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The PAMPA NEWS



Tuesday, July 1, 2014 www.thepampanews.com Volume 110 • No. 61

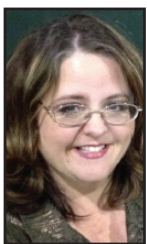
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Prairie Plains Perspective | p4

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Pampa author to hold book signing July 14

By JOHN LEE
 jcleee@thepampanews.com

Every child has their favorite children's book, whether it's "Cat in the Hat," "Winnie the Pooh" or "Where the Wild Things Are."



Camille Moran

But right here in Pampa, there is an author who has already published two children's books.

Camille Moran, a resident of Pampa, has recently become a new children's author.

Her first two books were released on June 3 through Tate Publishing and Enterprise, LLC. As a teacher, foster parent and children's pastor, Camille Moran has worked with and been a friend to children for more than thirty years. She currently works as a teacher at Pampa Community Christian School. "I'm a teacher and have been a long time," Moran said. "Working with children inspired the stories that I have in my mind."

While it is not unheard of to have an author hire an illustrator for their pictures in their books, Moran does both herself.

AUTHOR cont. on page 2



Submitted photos

Camille Moran's two children's books, "Scarecrow Pie" and "Little Mountain," are meant to be life lessons children can enjoy.

2014 Relay for Life a huge success



Photo by Lindsey Tomaschik

PRMC CEO Brad Morse and his management team each took a turn kissing the pig for charity at Friday evening's Relay for Life. Morse even wore bright pink lipstick when it was his turn for a smooch.

By LINDSEY TOMASCHIK
 LKTomaschik@thepampanews.com

The 2014 Gray County Relay for Life kicked off on Friday evening. The event started with Boy Scout Pack 404 holding the flags while Krissa Hall sang the Star Spangled Banner.

2014 Chair Chalenia Freeman then introduced the first three laps, which were the survivor, caregiver and community laps, respectively.

John Brewer played the bag pipes for the event and led both the survivor and community laps.

There was one requirement for the event as well: at least one person had to be walking on the track at all times.

After the first three laps, Pampa Regional Medical Center CEO Brad Morse and his management staff each took turns kissing a pig for charity, and bingo kicked off as well.

Luminarias were sold for \$5 until dark and Altrusa sold glow jewelry.

This year's Relay for Life had several themed laps, including the pajama lap and 80's lap, and karaoke kicked off at 11:30 p.m.

The event came to a close after the celebration lap at 12:30 a.m., and then there was a closing ceremony as well as an awards ceremony.

It was a night of fun for all in attendance and a great success for a good cause.

Gray County Commission to meet today

STAFF REPORT

The Gray County Court of Commissioners will hold its regular meeting at 9 a.m. Tuesday, July 1.

In new business, the commissioners will consider the following agenda items:

- Pay bills and salaries as approved by the County Auditor.
- Consider line item transfers.
- Early termination of lease to Lot 11 at Perry Lefors Airport.
- Road crossing at CR 5 and CR E, Precinct 2.
- Road crossing at CR 5 and CR E South, Precinct 2.
- Resolution opposing the U.S. EPA and U.S. ACE's proposed new rule to define "waters of the United States".
- County policy on employee cell phone use.
- Tax Abatement Agreement with Grandview Wind Farm II, LLC.
- Discuss damages to the Gray County Annex.
- Consider engaging engineering firm to assist with repair to the Annex.

SPLASHING AROUND LOVETT MEMORIAL



Photo by Forrest Grimes

Lovett Memorial held its Summer Reading Program classes on Monday afternoon and this week's theme was Splash Day and the students were playing and learning about bubbles. For more information and more pictures, check out page 10.

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A different Cinderella story

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. (AP) — Police in South Florida say they arrested a man suspected of stealing weed killer after he left his shoe behind while running away.

Police in Palm Beach Gardens say 29-year-old Tyrell Copper and another man went into a Home Depot store Tuesday and tried to take two bags of weed killer without paying.

reports someone attempted to stop the pair but Copper ran to a getaway car. Leaving one of his shoes behind.

