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BIG SPRING HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2018



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Council says farewell to Harbour, welcomes Hartman

By ROGER CLINE
 Staff Writer
 Big Spring officially said "good-bye" to City Councilwoman Carmen Harbour and welcomed newly elected Doug Hartman at Tuesday night's council meeting.
 "I appreciate serving on the council for the past six years," Harbour said. "I can't say that I'm not sad in leaving. I like working with people and for people. Anything to improve our community and our city. I'm sure that Mr. Hartman will do just as swell a job as I can. I'm still going to be in the background. You'll see me around. I've always enjoyed helping

and being involved in all sorts of organizations and stuff, so you'll see me around."
 City Manager Todd Darden presented Harbour with a plaque commemorating her time on the council.
 "Presented to Carmen Harbour, City Council member, District Two, May 2012 through May 2018, in appreciation for your dedication and outstanding service to the citizens of Big Spring, Texas, and Howard County," read Darden from the plaque.
 Following Harbour's farewell remarks, Hartman was formally sworn



HERALD photo/Roger Cline
 Her nameplate already replaced by that of her successor Doug Hartman, Big Spring City Councilwoman for District Two Carmen Harbour delivers her farewell remarks during her last city council meeting Tuesday evening. Harbour was received a plaque for her six years of service, was thanked by Mayor Larry McLellan and other members of the council and city staff, and received a standing ovation from those present at her departure. Hartman was sworn in at the meeting and sat on the council for the remainder of the meeting following Harbour's farewell.

See **COUNCIL**, Page 3

Big Spring's Wacey Cathey is one of 11 to be inducted in Bull Riding Hall of Fame

Special to the Herald
 The Bull Riding Hall of Fame recognizes and commemorates the legends of the sport of Bull Riding, and is to induct the Class of 2018
 This year's, 4th annual, Induction Ceremonies and Reunion will be held May 18th and 19th in the legendary Fort Worth Stockyards.
 Pam Minick and Donnie Gay return this year as co-hosts and masters of ceremonies.
 The BRHOF Founder and President Bill Putnam went on to say, "This is a day everyone in our organization has been looking forward to.
 We are proud and excited to introduce and celebrate this year's phenomenal class of inductees in each of the four categories."
 "The Bull Riders" category features a phenomenal lineup of inductees that includes seven of the greatest riders ever,
 Ronnie Rossen from Broadus, Montana,



Glen Bird from Weatherford, Texas, Ty Murray from Stephenville, Texas,
 Jerome Davis from Archdale, North Carolina, Wacey Cathey from Big Spring, Texas, Bob Wegner from Ponca City, Oklahoma, and Ted Nuce from Stephenville, Texas.
 This year's "The Bull Fighters" category Inductee is the great Miles Hare from Liberty, Texas.
 In "The Legends" category, Cotton Rosser - Flying U Rodeo Co., from Marysville, California and legendary photographer, Ferrell Butler, from Ringold, Oklahoma are this year's inductees.
 In "The Bulls" category, the famous bucker, Oscar, which was owned by Rodeo Stock Contractors Inc., is the inductee.
 Congratulations to the Class of 2018 Inductees into The Bull Riding Hall of Fame!
 The Bull Riding Hall of Fame is a 501c3 non-profit organization

Second campus carry meeting scheduled at BSHS tonight

By ROGER CLINE
 Staff Writer
 The Big Spring Independent School District will hold a final informational meeting about its proposed campus carry program tonight at Big Spring High School.
 The meeting will start at 5:30 and will be in the High School library.
 "It's meant to inform anyone there, the general community, about our campus carry ideas and policy that we are looking to implement," said Big Spring Superintendent Jay McWilliams. "Just like you heard last week, to answer any questions, and hear any ideas or

thoughts."
 At last week's meeting, held last Wednesday evening at Goliad Elementary School, McWilliams and Big Spring School Board President Tony Kennedy discussed the policy known as the "Guardian Plan," designed to allow certain hand-picked volunteers to carry concealed firearms on campus during the course of the school day and at local school events, to guard students against the possibility of a school shooter.
 "We live in a great country, we live in a

See **BSHS**, page 3

Iran's top leader, lawmakers lash out at US on nuclear deal



nuclear deal, while lawmakers lit a paper U.S. flag on fire inside parliament, shouting, "Death to America!"
 The government backlash reflected broad public anger in Iran over Trump's decision, which threatens to destroy the landmark agreement. While Iranian officials, including the parliament speaker, say they hope Europe will work with them to preserve the deal, many are pessimistic.
 In comments before school teachers, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei told Trump: "You cannot do a damn thing!" The exhortation from Khamenei, who has final say on all state matters, follows a pattern of Iranian leaders declaring their nation's ability to resist foreign pressure or interference.
 Khamenei described Trump's speech Tuesday announcing his decision as having "over 10 lies," without elaborating on them. He also said Trump's

AP photo
 Iranian lawmakers burn two pieces of paper representing the U.S. flag and the nuclear deal as they chant slogans against the U.S. at the parliament in Tehran, Iran, Wednesday, May 9, 2018.

By NASSER KARIMI and AMIR VAHDAT
 Associated Press
 TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's supreme leader chastised President Donald Trump on Wednesday over his decision to pull America out of the 2015

Trump says Pompeo returning from North Korea with detainees



AP photo
 In this May 3, 2018 photo, people watch a TV news report on screen, showing portraits of three Americans, Kim Dong Chul, left, Tony Kim and Kim Hak Song, right, detained in the North Korea, at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea. President Donald Trump says Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is on his way back from North Korea with three American detainees, saying they "seem to be in good health."

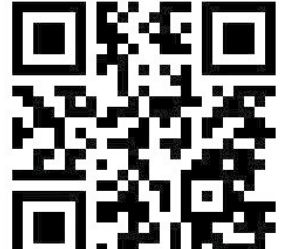
By MATTHEW LEE and CATHERINE LUCEY
 Associated Press
 WASHINGTON — Three Americans detained in North Korea for more than a year are on their way back to the U.S. with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, President Donald Trump announced Wednesday in the latest

sign of improving relations between the two longtime adversary nations.
 Trump said on Twitter that Pompeo was "in the air" and was with "the 3 wonderful gentlemen that everyone is looking so forward to meeting." The president, who had been

hinting about an imminent release, said he would greet them at Andrews Air Force Base at

See **RETURN**, Page 3

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See **DEAL**, Page 3

Correction:
 On Page 4C of Sunday's Herald, the address of Pampered Paws Resort was incorrectly reported as 1501 E. FM 700. The correct address is 1501 E. Third Street.

Obituaries

Dolores "Granny Lola" Gomez



Dolores "Granny Lola" Gomez, 92, of Big Spring, died Monday, May 7, 2018, at her residence. Vigil services will be 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, 2018, at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Rosewood Church. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Thursday, May 10, 2018, at the Holy Trinity Catholic Parish. Interment will follow at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She was born March 16, 1926, in New Mexico and came to Big Spring as infant. She married David Gomez in 1948 and he preceded her in death in Sept. 1, 2000.

She owned and operated Gomez Hall for several years before opening Carlos' Restaurant with her husband, which they operated for over 35 years. She loved cooking for and spending time with fam-

ily, especially her grandchildren. She enjoyed music and dancing, crossword puzzles and word search puzzles, and reading. Granny Lola loved laughter and above all, life. She was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Parish.

Survivors include her son, David Gomez, Jr. and wife, Anna of Big Spring; two grandchildren, Michael Gomez of Big Spring and Ayanna Gomez of Lubbock; six great-grandchildren, Sabrina Gomez of Kentucky, Michael Gomez, Jr. of Lubbock, Andrew Bailon, Gabriel Gomez, Nicholas Gomez, and Olivia Gomez all of Big Spring.

She was also preceded in death by her mother, Basiala Martinez; 14 brothers; and a niece, Ruth Cordova.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Paid Obituary

Roy New



Roy New, 73, of Big Spring died Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Memorial service will be at 3 p.m. Friday at College Baptist Church with Ken McMeans, pastor of College Baptist Church, officiating.

He was born Oct. 26, 1944, in Big Spring. He married Cheryl Childers on Feb. 24, 1967, in Big Spring. He worked for 35 years at Pioneer Natural Gas, Energas and then Atmos.

He is survived by his wife, Cheryl New of Big Spring; daughter, Michelle and her husband Jay Fryar of Big Spring, granddaughter; three sis-

ters, Ann Trawick, Patsy Burns and her husband Charles, and Rhonda Quay Baker all of Abilene; two brothers, Steve New and his wife Cathy and Tommy Randal New, all of Coahoma, and brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Mike and Karen Childers of Allen, Tim Childers, and Jeff and Stacey Childers, all of Big Spring.

Roy was preceded in death by his parents, Willie Thomas Grant and Tommy New; and one brother, Rocky New.

