



MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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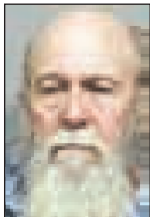
TUESDAY

WEBSTER CRIME

Accused molester's crimes may go back 40 years

PAT CULVERHOUSE
pat@pressherald.com

SHONGALOO — Webster Parish Sheriff's detectives have established that 68-year-old Gary Reo Modisette has allegedly been sexually abusing young girls, some as young as 7-years-old, for more than 40 years.



MODISETTE

Modisette, who lives in Shongaloo, was arrested last week on six counts of indecent behavior and molestation of juveniles. Now, detectives say, at least four more victims have come forward and still others could do the

See **SEX CRIME**, Page 3



Participants run along East and West Street Saturday morning during the Minden Race for St. Jude 5k. The event brought in \$64,757 for the annual Minden St. Jude Auction. Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

CITY GOVERNMENT

City of Minden increasing water fees

Council votes to hire new police officer; purchase new police cruiser

BONNIE CULVERHOUSE
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Residents inside the city limits of Minden will start seeing a higher water bill near the end of March.

"We have to advertise for 30 days when we have an increase," Mayor Tommy Davis said. "Then it takes about 30 days to implement the change."



DAVIS

Monday night, with all present, Minden City Council members voted unanimously to approve an ordinance to raise basic water fees from \$5 to \$9 each month. Above that fee

See **COUNCIL**, Page 2

CAMP MINDEN CLEANUP

Panel to look for safer M6 disposal process

MICHELLE BATES
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DOYLINE — A plan to offer an alternative for the safe disposal of nearly 19 million pounds of M6 propellant stored at Camp Minden was revealed at a public meeting in Doyline Monday.

Following the go ahead for the formation of a dialogue committee headed by the Environmental Protection Agency, this committee will be tasked with finding a safe alternative before the April 15 deadline set by the EPA. Wilma Subra a scientist with Subra Company set out a tentative itinerary of dates to meet before presenting a recommen-

See **MEETING**, Page 3

RUNNING FOR A CURE

Minden Race for St. Jude raises over \$64K for cancer research

BONNIE CULVERHOUSE
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Tony Angell may be new to Minden, but he isn't new to running.

"I've done about 12 other races ranging from 5ks to half marathons," Angell, the new pastor of Minden Presbyterian Church, said. "The Minden St. Jude Race was good in terms of participation, and it was a challenging course ... very hilly."

Angell finished first in the Men's 30-39 category for the 10k run.

"I liked having the tracking chip in the racing bib," Angell added. "Overall, I thought it was good."

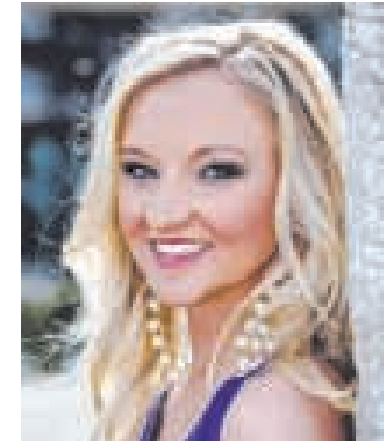
Last year, less than 1,000 racers walked and ran in the Minden St. Jude event. This year, according to Mike Hutcheson, owner of No Limits Timing, LLC, 1,417 signed up and 1,151 participated. The race brought in \$64,757 for St. Jude.

Overall female winners are Stacy Cannon of Shreveport, first place; Shauna Perez of Monroe, second place; and Taylor Wiggins of Jamestown, third place.

Overall male winners were Brandon Forgey of Haughton, first place; David Huckaby of Shreveport, second place; and Tyler Davis of Minden; third place.

FOR RACE RESULTS, VISIT WWW.PRESS-HERALD.COM

MISS MINDEN



Baylee Howell competing to be Miss Minden

Baylee Howell is the 18-year-old daughter of Jason Howell and Tawnya Smith.

She is a senior at Lakeside High School where she is Class Representative, a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, Student Council, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Baylee was the 2014 Teen Miss Minden.

After graduation, she plans to attend the University of Louisiana at Monroe, majoring in pharmacy with hopes of becoming a successful pharmacist.

The Miss Minden Pageant will be at 7 p.m., Saturday at the Minden Civic Center.

Vol. 46 No. 154



WEATHER TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK

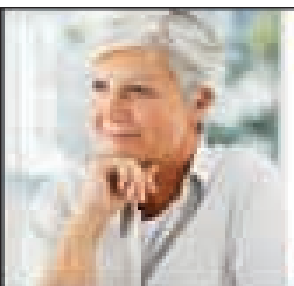
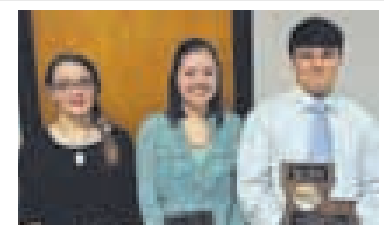
57 HIGH **37** LOW
Overcast. Slight chance of a rain.
Winds light and variable.

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>>INSIDE:

Students, principals of the year named **PAGE 2**



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EDUCATION IN WEBSTER

Rawls: 'Opt out' hurts school district

PAT CULVERHOUSE
pat@press-herald.com

Parents who oppose standardized tests given to students may think they're taking a positive stance for education by opting their children out of those tests, but doing so could have a huge negative impact on schools and the school district, Webster Parish Superintendent Dr. Dan Rawls said Monday.

"If a child doesn't take the test, the teacher gets a zero on their VAM (Value Added Measure) score, the school gets a zero on the student accumulation score and the district gets a zero," Rawls explained to

parish school board members. "Some say that's only one zero, but what if it's 300, or 500?"

A large number of students opting out of the tests and bringing zero scores can cause the school to become an "F" school, the district to also become an "F" and the teacher to be judged ineffective, "...and it can happen in one day," Rawls said.

"When a parent tells their child to opt out of the test and he or she receives a zero, it's not the child that is punished, it's the school system," he said. "We are required by federal and state law to administer the test. We have no rules or

regulations that let us tell parents the child doesn't have to take the test."

Rawls says school districts are asking the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to take up the issue at its next meeting and give schools alternative scoring methods if parents opt out.

"We're not in control of what parents decide, but we're going to be severely punished," he added.

State Superintendent of Education John White expects local school personnel to handle the problem of opting out by sitting down with parents and explaining how important the tests are, Rawls said.

One source urging par-

ents to opt their children out of standardized tests is Facebook, where a page "Parents & Kids Against Standardized Testing" says the page was created "to inform parents, kids and other interested community members about the over-reliance on standardized testing to make high stakes decisions in education."

Rawls says some parents tell their children to just sign the test and turn it in, while others say the answer to every question should be the same.

"They say 'A' is the answer to every question, so the child takes the bubble sheet and marks 'A' every time," he said.

Students opting out of the tests, the Rawls said,

can also negatively impact federal funding.

"The requirement to administer the tests to every child is federal, state and even local. We have it in our policy. Federal funding is based on an annual growth rate and every 0 drops that rate," Rawls said. "We hope parents will heed our advice and let the kids take the test."

