

Ruston Daily Leader

Thursday, August 10, 2023 Follow us: [f](#) [t](#) www.rustonleader.com 75¢

2023
ELECTION DAY OCTOBER 14
Races shape up as qualifying continues
Leader Staff Report
 At least one more Lincoln Parish Police Jury race is in the offing, and several more incumbents are now officially in the running as candidate qualifying for the Oct. 14 primary continues. Here's a list of the qualifiers as of mid-afternoon Wednesday:
 Lincoln Parish Sheriff: Stephen Williams, no party, incumbent.
 Clerk of Court: Linda Cook, no party, incumbent.
 Assessor: Billy Mac McBride, Republican, incumbent.
 Coroner: Dr. James Michael "Mike" Beue, Independent, incumbent.
 Lincoln Parish Police Jury District 1: Will Edwards, Independent; Greg "Big Coach" Williams, Democrat; Theresa Wyatt, Democrat, incumbent.
 Lincoln Parish Police Jury District 2: Karen Ludley, Democrat; Tommie Woods, Republican. Incumbent Hazel Hunter is not seeking reelection.
 Lincoln Parish Police Jury District 3: Dan Lord, Republican.
 Lincoln Parish Police Jury District 4: T.J. Cranford, Republican, incumbent.
 Lincoln Parish Police Jury District 5: Logan Hunt, Republican, incumbent.
 Lincoln Parish Police Jury District 6: John C. Cole, Republican; Glenn Scriber, Republican, incumbent.
 Lincoln Parish Police Jury District 7: Matthew Pullin, Republican, incumbent.
 Lincoln Parish Police Jury District 8: **See QUALIFYING, page 5**

Test scores data dive

Takeaways from Lincoln Parish LEAP results

By Caleb Daniel
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As announced last week, this spring's standardized test results showed the Lincoln Parish School District was among the top 10 in its percentage of students demonstrating proficiency in core subjects, as well as first overall statewide in growing that number year to year. This week we explore more specifics shown in the results, including some of the district's strengths and areas for improvement.

Race gap
 When it comes to measuring student achievement, "proficiency" is the goalpost. Students demonstrate proficiency in a subject if they score in the top two categories on the LEAP test. That's Louisiana's measure for whether a student has mastered that year's content. Whether in Lincoln Parish or across the state or country, a significant gap has long persisted in test results between white students and Black students. In 2022 the gap in Lincoln Parish was 35 percentage points, as 55% of white students and just 20% of Black students scored as proficient on their LEAP tests that spring. The gap didn't change this year, as proficiency in both groups rose by five points—60% among white students and 25% among Black students.

See TEST SCORES, page 5

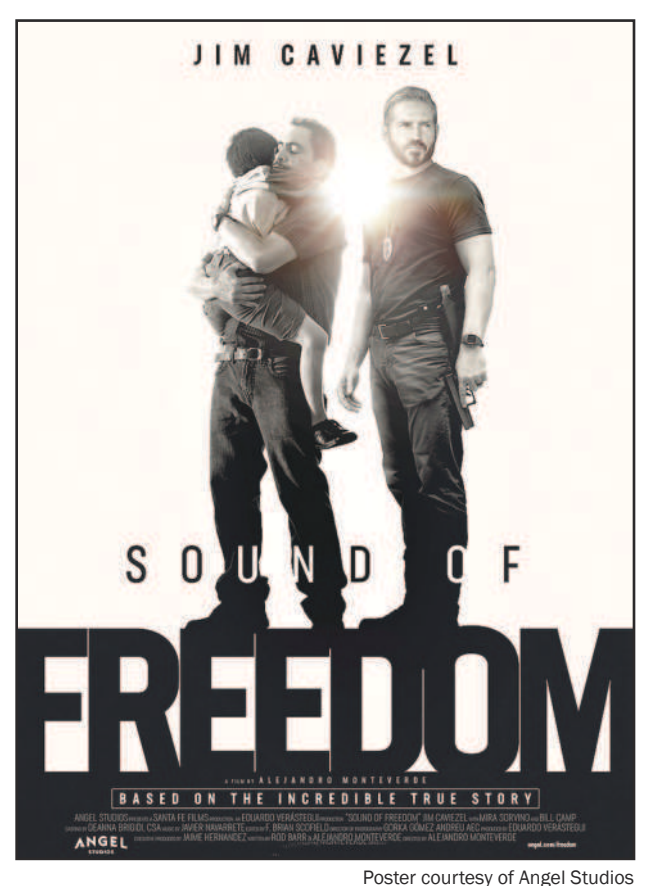
Exposing darkness of trafficking

Crawford believes 'Sound of Freedom' moves movie-goers

Editor's note: This is the first of a three-part series on local reaction to the movie "Sound of Freedom" by those who work with trafficking cases.

By Brian Trahan
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Lindsey Crawford and Freedom13 are on the frontlines of human trafficking. They live it day-in and day-out. There is no script or Hollywood director when they house a recovering victim. But when the staff of Freedom13 saw the movie "Sound of Freedom," it was a chance for her and her staff to see a global problem on a big scale as opposed to their own frontline experience. "I was actually hesitant to see the movie at first," Crawford, the founder of Freedom13, a Ruston-based ministry that counsels trafficking victims and spreads awareness. "I honestly thought it would be very difficult to watch," Crawford added. "The stories we deal with are different. Seeing the movie allowed me to see what it looks like when it's played out on a large scale." "Sound of Freedom" is based on a true story about Tim Ballard, a former government agent in the United States who dedicated his life post-career to rescuing children from sex traffickers on a global scale. The movie centers on **See SOUND OF FREEDOM, page 5**



Poster courtesy of Angel Studios
"Sound of Freedom," which is still showing at Ruston's Celebrity Theatres, exposes the darkness of human trafficking on a global scale.

