MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2016 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

STATE

Paleo dig near Snyder yields interesting artifacts.

Page 4B

DURANT PICKS WARRIORS

Kevin Durant decided his best chance for "growth" means leaving his beloved Oklahoma City behind for a big move out West to join the star-studded, record-setting Golden State Warriors.

Page 1C

Fuller: It's 'naive' to expect things to remain same

Community is expected to be engaged in search for MISD superintendent

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

For the fourth time since 2001, the Midland Independent School District is looking for a new superintendent.

And if early conversations with MISD trustees are any indication, the status quo will not be acceptable.

If the recent Education Midland rollout indicated anything, it was that the district has room for improvement, no matter the superintendent.

Last year, Greatschools.org indicated 18 of MISD's 33 schools were "below average" (scoring worse than 3.5 on a scale of 1 to 10). Only two schools — Carver Center and Early College High School — were "above average" (scoring 7.5 or higher).

The Texas Education Agency — using a rating system highly criticized by MISD leaders — reported 10 district schools, including nine elementary campuses, were designated "IR," or "improvement required." By comparison, El Paso's three districts combined had five schools designated as "improvement required."

"I believe anybody who says our board or the community is expecting things to remain the same; they are being naive," said James Fuller, the longest-serving MISD board member. "This is an opportunity — given our academic circumstance — for us as a community. If we are serious about educating young people in Midland, we will put aside personal preferences and ideas and focus on enhancing the academic process in this district so our young people can be challenged and allowed to perform at their maximum."

The next superintendent will follow Joseph P. Baressi Jr. (1982-2001), Robert E. Nicks (2001-06), Sylvester Perez (2006-09) and Warren, who later this month is expected to take over at Northwest ISD (just north of Fort Worth), where he has been selected as the lone finalist for its superintendent position.

In 2002, Midland ISD earned a "recognized" district rating — the second best rating the Texas Education Agency handed out at the time. Sixteen campuses earned the same rating, and another three earned the TEA's top ranking — "exemplary." That year, no MISD campus received the lowest rating of "academically unacceptable."

In 2009, the downward trend became apparent in ratings. MISD, as a district, and four of its campuses were rated "academically acceptable."

The slide, according to data from the Education Resources Group, was in full effect the last time the district had a superintendent search. ERG, a company that creates educational products and aggregates data, reported in its District Achievement Index that Midland ISD fell from the 55th percentile in 2007 to the 11th percentile of the 200 largest school districts in Texas this past year. When using TEA's "economically disadvantaged" identifier for students

Please see **MISD**/2A

PATRIOTIC PARADE

Gayle Dodson leads hundreds of Midlanders who came out Monday for the 54th Annual Children's Parade at Hogan Park.

Photos by Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

The 54th annual Children's Sidewalk Parade kicked off Midland's July Fourth celebration Monday morning at Hogan Park. There were more than 300 entries in the annual Independence Day event. See more photos from Midland's July Fourth events on **Pages 4/5A.**

Annual children's parade kicks off Star-Spangled Salute

By Mary Dearen
mdearen@mrt.com

Virginia Beach, Virginia, resident Jean Hayward got a little teary-eyed as she watched the 54th annual Children's Sidewalk Parade Monday morning at Hogan Park.

"It pulls on my heart strings to see all these kids," Hayward said, as the red, white and blue procession headed up the park road toward Christensen Stadium, the parade's end point.

Hayward, who originally is from Scotland, was visiting her daughter, Karen Blanton and 3-year-old granddaughter, Delaney. She spoke with pride of being able to live in this county for the past 53 years and appreciates the opportunity she has been given.

"Uncle Sam has been good to me, allowing me to see the world," with her late husband, who was in the U.S. Navy.

The annual parade for children through age 12 is presented by the Col. Theunis Dey Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and for the past 42 years has been coordinated by Gayle Dodson, who also is volunteer coordinator at the George W. Bush Childhood Home.

She said the parade started out 54 years ago with about 30 neighborhood kids and "we had 700 last year."

Before the more than 300 decorated bicycles, strollers and wagons began the trek toward Christensen, several youngsters led the large crowd in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and singing the national anthem.

Leading the pledge were Jeffrey Brown, 5, of Phoenix, and Midlanders Faith Dolan, 13, Ava Claire Dolan, 9, and Rob Dolan, 5. Jeffrey is the grandson of Midlanders Doc and Gayle Dodson, and the Dolans are the children of Mara and Gene Dolan.

Singing "The Star-Spangled Banner" — and receiving enthusiastic applause for her efforts — was Clara Sumner, 10, who is the daughter of Whit and Paige Sumner and will be a fifth-grader at Carver Center.

Among the hundreds of families participating in the parade were Mike and Christine Moore with their daughters, Michelle and Vivian.

Michelle's bicycle was decorated to look like a tank, and Vivian's was decorated to look like a yellow school bus.

Please see **FOURTH**/2A

Economy continues double-digit declines

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Double-digit declines continue to prevail in the Midland-Odessa economy as the area's dominant oil and gas industry continues to struggle with low commodity prices and activity levels.

Karr Ingham, the Amarillo economist who prepares the Midland-Odessa Regional Economic Index for the Midland Development Corp. and Security Bank, said May continued a string of monthly declines that began in January 2014 and is 12.4 percent from the May 2015 index.

Leading the decline is unemployment, which is up 29.3 percent from last May and up 42.2 percent the first five months of

Please see **ECONOMY**/2A

Never mind the ads: Suddenlink has no data caps in Midland

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

If you've seen Suddenlink's TV ads promoting new unlimited internet data plans and wondered if you're on the brink of going over your allotment, fear not.

The Reporter-Telegram reached out to Suddenlink Senior Director of Corporate Communications Gene Regan about the advertisements and the data caps.

"We offer unlimited data with our internet services in Midland and at this time have no plans to introduce data plans in the city," Regan said in an email.

Suddenlink does, however, monitor data usage, and customers can visit the company's website to see how much they use each day and monthly.

While it doesn't apply to the Midland

Please see **SUDDENLINK**/2A

Weather
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Did you know?
The Midland Police Department **held a kids' academy.**
See photos on Page 1B.

The big number
The price of electricity **is now 40 percent lower**
In the nation's largest grid than it was in 2011. Read more on Page 3A.

Word of the Day: cupidity
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 2A.

Brought to you daily by JuanBurrito

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Index: Classified 1D | Comics 7C | Dear Abby 6C | Lottery 4A | Obituaries 2B | Puzzles 6C | Sports 1C | TV 3B

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by
JimBurrito
cupidity
[kyoo-pid-i-tee]
noun
1. eager or excessive desire, especially to possess something; greed; avarice.

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Americans mark July 4th with fireworks, franks, festivities

The Associated Press

From fireworks soaring above the Washington Monument to hot dogs being downed in New York City's famed frank-eating contest, Americans aren't shy about celebrating their nation's birthday. Many places are rolling out long-established Independence Day traditions on Monday (even if some of those traditions aren't as long-established as they sound). Rain was forecast in many cities, but revelers were trying not to let it dampen their fun. Some Fourth of July highlights from around the country:

AP Photo/Mary Altaffer

Matt Stonie, second from left, and Joey Chestnut, second from right, compete in Nathan's Famous Fourth of July International Hot Dog Eating Contest men's competition, Monday in New York. Chestnut came in first eating 70 hot dogs and buns in 10 minutes. Stonie came in second eating 53 hot dogs and buns in 10 minutes.

Cool, rainy weather dampens July Fourth in the nation's capital

Unseasonably cool, rainy weather has dampened the festivities along the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Just hours before the massive fireworks display in the nation's capital Monday, only a handful of people were picnicking in tents or under makeshift shelters. Others headed for the museum.

But as vendors hawked ponchos and umbrellas, some of the faithful fireworks fans said they would brave the elements no matter how rainy it got.

"We're not going anywhere," vowed Heather Wright, of Columbus, Ohio, as she camped under a tent with her husband, their 9-year-old son and their 10-year-old nephew.

In the nation's birthplace, a parade and a parkway party

In Philadelphia — where the Founding Fathers approved the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 — the national birthday party runs all day.

It kicked off at 10 a.m. with a reading of the document and an event honoring everyday heroes, with celebrity guest Leslie Odom Jr., a Philadelphia native who plays Aaron Burr in the Broadway musical "Hamilton." Then comes the holiday parade, which includes Miss America 2016 Betty Cantrell.

Next up is a five-hour party with free entertainment on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. The celebration continues with a five-hour concert with performers including Odom and singer-songwriter Leon Bridges. Fireworks close out the day.

A final white house fourth for the president

It's the last Fourth of July at the White House for President Barack Obama and his family, and they're having some people over: military families and two of the president's favorite performers, singer-songwriter Janelle Monae and rapper Kendrick Lamar.

The Democratic president and his wife, Michelle, invite military families each year for a barbecue, concert and view of the fireworks on the National Mall.

SUDDENLINK

From 1A

market, the website says that overages on the 250 gigabytes and 350 gigabytes per month plans will cost $10 for every 50 gigabytes used.

Even though Midlanders don't have to worry about data caps, that doesn't mean service speeds are restricted.

"On Sept. 3, 2015, we launched a residential internet service with up to 1 gigabit per second download speed in Midland, placing it among the first Suddenlink-serviced communites in Texas to receive this service," Regan said, adding that all other service-speed tiers were upgraded at no extra cost at that time. Speeds in Midland are now available at 50, 100 and 200 megabits per second, along with the 1 gigabit option.

It isn't known if Suddenlink will ever enforce data caps in Midland. However, a concerned Reporter-Telegram staffer called Suddenlink about their own account and was advised by a customer service agent to keep their eye on page two of their bill. "That's where they'll make any announcements," she said.

Like Trevor on Facebook and follow him on Twitter at @HowdyHawes.

FOURTH

From 1A

"Our oldest daughter is a tomboy and likes tanks and Army stuff," Christine Moore said.

She said Vivian rode the yellow school bus in the Midland Children Rehabilitation Center's bike fest earlier this year and they added American flags for the children's parade.

This is the family's first year to participate in the Independence Day parade.

"If we didn't have our freedom, we couldn't do any of this. That's why we're here."

The parade kicked off Midland's Independence Day celebration, the Star-Spangled Salute, at Hogan Park. There were food vendors, live music, children's activities and a fireworks display.

ECONOMY

From 1A

this year compared to the same time frame of 2015. Employment is also down sharply compared to last year. May employment was down almost 5,000 jobs from last May and is down almost 9,000 jobs so far this year compared to last year.

May sales tax receipts indicate real (inflation-adjusted) spending has fallen 19.9 percent from last May and is down 21 percent so far this year over the first five months of 2015. Spending is down about 24 percent since it peaked in 2014, Ingham said.

"However, general real spending nearly doubled in the five years leading up to that peak, and is not likely to give nearly all of that back in the present contraction," he said.

Automotive spending in May came in 21.4 percent below last May's spending levels and is down 22.6 percent this year compared to last year.

"Auto spending has fallen farther faster, and has been doing so for a longer period of time," Ingham said. "Auto spending also increased at a faster pace than general spending over the course of the previous expansion, however, growing by nearly 170 percent from the recession year of 2009 through the peak in 2014."

The energy industry downturn shut down the flow of outside dollars coming into the area. Ingham said Midland-Odessa hotel-motel quarterly tax collections have plunged 41.5 percent so far this year compared to last year. Boardings at Midland International Air & Space Port were down 4.9 percent in May from last May and are down 6.4 percent to date this year compared to last year.

"The sharp decline in construction continues through May," Ingham said.

May building permit valuations were down 40.2 percent in May from last May's levels, and are down 34 percent so far this year when compared to last year. In the 17 months from January 2015 to May 2016, real building permit activity has declined (year-over-year) in 15 of those months, he said.

New single-family housing construction has also generally been in a state of decline over that period as well and that remains the case with Midland-Odessa issuing 70 new housing permits in May, down 30.7 percent from 101 last May. The two cities have issued 372 new housing permits so far in 2016, down 20.3 percent from 467 in the first five months of 2015.

Residential real estate continues to run counter to the double-digit declines, according to Ingham.

"In fact, the number of closed housing sales is slightly higher through May than it was in the first five months of 2015," he said.

While 265 homes were sold in May, down 9.6 percent from 293 last May, there have been 1,087 homes sold so far in 2016, up a slight 0.5 percent from 1,082 last year. He said housing sales declined throughout 2015 but leveled off a bit earlier this year.

Housing prices have also yet to show significant declines, Ingham said. The May average sales price of $237,468 was down 6.9 percent from $255,111 last May, which was over 9 percent above the average sales price in May 2014. The average sales price of $235,864 through the first five months of 2016 is virtually unchanged from the average of $235,922 in the first five months of 2015.

MISD

From 1A

as part of the "District Performance Index," Midland dropped from the 47th percentile in 2007 to the zero percentile — 199 of 200 schools included — in 2015.

Still, two issues at the forefront of the last superintendent search were communication and student growth.

Immediately before Warren's arrival, Midland ISD had lost a connection with the community. The district also had to deal with a community impacted by a heated economy. Warren, as it turned out, fit the bill in both respects, as trustees had indicated last week during conversations following the announcement that Warren was leaving Midland.

While there perhaps wasn't enough data the last time a search took place, the community has been updated on the district's standing. The rollout of Education Midland, which promises to deliver academic help to the district through a "collective impact" model, gave a state-of-the-district assessment, which shows room for improvement.

Leading into this superintendent search, that rollout likely changed the narrative for what the community will be looking for. Jay Isaacs, who has stated he will not run for re-election to the school board this fall, said Warren's successor should be "flexible enough to try new ideas and somebody is who has a track record with academic performance in previous positions."

Warren, in a first exit interview with the Reporter-Telegram, said the best fit for the next superintendent should be a "visionary," someone who sees the goals of Educate Midland, is steeped in school finance and can make sure the district meets the needs of the community.

During the last board meeting, it was mentioned that the district still needs to address student growth at its secondary schools. For example, Goddard Junior High, it was reported, is closing in on 1,200 students.

Board President Rick Davis told the Reporter-Telegram it is his hope that the district — like it did when Warren was hired — will engage with the community with focus groups and identify the qualities residents expect in a new superintendent.

"It will be interesting what we come up with collectively," Davis said.

Davis said Educate Midland has the potential to hold this community "accountable" and that creates a "tremendous opportunity" for MISD. He expects the community engagement provides good news, although he said that some solutions are well-intended but might not be viable or might not be the right solution for this district at this time.

"Part of challenge for the new superintendent is to come into this job with eyes wide open," said Davis, who added that the next superintendent will have to realize the potential of a more engaged community as people with offer suggestions — "some great and some not." The right candidate, he said, must have the skill set to deal with the upside and challenges presented by this type of community feedback.

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Things to do

■ "Very Eric Carle: A Very Hungry, Quiet, Lonely, Clumsy Busy Exhibit", Midland County Public Library - Centennial, 2503 Loop 250. co.midland.tx.us/lib.

■ Little Chefs Basics for children age 6-12, 2 p.m. at MLK Community Center, 2300 Buttermut Lane. $1.

■ Pretend and Play for ages 3-8, 10 a.m. at Midland County Public Library-Downtown, 301 W. Missouri Ave. Every other Tuesday. co.midland.tx.us/lib.

■ Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 7 p.m. at Basin Burger House.

■ $2 bowling after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

■ "The Peanuts Movie" at Summer Movie Camp, 9:30 a.m. to noon or 1 to 3:30 p.m. at The Petroleum Museum, 1500 W. Interstate 20. Ages 5 and up. $5. Petroleummuseum.org.

Support groups or club meetings today

■ Survivors of sexual abuse; interactive Bible study to help deal with the consequences of sexual abuse meets. Child care available; House of Hope, 570-5935.

■ The Helping Hand Metastatic Cancer Support Group meets noon at Texas Tech Physicians of the Permian Basin Clinic, Room 210B. Lunch will be served. To RSVP, call Amber Chavez at 620-1023.

■ Midland Chapter of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), 7 p.m. , First Presbyterian Church (Koinonoa Room); Judith Craig, 683-3648.

■ Overeaters Anonymous; 7-8 p.m. B&J Plaza, 206 N. Midkiff Road, Suite 1-D; 553-1031.

■ A confidential peer-to-peer support gathering for combat veterans, at Midland College Cogdell Center, 201 Florida Ave.; Steve Cree, 770-7469.

■ Peer to Peer support group for veterans, active duty, guard, reserves and their families, 6 p.m., Permian Basin Community Center, 401 E. Illinois Ave., Suite 403; Will Hoggard, 213-5342, william.hoggard@wtcmhmr.org.

■ PDAP meetings: 7-8 p.m.: Parents group and younger group (12-17), 1208 W. Wall St.; college group (18-26), 2503 W. Ohio Ave.; older group (27 and over), First Presbyterian Church.

■ Classic Movie Club, 7 p.m., Tuesdays, Cigar Frog's, 216 N. Main St.; 687-1671.

■ Permian Basin Dance Club with live country western bands, 7:30 p.m.-10 p.m., St. Stephen's ballroom, 4601 Neely St. 432-520-4343 or 432-296-9840.

■ VFW Post 4149 meets 7 p.m. at 409 Veterans Airpark Lane, 684-9226.

■ VFW Post 4149 Men's and Women's auxiliaries meet at 409 Veterans Airpark Lane, at 7 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., respectively, 684-9226.

■ Pop-Up Toasters Toastmasters Club., 6:30 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church's Family Life Center - Room 228, 800 W. Texas Ave.; 432-242-2061 or popuptoasters@gmail.com.

Community calendar

■ Camp Fire West Texas will be offering after-school care for students on six Midland ISD elementary schools — Jones, Henderson, Emerson, Fannin, Bush, Yarbrough and Parker. Elementary school).

Registration will begin 9 a.m. July 18 and will continue until all spots are filled. Registration is done online at www.campfirewtx.org. There is a $20 annual fee and a $45 weekly fee for each child; financial assistance is available for those who qualify.

For more information, call 570-4144.

■ Midland Need to Read, 1709 W. Wall St., will be hosting an open house 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 4. Also, MN2R is holding a children's book drive Aug. 1-4. Donations may be dropped off at the Literacy House and at partnering community locations: Becky's Flowers, Midland County Public Libraries, Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Museum of the Southwest, Natural Grocers, and Region 18 Education Service Center.

For more information, call 682-9693.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 9-5-8
Pick 3 day: 8-3-7
Pick 3 evening: 6-3-9
Pick 3 night: 7-4-6
Daily 4 morning: 7-3-9-1
Daily 4 day: 8-3-2-4
Daily 4 evening: 4-7-9-0
Daily 4 night: 4-8-3-4
Cash Five: 2-5-7-27-36
Triple Chance: 2-7-15-23-28-38-39-41-48-51
Texas Two Step: 10-18-24-32
BB: 19
All or Nothing morning: 2-4-6-10-11-14-15-17-18-19-23-24
All or Nothing day: 2-4-7-11-12-13-15-17-18-21-22-24
All or Nothing evening: 2-3-4-5-6-7-9-14-15-16-18-20
All or Nothing night: 3-4-5-7-10-11-12-14-15-20-21-23

Today in history

Today is Tuesday, July 5, the 187th day of 2016. There are 179 days left in the year.

On this date:

In 1865, the Secret Service Division of the U.S. Treasury Department was founded in Washington, D.C., with the mission of suppressing counterfeit currency.

In 1954, Elvis Presley's first commercial recording session took place at Sun Records in Memphis, Tennessee; the song he recorded was "That's All Right."

Ten years ago: Enron founder Kenneth Lay, who was facing decades in prison for one of the most sprawling business frauds in U.S. history, died in Aspen, Colorado, at age 64. (As a result, Lay's convictions were vacated.)

Five years ago: A jury in Orlando, Florida, found Casey Anthony, 25, not guilty of murder, manslaughter and child abuse in the 2008 disappearance and death of her 2-year-old daughter, Caylee.

Today's birthdays: Julie Nixon Eisenhower is 68. Rock star Huey Lewis is 66. Baseball Hall-of-Fame pitcher Rich "Goose" Gossage is 65.

Natural gas fills the gap as coal drops out of US power market

By Jonathan N. Crawford
Bloomberg

Five years ago, opponents of newly proposed clean-air rules sounded dire warnings of blackouts and surging electricity prices if coal-burning plants were shuttered.

Welcome to 2016. Instead of rising, the price of electricity in the nation's largest grid is now 40 percent lower than it was back then, even as a record 346 coal-burning units, producing enough electricity to supply 40 million homes, were retired. The difference: America's shale boom unleashed cheap and abundant natural gas that burns more cleanly than coal.

"You've seen the coal come out of the market and then you've seen a response from industry to capitalize on that hole in the supply mix," said Ethan Paterno, a Denver-based energy industry specialist with PA Consulting Group. "The low gas prices are a big, big deal."

The nation's emergence as the world's largest producer of natural gas has not only sped up the closure of coal-burning plants. It's also put the United States on a surer path to meeting an international accord to slash global warming pollutants and to comply with a host of federal environmental mandates estimated to yield billions of dollars in health benefits.

The mid-Atlantic grid, which stretches from Maryland to Chicago, has been ground-zero for coal-plant shutdowns as the generators compete with gas burners that have access to the cheapest supplies in the country. In that network, the largest in the U.S., about 20,000 megawatts of gas-fired plants are projected to connect by mid-2019, said Paterno, or enough generation to power for about 20 million homes.

The coal closures were driven mostly by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's pollution rule, which the agency said would cost $9.6 billion annually to implement. The burning of cleaner burning also produces health benefits, including fewer heart attacks, sick days and up to 11,000 fewer premature deaths annually, worth $37 billion to $90 billion each year, according to the EPA.

More gas-fired generation also helped the U.S. cut emissions of carbon dioxide last year to 21 percent below 2005 levels. The country has set a target to cut greenhouse gases by at least 26 percent below 2005 levels by 2025. Natural gas emits about half as much carbon dioxide as coal when generating power.

The pollution regulation, which requires plants to meet tighter emission limits on mercury and other toxins that can be met with the installation of costly scrubbers, first came into force in April 2015. The rule and cheap power prices resulted in the retirement of 13,000 megawatts of coal-fired generation just last year. That's just a slice of more than 36,000 megawatts of coal capacity that has been shuttered since 2011.

Power producers including Duke Energy Corp. and Luminant Generation Company warned in August 2011 that the coal closures would leave the nation's grid at risk of price spikes and outages, while a U.S. government study projected a boost in prices in parts of the coal-heavy Midwest.

Sen. James Inhofe, a Republican from Oklahoma, said in August 2011 that the EPA was reckless in proposing a rule that threatened to put a "significant strain" on the electric grid from the forced closure of hundreds of coal plants, and which would raise electricity rates across the country.

Wholesale power in PJM's benchmark West hub, which includes deliveries to Washington, averaged $30.08 a megawatt-hour in the first quarter, down 41 percent from $51.17 in 2011.

The transition was smoothed by other factors as well. Milder weather and technologies boosting efficiency, such as energy-conserving light bulbs and refrigerators, have slowed demand.

With consumption stagnant, cheap fuel is an incentive to build replacement plants. Natural gas prices in Pennsylvania, the home of the most prolific shale reserve, plummeted to as low as 59 cents per million British thermal units last year, down from more than $14 in 2008. Gas production has more than doubled since 2012.

The shale boom and coal plant retirements have made the U.S. one of the top three locations for building power plants, along with the Middle East and South Asia, according to General Electric Co.

"Go back five years ago, and I think of the world's gas turbine heavy duty market, very little was in the U.S.," GE Power Chief Executive Officer Steve Bolze said in an interview at Bloomberg's New York headquarters this month. "In the last couple years, it's been close to 15 percent of the global market."

Private equity firm Panda Power Funds is among the companies building gas plants by the Marcellus shale basin to take advantage of the low-cost supplies. The Dallas-based developer anticipates two of its power generators plants in northeastern Pennsylvania, with enough power to serve up to 2 million homes, will start this year.

"What we are experiencing right now is the biggest sea change in the power industry in my lifetime" said Bill Pentak, a spokesman for Panda in Dallas. "Shale gas is helping to drive the change."

Federal contractors start Manhattan Project cleanup

Associated Press

LOS ALAMOS, N.M. — U.S. Department of Energy contractors are scheduled to start removing contaminated soil leftover in northern New Mexico from the Manhattan Project and early atomic Cold War research.

Work is expected to begin this week on the south-facing slopes of Los Alamos Canyon and is part of an agreement between federal and New Mexico officials, the Los Alamos Monitor reports.

Officials say the contaminated soils will be temporarily stored at Tech Area 21 at Los Alamos National Laboratory and eventually will be shipped to a permanent area once tested.

The work will include five sites in a 1-acre area. About 125 cubic yards of soil is scheduled to be moved. One site contains arsenic and the other four contain plutonium, officials said.

"We're cleaning up to residential level, which is the most conservative level," Los Alamos National Laboratory spokesman Peter Hyde said. "Now that we're in there, we want to do these cleanups and be done. We don't want to go back in there under more stringent requirements and clean up again."

The Los Alamos Canyon cleanup is one of many included in a consent order signed in last month between the New Mexico Environment Department and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Lawsuit: Utility misled company into building $100M pipeline

By Jeff Amy
Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. — A company that had planned to buy carbon dioxide from Mississippi Power Co.'s Kemper County power plant has sued, alleging the utility misled it into building a $100 million pipeline.

Treetop Midstream Services, an affiliate of an oil company that planned to pump carbon dioxide underground to force out oil, sued June 9 in the Atlanta suburb of Gwinnett County, Georgia. Treetop sued Atlanta-based Southern Co. and its Mississippi Power subsidiary after the utility terminated Treetop's contract to buy carbon dioxide on June 3.

Treetop said Mississippi Power lied and concealed delays in Kemper construction. Under terms of its contract, Treetop said it was required to finish a pipeline nine months before Kemper started operating and prepare Mississippi oil fields belonging to Tellus Energy to receive the gas.

"After intentionally misrepresenting and concealing the start date for the facility and forcing Treetop to unnecessarily spend nearly $100 million on a pipeline and other equipment, the Southern Co. defendants have now left Treetop with a pipeline to nowhere that never would have been built but for the fraudulent conduct of the Southern Co. defendants," the suit states.

Treetop wants its money back, plus interest and punitive damages.

Mississippi Power spokeswoman Cindy Duvall said Friday that the utility has yet to respond in court.

"We believe the suit is without merit," she wrote in an email.

The $6.7 billion Kemper plant is more than two years behind schedule, generating electricity now by burning natural gas. But it's designed to burn lignite coal, extracting climate-warming carbon dioxide instead of emitting it into the air, and the company says it plans to begin burning lignite by Sept. 30. But Mississippi Power needs a place to bury the carbon dioxide, which is where Tellus Energy and a larger oil company — Denbury Resources — came in. Both wanted to flood otherwise depleted oil fields with carbon dioxide to force out more oil.

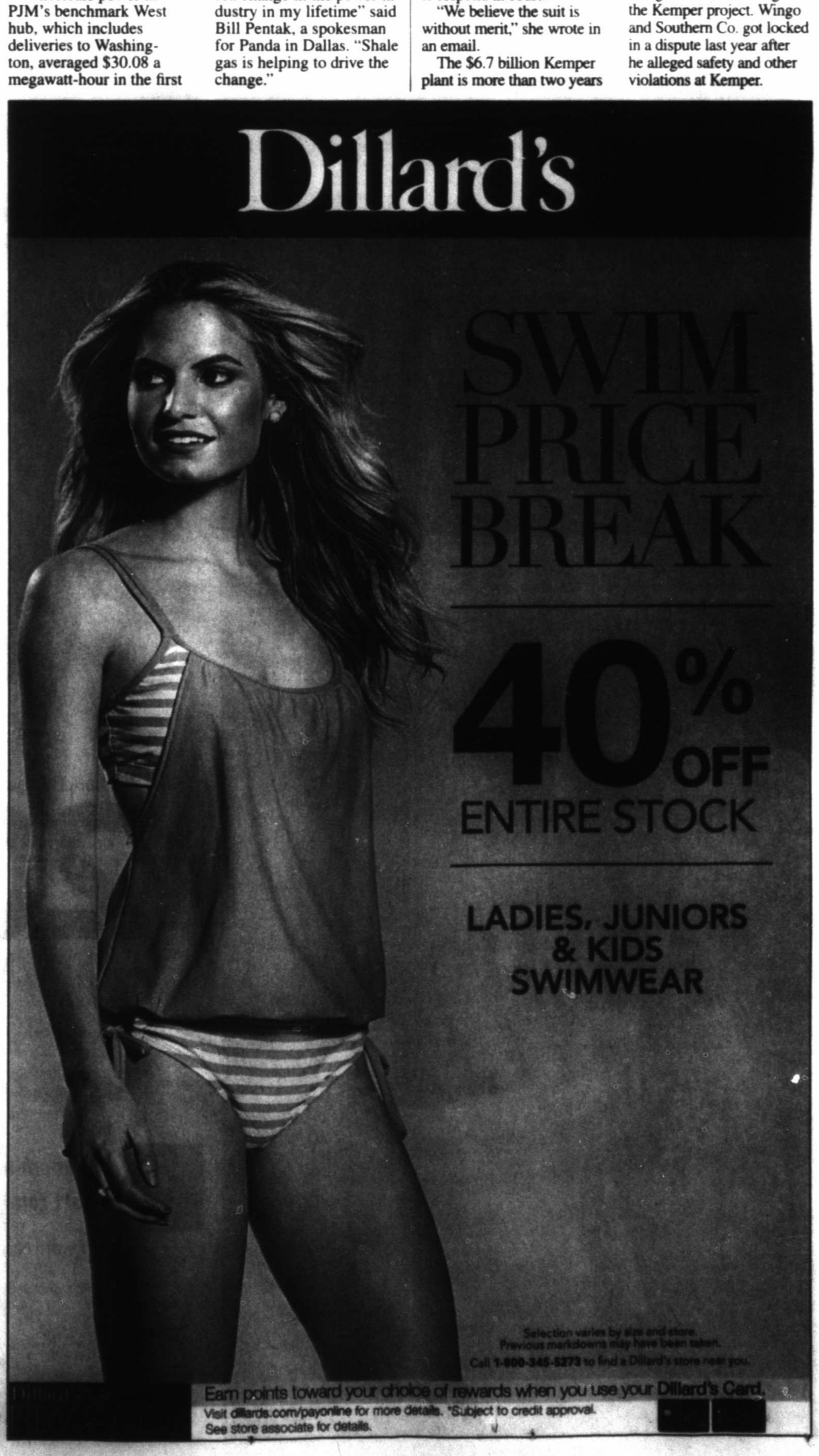
Selling byproducts is one way Mississippi Power plans to pay for Kemper, which is $3.8 billion over budget. The company's 186,000 customers are already paying $126 million a year for the plant, and could be asked to pay as much as $4.3 billion. Southern shareholders have absorbed $2.4 billion in losses.

Treetop and Mississippi Power had long been at odds. A Treetop subsidiary had opposed a December electric rate increase granted to Mississippi Power by state regulators, unsuccessfully appealing it to the state Supreme Court.

Duvall wrote Mississippi Power terminated the contract "because we believed the ongoing discussions with Treetop yielded no beneficial path forward for the company and our customers."

The same day Mississippi Power canceled the Treetop contract, the company signed an amended agreement to sell all Kemper's carbon dioxide to Denbury.

