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MONDAY

INSIDE today



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Man accused of stealing purse

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WEATHER

TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK



92 HIGH **69 LOW**

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Vol. 47 No. 41



DOWNTOWN MINDEN

Car strikes, injures man downtown

MICHELLE BATES
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A car hit a 65-year-old man Friday morning, but Minden police say he has no serious injuries.

Police say John Andrews, of Minden, was walking across the street at the intersection of Main Street and East Union when a vehicle making a left turn struck him. Officers believe he struck his head on the curb, causing a large laceration.

He was taken to Minden

Medical Center where he received staples in his forehead.

"He was walking through the crosswalk but didn't have the right of way at the time," Officer Russell Engi said.

No citations were issued. Engi, Officer First Class Kenneth James, Lt. Seth Young and Lt. Wayne Young responded to the call around 8:22 a.m.

Police say Andrews is known to walk the streets of Minden.



Police and EMS respond to the scene downtown where a car hit a 65-year-old man Friday morning leaving him with minor injuries. Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

FOOTBALL FRENZY



Pineland Jamboree marks the start of football season

Above, Coach Alan Ensminger goes over plays made during the Pineland Jamboree with members of the Minden Crimson Tide. The Crimson Tide fell to Haynesville during the jamboree, 13-7. Right, North Webster's Devin White prepares to take on Rayville. Bruce Franklin/Press-Herald

VIEW MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 8 AND ONLINE AT WWW.PRESS-HERALD.COM



ELECTION

Voter registration week kicks off

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Voter registration week begins Monday, Aug. 31 and will go through Sept. 4.

Those who have not registered to vote and wish to do so may go to the following locations on the following dates:

- Monday, Aug. 31 through Friday, Sept. 4: Registrar of Voter's office at the Webster Parish Courthouse from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Sept. 2: Springhill Council on Aging from 11 a.m. until noon and at the Willie and Mary Mack Memorial Branch Library from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30 p.m.

- Thursday, Sept. 3: Minden Council on Aging from 8 until 10 a.m.
- AVC Edge voting machine demonstrations will be available in the registrar's office for anyone interested in becoming more familiar with the voting machines used during early voting.
- Louisiana secretary of state Tom Schedler says in

- order to register, prospective voters must:
 - Be a U.S. citizen,
 - Be 17 years old (16 years old at the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles), but must be 18 years old to vote,
 - Not be under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony,

See **VOTE**, Page 2

MINDEN CRIME

Woman arrested for doing donuts in street

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A Minden woman was stopped by police after a Webster Parish deputy reported she was "doing doughnuts" in the middle of Homer Road.

Ashley S. Dunn, 36, of the 1000 block of Gloria Street, was arrested by Minden police and charged with driving under the influence (first offense), careless operation, public intimidation and expired driver's license. Bond was set at \$21,900.

Minden police chief Steve See **ARREST**, Page 3



DUNN

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Deadline is today for '15 under 40' nominations

The Minden/South Webster Chamber of Commerce is now accepting nominations for the fourth annual "15 Under 40" program.

"Each year we recognize 15 outstanding young professionals for their accomplishments in their careers and communities," Jerri de Pingre, chamber president.



DEPINGRE'

See **15UNDER40**, Page 2

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SECONDFRONT

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MINDEN CRIME

Man arrested, accused of stealing purse in Walmart

MICHELLE BATES
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A man who reportedly stole a purse and tried to use the debit card inside was arrested by Minden police.

LeCharleston White, 45, of the 900 block of Homer Road, was arrested Wednesday, Aug. 26, and charged with unauthorized use of an access card as theft and theft.

set at \$25,000.

Minden police chief Steve Cropper says a Walmart loss prevention employee witnessed White steal a purse from inside the store.

"He notified us and provided a license plate on the vehicle," the chief said. "The vehicle attempted to



WHITE

flee the scene, and officers located it at his residence."

The stolen purse was located in a trashcan outside the residence, according to the police report.

"After being read his Miranda rights and detained by officers, Mr. White admitted to stealing the purse and told them where some of the contents of the purse were," he said. "A debit card he'd stolen out of the purse, he'd thrown out the win-

dow on the road, because he'd tried to purchase fuel with it and it did not work."

He was arrested by Officer Mitch Hackett, assisted by Officer First Class Chris Hammontree and Officer Jamie Franklin.

He was booked at the Minden Police Department and transported to Bayou Dorcheat Correctional Center.



UCAP SEEKS DONATIONS

UCAP is seeking canned and dry food donations to help stock the shelves. Donations may be made at 204 Miller Street between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For more information, call the UCAP office at 377-6804. Courtesy Photo

AROUND THE STATE

La. looks at pool for state-owned vehicles

BATON ROUGE — The Jindal administration plans to test vehicle-sharing among state agencies to reduce the number from the current 10,500. The large number of cars owned by state govern-

ment has been criticized for at least half a century.

Jan Cassidy, Gov. Bobby Jindal's assistant commissioner for procurement, tells The Advocate that a pilot program is planned by the end of the year at

the Claiborne Building. That building houses several state agencies, including the Division of Administration, the Department of Education and Board of Regents.

The administration is

installing GPS systems on all government vehicles to check how, when and where each is used. Cassidy says that information also will be used to work out procedures for a centralized car pool program.

LOTTERY

No jackpots won in 3 big weekend lotteries

BATON ROUGE — The Louisiana Lottery Corp. says nobody won the jackpots in three big games. That means Wednesday's estimated jackpots rise to

\$120 million for the Powerball, \$2.375 million for Lotto and \$90,000 for Easy 5.

The lottery corporation says \$2,896 was the

biggest prize won in drawings Saturday night. It says that 16 Lotto tickets matched five of six numbers to win that amount. Winning numbers

drawn Saturday were: Powerball: 18-21-25-28-29; Powerball 16; Power Play 2. Lotto: 01-06-19-27-29-36. Easy 5: 09-18-26-30-35

Nominees will be honored at banquet in October

15 UNDER 40

Continued from page 1

ident, said. "If you believe someone that you work with, worship with, or fellowship with is worthy of this award, visit our website at www.mindenchamber.com."

