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SPORTS

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Sacramento Kings guard De'Aaron Fox, center, shoots over Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard, right, guard CJ McCollum, second from left, and forward Al-Farouq Aminu, left, during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Portland, Ore., Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2018. (AP Photo/Craig Mitchelldyer)



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Lillard has 26 points and Blazers beat Kings 116-99

By ANNE M. PETERSON, AP Sports Writer

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Damian Lillard did not hesitate when asked about how well the Portland Trail Blazers have been playing recently.

“It’s the best place I think we’ve been in years,” he said.

Lillard had 26 points and 12 assists, and the Blazers won their fourth straight with a 116-99 victory over the Sacramento Kings on Tuesday night.

Jusuf Nurkic added 17 points and nine rebounds for Portland, which sits in fifth place in the Western Conference — a game back of San Antonio — after winning five of its last six games. The current four-game winning streak matched the team’s longest of the season.

“We can’t be satisfied with where we are and what we’ve been doing,” Lillard said. “It’s got to be on to the next thing, and keep trying to take it to the next level.”

Zach Randolph had 20 points for the Kings, who lost their fifth straight overall. Sacramento has dropped 10 straight games at Portland’s Moda Center.

With just 18 wins, Sacramento is in second-to-last place in the West, above only the Phoenix Suns. The Kings have lost four straight and six of their last seven.

“We gave ourselves a chance multiple times tonight but when you have a team that’s played with each other for a while, when things get chaotic and you need to settle down they know where to get the ball and they do a great job of that,” Kings veteran Vince Carter said.

The Kings were playing the second of a back-to-back, after losing to Minnesota 118-100 on Monday night. Randolph sat out that game but returned against the Blazers. Randolph played six seasons in Portland.

Lillard had scored 197 points in the past five games, the most points for a Blazer over a five-game stretch in franchise history.

He had 15 points and five assists in the opening quarter against the Kings, including three 3-pointers, to give Portland a 36-26

(Continued on page B5)

Williams helps Clippers rally from 19 down to beat Nuggets

By DENNIS GEORGATOS, Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — The Los Angeles Clippers drew on their reserves to mount an unlikely comeback.

Lou Williams scored 25 points and Boban Marjanovic added a season-high 18 as the Clippers overcame a 19-point deficit in the third quarter to beat the Denver Nuggets 122-120 on Tuesday night.

Austin Rivers added 17 points and Montrezl Harrell had 15 for the Clippers, whose bench outscored Denver's reserves 54-4 in the second half.

"It's a great example why you play the games," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said. "There are things that happen that you don't account for. We get down and we put that (all-reserve) lineup on the floor that I guarantee they never scouted because we never used it and it worked for us.

"We had the entire bench on the floor and the entire starting lineup was up cheering and giving guys water. That's what teams are and it was nice to see," Rivers added.

Williams said the novel combination just seemed to mesh on the court quickly and the players seized on the change in momentum.

"Sometimes you have different lineups in that get the job done, so tonight was like that," Williams said.

From the other side though, it was hard to watch.

"We had control of the game," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. "Doc cleared his bench, put his bench in the game but give those guys credit. Those guys kept competing, kept playing hard and we stopped playing the way we did to get us the lead. We saw tonight a great example of what can happen when you do that — you take a tough loss."

Gary Harris had 23 points to lead the Nuggets, who lost consecutive games at home for the first time this season. Paul Millsap had nine points and seven rebounds in 23:26 minutes of play in his return from a left wrist injury that had sidelined him for the last three months.

"It went pretty well, felt pretty good," Millsap said. "So I'll just keep pushing, trying to get a rhythm."

Vegas takes a bit of a gamble with Tatar deal



Boston Bruins forward Rick Nash (61) lines up for a face off during the first period of an NHL hockey game against the Buffalo Sabres, Sunday, Feb. 25, 2018, in Buffalo, N.Y.

(AP Photo/Jeffrey T. Barnes)

By SIMMI BUTTAR, AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Of all the clubs that made deals before the NHL's trade deadline, a surprise team took perhaps the biggest gamble.

The expansion Vegas Golden Knights.

They rolled the dice by trading three high draft picks for Red Wings left wing Tomas Tatar.

Vegas has set records for wins and points by a first-year team and is tied with Nashville atop the Western Conference at 87 points. Because of that, the Golden Knights were unexpected buyers at Monday's deadline. General manager George McPhee said the move made sense because the picks are spread out over four drafts and Tatar is under team control through the 2020-21 season.

One high-profile player who didn't get dealt was Ottawa Senators star Erik Karlsson. The defenseman, who can become an unrestricted free agent after the 2018-19 season, said he hopes to sign a new deal to stay in Ottawa. Talks on an extension can begin July 1.

"I've been here for a long time," he said before Ottawa's game at Washington on Tuesday night. "I've made Ottawa my home and it's always going to be my home."

In all, NHL teams made 18 trades involving 37 players before the deadline on Monday afternoon.

Contending teams such as Tampa Bay, Nashville and Boston all gave up first-round draft picks for a chance to upgrade and make a run at the Stanley Cup. The Bruins made the first big move on Sunday when they acquired forward Rick Nash from the New York Rangers. Nash could be counted on for immediate offensive help after the team announced Tuesday that top center and leading goal-scorer Patrice Bergeron is out a minimum of two weeks with a broken right foot.

The Lightning, the Bruins' rival in the Atlantic Division, also made a major deal with the rebuilding Rangers. Tampa Bay acquired defenseman Ryan McDonagh and forward J.T. Miller for Vladimir Namestnikov, two prospects and two high draft picks. McDonagh and Miller will join former New York teammates Anton Stralman, Ryan Callahan and Dan Girardi with Tampa Bay.

The Rangers will now focus on their rebuild. They have three first-round picks, two second-round picks, two third-round picks, a fourth, a fifth and a sixth for a total of 10 picks in the June draft.

In the Western Conference, the Predators, trying to return to the Stanley Cup Final, acquired Ryan Hartman from the Central Division-rival Blackhawks for a prospect and two draft picks. The price was considered steep for Hartman, who had eight goals and 25 points and will be a restricted free agent at the end of the season.

Hartman paid immediate dividends, though, scoring the winning goal with a minute left

Tuesday night in a 6-5 victory over second-place Winnipeg.

"I'm going to a team that has a real chance this year," Hartman said Monday. "They made it all the way to the finals last year and made a really good run. I'm just excited to get down there and to get playing."

Winnipeg, four points behind the Predators, also made a deal with a division rival when the Jets acquired forward Paul Stastny from the St. Louis Blues. The current Jets have never won a playoff game, but have a deep and talented roster capable of making a serious playoff run this spring. "When I first caught wind of that it was a possibility, even just the possibility was really exciting," Jets forward Blake Wheeler said after the deal was announced.

"I think what he brings to our team is something that will be really helpful for us, plug a number of holes."

The move was surprising for St. Louis, which despite entering the deadline on a six-game losing streak, began Tuesday only one point out of a playoff spot. Among the contending teams that were quiet on Monday were the surging Philadelphia Flyers. They added goalie Petr Mrazek last week in a trade with the Detroit Red Wings.

The Flyers, who had a 10-game losing streak (0-5-5) earlier this season, are one point behind first-place Washington in the Metropolitan Division. The Flyers are 10-0-1 since the Eagles won the Super Bowl in an upset over the New England Patriots.

"You've got a chemistry in your room, so to make a deal, it's got to be the right player, it's got to be the right price, and it's got to be a clear upgrade," Flyers general manager Ron Hextall said Monday. "Otherwise you're affecting the chemistry in your room. So for a number of reasons, we had some conversations, but nothing made sense for us."

The two-time defending champion Penguins bolstered their forward group by acquiring center Derick Brassard in a three-team deal last week. However, the Penguins will now have to get by without starting goalie Matt Murray, who is out with a concussion.

THEY SAID IT

"Every year it seems the last year a couple teams traded first-round picks and maybe they didn't win doing that and (you think), 'No one's going to do that again.' Well, they did. It's the parity of the league, it's the competition, and teams want to win." — New Jersey Devils general manager Ray Shero on teams giving up first-round draft picks at the trade deadline.

GAME OF THE WEEK

Toronto at Washington at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, Maryland, on Saturday night. The teams played an entertaining first-round playoff series last year.



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Los Angeles Clippers forward Tobias Harris, left, knocks the ball away from Denver Nuggets guard Will Barton, center, who had driven by Clippers center Boban Marjanovic during the second half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2018, in Denver. The Clippers won 122-120. (AP Photo/David Zalubowski)

McDaniels, Pope lead SDSU to 72-64 win vs Boise State

By BERNIE WILSON, AP Sports Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Tuesday turned out to be a pretty good day overall for San Diego State’s Malik Pope.

The senior forward got the news in the afternoon that he could play against Boise State, and then scored 12 points and had some big plays in the final minutes to help the Aztecs beat the Broncos 72-64, their season-high fifth straight victory.

“Malik breathed a big sigh of relief when I told him he could play this afternoon,” coach Brian Dutcher said. “We are grateful to have him back and on the floor.”

Pope, the team’s leading scorer and rebounder, was held out of Saturday night’s game at San Jose State after his name appeared in documents that are part of a federal investigation into college basketball corruption. SDSU said an internal investigation cleared Pope.

“I knew everything would be taken care of eventually,” Pope said “It was more, let’s get this process completed. There were some nerves at first. It was a beautiful feeling. You always knew SDSU was amazing and just to know they had my back was great. It was motivating and I really enjoyed it.”

Redshirt freshman Jalen McDaniels had 15 points and 10 rebounds for SDSU (18-10, 10-7 Mountain West), which played smothering defense late in the first half and again in the second half to take control. The Aztecs, who came in tied for fifth with Wyoming, are facing the Mountain West’s top two teams in the final week as they try to improve their seed for the conference tournament. SDSU hosts first-place and No. 21 Nevada on Saturday night.

The Aztecs held Chandler Hutchison to 18 points after he scorched them for a school-record 44 points earlier this season.

“We forced the middle and packed the paint on him and it was tough for him to get a shot off,” McDaniels said. “Trying to take charges, meeting them

at the rim, nothing was easy. The last time we were late on help and not building a wall on transition so he could get easy buckets.”

After BSU pulled to 66-62 on Lexus Williams’ 3-pointer with two minutes to go, Trey Kell fed Pope for a dunk that pushed the lead to six with 1:20 to go. Hutchison made one of two free throws.

