www.mankatofreepress.com

The Free Press, D1, Thursday, September 5, 2019

# Berríos continues to struggle in loss

### Kepler leaves with injury

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Mookie Betts homered on the first two pitches he saw, collecting four hits and five RBIs in all, and Eduardo Rodriguez allowed only five singles in seven shutout innings Wednesday night to help the Boston Red Sox beat the Minnesota Twins 6-2.

The Red Sox won for the 12th time in 17 games and

remained 5½ games back in the race for the AL's second wild-card spot. The AL Central-leading Twins, who had won seven of eight, fell to 5½ games ahead of second-place Cleveland in the division.

Betts homered into the first row of the Green
Monster seats on the first pitch of the game from José
Berríos (11-8), then sent one out of the ballpark with

two on in the second to make it 4-0. Betts added a single down the third base line in the fourth — after taking a pitch — and hit an RBI single in the sixth, also on the second pitch of the at-bat.

He came up again in the eighth and made his only out, on a line drive back at the mound that pitcher Brusdar Graterol caught before it hit him in the gut.

Following a 47-minute rain delay before the first pitch, Rodriguez (17-5) struck out eight while walking four and hitting a batter to add to what was already a career high in wins. The Red Sox are 12-1 when he starts at Fenway Park, and 10-2 in his last 12 starts overall.

Ryan Brasier relieved Rodriguez to start the eighth and immediately gave up a single to Nelson Cruz and a two-run homer to Eddie Rosario. Minnesota put two on with one out in the ninth against Darwinzon Hernandez before Brandon



The Associated Press

Minnesota Twins starting pitcher Jose Berrios (17) and third baseman Miguel Sano (22) leave the field at the end of the fifth inning against the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday in Boston.

Workman got a game-ending 1-4-3 double play for his 11th save.

Berríos pitched five-plus

Please see TWINS, Page D2

#### BRIEFS

### MVL volleyball beats Cathedral

**NEW ULM** — The Minnesota Valley Lutheran volleyball team beat New Ulm cathedral 3-1 Thursday at Martin Luther College.

MVL won 25-16, 25-15, 19-25, 25-13.

Mara Weisensel led the Chargers with 25 kills and five blocks. Maddie Pearson had 28 set assists, while Emma Nelson had 18 digs.

The Chargers (2-0) will host Buffalo Lake-Hector-Stewart Thursday. New Ulm Cathedral will

New Ulm Cathedral will host Gibbon-Fairfax-Winthrop Thursday.

The Free Press

### Cowboys, Elliott agree on contract

**FRISCO, TEXAS** — Ezekiel Elliott has a new contract with the Dallas Cowboys just in time for the regular season.

The star running back and the club agreed Wednesday on a \$90 million, six-year contract extension that will make him the NFL's highest-paid player at his position and end a holdout that lasted the entire preseason.

The breakthrough was finalized before dawn on the morning of the team's first full workout before Sunday's opener at home against the New York Giants.

Elliott will get \$50 million guaranteed. The \$15 million-per-year average on the extension surpasses the \$14.4 million Todd Gurley got from the Los Angeles Rams last summer. Gurley's guarantee was \$45 million.

### Guice, Peterson to lead 'Skins backfield

**ASHBURN, VA.** — Adrian Peterson told Derrius Guice to grab some ice cubes and wrap them around his surgically repaired left knee.

Guice chuckled a bit.

"You're really old school," Guice said. "We got all this Cryotherapy and stuff, and you're talking about bags of ice."

Old school, meet new school in the Washington Redskins' backfield headlined by a 34-year-old climbing the career rushing list and a 22-year-old itching to make his NFL debut 13 months after a torn ACL. That injury opened the door for Peterson's resurgence in Washington, and now he is playing a part in helping Guice supplant him as the Redskins' No. 1 running back.

The Associated Press

# 'GOOD J.O.B.'

### Rueda's run lasted four decades



File photo

Sports editor Jim Rueda works on a game story during the girls high school state basketball tournament at Williams Arena in Minneapolis. On Aug. 2, Rueda retired after nearly 40 years as a member of The Free Press sports staff.

### Longtime sports editor retired in August

By Shane Frederick

sfrederick@mankatofreepress.com

ollege and high school sports have been cranking up for the fall season over the last month. For the first time in nearly 40 years, Jim Rueda hasn't been part of it.

Rueda retired on Aug. 2 after 38 years on the sports staff of The Free Press, much of that as the newspaper's sports editor.

In the past, this would be a busy time for Rueda, with schedules to coordinate, previews to write and games to cover. Instead, he's been able to relax a bit, spending time with his grandchildren, catching some live music and some pro sports and really digging in on some fantasy football draft research.

"I'll be honest with you," Rueda said. "I have not missed it. I pick up the paper every day to see what's going on and keep myself informed, but I'm glad I don't have to schedule people to cover stuff anymore. I miss talking to players and coaches, but the day-to-day stuff, I don't miss."

Rueda has been retired for only a month, so that attitude could change. He's already done a couple of stories as a freelance writer and may cover the occasional game in the future.

"It's going to be interesting," he said. "I'm not sure how it's going to evolve. I hope to go to more MSU events as a spectator."

A Twins game at Target Field and

If you go

There will be a retirement celebration for former Free Press sports editor Jim Rueda from 2-5 p.m. Saturday at the Loose Moose in Mankato. The event is open to the public.

a trip with his son to the Cincinnati Masters tennis tournament are activities he didn't have time for in the past, when August meant summer was over for a Mankato sports editor, with Vikings Training Camp in town followed by the start of high school practices.

high school practices.

Rueda's first gig with the newspaper came before his official service time started — in 1976 when he was a student at Minnesota State.

The Free Press was looking for someone to cover an MSU football game and contacted the student newspaper where Rueda, a mass communications major, was working. Rueda eagerly volunteered

ing. Rueda eagerly volunteered. Little did he know that he was embarking on a four-decade career.

Stringing work turned into a parttime job at the paper, and, before he knew it, the latter became a full-time gig. Eventually, he took on the sports editor role, succeeding Morgan Brandrup in 1991.

"I kind of back-doored my way into it," Rueda said. "I've never really had to put together a resume or look for a job."

Through the years he hired several part-timers, giving them the same opportunities he got from The Free Press. Many continue to work in journalism today.

"He gave so many people their first opportunity to be a real reporter," said New Hampton (Iowa) Tribune editor Bob Fenske, who worked at The Free Press as a parttime sports stringer for three years and later as a full-time education reporter. "He was a stickler on all the things that were important but was also a lot of fun to work for."

Busy nights of covering games or taking phone calls from coaches and writing up briefs often ended with a single compliment from Rueda:

"Good J.O.B.," he'd say, always spelling out the last word.

