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Roof sentenced to death

1st to face execution for federal hate crime convictions

CHARLESTON (AP) — Dylann Roof was sentenced to death Tuesday for killing nine black church members during Bible study in a racially motivated attack, the first person to face execution for federal hate crime convictions.

A jury deliberated his sentence for

about three hours, capping a trial in which Roof did not fight for his life or show any remorse. At the beginning of the trial, he addressed jurors directly, insisting that he wasn't mentally ill, but he never asked them for forgiveness or mercy, or explained the crime. He threw away one last chance to

plead for his life on Tuesday, telling jurors: "I still feel like I had to do it."

Every juror looked directly at Roof as he spoke for about five minutes. A few nodded as he reminded them that they said during jury selection they could fairly weigh the factors of his case. Only one of them, he noted, had



ROOF

to disagree to spare his life.

"I have the right to ask you to give me a life sentence, but I'm not sure what good it would do anyway," he said.

When the verdict was read, he stood stoic and showed no emotion. He will be formally sentenced today.

St. Anne-St. Jude pastor to receive Papal honor

BY IVY MOORE
ivy@theitem.com

The Rev. Frank Palmieri, pastor of St. Anne-St. Jude Parish in Sumter, is one of eight people on whom Papal Honors will be imparted at the 3 p.m. Vesper Service on Sunday at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, 120 Broad St., in Charleston, according to the Most Rev. Robert E. Guglielmone, Bishop of Charleston. The honors come directly from Pope Francis.

Palmieri will be awarded the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Medal (*For Church and Pope*) by Guglielmone on behalf of Pope Francis for distinguished service to the Church. The medal, awarded to lay people and clergy, is the highest honor that can be awarded to laity by the Pope, given in recognition for their living out their Catholic faith in service to the Church and the wider community.

Guglielmone said, "Father Palmieri has been extremely involved in promoting sacramental marriage and family life. He is receiving this honor due to his dedication to the Church and his many, many years of service to the diocese. His good work is worthy of this high honor from the Holy Father."

The Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Medal was instituted by Pope Leo XIII in 1888 in honor of his golden jubilee. It became a permanent distinction in 1898. The gold medal is on a purple ribbon with white and yellow border lines and is worn on the right side of the chest.

The Catholic Diocese of Charleston comprises the entire state of South Carolina with Charleston as its See city. Founded in 1820 by Pope Pius VII, it is one of the oldest Catholic dioceses

SEE MEDAL, PAGE A6



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Father Frank Palmieri, above, pastor of St. Anne-St. Jude Parish, will be awarded the The Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Medal on Sunday. It is one of the highest honors bestowed by the Pope and will be imparted to Palmieri on Pope Francis' behalf by The Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone, Bishop of Charleston.

The Ecclesia et Pontifice Medal is imparted by the Pope for distinguished service to the Church.



School board hires \$1k-a-day consultant

BY BRUCE MILLS
bruce@theitem.com

In response to its current debt crisis, Sumter School District Board of Trustees unanimously selected Scott Allan of School Support, Inc., on Monday night to

work as the district's school finance consultant. According to his resume, Allan has 28 years' experience in school district finance.

The board's public statement on Allan's selection says his responsibilities will include explaining the reasons for the district's current financial condition, advising the board on reduction of expenses for this fiscal year and closely monitoring the district's cash flow position. Given the assignments, Allan will review all cash flow analysis performed to date and Superintendent Frank Baker's emergency financial plan that he presented to the board last week. He will provide his own input before the board takes action to change its board-approved budget, according to school board attorney William "Bick" Halligan.

The board's action comes after the release last month of the 2015-16 audit report, which showed the district had gone over budget by \$6.2 million in the fiscal year ending June 30. The audit report also revealed the district had \$106,449 in its general fund balance at the end of the fiscal year.

Allan doesn't come cheap to the district, however. The written agreement between School Support, Inc. and the district's board will pay him \$1,000 per day that he works in the school district, plus reimbursement of travel and overnight expenses.

Allan founded School Support, based in Rock Hill, in March 2007 to assist school districts in the state in all aspects of district administration, according to information he provided to the board. According to his resume, he formed School Support after gaining considerable experience helping

Clemson faithful enjoy perfect day of football

The Sumter Item has asked Sumter attorney Jack Barnes to give us a daily account of his experience of the National Championship game on Monday. Jack's son, James Barnes, is a sophomore backup quarterback at Clemson. He was the quarterback for Sumter High School for three years and led the Gamecocks to the state runner-up in class 4A. This is the final edition.

BY JACK BARNES
Clemson parent athlete columnist

When I feel something in my bones, I am rarely wrong. This is not one of

those rare instances, and I am delighted to say we won! Wow! Clemson is the 2016 National Champions. I love the way that rolls off the tongue. It was a great game and not just because we won. It came down to the final second, literally, and both teams gave everything they had to offer. We got our money's worth.

The travel team had a nice lunch outside by the bay and headed to Raymond James Stadium about 3 p.m. The younger members of

the team headed over to watch Dierks Bentley perform at the Fan Fest while Sarah and I joined Greg and Danielle Thompson at their tailgate, along with Jeff and Jeanne Faw, Hal Turner, Sarah and Al Jordan and other Sumterites. As always, the Thompsons did it right, and it provided lots of good fun.

The game was like old home week for me. I saw folks I had not seen in 30 years. Most members of the travel team were sitting with other player families, but I ended up, as luck

SEE CLEMSON, PAGE A6



BARNES

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DEATHS, B5

Luke Rogers
Tony Jackson
Susie M. White
William Pearson
Georgia M. Floyd
Savilla J. Blackmon
Roland Toney Jr.
Marion A. Jefferson
Samuel L. Boyd
Zane Dale Wright
Angela White
Freddie H. Francis

WEATHER, A8

WARMER AGAIN
Mostly cloudy today and warmer; tonight, clearing and mild.
HIGH 66, LOW 48

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SECOND FRONT

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LOCAL BRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Last day for museum luncheon tickets

Ticket sales for the Sumter County Museum's luncheon with New York Times best-selling author Karen White close at noon today.

Museum director Annie Rivers said only a very few tickets remain.

White will be talking about her latest book in the Tradd Street series, "The Guests on South Battery," during Thursday's catered noon luncheon. Her subject matter is described as "grit lit," also known as Southern women's fiction.

Tickets are \$30 for museum members, \$35 for nonmembers and include both the luncheon and a signed copy of "The Guests on South Battery." Copies of several of White's other novels will also be available.

For tickets, call the museum at (803) 775-0908 or visit the website www.sumtercountymuseum.org. For more on Karen White, visit www.karen-white.com.

Court martial set for former Shaw officer

A court martial date has been set for former 20th Fighter Wing Vice Commander William Jones, who is charged with one count of wrongfully possessing images and videos of child pornography in violation of Article 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, according to a Shaw Air Force Base press release.

According to the release, 20th Fighter Wing Commander Maj. Gen. Scott Zobrist has referred the charge to trial by a general court martial scheduled to begin March 13.

MLK program at St. Luke's AME on Monday

The public is invited to join a celebration of the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. from 10 to 11 a.m. on Monday at St. Luke AME Church, 2355 St. Paul Church Road.

The program, titled "Our Legacy, Our Future," will feature Julia Nelson, who is in her third term as Mayor of Manning.

A free box lunch will be served.

For more information, call Barbara Bowman at (803) 467-5670.

Fire hydrant flow testing scheduled

The City of Sumter will be performing fire hydrant flow tests on North Guignard Drive, Bultman Drive, Queen Chapel Road, North Main Street, West Hampton Avenue and Liberty Street from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and Thursday.

Water customers in the surrounding area may experience temporary discolored water.

Direct any questions or concerns to the City of Sumter Public Services Department at (803) 436-2558.

40 area pastors will unite for concert

BY IVY MOORE
ivy@theitem.com

Sunday brings an event that has likely never happened in Sumter — more than 40 pastors from the area will share the stage of Allen Chapel AME Church for 90 minutes of gospel, spiritual and hymn singing. The Rev. Jeanette Collins, who is spearheading the event, said she's gratified by the reception she got when she asked the pastors and ministers to participate.

"Some of them said they couldn't sing at all," she said, "but no one gave me an outright 'no.'"

Collins added that "Some of them are singers, while others don't sing in their churches on Sundays, but one of them told me 'Think about it — pastors cannot talk at the same time, but we can all make a joyful noise.'"

The unique thing about the event is that "all of the people singing, doing praise dance, performing in skits and so forth will be pastors," Collins said.

The idea for the program "was a vision given to me by God," she said. She is the pastor of LaGree AME Church on Kolb Road.

"It was my vision, but Allen Chapel has a larger sanctuary," she said. "We are so gratified that the pastor, the Rev. Dr. George Hicks, and the congregation immediately agreed to let us use their sanctuary."

Many different denominations are cooperating fully, Collins said.

"We've got pastors not just from Sumter, but also from Orangeburg, Columbia, Manning, Irmo and Lugoff," she said, and "they are United Method-



JIM HILLEY / THE SUMTER ITEM

Some of the more than 40 pastors who will be singing, dancing and performing in skits together rehearse for their Jan. 15 "musical revival." Conceived by the Rev. Jeanette Collins of LaGree AME Church and directed by the Rev. Elijah Geter, the program has no preaching, and there is no charge for admission.

ist, Holiness, non-denominational, AME (African Methodist Episcopal), UME (United Methodist Episcopal), Church of God and Presbyterian.

"Pastors from larger congregations will be with pastors from smaller ones," she said. "We're looking at it as children of God coming together to glorify God."

Collins' presiding elder, Joseph Postell, has also been very supportive of the event, she said, as has her own congregation. Postell will be at the concert, and Collins expects the sanctuary of Allen Chapel AME to be full.

The pastors will be performing a variety of music en masse, quartets, duos and even some solos. "We will have praise dances by pastors, and two very short skits that I've written," Collins said. "They are titled 'Pastor, Keep Your Eyes in the Pulpit' and 'God Is Not a Play Toy.'"

Director of the program is the Rev. Elijah Geter; the Rev. George Hicks will play organ, with the Rev. Harry Clark on drums.

Collins added that "There will be no preaching. This is like a musical revival. Everything will be done spiritually. It's allowing God to use us through song."

She's been getting many phone calls from people wanting to know all about the concert. Collins said, "I just tell them 'You need to come and see.'"

More than 40 pastors will join for the pastors' concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15, at Allen Chapel AME at 471 Lynam Road. There is no charge for admission, and the concert is suitable for all ages. To get to the church, take McCray's Mill Road toward Sumter High School; turn right on Lynam Road just before the school. Allen Chapel is on the right.

Debris contract expires; tap water an issue

BY ADRIENNE SARVIS
adrienne@theitem.com

After welcoming its newest member, District 1 Councilman Christopher Sumpter, the mood of Sumter County Council's first meeting of the year on Tuesday dropped as topics turned to expired debris pick up contracts and discolored tap water.

Sumter County Administrator Gary Mixon said the county chose to work with South Carolina Department of Transportation to bring in a contractor to pick up debris after the success of a similar agreement after the ice storm in February 2014.

Unfortunately, things did not go as smoothly after Hurricane Matthew in 2016, he said.

The contract with Crowder Gulf, the company contracted by DOT to pick up debris after the hurricane, ended on Jan. 4, even though there is

still debris along county, city and state roads, Mixon said. Crowder Gulf brought in State Tree of Sumter as a subcontractor for the project.

The majority of the remaining debris is on state roads where many county residents live, Mixon said.

He said the county has asked the state to continue with debris pick up but state officials replied that there are no other funds available to do so.

Vice Chairman Jimmy Byrd said that there are some county residents who requested debris pick right after the storm but still have not been helped.

Mixon said he does not think the subcontractor had enough resources to complete the job, and the county does not have the equipment or personnel to collect debris.

He said first estimates for debris pick up costs are about \$185,000 for the county.

Chairman James McCain asked if it is legally possible for the county to withhold payment until the job is complete, and Mixon replied that it is an option to discuss.

Later during public comment, two county residents expressed concerns about the state of the water they are receiving from the city.

Rosemary Stewart and Brianna Carter, both residents of Meadowcroft subdivision, said their city provided water is discolored and contains sediment.

Stewart said issues with the city's water seems to happen more frequently in the southwestern part of Sumter.

She said she has let a glass of water from the tap sit on the counter and later found "a quarter-of-an-inch of crud" at the bottom of the cup.

The city just sends people out to drain the fire hydrants, she said.

Carter said the discolored

water has also puts a strain on her wallet because she has to purchase bottled water for her family.

She said she also has to travel across town to bathe her children because she does not trust the discolored water at home. No one is 100 percent sure what is in the water, she said.

Both women said that city officials have known about the water issue for a long time because county residents have been complaining for more than a decade.

Carter said she and others in her area are looking for someone to advocate for them.

Councilwoman Vivian Fleming-McGhaney said she is willing to be a part of a solution for the water issue. She said that she uses a filter for her well water but residents should not have those kinds of issues with their city provided water.

3 arrested during undercover drug sting; 6 warrants served

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Sumter County Sheriff's Office arrested three people on Monday while conducting an undercover operation targeting illegal drug activity and served six arrest warrants. The investigation is ongoing.

Those arrested include:

Dontez Sentrell Isaac, 28, of 1415 Poole Road, charged with possession with intent to distribute marijuana, second offense, and distribution of marijuana, second offense; Jarvice Demarco Jennings, 22, of 76 B Somerset Drive, charged with possession with in-

tent to distribute marijuana and failure to stop for blue lights and siren, second offense; and Latroy Charon Gibbs, 37, of 18 Carrol Drive, charged with possession with intent to distribute marijuana. Gibbs also had outstanding family court and magistrate bench warrants.

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(803) 774-1200

Jack Osteen
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER / ADVERTISING
jack@theitem.com
(803) 774-1238

Rick Carpenter
MANAGING EDITOR
rick@theitem.com
(803) 774-1201

Jeff West
CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER
jeff@theitem.com
(803) 774-1259

Michele Barr
BUSINESS MANAGER
michele@theitem.com
(803) 774-1249

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'Rice Kings' will be topic at genealogical society meet

BY IVY MOORE
ivy@theitem.com

The next membership meeting of Sumter County Genealogical Society will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Swan Lake Presbyterian Church, 912 Haynsworth St. Speaker David Lucas' topic will be his recently released historical novel "The Rice Kings, Book Two."



LUCAS

In 2012, having written a book chronicling the history of his U.S. Supreme Court fight to protect private property rights in the '90s, Lucas began work on a memoir relating the story of his time as a student athlete at University of South Carolina. During his senior year, the Gamecocks won their only football conference title in school history in 1969. As a follow-up project, he has taken on the challenge of romanticizing the history of his forebears, starting in the year 1754.

His first novel, titled "The Rice Kings, Book One, The Beginning," chronicles the early life and training of Jonathan Lucas, a fourth great-grandfather. "The Rice Kings, Book Two, Charleston," brings the

story to America where Jonathan invented the rice mill. This invention allowed the South Carolina Lowcountry to become incredibly wealthy and produced a golden era for the region.

Lucas said "The second book ... covers more of the life story of Jonathan Lucas I, the genius inventor of the rice mill, beginning with his unexpected arrival by shipwreck in America. In addition to Jonathan's adventures, late 18th century South Carolina had many captivating and intriguing events to relay, some of which Jonathan was a part of."

"The more time I spent researching his life and the people he interacted with, the more interesting the story became. It was like peeling back the layers of an onion. As I began to write, I would become so curious about the history of a particular time, place or person that it was not uncommon for me to spend several days researching and reading, instead of writing."

Set in Antebellum Charleston, "The Rice Kings, Book Two" is a fictionalized account of the life of a real individual," Lucas said, ... (but) ... "I can assure you, most of the scenarios in this novel occurred to someone, in similar circumstances,

during this period of South Carolina history."

Born in Greensboro, North Carolina, Lucas grew up in Bishopville and lives close by today. He received a bachelor's degree in international studies from University of South Carolina, which he attended on a football scholarship. After a career as a real estate appraiser, Lucas formed his own real estate brokerage firm, later adding a home-building company and contractor for numerous developments, many along the S.C. coast.

In 1991, he established and was chairman of the National Council on Property Rights; a Washington, D.C.-based organization formed to promote the protection of private property from unconstitutional takings. Since 1991 he has been a speaker and consultant for numerous individuals and organizations in the property rights arena, including Heritage Foundation, Cato Institute, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Sierra Club, National Association of Home Builders, Florida Legislature, South Carolina Legislature, Institute for Justice, Southeastern Legal Foundation, The Federalist Society, The Jefferson Society, McGeorge Law School, Founda-

tion for Economic Freedom, National Cattleman's Association, United States Claims Court and several others.

Lucas has also been co-owner of a movie production company, for which he wrote several screenplays; distributor for green products and has had many other successful endeavors.

Lucas and his wife, the former Martha Black of Bamberg, have three children and six grandchildren. The Lucases reside at their family farm, Whitehaven Plantation, near Bishopville, where they breed Egyptian Arabian horses.

