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all in regional finals**
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COLLEGE FOOTBALL
**Portal prowess on
display for FSU, UF**
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FRIDAY EDITION

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2022 | YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1874 | \$1.00

Lake City Reporter

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COURTESY

Joetavius Jackson was arrested Tuesday in Suwannee County for an October murder in West Palm Beach.

South Florida murder suspect caught in LO

Jackson wanted for Oct. 17 shooting over cell phone.

Staff report

LIVE OAK — A Live Oak man was captured Tuesday for a murder in West Palm Beach.

Investigators with the Suwannee County Sheriff's Office helped the United States Marshals Office with apprehending 37-year-old Joetavius Jackson on Tuesday after the Marshals tracked him to Live Oak. He was captured walking on West Duval Street near Shelby Avenue and was taken into custody without incident, according to an SCSO release.

Jackson is wanted in Palm Beach County for shooting and killing someone on Oct. 17 during an altercation over a cell phone.

Jackson was released from state prison in May following a 10-year sentence for the sale of cocaine in Suwannee County. Jackson has also served time in state prison for armed burglary and robbery and attempted robbery without a firearm in Palm Beach County.

'Kickoff to Christmas'



COURTESY

Crafts vendors, as well as food and coffee vendors, will be set up around the Lafayette County Courthouse square on Saturday for the second Downtown Christmas festival in Mayo.

Downtown Christmas festival returns to Mayo on Saturday

By JAMIE WACHTER
jwachter@lakecityreporter.com

MAYO — Christmas is coming early to Lafayette County.

The Lafayette County Chamber of Commerce's second Downtown Christmas festival arrives at the Lafayette County Courthouse square in downtown Mayo on Saturday. The festival, which will feature about 15-20 vendors situated around the square from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, marks the start of the holiday season in North Florida.

The festival also serves as a way to spotlight the small businesses in the downtown Mayo commercial corridor.

"It's Small Business Saturday and it's the weekend after Thanksgiving, so we really look at that as the kickoff to Christmas season," said Lynn Buchanan with the Lafayette Chamber.

Buchanan said the original purpose behind the festival last year centered around Small Business

CHRISTMAS continued on 8A

'PARKnership' reaps state award for FWHS teacher

Johannesen named Educator of the Year by Project Learning Tree.

Staff report

GAINESVILLE — A "PARKnership" she developed more than 20 years ago helped a Fort White High School teacher earn statewide recognition.

Irene "Trini" Johannesen was named the Florida Project Learning Tree Educator of the Year earlier this month. Johannesen received the honor at the annual Florida PLT Facilitator/School

Coordinator Retreat at the University of Florida Austin Cary Forest.

Johannesen, who has more than 25 years of science teaching experience, was nominated for the award by Janet Schnuass, who teaches in Duval County.

"Trini was my mentor teacher as a first-year teacher," Schnuass said of Johannesen. "She was passionate about outdoor education, and she encouraged me to be a teacher who takes students outdoors for learning experiences.

"Trini really helped spark my love of environmental education."

FWHS continued on 8A



COURTESY

Fort White High School's Irene 'Trini' Johannesen was named the Florida Project Learning Tree Educator of the Year. She received her award from Robert Raze, the steering committee chair, and Elise Cassie, interim coordinator.



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MAIL: P.O. Box 1709, Lake City, FL 32056

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Public & Legal Notices

Kym Harrison.....386-754-0401
classifieds@lakecityreporter.com

News Tips

news@lakecityreporter.com

How to reach us

Main386-752-1293
Fax.....386-752-9400
Circulation.....386-755-5445

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Logistics Manager

Lyn Lampton386-754-0408
llampton@lakecityreporter.com

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Editor

Jamie Wachter386-754-0428
jwachter@lakecityreporter.com

Assistant Editor

Morgan McMullen.....386-754-0427
mcmullen@lakecityreporter.com

Sports Editor

Jordan Kroeger386-754-0421
jkroeger@lakecityreporter.com

Advertising Director

Chris Ratliff386-754-0417
cratliff@lakecityreporter.com

Business Development Manager

Monja Slater386-754-0413
mslater@lakecityreporter.com

Accounting Office

Vickie Busscher.....386-754-0436
vbusscher@lakecityreporter.com

Publisher

Todd Wilson386-754-0418
twilson@lakecityreporter.com

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Corrections

The **Lake City Reporter** corrects errors of fact in news items. If you have a concern, question, or suggestion, please call the editor. Thanks for reading.

Repairs needed before courthouse gets cleaning

Rotten wood found on front side of historic Lafayette courthouse.

By **JAMIE WACHTER**
jwachter@lakecityreporter.com

MAYO — The Lafayette County Courthouse needs some repairs before it can get a new shine.

During a workshop Tuesday morning, the County Commission planned to discuss the lone bid it had received to pressure wash and paint the courthouse. That bid, from Lake City's Pro Tech Coatings Specialists, was opened at its Nov. 14 meeting and came in much higher than anticipated at a total of \$111,470.

However, Tuesday morning the commission heard from Marcus Calhoun, the maintenance director, that there were other issues that first needed addressing with the courthouse.

While county staff was decorating the courthouse for Christmas, Calhoun said they noticed a piece of the metal ceiling over the front door of the courthouse was hanging down and had buckled. A quick examination of the area showed that there was some rotten wood underneath that needs to be fixed. The extent of the damage was not known.

"We've got a bunch of rotten wood up in there," Calhoun said. "We got a limited view. Before we get into the painting and pressure washing and start of that work, that metal needs to come down to expose what's in there."

"Those areas need to be addressed before we get into the work of painting it."

Calhoun and Steve Land, the county's Clerk of Court, said it is a pretty big section that needs to be addressed.

To get a better understanding of the damage, Calhoun said he needed to get a self-propelled lift in order to garner better access to the area once opened up.

He said there is no way to get a



The Lafayette County Courthouse has some rotten wood on the front that needs addressed before it gets washed and repainted.

better grasp of the size of the issue without opening up the section and getting inside.

"I've got to get into some uncharted territory and do some delicate work," Calhoun said of gaining access since they will want to reuse the materials.

The commission authorized Calhoun obtaining the equipment to further examine the area.

Calhoun said depending on how extensive the damage, he felt he could handle the repairs in house.

"If it's very extensive, we might need some help as far as someone with more skills in that area," he said. "I feel confident that whatever we find I should be able to repair."

District 1 Commissioner Lance Lamb said the county needed to move forward with examining it and if it's too bad, the county can address obtaining help at that point.

Additionally, the board requested Calhoun and Public Works Director Scott Sadler reach out to contacts in neighboring counties as well as engineering firms the county has utilized for additional companies that may be interested in bidding on the cleaning project.

"There's got to be some folks in Gainesville or Jacksonville or Tallahassee that does this," Adams said. "I think we probably just didn't have enough exposure to this bid, to get the kind of quotes we needed."



Photos by **JAMIE WACHTER**/Lake City Reporter
Earnest Jones was named the Lafayette County Commission's new chairman during Tuesday's meeting.

Jones named new BOCC chair

Byrd sworn in; Adams appointed vice chairman.

By **JAMIE WACHTER**
jwachter@lakecityreporter.com

MAYO — Not only does the Lafayette County Board of County Commissioners have a new member, but it also has a new chair.

During a brief reorganizational meeting Tuesday morning, the board unanimously approved Earnest Jones serving as the board chairman for the next year. Jones was the lone member to be nominated for the position.

"I accept and am I humbled by your confidence," Jones said after taking the

gavel from Anthony Adams, the previous board chair.

Adams was unanimously approved as the board's vice chairman. He also was the lone nominee for the position.

Jones has served on the commission since 1992.

Also during the meeting, Adams was sworn into office for his third term as a commissioner for District 4.

Mason Byrd, the county's new commissioner from District 2, was also sworn in by Clerk of Court Steve Land in front of a packed commission meeting room full of family members. Byrd defeated Henry McCray during August's primary election to win the seat.



New County Commissioner Mason Byrd is sworn in Tuesday, joined by his wife, Sydney, and daughter, Aspen.

QUICK HITS

Scripture of the Day

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."
— Colossians 2:6-7 (KJV)

Thought for Today

I am grateful for what I am and have. My thanksgiving is perpetual.
— Henry David Thoreau, 1817-1862, American author

Winning Lottery Numbers

Pick 3: (Wednesday p.m.) **0-8-3**
Pick 4: (Wednesday p.m.) **8-5-6-3**
Fantasy 5: (Wednesday) **2-3-17-22-31**

Submissions

The Lake City Reporter accepts photographs and caption information to run at the discretion of the editor. If you would like to see your organization in the newspaper, send the picture and information to Editor Jamie Wachter at jwachter@lakecityreporter.com.

In Brief

Ukraine's capital flips to survival mode

Residents of Ukraine's bombed capital clutched empty bottles in search of water and crowded into cafés for power and warmth Thursday, switching defiantly into survival mode after new Russian missile strikes a day earlier plunged the city and much of the country into the dark.

In scenes hard to believe in a sophisticated city of 3 million, some Kyiv residents resorted to collecting rainwater from drainpipes, as repair teams labored to reconnect supplies.

Friends and family members exchanged messages to find out who had electricity and water back. Some had one but not the other. The previous day's aerial onslaught on Ukraine's power grid left many with neither.

Cafés in Kyiv that by some small miracle had both quickly became oases of comfort on Thursday.
— Associated Press

Correction

We object to one detail in Wednesday's article about Florida Gateway College's Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Marlin Feagle. In the story, we incorrectly stated that Feagle was still currently serving as the attorney for the FGC Board of Trustees. In fact, Feagle recently concluded a 20-year stint as the board's attorney.

THE WEATHER

25 Fri Cloudy HI 79 LO 60	26 Sat Mostly Cloudy HI 73 LO 66	27 Sun Scattered T-storms HI 76 LO 55	28 Mon Sunny HI 72 LO 50	29 Tue Sunny HI 76 LO 57
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REGIONAL FORECAST MAP for Friday, Nov. 25

Friday's highs/Friday night's low

City	Saturday	Sunday
Cape Canaveral	80/71/mc	83/67/mc
Daytona Beach	76/70/mc	81/63/mc
Fort Myers	85/71/pc	84/70/mc
Ft. Lauderdale	83/74/pc	85/73/mc
Gainesville	75/67/mc	78/57/t
Jacksonville	72/67/mc	80/58/mc
Key West	84/78/s	85/76/pc
Lake City	73/66/mc	76/55/t
Miami	83/77/pc	84/74/mc
Naples	83/71/pc	82/70/mc
Ocala	77/69/mc	81/58/mc
Orlando	81/70/mc	83/65/mc
Panama City	74/67/t	73/55/sh
Pensacola	72/60/sh	70/52/sh
Tallahassee	73/65/mc	75/53/sh
Tampa	82/70/mc	81/66/mc
Valdosta	72/63/mc	76/52/sh
W. Palm Beach	80/77/pc	82/75/mc

LAKE CITY ALMANAC

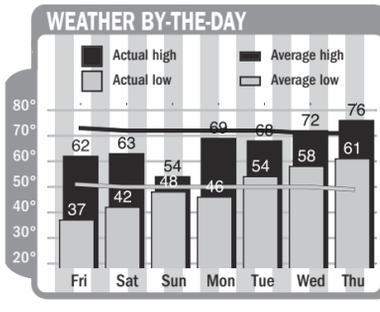
TEMPERATURES	SUN
High Thursday: 76	Sunrise today: 7:04 a.m.
Low Thursday: 61	Sunset today: 5:30 p.m.
Normal high: 71	Sunrise tom.: 7:05 a.m.
Normal low: 49	Sunset tom.: 5:30 p.m.
Record high: 86 in 2014	
Record low: 25 in 1970	
PRECIPITATION	MOON
Thursday: 0.00"	Moonrise today: 9:02 a.m.
Month total: 2.75"	Moonset today: 7:07 p.m.
Year total: 54.72"	Moonrise tom.: 10:09 a.m.
Normal month-to-date: 1.55"	Moonset tom.: 8:14 p.m.
Normal year-to-date: 50.17"	

Nov 30 First Dec 7 Full Dec 16 Last Dec 23 New

UV INDEX

4

Moderate
40 mins to burn
Today's ultra-violet radiation risk for the area on a scale from 0 to 10+.



WEATHER HISTORY

On Nov. 25, 1970, the temperature at Tallahassee, Fla. dipped to 13 degrees, following a high of 40 degrees on the previous day. The mercury reached 67 degrees on Nov. 26, and highs were in the 70s the rest of the month.

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Jesus Christ is King of the Universe

Last Sunday, Catholics celebrated Jesus Christ as King of the Universe. But, as earthly creatures, we often have a difficult time putting our heads around Christ as king. We do not understand the kingdom, so we do not understand the king.

Matthew uses "kingdom of God" only a handful of times, but Luke and Mark use the term far more often. Matthew prefers to use the phrase "kingdom of heaven." Most scholars believe that they mean the same thing. And many believe that Matthew minimizes using "kingdom of God" because of a hesitation to use "God" for a Jewish audience.

The kingdom starts small. Jesus tells us that it is like a mustard seed (Mt 13:31-32, Mk 4:30-32; Lk 13:18-19). And yet it grows to a large bush.

The kingdom of God does indeed start small. It comes into the world through the Incarnation. It starts small in our eyes because it begins with the seemingly insignificant birth of what is understood



Bob Hoffman
rhoffman@epiphanycatholicclc.com

to be a carpenter's son. A young couple find themselves in Bethlehem from Nazareth. Forced to travel because of the decree of Caesar Augustus calling for enrollment of everyone.

