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DALLAS WATER UTILITIES

1 in 4 behind on bills, risk cutoff

City: Lost service, fines await those who don't act by mid-September

By **EVERTON BAILEY JR.**
Staff Writer
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About 1 in 4 Dallas water utility customers are behind on their bills, and city officials say they plan to start cutting off service and levying fines if people haven't paid off the debt or set up payment plans by mid-September.

Around 26% of more than

313,000 residential and business customers are at least 60 days past due on their bills that cover Dallas water, sewer and stormwater services, city officials say. Customers who are behind will start receiving letters during the week of Aug. 19 stating they need either to pay off their balances or create a payment plan, which could last up to six months. City officials said they will start charging late fees and disconnecting services Sept. 18.

Sarah Standifer, Dallas Water Utilities director, said the

average past-due balance is about \$120-\$130. Dallas doesn't disconnect service when temperatures peak in the summer, she said.

More than 1,000 customers have set up repayment plans, the water director noted.

"The ability to offer payment plans is really where we try to offer that flexibility," she said. "We know that people are struggling, and some of them are our most vulnerable populations."

Dallas Water Utility custom-

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2011 File Photo/Staff

About 26% of over 313,000 Dallas Water Utilities customers are at least 60 days late on their bills, the city says.

IN THE KNOW Paying a late bill

Past-due bills

When a bill is not paid before the next billing date, the past-due amount will appear on the next bill. If the past-due bill becomes delinquent, a termination notice will be mailed. When a customer receives a termination notice, it is too late to mail the payment. Call 214-651-1441 for options and payment verification and cancellation of disconnection.

Payment plan assistance

Help is available for customers who need a payment plan. For a payment plan, email dwpaymentplan@dallas.gov, request it through the city's 311 app, or call the water department at 214-651-1441.

SOURCE: dallascityhall.com



PARIS SUMMER OLYMPICS



Smiley N. Pool/Staff Photographer

An uplifting experience

Jourdan Delacruz, a former Wylie East cheerleader, lifted 111 kilograms — about 244 pounds — on her final attempt in the clean and jerk Wednesday, in what her coach called one of her top three lifts ever. It was enough to place fifth in the flyweight division at her second Olympics, after "bombing out" in Tokyo. "It definitely had a lot of meaning to it," Delacruz said of her lift. (Coverage in SportsDay)

ON TV TODAY

MEN'S BASKETBALL: U.S. vs. Serbia, 1:45 p.m. (USA)

■ TV schedule, **6C**

INSIDE

THE U.S. WOMEN'S BASKETBALL team extends its winning streak to 59 games. **6C**

More coverage in SportsDay

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Summer COVID on the spread

Virus defies seasonality just as people grow lax on shots and take fewer precautions

By **SABRINA MALHI, LIZETTE ORTEGA** and **DAN KEATING**
The Washington Post

A summer COVID wave — and the accompanying fevers, coughs and general misery — continues to wash over the Americas and parts of Asia and Europe, including the Paris Olympics, offering the latest evidence that the coronavirus moves in ways distinct from other respiratory ailments.

The World Health Organization said this week that the virus is increasing in at least 84 countries despite perceptions that the pathogen is a remnant of the past. Disease trackers sounded alarms that diminished testing and low vaccination rates could provide fertile terrain for more dangerous viral variants to take hold.

"COVID-19 is still very much with us," Maria Van Kerkhove, a WHO epidemiologist, said at a news briefing

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SURVEY

School supply costs rising in N. Texas

Parents expected to spend about \$885 per child

By **UMA BHAT**
Staff Writer
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Stephanie Sadler, 37, has been carefully budgeting for back-to-school season since the summer began. The Dallas County court coordinator and her husband, Michael, a manager at a local Jiffy Lube, expect to spend about \$600 on Micah and Stephen, their two soon-to-be kindergart-

ners.

The couple began setting aside \$50 to \$100 from each of their paychecks in June, she said. But even though both parents work, "the cost of living is expensive," Sadler said. The amount of money they've saved so far still might not pay for all the supplies.

Dallas-area parents are expected to spend about \$885 on average per child this



Elias Valverde II/Staff Photographer

Last year, **Stephanie Sadler's** children got school supplies completely for free through their schools other than the rare odd purchase, she said.

school year, a little over 25% more than they did a year ago and almost \$300 more than the national figure, according to a survey by Deloitte In-

sights, a division of the management consulting company Deloitte that offers indus-

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TARRANT COUNTY

Sheriff's deputy shot three times

Suspected gunman dead after police standoff Wednesday

By **MATT KYLE**
Staff Writer
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A deputy with the Tarrant County sheriff's office was shot three times Wednesday afternoon while serving a warrant, and the man suspected of shooting him was killed following a police

standoff.

Jennifer Gabbert, Tarrant County sheriff's office chief of staff, said at a news conference the deputy was shot about 12:20 p.m. in the 2900 block of Elinor Street. Gabbert said the deputy, identified as 13-year department veteran Todd Tipton, was shot in the arm and lower back, and a shot grazed the back of his head. A depart-

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SpaceX could be used to bring crew home

NASA is working with Elon Musk's SpaceX on plans to return two astronauts to Earth in the event that they're unable to travel on the troubled Boeing Co. craft that initially carried them to space. **2A**

Name change a no-go for university

Texas A&M University-Commerce will not be rebranded to include "Dallas" in its name, the university's president, Mark Rudin, announced Wednesday. **1B**
Also: State Fair names Big Tex food finalists. **1B**



Nation & World

9/11 ATTACKS

Hearings at Guantánamo Bay in disarray

U.S. defense chief's surprise order brings legal challenges

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER
The Associated Press

FORT MEADE, Md. — Military-run hearings for accused Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and two co-defendants at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, were in upheaval Wednesday following Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin's decision to throw

out a plea agreement. Defense attorneys contend the plea deal still stands and suspended participation in the pre-trial hearings while legal challenges to Austin's action play out. Prosecutors also raised the prospect that the pre-trial hearings might have to be frozen as lawyers look for explanations in Austin's order and work through the issues raised by it. The judge overseeing the case, Air Force Col. Matthew McCall, ac-

knowledge concerns over outside pressure on the case. The plea agreement, which would have spared the defendants the risk of the death penalty, and Austin's subsequent order, issued late Friday, have generated strong feelings, including among the families of Sept. 11 victims. The Biden administration came under heavy Republican criticism over the plea deal. The events of the past week are the latest significant disruption of the

U.S. military prosecution of defendants accused in the 2001 killings of nearly 3,000 people, in an al-Qaida plot that saw hijackers commandeering four passenger airliners and fly them into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, with the fourth coming down in a field in Pennsylvania. Austin said in Friday's order that he was overriding the approval of the Pentagon-approved chief authority over the Guantánamo Bay military commission, Susan Escallier, and

taking direct control of such decisions in the 9/11 case going forward. He cited the significance of the case. Defense lawyers and some legal analysts are challenging whether the laws governing the Guantánamo proceedings allow for that overruling. Under the plea agreement, Mohammed, Hawsawi, and fellow defendant Walid bin Attash would have entered guilty pleas in exchange for the government not seeking the death penalty against them.

WEATHER

Debby churns up along the East Coast

Tropical storm brings deluge; impact felt up to Great Lakes

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HUGER, S.C. — Days of rain from Tropical Storm Debby forced the deluged-hardened residents of a South Carolina community to begin the near-ritualistic task of assessing damage left behind by the cyclone that was spinning over the Atlantic Ocean and influencing thunderstorms from the East Coast to the Great Lakes.

Gene Taylor waited Wednesday afternoon for a few inches of water to drain back out of his house as high tide passed at his home along French Quarter Creek in Huger, about 15 miles northeast of Charleston.

Taylor saw the potential for flooding last week and started moving stuff out or up higher in his home. It's a lesson learned the hard way. Taylor estimates this is the fourth time he has had floodwater in his home in the past nine years.

For Georgia homeowners on Tappan Zee Drive in suburban Pooler west of Sa-



Mic Smith/The Associated Press

Rebecca Fanning (right) inspected flood waters alongside Charles Drayton and his son McKain, 8, in Sullivan's Island, S.C.

vannah, the drenching that Debby delivered came with a painful dose of déjà vu. In October 2016, heavy rain from Hurricane Matthew overwhelmed a nearby canal and flooded several of the same homes.

Debby also rained on residents all the way up to the Great Lakes and New York and New Jersey. Moisture from the tropical storm strengthened another storm system Tuesday evening, which caused strong thunderstorms, according to National Weather Service meteorologist Scott Kleebauer.

In South Carolina, Gov. Henry McMaster said the state was just entering Act 2 of a three-act play.

Act 2 is overnight into Thursday when Debby moves back onshore and heavy rain returns, this time to the northern part of the coast and inland. An addition-

al 4 to 8 inches of rain could fall, said John Quagliariello, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Columbia.

The final act may come next week if enough rain falls upstream in North Carolina to cause major flooding along rivers as it flows to the Atlantic Ocean.

The center of Debby was over the Atlantic Ocean on Wednesday afternoon, 55 miles east-southeast of Charleston, the National Hurricane Center said. The tropical storm could make a second landfall in either North Carolina or South Carolina, expected late Wednesday or early Thursday. Debby first made landfall as a Category 1 hurricane early Monday along the Gulf Coast of Florida.

A state of emergency was in effect for both North Carolina and Virginia.

At least six people have died due to the storm.

INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

Crew may stay in place till February

NASA weighs return aboard SpaceX craft, not Boeing's Starliner

By CHRISTIAN DAVENPORT
The Washington Post

NASA officials said Wednesday that Boeing's Starliner spacecraft may not be safe enough to return the crew home and that they could turn to Boeing rival SpaceX for the return much later than originally planned.

If NASA takes that extraordinary route, it could mean that Sunita Williams and Barry "Butch" Wilmore, the NASA astronauts who launched on Boeing's Starliner, would have their mission, originally scheduled for about eight days, extended to eight months, to February, when SpaceX's flight is scheduled to return.

Boeing, however, has made it clear that it strongly disagrees with NASA's assessment and has maintained that the spacecraft is healthy and should be able to complete the flight, Starliner's first with crew on board. The mission, designed to test how the spacecraft performs with humans in the capsule, already has been stretched out over the past two months as NASA and Boeing try to determine what caused

several thrusters to malfunction during the June flight to the International Space Station.

Boeing said in a statement that it was safe to fly the astronauts home. "We still believe in Starliner's capability and its flight rationale," the company said.

The disagreement has created an highly unusual situation that pits Boeing engineers against those from NASA.

If NASA abandons Starliner for the return mission and uses SpaceX's Dragon as a rescue craft, it would be another humiliating blow for Boeing. The company's commercial airliner program has been reeling since fatal 737 Max disasters in 2018 and 2019, and assembly problems have been exposed by an incident this January, when a door panel blew off during an Alaska Airlines flight.

The delay in returning Starliner and the subsequent tests to figure out what went wrong have been costly for Boeing. In a recent earnings call, the company said it had to take a \$125 million charge for the program, bringing the total the company has had to spend out of pocket for various missteps and failures to about \$1.6 billion.

FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Revised application to be released in phases

Education officials aim to avoid glitches of last rollout

By DANIELLE DOUGLAS-GABRIEL
The Washington Post

The Education Department said Wednesday it will launch the next Free Application for Federal Student Aid in phases to mitigate the problems that plagued the rollout of the redesigned form this year, a strategy that is being met with a mix of cautious optimism and disappointment.

Starting Oct. 1, the department will release the 2025-2026 application for testing with a limited set of students and colleges. The application will be made available to all students on or before Dec. 1. The department said the phased rollout will help identify and resolve system

errors and allow the agency to incorporate user feedback to ensure the application is easy to use.

The current form has been anything but easy for students who have contended with technical glitches and bureaucratic delays, which prevented many from completing the financial aid application and receiving timely aid offers. Some families are still awaiting financial aid packages, weeks away from the start of the fall semester.

On a call with reporters Wednesday, Education Secretary Miguel Cardona said the department has learned from the challenges of the past year and is trying to improve the experience for students and colleges. Although Cardona told Congress the 2025-2026 FAFSA would be available Oct. 1 — the traditional release date — he said discussions with

newly hired IT experts, parents and financial aid experts made it clear that the department needs to implement testing protocols to launch a fully functioning system.

"Adjusting the timeline to address these needs is important," Cardona said. "Getting this right must be our collective focus. Improving FAFSA after 40 years of one system is challenging work, but it's work worth doing if we're serious about opening doors to education."

While the FAFSA isn't legally mandated to be released until Jan. 1, the department has made it available on Oct. 1 since 2016.

Colleges and Congress members were disappointed when the redesigned form debuted in December because it left everyone with less time to complete the financial aid process.



Boeing said in a statement that it is safe to fly NASA astronauts Barry "Butch" Wilmore and Sunita Williams home.

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

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Oleg Petراسиuk/Ukrainian 24th Mechanised Brigade

Fighters with Ukraine's 24th Mechanised Brigade fired an Easel Anti-tank Grenade Launcher toward a Russian position in the Donetsk region.

WAR IN UKRAINE

Putin slams 'large-scale provocation' inside Russia

Kyiv forces' incursion into Kursk region stretched into second day

By **SAMYA KULLAB**
The Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday described a Ukrainian incursion into the country's southwestern Kursk region as a "large-scale provocation" as his officials asserted that they were fighting off cross-border raids for a second day. Ukrainian officials remained silent about the scope of the operation.

Putin met with his top defense and security officials to discuss what he called the "indiscriminate shelling of civilian buildings, residential houses, ambulances with different types of weapons." He instructed the Cabinet to coordinate assistance to the Kursk region. The fighting is about 320 miles from Moscow.

Army chief of staff Valery Gerasimov told Putin at the meeting via video link that about 100 Ukrainian soldiers had been killed in the battle and more than 200 wounded, Russian news agencies reported. The Ukrainian shelling, meanwhile, killed at least two people — a paramedic and an ambulance driver — and injured 24, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova said in a statement.

It was not possible to independently verify

the Russian claims. Disinformation and propaganda have played a central role in the war, now in its third year. John Kirby, the White House's national security spokesman, declined to comment on the operation and said the Biden administration has reached out to the Ukrainians to better understand what was happening.

The head of the region urged residents to donate blood due to the intense fighting. "In the last 24 hours, our region has been heroically resisting attacks" by Ukrainian fighters, acting Gov. Alexei Smirnov said on Telegram, adding that all emergency services were on high alert.

Smirnov said authorities had evacuated more than 200 people from areas under shelling, while several thousand others left in their own vehicles.

If confirmed, the cross-border foray would be among Ukraine's largest since Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022 and unprecedented for its deployment of Ukrainian military units.

Kyiv's aim could be to draw Russian reserves to the area, potentially weakening Moscow's offensive operations in several parts of Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region, where Russian forces have increased attacks and are advancing gradually toward operationally significant gains.

But it could risk further stretching outmanned Ukrainian troops along the front line, which is more than 620 miles long.

ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR

Hamas' change at top might test both sides

Chief may have to run group while in hiding; militancy may test talks

By **JOSEPH KRAUSS**
The Associated Press

Yahya Sinwar's appointment as the top leader of Hamas formalizes a role he assumed in the early hours of Oct. 7, when the surprise attack into Israel that he helped mastermind ushered in the bloodiest chapter of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

He is seen as a hard-liner with closer ties to Hamas' armed wing than his predecessor, Ismail Haniyeh, who was killed in an explosion in Iran's capital last month that was widely blamed on Israel and could spark an all-out regional war.

Sinwar was already seen as having the final word on any cease-fire agreement for Gaza and the release of dozens of Israeli hostages still held by Hamas.

But he is deep in hiding inside Gaza, and mediators say it takes several days to exchange messages with him. That raises questions about how he would manage a sprawling organization with cadres across the Mid-

dle East.

While Hamas has always championed armed struggle, Haniyeh and other exiled leaders had occasionally struck a more moderate tone, even expressing openness to a possible



YAHYA SINWAR

two-state solution, although still officially refusing to recognize Israel.

Sinwar, by contrast, spent more than two decades in Israeli prisons and told interrogators he had killed 12 suspected Palestinian collaborators, gaining a reputation for brutality.

He and Mohammed Deif, the shadowy head of Hamas' armed wing who Israel claims to have killed in a recent strike, spent years building up the group's military strength and are believed to have devised the Oct. 7 attack that killed some 1,200 people, with about 250 others abducted.

In recent negotiations, "Haniyeh had played a big role in trying to convince Sinwar to accept a cease-fire proposal with Israel," said Hugh Lovatt, an ex-

pert on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict at the European Council on Foreign Relations.

Sinwar has stuck to demands for the release of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners, the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza and a lasting cease-fire — even as nearly 40,000 Palestinians have been killed in the ongoing war, according to local officials.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed to continue the war until Hamas is destroyed and all the hostages return home.

Predicting how Sinwar will lead Hamas is difficult because of the secrecy around him.

Sinwar has not been seen since the start of the war and even before Oct. 7 made only rare public appearances. He is likely in hiding deep inside Hamas' tunnel network and largely cut off from the outside world.

While Sinwar can be expected to set overall policy and make the final decision on any cease-fire deal, Hamas' day-to-day operations in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and elsewhere are likely to be managed by its exiled leaders in Qatar, Lebanon, Turkey and Iran.

AT A GLANCE Swift concerts canceled in Austria

SHOWS: Organizers of three Taylor Swift concerts in Vienna this week called them off on Wednesday after officials announced arrests in an apparent plot to launch an attack on an event in the Vienna area, such as the concerts. Swift was scheduled to play at the Ernst Happel Stadium on Thursday, Friday and Saturday as part of her Eras Tour.

ARRESTS: Earlier Wednesday, authorities said they had arrested two suspected extremists, one of whom appeared to be planning an at-

tack in the Vienna area.

DETAILS: Franz Ruf, the public security director at Austria's interior ministry, said authorities were aware of "preparatory actions" for a possible attack "and also that there is a focus by the 19-year-old perpetrator on the Taylor Swift concerts in Vienna," the Austria Press Agency reported. Ruf said the 19-year-old had pledged an oath of allegiance to the Islamic State group.

The Associated Press



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ELECTION '24 | PRESIDENT

Runway run-in: Sides briefly share tarmac



Alex Brandon/The Associated Press

Republican vice presidential nominee Sen. J.D. Vance, R-Ohio, walked back from looking at Air Force Two at Chippewa Valley Regional Airport on Wednesday in Eau Claire, Wis. Vance briefly shared tarmac with Vice President Kamala Harris and her running mate, Gov. Tim Walz, as both sides attended dueling campaign events.

Harris campaign says it raised \$36M after Walz declared as running mate

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. — Vice President Kamala Harris declared herself and her new running mate, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, “joyful warriors” against Donald Trump on Wednesday as they spent their first full day campaigning together across the Midwest. They got an unusual glimpse of how hotly contested the region will be when they overlapped on a Wisconsin tarmac with Republican vice presidential nominee J.D. Vance.

The Democrats visited Wisconsin and Michigan, hoping to shore up support among the younger, diverse, labor-friendly voters who were instrumental in helping President Joe Biden win the 2020 election.

Harris told the day’s first rally in Eau Claire, “As Tim Walz likes to point out, we are joyful warriors.” Contributing to that feeling, the Harris campaign said it had raised \$36 million in the first 24 hours after she announced Walz as her running mate.

The vice president said the pair look on the future with optimism, unlike former President Donald Trump whom she accused of being stuck in the past and preferring a confrontational style of politics — even as she criticized her opponent herself.

“Someone who suggests we should terminate the Constitution of the

United States should never again have the chance to sit behind the seal of the United States,” Harris said, her voice rising amid applause from a crowd her campaign said numbered more than 12,000.

Wednesday’s campaign swing was especially important for her and Walz since Biden’s winning coalition from four years ago has showed signs of fraying over the summer — particularly in Michigan, which has emerged as a focal point of Democratic divisions over Biden’s handling of the Israel-Hamas conflict.

With Biden now out of the race, leaders of the Arab American community and key unions say they are encouraged by the running mate choice. Walz’s addition to the ticket has soothed some tensions, signaling to some leaders that Harris had heard concerns about another leading contender for the vice presidential slot, Gov. Josh Shapiro of Pennsylvania, who they felt had gone too far in his support for Israel.

“The party is recognizing that there’s a coalition they have to rebuild,” said Abdullah Hammoud, the mayor of Dearborn, Mich. “Picking Walz is another sign of good faith.”

Trump, too, has put emphasis on appealing to voters in Midwestern states with his choice of Vance, an Ohio Republican senator, as his run-



Charles Rex Arbogast/The Associated Press

Democratic presidential nominee Vice President Kamala Harris told Wednesday’s rally in Eau Claire, Wis., “As Tim Walz likes to point out, we are joyful warriors.”

ning mate. Vance was even bracketing the Harris-Walz ticket with Michigan and Wisconsin appearances of his own Wednesday.

The dueling schedules overlapped enough that while Harris was still greeting a group of Girl Scouts who came to see her arrive at Chippewa Valley Regional Airport in Wisconsin, Vance’s campaign plane landed nearby and was taxiing in the distance.

Harris posed for a picture with the girls around the same time Vance was deplaning.

The vice president eventually

climbed into her motorcade, and it pulled away before they could interact. Still, that the pair came so close to doing so on a tarmac was unusual given the carefully scripted nature of campaign schedules.

Addressing the Democrats’ Wisconsin rally ahead of Harris, Walz had some critical words for Vance but focused most of his sharpest words on Trump, saying the former president “mocks our laws, he sows chaos and division amongst the people and that’s to say nothing of the job he did as president.”

Vance amplifies false statements on Harris’ identity

By THOMAS BEAUMONT
The Associated Press

Ohio Sen. J.D. Vance, Donald Trump’s running mate, defended on Wednesday a false statement that the former president made about Vice President Kamala Harris’ racial identity, suggesting wrongly that Harris had downplayed her Black heritage in trying to suggest she’s inauthentic.

“What I took it as was an attack on Kamala Harris being a chameleon,” he told reporters when asked in Michigan about the former president’s suggestion that Harris, the daughter of Jamaican and Indian immigrants, had only recently identified as Black.

“I think he was observing the basic foundational reality that Kamala Harris pretends to be something different depending on what audience she’s speaking to,” Vance said. “She fakes who she is depending on the audience she’s in front of, and that’s who she is and that’s who she’s always been.”

Vance’s was the most recent Republican to criticize how Harris portrays herself, in the wake of Trump’s comments last week to the National Association of Black Journalists conference in Chicago. Florida Rep. Byron Donalds, a high-profile Trump surrogate who is a Black man, echoed the claim on Sunday as a guest on ABC’s *This Week*.

The proliferation of Trump’s false statements by other Republicans is part of their effort to stay in his favor, said former Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele.

“It’s I’ll do anything and I don’t want to be on the wrong side of you,” said Steele, a former Maryland lieutenant governor who was the first Black man to lead the RNC.

The Harris campaign has declined to comment specifically on Trump’s statements about how she portrays her identity. The vice president, speaking to a Black sorority last week, accused Trump of “the same old show: the divisiveness and the disrespect.”

Harris has frequently talked about being Black and Indian American during her political career. She was the first African American to serve as California attorney general and became the first Indian American to serve as a U.S. senator and the second Black woman, after Carol Moseley Braun of Illinois.

Vance previously hit Harris for using what he called a “fake Southern accent” when she campaigned in Atlanta last week. Michaelah Montgomery, a Black conservative activist who organized a Trump meet-and-greet with college students at an Atlanta Chick-fil-A on Saturday, suggested Harris was “only Black when it’s time to get elected.”

Rashawn Ray, a national scholar on racial and social inequity, said the criticism willfully ignores the growing number of people who identify as multiracial.

“People can be both Black and Asian,” Ray said.

STUDY

U.S. abortions up a bit since court upended Roe

Democratic-run states’ steps to guard telemed doctors is a big reason

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The number of women getting abortions in the U.S. actually went up in the first three months of 2024 compared to before the Supreme Court overturned Roe vs. Wade, a report released Wednesday found, reflecting the lengths that Democratic-controlled states went to expand access.

A major reason for the increase is that some Democratic-controlled states enacted laws to protect doctors who use telemedicine to see patients in places that have abortion bans, according to the quarterly #WeCount report for the Society of Family Planning, which supports abortion access.

The data comes ahead of November elections in which abortion-rights supporters

hope the issue will drive voters to the polls. In some places, voters will have a chance to enshrine or reject state-level abortion protections.

Fallout from the Supreme Court’s June 2022 ruling in Dobbs vs. Jackson Women’s Health Organization has remade the way abortion works across the country. The #WeCount data, which has been collected in a monthly survey since April 2022, shows how those providing and seeking abortion have adapted to changing laws.

Closer look at data

The survey found that the number of abortions fell to nearly zero in states that ban abortion in all stages of pregnancy and fell by about half in places that ban it after six weeks of pregnancy, before many women know they are pregnant. Fourteen states are

enforcing bans on abortion at all stages of pregnancy, with some exceptions, and four others bar it after about six weeks of pregnancy.

Numbers went up in places where abortion remains legal until further into pregnancy — and especially in states such as Illinois, Kansas and New Mexico, which border states with bans.

The report estimates that if not for the post-Dobbs bans, there would have been about 9,900 more abortions per month — and 208,000 total since — in those states. The numbers were up by more than 2,600 a month in Illinois, about 1,300 in Virginia, 1,200 in Kansas and more than 500 in New Mexico.

Abortion pills and telemedicine play a key role. In March, doctors in states with laws to protect medical providers used telemedicine to prescribe abortion pills to nearly 10,000

patients in states with bans or restrictions on abortion by telehealth — accounting for about 1 in 10 abortions in the U.S.

Laws to protect medical providers who use telemedicine to prescribe abortion pills started taking effect in some Democratic-led states last year.

“It eases the burden on clinics,” said Ushma Upadhyay, a University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine professor who co-leads #WeCount. “So it creates more space for the people who are coming to clinics.”

Abortion opponents say the fight over the abortion drug mifepristone isn’t over after a narrow Supreme Court ruling that preserved access to it for now. But so far there have not been legal challenges to shield laws.

The latest edition of the survey covers the first three months of this year, when it

counted an average of just under 99,000 abortions a month, compared with 84,000 in the two months before Dobbs. January was the first time since the survey began that it has counted over 100,000 abortions across the country in a single month.

Faster turnaround

The tracking effort collects monthly data from providers across the country, creating a snapshot of abortion trends. In some states, a portion of the data is estimated. The effort makes data public with less than a six-month lag, giving a picture of trends far faster than annual reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, where the most recent report covers abortion in 2021.

Before the shield laws began kicking in and #WeCount started tallying them, people

were still getting some pills in places with bans.

One of the states where abortions increased was Florida. That changed in April, when a ban after six weeks’ gestation took effect. The data doesn’t yet reflect that change.

The policy could change again through a November ballot measure that would make abortion legal until viability, generally considered to be around 23 or 24 weeks into pregnancy. It needs at least 60% approval to be added to the state constitution.

One vote against it will come from Mia Adkins, a 20-year-old senior at Florida International University.

“Instead of pushing for more abortion legal later in pregnancy, we should be pushing for laws that protect these pregnant parents and students and provide them with the support that they need,” she said.

BANGLADESH

Interim leader asks for calm beginning

He urged all sides to work together before boarding flight home

By JULHAS ALAM
The Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh — Bangladesh's incoming interim leader Muhammad Yunus appealed for calm Wednesday and urged all parties to help the country rebuild after weeks of violence that killed hundreds and prompted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to resign and flee to India.

Yunus, a Nobel peace laureate, was in Paris for the Olym-

pics when he was named interim leader following talks among military officials, civic leaders and the student activists who led the uprising against a prime minister seen as increasingly autocratic. Yunus made his first public comments in Paris on Wednesday before boarding a plane to return home.

He congratulated the student protesters, saying they had made "our second Victory Day possible," and appealed to them and other stakeholders to remain peaceful, while condemning any violence since Hasina's resignation Monday.

"Violence is our enemy. Please don't create more enemies. Be calm and get ready to build the country," Yunus said.

Bangladesh's military chief, Gen. Waker-Uz-Zaman said in a televised address that Yunus would be sworn in Thursday night and that he expected him to usher in a "beautiful democratic" process. The military leader said that those responsible for violence since Hasina's resignation would be brought to justice.

Yunus, who was awarded the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize for his work developing microcredit markets, told reporters in Paris:



Michel Euler/The Associated Press

Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus, Bangladesh's incoming interim leader who was in Paris this week for the Olympics, walked Wednesday to his flight at Charles de Gaulle airport.

"I'm looking forward to going back home and seeing what's happening there, and how we can organize ourselves to get

out of the trouble that we are in." Asked when elections would be held, he put his hands up as if to indicate it was too early to say.

"I'll go and talk to them. I'm just fresh in this whole area."

A tribunal in Dhaka earlier on Wednesday acquitted Yunus in a labor law violation case, involving a telecommunication company he founded, in which he was convicted and sentenced to six months in jail. He had been released on bail in the case.