After McDaniels missed a 3-pointer, Pope swooped in for the rebound, Matt Mitchell was fouled and made both free throws to give SDSU a seven-point lead.

Devin Watson scored 13 for SDSU and Mitchell had 11.

Justinian Jessup had 11 points and Zach Haney had 11 rebounds for Boise State (22-7, 12-5), which is assured of being the No. 2 tournament seed.

SDSU’s defense, particularly on Hutchison, was the difference between this game and the Broncos’ 83-80 victory in Boise in January.

“Every time he got the ball there was five sets of eyes on him, and that makes it tough,” BSU coach Leon Rice said. “And five sets of good, athletic eyes. That opened some things up for us in the first half to make some 3s, and we didn’t make them in the second half.”

McDaniels was whistled for a flagrant foul when he tripped Chris Sengfelder with 4½ minutes to go, negating a break-away layup by Mitchell. Sengfelder made one of two free throws to pull the Broncos to 63-56. On the ensuing possession, Hutchison was fouled and made 1 of 2 free throws.

BSU led 43-42 on Hutchison’s basket three minutes into the second half before SDSU tightened up on defense and went ahead.

SDSU led 38-37 at halftime.

BIG PICTURE

Boise State: Hutchison had a completely different game than on Jan. 13 when he went off for 44 points against SDSU. In that game, he went 15 of 21 from the field, including 7 of 10 from 3-point range. But he made only 4 of 14 field goals

Tuesday night and missed all four 3-pointers. He did make 10 of 15 free throws Tuesday.

San Diego State: Pope was cleared to play earlier in the day after the school said it determined he didn’t receive impermissible benefits. Pope’s name appeared in documents that are part of a federal investigation into college basketball corruption. SDSU said an investigation led by associate athletic director of compliance Andy Humes found no evidence that Pope received any impermissible benefits or violated any NCAA rules. “Based on everything that we learned, we felt very comfortable that Malik was telling the truth,” athletic director John David Wicker said.

UP NEXT

Boise State hosts Wyoming on Saturday night in the regular-season finale.

San Diego State hosts No. 21 Nevada on Saturday night to end the regular season.

Tuesday Sports In Brief

By The Associated Press

BASKETBALL

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — An iconic Nike logo of a leaping Michael Jordan that the company has used to market billions of dollars of merchandise didn’t violate the copyright of an earlier photograph of the basketball star, a federal appeals court ruled Tuesday.

The logo was based on a photograph taken by someone Nike hired. That photo was “obviously inspired” by a 1984 photo by Jacobus Rentmeester, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said. But the court in a 2-1 decision said the photos are unmistakably different in key elements.

Both show Jordan leaping with his legs extended outward toward a basketball hoop with a ball above his head.

Nike used its photo for the “Jumpman” logo — a silhouetted image of Jordan in the leaping pose in its photograph.

Rentmeester photographed Jordan while he played at the University of North Carolina. His photograph appeared in Life Magazine in a photo essay featuring U.S. athletes competing in the 1984 Summer Olympics.

An email to a law firm representing Rentmeester wasn’t immediately returned.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Next month’s NIT games will use experimental rules that include an extended 3-point line, a wider free-throw lane and 10-minute quarters instead of 20-minute halves.

The NCAA announced the changes Tuesday.

The 3-point arc will move to roughly 22 feet, which is used by FIBA for international competition. The lane will expand from 12 feet to the NBA’s 16 feet.

Also, the shot clock will reset to 20 seconds after offensive rebounds instead of the full 30 seconds.

The NCAA says in its release that officials will review whether widened lanes “reduce physicality and create more driving opportunities,” as well as the impact of the rule changes on “the pace and flow of the game.”

The NIT begins March 13 and ends March 29 in New York’s Madison Square Garden.

SOCCER

MADRID (AP) — Enrique Castro “Quini,” the former Spain striker who played for Barcelona and thrived in a long career with Sporting Gijon, has died of a heart attack. He was 68.

Sporting said Castro collapsed while walking near his house in the northern city of Gijon.

Known as “The Wizard,” Castro played in the 1978 and 1982 World Cups with Spain.

His career was also notable for a kidnapping incident during his first year with Barcelona, when he was abducted at gunpoint after a home game, spending 25 days in captivity before being rescued by police.

Castro also survived throat cancer that required surgery in 2008.

He played for Barcelona until 1984, making 178 appearances (Continued on page B12)



American Samoa Government
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



PUBLIC NOTICE

The American Samoa Department of Health Early Intervention Program “Helping Hands” would like to inform the public that the Annual State Application under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as amended in 2004 for Federal Fiscal Year 2018 is available for public comment for a period of 60 days.

A copy of the document is available to review at the DOH Helping Hands Office located in the Lumana’i building in Fagatogo.

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

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LeBron's triple-double lifts Cavs over Nets



Brooklyn Nets' Rondae Hollis-Jefferson, left, looks to pass the ball as Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2018, in Cleveland. (AP Photo/Tony Dejak)

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron James scored 31 points and finished a month averaging a triple-double for the first time in his career, and the Cleveland Cavaliers defeated the Brooklyn Nets 129-123 on Tuesday night.

James had 12 rebounds and 11 assists for his 12th triple-double of the season and 67th of his career. He also reached 8,000 assists and became the first player in NBA history to reach that milestone, along with 30,000 points and 8,000 rebounds.

Rodney Hood's three-point play with 40 seconds remaining gave Cleveland a 123-121 lead. James and George Hill hit two free throws each in the final 16 seconds to seal the win.

Jarrett Allen's two free throws gave Brooklyn a 119-117 lead with 1:18 to play. Jordan Clarkson's 3-pointer put Cleveland ahead, but Allen Crabbe's runner in the lane put the Nets up 121-120.

Hood hit a jumper from the wing and made the foul shot that gave Cleveland a two-point lead. D'Angelo Russell attempted to draw a foul but barely got off a wild shot from the corner, which led to James' foul shots.

HEAT 102, 76ERS 101

MIAMI (AP) — Dwyane Wade scored a season-high 27 points, the last of those coming on a jumper that gave Miami its only lead of the fourth quarter with 5.9 seconds left, and the Heat rallied to beat the 76ers.

Wade had 15 of his points in the fourth quarter, and the Heat won a game where they never led by more than three.

Goran Dragic scored 21 for the Heat, who got 16 points from Tyler Johnson and 15 points and 11 rebounds from Hassan Whiteside.

Joel Embiid scored 23 points for Philadelphia, which got 21 from Dario Saric. The 76ers led by as many as 10 in the fourth and had a chance to win at the buzzer, but JJ Redick's wide-open 3-point try bounced off the rim.

Redick finished with 15 for the 76ers.

HORNETS 118, BULLS 103

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Kemba Walker scored 31 points and Dwight Howard added 24 after returning from a first-quarter back injury as the Hornets knocked off the Bulls to win their season-best fifth game in a row.

Zach LaVine led seven Bulls players in double-digits with 21 points as Chicago (20-41) dropped its fifth consecutive game.

The Hornets improved to 28-33 as their suddenly hot shooting helped them continue their push to make the playoffs. In all, Charlotte sank 53.7 percent of its field-goal attempts, and 42.9 percent from 3-point range.

Walker hit 11-of-19 attempts -- including 6-of-10 of 3-pointers -- while Howard missed

only two shots in 12 attempts. Nicolas Batum also added 10 points, 12 assist and seven rebounds.

WIZARDS 107, BUCKS 104

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Bradley Beal scored 21 points, hitting a clutch 3-pointer and a free throw down the stretch, to help the Wizards hang on for a victory over the Bucks.

Otto Porter Jr. added 17 points and Markieff Morris 14 for Washington which stayed hot after snapping the Philadelphia 76ers' seven-game winning streak Sunday with a 109-94 victory.

The Bucks lost a chance at clinching the season series with the Wizards who hold the fourth spot in the Eastern Conference. Washington improved to 2 1/2 games ahead of the sixth-place Bucks. The road team won both games of the series.

Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 23 points and grabbed 13 rebounds and Jabbari Parker had a season-high 19 points for Milwaukee.

CLIPPERS 122, NUGGETS 120

DENVER (AP) — Lou Williams scored 25 points and Boban Marjanovic added a season-high 18 as the Clippers overcame a 19-point deficit in the third quarter to beat the Nuggets.

Austin Rivers added 17 points and Montrezl Harrell had 15 for the Clippers, whose bench outscored Denver's reserves 54-4 in the second half.

Gary Harris had 23 points to lead the Nuggets, who lost consecutive games at home for the first time this season. Paul Millsap had nine points and seven rebounds in 23:26 minutes of play in his return from a left wrist injury that had sidelined him for the last three months.

Leading by six at the half, the Nuggets stretched their lead to 19 points on a layup by Harris but the Clippers fought back to within seven points going into the fourth quarter, outscoring the Nuggets 18-6 over the last 4 1-2 minutes of the third.

TRAIL BLAZERS 116, KINGS 99

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Damian Lillard had 26 points and 12 assists, and the Trail Blazers won their fourth straight with a victory over the Kings.

Jusuf Nurkic added 17 points and nine rebounds for Portland, which sits in fifth place in the Western Conference — a game back of San Antonio — after winning five of its last six games. The current four-game winning streak matched the team's longest of the season.

Zach Randolph had 20 points for the Kings, who lost their fifth straight overall. Sacramento has dropped 10 straight games at Portland's Moda Center.

With just 18 wins, Sacramento is in second-to-last place in the West, above only the Phoenix Suns. The Kings have lost four straight and six of their last seven.

Draft diary: Clemson's Cain welcomes combine questions

By RALPH D. RUSSO, AP College Football Writer

Deon Cain knows the questions are coming and he is looking forward to answering them this week at the NFL draft combine.

Cain played three seasons at Clemson and was productive receiver for a team that made three playoff appearances and played in two national championship games. Cain played in only one of those national championship games. After the regular season of his freshman year, he was suspended for the College Football Playoff by Tigers coach Dabo Swinney for failing a drug test for marijuana.

For the last six weeks, Cain has been training at the Exos performance center in Phoenix. He has added about 10 pounds of lean muscle to his 6-foot-1 frame, thanks to a high protein diet. He believes he could run a sub-4.4-second 40-yard dash after all the speed work he did at Exos. But none of that will likely be as important as how he answers questions from NFL executives and coaches in Indianapolis about that suspension.