Honorary pallbearers will be Jay Fryar, Tommy New, Steve New, Jeff Childers, Tim Childers, Charles Burns, and Mike Childers.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Police, Sheriff reports

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity:

- **HOWARD BRANDON JOHNSON**, 34, of 1106 Marijo Ave., was arrested on the charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with previous convictions.

- **JACOB ALEXANDER GALAN**, 28, of 1607 S Main St., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

- **CRYSTAL BROOKE MESLER**, 37, of 1513 E 17th St., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

- **MIKEAL LADARREAN CHAVERA**, 21, of 706 E 13th St., was arrested on a charge of burglary of a building.

- **KELLI ANN MCADAMS**, 36, of 806 W 14th St., was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.

- **RALPH ALLEN WHITE**, 47, of 3009 Sherrod Rd., was arrested on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid with previous convictions, and

on possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

- **JOSE REFUGIO MENDEZ**, 22, of 3501 N Buckner Blvd., was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1100 block of S Austin St.

- **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported on I-20 and Lamesa Hwy, and on 10th St., and Scurry.

- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1600 block of Martin Luther King Blvd.

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

Note - Officials with the Howard County Jail reported having 73 inmates at the time of this report.

- **MIKEAL LADARREAN CHAVERA**, 21, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of burglary of a building.

- **JACOB ALEXANDER GA-**

LAN, 28, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- **HOWARD BRANDON JOHNSON**, 34, was arrested by BSPD on the charge of driving while license suspended/invalid with previous convictions.

- **KELLI ANN MCADAMS**, 36, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- **JOSE REFUGIO MENDEZ**, 22, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

- **CRYSTAL BROOKE MESLER**, 37, was arrested by BSPD on a charge of public intoxication.

- **MIGUEL ANTONIO PEREZ**, 35, was arrested by HCSO on a warrant of criminal nonsupport.

- **RALPH ALLEN WHITE**, 47, was arrested by BSPD on charges of driving while license suspended/invalid with previous convictions, and on possession of marijuana less than two ounces.

Take Note

- Attention Coahoma High School students and parents. A mandatory student and parent meeting for students who have signed up to take dual credit courses with Howard College next year will be held at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 10, in the high school library. Representatives from Howard College will present information about the program and provide help to fill out the paperwork necessary to enroll the student in Howard College classes for the 2018-2019 school

year. For further information, please contact Chandra Brooks, CHS high school counselor, at brooksc@coahoma.esc18.net

- 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 Basaldua at 1-877-316-8346 or visit www.BecomeaCASA.org or www.casawtx.org.

James H. "Jimmy" Tucker

James H. "Jimmy" Tucker, 78, of Big Spring, died Sunday, May 6, 2018, at his residence. Private services will be at a later date.

He was born Feb. 15, 1940, in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma.

Survivors include his wife, Claudine Tucker; one son, Bobby Joe Tucker and wife, Kelly all of Big Spring; one daughter, Terrie Jan Tucker of San Antonio; three grandchildren, Tyler "Turbo" James Tucker, Rachel Brooke Williams and Hannah Nicole Tucker; and one sister, Linda Aaron of Pearland.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Bessie Lee Caldwell; his step-father, H. G. Caldwell; and one brother, William "Bo" Caldwell.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and Crematory. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Paid Obituary

Perry Kirklen Ewing



Perry Kirklen Ewing, 57, of Big Spring joined his Lord and Savior on Sunday, April 29, 2018. Perry was born October 12, 1960, to Mary Helen and Perry Joe Kirklen of Odessa, Texas. He married Nancy Bell and helped raise a step-son.

He graduated from Odessa High School in 1979. Later, he pursued studies at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin, where he earned a Masters Degree in Business Administration.

Perry had five siblings. He is survived by Mark Kirklen of Big Spring, Patsy Stokes of Big Spring, Jane Robbins of North Carolina, Linda Brunson of Austin, and Wanda Kirklen of Abilene; and his niece and nephews.

Perry was preceded in death by sister: Mary Jo Kirklen; his mother, Mary Helen Kirklen; and his father, Perry Joe Kirklen.

Our family would like to express our gratitude to Denise Carillo, the director of the Big Spring Skilled Nursing Center, and the nursing and the medication staff for their loving care of our brother.

A Memorial Service will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, May 11, 2018, at Canterbury (South), 1700 S. Lancaster.

Arrangements are under the direction of Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com.

Support Groups

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.

- **A Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder** support group meeting is at 6:30 p.m. at the VA Medical

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2018

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COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

into office by Big Spring Municipal Judge Timothy Green. Incumbent City Council members Howard Stewart, District Four, and Jim DePauw, District Six, were also sworn in by Judge Green; Stewart and DePauw were both up for re-election, but ran unopposed.

The council also officially selected the engineering firm Freese and Nichols of Lubbock to provide engineering services for work at the McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark. Councilman DePauw had some questions about funding for the project.

"Where's the money coming from?" he asked.

City Public Works Director Johnny Wommack said that city is planning to apply for a TIGER grant to pay for the project, but no funding is currently in place. The TIGER grant requires that the engineering work be done before the grant is awarded. DePauw asked whether

the project could be completed using Airpark funds. Wommack replied that Airpark funds could be used for work actually on the Airpark, but that Texas Department of Transportation-Aviation rules prohibit Airpark funds from being used to construct roads outside Airpark grounds, which is part of what the project under consideration entails.

"Let's ask the attorney general in Austin," DePauw requested. "What you've got is a bunch of bureaucrats in Austin at TXDoT Aviation telling you how you can spend your money. I think it's insanity that we would be happy to let TXDoT Aviation tell us that we can't develop roads into our airpark because we have 1,700 feet that wasn't in our original airpark."

The award was granted to Freese and Nichols with a 5-2 vote, with Harbour and DePauw dissenting.

In other business, the council:

- Officially voted to rename

the new performance stage and plaza at the Historic Spring "The Marie Hall Plaza and Performance Stage" after Florence Marie Hall, former head of Midland's FMH Foundation which provided significant funding for the Historic Spring Renovation Project; and the planned pavilion at the site to the "SM Energy Pavilion," after SM Energy company, which has also provided significant funding for the project.

- Approved a measure re-establishing Howard County Teen Court.

• Tabled a measure to purchase about 43.34 acres of land between the Airpark and the former base housing on the west side of Big Spring.

- Approved a measure authorizing payroll deduction for new loans against employee 457B Nationwide and Valic retirement plans.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

DEAL

Continued from Page 1

remarks threatened both Iran's people and its theocratic government.

"The body of this man, Trump, will turn to ashes and become the food of the worms and ants, while the Islamic Republic continues to stand," Khamenei said.

Earlier Wednesday, the lawmakers, including a Shiite cleric, held the flaming flag alight as their colleagues joined their chants. They also burned a piece of paper representing the nuclear deal and stomped on the papers' ashes.

While U.S. flag-burning is common in Iran and harsh criticism of America has been a staple of Iranian parliamentary politics for years, it was the first time political observers could remember anything being burned inside the parliament itself.

The 2015 agreement imposed restrictions on Iran's nuclear program in return for the lifting of most U.S. and international sanctions.

However, the deal came with time limits and did not address Iran's ballistic missile program or its support for militant groups across the region branded as terrorists by the West. Trump has repeatedly pointed to those omissions in referring to the accord as the "worst deal ever." Proponents of the deal have said those time limits were meant to encourage more discussion with Iran in the future that could eventually address other concerns.

Late Tuesday night, President Hassan Rouhani said he'd be sending Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif to the countries still in the deal — China, France, Germany, Russia and the United Kingdom.

Iran hopes the European Union will pass laws to protect European firms from any potential U.S. sanctions. EU officials have suggested they'll do what they can to salvage the agreement.

Still, Rouhani made a point of stressing that Iran, at any time, could resume its nuclear program.

"If necessary, we can begin our industrial enrichment without any limitations," the Iranian leader said. "Until implementation of this decision, we will wait for some weeks and will talk with our friends and allies and other signatories of the nuclear deal, who signed it and who will remain loyal to it. Everything depends on our national interests."

After the flag burning, parliament speaker Ali Larijani said responsibility for saving the deal fell on the EU and other world powers still in the accord.

"The period is only a window in which the EU can prove if it has enough weight for settling international issues," he said.

Larijani also urged the country's nuclear agency to prepare for "resumption of all aspects of nuclear activities."

Khamenei questioned whether Europe had the will or the ability to save the nuclear deal.

"I do not trust these three countries," he said, apparently referring to France, Germany and Britain. "If you succeed in getting guarantees (from them), then, no problem, go ahead. If you cannot, then it is not possible to continue in this way."

Many Iranians are worried about what Trump's decision could mean for their country.

The Iranian rial is already trading on the black market at 66,000 to the dollar, despite a government-set rate of 42,000 rials. Many say they have not seen any benefits from the nuclear deal.

Iran's poor economy and unemployment sparked nationwide protests in December and January that saw at least 25 people killed and, reportedly, nearly 5,000 arrested.

