

Maverick Food Pantry received \$36,000

By AMALIA SHARAF
Staff Writer

The Maverick Food Pantry received a \$36,000 grant to support its operational budget this academic year.

Megan Heutmaker, director of American Indian Affairs, said the grant will help maintain current offerings in the pantry as they have observed an increase in student usage of the service.

“This requires more food and also, our cost of food has gone up over the last couple of years here,” said Heutmaker. “So with the grant, we will be able to continue offering and allowing the same capacity of student usage for the rest of this academic year for sure.”

Maverick Food Pantry is a resource available throughout the year for students facing food insecurity. Heutmaker said research done several years ago shows two-thirds of Minnesota State students face medium to high food insecurity. The space opened for students in January 2021 and continues to support students.

Maverick Food Pantry receives funding from Diversity, Equity and Inclusion as well as from Kearney International Center and Student Government. Heutmaker said the pantry almost ran out of money in the past year.

“There’s still some in our student allocation fee money, so we’ll be using that to get us through,” said Heutmaker. “With the increase in numbers, we’ve already spent a decent amount of money on food this year. We’re just trying to make sure we can make it to the



NATHANAEL TILAHUN • The Reporter

The Maverick Food Pantry received a \$36,000 grant to support its operational budget this academic year.

end of the year.”

Heutmaker said she hopes to get more culturally specific foods available at Maverick Food Pantry. She said some requests are expensive, but they will try to fulfill students’ expectations.

“Because I know we have a wide variety of student population who use our pantry,” said Heutmaker. “And so I know a big request that we’ve gotten a lot of times is to have Halal meats available. I will see if we can get some of that into our

space.”

Maverick Food Pantry partners with Second Harvest, a large food distribution center, which helps source food at a lower or reduced cost to pantries throughout the area.

“Instead of me having to go run to the grocery store and load my car up with a bunch of food, we get pallets of food delivered to us because basically what Second Harvest does is collect food from all sorts of different sources, farmers,

production companies and grocery stores,” said Heutmaker. “Then they make it available for us to see what is in the inventory.”

Heutmaker welcomes students to visit Maverick Food Pantry.

“My favorite part is knowing that a student can have a choice of food that I think is good and healthy,” said Heutmaker. “Sometimes we get the ability to order a few fun things like ice cream recently. But it’s better than just eating

PANTRY on page 3»

MSU Students determined to keep New Year’s resolutions

By LAUREN VISKA
Staff Writer

With every new year comes New Year’s resolutions. People often don’t stick with them because they’re too ambitious, or they lose motivation by the year’s first week.

Minnesota State theater major Hunter Conrad said he is motivated by his New Year’s resolutions and doesn’t want to repeat past failed attempts. His goal for the new year is to read more acting books and journal his thoughts to help apply them to the roles he auditions for.

“Being able to read something, write it down and then be able to look back and say, ‘This is what I want to do, or this is a takeaway from the book,’ and try to apply it to my audition or my show,” said Conrad.

Every year, the saying “new year, new me” is on everyone’s minds for the first few days of January. Conrad said this year he will take a different approach to the saying.

“It’s going to be the same me; I just think I’m going to have different approaches to life and different approaches to my career and my success,” said Conrad. “I’m hoping to keep my personality the same this year.”

For others, New Year’s resolutions are a way of connecting with people and mending relationships. Brady Waibel said he hopes this year is better than last, as it was rough for him. For 2024, he said he has a “newfound perspective.”

“I want to kind of foster the relationships that I have, especially the friendships. I have a lot of friends on both coasts and in town,” said Waibel. “I think it’s just really important to me to keep developing those and kind of not taking them for granted.”

Waibel said that he never stuck with his New Year’s resolutions because life got in the way, and he thinks it happens to many people.

“You start out with good intentions, and then things get in the way of that. It’s kind of easy to drop the newest thing,” said Waibel. “So that’s why it’s kind of easy to drop them come February. After that, it’s like, ‘Oh, I got other things to

RESOLUTIONS on page 3»

Increase in room and meal plan rates

By EMMA JOHNSON
Editor in Chief

Under a proposal by the Residence Hall Association at the first Student Government meeting of spring semester, residence hall students can expect to see a 5% increase in room and meal rates.

RHA President Sammy Higgins addressed several of the recommendations sent out to students, most of them adding to the base rates on room and meal plans. Over 27 students from the RHA participated in the voting.

One of the suggestions passed was upgrading residential hall desk equipment to check out such as games, sporting equipment and cookware. Only one student rejected the idea, adding \$1 to the base rate.

The other suggestion that passed regarded adding more berries to the salad bar in the Dining Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Strawberries, raspberries and



NATHANAEL TILAHUN • The Reporter

Residence Hall Association President Sammy Higgins addressed several suggestions toward the residence halls including room and meal rates to increase.

grapes are a few of the additions. Over 20 students voted in agreement, adding an additional \$10 to the base rate.

Suggestions that didn’t pass in-

cluded: giving students a promotional RHA item, swapping hand dryers for paper or cloth towels in bathrooms and a make-your-own-omelet option in the Dining

Center. With the \$11 increase, a 5% increase is expected to take place during the 2024-25 academic year.

Director of Residential Life Cindy Janney mentioned the bathrooms in Crawford will be renovated in the next two years.

“We have to do it because we’ve got leaky plumbing. Rather than replace leaky plumbing and keeping the old bathroom design, we’ve been hearing concerns from students for a number of years, we’re increasing the privacy quite a bit,” Janney said.

In the new bathrooms, there will be four spots where a toilet and shower will be behind a full-length door. Two additional spots will be just for showering, another two spots will have a toilet and urinal, and six additional spaces will still be out in public.

Half of the halls will be renovated from May to December of 2024 with the other half of the halls being finished from January to August 2025.

Investigation starts into why a panel blew off a Boeing Max 9 jet



National Transportation Safety Board • The Associated Press

This photo released by the National Transportation Safety Board shows a gaping hole where the paneled-over door had been at the fuselage plug area of Alaska Airlines Flight 1282 on Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024, in Portland, Oregon.

By DAVID KOENIG and
TOM KRISHER
The Associated Press

The extended grounding of some Boeing 737 Max jetliners is adding to pressure on Boeing and the subcontractor that made the fuselage and installed a panel that blew out leaving a gaping hole in an Alaska Airlines plane last week.

Investigators know the sequence of events that led to the blowout Friday night, but they don't know the cause. A key question is whether bolts used to help secure the panel, called a door plug, were installed. A National Transportation Safety Board investigator says the bolts have not been recovered and the agency won't know if they were even in place until the door plug is examined in a laboratory.

Adding to Boeing's problems, Alaska Airlines and United Airlines — the two U.S. carriers that fly the Max 9 — reported finding loose bolts and other hardware in other panels, suggesting quality issues with the door plugs are not limited to one plane.

The plugs are installed in Max 9 fuselages by subcontractor Spirit AeroSystems, which was spun off by Boeing in 2005. Spirit has a history of manufacturing problems, many uncovered in a U.S. House probe of two fatal crashes involving Boeing 737 Max 8 planes.

"The focus needs to turn to Spirit," said former congressman Peter DeFazio, who chaired the investigating committee. "Boeing has been happy with the crappy stuff from Spirit because it's cheap."

The company said in a statement Monday that "quality and product integrity" are a priority. "Spirit is a committed partner with Boeing on the 737 program, and we continue to work together with them on this matter," it said.

The process of inspecting Max 9s and returning them to service has been slower than Alaska and United had hoped. The Federal Aviation Administration grounded all Max 9s in the United States on Saturday until they could be inspected, but Boeing didn't provide inspection instructions until Monday.

On Tuesday, the FAA said those instructions were being revised "because of feedback," and it extended the grounding of the planes.

"The safety of the flying public, not speed, will determine the timeline for returning the Boeing 737-9 Max to service," the FAA said in a statement.

However, the inspection delays threw airline schedules into turmoil.

United said it canceled another 170 flights Tuesday because of the grounding. Alaska said it scrubbed 109 flights because it couldn't fly Max 9s.

The part that failed on the Alaska flight is installed on some Boeing jets when airliners don't have enough seats to require more emergency exits. The plugs are lighter than an aircraft door, reducing the plane's weight and saving fuel. They are common on cargo planes that have been converted from passenger use.

During a briefing late Monday, NTSB officials described how the plug on Alaska flight 1282 rolled upward and flew off the jet. Four bolts and 12 connecting points between the plug and the door frame are supposed to prevent that from happening.

"We have not yet recovered the four bolts that restrain (the plug) from its vertical movement, and we have not yet determined if they existed there," said NTSB aerospace engineer Clint Crookshanks. "That will be determined when we take the plug to our lab in Washington, D.C."

It is not clear whether Spirit

AeroSystems or Boeing technicians last worked on the door plug, which can be opened for maintenance.

Steven Wallace, former head of accident investigations for the FAA, said it was unlikely that Alaska crews worked on the plug because the plane was only delivered to the airline in October.

That means the investigation will likely focus on manufacturing, assembly and quality control, Wallace said.

This could put more pressure on Boeing CEO David Calhoun, who was brought in to help the company get past the crisis created by the Max crashes.

