

showing the upper or lower halves of the pictures.

The dogs were able to select the angry or happy face more often than would be expected by random chance in every case. "Our study demonstrates that dogs can distinguish angry and happy expressions in humans," lead author Ludwig Huber of the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna's Messerli Research Institute said. He added that "they can tell that these two expressions have different meanings, and they can do this not only for people they know well, but even for faces they have never seen before."

He continued that "it appears likely to us that the dogs associate a smiling face with a positive meaning and an angry facial expression with a negative meaning."

Supporting this is the fact that dogs have a hard time learning to associate an angry human face with a reward, suggesting that they already know—based on prior experience—that mad people aren't likely to offer treats and head rubs.

#### Dogs and Humans Are Hardwired to Listen

More studies are in the works to learn more about how dogs recognize human emotions. The researchers also plan to study how dogs themselves express different emotions, and how their feelings are influenced by those of their owners or other people.

"We expect to gain important insights into the extraordinary bond between humans and one of their favorite pets, and into the emotional lives of animals in general," Müller said.

It could be that dogs are so close to humans that they understand us better than any other species. But maybe other pets, such as cats, understand our expressions too.

The answer to that remains unknown to science for now, but anecdotal evidence suggests that other animals can also read our moods with a brief glance.

#### Smoking habit deadlier than previously thought

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 (UPI) -- Living in modern America, it's difficult to escape the painful truth that smoking is really, really bad for you. But a new study is piling on the bad news, suggesting the bad habit's deadly consequences are larger and worse than previously thought.

Researchers recently looked at smoking in relation to a number of deadly diseases and fatal health complications that haven't before directly linked to smoking. This wider view of smoking's negative influence on health outcomes suggests cigarettes are responsible for an extra 60,000 smoking-related deaths per year in the United States.

Traditional smoking-related death totals already account for nearly two dozen diseases -- from obvious (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lung cancer) to the more obscure (acute myeloid leukemia and aortic aneurysm).

But this new study takes into account a range of additional corollary health complications - breast cancer, prostate cancer, hypertension,

liver cirrhosis, kidney failure and more.

Kidney failure is a good example of how the new study builds on previous health outcome amalgamations.

"Smoking is now established as a cause of diabetes, which is one of the huge causes of kidney failure in this country," study co-author Eric Jacobs, strategic director of pharmacoepidemiology at the American Cancer Society, explained to NPR.

The research was compiled by data scientists and health experts at the American Cancer Society, National Cancer Institute and a number of research universities. The study pulled in data from more than one trillion Americans, health outcomes compiled over the course of a decade.

"The number of additional deaths potentially linked to cigarette smoking is substantial," Jacobs said in a press release. "In our study, many excess deaths among smokers were from disease categories that are not currently established as caused by smoking, and we believe there is strong evidence that many of these deaths may have been caused by smoking."

Taking into account the top five diseases newly related to smoking -- infections, breast cancer, prostate cancer, rare cancers and cancers of unknown site -- smokers are twice as likely to die early than nonsmokers.

"We've known for a long time that smoking kills," Jacobs told NPR. "We do think, though, that it's important to get an accurate estimate of just how many people are killed."

#### Legendary UNC coach Dean Smith dies at 83

Former North Carolina basketball coach Dean Smith, who had a Hall of Fame career, was beloved by his players and became one of the nation's most revered sports figures, died Saturday evening in Chapel Hill, according to a statement released by the university.

Smith, who had been in declining health the past few years, was 83.

"Coach Dean Smith passed away peacefully the evening of February 7 at his home in Chapel Hill, and surrounded by his wife and five children," the Smith family said in a statement. "We are grateful for all the thoughts and prayers, and appreciate the continued respect for our privacy as arrangements are made available to the public. Thank you."

Smith retired in October 1997 as the winningest men's basketball coach in NCAA Division I history, having passed former Kentucky coach Adolph Rupp. That distinction now is held by Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski, who remembered Smith on Sunday as a coach, teacher and role model for his players.

"I am incredibly saddened to hear of the passing of coach Dean Smith," Krzyzewski said in a statement. "We have lost a man who cannot be replaced. He was one of a kind and the sport of basketball lost one of its true pillars."

"Dean possessed one of the greatest basketball minds, and was a magnificent

teacher and tactician. While building an elite program at North Carolina, he was clearly ahead of his time in dealing with social issues," he said. "However, his greatest gift was his unique ability to teach what it takes to become a good man. That was easy for him to do because he was a great man himself."

#### Top 25 basketball roundup: Duke routs Notre Dame

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Justise Winslow had 19 points and 11 rebounds, and No. 4 Duke used a huge early run to rout No. 10 Notre Dame 90-60 on Saturday.

Fellow freshman Jahliil Okafor added 20 points and 10 rebounds. Matt Jones had a career-high 17 points off the bench and Tyus Jones added 12 for the Blue Devils (20-3, 7-3 Atlantic Coast Conference).

They shot 61 percent — 81 percent in the first half — and used an early 43-7 run to give Notre Dame (21-4, 9-3) its worst loss since 1999.

Steve Vasturia had 15 points for Notre Dame, but top scorer Jerian Grant was held to seven on 3-of-10 shooting. The Fighting Irish won the previous meeting 77-73 on Jan. 28.

ARIZONA STATE 81, NO. 6 ARIZONA 78 TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — Bo Barnes scored 18 points, including a key 3-pointer late, and Arizona State pulled off a second straight home upset over Arizona.

Arizona State (12-1, 4-6 Pac-12) shook off a lopsided loss to Arizona a month earlier to set off a court-storming in Tempe for the second straight season. Savon Goodman had 15 points and nine rebounds for Arizona State, and Tra Holder added 15 points and eight assists.

T.J. McConnell had 25 points for Arizona (20-3, 8-2).

NO. 3 VIRGINIA 52, NO. 9 LOUISVILLE 47

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP) — Malcolm Brogdon scored 15 points and Virginia held off Louisville.

