

SECTION B



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MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2018

# SPORTS

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# Rockets beat Hawks 118-99 for 60th win

By The Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — James Harden had a triple-double with 18 points, 15 assists and 10 rebounds in three quarters and the Houston Rockets rolled to their 60th victory, beating the Atlanta Hawks 118-99 on Sunday night.

It was the second straight game where the Rockets never trailed after a rout of New

Orleans on Saturday night that set a franchise record for wins in a season. The NBA-leading Rockets have won nine straight and became the 18th team in NBA history to reach 60 wins in the 74th game of the season.

Houston was up by 24 at halftime and the Hawks cut into the lead with a solid third quarter, but never really threat-

ened, allowing Harden to watch the final quarter from the bench for the second night in a row.

Taurean Prince scored 28 and Isaiah Taylor had 26 for the Hawks, who have lost three in a row and nine of their last 10.

Harden, who had 12 assists by halftime, had his fourth triple-double this season and the 35th of his career.

## CAVALIERS 121, NETS 114

NEW YORK (AP) — LeBron James had 37 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists, and the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Brooklyn Nets for their fifth straight victory.

James kept up his latest sensational stretch by going 14 for 19 from the floor. He reached 2,000 points in a season for the

10th time, joining Karl Malone and Michael Jordan as the only players in NBA history to do that.

Kevin Love added 20 points and 15 rebounds for the Cavaliers, who came in averaging 122.5 points during the streak and just about reached that even with a slow start.

Former Cavs guard Joe Harris scored a career-high 30 points for the Nets, who lost their third straight.

## BUCKS 106, SPURS 103

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Giannis Antetokounmpo returned from an ankle injury to score 25 points, and the Milwaukee Bucks held on in the final few minutes after building a double-digit lead in the fourth quarter against the San Antonio Spurs.

Antetokounmpo added 10 rebounds to pick up his 37th double-double of the season.

The Spurs trailed by 15 points with 8 minutes left before rallying to get within three with 35 seconds left on Pau Gasol's putback. Eric Bledsoe missed a 3-pointer on the other end for the Bucks. San Antonio rushed down court to get one last shot off, but Milwaukee's Khris Middleton blocked Dejounte Murray's 3-point attempt from the right wing with 3.7 seconds left.

The loss snapped the Spurs' six-game winning streak. LaMarcus Aldridge scored 34 points.

## CELTICS 104, KINGS 93

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Terry Rozier scored a season-high 33 points and nearly matched the Celtics' franchise record for 3-pointers, Jaylen Brown made consecutive buckets to break open a close game in the fourth quarter, and Boston held on to beat the Sacramento Kings.

Making his sixth start in place of injured All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving, Rozier shot 12 of 16, including 8 of 12 on 3s, in the rookie's most impressive game of the season. Rozier, who had been averaging 16.2 points in Irving's absence, also had five rebounds and three assists. The eight 3s were one shy of the Celtics' single-game record of nine shared by Isaiah Thomas and Antoine Walker.

Brown had 19 points in his return after missing two weeks

(Continued on page B7)

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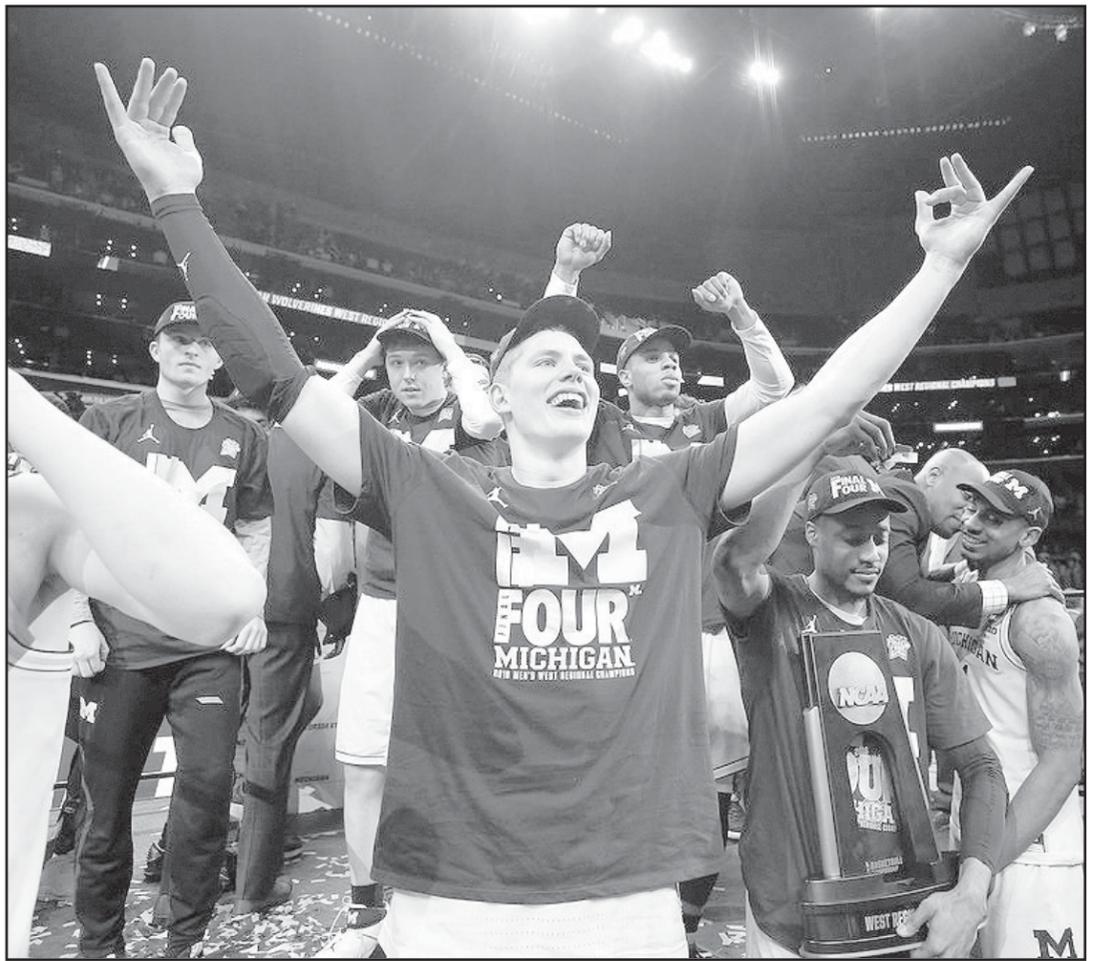
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# Steve Kerr rules out Stephen Curry for playoffs' first round



Michigan forward Moritz Wagner, foreground, and teammates celebrate after defeating Florida State 58-54 in an NCAA men's college basketball tournament regional final Saturday, March 24, 2018, in Los Angeles. (AP Photo/Alex Gallardo)

By JANIE McCAULEY, AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Optimistic as always, Stephen Curry is ready to prove Steve Kerr wrong and return from a left knee injury for the first round of the playoffs.

Not that it's entirely up to him. Kerr on Sunday ruled out the two-time MVP for the best-of-seven Western Conference first round. The Warriors are expected to be the No. 2 seed.

"There's no way he's playing in the first round," Kerr said.

An MRI exam Saturday showed a Grade 2 sprain of his medial collateral ligament and the team said Curry would be re-evaluated in three weeks — that would be April 14 and a possible Game 1 of the playoffs for Golden State.

On Sunday, Curry limped up a couple of stairs to the podium for his news conference but didn't need crutches, saying, "It's nice that I'm walking and not limited with crutches or anything like that, so that's a positive."

"Based on what I've been told, three weeks is a good kind of benchmark to re-evaluate and re-assess kind of where I'm at in my progress and whatnot, so mentally for me staying positive, staying upbeat, hopefully I prove what Coach said was wrong and put myself in position to get back as soon as possible," Curry said. "Right now, who knows, just try to do my job in the rehab process and get back as soon as I can. Control my presence with the team and everything to help any way I

can when I'm not on the floor."

Curry had returned from a six-game absence after his latest right ankle injury Friday night only to injure his left knee. In the third quarter of a victory against Atlanta, center JaVale McGee fell into him. Curry hobbled off the court grimacing, sat on the bench and put his head down.

"It's frustrating for sure. I've been champing at the bit the last two weeks ready to get back out there and try to finish out the regular season strong and gain some momentum going into the playoffs," said Curry, who also missed 11 games in December with the sprained right ankle.

This time, he said his first thought, jokingly, was, "Thank God it's not my ankle." Fans figured as much and hollered, "Where are the high tops?"

"I just try to stay positive. There's a blessing in all of this. There's hopefully going to be a story in all of this," Curry said. "At the end of the day I'll have an opportunity to get back on the court hopefully before our season's over with and do what I can to help our team win a championship. And that's really all I'm focused on right now. It's just going to take a different shape than I expected going into the season let alone going into this last stretch of the year."

This is somewhat familiar territory for Curry.

In April 2016, with the Warriors trying to defend a title, Curry suffered Grade 1 sprain of his right MCL in Game 4 of a first-round playoff series when he slipped on a wet spot right before halftime of a win at

Houston.

"I remember the feeling of what an MCL sprain is like and how to kind of work through the rehab process and the pain and any sense of discomfort that you feel along that way," he said. "So nothing will be new in that front. It's just a matter of the other knee and working through that process. As time unfolds I'll figure out what that means."

Sunday's game against Utah marked the second time the Warriors played without their four All-Stars after Curry, Kevin Durant, Draymond Green and Klay Thompson all sat for a 107-85 loss on March 11, 2017, at San Antonio. But, that time Durant was the lone injured one of the group rehabbing a left knee injury while the other three simply rested.

Green had been set to return Sunday but was ruled out with flu-like symptoms.

Kerr expects both Durant and Green back as soon as Tuesday against Indiana, while noting "Klay's coming along well" as he nurses a fractured right thumb.

"Well, we've got to hold down the fort," Kerr said. "We've got enough. We're blessed with a great roster, a lot of depth and so let's get going. Let's play and let's compete and hold down the fort. There's no reason why we can't come out and really play well down the stretch and be ready for the playoffs and then maybe we get Steph back and we'll see what happens."

