

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018

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RED SOX BEAT RANGERS

J.D. Martinez hit his major league-leading 28th home run Monday night to lead the Boston Red Sox to a 5-0 victory over the Texas Rangers and their seventh straight win.

Page 1C

City's proposed budget includes more for roads, salaries

Proposed tax rate for 2019 is lower than current rate, according to information from city

By Stewart Doreen
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The Midland City Council unveiled a property tax rate for fiscal year 2018-19 that is lower than the current fiscal year and takes care of city priorities, including \$10 million for road maintenance and a 4 percent cost-of-living adjustment for all city employees.

The proposed tax rate — 40.7633 cents per \$100 valuation — is lower than the current rate — 40.8389 cents. The effective rate for the proposed budget is 39.576 cents. The city reports the budget is the effective rate plus 3 percent.

This budget shows general fund operations expenditures — supported by revenues including property and sales taxes — are increasing from \$112.1 million to \$128.1 million, according to the city's proposed budget. The city reports the increase in expenditures can occur even as the budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$2.6823 million.

Property taxes make up about 36 percent of general fund expenditures in the proposed budget. Last year, property taxes made up 39 percent of general fund expenditures. This year, budgeted sales tax revenue — proposed at \$48 million — is expected to outpace property taxes by

more than \$2 million.

The largest expenditures — about 45 percent of general-fund expenditures — are for the police and fire departments. The proposed budget shows \$28.958 million for the Midland Police Department and \$28.708 million for the Midland Fire Department. The total for each department is about a \$2 million increase from last year.

Engineering Department has the third highest budget. The \$22.4 million allotted includes extra funds for street maintenance. Since fiscal year 2016, the Engineering Department budget has more than doubled from \$10.342 million to \$22.418 million.

Community Services (which includes parks) is the only other department with yearly expenditures expected to top \$10 million. The proposed \$14.045 million is about \$2.7 million more than last year.

The four departments combined make up 73 percent of total general fund expenditures, according to the budget book.

The proposed budget also shows "personnel" makes up \$77.286 million in expenditures (about 60 percent). "Contractual" services make up \$30.155 million of the proposed expenditures, while \$9.3 million is slated for "capital" expenses. Those three expenditures make up more than 91

Please see BUDGET/4A

Trump pick announced



Alex Brandon/Associated Press

President Donald Trump talks with Judge Brett Kavanaugh, his Supreme Court nominee, and his family Monday in the East Room of the White House. Kavanaugh's wife, Ashley, is from Abilene; their daughters are Margaret, second from left, and Liza. More about Trump's Supreme Court nomination on page 7A.

Ritz Theater renovation expected to be complete this month

By Trevor Hawes
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The Midland Development Corp. is helping to fund several projects in Midland, and sometimes contracts need to be amended.

At its meeting Monday at MDC headquarters, the board voted to update several contracts, including its deal with Basin PBS and

the broadcaster's effort to move downtown into the former Ritz Theater, which is undergoing renovation. In its fourth contract amendment with Basin PBS' parent company, Permian Basin Public Telecommunications Inc., the MDC granted the broadcaster even more time to certify occupancy and that it has met its obligations for \$300,000 in MDC funds, which initially was approved

in 2012.

In January 2017, the MDC allowed Basin PBS to complete its renovation by June 30, 2018, instead of the previous Dec. 31, 2017, deadline. At the time, Basin PBS board member Jane Wolf said the project had raised the required \$2.7 million but faced a \$1 million shortfall. On Monday, Wolf said, "We're at the mercy of the construction world," adding that the project has stayed on budget.

Jazmin Shotts, interim manager at Basin PBS, told the board the Ritz renovation should be finished in late July.

Basin PBS will receive \$300,000 in MDC funds after the project is completed. The broadcaster has until March 31, 2019, to certify that it has met its obligations, which include the creation of at least one full-time job staffed at the Ritz. As of Monday's vote, the

agreement is now considered an economic development incentive. Previously, money would have come from the MDC's promotions budget.

Also on Monday:

■ The board approved a pair of change orders with contractors working at Spaceport Business Park. Jones Bros. will receive an additional \$13,725.25 to build a concrete sidewalk, and Boler Equipment Services will get \$25,300 more for the adjustment of a sewage line.

■ The MDC, which is funded by the Type A quarter-cent sales tax, collected \$1,051,423.51 from sales tax in June. Year-to-date, the economic development group has received \$9,670,187.11. The MDC budgeted to receive \$9,530,000 for the fiscal year. It has \$26,227,787 in cash and \$1,910,343 in sales tax receivables.

Sheriff's office to launch mobile application

■ Painter wants app to 'open up our office and let them know as much as we possibly can'

By Simone Jasper
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Local residents could soon have a new tool to receive updates from and report tips to the Midland County Sheriff's Office. County commissioners on Monday approved using money from donations to launch a new mobile application.

"We feel like right now is the time to move on it — to provide the information to the citizens and open up our office and let them know as much as we possibly can," said Sheriff Gary Painter.

He said his department has been working with a designer of The Sheriff App. After the approval from commissioners, Painter said the option could be available within the next two weeks.

The mobile application would be used on handheld devices and include access to news releases, personnel updates and lists of inmates held in the Central Detention Center. There could also be an opportunity for submitting crime-related information, according to Painter.

"We hope to do a lot of stuff with it," he said. "We're just getting started finding out what we can do with it, and hopefully we can expand it and make it much more available to the citizens."

The sheriff's office plans to post information to the mobile application as well as on its Facebook page, according to Painter. He said the new tool will allow his department to continue communicating with community members.

"The digital age is here," Painter said. "It's not going to go away. It's not a haphazard thing. We have got to get on board and stay up with the times."

Commissioners voted to put \$9,835 in donated funds toward the mobile application. The money comes from Bad Boy Blast, an annual sporting clay fundraiser.

Also during Monday's meeting, commissioners:

■ didn't choose to extend the county's burn ban, which is in effect through Sunday.

Fire Marshal Dale Little recommended that the Commissioners' Court not continue the restrictions because parts of the county have received rain.

■ approved allocating up to \$2,500 next fiscal year to cover travel expenses for John Trischitti III, director of Midland County Public Library. He was one of six Texas librarians to receive a grant to attend Liber

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\$73.85 ▲ \$0.05

The big number

\$3 million in donations was received for victims in church shooting.

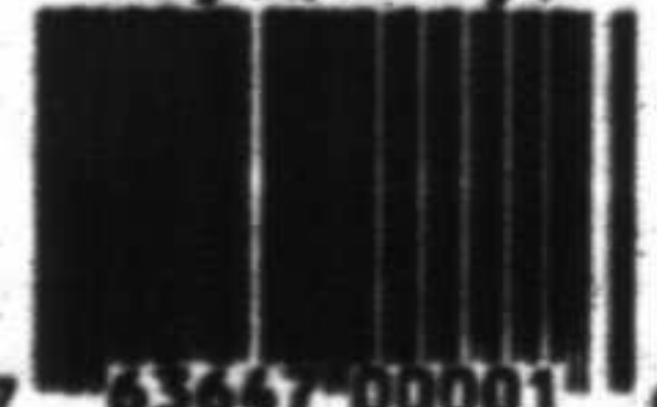
Word of the Day

transmogrify Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 3A.

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Vol. 98, No. 121
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Actor Tab Hunter, star of 'Damn Yankees' movie, dies age 86

By Shawn Marsh
Associated Press

Tab Hunter, the blond actor and singer who was a heartthrob for millions of teenagers in the 1950s with such films as "Battle Cry" and "Damn Yankees" and received new attention decades later when he revealed that he was gay, has died. He was 86.

Producer and spouse Alan Glaser said Hunter died Sunday of a blood clot in his leg that caused cardiac arrest. Glaser called the death "sudden and unexpected."

Hunter was a star for several years. In addition to his hit movies, his recording of "Young Love" topped the Billboard pop chart in 1957.

But in his 2005 memoir, "Tab Hunter Confidential: The Making of a Movie Star," Hunter recounted the stresses of being a love object to millions of young women when he was, in reality, a gay man.

"I believed, wholeheartedly — still do — that a person's happiness depends on being true to themselves," he wrote. "The dilemma, of course, that was being true to myself — and I'm talking sexually now — was impossible in 1953."

Among those stars honoring Hunter on Monday included Harvey Fierstein, who called Hunter a "gay icon" and a "true gentleman" on Twitter, adding, "We shared some good laughs back in the 80's. I was always fond of this dear man."

Zachary Quinto on Instagram also cheered Hunter's "vital and generous nature" and called him a "pioneer of self-acceptance" who moved through the world "with authenticity as his guide." GLAAD tweeted "Our hearts are with Tab's loved ones."

Born Arthur Andrew Kelm, his screen tab (slang for "name" at the time) was fabricated by Henry Willson, the same talent



Associated Press file photo

In this April 3, 1967 file photo shows actor Tab Hunter. Hunter, the blond actor and singer who was the heartthrob of millions of teenage girls in the 1950s, and received new attention decades later when he revealed that he was gay, died Sunday. He was 86.

agent who came up with the names Rock Hudson and Rory Calhoun.

The legend goes that Willson said to the young man: "We've got to find something to tab you with. Do you have any hobbies?" His client answered, "I ride horses. Hunters." Agent: "That's it! We'll call you Tab Hunter."

With no dramatic training, Hunter was cast in a minor role in the 1950 drama, "The Lawless." The fuss over the young actor began two years later when he appeared bare-chested opposite Linda Darnell in the British-made "Island of Desire." Soon his handsome face and muscular build appeared on magazine covers. Warner Bros., alert to the increasingly important youth market, signed him to a contract.

Hunter made a flurry of movies in the latter half of the 1950s, aimed at capitalizing on his popularity with young girls. The films included such war dramas as "Battle Cry" (with Van Heflin) and "Lafayette Escadrille" (Clint Eastwood in a small role). He made the Westerns "The Burning Hills" (Natalie Wood) and "They Came to Cordura" (Gary Cooper, Rita Hayworth). And he made romantic comedies like "The Pleasure of His Company" (Fred Astaire,

Debbie Reynolds.) A highlight was the 1958 "Damn Yankees," an adaptation of the hit Broadway musical with Gwen Verdon and Ray Walston in their Tony-winning New York roles and the original director, George Abbott, sharing direction with Stanley Donen. The New York Times' critic noted that Hunter "has the clean, naive look of a lad breaking into the big leagues and into the magical company of a first-rate star."

Besides the movies, he displayed his athletic skills — he had been a figure skater as well as horseman — in a TV special, "Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates."

As with so many pop idols, his fans grew up and a new generation sought other favorites. His slide followed the classic pattern: to a television series ("The Tab Hunter Show," on NBC, 1960-62); European films ("The Golden Arrow") and cheap kid flicks ("Ride the Wild Surf"). In his memoir, he took pains to note that "Ride the Wild Surf" was his only beach-party movie; his "Operation Bikini," despite its title, was "yet another war movie."

Over the years, he also played small roles in "The Loved One," "The Life and Times of Judge Roy

Bean" and "Grease 2." In the 1980s, he won new fans by appearing in cult movies with Divine, the 300-pound drag performer, notably John Waters' 1981 "Polyester" and Paul Bartel's 1985 "Lust in the Dust," co-produced by Hunter himself.

Of "Polyester," Hunter wrote: "Everybody got the joke. ... For both John and me, our collaboration paid huge dividends: I'd helped 'legitimize' his brand of movie, and he made me 'hip' overnight."

Hunter appeared on Broadway in 1964 in Tennessee Williams' "The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore" opposite the formidable Tallulah Bankhead. The play closed within days, and he said it was "completely buried under Tallulah's offhanded trademark campiness."

Hunter was born in 1931 in New York City, the second son of a mechanic and his German immigrant wife. His father left the family two years later and the boy took his mother's name, Gelien. Young Arthur Gelien grew up in San Francisco and Long Beach, California, and joined the Coast Guard at 15, lying about his age.

While in New York, he saw Broadway plays and became interested in acting. Back in California, Willson arranged for a two-word role in a small Western, "The Lawless." He got \$500 and a new name.

In his memoir, he said that his career flourished despite some innuendo and smear articles in the scandal sheets — "clear evidence that despite its self-righteous claims, 'Confidential' magazine did not influence the taste and opinions of mainstream America."

Writing the book was difficult, he told The Associated Press in 2005, "because I'm a really private person. I just didn't like any suggestions or questioning of my sexuality."

you'll ever meet," Roger said. "I never saw him like he was upset. Never heard him raise his voice. Nothing out of the way."

Virginia State Police said 91-year-old Jean Lonchak Danylo, who lived in the apartment building, was killed when the helicopter crashed.

State police Sgt. Michelle Anaya said Danylo's family is still trying to cope with the loss of a woman known to many as "Grandma Jean."

Reading from a statement provided by the family, Anaya said Danylo was an avid reader and world traveler who lived alone, still drove and volunteered each week at a local senior center.

Danylo's family said she had worked as the secretary to Bruce Christensen when he was president of PBS. He and his family still sent Danylo Christmas presents.

Danylo had one son and a large family of step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

"Generous and thoughtful, Jean was well loved and admired by all who knew her," Anaya said, reading from the family's statement.

mountains, sparking a blaze that destroyed at least eight homes.

The sheriff's office in Teller County, which has a fire ban, did not release other details about the allegations against David Renfrow, 23; Kegan Owens, 19; and a 17-year-old boy. Renfrow and Owens were in jail, and it wasn't clear if they had lawyers. They have not been formally charged yet.

It comes a week after a man was arrested on suspicion of starting the state's third-largest wildfire in recorded history by not fully extinguishing an illegal fire pit. It has destroyed more than 130 homes in southern Colorado, but firefighters have made significant progress against

Obituaries



Maydell Hanson Corley

Maydell Hanson Corley Memorial Service correction: Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at Crestview Baptist Church.



RODNEY DALE HATFIELD

CRANE: Rodney Dale Hatfield, 57, beloved husband, father, grandfather, son, and brother passed away peacefully after a courageous battle with cancer on Monday, July 2nd. Rodney was born on March 29th, 1961 to James Junior Hatfield and Wanda Marie Hatfield in Snyder, Texas. He graduated from Crane High School in 1979 and received his Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Texas Tech University in 1983.

Shortly after graduating from Texas Tech, Rodney married the love of his life, Melissa Hatfield, and began his career in the energy industry at Phillips 66.

Throughout his career, Rodney built life-long relationships with colleagues and customers alike. His last stop was at Outrigger Energy where Rodney believed that this opportunity was one of the biggest blessings of his life. He considered his colleagues at Outrigger as family and was eternally grateful for the compassion they showed him as well as his family throughout his battle with cancer.

Rodney was a devoted husband and father who was happiest when spending time with his family and friends. He enjoyed many years of Texas Tech athletics, but especially football. One of his favorite pastimes was tailgating with his wife, daughters, son-in-law's, and friends. He also loved fishing with his brother, golfing with his buddies, and enjoying wine in the Texas hill country.

Rodney's family includes his wife of 34 years, Melissa Hatfield of Midland, Texas; his parents, the late James Hatfield and Wanda Hatfield of Crane, Texas; daughter Jennifer Hatfield Almon, son-in-law Michael, and grandson Lane of Rowlett, Texas; daughter Julie Hatfield Hansen and son-in-law Michael of Dallas, Texas; brother Mark Hatfield and sister-in-law Lisa of Midland, Texas; and sister Gayla Adams and brother-in-law Gary of San Angelo, Texas.

A visitation will be held from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11th at the

Shaffer-Nichols Funeral Home in Crane, Texas - 1503 S. Gaston Crane, Texas 79731. A Memorial Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 12th at the First Baptist Church in Crane, Texas - 101 East 20th Street Crane, Texas 79731. Rodney was a proud and loyal Texas Tech Red Raider; the family requests guests to wear red and black to the memorial service to honor his love for his alma mater.

The family also requests in-lieu of flowers to donate to a scholarship fund in memory of Rodney Hatfield. Donations can be sent to the Texas Tech Foundation, P.O. Box 42005, Lubbock, Texas 79409. Please include Rodney's name on the donation. An annual golf tournament will also be held in memory of Rodney Hatfield as a source of funding for the scholarship, with details to follow at a later date.

Death Notices

Betty Sue Garner Marins

Betty Sue Garner Marins passed away peacefully, Sunday July 8th, at her home at Manor Park. She was 97. She is survived by her three children, Tom and Lucinda Marins, Susie and Don Evans, and Steve and Noemi Marins. A memorial service celebrating her life will be held later in the month. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home.

J.W. Graham

J.W. Graham, 92, of Midland, Texas, passed away Sunday, July 8, 2018. Visitation will be held from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland. Funeral service will be 10:00 a.m. Thursday, July 12, 2018 at St. Marks United Methodist Church. Interment will follow in Resthaven Memorial Park.

Jerry Pool

Jerry Pool, 71, of Midland, Texas, passed away on Sunday, July 8, 2018. Funeral services will be held Saturday, July 14, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel. He is survived by his children, Priscilla Pothoff, Lisa Moody and Don Pool.

Louis Gabriel Romero

Louis Gabriel Romero, 32, of Stanton, Texas, passed away peacefully on July 7, 2018 surrounded by his loving family. He was born and raised in Stanton, TX on April 14, 1986 to Gabriel Romero and Linda Herrera.

He is survived by his father, Gabriel Romero and stepmom Michelle, TX, his mother, Linda Del Rio and stepfather James; paternal grandmother Julia Romero; maternal grandmother Carmen Herrera; sister, Sonya Moreno, Gabriela Deanda, Olivia Redwine, Sarah Fernandez; brothers, Chris Romero, Justin Holmes, Ron Holmes, Jared Holmes, Richard Luera, Johnathon Luera, Zachariah Luera, Caleb Del Rio, Preston Del Rio, Anthony Del; and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, July 10, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Rosary will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Stanton Memorial Funeral Home. Funeral mass will be Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stanton. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery.

Officials recover body of helicopter pilot from deadly crash

By Ben Finley
and Sarah Brumfield
Associated Press

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — Authorities have recovered the body of the pilot of small helicopter that crashed into a Virginia apartment building and killed a resident, the National Transportation Safety Board said Monday.

Investigators are still working to identify the pilot of the Robinson R44, said NTSB Air Safety Investigator Doug Brazey.

The aircraft is registered to a Henry E. Schwarz of Alexandria, Virginia, according to Federal Aviation Administration Records. A woman who answered the phone at Schwarz's home said he was not there.

Only one person was on board the plane Sunday afternoon, Brazey said. The helicopter took off from the Williamsburg-Jamestown Airport about a 1

mile from the crash site. Investigators are still interviewing witnesses. But some said the engine of the four-seat helicopter sounded "funny" or "unusual" before it crashed into the 10-unit apartment building, setting it on fire, Brazey said.

Charley Rogers, a line-man who oversees operations at the Williamsburg-Jamestown Airport, told The Associated Press on Monday that Schwarz had taken off from the airport Sunday afternoon.

He declined to address whether Schwarz had died, but the airport's flag was flying at half-mast.

Rogers said Schwarz is the president of the Virginia Helicopter Association and had just attended one of the association's meetings at the airport Sunday afternoon. He was heading for home in Alexandria.

Rogers said Schwarz kept his helicopter well maintained, even flying

it to the manufacturer in California last year to have it overhauled for just shy of around \$400,000.

Rogers said Schwarz told him that he served in Vietnam.

"Most people who flew in the military wanted to fly something similar after they got out," Rogers said.

Schwarz earned the Distinguished Flying Cross while flying helicopters in Vietnam, according to Sheldon Goldberg, a retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel and secretary for the Wilbur Wright Chapter for the Distinguished Flying Cross Society in Maryland.

Schwarz was a major in the U.S. Army. During the mission for which he earned the medal, Schwarz led a number of helicopters to resupply a Vietnamese convoy that had been ambushed, Goldberg said. Schwarz hovered his helicopter in a landing zone area for several minutes despite continued enemy fire, directing the other helicopters to safe landing sites.

Rogers said Schwarz was 85 years old, which was somewhat unusual for someone who still flew, but it wasn't unheard of.

"Henry's the nicest guy

Illegal fires ignite massive Colorado blazes, spur arrests

By Colleen Slevin
Associated Press

DENVER — An illegal campfire likely ignited another destructive blaze in Colorado, an outcome authorities were trying to avoid across the hot, dry U.S. West by enforcing strict fire rules and closing some public lands.

Several people have been arrested in two Colorado wildfires that burned homes after ignoring local and federal restrictions on campfires, target shooting

and other activities aimed at combating and avoiding explosive blazes across the U.S. region.

Parts of Colorado and other Western states have been grappling with heat and severe drought. In Arizona, large swaths of national forests and state trust land have been closed since before Memorial Day, while some national forests in New Mexico are opening up after rain helped ease fire danger that kept popular trails and camping spots off limits

for weeks.

A national forest in Colorado fully closed last month for the first time in 16 years to prevent new wildfires started by people. And Rocky Mountain National Park imposed a ban on all campfires starting Friday because of the risk of having a new fire start with firefighters already busy.

Investigators announced Monday that three people were arrested on suspicion of starting a campfire and leaving it unattended in Colorado's south-central

the 168-square-mile fire. Flames sparked in ski country also have led authorities to issue arrest warrants for two people at a shooting range accused of using tracer ammunition, which illuminates the path of fired bullets and is always banned at state ranges regardless of fire conditions. Prosecutors say one of the rounds ignited vegetation on July 3.

The blaze destroyed three homes about 20 miles from Aspen, and other shooting ranges have temporarily closed because of fire danger.

More details on large wildfires across the West.

NEVADA
A fast-growing wildfire roaring through dry grass

kept fire crews busy Monday amid heat and high wind in remote northern Nevada.

Flames the size of a four-story building torched nearly 625 square miles of cattle-grazing land and habitat for the imperiled sage grouse near the border with Oregon and Idaho, said Norm Rooker with the fire's incident management team.

The blaze is feeding on dry cheatgrass that's 10 times more plentiful than normal in some spots after a low-snow winter failed to tamp down a bumper crop of the invasive grass from last year, he said.

