

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018

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HOPPEL ON TRACK TO SUCCESS

Midland High grad Bryce Hoppel is headed to the NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Championships for the first time.

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Oil production increase worries oil bulls

By Jessica Summers
Bloomberg

It's tough to stay positive on crude when the world's three oil superpowers are likely to increase production.

Hedge funds are the least bullish on rising West Texas Intermediate crude prices in almost seven months as American output keeps breaking records, while Saudi Arabia and Russia signal they're getting ready to open the taps after more than a year of restraint. Together, the three

countries deliver roughly a third of global supplies.

"It's hard to get really excited in the short-term on the oil price, given that U.S. production is surging, hitting record-highs every week," said Joseph Bozoyan, a portfolio manager at Manulife Asset Management LLC in Boston. "Hedge funds got really bullish early on in the year and it was sort of a surprise" that Saudi Arabia and Russia discussed increasing output sooner than expected.

OPEC and its allies are meeting later

this month after the Saudis and the Russians roiled crude markets with talk of production increases just as their 2016 deal to drain a global glut appears to have achieved its goal. In fact, Russia's largest oil company is already testing capacity to bring production back.

"If there is a more aggressive demeanor with conversation as far as how they may unwind the current agreement," you may see investors "get a little bit more skittish just because you have more oil coming onto the market at the same time that the

U.S. has ramped up production," said Mark Watkins, who helps oversee \$151 billion at U.S. Bank Wealth Management.

Saudi Arabia and other producers held an unofficial meeting on Saturday in Kuwait City, where they stressed the need to stimulate adequate investments to ensure stable oil supply.

Weighing on OPEC's decision is mounting global outcry against steep fuel prices on the back of higher crude futures.

Please see PRODUCTION/4A

HIGH WATER



The FletcherReporter-Telegram

Midland Fire Department helps a driver out of her car after it stalled in water pooled under the train overpass on Big Spring and Front streets on Monday morning. Barricades were in place blocking the roadway, but someone had moved the barricades to allow cars to pass through.

Storms bring much-needed rain

From staff reports

A wave of storms has delivered much-needed rainfall to Midland.

The National Weather Service reports 0.37 of an inch of rain fell at Midland International during the overnight hours. With less than 1 inch of rainfall during the first five months of the year, any rain is good rain, and these storms provided help to an area that is in moderate to extreme drought, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

The NWS on its website reports the first showers hit Midland International after midnight. Along with a one-tenth of an inch of rain, gusts of around 45 mph were reported. The second

Driest starts to a year

January through May

2011	0.11 of an inch
1933	0.10 of an inch
2018	0.04 of an inch

Source: Reporter-Telegram

round of storms came through the area between 1 a.m. and 4 a.m. The NWS recorded 0.25 of an inch during that time.

That brings the year-to-date annual rainfall to 1.21 inches. Heading into June, 2018 experienced the third driest

start to a year in Midland history.

It appears that Sunday's will be the only rain event for a while. The National Weather Service isn't expecting precipitation in its next seven-day forecast. The NWS also is expecting higher temperatures to return, with high temperatures in the mid-100s Tuesday through Thursday.

Before Sunday's high of 94 degrees, the NWS reported nine-straight days of triple-digit high temperatures. The typical high temperature for this time of year is around 92 degrees, according to the NWS. Last month was the hottest May on record in Midland.

Three quakes hit near Pecos on Sunday

From staff reports

The U.S. Geological Survey on Sunday recorded three earthquakes in the same area southeast of Pecos.

The trio of tremors included a 3.1-magnitude

More inside

A 3.5 magnitude quake hit in north-central Oklahoma

Page 4A

quake that hit around 2:44 a.m., 25.4 miles southeast of the city. A little more than three hours later a second earthquake — magnitude 2.8

— occurred about 22.3 miles southeast of the city. The USGS recorded a third quake at 9:41 p.m. — this one 2.7 magnitude — again 22 to 23 miles southeast of the city.

The three earthquakes Sunday brought the weekly total near Pecos to four, according to earthquaketrack.com. On May 28, a 3.0-magnitude quake hit 25.4 miles southeast of Pecos. The website also reports 52 earthquakes near Pecos in the last 365 days.

The 52 earthquakes trail the 544 reported near Medford, Oklahoma. On Monday, a 3.5 magnitude quake hit southeast of Medford.

A quake with a magnitude of 2.5 to 5.4 is "often felt, but only causes minor damage," according to Upseis, an educational site for seismologists. There are about 30,000 quakes each year, according to the site.

MPD announces the arrest of 45 in prostitution sting

From staff reports

A two-week sting operation targeting prostitution and solicitation ended with the arrest of 45 individuals and 55 total charges, according to the Midland Police Department.

At MRT.com

See a roundup of head shots of those arrested this far

Midland PD reported Monday that operation "Pipeline" took place during six days over a two-week period from May 21-June 2. The

mission, according to a press statement, was to take a proactive approach, working with Midland County District Attorney's Office and the Midland County Sheriff's Office, Odessa Police Department's Narcotics' Division, the Department of Public Safety, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and units within MPD working together apprehending prostitutes as well as those seeking prostitutes.

The mission, according to MPD, involved online child exploitation investigations to determine the possibility of Human Trafficking and to identify and arrest prostitutes, "johns," local child predators and to rescue any potential human trafficking victims.

Obituaries


David Allen Richardson

David Allen Richardson, 42, of Midland, passed away on Thursday, May 17, 2018. Memorial services will be held on Friday, June 8, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland.

David was born on March 18, 1976 to Kathy and Charles Richardson in Liberty Falls County. David was raised in the Odessa area. He graduated from Permian High in 1994. He was active in the Permian band where he learned to play the saxophone. After graduating he began working for World Sealing Corporation and attained the Position of General Manager. He worked for twenty-two years.

His hobbies were many but his favorites were salt water fishing in the gulf with his dad. He helped coach little league youth football and the Detroit Tigers little league baseball for his son's team. Barbecue was a favorite pastime, boasting his steaks and ribs were the best. Car shows and football were also high on the entertainment list.

We want to remember him as a loving and caring father and husband to his family. He was a loyal friend to many, whom he also considered family.

David is survived by his wife of 18 years, Jennifer, daughter, Shelby and son, Brock; his mother, Kathy Hylton Lane of Little Elm, TX; sister, Laura Abshier of Lubbock, TX; brother, Kevin Lane of Plano, TX, and maternal grandmother, Mae Hylton of Waxahatchie, TX. He was preceded in death by his father Charles Richardson and step-mother Meg Richardson.

At the time of death, it was the family's request that any organ or tissue of his be donated to the Southwest Transplant Alliance, in order to help an individual in need. A previous donation of life was what made this family a miracle family.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be donated to

Midland Christian School, 2001 Culver DR, Midland, TX 79705.

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

Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory
(432) 850-8800


Ramona Bonilla

Beloved Ramona Bonilla, 67, left this earth on Saturday, June 2, 2018, while on a family trip in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

She was born on August 10, 1950 raised and educated in Odessa, Texas. She graduated from Ector High School and Midland College respectively. Ramona married Benjamin Bonilla on January 1, 1968 in Midland, Texas and recently celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary. Driven, tenacious, and loving, she maintained multiple careers throughout her life while supporting her spouse Ben, and raising her daughter Priscilla and son Ben. She amassed multiple years of service at Texas Instruments and most recently retired in the Medical Field from Midland Memorial Hospital.

She leaves behind her husband of 50 years Benjamin Bonilla, daughter Priscilla Ann Bonilla, nieces Rickinette Landreth and Jeanicki Landreth. Survivors also include brothers Cipriano Huerta, Johnny Huerta and Carlos Huerta, sisters Emma Bentacourt and Mary Garza from Fort Worth Texas, and a host of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Juan Huerta and Jesusita Huerta, her son Benjamin Bonilla, brothers Frank Huerta and Sisto Huerta and sister Emma Huerta.

Viewing will be Tuesday June 5, 2018 from 5:00pm - 9:00pm and Wednesday June 6, 2018 from 9:00am - 9:00pm with a rosary starting at 7:00pm Tuesday night at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home Chapel.

A funeral mass is set for

Thursday June 7, 2018 at 10:00am at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish & Shrine.

Palbearers for the service will be Mando Bonilla Jr., Lupe Bonilla Jr., Nick Talamantes, Julio Talamantes Jr., Anthony Serrano, Aaron Serrano, Devin Huerta, and Gabriel Molinar.

Funeral mass is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to: pipkin@nts-online.net or you can visit our website at www.lewallengarciapipkinfh.com.

Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home
208 N. Big Spring, Midland, TX 79701-0708


Sergio Tavaroz Lopez

Sergio Tavaroz Lopez, 61 of Midland, went home to be with his Heavenly father Saturday, June 2, 2018.

Sergio was born on August 26, 1956 in Santa Ana, Coah. Mexico to Ignacio Lopez Sr. and Josefina Tavaroz.

He graduated from Midland High School and was a Bulldog fan at heart. He enjoyed attending Bulldog football games and also watching the Dallas Cowboys. He will be missed greatly by all his family and friends.

Sergio was preceded in death by his parents: one brother, Ignacio Lopez Jr.; two sisters, Teresa Lopez and Mary Rodriguez.

He is survived by his wife of 23 years Ida G. Lopez of Midland, TX; two step sons, Ernest Garcia of New Fairfield, Connecticut and Saul Garcia of Midland, TX; two brothers, Jesus Lopez and Mario Lopez of Midland, TX; five sisters, Berta Carrasco of Midland, TX; Jenoveba Lopez of Phoenix, AZ; Marcela McCrane of Los Angeles, CA; Marta Herrera of Houston, TX; and Anita Lopez of Odessa, TX.

Viewing will be Tuesday, June 5th from 9:00am - 9:00pm with a rosary starting at 7:00pm Tuesday evening at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin

Chapel. A funeral mass is set for Wednesday June 6, 2018 at 10:00am at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish & Shrine. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Funeral Mass is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to pipkin@nts-online.net or you can visit the website at www.lewallengarciapipkinfh.com.

Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home
208 N. Big Spring, Midland, TX 79701-0708


Starrla Lou (Macon) McMinn

Starrla Lou (Macon) McMinn, 62, of Midland passed away June 2, 2018, in Midland. She was born February 20, 1956, in Lubbock, TX, to Don and Deweylou Macon.

Starrla graduated from Sweetwater High School in 1974. She received her bachelor's degree in education in 1977. She married Dudley McMinn, the love of her life, on August 16, 1980, in Sweetwater. After their marriage, they began a family and lived in Alpine, Lubbock, and Brownwood before moving to Midland, where they have resided for more than 25 years. She had served as a legal secretary and worked in the Student Life Office at Sul Ross State University in Alpine while Dudley finished his bachelor's degree.

Starrla enjoyed making arts & crafts, decorating her home, and playing Banjo with her group. She had a fun-loving spirit and heart-warming smile that endeared her to everyone she encountered. She loved being "GGG" to her granddaughters Addison and Brynlee and attending their activities. Starrla and Dudley enjoyed country music, dancing, and traveling together. They made annual trips every summer to the Prio River for family fun and country music.

Starrla was a long-time

member of Golf Course Road Church of Christ in Midland. She worked in the library and as a substitute teacher at Midland Christian School, where her children graduated and her grandchildren are currently attending.

She is preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Dewey and Velma McGinley.

She is survived by her husband Dudley McMinn of Midland; two daughters, Kelsey Tatch, and her partner, Jimmy Evans, of Midland and Haley McMinn of Lubbock; her parents, Don and Deweylou Macon of El Paso; her brother, Dr. Kirk Macon of El Paso; and two granddaughters, Addison Tatch and Brynlee Tatch, of Midland.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 pm on Wednesday, June 6, 2018, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory, 3800 N. Big Spring Street, Midland, Texas. A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m., Thursday, June 7, 2018, in Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland. The family requests that everyone dress casually for the service and for the men to wear pink in Starrla's memory.

The family wishes to express sincere appreciation to Dr. Robert Vogel, Dr. Eric Olson, Legacy Ranch Memory Care Center, and Hospice of Midland for the excellent care Starrla was given.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Midland Christian School or to Hospice of Midland.

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

Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory
(432) 850-8800

Death Notices
Gavyn Mark Cooper

Gavyn Mark Cooper, 16, of Midland, passed away Thursday, May 31, 2018. The family will receive guests from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday, June 8, 2018 at the Branch at npw, 3800 N. Big Spring St., Midland. Memorial services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, June 9, 2018 at Stonegate Fellowship Church in Midland.

Survivors include mother, Chassity Cooper and sister, Callie Faith Cooper. All floral offerings may be delivered to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Jeffrey Matthew Spence

Jeffrey Matthew Spence, 45, of Midland, passed away on Sunday, May 27, 2018. A Celebration of Life will be held at 2:00pm, Saturday, June 9, 2018 at First United Methodist Church Chapel in Midland.

He is survived by his parents, Merle and Peggy Spence; Julie and Brian Bemis; his wife Sara Spence; and stepsons Alex, Mitchell, and Ben Clayton. He is also survived by his son, Tyler Spence; grandmother Hazel Spence; brother, Justin Owens.

John Mark Cooper

John Mark Cooper, 39, of Midland, passed away Thursday, May 31, 2018. The family will receive guests from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday, June 8, 2018 at the Branch at npw, 3800 N. Big Spring St., Midland. Memorial services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, June 9, 2018 at Stonegate Fellowship Church in Midland.

Survivors include wife, Chassity Cooper, daughter, Callie Faith Cooper, and mother, Nancy Chappell.

All floral offerings may be delivered to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Mary Foster

Mary Foster of Midland passed away May 31, 2018. Funeral Services are pending with Avalos-Sanchez & Thomas Funeral Home.

Rev. Lee Edgar Blackmon

On Wed., May 30, 2018 Rev. Lee Edgar Blackmon, age 77, entered into eternal life with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He is survived by his loving wife of 27 years, Regenia Slay Blackmon, six children: Rodney Blackmon, Lytra Wilson, Shawn Blackmon (Shanna), Kimberly Koussou, Edgar D. Blackmon (Melanie), Bryant Johnson; sister Alice Watson; grandchildren, great grandchildren. Funeral: Thurs., June 7th, Eternal Rest Funeral Home, Deason, TX.

Robert Betterton

Robert Betterton of Stanton passed away June 2, 2018. Services are pending with Stanton Memorial Funeral Home and Chapel.

Scott Paulins

Scott Paulins, 58, passed away Friday, June 1, 2018. Memorial services will be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 6, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel.

Apple dangling more goodies

By Michael Ledtke and Ryan Nakashima
Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Apple will offer more ways for people to limit the time they spend on iPhones while introducing features designed to make its products even more indispensable.

The paradox emerged Monday as Apple executives previewed new versions of free software due out this fall.

The forthcoming controls are aimed at addressing criticism that devices are becoming increasingly addictive and distracting, especially for children. Experts worry that all the flashy colors and beeps give users short-term, feel-good rewards while increasing stress in the long run.

Yet Apple made it clear it also hopes to make its devices and services even more alluring — and potentially irresistible — by creating new avenues for its digital assistant, Siri, to serve as a backup brain for users. The company is also creating more entertainment options and new ways to communicate, including group video chats through FaceTime and more options for the iPhone X's animated emojis.

People have become so dependent on technology that it's unlikely any company will be able to solve the addiction problem, but they can help keep it from getting worse, Gartner analyst Brian Blau said. The best hope, he said, is for technology to help people enjoy life and then get out of the way.

"Apple at least seems to be hearing what people are saying and trying to do something about it," he said.

Apple's new controls will expand on the "Do Not Disturb" options on the iPhone and iPad. The display can also be set to dim automatically just before bedtime. Users can also block app notifications from showing up on the home screen not only based on time of day, which they can do now, but by location, such as when visiting the playground with their kids.

Other features will provide weekly reports on how much time people are spending looking at their screen each month. Users will be able to set daily time limits on specific apps.

Last month, Google revealed plans to force Android phones into "do not disturb" mode when placed face down on a table and have the screen show only grayscale colors late at night.

Other highlights during Apple's annual software preview include:

BETTER BROWSING PRIVACY

Apple is taking a swipe at ubiquitous "share" buttons created by Facebook and others to track users' behavior online regardless of whether they click on them. The company said it's shutting down that tracking, unless the user decides to permit it, through a Safari browser update for Mac and iOS devices, including iPhones and iPads.

Apple also intends to crack down on data companies' ability to identify specific devices by creating a unique fingerprint based on a device's settings, installed fonts and plug-ins. Instead, Apple will send out generic information to make all Apple devices look alike.

Unlike Facebook and Google, Apple doesn't depend on online ads dictated by data about a user's interests. Instead, Apple generates most of its revenue from device sales.

Chris Hoofnagle, deputy director of the Berkeley Center for Law & Technology, believes Apple's move will prod rivals Mozilla and Microsoft to do the same, though Google may remain a holdout with the Chrome browser given the company's dependence on ads and data.

The announcement comes as Facebook acknowledges it struck data-sharing deals with at least 60 device makers, including Apple. Facebook insisted there was nothing scandalous and said the deals were designed to make it easier for people to use Facebook features without opening its app or website.

AUGMENTED REALITY GETS AUGMENTED

Apple rolled out new support for augmented reality as it unveiled a new format for digital objects that appear to live in the real world. Digital objects created with the new format, called USDZ, will work in Apple's Safari browser, Messages and Mail apps, meaning AR isn't limited to stand-alone apps that people choose to download separately.

Apple is trying to extend AR experiences to a broader population, rather than just hard-core, tech-savvy users. What remains to be seen is whether there is enough of a compelling reason for someone to use AR, even if it's built into everyday apps.

SEEK SHORTCUTS

A broader range of third-party apps will be able to let users invoke Siri for commonly used tasks, much the way competing assistants from Google and Amazon long have. But Ben Wood, head of research at CCS Insight, said Apple still has a lot of work to do to close the gap with Amazon and Google.

SENDING PHOTOS

Apple will encourage users to share photos with their friends by suggesting such opportunities in a new "for you" tab. When a friend receives photos from an event, Apple will then suggest that the friend reciprocate with photos from the same event. It's similar to how Google already encourages sharing through its own Photos app for iPhones and Android devices.

BEYOND IPHONES

The company is bringing the Dolby Atmos surround-sound feature to Apple TV 4K devices, while Apple Watch's software gets a "Hello Talkie" voice messaging feature that resembles the disappearing one-way voice technology of the past. The watch will also automatically detect contacts without having to launch the phone app.

New Facebook privacy furor: What's at stake?

By Barbara Ortutay
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Facebook is at the center of another privacy furor, this one over its sharing of user data with device makers such as Apple, Amazon, Samsung and others over the past decade.

The social network acknowledges the data sharing deals, which it says it's — according to a New York Times report — it has struck with at least 60 device makers since 2007. But it says there's nothing scandalous about them.

The arrangements raise a number of questions, among them whether Facebook failed to get the explicit consent of users before sharing their data. If so, that could place it in violation of a 2011 consent decree with the Federal Trade Commission. Facebook denies it shared user data without consent.

These device-maker deals could raise concerns similar to those in Facebook's recent Cambridge Analytica scandal. That's where a Trump-connected political consulting firm used data derived from as many as 87 million Facebook profiles in order to sway election results.