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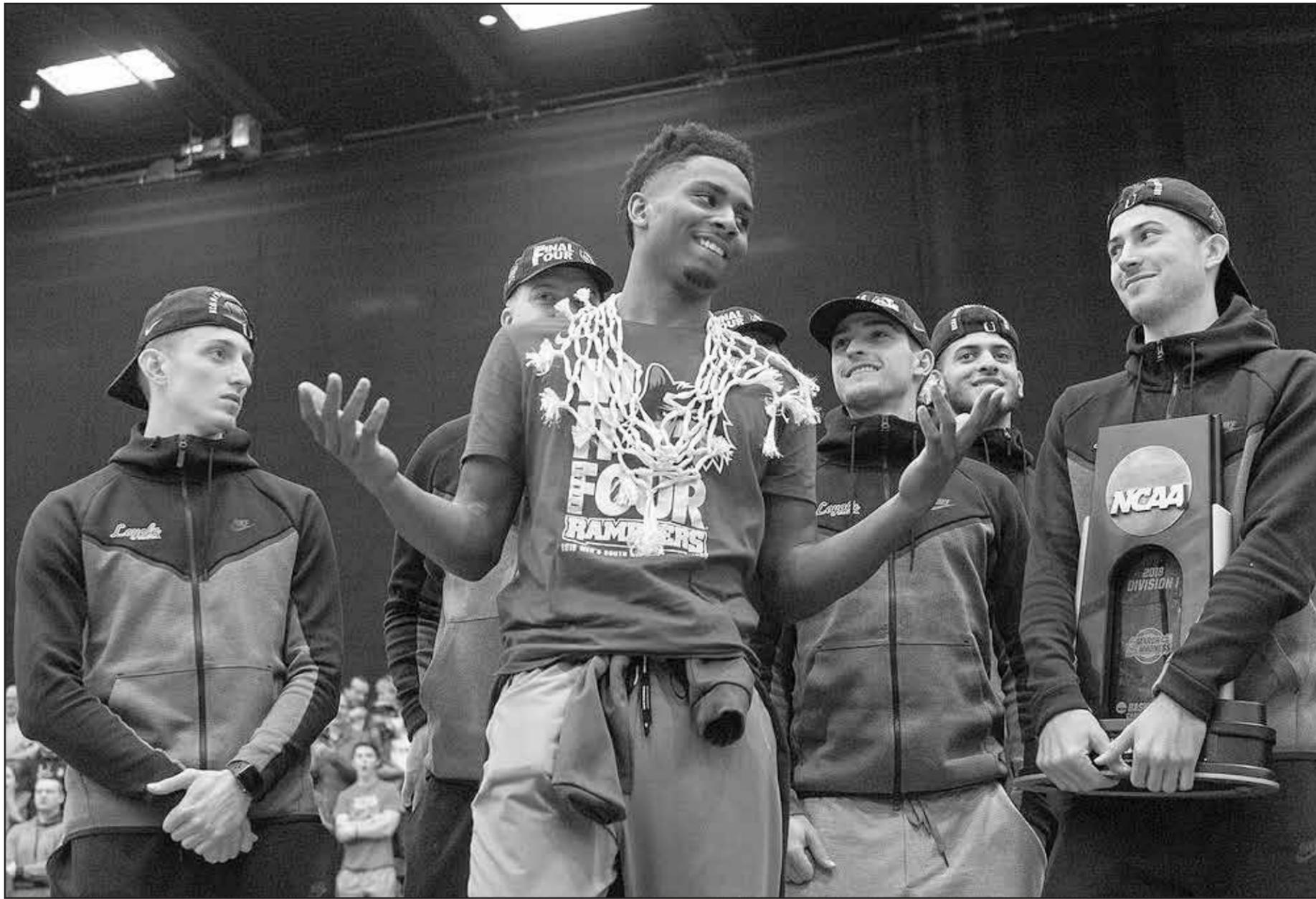
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# Final Four spot secured, Loyola gets warm welcome home



Donte Ingram, center, and his Loyola teammates during a rally inside the Gentile Arena, March 25, 2018 in Chicago. The nation's hottest team in the tournament is heading to the Final Four, and Loyola's dominating performance in its latest victory is the strongest evidence yet that the Ramblers belong. (Tyler LaRiviere/Chicago Sun-Times via AP)

By **ANDREW SELIGMAN, AP Sports Writer**

CHICAGO (AP) — Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt and Loyola-Chicago got quite a reception as they returned to campus on Sunday.

Fans serenaded the 98-year-old team chaplain and newfound celebrity with chants of “Sister Jean! Sister Jean!” as she was wheeled into the arena. They roared and screamed “LUC! LUC!” as the team walked toward the stage on the court.

Some players held up their phones and scanned the crowd, taking it all in a day after securing a spot in the Final Four. The Ramblers’ improbable run continues thanks to a convincing victory over Kansas State in the South regional final in Atlanta on Saturday night.

They’ll face Michigan in the national semifinals, and a win would put them in the championship game for the first time since the 1963 team won the title in a landmark tournament run for racial equity.

But on Sunday, Loyola was simply enjoying the moment.

“How much fun is everybody having?” coach Porter Moser said.

He didn’t have to ask.

The roars and sea of maroon and gold T-shirts let him know. Loyola senior Maggie Yarnold, seated courtside, came with a request for Clayton Custer. “Clayton when you’re done

making 3’s will you go to the formal with me,” her sign read.

The Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority’s formal at Chicago’s Willis Tower figures to be quite an event and Yarnold likes her chances.

“I think it’ll be hard to say no,” she said.

Yarnold has been going to games since she arrived at Loyola and watched an unselfish team grow over the course of the season. That’s why she insisted she is not stunned by this, even if the Ramblers were seeded 11th in their region.

“They’re probably the most unselfish, well-deserving team,” she said. “They’re too dedicated for them to stop. And they’ve shown it in their skill level. They’ve improved throughout the season immensely. And they’ve learned to trust each other completely.”

The Ramblers (32-5) joined LSU (1986), George Mason (2006) and VCU (2011) as the lowest seeds to reach a Final Four. The other three lost in the semis.

Loyola remains the only school from its state with an NCAA Division I men’s championship, and the Ramblers are the first to get this far since Illinois lost to North Carolina in the 2005 final. The last time a Chicago team reached the Final Four was when Hall of Fame coach Ray Meyer led DePaul there in 1979. But now, another

school under the L tracks — 11 stops north on the red line — is having its moment.

Former president Barack Obama has tweeted at the Ramblers during this run. So have just about every Chicago athlete and team.

Donte Ingram didn’t even have a Twitter account. But after getting a couple shout-outs from fellow South Sider Chance the Rapper, he decided to start one.

“This is what we’ve been dream dreaming of, creating this kind of environment and having this kind of support and unity,” said Ben Richardson, who scored a career-high 23 points against Kansas State. “We’ve been having the time of our lives competing and trying to represent this university and all you guys the best we can.”

Ingram, whose buzzer-beating 3-pointer from the March Madness logo lifted Loyola over Miami in the first round, showed up Sunday with the net around his neck.

“It’s crazy” he said. “It’s so nice to get the support from guys around Chicago and all the successful teams around Chicago. It means a lot. I’m just happy that (we made) the city of Chicago proud.”

As for that net?

“I slept in it along with the (regional championship) trophy,” Ingram said.

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# McCollum has 34 points, Trail Blazers beat Thunder 108-105



Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook (0) shoots in front of Portland Trail Blazers guard Pat Connaughton (5) in the first half of an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Sunday, March 25, 2018. (AP Photo/Sue Ogrocki)

By **CLIFF BRUNT**, AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The Thunder could regret this missed opportunity.

CJ McCollum scored 34 points to help the Portland Trail Blazers beat Oklahoma City 108-105 on Sunday night. Portland doubled its lead to two games over the Thunder for third place in the Western Conference.

The Thunder had several chances to win. Oklahoma City got possession trailing by two with 18.5 seconds remaining. Oklahoma City's Carmelo Anthony got trapped in the corner and forced his way through before turning the ball over. Oklahoma City's Russell Westbrook then fouled Portland's Al-Farouq Aminu with 7 seconds to play and fouled out. Aminu made the first free throw and missed the second to give the Thunder a chance to force overtime, but Anthony missed a 3-pointer as time expired.

Thunder coach Billy Donovan felt Anthony was the right person to take the final shot with Westbrook out, despite the fact that he had made just 3 of 12 shots before taking that last jumper.

"Carmelo is a proven scorer in this league and has made shots — big shots — for a large portion of his career," Donovan said. "I've got confidence in him. So we'll go with him in that situation. That's just how I felt."

The arena had the energy of a playoff game, especially in the second half. McCollum liked the way the Trail Blazers had to scrape and claw to get the win in a hostile environment.

"Being down and having to compete, going on runs, coming back and just having to get stops down the stretch," he

said. "They are a good team and made the game very difficult. We executed well on offense to come away with a win."

Damian Lillard scored 24 points, and Jusuf Nurkic added 17 points and 12 rebounds for the Trail Blazers, who swept all four games with the Thunder this season.

Westbrook led the Thunder with 23 points, nine assists and eight rebounds. Steven Adams had 18 points and 10 rebounds, and Jerami Grant added 17 points.

Oklahoma City trailed 44-29 in the second quarter before going on a 16-0 run to take the lead. Portland regrouped and led 57-52 at halftime.

In the third quarter, Portland's Ed Davis came down on Oklahoma City guard Terrance Ferguson's back, and Davis shoved him as the two fell toward the ground. Ferguson got up quickly and went after Davis, and a skirmish followed. Four technical fouls were issued — to Evan Turner and Davis for Portland and to Ferguson and Westbrook for the Thunder. Shortly after that, Oklahoma City's Paul George hit a 3 to give the Thunder a 75-74 lead. Portland's Maurice Harkless made a 3-pointer as the third quarter expired to put the Trail Blazers up 82-80.

"I thought it was a hell of a basketball game," Portland coach Terry Stotts said. "You can tell this meant a lot to both teams. I thought we made a lot of good plays defensively. We were very good when we needed to be."

**TIP-INS**

Trail Blazers: Held the Thunder to 29 percent shooting in the first quarter to lead 34-17. ... Outrebounded Oklahoma City 49-39.

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Please call the DOH Helping Hands office at 633-8553 if you have any questions regarding this public notice.

Signed,

Ruth Te'o, DOH Part C Coordinator

# Prized prospect Kingery, Phillies reach 6-year contract



San Francisco Giants' Johnny Cueto works against the Oakland Athletics during the first inning of a spring training baseball game on Sunday, March 25, 2018 in Oakland, Calif.

(AP Photo/Ben Margot)

**By The Associated Press**

The Philadelphia Phillies are banking on young Scott Kingery.

A prized prospect who has never played in the majors, Kingery reached a six-year deal with the Phillies on Sunday that takes him through the 2023 season.

The contract includes three team options running through 2026. Multiple media reports said Kingery was guaranteed more than \$23 million.

The 23-year-old Kingery is batting .392 in 20 spring training games and is tied for the Grapefruit League lead with 20 hits.