A newborn in a manger because there was no room at the inn. Surrounded by animals. It does not get more insignificant than that.

And yet, this child is a king. With an army more powerful than that of Caesar Augustus. Luke 2:13 tells us of the multitude of the heavenly host who appeared to the shepherds. The word "host" is our translation of a Greek word meaning "army." And it dwarfs anything that Caesar Augustus could

His kingdom may not be fully visible to us now, but it will become fully visible at the end of time.

muster.

The magi traveled to see him in what we celebrate as "The Epiphany of the Lord." They recognized him as king with their gift of gold. They recognized him as priest with their gift of frankincense. They also recognized that he had to die in his mission by their gift of myrrh, a burial spice.

The Gospel reading for our celebration of Christ the King is the exchange between Jesus and the "good thief" on the cross. Tradition tells us that this other man was named Dismas. And we honor him as Saint Dismas now. Dismas tells Jesus, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And Jesus responds, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Our human eyes see a failed prophet sentenced to die a humiliating and horribly painful death by crucifixion.

Through the eyes of faith, we recognize that the

crucifixion is not a failure. Instead, it is a successful part of Jesus' mission. Through his death, he redeems the world. By his Resurrection, he opens the gates of heaven to us. At his Ascension, he goes to the right hand of the Father.

Knowing that he is king, we know that all else is subject to him. Even death. It helps us to avoid fear of evil. Nothing evil can happen unless God permits it for a greater good. And Jesus as king can help us to avoid fear of death because he conquered death itself in the Resurrection. An event that opens the way for us too.

His kingdom may not be fully visible to us now, but it will become fully visible at the end of time.

To deny Christ as king is to limit ourselves. To embrace the reality of Christ as king is to open ourselves up to a fuller participation in the kingdom.

■ Fr. Bob Hoffman is the pastor of Epiphany Catholic Church in Lake City.

What's in a name?

When my wife and I travel I like to read the names of churches or church signs. It's a form of a road game that helps pass the miles, especially on a long trip. Some churches have a name that identifies the community or location. Holly Springs Baptist Church, Rocky Fork Baptist Church, Rider Mountain Holiness Church, Apalachee United Methodist Church, Long Creek Baptist Church, and Crossroads Baptist Church for example.



Jimmy Deas
djideas@cloud.com

name that is intriguing and Biblically appropriate. The Church of the Lost and Found. Every time I pass that sign I am reminded of the parables

Some churches are named for a prominent founding family such as Burnham Christian Church and Carver's Chapel Baptist Church.

Biblical names are popular church names. Calvary Baptist Church, Bethany Baptist Church, and Damascus Baptist Church. Some church names indicate their prominence or location in a city. First, Central, Second, Northside, Eastside, Southside, Westside, or Main Street.

While traveling on a backroad in South Carolina, we saw some churches that have intriguing names. Ole Country Church, Soul's Harbor Baptist Church. I wonder if some church names are accurate reflections of the membership such as Unity Church, Friendship Baptist Church, and Fellowship Baptist Church. Some years ago, I saw a church sign that struck me as curious and is possibly the most intriguing church sign I've ever seen. Decoy Baptist Church. The definition of the word decoy is: (a) someone or something used to lure or lead another into a trap, (b) an artificial bird used to attract live birds within shot, (c) someone or something used to draw attention away from another. It would be interesting to know the origin of that church name.

Some church names seem to offer hope to those seeking spiritual direction and meaning in life such as Soul's Harbor Baptist Church near Westminster, S.C. Other names suggest inclusiveness such as Cathedral of All Souls in Asheville, N.C.

A church near Dillsboro, N.C., has a

A church near Dillsboro, N.C., has a name that is intriguing and Biblically appropriate. The Church of the Lost and Found.

Every time I pass that sign I am reminded of the parables Jesus told that are recorded in Luke 15 — the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son.

Jesus told that are recorded in Luke 15 — the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. These parables are a triple reinforcement of God's desire to reach, save, and

restore lost men, women, boys, and girls. 2 Peter 3:9 tells us, "The LORD is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is long-suffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.**" (Emphasis mine)

The three "lost" parables tell us how God sees us and what we mean to him. A lost sheep has lost its usefulness to the shepherd. A coin has no value to the owner while it is lost. The lost son had no fellowship with his father. When a lost person is saved, they have usefulness, value, and fellowship with God. The great desire of God's heart is to save those who are spiritually lost and restore them to a rightful relationship with Him. That was the main reason Jesus came to this earth. Luke 19 records the story of Zacchaeus who was lost until his encounter with Jesus. Jesus summarized that encounter with the words. "Today salvation has come to this house...for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Vs. 9-10).

Regardless of the name on a church sign, every church should be a "Church of the Lost and Found" because the main purpose of the church is to share the gospel with lost people and give them the opportunity to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. People are spiritually lost. They need to be found.

■ Jimmy Deas is a retired preacher and Christian author.

Clinging to the Bible

The poet, in the fourth stanza of Psalm 119 (verses 25-32), expresses his frustrations about his life. However, he believes the word of God will revive him, and so, he will cling to the Bible.

He expresses two different emotions about something in his life. He says he "cleaves to the dust" (verse 25) and his "soul weeps because of grief" (verse 28). Something in his life may have brought him to some low point, or something has happened to bring about deep sorrow or sadness in his life. On the other hand, these expressions may refer to different emotions for the same event.

In either case, he says God's word, statutes, wonders, testimonies, ordinances, and commandments will do great things for him. They will revive him, strengthen him, and he will "run the way" God would have him live his life.

LIVING GOD'S WAY



Carlton McPeak
carlton_mc@msn.com

He says, "I have told of my ways, and You have answered me; teach me Your statutes" (verse 26). This indicates the writer was praying to God about his situation and God provided an answer to his circumstances through the things He has said. We might say God provided the answers when the man consulted the Bible.

The Bible can help us when we are facing difficult or frustrating times in our life. The Bible can provide context, a frame-

The Bible can help us when we are facing difficult or frustrating times in our life. The Bible can provide context, a framework in which to look at the situation.

work in which to look at the situation. The Bible can give recommendations as to how to handle certain difficult situations. The Bible can give us God's perspective on any situation which will provide us with correct, righteous wisdom concerning the situation.

However, just reading the Bible will only provide an attitude towards those things which bring about grief in our lives. The psalmist points out that he has "chosen the faithful way," he has "placed (God's) ordinances before" him, he will "cling to (God's) testimonies, and he will "run the way of (God's) commandments."

By doing all of these things, God will be the reason for him having an "enlarged heart." This is not a medical condition, but rather God's word has made

room in his heart for him to be glad, to no longer be frustrated with or grieving about something difficult or frustrating in his life.

The Bible is something every Christian should be cleaving to, holding on to tightly. It should be ever present in the Christian's life. On a daily basis, it should be consulted and applied, especially when hard times or frustrating circumstances happen in our life.

By following the actions and attitudes of this psalmist and by meditating, understanding and practicing God's precepts, Christians will be revived. By clinging to the Bible, Christians will be living God's way.

■ Carlton G. McPeak is an evangelist working in the Florida Gateway region. Scriptural quotations from the NASB.

Give thanks to God at all times

In life, each of us will experience different struggles, different situations that lead to happiness in our lives and, at the same time, some of the situations will lead to sorrow.

Oftentimes we find ourselves focusing so much on the current situation at hand that we fail to see the bigger picture in play.

Please read Psalm 100, 105, 106, 107 and 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. In each of these Psalms, the psalmist or the author of the epistle, encourages us to give thanks to God through our Lord Jesus Christ with the help of the Holy Spirit.

The psalmist reminds us in Psalm 100 to acknowledge that the LORD is God, that he is the creator of everything on earth and in heaven. We can be thankful that everything has come from God, through God and is to him (Romans 11:36). Job expressed this even in the midst of his sufferings.

The psalmist reminds us in Psalm 105 of God's faithfulness. We see this more fully expressed through his Son Jesus Christ's death, burial and resurrection from the dead as read in the four gospels. Probably more so as one just sits down and



Robert Bass
rbass328@gmail.com

read the Revelation to John. God is faithful and for this reason we should be able to give thanks with a grateful heart for all that he has done for us.

As we read Psalm 106 about Israel's unfaithfulness to God they found a reason to give thanks to him even as he disciplined them for their idolatry. If we are honest with ourselves, we have reason to give thanks to the Lord for disciplining us as his children when we have been unfaithful to him. If the Lord doesn't discipline us when we sin, as we claim to be his then we are telling ourselves a lie. It's often during those times of being disciplined by the Lord that we learn to give thanks to him for his deliverance not just from our sins but through other situations as well.

Learning to rejoice in the Lord in all situations and learning to pray constantly helps me to understand that I can give thanks to the Lord God in everything because he has either caused it to happen or allowed it to happen so that his Son Jesus Christ is formed in me.

When was the last time you rejoiced in the Lord even when life wasn't going the way you wanted it to? I don't know about you but I'm having to learn how to constantly pray about everything all the time. Learning to rejoice in the Lord in all situations and learning to pray constantly helps me to understand that I can give thanks to the Lord God in everything because he has either caused it to happen or allowed it to happen so that his Son Jesus Christ is formed in me (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Learning to focus on God

is often a struggle because I so often look at the circumstance right in front of me. If you find yourself in the same boat as I am, you can give thanks to the Lord no matter the situation because I am learning and I hope that you learn as well that God's grace is sufficient for us as his power is perfected in our weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Let me encourage to take some time this weekend and spend some time in prayer just thanking God as you count your blessings for all that he has done for you.

■ Robert Bass is pastor of First Baptist Church of Lake City.

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ANOTHER OPINION

Red tape to blame for difficulty to build

President Joe Biden says the Inflation Reduction Act, which contains some \$370 billion in climate spending, represents the most sweeping government investment in clean energy “ever, ever, ever.” To ensure that investment is worthwhile, he’ll need an equally unprecedented overhaul of federal rules and regulations. Congress should make such reforms a top priority.

Building anything in the U.S. requires navigating a rainforest of red tape. A primary impediment is the National Environmental Policy Act, which requires federally funded projects to undergo a laborious environmental-review process. Mandated impact studies can run for hundreds of pages, cost millions of dollars and take years to complete. Faced with such costly busywork, many projects don’t get off the ground at all. Others endure seemingly endless legal challenges.

Green-energy projects have been no exception. Wind, hydropower, geothermal, solar, nuclear: However desirable such endeavors may be — even to the government itself — they’re no match for the sheer obstructive power of state and federal rulebooks. Permitting now takes nearly three years on average for renewables projects, while preparation time for impact statements rose by more than 50% between 2000 and 2018.

Without change, this system could well thwart Biden’s climate goals. By one estimate, the funding in the IRA and last year’s infrastructure bill should be enough to reduce U.S. emissions to 42% below 2005 levels, near the president’s goal of a 50% reduction by 2030. Yet green-energy companies argue — persuasively — that these objectives aren’t possible without permitting reform. As just one example: High-voltage transmission capacity will need to increase by about 60% by 2030. Under current rules, such a build-out could easily take twice that long.

Give credit to West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin, then, for making permitting reform a priority. Last summer, as haggling over the IRA intensified, Manchin offered Democratic leaders a deal: He’d vote for their big spending splurge in exchange for a pledge to revisit the permitting issue down the road.

Among other things, Manchin’s plan would’ve imposed time limits on environmental assessments, established a list of projects of “strategic national importance” for priority review, and given the federal government more power over permitting transmission lines. After a showdown with Senate Republicans, the package quickly died.

Even so, both Biden and Republican leaders say a permitting-reform measure of some kind remains a priority.

As a start, any such deal should scrap the idea of time limits; perversely, truncated reviews can actually lead to worse delays by encouraging more lawsuits. Instead, Congress should make it harder to tie up projects with dubious legal proceedings. In particular, it should shorten the statute of limitations for such suits, enhance the requirements for standing in litigation, and limit the ability of courts to issue injunctions on projects that have already undergone significant environmental review.

Next, a clean-energy economy will be heavily reliant on expanding transmission capacity. Yet new power lines are all too easily obstructed by parochial state and local interests. The best bet is for Congress to pass some version of the SITE Act, which would empower a single federal regulator to oversee big interstate transmission projects in the national interest.

Across federal agencies, finally, new efforts are needed to maximize exemptions, speed reviews and otherwise prioritize clean-energy projects, an undertaking that above all demands leadership. Elected officials are quick to call climate change an “existential threat.” They should show a little more urgency.

■ Bloomberg Opinion



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ALTERNATIVE COULD BE CHAOS

Will Biden run again? Should he?

President Joe Biden has been in an upbeat mood since the Democrats’ best first-term midterm showing in 60 years — and no wonder.

For a second straight election, he achieved his presidency’s overriding goal of protecting the nation’s democratic institutions from the Trumpian threat. And the results relieved any immediate party pressure for him to forgo a 2024 re-election bid.

In fact, last weekend’s USA TODAY/Ipsos poll showed the percentage of Democrats wanting Biden to run and believing he would win up about 10% since August, though half still opposed his re-election candidacy.

Still, as Biden quietly marked his 80th birthday last Sunday, the basic Democratic dilemma remained: Will it be best for the party — and the country — to renominate the nation’s oldest president, even if the alternative is chaos?

Biden’s best argument for running again is that, as in 2020, he feels able to do the job and may be the only Democrat who can beat Donald Trump. But though Trump still dominates the GOP, its unexpectedly poor 2022 showing has more Republicans saying openly that it is time to move on.

