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Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol. 20 No. 31

Thursday, August 3, 2023

SMASH-UP DERBY

Pair arrested after allegedly
stolen vehicle crashes into
Chippewa Park carousel /3

Police are investigating the incident after being called to the scene at Chippewa Park early on Saturday morning. The city is unsure how long the caoursel will be closed. (Jessah Clement)



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Child & Family Services



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Damage from Saturday's crash into the Chippewa Park carousel was extensive, say city officials. (Jessah Clement/TBT News)

Pair arrested in carousel crash

By Gary Rinne - TB Source

City police have charged two Thunder Bay residents after an incident on the weekend that saw a stolen vehicle crash into the recently-restored historic carousel at Chippewa Park.

A 26-year-old man and a 24-year-old woman are both charged with mischief over \$5,000 and theft of a motor vehicle.

Police were initially dispatched to the park just after 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, where they learned that two people in the vehicle at the time of the collision had fled on foot.

On Saturday afternoon, a male suspect turned himself in at police headquarters, while a female suspect was arrested that evening.

Both accused individuals have been released from custody with conditions and future appearance dates.

The carousel remains shut down until repairs can be completed.

City officials are working with the province's Technical Standards and Safety Authority to determine the nature of the damage and what needs to be fixed.

Cory Halvorsen, manager of parks and open

spaces for the city, said an inspection would be conducted Monday afternoon, but it was too early to estimate when the popular ride will reopen.

"This is right in the middle of the operating season. It's tough to tell exactly until we get our inspections done...We're hoping days, but again it all has to be done through the lens of safety and getting it back in service through communications with the TSSA. It may require either a final inspection or some information to be submitted."





According to Halvorsen, the worst damage occurred to a chariot that was scheduled to be replaced.

"That looks to have been basically destroyed by the impact, but the adjacent horses, I believe, were not impacted. There are some poles in the structure of the floor of the carousel that are being assessed for repairs right now.

He said city staff were shocked to learn that the operator of a vehicle had actually driven it through the perimeter fencing.

"And it went between the row of trees and made its way right onto the floor of the carousel itself, which is something we never anticipated seeing."

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			
Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Rain	Partly Cloudy
Precipitation: 40% HIGH 27 LOW 13	Precipitation: 30% HIGH 25 LOW 16	Precipitation: 70% HIGH 20 LOW 16	Precipitation: 40% HIGH 21 LOW 14

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July weather average

By TB Source staff

Summer to date has been marked by plenty of sunshine, comfortable temperatures and not a lot of rain.

According to Environment Canada projections, the recent trend should continue through August.

July in Thunder Bay was remarkably close to the long-term average for the city in terms of temperature.

The average daily maximum recorded at the airport from July 1 to July 30 was 24.5 C, or three-tenths of a degree warmer than normal.

Looking ahead to August, forecasters expect it will begin with seasonal temperatures until the middle of the month.

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City may seek strong mayor's designation

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

Thunder Bay Mayor Ken Boshcoff could be in line to join dozens of his big-city colleagues in receiving enhanced 'strong mayor' powers from the province.

The possibility comes as the city weighs making a "housing pledge" the province has suggested is a prerequisite to receive those powers, with city council expected to vote on a proposed pledge in the fall.

The powers are expansive on paper, though mayors including Boshcoff have suggested they'll be rarely used, and some have promised not to use them at all.

The strong mayor regulations would allow Boshcoff to hire and fire the city manager and some department heads, reorganize city departments, propose the city budget subject to council amendments, create committees, and appoint committee chairs.

The powers also allow mayors to pass bylaws with minority support at council in some cases, and to veto certain bylaws, where they believe those issues involve provincial priorities like housing.

Boshcoff suggested making a housing pledge is important for the city's relations with the provincial government.

"It's something I would put as a first-level range of urgency that we get this done... so that the ministers know we're on board with provincial priorities — which happen to dovetail with our needs as a community," he said.

"The quicker we can get the pledge signed, the better... and the more focus we will have when we're asking for other provincial support."

While some have criticized the strong mayor powers as anti-democratic, Boshcoff said they would in fact help "rebalance" the relationship between council and city administration.

"I see over the time since I've been [out of office] a huge shift to more power in the public service, and less in the council," he said. "So I think that would provide more responsibility for council and more justification for councillors doing their homework and getting the job done."

In June, Thunder Bay was conspicuously left off a list of 26 municipalities in line to receive strong mayor powers, joining Toronto and Ottawa.

At the time, Minister of Municipal



Mayor Ken Boshcoff (right) and city manager Norm Gale, at a recent council meeting. (Ian Kaufman)

Affairs and Housing Steve Clark suggested that was because Thunder Bay had not submitted a housing pledge like those other communities.

City officials, however, say the province didn't reach out to request a pledge until June, months after asking 29 other "large and fast-growing" cities to do so.

Thunder Bay was one of just three Ontario municipalities of over 100,000 people the province did not designate with expanded mayoral powers, along with Chatham-Kent and Sudbury.

Now, however, a pledge is in the works for Thunder Bay, though approval will be up to city council.

The pledges are meant to help achieve the Ford government's goal of building 1.5 million new homes by 2031 — a target it is not currently on track to achieve, even with housing starts growing last year.

Unlike the 26 communities initially asked to submit a pledge, the province did not assign Thunder Bay a target for new home builds in its pledge, said Thunder Bay city manager Gale.

"We were not assigned a target, and we're unsure as to what the implications of submitting a pledge might be down-

stream," he said.

Gale said it's his understanding the pledge is "not required," calling it a decision of council, but the province has requested it be submitted by Dec. 15.

He suggested the pledge may serve more as a reflection of the city's existing efforts on housing than an expansion, after recent steps like revamping the city's zoning bylaw, launching a housing needs study, and presenting an ambitious application for federal housing funds.

"The city has been working for some time on housing issues," Gale said. "We were [already] doing a housing study, we just presented information on Canada's housing accelerator grant funding."

Gale declined to predict whether housing starts will increase in Thunder Bay, but said the city has ensured there is sufficient land available for development.

