

# MINDEN PRESS-HERALD

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Tuesday, March 10, 2015 | 50 Cents

SING YOUR WAY TO 50K

## THE VOICES OF WEBSTER



Doyle native Megan McCown performs Something to Talk About by Bonnie Raitt during the Sing Your Way to 50 K event Saturday night. Courtesy Photo

### Webster natives perform in weekend singing contest

**BONNIE CULVERHOUSE**  
bonnie@press-herald.com

While none of four local singers who performed at Horseshoe's Riverdome Saturday will be television stars any time soon, they all say they had the time of their lives at the McDonald's Soundoff and "Sing Your Way to 50K" event presented by Cumulus Broadcasting last week.

"I really enjoyed the experience most of all," Rose Oliver said. "I got to bond with the contestants. That was really fun."

Oliver, Megan McCown, Jared Mourad and Therah Newman, all Minden or Webster Parish residents, were four of the 20 contestants competing Saturday night. That number was whittled from thousands of performers with aspirations

of starring on NBC's The Voice. The top three chosen from the 20 were Shreveport residents. One of them will receive \$50,000 and an all-expense paid trip to Los Angeles to compete on the show.

Another round will take place this summer.

Oliver, who is a carhop at Sonic drive-in restaurant while she waits for her big break, says competition officials will see and hear her again.

"They can give me my fifty thousand (dollars) now or later," she laughed.

Oliver sang Through the Fire, by Chaka Kahn.

Megan McCown, a day-care worker, says she will compete again, as well.

"This was the best time of my life," McCown said. "I

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Jared Mourad of Minden, sings and plays How Country Feels by Randy Howser. Courtesy Photo

MINDEN CRIME

## Minden man accused of string of burglaries

**BONNIE CULVERHOUSE**  
bonnie@press-herald.com

Minden police say they have solved a number of vehicle break-ins and burglaries with the arrest of a Minden man over the weekend.

Police Chief Steve Cropper says Jamarea Manning, 22, of the 200 block of Joel Street, was arrested by officers after he was seen riding a green bicycle that was reportedly stolen.

"Sgt. Joel Kendrick and Officer Jesse Cutrer saw him riding a bicycle that fit the description on Shreveport Road and pulled him over," Cropper said.

Det. Chris Cheatham and Capt. Dan Weaver interviewed Man-



**MANNING**

ning. "This was the day after we got a report of a bicycle found in a resident's driveway on Country Club Circle," Cropper said. "When they found it, the homeowners realized their bicycle was gone. So, he stole a bicycle, left it in that driveway, stole theirs and rode it to Kitchens Court in Woodhaven, left the second bicycle there and stole a green Mongoose bike."

Cropper said a few days

See **ARREST**, Page 2

CAMP MINDEN

## Frustrations rise as M6 deadline looms

**MICHELLE BATES**  
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Frustration among technical subcommittee members is rising as the deadline for solicitations for the M6 propellant removal looms.

The technical subcommittee of the Camp Minden Dialogue Committee met via conference call Monday, and several members of the group expressed growing unease at choosing a method based on limited information. Dialogue member Dr. Bob Flournoy says it's premature to make a decision of this magnitude without having all the science and questions answered.

"We spent a great deal of time on this, this weekend, and one of the things that strikes home with me, as a scientific process, we have to select something that we feel

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specht

Vol. 46 No. 179



**WEATHER** TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK



**69**  
HIGH

**55**  
LOW

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»»INSIDE:

High school track season set to start

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WEBSTER TOURISM

# Canadian group to visit Webster for Mardi Gras in 2016

**MICHELLE BATES**  
michelle@press-herald.com

The National Travel Association's Familiarization Tour through Minden has paid off.

Daphne Pollock, product development and office manager of WestWorld Tours in Canada, has said the company will be booking a trip through Minden in January 2016 as

a touring destination.

"Our groups are seniors, and I think they would absolutely love it," she wrote in an email to Webster Parish tourism executive director Lynn Dorsey. "We had so much fun in Minden. Will you be doing the Mardis Gras party for groups? If you are, this is something we would like to do for our group."

Dorsey says she hoped

to have them during the Mardi Gras parade in 2016, but because of scheduling conflicts, it couldn't be worked out. However, they are already planning a Mardi Gras party just for them and will have trinkets and souvenirs for tourists to take home with them.

"We would absolutely love to do a Mardi Gras party for them," she said. "I've already invested in

Mardi Gras decorations and specialty beads in preparation for them to come."

When WestWorld Tours comes to Minden, the three Mardi Gras krewe have been invited to participate in the party – the Krewe des Ambassadeurs and Akewa (an all women's krewe) in Minden and the Krewe of Artemis in Springhill.

Dorsey says WestWorld

Tours asked to make Second Hand Rose Antiques a stop during their tour as well.

"She's a hit," Dorsey said of owner Millie Rose. "She's so unique and they love to go in there."

The ultimate goal of having this tour come through Minden is to get them to spend money here. She says when they rent venues such as the Courtyard or Orleans on

Main that brings in revenue – plus what they would spend in restaurants here.

"My goal, if this is successful for us – which I believe it will be – is something that we as a tourism office can start marketing," Dorsey said. "Shreveport's been doing it for a while, and it's a packaged deal. That's the kind of thing we can develop in the future."

## SING

*Continued from page 1*

can't wait to do it again."

McCown says she learned a lot from the experience.

"It was very chaotic but in a good way," she said. "You go from zero to sixty in two seconds flat."

McCown, who sang Something to Talk About by Bonnie Raitt, says experiencing the people and their talents was beneficial.

"Seeing how the different genres can all come together, and we could all hang out and be friends," she said. "Now, I'm going to

have lifelong friends with them."

Being on stage in front of 1,000 people was "incredible."

"It wasn't scary for me," she said. "I don't mean to sound conceited, but that's what I love to do – entertain – whether that means singing well or making a complete fool of myself. I'm ok with that, as long as everybody has an enjoyable time."

Jared Mourad says he learned a lot that will help further his group, The Jared Mourad Band, as they gain in popularity.

