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WELL RESPECTED: Dr. Fred Gilbert served as president of Lakehead University from 1998 until 2010, then took a run at provincial politics as a Conservative candidate.

## **Former Lakehead president dies**

### **OBITUARY** By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

**D**r. Fred Gilbert, a familiar face to many in Thunder Bay as former president of Lakehead University and candidate for provincial office, has died.

Gilbert's time at the university's helm, from 1998 to 2010, was marked by major developments, including the launch of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM), establishment of a satellite campus in Orillia, construction of the ATAC building, and the success of Thunderwolves hockey, of which he was an avid booster.

Gilbert rarely shied away from controversy

during his tenure, evidenced in his decision not to allow wireless internet at Lakehead over health concerns, and a tongue-in-cheek "Yale Schmale" promotional campaign that took aim at then-President George W. Bush.

Gilbert was known on campus as an outgoing, if sometimes divisive, figure who made a point of connecting with students, faculty, and staff.

He died peacefully by assisted death at his home in Midville Branch, Nova Scotia, on Nov. 2.

He had terminal metastatic pancreatic cancer and lymphoma – "Fred never did things by halves," his obituary wryly notes.

Born in Toronto, Gilbert's life in academia

took him across the continent and back. After completing a Masters and PhD at Guelph University, he headed the Wildlife Biology Program at Washington State University, served as founding Dean of the Faculty of Natural Resources at the University of Northern BC, and later the Vice Provost Academic at Colorado State University.

After serving two terms as president at Lakehead, Gilbert – a self-described Red Tory – ran in the 2011 provincial election as a Progressive Conservative in the Thunder Bay-Atikokan riding, placing third.

According to his obituary, Gilbert spent recent years in Nova Scotia establishing an organic farm. 2

## Get Involved: We Want to Hear from You

City Council is looking for your feedback to consider for Budget 2021 discussions.

Complete the budget survey by Nov. 25, also available from any branch of the Thunder Bay Public Library, or fill it in online.

Visit: www.thunderbay.ca/GetInvolved



### **2021 PRE-BUDGET SURVEY**

<ol> <li>How important are the following programs and services to you and those in your household?</li> </ol>	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very Important	Not applicable/ Don't use
Emergency Services (EMS, Fire and Police)	0	0	0	0	0
Roads Maintenance & Construction	0	0	0	0	0
Winter Maintenance (snow plowing, sanding/salting)	0	0	0	0	0
Drinking Water	0	0	0	0	0
Wastewater (sewer)	0	0	0	0	0
Stormwater Management (ditches, storm sewers, low impact developments, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0
Transit	0	0	0	0	0
Garbage and Recycling Collection	0	0	0	0	0
Long Term Care & Senior Services (Pioneer Ridge, Jasper Place, and Meals on Wheels)	0	0	0	0	0
Parks (parks, conservatory, splash pads, campgrounds, golf, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0
Recreation Programs & Facilities (aquatics, arenas & stadiums, older adult programs, community centres, events and programming, etc.)	0	0	0	0	0
Child Care	0	0	0	0	0
Libraries	0	0	0	0	0
Economic Development (attracting and retaining businesses)	0	0	0	0	0
Communication & Engagement with Residents	0	0	0	0	0
Animal Services	0	0	0	0	0
By-law Enforcement	0	0	0	0	0

- 2. Are there any other areas not listed above that you would rate as important/very important?
- The financial impact of COVID-19, due to revenue losses and increased costs, has been estimated at over \$8 million for 2021 (4.2% of the municipal taxes levy). City Administration will be presenting City Council with options to address these costs. To cover these increased costs, what option(s) would you support?
  - Temporarily reduce/modify some services in 2021
  - Temporarily increase user fees in areas that have increased costs due to COVID-19
  - Increase taxes in 2021
  - Draw from the reserve fund that is set aside for emergencies and budget to replenish in future years

- 4. Are there any programs or services that you would be comfortable with temporarily reducing or modifying in order to help cover estimated COVID-19 financial impacts? If so, please list.
- 5. Do you have any additional suggestions for City Council as it considers the 2021 budget?

(attach an additional page if more space is required)

Return the budget survey to any branch of the Thunder Bay Public Library or mail to: Finance Department 500 Donald Street E, P.O. Box 800 Thunder Bay, ON P7C 5K4

**DEADLINE: NOV. 25, 2020** 

○ Don't know

### LOCALNEWS



HOPEFUL: Health Minister Patty Hajdu is cautiously optimistic about Pfizer's announcement of COVID-19 vaccine success.

# Hajdu says vaccine rollout plan in place

### Pfizer announces vaccine trial shows 90 per cent effectiveness

### **THUNDER BAY** By Leith Dunick – TB Source

ealth Minister Patty Hajdu says there will likely be three tiers of priority if and when a COVID-19 vaccine is made available to the Canadian public.

Hajdu was reacting to news that Pfizer's vaccine trials show it looks to be up to 90 per cent effective, which could be a game-changer in the world's fight against the virus.

The Thunder Bay-Superior North MP said the first tier to receive the two-dose vaccine would likely be the country's most vulnerable.

The country has secured the rights to 20 million doses of the vaccine from Pfizer, with an option to buy more.

It would mean about 10 million people could be vaccinated once the vaccine is ready to roll out, something company officials said will take at least several months to accomplish.

Hadju said they're working out the details of who gets it first.

"There's a whole process under way right now to plan the deployment of those

vaccines with three primary goals. One to protect the most vulnerable, two to protect people who are working in situations where they're exposed, so you can imagine health-care workers and personal support workers, and three in areas where we think it will have the most impact to slow down the spread of the disease," Hajdu said. The last category won't necessarily be based on geography, but potentially on groups of people where it will do the most good.

"The advice from the national advisory committee is really about what groups of people should be first in line. It's not really surprising. I think the advice will evolve as we know more about which vaccine is suitable for which population," Hajdu said.

"But it is for vulnerable people who live in longterm care homes or other group settings, people who are working on the front line in a setting where there

is a higher risk of contracting COVID-19, and also other kinds of settings where there is an increased spread of COVID-19."

Hajdu said Northwestern Ontario will likely receive an allotment of vaccine, appropriate to those priority groups.

Thunder Bay-Rainy River MP Marcus Powlowski greeted the vaccine news with enthusiasm. An emergency department physician who has fought for loosen restrictions around challenge trials in the effort to come up with a successful vaccine, Powlowski said it's great news in the fight against COVID-19.

"I think 90 per cent is fantastic. I know, for example, with measles, it's 95 per cent effective and to get herd immunity with measles you need to have about 95 per cent effective vaccine. Ninety per cent is pretty good. I was really worried they were going to get a vaccine that was like 60 per cent effective, 70 per cent effective," Powlowski said.