"I've always appreciated that he gave me a chance," Fenske said.
Rueda noted that his time at The Free Press ran nearly parallel to a couple of big moments, one locally and one nationally.

The Queens, New York, native arrived in Mankato in the fall of 1975 when Mankato East High School was just 2 years old. When he looks at the faces and names on that school's athletics hall of fame display, he said, it's a stroll down memory lane.

"I know I've interviewed almost everyone on that wall," he said. "That's a weird feeling, that I've seen all those teams play and talked to all those people. That's kind of

And that's just one spot in the paper's coverage area, one that includes about than two dozen high schools and colleges.

Please see RUEDA, Page D2

## Anderson turns injury into positive

MSU basketball player will miss season

**By Chad Courrier** ccourrier@mankatofreepress.com

MANKATO — At first, Quincy Anderson was very disappointed that he had

injured his knee and won't be able to play basketball this season at Minnesota State. But now that

now that he's had a couple of Quincy Anderson

weeks to think about his situation, he sees the positives.

"It was tough because I want to be out there with

"It was tough because I want to be out there with my teammates," he said. "I think I had a great summer and had put a lot of work into my game. But I'm looking forward to redshirting and providing energy to my teammates. I need to find different ways to bring value to the team."

A couple of weeks ago, at a late-night pickup game with his teammates, Anderson went in for a layup and landed awkwardly, tearing the anterior-cruciate ligament and meniscus in his left knee.

"It was a freak accident," he said. "I heard it pop. I knew right away what it was."

Anderson played in all 30 games as a true freshman, averaging 4.6 points and 2.8 rebounds, getting nearly 14 minutes per game as one of the first players off the bench.

The left-hander scored 10 points or more in four games, getting 14 in the season-ending loss to Northwest Missouri State in the opening game of the NCAA tournament. He also had his only double-double of the season in a nonconference game against North Central, finishing with 11 points and 10 reboounds.

He shot 44.5 percent from the field, including 33.9 percent on 3-pointers, and 84.6 percent at the free-throw line.

Please see MSU, Page D2



Get back to your active life with personalized solutions from our orthopedic team.

Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato
Call 507-246-1989 to schedule an appointment.



mayoclinichealthsystem.org

#### TV Today

Schedule subject to change and/or blackouts Thursday, September 5 AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

**5 a.m.**— Finals Series: Essendon vs. West Coast. Elimination Final, Burswood, Australia 4:30 a.m. (Friday)

FS2 — Finals: Collingwood vs. Geelong, Qualifying Final, Melbourne, Australia

AUTO RACING

3:55 a.m. (Friday)
ESPN2 — Formula One: The Italian Grand
Prix, practice session 1, Monza, Italy
COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL (WOMEN'S) 7 p.m.
FS1 — Marquette at Wisconsin GOLF

4 a.m.
GOLF — European Tour Golf: The Porsche European Open, first round, Zahlen, Germany 8 a.m.

GOLF — European Tour Golf: The Porsche Eu-

ropean Open, first round, Zahlen, Germanv 4 a.m. (Friday)

GOLF — European Tour Golf: The Porsche European Open, second round, Zahlen, Germany HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

**7 p.m.**ESPN2 — Trinity Christian (Texas) at Parish

ESPNZ — ... Episcopal (Texas) MLB BASEBALL Noon
MLB — San Francisco at St. Louis OR Chicago

White Sox at Cleveland **3 p.m.**MLB — LA Angels at Oakland (joined in prog-

ress) MLB — Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee OR Wash-

ington at Atlanta Minnesota at Boston **NBA BASKETBALL** 

6:30 p.m.
NBA — 2019 Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame Reunion and Awards Show

NFL FOOTBALL **7:20 p.m.** - Green Bay at Chicago

SOCCER (MEN'S) 10:50 a.m. ESPNEWS — UEFA: Italy vs. Armenia, Euro 2020 Qualifier, Yerevan, Armenia

1:30 p.m.
ESPNEWS — UEFA: Switzerland vs. Ireland, Furo 2020 Qualifier Dublin TENNIS 6 p.m.

Flushing, N.Y.

WNBA BASKETBALL

#### WEEK IN SPORTS

9 p.m. CBSSN — Seattle at Los Angeles --

THURSDAY Mankato

Mankato West girls swimming & diving vs. Northfield, 6 p.m., Minnesota State Mankato West girls soccer at Rochester Mayo,

Mankato West boys soccer vs. Rochester Mayo, 7 p.m., Caswell North Mankato West volleyball vs. Owatonna, 7 p.m.,

West gym
Mankato East boys soccer vs. Rochester John
Thomas O Anderson Field Mankato East girls swimming and diving at Faribault, 6 p.m.

Mankato East girls soccer at Rochester John

Marshall, 7 p.m.

Mankato East volleyball at Austin, 7 p.m Mankato Loyola boys soccer vs. Waseca

5 p.m., Fitzgerald Gym Mankato Loyola girls soccer at Waseca, Mankato Loyola volleyball vs. Granada-Hunt-ley-East Chain/Martin Luther/Truman, 7:15 p.m.,

Fitzgerald Gym Gustavus Adolphus men's soccer at Martin Luther, 4:30 p.m.

Bethany Lutheran women's golf at UMAC pre-view, 10 a.m., Pebble Creek Golf Course Bethany Lutheran men's golf at UMAC preview, 10 a.m., Pebble Creek Golf Course

FRIDAY

Minnesota State volleyball vs. American International, St. Leo at Barry University Classic, 8 a.m., noon, Miami Minnesota State men's and women's cross

country at Augie Twilight, 8:30 p.m., Sioux Falls, Mankato West girls cross country at Faribault

Invitational, 3:30 p.m.

Mankato West boys cross country at Faribault Invitational, 3:30 p.m.

Mankato West football at Rochester Century 7 p.m. Mankato East girls cross country at Faribault

Invitational, 3:30 p.m.

Mankato East football at Austin, 7 p.m.

St. Clair/Mankato Lovola football vs. Lester Prairie, 7 p.m., Loyola field
Gustavus Adolphus vs. Wartburg (5 p.m.),

Loras (7 p.m.), Dubuque, Iowa, Bethany Lutheran women's cross country at Bethany Invite, 4 p.m., Mankato

Bethany Lutheran men's cross country at Bethany Invite, 4:50 p.m., Mankato

Bethany Lutheran volleyball vs. Hamline, 5 p.m., St. Paul (Macalester Invite)

Bethany Lutheran volleyball vs. St. Olaf 7 p.m., St. Paul (Macalester Invite) SATURDAY Minnesota State men's golf at J..R. Watkins Invitational, all day, Lake City

Minnesota State volleyball vs. St. Anselm. Barry at Barry University Classic, 2 p.m., 6 p.m.,

Minnesota State football at Southwest Minne sota State, 6 p.m., Marshall

Mankato West girls swimming and diving at Prior Lake Invitational, TBD

Mankato West volleyball at Shakopee Invitational, 8 a.m. Mankato West girls tennis vs. Le Sueur-Henderson, Owatonna, Waseca, 9 a.m., Waseca Mankato West girls soccer vs. DeLaSalle,

11 a.m., Caswell North Mankato West boys soccer at Southwest Minnesota Christian, noon, Edgerton

Mankato East boys cross country at Benilde-St. Margaret's Invitational, 10 a.m., Crystal Mankato East girls swimming and diving at Fridley Invitational, 11 a.m.