Cain has a simple plan: "Just to be honest. Just got to face the facts. I know I did it."

Cain is projected to be a second-day selection during the NFL's three-day draft, which starts April 26. Bleacher Report draft analyst Matt Miller said Cain currently has a solid round-two grade. Dane Brugler from NFL Draft Scout.com said he had Cain going in round three. Lance Zierlein of NFL.com gives Cain a second-round projection and compares him to former Atlanta Falcons receiver Ro'Wallace, who made the Pro Bowl four times in an 11-year career.

A five-star prospect out of Tampa Bay Technical High School in Florida when he came to Clemson, enrolling early with an eye toward early graduation. He had 34 catches for 582 yards and five touchdowns in 13 games as a freshman, helping the Tigers overcome the loss of star receiver Mike Williams to injury in the season opener.

Two days before Clemson played Oklahoma in the College Football Playoff semifinal at the Orange Bowl, he was sent home for violating team rules. He had failed a drug test.

Rivalry game between USC and UCLA has bubble implications



UCLA guard Aaron Holiday, front, passes the ball as Colorado guard D'Shawn Schwartz, back left, and forward Lucas Siewert defend in the second half of an NCAA college basketball game Sunday, Feb. 25, 2018, in Boulder, Colo. (AP Photo/David Zalubowski)

By The Associated Press

A look at things to watch this week in the Pac-12 Conference:

GAME OF THE WEEK: UCLA at USC, Saturday. Rivalry games are always intense. This one could have an intensity boost with both teams on the NCAA Tournament bubble. The Trojans (21-9, 12-5) appear to be in

decent shape after winning their past four games, including a Utah-Colorado road sweep. The Bruins (19-10, 10-7) may still have some work to do after losing to Utah and Colorado. UCLA won the Southern California rivals' first meeting on Feb. 3, edging the Trojans 82-79 after Aaron Holiday and Thomas Welsh combined for 44

points. USC also is playing for a coveted first-round bye in next week's Pac-12 tournament and is a half-game behind Arizona for the conference lead.

LOOKING AHEAD: Arizona has become a program in disarray. Coach Sean Miller has not coached the team or been to practice since an ESPN report said the FBI has him on

a wiretap discussing a \$100,000 payment to current freshman Deandre Ayton. Lorenzo Romar has filled in to lead the Wildcats and it's unclear if Miller will return or be fired. Arizona star guard Allonzo Trier also has been eligible the past two games after testing positive for the same banned substance that cost him 19 games last season.

The Wildcats still have the Pac-12 lead, but face an uncertain future. They play Stanford and Cal this week.

INSIDE THE NUMBERS: Ayton is on pace to become the first freshman and sixth player overall to lead the Pac-12 in scoring and rebounding. He is tops with 19.9 points and 11.2 rebounds. ... Washington State has made 313 3-pointers this season, becoming the seventh team in conference history to hit at least 300 3s in a season. ... Arizona State's Tra Holder is 11 free throws made and 15 attempts of entering the Pac-12's top 10 in both categories.

PLAYER TO WATCH: Reid Travis, Stanford. Ayton and UCLA's Aaron Holiday appear to be the frontrunners for Pac-12 player of the year, but don't count out Travis. The Cardinal forward is having a stellar junior season, averaging 19.3 points on 53 percent shooting and 7.9 rebounds per game. He scored a career-high 33 points and grabbed nine rebounds against Washington on his way to becoming the Pac-12 player of the week.

ON THE WOMEN'S SIDE: No. 6 Oregon won its first Pac-12 title since 2000 by sweeping the Arizona schools alst week. That gave the Ducks the top seed and a first-round bye in this week's conference tournament in Seattle. Oregon is the favorite to win the tournament, which starts Thursday, but the bracket will not be easy with No. 10 Oregon State, No. 9 UCLA, No. 16 Stanford and Arizona State in the way.

► Lillard...

Continued from page B1

lead. He was up to 19 points by the half, when the Blazers led 66-53. None of the Kings players were in double figures.

The Blazers led by as many as 17 points in the first half, but the Kings closed the gap in the third quarter, closing within 88-80 to start the fourth.

But CJ McCollum' jumper from out front extended the lead for Portland to 105-88 with 6:40 left. The Blazers led by as many as 19 points down the stretch.

Shabazz Napier had 20 points off the bench for Portland. "I thought we had good energy, our ball movement was good, defensively we were physical, we got our hands on some balls. But I think most important we were just connected," Lillard said. "For the start of the game we were all on the same page once again — just knew what we needed to get done. And we got it done."

When he reached 17 points, Lillard clinched the highest-scoring average for any month in Portland history. He passed Geoff Petrie who averaged 30.4 points in March, 1971. Lillard averaged 31.4 points for the month.

Lillard had 40 points in the Portland's 106-104 victory over the Suns on Saturday.

TIP INS:

Kings: It was the fourth meeting between the two teams. Sacramento's lone win came in the first. ... Willie Cauley-Stein had 17 points and 10 rebounds.

Trail Blazers: Lillard has made a 3-pointer in 43 straight games. ... Blazers coach Terry Stotts is the reigning Western Conference Coach of the Month. ... Portland had a season-high 20 fast-break points.

PRAISE: "Coach Stotts is a mastermind with how he runs his offense. He gets his guys to buy into their role.



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Florida school tragedy leaves profound effect on Dwyane Wade

By **TIM REYNOLDS, AP Basketball Writer**

MIAMI (AP) — Joaquin Oliver was buried in a jersey bearing Dwyane Wade's name. So perhaps it was fitting that Wade's best game this season came in sneakers with Oliver's name scrawled on them.

The Miami area is reeling right now, and will be for a while, in the aftermath of the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High. The school will reopen Wednesday, the first official day it will be in session since 17 students and teachers were killed in a Valentine's Day massacre that only cranked up the volume on the national debate over guns.

Oliver was one of the 17 victims. His parents buried him in a Wade jersey. Wade is trying to meet the family, hoping to thank them, comfort them, listen to them, help them, hug them, and almost certainly cry with them.

"That they thought of me in that process, as something that he would have wanted, is mindboggling," the Miami Heat guard said.

So is the fact that, again, Wade finds himself trying to solve a problem that apparently cannot be solved. He has been touched by countless tragedies in recent years, ranging from the Trayvon Martin shooting, to the death of his cousin in a shooting in Chicago shortly after he decided to join the Bulls in 2016, and now the senseless killings at the school about an hour north of Miami.

In this social media era, athletes have strength in numbers. The voices of people like Wade, LeBron James, Colin Kaepernick and others have more power than they likely ever imagined. Wade insists he isn't going to be silenced about the shooting, and that his friends won't either.

Put another way, no, as

one national television pundit recently suggested James should, he will not 'shut up and dribble.'

"Being frustrated isn't going to help," Wade said. "You've got to keep going. You've got to look at the people before you and understand that nothing they did happened even close to overnight. The changes that Martin Luther King were trying to make, it took a long time before we could see them. Changes that an individual is trying to make, you do what's in your heart. When you're long gone, maybe one day it'll take hold."

Wade scored a season-high 27 points Tuesday night, hitting a gamewinner with 5.9 seconds left to lift Miami over Philadelphia 102-101. On the side of one of his sneaker heels, he scrawled Oliver's name.

"Some due respect to him and his family," Wade said.

TANK WATCH

The race to be the worst gets real this week.

If there is one entertaining thing about Tank Season, it's those nights when two teams that may not necessarily be that concerned with winning games go head-to-head — and one, perhaps sadly, has to emerge from that contest with more points than the other.

The next few days offer some great — or terrible — matchups in that regard.

Wednesday, there's Phoenix-Memphis. Friday brings Dallas-Chicago. On Saturday, it's Memphis-Orlando. And a tanking twinbill awaits Sunday, with Phoenix-Atlanta and New York-Sacramento games on tap.

It's easy to see why these teams are playing for the worst possible record and therefore the best possible chance of getting the No. 1 pick in June's draft. When the new draft lottery system goes into place next

year, the tanking phenomenon will hopefully lessen.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Some of the games to watch over the coming week:

— Rockets at Clippers, Wednesday: The last time these teams met in Los Angeles, a chippy game was followed by postgame sparks. Don't expect a repeat.

— 76ers at Cavaliers, Thursday: Philadelphia has lost 18 straight when facing LeBron James on the road. Its last such win: 2007, led by Allen Iverson.

— Bucks at Pacers, Friday: It's the first of two meetings in a four-day span between these midpack East contenders, who split two contests in January.

— Celtics at Rockets, Saturday: Boston led the first meeting by 3 seconds, and won — rallying from 26 down. Houston will have plenty of incentive this time.

— Hornets at Raptors, Sunday: Charlotte is playing well, and thinks a playoff spot is within reach. But Toronto has routed the Hornets three times already.

— Suns at Heat, Monday: A long, critical Miami home-stand ends, and it's always entertaining to see Goran Dragic go up against his former Phoenix club.

— Nets at Warriors, Tuesday: An interesting game for this reason — back in November, Brooklyn was down 28 in the third and nearly beat the champions.

STAT LINE OF THE WEEK

Anthony Davis, New Orleans: He has been MVP-worthy for the Pelicans of late, and 53 points, 18 rebounds, five blocks and three assists Monday against Phoenix.

Prime time Olympics coverage drops 7 percent from Sochi



A security person stands near the Olympic flags during a ceremony to mark the arrival of the Olympic flag and start of the flag tour for the Winter Olympic Games Beijing 2022 at a section of the Great Wall of China in Beijing Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2018.

(AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

By **DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — NBC finished the Pyeongchang Olympics by averaging just under 20 million viewers with its prime-time coverage on the network, NBCSN cable and live streaming, which was a 7 percent decline from the Winter Olympics of 2014.

The Nielsen company said that the NBC-only average in prime time was 17.8 million, or a 17 percent decline from Sochi. In 2014, NBC only offered prime-time coverage on the network, and did not have simultaneous programming on cable and online.

NBC said the viewership helped make the Olympics profitable. Viewership started out stronger than executives expected at the beginning of the Olympics and faded toward the end.

One growth area in Pyeongchang was in the late-night time period. Because of the time difference, post-11:30 p.m. was filled with live competition. NBC's late-night show averaged 8.4 million viewers, up from 5.6 million in Sochi and more than any other Winter Olympics since 1988.