## **Weather Forecast**



## NOTICE

VIRTUAL BUDGET TOWN HALL WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18, 6:30-7:30PM



Join Councillor Mark Bentz, Chair of Administrative Services, City Manager Norm Gale, and Linda Evans -General Manager Corporate Services & Long-Term Care & City Treasurer along with representatives from City departments for a virtual 2021 Pre-Budget Town Hall.

City Council is looking for your feedback to assist in its decision making during the review of the proposed 2021 City Budget in January and February.

View on Shaw TV Cable 10, Tbaytel TV Channel 110, or online at www.thunderbay.ca/Watch



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### **EVERYONE WELCOME!**

Residents are invited to submit advance questions for the pre-budget town hall by emailing ctbbudget@thunderbay.ca or calling 625-2389: Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, or during the live event on Nov. 18. from 6:30-7:30pm.

"I think 90 per cent is fantastic." Максиз РоwLowsки

### LOCALNEWS

## Crime must be fought from ground up

Statistics show the city is still high on violent crime list and tops in murder POLICE

### By Leith Dunick – TB Source

spokesman for the Thunder Bay A Police Service says the underlying root causes of crime must be tackled if the city wants to remove itself from the top of the crime severity index's most dubious lists.

The report, issued last week by Statistics Canada, shows Thunder Bay in 2019 was once again the murder capital of Canada with seven homicides, an average of 5.6 per 100,000 residents, Winnipeg was second, with 55 total, for an average of 5.3 per 100,000.

The city was second to Winnipeg on the violent crime severity index, with a score of 145.9, about 28 points behind the Manitoba capital. Saskatoon was third, at 134.7.

"The numbers are what they are and they show a consistency, unfortunately, for the community as far as violent crime goes," said Chris Adams.

When we look back at 2019 and it really is an unfortunate situation. There are obviously a number of people who have been affected by violent crime in our community, and will continue to be until we collectively start addressing some of the bigger issues that are affecting crime and fueling it," Adams said.

Those issues include addiction, poverty and the increasing presence of out-oftown gangs looking for larger and larger shares of the city's lucrative drug trade.

Adams said the inroads are there to tackle the problems and plenty of people already making a difference, providing programming to keep youth on the straight and narrow, safe injection sites that provide a better environment for



**REACHING OUT: Police need help to fight** the root cause of crime, says Chris Adams. users and housing programs that make it more affordable for lower-income people to live.

However, the programs don't mean

many people still aren't forced into questionable lifestyle choices, feeding an addiction or trying to stay afloat financially.

"We have to recognize as a community that we need even more help to do that. It probably isn't fair to solely put that burden right on the municipality and expect it to be perfectly funded," Adams said. "It's a case, really, that both the province and the federal government have to continue to step up on to provide the support mechanisms.

"We're not just talking about crime, we're talking about health issues, when you really think about it – mental-health issues with addiction. The results are what they are. They have a cause and effect."

Adams acknowledged the growing gang problem is also having an impact on violent crime statistics.

He said organized crime has always been a factor in Thunder Bay, but it's gotten worse. Every community deals with it at some level, but the city has

experienced a dramatic increase. Police have been given the go-ahead to expand their guns and gangs unit, but have yet to fill the positions.

Thunder Bay's isolation also plays a role.

"If you look at organized crime in southern Ontario, it's very fractionalized down there, and that, unfortunately, has made its way up here," Adams said. "There's a demand for illegal drugs and these folks from southern Ontario recognize that opportunity and they're willing to take any chance they deem fit to get inside this drug market.

"That's what we've seen, a consistent increase in trafficking, coupled with the fact the people who are in the drug trafficking business are much more violent and they're willing to use firearms. They're willing to put a lot of very vulnerable people in our community in serious jeopardy.'

He added the more crime police deal with, the less time officers can spend on the streets.



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### LOCALNEWS

## **Closing arguments** made in Bushby trial

Judge reserves decision in 2017 death of Barbara Kentner

COURT By Karen Edwards -Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Thunder Bay judge is left to decide the fate of a 21-A Junder Bay Judge is for to decide the first and trailer year-old man who admitted to throwing a metal trailer hitch at an Indigenous woman in January 2017 and whether or not his actions from this day ultimately caused her death more than five months later.

Crown prosecutors and defence lawyers made their closing arguments on Thursday, Nov. 5, to Ontario Superior Court Justice Helen M. Pierce in the high-profile, judge-only trial of Brayden Bushby who faces one count of manslaughter in connection to Barbara Kentner's death.

Bushby pleaded guilty to one count of aggravated assault after he threw a metal trailer hitch at Kentner in Jan. 29, 2017 from a moving vehicle which struck her in the abdomen and caused a small bowel rupture as a result. Kentner, a 34-year-old mother from Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation died six months later in July 2017 in palliative care.

Busbhy pleaded not guilty to one count of manslaughter in connection to her death at the start of his trial on Monday, Nov. 2.

Justice Pierce is expected to deliver her reasons for judgement on Dec. 14.

The trial focused on whether or not the Jan. 29, 2017 injury Bushby inflicted on Kentner ultimately contributed to her death on Jul. 4, 2017.

#### Expert witness

The forensic pathologist who conducted Kentner's autopsy, Dr. Toby Rose, testified as an expert witness throughout the trial and said Kentner's cause of death was bronchopneumonia and acute-on-chronic peritonitis due to a traumatic rupture in the small intestine from a blunt force injury to her abdomen.

Rose also said in her autopsy report Kentner's underlying liver condition was a factor in her death but was not an immediate cause.

Two witness testimonies from a 2018 preliminary hearing were entered as evidence at the trial on Monday, Nov. 2, which revealed details from two friends who were with Bushby at the time of the attack.

In one of the testimonies, Nathan Antoniszyn said Bushby wanted to "drive around and yell at hookers" shortly before the assault on Jan. 29, 2017.

Antoniszyn testified they were driving around out of boredom. At one point, Bushby got out of the vehicle and came back with a trailer hitch in his hands.

When his friends asked why Bushby had the trailer hitch, he stated he was going to throw it through an acquaintance's window, Antoniszyn testified.

Another 2018 testimony entered into the trial as evidence from witness Jordan Crupi stated Bushby had been drinking whiskey over the course of the day on Jan. 29, 2017.

Nobody else in the vehicle had been drinking, court heard.

Crupi testified he dozed off while they were driving and woke up on two occasions when he heard Bushby getting sick.

