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SPORTS | B1

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DETAILS, A2

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Surgeon's trial on homicide, assault charges begins

Case stems from fatal Berlin boating crash in 2015

Staff report

YOUNGSTOWN

Dr. Joseph Yurich's bench trial on charges resulting from a fatal Berlin Reservoir boat crash in 2015 is set to begin this morning. Judge John M. Durkin will hear the case starting at 8:30 a.m. in Mahoning County Common Pleas Court. Dr. Yurich, 38, of Poland is charged with aggravated vehicular homicide in the death of Neal Cup-

pett, 58, of Akron, from injuries he received in the May 9, 2015, crash. Dr. Yurich, a surgeon, also faces charges of aggravated vehicular assault involving injuries suffered by Cuppett's fishing partner, Bruce Lindamood, 42, of Green, and with failure to stop after an accident and two counts of operating a watercraft while impaired. The crash ejected Cuppett and Lindamood from the boat they were

in. Prosecutors say that boat was lighted and stationary. Dr. Yurich told Lt. Greg Johnson, chief of detectives with the Portage County Sheriff's Office, he was alone on his boat, didn't see any lights on the boat he had hit, had "a couple of beers" before the crash, and didn't mean to kill anyone, according to a



Yurich

court filing by the prosecution. Judge Durkin decided to exclude blood and urine samples from evidence in the trial because they went unrefrigerated for more than 62 hours before being taken to a forensic laboratory, which is a violation of state law. The defense also sought to exclude statements Dr. Yurich made to Johnson, but Judge Durkin ruled they were admissible. In the excluded post-crash sample, Dr. Yurich had a blood-alcohol con-

tent of 0.152, nearly double the legal limit of 0.08, a toxicologist reported. The trial initially was scheduled for November 2016, but it was postponed to allow time for a defense expert to examine the two boats involved in the crash. If convicted of aggravated vehicular homicide, Dr. Yurich faces a possible sentence of two to eight years in prison. A conviction on the charge of aggravated vehicular assault carries a penalty of one to five years in prison.

US-RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

Report: Trump Jr. expected dirt on Hillary

SON ACKNOWLEDGES MEETING WITH LAWYER LINKED TO KREMLIN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Donald Trump's eldest son said Sunday he met with a Kremlin-linked lawyer shortly after his father clinched the Republican nomination, hoping to get information helpful to the campaign.



Trump Jr.

A New York Times report Sunday citing advisers to the White House briefed on the encounter said Trump Jr. agreed to the meeting after being promised information damaging to Hillary Clinton.

The June meeting at Trump Tower with attorney Natalia Veselnitskaya involved Trump Jr., his brother-in-law Jared Kushner and Paul Manafort, who was then the campaign chairman.

The existence of the meeting was disclosed only recently to government officials and confirmed on Saturday by representatives of Trump Jr. and Kushner after a separate Times report.

In a statement Sunday, Trump Jr. did not confirm that the information he was promised would be damaging to Clinton.

But he said he was asked to have a meeting by an acquaintance he knew from the 2013 Miss Universe pageant who he was told might have information that would be helpful to the campaign.

Trump Jr. said that during the meeting the attorney claimed to have information

See TRUMP, A4

Singing praises of gospel



NIKOS FRAZIER | THE VINDICATOR

The Greater Youngstown Community Youth Choir performs during the 2Deep Entertainment Gospel Fest on Sunday on Central Square in downtown Youngstown. The fest concluded the Summer Festival of the Arts.

Song, sermons enthrall crowd of 1,000-plus

By WILLIAM K. ALCORN
alcorn@vindy.com

YOUNGSTOWN

SUNDAY'S THIRD ANNUAL 2DEEP Gospel Festival was the second day running that more than 1,000 people from Youngstown and environs came downtown for special music events. Saturday's seventh annual Youngstown Wine and Jazz Fest featured two artists: Alex Bugnon, famous jazz pianist and composer, and local guitarist and blues singer Jay Byrd. The Sunday event, put on by 2Deep Enter-

tainment, featured a long list of local soloists, small groups and community adult and youth choirs performing a variety of Gospel music.

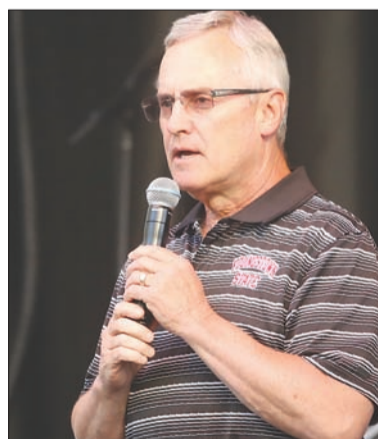
The evening was capped off with a performance by award-winning Israel Houghton and New Breed.

Terrill Vidale, president and chief executive officer of 2Deep Entertainment, described Houghton as a "prolific worship leader, musician, songwriter, producer and

See GOSPEL, A3



Kelan Haynes directs the youth choir. Other choirs that performed were the Youngstown Community Fellowship Choir and Warren City Wide Youth Choir. At right, Youngstown State University President James Tressel told the crowd, "We are so blessed that people are reaching out to each other. You can feel the energy, love and progress in the community." See photo gallery at Vindy.com.



WARREN

Drug rehab executive found dead inside motel

Official was recovering addict

Staff report

WARREN

Warren police are investigating the cause of death of an executive of a drug-recovery center who was found dead in his room in a Warren motel over the weekend.

Dead is Braking Point Recovery Center Director Tom Dailey, who was reportedly open about being a recovering addict.

His body was found at Warren's Econo Lodge Inn & Suites on Youngstown Road S.E. at about 11:50 a.m. Saturday.

Before working for Braking Point, Dailey was co-owner of First Step Recovery, an alcohol and drug detox center in Warren.

Newspaper calls to the police department for information surrounding Dailey's death were not returned.

The recovery center's owner, Ryan Sheri-

See DEATH, A3



Dailey

Street fight & knifing lead to murder charge

Staff report

WARREN

Arteum P. Brodeur, 24, of North Park Avenue is in the Trumbull County jail, charged with murder in the stabbing of another man during a fight Saturday night at North Park and Washington Street.

The victim is Michael Krevas, 31, of Washington Street Northwest, according to The Vindicator's broadcast partner, WFMJ TV-21.

Krevas was taken to ValleyCare Trumbull Memorial Hospital. The stabbing was first reported to police at 9:22 p.m., according to records from the county 911 center.

Brodeur was taken into custody a little after 11 p.m. after police surrounded a location on Willard Avenue in the city.

A witness who called 911 described the sus-

See HOMICIDE, A4



Brodeur

The Vindicator
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PLEASE RECYCLE

inside today
FOUNDATION AWARDS \$878K IN VALLEY GRANTS
The Youngstown Foundation has awarded \$858,593 in second-quarter 2017 grants to a variety of groups in the Mahoning Valley.
LOCAL & STATE, A5
YOUR CHANCE TO SEE VALLEY THEATER VETERAN
Veteran Mahoning Valley musical theater performer James McClellan will be the next speaker in the Memories of a Lifetime series Saturday at 10 a.m. in the meeting room at Kravitz's Deli on Belmont Avenue.
VALLEY LIFE, C1



TIGERS BEAT INDIANS
The Detroit Tigers hung on late to salvage a win in its series finale with a 5-3 win over the Cleveland Indians on Sunday night.
SPORTS, B1

Valley officials herald progress from 25 years of job protections for disabled

By PETER H. MILLIKEN
news@vindy.com

YOUNGSTOWN

In the 25 years since it took effect, the employment portion of the Americans with Disabilities Act has promoted and facilitated the hiring of disabled people, local experts say.

Title I of the ADA, the section governing employment, took effect July 26, 1992. The ADA itself was signed into law July 26, 1990, by President George H. W. Bush. The act is a civil-rights law that bars discrimination

"I DON'T THINK ANYBODY COULD LEGITIMATELY QUESTION WHETHER TITLE I OF THE ADA HAS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED THE WORK LIFE OF DISABLED INDIVIDUALS."

IRA MIRKIN, Youngstown lawyer

to disabled workers. Others parts of the ADA require accessibility of public entities, public transportation, public accommodations and commercial facilities to disabled people. "I think it's better than it was," Michael McBride, the recently retired Youngstown Area Goodwill Industries



McBride

See ADA, A4

METRO digest

Fire damages store in West Farmington

WEST FARMINGTON

The Bontrager Salvage Groceries & Thrift Store, 151 E. College St., was damaged Sunday afternoon by a fire, but many of the West Farmington Village and Farmington Township historical displays kept there were saved, said Farmington Township Fire Chief Jon Bland.

Bland said the fire department was called about 4:20 p.m., and was helped via mutual aid agreements from eight other departments from Trumbull and Geauga counties.

No injuries were reported. The cause of the fire, which was limited to the attic and roof area of the over 100-year-old building, is under investigation, Bland said.

Canning classes

CANFIELD

Ohio State University Extension Office is having sessions this summer on preserving foods at home. All programs take place from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the extension office, 490 S. Broad St.

On July 26, participants will learn how to can tomatoes and salsa, and on Aug. 16, they will learn how to dehydrate foods. The July class is geared to teach the basics to those who are new to home canning and to provide a refresher to experienced home canners. Participants also will learn how to safely preserve food using a water-bath canner.

Attendees also may have their pressure canners tested for safety and dial-gauge pressure canners tested for accuracy before the programs.

Bridge proposal

KINSMAN

Trumbull County Engineer Randy Smith has proposed a project to replace the bridge on Burnett East Road over Sugar Creek.

The county would replace the 58-foot single-steel beam bridge with a 79-foot single span pre-stressed concrete box beam with composite reinforced concrete deck on reinforced concrete abutments.

The project is scheduled for construction in the spring/summer of 2018. During construction, traffic on Burnett East Road will be detoured for a period not to exceed 90 days to replace the bridge near Kinsman Township Park.

For questions concerning the project, contact Gary W. Shaffer, professional engineer, by Aug. 9 at the Engineer's Office, 650 N. River Road NW, Warren, or call 330-675-2640.

Agenda Tuesday

◆ **Brookfield Township trustees**, 7 p.m., special meeting/public hearing, fire department banquet room, 774 State Route 7.

◆ **Craig Beach Village Council**, 7 p.m., village municipal building, 2538 Grandview Road, Lake Milton.

◆ **Ellsworth Zoning Commission**, 6 p.m., regular meeting at the fire hall, 6036 S. Salem-Warren Road.

◆ **Jackson Township trustees**, 7 p.m., zoning commission, 10613 Mahoning Ave., North Jackson.

◆ **Lordstown Village Council**, 5:30 p.m., streets and sidewalks parks buildings and grounds committee, caucus room, followed by regular council meeting, 6 p.m., 1455 Salt Springs Road SW.

◆ **Mahoning County Planning Commission**, 10 a.m., special meeting, Mahoning County Planning Office, 50 Westchester Drive, Austintown.

◆ **Niles Civil Service Commission**, 4:35 p.m., city building, conference room A, 34 W. State St.

◆ **Youngstown school board**, 4:30 p.m., Irene L. Ward Building, 20 W. Wood St.

◆ **Poland Township trustees**, 6 p.m., special meeting, township government center, 3339 Dobbins Road. Action will be taken.

AGENDA runs daily. Items for the column should be sent to The Vindicator Regional Desk at least two days in advance.



NIKOS FRAZIER | THE VINDICATOR

Janet Write of Youngstown dances as the Greater Youngstown Community Youth Choir performs during the 2Deep Entertainment Gospel Fest Sunday on Central Square in downtown Youngstown. At right, her daughter, Michaela Write, sings with the choir.



GOSPEL

Continued from A1

recording artist." Houghton's career includes work on more than 50 albums as an artist and producer and 19 awards. In 1995, Houghton formed New Breed Ministries and in 1997 he released recordings "Whisper It Loud" and "Way of the World."

There was even some carry-over from Saturday to Sunday. Henry and Marie Stewart of Dia-

mond were invited by friends to the jazz festival, and learning about the Gospel festival, returned Sunday. "We love Gospel music," they said.

Also among the audience were several students of the Ohio Valley Teen Challenge that helps adult men in their struggle with addiction, including Zach Gibson, originally from Fayetteville, Ark., who testified to their faith in God as part of the program. "The organization changed my life," Gibson said.

There was some serious preaching

that went on and comments from community leaders including Jim Tressel, president of Youngstown State University.

"What a blessing this weekend has been with the YSU Summer Festival of Arts on campus and jazz and gospel festivals downtown," said Tressel.

"We are so blessed that people are reaching out to each other. You can feel the energy, love and progress in the community," he said.

While Vidale insisted with a

laugh that the event was a gospel festival not a church service, Coya Gillins and Jionna Bodrick, both of Youngstown and members of Mount Calvary Pentecostal Church, said they appreciate gospel music and see the event as an opportunity to build community.

"It's nice to have a time like this with people who believe in God. It's an honor and a privilege to worship God in downtown Youngstown," Gillins said.



NIKOS FRAZIER | THE VINDICATOR

Fire at Boardman eatery

A small fire broke out at the IHOP restaurant at 833 Boardman-Poland Roadon Sunday evening. Township firefighters responded to a call there at 7:46 p.m. The fire caused minor damage to the exterior. No damage was reported inside the restaurant. The cause of the fire is not yet known, but a witness said she believes someone threw a cigarette into mulch in the front of the restaurant. No one was injured.

At OD call, Niles cops find child in 'deplorable' quarters

Staff report

NILES

Niles police responding to an overdose victim found the woman's 9-year-old son living in what officers described as deplorable conditions.

The woman, found lying on the floor, was

transported to Trumbull Memorial Hospital in Warren, reported 21 WFMJ-TV, *The Vindicator's* broadcast partner.

The child was left in the care of his grandmother. Trumbull County Children Services is investigating the case.

DEATH

Continued from A1

dan, said he was shocked to hear of his colleague's passing. "I don't have a lot of information about it, but I will say Tom was a great friend and colleague of mine who touched many lives in our community," Sheridan said to 21 WFMJ-TV, *The Vindicator's* broadcast partner.

Dailey's body was found by a housekeeper at the motel, according to the Trumbull County 911 Center.

Sheridan said Dailey's family asks for privacy as they grieve the loss of his life.

Others in the community are also stunned by his death.

"I knew him. It's very, very tragic," April Carraway, executive director of the Trumbull County Mental Health and Recovery Board, said of Dailey's death.

"Our hearts go out to his family, friends and colleagues," she said.

Braking Point Recovery Center operates an addiction treatment facility at 45 N. Canfield-Niles Road in Austintown.

Dailey's address is listed on the 911 Center log as East Powell Road, Lewis Center, Ohio.