Kingery hit a combined .304 with 26 home runs and 29 steals as a second baseman for Triple-A Lehigh Valley and Double-A Reading last year. He was a second-round pick in the 2015 draft from the University of Arizona.

Kingery is regarded as the best second-base prospect in baseball. The Phillies currently have Cesar Hernandez as their starting second baseman, so Kingery has also seen time at third base this spring and worked in the outfield.

Coming off a 66-96 record and last-place finish in the NL East, the Phillies have been aggressive going into this season. They recently signed former NL Cy Young Award winner Jake Arrieta after previously adding slugger Carlos Santana.

**ELSEWHERE AROUND THE GRAPEFRUIT AND CACTUS LEAGUES**

**NATIONALS 4, CARDINALS 2**

Washington starter Stephen Strasburg struck out 10 in his final tuneup, pitching 5 2/3 innings and giving up two runs on three hits and three

walks. Michael A. Taylor and Matt Adams homered for the Nationals. Bryce Harper went hitless in three trips and is batting .283. Tommy Pham had two hits, scoring twice for St. Louis.

The Cardinals said pitcher Adam Wainwright will begin the season on the disabled list after injuring himself during conditioning drills earlier this week. Manager Mike Matheny said rookie Jack Flaherty will move into the rotation.

**ASTROS 6, MARLINS (SS) 2**

Carlos Correa, Marwin Gonzalez and Brian McCann homered for Houston and Dallas Keuchel gave up two runs in five innings. Odrisamer Despaigne pitched four innings for Miami's split squad, allowing two runs and two hits.

The Marlins announced top prospect Lewis Brinson has made the opening day roster. Brinson, acquired from Milwaukee in the Christian Yelich trade, is batting .328 this spring, hitting two home runs and driving in nine. The center fielder will hit leadoff when Miami opens at home Thursday against the Cubs.

**METS 4, MARLINS (SS) 3**

Yoenis Cespedes hit his sixth spring homer, Jay Bruce also connected and Amed Rosario had two hits, including a two-run triple for New York. Steven Matz threw four shutout innings, striking out four and allowing two hits and a walk.

**ORIOLES 6, PHILLIES 5**

Maikel Franco hit his sixth homer and Rhys Hoskins hit his fifth for Philadelphia and Roman Quinn stole his ninth base, most in the majors this spring. Chance Sisco and Ruben Tejada both had two hits and scored a run for Baltimore. Sisco, com-

peting with Caleb Joseph for the starting job at catcher, is hitting .429.

**RAYS 11, YANKEES 1**

Carlos Gomez hit one of Tampa Bay's six home runs and C.J. Cron had two hits.

Yankees first baseman Greg Bird is set to see a specialist in New York on Monday for inflammation in his right foot.

**RED SOX 6, TWINS 1**

Mookie Betts hit a pair of home runs and walked, driving in three runs and scoring three for Boston. J.D. Martinez had three hits and an RBI for the Red Sox, while Andrew Benintendi homered for a fourth time. David Price made his final spring start for Boston, pitching three innings and allowing one run on one hit, a home run by Brian Dozier. Minnesota closer Fernando Rodney pitched the fourth inning, allowing three

runs on two hits and two walks.

**TIGERS 10, BRAVES 3**

Detroit starter Michael Fulmer pitched two-hit ball for seven shutout innings, Miguel Cabrera homered and Jose Iglesias had three hits for Detroit. Mike Foltyniewicz's final spring start for Atlanta lasted just two innings after he surrendered six runs on eight hits.

**PIRATES 7, BLUE JAYS 4**

Francisco Cervelli had two hits, including his fourth homer, driving in three runs and scoring twice for Pittsburgh. Jose Osuna hit his fifth home run for the Pirates.

Steve Pearce homered for Toronto while Josh Donaldson went 0 for 3, leaving him at .148 this spring. Blue Jays starter Marco Estrada was rocked in his final tuneup, pitching 2 2/3 innings and giving up five runs on five hits and two walks.



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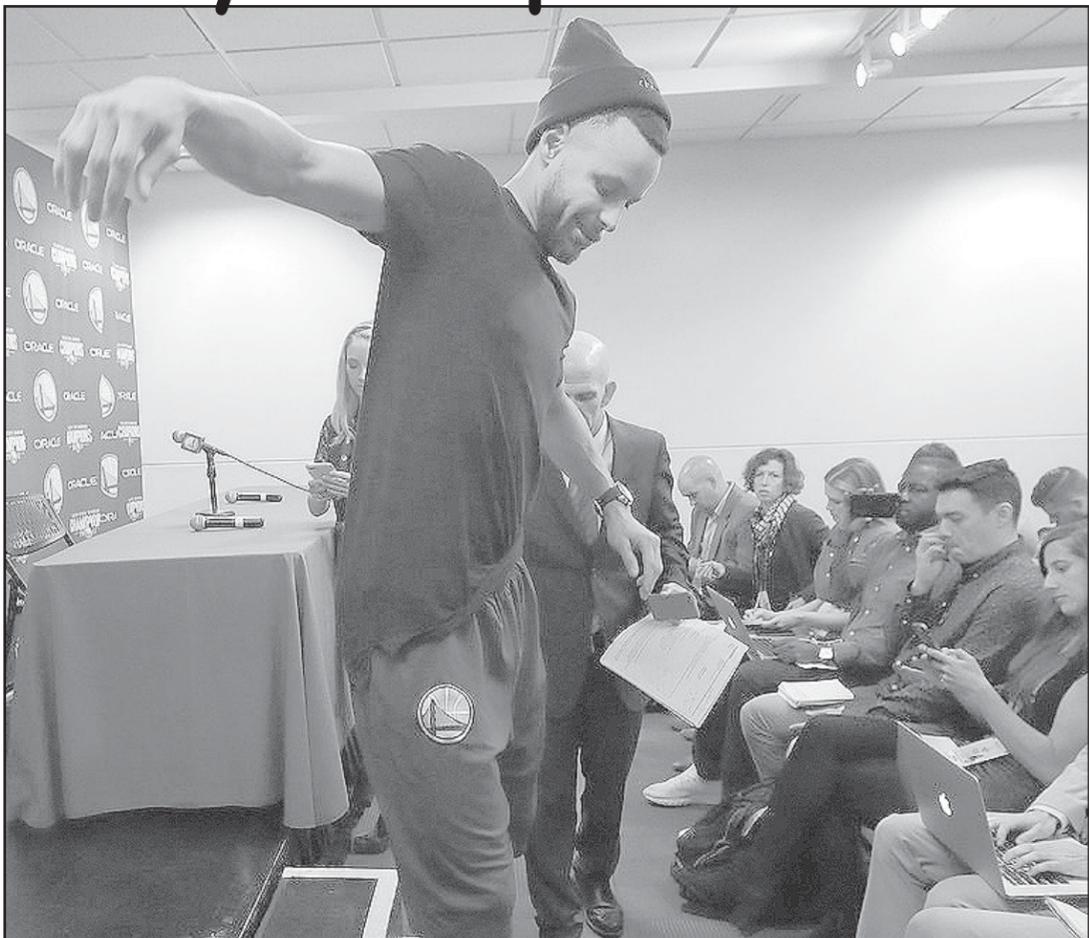
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# Jazz use big third quarter, pull away from injured Warriors



(Photos: Blue)



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry walks down a step after speaking at a news conference before an NBA basketball game between the Warriors and the Utah Jazz in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, March 25, 2018. (AP Photo/Jeff Chiu)

By JANIE McCAULEY, AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — The Utah Jazz know they might have to contend with the Golden State Warriors again on the big playoff stage.

A different version of the defending champions by then, most certainly — a far healthier version.

Rudy Gobert had 17 points and 15 rebounds and the Jazz pulled away from the undermanned, injury-plagued Warriors in the third quarter on the way to a 110-91 victory Sunday night.

Utah wants to make sure the rest of the regular season goes smoothly before thinking too far ahead.

“We know it could be a rematch,” Gobert said of another playoff series after Golden State swept the Jazz in last year’s Western Conference semifinals. “We’re focused on the moment.”

Quinn Cook had 17 points and eight assists as defending champion Golden State played without its four injured All-Stars and was forced to use yet another makeshift starting lineup.

Before the game, Warriors coach Steve Kerr ruled out Stephen Curry for the first round of the playoffs because of a sprained left knee — while Curry vowed to do everything in his rehab power to prove Kerr wrong and return sooner.

Donovan Mitchell scored 21 points for the Jazz, coming off a four-point overtime loss at San Antonio on Friday. Joe Ingles added 14 points with four 3-pointers, eight assists and six rebounds.

This marked just the second time Golden State played without its four All-Stars after Curry, Kevin Durant, Draymond Green and Klay Thompson all sat for a 107-85 loss on March 11, 2017, at San Antonio. But, that time, Durant was the lone injured one of the group rehabbing a left knee injury while the other three simply rested.

“I thought we hung in there pretty well,” Kerr said. “We just didn’t have enough firepower, but I like the way we fought.”

Green had been set to return Sunday, but was ruled out with flu-like symptoms.

Kerr expects both Durant and Green back as soon as Tuesday against Indiana, while noting “Klay’s coming along well” as he nurses a fractured right thumb.

“Well, we’ve got to hold down the fort,” Kerr said. “We’ve got enough. We’re blessed with a great roster, a lot of depth and so, let’s get going. Let’s play and let’s compete and hold down the fort. There’s no reason why we can’t come out and really play well down the stretch and be

ready for the playoffs and then maybe we get Steph back and we’ll see what happens.”

Cook, Nick Young, Patrick McCaw, Kevon Looney and JaVale McGee started.

Cook went to the locker room late in the half after two crashing drives but returned for the third quarter, when the Warriors shot 8 for 20.

Golden State began the game 5 for 16, but Utah was just 4 of 16.

**TIP-INS**

Jazz: The Jazz scored 36 points in the third. ... Utah shot 12 for 28 from 3-point range. ... Utah also won at Oracle Arena late last season with a 105-99 victory on April 10, 2017, Golden State’s second-to-last game. ... C Tony Bradley missed his seventh straight game in the concussion protocol.

Warriors: Kerr received a technical foul late in the first half for arguing, his sixth overall and first since Feb. 6 as he has made an effort to keep his cool. ... Golden State used its 23rd different starting lineup — after 14 lineups last season — most under Kerr. ... Curry won’t travel for the remainder of the regular season while focusing on his rehab.

**DETERMINED CURRY**

After Kerr announced of Curry “there’s no way he’s playing in the first round,” the two-time MVP limped into a pregame news conference determined to prove his coach wrong.

“It’s nice that I’m walking and not limited with crutches or anything like that, so that’s a positive,” Curry said.