Crupi, who was seated behind Bushby, said he fell asleep again and woke up to a loud bang with the other individuals inside the vehicle calling Bushby an "idiot"



ON TRIAL: Brayden Bushby enters the Courthouse Hotel.

after he threw the trailer hitch at someone. Both witnesses testified Bushby appeared to be laughing after the incident.

Court also heard testimonies directly from Kentner from a recorded police statement from April 2017 and her older sister, Melissa, who was present when the assault took place during the trial.

Both women stated they were walking home in the early morning hours of Jan. 29, 2017, when they saw a vehicle coming towards them.

Although Melissa testified she didn't see her sister get hit herself, she heard the trailer hitch hit the ground afterwards.

Kentner's sister also testified she saw someone hanging out of the vehicle saying 'I got one' after the hitch was thrown.

#### **Evidence to consider**

During closing submissions, Crown prosecutor Andrew Sadler stated the court will have to determine the issue of causation and whether the injury Kentner sustained was a significant contributing factor in her death.

Sadler also stated Bushby's motive as to why he threw the trailer hitch is not relevant in determining his guilt.

"This issue before the court is whether that act contributed to Barbara Kentner's death," he said.

The Crown is relying heavily on Dr. Rose's testimony and autopsy report.

Rose described Kentner as a "chronically ill and seriously ill woman" during her testimony on Tuesday with a "more or less limited life expectancy".

Rose also explained how Kentner's underlying liver disease conditions put her at risk of death even without the traumatic injury and operation she sustained but determined in her autopsy report the injury Kentner sustained on Jan. 29, 2017 ultimately hastened her death.

"She would not have died at exactly the time she died had she not been injured," Rose said during her testimony.

The crown argued it is nearly impossible to prove anything to an "absolute certainty" but prosecutors are required to prove all elements of an offence beyond a reasonable doubt.

### City to bid on 2024 Games

CITY HALL By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

hunder Bay is set to compete to host the 2024 Ontario Winter Games.

City council voted unanimously to submit a bid on the city's behalf Monday night, after hearing the Games could bring thousands of people to the city for what would be one of the largest events in its history.

However, the prospect of high travel costs to bring athletes to a remote part of the province was cited as a potential hurdle, while the city would need to contribute at least \$250,000 if awarded the bid.

The Ontario Winter Games, DAVID PINEAU held every two years since 1972,

see the province's top young athletes compete across roughly two dozen sports. Thunder Bay hosted them once before, in 1974.

The bid was recommended by the city's Multi-sport Games Administrative Advisory Committee, which presented to councillors Monday.

Chair Dave Pineau pointed to the success of

the Special Olympics Canada Winter Games held here in February in arguing the city was well positioned as a host, and would reap benefits including an estimated \$6 million economic impact.

"The Special Olympics Canada Winter Games certainly showed us we can mobilize the volunteer base that is required,"

Pineau said.

The Games are expected to attract between 2,700 to 3,300 athletes, coaches, and team members, not accounting for family members who also often attend.

Coun. Peng You praised the bid effort, saying such events were important celebrations, and could build the profile of winter sports long after they'd ended.

"To bring positive energy to Thunder Bay always is good for our citizens," he said.

However, some councillors questioned whether the usual number of participants would make their way north to Thunder Bay, given increased travel costs.

Host cities are required to provide travel subsidies to assist participants.



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## **Editorial**

### **EDITORIAL**

## Traveling not ideal

Well, the second wave is officially in Northwestern Ontario.

Since last Thursday, as of press time, the Thunder Bay District Health Unit has announced 23 new COVID-19 cases.

Many of them are considered close contact, which suggests there is some form of community spread.

Travel is also the cause listed in several active cases, prompting Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre COVID-19 lead Dr. Ian Kennedy to recommend anyone who leaves the region to strongly consider self-isolating for about a week upon return.

We think that's a good idea.

The virus is surging all across the country. We've done relatively well in Thunder Bay and district, but we're also up to 23 active cases.

That's an eye opener, to say the least.

It's also a perfect example of why we must stay vigilent, keep washing our hands frequently and using hand sanitizer liberally.

More importantly, it's a clear reason why we should be wearing masks and sticking as close to home as possible.

It's going to be a tough next few months, but there is promising news on the vaccine front.

Better to sacrifice a little movement now to ensure we're free to go where we like next summer and beyond. It's not over yet. Not even close.

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# Trumpism isn't going away

### **OPINION** By Leith Dunick – TB Source

**D**onald Trump may soon be gone, but his departure from the White House will do little to bridge the divide that's threatening to tear the United States apart from within.

Trum was soundly defeated at the polls last week and will eventually, if not begrudgingly, cede the presidency to his opponent, Democrat Joe Biden.

But while the American election was a repudiation of Trump himself, the voting public clearly wasn't willing to take their enthusiasm for his removal from office down the ticket.

The Senate will likely remain in Republic hands, pending the outcome of an expected pair of run-off elections in January in Georgia, which could potentially deadlock them at 50-50, leaving the tiebreaking vote up to Kamala Harris, the newly elected vicepresident.

### **Obstacle course**

Republican Mitch McConnell, who will likely retain his Senate majority leader status, is an obstructionist who will likely do everything in his power to hamstring a Biden presidency, including holding up cabinet appointments and refusing to hold hearings on



VOTED IN: President-elect Joe Biden will be sworn into office in January, 2021.

any federal judges, including the Supreme Court, for his entire four-year term.

And therein lays the problem.

Trump wasn't the disease, but merely a symptom of it -a loud and crude outsider who took the brunt of the criticism from the left.

All the while McConnell was moving at warp speed to approve conservative

federal judges and gamed the system to earn Trump three Supreme Court appointments.

Trump was the distraction that kept the media laser-focused on his antics. He's also not going away.

He's probably the front-runner to lead the Republican ticket in 2024, which means four more years of listening to his awful brand of politics that seek to divide the United States along racial lines. His lies will continue, and conservative right-wing media outlets will continue to echo them to anyone who will listen. They're already loudly pushing the stolen election narrative and egging Trump and his supporters not to accept the results. It borders on treason, a word I don't use lightly.

As of Monday, nearly 71 million voters chose Trump, 4.5 million fewer than Biden. But in California alone, the difference was 4.5 million in Biden's favour. In the rest of the nation, it was a 50-50 split. Biden's margins are razor thin in many states. Georgia is headed to a recount. In Wisconsin, part of the blue wall reassembled by the Democrats, the difference was just 20,000. In Arizona, it's down to 17,000 and moving toward Trump.

Biden says he'll govern for everyone, even those who didn't vote for him. Trouble is, many of those on the right don't believe him, and once again it's conservative media that's immediately accusing Biden of lying and bowing down to the progressive wing of his party.