Midterm election exit polls showed a higher percentage of voters opposed another race by Trump than opposed a second term bid by Biden.

The prospect of a 2020 rerun against Trump apparently animates the president’s thinking. “Don’t compare me to the almighty, compare me to the alternative,” he likes to say. Of course, with a burgeoning GOP field, almost every alternative is younger and possibly more electable than Trump.

On the other hand, just as France’s King Louis XV correctly predicted more than two centuries ago that his departure would prompt a “deluge,” so too do the Democrats face the possibility that a post-Biden free-for-all could undercut their hopes of retaining the presidency.

Both parties regard Vice President Kamala Harris, the natural heir to Biden and almost certain to run if he bows out, as a weak candidate who would encounter difficulties in both a nominating race and the general election.

But potential rivals need to consider that opposing the first Black,



Carl P. Leubsdorf
carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com

Asian-American and female vice president would be tricky in the increasingly multi-racial Democratic Party. Though Democrats have not yet set their primary calendar, a key early contest will almost certainly

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again be South Carolina, where the 2020 primary electorate was more than half Black.

And if Harris faces impediments, so do her potential rivals. For Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar and Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo, it’s the glass ceiling for women that contributed to Hillary Clinton’s defeat. For Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, it’s being an openly gay man with a husband. For California Gov. Gavin Newsom, it’s an image as a trendy California liberal. And for the best-known progressives, it’s not only being too far left but too old (Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders), too young (New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez), too sharp-edged (Washington Rep. Pramila Jayapal) or too obscure (California Rep. Ro Khanna).

Though Biden would be 86 by the end of a second term, he still seems inclined to seek re-election, as has every modern president. But the nation’s oldest president has left the door ajar, if his health deteriorates or he and his family decide it’s time to end his half-century political career.

“Our intention is to run again,” Biden told his Nov. 9 post-election news conference. But he said it was “ultimately, a family decision”

that would be made sometime early next year, though he added, “I think everybody wants me to run.”

Not everybody in the public. The Election Day exit polls showed a majority of independents and nearly half of all Democrats thought Biden should not run again.

But the pre-election expectation of post-election Democratic disarray focused on Biden’s future didn’t happen. Instead, Republicans are beset with internal strife after failing to meet their expectations of a “red wave” that would capture the House, the Senate and key governorships.

That disarray is providing the Democrats and Biden with a useful respite. If it persists, the House GOP focus on investigating instead of legislating may make him look good by contrast.

Still, many Democrats expect a Biden re-election candidacy would face opposition from the party’s progressive wing, which opposed him in 2020 and has often pressured him to act more boldly. But its most prominent leader, Sanders, is even older than Biden.

Meanwhile, continued good health may be the best way for Biden to allay concerns about his age, along with occasional videos showing him riding his bike. Though he skipped a dinner at the end of one long day, Biden last week completed an arduous, weeklong round-the-world trip to conferences in Egypt, Cambodia and Indonesia that showed him on top of the issues and very much in command.

Still, signs of his age show in his often awkward gait, verbal stumbles and sometimes less-than-forceful public speaking. A re-election campaign would be challenging both politically and physically.

In 2020, the covid pandemic enabled Biden to avoid the usually hectic speaking schedule and campaign from his basement. That won’t be possible in 2024.

As for a possible Trump rematch, Biden insists he feels no pressure for an early decision “no matter what...my predecessor does.”

But the former president’s prospects could ultimately affect Biden’s decision if his principal motivation remains his belief he has the best chance of keeping the 45th president from becoming the 47th.

■ Carl P. Leubsdorf is former Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News.

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TODAY IN HISTORY

On this date:

In 1783, the British evacuated New York during the Revolutionary War.

In 1914, baseball Hall of Famer Joe DiMaggio was born in Martinez, California.

In 1915, a new version of the Ku Klux Klan, targeting blacks, Jews, Catholics and immigrants, was founded by William Joseph Simmons.

In 1947, movie studio executives meeting in New York agreed to blacklist the “Hollywood Ten”

who’d been cited for contempt of Congress the day before.

In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower suffered a slight stroke.

In 1961, the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, USS Enterprise, was commissioned.

In 1963, the body of President John F. Kennedy was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery; his widow, Jacqueline, lighted an “eternal flame” at the gravesite.

In 1986, the Iran-Contra affair erupted as President Ronald Reagan and Attorney General Edwin Meese revealed that profits

from secret arms sales to Iran had been diverted to Nicaraguan rebels.

In 1999, Elian Gonzalez, a 5-year-old Cuban boy, was rescued by a pair of sport fishermen off the coast of Florida, setting off an international custody battle.

In 2001, as the war in Afghanistan entered its eighth week, CIA officer Johnny “Mike” Spann was killed during a prison uprising in Mazar-e-Sharif, becoming America’s first combat casualty of the conflict.

■ Associated Press

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TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

Ruth

Ruth was a Moabite woman who married two Israelite men. The first husband was Mahlon. He had gone from Israel to Moab with his brother Kilion and their parents, Elimelech and Naomi, because of a famine in Israel.

All three men died while in Moab and Naomi decided to return to Bethlehem. Ruth chose to go to Israel with Naomi while, Orpha, Kilion's wife decided to stay in Moab.

Ruth expressed her devotion to Naomi and determination to go with her to Bethlehem with the following words:

"...Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me.

Learn about Ruth's second husband next week.



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 www.lakecitychurchofchrist.org

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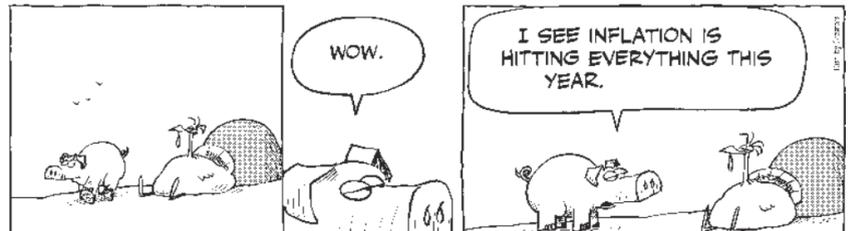
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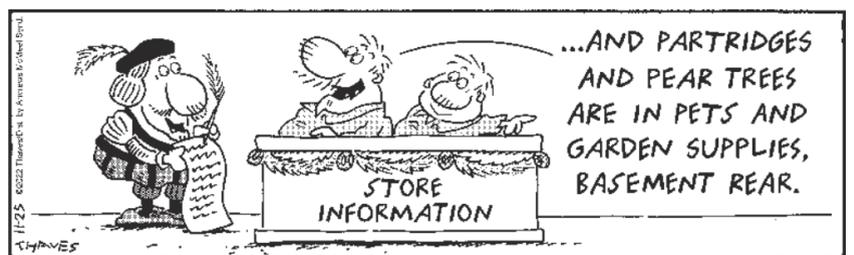
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FOR BETTER OR WORSE



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by Luis Campos
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.
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MZF GONGHSGZJG ICMI JMZZYI KG
WMLGF. SI'P SDNYPPSKVG IY KG
DMIXHG RSICYXI CMESZB VSEGF."
— MDU BHMZI
Previous Solution: "Gratitude opens the door, the power, the wisdom, the creativity of the universe. You open the door through gratitude." — Deepak Chopra
TODAY'S CLUE: W equals F
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22 Smoke detector output
23 Codgers' queries
24 Spinnakers and jibs
27 Set straight
30 "Waterfalls" group
31 Adder's cousin
32 That, in Acapulco
34 — it up (have some laughs)
35 Boss, briefly
37 Well-chosen
38 Talking birds
40 Ranch animal
42 Spanish gold
43 Soup cooker
44 Brawl weapons
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55 Ceiling
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58 Fabric meas.
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(Answer to today's puzzle next page)
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28 At hand
29 Bakers' meas.
33 Gulped down
35 Shopping plaza
36 Like a haunted house
39 More meddlesome
40 Ad — committee
41 Different ones
43 Bodies of water
44 Decree
45 Early Peruvian
47 Dueler's weapon
48 Go by horseback
49 Bride's title
51 Help out
53 New England cape

PUZZLE ANSWERS

HIDATO puzzle grid and solution.

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Universal Sudoku puzzle grid.



Answers to Friday's puzzle: DECEMBER OCTOBER APRIL MARCH JUNE / TANGO SAMBA WALTZ / CARBON COBALT SILVER / SEYMOUR GOODALL / LEMON LIME

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and answers.

DEAR ABBY

Husband merely a bystander as wife goes off the rails



Abigail Van Buren
www.dearabby.com

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for close to a year, and in this short time I've seen a side of my wife I've never seen before. Although I met her during a period of sobriety, she drinks now. The problem is what she does when she drinks. On one occasion, she was supposed to go to the market and return on foot. Instead I found her in a car with a stranger, drinking and high. She claimed it was too cold to walk and she was just trying to keep warm.

On another occasion, she got drunk and had a male friend with whom she'd been intimate in the past pick her and all her belongings up and left me watching her drive away with him. She later called apologizing profusely from a different man's apartment begging me to pick her up. I could go on and on with similar scenarios, but my letter would be too long.

Her latest is when she told me she put a "code" on her phone so I

couldn't find out where she had been. (She had really just turned off location sharing on her phone.) She says she loves me with all her heart and there's no one else, but I find it very hard to believe. Am I the world's biggest, dumbest doormat for not divorcing her? (I can't just turn off my love for her.) -- **SUCKER OUT WEST**

DEAR "SUCKER": If you haven't already contacted your physician, schedule an appointment and be tested for any STDs your wife may have passed along to you after one of her escapades. This scenario will continue until she comes to the realization that if she doesn't immediately get help for her drinking, her marriage is over. The question is

whether she's willing (or able) to give up her addictions to alcohol, whatever other substances she may be sampling, and sex with other men.

Loving her doesn't make you dumb or a doormat. However, sooner or later you must accept that you can't fix what's wrong with her, and you'll have to decide how much more pain you can tolerate. Please accept my sympathy.

DEAR ABBY: I have a single friend in her 40s. She has very noticeable vertical lines between her eyes when in animated conversation that detract greatly from her sweet face. She's on a limited income. I'd like to suggest Botox for her, and I'm willing to pay for it with a gift card or cash. Would it be OK to suggest it to her and how would you approach it? -- **BEAUTY HELPER IN TENNESSEE**

DEAR HELPER: While I'm sure you mean well, if you bring this to your

friend's attention, you may make her self-conscious. Although Botox treatments can make a positive difference in someone's appearance, they are only temporary. To maintain that "fresh" look, they must be repeated, and unless you plan to pay for her Botox in perpetuity, you shouldn't give her something she can't afford.

DEAR READERS: For those of you having trouble coping with stress and anxiety during this challenging time, Jack Drescher, M.D., respected psychiatrist, psychoanalyst and member of the American Psychoanalytic Association, contacted me offering a resource for emotional health matters related to the coronavirus crisis. For more information, go to psychologytoday.com/us/blog/psychoanalysis-unplugged-0. -- **LOVE, ABBY**

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

HIDATO

FIND THE PATH - SOLVE THE PUZZLE

Complete the grid so that numbers 1 - 144 connect horizontally, vertically or diagonally:

		23			18		16	84				
26			32	20		17			83	94		
27			33						81			
5				34	35	101		97				76
4			10				98				77	
1	2			37	105		103					73
		144		38		107					71	
140	139		127	40	125	108					68	
						121	111				67	
131		136			123			114				65
	135		43	48			54	56	59	61		
		44	47		50	51	57					63

www.hidato.com

Dif. ★★★★★

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Five months □□□□□
- Three five-letter dances □□□□□
- Three six-letter elements □□□□□□
- Jane _____ □□
- Two fruits starting with L □□

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

Puzzle Solutions on previous page.

HIDATO FIND THE PATH - SOLVE THE PUZZLE

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

PLAY4

WORD★Roundup™ JUMBLE

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

11/25

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HOROSCOPES | THE LAST WORD BY EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Put more thought into handling your money. Look for an investment that encourages you to upgrade, and be ready for anything that comes your way. Call on those who have your best interests at heart. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stop thinking and rearrange. It's OK to change your mind and head in a different direction if you tidy up loose ends first. Don't settle; do what makes the most sense and brings you closer to your long-term goal. Make your presence felt. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be a good listener, fact-finder and friend. Don't share sensitive information or make changes without doing your homework. Be open to suggestions but intelligent enough to tailor solutions to your circumstances. Put your needs first. Romance is encouraged. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Think about what you want to happen and how you propose to get things done. An innovative approach will plant seeds and give others a chance to see the possibilities. Invest more time and money in yourself, your future and new prospects. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Put your skills to the test and take on a challenge. Get in the game

and make a difference. A change someone makes may not be to your liking but will turn out better than anticipated. Don't hesitate when action is required. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You are overdue for a change. Try something new and let your imagination run wild. Put some thought and effort into your home and lifestyle, and you'll devise a plan that excites you. Avoid illness or injury. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You have the drive and power to get things done your way. Traveling, pursuing educational opportunities and getting together with people who contribute to you mentally, physically and emotionally will achieve your desired results. Stick to the truth, and don't share secrets. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't limit what you can do; take hold of whatever situation you face and turn it into something spectacular. Think big, budget wisely and put your energy where it will bring the highest return. Romance, contracts and commitments are favored. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Check your ego at the door and get down to the business of honesty and integrity. How you treat others and allow them to

treat you counts. Your job is to build respect by being fair. Don't let uncertainty cost you. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A quiet approach to whatever situation you come up against will work best. Don't step in and take over prematurely. Give others a chance to do their thing before you pounce. You will get the highest return if your timing is impeccable. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put your emotions aside and move forward cautiously. Go over every detail and size up situations before you share your thoughts and intentions. Your approach to responsibilities will be fundamental when trying to impress superiors. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Regroup and assess your next move. Align yourself with people you know you can trust, and keep an eye on those you know will disappoint you. Stand back and observe until you see an opportunity to advance. Avoid confusion and emotional manipulation. ★★

CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS
Nov. 25: Katie Cassidy, 36; Jerry Ferrara, 43; Christina Applegate, 51; Bruno Tonioli, 67.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GUHLA

CDYIE

MCTMIO

RIPLSA

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DWELL BONGO PILLOW BUCKET
Answer: They served a fantastic Thanksgiving turkey that was about to be -- GOBBLED UP

Answer to today's puzzle.