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Billy Joe Mitchell, 80, died Monday. Graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at Mount Olive Memorial Park Chapel.

Perry Kirklen Ewing, 57, died Sunday. A Memorial Service will be at 3 p.m. Friday at Canterbury (South), 1700 S. Lancaster.

Jewell Elizabeth Wood Dunlap, 95, died Sunday. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Myers and Smith Chapel with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Roy New, 73, died Tuesday. Memorial service will be at 3 p.m. Friday at College Baptist Church.

BSHS

Continued from Page 1

great world, but there are disturbed individuals who think a school building is a place to prey upon people who are, number one, unarmed; and number two, they are not ready, they are unsuspecting, and somebody just walks in the door," McWilliams said at last week's meeting. "This has become

a top priority. It's moved way up to the top of the list. Our top priority has been the safety of our students."

At the meeting last week, McWilliams and Kennedy answered several questions from those present, and the superintendent said the format would be much the same at the meeting tonight. He invited local residents to come whether or not they were present at the Goliad meeting.

The Big Spring ISD Board of Trustees has a meeting scheduled Thursday evening, and may vote on the Guardian Plan's implementation in the district at that meeting.

For more information, contact the Big Spring ISD Administration at 432-264-3600.

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

RETURN

Continued from Page 1

2 a.m. Thursday.

The release of the detainees came as Pompeo visited North Korea on Wednesday to finalize plans for a historic summit between Trump and the North's leader, Kim Jong Un. Trump said on Twitter that there had been a "good meeting with Kim Jong Un," adding: "Date & Place set."

North Korea had accused Kim Dong Chul, Kim Hak Song and Tony Kim, all Korean-Americans, of anti-state activities but their arrests were widely seen as politically motivated and had compounded the dire state of relations over the isolated nation's nuclear weapons.

The family of Tony Kim thanked "all those" who worked for his return and also credited Trump for engaging directly with North Korea. "Mostly we thank God for Tony's safe return," the family said in a statement, and they urged people to "continue to pray for the people of North Korea and for the release of all who are still being held."

The three had been held for periods ranging between one and two years. They were the latest in a series of Americans who have been detained by North Korea in recent years for seemingly small offenses and typically freed when senior U.S. officials or statesmen personally visited to bail them out.

The last American to be released before this, college student Otto Warmbier, died in June 2017, days after he was repatriated to the U.S. with severe brain damage.

Warmbier was arrested by North Korean authorities in January 2016 for stealing a propaganda poster and sentenced to 15 years in prison with hard labor. His parents have filed a wrongful death lawsuit, accusing the government of torturing and killing their son.

Of the newly released detainees, Kim Dong Chul, a South Korean-born U.S. citizen, had been held the longest. The former Virginia resident was sentenced in April 2016 to 10 years in prison with hard labor after being convicted of espionage. He reportedly ran a trade and hotel service company in Rason, a special economic zone on North Korea's border with Russia.

The other two detainees hadn't been tried.

Kim Hak Song worked in agricultural development at an experimental farm run by the Pyongyang University of Science and Technology, or PUST. The university is the only privately funded college

in North Korea and was founded in 2010 with donations from Christian groups. He was detained last May for alleged anti-state activities.

Tony Kim, who also uses the name Kim Sang-duk, was detained in April 2017 at the Pyongyang airport. He taught accounting at PUST. He was accused of committing unspecified criminal acts intended to overthrow the government.

Pompeo, in his visit, discussed the agenda for a potential Trump-Kim Jong Un summit in a meeting with Kim Yong Chol, vice chairman of the central

committee of North Korea's ruling party.

"For decades, we have been adversaries. Now we are hopeful that we can work together to resolve this conflict," Pompeo said, adding that "there are many challenges along the way."

Kim also noted improved relations between North and South Korea and pushed back against the idea that U.S. pressure led to the likely summit.

"This is not a result of sanctions that have been imposed from outside," he added, citing the will of the Korean people. That contradicted Trump, who has said repeatedly that his pressure tactics brought North Korea to the negotiating table.

Pompeo's trip, his second to North Korea this year, had not been publicly disclosed when he flew out of Washington late Monday aboard an Air Force jetliner. Trump announced the mission Tuesday afternoon as he laid out his case for withdrawing from a landmark nuclear deal with Iran, another bitter U.S. adversary.

Accompanying Pompeo were a few senior aides, a security detail and two journalists — one from The Associated Press and one from The Washington Post, both given roughly four hours' notice of his departure.

Pompeo, who first traveled to North Korea as CIA chief in early April, is only the second sitting secretary of state to visit the reclusive nation with which the U.S. is still technically at war. The first was Madeleine Albright, who went in 2000 as part of an unsuccessful bid to arrange a meeting between then-President Bill Clinton and Kim Jong Un's father, Kim Jong Il.

"Plans are being made, relationships are building, hopefully a deal will happen and with the help of China, South Korea and Japan a future of great prosperity and security can be achieved for everyone," Trump said at the White House as he announced Pompeo's visit on Wednesday.

Pompeo's first trip to Pyongyang, over Easter weekend before he was confirmed as secretary of state, was a closely held secret. News of it did not emerge until just before his Senate confirmation vote less than two weeks ago. Shortly afterward, the White House released photographs of Pompeo and Kim.

Pompeo told reporters that his first visit was to test the North's seriousness of pledges to South Korea on easing tensions. This trip was "to put in place a framework for a successful summit," he said.

The Trump-Kim meeting is expected later this month or in early June.

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This week I'll finish up the fiction books and start on the non-fiction books.

"Fall from Grace" by Danielle Steel (F STE D) tells the story of Sydney Wells who had a perfect life with her wealthy, devoted husband until he dies suddenly in an accident. She discovers that he has failed to include her in his will. With her husband's vicious daughters in control of his estate, and no home or money, Sydney finds a job in fashion, despite her own designer daughters' warnings.

Naïve, out of her element, and alone in the world of shady international deals and dishonest people, she is set up by her boss and finds herself faced with criminal prosecution. Sydney must rebuild her life from the bottom to the

top again. Taking life by the horns, Sydney revives her own career as a talented designer risking all in an exotic, unfamiliar world. She is determined to forge a new life for herself.

I have a few books that might be helpful to those of you that are trying to improve your computer skills.

"Computers for Seniors" by Chris Ewin, Carrie Ewin, and Cheryl Ewin (004.084 EWI C) is a friendly guide that will take you from pressing the "on" button to being a confident computer user in no time.

"Microsoft Word 2016 for Dummies" by Dan Gookin (005.52 GOO B) helps you create documents, print a sheet of labels, convert your text into a table, and even use col-



Monica Martinez

umns to create a brochure.

"Microsoft Excel 2016 All-In-One for Dummies" by Greg Harvey, PhD (005.54 HAR G) tells you how to make the most of your worksheets, create eye-popping charts, analyze data like a pro, and customize Excel with VBA programming (whatever that is).

I also have three books that feature President Donald Trump:

"Trumpocracy: The Corruption of The American Republic" by David Frum (973.933 FRU D), "It's Even Worse Than You Think: What the Trump Administration Is Doing to America" by David Cay Johnston (973.933 JOH D), and "Let Trump Be Trump: The Inside Story of His Rise to the Presidency" by Corey R. Lewandowski and David N. Bossie (973.933 LEW C).

"Happiness in This Life" by Pope Francis (248.4.FRA A) is a collection of homilies, speeches, and "messages of the day" that brings together Pope Francis's wisdom on finding happiness in the here and now. The Pope discusses the sanctity of women's rights, talks about how the love of sports can bring out our best qualities, and explains why fighting discrimination is the essence of loving thy neighbor. He shares personal stories and anecdotes from his life, provides comforting messages of hope, and discusses the ways flawed families can make you a better person.

"When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir" by Patrisse Khan-Cullors & Asha Bandele (323.091 KHA P)

is a powerful memoir about what it means to be a Black woman in America. Patrisse experienced firsthand the prejudice and persecution Black Americans endure at the hands of law enforcement.

Patrisse along with Alicia Garza and Opal Tometi founded Black Lives Matter. These loving women founded a hashtag that birthed the movement to demand accountability from the authorities who continually turn a blind eye to the injustices inflicted upon people of Black and Brown skin. Patrisse transformed her personal pain into political power, giving voice to a people suffering inequality, and telling the country the Black Lives Matter!

That's all I got for this week so until next week I leave you with a quote by Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Loving Your Enemies... far from being the pious injunction of a utopian dreamer, this demand is an absolute necessity for the survival of our civilization. Yes it is love that will save our world and civilization; love even for our enemies."

The Howard County Library's hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 am to 6 pm; the internet/video room closes at 5:30. Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 7 pm; the internet/video room closes at 6:30. You may reach us at (432) 264-2260 and our fax number is (432) 264-2263. Our website is <http://howard-county.ploud.net>. Visit our facebook page at www.facebook.com/HowardCoLibrary.