“WE’RE NOT IN CONTROL OF WHAT PARENTS DECIDE, BUT WE’RE GOING TO BE SEVERELY PUNISHED.”



WEBSTER PARISH SUPERINTENDENT DR. DAN RAWLS

STUDENTS, PRINCIPALS OF THE YEAR NAMED



Students and principals of the year were honored Monday evening at the Webster Parish School Board's monthly meeting. Students of the year, left photo, from left, are Anna Grace Harris, elementary; Olivia Claire McIntyre, senior high and Haynes Mandino, middle/junior high. Named principals of the year, right photo, from left, are Cyndi Hair, North Webster Jr. High; Jeff Franklin, North Webster High School and Dusty Rowland, J.L. Jones Elementary. Pat Culverhouse/Press-Herald

COUNCIL

Continued from page 1

is a \$2.95 rate per 1,000 gallons of water used.

Davis said the increase doesn't change the city's water rates but rather the fees.

"It costs the city \$2.91 a thousand (gallons) to get water to each consumer's home and to each business," Davis said. "We charge \$2.95 a thousand, so we don't have much mark-up with our water; so this ordinance will raise the minimum and charge \$2.95 for every thousand gallons. We're not going up on the rate of the water, just changing the base fee. "Every department that is a revenue producing depart-

ment needs to pay for itself," he continued. "We need departments like sewer, water and electricity to be self sufficient."

M6 RESOLUTION

Like many other governmental entities, the Minden City Council jumped on the bandwagon to voice its objection to the open tray burn method of millions of pounds of M6 propellant at Camp Minden.

"Certainly, we know the explosives out there have to be disposed of in some manner," Davis said. "I've been to meetings with public officials and one of the questions that's being asked of the EPA and DEQ is have you ever burned this much M6 at one place at one time, and the answer to that is no."

Davis said the idea behind the resolution is to show support to the other cities around Minden.

NEW EMPLOYEES

Two new city employees were hired during the council meeting. Corey Plunkett, a former volunteer firefighter, will join Minden Fire Department as a paid employee, while Minden Police Department has a new full-time officer in Hunter Hasler.

EQUIPMENT

The council voted unanimously to sell some electrical equipment to the City of Plaquemine.

"This is a circuit breaker that is out at Germantown substation," Davis said. "It's equipment we no longer use, but they can use it. They are willing to pay us for it, come get it

and dismantle it at no cost to the city."

Public Works Director George Rolfe said the sale at \$5,000 is a good one for the city.

"It's just sitting," Rolfe said of the equipment. "So, to sell it is just excellent for the city."

Immediately following the cooperative purchase agreement with Plaquemine, the council voted to enter into one with the City of Alexandria, where Minden will purchase one of a number of new police cruisers from Alexandria's fleet.

"Alexandria is much larger than we are," Davis pointed out. "They went out for bids on cars for their police department. They got a lot of bids and we can piggy back on to

their bid and buy the car from them at the same price they are buying them for."

Cost of the basic police cruiser, a 2015 Ford Interceptor, is \$26,000.

"We will still have to put all the equipment on it that goes on a police car," Davis said.

Equipping the vehicle with computers, cameras, lights and other essential equipment is around \$14,000.

District D councilman Mike Toland reminded those present at the meeting that the council budgeted for the cruiser.

"We usually buy two per year, but this year we only budgeted for one," he said.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

In other business, the council unanimously



approved the following items.

■ Property owners at 201 Chrysler Street will be given 90 days to clear the property, while the issue of condemned property at 210 Chrysler Street was tabled until the owners can be reached.

■ A request to annex property owned by the Goss family located in the vicinity of Homer Road and Southridge Drive was approved, bringing it into the city limits.

■ In the monthly police report, Minden Police Chief Steve Cropper said all of his officers attended training classes in Bienville Parish during January and some will attend a crime data base class in the coming months.


/mindenph
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Dr. Denise A. Webb
Family Medicine

MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER IS PLEASED TO WELCOME OUR NEWEST PHYSICIAN

Dr. Denise A. Webb focuses on the individual health needs of her patients and empowers them to play an active role in their healthcare. It's definitely a team effort, but she encourages her patients to recognize the importance of their well-being and preventive care. Dr. Webb chose to become part of Minden Medical Center because of our "reputation for quality care and strong community involvement."

Board certified in FAMILY MEDICINE, Dr. Webb cares for patients of all ages. She treats everyday illnesses and chronic conditions. Services include: women's health care, school, work and camp physical exams, immunizations, lifestyle modifications, health maintenance and preventive health services. "Caring" is the one word she uses to describe herself. She chose the medical field because she saw people in need and knew she could make a difference.

Dr. Webb is accepting new patients at 101 Hurrell Street, Suite 2 in Minden. Appointments may be made by calling (318) 377-3535.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP
American Academy of Family Physicians, Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians, AKA Emergency Medical Response Team

EDUCATION MEDICAL SCHOOL
Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia, PA

FAMILY MEDICINE INTERNSHIP & RESIDENCY
Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, AZ

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP
University of Arizona in Phoenix, AZ

PERSONAL
Dr. Webb enjoys traveling, playing tennis, cooking, writing, playing fetch with Brutus (her black lab-border collie mix), and volunteering with her sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, in her spare time.

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Committee to announce findings in March

MEETING

Continued from page 1

ation to the Office of State Procurement and the Department of Justice.

The committee will be made up of local and independent people, elected officials and scientists to hash out the best, safest alternative to dispose of the M6 propellant now properly stored in 97 magazines, or bunkers.

"As we look at those alternatives, we also have to remember we can have the best (method) in the world to do this, but if it's not available to be set up in a very short time period, then we may have to look at other alternatives," Subra said, "because we have to do it and put it into place quickly. So, we have to look at not only which technologies are the best, but which ones are available and which ones are within the contract requirements."

Once the committee is named, they will have several meetings whether through conference call or in person, to come up with a recommendation. Subra says the committee will meet two to three times per week until roughly March 2, at which time there should be a recommendation. Tentatively, by March 9 and 10, public meetings will be set to reveal the recommendation before it is presented to the state and Department of Justice on March 11.

Louisiana Progress Action says they want Kristi Parker Celico to facilitate the meeting because she facilitated a dialogue committee on chemical weapons in the 90s and seems to be the best fit for this committee. Kelley says she has experience negotiating with the military and has extensive knowledge about chemical weapons.

Kelley also said the Concerned Citizens of the Camp Minden M6 Open Burn are asking the alternative methods to be considered are ones already certified by the Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board.

Once an alternative is agreed upon, then the original Order of Administrative Consent must be amended to allow for an alternative method. However, the Army still must sign off on the alternative method. Since Webster Parish has been under a state of emergency for the last year and a half, Gov. Bobby Jindal is legally authorized to execute the contract immediately to implement a safer disposal method.

Kelley says the only way the community has gotten where it has on stopping the open tray burn method of disposal is because of public pressure, and that pressure must not let up.

"Folks all across the country are watching what's happening here, because they want their communities to be protected too and they don't want munitions burned in their communities either," Kelley said.



