

# KIRKSVILLE Daily Express

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Truman students work in the greenhouse at the university's farm. TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY.

## Truman farm getting more greenhouses after donation from former professor

Austin Miller  
Daily Express

The greenhouse operation at Truman's University Farm is expanding this spring thanks to a donation from a former professor.

Currently, the farm features one 70x30 greenhouse. After a \$15,000 from former biology professor Peter Goldman, four "caterpillar tunnels" will be added alongside. Those are somewhat smaller greenhouses with fewer moving parts. They will each be 16 feet wide and 100 feet long.

"We'll have about three, almost four times as much growing space as we current-



A photo from inside the greenhouse at Truman's University Farm. TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY.

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## Anti-vaccine protesters rally against Senate confirmation of Missouri health director

Tessa Weinberg  
Missouri Independent

State health director Donald Kauerauf adamantly spoke against mandating face masks and COVID-19 vaccines during a hearing Monday, as anti-vaccination demonstrators protested his confirmation in the halls outside.

While protesters chanted outside the Capitol hearing room, senators inside grilled Kauerauf for nearly two hours on his views on how best to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, his past comments about vaccination and his position on abortion.

"There are people that dis-

agree with vaccinations. I respect that. That is their choice to make that. And I don't have any problems with that whatsoever," Kauerauf said. "...I just have to go to bed knowing that we did every attempt we could to provide them with factual information."

Kauerauf's hearing was expected to be contentious, and over a 100 protesters gathered at the Capitol in opposition to his appointment holding signs that read "God-given natural immunity" and "We're not guinea pigs."

Meanwhile, Gov. Mike Parson came out in support of Kauerauf, issuing a state-

ment staunchly defending his choice for state health director as someone who "has respected Missourians' constitutional rights every step of the way."

"To set the record straight, Don is strongly pro-life and anti-abortion and against government mandating mask wearing and COVID-19 vaccinations," Parson said in a statement. "Those were his views and beliefs when I appointed him, and they remain today."

At the start of the hearing, Senate President Pro Tem Dave Schatz, R-Sullivan and chair of the Senate Gubernatorial Appointments Com-

mittee, said there would be no vote taken on appointees following Monday's hearing.

The committee has a meeting in which it could vote on appointees scheduled for 1 p.m. Tuesday and a hearing on additional appointees scheduled Wednesday. Schatz said the committee schedule may depend on the snowstorm expected later this week.

Under the Missouri Constitution, department directors that are appointed when the legislature isn't in session must be confirmed within 30 days of the Senate convening.

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## Snow emergency declaration set ahead upcoming winter weather

Daily Express staff

Kirksville has scheduled a snow emergency declaration in advance of a winter storm.

The snow emergency goes into effect at 11 p.m. on Feb. 1.

All vehicles parked on designated snow emergency routes must be moved by 1 a.m. on Feb. 2. If not, they will be ticketed or towed.

This snow emergency will remain in place until termi-

nated.

The current National Weather Service forecast predicts between 5 and 12 inches of snow for Kirksville. Kirksville is right on the edge of potentially larger amounts of

snow. Moberly is projected for between 9 and 18 inches of snow.

This storm is expected to begin Tuesday night and last into Thursday.

According to data from

the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Center for Environmental Information, Kirksville's largest snowfall came on Jan. 26, 1967 when the city got 18 inches of snow.

## Third campus approved for A.T. Still University

A.T. Still University

A.T. Still University (ATSU) announces effective Jan. 10, 2022, the Institutional Actions Council of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) formally approved the University's request for a third campus, ATSU's College for Healthy Communities (ATSU-CHC) in Santa Maria, California.

On Sept. 27, 2021, ATSU welcomed the first cohort of students to its Central Coast Physician Assistant (CCPA) program in Santa Maria, California. With approval of this third campus, CCPA has become the founding program of ATSU's seventh and newest College.

"This is the next step in a strategic plan reflecting the national appeal of ATSU's programs and influence," said O.T. Wendel, senior vice president for university planning/strategic initiatives and interim ATSU-CHC dean. "The success of the third campus application is due to a talented team of faculty and staff. Everyone contributed and the application was viewed very positively by the Higher Learning Commission."

"College for Healthy Communities aligns closely with the mission of the nation's community health centers. Future programs on the Santa Maria, California, campus will be developed to meet healthcare and workforce needs of medically underserved communities. ATSU's CCPA program is partnered with Community Health Centers of the Central Coast and National Association of Community Health Centers. Students will spend the first year in Santa Maria, California, and second year engaged in clinical experiences in 20 community health centers across the U.S.," said Craig M. Phelps, ATSU president.

Establishment of ATSU's College for Healthy Communities and the Santa Maria, California, campus are key steps in receiving approval for access to Title IV funds from the U.S. Department of Education. Those funds provide students access to financial aid through various federal programs.

ATSU's campus in Kirksville, Missouri, is home to Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine, the founding school of osteopathic medicine, and Missouri School of Dentistry & Oral Health. The university's Mesa, Arizona, campus includes Arizona School of Health Sciences, Arizona School of Dentistry & Oral Health, and School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona. Additionally, ATSU's College of Graduate Health Studies offers online degree and certificate programs.

On July 15, 2021, the Accreditation Review Commission for Physician Assistant Education (ARC-PA) granted accreditation-provisional status to ATSU's CCPA program. Accreditation-provisional is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation, if fully implemented as planned, of a proposed program, that has not yet enrolled students, appear to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards or when a program holding accreditation-provisional status appears to demonstrate

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# In Your Own Backyard: Kirksville events for Feb. 3-9

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, February 3

Kirksville Parks and Recreation's third annual Cabin Fever Virtual 5K is open for registration. This year's challenge will take place Feb.1-March 18. During that time the distance can be completed in one day or split up into multiple days. Once the 5K is complete, times can be submitted to lcallaghan@kirksvillecity.com. Participants receive the 2022 Cabin Fever 5K long sleeve t-shirt. The registration deadline is Feb. 15, and the cost is \$15 per participant. Register at parks.kirksvillecity.com. For more information call 660-627-1485.

## Friday, February 4

Looking for the perfect Valentine's Day activity with your kids? Kirksville Parks and Recreation Department is excited to announce our newest program! Sign up for Build A Buddy and choose from 6 different Build A Buddy kits. Each kit contains a 15 inch stuffed animal, 5oz of super soft stuffing, mini

heart, birth certificate, and step by step instructions. Pick up for Build A Buddy kits will be from February 7th-14th at the Kirksville Aquatic Center. Register at parks.kirksvillecity.com, or in person at the Kirksville Aquatic Center. For costs and more information call 660.627.1485.

## Saturday, February 5

The Northeast Christian High School is hosting a Family Carnival Night from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, 2405 E. Illinois. Play games like ring toss, Nerf gun shootout, football throw and more! Don't forget to grab a funnel cake, popcorn, or cotton candy. For costs and more information call 660-342-1100.

## Saturday, February 5

Plan to attend the Nemo Ag Show at the Nemo Fairgrounds from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. This event is sponsored by KIRX/KRXL/KTUF Radio stations. For more information call 660-665-9828.

## Sunday February 6

You are invited to a Wild Prairie Winds Recital at 6:00 p.m. in the Ophelia Parrish Performance Hall on the Truman campus. Face masks required inside buildings on the Truman campus. For more information call 660-785-4417.



The Flint River flows, Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022, in Flint, Mich. After Flint's water crisis, 35% of Black adults in the U.S. said they didn't drink tap water, up from 25%. High-profile cases of lead contamination in predominantly Black cities and a history of deception around the problem have led to a distrust of tap water, which can have long-term health and financial consequences. CARLOS OSORIO - STAFF, AP

# US pushes for better tap water but must win over wary public

By MICHAEL PHILLIS  
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Angela Stamps won't drink water from her faucet, showers less and no longer takes the baths she once found relaxing. She doesn't cook with tap water and sometimes skips rinsing her produce.

Even though the amount of lead in Flint, Michigan's tap water has been well below a key state threshold for several years, she hasn't been able to stop worrying since going through the trauma of the city's lead crisis.

"I just don't trust it," she said.

As the Biden administration looks to spend billions of dollars to address inequalities in water quality and access, officials must try to overcome persistent public distrust of tap water. Experts say it will be especially difficult to overcome in Black and Hispanic communities, where suspicion can be entrenched because of past instances of being misled by public officials and high-profile lead crises in cities with large Black populations, including Flint and Newark, New Jersey.

