

# BIG SPRING HERALD

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2018



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## Howard County fires destroy homes, disrupt power for area residents

By **ROGER CLINE**  
 Staff Writer

Fires in Big Spring and Howard County destroyed several homes and knocked out electricity distribution for thousands of residents and area businesses for hours Monday afternoon and night.

A fire south of Big Spring on Ratliff Road was the first to break out, said Howard County Volunteer Fire Department Acting Chief Mitchell Hooper.

"It was at 12:45 (p.m.)," said Hooper. "We just had one out in the county. It started out on Ratliff Road. It started from there, and then it jumped to Callahan, and then it jumped to Butler Road."

Hooper said the fire destroyed a few homes and burned an estimated 180 acres.

See **FIRES**, Page 3



*HERALD photo/Marissa Loftin*  
 The photo above shows the fire out on Ratliff Road, which was the first of the few Monday fires that occurred.



*Courtesy photo by Denise Smith*  
 Shown above are flames from the fire that broke out on West FM 700 and West Fourth St.

## Boom or Bust Book Club



*Courtesy Photo*

Shown above is Prof. Rebecca Day Babcock as she gives a presentation about "Boom or Bust: A Collection and Study of Energy Narratives" to the Big Spring Rotary Club on May 19, 2017.

By **AMBER MANSFIELD**  
 Staff Writer

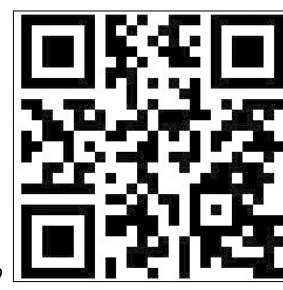
Ready to curl up with a good book? Well come join 'Boom or Bust' as they host their first May project, or book club, all joining to discuss Patrick deWitt's novel, The Sisters Brothers, this evening at 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at The Train Car located at 100 S Main.

The group meets outdoors at the Train Car, if the weather is permitting, or inside the smoke-free caboose if it's too windy or rainy. Refreshments will be provided. The Boom or Bust will be discussing The Sisters Brother, which is a book with filled dark comedy, assassins, prospectors, chemicals, and underground toxins, and is written by Patrick deWitt.

"We try and discuss books relating to petroleum, energy resources, wind, solar, nuclear, or means of natural substance," said UTPB Professor

See **BOOM**, Page 3

Find us online at:  
[www.bigspringherald.com](http://www.bigspringherald.com)



## Fun in the Sun



*Courtesy Photo*

The photos above show the Residents at Parkview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center planting flowers with the kids of Nazarene Christian Academy on Earth Day.

By **AMBER MANSFIELD**  
 Staff Writer

Believe it or not, every year skilled nursing care centers across the U.S. anticipate the week-long celebration of National Skilled Nursing Care Week. This year, the National Skilled Nursing Care Week will be held May 13-19, 2018, and is something many nursing homes recognize and host events to celebrate this week. One local skilled care home is doing just that and wants to honor all of the Skilled Nurses who dedicate their lives by helping others.

Parkview Skilled Care and Rehab is inviting the public to come and join them to help celebrate this week with a day of fun in sun on Friday, May 18 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Parkview Skilled Care and Rehab, located at 3200 Parkway Rd.

See **FUN**, Page 3

## Hawk Rodeo attends KECC's Annual Western Day



*Courtesy photo*

Kentwood Early Childhood Center Pre-K student, Aoife Parr, learns how to use a lasso with the help of the Howard College Rodeo athletes at the school's annual Western Day.

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## Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **SAMMY HERNANDEZ LIMON**, 35, of 3900 Parkway Rd. was arrested on charges of public intoxication and resisting arrest, search or transport.
- **RAFAEL VASQUEZ ORTIZ JR.**, 54, of 2202 Williams Rd. was arrested on charges of driving with a suspended or invalid license and knowingly displaying altered or illegible registration

insignia.

- **LITTLE JOHN WINFIELD**, 55, of 1408 S. Runnels was arrested on a warrant for evading arrest or detention.
- **JEREMY JAMES BALIOS**, 36, of 501 Circle was arrested on a warrant for harrasment.
- **WILLIAM COIT WRIGHT**, 41, of 912 S. Scurry T. Apt. #12 was arrested on a warrant for assault causing bodily injury.
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 3900 block of Parkway

Road.

- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 3600 block of West Highway 80.
- **MINOR ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of West 16th Street and FM 700, and at the intersection of Third and Jones streets.
- **TELEPHONE HARASSMENT** was reported in the 800 block of Atlantic Avenue in Coahoma.

## Sheriff

The Howard County Sheriff's Department reported the following activity:

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 72 inmates at the time of this report.

- **JEREMY JAMES BALIOS**, 36, was booked by HCSO on a warrant for harrasment.
- **JOEL BRENT HOWARD**, 56, was booked by DPS on a charge

of driving while intoxicated.

- **DEVYN ELYSE JACKMAN**, 28, was booked by HCSO on a warrant for failure to appear/use or possession of identifying information
- **SAMMY HERNANDEZ LIMON**, 35, was booked by BSPD on charges of public intoxication and resisting arrest, search or transport.
- **RAFAEL VASQUEZ ORTIZ**

**JR.**, 54, was booked by BSPD on charges of driving with a suspended or invalid license and knowingly displaying altered or illegible registration insignia.

- **LITTLE JOHN PHILLIP WINFIELD**, 55, was booked by HCSO on a warrant for evading arrest or detention.
- **WILLIAM WRIGHT**, 41, was booked by HCSO on a warrant for assault causing bodily injury.

## Fire/EMS

Big Spring Fire Department/EMS reported the following activity:

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1400 block of Johnson. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported at the intersection of West Interstate 20 and FM 818 service road. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **PUBLIC SERVICE CALL** was reported in the 2100 block of Alabama. One person was treat-

ed at the scene.

- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of Highway 669 and County Road 34. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 1700 block of Lancaster. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **TRAFFIC ACCIDENT** was reported at the intersection of Highway 1584 and FM 846. Two people were treated at the scene.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was re-

ported in the 300 block of Veterans Boulevard. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 2500 block of Fairchild. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 300 block of Veterans Boulevard.
- **MEDICAL CALL** was reported in the 500 block of Westover. One person was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

## Take Note

• Big Spring and surrounding counties are in need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 432-263-9669.

• The mission of CASA of West Texas is to promote and support quality volunteers who speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court in an effort to find each child a safe, nurturing and permanent home. We need your help. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Sara Balsdua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit [www.BecomeaCASA.org](http://www.BecomeaCASA.org) or [www.casawtx.org](http://www.casawtx.org).

• The Crossroads Young Marines is taking applications for another boot camp. For more information, call 432-517-4791. Young Marines welcomes boys and girls ages 8 to 18 who are still attending school.

• The Homeownership Preservation Foundation (HPF) is an independent national nonprofit dedicated to helping distressed homeowners navigate financial challenges and avoid mortgage foreclosure. If you want to stop mortgage foreclosure and are need of help, the time to call 888-995-HOPE is now. HPF can provide counseling free of charge, in English and 170 other languages, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. For free foreclosure help, call the hotline.

• Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas, handles legal issues affecting Veterans, Retirees, and their family members. They will have clinics that provides volunteer attorneys that will provide free legal advice (up to 25 minutes depending on the issue). A pro bono attorney may be assigned to handle some cases that include: bankruptcy, consumer issues/contract, child supper and custody, divorce, employment, foreclosure, housing, landlord/tenant, probate and guardianship, real estate, social security/SSI, Veterans benefits/issues, wills and estate planning. The Clinic dates are on May 24, Aug. 23, Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Northside Community Center on 110 N.E 8th St. Applicants must be financially eligible to obtain services. Please bring a copy of your DD215 and/or Veterans ID card. Appointments are required. For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Pete Fierro at 432-332-1207, ext. 4511.

• The Howard County Democrats meet the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 5:30 p.m. in the Howard College Library.

• The Emergency Services Chaplains Corps is seeking volunteer chaplains. The corps provides spiritual services to Howard County residents and visitors in crisis situations. Prospective chaplains don't require any specific experience or education to qualify for the position, just a calling from God and a willingness to devote time to the program, which requires a 24- to 30-week training program and dedication of one day per week for emergency call-outs. Those interested should contact Senior Chaplain Joel Miller at 432-213-1221.

• Big Spring's Centennial Lions Club is holding a drive to collect books for the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club. Books for kids in kindergarten through about 10th grade will be accepted, with special preference for books for younger children in kindergarten through third grade. Cash donations to allow the Lions to purchase additional books are also appreciated. Books or donations can be taken to the Salvation Army, 811 W. Fifth St., or to the home of Lions member Ken Lawhon at 1707 E. 15th St. For more information, contact Lawhon at 214-998-9716 or Lions member David Stives at 432-270-2251.

• Food 2 Kids Big Spring needs you! It is time to start sacking food for Big Spring elementary students who do not receive adequate food over the weekends. Members of the community can be a part by volunteering to sack the food. It just takes a couple hours of your time and the work is very rewarding. To volunteer, just show up at the time and dates listed. For more information, call, 432-935-3998.

If you want additional information about getting your child on this program please contact your child's school.

• Each week Kindred offers free health checks from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Corner House Coffee Shop, 1701 Scurry St.

• Seniors and mature adults are invited to a dance on the first, third and fifth Friday of each month at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

Dances are from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. with live bands. No alcohol or smoking permitted. There will be a pot luck as well so bring a dish if you want to eat.

Cost has dropped to \$5 per person thanks to a sponsor Marcy House, 2301 Wasson Road.

• Howard County Republicans meet the second Monday of each month. Club members meet in the Cactus Room at Howard College at 11:30 a.m. for Dutch treat lunch and meeting at 12 p.m.

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## Obituaries

### Arcenio Chavez Jr.



Arcenio Chavez Jr., 69, died on April 30, 2018, at the V.A Hospital in Temple, Texas. A memorial will be held Thursday, May 10, 2018, at 10 a.m. at Saint Anthony's Catholic Church in Kyle, Texas. Interment to follow at Sam Houston Military Cemetery in San Antonio at a later date.

He was born Jan. 7, 1948, to Arcenio and Elvira Chavez.

Arcenio served his country in the Vietnam War.

Vietnam War.

He is survived by his wife, Bertha; daughter, Tina Michelle of Buda, Texas; sister, Grace Martinez of Austin, Texas; three brothers, Antonio Chavez of Austin, Texas, Christobal Chavez of Kyle, Texas, and Orlando Chavez of Big Spring, Texas; and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents Arcenio and Elvira Chavez.

### Jewel Elizabeth Wood Dunlap

Jewel Elizabeth Wood Dunlap, 95, of Midland, formerly of Big Spring, died Sunday, May 6, 2018. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

### Delores Gomez

Delores Gomez, 92, died Monday, May 7, 2018, at her home. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

## Support Groups

### TUESDAY

• Big Spring and Snyder Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month.

This is a group for all Parkinson's disease patients, spouses and caregivers.

For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jo Bidwell at the Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-0942.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; newcomers meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

• A six-week course in Wellness and Quality of Life with Chronic Pain will be held at Spring Creek Fellowship at the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. There is no charge for the course, and a workbook will be provided. Contact Steve Purdy at 432-517-4840 for more information.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY

• RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy) a chronic pain disease, a support and informative group, meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.

### THURSDAY

• GriefShare is a Biblical support group that focuses on helping people who are dealing with a loved one's death. Each DVD session features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories, followed by small group discussion about the topics presented (with workbook support). Weekly Feb. 8 through May 10, 6 to 8 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring. Call Vivian Gordon at 432-466-3583 for more information.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Newcomers' meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

• Weight Watchers meets at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m. Weigh-in is confidential and you don't have to talk if you don't want to. Flexible payment options.