During his tenure, Boeing has lost \$23 billion and struggled with manufacturing flaws that have at times held up deliveries of 737s and larger Boeing 787s.

Calhoun called an all-employees meeting Tuesday, hosted at the company's 737 factory in Renton, Washington.

"We're going to approach this, number one, acknowledging our mistake," Calhoun said, according to comments provided by Boeing. Reporters were not allowed to attend.

The CEO said he trusts the NTSB to find the cause of the accident, and trusts the FAA to take all necessary steps "to ensure every next airplane that moves into the sky is in fact safe, and that this event can never happen again."

No one was seriously hurt Friday aboard the affected Alaska jetliner, but Ed Pierson, a former senior manager at Boeing's 737 factory, said the door plug issue is a wake-up call for Boeing and regulators to act before something worse happens.

Pierson, now the executive director of The Foundation for Aviation Safety, said Boeing assembly line workers are pressured to rush, and that the company has cut back on quality control inspections. That, he said, can lead to mistakes.

NASA's astronaut moonshots hit another delay



CORY HUTSON • The Associated Press

On Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024, NASA said astronauts will have to wait until 2025 before flying to the moon and another few years before landing on it.

By MARCIA DUNN
The Associated Press

Astronauts will have to wait until next year before flying to the moon and at least two years before landing on it, under the latest round of delays announced by NASA on Tuesday.

The space agency had planned to send four astronauts around the moon late this year, but pushed the flight to September 2025. The first human moon landing in more than 50 years also got bumped, from 2025 to September 2026. NASA cited safety concerns with its own spacecraft, as well as development issues with the moonsuits and landers coming from private industry.

"Safety is our top priority," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. The delays will "give Artemis teams more time to work through

the challenges."

The news came barely an hour after a Pittsburgh company abandoned its own attempt to land its spacecraft on the moon because of a mission-ending fuel leak.

Launched Monday as part of NASA's commercial lunar program, Astrobotic Technology's Peregrine lander was supposed to serve as a scout for the astronauts. A Houston company will give it a shot with its own lander next month.

NASA is relying heavily on private companies for its Artemis moon-landing program for astronauts, named after the mythological twin sister of Apollo.

SpaceX's Starship mega rocket will be needed to get the first Artemis moonwalkers from lunar orbit down to the surface and back up.

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Fatal avalanche strikes in California ski resort



ANDY BARRON • The Associated Press
Placer County sheriff vehicles are parked near the ski lift at Palisades Tahoe where avalanche occurred on Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2024, in Tahoe, Calif.

By SCOTT SONNER and
and STEFANIE DAZIO
The Associated Press

An avalanche roared through a section of expert trails at a California ski resort near Lake Tahoe on Wednesday, killing one person and injuring another, as a major storm with snow and gusty winds moved into the region, authorities said.

The avalanche prompted Palisades Tahoe to close 30 minutes after it opened, and search crews combed the area to see if anyone was injured or trapped.

Sgt. David Smith, a spokesperson for the Placer County sheriff, said hours later that one person, a male, died, and another person sustained non-life-threatening injuries. Olympic Valley Fire Chief Brad Chisholm said the injured person suffered a lower leg injury.

Officials said nobody else was missing.

The avalanche occurred around 9:30 a.m. on steep slopes in the GS Gully area under the KT-22 lift, which serves “black diamond” runs for skilled skiers and snowboarders. Michael Gross, vice president of mountain operations, said ski patrols had been on the slopes checking the avalanche conditions since Sunday.

“They’ve been up there doing control work, evaluating weather conditions, setting up all safety markings, hazard markings, et cetera, to get them prepared for today’s opening,” Gross told reporters at a news conference Wednesday.

The popular lift opened Wednesday for the first time this season. Palisades Tahoe said in a statement on X, formerly Twitter, that the entire resort would be closed for the rest of the day.

The people who were killed and injured were guests at the resort and from out of town, officials said. Two others were caught in the slide and extracted from the snow without injuries.

The avalanche debris field spanned about 150 feet (45.72 meters) wide, 450 feet (137.16 meters) long and 10 feet (3.05 meters) deep, the sheriff’s office said.

“This is a very sad day for my

team and everyone here,” said Dee Byrne, president of Palisades Tahoe, her voice emotional.

Skier Mark Sponsler said he arrived at the KT-22 lift around 9:30 a.m. amid howling winds and white-out conditions to find it shut down. Unbeknownst to him, the avalanche had just hit.

He spoke to someone who was in the second group to ride up. That person had watched the disaster strike from above, said Sponsler, a veteran weather forecaster and founder of stormsurf.com.

“There was screaming, there were skis and poles and a hand sticking up out of the snow,” Sponsler said the witness told him.

The cause of the avalanche is under investigation, officials said. It happened as a powerful storm was expected to bring as much as 2 feet (61 centimeters) of snow to the highest elevations by early Thursday.

Palisades, the site for the 1960 Winter Olympics, is on the western side of Lake Tahoe, about 40 miles (64 kilometers) from Reno, Nevada.

The National Weather Service in Reno said 2 inches (5 centimeters) could fall per hour Wednesday around the lake.

A 110 mph (177 kph) gust was recorded Tuesday afternoon at the summit of Alpine Meadows, the adjoining resort, the weather service said.

Dan Lavelly, 67, of Reno is a season pass holder at Palisades and skied mostly at Alpine Meadows on Monday when there was very little snow and the KT-22 lift was closed.

“They didn’t have enough snow to open the lift, it wasn’t even running. ... Today was supposed to be the first day they opened KT-22,” he said.

The steep run along the side of the lift is where the giant slalom was held during the 1960 Olympics, he said.

“Really good skiers love it because it’s really steep,” he said. “I remember when I was really young I was skiing around there. I fell over and slid like two-thirds of the way down the mountain. There was no way to stop because it’s just so steep.”

DNA hints at multiple sclerosis cause

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
The Associated Press

Ancient DNA helps explain why northern Europeans have a higher risk of multiple sclerosis than other ancestries: It’s a genetic legacy of horseback-riding cattle herders who swept into the region about 5,000 years ago.

The findings come from a huge project to compare modern DNA with that culled from ancient humans’ teeth and bones — allowing scientists to trace both prehistoric migration and disease-linked genes that tagged along.

When a Bronze Age people called the Yamnaya moved from the steppes of what are now Ukraine and Russia into northwestern Europe, they carried gene variants that today are known to increase people’s risk of multiple sclerosis, researchers reported Wednesday.

Yet the Yamnaya flourished, widely spreading those variants. Those genes probably also protected the nomadic herders from infections carried by their cattle and sheep, concluded the research published in the journal Nature.

“What we found surprised everyone,” said study co-author William Barrie, a genetics researcher at the University of Cambridge. “These variants were giving these people an advantage of some kind.”

It’s one of several findings from a first-of-its-kind gene bank with thousands of samples from early humans in Europe and western Asia, a project headed by Eske Willerslev of Cambridge and the University of Copenhagen who helped pioneer the study of ancient DNA. Similar research has traced even earlier cousins of humans such as Neanderthals.



NAME • The Associated Press

This photo provided by the University of Copenhagen in January 2024 shows the process of ancient DNA extraction at the Lundbeck Foundation GeoGenetics Center in Copenhagen.

Using the new gene bank to explore MS was a logical first step. That’s because while MS can strike any population, it is most common among white descendants of northern Europeans and scientists have been unable to explain why.

The potentially disabling disease occurs when immune system cells mistakenly attack the protective coating on nerve fibers, gradually eroding them.

It causes varying symptoms — numbness and tingling in one person, impaired walking and vision loss in another — that often wax and wane.

It’s not clear what causes MS although a leading theory is that certain infections could trigger it in people who are genetically susceptible.

More than 230 genetic variants have been found that can increase someone’s risk.

The researchers first examined DNA from about 1,600 ancient

Eurians, mapping some major shifts in northern Europe’s population. First, farmers from the Middle East began supplanting hunter-gatherers and then, nearly 5,000 years ago, the Yamnaya began moving in — traveling with horses and wagons as they herded cattle and sheep.

The research team compared the ancient DNA to about 400,000 present-day people stored in a UK gene bank, to see the MS-linked genetic variations persist in the north, the direction the Yamnaya moved, rather than in southern Europe.

In what is now Denmark, the Yamnaya rapidly replaced ancient farmers, making them the closest ancestors of modern Danes, Willerslev said.

MS rates are particularly high in Scandinavian countries.

Why would gene variants presumed to have strengthened ancient immunity later play a role in an autoimmune disease?

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Snow in the West and flooding in the Northeast

By KATHY McCORMACK
The Associated Press

Drenching rains, flooding and fierce winds stranded vehicles, shuttered schools and knocked out power to hundreds of thousands in the Northeast, the swan song of a bout of violent weather that battered most of the United States. Forecasters warned Wednesday that more misery was not far behind.

The storm hit the Northeast on Tuesday night and moved out Wednesday after toppling trees, downing power lines, and forcing water rescues on flooded or washed-out roads.