"Certainly there is housing pressure in our city... so more housing would be a good thing to help with the market," he said. "But the city is not a developer, the city does not build the houses."

"What the city does is... ensure there's sufficient lots for housing — and in my view, we've done that."



Patty Hajdu has served as Indigenous Services minister since October 2021. (FILE)

Hajdu stands pat

By Kevin Jeffrey - Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Patty Hajdu says she is ready to continue her work after retaining the Indigenous services portfolio following a wide-ranging federal cabinet shake up.

The Thunder Bay-Superior North MP was one of just eight members of cabinet that remained with their role following a major shuffle Wednesday that saw seven ministers dropped and seven rookies promoted.

"We're working hard on concluding the final settlement payment for children that were harmed through a discriminatory child welfare system," Hajdu said during a conference call on Wednesday.

"We will hopefully be tabling some legislation in the fall to better protect water rights for First Nations, people in community, as well as to protect the source water in a much more fundamental way. There have been far too many incidents across the country of poisoned water, and, as we know, water is life and it is very difficult to fix once it's so damaged."

The federal government signed the final settlement agreement last July even though there was an agreement in principle reached back in January 2022. The deal includes \$20 billion for compensation and another \$20 billion to reform the First Nations child-welfare system over five years.

The full \$40 billion was earmarked in the 2021 fiscal update.

Another issue Hajdu identified as a priority is working to reduce the number

of boil-water advisories.

"First Nations communities have struggled with access to clean water for a whole bunch of reasons over the last many years," she said. "And although our government has lifted well over 140 boil water advisories, we still have 28 left to [tackle]."

"What communities have also said is that it has to also be fundamentally a law that the First Nations have access to clean water in their communities with the tools they need to continue to keep the water clean and the ability to monitor and understand what's happening with the water that feeds into their water systems. We have been working with First Nations partners across the country to get to legislation that people feel good about. We'll hopefully be able to table [that] this fall."

Hajdu will also work alongside a new Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations as Gary Anandasangaree takes over for Marc Miller.

"A big priority for the prime minister is to stop litigating and actually negotiate settlements," Hajdu answered, when asked about a new partner. "Marc Miller's work will continue, and Gary will I think admirably do that work. Gary will also be the parliamentary secretary to Minister [Carolyn] Bennett in early years. He's no stranger to communities and people know him and trust him. I think that we will continue this partnership that Minister Miller and I had in helping communities resolve some of these very fundamental issues of land and of title."

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Hospital jackpot winner nets \$935K

Shelagh O'Leary-Ongaro says she wanted to help out

By TB Source staff

A woman from southern Ontario is the latest winner of the regional hospital's 50/50 jackpot.

Newmarket resident Shelagh O'Leary-Ongaro was announced Friday as the winner of the grand prize, collecting \$935,508.

In a news release issued by the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation, O'Leary-Ongaro said that she found out about the 50/50 draw through "a very dear friend."

"It's always good to contribute to a hospital. It's amazing what

you're doing with (your 50/50), so I thought I'd join in," she said in a statement.

Since launching the Thunder Bay 50/50, the winners have collected a total of more than \$25 million. The initiative has raised funds for the hospital to get updated equipment and products faster.

Its latest acquirement is automated medication cabinets in its cancer care wards, surgical daycare and renal unit.

August will start a new draw, themed "Dog Days of Summer," and will feature families' pets across their website and social media pages.

The jackpot was the sixth-largest since the draw began in 2021 and marked the fifth straight month the grand prize topped \$800,000.



Shelagh O'Leary-Ongaro said she learned about the Thunder Bay 50/50 draw through a very dear friend. (Photo supplied)

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EDITORIAL

Roles remain

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has shuffled his cabinet, in an apparent effort to make new appeals to voters should an election be on the horizon.

The roles of Thunder Bay's two members of Parliament remain essentially unchanged.

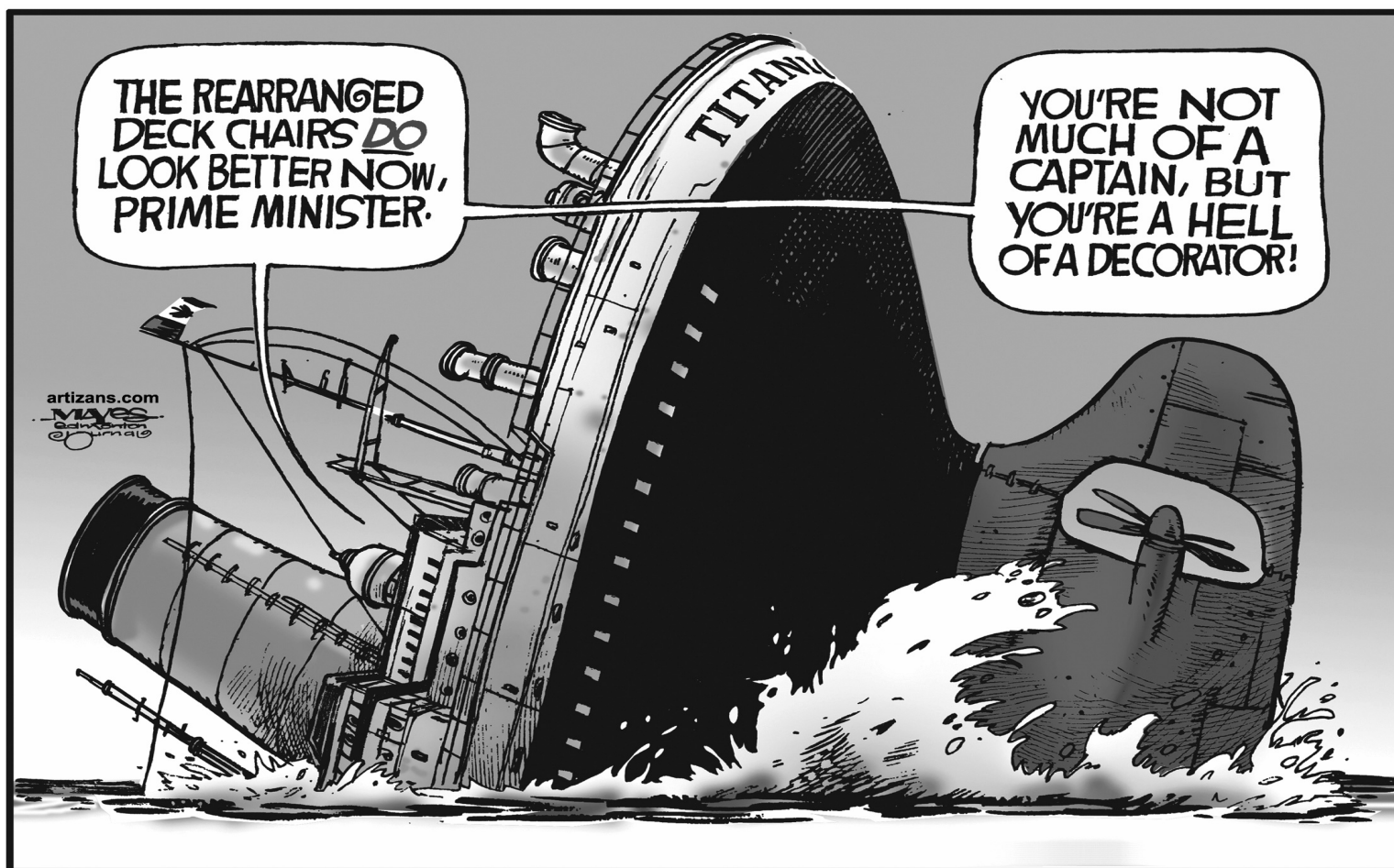
Patty Hajdu, the Indigenous services minister, retained her portfolio, an indication Trudeau is happy with her efforts on the file.

