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Just a Note:

Summer Meals will begin May 26 and run through June 30. Text FOODTX to 877-877 to find a site close to you.

Big Spring Graduation 2020 Ceremony
 June 5
 9 p.m.

Aquatic Center to open June 15 at 25% capacity

Help slow the spread: Adhere to social distancing, wear a mask, wash your hands.

Share with us who your Everyday Hero is! Email a photo and the reason why this person is an Everyday Hero to editor@bigspringherald.com

Big Spring HS Prom 2020
 June 13
 More details to come

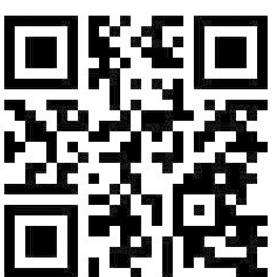
COVID-19 Update:
 Confirmed: 6
 Tests performed: 835
 Pending: 573
 Negative tests: 255
 Recovered: 5
 Deaths: 1

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Coahoma ISD Class of 2020 outdoor ceremony graduation



Above left: The Coahoma High School Class of 2020 prepares to march into the Bill Easterling Memorial football field as part of the graduation ceremony on Thursday, May 21, 2020. Right: Sydney Rinard gives her valedictorian address during the CHS graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020 held on Thursday, May 21, 2020, at the Bill Easterling Memorial Stadium.



Aquatic Center staffing, budget workshop, Oncor fee amongst agenda items for City Council Telecommunication meetings continue in Big Spring

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

The Big Spring City Council will continue meeting via telecommunication for the upcoming Tuesday meeting. The meeting will take place at 5:30 p.m. and be broadcast from the Council Chambers.

The City Council announced at the last meeting that the Russ McEwen Aquatic Center will be opening for the Summer 2020 Season on June 15. In preparation for the opening of the aquatic center, the City Council will take into consideration and possibly enter into agreement with YMCA for lifeguards at the Russ McEwen Aquatic Center and authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute any necessary documents.

As part of the new business agenda, the Council will take into consideration and possibly take action on an engineering services agreement with Jacob and Martin for Testing Materials for the Airpark street improvement project and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute any necessary

documents. During Tuesday's meetings, the Council will hear the first reading of a resolution finding that Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC's application for approval to amend its distribution cost recovery factor to increase distribution rates within the City should be denied; authorizing participation with Oncor Cities Steering Committee; authorizing the hiring of legal counsel and consulting services; finding the City's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by the company; finding that the meeting at which this resolution is passed is open to the public required by law; requiring notice of this resolution to the company and legal counsel. The City Manager's Report will include a list of board applications that are needing for a number of boards. Vacant seats are present in the following boards: Board of Adjustments and Appeals, Zoning Board of Adjustments, Animal Control and Rescue Committee, Convention & Visitors Bureau Board, Parks Recreation Board, CRMWD, and the Citizens Advisory Board.

A budget workshop session with the Council will also be taking place during Tuesday's meetings. There will also be discussion on grants available concerning COVID-19. Before the meeting concluded there will be a segment for Council Input. Other items on the agenda include: Approval of City Council meeting minutes from May 12, 2020 meeting Vouchers for 05/14/2020 and 05/21/2020 Award bid to Raschig USZA, single source vendor, for trickling filter upgrades at the WasteWater Treatment



See **CITY**, Page 3

Nuclear Waste storage site proposed for West Texas

Editors' Note: At press time a representative from Interim Storage Partners/ Waste Control Specialists had not responded back. A follow up article will run when more information is obtained from representatives.

By **AMANDA DUFORAT**
 Managing Editor

West Texas - Andrews County to be exact - is the focus for a proposed radioactive nuclear waste facility. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is seeking public comment on the draft of Environmental Impact Statement submitted by Interim Storage Partners as part of the application to construct and operate a consolidated spent nuclear fuel storage facility.

Interim Storage Partners also includes Waste Control Specialists (WCS) and Orano USA. Currently WCS and Orano USA are operating a low-level nuclear waste facility in Andrews County. The submitted request would allow for approximately 5,000 metric tons of spent nuclear fuel to the proposed site, upgrading the low-level status to high-level status. The waste will be brought in by highways and rail lines through Midland/Odessa and the Big Spring area.

"The plan to move highly radioactive nuclear waste across the country and store it in the Permian Basin looks like it is going to be approved by the NRC, but even if the NRC approves the application, it will not happen without Congressional action," Jon Hogg, Congressional District 11 Candidate, said. "Right now the federal government cannot privatize and contract out disposal of high level nuclear waste..."

According to the Nuclear Waste Management Organization, low-level waste consists of industrial items ranging from mops, rags, cloths, etc., contaminated with low levels of radioactivity during routine cleanup and maintenance activity. These items are mostly short-lived radioactivity and can be handled safely with simple precautions. High-level waste

includes used nuclear fuel. When the used fuel bundles are removed from reactors they are highly radioactive and contain long-lived radioactivity and generate significant heat. High-level waste requires careful management over a very long term.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has taken into consideration the current COVID-19 pandemic and has extended the period of time allotted for public comment on the draft EIS. According to a press release from the NRC, details on how to submit comments in writing will be published in the Federal Register. The extended period of public comment will run for 120 days. A webinar and several public meetings in the Andrews County area are planned during the public comment period. During these meetings, the staff's preliminary findings will be presented and an opportunity to receive comments will be available.

"We need a long-term nuclear energy policy before we start moving such highly radioactive material across the country and through our cities, towns, and fields," Hogg said. "For example, investing in new nuclear technology, including recycling our nuclear waste would allow us to move towards lower carbon emissions while reducing the level of amount of radioactive materials to be permanently stored at the same time."

The NRC staff will review the public comments and prepare the final EIS in a document scheduled to be published in May 2021. The NRC staff also plans to complete a parallel safety review of the ISP application and publish a safety Evaluation Report in May 2021. A decision on whether to grant ISP a license would follow thereafter.

Amanda Duforat is the Managing Editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Take Note

• The Life Center in Big Spring is helping moms and dads with a Diaper Day Giveaway! Call for a five minute phone appointment and a pickup time for free diapers, wipes and formula. 432-606-5041

• St. Vincent de Paul will be open the following dates beginning May 2020. Food distribution will take place the second Thursday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and other assistance will take place the third Thursday of each month from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Both distributions will take place at 1009 Hearn at SVDP Building.

• Forsan Elementary has opened virtual pre-registration for 2020-21 school year. Due to COVID-19 pre-registration will be done virtually. Contact Mandy Buske with any questions at 432-457-0091 ext. 203 or by email at abuske@forsan.esc18.net. All pre-registration packets will need to be completed and returned to Mandy Buske via email or fax. A copy of the following items need to be returned with the packet: certified birth certificate, social security card, immunization record, proof of residency for district students only (utility bill), parent driver's license and proof of income (pre-k only). Age requirements are: Pre-K – must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2020; Kindergarten – 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2020. New transfer students (Kinder-5th) may apply at this time.