Wind gusts reached as high as 95 mph (153 kph) in Maine, and blustery weather continued Wednesday. Philadelphia, which sits on the Delaware River upstream from the Atlantic Ocean, experienced its highest storm surge on record.

Another storm could bring heavy rain and high winds to the Northeast from Friday night into Saturday, forecasters said.

The region's woes followed a day of tornadoes and deadly accidents in the South and blizzards in the Midwest and Northwest. In some parts of the Pacific Northwest and the Rockies, more than 2 feet (about 75 centimeters) of snow fell.

◀ PANTRY from page 1

popcorn and ramen because I've had students tell me, 'Well, I don't have to eat just ramen anymore.' That's very good."

Every student can visit the pantry once a week. Students can also volunteer for the Maverick Food Pantry.

◀ RESOLUTIONS from page 1

do." For some, making New Year's resolutions isn't their thing because of how likely they are not to follow through with them. Maya Rutledge did not make any this year, as she said it's pointless.

"I just don't tend to follow through on very long-term commitments like that that are not physical. I find it hard to keep myself accountable," said Rutledge. "Intangible things like that are harder for me to keep track of. I also think some people have the same issue with them that I do, or they just set unrealistic goals."

US adults say the economy is top priority

By MATT BROWN
and LINLEY SANDERS
The Associated Press

Americans of various racial backgrounds largely agree that the government should focus on the economy and foreign policy issues in 2024, but recent polling shows that views among racial groups diverge on some high-profile topics, including racism and immigration.

About 7 in 10 U.S. adults across racial backgrounds — including white, Black, Hispanic and Asian adults — name issues related to the economy in an open-ended question that asks people to share up to five topics they would like the government to prioritize in 2024, making it the most commonly mentioned issue for each group, as well as for U.S. adults overall at 76%.

Inflation specifically stood out as a major issue. About 3 in 10 adults who are white, AAPI or Hispanic list inflation as an important focus for 2024. About 2 in 10 Black adults also listed inflation as a top concern.

The data on U.S. adults overall — including Black, Hispanic and white adults — comes from an Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll conducted in December. The data on AAPI communities comes from an AAPI Data/AP-NORC poll that aims to improve the survey data available about Asian American communities in the U.S., which are often underrepresented in public opinion research.

On some issues beyond the economy, views diverge.

Immigration was named as a top priority for government action by 43% of Hispanic adults, 36% of white adults and 29% of Asians and Pacific Islanders, but only 19% of Black adults. Black and AAPI adults are less likely than white and Hispanic adults to mention involvement in overseas conflicts and other U.S. involvement internationally. About one quarter of

white and Hispanic adults mention this as an issue to prioritize, compared to 7% for both Black and AAPI adults.

"You've got so many people crossing the border," said Rick Chan, an artificial intelligence engineer in the San Francisco Bay Area.

"People should obey the laws when coming into the country," said Chan, who is Chinese American.

White adults were more likely than adults from other racial and ethnic groups to name politics as an important issue for the upcoming year. Four in 10 white adults name politics as a necessary focal point for the government, compared to 2 in 10 Black or AAPI adults. About one-third of Hispanic adults consider politics an important focus. White adults are also more likely than non-white adults to be concerned about government spending, government corruption and taxes.

"We always have to have a budget in place to keep the government from shutting down. I don't think the Republicans look at it that way," said Jim O'Leary, a former railroad worker from Missouri. O'Leary, who is white, thinks the government should be most focused on the economy and democracy issues.

A Democrat, O'Leary said he wanted the government to take greater action on the federal budget but opposes hard-right economic policies. "They just don't see the bigger picture," O'Leary said, citing proposed budget cuts by conservative lawmakers in ongoing negotiations on Capitol Hill. He feels Trump is too polarizing a figure to return to office.

"I mean, he wants to be a dictator. If that guy gets back in, we'll be in real trouble," O'Leary said.

"I believe what we what we need to focus on most is election integrity. I think we're down the drain if we don't get some kind of election integrity back," said Jerry



TED SHAFFREY • The Associated Press

A man passes the "Fearless Girl" statue in front of the New York Stock Exchange in New York on Nov. 3, 2023.

Lassiter, a retired human resource specialist. Lassiter, who is white, said that corruption in government, the prosecution of rioters who stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, and immigration were other top issues he felt the government needed to focus on in 2024.

Lassiter, a Republican, also expressed concern about issues including immigration, crime and "getting people back to work."

Ivory Hunter Jr., a 59-year-old warehouse and transportation worker in Texas, said he "hears a lot of negative things" about potential cuts to federal government programs like Medicare and Social Security.

"And they're not having solid plans that would suffice to solving the issues," said Hunter, who is Black.

Hunter, a Democrat, said that while some Republicans had policy proposals he found appealing, he felt that the party was too supportive of former President Donald Trump, whom he sees as "tearing down our democracy" if he wins the White House. Hunter said he felt alienated from rhetoric and policies from many GOP politicians over voting rights, racism

and immigration.

"I can't stomach how they decide to do things, the statements that they make, or the actions that they take," Hunter said.

Non-white adults are more likely than white adults to highlight racism or racial inequality among the topics for the government to address. About 2 in 10 Black adults highlight racial issues, compared to 13% of Hispanic adults and 12% of AAPI adults. Each of these groups is more likely than white adults, at 7%, to mention it. Non-white adults also mention employment issues at a higher rate than white adults do, including job availability and the minimum wage.

About 7 in 10 U.S. adults and AAPI adults are "slightly" or "not at all" confident that the federal government will be able to make progress on important issues in 2024. Nearly 8 in 10 white adults expressed a low confidence in the government's ability to solve problems, a significantly higher rate of pessimism than that of other racial groups. They are more likely than Hispanic adults, at 63%, and Black adults, at 46%, to have little faith in the federal government to address their top concerns.

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Engine maker to repair 600,000 Ram trucks

By ALEXA ST. JOHN and TOM KRISHER
The Associated Press

Engine maker Cummins Inc. will recall 600,000 Ram trucks as part of a settlement with federal and California authorities that also requires the company to remedy environmental damage caused by illegal software that let it skirt diesel emissions tests.

New details of the settlement, reached in December, were released Wednesday. Cummins had already agreed to a

\$1.675 billion civil penalty to settle claims – the largest ever secured under the Clean Air Act – plus \$325 million for pollution remedies.

That brings Cummins' total penalty to more than \$2 billion, which officials from the Justice Department, Environmental Protection Agency, California Air Resources Board and the California Attorney General called "landmark" in a call with reporters Wednesday.

"Let this settlement be a lesson: We won't let greedy corporations cheat their way to success and run over the health and wellbeing of consumers and our environment along the way," California AG Rob Bonta said.

Over the course of a decade, hundreds of thousands of Ram 2500 and 3500 heavy duty pickup trucks – manufactured by Stellantis – had Cummins diesel engines equipped with software that limited nitrogen oxide pollution during emissions tests but allowed higher pollution during normal operations, the governments alleged.

In all, about 630,000 pickups from the 2013 through 2019 model years were equipped with the so-



NAME • The Associated Press

Engine maker Cummins Inc. will recall 600,000 Ram trucks as part of a settlement with federal and California authorities that also requires the company to remedy environmental damage caused by illegal software that let it skirt diesel emissions tests.

called "defeat devices" and will be recalled. Roughly 330,000 more trucks from 2019 through 2023 had emissions control software that wasn't properly reported to authorities, but the government says those didn't disable emissions controls. Officials could not estimate how many of the recalled trucks remain on the road.

Stellantis deferred comment on the case to Cummins, which has denied allegations made by the government and is not admitting liability, according to court documents.

The engine maker said in a

statement that Wednesday's actions do not involve any more financial commitments than those announced in December.

"We are looking forward to obtaining certainty as we conclude this lengthy matter and continue to deliver on our mission of powering a more prosperous world," the statement said.

Cummins also said the engines that were cited but are not being recalled did not exceed emissions limits.

Punishment for the unreported software is included in the penalty, the company said.

As part of the settlement, Cummins will make up for smog-forming pollution that resulted from its actions.

Preliminary estimates suggested its emissions bypass produced "thousands of tons of excess emissions of nitrogen oxides," U.S. Attorney General Merrick B. Garland previously said in a prepared statement.

The Clean Air Act, a federal law enacted in 1963 to reduce and control air pollution across the nation, requires car and engine manufacturers to comply with emission limits to protect the environment

and human health.

The transportation sector is responsible for about one-third of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, and much of that stems from light-duty vehicles. Limits aim to curb the amount of emissions from burning gasoline and diesel fuel, including carbon dioxide and other problematic pollutants.

"We increasingly are finding that the public health impacts from emissions from cars are really devastating and it is one of our biggest sources also of emissions leading to climate change," said Jacqueline Klopp, director of the Center for Sustainable Urban Development at the Columbia Climate School.

"To the extent that vehicle manufacturers are trying to evade our emission standards that are our biggest tool for protecting us from these public health impacts and climate change, these kinds of fines for evasion are hopefully a very important deterrent," she added. "There are profound justice and equity issues around air pollution produced by transport emissions."