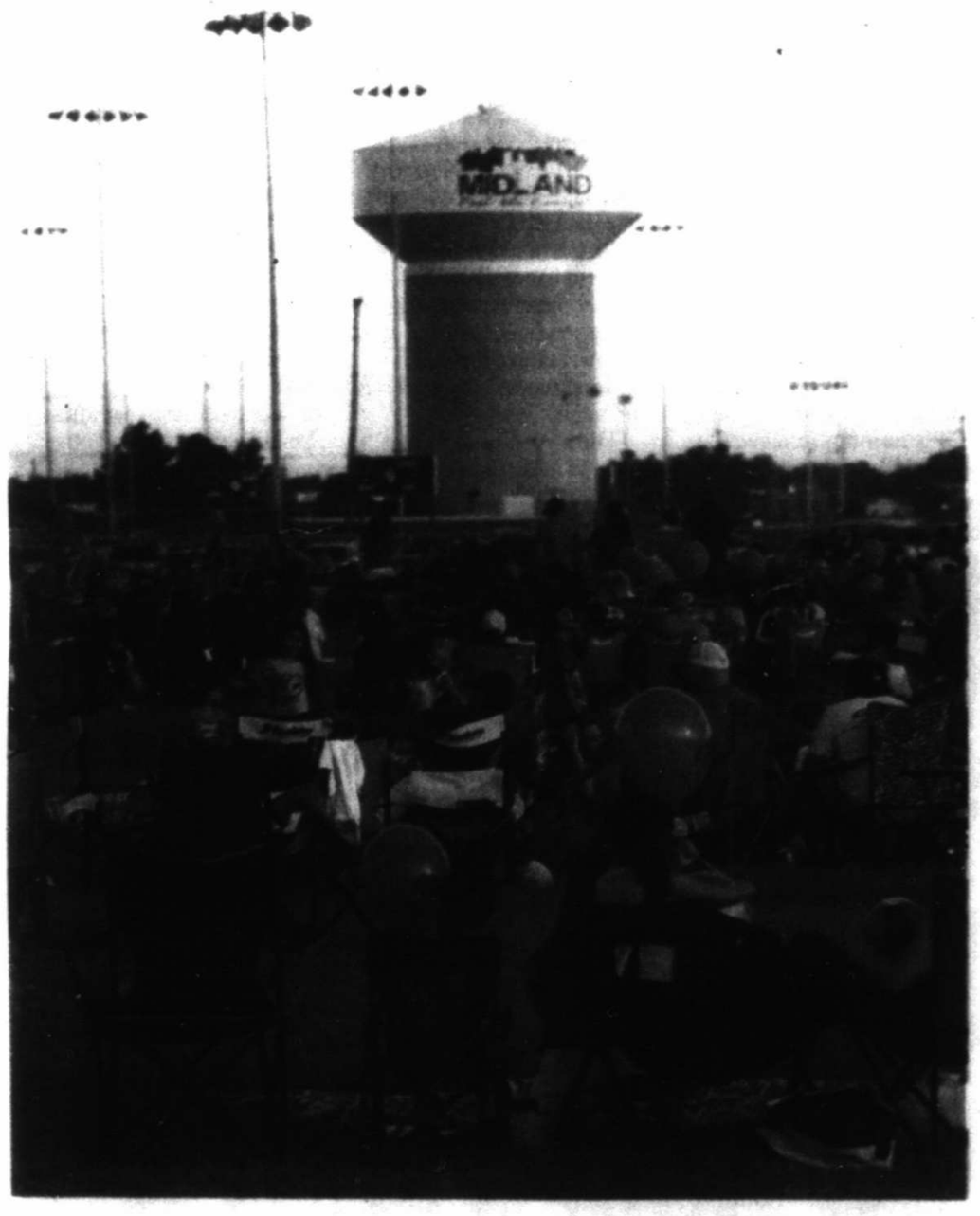
Treetop's lawsuit contains allegations raised by Brett Wingo, a former manager on the Kemper project. Wingo and Southern Co. got locked in a dispute last year after he alleged safety and other violations at Kemper.



Scenes from Midland's

Photos by Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Hundreds of Midlanders came out Monday for the 54th Annual Children's Parade at Hogan Park to kickoff the July 4th celebrations.



Thousands of area residents came out to Hogan Park on Monday during the Star Spangeled Salute July 4th celebrations.

Nominate
an Emerging Leader

Midland Magazine's
20 UNDER 40
2016
Presented by My Community Federal Credit Union

Midland Magazine's 20 Under 40, presented by My Community Federal Credit Union, is an annual recognition program for Midland's emerging leaders. The program showcases young, dynamic leaders living or working in Midland County who are under the age of 40. The program recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves in their careers and/or in the community.

To nominate a deserving Midlander, visit mrt.com/midland_magazine/20under40

Don't wait! Nomination must be recieved by August 1.

The 20 individuals selected for the 20 Under 40 honor will be featured in Midland Magazine's Sept. 25, 2016 edition.

*20 Under 40 nominees must be 39 years or under as of Dec. 31, 2016 and may not be nominated by a family member.

Fourth of July celebrations

Brooklyn and her sister Zion Cherry play with bubble guns during the Star Spangled Salute.

Members of The Tim Kreitz Band play during the Star Spangeled Salute.

for your information

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Can replacing rotting bricks save you money? Yes, by cutting energy loss!

It's almost like letting dollar bills escape through the gaps where bricks in your home are rotting and crumbling away, say George Rood and Jose Martinez of George Rood Masonry.

"Bricks crumble slowly, almost unnoticeably over many years," George points out. "You may not even notice it's happening until there are big gaps in your brickwork."

As the west Texas winds blow through those gaps they leak heat in or out, depending on the season, which makes your HVAC unit work harder to keep up. And there goes that money on your utility bills.

Too many times homeowners don't notice the problem until they try to sell their home, and the inspection shows issues that need repairs. Many area Realtors recommend that their clients call George or Jose when that time comes. But, they say, don't wait until then to take care of things.

"Really, a brief walk around your home can show you the problem areas," Jose says. "If you let us fix them now you can start saving money on heating or cooling right away." Usually the repairs are surprisingly affordable and can be done quickly. There's really no reason to put this job off!

Maybe you need a new fence or a brick patio or walkway around a swimming pool. For that, George or Jose will come to your home and listen to all your plans. They'll help you get the layout that gets you just what you need. Before they start, they will tell you exactly what is needed, what work will be done and what the cost will be, so you can relax knowing there will be no surprises at the end. Estimates, by the way, are free.

This is a hands-on project for George and Jose. One or both of them will be on site, working alongside the crew. Many times, Jorge will be the only bricklayer at the job. Jorge has 25 years' experience in bricklaying, the last 15 of which have been while working with George Rood Masonry. George himself has been a bricklayer for 49 years and has been in the Permian Basin since 1979. Both have lots of experience in brick repair and fence building, and they have deep roots in west Texas.

In fact, if you've seen a fence with columns built in it, spaced about 20 feet apart, that's a concept George introduced to the area. Those columns ensure that fences are strong and sturdy. "Before I came here and started doing that, no one had really used columns before," George says.

So call George Rood Masonry today for brick repair or for a brick fence, walkway or patio.

Let George Rood (left) or Jose Martinez replace rotting bricks, build a new fence or handle other brick work. Call George at 432-664-1341 or Jose at 432-770-4920. Estimates are free.

For quality, affordable work on brick repair or new projects, call George Rood at 432-664-1341 or Jose at 432-770-4920.

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OPINION

America's history is riddled with hypocrisies

■ Balancing a real community and the liberal principles of justice and equality is a shining achievement in the conscience of humankind

MICHAEL GERSON
Washington Post Writers Group

In this odd political season — so shallow in rhetoric, so fundamental in consequence — Americans are not only celebrating their nation's independence, they are considering its meaning. Of a sudden, the most basic questions in our democracy are on the table: What is a real or good American? How do we define what is unique and great about our country?

At least a portion of the current populist wave is a nationalist backlash against cosmopolitan elites. In this view, Americans do not merely love a set of philosophic abstractions; they love a concrete nation, with an identity that is under siege. An Anglo-Protestant heritage of law, religion and culture is threatened by a variety of forces, within and without: multiculturalism, illegal immigration and politically correct leaders who refuse to even name our enemies.

It is a paradox that those who want to emphasize the uniqueness and particularity of American culture — rooted in a specific ethnic and religious background — are actually adopting the most typical form of nationalism. Historically speaking, nations defined by ethnicity, motivated by grievances and looking backward to a golden age are commonplace. What has been different about America is its remarkable ability to make a nation out of nations. This is a tribute to national ideals that emerged from within one culture, but now appeal and inspire far beyond it.

No nation, of course, is disembodied. It is legitimate to love the rocks and roots of a definite plot of ground, and our plot is particularly grand and lovely. It is not a coincidence that one of America's first symbols was a rattlesnake in a defensive coil. But another symbol was the rising sun on George Washington's chair at the Constitutional Convention, as hopeful as the break of day. America's founders thought their work was somehow the culmination of age-old longings and a new order for the ages. This is the reason that the term "American creed" is rich in meaning, and "American race" sounds like a profanity.

The hypocrisies of our history are startling. A nation dedicated to freedom was a prison for millions of slaves. In the founding era, many towns celebrated Pope Day, in which effigies of the Bishop of Rome were cheerfully burned. While Chinese laborers worked on the massive foundation of the Statue of Liberty, Congress tightened The Chinese Exclusion Act, which set immigration rules by race. Even now, some would have those rules set by religion.

But how do we even know these are hypocrisies? It is because they are revealed by the light of the Declaration of Independence. America's founders set a principle in place that has judged and changed cultural practices for more than two centuries. It is primary to our national identity.

Keeping the balance between a real community — with the right, like any other people, to define its boundaries and traditions — and the liberal principles of justice and equality has not been easy. It has led to a troubled and bloody history, which is also a shining achievement in the conscience of humankind.

The American who understood both of those aspects best was Abraham Lincoln. In July 1858, he spoke of the strength that Americans draw from pride in their forefathers who founded the nation. Then he said words worth recalling in full as we celebrate our independence:

"We have besides these men — descended by blood from our ancestors — among us perhaps half our people who are not descendants at all of these men, they are men who have come from Europe — German, Irish, French and Scandinavian — men that have come from Europe themselves, or whose ancestors have come hither and settled here, finding themselves our equals in all things. If they look back through this history to trace their connection with those days by blood, they find they have none, they cannot carry themselves back into that glorious epoch and make themselves feel that they are part of us. But when they look through that old Declaration of Independence they find that those old men say that 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal,' and then they feel that that moral sentiment taught in that day evidences their relation to those men, that it is the father of all moral principle in them, and that they have a right to claim it as though they were blood of the blood, and flesh of the flesh, of the men who wrote that Declaration. And so they are."

GUEST VIEW

DRT had better case in Alamo artifacts lawsuit

San Antonio Express-News

Gov. Greg Abbott's office apparently disapproves of a deal in which George P. Bush's General Land Office gave up its claims to thousand of artifacts in the Alamo and agreed to pay $200,000 to cover the legal fees for the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, the rightful owners.

Bush was right to make the settlement. The state took over control of the Alamo from the DRT in 2011 and severed the group from any management responsibilities there last year.

In a DRT lawsuit last year, the group claimed that Bush then tried to claim ownership of the artifacts though the hard work of collecting and maintaining the collection had all been with the DRT. Donors were giving to the DRT, not the state. The group also said that Bush ordered the group locked out of the library.

The state's claim to the collection was dubious at best. The settlement simply reflects that.

Yet, according to an Express-News article reported by Brian M. Rosenthal of Hearst's Austin Bureau, Abbott's chief of staff, Daniel Hodge, called the settlement "regrettable" and "avoidable."

In a June 20 internal memo, Hodge accused the GLO of not defending the state's interests vigorously enough. The governor's office, the memo said, was approving the settlement "solely out of deference to the independent constitutional officer-holder requesting it."

Yes, that's a good reason. But a better one is that the DRT had the better case.

We are confident, given the DRT's mission and history, that these artifacts will continue to be available for public use at their new home, Texas A&M-San Antonio.

And that — public access, not winning or even ownership — is the most important thing.

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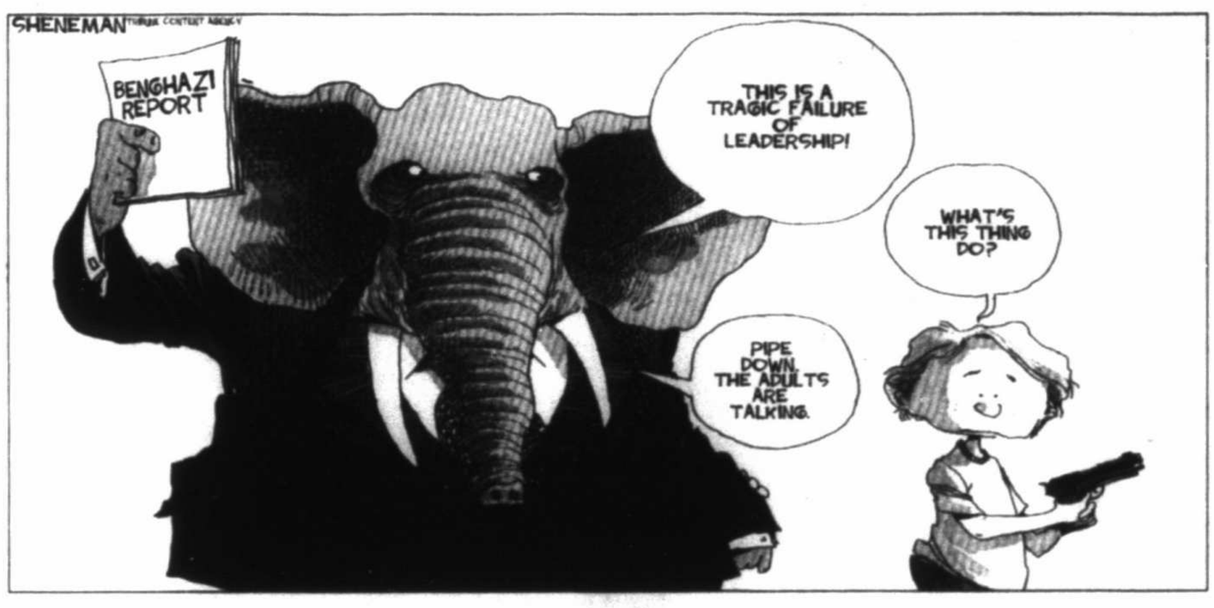


Conspiracy theorists turn on Gowdy

■ It's a fool's errand for Republicans who perpetually try to appease the far right

DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group

Et tu, Trey?

A day after the House Benghazi committee released a final report that left Hillary Clinton relatively unscathed, conservative activists — the conspiracy-minded ones who pressured House leaders to appoint the committee in the first place — rounded on Chairman Trey Gowdy for failing to deliver the goods.

"To say I was disappointed would be an understatement," retired Adm. James "Ace" Lyons complained at a meeting Wednesday afternoon of the Citizens' Commission on Benghazi, a coalition of far-right foreign-policy types. "Chairman Gowdy is not a stenographer. ... He was there to make findings and conclusions. He had the information. He copped out, which is consistent that we've seen with all our congressional leadership."

Retired Gen. Thomas McInerney agreed that "the American people want to know from a group that spent almost two years on it what the conclusions are. That's what we pay you for, Mr. Gowdy."

Charles Woods, the father of Ty Woods, one of the four Americans killed in Benghazi, lamented that "I really don't have closure as far as who made the decision not to rescue."

And Roger Aronoff of Accuracy in Media, which convened the Citizens' Commission at the National Press Club, complained that "they put a bunch of transcripts in there, interviews, but they didn't weave it all together."

There were murmurs of agreement from participants when Lyons said of Gowdy: "Regretfully, I don't think he measured up yesterday."

A woman in the crowd floated a new Benghazi conspiracy. "Has someone in the GOP leadership gotten their fingers involved in watering down some of this to benefit Secretary Clinton?" she said. Nobody rebutted this idea.

Herein lies a lesson for Republicans who are perpetually trying to appease the far right: It's a fool's errand. They went to the tea party — and now they're taking Donald Trump to the prom. Likewise, then-House Speaker John Boehner named the Benghazi committee because activists were dissatisfied that seven previous congressional investigations had failed to uncover major scandal material. Now an eighth has produced more of the same — and the agitators are as agitated as ever.

Two GOP members of Gowdy's own committee were dissatisfied enough to write their own narrative drawing more sweeping accusations against Clinton and President Obama. Gowdy must feel the need for some cover: A day after delivering what was supposed to be the definitive account of Benghazi, his committee called in another witness for an interview. Democrats pointed out that the interviewee had just removed from his Facebook page the hashtag #IfYouVoteForHillaryYouAreBeyondStupid.

The Citizens' Commission on Benghazi, which held Wednesday's event, is not the most reputable outlet. It dropped "former CIA officer" Wayne Simmons as one of its 11 members after the former Fox News commentator, who it turns out had no military or intelligence experience, pleaded guilty to fraud charges this spring.

The group managed to produce a 73-page Benghazi report last week full of inventive accusations. They found "troubling evidence that Obama and Clinton were deeply and knowingly involved in running guns to al-Qaeda in Libya," as well as "a clear case of official U.S. government submission to the Islamic Law on slander."

They wrote that Clinton blocked U.S. military forces from attempting a rescue mission, and they attributed the decision to oust Libya's Moammar Gaddafi in part to financial interests of the Clinton Foundation.

They judged that Obama — one speaker referred to him as "Barack Hussein Soetoro Obama" — had "an ideological commitment" to expanding the Muslim Brotherhood. They even gave longtime Clinton confidant Sidney Blumenthal credit for the administration's "support for the Libyan Muslim Brotherhood-led al Qaeda militias." In one elaborate theory, they tied those guarding the U.S. facilities in Benghazi both to Blumenthal and to the wife of a former chairman of the House Intelligence Committee.

They even faulted Ambassador Chris Stevens, who died in Benghazi, saying he "rather romanticized the Libyan jihadis."

"We see a field of smoking guns," Aronoff said.

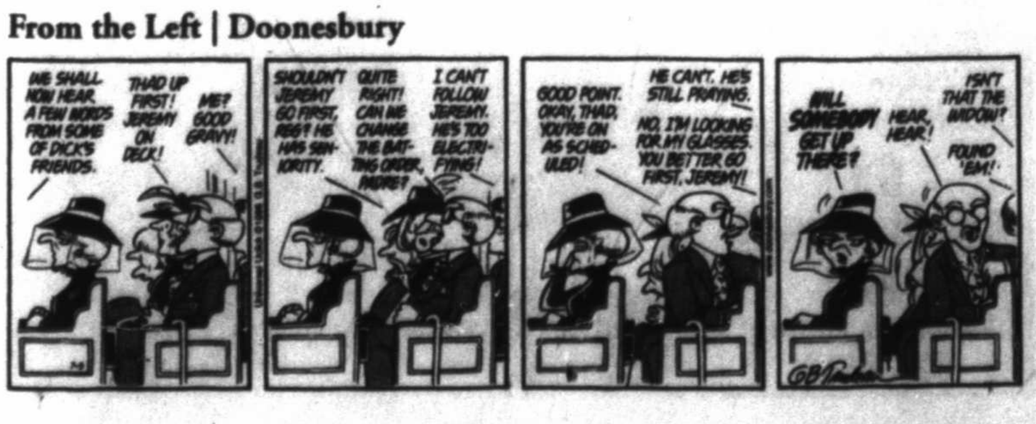
Clearly. But the Benghazi committee didn't. Gowdy "notably refrained from assigning blame or demanding accountability," Clare Lopez, of the Center for Security Policy and an adviser to the Ted Cruz presidential campaign, told the gathering. "He also did not draw a connection between the dots."

Why?

"I think he had his reasons — political," McInerney said. He speculated that congressional leadership had approved "black operations" to run weapons from Benghazi to Islamic State forces in Syria. "That's the dirty little secret that nobody wants out," he said.

Aha! So Gowdy himself is in on the Benghazi conspiracy.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Trump's 'Pocahontas' attack rooted in Warren heritage issue

By Steve LeBlanc
Associated Press

BOSTON — Donald Trump derisively refers to Sen. Elizabeth Warren as "Pocahontas," a taunt rooted in the Democrat's claims of Native American heritage that roiled her 2012 election win in Massachusetts.

"She's as Native American as I am," the New York businessman and presumptive Republican presidential nominee said. At rallies, some Trump supporters have mimicked B-movie versions of a Native American war cry to mock Warren, an oft-mentioned possible running mate for Hillary Clinton.

Trump's attacks are a response to Warren blistering the bombastic businessman in tweets and speeches, calling him a "small, insecure, money grubber" and a "thin-skinned racist bully."

A look at Warren and the issues:

What's her ancestry?

Questions about Warren's ancestry first surfaced during her 2012 Senate run, when she ousted Republican Sen. Scott Brown to claim the seat once held by the late Sen. Edward Kennedy.

During the campaign, law school directories from the Association of American Law Schools from 1986 to 1995 surfaced that put Warren on the association's list of "minority law teachers" when she was teaching at the University of Texas and the University of Pennsylvania. Warren said she listed herself with Native American heritage because she hoped to meet people with similar roots.

In a 2012 interview with The Associated Press, Warren, then a Harvard Law School professor, said she and her brothers were told of the family's heritage by their parents, the late Don and Pauline Herring.

"My mom and dad were deeply in love," said Warren, who was raised in Oklahoma. "My father wanted to marry my mother, his parents objected, because she was part Cherokee and part Delaware."

"My parents eloped, in order to marry," Warren added. "It's something my brothers and I grew up with. We always understood the difference, between our father's family and our mother's family."

2012 Senate fight

Warren said she never sought proof of ancestry because she didn't think it was necessary. "My mother was proud of who she was, and it was an important part of who she was. And my mother is an important part of me," she said.

Brown pressed her to release more information about how she described her heritage to potential employers. He began one debate by saying Warren "checked the box claiming she is Native American, and clearly she is not."

Warren acknowledged telling Harvard and her previous employer, the University of Pennsylvania, of her Native American heritage, but only after she had been hired by both schools.

"I didn't check a box to go to college. I didn't check a box to go to law school," she said. "The only box I checked was in a directory. I didn't do this to get a job."

Harvard Law School professor Charles Fried, who helped recruit Warren to Harvard, has said any suggestion she enjoyed an affirmative action benefit is "complete nonsense." He said she was recruited because of her work in bankruptcy and commercial law.

With few political allies, Trump plans celebrity convention

By Steve Peoples
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Donald Trump's team promises an extraordinary display of political entertainment at this month's Republican National Convention, with the accent on entertainment.

The former reality television star plans to feature his high-profile children at the summer gathering in Cleveland, with the hope they'll be joined by a number of celebrity supporters. Prospects include former Indiana basketball coach Bobby Knight, New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady and longtime boxing promoter Don King.

"I'm going to be involved, definitely," said King, who lives in Cleveland and is a passionate supporter of the presumptive Republican nominee. "He's my man. I love him. He's going to be the next president."

While those bold-face names have yet to be confirmed, the fact they're on Trump's list is a reminder that many of the Republican Party's biggest stars aren't willing to appear on his behalf. The GOP's two living presidents, George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush, its most recent presidential nominee, Mitt Romney, and Ohio's Republican governor, John Kasich, all plan to avoid the four-day event that traditionally serves as a powerful display of party unity heading into the sprint toward Election Day.

"He's going to have to bring all his skills to bear to make this work, not just in Cleveland, but for the next four months," said Matt Borges, the Ohio Republican Party chairman. "It won't be easy, but that's what he's got to do."

Trump's team says he's up to the challenge.

AP file photo

Work continues on the main stage for the Republican National Convention on June 28 in Cleveland. Donald Trump's team promises an extraordinary display of political entertainment at the Republican National Convention, with the accent on entertainment.

"This is not going to be your typical party convention like years past," said Trump spokesman Jason Miller. "Donald Trump is better suited than just about any candidate in memory to put together a program that's outside of Washington and can appeal directly to the American people."

When Hillary Clinton hosts her party at the Democratic National Convention the following week, she'll face a different issue entirely: how to squeeze in the many popular, prominent Democrats backing her campaign.

Along with Clinton and her eventual vice presidential pick, there are sure to be speeches from President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, first lady Michelle Obama and, of course, the candidate's husband, former President Bill Clinton.

There's also Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren, a favorite of progressives and one of Trump's fiercest critics. Warren is on Clinton's running-mate shortlist but will surely be slotted for a prominent convention speech even if she's not selected.

By necessity as much as preference, Trump's team is crafting a far different lineup. Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, one of the likely speakers, praised Trump's plan to use his celebrity connections to reach a broader audience.

"Trump understands that if he can appeal to consumer America, he drowns political America," Gingrich told The Associated Press. He said he had little idea of what kind of show to expect, but recalled a recent conversation with a Trump family member who confidently told him, "We know how to do conventions."

"My children are all going to be speaking: Ivanka, Tiffany, Don, Eric. They're going to be speaking," Trump said Friday during an appearance at the Western Conservative Summit in Denver. "My wife is going to be speaking at the convention. We're going to have a great time."

Trump's campaign has also been in touch with aides to chief primary rival, Sen. Ted Cruz, who has been trying to win a speaking slot. Other national leaders under consideration include former United Nations Ambassador John Bolton, West Virginia Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, Washington Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers and Gingrich.

Some celebrities backing Trump have passed on the chance to be a part of the show. Among them: former Chicago Bears coach Mike Ditka, who told the Chicago Tribune last week, "I spoke with Mr. Trump this afternoon, and he invited me. But I don't think I'm going to go."

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CHICAGO —

If you're one of the four million American men who secretly wear adult diapers, or use a catheter to deal with your urinary incontinence or weak bladder, here's some life-changing news.

There's a new non-catheter alternative available that not only helps keep men dry and leak-free for up to 24 consecutive hours, but the best part is, if you're covered by Medicare, Medicaid, TriCare, and some select insurance plans, you can try this high-tech 'fluid collection' breakthrough at little to no out-of-pocket cost.

"The most degrading thing that my husband can think of is being in a diaper," says Tina J. "Men's Liberty to the rescue. We attended our granddaughter's graduation in comfort and without the fear. You couldn't tell he had it on, which was a big concern for him."

Invisible Under Clothing

Men's Liberty is made of a gentle, skin-friendly material called hydrocolloid, a medical-grade adhesive that softly stretches and moves with a man as he changes position.

Unlike absorbents that cause diaper rash, yeast infections, and dermatitis, Men's Liberty attaches to the tip of a man's anatomy, directing his flow to a discreet collection pouch.

It's comfortable, unnoticeable to others, and secure.

It's this trusted sense of security that assistant registered nurse and caregiver, Mark Nagle, NAR, calls, "wonderful."

Doctor-Recommended

"It doesn't cause skin irritation, and my patients never have to worry about red spots or sores. My patient doesn't wear disposable briefs anymore, and I am happy to report that we always have a dry bed and a dry pair of pants."

For John C., Men's Liberty is a "lifesaver."

Carefree Comfort

For years, John dealt with urinary incontinence by wearing an indwelling catheter.

When he discovered Men's Liberty, his life changed. "It's allowed me to maintain my lifestyle with my work and my family."

Death of Diapers?

Will this urinary breakthrough sink the $7 billion adult diaper industry?

Many experts think so. Because adult diapers are not covered by Medicare, the estimated four million men who use them daily pay as much as $300 a month in out of pocket costs.

Tucson resident, Sam T., wore them for years. "I remember the continued moisture in my crotch would give me a yeast infection, not a good thing," he says.

Sam wore four or five absorbents during the day, and two or three at night. "All of that went away when I found Men's Liberty," he smiles.

Enjoy Life Again

"I can wear Men's Liberty for 24 hours with minimal interruption," says Sam, "even after drinking coffee!"

The $7B adult diaper industry is facing a catastrophic drop in revenue thanks to a revolutionary development in men's urological care.

"Movies, meetings and social affairs are all possible now. Our granddaughter graduated with honors from high school last week," says the beaming grandfather. "I sat beside my wife, applauding!"

During the sizzling hot Arizona summers, you'll always find Sam in a pair of cargo shorts.

"I buy my shorts with an 11-inch inseam, which is perfect for Men's Liberty," he says.

Discreet and Unnoticed

"The drain nozzle is hidden right above the hemline. So, I can stand at the urinal, like other guys, and discreetly drain the pouch, and no one notices a thing. In ten seconds, I'm good to go!"

Managing urinary incontinence in a medical setting can be challenging.

Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are frequently caused by catheter use. If untreated, UTIs can cause a secondary infection, often resulting in hospitalization.

That's why Men's Liberty is recommended by leading healthcare professionals.

Doctor's Choice

Urologist Alden Cockburn, MD, has personally tried Men's Liberty and now recommends it to his patients.

"I tried it myself during one of the testing phases and it's very comfortable; certainly, more comfortable than the alternatives," he says.

"It allows men to have freedom of movement."

"I think Liberty is a good name because it does afford men the liberty of a lifestyle that was not afforded to them before."

When you feel in control of your sense of well-being," adds Dr. Cockburn, "you feel more able to accomplish tasks that you previously wanted to bypass."

"The feeling of not wanting to associate with others because you fear loss of control, or fear what others might think of you, goes away."

"I think that Liberty is well named in that it liberates the individual to a sense of being able to perform normal tasks in a normal way."

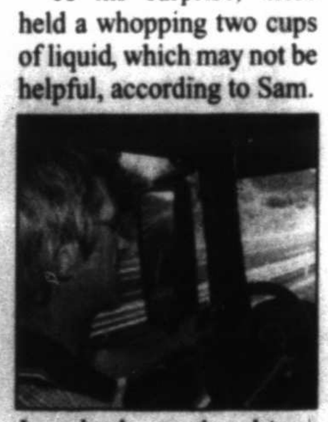
A Grand Experiment

Curious Sam T. in Tucson wanted to see how much liquid Men's Liberty would hold.

"I can't claim to be an expert research analyst," laughs Sam, "but here is what I learned."

Sam first filled a fresh Liberty unit with water and learned that it securely held one full cup. On the top of his shelf, Sam found a few pairs of disposable briefs with built-in absorbent pads.

To his surprise, these held a whopping two cups of liquid, which may not be helpful, according to Sam.



Long-haul truck drivers like Wayne J. rely on Men's Liberty when they can't make the next rest stop.

"I saw an ad on the internet," says Sam, "that showed some guy wearing these briefs, walking around with a big smile on his face."

"I thought to myself, yeah... if I had two cups of urine sloshing around my crotch, I wouldn't be smiling,

and I would sure be walking 'funny.'"

"Also," says Sam, "the slightest pressure on an absorbent will cause it to leak.

Men's Liberty doesn't leak and sure won't cause "funny" walking," he says.

Three Million Used!

More than 3.5 million Men's Liberty units have been used, with ZERO attributable UTIs or serious skin injuries.

That comes as no surprise to the thousands of healthcare professionals who recommend Men's Liberty everyday.

Dr. Fernando Borges, "I recommend Men's Liberty to patients with urinary incontinence because of the low incidents of trauma, erosion, and infection."

Covered by Medicare

Men's Liberty is covered by Medicare, Medicaid, TriCare, and most insurance plans.

That means that you could be using it at little to no out-of-pocket cost.

Call the toll-free number below and ask the friendly operator if you qualify to receive Men's Liberty.

The Men's Liberty team will even take care of all your claims and billing to Medicare and to your insurance provider.

Call now and start enjoying life again. With Men's Liberty, you are free to go... anytime, anywhere!

Call Toll-Free
1 (800) 814-3259

Mention Code #MRT0627

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

RINGING IN THE EARS

1 IN 5 AMERICANS

$525 GIFT CERTIFICATE
FREE CHECK-UP

Livingston Hearing Aid Center is offering a **$525 gift certificate** to participants in a study to evaluate a new device with MULTI-FLEX Tinnitus Technology. This revolutionary product is the world's first device to reduce & mask ringing in the ears.