Hajdu has faced criticism in handling the portfolio, specifically on the continued need for boil-water advisories in First Nations communities across the country.

She's also faced criticism of late for her handling of COVID-19 and its origins, but she was working with the information at hand.

Marcus Powlowski, on the other hand, was once again excluded. Though a doctor and a lawyer, it's not really surprising, given his willingness to speak out against his own government and create waves.

No prime minister likes to be made to look bad at times, and Powlowski can probably do his best work outside of cabinet anyway.



Troubled youth subject of Porter's Shy

Shy by Max Porter tries to get inside the head of a very troubled youth. The year is 1995 and Shy is a 16-year-old boy toting an impressive CV of delinquencies. 'He's sprayed, snorted, smoked, sworn, stolen, cut, punched, run, jumped, crashed an Escort, smashed up a shop, trashed a house, broken a nose, stabbed his stepdad's finger.' He's been expelled from two schools. First caution in 1992 aged 13.

He has alienated his mother. He loves only drum'n'bass and jungle. He is now a pupil at the Last Chance boarding school, described in a well-meaning documentary film as an 'unconventional' institution for the rehabilitation of some of the most disturbed and violent young

offenders in the country, and described by Shy as 'an old mansion converted into a school for badly behaved boys in the middle of nowhere'.

When the novel opens, Shy is sneaking out of school at 3am with a rucksack full of rocks on his back. He is heading for the school duck pond. The rucksack will weigh him down. Last Chance indeed. Shy's trip to the pond is also the story of his life. His inner monologue ducks

and dives, summoning memories, smashing together disparate linguistic registers: family argu-

ments, therapeutic exercises, the virtuoso improvs of drum'n'bass MCs, the macho nonsense of teenage boys.

One of the interesting things about Porter's work is that he uses the formal techniques of modernism not to shock the reader into assuming a greater critical distance from the text but rather to cultivate a deeper imaginative involvement in the lives of his characters. His books, for all their expressionistic idiosyncrasies, are hugely readable, even gripping (I flew through *Shy* in under two hours).



John Pateman
BOOK BANTER

The substance of *Shy* is Shy's inner turmoil; Porter conveys it beautifully ('His thoughts are loping along in odd repetitive chunks, running at him, stumbling'). He makes us feel not just Shy's confusion but his mother's and stepfather's despair at ever reaching him.

Shy's streams of consciousness are fed by tributaries of other people's language - his parents' bribes and imprecations; the voiceover of the documentary film about Last Chance; the banter and bravado of Shy's fellow pupils; the concern, love and impatience of Shy's therapists and teachers. It is virtuoso.

Without giving too much away, *Shy* ends in a dollop of pure sentiment. We might argue about

whether or not such an ending has been earned; some readers will certainly feel that it channels sufficient emotive power to bring the book beautifully home.

To my mind it doesn't; there is, late on, an encounter with nature in the raw that is asked to bear slightly more thematic and narrative weight than it really warrants, and the book as a whole feels unbalanced in various ways.

Shy's mother and stepfather, for instance, remain merely spectral figures, which may be true to the subjective experience of depression - all the world can seem full of ghosts when you're depressed - but leaves the book feeling thinner than it otherwise might.

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Mobility scooters evolving

By JR Shermack

I was a passenger in a small truck heading east on Walsh Street a couple days ago when we narrowly avoided a collision with another vehicle turning left into our lane.

At the last second the errant driver realized what he was doing and swerved quickly in the other direction, driving erratically in the wrong lane and going the wrong way.

There was no damage and no casualties – I got a good look at the other driver as I watched his antics and saw him eventually cross back into our lane behind us.

Judging from his demeanor and his grey beard he looked to be of a certain age and he appeared to have a cavalier attitude as he puffed on a smoke and barreled ahead.

The vehicle he recklessly drove was one of those small, three-wheeled electric mobility scooters that are frequently seen

these days cruising city sidewalks and streets.

Welcome to the dawning of the Age of Micromobility.

If you look back at how things were during the Age of Aquarius this is clearly an example of how the more things change, the more they remain the same.

There was a time when another rambunctious group of unregistered, unlicensed, uninsured drivers invaded the sidewalks and streets, not with mobility scooters, but with bicycles.

Everyone knows once you learn how to ride a bicycle you never forget but it gets harder as you get older and sometimes even the lowest gear seems hard to pedal.

Many local residents began riding a bicycle last century when every bike on the road was the same standard model with one forward gear and a pedal brake.

