**BUFFALO, N.Y.** — THE FAMILY OF A TEEN-AGER WHO WAS KILLED BY A DUMP TRUCK ON HER WAY TO HER JOB ACCEPTED $2.55 MILLION WEDNESDAY TO SETTLE A LAWSUIT ACCUSING A SHOPPING MALL OF RACISM FOR NOT LETTING CERTAIN CITY BUSES DROP PASSENGERS OFF ON ITS PROPERTY.

CYNTHIA N. WIGGINS, 17, DIED IN 2005 WHILE CROSSING A BUSY SEVEN-LANE HIGHWAY OUTSIDE THE WALDEN GALLERIA IN SUBURBAN CHEEKTOWAGA, WHERE SHE WORKED AT A FAST-FOOD RESTAURANT.

THE WIGGINS FAMILY FILED A WRONGFUL-DEATH SUIT AGAINST MALL OWNER PYRAMID COS. AFTER IT WAS REVEALED THAT THE MALL DID NOT ALLOW BUSES FROM PREDOMINANTLY BLACK NEIGHBORHOODS TO DROP PASSENGERS AT THE MALL.

THE FAMILY ALSO SUED THE REGIONAL TRANSIT AGENCY — THE NIAGARA FRONTIER TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY — AND THE TRUCK DRIVER. THE FAMILY WAS SEEKING $150 MILLION.

ON WEDNESDAY, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TRIAL, A SETTLEMENT WAS REACHED UNDER WHICH PYRAMID WILL PAY $2 MILLION, THE DRIVER $250,000 AND THE TRANSIT AGENCY $300,000. MS. WIGGINS' 4-YEAR-OLD SON WILL RECEIVE THE MONEY.

NONE OF THE DEFENDANTS ADMITTED ANY WRONGDOING IN THE YOUNG WOMAN'S DEATH.

**FOREST HILLS, QUEENS, NEW YORK** -- WHILE HE’S NEVER BEEN INVOLVED IN A TRADITIONAL SUPERHERO MOVIE, J.J. ABRAMS AND HIS 20-YEAR-OLD SON HENRY RECENTLY SIGNED ON WITH MARVEL COMICS TO COWRITE A FIVE-ISSUE *SPIDER-MAN* LIMITED SERIES TITLED “BLOODLINES.” WITH ARTWORK BY LONG-TIME ULTIMATE *SPIDER-MAN* ILLUSTRATOR SARA PICHELLI AND COVERS BY HOUSE OF M ARTIST OLIVIER COIPEL, THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE BOOK DEBUTED ON SEPTEMBER 18TH OF 2019, WITH ISSUE #2 FOLLOWING ON OCTOBER 16, AND ISSUE #3 FOLLOWING ON DECEMBER 18.

 THE FOURTH ISSUE, WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN DELAYED UNTIL FEBRUARY 19, 2020, HAS NOW BEEN PUSHED BACK AGAIN, SCHEDULED TO PREMIERE ON APRIL 8 OF THIS YEAR, WITH THE FIFTH AND FINAL ISSUE, WHICH HAD ONCE BEEN SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE ON JANUARY 29 BEFORE BEING POSTPONED TO AN APRIL 15 RELEASE DATE, IS NOW SLATED TO HIT SHELVES ON MAY 27.

THE ABRAMS *SPIDER-MAN* STORY TAKES PLACE IN A FUTURE IN WHICH PETER PARKER AND MARY JANE WATSON ARE MARRIED WITH A SON, BENJAMIN PARKER II. IN A CONFRONTATION WITH THE DESTRUCTIVE SUPERVILLAIN CADAVEROUS, PETER FINDS HIMSELF POWERLESS TO STOP A SHOCKING DEATH THAT ULTIMATELY DRIVES HIM TO GIVE UP THE MANTLE OF SPIDER-MAN ENTIRELY. TWELVE YEARS LATER, HOWEVER, HIS SON DISCOVERS HIS FAMILY LEGACY AND, WITH A BIT OF GUIDANCE FROM AUNT MAY, ASSUMES THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ONCE MORE CONFRONTING THE VILLAIN THAT SHATTERED HIS FAMILY.