Let the chipping away at the fragile blue wall begin, day in and day out, for the next four years. Trump's voice may still be the loudest of them all, especially if he forms his own television network.

### Stop paying attention

The best thing for the mainstream media to do is to ignore Trump as yesterday's man.

Unfortunately, we all know they won't.

More importantly, the Democrats should too.

The more they focus on Trump, the less they'll get done and the less likely they'll be able to make headway in Congress

Time is already running short and Biden won't take the oath of office for another 10 weeks.

The House could flip back red in 2022, which would effectively make Biden a lame duck at that point.

Unfortunately, the system was set up to allow the minority to easily govern the majority. It's the new Republican way.

## Perspective Keep carousel at Chippewa Park

Newly restored ride should be the centrepiece to next summer's five-day, 100th anniversary party

### **OPINION** By J.R. Shermack Special to TB Source

f I live to be a hundred I hope I get better treatment and more respect than some of the enduring, century-old icons in this city.

When it comes to preserving the colorful history and heritage of Thunder Bay, local decision-makers often seem to be going around in circles, like a carousel.

This is true about the uncertain future of the Conservatory and that same merry-go-round management may sabotage the prospects for another loved local landmark.

Chippewa Park has many friends, but it remains to be seen if they can convince city council to commit to a common vision for park lovers in Thunder Bay.

And based on the speculation and innuendo during recent discussions I'm not sure if Thunder Bay city councillors are among the park's friendliest supporters.

### Want to walk away

Some of them appear ready to bail out of the park altogether instead of working to improve, reconcile and revitalize this neglected, dusty jewel.

They are prepared to let another opportunity pass through their fingers like sand poured through a sieve by children on the beach.

I admit to being a little nostalgic about Chippewa but just like many other longtime city residents I enjoyed many joyful summer days as a kid frolicking



BEST LOCATION: The carousel at Chippewa Park is an iconic attraction that deserves to be preserved for future generations.

in the park.

We spent our formative years sifting sand on the beach, splashing in the water, hanging out in the pavilion and of course, riding on the merry-go-round.

That's what we called it then and although it has recently come to be known as a carousel, by any name it was and will continue to be one sweet ride. In 2021 when the 28 horses are ready and Chippewa opens for the summer it is expected that the rejuvenated carousel will be the star of the 100th Anniversary celebrations.

It will be part of a five-day family festival being planned around the long weekend in August.

The actual Friends of Chippewa Park

hope to bring this vision to life including an enclosure to protect the restored carousel for generations of riders yet to come.

It will be accomplished with financial support from three levels of government and, I expect, an overwhelming public endorsement from former merry-gorounders around the city. I was encouraged by these restorations and I was additionally jazzed up by the other planned improvements to the shoreline, the swimming and the beach.

This is the kind of news we need right now and a five-day family picnic at Chippewa Park next summer will be a welcome tonic for our frazzled nerves.

We don't need a Debbie Downer moment which is how I would describe the reaction by city council to a request for support and partnership in the project.

### Not much insight

The objections were eclectic, contradictory and not particularly helpful.

One councillor favored an enclosure to safeguard this beautiful part of our heritage, but thinks the carousel should be removed from Chippewa Park.

Another wanted the protective shelter to be mobile so it could be moved, you know, to keep our options open.

Yet another felt that the park sits on land stolen from Fort William First Nation – it was noted that the parkland is considered part of the city.

There were no remedies or reconciliation suggested.

Chippewa Park will always be the best location for our beloved merry-goround – when the park is restored to its former glory, the carousel will be home. As for me, I feel confident that I could still mount up and ride on one of those renewed Chippewa carousel steeds without falling off.

I expect to see many friends of all ages on horseback with me at the celebration next summer.



**HOW TO WRITE US:** 

etters to the editor are most welcome. Those kept to 350 words or less have priority.

The Thunder Bay Source reserves the right to edit submissions for content and clarity. All attempts will be made to preserve the core argument of the author. Address them to: Thunder Bay Source 87 North Hill Street, Thunder Bay, ON P7A 5V6

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### LOCALNEWS

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# City looks inward

Council votes to take a look at the city's procedures, efficiency

### **CITY HALL** By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

Thunder Bay's city council will take a look inward at its own processes, launching a "continuous improvement" process to review its efficiency and procedures.

The proposal from Coun. Mark Bentz earned the support of most of his colleagues Monday, but drew some sharp disagreement from others, who worried the process could be politicized.

Bentz framed the initiative as a governance best practice, saying it had become the norm for well-run boards in the corporate sector.

The continuous improvement process will see city administration develop a survey for city councillors with questions "related to progress on efficiency of meetings, decision making and council procedures."

Results would be compiled for review by council to identify challenges and potential opportunities for improvement.

"My experience is that these processes work well," Bentz said. "I think it would help us serve the public better. It helps boards in ways that you don't expect."

City clerk Krista Power said such improvement processes weren't uncommon for other city councils, but warned the exercise could be more complicated for representative bodies than in the corporate sector.

"One of the things I think is important to note is that it's very hard to evaluate democracy," said Power, citing feedback from clerks across the province. "It's easy to evaluate the [success] of a company; evaluating the success of democracy can be relative to each of your opinions."

Couns.Shelby Ch'ng and Cody Fraser worried the process could be politicized or used as a way to police councillors' behaviour.

Ch'ng raised concerns that sample questions shared by supportive councillors had included several policy questions such as how the city should spend its money.

Reached Tuesday, Ch'ng said council does have numerous procedural problems, with meetings often lasting longer than necessary and councillors embarking on lengthy digressions. However, existing rules of order could address those issues if properly enforced, she said.

"I have some real concerns" about the continuous improvement suggestion, she told



WORKS WELL: Coun. Mark Bentz says his proposal is governance best practice.

her colleagues Monday. "I don't understand [how] this would produce anything useful for this council. At first blush, you'd think, of course, we should all take a look. But we're all here because of our individuality and what we represent."

Fraser agreed.

"I'm scratching my head over the intent of it and what we are to gain from the process," he said. "This is democracy, and how I choose to handle myself is arguably representative of my constituents – they've chosen me to sit here. I don't think I would change my behaviour because of a self-assessment tool."

Bentz reassured the group his initiative was about governance and best practices, not politics. The at-large councillor told Tbnewswatch he had no major qualms about how council was operating this term, though "certain areas of concern might start showing up" from councillors' feedback.

He wasn't surprised the continuous improvement proposal had generated some pushback.

"The reactions are typical of any board this is presented at," he said.

Coun. Andrew Foulds argued Monday there was no real risk in giving the exercise a try.

