



HEAT
SCORCH PACERS
Miami rolls past Indiana 115-83, takes 3-2 series lead. » 1C

BREVARD HOME SALES, PRICES INCREASE » 1B

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Case over, pain endures

Parents accept \$200K settlement in death of teenage daughter.

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Auto plants in high gear

Automakers straining to meet demand.

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WEATHER

Partly sunny, chance of rain
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SpaceX's Falcon 9 successfully sent the Dragon into orbit on Tuesday.
CRAIG RUBADOUX/
FLORIDA TODAY



DRAGON CONQUERS FIRST CHALLENGE

Now, SpaceX capsule must earn its chance to berth with space station

By James Dean
FLORIDA TODAY

CAPE CANAVERAL — An American spacecraft is closing in on the International Space Station for the first time since the shuttle's final visit last July.

This time, it's a privately owned cargo capsule that advocates believe will usher in a new, lower-cost

era of commercial spaceflight.

SpaceX's Dragon capsule is expected to fly close under the station Thursday, undergoing a series of tests before earning the opportunity to make history Friday morning by becoming the first commercial craft to berth at the outpost.

Even with those challenges still ahead, NASA

and SpaceX officials were jubilant Tuesday after SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket successfully launched from Cape Canaveral, placing the unmanned Dragon in orbit. The spacecraft then promptly passed a critical first milestone, deploying power-generating solar arrays.

Employees at SpaceX's

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Cocoa High marine science and integrated science teacher Lynn Wade helps student Anastasia Maryanova study for a final exam. MALCOLM DENEMARK/FLORIDA TODAY



Stricter graduation rules fall to tight times

Board scraps science-social studies plan

By Mackenzie Ryan
FLORIDA TODAY

It was an ambitious objective, to require high school students to take four years of science and social studies classes to graduate from Brevard Public Schools — an extra year of each subject than is required by the state.

But amid funding shortfalls, it never came to fru-

ition. The Brevard School Board temporarily waived its harder graduation requirement for students graduating in 2011, the first year it was to take effect, and again the following year, for this year's graduating class.

On Tuesday, school board members voted to permanently remove the

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SIBLING PREFERENCE PROPOSAL TO BE HEARD

Brevard School Board members announced Tuesday that they'll start discussing in August on the controversial issue of whether to eliminate sibling preference at the district's choice schools. Elected officials expect to hear a staff report on the issue at their Aug. 28 board meeting, discuss it as an informational item on Sept. 11 and vote on whether to change it on Oct. 9.

Millions of injuries, deaths preventable

State-by-state report lists 10 life-saving laws, health policies

By Janice Lloyd
USA Today

Millions of injuries could be prevented every year if states adopted and enforced a set of laws and health policies with proven track records for saving lives, according to a first-of-a-kind, state-by-state report.

Injuries are the leading cause of death for Americans between the ages of 1 and 44, and the third leading cause of death overall. About 50 million Americans get medical treatment for injuries every year. Yet 24 states have enacted only half of 10 injury-prevention measures examined in the study, by the Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. No state has approved all 10 measures, which range from seat belt laws to sports concussion safety laws, but California and New York scored the highest, with nine each. Montana and Ohio scored lowest, with two each.

"We have a long way to go to get uniform coverage to protect more people across the country," says co-author Andrea Gielen, director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research

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