In this case, however, it's not clear how the device makers could have shared Facebook data even if they

wanted to. So far there's no evidence that phone and tablet makers used Facebook data improperly, in sharp contrast to Cambridge Analytica consultants. Apple, for instance, said it has worked with Facebook for years to let its users share things on Facebook through iPhone and Mac apps.

But the report taps into continuing anxiety about the information users give up — and to whom — when they use Facebook. The Times report says device makers received users' own information, such as email addresses, phone numbers and relationship statuses, as well as data from their friends, sometimes without their explicit consent.

A similar practice involving third-party apps on Facebook linked CEO and founder Mark Zuckerberg before Congress during the Cambridge Analytica scandal. Facebook's 2011 FTC agreement requires it to obtain "affirmative express consent" before making changes that override users' privacy preferences.

"Sure looks like Zuckerberg lied to Congress about whether users have 'complete control' over who sees our data on Facebook," Rep. David Cicilline, a Rhode Island Democrat, wrote on Twitter. "This needs to be investigated and the people responsible need to be held accountable."

WORD OF THE DAY
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Jumburrito
proficient
(pruh-FISH-unt)
adjective
1: well advanced in an art, occupation, or branch of knowledge.



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Special: \$100 per line per week

Advertising Rates
Classified: \$100 per line per week
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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Let's get curious at the library



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Tonia Brown takes pictures of her children, Blake and Avery Brown, Monday at one of the different stations in the "Curious George: Let's Get Curious" exhibit at the Midland County Public Library Centennial branch. "Curious George" — an interactive math, science and engineering-based adventure — will be at Centennial through Sept. 8.

The entry fee for both pools is \$3 per person. Children under 2 are free.

Meetings

Midland Development Corp.
9:30 a.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall
300 N. Lorena St.

UTPB offering intensive language classes

The University of Texas at the Permian Basin is offering introductory courses in Spanish, German and French.

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, June 5, the 156th day of 2018. There are 209 days left in the year.
On this date:
In 1864, Civil War hero Gen. William T. Sherman refused the Republican presidential nomination, saying, "I will not accept if nominated and will not serve if elected."

In 1917, about 10 million American men between the ages of 21 and 31 began registering for the draft in World War I.
In 1893, the United States went off the gold standard.
In 1947, Secretary of State George C. Marshall gave a speech at Harvard University in which he outlined an aid program for Europe that came to be known as The Marshall Plan.
In 1856, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Henderson v. United States*, struck down racially segregated railroad dining cars.
In 2004, Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th president of the United States, died in Los Angeles at age 93 after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease.

By The Associated Press

Pools open today

Washington Aquatic Center, 1601 E. Indiana Ave., noon-7, family time, 7-9 p.m.
Doug Russell Aquatic Center is closed today

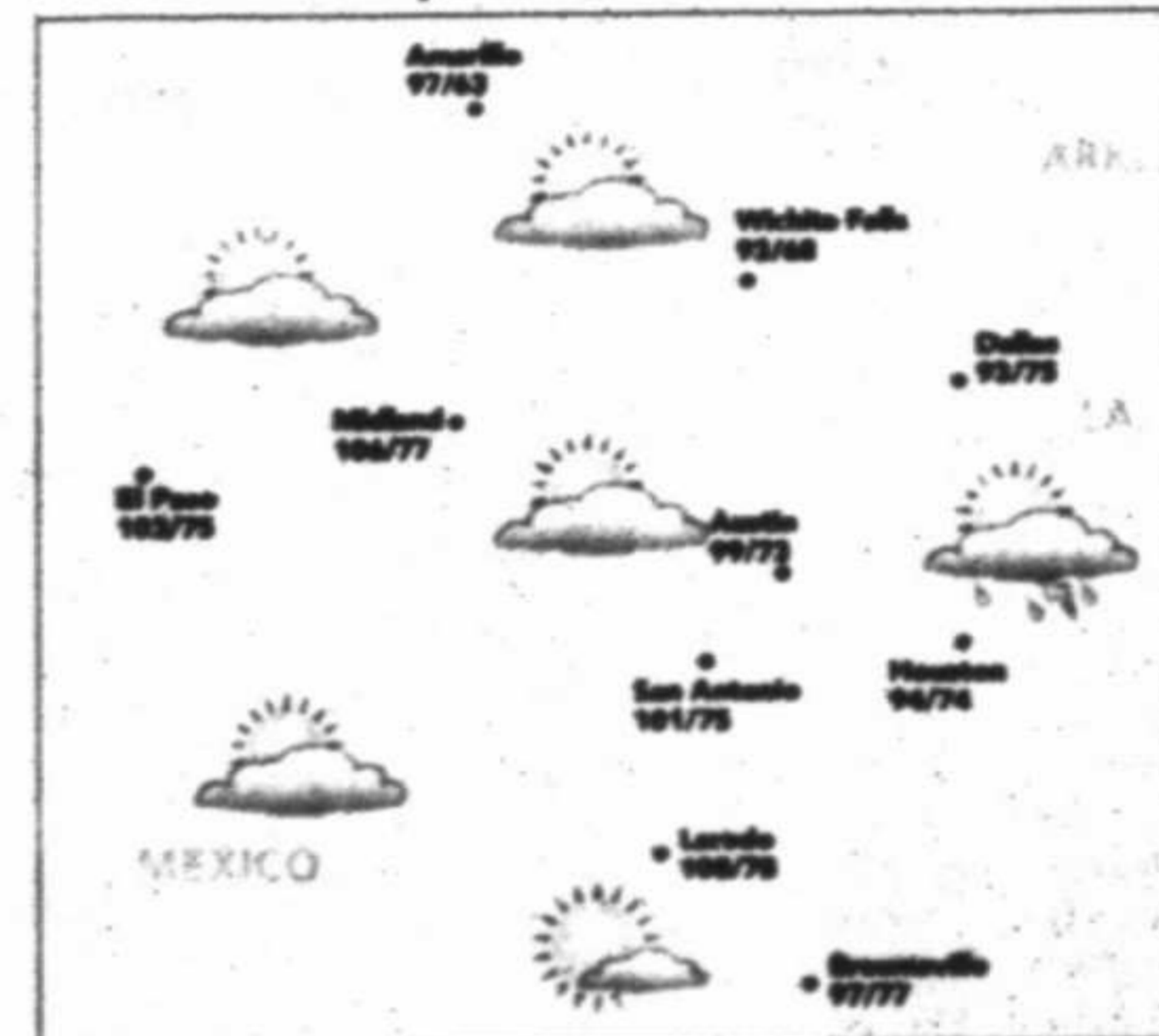
Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 7-6-4
Pick 3 day: 5-1-4
Pick 3 evening: 6-8-1
Pick 3 night: 3-2-2
Daily 4 morning: 0-7-3-1
Daily 4 day: 8-8-7-6
Daily 4 evening: 9-8-5-4
Daily 4 night: 6-0-0-6
Cash Five: 03-14-21-27-34
Two Step: 02-08-19-25
Triple Chance: 03-08-12-15
22-26-27-29-42-53
All or Nothing morning: 01-04-07-08-09-11-12-13-16-20-22-24
All or Nothing day: 03-04-05-08-11-14-15-17-18-19-20-24
All or Nothing evening: 03-04-05-08-09-10-12-14-16-19-22-23
All or Nothing night: 03-04-06-07-08-10-12-13-20-21-23-24

Weather

Monday's temperatures
High: 84
Low: 64
Normal high: 92
Normal low: 65
June 4's records
High: 109, set in 2013
Low: 50, set in 1970
Precipitation
Sunday: 0.12 of an inch
Monday: 0.25 of an inch
Month total: 0.37 of an inch
Year total: 1.21 of an inch
Normal total (year to date): 4.53 inches

Forecast for Tuesday, June 5, 2018



Winds: 5-10 mph during the day and night
Chance of rain: None
Sunrise: 6:43 a.m.
Sunset: 8:52 p.m.

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

Note: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun in Gemini and a Moon in Pisces.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, June 5, 2018: This year you could be overly concerned with your professional image and your career. Others find you somewhat magical and elusive, which intrigues them. Being practical and precise might not be your strong suits. If you are single, you attract an overwhelming number of potential suitors. You seem to have quite a unique group to pick from. If you are attached, the two of you love going out together for romantic fun. These types of experiences will draw you closer together. PISCES enjoys your style.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Tension builds around you. Through quiet moments of thought, you will be able to tackle negativity with positive solutions. Work with the unexpected and be willing to act impulsively. Worry less about results. Let go of a certain sense of rigidity. **Tonight:** Land where you may.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** You have certain goals and desires that you could find a bit more challenging than in the recent past. Let go and see what happens. Financial gain could be a pleasant surprise. You will see a change in how you approach ongoing issues. **Tonight:** Go for something a bit more exotic.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** You know what you expect from yourself, and when you feel as if you cannot meet that level of excellence, you get frustrated. A key person in your life often motivates you to do your best. Do not feel insecure; you have the support of friends and loved ones. **Tonight:** Out late.

CANCER (June 21-July 21)
***** Your feelings often dominate your decisions. Though you can't put your emotions on the back burner, you certainly can calm down and listen to logic. The mix of intuition with reason could prove beneficial. Avoid going to extremes, if possible. **Tonight:** Be with a favorite person.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***** You will want to slow down and have a long-overdue conversation with a family member. You might see that discussions have an intense quality to them. Note what is not being said. Someone close to you seems to need to clear the air. **Tonight:** Don't feel the need to do anything.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
***** Your schedule might be so packed that squeezing someone in might be difficult. You could unintentionally hurt this person's feelings. Choose your words with care. You seem to be more vulnerable than usual right now. **Tonight:** Get some exercise to clear out tension or stress.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** No one doubts that you can handle yourself, though occasionally there have been complaints about your lack of endurance when certain matters get tough. Meet today's challenge head-on. Your compassion could be challenging to a co-worker. **Tonight:** Choose a fun pastime.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
***** Your creativity comes out. Others are enchanted by your ability to find solutions. You still might seem a bit reserved to some people, but to those who

know you well, they see you as reflective. Refuse to get involved in a power play. **Tonight:** Let the good times rock and roll.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
***** Stay centered and know what is needed to make a decision on the domestic front. Be aware of your finances; others seem to be knocking on your door for money or help with investing. Make sure you really want to be involved in these partnerships. **Tonight:** At a favorite restaurant.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** You easily could become overwhelmed by all the people who are seeking you out right now. You like your quiet time to reflect or concentrate on a project. A loved one could become quite difficult should you decide not to give him or her more attention. **Tonight:** Your call.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

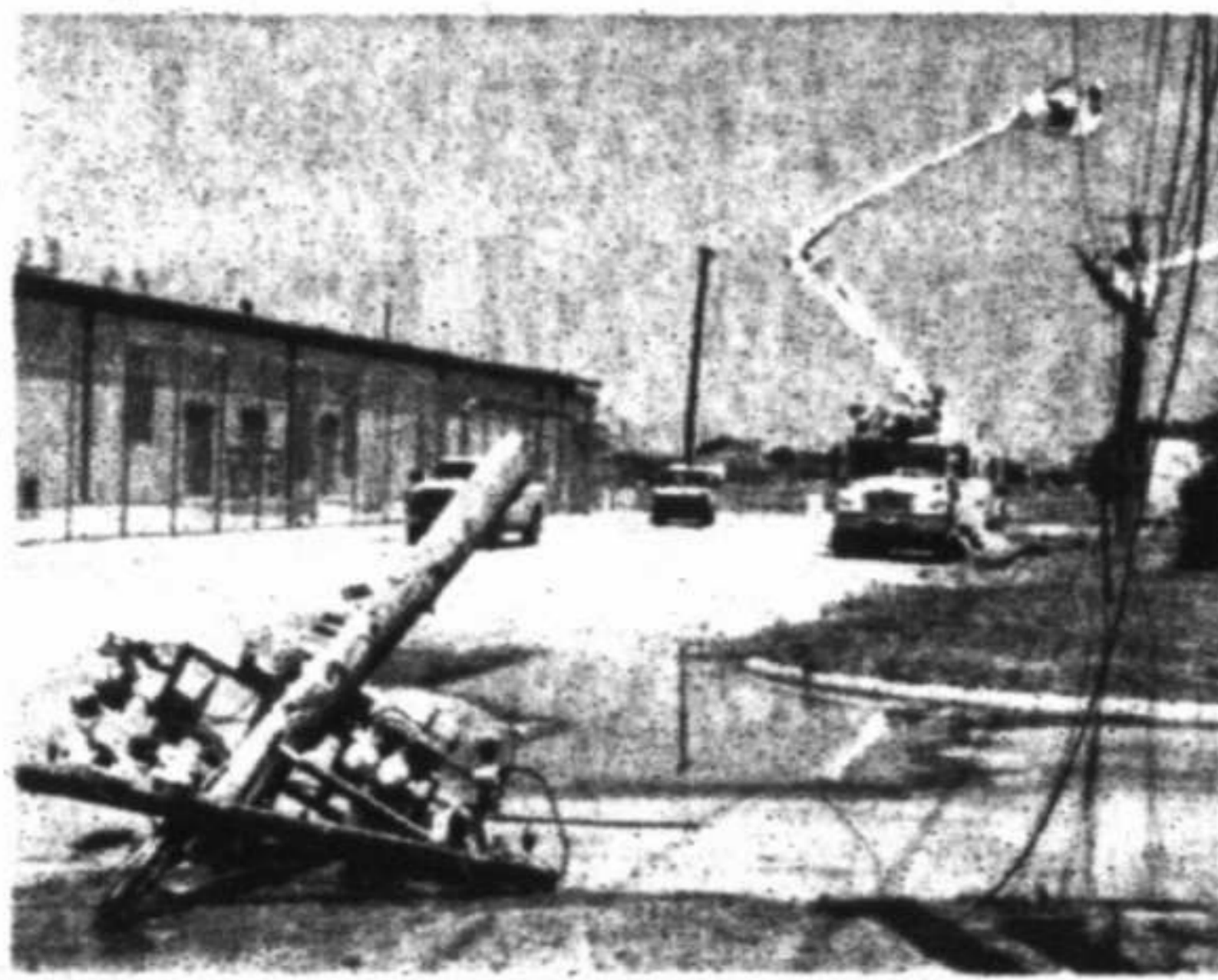
***** Avoid worrying about a money situation; instead, focus on how you should handle a personal matter. You might not want to reveal specifics about a certain situation just yet. You could simply say: I am not comfortable with this topic. **Tonight:** Spurge on a favorite meal!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***** You could find it difficult to make a financial decision, as you could be wavering from being a spendthrift to a self-disciplined spender. You know what you need, and you know what you can afford. Trust your judgment. **Tonight:** Do whatever would make you happiest.

BORN TODAY
Actor Mark Wahlberg (1971), author Ken Follet (1949), musician Laurie Anderson (1947)

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Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Utility crews work to restore powerlines and broken poles Monday afternoon outside the Midland County jail after two poles broke during storms Sunday night, leaving the jail to run on generators since 9 p.m. Sunday.

County, city buildings lose electricity

From staff reports

Power outages on Monday impacted the Midland County jail and courthouse, as well as Midland city hall.

The first of the electricity losses happened at about 9:30 p.m. Sunday and affected the Central Detention Center, Midland County Sheriff Gary Painter said high wind snapped the tops of two poles on West Washington Avenue.

The facility was using power from a generator on Monday afternoon while a crew from Oncor worked to restore power, Painter said. He said computers could do booking functions and that inmates had hot water, kitchen services and air conditioning. The administration area, which houses secretarial services, was impacted the most by

the loss of electricity.

Two additional government facilities on Monday were among buildings without power. The county courthouse lost electricity before noon, and occupants were sent home for the rest of the day, according to Painter.

"Courthouse security was there, and they helped evacuate people and checked the elevators," he said.

Also losing power was the nearby city hall building, said Elana Ladd, city spokeswoman. She said the matter was due to more widespread power outages and that it didn't interrupt police or fire services.

The outage caused city hall to close Monday, and its offices are expected to reopen 8 a.m. today, according to a press release.

Magnitude 3.5 earthquake recorded in Oklahoma

Associated Press

POND CREEK, Okla. — The U.S. Geological Survey reports a small earthquake struck in north-central Oklahoma.

The USGS recorded the 3.5 magnitude quake at 6:23 a.m. Monday near Pond Creek, about 85 miles north of Oklahoma City.

No injuries or damage are reported. Geologists

say damage is not likely in earthquakes below magnitude 4.0.

Thousands of earthquakes have been recorded in Oklahoma in recent years, with many linked to the underground injection of wastewater from oil and natural gas production. State regulators have directed several oil and gas producers in the state to close injection wells or reduce volumes.

Jal OKs verdict against interim nuclear storage

Associated Press

JAL, N.M. — Another New Mexico community has voted to oppose bringing interim high-level nuclear waste storage in southeastern New Mexico.

The Hobbs News-Sun reports Jal City Council voted last week not to support a plan to temporarily store tons of spent fuel from U.S. commercial nuclear reactors in and around Lea County.

Holtec International has applied for a 40-year license with Nuclear Regulatory Commission to store thousands of metric tons of nuclear waste at the site.

Opponents of the project expressed concern about the safety of transporting the fuel across the country as well as the project's effects on the environment.

Albuquerque City Council also voted last week to oppose the plan.

Production

From 1A

While U.S. President Donald Trump has said crude prices are "artificially Very High" and India faces calls for price caps on gasoline and diesel, a truckers strike over surging fuel costs in Brazil culminated with the resignation of the state oil company's CEO on Friday.

Hedge funds reduced their WTI net-long position — the difference between bets on a price increase and wagers on a drop — by 14 percent to 324,235 futures and options during the week ended May 29, according to the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Leaps did 10 percent, while shorts jumped 29 percent to the highest level since November. Total positioning on WTI is the lowest since last July.

Meanwhile in the U.S., bottlenecks in key shale plays such as the Permian Basin are keeping record-

breaking levels of output trapped. ConocoPhillips, the world's biggest independent oil explorer, even suggested it may shift some spending away from the area until its transport issues are resolved. On top of that, U.S. government data hasn't shown the usual sweep of crude inventory declines that's typical of the key gasoline-making season.

"If you're going to take a long position here, you have to be betting on inventory draws and no political action designed to lower crude prices," said Bill O'Grady, chief market strategist at Confluence Investment Management in St. Louis. In the U.S., "as the technology improves, you run the risk of driving down that break-even price. Now OPEC is facing the problem, if we really want to choke off American production, how low does the price have to go?"

Gas glut in Permian sparks dilemma over how much to burn

By Ryan Collins
Bloomberg

Texas is facing a burning question that's pitting the state's economy against its environment, and oil drillers against each other.

With natural gas pipelines in the Permian Basin reaching 98 percent of capacity, Texas is weighing whether to keep intact or loosen strict state regulations that limit flaring, the process used by drillers to burn off excess gas pumped up along with their oil. Now the limit for individual wells is 45 days. After that, without a rare-granted exemption, the gas must be piped away or the well must close.

Shut wells mean less revenue for companies and the state at a time when oil prices and production are surging while regional gas prices are in a tailspin. Ending or expanding the cap solves the problem. But it also gives drillers that haven't paid for space on existing pipes a competitive edge over those that have, and could spark environmental protests.