If you wanted a sportier ride you could attach tassels to the handlebars, install a headlight or create sound effects with a clothespin and a baseball card clipped to the

wheel.

We went everywhere on our one-speed bikes and before long three-speed bicycles appeared and then 10-speeds on two sprockets and then 18 speeds and on and on.

Fast forward to the 21st century and those same cyclists are driving a revolution in personal transportation that is taking bicycles down a comfortable new path.

Their new rides are a reflection of modern micromobility technology and the bigger than average disposable incomes of aging Boomers and their new wheels.

Not all mobility scooters are as modest as the one that almost drove us off the road and if you want luxury in your micromobility check out the Cabin Car Mk2 plus.

It is called the perfect transition from car to scooter, fully ensconced from the elements and featuring luxury options such as air conditioning, reversing

camera and digital display.

It has large pneumatic tires and super-soft suspension, a luxury contoured seat, a capacity of 181 kg and most importantly, a cup holder for your favorite beverage.

I fell in love with the Cabin Car as soon as I saw it – I would love to have just to drive around the yard at a leisurely 8 mph.

If your scooter can be classified as a medical aid/device it can be operated in Ontario without registration, licence plates, a driver's licence or insurance.

Anyone with mobility issues can get around the law and out the door thanks to the modern miracle of micromobility and the indulgence of the Ministry of Transportation.

That might explain our close encounter on Walsh Street the other day – it was just a micromobility issue.

As for me, I have one thing to say to that grizzled, grey dude – keep on truckin', but look both ways before you cross the street.



The Cabin Car MK2 Plus.

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Aug. 3-8

Border Cats Baseball

Port Arthur Stadium has been the place to be this summer.

This is your last chance to take part in the fun, including a fireworks night on Friday with the Minnesota Mud Puppies in the opposition dugout.

The Border Cats start a six-game homestand on Thursday, also welcoming Waterloo and La Crosse to Port Arthur Stadium, their final home games of 2023.

Tickets are available at the box office and visit the team's website for start times.

Aug. 8-13

Border Cats Baseball

Speaking of baseball, the qualifying event for next year's World Baseball Softball Confederation women's world championships gets under way on Tuesday at Baseball Central. Canada will be joined by the United States, Australia, Hong Kong, Korea

and Mexico, with the top two teams advancing to next year's main event, also being held in Thunder Bay.

Canada has already qualified, as host, but there's plenty to be excited about, as they look to see where they stand.

The action shifts to Port Arthur Stadium on Thursday and wraps up on Saturday, with Sunday reserved as a rain date.

Aug. 9-13

Canadian Lakehead Exhibition

The midway is back and so is all the fun and excitement (and the food) that comes with the annual Canadian Lakehead Exhibition.

There's plenty of musical offerings to entertain the masses too, with the likes of 54-40, Prism and the Northern Pikes taking to the main stage.

The fun gets under way on Wednesday and goes through Sunday.

Entry tickets are \$15 at the gate for adults, and \$10 for children aged five

to 12. Midway ride bracelets are \$34, good for either noon to 6 p.m. or 6 p.m. to midnight.

Theatre and CLE admissions are \$18 at the gate.

Children four and under are free to visit the CLE.

Aug. 8-10

Marvelous Wonderettes

By popular demand, Badanai Theatre is bringing the sequel to last summer's hit theatre show to Thunder Bay this year.

Join Betty Jean, Cindy Lou, Missy, and Suzy as they sing about their final year in high school, celebrate with their fellow classmates and teachers, and prepare for their next step toward a bright future.

And that's not all. Act II zooms ahead to 1968, where the girls perform as bride and bridesmaids to celebrate Missy's marriage to Mr. Lee.

Tickets are \$25 and available at eventbrite.ca. Showtime is 7:30 p.m.



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Janine Black is currently the vice-president of clinical and community health at St. Joseph's Care Group. (Supplied photo)

St. Joe's hires in-house CEO

Janine Black will take over role from Kelli O'Brien

By Gary Rinne - TB Source

The next president and CEO of St. Joseph's Care Group is a woman who already works in the organization.

The care group's board of directors has announced the appointment of Janine Black, effective Sept. 8.

She currently serves as vice-president/clinical and community health.

Black, who holds a master's of health science degree in speech-language pathology from the University of Toronto, and a master's of business administration from Queens University, will take over from Kelli O'Brien.

O'Brien, previously a vice-president at Western Health in Newfoundland & Labrador, started as CEO at St. Joseph's Care Group in September 2021, but announced her resignation 18 months later.

In a brief statement released by the organization on Monday, Black said the connection the staff have with clients and their families has always stood out for her.

"Addressing the significant health issues faced by people in our region requires trust, compassion and talent. I am excited to lead this team, and am looking forward to seeing all that we can achieve in service to our community."

Board chair Susan Fraser said Black's appointment follows an extensive national search process that revealed multiple talented candidates.

She described the incoming president as a collaborative leader "who brings a depth and diversity of healthcare experience combined with a demonstrated commitment to quality and safety."

Black's lengthy career with the organization dates back to 1991 when she started as a speech language pathologist, after which she took on roles with progressively larger responsibilities including as manager of integrated seniors' services, director of inpatient programs and services, director of seniors' health, and vice-president/seniors' health and addictions and mental health.

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Council OKs Parkdale growth

By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

A new stage of the Parkdale subdivision is set to move forward after securing municipal approvals.

Parkdale's seventh stage includes 55 housing units, the first of which could begin construction as soon as late summer pending registration of title, according to developer Di Gregorio Developments.

The company expects the lots, which will be marketed to both home builders and individual homebuyers, to sell out within around two years.

Vice-president John Simperl said the move to open up the latest stage of the subdivision responds to a shortage of fully-serviced detached homes in Thunder Bay.

"I believe there's a pent-up demand for single-family resi-



Parkdale's seventh stage will include 55 new housing units, which could start this year.

dences," he said. "We have numerous people who have already approached us to purchase them."

The new stage will expand the Parkdale Estates subdivision that sits north of Arthur Street and just west

of the Thunder Bay Expressway.