"It's like they've thrown a match on gasoline, it's burning that intense, that hot, that quickly," he said.

Oil company close to finalizing 3,000 leases in Carlsbad

Associated Press

CARLSBAD, N.M.

An Artesia-based oil company is close to finalizing numerous leases with mineral rights owners in Carlsbad as it moves ahead with plans to drill under the southeastern New Mexico city.

Santo Petroleum got approval from city councilors in 2017 to go door to door and offer residents five-year leases for their mineral rights.

The Carlsbad Current-Argus reports that the company has obtained about 3,000 leases in the last year, covering the majority of the planned leasing area. "Santo is well down the path of its planned lease

acquisition activity," Santo President Hanson Yates said. "We are nearing the end of the lease acquisition phase of the project."

Owners were offered a signing bonus up front and a percentage of the subsequent revenue, should the wells prove productive.

Yates said Santo hasn't published a specific timeline for drilling development due to the complexity of readying such a large number of leases and tracts to drill.

The two biggest leases were with the City of Carlsbad and Carlsbad Municipal Schools. The city leased about 175 acres and was paid about \$824,000. The school district received about \$148,000 for

149 acres.

The company plans to drill wells up to 2 miles deep outside city limits and then drill horizontally up to 2 miles into Carlsbad to access potential crude oil.

Carlsbad City Administrator Mike Hernandez said the wells will be much deeper than the water table and that the project will have little effect on activities on the surface.

Carlsbad's ground water supply is about 300 to 500 feet deep, he said.

"We've had our experts prove to us that it is safe," he said.

The project is another sign that the Permian Basin is booming.

"It just fits in with everything that's going here,"

Hernandez said. "The royalties will be a huge benefit in the long term. They said it could pump millions into the city."

Superintendent Greg Rodriguez was not as confident that the school district will see a large return. The main reason he signed the lease was to get the upfront bonus. That money means more can be spent on school supplies and other student needs, he said.

Rodriguez was certain the project won't disturb district-owned structures on the surface. He said similar deals were enacted at rural school districts in West Texas to no detriment

Texas church announces \$3M in donations after mass shooting

Associated Press

SUTHERLAND

SPRINGS—A church has received nearly \$3 million in donations for victims and their families after more than two dozen worshippers died in a mass shooting last year.

The First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs on Sunday announced it received \$2.91 million in donations after gunman Devin Patrick Kelley opened fire during church services Nov. 5.

Church leaders said \$840,000 was designated for victim relief, the Dallas Morning News reported. Pastor Frank Pomeroy said about \$2 million wasn't designated by donors and about \$130,000 was donated for a memorial, the church's food pantry and funerals. The church will vote on any expenditure above \$1,000 used from undesignated donations, Pomeroy said.

The \$2.91 million total doesn't include more than \$24,000 designated by donors for specific survivors or families.

Months ago, some donors, survivors and victims' families questioned how the church was spending donations. Churches aren't required to publicize

their revenue, expenditures and other financial details.

Pomeroy said church leaders couldn't make the financial disclosure until now.

It took months for the congregation to sort through the cash and checks and arrange a system for distribution. The donations were sent to the church, a Wells Fargo relief fund and two PayPal accounts.

The church has been distributing aid when survivors and victims' families submit forms and receipts for expenses related to the mass shooting, such as hospital bills or renovating homes for disabilities.

"I've always believed in transparency," Pomeroy said. "I know it may have made it look like we were not trying to be transparent before, but we just weren't ready."

Lisa McNulty, whose daughter was killed in the massacre, said she's surprised by the total donation amount and concerned with how the church is handling the money.

"The people of the United States poured their hearts out for their victims," she said. "And I think it's a pity it's taken this long for anybody to receive it."

STATE®IONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

EL PASO

Mom says officer choked boy before aiming gun at kids

A mother has accused a West Texas police officer of choking her son before a video recording captured the officer pointing a gun at a group of children.

The video, which has been viewed millions of times online, shows an El Paso officer briefly pointing his weapon at a group of boys. One boy is heard cursing at the officer right before the officer draws his weapon.

Elizabeth Flores tells the El Paso Times the video started after the officer choked one of her sons and forced him to the ground. Flores says the video shows two of her sons being taken into custody.

A police spokesman previously said one minor and one adult were arrested following Thursday's confrontation.

City officials said Saturday that the incident is under investigation. The officer has been put on desk duty.

DALLAS

Argument over fireworks leads to shooting death of man

Authorities in North Texas say an argument over fireworks led to the fatal shooting of an 80-year-old man over the weekend.

Wise County Sheriff Lane Akin tells The Dallas Morning News Edward Cordero was shot Saturday evening in Lake Bridgeport after complaining to his neighbors about the fireworks they were setting off. The sheriff alleges Cordero retrieved a gun from his house and fired the first shot at his neighbors.

Akin says a 33-year-old shot back at Cordero with a gun he had grabbed from his vehicle. The sheriff's office hasn't released the neighbor's name yet.

The medical examiner's office says Cordero died early Sunday from gunshot wounds to the head and shoulder.

HOUSTON

Police: Toddler dead after self-inflicted gunshot wound

Police in Houston say a 2-year-old boy is dead after he apparently found a loaded gun in his home and shot himself in the head.

The shooting happened Sunday afternoon in northwest Houston. Police Capt. David Angelo says investigators are still piecing together what happened, but that they believe the boy found the unsecured gun, pointed it at his head and pulled the trigger.

The child was pronounced dead at Texas Children's Hospital.

Angelo says investigators found a 9 mm pistol on a couch in the home's living room.

He says the boy's parents were home at the time of the shooting, and that an investigation is underway to determine whether any charges should be filed.

HOUSTON

Condemned killer who wanted fancy car wheels loses appeal

A federal appeals court has rejected an appeal from a Houston gang member on death row for killing the driver of a car on a Houston freeway so he could steal the vehicle's fancy wheels.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision moves 30-year-old Tedrick Batiste a step closer to execution for the April 2009 slaying of 26-year-old Horace Holiday. Appeals attorneys unsuccessfully argued Batiste had deficient legal help at his trial.

Evidence showed Batiste confessed to coveting the spinning rims on Holiday's white Cadillac so he opened fire, wounding Holiday. When the injured Holiday tried crawling away, evidence showed Batiste shot him again, then led police on an 8-mile-long chase before he was captured.

Trial jurors also learned Batiste was involved in another fatal shooting at a tattoo shop.

AUSTIN

Trial begins for man accused in 2016 slaying of UT student

A 20-year-old man accused of strangling and sexually assaulting a University of Texas freshman on campus in April 2016 is facing trial.

Jury selection began Monday in the capital murder trial of Meechael Criner, who is accused in the death of Haruka Weiser.

Criner is not eligible for the death penalty because he was 17 at the time of the killing. If convicted, the foster care runaway faces a sentence of life in prison with the possibility of parole.

Authorities have said he was found burning items that may have belonged to Weiser.

Eighteen-year-old Weiser, was a dance major from Portland, Oregon. Police have said she was killed as she walked to her dormitory after leaving a rehearsal.

VICTORIA

Jury selection begins for mosque arson suspect

A 26-year-old man accused of setting fire to a Southeast Texas mosque is to face a hate crime charge in federal court.

Marq Vincent Perez is also charged with use of a fire to commit a federal felony in the January 2017 fire that destroyed an Islamic center in Victoria. Jury selection began Monday.

A federal law enforcement officer has testified that an informant said Perez "hated" Muslims and that he believed the center's worshippers are terrorists.

Authorities last year also charged the man with possession of an unregistered destructive device in an indictment unrelated to the mosque fire.

If convicted of the hate crime charge, the most serious count, Perez could be sentenced to up to 20 years in prison.

NEW BOSTON

Girl electrocuted

reaching behind dryer for kittens

Authorities in East Texas are investigating the death of a 10-year-old girl who was apparently electrocuted as she was reaching behind a clothes dryer to retrieve her kittens.

KSLA-TV in Shreveport, Louisiana, reports that the parents of Greenlee Marie said she was trying to rescue the pets Saturday at the family's home in New Boston, Texas. Authorities were back at the home on Monday investigating.

New Boston police Chief Garry McCrary told the television station that it's "too early right now to go ahead and place blame and responsibility until the investigation is over." He didn't elaborate.

NEW MEXICO

Management shift begins at US nuclear weapons lab

LOS ALAMOS — The U.S. government has cleared the way for a new management team to begin taking over one of the nation's top nuclear weapons laboratories.

The National Nuclear Security Administration issued an official notice to proceed to Triad National Security LLC on Monday, marking the beginning of a transition at Los Alamos National Laboratory that will take four months.

Triad is made up of Ohio-based Battelle Memorial Institute, Texas A&M University and the University of California.

The group was announced in June as the winning bidder of an estimated \$2.5 billion-a-year contract to manage the lab, which was being grappling with safety lapses and missed goals.

Triad has named Thomas Mason as the lab's director designate. He currently serves as senior vice president for Battelle's global lab operations and he's a former director of Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Woman charged with aggravated assault

A Midland woman was arrested July 3 after she allegedly hit a woman with a hammer, according to court documents.

Bianca Nichole Mancha, 29, was being held Monday on a \$50,000 bond for a second-degree felony charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, a



\$5,000 bond for a third-degree felony charge of tampering with physical evidence with intent to

impair, a \$2,500 bond for a state jail felony charge of possession of a controlled substance and \$1,000 in bonds for two misdemeanor charges.

Midland police were dispatched at about 8:10 p.m. July 3 in reference to a disturbance with weapons.

Mancha was told to leave a backyard when she pulled a hammer and was aggressive toward a woman, according to her arrest affidavit. Mancha allegedly swung the hammer, which hit the woman on the side of her neck.

If convicted of the second-degree felony charge, Mancha could face up to 20 years imprisonment.

Man arrested on aggravated assault charge

A man was arrested July 3 after he allegedly displayed a firearm, according to court documents.

Timothy Lynn Cline, 43, was being held Monday on two \$30,000 bonds for second-degree felony charges of aggravated assault with a



deadly weapon, a \$5,000 bond for a third-degree felony charge of tampering with physical evidence with intent to impair and a \$500 bond for a Class A misdemeanor charge of unlawful carrying of a weapon.

Midland police were dispatched at about 9:30 p.m.

July 3 in reference to a disturbance with weapons.

Two men were sitting on the tailgate of a vehicle when Cline approached them and said he had killed people, according to his arrest affidavit. Cline then allegedly lifted up the back of his shirt and showed them a firearm tucked in his shorts.

Cline later allegedly approached the men in an aggressive manner and had one hand behind his back, where the men previously saw the firearm. The men thought Cline told them he had killed people as a threat, and they feared for their lives, according to the affidavit.

If convicted of a second-degree felony charge, Cline could face up to 20 years imprisonment.

BUDGET

From 1A

percent of the general fund budget.

Priorities for the proposed 2019 budget:

- increases the street maintenance funds by \$2,278,219.

The 2019 budget also includes \$5,362,400 for street improvement projects, bringing Street Maintenance and Capital Infrastructure budgets to a total of \$10 million.

- increases funding by \$450,000 to upgrade roadway lighting on city streets.

Additionally, \$250,000 is dedicated to the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program.

- has a net increase of 27 positions.
- it also includes step increases for police and

fire sworn staff and pay progressions for non-sworn staff. Additionally, a 4 percent cost-of-living adjustment included for all staff. Built into the budget, as well, are possible incentives to retain positions that are typically hardest hit when oilfield hiring increases. These incentives would go into effect at the time that management discerns oilfield hiring is having a significant impact on turnover.

- includes approximately \$8.4 million for the replacement and purchase of new vehicles and equipment.

- includes \$5.1 million in funding for capital improvements for the Water and Sewer Fund.

- increases sales tax revenue from the 2018 level of \$38 million to \$48 million.

General fund budget highlights

- 6 new firefighters
- 1 Battalion chiefs
- 1 training captain for the fire department
- 3 new police officers (1 dedicated to mental health)
- 1 open records clerk (legal)
- 1 assistant city manager (City Manager's Office) and 1 associate traffic engineer (Engineering Department)
- 1 combination building code inspector and 1 planner in Development Services.
- 1 medical assistant (Health Department), and 1 assistant purchasing manager (Purchasing)
- 1 City Hall receptionist for HR
- 1 administrative assistant for city secretary
- 2 new vehicles, a replacement vehicle and fire pumper for the fire department
- Replace 3B and add three new police vehicles, along with a new older leader
- Police and fire step raises effective October
- Pay progression for non-public safety employees effective October
- 4 percent COLA raises for employees effective October 2

APPLICATION

From 1A

Barcelona, a book festival held in October in Spain.

Trischitti said the library has collaborated with Midland ISD and provided Spanish versions of books to students through Project Literacy. He said it's sometimes difficult to find works that haven't been translated and hopes the upcoming event will offer more resources for local children.

"I think we're going to have an opportunity to see a lot of different

publishers — some that maybe don't do a lot of work in America — create some relationships, and perhaps have an avenue moving forward when we need a specific Spanish-language title... to maybe bring some of those books back and get those in the hands of kids in the Midland community," he said.

Trischitti on Monday told commissioners he hadn't yet approached the Midland County Public Library Foundation in regards to support.

Judge denies US claim on 2 of 3 California immigration laws

By Don Thompson
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif.

A judge on Monday dismissed the federal government's claim that U.S. law trumps two California laws intended to protect immigrants who are in the country illegally, affirming his ruling last week that California was within its rights to pass two of its three so-called sanctuary laws.

U.S. District Judge John Mendez rejected the U.S. government's argument on two of the laws that the U.S. Constitution gives the federal government pre-emptive power over states to regulate immigration. The Trump administration argued that California is obstructing its immigration enforcement efforts.

As he did in last week's decision, Mendez ruled Monday that the federal government could proceed with its attempt to block part of a third California sanctuary law, which prohibits employers from allowing immigration officials on their property without warrants.

The twin rulings by Mendez, who was nominated to the federal bench by Republican President George W. Bush, allow California to continue limiting police cooperation with immigration officials and require inspections of detention facilities despite the Trump administration's lawsuit filed in March.

The lawsuit, announced by U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions, is part of the Trump administration's efforts to overturn so-called sanctuary jurisdictions that he said allow criminals to remain free. Supporters of sanctuary laws argue they encourage immigrants to

report crimes without fearing deportation.

California's law limiting the sharing of information with federal agents "does not directly conflict" with U.S. law, Mendez wrote in a seven-page decision.

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra, in a statement, called the decision "a victory for our State's ability to safeguard the privacy, safety, and constitutional rights of all of our people. Though the Trump Administration may continue to attack a state like California and its ability to make its own laws, we will continue to protect our constitutional authority to protect our residents and the rule of law."

U.S. Department of Justice spokesman Devin O'Malley did not immediately respond to telephone and email requests for comment after normal East Coast business hours.

As for California's law that requires state inspections of detention facilities where immigrants are held, the judge wrote that he found nothing in the federal statutes saying Congress did not intend for states to have oversight of detention facilities in their borders.

The law "does not give California a role in determining whether an immigrant should be detained or removed from the country, nor does it place any substantive requirements or burdens on these detention facilities apart from providing access," Mendez wrote.

Mendez ruled last week that California cannot enforce the warrants law, so court proceedings on that portion of the law will continue. Both sides could elect to appeal the judge's decisions on any of the rulings.

US will reunite and release over 50 immigrant children

By Elliot Spagat
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — More than 50 immigrant children under age 5 will be reunited with their parents by Tuesday's court-ordered deadline for action by Trump administration, and the families will then be released into the U.S., a government attorney said Monday.

That's only about half of the 100 or so toddlers covered by the order. At a court hearing, Justice Department lawyer Sarah Fabian acknowledged the government wouldn't meet the deadline for all the children, citing a variety of reasons, including that the parents of some of the youngsters have already been deported.

Fabian said that 54 children will be joined with their parents by the end of Tuesday at locations across the country and that an additional five were undergoing final background checks.

It was the first time the government indicated whether the parents and children would be released or detained together. They will be set free in the U.S. pending the outcome of their immigration cases, which can take several years.

Fabian didn't say why they were being released, but U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has little space to hold families.

ICE has three family detention centers with room for about 3,000 people in all, and the places are already at or near capacity. The Trump administration is trying to line up thousands more beds at military bases.

American Civil Liberties Union attorney Lee Gelernt told reporters he was "both pleased and disappointed" with the government's progress toward meeting the deadline.

"Tomorrow there will hopefully



Elliot Spagat/Associated Press

be more than 50 babies and toddlers reunited with their parents, and that is obviously an enormous victory," he said. But he said those who remain split from their parents are "in for a long process."

U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw ordered both sides back in court on Tuesday to give another update. The ACLU was drawing up a proposal to shorten the wait for the remaining children. Gelernt said some procedures — such as DNA testing, fingerprinting and requests for other information — were designed for releasing children to distant relatives, not to parents.

More than 2,000 children in all were separated from their parents by U.S. immigration authorities at the border this spring before President Donald Trump reversed course on June 20 amid an international outcry and said families should remain together.

Late last month, Sabraw, an appointee of Republican President George W. Bush, set a 14-day deadline to reunite children under 5 with their parents and a 30-day deadline for older children. The 30-day deadline is up July 26.

Monday's hearing set the stage for a dramatic day of reunifications on Tuesday across the country, though they are likely to occur largely outside public view. Fabian did not disclose where the reunions would take place.

As for most of the rest of the under-5 children who have yet to be reunited with their families, Fabian said that their parents have already been released into the U.S., have been deported, or are behind bars on criminal charges.

One child has not been matched with a parent, Fabian said. The ACLU identified him as a 3-year-old boy.

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Baby survives 9 hours buried in western Montana woods

Associated Press

MISSOULA, Mont. — A 5-month-old infant who miraculously survived more than nine hours being buried under a pile of sticks and debris in the woods of western Montana suffered only minor injuries despite wearing wet and soiled clothes in cold weather, authorities said Monday.

The baby boy is otherwise in good condition, authorities said.

Missoula County Sheriff's deputies were called about 8 p.m. Saturday about a man threatening people in the Lolo Hot Springs area of the Lolo National Forest. Deputies apprehended the man, who indicated that a baby was buried somewhere in the woods.

The sheriff's office hastily put together a search crew of federal, state and local officials that combed the forest outside the hot springs for six hours before a deputy heard a baby's cry at about 2:30 a.m. Sunday.

He found the baby face-down under the pile of sticks and debris, dressed only in a wet and soiled onesie in the 46-degree weather.

"He suffered some minor scrapes and bruising but overall is in good health," sheriff's spokeswoman

Brenda Bassett said in a statement Monday.

The baby was taken to a hospital. Custody of the child has been referred to the state Division of Child and Family Services. Spokesman Chuck Council declined to answer any questions about where the child will be placed or how the baby will be cared for, citing medical privacy.

Francis Crowley, 32, was being held on \$50,000 bail on a charge of criminal endangerment. Additional charges will follow, the sheriff's office said in a statement Sunday.

"For all of us at the sheriff's office, this is what we call a miracle," the statement said. "For the officers who were present for this event, it's especially hard knowing what this small baby endured in the last 24 hours."

Crowley is from Portland, Oregon, and was previously arrested in June in Missoula on a fugitive warrant from Oregon, the Missoulian reported. Crowley was released when Oregon officials decided not to extradite him, Deputy Missoula County Attorney Jason Marks said.

The nature of Crowley's relationship to the baby was not immediately clear. There was no information on whether Crowley had an attorney.

Starbucks, citing ocean threat, is ditching plastic straws

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Starbucks will eliminate plastic straws from all of its loca-

tions within two years, the coffee chain announced Monday, becoming the largest food and beverage company to do so as calls for businesses and cities to cut waste grow louder.

While the straws account for a small percentage of the pollution that ends up in the ocean, they've become a flashpoint because they're seen as an easy way to reduce waste.

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, July 10, 2018 | Page 6A

Obama could correct Democrats' mistakes

■ Former president is only one who can reach younger voters, angry activists and suburban women

To the annoyance of many Democrats, former President Barack Obama has largely floated above the political fray instead of actively leading the anti-Trump brigade. He's told associates that he doesn't want to aggravate political polarization and wants to preserve his credibility by speaking out only selectively and on key occasions.

If that's the case, now is such a time. He doesn't need to sound the alarm about President Donald Trump's bad policies and vicious behavior. Others are doing that.

Instead, it's the right moment for Obama to lay down a marker for Democrats, subtly warning against moving to extremes in response to Trump. Liberals, he thinks, "need to mix idealism with practicality," according to an article last month in New York magazine.

Actually, in this political season, mainstream Democrats have done well in contested primaries. A New York congressional contest last month in which a young socialist defeated a Democratic House leader has been widely and wrongly over-interpreted by both opponents and enthusiasts as a sign that Democrats are

ALBERT
HUNT

Bloomberg View



veering left.

But Democrats are making some mistakes that Obama could help correct. In response to Trump's policy of separating immigrant children from their families, politicians including Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York and Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts have called for eliminating the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency. Trump relishes that debate, which deflects attention from his abuse of children. There's also pressure on Democrats to insist that the only way to improve the health care system is to turn it over to the government, and to demand Trump's impeachment now.

Obama could make his presence felt as midterm congressional elections approach by pushing back without picking fights. He could call for building on the Affordable Care Act, his signature health care law, instead of scrapping it in favor of a single-payer system. He could recommend

letting the investigations of Trump by special counsel Robert Mueller and others play out before considering impeachment. He could urge that the focus on immigration issues be redirected toward helping children and families instead of fear-mongering. And by his calm example, he could remind allies to respect civility even in turbulent times.

The 44th president's standing is such that he'd provide some cover for Democratic candidates who are being pressured by the party's left wing on these issues.

He's the only one who possibly can reach younger voters, angry activists and suburban women simultaneously. Bill and Hillary Clinton have lost credibility. Warren doesn't want to alienate the left, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is worrying about holding on to her leadership job if Democrats win the House, and Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer wouldn't be taken seriously by these constituencies.

It's a mistake for Obama to ignore the elements in his party who believe, as the historian Sean Wilentz has written, that "the only way to fight right-wing populism is with left-wing populism."