An MRI exam Saturday showed a Grade 2 sprain of his medial collateral ligament and the team said Curry would be re-evaluated in three weeks — that would be April 14 and a possible Game 1 of the playoffs for Golden State.

“Based on what I’ve been told, three weeks is a good kind of benchmark to re-evaluate and re-assess kind of where I’m at in my progress and whatnot, so mentally for me staying positive, staying upbeat, hopefully I prove what Coach said was wrong and put myself in position to get back as soon as possible,” Curry said. “Right now, who knows? Just try to do my job in the rehab process and get back as soon as I can. Control my presence with the team and everything to help any way I can when I’m not on the floor.”

**UP NEXT**

Jazz: Host Boston on Wednesday trying to end a three-game skid in the series.

Warriors: Host Indiana on Tuesday looking for a fifth straight win against the Pacers.

# ▶ Rockets...

Continued from page B1

with a concussion.

BuMonday, March 26, 2018  
Hield scored 24 points for Sacramento.

### JAZZ 110, WARRIORS 91

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Rudy Gobert had 17 points and 15 rebounds and the Utah Jazz pulled away from the undermanned, injury-plagued Golden State Warriors in the third quarter on the way to a victory.

Quinn Cook had 17 points and eight assists as defending champion Golden State played without its four injured All-Stars and was forced to use yet another makeshift starting lineup. Before the game, Warriors coach Steve Kerr ruled out Stephen Curry for the first round of the playoffs because of a sprained left knee — while Curry vowed to do everything in his rehab power to prove Kerr wrong and return sooner.

Donovan Mitchell scored 21 points for the Jazz, coming off a four-point overtime loss at San Antonio on Friday. Joe Ingles added 14 points with four 3-pointers, eight assists and six rebounds.

### PACERS 113, HEAT 107, OT

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Victor Oladipo had 23 points and five assists to help the Indiana Pacers clinch a playoff berth.

Thaddeus Young had 22 points, nine rebounds and five steals, and Bojan Bogdanovic added 18 points and eight rebounds for the Pacers, who secured their seventh appearance in the postseason in the last eight seasons.

Tyler Johnson made five 3-pointers and finished with 19 points, James Johnson had 15 points and nine rebounds, and Bam Adebayo added 14 points for the Heat, who split the four-game season series.

Miami coach Erik Spoelstra missed the first game of his career, leaving Indianapolis on Saturday after learning his wife Nikki was entering labor. Assistant coach Dan Craig filled in and Spoelstra is expected to return for Miami's home game against Cleveland on Tuesday.

### KNICKS 101, WIZARDS 97

WASHINGTON (AP) — Trey Burke scored 19 points in his first start in exactly three years, leading eight players in double figures as the New York Knicks defeated the wavering Washington Wizards.

Courtney Lee added eight of his 13 points in the fourth quarter to send the Wizards to a third straight loss. It's the second three-game skid of the season for Washington and both have come in the latter portion of a 26-game stretch without All-Star point guard John Wall, who underwent surgery on his left knee in late January. Wall

returned to full-contact practice on Saturday.

Bradley Beal scored 14 points, but shot just 5 of 17 for Washington, which led only once after the early stages of the second quarter. Otto Porter Jr. added 13 points and 10 rebounds as the Wizards remained in sixth place in the Eastern Conference, but lost for the eighth time in their last 12 games.

### CLIPPERS 117, RAPTORS 106

TORONTO (AP) — Lou Williams scored 26 points against his former team, Tobias Harris had 20 and the Los Angeles Clippers overcame an 18-point first-quarter deficit to beat the Toronto Raptors.

Montrezl Harrell scored 19 points and Milos Teodosic had 15 as the Clippers boosted their playoff hopes by winning for the second time in seven games and snapping a three-game losing streak north of the border. Austin Rivers scored 11 points and DeAndre Jordan had 14 rebounds to help the Clippers wrap up a four-game road trip on a winning note. Los Angeles went 2-2 on the trip, and has won 13 of 20 on the road.

Jonas Valanciunas had 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Raptors, who dropped to 30-7 at home, the best mark in the NBA. It was a tough night for Toronto All-Stars DeMar DeRozan and Kyle Lowry. DeRozan scored 11 points, making three of 12 field goal attempts. Lowry had 11 points and eight assists, shooting 4 for 9.

### TRAIL BLAZERS 108, THUNDER 105

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — C.J. McCollum scored 34 points to help the Portland Trail Blazers edge the Oklahoma City Thunder.

Damian Lillard scored 24 points, and Jusuf Nurkic added 17 points and 12 rebounds for the Trail Blazers, who swept all four games with the Thunder this season. Portland doubled its lead to games over the Thunder for third place in the Western Conference.

Russell Westbrook led the Thunder with 23 points, nine assists and eight rebounds. Steven Adams had 18 points and 10 rebounds, and Jerami Grant added 17 point.

Oklahoma City got possession trailing by two with 18.5 seconds remaining. Oklahoma City's Carmelo Anthony got trapped in the corner and forced his way through before turning the ball over. Westbrook fouled Portland's Al-Farouq Aminu with 7 seconds to play. Aminu made the first free throw and missed the second, giving the Thunder one more chance. Anthony missed a 3-pointer as time expired.



Houston Rockets guard James Harden, right, drives past Atlanta Hawks guard Damion Lee (8) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, March 25, 2018, in Houston.

(AP Photo/Eric Christian Smith)



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## PUBLIC JOB POSTING

Position Title	WW Treatment Plant Operator I	Posting Date	March 16, 2018
Department	Wastewater	Deadline	March 29, 2018, 4:00 p.m.
Division	Environmental Services Division	Pay Rate	\$7.28/hr
Position Type	Career Service - 12 months probation	Job Grade/Status	D/1/A Non-Exempt
Reports To	WW Operator Foreman		

### Major Duties & Responsibilities

The primary objective of the position is to perform as an assistant operator within a wastewater treatment plant; to undertake work involved in the pretreatment and primary treatment of sewage; to perform operational custodial duties necessary to keep the plant operating efficiently; to monitor and record the status of various equipment throughout the treatment process including the regular sampling of influent and effluent; to perform mechanical and electrical preventative maintenance work; to ensure the plant operates continuously and in compliance with all environmental regulations and safety standards.

### Minimum Requirements

Education	High school diploma or equivalent; will be required to undergo training in theory and practical work leading up to mandatory certification examination.
Experience	No additional work experience is required where the minimum educational requirement has been obtained. On-the-job training will be provided to ensure the incumbent is familiar with company policy and procedures regarding the work involved and as a result is effective in their assigned duties.
Ability To:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good planning/organizational skills, attention to detail, ability to prioritize and handle a number of different demands.</li> <li>• Skills in verbal and written communication</li> <li>• Ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions including special investigations on request</li> <li>• Required to walk, stoop, bend, lift, or climb depending on the operator's duties and the preventative maintenance work being undertaken</li> <li>• Occasional light to medium heavy lifting is required in conducting preventative maintenance work</li> </ul>

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# TIPPING OFF: Wild March stabilizes a bit with Final Four set

By AARON BEARD, AP Basketball Writer

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Welcome to a Final Four filled with past national champions — just the way the NCAA selection committee drew it up, right?

OK, maybe not.

Sure, there's plenty of the expected with 1-seed Villanova making it to San Antonio in pursuit of the program's second title in three seasons. Kansas is the other 1-seed to navigate its way through a maze full of upsets as it pursues its first title since 2008. And plenty figured No. 3 seed Michigan had a good shot to get to the Final Four as the Wolverines chase their first title since the Glen Rice-led group won the program's first in 1989. But Loyola-Chicago? Consider the 11th-seeded Ramblers the representative for all the low seeds — UMBC, Marshall and Buffalo, to name a

few — that pulled off the big stunners in an upset-filled and memorable March.

And yes, the Ramblers do have a national championship, won way back in 1963 during the Kennedy administration.

Now it's time to prepare for next Saturday's first national semifinal (Loyola vs. Michigan) featuring the upstart against the surging power-conference team in an undercard to the heavyweight matchup of top seeds in the nightcap.

It's a particular relief for Kansas, which had a No. 1 seed for the third straight season and lost in the Elite Eight the past two seasons — including in 2016 to Villanova as the Wildcats marched to the national title. "You think about it, hey, in their careers all we've been is the No. 1 overall seed, the No. 2 overall seed and the No. 3 overall seed and haven't gotten to a Final Four," coach Bill Self

said after Sunday's overtime win against Duke in Omaha, Nebraska. "So that means that these guys have done so well to put us in a position but we hadn't kicked the door in yet.

"I'm happy for us, staff, school, everything, but I'm more happy for these guys because they deserve to experience what the best of college basketball is — and that will be what takes place Saturday and Monday."

FORESHADOWING?: If you're into good omens, note that Kansas won its last title in San Antonio by beating North Carolina and Memphis under Self a decade ago. And that was the program's first since Danny Manning and The Miracles won the 1988 title as a No. 6 seed — now an even 30 years ago.

So maybe years ending in eight bring a bit of luck for the Jayhawks? RANKING THE SEEDS: Villanova was the No. 2 overall seed behind Virginia on Selection Sunday, putting the Wildcats as the headliner followed by Kansas at third. Michigan was No. 11 and Loyola-Chicago was No. 46.

WINING UGLY: Villanova and Michigan should arrive in Texas with an extra bit of confidence after winning games when they shot poorly.

The Wildcats shot just 33 percent and made 4 of 24 3-pointers (.167) in Sunday's East final against Texas Tech. The Wolverines shot nearly 39 percent but made just 4 of 22 3s (.182) in Saturday night's West final against Florida State.

On top of that, they combined to make 4 of 27 3s after halftime (.148). Yet here they are. TITLE HISTORY: Top seeds have hoisted the trophy on the final Monday night of the season in 18 of the past 26 NCAA Tournaments, while No. 3 seeds have won three times (Syracuse in 2003, Florida in 2006, Connecticut in 2011) in that span. Villanova remains the lowest-seeded team to win a title as a No. 8 in 1985.

NOT SO WILD AFTER ALL: With all the upsets, it sure looked like the Final Four had a chance to be filled with surprises. It didn't end up that way.

The sum of the seeds for the four teams is 16, the highest since 2014 (18). But it was a far cry from joining the four other years since the tournament began seeding teams in 1979 that the combined total was at least 20: 1980 (21), 2000 (22), 2006 (20) and 2011 (26).

The last two of those were the most recent to feature an 11-seed before Loyola-Chicago's run, with George Mason getting there in 2006 and VCU doing it in 2011. The only other Final Four to feature a No. 11 seed came in 1986 with LSU, though the combined seed total was 15 on the strength of 1-seeds Duke and Kansas, and 2-seed Louisville.