To nominate someone, click on the Events/Programs tab and fill out the nomination form found in Downloads."

The program was created to recognize young business professionals in south Webster Parish younger than age 40 who have demonstrated professional excellence and a commitment to their community.

Nominees for the "15 Under 40" award must be 39 years old or younger on Oct. 20, 2015, and must live or work in Dixie Inn, Doyline, Dubberly, Heflin, Minden or Sibley.

Deadline for nomina-

tions is Monday, Aug. 31 by 4 p.m. Nominations may come from a second party or may be submitted by a person who believes he or she deserves to be honored as a "15 Under 40" recipient.

A diverse selection panel will review and score the nominees to distinguish the top 15 applicants. An awards dinner to recognize the honorees will be Oct. 14 at the Minden Civic Center. Additionally, the award recipients

will be featured in the Chamber ROI supplement to the Minden-Press Herald.

Nomination forms are available at the Minden-South Webster Chamber Office, 110 Sibley Road, Minden and online at www.mindenchamber.com.

To submit a nomination, or for more information regarding the 2015 "15 Under 40" program, call the chamber office at 377-4240.

VOTE

Continued from page 1

■ Not be under a judgment of full interdiction for mental incompetence or partial interdiction with suspension of voting rights, and

■ Reside in the state and parish in which you seek to register.

Prospective voters may also register in person at any of the following locations if they cannot get to the registrar of voters office or any of the above locations:

■ Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles (must be at least 16 years old to register to vote),

■ Louisiana Department of Social Services,

■ WIC offices,

■ Food stamp offices,

■ Medicaid offices,

■ Offices serving persons with disabilities such as the Deaf Action Centers and Independent Living Offices, or

■ Armed Forces recruit-

ment offices.

The primary election will be Saturday, Oct. 24, with the following seats up for election: sheriff, clerk of court, tax assessor, coroner, justice of the peace and all seats on the police jury. Doyline residents will also vote for two aldermen.

State seats include governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, state treasurer, commissioner of agriculture and forestry, commissioner of insurance and BESE district 4 seat.

Qualifying for local candidates will be at the Webster Parish Clerk of Court Sept. 8 through 10.

Candidates for state senator and representative will qualify with the Louisiana secretary of state.

For additional information on voter registration, elections or becoming a poll worker, visit www.Geauxvote.com or call the Webster Parish Registrar of Voters Office at 377-9272.

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BIRTHDAYS FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2015

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Richard Gere

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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MINDEN MEDICAL CENTER IS PLEASED TO WELCOME OUR NEWEST PHYSICIAN

Mark Wilson, MD is bringing his passion for athletics and excellent surgical skills in **ORTHOPAEDICS & SPORTS MEDICINE** to Minden where he will offer individualized care for a wide range of patients including high school and college athletes to those considering joint replacement. Dr. Wilson will be practicing the latest techniques in arthroscopic surgery for joint preservation, cartilage restoration, ligament reconstruction, instability repairs and joint reconstruction of the shoulders, hips and knees.

"Tenacious" is the one word Dr. Wilson uses to describe himself. Running his first marathon at 16, his determination has followed him throughout his career. He understands how important an active lifestyle is and plans to incorporate his extensive training into the treatment of his patients so that they can "get back to work, sports and life."

Dr. Wilson is joining Michael Austin PA-C to form Wilson Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine. New patients are welcome to their clinic located at 216 West Union, Suite A in Minden. Appointments may be made by calling (318) 299-6334.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP American Medical Association, American Academy of Orthopedic Surgery, American Orthopedic Society of Sports Medicine, Arthroscopy Association of North America and the Louisiana Orthopedic Association	EDUCATION MEDICAL SCHOOL Indiana University School of Medicine Indianapolis, IN GENERAL ORTHOPAEDICS INTERNSHIP & RESIDENCY University Health Shreveport, LA SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP University of Wisconsin Madison, WI	PERSONAL Dr. Wilson is a true sports enthusiast. He also enjoys camping, hiking, fishing, watching airplanes with his children Evan and Ella and attending their activities with his wife, Jill, including soccer and t-ball games.
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www.mindenmedicalcenter.com
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Dr. Mark D. Wilson
Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine

2016 RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

Possible Biden bid for White House faces rough road

JULIE BYKOWICZ
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — The only trace of the vice president came on a candy wrapper.

Joe Biden may be considering whether to enter the race for president, but he sat out last week's meeting of the Democratic National Committee. In his place, backers greeted a curious few in a hotel suite 20 floors above the official gathering, handing out chocolate bars wrapped with a stylized photo of Biden behind the wheel of a convertible and an "I'm Ridin' with Biden" label.

In any other year, a sitting vice president would have headlined such a meeting as the heavy favorite for the party's nomination. Instead, the gathering served as proof that if Biden chooses to run, he'll do so as an underdog to Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Clinton's years-long flirtation with a second White House campaign — time her allies used to lock up support of much of the Democratic Party's leadership — and her undeniable political celebrity have upended the traditional script. Rather than inheriting his party's machine, a Biden campaign would have to find a way to take it back.

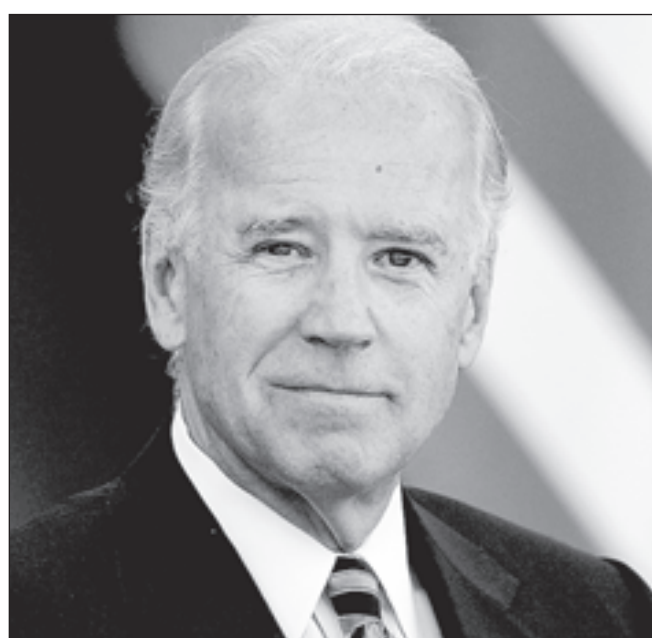
"Secretary Clinton's folks have been talking to these people for a very, very long time," said Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, whose vibrant crowds and steady poll numbers make him Clinton's strongest current challenger. "So she has a huge advantage."