• Pre-registration for CISD Kinder, Pre-K3 & Pre-K4 underway. Due to COVID-19, Coahoma Elementary will be handling Pre-K3, Pre-K4 and Kindergarten registration for the 2020-2021 school year a little differently.

For safety precautions, district officials will only take registration by phone at this time. The phone registration does not guarantee your child will be attending CES for the 2020-2021 school year, but it will give the district a starting point until restrictions are lifted.

Pre-registration by phone will continue through Friday, April 17, from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. To register, please call 432-394-5000, ext 2 and speak to Jessica. Pre-registration is only open for children who live in the district. Transfer requests will not be processed until after June 1.

Police blotter

- **MICHAEL ANGELO GARZA**, 31, of 804 I-20, was arrested on a charge of evading arrest/detention previously convicted, aggravated assault with deadly weapon.
- **RICHARD LEONARD MOYA**, 45, of 1401 Mesquite, was arrested on a charge of criminal mischief between \$100 and \$750.
- **ERIC LEE WIGINGTON**, 38, of 1211 E. 18th Street, was arrested on a charge of assault family violence threat or offensive touch, terrorisitic threat family/household.
- **JOHN LEE THEDFORD JR.**, 45, of 5909 N Service Road Lot 26, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** was reported in the 1500 block of S. Main Street, 2600 block of Chanutte Drive, 500 block of S. Birdwell Lane.
- **BURGLARY IN PROGRESS** was reported in the 2200 block of Morgan Ranch Road, and 600 block of E. 4th Street.
- **ACCIDENT MINOR** was reported in the 100 block of N. Gregg Street, 2500 block of S. Gregg Street, 2000 block of W. FM 700
- **DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1500 block of E. 17th Street
- **UNWANTED SUBJECT** in the 200 block of W. FM 700, 300 Tulane Avenue
- **THEFT** was reported in the 300 block of S. Owens Street
- **DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE** was reported in the 1400 block of Mesquite Street, 1200 block of E. 18th Street.
- **FOUND PROPERTY** was reported in the 3600 block of W. Hwy 80, 7000 block of N. Service Road.
- **ASSAULT** was reported in the 3700 block of Wasson Road.
- **THEFT OF FIREARM** was reported in the 7000 block of N. Service Road.
- **BURGLARY OF HABITATION** was reported in the 2300 block of Roberts Drive.
- **SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY** was reported in the area of 18th and Goliad.

Obituaries

Adolfo G. Saldivar

Adolfo G. Saldivar, 86 of Big Spring died Sunday, May 24, 2020. Services are pending at Myers & Smith Funeral home.

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Angela Lance	Sr. Advertising Executive.....Ext. 255

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Weather



Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 8pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56. North wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east after midnight.

(Weather courtesy National Weather Service via forecast.weather.gov)

Take Note cont.

• Isaiah 58 while not open during normal business hours; will be open on Mondays from Noon until 2 p.m. until further notice, for the safety of their volunteers and those they serve. The change will take place June 1.

• Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Economic Development Corporation and Leading EDG understand the serious challenges our country faces as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. In response to this crisis, the Small Business Administration (“SBA”) has created new programs geared towards financial relief for affected businesses.

The Economic Injury Disaster Loan (“EIDL”), is currently available, but only by applying directly to the SBA via the online portal: <https://www.sba.gov/disaster/apply-for-disaster-loan/index.html>. It only takes a few minutes to fill out.

Another option, The Paycheck Protection Program, (“PPP”), has been approved by Congress. If you want to apply for the “PPP” loan contact your local lender.

Information changes daily so make sure you are checking the SBA website regularly.

• Effective immediately, to contact the City of Big Spring Water Office, please call 432-466-3264, 432-466-3568, or 432-466-7248. The Water Office is temporarily located at 305 South Johnson. Be advised, all City of Big Spring offices, including the Water Office, remain closed to the public and

open by appointment and electronic means only. Ways to make your payment: 1. Pay online at www.mybigspring.com. Click ONLINE BILL PAY; Pay via the automated phone system by calling 833-227-1752; Payment can be placed in the Drop Box at the Polly Mays Annex (501 Rannels). Staff checks the box daily; Pay over the phone by calling 432-466-3264, 432-466-3568, or 432-466-7248. Water Office staff are still available to assist customers by appointment and over the phone during normal business hours.

• City of Big Spring offices will remain open by appointment and electronic means only effective Sunday, March 22, at midnight. These offices include: City Hall (432-264-2401); Finance Department (432-264-2513); Public Works Department (432-264-2501); Human Resources Department (432-264-2346); Water Office (432-264-2319); Code Enforcement/Permits (432-264-2505); Community Services Office; Convention and Visitors Bureau (432-263-8235); Facilities (432-264-2322); Cemetery (432-264-2323); Police Department (432-264-2550); Fire Department (432-264-2304); The Big Spring Senior Center will be closed to congregate meals, but those who wish to pick up a to go order can call 432-267-1628, for more information. All City pavilions and playground structures will remain closed until further notice. For any questions or concerns please contact the City Manager’s Office at 432-264-2401.

CITY

Continued from Page 1

Plant Approval of Big Spring Economic Development Corporation Board of Director’s minutes for the regular meeting of April 21, 2020 Discussion and possible action on Development Incentives for infill lots in established subdivisions.

Those who want to attend the meeting may tune into Channel 17 on Suddenlink or visit <http://mybigspring.com/224/Channel-17-Live>. Those who want to speak during the public comment section can call in at 432-264-2411.

Amanda Duforat is the managing editor at the Big Spring Herald. To contact her, e-mail editor@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

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Courtesy photos

The dietary staff was cooking up hamburgers on Friday, at the Big Spring Junior High, for parents who were picking up meals on site. The staff will be cooking at Moss Elementary this Friday and then at Marcy Elementary after that.

Seal honored with retirement ceremony at Forsan ISD at end of year

Courtesy photo



Debby Seal, who has been part of Forsan ISD for 28 years, is stepping into retirement. Seal was honored with a social distancing retirement party as the school year drew to a close. Fellow staff members and administration at FISD were able to enjoy the celebration with her. The party included good eats, bittersweet farewells, and lots of walks down memory lane. Seal has invested into hundreds of students during her time on the Forsan ISD staff. Her contributions won't easily be forgotten and the marks that she has left behind on her students will carry on her legacy for years to come, especially for those in the Class of 2020 who are about to embark on their future. Thank you for your contributions to the students, to the school district, and to the community. Best wishes into your season of retirement.

NASA's newest test pilots are veteran astronauts, friends

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — The two astronauts who will test drive SpaceX's brand new rocketship are classmates and friends, veteran spaceflitters married to veteran spaceflitters, and fathers of young sons.

Together, they will end a nine-year drought for NASA when they blast into orbit next week from Florida's Kennedy Space Center.

Retired Marine Col. Doug Hurley will be in charge of launch and landing, a fitting assignment for the pilot of NASA's last space shuttle flight.

Air Force Col. Bob Behnken, a mechanical engineer with six spacewalks on his resume, will oversee rendezvous and docking at the International Space Station.