Gates, Zuckerberg team up on new education initiative



AP photo

In this April 21, 2018 file photo, Bill Gates speaks during the World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings, in Washington.

By SALLY HO

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Tech moguls Bill Gates and Mark Zuckerberg said Tuesday they will team up to help develop new technologies for kids with trouble learning — an effort that will include dabbling into child brain science.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative intend to explore a number of potential pilot projects.

They'll focus on math, writing and brain functions — key areas of classroom learning that they note are crucial for academic success.

The effort is now seeking information and ideas from across sectors, from education and academia to business, technology and medicine. Future investments based on that information are expected, but no dollar amount has been set.

The idea that disadvantaged children struggle to learn because of poor executive brain function involving memory, thinking flexibility, and behavioral issues related to autism and other attention disorders has long been lamented by social workers and health advocates.

The joint project by Gates and Zuckerberg details possible ways to mitigate those shortcomings.

Among the ideas is using games and technology simulations to support

teachers and family, and tracking progress in certain vulnerable student populations such as kids with disabilities or those who are learning English as a second language.

Leaders of the effort say technology is not a primary focus, but they recognize the role it can play.

The new endeavor marks the latest effort by deep-pocketed philanthropists who have tried with little success and much controversy to change entire school systems.

In some ways, it advances the reform agendas of the philanthropists, including helping low-performing students catch up to their potentially more prosperous peers and using classroom technology for digital or personalized learning.

Gates, the world's top philanthropist, recently announced more support for students with disabilities, issues involving American poverty and Alzheimer's disease research.

Zuckerberg idolizes Gates as an inspiration in professional and philanthropic work. But their representatives rejected any notion that their effort on learning is connected to their respective business roles as Facebook CEO and Microsoft founder.

Microsoft announced a \$25 million initiative on Monday to use artificial intelligence to build better technology for people with disabilities.

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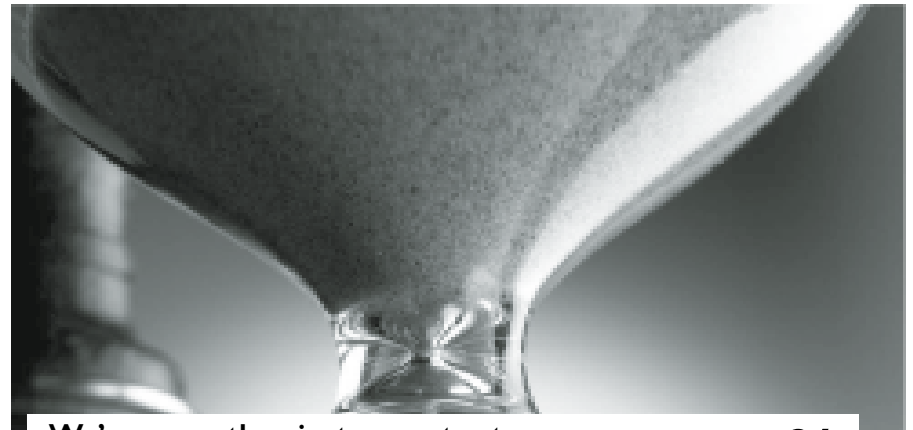
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BSHS senior Austin Horvatic takes 1st place in two classes of the Big Side of Texas Series in Amarillo



Courtesy photo/Mike Horvatic

Austin Horvatic is shown above with his first place plaques. A senior at big spring high school, Horvatic raced in the Big Side of Texas series in Amarillo, Texas this past weekend and took 1st place over all in the 250cc class and also in an open class.

By JORDAN PARR

Sports Editor

Austin Horvatic, a senior at Big Spring High School, just turned 18 yrs old and is racing in the Big Side of Texas series. Austin and his coach and father Mike Horvatic just raced in Amarillo this past weekend and took 1st place over all in 250cc class and 1st place over all in an open class.

The Big Side of Texas series is a highly competitive group of riders, many of which are adults in their twenties and thirties. The races in Amarillo brought riders from all over the state of Texas as well as from New Mexico and Oklahoma. For Austin and his father to have achieved the level of success they have in this circuit, they, as a team, make huge personal and financial sacrifices to get the job done.

Unlike UIL sponsored sports like those you would find at any high school across the country, moto-

cross is a privately funded venture. There are no paid coaches, no free facilities, no equipment rooms full of free gear, no uniforms provided, and no free rides to competitions. Instead, there are a father and a son, with a commitment to each other and a passion for their sport, doing everything they can together to accomplish something that neither will ever forget.

Whether its the years of lost vacations or the way they budget all their spending around their goals, this father and son team have made the investment for success that many simply would not be willing to make. With win after win racking up for Austin those sacrifices are showing themselves to be well worth the financial, emotional, and hard work invested by both of these amazing individuals.

For more on this story, be on the look out for June's edition of "Crossroads- The Living Magazine".

Springer gets 2 more hits, Astros beat A's 4-2

By MICHAEL WAGAMAN

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — As happy as AJ Hinch has been with the top of his lineup, the Astros' manager has been equally pleased with the production from the bottom half of the order, too. Then again, the way Houston's offense has been going lately it doesn't seem to matter who is batting or where.

George Springer kept up his hitting surge with two hits and two RBIs, Alex Bregman homered and the Astros beat Oakland Athletics 4-2 on Tuesday night.

Houston scored its final three runs with a big boost from the final four hitters. A walk by Brian McCann and a double by No. 9 hitter Jake Marisnick preceded Springer's two-run double in the fifth while No. 6 hitter Marwin Gonzalez singled in a run in the sixth.

"The first two games here, we've gotten production out of the bottom of the order and that sets up nicely for the top of the order," Hinch said. "When the bottom of the order contributes, it's a complete lineup."

One night after setting a season-high for scoring and hits, the Astros were at it again with another big night at the plate to beat A's left-hander Sean Manaea in his first start back at the Coliseum since pitching the majors' first no-hitter this season on April 21.

Every Houston starter had at least one hit for the second consecutive game. Springer, who became the first Astros player to have six hits in a nine-inning game the previous night, led the way again with a single and

two-run double to raising his average to .297.

"An offense can only be as good as every guy," Springer said. "Whoever is hitting sixth through ninth, for them to keep having quality at-bats and flipping it over to the top, it's huge. It allows me and (Jose) Altuve and (Carlos) Correa to kind of hit how we want to hit."

Houston's win spoiled Stephen Piscotty's two days after the death of his mother late Sunday night, less than a year after being diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease. Gretchen Piscotty was honored with a moment of silence before the game.

Piscotty caught the first out of the game on Springer's fly to right and received an extended ovation from the crowd before hitting a single in his first at-bat. Piscotty's father was in attendance and later congratulated his son while being interviewed on the video board.

"I know it made him feel good and to get a hit the first time up, it's what you're hoping for," A's manager Bob Melvin said.

Houston starter Lance McCullers said he stepped off the mound in order for Piscotty to appreciate the adulation.

"It's tough, man," McCullers said. "I feel for him and I feel for his family. From everything I've heard he's an awesome guy. I just wanted him to have some time to be able to come up and have the fans recognize him. I wanted that moment to be his."

McCullers (5-1) won his fourth consecutive start, allowing two runs and four hits over five innings. Yuli Gur-



AP photo

Houston Astros' George Springer watches his two run double hit off Oakland Athletics' Sean Manaea in the fifth of a baseball game Tuesday, May 8, 2018, in Oakland, Calif.

riel doubled in the sixth to extend his hitting streak to 10 games.

Three Houston relievers combined to retire 12 batters and complete the six-hitter, with Ken Giles pitching the ninth for his fourth save.

The Astros are 9-2 in their last 11 road games and moved past the Angels into first place in the AL West.

"We just got a couple disciplined in the zone that we stayed disciplined on," Hinch said. "Our at-bats were really good tonight."

Marcus Semien singled and scored twice for Oakland.

Manaea (4-4) extended his hitless streak at the Coliseum to 13 innings before Bregman's one-out home run in the second.

After Springer's go-ahead double in the fifth, Marwin Gonzalez made it 4-2 with an RBI single in the sixth.

Manaea allowed four runs in 5 2/3 innings. The left-hander has given up eight runs in his last two starts after yielding five in the first six.

No-Canada! Mariners' Paxton pitches no-hitter in Toronto

By IAN HARRISON

Associated Press

TORONTO — James Paxton looked up at the 20,000 Canadian fans cheering for him and pointed to the giant maple leaf tattoo on his right forearm.

The Big Maple picked the perfect place for the game of his life.

Paxton became the first Canadian to throw a no-hitter in his home country, pitching the Seattle Mariners over the Toronto Blue Jays 5-0 Tuesday night.

"You couldn't write this stuff," Paxton said. "Pretty amazing to have it happen against the Blue Jays, at home in Canada."

Not bad, eh?