Ailing opposition leader and former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia also urged calm on Wednesday, a day after the country's figurehead president ordered her release from house arrest.

Zia urged her supporters not to follow a path of destruction, in an address at a rally via video link from her hospital bed. It was her first public speech since 2018, when she was convicted of corruption charges and jailed.

"No destruction, no anger, and no revenge, we need love and peace to rebuild our country," she told members of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

Zia's son and the acting head of the party, Tarique Rahman also addressed the crowd online from London, where he has been living in exile since 2008. Rahman faces several criminal cases and was convicted of corruption and a grenade attack, charges dismissed by supporters as politically motivated.

Zia, who ruled the country from 2001 to 2006, had been sentenced in 2018 to 17 years in prison. Her party said the case was aimed at keeping her away from politics. Hasina's then-government denied the allegation.

On Wednesday, the capital Dhaka was calm two days after violence gripped the country amid Hasina's sudden departure. Students activists cleaned streets and managed traffic in parts of Dhaka, after police went on strike earlier in the week following violent attacks on police stations.

The unrest began in July with protests against a quota system for government jobs, which critics said favored people with connections to Hasina's party. But they soon grew into a broader challenge to Hasina's 15-year rule, which was marked by human rights abuses, corruption, allegations of rigged elections and a brutal crackdown on her opponents. More than 300 people died in just a few weeks.

NEWS DIGEST

UK braces for more anti-immigrant unrest

U.K. police were set to deploy thousands of officers across Britain as far-right groups planned dozens of demonstrations in what was shaping up to be a crucial test of Prime Minister Keir Starmer's efforts to quell a recent wave of anti-immigrant unrest.

Law enforcement authorities were bracing for at least 30 events as online agitators urged supporters to converge on sites associated with migrants. Police warned they were ready to arrest hundreds if they saw a repeat of last weekend's violence.

Bloomberg News

Man found guilty of having son kill rapper

COMPTON, Calif. — A Los Angeles County jury on Wednesday found a man guilty of sending his 17-year-old son to kill rapper PnB Rock.

After deliberating for about four hours, jurors convicted Freddie Trone, 42, of one count of murder, two counts of robbery and one count of conspiracy to commit robbery.

The now-19-year-old was charged with murder but is in the custody of the juvenile system and a judge has found that he is not currently competent to stand trial.

The Associated Press

WHO to meet about virus' spread in Africa

The World Health Organization will convene a panel of advisers to help determine whether a deadly outbreak of mpox in Central Africa constitutes an international emergency.

Children and adolescents have been most affected in the outbreak that comes from a mutated strain that appears to be fast-spreading and has been detected in at least six African countries. There have been almost 500 deaths related to the infection in the Democratic Republic of Congo alone, where the variant was first reported less than a year ago.

Bloomberg News

Dog chews lithium-ion battery, starts blaze

TULSA, Okla. — A dog chomping on a lithium-ion battery sparked a serious house fire in Oklahoma, and video of the moment sparks began to fly has been enlisted by a fire department to show the potential dangers of those batteries.

The footage taken from the home and posted last week on the Tulsa Fire Department's Facebook page shows the dog gnawing on its choice of a chew toy atop one cushion set on the floor. Another dog can be seen on a couch and a cat on the floor as the dog bites down and sparks begin to shoot from the battery.

The fire department said the Tulsa-area home was significantly damaged by the fire in May but the two dogs and the cat escaped through a pet door.

The Associated Press

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THAILAND

Progressive party dissolved after monarchy threat

Move Forward finished first in general election, but court says it violated constitution

By JINTAMAS SAKSORNCHAI
The Associated Press

BANGKOK — A court in Thailand on Wednesday ordered the dissolution of the progressive Move Forward Party, which finished first in last year's general election, saying it violated the constitution by proposing an amendment of a law against defaming the country's royal family.

The Constitutional Court said it voted unanimously to dissolve the party because its campaign proposal to amend the law amounted to an attempt to overthrow the nation's constitutional monarchy.

The Move Forward Party was unable to form a government after topping the polls because members of the Senate, at that time a conservative military-

appointed body, refused to endorse its candidate for prime minister.

The Election Commission had filed a petition against the party after the Constitutional Court ruled in January that it must stop advocating changes to the law, known as Article 112, which protects the monarchy from criticism with penalties of up to 15 years in jail per offense. Move Forward has insisted that it wants to keep the monarchy above politics and not be exploited as a political tool.

The court on Wednesday also imposed a 10-year ban on political activity for those who held the party's executive positions while it campaigned for the proposed amendment. Among them are its charismatic former leader, Pita

Limjaroenrat, and current chief Chaithawat Tulathon.

Speaking to followers and the media Wednesday evening, Pita said although he had to say goodbye as a politician, he looks forward to continuing his work as an active citizen. He said people may be frustrated today, but he would like to ask them to vent their frustration at the ballot box in every election.

Lawmakers of a dissolved political party who are not banned from politics can keep their seats in Parliament if they move to a new party within 60 days.

Pita said party members will carry on "in a new vehicle" to be introduced Friday, although he will not be a part of it. The party declined to announce details of the changeover.

Move Forward had 148 lawmakers in Parliament. If they all move together, they will lose five seats belonging to the now-banned party executives.

"We're going to stick to the same

path. A political party is only a vehicle, so let's wait and see the new party to which the MPs will be going," said Attaphon Buaphat, who gathered with other party supporters at its headquarters in Bangkok.

The court's action was one of many that have drawn widespread criticism and are seen as part of a yearslong attack on the country's progressive movement by conservative forces trying to keep their grip on power.

The party was denied power after the Senate refused to approve its then-leader Pita's nomination as prime minister. Non-elected senators, who were given power to vote on prime ministerial candidates by the constitution adopted in 2017 under a military government, said they opposed Pita because of his intention to reform the royal defamation law. Move Forward was later removed from a coalition formed with the now-governing Pheu Thai party and became head of the opposition.

Parents budgeting for school expenses

Continued from Page 1A

try insights and research reports.

It's a trend that makes sense, considering the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington area had the highest inflation rate in the country this year, according to a WalletHub study.

And during back-to-school season, parents' wallets are put to the test.

For Sadler, one item has driven up costs more than anything other: uniforms, which Dallas ISD has long mandated.

While Dallas ISD students do receive one free uniform each year, Sadler said that adds up with younger children who are often playful and get clothes messy.

"My son, he's really rough on uniforms," Sadler said. "And so when making decisions to buy specific uniforms and specific shoes, I have to invest more money into his uniforms and his shoes to make sure that they last, make sure that they have great quality."

Uniform expenses

Sadler shops for the blue and white uniforms at retailers like Old Navy, Walmart and Target, and said that even though there are sales, uniforms can still be a burden.

Andrea Tirado, a single earner who works as a teller at Wells Fargo making a little more than \$32,000 a year, also said that uniforms are the biggest expense she faces when going back-to-school shopping for her 4-year-old daughter.

She also has a 3-year-old and an 8-month-old.

"It's very expensive, especially with little kids," Tirado, 25, said. "Last year, I had to buy 20 shirts because with little kids, it just becomes more expensive because of how they [make them] dirty and rip them."

Uniform-appropriate shirts can cost from \$5 to \$10, in Sadler's experience, and pants and shorts usually run between \$10 and \$20. Costs can increase based on size and usage.

Dallas ISD Executive Di-

Why This Story Matters

Dallas-Arlington-Fort Worth's inflation rate has outpaced the country and the effects are spilling into back-to-school season. D-FW parents are expected to spend more than \$100 over what they did per child last year.

rector Israel Rivera said the district has a uniform policy because uniforms can help foster a sense of belonging and eliminate judgment based on socioeconomic status if certain students can't afford luxury clothing.

"We try to avoid all that because we know that it really affects a student's social, emotional [health] and impedes ... learning," said Rivera, who oversees DISD's Family and Community Engagement department and DISD's Homeless Education Program.

'Squeezed'

D-FW parents expect to spend \$320 on clothing and accessories per child this school year, up from \$294 the last school year and higher than the \$262 national figure, according to the Deloitte survey.

Dallas-area parents also expect to spend, per child, about \$558 on tech products, \$190 on school supplies and \$108 on other items, according to the survey.

Not all survey respondents were included in each category's average; the figures were calculated only from the subset of respondents purchasing in each specific category.

Dallas-Fort Worth consumers can likely pin rising costs on supply chain issues, in addition to higher housing costs and rent in a fast-growing area, said University of Texas at Dallas' Daniel Rajaratnam, a clinical professor of marketing.

"Particularly [for] those earning less than \$50,000 a year, household incomes are being squeezed much harder," he said.



Azul Sordo/Special Contributor

Andrea Tirado, a single earner who works as a teller at Wells Fargo making just over \$32,000 a year, said that uniforms are the biggest expense she faces when going back-to-school shopping for her 4-year-old daughter.

Tax-free weekend

Tax-free weekend, which begins Friday, can help save parents about \$8 per every \$100 spent on qualifying individual items.

Shopping online versus shopping in person can help, too, said Rajaratnam, because shopping online helps customers avoid impulse buying.

Rivera said Dallas ISD works with outside organizations to lower the cost of materials for some families. DISD has "tons of partners, lots of churches, organizations" and nonprofits that help parents with the cost of school supplies, Rivera said, including United to Learn, among others.

Last year, Sadler's children

received school supplies for free through their schools other than the rare odd purchase, she said.

And even though she hasn't been lucky enough to find an organization that can help with free uniforms, she's heard other people have been more fortunate.

Regardless, Sadler said she is excited to watch her kids grow this academic year, and she's confident that she's budgeted enough for school supplies and has support from other community organizations.

"Those are our biggest goals, getting them to read and making sure that they are reading above grade level," Sadler said.

Back-to-school by the numbers

North Texas parents spend more and shop more places than elsewhere in the country. Here's how D-FW compares to the nation in BTS expenditures:

D-FW	U.S.	
\$885	\$586	How much parents say they will spend per child
84%	81%	Parents who say they will spend the same amount as last year or more
\$691	\$582	How much parents expect to pay for extracurricular activities
90%	85%	Percentage of parents who can be influenced by their children to splurge on must-have brands or products
54%	33%	Shoppers who plan to use social media to assist in their BTS shopping
5.1	4.7	Number of retail formats visited for BTS shopping (Most common examples are mass merchandisers, online retailers, department stores, off-price retailers and dollar stores.)

NOTES: Deloitte calculations based on annual consumer survey projections for 1,198 national respondents and 438 in Dallas-Fort Worth. Average spend per child only takes into consideration those who plan to shop for BTS items this season. SOURCE: Deloitte Staff Graphic

Suspect dead after police standoff

Continued from Page 1A

ment news release said the man, who has not yet been identified, shot at deputies, then barricaded himself inside his home.

About 3:45 p.m., Sgt. Leah Wagner of the Fort Worth Police Department said the man had been killed, but the department was unsure if the fatal injury was self-inflicted or from Fort Worth SWAT officers.

Fort Worth police Chief Neil Noakes said the man told police he had hostages and threatened them. Fort Worth SWAT then breached the home and the man fired at them, prompting police to return fire, Noakes said.

Wagner said a search of the home revealed no hostages. She said some SWAT officers received minor injuries from glass when breaching the home, but no other injuries were reported.

Tarrant County Sheriff Bill Waybourn said at a Wednesday news conference that deputies were attempting to serve three felony warrants on a 40-year-old man when a gunfight erupted.

Waybourn said Tipton was conscious, alert and visiting with family. Officials believe the injuries do not require immediate surgery, Waybourn said.

"We're pretty happy about that," he said.

Tipton is a decorated and experienced member of the sheriff's office's SWAT team, Waybourn said.

Tim O'Hare, Tarrant County judge, said in a 4:34 p.m. X post that Tipton was released from the hospital Wednesday.

Waybourn said the warrants were for sexual assault of a child, indecency with a child and restraint of a child.

Fort Worth and Haltom City police assisted the sheriff's office at the scene.

Noakes said the incident is under investigation.

Summer COVID shows changes

Continued from Page 1A

Tuesday.

At least 40 athletes have tested positive for the coronavirus and other respiratory illnesses, suggesting that the virus may not exhibit the same seasonal patterns as the common cold, flu and respiratory syncytial virus — widely known as RSV — which tend to strike during cold weather months.

The uptick has sparked concerns about efforts to prevent the spread of the disease at the Olympics. Testing and reporting vary by team, and the lack of streamlined efforts to minimize the spread highlights stark differences between the Paris Games and the Tokyo Olympics held in 2021.

At the Tokyo Games, spectators were barred and people were required to take two coronavirus tests on two separate days within 96 hours of their flight to Japan. Upon arrival in Japan, further testing was conducted at the airport. This is a sharp contrast with the Paris Games, where people who tested positive are competing, there are no testing requirements, and spectators are back in attendance.

Analyzing wastewater

The rise in global cases comes during pandemic fatigue and a decline in testing for the virus and reporting of cases. As a result, health agencies confront significant challenges in monitoring and understanding the virus's impact.

"I am concerned," Van Kerkhove said. "With such low [vaccine] coverage and with such



Pete Voelker/The Washington Post

A family practiced precautions while visiting the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C. in May.

large circulation, if we were to have a variant that would be more severe, then the susceptibility of the at-risk populations to develop severe disease is huge."

Wastewater analysis offers one of the main methods for gaining insight into infection levels. Van Kerkhove said circulation rates are estimated to be two to 20 times higher than baseline levels established for comparison purposes at each testing station.

At the peak of the omicron variant in January 2022, the concentration of the coronavirus in wastewater samples peaked at 23 times higher than earlier levels, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Levels were just barely above baseline at most stations nationally in April and May, but they have risen in the past two months to seven times the baseline concentration — a considerable increase but far below the rate of the nation's largest outbreaks.

Vaccines vs. variants

With the increase, public health experts worry that more severe variants of the coronavirus could emerge heading into fall and winter, and with waning vaccination rates, people with a higher risk of severe infection could face more dangerous outcomes.

Elevated infection rates during summers months in the Northern Hemisphere deviate from the typical pattern of respiratory viruses, which usually thrive during the fall and winter. While current hospitalization rates are lower than the peak levels of the pandemic, WHO is calling on governments to bolster vaccination initiatives for high-risk groups.

"The virus continues to confound me in terms of what it's doing and how it's bucking the trends of seasonal patterns of respiratory illness," said Scott Roberts, an infectious disease physician at Yale School of Medicine.

Roberts suggests that a vaccine twice a year to address the surges might be an important step in minimizing summer spread.

"I certainly haven't seen anyone doing mitigation strategies, such as masking and whatnot, in the summer months," Roberts said. "So maybe we need to rethink the timing of this virus and stop treating it like a once-every-year virus the way we do with flu."

U.S. leads in deaths

As of July 21, Russia had the highest number of cases worldwide, but the United States had the most reported deaths, according to WHO data.

"The number of cases is up, but the quality in terms of deadliness is not," said Otto Yang, an associate chief of infectious diseases at UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine. "Still, a lot of people are still dying, and it is still having a big impact on society, so we should still be taking this seriously."

Otto said another concern is that the virus could become more deadly because it's mutating, and data shows an increased risk of complications with each subsequent coronavirus infection someone endures. He cautioned that a mutating virus could also pose a threat to treatments.

As a virus spreads, it can mutate to make itself stronger. And as it mutates, it can figure out how to evade disease-fighting antibodies to better infect people and to survive longer in aerosol and droplet form, said Andrew Pekosz, a professor of microbiology at Johns Hopkins University.

AP-NORC POLL

Electricity bill prices feeling the heat

About 7 in 10 in U.S. say temps impacted expenses, activities

By ISABELLA O'MALLEY and LINLEY SANDERS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — During the summer, Levena Lindahl closes off entire rooms, covers windows with blackout curtains and budgets to manage the monthly cost of electricity for air conditioning. But even then, the heat finds its way in.

"Going upstairs, it's like walking into soup. It is so hot," Lindahl said. "If I walk past my attic upstairs, you can feel the heat radiating through a closed door."

Lindahl, 37, who lives in North Carolina, said her monthly electricity bills in the summer used to be around \$100 years ago, but they've since doubled. She blames a gradual warming trend caused by climate change.

Around 7 in 10 Americans say in the last year extreme heat has had an impact on their electricity bills, ranging from minor to major, and most have seen at least a minor impact on their outdoor activities, according to a poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

As tens of millions of Americans swelter through another summer of historic heat waves, the survey's findings reveal how extreme heat is changing people's lives in big and small ways. The poll found that about 7 in 10 Americans have been personally affected by extremely hot weather or extreme heat waves over the past five years. That makes extreme heat a more common experience than other weather events or natural disasters like wildfires, major droughts and hurricanes, which up to one-third of U.S. adults said they've been personally affected by.

Sizable shares of Americans — around 4 in 10 — report that extreme heat has had at least a minor impact on their sleep, pets or exercise routine.

'Hotter than usual'

Jim Graham, 54, lives in Phoenix, Ariz., and worries about the safety of his dog's paws when going on walks outside, especially when it gets above 105 degrees. To protect her feet, they head out for walks at 5:30 a.m. "This year it seems hotter than usual," said



John Locher/The Associated Press

Last year Earth was 2.66 degrees warmer than it was before pre-industrial times, according to the European climate agency Copernicus. Several regions of the U.S. set all-time temperature records this summer, and Las Vegas, above, reached a scorching 120 degrees Fahrenheit on July 7.

Graham. His single-level home has central air conditioning and even setting the thermostat to 80 degrees runs him over \$350 a month in electricity bills, a big jump from what he used to pay about a decade ago.

He's not the only one watching the dollars add up: About 4 in 10 Americans say they've had unexpectedly expensive utility bills in the past year because of storms, flood, heat, or wildfires, including nearly half of homeowners.

Like Lindahl, many see a link to climate change. About 7 in 10 U.S. adults who have experienced some type of severe weather events or weather disasters in the last five years say they believe climate change was a contributing factor. Three in 10 think climate change was not a cause.

Last year Earth was 2.66 degrees warmer than it was before pre-industrial times, according to the European climate agency Copernicus. Some might perceive that increase as insignificant, but temperatures are unevenly fluctuating across the planet and can be danger-

ous to human health. Several regions of the U.S. set all-time temperature records this summer, and Las Vegas reached a scorching 120 degrees Fahrenheit on July 7.

According to the poll, about 1 in 10 Americans say that extreme heat has had a major impact on their sleep in the past year, while about 3 in 10 say it's had a minor impact and 55% say it's had no impact. Hispanic Americans are more likely than white Americans to say their sleep has been affected, and lower-income Americans are also more likely than higher-income Americans to report an effect on their sleep.

The effects of extreme heat are more widely reported in the West and South. About half of people living in the West say their sleep has been impacted at least in a minor way by extreme heat, while about 4 in 10 people living in the South say their sleep has been impacted, compared to about 3 in 10 people living in the Midwest and Northeast. People living in the West and South are also more likely than those in the Northeast to say their exercise rou-

tines have been affected.

Outdoor factors

Other aspects of daily life — like jobs and commutes, the timing of events like weddings and reunions, and travel and vacation plans — have been less broadly disrupted, but their impact is disproportionately felt among specific groups of Americans. About one-quarter of Americans say that their travel or vacation plans have been impacted by extreme heat, with Hispanic and Black Americans more likely than white Americans to say this.

Even simply enjoying time outside has become more difficult for some. The poll found that about 6 in 10 Americans say extreme heat has impacted outdoor activities for themselves or their family.

In general, people who don't believe climate change is happening are less likely to report being affected by various aspects of extreme heat compared to people who do. For instance, about 8 in 10 Americans who believe that climate change is happening say ex-

treme heat has had at least a minor impact on their electricity bills, compared to half of Americans who aren't sure climate change is happening or don't think it's happening.

Climate change

Mario Cianchetti, 70, is a retired engineer who now lives in Sedona, Ariz. His home has solar panels and heat pumps, which he installed because he was interested in lowering his electricity bills to save money. "When you retire, you're on a single fixed income. I didn't want to have to deal with rising energy costs," said Cianchetti, who identified himself as a political independent.

Cianchetti noted that temperatures feel unusually warm but said installing sustainable technologies in his house was a matter of finance. "It's not that I don't believe in climate change, yeah I believe we're going into a hot cycle here, but I don't believe that it's man-caused."

When it comes to general views of climate change, 70% of U.S. adults say climate

change is happening. About 6 in 10 of those who believe climate change is happening say that it's caused entirely or mostly by human activities, while another 3 in 10 say it's caused equally by human activities and natural changes to the environment and 12% believe it's primarily caused by natural environmental change. Nine in 10 Democrats, 7 in 10 independents and about half of Republicans say climate change is happening.

Those numbers are essentially unchanged from when the question was last asked in April and have been steady in recent years, although about half of Americans say they have become more concerned about climate change over the past year.

The poll of 1,143 adults was conducted July 25-29, 2024, using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4.1 percentage points.

More than 1,000 customers have set up repayment plans

Continued from Page 1A

ers who pay their bills either in person, by phone or by mail make up around 60% of total accounts and around 95% of past-due accounts, according to data provided by the water department. The rest pay online.

City officials expect water utility bills to continue steadily increasing due to rising staff and maintenance costs, among other factors.

The city estimated in September that the average residential water bill would rise from \$71.33 a month to \$73.54 starting in October 2024. It estimated the average bill will increase every year until it hits \$79.25 a month in October 2027.

Starting next week, the Dallas City Council plans to begin discussing city's upcoming budget and proposed rate changes, which could include updated projections for average water bill costs.

The rate of customers past due on their bills is higher now than around the same time in previous summers, city records show.

Dallas water officials report-

IN THE KNOW Paying your bill

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By mail via check or money order along with the bottom portion of your bill statement to:
City of Dallas
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Dallas, TX 75277-1000

By phone, 214-651-1441. Note: Dallas Water Utilities doesn't take payments over the phone with a live person. Payments processed over the phone are made through a voice response system. The agency says this is to protect customers' personal financial information.

In-person at Dallas City Hall or an authorized pay station. Call 214-651-1441 for a list of the closest pay stations.

ed to the council in July 2021 that 15% of customers had past-due balances of more than 60 days, with a median balance of \$291.55. In July 2022, water officials said the same percentage of customers were past due for more than 60 days, with a median balance of \$174.22.

"DWU understands that customers with past-due balances are facing financial hardships and will continue to assist customers by developing a payment plan that fits their budget," a July 2022 memo to the council said. Officials said at the time more than 6,000 customers who needed extra time to pay their bills had set up payment plans with the city.

Standifer said the city also offers a program called Operation WaterShare, where customers can donate to help families pay their residential water bills.

News of the latest past-due figures comes five months after the city moved to a new online bill payment platform called DallasGo, and the transition saw many people run into issues.

City officials in March said about 27,000 of 143,000 customers who received emails about moving to the new system got a notice with the wrong account holder's name. Others said they couldn't create an account in the new system because it required their account number, which they didn't know.



Dallas Water Utilities Director Sarah Standifer said the average past-due balance is about \$120 to \$130. Dallas doesn't cut service when temperatures peak in the summer, she said.

OPINION

Prisoners decide Inside Literary Prize



TYRA DAMM

Dallas bookseller helped create program to give autonomy and agency to inmates



Beowulf Sheehan/Inside Literary Prize

Last week, author Imani Perry was awarded the Inside Literary Prize for her book *South to America: A Journey Below the Mason-Dixon to Understand the Soul of a Nation*.

For the first time in the United States, a jury of incarcerated people has awarded a literary prize. The Inside Literary Prize was given in New York City last week to Imani Perry for her nonfiction work *South to America: A Journey Below the Mason-Dixon to Understand the Soul of a Nation*.

The other contenders were *The Rabbit Hutch* by Tess Gunty, *The Haunting of Hajji Hotak and Other Stories* by Jamil Jan Kochai and *Best Barbarian* by Roger Reeves (finalist for the 2022 National Book Award for Poetry). All four authors participated in the ceremony.

The prize is a collaborative project from Freedom Reads, the National Book Foundation, Center for Justice Innovation and Lori Feathers, co-owner of Interabang Books in Dallas. The groups and Feathers coordinated getting books into the hands of more than 200 readers in prisons across six states as well as leading discussions at the facilities before the judges voted.

Feathers spoke at the ceremony, telling the standing-room-only crowd that the prize “is a vehicle for giving autonomy and agency to our incarcerated brothers and sisters.” She continued, “This award says that you have value. Your ideas and thoughts are worthy of consideration. You merit

our attention.”

I spoke with Feathers about the prize, the process and its future after she returned to Dallas.

What motivated you to help create the Inside Literary Prize?

I got the idea from an article in *The New York Times* in December 2022 about a prize in France, the Inmates’ Goncourt. The Goncourt is the largest, most renowned literary prize in France, and they’ve been doing this thing where inmates pick their own winner of the Goncourt.

I reached out to a friend who is a senior fellow at the Center for Justice Innovation. I asked, “Do you think we could ever do something like this in the States?” He put me in touch with a colleague at the center, and we just started brainstorming. We decided that we would want to work with the National Book Foundation. We had some conversations with them, and they were very interested and excited, and they brought in Freedom Reads,

an organization that puts libraries in prisons.

Why do you think the winning book resonated with the judges?

South to America is a little bit of a hybrid history of the American South and a kind of memoir of things she remembers about the South, having lived there, and things her family has told her through the years. It really resonated with the judges in the way that they could relate to some of the ways she internalized some of the societal injustices — race or class and the things about the country that don’t make it quite equitable for everyone. Your ZIP code really matters.

I was involved in one of the prison tours, a men’s facility in Faribault, Minn. I met with the judges there. The judges sit in a circle, and we open it up and listen to what they have to say about the books. They would debate among themselves about what they liked about a book. It was really impressive how seriously they took the

role of being a judge, how well they read the books — sometimes they read them two or three times — and how thoughtful they were in thinking about what it would mean to bestow this award on a book.

What is gained by giving a voice to the incarcerated people who read and judged for the prize?

We need to understand and listen to what they have to say and what their concerns are. If the justice process works, we’ll be living with them as our neighbors again. It’s empowering for them. They don’t get a lot of opportunities to assert themselves as individuals, and I think that’s really important for their sense of self-worth and for just feeling like a human.

It’s not surprising that people who are incarcerated read a lot. They find some distraction and solace in books. The process bestows some autonomy and agency on individuals. They were able to share their personalities and their likes and dislikes and views and

thoughts and their own life experiences and what they care about.

Reading is often a solitary pursuit. What role does community play in the process of choosing the Inside Literary Prize?

They interrogated the books and the process both in terms of, “What did you like about this book?” or “I thought this wasn’t done well.” Just in that way, there was an exchange of ideas.

There was also community in what they were hoping to say with their choice of a book — not just the text of the book, but what they were looking for in terms of, should it be a book that they want to read again? Or should it be a book that they think other people should read? Or should it be a book that’s just a page-turner and entertaining? Or should it be a book that says something about our society?

I felt a connection with those judges when I was talking to them. It felt very much like a community to me.

(You can listen to conversations from Shakopee Women’s Prison in Minnesota on a podcast from the Center for Justice Innovation.)

What is the future of the prize?

Our hope is that we will bring the prize to a whole different incarcerated population at other facilities in following years. There are just so many prisons out there.

We want every judge to have their own copies, to own these books, to write in them, to read them over again.

I learned so much during this whole process. In most prisons, they won’t accept hardcover books because there’s a fear that you’ll hide contraband in the spine. One of the things we have to think about in terms of the books we want to present as contenders — is it in trade paperback yet? Our intent is to definitely work with the National Book Foundation again, to use their finalist list.

Tyra Damm is a writer and editor in Frisco, and a Dallas Morning News contributing columnist.

Criminal gang a serious threat at the border

Intelligence center in Bexar County will help fight this dangerous organization

By TONY GONZALES

I represent the largest border district in Congress. I’ll be the first to tell you that fixing our legal immigration system is long overdue. However, this problem is decades in the making and won’t be solved overnight.

In the meantime, serious national security issues are playing out at our borders, and we have to address them immediately. Aside from the record level of terrorist screening encounters that have been registered by border authorities, there is another danger taking hold in our country — the growing presence of lethal gangs in the United States. One group, Tren de Aragua, or TDA, is more sinister than anything we have seen in recent years and is gaining ground across America.

Tren de Aragua’s reign of terror began in the Venezuelan prison system and quickly spread across the region as the gang acquired financial resources by extorting local businesses. Soon, TDA spread its influence across other South American nations, engaging in horrific killings, rapes and illicit trafficking to gain legitimacy and create a lucrative business model in the shadows of society.

Human trafficking is a staple of the gang’s evil tactics, and recent migration trends have further exacerbated Tren de Aragua’s dark schemes. Female captives of the gang are

often forced to pay a heavy fee to earn back their freedom, and those who cannot are forced into prostitution. As the gang has become more prominent, its activity has spilled into Mexico and is now becoming more established on U.S. soil. From engaging in sex crimes to opening fire on American law enforcement, TDA members have been relentless in their criminality.