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**MEMBER 2018**

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

# BOOM

Continued from Page 1

Rebecca Babcock, who is a part of the Boom or Bust project. "This book goes right into the heart of natural resources with a good story to go along with it."

Babcock is part of a larger research study about the culture of energy production in the Permian Basin, along with Associate Professor Jason Lagapa, who guides the creative nonfiction writing workshops that take place every month.

Boom or Bust is a research study or project, that is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), who has awarded an \$83,799 Humanities Initiatives Grant to Boom or Bust. NEH is one of the largest funders of humanities programs in the United States, and promotes educating the public on the lessons of history by giving out funds and grants to those who share a common goal. Babcock and Lagapa serve as co-directors of the grant, and along with program coordinator Kristen Figgins, they try to do their part to help the public learn about the culture and history of energy production.

"We are here to educate the public through another means other than just the news or with what you hear through your job," said Babcock. "The book club serves as a fun way to educate the public on something that is very important to this region of Texas."

The Babcock, Lagapa and Figgins trio implement several initiatives. Along with book clubs, the Boom or Bust Project also includes writing workshops, which are used to gather and understand how the booms and busts of the energy sector affect, and have featured public lectures by different public speakers to help promote an understanding of the Permian Basin's energy and economic resources from a humanistic perspective.

"These initiatives, collectively titled 'Boom or Bust: A Collection and Study of Energy Narratives,' will pay particular attention to economic growth cycles and downturns and the toll such volatility has on local inhabitants," according to a written statement from Babcock. "The project will also explore the cultural importance of petroleum to this local region and to the nation as a whole. In addition, the project will highlight the many forms of energy production — including wind, solar and nuclear-powered sources — that already make Permian Basin's economic infrastructure diverse."

To learn more about The Boom or Bust Project go online to [www.utpb.edu/boomorbust](http://www.utpb.edu/boomorbust).

## OPD Honor Guard Attends 2018 Texas Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony



### Special to the Herald

The OPD Honor Guard attended the 2018 Texas Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony, which was held yesterday in Austin. During the service, Governor Abbott presented medals to the families of the fallen officers from Texas.

The OPD Honor Guard will soon head to Washington D.C. for National Police Week, which takes place Sunday, May 13th through Saturday, May 19th. This week is set aside to recognize the service and sacrifice of U.S. law enforcement that have been killed in the line of duty. The public is encouraged to replace their porch lights with blue bulbs during National Police Week.

On Friday, May 18, 2018, members of the Odessa Police Department, Ector County Sheriff's Office, Midland County Sheriff's Office, Texas Department of Public Safety, Lub-

bock Police Department and other local agencies will hold a memorial service to honor fellow officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty. The service begins at 10:00 a.m. at Sunset Memorial Gardens & Funeral Home, 6801 East Highway 80, Odessa, Texas. The Odessa Police Department will conduct a brief memorial service for all of the officers who lost their lives in the line of duty the past year in Texas.

Local officers who have given their lives will also be remembered during the memorial. These services will honor 8 local law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty: Ector County Sheriff Deputy Thad West, Corporal Gordon "G.T." Toal, Officer Scott Stanton Smith, Lubbock Officer Rodney Kendrick, Corporal Arlie "Lee" Jones, Corporal John Scott Gardner, Corporal Abel Marquez, and Midland County Sheriff Deputy Mike Naylor.

## FIRES

Continued from Page 1

"I believe the count was four or five homes," he said. "We had two people taken to the hospital for heat exhaustion. One was a firefighter and one was a civilian. I think they're both okay."

The Ratliff Road fire was contained by about 9 p.m., but fire crews stayed on the scene dousing hot spots until about 6 a.m. today.

"I took a 30-minute power nap and came back to work," Hooper said.

Hooper said that, while fighting the fire, some plastic trim on the department's fire trucks was melted by the flames.

"I kinda melted some places on the fire truck," he said. "I melted a few small places on it, just driving through the fire. Just some of the plastic pieces on the body. I think the other truck had about the same. Nothing major, just some small parts."

Hooper said the damage didn't impair the function of the fire engines.

Several other agencies helped out with the fire, he said.

"We had help from the Texas Forest Service, Snyder Volunteer Fire Department, Glasscock, Martin County, Mitchell County, Borden County, and

Northeast Midland," he said.

The fire in Big Spring, located between West FM 700 and West Fourth Street, didn't destroy any buildings or cause any injuries. It did knock out power in a sizable part of the city for several hours, however.

"About 3 o'clock is when we got the first call," said Big Spring Fire Department Chief Craig Ferguson. "Fortunately there were no homes or structures lost. There were no injuries reported. So those are the good things. The worst part of it was, obviously, electricity was off for several hours for up to 6,000 residents, because the fire burned several of the utility poles in that area that were carrying some major transmission lines for Oncor. So that's why the electricity was down. But those men and women from Oncor did an incredible job. They were out there all night long, and I think they got the majority of the electricity back on by about 2 a.m."

Ferguson said the terrain in the area made fighting the fire difficult.

"For us the worst part about it was the terrain in that area, because it's just a canyon through there," he said. "That makes it more difficult to fight, but luckily there were no structures and no homes lost in that area."

Ferguson said the Big Spring

Fire Department fought the fire from about 3 p.m. until about 6:45 a.m. today.

"We had the fire under control and pretty well contained by about 5 p.m.," he said. "But we were out there with hot spots, and with those utility poles, we were trying to accommodate Oncor. That's why we were out there all night."

Ferguson said the fire came close to a couple of buildings, including a power distribution substation and the Knollwood Heights apartment complex at the intersection of FM 700 and Martin Luther King Boulevard.

"It was right up to the property line," Ferguson said. "We stood our ground right there, and stopped it from entering the property there. It was right up to the property line. We were within 50 feet of structures there."

The local area isn't out of danger from fire yet, Ferguson said.

"The cause for this one is under investigation right now, but this could happen in any part of the city or county," he said. "The last few years, the Lord has blessed us with some good rainfall, at least average rainfall, which has grown up the fuels. Unfortunately, we've been very, very dry for six months now, with very little rain. It's really dried things out, and the humidity's low. We're getting these high

winds, and today it's going to be windy again. We could have a repeat today."

Ferguson warned area residents about fire safety.

"The thing we encourage people to do is just don't do any kind of outdoor burning," he said. "It's never legal to burn your trash

inside the city limits. If you have to do anything that has an open flame or a spark like welding or cutting torches or anything, just have a water hose or a bucket of water nearby so if it does get away from you, you can get to it quickly. Try to keep your property cleaned up as best you can. We ask for at least a 50-foot radius around your property to keep clean, which, we know most city residents don't have that kind of area. But keep things mowed down and cleaned up. That gives us a chance with a little bit of a firebreak in there. Those are some things that we ask."

Oncor Area Manager Kristy Tyra echoed much of what Ferguson said regarding the power outage caused by the fire.

Speaking at about 8:20 p.m. Monday, Tyra said several utility poles had burned down, causing the outage.

"We've had lots of poles burned down," she said. "The west substation has five feeders, and all five feeders are out. They're probably going to be out for 10 more hours. We're having to replace poles, crosslines, and wire. Right now, we have 4,500 customers out. The majority of them will be out of power until sometime in the morning. We expect to have everything back on within 10 hours."

The outage affected several businesses along Gregg Street as well as Wal-Mart.

"Wal-Mart, Highland, that was the last feeder that we lost," she said. "That was out of the west substation, and it's probably going to be down 10 hours."

According to a Wal-Mart spokesperson, power has been restored to the store.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at [reporter@big-springherald.com](mailto:reporter@big-springherald.com).

## FUN

Continued from Page 1

"We are so excited to celebrate another awesome year here at Parkview Skilled Care and Rehab," said Laurie Martinez, the Activity Director of Parkview. "We are going to have a bunch of different, and fun on goings for the public to enjoy while helping us celebrate National Skilled Nursing Care Week."

During the Fun in Sun day at Parkview, there will be food and drinks served, face painting, PJ the DJ will be bringing in the beats, they even will have train rides, and make sure to bring clothes you won't be afraid to get wet, because the Fun in the Sun will also feature an inflatable water slide.

KBST will also be present during the celebration of National Skilled Nursing Care Week at Parkview, so be sure to tune in that day if you can't make it.

"Bring your family, kids and grand kids! We welcome everyone who wants to come," said Martinez.

"I love working for Parkview, and one of the things I love most is that Parkview is locally owned, and our owner is always looking for a way to include the community and families."

Martinez and other Parkview staff members have always geared towards meeting the interests of Howard County residents, and one way they do that is by planning different activities for the residents to do together with others. Anything from doing a paint and canvas, making candy, or acts of service such as giving to the blessing boxes and donating their time to help others, or planting plants on earth day with the youth. This is why we have a week like National Skilled Nursing Care Week, so the community and the residents' family members and the residents themselves can show their appreciation for all that the skilled care nurses do.

For more information or questions regarding National Skilled Nursing Care Week Fun in the Sun, please call Parkview Nursing and Rehab at (432) 263-4041.

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Jewel Elizabeth Wood Dunlap, 95, died Sunday. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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# Students get astronaut training at Space Center University

By ALEX STUCKEY

Houston Chronicle

HOUSTON — Zena Cardman shimmied into a white spacesuit beside the 6.2 million-gallon pool, NASA personnel by her side ensuring everything was sealed up tight.

The Houston Chronicle reports it was barely 8:30 a.m., but the bright-eyed Cardman was prepping to spend up to eight hours in the pool, known as the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory, as part of her training to be an astronaut.

At least 20 feet above her in the visitor's gallery, a group of high school students — usually quick to moan at such an early hour — were just as bright-eyed as they watched the newbie astronaut suit up.

They had a perfect view of what is much more difficult to see at ground level: Within the 40-foot-deep pool sat a mock-up of the International Space Station, providing astronauts a training ground for spacewalks because of the environment's likeness to zero gravity.

One especially giddy boy watched in wonder as the process unfolded.

"I'm applying," he said.

It's exactly the reaction officials hoped for from students at Space Center University, a five-day program at Space Center Houston that was recently expanded to include middle school as well high school students.

Similar to Space Camp in Alabama, students are exposed to the rigors of astronaut training, as well as science, technology, engineering and math fields that could land them a job at NASA one day. They conduct experiments, go behind the scenes at the Johnson Space Center and even get a chance to scuba dive.

The program, started in 2000, brings students from around the world to Houston each year. With the expansion to middle school students, participation in the program has almost doubled to 2,000 so far this year.

"It's exciting to see the growth of the program," said Kaci Heins, the education manager at Space Center Houston's museum. "We're trying to inspire the next generation of explorers early on by showing them this is exactly what they do across the street."

Space Center Houston, typically teaming with visitors speaking countless different languages, was a ghost town when the group of 36 high school students from Great Britain and France recently strolled up to its front doors.

It was the group's fourth of five days participating in the program, and so far they'd built mini-Mars habitats, a launchable rocket and a cryo-capsule to protect egg-stronauts — astronauts made of eggs

— from minus-321 degrees, a similar temperature to what astronauts would experience on Mars.

It was only 7:30 a.m., but there was not a yawn in sight as the students prepared for arguably the most exciting of the five-day program. This day, they were getting a crash course in scuba diving, a key component for participants between 15 and 18.

The diving experience is the best way to show them what it's like to be an astronaut — which is the goal of the whole program, said Dave Brown, program coordinator.

Initially, the five-day program was limited to students ages 15-18 and available 50 weeks of the year, though officials usually fill only 26-28 weeks. The programs for 11- to 14-year-olds were added this year with activities tailored to a younger audience.

Along with building rockets, habitats and scuba diving, students also meet an astronaut and tour NASA's Houston facilities, such as Mission Control and the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory.