Mankato East boys soccer at St. Peter, 3 p.m

Mankato Loyola volleyball tournament, 9 a.m., Westbrook Walnut Grove High School Mankato Loyola boys soccer at United Christian Academy, 11 a.m., Bloomington

Gustavus Adolphus football vs. Martin Luther, 1 p.m., Hollingsworth Stadium Gustavus Adolphus men's golf at St. Thomas Invitational, Maple Plain
Gustavus Adolphus women's golf at Wartburg

Invitational, Waverly, Iowa Gustavus Adolphus volleyball vs. Washing-ton University (10 a.m.), St. Norbert (2 p.m.), Dubuque, Iowa

Bethany Lutheran volleyball vs. Central College, noon, St. Paul (Macalester Invite) Bethany Lutheran volleyball vs. Macalester

2 p.m., St. Paul (Macalester Invite) Bethany Lutheran men's soccer at St. Olaf, 1 p.m., Northfield

Bethany Lutheran women's soccer at Faith Baptist Bible, 2 p.m., Ankeny, Iowa

#### Pro

### American League

Allici Ivali League							
	_		GB.				
			10				
			16				
			361/2				
			45				
		.001	10				
	L	Pct	GB				
	53		_				
81		.579	51/2				
61	78	.439	25				
51	89	.364	351/2				
40	97	.292	45				
W	lest						
w	L	Pct	GB				
90	50	.643	_				
79	58	.577	91/2				
68	73	.482	221/2				
65	74	.468	241/2				
58	82	.414	32				
	At A & E W 92 82 75 55 46 Ce W 86 81 61 51 40 W 90 79 68 65	East L	At A Glance East  W				

#### Tuesday's Games

Baltimore 4, Tampa Bay 2, 1st game Tampa Bay 2, Baltimore 0, 2nd game N.Y. Yankees 10, Texas 1 Atlanta 7, Toronto 2 Chicago White Sox 6, Cleveland 5 Milwaukee 4. Houston 2 Minnesota 6, Boston 5 Chicago Cubs 6, Seattle Kansas City 6. Detroit 5

Oakland 7, L.A. Angels 5

N.Y. Yankees 4, Texas 1

Boston 6, Minnesota 2 Kansas City 5, Detroit 4 Cleveland 8, Chicago White Sox 6 L.A. Angels at Oakland, 10:07 p.m. Thursday's Games

Chicago White Sox (López 8-12) at Cleveland (Plesac 7-5), 12:10 p.m. Detroit (Boyd 7-10) at Kansas City (Sparkman 3-10), 12:15 p.m.

L.A. Angels (Suarez 2-5) at Oakland (Bassitt

Texas (Allard 3-0) at Baltimore (Means 10-9) Minnesota (Pérez 9-6) at Boston (Eovaldi 1-0)

Toronto (Thornton 4-9) at Tampa Bay (TBD) 6:10 p.m. (Gonzales 14-11) at Houston (Miley

Twins box

Doston o, willingsola 2							
Minnesota							
	AB	R	Н	ы	BBS	SOAvg.	
Kepler cf-rf	2	0	0	0	1	2.254	
Miller cf	0	0	0	0	0	0	
a-Garver ph	0	0	0	0	1	0.273	
Polanco ss	4	0	0	0	0	2.302	
Arraez ss	0	0	0	0	1	0.343	
Cruz dh	5	1	1	0	0	1.308	
Rosario If	4	1	2	2	0	0.283	
Sanó 3b	3	0	2	0	1	0.242	
Cave rf-cf-rf	4	0	0	0	0	2.255	
Cron 1b	3	0	2	0	1	0.260	
Schoop 2b	3	0	0	0	1	2.259	
Astudillo c	4	0	1	0	0	1.264	
Totals	32	2	8	2	6 .	10	
		Во	sto	n			
		_					

AB R H BI 5 2 4 5 4 0 0 0 0 0.289 0 1.318 Devers 3b Bogaerts ss 0 2.310 1.312 1.281 Benintendi If 1.323 Holt 2b 0 0.276 Vázquez c Bradley Jr. cf 0.220 **7** Minnesota 000000020-2 13000200x-6 a-walked for Miller in the 9th.LOB-Minnesota 10, Boston 7, 2B—Vázquez

(24). HR—Rosario (28), off Brasier; Betts 2 (25), off Berríos. RBIs—Rosario 2 (94), Betts 5 (75), Vázguez (59), Runners left in RISP-Minnesota 0 for 4; Boston 3 for 7.Runners moved up—Cave, Devers. GIDP—Cruz, Polanco, Cave.DP—Bos ton 3 (Holt, Bogaerts, Moreland; Holt, Moreland; Holt, Moreland).Minnesota
IP H RERBBSONPERA

Berríos, L, 11-8	5	8	6	6	3	61	1013.78	8
Harper	1-3	0	0	0	0	0	23.62	2
Stashak	12-3	1	0	0	0	1	223.63	3
Graterol	1 0	0	0	1	0	130	0.00	
Boston	IΡ	н	RE	ΞR	BE	SSC	NPEF	₹Α
Rodríguez, W, 17	-5 7	5	0	0	4	81	133.81	1
Brasier	1-3	2	2	2	0	0	105.40	J
Taylor	2-3	1	0	0	0	1	143.00	J
Hernandez	1-3	0	0	0	2	1	212.93	3
Workman, S, 11-	172-3	0	0	0	0	0	42.14	4
Inherited r	unners	-sc	ore	d-	-H	arp	er 2	2-0
Stashak 2-1 W	orkma	n '	2-0	H	IRE		Rodríai	ΠP

WP-Hernandez.Umpires-Home Ramon De Jesus; First, Fieldin Cubreth; Second, CB Bucknor; Third, D.J. Reyburn.T—3:22 A-35,218 (37,731).