The 29-year-old lefty from British Columbia got a standing ovation at Rogers Centre. The crowd roared for him in the late innings, realizing he was one of their own — his tattoo of Canada's national symbol includes an image of a family home near Vancouver.

"The fans were great," he said. "They were giving me some trouble in the seventh inning, but once I got past that, they started kind of cheering me on. It was cool."

Paxton joined Dick Fowler of the 1945 Philadelphia Athletics as the only Canadians to throw a no-hitter.

Paxton threw the third no-hitter in the majors



Seattle Mariners starting pitcher James Paxton shows off his Maple Leaf tattoo after pitching a no-hitter against the Toronto Blue Jays in a baseball game Tuesday, May 8, 2018, in Toronto.

this year — all three have come in different countries.

Oakland's Sean Manaea pitched one against Boston on April 21 in California. Four Los Angeles Dodgers combined to no-hit San Diego in Mexico last Friday.

AP photo

Coming off a career-high 16 strikeouts in his last start, Paxton (2-1) was electric once again, hitting 100 mph with his fastball while retiring Josh Donaldson on a grounder to end it.

Paxton struck out seven, walked three, threw 99 pitches and benefited from an outstanding play by third baseman Kyle Seager. With two outs in the seventh, the former Gold Glove made a full-length diving stop on speedy Kevin Pillar's grounder down the line, then slung an off-balance throw that first baseman Ryon Healy snagged on one hop.

"If that ball gets by you, it's going to be hard to get any sleep tonight," Seager said. "It may be hard anyway."

Russell Martin led off the Toronto eighth with a long drive that left fielder Ben Gamel caught near the wall.

"What a defense tonight. That was amazing. Those guys were making every play," Paxton said.

Anthony Alford fouled out on the first pitch to begin the ninth and Teoscar Hernandez struck out swinging. Donaldson ended it with a hard one-hopper to Seager.

Healy pumped his fist after catching Seager's throw, and the Mariners streamed out of the dugout, dousing their pitcher with a cooler as the crowd of 20,513 cheered. That was very special. I just wanted to show them that I heard them".

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McKinnon, Cafeteria Director,
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Glasscock County ISD re-

Public Notice

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consider each proposal's ad-
vantages to the district and
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Legals

Production is from Spraberry
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et Services Department at
(512) 463-6848. If you have
questions which are specific
to the Application or the in-
formation set forth in this No-
tice, please contact the Com-
mission's Drilling Permit Unit
at rule 37 **(512) 463-6751**.

**IF YOU WISH TO RE-
QUEST A HEARING ON
THIS APPLICATION, AN IN-
TENT TO APPEAR IN
PROTEST MUST BE RE-
CEIVED IN THE RAILROAD
COMMISSION'S AUSTIN
OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS,
FAX NUMBER, OR
E-MAIL ADDRESS SET
OUT ABOVE BY Jun 5,
2018 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO
PROTEST IS RECEIVED
WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU
WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT
TO PROTEST AND THE RE-
QUESTED PERMIT MAY BE
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IVELY.**

**THIS NOTICE OF APPLI-
CATION REQUIRES PUBLICA-
TION**

The location and identity of
the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY

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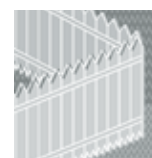
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Legals

(TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name : FLETCH B
Lease/Unit Well No. : 1343WA
Lease/Unit Acres : 635.13
Nearest Lease Line (ft) : 1.0

Lease Lines:414.0 F N (offlease) L,
2123.0 F W (offlease) L
Survey Lines: 414.0 F N (offlease) L, 2123.0 F W (offlease) L

Lateral: TH1
Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines: 500.0 F N (OFFLEASE) L
1667.0 F W (OFFLEASE) L
Terminus Location BH
County: HOWARD
Section: 13 Block: 33 T1S
Abstract: 364 Survey: T&P RR CO
Lease Lines: 50.0 F N L
1655.0 F W L
Survey Lines: 50.0 F N L
1655.0 F W L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special

Legals

Rules 330/0, 80.0 acres. This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10300 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Jill Hamilton, at (432) 848-4855.

#9789 May 2, 9, 16 & 23, 2018

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 08
DATE OF ISSUANCE: May 4, 2018
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jun 8, 2018
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

Rule 37 Case No. 0311137
Status/Permit No. 837556

NOTICE OF

Legals

APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SM ENERGY COMPANY, [RRC Operator No. 788997] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-pooled interest within the subject unit for the AMENDED NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 21, Bk. 32 T1S, T&P RR CO Survey, A-162, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, HOWARD County, being 4.83 miles SE direction from BIG SPRING, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this applica-

Legals

tion. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512) 463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (512) 463-6751.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN IN-

Legals

TENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jun 8, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name : TAGGERT B
Lease/Unit Well No. : 0927LS
Lease/Unit Acres : 920.0
Nearest Lease Line (ft) : 1.0
Lease Lines: 638.0 F S L, 374.0 F W L
Survey Lines: 638.0 F S L,

Legals

2376.0 F E L
Wellbore Profiles (s): Horizontal
Lateral: TH1
Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines: 100.0 F S L
330.0 F W L
Terminus Location BH
County: HOWARD
Section: 9 Block: 32 T1S
Abstract: 156 Survey: T&P RR CO
Lease Lines: 100.0 F N L
330.0 F W L
Survey Lines: 100.0 F N L
2440.0 F E L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special
Rules 330/0, 80.0 acres. This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 9400 feet. If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Jill Hamilton, at (432) 848-4855.

#9800 May 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2018

An Open Letter for 'Be Kind to Animals Week'

Dear Annie: I'm hoping you'll print this for Be Kind to Animals Week. While traveling, my daughter saw four dogs lying beside an interstate. When she stopped, two ran off into the woods. With the aid of another motorist, she managed to get two dogs into her car and drive them to a shelter in the nearest city. One was adopted. The other was not. Sharing her sorrow, I penned the following letter, meant for the person who abandoned those dogs:

Your dog died today, and you don't even know it. He was young -- much too young. I found him lying by the side of the road. I

stopped. He lay there, bloodied and unable to stand. I thought he had been hit, but it turned out his wounds were caused by bites from other animals. He allowed me, a stranger, to carry him to my car.

The hospital treated his physical wounds successfully, but his mental wounds were not so easily overcome, and he was put down because he was "unadoptable." What did you think would happen when you dropped him somewhere? Or did he run off from a place that held no joy for him -- only pain and deprivation? Did you hope someone would take him in? Did you think, "He'll survive somehow"? Did you think at all?

Annie's Mailbox

Your dog was put to death today. The good thing is that his belly was full and loving hands held him. The bad thing is that he was much too young, and they weren't even your hands. -- Ann in Illinois

Dear Ann: I'm happy to print your letter in honor of Be Kind to Animals Week, which is the first full week of May every year.

Abandoning a pet is illegal in many states and immoral in all of them. But that doesn't stop people from doing it. Your letter tells a heartbreaking and, unfortunately, all-too-common story.

To anyone considering a pet: Please be sure you're ready to commit to caring for that animal for the rest

of his or her life; spay and neuter so as not to contribute to the overpopulation problem; and adopt from a shelter. As reported by the ASPCA, 6.5 million companion animals enter U.S. shelters every year. Millions of tails, just waiting to wag for that special somebody who will become their person.

For more information on animal homelessness and pet adoption, visit <https://www.aspca.org> and <http://www.humanesociety.org>.

Dear Annie: I've wanted to address this situation for some time. I've noticed that obituaries are often like Facebook (also known as Facebook) -- presenting a version of someone that doesn't

reflect reality.

Why do some people who write loved ones' obituaries fabricate the truth -- or have they not been told the truth? For example, I sometimes see people mentioning surviving stepchildren as full-blooded relatives. Why not say the deceased had stepchildren whom he loved as if they were his own if he felt that way? I've also seen education achievements listed that are not completely true. Why even go there? It's a fact of life that we are going to die. I suggest we all write our own obituaries and be truthful. -- Honest John

Dear Honest John: Stepchildren are children. It's not dishonest to call them that, for

the same reasons you mentioned: The person loved the children as his or her own.

As for misrepresenting someone's education or fudging other details, to me, that disrespects the life the person truly lived. No need to lie about the loved one's alma mater. What matters is that the person loved and was loved.