Diesel exhaust is harmful to human health; it's a carcinogen. Long-term exposure to ozone-creating nitrogen oxides can cause health issues like respiratory infections, lung disease, and asthma.

Officials said Wednesday it was not lost on them that the Cummins settlement follows several other notable emissions cheating cases involving the auto industry in recent years.

Wednesday's details come seven years after German automaker Volkswagen agreed to plead guilty to criminal felony counts following investigations into its use of similar defeat devices, a massive emissions scandal known as Dieselgate.



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Keys to a successful semester

The first few weeks back from winter break can be quite tricky. After a rigorous fall semester, everyone was ready to take a bit of a breather and reset their minds.

Now that we are back for the spring semester, we as students need to make sure that we start off the semester strong.

During the break, it is easy to fall into bad habits that aren't conducive to a successful semester.

The most important thing is to slowly build back up those good habits.

The easiest thing you can start by doing is showing up to your classes the first week back to school. A lot of us can easily think that the first week doesn't really matter because a lot of what the professors are going over are syllabus details.

Even if that is the case, we should do our best to attend those opening classes. Attending those first few classes can help you build a platform for that course for the rest of the semester.

We get to understand what the course is about in more detail than just the description that we get when you are registering for it.

We get to learn about your professor if you've never had a class with them before.

We even get a chance to meet some new faces in the classroom when most of us are open to meeting new people in the first few days of the semester.

Another thing that we can do to get back into the flow of things is to try to stay on top of assignments over the first few weeks. As students, we are pretty much bound to fall behind on some things over the course of the semester.

If possible, we should do as much as we can to not let that happen at the beginning of the semester.

This is because we haven't gotten back to the flow of things quite yet, and we can easily get overwhelmed by it.

So let's make sure to get the early assignments turned in with plenty of time.

Sleep is important for everyone, and it's important for us students. Prioritize a good night's sleep so that you are fresh and energized to attack the day.

The last thing we need is to be feeling tired, not focusing or dozing off when we are trying to get familiar with our new classes.

So as the first week of the semester comes to an end, let's all make sure we are trying our best to build a platform for ourselves to have a semester that we can be proud of.

Perspectives

All hail the Omnicause!



Courtesy Jeremy Redlien

Recently while browsing the site formerly known as Prince, er ... I mean Twitter, I came across the following tweet by @fakegreekgirl: "It seems that where 'intersectionality' went wrong was assuming that anyone with any claim to oppression must be part of one omnicause + global warming for some reason."

Quick lesson for those who need it, intersectionality is the idea that identity and oppression is experienced through a variety of lenses and that, in order to understand how, say, Black women experience oppression, one must understand both how they are oppressed by their racial identity and their gender at the same time. You cannot analyze race and gender separately.

The idea of intersectionality was formally developed by Kimberlé Crenshaw, who is quoted in Time Magazine



Jeremy Redlien
Staff Writer

saying, "It's basically a lens, a prism, for seeing the way in which various forms of inequality often operate together and exacerbate each other. We tend to talk about race inequality as separate from inequality based on gender, class, sexuality or immigrant status. What's often missing is how some people are subject to all of these, and the experience is not just the sum of its parts."

Intersectionality has many uses for those who advocate for social justice issues. We know for example that en-

vironmental pollution and global warming can and have had a greater impact on people of color.

Intersectionality is also useful for understanding issues that impact the LGBTQ community specifically. For example, transmisogyny, a term coined by Julia Serano, is the hatred and discrimination faced by transgender women.

Race and racism also play a role in how discrimination and violence is experienced by LGBTQ people of color. For example, many studies show LGBTQ people are grossly overrepresented when it comes to being victims of violence and homicide compared to white LGBTQ people.

Local LGBTQ activist Jim Chalgren was a staunch advocate for feminist causes and often spoke out against rape culture. Clearly he un-

COLUMN on page 7

Pulse

"What did you do over break?"

Compiled by Dylan Long



JOSILYNE STARNNER,
FRESHMAN

"Worked a lot."



RYAN STEFFES,
SOPHOMORE

"Watched Home Alone and spend time with grandparents."



EMILY BAUMAN,
SOPHOMORE

"Worked a lot."



ERIN MUNDALE,
SOPHOMORE

"Decorated my house."



DIEGO MENDOZA,
SOPHOMORE

"Ice fishing and construction on my basement."



BARI KORDAH,
GRAD STUDENT

"Spent time with family and ate lots of food. Went to church and bought real estate property."

Republicans push ahead with Hunter Biden contempt charge



JOSE LUIS MAGANA • The Associated Press

Hunter Biden, President Joe Biden's son, accompanied by his attorney Abbe Lowell, left, leaves a House Oversight Committee hearing as Republicans are taking the first step toward holding him in contempt of Congress.

By FARNOUSH AMIRI
The Associated Press

Republicans on Wednesday took the first step toward holding Hunter Biden in contempt of Congress for defying a congressional subpoena. They advanced the charge to a full House vote just hours after the president's son sparked a momentary political frenzy by appearing in the front row for part of the debate.

The House Oversight and Judiciary committees each passed contempt charges against the younger Biden with unanimous Republican support and all Democrats opposed.

The action sets up a House vote on recommending criminal charges against a member of President Joe Biden's family as the GOP moves into the final stages of an impeachment inquiry into the president himself.

If the House votes to hold Hunter Biden in contempt, it will be up to the Department of Justice, specifically the U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, to decide whether to prosecute.

It's the latest step for the inquiry, which began in September, but has so far failed to uncover evidence directly implicating the president in wrongdoing involving his son's business dealings.

Hunter Biden has defended his lack of compliance with the GOP-issued subpoena, which or-

dered him to appear for closed-door testimony in mid-December. Biden and his attorneys said information from private interviews can be selectively leaked and manipulated by House Republicans and insisted that he would only testify in public.

The arrival of the president's son at the Oversight Committee, which has been engaged in a year-long probe, sitting in the audience with his legal team, including attorney Abbe Lowell, sent the panel into chaos.

One Republican Rep. Nancy Mace of South Carolina, insisted that Hunter Biden be quickly arrested. GOP Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia called him a coward as he left during her remarks. Democratic lawmakers argued that Biden, who has refused to testify to the panel behind closed doors, should be allowed to speak publicly.

Committee Chairman James Comer struggled to regain control. "Mr. Biden doesn't make the rules, we make the rules," he said.

Hunter Biden and his attorneys left the committee room shortly after, making a brief statement to reporters outside.

Lowell reiterated Wednesday that, unlike the president, his client "was and is a private citizen."

"Despite this, Republicans have sought to use him as a surrogate to attack his father," he said. "And, despite their improper partisan motives, on six different oc-

casions, since February of 2023, we have offered to work with the House committees to see what and how relevant information to any legitimate inquiry could be provided."

Hunter Biden's only remarks to reporters were when asked why he had his father on speaker phone several times during business meetings. "If he called you, would you answer the phone?" he responded.

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre also emphasized Wednesday that Hunter Biden is a private citizen, and she refused to say whether the White House was informed in advance of his surprise appearance on Capitol Hill.

"He makes his own decisions like he did today," Jean-Pierre said.

If the contempt referral against Hunter Biden passes the full House it would be yet another challenge for federal prosecutors already under heavy scrutiny for their handling of charges against him related to his taxes and gun use.

Shelving the contempt of Congress charges would likely further stoke conservative criticism that the Justice Department is politicized — especially given that two one-time advisers to former President Donald Trump were prosecuted for contempt of Congress by the Biden administration. But prosecuting contempt cases can be difficult.

◀COLUMN from page 6
derstood LGBTQ causes overlap with feminist causes.

But can intersectionality have its limits? As the tweet by @fakegreekgirl tried to demonstrate, making every cause about every other cause can have drawbacks, mainly in the form of turning the perfect into the enemy of the good. Too often work on social justice issues

takes the form of "but have you considered what the knights who say ni will feel about this and also included in the environmental impact report of the effects on the flying spaghetti monster. Plus have you ensured the panel discussing ableism includes at least one green skinned centaur with purple fur."

Turning every cause into an omnicause risks turning the entirety of social justice work into an unmovable behemoth that blocks rather than creates progress. Social justice should be realistic when considering its goals, and sometimes a focused approach to issues is simply more practical at the end of the day.

21 kids will get summer food benefit through new program



EVAN VUCCI • The Associated Press

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack holds up a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Electronic Benefits Transfer (SNAP EBT) card during a news conference at the White House

By KENYA HUNTER
The Associated Press

Nearly 21 million children in the U.S. and its territories are expected to receive food benefits this summer through a newly permanent federal program, the United States Department of Agriculture announced Wednesday.

Thirty-five states, all five U.S. territories and four tribes opted into the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer program, or Summer EBT, which the government says is meant to supplement existing programs during the summer that have had a more limited reach.

"No child in this country should go hungry," Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said in an interview with The Associated Press. "They certainly shouldn't go hungry because they lose ac-

cess to nutritious school meals during the summer months."

In December 2022, Congress made Summer EBT permanent starting in 2024 after the USDA had tested it for several years. The states that chose not to opt in for this summer will have a chance to join for summer 2025, the USDA said.

Who is eligible for Summer EBT?