The subdivision's latest stage will be located on a new Bruin Crescent, north of existing Parkdale development and across from Cougar Crescent.

City council voted earlier this month to approve a subdivision agreement for the seventh stage, which was already draft approved after being included in the original 1992 plan of subdivision for Parkdale.

The sixth stage of the subdivision was approved in 2016. Di Gregorio Developments has since sold all single-family homes and townhomes in that stage, Simperl reported, though two multi-residential lots are not yet available for sale.

The stage seven lots are zoned for single-family or semi-detached homes, potentially allowing every-

thing up to a four-plex under the city's zoning rules.

There is currently only one access to the subdivision, via Parkdale Boulevard. That has prompted congestion concerns from residents in the past.

Decio Lopes, a senior planner with the city, said the additional development doesn't change the single-access situation.

He noted the city maintains a gravel emergency access corridor out of the subdivision that can be opened in case of emergencies.

Future development in the area will be guided by a Parkdale secondary plan the City of Thunder Bay is currently at work on, which will consider issues like city servicing, housing density, and environmental impacts of further builds.


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River Street works nears end

By Kevin Jeffrey – Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

City project engineer Mike Vogrig is hopeful that the detour on River Street will be gone in six weeks.

Crews continue to work on the single structural multi-plate metal arch, which will be mounted on concrete footings.

Spring flooding in early May 2022 caused the collapse of one of the twin culverts, which carried the waters of McVicar Creek beneath River Street just north of Algoma Street.

“[Crews] just started the back filling,” Vogrig said Monday. “Now we have at least 10 days probably to get to the top of the culvert, then they have to start doing some utility work.”

Once the project is complete



A section of River Street has been closed to traffic since May 2022, but should open later this month. (Kevin Jeffrey)

Vogrig said pedestrians and drivers won't notice a big difference.

Paving of the road will be the last thing that gets done for the project,

which has seen several delays in the completion date.

Vogrig said this is a unit price contract, which means the timeline

won't affect the budget of the project.

“Typically, where you see changes in costs [in the project is]

if there's a change to work or there's extra work [that needs to get done],” he added. “[There have been] a few things that we've had to take care of over the course of the project.

“We'll find out what that final number is once the project is complete, and then we'll have a better idea of where we end up with the back filling.”

The work to replace the culvert required the removal of sanitary sewer pipes that had been supported by the structure.

The new culvert is expected to be more resilient, with its thicker galvanized material, giving it an expected lifespan of 75 to 90 years.

Thunder Bay-based Taranis Contracting secured the contract to rebuild the culvert and roadway, with total costs estimated at \$2.5 million.

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Superior salmon a challenge

Finding fish on Lake Superior can be a challenge. The great lake is 82,000 square kilometers in size, and it contains an astonishing 10 per cent of the fresh water on earth.

With over 4,800 kilometres of rugged shoreline, an average depth of 147 metres, and a maximum depth of 406 metres, there is an incredible amount of water to explore.

Like most lakes however, the vast majority of Superior is unlikely to be ideal habitat for sport fish like trout and salmon. This is why fishing the great lake known as Gichi-gami can be so challenging, and rewarding.

Last week, I had the chance to join my friend Tom and a young man

named Landan for a day of salmon fishing on Superior. I had heard reports of salmon numbers being low so far this summer, but I had also heard that Landan is a bit of a fishing phenom, so I remained hopeful.

Tom and Landan departed from Thunder Bay early and picked me up about an hour later at the Silver Islet dock. I am currently nursing a broken foot, so I hobbled onto the boat with my cast and crutches and we set off in search of fish.

While our main target was chinook salmon, we were also hoping to catch a steelhead or maybe a coho. If the salmonid bite is slow, lake trout are also a welcome catch. While a laker doesn't fight or taste

like a salmon, they are more plentiful, more willing to bite, and will often provide some much-needed action on even the slowest days.

Speaking of slow days, this fishing adventure did not get off to a fast start. With our depth finder on the fritz, we had to use the depth readings on our GPS map to estimate how much water was below us. While I drove the boat and watched the map, Tom and Landan tended to the rods.

Eventually, we were rewarded with a few lake trout, but this only made us hungrier for some salmon action. Undeterred by the slow start, Landan kept busy switching baits and playing with the depth of our downriggers in a relentless pursuit of our target fish.

It was impressive to watch his passion for angling in action.

After several hours with nothing but a few lake trout, one of rods popped off the downrigger and, as soon as we saw that flash of silver on the surface, we knew we had finally found a salmon. The fish was brought to the boat, scooped up in the net, and met with a series of cheers from our crew.

Then, as soon as that rod was reset, we had another strike. It was a second salmon, but this one was quite a bit bigger than the first.

Over the next hour, we landed a third salmon and lost three more. Then, as fast as our flurry of salmon action came, it was gone. That's the way it goes with fishing however.

It's a sport that rewards patience and persistence while providing enough excitement and joy to always keep us coming back for more.

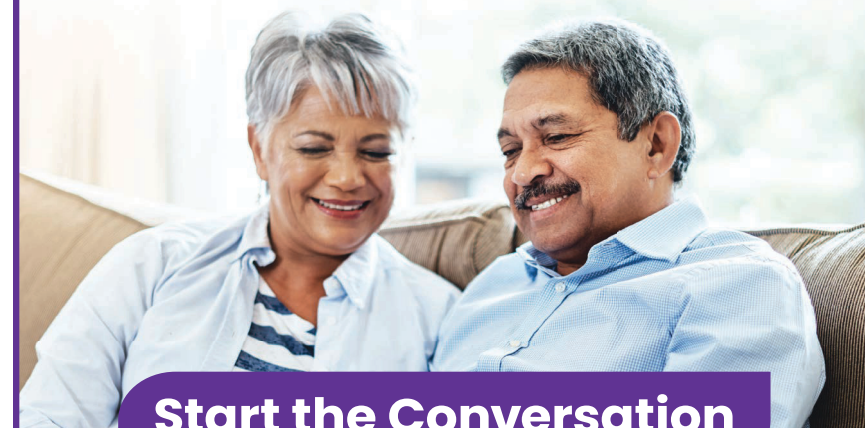


Keith Ailey
the GOOD LIFE



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A surgical recovery

Doctor gives the OK to start ramping up work around the farm

So, there I was, bumping along on the riding lawn mower, keen to finish the mowing job my wife, Laura, had begun four days before. She had not completed the task and Sunday, I was determined to complete it.