"I met a lot of cool, important people," Mourad said. "I made a lot of good connections. Any

time you can do that, it's a good thing."

Mourad, who sang How Country Feels by Randy Howser, is unsure if he will audition again in the summer, saying, "It's a lot of money – but it's an investment, too."

The Jared Mourad Band has already seen an increase in iTunes sales and Facebook numbers.

"Any time you can get your music exposed to somebody who probably hasn't or wouldn't have heard it before, you are definitely better off than when you started," he said. "I think that's what we did. We really went out there and showcased what we can do."



The Top 20 contestants of the "Sing Your Way to 50K" contest. Courtesy Photo

# OBITUARY

## DiAnne Brunson

A memorial service for Ms. DiAnne Brunson will be at 1 p.m., Thursday, March 12, 2015, at Heflin Baptist Church in Heflin, followed by interment at Bistineau Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5 until 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 11, 2015, at Rose-Neath Funeral Home in Minden.

The service will be officiated by the Rev. Alton Ray Melton. Pallbearers will be Adam Weaver, Lance Roberts, Thomas Knudsen, Douglas Lee, Jason Migues, Joey Migues, Nathan Migues and Tommy Migues.

Honorary pallbearers are Richard Armstrong, Paul, Migues, Danny Weaver, Marty Watts, Robbie Robinette and Wesley

White.

DiAnne was born Feb. 18, 1949, and passed peacefully at home March, 7, 2015. She is preceded in death by her brother, Danny Drew Brunson of New Orleans; her parents, Lewis and Laura Brunson; and uncle, Lawrence Brunson all of Heflin.

DiAnne is survived by Buddy and Susan Robinette of Heflin; Hazel Watts of Shreveport; Daphne Brunson of Heflin; Claude and Martha White of Heflin; Gordon and Regina Lee of Heflin; Wesley, Serena and Brunson White of Monroe; Thomas, Emily, Thomas Michael and Anne Elizabeth Knudsen of Haughton; Adam, Kelly, Grady, Reece and Cate Weaver of Bossier City; and Lance, Amanda, Adalyn and Loreale Roberts of Bossier City.

Too numerous to mention are all those

"D" called her own. It is sufficient to say that her definition of family was not limited by mere genealogy.

It is impossible to describe in so few words the depth and breadth of D's life, but two things were evident to all who knew her. D always remembered where she came from and never forgot where she was going. Her love for kin was surpassed only by her love of God.

Kind thanks are owed to the many that cared for and attended to DiAnne. Of spe-

cial mention are her cousins, Mr. Ernest "Butch" Migues and Ms. Dixie Robinson. The patience and loving care you showed for your own has not gone unnoticed or unappreciated by those who, like you, had the pleasure of calling her "D."

"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22, 23.

## ARREST

*Continued from page 1*

later, police received a complaint of a tablet reportedly stolen by "a guy on a brand new green bicycle."

"We know Manning was responsible for some burglaries on Country Club and Woodhaven," Cropper said. "He admitted to a lot of them we could prove, but he denied some of the ones we feel like he was responsible for but couldn't prove it."

Manning is housed at Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center on one count of possession of

synthetic marijuana, simple burglary of a vehicle and aggravated burglary of a vehicle, two counts of illegal possession of stolen

things, two warrants of illegal possession of stolen things, two warrants of theft by fraud and one warrant of theft.

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# OPINION

*First Place: 2012 Best Editorial Page, Louisiana Press Association*

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Have a question about this page or want to submit an opinion? Send a message to Bonnie Culverhouse.  
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## LOUISIANA SPOTLIGHT

# Analysis: Jindal budget relies on millions in shaky funding

**LOUISIANA’S PUBLIC COLLEGE** leaders and health care providers have been left as beggars by Gov. Bobby Jindal’s budget proposal. The Republican governor’s \$24.6 billion budget for the 2015-16 fiscal year is balanced on an uncertain set of premises, many of which require separate legislative approvals and none of which appear to have been greased for passage ahead of time. Jindal and lawmakers are grappling with a \$1.6 billion budget shortfall next year, so they need to drum up new sources of cash if they want to continue paying for many of the state’s programs and services in the fiscal year that begins July 1. Millions for higher education and health care services in the governor’s recommended spending plan rely on Jindal’s proposal to shrink spending on tax credit programs: \$372 million for colleges and \$154 million for health care. The state dollars are assumed to draw down additional federal Medicaid match, driving up the health care funding tied to the tax credit scale-back to \$407 million. The problem for campuses, health care providers and the students and patients who rely on them is that a significant slice of the proposal is opposed by business groups whose bottom line would take a heavy hit. If higher education officials, health care leaders and their allies want the dollars, they’re left to try to persuade lawmakers to vote against the wishes of businesses in their communities and industry lobbying groups that donate heavily to political campaigns. Or they have to come up with somewhere else to get money when the legislative session begins April 13. “Clearly they’ve pitted groups

against groups, and I think that’s concerning obviously. It does draw the question are these really long-term solutions? It raises a lot of question on our part about the sustainability of any of this,” said Paul Salles, president of the Louisiana Hospital Association. Commissioner of Higher Education Joseph Rallo tried to downplay the conflict, saying the business community needs colleges to succeed, because companies need an educated workforce to fill their jobs. “From my perspective, there is no tension between ourselves and the business community with respect to how things should be funded. We’re trying to get to the same point. They’re attracting the companies, and we’re trying to prepare the graduates,” Rallo said. College systems are in a more precarious position than health care services in Jindal’s budget proposal. Even with the tax credit rewrite, higher education remains \$211 million short of what it receives from the state this year. College officials will need to plead with lawmakers to raise fees, sell property or find other ways to drum up cash to pay for their campuses next year. The Jindal administration offered lawmakers a list of money-generating ideas that aren’t included in the budget and said it’s willing to negotiate on other proposals. Higher education officials also are offering their