In a reflection of how traditional television viewership is changing, NBC said the prime-time Olympic coverage throughout the Olympics (19.8 million) essentially doubled the viewership of ABC, CBS and Fox combined during that period. The Olympics dominated TV: No other program beat it in the ratings while the games were on. In contrast, during the 2006 Olympics, the games were the night's top-rated program on only eight of

17 nights.

NBC averaged 14.2 million viewers for the week. CBS had 4.8 million, ABC had 3.5 million, Fox had 2 million, Univision had 1.8 million, ION Television had 1.5 million, Telemundo had 1.2 million and the CW had 840,000.

Fox News Channel was the week's most popular cable network, averaging 2.23 million viewers in prime time. MSNBC had 1.74 million, NBCSN had 1.68 million, USA had 1.4 million and AMC had 1.39 million.

While the "Today" show bathed in the Olympic glow to beat its morning rivals, the opposite thing happened in the evening. NBC's "Nightly News" was broadcast in the mid-afternoon on the West Coast because of the Olympics, and it led to that broadcast being crushed by ABC. ABC's "World News Tonight" averaged 9.3 million viewers, "Nightly News" had 8.3 million and the "CBS Evening News" had 6.6 million.

For the week of Feb. 19-25, the top 10 shows, their networks and viewerships: Winter Olympics (Tuesday), NBC, 17.53 million; Winter Olympics (Monday), NBC, 16.37 million; Winter Olympics (Thursday), NBC, 15.24 million; Winter Olympics Closing Ceremony, NBC, 14.78 million; Winter Olympics (Wednesday), NBC, 14.17 million; Winter Olympics (Friday), NBC, 12.9 million; Winter Olympics (Saturday, 9-10 p.m.), NBC, 11.69 million; Winter Olympics Gala (Saturday, 10-11 p.m.), NBC, 10.85 million; "60 Minutes," CBS, 8.33 million; "The Walking Dead," AMC, 8.28 million.

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Campbell stops 41 shots in 2nd start, Kings beat Vegas 4-1



Los Angeles Kings left wing Kyle Clifford (13) celebrates his goal with center Michael Amadio (52) and defenseman Alec Martinez during the first period of an NHL hockey game against the Vegas Golden Knights Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2018, in Las Vegas.

(AP Photo/David Becker)

By W.G. RAMIREZ, Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — In the heat of a tight playoff race, the Los Angeles Kings turned to a little-known goaltender with one NHL start under his belt.

Boy, did Jack Campbell ever come through.

Campbell made 41 saves, Anze Kopitar scored his 27th goal and Los Angeles defeated the Vegas Golden Knights 4-1 on Tuesday night.

"It's always great to win, and it definitely feels great to do it with this group. It just means a lot that it was a big two points," Campbell said. "It was a little bit more than another game. I wanted to prove to everybody, but most importantly my teammates, that they can count on me. This was probably the biggest game I've played in."

It was the Kings' second victory over Vegas in two nights.

The expansion Golden Knights dropped into a tie with Nashville for the top spot in the Western Conference.

The 26-year-old Campbell was making his first NHL start since the 2013-14 season, when he played for the Dallas Stars. He made one appearance for Los Angeles last season and got the nod Tuesday over starter Jonathan Quick, who beat Vegas on Monday.

"I remember the day when he came here," Kings coach John Stevens said. "His game was not in very good shape. He had been in the East Coast League, and all he wanted to do was work and get better. Terrific year in the minors and became a leader down there. Coming into this game is a tough spot. It's as tough a spot as there is. I thought Jack was really solid tonight and I couldn't be any happier for the kid."

Kyle Clifford, Tyler Toffoli and Jeff Carter also scored for the Kings, who rank second in the league with 20 road wins. Tampa Bay has 22.

Maxime Lagace stopped 26 shots for the Golden Knights in his first start since Dec. 9, when he won at Dallas. William Karlsson scored the Vegas goal.

Vegas is 0-2 since Monday's trade deadline, when the Golden Knights added slick-skating forward Tomas Tatar and big-bodied Ryan Reaves to the lineup. Reaves played in both games against Los Angeles, while Tatar made his debut Tuesday.

Reaves made his presence felt for a team with the third-fewest penalty minutes in the league. He delivered several big hits, including two in the third period that landed him in the penalty box. He took issue with those calls.

"Can't make a call on a reaction on a bench or a big noise, that's not how this league works," said the 6-foot-1, 225-pound winger, who arrived from Pittsburgh in a three-team trade. "I thought those were panic calls. (Drew) Doughty throws his head back like he got shot — it's his shoulder pad that hits his chin. Two bad calls in a critical time of the game. It's hockey. I play hard. It's what's kept me in this league. I'm not going to apologize for any one of those penalties. They did cost us the game, but that's my style of play. And that's going to continue against every team we play."

In what has become a familiar sequence for the Golden Knights' top line, Reilly Smith fed Jonathan Marchessault, who fed Karlsson, who gave Vegas a 1-0 lead 5:27 into the game.

Karlsson got his 34th goal of the season, while Marchessault and Smith picked up their 41st and 37th assists, respectively.

But shortly thereafter, Vegas center Ryan Carpenter committed a costly turnover with a terrible pass in the offensive zone, where Clifford took advantage and beat Lagace to tie it. Midway through the second period, Toffoli skated past Smith and took the puck with him, then beat Lagace to give the Kings a 2-1 advantage.

"The mistakes were self-inflicted," Golden Knights coach Gerard Gallant said. "We made some bad mistakes in the neutral zone and turned the puck over and they capital-

ized. We had some chances. We created some chances. We just didn't play hard enough. We didn't compete hard enough in the blue paint."

Kopitar extended the margin to 3-1 when he skated by Vegas defenseman Luca Sbisa and drew Lagace out of the net before swiftly moving to the side and putting the puck in.

Carter finished the scoring on a power-play goal with less than two minutes remaining.

"We talked as a team before the game and said if we want to get in the playoffs," Stevens said, "it's about playing better this time of year, getting better every night, and it was good to see we did that."

NOTES: Campbell and Lagace were teammates in the minors with the Texas Stars and Idaho Steelheads. ... After 11 consecutive starts, No. 1 goalie Marc-Andre Fleury was given the night off for Vegas after losing in Los Angeles on Monday. ... The crowd of 18,328 was the second-largest for a Golden Knights home game. ... Kopitar has points in each of the last three games. ... Vegas, which had scored on the power play in 14 of its last 17 games, was 0 for 4 with the man advantage. ... The Golden Knights dropped to 14-7 following a loss.

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Russians win hockey gold with 4-3 OT win over Germany



Danny Aus den Birken (33), of Germany, and Marcel Goc (57) react after losing during overtime of the men's gold medal hockey game against the Olympic athletes from Russia, 4-3, at the 2018 Winter Olympics, Sunday, Feb. 25, 2018, in Gangneung, South Korea. (AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

By **STEPHEN WHYNO, AP Hockey Writer**

GANGNEUNG, South Korea (AP) — The Olympic anthem was merely background noise, the doping scandal the farthest thing from their minds. As the white flag with the five Olympic rings rose toward the rafters Sunday following the gold medal game in men's hockey, the champion Russians in their nondescript red-and-white uniforms joined their fans cloaked in red, white and blue and belted out the "State Anthem of the Russian Federation," drowning out the recorded song that was required as part of International Olympic Committee sanctions.

This Olympic title meant so much more to the Russians, no matter that the tournament was missing NHL players and the "Olympic Athletes from Russia" were all here only after months of scandal. Joyous players tossed coach Oleg Znarok in the air at center ice as fans let out the same "ROSS-I-YA" chants that filled the arena in Sochi four years ago, where home ice meant nothing as the Russians lost in the quarterfinals. There was no such disappointment this time as the Russians triumphed in the tournament they were favored to win, capturing gold with a 4-3 overtime victory over Germany after Kirill Kaprizov's power-play goal capped a classic final and gave the nation a jubilant moment following weeks of disappointment.

"We understood the whole thing from the start so we were calm about it," coach Oleg Znarok said. "Russia is in our hearts." The win came only a few hours after the IOC decided against allowing the Russians to march under their flag in the closing ceremony Sunday night after a curler and a bobsledder had positive drug tests during the games. It didn't seem to matter to the Russian players that they couldn't wear the Russian Coat of Arms on their chests or that they won their first hockey gold medal since 1992 under the same circumstances as 26 years ago: playing under a neutral flag with the NHL opting to stay home after participating in the past five Olympics.

"The medal is the same with or without the NHL," said defenseman Slava Voynov, who scored the opening goal with 0.5 seconds left in the first period. "Maybe the tournament was a little different, but the emotions and happiness are the same." Russian President Vladimir Putin made a telephone call to Znarok after the victory, which gave the country its second gold and 17th overall medal of the Olympics. Even with Alex Ovechkin, Evgeni Malkin and Sergei Bobrovsky back in North America, this gold medal was particularly sweet because of the backdrop

of sanctions and the Russians' almost three-decade drought. After International Ice Hockey Federation President Rene Fasel put the first Russian hockey medals of any color since 2002 around the necks of each player, Russian Hockey Federation President Vladislav Tretiak — a three-time Olympic gold medalist and Soviet Hall of Fame goaltender — gave out handshakes and hugs. Winning this gold medal at his fifth Olympics meant more to 39-year-old captain Pavel Datsyuk than the two times he lifted the Stanley Cup.

"When you play for your country and I win this medal, this special time it's more important," Datsyuk said. "I have accomplished my dream. Now I have no dream."

The dream Russia couldn't reach with NHL stars finally happened with Kaprizov scoring the winner on the power play 9:40 into overtime as Patrick Reimer sat in the penalty box for a high-sticking infraction.

A silver medal gave Germany its best finish at the Olympics after capturing bronze in 1932 and 1976. "We all thought we would be sitting at home watching that final on the couch at home, but here we are," Germany coach Marco Sturm said. "The boys are going to bring silver home, and they should be very proud." Beating Germany, which stunned eventual bronze-medalist Canada to reach the final, gave the Russians their first gold medal in hockey since 1992 in Albertville when they competed as the Community of Independent States.

This one was expected all along. Stocked with former NHL players — Datsyuk, Voynov, Ilya Kovalchuk, Mikhail Grigorenko and Nikita Nesterov — the Russians were by far the most talented team in the tournament. U.S. coach Tony Granato said they may be as good as 20 of the 31 NHL teams.

Odds makers made the Russians the favorite, and they showed it after an opening loss to Slovakia, getting better as the tournament went on, which was a complete reversal from Sochi.