A sort of confession now: I had major surgery back in the beginning of June, a two-for-one: removal of a gallbladder full of stones and fixing a huge hernia in my stomach. I was emphatically told not to lift anything over 10 pounds nor was I allowed to work in the barn, or vacuum carpets, or anything like that. So, all of the chores that I normally did were now foisted onto daughter, Beth, son, Doug, and wife, Laura. These extra duties were on top of their regular day jobs. I wasn't even supposed to vacuum the carpets.

Until last week. Last week after seeing the splendid surgeon who did the deed and who was very happy with the progress of the healing of my incision, and who advised me that I could do a bit more but get into shape slowly, I took on some household tasks like vacuuming, and also some barn chores, like helping with the cleaning of stalls. Good to be allowed to be a useful part of the team again.

Laura had been doing the lawn mowing but a rainstorm interrupted her ability to finish the job.

On Sunday morning I announced that I wanted to climb on board the mower and get mowing.

Laura argued that maybe the

bumping and odd angles the mower would traverse might shake up my gut too much.

"Naw," I replied, "I will wear the hernia belt."

And so I did and so I fired up the mower and had a ball getting back at it. But whereas the weather interrupted My Dove from finishing the mowing agenda, I was interrupted not by weather but by honey bees.

The lawn in front of the barn and alongside the driveway, those portions not cut by Laura, had a mix of beautiful, yellow trefoil, daisies, and clover all mixed in twitch grass. As I walked each day around the driveway and on the path leading to the barn door, I would scan the ground to see if the pollinators were busy buzzing from flower to

flower. I was not seeing many.

I have mentioned before that when mowing the lawns, if I see honey bees flying from flower to flower, I stop mowing, turn off the mower, lower the speed of the engine and wait for the bees to move on.

Usually there might be one or two busy bees.

Not Sunday afternoon.

I managed to mow along the western edge of the driveway without seeing pollinators and heading back along the eastern section again I saw none. But halfway to where the driveway splits into an oval (you can drive in by the barn or by Laura's vegetable garden and arrive at Casa Jones), I saw several bees "doing their thing" and so I stopped.

There were too many of them all dancing from flower to flower both trefoil and clover for me to continue. Well, perhaps I will try on the other side of the oval where we park the hay tailor.

Same thing. Too many active honey bees.

Secretly I was thrilled to see so many small, flying fuzzballs actively seeking pollen.

Since scientists have warned that one of the measures of a successful environment is the health of the world-wide honeybee population, seeing so many on our wee spread elicited a few moments of gratitude.

Now when I mow the lawns, I cut right to the fences that border the horse paddocks. Laura didn't. Initially, I was tempted to remedy the situation, to cut right up against the fencing.

That was until I noticed what was growing.

What was growing was a plethora of daisies but especially the gorgeous blue of the tall chicory plants that I previously had no idea existed there.

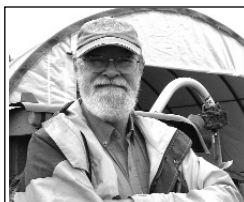
That was because I never let them have a chance to grow. Laura had. I left them alone realizing that when I walk to get the morning newspaper, I will have a beautiful scene upon which my eyes can feast.

So, any after effects that could have aggravated my healing gut?

Nope.

My healing tum-tum is fine; the lawns are mowed; and the bees have been allowed to collect vital pollen without being run over by a noisy machine.

At least, for now.



Fred Jones
RURAL ROOTS

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Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: "C" = "O"

"XKFBJWBBWPP LP BCYNLBI ZFY
ECSFBYDKQ UDXBWPP."

— PWBWAD

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

ACROSS

- 1 Port. lady
- 5 Musical instrument (string)
- 9 Appropriate
- 12 Musical instrument (woodwind)
- 13 Woden
- 14 Nat'l Endowment for the Arts (abbr.)
- 15 Recent (suf.)
- 16 Heb. patriarch's title
- 17 Mountain (pref.)
- 18 Bear
- 20 Fox-hunters' coats
- 22 Hellas
- 24 Atomic Energy Commission (abbr.)
- 25 Trading league
- 26 Irate
- 30 Ice (Ger.)
- 31 Bantu language

- 32 Positive vote
- 33 One of the Seven Pleiades
- 36 Hindu soul
- 38 Circle segment
- 39 Pet
- 40 Carbon (pref.)
- 43 Old Pers. money
- 44 Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.)
- 45 Two-toed sloth
- 47 Burial place
- 50 Scot. alder tree
- 51 Fr. soprano
- 52 Eight (pref.)
- 53 Ran into
- 54 Periphery
- 55 Russ. secret police

DOWN

- 1 Physician
- 2 Laconian clan
- 3 group
- 3 Bosh
- 4 Golden Fleece keeper
- 5 Maid
- 6 Irish
- 7 exclamation
- 7 Family relative
- 8 Hidden shooter

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

A	C	A	D	S	L	A	P	F	D	A
C	O	L	O	W	A	K	A	R	A	T
C	R	I	T	A	G	A	R	I	D	E
C	A	M	P	O	C	A	B	A	S	
A	D	A	G	I	O	Y	E	A		
M	A	N	E	S	P	A	L	A	V	E
O	R	T	P	A	H	E	D	E		
K	N	E	E	C	A	P	O	W	N	E
			L	I	D	G	I	R	D	L
S	E	R	A	C	T	E	L	A	E	
N	M	I	A	T	O	M	S	T	O	A
A	I	M	D	E	G	U	S	T	A	B
B	T	U	A	G	A	L	E	A	S	T

- 9 Soon
- 10 Fringe benefit
- 11 New Mexico art colony
- 19 Tennis stroke
- 21 Amazon tributary
- 22 Indian butter
- 23 Sora
- 24 Collection of sayings
- 26 Guido's note (2 words)
- 27 Stag
- 28 Unfedged hawk
- 29 Tooth (Lat.)
- 31 Internat'l Red Cross (abbr.)
- 34 Public vehicle
- 35 Group of actors
- 36 Berne's river
- 37 Atomic submarine
- 39 Motive
- 40 Heddles of a loom
- 41 Rhine tributary
- 42 Rave
- 43 Euphemistic oath
- 46 Bow
- 48 Television channel
- 49 Evil

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Ribs require plenty of practice

Ribs are one of those items that's extremely easy to learn, but mastering ribs is an art form all its own. Cooking methods, seasonings, cooking appliances, and types of ribs are all things that can be personally chosen according to the chef.