**MELINDA DESLATTE**

own ideas. Health care will be looking for new revenue concepts as well. Even after assuming the uncertain financing from the tax credit rewrite, Jindal’s budget still contains cuts to health care programs and services, like closure of a program that pays hospitals for the care of premature, low-birth-weight babies. Meanwhile, private operators of the state-owned hospitals previously run by LSU asked for \$142 million more than Jindal proposed to spend on them for care of the poor and uninsured. Gregory Feirn, CEO of LCMC Health, which runs the state-owned hospital in New Orleans, said the requests made by the hospital managers “represented the bare bones of what is required to deliver care to the people of Louisiana.” Jindal administration leaders say they want to protect higher education and health care from steep cuts as much as possible. But the governor has philosophical restrictions that limit lawmakers’ options, most importantly his refusal to agree to anything that national anti-tax activist Grover Norquist considers a tax increase. That leaves higher education officials and health care providers trying to craft solutions that meet Jindal’s criteria, pitch them to lawmakers and make it all fit together before a final version of the budget is written in June. *Melinda Deslatte covers the Louisiana Capitol for The Associated Press.*

## PERSPECTIVE

# Raping culture

**APPARENTLY, NEW LAWS** are needed because at colleges, sexual assault is “epidemic.” Rape is so common that there is a “rape culture.” I hear that a lot. It is utter exaggeration. Fortunately, AEI scholar Christina Hoff Sommers is around to reveal the truth. “This idea of a rape culture was built on false statistics and twisted theories about toxic masculinity,” she says. No one denies that some men, especially when drunk, get violent and abusive. I saw nasty behavior when I was in college, and I assume there are places worse than Princeton. Sommers says, “I always make clear, rape is a very serious problem, (but) if you look at the best data ... it is not an epidemic. And we do not have a rape culture.” The difference is not just numbers, she says. “Rape culture means everything in society is reinforcing (rape) and making it seem a legitimate thing to do. Of course that’s not true.” The media love crisis, and hyping sexual assault is a good way to get attention. Recently, a Rolling Stone article said that men routinely assault women at the University of Virginia. It told a frightening story, based on one witness, of gang rape in a frat house that left the victim’s friends completely uninterested, since assault is so routine. The article got lots of attention. Then completely fell apart. “It proved to be a sort of gothic fantasy, a male-demonizing fantasy,” says Sommers. “It was absurd.”



**JOHN STOSSEL**

In much American media, a rape story is “too good to check.” The Rolling Stone author admits she wanted to believe. She barely fact-checked the claims made by her source. Her source’s story fit the reporter’s own “rape culture” narrative. She interviewed students at many campuses, waiting for the rape story she wanted to hear. The Rolling Stone story sounded extraordinary from the beginning. “But for several days, people in the media just believed it, and publicized it, and anguished over it,” says Sommers. To doubt was taboo. “The hysteria around campus assault, the false information has been building for so long,” warns Sommers, “people are willing to believe anything.” President Obama added to the misinformation by pandering to the feminist victim lobby, creating a “sex abuse task force” and repeating a widely quoted — yet obviously absurd — rape statistic: “It is estimated that one in five women on college campuses has been sexually assaulted during their time there. One in five!” Yes, Mr. President, we hear that a lot. But it’s a lie. At allegedly horrible University of Virginia, where Rolling Stone said assault was routine, .46 sexual offenses were reported per thousand students. That’s 46 too many, but for “one in five” to be true, it would have to be 200. Admittedly, many victims of assault fear going public, so the UVA number may be higher than .46. Nevertheless, one in five just isn’t plausible. “The figure is closer to one in 50,” says Sommers of colleges overall. Sexual assault is serious stuff. Activists trivialize it by asking survey questions like “Did you ever receive unwanted sexual contact while drunk?” and counting “yes” answers as assaults. “The CDC did a study,” recounts Sommers. “They called it sexual violence if you said yes (to the question) ‘Has anyone ever pressured you to have sex by telling you tales, or making you feel guilty?’ That counted as violence.” It’s not nice to pressure someone. But people do that. That’s different from violence, isn’t it? If we forget the difference between violent and non-violent conduct, no one is safe. If we pretend everyone is guilty instead of a few real criminals, rapists win. No longer are they a dangerous group of very bad people, they’re just — men. That’s no victory for women. Or anyone. *John Stossel is host of “Stossel” on Fox News and author of “No They Can’t! Why Government Fails, but Individuals Succeed.”*

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**WEBSTER PARISH'S NEWS SOURCE**

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# COMMUNITY

## Two organizations chosen as award finalist for their work with the underserved

### STAFF REPORTS

Two organizations which work with the underserved have chosen as finalists for their work in reaching out to their communities.

The Martin Luther King Health Center and St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry were honored by Premier, Inc., as finalists for the 23rd annual Monroe E. Trout Premier Cares Award for bringing medical care into the neighborhoods and communities where at-risk patients live and work.

The MLK Health Center sends representatives to Minden periodically to help the underserved or underinsured in the city get the help they need. St. John's Episcopal Church serves in the region that St. Luke's Medical Ministry encompasses. The two groups work together each month to provide medical screenings and avenues for the poor and underserved to receive much needed medical attention.

Sponsored by Premier and its member hospitals, the Cares Award recognizes exemplary efforts by not-for-profit community organizations to improve the health of populations in need. Representatives of Partners in Health Access Excellence were honored during Premier's annual Governance Education Conference Feb. 23-25.

Partners in Health Access Excellence received \$24,000 as one of five finalists chosen from 200 programs across the country for the award. The program combines the reach of St. Luke's Mobile Medical Ministry with the resources of the Martin Luther King Health Center and Pharmacy to create a patient "Health Home" that includes specialty



**Alan Yordy, member, Board of Directors of Premier; Janet Mentasane, Executive Director of MLK Health Center; Brenda Nims, Homeless Clinic Coordinator of St. Luke's Mobile Medical Ministry/Clinic Director of MLK Health Center; Dennis Wissing, Board President of MLK Health Center; and Susan DeVore, President and CEO of Premier, Inc.** Courtesy photo

care, pharmaceuticals, point of care testing, social services, and health and wellness education.