"It means a lot," said Kovalchuk, who was voted tournament MVP. "This was my dream from when I was 5 years old when I started to play."

The skill primarily from the Kontinental Hockey League was on full display with the gold medal at stake — and the Russians needed it against disciplined, opportunistic Germany, which had all of its players from leagues in its homeland.

Voynov, at the Olympics because he was banned from the NHL in 2015 for a domestic abuse conviction, scored what could've been a back-breaking goal with 0.5 seconds left in the first period, but Germany got a good bounce on a fluky tying goal by Felix Schultz.


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School kids rule: Digital designs are 2020 Olympic mascots

By JIM ARMSTRONG, AP Sports Writer

TOKYO (AP) — The schoolchildren have had their say: A pair of futuristic digital characters will be the mascots for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics.

Organizers unveiled the winning designs at a school in Tokyo on Wednesday.

A total of 205,755 classes at 16,769 elementary schools took part in selecting three short-listed designs, with their classes casting a single vote.

The winning pair, clad in the 'ichimatsu' checkered pattern of the Games' official logo, received 109,041 votes.

"The Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games finally have their mascots," said Ryohei Miyata, head of the mascot selection panel. "This means a lot, especially in Japan. I cannot wait to see these two characters coming to life in the stadiums, on the streets and on TV."

Organizers say the mascots combine tradition with innovation.

Their names will be decided by copywriters and other professionals and announced in July or August.

The selection process involving schoolchildren was introduced to get students enthusiastic about the games while also ensuring transparency.

The original official logo was hit with plagiarism allegations and scrapped.

The designer of the winning mascots is Ryo Taniguchi, who graduated as an art major from Cabrillo College in California, and is currently active as a character designer/illustrator. His work has been featured by companies and at exhibitions in Japan.

The Tokyo Olympics are scheduled for July 24 to Aug. 9, 2020.



Ryo Taniguchi, the designer of the characters, shown in the background, which will serve as mascots for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and Paralympics Games, is celebrated after his design was selected, in Tokyo, Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018. The mascots has been selected after a vote among school children across Japan. The sign reads "Decision! Mascots for the Tokyo 2020."

(AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

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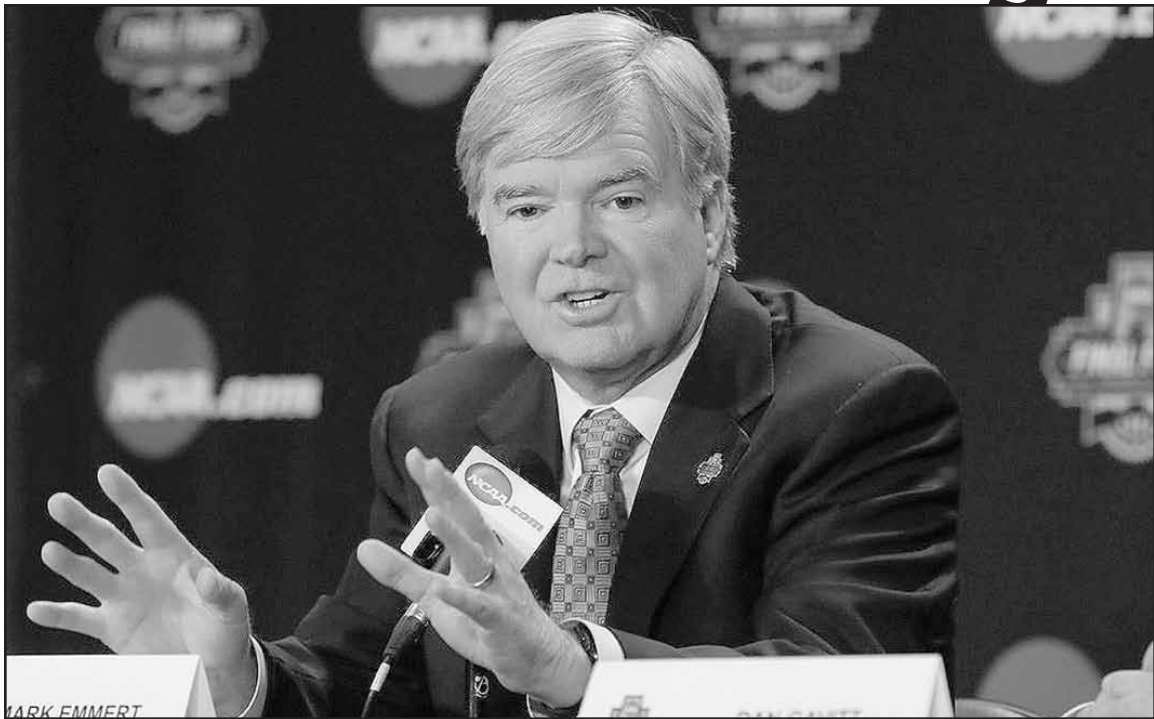
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Plenty of opinions, but few solutions to fix college hoops



FILE - In this March 20, 2017, file photo, NCAA President Mark Emmert answers a question at a news conference in Glendale, Ariz. Emmert is the face and voice of the association, but--unlike a commissioner of a professional league--he has very limited power beyond being a potential catalyst for change.

(AP Photo/Matt York, File)

By **RALPH D. RUSSO**, AP College Sports Writer

The cracked facade of NCAA hoops appears to be crumbling and while LeBron James, John Calipari and many agree that college basketball should be overhauled, there's no consensus on how to repair the system.

A federal investigation has alleged hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes and kickbacks being funneled to influence recruits, an FBI probe that many fans believe reveals just a tiny slice of potential corruption in college sports.

In September, the Justice Department arrested 10 people, including four assistant coaches from Arizona, Southern California, Auburn and Oklahoma State. Payments of up to

\$150,000, supplied by Adidas, were promised to at least three top high school recruits to attend two schools sponsored by the shoe company, according to federal prosecutors.

A report last week by Yahoo! Sports revealed documents showing dozens of prominent players, coaches and schools could be involved in — while likely not criminal behavior — breaking NCAA rules. All this looms over college basketball as March begins, the month when championship tournaments and brackets take center stage across America. The cash cow of college sports that brings in hundreds of millions of dollars to the NCAA annually.

The NCAA has already announced the formation of the commission on college basket-

ball, headed by former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, to recommend changes.

"I don't know if there's any fixing the NCAA. I don't think there is," said James, who never played in college, jumping from high school to the NBA at a time when that had not yet been prohibited by the league.

"The NCAA is corrupt — we know that," the Cleveland Cavaliers superstar said.

Fingers point in several directions about the reasons for the problems, including the NCAA itself, the age limit to enter the NBA, paying college athletes. Here is a more in depth look at some of them:

THE NCAA IS THE SCHOOLS

CURRENTLY: The most common misconception about college sports' governing body is that it is an independent organization that governs the schools. The NCAA is a voluntary association of the schools and that membership ultimately determines the rules — like what payments to an athlete or his family members are allowable. NCAA President Mark Emmert is the face and voice of the association, but — unlike a commissioner of a professional league — he has very limited power beyond being a potential catalyst for change. Or protector of the status quo.

THE TALK: There are 351 schools that play Division I basketball from powerhouse Kentucky to tiny St. Francis College in Brooklyn, New York. Priorities range far and wide and what an Atlantic Coast Conference school sees as a potential fix to the system, an Atlantic Sun school could see as a threat to what little competitive balance exists in D-I. The result is: Many of the potential remedies floated for corruption in college sports don't actually involve NCAA changes.

ONE-AND-DONE

CURRENTLY: The NBA instituted a rule 12 years ago that prohibited players from entering the draft before they were at least 19 and a year removed from high school. The NCAA has no control over this rule. The NFL rule — which requires players be three years removed from high school — is also problematic, but high school aged football players are not generally as close as basketball players to being pro-ready.

THE TALK: There is much buzz about change. One option would be to let pro-ready high school seniors enter the NBA draft and make players who chose to attend college stay at least two years. The rule only impacts the top players. Since 2006, 66 one-and-done players have been NBA draft lottery picks — and that's after a record 11 in last year's draft.

And while age is a hot-button issue, several players who played two or more college seasons were listed in probe documents as potentially accepting impermissible payments, according to Yahoo.

When Pistons coach Stan Van Gundy slammed the NCAA recently as "maybe the worst organization in sports," he pivoted to point blame at the league where he works, even suggesting the one-and-done rule was racist in how it limits black athletes.

"I don't get it. You can get out of high school, you can turn 18, let's say, and go to work anywhere else," Van Gundy said. NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said during the recent All-Star break his league is "conflicted" about one-and-done. The players' union and teams both benefit from players using a year of college to develop skills, mature and grow name recognition before they enter the NBA and start pressuring veteran players.

FARM SYSTEMS

CURRENTLY: The NBA and NFL essentially set up college sports to be a de facto farm system for professional teams and the people who defend college sports want no part of that.

THE TALK: James said the NBA should explore expanding its developmental G League to make it more like major league baseball's farm systems. He also wondered why the United States does not have an athlete development model more like what exists in Europe, where elite soccer players, for example, can get professional development outside of higher education.

"We have to figure out a way that we can shore up our farm league and if kids feel like they don't want to be a part of that NCAA program, then we have something here for them to be able to jump back on and not have to worry about going over-

seas," said James, who said he wants to meet with Silver to discuss his ideas.

PAYING ALL COLLEGE PLAYERS

CURRENTLY: Nixing the one-and-done rule would still leave some college players with value to agents, coaches and shoe companies. And the NCAA has no means to compensate players at full value. But facing pressure from anti-trust lawsuits, NCAA schools changed rules in 2015 to allow athletic scholarships to include a cost-of-attendance stipend. Those payments range from about \$2,000 to \$5,000 per year.

THE TALK: Paying athletes akin to a salary is nonstarter for those in college sports, problematic because of tax issues and federal Title IX requirements. More importantly, schools could never pay an elite athlete enough to eliminate the potential for corruption.

"Whatever you pay them, there's somebody who can pay them more, the guys that they think will be pro prospects, because when they leave, they become a very hot commodity," Tennessee coach Rick Barnes said.

COMPENSATION FOR THE BEST

CURRENTLY: The NCAA not only doesn't allow schools to pay players beyond the value of a scholarship, but also prohibits others from paying athletes for being athletes. This could be where a realistic solution lies. A federal judge ruled in 2014 the NCAA used the names, images and likenesses for athletes for years without proper compensation for things such as video games and merchandise.