Livingston HEARING AIDS *Gift Certificate*

Good for the following amount:

$525 and 00 cts.....

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Lubbock, TX 9741#

Voucher A16826289

Richard Davila, II

This gift certificate negotiable for discount only. Not negotiable for cash. Prior purchases are excluded.

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1005 W. Wall St.	1541 JBS Parkway #1	211 Johnson St.	2071 N. Main St.	5303 50th St.	4241 SW Blvd. #100

FREE Hearing Check-Ups

Appointments available this week

JULY

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
5	6	7	8

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your partner for hearing health www.LHAC.com

CAMP TIME

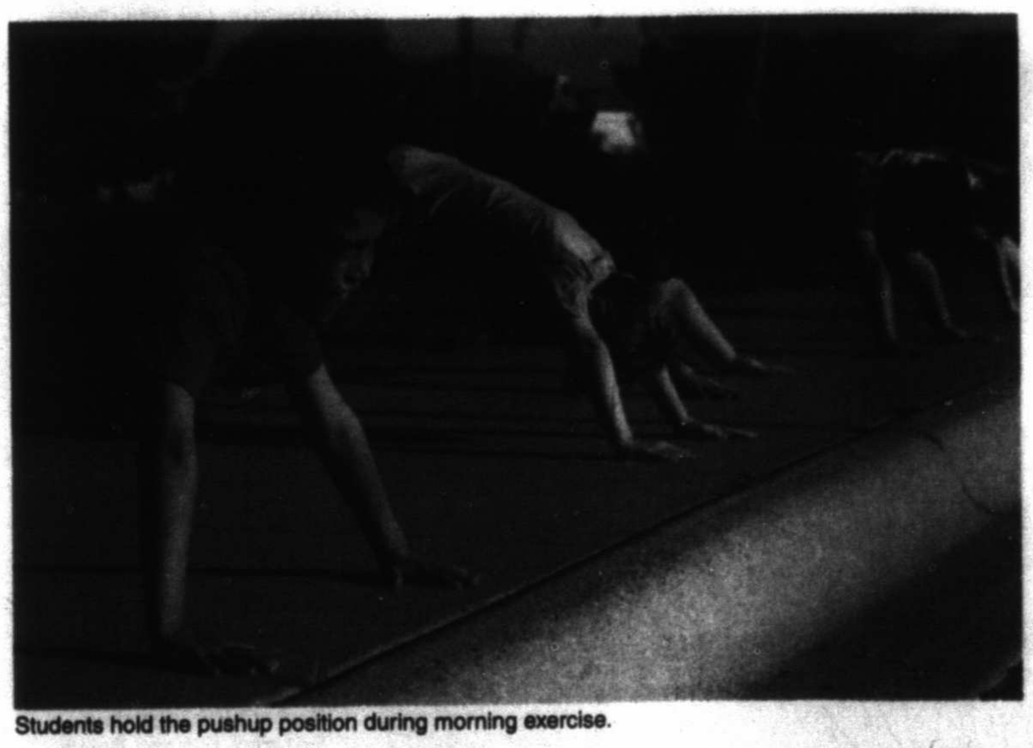
Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt★com | Tuesday, July 5, 2016 | Section B

Midland Police Officer Larry Woodruff encourages students during morning exercise at the MPD Kids Academy on June 21 at the MLK Community Center.

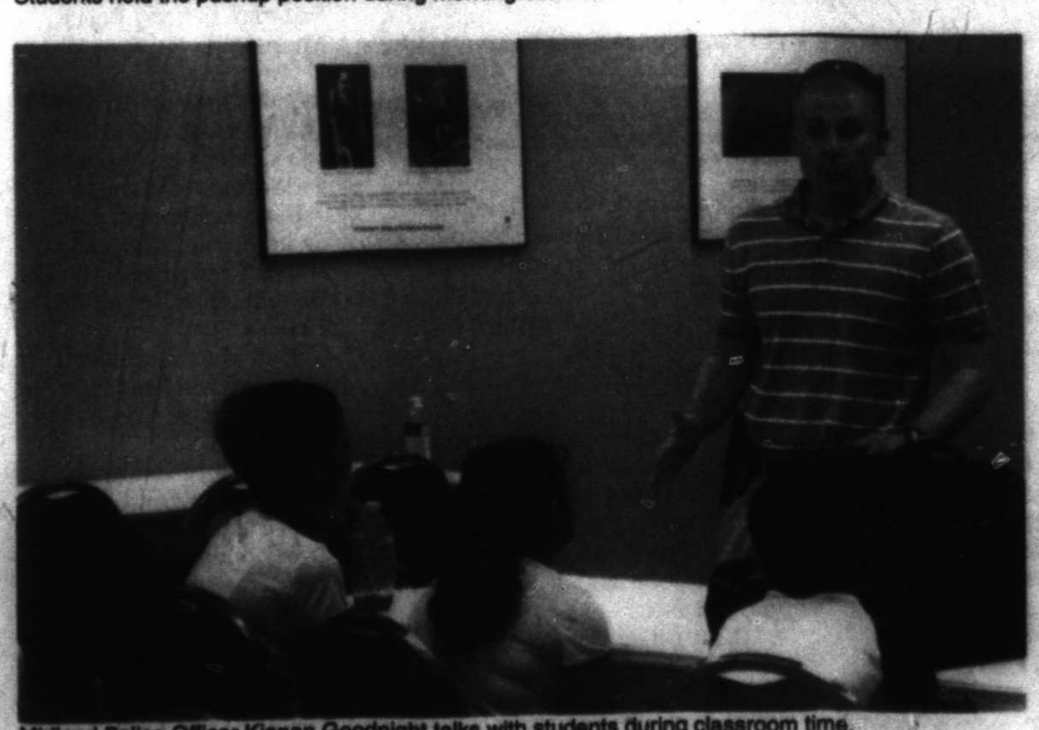
STAYING FIT IN SUMMERTIME

Photos by Tim Fischer | Reporter-Telegram

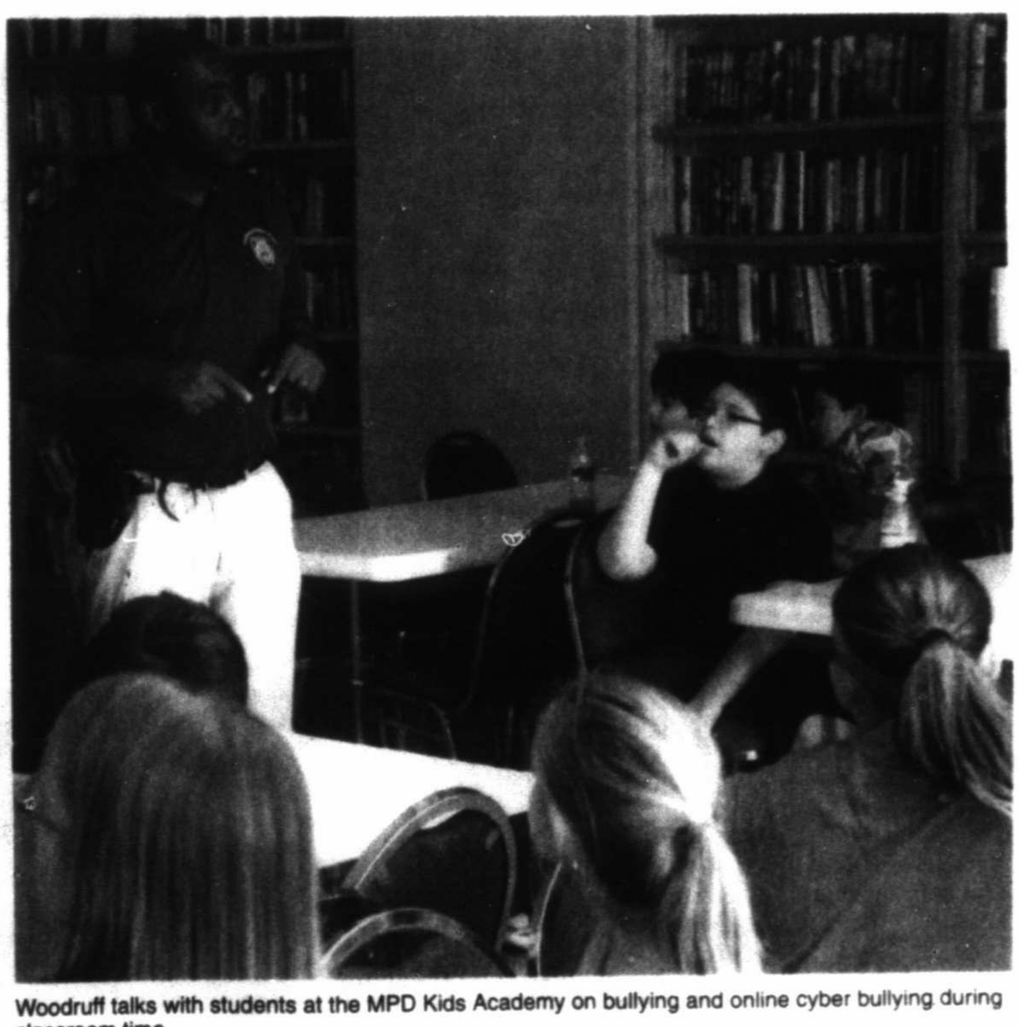
Midland Police Officer John Kerrigan leads students in morning exercise.



Students hold the pushup position during morning exercise.



Midland Police Officer Kienan Goodnight talks with students during classroom time.



Woodruff talks with students at the MPD Kids Academy on bullying and online cyber bullying during classroom time.

Students lift a 25-pound weight as part of morning exercise.

Betsy Blaney/AP

Leonard Barefield pauses in his home June 13 in Lubbock. The intellectually disabled South Texas native had for at least three decades lived in a rundown, mouse- and roach-infested schoolhouse in Iowa with dozens of others with similar developmental conditions. The group worked at a nearby turkey processing plant before social services workers liberated them.

Texas accused of ignoring mentally disabled in nursing home facilities

By Betsy Blaney
Associated Press

LUBBOCK — It took more than 40 years for Leonard Barefield to finally get to choose where he lived.

The intellectually-disabled Texas native moved to a group home in Lubbock in September after he had first lived in near slavery conditions for more than three decades in a squalid house in Iowa and worked at a turkey processing plant there for 41 cents an hour. After being freed by social workers from that situation, he was sent in 2008 to a nursing home in Midland.

His plight is not uncommon in Texas, where people with such disabilities are routinely warehoused in nursing homes, according to a lawsuit brought by Barefield and other disabled people. Advocates for the intellectually-disabled — a condition affecting reasoning and learning — say Texas is violating the Americans with Disabilities Act and other federal laws by denying services that could allow more than 4,000 people to live in the community.

The state denies it is exploiting the disabled, saying it is committed to providing them with the highest quality of services.

The 71-year-old Barefield has a developmental disability, suffers from depression and other mental health and medical conditions, and has high blood pressure, court records show. He wears a hearing aid and his speech is significantly impaired. But he can read, write and drive a truck.

Barefield lives with three other intellectually disabled men in a well-maintained and spacious home.

"It's better here," he said, nodding his head emphatically. Barefield leaves the home several days a week for a day center where he can play games and work on small projects.

Even though he was exploited for decades, the outcome of Barefield's case is better than some.

Andrea Padron, who suffered a severe head injury in a car accident when she was 10, died in 2013 after getting an inaccurate evaluation to determine the care she needed in a nursing home, court documents show.

Padron's mother put her in a nursing home when she could no longer afford to care for her. Her mother then was deployed to the Iraq war with the military. The services promised for Padron were not provided during the mother's absence.

When her mother returned to Texas, Padron couldn't even sit in her wheelchair.

Padron was left to lie in bed for about 165 hours a week — without specialized services, including physical therapies. She eventually was unable to straighten her wrists, ankles, shoulders, legs or hips and developed a spine deformity, court records show. She was 29 when she died.

The lawsuit against the state by Barefield and the other disabled patients was filed in 2010 and has crawled through the legal system. The federal Department of Justice joined the suit on the side of the disabled in 2012.

In 2013, the state and lawyers for the disabled reached an "interim settlement agreement" that in part called for Texas to expand community services and create a service team for each disabled person. In return the suit was put aside for two years.

But without explanation, the agreement was ended in 2015. Neither side will talk about why this happened because they say confidentiality rules prevent comment. The lawsuit has been reactivated.

A federal judge in San Antonio ruled in May that the case could go ahead and granted class-action status to include more than 4,000 intellectually-disabled people in nursing homes.

Barefield and the others aren't asking for any money in compensation.

"All we're asking the state to do is comply with the (federal) law," said Robert Velevis, an attorney for the disabled clients.

State aging and disability department spokeswoman Cecilia Cavuto declined to comment on the case but said the state is "committed to ensuring Texas nursing home residents, including those who have intellectual and developmental disabilities, receive the highest quality services."

She said Texas care providers do evaluations for each person entering a nursing home to determine what specialized services might be needed and whether a resident wants to transition into a community-based setting.

Lawyers for the disabled say the state excludes them from "any meaningful access" to Texas's system of community-based services needed to be able to live in the community.

Lenwood Krause, whose 36-year-old son has a condition related to a developmental disability from a traumatic brain injury, said the state has mishandled the care of his son for years.

"I can't exactly express the sentiments I feel about them," the 72-year-old said. "It's that bad."

Texas was ranked in the bottom one third of states for the comprehensiveness of evaluations conducted on intellectually-disabled patients, according to a federal report by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services last year.

"Our belief is that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities have just as much right to live in the community as anyone else," said Yvette Ostolaza, another attorney for the disabled clients.

Acclaimed Iranian film director Kiarostami dies

By Nasser Karimi
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iranian director Abbas Kiarostami, whose 1997 film "Taste of Cherry" won the prestigious Palme d'Or and who kept working despite government resistance, died Monday. He was 76.

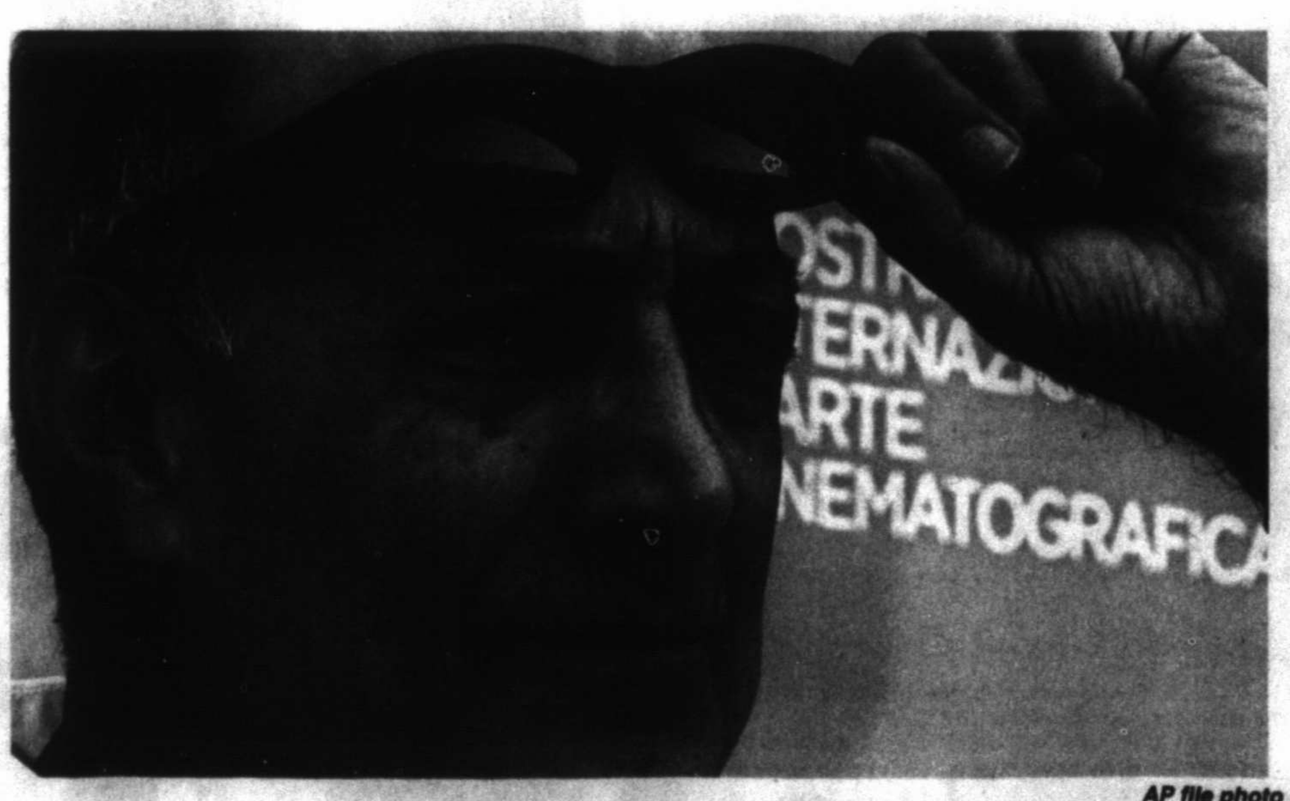
Iran's official news agency IRNA said Kiarostami died in Paris, where he had gone for cancer treatment last week after undergoing surgery in Iran earlier this year.

He wrote and directed dozens of films over a career spanning more than 40 years. "Taste of Cherry," which told the story of an Iranian man looking for someone to bury him after he killed himself, won the top award at the Cannes Film Festival. Kiarostami also wrote and directed "Certified Copy," a 2010 film starring Juliette Binoche.

He said at a 2014 appearance in Syracuse that "Taste of Cherry" was his only film he had not watched since he made it. He said it took him back to a period in his life he preferred not to think about. His film was banned in Iran for supposedly encouraging suicide.

"But in truth," he said, "it is a suggestion to live."

Among his other films was "Close-Up" from 1990, which told the true story of a man who impersonated a filmmaker and tricked a family into believing that he would put them in a film. His 1987 film "Where is the Friend's Home" is a story of honor, about a boy who tries to return schoolwork to a friend. The 2000 film "The Wind Will Carry Us" is about journalists from a city who go to a village to write about the death of an old woman, but they have time to learn about and appreciate rural life as the woman lives longer than expected.



AP file photo

Acclaimed Iranian film director Abbas Kiarostami poses during the photo call of his movie 'Shirin' (My sweet Shirin) at the 65th edition of the Venice Film Festival on Aug. 28, 2008, in Venice, Italy. Iran's official news agency IRINA says Kiarostami, whose 1997 film "Taste of Cherry" won the Palme d'Or, died Monday in Paris, where he had gone for cancer treatment. He was 76.

"Ten," from 2002, features a female taxi driver in Tehran and her conversations with passengers. While it attracted some strong reviews, critic Roger Ebert wrote, "I am unable to grasp the greatness of Abbas Kiarostami." He said the filmmaker's critical reputation was unmatched, but his films "are meant not so much to be watched as to be written about; his reviews make his points better than he does."

Filmmaker Martin Scorsese said some people referred to Kiarostami's pictures as minimalist, but he thought it was the opposite. Every scene in "Taste of Cherry" and "Where is the Friend's House" are overflowing with beauty and surprise, he said.

"I got to know Abbas over the last 10 or 15 years," he said. "He was a very special human being: quiet, elegant, modest, articulate and quite observant. I don't think he missed anything. Our paths crossed too seldom, and I was always glad when they did. He was a true gentleman and, truly, one of our great artists."

In "Certified Copy," Binoche plays a French woman who goes on what appears to be a first date with a British writer. Tensions quickly erupt between the two, and eventually viewers start to suspect that these two may actually know each other — and perhaps had once been married.

For that film and others, Kiarostami had to work outside Iran because of the difficulties in making movies there.

"For a long time, the Iranian government has put a spoke in the wheel of independent filmmakers," he said at a 2010 news conference.

Kiarostami is survived by two sons, Ahmad and Bahman Kiarostami, who work in multimedia and documentary film.

Obituaries

Lucille Odell Semple

Lucille Odell Semple passed away on July 1, 2016. She was born in Caddo, Oklahoma, to Warren Daniel Odell and his wife Etta Cornelia Moran Odell, on June 10, 1915. Lucille was married to the late Charles Allen Semple.

Lucille and her husband had lived in Odessa, Midland, Houston, San Antonio, and Hobbs, New Mexico. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Midland. She had been a volunteer in the auxiliary at Trinity Towers for several years, and did volunteer work in the hospital auxiliary in Hobbs N.M. and Midland. Her hobbies included sewing, gardening, oil painting and reading.

She is survived by two sons, Charles O. Semple and wife Margaret of Midland and Robert W. Semple and wife Anne of Ft. Worth; and a daughter-in-law Pat Semple of Plano, Texas. Lucille Semple has five grandsons, Robert Semple, Chris Semple, and Hunter Semple of Ft. Worth, Charles (Chas) Semple of Austin, and Hal Semple of Midland. She leaves two granddaughters behind; Ann Hartline and Cheryl Rice of Plano. She has numerous great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, son Harold, grandson Brian, and both her sisters, Wanda McCraw of San Antonio and Vi Sneed of Norman Oklahoma.

Her family will remember her for her devotion to them, her constant kindness and her delicious cooking. She will always be remembered and hold a place of honor in our hearts. Her influence will be felt always.

The family is grateful for Mary Semple who was her best friend and loving caregiver.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at Newnie Ellis Funeral Home from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Graveside services will be held Wednesday, July 6, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Remembrances may be made to Manor Park Endowment Fund, attn: Development, 2208 N. Loop 250, Midland, 79707, or to Hospice of Midland at 911 W. Texas, Midland 79701 or to a charity of your choice.

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity
801 Andrews Hwy.
(432) 683-5555

Former Brennan's Restaurant owner's wife, 82, dies

Associated Press

LONG BEACH, Miss. — Barbara Ann Clark Brennan, the wife of restaurateur Owen "Pip" Brennan Jr., is dead at the age of 82.

An obituary on the website of Lake Lawn Metairie Funeral Home states that Barbara Brennan died Saturday in Long Beach, Mississippi.

Owen Brennan Sr. founded the popular French Quarter restaurant Brennan's, which his sons and widow ran for decades.

Barbara Brennan grew up in Mobile, Alabama, and met and married Owen Brennan Jr. at Spring Hill College.

They were married 60 years and had been living in Pass Christian, Mississippi, since 2008.

She is survived by a sister, her husband, three sons and a daughter, and 13 grandchildren.

Her funeral will be at noon today at St. Mary's Assumption Church in New Orleans, with visitation that morning and burial in Metairie Cemetery.

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52 FACES OF COMMUNITY

To nominate a Face of Community, please visit mrt.com/52Faces

PRESENTED BY CHEVROLET AND THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY PRIME TIME — JULY 5, 2016

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

						6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Middle	Black-ish	Uncle Buck (N)	Uncle Buck (N)	Tell the Truth "Yvette Nicole Brown" (N)		Local 2 News/ 10	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "16 Years"		Zoo "Collision Point" (N)		NCIS: New Orleans "Confluence"		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert		(:35) J.Corden
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Happy Days	Gilligan's Island	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Perry Mason		Twilight Zone
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Hotel Hell "Angler's Lodge"		Coupled "Chemistry 101"		Fox 24 News	TMZ	2 Broke Girls	Modern Family	Two and a Half	Met Your Mother
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Jean-Claude	Joshua Caleb	Update News	Behind the Veil	Light of the Southwest "Part 1"		Light of the Southwest "Part 2"		Israel Inspired	Mission: M25		Ministerios Nueva Vida
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	NewsWest 9 Now	America's Got Talent "Auditions" Variety acts of all types audition to win $1 million. (N)				Maya and Marty (N)		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Genealogy "St. Louis: Union Station"		The Greeks "Chasing Greatness" (N)		Frontline "The Secret History of ISIS"		Charlie Rose (N)		World News	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Sueño de amor		Un camino hacia el destino		Tres veces Ana		Por siempre Joan Sebastian		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Fam.Feud	Fam. Feud	Dead "Them"		Dead "The Distance"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Tosh.0	Access H.
FLIX	340	575		165		(5:00) ★ Houseguest		★★ Captain Ron Kurt Russell.			(:40) ★★ 1492: Conquest of Paradise					(:15) ★ Waterworld	
HBO	300	550	14	14		(5:05) ★★★ Max		★ The Fantastic Four			(:45) ★★★★ Mad Max: Fury Road				(:50) Real Sports		Movie
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	Real Sports		★ Suffragette (15, Dra) Carey Mulligan.				LastWeek	Bill Maher		Wednes	Let Go of the World	
HBO5	304	552	16	102		(5:40) ★ Blackhat (14, Act) Chris Hemsworth.						★ 27 Dresses Katherine Heigl.			★ Pitch Perfect 2 Anna Kendrick.		
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(4:35) ★ The Departed		(:10) ★ Taken 3 (14, Act) Liam Neeson.						★ Run All Night (15, Act) Liam Neeson.		(:55) ★ The Drop	
MAX2	382	558	18	122		★★★ This Boy's Life Robert De Niro.				★ Seventh Son Jeff Bridges.			(:45) ★ Burn After Reading				Movie
PLEX			96			Movie	(:35) ★ D.E.B.S. Shanti Lowry.			(:10) ★ Labor Pains			(:40) ★ Nadine			(:05) ★ F/X 2	
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	(4:55) ★ Good Will H...		Roadies		60 Minutes Sport (N)		Roadies		60 Minutes Sports		Donovan "Marisol"	
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:25) ★★★ Venus		★★ Happy Endings Lisa Kudrow.						(:15) ★ Pride ('07, Dra) Bernie Mac, Terrence Howard.			Movie
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	The First 48 "Deadly Morning"		★ Cleveland Abduction (15, Dra) Raymond Cruz, Samantha Droke, Taryn Manning.				Beyond Headlines "Cleveland Abduction"		First 48 "Abandoned by the Bayou"		★ Cleveland Abduction	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(5:00) ★★★ Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End						Feed the Beast (N)		Feed the Beast		★ Pirates of the C...	
BET	58	-		40		(5:00) ★ Think Like a Man Chris Brown.				Music Moguls (N)		Fabulous	Music Moguls (N)		Dish	Wendy Williams	
BRAVO	65	76		41		Below "Charter King"		Below "Fever Pitch"		Below Deck (N)		Southern Charm		Below Deck		Southern Charm	
CNBC	46	52		39	72	West Texas Investors		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		West Texas (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		A. Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360		A. Cooper 360	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Deadliest Catch		Deadliest Catch (H)		Deadliest Catch (N)		Woods "Bones" (N)		(:05) Deadliest Catch		(:05) Woods "Bones"	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	(:20) ★★★★ Aladdin Robin Williams.				Walk (N)	Liv/Mad	Friends	Underc.	Jessie	Liv/Mad	Girl M.	Austin
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	MLB Seletion (L)		MLB Baseball Pittsburgh Pirates at St. Louis Cardinals (L)						SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	SportsCenter		WNBA Basketball Chicago vs Minnesota (L)				Streetball City Slam		Entert.	ESPN FC	Baseball Tonight (L)	
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Chopped		Chopped Junior (N)		Chopped		Chopped (N)		Chopped	Chopped	Chopped	
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	Pretty Liars "Bedlam"		Pretty Little Liars (N)		Dead of Summer (N)		Guilt "Exit Wounds"		The 700 Club		So Raven	So Raven
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	MLB Baseball Texas Rangers at Boston Red Sox Site: Fenway Park -- Boston, Mass. (L)						Rangers Live (L)	Under the Lights	UFC 200 Fighters (N)		WPT Poker L.A. Classic	
FX	31	56	59	64	69	★★★ The Wolf of Wall Street (2013, Drama) Jonah Hill, Kyle Chandler, Leonardo DiCaprio.									★★★ The Wolf of Wall Street		
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		H.Hunt	House	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper	
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Counting	CountCars	Counting	Counting	Counting	Count. (N)	Motors	Motors	(:05) Counting Cars		(:05) Count.	(:35) Count.
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Celebrity Wife Swap		Celebrity Wife Swap		Gold Medal Families (N)		Gold Medal Families (N)		Gold Medal Families		Celebrity Wife Swap	
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow	
NBCSN	38	43				Triathlon	Triathlon	UCI Cycling Tour de France Stage 4 Saumur - Limoges						Rallycross		UCI Cycling	
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Crashlet	Thunder	Nicky	School	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	(5:00) ★★ My Cousin Vinny Joe Pesci.				★★★ The Longest Yard ('05, Com) Adam Sandler.					★★★ Grandma's Boy		
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:30) ★★ Tremors 2: Aftershocks				★★ Tremors 3: Back to Perfection Michael Gross.					★ Tremors 4: The Legend Be...		
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Sein. "The Gum"	Family Guy	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Wrecked (N)	Big Bang Theory	Conan (N)		Wrecked	Conan
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(5:00) ★ The Plainsm...		★★★★ Stagecoach			(:45) ★★★ The Searchers ('56, West) John Wayne.					★ Fort Apache	
TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado		Eva, La Trailera		La esclava blanca		El señor de los cielos		Al rojo	Titulares	La esclava blanca	
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Little People "Little People, Big Goals"		Little People "Big Island or Bust!" (N)		Little People, Big World (N)		My Giant Life (N)		Little Peo. "Changes Upon Us and on Us"		Giant Life "Lindsay Takes Over the World"	
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	★★ The Hangover Part III (2013, Comedy) Zach Galifianakis, Ed Helms, Bradley Cooper.				Animal Kingdom "Flesh Is Weak" (N)		Animal Kingdom "Flesh Is Weak"		Law & Order "Zero"		Law & Order "Chattel"	
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	Griffith	(:35) Griffith	(:10) Lopez	(:50) Lopez	(:25) Ray "The Article"		Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Harm"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Svengali"		Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family
WGN	19	85				★★★ Watchmen ('09, Act) Billy Crudup, Malin Akerman. A group of superheroes come out of retirement to look into the murder of one of their friends.						★ Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines A deadly robot arrives to kill the teens who are destined to save the world from machines.					

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State's withholding of professional licenses examined

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Court records show the Texas Department of Public Safety has denied professional licenses to people accused of something as little as stealing socks or sleeping in an abandoned house while homeless.

The state issues licenses to hundreds of professions, and the Department of Public Safety can withhold licenses for specific crimes.

DPS says it has to be careful in licensing employees as security guards, locksmiths and alarm companies because those professions deal with people with extra vulnerability. A spokesman told the Austin American-Statesman newspaper that the agency had followed its rules.

Christopher Owen was denied a state employment license because he had been arrested for stealing socks from a Goodwill drop-off trailer after losing his job.

Krystal Turner was arrested for criminal trespass after staying in an abandoned house while homeless. Five years later, the state also denied her an employment license.

Owen and Turner both appealed their rejections to the State Office of Administrative Hearings. Judges said each applicant deserved the license they had requested, but their decisions were strictly advisory. The Department of Public Safety will now decide whether to accept those recommendations.

Owen applied last year for an alarm salesperson license, but was denied by the agency due to the November 2014 arrest. He was arrested as he was going through a job loss, a divorce and the destruction of his home in a fire, according to court records.

Turner said she was homeless in late 2011 when she entered an abandoned house near the University of Texas and was arrested the next day. She received a 15-day sentence at the Travis County Jail.

She eventually received housing through her church and work at a lube garage. She would become a store manager at another shop and started to take classes at a local community college. Her boss said her "honesty and work ethics are impeccable."

But the trespassing case was cited by DPS in denying her an application for a state vehicle inspector's license.

Agencies are allowed to weigh mitigating factors and the efforts someone has made to change against a criminal record. But Jason Ray, a former attorney for DPS who now specializes in administrative law as a private lawyer, said DPS "has traditionally been one of the agencies least likely to exercise its discretion."