"PHAE is unique in our community and in the free health clinic model in that it not only breaks the barriers to care, but also breaks the traditional competitive barriers that often inhibit organizations from forming genuine collaborative programs," Janet Mentasane, executive director of the MLK Health Center, said.

The mobile medical clinic now serves the homeless and those considered medically disenfranchised in northwest Louisiana. Patients are adults who are primarily living below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The partnership with the MLK Health Center has improved the rate of patients making needed appointments for follow-up care. The program has helped decrease emergency department visits among 96 percent of participants surveyed and has accounted for significant decreases in hospitaliza-

tion rates.

A panel of national healthcare leaders selects the Premier Cares Award winner and finalists, all of which receive cash awards for use in further improving their programs. The Cares Award program spotlights these community-based healthcare initiatives and helps other organizations learn to replicate the unique programs by featuring information about them on the Cares Award website.

"Every year, our Cares Award program honors six outstanding organizations that are helping to care for a medically underserved population in their community," Susan DeVore, Premier's president and CEO, said. "Through its innovative program, Partners in Health Access Excellence is making a true impact by providing healthcare and support to at-risk homeless patients who do not have the strength or means to access it otherwise."

Premier has presented the Cares Award annually since 1991, when it was

created by Dr. Monroe E. Trout, former CEO of American Healthcare Systems, one of Premier's heritage organizations. The program has provided more than \$3 million to more than 100 organizations nationwide. The Cares Award winner receives a cash prize of \$100,000, while five runners-up receive \$24,000 each. The competition is open to not-for-profit organizations that have been in existence for more than two years, are providing creative solutions to health status improvement, can provide documentation of outcomes and impact on a specific population and have programs that can be replicated in other communities.

## Around Town

### Thursday, March 12

Adult Christian Education Class from 6:30 until 8 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 1107 Broadway. Topic for fourth week: Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem (Mark 8:22-10:52).

### Friday, March 13

Entry forms and fees are due for Lakeside's Elementary Beauty Pageant for ages 12 months to 12 years. Call Abby Reynolds at 318-464-5084 or Lakeside High School for information and forms. Make checks payable to Lakeside High School Yearbook and mail with completed forms to Lakeside High School, 9090 Hwy. 371, Sibley, La. 71073.

### Saturday, March 14

Men and women are invited to attend a special tea party with the "first lady" of Growing Valley Missionary Baptist Church, Sister Ora Lee Gladney Rice, at 3 p.m.

Women of Purpose and Determination will host WOPD Annual Women Conference 2015 at 6 p.m. in the Minden Community House. Guest speaker will be Patsy Edwards Pullen.

### Sunday, March 15

Mt. Olive Baptist Church, The Rev. Roy Glenn Edwards, pastor, will celebrate its 147th church anniversary beginning at 3 p.m. Special guests will be Mt. Superior Baptist Church of Homer. The Rev. Willie Johnson is featured speaker. Everyone is invited.

Ninth anniversary honoring Pastor and Mrs. John L. Cole at 2:30 pm. The Rev. Sheldon Birdsong of New Zion Baptist Church will be the guest speaker.

A gumbo sale will be held from 10 a.m. until sold out at B.F. Martin Community Life Center. Chicken and sausage gumbo, seafood gumbo, lemonade and teacakes will be available.

Celebrate your wedding, engagement, or anniversary with Webster Parish  
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[community@press-herald.com](mailto:community@press-herald.com) to find out how!

### UCAP is in need of the following items for the week of March 9:

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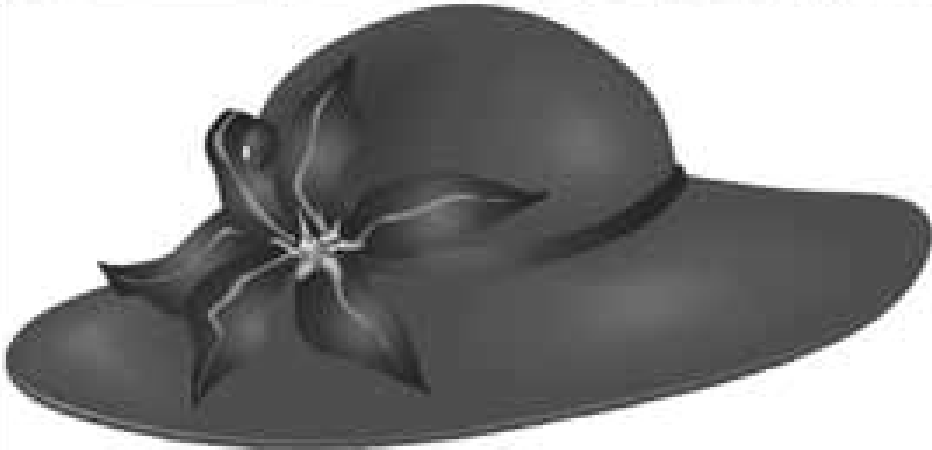
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# SPORTS

## SPORTS briefs

### NFL

#### Jaguars to sign TE Thomas

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. -- The Jaguars have reached an agreement with free-agent tight end Julius Thomas, and he is expected to sign a contract with the team Tuesday, according to league sources.

The Denver Post, which first reported the news Monday night, said the multiyear contract is worth around \$9 million a season.

A source told ESPN's Chris Mortensen that Thomas continues to talk with one other team but that the money the Jaguars are offering might be too much for another team to overcome.

Thomas has caught 108 passes for 1,277 yards and 24 touchdowns the past two seasons with the Denver Broncos. The Jaguars' tight ends have caught a combined 102 passes the past two seasons.

In another deal, the Jaguars also are set to sign linebacker Dan Skuta to a five-year contract Tuesday, a league source told ESPN NFL Insider Adam Caplan.

Once the contract is signed, it is expected to be worth \$20.5 million with \$8 million of guarantees, the source said.

Thomas, 26, was a fourth-round pick by the Broncos in the 2011 draft, John Elway's first as the team's top football executive, and Elway made the pick after Thomas had played just one year of college football at Portland State after finishing out his eligibility on the school's basketball team.