Families with children who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches (that is, families who are at or under 185% of the federal poverty line) will be eligible for Summer EBT, which will cover about 70% of the eligible population in its first year.

In an October report, the USDA said an estimated 17 million households in the U.S. reported problems finding enough food in 2022.

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SPORTS

Mavericks look for another sweep against Bulldogs

By LUKE JACKSON
News Editor

After a sweep versus Ferris State University on the road in November, the two teams will face off once again in Mankato Friday.

Defending the home ice is the Mavericks goal for the weekend which seems easier said than done.

Most fans believe “home field advantage” is always superior, but for the Mavs, it differs.

On the road they hold a 5-3-3 record while at home they’re 4-5-0.

“We want to play well for playoff home ice and for our community,” Head Coach Luke Strand said in a press conference uploaded by the Maverick Athletics page.

“Playing at home is not easy when you have school, life and other things to balance. We have to get our guys back on track at home.”

Currently, MSU is 9-8-3 while Ferris State is 6-14-1.

In November, the Mavs swept the Bulldogs on the road. Team captain Sam Morton scored three goals and had three assists in that series.

His 15 goals this season lead the Central Collegiate Hockey Association.

Ferris State forward Luigi Benincasa has been their difference maker.

His four points in their most recent home split versus Bemidji State earned him CCHA Rookie of the Week honors for the third time this year.

He tallied one goal and three assists.

His 16 points this year are second best on the team following Antonio Venuto’s 20.

“Ferris is a dangerous team,” Strand said.

“They are tenacious and they’re pushing teams to the limit. Their work ethic is high end and they have good execution.”

Following MSU’s series versus Augustana, two Mavericks were placed on CCHA honors list.

Keenan Rancier was named Goalie of the week and Evan Murr was named Defensive Player of the Week.

Rancier made 26 saves on 27 Augustana shots to help the Mavericks secure a 2-1 victory Saturday.

The Vikings finished 1-for-5 on power play.

“With the amount of net pressure they applied I thought it was one of the moments where Rancier took a big step in his game,” Strand said.

Murr finished the weekend with three assists — one of which was on Adam Eisele’s game-winning goal.

With two assists in Saturday



Courtesy Maverick Athletics

Maverick men’s hockey is back on home ice for the first time since December 8 this weekend when it hosts CCHA opponent Ferris State Friday at 7:07 p.m.

night’s win, Murr recorded his third multi-point game this season.

He also has one game winning goal, two power play goals, 16 points and 20 blocked shots through 20 games.

If the Mavs pull off a sweep this weekend it would push their win streak against the Bulldogs to seven games.

Friday and Saturday’s game will be held at the Mayo Clinic Health

System Event Center at 7:07 p.m.

“I’m excited to be back home. Snow is finally flying and it feels like hockey season around here,” Strand said.

Women’s basketball looks to continue winning streak against Beavers

By MOHAMED WARSAME
Sports Editor

The Minnesota State women’s basketball team returns to action against Bemidji State Friday.

Last time out for the Mavericks was a win after beating Northern State 69-48. The Mavs shot 37% from the field — and actually had a worse shooting percentage than the Wolves — but defense led them to victory. The Mavs forced 28 turnovers out of the Wolves, 15 of which came from steals.

Natalie Bremer led the Mavs in scoring against Northern State with 21 points. Bremer went 7-17 from the field, but went 5-5 from the free throw line. She also had four steals in the game.

The win against Northern State saw the Mavs extend their winning streak to eight games. The Mavs went into the season having lost both games in the Regional Crossover Challenge. They even lost their first game in conference play. Those losses fueled them in this winning streak.

“We had some early losses. That has fueled us throughout the season, and we are continuing to build on ourselves as a basketball team to be the best versions of us,” Bremer said.

Staying consistent is a way that the team can continue their mo-



Courtesy Maverick Athletics

Minnesota State women’s basketball (10-4, 7-1 NSIC) travels to Bemidji State to take on the Beavers (3-9, 0-8 NSIC) on Friday, Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

mentum.

“One way we have focused on keeping the momentum going forward is our consistency as a basketball team. Focusing on what we need to get done and building off

that everyday,” Bremer said.

The Mavs have relied heavily on defense this season.

“Our defense is something that we take pride in. It’s what fuels us to strive for more. We always want

more and know that we can attain that,” Bremer said.

The game against Northern State is an example of the constant pressure this team can put on opponents.

“We have a deep bench that can give a spark at any moment. Getting fresh people in can wear on the other team and be the back-breaker. Our team takes pride in sustaining that pressure and keeping it throughout the whole game,” Bremer said.

When Bremer’s shot isn’t falling, she finds other ways to contribute on the court.

“If my shot isn’t falling I try to focus on what I can control with things such as boards, deflections, and steals. That usually helps me get into a flow and ends up going in my favor,” Bremer said.

Finding her way to the charity stripe is another avenue for her to find her rhythm.

“Getting to the free throw line allows me to see the ball go through the hoop. For me personally just watching the ball go through the rim brings a focus and confidence back to get in rhythm,” Bremer said.

The team’s mindset heading into this game against the Beavers is about taking care of business on the road.

“Our mindset going into the Bemidji game is the same as any other game. We know what we need to do and taking care of business on the road is important to keep our momentum going forward,” Bremer said.

Mavs climb to No. 2 in NABC poll before Bemidji road trip



Courtesy Maverick Athletics

This is the second time in program history that the Mavericks have been ranked #2 in the NABC Poll with the first time coming back on Dec. 21, 2004.

By HAYDEN LEE
Staff Writer

With a 14-0 record and the No. 3 rank in all of Division II basketball, how could this season get any better for the Minnesota State men's basketball team?

Try the No. 1 team in DII, Nova Southeastern, losing their first game of the year.

The Sharks suffered their first loss of the year at the hands of in-state rival Florida Southern College.

The Mocs defeated the Sharks 93-82 Wednesday, and in the most recent edition of the National Association of Basketball Coaches Poll, the Mavs leapfrogged the Sharks on their way to their first No. 2 ranking in almost 20 years.

The new top three has fellow NSIC team MSU-Moorhead as the No. 1 team in the country followed by Minnesota State and Nova Southern.

The last, and only other time the Mavs were ranked No. 2 in the NABC poll was December 2004.

Nevertheless, rankings only mean so much if the team plays up to their mark.

This weekend, the Mavs will have a chance to prove they are worthy of the honor with two road games.

Bemidji State will be the first opponent Friday night, and Minnesota-Crookston will welcome

the Mavs to Lysaker Gymnasium Saturday.

Bemidji State currently has a 9-5 record, which is good enough for sixth place in the NSIC.

They are coming off of a weekend in which they lost by double digits to Southwest Minnesota State and came away with a nail biting, one-point win over Sioux Falls to pick up their first win of the new year.

The Mavs have not yet played the Beavers this year, but in their last meeting from a year ago, the Beavers edged out a three-point victory, 79-76.

The Mavericks own the all-time series record 74-38.

As for the Minnesota Crookston Golden Eagles, the Mavs have undoubtedly owned them in the past.

This weekend will be the 28th all-time meeting between the two teams, and the Mavs hold a 26-1 record over the Golden Eagles.

The Golden Eagles will enter this weekend with a 4-10 record, which slots them as the worst team, record-wise, in the NSIC.

A 16-0 record is a real possibility if the Mavericks take care of business like they are projected to this weekend.

Nothing will be guaranteed, except Friday's game beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the BSU Gymnasium and Saturday's game tipping off at 3:30 p.m. in Crookston.

End of an era for Champions League

By AHMED HASSAN
Staff Writer

The UEFA Champions League Group stage has officially come to an end which marks the end of one of the most prestigious parts of the coveted Champions League.

The last-ever group stage did not disappoint as it yet again showed why the Champions League is the best and most coveted trophy in Europe.

As an avid football (soccer) fan, I thought it would only make sense if I recapped every single group from this season's Champions League.

Group A

Group A can be described with two definitions. That being domination from Bayern, and an absolute shocker from Manchester United.

When looking at this group at the beginning of the season, it was easy to predict that the top two would be two of the most prestigious clubs in Europe, but only half of that would pan out.

Bayern would be the top dog in the group. Not losing a single game in the group, winning five and drawing one. Bayern did what was expected of them, and dominated the group in the same fashion that they have in the past decade.

The question now is, Will this domination continue in the Knockout stages?

Manchester United were the biggest shock of this group as expectations were high on them this year with their manager Erik Ten Hag entering his second season looking to finally turn the club in the right direction.

Manchester United just seemed like they never had it go-



PABLO GARCIA • The Associated Press

Real Madrid star Jude Bellingham has impressed in the Champions League so far. Bellingham has four goals and three assists so far.

ing for them this season in the Champions League, as they only managed one win of their five matches against teams they'd expect to beat.

Manchester United just never got it going. They played great football at times, but when you can't defend and you concede goals that you shouldn't, then you can't simply hang in the Champions League.

Copenhagen was a big shock this season progressing into the Knockout stages. Wins against United and Galatasaray, along with a draw against Bayern helped them move on to the knockout stages.