Trump is losing the border war politically, so when critics attack an enforcement agency instead of the policymaker, it plays into his hands. Likewise, Republi-

cans are on the defensive on the big health care issues, having misled the country for eight years in their assault against universal health insurance and having turned to a president who cares little about the topic. Changing the subject to debating the merits of what would be an immensely complicated, expensive and controversial single-payer system throws these Republicans a life raft.

In the era of Trump, another canard is that only shrill voices are heard. Over the past eight months, the three biggest Democratic winners, Sen. Doug Jones of Alabama, Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam and Rep. Conor Lamb of Pennsylvania, all are moderate in manner as well as politics. Two Democratic incumbent senators in states Trump carried, Bob Casey of Pennsylvania and Sherrod Brown of Ohio, are known by colleagues as nice guys. They're both likely to win by double digits this November.

There are others, however, whom the popular Obama might assist. He's vowed to help the Democrats' redistricting campaign, which seeks to reverse some of the huge gains Republicans scored by creating partisan congressional and state legislative lines after the 2010 census. Democrats were asleep at the switch then, when Obama was president and leader of his party.

GUEST VIEW

Giving jail inmates access to reading materials make sense

Good news generally doesn't come out of jails, so what Amalia Beckner is doing deserves special attention.

Beckner is a public defender, one of those lawyers who devote their professional lives to ensuring that poor people accused of committing crimes have a fighting chance in court. Most of her clients are so broke, they can't afford to buy books to read while they're awaiting trial. So she launched a social media campaign asking for donations to an Amazon account dedicated to sending books directly to her clients in the Harris County Jail.

Within a few days, Beckner had raised more than \$1,400 and within a month she got the first titles delivered to the jail. Just as important as the money she raised is the attention she's brought to a problem that begs for a solution. Educating prisoners by giving them access to books is simple and cost-effective, and plenty of people would be willing to donate used reading materials to the jail. But Harris County needs a system to provide indigent prisoners better access to books.

Inmates in Harris County jails generally spend most of their time sitting around in dormitory-style pods with nothing to do but talk to other people accused of committing crimes. It's not exactly the most promising environment for rehabilitation. If indigent inmates want to do something productive with their time by reading, their access to books is utterly inadequate. Book carts roll around offering prisoners a limited number of reading materials, but a sheriff's office spokesman says only five titles can be checked out in each pod, which can house dozens of inmates.

Friends and family members can't give books directly to prisoners, a restriction that makes sense because weapons or contraband could be hidden in the pages of thick tomes. The jail does allow direct delivery of books from publishers or services such as Amazon, a strikingly progressive policy that nonetheless doesn't help inmates who are so broke they can't afford bail.

That's the conundrum Beckner faced. As the Chronicle's Keri Blakinger reported (last) week, Beckner spent more than three years photocopying chapters of books for her jailed clients. (We trust her noble motive will inspire publishers to forgive her for skating around copyright laws.) Last month, she decided to ask for help. An appeal she posted on her Facebook page raised enough money to pay for a wish list of literature requested by poor inmates.

"I ask my clients to write 'book reports' after they finish each book or chapter and send them to me, both to encourage reflection and learning, and to demonstrate accountability," Beckner wrote. "One current client in particular is a voracious reader — he loves to read everything, and quite frankly, I can't keep up."

Sheriff Ed Gonzalez apparently has no problem with making more books available. Outstanding volunteer efforts run by jail activist Jennifer Herring, with the help of downtown's Cathedral Bookstore, provide an extensive selection of titles to the roughly 250 inmates lucky enough to be involved in re-entry programs. A spokesman for the sheriff says he's open to the idea of working with a volunteer organization, much like the jail's chaplain program, that would handle the screening and distribution of more books to the general population.

That idea needs to become a reality. Conservatives and liberals don't agree on much in public policy debates these days, but people on both sides of the political spectrum recently joined President Donald Trump at a White House event touting the importance of helping inmates who've served their time adjust to life in the free world. If idle minds really are the devil's workshop, Amalia Beckner has the right idea. Giving jail inmates access to more books just makes good sense.

— Houston Chronicle

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TO OUR READERS

Opinions, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the author's or artist's views and not necessarily the view of the Reporter-Telegram.



Austinites don't often visit Alamo City

Today, with summer travel season upon us, let's deal with something from a file we'll call "Is it just me, or ...?"

Is it just me or does it seem like Austinites, in general, oddly find little reason to go to San Antonio, a unique and larger city that's only about 80 miles southwest of here?

This notion again crossed my mind during a recent trip to San Antonio for a David Byrne concert. Great show, by the way. He's bringing it to Austin at the Bass Concert Hall on Oct. 10. Go. It's a great reminder that he's a lot more than just a Talking Head. I saw him in San Antonio at the new-to-me Tobin Center for the Performing Arts. Great venue.

Anyway, it was that overnight stay in San Antonio that cemented this notion about why I, and maybe other Austinites, find relatively few reasons to go to San Antonio. Is it just me? Could be. Back in 2016, this paper noted that a report by Trivago, a hotel reservation outfit, found that San Antonio was the most-searched destination in Austin. Searches could lead to visits. But I still get the feeling that Austinites don't go to San Antonio as much as one might think they would.

I like San Antonio. The Alamo is always worth visiting (though they probably shouldn't have put it in the middle of downtown). A few years ago, I went to the Alamo for a screening of "The Alamo" (Ron Howard's 2004 version, not the 1960 John Wayne epic that's especially historically inaccurate).

Without getting into the current battle over the Alamo, let's just all agree that it's nice to see movement toward classing up the area a bit.

The Alamo is one of the San Antonio missions, all of which are interesting and well worth a visit. And who — even if you think it's uncool to say the food there is good — doesn't enjoy the mega-Tex-Mex restaurant that is Mi Tierra in the market area? One of the great joys of San Antonio is taking first-timers (especially non-Texans) to Mi Tierra and watching them absorb the over-the-top atmosphere. Muy entertaining.

I've also done some enjoyable bike rides, organized and independent, in San Antonio. Though it's been a long time since I've been there and I'm overdue for another visit, I remember the Institute of Texan Cultures as a great place.

I've only been to San Antonio's annual Fiesta once, and that was to help cover a 1979 shooting spree during the Battle of Flowers parade. I really need to go back and check it out under better circumstances.

I'm a basketball fan (the long-suffering New York Knicks kind), but I've made the transition to where I enjoy games as much (more?) on TV than in person. So, I've never been to a Spurs home game at the AT&T Center. I did go to games at the old HemisFair Arena. I admire the Spurs as one of the best franchises in pro sports, despite this past season's Kawhi Leonard unpleasantness. One other point: The Spurs annoy me by having piped-

in music playing while the ball's in play. There ought to be a law. This ain't figure skating.

So, there's a lot of good stuff in our not-too-distant neighbor, but somehow not enough to draw me — and other Austinites? — to San Antonio very often. What am I missing?

I'm not interested in igniting a battle over which city is better. Both are great and unique. And I don't want to revisit the Austin-San Antonio breakfast taco war that rocked the nation a few years ago. The goal here is to limit the discussion to why it seems that in the years I've lived in Austin (got here in 1979), I've found relatively few reasons (other than work purposes) to go to a bigger city (and it used to be much bigger) and unique city that's so close.

Some numbers, including some that could answer my question about why it seems to me Austinites don't go to San Antonio very often. The city of San Antonio's population now is about 1.5 million, making it the seventh largest city in the U.S. (and second largest in the southern U.S.). But the San Antonio metro area has 2.5 million people, which ranks it only 24th in the nation.

The city of Austin's population now is tagged at about 950,000, making us the nation's 11th largest city, which is pretty staggering to consider. But our metro area is just over 2 million, ranking 31st in the nation. So, metro-area-wise, the two cities aren't all that different in size these days.

I'm sure I'm missing something about San Antonio. I'd like to find more reasons to go there. So, suggest away, and, as guidance, please know I'm not a fancy restaurant guy and, as a prohibitionist, sending me to places where alcohol is a key feature will just remind me of how much work I have to do on that front. I really don't need more reminders of that.

I have one person actually who Austinites might find interesting in San Antonio: the former Austinite who's mayor down there.

Ron Nirenberg, 41, though born in a Boston suburb, moved to Austin with his family when he was 3. Nirenberg wound up in San Antonio after attending Trinity University there.

So maybe that's a reason to go to San Antonio, to say howdy to a former Austinite who seems to have a bright political future.

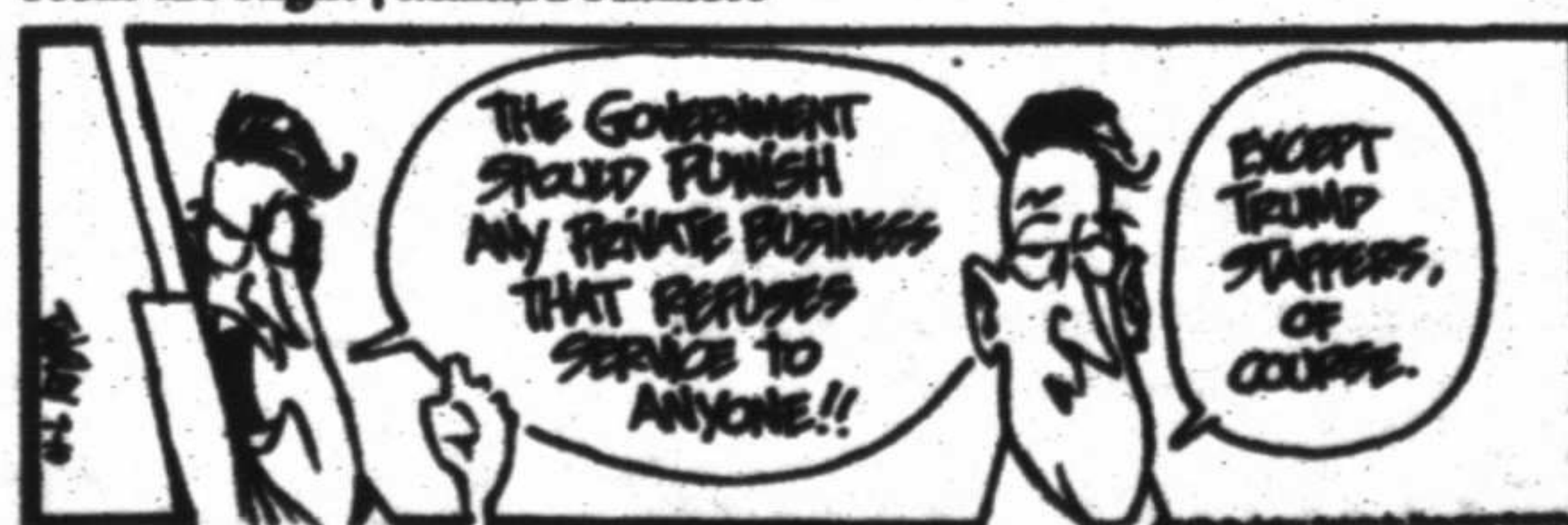
Bottom line, do Austinites not go to San Antonio very often? Or is it just me?

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

From the Left | Dooncsbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Trump picks Kavanaugh for court

By Catherine Lucey,
Zeke Miller and
Mark Sherman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump chose Brett Kavanaugh, a solidly conservative, politically connected judge, for the Supreme Court on Monday night, setting up a ferocious confirmation battle with Democrats as he seeks to shift the nation's highest court ever further to the right.

A favorite of the Republican legal establishment in Washington, Kavanaugh, 53, is a former law clerk for retiring Justice Anthony Kennedy. Like Trump's first nominee last year, Justice Neil Gorsuch, Kavanaugh would be a young addition who could help remake the court for decades to come with rulings that could restrict abortion, expand gun rights and roll back key parts of Obamacare.

"He is a brilliant jurist, with a clear and effective writing style, universally regarded as one of the finest and sharpest legal minds of our time," Trump said in his prime-time televised White House announcement. He added: "There is no one in America more qualified for this position, and no one more deserving."

With Kavanaugh, Trump is replacing a swing vote on the nine-member court with a staunch conservative. Kavanaugh, who serves on the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, is expected to be less receptive to abortion and gay rights than Kennedy was. He also has taken an expansive view of executive power and has favored limits on investigating the president.

Speaking at the White House, Kavanaugh pledged to preserve the Constitution and said that "a judge must be independent and must interpret the law, not make the law. A judge must interpret the Constitution as written."

A senior White House official

said Trump made his final decision on the nomination Sunday evening, then phoned Kavanaugh to inform him. The official said Trump decided on Kavanaugh because of his large body of jurisprudence cited by other courts, describing him as a judge that other judges read.

On Monday, Trump phoned retiring Justice Kennedy to inform him that his former law clerk would be nominated to fill his seat. Trump signed Kavanaugh's nomination papers Monday evening in the White House residence.

Top contenders had included federal appeals judges Raymond Kethledge, Amy Coney Barrett and Thomas Hardiman.

Some conservatives have expressed concerns about Kavanaugh, questioning his commitment to social issues like abortion and noting his time serving under President George W. Bush as evidence he is a more establishment choice. But his supporters have cited his experience and wide range of legal opinions.

With Democrats determined to vigorously oppose Trump's choice, the Senate confirmation battle is expected to dominate the months leading up to November's midterm elections. Senate Republicans hold only a 51-49 majority, leaving them hardly any margin if Democrats hold the line. Democratic senators running for re-election in states Trump carried in 2016 will face pressure to back his nominee.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell called Kavanaugh "a superb choice" and said senators would start meeting with him this week.

Some Republican senators had favored other options. Rand Paul of Kentucky had expressed concerns but tweeted that he looked forward to meeting with Kavanaugh "with an open mind."

Democrats and liberal advocacy groups quickly lined up in opposition.

Signaling the fight ahead on



Alex Brandon/Associated Press

President Donald Trump shakes hands with Judge Brett Kavanaugh his Supreme Court nominee, Monday in the East Room of the White House in Washington.

abortion rights, Dawn Laguens, executive vice president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, said in a statement: "There's no way to sugarcoat it: With this nomination, the constitutional right to access safe, legal abortion in this country is on the line."

The White House invited a number of senators to attend the Monday night announcement. Democrats who were invited but declined included Sens. Joe Donnelly of Indiana, Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota, Doug Jones of Alabama, Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Dianne Feinstein of California. Feinstein is the ranking Democrat on the Judiciary Committee. The others are Republican targets for the confirmation vote who come from Trump-won states where they face re-election this fall.

Democrats have turned their attention to pressuring two Republicans, Sens. Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, to oppose any nominee who threatens Roe v. Wade. The two have supported access to

abortion services.

Kavanaugh is likely to be more conservative than Justice Kennedy on a range of social issues. At the top of that list is abortion. A more conservative majority could be more willing to uphold state restrictions on abortion, if not overturn the 45-year-old landmark Roe v. Wade decision that established a woman's constitutional right.

Kennedy's replacement also could be more willing to allow states to carry out executions and could support undoing earlier court holdings in the areas of racial discrimination in housing and the workplace. Kennedy provided a decisive vote in 2015 on an important fair housing case.

Like the other eight justices on the court, Kavanaugh has an Ivy League law degree, spending his undergraduate and law school years at Yale. Since 2006, he has been a judge on the federal appeals court in Washington. He also was a key aide to Kenneth Starr during Starr's investigation of President Bill Clinton, worked on behalf of George W. Bush's

campaign during the election recount in 2000 and served in the Bush White House.

Kavanaugh's many written opinions provide insight into his thinking and also will be fodder for Senate Democrats who will seek to block his confirmation. He has written roughly 300 opinions as a judge, authored several law journal articles, regularly taught law school classes and spoken frequently in public.

Kavanaugh's views on presidential power and abortion are expected to draw particular attention in his confirmation hearing. Drawing on his experience working on the Clinton investigation and then in the Bush White House, he wrote in a 2009 law review article that he favored exempting presidents from facing both civil suits and criminal investigations, including indictment, while in office. That view has particular relevance as special counsel Robert Mueller is looking into Russian meddling in the 2016 election and whether the Trump campaign played any role in a foreign interference plot.

On abortion, Kavanaugh voted in October to delay an abortion for a teenage immigrant who was in government custody. The court's ruling in her favor was based on a constitutional principle, he wrote, "as novel as it is wrong: a new right for unlawful immigrant minors in U.S. Government detention to obtain immediate abortion on demand."

Trump's success in confirming conservative judges, as well as a Supreme Court justice, has cheered Republicans amid concerns about his limited policy achievements and chaotic management style. Of the court's liberal justices, Ruth Bader Ginsburg is 85 and Stephen Breyer turns 80 next month, so Trump may well get another opportunity to cement conservative dominance of the court for years to come.

Born inside Beltway, Kavanaugh part of GOP legal elite

By Mark Sherman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Judge Brett Kavanaugh is the embodiment of the Republican legal establishment: an Ivy Leaguer who worked for the justice he has been nominated to replace, investigated a Democratic president, served in a Republican White House and now is an influential member of what is often called the second most powerful court in the country.

The 53-year-old Kavanaugh was even born inside the Beltway and has lived there virtually his entire life.

"He can still recite the section and seat numbers of the upper deck seats his dad had at RFK (Stadium) for the Redskins," said Travis Lenkner, a former Kavanaugh law clerk, of the Washington Redskins' home field until 1997.

President Donald Trump said Monday that he is nominating Kavanaugh to replace the retiring Justice Anthony Kennedy. If confirmed, Kavanaugh is likely to be a reliable conservative vote who could weaken or imperil abortion rights, beef up support on the court for capital punishment and clamp down on the power of regulatory agencies.

He is expected to face strong opposition from Democrats, who already have called Kavanaugh and the other court finalists too conservative. They are hoping to persuade Republican Senate moderates to vote against Kavanaugh. Some Republicans, certain to support Kavanaugh, had hoped Trump would choose someone seen as a stronger social conservative.

The nominee is an only child who credits his mother for his career path. Martha Kavanaugh taught high school history before returning to school for her law degree. She later became a prosecutor and a judge in Maryland. "My introduction to the law came at our dinner table when she practiced

her closing arguments," Kavanaugh said at the White House after Trump introduced him as his nominee.

He is the father of two girls and coaches their basketball teams. Like Kavanaugh, his wife, Ashley, is a veteran of the White House during George W. Bush's presidency. Their first date was the night before the Sept. 11 attacks, he said. She now serves as the town manager of their village in a Maryland suburb just north of the capital.

Kavanaugh's professional life has been a succession of jobs that have raised his profile in legal circles. After earning undergraduate and law degrees at Yale, he was a Kennedy law clerk in the early 1990s before joining independent counsel Kenneth Starr's team, where Kavanaugh co-wrote the report that served as the basis for President Bill Clinton's impeachment. Kavanaugh worked on the effort by Bush's campaign to halt the recount of votes in Florida in the disputed presidential election between Bush and Al Gore in 2000. He worked in Bush's White House for five years, including nearly three as Bush's staff secretary.

"My most vivid memory of Brett was his thoughtful approach to an issue, not impulsive, not off the cuff. He had a very engaging ability to discuss both sides of an issue when we had to resolve something," said Mark Tuohy, who hired Kavanaugh in Starr's office.

Kavanaugh has written roughly 300 opinions in his 12 years as a judge on the

U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, penned several law review articles and spoken at law school and Federalist Society events across the country. Kavanaugh is a member of the conservative legal group and was on a list of potential nominees that it helped compile for Trump.

Kavanaugh already is very familiar to his prospective future colleagues on the Supreme Court, who also all have Ivy League law degrees. Several of his opinions were dissents that eventually were vindicated when Supreme Court majorities saw the issue the same way he did.

He has joined with Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer and Samuel Alito to serve as judges in mock trials to benefit the Shakespeare Theatre Company. More than three dozen former Kavanaugh law clerks also have gone on to work for every justice, except Ginsburg. Justice Elena Kagan, who was then dean of Harvard Law School, hired Kavanaugh to teach there, he said.

His former clerks recall Kavanaugh as a demanding boss, but one interested in their personal lives.

Jennifer Mascott, a law professor at the Antonin Scalia Law School in Virginia, said she naturally reached out to Kavanaugh after her father died. "He made a point at the start of my clerkship to invite my parents down for a visit and that made such an impression on my dad," Mascott said.

He has tutored children at a Washington, D.C., elementary school, volunteered for Catholic charity groups and is a regular participant in services at his Catholic church.

An avid runner, Kavanaugh lists his two Boston Marathon finishes on his court website biography: 3:59:45 in 2010 and 4:08:36 in 2015. His team, D.C. Circuitry, regularly wins medals in an annual 5K charity race along the Anacostia River.

It can seem as if Kavanaugh has been getting ready for this moment for some time. He regularly teaches law school classes. "One thing he asked the class was if you had an interview with a person and were considering them for a Supreme Court nomination, what questions would you ask?" recalled Kirby Thomas West, a 2015 Harvard Law School graduate.

Networks covering Supreme Court pick move to battle stations

By David Bauder
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Television networks moved swiftly Monday from deciphering a mystery to setting up battle stations in their coverage of President Donald Trump's nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Fox News Channel and MSNBC have become the two most popular networks in cable television with opinionated prime-time lineups. Monday, they assigned their stars Sean Hannity and Rachel Maddow — as opposed to straight news anchors — to quarterback coverage of Trump's announcement, a made-for-TV moment with a big reveal.

"We are moments away from one of the most important and consequential decisions in American history," Hannity said in opening the show.

Fox News Channel is likely to be the outlet where most Americans learned of Trump's decision. Fox News was a close second to CBS last year when Trump nominated Neil Gorsuch in a similar prime-time show, but that was on a winter night when many CBS viewers were probably anticipating a

new episode of "NCIS."

Fox's coverage was led by Trump's fiercest defender in the media and a confidant of the president who reportedly speaks to him regularly.

Following Trump's announcement, Hannity spoke to Fox correspondents Shannon Bream, John Roberts and Ed Henry. Henry read a partial quote from a Democratic National Committee statement that said Kavanaugh shouldn't be allowed anywhere near the Supreme Court.