Police jury complies with new remote attendance law

By Caleb Daniel
 caleb@rustonleader.com

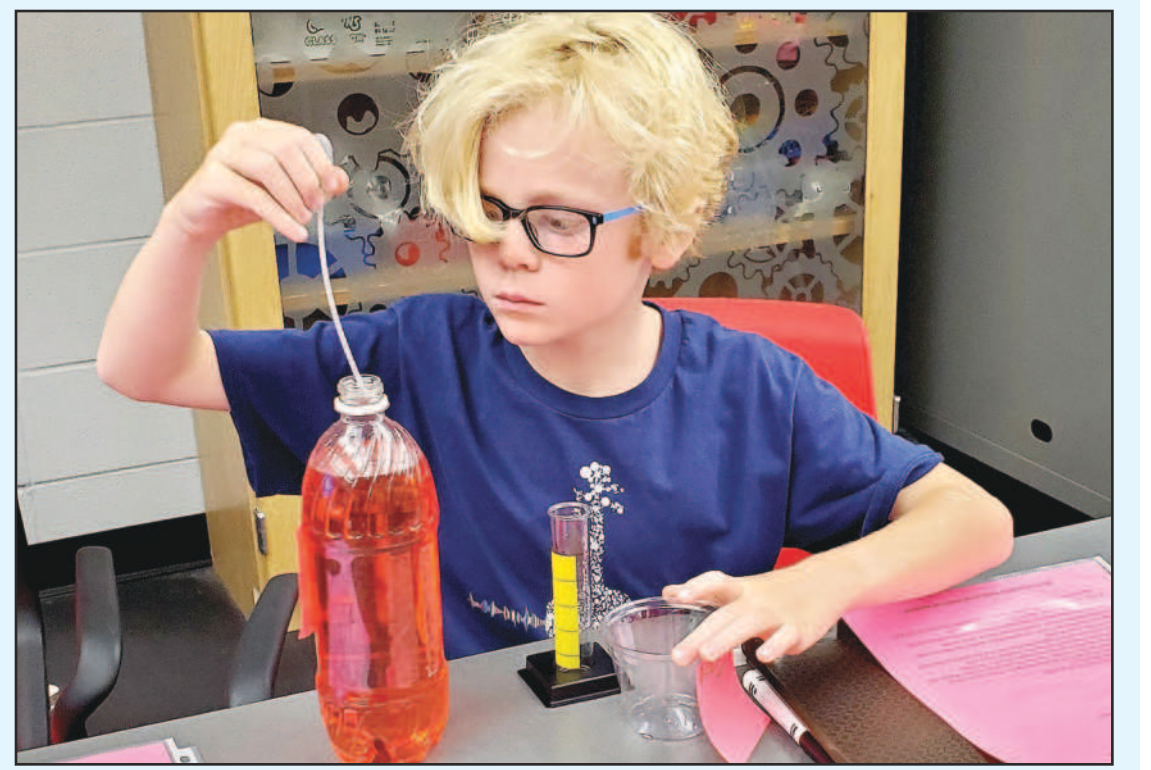
In a dry meeting Tuesday evening amidst qualifying for election to the next jury term, Lincoln Parish police jurors were given a demonstration of a newly adopted policy that would allow citizens with disabilities to participate in future meetings remotely. A new act of the state Legislature that went into effect on Aug. 1 requires local governments to adopt policies that give anyone with a disability recognized by the Americans with Disabilities Act the opportunity to offer public comments virtually. Assistant Parish Administrator Kevin Klepzig and Treasurer Michael Sutton demonstrated how that would work for the police jury, which adopted its version of that policy at Tuesday's meeting. Staff are already recording meetings on the Zoom platform. Now, citizens with a disability can call the police jury office at 318-251-5150 and request a link to that Zoom room for any upcoming meeting. Citizens attending in such a manner would have their camera and microphone disabled until the public comment period, at which time staff would unmute their microphone only and allow for comments under the same rules as in-person comments. A backup option should Zoom fail or be inaccessible to the citizen is for them to call in to the conference room telephone and be placed on speaker phone. The Lincoln Parish School Board has also adopted its own policy to comply with this new law. Another legislative change also requires boards to have a policy that would allow one of its own members with a disability to participate and even vote by remote means. Administrator Courtney Hall told jurors their version of that policy is still in the works and wasn't ready for Tuesday's meeting.

AROUND THE PARISH

Ruston sells used police cars to Village of Simsboro

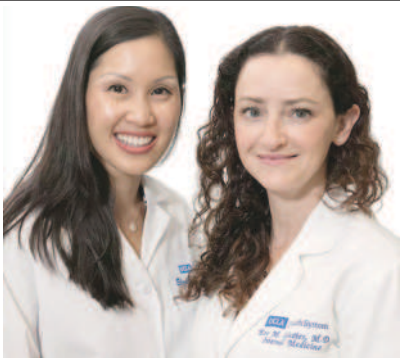
By Nancy Bergeron
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Law enforcement in the Village of Simsboro is getting some much-needed help from the City of Ruston in the form of two used police cars. Ruston's Board of Aldermen on Monday agreed to sell the 2015 Chevrolet Tahoes to the village for \$500 each. Police Chief Gene Butler is thrilled. "This will help us because the stuff we have is all outdated, and it's breaking down and costing us a lot of money that we don't have," he said. Only one of the village's three patrol cars is, as Butler put it, "temporarily operable," but the 15-year-old vehicle has transmission problems and no air conditioning. "It's falling down, that's all there is to it," Butler said. The Tahoes, each with slightly more than 41,000 miles on them, were going to be sold at auction, then Simsboro contacted Ruston asking about possible used vehicles it wanted to sell. Mayor Ronny Walker called the pending sale a "neighbor-to-neighbor swap." "It's good for the city and good for Lincoln Parish," he said. Butler said the Ruston cars should carry his department another four to five years. "It's really a blessing," he said.



Leader photo by Cathi Cox-Boniol

Environmental Extravaganza at Tech
 Region 8 LaSTEM campers focused on environmental themes and how human impact affects the world around them this week as part of the STEMpede summer. Grey Cumbie explores "Where in the World is the Water?" The week was a great way to bring Summer STEMpede 2023 to an exciting conclusion while helping students see themselves as agents for change. **See more photos on page 3.**



ASK THE DOCTORS

Elizabeth Ko MD & Eve Glazier MD, MBA

Fire ants need professional mitigation measures

Hello, dear readers, and welcome back to our monthly letters column. With our inboxes still overflowing, we'll get right down to business.

— We received a lot of letters in response to a column about fire ants and their painful bites. The mail came from all parts of the country, which shows how far these aggressive insects have spread. For managing pain from a sting, several readers swear by a first-aid device designed specifically for bug bites. It's widely available online and at big-box retail stores. "It's a suction cup that you use on each individual bite or sting to suck out the venom, reducing the effects," a reader said. "We use it on fire ant bites, and it works on mosquitoes, too!"

— Also on the topic of fire ants, a reader from Vero Beach, Florida, was repeatedly swarmed and stung while helping her husband in their garden. "One time, I was on the concrete sidewalk, not even touching any dirt, and I had the same results," she wrote. "You need professional help to eradicate them. If you just get them to move out of your yard, you're sending them to your neighbors."

Fire ants are swift, invasive and dangerous. You can be bitten before you ever see them." Her advice echoes that of several other readers, who say they needed professional intervention to make their yards safe for children, pets and themselves.

— A reader who wants to follow the advice to take a brisk walk every day wonders what that entails. "I am 80 years old and walk twice a day for 20 to 30 minutes," they wrote. "The advice I hear almost always says to walk briskly. But how fast is brisk?" While brisk sounds as though it has to do with speed, the goal is actually a specific level of exertion. This can be evaluated by breath capacity.

A brisk pace means you can manage the short sentences of a chat, but the sustained outflow of breath needed for singing would not be possible. When the pace needed for a brisk walk isn't possible due to physical limitations, carrying light weights, adding arm movements or choosing a path with a slight incline can increase intensity. It's wise to check with your health care provider about any changes you plan to make to your existing exercise routine.

— A column that referenced a pill-based colonoscopy prep also got a lot of mail. "Is it true there's a colonoscopy prep pill?" a reader asked. "FDA approved?" The answer to both questions is yes.

The FDA approved the first tablet for colonoscopy prep in November 2020. Known as SUTAB, it's an alternative for some people who can't use liquid colonoscopy prep solutions. It's not right for everyone, and it can have side effects. Your doctor can advise you if it may be an option.

Thank you, as always, for your letters. We love hearing your thoughts, are grateful for your kind words and are thrilled to know these columns engage you, and even help.

Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu.



Simple ways to encourage

YOUNG ARTISTS

No two students are the same. Some students may love to read and naturally gravitate toward English class, while others may be fascinated by the world around them and find nothing stokes their academic passions quite like the study of physics.

A passion for a given subject can make students more excited about school. But what about students with a passion for art? Many school districts have drastically cut back on fine arts classes.

In the face of budget cuts, parents may need to take a more active role in support of their children's passion for art. The following are some ways parents can encourage that passion.

- **Recognize the educational value of art.** PBS notes that creative activities are some of the building blocks of child development. While schools may be shifting their focus to common core subjects like mathematics, parents should recognize that art can be incredibly valuable to young minds as well. For example, art can help young children

develop language skills, as creating art projects, even while just a toddler, often compels children to talk about their art.

- **In addition, a recent report from Americans for the Arts found that art education strengthens problem-solving and critical-thinking skills.** If parents recognize the value of art, students are more likely to follow suit and reap all the rewards that art education provides.

- **Allow children the freedom to create.** While technique is important for artists, young artists can benefit from some space. Other subjects are necessarily structured, but art sessions can be a great time for kids to simply explore their creativity without much interference from parents or educators.

A designated room for arts, including arts and crafts, can

illustrate to children that their interest in the arts is important and worthy of exploration.