March 24, 2018 Atlanta: Confetti falls as Loyola-Chicago guard Ben Richardson holds up four fingers on each hand, for Final Four, while celebrating the team's 78-62 win over Kansas State in the regional final of the NCAA men's college basketball tournament Saturday, March 24, 2018, in Atlanta.

(Curtis Compton/Atlanta Journal-Constitution via AP)

## BLUESKY'S FUTURE OF AMERICAN SAMOA SCHOLARSHIP

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For more information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 699-2759 or via email at [as.hr@blueskypacificgroup.com](mailto:as.hr@blueskypacificgroup.com).



O le fa'asologa lea na alaalata'i ai Tausala lalelei o le Pasefika Matauaina Toomalatai ma le Tausala Lalelei o Samoa Alexandria Iakopo ma la'ua sui fa'afeao - Ms Scanla mo Samoa ma le Mrs Meafou Imo Peresetene o le MASI, mo i tatou i Amerika Samoa nei i le aso To'onai na tea nei i Aukilani Niu Sila. [ata: foa'i]

tusia: Leua Aiono Frost

**TUUFATAFI TUFAGA FA'AIOGA TAUVAGA NUMERA & FA'ASAEANISI**

O le aso Faraile ua te'a na tolaulauina ai i latou ua lautogia mo fa'aioaga maualuluga o le Numera ma le Fa'asaeianisi i totonu o le Teritori, ma o se tufaga fa'aioaga sili lea ona umi ma le faigata fo'i ona fa'amauauina ona sa masani lava ona faia eseese i tausaga ta'itasi nei laugatogi a le fanau sa tauva.

Ona o le tulaga o le taofia o a'oga mo le isi 2 vaiaso ona o a'afiaga talu ai le 'afa o Gita, lea ua taumafai ai ona fa'ataunu'u pea nei tauvaga fa'aletausaga, aua o lo ua matauina fo'i, ua tele kamupani ma nisi o matagaluega o le malo ua latou sapaia fa'aioaga ma tapenaga mo nei tauvaga fa'alea'oa'oga ale fanau a'oga i le atunu'u.

O le a tolaulauina atoatoa le lisi o taumafaiga a le fanau pe a o'ona taua'aina aloaia mai le lisi o suafa ma fa'aioaga ua tula'i mai ai i latou i vaega sa tauva ai i le numera ma Science, peita'i o nisi nei o fa'amaumauga ua mafai ona maoti mai i le taimi o le laugatogi.

I le tauvaga lona 21 ai lenei o le Numera i a'oga maualuluga ua toe sola fo'i ma le Sotuh Pacific Academy le fa'aioaga mo le togisilia i le aotelega o suega uma a le fanau aoga na tauva, tulaga lua ai Tafuna High School ae tulaga tolu Manumalo Baptist Avademy.

Ua fa'ailoa mai o le lona 18 ai lenei o tausaga o avealava e le South Pacific Academy lea tulaga.

Mai le vaega a le Science e to'alima tulaga ua mae'a ona ausia i lenei tausaga, ona ua lava fo'i le sapaia e le vasega o matagaluega o le tatou ma pisinisi tumaoti o taumafaiga fa'asaeianisi i lenei tausaga. Ua fa'ailoa e le tama'ita'i Fa'atonusili o A'oga Dr Ruth Matagi-Tofiga, "E malaga uma lava i latou nei!"

O le ua avealava le tauvaga i lenei tausaga o le tama'ita'i o Gloria Park mai le Pacific Horizons. O ia sa maua lona avanoa mulimuli ina ua mae'a taua'aina ona fa'aioaga, e tutula'i ai ma toe fa'amatala lana poloketi o le galuega fa'atino fa'asaeianisi.

O le tulaga lua e to'alua ai sui ma mauaina lea fa'aioaga, o le tama'ita'i mai le South Pacific Academy ma le ali'i talavou Seamus Cleary mai le Pacific Horizons i lana galuega fa'atino o le "Sailia o ni Hydrothermal Vents i le Ogasami o le Atu Samoa."

O le tulaga tolu o le galuega fa'atino na tapena e le ali'i

a'oga mai Samoana High ma le fa'aioaga lima ua toe tutusa ai fo'i le taumafaiga a le tama'ita'i mai le South Pacific Academy ma le tama'ita'i mai le Pacific Horizons. O lona uiga o lenei tauvaga e to'atolu sui mai le Pacific Horizons ua aofia i le to'alua o fa'aioaga o le a masi'i mo se sao o Amerika Samoa i le fa'aaliga Fa'asaeianisi i Pittsburgh. Peita'i e to'alua ua masi'i mai le SPA ma le to'atasi mai le Samoana High.

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# Mass for French officer whose sacrifice 'saved the nation'

By ELAINE GANLEY and JEFFREY SCHAEFFER, Associated Press

TREBES, France (AP) — A French bishop paid tribute Sunday to a police officer who lost his life after swapping himself with a supermarket employee held hostage by an Islamist extremist, saying his heroic sacrifice helped save the nation.

Survivors and families of the four victims of Friday's rampage of attacks packed the Saint-Etienne-de-Trebes church for the special Mass honoring Lt. Col. Arnaud Beltrame.

Members of the region's Muslim community were among those mourning at the special Palm Sunday service in the southern town of Trebes, near the medieval city of Carcassonne. The manager of the supermarket sat in the front row, alongside her husband, the town mayor.

The bishop of Carcassonne and Narbonne, Alain Planet, hailed Beltrame's "extraordinary act, extraordinary devotion."

"It is better that one man dies for the people, so that the nation doesn't perish," the bishop said. He added that the horrific slayings have forced everyone to confront the reality of death and suffering across the world, noting turmoil in Sudan, the Middle East and elsewhere.

The Islamic State group claimed that the attacker — Radouane Lakdim, 25, born in Morocco — was answering its call to target nations in the U.S.-led coalition fighting IS militants in Syria and Iraq. Lakdim was killed by police Friday after Beltrame helped them storm the market. Lakdim also killed the supermarket's butcher, a shopper and a passenger in the car that Lakdim had hijacked earlier in nearby Carcassonne. He shot at riot police, one of whom was injured, then headed to the supermarket in Trebes.

Two people have been detained for questioning in the case.

French police searching Lakdim's home in Carcassonne found notes referring to the Islamic State group that appeared to be a final testament, a judicial official said on Saturday. Also found were a computer and telephone.

Three homemade explosive devices, a handgun and a hunting knife were discovered inside the supermarket, suggesting the attacker may have had still deadlier plans.

The head of France's National Gendarmerie, Gen. Richard Lizurey, visited the post in nearby Carcassonne where Beltrame had been stationed since August 2017. He said the Lt. Col.'s "exceptional act" should serve as an inspiration to colleagues.

Split-second decisions in a crisis can override protocol, he said.

"(A gendarme) has only a few seconds to act, to make the right decision," Lizurey said.

He hailed police forces as "the cement of society" but said facing "terrorism is not an individual fight. It's a collective struggle."

Moussa Azidad, a teacher in Trebes, said fellow Muslims must send a message to show they, too, must be present in the fight against terror. "We are part of France, we are French ... so we have to, during very difficult times like these, we have to be there," he said. French President Emmanuel Macron has ordered a national memorial for Beltrame. Across the Atlantic, U.S. President Donald Trump said Sunday on Twitter the deadly shooting in southern France showed the need for stronger measures in the fight against the Islamic State group, including border security.

# Fa'asea Komesina i le leai o ni tala lelei e fa'asalalau fa'asaga i Leoleo

tusia Ausage Fausia

Na fa'aalia e le Komesina o Leoleo ia Le'i Sonny Thompson i le taimi o le Iloiloga a le Komiti o le Puipuiga o le Saogalemu Lautele a le Maota o Sui i le vaiaso na te'a nei, lona lagona le fiafia i le Samoa News, i le leai lea o ni tala lelei latou te fa'asalalauina fa'asaga i le auunaga a ali'i ma tama'ita'i Leoleo.

E le gata i lea, sa ia tu'uaia fo'i le Samoa News i le lea o le tele o saunoaga mana'ia a afioga i Faipule sa tuuina atu i le taimi o le iloiloga, e fa'ataua i le siitia maua luga ua i ai le auunaga a le Ofisa o Leoleo i le atunu'u.

O le aso Tofi o le vaiaso na te'a nei na faia ai se iloiloga a le Komiti o le Puipuiga o le Saogalemu Lautele a le maota o sui, e talanoaina ai le tele o mataupu e fa'ataua i le tautua a le Ofisa o Leoleo, e pei o le aveese mai o le Vaega Fuimu mai le Ofisa o Leoleo i Leone, tofia o Fuimu e leoleo pagota sosola, siitaga o tofogi o Leoleo, atoa ai ma tu'uaiga i le sauaina o pagota i le falepuipui.

O molimau na valaauina i le iloiloga e aofia ai le Komesina o Leoleo ia Le'i, o sui komesina e to'alua ia Vaimaga Maiava ma Falana'ipupu Taase Sagapolutele, o le Pule o le Vaega Fuimu, atoa ai ma le pule o le toese ia Tauese Vaaomala Sunia.

E tele isi mataupu na fesiligia e afioga i Faipule i le amataga o le iloiloga, lea e toeititi lava atoa le 2 itula o fa'agasolo, lea fo'i sa maua ai le avnaoa o molimau e fa'amanino ai ni isi o mataupu sa fesiligia e afioga i Faipule.

E ui i le to'atele o Faipule sa latou fesiligia le mataupu i le sauaina o pagota i le toese i luma o le maota, e leai ma se isi na fesiligia le Komesina i le taimi o le iloiloga, se'i vagana ai lava le Ta'ita'i Komiti, afioga i le Faipule ia Manumaua W. Wilson, lea na ia fesiligia Le'i ina ua latalata lava i le fa'aiuga o le iloiloga, mo sana saunoaga

e tusa ai o le mataupu i le sauaina o pagota i le falepuipui.

Na amata le tali a Le'i i lana saunoaga e fa'apea, o ia e ala usupo lava i taeao uma e faitau le nusipepa a le Samoa News, e vaai poo i ai ni tala o sau ai e fa'ataua i le Ofisa o Leoleo na te le o silafia, ina ia mafai ai ona aofia i le latou talanoaga ma Ta'ita'i o le Ofisa mataupu ia i taimi e faia ai a latou fonotaga pupu'u i taeao ta'itasi.