"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

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



Sensation, Delusion and the Pisces Moon

Under this sensitive and impressionable Pisces moon, two things keep us from seeing the true nature of things: sensation and delusion. It's easy to become so dazzled by sensory stimuli that we cannot comprehend what is really there. Also, we must look beyond what things are in relation to us to try to understand what they are without us.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The love (philos) of wisdom (sophia) is philosophy. You'll be thinking a lot about your personal philosophy, deciding what it is (and whether it's changed), honing it and living it more fully.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). A person's character is only as great as he or she treats the weakest in the group. Be very wary of anyone who seems to take advantage of (or be oblivious to) those in a down position.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll be

drawn to connect. You have a lot to share, but you won't know what it is until you get into the jazz of social interaction. Even you will be surprised by the interesting tidbits that come up.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You are in perfect step with your people, and it is for this very reason that you're able to step back and create a new and complementary rhythm. Think of it as a syncopation that keeps everything livelier.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll put your heart into what you make. People who experience your creation will feel this, perhaps experiencing it as an intangible tug on their own heartstrings.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your service is a sacrifice, yet you may also be paid for it. That fact doesn't take anything away from the gift you give when you dedicate yourself to doing the job with full attention and love.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). This is a time to do full disclosure, be totally transparent and show your work. You will create bonds as you fascinate others. You'll improve quickly when they point out your strengths and help you see mistakes.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Usually, you

Tomorrow's Horoscope

know when to step in and lend a hand. If the day needs saving, you'll save it. But today brings up some gray area. You may not be sure whether it's your place or your turn. Pause. Only step in when you're sure.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don't want to be repetitive, but the fact is that they won't get it unless you repeat yourself. Say it differently each time or say it the same; that doesn't matter. If it's worth saying, it's worth repeating.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You'll have some self-editing to do today. You'll pump up the fun parts, amplify

the essential, ax the superfluous, nix the unnecessary. All this polish is only possible because you once put it all out there. You should be proud!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're wary of being sold, as you should be. When it's a good match, you don't need to be sold. When it's something you've been looking for or something you believe in, need and will use up, you'll go all in.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There won't be a lot of transactions that absolutely must happen today. So you can turn off the distractions and con-

centrate on what you most need to be doing, which will be producing and creating.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 9). You look younger than you did last year. Way to annoy your friends! You'll complete a big project, revel in freedom for weeks and then quickly be immersed in a new interest. In July, you'll either move or refresh

your digs. The work you do to improve daily routines will open unforeseen lucky opportunity. In September, you'll cash in. Leo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 12, 39, 4 and 14.

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



By Steve Becker
Diversionsary tactics

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A K J 8 3
♥ K J
♦ K 10 9 6
♣ A 8
WEST
♠ Q 10 4
♥ 6 2
♦ Q J 4 2
♣ J 10 9 7
EAST
♠ 9 5
♥ 8 5 4
♦ 8 7 3
♣ Q 6 5 3 2
SOUTH
♠ 7 6 2
♥ A Q 10 9 7 3
♦ A 5
♣ K 4

The bidding:
South 1♥
West Pass
North 2♠
East Pass
3♥ Pass 4NT Pass
5♥ Pass 5NT Pass
6♦ Pass 7♥

Opening lead — jack of clubs.
A defender should do everything possible to steer declarer away from the winning line of play. Declarer may not take the bait, but it is certainly better to give him something to think about than to do nothing at all.
Consider this case where, with the queen of spades favorably located, South seems certain to make seven hearts. However, that's not the way it turned out.
Declarer won the opening club lead with the king, drew trumps and

then cashed the ace of spades. When the queen did not appear, he had one additional chance before being forced to rely on the spade finesse: If either opponent held the Q-J-x of diamonds, an extra trick in the suit could be developed by playing the A-K and ruffing a diamond.
So South cashed the ace and king, whereupon West seized the opportunity to divert declarer from the winning course. Instead of routinely following low to both diamonds, he played the deuce on the ace and the queen under the king!
This gave South a brand-new option. If West actually started with the Q-x of diamonds, a ruffing finesse was available against East. Furthermore, declarer could add to his chances by first cashing the king of spades; if the queen fell doubleton, he would not have to risk the ruffing finesse in diamonds.
South thought long and hard, and eventually opted for the second approach. After playing the king of spades, he led the nine of diamonds and let it ride, discarding his losing spade. Down one.
Percentage-wise, the line of play South chose was distinctly inferior to the line he originally embarked on. But the point is that without West's clever falsecard, declarer would have had nothing at all to think about and would have made the grand slam.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

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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!

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!

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

ANSWER

	KMID (3)	UNI (4)	KPEJ (5)	KOSA (7)	KTLE (8)	KWES (9)	KMLM (12)	KPBT (13)	KWTT (14)	KWES2 (15)	WTBS (33)	TNT (34)	ESPN (35)	ESPN2 (36)	FSN (38)	USA (55)	A&E (58)	DISC (60)
	Midland	Spanish	Odessa	Odessa	Telemundo	Midland	Odessa	Odessa	Odessa	Midland	Atlanta	Atlanta	Sports	Sports	Sports	New York	New York	Discovery
5:PM	Local 2	P. Luche	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	Inspired	Scully	Hawaii	American	Fam. Guy	NCIS: New Orleans	SportsCenter	Around	OSU	Law & Order: SVU	Storage	Misfit Garage
5:30	ABC	Noticiero	CBS	Noticias	News	News	M. Rantz	Business	American	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	NBA	MLB Baseball: Boston Red Sox at New York Yankees.	NFL Live	A&M Athl.	(:05) Movie: Jurassic Park, Jeff Goldblum (DVS)	Storage	Misfit Garage
6:PM	Jeopardy!	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Caso Cerado	News	Shepherd's Heart	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA.	SEC Storied	Swing	Journey	Storage	Storage	Storage
6:30	Wheel	El rico y Lázaro	Empire	Survivor	Mi familia perfecta	The Blacklist	News	Nature	Griffith	Riverdale	Big Bang	Big Bang	SEC Storied	NHRA Drag Racing: Four-Wide Nationals.	NHRA Drag Racing: Four-Wide Nationals.	Storage	Misfit Garage	Storage
7:PM	Gold	Papá a toda madre	Star (DVS)	(:01) SEAL Team	Al otro lado	Law & Order: SVU	Light of Southwest	NOVA Wonders	G. Pyle	The Originals	Big Bang	Big Bang	NBA Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA.	Rookie	Rookie	Colony (DVS)	(:01) Flip Wars	(:02) Sticker Shock
7:30	Alex, Inc.	Por amar sin ley	News	Code Black	El Señor de los	Chicago P.D.	Light of Southwest	NOVA (DVS)	Heroes	Page Six	Big Bang	Big Bang	Basketball: Conference Semifinal: Teams TBA.	Rookie	Rookie	Colony (DVS)	(:01) Flip Wars	(:02) Sticker Shock
8:PM	Designated Survivor	Mom	Mom	CBS 7	Tele	News	News	Amanpour	C. Burnett	Seinfeld	Conan	Conan	SportsCenter	Rookie	College Football	(:01) Movie: Jurassic Park, Jeff Goldblum (DVS)	Storage	Storage
8:30	Local 2	Impacto	Mod Fam	Late Show- Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Dr. C. Stanley	Beyond	Perry Mason	Rules	Rules	Full	Inside the NBA	Rookie	Nación ESPN	Storage	Storage	Storage
9:PM	Local 2	Noticiero	Mod Fam	How I Met	James	Corden	El Señor de los	Daly	Shofar	Rules	Full	Conan	SportsCenter	Rookie	Nación ESPN	Storage	Storage	Storage
9:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met	James	Corden	El Señor de los	Daly	Shofar	Stage	King	Conan	Conan	SportsCenter	Rookie	Nación ESPN	Storage	Storage	Storage
10:PM	Local 2	Noticiero	Mod Fam	Late Show- Colbert	Titulares	Tonight Show	Dr. C. Stanley	Beyond	Perry Mason	Rules	Full	Conan	SportsCenter	Rookie	Nación ESPN	Storage	Storage	Storage
10:30	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Contacto Deportivo	How I Met	James	Corden	El Señor de los	Daly	Shofar	Stage	King	Conan	Conan	SportsCenter	Rookie	Nación ESPN	Storage	Storage	Storage
11:PM	Nightline	Extra	Fuerza-Destino	How I Met	Access	Programa	News	Light of Southwest	Hitchcock	King/Hill	Cops	Detour	SportsCenter	First Take	NHRA Drag Racing: Four-Wide Nationals.	Dateline	(:04) Flip Wars	(:02) Misfit Garage
11:30	AM	Paid Prg.	Simplemente María	Simpsons	(:37) CBS	Programa	(:37) The		Hitchcock	King/Hill	Cops	Detour	SportsCenter	First Take	NHRA Drag Racing: Four-Wide Nationals.	Dateline	(:04) Flip Wars	(:02) Misfit Garage
12:PM	AM	Paid Prg.	Simplemente María	Simpsons	(:37) CBS	Programa	(:37) The		Hitchcock	King/Hill	Cops	Detour	SportsCenter	First Take	NHRA Drag Racing: Four-Wide Nationals.	Dateline	(:04) Flip Wars	(:02) Misfit Garage
12:30	AM	Paid Prg.	Simplemente María	Simpsons	(:37) CBS	Programa	(:37) The		Hitchcock	King/Hill	Cops	Detour	SportsCenter	First Take	NHRA Drag Racing: Four-Wide Nationals.	Dateline	(:04) Flip Wars	(:02) Misfit Garage
1:PM	AM	Paid Prg.	Simplemente María	Simpsons	(:37) CBS	Programa	(:37) The		Hitchcock	King/Hill	Cops	Detour	SportsCenter	First Take	NHRA Drag Racing: Four-Wide Nationals.	Dateline	(:04) Flip Wars	(:02) Misfit Garage