About a week ago, a Venezuelan immigrant, shown to have illegally entered the U.S., shot and seriously injured San Antonio Police Officer Viviana Rodriguez. The shooter, Jorge Chacón Gutiérrez, died in the crossfire. Although it is not clear whether he was a member of TDA, he was armed and dangerous and should have been deported immediately. When I visited Officer Rodriguez in the hospital, it was a stark reminder to me that illegal immigration has made the streets more dangerous for our first responders to patrol. To make matters worse, TDA has allegedly announced that it is ready, willing and able to attack law enforcement. With Venezuela in disarray after fraudulent elections last month, additional migration to the U.S. could soon follow, and there is no telling how this may strengthen TDA’s footprint.

We must get ahead of this problem before it worsens. Since March, I have pushed for the Biden administration and top national security officials to designate Tren de Aragua as a transnational criminal organization. This important designation improves our ability to impose sanctions and disrupt their criminal operations.

In July, the Biden administration finally heeded those calls and designated Tren de Aragua as a transnational criminal organization. As we move through the next steps, law enforcement at all levels must have the tools necessary to coordinate efforts against TDA, and lawmakers should provide law enforcement officers with the resources needed to fulfill their mission.

In my district, the Bexar County Jail is the largest prison near the Texas-Mexico border. Located in San Antonio, it is a major hub for gangs and other criminal actors, and thus a key source of information about illegal activities related to our border. That is why I am partnering with the Bexar County Sheriff’s Office to create an anti-gang intelligence center at this facility. This effort will be a game changer for law enforcement to gather and analyze information that could disrupt transnational criminal activity. More investments like these are critical if we expect to fend off groups like TDA and stop their growth across Texas.

At a time when threats against our nation are at an all-time high, we cannot afford to let bad actors slip through the cracks. Political rhetoric will simply not cut it and is only putting American lives at risk. Now is the time to roll up our sleeves and shield Americans from the hands of evil and those who wish to wreak havoc in our nation. Every light is blinking red.

U.S. Rep. Tony Gonzales, R-San Antonio, represents Texas’ 23rd Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Essays from the heart.



Christopher de Vinck
Contributing Columnist



Joshua Whitfield
Contributing Columnist



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EDITORIALS

Should We Save Dallas Pools?

City must face that deteriorating facilities are a drain on resources

The Dallas Park and Recreation Board saved all nine community pools from the chopping block, at least for now, after city staff recently recommended their closure. But the reality is that city officials will probably have to close pools eventually. Most community pools are decades old, costly to maintain and severely underused.

The emotional attachment to the community pools is understandable. Many children learned to swim there, and Dallas families all over made memories in their neighborhood pools. There are also concerns about equity given that most of these pools are south of Interstate 30 in Black and Latino neighborhoods.

But the truth is that the community pools don't see as much traffic as they once did. Their deterioration over the years has made them less appealing. And families and young people simply have more recreation options today than previous generations did.

The cold facts are what they are. A community pool like Martin Weiss, in west Oak Cliff, cost the city \$139,069 last year, averaging 65 visits per day and generating less than \$25,000 in revenue, according to Park and Recreation data. The Martin Weiss, Walnut Hill and Grauwlyer pools — all built before 1955 — were closed this summer to repair leaks of thousands of gallons of water, Park and Recreation director John Jenkins said.

Finding parts for these pools is virtually impossible. The city is running out of salvaged parts from older facilities. If the pools run into structural issues, repairing them will be too expensive.

More modern Dallas facilities like The Cove at Crawford and the Kidd Springs aquatic centers, while not exactly money makers, do much better financially and generate stronger attendance numbers.

Right now, the Park Board is buying time. While the community pools will remain open only three days a week, per the Park Board's recommendation, city staff will also update the Dallas Aquatic Master Plan. This formal assessment will help decide which pools should close permanently, which ones could be updated and which ones should be turned into spraygrounds, Jenkins told us.

Rebuilding a pool can cost more than \$4

Dallas community pools vs. aquatic centers

The attendance numbers for Dallas community pools are dismal, and the cost per visit is high. The city is in charge of staff and maintenance during the summer months when these pools are usually open to the public.

Community pools	Attendance	Cost per visit
Bonnie View	1,978	\$60.73
Everglade	1,933	\$56.67
Jaycee Zaragoza	1,936	\$52.95
Tommie Allen	2,438	\$47.83
Martin Weiss	3,236	\$42.98
Walnut Hill	2,624	\$41.21
Pleasant Oaks	3,460	\$40.25
Glendale	2,524	\$37.04
Grauwlyer	2,747	\$37.01

Aquatic centers

Exline	4,219	\$34.46
The Cove at Fretz	25,613	\$13.46
Harry Stone	13,988	\$13.45
Tietze	13,390	\$13.11
Bachman	12,983	\$13.09
Lake Highlands	17,419	\$12.19
The Cove at Crawford	33,773	\$11.77
Kidd Springs	22,888	\$11.08
The Cove at Samuell Grand	35,043	\$10.53

SOURCE: Dallas Park and Recreation Department, FY 2022-23 aquatic season Staff Graphic

million, but the city will have to wait several years for a new bond package or to find a corporate sponsor. Jenkins told us there is at least one private sponsor interested in investing in a community pool.

While the city decides what to do with its aquatic infrastructure, it should pursue strategic partnerships with school districts to ensure kids can learn to swim, even with fewer city-owned pools across Dallas in the future.

As things stand right now, some of these community pools will fail from old age. Keeping them open without substantial investment is a financial burden that could lead the city to redirect funding for other recreation programs toward pool repairs.

This is a case where the heart says one thing and the head says another. Lean times are here. Ignoring the facts, hard as they may be to swallow, will leave Dallas treading water.

A Pathway for Teachers

DISD and UNT join forces to pair senior education majors with mentors in paid residency program

As students return to school, we're thinking about how Texas can get the best teachers into its classrooms. Residency programs can help, like the new partnership between Dallas ISD and the University of North Texas at Dallas.

Last month, the university announced a program that pairs five senior education majors with mentor teachers. They'll spend this entire school year teaching in Dallas ISD classrooms, gaining real-life experience as they go.

Recent conversations surrounding the high number of uncertified teachers in Texas schools highlight the need to build better pathways for future teachers to learn the ropes before they go solo in the classroom. Residency programs seem to us like a commonsense approach. These initiatives aren't new, but more districts can benefit from partnering with local colleges and universities.

Teacher residents participating in the UNT program will be paid \$30,000 for the year with full benefits, according to UNT. Dallas ISD officials say they are paying for this program with special revenue dedicat-

ed to supporting its teacher pipeline. It's a pilot for now, but the hope is to get it vetted and approved by the state.

The Texas Teacher Vacancy Task Force, formed to provide insight on how the state can address an ongoing teacher shortage, said in a report last year that strong teacher preparation through residency programs could lead to a system with no more first-year teachers with zero classroom experience. The task force encouraged the state to create and fund a residency pathway.

Around 20% to 30% of new teachers leave the profession within the first five years, with even higher attrition rates in impoverished districts, according to a 2016 study. Residency programs can improve retention, with 70% to 80% of teachers staying in the same district during the same time frame, according to the study.

Student success depends in no small part on the quality of school teachers. Texas should expand the pipeline of first-time teachers who have classroom experience and who are likely to stay on the job longer, improving outcomes for children no matter where they live. That just sounds like a smart investment.

LETTERS

Olympics a delightful escape

My eyes and ears have enjoyed watching the Olympics as the greatest athletes in the world peel back layers of intensity while years of effort and training pour from their bodies to perform at levels beyond my scope.

It's impossible to choose a single event or team or participant to be a favorite. The backdrop of Paris is sensational. Witnessing the sportsmanship amid all the athletes has been fabulous. The bravado of winning has been washed away as the hugs from parents and family led to tears of joy.

Of course, it will come to an end soon, but for this armchair Monday morning quarterback, it has been delightful to escape from the world for these moments and to catch sight of these athletes who perform with unrestrained determination to be their best.

Barry Rothschild, Dallas/Preston Hollow

Texas losing doctors

Re: "N.M. enlists Texas doctors — Ads, billboards used in bid to attract unhappy providers," Tuesday Metro & Business story.

As has been pointed out in recent surveys, the current environment surrounding abortion in Texas is causing medical students as well as practicing professionals in this state to consider relocating to other states. This story talks about the efforts to ask those professionals to consider moving to New Mexico to practice. My first reaction was anger at another state poaching our people. Upon further reflection, I decided my anger was misdirected. Who can blame other states for trying to take advantage of our situation here?

To the leadership in Austin as well as our legislators: Wake up. Women in Texas are already at risk if a life-threatening medical emergency arises while they are pregnant, and the situation will only get worse if legislators continue to do nothing to reduce the negative consequences of Texas abortion policies. Doctors are leaving the state, residency applications have declined and women are at risk.

To my fellow Texans, think before you vote. Medical emergencies don't discriminate between Republicans and Democrats.

Marilee Hayden, Frisco

Energy providers got bonanza

Re: "No free lunch or electricity" by Frank M. Wagon, Monday Letters.

Wagon is correct that building more power infrastructure was never going to be cheap, much less free, for Texans. But the aftereffects of the 2021 winter storm included billions of unnecessary dollars that will be extracted from the pockets of Texas consumers over the next 25 years.

It didn't have to be that way.

Irving-based Luminant and co-plaintiffs successfully challenged the Public Utility Commission's order that allowed ERCOT to multiply the rate paid for electric power during that ice storm. But the PUC, using our tax dollars, appealed and got that ruling overturned by the political Texas Supreme Court.

Texans need to understand: Everyone who could produce electricity during that winter storm was producing all they could. The higher rates did not bring a single additional kilowatt to the market during those four days. All they did was create a bonanza for a handful of energy providers, most of whom turned around and made generous political contributions to the very Texas officials who stood by and allowed it to happen.

Texans froze to death in their homes, and well-heeled, politically connected companies got richer. Texas consumers got the bill, because they

continue to elect politicians who can be bought and paid for.

Bob Buckel, Azle

Leadership led to prisoner swap

The question is sometimes asked: What makes a good leader? The prisoner swap that happened last week displayed some of the qualities of a good leader, perhaps even a great one.

President Joe Biden's administration brought home several people who had been held as hostages in Russia. Telling was the cooperation of other countries, particularly Germany. Germany might have been reluctant to release a Russian murderer held in its prison. This Russian was apparently key to the prisoner swap.

It has been reported that the German chancellor said he would do it for Biden. Whether he actually spoke these words or not, it is apparent that the respect and relationship forged by our president was a large component of the deal.

In this global world, our leaders must have the ability to form relationships with allies in friendly countries. This is important to the security of the United States.

Phyllis Vaughn, Sherman

Trump letter applauded

Re: "What does Trump mean?" by Keith Jones, Friday Letters.

What an amazing letter Jones wrote. He is saying all the things I have wanted to say for so long but didn't think would be published. I am so grateful to finally see comments about Donald Trump that do not try to normalize the things he does and says.

His ideas and rhetoric are extremely dangerous to our democracy and should be taken very seriously, just as the letter states. I just want to thank Jones for putting it all into words so well, and I want to thank you for printing it.

Carolyn Clark, Garland

Honey, gall and dog tricks

There's a saying, attributed to Abraham Lincoln, that a drop of honey is worth more than a gallon of gall. Former President Donald Trump has three months to learn this lesson, or possibly lose a winnable election. Thus, another saying comes to mind: It's hard to teach an old dog new tricks.

Jackie D. Heaton, Irving

Truth-filled letters

Re: "Illegal voting happens," by Ken Ashby, "Proof of citizenship a must," by Bob Smith and "Harris' dereliction of duty," by Don Pearce, Saturday Letters.

Thank you for helping to allow these fact and truth-filled letters to run on Saturday. The topics in these letters are normally never told to the readers. What a great surprise! Keep it up, and thanks again.

Donald Jones, Wylie

LETTERS POLICY

We value reader submissions. We receive far more than we can print and publish a representative sample. Letters should not exceed 200 words. Please include the source of your information. Letters are edited for length and clarity. Include your name, address with ZIP code and daytime phone number. Submissions become property of The Dallas Morning News.

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John Branch/Houston Chronicle



Universal Pictures

Technology has come a long way since the 1990s, and so has the depiction of tornadoes, National Weather Service meteorologists said. Eighteen members of the *Twisters* movie crew took a class at the National Oceanic and Administration center in Norman, Okla., but there were still bits in the movie that made experts cringe.

WEATHER

'Twisters' offers its own spin

Meteorologists assess how true to life the filmmakers were in tornado sequel

The dearth of warnings that preceded the tornadoes in the movie *Twisters* bothered Richard Smith.

Smith is the warning coordinator meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Norman, Okla., and all of those things in the movie touched down on his turf.

Meteorologists at the Norman complex, the NOAA mayhem center that also houses the Storm Prediction Center and National Severe Storms Laboratory, were heavily involved in schooling the cast and crew members for *Twisters*, the 2024 sequel to the 1996 classic *Twister*.

Said Smith, who conducted a class for 18 of them in May 2023 and even made a cameo in the movie, "They came in very motivated and very interested," particularly Daisy Edgar-Jones.

Edgar-Jones, who plays Oklahoma native and storm chaser Kate Carter, pursues a quixotic dream aiming to snuff out tornadoes by launching a chemical concoction into their vortices. After her boyfriend and two others are killed during a chase, she takes a job with NOAA in New York working at a weather service office.

She is later lured back to chasing during a major outbreak in Oklahoma, and during a frantic week of tornado activity, she is joined by Tyler Owens, an ex-rodeo star turned chaser played by Glen Powell, who entices her to resume the pursuit of tornado-snuffing.

But how realistic is the movie? Here's what some weather experts had to say.

The Philadelphia Inquirer



Melinda Sue Gordon/Universal Pictures

Glen Powell and Daisy Edgar-Jones played storm chasers in *Twisters*, the sequel to the 1996 classic *Twister*. Edgar-Jones was especially interested in the weather class for the crew, her instructor said.

What 'Twisters' got right

Although for the most part the tornadic winds were remarkably kind to Edgar-Jones' makeup (25 people were listed on the makeup staff) and Powell's coiffure, the depictions of what happens on the ground when a monster twister spins a path of destruction impressed Kevin Kelleher, former deputy director of the storms laboratory.

"I think they were really accurate," said Kelleher, who worked with the writers for over two years, "perhaps a little exaggerated." Kelleher, now retired, also was involved with the original *Twister*.

The sequel was superior to the original meteorologically, Smith said: "The terminology, the jargon is much more spot on. The homework, I think, paid off."

He cited a scene in *Twisters* in which a frighteningly fiery Doppler radar image "reflects pretty accurately what stage the storm is in," he said.

However, a Doppler reference was the source of a gaffe early in the movie. "There were a couple of hiccups," said Kelleher.

What 'Twisters' got wrong

During a morning scene, a chaser remarks, "The Doppler doesn't show a storm until this afternoon."

That line resulted in a big "cringe" among meteorologists, said Smith. Doppler detects; it doesn't predict. It can pick up tornado signatures in storms, maybe 15 to 20 minutes in advance, that set off warnings.

Smith is certain that in the climatic scene, in which Kate and Tyler are attending a rodeo interrupted by a monster tornado, warnings would have been issued before all the iPhone alarms went off. "That rodeo would have been canceled," he said. "But then you'd have no movie."

After the disasters, with no credentials whatsoever, Kate, Tyler and other folks have free access to disaster sites ostensibly to lend helping hands. In reality, access would be strictly limited for safety reasons — think live wires, weakened building materials and looting. "They're locked down pretty tight," said Smith.

As for Kate's NOAA career at a weather service forecast office in Manhattan — a scene in which Smith appears — NOAA has no such office in New York City. It's on Long Island.

What bothered meteorologists most

Kate and Tyler's scheme to snuff out tornadoes by nuking them with mass quantities of water-absorbing sodium polyacrylate and silver iodide, which is used in cloud-seeding, was a source of considerable concern among the scientists.

"Tornadoes and the storms that form them are massive, impossibly complex systems that contain unfathomable amounts of energy," Sean Waugh, research meteorologist with the NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory, says in a YouTube video.

Even if such an antidote existed, said Waugh, "the side effects of those chemicals or forces are unknown and could likely cause as much or even more damage as the tornadoes themselves."

But in consulting with the script writers, Kelleher said he was told that including that plot element was "nonnegotiable." So he worked with the writers to come up with a "theoretical" scenario in which it might have been effective.

Harold Brooks, senior research scientist at the storms laboratory, said he would have been more comfortable if the script would have declared the experiment an outright failure. "I'm scared to death that people would try to do that stuff," he said.

What about climate change?

Director Lee Isaac Chung has come under fire for the movie's failure to address climate change. He has said his intention was not to save the world. "I just don't feel like films are meant to be message-oriented," he said in a CNN interview.

How a warming planet is affecting tornadoes is one of climate change's many uncertainties, NOAA researchers say.

While the numbers of tornadoes with winds of at least 80 mph haven't changed much, they are occurring on fewer days, but the numbers of days with major outbreaks have increased, NOAA says. More are occurring in fall and winter, but fewer in spring and summer.

NOAA's upshot: "So far, the majority of research stops short of connecting historical changes in tornado behavior to a warming climate."

All scientific quibbles aside, Smith said of *Twisters*: "It's a movie."

"It was a lot of fun."

SCIENCE & EVOLUTION

New study finds early life more advanced than thought

By KASHA PATEL
The Washington Post

It may be hard to imagine complicated life forms on early Earth. Oxygen was low, and asteroids may have been pelting the baby planet's surface. Despite those harsh conditions, a microbe may have persisted, giving rise to all life we see today.

This is the Last Universal Common Ancestor, or LUCA.

In the most extensive analysis of the organism to date, scientists propose in a new study that this hypothetical ancestor was more sophisticated than previously known — thought to possess an immune system to fight off viruses, for instance.

The team said LUCA appeared around 4.2 billion years ago, shortly after Earth was thought to be habitable, suggesting it evolved even quicker than

previous estimates and survived through tumultuous times on the planet. The findings could help us understand more about life on this planet and others: What if it doesn't take long to kick-start life?

"All life on Earth is related, from all animals, plants, fungi, protists to every single type of bacteria that exists. They all have this common ancestor," said Edmund Moody, lead author of the new study. "We have this idea that this was a fairly complex organism, already possibly by the time of like 4.2 billion years ago."

A fast evolution

Scientists as far back as biologist Charles Darwin have proposed that all living things evolved from a common origin, which sits at the base of the fam-

ily tree of life. The organism would possess genes and components present in all living forms today, Moody said.

But LUCA may have been more complex than they previously thought, the authors found. They inferred it had an immune system that fought viruses and found evidence suggesting it contained genes to protect against ultraviolet damage and lived at the ocean surface.

Our late ancestor might not have been alone either, Moody said. Although not a direct conclusion from the study, he suggested LUCA probably would have been part of an early ecosystem of many organisms, competing to stay alive. But the other organisms probably died out, which would explain why they wouldn't be represented in any modern genomes or fossils.

"LUCA was a very complex cell, with

a genome similar to modern bacteria (which we think of as simple, but from a molecular biology perspective are very complex)," Aaron Goldman, a biologist at Oberlin College who was not involved in the study, said in an email.

New timeline

Previous research dated LUCA as young as 3.5 billion to 3.8 billion years ago, so the new timeline accelerates evolution by a few hundred million years.

Although Earth was formed nearly 4.6 billion years ago, scientists think our planet wasn't cool enough for habitable environments until about 4.3 billion to 4.4 billion years ago, said Goldman. If LUCA was indeed around 4.2 billion years ago, as the study suggests, this dating would rewrite our under-

standing of how fast life can emerge under the right conditions.

"That is a lot of evolution to happen within 100 million years or less," Goldman said.

The new timeline and details can be chalked up to more advanced analysis methods available today. In the new study, the team of 19 scientists used a combination of genetic analysis and fossil records to determine the age of LUCA and its characteristics. They first compared genes in modern genomes of bacteria and archaea to determine which gene families were present in LUCA. They estimated LUCA's genome size, the number of proteins it encoded and its metabolism.

"You work all the way back and eventually you're going to get a common ancestor of everything, which is LUCA," Moody said.

FAIRVIEW

Council denies permit for proposed temple

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints can offer a revised design at any time

By GABRIELLE BEECHERT
Staff Writer
gabrielle.beechert@dallasnews.com

The Fairview Town Council denied The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints a conditional use permit for the proposed McKinney Texas Temple after a four-hour meeting Tuesday night.

The public meeting, which was held in an event space rather than

town hall to accommodate a bigger audience, was filled with people dressed in either white or green shirts to show their support or opposition to the proposed temple. After more than 70 people spoke, the council decided to deny the permit request without prejudice, meaning the church can present a revised plan to the planning and zoning committee and to the council without any time restrictions.

The meeting was a continuation of a June meeting where council members agreed to postpone their decision until Tuesday to allow the church more time to revise its proposal.

Those in favor of the temple argued during the public hearing that it's necessary because of the growing church population, saying the temple in Dallas cannot accommodate the number of church members in North Texas. Some members said the temple was protected under state and federal law, and some said arguments by the opposition were misinformed.

Holly Snow, a resident of Fairview who supports construction of the temple, said houses of worship in almost all Christian faiths have steeples, even though those are likely not required by their doctrines.



Anja Schlein/Special Contributor

The crowd at Tuesday's Fairview Town Council meeting waited for the council's vote on the proposed McKinney Texas Temple. The meeting was held at an events center to accommodate the many attendees.

"Christians can worship in a building that does not have a cross, yet I would never say steeples and crosses are not an important part of their faith," she said. "I would never sug-

gest to my Christian neighbors that the steeple on their church is just a meaningless symbol or to my Catho-

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PREVIEW

State fare of Texas



Shafkat Anowar/Staff Photographer

"It's the best thing I've ever made," Big Tex Choice Awards finalist Isaac Rousso said of his Cotton Candy Bacon on a Stick.

Feeling snack-ish? These Big Tex finalists may be just the ticket

By SARAH BLASKOVICH
Staff Writer
sblaskovich@dallasnews.com

The State Fair of Texas' 2024 menu of food and drink finalists in Dallas is a bona fide, deep-fried riptide of 10 items that've never been tried.

The State Fair calls them the Big Tex Choice Awards finalists. We call them the

kings and queens of concessions.

For the 24-day run of the State Fair of Texas from Sept. 27 to Oct. 20 these 10 concessions items could draw the attention of the 2 million or more carnival-goers visiting one of the largest fairs in the United States.

"One of the top reasons people come to the fair is the

food — we are known for our food," State Fair spokeswoman Karissa Condoianis said. "This year, it was stiff competition."

Batter up: Here's the list of Big Tex Choice Awards finalists for 2024.

The savory

Dominican Fritura

Dog: A deep-fried salami corn dog with cheese was created by Mike Tavarez, whose parents are from the Dominican Republic, and Justin Martinez, a longtime State Fair food competitor. The Dominican Dog comes split open so you can see the sections of salami and cheese, and it's finished with a sprinkle of garlic plantain

chips. Martinez's family has been at the fair since 1977. Family patriarch Rudy Martinez — a regular at Big Tex Choice Awards — died in February 2024. "I felt like I owed it to him and his legacy," his son Justin Martinez said the morning the Big Tex Choice Awards were an-

See **SWEET** Page 2B

TARRANT COUNTY JAIL

Video of inmate death shielded

Family, jailer seek release of full recording, but Texas AG says it's not legally required

By JULIA JAMES
Staff Writer
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Tarrant County is not required under public record laws to release the full video of an in-custody death that occurred in the jail in April, the Texas Attorney General's office says.

Anthony Johnson Jr., a 31-year-old Marine Corps veteran, died April 21. The Tarrant County sheriff's office first called his death a "medical emergency," but later fired two jailers and released a five-minute video clip that showed a jail employee kneeling on Johnson, who said he couldn't breathe.

Since then, the death was ruled a homicide, and the two jailers, Lt. Joel Garcia and Rafael Moreno, were indicted on murder charges.

Multiple parties requested the full video, which Tarrant County argued it does not have to release as there is an ongoing investigation by the Texas Rangers. The Attorney General's office sided with the county in a letter dated July 15, saying the video falls under the exemption for "detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime."

Daryl Washington, attorney for Johnson's family, issued a statement Saturday saying the family was not surprised by the decision as the attorney general's office often sides with law enforcement officials.

"Sheriff [Bill] Waybourn, [John Peter Smith] Hospital and other Tarrant County officials do not want the full video to be released because it will

See **AG** Page 8B

OBITUARY

Dallas jazz musician

Shaun Martin, singer and keyboardist of jazz band Snarky Puppy, died Saturday. He was 45. A cause of death was not revealed, but it was reported that the Dallas musician stepped away in April 2023 to battle an undisclosed illness. **7B**

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Education Lab

University name to stay Texas A&M Commerce

School leaders had considered rebranding to incorporate 'Dallas'

By MARCELA RODRIGUES
Staff Writer
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Texas A&M University-Commerce will not be rebranded to include "Dallas" in its name, university President

Mark Rudin announced in a statement Wednesday.

The announcement comes after weeks of vocal student and alumni pressure in opposition to the change would move the school away from its roots in East Texas.

Others believe the Dallas name could mislead prospective students as the city is about

65 miles west of the Commerce campus.

"Based on the feedback received, I cannot support the option of changing the name of our university to Texas A&M University-Dallas," Rudin wrote. "I have informed the Board of Regents and Chancellor Sharp that I will not be pursuing a name change of our university to Texas A&M Uni-

versity-Dallas now or in the future."

A&M leaders considered the name change with hopes that it would reflect the university's growing presence in Dallas and "better tell the story of who we are," President Rudin told *The Dallas Morning News* in July.

The school has a satellite location off Central Expressway

and offers classes out of Mesquite, McKinney and Corsicana.

An online petition of alumni opposing the change gathered more than 9,000 signatures.

Among comments posted online, many recalled the school changed names when it joined the A&M System in

See **A&M** Page 8B

DALLAS

Last suspect arrested in slaying near Victory Park

3 men, 2 girls charged with capital murder in death of Houston man

By MATT KYLE
Staff Writer
matt.kyle@dallasnews.com

The fifth person suspected of participating in a July armed robbery in Victory Park that left an 18-year-old man dead was arrested Tuesday,

Dallas police said.

Latraveone Wherry, 19, was taken into custody by the U.S. Marshals Task Force, Dallas police said. He is charged with capital murder in the July 14 shooting death of Jake Reynosa of Houston, who was visiting Dallas with friends when he was killed.

According to a Dallas police arrest-warrant affidavit, a group of teens was driving

around "looking for people to rob" when they spotted Reynosa and his friends about 5:15 a.m. in the 2400 block of North Houston Street, just south of American Airlines Center. The affidavit said two girls in the group called out to Reynosa, got out of the car and approached him as the car drove around and dropped off two men.

According to the affidavit,

Wherry is suspected of being the car's driver.

The two men then ran up on Reynosa and his friends, who then tried to run away, the affidavit said. The men chased Reynosa, shot him and took his phone. Reynosa was pronounced dead at the hospital.

Officers later found the car, which had been reported stolen during a carjacking the

same day, the affidavit said. The group abandoned the car after a short chase and fled on foot.

Police apprehended a 15-year-old girl who told officers the group was looking for people to rob and had tried to rob someone in the same area where Reynosa was killed.

The next day, a 16-year-old girl turned herself in to police. Isaiah Joseph Simmons, 18,

was arrested July 20, and Christopher Gaines Jr., 18, was arrested July 23.

All five suspects are charged with capital murder. Gaines, Simmons and Wherry are in the Dallas County jail, with bail set at for \$2 million for Gaines and Wherry and \$1 million for Simmons.

Police did not release the names of the two girls due to their age.

Sweet. Savory. Fair will have it all

Continued from Page 1B

nounced. Dad would be proud: Martinez is the only concessionaire this year with two finalist entries.

The Drowning Taquitos: This dish seems easy for travel. Corn tortillas are hand-stuffed with shredded chicken, then fried and placed in a cup. Each taquito is "drowned" in sauces, said Tony Bednar. His wife, Terry Bednar, came up with the recipe.

Hippie Chips: The couple who created loaded potato chips called Hippie Chips has been at the fair for 37 years. That's almost the entirety of Rose and Tom Deschenes' marriage of 38 years. "We love potato chips," both said in unison in a *Dallas Morning News* interview. (It was cute.) Each basket of chips is drizzled with the customers' choice of homemade ranch or blue cheese dressing. The chips are finished with bacon bits and green onions and drizzled with Sriracha.

Hot Chick-in-Pancake Poppers: The owner of Palmer's Hot Chicken in East Dallas combined some of his Southern recipes for this deep-fried dish. Each ball of pimento cheese and Nashville hot chicken is dipped in pancake batter and deep-fried. The Pancake Poppers come topped with Sriracha honey and powdered sugar. Owner Palmer Fortune has been a concessionaire since 2022, and the Poppers mark his first time as a finalist at the State Fair.