Emily Rowe, an 18-year-old from Great Britain who participated in the early April group, found the STEM activities most beneficial. She dreams of being a mechanical engineer after college, and the program "is just another STEM building block on the path toward my goal," she said.

Depending on the number of students enrolled each week and whether hotel, transportation and food is included, the cost of the program ranges from about \$616 to \$1,046. Students can apply in groups or as individuals on the museum's website. Some scholarships are available.

"We're trying to inspire them ever earlier on, so they can learn what courses to take in high school and show them the pathway so then they're on their way," Heins said.

Even in early April, the air in the Williams Pool building was thick with humidity and chlorine.

The aluminum walls were rusting, the paint was



AP photo

In a Thursday, April 12, 2018 photo, students with the Sussex Air Cadets, in England, and Les Maristes Toulouse, in France, train to scuba dive during a session of Space Center University in Houston.

peeling, and the bleachers were old and crumbling. The pool had clearly seen decades of use.

But it doesn't have to be pretty to help scuba-certify the men and women headed to space. NASA has been using William's Indoor Pool, about a 20-minute drive from the Johnson Space Center, as a training ground for astronauts since 2008. Each astronaut must be a certified scuba diver so they can practice spacewalks in the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory.

Space agency officials are able to make the area resemble zero gravity through a combination of flotation devices and weights, making the astronauts appear to "hover" under water. The name — Neutral Buoyancy Lab — refers to a state in which an object is just as lightly to sink as it is float, according to NASA.

## Takata recall holdouts in key locations

The U.S. Department of Transportation is urging vehicle owners in several states with defective Takata air bags to seek repairs immediately. The agency singled out Ford Rangers and Mazda B-Series trucks from 2006, which are under a "do not drive" warning. Here are the key locations of the agency's focus:

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San Diego  
San Francisco  
Washington D.C.  
West Palm Beach-Boca Raton, Florida  
Wilmington, Delaware

## 3-year-old taken in San Antonio-area carjacking found safe

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Authorities say a 3-year-old girl who was inside her family's vehicle when it was stolen near San Antonio has been found safe.

Bexar County sheriff's officials say the child's mother was unloading groceries in the driveway of their home when the car was stolen around 3 a.m. Monday. The girl was in a car seat in the vehicle at the time.

Authorities say the girl was found about 20 minutes later in front of a house about 4 miles (6.4 kilometers) away. She'd been removed from the car seat and was crying when the homeowner found her.

Emergency medical workers determined the child wasn't physically injured, and she was returned to her parents.

Authorities are still looking for the stolen vehicle and the suspect.

## Stalled US oil market recovery leaves many jobless in Texas

HOUSTON (AP) — Skilled workers in Texas are still looking for jobs as U.S. employment in the oil and gas industry continues to lag behind rising oil prices.

The Houston Chronicle reports that job seekers hoping for an oil market recovery will likely have to wait before companies increase hiring. The U.S. Labor Department says the country's oil and gas extraction industry has recovered fewer than 6,000 of the nearly 60,000

jobs lost in the 2014 oil bust.

The agency says oil extraction companies shed another 2,000 jobs in Houston in March compared to a year earlier.

Ramesh Anand is the president of American Personnel Resources in Houston. Anand says there's a perception of recovery, though no recovery currently exists. He says he sees experienced candidates still job searching after two years.

## Texas company recalls nearly 25 tons of smoked sausage items

YOAKUM, Texas (AP) — A Texas company has recalled nearly 25 tons (23 metric tons) of smoked sausage products due to possible plastic contamination.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture released a statement Friday saying the recall by Eddy Packing Co. involves products with packing dates of April 5 and April 6. The products were shipped to food service and retail locations in California, Georgia, Illinois, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

The problem was discovered when Eddy Packing received complaints from a restaurant about white, hard plastic found in some sausage during slicing. No injuries or illnesses have been re-

ported.

The recalled products have "EST. 4800" inside the USDA mark. They should be discarded or returned.

The recall includes Eddy Fully Cooked Premium Smoked Sausage, Dickey's Barbeque Pit Original Smoked Fresh Polish Sausage Made With Pork and Beef, Lowe's Original Recipe Naturally Hardwood Smoked Sausage Made With Pork and Beef, Eddy Smoked Sausage Made With Pork and Beef, Carl's Pork and Beef Smoked Sausage, Eddy Southern Style Pork and Beef Smoked Sausage and Dickey Cheese/Jalapeno Pork and Beef Sausage Ring.



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# Waffle House hero raises more than \$225,000 for victims

By SHEILA BURKE

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A man being hailed as a hero for wresting an assault-style rifle away from a gunman at a Tennessee Waffle House has raised more than a quarter of a million dollars for the victims.

James Shaw Jr., 29, was dining with a friend at the Nashville restaurant when a gunman wearing only a jacket opened fire outside with an AR-15 rifle and then stormed the Waffle House, police said. Four people were killed and four others injured, including Shaw, in the April 22 attack.

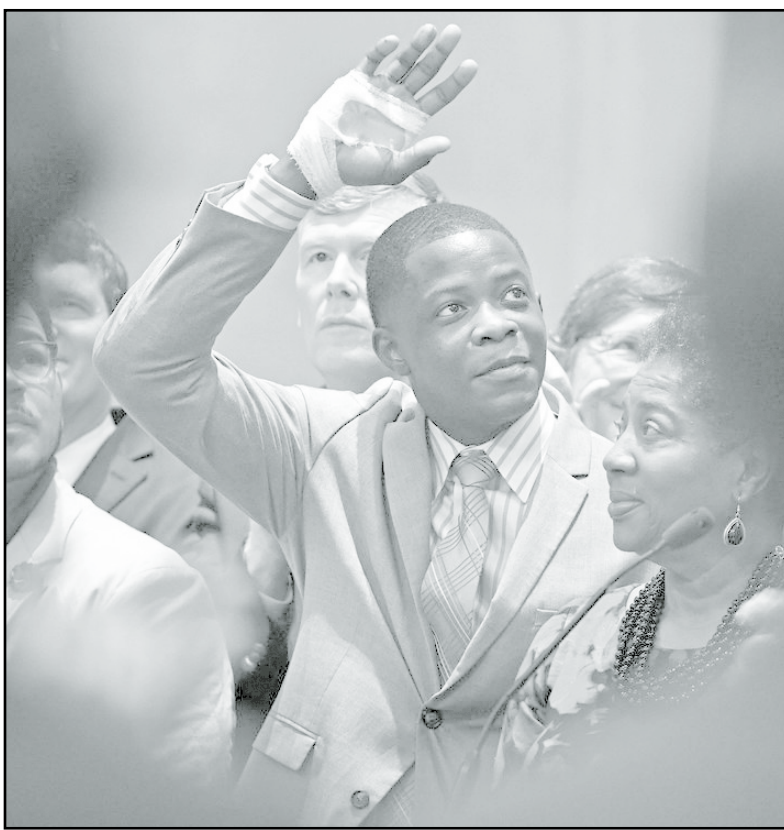
Shaw, on Monday, said he was overwhelmed by the response from people.

Shaw set a funding campaign goal of \$15,000 to offer modest financial support to the victims. As of Monday, he said, the campaign had received more than 6,000 donations totaling \$227,000.

"To the thousands of people who have expressed their care, prayers and made financial donations, I can only respond by saying 'Thank you,'" Shaw said in his statement. "Your gifts to the people who lost their lives and suffered injuries mean so much for all who were impacted by this terrible tragedy."

The account will be closed May 13. After that, Shaw said, the Nashville office of financial services firm UBS will distribute the money to the victims and their families.

Meanwhile, the accused gunman will undergo an outpatient mental health evaluation. Travis Reinking, 29, is facing multiple charges, including



AP photo

In this Tuesday, April 24, 2018, file photo, James Shaw Jr. waves to the crowd and legislators inside the Tennessee House chambers at the Tennessee State House in Nashville, Tenn., as he is honored for disarming a shooter inside an area Waffle House.

four counts of criminal homicide and four counts of attempted criminal homicide.

He fled the scene of the Waffle House after Shaw wrested the AR-15 away from him and threw it over a counter, police said. Reinking was captured the next day following a massive manhunt that lasted more than 24 hours.

Reinking's public defender Monday asked that the suspect be given an outpatient mental health evaluation before proceeding with the court case. Davidson County General Sessions Judge Michael Mondelli granted the request and said lawyers should come back in three weeks for a status hearing.

Reinking was not in court. He is being held in the Metro Nashville Jail without bond.

The public defender did not speak to reporters afterward and has not returned an email from The Associated Press. A spokesman for prosecutors said a judge has issued a gag order in the case.

Reinking was a onetime crane operator who bounced between states and suffered from delusions, sometimes talking about plans to marry singer Taylor Swift, friends and relatives told authorities.

He was detained by the Secret Service in July after he ventured in to a forbidden area on the White House grounds and demanded to meet President Donald Trump.

## From prison to politics: Chelsea Manning runs for US Senate



AP photo

In this April 24, 2018 photo, Chelsea Manning poses for a photograph in her apartment in North Bethesda, Md. It's one of the most unconventional U.S. Senate bids in recent memory: Manning, America's most famous convicted leaker, is seeking to win Maryland's Democratic primary.

By DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

NORTH BETHESDA, Md. — Chelsea Manning is no longer living as a transgender woman in a male military prison, serving the lengthiest sentence ever for revealing U.S. government secrets. She's free to grow out her hair, travel the world, and spend time with whomever she likes.

But a year since former President Barack Obama commuted Manning's 35-year sentence, America's most famous convicted leaker isn't taking an extended vacation. Far from it: The Oklahoma native has decided to make an unlikely bid for the U.S. Senate in her adopted state of Maryland.

Manning, 30, filed to run in January and has been registered to vote in Maryland since Au-

gust. She lives in North Bethesda, not far from where she stayed with an aunt while awaiting trial. Her aim is to unseat Sen. Ben Cardin, a 74-year-old Maryland Democrat who is seeking his third Senate term and previously served 10 terms in the U.S. House.

Manning, who also has become an internationally recognized transgender activist, said she's motivated by a desire to fight what she sees as a shadowy surveillance state and a rising tide of nightmarish repression.

"The rise of authoritarianism is encroaching in every aspect of life, whether it's government or corporate or technological," Manning told The Associated Press during an interview at her home in an upscale apartment tower. On the walls of her barely

furnished living room hang Obama's commutation order, and photos of U.S. anarchist Emma Goldman and British playwright Oscar Wilde.

Manning's longshot campaign for the June 26 primary would appear to be one of the more unorthodox U.S. Senate bids in recent

See SENATE, Page 6

## Sessions says border crossers will face prosecution



AP photo

Attorney General Jeff Sessions speaks at the Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies event Monday, May 7, 2018, in Scottsdale, Ariz. Sessions says the Department of Homeland Security has agreed to refer anyone who enters the United States illegally on the Mexican border to his office for prosecution.

SAN DIEGO — U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions said Monday that the Department of Homeland Security had agreed to refer anyone who enters the United States illegally on the Mexican border to his office for prosecution.

"And the Department of Justice will take up as many of those cases as humanly possible until we get to 100

percent," Sessions said in remarks prepared for a speech at a law enforcement conference in Arizona.

Sessions said he has sent 35 prosecutors to the region to work on these cases, which will include people who allegedly smuggle children across the border or who lie to immigration

See BORDER, Page 6

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## SENATE

Continued from Page 5

memory, and the candidate is operating well outside the party's playbook. She says she doesn't, in fact, even consider herself a Democrat, but is motivated by a desire to shake up establishment Democrats who are "caving in" to President Donald Trump's administration. She vows she won't run as an independent if her primary bid fails.