Hurley, 53, and Behnken, 49, are NASA's first test pilot crew in decades.

"It's probably a dream of every test pilot school student to have the opportunity to fly on a brand new spaceship, and I'm lucky enough to get that opportunity with my good friend," Behnken said.

Their flight will mark the return of NASA astronaut launches to the U.S., the first by a private company.

They've got Robert Crippen's respect. Crippen and the late John Young rode NASA's first space shuttle, Columbia, into orbit on April 12, 1981. Their two-day flight was especially dangerous: It was the first launch of a shuttle, with no dry run in space in advance.

While SpaceX's Dragon crew capsule and its escape system have already been demonstrated in flight — with mannequins — there are no guarantees.

In spaceflight, there never are.

"So both Doug and Bob, I think, they're brave gentlemen and I admire both of them," Crippen said.

SpaceX President Gwynne Shotwell also has high praise for Hurley and Behnken, who have worked closely with her company for the past several years. She made sure employees knew them not only as "badass" astronauts and test pilots, but dads and husbands.

"I wanted to bring some humanity to this very deeply technical effort as well," she said.

Hurley and Behnken are married to fellow members of their 2000 astronaut class at NASA: newly retired Karen Nyberg and Megan McArthur. Each couple has one child, boys 10 and 6.

Being married to an astronaut, both men acknowledged, has made it easier in the unexpectedly long run-up to their SpaceX flight. Their wives and sons joined them in quasi-quarantine back home in Houston when the coronavirus hit, so they're able to travel to Kennedy for the customary countdown farewells. The pandemic slashed the rest of their guest lists.

On launch day, the astronauts anticipate not so much nervousness as a heightened awareness of "what can happen to you at any given point," according to Behnken.

Hurley considers a capsule a safe, "pretty tried and true" design. He particularly likes the Dragon's launch pad-to-orbit abort capability to save a crew in

an emergency, something NASA's shuttles lacked.

Unlike shuttle, though, the Falcon 9 rocket will be fueled — a hazardous operation — with the astronauts already on board.

Hurley, who grew up in Apalachin, New York, never thought he'd be next up when he climbed out of Atlantis on July 21, 2011, bringing the 30-year space shuttle program to a close.

If someone had suggested that, "I would have laughed at them," he said.

Hurley and Behnken — both two-time space shuttle fliers — were among four astronauts chosen in 2015 for NASA's commercial crew program. At the time, Behnken was serving as chief of NASA's astronaut corps and the only way to and from the space station was on Russian rockets.

All four trained on both SpaceX and Boeing's crew capsules, before NASA assigned Hurley and Behnken to Elon Musk's SpaceX, which soon surged ahead of Boeing in the race to fly first.

That put Hurley ahead of his former shuttle commander, Chris Ferguson, now working for Boeing and assigned to the first Starliner capsule crew.

"Most fighter pilots are very competitive by nature, so we maybe silently had a competition between each other to some degree," Hurley said. "But I think we also realized the bigger picture."

Behnken was inspired by photos of Jupiter and Saturn from NASA's Voyager spacecraft while growing up in St. Ann, Missouri.

Now, he's excited "to bring human spaceflight back to the Florida coast."

The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

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UIL sets restrictions for summer workouts

By SHAWN MORAN

Herald Sportswriter

The University Interscholastic League (UIL) spent the last week sorting everything out and finally set the restrictions for summer workouts that may begin on June 8.

"UIL schools may, but are not required to, begin UIL Summer Strength and Conditioning and Sport Specific Instruction beginning June 8, 2020 under the requirements described below. UIL will continue to work with state officials and monitor CDC and other federal guidance to determine any potential modifications. Schools should take their local context into account when deciding whether to offer summer strength and conditioning on campus by monitoring the situation on the Texas Department of State Health Services dashboard. Schools should follow all local and state requirements when considering strength and conditioning activities."

Coaches around Howard County have been patiently waiting for the return of athletics and they may now start to setup their summer workout schedule. There has not been an organized sport played in Texas since mid-March and every athlete and coach is ready to get back with their team.

With the return of sports and summer workouts, however, there is still a long list of requirements each coach and athlete must follow in order for those summer workouts to continue.

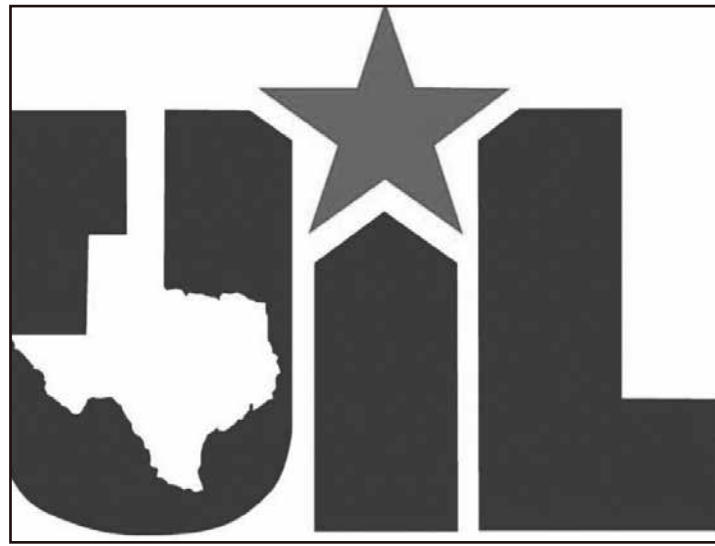
The UIL recommends that all athletic teams consider having an individual wholly or partially dedicated to ensuring health protocols are being successfully implemented and followed.

Schools must follow all requirements of state and local authorities in addition to the requirements below:

- Attendance at workouts must be optional for students and in compliance with the rules for Summer Strength/Conditioning Programs & Sport Specific Skill Instruction noted below. In addition to on-campus workout options, schools should consider providing students guidance for working out at home or remotely away from school. This can include virtual workouts, emailed or otherwise electronically delivered workout instructions, or any delivery model approved by the local school district.

- Attendance records shall be kept, however, students shall not be allowed to make up missed days or workouts.

- Fees, if any, shall be established by the superintendent and collected by the school. Any payment to coaches shall be from the school and from no



UIL Logo

other source.

- Students may not be given access to locker rooms or shower facilities. Students should report to workouts in proper gear and immediately return home to shower at end of the workout.

- During workouts, schools must have at least one staff member per twenty students in attendance to ensure appropriate social distancing, hygiene, and safety measures are implemented.

- Schools must have hand sanitizer or hand-washing stations readily available in the workout area. Students and staff should be encouraged to use it frequently.

- All surfaces in workout areas must be thoroughly disinfected throughout and at the end of each day.

- No clothing or towels may be laundered on site or shared during workouts.

- There can be no shared water or food.

- Before the start of summer workouts, and at the start of every week of summer workouts, schools should consider pre-screening all students for COVID symptoms that they or others living in their house may experience. This can be completed by phone prior to the first day of workouts, in person or in writing. Students and staff must self-screen every day for COVID-19 symptoms for themselves and family members. Schools should consider taking the temperature of each student each day at the start of the conditioning sessions, if possible.