ANDY CAPP



AGNES



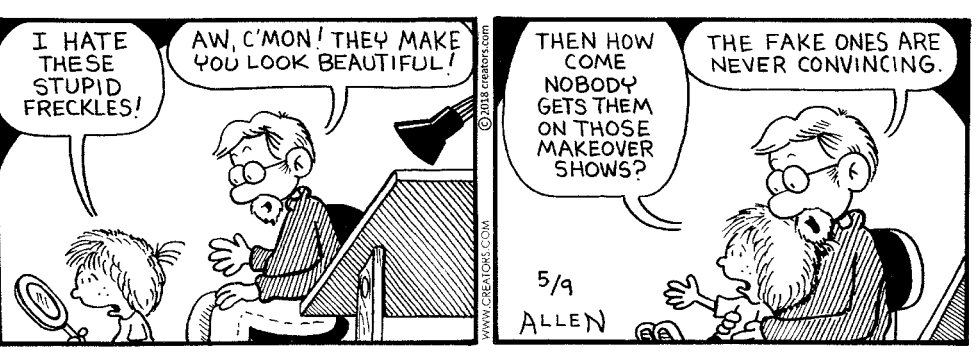
ARCHIE



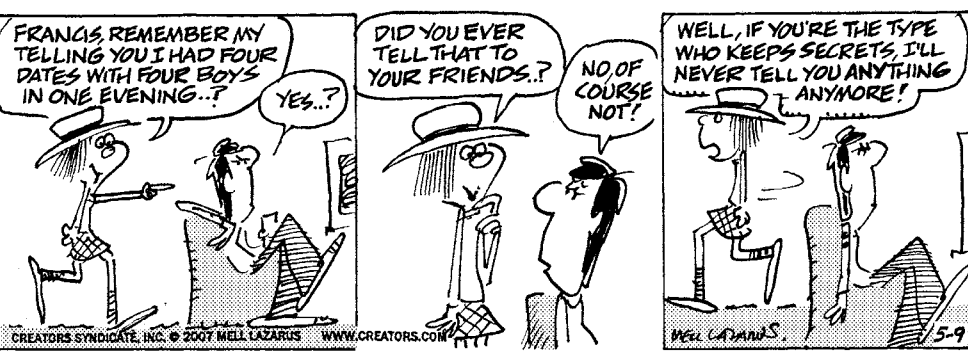
ONE BIG HAPPY



NEST HEAD



MOMMA



This Date In History

Today is Wednesday, May 9, the 129th day of 2018. There are 236 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On May 9, 1958, "Vertigo," Alfred Hitchcock's eerie thriller starring James Stewart and Kim Novak, premiered in San Francisco, the movie's setting.

On this date:

In 1754, a political cartoon in Benjamin Franklin's Pennsylvania Gazette depicted a snake cut into eight pieces, each section representing a part of the American colonies; the caption read, "JOIN, or DIE."

In 1814, the Jane Austen novel "Mansfield Park" was first published in London.

In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson, acting on a joint congressional resolution, signed a proclamation designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

In 1918, CBS newsman Mike Wallace was born Myron Leon Wallace in Brookline, Massachusetts.

In 1926, Americans Richard Byrd and Floyd Bennett supposedly became the first men to fly over the North Pole. (However, U.S. scholars announced in 1996 that their examination of Byrd's flight diary suggested he had turned back 150 miles short of his goal.)

In 1936, Italy annexed Ethiopia.

In 1945, with World War II in Europe at an end, Soviet forces liberated Czechoslovakia from Nazi occupation. U.S. officials announced that a midnight entertainment curfew was being lifted immediately.

In 1961, in a speech to the National Association of Broadcasters, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Newton N. Minow decried the majority of television programming as a "vast wasteland."

In 1978, the bullet-riddled body of former Italian prime minister Aldo Moro, who had been abducted by the Red Brigades, was found in an automobile in the center of Rome.

In 1980, 35 people were killed when a freighter rammed the Sunshine Skyway Bridge over Tampa Bay in Florida, causing a 1,400-foot section of the south-bound span to collapse.

In 1994, South Africa's newly elected parliament chose Nelson Mandela to be the country's first black president.

In 2012, President Barack Obama declared his unequivocal support for same-sex marriage in a historic announce-

ment that came three days after Vice President Joe Biden spoke in favor of such unions on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Ten years ago: Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama picked up the backing of nine superdelegates, all but erasing Hillary Rodham Clinton's once-imposing lead. Jury selection began in the Chicago trial of R&B superstar R. Kelly, accused of videotaping himself having sex with a girl as young as 13. (Kelly was later acquitted on all counts.) Journalist-feminist Nuala O'Faolain, who gained international fame with her outspoken memoir "Are You Somebody?" in 1966, died in Dublin, Ireland, at age 68.

Five years ago: Afghan President Hamid Karzai (HAH-mihd KAHR'zeyeh), who had irked Washington with his frequent criticism of U.S. military operations in his country, said his government was ready to let the U.S. have nine bases across Afghanistan after the withdrawal of most foreign forces in 2014. A 72-foot-long, high-tech catamaran sailboat capsized in San Francisco Bay while practicing for the America's Cup races, killing English Olympic gold medalist Andrew "Bart" Simpson. Malcolm Shabazz, 28, grandson of civil rights activist Malcolm X, died in Mexico City of blunt trauma injuries sustained in a bar dispute.

One year ago: President Donald Trump abruptly fired FBI Director James Comey, ousting the nation's top law enforcement official in the midst of an FBI investigation into whether Trump's campaign had ties to Russia's meddling in the election that sent him to the White House. The Senate confirmed Dr. Scott Gottlieb as commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, 57-42. Moon Jae-in declared victory in South Korea's presidential election after his two main rivals conceded. Actor Michael Parks ("Then Came Bronson") died in Los Angeles at age 77.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-writer Alan Bennett is 84. Actor Albert Finney is 82. Actress-turned-politician Glenda Jackson is 82. Producer-director James L. Brooks is 81.

Musician Sonny Curtis (Buddy Holly and the Crickets) is 81. Singer Tommy Roe is 76. Singer-musician Richie Furay (Buffalo Springfield and Poco) is 74. Actress Candice Bergen is 72. Pop singer Clint Holmes is 72. Actor Anthony Higgins is 71. Singer Billy Joel is 69. Blues singer-musician Bob Margolin is 69. Rock singer-musician Tom Petersson (Cheap Trick) is 68. Actress Alley Mills is 67.

Actress Amy Hill is 65. Actress Wendy Crewson is 62. Actor John Corbett is 57. Singer Dave Gahan (GAHN) (Depeche Mode) is 56. Actress Sonja Sohn is 54. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt is 50. Rapper Ghostface Killah is 48. Country musician Mike Myerson (Heartland) is 47. Actor Chris Diamantopoulos (dy-uh-MAN'-toh-POO'-lehhs) is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Tamia (tuh-MEE'-ah) is 43.

Rock musician Dan Regan (Reel Big Fish) is 41. Actor Daniel Franzese is 40. Rock singer Pierre Bouvier (Simple Plan) is 39. Actress Rosario Dawson is 39. Rock singer Andrew W.K. is 39. Figure skater Angela Nikodinov is 38. Actress Rachel Boston is 36. TV personality Audrina Patridge is 33. Actress Grace Gummer is 32.

Thought for Today:

"A watch is always too fast or too slow. I cannot be dictated to by a watch."

From "Mansfield Park" Jane Austen (1775-1817).