- **Keep supplies well-stocked.** Much like parents of young athletes enroll them in sports leagues or purchase the latest equipment, parents of children with a passion for art can indulge that passion by enrolling them in local art classes and keeping them well-stocked with art supplies.

Even if the supplies are as simple as crayons and construction paper, their availability can send kids the message that their passion for art is not taken lightly.

The arts can benefit students in myriad ways.

If local school districts no longer offer art programs, it's up to parents to find ways to encourage their children's love of art.

A passion for a given subject can make students more excited about school

Tips to get your student prepped for college entrance exams

A lot of emphasis is placed on college entrance exams, and your child may be anxious about their scores.

To adequately prepare for the SAT or ACT, consider these tips:

- **Practice, practice, practice:** Encourage your student to take free online practice tests early and often. Not only is this an effective way to get familiar with the types of questions that will be on the test, it can give your child a sense of where they stand currently and help them identify areas where they may need some extra review.

- **Build vocabulary:** Getting familiar with some of the more frequently used words on the test is important.

Select a few words to master each day with flash cards. Hopefully, students will start to

see etymological patterns that will help them make educated guesses when they don't know a word.

- **Take a break:** It's tempting to assume a last-minute study session the evening before the exam is going to make or break their performance, but a mental breather is actually a better use of time. Urge your child to get a good night's sleep not just the night before the test, but that entire week.

Pre-test jitters may lead to insomnia, but having a solid foundation of rest will help ensure your student is alert on test day. The morning of the test, encourage them to eat a healthy, filling breakfast and do activities that will warm up their brain, such as reading a book or solving a crossword puzzle.

Sufficient prepara-

tion and great study tools can alleviate college entrance exam anxieties so that your

student walks into their testing center with confidence. (StatePoint)

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

August 9
Tony Weaver

August 10
Shirley Modest

August 13
Debbie Williams
Larry Simonton
Sammie Singleton
Bobby Williams, Sr.

August 14
Yolanda Wilson
Shamik'a Hill

August 15
William J. Rutledge, 96 yrs.
Brydon Hagger, 20 yrs.

August 16
Brenda Matthew, 16 yrs.

August 17
Alfreda Spencer

August 18
Delphine Lewis
Lettie Smith
Rev. Paul Love
Willie Davis, 79 yrs.

August 19
Ada Joseph
Stanley Williams
Valerie Hudson

August 22
LaQuisha Weaver McGlothen

August 24
Argusta Wilson

To have a celebration published call 255-4353 at least three days prior.

COMING TO THE DIXIE!
Saturday, August 12, 7pm
Stephanie Trick & Paolo Alderighi
Pioneers in the use of four hands piano in jazz.

DIXIE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

WWW.DIXIECENTER.ORG

STEMpede Camp wraps up at Tech ...



Leader photos by Cathi Cox-Boniol

The SCILS Region 8 LaSTEM Team closed out a full “STEMpede” of summer of STEM camps with its “Environmental Extravaganza!” experience this week. Using technology, literature, robots, engineering design and every day materials, students explored activities such as “A Plume Mystery,” “Diving into Deadly Waters,” “Beads, Bugs and Bioassessment,” and “Tasty Water.” Alexander Moore and Mia Le (right) evaluate the results of the “Point and Nonpoint Pollution” experience while Kinzee Williams and Abigail Williams (left) test contaminated soil during “The pH Pucker.”

Louisiana National Guard Patriot Scholarship now in effect

By Sgt. David Kirtland
National Guard Public Affairs

NEW ORLEANS – House Bill 485, sponsored by Rep. Ken Brass, which created the Louisiana National Guard Patriot Scholarship Program, was signed into law by Gov. John Bel Edwards in June and went into effect this month.

The Louisiana National Guard Patriot Scholarship Program, which is used in conjunction with the Louisiana State Tuition Exemption Program, will cover the cost of rising mandatory fees of Louisiana public postsecondary education institutions.

“It’s historical. It has never been done in Louisiana National Guard history. This bill essentially gives our Louisiana Guardsmen and women the ability to graduate from any state funded undergraduate program debt free,” said Leonard



Photo by Sgt. David Kirtland

Maj. Gen. Keith Waddell (fifth from left), the adjutant general of Louisiana, Gov. John Bel Edwards (center), Rep. Ken Brass, D-Vacherie and other LANG leadership at the signing of House Bill 485 which created the Louisiana National Guard Patriot Scholarship to cover mandatory fees for Guardsmen and women attending state-funded postsecondary education institutions at the state capitol in Baton Rouge in late July.

Acker, Louisiana National Guard Deputy Education Services Officer.

All Louisiana Army and Air National Guard service members are eligible for the Patriot Scholarship.

To enroll in the program, LANG service members must be a member of good standing with the LANG, eligible for STEP and have

not used the Patriot Scholarship for more than 12 semesters or 16 quarters.

“Essentially, the Patriot Scholarship works in conjunction with STEP which allows Louisiana Guardsmen and women to get an education tuition free. Additionally, it pays for the expensive mandatory fees associated with post-secondary

education,” said Acker. The average undergraduate tuition and fees are \$8,560 for in-state students and \$16,008 for out-of-state students.

The 2022-2023 undergraduate tuition and fees of colleges in Louisiana have increased by 1.25% compared to the previous year.

“Adding this education accessibility will

give service members access to skills and education that will absolutely enhance their career competency in their military service, but more importantly, their civilian careers,” said Acker.

To use this benefit, the process is similar to STEP. All participating schools will have a list of service members eligible for STEP and

the Patriot Scholarship. Service members who are not on the list, can contact the LANG Education Services Office who will assist with proving their eligibility to their desired school.

More information regarding the Louisiana National Guard Patriot Scholarship Program can be found at <https://geauxguard.la.gov/patriot-scholarship>.

Nagasaki mayor urging to abolish nuclear weapons on 78th anniversary of bomb

TOKYO (AP) — Nagasaki marked the 78th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of the city Wednesday with the mayor urging world powers to abolish nuclear weapons, saying nuclear deterrence also increases risks of nuclear war.

Shiro Suzuki made the remark after the

Group of Seven industrial powers adopted a separate document on nuclear disarmament in May that called for using nuclear weapons as deterrence.

“Now is the time to show courage and make the decision to break free from dependence on nuclear deterrence,” Nagasaki Mayor Shiro

Suzuki said in his peace declaration Wednesday, “As long as states are dependent on nuclear deterrence, we cannot realize a world without nuclear weapons.”

Russia’s nuclear threat has encouraged other nuclear states to accelerate their dependence on nuclear weapons or enhance capabilities,

further increasing the risk of nuclear war, and that Russia is not the only one representing the risk of nuclear deterrence, Suzuki said.

The United States dropped the world’s first atomic bomb on Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, destroying the city and killing 140,000 people. A second attack three days

later on Nagasaki killed 70,000 more people. Japan surrendered on Aug. 15, ending World War II and its nearly half-century of aggression in Asia.

At 11:02 a.m., the moment the bomb exploded above the southern

Japanese city, participants at the ceremony observed a moment of silence with the sound of a peace bell.

Suzuki expressed concern about the tragedy being forgotten as time passed and memories fade.

Single ticket wins \$1.58 billion Mega Millions jackpot

NEPTUNE BEACH, Fla. (AP) — A single ticket sold in Florida is good for a \$1.58 billion Mega Millions jackpot, ending weeks of anticipation over who would win the eye-popping top prize.

A Publix grocery store in Neptune Beach sold the winning ticket, according to the Florida Lottery. The winning numbers drawn Tuesday night were 13, 19, 20, 32, 33 and the yellow ball 14.

James F. Davis, secretary of the Florida Lottery, said Wednesday that officials don’t yet know who bought the winning ticket. He noted that the person has 180 days to present the ticket to lottery officials in Tallahassee to receive the winnings.