"Problems in one place erode trust in other places," said David Switzer, a water quality and public policy researcher at the University of Missouri.

The issue will hit home in many cities and towns as the Biden administration pushes to replace millions of lead service lines in the U.S. that can leach lead into drinking water. In addition, tightened testing standards might reveal higher lead levels and put more communities on notice about problems.

Lead exposure can cause a host of health problems and is considered especially dangerous for young children because it can slow development and cause other troubles.

Already, 20% of adults nationally say they don't drink tap water — filtered or not — up from 14% before the Flint crisis, according to a study of federal survey data. The figures are higher among Black adults, with 35% saying they avoid drinking tap, up from 25% before Flint. Among Hispanic adults, the figure rose to 38%, up from 27%.

That distrust can translate to unnecessary spending on bottled water or make it more likely that adults reach for sugary drinks that can increase the risk of health problems such as

diabetes and cavities, said Asher Rosinger, a Pennsylvania State University researcher who studies water access.

There's also the constant stress for parents who worry that tap water might poison their children, he said.

Though the vast majority of the country's water systems report that they meet federal health standards, problems such as elevated lead levels and health violations happen more often in lower-income areas that are predominantly Black or Hispanic, Switzer said.

Defective plumbing that tinges water brown or creates an odd taste can also turn people away from the faucet. Immigrants from countries with unsafe water might transfer that distrust to water that might be safer in the U.S. and pass that uneasiness on to their children, said Silvia R. González, who works on environmental equity and water issues at UCLA's Latino Policy and Politics Initiative.

"Thinking about my family, my dad will not drink the tap water, and therefore my brother does not drink the tap water," said Gonzalez, whose father immigrated to the U.S. from Mexico.

And if residents feel their local government is indifferent to their needs — a problem especially prevalent in Black and brown communities — that can foster distrust in drinking water, according to experts.

"There's a legacy of mistrust and a healthy sense of paranoia that has kept us alive for centuries," said Robert Bullard, a professor at Texas Southern University who has researched and pushed for environmental justice for decades.

Philadelphia, which is 44% Black, is one of the few places that have run a public campaign to help save residents money and reduce plastic pollution by boosting trust in tap water. Murals on buildings and songs promote the city's drinking water.

Though it hasn't had a lead scandal, city surveys indicate that residents avoid the tap because of health concerns and taste. Among Black residents in 2021, more than 60% said they mostly drank bottled water, compared with 42% of Philadelphia's residents overall.

Monika Davis, who is Black, switched from bottled water to tap when she applied to become one of

roughly a dozen residents enlisted by the city as ambassadors in 2019 to show up at events and talk to her neighbors about the safety and benefits of tap water.

She remembers her family boiling water as a precaution when she was growing up. Touring the water treatment plant and learning about the city's water quality helped convince her of its safety, she said.

The percentage of residents relying on bottled water declined after the campaign, but it rose again last year.

"It takes a lot to change a habit," Davis said.

For some, the Flint crisis reinforced suspicions that public officials are indifferent to Black and brown communities. Michigan officials had switched the city's water source to save money and initially downplayed the problem before the facts emerged and it became a major scandal.

"People rightly felt betrayed," said Mark Edwards, a water quality specialist at Virginia Tech.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says no amount of lead is considered safe for children. But many water systems have some lead and are required to take significant action when levels reach a federal threshold. Edwards said the CDC guidance might cause needless fear, muddling the difference between low levels and amounts that are truly concerning. Flint's levels are low but not zero.

Stamps cites the federal health goal of no lead to explain her skepticism, saying none should be in the water.

It's why experts say that it won't be enough to replace lead pipes and that public outreach efforts will be key.

In Flint, Michigan officials say lead levels have been lower for years and the state now has the strongest lead water protections in the country. They say they have worked to replace lead lines, upgrade infrastructure and be transparent by publishing testing data, but they acknowledge that rebuilding trust will take time and continued outreach.

A community lab that isn't affiliated with the government also tests water for free.

"The residents are still at a point where they are not trusting government," said Candice Mushatt, the Flint Community Lab's director, adding that residents value the lab's independence — it builds trust.



A vial of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine is displayed on a counter at a pharmacy in Portland, Ore., Monday, Dec. 27, 2021. U.S. regulators have granted full approval to Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine after reviewing additional data on its safety and effectiveness. The decision Monday, Jan. 31, 2022 by the Food and Drug Administration comes after many tens of millions of Americans have already received the shot under its original emergency authorization. Full approval means FDA has completed the same rigorous, time-consuming review for Moderna's shot as dozens of other long-established vaccines. JENNY KANE - STAFF, AP

# US gives full approval to Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine

By MATTHEW PERRONE  
AP Health Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. health regulators on Monday granted full approval to Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine, a shot that's already been given to tens of millions of Americans since its emergency authorization over a year ago.

The action by the Food and Drug Administration means the agency has completed the same rigorous, time-consuming review of Moderna's shot as dozens of other long-established vaccines.

The decision was bolstered by real-world evidence from the more than 200 million doses administered in the U.S. since the FDA cleared the shot in December 2020. The FDA granted full approval of Pfizer's vaccine last August.

Public health advocates initially hoped the regulatory distinction would boost public confidence in the shots. But there was no discernable bump in vaccinations after the Pfizer approval, which was heavily promoted by President Joe Biden and other federal officials. Still, regulators said Monday they hoped the extra endorsement would encourage more people to get vaccinated.

More than 211 million Americans, or 63% of the total population, are fully vaccinated. About 86 million people have gotten a booster dose. Vaccinations peaked last spring at more than 3 million per day, and now average less than 750,000 per day. The pace of vaccinations briefly spiked following news of the omicron variant in December

but has since slowed again.

The FDA reviewed months of additional follow-up data submitted by Moderna to confirm the vaccine's effectiveness against COVID-19. The FDA also analyzed and kept watch for serious side effects that have proved to be very rare. The vaccine includes a warning about a rare type of heart inflammation that mostly occurs in young men following the second dose. Most cases are mild and resolve quickly.

Additionally, FDA reviewed the company's manufacturing process and facilities.

"The public can be assured that this vaccine was approved in keeping with the FDA's rigorous scientific standards," said Dr. Peter Marks, FDA's top vaccine regulator, in a statement.

With full approval, Moderna will now market the vaccine under the brand name, Spikevax. It is the first FDA-approved product for the Cambridge, Massachusetts-based company.

In the U.S., Moderna is used only by adults, for initial vaccination and as a half-dose booster. The company said last fall that FDA had delayed deciding whether to clear the shots for 12- to 17-year-olds as it examined the heart inflammation risk.

Johnson & Johnson has not yet applied for full approval of its COVID-19 vaccine.

Also Monday, Novavax Inc. formally requested FDA authorization of a different type of COVID-19 vaccine, in hopes of becoming the fourth U.S. option.

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OBITUARIES

Richard Haggbloom

Jan. 10, 1951 - Jan. 24, 2022

Richard Allen Haggbloom, 71, of Kirksville, Missouri, passed away on January 24th, 2022, at 2:02 PM.

He was born on January 10th, 1951, in Oceanside, California to Lawrence Richard and Helen Haggbloom.



As a young boy Richard enjoyed spending his time on the beach, surfing the ocean, and catching waves. As he grew older his hobbies included custom wood work; where he became a custom cabinet builder. Richard also made Oil Paintings, built model airplanes or cars, and enjoyed walking around the Thousand Hills Lake with his loved ones.

He is preceded in death by his wife Cindy Rae Haggbloom, and his parents, Lawrence Richard and Helen Haggbloom.

Richard is survived by his 4 children, 3 daughters, and one son: Lori Lund of Unionville, Missouri, Henria Re Rouse of Lucerne, Missouri, Kenneth Herron of Huntsville, Missouri,

and Jamie Ranieri of New Jersey. Richard has 6 grandchildren: Torin Rouse of Kirksville, Missouri, Alivia (Dustin) Ames of Cairo, Missouri, Sierra Herron of Shiloh, Illinois, and Jade Herron of Kirksville, Missouri.

Richard has 4 great grandchildren: Declan, Hudson, and Easton Ames of Cairo, Missouri and Kaison Barrett of Kirksville, Missouri.

All held him in the highest regard and loved him dearly.

Richard became acquainted with Jehovah's Witnesses in California, and they welcomed his arrival in Oklahoma as a young man. It is there that Richard met his wife, Cindy.

He was a member of the Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses in Kirksville, Missouri for many years of his life. He loved learning about the promises ahead for all those who love and worship Jehovah. He looked forward to the resurrection and seeing his loved ones who have passed.