Group B

The big headline for Group B can be characterized as Arsenal's return to the Champions League.

Arsenal are officially back where they belong, and that's in the knockout stages of the Champions League. Arsenal kicked off their campaign with a statement

4-0 win against PSV and didn't look back.

Arsenal were dominant throughout the group topping it with 13 points.

Sevilla was the big disappointment of this group who were expected to make another run as they had in past years, but this just wasn't their year as they managed to not win a single game this season.

Group C

Group C was the group that lived up to the predictions and showed the class of two of the best clubs in the world playing at their best.

Real Madrid and Napoli were the favorites to top the group, and they proceeded to do it with Madrid being first and Napoli coming in second.

Real Madrid yet again in this group stage showed why they are the kings of the Champions League by winning all six games this season, and maintaining

ERA on page 12



Courtesy Maverick Athletics



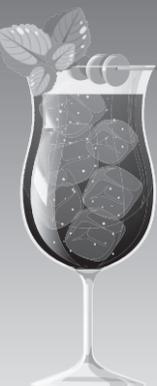
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NFL Super Wild Card Weekend Predictions



SETH WENIG • The Associated Press

Matthew Stafford makes his return to Detroit as the Rams take on the Lions on Wild Card weekend.

By MOHAMED WARSAME
Sports Editor

Cleveland Browns defeat Houston Texans

This is a matchup between two of the best stories of the NFL this season. On one hand you have the Texans, who won the AFC South with a rookie head coach and quarterback. On the other hand you have the Browns who won 11 games who lost Nick Chubb and Deshaun Watson, and started multiple quarterbacks including Joe Flacco for five of the last six games along the way to finishing as the fifth seed in the AFC.

The reason I am going with the Browns in this matchup is because the Texans are coming off of an incredible win against the Indianapolis Colts which ended up being for the division crown thanks to the Jacksonville Jaguars loss to the Tennessee Titans, and I feel like there will be a little bit of a let down for this young Texans team. Just being in the playoffs is a massive achievement for them and they would have nothing to be ashamed of if they were to lose this game, despite being at home. The Browns were able to rest a lot of key players in Week 18, and I expect them to be the fresher team. Flacco has been playing well despite some turnovers. At the moment they are able to overcome them because they have arguably the best defense in the league to lean on. I expect that defense to stifle the Texans' offense.

Kansas City Chiefs defeat Miami Dolphins

When the Dolphins lost to the Buffalo Bills on Sunday Night Football for the AFC North title and number two seed in the AFC up for grabs, and they said what the weather forecast was for this game on the broadcast, there was no way I was picking the Dolphins. Apart from the whole the Dolphins don't play well in cold

weather narrative, which is totally real by the way, what they've shown this season is that they just don't beat good teams. They are 1-5 against teams with winning records this season. They have also unfortunately had injuries to too many key players such as Bradley Chubb and Jaelan Phillips who are gone for the year, and guys like Jaylen Waddle and Raheem Mostert are banged up. The Chiefs, despite having a down-year offensively, still have Patrick Mahomes and Andy Reid. Unlike in previous years, the Chiefs have an excellent defense that they can lean on. So the questions for them are whether or not some of their receivers can make plays they haven't been making this season, and if Travis Kelce can go up a few gears in the playoffs. I expect them to be more physical than the Dolphins and eventually wear them out.

Buffalo Bills defeat Pittsburgh Steelers

Despite a season full of turbulence, the Bills go into the playoffs as division champions and the number two seed in the AFC. They were at one point 6-6 and they managed to win their last five games. They haven't been perfect in those games, but at the end of the day I don't think they'll really care. On their day they can beat anyone. They can also lose to anyone. So would it really be that shocking if they were to lose to the Steelers? The answer is no. However, I think the chances of that happening are slim. The Steelers have talented players on offense, but they have been hindered by average to below-average quarterback play for several years, and this year is no different. Their record without T.J. Watt over the last few seasons has been horrid, and he is set to miss this game. So everything here is telling me to go towards Buffalo.

Dallas Cowboys defeat Green Bay Packers

This is one of the most intriguing matchups of Wild Card Weekend. Is it in part because I am a Cowboys fan? Absolutely. I also believe that there are several other things that make this matchup interesting. The first thing is if the Cowboys can handle the pressure of being massive favorites in a playoff game. One thing is for certain. All the pressure is on Dallas. No matter what happens in this game, the Packers have had a successful season. Despite not having much pressure on them, it will be interesting to see how Jordan Love and many of his young teammates handle a playoff game. You also have the added antidote of this being Mike McCarthy coaching against his former team. As for the matchup itself, I fully expect the Cowboys to handle the Packers relatively easily. The Packers' defense has been mostly terrible this season, and they are facing off against a Cowboys' offense that lights people up at home. Dak Prescott and CeeDee Lamb are having career years, and I believe they will have another monster day against the Packers.

Los Angeles Rams defeat Detroit Lions

Poor Lions' fans. They have waited over 30 years to have a home playoff game, and when they finally get it, it's against the "prodigal son" Matthew Stafford. I mean this game is full of narratives. The biggest one being Stafford's return to Detroit. It will be his first team playing at the Lions since he was traded to the Rams in 2021. You also have the Sean McVay and Jared Goff storyline as well. Despite getting to a Super Bowl, McVay felt that Goff wasn't good enough to get them over the hump. His decision was vindicated when the Rams won the Super Bowl in Stafford's first season. Goff has done well since he's been in Detroit, and has helped them

WILD CARD on page 12▶

Pete Carroll is out as head coach of the Seattle Seahawks after 14 seasons



RICK SCUTERI • The Associated Press

Seattle Seahawks head coach Pete Carroll argues a call with side judge Jim Quirk (5) in the first half of an NFL football game against the Arizona Cardinals Sunday, Jan. 7, 2024, in Glendale, Ariz.

By TIM BOOTH
The Associated Press

Pete Carroll is out after 14 seasons as the head coach of the Seattle Seahawks, responsible for two NFC championships and the only Super Bowl title in franchise history during his long tenure.

The 72-year old coach is moving into an advisory role with the organization, according to a statement from owner Jody Allen on Wednesday. But it's clear that Carroll wanted to continue in the role he had for more than a decade.

"I competed pretty hard to

be the coach, just so you know," Carroll said during an emotional farewell news conference. "I just wanted to make sure I stood up for all of our coaches and the players and the things that we had accomplished. Not just so we could be the coach still, but so we could continue to have a chance to be successful and keep the organization going. That's what I was fighting for."

With staff from throughout the facility, assistant coaches and a few current players filling the auditorium, Carroll spoke for more than 30 minutes through a mix of

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Michigan return home to screaming fans after victory



KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL • Detroit Free Press via AP

Michigan fans reach over barriers to greet football coach Jim Harbaugh as the Wolverines returned to Ann Arbor, Mich., Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2024, after winning the NCAA College Football Championship title with a win over Washington on Monday night in Houston.

By The Associated Press

The national champion Michigan Wolverines returned home Tuesday night to thunderous applause and screaming fans following their 34-13 victory over the Washington Huskies.

"Thank you so much for being here," coach Jim Harbaugh said. "We had lofty aspirations and high goals, and we never lost sight of them."

Defensive tackle Kris Jenkins

also thanked the crowd.

"You don't know how much we appreciate you all, from the bottom of our hearts, all the love and support," Jenkins said. "When the whole world doubted us, when the whole world didn't think we could do it, what did we say? Boom!"

Quarterback J.J. McCarthy was greeted with chants of "One more year!" asking the junior to return to help defend the national title next fall.

◀ERA from page 10

their status in the group stage as one of the only teams to never be knocked out in the group stage.

Real Madrid was dominant in every single game this year, but the player that shined the brightest on the biggest stage was Jude Bellingham, scoring four goals and racking up three assists so far.

His emergence and Madrid's dominant performances will once again make them one of the favorites to win the coveted trophy.

Napoli has been one of Europe's best in the past year, emerging last year with the star power of Victor Osimhen and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia.

Statistically, they haven't been impressive so far, but the team as a whole hasn't been as impressive as they should be with their talented roster.

Napoli won the games they needed to win, but didn't play their best football. The question for them is if they can figure it out in time for the Knockout stages.

Group D

Inter Milan and Real Sociedad were the frontrunners in this group and played as such from start to finish.

They both finished the groups with 12 points, with Real Sociedad topping the group on goal difference and Inter finishing the group in second.

The main concern from this group is how Inter will pan out in the knockout stages. Inter made it to the final last year where they were beaten by Manchester City, but if they look to make another solid run in this year's Champions League, then they must turn on another gear.

◀WILD CARD from page 11

become one of the NFL's best teams after being a laughing stock for years. Even though I think the Lions are very good, I think the experience of the Rams will prevail. The Rams have been playing excellent football for weeks. They are 7-1 in their last eight games, and that one loss was to the Baltimore Ravens in overtime.