Sumter County Genealogical Society meets monthly from September through May. Visitors are welcome and encouraged to attend. Admission is free to the public and refreshments will be served following the presentation. Interested persons can join the society. Membership includes nine monthly newsletters during the year and free use of the Sumter County Genealogical Society Research Center. Annual dues are \$30 for an individual membership and \$35 for family. Call the Society Research Center for more information at (803) 774-3901.

POLICE BLOTTER

CHARGES

David Kennedy, 29, of 434 Robney Drive, was arrested on Wednesday and charged with criminal sexual conduct with a minor, third degree, for allegedly sexually assaulted a girl under the age of 10 years old on multiple occasions in 2016. According to a news release from Sumter Police Department, officers were notified of the alleged abuse by a social worker at the victim's school. The victim and a younger sister have been placed into emergency protective custody, according to the release. It was not stated how Kennedy and the victim were familiar with one another.

Kennedy was transported to Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center and was released on Wednesday after posting a \$7,500 surety bond.

Anthony R. Major, 27, of 240 Pearson Road, was arrested on Friday and charged with second degree domestic violence and unlawful carry of a firearm for allegedly hitting the mother of his children in the face and threatening her with a gun. According to an incident report from Sumter Police Department, the victim told officers that Major also dragged her out of bed and slammed her on the ground. A .40-caliber Heckler & Koch handgun and an

extended magazine was found on Major's person during a search. He was transported to Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center.

STOLEN PROPERTY

A gold Rolex Oyster Perpetual watch valued at \$6,000 was reportedly stolen from the victim while he was at a business in the 3200 block of Broad Street between 3 and 8 p.m. on Saturday.

An LG flat-screen Smart TV valued at \$1,500; an Amazon Fire TV Stick valued at \$100; and assorted DeWalt tools valued at \$500 were reportedly stolen from a residence in the 2200 block of Garrison Street between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday.

A black 9mm Walther handgun valued at \$500; a white Apple iMac desktop com-

puter valued at \$1,400; and a silver Apple laptop valued at \$200 were reportedly stolen from a residence in the 500 block of East Brewington Road about 10:30 a.m. on Sunday.

A black 1999 Honda Accord valued at \$5,500 was reportedly stolen while it was parked at a hotel in the

4200 block of Broad Street about 10:25 a.m. on Sunday.

A silver .380-caliber Cobra handgun with a satin finish and a pink grip valued at \$165 was reportedly stolen from a vehicle while it was parked in the 1200 block of North Main Street between 7 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. on Sunday.

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L to R: F. Roosevelt Gilliam III, MD; Thomas W. Schultz, DO; and W. Strat Stavrou, MD

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Gov. Haley's last budget proposes more tax cuts

COLUMBIA (AP) — South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley launched the legislative session Tuesday by again asking legislators to cut taxes.

Haley's roughly \$8 billion proposal for state taxes, expected to be her sixth and final executive budget, calls for cutting both income and corporate taxes during the next decade.



Her proposed phase-in would reduce revenue coming into state coffers by \$89 million in 2017-18.

The cuts "will spur growth across the state and lead to even more jobs for the people of South Carolina," Haley wrote in her budget letter, released ahead of the session gaveling in.

Legislators have rejected her previous proposals, arguing that they would force cuts to essential services.

Once fully phased in, her goal of cutting income taxes by 1 percentage point across all tax brackets would reduce revenue by \$950 million annually, while cutting corporate taxes in half — to 2.5 percent — would reduce revenue by \$194 million — for a total of more than \$1.1 billion a year.

Legislators called it a non-starter in the road-funding debate. Once again, fixing South Carolina's roads is at the top of legislators' agenda.

Haley isn't making any road-funding suggestions this year. Instead, she insists legislators first need to change the Department of Transportation's governance model to give the governor complete oversight. Haley criticized last year's "so-called reform," which has the governor appointing DOT commissioners approved by legislators, as preserving the status quo.

But she's not expected to remain governor much longer to fight for any proposal outlined in her budget.

The Republican governor will appear before U.S. senators next week as they consider confirming her as President-elect Donald Trump's pick for United Nations ambassador. It's unclear whether her would-be successor, Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster, would continue Haley's policy positions — or to what extent.

Also on opening day, a bipartisan group of legislators touted the latest proposal legalizing medical use of marijuana, indicating support for the previously rejected idea is growing in the GOP-controlled Legislature.

Supporters said it's time for

politicians to allow people who are seriously ill or suffering from chronic pain to benefit from a plant that is a far better option than additive prescription opioids.

Law enforcement officials have opposed previous bills, saying marijuana supposedly for medical use would instead be used socially.

The session begins amid uncertainty over who else may face corruption charges.

After last month's 30-count indictment of GOP Rep. Jim Merrill, prosecutor David Pascoe has made clear his investigation into Statehouse corruption continues.

Merrill, majority leader from 2004 to 2008, is accused of illegally profiting from his position. The 16-year veteran was suspended from the House after the indictments announced Dec. 14. He adamantly denies doing anything illegal.

DOT seeks comments on bridge replacements

Public has until end of January

FROM STAFF REPORTS

South Carolina Department of Transportation is providing public notification of schedule updates for previously approved bridge replacement projects.

The bridges were initially approved by the SCDOT Commission for inclusion in the State Transportation Improvement Program to initiate engineering design and environmental studies.

As a result of additional state funding, a complete project delivery schedule, including right-of-way acquisition and construction work phases, is included.

The projects include replacing 44 structurally deficient bridges on the Interstate/National Highway System in 24 counties and that have been identified as candidates for replacement based on statewide ranking criteria.

Three bridges in Sumter County are included in the bridges scheduled for preliminary engineering and design in fiscal year 2017, acquisition of right of way in 2011 and construction in 2022.

Those bridges are: U.S. 76 at the Wateree River, U.S. 76 Bypass at U.S. 76 Business and U.S. 76 Bypass at U.S. 15.

A hard copy of the DOT press release seeking comment and supporting information is available for public review and comment at the Santee Lynches Council of Governments, 2525 Corporate Way, Suite 200, Sumter.

Pending consideration of public comments, the updated project schedule information will be reflected in the STIP.

To comment, visit http://www.scdot.org/inside/public_comment.aspx, send written comments to Vivian Patterson, 955 Park St., P.O. Box 191, Columbia, SC 29202, or email pattersonvm@scdot.org.

Submitted comments, including name and address, are subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

Comments will be accepted until the close of business on Monday, Jan. 30.

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Legislators expecting to deal with familiar issues

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

State Sen. Thomas McElveen, D-Sumter, who will get some statewide exposure this evening when he gives the Democratic response to Gov. Nikki Haley's State of the State Address, said he is unsure what to expect in the General Assembly, and especially the South Carolina Senate this year.

"We know what the challenges are," he said. "We have been kicking a lot of things down the road."

With Haley's appointment as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations by President-elect Donald Trump, Lt. Gov. Henry McMaster, who presides over the Senate, will likely become governor, McElveen noted.

How a new governor and a new president of the Senate affects legislation is unclear, he said, but a lot of legislators are optimistic McMaster will be more willing to cooperate with the General Assembly.

"In the last few years, the governor's State of the State Address has sort of taken the wind out of our sails," he said.

McElveen pointed out that McMaster does not have an agenda beyond being governor of South Carolina, and he hopes that McMaster will focus more effort on local government.

For his part, McElveen said he will continue to seek bipartisan agreements to solve some of the state's problems. "We will need some help on that," he said.

Sen. Kevin Johnson, D-Manning, says roads will again be a priority, as well as shoring up the state's pension program and improving public education.

Johnson said he would again file a bill to charge a toll on the Interstate 95 bridge over Lake Marion.

"There is a lot of talk about a gas tax, but I think we have to look at other ways of funding our roads," he said.

Johnson said the state also needs to find a way to fund some improvements at the state's colleges and universities, as well as some buildings that house state agencies.

Johnson said that since it is not an election year, he hopes members of the General Assembly will be able to make some tough decisions.

"We can't keep making excuses why we are not getting things done," he said.

"They are old, and they look old," he added.

He also said the National Guard building needs to be upgraded.

Rep. David Weeks said the agenda this year will probably include pension reform, the

road issue and trying to pass a budget.

"I think those will be the major things that we will be looking at this year," he said.

Weeks said the local delegation has not laid out an agenda for the year because members are waiting for budget estimates.

"We do have some desire to make sure we maintain the no-encroachment areas around Shaw Air Force Base," he said.

"We'll see if we can get some funding for that in case there is another round of base closings."

He said the delegation will also speak to city and county government to get an idea of what its needs are.

"I think the budget matters will be our first thing," Weeks said.

Weeks said he was "happy to announce" Rep. Murrell Smith Jr., R-Sumter, will be the new chairman of the local delegation, starting this month.

Though an informal position, the delegation chairman coordinates activities of the delegation and acts as spokesman for the delegation, Weeks said.

"We are committed to maintaining our team and feel pretty good about it," Weeks added.

Weeks said the delegation will welcome newly elected Rep. Will Wheeler, D-Bishopville, who now represents District 50 in Lee County, northern Sumter County and a part of Kershaw County.

"We are looking forward to getting him oriented to the real deal, and I think he will make a fine legislator," Weeks said.

Smith and Wheeler were unavailable for comment.

Sen. McElveen to deliver Democratic response to State of the State Address

BY JIM HILLEY
jim@theitem.com

The South Carolina Senate Democratic Caucus announced Tuesday that Sen.

Thomas McElveen, D-Sumter, will deliver the Democratic response to the 2017 State of the State Address scheduled to be delivered by Gov. Nikki Haley at 7 p.m. today.

McElveen's address will immediately follow the governor's address and will be carried live on ETV, said Antjuan Seawright, consultant to the Senate Democratic Caucus.

"I think it is imperative that the people of South Carolina understand the tremendous challenges we face moving forward,"

McElveen said. "We have many issues in our state that require immediate attention, and

South Carolina Democrats have been talking about these issues for quite some time now.

"We also understand, it is going to take a bipartisan effort and collaboration from the executive branch in order to address these issues going forward."

"I am looking forward to discussing these challenges tomorrow night," McElveen added.

McElveen is beginning his second four-year term in the South Carolina Senate representing Senate District 35, covering parts of Sumter, Lee, Kershaw and Richland counties.

Seawright said McElveen was chosen because of his willingness to look past partisan issues to seek solutions to issues affecting South Carolinians.

"His service has been one of bipartisanship and bringing people together to focus on South Carolina's problems," Seawright said.



MCELVEEN

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MEDAL FROM PAGE A1

in the United States.

Also during Sunday's service, Guglielmone will bestow, on behalf of Pope Francis, several other honors. They include:

ORDER OF ST. GREGORY

- Knight of St. Gregory — The Honorable Joseph P. Riley Jr, former Mayor of the City of Charleston; and

- Dame of St. Gregory — The Honorable Jean Hoefler Toal, Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court (retired).

CHAPLAIN OF HIS HOLINESS

- The Reverend James Le Blanc, pastor of St. Andrew's Parish and vicar for Family Life, with the title of Reverend Monsignor.

THE PRO ECCLESIA ET PONTIFICE CROSS

- Reverend Nicholas Capetola, CRM, retired pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Goose Creek;
- Sister Pamela Smith, SS.C.M., Diocesan Secretary for Education; and
- Deacon Andre' Guillet, Diocesan Director of the Diaconate.

BENEMERENTI MEDAL

- Mrs. Kathy Schmugge — Diocesan Director of the Office of Family Life.

Bishop Guglielmone said Riley and Toal are receiving the honor because of their contributions to the community: "Their numerous years of public service have played a positive role in the evolution of our state. Both have been instrumental in inspiring and leading the residents of South Carolina."

CLEMSON FROM PAGE A1

would have it, sitting by a friend from Clemson. It had only been two decades since we had spent much time together, but it was like riding a bike.

There was a fair amount of anxiety on the Clemson side for most of the game. We didn't take the lead until late in the game and the last two minutes crawled by. It was all worth it, and I am not ashamed to say I got a little verklempt listening to Dabo speak to the fans with the trophy in his hand. The waterworks started for everyone when we sang the Clemson Alma Mater. What a night!

After the game, the travel team joined the football team at the Grand Hyatt along with several thousand of our closest friends. The mood was amazing. When Dabo entered the lobby, the crowd

went crazy with applause. James was elated. It was a good moment for his parents, too, and it was a fitting end to a great several days. The celebration broke up about 3:30 a.m. and we headed back across the causeway to get a couple — seriously — hours of sleep.

I appreciate the opportunity to write for *The Sumter Item* while in Tampa. It has given me the opportunity to reflect on the experience and really soak it all in. I am writing again from the shotgun of the XL SUV headed north on Interstate 75. The trip home is not so daunting with the Natty trophy headed to Tiger Town. Clemson let "the light inside" shine last night and today the Clemson flag is flying on the top of the mountain. Oh, and we aren't a fraud.

BOARD FROM PAGE A1

school districts that had financial problems or whose staff lacked experience to properly deal with district finances.

His agency specializes in district financial turnarounds. According to his resume, Allan's most-recent turnaround has been Hampton County School District 2. In July 2014, the district found itself in a position where it was unable to pay a tax anticipation note that was due unless it didn't meet payroll and accounts payable requirements. Hampton County and another financial entity agreed to provide the district \$2 million in funding, but the school board had to sign an agreement, giving all fiscal

authority to the county, and by proxy, a financial consultant. Allan's firm was hired for the consultant position. According to his resume, Hampton District 2 is now financially secure.

School Support has also provided financial consulting services to Spartanburg County School District 7, Greenwood County School District 50 and Clarendon County School District 1 in Summerton, among others.

Before founding School Support, Allan served as deputy superintendent of finance and operations for Fairfield County School District and Director of Finance for Rock Hill School District Three, among other positions in the school finance field.

He started his work with the district on Tuesday.

According to the school board's public statement

Monday night, it anticipates Allan's consulting services will extend through the spring of this year.

In other business, the school board announced it will meet next on Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in a special called meeting at the district office, 1345 Wilson Hall Road. Since it's not a regular board meeting, public participation is not on the agenda.

Efforts to reach Baker on how many days per week on average that Allen will work with the district were unsuccessful Tuesday afternoon.

Allen interviewed with the board for the consultant position last week during another special called meeting of the board. The other candidate who interviewed for the position was Robert "Bob" Davis of Robert E. Davis LLC Consulting Services.

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COMMENTARY

The black community and violent crime

The FBI reported that the total number of homicides in 2015 was 15,696. Blacks were about 52 percent of homicide victims. That means about 8,100 black lives were ended violently, and over 90 percent of the time, the perpetrator was another black. Listening to the news media and the Black Lives Matter movement, one would think that black deaths at the hands of police are the major problem. It turns out that in 2015, police across the nation shot and killed 986 people. Of that number, 495 were white (50 percent), 258 were black (26 percent) and 172 Hispanic (17 percent). A study of 2,699 fatal police killings between 2013 and 2015, conducted by John R. Lott Jr. and Carlisle E. Moody of the Crime Prevention Research Center, demonstrates that the odds of a black suspect's being killed by a black police officer were consistently greater than a black suspect's getting killed by a white officer. Politicians, race hustlers and the news media keep such studies under wraps because these studies don't help their narrative about racist cops.

The homicide victim is not the only victim, whether he is a criminal or not, for there are mourning loved ones. No one ever fully recovers from having a son, daughter, husband, mother or father murdered. Murder is not the only crime that takes a heavy toll on the black community. Blacks are disproportionately represented as victims in every category of violent crime — e.g., forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault.

Today's level of lawlessness and insecurity in many black communities is a relatively new phenomenon. In the 1930s, '40s and '50s, people didn't bar their windows. Doors were often left unlocked. People didn't go to bed with the sounds of gunshots. What changed everything was the liberal vision that blamed crime on poverty and racial discrimination. Academic liberals and hustling politicians told us that to deal with crime, we had to deal with those "root causes." Plus, courts began granting criminals new rights that caused murder and other violent crime rates to skyrocket. The liberals' argument ignores the fact that there was far greater civility in black neighborhoods



Walter Williams

at a time when there was far greater poverty and discrimination. The presence of criminals, having driven many businesses out, forces residents to bear the costs of shopping outside their neighborhoods. Fearing robberies, taxi drivers — including black drivers — often refuse to do home pickups in black neighborhoods and frequently pass up black customers hailing them. Plus, there's the insult associated with not being able to receive pizza or other deliveries on the same terms as people in other neighborhoods.

In low-crime neighborhoods, FedEx, UPS and other delivery companies routinely leave packages that contain valuable merchandise on a doorstep if no one is at home. That saves the expense of redelivery or recipients from having to go pick up the packages. In low-crime communities, supermarket managers may leave plants, fertilizer and other home and garden items outdoors, often unattended and overnight. They display merchandise at entryways and exits. Where there is less honesty, supermarkets cannot use all the space that they lease, and hence they are less profitable. In high-crime neighborhoods, delivery companies leaving packages at the door and supermarkets leaving goods outside unattended would be equivalent to economic suicide.

Politicians who call for law and order are often viewed negatively, but poor people are the most dependent on law and order. In the face of high crime or social disorder, wealthier people can afford to purchase alarm systems, buy guard dogs, hire guards and, if things get too bad, move to a gated community. These options are not available to poor people. The only protection they have is an orderly society.