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

PLAY4 By John Wilmes

Chicago players

Start of an incantation

Chicago player

Assns.

Mexican resort, for short

Rideshare company

Boast

Viral respiratory disease (Acro.)

Thursday's Solution

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Answer to today's puzzle on opposite page.



COURTESY

Santa Claus is ready to greet visitors to the Downtown Christmas festival in Mayo, waving from atop the Lafayette County Courthouse.

CHRISTMAS

Continued From 1A

Saturday. Holding the festival in downtown Mayo would shine a spotlight on the businesses along Main Street.

"It's not as big as our Pioneer Day event," Buchanan said of the Christmas festival. "It's a little smaller scale. We really started it to promote our downtown businesses."

The inaugural event did just that. "Our local businesses on Main Street reported they had higher than average foot traffic and had really good sales for the day," Buchanan added.

In addition to those businesses, the festival will include food vendors, a cof-

fee vendor and some clothing and craft vendors. Buchanan said several groups — Lafayette County 4-H, the Lafayette FFA and Lafayette High FBLA — will also be using the festival for fundraising efforts.

There will also be entertainment throughout the day with the Boys & Girls Club performing at 10 a.m., followed by Jared Cook at 11 a.m., Sadie Miller at noon, Lighthouse Cheer at 1 p.m. and Jessica Huertematte at 4 p.m.

The festival will conclude with the Downtown Christmas parade through town at 6 p.m. Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will serve as the grand marshals.

"They'll meet back at the courthouse after the parade for pictures with the kids," Buchanan said.

FWHS

Continued From 1A

According to the Project Learning Tree release, Johannesen regularly incorporates Project Learning Tree activities into her curriculum and helps others do the same. Many of those activities are part of her "PARKnership" between

FWHS and Ichetucknee Springs State Park she helped create in 2000. Through that arrangement, Johannesen takes students to the park where they learn about the park and water, enhancing their learning.

Every year, Project Learning Tree recognizes and awards an educator for demonstrating exceptional

commitment and service to developing students' awareness, knowledge, and appreciation of the environment, while also building their skills and ability to make informed decisions; and encouraging them to take personal responsibility for sustaining the environment and the quality of life that depends on it.

Suwannee Lights
November 22 - December 31, 2022

Bring your family to a fun filled tradition at Suwannee Lights.

Take a "Brand New" journey with over 3 miles and over 12 million Christmas lights and displays.

Don't forget to stop and visit Santa's Village, where you will enjoy Campfires, Caroling, S'Mores, Hot Chocolate, Vendors and the Puppitone Rockers.

THIS IS A FAMILY TRADITION YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS.
OPEN NIGHTLY 6PM-10PM

Get your Tickets NOW! Book your reservation in a Cabin or Campsite. Rent a Golf Cart & take a stroll.

SANTA'S VILLAGE
HOT CHOCOLATE
S'MORES
CAMPFIRES
CAROLLING

SNOW NIGHT
DECEMBER 30TH
PRESENTED BY: BUSY BEE

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MAYO THRIFTWAY

THE HOLIDAY SEASON IS SURE TO BE PLEASING!

NOVEMBER 25-30

 New York Strips \$6.99 lb Family Pack	 Boneless Pork Chops \$2.49 lb Family Pack
 Boneless Beef Chuck Roast \$4.99 lb	 Boneless Country Style Ribs \$2.69 lb Family Pack
 Boneless Chuck Steaks \$4.99 lb Family Pack	 Boneless Stew Meat \$4.99 lb Family Pack
 Boneless Thin Cut Pork Chops \$2.69 lb Family Pack	 Chicken Thighs .99¢ lb Family Pack

 45 oz All Varieties Country Crock Margarine \$5.99 ea	 12 oz White or Yellow Yo Quiero Queso \$3.99 ea
 30 - 32 oz Shredded or Diced Ore Ida Hash Browns \$3.99 ea	 1 Gal Pails All Varieties Blue Ribbon Ice Cream \$5.99 ea
 6 lbs Regular or Cajun Margaret Holmes Boiled Peanuts \$6.99 ea	 12 oz Kraft Mac-N-Cheese or Velveeta Shells and Cheese \$3.99 ea
 75 sq ft Reynolds Wrap Aluminum Foil 2/\$9	 Angel Soft Toilet Tissue \$6.99 ea 8 Mega Rolls = 32

 Fresh Avocados \$1.39 ea	 1 lb Bag Baby Carrots \$1.49 ea	 3 lb Bag All Varieties Fresh Apples \$3.99 ea	 Fresh Broccoli Crowns \$1.89 lb
----------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------

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We accept Visa, Mastercard, Debit-Cards, EBT and WIC. We reserve the right to limit QTY'S and to correct all typographical errors.
Shop early – Limited QTY's – No rainchecks.

Story ideas?

Contact
Sports Editor
Jordan Kroeger
754-0421
jkroeger@lakecityreporter.com

SPORTS



Follow @LCR_Sports on Twitter for local stories, score updates and more



Friday, November 25, 2022

www.lakecityreporter.com

1B

PREP FOOTBALL

WHAT TO WATCH FOR



GREGG PACHKOWSKI/Pensacola News Journal

Columbia quarterback Tyler Jefferson tries to escape pressure from Escambia during the Region 1-3S semifinals on Nov. 18.

Here's everything you need to know for tonight's regional finals

Staff report

CHOCTAWHATCHEE (7-5) AT COLUMBIA (8-3)

Kickoff: 7 p.m.
Last week: Choctawhatchee 30, Pine Forest 29; Columbia 17, Escambia 15
Last season's meeting: Did not play.
Players to watch: Choctawhatchee: Cole Tabb (Jr., RB); Columbia: Jaden Robinson (Sr., LB)
What to expect: The Tigers' defense has been stellar this season and will need to be again against the Indians in the Region 1-3S final. Choctaw is never out of a game thanks to its offense, scoring 441 points in 12 games. Running back Cole Tabb, a 3-star recruit with several college offers, has accounted for a bunch of those with 24 rushing touchdowns and two more receiving. The junior has rushed for a whopping 2,269 yards (7.7 average) and has also caught 19 passes for 341 yards. The Tigers must also stop quarterback Jesse Winslette, who is completing 53.7% of his passes for 1,774 yards and 20 touchdowns while also rushing for 540 yards and

11 scores as part of a balanced offensive attack for the Indians. Jayce Brown is his go-to receiver, catching 44 passes for 844 yards and 12 touchdowns this season and he also plays both ways, leading Choctaw's defense with eight interceptions. Columbia's defense has given up more than 14 points just once since September, believing it's ready for the test that's coming its way after holding Escambia to 13 points in the regional semis on a night where linebacker Jaden Robinson had a pick-6 and a forced fumble that were part of four turnovers for the defense. But if Choctaw's offense finds a way to break through, it'll be up to quarterback Tyler Jefferson to bounce back from a rough outing against Escambia where he was just 1 of 6 for 11 yards and finished with negative rushing yards thanks to sacks for an offense that had fewer than 20 total yards.

SUWANNEE (10-2) AT FLORIDA HIGH (12-0)

Kickoff: 7 p.m.
Last week: Suwannee 17, West Florida 14; Florida

REGIONALS continued on 8B

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Portal prowess on display as Florida State meets Florida

'Noles, who are likely to start 7 transfers, have won 4 straight by more than 3 TDs.

By BOB FERRANTE
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — The transfer portal has been kind to Florida State coach Mike Norvell. Florida's Billy Napier should hope for similar success when he dives in deep this offseason. The 16th-ranked Seminoles (8-3) are likely to start seven transfers on offense when they host the rival Gators (6-5) on Friday night. The list includes dynamic quarterback Jordan Travis (Louisville), leading rusher Trey Benson (Oregon) and leading receiver Johnny Wilson (Arizona State). The trio has been the backbone of a team that's scored at least 38 points in four straight victories, each by more than three touchdowns. No one would be surprised to see them do the same to Florida, which is coming off a humbling loss at Vanderbilt and has been gouged for more than 400 yards in seven games already this season. FSU is 9 1/2-point favorites, according to FanDuel Sportsbook. It's the largest point spread in favor of the Seminoles at home in the series since 2000. Getting to this point has been a credit to Norvell, who mined the portal for 35 guys in his first three seasons. "If there's a right player that might have a little more experience or can come in and make that immediate impact, that still fits our locker room and

PORTAL continued on 7B



GARY MCCULLOUGH/Associated Press

Florida State running back Trey Benson is lifted by offensive lineman Jazston Turnetine in celebration after scoring a touchdown during Saturday's game in Tallahassee.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Columbia goes 0-2 at Insider exposure

Staff report

Columbia dropped both games in the Insider Exposure at Bolles High School this week, losing to Central Gwinnett 56-35 on Monday and then Orlando Jones 47-44 on Tuesday. Jolena Gardner had 12 points, 11 rebounds, seven blocks, four assists and four steals in the loss to Central Gwinnett (3-0). Ayesha Broxey had nine points and Eriel Baker had eight points. Broxey poured in 18 points for Columbia (3-3) against Jones (2-2), while Gardner had another double-double with 10 points and 13 rebounds to go with four blocks. Baker also had 10 points, six rebounds, five assists and five steals in the loss.

XAVIER 90, FLORIDA 83

Gators fall to Musketeers in first game of Phil Knight Legacy

Jones, Boum each score 22 points to help Xavier hold off Florida's late run in Portland.

Associated Press

PORTLAND — Colby Jones and Souley Boum each scored 22 points and Xavier beat Florida 90-83 on Thursday in opening-round play of the Phil Knight Legacy. Xavier was ahead by as many as 11 points in the second half, but its lead was cut to one possession three times down the stretch, the last with 3:14 to play. Xavier was off the mark on a 3-pointer, but grabbed the offensive rebound and Adam Kunkel made a driving layup to start a run of six straight points for an 88-79 lead. Jones was 8 of 12 from the field, including 4 of 5 from 3-point range, and Boum made seven field goals and seven free throws. Xavier shot 56% overall, including 10 of 20 from distance. Jack Nunge added 16 points and nine rebounds and Zach Freemantle had 14 points and 11 rebounds for Xavier (4-1), which had five starters



CRAIG MITCHELLDYER/Associated Press

Xavier guard Desmond Claude dribbles around Florida guard Kyle Lofton during the opening round of the Phil Knight Legacy on Thursday in Portland, Ore. reach double-figure scoring. Kunkel finished with 11 points. Trey Bonham, making his first start after transferring from VMI, led Florida (3-2) with 23 points and Will Richard, a Belmont transfer, added 18. Colin Castleton, who entered averaging 25.3 points per game, had 11 points, 10 rebounds and four assists, and Riley Kugel scored 12 points. Xavier will face No. 8 Duke on Friday, while Florida faces Oregon State.

SIENA 60, FLORIDA STATE 63

Saints blitz, shock Seminoles at ESPN Events Invitational

Platek, McCollum combine for 38 points to lead Siena past FSU in tourney opener.

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA — Andrew Platek scored a career-high 20 points, Javian McCollum added 18 with a career-high eight assists and Siena blitzed Florida State 80-63 to open the ESPN Events Invitational on Thursday. The Saints (3-2), picked to finish sixth in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, jumped on the Seminoles (1-5), picked fifth in the Atlantic Coast Conference early, weathered a couple of small runs and led by as many as 20 late in the game. Siena had not beat a Power 5 team in eight years, an ACC team in 12 or won a game in two previous appearances in this tournament. It also happened to be the 50th win for head coach Carmen Maciariello, the fourth-year coach who graduated from the school in 2001. The Saints get another shot at a signature win on Friday against the winner of Ole Miss-Stanford. FSU plays the loser. Siena shot 58%, McCollum scored 12 points and Platek 10, and raced to a 43-26 halftime lead over the Seminoles, who shot 30%.