Per Richard's Request, there will be no funeral or memorial service. Ruschmeier Funeral Home is handling his requests.

Ronald Munn

Nov. 5, 1942 - Jan. 25, 2022

Ronald Sherman Munn, 79, of Kirksville, MO. passed away Tuesday January 25, 2022 in his home with his family by his side.

He was born November 5, 1942 in Kirksville, MO. Ronald was the son of the late Everett and Mary Alberta (Shoemaker) Munn. He was united in marriage to Janice Marie Erickson on June 5, 1964.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Everett and Mary Alberta Munn; brothers, Everett Murrell Munn, Harold Dean Munn, Daniel Dennis Munn, David Lee Munn and two siblings in infancy; sisters, Ecil Jeanette Hutcheson and Lois Baugher Munn.

Ron is survived by his wife Janice Marie Munn; two daughters and sons-in-law, Veronica and Steve Stutler of Kirksville, MO and Dinah and John Conley of Pekin, IL; two grandchildren and spouses, Stephanie and Mitchell Stafford of Liberty, MO and Timothy and Jennifer Stutler of St. Petersburg, FL. Also surviving four great grandchildren; Wade and Tyson Stafford and



Ariel and Luke Stutler.

Ron received his education in the Troy Mills Rural School. He was a self-employed Tool and Die Maker. Ron loved life, his faith, and his family. He enjoyed spending time outdoors enjoying nature, watching animals in his yard, fishing, and spending time with his wife taking car rides and coffee breaks together. He had many hobbies such as collecting rare coins, building and riding motorcycles, playing his guitars and watching Indy 500 and Nascar races. He loved spending time with his granddogs. Ron always had some project in progress as many well knew.

Early in his life, Ron became an active member as one of Jehovah's Witnesses, being baptized November 17, 1963 and served as an elder from the early 1970s to present. He was a devoted husband, father, brother, uncle, friend and mentor to all who knew him.

A Memorial services via zoom.com will take place on Saturday February 5, 2022 at 1:00 pm. Meeting ID is 825-9436-7149 with Passcode 598158. Talk will be at 1:00 pm and slide presentation 20 minutes prior.

RALLY

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That sets a deadline for Kauerauf to be confirmed by the end of the week.

If he wins committee approval, Kauerauf would still face a vote before the full Senate in order to be confirmed.

If he fails to secure Senate confirmation, then the Constitution bars Kauerauf from being appointed to the DHSS director position again.

Kauerauf's hearing has already faced delays. A hearing last week where Kauerauf was originally scheduled to be heard was canceled nearly four hours after after it was scheduled to begin due to conservative senators holding the Senate floor to air their grievances on a proposed Congressional map.

'We're against mandates'

Kauerauf assumed office in September of last year, after he was appointed by Parson to replace former DHSS Director Randall Williams, who was asked to resign suddenly and with little explanation.

Kauerauf, who came to Missouri following a career in emergency management and public health in Illinois, has been vocal that "masks work." In early November, his department, at the request of Parson's office, analyzed data that found mask mandates were effective in reducing case rates and COVID deaths.

The findings weren't made public until an open records request by The Independent and the Documenting COVID-19 project. Parson has never implemented a statewide mask mandate during the pandemic.

Kauerauf's views on mandates were the first questions he fielded Monday from Sen. Tony Luetkemeyer, R-Parkville.

"My position's clear," Kauerauf said, "is that we're against mandates."

Throughout the hearing, Kauerauf stressed a mantra of personal choice, whether it was on masks, vaccines or the use of the drug ivermectin to treat COVID.

"If that is something someone believes is needed for them, that's a discussion they should have with their doctor to go through it," Kauerauf said of the use of ivermectin to treat COVID-19.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has not approved ivermectin to treat COVID-19, and it's typically used to treat parasitic worms in animals. Before Kauerauf assumed his role, DHSS urged Missourians not to self-medicate with the drug.

Sen. Mike Moon, R-Ash Grove, peppered Kauerauf with a majority of the questions Monday, even delving into Kauerauf's wife's work at the Illinois state health department and whether Kauerauf is connected to a testing program in Illinois — topics

that became testy at times, as Kauerauf reminded Moon is wife was not there at the hearing.

Senators also delved into Kauerauf's views on abortion. The state health department oversees licensing and inspections of abortion providers.

When asked, Kauerauf said a life begins at conception, but declined to answer what role the state should play in regulating abortion.

"I'm pro-life," Kauerauf said, "but I'm also pro-public health in making sure that those kids when they grow up, they have the greatest chance of success and live the longest, most healthiest lives possible."

Kauerauf has also faced criticism from conservative state senators over his comments on a law passed last year that limited the authority of public health officials to issue mitigation orders. Asked if the new law was exacerbating the delta variant's spread, Kauerauf previously said "this is one that haunts me."

Sen. Bob Onder, R-Lake St. Louis, raised that statement Monday, writing on Twitter that, "when an appointee to an important department says that an important legislative achievement of the last session 'haunts him,' I think he needs to answer what he means by that."

Kauerauf's actions have also at times led to clashes with other state officials.

Last year, Kauerauf requested Schmitt appeal a consequential ruling issued by a Cole County judge that invalidated certain state rules that allowed for health officials to issue orders to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

Schmitt, who was representing DHSS in the lawsuit, declined to appeal and has waged a crusade to ensure its enforcement.

The ruling has led to widespread confusion for public health departments who said they're received little guidance from the state, and it has hindered some health departments' responses to infectious diseases other than COVID-19.

Kauerauf said the initial request to appeal stemmed from the ambiguity of the ruling, and that after meeting with the attorney general's office, "we understand the extent of the ruling now much better than we did."

Based on the court's ruling, Kauerauf said, "the ability for local public health agencies to issue discretionary orders is no longer part of their ability." He added it would have to be a specific order that receives approval of the department's governing body.

"It's pretty clear now," he said.

Opposition to appointment Kauerauf has faced opposition from GOP and anti-vaccine mandate corners of the

state.

Jennifer Barker, with the advocacy group Informed Health Choice Missouri, raised issues during a rally Monday with Kauerauf's request to Schmitt to appeal the Cole County ruling. Informed Health Choice Missouri has decried what it views as a "forced vaccination policy" that would be necessary to achieve a higher COVID vaccination rate of 75%.

Kauerauf acknowledged Monday that reaching a 100% vaccination rate of those who are willing and eligible would be reaching "the end zone," but that ultimately he hopes to see Missouri reach a COVID vaccination rate of 75%.

As of Monday, 57.8% of Missourians five years and older have been fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

Members of the Conservative Caucus, like Republican Sens. Denny Hoskins of Warrensburg, Rick Brattin of Harrisonville and Moon spoke at the anti-Kauerauf rally Monday.

Moon, who is running for U.S. Congress, said a department director "should not have tyrannical powers," and Hoskins said amid the pandemic, some local health departments have acted like "a dictatorship" and don't listen to residents' voices.

In his statement, Parson directed any concerns to his office.

"It's concerning to see certain Missouri officials grandstanding for purely political reasons and fueling fears without any regard for the truth," Parson said. "I implore Missouri Senators to assess the qualities of the person, not let themselves fall victim to misinformation repeated on social media."

Senators on the committee said their emails and phones have "blown up" with calls and emails regarding Kauerauf. The Jackson County Republican Committee also opposes Kauerauf's appointment, The Kansas City Star reported.

Senate Majority Leader Caleb Rowden, R-Columbia, told reporters last week that concerns he's heard were less about the state having a higher COVID vaccination rate, and more about the means to achieve that.

"I would assume a desire for a health guy to get more folks vaccinated is probably not the most offensive part of what some folks have an issue with," Rowden said.

Senate Minority Leader John Rizzo, D-Independence, said he thinks Kauerauf has become a symbol for things he believes the Republican Party recoils from, like masks and vaccines.

"In my opinion, he believes in science," Rizzo said. "And I think he's done a decent job so far. Quite honestly, it's surprising that he's there, but I'm glad he is. And I hope he sticks around."

FARM

Continued from Page A1

ly do," said Bob Johnson, an assistant professor in agriculture.

This project dates back to last fall. Since he retired from the university several years ago, Goldman volunteers a few times a week at the Pantry for Adair County. Not only does the Truman farm provide produce to the dining halls, but it also donates produce to the pantry. Johnson is only in his second year at Truman, so Goldman wasn't exactly sure who the man donating so many tomatoes was.

