CREATIVE GENIUS
Arkansas Derby winner pulls upset in 148th Belmont Stakes
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CAMPAIGN
Road to 270: Trump faces uphill climb to White House
NATION ■ PAGE 3A

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Extension may help with traffic downtown

DAVID SHOWERS
The Sentinel-Record

Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department data shows extending the King Expressway north to the junction of highways 5 and 7 would reduce traffic counts at the northern approach to Central Avenue by 4,000 vehicles a day in 2034.

An average daily traffic count of 16,000 vehicles is projected at the intersection of Highway 7 and Whittington Avenue by 2034 if the expressway isn't extended. An extension routing Hot Springs Village area traffic west of downtown would reduce the average to 12,000.

The traffic count at the junction of highways 5 and 7 is projected at 11,000 by 2034 without an extension and 4,500 with one. According to 2014 data, the traffic count at Highway 7 and Whittington Avenue is 15,000, and 9,000 at the junction of highways 5 and 7.

EXTENSION, PAGE 3A

The Sentinel-Record/Mara Kuhn

BEAR NECESSITY: Law enforcement officers attempt to corral a juvenile male black bear on Saturday in a residential area on Woodstock Drive, in the Thornton Ferry Road area.

Authorities chase errant black bear

MARA KUHN
The Sentinel-Record

A juvenile black bear led law enforcement officers on a chase through a residential neighborhood near Lake Hamilton on Saturday.

No damages or injuries were reported, and law enforcement officers were able to monitor the bear after he climbed a tree in the 100 block of Woodstock Drive in the Thornton Ferry Road area.

The bear was spotted by residents of the area around 11 a.m. The Garland County Sheriff's Department, Arkansas State Police, and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission responded to the scene. LifeNet was placed on standby, but was not needed.

Late Saturday afternoon, game and fish officers were waiting for the bear to come down to a lower level of the tree before tranquilizing and relocating him. Because of the location of the tree, officials were not able to get safety equipment, such as a firetruck, close enough to bring the bear down safely, or catch the bear if he fell out of the tree after being tranquilized, said Jake Whisenhunt, AGFC wildlife biologist.

BEAR, PAGE 4A

The Sentinel-Record/Mara Kuhn

LIONS BOUND: Fountain Lake graduate Sean McNeely practices with the Junior Stormers rugby team Thursday at Jessieville. McNeely only played rugby for one season, but recently received a scholarship to play in college for Lindenwood, one of the most prestigious rugby programs in the country.

Junior Stormers open new doors

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first of two articles about the opportunities provided by the Little Rock Junior Stormers, the area youth rugby club for students 15 and older. The team will play its last tournament of the season this week in Charlotte, N.C.

JAY BELL
The Sentinel-Record

Rugby has become the fastest-growing team sport in the country, and its allure has become especially appealing to young athletes in the region around Hot Springs and Little Rock.

The Little Rock Junior Stormers are the state's high school-level competitive team. They operate under the banner of the Stormers, the senior competitive team of the Little Rock Rugby Club, which was founded in 1974.

Ruben de Haas, a rising senior at Jessieville and the team captain for the Junior Stormers, began playing rugby for a team in Oklahoma because Arkansas did not yet have a team. His family moved to Jessieville from South Africa when he was in fifth grade.

His father, Pieter de Haas, played professional rugby in South Africa for the Cheetahs and the Lions. He helped found the Junior Stormers and remains the team's coach.

Coach de Haas has thanked the Jessieville School District for allowing the team to use the football field and its facilities. The team regularly practices at night and uses the lights to work into the evening.

The coach said Jessieville was chosen to host the area practices because more students around Jessieville have chosen to participate than any other area. The Stormers draw players from Fountain Lake, Hot Springs, Bismarck and various schools in Little Rock.

"It has to be said that Ruben, as well as our family, consider his biggest accolade to be the fact that he has influenced and introduced so many of his fellow school mates to the game of rugby," Pieter de Haas said. "So much so that

RUGBY, PAGE 5A

OMP campers work to assist community

COLBIE MCCLOUD
The Sentinel-Record

Youths and adults from across the state traveled to Hot Springs as Ozark Mission Project campers this week, lending a helping hand with approximately 35 projects in the Garland County area.

"It is amazing that young people from across the United States want to come to our state to help families," said OMP Executive Director Bailey Faulkner. "Watching youths give up a week of their summer to help others is really inspiring."

The 67 campers from Rogers, Lonoke, North Little Rock, Little Rock and Texarkana built decks and wheelchair ramps for those in need through the OMP. First United Methodist Church hosted the youths for projects that began Monday and will continue until Saturday.

OMP is a nonprofit mission sponsored by Gross Funeral Home that is in its 30th year and has been a fixture in Garland County for six years.

"The youths have a choice to come and they choose to come help others when they could be on vacation," Justin Nicklas, general manager of Gross Funeral Home, said. "Our neighbors minister to us just as we do for them."

A family from Oklahoma that lost everything

CAMPERS, PAGE 5A

The Sentinel-Record/Mara Kuhn

HELPING OUT: Alyssa Lisowski, of Rogers, left, and Jenn Grady, of Lonoke, along with others from the Ozark Mission Project, build a ramp for a family on Owl Creek Cutoff.

Transgender debate rhetoric questioned

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the fourth installment in a series concerning the ongoing debate about transgender rights, particularly the current issue of restroom use. The Sentinel-Record met with two transgender students in the community about their backgrounds and how the public debate affects them.

JAY BELL
The Sentinel-Record

The response to President Barack Obama's restroom directive for public schools and the current questions about transgender rights have caused concern and added caution for transgender Americans and those closest to them.

Obama and his administration issued a guidance in May for public schools to allow transgender students to use the restrooms matching their gender identities. The guidance was backed by Attorney General Loretta Lynch, the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Justice with associations to Title XI, which says schools receiving federal funds may not discriminate based on a student's sex. Federal officials believe the law prevents schools from discrimination based on the gender identities

TRANSGENDER, PAGE 4A

Weather

SCATTERED STORMS. HIGHS IN THE HIGH 80S. LOWS IN THE LOW 70S.

SUNRISE: 5:59 A.M.
SUNSET: 8:25 P.M.

MORE ON PAGE 2A

MONDAY:
HIGH 89° LOW 73°

TUESDAY:
HIGH 89° LOW 75°

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Headlines from 1916

Excitement over ghost presence
Southern portion of city reports
strange presence about many
Several people in vicinity of Fifth Street, Tweedletown and Frog Hollow report visitation during day (figure described as tall and gaunt with red eyes dressed all in white)

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