### NBA

#### Rose thinks he'll play again this year

CHICAGO (AP) — Chicago Bulls guard Derrick Rose said Monday he thinks he will be back this season after last month's knee surgery, but he isn't putting a firm timetable on his return.

Meeting with the media for the first time since undergoing surgery Feb. 27 to repair the torn medial meniscus in his right knee, Rose said his return this season is "the plan, so whenever I feel right, that's when I'm going to step back."

After the surgery, the Bulls put a timetable of four-to-six weeks on Rose's return.

"I feel good. I'm in a positive place right now," Rose said. "Just trying to keep it positive and get the most out of these days."

Rose hasn't played since Feb. 23 against the Milwaukee Bucks, when he went 1 for 13 in 33 minutes. The next night, the Bulls announced that he would undergo his latest knee surgery.

Rose missed all of the 2012-13 season after tearing his left ACL during the first round of the 2012 playoffs, and played only 10 games last season after initially tearing the meniscus in his right knee.

## HIGH SCHOOL TRACK

# TRACK SEASON SET TO START

## Minden, Lakeside set to compete at North Webster, Weston

*Special to the Press-Herald*

The local high school track season was put on hold by the weather as the Benton meet was cancelled.

This week meet is at North Webster and Weston will give Minden and Lakeside chances to compete.

Lakeside, state AA runner-ups in 2014, return an impressive group of distance runners.

Junior Eric Greene, who was state runner-up in the 3200 last year

and state runner-up in Cross-Country this year, leads the way for the Warriors. Greene recently placed fourth in the Division II state indoor 1600-meter run with a time of 4:49. Sophomore Cody Robinson who finished third at this year's state cross-country meet placed eighth in the recent state indoor meet running 10:43.

Leading the ladies will be 2014 state cross country champ, Allisa Lander.

Heading the sprints

and jumps for Lakeside will be Senior, Darryl Moore. Senior Frankie Miles returns in the high jump and shot put. Lakeside will host the Warrior Relays and the District 1-AA meet in April.

Leading the way for Minden in track will be freshman sprinter, Patrick Heard.

Heard began his season at the LSU indoor meet in January running 7.49 in the 60. North Webster features sprinter Devon White in his junior season.



## All-district Panthers



Doyline High School placed four players on the all-district team, right, freshmen Desmond Jackson (second team), freshmen Xavieo Jackson (honorable mention), sophomore Jatavion Jackson (second team) and junior Tyreck Wilson (honorable mention). Press-Herald Photo/Blake Branch

## LATECH BASKETBALL Three Bulldogs make all-conference



RUSTON – Louisiana Tech's backcourt trio earned 2015 all-conference accolades, announced by the Conference USA office on Monday, after leading the Bulldogs to an outright conference regular season title.

LA Tech senior Kenneth Smith was a first team selection while both senior Raheem Appleby and junior Alex Hamilton were named to the second team.

The league revealed three all-conference teams made up of five players each with the Bulldogs having

the most players selected. WKU had the second most with two while 10 other teams each had one.

It marked the first time LA Tech had three players selected all-conference in the same year since 1992 when Ron Ellis, Anthony Dade and P.J. Brown all made the All-Sun Belt team.

For a third straight season, Speedy was named first team becoming the first LA Tech player to do so since Gerrod Henderson (2000-02).

The point guard out of St. Petersburg, Florida ranked third in the country and first in the league in assists per game (7.5) while also ranking 12th in the country and first in the league in assist/turnover ratio (3.15).

## TRACK & FIELD

## Lewis finishes second at National JUCO meet

*Special to the Press-Herald*

Former Lakeside sprinter Chris Lewis capped a tremendous indoor track season by finishing as runner-up in

the 60-meter dash at the National Junior College Championships in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Lewis, running for Meridian Community College, ran a personal beset of 6.61

which is one of the elite times in the nation. Lewis qualified for the finals by finishing first in his preliminary heat running a 6.64.

During the indoor season, Lewis captured 3

meet championships. He defeated many outstanding college sprinters at the LSU indoor meet in February.

In Lewis' senior year at Lakeside, he won the state indoor 60 meters

setting an LSU field-house record of 6.81, which still stands. Lewis also won state titles in the 100, 200, and 400 relays. In the 100 he tied the state AA record at 10.45.

## LOUISIANA OUTDOORS

# Three weeks and a wake up for turkeys

Here's hoping the turkeys haven't been in communication with the crappie. If so, it may be a tough season ahead for Louisiana's turkey hunters.

The crappie have been bunched up in deep water for weeks, yet they have refused to bite. I hope they're not telling the turkeys just to keep their lips zipped and they'll live longer. If so, we turkey hunters are sunk.

It has been weeks and months of below normal temperatures and above normal rainfall that has been the undoing of perch fishermen. Turkey hunters are being faced with the same thing. Turkeys respond better when there is at least a hint of spring in the air, the crimson clover and dogwoods are trying to bloom and purple martins

are starting to twitter overhead.

One thing is for sure, though. Saturday morning, March 28 can dawn crisp and clear and the woods will be full of turkey hunters. Saturday morning March 28 can dawn with cold rain and howling wind and the woods will still be full of turkey hunters. No matter the conditions, we who have been waiting since last April to get on the same turf as the turkeys in the areas where we hunt will be there.

I remember a hunt I



**HARRIS**

made in South Dakota several years ago when temperatures hovered around the freezing mark with the cold drizzle intermittently changing over to snow and back to rain. It was a day any sane person would be at home by the fire in his recliner, lap blanket in place nursing a hot mug of coffee.

Not me. I was in South Dakota in quest of a Merriam's gobbler, the last of the four sub-species of wild turkey I needed to complete my Grand Slam. Sane I wasn't; focused and zoned in I was on the task I faced.

I collected my Merriam's finishing up my Grand Slam but I almost froze my rear end off in the process.

If opening morning here dawns cold and nasty, I'll

run the risk of freezing it off again because if I can find a pulse and my name's not in the obits, I'll be somewhere out there. I'll be listening for the sound I've waited months to hear, one I'll wade across sloughs and through briar patches, climb hills, swat mosquitoes and side-step cottonmouths to hear.

