiefs went with journeyman Daurice Fountain instead.

INJURIES

Edwards-Helaire tried to return against Pittsburgh but only managed to practice once last week. CB Rashad Fenton also was inactive on Sunday after he complained of a shoulder injury during pregame warmups.

KEY NUMBER

5 — The Chiefs have won five consecutive playoff games at Arrowhead Stadium, including the last two AFC title games, the longest streak in franchise history. One more win would move the Chiefs into a tie with the Broncos

for the 10th-best streak since the 1970 merger. Five consecutive games are also the longest active streak in the NFL.

NEXT STEPS

The Chiefs beat the Bills 38-24 in last year’s AFC title game, but these are two very different teams. Josh Allen shredded the Chiefs for three touchdowns passing and two rushing when Buffalo rolled past Kansas City in October.

“We’re expecting a fight. We’re expecting a battle,” Mahomes said. “They have a great offense, great defense, great special teams, and we played them in the AFC championship last year, and we know that it’s going to be another fight for us if we want to try to move on to the AFC championship game this year.”

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