Death of rape suspect is mystery

Associated Press

AKRON

Authorities are trying to determine if a rape suspect found dead after a police standoff was fatally shot by officers or killed himself.

The standoff occurred Sunday morning in Akron. The suspect hasn't been identified.

Akron police say officers responded around 4 a.m. to a report of a man raping a woman at gunpoint. Police later

learned the woman had sent a text message that an acquaintance was trying to sexually assault her. The woman ran out of the home when officers arrived.

Police say the man shot at officers when they tried to enter the home and that officers returned fire.

Officers fired a chemical irritant into the house four hours into the standoff and found the man fatally shot.

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GIRARD DAYS INN - social room
THURSDAY 1615 E Liberty St
JULY 13 10 am - 1

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THURSDAY 5998 Market St
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AP FILE PHOTO, JULY 26, 1990

President George H.W. Bush signs the Americans with Disabilities Act during a ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House. Joining the president are Rev. Harold Wilke, rear left; Evan Kemp, chairman of the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission, left; Sandra Parrino, chairman of the National Council on Disability; and Justin Dart, chairman of The President's Council on Disabilities. Jefferson Memorial is in background. Title 1 of the ADA took effect exactly two years later in 1992.

ADA

Continued from A1

executive director, about accommodation of disabled workers by private-sector employers under the ADA.

Goodwill offers vocational rehabilitation to disabled and homeless people and those with obstacles to employment.

"We're seeing employers who are willing to sit down and talk to our employees — to talk to people that have been in our programs, and we've seen them get hired," said McBride, who headed the local Goodwill for 35 years until his retirement this spring.

"Employers are looking for people who are dependable and who can do the job," regardless of whether they have a disability, he added.

"I think the things that are most difficult are probably those hidden disabilities — the mental-health disabilities," McBride said. "They're just difficult to accommodate, and I think employers have a difficult time understanding that these people can still be productive employees."

"I don't think anybody could legitimately question whether Title I of the ADA has significantly improved the work life of disabled individuals," said Ira Mirkin, a Youngstown lawyer.

Mirkin's practice is devoted primarily to representing workers in employment disputes, and he also represents labor organizations.

"There's an elevation in employers' consciousness level of their duties with respect to their disabled employees. Undoubtedly, some feel a moral responsibility in that regard. They are concerned about the very high costs of litigating these matters," he said.

ADA OPENS DOORS

Tim Jacob, a management-side employment lawyer in Youngstown, agreed with Mirkin that the ADA has succeeded in helping disabled workers.

"It's opened quite a few doors to individuals who

are disabled and applying for jobs and those who may become disabled while they're on the job. It allows them to keep working for an employer with a modified job or an accommodation," Jacob said.

About 20 percent of the calls he gets from his clients concern ADA-related questions, Jacob said. "I have an inquiry about the ADA probably every week, at least," from a client, he added. "Most of the [ADA] cases that I have really involve requests for accommodations."

"Employers are very astute now on what they can ask," and what they are prohibited from asking in the hiring process, Jacob said. "That takes away a lot of claims."

Jacob said he has handled "well over 100" formal complaints under the ADA's Title I, most of them either dismissed or settled out of court.

Although employment conditions have improved for disabled workers, the law is still not well-settled concerning the meaning of the term "reasonable accommodation," Mirkin said.

"The law is not settled because every case is different. Every employee's needs are different, and every employer's ability to accommodate those needs is different," he said.

TYPES OF ACCOMMODATIONS

A common example of an accommodation would be to let a cashier sit on a stool if a medical condition prevents that employee from standing for hours at a time, Mirkin said.

In one recent case, Mirkin said he was able to get an employer to provide an air-conditioned working environment for an employee with extreme allergies.

Other accommodations can involve special equipment or adjustments in machinery, work assignments or schedules.

"I have seen shifts being changed for an individual because that person has, for instance, some kind of a sleep disorder and has a problem with changing

shifts or can't work a night shift," Jacob said.

A worker has 300 days from the last alleged violation of the ADA to file a complaint with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and must receive a right-to-sue letter from that commission before suing in state or federal court.

Most of the plaintiffs Mirkin has represented under the ADA's Title I are job-holders trying to gain an accommodation or who are purportedly losing their jobs because of their disability or need for accommodation, not people alleging they were not hired because of a disability, Mirkin said.

OUT-OF-COURT SETTLEMENTS

The vast majority of the ADA employment cases Mirkin has handled were settled out of court, he said. "Frequently, we're able to get an employer to provide an accommodation that the employee needs to maintain their employment," he said.

A plaintiff who wins a lawsuit under the ADA can be awarded job reinstatement with back pay and a needed accommodation, compensation for any emotional trauma caused by the discrimination, attorney fees, and, sometimes, punitive damages, Mirkin said.

Excluded from ADA protection are current illegal drug use, kleptomania, pyromania — conditions associated with sex crimes — and workers who pose a direct threat of harm to their employer or co-workers.

Even though employment prospects for disabled people have improved under the ADA, disabled people "are the first to lose their jobs and the last to be hired," McBride said.

"When the economy is good, employers will take people with disabilities and take people who have barriers to employment and try to work with them," he added.

"When the economy is not so good, they're going to take the people who are the best producers and the people who can work every single day," he added.

HOMICIDE

Continued from A1

pect in the stabbing as being a male with tattoos, short, curly hair, black shirt and wearing a hat.

The witness said she observed the victim lying on the ground and bleeding. A witness also described a black compact car with tinted windows being involved in the incident.

Officers later went to a location on Willard Avenue Southeast near the Willard K-8 school, where they surrounded a building in the 1900 block and observed movements inside.

Brodeur was taken into custody at 11:08 p.m. A Ford Fusion was towed from the scene.

Brodeur was 23 in December and listed his address

as Ankeny, Iowa, when he was injured by a hit and run driver at East Market Street and Chestnut Street Southeast. His injuries were not serious.

The driver of the car was later identified and convicted of failing to stop after an accident. Brodeur was then described as homeless but working for a downtown construction company.

On June 2, a man, 46, of Kinsman Street, reported that Brodeur threatened to shoot him and another male in the 2600 block of Youngstown Road.

One of the victims said he used to be a friend of Brodeur's, but Brodeur has been known to pull knives on people.

There is no record of any criminal charge being filed in that incident.

On May 30, Warren police responded to Brodeur's home on Park Avenue for a report of someone damaging Brodeur's car by throwing bricks at the windshield.

Brodeur said he had a knife and chased away the man who damaged his car. No charges appear to have been filed in that incident.

Krevas had an extensive arrest record at the Trumbull County jail and many criminal charges on file at Warren Municipal Court. He was scheduled to go on trial in September in common pleas court on a charge of illegal conveyance of drugs of abuse into a detention facility.

His death is Warren's third homicide and Trumbull County's ninth homicide of 2017.

TRUMP

Continued from A1

that "individuals connected to Russia were funding the Democratic National Committee" and supporting Clinton.

"No details or supporting information was provided or even offered," Trump Jr. said. "It quickly became clear that she had no meaningful information."

He said no details or supporting information was ever offered, and that his father was unaware of the meeting.

On Saturday, Trump Jr. had described the same gathering as "short introductory meeting" during which the three discussed a disbanded program that used to allow U.S. citizens to adopt Russian children.

Russia ended the adoptions in response to American sanctions brought against

the nation following the 2009 death of an imprisoned lawyer who spoke about a corruption scandal.

He said on Sunday that the attorney turned the conversation to the adoption of Russian children, and that he believed that this was the "true agenda" of the meeting and that claims about damaging information had been a pretext for the encounter.

"I interrupted and advised her that my father was not an elected official, but rather a private citizen, and that her comments and concerns were better addressed if and when he held public office," Trump Jr. said in the statement.

Mark Corallo, a spokesman for Trump's legal team, said only, "The President was not aware of and did not attend the meeting."

Unlike Kushner, Trump Jr. does not serve in the administration and is not

required to disclose his foreign contacts. The newspaper said the meeting was disclosed in recent days to government investigators

filed a revised version of a form needed to obtain a security clearance. His attorney has previously acknowledged that Kushner's first security clearance submissions were incomplete and contained errors.

Manafort also recently disclosed the meeting to congressional investigators, the newspaper said.

The newspaper said Veselnitskaya is known for her attempts to undercut the sanctions against Russian human rights abusers. The Times also said her clients include state-owned businesses and the son of a senior government official whose company was under investigation in the United States at the time of the meeting.

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Our VOICE

Celebrate farming, history, family fun at Trumbull fair

IT'S A SURE SIGN OF MIDSUMMER when the gates swing wide open for the first of the Mahoning Valley's county agricultural expositions.

As the 171st edition of the Trumbull County Fair officially begins Tuesday for its run through Sunday, it's also prime time to celebrate the foundation of the fair: the region's rich agrarian roots. Residents can also take stock of farming's proud status as one of the county's most productive industries today.

Just how big is Trumbull agriculture? Data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's census of more than 3,000 U.S. counties sheds some eye-popping and illuminating light:

- ◆ The county boasts 888 farms with 113,896 acres of fertile growing fields.
- ◆ Nearly 60,000 acres are harvested for soybeans, corn and other vital crops.
- ◆ Some 11,200 (more than the population of Girard) heads of cattle are raised annually.
- ◆ The annual market value for all crops produced and livestock totals a whopping \$66.4 million.

Though the industry has changed and modernized over the years, clearly agriculture remains a critical cog in the county's economy and culture. That's why the annual fair, organized by the Trumbull County Agricultural Society and others, provides perfect opportunities for Mahoning Valley residents to get up close and personal with the fruits (and vegetables and livestock) of the labor of the farming community.

'NEW BEGINNING' FOR HISTORY

The fair also celebrates the proud history of Trumbull County, once part of the French colony of Canada (New France) and later the center of the Connecticut Western Reserve under the governance of John Trumbull. This year's exposition will have a decidedly stronger historical flair.

The ever-popular Historical Village is touting "a new beginning to preserve the past" with special exhibits spanning virtually every nook and cranny of the county. Among the historical societies with exhibitions will be ones from Cortland-Bazetta, Fowler, Howland, Leavittsburg, Niles, North Bloomfield, Southington, Trumbull County, Vienna and Warren.

Of course, the Trumbull County Fair in Bazetta also is all about loads of inexpensive family fun, education and entertainment in the here and now. Many tantalizing crowd pleasers are back: traditional fair food fare, dizzying mechanical rides, commercial exhibits and demonstrations, health exhibits, harness races, car races, a tractor pull, demolition derby and a country music concert featuring Chris Higbee. (A complete day-by-day schedule of events can be found in *The Vindicator* and on *Vindy.com*).

This week's fair also boasts numerous structural improvements, the most noteworthy of which for fair-goers likely will be new modernized restrooms, which will be officially dedicated at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday shortly before the official noon opening ceremony for the fair itself.

Those who cannot wait can visit the fair today, a preview today, with no admission charge, a perk also available Tuesday. So far, weather forecasts indicate a longtime curse of the fair – heavy rain – largely will bypass this year's official six-day run.

With so much going for it, here's hoping the 2017 Trumbull County Fair enjoys maximum success and record attendance.

➤ GUEST EDITORIAL ◀

Crash N. Korea electric grid

Orange County Register: North Korea's protracted policy of nuclear belligerence toward the United States has reached a long-feared tipping point. Pyongyang has successfully tested an intercontinental ballistic missile, raising the specter of another launch, this time armed with a nuclear warhead.

Even if the cities of America's Pacific coast are somehow kept safe from obliteration, a nuclear North is intolerable. Action must be taken now.

The trouble is that so few options for action exist. That's why attention should turn, if it has not turned already, to America's limited but potentially decisive asymmetric cyber operations capabilities. Efforts in this area have already proven their worth in slowing down the North's march to nuclear intimidation or worse. Now they should be pressed into service to deprive the regime of the one thing it needs to wage war and maintain its iron grip: electrical power.

Crashing North Korea's grid – repeatedly, if necessary – has the strong potential to force a coup, cripple the army, forestall further nuclear progress or drive the regime to sue for peace.

SCRIPTURES

The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoices, and with my song I will praise Him.

PSALM 28:7 NKJV

The Vindicator

EDITORIAL

MONDAY
JULY 10, 2017
VINDY.COM | A7

Dems should go left

By JOHN M. CRISP
Tribune News Service

Democrats are a disappointing 0 for 4 in special elections to replace House representatives who were appointed to Donald Trump's cabinet. The bitterest pill was Jon Ossoff's failure to defeat Republican Karen Handel in Georgia's 6th Congressional District, despite a campaign supported by \$30 million.

Ossoff ran as a left-centrist, playing to the middle. His campaign slogan was "Humble. Kind. Ready to Fight." He rarely mentioned Donald Trump's chaotic presidency. *The Atlantic's* Molly Ball called him a "positionless vessel." And he lost 52-48 percent.

Certainly, political calculation is essential to success, and every candidate has to sort out competing interests, catering to some, carefully avoiding offense to others.

But as the right has moved further right, centrism doesn't appear to be working in the age of Trump.

Maybe the Democrats should roll the dice toward the left. On many issues our nation's citizens are surprisingly left-leaning, despite the great balance of political power that rests with the right.

Gun policy is a good example: The National Rifle Association and the gun industry have practically paralyzed federal and state legislatures, leaving us with a level of gun violence without parallel in the industrialized West.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Yet, a 2015 poll by the Pew Research Center finds that 85 percent of Americans support background checks for all gun sales, including those at gun shows. Seventy percent of Americans favor a federal database for tracking gun sales, and 57 percent support banning assault-style firearms.

On other issues, many Americans have attitudes ordinarily associated with the left. While many in Republican leadership have trouble admitting the threat of climate change, a recent Yale poll reveals that 6 in 10 Americans are "somewhat worried" or "very worried" about it. And at a time when President Trump has withdrawn from the Paris climate agreement, 70 percent of Americans favor staying in, displaying more wisdom than their leadership.

Then there's health care: While Republicans have mounted an unrelenting, seven-year campaign to repeal Obamacare and recent, ill-considered efforts to replace it, Obamacare, whatever its faults, has reinforced the notion that a decent, humane society will make sure that every citizen is able to live as healthy a life as possible.

Thus, in March, a *USA Today* poll revealed that 58 percent of Americans want to keep Obamacare or to keep it with improvements.