"It may come back to us with information we choose not to use," he said, but noted that wasn't uncommon. "I don't view this as behaviour modification. Whatever the results are... I'm going to take the opportunity to reflect on my own practice."

The proposal ultimately passed with councillors Ch'ng and Giertuga voting against. Administration will now be tasked with developing a survey for council's approval, and carrying out the process by the conclusion of the 2021 budget process.



# TBLIFE people health home food leisure

## Holiday Wish Tree brings Christmas joy

Program buys gifts for youngsters who might otherwise go without

### THUNDER BAY By Leith Dunick –TB Source

Wierlynn Lunn and her two boys have made the Holiday Wish Tree a Christmas tradition.

Each year they head to Walmart, select a snowman with a child or youth's name off a specially placed Christmas tree, and go shopping for someone they've never met.

All they know is their name and a suggestion for a present for the youngster, a client of the Children's Aid Society of Thunder Bay.

It's a great feeling, Lunn said on Thursday, launching the 2020 campaign at the Memorial Avenue Walmart.

"It's always been a privilege for us to be a part of this program," said Lunn, adding her parents cared for foster children for as long as she can remember. A volunteer with the CAS, Lunn said

A volunteer with the CAS, Lunn said the impact of the program is more than most people can imagine.

"No person should ever go without the feeling of receiving something. I know a



### GIVE A GIFT TO A CHILD: Holiday Wish Trees can be found at Thunder Bay's three Walmart locations.

lot of time as adults, we can look back and say, 'Oh, there's one Christmas we can remember.' We may have gotten that one gift and everybody should have that feeling and carry that spirit with them for the rest of their lives." Lunn said her children love taking part

each year.

"They can spend whatever it is that they want to get. We could spend it on ourselves, but what would that be? We love the fact that we can pick a snowman, give a gift and we don't know who it's going to go to, but we know we've made that change," she said.

Charmaine Cades, the volunteer coordinator at the Children's Aid Society, said it's their 38th year of offering the program, the 20th done in conjunction with Walmart.

She acknowledged this year will be different than any other.

"Last year we brought in 320 gifts and this year our target is 450. We are seeing some challenges for our families, from COVID-19, and the situations that they live in," Cades said.

Gifts can range from toys and books, to school supplies, and, for older youths living on their own, even household goods like dishes and towels.

Yuchi Yang, store manager at the Memorial Avenue Walmart, said every year the program seems to get bigger and bigger.

It's not surprising, said the Toronto native.

"I came here in 2013, and one thing I've noticed up north here is there's such a huge community sense compared to where I come from. I think that's a reason why (the public) responds really well," Yang said. "We're a city of 100,000 people, but I think there's a lot of kind-heartedness to help people out."









### TB Life

# The zen of mucking horse stalls



**S**o, I'm in our horse barn mucking out stalls. 'Mucking' is the term for shovelling the poop and peesoaked stall bedding into a wheelbarrow or cart to be 'carted' out and dumped . As I have written before, the 'muck' is driven to 'Mt. Crumpet' and dumped.

The term was given to the dumping spot by our friend Rob years ago. The term stuck. Most days, I am the 'mucker' as my wife, Laura, works at a job off property.

The job isn't hard. We have four horses and since we have switched from summer hours to winter, they come in at night and are turned back outside into their paddocks for the day.

I head out after breakfast, feed them their grain and for those who require it, meds.

When they have scarfed down this meal, out they go, me leading them usually one at a time. We try to feed the equines at the same time or else they get impatient. They have good internal clocks and if I am late, they let me know it. I enter the feed room and a chorus of whickers ensues.

Once the horses are outside

chomping on a large, round, hay bale, I set to cleaning their stalls. There are various implements I can use but usually it is a 'muck' fork, a wide, plastic-tined thing that allows me to lift the 'horse apples' and pee-soaked wood shavings that we use for stall bedding.

If, for some reason, the horses have had to stay in their stalls all night and then into the day if the weather is really inclement, then when I do get around to cleaning the stalls, I use a shovel.

After the stall-debris is driven to Mt. Crumpet and dumped, I return to add wood shavings as stall bedding. Next I bring forkfuls of hay to replenish their feed when they come

Thunder Bay Open Data Portal

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back inside for the night. Water pails are dumped, cleaned, and refilled too. None of the tasks I have listed are arduous for me.

Not the same as when we ran a riding business and had fourteen horses in the main part of the stable and another nine in the attached annex.

Cleaning the barn took all morning. I didn't do it. We hired a wonderful woman, raised on a farm near us by gum who was not afraid of physical labour and did an incredible job. Weekends were ours to manage though.

While our hired barn help cleaned the stalls and got them ready for the return of the horses, Laura was busy teaching riding or leading trail rides. I was doing outside chores especially with Big Red, my ancient tractor.

But now except for weekends when both Laura and I do the barn chores, it is me wot does the Augean thing.

As I mentioned, the mucking, sweeping the stalls to get ready for the new hay, the refilling of water pails is not difficult. I usually have either the CBC Radio classical music morning show on (can't get Radio One in the barn for some reason) or, if reception isn't good and I only get static and hiss, then I play cd's. The music helps the mucking chore go by more easily.

But there is one task I dread: sweeping the aisle. Inevitably some shavings and loose hay spill in front of the stall doors and to maintain Order and Good Government in the barn, one must sweep.

It takes me almost as long to sweep the aisle as trudging from the annex where we store the hay, hay fork loaded with hay that I must do four times.

Why this is I don't know. When Laura sweeps it is done efficiently and in no time at all. Same thing with the 'mucking': she gets the stalls clean twice as fast as me. She has mastered the Zen of barn cleaning.

I have studied her method but have failed to ascertain her secret. Perhaps it is because I am a latecomer to this barncleaning thing, a rank apprentice. I get it done but while she can accomplish the sweeping-the-aisle task just going back and forth, I have to go over and over until the aisle is clean.

Much 'grrr-ing" later. it is done. I let a large sigh escape as I turn out the barn lights and head back across the yard to Casa Jones for a well-deserved mug of coffee.

### **Porter won't fly until Feb.**

BUSINESS By TB Source staff

Porter Airlines won't be back in the air before Christmas.

The Toronto-based airline, which stopped all flight operations on March 21 because of restrictions in place due to COVID-19, on Monday said they won't start flying again until at least Feb. 11.

It's not ideal, said Michael Deluce, president of Porter Airlines. But he said they were left with little or no choice.

"Deferring service until 2021 is not a decision we anticipated having to make as COVID-19 emerged early this year," Deluce said in a release.

"Every delay to restarting flights has the greatest effect on our team members, who are eager to do their part to help serve customers under safe conditions.

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CASTING OFF: Open-water fishing might have to be put off until springtime, but there's plenty to do in wintertime.