"I'm convinced if the president gave every American five million dollars, the left would still oppose him," Hannity said.

He said Kavanaugh is considered "a brilliant judicial mind" and his selection was the result of a process set by "the most transparent president in history." The reference was to a list of potential Supreme Court nominees that Trump revealed before the presidential election, which included both Gorsuch and Kavanaugh.

Hannity said of another potential Trump choice, Amy Coney Barrett, that "she's next."

"We'll also show you all the ways predictably the Democrats will try to obstruct the president's constitutional duty," Hannity said.

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2 Chronicles 20:6

"Those who contend with the LORD will be
defeated; Against them He will stand in the
heavens. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;
And He will give strength to His king. And will smite
the horn of His anointed."

North Korea leader Kim Jong Un, left, and U.S. President Donald Trump shake hands June 12 at the conclusion of their meetings at the Capella resort on Sentosa Island in Singapore. North Korea's vitriolic criticism of the U.S. following the first round of nuclear negotiations went out of its way to spare one person: President Donald Trump.



Susan Walsh/Associated Press

Trump says he's still confident Kim will denuclearize

By Darlene Superville and Matthew Pennington
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump voiced confidence Monday that North Korea's leader would "honor" his commitment to denuclearize, despite Pyongyang's accusation that the U.S. is making "gangster-like" demands in negotiations.

It was Trump's first public response since North Korea gave a harsh send-off to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo after he visited the authoritarian nation last week amid growing skepticism that the North intends to give up its nukes.

Pompeo was seeking progress on the joint statement issued by Trump and Kim at their historic summit in Singapore in June. Pompeo characterized his talks with North Korean officials as productive, but the North's foreign ministry blasted the discussions, saying the visit — the third by the top U.S. diplomat since April — had been "regrettable."

Trump responded to that setback with a tweet: "I have confidence that Kim Jong Un will honor the contract we signed & even more importantly, our handshake. We agreed to the denuclearization of North Korea. China, on the other hand, may be exerting negative pressure on a deal because of our posture on Chinese Trade-Hope Not!"

Robert Gallucci, who led the U.S. in direct talks with North Korea beginning in mid-1993, said while the two statements contrasted he does not see Pyongyang's statement as "devastating in any way" to future talks.

"The statement was to my ear — in a way — much more gentle and careful than I have heard from the North Koreans on any number of occasions over two decades," Gallucci said during a call with reporters organized by 38 North, a well-respected North Korea-watching website and project of the Stimson Center, a U.S. think tank.

The U.S. and North Korea have actually

yet to reach any agreement on the terms under which the North would relinquish its weapons programs, beyond the North's commitment at the summit "to work toward complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula." Pompeo's visit last week was intended to begin more detailed negotiations to flesh out the details.

The president's comments on China appeared to reflect concern that U.S. imposition of punitive tariffs on Chinese imports last week could make China less cooperative in pressuring the North over its nuclear and missile programs. China is North Korea's traditional ally and main trading partner, and is key to maintaining sanctions on Pyongyang.

Recent reports suggest that despite its commitment to denuclearize, the North has continued to expand infrastructure at nuclear and missile sites. Pompeo has vowed that sanctions would remain until Pyongyang follows through on Kim's pledge to get rid of his atomic weapons.

That clearly remains a point of contention with North Korea. In its statement Saturday, the North envisaged "simultaneous" steps by the two sides and a declaration on ending the 1950-53 Korean War, for which a peace treaty was never signed. It recoiled at what it described as a "unilateral and gangster-like demand for denuclearization."

Pompeo reported that the two sides had substantive discussions on next steps toward denuclearization and have set up working groups to hammer out details of an agreement. He said Monday it was "ludicrous" to expect results in a few hours of talks.

"It's going to be a process. There's many hours left in negotiations," Pompeo said in response to a question from a coalition soldier during a visit to Afghanistan.

In Washington, Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York said the negotiations with North Korea have been a "flop" so far. He said there's a "disconnect" between Trump's rhetoric and what he's actually achieved to end the nuclear threat.

Trump says US had opposed formula limits, not breastfeeding

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. opposed a World Health Assembly resolution to encourage breastfeeding because it called for limits on the promotion of infant formula, not because of objections to breastfeeding, President Donald Trump tweeted Monday.

Trump criticized The New York Times for reporting that U.S. officials sought to remove language that urged governments to protect, promote and support breastfeeding, along with language calling on policymakers to limit the promotion of food products, such as infant formula, that can be harmful to young children.

The Times reported that

the U.S. effort this spring during the U.N.-affiliated world health meeting was largely unsuccessful and that most of the original wording remained.

Trump wrote, "The U.S. strongly supports breast feeding but we don't believe women should be denied access to formula. Many women need this option because of malnutrition and poverty."

The Times reported that the U.S. delegation embraced the interests of infant-formula manufacturers.

Responding to Trump with a tweet of its own, the newspaper said, "Our report is accurate," and provided a link to its article.

Government doctors and scientists have long called attention to the health ben-

efits of breastfeeding, both in economically advanced countries and developing nations.

A 2011 surgeon general's report concluded that "breast milk is uniquely suited to the human infant's nutritional needs and is a live substance with unparalleled immunological and anti-inflammatory properties that protect against a host of illnesses and diseases for both mothers and children."

Caitlin Oakley, a spokeswoman for the Department of Health and Human Services, said it's "patently false" to portray the U.S. position as "anti-breastfeeding."

The administration also denied that U.S. officials had threatened trade sanctions in the debate over the breastfeeding resolution.



Dieu Nallo Chery/Associated Press

More protests in Haiti as unrest continues over fuel prices

By Evens Sanon

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Protesters clashed with police Monday in Haiti's capital while a general strike kept most people at home across the country in a fourth day of unrest sparked by a now-rescinded government plan to raise fuel prices in the impoverished nation.

Demonstrators linked to various opposition factions marched on the parliament building but were turned back by police. Protesters also set fire to a tax office in the Tabarre area

of the capital.

But much of Port-au-Prince and the country shut down. The general strike halted the mini-buses and taxis that most Haitians depend on to get to work or school. Most businesses closed after the people took advantage of the protests to loot shops around the capital.

Public Security Secretary Ronsard Saint Cyr and leaders of the House of Deputies and Senate called for an end to the protests and to the general strike.

Protests erupted Friday hours before the government-set price of fuel was to rise by up to 50 percent, part of a plan endorsed by the International Monetary Fund to modernize the economy.

The Haitian government canceled the increase amid protests that left several people dead and prompted airlines to cancel flights to the impoverished country.

4 more boys rescued from flooded Thai cave

By Kawewit Kaewjinda and Stephen Wright
Associated Press

MAE SAI, Thailand — The generals and other officials overseeing the desperate operation to rescue 12 young soccer players and their coach from a flooded cave labyrinth in Thailand's sweltering far north were only half joking when they quipped Monday that success was in the hands of the rain god Phra Pirun.

They were celebrating a second day of stunning triumph after divers guided four more boys Monday through tight passages and dank flooded caverns to safety. "Two days, eight Boars," read a Facebook post by the Thai Navy SEALs of the dramatic rescue that began Sunday, more than two weeks after the members of the Wild Boars soccer team were trapped. Another five still await rescue, including the team's 25-year-old coach.

The eight rescued boys were recuperating in a hospital from their ordeal huddled together on a tiny patch of higher ground where they had sought refuge after a rainstorm flooded the massive Tham Luan Nang Non cave complex as they were exploring it after soccer practice on June 23. Their families were being kept at a distance because of fears of infection and the emaciated-looking boys were eating a rice-based porridge because they were still too weak to take regular food, authorities said.

Officials lavished praise on the Thai and international divers who, in pairs of two, executed the dangerous rescue mission, guiding the boys, who could barely swim and had no diving experience, through a treacherous 4-kilometer-long (2 1/2-mile) escape route that twisted and turned through the caverns. Highlighting the extreme dangers, a for-

mer Thai Navy SEAL died Friday while replenishing the oxygen canisters laid along the route to the boys' damp refuge.

But the chances of monsoon rains sending torrents of water into the cave and making the rescue effort too risky is never far from the minds of everyone involved in the operation.

Alluding to that worry, the regional army commander offered his thanks Monday to the rain god Phra Pirun, imploring him to "keep showing us mercy."

"Give us three more days and the Boars will come out to see the world, every one of them," Maj-Gen. Bantha Duriyapan told a news conference punctuated by applause from the dozens of Thai and foreign journalists and others in attendance.

"I beg Phra Pirun because the Meteorological Department said that from Monday on there will be continuous rain," Bantha said. "If I ask too much, he might not provide it. So I've been asking for three days."

The plight of the boys, aged 11-16, and their coach, has riveted Thailand and much of the world — from the heart-sinking news they were trapped to the first flickering video of the huddle of anxious yet smiling boys brought back by the pair of British divers who found them after penetrating deep into the sprawling cave.

Then came the letters carried out by the teams of divers who took oxygen, food and medicine to the boys' refuge as experts pondered whether to dive them out or provision them for months while the monsoon season continues until at least late October.

Writing in elegant Thai script, the boys urged their parents not to worry, adding that they hoped they wouldn't get too much homework after being rescued and couldn't wait to eat their favorite foods again.

Their friends were full of optimism — and worry.

Phuwadech Kamnguen, a 14-year-old best friend of one of the trapped boys, said he's looking forward to eating KFC with the team again.

"Even when my friends have left the cave, I'm worried about their physical well-being. From what I've seen in the clip, they did look skinny," he said.

The boys' nightmare experience — trapped in claustrophobic darkness by rising waters — resonated across the globe, riveting people both in Thailand and internationally who anxiously watched the news coming from this town along the border with Myanmar. After Monday's rescue, Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha visited the eight freed boys in the hospital where they had been taken by helicopter.

Chiang Rai province's acting governor, Narongsak Osatanakorn, who is in charge of the rescue, voiced confidence Monday in the ongoing operation, provided the weather doesn't take a turn for the worse.

Workers have been laboring around the clock to pump water out of the cave, and officials said Monday that despite heavy downpours overnight, water levels inside the cave did not rise. More worryingly, however, oxygen levels in the chamber where the boys sought refuge were falling.

Narongsak said Monday's rescue involving 18 divers and a support team of 100 had taken nine hours, two fewer than the rescue on Sunday.

"We have more expertise than yesterday," he said. That sense of accomplishment was also reflected in the message posted Monday night on the Thai Navy SEALs' Facebook page announcing the latest rescue. It ended with their fighting cheer, adapted from the U.S. Navy: "Hooyah!"

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PHOTO BY TIM FISCHER/REPORTER-TELEGRAM

Members of the summer teaching staff at Greater Ideal summer classes, back left: Rina Price, Dacia Mutcherson, Angelica Molina and Pam Brower, front left: Lora Pipkin, Jennifer Munez, Ginger Whitson and Rosalinda Lares.

GREATER IDEAL'S SUMMER DAY CAMP

By Rosalind Perkins
Director of Greater Ideal Family Life Center

The Greater Ideal's Summer Day Camp has been successful for the past 16 years. We start the first Monday that school lets out for summer vacation and provide services to 130 students with a wide range of reading and math levels, grades kindergarten through eighth grade. Our students are selected on a first-come, first-served basis. We provide educational services to students who are in need of sustaining or gaining educational growth. Each child is given a pre- and post-test in reading and placed in class according to their reading ability (not grade). We provide core educational classes designed by

Texas Certified Teachers, who are experts in their subject. These services are totally different than what a child might receive in school on the basis that we strive and succeed at keeping each student engaged and active by encouraging our teachers to think outside the box when presenting material and to make learning fun and exciting. Our students also participate in structured recreational classes in the afternoons: music, PE, art and games.

The Greater Ideal Summer Day Camp is known for providing a safe environment, academic reinforcement, hot meals, treats, creativity and organized recreation that challenges and motivates a student's performance in school. A fee of \$30 a week per child is charged to help offset the cost; scholarships are available, thanks to the

many organizations and foundations that support our summer day camp.

On behalf of Greater Ideal Family Life Center, our board of directors and staff, we would like to thank you for your support and level of commitment to this program. We are proud of our teachers! We understand that it is not easy for a teacher to give of themselves during the summer months. During the school year it is understood that they have weathered the storm in providing what their pupils need. And for them to then apply themselves during the summer months, also in education, we are grateful. We want to say thank you to the many who have worked with us during the summer over the years and have given of themselves relentlessly.

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. The MDC and Reporter-Telegram thank Midland ISD for its help with Educator Honor Roll.



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EDUCATION

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UTPB to host kindergarten camp

Goal of Kinder College is to prepare children to start school

By Lauren Eckert

Midland Reporter-Telegram

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin is hosting a program in Midland later this month to prepare children for kindergarten.

Kinder College is being presented by UTPB's Home Instruction for Parents for Pre-K Youngsters (HIPPY) program July 23-27 at Goodwill Missionary Baptist Church, 1001 S. Main St.

The goal of Kinder College, which meets 8 a.m.-noon, is to prepare children who are entering kindergarten to transi-

tion effectively and be ready for their first day of school, according to Diana Ruiz, program director of First Five. The program does that by exposing the kids to four main areas of learning: science, art, math and language. The children alternate classes, participate in different activities and have recess and snack time as they would in kindergarten, she said.

One of the biggest gaps the community faces is that kids aren't ready to learn when they start school, said Tatum Hubbard, executive director of communication at UTPB.

"What First Five, and in particular

this Kinder College does, is really give students their first taste of what an exciting life of education is going to be like," Hubbard said.

Camp participants will receive free books throughout the week, and children who have perfect attendance will receive a backpack full of supplies on the last day of Kinder College.

"I think it really enhances our next generation of learners. I think it was so neat to see, again, the growth in these children, even just in one week's time frame," Ruiz said, referring to the Kinder College that was held in Odessa last

month. "You know some of them might have come in a little bit shy or nervous or unclear of what the structure is like, but it's so neat to see these children blossom throughout the week."

First Five is a child-development program under the college of nursing at UTPB. HIPPY is one of the programs offered by First Five, which serves families year round. The focus of HIPPY is school readiness, for not only the children entering school, but also for the parents. HIPPY has a 30-week

Please see HIPPY/4B

KID-CENTRIC LEARNING



Billy Calzada/San Antonio Express-News

San Antonio musician Eric Pichardo sits at his desk Friday. Pichardo writes original songs to inspire children in San Antonio and around the country.

Singer pens songs that could change kid's life

■ Songwriter creates for nonprofit that offers a bilingual program for prekindergartners to seventh-graders

By Vincent T. Davis

San Antonio Express-News

One recent morning, singer-songwriter Eric Pichardo sat behind a desk keyboard at an East Side art studio, synching a snappy song called "It's Cool to Come to School."

As his young sons and niece were getting ready to lay down background vocals, Pichardo paused for a moment to take it all in. This was no longer the dream of a boy playing a video game in rural South Texas. This was really happening. He's writing and playing music for a living.

"I come to work and it's like coming to a toy store," Pichardo, 34, said, surrounded by digital screens, musical instruments and laptop screens. "It's almost numbing, it's mind-blowing. This program helps kids understand and that's who I make it for."

Pichardo writes songs for Yes! Our Kids

Can, a nonprofit that commissioned him to compose, produce and sing original songs with an infectious hook for their digital, kid-centric learning system.

Founded in 2016, the organization works with low-income families to instill a concept called Success Mindset, designed to encourage career readiness and expectations of a higher education via digital technology and smartphones. Pichardo's songs are paired with videos and games as part of a bilingual program to be used by parents and teachers to help students from prekindergarten to seventh grade.

The not-for-profit launched the first semester-long program in January in the Judson, San Antonio and Harlingen school districts.

Co-founder and CEO Lionel Sosa said San Antonio is the perfect laboratory for the program and talented people like Pichardo are needed to solve the problem.

"Eric lived this life, he is really talking to his 6-year-old self," the political consultant and marketing executive said. "He understands the problems that these children face; we all do, and we have that special empathy, plus the special expertise

to put it together."

Pichardo grew up loving a rainbow of artists who made him feel that he was never alone. The Beatles. Ramon Ayala. Patsy Cline. Jay-Z. He remembered their styles when he played trumpet and in a mariachi band.

But he had his share of naysayers. He still recalls his high school Spanish teacher telling him he would end up dead or behind bars.

He'd shake negative thoughts by stepping outside at night to tell the stars about his dreams. He brought those hopes with him when he moved to San Antonio for the last six months of his senior year at Roosevelt High School.

After he graduated in 2001, he used change from \$50 his father gave him and bought markers and paper to hawk hip-hop beats on posters he stapled on poles along Nacogdoches Road.

Everything began coming together when he met his wife, Amanda. She pushed him to keep going when his music ventures stalled. The turning point came five years

Please see SONGS/4B

Princeton, Stanford drop SAT, ACT essay requirement

■ Ivy League school applicants must submit graded high school writing sample

By Nick Anderson

Washington Post

Princeton and Stanford universities on Thursday became the latest prominent schools to stop requiring aspiring students to submit an essay score from the ACT or SAT.

Richard Shaw, Stanford's dean of admissions and financial aid, said in an email that the school would "strongly recommend" that applicants submit an essay score from one of the two admissions tests. But the mandate is gone, starting with students who apply for entry in 2019. Shaw said the university in California's Silicon Valley will seek alternative methods to promote good writing.

Princeton, the Ivy League university in New Jersey, added a twist to its policy shift: All applicants must submit a graded writing sample from high school. It would prefer that work be in English or history.

Stanford is the nation's most selective research university. It received more than 40,000 applications for the class entering this year and admitted fewer than 5 percent. Princeton, with about 35,000 applicants, admitted fewer than 6 percent.

Every year, millions of students take the SAT or ACT. The core portion of each test — a multiple-choice format — takes about three hours. Both have an optional essay. Some elite schools have required students to submit an essay score with their test results. But recently, several have dropped that requirement.

Among them are Harvard and Yale universities and Dartmouth College.

In recent years, a growing number of states and school systems have paid for their students to take the SAT or ACT during the school day. Some of those contracts include the optional essay, and some don't. That creates a dilemma for students who don't get a chance to take the essay version in school: Should they be required to retake the test with the essay?

Taking the test with the essay costs more — up to \$17 more for the SAT and up to \$16.50 more for the ACT.

Princeton alluded to this issue in its statement Thursday.

"With this policy, Princeton aims to alleviate the financial hardship placed on students, including those who have the opportunity to take the test without writing during the school day and for free," Princeton said.

Brown University is now the only Ivy League school to require an SAT or ACT essay score. Elsewhere, others still requiring an essay score include Duke University and the University of California.

But on the whole, elite college and universities are delivering a clear verdict: Most no longer believe an essay score is essential for screening applicants.

Last month, the University of Chicago dropped its SAT/ACT testing requirement entirely. It became the highest-ranked research university to join the test-optional movement.

Princeton is likely to draw attention with its new requirement for a graded writing assignment. That appears to be an unusual mandate

Please see ESSAYS/4B

Academic progress surges in New Orleans

■ City's district is almost all charter schools; state turns over control to school board

The big moments of historical importance don't go unremarked, but quieter milestones often pass with little notice unless we stop to commemorate them and note their significance. One of those modest but meaningful events occurred July 1 when New Orleans marked a change that might sound like a dry bureaucratic reshuffling but is in fact a remarkable event in the history of American education.

Recall that nearly 13 years ago, one of the effects of the Hurricane Katrina cataclysm was to largely wipe out the city's abysmal public schools. New Orleans' educational system was essentially rebuilt from the ground up as a laboratory for charter schools — not



a school district with a few charters sprinkled among traditional institutions, but an almost wholly charter-filled system largely run by the state of Louisiana.

The Recovery School District experiment proved successful: New Orleans public schools have improved faster than those of any other city in the nation over the past decade. But 80 percent of the schools were run by the state's Recovery School District. An indication of the RSD's success — and

of New Orleans' resurgence as a thriving metropolitan center — is the state's decision to hand over responsibility for the school district to a locally elected school board on July 1.

The school board will then oversee a district where 98 percent of students attend a public charter school. No other school district in America comes close to that distinction. By 2020, the last two district-operated schools will have converted to charters, and the Orleans Parish School Board will oversee the nation's first school district composed entirely of charter schools.

The contrast with pre-Katrina education in New Orleans is dramatic. In 2005, Orleans Parish public schools ranked next-to-last in performance among Louisiana's 68 parishes. In 2004, 60 percent of public school

Please see LANGHORNE/4B

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

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TUESDAY PRIME TIME

JULY 10, 2018

	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM	10 PM	11 PM	11:30 PM
KMD ABC	3	3	4	3	2			
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7			
KWWT CW	5	14	5	14				
KJML HD	11	12	12	11				
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9				
KPBT PBS	13	13	13	8				
KUPD UNI	4	4	4	16				
KOSA MNT	16	16	16					
FLIX	240	275	180					
HBO	200	200	14	14				
IM2	202	201	15	101	23			
IM2S	200	202	17	102				
MAX	200	202	17	102				
MAX2	202	200	17	102				
PLEX	200	202	17	102				
SHOW	220	200	19	140	25			
THC	230	275	22	105	26			
AAE	27	58	28	35	47			
AMC	40	74	23	42	51			
BET	50	-	40					
BRAVO	65	76	41					
CHC	46	52	39	72				
CHN	43	50	51	30	56			
CHS	50	60	31	24	42			
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	58			
ESPN	32	35	40	31	30			
ESPN2	34	36	40	32	31			
FNC	45	48	53	23	55			
FOOD	64	70	27	60	54			
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33			
PSDW	37	38	50	45	29			
FX	31	56	50	64	08			
HALLMARK	54	71	50	34				
HSTV	63	69	26	48	44			
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43			
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	40			
MSNBC	47	53	-	49	73			
NBCSN	30	40	-	-	-			
NICK	55	-	39	34	37			
SPICE	30	-	55	53	58			
SYFY	66	62	41	57	67			
TBS	25	33	44	46	41			
TCM	41	75	24	63	66			
TELE	20	-	10	20				
TLC	51	61	32	38	52			
TNT	24	34	40	26	50			
TYLAND	40	-	35	54	35			
USA	26	55	42	27	49			
WGN	19	85	-	-	-			

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Old friend is slow to follow up on attempt to reconnect

DEAR ABBY: I recently reconnected with my best friend from high school. I moved out of state at the age of 30, and we lost touch. Turns out she lives about 70 miles from me. Neither of us married or had children.