During peak summer growing season, Johnson donated about 300 pounds of tomatoes one week.

"For a solid two months, we were probably taking 100 pounds a week," Johnson said.

Sustainability is a major priority for Goldman. He was part of the group that helped establish the university's sustainability pledge several years ago. He was looking for a sustainability project he could donate money to, so he quickly approached Johnson. Johnson gave him a tour of the greenhouse and showed what was being produced. Goldman asked Johnson where he'd like to see the greenhouse progress to. Additional space was Johnson's answer.

"To me, it makes the whole university slightly more sustainable," said Goldman, who taught at the university for 44 years. "... The food's produced locally, it's organic, it goes from farm to table in the blink of an eye. So that helps the issue of sustainability. It's just a tiny help, but it's a help."

With the extra space, Johnson said the plan is to differentiate what is grown. He's planning to plant watermelons and sweet potatoes this summer. Those are low maintenance plants that take longer to grow, which is perfect for the summer since few students are around. Tomatoes will still be the top product in the summer since it's a hot commodity for the season.

And the current greenhouse is highly successful, having a low loss rate. For plants grown

outside on the university farm, Johnson said there's a loss rate of about 40 percent. But inside the greenhouse, that's down to almost two percent.

The greenhouse's top priority is to make sure the dining halls and food pantry get enough quality produce, but it is also a major learning experience for students. Johnson can lecture about how certain plants grow, but giving students the exact experience is so much more beneficial.

"I was able to give substantial amounts of covered garden space to each of these lab groups," Johnson said. "They're tasked with acting as if they are a vegetable farmer and trying to make as much money of this small piece of dirt as possible. Some of that is theoretical because some will go to the food pantry and some will be sold to the dining hall, but it's the ability to get more students involved, and have the space where more students can do something that's substantial."

With the additional greenhouse space, his classes have some flexibility to try new plants.

"Theoretically, each class that I have can be growing in a different (greenhouse), growing different things for different purposes," Johnson said. "And all with the intent of learning while we're providing fresh, nutritious foodstuffs for the community."

Locally grown food is one key to sustainability. Because it is grown here and consumed here, there aren't the emissions that come from transporting produce from one part of the country to another.

Johnson used lettuce and other salad greens as an example. If there isn't a reliable local producer for lettuce in December, then it likely has to be sent from California. If the expanded greenhouse can provide for the dining halls, that's a big benefit.

"That's why I'm glad we're getting this here on campus because it's a good demonstration for the northeast Missouri area that these things are possible," Johnson said. "It allows us to produce crops in an extended season, that way we don't have to ship that food in from somewhere else."

CAMPUS

Continued from Page A1

continued progress in complying with the Standards as it prepares for the graduation of the first class (cohort) of students.

Accreditation-provisional does

not ensure any subsequent accreditation status. It is limited to no more than five years from matriculation of the first class. The program's accreditation history may be viewed on the ARC-PA website.

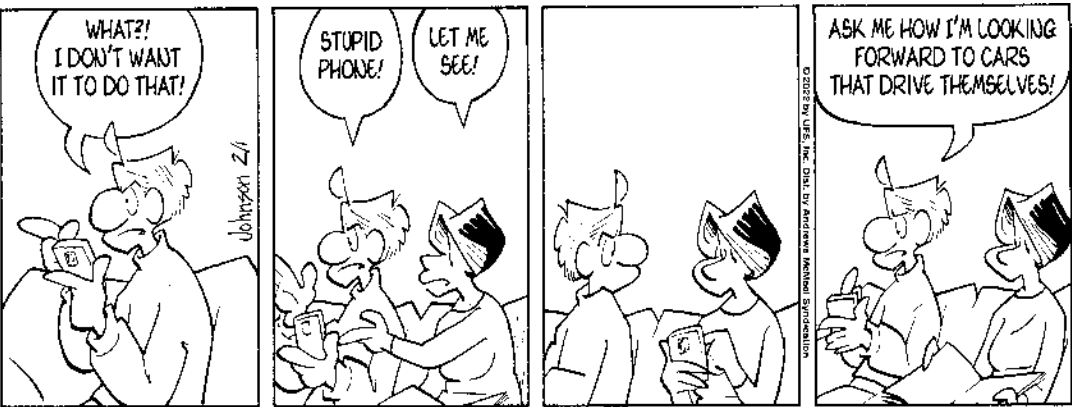
HLC will conduct a campus evaluation visit within the next six months, per its policy.

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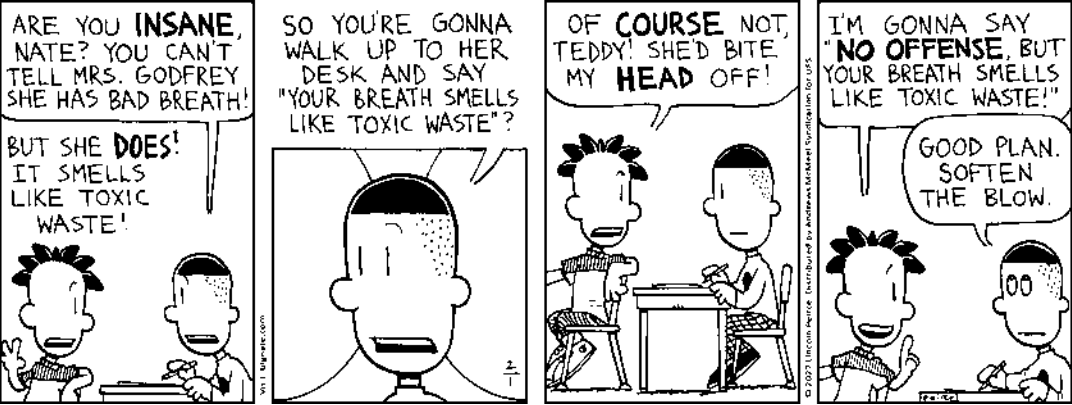
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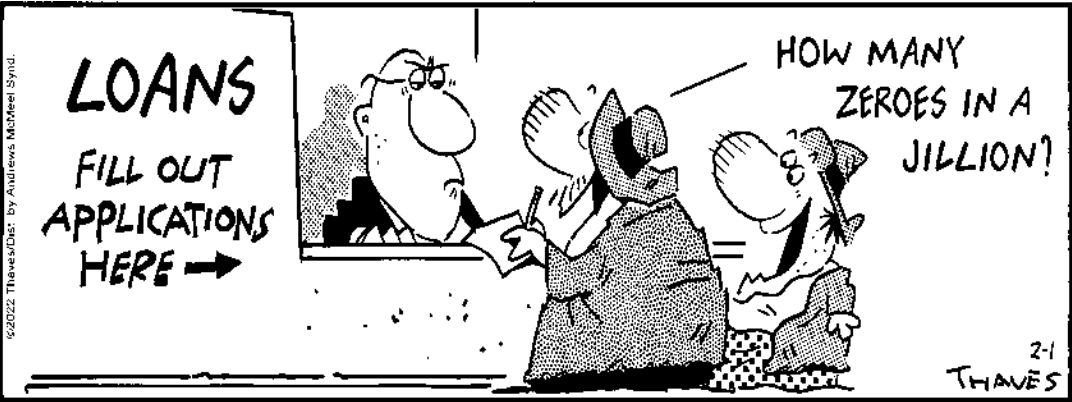
BIG NATE



THE BORN LOSER



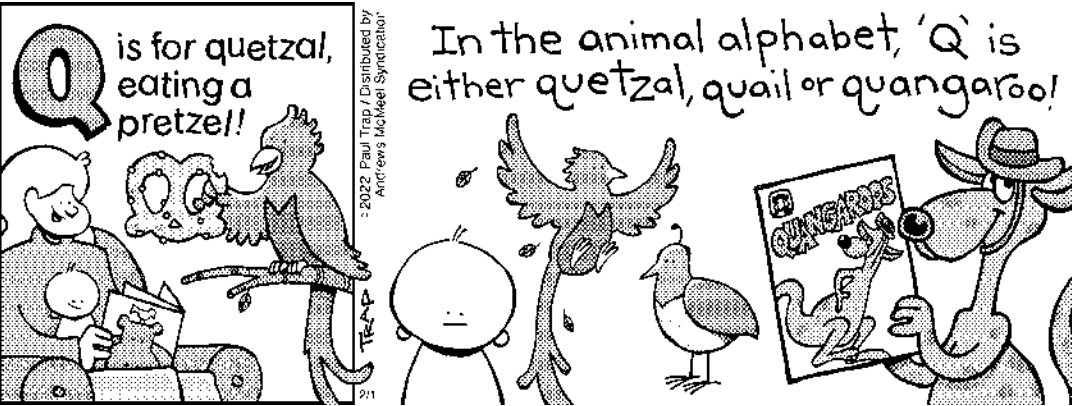
FRANK AND ERNEST



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

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

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

CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

1 Full extent  
5 Beaver project  
8 Far East nanny  
12 Braided cord  
13 Left Bank friend  
14 Roman market-places  
15 Humane Society goal  
17 Thunder  
18 Down Under citizen  
20 UPS units  
21 Cunning  
24 Grind one's teeth  
26 Is, to Fritz  
27 Heavy hammer  
31 Sets  
33 "— Buttermilk Sky"  
34 Ms. Dinesen  
38 A Guthrie  
39 Tillis or Dawber  
40 PBS series  
41 Dictation pros  
44 Dover's st.