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## It's time to start embracing winter

If you choose not to find joy in the snow, you will have a lot less joy in your life but the same amount of snow." - unknown

ast week we were blessed with a week of summer-like weather in November. After an exceptionally cold month in October, it was a welcome treat to get some bonus sunshine and very warm temperatures. It was also amazing to see so many people outside,

soaking up the last bit of warmth before winter starts for real.

**TBLife** 

While my family and I consider ourselves fortunate to have had the opportunity to enjoy some early skiing in the snow

that fell last month, I feel most people in Thunder Bay were really not ready to embrace winter just yet. So when the temperatures jumped into the high teens, it was no surprise to see so many outdoor lovers heading back outside to enjoy their favourite summer activities again.

Though I don't mind winter one bit, I didn't hesitate to join in and spend every minute of daylight outside in these pleasant temperatures.

I love being able to leave the truck in the driveway and prefer to commute to work by bike, but the chance to do it in November is a special treat. I also squeezed in one last fishing trip, a few long bike rides with friends, and a relaxing couple days at camp with the family.

Perhaps most importantly, we were able to finish up all the outdoor projects around the house that stalled when that early snow blanketed all the half-finished jobs we had on the go last month.

Now it is time to shift gears and embrace winter. The difference between surviving the upcoming season and truly thriving in it is all in our mindset.

What we must do is look beyond the snow that we have to clear from our driveways and focus on all the opportunities for joy and adventure that winter brings to us in Northwestern Ontario.

For our family, crosscountry skiing is the activity of choice because it is something we can all participate in. Even though we don't always ski together, we find joy in the process of meeting

up after work and school, having an early dinner and then driving out to the ski centre to meet up with friends and other families to ski under the lights.

This is our routine at least three times every week and it provides us with all the social and physical benefits we need to stay happy and healthy until the snow melts in April.

In addition to skiing, we have embraced the idea that we are going to make the most of our Thunder Bay "staycation" this winter. With no plans to travel because of the global pandemic, we are looking forward to ice fishing, skating, fat biking, snowshoeing, and spending weekends at camp in front of a warm fire.

Perhaps you prefer hockey, snowboarding, curling, hiking or building snowmen. Where you find your passion doesn't really matter because the key to loving our winters is simply finding something that warms your heart in the coldest months.

## **COVID** cases growing

HEALTH By TB Source staff

The Thunder Bay District Health Unit is reporting eight new confirmed cases of COVID-19.

All the cases are listed as "close contact" cases

All eight individuals are self-isolating. In a brief announcement Tuesday morning, the TBDHU stated the episode dates (corresponding to the earliest date reported according to the following order: symptom onset date, specimen collection date, lab testing date, date reported toTBDHU) as ranging from Nov. 1 to Nov. 8, 2020.

Over the weekend, there were 11 new cases reported in the district, all being traced to close contacts. Three more cases were reported on Monday.

The district has now had 140 confirmed COVID-19 cases so far this year. Of those,



SPREADING: Dr. Janet DeMille says a lot of the recent cases are close contacts. 117 are considered resolved. Since last Thursday, TBDHU has

reported 23 new cases.



## IN THE bay arts entertainment culture

# **Spotty script hurts Let Him Go**



*et Him Go* (SilverCity) is a domestic thriller where maternal instincts reign red-hot.

Kevin Costner and Diane Lane respectively play George, a retired sheriff, and Margaret, his accomplished horse-trainer wife, living on their ranch in 1950s Montana, with their son, James, daughter-in-law Lorna (Kayli Carter), and baby grandson, Jimmy.

Their lifestyle is seemingly placid, though grandma's imposing doting on the grandchild puts off her underconfident daughter-in-law.

Suddenly, things take a turn. James perishes after being thrown from his horse. Fast forward three years and Lorna is getting re-married to Donnie Weboy, (the name itself exudes backwoodsy menace) played by Will Brittain, in a chilly civil ceremony where Costner and Lane are curiously the only family types attending.

#### Abusive husband

One day Lane is shaken by witnessing the trio strolling down main street where Donnie has an abusive fit, manhandling both his stepson and his wife. Soon after this disturbing scene, they skip town without any word to Jimmy's grandparents.

Fearing for her grandson's wellbeing and the possibility of never



FAMILY FEUD: Diane Lane and Kevin Costner star in Let Him Go, a thriller now playing at SilverCity.

seeing him again, strong-willed Lane takes action. She packs a suitcase with her husband's service revolver tucked away. She doesn't exactly know what she'll do if she finds them. She just wants her grandson back. Costner grudgingly goes along.

The trail leads them to rural North

Dakota where they find the Weboy family farm, headed by widowed, domineering matriarch, Blanche, (Lesley Manville, excellent in TIFF's "Ordinary Love") gleefully chewing the scenery. She presides over her menacing brother Bill (Jeffrey Donovan, known for the spy series, "Burn Notice"), and Blanche's two thuggish sons, both of whom could go by the first name Darryl.

Donnie and Lorna eventually show up with precious Jimmy in tow. It's apparent that Ma-dominated Donnie continues to nastily take out his emasculated frustrations on his family. A tense dinner scene ensues, with Blanche and Margaret locking horns over the grandson. A showdown is inevitable.

There is some noteworthy work in this Mama-bear melodrama. Costner and Lane exude long-standing homegrown devotion without much dialogue.

He's taciturn, reserved and nurses a quiet affinity for the bottle. She's more authoritative but can be charming when need be. There's unspoken debate over the lengths they must go to retrieve Jimmy. Lane especially shines in a showier role.

### **Beautifully shot**

Guy Godfree's cinematography captures the beautiful, wide open vistas and Michael Giacchino's soundtrack effectively conveys mood, from languid to threatening.

Director Thomas Bazucha conjures rural America with an undercurrent of unease and stages some deft, wordless illustrations of character conflict.

However, in Bazucha's adaptation of Larry Watson's novel, layered plotting and characterization are jettisoned. Among several lapses, there is an Indigenous loner, Peter, (Booboo Stewart) who, despite relating a Native American's hardscrabble life, is present mostly as a plot device.

The ultimate violent confrontation takes on the vestiges of a Western but in so doing concludes with such simplistic execution that it undermines the movie's whole build up.

The title *Let Him Go* conveys a variety of meanings with a subtlety and depth found wanting in most of the movie.



IN THE **BAY** 

# Alex Trebek was a Canadian TV icon

During 2020, we've lost a lot of influential people. It's not unusual to lose icons during a 365 day period, especially when one has been battling pancreatic cancer for 20 months. So on Nov. 8, it was not surprising, but painful nonetheless, to hear of the passing of Alex Trebek.