The good thing about it, is there is no real wrong way to do them, however there are plenty that are just more right. Choosing the right ribs to cook is a task in itself, with pork you have side or spareribs, which are a larger meatier rib, than its cousin the babyback ribs. With beef you can have short ribs, whole rack, or English cut ribs.

Short ribs are meaty and well marbled, and require low and slow

cooking to break down and tenderize.

The whole rack has seven bones and most meat is located between the ribs.

English cut are single ribs with a chunk of meat at the top. Other forms of protein ribs available are bison and lamb but for today we are going to focus on pork and beef, the BFF's of the animal food kingdom.

You can slow roast your ribs in an oven, covered (then sauced and uncovered) for a few hours until fork

tender, then you can finish them on a grill or in a higher heat oven.

Grilling oven roasted ribs seems to be the preferred method of many

home cooks as the grill adds a bit of char and smoke to the ribs but the oven will preserve a lot of the juices and flavours while tenderizing and breaking down connective tissues.

In the dog days of a Thunder Bay summer, we would probably not want to turn our stoves on. If you plan to strictly grill your ribs, Indirect heat is where you wanna live.

Your meat on one side of the grill, your burners on the opposite cranked right up to the seventh layer of hell. (Not really, but it sounded cool).

Get that BBQ chamber at around 260 F to 270 F and let it go. Then once you're all tenderized, sauce em liberally with your favourite sauce and get some char on them to finish.

Sauce is a really important part of the finish of a rib, but remember to

build seasonings and flavours from the bottom up.

Season and salt your proteins with complimentary spices to your sauce and your flavours will have dimension and you will get a well rounded developed rib flavour that will always make sure you're the king.

Another important part of the rib experience is the beer. With a rich protein in the summer especially, you're going to want to go with a light beer with a fresh finish.

Locally, Sleeping Giant Brewing Co's White Out is a solid choice for such a day. Happy Grilling!

Derek Lankinen is an award-winning chef, author, and restaurateur. He is the Owner/Operator of Beefcake's Burger Factory with two locations in Westfort and Current River and Co-Owner of Elite Beef, Brick and Mortar Food Co. and Eat Loco Tacos.



Derek Lankinen

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NORTH COUNTRY
Cycle & Sports

Barbie an uneven day-glo satire

Barbie (SilverCity) opens to the strains of *2001: A Space Odyssey* with narrator Helen Mirren stating that the '60s icon served as a career inspiration for little girls, instilling dreams beyond just motherhood. Is this serious or satirical revisionist corporate history?

One wonders what concessions director/co-writers Greta Gerwig (*Ladybird*) and partner Noah Baumbach (*Marriage Story*) had to make for Mattel to green light the movie.

Barbie is campy send-up, feminist tract, and corporate push, an uneven combination. *Barbie* begins promisingly before the writing goes from clever to confusing upsetting the movie's giddy momentum and satirical clarity. The inspired performances

and amazing production design counter-balances the bumpy script.

"Stereotypical" Barbie (Margot Robbie) dwells in Barbieland, suffused in Day-Glo pastels, populated by Barbies and non-entity

Kens desperate for Barbie attention. All is peachy until one day Barbie suddenly undergoes an existential crisis upon discovering she has flat feet, cellulite (!) and muses about death. (Good for a giggle.)

'Weird' Barbie (funny Kate McKinnon) advises Barbie that a girl playing with her in the 'Real World' is in crisis, transposing her problems unto Barbie. So Barbie must find her to resolve their

respective problems.

Accompanied by Ken, (hilariously clueless Ryan Gosling) Barbie soon finds her 'owner' in LA, dismissive young Sasha (Ariana Greenblatt) along with Sasha's mum Gloria (America Ferrera), a Mattel employee whose adult angst is part of the equation.

Meanwhile, facile Ken misconstrues that men rule the 'Real World.' He propagates this patriarchal notion back at Barbieland, flipping the hierarchy. (Okay, how?) "Mansplaining" becomes omnipresent.

"Barbie" starts favorably in the first act as a self-aware send-up. Backdrops and props are amusingly phony. Also funny is Barbie's

platonic relationship with Ken who hints at staying overnight at Barbie's place, but (minus genitalia) he's not sure why he wants to.

It's also a fish-out-of-water satire (Ken poses giddily for a police mug shot thrilled at actually getting attention). Getting booked twice by 'Real World' cops, one wonders if Barbie and Ken have any ID and fingerprints. (Suspension of disbelief? OK OK!!)

The Mattel CEO (Will Ferrell) and his platoon of stumblebum suits add nothing to the proceedings, serving as a softball barb at Mattel Corporate who wanna be seen as good sports.

The power flip in Barbieland is a

satirical swipe at gender dynamics, underlined by the amusing tune, "I Am Ken." But America Ferrera makes her speech about societal burdens placed on women—to a group of dolls!

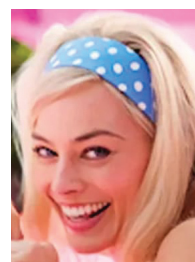
Thus, instigating a surreal non-injurious civil war among the Kens seems a dullard's way of solving the gender issues. Kens' musical numbers stall the proceedings. The Pinocchio-like ending is intended to illustrate self-determination but when and why did Barbie suddenly become human?