Border security measures lead to rise in Hispanic troopers

Associated Press

AUSTIN — State authorities say the effort to increase security measures along the border has led to a rise in the number of state troopers who are Hispanic.

An analysis by The Dallas Morning News showed that over the last 18 months more than 40 percent of the 450 people who trained to become a trooper for the Texas Department of Public Safety were Hispanic. That's the highest percentage in at least a decade.

Lawmakers have designated $800 million to boost security along the border, and pay incentives were introduced as part of the border package. DPS officials say a larger recruiting budget and greater presence in South Texas have contributed to the rise in Hispanic applicants.

The trend has helped DPS address a chronic shortage of some 200 personnel.

AP file photo

Texas Department of Public Safety recruit graduation class on April 7, 2011, in Austin.

BANANAGRAMS!

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Each set of 10 tiles below contains two common five-letter words. The letters of the first five-letter word are adjacent, but not in order. Find and rearrange them to spell a word. Rearrange the five remaining letters to spell the second word.

N D N A B L L A N U

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Yesterday's Answer: COLITIS, HEPATITIS, MALARIA

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Ronald W. Erdrich/The Abilene Reporter-News via AP

Children attend the Dino Camp at the Scurry County Museum on June 23. Campers were able to visit the paleo dig east of Snyder earlier in the week to gain an understanding of how ancient remains are recovered.

Paleo dig near Snyder yields interesting artifacts

By Ronald W. Erdrich
Abilene Reporter-News

SNYDER — Long ago, herds of wild beasts roamed this area. Their bodies rose from the tall grass, lumbering along as they lived out their lives on the plains.

It wasn't shaggy fur covering these animals, however, but hard shells.

"We have tortoises in North America today, but they're gopher tortoises in the desert southwest, into Texas and Florida, and they're about this big," John Moretti told the Abilene Reporter-News, using his hands to suggest something about the size of a football.

"They're coldblooded, so if it gets too hot or too cold, they'll burrow to get out of the extreme weather."

Moretti is a graduate student with the Museum of Texas Tech University and the supervisor of a paleontological dig just east of town on the Roland Springs Ranch. This marks the 11th year of the excavation of a former streambed on the privately owned property.

The ancient tortoises, known as Hesperotestudo, lived near Snyder more than 2 million years ago, the time period of the excavation, and were quite a bit larger than a football. Like the Galapagos tortoises you might find in a zoo, these were more the size of a coffee table.

"A tortoise this big, they can't burrow because their legs are pretty much columns, they have to be to hold that shell up," Moretti said. "So you have to presume from that evidence that there weren't long-term cold periods. We didn't have winters with a week of 20-something temperatures like we can have now."

At about that time, the ice age was just beginning to start. The glaciers eventually would reach as far south as Nebraska. The resulting climate change with that much ice so near to this area made it milder than it is today.

"The summer was probably not getting up to 100 degrees, so that helped the grassland to be a wetter place," Moretti said. "Maybe there's not too much more rain, but if we don't have high rates of evaporation, the effective moisture is greater, and it makes a wetter habitat."

Tortoises aren't the only animals to be found in the dig, more than 50 different species have been documented.

"Birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes and mammals of all body sizes," Moretti said.

Each June, Moretti has led a team of other students and volunteers back to the ranch. When excavation ends for the year, the site is covered with layers of plastic and dirt, so researchers' first few days always are spent restoring the dig to a workable state.

Once excavation resumes, a grid is outlined across the entire site to allow for documentation of every action.

Workers use small trowels and dustpans to scrape millimeters of dirt away, then bag the specimens for later inspection. Every couple of layers, a new reading is made of that particular spot's height, which is noted on the bag.

If you think that sounds incredibly tedious, then you haven't seen what they do with the dirt from the bags. It's taken to a fine sifting screen, where water is washed over it to separate the tiny bones of ancient rats and mice from the pebbles and other sediment that trapped them.

"Some of the mice we find, their teeth are so small they can actually slip through holes in the screen. They're really minuscule," Moretti said.

Why search for mouse teeth?

"Teeth are very durable, they'll last a lot longer than the jaws themselves," he said.

It takes a special kind of person to do this sort of work. I'll tell you right now that I'm not that kind of person.

But this is how the scientific method works. Collecting this data will allow Moretti to build a three-dimensional model of the dig.

"Then we'll use the spatial information to throw those bone points in on top of that model," he said. Placing the locations of the excavated bones in the computer model will be an incredibly valuable research tool as the excavation progresses.

This year's dig is scheduled to wrap in mid-July. Each Saturday, the Scurry County Museum has been sponsoring tours to the site.

Children attending the museum's Dino Camp visited the dig recently.

Dinosaurs died out 63 million years before the animals being found in this dig, so there might have been some disappointment at not seeing a T. rex. But giant tortoises do run a close second, and Moretti was able to convey the idea of how long ago in time this stream existed.

"I was trying to impress on them a few things, that this is paleontology and this was 2 million years old," he said. "One of the kids raised his hands and asked, 'So next year, it's going to be 3 million years?'"

No, Moretti said. Next year, it will be 2 million-and-one years old.

"Wow, that's a really long time!"

Yep, even for a tortoise. Not so much if you're sifting mouse teeth, though.

Distributed by Associated Press

As bee population wanes, one Austin honey-maker presses on

By Asher Price
Austin American-Statesman

Ralph Barrera/Austin American-Statesman via AP

Tara Chapman processes honey June 22 in East Austin. Chapman is a beekeeper who manages dozens of hives and processes the honey at the Sustainable Food Center for sale to farm and table restaurants in the Austin area. Chapman, who use to be a former intelligence officer, is an advocate for the propagation of bees and hopes to see their numbers grow in importance to the food chain and community.

AUSTIN — Only a few years ago, Tara Chapman was wrapping up a decade of sometimes-dangerous intelligence and policy work in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Now 34, she's left behind the Kevlar vest for a beekeeping suit, tending to a few dozen hives around Austin.

"I've traded in one suit of protective gear for another," said the honey meister, who supplies gorgeous, delectable bits of raw honeycomb to such local restaurants as Trace.

The Austin American-Statesman reported that she has also become something of an activist: Chapman is a member of a group of farmers, environmentalists and researchers pressing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to regulate a class of pesticides called neonicotinoids that they say threatens the pollinator population.

Austin's Parks and Recreation Department recently announced it would cease using on its golf courses neonicotinoids — which can disrupt the central nervous system of insects, leaving them paralyzed — and are blamed by some scientists for an ongoing collapse of the bee population.

About a third of our food chain is the result of pollination that happened in a farmer's field, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

A 2015 report found that, between 2008 and 2013, bee abundance declined across nearly a quarter of the nation. The report's authors attributed the decline to conversion of natural habitats to row crops, as well as to pesticide use, climate change and disease.

Austin has about 180 species of bees, according to Shalene Jha, a University of Texas biologist who studies bees; they can be distinguished, in part, by the location of their hair, which catches pollen. Some have hair on their eyes, some on their knees and others on their bellies.

Industry scientists said the pesticides can increase overall crop yields.

But that's short-term thinking, Jha said at a press event organized recently by Environment Texas.

"We're altering our agricultural system, reducing diversity and pulverizing the soil," she said.

Chapman had grown up in a small town near Lubbock, the daughter of blue-collar parents — her stepfather is a mechanic for Greyhound; her mother does odd jobs, most recently working at a funeral home — before heading to Duke University.

She was the first in her family to graduate from college and at the school career fair sneaked her résumé into a stack at the CIA table; she worked as a CIA operative for five years, stationed chiefly in Pakistan — "We were working in areas that weren't very safe, doing things those countries wouldn't want us to do," she said — before working for a congressional commission investigating wartime contracts and then for the Special Inspector General on Afghanistan Reconstruction.

Longing for Texas, if not Lubbock, she began splitting time between Kabul and Austin. On a whim, she took a beekeeping class about four years ago; hooked, she and a friend started out with a pair of hives — she would call her business, which includes beekeeping education, Two Hives Honey — but decided she needed more experience before striking out on her own.

She wrote to a Navasota beekeeping business to see about a job. Beekeeping is hard work, including the lifting of 50 to 90 pound cases of honeycomb — and determined to impress she included in an introductory email how much weight she could deadlift.

She was hired, working six-day weeks with 12-hour days in the hot Texas sun in a sweltering beekeeping suit.

Like other beekeepers, she has neat factoids about bees at the ready: The average worker bee lives 42 days and produces one-twelfth of a teaspoon of honey in its lifetime; bees travel up to five miles to forage.

She said the only thing that ties her two careers together might be how uncommon it is for a woman to hold the jobs she's had.

"To see a youngish female professional beekeeper is really rare," she said.

The other common thread is how unusual the jobs themselves are. "My mom is wondering when I'm going to take a normal job," she said.

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Mavs getting C Andrew Bogut in deal with Warriors

By Schulyer Dixon
Associated Press

DALLAS — Andrew Bogut is headed to the Dallas Mavericks from Golden State thanks to the Warriors' successful pursuit of Kevin Durant.

A person with knowledge of the deal said Monday that the Mavericks have agreed to acquire Bogut with the Warriors trying to clear salary cap space so they can add the four-time scoring champion Durant to the Splash Brothers duo of Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson.

Other details of the trade are still being worked out, the person told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the deal hasn't been finalized and can't be official until league business resumes Thursday.

The person also said the Mavericks are set to sign Harrison Barnes, who will become an unrestricted free agent after Golden State renounces his rights to clear enough cap room to sign Durant.

The Mavericks had informed Barnes they would him extend him an offer sheet as a restricted free agent, but now the sides have agreed to a maximum contract and Dallas will sign Barnes to a four-year, $94 million deal as early Thursday when contracts can be finalized.

The Mavericks missed out on their top two targets in free agency for the fifth straight year when Memphis guard Mike Conley and Miami center Hassan Whiteside stayed with their current teams.

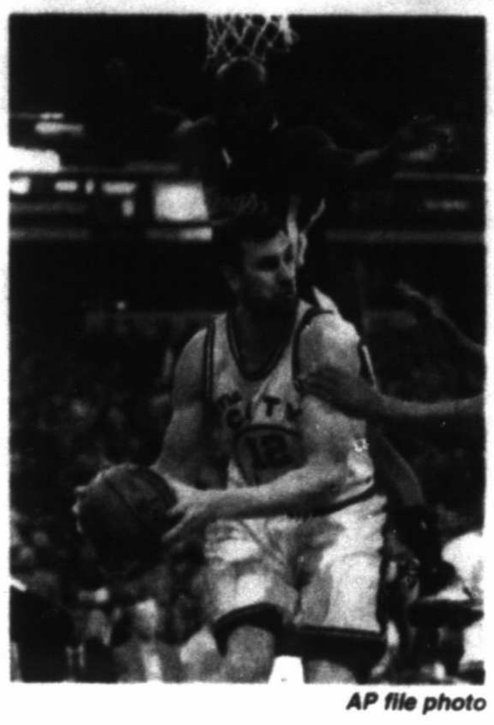
But Dallas added three starters in two days, including bringing back point guard Deron Williams for a second season with his hometown team. The Mavericks also virtually assured the return of Dirk Nowitzki for a 19th season.

Bogut will get $11 million in the final year of his deal, and Williams has agreed to a one-year, $10 million contract. Those moves will give the Mavericks more flexibility next summer with expected strong classes in free agency and the draft.

The Mavericks should be competitive in the meantime after things looked bleak following the first day of free agency. The lineup is similar to last season, when Dallas was the sixth seed in the Western Conference with a 42-40 record, and lost to Durant and Oklahoma City in five games in the first round.

Bogut, a 7-footer who averaged 5.4 points, 7.0 rebounds and 1.6 blocks per game last season, is expected to be healthy after sustaining bone bruises around his left knee in Game 5 of Golden State's seven-game loss

Please see **MAVS**/4C



Golden State Warriors center Andrew Bogut looks to pass as Sacramento Kings forward Quincy Acy, background, defends during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game in Sacramento, Calif., on Jan. 29.

AP file photo

Looking to go to war

AP file photo

Oklahoma City Thunder forward Kevin Durant (35) reacts during the second half of Game 7 of the NBA basketball Western Conference finals against the Golden State Warriors in Oakland, Calif., on May 30. Durant announced Monday that he is joining All-Stars Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson with the Golden State Warriors.

Durant leaves Thunder, joins Warriors

By Janie McCauley
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Kevin Durant decided his best chance for "growth" means leaving his beloved Oklahoma City behind for a big move out West to join the star-studded, record-setting Golden State Warriors and play alongside Splash Brothers Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson.

In the most anticipated move of the NBA offseason, Durant announced his decision Monday on The Players' Tribune. His contract is for $54 million over two years and includes a player option, a person with knowledge of the deal said Monday, speaking on condition of anonymity because details weren't made public. Durant's move will become official as soon as Thursday, when free agents can sign their new contracts.

Independence Day, indeed.

"The primary mandate I had for myself in making this decision was to have it based on the potential for my growth as a player — as that has always steered me in the right direction," Durant said in the article. "But I am also at a point in my life where it is of equal importance to find an opportunity that encourages my evolution as a man: moving out of my comfort zone to a new city and community which offers the greatest potential for my contribution and personal growth. With this in mind, I have decided that I am going to join the Golden State Warriors."

And the 2015 champion Warriors, who squandered a 3-1 NBA Finals lead to lose to LeBron James and the Cavaliers last month, know how tough Durant is in any lineup: They rallied from down 3-1 to beat Durant and the Thunder in a seven-game Western Conference Finals.

Golden State applied a full-court press to land Durant. On Friday in the Hamptons, the Warriors sent owner Joe Lacob, general manager Bob Myers, coach of the year Steve Kerr, Curry and Thompson to meet with the 6-foot-9 superstar.

The 2014 MVP and four-time scoring champion led the Thunder to the NBA Finals in 2012, and to the Western Conference finals in four of the past six years — and he's only 27. He recovered from a broken bone in his right foot that cost him much of last season to post

Please see **DURANT**/4C

With roof closed, Williams rolls at Wimbledon

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

LONDON — It was raining, ever so slightly, and her Wimbledon fourth-round match was slipping away, ever so slightly, when Serena Williams stumbled as she ran to the net, winding up seated on the slick Centre Court grass.

Williams

Her opponent, two-time major champion Svetlana Kuznetsova, sent a shot flying past Williams to go up a break at 5-4 in the opening set.

Williams was slow to get up. She wasn't injured, but was worried she could be. Why, she demanded to know from chair umpire Marija Cicak, wasn't the retractable roof shut? Eventually, after one more game and much discussion, action was delayed for nearly 30 minutes while the cover was closed.

Whether it was the transformation to an indoor court, the strategy session the break allowed her to have with coach Patrick Mouratoglou or, as Williams suggested, simply the chance to calm down, she completely dominated the rest of the way, taking the last nine games to beat the 13th-seeded Kuznetsova 7-5, 6-0 on Monday.

"I'm so intense on the court. I give 200 percent every time I'm out there. Every single point. Sometimes I just need to take a deep breath and relax. I just needed to do that. I can do that on the timeouts," said Williams, who is seeking her seventh Wimbledon title and 22nd Grand Slam trophy overall.

"That's one thing the past four years I've been really doing a lot of, just really taking a deep breath, re-collecting myself," the No. 1-ranked Williams continued. "I had a little more time to do it this time."

She wound up winning 24 of the match's last 29 points, and her 14 aces

Please see **WIMBLEDON**/2C

10 years later, remembering the lone US loss under Coach K

By Brian Mahoney
Associated Press

Ten years later, Carmelo Anthony still remembers where he stood.

He points to a spot between the 3-point arc and the sideline, recalling the position from where he watched a celebration some teammates couldn't bear to face.

"Everybody was walking off the floor. There was confetti, things on the court," Anthony said. "Everybody was celebrating and I stayed, I stayed right there on the court. I just wanted to see it and kind of feel it."

The Americans haven't felt it since.

The U.S. had just lost to Greece in the semifinals of the 2006 world basketball championship, a team coached by Mike Krzyzewski and led by likely future Hall of Famers LeBron James, Anthony and Dwyane Wade falling to a team that had no NBA players.

That 101-95 loss in Japan is the only deefeat in 76 games since Krzyzewski took over in 2005.

Whether it was an upset depends on who you ask, but there's no debating what it meant to a U.S. team that hasn't looked back.

As the U.S. rolls into Rio and Greece tries to qualify this week , people on both sides remembered the buildup, the game and the aftermath.

Jerry Colangelo had overhauled USA Basketball after the Americans' embarrassing performance in the 2004 Olympics, when Anthony was part of a team that managed only a bronze. But it would take a while to get the U.S. program to where it is now.

"From '04 to '06, it wasn't no organizational structure," Anthony said. "It was just come together, put a team together and just try to go out there and win."

Colangelo set out to change that by selecting players months in advance, then bringing them to camp and making roster cuts — something the U.S. has stopped doing.

"We really had tryouts," Chris Paul said. "Like, you think about it, you get to the highest point of your professional career, the NBA, and we had tryouts for the USA team. I remember diving on the floor against Luke Ridnour and stuff like that. So when you think back like that, it puts it all in perspective."

James, Anthony and Wade, who had just been MVP of the NBA Finals, were the headliners of the team. Paul had won Rookie of the Year.

The rest of the team was good, but far short of a Dream Team — even though that's what U.S. teams with NBA players always get called across the globe. Kobe Bryant was the biggest absence after knee surgery on the eve of the Americans' training camp.

"A lot of people probably couldn't even name that team if you wanted to," Paul said. "We had guys like Kirk Hinrich, Elton Brand, Brad Miller."

The rest of the roster: Chris Bosh, Dwight Howard, Joe Johnson, Shane Battier and Antawn Jamison.

The Americans arrived in the semifinals with a 7-0 record but had some struggles along the way. Puerto Rico scored 100 points on them in the opener, and the Americans were down 12 to Italy in the second half before Anthony bailed them out with a then-U.S. record 35 points.

Spain and Argentina, the reigning Olympic champion, were also 7-0 and met in one semifinal. The overlooked team was Greece, which had won all seven games in the worlds after winning the 2005 European championship.

"I think we had a really good group with inside and outside players, and

Please see **LOSS**/4C

'HOUNDSWATCH

MONDAY'S SCORE
Midland 12, Arkansas 2

TODAY'S GAME
Midland at Arkansas, 6:30 p.m.

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Midland 8-3
Arkansas 4-6

Monday	Today	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Midland 12, Arkansas 2	Midland at Arkansas, 6:30 p.m.	NW Arkansas at Midland, 6:30 p.m.	NW Arkansas at Midland, 7 p.m.	Arkansas at Midland, 7 p.m.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV
CRICKET
T20: Sri Lanka vs. England, 12:30 p.m., OWSPN
T20: Barbados Tridents vs. St. Kitts & Nevis Patriots, 6 p.m., OWSPN
CYCLING
Tour de France, Stage 4: Sagmur to Limoges, 7 a.m., NBCSN
MLB
Cincinnati Reds at Chicago Cubs, 1:15 p.m., MLB
Texas at Boston, 6 p.m., FSSW
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 7 p.m., ESPN, ESPNDEP
Seattle at Houston, 7 p.m., ROOT
Baltimore at LA Dodgers, 10 p.m., MLB
NBA
Orlando Blue vs. Miami, Noon, NBAtv
LA Clippers vs. New York, 2 p.m., NBAtv
Indiana vs. Oklahoma City, 4 p.m., ESPN3
Philadelphia vs. San Antonio, 4 p.m., NBAtv
Boston vs. Utah, 6 p.m., NBAtv
TENNIS
Wimbledon, Women's Quarterfinals, 7 a.m., ESPN, ESPN2
WNBA
Chicago at Minnesota, 7 p.m., ESPN2
ON RADIO
MLB
Texas at Boston, 6 p.m., KBEST 95.7 FM (Big Spring), KPET 105.1 FM/690 AM (Lamesa)
TEXAS LEAGUE BASEBALL
Midland at Arkansas, 7 p.m., KCRS 97.5 FM/550 AM

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Placed INF Pedro Alvarez on the bereavement list. Optioned LHP Ariel Miranda to Norfolk (IL). Recalled OF Daniel Alvarez from Norfolk and LHP Jayson Aquino from Bowie (EL).
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Recalled RHP Mike Clevinger and LHP TJ House from Columbus (IL). Designated RHP Joba Chamberlain and LHP Tom Gorzelanny for assignment.
DETROIT TIGERS — Placed RHP Jordan Zimmermann on the 15-day DL, retroactive to July 1. Recalled RHP Dustin Molleken from Toledo (IL).
MINNESOTA TWINS — Placed 3B Trevor Plouffe on the 15-day DL, retroactive to July 2. Recalled INF Kennys Vargas from Rochester (IL). Reinstated RHP Trevor May from the 15-day DL. Optioned LHP Buddy Boshers to Rochester.
NEW YORK YANKEES — Sent OF Mason Williams to Tampa (FSL) for a rehab assignment.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Placed RHP Fernando Rodriguez on the 15-day DL. Optioned LHP Daniel Coulombe to Nashville (PCL). Recalled RHP Andrew Triggs from Nashville. Selected the contract of LHP Patrick Schuster from Nashville. Recalled OF Andrew Lambo from Nashville and placed him on the 60-day DL.
SEATTLE MARINERS — Agreed to terms with RHP Guido Knudson on a minor league contract.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Agreed to terms with RHP Zach Jackson on a minor league contract.
National League
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Purchased the contract of RHP Alex Gouin from Rockland (Can-Am) and assigned him to Hillsboro (NWL).
ATLANTA BRAVES — Selected the contract of INF Ronnier Mustelier from Gwinnett (IL).
CINCINNATI REDS — Fired pitching coach Mark Riggins. Promoted assistant pitching coach/bullpen coach Mack Jenkins to pitching coach and Louisville (IL) pitching coach Ted Power to assistant pitching coach/bullpen coach. Agreed to terms with SS Alfredo Rodriguez on a minor league contract.
MIAMI MARLINS — Assigned LHP Jo-Jo Reyes outright to New Orleans (PCL). Selected the contract of OF Yelm Perez from Jacksonville (SL). Agreed to terms with RHPs Remey Reed and Michael Mertz on minor league contracts.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Optioned RHP Dalier Hinojosa to Lehigh Valley (IL).
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Assigned RHP Curtis Partch outright to Indianapolis (IL).
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Activated RHP Sergio Romo from the 60-day DL. Optioned RHP Albert Suarez to Sacramento (PCL). Designated RHP Michael Broadway for assignment.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Placed RHP Joe Ross on the 15-day DL. Optioned OF Michael Taylor to Syracuse (IL). Reinstated RHP Jonathan Papelbon from the 15-day DL.
American Association
FARGO-MOORHEAD REDHAWKS — Released OF Chad Mozingo.
JOPLIN BLASTERS — Signed RHP Roby Romero. Released RHP Nate Carter.
SIOUX CITY EXPLORERS — Sold the contract of RHP Taylor Scott to Milwaukee (NL). Signed RHP PJ Francescon.
WINNIPEG GOLDEYES — Released INF Carter McEachern.
Atlantic League
LONG ISLAND DUCKS — Signed INF Mark Minicozzi.
Can-Am League
OTTAWA CHAMPIONS — Sold the contract of RHP Wilmer Font to Toronto (AL). Released RHP Calvin Rayburn.
ROCKLAND BOULDERS — Sold the contract of RHP Alex Gouin to Arizona (NL).
TROIS-RIVIERES AIGLES — Signed INF Zak Colby.

FOOTBALL
Canadian Football League
CFL — Suspended Montreal WR Duron Carter one game for his actions in the bench area of the Ottawa of a June 30 game. Fined Ottawa coach Rick Campbell an undisclosed amount for his part in the incident. Fined Ottawa S Jermaine Robinson for an undisclosed amount a high hit to Carter's head area on Carter's touchdown reception during the third quarter. Fined Ottawa DB Jerrell Gavins an undisclosed amount for delivering a punch to an opponent during the incident in the bench area and for an inappropriate gesture toward fans following his disqualification from the game.
EDMONTON ESKIMOS — Acquired LB Alex Hoffman-Ellis from Hamilton for a conditional 2018 eighth-round draft pick. Signed WR Natey Adjei to the practice roster.
WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Signed DL James Tuck to the active roster and LB Hervie Tonye-Tonye and OL T-Dre Player to the practice roster.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
EDMONTON OILERS — Signed F Taylor Beck to a one-year contract.

SOCCER
Major Soccer League
FC DALLAS — Signed D Aubrey David on loan from Deportivo Saprissa (Costa Rica).

LITTLE LEAGUE BRACKETS

8-9-10 Year Old Sectional Tournament at Western Little League Fields, Lubbock
Saturday, July 2
Game 1: Lubbock Western 14, Greenwood 4
Game 2: Childress 12, New Home 2
Sunday, July 3
Game 3: Midland Northern 6, Childress 4
Loser's bracket
Game 4: New Home 14, Greenwood 12
Monday, July 4
Winner's bracket semifinal
Game 5: Midland Northern 12, Lubbock Western 2
Loser's bracket second round
Game 6: Childress vs. New Home, late
Tuesday, July 5
Loser's bracket final
Game 7: Lubbock Western vs. Game 6 winner, 7 p.m., Field 1
Wednesday, July 6
Championship
Game 8: Midland Northern vs. Game 7 winner, 7 p.m., Field 1
Thursday, July 7
If necessary game
Game 9: Game 8 winner vs. Game 8 loser, TBA

9-10-11 Year Old Sectional Tournament at Wayne Ricketson Field at Western Little League Field, Lubbock
Saturday, July 2
Game 1: Midland Northern 13, Pecos 3
Sunday, July 3
Winner's bracket semifinal
Game 2: Midland Northern 11, Lubbock Western 6
Monday, July 4
Loser's bracket
Game 3: Lubbock Western 10, Pecos 9
Tuesday, July 5
Championship
Game 4: Midland Northern vs. Lubbock Western, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, July 6
If necessary game
Game 5: Game 4 winner vs. Game 4 loser, TBA

WNBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	12	6	.667	—
Washington	9	9	.500	3
Atlanta	8	9	.471	3½
Chicago	7	9	.438	4
Indiana	7	10	.412	4½
Connecticut	4	13	.235	7½
WESTERN CONFERENCE	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Los Angeles	16	1	.941	—
Minnesota	14	3	.824	2
Dallas	8	10	.444	8½
Phoenix	8	10	.444	8½
Seattle	6	10	.375	9½
San Antonio	4	13	.235	12

Scores & schedule

Monday's Scores
No games scheduled
Today's Games
Seattle at Atlanta, 6 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

FIGHT SCHEDULE

July 9
At Sun National Bank Center, Trenton, N.J. (ESPN), Mario Barrios vs. Devis Boschiero, 12, junior lightweights; Eddie Ramirez vs. Jorge Mayorquin, 10, junior welterweights.
At Cache Creek Casino Resort, Brooks, Calif., Manuel Avila vs. Prosper Ankrah, 10, for the vacant IBA Americas featherweight title.
July 11
At DIVS Palace of Sports, Ekaterinburg, Russia (HBO), Sergey Kovalev vs. Isaac Chilemba, 12, for Kovalev's IBF-WBA Super World-WBO light heavyweight titles; Magomed Kurbanov vs. Artur Beterbiev, 10, junior middleweights; Pavel Malikov vs. Leonardo Doronio, 12, lightweights.
At Nice, Calif. (FS1), Felix Diaz vs. Levan Ghvamichava, 10, welterweights.
July 12
At Robinson Rancheria Resort & Casino, Nice, Calif. (SHO), Dominique Dolton vs. Levan Ghvamichava, 10, super welterweights.
July 15
At Horseshoe Casino, Tunica, Miss. (ESPN), Sergey Lipinets vs. Walter Castillo, 12, junior welterweights; Tugstsogt Nyambayar vs. Rafael Vazquez, 10, featherweights.
July 16
At Max-Schmeling-Halle, Berlin, Giovanni De Carolis vs. Tyron Zeuge, 12, for De Carolis' WBA World super middleweight title; Arthur Abraham vs. Tim-Robin Lihaug, 10, for the vacant WBO International super middleweight title.
At Cardiff, Wales, Guillermo Rigondeaux vs. James Dickens, 12, for Rigondeaux's WBA Super World super bantamweight title; Terry Flanagan vs. Moises Fana, 12, for Flanagan's WBO World lightweight title; Liam Williams vs. Gary Corcoran, 12, for Williams' British and Commonwealth junior middleweight titles; Tommy Langford vs. Ronny Gabel, 12, middleweights; Bradley Skeete vs. Alex Leapley, 12, for Skeete's WBO European welterweight title.
At Legacy Arena, Birmingham, Ala. (FOX), Deontay Wilder vs. Chris Arreola, 12, for Wilder's WBC World heavyweight title; Sammy Vasquez vs. Felix Diaz, 10, welterweights.
July 30
At Osaka, Japan, Shingo Wake vs. Jonathan Guzmen, 12, for the vacant IBF junior featherweight title; Kazuto Ioka vs. Kyvin Lara, 12, for Ioka's WBA World flyweight title.
July 31
At Foxwoods Resort, Mashantucket, Conn. (ESPN), Sergiy Derevyanchenko vs. Sam Soliman, 12, middleweights; Vaughn Knyhnn vs. Paul Mendez, 10, middleweights.
July 22
At Foxwoods Resort, Mashantucket, Conn. (SHO), Adam Lopez vs. Roman Ruben Reynoso, 10, bantamweights.
July 23
At the MGM Grand, Las Vegas (PPV), Terence Crawford vs. Viktor Postol, 12, for the WBC-WBO World junior welterweight title unification; Gilberto Ramirez vs. Dominik Britsch, 12, for Ramirez's WBO super middleweight title; Oscar Valdez vs. Matias Adrian Rueda, 12, featherweights; Jose Benavidez vs. Francisco Santana, 10, welterweights; Lenny Zappingka vs. Ik Yang, 10, junior welterweights; Ryota Murata vs. George Tahdooahnippah, 10, middleweights.

Tour de France leaders take it slow

By Andrew Dampf
Associated Press

Associated Press

Third placed Brian Coquard grimaces as he sprints with Stage winner Mark Cavendish, wearing the best sprinter's green jersey, and second placed Andre Greipel, left, during the third stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 223.5 kilometers (138.6 miles) with start in Granville and finish in Angers, France, on Monday.

ANGERS, France — Wearing the yellow jersey, Peter Sagan considered stopping at a cafe.

Hardly pedaling, the overall leaders in the Tour de France spent most of Monday's third stage chatting to one another and riding at such a leisurely pace that they could have fit right in on a town bike path.

"It was a very relaxed day for us. We went slow. It was nice," said Sagan, who playfully bumped shoulders with some of the other riders just to keep things interesting. "I was thinking one moment we were going to take the coffee like old time."

The morning caffeine didn't kick in until the very end of the lengthy and mostly flat 223.5-kilometer (139-mile) leg from Granville to Angers.

That was when Mark Cavendish showed off his sprinting experience by edging German rival Andre Greipel in a photo finish.

Having also won Saturday's opening stage at Utah Beach, it was Cavendish's second victory in this Tour and 28th overall. The British rider with Team Dimension Data matched five-time Tour champion Bernard Hinault for second on the all-time list behind Eddy Merckx, who had a record 34 stage wins at the Tour.

"To even be mentioned in the same sentence as Bernard Hinault is something that I couldn't even have dreamed of," Cavendish said. "But I'm never going to compare myself to him."

On a very slightly uphill finish, Cavendish kept pedaling to the line while Greipel, who was ahead, put his head down a bit too early.