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Newsday Crossword

SENSORY SET by Fred Piscop Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Sunday service	1 Respectful address
5 Gladiator's venue	2 Actress Jessica
10 Tot's neckwear	3 Seem wrong somehow
13 __ mater	4 Oceanfront attraction
14 Gossip-mag topic	5 Troupe members
15 Peevish	6 Fully prepared
16 Eve's second son	7 Alternatively
17 Anticipate victory	8 After expenses
19 Grain in beer	9 Teddy's Rushmore neighbor
20 Laudatory verse	10 Unmannerly one
21 Merits	11 Barbell metal
22 Novelist McMurtry	12 Floors of seas
24 Noteworthy deed	15 Actor Christian
26 Resists boldly	18 Lentil or garbanzo
28 Goal of regular exercise	23 Coral formation
31 In flames	24 Unprecedented event
32 Home for farm horses	25 Sicilian volcano
33 Peruse	26 100-yard race
35 Most SAT takers	27 Zac of High School Musical
36 Be mopey	28 Erroneous
39 Mopey rock music	29 Don't be fooled by
40 Sounds from Santa	30 Polynesian nation
42 Final	32 Outscores
43 Helicopter's spinning part	34 Campus building, for short
45 Gov. Cuomo's jurisdiction	37 Airline of Israel
47 City near Raleigh	38 Outscore by a wide margin
48 Animation collectibles	41 Sword-holding statuettes
49 Kid-lit elephant	44 Ancient fortune-tellers
50 Ballpark musical instrument	46 Camper's setup
53 Add up	47 Silents heroine "in distress"
54 Parka, for instance	49 Military horn
57 Get gossip through the grapevine	50 "This can't be!"
	51 Tangible
	52 Show great surprise
	53 Irritated mood
	55 2012 Affleck film
	56 Dry run
	58 Meat atop Hawaiian pizza
	59 "It's my tum"

Answer to previous puzzle
 SOFA SCOOT RASH
 CHAP TESLA ECHO
 IMUP ALLIS ATOM
 FALL IN LOVE LORE
 INTEND ERMINES
 COST SOS
 DANG FARE OTTER
 ODOR FLOAT IOTA
 CARAT TORO GOAT
 CIA PLOT
 VOTESNO LIGHTS
 ABEL CHICKENOUT
 SANE MANOT ANNA
 EMTS ORNOT SEEK
 SASS RASPS HYDE

Paul finally gets into conference finals as Rockets advance

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON— Chris Paul is an ultra-intense competitor, often the most passionate player on the court.

But even for his Houston Rockets teammates, what they saw from him Tuesday night was on another level.

Paul scored a playoff career-high 41 points with eight 3-pointers to finally reach the conference finals, helping the Rockets eliminate the Utah Jazz 112-102 in Game 5.

"He said you get out of the way ... I'm going to put us on my back," James Harden said. "You could see it in his eyes. He had that look in his eyes. If he has that look in his eyes ... he's a problem."

The Rockets will meet Golden State after the Warriors closed out their series against the New Orleans Pelicans later Tuesday night. Top-seeded Houston will host the series opener Monday night.

It will be Houston's second trip to the Western Conference finals in four years and the first ever for Paul. The point guard has been panned for failing to get past the second round in his nine previous trips to the postseason.

"He's been under a lot of unfair scrutiny throughout the playoffs and tonight he showed that he wanted it," Utah star rookie Donovan Mitchell, who is close with Paul, said. "He does it every night, but taking over the way he did was very impressive."

Paul, a nine-time All-Star in his first season with Houston after an off-season trade from the Los Angeles Clippers, also had 10 assists and seven



Chris Paul and James Harden, of the Houston Rockets celebrate after they eliminated the Utah Jazz in the second round of the Western Conference playoffs, on Tuesday May 8, 2018

rebounds. His previous career-best in the playoffs was 35 points, which he accomplished three times

The 33-year-old scored 20 points in the fourth quarter, answering everything the Jazz tried to do in order to close out the game and series.

"He was playing with a chip on his shoulder," Luc Mbah a Moute said. "In that fourth quarter, he just took over."

Paul had been in the conference semifinals four other times before finally getting over the hump this season. He lost to the Spurs 4-3 in 2008 while with New Orleans and was swept by San Antonio in 2012 with the

Clippers. He also lost 4-2 to the Thunder while with Los Angeles, and his Clippers had a 3-1 lead in 2015 before Houston won the next three games.

The Rockets were able to close out the series despite Harden, the front-runner for MVP, being under the weather. Coach Mike D'Antoni disclosed that Harden wasn't feeling well Tuesday, and he looked a little worn down postgame. But when asked what was wrong with him, Harden said he was fine.

Paul said he was just trying to pick up the slack with Harden not feeling like himself.

"Whatever it took to win," Paul said.

"James was under the weather so we were just trying to pick him up."

Houston lost to the Warriors 4-1 when they last reached the conference finals in 2015. They believe they're much better suited to match up with Golden State this time around, but know it won't be easy to dethrone the defending champions.

"They've been built to beat everybody," general manager Daryl Morey said. "They're going to be a tough matchup. We'll have to bring our A-plus game and I think our guys are ready."

While the Rockets took a minute Tuesday night to appreciate what they've done so far, they were quick to point out that they're far from finished chasing their goals this season.

"We just advanced in another series which is an accomplishment, but that's not our main goal," Trevor Ariza said. "We are still taking steps toward that, but this is an accomplishment."

Houston is in the conference finals for the seventh time in franchise history and looking to win its first title since taking back-to-back championships in 1994-95.

Harden loves that he has so many players around him that have led to the team's success this season and thinks that will be valuable moving forward.

"In order to get where we want to go we needed the right piece, and that's what they're here for," he said. "I know if we give the effort that we know we can it's pretty tough to beat us."

Warriors reach fourth straight Western Conference finals

By JANIE McCAULEY

AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. — After a Game 3 flop in New Orleans, similar to that lone first-round loss against San Antonio last month, coach Steve Kerr provided a quick reminder to the Golden State Warriors:

It's not supposed to be easy at this stage — especially for the defending champions.

There's no way this postseason can go as brilliantly as the last one. That remarkably, record-setting 16-1 run to the title, well, it's not going to happen often, or maybe ever again.

"I told our team actually after Game 3 the day we practiced, I said, 'What we did last year was the first time and only time anybody has ever accomplished that in the playoffs, gone 16-1,'" Kerr said. "I know the Lakers went 15-1, they had a similar kind of joy ride where very little adversity, but that's the extreme exception. Year after year, the NBA champion has to go through so much to get there. And that's why you pour champagne on each other, because it's really hard, and it's supposed to be hard. The fact that it is so difficult brings out the best in you because you have to be on edge and on guard."

Now comes the next and most daunting test in this quest for a repeat.

The Warriors eliminated the Pelicans with a 113-104 win Tuesday night and are on to the Western Conference finals to face the top-seeded Hous-

ton Rockets, who closed out the Jazz earlier Tuesday in their own Game 5. This is the matchup so many have looked to for months.

"You can't believe the hype," Klay Thompson guarded before the Warriors played. "Everybody is already talking about Warriors-Rockets."

And for good reason. It might just have a Finals feel with so much talent and scoring on both teams.

"I think it will be very entertaining," Pelicans coach Alvin Gentry said.

Golden State has succeeded playing big and small. It has pushed the pace and dealt with San Antonio slowing things way down. The Warriors have endured a couple of blips this time around, and that hasn't necessarily been a bad thing.

"Every series you play gets harder and harder and harder," Stephen Curry said, referencing Kerr's remarks about how hard it is.

Kerr didn't have to say anything to his players on the urgency of closing out the Pelicans in Game 5 at Oracle Arena, where the Warriors won a franchise-record 15th straight home playoff game to match the Bulls' NBA record.

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Pop singers compete for top prize at CMT Music Awards

By KRISTIN M. HALL
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Carrie Underwood, Florida Georgia Line and Jason Aldean are the leading nominees for the CMT Music Awards with four each, but it's the pop artists who might steal the big prize at this year's awards show.

CMT announced Tuesday that for the first time, pop artists who have collaborated with country artists are nominated for video of the year. Justin Timberlake's "Say Something" featuring Chris Stapleton and the country chart-topping song "Meant To Be," by Bebe Rexha featuring Florida Georgia Line are both nominated in the category, alongside artists like Blake Shelton, Kelsea Ballerini, Brothers Osborne and Thomas Rhett.

Although non-country acts have often been nominated in other categories, such as collaborative video or CMT performance of the year, the top award has been reserved for country artists.

A dozen songs are nominated for the video of the year, which include Underwood's duet with rapper Ludacris, "The Champion," Aldean's chart-topper "You

Make It Easy," and Kane Brown and Lauren Alaina's duet "What Ifs."

Grammy-winning group Little Big Town are taking over the helm as hosts for the first time when the show premieres on June 6 at 8 p.m. Eastern/Pacific on CMT.

"The CMT Awards is such a special night and always has the most insane collaborations and performances," the band said in a statement. "We look forward to it all year long. We are excited and honored not just to be nominees, but to also host the show and keep the party going."

Underwood is the record holder for most CMT Music Awards with 17 and is also nominated in female video, collaborative video and CMT performance of the year. Florida Georgia Line are also nominated for duo video of the year, collaborative video and CMT performance of the year. Aldean is nominated for male video of the year and has two nominations in the CMT performance of the year category.

Fan voting starts Tuesday at CMT.com. The final five nominees in the video of the year category will be announced on the morning of the show.



AP photo
In this April 15, 2018 file photo, Tyler Hubbard, right, and Brian Kelley, of Florida Georgia Line, perform "Meant to Be" at the 53rd annual Academy of Country Music Awards in Las Vegas. The duo, along with Carrie Underwood and Jason Aldean are the leading nominees for the CMT Music Awards with four each. Little Big Town, who are nominated for three awards, will host the show, which airs on June 6 at 8 p.m. Eastern on CMT.

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