Tampa Bay Buccaneers defeat Philadelphia Eagles

The Eagles have been the polar opposite of the Rams for the last several weeks. They are 1-5 in their last six games, and the one win was a close one against the New York Giants on Christmas Day. They just can't seem to do much right on offense or de-

fense at the moment. The offense was already looking off, and then Jalen Hurts and A.J. Brown both got banged up in Week 18 against the Giants. Even though they have been struggling as of late, the Eagles have a lot of talent on offense, and can play great against any team. That could potentially happen against an inconsistent Bucs' defense. However, the Eagles' defense is just bad. If Baker Mayfield, who is dealing with a rib injury, can be 80 or 90% of himself, will dice up that Eagles' secondary. I also expect Rachaad White to have success running the ball against them as well. Opponents are averaging 150.3 rush yards per game in the last seven games against the Eagles.

Aaron Rodgers' appearances are over

By JOE REEDY
The Associated Press

Aaron Rodgers' Tuesday appearances on "The Pat McAfee Show" are over for the rest of this NFL season.

Or possibly longer.

McAfee announced at the beginning of his Wednesday show on ESPN that his fourth season of doing a weekly segment with the New York Jets quarterback had concluded.

As his staff applauded in the background, McAfee said a lot of people would be happy to hear that news, including himself.

"With the way it ended, it got real loud. I'm happy that that is not going to be in my mentions going forward, which is great news," McAfee said. "We are very lucky to get a chance to chat with him and learn from him. Some of his thoughts and opinions though do (tick) off a lot of people, and I'm pumped that that is no longer going to be every single Wednesday of my life, which it has been for the last few weeks."

Rodgers implied during a Jan. 2 appearance on McAfee's show that comic Jimmy Kimmel's name might appear on a list of associates of Jeffrey Epstein, a millionaire accused of sex trafficking involving underage victims before he died by suicide.

That escalated a long-running feud between ABC's late-night star and Rodgers. It also proved embarrassing for The Walt Disney Co., the parent company to both networks.

On Tuesday, Rodgers denied he implied the comic Kimmel was a pedophile and condemned those who do, but he stopped short of apologizing for earlier comments.



DARRON CUMMINGS • The Associated Press

Sports analyst Pat McAfee smiles on the field before an NFL football game between the Indianapolis Colts and the Houston Texans, Saturday, Jan. 6, 2024.

"Any type of name calling is ridiculous and I'm not calling him (a pedophile), and neither should you," Rodgers said on the show Tuesday.

Rodgers criticized Mike Foss, an ESPN executive who oversees McAfee's show, for saying that Rodgers had made "a dumb and factually inaccurate joke" about Kimmel.

"Mike, you're not helping," Rodgers said. "You're not helping because I just read earlier exactly what I said. This is the game plan of the media and this is what they do: They try to cancel, you know, and it's not just me."

Rodgers last week said a lot of people, "including Jimmy Kimmel," are really hoping that a list of Epstein's associates doesn't come out publicly. Kimmel, who has denied any association with Epstein, threatened Rodgers with a lawsuit for the comment and said the NFL star was putting his family in danger.

Rodgers suggested that people were reading too much into what he said, that he was not stupid enough to accuse Kimmel of being a pedophile.

Kimmel made the first appearance of the year Monday on his late-night show and laced into Rodgers. He said he would accept an apology from Rodgers but didn't expect one.

"A decent person would apologize," Kimmel said. "But he probably won't."

Kimmel called Rodgers "hamster-brained" and said that he got two A's on his report card — "they're both in the name Aaron."

"It might be time to revisit that concussion profile, Aaron," Kimmel said.

Before addressing his specific comments, Rodgers had a lengthy preamble about his grudges against Kimmel, including jokes the comic has made about the quarterback's anti-COVID-19 vaccination comments.

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VARIETY

Mugs, muffins and a welcome back

By ANAHI ZUNIGA
Staff Writer

Organizations, groups and communities have started to welcome back students and members. The spring semester has officially started and what better way to begin with a muffin and a brand new mug?

The Women's Center and the Violence Awareness and Response Program, also known as VARP, have collaborated to organize the welcome event Mugs and Muffins where students were invited to bring old mugs and trade them in for their very own Women's Center and VARP mug. The gathering was accompanied with a selection of coffee, tea and, of course, muffins.

Rachel Maccabee, the director of VARP, said the collaboration with the Women's Center director Liz Steinborn-Gourley was a welcome event for both returning and new students to help them refocus on school and enjoy the comfortable environment.

"Liz and I were talking and we were trying to come up with a really fun, nice idea for winter welcome week. Even if it's your third or fourth year here, you might not be aware of, or you might not have enjoyed or participated in, all the offices and services that we offer," Maccabee said, "This is a chance for both transfer students and peo-



NATE TILAHUN • The Reporter

The Women's Center and Violence Awareness and Response Program (VARP) welcomed back MSU students with a mug exchange, where students could trade any old mug for a new one with the organizations' logos on it.

ple returning to campus to come and get to know the Women's Center. Sometimes when you have a holiday, you get some silly mugs that maybe aren't your favorite so you can bring a mug and then we will give you a mug with the Women's Center and VARP logo on it to encourage people to reuse mugs and not use styrofoam to introduce you to the Women's Center."

Overall, Maccabee said the mug exchange serves a greater purpose for students. Exchanging old mugs for new can represent a person's individual growth. Both the Women's Center and VARP offer many resources for students and can help them develop skills and receive help throughout the course of the year.

"I believe that we need to be

the change we want to see in the world. And I think that it's silly to use styrofoam over and over again. So one it really just represents that you can come as you are and enjoy the cups that the school provides." She said, "You can bring in something old and turn it into something new. Because that's who we are as we go to college. In places like the

MUGS on page 14

Wednesday crafternoons in the Women's Center

By ELLIE MESCHKE
Staff Writer

Minnesota State's Women's Center hosted its first Crafternoon of the semester Tuesday, where students were invited to create art with perler beads. Several students turned their art into keychains or jewelry.

Abby DeGroot and Paige Norberg, who have volunteered to run Crafternoon, said "It was a previous thing that the women's center was doing, that I then started helping last year, and I find it's just nice for students to come together and have an opportunity to just relax and just enjoy each other's company between hard classes and having to do work or anything else. It's just a really nice opportunity for students to come together, and who doesn't really like just coming and doing little crafts and bringing them back to your dorm?"

Norberg also said, "Right now we have supplies in the supply closet, so we're going through that."

"If a student comes up with an idea, we'll try to make it



ELLIE MESCHKE • The Reporter

Students gathered yesterday from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Women's Center CSU 218 for the weekly event "Crafternoons." Fuse beads were this week's craft.

work out. Or, we see recurring crafts that either people are like 'Oh, I didn't get to do that one, I'd love to,' or they're like 'That was the coolest one.' So then we do ones that we know students will want to engage with and come to," DeGroot said.

"We're able to just sit to-

gether and talk while doing the crafts, and usually there's a ton of people I've never met before and we just have a conversation together about what the craft is that leads to one conversation and another conversation. I've met good friends of mine through this," Norberg said.

"Anyone is allowed to come to the Women's Center, everyone is welcome. We have different products, such as menstruation products and other types of hygiene products. We have two wonderful advisors that you can come and make appointments to talk to, they're very lovely and listen, and it's just a place to come together and relax. Typically something's playing on the TV, so it's really just a relaxing atmosphere that has resources if you need them," DeGroot said.

"Our future plan is to, hopefully, if we can get enough traction with Crafternoons, is to maybe have a bigger event that'd be later in the day for more students to show up, and do kind of a bigger craft, but that would take enough students coming to crafts and be interested in that. That is something we're hopefully trying to work up to either this upcoming semester or next semester," DeGroot said.

Crafternoons will be held in the Women's Center every wednesday from 1-2:30 p.m. in CSU 218; all students are welcome to stop by and relax with a fun craft.

2024 fashion trend predictions

By MERCEDES
KAUPHUSMAN
Variety Editor

Fashion is a repetitive cycle. A trend in the 1970s somehow makes a comeback decades later. For example: the classic scrunchie, denim jacket, or big, voluminous hair. But what kinds of trends might reappear in this new year?

In 2023 we saw a lot of cargo pants, cowboy boots, bows and matching sweat-suits. As for 2024, I can predict to see a lot more trends, and many that mirror trends I followed as a pre-teen; as long as they don't include skinny jeans, I'm on board with quite a few returns.

Monochromatic

One of my fondest memories was showing up at Disney World as an 11-year-old wearing a pink top, pink shorts, pink shoes, pink sunglasses, pink earrings and even a pink headband. I chuckled for a while looking back at old photos, but recently the fashion community has embraced monochromatic athleisure. This year, I can see the monochromatic trend tackling streetwear, and I'm ready to show my pink Disney get-up back to the world.

Button-ups

Button-up tops have been a staple in a lot of closets for any time of the year, but I predict there will be a surplus. Plain, patterned, brightly colored — I can see a mixture of button-up tops out and about in 2024.

Various pants

Pants used to be a lot more vibrant and funky in previous years, but have been kept rather simple recently. We've accepted black leggings, jeans and neutral-colored pants for a while, but I think a more bold pair is going to make its mark in 2024. A unique pattern paired with a basic top might be a trend to keep an eye out for.