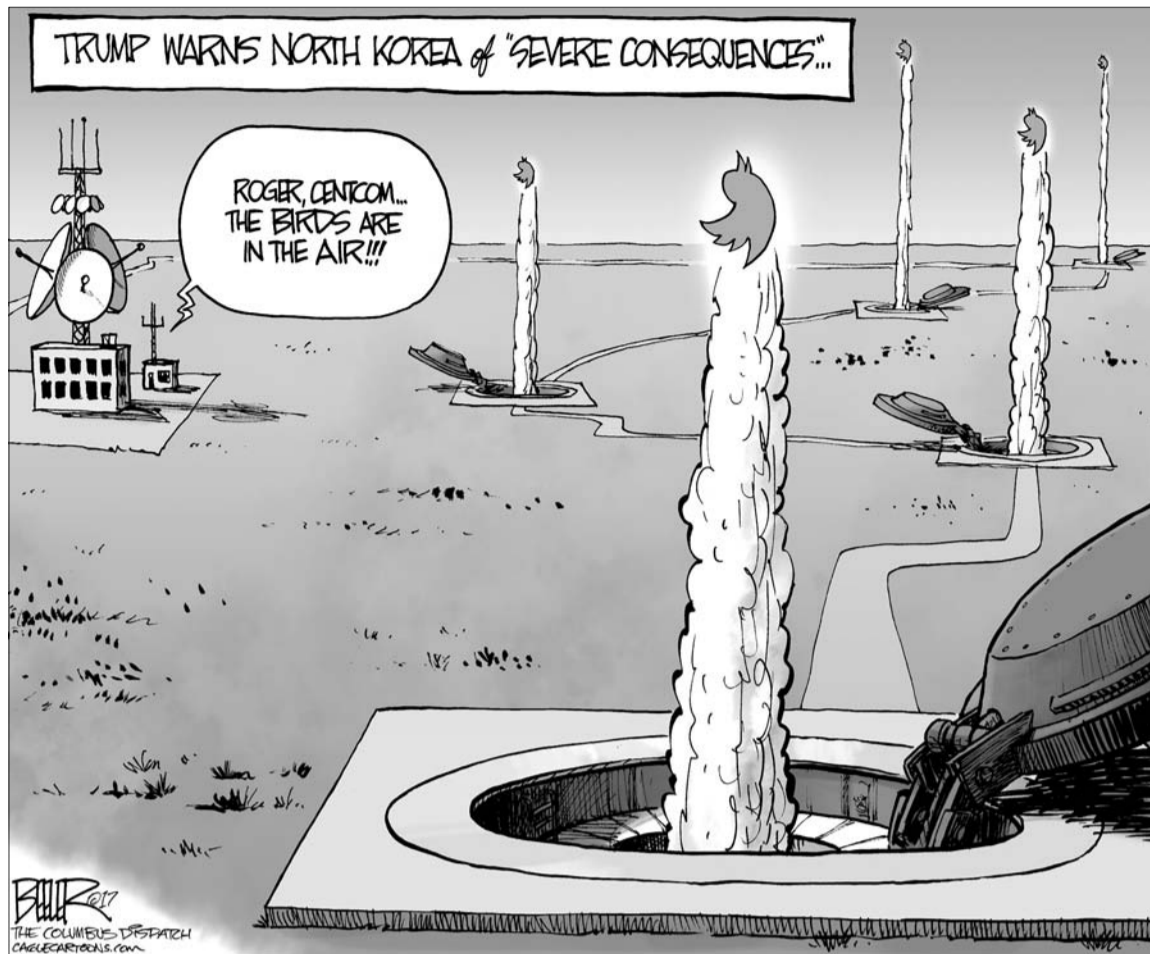
So what's the future for the Democratic Party? Maybe it lies in candidates such as Mai-Khanh Tran and Christine Mann.

Tran is an Orange County pediatrician who has entered the 2018 race for California's 39th Congressional District, hoping to unseat a 24-year Republican incumbent. She is largely motivated by her opponent's party-line support for the repeal of Obamacare, asserting to the *Los Angeles Times* that "he did not vote for the needs of his constituents."

Christine Mann is a physician, as well, and she's running in Texas' 31st Congressional District against another long-time incumbent and supporter of the Republicans' heartless efforts – at one point Trump called them "mean" – to replace Obamacare.

Candidates such as Tran and Mann may help Democrats shrug off Republicans' unwarranted demonization of the term "left."

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for *Tribune News Service*, teaches in the English Department at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas. Distributed by *Tribune Content Agency, LLC*.



A summer vacation with Trump

If you're planning a trip to Europe this summer, be forewarned: You may spend a lot of time explaining Donald Trump to the natives.

In our case, it started immediately, with the British immigration officer at London's Heathrow Airport.

"Are you from the Southern states?" he asked. What he meant was: Are you Trump voters?

"What has gotten into you people?" he demanded. "You used to be a model other countries wanted to follow. Now we watch you and shake our heads."

That was one of dozens of unsought conversations in three countries about the state of American politics. Europeans' familiarity with the details of our national melodrama was sometimes startling.

"What's the real story about Melania?" our British friend Naomi asked. "Is she moving into the White House or not?"

Europeans who once resented our superpower status now express sympathy for our troubles – even nostalgia for American leadership.

"What about the famous son-in-law?" asked Lala, our Italian neighbor, amused to catch Americans practicing the kind of clan-based politics Italians know. "Is he the brains of the family?"

"If Trump is impeached, then Pence becomes president, right?" asked Liliane, a German lawyer. "Would he be worse?"

Brits, Italians and Germans all asked whether Trump's presidency would be over by the end of the year. I described the complexities of impeachment, and how unlikely it was that a Republican-controlled Congress would go there. I reminded them of Italy's Silvio Berlusconi, who won three elections and governed for nine years despite prosecutors' efforts to bring him down.

BEYOND GOSSIP

Our European friends' absorption in all things Trump goes beyond mere gossip, of course. They have gnawing concerns about an increasingly disorderly world – one in which the president of the United States, instead of bolstering sta-



Doyle McManus

bility, often seems to be a disruptor.

It wasn't a scientific sample by any stretch. But our conversations mirrored a Pew global survey released last week which found that Trump is unpopular across much of the world and that his unpredictability has shaken confidence in the United States.

For half a century, Europeans got used to thinking of the United States as a stable cornerstone of world politics – not always sophisticated in their eyes, not always right, but reliably there. Now that we're less reliable, they're more nervous. "If the United States is making the world less stable instead of more stable, we're all in deep," Lala's husband, Carlo, said in fluent American.

They know all too well that Europe – politically divided, militarily weak and economically listless – can't fill the empty role of the missing superpower.

"Europe could be strong if countries knew how to work together, but they don't," said Peter, a German yoga instructor. "Nationalism gets in the way."

POSITIVE EFFECT

Trump may have had one positive effect on continental politics, as Europe's wave of nationalist populism appears to have ebbed. Trump-style anti-immigrant populists lost ground in three major elections this year: the Netherlands in March, France in May and Britain in June. In France, Trump virtually endorsed populist candidate Marine LePen; she was trounced by the Obama-style Emmanuel Macron.

"We have learned from your example," Liliane joked.

There may be a silver lining for Americans too. Europeans who once resented our superpower status now express sympathy for our troubles – even nostalgia for American leadership.

Many Europeans condemned George W. Bush for invading

Iraq. Then they pouted when Barack Obama, whom they liked better, made it clear he was more interested in Asia. Now they see a president who thinks alliances are a scam and doesn't put much stock in the U.S. treaty commitment to defend Europe.

Europeans have plenty of reasons to worry about their future. Islamist terrorism has accelerated with attacks in England, France and Belgium. The European Union is in danger of falling apart. Russia is meddling in their elections and corrupting some of their governments. They still haven't solved their massive unemployment problem.

In earlier times of trouble, American presidents stepped in with reassurances that the United States wanted a Europe that was prosperous, strong and united. Trump says, instead, that he sees Europe as a competitor, not an ally, and that he prefers his competitors to be weak, poor and disunited.

Italian columnist Beppe Severgnini recently compared Trump's America to a straying husband, but suggested that he'd come home.

"Go ahead, have your affairs," he wrote. "But don't forget: You're married to us."

MARRIAGE NO. 3

Perhaps he had forgotten that Trump is already on marriage No. 3 – and that he views wedding vows and treaties as open to renegotiation, just like real estate contracts.

Most Americans don't pay nearly as much attention to European politics as my Italian, British and German friends pay to ours. There are too many countries, too many elections. And the details of European economic integration are mind-numbing.

But perhaps we should listen more closely to our European friends.

They've noticed that, under Trump, an important alliance – one that has kept their continent peaceful for 70 years – is in danger of slipping away through neglect. They see what they're losing, and they're worried. Shouldn't we be too?

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the *Los Angeles Times*. Distributed by *Tribune Content Agency, LLC*.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

We are glad to see normal life return for the citizens. This is the result of the sacrifices of the [country's] heroic fighters.

IRAQ PRIME MINISTER HAIDER AL-ABADI, in congratulating Iraqi troops Sunday in the streets of Mosul for driving Islamic State militants out of most of the city



Gasoline price drop

CAMARILLO, CALIF.
The average price of a gallon of regular-grade gasoline fell about a penny nationally over the past two weeks, to \$2.31. Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg of the Lundberg Survey said Sunday that the drop comes amid plentiful supplies of both crude oil and gasoline. She says gas prices have declined more than 15 cents since April.

Gas in San Francisco was the highest in the contiguous United States at an average of \$3 a gallon. The lowest was in Jackson, Miss., at \$1.92 a gallon. The average diesel price is \$2.51, down 2 cents from two weeks ago.

Tillerson honored

ISTANBUL
U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said Sunday he misses his oil industry "colleagues, partners and competitors" as he accepted an award at the World Petroleum Congress, hosted by Turkey this year.



Tillerson

Council President Jozsef Toth described Tillerson, who is from Texas, as "a man born with oil in his veins" before presenting him with the Dewhurst Award, named after the founder of the congress.

For these governors, the issue is less about delivering a triumph to President Donald Trump and more about not blowing a hole in state budgets and maintaining health care coverage for constituents. In the critical next few weeks, some governors are uniquely positioned to press home-state Republican senators who could deny Majority Leader Mitch McConnell the votes he needs to pass a Republican health care bill.

Fight for Charlie

LONDON
The British parents of terminally ill Charlie Gard are facing another court hearing on his condition and care, but are hopeful he will receive the experimental treatment that previous rulings have prevented.

Parents Connie Yates and Chris Gard have received support from Pope Francis and President Donald Trump, but the 11-month-old's future remains in the hands of British courts.

Researchers at the Vatican's children's hospital, which has offered to treat Charlie, said new information on an experimental treatment on an experimental treatment that previous rulings have prevented. A hearing on those claims is expected to take place today, but unless it produces a change, previous court decisions bar the hospital from allowing Charlie to be taken elsewhere for treatment. Britain's government won't play a role in deciding the future course of the baby's treatment, an official said Sunday.

Praised by Iraqi PM

MOSUL, IRAQ
Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi has been celebrating with Iraqi troops in Mosul after they drove Islamic State militants from some of their last strongholds in a nearly nine-month campaign.

But heavy fighting by holdouts continues in parts of the Old City neighborhood near the Tigris River.

A smiling al-Abadi walked among the soldiers, at one point grabbing an Iraqi flag and briefly draping it across his shoulders. Other troops waved flags and pointed their weapons in the air nearby. Al-Iraqia TV quoted him congratulating "the heroic fighters and the people on the big victory" in Iraq's second-largest city.

Islamic State militants now control less than a mile of territory in the shattered city, but they are using human shields, suicide bombers and snipers in a fight to the death.

'Crunching sound'

WARD, COLO.
A teen staffer at a Colorado camp woke up at around 4 a.m. Sunday to a "crunching sound," his head inside the mouth of a black bear, which was trying to pull him out of his sleeping bag as he slept outside at Glacier View Ranch near Denver, said Colorado Parks and Wildlife spokeswoman Jennifer Churchill. The 19-year-old, identified only as Dylan, punched and hit the bear, and other staffers sleeping nearby yelled and swatted at the bear, which eventually left. No other campers were hurt.

Black bears aren't usually aggressive but have attacked several people in the West in recent weeks.

HEALTH CARE REFORM



Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, looks at a board covered with addiction "trigger words" as he participates in a roundtable discussion with former addiction recovery clients and current employees July 5 at the Adams Recovery Center for Women in Cincinnati. Portman discussed the importance of increased funding for addiction treatment and efforts to combat the opioid epidemic in Ohio.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOP governors to senators: Do no harm

Associated Press

CARSON CITY, NEV.

The pressure is on Republican senators – from congressional leaders, conservative groups and impatient GOP voters – to fulfill a seven-year-old promise to scrap much of Democrat Barack Obama's health care law. But back home, Republican governors who have experienced some of the upside of the law are warning their GOP senators to first, do no harm.

For these governors, the issue is less about delivering a triumph to President Donald Trump and more about not blowing a hole in state budgets and maintaining health care coverage for constituents. In the critical next few weeks, some governors are uniquely positioned to press home-state Republican senators who could deny Majority Leader Mitch McConnell the votes he needs to pass a Republican health care bill.

"We are the voice of reality," Nevada GOP Gov. Brian Sandoval told The Associated Press.

Sandoval said he has been in regular contact with Nevada Republican Sen. Dean Heller to discuss the ramifications of the evolving GOP plan. Heller, who faces a tough re-election next year, has joined Sandoval in opposing the current measure.

more specifically, the treatment for the opioid epidemic?" he told reporters this past week.

Portman said he has discussed with Kasich various financing options that would ease any changes to Medicaid while not gutting drug treatment programs. One McConnell proposal would be to provide an additional \$45 billion over a decade for states' drug abuse programs.

In Arizona, GOP Gov. Doug Ducey has called Obama's law "a disaster" and stopped short of outright opposition to McConnell's version. But he has urged Republican Sens. Jeff Flake and John McCain to shield states from extensive Medicaid cuts. The program covers 1.9 million Arizonans, nearly 28 percent of all residents. The expansion alone covers 400,000. Both senators have yet to indicate how they'd vote on a GOP bill.

McConnell has little wiggle room. With 52 Republican senators, just three defections leave him short of a majority. Democrats are unified in opposition.

The Republican leader has said he plans to introduce yet another version of the bill after Congress returns today. But McConnell also said that if he is unable to get 50 votes for the GOP plan, he would try to shore up insurance markets, a legislative step that would involve Democrats.

HARVARD STUDY

Black homeowners struggle despite recovering market

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO

Yul Dorn and his wife raised their son and daughter in a three-bedroom home crammed with family photos, one they bought in a historically African-American neighborhood in San Francisco more than two decades ago.

Today, they living in a motel after they were evicted last year, having lost a foreclosure battle. A second home they inherited is also in default.

The Dorns expect to join the growing ranks of African-Americans who do not own their homes, a rate that was nearly 30 percentage points higher than that of whites in 2016, according to a new report.

The nation's homeownership rate appears to be stabilizing as people rebound from the 2007 recession that left millions unemployed and home values underwater, according to the report by Harvard

University's Joint Center for Housing Studies. But it found African-Americans aren't sharing in the recovery, even as whites, Asian-Americans and Latinos slowly see gains in home-buying. The center said the disparity between whites and blacks is at its highest in 70-plus years of data.