Look for Barbie Easter eggs ('Discontinued' Barbies, Allan) and millisecond cameos including Rob Brydon (*Trip to Italy*) as Sugar Daddy Ken.

Fitfully entertaining, *Barbie*'s many ideas tend to collide rather than coalesce into a satisfactory whole.



Marty Mascarin
 MOVIE TALK



MARGOT ROBBIE

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Richard Schutte night a success

By Johan Vass – For TB Source

The Richard Schutte Memorial Night of dirt track racing was a success. Children got to participate in soap box derby races. The pushers were members of the Thunder Bay North Stars hockey team. 50 evacuees from Fort Hope were guests at the track.

Many children were treated to some race swag courtesy of the CRT race team and John Trevisanutto. Tanner Henderson took pictures with some children and they all got signed hats.

Linda Schutte and her daughter Lynn Schutte-Martin along with son-in-law Rick really put together a great night. Thank you from all the fans and drivers.

The feature race winners will have their names engraved on a Richard Schutte championship trophy. This is a race Legacy. The Thunder Bay Truck Centre Wissota Modified feature winner was Tanner Williamson. The Forks South Sports Lounge Wissota Mid West Modified

winner was Cole Chernosky. The Mezzo Motors and Machine Wissota Super Stock winner was David Simpson. The Mastrangelo Fuels Street Stocks winner was A.J. Kellar. The Bay Lock and Security Hornets feature winner was Jesse Owen.

Enhanced prize money through the Schutte family and many sponsors was handed out. The big money was \$1,022 to random positions pulled out of a hat before the races.

The big money went to Austin Polonoski in street stock, Super Stock Mike McLean, A-Mod Joel Cryderman, B-Mod David Kivi, Hornet Ricky Reid.

Sponsors also purchased 15 bicycles that were drawn for, the winners of those went home very happy. The 50/50 draw was \$7,100 that went to Murray Scott.

Wednesday Aug. 2 is GFL night at the track. On Aug. 9 the sponsor is Makkinga Contractors and Aug. 16 it is NAPA Autoparts night.



Hudson Chaschuck in his soap box derby car, having taken part in the races put on during Richard Schutte Memorial Night.



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Taylor latest to demand trade

It's starting to get a little tired listening to professional athletes demanding to be traded.

The latest is Indianapolis Colts running back Jonathan Taylor.

Two years ago, he was considered the top back in the game, but injuries and a not-so-hot Indianapolis offense dulled his shine a bit.

Then, last week, seemingly out of nowhere, he demanded out, after talking to Colts owner Robert Irsay.

Earlier this summer, it was Portland's Damian Lillard who not only told the Trail Blazers he wanted to be traded, he told them he only wanted to play for the Miami Heat.

Historically, Eli Manning, drafted by the San Diego Chargers, forced a

trade to the New York Giants, his father Eli demanding a deal be made.

In the NHL, Eric Lindros famously refused to play for the Quebec Nordiques, a team whose poor play earned it the No. 1 pick three seasons in a row.

At least the latter two weren't already under contract.

More and more these days, especially in the NBA, players are forcing teams' hands, publicly stating they don't want to play for them any longer and all but

forcing the hands of management to make a deal, more often than not losing leverage as a result and not getting full value.

Then there's player meddling -

look no further than LeBron James and his role in luring Anthony Davis to Los Angeles.

Davis was under team control in New Orleans, but made it clear he wasn't resigning and the Pelicans had no choice but to send Davis to the Lakers, the team he was angling to be a part of at the time.

Taylor and Lillard come off like spoiled children, albeit two of the most talented kids on the pro sports playground.

But when players on small-market teams start looking for an early exit, in my opinion it really upsets the competitive balance.

For many teams in markets like Indianapolis and Portland, the draft is key.

Players are only under team control for so long.

At least Lillard has given the Trail

Blazers ample time to become a contender, a dozen years, even reaching the Western Conference final in 2019.

Taylor, and before him, LeVeon Bell, who sat out until the Steelers traded him to the New York Jets, where he was a dismal failure,

Taylor, placed on the physically unable to play list last week, has one year remaining on his deal, and becomes an unrestricted free agent at season's end.

If he sits out for trade reasons, and not because he's injured, he's letting his Colts teammates down, not to mention Colts Nation.

Players need to start living up to the terms of their deals.

If I'm Irsay, I might decide to get rid of Taylor, despite his 2021 numbers that saw him rush for 1,811 yards and 18 touchdowns, adding

two more majors through the air.

You don't want that kind of attitude to rub off.

But there is no way I'm handing him off to a contender.

I'd bury him with the Houston Texans or the Washington Commanders and see how that works out.



Now that I'm back from vacation, it's time to start seriously thinking about the fantasy football season.

Haven't thought much about it yet, which is odd for me, but if I land No. 1 in any of my leagues, does Justin Jefferson have to be my guy? Or do I go old-school and grab a running back, like Christian McCaffrey? What about Austin Ekeler, another player who has asked for a trade?

In a PPR league, Jefferson is probably the safe choice.



Leith Dunick
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2 1:35 WIL	3 6:35 WIL	4 5:05 @EC	5 6:35 @EC	6 6:35 ROC	7 7:35 ROC	8 6:35 ROC
9 1:35 ROC	10 6:35 @DUL	11 6:35 @DUL	12 6:35 @WAT	13 12:05 6:35 @WAT	14 6:35 @WAT	15 6:35 @MAN
16 1:35 @MAN	17	18 6:35 MIN	19 6:35 MIN	20 6:35 @ROC	21 6:35 @ROC	22 7:05 @WIL
23 5:05 @WIL	24 6:35 LAC	25	26 6:35 LAC	27 6:35 @DUL	28 6:35 @DUL	29 6:35 @DUL
30 1:35 DUL	31 ALL STAR					

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 ALL STAR	2 ALL STAR	3 6:35 MIN	4 7:35 MIN	5 6:35 WAT
6 1:35 WAT	7 6:35 LAC	8 6:35 LAC	9 7:05 @WIL	10 7:05 @WIL	11 6:35 @DUL	12 3:05 @DUL

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

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	A	R	C		C	A	R	E	S	S
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