Ultimately, the solution to high crime rests with black people. Given the current political environment, it doesn't pay a black or white politician to take those steps necessary to crack down on lawlessness in black communities.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. © 2017 creators.com



COMMENTARY

Why Oregon's election system could be a model for South Carolina

Oregon's system of Vote By Mail offers a model that for South Carolina would save millions of dollars to buy new voting machines, avoid long lines for voting and ensure total security for elections results.



Jack Bass

It is used for all elections: federal, state and local, whether primary, general or special, and has been in operation for roughly 25 years. One result is increased voter participation by working parents and senior citizens. The system makes voter fraud virtually impossible, and research has shown that the system favors neither party.

The idea originated with Oregon county elections officials and has fully met their goals of substantially saving money and increasing voter participation. Vote By Mail has been adopted in whole or part by three western states, and South Carolina could become a leader in showing it works in the South.

Twenty days before each

election, ballots are mailed by county election officials to the address as registered by each voter. Each ballot is customized to the address/precinct so that they are voting only on the federal, state and local elections for their precinct. Any registered voter who doesn't receive a ballot in the mail for some reason, or loses one, can go to the elections office and get one.

Ballot integrity is ensured by the voter signing the return envelope on the outside and the elections officials visually matching that signature to the signature on file with the voter's registration. The ballot itself is in a separate inside envelope. Once the signatures are matched, the inside envelope is separated from the outside one and the ballot scanned electronically to record it, which ensures both voter privacy and a secret ballot by each voter.

To ensure the integrity of the election, the system also provides a paper record of every vote, which can be recounted by hand if a recount is needed.

Every household in the state also receives by mail a voters pamphlet with a concise biography and party identification of each candidate. Voters can refer to it while filling out their bal-

lot, which means they can vote at their own pace in the privacy of their homes during the three weeks before the election. Typically, the ballots are received before the last week.

Starting one week before the election, county elections officials begin counting ballots, using optical scanners, with results electronically recorded in the statewide voter database. This allows candidates, political parties and the media to monitor turnout as it unfolds.

This process means that early voters aren't bothered by robo-calls and mailers and knocking on the doors by canvassers because they are known to have already voted. It also means that candidates and their political party can focus on those who haven't yet voted. No elections results are released until the polls close on the day of the election.

Dr. Jack Bass is professor of humanities and social sciences emeritus at the college of Charleston, author or co-author of eight books that include The Palmetto State published by USC Press, and in his first career as a reporter, he covered South Carolina politics while based in Columbia.

Trump should give the Iran nuclear deal a chance to work

Though every Republican in Congress voted against the Iran nuclear deal, "Tearing it up ... is not going to happen," says Sen. Bob Corker, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

Hopefully, the chairman speaks for the president-elect.

During the campaign, Donald Trump indicated as much, saying that, though the U.S. got jobbed in the negotiations, he might not walk away.

To Trump, a deal's a deal, even a bad one. And we did get taken.

In 2007 and 2011, all 17 U.S. intelligence agencies assured us, "with high confidence," that Iran did not have an atomic bomb program.

Yet our folks forked over \$50 billion for an Iranian show and tell to prove they were not doing what our 17 intelligence agencies told us, again and again, they were not doing.

Why did we disbelieve our own intelligence, and buy into the "Chicken Little" chatter about Iran being "only months away from a bomb"?

Under the deal, Iran has put two-thirds of the 19,000 centrifuges at Na-

COMMENTARY



Pat Buchanan

are all over the place.

Even should Iran decide on a crash program to create enough fissile material for a single A-bomb test, this would take a year, and we would know about it.

But why would they? After all, there are sound reasons of state why Iran decided over a decade ago to forego nuclear weapons.

If, however, in the absence of a violation of the treaty by Iran, we tore up the deal, we could find ourselves isolated. For Britain, France and Germany also signed, and they believe the

agreement is a good one.

Do we really want to force these NATO allies to choose between the deal they agreed to and a break with the United States?

Also at issue is the deal signed by Boeing to sell Iran 80 jetliners. Airbus has contracted to sell Iran 100 planes, and begun delivery. List price for the two deals: \$34.5 billion. Tens of thousands of U.S. jobs are at stake.

The Ayatollah's regime may define itself by its hatred of the Great Satan. Still, in 2009, even our War Party was urging President Obama to publicly back the Green Movement uprising against the disputed victory of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

In 2013, moderates voted Hassan Rouhani into the presidency, where he began secret negotiations with the USA.

New elections will be held this year. And while the death of ex-President Rafsanjani this weekend has removed the powerful patron of Rouhani and strengthened the hardliners, Ayatollah Khamenei is suffering from cancer, and the nation's

future remains undetermined.

Iran's young seek to engage with the West. But if they are spurned, by the cancellation of the Boeing deal and the reimposition of U.S. sanctions, they will be disillusioned and discredited, and the mullahs will own the future.

How would that serve U.S. interests? We still have sanctions on Iran for its missile tests in violation of Security Council resolutions, for its human rights violations, and for its support of groups like Hezbollah. But we also have in common with Iran an enmity for the Sunni terrorists of al-Qaida and ISIS.

We are today fighting in Libya, Yemen, Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, as the War Party works to confront Beijing in the South China Sea, Russia in Ukraine and North Korea over its nuclear and missile tests.

Could we perhaps put the confrontation with Iran on hold?

Patrick J. Buchanan is the author of the new book "The Greatest Comeback: How Richard Nixon Rose From Defeat to Create the New Majority." © 2017 creators.com

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AA — Monday-Friday, noon and 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.

AA Women's Meeting — Wednesdays, 7 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.

AA Spanish Speaking — Sundays, 4:30 p.m., 1 Warren St. (803) 775-1852.

AA "How it Works" Group — Mondays and Fridays, 8 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. Call (803) 494-5180.

441 AA Support Group — Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, 8:30 p.m., Hair Force, 2090-D S.C. 441.

AA Summerton Group — Wednesday, 8 p.m., town hall.

Manning Al-Anon Family Group — Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Behavioral Health Building, 14 Church St., Manning. Call (803) 435-8085.

C/A "Drop the Rock" Group — Thursdays, 9:30 p.m., 1154 Ronda St. Call (803) 607-4543.

MONDAY MEETINGS:

Sumter Vitiligo Support Group — Second Monday, 5:45-6:45 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. Call (803) 316-6763. The group is also on Facebook.

TUESDAY MEETINGS:

Heroin Anonymous — Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 p.m., 4742 Broad St. Call (803) 494-5180.

Sumter Connective Tissue Support Group — First Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November, 7 p.m., 180 Tiller Circle. Call (803) 773-0869.

Mothers of Angels (for mothers who have lost a child) — First Tuesday at noon and third Tuesday at 6 p.m., Wise Drive Baptist Church. Call (803) 469-6059, (803) 979-4498, (803) 469-4506 or (803) 938-8544.

Sumter Combat Veterans Group Peer to Peer — Tuesdays, 11 a.m., South HOPE Center, 1125 S. Lafayette Drive. Veterans helping veterans with PTSD, coping skills, claims and benefits.

"The Gathering" — Second Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., North HOPE Center, 904 N. Main St. A community support group for teens and adults with special needs. Call (803) 972-0051 or (803) 468-5745 or email thegathering23@aol.com.

Parkinson's Support Group — Second Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Carolinas Rehabilitation Hospital, 121 E. Cedar St., Florence. Call (843) 661-3746.

Sumter Amputee Support Group — Second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Sumter Prosthetics & Orthotics, 259 Broad St. Call (803) 883-4356.

Sumter Chapter Parents of Murdered Children (POMC) — Third

Tuesday, 5:30-7 p.m., Birnie HOPE Center, 210 S. Purdy St. Open to anyone who has lost a loved one to murder in a violent way.

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group — Third Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., Carolinas Rehabilitation Hospital, 121 E. Cedar St., Florence. Call (843) 661-3746.

EFMP Parent Exchange Group — Last Tuesday, 11 a.m.-noon, Airman and Family Readiness Center. Support to service members who have a dependent with a disability or illness. Call (803) 895-1252/1253 or (803) 847-2377.

WEDNESDAY MEETINGS:

Sickle Cell Support Group — Last Wednesday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., South Sumter Resource Center, 337 Manning Ave. Call (803) 774-6181.

Divorce Care — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

Grief Share — Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Bethel Baptist Church, 2401 Bethel Church Road. Call (803) 481-2160.

THURSDAY MEETINGS:

TOPS S.C. No. 236 (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) — Thursdays, 9 a.m., Spectrum Senior Center, 1989 Durant Lane. Call (803) 775-3926 or (803) 469-4789.

Alzheimer's Support Group through S.C. Alzheimer's Association — First Thursday, 6-8 p.m., National Health Care, 1018 N. Guignard Drive. Call (803) 905-7720 or the Alzheimer's Association at (800) 636-3346.

Journey of Hope (for family members of the mentally ill), Journey to Recovery (for the mentally ill) and Survivors of Suicide Support Group — Each group meets every first Thursday, 7 p.m., St. John United Methodist Church, 136 Poinsett Drive. Call (803) 905-5620.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group — Fourth Thursday each month, 10-11:30 a.m., Palmetto Health Tuomey Hospice, 500 Pinewood Road, Suite 2. Call (803) 773-4663.

FRIDAY MEETINGS:

Celebrate Recovery — Fridays, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. program, Salt & Light Church, Miller Road (across from Food Lion). For struggles of alcohol, drugs, family problems, smoking, etc.

Wateree AIDS Task Force Support Group — Third Friday, 11:30 a.m., 508 W. Liberty St. Call (803) 778-0303.

SATURDAY MEETINGS:

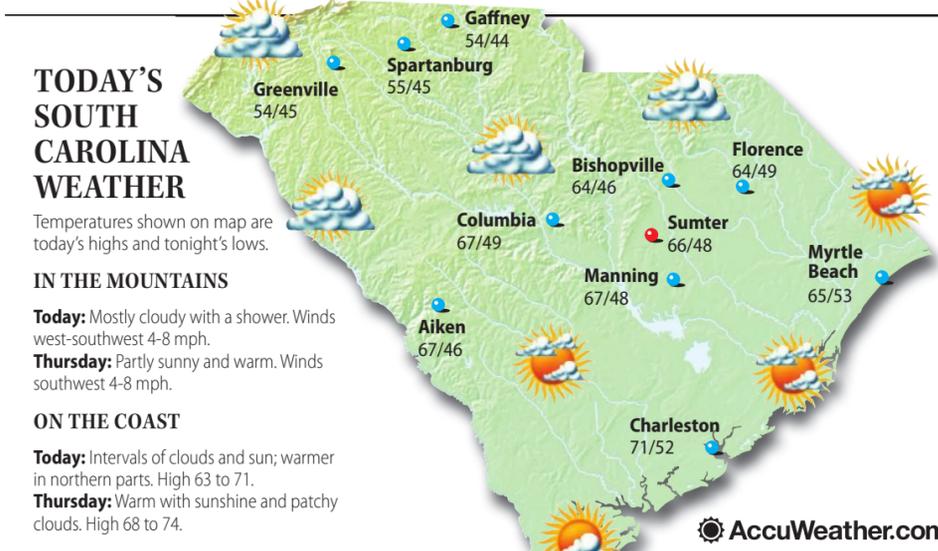
Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy/Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Support Group — Third Saturday, 1:30 p.m., 3785 Blackberry Lane, Lot 7. Call (803) 481-7521.

WEATHER

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

AccuWeather® five-day forecast for Sumter

TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
66°	48°	72° / 48°	73° / 48°	60° / 43°	68° / 47°
Chance of rain: 15%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 5%	Chance of rain: 10%	Chance of rain: 10%
S 4-8 mph	S 3-6 mph	SW 4-8 mph	WSW 4-8 mph	NE 6-12 mph	NNE 3-6 mph



LOCAL ALMANAC

SUMTER THROUGH 4 P.M. YESTERDAY

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Record high	Record low
59°	59°	23°	54°	32°	78° in 1949	8° in 1970

Precipitation	24 hrs ending 4 p.m. yest.	Month to date	Normal month to date	Year to date	Last year to date	Normal year to date
trace	3.21"	1.30"	1.30"	3.21"	0.08"	1.30"

LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Full pool	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Murray	360	355.91	+0.05
Marion	76.8	74.15	-0.11
Moultrie	75.5	73.74	+0.01
Wateree	100	98.39	-0.21

RIVER STAGES

River	Flood stage	7 a.m. yest.	24-hr chg
Black River	12	10.91	+0.68
Congaree River	19	4.00	none
Lynches River	14	10.92	+0.21
Saluda River	14	3.26	-0.81
Up. Santee River	80	78.18	-0.21
Wateree River	24	7.27	-2.79

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	7:28 a.m.	Sunset	5:32 p.m.
Moonrise	5:04 p.m.	Moonset	6:23 a.m.
Full	Jan. 12	Last	Jan. 19
New	Jan. 27	First	Feb. 3

TIDES

AT MYRTLE BEACH	High	Ht.	Low	Ht.
Today	7:50 a.m.	3.6	2:05 a.m.	-1.0
	8:15 p.m.	3.0	2:53 p.m.	-0.6
Thu.	8:43 a.m.	3.6	2:59 a.m.	-1.1
	9:08 p.m.	3.0	3:44 p.m.	-0.7

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.
Atlanta	66/50/c	69/52/pc
Chicago	42/25/c	30/12/sn
Dallas	78/62/pc	77/60/pc
Detroit	44/39/sh	39/21/r
Houston	79/65/pc	78/64/c
Los Angeles	63/52/r	57/45/r
New Orleans	75/62/pc	76/61/pc
New York	51/45/pc	58/44/r
Oriando	75/55/pc	79/59/s
Philadelphia	50/42/pc	61/46/c
Phoenix	66/49/pc	66/51/c
San Francisco	56/46/sh	52/41/pc
Wash., DC	51/45/c	64/49/c

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Thu.	City	Today	Thu.
Asheville	53/48/c	62/44/pc	Florence	64/49/c	72/50/s
Athens	64/47/c	69/48/pc	Gainesville	74/50/pc	78/53/s
Augusta	71/50/c	75/48/s	Gastonia	54/47/r	64/50/s
Beaufort	71/51/pc	74/50/s	Greenville	54/48/c	67/50/s
Cape Hatteras	59/54/c	64/55/s	Hickory	49/43/c	60/46/pc
Charleston	71/52/pc	75/51/s	Hilton Head	69/53/pc	73/53/s
Charlotte	54/47/sh	65/51/s	Jacksonville, FL	73/50/s	75/52/s
Clemson	57/47/c	66/50/pc	La Grange	69/48/c	71/48/pc
Columbia	67/49/c	72/50/s	Macon	71/49/pc	74/48/s
Darlington	62/46/c	68/46/s	Marietta	63/49/c	67/50/pc
Elizabeth City	55/47/c	65/51/s			
Elizabethtown	63/48/c	70/48/sh			
Fayetteville	55/48/c	70/50/s			

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

PUBLIC AGENDA

SUMTER COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION / ELECTION COMMISSION
Thursday, 5:30 p.m., registration / election office, 141 N. Main St.

The last word in astrology

EUGENIA LAST

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't share personal information

about finances or professional goals. Make any adjustments to your qualifications or skills quietly. Patience will pay off when you're ready to present what you have to offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Ask questions, show interest and share your ideas with people who have more experience than you, and you'll discover the best way to proceed with plans. Get involved, sign up for something you believe in and make a difference.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Moderation and setting guidelines regarding what you will and won't do will be necessary. Deal with demanding people by choosing to do your own thing. Don't be a follower when you should be the one who is leading the way.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Open up, share your emotions and explore possibilities with someone you enjoy spending time with. Refreshing your appearance to fit current trends will result in compliments. Stick to a budget. Avoid impulse purchases.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Dealing with institutions or colleagues will require finesse and preparation. Get your facts straight and make your presentation fail-proof. You can make a difference or bring about helpful changes if you're astute.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): What you do for others will make a difference when you need something in return. Make this a day of listening and talking and you'll build stronger relationships. Share your thoughts, feelings and plans for the future with

someone you love.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Do what's expected of you and keep a low profile. If you can put up with someone's disgruntled attitude, you'll be able to take care of some of the things that matter to both of you. Be mindful rather than critical.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Home improvements, investments and personal gains can all be made if you stay focused on your dreams and put forth a solid effort. Your tenacity and enthusiasm will help you convince others to support your goals. A commitment can be made.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make a point to relay information directly. Sticking to the facts will help you clear up an emotional situation that has left you in an awkward position. Evading personal situations will only make matters worse. Be honest and move forward.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stay focused on the things you enjoy doing most and you'll find a way to incorporate your desires into the way you earn your living. A small step forward will far outweigh making an impulsive move. Love is on the rise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't be too eager to share personal information. Emotions will be difficult to control if a money matter arises due to someone's foolish spending. Look for alternative ways to cut your overhead in order to save for something special.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): It's what you do that will make a difference. Take action and follow through with plans. Updating your look to fit the current trends will grab positive attention from your peers as well as someone you love.