Frances Kelley with Louisiana Progress Action heads up the Concerned Citizens of the Camp Minden M6 Open Burn. She talked to audience members Monday about toxins that would be released into the air if the Army follows through with the open tray burn of nearly 19 million pounds of M6 propellant at Camp Minden. The goal of the group is to push the powers that be to find a safe disposal method. Michelle Bates/Press-Herald

Sam Mims, retired Army, told those in attendance to be vigilant and not to expect the Army to bend to "our will just because we want them to."

"If y'all think just because we're having all this dialogue and we're doing all this talking these boys are going to give up, you got another thing coming," he said. "When we stop this burn, there will be no burn. You have

to commit yourself to that – that there will be no burn. You know why they want to burn it here? Because they think we're stupid. They think we're a bunch of country hicks. If you look around the country, everywhere they've done this is in a community just like this."

Mims asked audience members "Are you resolved? Are you committed that there will be no

burn of M6 propellant at Camp Minden?"

Those questions were answered with a resounding "Yes!"

Rep. Gene Reynolds, D-Minden, updated everyone on where everything stands from the legislative point of view. He ended saying he would probably introduce a bill that would outlaw open tray burning of munitions. If something like this was passed, it

would mean that open tray burning would be outlawed throughout the state.

The Village of Doyline unanimously passed a resolution in its council meeting Monday night to discontinue the proposal of an open burn of these materials and to actively seek a safer and more environmental method of disposal and/or removal.

SEX CRIME

Continued from page 1

same.

Sheriff's office Chief Deputy Bobby Igo said the first victim came forward with her story on Jan. 21, telling investigators that Modisette sexually abused her when she was 11-years-old.

"Our detectives found other reports from women who came forward in reference to Gary Modisette abusing them when they were juveniles," Igo said. "Detectives reopened those cases, conducted interviews with the victims and witnesses and were able to locate additional victims."

During the course of the investigation, detectives established that the first case of abuse against Modisette occurred in 1973.

"Our investigators

believe that some victims may have reported the abuse crimes in the 1980s or 90s," Igo said. "We're asking that anyone who is a victim to please contact detectives Scott Tucker or Jennifer Ervin at 377-1515."

Igo said the victims in the case range in age from 7 to 15-years-old. Detectives have established a timeline of the cases and the disposition of each. Those include:

- First victim reportedly was 12 when the abuse began in 1973, and continued until she was 16 years old. Modisette was not charged because the statute of limitations had expired. Abuse of a juvenile carries a 30-year statute of limitations.

- Victim two was 11-years-old when the abuse occurred in 1985. The suspect has been booked on a warrant charging indecent behavior with a juvenile, victim

under age of 13.

- Next victim was 15-years-old at time of abuse in 1992. Suspect was booked on warrant for indecent behavior with a juvenile.

- Victim was 7-years-old when abuse occurred in 1995. Suspect booked on warrant for indecent behavior with a juvenile, victim under age of 13.

- Victim was 12-years-old, abuse occurred

in 1995. Modisette was booked on warrant charging indecent behavior with a juvenile, under the age of 13.

- Victim was 10 when abuse began and lasted until 1997. Suspect was booked for molestation of a juvenile, under age of 12.

- Victim was 12-years-old; abuse began and lasted until 1997. Suspect was booked on warrant charging molestation

of a juvenile, victim under age of 13.

- Victim was 15 years old, abuse occurred in 1997. Modisette booked on warrant for indecent behavior with a juvenile.

- Victim was 10-years-old, abuse happened in August 2011 in Livingston Parish. Modisette arrested for indecent behavior with a juvenile and entered a plea of no contest to battery, April 2012.

- Victim was 13 when abuse occurred in August, 2013 in Springhill. Modisette was arrested for indecent behavior with a juvenile and reportedly is currently awaiting trial on this charge.

Modisette is currently incarcerated at Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center. Originally, his bond was set at \$450,000 but that could be increased, investigators said.

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Linda West
Ennis Oliver Jr.
Cortney Dalawaun Coleman '28'
Adarian Hill
Rebel Wilson '29'
Nathan Lane
Sean Kingston
Mishon Ratiff

happy birthday

mmc mark your **calendar**

February 2015

Here's a glimpse at MMC's support groups, classes & events for February.

For a complete listing, go to www.mindenmedicalcenter.com and click on Calendar.

Classes are free unless otherwise noted.

support groups

- Alzheimer's**
Second Thursday of each month 4pm
MMC Senior Care – 5th Floor Room 546
Open to family members and caregivers.
371-5669
- Diabetes**
Third Thursday of each month 6pm -
MMC Cafeteria, 318-377-2589 or 318-377-0040

events

- Save the Date!**
Senior Friends
Tuesday, March 3, 1:30 – 2:30pm
Webster Parish Library – Stewart Center
318-382-8282
FREE to those 50 and older.

classes

- National Wear Red Day**
Friday, February 6th
Webb Family Medicine
Minden Medical Pavilion-101 Murrell Street, Suite 2
Stop by from 9-11am for free blood pressure checks, BMI, door prizes, and education on heart disease in women. Show your support and increase awareness of heart disease by wearing something red whether it be a red dress, red shirt or red lipstick
- Breastfeeding Class**
Third Tuesday of each month - 6:00-8:30pm
MMC Ed Building 729 Main Street
318-371-5660
- Prepared Childbirth Classes**
Second Monday of each month
6:00-8:00pm - MMC Ed Building, 729 Main Street
318-371-3242
- Camp Mindy**
Tuesdays at 10:00am - MMC 4th Floor
318-371-5660
Hospital Orientation for first-time parents & seasoned pros.
- Joint Camp**
Mondays at 8:00am - MMC 2nd Floor
318-382-4083
Education on what to expect before, during & after surgery for patients scheduled for hip or knee replacement surgery.
- Senior Fitness**
Every Tuesday morning from 10:00-11:00am
Minden Presbyterian Church \$5 per class
Helps those over 55 improve their physical fitness through focusing on balance, stretching, strengthening, and flexibility.
318-371-3218