FSU continued on 8B

SCOREBOARD

NFL										
AMERICAN CONFERENCE										
East										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Buffalo	8	3	0.727	309	199					
Miami	7	3	0.700	252	241					
N.Y. Jets	6	4	0.600	199	186					
New England	6	4	0.600	213	169					
South										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Tennessee	7	3	0.700	193	185					
Indianapolis	4	6	1.409	173	220					
Jacksonville	3	7	0.300	216	205					
Houston	1	8	1.150	159	230					
North										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Baltimore	7	3	0.700	248	199					
Cincinnati	6	4	0.600	265	215					
Cleveland	3	7	0.300	240	269					
Pittsburgh	3	7	0.300	170	244					
West										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Kansas City	8	2	0.800	300	233					
L.A. Chargers	5	5	0.500	227	258					
Denver	3	7	0.300	147	171					
Las Vegas	3	7	0.300	225	242					

NATIONAL CONFERENCE										
East										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Philadelphia	9	1	0.900	263	183					
Dallas	8	3	0.727	279	187					
N.Y. Giants	7	4	0.636	225	232					
Washington	6	5	0.545	214	223					
South										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Tampa Bay	5	5	0.500	183	180					
Atlanta	5	6	0.455	259	274					
New Orleans	4	7	0.364	249	267					
Carolina	3	8	0.273	207	256					
North										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
Minnesota	8	2	0.800	229	231					
Detroit	4	7	0.364	275	310					
Green Bay	4	7	0.364	202	243					
Chicago	3	8	0.273	241	274					
West										
W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA					
San Francisco	6	4	0.600	236	173					
Seattle	6	4	0.600	257	241					
Arizona	4	7	0.364	240	296					
L.A. Rams	3	7	0.300	168	227					

COLLEGE FOOTBALL										
CFP TOP 25 SCHEDULE										
Thursday's Games										
No. 20 Mississippi	vs.	Mississippi St.	7 p.m.							
No. 16 Florida St.	vs.	NC State	7:30 p.m.							
No. 17 UCLA	at	California	4:30 p.m.							
No. 18 North Carolina	vs.	NC State	3:30 p.m.							
No. 19 Tulane	at	No. 21 Cincinnati	Noon							
No. 24 Texas	vs.	Baylor	Noon							
Saturday's Games										
No. 1 Georgia	vs.	Georgia Tech	Noon							
No. 2 Ohio St.	vs.	No. 3 Michigan	Noon							
No. 4 TCU	vs.	Iowa St.	4 p.m.							
No. 5 Southern Cal	vs.	No. 13 Notre Dame	7:30 p.m.							
No. 6 LSU	at	Texas A&M	7 p.m.							
No. 7 Clemson	vs.	South Carolina	Noon							
No. 8 Alabama	vs.	Auburn	3:30 p.m.							
No. 9 Tennessee	at	Vanderbilt	7:30 p.m.							
No. 10 Oregon	at	No. 22 Oregon St.	3:30 p.m.							
No. 11 Penn St.	vs.	Michigan St.	4 p.m.							
No. 12 Washington	at	Washington St.	10:30 p.m.							
No. 14 Utah	at	Colorado	4 p.m.							
No. 15 Kansas St.	vs.	Kansas	8 p.m.							
No. 23 Coastal Carolina	at	James Madison	Noon							
No. 25 UCF	at	South Florida	7 p.m.							

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL										
AP TOP 25 SCHEDULE										
Wednesday's Games										
No. 3 Kansas	80, NC State	74, Battle 4								
Atlanta's quarterfinals										
No. 7 Baylor	89, McNeese	St. 60								
No. 9 Arkansas	79, No. 17 San Diego	St. 74, Jim Maui								
Invitational third-place game										
No. 14 Arizona	81, No. 10 Creighton	79, Jim Maui								
Invitational championship										
No. 11 Indiana	87, UALR	68								
No. 13 Auburn	43, Northwestern	42, Cancun								
Challenge Riviera Division championship										
No. 15 Kentucky	96, North Florida	56								
No. 19 UCLA	100, Pepperdine	53								
Ohio St. 80, No. 21 Texas Tech	73, Jim Maui									
Invitational fifth-place game										
No. 22 Tennessee	71, Butler	45, Battle 4								
Atlanta's quarterfinals										
Thursday's Games										
No. 1 North Carolina	89, Portland	81, Phil Knight								
Legacy quarterfinals										
No. 3 Kansas	69, Wisconsin	68, OT, Battle 4								
Atlanta's semifinals										
No. 8 Duke	54, Oregon	St. 51, Phil Knight								
Legacy quarterfinals										
No. 22 Tennessee	73, USC	66, OT, Battle 4								
Atlanta's semifinals										
No. 20 UConn	vs.	Oregon, Phil Knight								
Legacy quarterfinals										
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**LEGALS
SUWANNEE COUNTY**

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
As Clerk of the Court
Barry A. Baker
BY: /s/ Felicia Flowers
Deputy Clerk
Publish In: Lake City Reporter
Bill To:
MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PEIERCE, LLC
225 E. Robinson St. Suite 155
Orlando, FL 32801
Phone (407) 674-1850
Fax: (321) 248-0420

736711
November 25, 2022
December 2, 2022

FLORIDA RESILIENCY AND ENERGY DISTRICT NOTICE OF INTENT TO USE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS

The Florida Resiliency and Energy District (the "District" or "FRED") hereby provides notice, pursuant to Section 197.3632(3)(a), Florida Statutes, of its intent to use the uniform method of collecting non-ad valorem special assessments to be levied by it over a number of years to fund the cost of qualifying renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation and wind resistance improvements (collectively, "Qualifying Improvements") for those property owners who wish to undertake such improvements within the boundaries of Highlands, Pinellas, Suwannee and Walton County, Florida and any participating incorporated municipality, town or village within the above designated county; General Services District (as defined in Section 2.01 of the Charter of the City of Jacksonville, Florida ("City Charter"), which is Duval County, Florida, including the Second Urban Services District (City of Jacksonville Beach), Third Urban Services District (City of Atlantic Beach), Fourth Urban Services District (City of Neptune Beach) and Fifth Urban Services District (Town of Baldwin) (as defined in Section 2.01 of the City Charter) as authorized by Sections 163.08 and 197.3632, Florida Statutes, which will allow such assessments to be collected annually, commencing in November 2023, in the same manner as provided for ad valorem taxes. The non-ad valorem special assessments to be levied by the District are voluntary and only imposed with the written consent of a property owner wishing to finance Qualifying Improvements. The governing board of the District will consider the adoption of a resolution electing to use the uniform method of collecting such assessments authorized by Sections 163.08 and 197.3632, Florida Statutes, at a public hearing to be held on December 14, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, at Florida Development Finance Corporation, 156 Tuskawilla Road, Suite 2340, Winter Springs FL 32708. INTERESTED PERSONS MAY ALSO ATTEND BY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE USING THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW. TELEPHONE CONFERENCE INSTRUCTIONS: Dial-In Number: 1-646-931-3860, then use Meeting ID: 970 3700 7615 Such resolution will state the need for the levy by the District and will contain a legal description of the jurisdictional boundaries of the District. Copies of the proposed form of resolution may be obtained in advance via email to the FRED Administrator at info@fdcbonds.com or by contacting the PACE Program Supervisor at 407-712-6352. All interested persons are invited to attend. In the event any person decides to appeal any decision by the governing board of the District with respect to any matter relating to the consideration of the resolution at the above-referenced public hearing, a record of the proceeding may be needed and in such an event, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the public hearing is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence on which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the Florida Resiliency and Energy District at 407-712-6352 at least two (2) days prior to the date of the hearing. Persons who are hearing or speech impaired can contact the Florida Dual Party Relay System at 1-800-955-8770 (Voice) and 1-800-955-8771 (TDD). Publication Dates: November 18, 2022 November 25, 2022 December 2, 2022 December 9, 2022

735749
November 17, 25, 2022

305-GENERAL

Lake City Reporter

Multi Media Sales Executive

The Multi Media Sales Executive is responsible for developing relationships and consulting with local retail clients on increasing their business. Our business-to-business sales representative is responsible for selling print, digital and magazine advertising solutions for local retail clients. **Responsibilities:**
-Manage an already thriving account list of established local businesses. Excellent customer service skills is a must.
-Develop and aggressively grow additional sales through prospecting, cold calls and relationship development. A prospect list is provided.
-Ensure both customers and prospects have a detailed understanding of Lake City Reporter, lakecityreporter.com, Currents, Homeseller and other company products through a consultative selling approach.
-If you show drive to succeed, we will train and give you the opportunity.

Please send your resume to:
Chris Ratliff,
Advertising Director,
cratliff@lakecityreporter.com

Lake City Reporter

News Reporter

The Lake City Reporter has an opening for an aggressive news reporter. Our community offers plenty of opportunity for enterprise news, including some investigative work. This position covers a variety of news assignments and some features. Plus, there's also an opportunity to write for our variety of magazine products. The successful candidate must be able to generate accurate copy quickly and have instincts for reporting on a variety of subjects. **Send a resume, clips and references to**
Jamie Wachter, editor,
Lake City Reporter at
jwachter@lakecityreporter.com

735124
November 18, 25, 2022
December 2, 9, 2022

**LEGALS
LAFAYETTE COUNTY**

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lafayette County Commission will be accepting applications for the part-time position of Courthouse and Extension Office custodian. Applications may be picked up and turned in at the Clerk of Circuit Court's office at the Lafayette County Courthouse in Mayo, Florida. The deadline for filing applications will be 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. The Lafayette County Board of County Commissioners is an equal employment opportunity employer that does not discriminate against any qualified employee or applicant

**LEGALS
LAFAYETTE COUNTY**

because of race, color, national origin, sex including pregnancy, age, disability or mental status. By Order Of:
Anthony Adams, Chairman
Lafayette County Commission

735746
November 17, 25, 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lafayette County Board of County Commissioners will be accepting bids to re-roof the Fourth District Community Center. The bids should include total bid amounts for both a metal and shingle roof. There will be a mandatory walk-thru meeting held on Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Fourth District Community Center. All bids are due by Friday, December 9, 2022 at 3:00 p.m., and will be opened at a regular scheduled Board Meeting on Monday, December 12, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the bids can be opened. The Lafayette County Board of County Commissioners reserve the right to accept and/or reject any and all bids, with or without cause, to waive technicalities or to accept the bid which, in its judgment, best serves the interest of Lafayette County. Persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made concerning the award of this bid, they will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made. By Order Of:
Anthony Adams, Chairman
Lafayette County Commission
All members of the public are welcome to attend. Notice is further hereby given, pursuant Florida Statute 286.0105, that any person or persons deciding to appeal any matter considered at this public hearing will need a record of the hearing and may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact (386) 294-1600 or via Florida Relay Service at (800) 955-8771. See www.lafayetteclerk.com for updates and amendments to the agenda.

735749
November 17, 25, 2022

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605-PETS & ANIMALS FOR SALE

PUBLISHER'S NOTE
Florida Law 828.29 requires dogs and cats being sold to be at least 8 weeks old and have a health certificate from a licensed veterinarian documenting they have mandatory shots and are free from intestinal and external parasites. Many species of wildlife must be licensed by Florida Fish and Wildlife. If you are unsure, contact the local office for information.

705-HOMES FOR RENT

3/2 CH/A 1744 Ironwood Dr. Ig yard, storage building, \$1,400/mo \$1,500/dep. Pet fee 386-365-8543.

805-HOMES FOR SALE

PUBLISHER'S NOTE
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the fair housing act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin; or any intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under the age of 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll free at 1-800-669-9777, the toll free telephone number to the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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- Give a gift subscription
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- News Tips
- Obituary Form
- Place a Classified Ad
- Submit an Event to the Calendar
- Vacation Delivery Service
- Wedding Announcement

Lake City Reporter

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ACC THIS WEEK



(AP PHOTO/JACOB KUPFFERMAN)

Clemson has won seven straight in the rivalry series following South Carolina's longest-ever run of success of five straight games from 2009-13.

Clemson chasing history vs. rival South Carolina

Clemson coach Dabo Swinney can't think of a better time to face rival South Carolina.

"They played their best game and we played our best game," Swinney said. "We're two good teams coming off big wins. Both teams have some confidence."

Swinney is glad that both teams are playing well heading into the weekend as No. 7 Clemson (10-1) hosts South Carolina (7-4) with a chance to set the all-time best win streak in a series first played in 1896.

The Tigers have won seven straight over the Gamecocks, matching Clemson's run of success from 1934-40 in the Palmetto State's top sporting rivalry.

But South Carolina comes in with some juice after its unexpected 63-38 demolition of then-No. 5 Tennessee last week.

"I love that they did that," Clemson tight end Jake Briningstool said. "Them coming in here hot, with a sense of arrogance, is perfect for us."

Gamecocks quarterback Spencer Rattler knows Clemson will be every bit the challenge Tennessee was and his team will have to have the same hard-working approach it took to beating the Vols if they want to beat a second straight Top-10 opponent.

"I know it's going to be a crazy environment," Rattler said. "We're just looking forward to the opportunity, coming off a good game, we want to have a great week of practice and focus on us. It's all about us."

That's not always easy to do. Among the congratulations he got were texts from ex-NFL players Terrell Owens and Archie Manning.

Gamecocks coach Shane Beamer told

GAME OF THE WEEK

South Carolina Gamecocks vs. No. 7 Clemson Tigers

When — 12 p.m. **Where** — Memorial Stadium **TV** — ABC

Braggin' rights, along with a chance at history for Clemson. The Tigers have won the past seven games over the rival Gamecocks. An eighth would mark the longest streak of success since these Palmetto State schools first played in 1896. A Clemson victory would also keep them in the mix for a College Football Playoff spot, although it would likely need outside help to jump into the top four. South Carolina QB Spencer Rattler against Clemson's pass rush. Rattler has looked, well, rattled for much of the season until a stunning, 63-38, win over then-No. 5 Tennessee where he threw for 438 yards and a school-record six touchdowns. The Tigers defense has been active since a 35-14 loss at Notre Dame on Nov. 5, collecting nine sacks in wins over Louisville and Miami the past two weeks.