Yet Biden's supporters see an opening, due in no small part to Clinton's inability to shake questions about her use of a personal email server while serving as secretary of state. His candor, long history of fighting for Democratic causes and personal struggles — a widower at a young age now grieving over the recent death of his son Beau — make him an admired figure in the party.

"He's one of us. He gets it," said Jon Cooper, a supporter who this summer began working with a group encouraging Biden to enter the race. "Everybody likes Joe Biden."

That group, a super PAC named Draft Biden, is a blend of Chicago-based fans of the vice president and political operatives with ties to his family. It sent five employees to the DNC meeting, emailing attendees and passing out fliers in hallways to invite people to their pro-Biden hotel suite.

A total of about 75 came



Joe Biden. Courtesy Photo

to four open-house sessions, said Josh Alcorn, a former aide to Beau Biden who joined the group with the family's blessing.

"People seemed excited about the possibility and were willing to take a look," he said.

Some Democrats who heard the pitch asked to stay in touch. Others remained skeptical.

"I asked them, 'What's his path?'" said Mitchell Ceasar, a Florida attorney and party operative. Their answer — that he could cobble together votes from all sorts of Democratic coalitions — prompted a

shrug. "The challenge to the vice president is to present a compelling argument why someone should get on a different train, a different train that's going in the same direction," he said.

The practicalities of running also remain difficult for the vice president. His supporters say he must decide before the first Democratic debate, in mid-October.

While Biden has no campaign operation beyond the small Draft Biden group, Clinton has for months built a sprawling machine of hundreds of employees working out of her Brooklyn campaign headquarters and in dozens of offices across the country. Her version of Draft Biden, a since-shuttered outside group called Ready for Hillary, spent years before Clinton got into the race amassing millions of email addresses of potential supporters.

Money is another challenge. Biden represented the small state of Delaware in the Senate and has never raised significant sums for his own campaigns. Draft Biden, just a few months old, raised less than \$100,000 through the end of June. While supporters say bigger checks have been rolling in recently, Clinton is a former first lady and senator from New York with a strong fundraising history. In the first three months of her campaign, she raised \$45 million for the primary contest alone.

Clinton's team has also devoted significant resources already to wooing super delegates — the party and elected officials empowered to select the presidential nominee at the Democratic national convention regardless of the 2016 primaries.

Clinton backers, who sported gold "H" lapel pins at the DNC meetings, were

rewarded for their loyalty with invitations to private briefings from Clinton and top campaign officials.

Several hundred Democratic delegates who signed cards pledging to support her mingled atop skyscraper in downtown Minneapolis Thursday night. Clinton talked for about 15 minutes, drawing cheers when she assured them, "I'm not a quitter."

Ed Cote, a Washington state Democratic leader and a Clinton admirer, said that event was a perfect example of why Biden would find himself in a tougher primary than a sitting vice president might expect.

"Most of the people there have votes on the first ballots, and they're solidly with her," Cote said. "She's doing exactly what she needs to be doing."

Clinton learned the importance of that support in 2008, when she ended her long, hard-fought primary campaign after it became clear she lacked enough delegates to capture the nomination.

"We are working really hard to lock in as many supporters as possible," Clinton said Friday. "This is really about how you put the numbers together to secure the nomination."

ARREST

Continued from page 1

Cropper says it all started before 6 a.m., Wednesday, Aug. 26. She was in line at the McDonald's drive through, and some type of

confrontation took place with someone in line.

"When she got up (to the speaker) to order, she ordered \$17 or \$19 worth of food and got up the window and didn't have the money to pay for it," he said. "She ended up driving off, and we got a call in reference to that."

Deputy Luster Coleman was coming down Homer Road about the time Minden police received the call, and Coleman got to the intersection of Homer and Fincher Roads and a vehicle fitting the description over the radio was

making circles in that intersection, Cropper said.

"Mr. Coleman tries to stop her, and she drives up to Subway," he said. "By that time, our officers arrived and she appeared to be under the influence of something. She refused to submit to testing, and

her driver's license was expired."

She refused to take any of the field sobriety tests and refused to blow into the intoxilyzer, Cropper said. Later, the chief says she changed her mind, but it was too late. She did, however, submit to a blood

test, he said.

"She actually threatened Officer Jamie Franklin," he said, adding she was acting belligerent and hostile at the time of the incident.

Officer Mitch Hackett, Officer First Class Ben Allen and Franklin were the responding officers.



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OPINION

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PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Meeting the global threat of climate change

Hi, everybody. This Monday, I'm heading to Alaska for a three-day tour of the state.

I've been looking forward to this for a long time. Not only because Alaska is one of the most beautiful places in a country that's full of beautiful places — but because I'll have several opportunities to meet with everyday Alaskans about what's going on in their lives. I'll travel throughout the state, meeting with Alaskans who live above the Arctic Circle, with Alaska natives, and with folks who earn their livelihoods through fishing and tourism. And I expect to learn a lot.

One thing I've learned so far is that a lot of these conversations begin with climate change. And that's because Alaskans are already living with its effects. More frequent and extensive wildfires. Bigger storm surges as sea ice melts faster. Some of the swiftest shoreline erosion in the world — in some places, more than three feet a year.

Alaska's glaciers are melting faster too, threatening tourism and adding to rising seas. And if we do nothing, Alaskan temperatures are projected to rise between six and twelve degrees by the end of the century, changing all sorts of industries forever.