She's certainly got an eye-catching platform: Close prisons and free inmates; eliminate national borders; restructure the criminal justice system; provide universal health care and basic income. The top of her agenda? Abolish the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, a federal agency created in 2003 that Manning asserts is preparing for an "ethnic cleansing."

Manning ticks off life experiences she believes would make her an effective senator: a stint being homeless in Chicago, her wartime experiences as a U.S. Army intelligence analyst in Iraq — even her seven years in prison. She asserts she's got a "bigger vision" than establishment politicians.

But political analysts suspect the convicted felon is not running to win.

"Manning is running as a protest candidate, which has a long lineage in American history, to shine light on American empire," said Daniel Schlozman, a political science professor at Johns Hopkins University. "That's a very different goal, with a very different campaign, than if she wanted to beat Ben Cardin."

Manning's insurgent candidacy thus far has been a decidedly stripped-down affair, with few appearances and a campaign website that just went up. In recent days, she approached an anti-fracking rally in Baltimore almost furtively, keeping to herself for much of the demonstration. But when it was her turn to address the small group, her celebrity status was evident. People who never met her called her by her first name and eagerly took photos.

Manning has acknowledged leaking more than 700,000 military and State Department documents to anti-secrecy site WikiLeaks in 2010. She said her motivation was a desire to spark debate about U.S. foreign policy, and she has been portrayed as both a hero and a traitor.

Known as Bradley Manning at the time of her arrest, she came out as transgender after her 2013 court-martial. She was barred from growing her hair long in prison, and was approved for hormone therapy only after litigation. She spent long stints in solitary confinement, and twice tried to kill herself.

The Pentagon, which has repeatedly declined to discuss Manning's treatment in military prison, is also staying mum about her political ambitions. Democratic Party officials say they have no comment, citing a policy not to weigh in on primaries. Republican operatives are quiet.

In Maryland, a blue state that's home to tens of thousands of federal employees and defense contractors, it appears Manning's main supporters are independents or anti-politics, making them unlikely to coalesce politically. She recently reported contributions of \$72,000 on this year's first quarterly finance statement, compared with Cardin's \$336,000.

The candidate has barely made an effort at tapping sources of grassroots enthusiasm outside of activism circles. And it's easy to find Democrats who feel her candidacy is just a vehicle to boost her profile.

"It feels to me almost like it's part of a book tour — that this is her moment after being released from prison," said Dana Beyer, a transgender woman who leads the Gender Rights Maryland nonprofit and is a Democratic candidate for state senate. "I don't think this is a serious effort."

Manning is indeed working on a book about her dramatic life. For now, she says she supports herself with income from speaking engagements. She's spoken at various U.S. colleges and is due to take the stage at a Montreal conference later this month.

Last week, she appeared at a tech conference in Germany's capital of Berlin, arriving to cheers from the audience of several thousand people. She told attendees she's still struggling to adjust to life after prison and hasn't gotten used to her celebrity status yet.

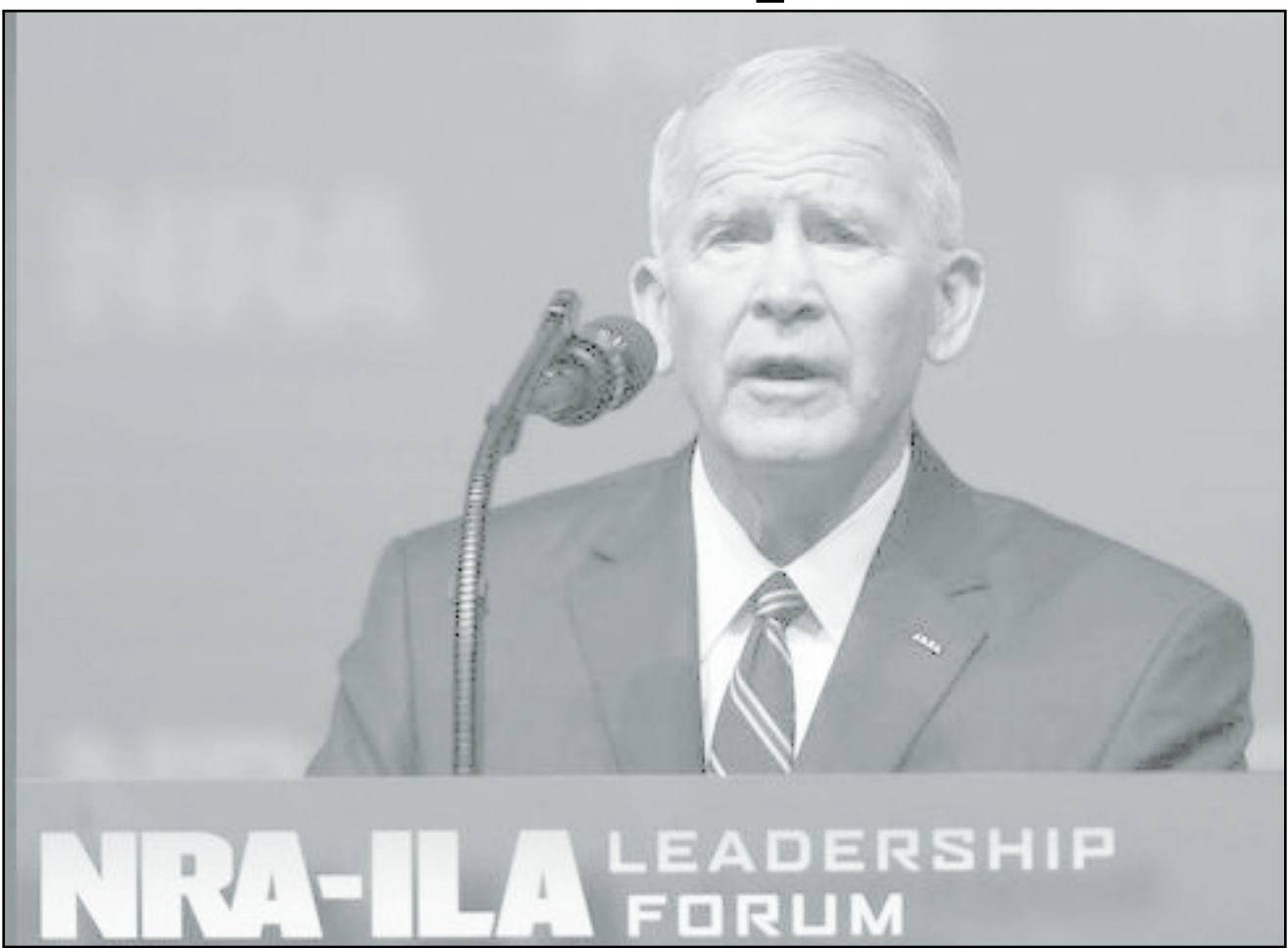
"There's been a kind of cult of personality that is really intimidating and that is overwhelming for me," she said in Berlin.

At her Maryland apartment, Manning told the AP she occasionally wakes up panicked that she's back in the cage in Kuwait where she was first jailed, or incarcerated at the Marine base at Quantico, Virginia, where a U.N. official concluded she'd been subjected to "cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment." She works hard to overcome anxiety, centering herself with yoga, breathing exercises, and reading.

"I've been out for almost a year now and it's becoming increasingly clear to me just how deep the wounds are," she said in her Spartan living room.

Asked how she would define success, Manning responded with passionate intensity: "Success for me is survival."

# Oliver North set to become the next NRA president



**In this May 4, 2018 photo, former U.S. Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North speaks before giving the Invocation at the National Rifle Association-Institute for Legislative Action Leadership Forum in Dallas. The NRA announced today that North will become President of the National Rifle Association of America within a few weeks, a process the NRA Board of Directors initiated this morning.**

By LISA MARIE PANE

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Retired Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North, a popular speaker before the National Rifle Association, is poised to become the group's next president, bringing star power at a time it's pushing back against momentum for gun control in the wake of the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history and one of the deadliest school shootings.

North, who was a central figure in the Iran-Contra scandal, is already drawing comparisons to former NRA president Charlton Heston, who famously uttered that his firearms could only be taken "from my cold, dead hands." The NRA in its news release announcing North's upcoming appointment cast him as a hero and a warrior who will vigorously fight to preserve gun owners' rights.

"Oliver North is a legendary warrior for American freedom, a gifted communicator and skilled leader," NRA CEO Wayne LaPierre said.

North will be replacing Pete Brownell, who decided not to seek a second term. LaPierre remains as vice president and chief executive.

Robert J. Spitzer, chairman of political science at the State University of New York at Cortland and an expert on firearms and Second Amendment issues, called North the closest thing the NRA has to a celebrity "and maybe they figure they need a more prominent person at the helm, as opposed to the string of relative unknowns who have served in recent years."

North, 74, first emerged into the spotlight in the 1980s for his role in the Iran-Contra scandal, involving the sale of weapons to Iran with proceeds being funneled to right-wing rebel groups in Nicaragua. He has since run for office, written several books and is frequently on the speaking circuit.

"Oliver North is, hands down, the absolute best choice to lead our NRA board, to fully engage with our members, and to unflinchingly stand and fight for the great freedoms he has defended his entire life," LaPierre said. "Oliver North is a true hero and warrior for freedom, and NRA members are proud to stand with him."

Calls for gun control have gained momentum following a mass shooting in Las Vegas last year that killed 58 people and a Feb. 14 shooting at Parkland, Florida, high school that killed 17.

## BORDER

Continued from Page 5

officers.

The remarks were published on the department's website as Sessions prepares to hold a news conference in San Diego with Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Thomas Homan.

Sessions' visit to Southern California comes about a week after hundreds of Central American migrants traveled to the

U.S. border seeking asylum following a monthlong caravan through Mexico.

President Donald Trump and Cabinet members tracked the caravan and called it proof that more must be done to secure the border with Mexico, including building a wall.

Sessions called the caravan "a deliberate attempt to undermine

our laws and overwhelm our system."

A month ago, Sessions ordered a "zero tolerance" policy aimed at people entering the United States illegally on the Mexican border.

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## Nine Hawks receive WJCAC Conference and Region V Honors



*Courtesy photos*  
WJCAC conference and Region V honors are in for softball! The Hawks were well represented with head coach Kelly Raines (above left) leading the way with the 2018 WJCAC Coach of the Year award. Coach Raines has led the Hawks to their 4th consecutive regional championship and appearance at the NJCAA Division I Softball National Tournament. Kylie Shay (above right) received WJCAC conference MVP along with all-conference pitcher and all-region pitcher. Evelyn Loyola received all-conference and all-region catcher. Madoline Seumalo received all-conference and all-region outfield. Mackenzie Mitchiner received all-conference outfield. Paige Hallam received all-conference and all-region infield. Julia Grib received all-conference pitcher. Addison Lewis received conference honorable mention DP/Utility player. Allyssa (Lani) Graft received conference honorable mention infield. The Hawks will be traveling to St. George, Utah for the 2018 NJCAA Division I Softball national tournament May 16-19.

## Big Bartolo still having fun, getting batters out for Rangers

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**

AP Sports Writer

ARLINGTON, Texas — When Bartolo Colon took the mound for the Texas Rangers in his last start, the big right-hander had pitched against Boston coaches more than twice as much as the current Red Sox players. No player in the majors is older than Colon, who turns 45 on May 24. And no active pitcher has as many as his 241 career wins or 533 starts, the firsts of both which came for Cleveland in 1997.

Still, the portly pitcher with the nickname of "Big Sexy" is having a blast — and still success — in his mid-40s and with his 11th different major league team.

"I feel great. I feel proud," Colon said through a translator.

"He should," said Detroit manager Ron Gardenhire, whose Tigers are in town for Colon's next scheduled start Wednesday. "Pitching this late in your life, it's not easy to do on this level. It takes a special person to even want to put in the work. He's a pretty special baseball player."