— The Associated Press

his players it was time to shut off Tennessee talk. He even told his social media team to quit posting their creative videos or posts on the Vols' win.

Beamer's message to his players about well-wishers: "Thank them, but say we're moving on."

Clemson has rebounded from its lone loss this season at No. 13 Notre Dame three weeks ago, with solid victories over Louisville and Miami to finish off their fourth 8-0 ACC regular season since its championship run began in 2015.

MISSING BACKS

South Carolina pulled off its Tennessee win without its top two tailbacks in injured MarShawn Lloyd and Wake Forest grad transfer Christian Beal-Smith. Lloyd, who still leads the Gamecocks with 556 yards and nine touchdowns, has missed the past three games with a thigh bruise. Beal-Smith, with five rush-

ing TDs, has been out the past two with a foot injury. Beamer said both participated in practice Tuesday.

WHAT'S NEXT

Rattler and Clemson quarterback DJ Uiagalelei both say they're focused on what's ahead this season instead of on the NFL. The two said this week they'll consider their future after the season.

DEAD-LEG DJ

Briningstool said players call their quarterback "Dead-leg DJ" for the way he carefully jukes defenders when he takes off on QB scrambles. Uiagalelei laughs at the nickname but has used that style effectively this season. He's gained 308 yards on 105 attempts with four touchdowns on the ground. Uiagalelei led the Tigers with 89 yards rushing in last week's win over Miami.

RIVALRY TALK

This is Swinney's favorite week of the season. The Alabama native and member of the 1992 Crimson Tide national championship team, Swinney loves the intensity that surrounds games like Auburn-Alabama and Clemson-South Carolina. "Northwestern and Indiana, they're probably not having marriages break up over that," Swinney said. "No offense to Northwestern and Indiana."

— The Associated Press

ACC STANDINGS

ATLANTIC	CONFERENCE				ALL GAMES			
	W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
Clemson	8	0	285	153	10	1	382	220
Florida St.	5	3	269	151	8	3	389	198
Louisville	4	4	218	189	7	4	313	216
NC State	3	4	130	159	7	4	274	206
Wake Forest	3	4	240	236	7	4	411	317
Syracuse	3	4	145	165	6	5	308	249
Boston College	2	5	128	236	3	8	190	332

COASTAL	CONFERENCE				ALL GAMES			
	W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
North Carolina	6	1	232	176	9	2	418	334
Duke	4	3	226	165	7	4	363	243
Pittsburgh	4	3	184	163	7	4	328	265
Georgia Tech	4	4	147	218	5	6	192	304
Miami	3	4	127	197	5	6	267	279
Virginia	1	6	117	185	3	7	170	240
Virginia Tech	1	6	135	190	3	8	212	272

Friday, Nov. 25
 NC State at North Carolina, 3:30 p.m.
 Florida at Florida St., 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 26
 South Carolina at Clemson, Noon
 Georgia Tech at Georgia, Noon
 Virginia at Virginia Tech, TBA
 Louisville at Kentucky, 3 p.m.
 Wake Forest at Duke, 3:30 p.m.
 Syracuse at Boston College, 7:30 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at Miami, 8 p.m.

ACC SEASON LEADERS

PASSING

	COMP	ATT	PCT	YDS	INT	TD
Maye, UNC	269	391	68.8	3,614	4	34
Hartman, WAKE	221	350	63.1	3,074	10	32
Travis, FSU	186	285	65.3	2,526	4	21
Uiagalelei, CLEM	219	335	65.4	2,412	6	21
Leonard, DUKE	202	322	62.7	2,403	5	16
Armstrong, UVA	185	338	54.7	2,210	12	7
Wells, VT	196	332	59	2,171	9	9
Slovits, PITT	166	287	57.8	2,135	8	7

RUSHING

	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD
Abanikanda, PITT	224	1,320	5.9	18
Shipley, CLEM	171	960	5.6	13
Tucker, SYR	185	935	5.1	9
Benson, FSU	121	854	7.1	6
Leonard, DUKE	107	621	5.8	11
Ellison, WAKE	139	601	4.3	4
Maye, UNC	147	597	4.1	5
Parrish Jr., MIA	124	581	4.7	4

RECEIVING

	REC	YDS	TD
Flowers, BC	70	967	10
Hudson, LOU	63	951	1
Perry, WAKE	62	893	10
Downs, UNC	77	878	11
Wayne, PITT	44	807	2
Gadsden II, SYR	48	785	6
Green, UNC	30	678	6
Smith, VT	37	674	3

INSIDE THE NUMBERS

Nine ACC teams are bowl eligible and two more, Georgia Tech and Miami, need one more win to get there. The Hurricanes are home against Pittsburgh. Georgia Tech would have to pull off a shocker against Georgia. ... Louisville have won their most games since Scott Satterfield's first season in 2019 and are bowl eligible for the third time. ... Duke is 35th nationally at 33 points per game while Wake Forest is 94th overall in points given up at almost 29 per contest. ... Wake Forest is giving up almost as many yards as it gains this season. The Demon Deacons wrack up 447 yard per contest, but allow 401 each game.

— The Associated Press

IMPACT PLAYERS

Hartman needs three touchdown passes at Duke to tie Tajh Boyd of Clemson for the career ACC record of 107. Hartman also ranks second in league history with 12,340 passing yards, trailing only N.C. State's Philip Rivers (13,484 from 2000-03). Wake Forest receiver A.T. Perry had 10 catches for 119 yards in beating Syracuse last week. It's the second time in three games he's gone for double-digit receptions and the fourth time this season he's eclipsed the 100-yard mark.

— The Associated Press

LONGSHOT

Georgia Tech has rallied nicely under interim coach Brent Key, winning four of seven games including road wins against two ranked teams (then-No. 24 Pittsburgh and last week against No. 18 North Carolina). But the Yellow Jackets have not faced an opponent like their rival, No. 1 Georgia. The defending national champion Bulldogs beat Georgia Tech 45-0 last year in Atlanta.

— The Associated Press

BEST MATCHUP

Wake Forest Demon Deacons vs. Duke Blue Devils

When — 3:30 p.m. **Where** — Wallace Wade Stadium **TV** — ACC Network

The Demon Deacons ended a three-game skid that knocked them from the Top 25 with a 45-35 victory over Syracuse, while the Blue Devils had a three-game winning streak snapped in a 28-26 loss to Pittsburgh. Both teams feature dynamic QBs. Wake's Sam Hartman ranks sixth nationally with 32 TD passes and Duke's Riley Leonard does damage through the air (16 TD passes) and on the ground (11 TDs).

— The Associated Press

College Football Schedule
All Times EDT — (Subject to change)
Friday, November 25
SOUTH
 NC State (7-4) at North Carolina (9-2), 3:30 p.m.
 Florida (6-5) at Florida St. (8-3), 7:30 p.m.
MIDWEST
 Toledo (7-4) at W. Michigan (4-7), Noon
 Cent. Michigan (4-7) at E. Michigan (7-4), Noon
 Tulane (9-2) at Cincinnati (9-2), Noon
 Arkansas (6-5) at Missouri (5-6), 3:30 p.m.
 Nebraska (3-8) at Iowa (7-4), 4 p.m.
SOUTHWEST
 Baylor (6-5) at Texas (7-4), Noon
FAR WEST
 Utah St. (6-5) at Boise St. (8-3), Noon
 Arizona St. (3-8) at Arizona (4-7), 3 p.m.
 New Mexico (2-9) at Colorado St. (2-9), 3:30 p.m.
 UCLA (8-3) at California (4-7), 4:30 p.m.
 Wyoming (7-4) at Fresno St. (7-4), 10 p.m.

Saturday, November 26
EAST
 Georgia St. (4-7) at Marshall (7-4), Noon
 Rutgers (4-7) at Maryland (6-5), Noon
 Army (4-6) at Umass (1-10), Noon
 Kent St. (4-7) at Buffalo (5-5), 1 p.m.
 East Carolina (6-5) at Temple (3-8), 1 p.m.
 St. Francis (Pa.) (9-2) at Delaware (7-4), 2 p.m.
 Fordham (9-2) at New Hampshire (8-3), 2 p.m.
 Michigan St. (5-6) at Penn St. (9-2), 4 p.m.
 Syracuse (6-5) at Boston College (3-8), 7:30 p.m.
SOUTH
 South Carolina (7-4) at Clemson (10-1), Noon
 Old Dominion (3-8) at South Alabama (9-2), Noon
 W. Kentucky (7-5) at FAU (5-6), Noon
 New Mexico St. (4-6) at Liberty (8-3), Noon

Noon
 Georgia Tech (5-6) at Georgia (11-0), Noon
 Elon (8-3) at Furman (9-2), Noon
 Coastal Carolina (9-1) at James Madison (7-3), Noon
 Virginia (3-7) at Virginia Tech (3-8), 1 p.m.
 Davidson (8-3) at Richmond (8-3), 2 p.m.
 Southern U. (6-4) vs. Grambling St. (3-7) at New Orleans, 2 p.m.
 Louisville (7-4) at Kentucky (6-5), 3 p.m.
 Wake Forest (7-4) at Duke (7-4), 3:30 p.m.
 UAB (5-6) at Louisiana Tech (3-8), 3:30 p.m.
 Auburn (5-6) at Alabama (9-2), 3:30 p.m.
 Southern Miss. (5-6) at Louisiana-Monroe (4-7), 5 p.m.
 Gardner-Webb (6-5) at E. Kentucky (7-4), 5 p.m.
 Appalachian St. (6-5) at Georgia Southern (5-6), 6 p.m.
 Middle Tennessee (6-5) at FIU (4-7), 6 p.m.

Idaho (7-4) at SE Louisiana (8-3), 7 p.m.
 UCF (8-3) at South Florida (1-10), 7 p.m.
 Tennessee (9-2) at Vanderbilt (5-6), 7:30 p.m.
 Pittsburgh (7-4) at Miami (5-6), 8 p.m.
MIDWEST
 Michigan (11-0) at Ohio St. (11-0), Noon
 Akron (1-9) at N. Illinois (3-8), 1:30 p.m.
 Illinois (7-4) at Northwestern (1-10), 3:30 p.m.
 Purdue (7-4) at Indiana (4-7), 3:30 p.m.
 Minnesota (7-4) at Wisconsin (6-5), 3:30 p.m.
 Kansas (6-5) at Kansas St. (8-3), 8 p.m.
SOUTHWEST
 West Virginia (4-7) at Oklahoma St. (7-4), Noon
 Rice (5-6) at North Texas (6-5), 2 p.m.
 Troy (9-2) at Arkansas St. (3-8), 3 p.m.
 UTEP (5-6) at UTSA (9-2), 3:30 p.m.
 Memphis (6-5) at SMU (6-5), 3:30 p.m.
 Iowa St. (4-7) at TCU (11-0), 4 p.m.

Louisiana-Lafayette (5-6) at Texas State (4-7), 5 p.m.
 LSU (9-2) at Texas A&M (4-7), 7 p.m.
 Oklahoma (6-5) at Texas Tech (6-5), 7:30 p.m.
 Tulsa (4-7) at Houston (7-4), 7:30 p.m.
FAR WEST
 Oregon (9-2) at Oregon St. (8-3), 3:30 p.m.
 Hawaii (3-9) at San Jose St. (6-4), 3:30 p.m.
 Utah (8-3) at Colorado (1-10), 4 p.m.
 North Dakota (7-4) at Weber St. (9-2), 4 p.m.
 Nevada (2-9) at UNLV (4-7), 6 p.m.
 Notre Dame (8-3) at Southern Cal (10-1), 7:30 p.m.
 Air Force (8-3) at San Diego St. (7-4), 9 p.m.
 SE Missouri (9-2) at Montana (7-4), 10 p.m.
 Washington (9-2) at Washington St. (7-4), 10:30 p.m.
 BYU (6-5) at Stanford (3-8), 11 p.m.

SEC THIS WEEK



(AP PHOTO/BUTCH DILL)

Alabama fell from national title contention with two last-play losses by a combined four points, but can reach 10 wins and perhaps enhance its bowl destination. Auburn can reach bowl eligibility with a win under interim coach Carnell Williams.

Alabama, Auburn play for bragging rights, bowls

Alabama can lock up another 10-win season. Auburn is targeting bowl eligibility and a happy ending to a trying season.

But this Iron Bowl, more than most in recent memory, is primarily about the year's worth of braggin' rights that come with a win. Typically, that's enough.

The eighth-ranked Crimson Tide (9-2, 5-2 Southeastern Conference, No. 7 CFP) isn't playing to remain in the league title or playoff contention but could still perhaps enhance its bowl destination. That reality denies Auburn (5-6, 2-5) even the joys of playing the spoiler role but a bowl shot is still on the line.

It's still big, as Alabama coach Nick Saban said, "one of the greatest rivalry games in college football." Important to fans and players' legacies and offseason moods. It's just for statewide supremacy, not national title hopes like it has been for both programs multiple times since Saban's arrival.

"It means a lot to us, our players and our fans, and we're going to do the best job we can to get ready for this game," said Saban, whose teams have all reached 10 wins every season following his 2007 debut.

Auburn has staged a minor turnaround with back-to-back wins over Texas A&M and Western Kentucky under interim coach Carnell Williams. It would become a major one with an upset of the Tide, which is a three-touchdown favorite.

Williams, the hero of the 2003 Iron Bowl for Auburn, doesn't think he needs a "magical speech" to get his team up for this one. But he has had the Tigers playing better lately.