This is all real. This is happening to our fellow Americans right now. In fact, Alaska's governor recently told me that four villages are in "imminent danger" and have to be relocated. Already, rising sea levels are beginning to swallow one island community.

Think about that. If another country threatened to wipe out an American town, we'd do everything in our power to protect ourselves. Climate change poses the same threat, right now.



PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

That's why one of the things I'll do while I'm in Alaska is to convene other nations to meet this threat. Several Arctic nations have already committed to action. Since the United States and China worked together to set ambitious climate targets last year, leading by example, many of the world's biggest emitters have come forward with new climate plans of their own. And that's a good sign as we approach this December's global climate negotiations in Paris.

Now, one of the ways America is leading is by transitioning away from dirty energy sources that threaten our health and our environment, and by going all-in on clean, renewable energy sources like wind and solar. And Alaska has the natural resources to be a global leader in this effort.

Now even as we accelerate this transition, our economy still has to rely on oil and gas. As long as that's the case, I believe we should rely more on domestic production than on foreign imports, and we should demand the highest safety standards in the industry — our own. Still, I know there are Americans who are concerned about oil companies drilling in environmentally sensitive waters. Some are also concerned with my administration's decision to approve Shell's application to drill a well off the Alaskan coast, using leases they purchased before I took office. I share people's concerns about offshore drilling. I remember the BP spill in the Gulf of Mexico all too well.

That's precisely why my administration has worked to make sure that our oil exploration conducted under these leases is done at the highest standards possible, with requirements specifically tailored to the risks of drilling off Alaska. We didn't rubber-stamp permits. We made it clear that Shell has to meet our high standards in how they conduct their operations — and it's a testament to how rigorous we've applied those standards that Shell has delayed and limited its exploration off Alaska while trying to meet them. The bottom line is, safety has been and will continue to be my administration's top priority when it comes to oil and gas exploration off America's precious coasts — even as we push our economy and the world to ultimately transition off of fossil fuels.

So I'm looking forward to talking with Alaskans about how we can work together to make America the global leader on climate change around the globe. And we're going to offer unique and engaging ways for you to join me on this trip all week at WhiteHouse.gov/Alaska. Because what's happening in Alaska is happening to us. It's our wakeup call. And as long as I'm President, America will lead the world to meet the threat of climate change before it's too late.

President Barack Obama's weekly address is published Mondays in the Minden Press-Herald.

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Q: WHY DON'T WE SEE STRONGER MEASURES TO KEEP GUNS FROM THE MENTALLY ILL?



A:



ANALYSIS

Holes and worries emerge in Louisiana's budget

As lawmakers patched their way through this year's budget, many of them talked as if they had drawn up a six-month plan, fully expecting Louisiana's next governor to come in with a broader blueprint for fixing the state's financial mess.

They may have been too generous. This budget may not even hold for six months.

One modest cut's already been required, other gaps have emerged and nose-diving oil prices could upend everything.

If Gov. Bobby Jindal's administration manages to exit in January without more budget-slashing, it could be leaving a heck of a mess for the governor coming in that month. (Jindal's term-limited and cannot run for re-election. His successor will be chosen this fall.)

And if that's not enough, the shortfall estimated already for next year's budget is pegged at \$713 million.

Lawmakers pieced together a \$25 billion budget for the fiscal year that began July 1, using nearly \$767 million in new revenue from increased taxes and fees and tax break scale-backs.

Final versions of most of those tax bills were written in the waning hours of the legislative session, leaving estimates of their expected impact a bit sketchy.

Earlier this month, lawmakers had to trim \$4.6 million in planned spending because the package of bills

wasn't expected to generate all the money used in the budget. Nearly \$3.8 million of the cut fell on public colleges, despite efforts from lawmakers to shield campuses from reductions.

Commissioner of Administration Kristy Nichols, Jindal's chief budget adviser, said the dollars will be restored if income forecasts improve. She said she was hopeful about that possibility.

However, even setting aside the questions of just how much money will be raised by the tax and fee bills, other gaps in the budget have started to appear.

The state's TOPS free college tuition program has \$19 million less this year than its students are expected to need to fully cover their tuition costs.

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance requested \$284 million from the Jindal administration and lawmakers. The final version of the budget set aside \$265 million instead, not taking into account rising tuition prices, said Sujuan Boutté, executive director of the financial assistance office.

Gaps often appear in the TOPS program midyear, and lawmakers fill them to ensure students don't get less than they were promised. It's less common for the program to start off measurably short of the dollars needed.

Boutté said she doesn't expect students to be negatively affected. But it's a looming problem that will need addressing to keep the program from short-changing students.

The possible gap in Louisiana's Medicaid program is much larger.

The Legislative Fiscal Office says the budget didn't account for \$335 million in

increased spending that the health department anticipated across programs. Either the state has to come up with a way to cover those costs or find ways to ratchet back services in some fashion to keep the program's spending in check.

If those budget concerns weren't enough to cause headaches, oil prices threaten to wreak havoc on the state's finances.

While oil price declines are good for drivers at the gas pump, large dips in per-barrel price can force steep slashing to Louisiana's budget, which gets money from severance taxes and mineral royalties tied to energy production.

Every dollar drop in the annual oil price represents an estimated \$11 million to \$12 million hit to the state general fund.

This year's budget is built on a nearly \$62 per barrel oil price. Oil prices have recently hovered around the low-\$40 range per barrel.

Economists are awaiting more information across the state's various tax types to see if income taxes, sales tax or other revenue sources are performing better than expected and can make up the gap for sliding oil prices. But the threat of midyear budget reductions is real.

The Jindal administration is hoping to stave off those problems until it gets out the door, rather than while the Republican governor is campaigning for his presidential bid. Louisiana's next governor, however, appears likely to have immediate financial troubles awaiting him.

Melinda Deslatte covers the Louisiana Capitol for The Associated Press.

PERSPECTIVE

The politics of fighting wildfires

As wildfires plague much of the American West, one must ask, Who is paying to put them out? The answer is largely the American taxpayer. By that, we mean the taxpayers of Maryland, Tennessee and New Jersey — as well as those in California, Oregon, Washington and Montana, the states where the worst fires now rage.