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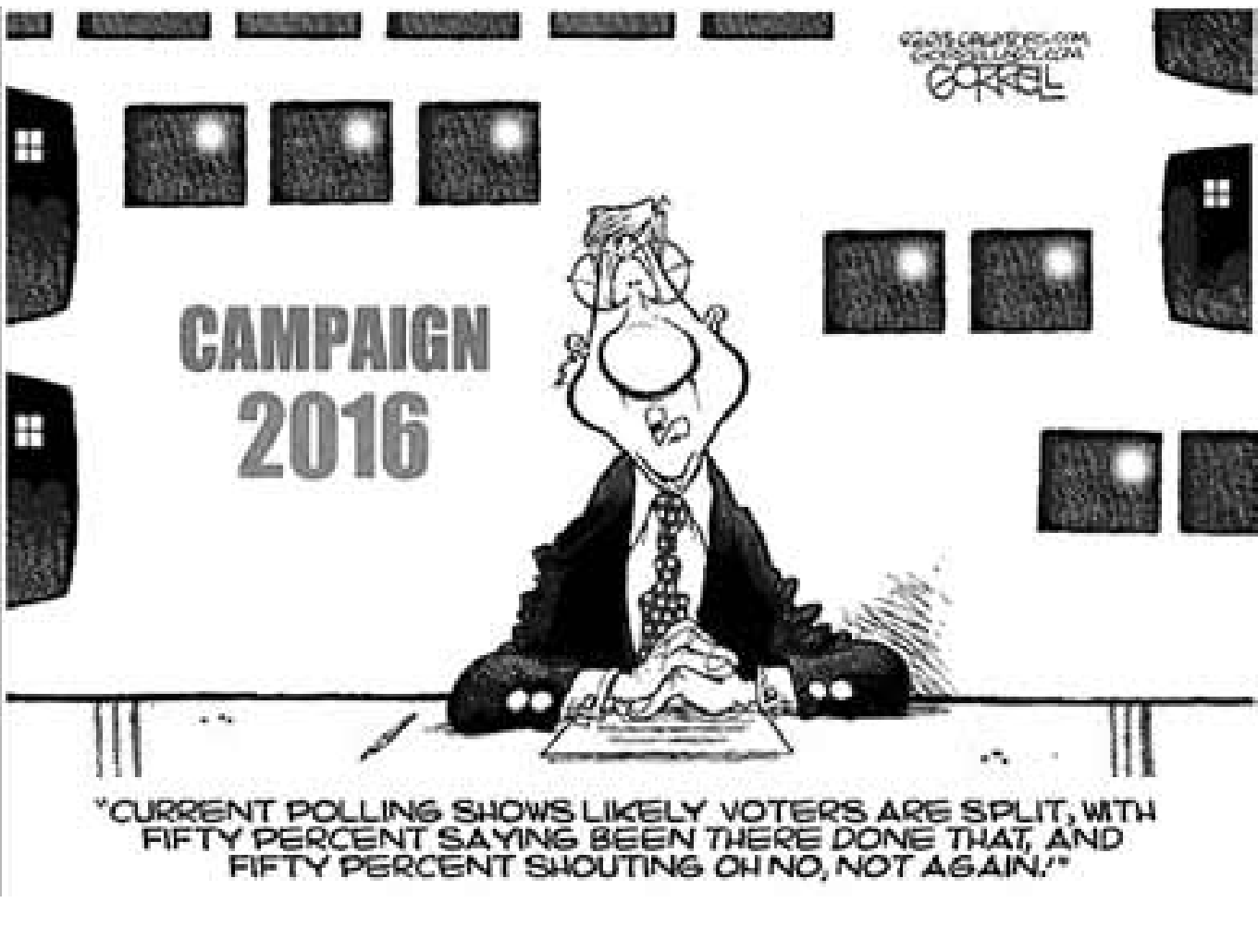
OPINION



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Have a question about this page or want to submit an opinion? Send a message to Pat Culverhouse.
Phone: 377-1866 Ext:107
E-mail: pat@press-herald.com

First Place: 2012 Best Editorial Page, Louisiana Press Association



PERSPECTIVE

Owning ideas

FOR MOST OF HISTORY, people suffered in miserable poverty.

Then, in a few hundred years, some new ideas made life hugely better for billions of us — things like running water, the printing press, the steam engine, electricity, the Internet.

We want people to keep coming up with new and better ideas. But there's a problem: Why would you bother to spend years inventing something if other people can just steal your idea? Who will devote years and millions of dollars to making a big movie? Or a dozen years and billions of dollars to bringing a new drug to market? Almost no one.

Filmmaker Kirby Ferguson sums up problem: "Let's say a guy invents a better light bulb. His price needs to cover not just the manufacturing costs but also the costs of inventing the thing in the first place. Let's say a competitor starts manufacturing a copy. The competitor doesn't need to cover those development costs, so his version can be cheaper."

Then he profits, but the original inventor goes out of business. That's why America grants time-limited patents and copyrights to creators of songs, books, movies, paintings, drugs, etc. Fine.

But today Fox won't let me sing the song "Happy Birthday" on my TV show. That's because Warner Music bought the rights to it in 1998. People now have to pay Warner about \$2 million a year to use the song in commercials and movies.

Sheesh. Why does Warner get such a long copyright? The song already existed. It's not like the composer needs protection.

Bridgeport Music, a business that makes no music but obtains copyrights and then sues people, won a lawsuit over two seconds of sound. When we questioned that, their lawyer wrote back: "I personally do not understand those who criticize people for protecting their intellectual property ... (We) happen to own valuable music."

Give me a break. He's an opportunistic parasite. I wonder about my former employer, Disney, too. It paid nothing for the Snow White story because it was in the public domain.

But then Disney managed to get its version of Snow White copyrighted for 95 years. Will 95 years of protection make Disney's animators more creative? I doubt it.

In the era of the Internet, when young people take mashups and do-it-yourself parodies for granted, maybe intellectual property in its current form has outlived its expiration date.

David Koepsell, of the Center for Inquiry, says today's rules are hostile to free speech. "Intellectual property law actually prevents me from making certain expressions, things that are allegedly other people's own."

Lawyer Stephan Kinsella, author of "Against Intellectual Property," says copyright decreases intellectual output because it "prevents people from saying what they want to say, from copying, learning, sharing, remixing." That stops some books from being reprinted and movies from being remade.

When Hollywood complains about "piracy," Kinsella asks, "Why call it piracy? Pirates stole. But if you copy ideas, you don't take anything away from the originator."

Thomas Jefferson once agreed, writing, "He who receives an idea from me, receives instruction himself without lessening mine; as he who lights his taper (candle) at mine, receives light without darkening me."

Kinsella points out that movie industry income doubled even though films are now widely copied. "The danger to artists and to people who want to get their name out there is obscurity, not piracy."

I'm not sure what to think. Some of you watch my shows on YouTube. I like that because it means my show reaches more people. But those who post my videos do actually steal from Fox. If everyone can do that, why would Fox pay me or cover the cost of doing my show? When I see myself on YouTube, I both smile and cringe.

So how should ideas be protected? Magicians and comedians found ways to protect their inventions without government — by keeping tricks a secret or shaming people for stealing jokes.

I'll explore these ideas on my TV show in its new slot, Friday, 9 p.m. Eastern. And if some clips from it turn up on YouTube ...

John Stossel is host of "Stossel" on Fox News and author of "No They Can't! Why Government Fails, but Individuals Succeed."



JOHN STOSSEL

LOUISIANA SPOTLIGHT

Analysis: Day-by-day, evidence of oil-collapse pain mounts

BUSINESSES AND HOUSEHOLDS have lower energy and product costs and Louisiana motorists can pump gasoline for less than \$2 a gallon these days.

But economic pain also flows from the collapse in world oil prices, as was evident last week at the state Capitol, in a federal courtroom and in Lake Charles, where a major energy company tapped the brakes.

A day-by-day look:

On Monday, in Baton Rouge, the state's income forecasting panel lowered revenue projections by \$103 million for the fiscal year that ends June 30. It means the state is looking at its second midyear budget deficit since November. Gov. Bobby Jindal's administration says a plan to close the gap will go to lawmakers on Feb. 20.