"I truly feel like a lot of stuff that's understood really doesn't need to be said," said Williams, a former Auburn and NFL

GAME OF THE WEEK

Auburn Tigers vs. No. 8 Alabama Crimson Tide

When — 3:30 p.m. Where — Bryant-Denny Stadium TV — CBS

In a week filled with plenty of traditional rivals, the Iron Bowl stands out. There's no trip to the Southeastern Conference title game on the line, but there is plenty of drama for both teams. The Crimson Tide had only been outside the College Football Playoff once in its first six years until 2022. A loss in this one might drop Alabama outside the New Year's Six tier of bowls. Alabama's two losses have come by a total of four points. Alabama is led by Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Bryce Young, who has passed for 2,664 yards with 24 touchdowns and six interceptions. Auburn has wins over Texas A&M and Western Kentucky the past two weeks. The Tigers and interim coach Carnell Williams hope to win against rival Alabama for just third time in the past nine games. Tigers tailback Jarquez Hunter has run for 100 or more yards in both victories. He also rushed for a TD and threw a 20-yard touchdown pass to Koy Moore.

— The Associated Press

running back who took over following Bryan Harsin's firing on Oct. 31. "I'm looking for our guys to come out and fight and compete and we're not backing down at all."

HOME FINALE

This figures to be the last game at Bryant-Denny Stadium for the Tide's biggest stars and top NFL prospects, quarterback Bryce Young and linebacker Will Anderson Jr.

Or even their last games at Alabama if either or both opt out of a bowl game in their first time missing the playoffs. Both just say they're focused on this game, not the future.

"I haven't thought about anything in the future," Young said. "All I care about now is this program."

RUNNING MATES

Auburn's Tank Bigsby and Jarquez

Hunter have both topped 100 rushing yards in each of the past two games. Quarterback Robby Ashford is the Tigers' No. 2 runner.

Alabama counters with tailback Jahmyr Gibbs (presuming his ankle is healed up) and Jase McClellan, who ran for 156 yards and two touchdowns in his absence against Austin Peay.

POOR RECEPTION

Alabama and Auburn have both been sorely lacking in the go-to receiver department. Running backs lead both in receptions.

Ja'Corey Brooks, a hero of last year's Iron Bowl, is leading Alabama with 547 yards followed closely by Jermaine Burton (503). That means the Tide's four-year string with a 1,000-yard receiver is coming to an end.

Auburn's Ja'Varrious Johnson has a team-high 473 yards and two of the wide receivers' four total touchdown catches.

PARTY LIKE 2019

Auburn got to play the spoiler in 2019, eking out a 48-45 win over the fifth-ranked Tide. LSU had already clinched a spot in the SEC title game en route to a national title, but this loss officially knocked Alabama from playoff contention.

The Tigers almost did it again last season, falling 24-22 in a four-overtime game. Alabama survived and won the SEC title before falling in a national championship rematch with Georgia.

— The Associated Press

SEC STANDINGS

EAST	CONFERENCE				ALL GAMES			
	W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
Georgia	8	0	301	97	11	0	422	122
Tennessee	5	2	291	215	9	2	512	282
South Carolina	4	4	208	256	7	4	349	300
Florida	3	5	231	229	6	5	343	300
Kentucky	3	5	140	180	6	5	239	216
Missouri	2	5	134	178	5	6	277	273
Vanderbilt	2	5	127	262	5	6	295	376

WEST	CONFERENCE				ALL GAMES			
	W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
LSU	6	1	200	169	9	2	367	220
Alabama	5	2	268	163	9	2	440	189
Mississippi	4	3	224	226	8	3	388	266
Mississippi St.	3	4	179	207	7	4	368	268
Arkansas	3	4	201	209	6	5	341	316
Auburn	2	5	151	215	5	6	270	305
Texas A&M	1	6	153	202	4	7	235	231

Thursday, Nov. 24

Mississippi St. at Mississippi, 7 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 25

Arkansas at Missouri, 3:30 p.m.

Florida at Florida St., 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 26

South Carolina at Clemson, Noon

Georgia Tech at Georgia, Noon

Louisville at Kentucky, 3 p.m.

Auburn at Alabama, 3:30 p.m.

LSU at Texas A&M, 7 p.m.

Tennessee at Vanderbilt, 7:30 p.m.

SEC SEASON LEADERS

PASSING

	COMP	ATT	PCT	YDS	INT	TD
Rogers, MSST	359	527	68.1	3,474	5	32
Hooker, TENN	229	329	69.6	3,135	2	27
Bennett, UGA	236	348	67.8	3,011	6	14
Young, ALA	210	329	63.8	2,664	4	24
Rattler, SC	210	314	66.9	2,420	9	14
Daniels, LSU	217	312	69.6	2,377	2	15
Dart, MISS	171	283	60.4	2,363	8	16
Richardson, FLA	167	300	55.7	2,351	8	14

RUSHING

	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD
Judkins, MISS	229	1,385	6	16
Sanders, ARK	209	1,379	6.6	10
Davis, VAN	211	982	4.7	5
Bigsby, AUB	164	907	5.5	10
Evans, MISS	131	899	6.9	8
Achane, TA&M	158	887	5.6	6
Rodriguez Jr., UK	151	784	5.2	6
Gibbs, ALA	119	774	6.5	6

RECEIVING

	REC	YDS	TD
Hyatt, TENN	64	1,181	15
Mingo, MISS	41	768	5
Wells Jr., SC	54	767	4
Heath, MISS	47	754	4
Sheppard, VAN	54	728	9
Lovett, MIZ	50	716	3
Landers, ARK	40	701	6
Nabers, LSU	51	657	1

INSIDE THE NUMBERS

Florida has gone 434 games without being shut out, a streak that stretches back to 1988 and a 16-0 loss to Auburn.

... Arkansas defensive back Kris Abrams-Draine is tied for the SEC lead with 11 pass breakups. ... Georgia has scored on 59 of its 61 possessions inside the opponents' 20-yard line. That leads the country at 97%.

... Kentucky running back Chris Rodriguez tied the school mark with his 19th 100-yard rushing game last week. ... LSU quarterback Jayden Daniels moved past 3,000 yards of total offense last week, becoming the fourth player in school history to accomplish that in a season.

— The Associated Press

IMPACT PLAYER

Mississippi State junior Emmanuel Forbes leads the SEC with six interceptions, double the total of anyone else this season. Forbes has brought three of them back for touchdowns, extending his FBS record of six. He's got 14 picks for his career and is the active leader among FBS players. Forbes had interception return touchdowns against Texas A&M, Kentucky and East Tennessee State. Against the Aggies, Forbes also blocked a punt that was returned for a touchdown.

— The Associated Press

UPSET WATCH

No. 9 Tennessee (9-2, 5-2) will have to keep its head on straight so its loss to South Carolina doesn't hurt them twice at Vanderbilt (5-6, 2-5). The Commodores have a two-game win streak and would love to add the Vols to their run of success. Tennessee will be without star QB Hendon Hooker, who tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee at South Carolina and is finished for the year.

— The Associated Press

MATCHUP OF THE WEEK

No. 5 LSU Tigers vs. Texas A&M Aggies

When — 7 p.m. Where — Kyle Field TV — ESPN

The Tigers, winners of five straight, have already secured a spot in the SEC title game against top-ranked Georgia but must take care of business against lowly Texas A&M to have any chance of sneaking into the College Football Playoff. The Aggies snapped a six-game skid with a sloppy win over UMass last week and hope to build on that victory Saturday as they wrap up a disappointing season.

The game's key matchup will be LSU QB Jayden Daniels vs. Texas A&M's defense. The dual-threat Daniels not only leads the Tigers with 2,377 yards passing, he is also the team's top rusher with 740 yards. The Aggies rank second in the nation by allowing just 152.5 yards passing a game but have struggled against the run. They rank 123rd in the country by allowing a whopping 210.8 yards rushing.

— The Associated Press

College Football Schedule

All Times EDT — (Subject to change)

Friday, November 25

SOUTH

NC State (7-4) at North Carolina (9-2), 3:30 p.m.

Florida (6-5) at Florida St. (8-3), 7:30 p.m.

MIDWEST

Toledo (7-4) at W. Michigan (4-7), Noon

Cent. Michigan (4-7) at E. Michigan (7-4), Noon

Tulane (9-2) at Cincinnati (9-2), Noon

Arkansas (6-5) at Missouri (5-6), 3:30 p.m.

Nebraska (3-8) at Iowa (7-4), 4 p.m.

SOUTHWEST

Baylor (6-5) at Texas (7-4), Noon

FAR WEST

Utah St. (6-5) at Boise St. (8-3), Noon

Arizona St. (3-8) at Arizona (4-7), 3 p.m.

New Mexico (2-9) at Colorado St. (2-9), 3:30 p.m.

UCLA (8-3) at California (4-7), 4:30 p.m.

Wyoming (7-4) at Fresno St. (7-4), 10 p.m.

Saturday, November 26

EAST

Georgia St. (4-7) at Marshall (7-4), Noon

Rutgers (4-7) at Maryland (6-5), Noon

Army (4-6) at UMass (1-10), Noon

Kent St. (4-7) at Buffalo (5-5), 1 p.m.

East Carolina (6-5) at Temple (3-8), 1 p.m.

St. Francis (Pa.) (9-2) at Delaware (7-4), 2 p.m.

Fordham (9-2) at New Hampshire (8-3), 2 p.m.

Michigan St. (5-6) at Penn St. (9-2), 4 p.m.

Syracuse (6-5) at Boston College (3-8), 7:30 p.m.

SOUTH

South Carolina (7-4) at Clemson (10-1), Noon

Old Dominion (3-8) at South Alabama (9-2), Noon

W. Kentucky (7-5) at FAU (5-6), Noon

New Mexico St. (4-6) at Liberty (8-3), Noon

Noon Georgia Tech (5-6) at Georgia (11-0), Noon

Elon (8-3) at Furman (9-2), Noon

Coastal Carolina (9-1) at James Madison (7-3), Noon

Virginia (3-7) at Virginia Tech (3-8), 1 p.m.

Davidson (8-3) at Richmond (8-3), 2 p.m.

Southern U. (6-4) vs. Grambling St. (3-7) at New Orleans, 2 p.m.

Louisville (7-4) at Kentucky (6-5), 3 p.m.

Wake Forest (7-4) at Duke (7-4), 3:30 p.m.

UAB (5-6) at Louisiana Tech (3-8), 3:30 p.m.

Auburn (5-6) at Alabama (9-2), 3:30 p.m.

Southern Miss. (5-6) at Louisiana-Monroe (4-7), 5 p.m.

Gardner-Webb (6-5) at E. Kentucky (7-4), 5 p.m.

Appalachian St. (6-5) at Georgia Southern (5-6), 6 p.m.

Middle Tennessee (6-5) at FIU (4-7), 6 p.m.

Idaho (7-4) at SE Louisiana (8-3), 7 p.m.

UCF (8-3) at South Florida (1-10), 7 p.m.

Tennessee (9-2) at Vanderbilt (5-6), 7:30 p.m.

Pittsburgh (7-4) at Miami (5-6), 8 p.m.

MIDWEST

Michigan (11-0) at Ohio St. (11-0), Noon

Akron (1-9) at N. Illinois (3-8), 1:30 p.m.

Illinois (7-4) at Northwestern (1-10), 3:30 p.m.

Purdue (7-4) at Indiana (4-7), 3:30 p.m.

Minnesota (7-4) at Wisconsin (6-5), 3:30 p.m.

Kansas (6-5) at Kansas St. (8-3), 8 p.m.

SOUTHWEST

West Virginia (4-7) at Oklahoma St. (7-4), Noon

Rice (5-6) at North Texas (6-5), 2 p.m.

Troy (9-2) at Arkansas St. (3-8), 3 p.m.

UTEP (5-6) at UTSA (9-2), 3:30 p.m.

Memphis (6-5) at SMU (6-5), 3:30 p.m.

Iowa St. (4-7) at TCU (11-0), 4 p.m.

Louisiana-Lafayette (5-6) at Texas State (4-7), 5 p.m.

LSU (9-2) at Texas A&M (4-7), 7 p.m.

Oklahoma (6-5) at Texas Tech (6-5), 7:30 p.m.

Tulsa (4-7) at Houston (7-4), 7:30 p.m.

FAR WEST

Oregon (9-2) at Oregon St. (8-3), 3:30 p.m.

Hawaii (3-9) at San Jose St. (6-4), 3:30 p.m.

Utah (8-3) at Colorado (1-10), 4 p.m.

North Dakota (7-4) at Weber St. (9-2), 4 p.m.

Nevada (2-9) at UNLV (4-7), 6 p.m.

Notre Dame (8-3) at Southern Cal (10-1), 7:30 p.m.

Air Force (8-3) at San Diego St. (7-4), 9 p.m.

SE Missouri (9-2) at Montana (7-4), 10 p.m.

Washington (9-2) at Washington St. (7-4), 10:30 p.m.

BYU (6-5) at Stanford (3-8), 11 p.m.

NFL

Bills, Cowboys earn wins on Thanksgiving

Associated Press

DETROIT — Tyler Bass made a tiebreaking 45-yard field goal with 2 seconds left, lifting the Buffalo Bills to a 28-25 win over the Detroit Lions on Thursday for their second victory in five days at Ford Field.

Josh Allen set up the game-winning kick by starting the drive with a 36-yard pass to Stefon Diggs and running twice for 12 yards.

Buffalo (8-3) has won two straight to move a half-game ahead of Miami in the AFC East.