THE FIRST THREE ISSUES OF THIS THIRD VOLUME OF SPIDER-MAN ARE AVAILABLE NOW, WITH THE FOURTH ISSUE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE ON APRIL 8.

COMMERCIAL PROMPT: 

NEWLY RENOVATED, AT 236 WEST MAIN STREET, DANVILLE KY.

YOU CAN ALSO ORDER ONLINE AT [WWW.THEHUBCOFFEEHOUSENCAFE.COM](http://www.thehubcoffeehousencafe.com).

ON SPECIAL THIS WEEK:

SPEECH TOURNAMENT JUDGE BLEND – A STRONG BLEND WITH DOUBLE THE CAFFEINE OF OUR NORMAL COFFEES!

**MOSCOW, RUSSIA** - A RUSSIAN ICEBREAKER CARRYING OVER 100 TOURISTS AND SCIENTISTS TO SEE EMPEROR PENGUINS IN ANTARCTICA HAS BEEN CRUNCHING THROUGH PACK ICE AND SHOULD REACH CLEAR WATER SOON, A SHIPPING OFFICIAL SAID WEDNESDAY.

THE CAPTAIN KHLEBNIKOV ICEBREAKER HAS BEEN STRUGGLING TO FREE ITSELF FROM HEAVY SEA ICE NEAR SNOW HILL ISLAND IN THE WEDDELL SEA. IT WAS SUPPOSED TO RETURN TO USHUAIA, ARGENTINA, TWO DAYS AGO BUT NOW IS NOT EXPECTED UNTIL THIS WEEKEND AT THE EARLIEST.

OFFICIALS HAVE SAID THE PEOPLE ONBOARD WEREN'T IN ANY DANGER AND WERE USING THE UNPLANNED STOP TO TAKE HELICOPTER TOURS OF THE AREA.

TATYANA KULIKOVA, A SPOKESWOMAN FOR THE FAREASTERN SHIPPING COMPANY, WHICH OWNS THE SHIP, SAID THE ICEBREAKER HAS BROKEN THROUGH THREE NAUTICAL MILES (5.5 KILOMETERS) OF PACK ICE SINCE TUESDAY AND IS NOW JUST A HALF-MILE (LESS THAN 1 KILOMETER) FROM CLEAR WATER. SHE SPOKE WEDNESDAY TO THE ITAR-TASS NEWS AGENCY.

THE CRUISE WAS ADVERTISED AS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO WATCH EMPEROR PENGUINS IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT. NATALIE AMOS, A SPOKESWOMAN FOR EXODUS TRAVEL, SAID 51 BRITISH TOURISTS WERE AMONG THE SHIP'S 101 PASSENGERS.

TWO-WEEK ANTARCTIC TOURS ABOARD THE CAPTAIN KHLEBNIKOV RANGE FROM $13,890 (EURO9,350) TO $22,690 (EURO15,280) PER PERSON. THE FINNISH-BUILT ICEBREAKER HAS BEEN USED AS A CRUISE SHIP FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND CARRIES TWO HELICOPTERS.

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| **SATURDAY**FEB 29Partly CloudyPARTLY CLOUDY | **SUNDAY**MAR 1 RainRAIN | **MONDAY**MAR 2Partly CloudyPARTLY CLOUDY |
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**LEXINGTON -** IMMANUEL QUICKLEY SCORED A CAREER-HIGH 26 POINTS, INCLUDING 15 OF KENTUCKY’S 17 DURING A DECISIVE SECOND-HALF STRETCH AS THE 10TH-RANKED WILDCATS PUSHED PAST FLORIDA 65-59 FOR THEIR SIXTH CONSECUTIVE VICTORY IN RUPP ARENA SATURDAY.