Neither rider knew who won immediately.

Greipel started celebrating, raising his left finger to the sky, but then quickly took it down. Cavendish clenched his fist briefly and then just fiddled with his bike computer until the victory was confirmed — then started hugging his teammates.

"I normally know when I win or I lose. When I crossed the line, I kind of knew I got it today," Cavendish said. "But I was quite lucky to just get him."

On the winner's podium, Cavendish was greeted by the 61-year-old Hinault, now at his final Tour in an ambassador role.

Bryan Coquard of France crossed third, while Sagan was fourth.

"I just made one mistake and it was a kind of reflex to go into the biggest gear," Greipel said. "If I had kept it in the gear I had then I think I would have made it."

Sagan, the world champion from Slovakia who took the yellow jersey on Sunday, remained eight seconds ahead of Julian Alaphilippe of France and 10 seconds in front of Alejandro Valverde of Spain in the overall standings.

Defending champion Chris Froome moved up one spot to fourth, 14 seconds behind Sagan.

Cavendish clocked nearly six hours as the Tour moved out of the Normandy region over a southeasterly route that concluded in Angers, in the Anjou region of the Loire valley.

The stage began on the Normandy coast. Nicknamed "the Monaco of the north," Granville was built on a rock and is known for its casino.

Angers is twinned with Austin, Texas, the home of Lance Armstrong.

Armindo Fonseca, a French rider with the Fortuneo-Vital Concept team, attacked at the opening flag and established a lead of more than 10 minutes at one point.

TOUR DE FRANCE RESULTS

Monday
At Angers, France
Third Stage
A 138.9-mile ride from Granville to Angers, with an early Category 4 climb
1. Mark Cavendish, Britain, Dimension Data, 5 hours, 59 minutes, 54 seconds.
2. Andre Greipel, Germany, Lotto Soudal, same time.
3. Bryan Coquard, France, Direct Energie, same time.
4. Peter Sagan, Slovakia, Tinkoff, same time.
5. Edward Theuns, Belgium, Trek-Segafredo, same time.
6. Sondre Holst Enger, Norway, IAM Cycling, same time.
7. Marcel Kittel, Germany, Etixx-QuickStep, same time.
8. Christophe Laporte, France, Cofidis, same time.
9. Daniel McLay, Britain, Fortuneo-Vital Concept, same time.
10. Dylan Groenewegen, Netherlands, LottoNL-Jumbo, same time.
11. Alexander Kristoff, Norway, Katusha, same time.
12. Michael Matthews, Australia, Orica-BikeExchange, same time.
13. Jon Degenkolb, Germany, Giant-Alpecin, same time.
14. Davide Cimolai, Italy, Lampre-Merida, same time.
15. Julian Alaphilippe, France, Etixx-Quick-Step, same time.
16. Tony Gallopin, France, Lotto Soudal, same time.
17. Lawson Craddock, United States, Cannondale, same time.
18. Geoffrey Soupe, France, Cofidis, same time.
19. Vincenzo Nibali, Italy, Astana, same time.
20. Gregory Henderson, New Zealand, Lotto Soudal, same time.
Also
22. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, same time.
23. Nairo Quintana, Colombia, Movistar, same time.
29. Fabio Aru, Italy, Astana, same time.
36. Alejandro Valverde, Spain, Movistar, same time.
43. Tejay Van Garderen, United States, BMC Racing, same time.
64. Thibaut Pinot, France, FDJ, same time.
70. Romain Bardet, France, AG2R La Mondiale, same time.
77. Alberto Contador, Spain, Tinkoff, same time.
85. Joaquim Rodriguez, Spain, Katusha, same time.
120. Peter Stetina, United States, Trek-Segafredo, same time.
134. Brent Bookwalter, United States, BMC Racing, same time.
190. Alex Howes, United States, Cannondale, 2:07.

WIMBLEDON

From 1C

helped produce a "Did I read that right?" edge of 43-8 in winners.

The 13th-seeded Kuznetsova said she knew closing the roof would help Williams, but agreed it was the right decision, given how wet the grass was, saying: "I was afraid. ... I'm not ready to risk (an) injury."

Williams moved into her 12th quarterfinal at the All England Club, and she'll be joined by her older sister Venus at that stage of the tournament for the first time since 2010.

A year after that, Venus revealed she had been diagnosed with an energy-sapping disease, and she hasn't approached the level of play that carried her to seven major titles, including five at Wimbledon. At 36 the oldest woman in the field, she eliminated 12th-seeded Carla Suarez Navarro 7-6 (3), 6-4 on Monday.

"It's wonderful when everything is working. But that's not a reality. I don't focus so much on, 'Oh, my gosh, everything feels good,' or, 'Oh, shoot, it feels bad,'" Venus said. "It's about, 'Can I make this play right now? If I don't feel great, can I still make this play?' 'That's the mentality I go into my matches with now."

The oldest man left is Roger Federer, who turns 35 on Aug. 8, and he looked in fine form after two days of rest, easily dismissing unseeded American Steve Johnson 6-2, 6-3, 7-5. Federer equaled Jimmy Connors' Open-era record by reaching his 14th Wimbledon quarterfinal and added to his own mark by making it at least that far at a major for the 48th time.

Federer now plays No. 9 Marin Cilic, who beat him en route to the 2014 U.S. Open championship.

"He brushed me off the court," Federer recalled, "like I was nothing."

Wednesday's other men's quarterfinals: No. 2 Andy Murray against No. 12 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, No. 6 Milos Raonic against No. 28 Sam Querrey, and No. 32 Lucas Pouille against either No. 10 Tomas Berdych or Jiri Vesely. The fourth-rounder between Berdych and Vesely was suspended Monday night because of darkness, tied at two sets apiece.

Cilic (against No. 5 Kei Nishikori) and Tsonga (against No. 7 Richard Gasquet) advanced when opponents quit because of injury.

In the women's quarterfinals, Venus will meet Yaroslava Shevodva, while Serena faces 21st-seeded Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova. Tuesday's other matchups: No. 4 Angelique Kerber vs. No. 5 Simona Halep, and No. 19 Dominika Cibulkova vs. Elena Vesnina.

Cibulkova's story is fascinating. She had been past the third round at Wimbledon only once, and therefore figured there was no way she would make it deep into Week 2, so went ahead and scheduled her wedding — for Saturday, the day of the women's final.

After saving a match point and edging 2012 finalist Agnieszka Radwanska 6-3, 5-7, 9-7 in a thriller Monday, she explained that if she defeats Vesnina, the walk down the aisle will have to wait.

"I said to my team, 'OK, now it's getting more serious,'" recounted Cibulkova, the Australian Open runner-up in 2014. "So I told them, 'If I win tomorrow, then we seriously have to deal with this.'"

WIMBLEDON RESULTS

Monday
At The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club
London
Purse: $38.4 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Grass-Outdoor
Singles
Men
Fourth Round
Marin Cilic (9), Croatia, def. Kei Nishikori (5), Japan, 6-1, 5-1, retired.
Roger Federer (3), Switzerland, def. Steve Johnson, United States, 6-2, 6-3, 7-5.
Sam Querrey (28), United States, def. Nicolas Mahut, France, 6-4, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Milos Raonic (6), Canada, def. David Goffin (11), Belgium, 4-6, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.
Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (12), France, def. Richard Gasquet (7), France, 4-2, retired.
Lucas Pouille (32), France, def. Bernard Tomic (19), Australia, 6-4, 4-6, 3-6, 6-4, 10-8.
Andy Murray (2), Britain, def. Nick Kyrgios (15), Australia, 7-5, 6-1, 6-4.
Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, vs. Tomas Berdych (10), Czech Republic, 6-4, 3-6, 6-7 (8), 7-6 (9), susp., darkness.
Women
Fourth Round
Angelique Kerber (4), Germany, def. Misaki Doi, Japan, 6-3, 6-1.
Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (21), Russia, def. CoCo Vandeweghe (27), United States, 6-1, 6-3.
Dominika Cibulkova (19), Slovakia, def. Agnieszka Radwanska (3), Poland, 6-3, 5-7, 9-7.
Yaroslava Shvedova, Kazakhstan, def. Lucie Safarova (28), Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-4.
Simona Halep (5), Romania, def. Madison Keys (9), United States, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-3.
Serena Williams (1), United States, def. Svetlana Kuznetsova (13), Russia, 7-5, 6-0.
Venus Williams (8), United States, def. Carla Suarez Navarro (12), Spain, 7-6 (3), 6-4.
Elena Vesnina, Russia, def. Ekaterina Makarova, Russia, 5-7, 6-1, 9-7.
Doubles
Men
Second Round
Radek Stepanek, Czech Republic, and Nenad Zimonic (14), Serbia, def. Dusan Lajovic and Viktor Troicki, Serbia, 7-6 (5), 6-7 (4), 10-8.
Vasek Pospisil, Canada, and Jack Sock (8), United States, def. Lleyton Hewitt and Jordan Thompson, Australia, 6-4, 6-4.
Julien Benneteau and Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France, def. Dominic Inglot, Britain, and Daniel Nestor (9), Canada, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Pierre-Hugues Herbert and Nicolas Mahut (1), France, def. Stephane Robert, France, and Dudi Sela, Israel, 6-1, 6-3.
Third Round
Treat Huey, Philippines, and Max Mirnyi (12), Belarus, def. Oliver Marach, Austria, and Fabrice Martin, France, 6-3, 6-2, 7-6 (3).
Jonathan Murray, Britain, and Adil Shamasdin, Canada, def. Pablo Cuevas, Uruguay, and Marcel Granollers (15), Spain, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 3-6, 14-12.
Henri Kontinen, Finland, and John Peers (10), Australia, def. Rohan Bopanna, India, and Florin Mergea (6), Romania, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-7 (6), 8-6.
Raven Klaasen, South Africa, and Rajeev Ram (11), United States, def. Ivan Dodig, Croatia, and Marcelo Melo (5), Brazil, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (5), 6-3.
Mate Pavic, Croatia, and Michael Venus (16), New Zealand, vs. Jamie Murray, Britain, and Bruno Soares (3), Brazil, 3-6, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-4, 13-13, susp., darkness.
Women
Second Round
Johanna Konta, Britain, and Maria Sanchez, United States, def. Darija Jurak, Croatia, and Anastasia Rodionova, Australia, 6-4, 6-1.
Michaella Krajicek, Netherlands, and Barbora Strycova, Czech Republic, def. Mariana Duque-Marino, Colombia and Monica Puig, Puerto Rico, 7-6 (6), 6-4.
Anabel Medina Garrigues and Arantxa Parra Santonja (14), Spain, def. Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada, and Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez, Spain, 4-6, 7-6 (4), 6-3.
Timea Babos, Hungary, and Yaroslava Shvedova (5), Kazakhstan, def. Shuko Aoyama and Makoto Ninomiya, Japan, 6-1, 6-3.
Daria Gavrilova, Australia, and Daria Kasatkina, Russia, def. Misaki Doi, Japan, and Elina Svitolina, Ukraine, 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.
Annika Beck, Germany, and Yanina Wickmayer, Belgium, vs. Ekaterina Makarova and Elena Vesnina (4), Russia, 6-4, 3-6, susp., darkness.
Third Round
Martina Hingis, Switzerland, and Sania Mirza (1), India, def. Christina McHale, United States, and Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, 6-1, 6-0.
Julia Goerges, Germany, and Karolina Pliskova (8), Czech Republic, def. Naomi Broady and Heather Watson, Britain, 7-6 (5), 6-7 (0), 6-3.
Anna-Lena Groenefeld, Germany, and Kveta Peschke, Czech Republic, def. Jelena Jankovic and Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, 6-4, 6-4.

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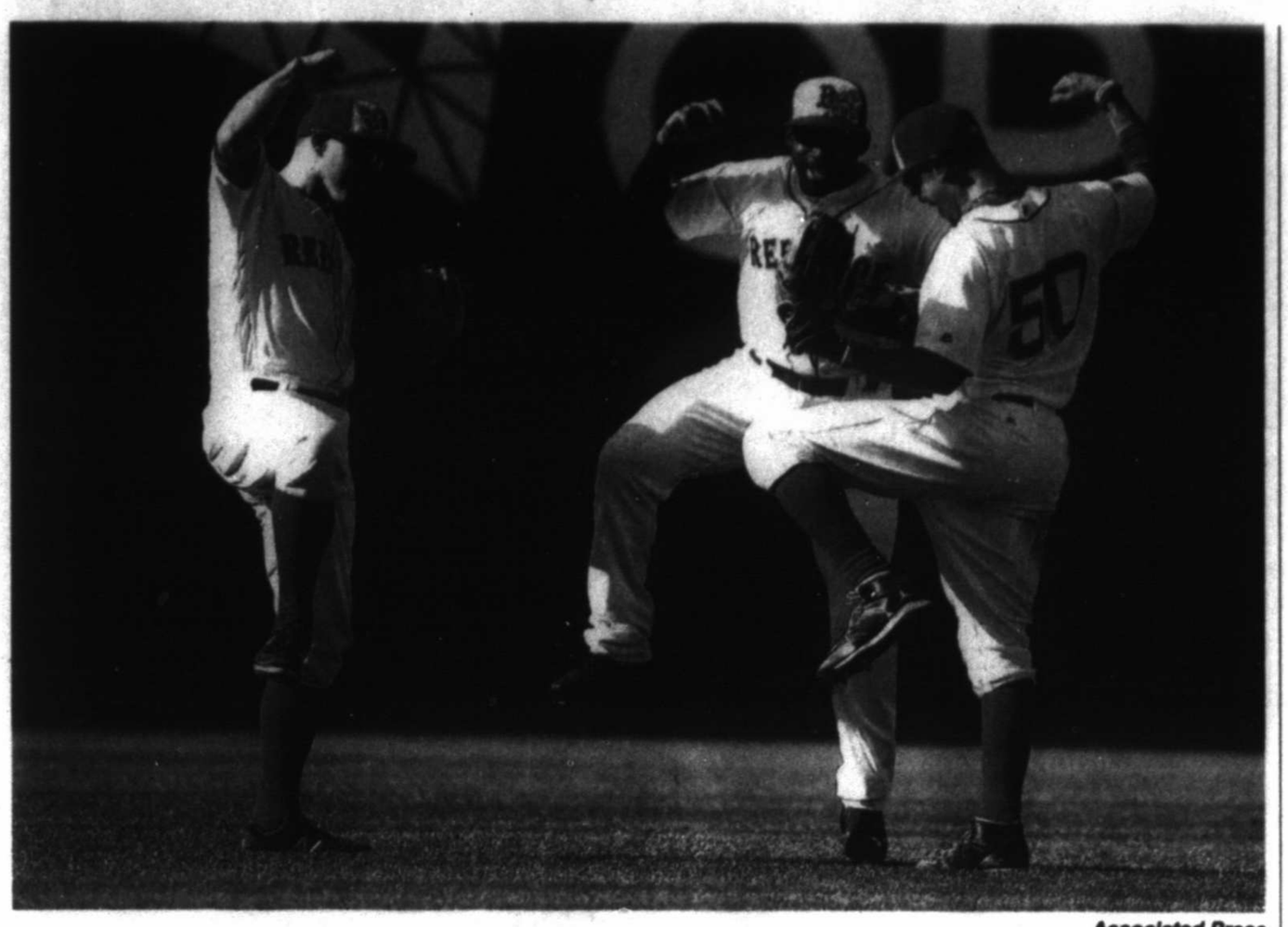


Associated Press

The Boston Red Sox's Brock Holt, left, Jackie Bradley Jr., center, and Mookie Betts celebrate after defeating the Texas Rangers 12-5 during a baseball game in Boston on Monday.

Rangers on a slide, fall to Red Sox 12-5

By Ken Powtak
Associated Press

BOSTON — The Texas Rangers have hit a rough stretch. Injuries to three of their starting pitchers is starting to catch up.

Brock Holt homered, Sandy Leon had three of Boston's season-high nine doubles, and the Red Sox pounded Texas' pitching for 13 extra-base hits in a 12-5 victory over the Rangers Monday.

"We've got to be better," Rangers manager Jeff Bannister said. "We've got to find a way to pitch it better in those games. This is a challenging time when these days do happen."

The Rangers are minus starters Yu Darvish, Derek Holland and Colby Lewis — all on the disabled list. Darvish looks closest to a return. He's scheduled to make a rehab start for Double-A Frisco Monday.

Rougned Odor hit a solo homer and two-run single for the Rangers, who have lost five of six.

Nick Martinez (1-2) gave up six runs on 11 hits in 4 1/3 innings. The righty was making his third start in Darvish's spot.

"Got away from the game plan a little bit in the first inning and then got back to the game plan and then fell behind guys as the game went on," Martinez said.

Bannister had a simpler answer what went wrong.

"It was a tough day for Nick," he said.

Mookie Betts hit a two-run homer, Travis Shaw and Dustin Pedroia each added a solo homer for Boston, which equaled the most extra-base hits the Rangers have ever allowed. The Red Sox also put up 13 against them in Fenway Park in 2013.

Leon had four hits, and David Ortiz and Hanley Ramirez each had two doubles. The Red Sox had a season-high 21 hits to win their second straight after a 21-2 rout by the Los Angeles Angels.

Rick Porcello (10-2) overcame a rough first inning when he allowed four runs, improving to 7-0 in Fenway Park this season.

Porcello pitched six innings, giving up the four runs and 12 hits.

Trailing 4-1 in the third, Boston charged ahead with four runs. Ortiz and Ramirez each hit run-scoring doubles before Holt's drive hit the top of Boston's bullpen wall and bounced in for a two-run homer.

Pedroia had an RBI single in the fifth and homered into the Green Monster seats two innings later, making it 9-4.

The Rangers jumped ahead 4-0 in the first when Odor hit his single, and Adrian Beltre and Jurickson Profar each had RBI singles.

'HOUNDSREPORT

FROM STAFF REPORTS

ROCKHOUNDS 12, TRAVELERS 2
at Dickey-Stephens Park, North Little Rock, Arkansas

TOP HITTERS: Midland designated hitter Josh Rodriguez went 1-for-4 with a grand slam, four RBI and a pair of runs scored. ... RockHounds shortstop Franklin Barreto finished 3-for-5 with two RBI and two runs. ... J.P. Sportman, Tyler Marincov and Yairo Munoz, who homered, each went 2-for-5 for Midland. ... Arkansas catcher Jose Briceno was 1-for-4 with both of the Travelers' RBI.

TOP PITCHER: Midland reliever Trey Cochran-Gill took over for starter Raul Alcantara with two outs in the fifth. He pitched 2 1/3 scoreless innings, during which he allowed two hits and struck out two en route to his third win this season.

HIGHLIGHTS: The RockHounds scored six runs in the first thanks to an RBI single by Marincov, the grand slam to left field by Rodriguez and Munoz' solo blast. ... Sportman's RBI double in the top of the fourth made it 7-0 Midland. ... Arkansas cut the RockHounds' lead to 7-2 in the bottom half, courtesy of Briceno's two-RBI double. ... Midland added three more runs in the fifth and Matt Chapman's sacrifice fly in the eighth capped the scoring.

NOTES: Midland has now won eight of its first 11 second-half games and is 41-40 overall on the year. ... Left-handed pitcher Brandon Mann was promoted to Midland from the Oakland Athletics' Arizona League and is scheduled to start for the RockHounds in today's game against Arkansas. ... The 32-year-old was drafted in the 27th round in 2002 by the Tampa Bay Rays and was signed by Oakland as a minor league free agent in October. He spent the 2011 and 2012 seasons pitching in Japan. His last Double-A appearance came in 2014. ... Midland catcher Carson Blair was promoted to Triple-A Nashville on Monday. In six games since his return from the disabled list on June 22, Blair is hitting .348 with three home runs and five RBI. ... Midland's three-game road series with Arkansas wraps up at 7:10 p.m. today.

TODAY'S PROBABLES: Midland — LHP Brandon Mann (0-0, 0.00); Arkansas — RHP Troy Scribner (6-3, 4.05)

TL standings

Second Half
North Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Tulsa (Dodgers)	7	4	.636	—
Northwest Arkansas (Royals)	6	4	.545	1
Springfield (Cardinals)	5	5	.500	1½
Arkansas (Angels)	4	5	.400	2½

South Division

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Midland (Athletics)	8	3	.727	—
Corpus Christi (Astros)	6	5	.545	2
San Antonio (Padres)	4	7	.364	4
Frisco (Rangers)	3	8	.273	5

Monday's Scores
Springfield 6, San Antonio 5
Midland 12, Arkansas 2
Northwest Arkansas 4, Frisco 3
Tulsa 10, Corpus Christi 2

Today's Games
Frisco at Northwest Arkansas, 5:35 p.m.
Tulsa at Corpus Christi, 6:05 p.m.
Springfield at San Antonio, 7:05 p.m.
Midland at Arkansas, 7:10 p.m.

ROCKHOUNDS 12, TRAVELERS 2

Midland	ab	r	h	bi	Arkansas	ab	r	h	bi
Barreto ss	5	2	3	2	Wise lf	3	0	1	0
Sportman cf	5	1	2	1	Adams rf	4	0	0	0
Taylor c	4	1	1	0	Daniel 2b	3	1	1	0
Marincov rf	5	1	2	1	Aguilera dh	4	1	1	0
Chapman 3b	3	0	0	1	Yarbrough 1b	4	0	0	0
Rosa 1b	4	2	1	0	Briceno c	4	0	1	2
Rodriguez dh	4	2	1	4	Rosa 3b	3	0	0	0
Munoz 2b	5	2	2	1	Phillips ss	3	0	2	0
Oh lf	4	1	1	1	Allday cf	3	0	0	0
Totals	39	12	13	11	Totals	31	2	6	2

Midland .....000 140 010 —12
Arkansas .....000 200 000 —2

DP — Midland 2. LOB — Midland 8, Arkansas 4. 2B — Marincov (7), Sportman (13), Barreto (13), Taylor (13), Briceno (4). HR — Rodriguez (3), Munoz (5). SF — Chapman.

Midland	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Alcantara	4 2	3	2	2	1	5
Cochran-Gill W 3-3	2 1	2	0	0	0	2
Finnegan	1 0	1	0	0	0	1
Sanchez	1 0	0	0	0	0	1
Arkansas						
Carpenter L 4-4	0 2	3	5	5	2	1
Edu Paredes	3 1	4	2	2	2	4
O'Grady	2 0	4	4	4	1	3
Middleton	1 0	0	0	0	0	1
Edw Paredes	2 0	2	1	1	0	2

HBP — By Alcantara (Daniel). WP — O'Grady.
T — 3:03. A — 9,045.

Melissa Phillip/Houston Chronicle

Fans cheer after Houston Astros right fielder George Springer catches a hit by Seattle Mariners Nelson Cruz to end the game at Minute Maid Park on Monday in Houston.

Mariners can't cash in on chances in 2-1 loss to Astros

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — A couple of missed opportunities by the Seattle Mariners led to a 2-1 loss to the Houston Astros on Monday.

Lance McCullers struck out 10 in seven strong innings and George Springer homered for the second straight day to help Houston to the win.

McCullers (4-2), who missed his previous turn with a blister on his right index finger, allowed five hits and one run while matching his season high for strikeouts. Luke Gregerson pitched a perfect eighth and Will Harris did the same in the ninth for his eighth save.

The Mariners came up empty twice after having a runner on third with no outs.

The first time came when Leonys Martin hit a leadoff triple before Seth Smith struck out. McCullers then struck out Robinson Cano, but the ball got away from catcher Jason Castro and Martin broke for home. McCullers covered and took the short toss from Castro to tag out Martin at the plate.

But Martin didn't regret his decision.

"If given the opportunity, I would do it again," he said. "I'm not afraid."

Springer got things going for the Astros with a double in the first before a single by Marwin Gonzalez. Carlos Correa drew a walk to load the bases with one out before the Astros took a 1-0 lead on a sacrifice fly by Luis Valbuena.

Kyle Seager hit a ground-rule double with one out in the second and the Mariners tied it on the single by Lee. McCullers settled in after that, retiring the next 14 straight. He struck out eight in that span, including the side in the third.

The Mariners didn't have another baserunner until Cano singled to start the seventh. A walk by Nelson Cruz followed and a single from Seager loaded the bases. Seattle missed another scoring opportunity when Lee grounded into a double play before McCullers retired Adam Lind to end the inning and his day.

"I thought we had them on the ropes there in the seventh inning, bases loaded and nobody out," Seattle manager Scott Servais said. "Unfortunately, we didn't get it done. But McCullers had really good stuff. Probably one of the better breaking balls we've seen all year."

Seattle starter Wade Miley (6-5) yielded seven hits and two runs in 6 2/3 innings for his third straight loss.

Smith went 0 for 4 with three strikeouts, ending a streak of four straight games with a homer.

There were two outs in the fifth when Springer launched his 19th home run to left-center field to make it 2-1.

"I tried to get a sinker down and away and cut it back over the plate," Miley said. "I just made a mistake pitch and he did what he's supposed to do with it."

Dae-Ho Lee had an RBI single for the Mariners, whose four-game winning streak was snapped.

MLBROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

American League

BLUE JAYS 6
ROYALS 2

TORONTO — Aaron Sanchez pitched eight innings to win his eighth straight decision, and Josh Donaldson and Darwin Barney each hit a two-run single in a four-run seventh inning to send Toronto past Kansas City.

Troy Tulowitzki had two hits as the Blue Jays won a rematch of last year's AL Championship Series, which Kansas City took in six games.

Sanchez (9-1) has not lost since April 22 against Oakland. He allowed one run and three hits while matching the longest start of his career.

Edinson Volquez (7-8) left after loading the bases with no outs in the seventh. Kendrys Morales and Eric Hosmer homered for the Royals.

WHITE SOX 8
YANKEES 2

CHICAGO — Tim Anderson and Dioner Navarro each hit a two-run homer off CC Sabathia, helping James Shields and the Chicago White Sox beat New York.

Chicago had a string of 15 consecutive solo shots, matching a franchise record, before Anderson connected in the third inning to tie it at 2. Brett Lawrie hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the fifth before Navarro belted his fifth homer.

RAYS 4
ANGELS 2

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Logan Morrison homered and drove in two runs to help struggling Tampa Bay end a four-game losing streak with a victory over Los Angeles.

Matt Moore (5-5) allowed two runs over 6 2/3 innings, improving to 4-0 in his career against Los Angeles and handing the slumping Angels their 12th loss in 14 games.

Morrison hit a solo homer off starter Nick Tropeano and gave the Rays the lead for good with an RBI single against Fernando Salas (3-6). Brad Miller also homered for the last-place Rays, who won for the third time in 19 games.

Jefry Marte homered off Moore before leaving in the sixth with a bruised left knee.

Ryan Garton got two outs for his first major league save.

ATHLETICS 3
TWINS 1

MINNEAPOLIS — Coco Crisp snapped a seventh-inning tie with a two-run single, and Oakland stopped a four-game skid by beating Minnesota.

Kendall Graveman (4-6) halted a recent slide by the A's rotation. He allowed three hits and one run in 6 2/3 innings.

National League

BREWERS 1
NATIONALS 0

WASHINGTON — Junior Guerra outpitched Max Scherzer, Martin Maldonado homered and Milwaukee defeated Washington to snap a four-game losing streak.

Guerra (6-1) allowed two hits in 7 1/3 innings while striking out seven and walking two. The 31-year-old rookie threw eight scoreless innings of two-hit ball in his previous start and has won three straight.

Maldonado gave the Brewers the lead in the fifth with his third homer of the season. Jeremy Jeffress pitched the ninth for his 22nd save.

CUBS 10
REDS 4

CHICAGO — Kris Bryant hit his 24th home run before leaving with a bruised leg. Willson Contreras and Addison Russell also went deep, and Chicago pounded struggling Cincinnati.

Playing the NL Central's last-place team was just what the major league-leading Cubs needed after getting outscored 32-11 in a four-game sweep by the Mets in New York.

PHILLIES 8
BRAVES 2

PHILADELPHIA — Jerad Eickhoff pitched neatly into the eighth inning, and Odubel Herrera and Maikel Franco each hit a two-run homer as Philadelphia beat Atlanta.

Eickhoff (6-9) gave up two runs and five hits, striking out eight in 7 2/3 innings to win for the fourth time in five decisions.

MLB GLANCE

Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	47	34	.580	—
Boston	45	37	.549	2½
Toronto	46	39	.541	3
New York	40	42	.488	7½
Tampa Bay	34	48	.415	13½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	49	32	.605	—
Detroit	44	38	.537	5½
Kansas City	43	38	.531	6
Chicago	43	40	.518	7
Minnesota	27	55	.329	22½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	52	32	.619	—
Houston	44	39	.530	7½
Seattle	43	40	.518	8½
Oakland	36	47	.434	15½
Los Angeles	33	50	.398	18½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	50	34	.595	—
New York	45	37	.549	4
Miami	43	40	.518	6½
Philadelphia	38	46	.452	12
Atlanta	28	55	.337	21½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	52	30	.634	—
St. Louis	43	39	.524	9
Pittsburgh	42	41	.506	10½
Milwaukee	38	46	.439	16
Cincinnati	30	54	.357	23

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	53	32	.624	—
Los Angeles	47	37	.560	5½
Colorado	37	45	.451	14½
Arizona	37	47	.440	15½
San Diego	35	47	.427	16½

Scores & schedule

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Monday's Scores
Tampa Bay 4, L.A. Angels 2
Boston 12, Texas 5
Chicago White Sox 8, N.Y. Yankees 2
Houston 2, Seattle 1
Oakland 3, Minnesota 1
Toronto 6, Kansas City 2
Detroit at Cleveland, late
Baltimore at L.A. Dodgers, late

Today's Games
Kansas City (Young 2-7) at Toronto (Dickey 5-9), 6:07 p.m.
Detroit (Zimmermann 9-4) at Cleveland (Carrasco 4-2), 6:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Lincecum 1-2) at Tampa Bay (Odorizzi 3-5), at 10 p.m.
Texas (Griffin 3-0) at Boston (Price 8-5), 6:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Tanaka 5-2) at Chicago White Sox (Rodon 2-6), 7:10 p.m.
Oakland (Manaea 3-4) at Minnesota (Milone 0-2), 7:10 p.m.
Seattle (Walker 4-6) at Houston (Keuchel 5-9), 7:10 p.m.
Baltimore (Tillman 10-2) at L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 7-5), 9:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Monday's Scores
Milwaukee 1, Washington 0
Pittsburgh 4, St. Louis 2
Chicago Cubs 10, Cincinnati 4
Philadelphia 8, Atlanta 2
San Francisco 3, Colorado 1
N.Y. Mets 8, Miami 6
Baltimore at L.A. Dodgers, late
San Diego at Arizona, late

Today's Games
Cincinnati (Finnegan 3-7) at Chicago Cubs (Lackey 7-4), 1:20 p.m.
Atlanta (Foltynewicz 2-2) at Philadelphia (Effin 0-2), 6:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Davies 5-4) at Washington (Gonzalez 4-7), 6:05 p.m.
Miami (Chen 4-3) at N.Y. Mets (Matz 7-3), 6:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Brault 0-0) at St. Louis (Leake 5-6), 7:09 p.m.
San Diego (Friedrich 4-3) at Arizona (Godley 1-0), 8:40 p.m.
Baltimore (Tillman 10-2) at L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 7-5), 9:10 p.m.
Colorado (Chatwood 8-4) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 9-4), 9:15 p.m.

