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Advertising deadlines 12:00 Noon Monday

Briefs cont'd from pg 8

13-year-old choirboy and indecently dealing with the boy and the boy’s 13-year-old friend in the late 1990s, months after Pell became archbishop of Melbourne. A court order had suppressed media reporting the news until last month.

The 77-year-old denies the allegations and will appeal his convictions in the Victoria Court of Appeal on June 5. It was not immediately clear if he will also appeal the sentence.

Russia Mocks US Collusion Probe Ahead of Mueller’s Report

MOSCOW (AP) — U.S. special counsel Robert Mueller has yet to release his report about Russian meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election, but the Kremlin has been rehearsing its response for months.

The narrative, shared by President Vladimir Putin, his top lieutenants and state television, is strikingly similar to U.S. President Donald Trump’s description of the investigation as a “witch hunt.” They say the whole process is about the Democrats’ stubborn refusal to admit that they lost the election.

“They don’t want to acknowledge his victory and do everything to delegitimize the president,” Putin said at his annual news conference in December.

Mueller has been looking into whether the Trump campaign coordinated with Russia and whether the president obstructed the investigation.

Trump has been widely criticized for failing to publicly denounce Russia’s interference in the 2016 U.S. election and appearing to accept Putin’s denials of such activity. Trump’s relationship with Putin has long been the source of intrigue, both at home and in world capitals. He has repeatedly praised his authoritarian peer while straining ties with many of Washington’s closest allies.

California Governor Places Moratorium on Executions

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The 737 inmates on California’s largest-in-the-nation death row are getting a reprieve from Gov. Gavin Newsom, who plans to sign an executive order Wednesday placing a moratorium on executions.

Newsom also is withdrawing the lethal injection regulations that death penalty opponents already have tied up in courts and shuttering the new execution chamber at San Quentin State Prison that has never been used.

“The intentional killing of another person is wrong and as gover-

nor, I will not oversee the execution of any individual,” he said in prepared remarks.

Newsom called the death penalty “a failure” that “has discriminated against defendants who are mentally ill, black and brown, or can’t afford expensive legal representation.” He also said innocent people have been wrongly convicted and sometimes put to death.

California hasn’t executed anyone since 2006, when Arnold Schwarzenegger was governor. And though voters in 2016 narrowly approved a ballot measure to speed up the punishment, no condemned inmate faced imminent execution.

AP Source: Jets Agree to Sign RB Le’Veon Bell

NEW YORK (AP) — Le’Veon Bell sat out a full season while considering where he’d make his next playmaking moves.

Well-rested, motivated and armed with a new contract, the star running back is joining Sam Darnold and the New York Jets.

Bell agreed to a deal early Wednesday morning, a person with direct knowledge of the negotiations told The Associated Press. The decision ended months of speculation about where he’d resume his playing career after six years with the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because teams can’t officially announce signings until the start of the new league year Wednesday afternoon.

ESPN first reported the signing, and said the deal is for four years and \$52.5 million — including \$35 million guaranteed.



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Crash

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then recovered to close at \$377.14, up 0.5 percent for the day. It rose slightly in after-hours trading to \$378.

In making the decision to ground the Max 8s in Canada, Transport Minister Marc Garneau said a comparison of vertical fluctuations found a “similar profile” between the Ethiopian Airlines crash and the Lion Air crash. Garneau, a former astronaut who flew in the space shuttle, emphasized that the data is not conclusive but crossed a threshold that prompted Canada to bar the Max 8.

“This is not the proof that is the same root problem,” he said. “It could be something else.”

Lebanon and Kosovo also barred the Boeing 737 Max 8 from their airspace Wednesday.

Read the rest of this story at TheSkanner.com

Birding

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the name of this game. Remember to show respect, you are a visitor of the bird’s home. You are an observer not a disturber. Set your sites on a tree or area where you notice avian movement and then slowly focus your eyes on a particular bird of interest. Watch, listen, be present. What do you hear? What colors are visible in their feathers? How many birds can you count in one tree? Have fun with your time. There is no right or wrong way to bird watch as long as you are being respectful and appreciative.

On our visit, we saw hundreds of migrating Canadian Geese, a num-

ber of House Finches, a Kestrel and an American Robin. The sky was beautiful and the air fresh and crisp. It was a very awakening experience. I encourage you to explore the beautiful land that the Pacific Northwest offers us and discover the avian residents who reside here. To learn more about conserving and preserving our wildlife in Portland, visit www.audubonportland.org or visit the Audubon Society nature sanctuary, nestled in the heart of Forest Park. Happy Birding!

Dr. Jasmine Streeter is a licensed Veterinarian. In addition to pets, she writes about lifestyle and nature. Email her at drjasmine@theskanner.com

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3-13-19

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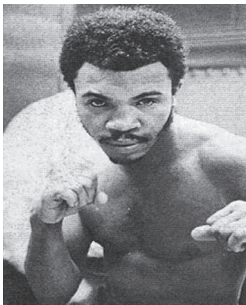
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