"This is not a simple thing we're talking about," said Ryan Sitton of the Texas Railroad Commission, which oversees the oilfields. "It'd be a pretty big policy shift and we want to be very thoughtful about what the ramifications could be."

Sitton said he's meeting with producers across the Permian, and hopes to have a decision within six months, when he believes the dilemma will come to a head.

Multiple gas pipelines criss-cross the Permian, with a total capacity of 8.1 billion cubic feet a day. But as the price of crude has risen, so has production, growing 25 percent in the last year. The gas associated with that boom has filled up all but two percent of pipeline capacity as of the end of April, according to RBN Energy, and Rystad Energy suggests oil output may grow 10 percent more by the end of 2018.

Natural gas prices in the Permian, meanwhile, are the cheapest in the

nation.

Spot prices at the Waha hub in West Texas were down 49 percent this year to \$2.03 per million British thermal units as of 4:24 p.m. on June 1, according to the Bloomberg assessment. Meanwhile, spot gas at the Henry Hub in Louisiana, the U.S. benchmark, gained 1.4 percent over the same period to \$2.93.

The region is "ground zero for the oversupply caused by associated gas production," said John Kilduff, a partner at Again Capital in New York, by email. If oil output continues to boom, gas prices "could certainly go to zero."

There's relief on the way, with as much as 10.5 billion cubic feet a day of gas pipelines proposed or being built. But the bulk of it won't arrive until late next year or in 2020.

In the meantime, changing the rules could affect different constituencies in different ways.

Drillers like Centennial Resource Development Inc., for instance, have paid upfront to guarantee room on existing pipelines, assuming that the current limits wouldn't be dramatically altered.

"We are operating under the assumption that the Texas Railroad Commission will not allow us or the industry to flare gas for an extended period when takeaway capacity is full," said Sean Smith, Centennial's chief operating officer, during the company's first-quarter earnings call with analysts.

Concern that extended flaring could punish companies already heavily invested in the last space on existing lines is key to the railroad commission, according to Sitton.

"How do we do something that is fair and equitable for all producers so that we are not having an artificial market impact?" he said.

Going hand-in-hand with the financial questions are those revolving around air quality. Flaring releases toxic compounds like cancer-causing benzene and matter linked to respiratory illnesses, according to the

Environmental Defense Fund, which is against increasing the duration.

Suzanne Franklin, 67, and her husband, James, can see 17 flares breathing fire into the sky from the front porch of their ranch in Reeves County. The visible pollution has definitely impacted their life. "We used to go out and look up at the stars," she said. "Now, you don't see any stars."

She believes the flaring has affected her breathing. Since the first flare was lit up about a year ago, her doctor has put her on three different medicines "just to breath right."

Seven counties in the region already rank in the top 10 nationwide for childhood asthma attacks, according to the Clean Air Task Force. More flaring could increase that standing, according to Colin Leyden, the fund's senior manager of regulatory and legislative affairs.

To this point, no increase in flaring has been needed. In the last year, the number of permits have decreased, falling to 194 in April from 217 during the same month in 2016, according to data from the railroad commission.

But even with the number of permits down, the amount of natural gas consumed by flaring is probably up, with wells more productive than they were even six months ago, said Artem Abramov, vice president of shale analysis at Rystad Energy, by telephone.

Texas now flares about 3 percent of the gas produced. Matt Portillo, analyst at Tudor Pickering Holt & Co., said that could rise as much as five times higher in the next year.

Sitton disagrees. A primary role for the railroad commission "is to prevent waste," he said. "If you believe that waste is not dollar waste, but the waste of the hydrocarbon molecule, then we have to be very judicious about when we grant flaring exemptions. Those are the questions that we are trying to get our heads around."

Trump calls off Eagles visit over national anthem dispute

By Jill Colvin
and Errin Haines
Whack
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Digging deeper into a culture war that he's repeatedly stoked, President Donald Trump on Monday called off a visit by the Philadelphia Eagles to the White House Tuesday, citing the dispute over whether NFL players must stand during the playing of the national anthem.

Trump said in a statement that some members of the Super Bowl championship team "disagree with their President because he insists that they proudly stand for the National Anthem, hand on heart, in honor of the great men and women of our military and the people of our country."

He said the team wanted to send a smaller delegation, but "the 1,000 fans planning to attend the event deserve better."

Instead, Trump said he would be hosting "a different type of ceremony," featuring



Frank Franklin II/Associated Press

In this Feb. 4 photo, Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz, right, hands the Vince Lombardi trophy to Nick Foles after winning Super Bowl LI against the New England Patriots in Minneapolis. The Eagles won 41-33.

the United States Marine Band and the United States Army Chorus, that "will honor our great country, pay tribute to the heroes who fight to protect it, and loudly and proudly play the National Anthem."

It remains unclear exactly what prompted the change of plans. The White House did not immediately respond to questions about what had sparked the decision and why the circumstances were

different from other events honoring winning teams, which some players have boycotted. The team did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

But wide receiver Torrey Smith, who said previously that he planned to skip the visit, responded with a series of tweets.

"So many lies," he wrote, adding, "Not many people were going to go."

Smith, who played on the Super Bowl-winning Philadelphia team before being traded to the Carolina Panthers in March, added: "No one refused to go simply because Trump 'insists' folks stand for the anthem. ... The President continues to spread the false narrative that players are anti military."

He went on: "There are a lot of people on the team that have plenty of different views. The men and women that wanted to go should've been able to go. It's a cowardly act to cancel the celebration because the majority of the people don't want to see you. To make it about the anthem is foolish."

The announcement was the latest signal that tensions remain high around the NFL protests that began in 2016 when San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick began kneeling on the sidelines while the anthem played. Kaepernick's protest was an effort to raise awareness around systemic racism and, specifically, the killing of black men by police.

Energy chief defends Trump directive on coal, nuclear plants

By Matthew Daly
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Energy Secretary Rick Perry on Monday defended President Donald Trump's call to bolster struggling coal-fired and nuclear power plants, saying a rash of plant retirements is "alarming" and poses a looming crisis for the nation's power grid.

Experts disagree and say Trump is attempting to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

In a speech in Austin, Perry said coal and nuclear plants "are retiring at an alarming rate that, if unchecked, will threaten our ability to recover from intentional attacks and natural disasters."

"The president is right to view grid resilience as a serious national security issue," Perry said at a conference on cybersecurity. He's taking steps as directed by Trump to keep coal and nuclear plants open.

A regional transmission organization that oversees the power grid in 13 Eastern and Midwestern states said there's no immediate threat to system reliability. Pennsylvania-based PJM Interconnection said Trump's proposal to force electricity sales from coal and nuclear plants would damage markets and be "costly to consumers."

"There is no need for any such drastic action," the group said, calling the electrical grid in a region that stretches from Illinois to Virginia "more reliable than ever, with 23 percent reserve and billions of dollars of new investment" in a range of power

sources.

John Hughes, president and CEO of the Electricity Consumers Resource Council, an association of large industrial electricity users, said Trump's proposal would "devastate U.S. manufacturing" and destroy competitive wholesale electricity markets.

"Fuel security and resilience are phony issues," Hughes said, calling concerns about national security a "pretext" that allows the federal government "to pick winners and losers in the energy markets" by propping up uneconomic power plants that have struggled to compete against cheap, abundant natural gas and renewable energy such as wind and solar power.

David Hayes, executive director of the State Energy & Environmental Impact Center at NYU Law School, said there's no legal basis for Perry to declare a grid emergency based on coal plant retirements.

Hayes, a former deputy interior secretary under President Barack Obama, said, "It would be a fool's errand for the Department of Energy to try to concoct a national security argument as a solution to a problem that does not exist."

Rep. Dan Beyer, D-Va., used similar language, saying Trump's directive was unjustified.

"Donald Trump is planning up a fake grid emergency to bail out donors in the coal industry while ignoring a real grid emergency that has killed thousands of Americans in Puerto Rico," Beyer said, citing a recent report that more than 4,000 people may have died in Puerto Rico

in the wake of Hurricane Maria, a significantly higher death toll than previously estimated.

Beyer called Trump's directive "blatantly corrupt" and said the president was acting on behalf of coal industry executives such as Murray Energy CEO Robert Murray and others who made major donations to Trump's presidential campaign.

Murray and other coal executives were being "rewarded" for their investment in Trump, Beyer said.

Trump on Friday directed Perry to take "immediate steps" to bolster struggling coal-fired and nuclear power plants to keep them open, calling it a matter of national and economic security.

Trump, who has frequently promised to bring back coal jobs, believes that impending retirements of coal and nuclear plants are harming the nation's electric grid and reducing its resilience, the White House said.

The president wants immediate action "to stop the loss of these resources," White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said.

A plan being considered by the Energy Department would direct PJM and other regional transmission operators to buy power from coal and nuclear plants for two years to ensure grid reliability while promoting national defense and maximizing domestic energy supplies, the Energy Department said in a draft memo.

If enacted, the action would represent an unprecedented intervention into U.S. energy markets.

The seven-letter word for money at the Times: puzzles

By Gerry Smith
Bloomberg

The New York Times' online puzzle offering has surpassed 400,000 paying subscribers, roughly double the number from two years ago.

In June 2016, the Times had 212,000 online crossword subscribers. Last June, it had 306,000, according to the company. The paper stopped breaking out the number in quarterly results last year.

"It's been a really great growth trajectory," Eric von Coeln, the newspaper's executive director of puzzles, said in an interview.

The puzzles are part of the Times' push to rely more on subscriptions and less on advertising, which is increasingly dominated by Facebook and Google. Subscription revenue accounted for almost two-thirds of the Times' revenue last quarter.

A crossword subscription costs \$6.95 a month or \$39.95 a year and includes online access to a daily puzzle, 24 years of archives and the ability to save work on one device and resume it on another. More expensive Times subscriptions include access to the puzzles, but about 60 percent of crossword subscribers don't pay for the Times' news product.

Puzzles are still a small

part of Times' overall business. In the first quarter, subscription sales from the crossword and cooking products totaled \$4.84 million, a fraction of the company's \$414 million in overall revenue.

The Times had 2.33 million digital news subscribers at the end of the last quarter, while Crossword and Cooking products had 453,000.

The crossword growth is due largely to the offering on Android devices, miniature puzzles — like a grid of 9 by 9 — and new games, such as Spelling Bee, which asks players to spell words from a collection of letters.

While many games are computer-generated these days, Times' puzzles are created by hand by several people. The team includes Will Shortz, the closest thing to a crossword celebrity, who has edited puzzles at the newspaper since 1993. Anyone can submit a puzzle to the Times, which gets between 70 and 80 submissions a week from the public. Last year, an 11-year-old had a puzzle accepted.

Von Coeln said solving a crossword puzzle is a better use of time while waiting on a subway platform than scrolling through Instagram or Facebook.

"You may not be able to solve everything in your life," he said, "but this is something you can."

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Who doesn't love the plush, cushiony feel of carpet? See the latest at Southwest Floors!

Hard floors sure have their place in this world. Kitchens, baths, hallways, they're great. But they're always going to be—well, hard! In the part of the house where you really live—bedrooms, informal living, TV/game rooms— isn't it great to have a floor you can squish your toes into? Where you can stretch out and binge-watch Gilmore Girls or Grey's Anatomy? Or where you can get on the floor and play with the kids or grandkids? These are some of

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for a game room or TV room. It's all there!

See—and feel—the soft warmth and comfort of Dreamweaver carpet at Southwest Floors this week!

Southwest Floors was opened by Robert Burton in 1990. They carry a wide selection of carpet, tile, wood and vinyl tile flooring. The address is 1113 Andrews Highway, next to McDonald's. The phone number is 689-9312. Store hours are 9-5:30 Monday through Friday and 10-1 Saturday. They accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover.

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STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

DALLAS 5 injured when gunman opens fire at football game

Police say five people were shot and wounded when a man drove a moped onto a football field in Dallas and opened fire on spectators as a game was being played.

Authorities say several people in the crowd returned fire at the unidentified man Sunday evening.

Deputy police Chief Thomas Castro said Monday that two women are in critical condition and another woman and two men are in stable condition. One of the women was pregnant.

The man on the moped escaped and is being sought. Police have released no information on the gunman's motive.

VICTORIA Mosque welcomes members of church damaged by car crash

A Texas mosque that was destroyed by a fire last year is opening its doors to a Unitarian congregation that lost its place of worship after a car crashed into the church.

The Victoria Islamic Center offered its worship space Sunday to about 30 members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Victoria, the Victoria Advocate reported. A vehicle barreled through the church on May 29. No one was injured.

"You can use this place as long as you want — as many Sundays as you wish," Abi Ajami, the Islamic center's treasurer, told the churchgoers Sunday. "When you're finished, just turn out the lights."

The mosque itself is under construction after being burned down last year. Federal prosecutors have accused Many Vincent Perez of starting the fire that destroyed the Victoria mosque, located about 125 miles southwest of Houston. Perez is charged with a hate crime.

Area churches, including the Unitarian Universalist Church, offered worship space to the Islamic center after the fire.

The Unitarians will use an auxiliary building at the

Islamic center for several months as they decide whether to relocate or rebuild, said Manuel Zamora, the church's president.

RICHARDSON Church's 'dangerous isms' include Judaism, Islamism

A Dallas-area church recently distributed flyers advertising a series of weekly seminars it plans to host condemning "dangerous isms" like Judaism, Islamism and liberalism.

Greenview Avenue Church of Christ in Richardson says in the flyers that the Wednesday seminars, being held through August, will "provide a proper response for the Christian."

Pulpit minister Shelton Gibbs III told The Dallas Morning News that while the wording used in advertising could have been better, other faiths are a counter to God's order to follow Jesus Christ.

The flyers prompted a social media backlash but Gibbs said the predominantly African-American church doesn't mean to condemn others.

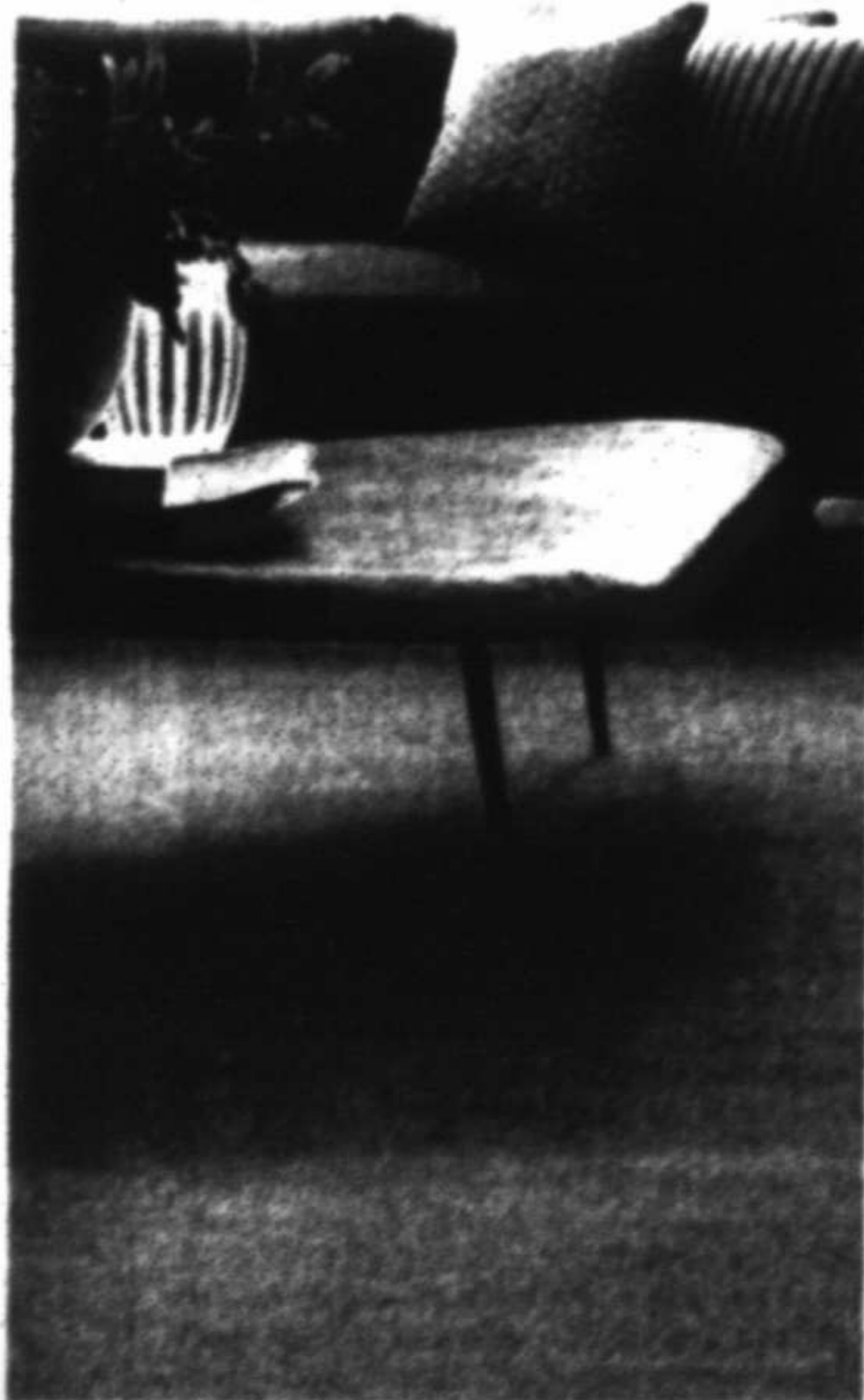
"We're not here to criticize or be antagonistic toward people and to beat them down," he told the newspaper. "There's no threat. The people in the community should not feel a threat."

Atheism, alcoholism and "emotionalism" are some of the other seminar topics. Gibbs said topics such as racism or sexism won't be discussed because "there are only so many Wednesdays in a summer."

The church will be more careful of phrasing when promoting future events, he said.

"We're living in an age where every word means something, and you have to be very careful about the words that you use," Gibbs said. "And I think going forward, I'm sure we'll be able to phrase it where people are drawn in, and not that we have somehow marginalized them and caused them to fear."

Church leadership was scheduled to meet Sunday night to discuss the backlash. Gibbs did not return a phone message from The Associated Press to speak on any outcome from the meeting.



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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, June 5, 2018 | Page 6A

Today's culture battles play to a stalemate

The last time I wrote about Samantha Bee it was the summer of 2016. Hillary Clinton seemed likely to be the next president of the United States, and liberals were very angry at Bee's fellow late-night host, Jimmy Fallon, for normalizing Donald Trump with a relatively friendly interview.

In response, I suggested that Bee and her fellow late-night liberal shouters were actually doing more for the Republican nominee than was Fallon, because Trump's appeal was in part a reaction to a pervasive late-Obama-era politicization of pop culture — which was encouraging Republican voting as a form of cultural protest, and Trump voting as an act of transgressive rebellion.

Many times since the 2016 election, but in the last few weeks especially, I feel like I've been cursed to live inside an exaggerated version of my own analysis. I thought I was just describing how trends in pop culture can shape politics, but the Trump presidency has demonstrated that when the unemployment rate is low enough and the ruling party's policy cupboard bare enough, entertainment can simply become politics and vice versa. Forget about culture war; this is the age of pop culture war, a version of "We Didn't Start the Fire" with all the Cold War substance taken out.