The Cavaliers (21-1, 9-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) held the Cardinals without a point for the last 10 1/2 minutes of the first half in taking a 24-13 lead. Virginia played the second half without injured scoring leader Justin Anderson and missed him as the Cardinals rallied within three.

Terry Rozier scored 16 points for the Cardinals (19-4, 7-3).

NO. 5 WISCONSIN 65, NORTHWESTERN 50

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Bronson Koenig scored a season-high 16 points, Sam Dekker also had 16 and Wisconsin won its sixth straight game.

Nigel Hayes added 11 points and eight rebounds for the Badgers (21-2, 9-1 Big Ten). They are off to their best start since going 21-1 in 2006-7.

Alex Olah had 15 points for Northwestern (10-13, 1-9).

NO. 7 VILLANOVA 69, NO. 24 GEORGETOWN 53

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Darrun Hilliard scored 15 points and Josh Hart had 13 to help



It is estimated that nearly a billion of birds die every year in America due to strike with high-rise buildings.

Audubon Society of Minnesota has recommended the authorities to use a glass that is bird-friendly. They have suggested a glass that should have some pattern on its surface, which birds can easily differentiate.

Minnesota's Pro football team and MFSA have announced their denial on not using a bird-safe glass for the football stadium. Using a bird-safe glass would cost them another \$1.1 million, which is out of their budget. The state authorities, on the other hand, have set some building guidelines for protection of birds.

According to the guidelines, the material used for building superstructures must meet the safety standards. Regardless of strict guidelines, the stadium's work is going on with the use of reflector glass, which is harmful for birds.

Matthew Anderson, executive director of Audubon Minnesota, said, "These guidelines went into effect on May 1, 2013, after original proposals for the stadium were drafted, so it's currently unclear whether the structure will have to adhere to them".

### Dogs get jealous of other dogs, study shows

Dogs show jealousy when their owners spend time with what appears to be another dog, suggesting that the emotion may have survivalist roots, U.S. researchers said Wednesday.

Scientists tested 36 dogs and their owners with an experiment in which the owners were told to play with three separate objects in front of their dog.

One of the objects was a toy dog that barked and wagged its tail when a button on it was pushed. The owners were told to play with it as if it were a real dog for one minute.

They were told to do the same in the next phase of the experiment with a toy jack-o-lantern pail, acting as if it were a dog and playing with it.

Finally, they were asked to read aloud a pop-up children's book that played a song, as if they were telling the story to a small child.

Certain dog behaviors were much more common when owners played with the toy dog versus the other objects, the researchers found.

For instance, dogs more often snapped, pushed their owners, pushed against the object and tried to get in between the owner and the toy dog than they did with the other toys.

The dogs were about twice as likely to push their owner (78 per cent of dogs did this)

when he or she was playing with the toy dog than when the interaction involved the jack-o-lantern (42 per cent). Just 22 per cent did so with the book.

About 30 per cent of the dogs tried to get between their owner and the toy dog, and 25 per cent snapped at the stuffed canine.

The dogs came from a range of breeds, including dachshund, Pomeranian, Boston terrier, Maltese and pug. Almost half of those in the study were mixed breeds.

The research, led by Christine Harris and Caroline Prouvost from the University of California, San Diego, is published in the journal PLOS ONE.

"Our study suggests not only that dogs do engage in what appear to be jealous behaviors but also that they were seeking to break up the connection between the owner and a seeming rival," Harris said.

"We can't really speak to the dogs' subjective experiences, of course, but it looks as though they were motivated to protect an important social relationship."

### Marshawn Lynch expected to hold out of Seahawks training camp, Michael Robinson says

This time, Marshawn Lynch apparently means it.

Lynch, who threatened to hold out during Seattle's minicamp in June but then showed up anyway, is expected to be absent when the Seahawks begin training camp Friday at the Virginia Mason Athletic Center in Renton.

The news was revealed by former Seahawk fullback Michael Robinson, one of Lynch's closest friends who is now retired and working for the NFL Network.

Robinson said on the air that Lynch had just called him and told him that "he will be holding out from training camp this year with the Seahawks."

Now, as then, the issue is his contract.

Lynch has two years remaining on a four-year deal worth up to \$31 million he signed in 2012. He is due a base salary of \$5 million this year and a \$500,000 roster bonus, and a prorated signing bonus of \$1.5 million. Next season he is due to earn \$5.5 million in base salary with a \$2 million roster bonus and a prorated signing bonus of \$1.5 million.

There is much speculation, though, that the team will cut Lynch before next season.

He turned 28 in April, an age when many running backs begin to see a decline, and Seattle has prepared for a future without him, grooming 2013 second-round pick Christine Michael to take over at tailback, with third-year player Robert Turbin also in the mix.

One of Lynch's main goals in holding out is apparently to get more money up front in case he is released after this season.

Robinson, asked what Lynch hopes to get by holding out, said, "I really think he just wants his position in the organization and how they view him, he just wants that recalibrated a little bit."

It's thought, though, that the team has no desire to give Lynch a new contract, or even a slight alteration, not wanting to set the precedent of rewarding holdouts.

Also, Lynch's contract remains the fifth-highest for an NFL running back, which the team thinks is fair compensation.

Lynch is at risk of being fined \$30,000 per day and after five days he could partially forfeit a \$6 million signing bonus.

Lynch has led the Seahawks in rushing the last three years, including 1,257 yards last season when Seattle won its first Super Bowl, and has been the focus of the offense since being acquired from Buffalo via trade early in the 2010 season.

After he threatened to hold out for minicamp, Robinson — in comments to some Seattle-area reporters — said Lynch, who sat out minicamp with what the team said was a sore ankle, wanted to be rewarded for what he has meant to the team.