Texas Fried Burnt End Bombs: Fried barbecue? You bet. Third-generation concessionaire Nick Bert grew up at the State Fair. Their family history goes way back to 1919, when his grandfather started working at the fair, then selling burgers in 1936. For the 2024 Big Tex Choice Awards, the Berts' dish is made of brisket encased in shredded potatoes, then mixed with bacon and cheese and deep-fried. Each "bomb" comes topped with raspberry chipotle barbecue glaze. How long did it take for him to come up with the idea? "About a minute," Bert said. And how long to get the recipe just right. "A week."

The sweet

Rouso's Cotton Candy Bacon on a Stick: Isaac Rouso, one of the winningest State Fair concessionaires, is back this year. His Cotton Candy Bacon on a Stick is just that: A tall slab of bacon, glazed with cotton candy sugar, served on a stick. Is that too simple? Too expected? No and no. "It's the best thing I've ever made," Rouso said. This year marks his ninth consecutive year as a Big Tex Choice Awards finalist.

Nevins Nutty Bar-laska: Josey Nevins created the beloved Fried Charcuterie Board at the 2022 fair. The 24-year-old is back in 2024 with a twist on an ice cream bar called the Nutty Bar. Each dessert on a stick is topped with toasted marshmallows, two Oreos, strawberry sauce and freeze-dried strawberry pieces. It's a big year for the Nevinses, Josey said, because 2024 marks their 75th year at the State Fair. Josey grew up going to the fair and working alongside her mom, Tami Nevins-Mayes.

Strawberry Pop-Tarts Beignetfle: That's a new word! Concessionaire Martinez makes a second appearance on this list with this sweet dish — a combo of beignets, waffles and Pop-Tarts. Let's break that down: It's fried batter, cooked in a waffle iron, with strawberries, whipped cream and sprinkles on top that mimic the flavors and textures on a Pop-Tart. It comes in a handy carrying case.

Texas Sugar Rush Pickles: The look of this dish might deceive you.



Photos by Shafkat Anowar/Staff Photographer

Rouso's Cotton Candy Bacon on a Stick is one of the 10 Big Tex Choice Awards finalists this year.



Mike Tavarez holds the deep-fried Dominican Fritura Dog.



Josey Mayes (left), Tami Nevins-Mayes and their nutty creation (below).



Heather Perkins' Sugar Rush Pickles come in a cup of colorful ingredients. Her pickle dusts are coated in cotton candy dust, served in a cup of Lucky Charms, Froot Loops and Cap'n Crunch, vanilla ice cream and a lollipop. Perkins is known for her pickles, and she sells more than 250 flavors at the fair.

Tropical Two-Step Punch:

There's just one drink in the list of 10 Big Tex Choice Finalists, and it's Binh Tran's tropical punch, available with or without alcohol. The punch is made with pineapple, watermelon, mango, cantaloupe, strawberries and other juices, with a Tajin rim. Although the Trans are 24-year State Fair veterans, it's their first year as finalists.

But which ones will win?

All 10 Big Tex Choice Awards finalists tend to attract attention, which translates to sales dollars for Texas-based concessionaires. But the best is yet to come: This list of 10 finalists will be slimmed one final time on Aug. 22, when a panel of local judges will give three awards for the best-tasting sweet dish, best-tasting savory dish and "most creative."

The judges haven't been announced yet.

Last year's favorites were deep fried pho and Biscoff-dusted cheesecake. Thousands of people — including me — stood in lines dozens of people deep to buy these sought-after snacks.

"Most creative" went to a sopapilla stuffed with vanilla-caramel bananas, bourbon syrup and candied pecans.

This year's list of 10 finalists comes from a larger list of 24 semifinalists announced in June 2024.

It's fair to ask: Why do we have this food contest, anyway?

The State Fair of Texas' timeline dates back to 1886, and the Big Tex Choice Awards competition is but a blip at the end. Starting in 2005, State Fair execs dreamed up a food competition to encourage concessionaires to get creative beyond the traditional corny dogs, funnel cakes and nachos that have become beloved — but expected — from the fair.

The inaugural winners in 2005 were inventive but not unimaginable. A fried peanut butter, jelly and banana sandwich won "best taste." By 2006, concessionaires cranked up the crazy.

Over the next five years, we were treated to fried Coke, a deep-fried latte, chicken-fried bacon, deep-fried butter and fried beer.

How, many of us wondered? The Big Tex Choice Awards had turned into an edible science experiment, not just a food competition.

Still today, many repeat entrants like Rouso keep secret logs of recipes. They've tried to fry hundreds of things. They've got dozens of stories about flops and fiascos. And they enter the contest year after year.

In the next few months, *The Dallas Morning News* will inspect, dissect and gut-check all of the State Fair of Texas' food and drink finalists.

FORT WORTH

Baby giraffe makes debut at FW Zoo

Delilah, born to Dilly on July 2, is 6 foot 2, brings herd to 10

By MARIA SALETTE ONTIVEROS
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The Fort Worth Zoo has announced the arrival of Delilah, a baby giraffe born July 2.

The "pretty tall baby" weighs 170 pounds and stands 6 feet 2 inches tall, the zoo said.

For the last month, the zoo has largely kept Delilah behind the scenes while monitoring the calf's growth and letting her get familiar with her herd.

Delilah made her debut to the public Monday.

According to the Giraffe Conservation Foundation, the average gestation period for giraffes is 453-464 days, or about 15 months.

The usual height of a newborn giraffe is about 6 feet, with females generally being smaller than males. Baby giraffes experience rapid growth and can nearly double their height within the first year.

The foundation states a newborn giraffe begins to suckle its mother's milk as soon as it can stand, which is why they are born tall. Calves depend on their mother's milk for about 9 to 12 months. Around 4 months, they start to eat solid food, such as leaves.

Delilah's mother, Dilly, who is 9 years old, didn't exhibit the necessary maternal behaviors needed to care for her, the zoo said. Staff intervened and provided bottle feeding to ensure the calf got the nourishment she needed.

Delilah gained 70 pounds in her first month of life, thanks to the team effort, the zoo said. With the addition of Delilah, the zoo's herd has 10 giraffes.

CROWLEY

Woman faces murder charge in stabbing

Police say wounded man found in apartment after 911 call

By MATT KYLE
Staff Writer
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A woman is facing charges of murder and evidence tampering after Crowley police responded to a report of a stabbing and found her and a man with stab wounds inside an apartment.

According to a Facebook post by Crowley police, officers were called about 6:17 p.m. Saturday after a 911 call was placed reporting a stabbing in the 300 block of West FM 1187. Upon arrival, police found a 33-year-old man with stab wounds in the apartment, according to an arrest-warrant affidavit.

Officers attempted life-saving measures and the man was taken to a hospital, where he died, police said.

Lauren Jestine Goar, 34, was arrested at the apartment, the affidavit said. Police believe she attempted to clean up the scene, as investigators found swiping marks in the blood and a blood-soaked cleaning pad in the trash, a police report said.

The police report said the circumstances of the incident was a "lovers' quarrel." Police did not name the man and said the Tarrant County Medical Examiner has yet to inform his family.

Goar remained in the Tarrant County jail Tuesday on \$110,000 bail. Her attorney did not immediately respond to an email and phone message seeking comment.

Business

Disney's streaming business turns profit

Disney reported a profitable third quarter as its combined streaming business started making money for the first time. **6B**

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AIR TRAVEL

Panel slams work at Boeing

Federal officials say door plug blowing off 737 Max 9 during flight was avoidable

By **DAVID SHEPARDSON**
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The head of the National Transportation Safety Board said Wednesday the Alaska Airlines Boeing 737 Max 9 in-flight emergency was entirely avoidable because the planemaker should have addressed unauthorized production work long ago.

"This accident should have never happened. This should have been caught years before," NTSB Chair Jennifer Homendy told reporters on the second day of a hearing into the Jan. 5 incident.

"There have been numerous, numerous Boeing audits, FAA audits, compliance reviews, compliance actions plans noting a history of an unauthorized work, unauthorized removals," she added.

She said there was no guarantee the issue would not occur again.

Boeing created no paperwork for the removal of 737 Max 9 door plug — a piece of metal shaped like a door that covered an unused emergency exit — or its reinstallation during production, and still does not know which employees were involved. The plug was missing four key bolts when it was delivered to Alaska Airlines, NTSB has said.

Boeing did not immediately comment.

If Boeing had learned from prior unauthorized work, "then this would have been caught and this would have been prevented," Homendy said, adding that the board is also scrutinizing the Federal Aviation Administration's oversight of Boeing.

"We have a lot of questions — there was information known," Homendy said about FAA oversight of Boeing, citing defects, missing and incorrect documents as well as incorrect policies that "have been issues for years. This is not new."

Homendy has questions about FAA audit procedures and whether Boeing previously received advance notice of reviews, and she asked if they were too focused on reviewing paperwork.

After the incident, the FAA barred Boeing from expanding production beyond 38 planes per month and an-

See **OVERSIGHT** Page 4B



Photos by Elias Valverde II/Staff Photographer

The Belmont Hotel along Fort Worth Street got upgrades to the property in 2019, which were made with input from the city staff, according to Belmont ownership. Currently, the hotel has a long way to go before being operable again.

WEST DALLAS

Push for Belmont Hotel

Owners, city work to get historic designation for restoration of iconic stay

By **ANNA BUTLER**
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It's been almost a decade since ownership changed for the Belmont Hotel, a West Dallas hospitality property along Fort Worth Avenue designed by famed architect Charles Dilbeck.

The hotel, its stark walls bending in undulating alcoves along its facade, was shuttered during the COVID-19 pandemic after undergoing several large-scale and expensive renovations, according to the property's ownership, an entity called Diamond Belmont Properties LLC tied to Dallas' Ford family.

Belmont's ownership is working with the city and surrounding neighborhood so the property can be preserved while ensuring full operation and development of the site. That requires the creation of an ordinance to preserve the buildings, while simultaneously modernizing the entitlements that make it difficult to operate sustainably.

The Belmont went before the Dallas Landmark Commission on Mon-

See **MEETINGS** Page 4B



The proposal for historic designation will go before the Dallas City Plan Commission on Thursday, which will be a big step forward. This comes after meeting with the Dallas Landmark Commission on Monday.

DEVELOPMENT

Oak Lawn seniors get high-rise

New 20-story assisted living building starts construction in October, with '27 opening

By **NICK WOOTEN**
Staff Writer
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A California-based developer is expected to begin work on a new high-rise for senior residents in Dallas' Turtle Creek neighborhood.

Nexus Development Corp. plans to build The Vivante at Turtle Creek, a 20-story assisted living building with two levels of underground parking.

The tower at 2505 Turtle Creek Blvd. will hold 164 assisted living units and 29 memory care units. Estimated construction costs are \$150 million, according to a filing with the Texas Department of Licensing and Registration.

Work is expected to begin in Octo-



HKS

The Vivante at Turtle Creek tower will be built at the corner of Turtle Creek Boulevard and Fairmount Street. The building will hold 164 assisted living units and 29 memory care units.

ber and be completed by October 2026, according to the filing. Information in the state filings are preliminary and subject to change. A Nexus representative said the tower is expected to open in early 2027.

Dallas-based HKS Inc. is the project's architect, according to the filing. The tower will be designed on the exact site where the firm's founder, Harwood K. Smith, designed an office building in 1959.

Siobhan Farvardin, the global practice director of senior living at HKS, said the units will feel like condos.

"It's probably the first of its kind in the Dallas metroplex," she said. "It's more intergenerational. They'll have a bowling lounge that's really focused on bringing in grandchildren and adult children to the community. ... It's very unique to the state."

Nexus purchased the site at the corner of Turtle Creek Boulevard and Fairmount Street just north of Dallas' Uptown district in 2022.

The 1-acre property was once owned by a Canadian developer that obtained zoning to build a \$225 million, 20-story luxury condo building.

ENTERTAINMENT

New club at Topgolf offers surefire swing

Players at any skill level can improve contact with its larger face, facility says

By **ANDREW LONG**
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Two of the cardinal rules of learning golf are to keep one's eye on the ball and swing with the correct technique, both of which require intense focus and lots of practice. While that advice is still sensible, some novice players may have to concentrate a little less to hear the satisfying smack of a ball.

Topgolf announced its latest collaboration with golf equipment giant Callaway for a new addition to its bays intended to help inexperienced golfers make decent contact with the ball, the sport's most basic but least straightforward component. The addition is a new take on a driver called "The Sure



Topgolf

"The Sure Thing" golf club was made to help novice golfers make cleaner ball connection.

Thing," which has a larger club face, increased loft and a shorter shaft, increasing the odds customers hit the ball and hit it with some punch.

Topgolf says the new club is part of its mission to "bring joy" to golf, no matter a player's skill level.

"The world needs more play in

See **DRIVER** Page 4B

Market index table with columns for S&P 500, DOW JONES, NASDAQ, U.S. BONDS, DOLLAR, GOLD, CRUDE OIL, NAT. GAS, CATTLE, CORN, COTTON. Includes price, change, and percentage change.

Stock market table with columns: Stock, Close, Chg, 1-wk YTD % chg. Lists various stocks like AMN Hhh, AT&T Inc, ATI Inc, etc.

Dallas-Fort Worth top companies

Table with four columns: MOST ACTIVE, BEST PERFORMERS, WORST PERFORMERS, BEST YEAR TO DATE. Lists top performing and active companies.

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Table with four columns: Stock, Close, Chg, 1-wk YTD % chg. Lists various stocks like AT&T Inc, AmAirlines, EgiYrnsfr, etc.

Table with four columns: Stock, Close, Chg, 1-wk YTD % chg. Lists various stocks like OptexSys, OrthoMed, P10, etc.

Meetings give life to project

Continued from Page 3B day for a hearing after it was deferred last month. It was determined the owner would once again convene with the Landmark Commission's Designation Committee as it seeks a solution both to preserve the property and make it fit ownership's business needs.

Historic value

The Belmont "was a place in Dallas that was inclusive to the arts, the outsiders, the insiders, the creatives and the community of those that love this city," Jordan Ford, part of the ownership behind the hotel, said in an email. "It was a place for those from our city, and for those that migrated to our city with dreams and desires. It's a place where each may relax in those dreams while taking in the view of the aspirational Dallas skyline. The Belmont is special because of its individuality. It can host all those that dream to be included in the future of Dallas. Dallas deserves this magic place."

Adding a historic overlay to

the property and updating entitlements stand as the missing pieces to the complicated equation that is bringing the Belmont to its full, operable stature. The project is set to go before the Dallas City Plan Commission to reinstate the historic overlay on Thursday, which is considered a significant step forward.

The hotel, on a hillside at the corner of Fort Worth and Sylvan avenues, opened in 1947 as the Belmont Motor Hotel.

Nearly 60 years later, developer Monte Anderson reworked the property before selling it to the Ford entity in 2015.

Since 2019, upgrades to the property have been made with input from the city staff, according to Belmont ownership.

Those included improvements to some guest rooms and addressed structural and mechanical needs. In recent years, the woes of the Belmont have mirrored the challenges across commercial real estate.

The hit from the pandemic was enough to force the closure of the 64-room property as it was operating. The winter storm in 2021 knocked out



Elias Valverde II/Staff Photographer

The Belmont Hotel opened in 1947 as the Belmont Motor Hotel. The property was sold, 60 years later, to the Ford entity in 2015.

about 60% of the property's guest rooms, some of which were newly renovated. Volatile construction costs and tight capital markets climate have slowed progress as well.

Reinvigorated future

Late last year, one push to restore the Belmont included a collaboration with Dallas developer Todd Interests, the group behind the East Quarter's resurgence. Details were scarce on the vision, but that ultimately dissolved.

Belmont has engaged Jake Milner and Scott Lake of Davidson Bogel Real Estate to advance the project.

During the Landmark Commission hearing on Monday, Ford said working with the commission over the past month has reinvigorated his vi-

Oversight was 'too hands-off'

Continued from Page 3B

nounced a 90-day review of the planemaker.

It also has required significant quality and manufacturing improvements before it will allow the plane manufacturer to raise production.

FAA Administrator Mike Whitaker said in June the agency was "too hands-off" in overseeing Boeing. The FAA's approach before the midair accident was "too focused on paperwork audits and not focused enough on inspections," Whitaker added.

The FAA has also boosted the number of inspectors

at Boeing and Spirit Airlines factories.

"We will continue our aggressive oversight of the company and ensure it fixes its systemic production-quality issues," the FAA said Wednesday.

Last week, Senate Commerce Committee chair Maria Cantwell and Sen. Tammy Duckworth introduced legislation to review and strengthen safety management systems at the FAA.

Homendy said the NTSB plans to conduct a safety culture survey of employees at Boeing's Renton, Wash., factory that builds the 737 Max.

Agency seeks info on fatal Cybertruck crash

DETROIT — Federal safety authorities say they are seeking information on a crash and fire involving a Tesla Cybertruck that killed a driver of the futuristic new pickup.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration said Wednesday it is gathering information from Tesla. The agency did not send crash investigators, nor has it opened a formal investigation into the

BRIEF

Table with columns: DIVIDENDS, Selected distributions announced yesterday, INCREASED, Period, Gross amt, Date rec, Pay date. Lists various companies and their dividend details.

crash. It did not say if it is investigating the cause of the fire or whether the driver was using a

partially automated driving system.

Messages were left Wednesday seeking comment from Tesla and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The death apparently is the first involving the angular stainless steel-clad truck, which went on sale Nov. 30.

KHOU-TV reported that state troopers are investigating the crash, which occurred in the Baytown area of Chambers County early Monday.

The Associated Press

Driver boosts accessibility

Continued from Page 3B it, and that's all we're trying to do at Topgolf — offer a chance for our players to cut loose and have fun, and now they can do it with a club that helps make the game more enjoyable no matter your skill level," Topgolf Chief Brand Officer Geoff Cottrill said in a press release.

The clubs are not available for sale to the public.

"The Sure Thing" collaboration is not the first between Callaway and Dallas-based Topgolf, which merged in March 2021 in an all-stocks deal valued around \$2 billion. The company, called Topgolf Callaway Brands Corp., also owns German outdoor wear retailer Jack Wolfskin, luggage producer Ogio and clothing

supplier TravisMathew, and netted more than \$4.2 billion in revenue in 2023. Topgolf alone accounted for more than \$1.7 billion of that revenue, and all of the clubs stocked in its driver bays are produced by Callaway.

Aside from offering customers the ability to play Angry Birds with golf balls and eat chicken wings between swings, Topgolf has emerged as a sizable retailer of golf gear and operates in many ways a secondary Callaway storefront. Each of Topgolf's more than 100 locations worldwide includes a pro shop that sells Callaway golf balls, hats, bags and clubs.

"The Sure Thing" is also not Topgolf's first foray into easing the on-ramp to golf proficiency.

All Topgolf facilities offer lessons to those looking to improve, while some employ dedicated "Club Fitters" to help golfers find the right clubs for their skill level and size. The new driver is not for sale but is available at all U.S. Topgolf venues, including those in Dallas, The Colony, Allen and Fort Worth.

"We want everyone to experience the thrill of hitting the ball solidly and into the air, and designing a club with new players in mind is our way of helping to make that happen," Topgolf CEO Artie Starrs said. "I remember the first time I hit a solid shot into the air as a kid, and we want to enable that thrill for everyone. New players are going to love it and experienced players will, too."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON COLLIN COUNTY, TEXAS FY 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET. Collin County will conduct a public hearing on the FY 2025 Proposed Budget on Monday, August 19, 2024, at 1:30 pm in the Commissioners Courtroom at the Jack Hatchell Administration Building, 2300 Bloomdale Road, McKinney, TX 75071. This budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$31,610,821 or 10.73%, and of that amount, \$13,886,383 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

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1700 Acres in Stonewall County for 7 guns. Call Ricky 325-725-6851

AUTOMOTIVE

- Autos
- Commercial Vehicles
- Pickups
- SUVs
- Trailers
- Vans

Antiques, Classics, Special Interest

OLD CAR CONSIGNMENTS

David Wayne 214-926-5621

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES

- Auto Services & Parts
- Auto/Truck for Rent/Lease
- Auto/Trucks Wanted
- Swap Meets & Shows

Vehicles Wanted

\$\$\$ FAST CASH \$\$\$ I'll buy your car with or without title, any condition up to \$20,000. 469-558-3822

HOME CENTER FOR RENT

- Acres, Farms and Ranches
- Commercial Real Estate
- Lake & Vacation Property
- Dallas Sales
- Metroplex Sales
- Out of Metroplex Sales
- Miscellaneous Sales

Acres, Farms & Ranches

- Acres, Farms and Ranches
- Commercial Real Estate
- Lake & Vacation Property
- Dallas Rentals
- Metroplex Rentals
- Out of Metroplex Rentals
- Miscellaneous Rentals

Acres, Farms & Ranches

NOTICE

Residential rental locators are required to be licensed by the TX Real Estate Commission, Austin 800-250-8732. Locators may advertise apartment units in general terms & all units may not have the same features. The amount of rent quoted in an ad may be the starting rent for a basic unit which does not have all advertised features.

Want to Buy

Want to Buy

Want to Buy

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Commercial Real Estate

Retail Space - For Lease

American Shomron in Terrell, TX For Sale. Great business opportunity, growing area, everything included. Asking \$25K long term lease. Looking to quick sale. 469-825-9690 or 318-773-8610

Dallas Rentals

FREE RENT!
469-256-6453

Metroplex Rentals

FREE RENT!
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Garland

FREE RENT!
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Want to Buy

PETS & LIVESTOCK

- Birds
- Cats
- Cattle
- Dogs
- Horses & Mules
- Other Animals
- Pets Found
- Pets Lost
- Services & Supplies

Dogs

ACA Reg Shih Tzu 10 Wks old, Female, S/W Started & potty trained 940-232-0659

AKC English Bulldog puppies for sale, fully vax, M & F, Starting price \$3,000. 214-853-2518

Fullblood English Bulldog puppies, Bwks old, all shots and vet check. \$1,000 580-559-1749

Goldendoodle puppies mini & medium sizes MCVCS/DW/DC No shed/hypoallergenic \$700 into of rubrundooodles.com or text 405-320-1198

WESTIE Pups purebred, shots & wormed, unshed/hypoallergenic \$550. Call 214-783-0476

YORKIES, AKC quality pups, health guar, champion lines, \$1,500 & up (214) 676-2385 or visit: shimmertheyorkies.com

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Want to Buy

MERCHANDISE

- Estate Sales
- Garage Sales
- Antiques, Art, Collectibles
- Appliances-Home
- Auction Sales
- Building Materials
- China, Silver, Tableware
- Cooling, Heating Equip
- Crafts, Hobbies, Seasonal
- Electronics
- Farm Equipment
- Flooring, Carpet
- Furniture-Home
- Gamerom Equip
- Infant/Children Items
- Jewelry, Watches
- Lawn & Garden
- Machinery & Tools
- Medical, Handicapped
- Equipment
- Merchandise
- Office Equip/Furn
- Pianos, Musical
- Instruments
- Pools, Spas, Supplies
- Portable Buildings
- Restaurant, Bar
- Business Fixtures
- Sewing Machines
- Sporting Goods
- Tickets-Sports/
- Entertainment
- Tickets-Travel
- Warehouse Equip
- Wearing Apparel

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LEGAL BIDS & NOTICES

- Bankruptcy, Court Sales
- Bids and Proposals
- Legal Notices

Bids & Proposals

PO#1233-9816 / DO#119980 CITY OF DALLAS PROCUREMENT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received electronically via the City of Dallas' solicitation website at <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com> until 1:00 P.M. on Friday. All bids will be publicly read at 2:00 P.M. on Fridays and can be viewed on the City of Dallas website at www.dallascityhall.com (see City Meetings). Bids titles and dates of public opening are listed below. Bid Packages may be obtained by downloading from <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com>.

BP24-00025338 - Animal Feed for DAS - Commodity Code - 32505 (Bids Due on 09/06/2024, Bid Reading on 09/06/2024)

BW24-00025178 - Mobile Home Replacement-Residential-Residential-Commodity Code - 06060 (Bids Due on 09/06/2024, Bid Reading on 09/06/2024)

PO#1233-9818/DO# 119979 CITY OF DALLAS ADVERTISEMENT REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS

Competitive Sealed Proposals will be received via the City of Dallas' solicitation website at <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com> until 1:00 pm on Fridays. All Proposers' company name(s) will be publicly read at 2:00 P.M. on Fridays in the Express Business Center, RM L2E of City Hall, and can be viewed on the City of Dallas website at www.dallascityhall.com (see City Meetings). Proposals titles and dates of public reading are listed below. Proposal Packages may be obtained by downloading from <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com>.

BY24-00024996 - Operational Management of a Gymnastic & Cheer Program for Park and Recreation - Commodity Code - 95800 (Bids Due on 09/06/2024, Bid Reading on 09/06/2024)

BN24-00025023 - consultant to Provide an Analysis of the Police Department's Air Support Unit - Commodity Code - 917 (Bids Due on 09/06/2024, Bid Reading on 09/06/2024)

LOCAL JOURNALISM CITY OF DALLAS ADVERTISEMENT REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS

Competitive Sealed Proposals will be received via the City of Dallas' solicitation website at <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com> until 1:00 pm on Fridays. All Proposers' company name(s) will be publicly read at 2:00 P.M. on Fridays in the Express Business Center, RM L2E of City Hall, and can be viewed on the City of Dallas website at www.dallascityhall.com (see City Meetings). Proposals titles and dates of public reading are listed below. Proposal Packages may be obtained by downloading from <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com>.

BW24-00024968 - Maintenance and Repair for City-Owned Electrical Transmission Substations - Commodity Code - 94172 (Bids Due on 09/13/2024, Bid Reading on 09/13/2024)

LEGAL BIDS & NOTICES

- Bankruptcy, Court Sales
- Bids and Proposals
- Legal Notices

Bids & Proposals

PO#1233-9819 / DO#1121089 CITY OF DALLAS PROCUREMENT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids will be received electronically via the City of Dallas' solicitation website at <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com> until 1:00 P.M. on Fridays. All bids will be publicly read at 2:00 P.M. on Fridays and can be viewed on the City of Dallas website at www.dallascityhall.com (see City Meetings). Bids titles and dates of public opening are listed below. Bid Packages may be obtained by downloading from <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com>.

BM24-00025590 - CNG Fuel Station Parts & Maintenance Service - Commodity Code - 92844 (Bids Due on 09/13/2024, Bid Reading on 09/13/2024)

PO# 1233-9817/DO#119982 CITY OF DALLAS ADVERTISEMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Proposals will be received via the City of Dallas' solicitation website at <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com> until 1:00 pm on Fridays. All Proposers' company name(s) will be publicly read at 2:00 P.M. on Fridays in the Express Business Center, RM L2E of Dallas City Hall, and can be viewed on the City of Dallas website at www.dallascityhall.com (see City Meetings). Proposals titles and dates of public reading are listed below. Proposal Packages may be obtained by downloading from <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com>.

BW24-00025153 - Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Venue - Commodity Code - 97130 (Proposals Due on 08/30/2024, Reading on 08/30/2024)

PO#1233-9820 / DO#1121091 CITY OF DALLAS ADVERTISEMENT REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS

Competitive Sealed Proposals will be received via the City of Dallas' solicitation website at <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com> until 1:00 pm on Fridays. All Proposers' company name(s) will be publicly read at 2:00 P.M. on Fridays in the Express Business Center, RM L2E of City Hall, and can be viewed on the City of Dallas website at www.dallascityhall.com (see City Meetings). Proposals titles and dates of public reading are listed below. Proposal Packages may be obtained by downloading from <https://dallascityhall.bonfirehub.com>.

BW24-00024968 - Maintenance and Repair for City-Owned Electrical Transmission Substations - Commodity Code - 94172 (Bids Due on 09/13/2024, Bid Reading on 09/13/2024)

LEGAL BIDS & NOT

BUSINESS

EARNINGS

Disney's streaming business turns a profit in 3rd quarter

However parks show signs of trouble due to declining demand

By SAMANTHA MASUNAGA
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — After years of losses totaling billions of dollars, Walt Disney Co.'s overall streaming business has reached profitability for the first time. Third-quarter results, however, were tempered by weakening demand at the company's key parks unit.

The Burbank media and entertainment giant reported Wednesday that its streaming business — which includes Disney+, Hulu and ESPN+ — took in about \$6.4 billion in revenue for its fiscal third quarter, up 15% compared with a year earlier.

The streaming business notched \$47 million in operating income, compared with a loss of \$512 million a year earlier.

The milestone comes one fiscal quarter earlier than Disney executives had anticipated.

"What we've been seeing with streaming is significant success largely driven by the success of our creativity," chief executive Bob Iger said during a Wednesday morning call with analysts. "We're bullish about the future of this business."

Achieving profitability in Disney's streaming business has been a top priority for Iger, who earlier this year held off activist investor Nelson Peltz in a proxy fight. Among other things, Peltz demanded that Disney show a realistic plan for



2022 File Photo/Agence France-Press

During the most recent quarter, ESPN+ helped boost Disney's streaming business to profitability, at a time when Disney+ and Hulu saw an operating loss of \$19 million.

achieving large margins of profitability in its streaming business. To reach that goal, Iger undertook a wide-ranging cost-cutting effort across the company, which slashed thousands of jobs.