#### **National League** East

	w	L	Pct	GB			
Atlanta	86	54	.614	_			
Washington	78	60	.565	7			
Philadelphia	72	66	.522	13			
New York	71	68	.511	141/2			
Miami	49	89	.355	36			
	Cer	ntral					
	W	L	Pct	GB			
St. Louis	78	60	.565	_			
Chicago	75	63	.543	3			
Milwaukee	71	67	.514	7			
Cincinnati	65	75	.464	14			
Pittsburgh	61	78	.439	171/2			
West							
	W	L	Pct	GB			
Los Angeles	91	50	.645	_			
Arizona	72	67	.518	18			
San Francisco	66	72	.478	231/2			
San Diego	64	74	.464	251/2			
Colorado	59	81	.421	311/2			

Tuesday's Games Philadelphia 6, Cincinnati 2 St. Louis 1, San Francisco 0 Atlanta 7, Toronto 2

Milwaukee 4, Houston 2 Washington 11, N.Y. Mets 10 Miami 5, Pittsburgh 4, 10 innings Chicago Cubs 6, Seattle 1 Arizona 2. San Diego 1

Wednesday's Games N.Y. Mets 8. Washington 4 Cincinnati 8, Philadelphia 5 Pittsburgh 6, Miami 5

San Francisco at St. Louis, 7:45 p.m. San Diego at Arizona, 9:40 p.m. Colorado at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m. Thursday's Games
Philadelphia (Vargas 6-7) at Cincinnati (Gray

10-6), 11:35 p.m. San Francisco (Webb 1-0) at St. Louis (Hudson 14-6), 12:15 p.m. Miami (Hernandez 3-5) at Pittsburgh (Agrazal

4-3), 6:05 p.m. Chicago Cubs (Quintana 12-8) at Milwaukee (Anderson 6-4), 6:10 p.m. Washington (Strasburg 16-5) at Atlanta (Fried 15-4), 6:20 p.m

#### **WNBA** EASTERN CONFERENCE W L Pct x-Washington .750

GB

-Connecticut	23	9	.719	1				
-Chicago	19	13	.594	5				
ndiana	11	21	.344	13				
lew York	9	23	.281	15				
tlanta	7	25	.219	17				
WESTERN CONFERENCE								
	W	L	Pct	GB				
-Las Vegas	20	12	.625	_				
-Los Angeles	20	12	.625	_				
-Minnesota	17	15	.531	3				
-Seattle	17	15	.531	3				
-Phoenix	15	17	.469	5				
allas	10	22	313	10				

Tuesday's Games Washington 93, New York 77 Seattle 82, Phoenix 70 Los Angeles 70, Atlanta 60 Wednesday's Games Connecticut 102, Dallas 72

Thursday's Games Las Vegas at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m. Seattle at Los Angeles, 9 p.m. Friday's Games Indiana at New York, 6 p.m. Dallas at Washington, 6 p.m. Chicago at Connecticut, 6:30 p.m.

Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m

**AMERICAN CONFERENCE** Thursday's Game Green Bay at Chicago, 7:20 p.m Sunday's Games

Atlanta at Minnesota, 12 p.m Tennessee at Cleveland, 12 p.m Kansas City at Jacksonville, 12 p.m. Washington at Philadelphia, 12 p.m L.A. Rams at Carolina, 12 p.m Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, 12 p.m. Cincinnati at Seattle, 3:05 p.m Indianapolis at L.A. Chargers, 3:05 p.m San Francisco at Tampa Bay, 3:25 p.m. N.Y. Giants at Dallas, 3:25 p.m. Detroit at Arizona, 3:25 p.m

Pittsburgh at New England, 7:20 p.m.

Monday's Games

Houston at New Orleans, 6:10 p.m. Denver at Oakland, 9:20 p.m.

#### Transactions

BASEBALL

American League
BOSTON RED SOX — Recalled LHP Bobby
Poyner and RHPs Colten Brewer, Trevor Kelley and Mike Shawaryn from Pawtucket (IL).

CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Recalled RHP Jose Ruiz from Charlotte (IL). CLEVELAND INDIANS — Assigned RHP Jon Edwards outright to Columbus (IL). NEW YORK YANKEES — Sent LHP Jordan

Montgomery to Trenton (EL) for a rehab assign-TAMPA BAY RAYS — Assigned RHP Aaron Slegers outright to Durham (IL).
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Assigned RHP Neil

Ramirez outright to Buffalo (IL). National League

ATLANTA BRAVES — Optioned RHP Bryse Wilson to Gwinnett (IL). Atlanta Braves optioned RHP Bryse Wilson to

Gwinnett Stripers.
CINCINNATI REDS — Placed INF/C Kyle Farmer on 10-day IL. Recalled INF/OF Jose Peraza from Louisville (IL).

# Berrettini edges Monfils

### Andreescu reaches semis saying he felt "a little bit tight."

The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Matteo Berrettini describes his mental coach as a big help and a best friend. They've been speaking on the phone before and after every match during Berrettini's run to his first Grand Slam semifinal.

They had plenty to chat about when it came to this latest victory.

Berrettini, a 23-year-old from Rome, gave Italy a spot in the final four at the U.S. Open for the first time since 1977 in dramatic fashion, double-faulting away his initial match point and then needing four more to finally put away 13th-seeded Gael Monfils of France 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 3-6, 7-6 (5) after nearly four hours in Arthur Ashe Stadium on Wednesday.

"He told me, 'I need to thank you, because I thought that everyone is born once and dies once. But during that match, I was born and died 15 or

16 times," Berrettini said about his conversation with the mental coach he's worked with for several years. "I collapsed and got back up. I collapsed and got back up. That match point. Those other chances. I was down then I came back. It's a great source of pride for me."

In truth, the denouement was hardly a thing of beauty, with both men, clearly spent, fighting themselves and the tension of the moment as much as the guy on the other side of the net. Monfils finished with 17

double-faults but managed to avoid any throughout the entire, exhausting fifth set until he served at 6-5 and then he had three in that game, plus another two in the deciding tiebreaker, often doubling over between points to rest and catch his breath.

"A very bad day for me, serving," Monfils said.

Berrettini acknowledged the obvious afterward, too, You think?

It all was a bit of a whir. "Right now, I don't remember any points, just the (last) match point, you know?" he said. "I remem-

ber also the double-fault; I

have to be honest."

Berrettini, who is seeded 24th, will get a day to recuperate: He will face No. 2 Rafael Nadal or No. 20 Diego Schwartzman in the semifinals Friday. The other men's semifinal that day is No. 5 Daniil Medvedev against unseeded Grigor Dimitrov, who beat an injured Roger Federer in five sets on Tuesday night to become, at No. 78, the lowest-ranked semifinalist at the U.S. Open since

Nadal, the last member of the Big Three standing because Federer and Novak Djokovic are out of the draw, was to meet Schwartzman on Wednesday night. That followed the last women's quarterfinal, in which No. 15 Bianca Andreescu reached her first major semifinal by defeat-

ing No. 25 Elise Mertens 3-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Andreescu, a 19-year-old Canadian, improved to 31-4 this season, including 13-3 in three-setters. She takes on No. 13 Belinda Bencic on Thursday, when the other semifinal is Serena Williams against No. 5 Elina Svitolina.