Beyond that, however, the budget shortfall projected for the next fiscal year has worsened to \$1.6 billion, because the conference cut those income projections another \$204 million to account for the continuing slide in oil prices.

The per-barrel oil price built into the budget has been cut by half from where it once was. "That's going to be a very serious hit," said the Legislature's chief economist Greg Albrecht.

Public colleges and health care services already were threatened with deep reductions and program cuts next year before oil prices nosedived. Oil has just made the struggle for Jindal and lawmakers to balance the upcoming fiscal year budget even more difficult.

On Tuesday, low oil prices were an issue in federal court, where a judge has been hearing arguments on

whether BP should be socked with Clean Water Act penalties as high as \$13.7 billion because of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon disaster.

On the witness stand was Richard Morrison, regional president and chairman of the board for BP Exploration and Production, often referred to in court as BPX&P, which is the BP subsidiary on the hook for the possible penalty. Lawyers for BP say that the possible financial effect of a stiff penalty should be weighed in the judge's decision — expected later this year — and that BPX&P cannot count on help from other BP entities in the paying of the penalty.

"They have to consider the overall business environment that we're going into," Morrison said, saying he cannot compel parent company BP PLC to provide financial assistance. The parent company's considerations include, he said, "the ability of not only BPX&P, but all of their businesses around the world to generate cash from their operations at oil prices less than 50 bucks a barrel."

On Wednesday, Sasol, an energy company based in South Africa, announced a delay in final investment decisions for a much-heralded new \$14 billion plant in the Lake Charles area that would convert natural gas into diesel and other liquid fuels. The delay was part of a "comprehensive plan to conserve cash in

response to lower international oil prices."

It was hardly an end-of-the-world announcement. Final decisions were not expected until sometime in 2016. Sasol is moving ahead with an \$8 billion "ethane cracker" on which construction already has begun and multibillion-dollar liquefied natural gas export facilities continue, according to Stephen Moret, secretary of the Department of Economic Development.

Sasol made clear that the gas-to-liquid plant isn't dead, just delayed. An industry analyst explained that the GTL process is expensive and complex. With oil at less than \$50 a barrel, competing producers can sell a cheaper end-product at established, more conventional refineries.

Will the Sasol project stay permanently mothballed?

There was a reminder Thursday that many in energy-related industries believe that what goes down must come up and that Louisiana will benefit.

Kongsberg Maritime, a technology company that provides various kinds of equipment for offshore operations and vessels, announced the purchase of land for new construction on an 82,980 square foot office and training facility in St. Rose.

"Despite a low oil price and a downturn in the offshore markets, we believe the market will bounce back as it always does," the company said in news release.

Kevin McGill is an Associated Press reporter in New Orleans.



KEVIN MCGILL

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

Email your letters to pat@press-herald.com

SEND US YOUR LETTERS

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COMMUNITY

LAKESIDE SCHOOL HONOR ROLLS

Lakeside Junior High School A Honor Roll 2nd Nine Weeks

Boley, Bo Garrett
Brewster, Gracyn Claire
Burks, Jayde Zhanee
Curry, Ja'corla S.
Davis, Skylar Elizabeth
Fish, Mary Alexis
Futch, Angelina Elizabeth
Gotshall, Karli
Guthrie, Raylee
Jones, Markayla Quevon
Keener, Sarah Shavon
Long, Amanda Gayle
McIver, London Faith
McMullen, Timothy
Ortega, Julie
Quintana, Alma Christina
Reynolds, Alexandra Elaine
Sullivan, Kasey
Tobin, Melanie
Walker, Harlie Alexis
Wiggins, Deja Janae
Willis, Kelly Dawn

B Honor Roll

Anderson, Essence
Archer, Brooke Lindsey

Austin, Drake Hunter
Barber, Tyler James
Barnhill, Kamryn Nicole
Bass, Robert Zander
Bates, Alexis Paige
Boothe, Kinlee Deniese
Burks, Aleshia Simone
Comeaux, Emily Deanne
Comeaux, Jenna
Crumpler, Brody James
Cruse, Kayelee Elizabeth
Culpepper, Taylor Elisabeth
Dauer, Brayden Michael
Doyle, Hunter
Ferguson, Yasmine Emanni
Finley, Hayden Grant
Flenniken, Gavin Lynn
Futch, Taylor Edward
Gros, Kendell Lee
Gurgainers, Cecily Ann
Gusman, August James
Hale, Kerrigan Brianne
Haynie, James Alexander
Johnson, Melissa Arline
Joiner, Jzanasha Quintierra
Joiner, Tynia Jajuan
King, Kayla
Langford, Katelyn Renea
Lawrence, Kirsten E.
Lofton, Allison Johnence
Maness, Jaynie Frances

McFarland, Caitlin Cierra
Meitner, Kaleigh Erin
Middleton, Hannah Marie
Mosley, Dalston
Needham, Valarie Rae-Ann
Odoms, Tcoyia M.
Osborne, Anna Grace
Pickens, Shanecia J.
Pietsch, Dayton Thomas
Randle, Richard Trevor
Rasberry, Landon Joseph
Reno, Rebecca Jean
Roberson, Orlando Jontez
Robinson, Micah
Seegers, Robert Ryan
Sivils, Tim Bradley
Smith, Michael Dylan
Sparks, Robert Trent
Stewart, Krystopher
Sumlin, Zachaeus Kyron
Swilley, Makenzie Elizabeth
Taylor, Zannon Anthony
Walker, Jedidiah Howard
Waters, Nicholas Kieth
Williams, Slade S.
Willis, Nathaniel James
Wingfield, Kaley Denise
Womack, Hunter
Zemaitaitis, Abby G.

Around Town

Upcoming Events

Enrollment specialists from Martin Luther King Health Center of Shreveport will be at the United Way office in Minden on select Fridays to assist persons in signing up for a health insurance plan on healthcare.gov. Available Friday appointment dates are Feb. 6 and Feb. 13. at 202 Miller Street, Minden. Call Christina Copeland at 318-470-2111.

CASA training dates for Webster, Bienville, Jackson and Claiborne parishes are 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10, Thursday, Feb. 12 and Tuesday, Feb. 17 at Arcadia CASA office, 1978 N. Railroad, Arcadia. Contact Victoria Ricord at 318-425-4413 or vickie.ricord@vjla.org.

Feb. 4-6

Shreveport District will be hosting a Women's Revival at 7 p.m. nightly at the Holmes Memorial Temple COGIC.

Thursday, Feb. 5

Webster Parish Schools would like to invite the parents and community to hear Larry Bell, author

of the Twelve Powerful Words and UNRAVEL Strategies from 6 until 7:15 p.m. at North Webster Upper Elementary Gym in Cotton Valley. Please plan to attend this important meeting to learn about strategies to help prepare your child for state testing. Two 7-inch Internet tablets will be given as door prizes. Must be present to win.

Saturday, Feb. 7

Webster High School Alumni meeting will be held at 3 p.m. in the Alumni Center at 601 Talton Street. Officers, class representatives and former students are invited to attend.