To the untrained ear, the sound I'm longing to hear is somewhat like taking a galvanized bucket, dropping in a handful of rusty bolts and shaking them around. The sound is dry and raspy with not one whit of musical quality – unless you're a turkey hunter. To us, it's the New York Philharmonic, sweet and tender to the ear.

That sound we crawl out of bed long before dawn day after day to hear is the raucous raspy gobble of a

wild turkey. When he sounds off, we know the game is on and we're about to go one-on-one with the williest creature the Good Lord ever put on the face of the Earth.

With spring weather nowhere to be found, at least so far this month, it may be a tough go. Hunting success may not be realized until later in the season, which runs to April 26.

Let's hope and pray the gobblers haven't been communicating with the crappie or else we could be looking for a recipe for turkey tag soup.

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# New ‘Cinderella’ excels with old-fashioned charm

In this age of revisionist, modernized Disney fairy-tales, where we've learned that some of our favorite characters really aren't what they seemed, the striking thing about the studio's sumptuous new live-action "Cinderella" may not be what it is, but what it isn't.

It isn't revisionist. It isn't modernized. The good guys are still good, the bad still bad. Prince Charming? Still VERY charming, not a "Frozen"-style cad. And the evil step-mother? She's not, like Angelina Jolie's Maleficent, merely misunderstood; As embodied by Cate Blanchett, she remains evil to the core. (Though it must be said: Evil has never looked quite so fabulous.)

What "Cinderella" IS, though, is touching, visually stunning, and very satisfying. Director Kenneth Branagh, working with a high-wattage cast led by the winsome and genuine Lily James, sticks to tried-and-true narrative formula, and infuses it with wit and style. If the glass slipper ain't broke, he seems to be saying, why fix it?

A prologue shows us Cinderella's childhood, as a little girl named Ella — a lovely thing who's kind to all, and has a way of communing with animals. She lives in a rambling country home with her loving parents (Hayley Atwell, Ben Chaplin), and all is perfect until, of course, Cinderella's mother takes ill and dies.

It won't be long before Dad, so sweet but so inexplicably clueless, will take up with the widowed Lady Tremaine , who arrives with her two dim-witted daughters and starts rearranging things. We all know how bad things will get, but when Blanchett shows



up with her raven hair, her chic '40s-style glamour and the first of many jaw-dropping dresses (via masterful costume designer Sandy Powell), well, it's hard not to secretly root for a villain with such stunning fashion sense.

But we digress. The story's about Cinderella, as her mean stepsisters rename Ella when they see her sweet face, dirtied by cinders. Already relegated to the attic, her life changes for good when her father dies, rendering her not only an orphan but a slave, too.

Out in the forest one

day, Cinderella encounters a steed being chased by hunters. She admonishes the lead hunter — a young man called Kit — to be kind and spare the animal. Her logic and pluck charm Kit, who of course is Prince Charming (a ridiculously attractive, azure-eyed Richard Madden). This chance meeting is perhaps the most obvious detour that screenwriter Chris Weitz takes from the traditional tale.

Back at the palace, we see Kit struggling against his duty to marry for wealth and advantage. Desperate to see that

country girl again, he opens the upcoming ball to all women in the kingdom. But Lady Tremaine, more sinister by the moment, forbids Cinderella to attend; she even rips the dress that the girl has lovingly resuscitated from her mother's closet.

Natch, this is where Fairy Godmother turns up, in the campy, fun-loving personage of Helena Bonham Carter, who's a bit rusty with the magic but ends up transforming a pink frock into an ice-blue confection fit for a princess, and a pumpkin

into the most gorgeous gilded carriage you've ever seen. The goose becomes the chauffeur — "I can't drive, I'm a goose!" he protests — and the crowning touch is, of course, the glass slippers. ("You'll find they're really comfortable," Godmother notes, hilariously.)

The palace ball is as sumptuous as any little girl could want (kudos to production designer Dante Ferretti), and Branagh makes the ending, that magical moment where the slipper fits, as suspenseful as it can be when we've all known the story

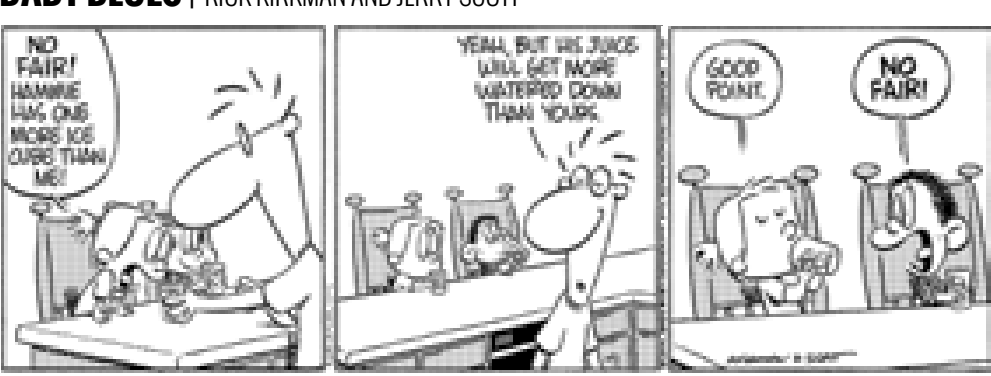
our whole lives.

There IS a message here, and it may disappoint anyone looking for a new feminist heroine to emerge from the cinders. It's about kindness and forgiveness, and sticking to your life ethos no matter what confronts you.