Bencic also reached her first Grand Slam semifinal, following up her upset of defending champion and No. 1 seed Naomi Osaka by taking the last four games of a 7-6 (5), 6-3 victory over No. 23 Donna Vekic.

"I felt like I couldn't get three good points together," Vekic said. "I was, like, playing one point good, then bad."

Berrettini-Monfils began on a muggy afternoon and concluded with Ashe's retractable roof shut after rain came during the third set.

Monfils, who is 10 years older, fell to 2-7 in major quarterfinals and could be forgiven for wondering how many more chances he'll get.

## TWINS: Berrios continues to struggle in loss

1991.

Continued from Page D1

innings, allowing six runs on eight hits and three walks while striking out six. It was the second-most runs he's allowed this season.

#### Playing by the seat of their pants

Twins catcher Willians Astudillo threw out Mitch Moreland from one knee on a dribbler in front of the plate in the second

Berríos did even better, diving to stop Andrew Benintendi's checked-swing nubber down the third base line in the fifth, and throwing from one knee as he fell away from the play. He wound up flat on his back before third baseman Miguel Sanó came over to congratulate him, putting his arm around the pitcher as they walked off the field together.

#### Playing 21

The Red Sox had 21 pitchers on the roster for the game, with 17 of them in the bullpen in case they were needed. They used five pitchers in all.

"We're going winter ball style," manager Alex Cora said. "Obviously, it's not perfect, but our starters are not giving us enough. We need matchups. We need arms."

Major League Baseball allows teams to expand their rosters as of Sept. 1, and Boston's Triple-A team finished its season on Tuesday night. The rules are changing in 2020 to allow for more limited call-ups, but for now, Cora said, "The rules are the rules."

"Next year you can't do that," he said. "It's probably not the first time it's happened in the game."

## Bethany men's soccer falls late

The Free Press

NORTH MANKATO —

The Bethany Lutheran men's soccer team lost to Bethel 2-1 Wednesday at

Caswell North. Joao Bastos tied the game for the Vikings on an assist from Luuk Oosterbosch at 63:50. Connor Nelson of Bethel scored the gamewinner at 80:45.

Bethel outshot BLC 6-5. The Vikings (1-1) will play Saturday in Northfield against St. Olaf.

Women's soccer: The



Bethany Lutheran women's soccer team fell 9-0 to Bethel at Caswell North.

Leah Sonnenburg made 15 saves for Bethany. The Vikings were outshot 24-1. BLC (1-1) will play SatBible in Ankeny, Iowa. **Volleyball:** Megan Rutt had 17 kills in the Vikings 3-2 loss to Carleton. Kasidy Cacka finished

with 11 kills in the 12-25, 25-18, 28-26, 22-25, 15-10 loss. Veeva Lee added 15

The Vikings (2-2) will play Friday at Hamline.

**Minnesota State** 

Women's golf: The Minnesota State women's golf team placed ninth at the Central Region Fall

urday against Faith Baptist Preview at Adams Point Golf Club in Blue Springs,

> The Mavericks posted rounds of 311 and 314 for a score of 625 at the two-day event. Faith Krause shot 81 and

75 for a total of 156. She tied for 32nd overall. Madi McGinty tied for 45th with a score of 159.

Alissa Carlson and Maddy Schintz tied for 50th at Minnesota State will be at

the CSP Invitational Sept.

16-17. in Lake City.

## **RUEDA:** Longtime sports editor retired in August

Continued from Page D1

Nationally, Title IX's passing in 1972 created more athletic opportunities for girls and women, so Rueda made sure to chronicle

those sports, too. "That pretty much doubled our coverage," Rueda said. "That was a huge change. ... I felt we had a responsibility to give those teams their due in the newspaper and to try to spread the coverage around."

Same goes for so-called minor sports. While football, basketball, baseball and, eventually, hockey drew a lot of interest, Rueda wasn't going to limit to take on some of those

the sports pages to those events.

That hasn't gone unnoticed. said Paul Allan, Minnesota State's associate athletic director for communications, who has worked with Rueda since he arrived at the university in the mid-80s.

"I think Jim took his role with The Free Press very seriously, and he took a lot of pride in providing a lot of coverage of all sports," Allan said. "You could tell it wasn't because he had to but because he enjoyed it. ... Jim was a driving force behind that."

Rueda was often the one

other sports, including wrestling, swimming, gymnastics, cross country and tennis. He wasn't afraid to ask questions about the

sports he knew nothing

about, either.

For example, longtime Mankato West coach Luverne Klar and Minnesota State's Rummy Macias, he said, answered his questions and taught him everything he needed to know about wrestling. Eventually,

covering the state high

school wrestling meet

Rueda's coverage. Pinning Rueda down on other career highlights is tough, but there was, he said, a pretty

became annual highlight of

magical autumn in 1987 when he covered the Gustavus Adolphus football team's 10-0, MIAC championship season, as well as the Minnesota Twins' home games during the World Series.

In 2017, Rueda was

inducted into the Minne-

sota State Athletics Hall

of Fame in the builders category for his coverage of the Mavericks at The Free Press "He's going to be missed," Allan said. "I think his work was undervalued. It was never about the accolades with Jimmy;

it was about doing the

grinder."

work. Jim was a bit of a

## **MSU:** Quincy Anderson turns injury into positive

Continued from Page D1

"I feel bad for him," Minnesota State coach Matt Margenthaler said. "He had prepared himself to be an impact player, but he's turned it into a positive. He'll be able to take a year and rehab and come back stronger.

"It's a hit to our depth, but it's an opportunity for other guys to show what they can do. I'm confident with the guys we have on our team.' Anderson said he'll

have surgery in about two weeks, after some swelling goes down, and he'll be out for about six months.

He had focused on conditioning and weight training during the summer, but now that energy will be put into rehab. He lost some weight but gained some strength, and he's been working on his shot.

"When I've had injuries in the past, I've always seemed to come back

stronger," Anderson said. "There's no reason why that shouldn't happen again. I know I'm going to want to come back as soon as I can, but now I can get my head right and take the time I need."

Follow Chad Courrier on Twitter @ChadCourrier.

# Cougars' passing game gets boost

By Chad Courrier ccourrier@mankatofreepress.com

MANKATO — Mankato East's passing game has been a work in progress for quite a while, but on Friday, the Cougars may have found some answers through the air in a 27-7 victory over Kasson-Mantorville at Wolverton Field.