Company executives said product and technology improvements in its streaming services would pay dividends. They mentioned that bundling packages, such as the recent deal Disney reached with Warner Bros. Discovery to offer Disney+, Hulu and Max for one price, has helped reduce subscriber churn, while the company's early efforts to crack down on password sharing have not faced significant backlash.

Overall, the company generated revenue of \$23.1 billion during the fiscal third quarter, up 4% year over year. Earnings, excluding certain items, were \$1.39 per share, up from \$1.03 a year earlier and higher than analysts' estimates.

But investors weren't con-

vinced. Shares of Disney fell 4.5% to \$85.96. Disney's stock has declined 30% from its recent highs in April.

Wall Street was largely focused on the muted results from the company's experiences division, which includes its amusement parks and cruise line, as well as merchandise.

The division dominated the company's financial results in recent fiscal quarters, aided in part by pent-up demand for travel since the pandemic. But for the most recent quarter, the division reported operating income of \$2.2 billion, down 3% from last year.

Disney said the decrease in operating income was due to softening consumer demand. Disney parks revenue is often seen as a bellwether for the broader economy, as it reflects spending trends and consumer sentiment. U.S. consumers have been beset by inflation, and recent jobs data has renewed fears of a coming recession.

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-John E.

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-Kathy M.

"Very pleasant people to work with, I rate them a 10"
-Robert H.

"Best doctor's group we have ever seen"
-William R.



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NOTICE OF PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2025 COMPENSATION FOR COLLIN COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS

In accordance with the provisions of Vernon's Texas Codes Annotated, Local Government Code, Section 152.013, notice is hereby given that on August 19, 2024, during a meeting to be held beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Collin County Commissioners Courtroom at 2300 Bloomdale Road in McKinney, Texas, the following proposed Fiscal Year 2025 salaries, expenses and allowance for elected county, district and precinct officers will be considered for approval and adoption in conjunction with the FY 2025 Collin County budget.

Elected Officials	Adopted FY 2024	Proposed FY 2025	Incr/Decr
Constable Pct. 1	\$124,752.16	\$131,049.44	\$6,297.28
Constable Pct. 2	\$124,752.16	\$131,049.44	\$6,297.28
Constable Pct. 3	\$124,752.16	\$131,049.44	\$6,297.28
Constable Pct. 4	\$124,752.16	\$131,049.44	\$6,297.28
County Clerk	\$153,132.72	\$159,258.03	\$6,125.31
County Commissioner Pct. 1	\$146,324.91	\$160,816.24	\$14,491.33
County Commissioner Pct. 2	\$146,324.91	\$160,816.24	\$14,491.33
County Commissioner Pct. 3	\$146,324.91	\$160,816.24	\$14,491.33
County Commissioner Pct. 4	\$146,324.91	\$160,816.24	\$14,491.33
County Judge	\$179,141.57	\$186,307.23	\$7,165.66
District Clerk	\$153,132.72	\$159,258.03	\$6,125.31
Justice of the Peace Pct. 1	\$133,972.80	\$143,734.76	\$9,761.96
Justice of the Peace Pct. 2	\$133,972.80	\$143,734.76	\$9,761.96
Justice of the Peace Pct. 3	\$133,972.80	\$143,734.76	\$9,761.96
Justice of the Peace Pct. 4	\$133,972.80	\$143,734.76	\$9,761.96
Sheriff	\$200,363.36	\$208,377.89	\$8,014.53
Tax Assessor/Collector	\$156,280.80	\$162,532.03	\$6,251.23
199th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
219th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
296th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
366th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
380th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
401st District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
416th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
417th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
429th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
468th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
469th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
470th District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
471st District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
493rd District Judge	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
494th District Judge	\$1,500.00	\$18,000.00	\$16,500.00
County Court at Law 1 Judge	\$193,400.00	\$193,400.00	\$0.00
County Court at Law 2 Judge	\$185,000.00	\$193,400.00	\$8,400.00
County Court at Law 3 Judge	\$193,400.00	\$193,400.00	\$0.00
County Court at Law 4 Judge	\$193,400.00	\$193,400.00	\$0.00
County Court at Law 5 Judge	\$157,000.00	\$157,000.00	\$0.00
County Court at Law 6 Judge	\$193,400.00	\$193,400.00	\$0.00
County Court at Law 7 Judge	\$174,712.65	\$185,000.00	\$10,287.35
Probate Judge	\$158,000.00	\$158,000.00	\$0.00
District Attorney Supplemental	\$74,018.88	\$77,790.90	\$3,772.02

All Elected Officials shall be entitled to reimbursement for actual mileage traveled while on out-of-county business trips in personal vehicles at the published IRS reimbursement rate per mile.

NOTE: Includes all compensation authorized by Article 5139 HHH, Texas Revised Civil Statutes Annotated for membership on the Collin County Juvenile Board.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Irving Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, August 19, 2024 in the board room at 2621 W Airport Fwy, Irving TX, 75062. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.7179/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.2980/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

Maintenance and operations	-1.82 % decrease
Debt Service	4.72 % increase
Total Expenditures	-0.72 % decrease

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value
(as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$25,754,182,140	\$29,415,268,210
Total appraised value** of new property**	\$258,410,791	\$310,987,383
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$20,003,908,010	\$22,546,567,363
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$257,943,806	\$310,473,921

*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$561,185,000

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$0.7279	\$0.3002	\$1.0281	\$6,965	\$5,781
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$0.7350	\$0.3071	\$1.0421	\$7,727	\$5,135
Proposed Rate	\$0.7179	\$0.2980	\$1.0159	\$7,650	\$5,275

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$303,725	\$345,916
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$201,919	\$232,316
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.0281	\$1.0159
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$2,075.93	\$2,360.10
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$284.17

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.0159. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.0159.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$98,700,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$11,000,000

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Obituaries

For information call the obituary desk at 214.977.8672

METRO



File Photo/Staff

Grammy Award-winning musician Shaun Martin performed during a rehearsal at Universal Rehearsal in Dallas, for an upcoming show with gospel superstar Kirk Franklin in 2016

OBITUARY | SHAUN MARTIN

Singer, keyboardist of jazz band Snarky Puppy

By STEPHANIE SALAS-VEGA
Staff Writer
stephanie.salasvega@dallasnews.com

ARTSaccess

Shaun Martin, singer and keyboardist of the jazz band Snarky Puppy, died Saturday. He was 45.

A cause of death was not revealed, but it was reported that the Dallas musician stepped away in April 2023 to battle an undisclosed illness.

Snarky Puppy announced his death on Instagram, Facebook and X on Sunday. They wrote: "Yesterday, we lost a music legend and, more importantly, a beautiful, luminous human being. Shaun Martin touched so many people during his life and through the beautiful immortality of music, will continue to do so. There's so much that can be said but words can't do justice. Rest in peace."

'God has spoken'

His wife, Monica Wilson Martin, also shared the news on Facebook. She wrote, "The light in our family has been dim since April 17, 2023. Since then it has been our priority to surround him in love, support and prayer and the best medical care that could be provided. At this point, God has spoken, and we must accept His Will."

Martin was a seven-time

Grammy award winner who began his career in his hometown of Dallas.

He was a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and the University of North Texas. He began working with gospel choir director Kirk Franklin while still in high school and later became his music director. As a music major in college, he worked with Erykah Badu on her second album, *Mama's Gun*.

It was also at UNT where he joined a group of student musicians to create Snarky Puppy, a jazz fusion band that went on to win five Grammy Awards. Martin himself has won seven Grammys: three as a Snarky Puppy member and four for his work with Franklin.

His work went beyond just producing and recording for a number of artists. When he wasn't touring, he served as minister of music at Friendship West Baptist Church in Dallas. In 2015, Martin released his debut solo album *7 Summers*, which represented the seven years he spent working on his own project. Since then, he released two more solo albums that fuse jazz, gospel and R&B contemporary music.

Mark Lettieri, a member of Snarky Puppy, posted on Instagram, calling Martin "an absolute force in music." He wrote that the 18 years they spent making music together were the best.

"You were the best, and you made everyone around you better," Lettieri said. "You were larger than life."

Show was planned

Prior to his death, a benefit show had been scheduled for Sept. 14 in Dallas to celebrate his life. Celebrity musicians including Badu, Norah Jones, Snarky Puppy were set to perform.

Arts Access is an arts journalism collaboration powered by The Dallas Morning News and KERA.

This community-funded journalism initiative is funded by the Better Together Fund, Carol & Don Glendenning, City of Dallas OAC, The University of Texas at Dallas, Communities Foundation of Texas, The Dallas Foundation, Eugene McDermott Foundation, James & Gayle Halperin Foundation, Jennifer & Peter Altabef and The Meadows Foundation. The News and KERA retain full editorial control of Arts Access journalism.

HUTCHISON, William



William Leete Hutchison
1932-2024

William L. Hutchison, longtime Dallas oilman, rancher, cattleman, and philanthropist, died peacefully August 5, 2024 at his home in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Born in Dallas on May 20, 1932 to Ima Leete and George William Hutchison, Bill was a fourth-generation Dallasite where he lived for his first 70 years. In 1953 he married his Highland Park High School sweetheart, Patsy Pinson, to whom he was married for 65 years until her death in 2018. In 2002, at 70 years of age, they embarked on their "last great adventure" together as they relocated from their lifelong home in Dallas to Santa Fe, New Mexico. Before Patsy died, they enjoyed 16 wonderful years together in Santa Fe and at their ranch in Rociada, NM, made many great friends, and became active members of the local community.

Bill graduated from SMU and SMU School of Law and he and Patsy remained proud supporters of SMU, especially the SMU School of Law and the Fort Burgwin campus in Taos, NM, where they were the founding force behind the development of the campus chapel. They were also among the founders of Rociada Baptist Church in Rociada, NM and Christ Church in Santa Fe.

After practicing law for a brief period, Bill began his longtime career with Texas Oil & Gas Corporation where he served in various capacities including President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board of Directors. He also served as a director of US Steel Corporation. Bill maintained lifelong friendships with many of his colleagues at TXO.

Bill received Distinguished Alumni honors from SMU, the SMU School of Law, and Highland Park High School. Bill served SMU as a trustee, Chairman of the Board of Governors/Trustees, and is a Trustee Emeritus. Bill and Patsy also established the Courtwright/Summers Metabolic Disease Center at Baylor University Medical Center where they were the recipient of the Wings of Eagles Award. Bill and his family were active for many years at Highland Park Presbyterian Church where Bill served as Deacon and Elder and the family occupied its place in the west transept most Sundays. Bill was also a member of Dallas Country Club and Dallas Petroleum Club.

Other than his family, Bill's true love was his ranch in the mountains of Northern New Mexico where he and his family would spend the summers. His time spent on horseback riding amongst his cattle was his true passion. He loved to read about the American West and it was there that he wished to spend his time. Perhaps his greatest honor was simply to be considered a cattleman. Gene Autry, Roy Rogers, and John Wayne were his heroes and he would not shy from expressing such.

Bill was predeceased by Patsy; his mother, Ima Leete Hutchison; his father, George William Hutchison; and granddaughter Kimberly Hutchison Courtwright. He is survived by daughter Gail and husband Bruce Smith (John, Joe, Charlie, Chad, and Todd); son William L. Hutchison, Jr. and wife Suzanne (Sarah, Emily, Elizabeth, and William III); daughter Katie and husband Scott Gordon (Christine and Catherine); son Charles David Hutchison and his wife Sondra (Charles Jr., and Carley); nephew Gilbert E. Peterson, III and wife Carol; and fourteen great-grandchildren.

A special thank you to Janet Churchill, who provided loving care during Bill and Patsy's final years.

Bill loved much, laughed often, and his was certainly a life well-lived. He was a driving force in the lives of so many people. A private graveside memorial will be held in Dallas. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Christ Church - Santa Fe (505.982.8817) and Kitchen Angels in Santa Fe (505.471.7780).



BURCH, Barbara Ann



09/18/1933 - 08/03/2024

Barbara Ann Burch passed away peacefully in Rhode Island on Saturday, August 3, 2024. Predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Richard W. Burch, Jr., Barbara is survived by three children, Rick Burch, Rebecca Melton, Britt Burch, their spouses, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Always a proud Texan, Barbara moved to Rhode Island in 2020 to be closer to family. She loved sports, dancing, spending time with her family and an occasional trip to the casino! Barbara was an avid tennis player until she reached her '80's. She loved to tell stories of teaching her grandchildren how to play.

Barbara was always the life of the party. Loved by all those lucky enough to know her, Barbara will be dearly missed by family and friends.

Graveside service at 10:00 AM, Saturday, August 10, Sparkman-Hillcrest Funeral Home & Memorial Park, 7405 W. Northwest Hwy., Dallas, TX 75225.

SPARKMAN-HILLCREST FUNERAL HOME
7405 W. Northwest Hwy. Dallas, TX 75225 (214) 363-5401
Condolences may be offered at www.sparkman-hillcrest.com
214-363-5401
www.sparkman-hillcrest.com

INGRAM-JONES, Sherry



Sherry Prater Ingram-Jones was born in Como, Texas on February 23, 1948. She moved to Irving in 1954 where she would live the rest of her life and contribute greatly to the lives of many in the Irving and Dallas areas. She graduated from Irving High School in 1966 and was a proud and active member of her community. Surrounded by her family, she left us on August 5th. She was a trailblazing entrepreneur throughout her career, owning one of the first personnel agencies as a young woman. She owned various other businesses until becoming a real estate agent later in life, a career she excelled in and adored, eventually starting her own brokerage. Her primary passion in life was her family, especially her grandchildren Austin and Alexandra Terry. She was simply the best grandmother anyone could ask for. She is also survived by her sister Sandra Fong, her brother, B.W. Prater, her son Shawn Terry and her niece Amy Patton and nephew Aaron Prater. Outside of her family, Sherry loved her Yorkie dogs, home projects, gardening, and fashion. She will be remembered for her sense of humor, optimism, amazing style, and devotion to being a supportive friend, sister, and grandmother to all. A memorial service will be held at Ben F Brown Funeral home in Irving Friday, August 9, 2024, at 11am with interment to follow at Oak Grove Cemetery 1413 E. Irving Blvd. Irving, TX 75060. The family requests donations in her honor be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

BEN F. BROWN'S Memorial FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES Irving, TX 972-254-4242 www.browmem.com

FUNERAL Resource Guide To place your ad call 214.977.8672

Legal Services
legaltalktexas.hammerle.com

HAMMERLE FINLEY
*Virginia Hammerle L A W Y E R M Probate - Wills
2871 Lake Vista Drive, Suite 100, Lewisville, TX 75067 • 972.436.9300
Read Virginia's articles in the Sunday Metro Section

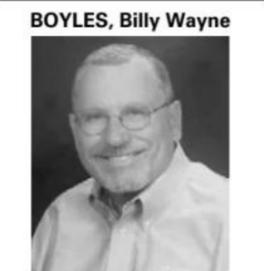
RESOURCE GUIDE Be a part of our guide to quality resources. Call 214.977.8672

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BOYLES, Billy Wayne
HUTCHISON, William
INGRAM-JONES, Sherry

Sparkman Hillcrest Funeral Home and Cemetery

BURCH, Barbara Ann



Billy Wayne Boyles was born January 2, 1947 in Bisbee, Arizona, son of Clarence and Lucille Boyles. He passed away peacefully on July 29, 2024. Bill is survived by his brother, Glyn Boyles and sister-in-law, Mary Boyles, his nieces Connie Hearn, Laura Philips, Katherine Nelson, and nephew, Glyn Boyles Jr.

Bill was a graduate of Bisbee High School where he was a star football player. He received his BA from Arizona State University and after graduating from ASU moved to Dallas for his MBA at UT Dallas. Bill worked in the investment division of Southland Corporation where he excelled in his career for many years.

Bill was a devoted fan of The Dallas Cowboys and his love of sports led to his affiliation with Dallas All Sports Association and the Field Scovell Scholarship Foundation where he served on the foundation board. He reveled in finding deserving scholar athletes and awarding them for their accomplishments.

Bill moved to Palm Springs, CA after retirement and frequently traveled. Due to his health, he moved back to Dallas in 2018 to be closer to his family. Bill will be greatly missed by his family and many friends.

Viewing will be at Restland Funeral Home, 13005 Greenville Avenue, Dallas on Friday, August 9th from 6-8 PM. Memorial Services in the Restland Wildwood Chapel will be on Saturday, August 10th at 2 PM.

Honor your loved one's memory

Add meaningful graphics to the obituary notice by choosing from our gallery of religious, professional and other symbols.

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Council votes no on temple

Continued from Page 1B

lic neighbors that the cross on their church blocks my view and has no purpose."

Those against the temple raised concerns about the potential impact on property values of homes near the site, lighting and traffic. Church representatives denied that would be an issue should the temple be built.

Both speakers and council members repeated throughout the meeting that opposition to the temple is about its proposed size, not its religious affiliation.

Karen Sowards, a resident of McKinney who use to be a teacher in the church, suggested the church consider designing the temple like one in Paris, which has about the same square footage but no steeple or spire.

"It is lovely, elegant and it is still a temple. It is a place to make covenants with the church or church members," she said. "I encourage the cooperation of the president to replicate — with maybe some modifications — the Paris France Temple for the Pros-



Anja Schlein/Special Contributor

Fairview Mayor Henry Lessner (center) listened to speakers during the Town Council meeting Tuesday.

per-McKinney-Fairview-North Texas temple."

While the meeting took place, hundreds of people gathered outside the building. While the church estimated that thousands of people would show up to Tuesday's meeting as they did at the June meeting, Melissa McKneely, a spokesperson for the church, said many people likely opted to watch the meeting's livestream at watch parties hosted by the church.

After the meeting, McKneely said she felt proud of the church members who spoke.

"We are disappointed with tonight's vote by the Fairview city council and express gratitude for the tireless efforts of those who worked to provide correct and positive information to the community about the temple project," an official statement from the church said.

The statement said the vote is "part of an ongoing process seeking building approval,"

and McKneely said the church is evaluating its options and could not provide any information about what steps are next.

Devika Chand said after the meeting that she felt sad for the church members after they heard the permit had been denied, but she believes it was the right thing for the community.

"I think that if the compassion can be both ways, then I really think it can move forward. But we're not being compassionate both ways," she said.

Sowards, who chatted with Chand after the meeting, said she thought the town council was "very reasonable" to deny the church's application without prejudice. If the church's application had been denied with prejudice, they would have to wait at least a year before resubmitting.

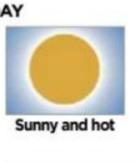
"This whole thing was unnecessary. That's what it was," she said. "Be a good neighbor. Build it at 42 feet."

Weather nbcdfw.com/weather



5-DAY FORECAST FROM NBC 5 WEATHER EXPERTS

Wind SE 4-8 UV Index: 11. On a 15-point scale, 11 is extreme Heat Index: 110 Ozone: Orange, unhealthy sens. grps.



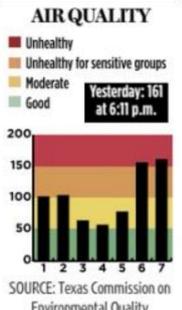
Hour-by-hour forecast table with times and temperatures



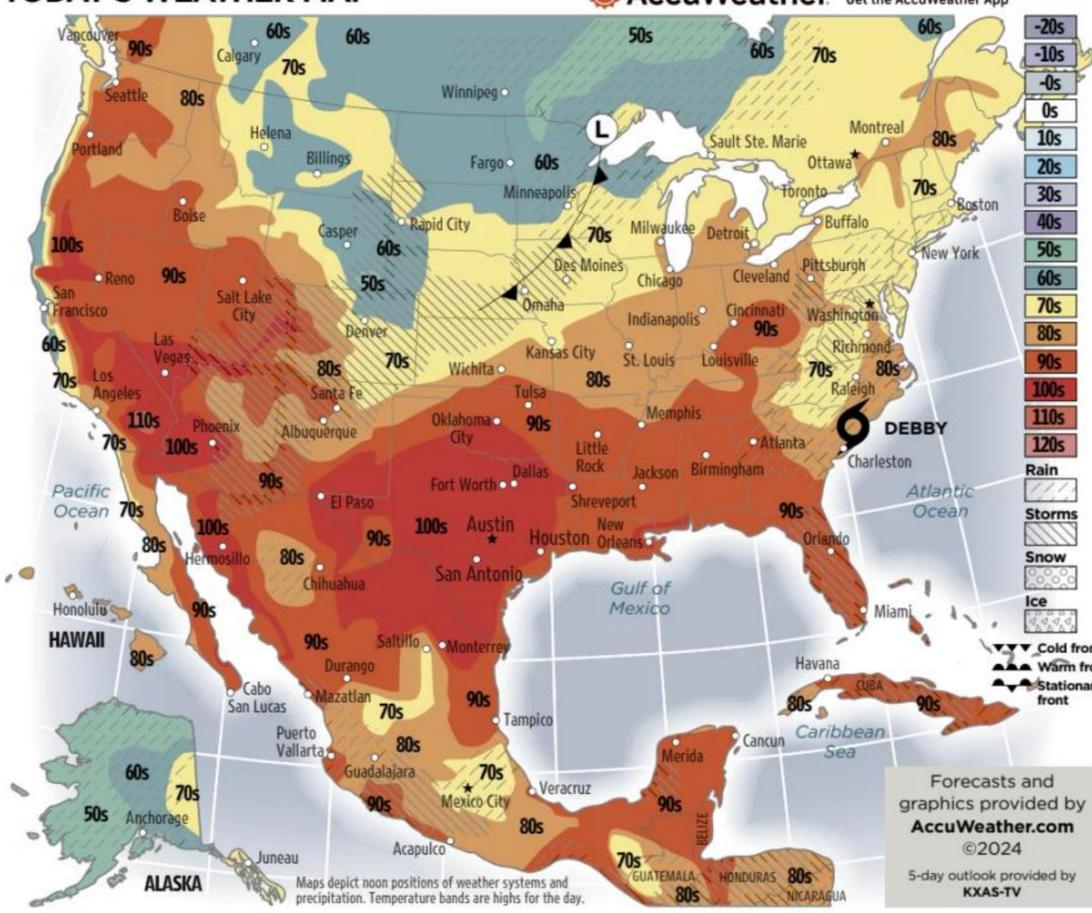
DIARY

Table of yesterday's temperatures and relative humidity from midnight to 11 p.m.

DAILY HIGH 103 at 2:24 p.m.



TODAY'S WEATHER MAP



NATIONAL HIGHS, LOWS & FORECAST

Table of national high and low forecasts for various cities

Table of U.S. High and Low temperatures for various locations

DUST & DANDER forecast section with icons and text

INTERNATIONAL FORECAST & HIGHS AND LOWS

Large table of international weather forecasts for Mexico, Canada, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Mideast, Africa, and Latin America/Caribbean

SKY WATCH section with moon phase images and dates

The Planets section with planet names, rise/set times, and constellation info

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES section: HUNTING FORECAST (2 Poor), RUNNING FORECAST (5 Good), FISHING FORECAST (4 Fair)

FOR THE RECORD section with Texas weather records and a map of Texas

TEXAS REPORT table with city-specific high and low forecasts

AG sides with county on video

expose how Anthony was treated in an inhumane manner shortly before and after his death...



Anthony Johnson Jr.'s mother, Jacqualyne (center), and other family members weren't surprised by the county ruling to not release the full video...

A&M-Commerce to keep its name

1996. Alumni who attended the school when it was East Texas State University wrote how they felt a deep sense of loss then. After Rudin's announcement on Wednesday, alumni took it to social media to thank the president and celebrate the move.



COLLEGES

Heat on Harbaugh

The NCAA announced a four-year, show-cause order for ex-Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh for impermissible contact with recruits and players, effectively banning him from college athletics until August 2028. **2C**

ASTROS 6, RANGERS 4

Looking like they're ready to bow out

Rangers might ask president today how to gracefully exit AL race

ARLINGTON — Even though it's for the commemoration of an accomplishment, walking into the White House is intimidating and awkward. How do you make small talk with the president of the United States of America?

RANGERS INSIDER



EVAN GRANT
egrant@dallasnews.com

Here's a helpful hint for the Rangers, who have this task on Thursday: Perhaps they can ask President Joe Biden for his input on how an in-

DeGrom facing live batters today. **5C**

cumbent can officially bow out of a race.

Since declaring themselves in it at the trade deadline, the Rangers give every impression of a team seeking a graceful exit from their current campaign to repeat as World

See **RANGERS** Page 4C



LM Otero/The Associated Press

The Rangers' Leody Taveras strikes out in the eighth inning and Texas trailing Houston 6-3 at Globe Life Field. The Astros claimed the Silver Boot trophy with the win.

PARIS SUMMER OLYMPICS

Out of reach

COWBOYS INSIDER



DAVID MOORE
dmoore@dallasnews.com

Fighting Rams is a no-no

McCarthy says team understands purpose of having joint practice

OXNARD, Calif. — Mike McCarthy doesn't believe the Jones family will be hit with a hefty fine before the week is done.

The Cowboys coach doesn't expect to lose one of his players for practice for a few days because of injuries incurred from a brawl.

Sure, he saw what took place between Detroit and the New York Giants during their joint practice earlier this week.

But when McCarthy was asked if the level of aggression between the Lions and Giants concerns him as the team prepares to host the Los Angeles Rams at practice Thursday afternoon, this was his answer.

"No it doesn't," McCarthy said. "I think like anything in our industry, it all comes down to why you do things."

The NFL sent a memo to its clubs before training camp got underway that fighting and unprofessional conduct would not be tolerated. It appears the Lions and Giants didn't get the memo.

They did get fined. The league announced a fine of \$400,000 — a total split down the middle by the two clubs — for a hostile environment that resulted in multiple altercations over the two days. Pro Bowl receiver Amon-Ra St. Brown was involved in

See **COWBOYS** Page 3C



Photos by Smiley N. Pool/Staff Photographer

Erik Shoji of the United States dives in vain for the ball during the Americans' narrow loss to Poland in the men's volleyball semifinals. The team will face Italy in Friday's bronze medal match.

Former Wylie East cheerleader goes out on an uplifting note

PARIS — Jourdan Delacruz has come a long way since her days as a cheerleader at Wylie East. Competed all over the world. Broke an American record. Made a couple of Olympics.

And as a world-class weightlifter, no less.

At 4-foot-11, 107 pounds.

If her excellent adventure here didn't end like she'd hoped, Paris was better than Tokyo, and not just because it came without masks.

On her final attempt in the flyweight division of the clean and jerk Wednesday at Paris South Arena, Delacruz execut-



KEVIN SHERRINGTON
ksherrington@dallasnews.com

ed what her coach called one of her top three lifts ever to stake her claim on fifth place after bombing out in Tokyo.

"It definitely had a lot of meaning to it," Delacruz said of her 111-kg lift (244 pounds). "Bittersweet."

Before her last lift, De-

See **FIFTH-PLACE** Page 7C



Jourdan Delacruz is overcome with emotion after lifting 111 kilograms (244 pounds) on her final attempt to place fifth in the flyweight division in the clean and jerk.