Experts say reasons for the lower homeownership rate range from historic underemployment and low wages to a recession-related foreclosure crisis that hit black communities particularly hard. In 2004, the pinnacle of U.S. homeownership, three-quarters of whites and nearly half of blacks owned homes, according to the Harvard study.

By 2016, the African-American homeowner rate had fallen to 42.2 percent and lagged 29.7 percentage points behind whites, nearly a percentage point higher than in 2015.

N. Korea calling U.S. practice bombing run a provocation

Associated Press

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

North Korean state media have sharply criticized a recent practice bombing run by two U.S. B-1B bombers on the Korean peninsula, calling it a dangerous move raising the risk of nuclear war.

A commentary Sunday in the ruling party's Rodong Sinmun newspaper accused the U.S. of "reckless military provocations" and said the danger of nuclear war is reaching an extreme pitch. The commentary was reported on in English by the state Korean Central News Agency.

Two U.S. Air Force bombers released inert weapons Friday on a training range in South Korea. South Korean F-15 and U.S. F-16 fighter jets

joined them in the drill. The bombers also flew with Japanese F-2 fighter jets over the East China Sea on their way back to Andersen Air Force Base in Guam.

The 10-hour mission came three days after North Korea tested an intercontinental ballistic missile on Fourth of July, America's Independence Day. President Donald Trump and the leaders of South Korea and Japan, meeting during the G-20 summit in Germany, issued a joint statement condemning the launch.

U.S. military officials described the bomber mission as a defensive show of force and unity that demonstrated "the ironclad U.S. commitment to our allies."

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Grand Slam season like old times

Final week of Wimbledon kicks in

Associated Press

LONDON

As usual, Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Andy Murray are playing well at Wimbledon, leading the way into Week 2. "It's their turf," said Ernest Gulbis, who stood in Djokovic's way in the third round but failed to present too much of an obstacle. "It's their home court."

Indeed, it is. Not since Lleyton Hewitt won the championship 15 years ago has someone other than Federer (a record-equaling seven titles in that span), Djokovic (three), Nadal (two) or Murray (two) left Wimbledon with the men's singles title. In addition, that so-called Big 4 accounts for eight runner-up finishes during that stretch.

I THOUGHT THAT EVERYBODY THIS WEEK WAS GOING TO FIND THEIR FORM, ESPECIALLY SPEAKING ABOUT ANDY [MURRAY] AND NOVAK [DJOKOVIC].

ROGER FEDERER

Count Federer among those shrugging at the quartet's success so far this fortnight, with only one set dropped among the

lot. "I thought that everybody this week was going to find their form, especially speaking about Andy and Novak. ... With me, I hoped I was going to be there. Whereas with Rafa's confidence, I thought he was also going to be there," said Federer, who has a cold. "So I'm not that surprised. But it's great." This Grand Slam season has been just like old times.

See TENNIS, B3

— LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL —

Big Ben strikes 3



NIKOS FRAZIER | THE VINDICATOR

Canfield's Ben Slanker (14) high-fives third base coach Rick Havrilla rounding third after his three-run home run in the second inning against Poland on Sunday at the Fields of Dreams in Boardman.

Canfield pounds Poland for crown

By GREG GULAS
sports@vindy.com

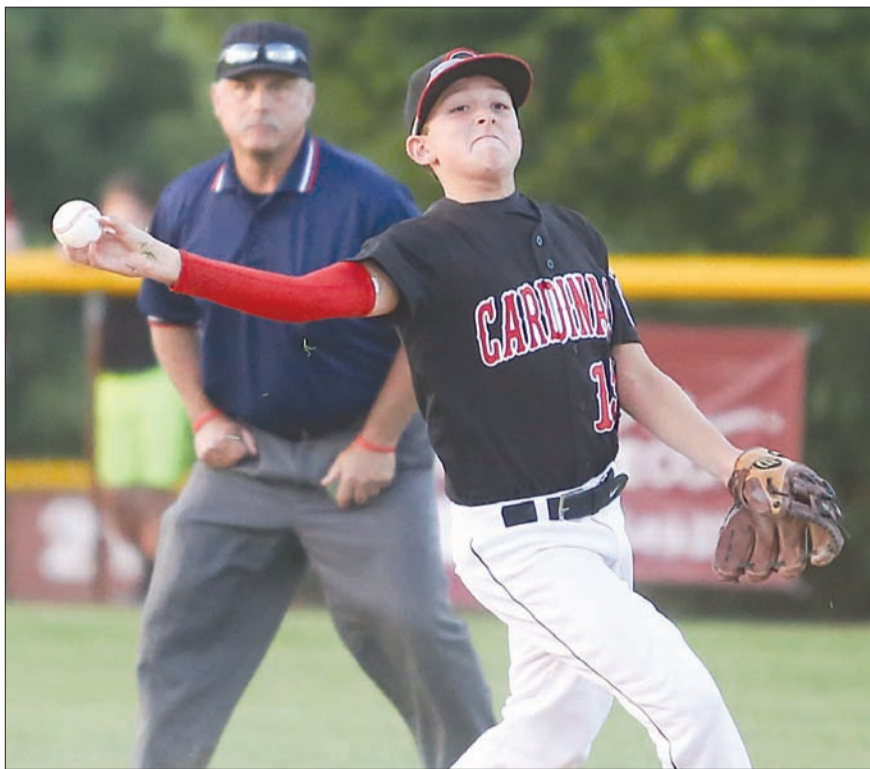
BOARDMAN

Canfield's 11-12 Little League baseball team knows a little bit about state championships, having won titles in 2014 and in 2016. "Clout King" Ben Slanker and pitcher Connor Miller are two very big reasons why back-to-back state titles are a realistic goal.

Slanker hit three home runs and added seven runs batted in while Miller tossed a two-hitter and struck out seven as Canfield stopped Poland, 11-0 in five innings on Sunday to capture the District 2 Major Division crown at Fields of Dreams.

Canfield will play the District 3 champion in the state tournament on Saturday at 1 p.m. in Maumee.

For Slanker, who blasted two home runs last year against Maumee in the state tour-



Canfield second baseman Luca Ricchiuti (13) throws to first base in the first inning of a game Sunday against Poland at the Fields of Dreams in Boardman.

NIKOS FRAZIER
THE VINDICATOR

CANFIELD 11
POLAND 0

See BASEBALL, B5

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cleveland Indians starting pitcher Corey Kluber delivers a pitch in the first inning of a game Sunday in Cleveland.

All-Star Fulmer outshines Kluber

Associated Press

CLEVELAND

Michael Fulmer outpitched All-Star teammate Corey Kluber and Alex Presley hit a tiebreaking, two-run double and the Detroit Tigers hung on late to salvage the series finale with a 5-3 win over the Cleveland Indians on Sunday night.

Fulmer (9-6) dominated Cleveland's lineup until the seventh, when he gave up a two-run homer to Indians All-Star Jose Ramirez.

Detroit's shaky bullpen barely held together over the last three innings. Shane Green worked out of a bases-loaded threat in the seventh and Justin Wilson did the same in the eighth while getting five outs for his 10th save in 11 tries.

Fulmer won't pitch for the AL in Miami on Tuesday night, so he made the most of a nationally televised matchup against Kluber by beating the Central-leading Indians. He held Cleveland to one run and three hits over the first six innings and won his third start in a row.

Presley ripped his double just inside the left-field chalk in the sixth off Dan Otero after the Tigers loaded the bases against reliever Nick Goody (1-1), who replaced Kluber to start the inning.

See INDIANS, B5

Salazar gets rehab start at Eastwood

Staff report

NILES

The Mahoning Valley Scrappers are hoping Cleveland Indians pitcher Danny Salazar will give them a boost on Tuesday after the team was swept by the Williamsport Crosscutters (11-9).

Salazar will make a rehab appearance on Tuesday when the Scrappers (10-10) take on the Brooklyn Cyclones at Eastwood Field. First pitch is set for 7:05 p.m.

Salazar, a 2016 All Star, was moved to the bullpen in May before later being added to the disabled list with shoulder issues.

Sunday, the Scrappers' ninth-inning rally fell short in an 8-7 loss. Gregori Vasquez (0-1) took the loss after the Scrappers squandered a 3-0 first-inning lead. Vasquez didn't survive the Crosscutters' three-run third at-bat.

Ulysses Cantu and Jesse Berardi sparked the Scrappers' offense with two RBIs apiece. Berardi had three hits and Samad Taylor scored three times. Taylor hit a homer in the eighth inning.

For Williamsport, Austin Listi drove in three runs.

Tickets for Tuesday's game are available by calling the Scrappers at 330-505-0000, or by visiting the Mr. Rooter Box Office at Eastwood Field or online at www.mvscrappers.com.



CUTTERS 8
SCRAPPERS 7

Next: Brooklyn Cyclones vs. Scrappers at Eastwood Field, Tuesday, 7:05 p.m.

Xander Schauffele hoists the winners trophy after winning the Greenbrier Classic PGA Tour golf tournament Sunday in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Schauffele captures Greenbrier Classic

Associated Press

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W.VA.

A strong finish in the U.S. Open late month helped prepare Xander Schauffele for the nerve-racking grind of chasing a title on the PGA Tour.

The rookie made a 3-foot birdie putt on the final hole Sunday to win The Greenbrier Classic by a stroke over Robert Streb for his first tour victory.

Schauffele closed with a 3-under 67 and finished at 14-under 266 to cap a daylong duel with Streb and third-

round leader Sebastian Munoz.

Streb shot 69. Munoz had a 72 to tie for third with Jamie Lovemark at 12 under. Lovemark shot 69.

The 23-year-old Schauffele, who took up golf after giving up soccer because his coaches wanted him to switch from offense to defense, tied for fifth in his first U.S. Open at Erin Hills.

"The U.S. Open was a huge moment in my career," Schauffele said. "It was one of the biggest stages and

See PGA, B3

SPORTS digest

Bell captures Blaney Memorial

HARTFORD

Christopher Bell became the ninth different Lou Blaney Memorial Sprint Car winner on Saturday at Sharon Speedway.

Bell's impressive week also saw him win a pair of USAC National Midget Car events in Illinois. He captured the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series event win on Thursday in Kentucky, and followed it up with his second career All Star victory on Saturday night.

Making his season debut, Jeremiah Shingledecker ended a near four-year winless drought at Sharon Speedway after a wire-to-wire win in the 30-lap Hovis Auto & Truck Supply Big-Block Modified feature.

Sharon Speedway will be idle until July 20 for the Super DIRTcar Series for the Big-Block Modifieds in the "Buckeye Ground-Pounder 100."

Sinusitis forces Nunes to drop out

UFC bantamweight champion Amanda Nunes blamed chronic sinusitis for her decision to drop out of her title defense at UFC 213 with just a few hours' notice.

Nunes revealed her condition in postings Sunday on Twitter and Instagram. Nunes made a trip to the hospital on Saturday and decided not to fight later that night, infuriating the UFC and opponent Valentina Shevchenko.

Nunes, who beat Ronda Rousey in her last bout, said she felt out of breath during her weight cut. She also "felt off balance from the pressure in my sinuses. I was not feeling well enough to risk getting punched in the head with such pressure."

"I have never pulled out of a fight before," Nunes wrote. "I am sorry to all my fans that came out to see me. I'll make it up to you the next time I step in the cage."

UFC President Dana White and Shevchenko sharply criticized Nunes for her decision, which forced the promotion to scrap the main event of its pay-per-view show. Shevchenko ripped Nunes for attempting a drastic weight cut, making her more susceptible to illness and many other health problems.

"You can't just say, 'I don't want to fight,'" Shevchenko said.

76ers' Fultz sprains ankle, will sit out

LAS VEGAS

No. 1 overall pick Markelle Fultz will miss the rest of the NBA summer league because of a sprained left ankle.

The Philadelphia 76ers say Fultz is expected to return to basketball activities in one to two weeks. Fultz tweeted Sunday: "I'm ok, thank you for all who where worried!"

Fultz appeared to roll his ankle in Saturday night's game and was helped to the locker room by two teammates.

He had just signed his contract earlier in the day and was taken for X-rays. The former Washington star had eight points in 15 minutes.

Bosh thanks Miami fans for support

MIAMI

Chris Bosh has written an open letter to Miami, thanking the city for supporting him for the past seven years.

Bosh published the letter on Sunday, without any mention of his current health or plans for his future. He was waived by the Heat last week, and hasn't been able to play in an NBA game since February 2016.

Bosh's career has been interrupted by blood clots; one shut him down at the All-Star break in the 2014-15 season, another shut him down at the All-Star break again a year later. He failed his preseason physical with the Heat last September and missed all of last season, and it is unclear if he will pursue a return to the court elsewhere.

Under league rules, he cannot play for the Heat again.

Griner leads Mercury past Liberty

PHOENIX

Brittney Griner had 31 points, 12 rebounds and six blocked shots to help the Phoenix Mercury beat the New York Liberty 81-69 on Sunday.

Diana Taurasi added 19 points, hitting five 3-pointers for the Mercury (10-6), who have won three straight.

Staff/wire report



JIM MATTHEWS | THE POST-CRESCENT VIA AP

Katherine Kirk reacts after sinking the winning putt on the 18th hole during the Thornberry Creek LPGA Classic golf tournament in Hobart, Wis., on Sunday.

GOLF

PGA TOUR GREENBRIER CLASSIC SUNDAY'S SCORES At The Old White TPC White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. Purse: \$7.1 million Yardage: 7,286; Par: 70

Table of golf scores for PGA TOUR Greenbrier Classic and LPGA TOUR Thornberry Creek LPGA Classic. Includes names like Xander Schauffele, Bryson DeChambeau, and Katherine Kirk.

Table of golf scores for DUBAI DUTY FREE IRISH OPEN SUNDAY'S LEADING SCORES. Includes names like Jon Rahm, Richie Ramsay, and Matthew Southgate.

AUTO RACING

F1 AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Table of F1 Austrian Grand Prix results including driver standings (Sebastian Vettel, Lewis Hamilton) and constructor standings (Mercedes, Ferrari).

Not classified: Carlos Sainz, Kevin Magnussen, etc.