- Schools should plan for entry and exit procedures that regulate the number of students and parents congregating outside and/or mixing around the workout areas and parking areas. Consider staggering start and end times, assigning students to entries and exits to ensure even distribution of

students entering/exiting at each entry point, providing guidance to students to enter one at a time and wait six feet apart outside the entrance.

- If the school is planning to offer transportation for summer activities, schools should follow all TEA guidance and local guidance related to such transportation.

Schools should consider having students remain with a single group or cohort to minimize the number of students and staff that must isolate if a case is confirmed.

There is also a short list of additional rules that must be followed for sport specific training. Those rules are as follows:

- Sessions for sport specific instruction may be conducted by school coaches for students in grades 7-12 from that coach's attendance zone.

- Sessions may be conducted in addition to the strength and conditioning session(s), and a student shall attend no more than 90 minutes per day of sport specific skill instruction with no more than 60 minutes per day in a given sport, Monday through Friday.

- Sport specific skill sessions may include specific sports equipment, but contact equipment (restricted equipment) is not allowed. School shorts, shirts and shoes may be provided by the school (local school option) but may not be laundered on-site.

- No competitive drills involving one or more students on offensive against one or more students on defensive may be conducted. Examples: Basketball players may participate in drills, but cannot conduct drills / activities against a defender. In football, offensive / defensive drills are allowed, but no 7 on 7, or offense vs defense drills are allowed, etc.

In addition to all of these new sets of rules for summer workouts, it is important to note that weight training can still be conducted with only 25 percent capacity filling up the weight room. This is a great indicator that a lot of the training this summer will be speed and agility workouts that can be done outside or on the field.

West Texas has been waiting over two months for the return of sports to the area. Now that we are heading into the summer months, the next season to look forward to is football in the fall. Since the workout restrictions have now been set, the three local high school football teams will now be chomping at the bit to get back on the field in a little less than two weeks.

Shawn Moran is the sportswriter at the Big Spring Herald. To contact him, e-mail sports@bigspringherald.com or call 432-263-7331.

Athletic Support: "Wearing masks to practice"

By ELI CRANOR

Special to the Herald

Dear Athletic Support: My 8-year-old son's baseball team started practicing again a week or so back. The sound of bats cracking and gloves popping fit perfectly with the warm, almost-summer day. For one brief moment, things finally felt like they were back to "normal." Then I noticed the masks. Each and every boy out on that field was wearing a mask of some sort. It looked like something out of a horror movie. To make matters worse, none of the boys could get close to each other. I felt sorry for the coaches trying to keep a team of 8-year olds (who haven't seen each other in months) six feet apart at all times. The dugouts even had hand sanitizer stations! Weird. By the end of the practice, there weren't many boys still wearing their masks. I'm almost certain a few of them slapped hands and didn't use the hand sanitizer. Honestly, I can't say that I blame them. The whole thing seems like overkill to me. What do you think? — Boys Will Be Boys

Dear Mr. and Mrs. There are people much smarter — much more informed — than you or me, and they've given us all a very explicit set of guidelines in regard to reopening the country.

For some reason, though, most people in my part of America seem to think it's a joke. I went into Lowe's the other day with my 67-year-old father (who also has a heart condition). We could barely find a parking place. The whole store was packed. But when we checked out, our cashier wasn't even wearing a mask!

I don't get it.

I simply cannot understand people's aversion to following this very simple

procedure. The truth about the masks is that they're not for you. They don't keep you from getting COVID19; they keep you from spreading it.

Which brings me back to your son's baseball practice.

Let's imagine our country as a Little League baseball team. Let's say the coach calls the boys together and goes over the drills they're going to be doing in practice, but none of the boys will listen to him. When it comes game time, they won't even play their proper positions, or bat in the order he's written down on the lineup.

Is that the message you want to send to your son?

Because that's the one you're conveying to him by letting this mask stuff slide. You're telling him he doesn't have to follow the rules. You're telling him not to worry about his teammates (or his coaches) but to only think of himself.

I'm sure masks aren't the most comfortable things to wear under a baseball cap on a muggy May afternoon, but surely they're not unbearable, especially when the safety of your family is involved.

Life, much like baseball, is unpredictable. And what we're all up against now — this mysterious, shape-shifting virus — it's unlike anything we've ever seen. Who knows what the next couple months are going to look like? The next year?

The only thing I do know is it's going to take every single American — all of us, working together as a team — to beat it.

Eli Cranor is a former professional quarterback and coach turned award-winning author. Send questions for "Athletic Support" to eli.cranor@gmail.com or visit elicranor.com.

Woods, Manning win a TV charity match as good as real thing

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

Tom Brady delivered the shot of the match that made it easy to forget the rest of his swings. Tiger Woods didn't miss a fairway and earned a small measure of revenge against Phil Mickelson.

The PGA Tour is set to return in just over two weeks, and it has a tough act to follow.

In the second and final charity match that brought live golf to TV, this exhibition was as entertaining as the real thing.

Woods lagged a long birdie putt close enough that his partner, Peyton Manning, didn't have to putt. That secured a 1-up victory over Mickelson and Brady in "The Match: Champions for Charity."

The goal was to raise \$10 million or more for COVID-19 relief funds, and online donations sent money climbing toward about twice that much.

This made-for-TV exhibition would have been worth pay-per-view, the model Woods and Mickelson used for a \$9 million winner-take-all match in Las Vegas over Thanksgiving weekend in 2018 that Mickelson won in a playoff under lights. It felt forced, lacked banter and turned out to free be-

cause of technical issues.

Throw in two NFL greats in Brady and Manning, and this allowed viewers to ride along for 18 holes at Medalist Golf Club among four of the biggest stars in sports.

Justin Thomas pitched in as an on-course reporter, bringing a mixture of humor and insight with the right amount of words.

Woods and Manning took the lead on the third hole and never trailed, building a 3-up lead in four-balls on the front nine, with Manning making two birdies (one was a net par).

Brady, whose six Super Bowl titles are more than any NFL quarterback in history, took a beating on social media and in the broadcast booth from Charles Barkley, who twice offered \$50,000 of his own money toward charity if Brady just hit the green on a par 3. He missed so far right it would be comparable to a pass that landed three rows into the stands.

New Orleans Saints coach Sean Payton weighed in on Twitter, noting Brady signing as a free agent with Tampa Bay by saying he liked the "Florida" Brady much better.

Brooks Koepka offered \$100,000 if Brady could

just make a par.

One shot shut everyone up.

Never mind that Brady had to take a penalty drop before getting back to the fairway on the par-5 seventh. With his fourth shot, with Barkley needling him relentlessly, Brady's shot landed beyond the pin and spun back into the cup.

"Shut your mouth, Chuck," said Brady, whose microphone piece dangled off the back of his pants.

Woods still thought he won the hole with a 25-foot eagle putt that instead spun hard off the back of the lip. All that, and they ended up halving the hole.