Given this reality, we can also wonder at Western conservatives' passion for transferring federal lands to the states or into private hands. Do they really want the cost of protecting this considerable acreage placed on the shoulders of their locals?

Some Western politicians, such as Montana Gov. Steve Bullock, have thought this through. His state owns 5.2 million acres — the size of Massachusetts — and a good part of it is in flames.

"I could spend \$40 million on fires alone," Bullock, a Democrat, recently told me.

Western conservatives should know that other conservatives are asking why U.S. taxpayers are spending so darn much money putting out their fires. And they are joined by environmentalists, who argue that the federal government's enthusiasm for suppressing wildfires encourages bad land planning and unnecessary tree removal.

About two-thirds of the cost of fighting wildfires comes out of the federal coffers, and the U.S. Forest Service accounts for the lion's share. Its fire suppression activities include both firefighting and fire prevention. For the first time this year, the Forest Service will devote over half its budget to wildfire suppression. By 2025, large wildfires could consume two-thirds of that budget, according to a new report by the Department of Agriculture, which oversees the agency.

A warming climate is adding size and intensity to the blazes — making them more expensive to put out. And there's a stiff human price: Three Forest Service firefighters died recently trying to contain a wildfire in north-central Washington.

But much of the Forest Service's fattening bill for suppressing wildfires comes from the rising costs of protecting isolated residences in the so-called wildland-urban interface.

About 10 million homes were built in fire-prone rural areas last decade — on top of 6 million in the 1990s.

The building continues apace because of a growing desire for homes with nice views and proximity to national forests. And because the feds deal with the worst fires, the state and local governments approving this development have little incentive to curb it.

The federal government also has a variety of post-fire rehab programs. One helps rebuild the homes, 75 percent of which are uninsured or underinsured.

"Many say the insurance companies should be creating a moral hazard when they insure homes on the interface," Sue Stewart, a scientist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison who was formerly with the Forest Service, told me. Homeowners in fire-prone zones should bear the costs of the added risk, not unlike those on flood plains.

Local governments can also assume more responsibility, writes Randal O'Toole at the conservative Cato Institute. One suggestion is "turning firefighting over to the states and paying the states the same fixed annual amounts per acre that private forest land owners pay."

O'Toole speaks approvingly of the federal Bureau of Land Management's policy of letting enormous wildfires in Alaska burn largely unattended.

In Berkeley, California, meanwhile, angry environmentalists are protesting a plan to lessen fire hazards by leveling over 400,000 eucalyptuses and other trees in the East Bay hills. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has offered to write the check.

In assessing federal fire suppression programs, one must distinguish between mindless budget cutting and thoughtless spending. As we can see, not always an easy call.

Follow Froma Harrop on Twitter @FromaHarrop. She can be reached at fharrop@gmail.com.



FROMA HARROP



MELINDA DESLATTE

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Around Town

September 12, 2015

The 17th annual Haynesville Celebration of Butterflies kicks off at 8 a.m. with a 5K fun run at the Claiborne Parish Fairgrounds. This years speakers include Charles Allen, Mickey Lowe, Lee Faulk, Dennis Demcheck and Victoria Lefevers. Throughout the day there will be an antique tractor show, quilt show, tours of the Dogtrot House and the Butterfly Gardens, Vocal and Dance groups performing, and a horseshoe pitching tournament. Children will enjoy a scavenger hunt, bounce house and a chalk art competition. For more information contact Loice Kendrick-Lacy at 318-624-1929 or 870-234-5910, email loicelacy@suddenlink.net or visit haynesvillela.org.

St. James Baptist Church will be honoring Pastor Marandalous Holland for 11 years of pastoral service. Starting at 11 a.m. guest speaker will be Pastor David Hoey of Rhema Word Ministry of Shreveport, followed by Dr. Jimmy Mahoney of Springfield Baptist Church of Shreveport at 3 p.m.

MASTER GARDENERS



2015 Piney Hills Master Gardener class graduates are, from left, Drake Roten, Randy Clemons, Jillene Faulk, Wendy McLean, Roderick Gilbert, Suzan Bryant, Jenny Kelleya and Ben Branch. Courtesy Photo

Piney Hills Master Gardeners celebrate new graduates

LEE FAULK
Special to the Press-Herald

The Piney Hills Master Gardeners celebrated their newest members on Thursday, Aug. 20 at the LSU AgCenter Extension Office in Minden. This year's annual Master Gardener Class had eight students who underwent 40 hours of horticulture education over the course of 10 weeks this summer to qualify to graduate and become a Master Gardener.

The 2015 Piney Hills Master Gardener Class graduates included Ben Branch, Suzan Bryant, Randy Clemons, Jil-

lene Faulk, Roderick Gilbert, Jenny Kelley, Wendy McLean and Drake Roten.

These graduates had an opportunity to learn about soils, botany, plant pathology, fruit and nut trees, vegetables, ornamental horticulture, entomology and many other topics. These new graduates will join the ranks of other Piney Hills Master Gardeners who work tirelessly to promote horticulture and home gardening in Bienville, Bossier, Claiborne and Webster Parishes.

For more information on the LSU AgCenter Master Gardener Program, the Piney Hills Master Gardeners, or how to become a Master Gardener; contact the Webster Parish Extension Office at 371-1371.

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SPORTS briefs

FOOTBALL

MPH Football Contest returns

High School and College football return this weekend and that can only mean one thing: The return of the Minden Press-Herald football contest.

As a reminder, only one entry per person each week and picks must be submitted before Friday at 4 p.m.

Just like in years past, the top three participants will all be winners, with first place taking home \$25, second place taking home \$15 and third place winning \$10.

Be sure to check out the back page of today's Minden Press-Herald for this week's list of games and as always we wish you the best of luck.

NFL

Palmer struggles against Raiders

OAKLAND, Calif. — Even though Carson Palmer spent much of the first half on his back and running from the Oakland defense, Arizona coach Bruce Arians is not concerned about his offensive line.