“These individuals are going to perhaps

contact a lawyer, contact a financial adviser and make sure they get their ducks in a row,” Davis told The Associated Press. “Because as you know when you are a winner you have an opportunity to be able to make such a difference in so many individual lives.”

Davis was in Iowa on Wednesday for a meeting of the Multi-State Lottery Association.

“I actually walked into the meeting room and everyone proceeded to start clapping, which was pretty exciting and exhilarating all at the same time,” he said.

Davis said he had been holding out hope that Florida would get a big winner in one of the multi-state lottery games, such as Mega Millions and Powerball.

“I’ll just tell you the last two winners of the Powerball have been in California, and I’ve been keeping my fingers crossed for the next winner to be here in the state of Florida,” he said.

One Publix grocery employee arriving for work at the Neptune

Beach store saw another and said “Mary, did you win the billion dollars?”

“Nope, and I assume you didn’t, either,” replied the other.

A message was left Wednesday seeking comment from Publix about the ticket sold in Neptune Beach.

TUFF TALK

When America was at its best in the Middle East

I can't believe it's been 34 years. Occasionally events happen in our lives that are so indelible in one's mind that the event remains crystal clear over the years. So vivid are these memories that they feel as if they happened only yesterday.

For me one of these occasions was the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq — an event that eventually changed the face of the Middle East and ultimately revamped the politics of the world. I can't believe it has been over three decades. In the summer of 1989 I was returning to my job with Aramco in Saudi Arabia.

My family was driving me to Shreveport to catch my flight. As we drove past the race track the news on the radio detailed negotiations between Iraq and Kuwait being hosted by Saudi Arabia in the Red Sea city of Jeddah.

Iraq wanted reimbursement for oil it claimed Kuwait had taken from an oil field that straddled the Iraqi/Kuwaiti border, plus it wanted more of the physical oil field. I was surprised, as Kuwait had just bankrolled Iraq in its disastrous war with Iran plus provided a forward observation base on its island of Falaka.

Five days later and I would be eating dinner at the company's restaurant in Abqaiq with three British friends. It was a Wednesday, and the work week was over. Wednesday in the Muslim world is the same as Friday in the Western world. In the evening the temperature dropped with the sun and it was a pleasant upper 80s.

The restaurant was pleasant, clean and served meals cafeteria style. Following conversation and dinner I returned to my small apartment to settle into a cool evening and escape the incessant 110-plus degree heat of the day. Normally I would not watch the Saudi Arab news, but for some reason I thought I would turn it on this night.

The news was usually slanted and always negative toward Israel, which could not be mentioned by name but was instead referred to as occupied Palestine. But on the evening of Aug. 1, one news item caught my attention. The talks between Iraq and Kuwait that were hosted by Saudi Arabia had ended.

The news cast said that there was no negotiated settlement; however, both countries had agreed to meet at a future time. About an hour later I went upstairs and laid down on the cool bed and thought of home. I tuned on the British Broadcasting Company, BBC, radio station to catch the news. American Armed Forces radio was not available and the Voice of America was very difficult to find so the BBC provided

the best nonbiased news in the region. It was that broadcast that announced that the talks between Iraq and Iran had collapsed, both delegations had left Jeddah and there were no plans scheduled for future talks.

I thought how apropos this was. Saudi Arabia had originally glossed over the real issue. Then the announcement came that troops were moving toward the Kuwaiti border. "Saber rattling," I thought. After all Kuwait had done so much for Iraq. I drifted off to sleep and the BBC went off the air at mid-night. At six in the morning of Aug. 2, BBC came on the air with its traditional trumpet blowing followed by "this is London." That was followed with the announcement that all news programming was cancelled to cover the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq. We were at war. This was one of America's finest hours as the United States led a coalition that ultimately removed Iraq from Kuwait.

Over time and several other wars Iraq would throw off the yoke of Hussein which led to a splintered country that saw the rise and fall of ISIS. The Arabs spring came forth and saw democracy launch in several countries.

Libya fell, Qaddafi was executed as America led from behind and the country is still in chaos at times. Syria launched a civil war that killed hundreds of thousands of civilians and produced a migration problem in Europe of Biblical proportion. The world would never be the same. I can't believe it's been 34 years.

If this happens again the young men and women that make up the fighting force of the United States are ready, willing and able to confront an immoral enemy.

This real question is if the senior command is able to lead this fine group of volunteers. Do we have a Colin Powell, a Norman Schwarzkopf, a Chuck Horner, a Walter Boomer and a Ray Smith?

These men were the true leaders of Desert Storm and each one was mission focused. They ensured their men and women were ready for war and it was proven six months after they landed in Saudi.

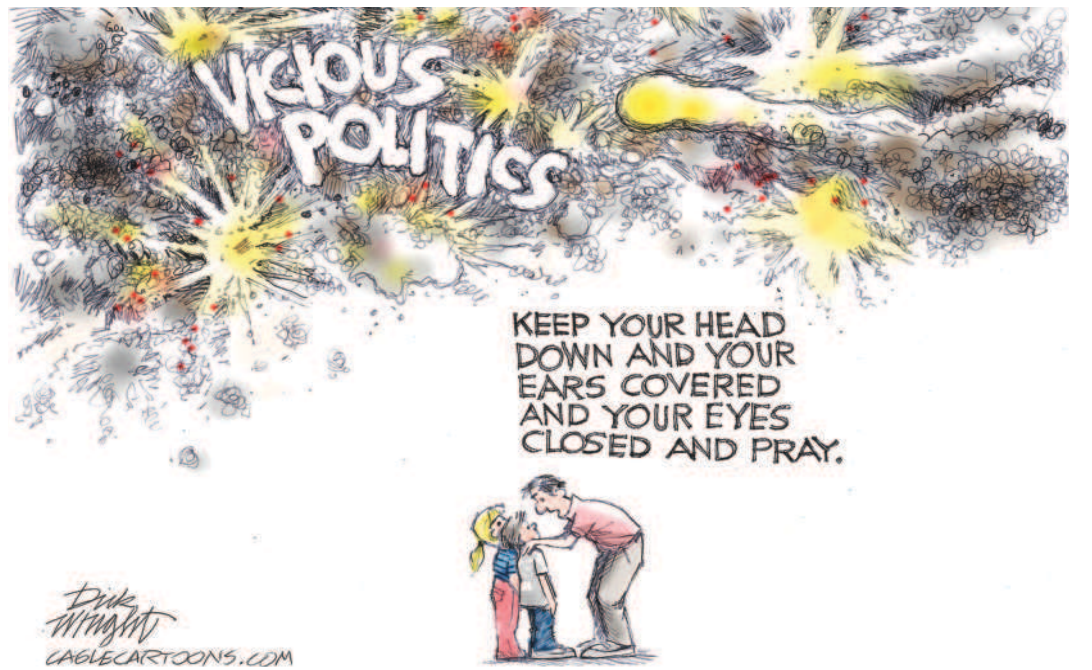
Today many of the leaders seem to be more focused to deliver a politically correct military than one that is ready for combat. Let us hope that the military we had in the past will be the inspiration for the military of the future.

God Bless America and Pray for the Ukraine.

Tuffy Fields may be reached by emailing thelouisianaexplorer@yahoo.com.



By Tuffy Fields



WASHINGTON POLITICS

Politics in Trump indictments?

It is sometimes said that the prosecutions of former President Donald Trump are "backfiring" on Democrats. That is, instead of lowering Trump's political support, they are raising it. That is indeed happening among Republicans and some independents.

But many Democrats still hope the cumulative weight of multiple indictments — there will soon be four, when the Georgia case is added to the New York case and the two federal cases — will make it impossible for Trump to win the general election.

That is why there seemed to be a mini panic recently when a number of political observers pointed out that, in spite of everything that has happened, Trump not only has a very good chance of winning the Republican nomination — he also has a reasonable chance of winning the presidency again.