It's strange to talk about a game show host with great reverence and love. And yet, the social media postings are full of honours for the Canadian talent.

Sure, he hosted *Jeopardy*! since its revival in 1984. And 36 years in one job is practically unheard of in Hollywood. Only Pat Sajak has hosted the same show longer: *Wheel of Fortune* since 1981.

But it wasn't just the fact that Trebek had become as indelible a part of our lives as the couch from which we watched him quiz his contestants. This man made us smarter - or just feel



stupider – every night.

Jeopardy! and Trebek's clearly-enunciated clues made him an icon for education and accuracy. Besides his university degree and fluency in French, his experience in news, sports, and other shows gave him a broad educational background and a respect for "doing your homework" before going on air. Trebek even (unknowingly) prepared for



WHO IS ALEX TREBEK: Long-time Jeopardy host died at 80 last weekend.

his now-famous role by hosting CBC's academic game show, Reach for the Top in the late 60's.

WORD SEARCH

Ironically, given the silliness that pervades our modern viewing habits, *Jeopardy!* never should have succeeded this long.

Jeopardy! was for those who would never be cool or outgoing enough for the typical TV game show. The Price Is Right producers wanted wild and crazy contestants who would look like fun on screen. Survivor castaways needed to be ruthless, conniving, and willing to walk around half-naked. (Or fully so in some cases.)

*Jeopardy*? Their potential contestants were given written tests. And although the money was good, it was nowhere near what could be won elsewhere. So why is it still a hit almost 40 years later?

To start, for 30 minutes every night, facts count. No alternatives. This has become a reliable balm amid the social climate of disinformation over the last few years. But more importantly, here the nerds who screwed up the curve in school or researched using something other than Wikipedia, became TV heroes. And Trebek never stole their thunder.

He teased them. He certainly had fun on the show – especially when he made the rare mistake. But he respected the game and its participants.

How fitting that during the episode which aired just three days before his death, the winner tearfully told Trebek that *Jeopardy!* helped him and the grandfather who raised him learn English.

So now, a new host will take Alex Trebek's place. And he had often spoken of the day when the torch was passed. Most likely, it will be Ken Jennings who was being groomed by the show as a consultant and on-air quizzer.

Perhaps, one day, he too will be loved enough to walk out on stage without his pants on.

### **CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

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# North Stars take two in Teleco Cup

Thunder Bay hands Kam River Walleye losses in first games

### SIJHL By Leith Dunick -TB Source

he rust is slowly starting to shake off the Thunder Bay North Stars game. It's still a work in progress, said forward Nikolas Campbell, who looked every bit the star forward the team is hoping he'll turn into. On Saturday night hr notched his third goal in two games to lead the two-time defending champion Thunder Bay North Stars to a weekend sweep with a 4-2 win over the expansion Kam River Fighting Walleye to start the eight-game Teleco Cup 2-0.

"They were two huge wins for us, you know," said Campbell, who scored 24 goals and added an equal number of assists in 52 games for the Stars in his COVID-19-shortened 2019-20 rookie campaign.

"We wanted to come in here and show that we're still a good team and we're going to compete in this league.'

### Wants to contribute more

The 18-year-old, who says his own stat line doesn't matter, is in for an expanded role as a sophomore, logging more ice time and being counted on to pile up the points on a team that lost 58-goal scorer Cody Bruchkowski and Jacob Brown, the No. 2 scorer in the league last season with 34

"It's a good feeling," he said. "I want to help the team any way I can to win, and hopefully I'm going to do that this year." So far, so good.

After scoring twice in Friday nights pre-season opener, he evened the score with just three seconds to go in the first, just 43 seconds after Kam River's Trenton Morriseau stuffed the puck past Thunder Bay starter Jacob Stone.

Campbell, who said he started getting leg cramps late in the contest, said he saw a hole, aimed and fired.

"I just got the puck from the goalie and then I stayed out, saw some open net, shot up top and hoped for the best. I guess it went in," he said.

The Stars coaching staff know what they have in Campbell, and had a pretty good idea what newly acquired Rajvir Sangha would bring to the blue-line.

Sangha, who started the season in the British Columbia Junior Hockey League, spent last season with the Red Lake



### ON ICE: The Thunder Bay North Stars and Kam River Fighting Walleye kicked off the Teleco Cup at the Norwest Arena last weekend.

Miners and delivered a goal and an assist on Saturday night.

It was a great start to his North Stars career for the Calgary native, who scored six times in 44 games last season, one in which he and the Miners dropped the Bill Salonen Cup

final to Thunder Bay. "Last year it was a spirited rivalry, one-two. I had a lot of respect for their coaching staff and that was a big part of coming over here. They have a big tradition of winning. That's what it's about for me, to win a national championship and try to be the best in the country."

Sangha said the pre-season is a chance for players to start to gel together on the ice.

"Obviously there's going to be a few hiccups down the road, but definitely it's

a pro team here with pro coaches .. and going forward we're going to be really good.

Unlike Friday night, when they opened a 5-0 lead and hung on for a 5-4 win, it was the Stars who twice found

Tied 1-1 after one, forward

Leeam Tivers vaulted the

themselves trailing. "I want to help the team Hayden Cattani edged the any way I can Fighting Walleye in front 3:24 into the second. Sangha tied it to win and four minutes later. hopefully I'm going to do North Stars in front at 7:24 of that this year." NIKOLAS

the third, pouncing on Thomas Young's rebound rattling around Kam River goaltender Eric Vanska's crease. Hunter CAMPBELL Foreshew sealed it with an empty netter in the final minute

of the third. "I thought we played right with them. Obviously they executed a little better than us for a while. And that's going to be true for a while. They've played together, most of these guys. They're the defending champs and the top dogs in town. We know that," said Fighting Walleye coach Matt Valley.

### **Fighting image**

"We're using that underdog story to show there's a little bit of a chip on our shoulder and we want to be the big dogs. We've got a lot of work to do, but I'm very happy with a lot of guys' effort and a lot of guys' compete level."

Game 3 goes next Friday. All games are being played at the NorWest Arena. Star gazing: Former Thunder Bay

forward Keighan Gerrie will play this season with Nanaimo of the BCHL. He played last season with the USHL's Waterloo Blackhawks.

### **GAME SUMMARY**

FIRST PERIOD Scoring: 1. Kam River, Morriseau (Lang, Mercredi) 19:14. 2. Thunder Bay, Campbell (Sangha, Belluz) 19:57. Penalties: Halcrow KR, A. Cardinal TB (roughing) 5:04, Cattani KR (slashing), Meloche TB (body contact) 10:10, Young TB (body contact) 10:54, Halcrow KR, Campbell TB (unsportsmanlike conduct) 17:11, Pitawanakwat KR (interference) 19:37, Campbell TB (misconduct) 19:57.