THE TALK: "There may be something similar to the Olympic model," Golden State Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "It used to be the Olympians couldn't make a dime. Now you see Michael Phelps or Lindsay Vonn in commercials. They're still in the Olympics. Still doing great. People loved the Olympics. So, there's a way."

AGENTS

CURRENTLY: The NCAA's five wealthiest conferences — the Atlantic Coast Conference, Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-12 and Southeastern Conference — recently passed legislation allowing college hockey players to be represented by an agent before entering school. Similar allowances were already available to baseball players. In both those sports, major professional leagues draft high schoolers.

THE TALK: If the NCAA allowed athletes to have financial agreements and business dealings with agents and companies that wanted to capitalize on their fame and long-term earning potential, the current scandal might not be a scandal at all.

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Snow delays start of 3rd day of Formula 1 testing in Spain

MONTMELO, Spain (AP) — The start of the third day of Formula One testing has been delayed because of snow at the Circuit de Catalunya-Barcelona in Spain.

Parts of the track near Barcelona were covered in snow when teams arrived, forcing cars to stay in the garage indefinitely.

Organizers did not say when the track was expected to reopen. The red flag would remain in place at least until visibility improved and the medial helicopter was able to fly.

Swedish driver Marcus Ericsson of the Sauber team said on Twitter, “Thanks for making me feel at home, Barcelona.”

Cold weather also affected

the first two days of testing, keeping teams from learning much about the new 2018 cars as the track remained without enough grip for proper runs.

There were talks about adding extra days of testing in Barcelona, but the decision would need to be unanimous among the teams.

Thursday is the last of the first four-day test session. The final four-day session in Barcelona starts Tuesday.

The season opens with the Australian GP in Melbourne on March 25.



The Catalunya racetrack with snow covered seating before a Formula One pre-season testing session in Montmelo, outside Barcelona, Spain, Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018. (AP Photo/Manu Fernandez)

UK coroner blames Qatar World Cup site conditions for death

LONDON (AP) — A British coroner has blamed dangerous working practices for the death of a worker on a 2022 World Cup stadium building site in Qatar. An inquest heard that Zachary Cox fell nearly 40 meters in January 2017 when a faulty hoist he was using to put a suspended walkway in place broke at the Khalifa International Stadium in Doha.

The 40-year-old Cox’s safety harness snapped under the weight. He fell head first, sustaining brain injuries and a broken neck. Cox was born in South Africa but later lived in England. Coroner Veronica Hamilton-Deeley told Brighton and Hove Coroner’s Court that site managers “knew or should have known that they were effectively requiring a group of their workers to rely on potentially lethal equipment.”

Hamilton-Deeley described a new system of hoists introduced to speed up construction as “downright dangerous.”

The stadium contractor is Midmac-Six Construct, a venture between Belgian and Qatari firms. World Cup organizers in Doha say four people employed on the project were removed from their jobs and banned from future tournament work.



American Samoa Government DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Request for Public Comment on Special Education Funding Application

The American Samoa Department of Education (ASDOE) Special Education Division (SPED) has for public review its application for funding under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) with the US Department of Education.

These funds are used to provide special education services to all school age children, ages 3 - 21 years, in the territory of American Samoa who have a disability that adversely affects their classroom achievements. As a condition for granting the funds, each State or Territory proposing the application must submit the application for public review and comment. The public must be afforded reasonable opportunities for comment 30 days prior to the submission of the application on May 14, 2018. The public hearing is scheduled for April 12, 2018 at the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Conference Room in Utulei at 2:00pm. The Department of Education must review and give due consideration to all comments and suggestions prior to the submission of the application for funding.

Copies of the application are available at the Special Education Office located in Faga’alu. All persons interested in the application are encouraged to pick up a copy between the hours of 8:00am and 4:00pm. Written comments will also be taken during these hours. Comments and suggestions may also be made via email to Faauifono Vaitautolu at faauitolu@yahoo.com or Dr. Teresa Le’iato Atuatasi at atuajjj_1999@yahoo.com or may be sent surface mail to Dr. Teresa Le’iato Atuatasi, Assistant Director Special Education Division, PO Box ASDOE-SPED, Pago Pago, AS 96799.

Talosagaina Finagalo Lautele mo le Tusi Talosaga mo Alagatupe Fuafuaina o le Ofisa o A’oga Fa’apitoa

Ua tu’uina mai e le Matagaluega o A’oga Amerika Samoa (ASDOE) Ofisa o A’oga Fa’apitoa (SPED) se avanoa e fa’alia ai finagalo fa’alau’itele a le mamalu o le atunu’u mo le alagatupe talosaga i lalo o le Maga B Tulafono mo Tagata o iai Manaoga Fa’apitoa (IDEA) ofisa o A’oga Fa’apitoa (OSEP) o le Matagaluega o A’oga a le Malo Tele o Amerika (USDOE).

O ia alagatupe ua fuafuaina e fa’atino ai a’oa’oga fa’apitoa tu’uina atu mo tamaiti a’oga uma, e amata mai i le 3 - 21 tausaga, i totonu o le Teritori o Amerika Samoa o lo’o iai manaoga fa’apitoa ua fa’afaigata ai taumafaiga taua’oa’oga i totonu o potu a’oga. O se tasi aiaiga mo le taliaina o le talosaga, e tatau i Setete ma Teritori uma o lo’o talosagaina ia alagatupe ona fa’asalalau a latou tusi talosaga mo se finagalo fa’aalia o tagata lautele. E tatau ona lava se avanoa e silasila lelei ai le atunu’u mo le silafia ma tu’uina mai so latou finagalo fa’aalia e tusa e 30 aso ae le’i tu’uina atu le tusi talosaga ia Me 14, 2018. O le a faia se fono fa’alau’itele ia Aperila 12, 2018 i le potu fonotaga i le Ofisa ASDOE Early Childhood Education i Utulei i le itula e 2:00pm. O le a iloiloina e le Matagaluega a A’oga Amerika Samoa finagalo ma manatu fa’aalia a le lautele ma tu’uina atu ni fautuaga ae le’i o’o i le aso fa’atapula’aina o tusi talosaga.

O lo’o maua kopi o lenei tusi talosaga i le Ofisa o A’oga Fa’apitoa i Faga’alu. Mo i latou e mana’omia se kopi o le tusi talosaga, e avanoa le ofisa mai le itula 8:00am i le 4:00pm. O manatu fa’aalia e tauala mai i tusitusiga e mafai ona tu’uina mai i taimi ua fa’atulagaina. A iai nisi manatu ma fautuaga, e mafai ona imeli mai ia Fa’auifono Vaitautolu faauitolu@yahoo.com po’o Teresa Le’iato Atuatasi atuajjj_1999@yahoo.com pe tusi mai ia Teresa Le’iato Atuatasi, SPED Assistant Director, PO Box ASDOE-SPED, Pago

Spring training roundup: Napoli joins Indians, others wait

By The Associated Press

The Cleveland Indians gave Mike Napoli a much more familiar uniform.

The Indians reunited with Napoli on Tuesday, agreeing on a minor league contract with the popular slugger whose powerful swing and clubhouse leadership were key to Cleveland reaching the 2016 World Series.

Napoli had been on the roster to play in Bradenton, Florida, with a group of free agents still looking for jobs. Tyler Clippard, wearing a black jersey with a white players' union logo, pitched two hitless innings in a 2-0 win over amateurs from the East Japan Railway Company.

"It's a situation where a player that is universally respected in our organization, he shouldn't be in that camp," Indians manager Terry Francona said.

Napoli's deal is contingent upon him passing a physical at the Indians' complex in Good-year, Arizona. He hit .193 with 29 home runs and 66 RBIs for Texas last season.

The Indians don't have a roster spot for the 36-year-old Napoli, but Francona wanted to give him an opportunity to showcase himself.

Francona spoke to designated hitter Edwin Encarnacion and first baseman Yonder Alonso and told them Napoli wasn't going to challenge for their jobs. "If we end up helping him out, then we've done a good thing," Francona said. "If anybody deserves it, it's Nap. He did as much as anybody to help us get to the point we could play in a World Series."

Clippard finished last season with Houston. "We know that my year last year was a bad year, but at the end of the day, how bad was it? And it wasn't as bad as some that got significant contracts," the 33-year-old rightly said.

Alejandro De Aza, Jarrod Saltalamacchia and Nolan Reimold were among those in the starting lineup. Neil Walker is taking part, too.

The camp is similar to the one run by the union at Homestead, Florida, following the end of the 1994-95 players' strike. Dave Gallagher attended then as a player and signed with Philadelphia. Now he is a coach under manager Bo Porter.

"They start to lose hope," Gallagher said. "And it's a little bit humiliating."

Top free agents have skipped the camp to continue working out on their own, a group that includes pitchers Jake Arrieta and Alex Cobb and third baseman Mike Moustakas.

AROUND THE GRAPE-FRUIT AND CACTUS LEAGUES:

ORIOLES 2, RAYS 1

Tampa Bay starter Nathan Eovaldi pitched 1 1/3 hitless innings and struck out two in his first game since August 2016, when he had his second Tommy John surgery. Preston Palmiero, son of former Orioles star Rafael Palmiero, was a defensive replacement.

TIGERS 11, PHILLIES 6

Derek Norris went 3 for 3 with his second home run for Detroit. Rhys Hoskins hit his second homer for Philadelphia.

MARLINS 2, NATIONALS 2, 9 INNINGS

Miami starter Dan Straily struck out three in two scoreless innings. Gio Gonzalez gave up a hit over two innings and Tommy Milone fanned three over two fast innings for Washington. Bryce Harper doubled for the only extra-base hit.

PIRATES 3, BRAVES 3, 9 INNINGS

Mike Foltyniewicz pitched two hitless innings for Atlanta and defensive whiz Johan Camargo homered. Jose Osuna had two hits for Pittsburgh.

CARDINALS 6, RED SOX (SS) 1

Shortstop Yairo Munoz got three hits for St. Louis. Brock Holt had two hits for a Boston split squad.

RED SOX (SS) 3, TWINS 2

Sam Travis hit a tiebreaking double in the ninth for Boston's other split squad. Byron Buxton

had two hits for the Twins, and starter Jose Berrios threw a scoreless inning.