Someone told me where she works and I called her. She called back the following weekend, and we talked for a couple of hours. It was a good conversation, and it ended with her saying she would be in touch in the next couple of months. We had discussed getting together for lunch.

It has been almost four months and I'm puzzled as to why I have not heard from her. Should I let it go or contact her once more? It bothers me that she doesn't seem to want to get together and hasn't told me why. Any suggestions?

RECONNECTING IN THE WEST
DEAR RECONNECTING: There could be any number of reasons why your old friend let this slide. Contact her again and "remind" her that you had discussed having lunch together. Her response—or lack of one—will tell you if she's really interested.

DEAR ABBY: An issue needs addressing regarding same-sex marriage, and I hope you will share this with your readers. When asking someone about his or her marital status,

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.



please keep in mind that when the person responds "married," it may not necessarily mean to a person of the opposite sex. It would be better to ask, "What is your spouse's name?" instead of automatically saying, "And her name is ..."

While dealing with customer service recently, the service representative kept saying "your partner" every time I said "husband." After three corrections, I emphatically stated "my husband" and she begrudgingly finished our transaction. (Yes, I did speak to her supervisor.)

"Partner" implies being in a business of some type. I know some people refer to their spouses as partners, but not everyone does. Thanks for printing this, Abby. —"SPOUSES NOT PARTNERS" IN DELAWARE

DEAR S. NOT P: The world is changing quickly, and not everyone has been able to keep up with it. The customer service representative should have picked up on the fact that you

preferred she refer to your spouse as "husband" the first time you said it. You should not have had to remind her three times. However, because you did, you were right to talk to a supervisor so the woman could be counseled and will, one hopes, be more sensitive in the future.

DEAR ABBY: My 15-year-old granddaughter is being verbally abused by her dad, who has joint custody. He makes her cry every time she spends time with him. Also, there often is not enough food in the house. As a grandmother, what can I do to protect my granddaughter? —**SHE NEEDS HELP**

DEAR SHE NEEDS HELP: Your granddaughter's father may have joint custody, but because he is verbally abusive and doesn't have enough food in the house to feed her, your daughter may have to take her back to court and get a modification of the custody order. Because your granddaughter is now 15, she has a right to be heard on the subject.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

Oh boye

Neither vulnerable. West deals

NORTH
♠75
♥J4
♦AKJ953
♣Q98

WEST
♠A10863
♥K992
♦Void
♣A652

EAST
♠4
♥87
♦QJ887642
♣J74

SOUTH
♠KQJ92
♥AQ653
♦Void
♣K83

The bidding:
N 20 P 30
S 20 P 30
All pass

Opening lead: Two of ♣

Here is another deal featuring Norwegian star Borge Brageland as declarer. The auction saw North-South, both with full values for their bidding, arrive in a poor contract. This often happens when the two hands don't fit well.

West had an appealing lead and his choice of a low club went to the right, jack, and king. Brageland led

a low heart to dummy's jack, holding the trick when West ducked. A low spade back to his king was next, which West also ducked. A low club toward dummy saw West rise with his ace and play a third round of the suit, setting up his six. Dummy's ace and king of diamonds were cashed. Brageland shedding two hearts and West one spade and one heart. This was the position:

NORTH
♠7
♥4
♦J953
♣Void

WEST
♠A108
♥K10
♦Void
♣6

EAST
♠Void
♥8
♦QJ8876
♣Void

SOUTH
♠KQJ92
♥AQ
♦Void
♣Void

Brageland led a spade to his queen and West's ace. West could cash his good club, but then had to give South his sixth trick in one of the majors. Well played!

Frost launches school supply drive

Frost is launching a school supply drive as part of the banking company's celebration of its 150th anniversary.

Frost will accept school supply donations until July 27 at its 130 financial centers across Texas, including the three in Midland: 508 W. Wall Street, 800 W. Wadley Ave. and 4101 N. Midland Drive. At the end of the drive, Frost will deliver the donations to the nonprofit agencies serving the various communities.

Items sought include No. 2 pencils, colored pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, ballpoint pens, markers, dry-erase markers, highlighters, crayons, five-inch scissors, 12-inch rulers, composition notebooks and spiral notebooks, folders, binders, dividers, notebook paper, index cards, glue bottles and sticks and USB drives.

Frost launched its anniversary celebration with a food drive in the first quarter and a toiletry drive in the second quarter.

Bowie teacher attends history course

Bowie Fine Arts Academy fifth-grade teacher Stacey Callaway recently completed a six-day

EDUCATION BRIEFS

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

immersion in American history at the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute in Virginia.

"I am so thankful for this wonderful opportunity to participate in the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher



Callaway

Institute," Callaway said. "We were given the opportunity to exchange ideas with historians, work collaboratively with master teachers to develop materials to improve instruction, raise literacy levels, enhance thinking skills, and bring history to life in the classroom."

Now in its 29th year, the institute prepares teachers to help students meet national and state history standards through hands-on immersion experiences in colonial history.

Callaway has been a teacher for 19 years; 12 years with Midland ISD. She also has taught at Burnet Elementary and Scharbauer Elementary. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education from Oklahoma

Baptist University.

"Stacey is a tremendous educator and has a true passion for cultivating and sparking a love of learning among our students," said Melissa Horner, principal at Bowie.

MEXICO CITY President-elect wants every kid to go to college

Mexican President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador is promising to send to college every young person who wants to attend.

Lopez Obrador told reporters Saturday that all young Mexicans will have the opportunity to study. He said that may require building new high schools and universities.

Future education secretary Esteban Moctezuma said later that the government will provide \$126 in monthly scholarships to students who need financial help to finish high school or university, if the budget permits. He said the new government does not plan to increase taxes.

Lopez Obrador views education as a way to put otherwise unemployed youths to work and reduce crime. He pledged earlier to

pay salaries for apprentices employed by Mexican companies as part of \$5 billion package of scholarships and training.

OKLAHOMA School to allow licensed staff to carry firearms

The Hartshorne Public Schools Board of Education unanimously voted last month to allow personnel to carry guns so long as they're certified by the Oklahoma Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training, according to The McAlester News-Capital.

Any teachers wanting to carry a firearm on campus will be required to obtain certification and must be approved by the superintendent. The school will look into hiring certified armed security guards if there's not enough interest from school personnel.

Hartshorne Superintendent Jason Lindley says the decision resulted from school security discussions following several school shootings in recent years. He says he knows the measure doesn't guarantee safety, but hopes it'll deter intruders.

LANGHORNE

From 2B

students in New Orleans attended a school with a performance score in the bottom 10 percent of the state.

The schools needed change; the district needed reform. Progress would come from a most unlikely starting point. Hurricane Katrina's flooding and winds damaged schools, destroyed materials and displaced 64,000 students. The damage to school buildings alone was estimated at more than \$800 million. Even before the storm, the district was broke, and had been looking for a \$50 million line of credit just to meet payroll.

Louisiana turned this dire situation into an opportunity. In 2003, the governor and state legislature had created a Recovery School District to take over the state's worst public schools, including five in New Orleans, which the RSD had turned into charters. After the storm, the legislature placed all but 17 of New Orleans' 127 public schools in the RSD. In 2006, when 25,000 students returned to the city's public schools, 54 percent enrolled in a charter.

Over the next nine years, the RSD handed virtually all its schools over to charter operators, and academic progress surged.

In 2004, 54 percent of public high school students graduated within four years. In 2017, 73 percent did. In 2004,

only 37 percent of high school graduates enrolled in college. In 2017, 61 percent of graduates did. Before the storm, only 33 percent of students scored at grade level or above on state exams. By 2017, that number had increased to 59 percent, an improvement rate almost three times as fast as the

state's average.

During the transformation between 2004 and 2017, one characteristic has remained constant: the majority of students in New Orleans are economically disadvantaged.

The Orleans Parish School Board won't directly operate schools; school leaders will handle day-to-day operations at charters, so those who know students best will make the decisions that affect their learning. But the district will still play a central role, setting policy and overseeing school quality. It will authorize new charters and hold existing schools accountable for performance, replicating successful ones and replacing those that fail with stronger operators. The board will also oversee the distribution of resources and facilities, trying to ensure equal opportunity for all families. And it will run the citywide enrollment system, called OneApp.

Traditional public-school systems are often bureaucratic behemoths, with administration costs sapping funds that would be better dedicated to students. By contrast, in New Orleans, the district's central office and budget will be a lean operation, required by state charter-school law to devote 98 percent of funds directly to schools, spending only 2 percent on central office administration — because those running schools, not central office staff, know best how to educate children. As charter schools proliferate across the country, their organization into New Orleans-style charter-only school districts under local control may be the next step in the continuing evolution of American education.

Emily Langhorne is an education policy analyst at The Progressive Policy Institute.



Billy Calzada/San Antonio Express-News

Jacob Pichardo sings "It's cool to come to school" during a recording session with his father, Eric Pichardo, at Yes! Our Kids Can on Friday.

SONGS

From 2B

ago, at 3:30 a.m. when he read a free book online, "Think and Grow Rich" by Napoleon Hill.

In May 2015, a pitch meeting at 1 Million Cups, an entrepreneurial resource, brought him to the attention of a businessman who knew Sosa was

in need of a jingle writer.

By August, Pichardo was part of the Yes! Our Kids Can team, hard at work to deliver a jingle that could change a child's life. That's why he coaxes his sons, 16-year-old Grayson and 9-year-old Jacob, and his 10-year-old niece, Evi, to sing their lyrics with gusto.

"OK, one more time," he said to Evi

as she hovered over a microphone.

"Make sure to take a deep breath. You have to make it real nice."

"It's cool, it's cool, it's cool to come to school," his niece sang as he marked the beat with a swing of his hand. "I get to learn every day, grow every day, I get to use my brain and play."

Report: About 1 in 5 teachers works 2nd job

By Moriah Balingit
Washington Post

They work as private tutors and soccer coaches, as waiters, grocery clerks and ride-share drivers.

Across the country, 18 percent of teachers earn income outside the classroom, according to a National Center for Education Statistics report released (last month). The finding comes from a nationally representative survey of teachers conducted in the 2015-16 school year.

The report emerges in a year when teachers in West Virginia, Oklahoma and Arizona have protested, calling for higher wages and for states to increase school funding. All three states have struggled with acute teacher shortages, which unions link to the low pay and difficult working conditions — including

the fact that some teachers are forced to take on second jobs. Educators have also staged protests in Colorado, Kentucky and North Carolina.

The phenomenon held true across the nation. Teachers in the Northeast, where educator salaries in several states are above the national average, are slightly more likely than teachers elsewhere to work second jobs. The survey did not ask why teachers worked second jobs, nor did it inquire about whether they worked during summer breaks or during the school year.

In Oklahoma, it has become a regular feature of the educator workforce. Earlier this year, the Tulsa schools superintendent said she regularly encountered teachers working second jobs before and after school. They took her to the airport as Uber drivers,

rang up her groceries and served her at restaurants.

In 2016, Oklahoma ranked 49th in teacher pay behind West Virginia, which was 48th. The average compensation package of an Oklahoma teacher was \$45,276 a year, according to the National Education Association, a figure that includes a high-priced health plan and other benefits. That's far less than educators in neighboring states, making it difficult — for many districts, impossible — to find and keep qualified teachers.

Teachers in Oklahoma, Arizona and West Virginia successfully pressed lawmakers and their governors to give them raises this year.

According to a report by the National Education Association, the nation's largest teacher union, the average teacher salary fell by 3 percent between 2006

and 2016 after inflation was taken into account.

Teachers in the United States earn on average just 60 percent of what other professionals with similar education levels make, according to a 2017 education report from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. The United States had the lowest relative teacher salaries among the 28 member nations that participated in the report.

According to the report, teachers who worked second jobs reported earning an average of \$5,100 a year in those second jobs. About half who reported earning second incomes were employed in outside teaching or tutoring positions. About 22 percent of teachers with second jobs worked in positions related to teaching, and 28 percent worked in jobs unrelated to education.

ESSAYS

From 2B

among the ranks of top universities.

"This is a good move, though of course a HS graded essay can also be gamed and will be reflective of privilege (e.g. access to tutoring) too," test-preparation consultant Adam Ingersoll wrote in a tweet.

The nonprofit College Board, based in New York, oversees the SAT. The nonprofit ACT is based in Iowa.

Last month, the College Board had no comment when Yale dropped its essay-score requirement. The ACT said at the time: "We encourage institutions to determine which factors to emphasize and utilize in admissions decisions based on rigorous scientific research." An ACT spokesman noted that its multiple-choice English test, one of four sections in the core ACT, also assesses writing skills.

The College Board launched the modern version of the SAT essay in 2005, making it a required section on the core test and changing the maximum score on the test to 2400. In 2016, the main SAT was overhauled again. The maximum score reverted to 1600, and the 50-minute essay section was made separate and optional.

In the high school Class of 2017, about 1.7 million students took the SAT. Seventy percent — 1.2 million — took it with the essay. Many of those essay-writers were doing so just in case they wound up applying to a college that would require it.

The essay version of the ACT — officially known as ACT With Writing — debuted in 2005. A little more than half of the 2 million ACT takers in the Class of 2017 used the option. The writing section adds 40 minutes to the main ACT.

HIPPY

From 2B

program which contains a structured curriculum, working with parents and other family members, if needed, to help ensure school readiness for the youngster, Ruiz said. The HIPPY teachers visit weekly, coaching parents to be their child's first teacher.

"The focus is to really get children to be successful in school, and what better way to do that than in the comfort of their home," she said.

HIPPY teachers are trained professionals who

will teach students basic writing and math fundamentals, and listening and problem-solving skills, according to a flyer on Kinder College.

"There is just great opportunity for the community to really grow our next generation of learners," Ruiz said.

Kinder College is free, but children must be enrolled in advance. To enroll a child, call 552-4164. For more information, visit www.hippysa.org/ or contact Ruiz at 552-3565 or ruiz_d@uph.edu.

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Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, July 10, 2018 | Section C

Montas, Piscotty help A's blank Astros 2-0

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Frankie Montas and two relievers combined for a five-hitter, Stephen Piscotty homered and hit an RBI single and the Oakland Athletics beat the Houston Astros 2-0 on Monday night.

Houston starter Gerrit Cole struck out 11 and scattered three singles across six scoreless innings before Brad Peacock (1-4) took over for the seventh. Piscotty, who finished with three of Oakland's six hits, greeted him with his home run to left field to make it 1-0. He added an insurance run with a single in the eighth.

The Athletics have won three in a row and 11 of their last 13. The loss snapped Houston's six-game winning

streak.

Montas (5-2) also allowed just three singles with two walks and two strikeouts in six innings to get back on track after yielding 17 hits and nine runs combined in his last two starts.

Lou Trivino struck out three in two perfect innings before closer Blake Treinen allowed two singles in the ninth, striking out Evan Gattis for his 23rd save to help Oakland improve to 35-0 this season when leading after seven innings. It's the 20th straight save opportunity he's converted dating back to May 4.

Marwin Gonzalez walked with two outs in the second inning, but Houston didn't get a hit until a single by Jose Altuve with one out in the fourth. But he was soon erased when he took second and tried to reach third on a

wild pitch, and Montas struck out Josh Reddick to end the inning.

Houston had just one hit in the sixth inning before George Springer and Alex Bregman hit consecutive singles. Montas was able to escape the jam when Altuve grounded into a double play.

Cole retired the first eight batters before Jonathan Lucroy's single with two outs in the third inning.

Cole walked Jed Lowrie with two outs in the sixth before an infield single by Kris Davis. But he struck out Matt Olson to end the threat.

Trainer's room

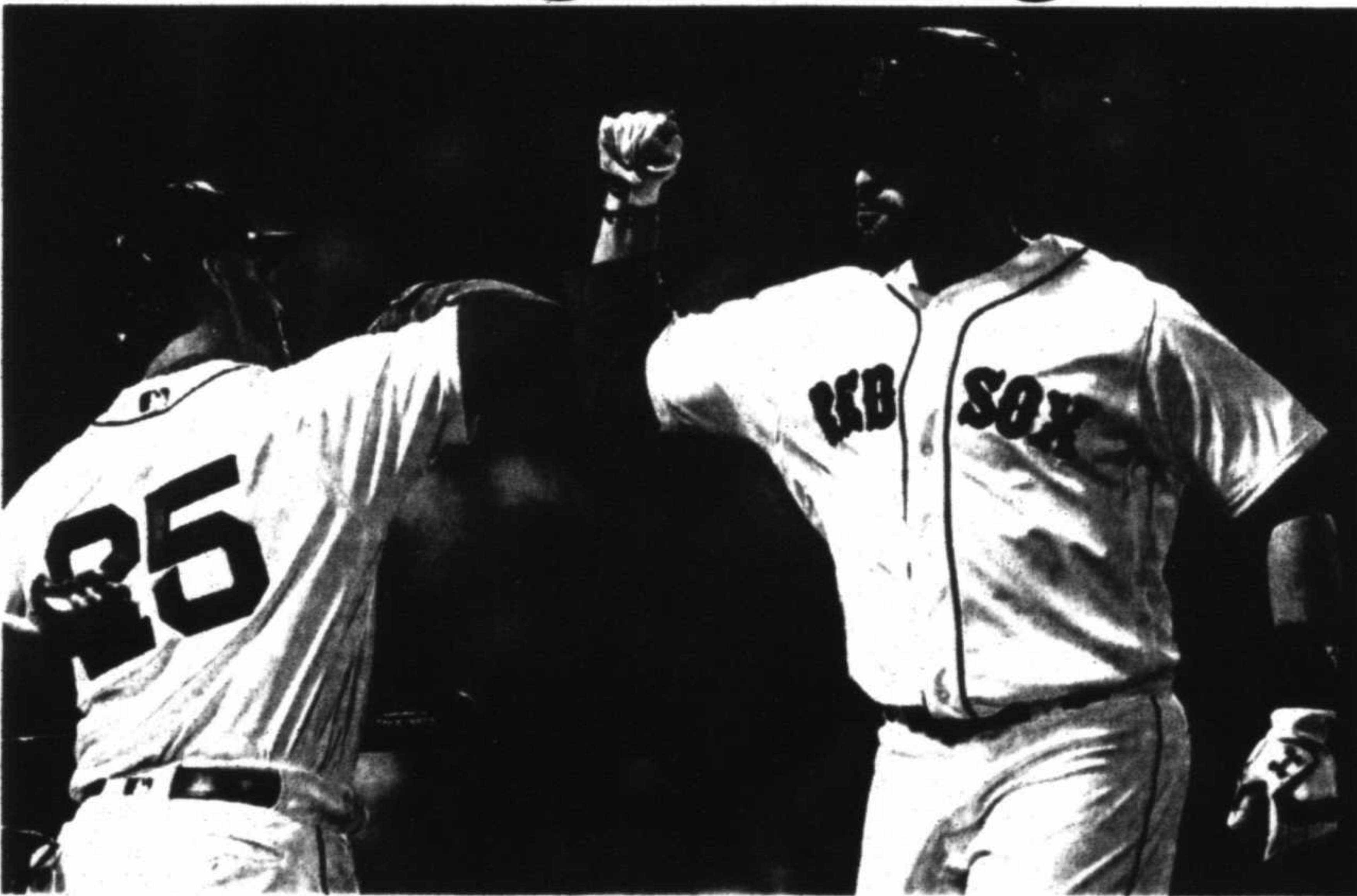
Astros: SS Carlos Correa (back stiffness) took ground balls on Monday in a small step toward his return to the field.



David J. Phillip/Associated Press

Oakland Athletics starting pitcher Frankie Montas (47) throws to Houston Astros' George Springer during the first inning of a baseball game Monday in Houston.

Leading the league



Charles Krupa/Associated Press

Boston Red Sox's J.D. Martinez, right, is congratulated by Steve Pearce after his three-run home run during the eighth inning Monday against the Texas Rangers at Fenway Park in Boston.

Martinez homers; Red Sox beat Rangers 5-0

By Jimmy Golen
Associated Press

BOSTON — J.D. Martinez hit his major league-leading 28th home run, Steve Pearce added a two-run shot and Eduardo Rodriguez pitched 5 2/3 innings on Monday night to lead the Boston Red Sox to a 5-0 victory over the Texas Rangers and their seventh straight win.

The Red Sox won for the 14th time in 17 games to end the day with their biggest lead over the Yankees in the A.L. East since April. Boston led New York, which lost the opener of a doubleheader in Baltimore, by three games pending the outcome of the nightcap.

Pearce, who was acquired from the Toronto Blue Jays last month, lined a 3-2 pitch into the Monster Seats with two outs in the first inning to make it 2-0. It stayed that way until Mookie Betts and Andrew Benintendi singled to lead off the eighth and Martinez put one into the Monster Seats to give the Red Sox a 5-0 lead.

That was plenty for five Red Sox pitchers, who combined on a five-hitter. Rodriguez (11-3) held Texas hitless

until Adrian Beltre singled with one out in the fourth. He allowed just three singles and three walks, striking out five. No one made it past second base for the Rangers until Robinson Chirinos tripled to lead off the seventh. He was stranded there when Brandon Workman struck out Joey Gallo and then retired Delino Deshields and Elvis Andrus on groundouts.

Mike Minor (6-5) allowed two runs on six hits, striking out four in 5 1/3 innings for his first loss since May. The Rangers have lost five of their last seven.

Mookie magic

Mookie Betts made a running catch on Andrus' line drive to left-center in the fifth. Betts, who played center field for just the fifth game all season, was elected to the All-Star Game for the third straight year. He also had a ground-rule double to center in the fifth and a single to lead off the eighth.

All-stars

In their first game since the All-Star selections were announced, the Red Sox played all three regulars who were

selected to the A.L. roster for next week's game in Washington: Betts, Martinez and Mitch Moreland. Closer Craig Kimbrel sat back down after Martinez's homer. Chris Sale is scheduled to start on Wednesday.