In any event, it is absolutely clear to all involved that the indictments, filed by an elected Democratic district attorney in New York City, by the Biden Justice Department, and soon by an elected Democratic district attorney in Fulton County, Georgia, will influence the 2024 presidential campaign. People can debate whether that is the intention, or part of the intention, of the prosecutions. But there is no doubt that the cases will affect the campaign.

That is where a new poll from CBS News and YouGov comes in. The survey asked this question: "Which concerns you more right now: 1) That Donald Trump tried to overturn a presidential election, [or] 2) That the charges and indictment against Donald Trump are politically motivated, [or] 3) Both."

About 38% said they were more concerned that Trump tried to overturn an election. And then a precisely equal number — 38% — said they were more concerned that the charges and indictment against Trump are

politically motivated. And then 24% said they were equally concerned by both.

There were differences among groups. More men than women were concerned that the charges are politically motivated. People under 45 were more concerned about Trump's actions, while people over 45 were more concerned about political motivation. White people were more concerned about political motivation, while Black people and Hispanic people were more concerned about Trump's actions (although large numbers of the latter two groups, 38% of Black people and 35% of Hispanic people, said they were equally concerned about both).

The bottom line is that many, many people see the Trump prosecutions as politically motivated. That does not mean they deny any Trump culpability. They just also see the obvious fact that the prosecutions have a large political component. They then believe, or suspect, that an action so clearly political might have a political motive behind it.

That could be leading many Americans to discount, and perhaps ultimately ignore, the news they hear about each new Trump indictment. A new report from Axios notes that, "The public's attention to former President Trump's legal drama has declined with each subsequent indictment."

That is, perhaps, the world's least surprising news. It's just human nature that when something is repeated over and over, we become less attuned to each new repetition. Especially when we think at least some of it is just politics.

That could be enormously frustrating to those Democrats most determined to remove Trump from the American political scene. In a recent appearance on MSNBC, the historian Doris Kearns Goodwin expressed bewilderment that Republican leaders have not abandoned Trump. If that does

not change by next year, Goodwin said, then the only solution will be "organizing the country at all the levels so that [Trump] cannot win that election." It is not entirely clear what that meant. In any event, here is how Goodwin addressed continuing GOP support for Trump:

"It's still so hard to accept that. I thought after Jan. 6, when you saw McConnell speak, when you saw McCarthy speak, that that was going to be the beginning of the leadership turning against him. And then somehow, somehow it has not happened. And it can't just be a few of them. And we've got to figure out, when is that going to happen, when is that going to break. And maybe the more this thing becomes clear what was done, you've got to believe that rational thought will come back in the minds of some of these people. But if not, then it's going to take the overwhelming organization ... organizing the country at all the levels so that he cannot win that election. If the party will not depart from him, then he has to be defeated, and the party has to be defeated."

One does not have to listen too closely to hear the frustration in those words. Some Democrats argue that all this will change when the trials begin. "The audience will come roaring back, I would predict, as soon as major trials are underway and verdicts are close to being rendered," an NYU professor told Axios. With renewed interest, the thinking goes, there will be renewed opposition to Trump as he is presumably found guilty of the various charges against him.

Maybe that will happen. Maybe it will not. But the fundamental fact remains: Millions of Americans see the Trump indictments as at least partially politically motivated.

It is highly unlikely that the partisan Democrats and the Biden administration behind the prosecutions will ever change that perception.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner.



By Byron York

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TODAY AT A GLANCE

Today is the 222nd day of 2023 and the 51st day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1821, Missouri was admitted as the 24th U.S. state.

In 1949, President Harry S. Truman signed the National Security Act Amendments of 1949, which established a consolidated Department of Defense.

In 1977, postal employee David Berkowitz of Yonkers, New York, was arrested for the "Son of Sam" killings that left six dead.

In 2006, British authorities arrested 24 people suspected of plotting attacks on airplanes with liquid bombs smuggled in shampoo and water bottles.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Herbert Hoover (1874-1964), 31st U.S. president; Charles Darrow (1889-1967), Monopoly game inventor; Jack Haley (1897-1979), actor; Jimmy Dean (1928-2010), singer/actor/entrepreneur; Eddie Fisher (1928-2010), singer; Rosanna Arquette (1959-), actress;

Antonio Banderas (1960-), actor; Suzanne Collins (1962-), author; Gus Johnson (1967-), sportscaster; Justin Theroux (1971-), actor/screenwriter; Angie Harmon (1972-), actress; Kylie Jenner (1997-), TV personality.

TODAY'S FACT: The Smithsonian Institution, officially chartered by Congress on this day in 1846, estimates that about 99% of its collection is in storage rather than on display.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1981, Pete Rose got the 3,631st hit of his career, breaking the National League record for career hits held by Stan Musial.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Being a politician is a poor profession. Being a public servant is a noble one." — Herbert Hoover

TODAY'S NUMBER: \$857.9 billion — estimated Department of Defense budget for the 2023 fiscal year.

HIGH SCHOOL FALL CAMP

Practice underway at Jonesboro-Hodge

By Matt Belinson
sports@rustonleader.com

Football season is back in Jackson Parish.

The Jonesboro-Hodge football team returned to the practice field this week to start fall camp, as the Tigers look to respond from a down 3-8 season last fall.

The Tigers, who lost in the opening round of the Division IV Non-select playoffs to Logansport, return only a few familiar faces this season for head coach Terrance Blankenship, who enters his 11th season at the helm.

As J-Hodge took the field for its third practice Wednesday morning, Blankenship was ready to get another look at his squad.

"It's an exciting time of year. It's football," Blankenship said. "Really, we're just trying to get the kids acclimated to the weather and get in football mode. It's good to be back out here and get the kids out here and hopefully it comes with some excitement this fall I hope."

As for the fall camp storylines, there's no shortage with the Tigers.

It all starts at quarterback, with sophomore Dakota Knox and senior Symeon Malone battling it out for the starting job ahead of the season opener against General Trass on Sept. 1. For Blankenship, the competition will be decided once one of the two shows consistent passing ability and a better read of the posi-



Leader photo by Matt Belinson

The Jonesboro-Hodge football team started fall practice this week, as the Tigers look to respond after a down year in 2022.

tion. Last season, the Tigers had a struggle to find quarterback stability, and Blankenship said he's not afraid to wait as long as possible before making a selection.

Knox played in 10 games last season, throwing for 250 total yards, 2 touchdowns, and 1 interception on 55 passing attempts. Malone, who played in eight games, passed 50 times for 190 total yards, 2 touchdowns and 2 interceptions at a 30% completion percentage.

The Tigers coughed up a total of 20 turnovers as a team, compared to 18 total offensive touchdowns, last season.

"We got two quarterbacks right now and trying to see which one can separate himself," Blankenship said. "We're just trying to get the offense together and figure out which one

and go from there."

But for as much as the Tigers want to hit the reset button, there's no denying what they have to make up for in lost production.

J-Hodge lost 16 seniors from last season, led by linebacker Xavier Atkins—a one-time LSU commit who has opened his recruitment backup with interest in Texas A&M.

Atkins, a two time All-State linebacker, transferred to Summer Creek High School in Texas in the offseason after putting up 121 tackles, 3 sacks, and 20 tackles for loss last season. He was also the team's leading receiver with 369 yards and 4 touchdowns.

On offense, every player who caught a touchdown last season is gone.

Jason Blackburn is the team's returning leading receiver with

after his 2 catches for 22 yards last season.

Blankenship knows his group has an uphill climb, but is high on incoming players in the secondary and on the defensive line who could come in and contribute.

As fall camp continues, Blankenship wants his group to stay focused on getting better and trust in the coaching staff's plan.

"Just trying to get things turned back around," Blankenship said. "We fell off last year after 2021 and hopefully we can pick it back up."