Junior Jared Grams completed 11 of 19 passes for 234 yards and two touchdowns. It was the Cougars' first 200-yard passing game since 2012, when Nic Seiler passed for 239 yards in a game against Winona.

Coach Eric Davis said the plan was to use two quarterbacks in the season-opener against Kasson-Mantorville. Grams and sophomore Jacob Eggert had both performed well in the summer and early practices of the fall, but Eggert was injured in a preseason scrimmage, making Grams the only option for the opener.

"That (scrimmage) was going to be our final evaluation, but (Eggert) got hurt on the fourth play so we

#### Prep Football Notebook

never had a chance to get a good look," Davis said.

The Cougars have some gifted targets in the receiving game. Senior Jax Madson made five receptions for 127 yards. Seniors Joich Gong and Grant Hermer each caught a touchdown

Davis said it's possible that Eggert could return to action Friday at Austin, and he's not sure ho he'll handle the quarterback position after that.

"We'll look at how they're doing in practice and the type of defense we're facing," Davis said. "In our offense, we expect the quarterback to be involved in the running game so you need to have two quarterbacks ready at all times."

#### Happy returns

Madelia was struggling in the second half, having watched a 16-0 halftime lead turn into a 20-16

deficit with just over 3 minutes remaining when junior Ramiro Zamora returned a kickoff 80 yards for the eventual game-

winning touchdown. "He's got the speed, and he's elusive," Madelia coach Nick Willaert

Ramiro said. "He's Zamora a guy that we're always looking for ways to get him the ball because he can take it to the house any time."

Jagger

Ignaszewski

Zamora is playing football and soccer this fall, usually practicing with the football team just once or twice each week. He's used on kick and punt returns, as well as a few offensive plays designed to take advantage

of his speed.

Earlier in the game, Zamora had a touchdown run of more than 50 yards. He had four touchdowns on kick returns last season.

"He wants to play soccer, and he loves football, too," Willaert said. "We came up with a plan that works for him. It paid off for us last year, and it paid off for us (in the opener)."

Madelia plays at Edgerton/Ellsworth on Friday.

#### JWP wins opener

Last season, Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton won its season-opener, then lost eight straight. Defeating Winona Cotter 45-0 in the opener was a nice boost to forget about all the close losses last season.

"This was everything for us," JWP coach Jeff Wagner said. "The first game is the most important game of the year. Last year, we had so many heartbreakers."

Behind a veteran offensive line, the Bulldogs had 296 yards rushing. Senior Jagger Ignaszewski, who was limited by an Achilles



Photo by Jackson Forderer

Mankato East quarterback Jared Grams passed for 234 yards and two touchdowns in Friday's 27-7 victory over Kasson-Mantorville on Friday at Wolverton Field.

injury last season, had 169 yards and two touchdowns on 21 carries. Senior Kobe Weimert, making his first start at quarterback, rushed for 91 yards and two scores.

The defense allowed only 179 yards, with 6 yards rushing.

"Games are won and lost in the offensive line," Wagner said. "We've got some kids (in the offensive line) that have worked very hard, and they're the No. 1 factor in the game."

Wagner gave credit to new offensive line coach Cory

JWP, which has moved up to Class AA, plays at Mayer Lutheran on Friday. Mayer

Lutheran defeated Faribault Bethlehem Academy 46-16 last week.

#### Game of the week

Fairmont plays at St. Peter on Friday in a rematch of the Section 3AAA playoff game last season.

In that game, St. Peter led 12-7 at halftime before Fairmont scored twice in the third quarter to pull ahead.

Last week, St. Peter defeated Sibley East 41-0, while Fairmont lost 34-12 to Marshall. St. Peter has moved up to Class AAAA this season so there will be no rematch in the playoffs.

Follow Chad Courrier on Twitter @ChadCourrier.

## Packers, Bears clash in season opener

#### Jones to see more touches

**The Associated Press** 

**CHICAGO** — The NFL's oldest rivalry takes on a different ning back Aaron Jones more look to open the league's 100th season.

It's a role reversal for the Chicago Bears and Green Bay Packers.

A year after new coach Matt Nagy took quarterback Mitchell Trubisky and the Bears to Lambeau Field to kick off the season, the script flipped, with Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers and new coach Matt LaFleur coming to Soldier Field.

"It was always big Chicago gainst little Green Bay." Rodgers said. "We've held our own over the years and it's

always been a great rivalry. "It's one of the special ones in the history of professional

In Rodgers' experience the Packers trust, even using a new offense for the first time since he became starter in

"He's been there before, he's got a lot of game reps," LaFleur said of Rodgers. "The one thing you can always find comfort in is that you know the moment won't be too big for him. He's played in a lot of big games."

Rodgers has been a particular problem for the Bears, beating them in 16 of 21 starts. Last year Rodgers shook off a 20-point deficit in the second-half and a knee injury to lead a 24-23 win over Khalil Mack and the

Chicago returned the favor in December and ended Green Bay's five-game series winning streak to clinch the NFC North title en route to a 12-4 record.

Now it's a matter for Rodgers of using an offense emphasizing more running and deception while facing the NFL's top defense at intercepting passes (27).

"It's so new, it's so different than what we've done in the past," Rodgers said.

The Packers ran less than any team in the NFL last year, and look to get runcarries.

"Now we're throwing new things at them with personnel groupings and motions and alignments and movement and adjustments that they haven't seen from us," Rodgers said.

The Bears have revealed nothing offensively after sitting starters in the preseason, including Trubisky.

"He's mentally grown, he really has," Nagy said. "That's what we look for, and now we have to do it on the field

The defense also sat out preseason, but inactivity failed to slow Mack in last year's opener. With no training camp and only five practices after his trade from Oakland, Mack decimated Green Bay's offense with a strip sack, fumble recovery, and a touchdown return after an interception.

He's aching to face Green Bay again as the Bears seek their first season-opening win since 2013.

"Oh man, I'm so ready to hit somebody other than my teammate," Mack said. "You know what I mean?"

#### Safety switch

The Packers will start free agent safety acquisition Adrian Amos, the former Bears safety, while his Bears replacement is former Packers safety Ha Ha Clinton-Dix.

Clinton-Dix was traded by the Packers to Washington last year before signing for one year with the Bears.

"He's come in and he's been a great pro," Bears defensive coordinator Chuck Pagano said. "All we ask these guys to do every single day — it doesn't matter if they were here before or they're new coming in — is what coach Nagy's expectation was. You come in and earn your way. Every single day he's done



The Associated Press

Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers looks on from the sideline during the first half of a preseason game against the Baltimore Ravens last month in Baltimore.