"You take Marshawn Lynch off the team last year, do we win the Super Bowl? I think all of us know the answer to that," Robinson said. "He just wants to be paid like it. He knows he has a short window left. Nobody says anything when teams cut a guy at this juncture, though. I'm all in for players getting their dollars, man, because you have a short life."

Asked then if Lynch considers his age a factor, Robinson said: "I don't think it's a factor for him. I think it's a factor for them (the Seahawks) because 30 is this magic number."

The team had no comment on Lynch Thursday.

In June, Seattle coach Pete Carroll played down a possible Lynch holdout and said he expected him to again be the "bell cow" of the offense.

Carroll also said then he didn't expect Lynch to get much action in the preseason.

"You won't see him get the ball a lot in the preseason," Carroll said. "We will work all the way to the opening day and see if we can get him right there for then, and that's what's most important."

When that work begins, though, now is in question.

**FOX in the Fast Lane: NASCAR's Back At The Brickyard**

3 of 4



Liebesman takes his cue for *The Shredder* from the popular superhero movies of the moment.

"Your action films are only as good as your bad guy," the director says. "You can have all the charm you want, but to be compelled to watch till the end, you want to make sure you have a bad guy who people hate and want vanquished."

#### **Marine biologist: 6th-grader stole my idea**

Using only six fish and six tanks, a 6th-grade science fair entrant was able to demonstrate last year what is being hailed as a remarkable discovery: Lionfish, an invasive species found up and down the Florida coast, can also survive in nearly fresh water.

There's just one catch: That student may have stolen her idea from a former graduate student her scientist father may have once worked with, reports UPI. Zack Jud, a marine biologist who published very similar results in 2011, says the recent news surprised him because his years of work leading to similar findings are being ignored.

He calls now-13-year-old Lauren Arrington the daughter of his "former supervisor's best friend." Arrington's dad, Albrey Arrington, has a PhD in fish ecology and is reportedly listed on Jud's 2011 research paper as a contributing author.

"At this stage in my career, this type of national exposure would be invaluable," Jud writes on Facebook. "I feel like my hands are tied. Anything I say will come off as an attempt to steal a little girl's thunder, but it's unethical for her and her father to continue to claim the discovery of lionfish in estuaries as her own."

Whatever the elder Arrington's involvement on that paper, the Central Florida Aquarium Society notes that his author listing on Jud's paper shows that "he was clearly aware that lionfish were found in low salinity parts of the estuary years before the science fair project was carried out," though he reportedly didn't have anything to do with Jud's actual research.

In a later comment on Facebook, Jud says, "Now there's a petition on the web demanding that the young lady be added as an author on my most recent scientific publication," where, he says, he did name her in the acknowledgements section, "because apparently I stole her idea." (Before this revelation, Lauren's work had blown away other scientists.)

#### **Hubble Finds Three, Surprisingly Dry Jupiter-Like Exoplanets**

Astronomers, who used NASA's Hubble Space Telescope to look for water vapor in the atmosphere of three exoplanets, have

found that the trio, orbiting stars similar to the sun, are surprisingly dry.

Astronomers previously believed that the three exoplanets, dubbed HD 189733b, HD 209458b and WASP-12b, were ideal candidates for harboring water vapor in their atmospheres. However, the planets, which have temperatures ranging between 1,500 degrees to 4,000 degrees Fahrenheit, were found to have very little water, compared to the amount predicted by standard planet-formation theories.

"Our water measurement in one of the planets, HD 209458b, is the highest-precision measurement of any chemical compound in a planet outside our solar system, and we can now say with much greater certainty than ever before that we've found water in an exoplanet," Nikku Madhusudhan of the Institute of Astronomy at the University of Cambridge, England and the study's lead author, said in a statement. "However, the low water abundance we have found so far is quite astonishing."

The three exoplanets, also known as "hot Jupiters" are located between 60 and 900 light-years away from Earth. Astronomers believe that the new results, published Thursday in *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*, could have major implications in the search for water on potentially inhabitable Earth-sized exoplanets.

"We have to revisit planet formation and migration models of giant planets, especially 'hot Jupiters,' and investigate how they're formed," Madhusudhan said. "We should be prepared for much lower water abundances than predicted when looking at super-Earths."

In order to determine the amount of water vapor in each of the planet's atmospheres, the astronomers used Hubble to observe the planets' near-infrared spectrum, NASA said, adding that detecting water on transiting planets is almost impossible from the ground because of the amount of water in Earth's atmosphere, which contaminates the observation.

"There are so many things we still don't know about exoplanets, so this opens up a new chapter in understanding how planets and solar systems form," Drake Deming of the University of Maryland, said in the statement. "The problem is that we are assuming the water to be as abundant as in our own solar system. What our study has shown is that water features could be a lot weaker than our expectations."

#### **Blue Whales Feeding in the Paths of Large Cargo Ships**

A new study, published on July 23 in *PLOS ONE*, looks into the danger of blue whales clustering for long periods of time in the busy Pacific Ocean and colliding with

vessels.

Researchers from the Oregon State University, reveal that nearly 2,500 of blue whales were found feeding in waters off the West Coast and directly in the paths of shipping vessels.

"The blue whales need to find the densest food supply. There's a limited number of those dense places, and it seems as though two of the main regular spots are crossed by the shipping lanes," said Ladd Irvine, a marine mammal ecologist at Oregon State University.

Blue whales eat tons of krill and head to areas where they are available abundantly. They gather in large numbers and this puts them in a perilous situation as they are directly in the line of heavy freight traffic. These whales have been tracked between 1993 and 2008 by satellite and radio and this has enabled researchers to learn the migratory patterns along the Pacific Coast.

"We found that the two areas of highest use by tagged blue whales off the U.S. West Coast during the summer and fall are crossed by busy shipping lanes leading to major ports. This information may be used to help mitigate human threats to the blue whale population," Ladd Irvine said.