SHARON SPEEDWAY SATURDAY'S RESULTS All Star Circuit of Champions Sprint Cars "Lou Blaney Memorial" (30 laps, \$5,000 to win) — 1. Christopher Bell (Neumeister 11N) 2. Joey Saldana (Indy Parts 71) 3. Chad Kemnath (Hunter

10H) 4. Tim Shaffer (Demyan/Rudzik 49x) 5. Lee Jacobs (Lewis 81) 6. Danny Holtgraver (D4) 7. Caleb Armstrong (7C) 8. Dean James (Chappell 8) 9. Dave Blaney (Mottor 71m) 10. Justin Barger (5) 11. Brandon Matius (12) 12. Caleb Helms (17) 13. Danny Smith (4) 14. Ryan Smith (Leidy 59) 15. Carl Bowser (Chiappelli 98) 16. T.J. Michael (30M) 17. A.J. Flick (2) 18. John Garvin, Jr. (5) 19. Dan Shtetler (7K) 20. Brandon Spithaler (22) 21. Jimmy Morris (4N) 22. Tyler Esh (35) 23. Jack Sodeman, Jr. (23JR) 24. Brent Matius (33) 25. Max Stambaugh (Marshall 33M) 26. Steve Lynn (42).

DNQ for the feature — Dan Kuriger (08), Anthony Fiere (91), Hunter Mackison (95), Gary Kriess, Jr. (55), Max McGhee (Indy Parts 171), Trevor Baker (45), Darren Pifer (23), Adam Kekich (5K), Cory Good (X), Roger Campbell, Jr. (9), Michael Bauer (46), Jordan Mackison (1080), Zach Morrow (27), Jeremy Kornbau (27), Joe Kubnic (19), Eric L. Williams (4w), Paul Kish (4c), Mike Flynn (12x), Sadie Siegel (91).

Hovis Auto & Truck Supply Big-Block Modifieds "Lou Blaney Memorial" (30 laps, \$2,000 to win) — 1. Jeremiah Shingledecker (37MD) 2. Kevin Bolland (777) 3. Brian Swartzlander (83) 4. Rex King (65) 5. Rex King, Jr. (165) 6. Steve Feder (45) 7. Jim Rasey (32) 8. Jim Weller, Jr. (31) 9. Will Thomas III (9) 10. Garrett Krummert (29) 11. Jimmy Holden (68H) 12. Chris Haines (35H) 13. Skip Moore (17M) 14. Rob Kristyak (00) 15. Dave Murrick (61) 16. J.R. McGinley (66M) 17. Erik Martin (29E) 18. Bob Warren (96B) 19. Justin Rasey (21) 20. Jason Sines (38DD) 21. Kevin Green (74) 22. Tom Glenn (83T) 23. Steve Slater (35) 24. Rodney Beltz (64) 25. Colton Walters (18).

DNQ for the feature — Eric Beggs (29), Josh Deems (82), Ryan Riffe (93), Ethan Siple (12), Kyle Holden (68H), Dave Reges (27R), Tom Mattocks (69).

Association — is looking for athletes ages 14 and up interested in becoming high school basketball officials. Those interested should contact Don Dornbrint at hoopsrefclass16@gmail.com for more information.

COACHING Maplewood High School — needs boys basketball coaches for seventh, eighth, ninth, junior varsity and assistant varsity. For more information, contact varsity head coach Joe Bornemiss at 330-531-2461 or send resume to joeborn@yaho.com.

Christian School — is seeking a junior high girls head volleyball coach. Those interested should send a resume to dcarroll@valleychristianschools.net.

South Range High School — is seeking high school and middle school wrestling coaches. Send cover letters and resumes to Don Feren, South Range High School, 11300 Columbiana Canfield Road, Canfield, Ohio 44406.

Penn-Ohio Club Blue Storm — is looking

for boys and girls AAU Basketball head coach and assistant coaches. For details, contact Justin Girard at 724-813-7210.

FOOTBALL Mount Calvary Sons of Thunder — is accepting registrations for players and cheerleaders ages 5-13. Practice is held at Wilson Middle School on Gibson Street. For more information, call Ed Eddeling at 330-747-4445.

Mahoning District Football Officials Association — is offering classes for new officials. Classes begin July 17, two times a week for six weeks. Class time will be 7-9:30 p.m. at the Boardman Community Baseball Clubhouse. To register or for more information visit www.ohsaa.org or contact Tony Tarantino at 330-550-2593.

Soccer Mahoning Valley Soccer Officials Association — is looking for people interested in becoming high school soccer referees. Those interested should contact Thom Sutcliffe at chute@aol.com.

SOFTBALL Tod Park in Girard — will be where tournaments for 8U coach pitch, 10U and 12U all-star teams from Tuesday-Sunday. Cost is \$25 per team with a three-game minimum. No travel teams. For more information, contact Rick Plant at 330-219-1610 or Bill Durkin at 330-307-5813.

Lady Sparkans 14U travel team — will have a pitching tryout on July 19 at 6 p.m. at Boardman High School. For more information, contact Marco Marinucci at 330-550-4492.

Howland Athletic Complex — will be the site of \$21 per team for July 26-30. Price is \$20 per team. For more information, visit the website www.howland-ac.com.

The Warren Softball Association — is now accepting men's, women's and coed teams for its fall leagues starting Aug. 13. For more information, contact Marc at 330-507-2652.

To submit a notice, or if you see a notice that should no longer run, email sports@vindy.com or fax 330-747-6712.

TV & RADIO

Table of TV and radio schedules for Monday, July 10, 2017, including tennis, cycling, and golf events.

LATEST LINE

Table of MLB Home Run Derby odds for Marlins Park, Miami, Fla.

BASEBALL

Table of baseball scores and schedules for various leagues including NY-Penn, Minor Leagues, and International Leagues.

CROSSCUTTERS & SCRAPPERS

Table of crosscutters and scrappers scores for various leagues including Scrappers, Eastern Division, and Western Division.

FRONTIER LEAGUE

Table of Frontier League scores for various teams including Schaumburg, Washington, and Lake Erie.

TRANSACTIONS

Table of baseball transactions including American League and National League moves.

BASKETBALL

Table of basketball scores for National Basketball Association and Washington Wizards.

SPORTS BY THE NUMBERS

15

Source: Associated Press

First-inning batters for the Pirates in Sunday's game against the Cubs.

QUOTABLE

KRIS BRYANT, Cubs third baseman, whose first-inning error helped the Pirates score 10 runs:



"If I make that play, the game is completely different."

INDYCAR

Castroneves ends 3-year drought

Associated Press

NEWTON, IOWA

Helio Castroneves dominated the IndyCar race Sunday at Iowa Speedway for his first victory since 2014.

The 42-year-old Castroneves led 217 of 300 laps, giving powerhouse Team Penske its first victory on Iowa's short oval in 11 tries.

It also was the 30th career win for Castroneves, the Brazilian who was winless since the first race of the Belle Isle doubleheader in Detroit in June 2014.

Castroneves also passed Al Unser Sr. for fourth in career laps led.

"It's just like the first time,

man," Castroneves said. "We've been close so many times, and finally luck was a little bit on our side."

J.R. Hildebrand was a career-best second, followed by Ryan Hunter-Reay, Will Power and Graham Rahal.

Series leader Scott Dixon finished eighth, two weeks after winning at Road America, but he still leads the standings by eight points over Castroneves.

Castroneves has won the Indianapolis 500 three times and remains among the most popular drivers in the series.

But his star had faded in recent years as teammates

Simon Pagenaud and Will Power secured championships.

Castroneves had finished second eight times since his last victory, and there had even been recent speculation that his time at Penske could be coming to an end.

"I never doubt. That wasn't even in my thoughts," Castroneves said. "I've had great support — and especially Team Penske. They never gave up on me. We were always there. We were always good."

Hildebrand, best known for crashing out on the final lap of the Indianapolis 500 in 2011, took control early

in the No. 21 car that Josef Newgarden won with in Iowa in 2016.

But Hildebrand lost his lead when Castroneves beat him off pit lane after Carlos Munoz's crash brought on a caution halfway through the race.

Hildebrand then got ahead of Castroneves after the field came in for their final pit stops. But Castroneves was back in front with just over 30 laps and used the fresh air — and the good fortune of a long, green-flag run — to cruise to victory.

Hildebrand matched the runner-up finish he had six years ago in Indianapolis.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Xander Schauffele watches his tee shot on the third hole during the final round of the Greenbrier Classic PGA Tour golf tournament Sunday in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.

Froome remains first

Tour de France leader overcomes grueling day

Associated Press

CHAMBERY, FRANCE

The Tour de France threw the kitchen sink at Chris Froome: steep mountain ascents followed by daredevil descents at speeds exceeding 70 kilometers (45 miles) per hour that wiped out other riders, the loss of his top teammate in a crash, a breakdown on his bike and rivals who tried to make him crack with bursts of acceleration.

But the most grueling, drama-filled day so far of this 104th Tour finished, yet again, with Froome still wearing the race leader's yellow jersey. By surviving Stage 9 that put 12 riders out of the race, and left others bloodied and bandaged, the three-time champion took a big step toward a fourth victory in Paris on July 23.

With seven ascents that together amounted to 4,600 meters (15,000 feet) of climbing — more than half the height of Everest — this was the "monster stage" that Froome had predicted it would be. It separated genuine contenders for victory from simple pretenders. At the start Sunday, eight riders had been within a minute of Froome in the overall standings. Now, just three are.

Among top names gone completely: Richie Porte and Froome's teammate Geraint Thomas, who led the Tour for its first four days. Both crashed out.

Porte, who had been fifth overall, was zooming downhill in pursuit of Froome when he missed a left-hand bend, cartwheeled across the road and bowled over another rider, Dan Martin, before slamming into a stony, vine-covered bank.

Medics first treated the Australian on the tarmac and then took him to a hospital where he was diagnosed with a fractured pelvis and collarbone.

Fabio Baldato, one of the



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Britain's Chris Froome speeds downhill Sunday during the ninth stage of the Tour de France cycling race with start in Nantua and finish in Chambery, France.

directors of Porte's BMC team, said the rider had shoulder pain but "was always conscious. He knew what happened and was asking for his helmet and his glasses."

Thomas broke his collarbone.

The crashes took some of the shine off what otherwise was an impressive show of resilience from Froome. He placed third in the stage, narrowly beaten in a final sprint by Colombian Rigoberto Uran at the finish in Chambery, in the Alps. French rider Warren Barguil was just millimeters behind in second place — so close that he burst into tears thinking he had won, only to discover moments later that he hadn't.

For his third place, Froome was awarded four bonus seconds that allowed him to consolidate his overall lead. With Thomas, who had been in second place, now out, Italian Fabio Aru

climbed to second spot in the race rankings — 18 seconds behind Froome overall.

French rider Romain Bardet, runner-up to Froome last year, is third overall, 51 seconds behind Froome. The only other rider within a minute of Froome is Uran, who jumped from 11th to fourth overall, 55 seconds behind the leader.

Uran thought Barguil had beaten him to the line. It was a moment of confusion aptly fitting for a day of racing so chaotic that it was difficult at times to keep track of all the drama, as riders scattered like leaves over the 181.5-kilometer (112-mile) stage — seven of them falling so far back that they missed the time cut and are now out of the Tour.

Toward the front, Froome had a crisis of his own. With awful timing, the Briton survived a breakdown of his bike gears on the last, hugely tough climb that forced him

to change machines just when he was riding furiously in a bunch with other top contenders.

As Froome was frantically signaling to members of his team following in a car that he was in trouble, Aru choose that exact moment to accelerate away, followed by other top challengers, including Porte.

For a few moments, Froome's Tour seemed to be hanging by a thread.

But Aru and the others then slowed rather than press home their advantage — apparently adhering to the Tour's unwritten rule that challengers shouldn't attack the race leader when he's in difficulty not of his own making.

With a replacement bike and teammates who waited for him, Froome ground his way back into the pack. Higher up the climb, he appeared to swerve across the road and nudge Aru with his right shoulder.

TENNIS

Continued from B1

Following a period in which Djokovic, then current No. 1 Murray overtook Federer and Nadal in the rankings, and started regularly appearing in — and winning — major finals, the latter two have reasserted themselves.

First, Federer returned from missing the last half of 2016 while letting his surgically repaired left knee heal and has been as impressive as he's been in quite some time. He won his first Grand Slam title in 4½ years at the Australian Open, beating long-time rival Nadal in the final.

If that was the first indication that Nadal, too, was truly back after his own health issues, another one came at the French Open, where he won his record 10th trophy in fantastic



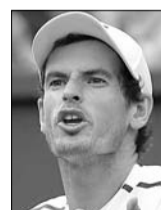
Federer



Djokovic



Nadal



Murray

fashion, not dropping a set. He's now run his consecutive sets streak at majors to 28, tying his personal best and, in the Open era, sitting behind only Federer's run of 36 from 2006-07, and John McEnroe's of 35 in 1984.

"Against Rafa," said the man he defeated in the third round, 30th-seeded Karen Khachanov, "if you give him time, he can destroy you."

As Federer alluded to, it's been Djokovic and Murray who arrived at the All England Club having been less than their best this season.

But with Andre Agassi and Mario Ancic in his coaching corner, Djokovic seems rejuvenated. Defending champi-

on Murray is the only member of the foursome who hasn't won every set he's played in the tournament: Against Fabio Fognini in the third round, he ceded one and saved five set points to barely avoid losing another.

The men's fourth-round matchups on the top half of the draw today are Murray vs. Benoit Paire, Nadal vs. No. 16 Gilles Muller, No. 7 Marin Cilic vs. No. 18 Roberto Bautista Agut, and No. 24 Sam Querrey vs. Kevin Anderson. On the bottom half, it's Djokovic vs. Adrian Mannarino, Federer vs. No. 13 Grigor Dimitrov, 2016 runner-up Milos Raonic vs. No. 10 Alexander Zverev;

and 2010 runner-up Tomas Berdych vs. No. 8 Dominic Thiem.

Wimbledon is the lone Grand Slam tournament that schedules all 16 remaining singles matches on the same day.

The top-half women's fourth-rounders: No. 1 Angelique Kerber vs. No. 14 Garbine Muguruza in a meeting of the past two runners-up, two-time major champion Svetlana Kuznetsova vs. 2012 runner-up Agnieszka Radwanska, No. 5 Caroline Wozniacki vs. No. 24 CoCo Vandeweghe, and Magdalena Rybarikova vs. Petra Martic. In the bottom half, it's five-time champion Venus Williams vs. No. 27 Ana Konjuh, No. 2 Simona Halep vs. two-time Australian Open champion Victoria Azarenka, French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko vs. No. 4 Elina Svitolina, and No. 6 Johanna Konta vs. No. 21 Caroline Garcia.

PGA

Continued from B1

for me to be calm and collected throughout the week and just kind of hang on and tie for fifth was huge for me mentally. It kind of gave me the confidence and allowed me to play to win this week."

Watching fellow youngster Jon Rahm of Spain win the Irish Open earlier Sunday also served as motivation for Schauffele, who shot from 94th to 27th in the FedEx Cup standings.

"Everybody knows I'm a late bloomer," Schauffele said. "To jump into the top 30 is something special for me."