While Colon (1-1, 3.29 ERA) is pleasant yet somewhat oblivious to reporters, he loves being around the



*AP photo*  
In this April 15, 2018 file photo Texas Rangers, center, starting pitcher Bartolo Colon is congratulated by team mates Adrian Beltre, Isiah Kiner-Falefa and Ronald Guzman as he leaves the mound to be relieved by Alex Claudio during the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Houston Astros in Houston.

game. He is constantly chatting with teammates in the clubhouse, in the dugout and on the field. And he often interacts with opponents, and even umpires.

Red Sox first base coach Tom Gooden dugout in the middle of the sixth inning last Friday night when he noticed Colon coming directly toward him.

"I was just walking and Bart comes up to me and just says 'Hey, my neck hurts.' That, and then he slapped me on the back and he kept going," Gooden said with a chuckle recalling the encounter soon after Colon had given up his third leadoff homer in the game.

When Colon was pitching for the New York Mets from 2014-16, Gooden was coaching there.

"He was a joy. I wish I would have pitched with him," Gooden said. "But to have him on the Mets, I know he helped our young guys out, just kind of relax, and 'Hey, it's not the end of the world.' Have fun, enjoy what you're doing. Nobody does it more than he does."

See **RANGERS**, Page 13

## Sweep, sleep: Cavs oust Raptors, wait for East finals foe

By **TOM WITHERS**

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND — Their doubters are dropping off as quickly as the competition.

Only one team has advanced to the conference finals in these NBA playoffs, and it's the same squad that looked vulnerable during a chaotic regular season, beatable in the postseason and was one loss from a possible franchise collapse.

The ending's been postponed. The Cleveland Cavaliers aren't nearly finished.

On Monday night, the Cavs completed their second straight four-game sweep of the Toronto Raptors, the East's top team and the one that was supposedly built to dethrone them, with a 128-93 win in Game 4 that has perhaps changed Cleveland's outlook.

LeBron James, whose future hangs over this city like a loom-

ing thunderstorm, scored 29 points with 11 assists and eight rebounds on 12 of 19 shooting — an ordinary performance by his standards — as the Cavs won their 10th straight over the Raptors with one of their most complete games in months.

After all the injuries, the failed Isaiah Thomas experiment, the roster overhaul at the trading deadline and other distractions, the Cavs, who can get some rest while waiting for the Philadelphia-Boston winner, are peaking at the right time.

Their path to the East finals wasn't straight. But they arrived.

"We've had four or five seasons wrapped in one, we know what the narrative has been about our team," said James, who averaged 34 points, 8.3 rebounds and 11.3 assists in the series. "But I can only speak in the moment. To be able to put ourselves in posi-

tion where we can represent the Eastern Conference in the Finals, that's all you can ask for. So we're excited about being part of the Eastern Conference finals once again and having the opportunity to compete for a championship.

"That is what our goal is."

James has been reluctant to discuss the Cavs' chances to win a title or get back to the Finals for the fourth straight year, but his confidence has grown with each victory.

Kevin Love, who struggled in a seven-game scrap with Indiana in the first round, had another solid game with 23 points. Kyle Korver added 16, J.R. Smith scored 15 on 6-for-6 shooting and point guard George Hill, who was sidelined for three games in the Pacers series, added 12.

See **CAVS**, Page 13



*AP photo*

Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James looks to drive on Toronto Raptors' Pascal Siakam (43), from Cameroon, in the second half of Game 4 of an NBA basketball second-round playoff series, Monday, May 7, 2018, in Cleveland.

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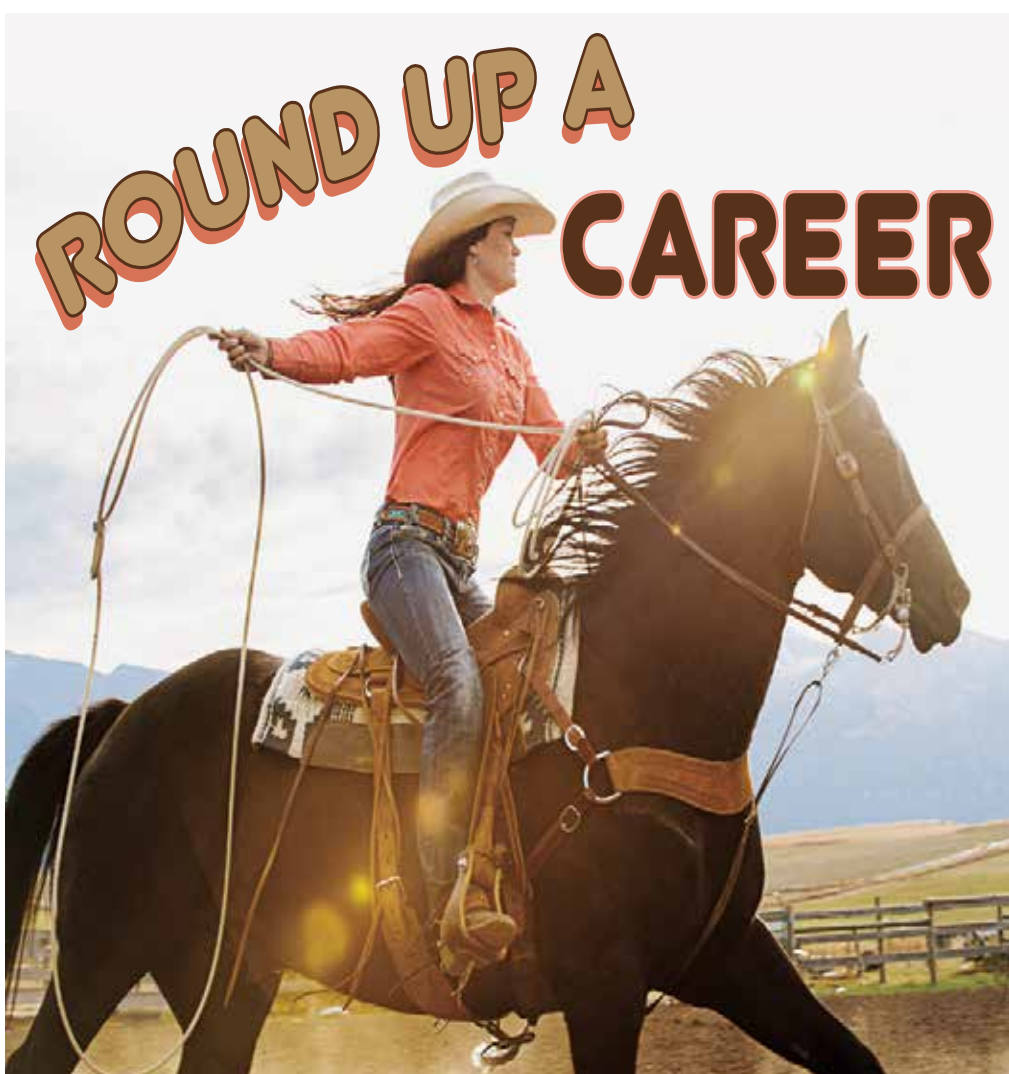
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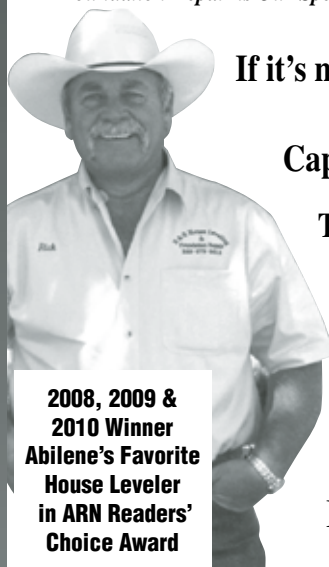
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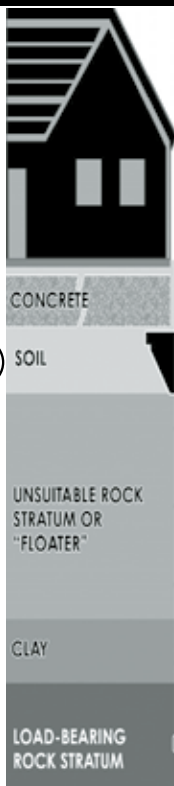
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Annie's Mailbox

Fido Can't Hold It

Dear Annie: I am having an issue with our 13-year-old bichon frise and am hoping that you can point me in the right direction. We adopted our dog when he was 1 year old, and he was house-trained. Until recently, our work schedule allowed us to walk him three times a day. Midsummer, my husband changed jobs, and we now are able to walk him only twice a day. It had not been an issue until recently. For the past two months, he has been going in the house nearly every day while we are at work. We have consulted the vet, and our dog was medically cleared. The vet suggested we sedate him during

the day with a mild sedative, saying that should decrease the accidents. I have a few issues. I do not believe that it's right to sedate our dog just because he cannot hold it any longer. Also, I am feeling that his quality of life is pretty miserable at this point because we have to lock him in the bathroom (or else, obviously, he would destroy our house). At the moment, I am considering re-homing him with someone who could be home with him and let him out more often than we can and give him more attention. I am at a complete loss as to what to do. We have considered all of the options, including a doggy door and doggy diapers. Day care,

at \$25 per day, is a little out of our comfort zone. I'm sure we are not the only ones who have dealt with this issue. A couple of people we have talked to are fine with their dogs using their home as a restroom. But we aren't. -- Help  
Dear Help: You're the only family your dog knows. It would be a shame to re-home him in his twilight years. You don't have to choose between giving up your dog and giving up your clean home. You could pay a responsible young person in the neighborhood a weekly fee to take your bichon around the block. Ask your neighbors for recommendations, or post about it on Nextdoor. (Nextdoor is a great resource for finding dog

walkers, last-minute baby sitters, etc., and for staying informed about what's happening in your immediate community: https://nextdoor.com.) You could also try an indoor potty solution, such as the PetZoom Pet Park, the BrilliantPad or even a litter box. Canine Journal outlines those and other options in an article titled "Dog Toilet 101: Why Your Dog May Need One," available on its website. It also would be worth seeing another vet for a second opinion to fully rule out all medical issues and learn how to best accommodate your little friend as he ages.  
Dear Annie: This is in response to "Wondering Woman," who was wondering

why men spit on the ground. I work as a union plumber in New York City building high-rises, and yes, I'm a man. Working in such a dirty atmosphere for eight hours a day, I am constantly spitting to rid myself of some of the pollutants I breathe in on a regular basis, which will no doubt wind up ultimately killing me. I have a buildup of mucus because of the myriad pollutants in dust form I breathe into my lungs. "Yeah, yeah, then wear a dust mask," you'll say. No one on a construction site wears a mask for eight hours a day. My point is, don't be so quick to judge us. Now, I can't explain why the men in fancy suits spit. May-

be they're emulating their heroes in Major League Baseball. -- Charles  
Dear Charles: If spitting helps prevent your ingesting dirt and pollutants, please, expectorate away. (But also, please be safe and talk to your doctor about your long-term health concerns.)

"Ask Me Anything: A Year of Advice From Dear Annie" is out now! Annie Lane's debut book -- featuring favorite columns on love, friendship, family and etiquette -- is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www.creatorspublishing.com for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. COPYRIGHT 2018 CREATORS.COM

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



Exponential Growth and Jupiter Opposition

Growth of any kind is fascinating, but exponential growth is a truly amazing thing to witness. Impressive numbers occur early and developments soon become overwhelming. Alas, exponentials can't go on forever because they will take over all that is. The sun's opposition to Jupiter promises there will be an impediment, thank goodness.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Every person you encounter over the course of this day is someone who needs to be there. It's all on track and as it should be. Maybe it's not how you would have planned it, but it's time to trust what is.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll be first on the scene, first to get the memo, first to hear the whisper of a new idea, first to join in with the giggle of novelty. Being first comes with a choice that really affects the future -- to share or not to share?