Allen threw a go-ahead, 5-yard touchdown pass to Diggs with 2:40 left, but Bass missed the extra point to make it 25-22.

The Lions converted fourth-and-1 from midfield with Amon-Ra St. Brown's 7-yard end-around to set up Michael Badgley's game-tying, 51-yard field goal with 23 seconds to go. Badgley missed a 29-yard field goal late in the third and Jared Goff took a sack for a safety in the same quarter and those mistakes proved to be costly.

Allen had a passing and rushing touchdown in the first half, finishing 24 of 42 for 253 yards to more than make up for throwing his 11th interception of the season.

Detroit (4-7) missed an opportunity to win four straight games for the first time since 2016 and

lost a franchise-record sixth straight game on Thanksgiving

COWBOYS 28, GIANTS 20

ARLINGTON, Texas — Dak Prescott threw two touchdown passes to tight end Dalton Schultz, Ezekiel Elliott ran for a score and Dallas beat New York.

Rookie Peyton Hendershot ran for a 2-yard TD for Dallas. The victory ended a three-game losing streak on the holiday for the Cowboys (8-3), who moved a game ahead of the Giants in the NFC East while sweeping the season series.

Prescott's TD tosses to Schultz came about five minutes apart in the third quarter, turning a 13-7 deficit into a 21-13 lead.

Saquon Barkley was held to 39 yards rushing with a 1-yard TD behind a makeshift offensive line missing three starters because of injury in the third loss in the past four games for the Giants (7-4).

Dallas, the NFL leader in sacks coming in, dropped Daniel Jones three times while limiting him to 14 yards rushing.

CeeDee Lamb had six catches for 106 yards and set up three Dallas touchdowns, starting with a 25-yard catch before Elliott's 6-yard run.

Elliott had a season-high 92 yards rushing, and the Cowboys overcame two interceptions from Prescott, who threw for 261 yards.

PORTAL

Continued from 1B

what we're building, then obviously we will explore all those things," Norvell said.

Norvell's starting lineup is filled with transfers: three offensive linemen, the team's top two tacklers and its best pass rusher.

Napier used the portal sparingly in his first year, bringing running back Montrell Johnson and right guard O'Cyrus Torrence with him from Louisiana-Lafayette and adding Arizona State receiver Ricky Pearsall. All three have been integral additions. Johnson leads the team in rushing, Torrence is likely an All-Southeastern Conference selection and Pearsall leads the Gators with three TD catches.

Napier is expected to wade further into the portal pool in Year 2, especially since the Gators are losing nine scholarship players to graduation and already have seen another eight guys leave the program in the past month.

"I think it's a shame sometimes when they do it before the season's out," Napier said. "I don't necessarily think that's a positive. But it's the rules that we've been given, right? You can sit around and worry about that or you can just focus on the things you can control. ... I think we all understand it's happening everywhere."

HOBBLED GATORS

Florida will be without five receivers, including Anthony Richardson's top two targets. Napier ruled out leading receiver Xzavier Henderson and second-leading receiver Justin

Shorter along with backups Ja'Quavion Frazier, Marcus Burke and Thai Chiaokhiao-Bowman on Wednesday.

Ricky Pearsall was listed as questionable, but Napier expects the Arizona State transfer to be cleared to play.

"We've been in this situation in the past," Napier said. "There's been parts of our team every week throughout the season where we've had a handful of guys banged up.

"It's a great opportunity for those players and we've got great stories from different times of the year. ... Next guy up and certainly excited to watch some of these guys play."

Caleb Douglas, Pearsall and Daejon Reynolds were listed as projected starters on Florida's weekly depth chart. Reynolds made the most of an increased role last week at Vanderbilt, finishing with eight catches for 165 yards and two touchdowns.

Reynolds has 11 catches for 244 yards on the season. Douglas has eight receptions for 150 yards and two scores. Pearsall has caught 24 passes for 448 yards and three TDs. But there's little, if any, depth behind them.

"There's no question they're very capable," Napier said. "The way we practice, all the players on our team get multiple opportunities throughout the OTAs in the summer, training camp, you know it helps you build depth on your team so you can survive some of these situations."

Henderson and Shorter have been Florida's big-play receivers all year. Henderson has 38 catches for 410 yards and two TDs. Shorter has 29 receptions for 577 yards and two scores.

Florida does not disclose the exact nature of injuries,

only saying upper or lower body. Henderson and Shorter both have lower-body injuries. Pearsall, Frazier, Burke and Chiaokhiao-Bowman have upper-body issues.

Linebacker Ventrell Miller, the heart of the Gators' defense, also has to sit out the first half because of a targeting ejection against Vanderbilt. The Gators also could be without safety and leading tackler Rashad Torrence.

Miller's absence would be the biggest setback considering the Seminoles have run for at least 200 yards in six consecutive games — the longest active streak in the nation.

"It's going to be a big loss," Florida safety Trey Dean said. "But we're going to be all right, I promise you that."

NOVEMBER REIGN

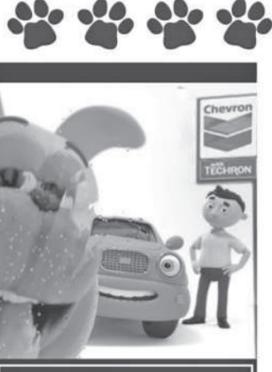
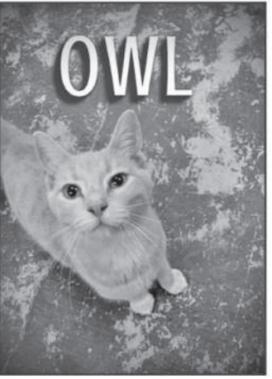
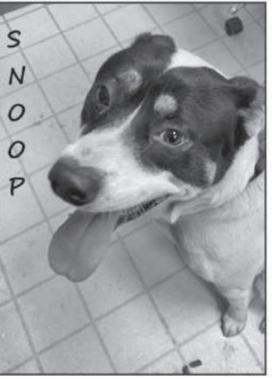
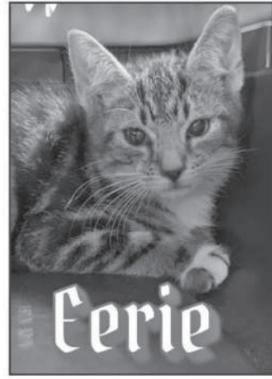
FSU's Travis is completing 81.6% of his passes in three November games. He has 11 TD passes and just nine incompletions in wins over Miami, Syracuse and Louisiana-Lafayette. Travis has 21 TD passes, five rushing scores and a TD reception this season.

NOT SO SPECIAL

Florida is coming off its worst special-teams performance of the season. The Gators muffed a punt that led to a touchdown and missed an extra point in a seven-point loss at Vanderbilt.

Since returning a punt 48 yards to set up a score against Missouri in early October, Napier's team has done little to change games in that phase.

Florida State's units, meanwhile, have flourished under Norvell and could have an advantage.



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REGIONALS

Continued from 1B

High 18, Pensacola Catholic 14

Last season's meeting: Florida High 35, Suwannee 8

Players to watch: Suwannee: Brandon Robinson (Sr., LB); Florida High: Micahi Danzy (Jr., RB/SS)

What to expect: This Region 1-2S final should be a much more competitive game than a year ago when Florida High poured it on in Suwannee's season finale during a driving rainstorm. The Seminoles, who were 8-1 after that win last year and advanced to a state semifinal before losing to Chaminade-Madonna, are once again elite. Florida High is the top-rated team in Class 2S and has an offense adept at beating teams through the air — quarterback Jeremy Johnson has thrown for more than 1,800 yards — and on the ground — running backs Micahi Danzy and Rhyder Poppell have combined for more than 1,900 yards rushing. The Seminoles' defense, while not as talented individually as West Florida or Bradford, plays great together and doesn't beat itself. Suwannee, winners of eight straight and looking for its first semifinal appearance since 2014, has been the same way during its winning streak. The Bulldogs capitalized on four West Florida turnovers last week to edge out a 17-14 win on the strength of its defense, which is allowing just 8.7 points since its season opener against Flagler Palm Coast. That defense has been complimented by an offense that has proved capable of making big plays when it needs to against Suwannee's toughest opponents, leading to wins against West Florida, Bradford (10-7), Wakulla (22-14) and North Marion (10-7), and providing a recipe for trying to knock off the Seminoles.

LAFAYETTE (10-2) AT UNION COUNTY (7-2)

Kickoff: 7 p.m.

Last week: Lafayette 31, Hilliard 13; Union County 27, Madison County 16

Last season's meeting: Did not play

Players to watch: Lafayette: Tywan Williamson (Fr., QB); Union County: Markus Strong (Sr., DE)

What to expect: Lafayette head coach Marcus Edwards said his team needs to find balance in order to hang with Union County in the Region 3-1R final.



JACK HOWDESHELL/Special to the Reporter

Lafayette running back Miami McKnight scores a touchdown against Hilliard last Friday in the Region 3-1R semifinals.

While that could come from feeding senior running back Miami McKnight, it may fall on Edwards' freshman quarterback to carry the load if faced with an early deficit. Tywan Williamson was, after all, the one to jump-start the Hornets' offense en route to a 31-13 blowout of Hilliard in the regional semifinals. However, Williamson will have to contend with one of the best defenders in the state in Union's Markus Strong. The 6-foot-4, 268-pound defensive end who has college offers from Oklahoma and UCF, among others, can line up anywhere on the line while wreaking havoc in opposing backfields, putting up seven sacks and 15 tackles for loss in his senior season. Should Strong manage to break through the Lafayette offensive line, it could be up to Williamson to make a few plays with his legs to bail his team out of a few trouble spots and help them reach their first state semifinal since 1997.

FSU

Continued from 1B

The Saints broke a 5-5 tie with an 11-0 with Jayce Johnson scoring four points and Platek hitting a 3-pointer. Florida State got it back to 22-20 with an 11-2 run as Cam'Ron Fletcher converted a three-point play and hit a 3-pointer 20 seconds apart. Again the Saints surged ahead with nine points and then closed the half with a 10-0 run. McCollum had a 3 in the first burst and a second 3 and four free

throws in the closing run.

In the last second of the half, 7-foot-4 Seminole Naheem McLeod was hit a flagrant 2 foul and ejected.

Matthew Cleveland opened the second half with back-to-back dunks and Florida State scored the first eight points to get back within nine but Zek Tekin and Jackson Stormo had consecutive layups to make it 47-34 and the Saints stayed ahead by double figures the rest of the way.

FSU had one last 8-0 run to cut it to 70-59 win more than four minutes to go but McCollum had four

points, Platek made his fifth 3-pointer in six attempts and the lead was 79-59 with two minutes to go.

The difference was the shooting as rebounds, turnovers, made free throws and shot attempts were almost even. Siena finished 9 of 22 from 3-point range and 52% overall while the Seminoles were 4 of 15 from distance and 36%.

Cleveland led FSU with 14 points and Fletcher had 13. The Seminoles, who won this tournament in 2009 and lost in the title game in their other appearance, have now lost to Mercer, Stetson, UCF, Troy and Siena this season.

WORLD CUP ROUNDUP

Richarlison's goals help Brazil beat Serbia

Associated Press

LUSAIL, Qatar — With Neymar limping off the field with an ankle injury, Richarlison came through for the "Seleção."

A spectacular acrobatic kick followed an easy tap-in from close range as Richarlison scored both goals in Brazil's 2-0 victory over Serbia on Thursday at the World Cup.

Brazil team doctor Rodrigo Lasmar said Neymar sprained his right ankle. He declined to speculate on whether he would be available to play in the team's next match against Switzerland on Monday.

In the 73rd minute, Richarlison used one touch to get the ball up in the air and then spun around and got off the ground before knocking the ball into the net with his right foot.

Brazil had struggled to get past the Serbian defense until Richarlison scored from close range in the 62nd in a buildup that started with Neymar.

Vinicius Júnior assisted on both goals.

PORTUGAL 3, GHANA 2

DOHA, Qatar — Cristiano Ronaldo became the first male player to score at five World Cups with his 65th-minute penalty in a 3-2 win over Ghana on Thursday.

Andre Ayew equalized for Ghana eight minutes later, but Joao Felix regained the lead for Portugal in the 78th and Rafael Leao added a third. Osman Bukari reduced Ghana's deficit in the 89th.

The 37-year-old Ronaldo was looking to showcase his talents to

potential new clubs after having his contract terminated at Manchester United this week. After wasting two good chances in the first half, he tumbled under a challenge by Ghana defender Mohammed Salisu to earn a penalty.

URUGUAY 0, SOUTH KOREA 0

AL RAYYAN, Qatar — South Korea and Uruguay started their World Cup campaigns with a 0-0 draw on Thursday, a result that probably favors the Asian team.

South Korea, with forward Son Heung-min wearing a mask to protect a broken left eye socket, always looked the more likely team to score against the more experienced Uruguayans. The South Koreans were quicker, pressing from the opening whistle.

However, in a match with few clear scoring chances, Uruguay had best chances: Diego Godin hit the post in the 43rd minute and Federico Valverde hit it in the 89th.

SWITZERLAND 1, CAMEROON 1

AL WAKRAH, Qatar — Breel Embolo's goal lifted Switzerland to a 1-0 win over Cameroon at the World Cup on Thursday and he kept his promise not to celebrate scoring against the country where he was born.

The Swiss forward from Yaounde struck with a right-foot shot in the 48th minute, standing all alone eight meters (yards) out in the middle of the goal-mouth to take Xherdan Shaqiri's low pass.

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