SUMTER ANIMAL CONTROL PET OF THE WEEK



Barclay is a small 14 pound gentleman who is believed to be between 1 and 2 years of age. Although he is frightened in the shelter, he allows petting and cuddles. Barclay is a prince and, once he feels secure, we are sure he will assume his rightful place on the throne in your home. Barclay is waiting for you in kennel 27 at Sumter Animal Control, 1240 Winkles Road, (803) 436-2066. Thank you for considering a homeless pet. Don't forget to check with Sumter Animal Control for lost / found pets.

HAVE YOU TAKEN PICTURES OF INTERESTING, EXCITING, BEAUTIFUL OR HISTORICAL PLACES? Would you like to share those images with your fellow *Sumter Item* readers? E-mail your hi-resolution jpegs to sandra@theitem.com, or mail to Sandra Holbert c/o *The Sumter Item*, P.O. Box 1677, Sumter, SC 29150. Include clearly printed or typed name of photographer and photo details. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for return of your photo. Amateur photographers only please. Photos of poor reproduction quality may not publish. With the exception of pictures that are of a timely nature, submitted photos will publish in the order in which they are received.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Local Clemson fans rejoice over title

BY JUSTIN DRIGGERS
justin@theitem.com

When Jalen Hurts scored the go-ahead touchdown with just over two minutes to go, Teri Hurst's husband wasn't worried, she said. "He told me they were going to pull it off and they did," Hurst said of Clemson's 35-31 victory over Alabama in Monday's College Football Playoff national championship game. "We watched the game last year and it was disappointing, but this year we just felt like

they were going to pull it out. "All you heard this year was 'Alabama.' So to win like that was pretty satisfying."

Not everyone was so sure as the Tigers needed a last-second touchdown throw from quarterback Deshaun Watson to wide receiver Hunter Renfrow to pull out the victory.

"I had doubts that they were going to pull it out, but they did it," Thomas Sumter Academy's Scott Spivey said. "It felt pretty great, being able to come back and beat

(Alabama) like that. It was really cool."

Joy and satisfaction are likely the two predominant words that come to mind for Clemson fans the day after their team captured the school's second national title.

It was especially rewarding for not only the dramatic finish, but the measure of redemption gained against the team that beat them in the championship game last year, Susan Elmore said.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Clemson players celebrate after beating Alabama 35-31 in the College Football Playoff championship game on Monday in Tampa, Fla.

SEE FANS, PAGE B4

Tigers prove Swinney to be correct

Dabo Swinney steadfastly said throughout the college football season that his Clemson players were "winners" when inquiries were made about the Tigers' ability to pull victories out of the fire on numerous occasions. Some would call it hyperbole on Swinney's part; as talented as Clemson was many would argue there was some luck involved in some of those late-game rallies.



Dennis Brunson
COLUMNIST

However, on Monday in the College Football Playoff national championship game against Alabama, there was no room for debate. The Tigers proved themselves to be the winners Swinney consistently declared them to be with their 35-31 victory.

While that last drive that ended with wide receiver Hunter Renfrow catching a 2-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Deshaun Watson with one second left in the game to give Clemson the victory will likely stand the test of time as the greatest play in Clemson history, the entire second half was a testament to the Tigers doing what was necessary to eventually avenge last season's loss to the Crimson Tide in the national championship game.

Alabama led 14-7 at halftime, and when Watson couldn't corral an errant snap on the opening possession of the second half and the Tide's Ryan Anderson picked it up and appeared ready to run into the end zone, Renfrow made a tremendous tackle, stopping him at the Tiger 16-yard line. The defense held and 'Bama had to settle for a field goal and a 17-7 lead.

SEE TIGERS, PAGE B3

Triumphant return

Clemson fans turn out to welcome national champions



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Clemson wide receiver Hunter Renfrow catches the winning touchdown pass with one second left in front of Alabama cornerback Tony Brown during the Tigers' 35-31 victory in the College Football Playoff national championship game on Monday in Tampa, Fla.

BY PETE IACOBELLI
The Associated Press

CLEMSON — About 6,000 Clemson fans turned out Tuesday to welcome their national champion Tigers, capping a giddy day of celebration after their team toppled Alabama.

People screamed as the buses pulled up, calling out "DE-SHAUN" over and over as Tigers' star quarterback Deshaun Watson walked with his

luggage and national championship hat into Clemson's football building.

"This means a lot," said receiver Mike Williams, who like Watson will forego his final year in college and enter the NFL draft.

And what a way to leave. Watson accounted for 463 yards and four touchdowns in the 35-31 win over the top-ranked and seemingly unbeatable Crimson Tide. Watson's final college pass was a 2-yard throw to Hunter

Renfrow for the game-winning score with a second left.

Watson walked to the crowd, which was kept behind metal barriers, to sign a few autographs and share a few hugs before heading off. Clemson fans will get one more chance to see Watson and the rest of the Tigers on Saturday during a parade through town that will end inside Clemson's Death Valley.

SEE RETURN, PAGE B3

Thomas Sumter Academy senior Bree Stoddard (20) looks to shoot while being guarded by Laurence Manning Academy's Cora Lee Downer (5) and Brooke Bennett (23) during the Lady Generals' 55-38 victory on Tuesday at Edens Gymnasium in Dalzell. Stoddard finished with 28 points to reach 1,000 for her career.



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Stoddard achieves career milestone in Lady Generals' 55-38 victory over LMA

BY JUSTIN DRIGGERS
justin@theitem.com

DALZELL — Bree Stoddard knew she was getting close to a career milestone when her friends in the stands kept telling her to shoot.

She knew she was really close when head coach B.J. Reed inserted her back into the game moments after tweaking her back — a nagging injury she's been dealing with.

"She's usually kind of scared of putting me right back in, so I knew I was close," Stoddard said. "It was pretty surreal. I didn't think I would get it tonight. "I thought I needed a few

more games."

No more games necessary. The Thomas Sumter Academy senior standout and North Greenville University signee scored 22 points in the first half and finished with 28 — her last two giving her 1,000 career varsity points as the Lady Generals defeated Laurence Manning Academy 55-38 on Tuesday at Edens Gymnasium.

"It was really exciting and a really special moment," Stoddard said. "Especially when all of your friends and family are here to celebrate with you."

Stoddard's jumper with just over a minute left in the game sent the TSA half of the gym

into a frenzy as time was called and Reed said a few words and presented her with a basketball to mark the occasion.

"It's a phenomenal accomplishment," Reed said. "We didn't play last week, so I was a little worried about coming out tonight, but Bree had a great first half."

And then some. Stoddard had 22 of Thomas Sumter's 30 first-half points as the Lady Generals built a double-digit lead after one quarter and led by as many as 20 early in the third. She also finished with 13 rebounds for a double-double.

SEE STODDARD, PAGE B2

AREA ROUNDUP

Lady Barons earn win over Hammond, 43-38

COLUMBIA — Susanna Hutson scored 20 points to lead Wilson Hall's varsity girls basketball team to a 43-38 victory over Hammond on Tuesday at the Hammond gymnasium.

Mary Daniel Stokes added seven points for the Lady Barons, while Diamond Crawford and Courtney Clark both had six.

WILSON HALL
Crawford 6, Clark 6, McCaffrey 4, Hutson 20, Stokes 7.

HAMMOND
Clarke 1, Hain 9, Tompkins 2, Mike Turner 9, Felder 7, Myers 4, Mika Turner 4, Jenkins 2.

CHERAW 47

LEE CENTRAL 28

CHERAW — Lee Central fell to 2-2 in Region IV-2A with a 47-28 loss to Cheraw on Tuesday at the Cheraw gymnasium.

A'Yannah Lucas led the Lady Stallions with 14 points and nine rebounds. Jiah Ervin added 10 points.

JV BASKETBALL

WILSON HALL 35

HAMMOND 30

COLUMBIA — Wilson Hall improved to 8-0 on the season with a 35-30 victory over Hammond on Tuesday at the Hammond gymnasium.

Andie Grae Wingate led the Lady Barons with 12 points. DuBose Alderman added nine.

LEE CENTRAL 25

CHERAW 20

BISHOPVILLE — Lee

Central defeated Cheraw 25-20 on Monday at the LC gymnasium.

Nae Wesley led the Lady Stallions with 10 points. Robionne Myers added nine points, three steals and four assists.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

HILLCREST 29

BATES 28

DALZELL — Hillcrest defeated Bates 29-28 in overtime on Monday at the HMS gymnasium.

Zamani Fulmore led the Lady Wildcats with 15 points. Mya Hayes added 10.

BOYS

VARSITY BASKETBALL

HAMMOND 61

CAMDEN 31

COLUMBIA — Wilson Hall lost to Hammond 61-31 on Tuesday at the Hammond gymnasium.

Drew Talley led the Barons with 11 points.

Lucas Prickett topped the Skyhawks with 25.

JV BASKETBALL

LEE CENTRAL 47

CHERAW 40

BISHOPVILLE — Lee Central improved to 7-1 with a 47-40 victory over Cheraw on Monday at the LC gymnasium.

Javontae McCloud led the Stallions with 16 points, seven steals and three assists. De'Ablo Halley had 13 points and eight rebounds, while Travis Hickson had eight points and 12 rebounds. Derrick Joye had six points, five rebounds and five assists.

HAMMOND 26

WILSON HALL 22

COLUMBIA — Wilson Hall fell to 7-3 with a 26-22 loss to Hammond on Tuesday at the Hammond gymnasium.

Graham VanPatten and Evan Hoffman both had eight points to lead the Barons.

LAURENCE MANNING 39

THOMAS SUMTER 28

DALZELL — Laurence Manning Academy defeated Thomas Sumter Academy 39-28 on Tuesday at Edens Gymnasium.

Chase Lee led LMA with 10 points, while Wyatt Rowland had nine. Bill Colquitt led the Generals with 10 points and Matthew Calhoun had eight.

B TEAM BASKETBALL

HAMMOND 35

WILSON HALL 17

COLUMBIA — Wilson Hall fell to 3-4 with a 35-17 loss to Hammond on Tuesday at the Hammond gymnasium.

Heath Watson led the Barons with 10 points.

BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Baylor routed in first game at No. 1

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Nathan Adrian broke out of a shooting slump with a career-high 22 points, and No. 10 West Virginia beat No. 1 Baylor 89-68 on Tuesday night in the Bears' first game as the top-ranked team in program history.

Baylor (15-1, 3-1 Big 12) committed a season-high 29 turnovers. The loss means No. 5 Gonzaga is the only remaining unbeaten team in Division I.

West Virginia (14-2, 3-1)

led by as many as 26 points.

(3) VILLANOVA 79

NO. 15 XAVIER 54

VILLANOVA, Pa. — Kris Jenkins and Josh Hart each scored 20 points and Villanova beat Xavier.

The Wildcats (16-1, 4-1 Big East) were dominant in the second half.

(6) KENTUCKY 87

VANDERBILT 81

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Malik Monk scored six

points in the final 32 seconds, and Kentucky (14-2, 4-0) remained unbeaten in the SEC by holding off Vanderbilt.

(9) FLORIDA STATE 88

(7) DUKE 72

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Xavier Rathan-Mayes scored 18 of his 21 points in the second half, helping Florida State (16-1, 4-0 ACC) beat Duke (14-3, 2-2).

From wire reports

STODDARD

FROM PAGE B1

TSA found its all-around game in the second half as Aubrey Stoddard came on strong to finish with 12 points. Logan Morris added seven and finished with eight rebounds and five steals. Caetlyn Martin also had six points.

"As a whole, this is the most number of girls I've had that can flat-out shoot the ball from the outside," Reed said. "All our guards can hit from the outside and deep, so that's a wonderful thing for us."

"I was a little disappointed in how we played defensively, but I have to give Laurence Manning a lot of credit because their girls play hard and fight every play."

That was evident in the second half. After scoring 13 points in the first two quarters, the Lady Swampcats were neck-and-neck with TSA the rest of the way.

"I wasn't displeased with the first half," LMA head coach Kendra Hoover said. "I felt like we played much better in this game than we have in others. I felt like we executed our plays, we just had a lot of turnovers and they had 10 offensive rebounds. Those are things we have to work on."

Lexi Bennett finished with a double-double of 11 points and 10 rebounds for LMA. Cora Lee Downer added nine points, Brooke Bennett



KEITH GEDAMKE / THE SUMTER ITEM

Thomas Sumter Academy's Kyle Decker (44) shoots past Laurence Manning's Taylor Lee during the Generals' 67-45 loss on Tuesday in Dalzell.

had seven and Brooke Ward finished with six.

In the boys contest, the Swampcats used a second-half change in defense to turn the tide in what had been a very close contest as they pulled away for a 67-45 victory.

TSA led 13-12 after the first quarter and was down just 25-24 at the half before a decisive third frame gave the Swampcats a double-digit lead.

"We switched up and went to a little matchup zone," LMA head coach Will Epps said as his squad improved to 13-5. "They weren't as comfortable against that as they were against the man, so that helped us."

"I think they were stuck

on 24 points for a while, and we were able to make some transition buckets and extend the lead and give ourselves some breathing room."

Taylor Lee led the charge with 17 points followed by Jerrell Kelly with 12 and Grayson Dennis with nine. Cam Singleton and Malik Cokley also added eight points each as the Swampcats finished the game on a 22-8 run.

They needed it, though, as the Generals had clawed their way back to within 45-37 with just under six minutes remaining. TSA and head coach Morgan Whalen used the break last week to tweak some things and fine-tune his squad.

"We just worked on not making as many mistakes," Whalen said of his now 4-7 squad. "I'm glad we came out and played hard. We worked on some things offensively and defensively that worked out pretty well tonight."

"I think we played very well, but obviously in the third quarter the ball just didn't go our way. (Epps) threw a little zone wrinkle at us and we couldn't quite figure it out until the fourth quarter."

Zach Fugate led the Generals with 24 points. Kyle Decker added eight and Eli Kessinger finished with seven.

Both teams return to action on Thursday as LMA will face Trinity-Byrnes Collegiate while the Generals begin region play at home against Calhoun Academy.

SCOREBOARD

TV, RADIO

TODAY

Noon - Women's College Basketball: St. Bonaventure at St. Louis (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

1:30 p.m. - Professional Tennis: Apia International Sydney Early-Round Matches from Sydney (TENNIS).

2:30 p.m. - Professional Golf: Web.com Tour Bahamas Great Exuma Classic Final Round from Great Exuma, Bahamas (GOLF).

6 p.m. - College Basketball: Houston at East Carolina (ESPNEWS).

6 p.m. - College Basketball: George Washington at Virginia Commonwealth (ESPN2).

6 p.m. - Men's Professional Tennis: ASB Classic Early-Round Matches and Australian Open Qualifying Matches (TENNIS).

6:05 p.m. - Talk Show: Sports Talk (WDXY-FM 105.9, WDXY-AM 1240).

6:30 p.m. - College Basketball: South Carolina at Tennessee (SEC NETWORK, WDXY-FM 105.9, WNKT-FM 107.5, WDXY-AM 1240).

7 p.m. - College Basketball: Dayton at Massachusetts (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).

7 p.m. - College Basketball: Georgia at Mississippi (ESPN).

7 p.m. - College Basketball: Seton Hall at Marquette (FOX SPORTS 1).

7 p.m. - College Basketball: Pittsburgh at Louisville (FOX SPORTSOUTH).

7:30 p.m. - Women's College Basketball: West Virginia at Texas Tech (FOX SPORTS SOUTHEAST).

7 p.m. - College Basketball: Lafayette at Holy Cross (TIME WARNER 1250).

8 p.m. - NBA Basketball: Memphis at Oklahoma City (ESPN).

8 p.m. - College Basketball: Memphis at Tulsa (ESPNEWS).

8 p.m. - College Basketball: North Carolina at Wake Forest (ESPN2).

9 p.m. - College Basketball: Iowa State at Oklahoma State (ESPN).

8 p.m. - NHL Hockey: Pittsburgh at Washington (NBC SPORTS NETWORK).

8:30 p.m. - College Basketball: Louisiana State at Texas A&M (SEC NETWORK).

9 p.m. - College Basketball: Temple at Connecticut (CBS SPORTS NETWORK).

9 p.m. - College Basketball: Butler at Creighton (FOX SPORTS 1).

9 p.m. - College Basketball: North Carolina State at Boston College (FOX SPORTSOUTH).

10:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: Cleveland at Portland (ESPN).

Midnight - Men's Professional Tennis: ASB Classic Early-Round Matches and Australian Open Qualifying Matches (TENNIS).

3 a.m. - Professional Golf: European PGA Tour South African Open First Round from Gauteng, South Africa (GOLF).

LOCAL PREP SCHEDULE

TODAY

B TEAM BASKETBALL
Orangeburg-Wilkinson at Sumter (Boys Only), 6 p.m.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL
Timmonsville at East Clarendon, 5:30 p.m.

VARSITY BOWLING
Laurence Manning, Thomas Sumter at Wilson Hall (at Gamecock Lanes), 5 p.m.

THURSDAY

VARSITY AND JV BASKETBALL
Carolina Forest at Sumter (Boys Only), 6 p.m.