Monday, Feb. 9

Night for the Museum with the Jamieson and Life families will be held at the Dorcheat Historical Association Museum, 116 Pearl Street. Ann Mays Harlan will present a history of the Jamieson family in Minden, while Bonnie Jamieson Culverhouse will present a history of the Life family. Museum doors open at 5:30 p.m.; program starts at 6 p.m. Admission is free; potluck desserts are welcome.

The United Christian Assistance Program (UCAP) is in need of the following:

Food

Canned milk and fruit

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Men's and Women's tennis shoes (all sizes)
Boys' pants (sizes 6-8)
Girls' pants and tops (sizes 6-8)

Donations may be made at 204 Miller Street between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday or call 377-6804.

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SPORTS

SPORTS briefs

NFL

Johnny Manziel enters rehab

CLEVELAND (AP) — Johnny Manziel has sought help to change his off-field lifestyle.

Following a rough rookie season in the NFL, Manziel has entered a treatment program for unspecified reasons, an adviser for the Browns quarterback said in a statement released by the team on Monday.

"Johnny knows there are areas he needs to improve on to help him be a better family member, friend and teammate, so he decided to take this step in his life during the offseason," Manziel adviser Brad Beckworth said. Beckworth said the former Heisman Trophy winner entered the unnamed facility last week. He said Manziel's family is asking for privacy until he rejoins the team.

Beckworth's statement did not indicate reasons for Manziel needing treatment. However, the 22-year-old QB's penchant for partying followed him from college into the pros and Manziel's nightlife has been well-chronicled by both social and mainstream media.

The location of the facility where Manziel is staying is not immediately known.

NBA

Pelicans snap

Hawks win streak

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Anthony Davis leaped toward the basket, rising over a pair of Atlanta Hawks to corral an offensive rebound with his right hand and ferociously slam the ball through the hoop in one continuous motion.

That first-half play provided clear signs that Davis' recent left groin strain wasn't bothering him and that Atlanta's 19-game winning streak was under threat.

Davis finished with 29 points and 13 rebounds, and the Pelicans handed the Hawks only their third loss in 36 games, 115-100 on Monday night.

"They had us on our heels from the very beginning," Hawks coach Mike Budenholzer said of the Pelicans. "They deserve a lot of credit for us not starting well."

"Give our guys a lot of credit for a lot of good work over the last month," Budenholzer added. "Tonight wasn't our night. I am very proud of them. We'll get back to work."

The Pelicans won for the sixth time in seven games. That recent run of good form has included victories over other contending squads, such as Dallas and the Los Angeles Clippers, and has pulled the Pelicans (26-22) within a game of Phoenix (28-22) for eighth place in the Western Conference.

"We just need to continue to do what we've been doing," Davis said. "The past couple games, we've been rebounding, defending, sharing the ball. We don't care who scores."

Eric Gordon scored 20 points for New Orleans, while Tyreke Evans scored 15 points and tied a season high with 12 assists for the fourth time in five games.

CRIMSON TIDE FOOTBALL

MHS FOOTBALL BANQUET

BLAKE BRANCH
 blake@press-herald.com

Minden High School held its annual football banquet Monday night at First Baptist Church in Minden as the Crimson Tide officially turned the page to next season by handing out individual awards and honoring team manager Dick Lawson and team trainer Christina Chester.

The evening started with a meal and a highlight video full of the Tide's best plays from throughout the season. Then, the freshmen football players were honored for their hard work during the season.

The position coaches then took a few minutes to talk about the hard work put in at each spot.

Next, it was time for head coach Spencer Heard to take the podium.

Heard talked at length about the special group of players on this year's team, citing the work ethic these young men put in to make this season so successful.

"These guys were willing to work every day," Heard said. "It took everyone on this team to accomplish what we did this year."

Heard then spoke to his graduating seniors.

"This is a special group of young men," Heard said. "These guys have laid the foundation for you returning guys to keep building. I'll always have love and respect for you guys."

Finally, it was time for the individual awards.

Senior Bolshevic Green won the best defensive lineman award, capping a stellar senior year. Fellow senior Taylor McKissack won best linebacker, earning high praise from Tide defensive coordinator Alan Ensminger. Marcellous Moses took home the best defensive back award, making the defensive position honors a senior sweep.

Best offensive lineman went to senior Chris Dollar, followed by the best receiver award which went to sophomore Tavarius Edwards. In what was a tough decision for the Minden High coaching staff, Kolby Jackson took home best running back, while ZiKerrion Baker accepted the utility award for versatility on the field.

Then came the MVP awards for offense, defense and special teams.



Sophomore Antonio Rivette accepted the offensive MVP award as Heard talked about how his young-signal caller will only develop into more of a nightmare for district 1-4A.

Junior L'Jarvis "JJ" Sneed took home defensive MVP for disrupting offenses all year both in coverage and in run support.

To wrap up the awards, Senior Dillon Herrington took home special teams MVP for his relentless effort. It was clear how much Heard enjoyed Herrington's determination and leadership for the Crimson Tide.

The night ended with a special thanks from Principal Robin Tucker to the Minden High coaches and parents for their tireless efforts and support for Crimson Tide football.

Before the night wrapped up Heard asked the team to gather around the seniors to pray and "call it up" one last time.

It was the perfect ending to a wonderful season, as the Tide will now set their sights on an even better year in 2015.



HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Area results from Friday and Monday hoops

BLAKE BRANCH
 blake@press-herald.com

Glenbrook Apaches

The Glenbrook Apaches traveled to Claiborne Academy Monday for a pair of intense rivalry games with the Rebels.

The Apaches and Rebels battled tooth and nail in the boys game, trading big runs in front of a raucous crowd.

The Apaches trailed 32-20 at halftime, but came out inspired in the second half, surging back to beat the Rebels on their home court, 59-54.

"We made some adjustments on offense and defense at halftime," Apache head coach and Athletic Director Jeff Dalton said. "We responded with our best quarter of the season in the third, outscoring them 25-6."

The Rebels weren't done though, as they fought back to cut Glenbrook's lead to 2 points, but the Apaches made the plays they needed to down the stretch to hold on.

"It was a playoff-type

atmosphere," Dalton said. "My guys responded when they easily could have shut it down."

Caden Copeland played his best game of the year, scoring 17 points and pulling down 13 rebounds. Cade Conterez and Sam Marvin both scored 11 points and Joseph Windham had 10.

Lady Apaches

The Lady Apaches were defeated handily by the powerhouse Lady Rebels, 56-19.

The Lady Rebels are usually a fixture in the state championship game of Class 1A of the MAIS and played up to that standard Monday.

"Claiborne just has an amazing basketball team," Lady Apache head coach Rendi Dillard said.

Olivia Dalton had 8 points and 9 rebounds for Glenbrook. Carsin Spurlock had 4 points.

Minden Crimson Tide

In Friday action, Minden High School went on the road and was defeated by Huntington, 70-62.

"We played our hearts out tonight," head coach Alan

Shaw said. "We made a lot of mistakes you can't make in big games. We had turnovers in crucial situations and costly fouls at bad times."