Schauffele, Streb, Munoz and Lovemark earned spots in the British Open in two weeks. The leading four players not already exempt from the top-12 finishers qualified. Russell Henley was the only player among the top 10 finishers who already was in.

Schauffele also punched a ticket to this year's PGA Championship and next year's Masters. He already had a spot in the 2018 U.S. Open for last month's performance.

He's the third rookie to earn their first tour victory in West Virginia and the fourth overall. The others were former U.S. Amateur champion Danny Lee in 2015 and Scott Stallings in 2011, along with Ted Potter Jr. in 2013.

It was another close finish in a tournament that narrowly avoided its fourth playoff since debuting in 2010.

Munoz, Streb and Schauffele traded the lead all day with each having their share of troubles.

As Schauffele reached the 161-yard 18th with a pitching wedge, Munoz and

Streb heard the crowd's roar from the par-5 17th green and both missed birdie putts.

Streb then found the left rough on 18 and his chip that would have forced a playoff came up short. Munoz needed to ace the 18th to tie it, but settled for par.

Munoz couldn't become the first-to-wire winner of the tournament, which no third-round leader has ever won. The rookie also led the St. Jude Classic at the halfway point last month, but tied for 60th. Sunday marked his first top-10 finish.

"I'll take it as a positive," he said. "It's my best finish ever. It's not like I can be mad about it."

Munoz's putter was his strength in the first three rounds and his downfall Sunday. The 24-year-old Colombian made four bogeys on the front nine, including a pair of three-putts.

Streb had his second straight narrow miss in the tournament. He lost in a four-man playoff in 2015.

Streb retook a share of the lead with Munoz with a 32-foot birdie putt at No. 14, only to witness Schauffele pull it out in the end.

"I heard the racket. You could see it," Streb said. "I had my chances and just didn't do very well with them."

Lovemark doubled-bogeyed the first hole to fall five shots back and made three birdies over his next 12 holes but never held the lead. He had his fourth top-10 finish this season.

At age 53, Davis Love III fell short in his bid to become the oldest winner on tour. Love started his round four strokes back, bogeyed the first two holes and was never a threat. He shot 75 and tied for 29th at 5 under.

GOLF | Sunday's other results

IRISH OPEN
PORTSTEWART,
NORTHERN IRELAND

Jon Rahm won the Irish Open by six strokes with a tournament-score, shooting a 7-under 65 in a final round marked by two eagles and a rules controversy. The 22-year-old former Arizona State star from Spain holed out from 150 yards for eagle on No. 4 and strung together four straight birdies from No. 7 to turn what promised to be a tight final day into a procession at Portstewart Golf Club. He added a second eagle with a long putt on the par-5 14th. Rahm avoided being handed a two-shot penalty for replacing his ball incorrectly on the sixth green, following email and calls from TV viewers. Andy McFee, chief referee of the European Tour, said Rahm made a "reasonable judgment" after having moved his marker one putter length to the side to get it off the line of playing partner Daniel Im. Rahm finished at 24-under 264. Richie Ramsay (65) and Matthew Southgate (66) tied for second.

THORBERRY CREEK
LPGA CLASSIC
ONEIDA, WIS.

Katherine Kirk won the Thornberry Creek LPGA Classic,

matching Ashleigh Buhai with a birdie on the final hole for a one-stroke victory. Four strokes ahead of Buhai entering the round, Kirk made a 10-foot birdie putt on the par-4 18th for a 2-under 70. She finished at 22-under 266 in the first year event at Thornberry Creek — the Oneida Nation-owned resort near Green Bay. The 35-year-old Australian won her third LPGA Tour title and first in 152 starts since the 2010 Navistar LPGA Classic. She also won the 2008 Canadian Women's Open. Kirk earned \$300,000 and secured a spot next week in the U.S. Women's Open. Buhai, from South Africa, shot a 67. South Korea's Sei Young Kim was third at 20 under after a 63. Thailand's Pornanong Phatlum shot a career-best 62 to finish fourth at 19 under.

WEB.COM

CLYMER, N.Y.

Chesson Hadley shot a 7-under 65 for a one-stroke victory over Beau Hossler in the Web.com Tour's LECOM Health Challenge. The winner of the PGA Tour's 2014 Puerto Rico Open, the 30-year-old Hadley finished with a tournament-record 23-under 265 total on Peek'n Peak's Upper Course.

Associated Press

Bucs blast Cubs with 10-run first inning



The Pittsburgh Pirates' Francisco Cervelli hits a grand slam against the Chicago Cubs during the first inning of a game Sunday in Chicago.

CHICAGO While the Chicago Cubs packed up quickly for the All-Star break, Bob Marley's "Three Little Birds" played over the speakers in the home clubhouse at Wrigley Field. "Don't worry about a thing," Marley sang, "Cause every little thing gonna be alright." The Cubs are hoping Marley is right, but there was no sign of any turnaround on Sunday. Jon Lester surrendered 10 runs in the first inning of the shortest start of his 12-year career, and the Cubs stumbled to a 14-3 loss to the Pittsburgh Pirates.

self," Lester said. "It's embarrassing." Chicago (43-45) heads into the break with a losing record for the first time since it was 40-54 in 2014. The reigning World Series champions also trail NL Central-leading Milwaukee by 5 1/2 games after the Brewers held on for a 5-3 victory against the New York Yankees. The Cubs were 53-35 at the break a year ago. "We are frustrated," manager Joe Maddon said. "We're not playing our game." Francisco Cervelli matched a career high with five RBIs and Jordy Mercer drove in three runs as the Pirates closed out a 5-2 road trip with their fifth win in six games. All-Star Josh Harrison homered in the ninth and

Chad Kuhl pitched three innings of one-run ball in an emergency start after Jameson Taillon was scratched due to flu-like symptoms. Pittsburgh sent 15 batters to the plate in its highest-scoring inning since it got 10 in the seventh against Colorado on May 17, 2009. It was the first time it scored at least 10 in the first inning since June 8, 1989, against Philadelphia. "It was a lot of fun," manager Clint Hurdle said. "This team, we have been able to rally in a lot of different ways." Cervelli hit his third career grand slam into the basket in left with two out. McCutchen followed with a drive to left-center for his 17th homer, chasing Lester and drawing a smattering of boos from a

frustrated crowd of 41,604 at Wrigley Field. "Throw up 10 like that in the first inning, it was huge," McCutchen said. "We kept going, we kept pushing and didn't stop there in the first." Lester (5-6) was charged with four earned runs and six hits. Kuhl allowed two hits and walked three on just two days' rest after he pitched a career-high seven innings in a 6-3 win at Philadelphia on Thursday night. A.J. Schugel (1-0), the second of three Pittsburgh relievers pitched three innings for the win. The Pirates (42-47) improved to 5-1 at Wrigley this year and stayed seven back of Milwaukee. They were 46-43 at the All-Star break last season.

MLB AT A GLANCE

STANDINGS AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division Boston, New York, Tampa Bay, Baltimore, Toronto, Cleveland, Minnesota, Kansas City, Detroit, Chicago. West Division Houston, Los Angeles, Texas, Seattle, Oakland.

SATURDAY'S GAMES N.Y. Yankees 5, Milwaukee 3; Baltimore 5, Minnesota 1; Tampa Bay 1, Boston 0; Cleveland 4, Detroit 0; L.A. Dodgers 5, Kansas City 4, 10 innings; Texas 1, A. Angels 2; Chicago White Sox 5, Colorado 4; Oakland 4, Seattle 3.

SUNDAY'S GAMES Houston 19, Toronto 1; Tampa Bay 5, Boston 3; Baltimore 11, Minnesota 5; L.A. Angels 3, Texas 0; Colorado 10, Chicago White Sox 0; L.A. Dodgers 5, Kansas City 2; Seattle 4, Oakland 0; Detroit 5, Cleveland 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE Washington, Miami, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Milwaukee, Chicago, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati. West Division Los Angeles, Arizona, Colorado, San Diego, San Francisco.

SATURDAY'S GAMES Atlanta 13, Washington 3; San Diego 2, Philadelphia 1; St. Louis 4, N.Y. Mets 1; L.A. Dodgers 5, Kansas City 4, 10 innings; Pittsburgh 4, Chicago Cubs 2; Washington 10, Atlanta 5; Philadelphia 7, San Diego 1; St. Louis 6, N.Y. Mets 0; Colorado 10, Chicago White Sox 0; Miami 5, San Francisco 4; Cincinnati 7, Arizona 0.

SUNDAY'S GAMES Milwaukee 5, N.Y. Yankees 3; Pittsburgh 14, Chicago Cubs 3; Washington 10, Atlanta 5; Philadelphia 7, San Diego 1; St. Louis 6, N.Y. Mets 0; Colorado 10, Chicago White Sox 0; Miami 5, San Francisco 4; Cincinnati 7, Arizona 0.

AMERICAN LEAGUE TIGERS 5, INDIANS 3 Cleveland Detroit 37 510 5 Totals 34 3 8

DETROIT 001 003 100 - 5 Cleveland E-Gomes (5), M. Fulmer (1). DP--Detroit 1. LOB--Detroit 11, Cleveland 8. 2B--Presley (3), Iglesias (18), Encarnacion (11), HR--Jose Ramirez (17), SB--Martinez (1).

DETROIT 001 003 100 - 5 Minnesota S.M. Smith 4 0 0 B.Dzier 2 3 1 0 0 Gentry pr-rrf 1 0 0 E.Schr ph 3 1 0 M.McCho 3b5 0 2 1 Kessler dh 5 0 2 2 Schoop 2b 5 1 0 0 Grpan rf 4 0 2 1 A.Jones cf 4 2 2 5 Sano 3b 4 1 0 0 Trumbo dh 5 1 1 0 K.Vargas 1b 2 1 1 0 Mancini 1b 5 1 0 0 E.Pscho dh 4 0 0 0 Kim lf 1 0 0 J.Rincon ss 4 0 0 0 Rickard rf 1 0 0 Gimenez c 3 1 0 0 C.Jespch c 2 2 3 Granite cf 3 1 0 0 Tejeda ss 3 1 1 1

DETROIT 001 003 100 - 5 Minnesota S.M. Smith 4 0 0 B.Dzier 2 3 1 0 0 Gentry pr-rrf 1 0 0 E.Schr ph 3 1 0 M.McCho 3b5 0 2 1 Kessler dh 5 0 2 2 Schoop 2b 5 1 0 0 Grpan rf 4 0 2 1 A.Jones cf 4 2 2 5 Sano 3b 4 1 0 0 Trumbo dh 5 1 1 0 K.Vargas 1b 2 1 1 0 Mancini 1b 5 1 0 0 E.Pscho dh 4 0 0 0 Kim lf 1 0 0 J.Rincon ss 4 0 0 0 Rickard rf 1 0 0 Gimenez c 3 1 0 0 C.Jespch c 2 2 3 Granite cf 3 1 0 0 Tejeda ss 3 1 1 1

LOS ANGELES 010 000 001 - 2 Texas LOB--Los Angeles 9, Texas 8. 2B--Simmons (20), Cron (5), Andrus (2), Bryantzara (16), Odor (12), Napoli (7), HR--Vescobar (6), Beltre (7), Robinson (2). CS--Gomez (4), Robinson (1).

LOS ANGELES 010 000 001 - 2 Texas LOB--Los Angeles 9, Texas 8. 2B--Simmons (20), Cron (5), Andrus (2), Bryantzara (16), Odor (12), Napoli (7), HR--Vescobar (6), Beltre (7), Robinson (2). CS--Gomez (4), Robinson (1).

ATLETICS 4, MARINERS 1 Seattle Oakland 33 3 7 3 Totals 36 4 9 4

ATLETICS 4, MARINERS 1 Seattle Oakland 33 3 7 3 Totals 36 4 9 4

NATIONAL LEAGUE PIRATES 14, CUBS 3 Pittsburgh Chicago 33 1 9 1 Totals 32 7 2 2

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REDS 2, DIAMONDBACKS 1 Cincinnati Arizona 001 000 000 - 2

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PHILLIES 7, PADRES 1 San Diego Philadelphia 000 001 001 - 7

PHILLIES 7, PADRES 1 San Diego Philadelphia 000 001 001 - 7

MARLINS 10, GIANTS 8 Miami San Francisco 022 001 20x - 7

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Detroit Tigers' Jose Iglesias, right, forces out the Cleveland Indians' Jose Ramirez, left, at second base and throws out Lonnie Chisenhall at first base in the second inning of a game Sunday in Cleveland.

INDIANS

Continued from B1

A win over Cleveland is a positive way for Detroit to enter the break. The Tigers (39-4) had a rough first half and there are trade rumors swirling around the club, which could be looking to unload players and contracts before the July 31 deadline.

The Indians (47-40) were again without manager Terry Francona, who underwent a cardiac ablation to correct an irregular heartbeat and spent four days at the Cleveland Clinic. Francona is expected to rejoin the club following the All-Star break in Oakland.

The Tigers made Kluber, who didn't get any run support for the second straight game, work hard during his five-inning stint. He allowed just one run, and had his team record streak of consecutive games with at least 10 strikeouts end at five.

Kluber was in trouble in the fifth, but side-stepped danger by striking out Justin Upton — on his 101st pitch — with the bases loaded and Miguel Cabrera waiting on deck.

Indians acting manager Brad Mills turned to his bullpen in the sixth and the Tigers pounced, getting Presley's double and a high-hop infield RBI single by Jose Iglesias to take a 4-1 lead. Nichloas Castellanos hit an RBI single in the seventh to make it 5-1.

The Indians figured out Fulmer in their half. Edwin Encarnacion singled and with fans signing, "Jose, Jose, Jose, Jose," Ramirez connected for his 17th homer.

Carlos Santana followed with a single and Tigers manager Brad Ausmus pulled Fulmer for Greene, who got a fielder's choice and two strikeouts to preserve the two-run lead.

It got dicey again for Detroit in the eighth as Greene and Wilson walked the bases loaded but escaped the jam when Santana grounded out.

UP NEXT

Tigers: With trade rumors percolating, Detroit opens a three-game series at home against Toronto on Friday.

Indians: Cleveland will be represented by five players at the All-Star Game.

MLB ROUNDUP | Sunday's other games

INTERLEAGUE

Brewers 5, Yankees 3

NEW YORK

Travis Shaw and Stephen Vogt both homered and the Brewers lengthened their surprising lead in the NL Central, topping the Yankees. The Brewers have won nine of 11. At 50-41, they go into the All-Star break in first place for the fifth time in franchise history, 5½ games ahead of the reigning World Series champion Chicago Cubs and St. Louis. The Yankees (45-41) have not won a series since June 9-11.