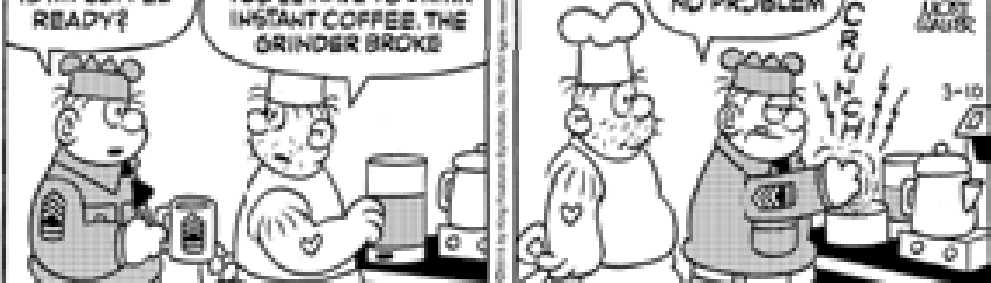
Hardly revolutionary. But somehow, like that glass slipper, it fits just right.

"Cinderella," a Walt Disney Studios release, is rated PG by the Motion Picture Association of America for "mild thematic elements." Running time: 112 minutes. Three stars out of four.

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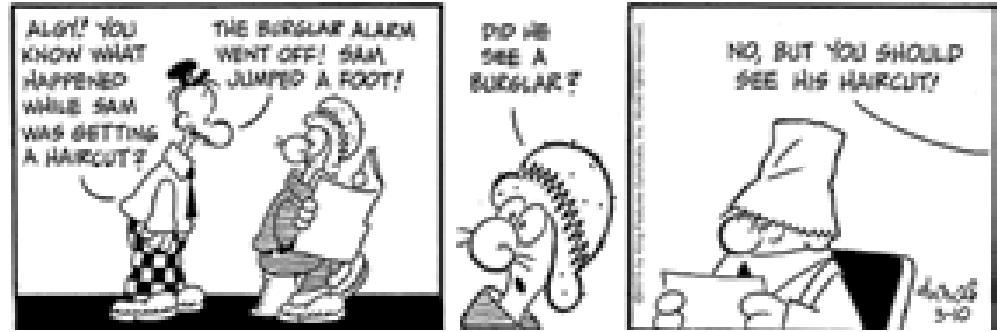
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Notice is further

given that all producers of commercial cotton in Louisiana are required to participate in the boll weevil eradication program, including cost sharing, in accordance with the Boll Weevil Eradication Law and regulations. This includes, but is not limited to, reporting of cotton acreage, and destruction of cotton plants and stalks by December 31 of each crop year. A copy of the law and rules and regulations may be obtained from the Boll Weevil Eradication Commission, P.O. Box 3596, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3596, telephone number (225) 922-1338.

Notice is also given that the planting of noncommercial cotton is PROHIBITED in Louisiana unless a written waiver is obtained from the Commissioner of Agriculture & Forestry in accordance with LAC 7:XV.319(C). To request a waiver, submit a written application to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, at the address provided in this notice, stating the conditions under which such written waiver is requested.

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Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals A

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ACROSS

1 River through Kazakhstan

5 Early birds?

9 Turf

12 Creche trio

13 Ship-building wood

14 Before

15 Without flexibility

17 Moving truck

18 Lingerie items

19 Actress Richardson

21 Intolerant one

24 "Death in Venice" author

25 Responsibility

26 Appeased

30 Schuss

31 Neaten eyebrows

32 Id partner

33 Group of symptoms

35 Slender

36 Ogled

37 Diver's worry

38 Flood protection

40 Big gulp

42 Rage

43 Hawaiian nut

48 Ever-green variety

49 Blueprint

50 Ripped

51 Supplement, with "out"

52 Have an inclination

53 Actor McGregor

2 "Awe-some, dude!"

3 Khan title

4 Bellies up to the bar?

5 Sicilian spouter

6 Obtains

7 Lass

8 Seize an airplane

9 Girls' magazine

10 Exam format

11 Say it ain't so

16 Illustrations

20 — budget

21 Employer

22 Black

23 Camelot female

24 Spiked club

26 Trudge

27 Abner's old radio partner

28 "Zounds!"

29 Dresses in

31 Bump a TV episode

34 Coloring agent

35 Papal envoy

37 Auction action

38 Biography

39 Estrada or Satie

40 Read cursorily

41 Magic stick

44 Pub order

45 Tend the lawn

46 A Gershwin brother

47 Massachusetts cape

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It isn't revisionist. It isn't modernized. The good guys are still good, the bad still bad. Prince Charming? Still VERY charming, not a "Frozen"-style cad. And the evil step-mother? She's not, like Angelina Jolie's Maleficent, merely misunderstood; As embodied by Cate Blanchett, she remains evil to the core. (Though it must be said: Evil has never looked quite so fabulous.)

What "Cinderella" IS, though, is touching, visually stunning, and very satisfying. Director Kenneth Branagh, working with a high-wattage cast led by the winsome and genuine Lily James, sticks to tried-and-true narrative formula, and infuses it with wit and style. If the glass slipper ain't broke, he seems to be saying, why fix it?

A prologue shows us Cinderella's childhood, as a little girl named Ella — a lovely thing who's kind to all, and has a way of communing with animals. She lives in a rambling country home with her loving parents (Hayley Atwell, Ben Chaplin), and all is perfect until, of course, Cinderella's mother takes ill and dies.

It won't be long before Dad, so sweet but so inexplicably clueless, will take up with the widowed Lady Tremaine , who arrives with her two dim-witted daughters and starts rearranging things. We all know how bad things will get, but when Blanchett shows



up with her raven hair, her chic '40s-style glamour and the first of many jaw-dropping dresses (via masterful costume designer Sandy Powell), well, it's hard not to secretly root for a villain with such stunning fashion sense.

But we digress. The story's about Cinderella, as her mean stepsisters rename Ella when they see her sweet face, dirtied by cinders. Already relegated to the attic, her life changes for good when her father dies, rendering her not only an orphan but a slave, too.

Out in the forest one

day, Cinderella encounters a steed being chased by hunters. She admonishes the lead hunter — a young man called Kit — to be kind and spare the animal. Her logic and pluck charm Kit, who of course is Prince Charming (a ridiculously attractive, azure-eyed Richard Madden). This chance meeting is perhaps the most obvious detour that screenwriter Chris Weitz takes from the traditional tale.