**DOWN**

1 Tijuana "Mrs."  
2 Bean hull  
3 GI mail drop  
4 Where Kathman-du is  
5 Podium  
6 "Famous" cookie maker  
7 Dress style  
8 Kenya's loc.  
9 Cash, casually

**45 Aluminum company**  
**48 Locate, perhaps**  
**50 By way of**  
**51 Popular cruise stop**  
**55 "Green Gables" redhead**  
**57 Stubborn**  
**61 Stravinsky or Sikorsky**  
**62 Sweater letter**  
**63 Kind of rug**  
**64 Like one Ranger**  
**65 Spinning toy**  
**66 Mispronounce "s"**

**10 Swift horses**  
**11 Rigid**  
**16 Weekday, briefly**  
**19 Souffle ingredient**  
**21 Prefix for billion**  
**22 Tech-support caller**  
**23 "— never fly"**  
**25 No, on the Rhine**  
**28 Easy gait**  
**29 Vivacity**  
**30 Slightly used car**  
**32 Just OK (hyph.)**  
**35 Seltzer**  
**36 With, to Henri**

**37 Hardy green**  
**42 Light brown**  
**43 Census info**  
**45 Benefit**  
**46 Slangy talk**  
**47 Bishop's rule**  
**49 Not built-up**  
**52 No. cruncher**  
**53 London district**  
**54 Barber-shop noise**  
**56 Before, to Blake**  
**58 "Exodus" character**  
**59 Lo- — graphics**  
**60 Bark**

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

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HERMAN



"All I said was, 'I like only half the songs on it.'"

ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

A direct approach will help you reach your goal. Stay on course, regardless of temptation or what others decide to do. Control your emotions and devote more time to research and preparation. Look at the facts before you take others' opinions into consideration. Base your decisions on what you know and what you can do.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** -- Check facts, but let your emotions contribute to your decision. Have a heart and be mindful, but don't be gullible. A positive change can lead to progress, but it must be made for the right reason.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** -- Listen, evaluate and make adjustments. Don't feel compelled to do things the way someone specifies if you have a system that works better for you. Deliver what's essential.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** -- Listen, assess and formulate what you must do to reach your target. Call on someone reliable to verify that you are on the right track and put your mind at ease.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** -- Indecisiveness will cause confusion, and mistakes will occur if you can't differentiate between what you want and what you can have. Dissect the information you receive and verify facts.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21)** -- Stay on track and forge ahead. Ignore what others do or say if you want to stay on track. Simplify your life and stick to the path that leads to the highest rewards. Be dedicated and innovative.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** -- You'll have some unique ideas to share. The input you receive will help you expand your plans. Reach for the stars.

Romance is apparent, and making a bold move will pay off.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** -- Team up with someone who has as much to offer as you do. If you join forces with someone who is all talk and no action, you'll do all the work yourself while still having to share the rewards.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** -- You have plenty to look forward to if you embrace the changes that come your way. Don't fear doing things differently or changing your direction midway. Let your intuition guide you.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** -- Show resilience and tenacity, and you will overcome any negativity or opposition. Don't let anyone lead you astray or take away what's rightfully yours. Call the shots.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** -- Don't let bitterness engulf you when creativity and adventure will enlighten you and push you in a beneficial direction. A positive attitude will make it easier to let go of the past.

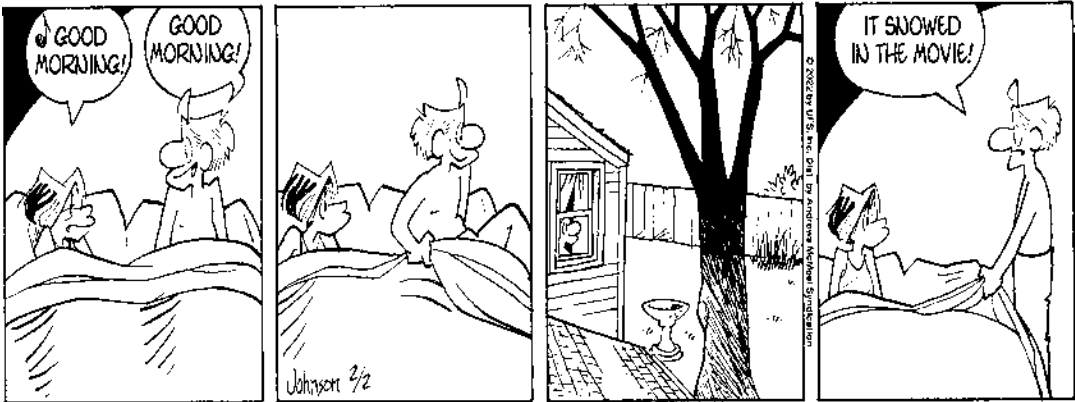
**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** -- Spend more time on moneymaking projects and less time socializing with your friends. Too much partying will lead to temptations that will make someone you care about question your standards.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** -- Count on yourself and you won't be disappointed. Delegating responsibilities to someone who isn't reliable will leave you looking bad. Pick up the pace, and you'll be able to get everything done.

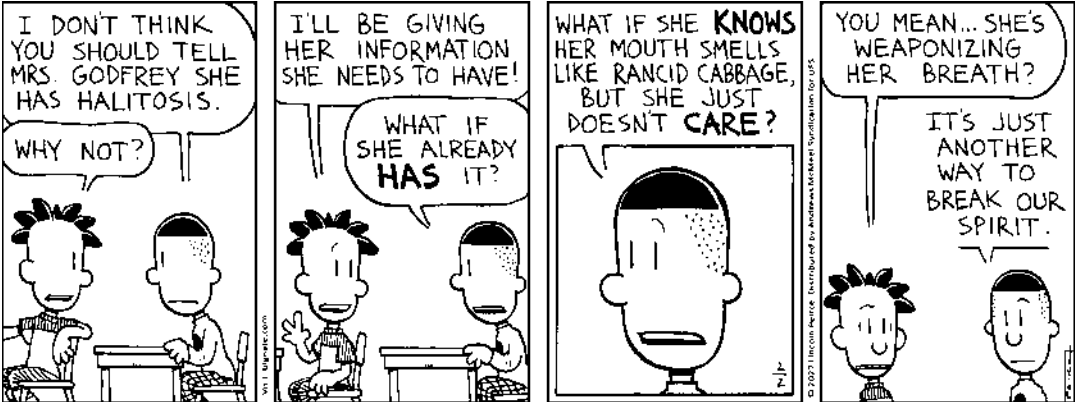
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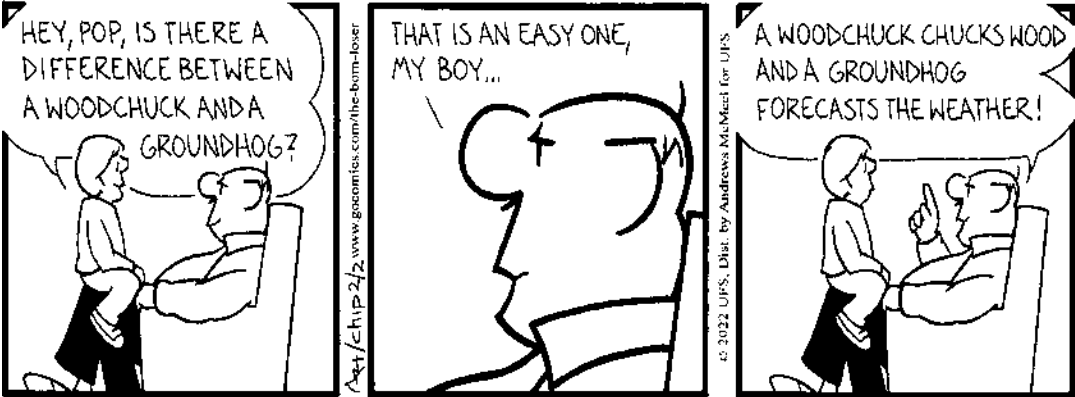
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BIG NATE