YANKEES 9, BLUE JAYS 8

Rookie third baseman Miguel Andujar hit his second spring homer, Danny Espinosa also connected and Austin Romine doubled twice for New York. Former Yankees catcher Russell Martin homered for Toronto and Marco Estrada worked a clean inning.

ASTROS 8, METS 2

Jake Marisnick doubled and drove in two runs and Brad Peacock had a solid outing in his two-inning start for Houston. Mets starter Steven Matz gave up five runs in the second inning. Tim Lincecum struck out and went 0 for 2 as a Mets DH.

GIANTS 14, DIAMOND-BACKS 12

Brandon Belt got three hits and Evan Longoria drew two walks for San Francisco. Starter Jeff Samardzija gave up two runs and four hits in 1 1/3 innings. Arizona's Archie Bradley allowed four runs on four hits and three walks in 1 1/3 innings.

CUBS 6, WHITE SOX 5

Jon Lester made his spring debut and worked 1 2/3 innings, striking out three allowing a run on one hit. J.A. Happ hit the Cubs' second leadoff home run of the spring. Hector Santiago threw three innings of clean relief, striking out four. Jose Abreu doubled and Matt Davidson hit his second home run.

BREWERS 6, REDS 3

Adam Duvall hit a two-run homer for Cincinnati. Eric Thames got his first hit of the spring for Milwaukee and Eric Sogard and Nick Franklin each drove in three runs.

INDIANS 16, A'S 8

Corey Kluber struck out three and gave up a run over two innings in his spring debut. Jason Kipnis homered twice and drove in four runs and newly signed Yonder Alonso doubled for Cleveland. Oakland reliever Yusmeiro Petit gave up a home

(Continued on page B16)

Kane makes immediate impact in Sharks' 5-2 win over Oilers

By JOSH DUBOW, AP Sports Writer

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Evander Kane was so excited about being traded from a last-place team to one in playoff contention that he raced to a cross-country flight in order to jump right into the lineup.

Kane made an immediate impact in his San Jose debut by assisting on two goals during a four-goal second period and delivering a few big hits that helped the Sharks beat the Edmonton Oilers 5-2 on Tuesday night.

"I kind of come from not playing so much meaningful hockey to playing some meaningful hockey," he said. "Obviously, you get a little ramped up and I just tried to change the game in any way I can. It's good to get on the board and contribute offensively and also with some other elements."

Joe Pavelski had a goal and three assists while centering San Jose's top line with Kane on his left wing. Justin Braun, Timo Meier and Logan Couture also scored in the second to help the Sharks snap a three-game losing streak and remain in sole possession of second place in the Pacific Division. Chris Tierney added an empty-net goal.

But the catalyst was Kane, whose arrival from Buffalo allowed coach Peter DeBoer to play four lines with confidence.

"He brings a little bit of everything to the table," DeBoer said. "That's why he's as valuable as he is and as highly thought of as he is in the league. I liked his game tonight. I thought he worked really hard away from the puck. The offense and physicality are

things you take for granted, but I thought defensively and away from the puck, I thought he really worked hard."

Martin Jones allowed a first-period goal by Connor McDavid and a third-period tally by Jesse Puljujarvi but made 24 saves for the win.

The Sharks looked like a different team than the one that stumbled in the final three games of their recent road trip, getting outscored 13-4. General manager Doug Wilson provided a big boost Monday when he dealt two conditional 2019 draft picks and prospect Danny O'Regan to the struggling Sabres for Kane.

Kane got acclimated at the morning skate and moved right onto the top line with Pavelski, his former teammate in Russia during the 2012-13 lockout, and Joonas Donskoi.

That line was San Jose's most dangerous right from the start as Kane had a couple of wraparound attempts in the first period before helping the Sharks get on the scoreboard in the second.

Kane hit Matt Benning in the corner to start the sequence on San Jose's first goal when he sent a shot from the boards that Pavelski redirected past Cam Talbot to tie the game at 1.

"It's a good element for our team right now," Pavelski said. "That's one thing that I think everyone is so excited for, that edge that he plays with. That compete level. You see it right away."

Kane, who had just seven points in his final 26 games with the Sabres, added a secondary assist on Braun's goal that gave the Sharks the lead and then got into a scuffle with Benning

Tuesday...

Continued from page B3

and winning five titles with the Catalan club.

Barcelona said Castro was "a synonym for goals" and "one of the best strikers in Europe in his time."

He played with Sporting from 1968 until 1980, and again after leaving Barcelona to end his career with more than 400 appearances for the club.

The Spanish league said there will be a minute of silence to honor Castro in matches on Wednesday and Thursday.

Castro was the first division's leading scorer five times.

NFL

NEW YORK (AP) — Papa John's is ending its recently stormy role as an official sponsor of the NFL.

Officials at the pizza chain said Tuesday that the two sides agreed to end the relationship, which became strained last year when its founder John Schnatter criticized NFL leadership over national anthem protests by players.

But the company based in Louisville, Kentucky, is not divorcing itself from the league altogether. It says instead it will focus its football marketing efforts on 22 of the league's 32 teams and its star players.

Schnatter blamed slowing sales growth at Papa John's on the outcry surrounding football players kneeling during the national anthem. The company later apologized for the remarks and Schnatter stepped down as CEO at the end of last year.

St. Bonaventure slips past Davidson 117-113 in triple OT

SAINT BONAVENTURE, N.Y. (AP) — Jaylen Adams, Courtney Stockard and Matt Mobley combined to score 96 points and hit all 14 of St. Bonaventure's 3-pointers on Tuesday night to help the Bonnies beat Davidson 117-113 in triple overtime.

The Bonnies (23-6, 13-4 Atlantic 10) have won 11 in a row — the longest win streak in program history — after an 83-73 loss to Davidson on Jan. 19. St. Bonaventure opened a one-game lead over the Wildcats for second place in the conference standings and set a team record for regular-season wins.

Adams had 34 points, Mobley scored 33 and Stockard added a career-high 31 points.

Nelson Caputo was fouled on a 3-point shot from the right wing and hit all three free throws to

make it 108-all and then, on an inbound play, fed Tshiefu Ngalakulondi, who had slipped around a screen into the paint, for a dunk. Mobley made 5 of 6 free throws to cap a 10-0 that made it 115-108 with 30 seconds to go and St. Bonaventure held on from there.

Peyton Aldridge had a career-best 45 points, including eight 3-pointers, and 12 rebounds and Kellan Grady scored a career-high 39 — hitting all 16 of his free-throw attempts — for Davidson (17-11, 12-5).

LaDarien Griffin's layup for the Bonnies made it 78-all with 4.4 seconds left in regulation. Grady's potential winning 3 at the buzzer missed off the back of the rim.

Grady made two free throws with 3.2 seconds left in the first OT to force the second.

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ALLIANCE FOR STRENGTHENING FAMILIES would like to invite the public to a Workshop "Working with LGBT Identified Individuals" on Saturday, Mar 3rd @ 10:00am - 12Noon at the Am. Samoa Community Cancer Coalition Conference Room. For more info, please call 699-0272. [03/02]

LEONE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR CLASS PARENT MEETING on Thursday, March 1st @ 4:30pm at the School Library. For more information, please contact Vini Gaopoa @ 731-1298 or Falanai @ 252-0195 or Sina Tui @ 731-1007. [03/01]

GRASPP (GOD RESTORES AND SAVES PRECIOUS PEOPLE) MINISTRY is seeking non-perishable food donations to feed need families with children in American Samoa. GRASPP MINISTRY is a non-profit 501c3 tax deductible faith-based charity organization. If you would like to bless others with your donation, please call 733-4464 or 699-7569.

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MANA COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICE is now holding support groups for people who suffer from mental illness or any form of disability. Join me every Friday @ 12Noon @ the Alliance office in Nu'uuli. For more info call Liz Mailo @ 272-3257 or 699-0272.

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.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS NETWORK. A parent to parent support group for families with children with disabilities. Contact Sandy 731-3959 (English), Ivorie 770-6678 (Samoan).

SAMOAN SAINTS ORGANIZATION Roadside Clean Up on the 21st and 29th of this month until the end of the year. All are welcomed. Meet in front of Lupelele Elementary School, 5:30pm, rain or shine. Do it for our beautiful island. Contact Jay @ 254-0651 for more info.

URGENT HOMES NEEDED FOR ADULT DOGS being trapped at Lyons Park!! Majority of adult dogs trapped are healthy & very friendly but will be humanly euthanized if no one claims them after 48 hours of being held. PLEASE HELP! Call Mona at 258-4116 or 699-9445.

ASOA General Meetings. Will be held each month on the 3rd Friday at 10am at ASOA Center in Tafuna on Tasi St. All seniors welcome. Questions, call 699-1131 WHEELCHAIRS Old, Battered or Banged up. Pls donate, in any condition to ASOA so we may be able to help someone in need. Call Marysita 770-1838 or 699-1131 SCUBA FISHING BAN It is unlawful to possess any spear while using SCUBA. Marine & Wildlife Resources. 633-4458 / 252-0445.

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HUNTING BAN ON WILD BIRDS & BATS is still in effect - it is unlawful to kill or hunt wild birds & bats. Dept. of Marine & Wildlife 633-4458 / 252-0445

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Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy Parker February 28, 2018

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Chick watcher

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

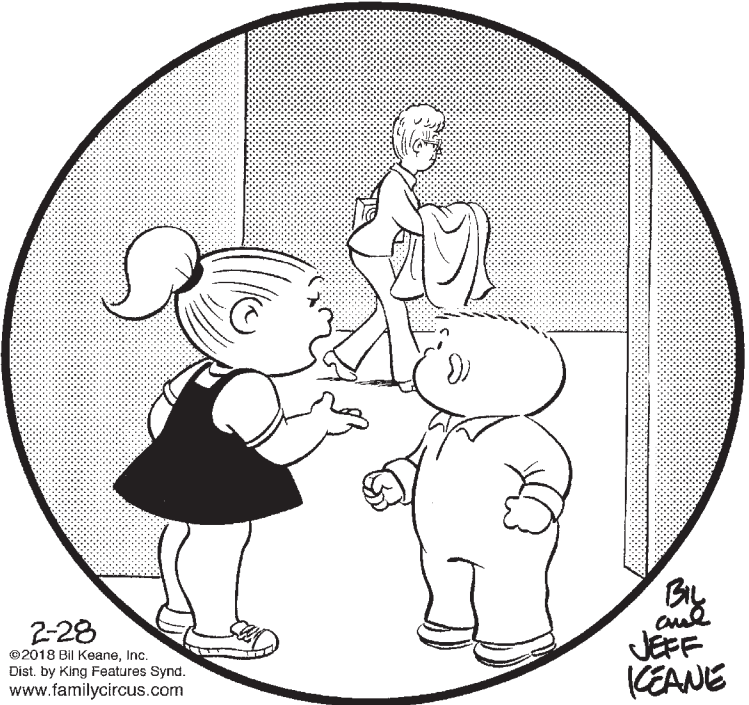
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www.upuzzles.com

MIDDLE AGED 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
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39			40						41	42				
43						44						45		
46				47	48		49					50		
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	55	56					57			58		59	60	61
62								63	64					
65					66						67			
68					69						70			

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



“Grandma can do lots of things around the house. She learned them from Mommy!”