According to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, these show-moving whales could be vulnerable to ship strikes. Blue whales are an endangered species and only about 8,000 to 9,000 are found in the oceans of the world to date. They weigh up to 170 tons and eat about 4 tons of krill daily.

Bruce Mate, director of the institute and one of the principal authors of the study says "We've pointed out that our new data should be useful to the shipping industry and to the various agencies concerned with the lanes that lead to San Francisco and Los Angeles". "But we're not out beating the drums, because it's not our job to decide how those lanes should be moved. That's up to all the stakeholders."

#### **New Vikings Stadium a Threat to Birds in America**

Minnesota residents and football fans will have the most beautiful football stadium in the United States. The stadium's work is in progress and it is scheduled to open in 2016. It will be made of shiny glass with 200,000 sq. ft. of glass to be used in its construction. Most of the residents of Minnesota believe that stadium will be a death trap for thousands of birds.

The stadium will be built with a reflective glass that creates problem for birds to differentiate between sky and glass. As a result, birds hit into it and get injured. Also, the stadium is built at a distance of one mile from the Mississippi river, which is the major path for thousands of migratory birds.



among competitors doesn't bode well for buyers.

"It's hard to say how much true competition is out there," he says, "but no matter what, this takes away one potential competitor."

EXPE shares were up 14.50% to \$89.57 a share in end of day trading, while QWW shares rose 21.83% to \$11.72 a share.

**Miss P, a 4-year-old beagle from Canada, takes home 'Best in Show' at annual Westminster dog show**  
The beagle has landed.

Miss P, a 4-year-old beagle from a kennel in British Columbia, Canada, took home the coveted crown of the canine world: "Best in Show" at the Westminster Kennel Club's annual event.

Miss P, whose initial stands for "Peyton" and whose registered name is "Tashtins Lookin For Trouble," is a descendent of beagle royalty: she's the grandniece of Uno, the only other beagle to win the top title at the Westminster show.

The Madison Square Garden crowd erupted at the announcement that Miss P had won. The beagle is owned by the mother-daughter combo of Lori and Kaitlyn Crandlemire and Eddie Dziuk and was handled by Will Alexander.

"She just never let me down, she didn't make any mistakes," Alexander said after the show, noting that Miss P is retiring following the big win on Tuesday.

A shaggy Skye Terrier named Charlie took second place.

The top dog was crowned at 11 p.m. Tuesday — but the crowds already picked out some favorites earlier in the day, as the Daily News found while sizing up the doggone great field of competitors.

Beckett, considered a top-five competitor, took a nap on his cage, conserving energy for multiple competition rounds later in the day.

"I'd like to see him go as far as he can go, but he needs his rest now," boasted proud owner Jim Andras, 56, of Houston.

Brown-and-white Beckett has defeated 38,218 dogs in his show career, Andras said.

"He's been competing since he was a little over a year ago. He's a multi-national winner. Things going well for him. We are proud of him," Andras said.

Matisse, a cousin of President Obama's Portuguese Water Dog Sunny, was an early frontrunner Tuesday, given his impressive record: Matisse has outscored 148,002 dogs in his career, according to Westminster stats.

"He knows when to rest up. He knows when to pick it up. He loves being out there," said one of his owners, Milan Lint, 54.

Matisse also wouldn't want to disappoint his presidential lineage, she joked.

"They have a similar look. If you see him next to Sunny, you can tell they are related," Mint said. "He's beautiful, he's the top dog."

Kathy Ferrandino, 51, from Long Island, said she was rooting for Matisse even though her own dog, Turk, has competed against him.

"Matisse is also a lovely boy. But Turk gave a run for his money. That's what the coach said. 'You don't know how close he came,'" she said of a recent competition in Maryland.

"Turk is just maturing now. He's two. He'll win others," she said optimistically.

There's always next year.

**Dr. Seuss returns with newly discovered book**

Dr. Seuss long ago passed from the scene but old manuscripts by the beloved children's author keep turning up.

Random House Children's Books said Wednesday it will publish a recently discovered manuscript with Dr. Seuss sketches, called *What Pet Should I Get*, on July 28.

The publisher plans at least two more books based on materials found in 2013 by his widow, Audrey Geisel, and his secretary in the author's home in the ritzy seaside neighborhood of La Jolla in San Diego.

The author, whose real name was Theodor "Ted" Seuss Geisel, died in 1991 at the age of 87.

According to Random House, when Audrey Geisel was remodeling her home after his death, she found a box filled with pages of text and sketches and set it aside with other of her husband's materials.

It was rediscovered 22 years later, in the fall of 2013, by Audrey and Claudia Prescott — Ted Geisel's longtime secretary and friend — when they were cleaning out his office space.

They found the full text and illustrations for *What Pet Should I Get?*, among other work. Seuss lovers were excited at the news.

"While undeniably special, it is not surprising to me that we found this because Ted always worked on multiple projects and started new things all the time — he was constantly writing and drawing and coming up with ideas for new stories," said Audrey Geisel, a vigilant keeper of her husband's legacy, in a statement.

"It is especially heartwarming for me as this year also marks twenty-five years since the publication of the last book of Ted's career, *Oh, the Places You'll Go!*

Susan Brandt, president of licensing and marketing of Dr. Seuss Enterprises, said she was surprised by what she found in La Jolla. "Pages and pages of manuscripts and sketches were laid out on the big glass dining room table," she said in a Random House news release. "It was truly a magical moment, and we immediately knew this was more than just a box of sketches."

Random House associate publishing director Cathy Goldsmith says *What Pet Should I Get?* was likely written between 1958 and 1962.

The book features the same brother and sister seen in Dr. Seuss' 1960 classic *One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish*.

Only last year, Random House announced it would publish a book of four rediscovered illustrated stories by Dr. Seuss.

*Horton and the Kwuggerbug and Other Lost Stories*, published in September, contains tales originally published in *Redbook* magazine between 1950 and 1955, then largely forgotten.