Benintendi is among those eligible for the final spot to be determined by a fan vote. The Red Sox campaigned for him by writing #VoteBenny in chalk in the dirt behind home plate. He had a double, a single and struck out twice.

Moving up I

Beltre, the active major league leader in hits, moved past Dave Winfield and into 20th place on the career list with his fourth-inning single. He now has 3,111, four behind Alex Rodriguez at No. 19.

Moving up II

The Rangers activated RHP Corey Gearrin a day after he was acquired from San Francisco along with OF Austin Jackson and RHP Jason Bahr. Austin Bibens-Dirks was optioned to Triple-A Round Rock to open a spot on the roster. Gearrin got five outs, striking out one batter.

Lonnie Walker IV settling in with Spurs this summer

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — These are highly uncertain times for the San Antonio Spurs.

That's why Lonnie Walker IV might be so valuable.

This is a summer when Spurs mainstay Tony Parker has already left for Charlotte, when four-time NBA champion Manu Ginobili is going through what now seems like his annual contemplation of retirement and when 2014 NBA Finals MVP Kawhi Leonard's future is most uncertain — both in terms of where he may play next and if his quadriceps injury is healed to the point where he can return to the court.

But Walker IV is here, and he's eager to be a part of whatever will be in San Antonio.

"I've worked so hard to get to this moment that I can't not be confident to play against grown men who are older than me," said Walker, who turned pro after one season with the Miami Hurricanes. "I know day-in and day-out the blood, sweat and tears I put into this game and how great a player I can become."

He had 14 points in the Spurs' 95-90 win over the Washington Wizards on Sunday — Day 3 of the NBA Summer League in Las Vegas, where there was another 10-game slate as the teams progress toward the start of playoffs later this week.

It's hard to imagine there's a player in Las Vegas happier with his current lot in life than Walker IV.

He just got his first apartment, a major accomplishment for a kid whose upbringing in Reading, Pennsylvania was often challenging to say the least. In an Instagram post after getting his new place in San Antonio, Walker IV opened up about how hard times were.

"Survival by the fittest was the strategy growing up," he wrote. "Splitting a cheeseburger for dinner. Chips for breakfast. Not knowing where I will sleep the next day. Living with 10 plus people. Waking up in the middle of the night because your house got shot up. Who would've thought at the age of 19, I'm alive and healthy and just got my first apt. Who would've thought that this kid from Reading would make it out. No one understands my struggle and my pain."

Such worries are long gone. He's guaranteed to make \$5 million in salary over the next two years, has signed a shoe deal with Adidas and more than likely will grab a few more endorsements along the way.

In other words, no more splitting cheeseburgers for him. And he hopes his story motivates anyone it reaches.



Rick Bowmer/Associated Press

San Antonio Spurs guard Lonnie Walker IV (15) drives on Memphis Grizzlies guard Jaaron Carter (2) into the first half of a summer league game Thursday in Salt Lake City.

Roger, Serena, Rafa bring best to Wimbledon

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

LONDON — They roared for Roger Federer just for showing up, greeting his arrival at Wimbledon's main stadium as if his mere presence were enough to justify the price of admission.

They clapped and yelled when Federer's drop volley capped a 16-minute tour de force of a first set in which he won 21 of the first 23 points.

They eventually sent him back to the locker room with a standing ovation, acknowledging the talent displayed by Federer during a 6-0, 7-5, 6-4 victory over 22nd-seeded Adrian Panatta of France in the fourth round Monday, yes, but also his superiority over the course of a career that has produced eight Wimbledon championships and 20 Grand Slam titles, both records for a man.

Federer, who has won 32 consecutive sets at the tournament and held serve 81 games in a row, was asked whether he paused for even a moment to wonder why

he wasn't being given more of a test. "Not really," said Federer, the No. 1 seed. "I'm telling myself, 'Why didn't I break the first game of the second?'"

His mastery was only the beginning of things for those who spent 120 pounds (about \$160) to be at Center Court and were afforded the rare treat of watching three of the greatest to ever lift a tennis racket.

Federer was followed by Serena Williams, one of the seven Wimbledon trophies among her 23 majors, who was hardly challenged in a 6-2, 6-2 win against 120th-ranked qualifier Evgeniya Rodina of Russia. And Williams was followed by Rafael Nadal — two titles at Wimbledon, 17 at all Slams — who dispatched 93rd-ranked Jiri Vesely of the Czech Republic 6-3, 6-3, 6-4.

The only other Wimbledon champion left in either bracket, Novak Djokovic, beat 40th-ranked Karen Khachanov 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 on No. 1 Court, then said he'd



Kirsty Wignall/Associated Press

Serena Williams of the United States returns the ball to Bulgaria's Viktoriya Tomova during their women's singles match, on the third day of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London on Wednesday.

Please see WIMBLEDON/2C

'HOUNDWATCH



MONDAY'S SCORE

Midland 3
Springfield 0

WEDNESDAY'S GAME

Midland vs Corpus Christi
6:30 p.m.

INTERNET

www.mlb.com

RECORDS

Midland 5-13
Springfield 5-13

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Midland 3 Springfield 0	Midland vs Corpus Christi 6:30 p.m.	Midland vs Corpus Christi 7 p.m.	Midland vs Corpus Christi 7 p.m.	Midland vs Corpus Christi 7 p.m.

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

Cycling	7:30 p.m., ESPN2
Tour de France, Stage 4. La Baulde to Sarzeau, 6.30 a.m., NBCSN	Tennis
Major League Baseball	Quarterfinals, 7 a.m., ESPN, ESPN2
Texas at Boston, 6 p.m., FSW	Women's National
NY Yankees at Baltimore, 6 p.m., MLB	Basketball Association
Kansas City at Minnesota, 7 p.m., FS1	Los Angeles at Seattle, 2 p.m., Twitter
Oakland at Houston, 7 p.m., ATTSW	Phoenix at Dallas, 7 p.m., FSW+
Men's Soccer	RADIO
World Cup Semifinal	Major League Baseball
France vs. Belgium, 1 p.m., FOX, TELE	Texas at Boston, 6 p.m., KPET 105.1 FM/690 AM (Lamesa), KST 1490 AM (Big Spring)
NBA Summer League	Oakland at Houston, 7 p.m., KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM (Big Spring)
San Antonio vs. Portland, 3 p.m., NBA TV	Men's Soccer
Utah vs. Miami, 3:30 p.m., ESPN	World Cup Semifinal
Atlanta vs. Chicago, 5 p.m., NBA TV	France vs. Belgium, 1 p.m., KXFS 93.7 FM
Sacramento vs. Memphis, 5:30 p.m., ESPN2	
LA Lakers vs. New York, 8 p.m., ESPN	

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL	HOCKEY
National League	National Hockey League
BALTIMORE CRICKETS — Released RHP Jimmy Macdonald from Norfolk (IL) as 20th man	BUFFALO SABRES — Signed O Rasmus Dahlin to a three-year, \$10 million contract
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Assigned RHP George Kontos outright to Columbus (IL)	NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Agreed to terms with F Jan Kovar on a one-year contract
DETROIT TIGERS — Assigned 2B Dixon Machado outright to Toledo (IL). Options RHP Artie Llewellyn to Toledo	AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE
NEW YORK YANKEES — Released RHP Giovanni Gallegos from Scottsdale (AZ) (IL) as 20th man	BRIDGEPORT SOUND TIGERS — Agreed to terms with G Jimmy Smith and F Ben Horstmann. Connor Jones, Ryan Bourque and Chris Bourque
National League	Major League Soccer
NEW YORK METS — Sent LHP Jason Varitek to Brooklyn (NY) for a rehab assignment	FC DALLAS — Loaned D Chris Richards to Bayern Munich (Germany) U19
SAN DIEGO PADRES — Assigned OF Matt Strasser outright to El Paso (PCL)	NEW YORK RED BULLS — Loaned F Carlos Ruiz to Atletico Nacional (Colombia)
CHICAGO CUBS — Announced RHP Tyson Pizarro signed with the Texas Rangers (Texas)	COLLEGE
GARY SOUTHSHORE RAILCATS — Traded RHP Neutonio Rubio to Sugar Land (Atlantic) for future considerations	ADRIAN — Named Cory Caramazza assistant men's and women's volleyball coach
KANSAS CITY T-BONES — Traded RHP Zach Walters to St. Paul for RHP Noah Panko Jr. and cash	ALABAMA — Released LHP VanDarius Cooks from the football team
OTTAWA CHAMPIONS — Released C Stephen Ocasio and RHP Jeremy Delgado	CHESTER HILL — Named Tim Meyer women's volleyball coach
SUSSEX COUNTY MINERS — Released RHP Lance Thornton	HOFSTRA — Named Melissa Pines assistant women's basketball coach and Amanda Johnson assistant women's basketball coach
BASKETBALL	MULLENBERG — Named Kelly Walsman women's soccer coach
CONNECTICUT SUN — Traded G Alex Benning to Atlanta for G Layshia Clarendon and a 2019 second-round draft pick	SUSSEX TECH — Named Glynn Cyprien assistant men's basketball coach
	TUSCULUM — Named Zach Holt assistant men's basketball coach and Scooter Galloway graduate assistant men's basketball coach

WORLD CUP GLANCE

SEMI-FINALS	THIRD PLACE
Tuesday, July 10	Wednesday, July 11
At St. Petersburg, Russia	At Moscow
France vs. Belgium, 1 p.m.	England vs. Croatia, 1 p.m.

WNBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE	WESTERN CONFERENCE
Washington 12 8 602	Seattle 14 6 700
Connecticut 10 9 526	Phoenix 14 6 700
Atlanta 10 9 526	
Chicago 7 12 368	
New York 5 14 263	
Indiana 2 17 105	

MLS GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE	WESTERN CONFERENCE
Atlanta United FC 12 4 40 23	LA Galaxy 7 7 25 31
New York City FC 10 4 34 24	Minnesota United 6 11 19 23
New York 10 5 32 34 17	Seattle 6 11 19 23
Columbus 7 4 28 20	Colorado 4 11 15 22
New England 8 11 24 24	San Jose 2 10 22 27
Chicago 6 9 23 24	
Philadelphia 6 9 21 27	
Orlando City 6 11 19 25	
Norfolk FC 4 10 18 28	
D.C. United 2 7 11 23	

WORLD GOLF RANKINGS

Through July 9	Through July 9
1. Dustin Johnson, USA, 9.81	25. Brian Harman, USA, 3.58
2. Justin Thomas, USA, 8.82	26. Matt Kuchar, USA, 3.57
3. Jason Day, AUS, 8.29	27. Patrick Cantlay, USA, 3.51
4. Brooks Koepka, USA, 8.14	28. Ian Poulter, ENG, 3.51
5. Jon Rahm, ESP, 7.87	29. Jonny Lee, USA, 3.40
6. Jordan Spieth, USA, 7.87	30. Louis Oosthuizen, SA, 3.31
7. Rickie Fowler, USA, 7.82	31. Kevin Kisner, USA, 3.25
8. Rory McIlroy, NIR, 6.81	32. Charles Howell III, USA, 3.11
9. Adam Scott, AUS, 6.36	33. Chris Kirk, USA, 3.11
10. Tommy Fleetwood, ENG, 5.88	34. Paul Casey, USA, 3.04
11. Bubba Watson, USA, 5.82	35. Matt Fitzpatrick, ENG, 2.84
12. Paul Casey, ENG, 5.80	36. Justin Rose, USA, 2.81
13. Francesco Molinari, ITA, 5.74	37. Henrik Stenson, SWE, 2.81
14. Adam Scott, AUS, 5.48	38. Gary Woodland, USA, 2.81
15. Francesco Molinari, ITA, 5.34	39. Matt Kuchar, USA, 2.81
16. Hideki Matsuyama, JPN, 5.29	40. Justin Rose, USA, 2.81
17. Henrik Stenson, SWE, 4.89	41. Matt Kuchar, USA, 2.81
18. Matt Kuchar, USA, 4.88	42. Gary Woodland, USA, 2.81
19. Sergio Garcia, ESP, 4.55	43. Matt Kuchar, USA, 2.81
20. Phil Mickelson, USA, 4.19	44. Matt Kuchar, USA, 2.81
21. Webb Simpson, USA, 4.19	45. Matt Kuchar, USA, 2.81
22. Bryson DeChambeau, USA, 4.16	46. Matt Kuchar, USA, 2.81
23. Taylor Pridemore, USA, 3.94	47. Matt Kuchar, USA, 2.81
24. Hunter Mahan, USA, 3.89	48. Matt Kuchar, USA, 2.81
25. Patrick Cantlay, USA, 3.87	49. Matt Kuchar, USA, 2.81

FIGHT SCHEDULE

July 10	July 11
At Hialeah, Fla., 8 p.m.	At Hialeah, Fla., 8 p.m.
Shane Breeze vs. Mike Rodriguez, 12, for the WBO Super Lightweight title	Shane Breeze vs. Mike Rodriguez, 12, for the WBO Super Lightweight title
At Hialeah, Fla., 8 p.m.	At Hialeah, Fla., 8 p.m.
Shane Breeze vs. Mike Rodriguez, 12, for the WBO Super Lightweight title	Shane Breeze vs. Mike Rodriguez, 12, for the WBO Super Lightweight title
At Hialeah, Fla., 8 p.m.	At Hialeah, Fla., 8 p.m.
Shane Breeze vs. Mike Rodriguez, 12, for the WBO Super Lightweight title	Shane Breeze vs. Mike Rodriguez, 12, for the WBO Super Lightweight title

WIMBLEDON

From 1C

like to get as much time on Centre Court as Federer and Nadal do.

Was Mannarino intimidated by playing in that hallowed arena?

"The fact that it is the Centre Court, and the fact that it is a lot of people in the stands — it's not changing anything, actually. The only different thing is that it's Federer in front of me, and he's a really good opponent. It makes the job harder," Mannarino said. "This is what is not easy to handle."

He showed up wearing a plain white T-shirt, bereft of any obvious sponsor's logos, looking like someone out for a casual hitting session in a public park. At least it appeared to be the right size. What a difference from a week ago, when Federer's debut of new duds after splitting from Nike drew so many headlines.

It took Mannarino so much toil and trouble to win one game, saving four break points to hold to begin the second set. He was able to tread water until 5-all, when Federer returned a 123 mph serve, quickly gained control of a baseline exchange, then hopped and screamed, "Come on!" as the backhand Federer also broke, then held to end the match.

Wimbledon Results
LONDON — Results Monday from Wimbledon at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club (seeding in parentheses):

Men's Singles
Fourth Round
Roger Federer (1) defeated Adrian Panatta (22), France, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Kevin Anderson (8) defeated Gael Monfils, France, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (2), 5-7, 7-6 (4).
Milos Raonic (13) defeated Marin Cilic, Croatia, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Nickola Pietrangeli (17) defeated Stanislav Kuznetsov (21), Russia, 6-4, 7-6 (8), 7-6 (4).
Novak Djokovic (12) defeated Karan Rasthavi (22), Spain, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2.
Rafael Nadal (2) defeated Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Liam Broderick (17) defeated Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Liam Broderick (17) defeated Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.

Women's Singles
Fourth Round
Dominika Cibulkova, Slovakia, defeated Heather Watson, Britain, 6-3, 6-1.
Julia Goepfert (12) defeated Julia Goepfert, Latvia, withdrew.



Kirsty Wigglesworth/Associated Press

Angelique Kerber of Germany celebrates defeating Belinda Bencic of Switzerland in their women's singles match on the seventh day at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London on Monday.

Men's Doubles
Third Round
Michael Venus, New Zealand and Raven Klaasen (13), South Africa, defeated Leonardo Mayer, Argentina and Juan Sousa, Portugal, 6-3, 7-6 (5), 6-7 (5), 6-7 (3), 6-3.
Bruno Soares, Brazil and Jamie Murray (5), Britain, defeated Ken Skupski, Britain and Neal Skupski, Britain, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.
Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany and Ben McLachlan (14), Japan, defeated Philipp Petzschner, Germany and Tim Pütz, Germany, 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (1), 6-7 (5), 6-3.
Frederik Nielsen, Denmark and Joe Salisbury, Britain, defeated Robert Farah, Colombia and Juan Sebastian Gomez, Colombia, 5-7, 7-6 (3), 6-3, 7-6 (1).
Nicola Pietrangeli, Sweden and Robin Haase, Netherlands, defeated Alexander Pan, Austria and Nikola Pietrangeli, Austria, 7-6 (5), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.
Henri Kontinen, Finland and Heather Watson (15), Britain, defeated Marcel Granollers, Argentina and Nicolas Pietrangeli, Argentina, 6-4, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (3), 6-3.
Liam Broderick, New Zealand and Dan Brown, India, defeated Jonathan Erlich, Israel and Marco Meligoi, Italy, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Krzysztof Piatek, Poland and Tamas Babos (11), Hungary, defeated Kristian Plesnik, Belgium and Monica Niculescu (13), Romania, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Aljaz Bedene, United States and Aljaz Bedene, Poland, defeated Johannes Larsson, Sweden and Kiki Bertens, Netherlands, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Krzysztof Piatek, Poland and Tamas Babos (11), Hungary, defeated Kristian Plesnik, Belgium and Monica Niculescu (13), Romania, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Liam Broderick, New Zealand and Dan Brown, India, defeated Jonathan Erlich, Israel and Marco Meligoi, Italy, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Krzysztof Piatek, Poland and Tamas Babos (11), Hungary, defeated Kristian Plesnik, Belgium and Monica Niculescu (13), Romania, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.

Cyprien returns to college as Texas Tech assistant after NBA

Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Glynn Cyprien has returned to the college ranks as an assistant coach at Texas Tech after spending the past four years working with the NBA's Memphis Grizzlies. Red Raiders head coach Chris Beard announced Cyprien's hiring Monday. Cyprien was director of

pro personnel for the Grizzlies and coached the Memphis Hustle in the NBA G League during the 2017-18 season.

Before going to the NBA team, Cyprien served 26 seasons as a college assistant coach. He worked at Texas A&M, Memphis, Kentucky, Arkansas, New Mexico State, Oklahoma State, UNLV, Western

Kentucky, Jacksonville, Lamar and UTSA.

Two Texas Tech assistant coaches left after the Red Raiders went 27-10 last season and advanced to the NCAA Elite Eight for the first time. Chris Ogden took over as head coach at Texas-Arlington and Al Pinkins became an associate head coach at Florida.

PRO RODEO LEADERS

Through July 8	Through July 8
1. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	18. Russell Corbitt, Tennessee, \$21,581
2. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	19. Billie Jack Stribling, Nevada, \$20,889
3. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	20. Logan Mader, Utah, \$20,832
4. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	21. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
5. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	22. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
6. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	23. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
7. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	24. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
8. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	25. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
9. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	26. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
10. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	27. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
11. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	28. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
12. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	29. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
13. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	30. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
14. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	31. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
15. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	32. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
16. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	33. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
17. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	34. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
18. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	35. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
19. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	36. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
20. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	37. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
21. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	38. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
22. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	39. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
23. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	40. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
24. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	41. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
25. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	42. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
26. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	43. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
27. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	44. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
28. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	45. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
29. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	46. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
30. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	47. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
31. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	48. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
32. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	49. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832
33. Tyler Burrell, Montana, \$48,841	50. Justin Moore, Texas, \$20,832

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION

7/06 6:30-8:30 Microchip Clinic at Beer Garden's Yappy Hour
7/08 6:00 Enhanced Adoption Center Volunteer Orientation
7/28 11:00-1:00 Microchip Clinic at Pet Wants Permain Basin

\$70 Spay & Neuter Vouchers available for Midland County & City of Midland residents! learn more & sign up at: midlandhumane.org

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
Open for adoptions Mon-Sat 12-7, Sun 12-6
Adoption Fee (fully vetted & chipped):
Cats \$110, Dogs \$180
432.557.3405
Located within Midland's PetSmart Store
Ad Sponsored By
BROWN'S PERMAN ELECTRIC CO.

Gabby is a 1 yo female Lab Mix (~40 lbs) who was found as a stray & never claimed. Gabby is energetic & a bit of a wild child. Gabby's foster stated that she likes other dogs, but they don't always like her level of energy.

ROCKHOUNDS REPORT

ROCKHOUNDS 3, CARDINALS 0

At Hammond Field, Springfield, Missouri

TOP HITTERS: The RockHounds were spearheaded by their first two hitters in their batting order, as leadoff man Eli White went 3-for-4 with a double, a triple and two runs scored, and No. 2 hitter J.P. Sportman was 2-for-3 with a double and accounted for all of Midland's runs with three RBI.

TOP PITCHERS: RockHounds starter Jesus Luzardo fired six shutout innings of three-hit ball, while striking out 10. Luzardo walked only one and picked up the win in his final start before he is set to participate in the All-Star Futures Game, Sunday in Washington. ... Midland relievers Miguel Romero, Nolan Blackwood and Kyle Finnegan combined on three innings of two-hit ball.

HIGHLIGHTS: The RockHounds went ahead 1-0 in the first inning when Sportman drove home White with a sacrifice fly. Sportman's RBI groundout plated Santiago Chavez in the third. ... Sportman doubled home Eli White in the fifth to cap Midland's scoring.