EUGENIA LAST

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

Happy Birthday: Opportunities will require a little work to discover. They will be available to you, but you will miss out if you don't do your part and follow through. Channel your energy into getting ahead personally and professionally. Making special efforts to increase your income or to spend more time with people who have something to offer in return will allow you to explore what's available. Your numbers are 9, 13, 21, 27, 34, 36, 43.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Short trips, exercise and learning are all favored. The more you do, the greater the overall change will be to the way you live life and the people you choose to share your thoughts and ideas with. Explore new interests. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Try to do what you can to help others. The satisfaction you get and the difference you make will give you greater incentive to do more and complain less. Less talk and more action will bring the highest returns. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The simpler, the better. If matters become too convoluted, you will end up confused and trying to compensate for something you shouldn't. Stick close to home and concentrate on making personal improvements. Don't put up with someone's mind games. 4 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Watch what your peers do and consider how to best make use of your skills to complement what others are offering. Doing your best to fit in will lead to greater popularity and the chance to move into a key position. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Change can be good if you think matters through before you lay your money on the table. Don't trust anyone to look out for you. Negotiate on your own behalf and be prepared to walk away from unfair situations. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep costs in mind. Downsizing or making your living arrangements more efficient and affordable is a good place to begin. Don't get angry or keep secrets that will need to be revealed in order to bring about change. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll have a change of heart. Look at the pros and cons before you disrupt your home and personal life. Try to find ways to combine others' talents rather than being divisive in the way you handle situations and people. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put in the hours and don't stop until you have taken care of business. The changes you implement will be helpful when dealing with people you want to incorporate into your plans. Embrace change and don't be afraid to be unique.***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can make personal changes that will improve your life and your health. Get into a fitness routine and start paying more attention to what you eat. Being the best you can be will translate into personal success. ****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll be pulled in two different directions. Your common sense will take you one way and your desire and impulse will take you another. If you find that you are drifting into uncomfortable territory, stop, regroup and rethink your options.***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Try your hand at helping others or giving back to your community. You'll be pleasantly surprised by the way it makes you feel and the friendships you develop. Exercise, proper diet and a positive attitude should be a priority. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take the time to fine-tune whatever job you are given. Your attention to detail will make a difference when presenting what you have accomplished. Update your look and engage in events that are conducive to working with people you can learn from. ***

Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

OFF-AND-ON RELATIONSHIP MAY BE OFF AGAIN AFTER CONFESSION

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Al," and I have been together for two years off and on. We dated casually for six months before we decided to be exclusive. Unbeknownst to him, I was also sleeping with someone else, "Brandon." Al and I had a fight and broke up for a few months, and during that time I slept with another good friend of mine, "Marc." When Marc and I decided it wasn't serious and moved on, Al and I got back together. I didn't feel obligated to tell Al about it at the time, since "technically" I did nothing wrong. But as we became more and more serious, it occurred to me that it was a lie of omission, since we interact with both men on a social level. I told Al, and he isn't handling it well, so now I'm at a loss about what to do. Honesty and time are key, I know, but he is distancing himself from me. Do I let him go? I am fighting hard right now, but I'm feeling beaten down at every turn. -- WRONG IN THE EAST

DEAR WRONG: Not all relationships last forever. It's possible that this one has run its course.

If you and Al had agreed you would both be abstinent after the separation, he has reason to be upset. If you had promised each other there would be an accounting of who each of you had been with and you didn't live up to it, I can see why he would be distancing. However, if an understanding wasn't in place, then you were free to be with others and you did nothing wrong. If Al no longer wants to be with you -- for whatever reason -- you have no choice but to let him go. For your sake, quit allowing yourself to be beaten down and make it as painless for yourself as possible.

DEAR ABBY: Is it wrong to paint my 2 1/2-year-old boy's fingernails when he begs me to? I'm a stay-at-home mom and very close with my son. When I paint my nails (I paint them pink), my son sees me and insists I paint his toes and fingers "just like Mommy." I see it as all in fun, but my mother-in-law makes snide comments about him being a boy and that boys shouldn't have their nails painted. My husband has also said I should stop. I know my son will want me to paint his nails only a little while longer. It's not harming anyone, and I'm sick of all the gender barriers. Am I wrong here? -- PRETTY IN PINK

DEAR PRETTY: Your mother-in-law appears to think that polishing your 2-year-old's nails will "make" him effeminate. It's no more valid than her not doing it has "made" your husband masculine. Ignore the snide remarks because you are not going to change her.

Whether your little boy wants you to continue painting his nails pink -- or, for that matter, to wear something pink -- is far less important than making sure he knows you love and support him and it's OK to be HIMSELF. That's the way parents raise confident and successful children.

DEAR ABBY: What is your opinion about elderly parents who no longer drive having to pay their children to drive them to appointments, grocery, etc.? Think of all the times parents drove them when they were growing up. -- RETURNING THE FAVOR

DEAR RETURNING THE FAVOR: Most adult children with a memory would never dream of asking to be paid for driving their elderly parents. A child who would do this must be desperate for money. In my opinion, because they are paying for it anyway, the parents should make other arrangements for transportation.

Ripley's Believe It or Not!



JOY MILNE
OF PERTH, SCOTLAND, CAN ACCURATELY IDENTIFY PEOPLE DIAGNOSED WITH PARKINSON'S BY SMELL!



QUEEN ELIZABETH II IS THE ONLY PERSON IN THE UNITED KINGDOM WHO CAN LEGALLY DRIVE WITHOUT A LICENSE!



DURING AND AFTER WAR, MORE MALES THAN FEMALES ARE BORN, AND NO ONE KNOWS WHY!

2-28

Calvin & Hobbes © by Bill Watterson

WE'RE HOME! HI, ROSALYN.

HOW WAS CALVIN TONIGHT?

..OH... THAT BAD, EH?

...AND A FIVE DOLLAR ADVANCE ON THE NEXT TIME.

(SIGH) HERE YOU ARE. GOOD NIGHT. THANKS AGAIN.

SHE'S GOT A REAL RACKET GOING, DOESN'T SHE?

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO, STAY HOME EVERY NIGHT UNTIL CALVIN'S EIGHTEEN?

PEANUTS © by Charles M. Schultz

I GOT A FAILING GRADE ON MY OCEAN REPORT..

THAT TEACHER WANTED ME TO TELL ALL I KNOW ABOUT OCEANS! THEY'LL NEVER GET ME TO TELL ALL I KNOW! NEVER!

THEY CAN THREATEN ME OR BEAT ME OR TORTURE ME, BUT I'LL NEVER TELL ALL I KNOW! I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY DO TO ME, I'LL NEVER TELL ALL I KNOW!!

THEY CAN KICK ME! THEY CAN PUNCH ME! THEY CAN..

SOMEHOW, I DON'T THINK YOU UNDERSTAND..

TALES

huff puff

GUN THREAT! I'M GOING IN AND TACKLING HIM WITH MY BARE HANDS!

NRA

A HUG IS A LITTLE BIT LIKE A TACKLE.

A SCHOOL MASSACRE IS A LITTLE BIT LIKE AN EDUCATION.

ANDREWS McMEEL SYNDICATION 2/28 © 2018 THE WASHINGTON POST

ZIGGY ©

THIS IS YOUR PARK. ENJOY IT! (Within Reason)

2/28

Hagar the Horrible © by Chris Brown

LUCKY EDDIE, HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THAT AN APPLE A DAY KEEPS THE DOCTOR AWAY?

NO, BUT I'M HAPPY FOR THE HEADS-UP!

I'M ALLERGIC TO STRAWBERRIES MYSELF!

2-28

GARFIELD © by Jim Davis

BEWARE OF DOG

A STINKY

WET DOG!

OKAY, I'M OUT

2-28

Sudoku Pacific

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

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

2/28 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Tuesday's Puzzle Answer


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

2/28



The visiting presenters for the Keep Exemplary Educators Enriched Program [KEEEP] are Dr. Tom Granoff, PhD., from Pepperdine University who is also the president and founder of the Granoff Corporation; and Dr. Marilyn Simon, PhD., faculty advisor at Walden University and also president and co-founder of Best Prep. Inc. Simon spent four years teaching in the Kingdom of Tonga.
DOE Director Dr. Ruth Matagi Tofiga joined the duo yesterday in kicking off the week-long KEEEP Program training workshop for local educators at the Gov. H. Rex Lee Auditorium in Utulei.

[photo: Leua Aiono Frost]




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► Spring...

Continued from page B12

run in his inning of relief.

ROYALS 14, MARINERS (SS) 9

Kansas City starter Willy Peralta gave up four earned runs and four hits in one inning. Whit Merrifield tripled and doubled. Andrew Moore, vying for a spot in the Seattle rotation, had a rough spring debut, giving up six runs on seven hits in 1 1/3 innings.

RANGERS 4, DODGERS 4, 9 INNINGS

Rougned Odor doubled, walked and stole his second base of the spring. Joey Gallo doubled in a run and scored for Texas. Kenta Maeda debuted with two solid innings for Los Angeles.

ANGELS 5, ROCKIES 2

Shohei Ohtani went 0 for 3 in his second game as the DH for Los Angeles. Matt Shoemaker worked 2 1/3 innings, scattering three hits and a run. Colorado starter Jon Gray allowed three hits and two runs over two innings.

PADRES 11, MARINERS (SS) 6

Eric Hosmer made his debut in a Padres uniform and had a hit in three at-bats. Clayton Richard gave up two runs on two hits in the start. Austin Hedges hit his second home run of the spring. Seattle's James Paxton made his spring debut and allowed a hit and a walk over two innings. Jean Segura homered and drove in three runs with two hits.