Minnesota Vikings quarterback Kirk Cousins drops back to pass in the first half of a preseason game against the New Orleans Saints last month

## Cousins, Vikings enter crossroad year

#### Stefanski, Kubiak look to revamp offense

**The Associated Press** 

**EAGAN** — After signing Kirk Cousins to a fully guaranteed contract last year, the Minnesota Vikings might have given their quarterback even more to work with this time.

This season will surely be a crossroad of sorts for both Cousins and the Vikings, their trajectory toward — or away from that elusive Super Bowl victory inescapably intertwined.

"I'm pretty much a .500 quarterback in my career so far, and I don't think that's where you want to be," Cousins said this summer, his most pronounced acknowledgement that his debut in purple did not quite pan out as he or the team hoped with an 8-7-1 record that missed the cut

for the playoffs. On the statistical surface, and by the eye test for stretches of the schedule, Cousins largely excelled. His 70.1 percent completion rate was the 10th-best in NFL history. He topped 4,000 passing yards for the fourth straight year, producing the fourth-highest total in the league during that span. His interception rate of 1.7 percent was the best of his career.

Still, against the last four postseason-bound opponents the Vikings faced, losses to Chicago twice, New England and Seattle, Cousins posted four of his



Minnesota Vikings quarterback Kirk Cousins runs off the field during the first half of a preseason football game against the Arizona Cardinals last month at U.S. Bank Stadium.

six worst passer ratings of

When the Vikings lost the finale to the Bears, thus keeping them out of the playoffs, Cousins averaged 4 yards per attempt, his lowest of the year.

The offense had several weaknesses beyond his control, but his performance in the first edition of the \$84 million deal wasn't strong enough to cover them up, either.

So the Vikings set out to make Cousins more successful this season, hiring former NFL head coach Gary Kubiak as an adviser after appointing Kevin Stefanski as offensive coordinator.

New offensive line coach Rick Dennison, a longtime companion of Kubiak, was also handed the title of running game coordinator to help boost a critical area that failed to take the pressure, literally and figuratively, off Cousins last year. Center Garrett Bradbury and tight end Irv Smith Jr. were their first two draft

picks. Even wide receiver

Josh Doctson, a familiar target for Cousins from their time together with Washington, was added this week.

"If we have a really good year, but I don't play very well, does that mean I crossed the road and we're good? If I have my best year I've ever had and we don't win, does that mean that I'm not good? I don't know. I just think that winning does kind of tell the story, and if we win the rest tends to take care of itself," Cousins said Wednesday. "I need to play well regardless, win or lose, and I've got to earn my way every day. I'm being evaluated like everyone else, and if I don't play well, win or lose, I'm not going to be here."

The offense will put Cousins under center more often than the shotgun formation he frequently operated out of last season. Play-action passes will be a favorite, using a skill Cousins has long held. The arrival of Kubiak raised a too-many-cooks concern, but Cousins has expressed

appreciation for the variety of perspectives the coaching staff can provide him. Cousins has also taken a more collaborative approach with the offense toward the implementation and digestion of the what, why and how of the new

playbook. "He's more about trying to help guys out and do his job, get the guys around him in the huddle on the right page, and go from there," coach Mike Zimmer

said. There's another change for Cousins this year, a beard he began growing at the beginning of training camp after a casual suggestion by Bradbury. Cousins said he's curious to see if his facial hair can match the thickness sported by new right guard Josh Kline.

"I kind of grew it on a whim," he said, smiling, "so I'll probably cut it on a whim."

Beneath the offseason enhancements, the Vikings still have at their core a wide receiver tandem in Adam Thielen and Stefon Diggs that is one of the NFL's best. They're eager, too, to see what more Cousins can do in the revamped system. Diggs, though, made clear Wednesday that Cousins doesn't need to further prove himself.

"He brings what you need from the quarterback position. So as far as like the leadership and me having him as a teammate, I love him," Diggs said. "I think he does everything that he can, so I'm not saying it's a make-or-break season because the quarterback position is hard."

# NASCAR THIS WEEK

#### **SPEED FREAKS**

A few questions we had to ask ourselves

If anyone can shock us at Indy, who's the best bet? **GODSPEAK:** Let's go with Jimmie Johnson pulling a rabbit out of his hat and making the playoffs. KEN'S CALL: Given his recent good showings, it'd be mildly shocking (at least) for Matt DiBene-

detto to get 'er done.

Is young Erik Jones now a championship contender? **GODSPEAK:** One win does not a champion make, but he will likely make the first two cuts in the knockout format

KEN'S CALL: I'd rank him about fifth favorite, at best, but pretty good for a guy whose contractual near-future was recently in doubt.

#### **FEUD OF THE WEEK**

#### **RYAN NEWMAN VS.**

**DANIEL SUAREZ:** It appeared Suarez tapped Newman's left-rear fender (Suarez denies it), causing Newman's No. 6 Ford to spin. Ironically, they are tied for the last playoff position.

#### **GODWIN KELLY'S TAKE:**

Newman was not happy. The rugged Indiana driver said Suarez's contact was "uncalled for." And he added, "What goes around comes around." Most likely Suarez's No. 41 Ford.

#### **GODWIN'S PICKS FOR INDIANAPOLIS**

WINNER: Kyle Busch **REST OF TOP 5:** Denny Hamlin, Brad Keselowski, Joey Logano, Kurt Busch Ragan

**DARK HORSE:** Jimmie Johnson

**DON'T BE SURPRISED IF:** The cream rises to the top at Indy and Kyle Busch scores the win and is crowned regular-season

#### **MOTOR MOUTHS PODCAST**

champion.

No "yard of bricks" in the Pod, just a pile of empties.

Tune in online at www.news-journalonline. com/daytonamotormouths



## INDIANAPOLIS THREE THINGS TO WATCH



All eyes will be on Jimmie Johnson's No. 48 Chevy at Indy to see if he can somehow make the playoff field. [AP/RICHARD SHIRO]

#### 1. Clocking Johnson

Seven-time NASCAR Cup Series champion Jimmie Johnson is optimistic about his chances of making the playoffs, despite being 18 points under the cut line. "Yeah, I mean we are running out of days and if we miss it, it's just going to be by a few (points)," he said. "If I look back over the first half of the season, I see a lot of races where we gave away a few points." Johnson has never missed the playoffs.

#### 2. Bubbalicious

Fourteen drivers have clinched playoff spots in the 16-driver postseason. Clint Bowyer, who was under the cut line, is now eight points to the good and sitting in 15th place. Daniel Suarez and Ryan Newman are tied for 16th place atop the playoff bubble. There is no love lost between Suarez and Newman, especially after Newman believes Suarez did him wrong. "We're gonna race extremely hard all the way to the end," Suarez said.