### SECOND PERIOD

Scoring: 3. Kam River, Cattani (Fortier, Morrow) 3:24. 4. Thunder Bay, Sangha (Anttonen) 7:32. 5. Thunder Bay, Tivers (R. Cardinal, Young) 13:01 pp. Penalties: A. Cardinal TB (slashing) 5:09, Fortier KR (slashing) 6:14, Leishman TB (body contact) 7:41, A. Cardinal TB (cross checking) 9:03, Tyska KR (tripping) 11:26, Fortier KR (body contact) 13:13, Sangha TB (unsportsmanlike conduct, misconduct), Ralph KR (body contact, roughing, misconduct, game misconduct) 17:52, Chisholm KR (cross checking) 18:30.

### **THIRD PERIOD**

Scoring: 6. Thunder Bay, Foreshew (unassisted) 19:49 en. Penalties: Krupp TB (body contact) 1:28, Anttonen TB (high sticking) 3:04, Couvier KR (body contact) 5:34, Pitawanakwat KR (hooking) 7:18, Belluz TB (holding) 15:42, Young TB (cross checking), Couvier KR (body contact) 18:30.

GAME DATA - SOG - Kam River 6-10-10-26, Thunder Bay 7-10-10-27; Power plays (goals-chances) -Kam River (0-7), Thunder Bay (2-8); Goaltenders -Kam River: Eric Vanska, Thunder Bay: Jacob Stone, Seth McKay (11:26, second) **A**: 50.

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## **Favourites at Augusta**

A h, there's nothing like the arrival of November and the post-Remembrance Day return to Augusta National.

Masters week, some six weeks before Christmas, in any other year would seem strange. But this is 2020 and nothing is really out of the ordinary.

Tiger Woods is the defending champion, but I don't think anyone really expects him to recapture the magic of 2019 and add major No. 16 to his trophy case.

That said, never count the greatest golfer of his generation out.

Still, it seems like it will be a new face donning the green jacket this year.

Here's my top 10.

1. **Bryson DeChambeau**: Bulking up paid off for the burly American, who lapped the field at the U.S. Open in September. His six-stroke win was impressive, the largest margin of victory since Martin Kaymer won by eight strokes at Pinehurst in 2014. He leads the field in driving with a Herculean 344 yards off the tee and should be able to pound his way beyond the trouble spots. The par 5 13th and 15th holes should be automatic birdies, assuming his tee shot doesn't go astray.

**2.** Dustin Johnson: Wayne Gretzky's son-in-law is No. 1 in the world and is second in scoring with a 66.8 average per round, second to DeChambeau. He had a T2 at the Memorial and after battling COVID-19, fought back to finish second last weekend in Houston. Augusta seems like a course tailor-made for his game. He was the runner-up to Woods last year and has four top 10 finishes in his last four starts there.

**3. Brooks Koepka:** Mr. Major lives for the big tournaments and none are bigger than The Masters. With two U.S. Open titles and two PGA Championships on

his resume, the 30-year-old has struggled a bit of late, but managed a top 5 finish in Houston last weekend. Koepka was also a runnerup at last year's Masters. This could be his year.

**4. Rory McIlroy**: The Irishman has slipped to No. 5 in the Official

World Golf Rankings, so he might be seen as somewhat of an underdog heading into the 2020 Masters. A four-time major winner, Augusta has eluded him thus far, but it's not like he's struggled. He had five straight top 10 finishes between 2014 and 2018 before sliding to 21st last year. Hard to believe it's been six years since his last major win.

**5.** Justin Thomas: When JT won the 2017 U.S. Open, I thought it would be the start of a long run of major championships. It has yet to materialize. He's done OK at Augusta, but a tie for 12th last year was his best results in four appearances. He was T8 at the U.S. Open and was the runner-up at the Zozo Championship, so his game is rounding into shape at the right time. According to pgatour.com, he's scored better each time at the Masters, so at least he's trending upward.

**6.** Jon Rahm: The world No. 2 has played in the Masters twice and has top 10 finishes in his last two starts. A bigger hitter who also hits the green in regulation more than 70 per cent of the time, that's the type of game needed to win at Augusta.

**7. Xander Schauffele**: Another of the runners up to Woods last year, his game just keeps getting better. He's got seven top-10 major finishes since 2017, so he's primed for a breakthrough in 2020. He's got two straight second-place finishes in the FedEx Cup standings and is third in scoring average on the tour to start the 2021 season.

**8. Matthew Wolff**: Wolff ended the 2019 campaign at 117th in the world, but has since shot up to No. 14,



BULKED UP: Bryson DeChambeau is the PGA's top driver.

which shows how good his game has been over the past 11 months. He's just 21, but already has a secondplace finish at the U.S. Open and a fourth at the PGA Championship. This will be his first Masters appearance.

**9. Bubba Watson**: The lefty has two Green Jackets, winning in 2012 and 2014 and has four top 20s in his last five starts. Experience counts at Augusta and he's got it in droves. He's only missed the cut once in 11 previous appearances

**10. Tiger Woods:** As much as I don't think he'll win, it's tough to rule him out, despite a shaky last few months on the course. How fitting would it be for him to set the all-time PGA Tour victory record at Augusta? He's got five Green Jackets, 15 major titles and knows

this course better than anyone. At 44, he's getting a little long in the tooth, but hey, Jack won it in 1986 at 46. Anything is possible.

### 

The hockey world lost two of its biggest supporters this past week, with the passing of **Howie Meeker**, the legendary former Toronto Maple Leaf and telestrater pioneer on *Hockey Night in Canada*. Golly Gee, we'll miss you, Howie.

Alex Trebek, best known as the lovable host of Jeopardy, lost his battle with pancreatic cancer on Sunday. A huge supporter of his hometown Ottawa Senators, this one really stung.

Jeopardy has been nightly must-see TV for me since my teenage years. He courageously battled cancer in a very public way. The show will never be the same.

Our own city lost another ardent supporter of local sports this past week, with the passing of former Lakehead University president **Fred Gilbert**, It was under his watch the Lakehead Thunderwolves hockey program was reborn and he had the faith to stick with men's basketball coach Scott Morrison through some pretty lean years, allowing him to build the team into a national championship contender.

Fred was not only a fan, but very competitive on the court. He wasn't afraid to throw an elbow or two in the media all-star game (and of course stacked his team with the likes of Morrison and women's coach Jon Kreiner). It was all in fun.

Thanks for all you brought to our city, Dr. Gilbert.



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