 QUICKLEY MADE 4 OF 6 FROM 3-POINT RANGE AND 8 OF 17 SHOTS OVERALL TO SURPASS HIS PREVIOUS HIGH OF 23 POINTS AT AUBURN ON FEB. 1. TYRESE MAXEY HAD 13 POINTS FOR FIRST-PLACE KENTUCKY, WHICH TOOK A THREE-GAME LEAD OVER FLORIDA IN THE SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE. KEYONTAE JOHNSON HAD 19 POINTS AND KERRY BLACKSHEAR JR. SCORED 18 FOR THE GATORS, WHO HAD WON THEIR PREVIOUS THREE GAMES AND FIVE OF THEIR LAST SIX.

**(MARS)** IT APPEARS THAT MARS HAS A PROBLEM WITH ITS CLOSEST NEIGHBOR. THE RED PLANET IS CLOSER TO PHOBOS, ONE OF ITS TWO MOONS, THAN ANY OTHER PLANET AND ITS MOON IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM. BUT JUST UNDER THE SURFACE OF THAT COZY RELATIONSHIP, IT LOOKS LIKE MARS IS LITERALLY TEARING PHOBOS APART.

OF COURSE, AS WITH MANY TUMULTUOUS RELATIONSHIPS, THE FINAL BREAKUP WON'T COME FOR A LONG TIME -- 30 TO 50 MILLION YEARS, SCIENTISTS SAY. A NEW MODEL BY NASA RESEARCHER TERRY HUFFORD AND OTHERS SUGGESTS THAT GROOVES ON THE SURFACE OF PHOBOS ARE THE RESULT OF THE TUG OF WAR ITS ENGAGED IN WITH MARS, AS THE PLANET PULLS ITS MOON CLOSER AT A RATE OF ABOUT 6.6 FEET EVERY CENTURY -- AND NOT THE RESULT OF A MAJOR IMPACT AS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN THOUGHT.

HUFFORD AND HIS FELLOW RESEARCHERS PRESENTED THEIR FINDINGS ON PHOBOS' "STRETCH MARKS" ON TUESDAY AT THE MEETING OF THE DIVISION OF PLANETARY SCIENCES OF THE AMERICAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

MARS HAS HAD ITS OWN TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OVER THE LONG, LONG YEARS IN SPACE. BILLIONS OF YEARS AGO THE DRY, COLD, DUSTY PLANET MAY HAVE BEEN MUCH FRIENDLIER AND EVEN HAD SEAS. BUT RESEARCHERS [RECENTLY PUBLISHED DATA](http://www.nbcnews.com/tech/tech-news/sun-ripped-away-mars-ancient-atmosphere-studies-suggest-n458016) FROM A PROBE ORBITING MARS THAT POINTS TO HOW ALL THAT CHANGED, AS VIOLENT SOLAR STORMS TORE AWAY ALMOST ALL OF THE PLANET'S ANCIENT ATMOSPHERE.

**NEW YORK -** BILLIE EILISH'S "NO TIME TO DIE" DEBUTS AT NO. 16 ON THE BILLBOARD HOT 100 (DATED FEB. 29), MARKING THE LATEST THEME SONG FROM A JAMES BOND FILM TO REACH THE CHART.

THE SONG, RELEASED ON DARKROOM/INTERSCOPE RECORDS, ACCOMPANIES THE MOVIE OF THE SAME NAME, DUE IN NORTH AMERICAN THEATERS ON APRIL 10. DANIEL CRAIG RETURNS IN THE TITLE ROLE FOR HIS FIFTH TURN IN THE FRANCHISE.

"NO TIME TO DIE" IS THE HIGHEST-CHARTING BOND THEME ON THE HOT 100 SINCE ADELE'S "SKYFALL," WHICH DEBUTED AND PEAKED AT NO. 8 IN OCTOBER 2012. MEANING, OF COURSE, THAT THE BILLBOARD CHART RECORDS ARE SHAKEN, NOT STIRRED.