Kanye's red-pill, Kim's with Trump. D'Souza's pardoned, Bee's not damped. Roseanne's tweets and football wars. I can't take it any more ...

ROSS DOU THAT

New York Times News Service



In part that's because Trump himself is entirely a creature of the celebrity-entertainment complex; this is the game he's always played and he has no interest in playing any other. Past Republican politicians exploited the gulf between Hollywood and Middle America in order to pursue specific policy agendas, or fought with celebrities over specific issues — Vietnam with Jane Fonda, out-of-wedlock births with "Murphy Brown." But for Trump, fighting with late-night hosts and pro athletes is an end unto itself; people in his administration have substantive goals, but to the president ratings and faves and cancellations and boycotts are the real way that you keep score.

But it's too simple to blame Trump when so many of his supporters clearly love this style. Having lost so many cultural battles, the right has developed a desperate attraction to celebrity ephemera, confusing an epiphenomenon of progressivism's cultural advantage — the fact that most famous artists and actors are left-wing — with the institutional advan-

tage itself.

So conservatives stupidly place hopes in a right-wing Kanye or a Trump-friendly Roseanne Barr. They convince themselves that celebrity provocateurs will make America's campuses more conservative. They make a cynical, race-baiting, adulterous campaign-finance fraudster like Dinesh D'Souza a rich man after he abandons an intellectual career for a Michael Moore-imitating grift — and then cheer when Trump pardons D'Souza because it owns the libs.

All of this reflects a deep confusion about how liberal cultural power actually works. It's the steady circulation of ideas and money and people through cultural institutions that really matter, not the famous faces popping off on Oscar telecasts.

But the same confusion is on display among liberal culture makers themselves, who have reacted to Trump's defeat by leaning into their most self-defeating instincts. Cultural liberalism wins battles when its omnipresence just seems like the natural air we breathe. But direct political hectoring plays against that strength; instead of the subtle nudge of a sitcom's implicit values it's just a rich and famous person yelling at you, in a way designed to maximize ratings among progressives looking for catharsis.

And the fact that the business model runs on those ratings means that even if Samantha Bee wanted to preach to someone other than her choir, her imperatives

as an entertainer require constant milder variations on calling Ivanka Trump the c-word ... because for her viewers that's what makes it entertainment.

Which, for ratings purposes, is fine. (Although the economics work less well when you start insisting that lousy-but-woke movies are actually good because online right-wingers hate them ... sorry, I digress.) But all the entertainers "owning" Trump are playing the same game that carried him to power, and that might keep him there despite all the reasons he deserves to fall.

Interestingly the only celebrity in this week's "We Didn't Start the Fire" verse who wasn't obviously playing into this dynamic was La Kardashian herself. Her trip to the White House to pitch Trump on sentencing reform was widely mocked, but as stunts go it had a plausible logic. If you want this president to do something for the common good, why not try to convince him that it might help him notch a win on his celebrity scorecard? Quid pro quo: He gets to break the internet with a photo-op, you get his signature on a pardon or a piece of convict-friendly legislation.

Of course, the next day Trump didn't pardon the woman Kim was championing; he pardoned D'Souza. Which suggests the limits of his own imagination. He's like the late-night liberals, all base-pleasing tactics and no strategy, content to wage a pop culture war that's stuck, for now, in stalemate.

OUR VIEW

Outsider's perspective of Midland doesn't bode well for future

"Companies, needing workers, find West Texas a hard sell." That was the headline of the Houston Chronicle story that showed from its perspective what will be the dominant issue of the next 24 to 36 months in our community — the inability to staff.

Our community doesn't have the housing, the quality schools and the infrastructure to support companies looking to hire.

We wrote previously in this space that this was a failure of the community that got us to this point. We were challenged about what we could have been done differently. The answer to that is priorities. When we choose to incentivize downtown over development, there is an issue. When we choose to prioritize parks over apartments, there is an issue. When we choose to stay with ineffective education leaders, there is an issue.

The Chronicle story told us this isn't a boom in which Midlanders can take advantage of economic woes elsewhere. That's just not the case. Texas isn't the nation's economic miracle anymore. If the latest Bureau of Labor Statistics are accurate, our state's economic growth is middle-of-the-road.

We are behind as large of an eight ball as we can remember, with no hope in sight. There are no projects to rectify our housing and infrastructure needs as Wes Perry captained years ago with improving the city's water supply. We had hoped the Permian Strategic Partnership formed earlier this year would shed some light on the roadmap, but those findings haven't been made public. So, this community is in the dark about what's next.

We remain hopeful that the plan for the next three to five years is better than "there's just not much we can do." We know the politics of the day are trending toward erring on the side of the status quo, mainly because the younger adults in our community — Midland's newest contingent — have decided to sit out election after election.

That's not a recipe for improving the housing situation growing at a break-neck pace or fixing a public education system that is the reason for mile-long waitlists at the community's private schools.

In the Chronicle article, Jordan Blum wrote, "Of Texas" more than 1,030 school districts, Midland and Ector's counties rank outside of the top 850, according to Niche, a Pittsburgh company that rates schools based on test scores, college readiness, graduation rates and other criteria."

Blum's report hopefully will be a wake-up call for anyone interested.

"With the local supply of labor all but exhausted, energy companies are finding that recruiting workers ... to West Texas is a tough sell — one made all the harder by strong national and state economies that provide skilled workers with plenty of options elsewhere.

"Isolation is far from the only issue recruiters must overcome as they try to convince qualified candidates to relocate to West Texas. Housing in the region is in short supply and prices are soaring. Schools are crowded, understaffed and performing poorly. Health care is woefully short of doctors. Crumbling roads and highways are jam-packed with heavy trucks and traffic."

This is how Midland is seen from the outside, and we wish we could say we disagree.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

A Midland newspaper

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Alternatives make Trump easier to defend

■ To the extent Trump is a tyrant, it's mostly in what he says, not what he does

I am not a Republican. I did not vote for Donald Trump. I castigated him during the primaries, focused more on the outlandish alternative during the general election, but still hold him in low regard. The tweets, the mostly ignorant, buffoonish tweets, sum up the worst of him in my opinion, but what I wrote after the election was that he should give him a chance.

The opposite has occurred. Not only have critics overstated almost every flub he has made, governmental officials in the executive and judicial branches have shoved aside rule of law through felonious leaks, phony decisions and much more in trying to get him no matter what. Through such means, the left has illustrated repeatedly why it is twice the danger to our republic that he is.

It has in fact been a danger for some time. Consider the limp argument about Trump's supposed autocracy and then compare him to President Barack Obama. To the extent Trump is a tyrant, it's mostly in what he says, not what he does, as in references to "fake news" supposedly ruinous to our press.

Obama was a man of action. His administration actually spied on reporters. It threatened them with jail if they did not reveal sources. It set a record in refusing to release government information requested by citizens. And his verbal jabs at Fox News were just as vicious as Trump's jabs at the New York Times and CNN. By the way, CNN did have three reporters resign after an inaccurate story about a Trump adviser having a secret meeting with an official of a Russian investment fund.

Other examples of Obama autocracy? His administration set records for major, costly regulations that stymie business and reduce your freedoms even if some do some good. His Clean Power Plan would have dictated to states that they had to get rid of certain laws. His education department told colleges and universities they must abandon due process for any male accused of sexual harassment. He granted legal status to illegal immigrants after saying some 20 times it would be unconstitutional to do so. He unilaterally rewrote laws. He refused to enforce others.

JAY AMBROSE

Tribune News Services



He also skipped the constitutional requirement of having the Senate vote on treaties, thereby making them mere executive orders that Trump could reverse, and fortunately has in the case of Iran. As sure as anything, an enriched Iran is still pursuing nuclear armament and Middle East hegemony. The Obama philosophy was to ask for little, to get less and then to declare the United States a winner.

Trump is said to have done nothing good, but even with its faults, the GOP tax reform was maybe the single biggest gift to working- and middle-class Americans in decades, and that includes minorities. After the worst recovery since World War II, much had been trending in the right direction, but here was a mighty push we would not have had under Hillary Clinton.

At the same time, I do believe Trump's international trade games could be economically ruinous and his casualness about the debt is enough to make one shiver. I believe in border security but think the idea of a wall is overkill.

Trump can still be less a threat than the Democrats and I defend him when I think he is, thereby earning downright trashy, hateful emails along with a few thoughtful ones. Even many of the supposed intellectuals out there seem to think any defense of Trump at all puts you in a basket of deplorables.

All of this along with what we see from activists pretty well sums up how many Trump opponents are dogmatically sure of themselves, as shorn of norms as he is and disrespectful of their national inheritance. Following good luck in midterm elections and his impeachment, the hope is to enforce more semi-socialist, liberty-imperiling central planning.

They make me want to defend Trump all the more.

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From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Can Trump pardon himself? Not if he's impeached

By Anne Flaherty
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump once joked he could “stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody” and not lose voter support. The quip was intended as hyperbole to make a point on the loyalty of his base.

Now, Trump says, he has the power to keep himself out of jail if he wanted, declaring an “absolute right to PARDON myself.” This time though, it seems, he isn't joking.

But there is a big limit in the world of presidential pardons: Impeachment.

A look at what's true and what's not when it comes to presidential pardons: **SO PRESIDENTS GET TO DO WHAT EXACTLY?**

Under the Constitution, the president has the power to grant “reprieves and pardons” for federal (but not state) crimes, essentially wiping out a person's convictions. The power is, as Trump says, “absolute” in that pardons can't be overturned by Congress or the courts.

Almost every president has used his pardon powers, but somewhat narrowly — focusing on overturning cases when they believe a severe injustice has been done or is needed to heal partisan rifts. President Andrew Johnson, for example, granted blanket pardons to soldiers who fought in the Confederate Army as a practical way of reuniting the nation following the Civil War. And President Gerald Ford in 1974 pardoned his predecessor, Richard Nixon, for all federal crimes Nixon “has committed or may have committed or taken part in” during his presidency, on the grounds that the nation had become too “polarized” and needed to move past the Watergate scandal.

THE BIG EXCEPTION

There is one notable exception to a president's pardoning powers Trump doesn't mention: Cases of impeachment. Under the U.S. system of checks and balances, Congress can hold presidents accountable by ousting them using impeachment trials. Only two presidents have been impeached by the House, although both were acquitted by the Senate: Johnson in 1868 after he clashed with Congress over reconstruction of the South and Bill Clinton in 1998 on charges of lying under oath and obstructing justice in his sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

(Nixon avoided impeachment by resigning before the House could vote.)

The bottom line is that Trump retains his pardoning powers up until a possible impeachment. And considering that impeachment trials tend to be wildly partisan affairs, it is unlikely Trump would be ousted so long as the GOP still controls the House and Senate.

PARDONS AS A POLITICAL WEAPON

A person doesn't have to be convicted for a pardon to take place. That was the case in the Iran-Contra scandal, which involved the secret sales of weapons overseas by the Reagan administration.

By the time the chief prosecutor in the case was prepared to present

evidence of a high-level cover-up in court, President George H.W. Bush blocked the prosecution of several central figures using his pardoning power. The pardons infuriated the prosecutor, Lawrence Walsh, and the \$47 million resulted in only one person sent to prison.

Bush defended his pardons by saying “at the heart of this investigation was a political dispute between the executive and legislative branches over foreign policy. We must be careful not to criminalize constitutional disputes of this kind.”

Likewise, Trump could try to undercut the Russia investigation by pardoning anyone charged by special counsel Robert Mueller. Overall, 19 people have been charged in the investigation, including Trump's former campaign chair and national security adviser.

But such pardons could also trigger impeachment trials in Congress on the claim that Trump was trying to obstruct justice. But again, the outcome would likely probably fall on party lines.

COULD THE PRESIDENT PARDON HIMSELF?

So far, Trump has shown he's not afraid to pardon others he claims were unfair victims of partisanship. Among those include Joe Arpaio, the former Arizona sheriff who clashed with a judge on immigration, and I. Lewis “Scooter” Libby, the Bush administration official convicted of perjury and obstruction of justice in the Valerie Plame leak case.

But could Trump pardon himself? Not surprisingly, that particular scenario has never been tested in the courts.

Trump's lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, says it wouldn't happen anyway.

“Pardoning himself would be unthinkable and probably lead to immediate impeachment,” Giuliani told NBC's “Meet the Press” this weekend.

According to the website HuffPost, Giuliani said the president was completely immune from prosecution, and at one point offered this odd hypothetical:

“If he shot James Comey, he'd be impeached the next day,” he said. “Impeach him, and then you can do whatever you want to do to him.”

Comey is the former FBI director who was leading the Russia investigation when Trump fired him.

Bill Clinton bristles at questions on Lewinsky and #MeToo

By Anne Flaherty
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former President Bill Clinton says the #MeToo movement is overdue. Just don't ask him about Monica Lewinsky.

In an interview with NBC's “Today Show” released Monday, Clinton bristled at questions over whether he should have resigned 20 years ago over his sexual relationship with the White House intern and whether the #MeToo movement has changed his perspective.

At the same time, the former Democratic president claimed credit for empowering women in his orbit and disputed that he might owe Lewinsky a private apology, insisting his public televised apology was adequate.

Lewinsky wrote in March that their relationship “was not sexual assault” but “constituted a gross abuse of power.”

“I dealt with it 20 years ago, plus,” said Clinton. “And the American people, two-thirds of them stayed with me. And I've tried to do a good job since then, and with my life and with my work. That's all I have to say.”

Clinton is promoting his new fictional thriller, “The President Is Missing,” with best-selling author James Patterson.

In clips released from the interview, Clinton was at times both vague and combative in his answers, repeatedly blaming his critics and even the NBC interviewer for “omitting facts” by trying to lump him in with other men who have abused their positions of power to leverage sexual relationships.

Clinton said he was right not to resign. And while he said he supports the #MeToo movement, “I still have questions about some

of the decisions which have been made.”

Clinton said he doesn't think President Donald Trump has gotten a free pass, but that Trump's alleged exploits haven't “gotten anything like the coverage you would expect.” Trump has been accused by more than a dozen women of sexual misconduct and was caught on tape bragging about grabbing women's crotches.

On any parallels between the two presidents, Clinton said: “A lot of the facts have been conveniently omitted to make the story work. I think partly because (Trump's supporters) are frustrated that they got all these serious allegations against the current occupant in the Oval Office. And his donors don't seem to care.”

On not resigning, Clinton said: “I think I did the right thing. I defended the Constitution.”

Patterson joined Clinton for the NBC interview, and seemed equally surprised that Clinton would be asked about the Lewinsky scandal on his book tour. At one point, Patterson noted that other presidents, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, also were suspected of having extramarital affairs and that it was in the past.

“It's 20 years ago. Come on. Let's talk about JFK. Let's talk about you know, LBJ. Stop it already,” Patterson said.

In March, Lewinsky wrote in “Vanity Fair” of Clinton:

“He was my boss. He was the most powerful man on the planet. He was 27 years my senior, with enough life experience to know better. He was, at the time, at the pinnacle of his career, while I was in my first job out of college. (Note to the trolls, both Democratic and Republican: none of the above excuses me for my responsibility for what happened. I meet Regret every day.)”



This photo provided by Office of George H.W. Bush shows a photo of former President George H.W. Bush that has tweeted on Friday from his hospital bed while reading a book about himself and his late wife in Biddeford, Maine. The 41st president is 93 and is recovering in a Maine hospital after experiencing low blood pressure and fatigue.

George H.W. Bush released from Maine hospital

Associate Press

BIDDEFORD, Maine — Former President George H.W. Bush has left a Maine hospital after more than a week of treatment for low blood pressure and fatigue.

A Bush spokesman tweeted Monday that the president “deeply” appreciates the care and good wishes he has received. Spokesman Jim McGrath also told The Associated Press that Bush is “back to his old self” and looking forward to a summer with family and friends.

The 93-year-old Bush was admitted to the hospital on May 27 and was released Monday.

The 41st president posted a picture of himself Friday reading the book “George & Barbara Bush: A Great American Love Story.” Bush said the book is “a wonderful walk down memory lane.”

His wife, Barbara Bush, died in April at age 92. They had been married 73 years.

Melania Trump to host event after 24 days out of sight

By Darlene Super-ville
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After more than three weeks out of sight, Melania Trump at last has teed up an appearance at a White House event.

The first lady was scheduled to serve as co-host with the president at a White House reception Monday to honor the families of those killed during military service.

But the event is closed to the news media — meaning the first lady still was likely to only be seen in the flesh by those attending the private event. Others will have to wait for photos and video to hit social media.

It's the second year that the Trumps have opened the White House to Gold Star families.

The first lady said in a written statement after last June's event that these families “are a unique and distinct category of individuals who should be

cherished.” Mrs. Trump has not been seen in public since the overnight hours of May 10 when she and President Donald Trump traveled to a military base in Maryland to welcome home three Americans who had been released from

captivity in North Korea. Four days later, the White House announced that she had been hospitalized to treat a benign kidney condition.

The closest first lady parallel to Mrs. Trump's time out of the public spotlight is Bess Truman,

who did few events as first lady because of discomfort around the media, said Anita McBride, a veteran of three Republican administrations who last served as chief of staff to first lady Laura Bush. Mrs. Truman also spent a lot of time in Missouri with her mother.

DAILY PROMISE BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Psalm 42:11
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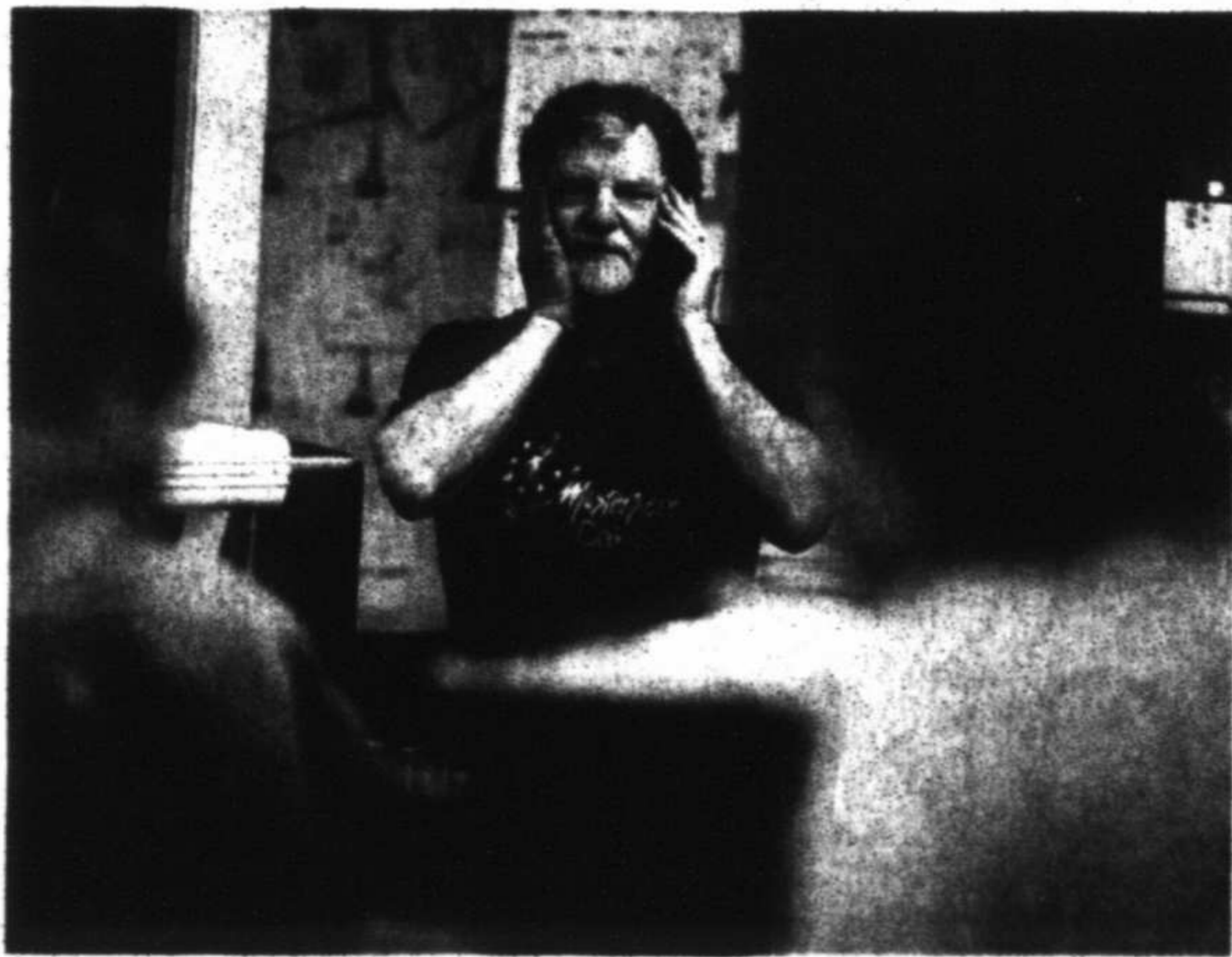
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David Zalubowski/Associated Press

Baker Jack Phillips, owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop, manages his shop Monday in Lakewood, Colo., after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that he could refuse to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple because of his religious beliefs did not violate Colorado's anti-discrimination law.