Palmer was sacked three times and threw two interceptions before the Cardinals rallied in the second half to beat the Raiders 30-23 on Sunday night when Marion Grice ran for an 11-yard score with 31 seconds left.

"Pass protection is not an issue," Arians said. "We've got to do a better job of getting the ball out of our hands sometimes. I thought we held it a little bit longer today."

Palmer struggled against his former team as he was under pressure for most of the first half. Palmer was 8 for 22 for 103 yards and was intercepted twice by Nate Allen. Palmer also was sacked three times, including twice by Khalil Mack.

LLWS

Japan wins Little League World Series

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. — With more than 42,000 fans cheering against them, the Tokyo players found themselves down eight runs in the first inning of the Little League championship game against Lewisberry, Pennsylvania.

That brought out manager Junji Hidaka's inner Yogi Berra and sparked a record rally that saw the Kitasua Little League pound out 22 hits in an 18-11 comeback victory in a battle of undefeated teams.

"I told the players it doesn't end until it ends," Hidaka said through a translator.

Tokyo responded with seven runs in the second, four in the third inning and five in the sixth.

Masafuji Nishijima had four hits and six RBIs, and Shingo Tomita hit two of Tokyo's five home runs.

Tokyo's third pitcher, Nobuyuki Kawashima, held Lewisberry in check most of the game, giving up just one run and two hits over five innings.

It was the 10th title for Japan, second behind Taiwan's record 17. It's the third title for the Kitasua Little League team, which also took home championship pennants in 2001 and 2012.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Heartbreak at home



BLAKE BRANCH

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The Glenbrook Apaches came out fired up in their home opener with the CHEF Patriots, but after four quarters and a pair of overtimes the Apaches came up two points short of a thrilling victory.

The 20-18 loss in double overtime will be a tough pill to swallow for Glenbrook, now 0-2 on the young season, but the Apache head coach Caleb Carmikle said he saw several bright spots.

"That was my first experience in an overtime game," Carmikle said. "It was an awesome atmosphere at Glenbrook last night. The community really came out and showed their support for us. I was proud of the way my guys played and the way they left it all out on the field. Somebody had to lose that game, I just hate it was us."

The Patriots outsize the Apaches up front across the

board, but the Apaches stood up to the challenge, something they didn't do last week against Copiah.

"Those kids played very, very hard. CHEF forced us to play up to their level and we did that. I think that shows just how much we've grown up in one week.

The game started with the Apaches on defense.

CHEF moved the ball methodically near midfield where the Apaches forced them into a third and long.

The Patriots ran a screen play to the right flats that looked harmless enough, but the CHEF running back broke a tackle and got a block down the sideline to take it 60 yards for the game's first touchdown.

CHEF never scored again offensively throughout the regulation portion of the game, but they did manage to return a Hunter Vaughn interception for a touchdown.

That's when the Apache offense got rolling. Joseph Windham pulled down a big-time touchdown pass from Vaughn to start the scoring for Glenbrook.

"When he comes out and gets after it he's tough to cover," Carmikle said. "He's a mismatch for whoever is trying to cover him."

Seth Tyler found the endzone on a short pass to cap a long Glenbrook drive late in the fourth quarter to tie the game at 12-12 and send the game into overtime.



Courtesy Photo/Braxton Stuckey

In the first overtime period neither team could find the endzone. In the second overtime period, CHEF scored and added a two point conversion, putting the pressure on Glenbrook.

Glenbrook responded with a Hunter Vaughn touchdown run, but on the ensuing two-point try to send it to triple overtime, the Apaches came

up short, ending the game at 20-18.

Hunter Vaughn completed 9 passes for 114 yards and one touchdown. He added 67 yards on the ground and one score. Marshall Meek ran for 47 yards and Drennan Keen carried five times for 22 yards.

Joseph Windham caught five passes for 71 yards and a

touchdown, while Seth Tyler added one reception for 5 yards and a touchdown. Lyle Reagan led the defense with 13 tackles and an impressive one-handed interception. Drennan Keen had 7 tackles, including a sack and a forced fumble. Peyton Page made 6 tackles, while Garrett Sanders and Nick Moses had 5 tackles.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Haynesville tops Tide, 13-7 in jamboree



Courtesy Photo/Douglas Blow



BLAKE BRANCH

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Minden High was impressive for the most part in their 13-7 loss to Haynesville in the Pineland Jamboree.

That seems odd to say about a loss where a team only scores seven points, but against a program and a team like Haynesville, expectations must be tempered.

"Overall, I thought we did really well," head coach

Spencer Heard said. "I think towards the end we might have gotten a little winded. They started to grind on us their last series. We may need to get in a little better shape."

Minden still managed to make plays defensively, including a forced fumble recovered by Haynesville.

Zi'Kerion Baker and Cameron Morgan led the way for the Crimson Tide defense.

"Those guys are playmakers for us on defense," Heard said. "They definitely were in on a lot of plays. Overall that unit did well."

On offense, Tavarius Edwards shined again, taking

a screen nearly 50 yards before being dragged down inside the 10 yard line.

Also, the offensive line held up well against a stout Golden Tornado front seven.

"One thing about playing Haynesville is they're going to show you your weaknesses," Heard said. "But those guys held up well and did what they were supposed to do. We broke down in pass protection a couple times so we need to work on that, but it was very good effort on our part."

The Tide will kickoff the regular season on Friday when they hit the road to take on Southwood.



HEARD

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Warriors fall in jamboree



RUSTON - At the Cedar Creek jamboree, the Lakeside Warriors came out on the losing end of a pair of games with Homer and Cedar Creek.

The Warriors took on Homer for the second

time this month and held up much better than they did in a scrimmage with the Pels.

"I thought we forced the action which made them turn the ball over," head coach Joey Pesses said. "We played some guys from our second string to see how they would respond in a game situation. If we're going to be successful we'll have to play a lot of guys."

Pesses said junior lineman Chris Brantley made some big plays for the Warriors, as did newcomer Josh Prince.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Hornets defeat Knights



BLAKE BRANCH

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The North Webster Knights caught a glimpse at one of the state's top athletes in Khamod Taylor of Rayville during their 42-27 loss in the Pineland Jamboree.