The main story stars Seuss' faithful elephant who confronts a crafty and manipulative insect.

Charles D. Cohen, a scholar and collector of all-things Seussian, tracked down copies of the magazines that published Seuss.

"For the most part, those magazines were tossed out when the next month's issue arrived and the stories were largely forgotten," Cohen wrote in an introduction to the new collection. He called the four stories "fresh encounters with old friends and familiar places."

The newly discovered Seuss materials will be kept at the University of California at San Diego, also in La Jolla, where the Dr. Seuss Collection is housed in the university's architecturally renowned central library, renamed the Geisel Library in 1995.

**The Man of Steel gets his very own Joker**  
Lex Luthor, Doomsday, General Zod, Mongul, Brainiac and Bizarro weren't enough enemies for the Man of Steel. Greg Pak thought Superman needed his own Joker, too.

The *Batman/Superman* writer has given the DC Comics superhero an enemy who's just as psychologically deviant, sociopathic, ruthless and unpredictable as Batman's infamous Clown Prince of Crime foe. Superman's mysterious Joker, who has been toying with the hero from afar and targeting those closest to the Man of Steel, will finally be revealed in the newest issue of Pak and artist Ardian Syaf's series Wednesday.

"We're going to find out exactly who he is, what his motivations are and why he's done all this, and it's pretty terrifying," says Pak about a character who's been seen before in Superman's 77-year history.

"I check the Twitter from time to time, and I haven't seen anybody guess it yet."

Kandor, the lost city of Superman's home planet Krypton that was miniaturized and stuck in a bottle, also plays an integral role. Its residents, who have been lying in comas for basically all of the Man of Steel's life, have been used as living bullets on folks connected to Superman.

*Batman/Superman* No. 19 digs into what exactly has happened to Kandor, Pak says, "and it's not pretty." Plus everybody Superman cares about is in harm's way. Batman was shot with a speeding Kandorian in the previous issue, and because this psychological villain is obsessed with Superman in a very specific and disturbing way, the heroes have to deal with the escalation of the bad guy's game plan.

So far, it's been an incredibly dangerous shock to Superman's system having to deal with a new kind of villain. Batman's used to dealing with psychos — guys such as Joker, Riddler, Penguin and Two-Face are less about trying to change the world and more about burning the whole place down, Pak says. "They're built on mayhem and deviance as opposed to trying to take over something or establish order in some twisted way."

Most of Superman's baddies are maniacs, but tend to also want to take over something, the writer adds. "As a result, as twisted and as frankly evil as most of them are, you can track what they're doing in a rational way. You could totally question their motivations for doing what they do, but they have a plan and they want to build something, and Superman's

4 of 4

DATED: March 13, 2015

BY: LEON IRBY



the Nismo performance makeover. Now it is testing for yet another -- the 370Z roadster. Nissan is showing off a Nismo concept version at the Chicago Auto Show, meaning it will offer it if it can draw enough enthusiasm for the idea.

The direct--from-the-factory Nismo treatment includes engine, suspension, exterior and interior modifications. There's a body kit, custom carbon-fiber rear spoiler and Recaro seats.

"While the 370Z Nismo Roadster Concept is just a performance study at this point, you can see its potential as a production model," says Fred Diaz, a Nissan senior vice president, in a statement.

He says it has all the performance equipment from the coupe version of the 370Z, but that the Nismo changes -- both inside and out -- are readily apparent.

#### **Mazda dresses up new MX-5 Miata sports car**

CHICAGO -- Mazda's much-anticipated next version of the MX-5 Miata isn't due into showrooms until summer, but the brand came to the Chicago Auto Show to drop some not-so-gentle hints about ways it expects it will be customized.

Mazda equipped a white 2016 Miata with a ground-hugging aero kit, consisting of a front air dam, side sill extensions and a lip on the back. There are also Brembo Brakes, the red-colored racing-style brakes that typically show up on high-end performance cars. And there's wheels from maker BBS and a lightweight (2 pounds) luggage rack for the rear deck. There is so much MX-5 history at the Chicago Auto Show, and we wanted to continue building on that," said Jim O'Sullivan, president and CEO, Mazda North American Operations. "The MX-5 is the soul of our company, and its enthusiast following both inside and outside of Mazda drives us to keep innovating new ideas for it and the rest of our lineup."

#### **Mercedes-Benz creates a new \$566K Maybach limo**

The Mercedes-Maybach Pullman promises to be the next car of choice for corporate magnates and heads of state, filling the role of its predecessor, the Mercedes-Benz 600, first created 50 years ago. The new one will be shown next month at the Geneva Motor Show. Expect every luxury that can be crammed into a single car, and you should for a starting price of \$566,922 for what Mercedes point out is the "armored" version. Most passengers would be little about what's under the hood, but if they did, they'd find a 6-liter V-12 biturbo engine with 523 horsepower. The big sedan is a full 3.5 inches longer than the already enormous Mercedes-Benz S-Class. The wheelbase alone is 14.5 feet, about the total length of some compact cars. Even nicer for its well-heeled backseat passengers, the new Pullman has almost four inches more height than the S-Class, for added headroom. How nice is it back there?

The VIP occupants sit on two standard-specification executive seats facing the direction of travel. They can enjoy the greatest

legroom in the segment and can get into and out of the car with the greatest of ease and comfort. As is typical for a Pullman, the four passengers can sit facing each other in the compartment with an electrically-operated partition window," Mercedes says.

#### **Rolls-Royce will build off-roading SUV**

Rolls-Royce has confirmed the previously unthinkable: It's going to build an SUV.

And not just any SUV, but one that is off-road capable -- or as Rolls put it: "able to cross any terrain." It is sure to be one of the world's most expensive vehicles, one that's long and tall, not boxy, per se. Yet Rolls vowed it is going to be true to the brand, all the way down to the Spirit of Ecstasy hood ornament. It will be built on a new chassis.