Justices side with Colorado baker on same-sex wedding cake

By Mark Sherman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled Monday for a Colorado baker who wouldn't make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple in a limited decision that leaves for another day the larger issue of whether a business can invoke religious objections to refuse service to gay and lesbian people.

The justices' decision turned on what the court described as anti-religious bias on the Colorado Civil Rights Commission when it ruled against baker Jack Phillips. The justices voted 7-2 that the commission violated Phillips' rights under the First Amendment.

The case had been eagerly anticipated as, variously, a potentially strong statement about the rights of LGBT people or the court's first ruling carving out exceptions to an anti-discrimination law. In the end, the decision was modest enough to attract the votes of liberal and conservative justices on a subject that had the potential for sharp division.

Justice Anthony Kennedy said in his majority opinion that the larger issue "must await further elaboration" in the courts. Appeals in similar cases are pending, including one at the Supreme Court from a florist who didn't want to provide flowers for a same-sex wedding.

The disputes, Kennedy wrote, "must be resolved with tolerance, without undue disrespect to sincere religious beliefs, and without subjecting gay persons to indignities when they seek goods and services in an open market."

The same-sex couple at the heart of the case, Charlie Craig and Dave Mullins, complained to the Colorado commission in 2012 after they visited Phillips' Masterpiece Cakeshop in suburban Denver and the baker quickly told them he would not create a cake for their wedding celebration. They were married in Massachusetts because same-sex marriage was not yet legal in Colorado.

Colorado law prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and the commission concluded that Phillips' refusal violated the law, despite Phillips' argument that he is opposed to same-sex marriage on religious grounds. Colorado state courts upheld the determination.

But when the justices heard arguments in December, Kennedy was plainly bothered by comments by a commission member that the justice said disparaged religion. The commissioner seemed "neither tolerant nor respectful of Mr. Phillips' religious beliefs," Kennedy said in December.

That same sentiment coursed through his opinion on Monday. "The commission's hostility was inconsistent with the First Amendment's guarantee that our laws be applied in a manner that is neutral toward religion," he wrote.

Liberal justices Stephen Breyer and Elena Kagan joined the conservative justices in the outcome. Kagan wrote separately to emphasize the limited ruling.

Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor dissented. "There is much in the court's opinion with which I agree," Ginsburg wrote of Kennedy's repeated references to protecting the rights of gay people. "I strongly disagree, however, with the court's conclusion that Craig and Mullins should lose this case."

The Trump administration intervened in the case on Phillips' behalf, and Attorney General Jeff Sessions praised the decision. "The First Amendment prohibits governments from discriminating against citizens on the basis of religious beliefs. The Supreme Court rightly concluded that the Colorado Civil Rights Commission failed to show tolerance and respect for Mr. Phillips' religious beliefs," Sessions said.

Kristen Waggoner, the Alliance Defending Freedom senior counsel who argued Phillips' case, said the court was right to condemn the commission's open antagonism toward Phillips' religious beliefs about marriage.

Waggoner said Phillips is willing to sell ready-made products to anyone who enters his store. But, "he simply declines to express messages or celebrate events that violate his deeply held beliefs," she said.

Phillips was at his shop Monday morning, where he was busy answering the phone and getting congratulations from his supporters in person, including his pastor. One woman brought him balloons and others hugged him.

The American Civil Liberties Union, which represented the couple in its legal fight, said it was pleased the court did not endorse a broad religion-based exemption from anti-discrimination laws.

"We read this decision as a reaffirmation of the court's longstanding commitment to civil rights protections and the reality that the states have the power to protect everyone in America from discrimination, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people," said James Esseks, director of the ACLU LGBT & HIV Project.

Waggoner and Esseks disagreed about the ruling's effect on Phillips' wedding cake business. Waggoner said her client can resume his refusal to make cakes for same-sex marriages without fear of a new legal fight. But Esseks said that if another same-sex couple were to ask Phillips for a wedding cake, "I see no reason in this opinion that Masterpiece Cakeshop is free to turn them away."

Several other legal disputes are pending over wedding services, similar to the Phillips case. In addition to florists, video producers and graphic artists are among business owners who say they oppose same-sex marriage on religious grounds and don't want to participate in same-sex weddings.

Barronelle Stutzman, a florist in Richland, Washington, has appealed a state Supreme Court ruling that found she violated state law for refusing to provide the wedding flowers for two men who were about to be married.

The justices could decide what to do with that appeal by the end of June.

High court rules in dispute over immigrant teen's abortion

By Jessica Gresko
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled Monday in a case about a pregnant immigrant teen who obtained an abortion with the help of the ACLU, siding with the Trump administration and wiping away a lower court decision for the teen but rejecting a suggestion her lawyers should be disciplined.

The decision is about the teen's individual case and doesn't affect an ongoing class-action case about the ability of immigrant teens in government custody to obtain abortions. The justices ruled in an unsigned opinion that vacating a lower court decision in favor of the teen, who had been in government custody after entering the country illegally, was the proper course because the case became moot after she obtained an abortion.

Government lawyers had complained to the Supreme Court that attorneys for the American Civil Liberties Union didn't alert them that the teen's abortion would take place earlier than expected. The administration said that deprived its lawyers of the chance to ask the Supreme Court to block the procedure, at least temporarily. The Trump administration told the court that discipline might be warranted against the teen's attorneys. The ACLU said its lawyers did nothing wrong.

The Supreme Court said it took the government's allegations "seriously" but the court declined to wade into the finger-pointing between the sides.

"Especially in fast-paced, emergency proceedings like those at issue here, it is critical that lawyers and courts alike be able to rely on one another's representations. On the other hand, lawyers also have ethical obligations to their clients and not all communications breakdowns constitute

misconduct," the justices wrote in a 5-page opinion, adding that the court "need not delve into the factual disputes raised by the parties" in order to vacate the decision for the teen.

David Cole, national legal director of the ACLU, said in a statement that the organization was "gratified that the court rejected this extraordinary request" for sanctions. He said the "ACLU did what lawyers are supposed to do, namely, pursue the best interests of our clients."

Department of Justice spokeswoman Kerri Kupec said in a statement that the department was pleased with the decision. "The Supreme Court has repeatedly made clear that the federal government is not required to facilitate abortions for minors and may choose policies favoring life over abortion. We look forward to continuing to press the government's interest in the sanctity of life," she said.

The teen at the center of the case entered the U.S. illegally in September as a 17-year-old and was taken to a federally funded shelter in Texas for minors who enter the country without their parents. The unnamed teen, referred to as Jane Doe, learned while in custody that she was pregnant and sought an abortion. A state court gave her permission, but federal officials — citing a policy of refusing to facilitate abortions for pregnant minors in its shelters — refused to transport her or temporarily release her so that others could take her for the procedure.

The ACLU helped the teen sue the Trump administration, and after a federal appeals court sided with her, the government was preparing to ask the Supreme Court to step in and block the procedure, at least temporarily.

But the teen, allowed out of the shelter by court

order, had an abortion first, about 12 hours after a court gave her the go-ahead. In response, the Trump administration, in a highly unusual filing with the Supreme Court, cried foul. The ACLU has defended its attorneys' actions, saying government lawyers made assumptions about the timing of the teen's abortion.

Even though Jane Doe was able to get an abortion, the lawsuit that began with her has continued and could return to the Supreme Court at some point. Scott Lloyd, the director of the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement, which oversees shelters for unaccompanied immigrant minors, has said he believes teens in his agency's care have no constitutional right to abortion.

And since the Jane Doe case was filed, several other pregnant teens in his agency's care have come forward seeking abortions and been represented by the ACLU. In two cases, the young women were released from custody and able to seek the procedure on their own while in another case the teen, a 17-year-old rape victim, got a court order allowing her to obtain an abortion and the government stopped attempting to block the procedure.

In March, following a request from the ACLU, a judge barred the Trump administration from interfering with the ability of any pregnant immigrant teens in its custody to obtain abortions while a class action lawsuit against the administration goes forward.

U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan ordered the Trump administration to post notices in government-run shelters that tell pregnant women that they have a right to decide whether to have the baby or to end their pregnancy. The government is appealing.

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DANA TERELESSY

FASKEN ELEMENTARY

Grade Kindergarten

Number of years with Midland ISD:
20 years

Favorite moment in the classroom:
In the fall, my favorite moment is when my kindergartners start writing sentences on their own. In the spring, I love when we study life cycles and my students raise ducks and chicks. The responses my students have as they watch the chicks and ducks hatch out of their eggs are amazing. I love when they hold a caterpillar for the first time and then soon after watch the caterpillar emerge from a chrysalis, as a butterfly. These are the best teaching moments!

Why did you choose a career in education?

My degree was in Psychology and I always loved working with children. So, I decided to become a teacher. It was the best choice I ever made! I love teaching!

How have you moved beyond the basic curriculum and found innovative ways to reach your students?

I like to involve my students in their learning by playing games to reinforce math concepts. My literacy stations are hands-on and allow the students to manipulate objects to practice literacy skills.

What is the one lesson you want to impart to every student who enters your classroom?

I teach students to treat others the way you want to be treated and to respect each other's differences and feelings. I want them to love school and all the learning opportunities school gives them.

How do you inspire your peers, colleagues and others aiming to make a difference in Midland ISD?

I like to be the best I can be in the classroom for my students and to plan lessons that are meaningful and have a purpose. Most importantly, to show love and patience to all students, even when it can be difficult.

What are your professional goals for the future?

To continue learning

What is the greatest challenge to being an educator in Midland today?

A big challenge is to not let yourself become overwhelmed with all the programs and resources provided by Midland ISD.

What support can Midlanders provide you and other educators?

Please visit Donor's Choose and find a Midland teacher with a project and donate to that classroom. Teachers spend so much of their own money on their classroom, donating on donorschoose.org is an excellent way to show appreciation to teachers.

About Dana Terebessy

Mrs. Terebessy is a dedicated educator who will always go above and beyond to engage her students in meaningful learning. She forms strong relationships and is able to pull the best out of every student she teaches. She inspires students to be independent and maximize their time in the classroom. The connections students are able to make in Mrs. Terebessy's classroom will last a lifetime!

Lina Balsa, Fasken principal

TO THE READER

The Midland Development Corp. has partnered with the Reporter-Telegram to honor teachers and other district officials who make a difference in students' lives. The MDC, as part of its commitment to education, will sponsor this series that will appear every Tuesday on the front of the Education section. Midland ISD and campus leaders will help with the selection of those honored. The MDC and Reporter-Telegram thank Midland ISD for its help with Educator Honor Roll.



MIDLAND DEVELOPMENT CORP.

200 N. Lamar Street, Ste. 600

Midland, Texas

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432.686.3579

CLASS OF 2018

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GREENWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

PHOTOS BY TIM FISCHER | REPORTER-TELEGRAM

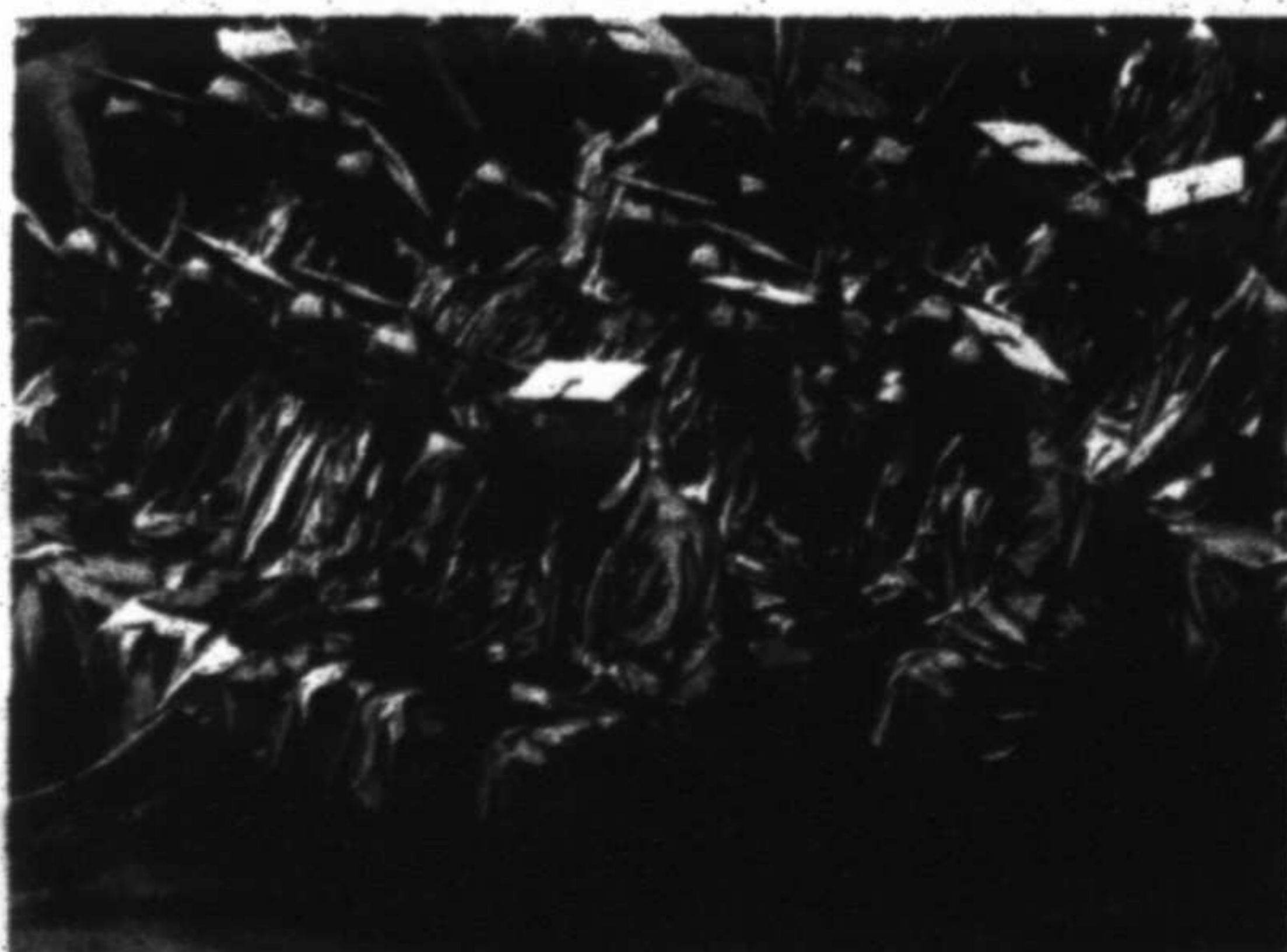
Greenwood High School graduation was May 24 at Chaparral Center.

Lillian Adair
 Dariana Aguirre-Franco
 Cade Allen
 Cory Alston
 Emeli Alvarez-Montes
 Krista Arnold
 Edith Baeza
 Alia Balderas
 Rachel Barner
 Troyshownta Barnett
 Colt Bennett
 Alondra Borrego-Ortiz
 Taylor Bostic
 Cade Bracey
 Chelsi Builta
 Isaiah Bustamante
 Mackenzie Butts
 Regina Cadena
 Mark C Cantu Jr.
 Lizbeth Castro Ortiz
 Madelaine Caughron
 Joseph Cervantes
 Crosby Cobb
 Brandon Contreras
 Carley Cooper
 Michelle Coulter
 Brentlea Crider
 Hunter Crossland
 Maria Davila Martinez
 Aaron Derr
 Alexis Diego
 Fatima Doggett
 Kyndall Dove
 Faith Duran
 Kaden Edmondson
 Mason Elkins
 Kadya Ellis
 Dana Fletcher
 David Flores
 Karina Flores
 ShayAnn Friday
 Melanie Fuentes
 Israel Galindo
 Karina Galindo
 Teresa Galindo
 Odalis Garcia
 Blaine Garza
 Gage Gonzalez Ward
 Ryan Grantham

Brenner Griffin
 Matthew Groeschel
 Benjamin Hawley
 Steven Hawley
 Maegan Hayes
 Rebecca Henry
 Juan Heredia Jr.
 Natalie Hernandez
 Adrian Hernandez Alvarez
 Emily Hertel
 Rebecca Higgins
 Gilbert Hinojosa
 Gunnar Holcomb
 Gracie Huber
 Justin Jacobs
 Alfonso Jimenez-Contreras
 Jace Jones
 Jeremy Jones II
 Samuel Jones
 Bethany Kahler
 Natalie Karcher
 Connor Kendall
 Parker Killian
 Kayleigh Kitto
 Braden Latham
 Daisey Ledesma
 Ariana Leyva
 Brett Liles
 Heymin Lucero Portillo
 Jory Lynch
 Eftren Mancinas Terrazas
 Shelby Mann
 Andrew Mansell
 Tailer McPherson
 Cassidy Mebane
 Dawson Merryman
 Madyson Miller
 Brendan Moore
 Bibiana Moreno
 Elissa Morris
 Sarah Morris
 Kaitlin Murphy
 Jared Nail
 Jonathan Nunez
 Dakota O'Neal
 Jose Ozuarez Jr.
 Jazmin Ozuarez Morales
 Veronica Palomino
 Caitlynn Payne
 Britney Payne
 Ariana Perez
 Ana Perez Corona
 Jesus Perez Corona

Micayla Pruett
 Denise Quezada
 Nayeli Ramirez
 Manuel Ramos
 Brian Ramos Portillo
 Josue Reyes
 Ricardo Reyes
 Chase Richardson
 Dalton Richardson
 Coby Robbins
 Zachary Rogers
 Samuel Roman Jr.
 Jarod Rose
 Brianna Rosette
 Katherine Ross
 Jacie Roye
 Lizeth Saenz
 Tristan Sage
 Hayley Schenck
 Gordon Seftik
 Anna Sharp
 Payslee Sims
 Charles Smith
 Mollie Snowden
 Briana Solis
 Brianna Soria
 Rafael Sotelo
 Fidencio Soto
 Karin Soto Saenz
 Sloan Stephens
 Cameron Street
 Andrew Tarango
 Neftaly Ramirez Tavarez
 Cooper Templeton
 Blake Thompson
 Mark Turnbow
 Madison Ulsak
 Joshua Urias
 Sarah Urias Venegas
 Felicia Valdez
 Austin Valenzuela
 Ericka Vitolas
 Aspen Wallace
 Timothy Whisenant
 Sofia Williams
 Makenzie Willis
 Brandon Wood
 Colby Wood
 Reagan Wood
 Kate Zabisia

Source: Greenwood ISD



Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ada Marie's Boutique, Brighton Vera Bradley Clothing Jewelry Galore, 3209 Courtyard Dr. Midland, TX 79705

TRUSTED VALUED ESSENTIAL Lifelong Learning. basin pbs

Centers for children & families, Providing counseling for those in need, for children and adults, regardless of level of income.