Rockies 10, White Sox 0

DENVER

Hometown rookie Kyle Freeland came within two outs of the first no-hitter by a Rockies pitcher at Coors Field before surrendering a sharp single to Melky Cabrera. Freeland, who's from Denver and grew up going to games at the hitter-friendly park, struck out the first batter of the ninth inning and then allowed Cabrera's hit to left field on a 2-2 count.

Dodgers 5, Royals 2

LOS ANGELES

Clayton Kershaw tossed a six-hitter to become the majors' first 14-game winner. Justin Turner homered twice, and the NL West-leading Dodgers defeated the Royals to complete their major league-best 10th sweep and sixth straight victory.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Orioles 11, Twins 5

MINNEAPOLIS

Adam Jones homered twice and drove in five runs to lead a 15-hit attack. Ruben Tejada and Seth Smith each had three hits for the Orioles, who won their second straight and earned a split of the weekend series.

Astros 19, Blue Jays 1

TORONTO

Carlos Correa homered twice and drove in a career-high five runs as Houston romped into the All-Star break. The runaway leaders in the AL West became just the fifth team in the last 40 years to reach 60 wins before the All-Star Game.

Rays 5, Red Sox 3

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

Brad Miller hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the eighth inning and the Rays took three of the four from AL East-leading Boston.

Angels 3, Rangers 0

ARLINGTON, TEXAS

J.C. Ramirez outpitched All-Star Yu Darvish and Albert Pujols hit his 604th career home run as four Angels pitchers combined to beat the Rangers.

Mariners 4, Athletics 0

SEATTLE

Felix Hernandez rediscovered some of his past form allowing two hits over six dominant innings, and Nelson Cruz hit his 17th home run of the season.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Cardinals 6, Mets 0

Tommy Pham, Paul DeJong and Luke Voit homered and Lance Lynn pitched seven innings of three-hit ball for the Cardinals. Lynn's two strikeouts is a season low, but he needed just 93 pitches while facing two batters over the minimum. Lynn (7-6) did not allow a runner past first and lowered his ERA to 3.61.

Reds 2, Diamondbacks 1

PHOENIX

Homer Bailey went 6⅓ strong innings, Scott Schebler doubled in the go-ahead run and the Reds beat Arizona. Bailey (2-2) gave up a run on seven hits in his fourth start since returning from February surgery to remove small bone spurs from his elbow. He struck out five and walked four.

Nationals 10, Braves 5

WASHINGTON

Anthony Rendon reached base four times and the Washington bullpen allowed two runs over 5⅓ innings. Rendon scored twice and drove in a pair as the Nationals salvaged a split of the four-game series with the Braves to enter the All-Star break with a 9½-game lead over Atlanta in the National League East.

Phillies 7, Padres 1

PHILADELPHIA

Freddy Galvis hit two of his team's six home runs while Jerad Eickhoff threw five shutout innings. Rookie outfielder Nick Williams began the run of homers with his first in the majors during the second inning. Cameron Rupp followed two batters later with another solo homer and Galvis hit a two-run shot in the third inning.

Marlins 10, Giants 8

SAN FRANCISCO

Giancarlo Stanton homered twice, the second coming after A.J. Ellis' tiebreaking two-run home run in the 11th inning. Miami blew a 7-4 lead when the Giants scored three runs off Kyle Barraclough in the eighth before Ellis and Stanton lifted the Marlins in extra innings. J.T. Realmuto reached on shortstop Brandon Crawford's throwing error leading off the 11th. After JT Riddle flew out, Ellis hit a tiebreaking two-run pinch home run. It was Ellis' first career pinch hit home run. Stanton, who homered in the fifth off starter Johnny Cueto, then tacked on No. 26 against George Kontos (0-3). The Marlins head into the All-Star break having won five of six. Nick Wittgren (2-1) retired six batters for the win and A.J. Ramos pitched the ninth for his 17th save.

Associated Press

USA futures trump World

Associated Press

MIAMI

Houston Astros prospect Derek Fisher scored the first run and hit a two-run double Sunday to lead a well-balanced United States side past the World team 7-6 in the All-Star Futures Game.

By the fourth inning the U.S. team had nine hits, one by every starter. The World team had only one baserunner until the fifth, and by then the score was 7-0.

The U.S. team won for the seventh time in the past eight years. The showcase of top minor league prospects included 16 first-round picks.

Brent Honeywell of the Rays, the only pitcher to

go more than one inning, struck out four in two scoreless innings and earned the victory and MVP award. He was the first of 10 pitchers for the United States, and the group combined for 11 strikeouts and walked two.

The World team scored twice in the ninth before A.J. Puk of the Athletics got the final out for a save.

With the major league trade deadline approaching, the game drew plenty of scouts, and they saw Fisher walk and score in the first on a single by Nick Senzel of the Reds. Kyle Tucker, also with the Astros, hit an RBI double.

Chance Sisco of the Orioles tripled and scored in the U.S. team's two-run second

inning. Lewis Brinson of the Brewers doubled home a run.

Josh Naylor of the Padres drove in the World team's first run with a single in the fifth. Vladimir Guerrero Jr. of the Blue Jays, at 18 the youngest player in the game, singled twice and scored twice.

Yadier Alvarez of the Dodgers pitched the first inning, allowed one run and took the loss.

Second baseman Brendan Rodgers and first baseman Ryan McMahon, both of the Rockies, made fine defensive plays for the U.S. team.

MATCHUP

U.S. right-hander Michael Kopech struck out Yoan

Moncada on a 100.7-mph fastball to end the third inning. Both are in the White Sox organization.

Kopech threw nine pitches, and seven were 99.3 mph or faster.

The Cuban-born Moncada, a second baseman ranked as the sport's No. 1 prospect and the Futures Game MVP last year, went 0 for 2 and made a wild throw that led to an unearned run.

Brazilian right-hander Thyago Vieira also surpassed 100 mph.

BLANKED

The home run sculpture at Marlins Park sat motionless all evening. It was the first Futures Game without a homer since 2004.



NIKOS FRAZIER | THE VINDICATOR

Canfield baserunner Connor Daggett (5) steals third base as Poland's Alec Delsignore (8) waits for the ball during Sunday's Little League 11-12 District championship game. Canfield won, 11-0.

BASEBALL

Continued from B1

nament at Fields of Dreams, it seems as if the bigger the stage the more confident he is at the plate.

"When we get the bat on the ball, good things tend to happen," said Slanker, adding that Canfield should do well "as long as we continue to work together as a team."

Slanker called the easy run through district play "amazing. We've worked really hard."

When asked if he thought the ball looked like a pumpkin, he smiled.

"Even the outside pitches looked good because I was still able to get my bat on the ball and drive it," Slanker said.

Drive it to all parts of the field is exactly Slanker did as his three-run homer to left field in the second inning gave Canfield a 4-0 lead.

His two-run shot to center field cleared the pine trees in the fourth inning to extend the lead to 9-0.

His two-run clout to right field ended the game in the fifth frame.

"Ben is an absolutely awesome baseball player," Canfield manager George Beck said. "He's just seems to



Poland second baseman Tegan McCurdy (12) chases a fly ball during Sunday's game against Canfield at the Fields of Dreams in Boardman. Canfield won and will play in the state tournament in Maumee.

come up big when we need it the most.

Beck's teams have won

four state titles. He is the architect of the Canfield Baseball Club's last two Major

Division state titles.

"Connor threw well the entire game and everyone played a part in this win," Beck said. "This group is focused and they feel like they can get to Williamsport [Little League World Series].

"It's a goal that we won't shy away from."

Miller walked just two batters as he picked up the complete-game win. He said his cutters and change-ups "were working well. I felt like I pitched my best in some time."

Luca Ricchiuti had a run-scoring single in the second inning that plated Canfield's first run, but it was his magical glove at second base that prevented any extra base runners.

"We're a pretty good team offensively, but we've also worked really hard on our defense," Ricchiuti said. "Connor was amazing on the mound, we hit the ball really well and have the momentum."

"We just need to get it done now in Maumee."

Jake Schneider hit a two-run blast in the fourth inning.

"I hit a fastball," he said. "Offensively we're there."

Cole Fulton and Jake Allsopp had Poland's hits.

SANDLOTS | Area baseball games

AJ Pepperney had two hits and scored twice in the game at Bob Cene Park in Struthers. Nathan Stutz's two hits included a double and he scored once. Ozzy Campbell earned the win pitching six innings. He gave up eight hits and one run while striking out three. For Release, Anthony Ditomas and Jack Krebs each had two hits.

Little League Ages 8-10

Austintown 12, Poland 10s 2

Boardman 9s 6, Poland 9s 3

Boardman 10s 6, Howland 2

Austintown will play Boardman 10s tonight at 8 on Field L-2 at the Fields of Dreams in Boardman. Poland 10s will play Boardman 9s in an elimination game at 6 p.m. on Field L-3.

Poland 9s have been eliminated. Howland will play Canfield at 6 p.m. on Field L-2.

Ages 9-11

Poland 8, Austintown 7

Tonight at 8 on Field L-1, Poland will play Boardman for the district championship. Austintown has been eliminated.

WARREN AA

Metro Ice 9, Andover Scooters 5

Mark Herron and Ryan Trimbur drove in runs for the Ice in the game against a team from the Pymatuning Valley Wood Bat League. Nick Zajaczkowski and Jared Lee also had RBI singles. Matt Schultz earned the win, giving up two runs and three hits in five innings. He struck out seven.

Staff report

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BRIDGE

Q. Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:
763♥K82♦J86♠KQJ2
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♠ 3♦ DbI- ?

A. Will you defend four of a major if the opponents want to play there? If yes, then pass or bid four diamonds.

Q. North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:
AKQ10♥J764♦K1093♣8
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♦ ? Pass 1♥ 2♣ ?

A. Four clubs would be a splinter bid, promising four-card heart support and short clubs...

Q. East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:
J863♥QJ♦A542♣A62
Partner opens one club and right-hand opponent passes.

A. People bid "up the line" for many decades, and they would bid one diamond.

Q. Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:
10542♥K9♦J42♠KQ73
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♦ DbI Pass ?

A. Partner's bid in your void suit is a warning sign that shouldn't be ignored.

Q. Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:
10542♥K9♦J42♠KQ73
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♦ DbI Pass ?

A. A jump in response to a take-out double shows 9-11 points. It does not promise a five-card suit...

Q. Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:
10542♥K9♦J42♠KQ73
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♦ DbI Pass ?

A. A jump in response to a take-out double shows 9-11 points. It does not promise a five-card suit...

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Cadillac DeVille - 1994, good condition, 85,375 mi., \$1995.

Chevrolet Malibu - 2012 4 cyl., leather heated seats, 50,000 mi., \$8400.

Chevrolet Caprice Classic 1991, 51,000 mi., V-8, sunroof, 1 owner, always garaged, looks & runs great.

Chevrolet Caprice Classic - 1987 Station Wagon Body good, needs brakeline & exhaust repair, \$800/offer.

Dodge Neon - 2005, auto., cold air, p.w., p.l., clean car, just turned 100,000 mi.

Hyundai Veloster - 2014 Reflex edition, 1200 mi., white, auto., leather seats, 18" wheels, \$13,900.

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THE 5

The top five global concert tours, ranked by average box-office gross per city. Includes the average ticket price for shows worldwide. The list is based on data provided to the trade publication Pollstar by concert promoters and venue managers.

- 1 U2:** \$7,281,352; \$118.63
- 2 Depeche Mode:** \$2,963,771; \$75.79
- 3 Dead & Company:** \$2,082,160; \$75.27
- 4 Bruno Mars:** \$1,795,268; \$84.23
- 5 Roger Waters:** \$1,754,392; \$124.12

BEST BETS ON TV

♦ **“ANTIQUES ROADSHOW” (8 P.M., WESTERN RESERVE PUBLIC MEDIA PBS):** In this episode, titled “Vintage Cleveland,” items include a 1979 Kent State University apology and a Patek Philippe watch.

♦ **“WILL” (9 P.M., TNT):** The new drama “Will” whisks us back to the early years of William Shakespeare’s (Laurie Davidson) life. In the opener, our title character arrives from a small town to the wild streets of 1589 London with little more than his dreams and a treacherous letter.

TV LISTINGS, C3

DVD RELEASES

Movies available Tuesday on DVD and through digital providers include:

♦ **“The Fate of the Furious” (PG-13):** Starring Dwayne Johnson and Charlize Theron.

♦ **“Smurfs: The Lost Village” (PG):** Starring Demi Lovato and Rainn Wilson.

♦ **“The Lost City of Z” (PG-13):** Starring Charlie Hunnam and Tom Holland.

♦ **“Norman: The Moderate Rise and Fall of a New York Fixer” (R):** Starring Richard Gere and Lior Ashkenazi.

♦ **“Their Finest” (R):** Starring Gemma Arterton and Sam Claflin.

♦ **“A Quiet Passion” (PG-13):** Starring Cynthia Nixon and Jennifer Ehle.

♦ **“Spark: A Space Tail” (PG):** Starring Jessica Biel and Patrick Stewart.

ENTERTAINMENT DIGEST

Comedy show at Nic’s Lounge

NILES

A comedy show featuring Jon Huff and Brian Teague will take place Saturday at 8 p.m. at Nic’s Lounge, 1629 N. Main St. Admission is \$5. The lineup of comedians also includes Marcus Martin, Will Hopskin, Lex Godoy, Angelo Jackson, Nikkia Stewart, Cyndi Rice, Tim Wolfe, John Bruton, Kyle Karmelita, Sharon Largen Vandervort, Asron Scardina, Malcolm Floyd and Jill Pecoraro.

Dixie Chicks concert film

BOARDMAN

The concert film “Dixie Chicks – DCX MMXVI – In Concert” will be screened Aug. 7 at 7 p.m. at movie theaters across the country, including Tinseltown.

The concert was taped live on the band’s most recent tour and features a full set of hits, including “Wide Open Spaces,” “Goodbye Earl” and “Not Ready to Make Nice.” In addition to the concert, audiences will experience a never-before-seen acoustic set.

Tickets can be purchased at FathomEvents.com or at the Tinseltown box office.

Tour of Italy

KENT

Western Reserve PBS’ next tour will be Reflections of Italy, Oct. 4-13. It will travel to Rome, Venice, Siena, Florence, Assisi, Murano, Milan and Perugia. For information, go to WesternReservePBS.org or call 800-554-4549.

‘Valerian’ director praises Rihanna’s focus

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES Director Luc Besson says getting Rihanna’s team on board for her role in the sci-fi epic “Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets” was a little painful at first.

Rihanna’s manager, Jay Brown, was a fan of Besson’s films such as “The Professional” and “La Femme Nikita” but they had to make sure they trusted Besson and his crew before they committed.