GEMINI (May

21-June 21). You like making people laugh. If they are smiling and having a good time around you today, you'll feel you've done your job. Anyone who thinks this doesn't count as work is dead wrong.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You can see so clearly where a project needs to land, so work backward. Begin where you are and visualize to the best of your ability to do it to the extent that you can.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your affirmation of the day: All is well and everything is working toward the highest and best. Repeat often, especially when things are not going according to your plan. Leos are lucky for you now.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The truth has consequences that will be weighed against the consequences of lies. In other words, people will tell as much truth as they think they can tell without getting into trouble.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Observe the difference between what's smart and what's wise. Knowledge is not wisdom. The recitation of wisdom is not wisdom. Wisdom is a concentrated extract from a body of experience accumulated over time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). One of the hardest things

you'll do is something that no one is asking of you: to socialize. It's an implicit expectation. Light interaction will be expected, even when you're not in the mood.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's good for the whole group when the strongest are supported, encouraged and rewarded. However, the strong must never be prized above the weak, who have just as much to teach us, if not more.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Friendships have highs and lows just like romantic relationships do, but without the pressure to get married or break up over it. Differences in sensibility and simple misunderstandings will be easily overcome.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Science doesn't lie, but it will often tell the story of the human being who executed it, funded it, and in turn, did so when needing things to go a certain way. When you get the proof, look for the proof behind that.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Maybe you need more money to finish what you started, but that's only part of it. "Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other one thing." - Abraham Lincoln

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MAY 8). This will go down as one of your most prosperous years in all the ways that matter most. You'll put family first and you'll take care of your own, but community also matters to immensely, as you really feel that everyone is your family. Because of this focus on others, you'll be lavished in love and attention. Aries and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 50, 37, 24 and 19.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION: "My daughter, born 2/25/1960 is planning on marrying for the second time to a man born 2/16/1958. Will this work out any better than the last marriage?"  
What a loving mother you are to care

for your grown daughter's heart. You can channel your concern for her constructively by turning up your mother's intuition and looking into her situation from a lovingly detached point of view. Too much interference will really bother your Pisces girl -- she prides herself on having emotional smarts, and her past trouble with marriage is extremely embarrassing to her. No matter what happens, I advise you never to say, "I told you so." From an astrological point of view, this new union looks heavenly. Your daughter has Venus and Mars, the relationship planets, both deposited in Aquarius along with her Moon. Your future son-in-law has his Moon in Aquarius as well, as Mercury and Venus all conjunct your daughter's Aquarius planets. This is an excellent combination,

full of loving commitment and thoughtful communication. The most challenging thing about it is keeping the passion alive. Otherwise, it feels like a solid sibling relationship instead of a loving romantic partnership. Best of luck to all!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Enrique Iglesias was born into music, and with over 100 million records sold, it's clear that the tuneful Taurus star has much to contribute to the Iglesias legacy. It's been nonstop international touring for the king of Latin pop, and a Las Vegas show is coming soon for Iglesias, who was born when the Moon and Jupiter were in the passionate, energetic fire sign of Aries.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com. COPYRIGHT 2018 CREATORS.COM



By Steve Becker

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Both sides vulnerable.  
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♥ K 6 5 4  
♦ J 7 6  
♣ 9 5  
WEST  
♠ Q 10 8 5 3  
♥ 9  
♦ 9 5 3 2  
♣ 6 4 3  
EAST  
♠ K J 9 6  
♥ Q J 10 7 3 2  
♦ A 8  
♣ A  
SOUTH  
♠ —  
♥ A 8  
♦ K Q 10 4  
♣ K Q J 10 8 7 2

The bidding:  
West North East South  
Pass Pass 1♥ 5♣  
Opening lead — nine of hearts.

Assume you get to five clubs on the bidding shown and West leads a heart. If you are a happy-go-lucky sort, it does not take you long to fail. You win the heart lead with the ace and play a trump. East takes the ace and returns a heart, which West ruffs. Sooner or later you lose a diamond to the ace and go down one.  
But if you're by nature a more

cautious soul, you wind up making the contract. As soon as dummy comes down, you can see that the only real danger is the possibility that West's heart lead is a singleton. This is certainly a reasonable possibility, since East's opening one-heart bid could easily be based on a six-card suit.  
The next step is to ask yourself if there is any way of averting a potential heart ruff. Once you've gotten this far, it should not take long to find the answer. Accordingly, you win the heart lead with dummy's king, play the ace of spades and on it discard the ace of hearts!  
The rest of the play is anticlimactic. At trick three, you lead the nine of trumps from dummy. East wins with the ace and returns a heart. You ruff, draw trumps, concede a diamond to the ace and finish with 11 tricks.  
The hand is a further illustration of how a careful declarer goes about the business of nailing down a contract that might otherwise fail. "What can defeat me?" he asks himself before playing to the first trick, and he then takes whatever steps are necessary to overcome the impending danger.

Tomorrow: Diversions tactics.

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers  
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

			5					
3			4		7			1
	2				3			
			4				2	
		8		1				
	3	6		8		4		
7		2						
9			1					7
						9	6	4

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:  
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

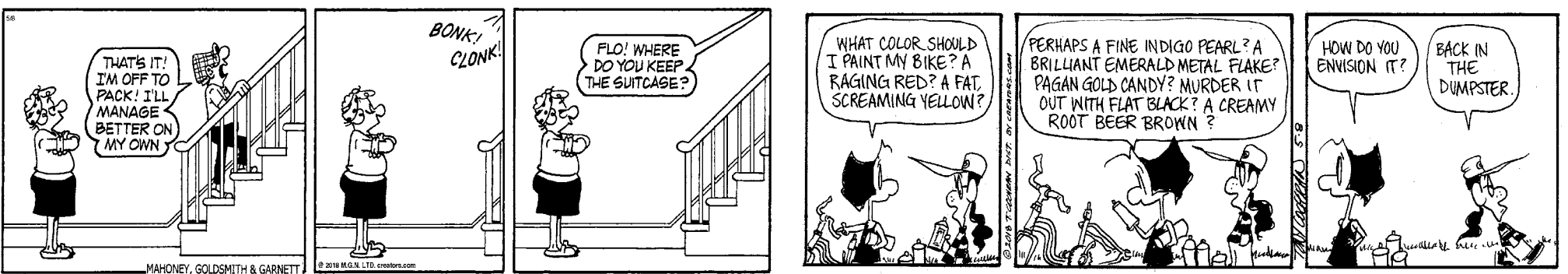
4	9	8	8	7	2	5	1	5
5	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	5
6	4	1	3	6	2	5	4	1
7	5	2	5	4	1	8	3	1
2	3	6	7	8	5	4	8	1
2	3	6	7	8	5	4	8	1
4	9	8	3	1	2	5	7	6
1	7	5	6	4	9	3	2	8
6	2	1	8	9	3	7	4	5
3	5	9	4	6	7	8	1	2
8	4	7	5	2	1	6	3	9

ANSWER

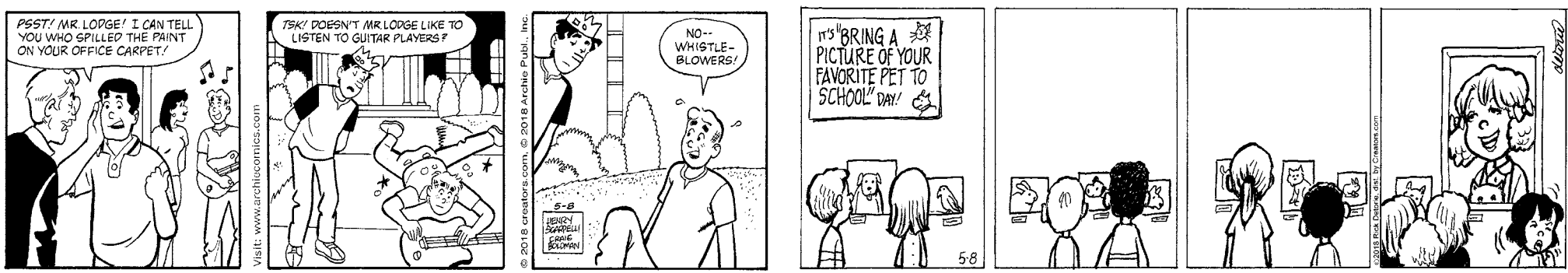
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	KMID (3) Midland	UNI (4) Spanish	KPEJ (5) Odessa	KOSA (7) Odessa	KTLE (8) Telemundo	KWES (9) Midland	KMLM (12) Odessa	KPBT (13) Odessa	KWWT (14) Odessa	KWES2 (15) Midland	WTBS (33) Atlanta	TNT (34) Atlanta	ESPN (35) Sports	ESPN2 (36) Sports	FSN (38) Sports	USA (55) New York	A&E (58) New York	DISC (60) Discovery
5:PM	Local 2	P. Luche	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Shofar	Focus	Hawaii	American	Fam. Guy	House, Vera	SportsCenter	Around	18 Holes	Chrisley	The First 48	Deadliest
:30	ABC	Noticiero	Mom	CBS 7	Noticias	News	Perspect	Business	Five-0	American	Fam. Guy	Farmiga	Pardon	Swing	Chrisley	Chrisley	The First 48	Deadliest
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cerado	News	Our Mess	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	College	NFL Live	UFC	Chrisley	Chrisley	The First 48	Deadliest
:30	Wheel	Big Bang	ET	ET	ET	News	House	House	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Football	Pregame	Chrisley	Chrisley	The First 48	Deadliest	
7:PM	Roseanne	El rico y Lázaro	Lethal Weapon	NCIS (DVS)	Mi familia perfecta	The Voice	News	Heritage	Griffith	The Flash	Big Bang	NBA	We the Fans: Dallas	UFC Countdown	WWE SmackDown!	The First 48: Murder in the Big Easy	Deadliest	
:30	Middle	Papá a toda madre	New Girl (DVS)	Bull	Al otro lado	(:01) Rise (DVS)	Light of Southwest	First Civilizations	G. Pyle WKRP	The 100	Big Bang	Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA.	Rookie	We the Fans: Dallas	UFC	Deadliest		
8:PM	blackish	Splitting	For the People	Por amar sin ley	News	NCIS: New Orleans	El Señor de los	Chicago Med	Light of Southwest	Frontline	Heroes	Page Six	Big Bang	Heroes	Last O.G.	NBA	World Poker	Chrisley
:30	Local 2	Impacto	Mom	CBS 7	Tele	News	Creation	Amanpour	C. Burnett	Seinfeld	Conan	SportsCenter	We the Fans: Dallas	Postgame	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	(:01) Last	
9:PM	Local 2	Noticiero	Mod Fam	Late Show-Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	M:25	Beyond	Perry Mason	Rules	Conan	SportsCenter	We the Fans: Dallas	Riders Ins	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	(:01) Deadli-	
:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Contacto	Mod Fam	Al otro lado	Al otro lado	Seth Meyers	HaYesod	Stage	Tw. Zone	King	Conan	SportsCenter	Around	World Poker	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	(:03) The	
10:PM	Nightline	Extra	Two Men	James Corden	El Señor de los	Daly	Think Red	Hitchcock	King/Hill	Cops	Brooklyn	SportsCenter	First Take	Bundesliga Soccer	Chrisley	Chrisley	Mod Fam	
:30	Paid Prg.	Destino	How I Met	Access	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Mannix	Paid Prg.	Brooklyn	NBA	SportsCenter	First Take	Golf Life	(:07) Date-	Marcia Clark	Investigates	
11:PM	Paid Prg.	María	Simpsons	(:37) CBS	De'siones	(:37) The						SportsCenter	First Take	Polaris	(:01) Deadli-	Marcia Clark	Investigates	
12:AM	Paid Prg.											SportsCenter	First Take					
1:AM	Paid Prg.											SportsCenter	First Take					