Na mae'a lana saunoaga lea, ona ia fa'afetaia lea o le Fofoga Fetalai o le maota, tofa Savali Talavou Ale ona o lana saunoaga sa fa'asalalau i le Samoa News, e tali atu ai i le saunoaga a le afioga i le ali'i Faipule ia Toeaina Fauvano Autele.

Sa ia taua e fa'apea, ua fai lava si matuia ma mamafa o tusitusiga sa lomina i le Samoa News e faatatau i saunoaga a Toeaina, e ui o Toeaina o lona uso fa'alelufono (brother-in-law).

"E leai lava ma se mea manaia sa tusia mai i le nusipepa, e oo fo'i i talanoaga ma afioga i Faipule i le fa'amalieina o outou i le tautua a le Ofisa, e leai lava ma se mea o sau ai, ae le afaina, aua o tala le lelei faapea e vave ai ona taulia le nusipepa", o le saunoaga lea a Le'i.

O le saunoaga a le Fofoga Fetalai e pei ona taua e Le'i, o le saunoaga e faailoa ai lona le lago-lagoina o le finagalo o Toeaina, i lona manatu lea e ave sana tusi i le Fa'amasinoga Feterale e faailoa i ai le mataupu i pagota o loo sauaina i le toese, pe afai e le faia i ai se gaoiga a le Komesina ma le Ofisa o Leoleo.

Ae na taua e Le'i e fa'apea, ua uma ona ia poloaina le faia o se suesuega faasaga i ripoti i pagota o loo fasi e Leoleo. Na ta'utino Le'i i luma o Faipule e fa'apea, e le o taumafai e natia ni fa'aletonu o loo tutupu i le matagaluega, ae o loo ia faamanatu pea i ai ina ia usita'i ma mulimuli i le tulafono.

# Report: Bombs disguised as rocks in Yemen show Iranian aid

By JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Roadside bombs disguised as rocks in Yemen bear similarities to others used by Hezbollah in southern Lebanon and by insurgents in Iraq and Bahrain, suggesting at the least an Iranian influence in their manufacture, a watchdog group said Monday.

The report by Conflict Armament Research comes as the West and United Nations researchers accuse Iran of supplying arms to Yemen's Shiite rebels known as Houthis, who have held the country's capital since September 2014.

Those weapons allegedly included ballistic missiles used to target Saudi Arabia, which leads a military coalition of Arab nations backed by the U.S. that is stuck in a stalemate war with the Houthis. A barrage of Houthi missile fire late Sunday killed one person in Riyadh and wounded two others.

Iran has long denied supplying arms to the Houthis, and its mission to the United Nations is dismissing the new report. Iranian Foreign Minister

Mohammad Javad Zarif has derided such weapons research as "fabricating evidence."

The report is just the latest sign of how the conflict in Yemen, the Arab world's poorest country where over 10,000 people have been killed, has changed from a civil war to a proxy fight among Mideast rivals. The Saudi-led war there turned three years old Sunday.

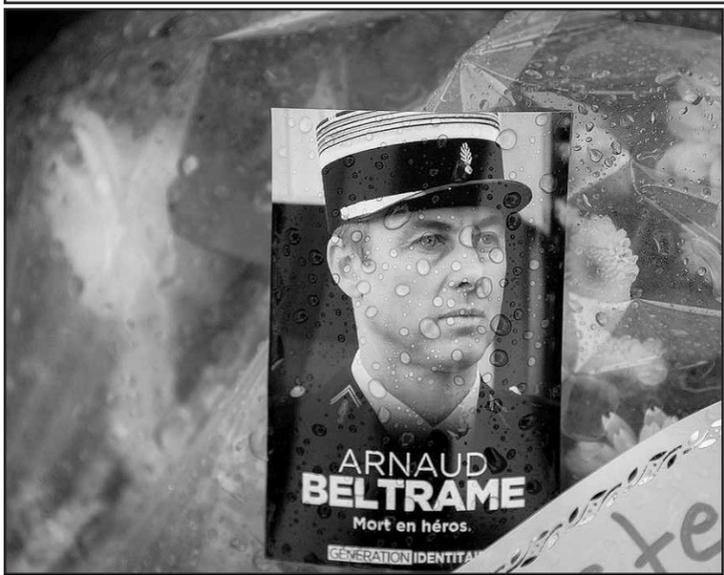
"What we're hoping this does is make plausible deniability not very plausible," said Tim Michetti, head of regional operations for Conflict Armament Research. "You can't really deny this anymore once the components these things are made with are traced to Iranian distributors."

Michetti's organization, an independent watchdog group that receives funding from the United Arab Emirates, Germany and the European Union to research weaponry recovered in Yemen, said it examined a fake rock bomb in January near Mokha, some 250 kilometers (150 miles) southwest of the capital, Sanaa. The fiberglass-encased bomb, packed with explosives, could be armed by radio and

triggered by an infrared beam, the group said. It said there were three varieties, including anti-personnel mines and so-called explosively formed projectiles, which can penetrate armored vehicles and were used with lethal effect against U.S. troops following the 2003 invasion of Iraq. Electrical circuitry in the bombs mirrored those manufactured by militants in Bahrain, while the bombs bore markings suggesting one workshop mass-produced the explosives, the report said. Such bombs, however, have yet to be used in Bahrain, an island kingdom off Saudi Arabia in the midst of a crackdown on all dissent.

Investigators also found a type of Chinese-manufactured wire covering used in other Iranian materiel, the report said.

It said independent experts also examined the explosives. Those experts said that "construction indicates that the bomb maker had a degree of knowledge in constructing devices that resembled, and possibly functioned in a manner similar to (explosively formed projectile bombs) that have been forensically.



A photo of Lieutenant Colonel Arnaud Beltrame placed on a bunch of flowers at the main gate of the Police headquarters in Carcassonne, France, Saturday, March 24, 2018, following an attack on a supermarket in Trebes in the south of the country on Friday. A French police officer who offered himself up to an Islamic extremist gunman in exchange for a hostage died of his injuries, raising the death toll in the attack to four, and the officer was honored Saturday as a national hero of "exceptional courage and selflessness."

(AP Photo/Emilio Morenatti)

# Miss St beats UCLA 89-73 to reach second straight Final Four

By DAVE SKRETTA, AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Mississippi State's Vic Schaefer was in no hurry to talk about returning to the Final Four, instead spending the first few minutes on the dais quietly circling the highlights on the box score.

There were plenty of them. Teaira McCowan had 23 points and 21 rebounds, Victoria Vivans added 24 points, and top-seeded Mississippi State held on after blowing most of its big lead to beat third-seeded UCLA 89-73 on Sunday night and earn a repeat trip to the semifinals of the NCAA Tournament.

The Bulldogs will meet another No. 1 seed in Louisville on Friday night in Columbus, Ohio.

"They've lived all year with a bulls-eye on their backs. That's hard to do, y'all," said Schaefer, who arrived at the postgame news conference with the net draped around his neck.

"These kids," their coach added, "are special."

Morgan William added 17 points, and Roshunda Johnson had 12 for the Bulldogs (36-1), who extended their school record for wins in a season. Now, the task is to go one step further than Mississippi State

did last year, when it fell to South Carolina in the national title game.

"I just had a real confidence today," Schaefer said. "The TV crew made a comment, 'Coach, this is the most chill I've seen you.' I just had a real confidence."

Jordin Canada led the relentless Bruins (27-8) with 23 points, eight rebounds and five assists, despite playing much of the game with a sprained elbow. Japreece Dean ad 16 points, and Monique Billings and Kennedy Burke had 12 apiece, most of it as the Bruins were rallying from a 50-32 hole.

They closed within 74-68 on Dean's 3-pointer with 2:53 left, but they couldn't get a stop on the defensive end. Instead, the Bruins and Bulldogs traded basket-for-basket down the stretch.

Mississippi State finally pulled away from the foul line in the final minute.

"I wanted to have a chance to coach this group for another day, but the reality is they've had a historic season," UCLA coach Cori Close said. "I love them. I'm proud of them, and there is nothing that could happen today that would change that."

Early on, the Bulldogs followed the same formula they

used in routing North Carolina State, dumping it into the much larger McCowan for easy baskets inside. The 6-foot-7 center, who had 24 points in that regional semifinal, scored six during an 11-0 run that gave her team the lead.

Vivians gave the Bulldogs control.

The senior forward from Carthage, Mississippi, converted a three-point play to begin the second period, then added eight more later in the quarter. She finished with 16 points in the first half, and her spinning, driving layup helped the Bulldogs take a 42-26 lead into the locker room.

The only offense UCLA could muster came from Canada, and most of that was at the foul line.

"Mississippi State's game plan was to pressure us and try to get the ball out of my hands," Canada said, "so I thought in the beginning of the game we had a lull where we couldn't run anything." The Bulldogs' lead eventually reached 18 points midway through the third quarter before the Bruins, fueled by defense, began to nip away at it. UCLA finally got it under 10 at 53-44 before Blair Schaefer hit a couple of deep 3-pointers to give Mississippi State another boost.

# Lone dog: No. 11 Loyola joins list of regulars at Final Four

By EDDIE PELLIS, AP National Writer

Three teams that need no introduction. One from out of nowhere.

Though the 2018 NCAA Tournament produced the biggest upset in the history of the event along with a seemingly endless string of wild finishes and unexpected results, the Final Four will look very much like it has over the last handful of seasons.

In one of next Saturday's semifinals, it's a barnburner of a matchup between top-seeded programs with rich histories: Villanova vs. Kansas.

In what will quickly become known as the "other" semifinal, it's an upstart vs. another school that knows this road: No. 11 Loyola-Chicago vs. No. 3 Michigan.

Remarkable as Loyola's run — and this tournament — have been, this marks the fifth time over the last six seasons that three teams seeded 1 through 4 have been joined by another seeded 7 or higher.

The four previous times, the underdog has bowed out in the semifinal.

"Why not us?" Ramblers coach Porter Moser said, repeating his team's oft-used mantra this month — one he hopes can lead to yet another history making upset. "You have to have high-character guys that believe to truly do that." The teams will have trouble topping the show Kansas and Duke put on Sunday with the last spot in San Antonio up for grabs.

The Jayhawks topped the Blue Devils 85-81 in overtime to send Kansas back to the site of its last national title, in 2008.

The Kansas-Villanova matchup is sure to re-ignite calls for some form of reseeding heading into the Final Four. The winner between the top seeds will almost certainly be favored in the final. This year's most-notable underdog — outside of Maryland-Baltimore County, which beat Virginia in the tournament's first week to pull off the first 16 vs. 1 upset — is Loyola-Chicago.

Urged on by their 98-year-old nun, Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt, the Ramblers are the fourth 11th seed to make college basketball's final weekend — joining LSU (1986), George Mason (2006) and VCU (2011).