The Uptown Midland BPW has a rich history of leadership and community involvement. We invite you to learn more about us, and to consider joining us!

TUESDAY PRIME TIME JUNE 5, 2018. Table listing TV programs, channels, and times for various stations including ABC, CBS, FOX, and others.

The Salvation Army, DOING THE MOST GOOD, 300 S Baird St. Midland, TX 79701, 432-683-3614

Casa de Amigos, HELPING PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES, 1101 E. Garden Ln., Midland, TX 79701, 432-682-9701

Habitat for Humanity, Call for donation pick-up, Come shop our store. Open to the public. Tues.-Sat. 8:30-4:30, 305 E. Texas, 432-682-9606

MIDLAND NEED TO READ ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM, 432-682-9693

MARC Empowering Lives, Offering opportunities for children and adults with disabilities, 432.695.9901

SENIOR LINK MIDLAND, Older Adults & Baby Boomers Volunteer here to meet your needs, 432-689-6693

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION, "Change the Path of a Pet's Life", 432-520-3134 ext. 7

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midland Texas, Mentoring children for a better Midland, 432-687-0195

Choice made before difficult birth continues to haunt mom

DEAR ABBY: Twelve years ago, I gave birth to a beautiful baby girl. It was a difficult pregnancy and delivery because of a medical condition my daughter was diagnosed with in the womb.

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: My wife doesn't think it's rude to talk—or "whisper," as she calls it—during movies. I don't want to see movies with her because of this. She says I don't understand because I am not a woman.

GOREN BRIDGE With Bob Jones, Easy when you count. Neither vulnerable, North deals. NORTH: ♠KQ5, ♥Q94, ♦K64, ♣A1074.

The king and queen of clubs were followed by a low club to dummy's ace. West had to discard a heart on this trick to prevent South from ducking a diamond and setting up a long diamond trick.

SPORTS

MCS grad Grant Little drafted by Padres. Page 2C

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Tigers draft Auburn Casey Mize with No. 1 pick

By Dennis Waszak Jr.
Associated Press

SECAUCUS, N.J. — Casey Mize went from undrafted three years ago all the way to No. 1.

The Detroit Tigers selected the Auburn right-hander with the first pick in the Major League Baseball draft Monday night. The announcement at MLB Network studios marked the second time the Tigers led off the draft, and first since they took Rice pitcher Matt Anderson in 1997.

The 6-foot-3, 220-pound Mize had long been linked to the Tigers, and he pitched his way this season to the top spot on the board. Mize wasn't chosen by any organization out of high school three years ago, but developed into a potential big league ace while in col-

lege.

"It means a ton," he said in an interview on MLB Network's broadcast. "I'm very thankful that the Tigers thought of me enough to take me with their first selection. I can't describe this feeling right now."

Mize is 10-5 with a 2.95 ERA and 151 strikeouts with just 12 walks in 109 2/3 innings while helping the Tigers to the NCAA Tournament super regionals. He has solid command of four pitches, including a fastball that hovers in the mid-90s (mph). His outstanding command and wicked split changeup whip up lots of swings and misses.

Mize became the seventh player to go from undrafted in high school to the No. 1 pick, and first since Stephen Strasburg went to the Wash-

ington Nationals in 2009.

In a statement, Tigers general manager Al Avila said the club is confident Mize "will become a pillar in our player development system that's going to bring winning baseball to Detroit for seasons to come."

"Being a college pitcher — especially coming from the Southeastern Conference — we know Casey has seen elite competition before," he added.

With the second selection, San Francisco took slugging Georgia Tech catcher Joey Bart, the Atlantic Coast Conference player of the year.

Wichita State third baseman Alec Bohm was the first of six players attending the draft to be selected, going third overall to Philadelphia.

Please see DRAFT/3C



Auburn pitcher Casey Mize throwing during the first inning of a Southeastern Conference tournament NCAA game against Texas A&M on May 24 in Hoover, Ala. Mize has dazzled scouts for months with his impressive arsenal of pitches.

AP file photo

Unprecedented season



Courtesy Kansas Athletics

Midland High alum and University of Kansas sophomore Bryce Hoppel runs in the National Relay Championships in April at John McDonnell Field in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Hoppel thrilled to compete in NCAAs

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

June is going to be a landmark month in the young career of Midland High grad and University of Kansas sophomore Bryce Hoppel.

At 8:14 p.m. CDT Wednesday, Hoppel will compete in the men's 800 meter semifinals of his first-career NCAA Division I Track and Field Championships at Hayward Field in Eugene, Oregon. Hoppel can secure one of the eight spots in Friday's 8:44 p.m. 800 final by finishing in the top 2 in his heat or claiming one of the top 2 non-automatic qualifier times.

But the fun doesn't end for Hoppel in Oregon, as the Jayhawk runner has been invited to the United States Track and Field Outdoor Championships, June 21-24 at Drake Stadium in Des Moines, Iowa.

Hoppel received a bid to the USA Track and Field Championships by virtue of eclipsing the 800 time standard of 1 minute, 47.50 seconds with his personal-best time of 1:47.09, set Feb.

10 at an indoor race in Ames, Iowa. "I'm always running against great guys," Hoppel said. "For me, just every race that I have ahead of me, I'm always excited for. Whether it's the national championship or the USA meet, I'm always kind of excited for the next thing I get to race on the track."

Hoppel is particularly thrilled about this year's NCAA track championships, which will be held at the original structure of historic Hayward Field for the final time before it's demolished and rebuilt on the same site.

The 2019 and 2020 NCAA national meets will be held at Mike A. Myers Stadium in Austin, so this was Hoppel's last chance to race as a collegian at the country's track and field mecca in Eugene.

The MHS alum secured his invite to Oregon by recording a personal-best outdoor time of 1:47.93 to finish sixth out of 24 runners in the 800 national quarterfinal at the NCAA West Preliminary on May 25 in Sacramento, California.

"It's always such a relief to make it

to the next round," Hoppel said. "There was just extra pressure because this is the last time the national championships will be running on the actual historic Hayward Field because they're planning on rebuilding it, so this was kind of do or die. The next two championships will be hosted at UT's track."

"This is probably my only chance to get to run at Hayward. That put a little more pressure on it. It felt like a relief, and I was super excited to get to run at such a historic location."

Hoppel knows he is going to receive stiff competition on the University of Oregon campus, as the 800 field includes UTEP sophomore Michael Saruni, who set the NCAA all-time record with a time of 1:43.25 in April.

"I am excited to get my outdoor time down into the 1:47s, but for some reason I haven't been thinking too much about times lately," Hoppel said. "Right now going into Eugene, I'm kind of just focused on doing whatever it takes to win. I've kind of just come to the

Please see HOPPEL/2C

Baffert sees parallels between Justify and past winner

By Stephen Whyno
Associated Press

Bob Baffert misses the simple pleasure of watching American Pharoah breeze.

On the verge of his second Triple Crown with Justify, the Hall of Fame trainer is quick to recall his admiration for his first history-making superhorse.

"I've never had a horse work like him," Baffert said. "His mechanics, his motion, just the way he did it. ... This horse is starting to act like Pharoah."

Justify isn't American Pharoah. He wasn't a 2-year-old champion and never seemed destined to win the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont. American Pharoah looked bred and built for that.

Though Justify's path to this point has differed wildly from American Pharoah's run to the 2015 Triple Crown, Baffert sees similarities in his stride, his growth and his potential. That's why he thinks Justify could be just the second Triple Crown winner since Affirmed in 1978.

"They're two different type of horses, Pharoah and this guy," Baffert said after Justify won the Preakness. "I think I see a lot of resemblance in these two, the way they move. ... When I worked him after the Preakness, American Pharoah, when he would breathe, he was like he was a machine. And this horse is getting there."

Justify's recent works have brought some similarities into focus. American Pharoah didn't have his best in the Kentucky Derby before rolling in the pouring rain in the Preakness. Three years later, Justify has rebounded from an imperfect Preakness to appear on top of his game with the mile-and-a-half Belmont coming up Saturday.

"He just keeps doing more than we keep expecting," Justify jockey Mike Smith told The Associated Press after the Preakness. "There's always going to be that race where he's going to have to fight one out. I believe that was the one, so hopefully he'll come back and run even better next time."

Following American Pharoah's lead and running a winning race in the Belmont is no easy task. American Pharoah is the grandson of 2003 Belmont winner Empire Maker and had the pedigree to make the distance.

Justify looked gassed at the end of the 1 3/16-mile Preakness — though Smith thought he had more horse left. Ameri-

Please see JUSTIFY/4C



Gerry James/Associated Press

Exercise rider Humberto Gomez guides Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Justify in a morning gallop May 25 at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky.

Serena Williams out of Open before Sharapova match

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

PARIS — Serena Williams tried to play through the pain of an injured chest muscle. Eventually, barely able to serve, she knew she had to call off her Grand Slam comeback.

Williams pulled out of the French Open less than an hour before she was supposed to face Maria Sharapova in a fourth-round showdown Monday, the most-anticipated match of the tournament so far. The announcement came two days after the 36-year-old American initially felt something was wrong during a singles victory. But she hid that bit of information — even from her coach — and a day after Williams struggled through a doubles loss with her sister, Venus. This was Williams' first

major tournament in 16 months, and her first as a mother. She was pregnant when she won the Australian Open in January 2017 for her 23rd Grand Slam singles championship, the most for anyone during tennis' 50-year professional era. Her baby was born last September.

"I have given up so much to be here. There is times where I'm on the court and I'm practicing, and I look on the monitor, and I see my daughter and she's playing, and I want to be there," Williams said. "But I know that there are the sacrifices you have to make to live out your dream. And I have made every sacrifice that I could. So it's extremely disappointing."

Her voice trembled a bit during a brief news conference, where she explained she will

Please see OPEN/4C



In this photo provided by the French Tennis Federation (FFT), Serena Williams, of the U.S., answers journalists Monday at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris. Williams called off her Grand Slam comeback because of a chest muscle injury on Monday, pulling out of the French Open shortly before she was supposed to play Maria Sharapova in the fourth round.

'HOUNDWATCH



SUNDAY'S SCORE
Midland 5,
NW Arkansas 2

TODAY'S GAME
Midland at San Antonio
7:05 p.m.

INTERNET
www.mlb.com

RECORDS
Midland 29-21
San Antonio 34-21

Table with 6 columns: Today, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Rows for Midland at San Antonio and Midland at San Antonio.

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

College Softball
WCWS Championship.
Game 2: Florida State vs.
Washington, 7 p.m., ESPN
Diving
FINA World Cup. Women's
Platform Final, 5 a.m., OLYHD
Golf
World Long Drive Tour.
Atlantic City Boardwalk Bash,
5 p.m., GOLP
Hockey
AHL Calder Cup Finals.
Game 3: Toronto Marlies at
Texas Stars, 7 p.m., FSSW,
NHL
Major League Baseball
Miami at St. Louis, 7 p.m.,
FS1, FXDEP
Oakland at Houston, 7 p.m.,
FSSW
Seattle at Texas, 7 p.m.,
ATTSW
Kansas City at LA Angels, 9
p.m., MLB
Men's Soccer
Liga Adelante Playoff
Semifinal, Leg 1: Numancia vs
Zaragoza, 2:30 p.m., beIN E
Rugby
State of Origin: Queensland
vs. New South Wales, 5 a.m.,
FS2
Tennis
French Open: Singles Quar-
terfinals, 7 a.m., TENNIS
RADIO
Major League Baseball
Oakland at Texas, 7 p.m.,
KBST 95.7 FM (Big Spring),
KPET 105.1 FM/890 AM
(Lamesa)
Seattle at Houston, 7 p.m.,
KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM (Big
Spring)
Texas League Baseball
Midland at San Antonio,
7 p.m., KCRS 95.5 FM/97.5
FM/550 AM

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
CHICAGO WHITE SOX - Released RF Matt
Caverson from the 10-day DL. Outfielder C. Abreu
Contracted and RF Matt Stone to Cleveland (L)
DETROIT TIGERS - Contracted RF Jerry
Seitzer to Texas (L). Outfielder C. Abreu
Contracted and RF Matt Stone to Cleveland (L)
NEW YORK YANKEES - Released CF Cole
Casper from Cleveland (L)
American Association
CHICAGO DOGS - Released CF Ryan
FARGO-MOOREHEAD REDHAWKS -
Released RF Michael Amante and LHP Michael
O'Brien
GARY SOUTHSHORE CALCATRAS - Signed
RF Will Sledge
KANSAS CITY TIGERS - Announced OF
Jerry Davis signed with the Los Angeles
Dodgers
SUSSEX COUNTY WARRIORS - Released RF
Abe Fortgang
FOOTBALL
National Football League
CHICAGO BEARS - Re-signed TE Zach
Miller to a one-year contract
DETROIT LIONS - Signed TE Scott
Wright to a one-year contract
NEW YORK GIANTS - Signed TE Daniel
Fells to a one-year contract
Canadian Football League

NBA PLAYOFF GLANCE

Associated Press
NBA FINALS
(Seed of 7, if necessary)
Golden State 1, Cleveland 0
Thursday, May 31, Golden State 124
Cleveland 114, OT
Sunday, June 3, Golden State 122, Cleveland
101
Wednesday, June 6, Golden State at
Cleveland, 8 p.m.
Friday, June 8, Golden State at Cleveland,
8 p.m.
Monday, June 11, Cleveland at Golden
State, 8 p.m.
Thursday, June 14, Golden State at
Cleveland, 8 p.m.
Sunday, June 17, Cleveland at Golden
State, 7 p.m.

NHL STANLEY CUP GLANCE

Associated Press
STANLEY CUP
(Seed of 7, if necessary)
Washington 2, Vegas 1
Monday, May 28, Vegas at Washington 1
Wednesday, May 30, Washington 3, Vegas 1
Saturday, June 2, Washington 3, Vegas 1

WORLD GOLF RANKING

Table with 3 columns: Rank, Name, Country. Lists top 25 male and female golfers.

FIGHT SCHEDULE

Associated Press
June 6
At Spring House, Pa.: Robert Garcia, 15, vs.
Errol Spence Jr., 15, for the WBO super
middleweight title.
June 7
At Manchester, England: Tony Ferguson vs.
Manny Pacquiao, 12, for the vacant WBO
super featherweight title.
June 8
At Las Vegas, Nev.: Anthony Joshua, 16, vs.
Andy Ruiz Jr., 16, for the vacant WBO
heavyweight title.
June 9
At Las Vegas, Nev.: Errol Spence Jr., 15, vs.
Robert Garcia, 15, for the vacant WBO
super featherweight title.
June 10
At Las Vegas, Nev.: Errol Spence Jr., 15, vs.
Robert Garcia, 15, for the vacant WBO
super featherweight title.
June 11
At Las Vegas, Nev.: Errol Spence Jr., 15, vs.
Robert Garcia, 15, for the vacant WBO
super featherweight title.
June 12
At Las Vegas, Nev.: Errol Spence Jr., 15, vs.
Robert Garcia, 15, for the vacant WBO
super featherweight title.
June 13
At Las Vegas, Nev.: Errol Spence Jr., 15, vs.
Robert Garcia, 15, for the vacant WBO
super featherweight title.
June 14
At Las Vegas, Nev.: Errol Spence Jr., 15, vs.
Robert Garcia, 15, for the vacant WBO
super featherweight title.
June 15
At Las Vegas, Nev.: Errol Spence Jr., 15, vs.
Robert Garcia, 15, for the vacant WBO
super featherweight title.

MCS grad, Texas Tech's Little drafted by Padres

From staff reports

Grant Little, Midland Christian grad and Texas Tech sophomore outfielder, was selected by the San Diego Padres in the competitive balance portion of the second round in the Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft on Monday.

Little hit .380 with 12 home runs, 70 RBI, 61 runs scored and nine stolen bases in 221 at-bats in 2018 with the Red Raiders, who will host Duke in next weekend's Super Regional. The 6-foot-1,



Little

175-pounder posted a .480 on-base percentage and .670 slugging percentage in 59 games. In 2018, Little earned first-team All-Big 12 honors, was named a second-team All-American by Baseball America and was selected as a semifinalist for the Dick Howser Trophy, awarded to the nation's top player by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association.

Capitals are one win away from Stanley Cup

By Helene Elliott
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The Washington Capitals are one victory from putting to rest the anguish and angst spawned by more than four decades of playoff failures. Gaining strength with each shift, the Capitals overpowered the Vegas Golden Knights, 6-2, on Monday at Capital One Center to put themselves in position to win the Stanley Cup on Thursday at Las Vegas. First-period goals by T.J. Oshie, Tom Wilson and Devante Smith-Pelly and three assists by center Evgeny Kuznetsov fueled the charged-up Capitals and moved them ever-so-close to the first Cup championship in franchise history with a series lead of 3-1.