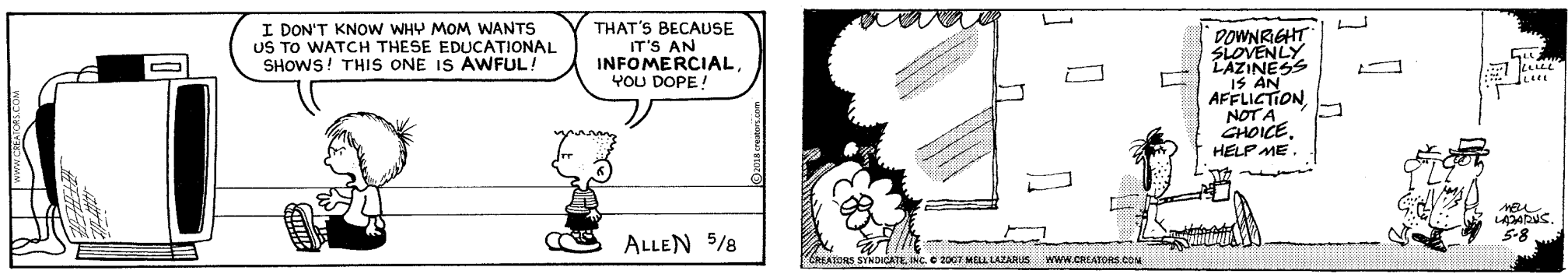
ANDY CAPP AGNES



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NEST HEAD MOMMA



This Date In History

Today is Tuesday, May 8, the 128th day of 2018. There are 237 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History: On May 8, 1978, David R. Berkowitz pleaded guilty in a Brooklyn courtroom to murder, attempted murder and assault in connection with the "Son of Sam" shootings that claimed six lives and terrified New Yorkers. (Berkowitz was sentenced to six consecutive life prison terms.) On this date: In 1429, the Siege of Orleans during the Hundred Years War ended as English troops withdrew after being defeated by French forces under Joan of Arc. In 1541, Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto reached the Mississippi River. In 1660, the British Parliament moved to restore the monarchy by declaring that Charles II had been the country's lawful king since the execution of his father, Charles I, in 1649. In 1794, Antoine Lavoisier (lah-vwahz-YAY), the father of modern chemistry, was executed on the guillotine during France's Reign of Terror. In 1884, the 33rd president of the United States, Harry S. Truman, was born in Lamar, Missouri. In 1921, Sweden's Parliament voted to abolish the death penalty. In 1945, President Harry S. Truman announced on radio that Nazi Germany's forces had surrendered, and that "the flags of freedom fly all over Europe." In 1958, Vice President Richard Nixon was shoved, stoned, booed and spat upon by anti-American protesters in Lima, Peru. In 1962, the musical comedy "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" opened on Broadway. In 1973, militant American Indians who had held the South Dakota hamlet of Wounded Knee for ten weeks surrendered. In 1984, the Soviet Union announced it would boycott the upcoming

Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles. In 1996, South Africa took another step from apartheid to democracy by adopting a constitution that guaranteed equal rights for blacks and whites. Ten years ago: During the 2008 race for the White House, Sen. Barack Obama got a front-runner's welcome back at the U.S. Capitol, where he was surrounded on the House floor by well-wishers calling him "Mr. President" and reaching out to pat him on the back or shake his hand. Silvio Berlusconi was sworn in as Italy's premier. Country music star Eddy Arnold died in Nashville at age 89, a week before his 90th birthday. Five years ago: A jury in Phoenix convicted Jodi Arias of first-degree murder in the 2008 death of her one-time boyfriend, Travis Alexander (Arias was later sentenced to life in prison). George Karl was named the NBA's Coach of the Year for leading the Denver Nuggets to a team-record 57-win regular season. An apparent game-tying homer by Oakland's Adam Rosales was ruled a double by umpires in the ninth inning, and the Cleveland Indians held on to beat the Athletics 4-3. Jeanne Cooper, the enduring soap opera star who had played grande dame Katherine Chancellor for nearly four decades on "The Young and the Restless," died in Los Angeles at age 84. One year ago: A suspect was arrested in a string of serial killings that terrified a Phoenix neighborhood, a huge break in a case that involved nine deaths and a dozen separate shootings; Aaron Juan Saucedo, 23, faces 26 felony counts of homicide, aggravated assault and drive-by-shooting.

James Mitchum is 77. Country singer Jack Blanchard is 76. Jazz musician Keith Jarrett is 73. Actor Mark Blankfield is 70. Singer Philip Bailey (Earth, Wind and Fire) is 67. Rock musician Chris Frantz (Talking Heads) is 67. Rockabilly singer Billy Burnette is 65. Rock musician Alex Van Halen is 65. Actor David Keith is

64. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio is 57. Actress Melissa Gilbert is 54. Rock musician Dave Rowntree (Blur) is 54. Country musician Del Gray is 50. Rock singer Darren Hayes is 46. Singer Enrique Iglesias is 43. Blues singer-musician Joe Bonamassa is 41. Actor Matt Davis is 40. Singer Ana Maria Lombo (Eden's Crush) is 40.

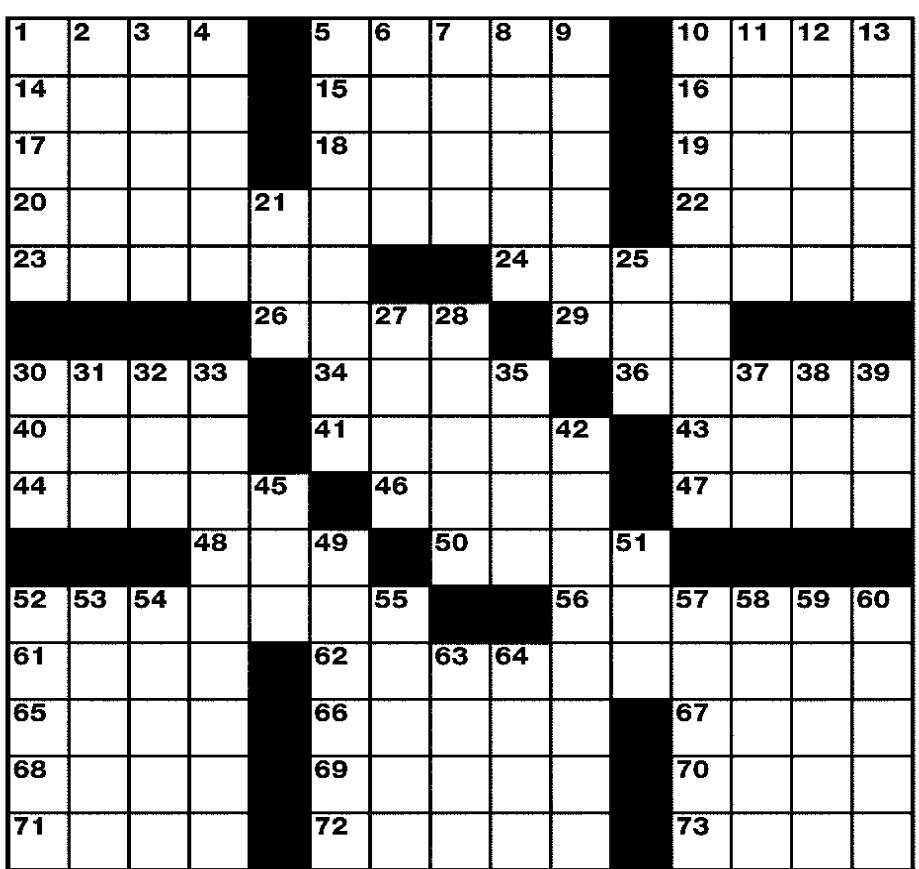
Elyes Gabel is 35. Actor Domhnall Gleeson is 35. Neo-soul drummer Patrick Meese (Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats) is 35. Actress Julia Whelan (WAY-lan) is 34. Actress Nora Anezeder is 29.

Thought for Today: "The biggest big business in America is not steel, automobiles, or television. It is the manufacture, refinement and distribution of anxiety." Eric Sevareid American news commentator (1912-1992). © 2018 The Associated Press.

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS**  
 1 Couch  
 5 Leave in a hurry  
 10 Reckless  
 14 British bloke  
 15 Electric car brand  
 16 Sonic bounce-back  
 17 "No need to wake me"  
 18 "When \_\_\_ said and done . . ."  
 19 Molecule part  
 20 Be swept off one's FEET  
 22 Folk wisdom  
 23 Have a plan (to)  
 24 White-furred weasels  
 26 Expenditure  
 29 Distress signal  
 30 "Dam it!"  
 34 Price of a cab  
 36 River mammal  
 40 Aroma  
 41 Parade vehicle  
 43 Tiny amount  
 44 Jeweler's weight  
 46 Spanish bull  
 47 Jacket  
 48 Spy org.  
 50 Secret scheme  
 52 Says "nay" in a roll call  
 56 Ignites  
 61 Cain's brother  
 62 Get cold FEET  
 65 Rational  
 66 Vietnam's capital  
 67 Kourmikova of tennis  
 68 Ambulance VIPs
- DOWN**  
 69 "Whether you like it . . ."  
 70 Try to find  
 71 Backtalk  
 72 Talks hoarsely  
 73 Jekyll's alter ego
- 10** Having both FEET on the ground  
**11** Follow, as advice  
**12** Coastline  
**13** Dwelling places  
**21** End of many co. names  
**25** Bovine remark  
**27** Potato chip seasoning  
**28** Military unit  
**30** Nickname for a physician  
**31** Oral health org.  
**32** Neither here \_\_\_ there  
**33** Having two left FEET  
**35** British noble  
**37** Overly
- 38** Approx. landing hour  
**39** Mouse's cousin  
**42** Boxes carried by carpenters  
**45** "\_\_\_ the season . . ."  
**49** News show VIP  
**51** Make a knot  
**52** Bouquet holders  
**53** 44th president  
**54** Tepees or wigwams  
**55** Fictional Scarlett  
**57** Grind, as teeth  
**58** Beehive product  
**59** Readied, as a guitar  
**60** Horseshoes target  
**63** Rural stopovers  
**64** Henhouse

FOUR-FEETED by Billie Truitt Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com



Answer to previous puzzle  
 CLAD ACME ANKLE  
 HIKE LOIN CONES  
 IMIN LINT THINS  
 CANOPENER OATS  
 TOY EARS  
 CARET DEEP PLATE  
 OREASIA PELLATE  
 MEATHERMOMETER  
 INDOOR NONE TAG  
 CAST ELSE RHYME  
 AIDE AGE  
 AULD EGGBEATER  
 PUPIL RARE RODE  
 ATONE EMIT TRIP  
 TONGS DIENS SETS

# Advisers aid baseball prospects, might do same in basketball

By ERIC OLSON

AP Sports Writer

Evan Skoug had a decision to make his senior year of high school in 2014: go pro or go to college?

He was rated the No. 1 prospect in Illinois for the Major League Baseball draft that year, and he had signed a letter of intent to play catcher at TCU.

Skoug ended up going to TCU, but not before he and his family weighed the pros and cons with and had many conversations with an adviser.

"It was good for me to have someone there to help me through the professional process because nobody in my family has played professionally and nobody knows the industry," Skoug said this week. "It was nice to have somebody invested in the sports industry, invested in myself, there to help me make the correct informed decision."

NCAA rules governing baseball and ice hockey allow high school players to hire advisers as long as those advisers are paid their normal fees. Also, baseball and hockey players who are drafted are allowed to retain college eligibility as long as they don't sign a

contract.

Under proposals put forth by the Condoleezza Rice-headed Commission on College Basketball, facets of those baseball-hockey rules would be applied to high school and college basketball players.