Confirmation of the new vehicle came in an "open letter" from CEO Torsten Muller-Ötvos that never actually calls it an SUV. Rather it is called "a high-bodied car with an all-aluminum architecture." Rolls officials are adamant, but won't elaborate: It's fair to call it an SUV, but it won't be considered a truck. No pictures or renderings are being shown and the model is expected to be years away from deliveries. One possible name: the Rolls-Royce Cullinan.

The decision by Rolls, a unit of BMW, comes as archrival Bentley, part of Volkswagen Group, is about to embark on making its own SUV. It's going to be called the Bentayga, which *Automotive News* says "sounds like a good name for a pain medication." It, too, promises to be super-expensive.

Currently, Rolls makes three cars -- the giant Phantom sedan, slightly smaller Ghost and the Wraith fastback.

"Now we have reached another seminal moment in Rolls-Royce's 111-year journey," writes Muller-Otvos. He says the new vehicle has the "pioneering, adventurous spirit" upon which the brand was founded, with "effortless luxury."

It wouldn't be the first off-roading Rolls, he points out. Even Lawrence of Arabia one to conquer the desert.

#### **Traveling together: Expedia to buy rival Orbitz**

Expedia said Thursday that it will buy online booking rival Orbitz Worldwide for roughly \$1.6 billion, cementing its place as the No. 1 digital travel provider while potentially disrupting the hotel and airline industries. With the acquisition, the largest online travel agency in the U.S., will be incorporating the sector's third-largest player.

Together, Expedia and Orbitz had 29.4 million unique visitors in the U.S. in December, according to comScore.

"We are attracted to the Orbitz Worldwide business because of its strong brands and impressive team," Expedia president and CEO Dara Khosrowshahi said in a statement. "This acquisition will allow us to deliver best-in-class experiences to an even wider set of travelers all over the world."

Expedia, whose portfolio includes Hotwire.com, and Trivago, also recently

acquired Travelocity, paying \$280 million for the site last month.

Those purchases are heating up the race between Expedia and its number two rival, Priceline, which has been on its own buying spree, and veered beyond the travel space when it acquired restaurant reservations site OpenTable for \$2.6 billion in June of 2014. "It's now Expedia vs. Priceline, head to head," says Robert Cole, a travel industry analyst and consultant.

Though airlines and hotels get only a fraction of their bookings through outside, online portals, the consolidation of some of the biggest companies under the Expedia umbrella may unsettle the market, says Henry Hartevelde, a travel industry analyst.

"Suppliers are not happy about this . . . because it reduces the leverage they have," Hartevelde says, adding that airlines and hotels may try to hone their relationships with other players "to try to blunt the power of the Expedia Inc. juggernaut."

Airlines get 10% to 15% of their bookings through online travel agencies, but they don't have to haggle with those portals as much since they generally don't pay them commissions.

Hotels may be the travel sector with the most concern. Online travel agencies are responsible for roughly 19% of their sales, Hartevelde says. And hotels pay fees, on average of 15%, to online sites for bookings that are steered their way, Cole says.

"The downside is unfortunately for the hotel groups because when you get these middlemen who have strength and ability to channel business from one competitor to another, that can get expensive," he says.

For instance, a hotel's place on a site's search list could be partly determined by how big a fee it is paying the online portal. "Part of it is, is it a good deal for the consumer?," Cole says of how the listings might be calculated, "and part of it is, are you being generous to us as a partner?"

Katherine Lugar, president and CEO of the American Hotel and Lodging Association, said in a statement that "this most recent merger raises questions, and appears to be counter to the goal of creating more consumer choice. We will be watching this development closely as the process moves forward."

Still, the travel industry and the sites that help sell their offerings, have a symbiotic relationship. Hotels aren't wholly dependent on outside travel sites to fill their rooms, and Cole says online travel agencies want to offer the lowest possible prices to encourage consumers to take trips.

Orbitz, which sold many flights but lagged behind some of its peers in the more lucrative hotel booking space, will now be able to offer Expedia's larger inventory of hotels, a boon to Orbitz users, Cole says.

"It's going to be good for consumers of those websites," he said, referring to Orbitz as well as Travelocity. "There's going to be more hotels and I think, merchandising capabilities." But Hartevelde says that even if the various sites had similar offerings, consolidation



## Thousands stranded on Ky. Interstates for nearly 24 hours

Thousands of stranded motorists endured agonizingly long waits Thursday lasting nearly 24 hours for some as a winter storm walloped Kentucky and frustrated travelers dealt with gas tanks and stomachs close to empty.

The massive traffic jam stretched for about 26 miles, from just north of Elizabethtown past Shepherdsville.

National Guard soldiers and emergency workers were dispatched to make safety checks on the frustrated travelers.

Some parts of the state saw up to two feet of snow Thursday. And residents may not get relief Friday — officials say rising temperatures could lead to flooding in the state.

Gov. Steve Beshear warned of potential flash flooding as the snow melts. He says the concerns about possible river flooding aren't as great.

### First Take: Netanyahu points to unbridgeable divide

WASHINGTON — The problem isn't that President Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu don't get along, although they don't. The problem spotlighted in the Capitol on Tuesday is that they fundamentally disagree on whether an emerging nuclear deal with Iran would make the world safer or more dangerous.

The personal rift could be papered over or ultimately resolved when one leader or both leaves office.

The substantive divide, detailed by Netanyahu in a fiery appearance before a joint meeting of Congress, seems unbridgeable — and it could be headed to an explosive showdown within weeks.

The nuclear deal being negotiated in Geneva "doesn't block Iran's path to the bomb; it paves Iran's path to the bomb," the Israeli prime minister declared. "So why would anyone make this deal?"

It was an extraordinary and unprecedented scene: The leader of a close ally, given Congress' most prominent platform and using it to denounce a major foreign policy initiative of the American president. He depicted the Obama administration's approach to Iran as naive and unwise. He received thunderous applause and a series of standing ovations from those in the ornate House chamber.

