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Handful of teams chase playoff

WEEK 17 PICKS
SCENARIOS: SEVEN TEAMS FOR TWO SPOTS



CAPTION AP photos

world | Comments 220 | Recommend 9

Threats shutter embassies in Yemen

Obama official: Despite the threats, the U.S. does not plan to open a new front in the war on terror in Yemen.

OBAMA: All in Christmas plot 'will be held to account'



bowls | Comments 46 | Recommend 10

Focused Texas Tech wins Alamo Bowl

Dismissed coach Mike Leach would've loved this game, but Texas Tech celebrated the win without him.

BOWL SCHEDULE: All the matchups and results



news | Comments 181

Warren: Donations keep church afloat

Megachurch pastor cites 'radical generosity' for the \$2.4 million he received since his plea for \$900,000.

MORE: Calif. pastor takes in \$2.4M after donations plea



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S&P 500	1,115.10	▼ -11.32

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Snowbama
President treats his daughters to shaved ice in Hawaii.



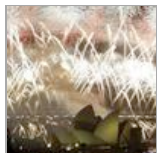
Afghanistan
Parliament rejects most of Karzai's nominees.



North Korea
Thousands attend pro-government rally.

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Photo galleries



New Year's Eve



Sports



Early Elvis

Communities



Campus Rivalry
Alabama, Texas seek inspiration for title game.



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TV blackouts confined to NFL's poor performers.



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French arsonists fail to break their New Year's record.

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SCIENCE

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Team finds remains of early 1900s plane in Antarctica

Remains of the first airplane ever taken to Antarctica, in 1912, have been found by Australian researchers, the team announced.



Mawson's Huts Foundation

A LOOK BACK

nation | Comments 92 | Recommend 5

AP poll: Americans down on '09, hopeful about year to come

SPORTS

nfl | Comments 24 | Recommend 16

NFL award season arrives with the New Year

By Jarrett Bell, USA TODAY

Playoff scramble or not, Award Season in the NFL has already kicked in.

WEEK 17 PICKS: Our analysts project winners, losers



The Bell Tolls
By Joe Robbins, Getty Images

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Highs, lows and oddities of 2009 on the small screen.

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wizards | Comments **85** | Recommend **7**

Arenas: It was 'bad judgment' to store guns in locker room

BACKGROUND: Arenas, teammate pull guns on each other

bowls | Comments **29** | Recommend **6**

Ole Miss takes control late to win Cotton Bowl

Dexter McCluster gave Mississippi fans a finale to remember, as the Rebels beat No. 21 Oklahoma State 21-7 in the Cotton Bowl on Saturday.

PHOTO GALLERY: The 2009-10 bowl season



By LM Otero, AP

ACROSS THE USA

nation | Comments **15** | Recommend **5**

Fla. police nab man in 4 Thanksgiving slayings

weightloss | Comments **30** | Recommend **12**

Winter workouts can boost your mood, but stay safe

These winter workout tips will help you keep your New Year's resolutions.

YOUR HEALTH: Tips to muffle asthma, mind your feet in cold



By Alex Brandon, AP

INTERNATIONAL

world | Comments **13** | Recommend **1**

Picasso, Rousseau artwork stolen in France

health | Comments **170** | Recommend **25**

Report: Alcohol-fueled culture strains U.K. health system

Study: The culture costs the publicly funded system \$4.4 billion a year, and that amount has doubled in the past five years.



2001 photo by John Giles, WPA via AP

news | Comments **75** | Recommend **12**

FAA keeps an eye on American Airlines after 3 mishaps

NCAA BASKETBALL

bigeast | Comments **19** | Recommend **13**

Annual nemesis Pitt spoils Syracuse's unbeaten start

mensbasketball | Comments **14** | Recommend **9**

No. 3 Kentucky reins in rival Louisville, improves to 15-0

DeMarcus Cousins scored 18 points and matched a season-high with 18 rebounds to lead No. 3 Kentucky past rival Louisville 71-62 on Saturday.

GAME REPORT: Wildcats 71, Cardinals 62



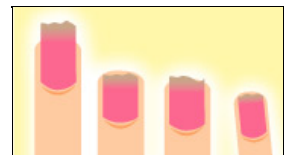
By Ed Reinke, AP

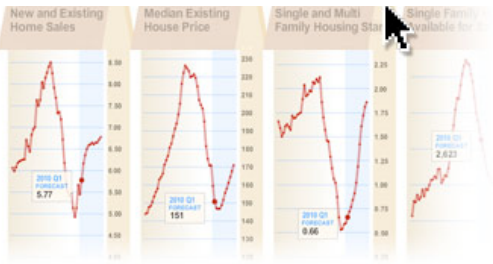
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