The Tigers will play in a three-team round robin scrimmage against Glenbrook Academy and Booker T. Washington on Aug. 18 before playing St. Frederick at the Bayou Jamb on Aug. 26 at 11 a.m. at West Monroe High School.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



Photo courtesy of Louisiana Tech

Tech running back Marquis Crosby was named to the watchlist for the Doak Walker Award after rushing for 918 yards and 9 touchdowns on 183 carries last season.

Crosby named to Doak Walker Award watchlist

Louisiana Tech Sports

Louisiana Tech red-shirt sophomore running back Marquis Crosby was named to the 2023 Doak Walker Award Watch List, the PwC SMU Athletic Forum announced Wednesday. Presented annually, the award honors the nation's top college running back.

Crosby had a breakout redshirt freshman season in 2022, rushing for 918 total yards and nine touchdowns on 183 carries. The Hattiesburg, Miss., product ranked sixth nationally among all freshmen in total rushing (918) and fourth among C-USA backs in yards per rush (5.0).

He eclipsed the century mark in rushing during four games, highlighted by a 197-yard rushing performance during the Dogs' 52-17 win over Stephen F. Austin on Sept. 10. As a result of Crosby's efforts, he earned honorable mention Freshman All-American Honors from College Football News following the 2022 season, becoming just the fifth player in program history to achieve the honor.

The PwC SMU Athletic Forum Board of Directors will name 10 semifinalists in November, and three finalists, as voted on by the Doak Walker

Award National Selection Committee, will be announced in November. The committee will cast a second vote in December to determine the recipient. The National Selection Committee consists of past recipients, former NFL All-Pro and college All-America running backs, media members, and selected special representatives.

The 2023 Doak Walker Award recipient will be announced live on The Home Depot College Football Awards.

The award is named for SMU's three-time All-America running back, Doak Walker. It is the only major collegiate award that requires all candidates to be in good academic standing and on schedule to graduate within one year of other students of the same classification.

Louisiana Tech will play a fast, exciting brand of football when head coach Sonny Cumbie's Bulldogs open the 2023 season with an 8 p.m. C-USA showdown against FIU on Aug. 26 inside Joe Aillet Stadium.

Season tickets for the 2023 Louisiana Tech football season are on sale now. Fans can purchase season tickets online at LATechSports.com/tickets or by calling the LA Tech Ticket Office at (318) 257-3631.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Diamond Dogs to play in Battle at the Ballpark

Louisiana Tech Sports

Peak Events, LLC in partnership with the Sugar Land Space Cowboys announced Tuesday the inaugural Battle at the Ballpark, a four-team baseball tournament that will include Louisiana Tech along with Army West Point, Air Force, and Creighton.

The tournament will take place March 1-3, 2024, at Constellation Field in Sugar Land, Texas, with a focus on military appreciation. Each team will face one another in a round-robin format with two games played each day.

"Here in Sugar Land, we are always looking to provide quality events at Constellation Field, and we are excited to help put on a thrilling tournament at our ballpark," said Space Cowboys General Manager Tyler Stamm.

Tech will first take on the Black Knights



of Army West Point on Friday, March 1 at 6 p.m.

The Bulldogs will then face the Bluejays of Creighton on Saturday, March 2, at 1 p.m. and then close out the three-day event on Sunday, March 3, at 4 p.m. versus the Falcons of Air Force. Individual reserved and general admission day tickets are available for purchase with day tickets

including both games played on the same day. In addition, a general admission weekend pass is also available.

The weekend pass will allow general admission access to all six games of the tournament.

Tickets for the 2024 Battle at the Ballpark start at just \$15 a day and are available now at www.peak.events/

BATB. Active and retired military personnel will have the opportunity to receive half off day passes for all ticketed seating locations.

Military ID will be required and tickets must be purchased in person at the Constellation Field Box Office.

Streaming and broadcast information will be announced at a later date.

Monahan: PGA Tour, Saudi deal on the right path

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Back to full health, Commissioner Jay Monahan said Wednesday the PGA Tour is on the right path to finalize a deal with the Saudi backers of LIV Golf and that whether he's the best person to lead the tour will depend on the results.

Monahan spoke publicly for the first time since he returned to work July 17, having stepped away for three weeks with what he described

as anxiety that had been building up over time. He said his only regret in a proposed business partnership with Saudi Arabia's national wealth fund and the European tour was keeping players in the dark.

"I put players on their back foot," he said.

Monahan was short on details of the proposed agreement with the media and players in his first meeting with them on Tuesday

afternoon — mainly because negotiations are ongoing. Tour officials met with the Public Investment Fund last weekend.

He was bullish that a deal would get done by the end of the year, and that the PGA Tour is not considering any outside investors at the moment. "Our focus is on negotiating with PIF," he said, adding later that he was "determined to get this right."

ESPN strikes \$1.5 billion deal to jump into sports betting

(AP) — You know ESPN the sports media giant. Now brace yourself for ESPN Bet, a re-branding of an existing sports-betting app owned by Penn Entertainment, which is paying \$1.5 billion plus other considerations for exclusive rights to the ESPN name.

The deal, announced Tuesday, could take Walt Disney Co.-owned ESPN into uncharted waters. Disney is fiercely protective of its family-friendly image, not typically associated with the world of sports gambling.

Penn will operate ESPN Bet, which ESPN

has agreed to promote across its online and broadcast platforms in order to generate "maximum fan awareness" of the app. ESPN Bet will also have unspecified "access" to ESPN talent, the companies said.

Penn's rights to the ESPN brand will initially run for a decade and can be extended for another decade by mutual agreement. In addition to the \$1.5 billion licensing deal, which will be paid out over a decade, Penn will also grant ESPN rights worth about \$500 million to purchase shares in Penn.

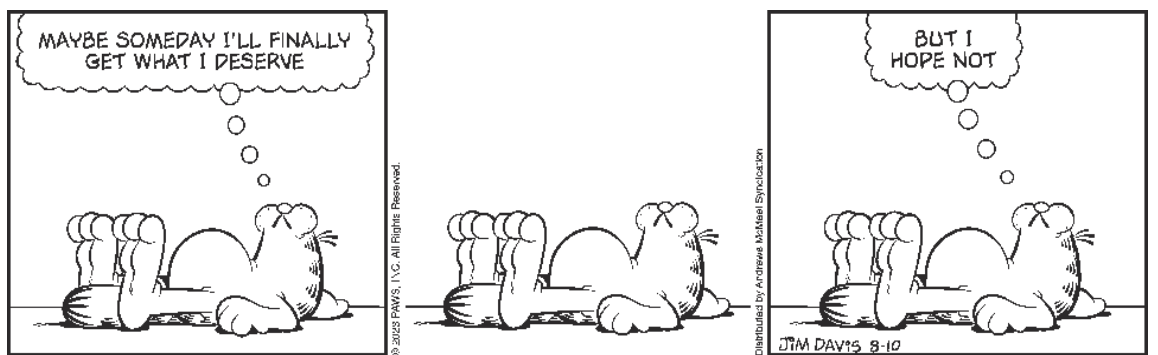
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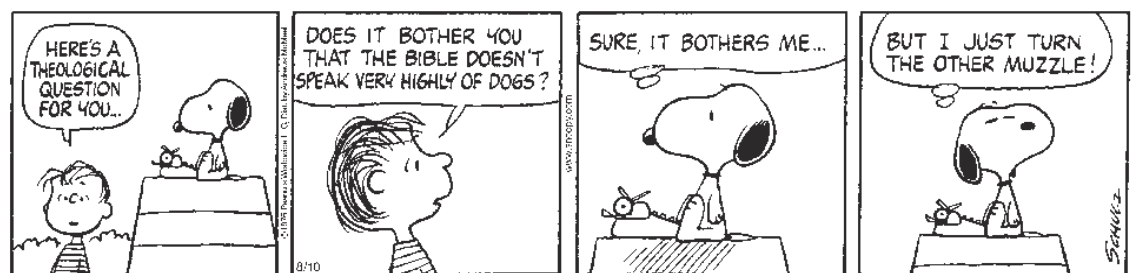
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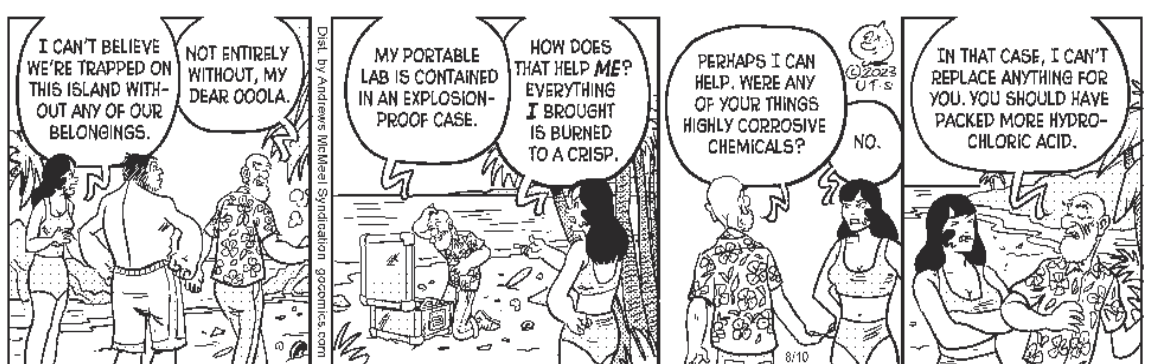