— in 1998 — and were swept in that appearance. Facing low expectations this season after they over-posedly dropped a tier in quality, the Capitals banded together under coach Barry Trotz and found strength in each other and in his defensive system. The Capitals' depth, discipline and growing belief in themselves defused the potent magic performed by the Golden Knights, who had accomplished many expansion-team firsts and won the first game of the Final but were outscored 12-5 in losing the next three games. They were blanked Monday until 5:43 of the third period, when James Neal scored soon after a Vegas power play had ended. Reilly Smith scored on a backhand at 12:26 to cut Washington's lead to 4-2 but Michal Kempny restored his team's three-goal margin at 13:39 and Brett Connolly scored at 18:51

after the Golden Knights vented their frustration with ugly hits. The most conflicted person in hockey must be George McPhee, who was the Capitals' general manager for 17 years and put much of their current team in place but was fired in 2014 and was succeeded by Brian MacLellan, his childhood friend and former teammate in college and in the NHL. McPhee later was hired by the Golden Knights and did a clever job in assembling a team that won the Western Conference championship but could not match the Capitals' depth and scoring balance. After the Capitals rode out a forceful start by the Golden Knights on Monday that included a point-blank shot by Neal that hit the post, Oshie gave Washington the lead with a power-play goal at 9:54. Vegas defenseman Colin Miller had tripped Washington center Lars Eller

and was in the penalty box when Kuznetsov took a shot from the left side that struck Vegas goaltender Marc-Andre Fleury in the shoulder and caromed around the crease. Oshie corralled the puck with his skate, kicked it up to his stick and lifted a shot over Fleury, triggering roars from a crowd that was waiting for a reason to celebrate. Oshie has used Washington's Metro transit system to travel to Capital One Arena the past two games because of street closures and heavy traffic in the area, and before Monday's game a video clip surfaced on social media that showed him trying to exit the station only to find he didn't have enough money banked on his fare card. If he maintains his hot hand he won't have to pay for a ride anywhere in this city ever again.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Carson Palmer, Vince Young 1st-timers on college Hall ballot

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Heisman Trophy winner Carson Palmer and Vince Young will make their first appearances on the College Football Hall of Fame ballot. The National Football Foundation released Monday the names of 76 players and six coaches from major college football who will be considered for the Hall of Fame this year. The latest class of about 15 players and coaches will be announced Jan. 7, the day of the College Football Playoff national championship. Palmer won the Heisman for Southern California in 2002 and went on to a long NFL career. Young finished second in the Heisman voting in 2005 for Texas, but put on one of the great performances in college football history, leading the Longhorns past USC in the BCS title Rose Bowl game. Among the other players making their first appearance in the FBS hall ballot are Syracuse wide receiver Marvin Harrison, Wisconsin tackle Joe Thomas and Arkansas running back Darren McFadden, a two-time Heisman finalist. The late Rashawn Salaam, who won the Heisman in 1994 for Colorado, and 2001 Heisman winner Eric Crouch on Nebraska are back on the Hall of Fame ballot, along with SMU running back Eric Dickerson, Miami linebacker Ray Lewis and Notre Dame receiver



AP file photo

Texas quarterback Vince Young celebrates with the championship trophy after Texas beat Southern California 41-38 in the Rose Bowl national championship game Jan. 4, 2006, in Pasadena, Calif. Heisman Trophy winner Carson Palmer and Vince Young will make their first appearances on the College Football Hall of Fame ballot.

Raghib Ismail. The six FBS coaches up for election this year are Larry Blakeney from Troy, Jim Carlen, who coached West Virginia, Texas Tech and South Carolina; Dennis Erickson, who won two national titles at Miami during a career that included stints at six schools; former Memphis coach Billy Jack Murphy; and Pete Cawthon Sr., who coached Texas and Texas Tech in the 1920s and '30s.

Another 100 players and 32 coaches who competed outside the highest level of college football, now known as the Football Bowl Subdivision, will be considered for induction this year, most notably the late Steve McNair, who played quarterback for Alcorn State. After more than 12,000 National Football Foundation members and current Hall of Famers vote, the results are submitted to the NFF's Honors Courts, which select the class.

HOPPEL

From IC
realization that when you do run to win, the times just kind of come along with it. But it would be amazing to run 1:46 or 1:45. It will definitely take a lot more than that to take down Michael Serrani. I have the determination to win, and if I do, the times will come with it.

such as Clayton Murphy, a 2016 Olympic 800 bronze medalist, and Donovan Brazier, the former Texas A&M standout who holds the NCAA national track meet record of 1:43.55. It will give the 6-foot sophomore an opportunity to get a feel for Olympic-level runners. "I'm hoping the way the heats work out, I get into a heat with Donovan or Clayton Murphy," Hoppel said. "That would be cool to run against them, even if

I don't make finals." Regardless of how Hoppel fares this month, he has made a distinct step forward in his sophomore season. Hoppel was the 2018 Big 12 indoor champion in the 800, garnered NCAA First-Team All-American honors in the indoor season, and passed U.S. Olympic legend Jim Ryan for second on Kansas' all-time performance list in the indoor 800.

has definitely been my best all-time season," Hoppel said. "I'm accomplishing a lot of my life goals so soon. It doesn't really set me back, like feeling I have already accomplished it. It just kind of like makes me hungry for more. Looking forward, I just want to keep getting better and better."

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @Chris_MRTsports

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Tenn. Tech, Duke make 1st super regionals

By Eric Olson
Associated Press

A Tennessee Tech team that boasts the nation's most high-powered offense relied on its pitching to earn the biggest win in program history Monday night.

The Golden Eagles of the Ohio Valley Conference knocked No. 4 national seed Mississippi out of the NCAA Tournament by beating the Rebels twice, 15-5 in the afternoon and 3-2 to clinch the Oxford Regional title.

Tech joins Duke, Minnesota, Stetson and Washington as teams that will make their first appearances in super regionals. Winners in those eight best-of-three series advance to the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska.

Duke won the Athens Regional on Monday with two wins over No. 8 national seed Georgia. Mississippi State and South Carolina also advanced, giving the Southeastern Conference five teams in supers.

Eight of the 16 national seeds have been eliminated in regionals, including four of the top eight.

Defending national champion Florida, the No. 1 overall seed, played Florida Atlantic late Monday night in the Gainesville Regional final. Florida Atlantic forced a second final with a 7-4 win earlier in the evening.

Tennessee Tech, a No. 2 regional seed, has put up some of the college game's biggest offensive numbers in years this season, but it was the pitching of closer-turned-starter Ethan Roberts in the seventh and Devin Lancaster and Nick Osborne at night that carried the Golden Eagles against Ole Miss.

"Everyone talks about our offense, but our pitchers can pitch, too," said Trevor Putzig, whose homer tied it 2-2 in the sixth.

Lancaster went the first 5 1/3 innings, allowing two runs on four hits. Osborne came on to start the seventh after playing the first six innings in right field and allowed two hits the rest of the way to make Kevin Stroschein's seventh-inning sacrifice fly stand up.

In the first game, Roberts, normally the closer, made his second start in 63 appearances and went a career-long 7 2/3 innings before leaving the game with a 10-2 lead.

"Our goal from the beginning was Omaha, so we're one step closer," Putzig said.

Coming through the losers' bracket, Duke won a regional for the first time since 1961. Duke coach Chris Follard took over in 2012, and the Blue Devils have reached at least 30 wins five straight years. They ended a 55-year NCAA Tournament drought in 2016, and Monday they completed a difficult trek in regionals that saw them come from behind to win in three games as the No. 2 regional seed after losing 6-0 to Troy on Friday.

Duke beat Georgia 8-5 in the afternoon before locking up the regional title with an 8-4 win.

Mississippi State defeated Oklahoma for the second time in two days in Tallahassee, Florida, and is in a super regional for the third straight year. The Bulldogs are the first team since the tournament went to its current format in 1999 to win a regional in back-to-back years after losing the first game.

This year's run has been wild. Andy Carnizaro resigned as coach Feb. 20 for

off-field conduct, and pitching coach Gary Henderson took over in an interim role. The No. 2 regional seed Bulldogs didn't lock up an NCAA at-large bid until they swept top-ranked Florida in their final regular-season series.

They lost 20-10 to Oklahoma on Friday and, facing elimination Saturday, were down to their last strike against No. 7 national seed Florida State when Elijah MacNamee hit a three-run walk-off homer in the bottom of the ninth inning, for a 3-2 win.

MacNamee's homer changed the team's mojo.

"A lot. A bunch. More than you can imagine," Henderson said. "I think there's a constant theme of belief and they keep fighting."

MSU beat the Sooners 13-5 on Sunday and 8-5 on Monday.

"Elijah was the only one saying we could do this," third baseman Justin Foscoe said. "Once he hit the home run, that sparked me and I bet it sparked the rest of the team that we could do this now. That got everyone going."

South Carolina opened SEC play 1-5 and dealt with a number of injuries before it got hot the second half of the season. The Gamecocks went 3-0 in the Greenville (North Carolina) Regional, coming from behind to beat Ohio State, knocking off No. 12 national seed East Carolina and beating No. 4 regional seed UNC-Wilmington 8-4 in the final Monday.

The run to super regionals came in coach Mark Kingston's first season. He left South Carolina last June to take over at South Carolina when Chad Holbrook resigned after missing the tournament for the second time in three years.

Super regional lineup

■ Auburn (42-21) vs. Florida-Florida Atlantic winner, site TBA

■ Stetson (48-11) at North Carolina (41-18)

■ Minnesota (44-13) at Oregon State (47-10-1)

■ Cal State Fullerton (35-23) vs. Washington (33-23), site TBA

■ Vanderbilt (34-25) vs. Mississippi State (35-26), site TBA

■ Duke (44-16) at Texas Tech (42-17)

■ South Carolina (36-24) at Arkansas (42-18)

■ Tennessee Tech (52-10) at Texas (40-20)

Muscleups on mound

■ Mississippi State's JP France allowed two hits and one run in seven innings in his second start of the season, and Riley Self threw two innings of two-hit shutout relief. France had pitched 1 1/3 innings of scoreless relief in a 9-8 win over Samford on Sunday.

■ South Carolina freshman Carmen Modzinski, who went from the bullpen to starter's role in April, went five innings and limited UNC-Wilmington to three runs and four hits.

■ Duke's Mitch Stallings pitched seven innings of relief in the second game, allowing four runs on seven hits and striking out six.

Judge sets doubleheader K record as Yanks and Tigers split

By Dave Hogg
Associated Press

DETROIT — Yankees slugger Aaron Judge became the first player since at least 1920 with eight strikeouts in a doubleheader, including five punchouts in the nightcap as the Detroit Tigers beat New York 4-2 for a day-night split Monday.

Leony Martin had two hits and scored twice for Detroit in the second game after New York took the opener 7-4 behind Luis Severino's eight strong innings and a six-run fourth inning.

Judge struck out eight times in nine at-bats, a record for a doubleheader during the liveball era, according to STATS. Judge struck out in each of his five at-bats in the late game, including with a runner aboard in the bottom of the ninth.

The five strikeouts were a career high for Judge, who led the majors with 208 strikeouts while winning AL Rookie of the Year last season.

The doubleheader made up rainouts from April 14 and 15. Both teams wore No. 42 for the second game because they

were making up their postponed Jackie Robinson Day showdown.

Mike Fiers (5-3) got the win in the nightcap, allowing two runs in 5 2/3 innings. Three relievers finished, with Shane Greene striking out three in the ninth for his 15th save. Detroit's pitchers combined for 14 strikeouts in the game.

Domingo German (0-4) allowed four runs in 6 2/3 innings for New York.

Martin doubled and scored on Ronny Rodriguez's sacrifice fly in the second for Rodriguez's first major league RBI, and Brett Gardner tied it with an RBI triple in the third.

Fiers plunked Giancarlo Stanton later in the inning, leading to a brief verbal exchange between the pitcher and slugger. Fiers then got Gleyber Torres to ground out to leave the bases loaded.

Stanton hit a 456-foot homer in the sixth, then pointed at Fiers as he crossed the plate.

Miguel Cabrera and Victor Martinez hit back-to-back doubles in the seventh to give Detroit a 4-2 lead. The Tigers have hit a double in 52 consecutive games, their third-longest such streak since 1908.

MLB GLANCE

Associated Press

Standings	Division	W	L	Pct	GB
American League					
East Division					
Blue Jays	W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	38	20	.654	0	
Tampa Bay	38	20	.654	0	
Toronto	38	20	.654	0	
Baltimore	37	21	.638	1	
Central Division					
Cleveland	38	20	.654	0	
Detroit	38	20	.654	0	
Minnesota	38	20	.654	0	
Kansas City	37	21	.638	1	
Chicago	36	22	.619	2	
West Division					
Seattle	37	21	.638	0	
Houston	37	21	.638	0	
Los Angeles	36	22	.619	1	
Oakland	35	23	.604	2	
Texas	35	23	.604	2	
National League					
East Division					
Atlanta	38	20	.654	0	
Washington	38	20	.654	0	
Philadelphia	37	21	.638	1	
New York	37	21	.638	1	
Miami	36	22	.619	2	
Central Division					
St. Louis	37	21	.638	0	
Chicago	37	21	.638	0	
St. Paul	36	22	.619	1	
Pittsburgh	35	23	.604	2	
West Division					
Arizona	37	21	.638	0	
San Diego	37	21	.638	0	
San Francisco	36	22	.619	1	
Los Angeles	35	23	.604	2	

DRAFT

From 1C

Oregon State second baseman Nick Madrigal — at 5-foot-7, 160 pounds — went fourth to the Chicago White Sox.

Rounding out the top five was Cincinnati, which took Florida third baseman Jonathan India.

Oakland created a major buzz at No. 9 and shook up some draft boards by tabbing speedy Oklahoma outfielder — and quarter-back — Tyler Murray, the favorite to replace Heisman Trophy winner Baker Mayfield this season as the Sooners' starter on the football field.

Now, the two-sport phenom has a big decision to make.

Perhaps the replacement for Giants star Buster Posey someday, Bart follows in the footsteps of Matt Wieters and Jason Varitek — big league backstops who also came out of Georgia Tech.

Bart led the ACC in hitting with a .359 average and topped the Yellow Jackets with a .632 slugging percentage, 79 hits, 16 home runs, 55 runs and a .471 on-base percentage. He's also one of the country's best defensive catchers, with a .992 fielding percentage on the season while throwing out 12 of 33 would-be base stealers.

Bart is one of the top offensive players in the draft, hitting .339 with 16 homers — the most by a Wichita State player since 2004 — and 55 RBIs with 14 doubles and 39 walks. He also showed a knack for hitting in the clutch by setting a school record with three grand slams this year, and led the team with 10 go-ahead RBIs.

Bart had some trouble

buttoning his white Phillies jersey before heading to the podium to shake hands with Commissioner Rob Manfred.

"The holes are pretty tight. It was pretty tough," said the 6-foot-5 Bohm, later adding that his biggest strength is probably his maturity at the plate.

"I'm just ready to go play ball."

Despite his short stature, Madrigal is considered by many to be the best overall hitter in the draft. He rebounded nicely for the Beavers after missing half the season with a broken left wrist. He was hitting .406 with three homers, 32 RBIs and just five strikeouts in 133 at-bats while helping lead Oregon State to the NCAA Tournament super regionals.

India, the Southeastern Conference player of the year for Florida, has been an offensive force for the defending College World Series champions. He's the 12th player in school history to post 20 or more homers, 100 or more RBIs and 30 or more stolen bases in his career.

The Mets took the first high school player, selecting Wisconsin prep outfielder Jared Kelenic sixth overall. The left-handed-hitting Kelenic was the MVP of the Texas USA Under-18 squad last September at the Pan American Games in Canada while hitting .404 and leading the team in extra-base hits.

Tennessee high school lefty Ryan Weatherly, son of former major league pitcher David Weatherly, was the No. 7 pick by San Diego.

Florida high school righty Carter Stewart was the second player in at-

Florida St. takes lead in title series

By Cliff Brunt
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Florida State's Anna Shelnett hit a solo homer in the sixth inning, and Meghan King pitched a five-hitter to help Florida State defeat Washington 1-0 in Game 1 of the Women's College World Series championship series Monday night.

King improved to 3-0 with a save at the World Series. She has not allowed an earned run in 27 1/3 innings in Oklahoma City. The Seminoles (57-12) could clinch their first national title in Game 2 on Tuesday.

Shelnett's homer was Washington pitcher Gabbie Plain's first earned run allowed in 16 2/3 innings of World Series action.

There were plenty of opportunities for both teams to score more runs — both

teams left seven runners on base.

In the third inning, Florida State's Morgan Klavevann reached third base with no outs and did not score. Washington loaded the bases with one out in the bottom of the third and Florida State escaped without allowing a run.

Plain walked the bases loaded in the fourth with two outs. With a full count, Klavevann hit a grounder and Washington shortstop Sis Bates tagged Florida State's Dani Morgan to end the inning.

The Seminoles might have gotten more in the sixth inning after Shelnett's homer, but Bates tracked down what appeared to be a sure hit in the outfield, then threw a runner out at second for a double play.

In the seventh, Washington got a runner on with no outs before Florida State third baseman Jessie Warren dove to catch a short pop-up, then doubled up the runner at first.

NCAA DIVISION I BASEBALL REGIONALS GLANCE

Associated Press

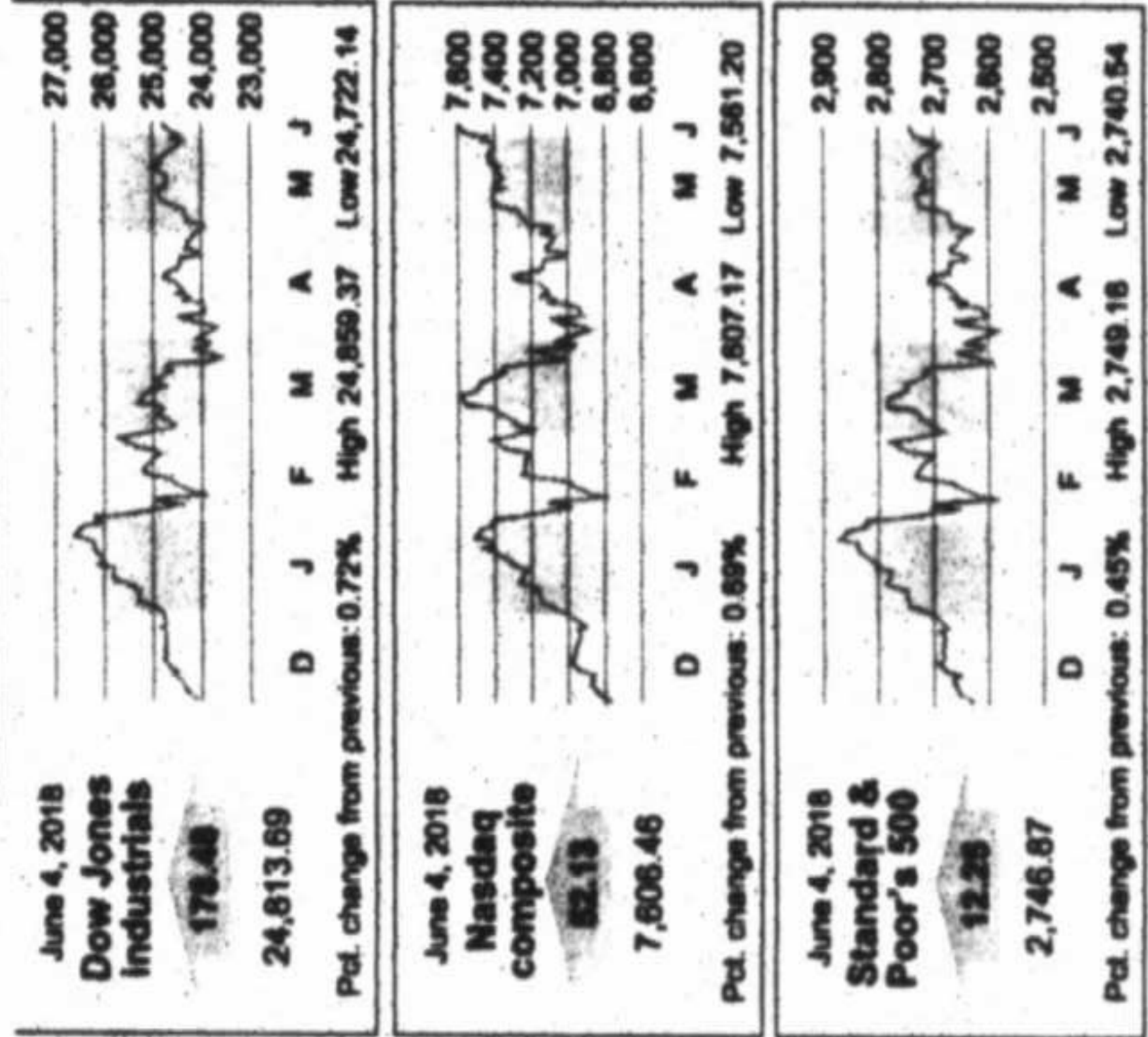
Division	Game	Time	Location
Atlantic	1	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	2	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	3	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	4	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	5	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	6	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	7	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	8	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	9	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	10	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	11	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	12	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
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Atlantic	15	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
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Atlantic	97	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	98	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	99	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.
Atlantic	100	6 p.m.	Charleston, S.C.