One huge aspect of this game was the officiating. The officials called 65 fouls and the teams shot 89 free throws in the game, as the refs just couldn't stay away from their whistles.

"It shows you the lack of quality officials in our area," Shaw said. "We couldn't get in a rhythm, it's insane when that happens. We had three players foul out and four players with four fouls."

Lady Tiders

The Lady Tiders fell to the Lady Raiders Friday, 67-53.

The Lady Tiders were also on the wrong end of some foul calls, as they struggled to keep their best lineup on the floor. They also struggled to handle the size of Huntington down low.

"We didn't play particularly well in the first half," head coach Jacob Brown said. "The girls kept competing, playing good in spurts. They had a 6 foot 3 inch tall girl who killed

us on the boards."

Sha'terra Batton led the Lady Tiders with 18 points, followed by Marlana Hill with 14 points and 12 rebounds. Tiaga Pugh had an excellent game as well with 14 points and 10 boards.

"We have four games left," Brown said. "There's a lot still at stake."

The Crimson Tide and Lady Tiders will be back on the court tonight versus Woodlawn at home in the Palace. Fans are encouraged to come out and support the two teams in the biggest game of the season to date.

Webster Junior High Night at MHS vs.

Woodlawn

Minden High School will be honoring the Webster Junior High School boys and girls basketball teams, cheerleaders and pep-steppers Tuesday night at The Palace.

The night is a chance for those at Webster to catch a glimpse into their future.

"This is our night to recognize the future Minden Tiders," Minden boys head coach Alan Shaw said. "It's a

way to tell them we're looking forward to them being here. We're selling pre-sale tickets at Webster to Webster Students for \$3 at lunch today."

Lakeside Warriors

The Lakeside Warriors traveled to face the Lakeview Gators Friday, falling to the No. 3 team in LHSAA Class 2A, 69-54.

The Warriors came out firing, matching the Gators basket for basket in the first half.

In the second half, Lakeview started to gain some separation, flexing their muscles and showing why they are one of the favorites for a state title.

"Our goal was to slow them down," Lakeside head coach Jason Gould said. "We wanted to keep the ball away from them, forcing a low scoring game. It worked early, but Lakeview can really score and did in the end."

Frankie Miles led the Warriors with 19 points and 7 rebounds, followed by Ahmad Bishop with 11 points. Jamarion Teal added 9 points and 11 rebounds.

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POP NEWS

Haunting parallels between Whitney Houston, daughter

ROSWELL, Georgia — The parallels are haunting: Bobbi Kristina Brown and her mother, Whitney Houston, were both found face-down in bathtubs as the music industry prepared for the Grammy Awards.

Both lived in the constant glare of entertainment industry attention, both struggled with drugs; both married men criticized by family and friends as wrong for them.

As the pop star's 21-year-old daughter lay hospitalized Monday, police in Roswell, Georgia, issued a very brief incident report, saying officers were called Saturday in response to her "drowning" at her home in suburban Atlanta. Her husband, Nick Gordon, was at the scene and tried to revive her while a friend called 911.

"Bobbi Kristina is fighting for her life and is surrounded by immediate family," a Houston family statement said Monday. "We are asking you to honor our request for privacy during this difficult time. Thank you for your prayers, well wishes, and we greatly appreciate your continued support."

With no details forthcoming from police or family about her condition or what may have caused the tragedy, many people looked to see what she's been posting online. Her last tweet, from Thursday, reflected obvious frustration over her failure to break out as an entertainer: "Let's start this career up&&moving OUT to TO YOU ALLLL quick shall we !!!!!!!"

Two days later, her non-responsive body was discovered, in circumstances

eerily similar to her mother's death.

On Feb. 11, 2012, just before the Grammys, Houston's assistant found the singer's lifeless body face-down in a foot of water. Authorities found a dozen prescription drug bottles in the Beverly Hills Hotel suite and listed heart disease and cocaine use as contributors, but concluded that she accidentally drowned.

Bobbi Kristina, then 18, became so distraught that she needed to be hospitalized.

"She wasn't only a mother, she was a best friend," she told Oprah shortly after her mother's death in 2012.

Bobbi Kristina identified herself on Twitter as "Daughter of Queen WH," "Entertainer/Actress" with William Morris & Co., and "LAST of a dying breed." But her mother was an impossible act to follow.

Houston had her first No. 1 hit at 22, and then a flurry of No. 1 songs, selling more than 50 million records in the United States alone. Her voice, an ideal blend of power, grace and beauty, made classics out of "Saving All My Love For You," "I Will Always Love You," "The Greatest Love of All" and "I'm Every Woman." Her six Grammys joined many other awards.

Bobbi Kristina inherited her mother's entire estate, but not her voice. Aside from her family's short-lived reality TV show "The Houstons: On Our Own," she has mostly appeared in online "selfies" and images captured by paparazzi.

She told Oprah she wanted to sing, act and dance, like her mother — and that she was coping as



The daughter of Whitney Houston continues to fight for her life after being found unconscious, face down in her bathtub. Courtesy Photo

best she could. But in the years after her mother's death, she mostly made headlines for drug

use, weight loss and family disputes, failing to escape the tumult she had known all her life.

Houston met R&B star Bobby Brown at the Soul Train Music Awards in 1989. The gifted singer and her bad boy partner married in 1992, much to the dismay of Houston's family. It was a toxic relationship, characterized by domestic violence and drugs. A year later, she gave birth to Bobbi Kristina, and by the time she was a toddler, Houston told S2SMagazine that she was a "functioning junkie." Her husband's struggles with addiction also have been well-chronicled. Around 2002, the family decamped to the Atlanta area, drawn to a healing service by a singer-turned evangelical preacher.

Houston's love for her only child was evident throughout. She sang "Happy Birthday" to Bobbi Kristina while on Oprah, and often brought her on stage. The girl made a few appearances on "Being Bobby Brown," the reality show that infamously captured her parents fighting, swearing and appearing in court. The Hollywood Reporter said "not only does it reveal Brown to be even more vulgar than the tabloids suggest, but it manages at the same time to rob Houston of any last shreds of dignity."

Soon, Gordon joined the family. Houston never formally adopted him, but he became like a brother to Bobbi Kristina. Houston took the kids with her when she sought rehab in California in 2004, and then divorced Brown in 2007.

The pair who had called each other big brother and little sister went public with their romance about a

month after Houston's death.

Later that year, Houston's mother Cissy and sister-in-law Patricia were so concerned that others would prey on the young woman's fortune that they petitioned a judge to delay part of the inheritance, and Bobbi Kristina agreed.