Garfield



Peanuts



Alley Oop



The Born Loser



Big Nate



Cul De Sac



Frank n Ernest



Grizzwells



Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Mushroom part
4 "There ought to be —!"
8 Look
12 Solemn fear
13 Big party
14 Mata —
15 Do a household job
16 ABA member
17 Discord
18 personified
19 Co-conspirator
20 From this time forward
21 Honeycomb cell shape
23 Golden—
26 Edible tuber
27 Do something wrong
30 Light show feature
32 Greek goddess of the moon
34 Falling star
36 Philbin of TV
37 Cakes and —

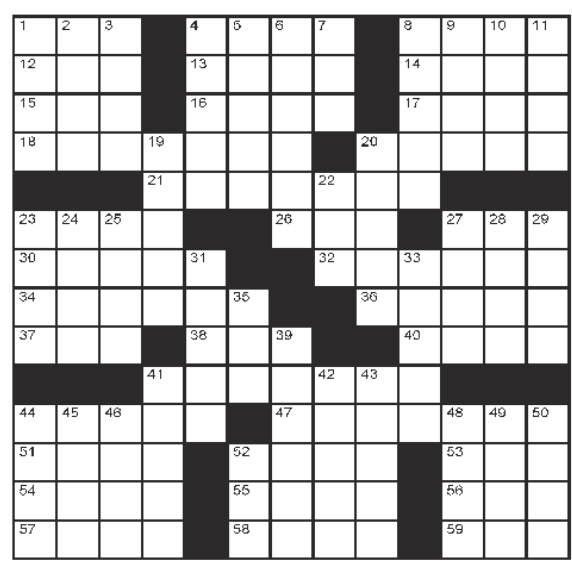
DOWN

1 Scout's base
2 Like a missing GI
3 Melon or squash, e.g.
4 Die down
5 Kind of paint

TODAY'S ANSWERS

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | E | H | D | T | I | W | A | D | D | E |
| V | O | L | E | A | I | D | J | V | A | R |
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| L | V | M | A | T | | | | | | |
| R | E | L | B | O | R | | | | | |
| E | N | E | L | S | E | R | | | | |
| N | I | S | I | N | A | V | A | G | E | R |
| N | O | G | X | A | H | E | R | | | |
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| S | R | I | S | A | V | A | P | O | M | |
| A | V | E | B | A | S | H | A | R | I | |
| C | A | P | A | L | A | W | S | E | M | |

- 6 Wide of the mark
7 "How come?"
8 Quality of chrome bumpers
9 Merit
10 Newscaster — Severeid
11 —en-scene
19 Tom, Dick and Harry
20 Mr. Simpson
22 "Now you're cooking with —!"
23 Soul, in Seville
24 Highlander
25 Princely Italian family
27 Video game maker
28 "What's — for me?"
29 Hotbed
31 Batman's sidekick
33 Dud
35 Demon —
39 Castor and Pollux
41 Hamburger serving
42 Original
43 Brought to bay
44 Dried out
45 Toward the mouth
46 Touch down
48 Hankering
49 "No way, Jose!"
50 Mass unit
52 A little slow



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Meeting the needs of our readers!

We have reformatted our comics page to allow our readers to easily print the crossword puzzle.

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HOROSCOPES

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2023

Observation is your best bet when dealing with unpredictable situations. Control your emotions and look for choices that are less stressful. Maintenance will be necessary as you navigate from one position to the next. Change may be inevitable, but how you handle it can modify the outcome in your favor if you are moderate and target what's necessary.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Focus on what you must do to protect yourself. Refuse to let anyone talk you into something that will burden you. Surround yourself with people who have your best interests at heart.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Refuse to let anyone decide for you. A take-charge attitude will give you the momentum to recognize what's best for you and follow your plans. Base your actions on facts, not emotions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Don't fold under pressure or give in to someone who tempts you. Kick back, take a break and spend downtime with someone who respects and loves you for you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- When faced with a need for a quick decision, get the facts and use common sense. Procrastination will cause regret and friction with someone you love and respect. Don't fear change.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Pay attention to how you feel and look; it will help you remain the go-to person in your circle. Refuse to let anyone weasel their way into your territory. Call a spade a spade.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Do something that makes you feel good. Be the one to start a movement that draws awareness to a worthy cause. An issue someone has will lead to controversy if you don't act fast.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Let bygones be bygones, and go about your business. You'll achieve far more if you do your own thing and offer others the same right. Make self-improvement and love your priorities.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Give your all, and you'll get your way. An opportunity that offers a stellar lifestyle is apparent. Take the initiative to line up those you want by your side.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Sign up for activities that interest you, and socialize with people who share your interests. A makeover will make you stand out and boost your morale. Love and romance will enhance your life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Someone will be misleading if given the opportunity. Ask questions and follow through when you are confident that the outcome will favor you. Protect against situations that result in health risks.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Listen to the information you receive from someone who has the inside scoop, and it will help you clear your head and divert a costly mistake. Make self-esteem and personal growth your priorities.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- A change of plans may not be welcome, but the outcome will give you something to consider. Don't act in haste; go over every detail and make decisions based on facts.