Donations for COVID-19 relief funds kept piling up, and the entertainment didn't stop even as the rain returned. It caused a 45-minute delay at the start, and as Woods said on the practice range, "I don't normally play in conditions like this."

Mickelson brought out his "Tiger Slayer" putter that he used to shoot 64 at Pebble Beach in 2012, the last time they were in the final group on the PGA Tour. Woods shot 75 that day. It didn't help Lefty with a few critical birdie putts to square the match, though he rolled in a 15-foot par putt to stay 1 down with two to play.

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Bids will be accepted until 5 PM Wednesday, June 10, 2020. Bids will be opened at the Howard County Appraisal District Board of Directors regular meeting on Wednesday, June 10, 2020. The vehicle will be sold "as is", without any warranty. The vehicle can be seen at 315 S. Main Street, Big Spring, Texas weekdays between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., By Appointment Only.

If you desire to bid on this vehicle, please send a sealed bid with the envelope clearly marked "BID FOR THE

Public Notice

PURCHASE OF VEHICLE". Any bid received without being clearly marked will be rejected. Address your bid to: Lisa Reyna, Chief Appraiser Howard County Appraisal District P O Box 1151 Big Spring, TX 79721-1151 Or bring it by 315 S. Main Street, Big Spring, Texas and place in the Drop Box outside our door. THE HOWARD COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY BID.

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Annie's Mailbox

Miscommunications and Misunderstandings

Dear Annie: I come from a large family. I was the youngest of four girls, and there were several years between us. Growing up, I barely knew my two older sisters.

One of the sisters remarried someone from a different religion, though they were not practicing. Fast-forward 20-25 years and this same couple drives by our small town 10-20 times during the year. After I entered retirement from having worked 50-60 hours a week, I realized that we made several invitations for them to stop in, but they never did.

(Let's not forget that they would stop in and see my other sister's family on the way).

We bought a historic house that has wooden floors, and a few years ago, we hosted a Christmas party. In the invite, I suggested wearing pretty socks, as shoes might harm the floor. Our house is surrounded by gravel. In response, this sister's husband refused to come to the party and gave no notice. He dropped off my sister

at the street and drove off. We heard that his reaction was, "No one is going to tell me what to do." I sent a letter to all that it was disturbing that this took place. We had just moved in and barely had beds for our family, but since it was our turn, we wanted to have the Christmas celebration.

We four sisters went to counseling. It turned out that at my mother's death, 20 years ago, I gave a funny look to my new brother-in-law, and that is why there has been friction between us. The funny look was because I had information that our mother gave me right before she died, and I was trying to relay it to them.

A family member posted for her birthday pictures of family on Facebook she was happy to be with, and every family was represented except ours. -- Sister in Distress

Dear Sister in Distress: First things first: Twenty years is a long time to hold a grudge. If you are upset that your sister and her husband never stopped by when they drove through your town, why don't you ask her about it? Sometimes, the answer is as simple as, "Well, we

didn't know we were invited." A fresh invitation could do the trick. Try and let that one go.

As for the Christmas party, your brother-in-law's behavior was terrible. Not being flexible enough to enjoy a family Christmas party because of a refusal to wear socks - and a refusal to even have a conversation about it -- misses the spirit of Christmas entirely. Also, there are a ton of cute Christmas socks -- think Santa, Rudolph and the whole North Pole gang. Check in on your sister who is married to the stubborn louse. Make sure that she is happy with him. If not, encourage her to seek therapy.

As for that Facebook post, I'd suggest having a conversation with the family member who posted the message. Try not to be angry or defensive. Again, this oversight might have a simple explanation. If you are able to listen and learn, and possibly change a few things, you might feel more welcome within your own family.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A very valuable convention

South dealer.
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NORTH	
♦ Q 7 6 2	
♥ 8 5 3	
♦ K	
♣ A Q J 10 5	
WEST	
♠ J 9 3	
♥ Q J 6 2	
♦ A 7 4	
♣ 8 7 3	
EAST	
♠ 8 5 4	
♥ K 10 9	
♦ J 6 5 3 2	
♣ K 9	

which South plays the ace and West the jack.

Declarer tries a club finesse, losing to the king, and East has the chance to be a hero or a goat, depending on whether he returns a diamond or a spade. If he chooses the wrong suit, South makes the contract.

Suppose East returns a spade, eschewing a diamond return because South opened the bidding with a diamond. In that case, declarer eventually scores four spade tricks, four club tricks and a heart for nine tricks all told. But if East returns a diamond, South goes down one, losing three hearts, a diamond and a club.

East's problem is not entirely a matter of guesswork, however. He should go back to the play at trick three when West, known to hold the Q-J of hearts, elected to play the jack on South's ace.

The jack play is significant to players familiar with the suit-preference signal. Since the Q-J are equal in value at this point, West can indicate a preference for the lower-ranking suit (as between spades and diamonds) by playing the lower-ranking card, the jack.

If West had held the ace of spades instead of the ace of diamonds, he would have requested a spade lead by playing the queen instead of the jack at trick three.

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	

Opening lead — two of hearts.
A conscientious defender should try to decipher the meaning of every card his partner plays. This is especially true whenever partner has a choice of cards to play. In these cases, a good defender should ask himself why partner played the card he did play rather than another one he could have played.

Consider this deal where West leads a heart to East's king, which wins, and East continues with the ten, South playing the seven and West the six. East then leads another heart, on

Tomorrow: Spotty play.
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SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

Tomorrow's Horoscope

BY HOLIDAY MATHIS



Mercury in Gemini

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A ring, the flame on a candle wick, a folded stash of cash... small things mean so much today that it's almost like objects expand in importance in inverse proportion to their actual size.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Not everything has to be about something. It's enough to just be. There is peace in the moments you forget about what things mean and just accept what they are.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Finishing what you start will be a matter of personal pride. You'll derive a great deal of self-esteem from just knowing that you did what you said you would do.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Trying to get someone interested usually has the opposite effect. Don't try. Do you, and see who comes knocking. Ultimately, you'll be delighted by your options.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your navigation system has updated many times. You've used your parents, friends and employers as guides. You've used your phone, the media and more. Through it all, intuition is your most enduring compass.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). In math, there is only one right answer. In love, there are dozens or even hundreds of right answers, and the more deeply in love you are, the more you'll be willing to try.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have a healthy respect for the

natural order of things and appreciate stages from birth to blossom, thriving and even decay. Your appreciation of beauty will lead to an encounter.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A smile, a call from out of the blue, a home-cooked meal... these are the gestures that mean so much. You'll pay forward the warmth that has been given to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You need something new to do today. Novelty is a necessity, and without it you're apt to feel lethargic. New people are the best for this. Second best are new activities. In a pinch, media fills the void.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). This endeavor you're participating in is actually much more intricate and elaborate than you would have guessed. Take yourself out of the game a minute and you'll see it for the first time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're active, multifaceted and eager to connect with people who can keep up with you. When this happens, you know it immediately and get swept up in the fascinating conversation that ensues.

it's years before they emerge on land, and if they're very lucky, they take to the air for a few months. The dragonflies you see represent the heartiest of their kind, as many are eaten by fish and birds in their egg or nymph form, and even the ones who live to climb from the water and shed their aquatic form for wings are incredibly vulnerable in the first hours of that transformation, as they wait to get dry enough to fly away.