Trinity-Byrnes at Laurence Manning, 4 p.m.

Calhoun Academy at Thomas Sumter, 4 p.m.

JUNIOR VARSITY BASKETBALL
Crestwood at Darlington, 6 p.m.

Lugoff-Elgin at Lakewood, 6 p.m.

Lee Central at Andrew Jackson, 6 p.m.

B TEAM BASKETBALL
Wilson Hall at Orangeburg Prep, 5 p.m.

Thomas Sumter at Robert E. Lee, 5 p.m.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL
Alice Drive at Bates, 5 p.m.

Chestnut Oaks at Hillcrest, 5 p.m.

Mayewood at Ebenezer, 5 p.m.

Manning at Furman, 5 p.m.

Spaulding at Lee Central, 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

VARSITY BASKETBALL
Darlington at Crestwood, 6 p.m.

Lakewood at Lugoff-Elgin, 6 p.m.

Andrew Jackson at Lee Central, 6 p.m.

Creek Bridge at East Clarendon, 6 p.m.

VARSITY AND JV BASKETBALL
Carolina Forest at Sumter (Girls Only), 6 p.m.

Manning at Lake Marion, 4 p.m.

Branchville at Scott's Branch, 4 p.m.

Thomas Sumter at Wilson Hall, 4 p.m.

Laurence Manning at Camden Military (Boys Only), 5 p.m.

Palmetto Christian at Robert E. Lee, 4 p.m.

Clarendon Hall at Jefferson Davis, 4 p.m.

Sumter Christian at Emmanuel Christian (No JV Girls), 4 p.m.

B TEAM BASKETBALL
Thomas Sumter at Wilson Hall, 4 p.m.

VARSITY WRESTLING
Sumter in Coach Trapp Duels (at Battery Creek High in Beaufort), 6 p.m.

SATURDAY

VARSITY AND JV BASKETBALL
Northwood at Thomas Sumter (Girls Only), 4 p.m.

VARSITY SPORTING CLAYS
Wilson Hall in SCYSF Tournament (at Palmetto Shooting Complex in Edgefield), TBA

VARSITY WRESTLING
Sumter in Coach Trapp Duels (at Battery Creek High in Beaufort), TBA

NFL PLAYOFF GLANCE

By The Associated Press

WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS

SATURDAY'S GAMES
Houston 27, Oakland 14
Seattle 26, Detroit 6

TODAY'S GAMES
Pittsburgh 30, Miami 12
Green Bay 38, N.Y. Giants 13

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

SATURDAY, JAN. 14
Seattle at Atlanta, 4:35 p.m. (FOX)
Houston at New England, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)

SUNDAY, JAN. 15
Pittsburgh at Kansas City, 1:05 p.m. (NBC)
Green Bay at Dallas, 4:40 p.m. (FOX)

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SUNDAY, JAN. 22
TBD

SUPER BOWL

SUNDAY, FEB. 5
At Houston
TBD, 6:30 p.m. (FOX)

NBA STANDINGS

By The Associated Press

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	24	13	.649	—
Boston	23	14	.622	1
New York	17	21	.447	7½
Philadelphia	10	25	.286	13
Brooklyn	8	28	.222	15½

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	21	16	.568	—
Charlotte	20	18	.526	1½
Washington	18	18	.500	2½
Orlando	16	23	.410	6
Miami	11	28	.282	11

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	28	8	.778	—
Indiana	20	18	.526	9
Milwaukee	18	18	.500	10
Chicago	19	19	.500	10
Detroit	18	21	.462	11½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	30	7	.811	—
Houston	30	9	.769	1
Memphis	24	16	.600	7½
New Orleans	15	24	.385	16
Dallas	11	27	.289	19½

NORTHWEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	23	16	.590	—
Oklahoma City	23	16	.590	—
Portland	16	23	.410	7
Denver	14	23	.378	8
Minnesota	12	26	.316	10½

PACIFIC DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	32	6	.842	—
L.A. Clippers	26	14	.650	7
Sacramento	15	22	.405	16½
L.A. Lakers	15	26	.366	18½
Phoenix	12	26	.316	20

MONDAY'S GAMES

TIGERS

FROM PAGE B1

Clemson responded with a touchdown drive two possessions later. That made it 17-14, thus keeping the pressure on Alabama. The Tigers answered each of the Tide's final two touchdowns with touchdowns of their own on the ensuing possession, the final one obviously being Watson's 2-yard toss to Renfrow.

The Tigers' enormous cache of weapons on offense began to emerge as the game progressed as well. Of course, Watson breaking out of his first-half doldrums helped in that regard; the QB has to be putting the ball where it needs to be and the receivers have to catch it, and he took full advantage of the wide array of talent to which he can throw.

On the final drive, wide receiver Mike Williams made a couple of catches where only he could go and get it. Tight end Jordan Leggett made a ridiculous reception for a 17-yard gain and a first down that set Clemson up at the 'Bama 9 with 19 seconds left.

Renfrow was a safety valve that Watson went to time and again — 10 times actually for 92 yards and two scores. Three other Tigers had over 90 yards in receptions — Williams 94 yards and one score on eight catches, Leggett 95 on seven catches and wide receiver Deon Cain 94 on five receptions.

Also, running back Wayne Gallman had three catches for 39 yards while rushing for 46 yards on 18 carries. That's 85 total yards on 21 touches; not great, but it kept Alabama honest.

That's a huge number of weapons to account for, something Alabama had not faced all year. Also, Clemson wore the Tide defense down in the second half. The Tigers ran 55 offensive plays to just 27 for Alabama in the second half and had only one 3-downs-and-out series among their nine full second-half possessions. The Tigers ran 99 offensive plays to just 66 for Alabama,

While Clemson's offensive line may not have had a great game, it actually stood up well to Alabama's front seven, which many considered otherworldly. Watson put it up 56 times, completing 36 for 420 yards and three scores. He was only sacked four times while Alabama had no quarterback hurries and broke up just one pass at the line.

Now the Tide did lay the wood to the Tigers on several occasions and Watson used his feet to escape some situations, but 'Bama still only had two other tackles for loss. That means Clemson only found itself in extreme long-yardage situations on little more than a handful of occasions.

Watson, of course, was the main cog in the offense. When Watson was a freshman, Swinney spoke early and often about what a special player he was. If he had not proven that in the minds of everyone prior to Monday, he had to do so with that performance.

The Clemson team that won the 1981 national title came out of nowhere to win it. This group was expected by most to be back playing for the title, even though many thought it would again fall short.

Coming so close last season allowed the Tigers to see what needed to be done and they carried through with it.



TOP: Clemson's Christian Wilkins, center, and Carlos Watkins pose for photos with fans after returning to Clemson the day after beating Alabama 35-31 in the College Football Playoff championship game. BOTTOM LEFT: Clemson's Jalen Williams, right, and K'Von Wallace hold an autographed sign. BOTTOM RIGHT: Clemson defensive coordinator Brent Venables celebrates after departing the bus.

RETURN

FROM PAGE B1

After that, Watson, Williams and many of the Tigers who helped Clemson overcome a 14-point deficit win its national title rematch with Alabama will scatter to train for their next showcase: Clemson's pro timing day in front of NFL executives and scouts in early March.

But on Tuesday it was time for them to take another bow in front of a happy crowd.

Fans waved all kinds of signs, some simply saying "Thank You, Tigers," to more pointed ones that read "We Want Bama" with the "Want" crossed out and replaced by "Beat." There was even a sign asking if head coach Dabo Swinney's son, high-school senior Will, would take the sigh-holder

to prom.

"We couldn't do this without these people," said Ben Boulware, Clemson's leading tackler who gave a stirring speech thanking the team's past players as the confetti fell in Tampa, Florida, at Raymond James Stadium. "They've been here for all of it."

There was a sizeable crowd of Clemson fans in Tampa with a smaller, but just as thrilled, group that watched the game on large screens in the middle of the blocked-off College Avenue on Monday night. After the dramatic win, the celebration lasted well into the morning. Clemson police said there were no serious incidents or vandalism, although six people were arrested on alcohol-related charges.

Fans spent much of Tuesday swarming souvenir shops in town, snapping up

whatever "national champions" apparel they could find. They filtered over to the stadium around midday, awaiting the buses to pull in front. Artavis Scott, who became the Tigers' all-time leader in pass catches this year, was first off and pumped his fist as fans shouted back.

"We have the best fans in college football," Boulware said. "I know when Alabama won it last year, they didn't have fans show up like this. The culture at Clemson is uncommon, so I'm super happy for our community."

Boulware is among four senior defensive starters who will be leaving. Clemson is also losing the team's sacks leader in defensive tackle Carlos Watkins and two members of the secondary — cornerback Cordrea Tankersley and safety Jadar Johnson. The losses on offense are even more daunt-

ing with Watson, Williams, Scott, tight end Jordan Leggett, single-season rushing leader Wayne Gallman and Jay Guillermo all entering the NFL draft.

Defensive end Christian Wilkins, however, believes Clemson's run at the top is not over.

"We've always recruited well. People had questions about the defense the past couple of years and you can see what we've done," said Wilkins, a sophomore. "We think the same thing can happen on offense."

Wilkins, who's celebratory postgame split in Tampa went viral, was glad to celebrate back home with fans who've supported him throughout his career.

"We just dream of this moment forever and that's why you come to Clemson," he said. "We showed the world what we're made of last night."



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FINAL TOP 25 POLLS

AP TOP 25

By The Associated Press

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, final records, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. Clemson (60)	14-1	1500	3
2. Alabama	14-1	1440	1
3. Southern Cal	10-3	1292	9
4. Washington	12-2	1277	4
5. Oklahoma	11-2	1252	7
6. Ohio State	11-2	1240	2
7. Penn State	11-3	1130	5
8. Florida State	10-3	1105	10
9. Wisconsin	11-3	1032	8
10. Michigan	10-3	1001	6
11. Oklahoma State	10-3	920	13
12. Stanford	10-3	730	16
13. LSU	8-4	651	19
14. Florida	9-4	640	20
15. W. Michigan	13-1	619	12
16. Virginia Tech	10-4	610	18
17. Colorado	10-4	585	11
18. West Virginia	10-3	368	14
19. South Florida	11-2	358	25
20. Miami	9-4	338	NR
21. Louisville	9-4	277	15
22. Tennessee	9-4	253	NR
23. Utah	9-4	222	NR
24. Auburn	8-5	206	17
25. San Diego State	11-3	113	NR

Others receiving votes: Kansas State 83, Georgia Tech 47, Nebraska 38, Western Kentucky 32, Air Force 30, Pittsburgh 21, Boise State 19, Iowa 14, Minnesota 12, Tulsa 10, BYU 9, Temple 8, Houston 8, North Carolina 8, Navy 1, Washington State 1.

AMWAY TOP 25 POLL

The final Amway Top 25 football coaches poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, final records, total points based on 25 points for first place through one point for 25th, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. Clemson (60)	14-1	1500	3
2. Alabama	14-1	1440	1
3. Oklahoma	11-2	1308	7
4. Washington	12-2	1265	4
5. Southern Cal	10-3	1263	9
6. Ohio State	11-2	1186	2
7. Penn State	11-3	1123	5
8. Florida State	10-3	1102	10
9. Wisconsin	11-3	1044	8
10. Michigan	10-3	986	6
11. Oklahoma State	10-3	922	13
12. Stanford	10-3	791	16
13. Florida	9-4	673	18
14. LSU	8-4	641	20
15. Colorado	10-4	634	11
16. Virginia Tech	10-4	632	19
17. West Virginia	10-3	522	12
18. W. Michigan	13-1	449	14
19. South Florida	11-2	362	22
20. Louisville	9-4	338	15
21. Utah	9-4	303	23
22. Auburn	8-5	230	17
23. Miami	9-4	229	—
24. Tennessee	9-4	211	—
25. San Diego State	11-3	102	—

Others receiving votes: Nebraska 46, Kansas State 44, Georgia Tech 24, Western Kentucky 23, Boise State 20, Air Force 18, Iowa 17, Temple 16, Tulsa 11, Minnesota 7, Georgia 5, Navy 3, Wake Forest 3, Arkansas 2, Troy 2, Washington State 2, BYU 1.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clemson quarterback Deshaun Watson celebrates a last-second touchdown pass to wide receiver Hunter Renfrow that gave the Tigers a 35-31 victory over Alabama in the College Football Playoff national championship game on Monday in Tampa, Fla.

Watson leaves Clemson on solid ground

BY MARK LONG

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Standing on college football's biggest stage and hoisting its top prize, Clemson coach Dabo Swinney and dynamic quarterback Deshaun Watson shared the ultimate hug and a few private words.

A formidable pairing. An improbable championship. An ideal ending.

Swinney and Watson's finale together, a 35-31 upset victory against Alabama in the national title game Monday night, might just be a launching point for the Tigers (14-1).

"You think this is the best of Clemson? Just wait the next five years," Watson said Tuesday. "It's going to be even more exciting, more awesome."

The Tigers claimed their first national championship since 1981, ending a 35-year drought thanks to huge plays from Watson, his receiving corps and a defense determined to avenge last year's oh-so-close loss to the Crimson Tide in the title game.

Although most expect Clemson to need a year or two to reload — the Tigers are losing a handful of offensive and defensive stars — Swinney believes his team will get another title shot in the not-too-distant future, certainly not another three-decade wait.

"There's no doubt in my mind that the best is yet to come for us," Swinney said. "I mean, we're going to continue to improve, continue to get better. Winning national championships are hard. I mean, it's very, very difficult to do. It's been 35 years at Clemson. ... It won't be 35 years before Clemson will do this again."

"God willing, I'll be a part of it. But this program is built to last."

It's certainly being built to compete with anyone in the country.

Swinney has five-star quarterback Hunter Johnson, from Brownsburg, Indi-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney, right, hugs quarterback Deshaun Watson, who will enter the NFL draft in April, following the 35-31 win over Alabama for the national championship.

ana, on the way to replace Watson, who graduated in three years and is leaving early for the NFL draft. And Clemson annually has one of the top three recruiting classes in the Atlantic Coast Conference, right on the heels of Florida State as well as perennial powers Alabama, Ohio State, Oklahoma and Michigan.

Equally promising, the Tigers are getting ready to open a \$55 million football complex that will be attached to the team's indoor practice facility. The complex will have all the usual amenities, like a weight room, a dining hall, meeting rooms and offices, but it also boasts a players' lounge that features table tennis, pool tables, miniature golf, a golf simulator, laser tag, a bowling alley, sand volleyball courts and a 24-seat high-definition theater.

Oh, and an indoor slide connecting two floors.

"Yeah, it's crazy, man," Swinney said.

Swinney clearly has Clemson rolling after consecutive trips to the title game.

"We think that we have a great program to sell and we're very proud of that," he said. "The best is yet to come for us. This is not the

end-all. It's a great moment, and it's something that we needed to get done. But you know, Thursday I'm going to have a team meeting with the 2017 team, and there will be a new group of seniors sitting in the front row, new challenges, new journey, kind of lay out the vision a little bit for next year.

"We'll celebrate this weekend, this championship with our banquet and the parade and all that stuff, and then we'll start over." He'll have to start over without Watson, the team's do-whatever-it-takes leader, and several other key starters.

Watson completed 36 of 56 passes for 420 yards and three touchdowns in the title game. He also ran for a score, helping make the sequel an even better show than the original. He was just as good last year, although his efforts weren't enough in a 45-40 loss to the Tide in Arizona.

"He's the best player that's ever come through there, so it meant a lot," Swinney said, adding that Watson went 32-3 as a starter. "He set the standard. I mean, high standard. Graduated in three years, honor-roll student, represented the pro-

gram in an incredible way, unbelievable leadership, so easy to coach."

"He's an incredible winner, and we're not sitting here without Deshaun Watson. This is what he came to do."

Running back Wayne Gallman and receivers Mike Williams and Artavis Scott will join Watson in the NFL. Throw in tight end Jordan Leggett and center Jay Guillermo, and the Tigers will have to replace a big chunk of their high-scoring offense.

They will have nearly as many losses on the other side of the ball, with cornerback Cordrea Tankersley, safety Jadar Johnson, linebacker Ben Boulware and defensive end Carlos Watkins all gone.

"What's next?" Swinney said. "For us it'll be, like I said, enjoying this moment, but getting excited about coming back and seeing if we can charge back up the mountain next year."

Clemson	0	7	7	21-35
Alabama	7	7	10	7-31

First Quarter
BAMA—Scarborough 25 run (Griffith kick), 9:23

Second Quarter
BAMA—Scarborough 37 run (Griffith kick), 10:42
CLE—Watson 8 run (Huegel kick), 6:09

Third Quarter
BAMA—FG Griffith 27, 12:25
CLE—Renfrow 24 pass from Watson (Huegel kick), 7:10
BAMA—Howard 68 pass from Hurts (Griffith kick), 1:53

Fourth Quarter
CLE—M.Williams 4 pass from Watson (Huegel kick), 14:00
CLE—Gallman 1 run (Huegel kick), 4:38
BAMA—Hurts 30 run (Griffith kick), 2:07
CLE—Renfrow 2 pass from Watson (Huegel kick), :01
A—74,512.