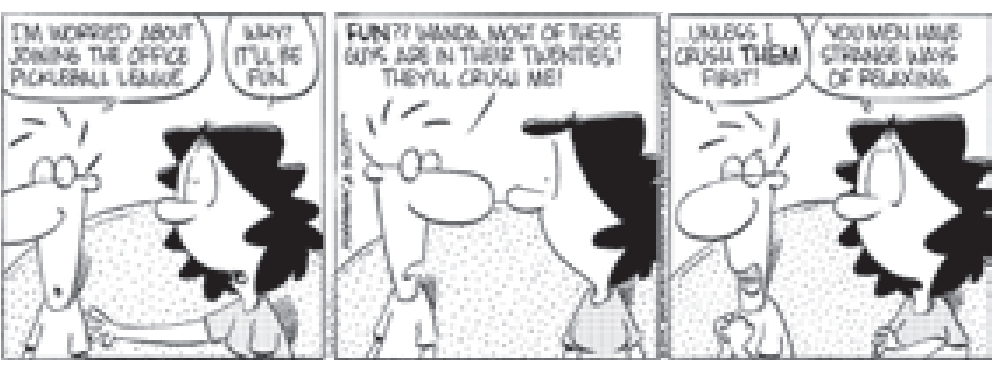
The young couple's announcement of their marriage in January 2014 troubled some members of the family. Her aunt Patricia Houston soon obtained a restraining order against Gordon, effective through April 2015.

"Damn, lol, it's incredible how the world will judge you 4 ANY & EVERY thing," Bobbi Kristina tweeted last March.

But by September, Patricia Houston was praising her niece.

"I'm very proud of Krissy. You know, young people today are up against so much with social media and everything else that presents itself to them, and they have to use everything within their power to stay abreast and to keep a foundation, and that's what the family does," Patricia Houston told the Associated Press. "We try to be there for her, just to try to guide and direct her." Throughout, Bobbi Kristina expressed love for her husband. Just last week, she tweeted again: "Littlelady&yougrowing young man @nickgordon miss you mommy ...! SOmuch. loving you more every sec. #Anniversary!"

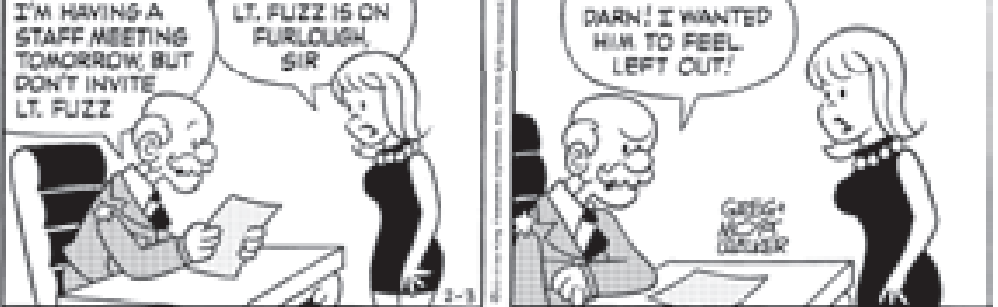
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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE | CHRIS BROWNE



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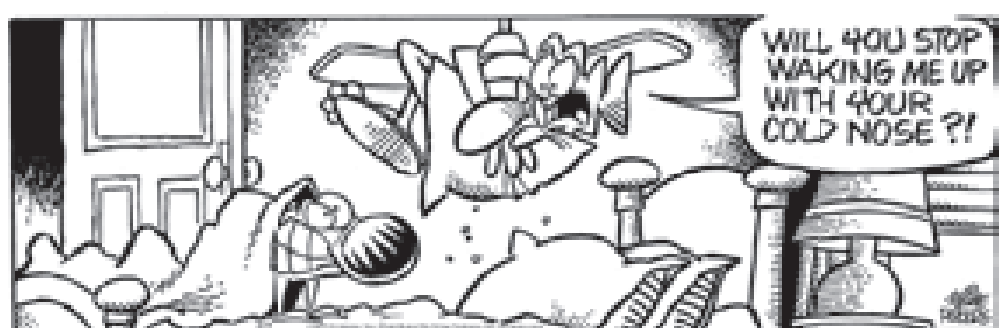
HI AND LOIS | BRIAN WALKER, GREG WALKER AND CHANCE BROWNE



BLONDIE | DEAN YOUNG AND JOHN MARSHALL



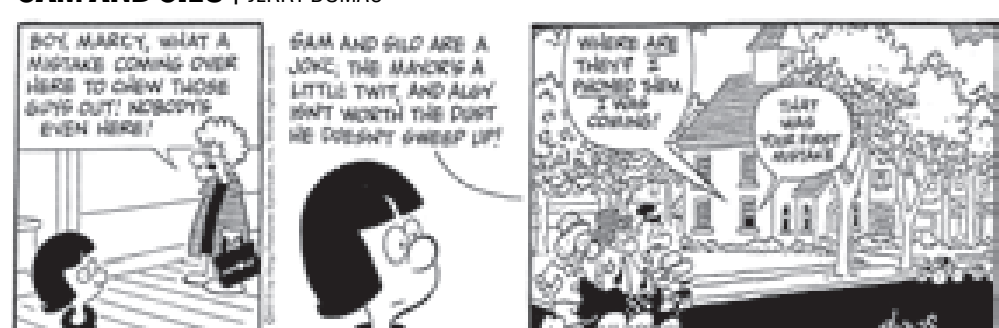
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H W P V P V F O U K K F O G K E M F O .
V F C S I P Y F F J I I Y E P W B Q

E O U S B M P V F I S G C F Z P .
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FLICK ABOUT A GUY WHO IMPLANTS MANY LONG BRISTLES ON PONIES' FACES: "THE HORSE WHISKERER."
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals P

CROSSWORD

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 38 Wall climber | DOWN | 22 Avril follower |
| 1 Cauldron concoction | 39 Namely (Abbr.) | 1 United nations | 23 Selfie, e.g. |
| 5 Track circuit | 40 Backbone | 2 Latvia's capital | 24 Savings initials |
| 8 Nursery furniture | 43 Bach's "Coffee —" | 3 Deserve | 25 Mid-morning |
| 12 Taleteller | 47 Singer Blu | 4 "That saved a — like me" | 26 Not pro |
| 13 "Born in the —" | 49 Eastern potentate | 5 Clear of thought | 27 Under the weather |
| 14 Tardy | 50 Lotion additive | 6 Memo acronym | 28 Greek consonants |
| 15 Shrek, for one | 51 Homer's bartender | 7 Skillet | 29 — Khan |
| 16 Liturgical song | 52 Blast furnace fuel | 8 Customer | 31 Crucial |
| 18 Witch's spell (Scot.) | 53 Repair | 9 Fight the clock | 34 Shaded slightly |
| 20 Alternative to flats | 54 Make up your mind | 10 "— have for now" | 35 Endlessly |
| 21 Scoundrel | 55 Aspen gear | 11 Honey bunch? | 36 Crib |
| 22 Fellows | | 17 Afterward | 37 Cortes' victims |
| 23 Brief | | 19 Shaft of light | 39 Lot attendant |
| 26 Rosa's place, in "El Paso" | | | 40 Ponzi scheme, e.g. |
| 30 Anger | | | 41 Wan |
| 31 Pond carp | | | 42 Aware of |
| 32 Drag along | | | 43 Hoofbeat sound |
| 33 GI's water holder | | | 44 Uncontrolled |
| 36 Lightweight wood | | | 45 Polynesian bar decoration |
| | | | 46 War god |
| | | | 48 Punk rock offshoot |

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 2-3

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50					51			52		
53					54			55		

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