The senior quarterback was all over the field, making plays with his feet and finding open receivers deep downfield.

"That quarterback and receiver are two of the best you'll see in the state of Louisiana,"

head coach John Ware said. "If they don't win it all in 2A, I'll be very surprised."

The Knights played well on offense, moving the ball throughout the night behind the offensive line.

"I thought the offensive line did very well," Ware said. "We moved a lot of our backs around trying to find a good mix since we have some guys going both ways. Besides a couple fumbles we weren't bad."

The Knights special teams was solid with kicker Conroe McMullan showing off his big leg on a couple of punts and Devin White taking a kickoff 95 yards to the house.

"That's a big part of the game," Ware said. "We're going to be good on special teams."

The Knights must now get ready for the ground and pound attack of Haynesville for their season opener next week. The Golden Tornado defeated Minden 13-7 in game two of the Pineland Jamboree.

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

North Webster Knights 2015 football preview



Courtesy Photo/Douglas Blow



BLAKE BRANCH
blake@press-herald.com

The Knights are poised for another deep playoff run under head coach John Ware.

North Webster returns plenty of firepower offensively with All-American Devin White and speedsters Jalen Smith and Xavious Eason in the backfield. Junior Cameron Huff who saw time last year at the starting quarterback spot will have full reign over the

offense this season, and Ware said he thinks Huff will give the nights a boost in the passing game when they need it.

Senior linebackers Keuntra Gipson (6'3", 230 pounds) and Rico Gonzalez will team with White to form one of the scariest linebacking cores in the state. The secondary suffered major losses in Lyntrevious Gipson, Darius Gilbert and Jekyren Miles, but the Knights have the depth and coaching to figure it out.

Look for four-year starter Dallas Lay to dominate on the offensive line and play valuable defensive snaps as well. With Evangel's move to 5A, district 1-3A will go through Springhill.

Scouting Report

Offense: The focal point of the Knights offense will be Devin White, but weapons like

Xavious Eason, Wesley Saunders and Jalen Smith can't be ignored. Dallas Lay and the rest of a solid offensive line will pave the way.

Defense: Coach John Ware always fields a great defense, and this year is no exception. White, Keuntra Gipson and Rico Gonzalez can all start in any classification. Secondary will be unproven, but Knight fans need not worry.

Special Teams: Conroe McMullan is one of the best weapons in the state in the kicking game. His range extends out to 45 yards and he gets great hang time on kickoffs and punts. Look for either White or Eason to excel in the return game. John Ware's teams always have a special teams trick up their sleeve.

Players to Watch

Devin White(RB/LB) - White was unstoppable last season. Look for that to con-

tinue as the senior tailback's blend of size, strength and speed are too much for most high school players to handle. The Knights will go as far as he can take them.

Rico Gonzalez(DE/LB) - After a strong junior season, Gonzalez is hoping for another all-district campaign. Good size and great speed allow Gonzalez to fly around and cause havoc.

Dallas Lay (OL/DL) - Lay has been opening holes for North Webster runners and protecting quarterbacks since his freshman year. Four years of starting experience can not be understated. Lay is vital to the Knights' success.

District Prediction

- 1) North Webster
- 2) Loyola
- 3) Mansfield
- 4) Green Oaks
- 5) Booker T. Washington

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Cubs defeat Dodgers behind Arrietta's no-hitter

LOS ANGELES — Jake Arrietta had been building toward this moment. He'd come achingly close to holding opponents hitless three times last year in a breakout season with the Chicago Cubs.

Finally, it happened. And near Hollywood, no less.

Arrietta threw the second no-hitter against the Los Angeles Dodgers in 10 days, leading the Cubs to a 2-0 victory Sunday night.

He struck out a season-high 12 and walked one, becoming just the third opposing pitcher to achieve a no-hitter at Dodger Stadium.

"He's starting to create more buzz around him," Cubs manager Joe Maddon said. "To do it under these circumstances, in this ballpark, against this team, with a pretty good audience, that should pretty much put him on everybody's radar."

With 46,679 in attendance — including his wife and two kids — and a national television audience looking in, Arrietta became the first 17-game winner in the majors this season by throwing the 14th no-hitter in Cubs history.

"It's something that everybody wants," he said. "It's something I've

wanted for a long time. I've been close on a couple of occasions, and tonight I was just fortunate that everything aligned right."

Last year, Arrietta (17-6) became the first Cubs pitcher since 1950 to take a no-hitter into the seventh inning three times in one season. He tossed a one-hit shutout against Cincinnati last Sept. 16 at Wrigley Field, allowing his first hit to Brandon Phillips with one out in the eighth.

Arrietta had a then career-high 10 wins last season after going 4-2 in nine starts for the Cubs in 2013, when he was acquired from Baltimore that July.

At 29, he's blossoming a little later than some big league pitchers.

"Right now, he's pitching at a different level, and he deserves it," Maddon said. "I don't think I've ever seen anybody work any harder. He has come a long way from Baltimore, where he really had command issues with the fastball but always had good stuff."

Arrietta sensed his time was ending with the Orioles, who had drafted him in 2007 out of Texas Christian and called him up to the majors in 2010. He quickly found a

home with the Cubs, who embraced the low-key Texan.

"The comfort level was there from the get-go, so it was a seamless transition," he said. "I came over here and started doing some things I knew I was capable of doing to help me be more consistent. The momentum just continued to roll."