	CLE	BAMA
First downs	31	16
Rushes-yards	42-91	34-221
Passing	420	155
Comp-Att-Int	36-57-0	14-32-0
Return Yards	133	66
Punts-Avg.	9-37.33	10-41.5
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	1-0
Penalties-Yards	3-35	9-82
Time of Possession	34:44	25:16

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING—Clemson, Gallman 18-46, Watson 21-43, Fuller 1-3, A.Scott 1-0, (Team) 1-(minus 1). Alabama, Scarborough 16-93, Hurts 10-63, A.Stewart 1-25, D.Harris 5-24, Jacobs 2-16.
PASSING—Clemson, Watson 36-56-0-420, (Team) 0-1-0-0. Alabama, Hurts 13-31-0-131, A.Stewart 1-1-0-24.
RECEIVING—Clemson, Renfrow 10-92, M.Williams 8-94, Leggett 7-95, Cain 5-94, Gallman 3-39, A.Scott 3-6. Alabama, Ridley 5-36, Howard 4-106, A.Stewart 2-12, Scarborough 2-7, D.Harris 1-(minus 6).
MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

FANS

FROM PAGE B1

"It was very sweet to do it against 'Bama," she said. "To be honest, we were getting a little tired of 'Bama, so I'm glad we were the ones that were able to bring them down."

Aside from that, the victory was an especially sweet one for the Elmore household that features multiple Clemson alumni.

"Both my husband and I graduated from Clemson," Elmore said. "We were thrilled that we could bring the championship back to Clemson for the fans and for (head coach) Dabo (Swinney) and the players."

The game itself was an emotional roller coaster, with the Tigers needing to rally from 10 points down in the fourth quarter to pull off the upset over the top-ranked Crimson Tide.

"Emotions were definitely up and down the whole game," she said. "We were nervous, but when (the last Tigers touchdown was scored) we jumped up and screamed and hugged."

"It was just pure joy."

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LUKE ROGERS

Thomas Luther "Luke" Rogers, 89, husband of Mary Helen Ouzts Rogers, died on Monday, Jan. 9, 2017, at Covenant Place.

Born on Dec. 11, 1927, at Britton Station, he was a son of the late Ernest B. and Bessie Luther Rogers. He was educated at Brogdon School, Edmunds High and Clemson A&M College. He served in Korea with the 958th Ordnance. He retired from Sumter County after 36 years of service, 17 as public works director. He then worked part-time for Newman Construction of Sumter. He was a devoted husband, father and community servant. He was formerly chairman of the Sumter County Transportation Committee. He previously served as chairman and was presently serving on the Salvation Army Advisory Board; was a past member of the Kiwanis Club; was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion and Roads End; past member and past president of the Tri-Club; past board member of the YMCA; was presently a member of First Baptist Church, having served on the grounds committee, the building maintenance committee, and as a member of the Baraca Sunday School Class. He was chosen as man of the year in 1990 by the Chamber of Commerce.

His family includes his wife; one son, Tommy Rogers and his wife, Cindy, of Macon, Georgia; one daughter, Terri Seignious and her husband, Dr. David Seignious, of Johns Island; a brother-in-law, Sam Gambrell of Tuscaloosa, Alabama; grandchildren, Dr. Allison Paine and her husband, Joel, Trey Rogers, and Patrick and Hayden Seignious.

He was predeceased by a brother, Ernest Rogers; and a sister, Anne Gambrell. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday in the chapel of Elmore-Hill-McCreight Funeral Home with the Rev. Charles Clanton officiating. Burial will be in Sumter Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Jeff Young, Dick Mahon, Brant Bahnmuller, Mark Brody, Mike Newman, Curtis Spencer and Buddy Harper. Honorary pallbearers will be members of the 958th Ordnance, members of the Baraca Sunday School class, Dr. R.E. McDowell, Jimmy Newman, Eddie Newman, Bobby Rabon, Sonny Hurst, Edwin Campbell and Tommy Hall.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Elmore Hill McCreight

Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, 107 E. Liberty St., Sumter, SC 29150; to the Salvation Army, 18 Kendrick St., Sumter, SC 29150; or Covenant Place, 2825 Carter Road, Sumter, SC 29150.

Elmore-Hill-McCreight Funeral Home & Crematory, 221 Broad St., Sumter, is in charge of the arrangements, (803) 775-9386.



Elmore Hill McCreight
FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

TONY JACKSON

Tony Jackson, 54, departed this life on Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017, in Concord, North Carolina.

Born on Nov. 13, 1962, in Sumter, he was a son of the late Robert Jackson Jr. and Lola Mae Seymour Jackson.

The family will receive friends at the home of his brother and sister-in-law, Melvin and Wanda Jackson, 40 Lemmon St.

Job's Mortuary Inc., 312 S. Main St., Sumter, is in charge of arrangements.

SUSIE M. WHITE

Susie M. White, daughter of the late George and Aleen Potts White, died on Monday, Jan. 9, 2017, at Palmetto Richland Health of Columbia.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by Sumter Funeral Service Inc.

The family will receive friends at the home of her niece and nephew, Julia and Byron Mayo, 2626 Hilldale Drive.

WILLIAM PEARSON

William Pearson, 79, husband of Frances J. Pearson, entered eternal rest on Sunday, Jan. 8, 2017, at Windsor Manor Nursing Facility, Manning.

Born on April 12, 1937, in Sumter County, he was a son of the late Marion and Emma Dow Pearson.

The family is receiving relatives and friends daily from noon to 8 p.m. at the home, 1020 Tupelo Lane, Apartment 1, Sumter.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by JP Holley Funeral Home.

GEORGIA M. FLOYD

God in His wisdom summoned from this earthly shore of life, Georgia Miller Floyd, 86, on Friday, Jan. 6, 2017, at Sumter Health and Rehab Center.

Born on Feb. 21, 1930, in Sumter County, she was a daughter of the late Cleveland

and Hellen Young Miller. She attended the Sumter County public schools. She became a Christian as a young woman and joined Rafting Creek Baptist Church, Rembert. She later met Arthur Floyd Jr. and they were united in holy matrimony. No children were born to this union.

Cherishing her memories will be her husband, Arthur Floyd Jr. of the home; two sisters, Queen Dennis and Minnie Mayrant Crim, both of Rembert; three sisters-in-law; one brother-in-law; a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. today at Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, 7355 Camden Highway, Rembert, with the Rev. Anthony Taylor, pastor, eulogist.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 5718 TB Wright Road, Rembert.

The procession will leave at 1:20 p.m. from the home.

Burial will be in Mt. Pisgah Baptist Churchyard cemetery. Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com. Visit us on the web at www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com.

SAVILLA J. BLACKMON

OCALA, Florida — Savilla Joyce Blackmon, 80, of Ocala, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017.

Savilla was born in Berea, Kentucky, to the Rev. R. Don and Nettie Gambrell. She and her husband moved to Ocala in 1998 from Perrine, Florida. Savilla was a homemaker and piano teacher. She belonged to First Baptist Church of Ocala, where she sang in the choir and occasionally played piano. She served for 23 years at First Baptist Church in Perrine as the pianist and director of the "His Kids" youth ensemble. She loved camping, rollerblading, gardening, and decorating for the holidays — especially Christmas.

Savilla is survived by her husband of 60 years, Donald "Don" Blackmon of Ocala; daughter, Dawn (Phil) Stoll of Crawford, Mississippi; daughter-in-law, Beth (Ellis) Ipock; grandchildren, Matthew (Christina) Blackmon and their children, Jamie and Celina, Aaron (Julie) Ipock and their daughter, Haven, Joshua (Amanda) Stoll and their sons, Jackson and Daniel, Rebekah Stoll, Jonathan (Hope) Stoll and their daughters, River, Megan and Madison, Rachel Stoll, Joseph Stoll, Jacob Stoll and James Stoll.

She was predeceased by her son, Dale Blackmon, in 1996.

Visitation was held Tuesday at Hiers-Baxley Funeral Services in Ocala.

Funeral ceremonies will be held at 11 a.m. today at First Baptist Church of Ocala. A reception will follow at the church.

In lieu of flowers, donations are encouraged to your favorite Cancer Society charity.

Arrangements are being handled by Hiers-Baxley Funeral Services, 910 SE Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470, (352)-629-7171.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.hiers-baxley.com.

ROLAND TONEY JR.

BISHOPVILLE — Roland "Robert" Toney Jr., 64, passed on Jan. 9, 2017, at Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center, Hartsville.

Born in Lee County, he was a son of Roland Sr. and Mary Franklin Toney.

The family will receive relatives and friends at the home of his brother and sister-in-law, James and Diane Toney, 217 Cousar St., Bishopville.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Square Deal Funeral Home, Bishopville.

SAMUEL A. JEFFERSON

Samuel A. Jefferson, 64, departed this life on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2017, at Hospices of Charleston, Mt. Pleasant.

Born on Sept. 2, 1952, in Sumter County, he was a son of the late Louis and Rosa Boykin-Jefferson.

He was educated in the Sumter public school system. Samuel accepted the Lord Jesus Christ and was baptized in Dec. 2016 under the leadership of the Rev. Eugene Dennis, pastor of Joshua Baptist Church. Samuel worked various jobs throughout the community.

He leaves to cherish his memory: four sisters, Julia (Edward) Wright of Mt. Pleasant, Gladys (Herbert) Moore of Rembert, and Rosa (Everett) Bell and Mabel Josey, both of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; two brothers, Louis (Dolores) Boykin-Jefferson of Philadelphia and Marchell (Lula) Jefferson of Rembert; a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins and friends.

Celebration of Life services will be held at noon Thursday at Joshua Baptist Church, 5200 Live Oak Road, Dalzell, with the Rev. Eugene Dennis, pastor, eulogist.

The family is receiving relatives and friends at the home, 5135 Borden Road, Rembert.

The remains will be placed in the church at 11 a.m. for viewing until time of services.

The funeral procession will leave at 11:30 a.m. from the home.

Floral bearers and pallbearers will be family and friends.

Burial will be in Joshua Baptist Churchyard cemetery.

Services directed by the management and staff of Williams Funeral Home Inc., 821 N. Main St., Sumter.

Online memorial messages may be sent to the family at williamsfuneralhome@sc.rr.com. Visit us on the web at www.WilliamsFuneralHomeInc.com.

MARION L. BOYD

Marion L. Boyd, 55, husband of Mary Boyd, entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017, at McLeod Clarendon Health in Manning.

Born on March 1, 1961, he was a son of the late Marion E. and Julia James Boyd.

The family will receive friends at the home, 1286 Captain Log Road, Pinewood.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced by Summerton Funeral Home LLC, (803) 485-3755.

ZANE DALE WRIGHT

Retired U.S. Air Force Maj. Zane Dale Wright, age 94, beloved husband of the late Charley Marie Bowles Wright, died on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017, at Covenant Place.

Arrangements are incomplete at this time and will be announced by Bullock Funeral Home.



ANGELA WHITE

MANNING — Angela White, 44, died on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2017, at her residence, 16 Branch St., Manning.

She was born on Nov. 21, 1972, a daughter of Alonzo Gibson and Annie L. White.

The family is receiving friends at the home of her aunt, Dorothy White, 1071 M Road, Winter Hill Subdivision, Manning.

These services have been entrusted to Samuels Funeral Home LLC of Manning.

FREDDIE H. FRANCIS

Freddie "Fred" Hampton Francis, 81, widow of Emma Lee Lyons Francis, died on Monday, Jan. 9, 2017, at Palmetto Health Tuomey.

He was born on March 28, 1935, a son of the late Hannabil and Bertha Viola Gregg Francis.

The family is receiving friends at the home of his sister, Gladys Johnson, 719 Branble Lane, Orangeburg.

These services have been entrusted to Samuels Funeral Home LLC of Manning.

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Your community news source

Swing is king again

Jazz band salutes Goodman at Opera House

BY IVY MOORE
ivy@theitem.com

“It don’t mean a thing if it ain’t got that swing ...” Duke Ellington asserted in 1932, but it was clarinetist-band leader Benny Goodman who was undeniably the King of Swing. He maintained his royalty for more than six decades with such hits as “Sing, Sing, Sing,” “Memories of You,” “One O’Clock Jump” and “Goody, Goody,” among many.



GOODMAN

Goodman’s music continues to be popular, as does the swing dance associated with it, and Friday night at the Sumter Opera House, Paul Cosentino and the Boilermaker Jazz Band will bring When Swing Was King, a Tribute to Benny Goodman, to a Sumter audience.

The 7:30 p.m. concert will also feature jazz and big band music from the six-piece band that includes vocalist Jennifer McNulty, in the tradition of Goodman’s legendary female vocalists Peggy Lee, Billie Holiday, Mildred Bailey, Helen Forrest and others.

Music for When Swing was King was selected from Goodman’s radio broadcasts of 1936 through 1939, when his band was at the height of its popularity. During these broadcasts, he was often introduced as the “Rajah of Rhythm.”



PHOTO PROVIDED

Jennifer McNulty and Paul Cosentino, front center, and the Boilermaker Jazz Band will present a tribute to the legendary King of Swing, Benny Goodman, on Friday night at the Sumter Opera House.

In January 1938, Goodman played Carnegie Hall in a concert touted by critic Bruce Elder and many others as “the single most important jazz or popular music concert in history ...” Clarinetist Cosentino will play the Goodman parts on the late band leader’s hits, and will lead the Boilermakers in playing the jazz and big band music from other groups of the Great American Songbook era, that period of the early to middle 20th century that produced so many of our eternally popular and influential standards. These are the songs rock stars embrace when their musical tastes mature; e.g., Rod Stewart, Cyndi Lauper,

Brian Wilson, Natalie Cole, Jeff Lynne and Lady Gaga with Tony Bennett. Cosentino formed the Boilermakers in 1988, and over the past three decades, the band has performed around the world in ballrooms and prestigious music halls that include Lincoln Center and the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City, The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival and the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. Cosentino and the band have recorded eight critically acclaimed CDs and have received rave reviews for their excellent live performances. Their music was recently featured on the hit Fox TV show “So You Think You Can

Dance” for a Lindy Hop routine.

Paul Cosentino and the Boilermaker Jazz Band will play one performance only in Sumter, so early ticket purchases are recommended in order to reserve seats. Tickets may be available at the door, should any remain at 7 p.m. Friday. Sumter Opera House, 21 N. Main St., presents Paul Cosentino and the Boilermaker Jazz Band performing their concert, When Swing was King, a Tribute to Benny Goodman, at 7:30 p.m. Friday. Tickets are \$25, \$22 and \$18. For information or tickets, contact the box office at the Opera House, (803) 436-2616 or www.SumterOperaHouse.com.

M*A*S*H’s Loretta Swit paints to help animals

BY NICK THOMAS
Tinseltown Talks

On screen, she amused TV audiences as feisty nurse Maj. Margaret Houlihan for 11 seasons in the highly acclaimed late 70s/early 80s comedy war drama, M*A*S*H. But away from the cameras, Loretta Swit surrounded herself with paintbrushes and watercolors instead of scalpels and plasma.

A collection of her paintings appears in “SWITHEART - The Watercolour Artistry & Animal Activism of Loretta Swit.”

Published in January, SWITHEART is written by Mies Hora with the full support and participation of Swit, who provided dozens of images for the book. Proceeds will help fund programs dear to the TV legend’s heart.

“I’ve always used my artwork to support charities,” Swit said from her home in Manhattan. “We plan to help many animals from the book sales.”

Swit, who turned 79 in November, says she has always

dabbled in art.

“As a child, my mother was forever telling me to go outside and play, but I wanted to just sit at the table with my sketchpad and pencils and doodle away,” she recalled.

The animal world has also always been a part of her own.

“My parents said even when I was just a tot in a carriage and I’d see a dog, I would get all red in the face, giggly, and yell out ‘doggie, doggie, doggie!’ and wouldn’t stop,” Swit said, laughing.

While she can still turn red at the sight of an animal, these days it’s triggered by witnessing animal abuse or misuse of any kind.

“A fur coat represents the death of 80 animals,” she said in a horrified tone. “Fake fur has come a long way. It’s twice as warm and just as beautiful – if not more so – than real fur. I have two of them and they’re so realistic I wear a button to

say it’s fake!”

Swit’s love of animals was known to M*A*S*H writers who incorporated it into the season 6 episode, “Images,” in which her character develops a fondness for a stray dog in the camp.

“The dog gets killed by a jeep, and Margaret ends up in tears partly because of the dog but also because the story is woven into the stress of working in a wartime O.R.,” she said. “The writers knew about my animal activism and brilliantly used it to develop Margaret’s character.”

Swit wasn’t the only M*A*S*H star with talents beyond the camera.

“Gary Burghoff (‘Radar’) did the most magnificent sketches of birds and also played a mean set of drums,” noted Swit. “David Ogden Stiers (‘Charles’) is a brilliant musician who works with orchestras, and he would go off on weekends to the theater and perform Shakespeare.”

Swit says it didn’t take long to realize she was involved with

a special TV series, one of the most celebrated ever produced.