But the scene also was notable for who wasn't there. Vice President Biden conveniently was traveling abroad; his seat on the dais was taken by Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch, the Senate's president pro tempore. Secretary of State John Kerry was in Geneva, negotiating with the Iranians. Dozens of congressional Democrats boycotted, ranging from rising star Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren to South Carolina Rep. Jim Clyburn, a member of the House leadership.

And as Netanyahu was speaking, Obama just happened to be convening a video conference with British Prime Minister David Cameron,

French President Francois Hollande, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and other European leaders to discuss the crisis in Ukraine — an implicit display of presidential power and prerogative.

White House officials put the odds of reaching a deal with Iran at no better than 50-50, and the talks face a deadline by the end of the month. But if there is a deal, Netanyahu has succeeded in increasing the difficulty Obama will face in selling it to a Congress now under unified Republican control.

Netanyahu didn't unveil intelligence details of the negotiations, despite fears expressed by Obama and others that he might do so. But in discussing public reports on the talks — "You can Google it," he said — he decried provisions that reportedly would allow Iran to retain some of the centrifuges used to make fuel and the accord's 10-year framework.

Later, at the White House, Obama told reporters he hadn't seen the speech but had read a transcript of Netanyahu's remarks, which he dismissed as nothing new. "Keep in mind that when we came to the interim deal, Prime Minister Netanyahu made almost the precise same speech about how dangerous that deal was going to be. And yet over a year later, even Israeli intelligence officers and in some members of the Israeli government have acknowledged that in fact it has kept Iran from further pursuing nuclear program," the president said.

He defended a negotiated accord was the best course to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon: "Nothing else comes close. Sanctions won't do it. Military action would not be as successful as the deal that we have put forward."

At the Capitol, Netanyahu's arrival for an appearance that stretched for almost an hour was evocative of a presidential State of the Union Address. The prime minister, who faces an election in Israel in two weeks, was announced on to the floor and besieged by well-wishes as he slowly made his way down the aisle.

He opened with a shout-out to Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., for being "back on his feet" after an accident. He flattered Congress as "the most important legislative body in the world." He thanked Obama for "all he has done for Israel" before he laid out his objections to Obama's policies. He quoted Ernest Hemingway and Robert Frost.

Near the end, he recalled the lessons of the Holocaust and introduced survivor Elie Wiesel, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, in the visitors' gallery.

It was like a State of the Union Address in another way as well, in the partisan reception it received — with potential consequences down the road. When he called the emerging negotiation "a very bad deal," many Republicans stood and cheered; many Democrats sat on their hands.

**Lawyer: Snowden willing to return to U.S. for trial**

Former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden is willing to return to the U.S. if he is guaranteed a fair trial, his lawyer says.

"Edward Snowden is ready to return to the U.S., but on the condition that he be given ... a fair and impartial trial," lawyer Anatoly Kucherena said, according to [the Russian news agency TASS](#).

Kucherena said he received a letter from the U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder promising Snowden would not face capital punishment should he return.

"That is, they guarantee that Snowden will not be executed, not that he will receive a fair trial. And it is guaranteed by the attorney general who cannot even influence court decisions according to law," Kucherena said. Kucherena spoke at a news conference in Moscow while promoting a book he has written about Snowden.

"I won't keep it secret that he... wants to return back home," [Reuters reported](#). "And we are doing everything possible now to solve this issue. There is a group of U.S. lawyers, there is also a group of German lawyers and I'm dealing with it on the Russian side."

He said he does not trust some countries who said they would protect Snowden.

"Snowden can leave the Russian territory with his residence permit. But I suspect that as soon as he leaves Russia, he will be delivered to the U.S. Embassy," TASS quoted Kucherena as saying.

Snowden, now 31, is a North Carolina native who once spent four months in the Army. He was a contractor for Booz Allen Hamilton when he leaked details of U.S. surveillance programs to *The Guardian* and *The Washington Post*. The first reports were published in June 2013, setting off an immediate global firestorm.

Snowden, who was in hiding in Hong Kong at the time, fled to Moscow. Facing charges of violating the Espionage Act and theft of government property, he stayed in Russia when the U.S. revoked his passport. Now he works in IT in Moscow and consults for several U.S. companies, Kucherena said. He added that Snowden is learning Russian. Kucherena said Snowden's girlfriend Lindsay Mills "comes to Russia, they love each other and they have been together for many years. She continues to stand by his side."

### Holder says goodbye to being attorney general

In a ceremony steeped in government pomp and featuring the unveiling of his official portrait and a surprise appearance by musical icon Aretha Franklin, Attorney General Eric Holder bid an emotional farewell Friday to the Justice Department, where he rose from a line prosecutor to the nation's chief law enforcement officer.

"I came to this department as an unformed, 25-year-old graduate from law school," said Holder, who was joined at the Department's Great Hall by President Obama and an overflow crowd of well-wishers.

BY: LEON ZRBY

3 of 3

DATED: MARCH 17, 2015

Irony



"I will leave grayer and wiser but still struck by the wonder of all that this great organization and its people have exposed me to," he said.

Although the attorney general said his goodbyes during the late afternoon gathering, he will not formally leave office until Brooklyn U.S. Attorney Loretta Lynch is confirmed by the full Senate, which is expected in the next few weeks.

#### **S.C. city boasts first battery-operated bus fleet**

SENECA, S.C. – There are cities with more electric buses, but Seneca, according to the founder of Greenville-based bus manufacturer Proterra, now has the world's first all-electric municipal bus fleet. City, state and federal officials gathered Friday at Seneca's Electric Transit Facility to celebrate what many said is the future of mass transit – a system that burns no fuel, creates no pollution and runs virtually silently.