THE BORN LOSER



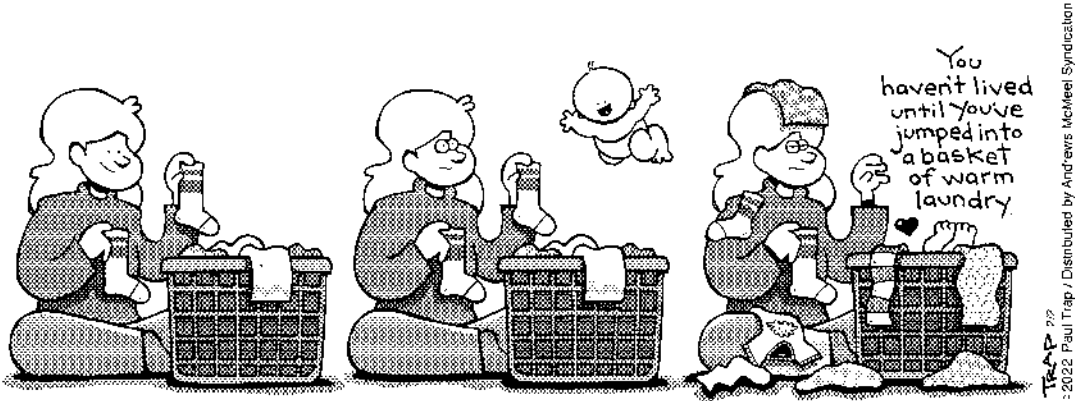
FRANK AND ERNEST



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

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

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

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Not dangerous

5 Beyond the limit

10 Photo books

12 Laughed loudly

13 Waikiki wear

14 Says without thinking

15 Pierre's noggin

16 Brownish fruit

18 Female rabbit

19 Devout

21 Gets introduced

25 Not up to

29 Courtyards

30 Animals' homes

32 Bedouin's mount

33 Out of bed

34 Landing strip

37 Smells awful

38 Frozen-faced

40 PBS funder

43 Comic — Costello

44 Sticky stuff

48 Iris covering

50 Inelegant solution

52 Gives a speech

53 Not as hard

54 Dyeing method

55 Playground shout

DOWN

1 Swing around

2 Lie adjacent

3 Get steamed up

4 Down Under bird

5 Search engine find

6 Praise

7 Neophyte

8 Nerve network

9 Yellow Pages

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

10 Qty.

11 Muslim mystic

12 Air rifle (2 wds.)

17 Debt memo

19 Choir selections

20 Employee's compensation

21 Big burger

22 State, in Paris

23 "Cope Book" aunt

24 Layer

26 Diamond corner

27 Diet

28 — Estrada of films

31 Almost-grads

35 Reference book

36 Imitate a dove

39 Microwave

40 Ibsen woman

41 Q.E.D. part

42 Not "pro"

44 Erupt

45 Fat cat's victim

46 Curved molding

47 Part of mph

48 Part of an ear

49 Mouse alert

51 Rule of conduct

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

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HERMAN



ASTROGRAPH BY EUGENIA LAST

Keep things in perspective, chill out and simplify your life. Take on what's necessary and concentrate on what's important. Extreme focus will help you set a pattern that leads to success. Aim for steady progress and don't let anyone confuse you or tempt you to deviate from your chosen path. Put self-improvement, romance and a positive lifestyle first.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** -- Take a leadership position. Distance yourself from people who keep changing their minds. Clarity, structure and discipline will carry you to the finish line. Don't let go of your dreams.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** -- Expansion will tempt you. Consider what's involved and act accordingly. You can use unorthodox methods if you intend to oversee things every step of the way. Take control and see things through.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** -- Knowing what you want is half the battle. Seek out people you know you can rely on for positive input and solid facts. Don't disregard the past. You must learn from your mistakes.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** -- Step into the spotlight. Regardless of how nervous you are or what jealous bystanders have to say, you are ready to perform. Pick yourself up and do what you do best.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** -- You'll face opposition if you are too open about what you plan to do next. Focus on how best to proceed. Pay attention to detail, follow through with confidence and cross that finish line.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** -- Pick up the pieces, put them together and make headway. Look at the possibilities and use your persuasiveness to encourage others to see things your way. Be positive yet realistic.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** -- Don't feel that you must jump if someone tells you to or asks for something. Take your time and decide what's best for you. Pay more attention to your finances, and don't take on unnecessary expenses.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** -- A last-minute change will play in your favor. Don't hesitate to jump at a chance to do something new and exciting, network or socialize with someone informative and well-connected.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** -- Don't make a fuss or get in the way. Concentrate on something you want to accomplish and designate your time to self-improvement, learning, and fixing or completing whatever you've left unfinished.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** -- Do something that brings you joy. Spend more time at home clearing space for something you want to pursue or incorporate into your daily routine. Invite someone to help you in your efforts.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** -- Dangle what you have in front of someone trying to beat you at your own game. Take charge and don't let anyone get the better of you. Be wary of someone with what could be a personal vendetta.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** -- You've got your finger on the pulse, and there is no need to slow down. Embrace change. Being bold and in charge will force others to value what you have to offer and respect your shrewdness.

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Kirksville Daily Express

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AGRI-BUSINESS

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

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5x6 Round bales mixed grass hay; 5x6 Alfalfa mixed hay; 2nd cutting small square bales. Can load, call for more information. 660-341-4031 Watson Hay Sales

Land/Pasture

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notices

Community Opportunities Sheltered Workshop now accepting plastics! Please drop off on Wilson & Osteopathy in recycling area -watch recycle here sign. Don't forget aluminum cans!

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

Judge or Division: Case Number: 22AR-PR00014

PROBATE

In the Estate of MARY ANNE MCABERY, Deceased.

Notice of Letters of Administration Granted (Independent Administration - Non-Resident Fiduciary)

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of MARY ANNE MCABERY, Decedent:

On January 25, 2022, the following individual was appointed the personal representative of the estate of MARY ANNE MCABERY, decedent, by the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Adair County, Missouri. The personal representative may administer the estate independently without adjudication, order, or direction of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court, unless a petition for supervised administration is made to and granted by the court.

The personal representative's business address and phone number is: MICHAEL J COCHRAN, 2575 DIAMOND RIDGE DR., BURLINGTON, IA 52601.

The personal representative's attorney's name, business address and phone number is: BRENT MAYBERRY, 401 N. ELSON, KIRKSVILLE, MO 63501, 660-665-8356

The non-resident personal representative's designated agent's name, business address is: PATRICK D COCHRAN, 25471 YARROW TRAIL, KIRKSVILLE, MO 63501.

All creditors of said decedent are notified to file claims in court within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice or if a copy of this notice was mailed to, or served upon, such creditor by the personal representative, then within two months from the date it was mailed or served, whichever is later, or be forever barred to the fullest extent permissible by law. Such six-month period and such two-month period do not extend the limitation period that would bar claims one year after the decedent's death, as provided in Section 473.444, RSMo, or any other applicable limitation periods. Nothing in Section 473.033, RSMo, shall be construed to bar any action against a decedent's liability insurance carrier through a defendant ad litem pursuant to Section 537.021, RSMo.

Date of the decedent's death: January 6, 2022

Date of first publication: February 2, 2022

Linda Decker

Adair County

Circuit Clerk

Receipt of this notice by mail should not be construed by the recipient to indicate that the recipient necessarily has a beneficial interest in the estate. The nature and extent of any person's interest, if any, can be determined from the files and records of this estate in the Probate Division of the above referenced Circuit Court.

Publication Dates: February 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2022

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ADVERTISING AND MARKETING SALESPERSON

Are you a people person looking for a new career opportunity? The Kirksville Daily Express/Nemo Trader, with a long history of success in Northeast Missouri, is looking for its next full-time Advertising and Marketing Salesperson.

Our sales staff help current and prospective customers with their advertising and marketing needs. This is the chance for you to get creative and help bring a client's vision to life. Knowledge of the Kirksville area is a plus.