#### 3. Swap-out

Indianapolis will host the last regular-season race of 2019. Next year Indy will swap dates with Daytona International Speedway. Indy's race will be contested on the Fourth of July weekend while Daytona, which has enjoyed that date since 1959, will host the regular-season finale. The theory behind the switch is that Daytona is more likely to produce an upset winner, like Justin Haley in July. Justin who?

Godwin Kelly, godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com

# DARLINGTON

### THREE THINGS WE LEARNED

#### 1. Showcase winnei

Erik Jones has five top-five finishes (and could have won Bristol) in his last seven starts, so his win at Darlington was no fluke. The victory came in his 100th Cup Series start. He now boasts wins at two historic tracks - Daytona and Darlington. Not too shabby.

#### 2. Late race

The Darlington race had a late start thanks to a wandering rainstorm that passed over the track. It was 1:54 a.m. Monday when NASCAR displayed the checkered flag to Jones. "I'm wore out mentally and physically," Jones said, adding "I guarantee I ain't going to bed."

#### 3. Darlington stripe

Kyle Busch blew his right front



Erik Jones celebrates his late-night victory at Darlington after holding off Kyle Busch in the closing laps. [AP/RICHARD SHIRO]

tire on the penultimate lap but was able to finish third in the race. He used the outside wall as a guide to get him to the checkered flag. "We were able to salvage a third, just dragging the fence for the last two laps," said Busch, who clinched the regular-season title.

Godwin Kelly, godwin.kelly@ news-jrnl.com

#### **QUESTIONS &** ATTITUDE

Compelling questions ... and maybe a few actual answers

### A Brickyard shocker: Yes or

You want to say no because, for so many years, the Brickyard winner was either that season's eventual champion or certainly among the contenders. There's a reason for that, of course. Indy makes every available demand of a car (aside from right-hand turns, of course). You obviously need big-time horsepower for the long straightaways, but also great handling for those hard left turns on a relatively flat track. You don't bring your B-game to Indy.

Yes, every now and then you're at least mildly surprised. Ricky Rudd slipped into Victory Lane once with a fuel-mileage win. Paul Menard's 2011 win is still his only career victory. And just two years ago, Kasey Kahne limped into Indianapolis 22nd in points and winless for three years. He left with the trophy. So it can happen. Are you listening, Jimmie? Matty D? Clint?

Ken Willis, ken.willis @news-jrnl.com

#### NASCAR CUP **STANDINGS**

1. Kyle Busch	983
2. Joey Logano	919
3. Denny Hamlin	877
4. Kevin Harvick	864
5. Martin Truex Jr.	862
6. Brad Keselowski	832
7. Kurt Busch	790
8. Chase Elliott	780
9. Kyle Larson	714
10. Ryan Blaney	710
11. Alex Bowman	694
11. Erik Jones	694
13. William Byron	683
14. Aric Almirola	674
15. Clint Bowyer	625
16. Daniel Suarez	617
16. Ryan Newman	617
18. Jimmie Johnson	599
19. Paul Menard	548
20. Chris Buescher	531

#### WHAT'S ON TAP

(All times Eastern)

**CUP SERIES:** Brickyard 400 **SITE:** Indianapolis Motor Speedway (2.5-mile rectangle) **SCHEDULE:** Saturday, practice (NBC Sports Network, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.). Sunday, qualifying (NBCSN, 10:30 a.m.), race (NBCSN, coverage begins at 1:30 p.m., green flag, 2 p.m.)

XFINITY: Indiana 250 SITE: Indianapolis Motor Speedway

**SCHEDULE:** Friday, practice (NBCSN, 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.). Saturday, qualifying (NBCSN, noon), race (NBCSN, 3 p.m.)

#### **2019 CUP SERIES SCHEDULE AND WINNERS**

Feb. 10: Clash at Daytona (Jimmie Johnson) Feb. 17: Daytona 500 (Denny Hamlin) Feb. 24: Folds of Honor 500 at Atlanta (Brad

Keselowski) March 3: Pennzoil 400 at Las Vegas (Joey

Logano) March 10: TicketGuardian 500 at Phoenix

(Kyle Busch) March 17: Auto Club 400 at Fontana (Kyle

March 24: STP 500 at Martinsville (Brad

Keselowski)

March 31: O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 at Texas (Denny Hamlin)

April 7: Food City 500 at Bristol (Kyle

(Martin Truex Jr.) April 28: Geico 500 at Talladega (Chase

April 13: Toyota Owners 400 at Richmond

May 5: Dover 400 (Martin Truex Jr.) May 11: Kansas 400 (Brad Keselowski)

May 18: All-Star Race at Charlotte (Kyle Larson)

May 26: Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte (Martin Truex Jr.)

June 2: Pocono 400 (Kyle Busch) **June 9:** FireKeepers Casino 400 at Michigan

(Joey Logano)

June 23: Toyota/Save Mart 350 at Sonoma

(Martin Truex Jr.)

(Kevin Harvick)

June 30: Camping World 400 at Chicagoland (Alex Bowman)

July 7: Coke Zero 400 at Daytona (Justin Haley)

July 13: Quaker State 400 at Kentucky (Kurt

Busch) July 21: Foxwoods 301 at New Hampshire

July 28: Gander Outdoors 400 at Pocono (Denny Hamlin)

Aug. 4: Go Bowling at Watkins Glen (Chase

Aug. 11: Consumers Energy 400 at Michi-

gan (Kevin Harvick) Aug. 17: Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race at

Bristol (Denny Hamlin)

Sept. 1: Southern 500 at Darlington (Erik **Sept. 8:** Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis

**Sept. 15:** South Point 400 at Las Vegas **Sept. 21:** Federated Auto Parts 400 at Richmond

Sept. 29: Bank of America 500k at Charlotte

Oct. 6: Delaware 400 at Dover Oct. 13: 1000Bulbs.com 500 Talladega

Oct. 20: Hollywood Casino 400 at Kansas

Oct. 27: First Data 500 at Martinsville

Nov. 3: AAA Texas 500 Nov. 10: Can-Am 500k at Phoenix

Nov. 17: Ford EcoBoost 400 at Homestead-Miami

**KURT BUSCH** 

Kinda get-

ting his act

#### KEN WILLIS' TOP 10 NASCAR DRIVER RANKINGS

**DENNY HAMLIN** Safe bet to contend at Indy

**KYLE BUSCH** Regaining his roll at a good time

**MARTIN** TRUEX JR. Feeling good about his Eagles this season

**ERIK JONES** Darlington win capped good recent roll

**KYLE LARSON** Getting his mail in the lead pack

**KEVIN HARVICK** Will finish third at Brickyard

**KESELOWSKI** No Penske wins since early June

**BRAD** 

**ELLIOTT** Three Indy Hooters to choose from

CHASE

together

**DIBENEDETTO** Goes to Indy with a real chance (really!)

MATT