The pop superstar co-stars in “Valerian,” out July 21, as a burlesque

dancer named Bubble who performs in a seedy club owned by Ethan Hawke. Although it’s a relatively small part in the film starring Cara Delevingne and Dane DeHaan, it’s already being hailed by early viewers as a scene-stealing performance.

Rihanna, who wasn’t available for an interview, was the director’s first choice for the pivotal role, and he figured it couldn’t hurt to ask. She’d had a main role in the 2012 film “Battle-ship” and the animated “Home,” and cameos in “This Is the End” and

“Annie.” He was surprised at how involved her team was at the outset.

“They’re very protective of her,” he said. “So before you get in, you have to prove that you’re honest and you’re there for a good reason. ... It’s a little painful at the beginning, but after a while you go, ‘Yeah, we get it.’”

Once the Grammy-winner’s team decided to move forward, Besson said Rihanna “was lovely.”

“What was good was when she was on the set she’s 200 percent focused with you – no entourage,

she’s there. When she’s there, she’s there,” Besson said.

“The problem, sometimes, is to have her there,” the French director added with a smile, to which his wife and producer, Virginie Besson-Silla, quickly jumped in and said, “No, no, she was good!”

“She was good,” Besson agreed. “She was amazing and so focused. I was surprised by how much she was ready and open to the director. ... She was at my service, and I was surprised at the beginning. She was so generous.”



Rihanna

STX ENTERTAINMENT

The movie midterm report card



Daniel Kaluuya and Allison Williams star in “Get Out.”

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Best and worst films

By RAFER GUZNAM
Newsday

Halfway through 2017, we can say a couple of things about the movies. One is that the major studios are making a lot of bad ones. The other is that they can make great ones when they try.

Take, for example, just about every big-budget franchise film released this year. With a few exceptions, they’ve been awful. “King Arthur: Legend of the Sword,” ostensibly the first in a six-film series, was a major flop. The new “Pirates of the Caribbean” movie turned Johnny Depp’s name into mud, while the latest “Transformers” installment reached a 16 percent rating on RottenTomatoes. As for “The Mummy,” it’s been a terrible advertisement for Universal’s forthcoming series of monster-movie reboots. All of these non-blockbusters looked and felt exactly the same: created by committee, written for the box-office and directed by people who seemed to regret it.

On the other hand, look at “Wonder Woman,” a superhero movie that had a purpose – to give a female superhero her own story – and managed to be an absolute crowd-pleaser. Or take Jordan Peele’s “Get Out,” a horror-comedy with overt racial overtones that became a critical and popular hit. Both films made more than \$100 million – a first for a female-fronted superhero film and a first for a black director’s debut.

Here’s my top 10 movies of 2017 – so far:

1. “Wonder Woman”: It isn’t often that a superhero movie really knocks it out of the park – and this time, the batter happens to be female. With a rivet-

ing Gal Gadot in the title role and Patty Jenkins in the director’s chair, “Wonder Woman” is top-notch summer entertainment that will surely kick open a few doors for women in the movies.

2. “Get Out”: Writer-director Jordan Peele delivered one of the year’s smartest movies with this horror-chiller about a young black man (Daniel Kaluuya) who meets his white girlfriend’s (Allison Williams) parents. It’s a creepy, funny, cringe-inducing look at race in America.

3. “Lost City of Z”: James Gray’s drama about the real-life British explorer Percy Fawcett (Charlie Hunnam) is an old-fashioned epic – gorgeous costumes, lavish sets – with a modern-day sensibility about its hero. He’s neither white savior nor white devil, a nuanced approach that makes this familiar story feel fresh.

4. “The Lovers”: Azazel Jacobs’ story of two philandering spouses who suddenly become interested in each other again is an off-kilter gem with two marvelous actors in Tracy Letts and Debra Winger. Prepare for wry comedy, brutal drama and many emotional zigzags.

5. “Baby Driver”: Ansel Elgort plays a hotshot getaway driver – improbably named Baby – who tries to leave his life of crime after he falls for a waitress (Lily James). It’s a heist flick, a teen movie, a “Pulp Fiction” rip-off and almost a musical(!), yet writer-director Edgar Wright (“Shaun of the Dead”) makes it all work.

6. “Norman: The Moderate Rise and Tragic Fall of a New York Fixer”: Richard Gere delivers a beautiful little performance as

a Jewish fellow of no real importance who somehow fast-talks his way into the world of Israeli-American politics. It’s a deceptively small film that touches on life-size issues in funny and touching ways.

7. “John Wick: Chapter 2”: Keanu Reeves returns as a vicious hit man living in a shadow-world of gentlemen assassins. This is the rare sequel that tops the original, with slam-bang action (from director Chad Stahelski, a former stunt double) and an enjoyably cool villain played by Common. It’s total pulp and pure fun.

8. “The Lego Batman Movie”: The superhero with the brooding attitude and adjustable legs gets his own spinoff. It’s a kid-friendly comedy with grown-up appeal, full of self-referential jokes and great voice-work by Will Arnett in the title role and Zach Galifianakis as The Joker.

9. “My Cousin Rachel”: Director Roger Michell (“Notting Hill”) goes dark with this Daphne du Maurier adaptation about a wealthy young gentleman (Sam Claflin) who falls for a possibly murderous beauty (Rachel Weisz). It’s a classic Gothic tale, complete with ominous seaside cliffs and a grand, swelling score by Rael Jones.

10. “The Fate of the Furious”: Eight films in, the “Fast and Furious” franchise hasn’t let us down yet. This one, about a super-hacker (Charlize Theron) and a nuclear submarine, is noticeably goofier than the others, but with Vin Diesel, Dwayne Johnson and Jason Statham on board, fun will trump logic every time.

The worst so far:
1. “Fifty Shades Darker”: The second adaptation of

E.L. James’ book series pretends to be S&M erotica, but it’s really just the story of a woman (Dakota Johnson) who is so aroused by wealth that she’s willing to take a beating for it. If these movies would just be honest about what they’re selling, they might actually be interesting.

2. “Transformers: The Last Knight”: In this episode, the Transformers fight alongside the Arthurian knights, then the Allied powers and, finally, a present-day Texan named Cade Yeager (Mark Wahlberg) and a hot Oxford professor (Laura Haddock). This franchise has become so awful that Michael Bay won’t even direct these sequels anymore.

3. “Power Rangers”: An abysmal remake of the kiddie TV show, with a new set of interchangeable teenagers wearing the color-coded superhero outfits. Nothing here – from the chintzy sets to the even chintzier dialogue – is an improvement.

4. “The Mummy”: The first installment of Universal Pictures’ “Dark Universe” of classic monsters – from Frankenstein to the Invisible Man – is reportedly shaping up as a flop that could lose \$95 million. Despite the star power of Tom Cruise, this “Mummy” appears to be dead on arrival.

5. “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales”: Johnny Depp’s Jack Sparrow may have finally worn out his welcome with this latest “Pirates” movie, a noxious mix of uninspired comedy, grim horror and whimsical action. Someone tell the overseas countries to stop buying tickets to these things so Hollywood will stop making them.

Valley theater veteran to discuss his career

Staff report

LIBERTY

Veteran Mahoning Valley musical theater performer James McClellan will be the next speaker in the Memories of a Lifetime series, which will take place Saturday at 10 a.m. in the meeting room at Kravitz’s Deli, 3135 Belmont Ave.

The series is sponsored by the William Holmes McGuffey Historical Society. Admission is \$5. The event will include live music by Delores DePietro, and reservations are suggested; call Richard S. Scarsella, society chairman, at 330-726-8277.

McClellan is the operations manager of the Youngstown Playhouse. He has spent most of his life performing on area stages, including shows with Easy Street Productions, Oakland Center for the Arts, Ballet Western Reserve, the Youngstown Playhouse and Youngstown State University Theater.

Some of the notable shows in which he has appeared include “The Elephant Man,” “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” “Hedwig and the Angry Inch,” “I Am My Own Wife” and “The Normal Heart.”

He studied voice at YSU, singing with the Dana School of Music’s Chorale and Madrigals, and has accompanied the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra. McClellan began making musical appearances at the Fairmont Hotel in Pittsburgh in 2013, and his semi-annual engagements with siblings Eric and Janeen have attracted capacity crowds across Ohio.

McClellan also has performed with Youngstown native Liz Rubino in cabaret shows at the Metropolitan Room in New York and also at Cain Park in Cleveland.

NBC’s Richard Engel steps out with themed series

By DAVID BAUDER
Associated Press

NEW YORK

Foreign correspondent Richard Engel is borrowing Rachel Maddow’s MSNBC time slot on Friday nights over the next month for “On Assignment,” a series that sets aside cable news chatter for deeply reported

stories about world affairs. The first edition last week focused on Vladimir Putin’s Russia.

“I’ve wanted to do something like this for a long time,” Engel said. He’s expanding some of the reporting he routinely does for NBC’s “Nightly News” for a longer format in a series loosely modeled on his

November 2014 special on Kobani, Syria’s fight against ISIS.

The idea is for “On Assignment” to be a limited series, in television parlance. He’ll do four episodes over a month, then return periodically for more.

Though Engel is expected to appear live for each show’s opening, an epi-

sode’s centerpiece will be prepared stories by him and other correspondents, tied together by theme. His second episode this Friday will focus on Iraq.

“This is not just a studio show where I sit in a studio in New York or London and get a bunch of experts to pontificate about the subjects of the week,” he said.

Even as talk of domestic politics dominates airtime on American cable networks, MSNBC President Phil Griffin said he believes there’s a hunger among viewers to see what’s going on in the rest of the world and how it relates to the United States.

“It’s exactly the right time to do it,” Griffin said.

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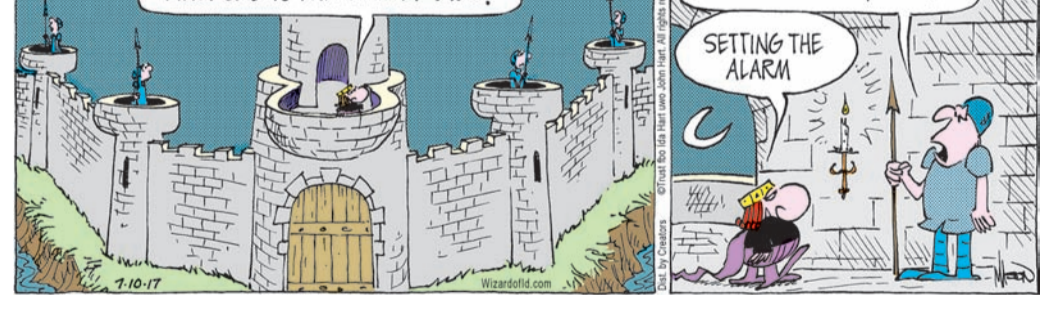
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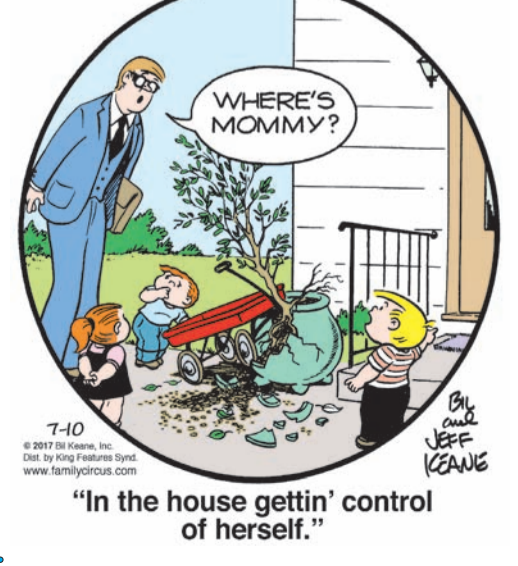
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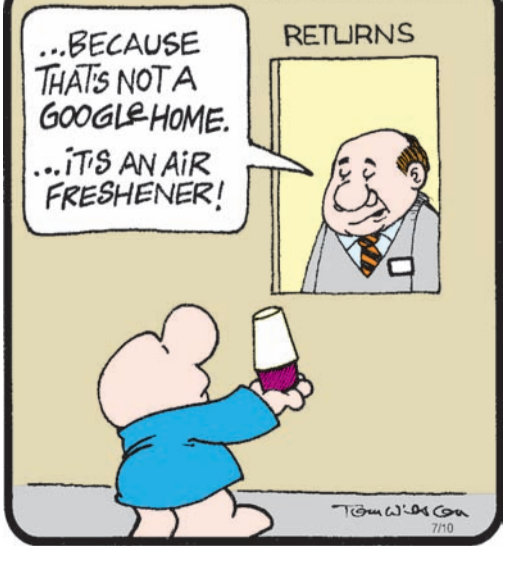
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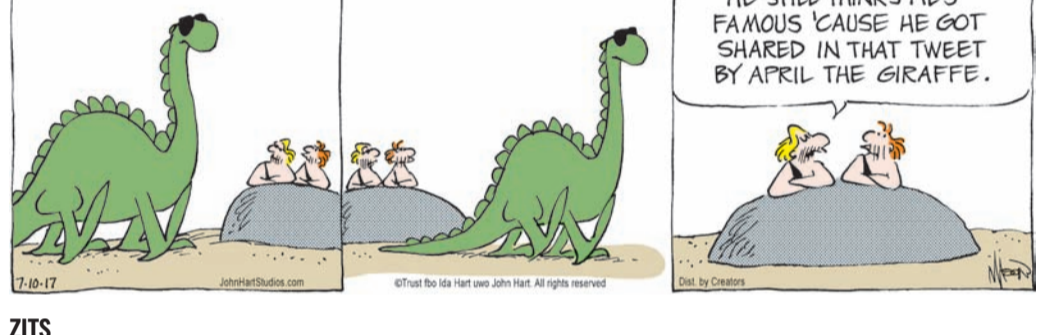
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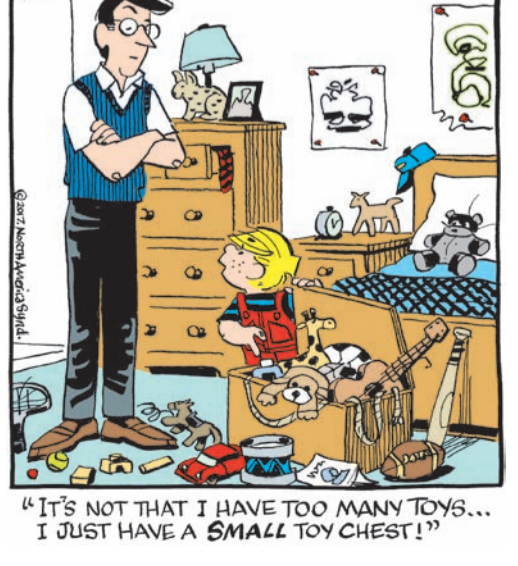
MARK TRAIL



MARY WORTH



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