“The realization was really from the outside-in at first,” she recalled. “I would go out to do interviews and from people’s response learned how important the show was becoming. The genius of M*A*S*H was the brilliant writing that was always different, fresh and unexpected. Our tight-knit ensemble could transform the scripts into stories that were funny and entertaining and yet touching and profound. The show hasn’t been off the air since it went into syndication after the third season.”

Of all her fellow cast members, she says Harry Morgan – Col. Potter – was especially popular on the set.

“Everyone loved Harry,” she recalled. “He wasn’t just a colleague, but a leader, a father figure, and friend to us all. And as hard as the job was, if Harry was in a scene, you knew it would be fun. Even after working all week together, Harry, his wife and I would have lunch

on weekends because we just liked being together.”

During production, Swit used her artistic talents to express her affection for the entire cast.

“I did drawings of the guys and presented each with one as a Christmas gift,” she said. “Art is just something I did and probably took it for granted for a long time. While I never took any lessons, others have given me advice and helped me to grow as an artist over the years and I talk about that in the book.”

But much of her art always focused on animals and nature because, she says, “I love my subjects so much.”

“Perhaps I see animals in a different way because I have so much passion for my activism,” she adds. “

For more information about Swit, see www.SwitHeart.com.

Nick Thomas teaches at Auburn University at Montgomery, Alabama, and has written features, columns and interviews for more than 600 magazines and newspapers.



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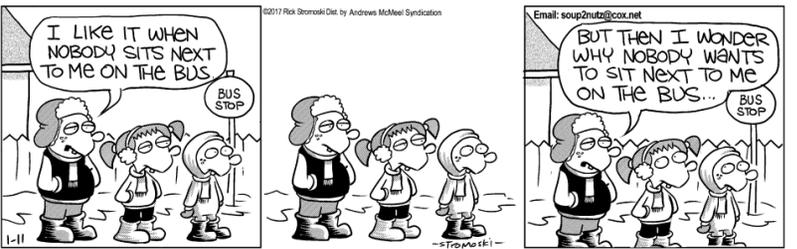
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SOUP TO NUTZ



ANDY CAPP



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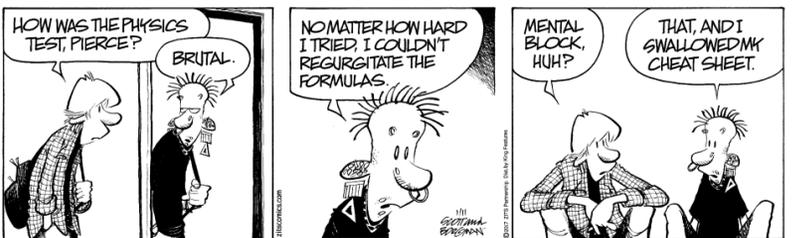
BORN LOSER



BLONDIE



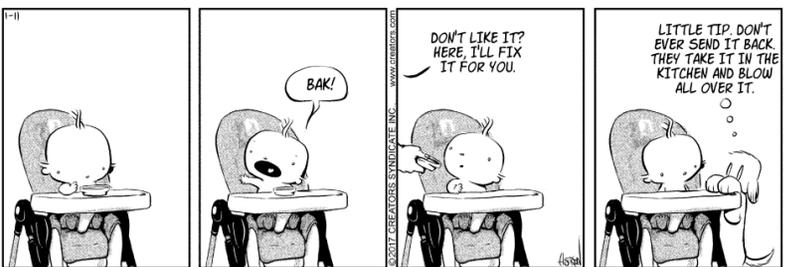
ZITS



MOTHER GOOSE



DOG EAT DOUG



DILBERT



JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE



Wife who escaped abuse must not return home



Dear Abby
ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: In the beginning of our marriage there was physical abuse and marital rape. I stayed anyway. Over the years we had two children. My husband, "Seth," and I

don't communicate because he has refused to talk about any issues we have. During the last few years, my youngest son has also become physically abusive to me.

I tried to leave many times but failed until last December when, because I had a heart attack, I moved in with family. I did it for the sake of my health and my sanity.

Seth now wants to talk about our issues. He suggested that I come back home. He has several medical problems, so I was taking care of all the household chores and working two jobs. My children will not help with the chores unless I scream and yell for hours.

I no longer love my husband. He wants to romance me and try to make me love him again. He is also very controlling. He feels I "owe" him a chance to prove that he loves me and can change. Am I wrong for leaving and letting go? I'm very confused.

Letting go in Florida

DEAR LETTING GO: You owe this man absolutely nothing! If you allow Seth the chance to romance you into coming back to take care of him, you'll wind up exactly where you started.

Your son abuses you because that's what he saw his father

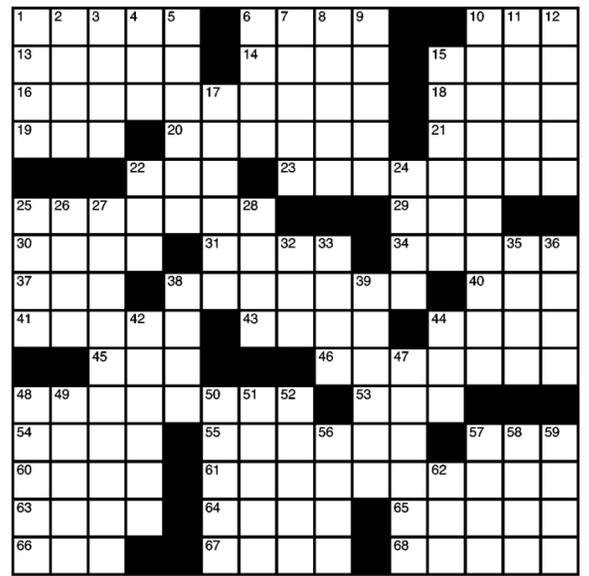
doing — and you allowed it. If you stand your ground now, it will show your son that abuse is not to be tolerated. I hope you'll teach him that lesson because it is an important one for him to learn.

DEAR ABBY: Do you field more questions from unmarried couples living together than from married couples? I can only judge from what is printed.

Inquisitive in Virginia

DEAR INQUISITIVE: That's an interesting question. Frankly, I have never broken down the letters into categories like "married" or "cohabiting." Many people live together before marriage today, but eventually progress to formalizing their relationship. Others do not. Married or not, their relationship questions interest me, or I wouldn't print them.

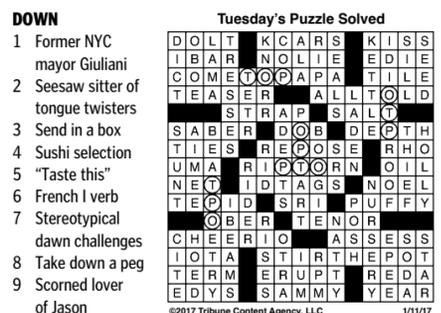
THE DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE



By Robert E. Lee Morris

1/11/17

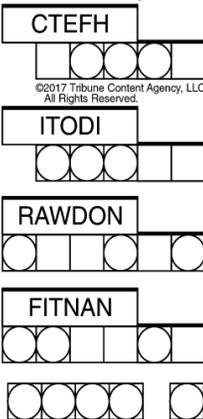
- ACROSS**
- 1 Bowling alley button
 - 6 European cheese town
 - 10 Puddle jumper trip
 - 13 Wedding figure
 - 14 ChapStick container
 - 15 Fix up
 - 16 Newspaper reporter's compensation?
 - 18 Big star
 - 19 "I'm with ya"
 - 20 Threatening words
 - 21 Farming prefix
 - 22 "Wheel of Fortune" buy
 - 23 Smooth, as transitions
 - 25 Wise
 - 29 DOJ bureau
 - 30 Dry as dust
 - 31 Speaker's spot
 - 34 Get out of bed
 - 37 "___ who?"
 - 38 Chiropractor's compensation?
 - 40 N.L. player whose home games include a Presidents Race
 - 41 Brownish-green
 - 43 Greenish-blue
 - 44 Some prosecutors: Abbr.
 - 45 "Selma" director DuVernay
 - 46 Drops in
 - 48 Medical emergency alert
 - 53 Baby fox
 - 54 Soon, to a bard
 - 55 Kibbutz setting
 - 57 Actress Thurman
 - 60 Cooling meas.
 - 61 Comedian's compensation?
 - 63 Bass' red triangle, e.g.
 - 64 Moran of "Happy Days"
 - 65 Flared dress
 - 66 New Testament bk.
 - 67 German battleship Graf
 - 68 Connection point
 - 10 Landscaper's compensation?
 - 11 Aromas
 - 12 Shirts named for a sport
 - 15 Theater district
 - 17 Lee who was the top-charting female soloist of the '60s
 - 22 Helping hand
 - 24 Painter Cassatt
 - 25 Over-the-shoulder band
 - 26 Square statistic
 - 27 Domino's delivery driver's compensation?
 - 28 Diplomatic skill
 - 32 '50s prez alternative
 - 33 Health resorts
 - 35 Swedish automaker
 - 36 Internet crafts marketplace
 - 38 Spill the beans
 - 39 PC feature only used in combinations
 - 42 "All the same ..."
 - 44 Fitting
 - 47 TV's J.R. Ewing, e.g.
 - 48 Part of CNN
 - 49 Winning
 - 50 "___ Been Good": Joe Walsh hit
 - 51 Take over
 - 52 Bath-loving Muppet
 - 56 Novelist Rice
 - 57 Windows alternative
 - 58 Drop-down list
 - 59 Yes votes
 - 62 Chihuahua cheer



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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



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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLOSS IMAGE NIMBLE FERVOR
Answer: With planes landing one after another, the sky was filled with — AIR LINES

SUDOKU

HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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

1/11

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TW	FT	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM
LOCAL CHANNELS												
WIS	10	3	10	WIS News 10 at 7:00pm Local news update.	Entertainment Tonight (N) (HD)	Blindspot: Droll Autumn, Unmutal Lord The team must stop a terrorist. (N) (HD)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit: Chasing Theo Missing six-year-old case. (N) (HD)	Chicago P.D.: You Wish A private police force suspected. (N) (HD)	WIS News 10 at 11:00pm News and weather.	(:35) The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon Michelle Obama returns to the show. (N) (HD)		
WLTX	19	9	9	News 19 @ 7pm Evening news update.	Insider Edition (N) (HD)	Undercover Boss: AdvantaClean A Light Environmental Service company. (N) (HD)	Criminal Minds: Seek and Destroy Deadly home invasions in San Diego. (N) (HD)	Code Black: Unfinished Business Guthrie considers having a risky surgery (N) (HD)	News 19 @ 11pm The news of the day.	(:35) The Late Show with Stephen Colbert Stephen Colbert interviews celebrities. (HD)		
WOLO	23	5	12	Wheel of Fortune (N) (HD)	Jeopardy! (N) (HD)	The Goldbergs: Snow Day (N) (HD)	Speechless: H-E-R—HERO (N) (HD)	Modern Family: Sarge & Pea (N) (HD)	black-ish: LEMONS Election tension. (N) (HD)	(:01) Match Game Four contestants fill in missing blanks. (N) (HD)	ABC Columbia News at 11 (HD)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live Celebrities and human-interest subjects. (HD)
WRJA	27	11	14	Naturescense SC: Sesquicentennial Park	Expeditions with Patrick McMillan (HD)	Nature: Snowbound: Animals of Winter (N) (HD)	NOVA: The Nuclear Option (N) (HD)	Uranium - Twisting the Dragon's Tail Dr. Derek Muller, host of the YouTube channel Veritasium, investigates the harrowing nature of uranium, the volatile element used to create nuclear reactions. (HD)			Charlie Rose (N) (HD)	
WACH	57	6	6	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	The Big Bang Theory Leonard's nose. (HD)	Lethal Weapon: Lawmen Murtaugh and Riggs investigate a death. (N) (HD)	(:01) Star: Next of Kin Carlotta becomes extremely protective. (N) (HD)	WACH FOX News at 10 Local news report and weather forecast.	Solid Orange	2 Broke Girls Wedding cake. (HD)	Mike & Molly: Valentine's Piggyback (HD)	
WKTC	63	4	22	Last Man Standing: School Merger (HD)	Last Man Standing Mandy's business. (HD)	Arrow: Invasion! Oliver wakes up to a seemingly perfect life; the recruits face a new threat. (HD)	Frequency: Negative Copy Raimy and Frank get stuck in a difficult situation. (N) (HD)	Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.: ...Ye Who Enter Here Agents discover the price of secrets. (HD)	Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.: What They Become Coulson and Whitehall's teams fight. (HD)	Hot in Cleveland: Love Thy Neighbor (HD)		
CABLE CHANNELS												
A&E	46	130		Duck Dynasty (HD)	Duck Dynasty (HD)	(:05) Duck Dynasty (HD)	(:32) Duck Dynasty (HD)	Duck Dynasty (N) (:31) Wahlburgers (N) (HD)	(:01) Going Si-ral (N) (HD)	Leah Remini: Scientology and the Aftermath Hate crimes. (HD)	(:33) Duck Dynasty (HD)	(:08) Duck Dynasty (HD)
AMC	48	180		(4:30) The Departed ('06, Crime) ★★ ★★ Leonardo DiCaprio. (HD)	The Dark Knight ('08, Action) ★★ ★★ Christian Bale. A new district attorney joins grandiose attacks of a giggling psychopath plunge Gotham City back into fear. (HD)							
ANPL	41	100		Tanked Outrageous build. (HD)	Tanked Vintage bus design. (HD)			(:01) Tanked: Sea-lebrity Edition: DJ Battle (N) (HD)			Tanked A doghouse tank. (HD)	Tanked (HD)
BET	61	162		Meet the Browns (HD)	Meet the Browns (HD)	Being Mary Jane (HD)		Martin DJ's attitude. (HD)	Martin DJ's attitude. (HD)	Martin DJ's attitude. (HD)	Martin DJ's attitude. (HD)	The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air
BRAVO	47	181		The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills: Pantygate	The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills: Amnesia Appetizers			The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills: Compromising Positions	Girlfriends' Guide to Divorce (N)	What Happens (N) (HD)	The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills: Compromising Positions	
CNBC	35	84		Blue	Blue	Shark Tank New ideas. (HD)		Shark Tank Stamping kit. (HD)	Blue Collar (N)	Blue Collar (N)	Shark Tank (HD)	Shark Tank
CNN	33	80		Erin Burnett OutFront (HD)	Anderson Cooper 360° (N) (HD)			To Be Announced	CNN Tonight with Don Lemon	Anderson Cooper 360° (N) (HD)	TBA	
COM	57	136		(:54) South Park (HD)	(:27) South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park (HD)	South Park: Canceled (HD)	South Park: Goobacks (HD)	Workaholics (N) (HD)	Jeff & Some Aliens (N) (HD)	Daily Show with Trevor (N)
DISN	18	200		K.C. Undercover (HD)	Good Luck Charlie (HD)	Stuck in the Middle (HD)	Good Luck Charlie (HD)	Liv and Maddie (HD)	Liv and Maddie (HD)	BUNK'D Announcement (HD)	BUNK'D Football training. (HD)	Jessie Time traveler. (HD)
DSC	42	103		Alaskan Bush People (HD)	Alaskan Bush People: Off (N)			Alaskan Bush People (N) (HD)	Alaskan Bush People (N) (HD)	Alaskan Bush People (N) (HD)	(:01) Alaskan Bush People (HD)	Alaskan (HD)
ESPN	26	35		NBA Countdown (HD)	NBA Basketball: Memphis Grizzlies at Oklahoma City Thunder [LIVE] (HD)					NBA Basketball: Cleveland vs Portland [LIVE] (HD)		
ESPN2	27	39		(6:00) College Basketball (HD)	College Basketball: North Carolina vs Wake Forest [LIVE] (HD)				SportsCenter (HD)	SportsCenter (HD)	Sports (HD)	
FOOD	40	109		Worst Cooks in America (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)			Cooks vs. Cons (N) (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	Cooks vs. Cons (HD)	Worst Cooks in America (HD)	Cooks/Cons
FOXN	37	90		Tucker Carlson Tonight (N)	The O'Reilly Factor (N) (HD)			To Be Announced	Hannity (N) (HD)	The O'Reilly Factor (HD)	TBA	
FREE	20	131		(6:30) Ferris Bueller's Day Off ('86, Comedy) ★★ ★★ 1/2 Matthew Broderick. A high school student skips school. (HD)	College Basketball: Pittsburgh vs Louisville [LIVE]			I Love You, Beth Cooper ('09, Comedy) ★★ Hayden Panettiere. Popular girl takes nerd on adventure. (HD)			The 700 Club (HD)	Gilmore Girls (HD)
FSS	31	42		College Basketball: Pittsburgh vs Louisville [LIVE]	College Basketball: North Carolina State vs Boston College						College Basketball: Pittsburgh vs Louisville	
HALL	52	183		Last Man Standing (HD)	Last Man Standing (HD)	Last Man Standing (HD)	Last Man Standing (HD)	The Middle (HD)	The Middle (HD)	The Middle: The Concert (HD)	The Middle (HD)	Gold. Girl Rose is angry.
HGTV	39	112		Property Brothers (HD)	Property Brothers (HD)			Property Brothers (N) (HD)	Hunters (HD)	Hunters (HD)	Property Brothers (HD)	Prop Bro (HD)
HIST	45	110		American Pickers (HD)	Vikings: Crossings (HD)			Vikings (N) (HD)	Forged in Fire: Cutting (N) (HD)	Vikings: The Great Army (HD)	Vikings (HD)	Vikings (HD)
ION	13	160		Law & Order: America, Inc. Military contractor murdered. (HD)	Law & Order: Thinking Makes It So Rob & kidnap. (HD)			Law & Order: Positive Shooter's revenge for death of sister. (HD)	Law & Order: Kingmaker Undercover officer murdered. (HD)	Law & Order: Hindsight Falco's bathroom. (HD)	Law & Order: Invaders (HD)	Law & Order: Invaders (HD)
LIFE	50	145		Vivica's Black Magic: Finding Magic First performance. (HD)	Little Women: Atlanta: A Little Extra: Party Foul (N) (HD)			Little Women: Atlanta: The Truth Hurts Minnie's past. (N) (HD)	(:02) Vivica's Black Magic: Locals vs Out of Towners (N) (HD)	(:02) Vivica's Black Magic: Locals vs Out of Towners (HD)	Little Women: Atlanta (HD)	Little Women: Atlanta (HD)
MSNBC	36	92		Hardball with Chris (N) (HD)	All in with Chris Hayes (HD)			The Rachel Maddow Show (N)	Lawrence O'Donnell (HD)	11th Hour (HD)	Hardball (HD)	Maddow (HD)
NICK	16	210		Paradise (N)	Thunderman	Thunderman	Shakers (HD)	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends (HD)	Friends (HD)
SPIKE	64	153		(6:30) Men in Black ('97, Science Fiction) ★★ ★★ Will Smith. (HD)	The Waterboy ('98, Comedy) ★★ 1/2 Adam Sandler. (HD)						Bad Boys ('95, Action) ★★ 1/2 Martin Lawrence. (HD)	
SYFY	58	152		Narnia: Prince Caspian (HD)	National Treasure: Book of Secrets ('07, Comedy) ★★ ★★ Nicolas Cage. Ben Gates attempts to unlock the mystery behind Abraham Lincoln's assassination. (HD)			Incorporated: Executables			Push ('09, Thriller) ★★ 1/2 Chris Evans. People with special abilities. (HD)	
TBS	24	156		Seinfeld: The Shoes (HD)	Seinfeld: The Old Man (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	The Big Bang Theory (HD)	Full Frontal (N) (HD)	Conan (N) (HD)	2 Broke Girls (HD)
TCM	49	186		(5:45) The Green Slime ('68) ★	Under Influence: Bill Murray	Psycho ('60, Horror) ★★ ★★ Anthony Perkins. A fugitive woman stops at a motel run by a recluse and his tyrannical mother. (HD)			The Killers ('46, Crime) ★★ ★★ 1/2 Burt Lancaster. A determined insurance investigator probes a strange murder in a small town. (HD)			Days of Heaven ('78) ★★ ★★ 1/2
TLC	43	157		(6:00) My 600-lb Life (N) (HD)	My 600-lb Life: Ashley R's Story Major change. (N) (HD)				Too Close To Home (N) (HD)	My 600-lb Life: Ashley R's Story (HD)		
TNT	23	158		Bones: The Dude in the Dam A failed model. (HD)	Tammy ('14, Comedy) ★★ ★★ Melissa McCarthy. After tough times, a woman decides to take a roadtrip with her grandmother. (HD)				Tammy ('14, Comedy) ★★ ★★ Melissa McCarthy. After tough times, a woman decides to take a roadtrip with her grandmother. (HD)			Hawaii Five-0: E Malama (HD)
TRUTV	38	129		Jokers (HD)	Jokers (HD)	Jokers (HD)	Jokers (HD)	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Carbonaro	Carbonaro
TVLAND	55	161		A Griffith (HD)	A Griffith (HD)	A Griffith (HD)	(:48) Loves Raymond (HD)	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Loves Ray.	Queens (HD)	Queens (HD)
USA	25	132		NCIS: Phoenix Ducky orders exhumation of Navy officer. (HD)	NCIS: Lost at Sea Helicopter crew lost at sea. (HD)			NCIS: The Namesake Gibbs' namesake is brought into case. (HD)	NCIS: Gone Teenage girl sees her friend get taken. (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)	Modern Family (HD)
WE	68	166		CSI: Miami: Paint It Black (HD)	CSI: Miami: G.O. (HD)			CSI: Miami: Mayday (HD)	CSI: Miami: Certain death. (HD)	CSI: Miami (HD)	CSI: Miami (HD)	CSI Miami
WGN	8	172		Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Salem: Friday's Knights (N) (HD)	Salem: Friday's Knights (HD)	(:02) Cops (HD)	Cops (HD)	Salem (HD)