So when you see a dragonfly, you are seeing a changeling, a master of transformation and a survivor of a species that is older than the dinosaurs. Scientists study dragonflies for their incredible powers of both flight and sight.

I suspect you have already been many people in your lifetime and you once again find yourself in a stage of becoming. Let your dreams of the amazing dragonfly be a sign to you that your most liberating and fulfilling incarnation is still to come.

CELEBRITY PROFILES: On the expensive heels of her celebrated portrayal of Princess Margaret in "The Crown," Gemini Helena Bonham Carter will voice the character Little Twink in the upcoming animation about adventuring twins, "The Land of Sometimes." Bonham Carter is a bright, intellectual air sign, born when the moon was in Leo, the sign of creativity, children and entertainment.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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5:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	Broke Girl	CBS 7	Tele	News	All About		Flintstone	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Connie Nielsen (DVS)	SportsCenter	Jalen Question	Swing The Blitz	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48: Killer	Deadliest Catch
6:PM	News	Rosa de Guadalupe	Big Bang	CBS 7	Minuto para ganar	News	Truth for Life	PBS News-Hour	M*A*S*H	Fam. Guy	Big Bang		MLB Baseball	NBA2K League: Week Four.	Cowboys Deep Blue	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48: Killer	Deadliest Catch
7:PM	Connors	Ringo	Hell's Kitchen	NCIS (DVS)	Cennet (SS)	America's Got Talent	Our Mess	Finding Your Roots	Andy G.	DC's Stargirl	Big Bang				MLB Baseball	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48: Killer	Deadliest Catch
8:PM	Mod Fam	Amor eterno	24 Hours-Hell	FBI	100 dias para enam		Light of Southwest	Viral: Anti-Semitism	G. Pyle	DC's Legends	Big Bang				TBA	Law & Order: SVU	The First 48: Killer	Deadliest Catch
9:PM	Genetic Detect.	Sin miedo a la	FOX 24 News at 9	FBI: Most Wanted	La reina del sur 2	(:01) World of Dance	Light of Southwest	Frontline	Heroes	Seinfeld	Big Bang					Law & Order: SVU	Accused: Guilty	NASA & SpaceX: Countdown to Launch
10:PM	Big 2	Noticiero	TMZ	CBS 7	Tele	News	Being		C. Burnett	black-ish	Conan		SportsCenter	NFL Live	Rangers Sports	Mod Fam	The First 48	
11:PM	J. Kimmel	Noticiero	Mom	Late Show-Colbert	Noticias Titulares	Tonight Show	Words of Jesus IS	Amanpour-Co	Perry Mason	black-ish	Last O.G.	(:35) Snowpiercer			World Poker	Mod Fam	The First 48	Deadliest Catch
12:AM	Nightline	Contacto deportivo	Funny	James Corden	100 dias para enam	Seth Meyers	Creation On the	Finding Your Roots	Twi. Zone	Gold	Conan	(:35) Movie: Jack the Giant Slayer (DVS)	SportsCenter	Johnsonville ACL Corn-hole	MLB Baseball	Mod Fam	The First 48: Killer	
1AM	J. Kimmel	Destilando amor	Simpsons	Holly	Caso	Late-Lilly	For the	Viral: Anti-Semitism	Mannix	Live PD	Jokers		SportsCenter	The Jump Korean	Chicago P.D.	Accused: Guilty	NASA & SpaceX: Countdown	
2AM	Mel Robbins	Como dice el dicho	Pawn	ET	Programa	News	Light of Southwest			Live PD	Jokers							
3AM	BLINK		Pawn	Paid Prg.	De'siones	Inside Ed.				Paid Prg.	Jokers							

ANDY CAPP

DO NOT DENY IT! I KNOW IT WOULD HAVE BEEN YOU BRAWLING IN THE PIG AND WHISTLE LAST NIGHT.

DO YOU THINK I'M OLD AND STUPID?

OF COURSE NOT.

YOU'RE NOT OLD.

MAHONEY, GOLDSMITH & GARNETT

AGNES

I AM INVENTING NEW SECRETS TO UNEARTHLY BEAUTY.

NOT INTERESTED, THANKS.

NOT INTERESTED IN BEAUTY? WHO'S NOT INTERESTED IN BEAUTY?

I'M ALL IN FOR BEAUTY... JUST NOT UNEARTHLY BEAUTY.

FINE. SETTLE FOR MERE EARTH BEAUTY. I'M GOING TO BE STUNNING EVEN ON MARS.

I'D BE HAPPY WITH SEMICUTE IN SOUTHEAST BROWN COUNTY.

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ARCHIE

I'M BEGINNING TO SUSPECT THAT JUGHEAD DOESN'T LIKE THE WAY I COOK!

ER, WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?

I'VE NOTICED THAT EVERY TIME I INVITE HIM OVER TO DINNER...

HE BRINGS HIS DOG ALONG!

Visit: www.archiecomics.com

ONE BIG HAPPY

MOM, IS USING CHEWING GUM TO PLUG UP A HOLE IN A SWIMMING POOL AN ODD JOB?

OR HOW ABOUT CLEANING SNOT OUT OF AN ELEPHANT'S TRUNK?

OR BAKING A CAKE ON SOMEBODY'S HEAD? AND IF THEY ARE ODD JOBS...

WHAT ARE THE EVEN JOBS LIKE?

NO, THANKS.

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NEST HEAD

YOU'VE BEEN TO COLLEGE, UNCLE ALBERT. IF ORANGE JUICE TASTES BETTER THAN ORANGEADE, WHY DOESN'T LEMON JUICE TASTE BETTER THAN LEMONADE?

THAT'S SOMETHING THEY TEACH YOU IN GRADUATE SCHOOL.

ALLEN

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MOMMA

FRANCIS, YOU SLEEP TOO MUCH... IS IT A MEDICAL PROBLEM?

YES, MOMMA... - IT'S MY HORMONES. THEY DON'T START RAGING UNTIL SUNDOWN...

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This Date In History

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, May 26, the 147th day of 2020. There are 219 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On May 26, 1981, 14 people were killed when a Marine jet crashed onto the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz off Florida.

On this date:

In 1864, President Abraham Lincoln signed a measure creating the Montana Territory.

In 1868, the impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson ended with his acquittal on the remaining charges.

In 1938, the House Un-American Activities Committee was established by Congress.

In 1940, Operation Dynamo, the evacuation of some 338,000 Allied troops from Dunkirk, France, began during World War II.

In 1971, Don McLean recorded his song "American Pie" at The Record Plant in New York City (it was released the following November by United Artists Records).

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev signed the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty in Moscow. (The U.S. withdrew from the treaty in 2002.)

In 1978, Resorts Casino Hotel, the first legal U.S. casino outside Nevada, opened in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

In 1994, Michael Jackson and Lisa Marie Presley were married in the Dominican Republic. (The marriage, however, ended in 1996.)