**COLUMBIA --** A FEW HIPPOS THAT WERE BROUGHT TO COLOMBIA FOR A ZOO HAVE BEEN RUNNING WILD FOR OVER 25 YEARS. THEIR NUMBERS ARE GROWING RAPIDLY AND CAUSING PROBLEMS FOR OTHER ANIMALS IN THE SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRY.

SOME TIME AFTER 1978, FOUR AFRICAN HIPPOS WERE BROUGHT TO COLOMBIA BY PABLO ESCOBAR, A COLOMBIAN CRIMINAL WHO BECAME RICH BY SELLING ILLEGAL DRUGS.

DURING HIS LIFE, MR. ESCOBAR USED HIS MONEY TO BUY MANY DIFFERENT HOUSES AND TO ENTERTAIN HIMSELF. PERHAPS HIS MOST FAMOUS PROPERTY WAS A PLACE CALLED HACIENDA NÁPOLES, A HUGE RANCH COVERING AROUND 7.7 SQUARE MILES. A ZOO ON HIS RANCH WAS FILLED WITH ANIMALS FROM AROUND THE WORLD, INCLUDING UNUSUAL BIRDS, LIONS, TIGERS, ELEPHANTS, GIRAFFES, AND HIPPOS.

WHEN ESCOBAR DIED IN 1993, THE ANIMALS WERE SENT TO OTHER ZOOS – EXCEPT THE HIPPOS. THE HIPPOS WERE TOO DIFFICULT TO CATCH AND MOVE, SO THEY WERE SIMPLY LEFT THERE.

OVER TIME, THE HIPPOS ESCAPED, ROAMED THE COUNTRYSIDE, AND CREATED MORE HIPPOS. BY 2007, MR. ESCOBAR’S FOUR HIPPOS HAD TURNED INTO 16.

SCIENTISTS FROM COLOMBIA AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO SPENT THE LAST TWO YEARS STUDYING THE GROWTH AND IMPACT OF MR. ESCOBAR’S HIPPOS. THEY SAY THERE COULD NOW BE OVER 80 HIPPOS. THE ANIMALS HAVE BEEN SEEN AS FAR AS 93 MILES (150 KILOMETERS) AWAY FROM HACIENDA NÁPOLES.

IN COLOMBIA, THE HIPPOS ARE INVASIVE. THAT MEANS THEY DON’T BELONG AND ARE PUSHING OUT OTHER KINDS OF ANIMALS THAT DO BELONG. HIPPOS CAME FROM AFRICA, AND DON’T NATURALLY LIVE IN SOUTH AMERICA.

BUT CONDITIONS IN COLOMBIA ARE GREAT FOR HIPPOS. THERE’S PLENTY OF FOOD, AND THE ANIMALS LIKE THE RIVERS AND LAKES. IN AFRICA, THE NUMBER OF HIPPOS IS LIMITED BY THE LIONS THAT HUNT THEM. AT TIMES, THE LACK OF RAIN ALSO KEEPS THE NUMBERS LOW. IN COLOMBIA, HIPPOS DON’T HAVE EITHER OF THOSE PROBLEMS. THAT’S WHY THEIR NUMBERS ARE GROWING SO MUCH MORE QUICKLY THAN THEY NORMALLY DO IN AFRICA.

THE QUESTION IS WHAT TO DO WITH THE HIPPOS. MANY COLOMBIANS LIKE THE ANIMALS, SINCE THEY BRING TOURISTS. AND HIPPOS ARE GENERALLY TOO DANGEROUS AND TOO HEAVY TO MOVE. BUT UNLESS SOMETHING IS DONE SOON, THE PROBLEMS WILL GET EVEN WORSE. THE SCIENTISTS SAY IN 10 TO 20 YEARS, COLOMBIA COULD HAVE HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS OF INVASIVE HIPPOS.