Inside

A bold lineup change helped the U.S. women's basketball team roll out of the gates in an 88-74 quarterfinal rout of Nigeria. **6C**

Expect the unexpected is U.S. coach Steve Kerr's mindset as his team faces a tough Serbia team in the semifinals. **6C**

Dallasite Celine Boutier raced to a three-shot lead in her homeland after the first round in golf. **7C**

Prelims show Noah Lyles has competition in quest to complete sprint double. **8C**

Aussie vaults country to unprecedented gold-medal tally. **8C**

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Sachse 5-star WR picks UT

Kaliq Lockett (right) had 31 college offers. He chose the Longhorns over a pool of finalists that included Alabama, Florida State, LSU and Texas A&M. **2C**



Shafkat Anowar/Staff Photographer

COLLEGES

SMU excited about incoming Michigan transfer tight end

Lia Assimakopoulos: Mustangs hope to utilize more sets with two tight ends after former Michigan tight end transferred to the Hilltop. **2C**

■ Texas running back CJ Baxter is lost for season with a training camp knee injury. **2C**

■ Southlake AD takes position with North Texas staff as its general manager and senior associate athletic director for NIL. **2C**

NFL

Push for 18th game in regular season gets stronger

Commissioner Roger Goodell said that going to 18 games remains a priority as long as it can be done without significantly impacting player safety. **3C**

MLB

Injuries piling up for Orioles

No. 2 starter Grayson Rodriguez lands on the 15-day injured list with shoulder, back strain. **4C**

News To Use

TODAY'S TV

EVENT	TIME	TV
MLB		
Milwaukee at Atlanta	11 am	MLB
NY Mets at Colorado	2:30	MLB
Baltimore at Toronto	6:00	MLB
Philadelphia at Arizona	9:00	MLB
Little League Baseball Regionals		
Iowa v. South Dakota	Noon	ESPN2
Maryland v. Washington D.C.	2:00	ESPN
Colorado v. Nevada	4:00	ESPN2
Maine v. N. Hampshire	6:00	ESPN
Idaho v. TBD	8:00	ESPN
Little League Softball World Series		
Rhode Island v. Winterville, NC	Noon	ESPN
Louisiana v. Ohio	4:00	ESPN
U18 women's basketball		
All Knights v. Drifty Dreamerz	5:00	BSSW+

RWE v. ISO WRLD	7:00	BSSW+
Football		
NFL: Carolina at New England	6:00	NFL
ARF: Sydney v. Collingwood	4:20a (Fri)	FS2
Golf		
PGA: Wyndham Championship	2:00	Golf
Horse racing		
Saratoga Live	Noon	FS2
Men's soccer		
Leagues Cup: Tigres v. Pachuca	8:30	Ch. 49
Tennis		
National Bank Open	10 am	Tennis
National Bank Open	Noon	BSSW
National Bank Open	6:00	Tennis

TODAY ON SPORTSRADIO 1310-AM AND 96.7-FM THE TICKET

- 7:35 a.m.: Junior's Olympic Update
- 7:55 a.m.: NFL Insider Ed Werder from Oxnard
- 8:15 a.m.: Hard Knocks: Bears Training Camp
- 9:35 a.m.: Cowboys Camp Report with David Moore
- 10:15 a.m.: Comedian Shuckey Ducky
- 10:50 a.m.: Am I The Jerk?
- 2:10 p.m.: Send News
- 5:10 p.m.: The Rant Revival with Gordon Keith

MAIN EVENTS

HOME GAMES IN BOLD	8 THU	9 FRI	10 SAT	11 SUN	12 MON
COWBOYS: 817-892-4400					
RANGERS: 972-726-4377					
WINGS: 817-469-9464					
FC DALLAS: 469-365-0000					
ROUGHRIDERS: 972-731-9200					

Game dates, times subject to change

THE LINE

MLB Today	American League	National League
	Favorite Bal. (Kremer)	Favorite at Ari. (Montgomery)
	Underdog at NYY (Cortes)	Underdog Off Phil. (TBD)
	LINE 118-100 at Tor. (Gausman)	LINE 240-198 LAA (Anderson)
	Underdog at Sea. (Woo)	Underdog Off Det. (TBD)
	Interleague at Atl. (Morton)	Interleague at STL. (Gibson)
	Underdog 148-126 Mil. (Montas)	Underdog 132-112 T.B. (Baz)
	Underdog 178-150 at Mia. (TBD)	
	Underdog NYM (Peterson)	
	Underdog at Pit. (Ortiz)	
	Underdog S.F. (Harrison)	
	Underdog Off S.D. (Vasquez)	
	Underdog 130-110 at Was. (Herz)	

BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

Sachse WR Lockett commits to Texas

Coming off a run to the College Football Playoff semifinals, Texas was seen as the favorite to land a commitment from Sachse five-star wide receiver Kaliq Lockett on Wednesday.

That's exactly what happened, as UT added its highest-rated recruit in the Class of 2025 to a recruiting class that is ranked No. 13 in the nation by 247Sports. He is the first five-star recruit for Texas in that class.

Lockett (6-2, 175) is rated the No. 5 wide receiver in the nation, the 20th-best overall recruit in America and the sixth-best player in Texas by 247Sports.

Lockett lists 31 college offers, and Texas, Alabama, Florida State, LSU and Texas A&M were his finalists.

Lockett, who ranked second among area 6A players in receiving yards (1,299), scored 13 touchdowns as a junior for an 8-3 team.

Greg Riddle

TENNIS

U.S. Open player compensation rises

Coco Gauff, Novak Djokovic and other players at the U.S. Open will be playing for a record total of \$75 million in compensation at the year's last Grand Slam tennis tournament, a rise of about 15% from a year ago.

The women's and men's singles champions will each receive \$3.6 million, the U.S. Tennis Association announced Wednesday.

Rafael Nadal pulled out of the U.S. Open, making it the

third Grand Slam tournament he's missed this season and raising more questions about his future in tennis at age 38.

Naomi Osaka of Japan beat another top player in her return from maternity leave, routing ninth-seeded Ons Jabeur of Tunisia 6-3, 6-1 in the National Bank Open (Results, 5C).

GOLF

No spectators for first round of Wyndham

GREENSBORO, N.C. — The PGA Tour's final event of the regular season, the Wyndham Championship, will start on Thursday without fans because of expected dangerous weather conditions from Tropical Storm Debby.

The tournament announced that spectators won't be permitted on the grounds of Sedgefield Country Club for the first round. Competitors are still scheduled to start play at 6:50 a.m.

ELSEWHERE

United States defender Tim Ream is leaving Fulham after nine years with the English club to join Charlotte FC in Major League Soccer.

Connor Zilisch will race full time in JR Motorsports' No. 88 Chevrolet in NASCAR's Xfinity Series next season, the next step for the promising Trackhouse Racing development driver following victories in several series this season.

Lauri Markkanen received a multiyear contract extension with Utah, ensuring the Jazz have a key element in their rebuilding plans. The deal is worth \$238 million over five years, Markkanen's agent told ESPN.

Colleges



Kyusung Gong/The Associated Press



Steve Nurenberg/Special Contributor

Returning tight end RJ Maryland (right) brings a receiving threat to SMU's offense after catching 34 passes for 518 yards. Michigan transfer Matthew Hibner (left) is eager to show his ability in a more prominent role with the Ponies.

TEs may be key to offense

Returning Maryland, transfer Hibner add versatility to position

COLLEGE INSIDER



LIA ASSIMAKOPOULOS
lia.assimakopoulos@dallasnews.com

After Rashee Rice departed SMU for the NFL, there was no clear front-runner for who would replace him.

In the 2023 season, SMU had eight different receivers register at least 15 catches and 300 yards. The wide receiver room took a committee approach throughout the 14-game slate.

But one target eventually emerged as a key receiving threat.

Tight end RJ Maryland put together an All-AAC first-team season as a sophomore, leading the team with seven touchdowns and ranking second in catches and receiving yards with 34 catches for 518 yards.

Entering the 2024 season,

the tight end room may be even more important than it was last year.

"That's one of the most exciting developments that we've had on offense is that tight end room," offensive coordinator and tight ends coach Casey Woods said.

In addition to returning Maryland, SMU made a key addition at tight end through the transfer portal, adding national champion Matthew Hibner from Michigan. Hibner spent four seasons in Ann Arbor but saw the bulk of his action on special teams.

He's already gearing up for

a much more significant role on SMU's roster.

"I wouldn't tell him to his face, but it's been an unbelievable addition," Woods said. "He had limited reps through the course of playing there, and there's a lot of factors that went into that, but he's really been a blessing to our room, not just from his ability. He's got great ability, but he's a professional. He's a teammate. He's all the things you would want out of somebody transferring in."

Seeing the way SMU used Maryland helped Hibner make his decision in the portal. The coaches saw him as a great supplement for Maryland with strong blocking abilities.

But Hibner said he wants to show his game extends beyond that.

"I think people think I was going to come in here and be a blocking tight end, which I

definitely intend to do," he said. "But get me out in space, and I'll make some plays."

The tight end depth is further bolstered by the return of Adam Moore, who appeared in 12 games as a true freshman and registered six catches for 98 yards, as well as redshirt freshman Tripp Riordan, a Frisco Wakeland product.

Woods said the versatility of his room allows SMU to implement more multi-tight end sets to see how Maryland and Hibner will complement one another.

With multiple tight ends with championship experience at various levels, that unit can serve as a secret weapon for SMU's offense this fall.

"I'm really confident," quarterback Kevin Jennings said of the tight ends. "Just put the ball up in the air and they're going to make the play."

BRIEFS

Harbaugh given show-cause order

Ruling effectively bans ex-coach from college until 2028



JIM HARBAUGH

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — The NCAA announced a four-year, show-cause order for former Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh on Wednesday for impermissible contact with recruits and players during the COVID-19 pandemic, effectively banning him from college athletics until August 2028.

The NCAA said Harbaugh, who left his alma mater to coach the Los Angeles Chargers after last season's undefeated national championship, "failed to promote an atmosphere of compliance and violated head coach responsibility obligations."

"Harbaugh engaged in unethical conduct and failed to cooperate when he denied any involvement in impermissible recruiting contacts despite substantial information to the contrary," the NCAA said in a 48-page decision that several times suggested the coach was not truthful with investigators.

Harbaugh will only face the punishment if he makes an unexpected return to college football within the next four years.

The recruiting case is unrelated to the NCAA's investigation into impermissible in-person scouting and sign-

stealing allegations that roiled Michigan's championship season in 2023 and resulted in a three-game suspension of the Big Ten Conference.

Multiple infractions cases in such a short time period could prompt the NCAA to treat Michigan as a repeat offender, opening the school up to harsher penalties in the sign-stealing case.

Southlake Carroll AD hired at UNT: North Texas coach Eric Morris left little doubt this summer as to his feelings on the importance of building on what the program has to offer his players in terms of name, image and likeness opportunities.

UNT has taken a step toward that goal. Steve Keasler, the long-time athletic director at Southlake Carroll, he is joining UNT's staff as its general manager and senior associate athletic director for NIL.

"I am excited about this incredible opportunity in the rapidly developing new landscape of college football," Keasler wrote in an announcement detailing his departure from Carroll. "I believe this position is simply

too important to pass up." UNT announced the addition of Keasler on Wednesday afternoon. He spent 16 years on Carroll's staff.

Keasler joined the school's staff in 1994 and worked as an assistant coach with several programs. He later became Carroll's head golf coach.

Keasler also worked as the athletic director at Midlothian and as an assistant golf coach at the University of Texas from 2004-08.

He will tackle a new role at UNT that will include bolstering the school's NIL program.

Brett Vito

Ex-TCU baseball player sues NCAA, conferences: A former college baseball player is suing the NCAA and power conferences, accusing the leagues of wage fixing through scholarship limits.

The federal antitrust case was filed in Colorado this week by former TCU baseball player Riley Cornelio and seeks class-action status for college baseball and hockey players.

"Defendant and its members operate as a cartel, and the capping of scholarship money at artificially low levels in these sports results in wage fixing amongst horizontal competitors in a market for services," the complaint says. "The anticompetitive effects are as clear as with any other wage fix, and it is an unlawful

restraint under Section 1 of the Sherman Act."

The scholarship limit for baseball has been 11.7 per team. Most teams break those scholarships into pieces, leaving players with partial scholarships. Under the new proposed system, baseball rosters will be capped at 34 players and schools can choose to fund them all with full scholarships.

Longhorns lose Baxter: The Texas offense has taken its first hit a few weeks out from the start of the 2024 season.

Sophomore running back C.J. Baxter, the expected starter at his position, suffered a knee injury during practice on Tuesday that will require surgery. He will miss the entire year, the school announced.

Anwar Richardson of Orangebloods.com reported Wednesday that Baxter's estimated recovery time is between six to nine months after tearing multiple ligaments.

Coming into his freshman season in 2023, Baxter was a five-star recruit ranked by some services as the top running back in his high school class.

He carried the ball 138 times last season for 659 yards and five touchdowns, becoming a focal point after Jonathon Brooks' injury.

Staff and wire reports

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Cowboys Training Camp

TODAY — Scrimmage vs. Los Angeles Rams, 4 p.m.
AUG. 9 — Open practice, 1 p.m.
AUG. 11 — Preseason, at LA Rams, 3:30 p.m.

BRIEFS

First test in center race

Rookie Beebe will see a different defense for first time against Rams

By **CALVIN WATKINS**
 Staff Writer
 calvin.watkins@dallasnews.com

OXNARD, Calif. — The Cowboys will scrimmage the Rams on Thursday afternoon and two days later play their first preseason game against the same team. It's a good time for rookie Cooper Beebe to see a different defense as he makes the transition to center.

Beebe, a third-round pick from Kansas State, played guard and tackle in games and worked on the center position in practices. NFL teams projected Beebe as a center/guard during the draft process. The Cowboys needed a center after starter Tyler Biadasz signed with Washington in free agency.

After two weeks of training camp practices, Beebe is progressing.

Yet Brock Hoffman remains the first-team center, and Beebe gets work with the second-team.

"He's ascending again. It's

hard. It's hard," offensive line coach Mike Solari said. "He's ascending again. Here's a young man who really worked hard in the offseason preparing for it but again, he's getting better every day with his initial quickness, his aiming points. He's doing a nice job as well. You know, making sure we're on the same page again, he's worked hard and he's put himself in great position competing for the starting position."

Hoffman, an undrafted free agent from Virginia Tech, enters his second season as a steady presence. Cowboys officials spoke highly of Hoffman in the offseason for the work he produced. He's making it difficult for Beebe to take the starting job at this stage of training camp.

"Just tremendous, again, great leadership," Solari said. "He has great knowledge of our offense, does a great job with the declarations [and] getting the offensive line going and just has tremendous leadership ability."

Zgonina coaching more than Cowboys: Cowboys defensive line coach Jeff Zgonina



Tom Fox/Staff Photographer

Cowboys wide receiver KaVontae Turpin grabs his helmet from the rack before taking passes off the machine following a mock game walk through at training camp. The Los Angeles Rams will join for a joint practice Thursday.

not only wants competitive players, but competitive dogs too.

That's right, dogs. Zgonina is a dog handler/owner and has had Neapolitan mastiffs and Staffordshire bull terriers compete in dog shows.

"Yeah, I'm hard on my dogs, but I love my dogs just like my players," he said.

After Zgonina's 17-year NFL career, he purchased a dog as a

pet for his young children. After speaking with a person who was selling a Neapolitan mastiff, he decided to learn about becoming a dog handler and compete in dog shows.

Zgonina has won a few competitions since he started in 2014 and is still learning about the dog competition world.

"I'm dealing with something I really can't control but I hope I can control," he said of compar-

ing his dogs in competitions to his players who he wants to see do well. "If coached right [I] coach the dog or I coach a player you know. I hope they respond to what I've taught them and react to it. But, to me, dogs show heart."

Zgonina, a 1993 seventh-round pick of the Steelers, played for seven teams, winning a title with the St. Louis Rams in the 1999 season. And

despite playing football at a demanding position, defensive tackle, doing dog shows makes him nervous.

"Walking out as a football player was so much easier," he said. "Yeah, there's more people. There's everything else but it was just easier, you know, different worlds. You know, I'm not used to that, got better and better over the years. But, you know, still it's nerve-wracking."



Smiley N. Pool/2021 File Photo

Previous joint practices between the Cowboys and Rams led to scuffles like the one Rams coach Sean McVay tried to prevent (above). Cowboys coach Mike McCarthy said he expects no such incidents when the teams practice Thursday.

DAVID MOORE

Cowboys focus on bigger picture

Continued from Page 1C

two fights. Lions corner Emmanuel Moseley is out indefinitely after being injured in a fight, and Giants rookie receiver Malik Nabers came to blows with Detroit safety Kerby Joseph.

When the Cowboys hosted the Rams in practice three years ago there was a brief skirmish early in the session between Connor Williams and Aaron Donald. But it quickly subsided, and there were no more altercations.

McCarthy and Rams coach Sean McVay came out of that joint practice praising the work that was done. That's why there will be a sequel ahead of Sunday's preseason opener between the teams.

"I like the way Sean runs his program," McCarthy said. "We talked early in the spring about working together."

"We had another experience. I thought it went well."

The intent is to give both teams practice looks and personnel they don't see day-in-and-day-out in camp. The goal is to break up the monotony of the routine, introduce another

COWBOYS SCHEDULE					
PRESEASON					
Day	Date	Opponent	TV	Time	
Sun.	A11	at LA Rams	Ch. 11	3:30	
Sat.	A17	at Las Vegas	Ch. 11	9:00	
Sat.	A24	LA Chargers	Ch. 11	3:00	
REGULAR SEASON					
Day	Date	Opponent	TV	Time	
Sun.	S8	at Cleveland	Ch. 4	3:25	
Sun.	S15	New Orleans	Ch. 4	Noon	
Sun.	S22	Baltimore	Ch. 4	3:25	
Thu.	S26	at NY Giants	Prime	7:15	
Sun.	O6	at Pittsburgh	Ch. 5	7:20	
Sun.	O13	Detroit	Ch. 4	3:25	
Sun.	O20	Bye week			
Sun.	O27	at San Francisco	Ch. 5	7:20	
Sun.	N3	at Atlanta	Ch. 4	Noon	
Sun.	N10	Philadelphia	Ch. 11	3:25	
Mon.	N18	Houston	ESPN	7:15	
Sun.	N24	at Washington	Ch. 4	3:30	
Mon.	D9	Cincinnati	ESPN/Ch. 8	7:15	
Sun.	D15	at Carolina	Ch. 4	Noon	
Sun.	D22	Tampa Bay	Ch. 5	7:20	
Sun.	D29	at Philadelphia	Ch. 4	3:25	
TBD	TBD	Washington	TBD	TBD	

NFL PRESEASON		
WEEK 1 THURSDAY'S GAMES		
Carolina	at New England	(NFL) 6:00
Detroit	at NY Giants	6:00
FRIDAY'S GAMES		
Atlanta	at Miami	6:00
Houston	at Pittsburgh	(NFL) 6:00
Philadelphia	at Baltimore	6:30
SATURDAY'S GAMES		
Washington	at NY Jets	11 am
Chicago	at Buffalo	(NFL) Noon
Las Vegas	at Minnesota	(NFL) 3:00
Green Bay	at Cleveland	3:25
Kansas City	at Jacksonville	(NFL) 6:00
San Francisco	at Tennessee	6:00
Tampa Bay	at Cincinnati	6:00
Seattle	at LA Chargers	6:05
New Orleans	at Arizona	7:00
SUNDAY'S GAMES		
Dallas	at LA Rams	(Ch. 11) 3:25 (NFL) Noon
Denver	at Indianapolis	

my quarterback like that isn't cool' or something like that.

"It's a physical game. This is a guy's livelihood. I don't blame any of that stuff."

Ferguson concedes he's reached the stage of camp where he's tired of going against his own teammates every day. Going against a different opponent that will require the Cowboys' offense to make different checks at the line is a good thing.

Running back Ezekiel Elliott knows the majority of veterans on this team won't get many, if any, snaps during the preseason games, so he relishes this opportunity.

"It's good to get some differ-

ent looks in practice at a little bit different speed," Elliott said.

"Honestly, this is a measuring stick to see where we are at this time, for the coaches and ourselves to see where we are physically and mentally," running back Rico Dowdle added.

And what is McCarthy's message to his team about fighting heading into Thursday's joint practice?

"It's a waste of time" McCarthy said. "I don't want guys fighting. That's not toughness. It's lack of discipline."

"We want the work to get the emotional edge to push each other, but you've got to handle those spots. It's all part of the emotional challenge in the game of football. I'm not looking for it, and I know Sean's not looking for it, either."

"We want to have a healthy practice. That's why we're working together. I think Thursday will be great."

Catch David Moore with The Musers every Monday-Friday at 9:35 a.m. and on the Hardline every Mon, Wed and Fri at 4:35 p.m. on The Ticket (KTCK-AM 1310 and 96.7 FM) during training camp.

NFL BRIEFS

No longer if but when on 18 games

Browns appear ready to move out of downtown Cleveland

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — The debate about whether the NFL will expand the regular season once again seems to have been resolved and now it's a matter of how soon the league adds an 18th game.

Commissioner Roger Goodell has talked openly about it, union chief Lloyd Howell recently told the *Washington Post* that the NFLPA is open to doing it before the current collective bargaining agreement expires after the 2030 season and players seem resigned to the inevitability no matter how they might personally feel.

"I mean, I feel like we really ain't got no choice, to be honest," said Seattle Seahawks veteran receiver Tyler Lockett, who said he'd prefer adding another bye week instead of another game to give TV networks more broadcast windows without taxing the players with another game.

"I think that's more fair, but we know it's probably not going to end up like that. So, I mean you just kind of got to rock with the punches and just be able to go play."

The NFL has desired adding more games for years, along with the increase in lucrative national television windows. The league increased the regular season from 14 games to 16 in 1978 and kept it there for decades.

But Goodell and the owners pushed through a 17th game in the latest CBA negotiations leading into the 2021 season and aren't content stopping there, with Goodell saying in the spring that going to 18 games remains a priority as long as it can be done without significantly impacting player safety.

"If you'd asked me that 10 years ago, I probably would be excited about it. Now, not so excited, but it is what it is," Raiders receiver Davante Adams said. "That's the thing that's special about football and why I really wanted to play

football over basketball, is that I just feel like it's a different type of feeling knowing that you only have a limited amount of opportunities out there."

Adding another game to the season would add more broadcast windows. It also could push the Super Bowl to Presidents Day weekend with a federal holiday the day after the game. That would either require not adding a second bye week — which most players said would be needed to play an extra game — or moving the start of the season to Labor Day weekend, which the NFL has avoided since the 2000 season.

Browns on the move?: The Browns appear poised to move out of their lakefront home.

While they're considering a \$1.1 billion plan from the city of Cleveland to renovate their 25-year-old downtown stadium, the NFL team made it clear Wednesday that its preference is to build a \$2.4 billion dome in Brook Park, Ohio.

In a letter to season-ticket holders that included renderings, the Browns outlined plans for a state-of-the-art facility, which they believe will allow Cleveland to attract and host other major events such as the Super Bowl and Final Four.

The team's lease at its current stadium expires after the 2028 season.

AROUND THE LEAGUE

Baltimore: Ravens cornerback Arthur Maulet is having his knee scoped, but it shouldn't be a long-term issue coach John Harbaugh said Wednesday.

Indianapolis: Colts receiver Josh Downs was helped off the field after injuring his ankle Wednesday at training camp then left the practice field on a golf cart.

Coach Shane Steichen did not provide details of the injury immediately afterward.

NY Jets: Jets activated wide receiver Mike Williams from the physically unable to perform list on Wednesday after he passed his physical.

The Associated Press

MLB Report

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AMERICAN LEAGUE

WEST	W	L	Pct	GB	Home	Away	L10	Str
Houston	59	55	518	—	32-26	27-29	4-6	W-2
Seattle	59	55	518	—	33-25	26-30	6-4	L-2
Texas	54	61	470	5½	31-27	23-34	3-7	L-2
Los Angeles	50	64	439	9	26-35	24-29	5-5	W-1
Oakland	48	68	414	12	29-30	19-38	5-5	W-1
CENTRAL	W	L	Pct	GB	Home	Away	L10	Str
Cleveland	67	47	588	—	35-20	32-27	5-5	L-5
Minnesota	63	50	558	3½	32-21	31-29	6-4	L-2
Kansas City	64	52	552	4	37-24	27-28	7-3	W-1
Detroit	54	60	474	13	26-31	28-29	3-7	W-1
Chicago	28	89	239	40½	17-40	11-49	1-9	L-1
EAST	W	L	Pct	GB	Home	Away	L10	Str
Baltimore	68	47	591	—	34-25	34-22	6-4	W-1
New York	68	47	591	—	30-25	38-22	8-2	L-1
Boston	61	52	540	6	27-28	34-24	6-4	L-1
Tampa Bay	57	56	504	10	30-29	27-27	5-5	L-2
Toronto	52	62	456	15½	27-29	25-33	4-6	L-1

- at Oak, 3, Chi. 2** Armando Alvarez and Zack Gelof hit RBI singles, and Lawrence Butler knocked in a run with a sacrifice fly — all in the seventh inning — as the Athletics rallied.
- at NY 5-2, LA 2-8** Rookie Luis Gil battled command issues but pitched five scoreless innings of two-hit ball, Aaron Judge reached base three times and hit an RBI single, and the Yankees won the first game of a doubleheader.
- Bal. 7, at Tor. 3** Anthony Santander hit two home runs and made a spectacular catch, while Jackson Holliday added a two-run homer of his own to boost the Orioles.
- at KC 8, Bos. 4** The Royals' Bobby Witt Jr. (Colleyville Heritage) had two solo home runs and a two-RBI double that gave him an MLB-leading .349 batting average. Kansas City leads Boston by 1½ games in the wild card race.
- Det. at Sea.** For results of the late game, go to [SportsDayDFW.com](#).

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Houston	4	Texas	2	Chi. White Sox	5	Oakland	1
Toronto	5	Baltimore	2	Detroit	4	Seattle	2
Boston	6	Kansas City	5	LA Angels		at NY Yankees	ppd.

TODAY'S PITCHERS

	Pitchers	TV/Time	2024 W-L	ERA	Last three starts W-L	IP	ERA
LA	Anderson (L)		8-10	3.05	0-2	17.2	3.57
at NY	Cortes (L)	6:05	5-9	4.16	1-1	14.1	8.16
Bal.	Kremer (R)	MLB	4-8	4.39	0-3	16.1	4.41
at Tor.	Gausman (R)	6:07	9-8	4.56	2-0	20.1	4.87
Det.	TBD		0-0	0.00	0-0	0.0	0.00
at Sea.	Woo (R)	8:40	5-1	2.08	2-0	16.2	1.08

NATIONAL LEAGUE

WEST	W	L	Pct	GB	Home	Away	L10	Str
Los Angeles	66	48	579	—	35-21	31-27	4-6	L-1
Arizona	63	52	548	3½	31-25	32-27	8-2	W-4
San Diego	63	52	548	3½	30-29	33-23	8-2	W-4
San Francisco	58	58	500	9	33-23	25-35	7-3	W-1
Colorado	42	72	368	24	25-29	17-43	4-6	W-1
CENTRAL	W	L	Pct	GB	Home	Away	L10	Str
Milwaukee	64	49	566	—	31-21	33-28	5-5	W-2
St. Louis	59	56	513	6	31-26	28-30	5-5	W-2
Pittsburgh	56	57	496	8	27-30	29-27	4-6	L-3
Chicago	57	60	487	9	32-27	25-33	6-4	W-2
Cincinnati	55	59	482	9½	28-31	27-28	5-5	L-1
EAST	W	L	Pct	GB	Home	Away	L10	Str
Philadelphia	67	46	593	—	38-21	29-25	3-7	W-1
Atlanta	60	53	531	7	32-25	28-28	5-5	L-4
New York	59	54	522	8	30-29	29-25	4-6	L-1
Washington	52	63	452	16	26-30	26-33	3-7	L-1
Miami	43	72	374	25	23-36	20-36	4-6	W-1

- at Mia. 6, Cin. 4** Derek Hill's grand slam capped a five-run first inning, and Marlins starter Valente Bellozo carried a shutout into the sixth as Miami held off a late Reds rally, getting some payback after being pummeled twice to open the series.
- SD 9, at Pitt. 8 (10)** The Padres came back to tie the game on Jackson Merrill's second home run of the game with one out in the ninth inning and won their fifth extra-inning game of the season. The teams endured a rain delay of 2 hours, 40 minutes.
- SF 7, at Was. 4** Heliot Ramos and Matt Chapman hit fifth-inning solo homers to break a 3-3 tie and lead the Giants to victory. Ramos homered for the second straight game, and Chapman finished a triple short of the cycle for the Giants, who have won nine of 12.
- Mil. 8, at Atl. 5** Blake Perkins was 3 for 5 with three RBIs, and the NL Central-leading Brewers had 16 hits against the slumping Braves.
- NY at Col.** For results of the late game, go to [SportsDayDFW.com](#).
- Phi. at LA** For results of the late game, go to [SportsDayDFW.com](#).

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

San Diego	6	Pittsburgh	0	Milwaukee	10	Atlanta	0
Cincinnati	8	Miami	2	Colorado	6	NY Mets	3
Washington	11	San Francisco	5	Philadelphia	6	LA Dodgers	2

TODAY'S PITCHERS

	Pitchers	TV/Time	2024 W-L	ERA	Last three starts W-L	IP	ERA
SF	Harrison (L)		6-5	4.09	1-1	15.1	4.11
at Was.	Herz (L)	11:05a	2-4	4.27	1-1	15.0	2.40
MIL	Montas (R)	MLB	5-8	5.03	1-1	14.0	9.00
at Atl.	Morton (R)	11:20a	6-6	3.94	1-1	14.2	3.07
SD	Vásquez (R)		3-6	4.62	1-1	13.0	4.85
at Pitt.	Ortiz (R)	11:35a	5-2	3.21	1-0	17.1	4.67
NY	Peterson (L)	MLB	5-1	3.47	1-1	16.0	4.50
at Col.	Gomber (L)	2:10	3-7	4.66	1-1	16.1	4.96
Cin.	Greene (R)		8-4	2.83	2-0	20.0	0.00
at Mia.	TBD		5-10	0-0	0-0	0.0	0.00
Phi.	TBD		0-0	0.00	0-0	0.0	0.00
at Ari.	Montgomery (L)	8:40	7-5	6.37	1-0	12.0	6.00

INTERLEAGUE

- Ari 7-5, at Cle. 3-3** Josh Bell (Jesusuit) homered twice and drove in three runs, and Eduardo Rodriguez went 5½ innings to win his season debut, helping Arizona sweep a doubleheader. In the first game, Arizona received two-run homers from three players.
- at ChiCubs 8, Min. 2** Ian Happ and Michael Busch homered, and five Chicago pitchers combined for a six-hitter as the Cubs beat the Twins. Minnesota starter Joe Ryan left in the third inning with right triceps tightness.
- at StL. 5, TB 2** Nolan Arenado and Alec Burleson each had two hits and drove in two runs to lift the Cardinals. Erick Fedde pitched five innings for the victory.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

St. Louis	4	Tampa Bay	3	Arizona		at Cleveland	ppd.
Chicago Cubs	7	Minnesota	3				

TODAY'S PITCHERS

	Pitchers	TV/Time	2024 W-L	ERA	Last three starts W-L	IP	ERA
TB	Baz (R)		0-1	3.60	0-0	14.2	2.45
at StL.	Gibson (R)	6:15	7-4	4.04	0-1	18.2	3.38

MLB AT A GLANCE

O's mound woes continue

No. 2 starter Rodriguez goes on 15-day IL with shoulder, back strain

TORONTO — Baltimore right-hander Grayson Rodriguez will be shut down for an unspecified period because of a mild strain in his right shoulder and back, but the Orioles are "optimistic" he'll return this season, manager Brandon Hyde said Wednesday.