Texas Boxes

ASTROS 2, MARINERS 1

Seattle	ab	r	h	bi	Houston	ab	r	h	bi
L.Mrtn cf	4	0	1	0	Springer rf	4	2	2	1
S.Smith lf	4	0	0	0	Ma.Grzl 1b	4	0	2	0
Cano 2b	4	0	1	0	Altuve 2b	4	0	2	0
N.Cruz rf	3	0	0	0	Correa ss	3	0	0	0
K.Seager 3b	3	1	2	0	Valbuena 3b	2	0	1	1
D.Lee 1b	3	0	1	1	C.Gomez cf	3	0	1	0
Lind dh	3	0	0	0	Col.Rdrn lf	4	0	0	0
Zunino c	3	0	0	0	Gattis dh	2	0	0	0
K.Marte ss	3	0	0	0	J.Castro c	3	0	0	0
Totals	30	1	5	1	Totals	29	2	8	2

Seattle .....010 000 000—1
Houston .....100 010 00x—2

DP—Seattle 2, Houston 2. LOB—Seattle 1, Houston 8. 2B—K.Seager (23), Springer (15), Ma.Gonzalez (14). SB—L.Martin (1). HR—Springer (19), 6F—Valbuena (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Seattle						
Miley L,6-5	6 2-3	7	2	2	2	2
Wilhelmsen	1	1	0	0	0	0
Rollins	1-3	0	0	0	2	0
Houston						
McCullers W,4-2	7	5	1	1	1	10
Gregerson	1	0	0	0	0	1
Harris S,8-8	1	0	0	0	0	1

WP—Rollins.
T—2,26. A—29,844 (42,060).

RED SOX 12, RANGERS 5

Texas	ab	r	h	bi	Boston	ab	r	h	bi
Choo rf	5	0	1	0	Betts rf	5	1	2	2
B.Wilson c	0	0	0	0	Pedroia 2b	6	1	3	2
Desmond cf	5	1	3	0	Bgsarts ss	6	2	3	0
Mazara lf-rf	5	0	1	0	Ortiz dh	5	1	2	1
Beltre 3b	5	1	3	1	Han.Rmr 1b	3	2	2	1
Holaday pr	0	0	0	0	Bndy J cf	4	1	1	2
Fielder dh	5	1	2	0	B.Holt lf	5	1	1	2
Odor 2b	4	2	3	3	T.Shaw 3b	5	2	3	2
Profar 1b	4	0	1	1	Leon c	5	1	4	0
Andrus ss	4	0	2	0					
Chirinos c	3	0	0	0					
Mreland ph	0	0	0	0					
Rua ph-lf	1	0	0	0					
Totals	41	5	16	5	Totals	44	12	21	12

Texas .....400 000010— 5
Boston .....104 01213x—12

E—Betts (1), Leon (1). DP—Texas 1, Boston 1. LOB—Texas 9, Boston 12. 2B—Choo (5), Beltre (15), Andrus (14), Ortiz 2 (34), Han.Ramirez 2 (18), Bradley Jr. (20), T.Shaw (24), Leon 3 (8). HR—Odor (16), Betts (18), Pedroia (8), B.Holt (4), T.Shaw (9). SB—Bogaerts (11).

Texas	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Martinez L,1-2	4 1-3	11	6	6	3	1
Roth	3 2-3	10	6	6	1	3
Boston						
Porcello W,10-2	6	12	4	3	0	3
Barnes	1	1	1	0	0	0
Usherwood	1-3	2	1	1	0	0
Ross Jr.	1 2-3	1	0	0	0	1

T—3:40. A—36,253 (37,499).

Linescores

AMERICAN LEAGUE

RAYS 4, ANGELS 2

Los Angeles .....000 101 000 —2 8 0
Tampa Bay .....001 102 00x —4 7 1

Tropeano, Salas (8), J.Ramirez (7), Chacin (8) and Bandy; Moore, E.Ramirez (7), Everland (9), Garton (9) and Conger. W—Moore 5-5. L—Salas 3-6. Sv—Garton (1). HRs—Los Angeles, Marte (5). Tampa Bay, Morrison (8), Miller (12).

ATHLETICS 3, TWINS 1

Oakland .....000 000 300 —3 7 0
Minnesota .....000 100 000 —1 4 1

Graveman, Dull (7), Madson (9) and Vogt; Nolasco, Rogers (7), Tonkin (8) and Centeno. W—Graveman 4-6. L—Nolasco 3-7. Sv—Madson (16).

WHITE SOX 8, YANKEES 2

New York .....000 000 020 —2 8 3
Chicago .....003 030 12x —8 13 4

Sabathia, Cessa (7) and McCann; Shields, Albers (7), Duke (7), Jones (8), Jennings (9) and Navarro. W—Shields 4-9. L—Sabathia 5-6. HRs—New York, Headley (6). Chicago, Navarro (5); Anderson (4).

BLUE JAYS 6, ROYALS 2

Kansas City .....000 000 101 —2 4 0
Toronto .....100 000 50x —6 6 0

Volquez, Hochevar (7), Moylan (8) and S.Perez; Sanchez, Cecil (9) and R.Martin. W—Sanchez 9-1. L—Volquez 7-8. HRs—Kansas City, Hosmer (13), Morales (15)

NATIONAL LEAGUE

BREWERS 1, NATIONALS 0

Milwaukee .....000 010 000 —1 5 1
Washington .....000 000 000 —0 2 1

Guerra, W.Smith (8), Jeffress (9) and Maldonado; Lucroy, Scherzer, Rivero (7), Kelley (8), Papelbon (9) and Ramos. W—Guerra 6-1. L—Scherzer 9-6. Sv—Jeffress (22). HRs—Milwaukee, Maldonado (3).

PIRATES 4, CARDINALS 2

Pittsburgh .....000 002 110 —4 11 1
St. Louis .....000 010 001 —2 9 1

Niese, Caminero (6), Nicasio (8), Feliz (9) and Kratz; C.Martinez, Maness (8), Tuivailala (9) and Molina. W—Niese 7-6. L—C.Martinez 7-6. Sv—Feliz (1). HRs—Pittsburgh, Polanco 2 (12).

CUBS 10, REDS 4

Cincinnati .....000 001 300 —4 9 2
Chicago .....330 202 00x—10 12 1

Reed, J.Smith (5), B.Wood (6), Chlebarbot (8) and Barnhart; R.Cabrera, Hendricks, Edwards (6), T.Wood (7), Strop (8), Rondon (9) and Contreras. W—Hendricks 7-6. L—Reed 0-3. HRs—Cincinnati, Suarez (15), Cozart (12). Chicago, Russell (9), Contreras (5), Bryant (24)

PHILLIES 8, BRAVES 2

Atlanta .....100 000 010 —2 6 1
Philadelphia .....070 000 10x —8 12 1

De La Cruz, Ma.Cabrera (7), Cervenka (8) and Pierzynski; Eickhoff, D.Hernandez (8), S.Gonzalez (9) and Rupp. W—Eickhoff 6-9. L—De La Cruz 0-2. HRs—Atlanta, Aybar (1). Philadelphia, Franco (15), Herrera (10).

GIANTS 3, ROCKIES 1

Colorado .....010 000 000 —1 6 1
San Francisco .....012 000 00x —3 5 0

Ty.Anderson, McGee (7), Germen (8), Logan (9) and Hundley; Peavy, Lopez (7), Romo (8), Osich (8), Law (8), Casilla (9) and Posey. W—Peavy 5-7. L—Ty.Anderson 0-3. Sv—Casilla (20). HRs—San Francisco, Posey (10), Pagan (4).

METS 6, MARLINS 6

Miami .....030 300 000 —6 17 0
New York .....000 112 22x —6 13 1

Koehler, Barraclough (6), Phelps (7), Rodney (8) and Realmuto; Harvey, E.Goeddel (4), Verrett (5), Robles (7), Blevins (8), Familia (9) and Td'Arnaud. W—Blevins 3-0. L—Rodney 0-2. Sv—Familia (29). HRs—New York, Granderson (15), d'Arnaud (1).

DURANT

From 1C

one of the best years of his career.

Durant met with the Thunder, Warriors, Los Angeles Clippers, Boston Celtics, San Antonio Spurs and Miami Heat once teams could begin negotiating with free agents.

With the addition of Durant, the Warriors become the league's latest team to add a superstar chasing a championship to a lineup of All-Stars. LeBron James made the move from Cleveland to Miami in 2010, joining a lineup that featured Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh. They reached four NBA Finals as a group and won two championships.

"I'm from Washington, D.C. originally, but Oklahoma City truly raised me. It taught me so much about family as well as what it means to be a man," Durant said. "There are no words to express what the organization and the community mean to me, and what they will represent in my life and in my heart forever. The memories and friendships are something that go far beyond the game. Those invaluable relationships are what made this deliberation so challenging.

"It really pains me to know that I will disappoint so many people with this choice, but I believe I am doing what I feel is the right thing at this point in my life and my playing career."

He should be a good fit in Golden State's varying lineups and gives All-Star Draymond Green another physical body and rebounding presence to complement 3-point aces Curry and Thompson.

The Warriors topped the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls' mark and set the NBA regular-season wins record with 73 victories and led the league in scoring.

Durant has been a difficult opponent for the Warriors __ he averaged 30 points per game against them in this year's Western Conference finals and dropped a career-high 54 points on them in 2014.

Adding Durant will give the Warriors another chance to chase a title after the bitter feeling that was this season — a record-setting year that ended without the team's biggest goal being reached. Durant has had to carry much of the scoring load for the Thunder over the years, but having Curry, Green and Thompson on the floor with him should open up space he hasn't had during his tenure in Oklahoma City.

But the Warriors will have to move players to make room for Durant.

Golden State and Dallas have agreed on a deal to send center Andrew Bogut to the Mavericks, a person with knowledge of the deal told the AP. The person said other details of the trade are still being worked out, speaking on condition of anonymity because the deal cannot be finalized until Thursday. Before Durant announced his move, Bogut removed all references to the Warriors from his Twitter page, which then featured a photo of the 7-footer in an Australia jersey.

MAVS

From 1C

to Cleveland in the NBA Finals.

While he's not the same player who averaged a double-double for three straight seasons earlier in his career, the 11-year veteran is a stronger presence at the rim than Zaza Pachulia. Pachulia started for Dallas last season after DeAndre Jordan committed to the Mavericks, changed his mind and stayed with the Los Angeles Clippers.

Barnes has lacked consistency but will bring a 3-point threat similar to that of Parsons. The question is how efficient he will be without Curry and Thompson getting most of the focus from defenses.

Wesley Matthews is going into his second season as Dallas' shooting guard, with an expected improvement in his career-low 39 percent shooting because he came back sooner than expected after tearing his Achilles tendon late in his final season with Portland.

Nowitzki hasn't agreed to a deal, but that's likely a formality that might not be complete until after other signings.

LOSS

From 1C

also we had a team who could play smart to get the advantage," said Panagiotis Yannakis, who coached Greece.

Realizing the Americans' advantage in athleticism, Yannakis' plan was to play three guards who could control the tempo. Theodoros Papaloukas was one of the best in Europe, Vassilis Spanoulis was bound for the Houston Rockets and Dimitris Diamantidis a steady leader.

If they could protect the ball and pound it inside to 6-foot-10 Sofoklis Schortsianitis — nicknamed "Baby Shaq" — the U.S. transition game would be stalled.

"Some of the teams are afraid, but some other teams don't have the guards to protect the ball," Yannakis said. "Don't give them the opportunity to use their hands, because USA players, they use a lot of their hands on the ball. That's the reason we used three guards. All of them, they had the skills to control the ball."

The U.S. led by 12 in the first half, but Greece stormed ahead by making 25-of-33 shots (76 percent) in the second and third quarters. Carving the Americans up on the pick-and-roll, the Greeks got 22 points from Spanoulis, 12 assists from Papaloukas and plenty of help from the U.S., which made 59 percent of its free throws.

Most of the U.S. players quickly retreated to the locker room as the Greeks danced at midcourt.

"I just remember the end of the game," Anthony said, "and just standing on the court and Greece fans are going crazy, their team is going crazy."

Yannakis believed his team could do it — "We had the faith to play with anyone," he said — but Sacramento Kings center Kosta Koufos, who will play for Greece this week but was then a high schooler in the U.S. who stayed up well past 3 a.m. to watch, was surprised.

"You've got to understand Team USA's dominance through the years and that was definitely an upset for them," he said.

Colangelo's take?

"Would I consider it an upset at the time? Oh, for sure I would have. I still do," he said. "I think we might've played that team 10 times and won nine of those 10. But that was back to the old adage that on any given night."

Greece couldn't duplicate its effort in the final, getting blown out by Spain. The Americans beat Argentina for bronze, then went home to build a better team. Jason Kidd and Deron Williams were added to bolster a backcourt that would include Bryant the next year, when they powered through an Olympic qualifier they were forced to play in by not winning the worlds.

The teams would then meet again in Beijing, the Americans cruising to a 92-69 victory. But they would never forget the game two years earlier.

"I mean, the stars were aligned for Greece that night and I chose and still do, as much it pains me, to say out of adversity comes opportunity," Colangelo said. "And I think we were emboldened by the fact that we paid a price early, that we were potentially vulnerable and I think that helped prepare us for our future success."

AP file photo

Russell Westbrook looks to pass the ball during the U.S. men's basketball team's minicamp in Las Vegas in 2015. Westbrook says he won't play in the Olympics, leaving the U.S. basketball team without another of its best players. The Oklahoma City point guard said June 10 that he decided not to play after talking with his family. He didn't give a reason for pulling out in his statement released through the Thunder.

Westbrook's future next hurdle for OKC with Durant leaving

By Cliff Brunt
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Russell Westbrook is no longer sharing the NBA marquee in Oklahoma City after the Thunder lost much of their identity when free agent Kevin Durant chose to join the Golden State Warriors on Monday.

The Thunder's focus now has to be primarily on one of the most electrifying players in the NBA who they still have on the roster __ at least for now. Westbrook's future is unclear. He is heading into the final year of his deal, and he could be traded before that.

Westbrook won the 2015 scoring title and finished fourth in the MVP balloting last season, ahead of Durant, who finished fifth. Westbrook, the two-time reigning All-Star MVP, has consistently improved throughout his career, and he could take his game to another level without sharing the load with Durant, a four-time scoring champion and former league MVP.

Durant answered the biggest question of this off-season when he announced Monday on the Players' Tribune that he is heading to the Warriors. Durant agreed to a two-year, $54 million contract with a player option the second year, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press Monday, speaking on condition of anonymity because details weren't made public. He can sign with Golden State on Thursday, when free agents can finalize deals.

His departure is huge for OKC, though the Thunder still have a talented roster featuring Westbrook.

Young stars Steven Adams and Enes Kanter are rapidly improving. Adams, a bruising 7-foot center, emerged as consistent double-double threat during the playoffs. Kanter, a crafty 6-foot-11 forward, was third in the race for sixth man of the year.

The Thunder have been making changes to their roster, and now more will undoubtedly come.

Oklahoma City dealt Serge Ibaka to Orlando on draft night in exchange for shooting guard Victor Oladipo, forward Ersan Ilyasova and draft pick Domantas Sabonis, a move that improved their depth and shored up their inconsistent shooting guard position.

But the focus of the team right now is Westbrook and his future.

Even with Westbrook's presence and the young talent around him, it doesn't ease the sting of losing Durant for the franchise and the city after his nine-year run in Oklahoma City.

Durant has elevated Oklahoma's profile so much that he was inducted into the state's Hall of Fame late last year. And Durant has made a point to have a local presence. He donated $1 million in disaster relief to the Red Cross in 2013 after a tornado ravaged south Oklahoma City and Moore. He also owns a popular restaurant in downtown Oklahoma City.

Durant's move to the Warriors changes the NBA

By Jon Krawczynski
Associated Press

Four All-Stars, two MVPs, a whole new Splash Family in Golden State.

Kevin Durant's decision to join the Warriors on Monday sent tremors through the NBA, and players and executives throughout the league immediately started to contemplate how the newest super team would alter the landscape.

"Thats crazy!!!! KD in GSW????" Wizards center Marcin Gortat tweeted. "(Are) they gonna score 200 points a game?"

The Warriors already were a super team before one of the league's most unstoppable scorers decided to leave Oklahoma City for the Bay Area. Golden State won the championship in 2015, rolled to a regular-season record 73 victories last season and came within one game of back-to-back titles when they lost to the Cleveland Cavaliers Game 7 of the NBA Finals.

Now they have added the player who nearly eliminated them a round earlier.

Though not everyone is anointing them next year's champions.

"Everyone is so hyped up on the match up problems on the offensive end? They still gotta come down the other end," Pistons All-Star center Andre Drummond tweeted. "Not a very big team."

Durant's decision immediately rekindled the discussion about stars leaving teams to chase a championship elsewhere. Durant spent his first nine seasons in Oklahoma City. While there, he helped lead the Thunder to the Western Conference finals three times and to the NBA Finals in 2012, where they lost to the Heat, another super team formed when LeBron James and Chris Bosh joined Dwyane Wade in Miami.

Durant himself spoke out negatively about creating super teams when James made his decision in 2010.

But after the Thunder could never get to the top of the mountain with Durant, Russell Westbrook and Serge Ibaka — and even though they had the Warriors down 3-1 in the conference finals — Durant opted to head west.

"If you can't beat um, join um," Clippers forward Paul Pierce tweeted to tweak Durant.

When James left Cleveland for Miami, stars like Michael Jordan, Charles Barkley and Magic Johnson were critical of the decision to join forces with players he had competed against.

"There's no way, with hindsight, I would've ever called up Larry (Bird), called up Magic and said, 'Hey, look, let's get together and play on one team,'" Jordan said in 2010. "But that's ... things are different. I can't say that's a bad thing. It's an opportunity these kids have today. In all honesty, I was trying to beat those guys."

Denver Nuggets forward Jusuf Nurkic was equally puzzled by Durant's decision.

"Somebody beat you! And you go there... ?" Nurkic tweeted. "Superstar not doing that man."

While Durant has never been too concerned by outside opinions, his decision may also have ramifications on the NBA's collective bargaining negotiations.

Simmons turns heads in NBA debut despite injury exit

By Kareem Copeland
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — No. 1 overall pick Ben Simmons made his NBA debut at the Utah Jazz Summer League on Monday and showed glimpses of why there are superstar expectations for the LSU product.

He also put a scare into 76ers fans when he left the game in the fourth quarter due to cramps in both calves.

The 6-foot-10, 240-pounder displayed why the 76ers will use him as a point forward at times by grabbing rebounds, pushing the ball up floor and dishing out assists in transition.

Summer league is his first taste of the NBA, but Simmons said he's not measuring himself against the rest of his class.

"I'm looking at the top guys like (LeBron James) and (Kevin Durant)," Simmons said. "Those are the guys I have to be facing, so I have to get ready for them.

"I respect everybody. I don't fear anyone. So when we go into every game, I'm willing to put in the work to win. That's the goal coming in here -- just to win every game."

Simmons' night ended early after attacking the basket midway through the fourth quarter. Cramps in his right calf began to bother him in the third quarter, but he stretched out on the bench and returned without issue. Simmons hit the floor in the fourth and wasn't able to get up as play continued. Two teammates helped him up during a timeout and he leaned on both to walk straight to the locker room. Simmons never returned.

"It's been about four months since I played, that's the main reason," Simmons said. "More fluids. It's just an adjustment. The game's a lot harder, a lot quicker. It's just one of those things you have to stay on.

"That's the worst I've ever cramped up. I'm definitely going to stay on that."

Simmons finished with 10 points, eight rebounds and five assists in just under 24 minutes of play as the Celtics won 102-94. He started the game guarding and being guarded by Celtics forward Jaylen Brown, the No. 3 overall pick in the draft. Simmons first points came off a pair of free throws in the first quarter and his first field goal was an elbow jumper with 7:19 left in the second quarter. He shot 2 for 9 from the field and made all six free-throw attempts.

Associated Press

Dustin Johnson tees off on the second hole during the final round of the Bridgestone Invitational golf tournament at Firestone Country Club on Sunday in Akron, Ohio. Johnson won the tournament.

Dustin Johnson: His golf game and smile speak volumes

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

AKRON, Ohio — Dustin Johnson is not one for many words, and he really doesn't need to say much.

The easy smile behind the beard says it all.

If winning the U.S. Open champion wasn't enough, Johnson added his third World Golf Championship on Sunday, the first time he has won back to back.

His U.S. Open title was popular because of the hard times he had to confront in the majors and the confusion he had to face from the USGA for not making up its mind about a penalty on the back nine at Oakmont. And because Johnson is simply fun to watch and be around.

He was loose all week at Firestone.

During the opening round Thursday, he checked a reporter's phone for the score in the deciding game of the College World Series. His alma mater, Coastal Carolina, won the school's first national title. Does that lessen his chances to be alum of the year? Johnson laughed and said, "Bro, I couldn't care less."

He is the U.S. Open champion and couldn't be happier.

Paulina Gretzky, his fiancee and the daughter of hockey great Wayne Gretzky, had to leave Friday and Johnson kept their 18-month-old son, Tatum, with him in Ohio (with help from a nanny). Cameras caught him after he closed with a 66 on the phone with her saying, "I found him."

"I didn't know where they were, and Paulina was asking me where they were," he said. "I was like, 'I don't know, I just walked off the course.'"

He had the boy in his arms and later was chasing after him while waiting to see if Jason Day or Scott Piercy could catch him.

Johnson said they had planned to get married last fall until it didn't fit in the schedule, so perhaps the wedding will be later this year. Asked if it would be more extravagant as a U.S. Open champion, Johnson smiled and said, "Don't matter to me. That bill is going to Wayne."

But as easy as Johnson can make golf look, it still requires hard work.

Even in the rain.

Johnson finished his pro-am in the rain at Riviera in February when he made a sharp detour. Instead of going up the stairs to the clubhouse for lunch, he peeled to the right and headed to the practice range.

He was off to a sluggish start to the year, particularly because of the amount of time he took off and how little he had played. More than rust, however, Johnson was bothered by how poorly he was hitting his wedges at Pebble Beach.

That's when he decided to change to something new — at least to him.

TrackMan has been one of the most effective tools at the highest level of golf, a device that uses radar technology to measure such things as spin rate, launch angle, ball speed, club speed, how far the ball carries and the angle of the face of the golf club when it strikes the ball. In short, it lets a player dial in every aspect of his game.

Johnson wanted it only for his wedges.

"All I look at it is carry numbers, just so I have more of a feel when I'm on the course and playing," Johnson said. "I felt like that was one area I needed to improve on. I felt like I was good with it, but I was too streaky. One day I'd be perfect, the next day ... not that I hit them bad, I just didn't hit them good enough."

Now it's perhaps the most underrated part of his game.

Three years ago, Johnson was tied for 113th on the PGA Tour in approach shots from 50 to 125 yards.

Now he is No. 1 on tour.

"Obviously, it's working," Johnson said. "So I'm going to keep doing it."

That wasn't the only change for Johnson, the 32-year-old American often considered to have the most athletic ability of any golfer.

At some point late last year, he decided to move away from his natural right-to-left draw off the tee and go to a fade, a drastic change.

"I was tired of hitting hooks," he said with a grin. "I feel like I hit a lot more fairways. Maybe the stats don't say it, but I feel like I do, so I think that's the important thing. I just don't feel like my misses are as bad."

It was a big part at Firestone, especially in such firm conditions that made hitting the fairway even more difficult. And it helps to make putts, which is what Johnson felt was missing for so much of the year.

But it's more than just putting.

"I feel like tee to green, I've been really solid all year," Johnson said. "My wedges have improved a lot. I'm getting a lot more opportunities when I'm in the fairway and hitting my wedges closer than I have been. I just feel like the work I've put in with the putter is finally paying off. But I mean, it still comes down to you've got to hit the shots so you can have those putts."

Whatever the combination, it's led to two weeks that have made Johnson a tough player to beat.

Next stop: Royal Troon for the British Open.

Triplets make their mark at US swim trials

By Paul Newberry
Associated Press

Associated Press

Jay Litherland, from left, Kevin Litherland and Mick Litherland speak to reporters at the U.S. Olympic swimming trials in Omaha, Neb., on Saturday.

OMAHA, Neb. — So much for a double take.

The Litherlands left everyone seeing triple at the U.S. Olympic swimming trials.

Jay, Kevin and Mick are 20-year-old triplets who competed in Omaha over the past week. While Jay was the only one to earn a spot in Rio, they'll all be there in spirit.

"All for one," Jay said.

The Litherlands produced one of the most indelible moments at the trials when Jay rallied on the freestyle leg of the 400-meter individual medley to stunningly pass defending Olympic champion Ryan Lochte for the second spot on the team behind winner Chase Kalisz.

As soon as they saw the "2" beside their brother's name, Kevin and Mick hopped over a railing at the CenturyLink Center to congratulate him. Jay popped out of the water, the three of them embracing on the deck, before Jay jumped back into the pool, unsure if he was breaking some sort of rule.

No worries there.

He's headed to the Olympics.

Jay will be able to go home to Georgia for a few days, and then he hits the road again with the U.S Olympic team for its training camps in San Antonio and Atlanta.

He will likely be away from his brothers for at least a month, longer than they've ever been apart.

"It's always kind of different when I'm not with my brothers at a meet," Jay said, a bit of trepidation in his voice.

The triplets were born in Japan. Their mother, Chizuko, is from that country, while their father, Andrew, is a chef from New Zealand. The family settled in the United States when the boys were about 3 years old, and they're now citizens of all three countries.

While impossible for many to tell apart on dry land, Jay has clearly pulled ahead of his brothers in the pool. He was the first to earn a spot on the U.S. national team, which meant that was the only country he could swim for at the Olympics.

Mick and Kevin could've competed for either Japan or New Zealand. Their father's country was the best hope, but the brothers weren't quite fast enough to be selected for the New Zealand team.

They were still able compete at the U.S. trials with their brother, but Jay was the only one with a legitimate shot to make the world's most powerful swimming team.

In addition to his stunner in the 400 individual medley, he also qualified for the final of the 200 IM and finished fifth. He was competitive in the 200 backstroke, as well, but withdrew from that event after the prelims to put his focus solely on the 200 IM.

Kevin nearly qualified for the final of the 400 freestyle, missing the eighth spot by a mere 0.17 seconds. Mick was disqualified in the prelims of the 100 butterfly for a false start, and he was eliminated in the semifinals of the 200 fly.

For Kevin and Mick, Jay's success has provided plenty of motivation.

"Yeah, there's definitely a little jealousy," Kevin said. "But that's only going to make us stronger."

When the Litherlands are in the pool, their coaches can easily tell them apart since they specialize in different events. Out of the water, the brothers have some subtle differences as well.

Mick is the father figure, the one who got his driver's license more than a year ahead of his brothers and often served as their chauffeur. Kevin is the straightforward one, the guy who always says exactly what's on his mind. Jay is considered the most free-spirited of the bunch, always going along for the ride.

That may have something to do with how they entered the world. Kevin was born first, followed by Mick and Jay. Kevin and Mick are identical, while Jay is fraternal.

"It's weird how similar people think they look when they first see them," said Gunnar Bentz, a good friend and fellow Georgia swimmer who also made the Olympic team. "But after like six months of knowing them, you really start to be able to tell. Their bodies are all a little bit different, their faces are all slightly different."

Not that most people can tell.

In high school, they tried to use that to their advantage.

At the University of Georgia, where all three are pursuing business degrees while competing for the school's powerful swimming program, Mick and Kevin are roommates, while Jay rooms separately with Bentz.

But the triplets are never far apart.

"I'm always over there," Jay conceded.

That's not surprise. Even after their family moved to a bigger house, one that had enough bedrooms for each of them to have their own, the brothers continued to room together until they were 16. They never wanted to spend too much time apart.

Montano suffers a different setback at trials

By Eddie Pells
Associated Press

EUGENE, Ore. — The first thing Alysia Montano thought was, "Get up. Get up."

By the time she finally did, everyone else was gone.

The 800-meter runner who has been victimized more than once by a cruel, unseemly side of her sport got the worst break of all at U.S. Track and Field Trials.

Cheated out of medal after medal by Russians who were later found to have been doping — including at the London Olympics four years ago — Montano saw her chance at an Olympic victory come up painfully short when she tripped over a competitor's feet while lining up her last charge in Monday night's final.

"It doesn't really settle in in that moment where you're thinking, 'This is it,'" Montano said about the moment when she hooked shoes with Brenda Martinez, who had made contact with the leader and eventual runner-up, Ajee Wilson. "And then, you get up and they're really far away. Your heart breaks."

Montano did get up. She jogged a bit, then stopped, fell to her knees and began to wail as she kicked her foot to the ground in disgust. She got up again and ran to the finish line, then collapsed to her knees, put her head on the ground, looked skyward, clutched her right hand to her heart and let out a primal wail.

"All of a sudden, they came around the corner and she wasn't there," said her husband, Louis, who was watching from the side with their daughter, Linnea, who turns 2 next month. "It was heartbreaking."

Officials reviewed the tape and deemed the smash-up a result of incidental contact. They did not disqualify anyone. Asked if she would protest, Montano replied: "What good would that do me?"

If anyone would know, it would be her.

The woman who showed her devotion to the sport by running on this track two years ago while eight months pregnant made herself the poster child for all athletes who've been robbed over the past several years by what investigators say is a state-sponsored Russian system that encourages doping among its athletes.

She finished fourth or fifth at 2011 and 2013 world championships, and at the London Olympics, behind Russians who were later found to have cheated. She may get those medals someday.

She will not get one this year and the fact that the sport's governing body, the IAAF, has called for the Russian track team to be banned from the Rio Games comes as small consolation for her.

TODAY: Mostly sunny	WEDNESDAY: Sunny	THURSDAY: Mostly sunny	FRIDAY: Partly sunny	SATURDAY: Mostly sunny	SUNDAY: Mostly sunny
High: 106 Low: 79	High: 105 Low: 78	High: 104 Low: 79	High: 101 Low: 76	High: 99 Low: 75	High: 98 Low: 76

Local forecast

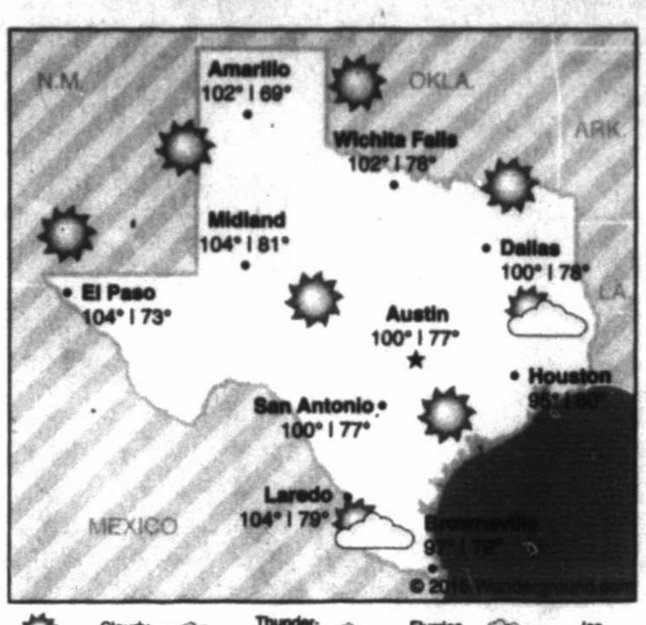
After setting a record high for July 4 of 108 degrees, today's forecasted high is 106, according to the National Weather Service. Expect triple-digit highs through Friday with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms on Thursday and a slight chance Friday and Sunday.

The previous record high for July 4 is 106 set in 1983. The record low is 60 set in 1972 and 1940. On July 4 of last year, the high was 90 and the low was 70.

National weather

A wave of low pressure moved across the Mississippi Valley on Monday, while a dry weather pattern prevailed across the West Coast.