Back at the palace, we see Kit struggling against his duty to marry for wealth and advantage. Desperate to see that

country girl again, he opens the upcoming ball to all women in the kingdom. But Lady Tremaine, more sinister by the moment, forbids Cinderella to attend; she even rips the dress that the girl has lovingly resuscitated from her mother's closet.

Natch, this is where Fairy Godmother turns up, in the campy, fun-loving personage of Helena Bonham Carter, who's a bit rusty with the magic but ends up transforming a pink frock into an ice-blue confection fit for a princess, and a pumpkin

into the most gorgeous gilded carriage you've ever seen. The goose becomes the chauffeur — "I can't drive, I'm a goose!" he protests — and the crowning touch is, of course, the glass slippers. ("You'll find they're really comfortable," Godmother notes, hilariously.)

The palace ball is as sumptuous as any little girl could want (kudos to production designer Dante Ferretti), and Branagh makes the ending, that magical moment where the slipper fits, as suspenseful as it can be when we've all known the story

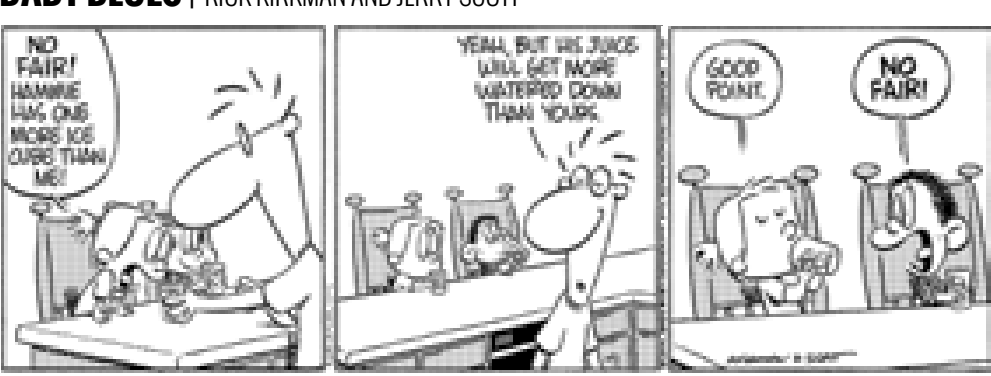
our whole lives.

There IS a message here, and it may disappoint anyone looking for a new feminist heroine to emerge from the cinders. It's about kindness and forgiveness, and sticking to your life ethos no matter what confronts you.

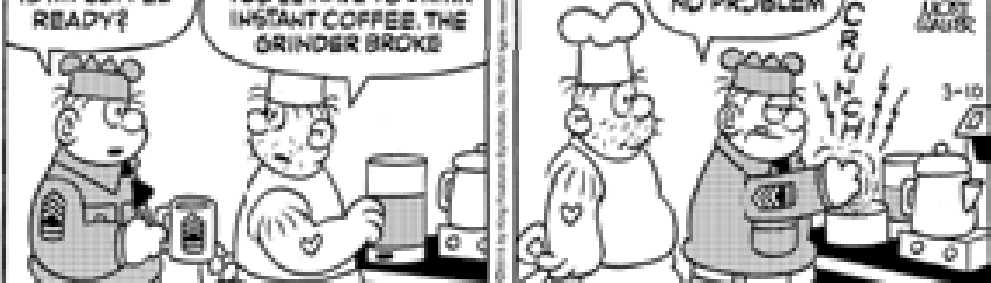
Hardly revolutionary. But somehow, like that glass slipper, it fits just right.

"Cinderella," a Walt Disney Studios release, is rated PG by the Motion Picture Association of America for "mild thematic elements." Running time: 112 minutes. Three stars out of four.

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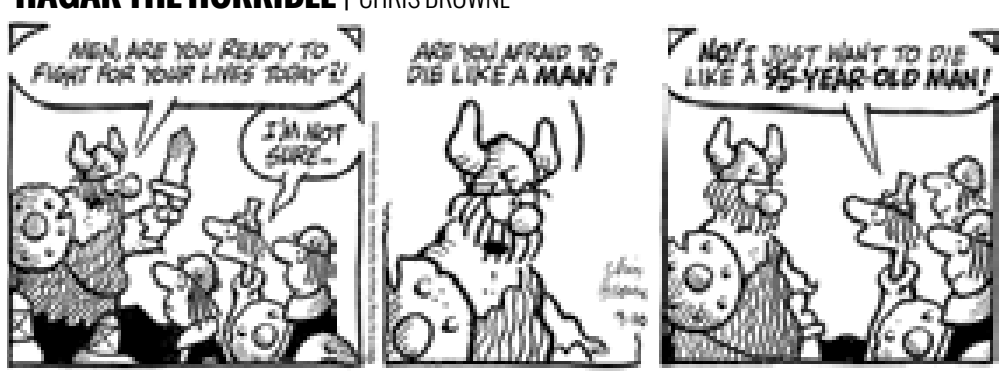
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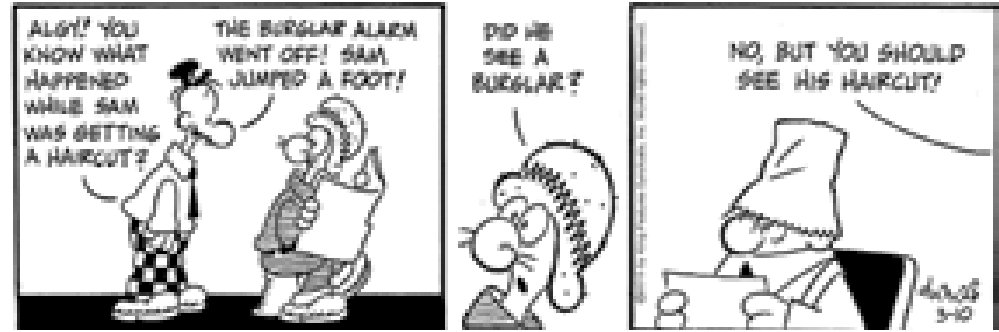
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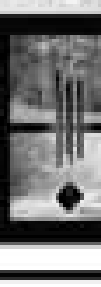
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