In 1998, the U.S. Supreme Court made it far more difficult for police to be sued by people hurt during high-speed chases. The Supreme Court also ruled that Ellis Island, historic gateway for millions of immigrants, was mainly in New Jersey, not New York.

In 2004, nearly a decade after the Oklahoma City bombing, Terry Nichols was found guilty of 161 state murder

charges for helping carry out the attack. (Nichols later received 161 consecutive life sentences.)

In 2005, President George W. Bush received Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas at the White House; Bush called Abbas a courageous democratic reformer and bolstered his standing at home with \$50 million in assistance.

In 2009, President Barack Obama nominated federal appeals judge Sonia Sotomayor to the U.S. Supreme Court. California's Supreme Court upheld the Proposition 8 gay marriage ban but said the 18,000 same-sex weddings that had taken place before the prohibition passed were still valid.

Ten years ago: BP launched its latest bid to plug the gushing well in the Gulf of Mexico by force-feeding it heavy drilling mud, a maneuver known as a "top kill" which proved unsuccessful. TV personality Art Linkletter died in Los Angeles at age 97. Lee DeWyeze was crowned the winner of "American Idol" over Crystal Bowersox. Five years ago: Challenging Hillary Rodham Clinton from the left, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders formally kicked off his Democratic presidential bid in Burlington, Vermont, with a pitch to liberals to join him in a "political revolution" to transform the nation's economy and politics.

One year ago: A tornado leveled a motel and tore through a mobile home park near Oklahoma City, killing two people and injuring more than two dozen others. Simon Pagenaud won his first Indianapolis 500 after a duel with Alexander Rossi, giving team owner Roger Penske his 18th victory in the race. Bart Starr, the Hall of Fame quarterback who led the Green

Bay Packers to victories in the first two Super Bowl games, died in Birmingham, Alabama at the age of 85.

Today's Birthdays: Sportscaster Brent Musberger is 81. Rock musician Garry Peterson (Guess Who) is 75. Singer Stevie Nicks is 72. Actress Pam Grier is 71. Actor Philip

Michael Thomas is 71. Country singer Hank Williams Jr. is 71. Former British Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn is 71. Actress Margaret Colin is 62. Country songwriter Dave Robbins is 61. Actor Doug Hutchison is 60. Actress Genie Francis is 58. Comedian Bobcat Goldthwait is 58. Singer-actor

Lenny Kravitz is 56. Actress Helena Bonham Carter is 54. Distance runner Zola Budd is 54. Rock musician Phillip Rhodes is 52. Actor Joseph Fiennes (FYNZ) is 50. Singer Joey Kibble (Take 6) is 49. Actor-producer-writer Matt Stone is 49. Singer Lauryn Hill is 45. Contemporary Christian musician Nathan

Cochran is 42. Actress Elisabeth Harnois is 41. Actor Hrach Titizian is 41.

Thought for Today: "I am never afraid of what I know." — Anna Sewell, English author (1820-1878).

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Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

1 Londoner's farewell

5 Land adjoining the ocean

10 The ___ of Avon (Shakespeare)

14 Throw forcefully

15 In a fitting way

16 Person telling fibs

17 Slanted typeface: Abbr.

18 Bend (over)

19 General's fighting force

20 With 52 Across, start of a bridalwear rhyme

23 Ankle mishap

24 Beauty and the ___

28 Liquor in a martini

29 Drains of energy

32 Naval noncom: Abbr.

33 Dined at home

36 Feeling annoyed

37 "Scat!"

38 Inventory accounting method

41 Small fruit pie

42 Tumpike or highway

43 Jogs along

44 Before, in poems

45 Keep ___ on (watch closely)

46 Prefix meaning "recent"

47 AM/FM device

49 Requiring dimes or quarters, as a pinball machine, for short

DOWN

1 The thing here

2 Toyotas and Chevys

3 Vagabond or hobo

4 Expert on hay fever

5 Redeem, as poker chips

6 Decide to take part

7 Like ___ of bricks

8 Laborious walk

9 Keyboarding mistake

10 Razor insert

11 Televised

12 Lamb's father

13 No longer damp

21 Make impure

22 Many ozs.

25 Sneezing sound

26 Teapot opening

27 Horn honks

29 Living room couches

30 Getting little rain

31 Part of mph

33 Subsequent to

34 Pageant crown

35 Goofed up

36 Snooty person

37 Coerce

39 Nest egg acronym

40 Beer mug

45 Overly

46 Bangs and clangs

48 Topic being debated

49 Run after

50 At just the right moment

51 Dancer

53 C+ or A-

54 Nickname for Ireland

55 Fork prong

56 "What ___ wrong?"

57 Winter bug

58 Belonging to us

59 Comedian's joke

Answer to previous puzzle

SASS GARB DARTS
HULA EVIL IDAHO
ORAL MONO NOTES
WATERINGCAN
SIN SLEDS
VIA FIBS ORELSA
INTEL LOON CAPS
GARDENING GLOVES
OWED OPAL ARENA
RESIST REAR STY
TEACH MVP
WHEELBARROW
SCIFI TITAL MOPE
PECAN SAME ATTN
YOUNG TISPS NEST

5/26/20

Analysis: The NBA seems on the cusp of a comeback plan

By **TIM REYNOLDS**

AP Basketball Writer

Something is finally clear in the uncertain NBA: Players believe they're going to play games again this season.

The obvious questions — How? Where? When? — remain unanswered. Testing, part of the new normal of this coronavirus era, will be a major component to any return-to-play plan that the NBA comes up with. The Disney campus near Orlando, Florida makes so much sense, given its massive size, multiple courts and its ties to league broadcast partner ESPN. And the sooner games begin, the sooner the process of figuring out next season can start as well.

Several people familiar with the details of the conversations have told The Associated Press this week that players around the league are being urged to start getting mentally and physically ready for training camps that could be just a few weeks away. It might not be a unanimously approved notion, but 2-1/2 months into this pandemic-caused shutdown, the NBA finally seems on the cusp of being able to move forward.

"I have faith in Adam Silver and the NBA, and the NBA teams ... they're not going to have us come back if it's even a question of us getting hurt," Jared Dudley of the Los Angeles Lakers said this week. "And that's where the testing, being clean, and doing everything that I feel that they'll do to keep us safe."

Pick a scenario for the return-to-play plan, and someone has surely heard it already. Bringing back all 30 teams and resuming the regular season is an option. So is bringing back something like 20 teams and having an expanded playoff of sorts, a notion that essentially mirrors what the NHL is talking about these days. A condensed playoff has also been discussed.

The latest sign of momentum: Milwaukee owner Marc Lasry, speaking Thursday on CNBC, said the NBA's board of governors will meet again next week and that he believes "within the next six to eight weeks we should be playing."

Silver, the commissioner who has had to deal with a series of turbulent matters from the strained China relationship in the preseason, to the deaths of David Stern and Kobe Bryant in January, and now a pandemic that will almost

certainly affect the league's financial health for the next several years — is listening to any and all ideas.