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Kirksville Daily Express/Nemo Trader

Attn: Nicole Stevens/Human Resources

130 South 5th Street | Quincy, IL 62301

or email to: nstevens@whig.com

KIRKSVILLE Daily Express

NEMO Trader

Managing Editor

The Kirksville Daily Express is looking for an eager, aggressive journalist willing to step into newsroom leadership. The managing editor is the No. 1 position in the newsroom and oversees The Kirksville Daily Express' daily coverage, as well as various special sections and magazines. The managing editor will mentor reporters and provide feedback on their reporting and writing.

The ideal candidate has a strong nose for news and stays informed about the state and the world from multiple sources. The news editor also seeks out new ways to report and deliver the news to our readers, using the latest metrics to guide their decisions. Have a mind for data? We want you.

The Kirksville Daily Express publishes every Wednesday and Saturday and is part of a growing company dedicated to the communities it serves.

The Kirksville Daily Express offers a comprehensive employee benefits package with everything you expect and more. The Kirksville Daily Express is an equal opportunity employer.

If you think you have what it takes to be our next news editor, please send a resume, samples of your work and a letter outlining how you would approach the job to:

Nicole Stevens/Human Resources

The Kirksville Daily Express, 130 South 5th Street, Quincy, IL 62301

or by email to nstevens@whig.com

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### DIGITAL SIGN PROJECT

The Adair County Health Department is seeking bids for the purchase and installation of a Double-sided Electronic Digital Sign on its property located along Jamison Street. The bid should include all labor and materials. Any bids received after **3PM Monday February 28th, 2022** will be refused.

Interested bidders may pick-up a "Notice to Bidders" at the Adair County Health Department 1001 S. Jamison or email Jim LeBaron at [jim.lebaron@pha.mo.gov](mailto:jim.lebaron@pha.mo.gov)

The Adair County Health Department's Board of Trustees reserves the right to accept or refuse any or all bids.

**Questions about this project should be directed to Jim LeBaron at 660-665-8491.**

**There's a better way to get noticed.**

Keep life simple.  
Take out an ad.



#### RECREATION

##### Motorcycles

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

##### Wanted

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

#### SERVICES

##### Chat/Dirt/Gravel

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

**Local Notice as Part of the Environmental Notification Process for the Registration of Antenna Structures**

All interested persons are invited to review and request further environmental processing of an FCC application for PI Tower Development, LLC c/o LendLease Americas, Inc proposing the following telecommunications antenna structure at .25 mi NE of Sebada Dr/LN & Dawnview Dr, Kirksville, Adair County, MO 63501. FCC Form 854 File Number A1205804 proposes a 360 ft guyed communications tower. The tower will be lit with a Medium-Dual Intensity System. This application may be reviewed by entering the above file number at this website: [www.fcc.gov/asr/applications](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/applications). Interested persons may raise environmental concerns by filing a "Request for Environmental Review" with the FCC within 30 days of this posting. Instructions for filing requests are contained on the following website: [www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest](http://www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest). The FCC strongly encourages requests to be filed online; however, written requests may also be sent by mail to the following address: **FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554**

.....

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# 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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# Rams’ flashy superstars winning with old-fashioned tenacity

By GREG BEACHAM  
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Late in the third quarter of the NFC championship game, the Los Angeles Rams fell into a 10-point hole. For most of that period, they had showed few signs they could climb out of it.

Even with all their top-end talent and respected coaching, the Rams (15-5) haven’t blown away many opponents this year. They’ve had to scrap and claw for the majority of their victories, relying on resilience and persistence.

And that’s exactly what they did to get to the Super Bowl.

The Rams are stacked with stars, but it’s their unflashy competitive tenacity that’s standing out during a playoff run now one win short of a championship.

“We had to lock in and give a little bit more,” All-Pro cornerback Jalen Ramsey said after the Rams’ 20-17 win over San Francisco. “We had to really want it. It was going to come down to that, wanting it more. We had to show it. Everybody wanted it, but when any of our leaders talk to us and get us around, it gets your mind even more right.”

The Rams are scoring plenty of points primarily because the connection between Matthew Stafford and Cooper Kupp is incredibly strong. They’re improving weekly on defense because the teamwork of Aaron Donald, Von Miller, Ramsey and their supporting cast is increasingly dangerous.

But the Rams are in the Super Bowl because all their big names put the team first over the second half of this season, creating a powerhouse that has answered every challenge down the stretch.

“Today was a great sign of resilience,” coach Sean McVay said Sunday night. “That’s one of the things that’s embodied this group. You go down 17-7, doesn’t look good. But the guys just



Los Angeles Rams’ Cooper Kupp pauses after the NFC Championship NFL football game against the San Francisco 49ers Sunday, Jan. 30, 2022, in Inglewood, Calif. The Rams won 20-17 to advance to the Super Bowl. MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ - STAFF, AP

stayed in the moment. One play at a time. Did a great job. ... There were just so many great plays today by great players.”

Los Angeles’ only remaining obstacle is the AFC North champion Bengals. The Rams had plenty of fun while raising a trophy on a confetti-strewn field, but it’s highly unlikely they’ll have trouble getting back down to business later this week. Miller said the leaders won’t allow the Rams’ focus to waver.

“It’s just a blessing to be here and experience it with your teammates and your real brothers,” Miller said. “It’s so surreal, man.”

**WHAT’S WORKING**

The Rams carved up an impressive San Francisco defense that knew exactly what was coming in the teams’ third meeting of the season. Kupp had five catches for 64 yards and a touchdown in the first half, and he had six catches for 78 yards and

a touchdown in the second half. Odell Beckham Jr.’s production was similarly even, and the Rams ran the ball decently even with Cam Akers slowed by an early injury. With 1,199 yards in three postseason games, Los Angeles has found an offensive flow that only turnovers have interrupted.

**WHAT NEEDS HELP**

The Rams need their dwindling stock of playmakers to stay healthy. Tight end Tyler Higbee, receiver Van Jefferson and Akers all got hurt against the Niners. Jefferson (one catch for 6 yards on four targets) and Akers (3 yards on three carries) didn’t make an impact when they returned, and Higbee couldn’t come back at all. Rookie receiver Ben Skowronek had to play 21 snaps, and he failed to make a tough touchdown reception on his only target.

**STOCK UP**

Los Angeles got a huge

boost from Kendall Blanton when Higbee went down with a knee injury. The undrafted tight end barely played for the Rams in his three NFL seasons, only making his first four receptions earlier this season. But Blanton stepped up with a TD catch last week at Tampa Bay, and he filled in superbly for Higbee with five catches for 57 yards against the Niners.

**STOCK DOWN**

Pro Bowl kicker Matt Gay missed a field-goal attempt for the second straight week, coming up short and right on a 54-yarder in SoFi Stadium’s kicker-friendly conditions. He also left two kickoffs short of touchbacks, allowing Deebo Samuel to get his hands on the ball twice. The Rams covered those kicks well, and Gay eventually nailed two fourth-quarter field goals to win it, but Gay acknowledged on Twitter that he’s “gotta clean some things up on my end.”

**INJURIES**

Higbee has a sprained medial collateral ligament in his knee, and McVay doesn’t know whether he’ll be ready for the Super Bowl: “He’s such a tough guy. We’re going to do everything we can to get this guy ready to go.” ... The Rams had no other major injuries from the game.

**KEY NUMBER**

51 — The total snaps (100%) played by safety Eric Weddle, the Rams’ leading tackler against San Francisco. The 37-year-old veteran ended a two-year retirement less than three weeks ago, agreeing to help out after the Rams lost both starting safeties to injury in the regular-season finale. It’s one of the wildest comeback stories in recent sports history.

**WHAT’S NEXT**

A Super Bowl matchup in the Rams’ home stadium between the winners of likely the two toughest divisions in the NFL.

## LOCAL ROUNDUP

### Jan. 31

#### High school boys basketball

- Milan 49, Marceline 36**  
Milan - Wins Milan Tournament, 6th straight time; Chekh Niasse, 18 points; Ahmet Niasse, 17 points; Jeremy Bennett, 11 points.
- Atlanta 49, Schuyler Co. 40**  
Atlanta - No stats by deadline.  
Schuyler - Trevyn Small, 12 points.
- Scotland Co. 42, Marion Co. 36**  
Scotland - Kabe Hamlin, 16 points; Hunter Holt, 11 points.
- Putnam Co. 67, La Plata 39**  
Putnam - Landon Wood, 20 points; Owen Ream, 15 points; Jaden Wyant, 10 points.  
La Plata - No stats by deadline.