The Orioles put Rodriguez on the 15-day injured list Wednesday, retroactive to Sunday. The move came one day after Rodriguez was scratched from a start at Toronto and returned to Baltimore for tests.

"He's going to miss some time," Hyde said. "We're going to shut him down for a little while, get him some rest and recovery, get him some rehab. I think we're optimistic about it. Hopefully he's going to join us sometime soon. That's yet to be determined. We're going to let him rest for a little bit before we crank him back up."

It's another blow to the Baltimore rotation, which has already lost Kyle Bradish, John Means and Tyler Wells for the season. The Orioles, who have

played sub-.500 baseball for nearly two months now, tried to add starting pitching depth at the trade deadline by acquiring Zach Eflin and Trevor Rogers. But Rodriguez has been their clear No. 2 starter behind Corbin Burnes. He's 13-4 with a 3.86 ERA, tied with Atlanta's Chris Sale and Kansas City's Julio Lugo for the major league lead in victories.

Without Rodriguez on Tuesday, the Orioles lost 5-2 and dropped a half-game behind the New York Yankees atop the AL East. They bounced back with a 7-3 win over Toronto Wednesday and are now tied for first.

Also Wednesday, Baltimore put outfielder Heston Kjerstad on the 10-day IL, retroactive to Thursday, because of concussion symptoms. Right-hander Jacob Webb went on the 15-day IL, retroactive to Sunday, because of a sore right elbow.

The Orioles recalled right-hander Bryan Baker and left-hander Keegan Akin from Triple-A Norfolk.

Bristol Motor Speedway to host Reds-Braves in '25: Bristol Motor Speedway is gearing up for Major League Baseball next season.

A person with knowledge of

the schedule told The Associated Press that the longtime NASCAR track will host a game between the Atlanta Braves and Cincinnati Reds next season on Aug. 2, 2025. The person spoke Wednesday to the AP on condition of anonymity because the game has not been publicly announced.

Officials from the track and its owner, Speedway Motorsports, have a news conference planned Friday to discuss Bristol's 2025 schedule.

The track has been one of NASCAR's most exciting venues since opening more than 60 years ago with a history of hosting other sports besides racing. Bristol hosted an NFL exhibition game in 1961 between Philadelphia and Washington. The track held two college football games in consecutive weeks in 2016 in Tennessee-Virginia Tech and East Tennessee-Western Carolina.

Profar leaves game after HBP: San Diego Padres All-Star left fielder Jurickson Profar left Wednesday night's game at Pittsburgh shortly after getting hit just below his right knee by a pitch.

The ex-Ranger was struck by a pitch from Hunter Stratton in

the sixth inning and initially stayed in the game, taking first base. Profar hobbled into second base while advancing on Xander Bogaerts' single. He was then removed from the game for pinch runner Ha-Seong Kim after being visited by manager Mike Shildt and a trainer.

Signed to a one-year, \$1 million contract in the offseason, Profar entered the game with a .302 batting average, 19 home runs and a National League-leading .395 on-base percentage in 112 games.

Profar was selected to last month's All-Star Game for the first time in his 11-year career and was a starter.

Yanks honor Bean with moment of silence: The New York Yankees honored late Major League Baseball senior vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion Billy Bean with a moment of silence before their doubleheader with the Los Angeles Angels on Thursday. Bean, who became the second former Major League Baseball player to come out as gay in 1999, died Tuesday at 60 following a year-long fight with acute myeloid leukemia.

The Associated Press

EVAN GRANT

Rangers fall short vs. Houston

Continued from Page 1C

Series champs. On the day of the deadline, they pared down by a starting pitcher to address other needs, only to immediately run into a starting pitching pinch. That was only underscored by Wednesday's 6-4 loss to Houston in which the Rangers used José Ureña as a fill-in starter. He fell behind early, putting pressure on a once-proud offense that, quite frankly, looks like it could use its own infrastructure improvement plan.

It came barely 12 hours after they were within one out of being no-hit. They led at the end of exactly one inning during the Houston series, that being the 10th inning Monday when Josh Smith's walkoff homer gave them a win. After the first walkoff homer of the season, the Rangers couldn't create any momentum. They were 2½ games out in the American League West on July 25. It was 5½ games when they boarded their charter for Washington, D.C., Wednesday night. And that was pending Seattle's late game with Detroit. Those numbers won't fly with any pollster. It's getting harder and harder for manager Bruce Bochy to maintain that his team still has a realistic shot.

"We're not going to look at this and say 'it's over,'" Bochy said. "It was a chance to gain some ground, but we've got games left to find a way to get on a roll. We've been saying that this team is capable. This team has it in them. I'm going to keep believing."

At this point, though, it borders on hope. And any numbers cruncher — political or not — will tell you hope is not a strategy.

On top of everything else, the loss also clinched the season series for the Astros, seven games to six. The Rangers have not won the season series between the clubs, or the Silver Boot trophy that goes to the winner, since 2016. Sorry if the Rangers aren't too worried about that element. They've got bigger trophies in mind.

"We have to move on," Bochy said of the season. "We have no choice."

Bochy has tried every trick he has to get his offense going. He's made changes in high-leverage lineup spots. Josh Smith is now the leadoff man.



LM Otero/The Associated Press

Houston pitcher Josh Hader and catcher Victor Caratini celebrate after the final out of their 6-4 victory over the Rangers in Arlington.

Next five

Day	Opponent	Time	TV	Starter	Opp. starter
Fri.	at New York	6:05	BSSW	Cody Bradford (3-0)	TBD
Sat.	at New York	12:05	BSSW	Nathan Eovaldi (8-5)	TBD
Sun.	at New York	12:35	BSSW	Andrew Heaney (4-11)	TBD
Mon.	at Boston	6:10	ESPN	Tyler Mahle (0-1)	Brayan Bello (10-5)
Tue.	at Boston	6:10	BSSW	TBD	Kutter Crawford (7-9)

All games broadcast on KRLD-105.3 FM and in Spanish on KFLC-1270 AM.

Marcus Semien is now hitting third. Josh Jung is hitting fourth. Adolis Garcia has hit in the bottom third of the order. Leody Taveras and Jonah Heim are playing part time. And still in the last 12 games, they are slashing .210/.260/.369/.629 and averaging 3.7 runs per game.

On Wednesday, with the lineup perhaps still in a post-Framber Valdez hangover, Ureña struggled through a 25-pitch first that included a run. The Rangers' response? It took Yusei Kikuchi, whom the Rangers had hit hard less than two weeks ago when he was still with Toronto, only eight pitches to retire the order. Over the ensuing innings, Ureña continued to search for command while the offense sought, unsuccessfully at that, something that resembled punch.

"I think we get frustrated when we lose at-bats," said Jung, who singled in his first at-bat, then struck out three times. "We're not hitting

pitches that we feel like we should hit. And then we get frustrated with not executing."

"Did we play our best baseball?" Semien asked rhetorically. "No, we didn't. We need to use [Thursday] to refresh ourselves and figure out a way to play our best baseball here at the end of the season. They had our number this series. We face some good teams coming up, a lot of good arms. We've got to figure out a way to make some adjustments."

Semien then tried to spin it forward, suggesting the Rangers "got some information" out of the series against Houston.

"We'll see them again" he started before realizing Wednesday marked the end of the season series with the Astros. "No. That's it, right?"

He was talking about the season series.

But somebody could be excused for thinking it sounded a lot like a summation of the season.

Houston 6, Rangers 4

Houston	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Altuve 2b	4	0	1	1	1	0	.303
Smith lf	5	1	2	1	0	1	.252
Alvarez lf	3	1	1	2	0	3	.300
McCormick rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.204
Diaz dh	5	0	3	0	0	1	.300
Peña ss	4	0	0	1	0	1	.268
Caratini c	4	1	2	1	1	0	.230
Meyers cf	5	0	0	0	1	2	.236
Dezenzo lf	3	2	2	0	1	0	.263
Dubón rf	4	1	2	1	0	0	.263
Totals	37	6	13	6	5	4	
Texas	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Seager ss	5	0	0	1	2	2	.27

RANGERS BRIEFS

DeGrom will face live batters today

But team sticking to strict rehab schedule amid slate, weather

By EVAN GRANT Staff Writer egrant@dallasnews.com

ARLINGTON — While many of the Rangers will spend Thursday afternoon at the White House, Jacob deGrom will be otherwise occupied. Call it a sensitive mission for pitching security.

DeGrom will face hitters Thursday afternoon in a 20-pitch round of live batting at Globe Life Field. It will be the first time he has faced hitters since he left a start against the New York Yankees on April 28 last year and ultimately underwent elbow surgery six weeks later.

The Rangers are trying to keep to a strict schedule with deGrom in the final stages of his rehab journey. If he does not face hitters Thursday, it could push him nearly a week off schedule because of travel, scheduling and weather complications.

According to his schedule, he would have been on track to face hitters Wednesday, but, with the Rangers playing a 1:35 p.m. game against Houston, there was no time in the pregame schedule. The weather forecast for Friday in New York, where the Rangers begin a three-game series, is iffy. And the team plays day games on Saturday and Sunday.

DeGrom will throw a typical



LM Otero/The Associated Press

The Rangers' Marcus Semien turns to trot off the field after flying out during the ninth inning against Houston.

pregame warmup bullpen session, then throw the equivalent of a 20-pitch inning to a group of minor league hitters. If Thursday's session goes well, he's expected to throw a two-inning session to hitters while the Rangers are in Boston early next week. That might be the last hurdle before he begins a rehab assignment.

"I'm excited," he said. "You want to see where you are. Bullpens are one thing, but it's different when a hitter steps in. You get a better idea of how you are executing pitches. Now, it's about building consistency of pitches. It's been more than a

year since I've thrown a slider to a hitter, more than a year since I threw a changeup. You need to get those pitches consistent and the only way to really judge that is with a hitter in the [batter's] box to see reactions."

Bochy reflects on past White House visits: Bruce Bochy remembers sitting on the couch with President Barack Obama in 2011, just chatting about baseball. That marked the first time the now-Rangers manager visited the White House, after leading the San Francisco Giants to a World Series win in 2010.

"I'd been to the White House, going to school there in north Virginia on field trips, but to go there as part of a baseball tradition, winning the World Series, that was really cool for me," Bochy said before Wednesday's game against the Houston Astros. "Being in the Red Room with President Obama, just he and I sitting there talking baseball and sports. That was pretty cool."

Despite Obama's White Sox fandom, Bochy and the former president bonded over their love for baseball.

Following two more trips with the Giants in 2013 and 2015, Bochy will make his fourth visit to the White House on Thursday with the Rangers, the defending World Series champions. The Rangers hired Bochy out of retirement before the 2023 season, after the manager spent 13 seasons in San Francisco (2007-19).

The Rangers will meet with President Joe Biden at 3 p.m.

"It's symbolic of what we accomplished the year before," Bochy said. "Part of what I've talked about is how winning the World Series is the gift that keeps on giving. A traditional White House visit, spend some time there and get a tour of the White House. Two times I've been, we did it indoors. Another time, we did it outdoors. It is a beautiful place. A historic moment for baseball. Only one team gets to do it."

Texas won its first championship in franchise history by defeating the Arizona

Diamondbacks in Game 5 of the 2023 Fall Classic.

The Rangers finally join the club of local teams to make a trip to the White House and will be the area's first visitor since the Mavericks paid President Obama a visit in January 2012. President Bill Clinton became quite familiar with Dallas sports during his time in the White House, as the Cowboys visited in 1993, 1994 and 1996, while the Stars visited him in March 2000 to celebrate their 1999 Stanley Cup title.

After the ceremony, the Rangers will fly to New York for a three-game series against the Yankees beginning Friday.

Astros used to boos in Silver Boot quest: The only other ballpark fan base that may boo the Houston Astros louder than Rangers fans at Globe Life Field are the die-hard New York enthusiasts at Yankee Stadium.

Jake Meyers, the Astros outfielder who drove in two RBIs on Tuesday ahead of Houston's 4-2 win over Texas, said the rowdy fans at Globe Life Field make the atmosphere more enjoyable. In fact, he said he's amused by the boos in the stands.

"We have kind of embraced it over the last couple of years, so you kind of get used to it," Meyers said to The Dallas Morning News in a pregame interview. "It's part of what we do every day. I enjoy it, it's energy, it gets you energized. It's kind of like someone talking smack to you — it gets you energized

and gets you ready to compete."

In all fairness, the Astros and Rangers are in-state rivals, so Jon Singleton, Houston's first baseman, said he would be shocked if the Rangers' fans let them off the hook. But Singleton said the Astros have nothing to prove to the city of Dallas, only to themselves.

"I think that they understand that we are very capable of winning," Singleton said. "That just gives you confirmation that everyone is aware of what could possibly happen."

The Texas rivals just finished a big series, and it's not only because the matchup was intradivision, but because the Astros' win Wednesday gave them their eighth straight Silver Boot trophy.

The season series victory is important to the Astros, but they have bigger goals on their plate — winning the World Series.

"It's definitely important," Meyers said. "You definitely want to be the best team in Texas. They won the World Series last year, and we can't let them have the Silver Boot too, so it's important."

Astros manager Joe Espada added: "We've got bigger stakes. ... We know that they'll fight until the end. These are two veteran clubs competing for the division, so I expect it to be a race until the end. My focus is just our team. We have to grind. We have a pretty long stretch here coming up, so winning the series is our goal."

Tori Garcia

Scoreboard

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Table with WNBA scores for Western and Eastern conferences.

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Table with Soccer Leagues Cup results for Round of 32.

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Table with Pacific Coast League scores for East and West divisions.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Small table with Wednesday's baseball results.

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Table with Texas League scores for South and North divisions.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Small table with Wednesday's Texas League results.

TODAY'S GAMES

Table with today's Texas League games.

WEDNESDAY'S BOX SCORES

Table with Wednesday's box scores for Texas League games.

THIS WEEK ON TOUR

Table listing various golf tournaments including IOC, PGA Tour, LPGA Tour, and LIV Golf.

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Table listing player transactions for various MLB teams.

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Table listing various motorsport events including NASCAR, IndyCar, and NHRA.

WTA WORLD TOUR NATIONAL BANK OPEN

Table listing WTA tennis tournaments.

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Table listing ATP National Bank Open tennis tournament.

WEEKEND TV HIGHLIGHTS

Large table listing TV highlights for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, including sports events and their broadcast times.

Paris Summer Olympics

BRIEFS

Frenchwoman races out to 3-shot lead

Cheering gallery helps Dallas resident Boutier shoot 65; Korda 7 back

SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES, France — For all the countless times Celine Boutier has played Le Golf National, what carried her to a 7-under 65 and a three-shot lead Wednesday in the Olympics were the two days when she didn't even have her clubs.

Boutier watched from the gallery over the weekend as the French fans cheered and chanted and sang for Victor Perez and Matthieu Pavon, ovations they rarely hear anywhere else.

When it was her time to perform, the 30-year-old from France delivered a round to remember. On a course so difficult that only two players broke 70, Boutier rolled in seven birdie putts and chipped in for another birdie to steal the show.

"I'm really over the moon with the way the tournament started for me," said the Dallas resident, who won her first LPGA major last year at the Evian Championship in France.

That wasn't quite as raucous as it was Wednesday, which had ticket sales of 26,000 and a gallery approaching 20,000. They scattered about Le Golf National early and followed their star in the afternoon as she poured it on with three straight birdies.

The last one was a chip-in from behind the green on the par-3 16th, causing an unmistakable cheer that resonated across the course.

Ashleigh Buhai of South Africa had a 68, and only 10 other players broke par. The group at 70 included Gaby Lopez of Mexico, who birdied her last three holes, and Lilia Vu, the two-time major champion and former No. 1 who played alongside Boutier.

"It was so cool to see all her fans push really hard for her," Vu said.

Nelly Korda, the gold medalist from the Tokyo Games and No. 1 player in women's golf, had to push hard to get back to even for the day at 72. She had a trio of three-putts early and was 3 over through eight holes until she sorted out the green speed and made a few putts.

Don't get the idea the overwhelming support made it easy for Boutier. Le Golf National was a beast — the scoring average was 74.1 — and demanded her full attention. And all the cheering for her was a new sensation.

"It's definitely not something I'm really used to from what I usually experience on



Odd Andersen/The Associated Press

Tom Schaar of the United States competes in the men's park skateboarding final. Schaar won the silver medal, finishing behind good friend Keegan Palmer of Australia.

OLYMPIC WOMEN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT		74 (2 over)	
WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS			
Le Golf National, par 72			
First of four rounds			
65 (7 under)			
Celine Boutier, France	33-32		
68 (4 under)			
Ashleigh Buhai, South Africa	34-34		
70 (2 under)			
Gaby Lopez, Mexico	36-34		
Morgane Mettraux, Switzerland	36-34		
Marijao Uribe, Colombia	35-35		
Lilia Vu, United States	33-37		
71 (1 under)			
Celine Borge, Norway	33-38		
Diksha Dagar, India	35-36		
Minjee Lee, Australia	38-33		
Xiyu Lin, China	36-35		
Alena Valenzuela, Switzerland	35-37		
Amy Yang, South Korea	39-33		
Ruoning Yin, China	36-36		
Rose Zhang, United States	36-36		
73 (1 over)			
Carla Ciganda, Spain	39-34		
Jin Young Ko, South Korea	39-34		
Sara Koukova, Czech Republic	36-37		
Emily Pedersen, Denmark	39-34		

the LPGA," Boutier said. "So it's nice to have that much support."

Poles celebrate U.S. ouster: Poland will play for a gold medal in men's volleyball, rallying from a 2-1 deficit to beat the United States in the deciding fifth set of the Paris Olympics' semifinal.

Poland came back from 20-18 in the third and needed two set points to force it to a deciding fifth, sending the largely pro-Poland crowd at South Paris Arena into a frenzy, with chants of "Polska!" and horns blaring throughout the stadium.

Led by Cuba native outside hitter Wilfredo León in the attack, Poland jumped out to an early lead in the fifth and left the Americans trying to play catch up the rest of the way.

The veteran U.S. squad will play for bronze against Italy on Friday.

Team cycling gold for U.S. women: The U.S. women's pursuit team of road race Olympic champion Kristen Faulkner, Chloe Dygert, Jennifer Valente and Lilly Williams held on through a ragged finish to beat New Zealand in the race for

214 of 329 total events		SUMMER OLYMPIC MEDALS	
Nation	G S B Tot	Switzerland	1 2 4 7
U.S.	27 35 32 94	Greece	1 1 5 7
China	25 23 17 65	Croatia	2 1 3 6
France	13 16 20 49	Israel	1 4 1 6
Britain	12 17 20 49	Kazakhstan	1 2 3 6
Australia	18 12 11 41	Poland	1 1 4 6
Japan	12 6 13 31	Belgium	2 0 3 5
South Korea	12 8 7 27	Jamaica	1 3 1 5
Italy	9 10 8 27	Thailand	1 2 2 5
Netherlands	9 5 6 20	Kenya	1 1 3 5
Canada	6 4 9 19	Taiwan	1 0 4 5
Germany	8 5 4 17	North Korea	0 2 3 5
Brazil	2 5 7 14	Hong Kong	2 0 2 4
Spain	2 3 6 11	Philippines	2 0 2 4
New Zealand	3 6 1 10	Georgia	1 2 1 4
Romania	3 4 1 8	Cuba	1 1 2 4
Hungary	3 3 2 8	South Africa	1 1 2 4
Sweden	3 3 2 8	Kyrgyzstan	0 1 3 4
Ireland	4 0 3 7	Turkey	0 1 3 4
Ukraine	2 2 3 7	Azerbaijan	2 1 0 3
		Denmark	1 2 0 3

um.

Arnold said, "and I think it was important to her go out that way.

"Fifth in the Olympics is nothing to be ashamed of."

Better than Tokyo, right? "I mean, way better."

In the 2020 Games, Delacruz missed all three of her lifts in the clean and jerk. The not-so-diplomatic term for it is



Michel was one of several triathletes who got sick after swimming in the Seine, though it was not clear if the water was to blame.

Bacteria levels in the long-polluted river have been in flux during the Games, causing test swims ahead of the triathlon events to be canceled and the men's triathlon to be delayed by a day. Organizers had said that water quality tests done the day of the individual triathlon races showed "very good" levels of fecal bacteria E. coli and enterococci.

It was not E. coli that made her sick, she wrote, adding that she sought treatment at a clinic in the Olympic Village on Sunday after several days of vomiting and diarrhea "left me quite empty."

Beach volleyball innovation: A pair of 22-year-old Swedes has risen to the top of the beach volleyball world with

an innovative technique that could prove to be as revolutionary as the forward pass in football or high jumping's Fosbury Flop.

The "Swedish Jump-Set," as it has become known, is a move in which the player jumps as if to spike the ball but instead sets it to his partner. The misdirection forces the opponent to leave his feet, so that he is out of position when the ball is actually passed.

"We call it the modern style of beach volleyball," Australia's Mark Nicolaidis said after losing to the Swedish team of David Ahman and Jonatan Hellvig in the preliminary stage at the Paris Olympics. "Every sport gets to a point where what's been working for the last five, 10, 20 years doesn't work anymore. There have to be some people that innovate the game."

Aussie apologizes after arrest: Australian Olympic field hockey player Tom Craig apologized Wednesday for his "terrible mistake" after being arrested for trying to buy cocaine while on a night out after his team's elimination from the Paris Games.

Craig faced Australian media in Paris after French prosecutors issued a statement confirming the 28-year-old Australian — an Olympic silver medalist in Tokyo three years ago — had been given him a criminal warning and released after spending a night in custody.

U.S. denied in beach volleyball: Miles Partain and Andy Benesh could not stop the slide, and the United States is leaving beach volleyball at the Paris Olympics without a medal.

Their 21-14, 21-16 defeat to Qatar's Cherif Younesse and Ahmed Tijan on Wednesday made it the first American medal shutout since the sport joined the Summer Games in Atlanta in 1996. They carried American hopes with both the women's teams and the other men's team out of the tournament.

U.S. wins water polo shootout: Adrian Weinberg made two blocks in a penalty shootout to help the United States beat Australia 11-10 in the quarterfinals of the men's water polo tournament.

Hannes Daube and Alex Bowen each scored two goals in regulation as the U.S. reached the semifinals at the Olympics for the first time since 2008. Daube and Bowen also converted their penalty shots in the tie-breaker.

It was the third straight win for the U.S., which will play Serbia on Friday.

KEVIN SHERRINGTON

Fifth-place finish 'bittersweet' for mighty Delacruz

Continued from Page 1C

Delacruz figured she'd probably already lost the bronze. She'd have needed 116 kgs, four kilos better than her personal best at the world championships and only one off the Olympic record set Wednesday by gold medalist Hou Zhuhui of China.

Delacruz's chances at medaling were undone by her performance in the snatch, where she lifted just 84 kilos. Left no room for error. The scores of both disciplines are combined after three attempts in each.

"I wanted to do a lot more [Wednesday]," she said. "I wanted to be on that podium, but there's been so much going behind the scenes that I've been fighting all day, so that was the final nail in the coffin for me."

The problems, Delacruz said, started with the fact that she'd been feeling ill and needed to cut weight.

Her coach, Spencer Arnold, wasn't so sure those were the



Smiley N. Pool/Staff Photographer

Jourdan Delacruz hugs coach Spencer Arnold after her final 111-kg lift, which Arnold called "the capstone of her career."

issues. At 26, she's nearing the end of her career. Plenty of pressure, too, on a world stage. Lifting isn't as easy at her age, either.

But, when Arnold asked her to try 111, a kilo better than what she'd missed in her second attempt, she stepped up.

"I think that 111 was sort of the capstone of her career,"

Arnold said, "and I think it was important to her go out that way.

"Fifth in the Olympics is nothing to be ashamed of."

Better than Tokyo, right? "I mean, way better."

In the 2020 Games, Delacruz missed all three of her lifts in the clean and jerk. The not-so-diplomatic term for it is

"bombing out." Finished dead last in her weight class.

As if that weren't bad enough, under the COVID provisions in place at the time, she had to clear out of Tokyo within 24 hours. From start to finish, she was in country for a total of six days.

Because she competed on Day One, she wasn't even around for opening ceremonies.

"Heartbreaking," she called it.

"You have these expectations of what you think the Olympics are going to be like," she said, "and that one in Tokyo was just so unique.

"No one could prepare me for that."

That she even qualified in weightlifting, of all things, might have been a shock for anyone who knew her when she was a cheerleader her freshman year at Wylie East. Though she'd competed in several sports growing up, including gymnastics, she spent five years as a

competitive cheerleader.

The tidal shift in her life came when she went to CrossFit to improve her strength for tumbling. Took to weightlifting immediately. Probably helped that both of her parents had been bodybuilders.

What she liked about weightlifting wasn't the brute strength required; it was the technical aspect of "solving a puzzle."

Next thing you know, she left Wylie East after her sophomore year to concentrate on her new avocation. Took up residency at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado. She's since moved to Atlanta to train under Arnold.

Along the way, she'd like to think she's become a role model for girls her size who might be interested in something a little different.

"I've redefined what a weightlifter looks like," she said. "I mean, on my way here, people would ask me what sport I'm in and I'd say weightlifting. And

they look me up and down and say, 'Are you sure? Like, really?'"

"The stereotypes are changing."

Looking at her even now, it's hard to believe she can lift more than twice her body weight over her head. For that matter, she probably doesn't look much different from when she was at the top of the pyramid.

In her Instagram post from the opening ceremonies, the Eiffel Tower lit up behind her like Christmas, she could have been back on a sideline.

"Opening ceremonies in the pouring rain is iconic!"

Basically, she's had a blast. Up until Wednesday.

"It's really been amazing," she said, "and I think it kind of softened this."

Perspective probably helps. A decade from now, Arnold said, she'll look back, see pictures of herself with 111 kgs over her head and realize just what she's accomplished. Pretty heavy for an old cheerleader.

Paris Summer Olympics

TRACK AND FIELD

Lyles finishes second in 200 semifinal

Sprinter seeks second gold medal today; Hall prevails in 400 meters

SAINT-DENIS, France — What was supposed to be the easy half of Noah Lyles' historic Olympic sprint double isn't looking quite so easy anymore.

Newly crowned the Fastest Man Alive after a close-as-can-be win by five thousandths of a second in the 100 meters at the 2024 Games, Lyles was not even the fastest man in his semifinal of the 200 on Wednesday night. He was good enough to make it into that event's final, anyway.

The 200 is Lyles' preferred, and better, distance — one at which he had not lost a race in three full years. That streak was snapped at the Stade de France, where Letsile Tebogo of Botswana beat him to the line by crossing in 19.96 seconds, 0.12 faster than runner-up Lyles.

They'll have a rematch for the gold on Thursday night.

Getting golds in the 100 and 200 at a single Olympics is a rare feat. Usain Bolt accomplished that double at three Olympics in a row — in Beijing in 2008, London in 2012 and Rio de Janeiro in 2016. But until the Jamaican, no man had done it since Carl Lewis at Los Angeles in 1984.

At his last Games, eight years ago, Bolt was shutting it down late in his 200 semifinal, and suddenly realized Andre De Grasse was running hard. So Bolt dialed his speed back up and wagged a finger at the Canadian. Fast-forward to the



Natacha Pisarenko/The Associated Press

U.S. sprinter Quincy Hall leans ahead of Great Britain's Matthew Hudson-Smith at the finish line to win the 400-meter gold medal. Hall was in fourth place rounding the final turn before his electrifying sprint to the tape.

final: Bolt won easily.

Before pulling out his narrow win over Jamaica's Kishane Thompson in the 100 final on Sunday night, Lyles didn't finish first in his heat or his semifinal.

As anyone who pays any attention is well aware, Lyles is a showman who loves the spotlight and enjoys spending time with a microphone.

So it raised some eyebrows when Lyles skipped the interview area after Wednesday's

run, and U.S. team officials said he was heading to the medical tent. His coach, Lance Brauman, said: "He's fine."

That might just add a bit more intrigue in the 24 hours until the medals are at stake.

There already was plenty.

Is Lyles, a 27-year-old from Florida, at his best? How much did he care about the semifinal, when lane placements are determined but all that truly matters is moving on to the round that determines the medals?