"The direction that the league office has received from our teams is, again, all rules are off at this point given the situation we find ourselves in, that the country is in," Silver said last month. "If there is an opportunity to resume play, even if it looks different than what we've done historically, we should be modeling it."

The calendar dictates that those decisions are going to come soon, backed up by the fact that Silver told players two weeks ago that he wants to be able to bring forward a return-to-play plan in "two to four weeks." By that timeframe, the window is about to open.

"I'm really excited about the possibility of coming back," Cleveland forward Kevin Love said in remarks broadcast on the NBA's Twitter channel this week. "I think there's so much good that can come from it. ... People need that escape and as athletes too, we want to get back to what we love most."

It's going to be different. Fans won't be at games, barring some seismic shift in thinking. Home-court advantage won't exist since games will almost certainly all be at neutral sites. Even the Orlando Magic won't have the home-court edge; they might be able to use their own homes if the NBA comes to Central Florida, but it's not like the games will be in their arena.

And someone is probably going to test positive when play resumes. If that happens, he'll almost certainly have to sit out a minimum of two weeks. If a playoff series is held on an every-other-day basis, that means once someone is positive there's no way he can return to that series. Imagine if LeBron James or Giannis Antetokounmpo tests positive; the title chances for the Lakers and Milwaukee Bucks would basically be gone in an instant.

But in a season where the NBA is certainly going to lose money, quite possibly \$1 billion or more, there is an obvious appetite for getting back to work if safety can be assured.

"This has been like being an anxious kid that wants to do something but can't, or an anxious dog where you tell him to sit and he looks at you like 'C'mon bro' and his tail starts wagging because he's so excited," All-Star Bam Adebayo of the Miami Heat said. "It's been a whole spectrum of the unknown."

SiriusXM keeping sports fans entertained during hiatus

By **JOE REEDY**

AP Sports Writer

When you oversee 19 sports stations, radio programming is a daily challenge. During a pandemic, it can become like throwing a no-hitter, scoring a hat trick and winning a NASCAR race all in one.

Just ask Steve Cohen, SiriusXM's senior vice president for sports, whose company broadcasts everything from baseball to hockey to soccer to football to golf to, well, you get the idea.

Cohen and his team had to devise plans for the 19 sports channels SiriusXM radio produces. Some stations have kept their programming lineup in the two months since the pandemic halted sports. Other channels taped shows that ended up airing in their normal time slots. Regardless, some quick thinking for the short and long terms was needed.

"We were totally reinventing how we do things," says Cohen, who has been in sports broadcasting for more than three decades. "We quickly had to identify which channels needed to stay live and what was most important, while taking into account the safety of our staff."

"The day everything was postponed, we knew we were going to be challenged. Our goal throughout has been what we could do to be entertaining."

And informative, naturally. With so much uncertainty surrounding the sports world, SiriusXM's on-air talent needed to adjust their roles. Cohen says what has pleased him most is their transition into being talk show hosts. With a base of long-time subscribers and regular callers, keeping a daily routine was important.

"They have had to talk about Netflix and what they are doing to take care of themselves. It has been great to hear that because we are all going through this together," Cohen says.

Even though most of the hosts already were doing shows out of their homes, they had to make some adjustments with producers having to work remotely.

The Mad Dog Sports Radio and NFL Radio channels — two of SiriusXM's most popular sports outlets — were able to run close to normal due to NFL free agency and the draft. Mad Dog Sports Radio also maintained its lineup and was able to delve into other topics throughout the sports world.

Former NFL team executive Pat Kirwan, the long-time host of NFL Radio's "Movin' the Chains" afternoon show, has been working almost exclusively from home since he was hired in 2004. The only times he sees co-host Jim Miller, the former NFL quarterback, is when they are at the Senior Bowl, Super Bowl, training camp or league meet-

ings.

Kirwan explains that technology has progressed greatly during his 16 years with the network, going from using ISDN lines that had to be installed for home studios to a high-speed fiber internet connection that delivers better quality.

"We can do a show without seeing each other. The only time we step on each other's toes is when we want to," Kirwan said. "Every couple of years the technology takes us to a deeper and better place."

Which certainly has come in handy the last few months, particularly during the NFL draft, when SiriusXM covers every selection.

Adam Schein, who hosts a weekday late-morning show on Mad Dog Sports Radio, rarely worked from home before the pandemic because he preferred being in the studio. But he notes he's adapted well to not being in the studio — and the shows remain rewarding even when the regular assortment of topics are not available with no games or events until last weekend.

"The calls to the shows have been excellent. We still have our regular callers, but there have been a lot of first timers," he said. "In the beginning, there was a 'Groundhog Day' quotient to everything, but there have been some great moments with me and others talking about their family and what they are doing."

Balancing what listeners are accustomed to with adjusted programming due to the pandemic has been an important step.

Most channels have kept a semblance of their daily lineup but have taped their programs in advance. Even those shows have required last-minute changes. NASCAR Radio host Dave Moody said there were times they had to re-record new segments for his afternoon show because news was happening. The biggest example was Chip Ganassi Racing firing driver Kyle Larson after he used a racial slur, and replacing him with Matt Kenseth, who came out of retirement.

With NASCAR returning to racing last week, the channel has gone back to live programs.

"A big part of our show is based on talking to fans, but we couldn't do that," Moody says. "No one held that against us: Everyone's lives got changed. They were appreciative that instead of going off the air for six to eight weeks we were doing some content to keep them informed."

The NASCAR hiatus also had a side benefit. Star driver Kevin Harvick elected not to do his "Happy Hours" show this year as he cut back on some media appearances. But Harvick revived the show during the layoff.

"To have the opportunity to talk with the fans during this pandemic was important for me, as well as for our sport," Harvick says. "We feel like it filled a huge need not only for myself, but for our fans and our partners."

To boot, Harvick won the first race when NASCAR returned last Sunday.

The channels also have tried to address various issues during the pandemic, as well as informing listeners to turn to Doctor Radio on SiriusXM for coronavirus updates.

Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski had Dr. Anthony Fauci as a guest on his "Basketball and Beyond with Coach K" weekly radio show. There's also been a "Sports from the Sidelines" series in which athletes have gathered for virtual round-table discussions about how they were dealing with sports on hold, and trying to stay active for whenever their seasons resume.

Even with commutes to the office on hold pretty much everywhere, many of the 34.8 million total subscribers are still tuning in by accessing the SiriusXM app on their phones or via portable home speakers.

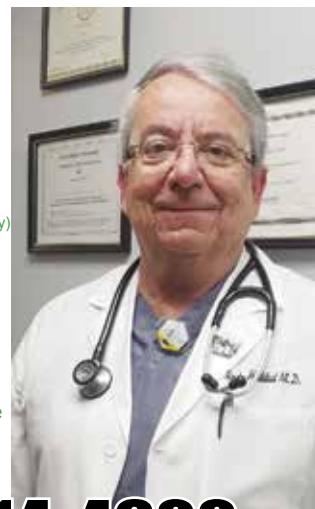
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