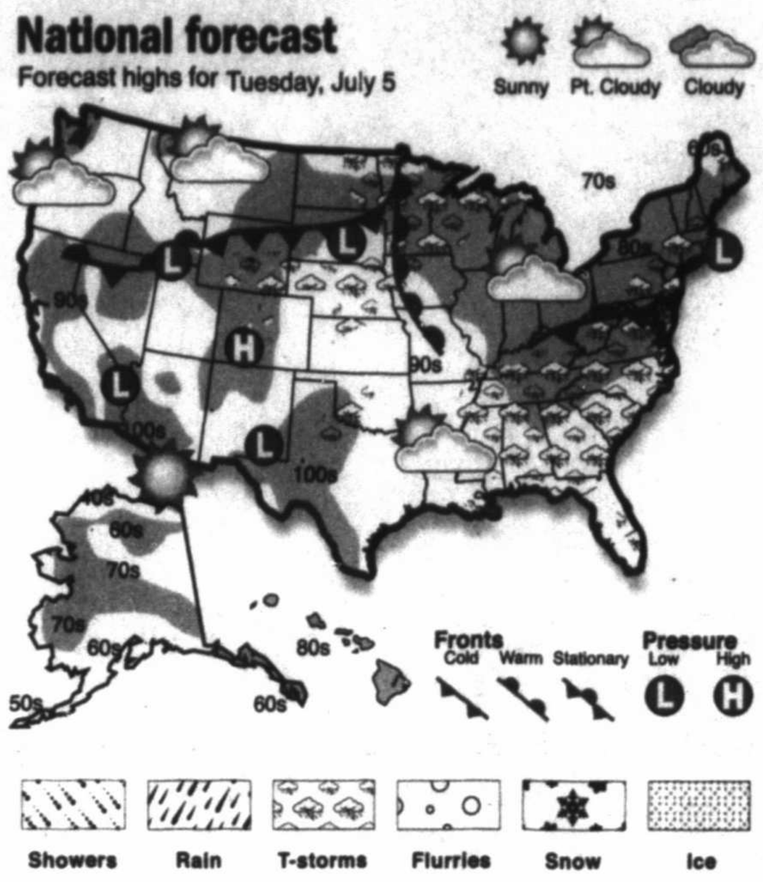
An area of low pressure transitioned across the middle Mississippi Valley. This system, combined with a warm frontal boundary, brought widespread rain and thunderstorms to the southern Plains, the central Plains, the Mississippi Valley, the Midwest, the Tennessee Valley and the Mid-Atlantic. Flash flood watches were also issued in several states spanning from the middle Mississippi Valley to the northern Mid-Atlantic.



Precipitation		Monday's temperatures	
Sunday	0.00 in.	High	108
Monday	0.00 in.	Low	81
Month total	0.00 in.	Normal high	92
Year total	6.90 in.	Normal low	65
Normal total (year to date)	6.30 in.	Sunrise	6:43 a.m.
		Sunset	8:52 p.m.

National forecast

Forecast highs for Tuesday, July 5



Abuser prayed on woman's fear of being alone, unloved

DEAR ABBY

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Her column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.

DEAR ABBY: I recently had my lover of 11 years arrested for domestic violence. It was the hardest thing I have ever done. He had me isolated and cut off from the world, and without family around, I felt extremely lonely and fragile. Looking back, I see how wanting to be loved and not alone caused me to let so many intolerable things happen.

No one should ever have to be bruised and battered physically, psychologically and verbally by anyone. I pray others read this and will do the right thing — which is to press charges if necessary and find the strength to leave, as painful as it may be. — STARTING COUNSELING SOON IN L.A.

DEAR STARTING: I'm glad you found the strength to do that. Counseling will help. Trust me on that. Readers: I haven't printed the warning signs of an abuser in a while, so here they are:

1. PUSHES FOR QUICK INVOLVEMENT: Comes on strong, claiming, "I've never felt loved like this by anyone." An abuser pressures the new partner for an exclusive commitment almost immediately.

2. JEALOUS: Excessively possessive; calls constantly or visits unexpectedly; prevents you from going to work because "you might meet someone"; checks the mileage on your car.

3. CONTROLLING: If you are late, interrogates you intensively about whom you talked to and where you were; keeps all the money; insists you ask permission to go anywhere or do anything.

4. UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS: Expects you to be the perfect mate and meet his or her every need.

5. ISOLATION: Tries to isolate you from family and friends; accuses people who are your supporters of "causing trouble." The abuser may deprive you of a phone or car, or try to prevent you from holding a job.

6. BLAMES OTHERS FOR PROBLEMS OR MISTAKES: It's always someone else's fault if something goes wrong.

7. MAKES OTHERS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OR HER FEELINGS: The abuser says, "You make me angry" instead of "I am angry," or says, "You're hurting me by not doing what I tell you."

8. HYPERSENSITIVITY: Is easily insulted, claiming hurt feelings when he or she is really mad. Rants about the injustice of things that are just a part of life.

9. CRUELTY TO ANIMALS OR CHILDREN: Kills or punishes animals brutally. Also may expect children to do things that are far beyond their ability (whips a 3-year-old for wetting a diaper) or may tease them until they cry. Sixty-five percent of abusers who beat their partners will also abuse children.

10. "PLAYFUL" USE OF FORCE DURING SEX: Enjoys throwing you down or holding you down against your will during sex; finds the idea of rape exciting.

11. VERBAL ABUSE: Constantly criticizes or says blatantly cruel things; degrades, curses, calls you ugly names. This may also involve sleep deprivation, waking you with relentless verbal abuse.

12. RIGID GENDER ROLES: Expects you to serve, obey, remain at home.

13. SUDDEN MOOD SWINGS: Switches from sweet to violent in minutes.

14. PAST BATTERING: Admits to hitting a mate in the past, but says the person "made" him (or her) do it.

15. THREATS OF VIOLENCE: Says things like, "I'll break your neck" or "I'll kill you," and then dismisses them with, "Everybody talks that way," or "I didn't really mean it."

Readers, if you feel you are at risk, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233 or thehotline.org.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, July 5, 2016:

This year you feel as if you no longer need to hold back and you can say what you want. A new computer or car could be in your near future. You could spend a lot of money this year trying to make a change. Know when to say "enough." If you are single, others are drawn to you. You need to decide who would make you the happiest. If you are attached, you could add to your family or make a change to your residence. LEO has a way of getting you to wish you could be more like him or her.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★ Confusion surrounds you, especially as you seem to do the unexpected and trigger some strong reactions. Your imagination comes forward. You might feel intensely about a situation, but don't know where the feelings are coming from. Tonight: Let off some steam.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ Use the morning for important communication. You might find that you are best off staying close to home. You feel more comfortable and can accomplish a lot more when you're allowed to go at your own pace. Tonight: You feel as if you can handle almost anything.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ You might find yourself involved in an unexpected event that pops up and involves a friend. Communication seems to flourish, especially around money and/or a work-related matter. Be willing to share more of your feelings. Tonight: Be spontaneous when making plans.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ Be aware of what you are about to leap into. The costs might be surprising once you hear them. Weigh your decision with care, and know when you have had enough of negotiating. Remain confident that you have made the right choice. Tonight: Discuss what is happening.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ A family member could prove to be feisty and difficult. Remain more sensitive to someone you care about who might be at a distance. Your instincts comes through with a gamble involving someone else. Be more forthright about what you are thinking. Tonight: As you like it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Don't push someone too hard. Stop and consider how you can turn the situation around. You could find that others are unpredictable at this moment. Your sensitivity comes through and draws a loved one out of his or her shell. Tonight: Get as much R and R as possible.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Take some time to consider the importance of a group of friends. Someone unpredictable might invigorate you. Follow through on an idea that has the possibility of affecting your daily life. Be careful with any far-out diets or health programs. Tonight: Listen to a respected friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Your more playful side emerges, which could surprise everyone around you. You will shake up the status quo by allowing your imagination to take over. You also will gain a new perspective. Touch base with a friend who always lightens up the mood. Tonight: As you like it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ Reach out to the appropriate person after having an important conversation with someone you trust. You are about to expand your boundaries and let go of certain limits. You will benefit from getting some feedback. Tonight: Make plans to visit with a friend in the near future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Get past a reluctance to work with a particular person. A friend might want to push you in a new direction. The unexpected is likely to occur with a family member. You have a sense of what is going to happen next in a conversation. Tonight: Have an intense one-on-one talk.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ If you must accomplish something, do it early, as you easily might be distracted by what occurs later. Others seek you out, and before you know it, you could be involved in a social get-together. Use caution with your finances. Tonight: Sort through your many invitations.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ A caring exchange could mark the morning, but by the afternoon you seem to be very involved in a project. Be careful with spending, as you could have a last-minute problem that is costly. Follow your instincts about what direction you should head in. Tonight: Time to relax.

BORN TODAY

Writer Thomas Hooker (1586), actress Edie Falco (1963), former Prime Minister of France George Pompidou (1911)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Last chance

Both vulnerable, North deals.

NORTH
♠ J 8 6 5
♡ A K 4
♢ A K
♣ K 10 6 2

WEST
♠ A 7 4
♡ Q 9
♢ 10 9 7 6 4 3
♣ 9 8

EAST
♠ 10 9 2
♡ J 10 5 3
♢ J 5
♣ A Q J 5

SOUTH
♠ K Q 3
♡ 8 7 6 2
♢ Q 8 2
♣ 7 4 3

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♢

Today's deal is from a European tournament. North-South were using a throw-back system that included four-card majors, hence the one-spade opening bid. Few declarers could survive against opponents who always make the right plays on defense. Most defensive "errors" are actually quite reasonable plays that only emerge as errors with the benefit of hindsight.

West's opening lead of a diamond is quite reasonable — there is no reason to lead a club. South won this lead with dummy's king and led a spade to the king and ace.

West would have done better to duck his ace, but again, winning the ace was a reasonable play. West still had no reason to find the club switch and he continued with another diamond to the board's ace.

Declarer now led a low heart from the table. East reasonably put up his 10 of hearts and West had his last chance to defeat the contract. He needed to overtake the 10 of hearts with his queen and shift to clubs. We think the winning defense would have been a very sharp defense for West to have found, and we would again characterize his error as "reasonable." Feel free to disagree.

East continued with another heart and declarer made no mistake. South won and cashed dummy's other heart winner, followed by the jack of spades and a spade to his queen.

The queen of diamonds was cashed before exiting with his last heart to East's jack. East was forced to give dummy the king of clubs and an entry to the long spade for nine tricks. Well played!

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Like a three-dollar bill
6 Schedule opening
10 "Welcome" sites
14 Take over forcibly
15 Surrounding radiance
16 One with star power
17 __ apso: dog
18 Touchpad toucher
19 California's __ Valley
20 Martial arts wood-breaking move
22 Plant generator
23 All-purpose vehicle, for short
24 Like some angles
26 Marble rye pattern
30 Rental period
32 __ New Guinea
33 Employment agency listing
34 Barbecue brand
38 Gulf States native
39 "Wheel of Fortune" purchase
40 Deep sleep
41 Newspapers and such
43 "I agree"
44 Language of ancient Carthage
45 Word before Kat or Glue
47 Place to chow down
48 Rumormonger's output
51 Grain bristle
52 Price-per-barrel org.
53 Shady advantage for a craps shooter
60 Prego rival
61 Gumbo pod
62 Burger and fries, e.g.
63 Get a good grip on
64 Hurt seriously
65 King or tsar
66 To be, in Versailles
67 Tournament passes
68 Bottomless chasm

DOWN

1 Cheapest way to buy, with "in"
2 Workplace watchdog: Abbr.
3 __ gum: thickening agent
4 Bear in two constellations
5 Kitchen flipper
6 Pasta cook's pot
7 Rife with vegetation
8 Three-ply cookie
9 Silvery game fish
10 Fail to advance to a subsequent round
11 "Farewell, chérie"
12 Dictionaries, encyclopedias, and the like
13 Playground feature
21 X-files subjects, briefly
25 FYI relative
26 E-junk
27 Hard finish?
28 Tablet with a Smart Keyboard attachment
29 Six-faced puzzle
30 Monopoly game need
31 Japanese decorative belts
33 Hip-hopper who married Beyoncé
35 Dog biscuit shape
36 Gulf States leader
37 Risqué
42 Jackie O's second
44 Box opener of myth
46 Poise
47 Woolly female
48 Narrow canyon
49 Eye-fooling paintings
50 Popeye's creator
51 First one-term president
54 Thumbs-up
55 R&B vocalist India.__
56 Beat but good
57 Without much thought
58 So-so grades
59 Transposes digits, say

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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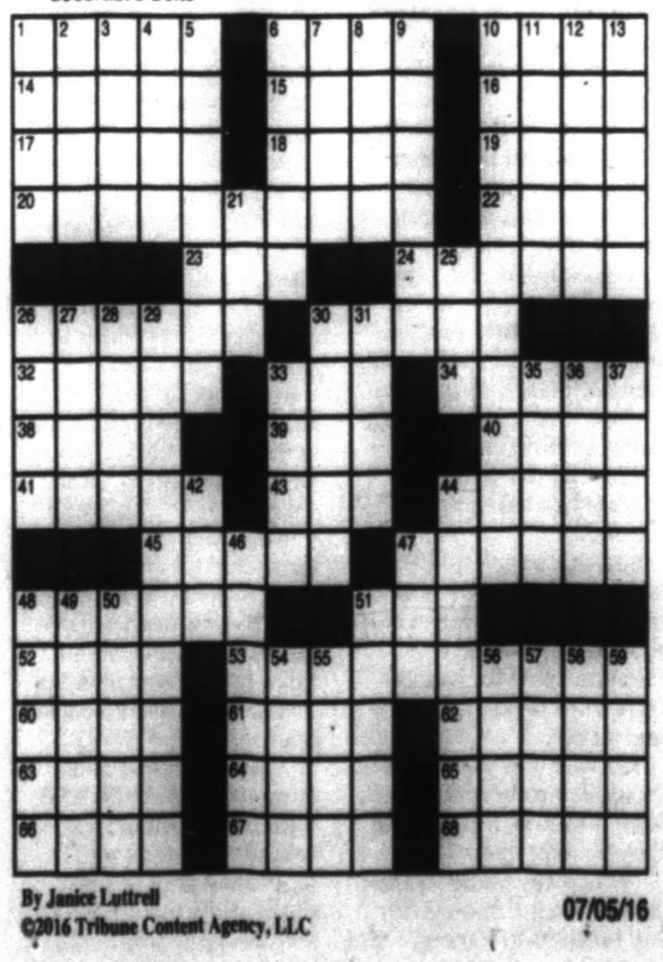
xwordeditor@aol.com 07/05/16



By Janice Luttrell
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07/05/16

TODAY'S COMICS SPONSORED BY

HARTMAN ROOFING INC.
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QUALITY, INTEGRITY, EXPERIENCE
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The wiseman built his house on a rock
Then he hired Hartman to roof it!!!
All Types of Roof and Roof repair • Free Estimates
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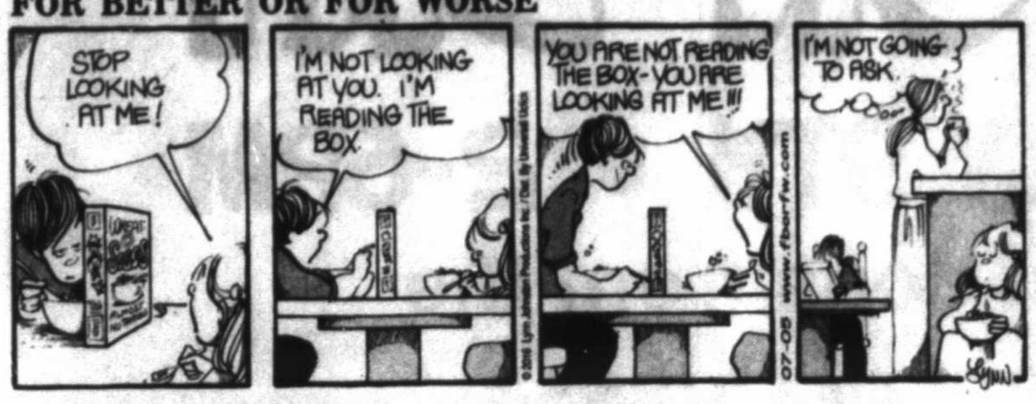
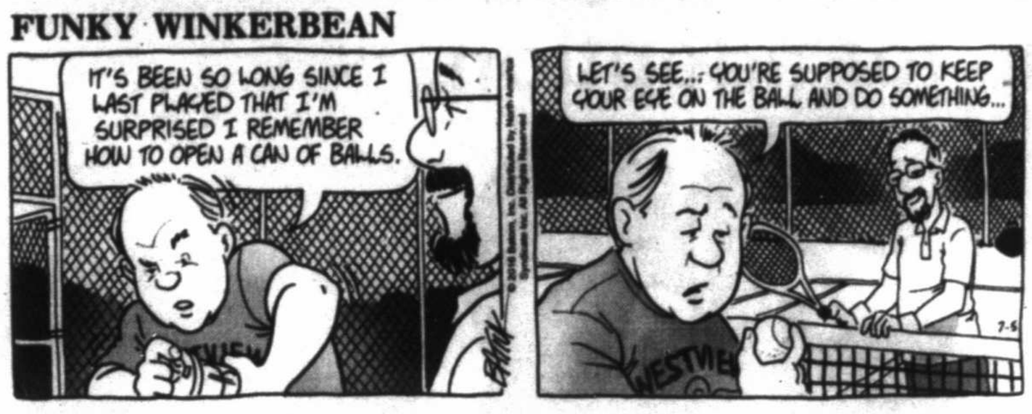
HARTMAN ROOFING INC.
Mention this ad. and receive $300.00 off a full roofing job or $50.00 off any repair of $200.00 or more

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



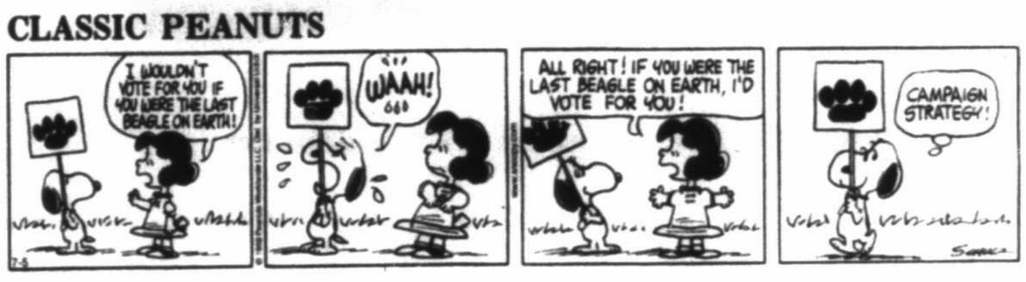
FUNKY WINKERBEAN



BLONDIE

BEETLE BAILEY

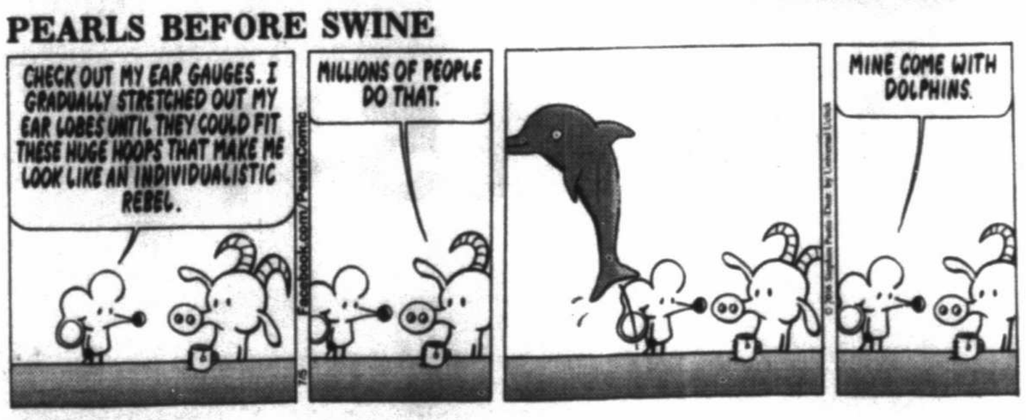
CLASSIC PEANUTS



SHOE

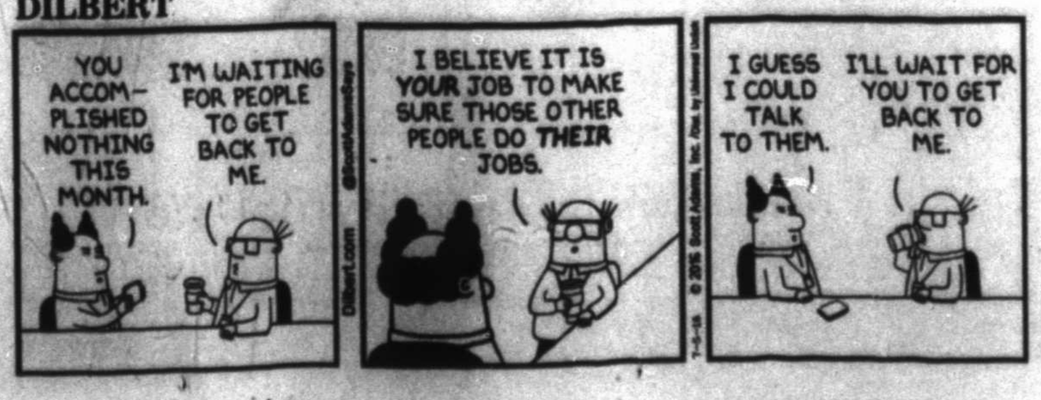
GARFIELD

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

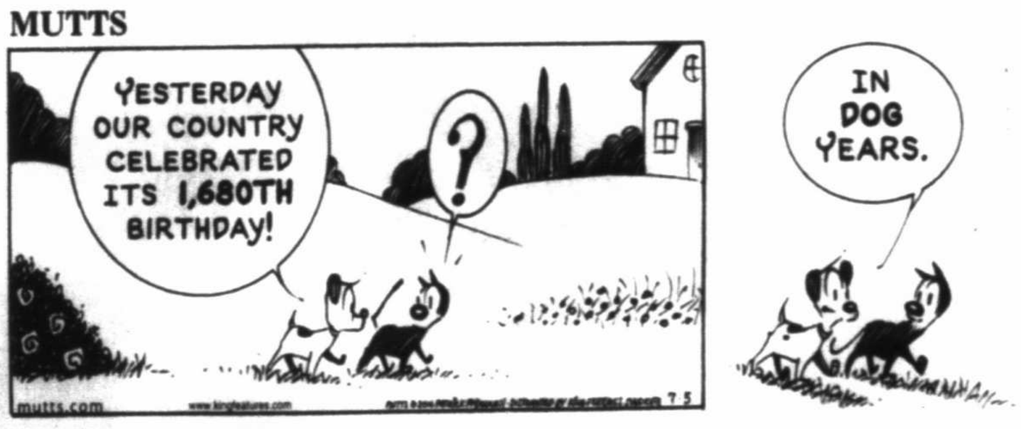
LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS

BABY BLUES

MUTTS



CLOSE TO HOME

"Polly, I think it's clear that your mother's refusal to give you saltines has caused your obsession with wanting a cracker."

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I'LL BETCHA THEY CAN FIRE ROCKETS WITH THOSE THINGS!"

LOCKHORNS

"WE WERE BOTH WRONG, LEROY... ESPECIALLY YOU."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"No, it doesn't work on batteries. You hafta do the playin' yourself."

DOGGY ADOPTION DAY

SATURDAY, JULY 9TH • 2-6PM

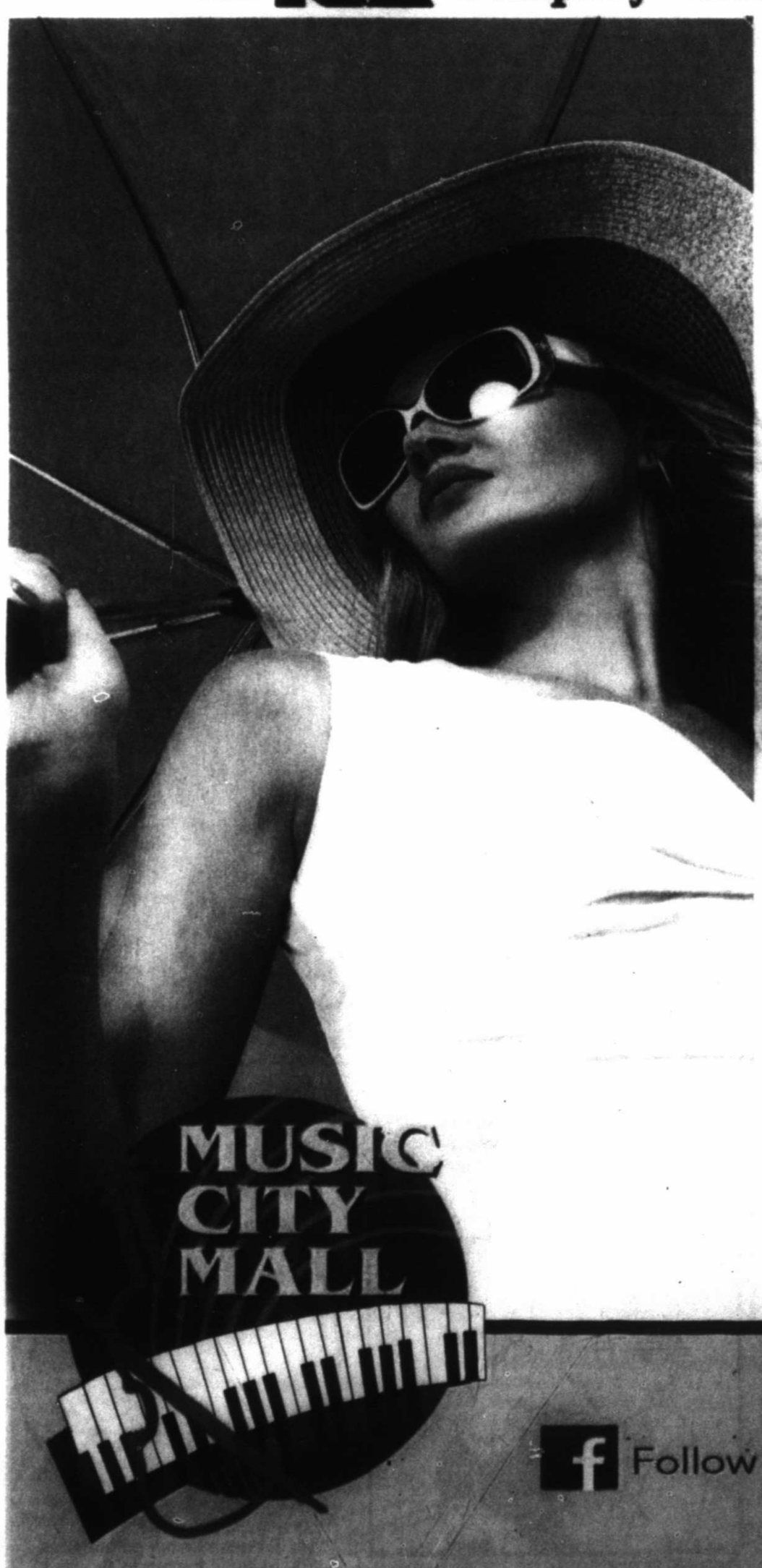
Puppies to adult dogs from the Humane Society of Odessa will be available for adoption.

MUSIC CITY MALL

4101 E. 42nd
Odessa
Across from
Fuddrucker's
inside entrance

432-381-5503
odessahumanesociety.org

An ICA Company • For employment opportunities log on to: www.icajobs.net



SIDEWALK *Sale*

Save Up To 75%

July 15-17

MALL-WIDE SUMMER SALES EVENT

MUSIC CITY MALL

Follow us on Facebook | musiccitymall.net

mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

ENERGY & UTILITIES

CRMWD

Colorado River Municipal Water District

The Colorado River Municipal Water District is accepting applications for the following position:

Electrician - Responsible for maintaining the District's control panels, motors, electric substations and power lines. Intermediate level position, good understanding of electricity required.

For additional information visit www.crmwd.org

Pumpers & Driller

Southern Illinois oil company seeks experienced pumpers, preferably with experience with gas engines, and an experienced driller for a workover rig (spudder), that are willing to relocate to the Illinois Basin. Health insurance and good pay available for qualified and experienced workers. Letter of recommendation or resume is not required but preferred please send to M-50 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E Illinois, Midland, TX. 79701

Title Abstractors

Holland Services is looking for qualified title abstractors to join our team in Midland. Must have 2+ years of oil and gas experience. Please contact 817-698-9393 for more information, submit a resume, via email, to: jobs@hollandservices.com, or apply online at https://careers-hollandservices.icims.com/jobs.

HEALTHCARE

Administrator

The Wood Group is taking applications for an Administrator for new Residential facility in Big Spring. A Bachelor Degree is Social Sciences is required. Fulltime position M-F (8am to 5pm). To apply visit our website and fax application to 432-264-2772. For questions call our corporate office 940-767-0463.

Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner

West Texas Neurosurgery is seeking a Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioner. Full time position with benefits, lots of vacation time and flexibility. We are looking for a self motivated hard working individual who is eager to learn all about the fascinating field of neurosurgery. Applicants can apply by emailing a resume to johnkdorman@mac.com.

OTHER JOBS

Finance Assistant

Stockton Finance seeking mature honest individual for part time position. Salary range $10 - $12 an hour. Fax resume to 432-694-1672

Gate Attendants

Gate Guard Services is looking for Gate Attendants in West Texas. Must have RV, and pass background check. Please contact Patty Lopez @ 361-949-6992.

GATE GUARD SERVICES, L.P.

Mascot

201 E. Illinois Ave.
Midland, TX 79701
Apply in person

Part-time
$20 per hour
0-1 Years Exp.

Enthusiastic, responsible individual needed to represent our company at community events. Serious inquiries only.

OTHER JOBS

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidate must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, a cell phone allowance and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a **GREAT TEAM** and are ready to **SUCCEED**, please send a resume to:

Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or **jhouston@mrt.com**. No phone calls please.

SALES JOBS

Outside Sales Rep

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers. Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, a cell phone allowance and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

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Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701 or **jhouston@mrt.com**. No phone calls please.

Salesperson

Basin Engine and Pump

Experienced pump salesperson needed. Excellent compensation and benefit plans provided. Email resume to Todd@basinengine.com.

SKILLED LABOR

Field Mechanics

Basin Engine & Pump

Mechanics needed for Industrial Oilfield Shop. Must be experienced working on centrifugal & positive displacement pumps. Furnish your own tools. Uniforms provided. Benefits package includes vacation, health insurance and retirement match savings. Salary depends on experience. Please submit resume by fax to 432-570-1115 or email toTodd@basinengine.com. Applications can be filled out at 1914 S. County Rd. 1083, Midland, TX 79706

Let Classifieds Work for You! Call

432-682-6222

SKILLED LABOR

Gardner Denver is Hiring

Service Techs
Warehouse Operator
& Parts Inspector

Service Tech must have experience running a frac truck and have a CDL.

Warehouse Operator must have good driving record and warehouse experience.

Parts Inspector must be experienced.

Apply in person and interview
Wednesday, July 6
between 9am and 12pm

Must pass background and drug screen

Gardner Denver is an equal opportunity employer

8620 E. Hwy. 191, Odessa, TX 79765

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

CDL Drivers

Purity Oilfield Services, LLC (EOE) is now hiring Class A CDL drivers with winch and/or vac truck experience. Competitive pay and excellent benefits. Please contact 432-699-8600 for more information, submit a resume at mkiker@purityoilfieldservices.com, or stop by in person to apply at 11109 West CR 46, Midland, TX 79707.