One recommendation would have the NCAA create a program for certifying agents and make them accessible to players from high school through their college careers. The NCAA already allows players in college to retain advisers.

"I think information and data are power, so to speak," Nebraska basketball coach Tim Miles said. "I think that's really important — to educate the parents, to educate the players to this whole process."

Another recommendation would allow high school and college basketball players who declare for the draft and aren't drafted remain eligible for college unless and until they sign a pro contract. That recommendation assumes the NBA changes its rules and allows high school seniors to be drafted instead of requiring a player be 19 years old or one year removed from high school.

Miles said he favors that proposal as well, but he sees a potential problem. He currently has two rising seniors who have declared for the June 21 draft without signing an agent, and they have until May 30 to pull out of draft consideration and retain their eligibility.

If the recommendation were in place now, and those players stayed in the draft pool but weren't selected, their status for next season might not be known until well into the summer. That, Miles said, could present a roster-management issue. Typically, a coach has a good idea if any of his underclassmen will be drafted, and he can plan for that. But what if the undrafted player decides not to return to school after the draft and chooses to pursue opportunities in the G League or overseas?

"I think you need a clear conversation with the student-athlete and his family asking 'What are your intentions?'" Miles said. "Those are things that should be decided earlier than June 21."

The baseball agent-adviser rule, as it applies to the power-five confer-

ences, changed in 2016. As part of the autonomy movement, high school players who are drafted are permitted to hire an agent for contract negotiations, but the relationship must be severed if the player decides to enroll in college. Conferences outside the power five are allowed to adopt that rule if they choose. Previously, advisers could not perform agent duties such as negotiating a contract whether for a high school player or a player who's draft-eligible in his third year at a four-year school.

Skoug said he knew he needed help sorting out the MLB draft process as he neared his senior season at Libertyville (Illinois) High. His high school coach recommended a friend, Scott Pucino, who heads the baseball division for Octagon sports and entertainment agency.

Pucino gave Skoug tips on how to word answers on the multitude of questionnaires sent by major league clubs, explained what life would be like in a rookie league if he chose to turn pro and stressed the importance of finding an experienced and trusted wealth manager.



AP photo

In this May 16, 2017, file photo, TCU catcher Evan Skoug (9) hits a grand slam home run during the sixth inning of an NCAA college baseball game against UT Arlington in Fort Worth, Texas. Skoug had a decision to make his senior year of high school in 2014: go pro or go to college? NCAA rules governing baseball and ice hockey allow high school players to hire advisers as long as those advisers are paid their normal fees.

## RANGERS

Continued from Page 7

Nothing seems to bother him. Colon often nonchalantly tosses the ball up in the air while waiting for retired batters to get back to the dugout, or during stoppages of play.

Even when he took a perfect game into the eighth inning April 15 on the road against the defending World Series champion Astros in a duel of former AL Cy Young winners with Justin Verlander pitching for Houston.

Colon is two wins shy of tying Hall of Fame pitcher Juan Marichal for the most by a player born in the Dominican Republic. He needs four wins to match Nicaragua's Dennis Martinez for the most by a native of Latin America.

After retiring the first 21 Houston batters last month, Colon walked Carlos Correa to start the eighth before Josh Reddick lined a double into the right-field corner. Opposing fans in Houston gave Colon a standing ovation, and he clapped his bare hand softly against the outside of his glove looking toward Reddick, his former teammate in Oakland.

When Colon was removed from the game with two outs and the game tied at 1, after throwing 66 of 96 pitches for strikes, he had a grin on his face when he glanced at Reddick on third base and the two shared some words.

In losing his last game against Rick

Porcello, another former Cy Young winner, Colon struck out four without a walk in seven innings against the Red Sox and the only runs came on four solo homers. He threw 91 pitches, with only 22 balls while facing 26 batters.

No longer the hard-throwing pitcher he was a decade ago, Colon has adapted and is still getting hitters out.

"He's made some incredible adjustments over the years, from being a really hard thrower now to manipulating the baseball," Texas pitcher Doug Fister said.

Red Sox manager Alex Cora was watching the national TV broadcast of Colon's near perfect game against the Astros.

"That was unreal, the way he's using that back-door sinkers to righties. It starts in the other dugout, and comes back for a strike," said Cora, his teammate with Boston in 2008. "He's pitching a lot different than the norm right now. Usually it's north-south, he's still going east to west and he's still getting people out. And he enjoys the game, which is great."

Rangers shortstop Elvis Andrus had faced Colon many times before they became teammates.

"He amazes you. You know what he's going to throw, you know his game plan, he's still dealing," Andrus said. "As he's aged, you see the desire that he's got to continue to play this game with that passion is just unbelievable."

## CAVS

Continued from Page 7

The Cavs were balanced and were finally able to take some of the pressure off James, who had seemingly been abandoned by his teammates through much of the postseason.

In fact, things had gotten so bad that "Saturday Night Live" did a skit last weekend that went viral on social media called "The Other Cavaliers," a parody that poked fun at Cleveland's supporting cast.

James, though, said his faith never wavered.

"I believe in my teammates so as everyone was burying my teammates alive throughout that first-round series, I just continued to tell them, 'Listen, we can't win without each and every one doing their jobs and being as great as they can be,'" James said. "I continued to preach that so it's impossible for me to lose confidence in our ballclub no matter what the stakes are or where we're down because if I do that — then where are we going to go from a team aspect?"

After winning 59 games in the regular season, the Raptors had the East's top seed and figured that this was their year. James had other plans.

Toronto came into the series feeling great. By the end, the Raptors were defeated and deflated. Exactly one year since they were last swept by James, he did it to them again.

"Everyone had counted Cleveland out," said

coach Dwane Casey, whose job could be in jeopardy. "They struggled a little bit. They had the big trade and all that. Everyone thought they were vulnerable but as long as they have him, they have a chance and that's what we were looking at. But 10 days ago we had all the confidence in the world."

As the Cavs look ahead to a matchup with either the Sixers or Celtics, who lead that series 3-1 and host Game 5 on Wednesday, Love's renaissance gives Cleveland the most comfort.

The All-Star was rendered ineffective in Round 1 by the Pacers, whose big men battered him and took Love out of his game.

But despite cries to bench Love or move him back

from center to power forward, Cavs coach Tyrone Lue stuck with him, and in doing so may have prolonged Cleveland's season.

Love said there was nothing magical about his turnaround.

"It just came from me being me," he said. "I didn't forget how to play basketball, I was just ultra-aggressive. I found myself in spots, I found myself just missing little chippies, missing shots that were uncharacteristic of me to miss. But I continued to be aggressive, continued to put in the work every single day. So for me it was just more than anything it was just me being myself."

And now the Cavs appear to be themselves.

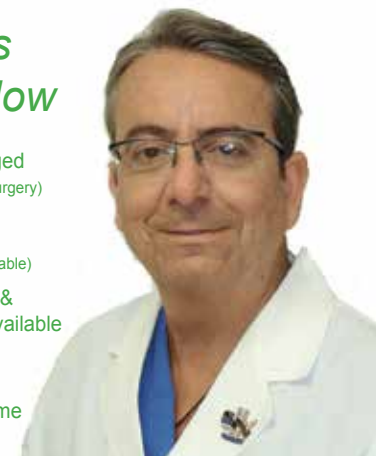
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# 'Avengers: Infinity War' scores second best weekend 2 ever

LOS ANGELES (AP) — After breaking opening weekend records, "Avengers: Infinity War" continued to dominate in its second weekend in theaters, but alternative programming like the romantic comedy "Overboard" also found an audience in what has historically been considered the "official" kick-off to the summer movie season.

The Walt Disney Co. said Sunday that "Avengers: Infinity War" will gross an estimated \$112.5 million from North American theaters over the weekend, becoming the second highest grossing film in weekend two behind "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" \$149.2 million and just slightly ahead of "Black Panther" (\$111.7 million).

It's a 56 percent drop from its first weekend in theaters — less steep than the second weekend fall of "Avengers: Age of Ultron" (59.4 percent) or "Captain America: Civil War" (59.5 percent), but more than "Black Panther's" uniquely soft 44.7 percent sophomore weekend decline.

"We're in uncharted territory again," said comScore senior media analyst Paul Dergarabedian. "This is a second weekend number that many films would aspire to have on opening weekend."

Globally, "Avengers: Infinity War" has now grossed over \$1.2 billion and become the first film ever to cross the \$1 billion mark in 11 days of release, and it has yet to even open in China.

There was little new competition this weekend in the blockbuster space, although there were a handful of other options, like "Overboard," which came in a very distant second to "Avengers," but still made a notable splash for a film its size.

MGM and Lionsgate's Pantelion Films' gender-swapped remake of Garry Marshall's 1987 comedy, "Overboard" scored the highest-grossing opening weekend for Pantelion Films with a better-than-expected \$14.8 million from 1,623 theaters. It's already surpassed its modest mid-teens production budget.

Pantelion Films CEO Paul Presburger and Jonathan Glickman, president of the Motion Picture Group at MGM, both attribute the success to the star-power of Eugenio Derbez ("Instructions Not Included," "How to be a Latin Lover") who helped developed the bilingual remake with an American star (Anna Faris) to appeal not just to his Hispanic fan base but all audiences.

The cast, including Derbez and Eva Longoria, helped promote the film on their social media accounts too.

"It's great to have a large base especially in the wake of 'Avengers,'" Presburger said. "We have a movie out there that plays to families and all audiences that should have success into Mother's Day and onwards."

Although critics were not especially won over by "Overboard," audiences gave the film a more favorable A- CinemaScore.

Third place went to "A Quiet Place," which has grossed \$159.9 million in five weeks in theaters, and fourth place to "I Feel Pretty," now up to \$37.8 million in weekend three. "Rampage" rounded out the top five with \$4.6 million, bumping its domestic total to \$84.8 million.

In sixth place, "Tully," starring Charlize Theron, launched on 1,353



This image released by Marvel Studios shows, front row from left, Danai Gurira, Chadwick Boseman, Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson and Sebastian Stan in a scene from "Avengers: Infinity War."

screens with \$3.2 million. It's the third collaboration between director Jason Reitman and screenwriter Diablo Cody, the team behind "Juno," and their second with Theron, who also starred in their film "Young Adult."

Hollywood's summer movie season typically runs from the first weekend in May through Labor Day, but this year got a jump-start with the late April release of "Avengers: Infinity War."

"This was not the strongest weekend ever in terms of the official kick-off of the summer season, but we could be looking at a record May ultimately," Dergarabedian said, noting upcoming releases like "Deadpool 2" (May 18) and "Solo: A Star Wars Story" (May 25). "This weekend just shows how the strategy of release dates is changing how the box office plays out."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "Avengers: Infinity War," \$112.5 million (\$162.6 million international).
2. "Overboard," \$14.8 million.
3. "A Quiet Place," \$7.6 million (\$4.1 million international).
4. "I Feel Pretty," \$4.9 million (\$3.2 million international).
5. "Rampage," \$4.6 million (\$13.7 million international).
6. "Tully," \$3.2 million (\$200,000 international).
7. "Black Panther," \$3.1 million (\$390,000 international).
8. "Truth or Dare," \$1.9 million (\$5.7 million international).
9. "Super Troopers 2," \$1.8 million (\$90,000 international).
10. "Bad Samaritan," \$1.8 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. "Avengers: Infinity War," \$162.6 million.
2. "Us And Them," \$27 million.
3. "Rampage," \$13.7 million.
4. "A or B," \$11.1 million.
5. "Baahubali: The Conclusion," \$7.9 million.
6. "Ready Player One," \$6.3 million.
7. "Truth or Dare," \$5.7 million.
8. "Champion," \$5.5 million.
9. "102 Not Out," \$3.4 million.
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