Excessively large cardigans

Some may consider cardigans timeless, but not necessarily trendy. A lot of them have ended up in thrift stores over the years, but it might be time to run back and recollect these staple pieces, as I predict large, knitted, grandma-style cardigans to come back in fashion this year.

Statement jewelry

In 2024, I'm getting a sense that bigger is better. Popular movie stars used to walk down a red carpet wearing huge earrings and necklaces, but for a while we have been used to more simple accesso-

FASHION on page 14

Former gang leader charged in killing of Tupac allowed bail



RACHEL ASTON • The Associated Press

Duane "Keffe D" Davis, who is accused of orchestrating the 1996 slaying of hip-hop music icon Tupac Shakur, appears in court for a hearing.

By KEN RITTER
The Associated Press

A Nevada judge set bail Tuesday at \$750,000 for a former Los Angeles-area gang leader charged with orchestrating the killing of hip-hop legend Tupac Shakur in 1996, saying he can serve house arrest with electronic monitoring ahead of trial on a murder charge.

Court-appointed attorneys for Duane "Keffe D" Davis told The Associated Press after the judge's decision that they believe Davis can post that amount. They had asked for bail of not more than \$100,000 and noted for the judge that the demands of preparing a defense based on two decades

of evidence may require a postponement of the current June trial date.

Clark County District Attorney Steve Wolfson told reporters that he expects Clark County District Judge Carli Kierny will hold a "source hearing" to determine whether money posted for bail is legally obtained. The judge did not set a new trial date but called for a status check Feb. 20.

Prosecutors Binu Palal and Marc DiGiacomo argued Tuesday that Davis has never left gang life, that his 15 years of admissions about his role in Shakur's killing show he is guilty of murder, and that a jailhouse phone call in October suggested he poses a threat to witnesses.

•MUGS from page 13

Women's Center or the LGBT Center or your athletics team or whatever it is can be really transformational and transformative. So it's a chance for every single one of us to come in and get to know who we are."

Students who came to the center carrying old mugs also enjoyed talking with fellow students.

"I like it. I really like how they did the mug exchange. I thought it was a good idea. I come for different events throughout the semester, but not just to like usually sit here. It's usually if there's an event. Everyone's super nice here." Third-year student Annelies Vandeputte said.

In addition to the upcoming events, collaborations and programs that the Women's Center has to offer, Macabee said the center has self-care products and aid that can benefit a

student in certain situations.

"If you're looking for roommate mediations, Liz and I both do high touch advising. And if you're just looking for someone to talk through some problems, I can help you with conflict coaching and be confidential," she said.

They also offer Bridge to Benefits, lactation support, free menstrual supplies and birth control.

"As well as helping people get assistance for medical care, food assistance, snacks, we can direct you to the food pantry," she said. "We like to say at the Women's Center, we have what you need. If you can't find it elsewhere, come here and if I don't have the answer, I will find the person who does."

For information, visit www.mnsu.edu/womenscenter or stop by the center at CSU 218 to learn more about their resources and VARP.

•FASHION from page 13

ries. Some people find it forbidden to mix silver and gold, but I think there is going to be a lot more mixing outside of metals, along with color.

Glitter, shimmer, and sparkles

New Year's Eve religiously brings in countless women resembling disco balls (myself

included), but I think this may turn into a trend this year. I loved sequins as a pre-teen and wore them all over, but I think this trend will highlight the idea that less is more. A simple handbag covered in glitter could take an outfit from running errand attire to movie premier worthy, and I'm excited to see how icons will incorporate some fun into a basic look.

Mel Brooks receives honorary Oscar

By LINDSEY BAHR
The Associated Press

Mel Brooks received his second Oscar Tuesday night at a private dinner in the heart of Hollywood. The event, the 14th Governors Awards, was untelevised but the crowd was as starry as they come with the likes of Martin Scorsese, Christopher Nolan, Leonardo DiCaprio, Penélope Cruz, Natalie Portman, Bradley Cooper and Jon Batiste in the audience.

"I promise not to sell this one," Brooks said.

Hollywood's awards season can start to feel a little gratuitously self-congratulatory, but the Governors Awards is a bit of a respite from the horse race and a chance to celebrate some of the industry's living legends, including Brooks, Angela Bassett and film editor Carol Littleton, who all collected honorary Oscars at the Ray Dolby Ballroom, just steps from where the Academy Awards will be broadcast in March. Michelle Satter, a founding director of the Sundance Institute, also received the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award.

The evening produced both laughs and tears, with heartfelt tributes to the honorees and acknowledgement of recent, tragic losses. Matthew Broderick and Nathan Lane serenaded Brooks with a medley, urging the crowd to join in for "Springtime for Hitler." Regina King toasted her "Boyz n the Hood" co-star for being "excellence in human form." Glenn Close thanked Littleton for making her look like a "really good dancer" in her second film, "The Big Chill." And



CHRIS PIZZELLO • The Associated Press

Carol Littleton, from left, Mel Brooks, Angela Bassett, and Michelle Satter pose with their honorary awards during the Governors Awards.

Ryan Coogler and Chloé Zhao told Satter how much her guidance meant to them when they were just starting out.

John Mulaney hosted the proceedings and got things off to a lively start.

"It's such an honor for me to be hosting this," Mulaney said. "Growing up, as a boy, I would always watch the non-televised Governors Awards even though they only started 14 years ago. We would all gather in front of the turned off TV. It was the only time I ever saw my dad smile."

The annual event is put on by the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences to recognize contributions to the industry and a life's achievement. It used to be part of the Oscars telecast but shifted to a separate occasion in 2009, where there would be no time constraints on the speeches.

Mulaney offered gentle ribs about Rami Malek's screentime

in "Oppenheimer" and Bradley Cooper's preparation for "Maestro" as well as his own status in the industry, reading a real email from his agents about auditioning for the role of "young cop" in an untitled Maggie Gyllenhaal project, which had the audience in stitches.

Speaking about Bassett, he said "she got an Oscar nomination for a Marvel movie...that's like getting a Pulitzer Prize for a Reddit comment."

The event, which was delayed from its original November date because of the actors strike, is also a de facto campaign stop for the current season's awards hopefuls. Voting for the 96th Oscars begins on Thursday and nominations will be announced on Jan. 23 for the March 10 ceremony.

Before the tributes started, actors and filmmakers from the top movies of the year, including "Oppenheimer," and "Barbie," mingled.

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A guide to the 2024 Emmy Awards

By ANDREW DALTON
The Associated Press

The 2023 Emmy Awards are arriving in 2024. Hollywood's two strikes meant a four-month delay for television's annual celebration of itself. But both have now been resolved and the show will go on. Here's a look at the telecast, the ceremony, and the series and stars up for awards.

WHEN ARE THE EMMY AWARDS AND WHO WILL APPEAR?

The 75th Primetime Emmy Awards will be held on the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, Monday night at the Peacock Theater in Los Angeles. Anthony Anderson will host. It will be telecast live on the Fox network starting at 8 p.m. Eastern, and available to stream the following day on Hulu.

Fox is taking its turn this year in an annual rotation between the four networks. Anderson, who was nominated for lead actor in a comedy seven times for his work on ABC's "black-ish," is a first-time Emmys host, although he's hosted the NAACP Image Awards eight times.

He also has a fresh connection to Fox — his new game show "We Are Family" premiered in early January.

Now with a TV-themed



RICHARD SHOTWELL • The Associated Press

An Emmy statue is displayed Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021, in Los Angeles. The 75th Primetime Emmy Awards will finally be held on Jan. 15, 2024, after a fourth-month delay, with plans for Anthony Anderson to host the show.

name, downtown LA's Peacock Theater, formerly the Microsoft Theater and the Nokia Theatre, has been the go-to home for the Emmys since 2008.

Others appearing on the show stage as presenters and in other roles include Quinta Brun-

son and Pedro Pascal, who are both also nominees for multiple Emmys, along with Jodie Foster, Jenna Ortega, Jason Bateman, Stephen Colbert, Jon Hamm, Ken Jeong and Sheryl Lee Ralph.

NOMINEES AND EARLY WINNERS

As is typical at the Emmys, HBO shows dominated the nominations when they were announced way back in July. The top three nominees — "Succession" with 27, "The Last of Us" with 24, and "The White Lotus" with 23 — were all from

the gilded cable channel.

"The Last of Us" comes in with a big head start on the grand total after winning eight at the Creative Arts Emmys, which are held about a week before the main ceremony. The dystopian video-game adaption won best guest actor and guest actress in a drama for memorable one-episode performances from Nick Offerman and Storm Reid. And it dominated in the technical categories, winning best visual effects and best prosthetic make-up for its fungus-faced walking dead.

"White Lotus" took four trophies at the Creative Arts Emmys, winning for its music, its casting and its hairstyling.

"Succession" came up empty, but the fourth and final season of the show about a generationally dysfunctional family of one-percenters could still dominate in major categories on Monday. It's probably still the favorite for best drama, which it has won at two of the past three Emmys, and the acting categories are overloaded with its ensemble cast. Brian Cox, Jeremy Strong and Kieran Culkin are all up for best actor in a drama, four more men from the show are up for best supporting actor and Sarah Snook got a best actress nomination.

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