CDL Truck Driver

CDL Driver needed flat bed pipe hauler. Houston to Midland. Good pay. Apply in person Midland Pipe, 2809 S. Rankin Hwy. 432-683-3033

CDL Truck Drivers

Tejas Trucking, Inc. Experienced Class A CDL Truck Drivers Needed!
· Pump Truck Drivers · Vacuum Truck Drivers
We offer: Health & Dental Insurance, Paid Vacations, 401K Plan, Uniforms, Direct Deposit. Apply in person at 2185 East State Hwy. 176 Andrews, TX. or Call 432-523-5786. Must pass drug test.

PUMP TRUCK DRIVER

SOC INDUSTRIES LLC

Now hiring experienced pump truck drivers. Must have current Class A CDL, tanker endorsement, clean driving record, 2 year's experience and be at least 21 years old. Excellent pay. Positive work atmosphere. Every other weekend off. Benefits include: paid health insurance, paid vacations, paid holidays and furnished uniforms. Family medical and dental insurance also available. APPLY at 2324 FM 715, Midland Texas 79706.
CALL 432-620-0040 or fax resumes to 423-620-0035.
Email resumes to: johnlozano@socind.net. An equal opportunity company.

VACUUM TRUCK DRIVER

SOC INDUSTRIES LLC

Now hiring experienced vacuum truck drivers. Must have current Class A CDL, tanker endorsement, clean driving record, 1 year experience and be at least 21 years old. Excellent pay. Positive work atmosphere. Every other weekend off. Benefits include: paid health insurance, paid vacations, paid holidays and furnished uniforms. Family medical and dental insurance also available. Apply at 2324 FM 715, Midland Texas 79706, fax resumes to 423-620-0035 or call 432-620-0040. Email resumes to: johnlozano@socind.net. An equal opportunity company.

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Events and Notices

General Announcements

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

Lost & Found

FOUND DOG, free to good home. Approx. 3 mo. old. Very smart. Call 432-230-3631.

FOUND: MUSICAL instrument - Call to IDENTIFY. 432-634-1329.

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

JEEP SPORT Wrangler, 2014. Black 31,000 miles. $21,000 firm. Call 432-425-4003 or 432-269-5595.

MERCURY GRAND Marquis, 2002. 97K Miles. Great condition. New tires and fuel pump. $4,800 OBO. Call Taylor 432-528-1737.

Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. 432-685-4078

Antique & Vintage

MERCEDES 1991 SL 300 Roadster. Red, only 51K miles. Super nice! $12,500. (432) 661-6095.

Pickup Trucks

TOYOTA TACOMA, 2001.TRD 4x4 Crew Cab 4 Door. Auto, 170K miles, no accidents, clear title. $3200 Please call at 347-746-8632.

TOYOTA TUNDRA 5.7, auto, 2010 TRD 4X4. CrewMax cab. 88,000 miles. One owner. Excellent condition. $22,000. 432-556-2228.

Vans & Minivans

2003 E150 Cargo work van with shelving 125K miles, good condition. $4,000 OBO Clear title. 432-425-8476

AWD & SUV

NISSAN 2005 Armada LE 8 Passenger SUV, 126,500 miles, Looks Great, Runs Great, Clear Title, Asking $7,200.00, Please Call 432-556-6229.

Commercial Vehicles

Heavy Equipment

HYDROTEST TRUCKS for sale, comes complete with tools. Field ready. Call Tim at 307-680-4741 for more information.

Watercraft

16' LONG 6' wide flat bottom boat. Built 2007 with extra tough bottom, 2002 175 hp Optimax Mercury with Jet unit. 300 hrs. on motor. Boat and Tandem axle trailer all aluminum. $14,000 432-697-5417.

Recreational Vehicles

1967 CESSNA 182K Skylane. Western Skyways Gold Seal engine w/ 328 hrs TTAF. 4467. G430 WAAS., coupled HSI, GPSS SAM. Century 2000 digital AP. $69K. Call owner at 432-557-3015.

2004 HiLo 26C. Well maintained, clean intereior. White/tan graphics. $9500. 432-520-9520 or 250-0645.

2013 MONTE CARLO 37' travel trailer. 2 slides, washer & dryer. 2 airs, excellent condition. No pets, non smoker. Reasonably priced. Self contained. 740-404-2211.

NEW TODAY!

TRAVEL TRAILER, 2005. Sleep's six with a new fridge and new mattress in master bedroom. If interested call Doug at (432) 212-8034

Auto Services and Parts

FLIP BACK Fiber Mack truck bed cover. 2 Months old. Fits 2014, 2015, 2016 Chevy GMC. 5 1/2 foot bed. $600 OBO. 432-770-5994

Work Wanted

Reputable trucking and land clearing company looking for work! Cheap rates - Insured and bonded - Hotshot, Heavy Haul - Land clearing, Dozer work - Call for a quote 432-254-4538

Garage -Estate & Yard Sales

Yard & Garage Sales

79701

1407 W. MICHIGAN AVE. Mon. & Tue. at 8:30am. Backyard sale! Leather couch, brown chaise lounge, front & storm doors, pots & pan, kitchen items, shoes, clothes, comforters, sterling silver jewelry, tools, misc

Merchandise

Appliances

NEW GE Hi EFF WASHER & DRYER. 60% off;. $500 total for both. 432-247-1185.

Furniture

BONANZA RECLINING sofa and two matching recliners from Furniture Row. Retail $4,000 asking $2,500. Only used 3 months, like brand new! 432-288-0504.

Sporting Goods

VACATION RENTAL at Devils River. 325-226-3471.

ATTN: READERS Re: Advertising It is against City ordinance to attach any notices or advertising matter to any utility pole. Please contact City of Midland Code Enforcement Office, 685-7410 for additional information

Animals & Pets

Pets

LAB PUPPIES AKC & started dogs. Hips/eyes guaranteed. Training available. Pooles Labs. www.pooleslabs.com. Call (806) 633-4364.

Real Estate Rentals & Sales

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Furnished

ALL BILLS PAID. Garage apt. $650/mo. $300 dep. 1705 W. Cuthbert. 653-9341.

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

1, 2, 3, and 4 bedroom apartments for rent at the Stanton Housing Authority located at 408 E. Carpenter Street Stanton TX. Rents from $381 to $618. Water, sewage, and trash pickup is free. Call 432-756-2812 for more information.

2901 W ILLINOIS. 1600sft 2BD/2BA Remodeled Executive Patio apartment with garage. $1,250 monthly. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

FOR TENT/LEASE remodeled studio apt. Water & gas paid, Walk-in closet, new carpet. $1,000 move in. $650/Mo. See at 905 1/2 W. Kentucky Avenue. 432-599-1564 or 432-214-7261

Recreational Vehicles

2008 NOMAD fifth wheel trailer, model 2305. Fiberglass exterior w/ rubber roof. 24 foot 10 in. exterior length. Weight: 5200 pounds empty. Queen size bed (memory foam). Sleeps 6. Super clean, one owner, non-smoker. Trailer has always been under a cover. Priced below NADA retail price. We are down sizing, our pain is your gain @ $12,500. Call or text 432-413-1204, leave a message.

Miscellaneous for Sale

Classified Ads - For Sale Auction #2016-005

An online auction of Midland College surplus property will be held by Rene Bates Auctioneers, Inc. The auction will begin on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 and close on Monday, July 18, 2016. Items will be available for viewing and bidding on the auctioneer's website: http://www.renebates.com. The College will be auctioning a 24' flatbed trailer. For additional information, contact Barbara Fennell, Director of Purchasing, (432)686-4250 or bfennell@midland.edu. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all auction bids. For a complete list of instructions, or to participate in the online auction go to http://www.renebates.com.

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

APARTMENT SPECIAL!! WINDGATE, 2900 W. Illinois Ave. Midland TX, 79701. $99 sale! No application or administration fee. Studios $525, 1 Bedroom $625, 2 Bedrooms $725, Townhomes $825. If interested please call Michelle at (432) 694-4870.

APT. FOR RENT 1 BR/ 1 Bath/ Kit/ L room. 1501 W Illinois. $700.00/ mo. All bills paid except electric. Call Bill Jackson 432-557-3366.

DUPLEX FOR LEASE
2 bedroom, 2 baths, 2 car garage, large covered patio, fireplace. No pets. $1,425 month $1,000 deposit 3105 B Mark Lane. 432-557-5557

ESPECIAL!!! APARTAMENTOS WINDGATE, 2900 W. Illinois Ave. Midland TX, 79701. $99 especial no pagar administracion o applicacion. Studios $525, 1 Recamara $625, 2 Recamaras $725, Townhomes $825. Si esta interesado por favor llamar a Michelle (432) 694-4870.

LOWEST RENT! Spacious 1 - 2 - 3 Bedroom Apartments. 432-687-4514.

MOBILE HOME FOR Rent. 3BD/2BA. $1000/mo plus $1000 deposit. 3BR/1 BA house $1,500 mo/ $1,500 deposit. Call 432-210-4955, 432-634-4762 until 5pm, after 5pm text message only for more details. 3002 WCR 130. Midland TX 79706.

SPACIOUS 1,2 & 3 BEDROOM APT. HOMES AVAILABLE ELECTRIC, WATER, SEWER, TRASH, & EXTENDED BASIC CABLE PAID VILLA CHATEAU APTS. CALL 432-694-1112 OR COME BY at 1803 N. Midkiff Rd. & ASK ABOUT OUR MOVE-IN SPECIAL.

SPECIAL
★ Come to quiet, owner in residence, Whispering Oaks. We have very nice 2 bedroom apartments available for good quality tenants at exceptionally special low rates. Some have garages, all have covered parking, paid water and basic cable. Please call 432-694-4001 ★

Real Wheel Deals! only $35 w/Photo Call for Information 432-682-6222

Residential Rentals

Townhouse/ Condo for Rent Unfurnished

CONDO FOR RENT 2/2: Covered parking; 855 sq ft; ground level Sagewood Condominiums, Midland, TX This unit is privately owned. $1200/month. 686-683-2246.

Houses for Rent Furnished

Large luxury home located in Green Tree Country Club, in quiet exclusive area with easy access to Golf course $2,500 month call 432-557-1972.

VACATION RENTAL at Devils River. 325-226-3471.

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

16930 N. Willowood
Gardendale, TX. 3 bedroom 2 baths 2 car garage, fenced yard, 2 sheds, 1/2 acres $1,500 month $500 S.D. **CALL 432-288-3300 for appointment.**

2501 Hoya Drive: 2 BR 2 BA home in quite well kept neighborhood, All kitchen appliances, washer and dryer hook up, 2 car garage, patio lot! Available 8/1. $1,500 month. 432-557-4735

3 BD, 2 BA, 2 car garage, appliances included, FP, fenced backyard. Bonham, Alamo, and Lee schools. $1500/mo. 432-557-6699.

3BD/2BTH lg bk yard. No pets/no smoking, 6301 Shawnee across from MCC. $1300/mth & $1300 deposit. Can only drive by. 432-683-2243.

Residential Rentals

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

4600 LANHAM, 3 bedroom 2 bath duplex. All tile floors, $1,400 month $1,400 deposit. Pets permitted with deposit. Background & credit check required. 12 month lease minimum. 432-557-0018

5000 LEISURE Beautifully remodeled 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom. Non smoking,. No pets. View on Zillow.com $1,800/ month. $1,000 deposit 432-894-1152

5106 A. Rainbow, Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 garage, 1 carport, & sprinkler system. $1,700 monthly. 432-620-9222 or 432-664-0171.

FOR LEASE - 2608 Delano Ave. 2bd, 1ba, No smoking, Pets with deposit (restrictions apply). Background / credit check, verification of employment, $875 security deposit, $875/month. Call 432-222-0794.

HOME FOR Lease near Bush Elem. Available 8/1/156 3br/2ba, rear entry garage. Security deposit required. Contact Stephanie at 432-686-2800

NICE 2 AND 3 bedroom houses. $900-$1,800/mo. For responsible, quality tenants. 432-694-9853.

NICE AND clean 2 bedroom, washer & dryer hookups. New fridge, access through the alley. Midland High area. No pet. Background & credit check. For single or couple. $800 month for 1 year lease $800 deposit. Call 689-4241

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

4 BED, 2 1/2 Bath, 2 Car Garage. Good size home - Right in the heart of Midland! With attic apartment attached. $2,200 per month, $2,000 deposit.

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

♣ EXCLUSIVE HOME FOR SALE ♣
4 bed, 3 bath, approximately 2800 sq. ft. Fully furnished. $319,000. Available now. Realtors welcome. 432-685-7041

Houses for Rent- Furnished

♣ EXECUTIVE HOME FOR LEASE ♣
4 bed, 3 bath, approximately 2800 sq. ft. Fully furnished. $2,400 per month. Credit check & security deposit required. No pets. Non-smoking resident. Now Available. 432-685-7041.

Residential Sales

House for Sale
1006 Stanolind Ave $235,000
Approx Total Sq Ft. 1894

Large 3 Bedroom /2 Bath /2 Living areas with fire place, lots of closet space, two car garage located on a huge Cul-de-sac lot with plenty of privacy. Immaculately clean with lots of updates including new flooring throughout the entire home. Specious, beautifully landscaped backyard with trees, amenities including large patio, BBQ area, separate dog run, sprinkler system, and workshop attached to garage.

Pre-qualified buyers call or text Bob at 432-664-7492

Condo/Townhouse for Rent Unfurnished

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL real estate advertising herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations of discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

To file a complaint, contact www.hud.gov (or 1800-669-9777

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

1405 WACO St. in Colorado City. 3 BD, 1.5 BA, with a 1 BD 1 BA guest house. Storage building in back. Security system. Water well. Located on a corner lot. $125,000. 817-771-6568.

3527 GULF, 3BD/2BA, Remodeled, fireplace, 2000+ sf. Large backyard. $219,000. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

3608 SINCLAIR 2939sf. 4BD/3BA., fireplace. Water well, Remodeled. $249,000 Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

4010 EAST County Rd 81. 2 bedroom/ 2 bathroom, water well, septic system, on .461 acres $60,000 obo. 432-661-5846

5009 HEATHER Saddle Club South Fabulous redo!! ★Open SAT 2-4★★ 4/4.5/3/2 $435,000 **UP Group 689-2934**

5119 Illinois 3/2/2 $1,500

6209 Olympic Court new 3/2/2. $2,250 UP Group 432-689-2934

805 SHELL 3 bedroom 2 bath, carport, storage building, large backyard, sprinkler system. City water & water well. Great neighborhood. Selling as is. Asking $120,000. Call 432-634-6391.

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

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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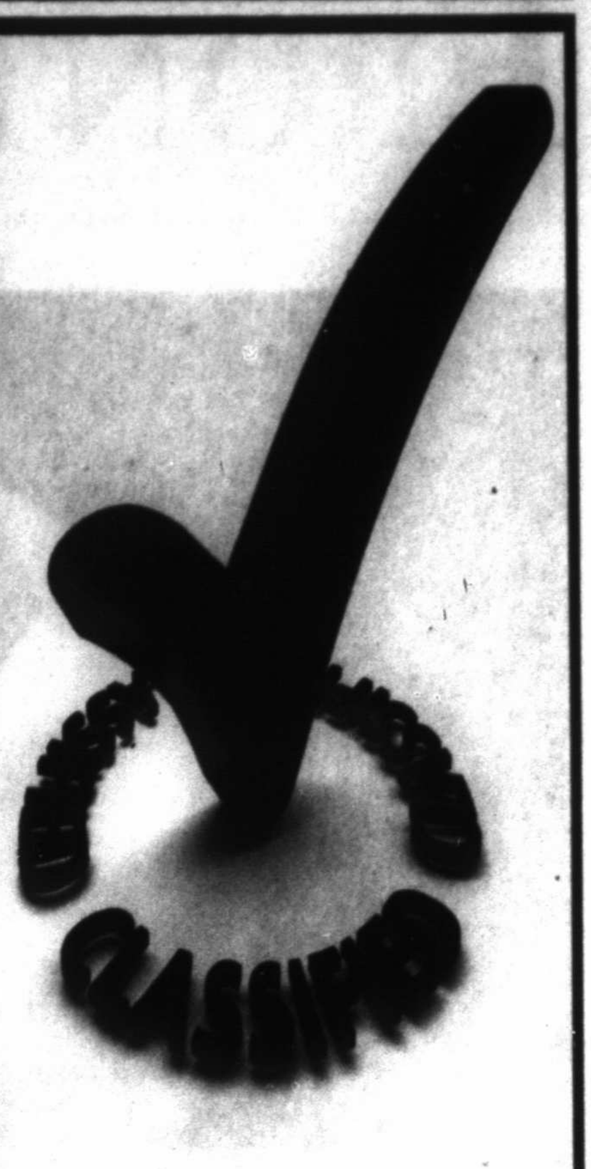

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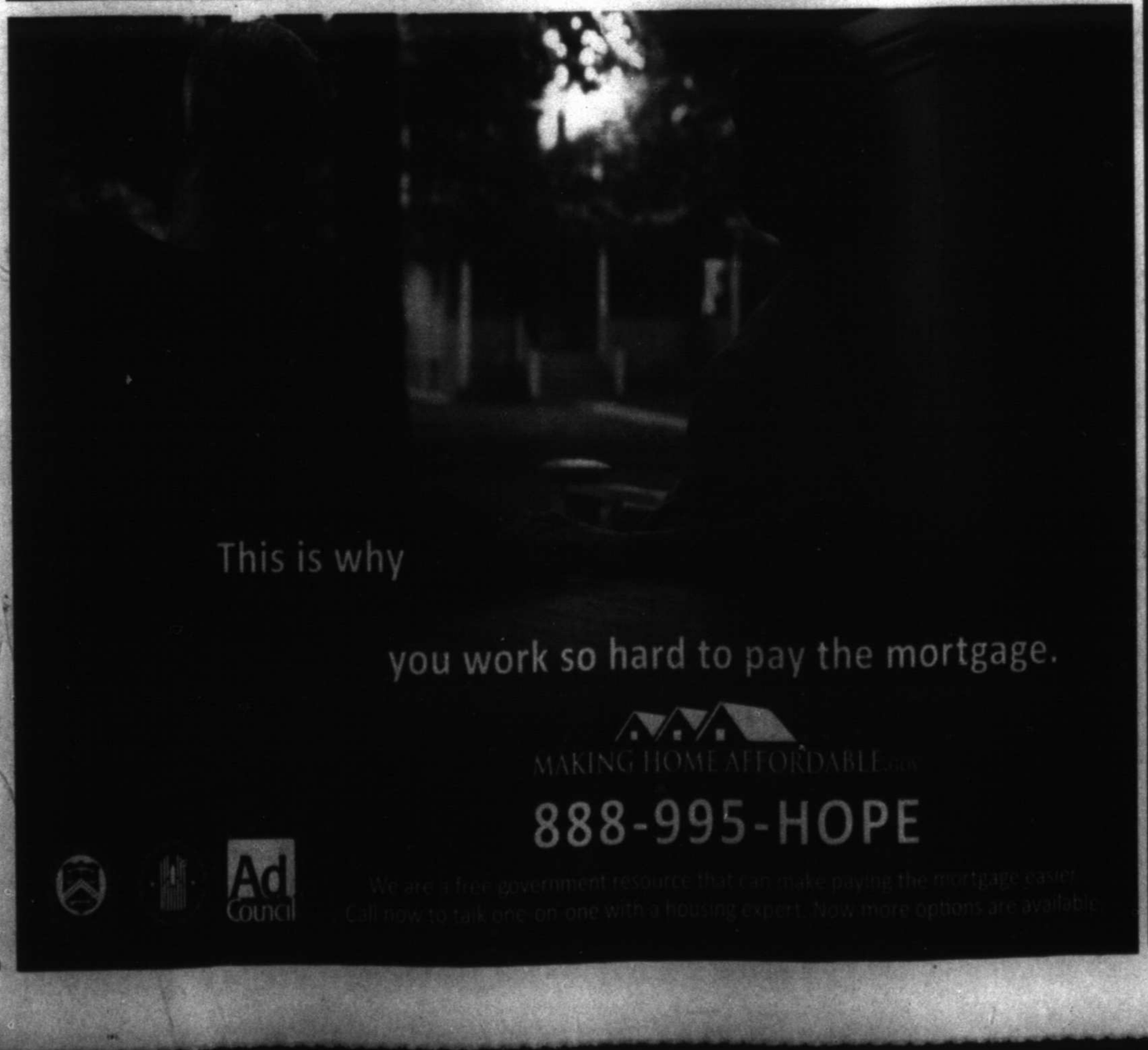

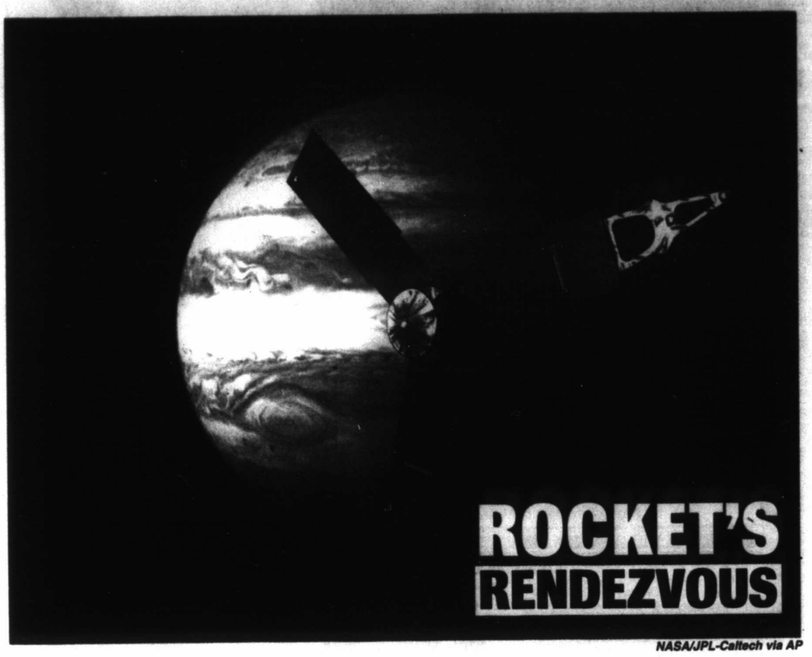

NASA/JPL-Caltech via AP

This artist's rendering provided by NASA and JPL-Caltech shows the Juno spacecraft above the planet Jupiter. Five years after its launch from Earth, Juno went into orbit around the gas giant on Monday.

NASA's Juno spacecraft prepares for cosmic date with Jupiter

By Alicia Chang
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A solar-powered spacecraft is spinning toward Jupiter for the closest encounter with the biggest planet in our solar system.

NASA's Juno spacecraft fired its main rocket engine late Monday to slow itself down from a speed of 150,000 mph and slip into orbit around Jupiter. With Juno on autopilot, the delicately choreographed move comes without any help from ground controllers.

The spacecraft is traveling through a hostile radiation environment and rings of debris and dust, "making for very serious hazards," Juno chief scientist Scott Bolton said during a morning briefing. But Juno should be able to withstand the harsh conditions because it's "built like an armored tank," he said.

The spacecraft's camera and other instruments were switched off for arrival, so there won't be any pictures at the moment it reaches its destination. Hours before the encounter, NASA released a series of images taken last week during the approach, showing Jupiter glowing yellow in the distance, circled by its four inner moons.

Scientists have promised close-up views of the planet when Juno skims the cloud tops during the 20-month, $1.1 billion mission.

The fifth rock from the sun and the heftiest planet in the solar system, Jupiter is what's known as a gas giant — a ball of hydrogen and helium — unlike rocky Earth and Mars.

With its billowy clouds and colorful stripes, Jupiter is an extreme world that likely formed first, shortly after the sun. Unlocking its history may hold clues to understanding how Earth and the rest of the solar system developed.

Named after Jupiter's cloud-piercing wife in Roman mythology, Juno is only the second mission designed to spend time at Jupiter.

Galileo, launched in 1989, circled Jupiter for nearly a decade, beaming back splendid views of the planet and its numerous moons. It uncovered signs of an ocean beneath the icy surface of the moon Europa, considered a top target in the search for life outside Earth.

Juno's mission: To peer through Jupiter's cloud-socked atmosphere and map the interior from a unique vantage point above the poles. Among the lingering questions: How much water exists? Is there a solid core? Why are Jupiter's southern and northern lights the brightest in the solar system?

"What Juno's about is looking beneath that surface," Bolton said. "We've got to go down and look at what's inside, see how it's built, how deep these features go, learn about its real secrets."

There's also the mystery of its Great Red Spot. Recent observations by the Hubble Space Telescope revealed the centuries-old monster storm in Jupiter's atmosphere is shrinking.

The trek to Jupiter, spanning nearly five years and 1.8 billion miles, took Juno on a tour of the inner solar system followed by a swing past Earth that catapulted it beyond the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.

Along the way, Juno became the first spacecraft to cruise that far out powered by the sun, beating Europe's comet-chasing Rosetta spacecraft. A trio of massive solar wings sticks out from Juno like blades from a windmill, generating 500 watts of power to run its nine instruments.

Plans called for Juno to swoop within 3,000 miles of Jupiter's clouds — closer than previous missions — to map the planet's gravity and magnetic fields in order to learn about the interior makeup.

Juno, built by Lockheed Martin, is an armored spacecraft — its computer and electronics are locked in a titanium vault to shield them from harmful radiation. Even so, Juno is expected to get blasted with radiation equal to more than 100 million dental X-rays during the mission.

Like Galileo before it, Juno meets its demise in 2018 when it deliberately dives into Jupiter's atmosphere and disintegrates — a necessary sacrifice to prevent any chance of accidentally crashing into the planet's potentially habitable moons.

Mississippi Sound area known as shark nursery

By Jeff Clark
Sun Herald

GULFPORT, Miss. — The mere mention of sharks is enough for some people to start playing the theme music from the movie "Jaws" inside their heads.

"Shark mania" has become a part of summer, from the Discovery Channel's "Shark Week" to new shark movies such as the recently released "The Shallows," which brought in about $17 million in domestic returns during its first weekend in theaters.

The American obsession with sharks entered the pop culture consciousness in 1975 when a young director named Steven Spielberg unleashed the movie "Jaws," which has made almost $500 million at theaters and struck a deep fearful chord of "don't go in the water."

The Mississippi Sound, which extends from Waveland, Mississippi, to Dauphin Island, Alabama, is known in some circles as a "shark nursery."

There are several species of sharks found in the Mississippi Sound north of the barrier islands, with about 10 to 12 commonly found.

"The most commonly seen shark in the Mississippi Sound is the Atlantic sharpnose," said Jill Hendon, assistant director of the Center for Fisheries Research and Development at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Ocean Springs. "We also have a lot of bull sharks, spinner sharks, and we occasionally get some of the bigger hammerheads in our specific area."

Hendon said the reason the area is known as a "shark nursery" is because of the number of juvenile sharks that live in the Sound before they mature and move to offshore habitats.

"We have some of the greatest diversity of sharks here because of the unique system that our barrier islands and river runoff provide," she said. "This is a very rich area for bait fish and, in turn, is a great area for juvenile sharks to live."

Paul Mickle, biological coordinator for the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources, said the barrier islands provide an abundance of food to sustain the appetites of young sharks.

"The Mississippi Sound is an extremely productive estuary that is unique because our rivers infuse nutrients to the Gulf and our barrier islands hold the nutrient-rich waters in a confined area," Mickle said. "This allows for high densities of fish, shrimp, crabs and other aquatic life that sharks as well as many other predators benefit from — even humans."

Hendon said the local shark population is the greatest during the summer.

"There is definitely a dynamic here in the Mississippi Sound as we see sharks when the water temperatures are warmer, so they start coming in around April," she said. "When the temperatures start to cool, they go more offshore, so our catch numbers are significantly lower starting around October."

Hendon said sharks can be found near the shore and near the barrier islands during the summer.

Websites can help with wedding planning process

Dear PropellerHeads: I just got engaged! Any go-to wedding planning apps or sites you would recommend?

A: First, congratulations! Second, we are completely flattered that you think we are married. But when that magical day does happen for us, Jean-Luc Picard will help us seal our union with a meaningful "Make it so," that will resonate for the ages.

That being said, you got us thinking that we should have this a little more thought out. I mean, will we completely go Next Generation, or can we interweave themes from all of the series? You know, Tribble party favors would be pretty tight.

So, for those of us who have a vision and corresponding ideas for theme, music, food, invitations, registry, vows, wedding party, showers, venue, flowers, attire … whoa, this list is getting really long. For those who do have a handle on what they want to happen, and just want a space to collaborate with their partner or others involved with the planning process, setting up a shared planning space in Google Drive, Dropbox (dropbox.com), or Evernote (evernote.com) might be all you need.

Realistically, if you just started breathing heavily when you read the growing list above, there are lots of wedding specific tools out there to help you manage some of the daunting task of planning your big day.

Ask the PropellerHeads

If you have been dreaming of this day your whole life, or if you just started thinking about it today, setting up a private board on Pinterest (pinterest.com) is a great way to capture ideas as you see them throughout the planning process. There are so many directions to take and small details to think about so when you find inspiration, it's nice to capture and save it for quick reference.

Most of us really have no concept of all of the decisions that go into planning a wedding. The Knot (theknot.com) has been the gold standard in this field for years. They offer step-by-step planning tools that can be accessed via their website or wedding apps. You can create a wedding website, handle invites and RSVPs, use budgeting tools, manage your registry, search for vendors, and much more.

There are others in the wedding website business that offer some of these features, but not all, like Appy Couple (appycouple.com), Weduary (weduary.com), and Wedding Jojo (weddingjojo.com). So if you are mainly looking for a way to keep people informed, manage online invites and RSVPs, and keep critical information in one public forum, these are also good options.

Perhaps you don't need a full web presence but would like a way to communicate more efficiently with specific parties during the planning process, like your vendors, wedding attendants, or family members. You could check out a contact manager like Groups (apple.co/28Joze3) which helps you organize distribution lists for quick emails or texts.

If you need a project manager for the whole shebang, try Wedding Happy (weddinghappy.com). This app has a detailed schedule of all of your wedding to-do's and gives you specifics as to when you should be searching for a DJ or a caterer based on your specific timeline.

The whole reason to tie the knot is to end up with a life-long partner and perhaps some awesome gifts. Rather than registering with different retailers choose a tool like Myregistry (myregistry.com) which will allow you add items sold anywhere in the world or link multiple store registries in one place. This avoids you getting another set of Vulcan ears when really you were hoping for a Bajoran nose.

You should also check out Zola (zola.com) which allows you to register for items but also experiences. Three words — Adult Space Camp (bit.ly/1lsz61Q).

You've got your big day planned. Everything is paid for. You're on budget and on time. Don't forget to live in the moment. Sure you've booked the perfect photographer, but you can also take advantage of apps like WedPics (wedpics.com) which allows your guests to take pictures and have them all housed in one private place, unless you choose to make them public with a hashtag.

Perhaps your budget didn't allow for a traditional photo booth, but you can still make it happen on the cheap. Set up a back drop and have your guests capture some instant moving pictures with PHHHOTO (phhhoto.com). It will feel like the party is still going as you reminisce with these kinetic memories.

Whether you decide to have a traditional Klingon wedding ritual, or prefer something a little showier, these tips should help you get there smoothly. Best of luck and live long and prosper.

When the PropellerHeads at Data Directions aren't busy with their IT projects, they love to answer questions on business or consumer technology. Email them to questions@asktheropellerheads.com or contact us at Data Directions Inc. 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Visit our website at www.asktheropellerheads.com.

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