'Nature' finds the adorable above the Arctic Circle

BY KEVIN McDONOUGH

Viewers addicted to cute animal videos should not miss tonight's "Nature" (8 p.m., PBS, TV-PG, check local listings). "Snowbound: Animals of Winter" shows how creatures adapt to the frigid temperatures of the Arctic and Antarctic regions.

Wildlife cameraman Gordon Buchanan documents wolves, polar bears, penguins, lynx, Arctic rodents and caterpillars in temperatures 50 degrees below zero and lower.

Anybody who owns a dog knows that their paws are the first things to afflict them in cold temperatures. Arctic wolves have evolved to avoid that problem. The pads on their feet may be exposed just like your dog's, but their blood does not circulate to the bottoms of their feet, thereby avoiding a numbing heat loss.

Polar bears get by with a thick padding of insulating fat — a 4-inch layer. In fact, when they feast on seals in the winter, they devour only the blubber and leave the rich meat and protein behind. Apparently, polar bears enjoy the anti-Atkins diet.

Buchanan manages to capture polar bears in hibernation. Unlike brown bears that create burrows in the earth, polar bears merely lie down in the snow and wait for blizzards to cover them up. Their fat keeps them warm as their heart rate and metabolism slow down.

Just in case you were wondering how bears "go to the bathroom" while hibernating, "Snowbound" has the answer. They have evolved mechanisms to turn their urine and waste into protein as they hibernate.

Polar bears can even give birth and nurse in that suspended state. If you've never seen a newborn polar bear swaddled up to its groggy mom under an igloo of snow, then you haven't known cute.

Buchanan later captures the cubs as they burst energetically from their winter home to frolic and play under the first sky they have ever known. Anything cuter would be unobtainable.

The new series "Street Science" (10 p.m., Science) stars "science guy" and storyteller Kevin Delaney, who combines hardware store gadgetry with the scientific method and post-adolescent curiosity and wonder. "Street" segments will

showcase a manmade fire tornado, ways to turn a leaf blower into a homemade hovercraft, a crowd-pleasing instant nitrogen cloud and surprising uses for hydrogen peroxide.

TONIGHT'S OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- "Unsung" (8 p.m., TV One) recalls rapper-turned mogul Fat Joe. Interview subjects include 50 Cent, Remy Ma, Swizz Beats and others.
- "Schitt's Creek" (8 p.m., Pop, TV-14), starring Eugene Levy and Catherine O'Hara, enters its third season.
- Cooperation with the CIA thwarts a New York bombing plot on "Blindspot" (8 p.m., NBC, TV-14).
- Colleagues become rivals on "Lethal Weapon" (8 p.m., Fox, TV-14).
- Five years after the Fukushima disaster, "NOVA" (9 p.m., PBS, TV-PG, check local listings) looks at the future of nuclear power and emerging technologies that would prevent future meltdowns.
- Legions assemble in Kattegat on "Vikings" (9 p.m., History, TV-14).
- Guthrie mulls a risky procedure on "Code Black" (10 p.m., CBS, TV-14).

- A sensitive case requires an independent investigation on "Chicago P.D." (10 p.m., NBC, TV-14).
- "Girlfriends' Guide to Divorce" (10 p.m., Bravo, TV-14) enters its third season.
- Josh wants Lucy to meet his mother on "Man Seeking Woman" (10:30 p.m., FXX, TV-MA).

SERIES NOTES

Murray's secret on "The Goldbergs" (8 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) * Help arrives from fellow heroes on "Arrow" (8 p.m., CW, r, TV-14) * Insurance hurdles on "Speechless" (8:30 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) * Home invasions on "Criminal Minds" (9 p.m., CBS, TV-14) * Benson doubts her worth as a mother on "Law & Order: SVU" (9 p.m., NBC, TV-14) * Carlotta feels protective on "Star" (9 p.m., Fox, TV-14) * Luke and Manny go on a college tour on "Modern Family" (9 p.m., ABC, TV-PG) * Frank's insight on "Frequency" (9 p.m., CW, TV-14) * An orange crush on "black-ish" (9:30 p.m., ABC, TV-PG).

LATE NIGHT

Jonathan Chait is booked on

"The Daily Show With Trevor Noah" (11 p.m., Comedy Central) * Jude Law, Gabrielle Union and Thomas L. Friedman are booked on "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (11:35 p.m., CBS) * Jimmy Fallon welcomes first lady Michelle Obama on "The Tonight Show" (11:35 p.m., NBC) * An-

drew Garfield, Mary Steenburgen and Colony House visit "Late Night With Seth Meyers" (12:35 a.m., NBC) * Khloe Kardashian and Betty White appear on "The Late Late Show With James Corden" (12:35 a.m., CBS).

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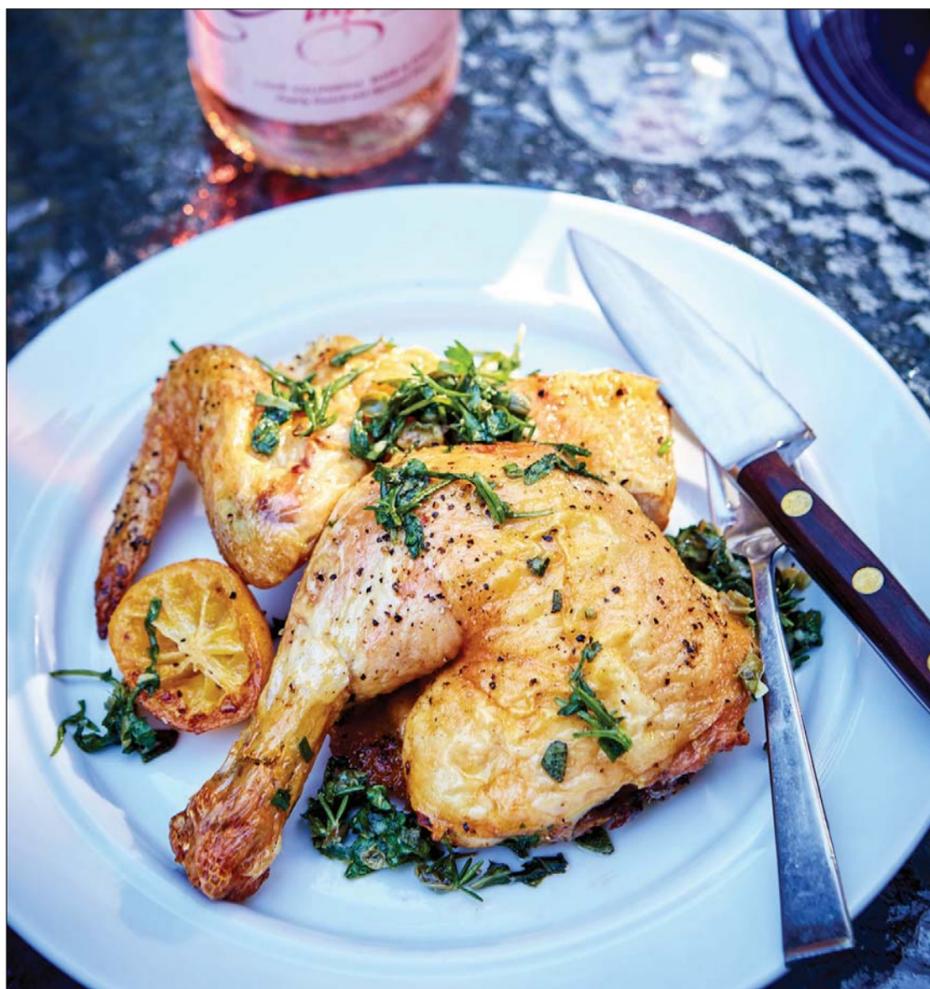
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FAMILY FEATURES

Roasted Chicken with Salsa Verde is a recipe from James Beard award-winning chef Jonathan Waxman.

Warm up and reimagine your winter weather menu

FAMILY FEATURES

Sweaters and scarves aren't the only ways to brace yourself against blustery weather. There's no time like winter to putter in the kitchen, where the cozy heat from the stove and the aromas of mouthwatering dishes can warm you from the inside out.

Rich, hearty stews and creamy casseroles are perfect for winter dinners, but when you're craving something other than traditional comfort food, there are plenty of other options that will chase away the chill, such as a glass of Pinot Noir.

These three dishes feature common proteins — chicken, beef and fish — in preparations that make it easy to reimagine your winter weather menu. Find more recipes and ideas for warming up this winter at *culinary.net*.



GETTY IMAGE

GRILLED CITRUS ROSEMARY CATFISH

Recipe courtesy of The Catfish Institute

Servings: 4

Citrus Sauce:

1 lime, juice and zest only

- 1 lemon, zest only
- 1 orange, zest only
- 6 ounces pineapple juice
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon fresh rosemary, chopped
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Catfish:

- 4 U.S. farm-raised catfish fillets
- 2 lemons
- salt, to taste
- freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Heat grill.
To make citrus sauce: In small saucepan, combine all sauce ingredients. Bring to boil; reduce heat and simmer 5 minutes.

To make catfish: Place catfish in shallow dish and squeeze 1/2 fresh lemon over each fillet. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Let rest 5 minutes.

Grill catfish fillets, skin side up, 3-4 minutes. Flip over and grill 2-3 more minutes.

Transfer catfish to serving plates, and spoon warmed citrus sauce over fillets.



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A COLD-WEATHER SOLUTION

While it can be a challenge, there are several ways to pair food and wine appropriately during winter. A warm, comforting dish, like Roasted Chicken with Salsa Verde from James Beard award-winning chef Jonathan Waxman, combines well with rosé during the cold season. One reasonably priced wine that matches chicken well is Angeline California Rosé of Pinot Noir. The crisp flavors of light red fruits combine with the herbs accompanying the chicken. For more wines that work well in wintertime, visit *angelinewinery.com*.

ROASTED CHICKEN AND SALSA VERDE

Recipe courtesy of chef Jonathan Waxman

Chicken:

- 1 fresh free-range organic chicken (4 pounds)
- sea salt, to taste
- freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 lemon

Salsa Verde:

- 1/4 cup capers in salt
- 4 anchovy fillets
- 3 cloves garlic
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1/2 cup chopped arugula
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh basil
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 1/4 cup chopped tarragon
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh chives
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh sage
- 1 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon sea salt

To make chicken: Heat oven to 450 F.

Wash chicken in hot water. Dry with paper towels.

Using kitchen shears, cut out backbone of chicken and remove any fat (this can be added to chicken stock). Using heavy

chef's knife, cut out breastbone. Season halves with sea salt and black pepper.

Place chicken halves, skin side up, on two sizzle platters and dab with olive oil. Cut lemon in half and place 1 half, cut side down, next to chicken on each platter.

Roast chicken 35 minutes, basting every 10 minutes. When done, remove chicken to platter and pour off excess fat. Cut each breast in half and cut the thigh from the leg. Serve with salsa verde (recipe below) and garnish with roasted lemon.

To make salsa verde: Soak capers in cold water 1 hour then drain.

Soak anchovies in cold water 15 minutes then pat dry and remove bones.

Using mortar and pestle, smash capers, anchovies and garlic, until smooth, then transfer to large bowl.

Add all herbs and olive oil. Season with sea salt.

BLACK SKILLET BEEF WITH GREENS AND RED POTATOES

Recipe courtesy of the USDA

- 1 pound top-round beef
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 1 1/2 teaspoons oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon chili powder
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon red pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon dry mustard
- nonstick spray
- 8 red-skinned potatoes, halved
- 3 cups onion, finely chopped
- 2 cups beef broth

- 2 large garlic cloves, minced
- 2 large carrots, peeled and cut into 2 1/2-inch strips
- 2 bunches (1/2 pound each) mustard, kale or turnip greens, stems removed, coarsely torn

Partially freeze beef. Thinly slice across grain into strips 1/8-inch thick and 3 inches wide. Trim away visible fat.

Combine paprika, oregano, chili powder, garlic powder, black pepper, red pepper and dry mustard. Coat strips of meat with

spice mixture.

Spray large, heavy skillet with nonstick spray. Heat pan over high heat.

Add meat; cook, stirring constantly, 5 minutes.

Add potatoes, onion, broth and garlic. Cook over medium heat, covered, 20 minutes.

Stir in carrots; lay greens over top and cook, covered, until carrots are tender, about 15 minutes.

Serve in large serving bowl with crusty bread for dunking.



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