NOTES: The RockHounds placed catcher Sean Murphy on the 7-day disabled list with a right hand injury. In a corresponding move, catcher Jason Goldstein was promoted to Midland from advanced Single-A Stockton of the California League. Goldstein, 24, hit .300 with one home run, five RBI and five runs scored in 50 at-bats with Stockton. ... St. Louis Cardinals reliever Luke Gregerson pitched a perfect eighth in a rehab assignment for Springfield. Gregerson has been out since mid-May with shoulder and knee ailments. ... Midland snapped a five-game losing streak. The RockHounds

TL standings

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Tulsa (Dodgers)	13	4	.765	—
Arkansas (Mariners)	9	7	.563	3 1/2
Springfield (Cardinals)	5	13	.278	8 1/2
NW Arkansas (Royals)	3	12	.200	9

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Corpus Christi (Astros)	13	4	.765	—
San Antonio (Padres)	10	7	.588	3
Frisco (Rangers)	10	8	.556	3 1/2
Midland (Athletics)	5	13	.278	8 1/2

Monday's scores
Midland 3, Springfield 0
Arkansas at San Antonio, cancelled
Northwest Arkansas at Corpus Christi, late
Tulsa at Frisco 1

Today's Games
No games scheduled

finished their six-game road trip with a 2-5 record and went 1-2 in their three-game series at Springfield. Midland starts a four-game home series against Corpus Christi at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

ROCKHOUNDS 3, CARDINALS 0
Springfield

ab r h bi

E. White 2b 4 2 3 0

Sportman 3b 3 0 2 3

Brown 1b 4 0 0 0

Martinez cf 3 0 0 0

Ramirez lf 4 0 0 0

R. Martin ss 4 0 0 0

Schall dh 4 0 1 0

Bot cf 4 0 1 0

Chavez c 3 1 1 0

Totals 33 8 8 3

ab r h bi

Edman ss 4 0 0 0

Ulinas 2b 4 0 0 0

Kramer c 4 0 1 0

Mendoza 3b 4 0 0 0

Thomas lf 3 0 0 0

Rocha lf 3 0 0 0

Chenue lf 2 0 1 0

Negrete lf 1 0 1 0

Miles lf 3 0 0 0

Dykstra dh 3 0 0 0

Totals 33 0 0 0

IP H R ER BB SO

101 0 0 0 0 3

Springfield 0 0 0 0 0 0

F - Game (1) DP - Midland 1, Springfield 0

1. LOB - Midland 6, Springfield 5, 2B - E. White

(17), Sportman (15), Ulinas (11), 3B - E. White

(7), SS - Schall (2), K. Martin (1), S - Chavez

SP - Sportman

IP H R ER BB SO

Midland 6.0 3 0 0 0 10

Roman 1 0 0 0 0 2

Diabrendo 1 0 1 0 0 2

Ercegovic 5.1 1 0 0 0 1

Springfield 2.4 5 0 3 3 1

Garrett 2 0 0 0 0 0

Gregerson 1 0 0 0 0 0

Evans 0 0 0 0 0 1

T-2 15 A-3.042

MLB GLANCE

Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

W L Pct GB

Boston 52 29 .641 —

New York 49 32 .605 1 1/2

Tampa Bay 48 33 .590 2

Toronto 41 40 .506 9

Baltimore 34 47 .418 16

Central Division

W L Pct GB

Cleveland 49 33 .596 1 1/2

Minnesota 48 34 .585 2

Chicago 42 40 .512 9

Detroit 39 43 .475 12

Kansas City 30 53 .360 21

West Division

W L Pct GB

Houston 51 31 .619 —

Seattle 47 35 .570 4

Oakland 46 36 .561 5

Los Angeles 45 37 .550 6

Texas 40 42 .488 11

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

W L Pct GB

Philadelphia 49 33 .596 1 1/2

Atlanta 48 34 .585 2

Washington 45 40 .525 5

New York 41 46 .468 10

Miami 37 50 .425 15

Central Division

W L Pct GB

Arizona 50 31 .614 —

Los Angeles 47 35 .570 4

Cincinnati 46 36 .561 5

St. Louis 45 37 .550 6

Pittsburgh 41 42 .488 11

Cincinnati 39 51 .435 15

West Division

W L Pct GB

Arizona 50 31 .614 —

Los Angeles 47 35 .570 4

Cincinnati 46 36 .561 5

St. Louis 45 37 .550 6

Pittsburgh 41 42 .488 11

Cincinnati 39 51 .435 15

Today's Games

N.Y. Yankees (5) at Baltimore (2), 6:05 p.m.

Cincinnati (5) at Cleveland (5), 6:10 p.m.

Detroit (5) at Tampa Bay (5), 6:10 p.m.

Texas (5) at Boston (5), 6:10 p.m.

Toronto (5) at Atlanta (5), 6:10 p.m.

Kansas City (5) at Minnesota (5), 6:10 p.m.

Oakland (5) at Houston (5), 6:10 p.m.

Seattle (5) at Los Angeles (5), 6:10 p.m.

St. Louis (5) at Chicago (5), 6:10 p.m.

San Diego (5) at L.A. Angels (5), 6:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

N.Y. Yankees (5) at Baltimore (2), 6:05 p.m.

Cincinnati (5) at Cleveland (5), 6:10 p.m.

Detroit (5) at Tampa Bay (5), 6:10 p.m.

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Kansas City (5) at Minnesota (5), 6:10 p.m.

Oakland (5) at Houston (5), 6:10 p.m.

Seattle (5) at Los Angeles (5), 6:10 p.m.

St. Louis (5) at Chicago (5), 6:10 p.m.

San Diego (5) at L.A. Angels (5), 6:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

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NATIONAL LEAGUE



Martin Meissner/Associated Press

Belgium's Kevin De Bruyne leaves behind arriving Belgium coach Roberto Martinez during Belgium's official press conference on the eve of the semifinal match between France and Belgium at the 2018 World Cup on Monday at the St. Petersburg Stadium in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Foreigner: Martinez could be 1st to win for other nation

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Two wins from becoming the first foreign coach to win a World Cup, Roberto Martinez always will be known as Frankie to his former boss.

"He reminded me of those wonderful what I call zoot-suited American vocalists, like Bobby Darin, Frankie Avalon, Frankie Valli," Everton chairman Bill Kenwright said. "And I christened him Frankie from the first day I met him."

Martinez had more hair then. Now balding, the Spaniard has led Belgium to a World Cup semifinal against France on Tuesday night, three days before his 45th birthday. All 20 previous World Cup-winning coaches were born in the nation they led to the title.

"He's a genius tactically," said American goalkeeper Tim Howard, who spent three seasons with Martinez at Everton. "He always finds a weakness in the opponent. He prepares his teams to break down the opponent. No game is the same — he changes tactics every game."

Belgium beat five-time champion Brazil 2-1 in the quarterfinals when Martinez switched to a new formation — a 4-3-3 with star forward Romelu Lukaku on the right wing. If Belgium gets past the French, The Red Devils would play England or Croatia on Sunday with the chance to win their first World Cup title.

Englishman George Raynor's Sweden team advanced to the 1958 final at home but lost to Brazil, and Ernst Happel of Austria led the Netherlands team to the 1978 final, an extra-time defeat to host Argentina. Martinez hopes to succeed where they failed by employing a two-year process to ensure "this is a team, this is not a group of individuals."

"There's more feeling of trust in each other," midfielder Kevin De Bruyne said.

Martinez is familiar in the U.S. from his work for ESPN as an analyst at the 2010 and 2014 World Cups, the last two European Championships and the 2013 Confederations Cup. He insisted the network install a screen that showed the overhead tactical camera.

"Roberto only wanted to watch that," said Amy Rosenfeld, ESPN's senior coordinating producer for soccer. "We always had a setup where everybody else could see the main feed, and Roberto had a separate monitor where he could just watch the entire game from his high end zone. That's how he could consume the match, interpret the match, look at shape, look at formation, look at vulnerabilities, passing lanes."

Martinez impressed colleagues with his focus, especially after the Seine flooded ESPN's set in Paris two years ago. "Rats that I think were living in the Jurassic era emerged, and we could not get rid of them. These things could have been in the fourth race at Belmont — these were enormous rats," Rosenfeld said. "The rats are running past Roberto — he doesn't miss a beat. He's doing his analysis, one take usually, it may have even been live. There was a rat chewing on Roberto's laces."

In Britain, he remains somewhat of a mystery, at least his name. While he pronounces it Mar-TEE-néz, English media often stress the first syllable and say MAR-tin-éz.

He grew up in the Catalonia city of Balaguer and left the youth system of his hometown club at 16 to join Zaragoza. He played for a series of small clubs and became known for his move to third-tier Wigan for the 1995-96 season along with Jesus Seba and Isidro Diaz, a trio quickly dubbed the "Three Amigos."

He quit as a player at 33

when Swansea offered the manager's job in February 2007, and in his first full season earned the club a promotion that put it back in the second tier for the first time since 1983-84.

Martinez moved up to the Premier League with Wigan in June 2009 and after a bizarre 2012-13 season, when Wigan was relegated while winning its first FA Cup, he switched to more prestigious and ambitious Everton, where he would coach Lukaku and Marouane Fellaini, a pair that has combined for five of Belgium's 14 World Cup goals.

Martinez wasn't thought of as a tactician at the club level. He was fired with one match left in his third season at Everton following fan protests as the Toffees headed to their second straight 11th-place finish. The Royal Belgian Football Association, which fired Marc Wilmots after a 3-1 loss to Wales in the 2016 Euro quarterfinals, hired him three months later.

Martinez brought in former star Thierry Henry of France as an assistant, wanting his experience as a World Cup and European champion. Players were booed in Martinez's first match, a 2-0 loss to Spain, but the Red Devils are unbeaten in 24 matches since (19 wins). A month before the World Cup, he was rewarded with a new two-year contract running through the 2020 European Championship.

He speaks English and Spanish, looking casual at news conferences, sometimes with several days of stubble. His workrate is impressive. One hour after the 3-2 win over Japan in the round of 16, Martinez texted Kenwright that he already was planning tactics for Brazil. Martinez waits until three hours before kickoff to reveal his lineup to his players.

Kenwright praises Martinez for being "an extraordinarily good man" admired by club employees from top to bottom.

English team needs rousing before Croatia match

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

MOSCOW — It's time for Gareth Southgate to come up with a big speech of his own.

After England gave up a tying goal to Brazil in first-half stoppage time in the 2002 World Cup quarterfinals, Southgate felt coach Sven-Goran Eriksson lacked inspirational oratory in the locker room at halftime.

Now the 47-year-old former England international is leading the team, which plays Croatia on Wednesday in England's first World Cup semifinal in 28 years. The match is riveting the Land of Hope and Glory, which won its only title at home in 1966.

"Probably 18 months ago I talked to them about if you have success with England, it will be so much bigger than anything you can imagine, and I think that is probably starting to register with them now," Southgate said after Saturday's 2-0 quarterfinal victory over Sweden.

Southgate, who didn't play against Brazil, took a swipe at Eriksson after the 2-1 loss, comparing the cool-speaking Swede to a Tory opposition leader widely regarded as dull.

"We needed Churchill, but we got Iain Duncan-Smith," an unnamed defender, later identified as Southgate, was quoted as saying in a 2004 book by Joe Lovejoy.

No word whether Southgate will offer his "blood, toil, tears and sweat." With the coach keeping his strategies close to his now-famous vest, a young roster led by Harry Kane hopes to succeed where Gary Lineker, Michael Owen, Alan Shearer, David Beckham and Wayne Rooney failed.

England is ranked 12th in the world and Croatia 20th. The winner advances to Sunday's final against France or Belgium, which also will be at Luzhniki Stadium.

Croatia lost its only previous semifinal match to host France in 1998. It beat Denmark in the round of 16 and host Russia in the quarterfinals this year, becoming only the second team with consecutive shootout wins in the same World Cup since Argentina defeated Yugoslavia and Italy in 1990.

"It won't be easy for us," Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic said through a translator. "We will focus in the next few days to recover as much as possible. We will look for the best solutions ahead of the match, considering we have a few players with minor issues after the match against Russia. It won't be easy, but to get into the semifinals it's a new motive for us."

Way back when

In England's last semifinal match, Andreas Brehme's 60th-minute shot deflected off an onrushing Paul Parker at the penalty arc and looped over goalkeeper Peter Shilton to put West Germany ahead.

England tied the score when Parker's cross bounced off Jurgen Kohler and fell to Lineker, who beat goalkeeper Bodo Illgner to the far post. In the shootout, Stuart Pearce was stopped by Illgner on England's fourth attempt. Olaf Thon converted for a 4-3 lead and Chris Waddle shot over the crossbar.

Checkered past

Croatia went ahead in the 1998 semifinals only 26 seconds into the second half when Aljosa Asanovic split the defense with a pass, and Davor Suker scored his fifth goal of the tournament. Lillian Thuram tied the score a minute later after stealing the ball from Zvonimir Boban near the Croatia penalty area and exchanging passes with Youri Djorkaeff. Thuram scored the go-ahead goal with a curling shot in the 70th minute.

Colors

Croatia will wear its alternate navy-and-black jerseys and black shorts for the fifth straight match, and England will wear white shirts and white shorts. The Croats have not worn their white-and-red checkered shirts since their opener against Nigeria. England wore all red against Tunisia, Colombia and Sweden, and white shirts with blue shorts against Panama and Belgium. The English also wore white in the 1966 and 1990 semifinals.

Head to head

Croatians played for Yugoslavia before splitting off in 1990. England has four wins, two losses and one draw in the matchup, including a 4-2 victory in the group stage of the 2004 European Championship. The teams have not met since qualifying for the 2010 World Cup, when England won 4-1 in Zagreb and 5-1 at Wembley Stadium.

England goalkeeper Paul Robinson kicked at and missed a backpass from Gary Neville, allowing an own-goal in a 2-0 loss in a European qualifier in 2006. Goalkeeper Scott Carson fumbled Niki Kranjcar's shot into the net for the opening goal as Croatia won 3-2 at Wembley the following year, causing England to miss Euro 2008. England coach Steve McClaren held a large red-and-blue umbrella on the sidelines and was mocked as the "Wally with the broly," and he was fired the next day.

With the whistle

Cuneyt Cakir of Turkey will referee his second straight World Cup semifinal match, after Argentina's penalty-kick win over the Netherlands four years ago. Cakir worked Iran's 1-0 win over Morocco and Argentina's 2-1 win over Nigeria in the group stage this year, and he refereed Barcelona's 3-1 victory over Juventus in the 2015 Champions League final.

Jokic and Barton sign big deals

By Pat Graham
Associated Press

DENVER — Nikola Jokic and Will Barton grew up worlds apart.

Their paths, though, followed a similar route to a big payday with the Denver Nuggets. Jokic signed a max contract worth around \$147 million for five seasons, and Barton returned on a four-year deal that could earn him more than \$50 million.

As bench players a few years ago, Barton made a comment that stuck with his center.

"He called us Kobe and Shaq," Jokic recounted Monday at a news conference for the pair. "We kind of grew together."

From Serbia, Jokic was

a second-round pick by Denver in 2014 (41st overall) — a 6-foot-10 project who needed to lose about 30 pounds. He did and has blossomed into one of the top big men in the league.

From Baltimore, Barton was a second-round pick by Portland in 2012 (40th overall) — a sharp-shooter buried on the Blazers' bench and just needing a chance.

He got one when Denver traded for him and became a versatile reserve player/occasional starter.

"I don't think we are a team that can follow other archetypes in how teams are built," Nuggets president of basketball operations Tim Connelly explained. "We have to find and develop guys. We have to find and develop

guys who want to be here long term."

Jokic is an unassuming star in the making. His 10 triple-doubles last season were the most in a single season for a Nuggets player since Fat Lever in 1987-88. In addition, Jokic is the fifth player in NBA history with 3,000 or more points, 2,000 rebounds and 1,000 assists in their first three seasons, joining names such as Oscar Robertson, Larry Bird, Maurice Stokes and Sidney Wicks.

The spotlight really isn't his thing. He'd much rather be back home in Serbia this time of year, where his routine goes something like this: Work out, lunch, go to the stables to check on his two horses and then work out some more. He doesn't like the attention.

Chris Froome faces early challenge from BMC team at Tour de France

By Andrew Dampf
Associated Press

CHOLET, France — Besides still having to make up most of the 51 seconds he lost in a Stage 1 crash, Chris Froome faces another challenge as he seeks a record-tying fifth Tour de France title — Richie Porte's BMC team.

BMC beat Froome's Team Sky by four seconds on Monday to win a team time trial in Stage 3, with Belgian rider Greg Van Avermaet taking the yellow jersey.

"We have the yellow jersey, we won a stage with the team ... and Richie can finish it off with a nice podium spot in Paris," Van Avermaet said. "Everyone is working well together and we have a strong team and Richie can be up there."

Riding at an average speed of 54.9 kph (34 mph), BMC clocked 38 minutes, 46 seconds over the 35.5-kilometer (22-mile) route that began and ended in Cholet near the

Atlantic coast.

Sky finished second and Quick-Step Floors came third, seven seconds behind. World champion Tom Dumoulin finished fifth, 11 seconds back.

Overnight leader Peter Sagan was dropped by his Bora Hansgrohe teammates and fell to 80th overall, three minutes behind.

Van Avermaet, who excels at single-day classics, isn't a threat for the overall title but he could keep the lead through the cobblestoned Stage 9 ending in Roubaix.

Froome was left 55 seconds behind in the overall standings with another week of nifty rolling stages before hitting the Alps.

"We're just ... trying to get through the best we can until we get to the mountains," Froome said.

"There will be a lot more time lost throughout the GC group before we hit the mountains. One day you gain, one day you lose. That's just the nature of the game."

Froome is aiming to join Jacques Anquetil, Eddy Merckx, Bernard Hinault and Miguel Indurain as the only riders to win the Tour five times.

Van Avermaet earned the yellow jersey by leading BMC over the line, just ahead of American teammate Tejay van Garderen, who moved up to second overall with the same time as Van Avermaet.

Geraint Thomas of Sky was third overall, three seconds behind.

Among the overall favorites, Dumoulin was seventh (11 seconds behind), last year's runner-up Rigoberto Uran was 10th (:35), Porte was 14th (:51), Movistar teammates Alejandro Valverde and Mikel Landa were 17th (:53), Froome was 18th (:55), Adam Yates was 20th (1:00) and 2014 champion Vincenzo Nibali was 22nd (1:06).

Squad leaders traded turns on the front of the team "trains," with the ability to constantly maintain a fast pace the decisive factor over a challenging — if not highly technical

— route featuring a few minor hills.

Times were taken from the fourth rider on each eight-man team to cross the line.

BMC, which is searching for a new title sponsor, also won the previous team time trial on the Tour in 2015.

"I don't think it is a bad thing to have the yellow jersey for a team looking for a sponsor," said Porte, who crashed out of last year's Tour and lost time in Stage 1 of this edition. "I feel maybe even better (than last year)."

The other members of BMC are Patrick Bevin, Dominiano Caruso, Simon Gerrans, Stefan Kang and Michael Schär.

"Today, we just handed business," said Van Garderen, who has twice finished in the top five at the Tour but is riding this edition in a declared supporting role for Porte.

"Right now it is more about chest-thumping and psychological advantages. It just shows that we are here, too, and let's get it

on."

Van Avermaet also wore the yellow jersey for three days on the 2016 Tour.

"I've had it before and you feel how big it is," Van Avermaet said.

The Tour heads into the cycling hotbed of Brittany on Tuesday for Stage 4, a mostly flat 195-kilometer (121-mile) leg from La Baule to Sarzeau that starts and ends on the Atlantic coast.

The only individual time trial of the race comes in the penultimate stage, over a 31-kilometer route from Saint-Pee-sur-Nivelle to Espelette in the Basque country.

Tour de France Results
Stage 3: Team Time Trial
1. BMC Racing, 38:46
2. Sky, 39:01
3. Quick-Step Floors, 39:07
4. Movistar, 39:10
5. Sunweb, 39:11
6. EF Education First, 39:25
7. Bora-Hansgrohe, 39:28
8. Astana, 39:31
9. Bahrain-Merida, 39:32
10. Trek-Segafredo, 39:33
11. Team Ineos, 39:34
12. Lotto, 39:35
13. AG2R La Mondiale, 39:36
14. Team Dimension Data, 39:37
15. UAE Team Emirates, 39:38

16. Groupama-FDI, 39:42
17. Fortuneo-Sunco, 39:46
18. Direct Energie, 39:51
19. Loto-Soudal, 39:54
20. Orica-Scott, 39:55
21. World-Group, 39:56
22. Colde, 39:57
Overall Standings
1. Greg Van Avermaet, BMC, 10:00:00
2. Tejay van Garderen, United States, BMC, 10:00:00
3. Geraint Thomas, Britain, Sky, 10:00:00
4. Peter Sagan, Slovakia, Quick-Step Floors, 10:00:00
5. Rigoberto Uran, Colombia, EF Education First, 10:00:00
6. Alejandro Valverde, Spain, Movistar, 10:00:00
7. Mikel Landa, Spain, Movistar, 10:00:00
8. Adam Yates, Britain, Sky, 10:00:00
9. Simon Gerrans, Australia, BMC, 10:00:00
10. Patrick Bevin, New Zealand, BMC, 10:00:00
11. Stefan Kang, Germany, BMC, 10:00:00
12. Michael Schär, Switzerland, BMC, 10:00:00
13. Dominiano Caruso, Italy, BMC, 10:00:00
14. Eddy Merckx, Belgium, BMC, 10:00:00
15. Jacques Anquetil, France, BMC, 10:00:00
16. Bernard Hinault, France, BMC, 10:00:00
17. Miguel Indurain, Spain, BMC, 10:00:00
18. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 10:00:00
19. Tom Dumoulin, Netherlands, Sunweb, 10:00:00
20. Vincenzo Nibali, Italy, BMC, 10:00:00
21. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 10:00:00
22. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 10:00:00
23. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 10:00:00
24. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 10:00:00
25. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 10:00:00
26. Chris Froome, Britain, Sky, 10:00:00
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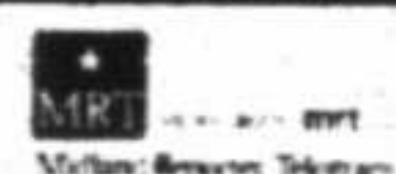
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Candidates should be team players with excellent communication skills and have the ability to manage assignments independently. The ideal candidate will have a nurturing personality and the desire to help in the development and mentoring of level 1 technicians.