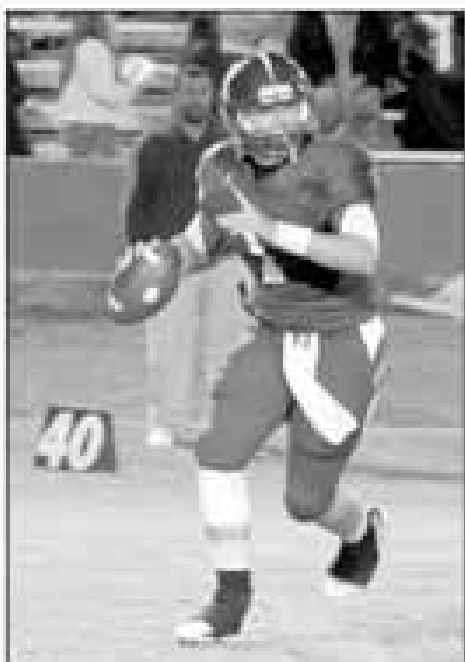
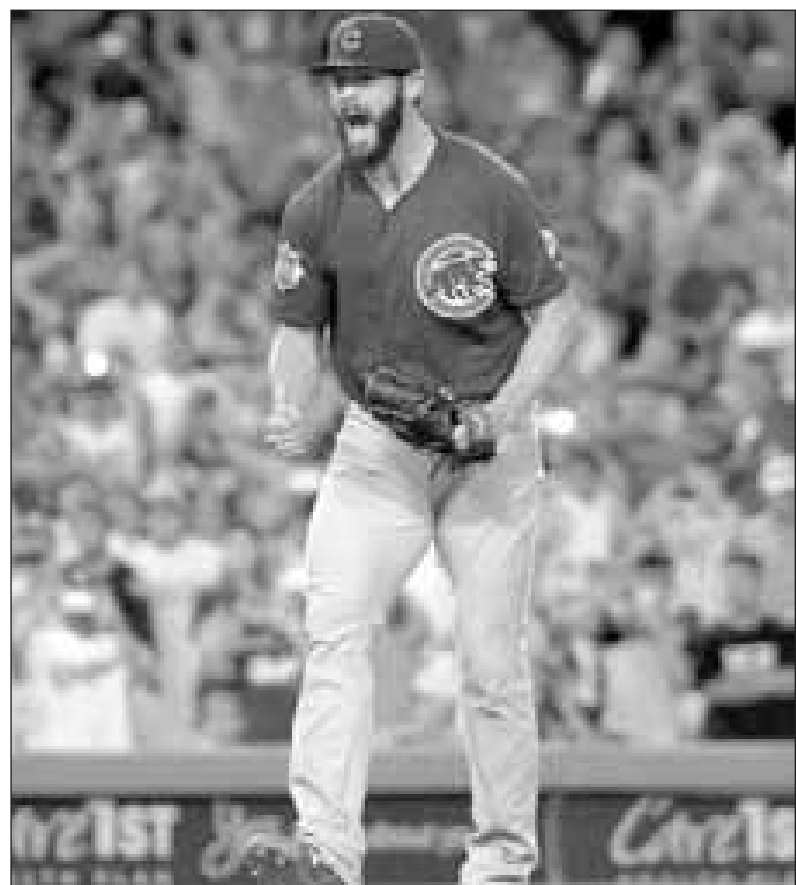
Kris Bryant's two-run homer in the first gave Arrietta a quick boost, and all the offense he would need.

The right-hander was sharp early against the Dodgers, retiring the first seven batters he faced before he got some help toward his no-hitter from the official scorer.

Jerry White charged Starlin Castro with an error when Kike Hernandez reached on a one-hopper hit right at the second baseman in the third, although several players on both sides believed it should have been ruled a hit.

Arrietta thought so, too.

"He hit it pretty well. I think (the call) could have gone either way," he said. "I wasn't aware that it was an error until I think an inning or two later. It was kind of out of sight, out of mind. But even if it was a hit, I would have kept the same mindset."



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Scenes from the Pineland Jamboree

Photos by Bruce Franklin



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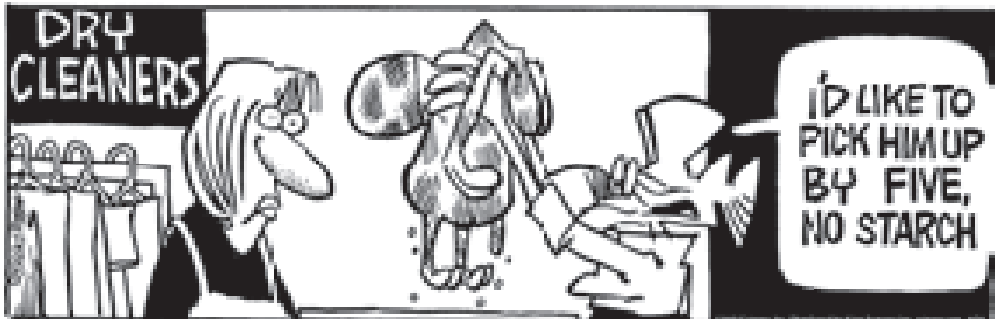
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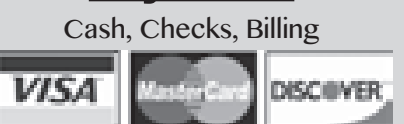
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1: _____ 13: _____
 2: _____ 14: _____
 3: _____ 15: _____
 4: _____ 16: _____
 5: _____ 17: _____
 6: _____ 18: _____
 7: _____ 19: _____
 8: _____ 20: _____
 9: _____ 21: _____
 10: _____ 22: _____
 11: _____ 23: _____
 12: _____

TIE BREAKER: TOTAL POINTS OF
 Ohio State at Virginia Tech: _____

CONTEST RULES

1. Locate the 23 games and circle the team you think will win.
2. Print the winning team name in the blank on the ballot. **BE SURE TO MATCH THE NUMBERS CORRECTLY.**
3. Predict the TOTAL number of points you think will be scored in the tie breaker game and enter in the space provided.
4. Complete and cut out the entry blank and deposit at the Minden Press-Herald, 203 Gleason Street, Minden, LA or mail to Football Contest, P.O. Box 1339, Minden, LA 71058.
5. Entries **MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 5:00P.M. FRIDAY.** Entries received after 5:00PM Friday **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
6. **WE WILL NO LONGER ACCEPT FAXES.**
7. Prizes awarded will be **\$25 FOR FIRST PLACE, \$15 FOR SECOND PLACE, and \$10 FOR THIRD PLACE.**
8. One entry per person per week.
9. Employees, Independent Contractors and Families of the Minden Press-Herald are not eligible.

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22. Baylor at SMU

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