THE MARKET IN REVIEW

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of stock market data for the New York Stock Exchange, including columns for Name, Bid, Ask, Last, and Change.

A DAY ON WALL STREET



Summary tables for NYSE, NASDAQ, Most Active, Gainers, and Losers, listing stock names, prices, and percentage changes.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of stock market data for the NASDAQ National Market, including columns for Name, Bid, Ask, Last, and Change.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance data, including fund names, share prices, and percentage changes.

INDEXES

Table of major market indices including S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial Average, and others, with their respective values and changes.

PERMIAN BASIN STOCKS

Table of stock market data for Permian Basin stocks, listing various oil and gas related companies and their market performance.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of stock market data for the American Stock Exchange, including columns for Name, Bid, Ask, Last, and Change.

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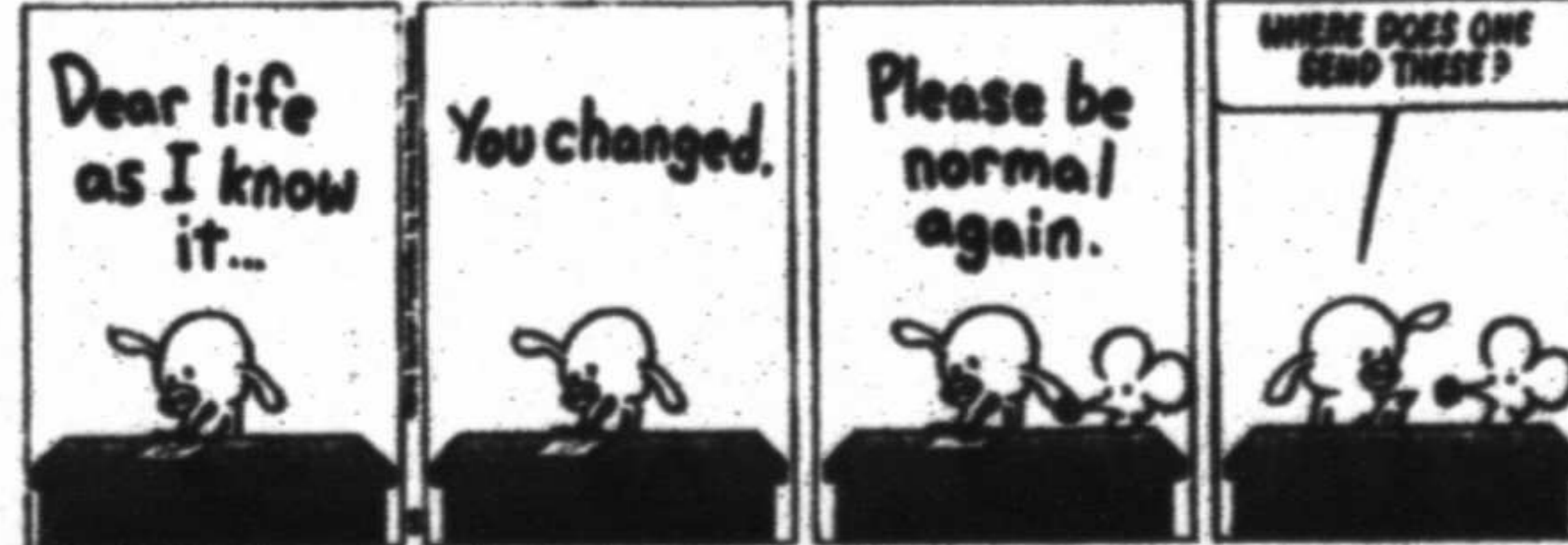
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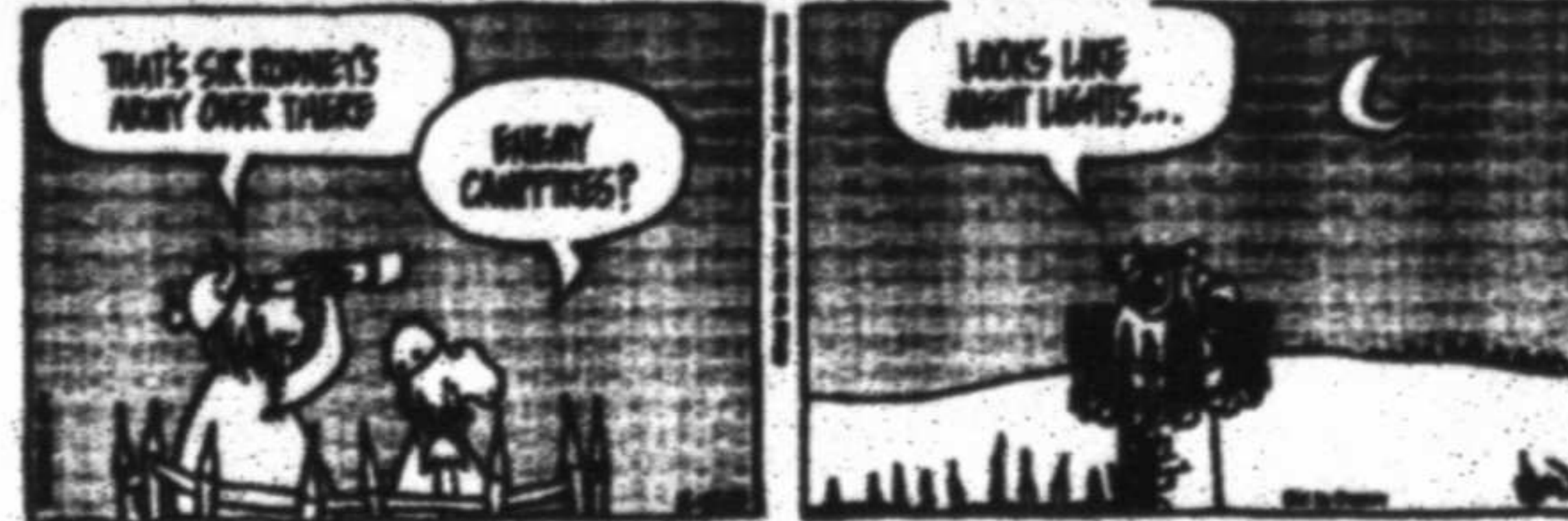
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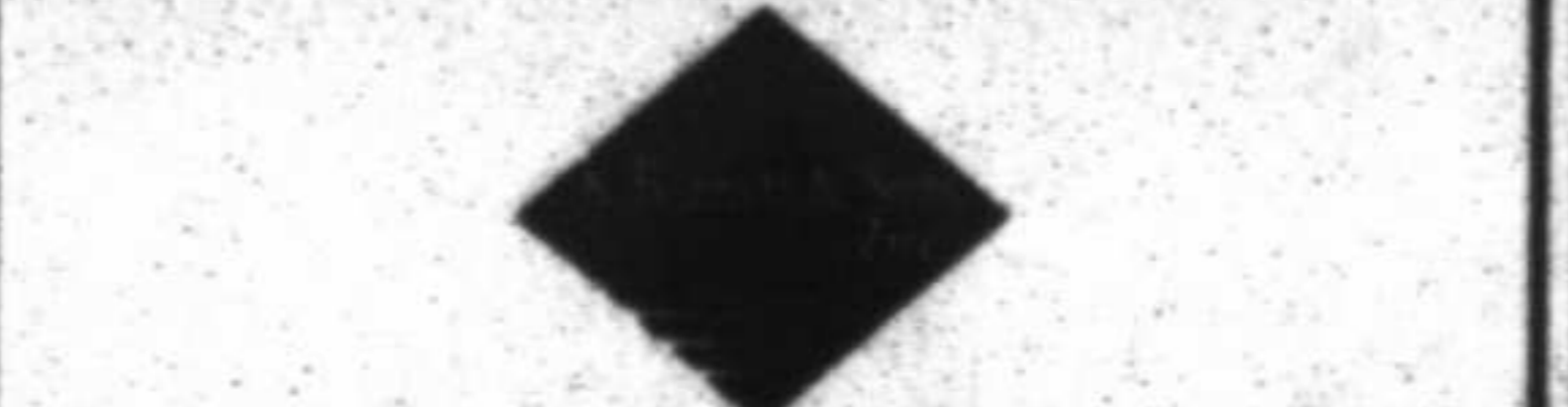
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FRONTIERS

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EXCITING NEW CLUE

Illustration courtesy of Davide Bonadonna

An artist's illustration of life in the Dolomites region of northern Italy about 240 million years ago, with Megachirella wachtleri walking through the vegetation.

Scientists find 240-million-year-old megachirella, 'mother of all lizards'

By Sarah Kaplan
Washington Post

Here's a fact you should know about the world in which you live: It's home to more kinds of scaly reptiles than all the mammal families combined. The reptile order Squamata, which includes snakes, lizards and legless worm-looking creatures known as amphisbaenians, is the largest order of living land vertebrates on the planet.

And yet, scientists know surprisingly little about where all those geckos and vipers and iguanas and pythons came from. Genetic evidence suggests the order originated in the Permian period, more than 250 million years ago. But the oldest known squamate fossil was about 70 million years younger than that.

"That's more time than there is between us and the dinosaurs, and we had no clue what was going on," said Tiago Simões, a paleontologist at the University of Alberta.

Enter Megachirella wachtleri, a three-inch, 240-million-year-old fossil — and an exciting new clue in this evolutionary mystery.

According to research by Simões and his colleagues that was published Wednesday in the journal Nature, megachirella is the "mother of all lizards," the oldest known ancestor of all squamates. Her existence helps explain the transition from more primitive reptiles to the large, diverse order that now

slithers, creeps and burrows across every continent except Antarctica.

In a video for the MUSE Science Museum in Trento, Italy, co-author Michael Caldwell called the fossil a "perfect example."

"It's almost a virtual Rosetta stone," said Caldwell, also a paleontologist at the University of Alberta, "in terms of the information that it gives us on the evolution of snakes and lizards."

Megachirella's partial skeleton was discovered by an amateur fossil hunter in the Dolomite mountains of northern Italy and first described by scientists in 2003. But, limited by the technology of the time and an incomplete understanding of the squamate order, researchers were not quite sure how the new species fit into the reptile family tree.

Fifteen years later, high-resolution micro CT scanning made it possible to peer inside the rock holding the fossil and identify features concealed within. At a synchrotron facility, Simões and his colleagues identified features in the animal's brain case, collar bone and wrists that are unique to lizards. They also found evidence of vestigial traits that more modern squamates have since lost — a small cheek bone called the quadrate and primitive belly bones called gastralia (which are found in many dinosaurs, too).

Simões devoted his PhD to understanding the family tree of living and extinct squa-

mates. "For the first time, having that information with this highly expanded data set, now it became possible to actually assess the relationship of not only this species but also of other species of reptiles," Simões said.

When megachirella walked the Earth, in the middle Triassic period, the world's land masses were crushed together in a supercontinent called Pangaea. Flowers had not evolved, and the ground was dominated by primitive plants called lycophytes (ancestors of club mosses and quillworts). The conditions under which the fossil was found — in marine sediments but surrounded by fossilized land plants — suggest that a powerful storm hit the coastline where megachirella lived and swept the tiny critter out to sea.

Simões and his colleagues are still seeking evidence of megachirella's behavior. And they still need to fill in the tens of millions of years between megachirella and the next oldest squamate fossil. Many fossil lizards from the early Cretaceous (more than 100 million years ago) don't seem to fit neatly into any known lineage, and megachirella might help explain those oddities.

"It's confirming that we are pretty much clueless," Simões said of the new species. "But on the positive side, we also have all this extra information in terms of the transition from more general reptile features to more lizard-like features."

Telescope array gets upgrade to see fainter stars

Arizona Daily Sun

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — A telescope array atop Anderson Mesa in northern Arizona is getting a major upgrade more than 20 years after it was built.

The massive "Y" shape of the Navy Optical Precision Interferometer stretches across the equivalent of four football fields southeast of Flagstaff.

The telescopes that make up the arms of the "Y" collect light from distant stars, and then bounce it around on mirrors before sending it through vacuum-sealed tubes to a central laboratory.

Three more large mirrors, measuring about a meter in diameter each, will be installed along the arms of the telescope array over the next several months. The first new mirror with its accompanying hardware was delivered to the site Tuesday.

The mirrors will allow the telescope to see fainter stars and to see deeper into the sky, said Gerard van Belle, an astronomer at Lowell Observatory, a partner on the project. The mirrors will increase the amount of light the system can capture by about 50 times.

Currently, the system can only measure stars that are bright enough to be seen with the naked eye. The telescope is already capable of seeing a distance equivalent of being able to view an orange in New York City from Flagstaff.

"With the new setup, we'll be able to beat that by a factor of 10," van Belle said.

The telescope's observations have been used to create and update star catalogues, which are used in a range of applications such as navigation for deep space missions and determining the location of the satellite array used by GPS systems.

With the upgrade, the system may be able to observe deep space objects that have been too dim for the telescope, according to the Naval Research Laboratory and the U.S. Naval Observatory, the two other partners on the project.

Objects like binary stars, nebulae and star clusters have previously been difficult to pinpoint and map, said Paul Shankland, director of the Naval Observatory's Flagstaff Station.

The \$3.25 million project was funded through a grant from the Naval Research Laboratory.

Distributed by the Associated Press

Meta data hasn't really changed, it's just gotten repetitive

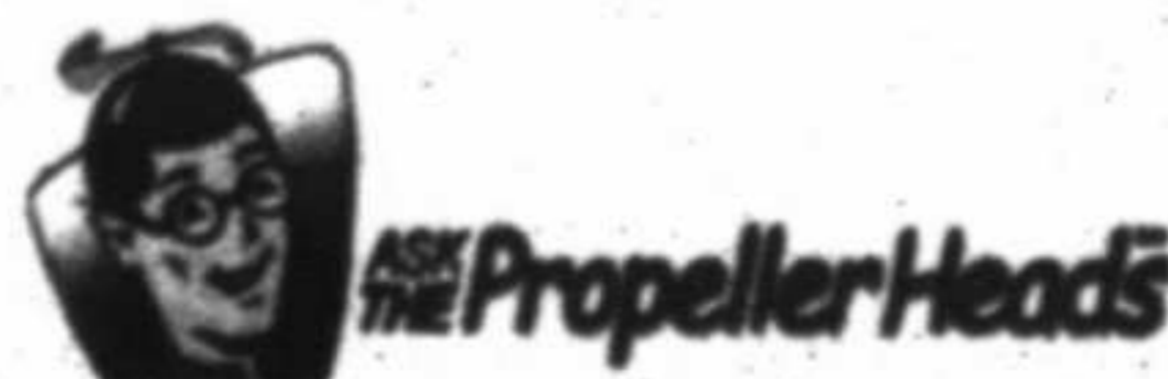
Dear PropellerHeads: Back in the day, I used to dabble in simple websites. Back then, I only had to include a couple of <meta> tags to show up in search engines. But if I look at a web page today, there are dozens, if not hundreds, of <meta> tags included. What did I miss?

A: At least a decade. Looks like you picked the wrong week to start web development again.

Yeah, it is pretty insane what we need to include on a public website these days. But if you look closely, you'll see that a lot of the information there is duplicated. There are the classic meta tags like title, description, keywords and author that you recall so fondly. But also, there are Facebook and Twitter specific meta tags, search engine optimization (SEO) tags, and you'll even see script blocks that reference schema.org.

But the rub is it's the same data repeated 4-5 times. It's all pretty annoying and only adds to the HTML bloat that is out there. Standardize, people! But I digress. My ranting won't help you get your web pages hooked up properly with all of these services.

Let's start with Facebook. They use what is called the Open Graph protocol (<http://ogp.me>). These will have their meta tag names prefixed with "og", as in "Oh



God, I best not forget Facebook." At least that's how I make the connection.

Their core tags are title, type, image and URL. Title is familiar to you. Type is the variety of content the page contains. What you are reading now would be considered an article. Image is the thumbnail of your page, and URL is pretty obvious. Optional tags are specific to the type of content. For an article type you have author, description, publication times...things of that nature.

Another Facebook specific meta tag you will see a lot is "fb:app_id". This will associate your page with your specific Facebook application and will make sure all of your "likes" get registered properly.

Now let's turn to Twitter (<http://t.co>). Their meta tag names are prefixed with "twitter:" and Twitter uses these tags in order to render a card for your site if it is included in a tweet. And guess what Twitter has available for its tags? Title, description, image and URL. There are others of course, but you are starting to see the overlap.

Another one you will see some of is Dublin Core (dublincore.org), also called DCM. Dublin core tag names are prefixed with "dc:" And again we have title, keywords, description and about ten others to choose from. Are you getting tired yet?

Other things you will see in web-pages these days are not meta tags, but rather script blocks of type "application/javascript". While different, it really is the same thing as above, but this particular format allows search platforms like Google and (cough) Bing to summarize the page directly in the search result.

For example, search for a recipe on Google and before their first result you will see a short list of the steps necessary to complete the recipe. The search engines aren't scraping the content to present that, they are looking for very specific script blocks that provide the summary for them.

This syntax is following the guidelines of schema.org. There are hundreds of entities to choose from. Everything from an Article to a Zoo. The schema definitions are very verbose and you will probably only use a fraction of what is available to you, but it is a good way to update your site in the search engines.

One thing you may come across is a bunch of link tags mentioning dis-prefetch (<http://bit.ly/2w8t2zv>). This will garner

you a minuscule performance boost by requesting the browser to look up the IP address of a web server before you actually click on a link, or otherwise invoke a request to that server.

Circling back to meta tags, here are a few more you will see quite frequently. Viewport is used for rendering pages on mobile devices (<http://bit.ly/2A8Cve0>). X-UA-Compatible will force the five people still using Internet Explorer to render with a specific engine (<http://bit.ly/2KwugX6>). Both Apple (apple.co/2j8RFB) and Microsoft (<http://bit.ly/2w9p9jX>) have their own set of meta tags that are useful for rendering your website as an application on one of their devices.

I'll end with metatags.org, which has details on many of the options available to you that I covered today. Looks like you picked the wrong week to learn about meta tags.

When the PropellerHeads at Data Directions aren't busy with their IT projects, they love to answer questions on business or consumer technology. Email us at askthepropellerheads@data-directions.com or contact us at Data Directions, Inc. 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Visit our website at data-directions.com/askthepropellerheads.



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