Will Lyles find some extra fuel from being outdone in front of a full house of about 80,000?

Was the 21-year-old Tebogo, the 200 bronze medalist at worlds but making his Olympic debut, trying to send a message? Is he ready to challenge for a gold?

And what about Kenny Bednarek, Lyles' U.S. teammate and the Tokyo Games silver medalist, who ran in a different semifinal and won it in 20 seconds flat, the evening's

second-fastest time? Or Erryon Knighton, a 20-year-old American seen as the next threat, but whose only victories over Lyles came in the opening rounds of the 2021 Olympic trials.

Hall wins gold in 400: Quincy Hall became the latest American to electrify Olympic track and field with an out-of-nowhere comeback, sprinting from far behind in the 400 meters Wednesday night to reel in three runners and capture an-

other gold medal for the U.S.

Hall, buried in fourth place as the sprinters rounded the last bend, outran the runner on his outside, then two more to the inside to cross the line in 43.40 seconds, the fourth-fastest time ever. He dropped to the track to do snow angels to celebrate.

"I've got determination," Hall said. "That's what got me to that line. A lot of hurt, a lot of pain."

Hall beat Britain's Matthew Hudson-Smith by .04 seconds — that's now the fifth-fastest time in history — and Muzala Samukonga of Zambia finished third.

Hall is the first American since LaShawn Merritt in 2008 to capture gold in the one-lap race. His victory came an evening after American Cole Hocker came from far behind late to beat the favorites in the men's 1500.

Add in Noah Lyles, whose only lead in his 100-meter thriller came when he crossed the finish line, and these Americans are turning into quite the comeback kids.

Steeplechase drama: Morocco's Soufiane El Bakkali defended his title in men's steeplechase, finishing in 8 minutes, 6.05 seconds for a .36-second win over America's Kenneth Rooks.

Rooks had the lead heading into the homestretch and was looking to pull off a massive upset, but El Bakkali overtook him. Rooks still beat his personal best by almost 9 seconds to capture the second silver over three Olympics in the event for America.

AUSTRALIA'S RECORD HAUL

Aussies vault past gold-medal mark

PARIS — Nina Kennedy bounced off the pole vault mats and punched the air once, twice, three times. She ran over to the Olympic crowd and took another three swings at the air.

Aussies in the stands flew the flag, shook green-and-gold banners and held up yellow inflatable kangaroos.

Kennedy didn't know at that stage she would deliver Australia an 18th gold medal at the Paris Games — a national record for the Olympics. That was just the celebration for clearing the height to take the lead.

Kennedy clinched the victory a bit later Wednesday when Tokyo Olympic gold medalist Katie Moon failed to clear 4.95 meters after a three-hour final.

Then the emotions took over. The tears flowed as Kennedy raced back to hug friends and family in the crowd, including discus throw bronze medalist Matthew Denny, who just happened to be walking back after his final to join the group. Then Kennedy sprang back across the track, hopping with delight.

A man in the crowd yelled: "What did you just do?"

Well, delivering Australia's fourth gold medal on Day 12 helped surpass the country's previous record total of 17 golds for a Summer Games — set at the 2004 Athens Olympics and in Tokyo three years ago. The Australians moved from 14 to 18 gold medals in about six hours, while most of the country Down Under was sleeping.

"I didn't know that, that is just insane," Kennedy said after being told of the record haul. "I can't wait to go home and watch a replay of the whole Olympics."

It was a good day — no need to abbreviate g'day for this feat — as Aussies woke up to news of the record. The productive stretch had Australia ranked third in the gold-medal standings behind the United States and China with four days of the Paris Games remaining. Australia had 18 gold, 12 silver and 11 bronze for a total of 41 medals, still well short of the record 58 it won at home at the 2000 Sydney Games.

Brisbane, Australia, is in line after the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics to host the Summer Games in eight years. The starter's gun has gone off.



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Matthias Schrader/The Associated Press

Nina Kennedy's pole vault gold medal was the 18th for Australia, breaking the record set in Athens 20 years ago.

Space shortage putting flyers in a squeeze

You'd be shocked by what passengers are trying to fit under their economy class seats these days. Even more surprising: the reasons.

Earlier this year, airlines raised their luggage fees, which forced passengers to carry more on the plane. At the same time, airlines have been quietly reducing the space in the main cabin, so there's less room for your personal belongings.

As a result, the space wars have moved from the overhead bin to under the seats.

There doesn't seem to be a lot of space on planes anymore. But it's difficult to quantify the shrinkage. While airlines disclose their seat pitch — a rough measure of airline legroom — and seat width, there's no objective way to know when an airline eliminates personal space. Airlines don't really disclose these deeply unpopular decisions.

The average seat pitch (from seat back to seat back) in economy class is 30 to 32 inches, and the average seat width is 17 inches. These numbers are meaningless to passengers be-

TRAVEL
CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT
chris@elliott.org

cause they don't consider the seat material and design.

Here's something to watch: When an airline announces a new cabin interior, it often moves to thinner seats, which allow it to add more capacity. Installing extra rows of seats usually means subtracting legroom.

The amount of room under the seat varies, too. One clue as to the amount of legroom is the airline's size limit for underseat carry-ons. For example, on American Airlines, it's 18 inches by 14 inches by 8 inches. On JetBlue, it's 17 inches by 13 inches by 8 inches.

The bottom line is, you never know how much room you'll have on a plane, but chances are it will not be much.

Here are some of the things people are trying to fit under their seat:

Coolers. On a recent flight from Buenos Aires to Madrid,



Dustin Elliott

Maya Frost watched the passenger next to her jam an entire plastic cooler under his seat. The box was so big that it had to be wedged in the space and almost caused the seat to bulge upward. Finally, the passenger realized there was no room for his feet on the 13-hour flight, so he found room for it in the overhead bin. He accessed the cooler several times during the

marathon flight. He snacked on spicy potato chips and egg salad sandwiches. "By the time we landed, I was covered with crumbs," says Frost, an author from Seattle.

Oversized medical devices. When Uneeka Daniels flew from St. Kitts to Miami recently, she wasn't sure what to do with her new CPAP machine. "The machine cost \$1,600, and

my insurance was not going to replace it if it got damaged on the plane," says Daniels, a reading specialist from Hamilton, Bermuda. So it went under her seat. But again, there was almost no room for her legs. Daniels said she flew with her legs on top of the machine.

Wheeled luggage. On a recent flight from Los Angeles to Spokane, I also saw a passenger try to take advantage of all the space under her seat when she tried to stuff an entire rolling suitcase under it. Why? The plane had run out of overhead bin space. Her plan might have worked, except that — you guessed it — there was no place for her legs. A flight attendant intervened and forced her to gate-check the bag.

Why are passengers trying to wedge everything under their seat? Earlier this year, U.S. airlines raised their checked luggage fees. And that pushed many travelers to carry more on the plane. Overhead bins quickly filled to capacity. That left the space under the seats.

Airlines are trying to stop

that by limiting passengers to a personal carry-on, and some airlines even force you to pay to carry on an item. But air travelers still show up to the gate with a large wheeled bag and a personal item, hoping the flight attendants will look the other way.

The trend is here to stay, at least for now. Joe Cronin, CEO of International Citizens Insurance, says it will take 5 to 10 years before passengers stop trying to take too much with them on the plane and then attempt to wedge it under their seats.

"People will start packing lighter — eventually," he says.

I once tried to store a large Starbucks Americano under my seat — temporarily — while I was boarding. Then I forgot about it. Let's just say it was a memorable takeoff. My shoes still smell like espresso.

Christopher Elliott is an author, consumer advocate and journalist. Email him at chris@elliott.org. A longer version of this column is at DallasNews.com.

Wife questions his fidelity, sexuality

ANDREWS McMEEL
SYNDICATION

Dear Abby: During my entire 40-year marriage, I have wondered if my husband is bisexual. He met his friend "Ernie" around the same time he met me. My husband has always had female friends as well as Ernie. When he came home late, I'd accuse him of having affairs with his female co-workers.

We have stayed together, although there have been a lot of arguments. Years ago, my brother-in-law went golfing with my husband and Ernie. My brother-in-law told me my problem wasn't another woman — it was a man. When I asked why he thought that, he said my husband and Ernie were in their own little world. He said he wasn't jealous of their friendship, but it was just his opinion.

To cut to the chase, not long ago, my husband and three other friends went on a golf trip. There was a king-size bed in the master bedroom, a second bedroom with two queen-size beds, and a sofa sleeper. I asked my husband about the sleeping arrangements, and he said one slept on the couch, one in the room with two queen beds, and he and Ernie shared the king-size bed.

When I asked what the other guys thought about the two of them sleeping in the same bed he yelled, "I don't care what they thought!" I said, "And it appears you don't care what your wife thinks either."

My husband has always said, "There isn't another woman. You know I love you." He has always denied being bi. He makes me feel like I'm crazy. Please tell me what you think.

Finally Fed Up in Delaware

Dear Fed Up: For two men to share a bed when there is another option is, in my opinion, questionable. Never having met your husband, I hesitate to state whether he is or isn't cheating on you with Er-



DEAR ABBY

JEANNE PHILLIPS
dearabby.com

nie. Being bisexual does not make a person an adulterer. If he were to confirm your suspicion that he is bisexual, would it change your long-time marriage? That, my friend, is the \$64,000 question.

Dear Abby: I'm sure I am not alone on this subject. Occasionally, when I'm in a restaurant, the mall, the grocery store etc., I'll run into a former co-worker, former classmate, someone I met at a past gathering etc., and in the moment, I cannot recall their name. This is especially embarrassing when my spouse or a friend is with me and I can't introduce the person.

Sometimes, when someone is with me and I see an acquaintance before they see me, I'll make a detour to avoid the embarrassment of blanking on their names. If I'm alone, I have no problem conversing with the individual even if I can't recall a name. My problem is those embarrassing introductions. Any suggestions?

Forgetful in Hawaii

Dear Forgetful: I agree, it is embarrassing, and it happens to everyone. It happened to me occasionally when I was in my 20s and needed to introduce my date to someone.

There is a way to get around it, provided you are fast enough. If a "senior moment" isn't something you are willing to admit, then greet your old co-worker, friend, etc., and say something like, "Hi! How nice to see you!" Then turn to your spouse or friend and say, "We used to work together," and let them introduce themselves.

Trying to get over indifferent mother

WASHINGTON POST
WRITERS GROUP

Carolyn Hax is away.
The following first appeared
June 11, 2010.

Dear Carolyn: I appreciate your guiding principle, that none of us can make others do anything they don't want to do. I'm in that situation now. I know there's nothing I can do to make my mother call me more, email more, text every now and again. I have accepted that any requests just make her defensive.

What I need help with now is getting over my hurt, that in the competition between TV shows and calling me to catch up, chat, what have you, TV wins. I'm a nice person, with good friends, a loving and fantastic husband, and my family is distant from me (Dad never calls at all, but that's a separate issue).

Anywhere

Dear Anywhere: I appreciate your appreciation, but at the risk of sounding ungracious: It's guiding principles, plural.

Accepting that you can't control others' behavior is an avenue to frustration and hurt feelings unless you pair it with a companion principle: You can't project your way of thinking onto others.

You've projected your mother's noncommunication into a conscious choice, a moment where she thinks: "Hmm, should I watch TV, or call my kid? Ha ha, just kidding, hand me that remote."

Maybe you're mindful that way, and before you grab the remote, you weigh other options, better choices, even boxes you feel duty-bound to check. Maybe you don't even get to the point of conscious thought, and feel an impulse toward personal connections vs. passive media consumption.

Not everyone is wired to do these things. For every extrovert who thrives on



CAROLYN HAX

telime@washpost.com

connections, there's an introvert looking to withdraw, shut down, regroup. These end-of-day readers/watchers/putterers don't necessarily love their friends and families less; they just don't reach for the phone the way their more outgoing brethren do.

And that's just the most obvious bit of line-drawing. There's also chemistry, the way two personalities mix — and that, too, is more wiring than conscious choice. From parent to child, sib to sib, grandparent to grandchild, and so on, there are going to be connections that root instantly and grow like weeds, and there are going to be some that languish without meticulous care and feeding. If your connection to Mom is the latter, then you're blaming her, and yourself, for something beyond you both.

Who knows — maybe generations of your mother's family have been hands-off with each other, and that's her comfort zone?

You'd like her to try harder, fair enough. But maybe she'd like you to accept her as she is. Isn't that fair, too?

Your alienation from Mom is worth exploring as long as it doesn't consume you. Understanding her terms may help you feel better about them, but it's not necessary to accepting them.

Not everything people do is a personal reflection on you. Take away the element of personal rejection and what you have are some concrete choices: Keep pressuring Mom for something she'll never give; detach from her completely; or make do with the access to her that's available. Which one sounds right to you?

Death notification online denounced

ANDREWS McMEEL
SYNDICATION

Dear Miss Manners: My husband's close relative died. We found out by chance because an announcement appeared on our social media feeds. We did not receive a private message, a text or a phone call. We don't use social media very often; if we hadn't seen the announcement, we wouldn't have known.

My husband's relative loved him very much, and I thought it was insensitive for the family not to notify him personally. After the wake, which was also online, I messaged them privately and said so.

They responded that I was rude and selfish. They said that they, the (more) bereaved party who organized the funeral and wake, were entitled to manage it in a way that made their grief easier to bear. Then they blocked me on social media, which is fine with me.

It's my feeling that when someone dies, there is no "easy." There's only politeness, and the polite thing to do is to inform people personally that someone they care about has died. That shows consideration for those who will mourn the loss of the deceased, and gives them a chance to show respect and support for the bereaved.

Social media announcements that close relatives may see by chance are not polite, in my view. I'll concede that I probably shouldn't have mentioned it, especially since they're my in-laws, but isn't it fundamentally rude not to inform family members directly (by email, text or phone) that someone has died?

Gentle Reader: One is likely to stumble when claiming the moral high ground too soon after committing the almost unpardonably rude act of scolding the chief mourners for their handling of the death announcements.



MISS MANNERS

JUDITH MARTIN
missmanners@gmail.com

But yes, a personal call would have been preferable — which Miss Manners would certainly not have said about a text, and likely not about an email.

Dear Miss Manners: I admit to messing up my financial life, and therefore it will be at least three or four years before I am eligible to even apply for credit. This is my responsibility to bear; I blame no one else.

I also understand that retail employees are under pressure to offer their store's credit card to customers, and do their best to have the customer fill out an application right there, often in front of other customers. I have known of employees being disciplined if they do not succeed at this secondary sale (separate from the merchandise). Such punishment may mean their hours are drastically cut or that they are placed on undesirable shifts.

I have no desire to cause the employee unhappiness, loss of wages or even the loss of their job, but I have to protect my own financials. One of the ways I can repair my credit is by not applying for any cards for the foreseeable future.

How do I politely say "no" without humiliating myself or getting the employee in trouble?

Gentle Reader: By remembering that one may refuse a new credit card for reasons other than bad credit. Who knows? Perhaps you have so many credit cards that it would simply be a burden to keep track of yet another.

HOROSCOPE

By **NANCY BLACK**
Tribune Media Services

AUGUST 8 BIRTHDAY: Teamwork can accomplish wonders this year. Reorient financial routines to grow savings. Collaborative ventures ride profitable autumn waves. Navigate winter miscommunications. Spring can get lucrative, before a turning point reorients summer plans.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Today is an 8 — Coordinate moves with your partner. Fortune blesses initiative and gumption. Dance together.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 9 — Polish your work. Practice basic moves to strengthen fundamental skills and provide a framework for improvisation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Today is an 8 — Make fun plans with someone adorable. Practice a favorite game, diversion or sport. If you make a mess, clean it up.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Today is a 7 — Enjoy domestic arts and crafts. It may take making a mess to clean something up. The results are worth it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — Share ideas and resources with friends and relations. Outline your story. Creative expression flowers.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is a 9 — Now you're cooking! You can push beyond expectations. The profit potential is high. Don't lose what you've got to get more.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is a 9 — You're especially strong and creative. Don't overpower anyone. Nurture yourself with good food, settings and company.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 6 — Get lost in nostalgic retrospection. Review old photographs and memories. Prepare for a transition with reflection and rest.

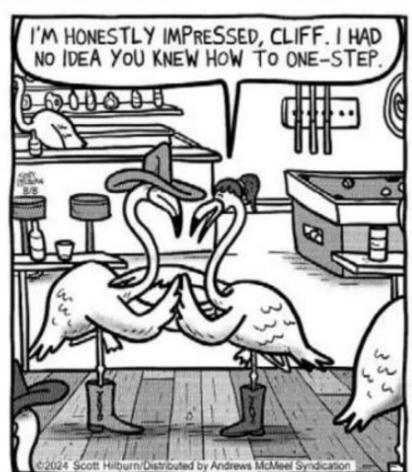
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is an 8 — A team prize tempts. Pull together and provide what's needed. Inspire others by your example. Connect with friends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is an 8 — Crazy dreams seem possible. Take practical steps toward a concrete goal. Abandon an old limitation. You've got this.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — Investigate and explore. Lay practical plans before setting off. Good news comes from far away. Imagine total success.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is a 7 — Support each other. Fantasies don't pay the bills. Schedule the steps to take for success. Get moving. Action gets results.

ARGYLE SWEATER By Scott Hilburn

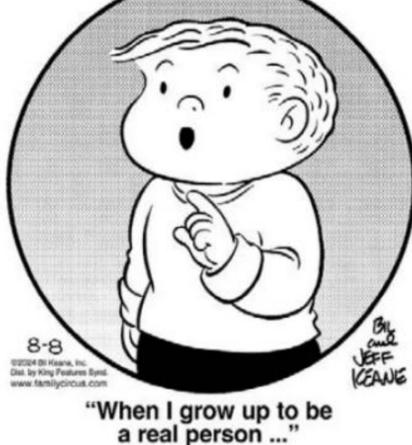


DENNIS THE MENACE By Hank Ketcham



"IT'S A WEBSITE CALLED 'LIVED TO TELL ABOUT IT.COM' MADE UP SPECIFICALLY BY DENNIS' BABYSITTERS."

FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"When I grow up to be a real person ..."

CRABGRASS By Tauhid Bondia



CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk and Chuck Ayers



CURTIS By Ray Billingsley



DOONESBURY This week's strips are reprints. By Garry Trudeau



GARFIELD By Jim Davis



NEW YORK TIMES DAILY CROSSWORD No. 0704

Puzzle by Adam Vincent Edited by Joel Fagliano

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a 'YESTERDAY'S ANSWER' section with a crossword grid and solutions.

GET FUZZY This week's strips are reprints. By Darby Conley



HEART OF THE CITY By Steenz



JUDGE PARKER By Francesco Marciuliano and Mike Manley



LIO By Mark Tatulli



LUANN By Greg Evans and Karen Evans



MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

By Mike Peters



ONE BIG HAPPY

By Rick Detorie



PEANUTS

By Charles M. Schulz



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

By Stephan Pastis



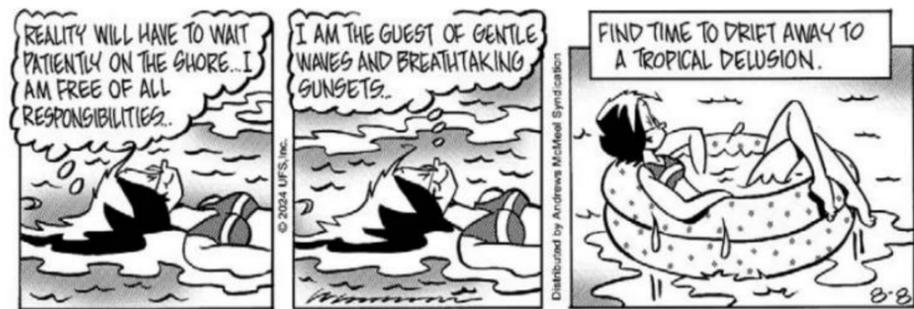
PICKLES

By Brian Crane



ROSE IS ROSE

By Pat Brady



SALLY FORTH

By Francesco Marciuliano and Jim Keefe



SHERMAN'S LAGOON

By J.P. Toomey



ZITS

By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



TODAY IN HISTORY

The Associated Press

1876 Thomas Edison received a patent for his electric pen...

1908 Wilbur Wright made the Wright Brothers' first public flying demonstration...

1963 Britain's 'Great Train Robbery' took place as thieves made off with 2.6 million pounds in banknotes.

1969 Photographer Iain Macmillan took the iconic photo of the Beatles that would appear on the cover of their album Abbey Road.

2000 The wreckage of the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley, which sank in 1864 after attacking the Union ship Housatonic...

2009 Sonia Sotomayor was sworn in as the U.S. Supreme Court's first Hispanic and third female justice.

2022 FBI agents executed a search warrant for former President Donald Trump's residence at Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Fla.;

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward.

WHAT'S IN YOUR POKE BOWL? Solution: 7 letters

Grid of letters for the Wonderword puzzle.

Appetizer, Avocado, Chicken, Chili, Corn, Dish, Drizzle, Flavor, Ginger, Grain, Hawaiian, Honey, Jalapeño, Lemon, Limu, Macadamia, Mango, Marinade, Mayo, Miso, Mushrooms, Noodles, Onion, Pepper, Pineapple, Ponzu, Raw, Recipe, Rice, Salmon, Sashimi, Sesame Oil, Shredded, Shrimp, Soy Sauce, Sriracha, Sweet, Tangy, Tofu, Tuna, Umami, Wasabi, Zest

2023 A series of wind-driven wildfires broke out on the Hawaiian island of Maui, destroying the town of Lahaina and killing more than 100 people.

LOVE IS...

By Kim Casali



PLUGGERS

By Rick McKee



Pluggers aren't just romantically smiling at each other after dinner. They're checking each other's teeth.

COMMUTER PUZZLE

Edited by Stella Zawistowski Tribune Content Agency

- ACROSS 1 Shop with takeout lunches 5 Idaho tuber 9 Copy machine brand 10 Copy machine powder 12 With no discernible pattern 13 "Bearded" flowers 15 Distant 16 San Diego ballplayer 18 Wait staff reward 20 Poem of praise 21 Has the lead role 22 Guns N' Roses singer 23 Brother's daughter 26 Flightless Australian bird 27 High-class 29 Bullfighters 31 Carnivorous fish 33 Noah's boat 34 Purring pet 35 Stinky locker-room item: 2 wds. 39 Wanted 43 Suitor 44 www.harvard_ 46 Foe in battle 47 Body part with a pupil 48 Comedian Mike 50 Falsehood 51 Figures: Abbr. 52 Citified 53 "not that deep!" 54 "Would you like me to?": 2 wds. 57 Garbage boats 60 From China or Cambodia 61 Dwelled 62 Displayed on a wall 63 Otherwise

- DOWN 1 Steely 2 Finish up 3 Aviation stunts 4 Prison residents 5 Saddle attachment 6 Holes in the skin 7 Prefix with "cycle" 8 Plaines, Illinois 9 Professional calling 11 Keep 12 SiriusXM medium 14 Like June, among months 15 Typography choice 17 Beaver's structure 19 Impassioned request 24 Stop 25 Screw-up 27 Clear a blackboard 28 Caesar's language 30 The Thunder, on scoreboards 32 Frozen water 35 Singer Stefani 36 Toys with strings 37 '90s Brandy sitcom 38 Accessory from a locksmith: 2 wds. 39 Long-lasting 40 Depended (on) 41 Gives off 42 Artificial colors 45 Haaland of the Cabinet 48 Disney film set in China 49 Slow garden critter 55 Fire residue 56 Actress Lucy 58 Camping vehicles, for short 59 "Gosh!"

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-63.

SUDOKU PUZZLE

Andrews McMeel Syndication

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

5x5 Sudoku grid with numbers 5, 7, 1, 2, 1, 4, 6, 9, 5, 8, 3, 4, 9, 2, 9, 2, 5, 6, 8, 4, 3, 2, 5, 6, 8, 4, 9, 2, 2, 1, 9, 4

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

Grid of numbers from yesterday's puzzle: 7 4 9 5 1 8 6 2 3, 1 3 8 9 6 2 7 5 4, 2 6 5 4 7 3 9 1 8, 4 5 2 7 3 1 8 6 9, 8 1 7 6 9 5 4 3 2, 3 9 6 2 8 4 1 7 5, 5 2 1 8 4 7 3 9 6, 9 7 4 3 2 6 5 8 1, 6 8 3 1 5 9 2 4 7

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

ACES ON BRIDGE

By BOBBY WOLFF Andrews McMeel Syndication

Today's themed deal comes from a past Asia Pacific Championship match.

West led the spade queen to three no-trump, East taking the ace before returning a spade. Looking at all four hands, it is hard to see how declarer can go down. Both rounded-suit finesses are working; indeed, 12 tricks are available!

However, Australian international Sartaj Hans showed how easy it can be to throw a wrench into the works. He returned the spade two at the second trick rather than the normal spade nine. From declarer's perspective, the two was either from ace-doubleton to begin with, or it was East's original fourth-highest, in which case spades were 4-4. East would normally return the highest from a remaining doubleton.

In that case, declarer's best bet was to cash the club ace-king and continue with the club 10. If spades were 4-4, declarer would lose only four tricks. If West had begun with six spades, East was likely to hold club length and with it the club queen, and would not be able to reach his partner's hand. Alas, Hans won the club queen and produced the spade nine, allowing West to cash out for one down.

This falsecard could hardly cost a trick, because East knew his partner was broke outside of spades, while it might mislead declarer. However, on the normal spade nine return, declarer would probably assume a 5-3 spade split and combine his chances by cashing the club ace-king, planning to run diamonds and take the heart finesse if necessary.

NORTH ♠ 7 4 3 ♥ Q 10 7 6 ♦ K Q 4 2 ♣ J 7

WEST ♠ Q J 10 6 5 ♥ 9 2 ♦ 8 6 5 3 ♣ 8 3

EAST ♠ A 9 2 ♥ K 8 4 3 ♦ 10 9 ♣ Q 6 4 2

SOUTH ♠ K 8 ♥ A J 5 ♦ A J 7 ♣ A K 10 9 5

Vulnerable: Both Dealer: South

The bidding: South West North East 2 NT Pass 3 ♣ Pass 3 ♦ Pass 3 NT All pass

Opening Lead: Spade queen

BID WITH THE ACES

South holds: ♠ K 8 ♥ A J 5 ♦ A J 7 ♣ A K 10 9 5

South West North East ? 3 ♣

Answer: If you are to reach three no-trump, this is probably your last chance. A takeout double might work better, but it would also get you to four hearts in a Moysian fit or to a delicate five of a minor; three no-trump is probably preferable to that. Even a single spade stopper may suffice today since you have plenty of quick tricks on the side.

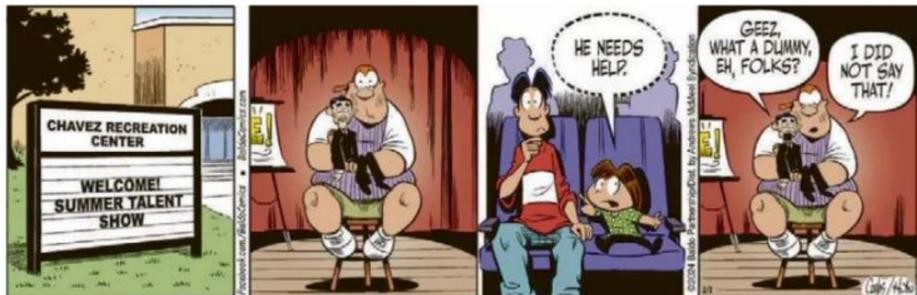
BABY BLUES

By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



BALDO

By Hector Cantu and Carlos Castellanos



B.C.

By Mastroianni and Hart



BIZARRO

By Wayno and Piraro



BLONDIE

By Dean Young



THURSDAY PRIME TIME

08/08/24

MOVIES

(HDTV) High definition TV (N) New (ESP) Available in Spanish (CC)

Table with columns for Broadcast, 7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30, 11 PM, 11:30. Rows include various TV shows like Gossip Truth, Don't Forget the Lyrics, Primetime in Paris, Press Your Luck, Big Brother, Midsomer Murders, CBS News Texas, Golpe de suerte, FOX 4 News, Tengo talento, Conners, La isla desafio extremo, Dr. Phil, Elite Gems, News, Christian, Chicago P.D., BSSW, ESPN, ESPN2, GOLF, NFL, DISN, FREE, NICK, TOON, A&E, ANIMAL, BBCA, BET, BRAVO, COM, DISC, E!, FOOD, FX, FXN, GALA, GSN, HALL, HGTV, HIST, LIFE, MAGN, MTV, NWSNTN, OWN, PARM, SYFY, TBS, TLC, TNT, TRUTV, TVLAND, USA, AMC, EPIX, HBO, MAX, PARSHO, STARZ, STZENC, TCM.

RATINGS GUIDE TVY All children TVY 7 and older TVG Parental guidance TV14 Over 14 TVMA Mature audience. Content advisories: D Suggestive dialogue S Sexual situations L*