A look at some of the history behind these Final Four teams:

**LOYOLA-CHICAGO:** It's not totally accurate to say the Ramblers are from nowhere. This program won the title in 1963 in one of the most significant championship runs in the

sport's history — including a game known as the "Game of Change." The Ramblers, with a mostly black roster, defeated an all-white team from Mississippi State, which served as prelude to the better-known title game in which Texas Western and its all-black starting lineup defeated Kentucky. Loyola went on to beat Cincinnati in overtime for the title. After the win Saturday, Les Hunter, a member of the 1963 team, said the Ramblers are capable of bringing home another championship. "I think they're the best right now," Hunter said. "They work so well together. They can play with anybody — anybody — right now."

**MICHIGAN:** All the freshmen dominating today's game should pay homage to the Fab Five — the group of five freshmen, including Jalen Rose and Chris Webber, who made baggy shorts the rage and took the Wolverines to the Final Four in 1992. This year's Wolverines were a middle-of-the-pack Big Ten team in early February, after a loss at Northwestern dropped them to 8-5 in the conference. They haven't lost since, and their 13-game winning streak is second in the country only to the Ramblers, who have won 14 straight. "We don't get caught up in the win streak that we're on," guard Charles Matthews said. "We didn't even know we were on a 13-game win streak."

**VILLANOVA:** Juniors Jalen Brunson and Mikal Bridges were there for Villanova's national title two years ago. They are the team's leading scorers. The Wildcats haven't been seriously pushed yet in the tournament, winning every game by double-digits and paying no mind to the upsets that have busted brackets for the past two weeks. The key to all this success? "At this point, you don't really try to figure out why," coach Jay Wright said. "You're kind of saying, 'Why us,' you know, and just soaking it in."

**KANSAS:** Since winning it all in 2008, the Jayhawks had been seeded No. 1 five times and failed to make the Final Four any of those times. If Grayson Allen's shot at the buzzer in regulation hadn't gone in and out — twice — this might have marked No. 6. But Malik Newman scored all 13 of Kansas' points in overtime to help the Jayhawks top Duke. "There's a lot of players out there who deserve the best of the best," Jayhawks coach Bill Self said. "They get to experience the very best there is."



American Samoa Government  
OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

RFP No: RFP 030-2018  
Issuance Date: March 16, 2018

Date & Time Due: April 2, 2018  
No later than 2:00 p.m. local time

The American Samoa Government (ASG) issues a Request For Proposals (RFP) from qualified firms to provide the:

**"Department of Education - School Lunch Program: Consultant and Project Management Services for the Water Heater & Repiping Project"**

### SUBMISSION

Original and five copies of the Proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked: "RFP: Department of Education - School Lunch Program: Consultant and Project Management Services for the Water Heater & Repiping Project." Submissions are to be sent to the following address and will be received until 2:00 p.m. (local time), April 2, 2018:

Office of Procurement  
American Samoa Government  
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799  
attn: Dr. Oreta Mapu Crichton, CPO

Any proposal received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. Late submissions will not be opened or considered and will be determined as being non-responsive.

### DOCUMENT

The RFP Scope of Work outlining the proposal requirements is available at the Office of Procurement, Tafuna, American Samoa, during normal working hours.

### REVIEW

Request for Proposal data will be thoroughly reviewed by an appointed Source Evaluation Board under the auspices of the Chief Procurement Officer, Office of Procurement, ASG.

### RIGHT OF REJECTION

The American Samoa Government reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals and to waive any irregularities and/or informalities in the submitted proposals that are not in the best interests of the American Samoa Government or the public.

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Chief Procurement Officer

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FEELING ALONE? Come to SURVIVORS TAKING ACTION THROUGH SHARING, a support group for victims of violence (physical or sexual). Join me every Thursday at 12:00 noon @ the Alliance office in Nu'uuli. You don't have to do it alone. For more info, call Liz Mailo @ 272-3257 or 699-0272.

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WOMENS HOSPITAL AUXILIARY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS of all ages to help in the Fale. Support your hospital, donate your free time by calling 633-1222 Ext. 199. All proceeds from Fale sales donated to purchase equipment for LBJ. [till]

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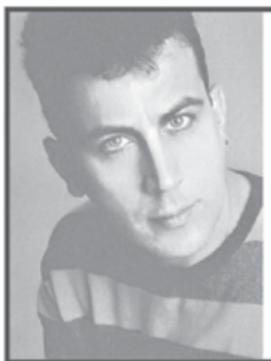
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**Universal Crossword**

*Edited by Timothy Parker March 26, 2018*

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LAST

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*Happy Birthday: Opportunities will not turn into successes unless you are disciplined and willing to work diligently to make things happen. Stay focused on what you can accomplish this year. Tidy up loose ends and make a clear passage to a brighter future. Be creative in the ways you approach money, legal and medical issues. Good fortune comes through persistence and patience. Your numbers are 5, 9, 16, 21, 27, 34, 43.*

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Embrace change, and be willing to put a positive spin on whatever comes your way. Trust your instincts and question anyone trying to push you in a direction that doesn't suit you. Personal growth and physical fitness are encouraged.\*\*\*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** You may want to keep your grievances to yourself. Being too opinionated will get a rise that will turn into a messy debate. Make accomplishment your goal by learning and achieving, not being critical and negative. Keep the peace.\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** You can talk your way into and out of anything, but before you decide to exaggerate or mislead someone, you should consider whom you are dealing with. Someone will call your bluff and hold you to a promise you make.\*\*\*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Refuse to let anyone undermine you when it comes to spending or investing your money. Be creative and do your own thing. Explore your options, and don't settle for anything less than what you want, regardless of peer pressure.\*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Share your thoughts and live life to the fullest. Spend time with people you find stimulating and who push you to be a better person. Revamp your image and live in the moment.\*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Embrace your creativity and venture in a direction that will stimulate your imagination. Express what you feel and what you want to see happen, but listen to alternative thoughts. Process the information thoroughly before you make a choice.\*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You'll have trouble avoiding discord. Either you'll say too much, or someone else will. Do your best to put charm, along with understanding and mindfulness, first if someone wants to discuss sensitive issues. Choose love and keeping the peace over bedlam. 4 stars

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Refrain from taking on too much or underestimating a situation. Use your creative insight to come up with a plan that is within your budget, and take pride in what you can do. Say no to excessive behavior and bad habits.\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You may face some opposition, but your desire to bring about changes to the way you live or the activities you get involved in will outweigh what anyone says. Live in the moment and enjoy your adventure.\*\*\*\*\*

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Chill out and relax. If you let others' actions get to you, it will be difficult to avoid an argument. Do your own thing, upgrade your skills and consider new ways to bring in more cash.\*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Looking back at the way you have handled people in the past will give you greater insight into how best to deal with similar situations. Don't feel you have to go overboard or make changes to accommodate someone else.\*\*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Make a change or move because you want to, not because you think someone else wants you to do so. It's important you let your true feelings be heard if you want to be happy and fulfill your dreams.\*\*\*\*\*

## Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

**DESPITE THEIR DIVORCE, EX-WIFE TREATS MAN LIKE A BEST FRIEND**

**DEAR ABBY:** My ex-wife and I were married for 29 years. Then she had an affair with a co-worker's husband. Now that we're divorced, she thinks we should be the best of friends!

If she has car, money or any other type of problems, she thinks I should help her. In the divorce, I kept the home, the furnishings, etc. She left with only a few things that were her mother's and her clothing. She drops by unannounced, and wants to visit or watch television. I'm baffled. If she wanted out of the marriage and to have nothing to do with me, why is she still in my life? Granted, we have two daughters. One is 22, and the other, who is 10, lives with her. She texts me about how her day has been, or if she's having problems at work or in life in general. I have been kind to her, not wanting to put too much stress on my youngest child. What should I do? -- **CONFUSED IN TEXAS**

**DEAR CONFUSED:** Your ex is no longer your life companion. She shouldn't be acting as if you are. Have an honest conversation with her and create some boundaries. She should not assume she can drop by unannounced and expect you to solve her problems or comment on her day. Tell her you need your space and not to drop by without calling first because you may be busy or going out.

You can still be a loving and involved father to your 10-year-old without doing anything more than co-parenting with your ex, but only if you draw the line.

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm 13 and I have a boyfriend, "Donald." We have a strong relationship for someone our age. My friends all say they can't see us breaking up. I'm not sure about this though.

The problem is, his mom recently invited me to dinner. And I had to turn the offer down. You see, I'm not allowed to date, and if my parents knew, I'd be switched to an all-girls boarding school. I always feel like I'm letting Donald down because his mom has made this offer more than once. He has never once complained, but I have no clue what to do. -- **CLUELESS TEEN**

**DEAR CLUELESS TEEN:** Here's what you do. Be totally truthful. Ask Donald to explain to his mother that as much as you would like to come to dinner, you cannot do that because your parents feel you are too young to date. Then take a rain check until your parents meet Donald and agree that it's all right for you to see him and accept his mother's invitation.

**DEAR ABBY:** The world is changing quickly thanks to the digital technology available to us. We all understand the importance of an RSVP, attendance at a celebration and a gift to the host on a mailed-out invitation. What do you think about Facebook invitations to wedding receptions, graduation parties, etc.? Most are sent out to masses of friends on the person's friends list. Do you consider those to be official invitations, requiring an RSVP, attendance and gift? -- **WAITING FOR MY SNAIL MAIL**

**DEAR WAITING:** Regardless of how the invitation is delivered, the polite response is to accept or refuse and not keep the sender hanging. If you choose to attend, a gift would be in order if the occasion requires one.

- ACROSS**

  - 1 Large stringed instruments
  - 6 Wall backers
  - 11 Binge
  - 14 Repeatedly
  - 15 Stick your nose in
  - 16 1966 Bruins signer
  - 17 Noted Dakota residents
  - 19 Consult
  - 20 Make a knot
  - 21 \_\_\_ for tat
  - 22 Knoxville-to-D.C. dir.
  - 23 Sweet-talker
  - 27 Copter landing site
  - 29 Hubbub
  - 30 Trim 10 pages
  - 32 With deep pockets
  - 33 Shedding neckwear
  - 34 Be objective?
  - 36 They're run in hospitals
  - 39 Sea eagles
  - 41 U-turn from credit
  - 43 Small duck
  - 44 Precis
  - 46 Roomy car
  - 48 Roth, for one
  - 49 Belonging to you and I
  - 51 Big rig, briefly
  - 52 Recipe abbr.