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Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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

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TODAY'S ANSWERS

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

HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

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Celebrity Cipher

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations of famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"ZXP GP CGP ... EKSLPA ZXCZ L YKBIV
ILMP ZK JKGTPZ, JKG ZXP GPAZ KJ
ED ILJP. FBZ PSPH ZXKAP EKSLPA
ZPGRX EP ZXLHTA." — GHZKHLK
FCHVPGCA

"There are ... movies that I would like to forget, for the rest of my life. But even those movies teach me things." — Antonio Banderas

TODAY'S CLUE: K equals M

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of Round
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28 oz. Bottles Selected
Gatorade Sports Drink

\$2⁹⁹

5 lb. Bag
Supreme Medium or Long Grain Rice

18 oz. Selected
Kraft BBQ Sauce

2/\$3

5.2-5.57 oz. Selected
Pringles Chips

\$2²⁹

15-15.5 oz. Selected
Trappey's Peas or Beans

\$1³⁹

20 oz. Squeeze Bottle
Food Club Ketchup

\$1⁴⁹

15 oz. Selected
Food Club Chili

\$2²⁹

16 oz. Selected
Pompeian Olive Oil

\$8⁹⁹

4 ct. Pack Selected
Kraft Easy Mac or Velveeta Cups

\$4⁷⁹

10 ct. Selected
Food Club Tortillas

\$1⁷⁹

15.5-16 oz. Selected Food Club or Craw'n Flavor
Picante Sauce or Salsa

\$1⁹⁹

7-7.6 oz. Selected
Martha White Baking Mixes

\$1²⁹

3 oz. McCormick
Ground Black Pepper

\$3⁶⁹

DAIRY

45 oz. Bowl
Imperial Spread

\$3⁴⁹

4-6 oz. Selected
Yoplait Yogurt

5/\$3

5-8 oz. Selected
Sargento Cheese

2/\$5

32 oz. Selected
International Delight Coffee Creamer

\$3⁹⁹

52 oz. Selected
Tropicana Juice

\$3⁹⁹

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6-12 Roll Selected Flora
**Paper Towels
or Bath Tissue**

5.75-12.4 oz. Selected
**Cheez-It
Snacks**
2/\$7



11-16.6 oz. Selected Post
**Honey Bunches
of Oats or
Raisin Bran**
2/\$6



9.8 oz. Selected
**Quaker Instant
Grits**
2/\$4



12.5 oz. Selected
**Lysol
Disinfectant
Sprays**
\$5.99



43.5-50 oz. Selected
**Purex Laundry
Detergent**
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19.4 oz. Selected
**Simply Done
Dish Soap**
\$1.99



10 ct. Selected
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Fruit Snacks**
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32 oz. Bottle
**Simply Done
Glass Cleaner**
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8.4 oz. Original Mint
**Scope
Mouthwash**
\$1.99



2.7-2.9 oz. Selected
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Deodorant**
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Pizzas**
\$4.99



6-11.5 oz. Selected
**Lean Cuisine
Entrees**
2/\$4



24 ct. Mini Ears
**Green Giant
Nibblers**
\$5.99



12 ct. Selected
**Texas
Tamales**
\$7.99



16 oz. Selected
**Ben & Jerry's
Ice Cream**
\$4.99



MEAT & SEAFOOD

Family Pack! Pork
**BBQ Strips
or Steaks**

\$1⁹⁹
LB.



USDA Select Beef
Trimmed

**Boneless Eye of
Round Roast**

\$4⁹⁹
LB.



Family Pack!
Sanderson Farms
**Boneless
Breasts**

\$2⁷⁹
LB.



1 lb. Honeyuckle White 99% Lean
**Ground Turkey
Breast**

\$5⁴⁹



3 lb. Selected
**Manda Smoked
Sausage**

\$10⁹⁹



12 oz. Selected
**Bar-S Sliced
Bacon**

\$3⁹⁹



10-16 oz. Selected Premium
**Land O'Frost
Lunchmeat**

\$5⁹⁹



16 oz. Selected
**Oscar Mayer
Wieners**

\$2⁹⁹



12 oz. (21-30 ct.) Big Easy

**Peeled
Shrimp**

\$5⁹⁹



Sold in 30 lb. Box at \$239.70

**Canadian Snow
Crab Clusters**

\$7⁹⁹
LB.



4 lb. (5-7 oz. Avg.) Ocean Select

**Swal
Fillets**

\$10⁹⁹



PRODUCE

8 lb. Bag US #1
**MountainKing
Russet Potatoes**

\$3⁹⁹

California Tree Ripe
**Red or Black
Plums**

\$2⁴⁹
LB.



4 ct. Pack Red Ripe
Tomatoes

\$1⁹⁹



8 oz. Whole or Sliced
**Baby Bella
Mushrooms**

2/\$4



Romaine, Red Leaf
or Green Leaf
Lettuce

\$1⁸⁹



8 oz. Pack Mature
**Fresh Express
Spinach**

\$2⁹⁹



4 lb. Bag Sweet Juicy
Oranges

\$3⁹⁹



DELI & BAKERY

Deli Sliced! Manda
Roast Beef

\$9⁴⁹
LB.

MANDA



Deli Sliced! Cornershop Cuts White
**American
Cheese**

\$5⁹⁹
LB.



20 oz. Selected
Toufayan Bagels

2/\$4



6 ct. Selected Store Baked!

**Gourmet
Cookies**

\$4⁹⁹



Thanks For
Shopping With Us...

We Are *Your*
Neighborhood
Supermarket



Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mushroom part
 - 4 "There ought to be —!"
 - 8 Look
 - 12 Solemn fear
 - 13 Big party
 - 14 Mata —
 - 15 Do a household job
 - 16 ABA member
 - 17 Discord
 - 18 personified
 - 20 Co-conspirator
 - 21 From this time forward
 - 22 Honeycomb cell shape
 - 23 Golden- —
 - 26 Edible tuber
 - 27 Do something wrong
 - 30 Light show feature
 - 32 Greek goddess of the moon
 - 34 Falling star
 - 36 Philbin of TV
 - 37 Cakes and —
- DOWN**
- 1 Scout's base
 - 2 Like a missing GI
 - 3 Melon or squash, e.g.
 - 4 Die down
 - 5 Kind of paint

TODAY'S ANSWERS

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | E | H | | D | L | I | M | Y | D | D | E |
| A | P | | E | E | N | I | N | T | N | R | A |
| R | O | | E | L | I | D | | T | E | R | A |
| G | N | I | N | R | O | M | N | A | N | S | O |
| | | | O | N | T | O | P | I | M | E | |
| T | A | T | | M | A | | B | U | G | | A |
| S | I | S | R | E | | R | E | O | R | M | E |
| E | N | E | S | E | L | E | R | | L | A | S |
| N | S | I | N | A | M | Y | A | X | E | H | A |
| | | | O | N | T | O | P | I | M | E | |
| E | N | E | S | E | L | E | R | | L | A | S |
| S | I | S | R | E | | R | E | O | R | M | E |
| | | | O | N | T | O | P | I | M | E | |
| S | I | S | R | E | | R | E | O | R | M | E |
| | | | O | N | T | O | P | I | M | E | |
| S | I | S | R | E | | R | E | O | R | M | E |
| | | | O | N | T | O | P | I | M | E | |
| S | I | S | R | E | | R | E | O | R | M | E |

- 6 Wide of the mark
- 7 "How come?"
- 8 Quality of chrome bumpers
- 9 Merit
- 10 Newscaster — Seavard
- 11 — -en-scene
- 19 Tom, Dick and Harry
- 20 Mr. Simpson
- 22 "Now you're cooking with —!"
- 23 Soul, in Seville
- 24 Highlander
- 25 Princely Italian family
- 27 Video game maker
- 28 "What's — for me?"
- 29 Hotbed
- 31 Batman's sidekick
- 33 Dud
- 35 Demon —
- 39 Castor and Pollux
- 41 Hamburger serving
- 42 Original
- 43 Brought to bay
- 44 Dried out
- 45 Toward the mouth
- 46 Touch down
- 48 Hankering
- 49 "No way, Jose!"
- 50 Mass unit
- 52 A little slow

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|--|----|---|---|---|--|----|---|----|----|----|----|
| 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 | |

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Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

8/10

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TODAY'S ANSWERS

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

HOW TO PLAY:

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

Celebrity Cipher

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"ZXP GP CGP ... EKSLPA ZXCZ L YKBIV
 ILMP ZK JKGTPZ, JKG ZXP GPAZ KJ
 ED ILJP. FBZ PSPH ZKKAP EKSLPA
 ZPCRX EP ZXLHTA." — CHZKHLK
 FCHVPGCA

"There are ... movies that I would like to forget, for the rest of my life. But even those movies teach me things." — Antonio Banderas

TODAY'S CLUE: *M equals K*

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We have reformatted our comics page to allow our readers to easily print the crossword puzzle.

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