#### High school girls basketball

- Milan 53, Marceline 36**  
Milan - Wins Milan Tournament; Cady Pauley, 38 points.
- Schuyler Co. 72, Kirksville JV 23**  
Schuyler - Jacie Morris, 19 points; Ashlyn Laws, 12 points.
- North Shelby 55, Putnam Co. 48**  
Putnam - Karley Seaton, 12 points; Allise Perkins, 11 points; Jesslyn Knowles, 11 points.
- Scotland Co. 58, Marion Co. 35**  
Scotland - Hannah Feeney, 19 points; Emiley Dial, 16 points; Alaynna Whitaker, 10 points.
- Moulton-Udell 49, Novinger 32**  
Novinger - Abbi Fountain, 21 points.

#### College men’s basketball

- Lewis 65, Truman 56**  
Truman - Eric Northweather, 16 points; Cade McKnight, 11 points.

### Jan. 29

#### High school girls basketball

- Joplin 63, Milan 21**  
Milan - Cady Pauley, 6 points.

#### High school wrestling

- Kirksville @ Odessa Invitational**  
Kirksville - 2nd place team finish; Jaden Crisp (106), 4th place; Chance McKim (113), 3rd place; Luke Cahalan (120), 4th place; Hunter Tarr (126), 4th place; Ty Rachinski (132), 5th place; Lane Patterson (138), 2nd place; Prophet Krepps (145), 8th place; Koan McAtee (152), 6th place; Dominic Cahalan (160), 4th place; Jaden Ballinger (170), 1st place; Jack Thomas (182), 2nd place; Jacob Burgin (195), 4th place; Colton Hannah (220), 3rd place; Bryce Kertz (285), 1st place.

### Jan. 28

#### High school boys basketball

- Mexico 77, Kirksville 57**  
Kirksville - Cole Kelly, 21 points.
- Putnam Co. 78, Green City 70**  
Putnam - Landon Wood, 33 points; Zach Heidenwith, 20 points; Lance Fowler, 10 points.  
Green City - Asher Buggs-Tipton, 21 points; Laydon Fields, 16 points; Xander Salas, 13 points.
- Atlanta 62, Novinger 48**  
Atlanta - Landon Gilliland, 16 points; Jason Viers, 15 points; Roman Phillips, 12 points; JJ White, 11 points.  
Novinger - Wes Findling, 15 points; Karchy Farrell, 14 points.
- Scotland Co. 52, Brashear 47**  
Scotland - Hunter Holt, 19 points; Kabe Hamlin, 17 points.  
Brashear - Brandon Jochimsen, 16 points; Carson Erwin, 13 points.
- Knox Co. 48, Schuyler Co. 39**  
Knox - Nelson Shinkle, 17 points; Jacob Becker, 15 points.  
Schuyler - Cooper Amen, 14 points.
- Macon 47, Palmyra 39**  
Macon - Boston Douglas, 18 points; Hayden Lovingier, 12 points.
- Cairo 59, La Plata 21**  
La Plata - No stats by deadline.

#### High school girls basketball

- Kirksville 55, Mexico 28**  
Kirksville - Channing Totta, 16 points; Corinne Vorkink, 12 points, 10 rebounds.
- Lebanon 98, Milan 44**  
Milan - Cady Pauley, 33 points.
- Putnam Co. 42, Green City 32**  
Putnam - Jesslyn Knowles, 11 points.  
Green City - Lily Helton, 13 points; Celeste Athon, 10 points.
- Scotland Co. 70, Brashear 30**  
Scotland - Hannah Feeney, 14 points; Emiley Dial, 13 points; Aayla Humphrey, 12 points.  
Brashear - Lacey Fisher, 15 points.
- Cairo 56, La Plata 42**  
La Plata - Claire Coy, 23 points.
- Schuyler Co. 64, Knox Co. 25**  
Schuyler - Kait Hatfield, 14 points; Jacie Morris, 10 points.  
Knox - Brianna Miller, 8 points.
- Palmyra 61, Macon 34**  
Macon - No stats by deadline.
- Atlanta 56, Novinger 33**  
Atlanta - Kyley Magers, 20 points; Aislynn Baker, 17 points.  
Novinger - Abbi Fountain, 20 points.

# Chiefs look back on season of success that fell just short

By DAVE SKRETTA  
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Tyrann Mathieu walked off the field in stunned disappointment, his hopes of playing in a third straight Super Bowl dashed by Joe Burrow and the Cincinnati Bengals, and spent a moment dressing in a somber Kansas City Chiefs locker room.

The time spent composing himself hardly helped Mathieu keep his emotions in check.

“I think the immature person in me would probably say, you know, we failed,” Mathieu said after a 27-24 overtime loss to the Bengals on Sunday night ended his season and, just maybe, his successful three-year run in Kansas City.

“I think the bigger person in me realizes these things aren’t always possible,” he continued. “We have there’s a lot of guys in that locker room, they’re going to take this offseason personally to really get better, because we do feel like we’re the best team in the NFL. But the best team doesn’t always win.”

Just the best team on the day. On Sunday, that was Cincinnati.

But despite blowing a 21-3 first-half lead, and an interception by Patrick Mahomes in overtime that allowed the Bengals to set up the winning field goal, the Chiefs still accomplished plenty this season: They won their record sixth straight AFC West title, beat the Bills in the divisional round in one

of the greatest finishes ever and became the first team to host four straight AFC title games.

If not for a second half to forget, a costly mistake in overtime and some poise beyond their years from Burrow and the long-down-trodden Bengals, they would be playing in a third straight Super Bowl, too.

Instead, they turned their attention Monday to an off-season filled with hope, uncertainty and, yes, frustration.

The Chiefs return most of their star players, including Mahomes, wide receiver Tyreek Hill, tight end Travis Kelce and defensive tackle Chris Jones, all of whom are signed to long-term contracts.

But Mathieu is among those players whose deals are set to expire, and the inevitable offseason turnover is sure to create a much different team for next season.

“I’m proud of these guys. You look at the season we had, to be in this game in general — it’s a special group of guys that battled through adversity,” said Mahomes, who helped Chiefs to an about-face after a dismal 3-4 start to the season. “But the guys know the standard is winning the Super Bowl. When you’ve done that, nothing less is success.”

**THE HONEY BADGER**

The Chiefs and Mathieu’s representatives tried last offseason to reach an agreement on a contract extension, and both sides hope they can still work something out. But the asking

price might have gone up even more given the fact that Mathieu has followed up two All-Pro nods his first two seasons in Kansas City with a third straight Pro Bowl trip.

“I’ve tried to be the right kind of teammate. I’ve tried to play my part and you know, obviously, there’s always a feeling that you can make more plays,” he said, “but I’m hoping it works out.”

Mathieu is but one important defensive piece hitting free agency. Defensive tackle Jarran Reed, cornerbacks Mike Hughes and Charvarius Ward, and defensive end Melvin Ingram are also on the market.

**THE FLIP SIDE**

The Chiefs sent their first-round pick and three other selections to the Ravens last year for Orlando Brown Jr., who played well at left tackle this season. And while Brown is also due to hit free agency, it’s unlikely that the Chiefs would let him walk after having spent so much draft capital just to acquire him.

Wide receivers Byron Pringle and Demarcus Robinson also are free agents, and the Josh Gordon experiment was a flop, so Kansas City is in the market for help at that position.

**MONEY TALKS**

Defensive end Frank Clark has two more years left on his contract, but the his salary cap hit is more than \$26 million each of those years, and the Chiefs could save a hefty amount by cutting ties this offsea-

son. They also need to weigh his legal troubles: He was arrested twice last offseason and those issues should sort themselves out this offseason.

“Kansas City is home. I bought a house here. My daughter goes to school here. It’s home,” he said. “I want to be here for the future, the rest of my career. But unfortunately, the way the business goes, things don’t always happen the way you want.”

**OFFSEASON UPGRADES**

The biggest problem facing Chiefs general manager Brett Veach last offseason was fixing an offensive line decimated by injuries and dismantled by Tampa Bay in the Super Bowl. He did it with five new faces that played well all season.

There is no such glaring weakness heading into this offseason, though there are smaller holes to fill. Wide receiver is one of them, and so is defensive end, particularly if they allow Clark to leave.

**DRAFT OUTLOOK**

The loss to Cincinnati leaves the Chiefs with the 30th overall pick in the April draft. The question now is whether they will use it. Kansas City has only used its first-round pick once in the past four years, and that was for underwhelming running back Clyde Edwards-Hellaire, whose history of injuries have him on the brink of becoming a bust.

They also have one pick each in the second, third and fourth rounds, but none in the fifth or the sixth.

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