Systems Administrator Responsibilities:

- Create and maintain comprehensive documentation as it relates to server and network topology, equipment, and configuration(s).
- Create project plans, design, and implement solutions.
- Level 2 and Level 3 Support for problems identified with systems and network. Will act as an escalation for Level 1 and Level 2 Managed Services support technicians.
- Create, request, and prevent technical specifications and requirements for purchasing of new servers and networking equipment via quote procedure.
- Participate in after-hours upgrades, troubleshooting, and/or on-call availability as needed.
- Standard system administration duties including server install, System/Application install and patch management, Windows problem determination and escalation, log analysis, etc.
- Configure, test, and maintain LAN equipment and services, including switches, routers, firewalls, and VPN.
- Identify, diagnose, and resolve network problems including network connectivity, traffic utilization, etc. using available network tools in a timely fashion.
- Provide infrastructure services in all areas needed: storage networking, Operating System, network security, directory services, server virtualization using system backup and restore, system and network monitoring, application installation and configuration.
- Assist with monthly reports and recommendations for Managed Services Clients.
- Utilize superior customer service skills.
- Stay current with system information, changes, and updates.

Requirements:

- 5-7 years of prior IT experience.
- Prior experience working for a service provider is a plus.
- Experience working with Windows Desktop XP-10, Windows Server 2003 - 2012, VMware, SBS Server, Storage Technologies.
- Hands on experience with Wired and Wireless networking, PC and server virtualization software, virus protection, backup systems.
- Microsoft certifications preferred.
- MCSA, VCP & CCNA certifications are preferred.

Skills:

- Effectively communicate by phone or in person.
- Strong written communication skills.
- Establish successful outcomes in handling difficult situations and work with various customers and management levels.
- Demonstrated ability to identify and troubleshoot critical issues.
- Ability to work in a high-performance culture.
- Manage multiple priorities and follow through on projects to completion.
- Works effectively both as a team member and independently to resolve problems.
- Effectively utilizes tools to resolve issues and escalates appropriately.
- Network configuration, monitoring, and troubleshooting experience are a must.
- Proven background in providing great customer service.
- Ability to work independently, prioritize existing projects, and proactively determine areas requiring additional attention, monitoring, or maintenance.
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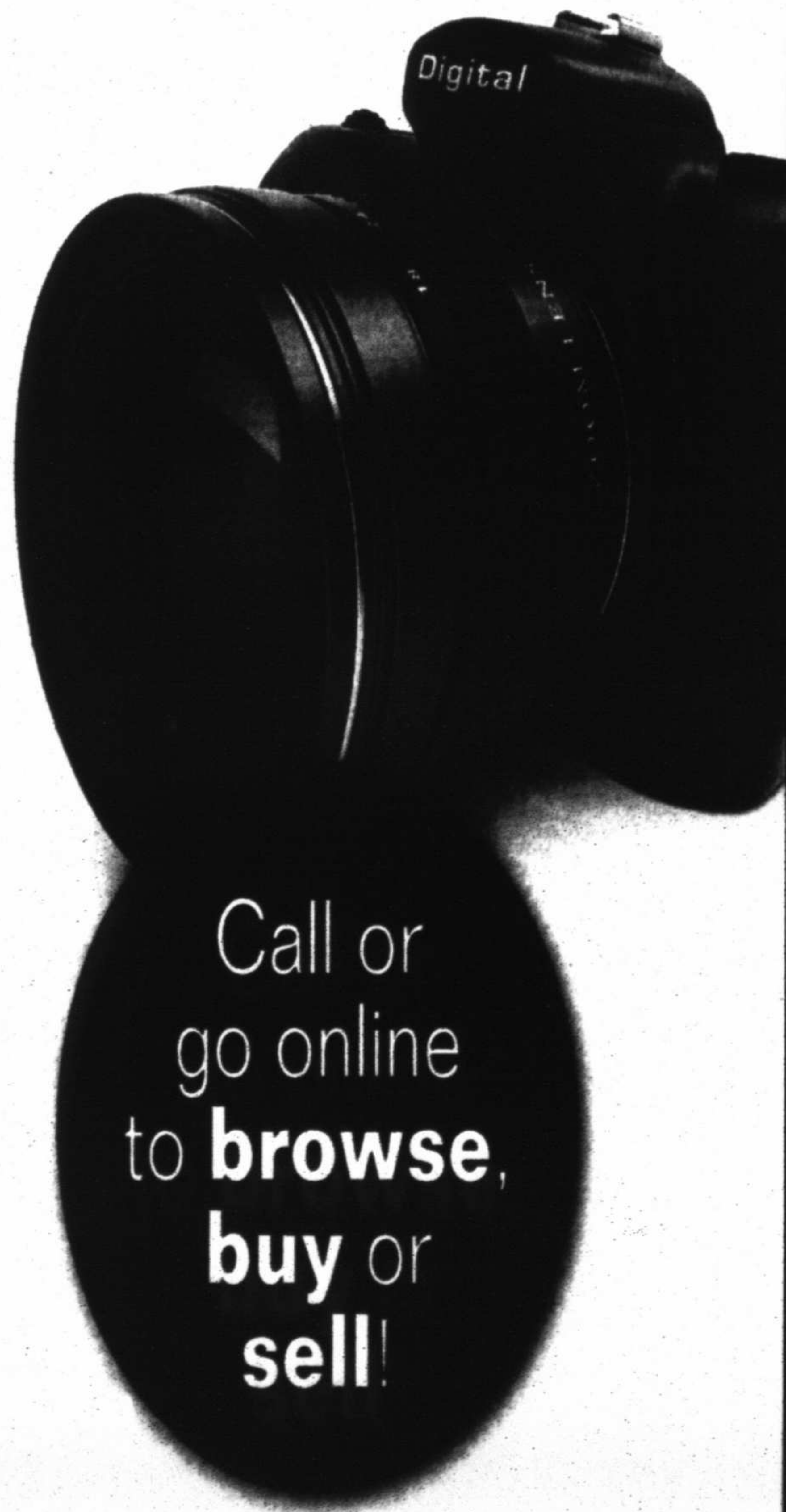
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Legal and Public Notices Notice of Application for Commercial Oil & Gas Waste Disposal Well Permit Velocity Water Solutions, LP, 106 East Sixth Street, Suite 900, Austin TX 78701 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation not productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to dispose of oil and gas waste into the San Andres, Clearfork & Wichita formations, Bud Viner Lease, Well Number 2. The proposed disposal well is located 14.3 miles North of Big Spring, in the Luther, SE (Silurian-Devonian) Field, in Howard County. The waste water will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3,250 to 5,472 feet. Legal Authority: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rule of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Request for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of this application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, PO Box 12967, Austin, Texas (Telephone: 512-463-6792).	Notice of Application for Surface Commingling OXY USA INC is applying to the Railroad Commission to amend previously approved Commingling Permit #7902 to include leases Morris Grantham 8 2304, Morris Grantham 82306 and Morris Grantham 8 2308. Leases already included in the commingling permit are Robb and Robb Water Unit. Production is from Spraberry (Trend Area) field. Production will be commingled at the Robb Tank Battery in RRC District 08 in Howard County. Pursuant to Statewide Rules 26 and 27, interested parties must file objections or requests for hearing in writing to the Railroad Commission office within 21 days after publication, or the Commission may approve the application. For questions pertaining to the application, please contact Sandra Musilam at (713) 368-5108.	Notice of Application for Surface Commingling Oxy USA Inc is applying to the Railroad Commission to surface commingle leases Weber 3514, Weber 3502 and Weber 3504. Production will be commingled into the Weber 3514 Battery, located in RRC District 08 in Howard County. Commingling production will result in reduced surface facility footprint and is the most effective means of producing the reserves. Pursuant to Statewide Rules 26 and 27, interested parties must file objections or requests for hearing in writing to the Railroad Commission office within 21 days after publication, or the Commission may approve the application. For questions pertaining to the application, please contact Sandra Musilam (713) 368-5108.	NOTICE OF DESTRUCTION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS According to policy, on July 26, 2018, The Midland Independent School District intends to destroy the special education records and files of students who have withdrawn, graduated, or were dismissed from the special education program in 2012/2013. The student or the parents may need these records for social security benefits and/or other purposes. Please contact Dawn Miller, Executive Director of Special Services, Midland ISD, (432) 240-1402, before July 26th, 2018 if you do not wish to have these records destroyed. AVISO DESTRUCCIÓN DE ARCHIVOS DE EDUCACIÓN ESPECIALES Según política, el 26 de julio de 2018, el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Midland tiene la intención de destruir los archivos y registros de los estudiantes en educación especial que se han retirado, graduado, o fueron despididos del programa de educación especial en el año escolar 2012/2013. El estudiante o los padres pueden necesitar estos archivos para beneficios del seguro social y otros propósitos. Por favor póngase en contacto con: Dawn Miller, Directora ejecutiva de Servicios Especiales, Midland ISD (432) 240-1402, antes de 26 de julio, 2018, si usted no desea que estos archivos sean destruidos.	2010 Honda CR-V, sun- roof, anti/lock Disc CD player, mileage 136,400, one owner, good con- dition, clean \$9,500 obo Call 803-458-1714 CHEVROLET COR- VETTE Grand Sport 2010, 38,000 miles, black, red and black Heritage interior, auto- matic, paddle shifters, all records. 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AP file photo

A Louisiana black bear, subspecies of the black bear rests in a water oak tree May 17, 2015, in a neighborhood in Marksville, La. A lawsuit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service claims the real-life bears that inspired their toy teddy bear counterparts should be returned to federal protection. The lawsuit was filed June 28 in Washington by environmental groups and others.

Lawsuit: Louisiana black bear needs renewed federal protection

By Janet McConaughy
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The real-life bears that inspired toy teddy bears should get renewed federal protection, according to a lawsuit recently brought against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Environmental groups, including Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, and others filed the lawsuit June 28 in Washington. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service acted prematurely, "based on flawed assumptions and shoddy science," when it took Louisiana black bears off the "threatened" list in 2016, according to a PEER news release.

Jeffrey Fleming, a spokesman for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, would not comment Monday on the lawsuit's specific allegations.

However, he did say, "We're very comfortable with the actions we took 2 1/2 years ago, given that recovery targets were met for the Louisiana black bear."

Louisiana black bears are the largest

and rarest of 16 black bear subspecies. An estimated 80,000 once ranged from eastern Texas and southern Arkansas, across Louisiana and through most of Mississippi.

The first "Teddy's bears" were created more than a century ago after President Teddy Roosevelt refused to shoot a Louisiana black bear that had been trapped and tied to a tree in Mississippi.

Harold Schoeffler, a plaintiff in the case, filed the citizen's lawsuit that succeeded in getting the bears listed as threatened in 1992. A 1987 survey showed 300 bears existed in the wild, he said.

A 2015 survey indicated there might be 700 today. "So we hardly think that's a spectacular success," Schoeffler said Friday. "Look at the pelican. We had to get to 40,000 before we de-listed the pelican."

Even 700 bears for today's population is an overestimate, because it counts a different subspecies of black bears brought from Minnesota in the 1960s for sport hunting, the lawsuit contends. It said that because state and federal biolo-

gists created a bridge population between that group in the northern Atchafalaya Basin and one in northeast Louisiana, native and "alien" bears have hybridized, creating yet another threat to the Louisiana subspecies.

"They're actually making things worse rather than achieving a recovery of this species," Paula Dinerstein, senior counsel for PEER, said Monday. The nonprofit's purpose, according to its website, is to ensure enforcement of laws to protect endangered and protected species.

The Louisiana Crawfish Producers Association-West and its president, Jody Meche, joined the suit because removing the bear's protection hurts its interests in ecotourism and wetlands protection, according to the lawsuit.

"As more development is authorized in areas previously designated as critical habitat, the ability of crawfishermen to make a living in areas with exacerbated sedimentation, impaired water quality, and disruption of crawfish and other wildlife habitat is severely diminished," it said.

Study provides clues to fate of early North American dogs

By Emiliano
Rodriguez Mega
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A new study provides fresh evidence that the first dogs of North America all but disappeared after the arrival of Europeans.

The only surviving legacy appears to be a cancer that arose from the cells of a dog that lived more than 8,000 years ago and has since spread to other canines throughout the world, an international team reported Thursday in the journal Science.

Researchers compared the genomes of ancient and modern American dogs. Results confirm that the first domesticated dogs of North America arrived with people from Asia over the same Bering land bridge used much earlier by humans. These dogs thrived for thousands of years, but mostly vanished after contact with Europeans. Scientists don't know why they disappeared.

"I just find it really surprising," says geneticist Elinor Karlsson from the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, who did not participate in the study. "There were millions and millions of dogs all over the continent (that) died out after the Europeans arrived. And the fact that we don't know anything about it is kind of a big hole."

In an attempt to fill in the historical gaps, researchers sequenced the genetic material of 71 dog remains collected from bones found in Siberia, the United States and Mexico.

When they compared it to the genetic makeup of modern pooches, they confirmed what other scientists have long suggested: The first dogs of North America, similar to Arctic dogs like Siberian huskies or Alaskan malamutes, were brought to the continent when people crossed the land bridge that formed between Russia and Canada. It's not known when the dogs first arrived.

For Elaine Ostrander, a canine genetics expert from the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, this finding reveals something about our own behavior.

"Where people go, so go their dogs," said Ostrander, who was not part of the study. "This study reinforces that idea and takes it back to nearly the beginning of dogdom."

Researchers could not find any trace of ancient dog DNA in modern-day village dogs from South America or pre-Columbian breeds like the xoloitzcuintli, the Mexican hairless dog. Less than 4 percent of the genome of modern American dogs can be traced back to those that lived before the Europeans came, the study found.

The indigenous dogs did appear to leave a genetic legacy: a rare dog cancer known as canine transmissible venereal tumor, or CTVT, that affected a single dog several thousand years ago.

"It's the closest remaining vestige of this lost dog lineage," co-author Elizabeth Murchison, a geneticist at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom, said in an email.

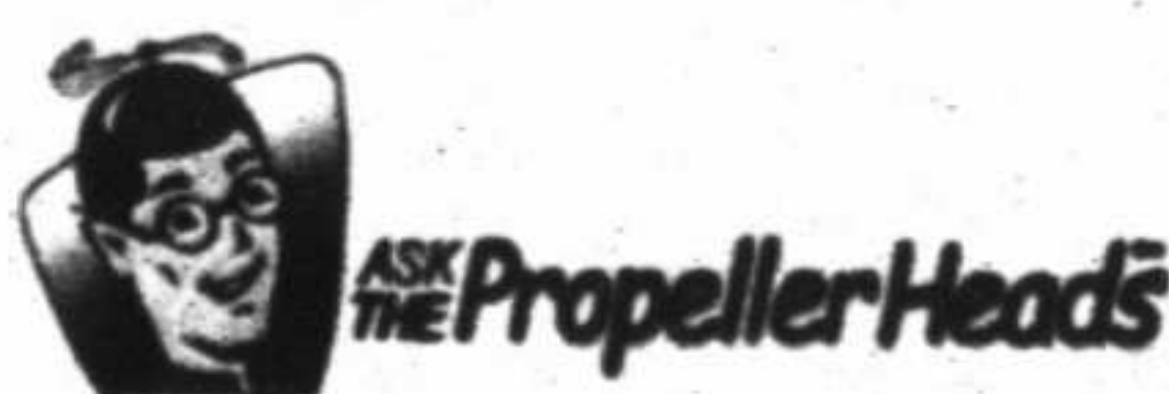
What to look for when finally letting go of that behemoth TV

Dear PropellerHeads: My old tube TV finally bit the dust. Looking for a new one, I'm seeing things about UHD, HDR, and App integration? What's that all about?

A: Sorry for your loss. I know it will be tough letting go of a fine antique like that, but at least now, you can pick up something that doesn't have a corded remote! While most consumers have adapted to TVs getting closer to being wafer thin, understand the difference between 720p and 1080p, and are more likely to have cut the cord from traditional cable, there's still a lot to learn to get the best value for any new TV purchase. I'll try to help break down the important points for you.

UHD/4k resolution. In the never-ending quest to make TV pictures as lifelike as possible, they've upped the resolution again. The next step up from 1080p (which is 1080 lines of vertical resolution/pixels) is 4k, also known as UHD. Don't let the name fool you, it's totally not 4,000 lines of vertical pixels, it's only required to be 3,840, but it does make a difference in larger TVs. Those extra lines mean your TV is getting 8.3 million pixels compared 2 million for HDTVs, which means more detail.

Size matters. UHD sounds sexy with all those extra pixels, but when shopping for a new TV, the size will help you determine if you need it. Most 4k TVs you'll see are 49" or larger. The reason for



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TEDDY'S TRAVAILS

AP file photo

A Louisiana black bear, subspecies of the black bear rests in a water oak tree May 17, 2015, in a neighborhood in Marksville, La. A lawsuit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service claims the real-life bears that inspired their toy teddy bear counterparts should be returned to federal protection. The lawsuit was filed June 28 in Washington by environmental groups and others.

Lawsuit: Louisiana black bear needs renewed federal protection

By Janet McConaughy
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The real-life bears that inspired toy teddy bears should get renewed federal protection, according to a lawsuit recently brought against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Environmental groups, including Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, and others filed the lawsuit June 28 in Washington. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service acted prematurely, "based on flawed assumptions and shoddy science," when it took Louisiana black bears off the "threatened" list in 2016, according to a PEER news release.

Jeffrey Fleming, a spokesman for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, would not comment Monday on the lawsuit's specific allegations.

However, he did say, "We're very comfortable with the actions we took 2 1/2 years ago, given that recovery targets were met for the Louisiana black bear."

Louisiana black bears are the largest

and rarest of 16 black bear subspecies. An estimated 80,000 once ranged from eastern Texas and southern Arkansas, across Louisiana and through most of Mississippi.

The first "Teddy's bears" were created more than a century ago after President Teddy Roosevelt refused to shoot a Louisiana black bear that had been trapped and tied to a tree in Mississippi.

Harold Schoeffler, a plaintiff in the case, filed the citizen's lawsuit that succeeded in getting the bears listed as threatened in 1992. A 1987 survey showed 300 bears existed in the wild, he said.

A 2015 survey indicated there might be 700 today. "So we hardly think that's a spectacular success," Schoeffler said Friday. "Look at the pelican. We had to get to 40,000 before we de-listed the pelican."

Even 700 bears for today's population is an overestimate, because it counts a different subspecies of black bears brought from Minnesota in the 1960s for sport hunting, the lawsuit contends. It said that because state and federal biolo-

gists created a bridge population between that group in the northern Atchafalaya Basin and one in northeast Louisiana, native and "alien" bears have hybridized, creating yet another threat to the Louisiana subspecies.

"They're actually making things worse rather than achieving a recovery of this species," Paula Dinerstein, senior counsel for PEER, said Monday. The nonprofit's purpose, according to its website, is to ensure enforcement of laws to protect endangered and protected species.

The Louisiana Crawfish Producers Association-West and its president, Jody Meche, joined the suit because removing the bear's protection hurts its interests in ecotourism and wetlands protection, according to the lawsuit.

"As more development is authorized in areas previously designated as critical habitat, the ability of crawfishermen to make a living in areas with exacerbated sedimentation, impaired water quality, and disruption of crawfish and other wildlife habitat is severely diminished," it said.

Study provides clues to fate of early North American dogs

By Emiliano
Rodriguez Mega
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A new study provides fresh evidence that the first dogs of North America all but disappeared after the arrival of Europeans.

The only surviving legacy appears to be a cancer that arose from the cells of a dog that lived more than 8,000 years ago and has since spread to other canines throughout the world, an international team reported Thursday in the journal Science.

Researchers compared the genomes of ancient and modern American dogs. Results confirm that the first domesticated dogs of North America arrived with people from Asia over the same Bering land bridge used much earlier by humans. These dogs thrived for thousands of years, but mostly vanished after contact with Europeans. Scientists don't know why they disappeared.

"I just find it really surprising," says geneticist Elinor Karlsson from the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, who did not participate in the study. "There were millions and millions of dogs all over the continent (that) died out after the Europeans arrived. And the fact that we don't know anything about it is kind of a big hole."

In an attempt to fill in the historical gaps, researchers sequenced the genetic material of 71 dog remains collected from bones found in Siberia, the United States and Mexico.

When they compared it to the genetic makeup of modern pooches, they confirmed what other scientists have long suggested: The first dogs of North America, similar to Arctic dogs like Siberian huskies or Alaskan malamutes, were brought to the continent when people crossed the land bridge that formed between Russia and Canada. It's not known when the dogs first arrived.

For Elaine Ostrander, a canine genetics expert from the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, this finding reveals something about our own behavior.

"Where people go, so go their dogs," said Ostrander, who was not part of the study. "This study reinforces that idea and takes it back to nearly the beginning of dogdom."

Researchers could not find any trace of ancient dog DNA in modern-day village dogs from South America or pre-Columbian breeds like the xoloitzcuintli, the Mexican hairless dog. Less than 4 percent of the genome of modern American dogs can be traced back to those that lived before the Europeans came, the study found.

The indigenous dogs did appear to leave a genetic legacy: a rare dog cancer known as canine transmissible venereal tumor, or CTVT, that affected a single dog several thousand years ago.

"It's the closest remaining vestige of this lost dog lineage," co-author Elizabeth Murchison, a geneticist at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom, said in an email.

What to look for when finally letting go of that behemoth TV

Dear PropellerHeads: My old tube TV finally bit the dust. Looking for a new one, I'm seeing things about UHD, HDR, and App integration? What's that all about?

A: Sorry for your loss. I know it will be tough letting go of a fine antique like that, but at least now, you can pick up something that doesn't have a corded remote! While most consumers have adapted to TVs getting closer to being wafer thin, understand the difference between 720p and 1080p, and are more likely to have cut the cord from traditional cable, there's still a lot to learn to get the best value for any new TV purchase. I'll try to help break down the important points for you.

UHD/4K resolution. In the never-ending quest to make TV pictures as lifelike as possible, they've upped the resolution again. The next step up from 1080p (which is 1080 lines of vertical resolution/pixels) is 4K, also known as UHD. Don't let the name fool you, it's totally not 4,000 lines of vertical pixels, it's only required to be 3,840, but it does make a difference in larger TVs. Those extra lines mean your TV is getting 8.3 million pixels compared 2 million for HDTVs, which means more detail.

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