- 53 Votes
  - 56 Stores
  - 58 Monopolist's amount
  - 59 Luau lunch, sometimes
  - 60 Turkish big shot
  - 61 Miss Piggy's catchword
  - 62 Yankee legend
  - 68 Hairdo option
  - 69 Cause to act
  - 70 Super man Christopher?
  - 71 Names names
  - 72 Cold temps
  - 73 Autumn flower

**DOWN**

  - 1 Pilgrimage to Mecca
  - 2 "Long" follower
  - 3 "Score, team!"
  - 4 Bean variety
  - 5 Crawled slowly
  - 6 Hallucinogenic tab
  - 7 "I don't care which"
  - 8 It's stuck in a bridge
  - 9 More cornball
  - 10 Like a Broadway stage
  - 11 Mormon founder

- 12 Hippodrome, e.g.
  - 13 A certain vice
  - 18 More than desired
  - 23 Thing thrown in Scotland
  - 24 Like plus
  - 25 "Dynasty" actress
  - 26 LeAnn with the pipes
  - 28 Frozen flavored treats
  - 31 London subway tunnels
  - 35 Gets on board
  - 37 Hardly long-winded
  - 38 Trades
  - 40 Author Bellow
  - 42 Drumstick-struck instrument
  - 45 Turbine engine plane
  - 47 Famous falls
  - 50 Moe, professionally
  - 53 Animated deer
  - 54 Way to read in class
  - 55 Long military engagement
  - 57 Gurus
  - 63 Put on
  - 64 All good serves
  - 65 Procure
  - 66 "\_\_\_ seen better"
  - 67 "Star-Spangled Banner" word

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER**

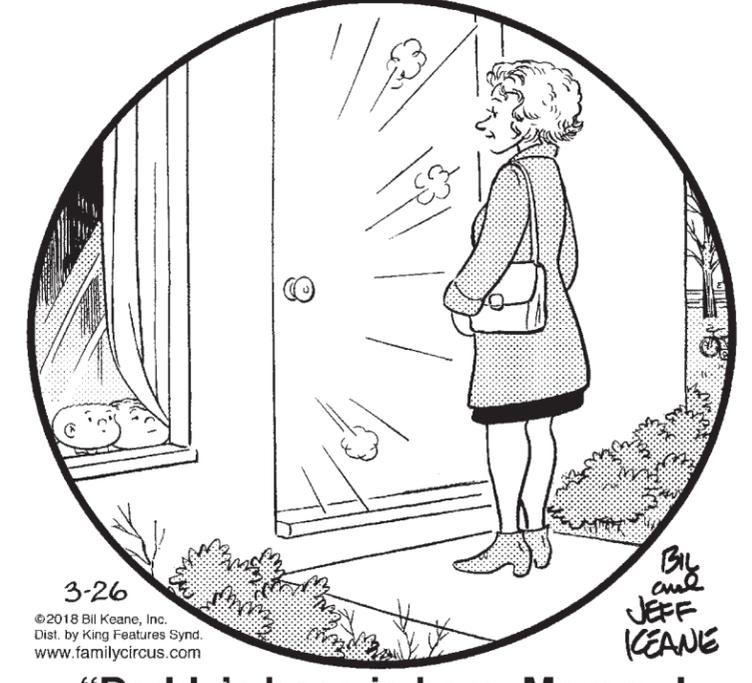
S	P	E	C	P	L	A	Z	A	N	O	R	M		
E	U	R	O	O	I	L	E	D	U	V	E	A		
A	M	I	D	P	R	O	B	E	T	E	L	L		
M	A	K	I	N	G	A	F	U	N	F	O	R	I	T
			F	A	U	S	T		L	I	S	T	S	
R	E	S	I	G	N		S	A	I	L				
A	C	H	E		W	H	I	N	E		A	H	A	
C	R	O	S	S	C	O	U	N	T	R	Y	F	U	N
Y	U	P		A	A	R	G	H		E	R	G	O	
			D	Y	N	E		S	A	L	O	O	N	
O	A	S	E	S		S	N	A	R	L				
F	U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

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**JOJOKING AROUND** By Timothy E. Parker

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	67
68				69						70		
71				72						73		

**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



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"Daddy's boss is here, Mommy! Should I let her in or are you still cleanin' up?"

Bil and Jeff Keane



**Ripley's Believe It or Not!**

AW!

I DON'T HAVE TO PRACTICE—I KNOW IT!

A GROUP OF RABBITS IS CALLED A "FLUFFLE!"

IN CANADA, PRACTICING WITCHCRAFT IS LEGAL, BUT PRETENDING TO PRACTICE WITCHCRAFT IS A PUNISHABLE OFFENSE!

www.gocomics.com www.ripleys.com

**THE CORE**  
OF THE EARTH IS ABOUT 2.5 YEARS YOUNGER THAN THE CRUST!

Distributed by Andrews McMeel for UFS. © 2018 Ripley Entertainment Inc. 3-26

**Calvin & Hobbes** ©

LIGHTNING FLASHES! THUNDER RUMBLES ACROSS THE SKY!

HORRIBLY, CALVIN HAS BEEN SEWN TOGETHER FROM CORPSES! A POWER SURGE FORCES BLOOD TO HIS BRAIN!

HE'S... HE'S ALIVE!

WELL, LOOK WHO'S UP AND ABOUT. HELLO, SLEEPYHEAD.

OGGS...

© 1985. All rights reserved by Andrews McMeel Syndicate. 3-26 WATSON

by Bill Watterson

**PEANUTS** ©

HERE I AM AGAIN... STILL LOOKING FOR THE ANSWERS!

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by Charles M. Schultz

**NATIONAL ARCHIVES**

Constitution

MY STATEMENT IS THAT THE CONSTITUTION SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO GO UNBURNED.

RYAN

WE RESPECT ITS RIGHT TO NOT BE ON FIRE.

McCONNELL

FIRESEIDE CHAT.

© 2018 THE WASHINGTON POST

**ZIGGY** ©

...AND NOW, HERE'S CINDI, OUR WEATHER GIRL, TO TELL YOU HOW ALL THIS BAD WEATHER IS THE PRESIDENT'S FAULT!

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**Sudoku Pacific**

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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

3/26 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

Saturday's Puzzle Answer 3/24

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

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**Hagar the Horrible** ©

by Chris Brown

MEAN MAX, YOU HAVEN'T HIT ME YET--ARE YOU CHANGING YOUR WAYS?

NO, IT MEANS THERE'S NO ONE AROUND TO WATCH ME SLUG YOU...

YOU'RE LUCKY I'M A SHOWOFF!

GASP!

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**GARFIELD** ©

by Jim Davis

TODAY'S WORD IS "SOMNOLENCE"

ALLOW ME TO USE IT IN A SENTENCE

Z

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FILE - In this Sept. 15, 2017, file photo, retired Colorado Rockies first baseman Todd Helton (17) steps out of the dugout as members of the Rockies' 2007 World Series team look on during batting practice before the Rockies host the San Diego Padres in a baseball game in Denver. Helton now regularly drives his two daughters to school or activities back home in Tennessee, a huge life change for Colorado's former All-Star first baseman. In fact, a daunting and overwhelming adjustment initially. "It was hardest thing I've ever done in my life," Helton shared.

(AP Photo/David Zalubowski, File)

# No Opening Day: Ex-major leaguers struggle with retirement

By JANIE McCAULEY, AP Baseball Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Todd Helton now regularly drives his two daughters to school or other activities back home in Tennessee, a huge life change for Colorado's former All-Star first baseman.

He had no idea retirement would be such a daunting and overwhelming adjustment at first. "It was the hardest thing I've ever done in my life," Helton said. "I've been a baseball player since I could walk, always knew I was going to be a baseball player."

As baseball begins anew, many former players realize just how tough it is to see the game go on without them.

Injuries forced ex-San Francisco pitcher Noah Lowry to retire early, and he now owns an outdoors store in Northern Cali-

fornia and joined the Chamber of Commerce.

Like Helton, he also felt lost without his sport. No more opening days for him.

"I felt dead inside," Lowry said. One-time Giants teammate Jack Taschner became a police officer in Wisconsin. He blossomed into an internet sensation last fall when he showed up at a high school football game and fooled fans by leading a dance in the stands. Helton retired after the 2013 season following a 17-year career, all with the Rockies. He returned to Coors Field last Sept. 15 for a reunion of the 2007 NL champions who were swept by Boston in the World Series. While there, Helton visited a back room in the clubhouse and reminisced while looking at the bat rack where his lumber once rested.

It can be a difficult change even when you know your time's up. Especially for those players who didn't earn the kind of salaries to support them for decades to come. "If you're lucky you're in your mid-30s, right? Let's say you make it to the big leagues when you're 25 and if you're lucky you play five years — you're 30 years old," said Randy Winn, who retired in April 2011 after 13 major league seasons in the outfield with Tampa Bay, Seattle, San Francisco, the New York Yankees and St. Louis.

"You have 50 years of being retired, so that's daunting. Even if you do play 20 years you still have a lot of years on the other side to figure out kind of 'What do I want to do?' Fred McGriff told me when I first retired — that's my guy, he took me under his wing when I was a rookie — he said, 'Randy, there's only so much golf you can play.'"

Retired reliever Scott Eyre, who pitched 13 big league seasons with five teams, announced "I need a job!" in a Facebook post on Aug. 31. Those still working in baseball realize how fortunate they are to have stayed part of the game they love. "I always planned to be involved in the game. I never dreamed I would be managing, that was new for me," said A.J. Hinch of the World Series champion Houston Astros. "But being able to be in the game, it's what we know, it's what we love. We're used to the rigors and the routine of the season.

"It's hard to be away. You spend so much time on a baseball team or in a baseball season, it's impossible not to miss it."

Winn said the regimented baseball schedule always has players somewhere at a specific time — from buses to flights to stretching and batting practice. And that's often all these men have known for years.

"And even in the offseason, you don't have somewhere to be but you have a goal," said Winn, now a Giants.

# TRAUMA AND OUR COMMUNITIES

## INVITATION TO TRAINING

Community members are invited to attend a FREE half day training session to assist with community members who have experience trauma

Venue: Tradewinds Hotel, Naumati Board Rm

Date: Wednesday March 28th, 2018

Time: 8AM—12PM

### Facilitators:

Lilian Medina Del Rio, M.A. & Nini Bui, M.A.  
Clinical Psychology Interns  
VA Pacific Islands Health Care System

### To register or for more information:

Please call 699-0272, or email judym.asadsv@gmail.com, seats are limited.

### The training will be interactive & cover:

- Topics related to Military Sexual Trauma (MST)
- Broad psycho-education about trauma
- PTSD
- Resilience and a discussion on how to be supportive of community members who have experienced trauma

Hosted by your



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