"Who would have ever thought that in the foothills of the South Carolina Appalachian Mountains, the city administrator for a small town of nine or 10 thousand people, surrounded by a group of visionaries... would carve out the cornerstone for a concept that is changing the transit industry worldwide," said Dale Hill, founder of Proterra.

"This battery electric bus fleet is the first all-electric bus fleet in the world. In the world," he emphasized as the crowd of about 200 applauded. "The electric city, wow." The city is running six electric buses that cost up to \$900,000 each but will pay for their extra cost in the reduction of fuel expenses in 12 years, Hill said. They have a life expectancy of 18 years, he said.

The Seneca fleet is operated by Clemson Area Transit, which also runs a separate system in Clemson, and makes hourly trips to Clemson in addition to providing local transportation in Seneca, officials said. The buses can run for 35 miles between charges and get the equivalent of 19 miles per gallon compared to four miles per gallon for standard diesel buses. The Seneca buses have reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 500,000 pounds since they went into service in September, according to Proterra CEO Ryan Popple.

More than a dozen engineering graduates of Clemson University who work for Proterra and a professor at Clemson's International Center for Automotive Research played a major role in the design of the vehicles, he said.

"The talent from Clemson University is in these vehicles," he said. "These vehicles wouldn't be possible without the local engineering talent and innovation." Proterra, he said, is the first company to combine the use of light-weight composite materials such as is used in military vehicles and airplanes with electro-traction motors and lithium ion batteries.

"I think here in the city of Seneca we've proved that an electric vehicle that's four to

five times more energy efficient than a diesel vehicle can do the job," he said. "I think we've proved here with the first fleet in the United States to go 100 percent EV electric that this is the future of the industry."

Having a fleet near the Proterra's headquarters is a benefit for the company in monitoring and improving its product, he added.

"To have a deployment that's very close to us where our engineers and technicians can go and see the product in real world service, where I can meet with the staff at Clemson Area Transit or the administrators and managers for the city of Seneca and learn what it's going to take to really make zero emission vehicles a reality for transit, that's incredibly powerful," he said.

The city and company waited until the buses had logged 100,000 miles to declare the project a success and make the announcement.

Seneca Mayor Dan Alexander said development of the system was a cooperative effort between Seneca and as the city of Clemson and the CATbus system as well as with state and federal agencies.

The city received grants totaling \$5.9 million from the U.S. Federal Transit Administration and \$540,000 from the state Department of Transportation, which the city matched with about \$510,000 of its own money, according to City Planner Ed Halbig.

Al Babinicz, director of the Clemson Area Transit system, also known as CATbus, said the bus system is working with Proterra on developing solar power as a source of energy to charge the bus batteries. The bus system's office is powered by solar panels, he said.

"Our immediate goal was to save money on fuel and maintenance and the broader goal was to reduce our environmental footprint," he said.

Seneca is using a former textile plant to house and maintain its fleet – something that couldn't be done safely using diesel buses because of the accumulation of fumes, officials said.

For Alexander, the mayor, the important thing is providing a safe, reliable and environmentally friendly transportation system for Seneca residents who need it. Many of the riders are Clemson students, but also elderly and working poor folks use them regularly, he said.

"It's all about the people who ride these buses," he said.

#### **Armed heist nets \$4M in gold, triggers N.C. manhunt**

A manhunt was underway Monday in North Carolina for three armed men who robbed a truck and two armed guards of \$4 million in gold, authorities said.

Two TransValue Inc. security guards told authorities they had been hauling a fortune in precious metals from Florida to Massachusetts on Sunday evening when their truck developed mechanical problems and they pulled over on I-95, the Wilson County Sheriff's Office said in a statement.

The guards said three armed men in a van approached, ordered them to get down on the ground, tied their hands behind their backs, and forced them to walk into the woods. The thieves took several barrels of gold estimated at more than \$4 million in value and fled, the guards said.

TransValue, based in Miami, specializes in transportation of precious metals and cash, its website says. The company, founded in 1992, says its shipments are insured "through the company's all risk insurance policy" up to \$100 million.

Owner Jesus Rodriguez told *The Wilson Times* he was headed to Wilson County to try and determine exactly what happened.

"This is very rare," Rodriguez said of the heist.

FBI spokeswoman Shelley Lynch said the agency was "coordinating with our law enforcement partners to determine whether a federal crime has been committed."

#### **Right-to-work debate in Wisconsin Assembly stretches into day two**

Debate in the state Assembly stretched into early Friday morning as lawmakers went back and forth on a bill that would make Wisconsin a right-to-work state.

The marathon session is set to end no later than 9 a.m. Debate on final passage will begin at 8 a.m., with 30 minutes of debate reserved for each party, said Assembly Assistant Majority Leader Jim Steineke, R-Kaukauna.

Long after the sun was replaced by a full moon, members of both parties gave impassioned speeches for and against the bill, which would prevent businesses from entering contracts with unions requiring all workers to pay union fees.

Appeals ranged from serious to silly as lawmakers invoked films, scripture, civil rights leaders and past presidents to bolster their points.

By 9 p.m., Democrats had 10 amendments in the queue, despite multiple assurances from Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, R-Rochester, that they would all be rejected. Vos accused the minority party of engaging in delay tactics, but Democrats insisted their amendments were efforts to make more palatable a bill they say would irreparably damage the state.

Seven hours later, only one amendment had been discussed, and none had been voted on. Reps. Chris Taylor, D-Madison, and Cory Mason, D-Racine, each gave speeches that topped the hour mark while debating a proposal to send the bill to the Small Business Committee.

Democrats say right-to-work legislation drives down wages and weakens workers' rights. Republicans arguing in favor of the bill presented it as an issue of worker freedom and individual liberty.

"Ideas have power, and there are no ideas with greater power than the idea of freedom," said Rep. Dean Knudson, R-Hudson. Rep. Jesse Kremer, R-Kewaskum, spoke favorably of his past experiences with unions,