Police spotted the car and pulled it over outside a Lowe's store. When police asked the occupants to get out, they noticed Copper was missing his right Nike shoe, which matched the one left at the store.

It's not known whether Copper has an attorney.

Pampa Fire Department call log — June 25-30

The Pampa Fire Department responded to these calls for the following dates. One unit with three personnel responded to each call, unless otherwise indicated.

- June 25**
- At 2:08 p.m., to a medical call in the 2600 block of Navajo.
 - At 3:10 p.m., to a medical call in the 1900 block of Hamilton.
 - At 6:51 p.m., to a medical call in the 800 block of West 25th.
 - At 8:02 p.m., to a medical call in the 200 block of South Tygner.
- June 26**
- At 5:39 a.m., to a medical call in the 1000 block of North Charles.

- At 6:17 a.m., to a lift assist in the 2000 block of North Mary Ellen.
 - At 11:36 a.m., to a medical call in the 1000 block of Neil Road.
 - At 11:44 a.m., to a medical call in the 1500 block of West Kentucky.
 - At 6:34 p.m., to a motor vehicle accident at Kentucky and Hobart. Four patients transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center.
- June 27**
- At 2:51 a.m., to a lift assist in the 2000 block of North Summer.
 - At 9:08 a.m., to a medical call in the 1300 block of Kentucky.
 - At 4:26 p.m., to a medical call in the 1200

- block of North Wells.
 - At 8:47 p.m., one unit and two personnel to a dumpster fire in the 100 block of North Price.
- June 28**
- At 3:03 a.m., one unit and two personnel to a dumpster fire in the 100 block of North Price.
 - At 6:36 a.m., to a medical call in the 1000 block of Charles.
 - At 8:31 a.m., to a medical assist in the 12000 block of Peach.
 - At 11:04 a.m., to a medical call in the 1300 block of North Russell.
 - At 2:31 p.m., to a good intent call in the 1700 block of North Hobart.
 - At 11:38 p.m., to a

- medical call in the 12000 block of East Frederick.
- June 29**
- At 1:33 a.m., to a medical call in the 100 block of East 25th.
 - At 1:51 a.m., to a medical assist in the 1100 block of Juniper.
 - At 7:04 p.m., to a medical call in the 100 block of East 25th.
 - At 7:26 p.m., to a medical call in the 1400 block of West Somerville.
 - At 8:02 p.m., to a medical call in the 1200 block of North Hobart.
- June 30**
- At 2:10 a.m., to a medical call in the 200 block of South Tygner.

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West Nile virus threat for summer in Texas unknown

LUBBOCK (AP) — A cooler-than-normal spring has slowed the breeding season for mosquitoes, but experts warn this doesn't mean that Texans should let down their guard when it comes to protecting themselves from the West Nile virus.

The threat of West Nile virus this summer is unknown. So far, the state's health department has had no reports of it in humans, though mosquitoes with the virus have been found in Harris, Montgomery and Dallas counties.

Even though breeding is about a month behind schedule, a good amount of rainfall after several dry years means the threat is there.

"We're certainly seeing more mosquitoes, and this is the time of year that we expect to see West Nile infections," health department spokesman Chris Van Deusen said.

West Nile virus, which mosquitoes spread from birds to people, was first diagnosed in Uganda in 1937, but no cases were reported in the U.S. un-

til 1999 in New York. The virus gradually spread across the country.

Only about 1 in 5 infected people get sick. Early symptoms can include fever, headache and body aches. Some recover in a matter of days. But 1 in 150 infected people will develop severe symptoms including neck stiffness, disorientation, coma and paralysis.

In 2012, the virus killed 89 people in Texas and sickened 1,868 — the worst year ever for the state. Last year, there were 14 deaths and 183 cases of illness.

The southern house mosquito, which carries West Nile, will be around at dusk and dawn but is most active from 9 p.m. to midnight, said Joon Lee, a medical entomologist at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth.

To decrease the threat, health officials recommend draining standing water around homes and businesses, donning long pants and sleeves, and using insect repellent.

Texas' persistent dry

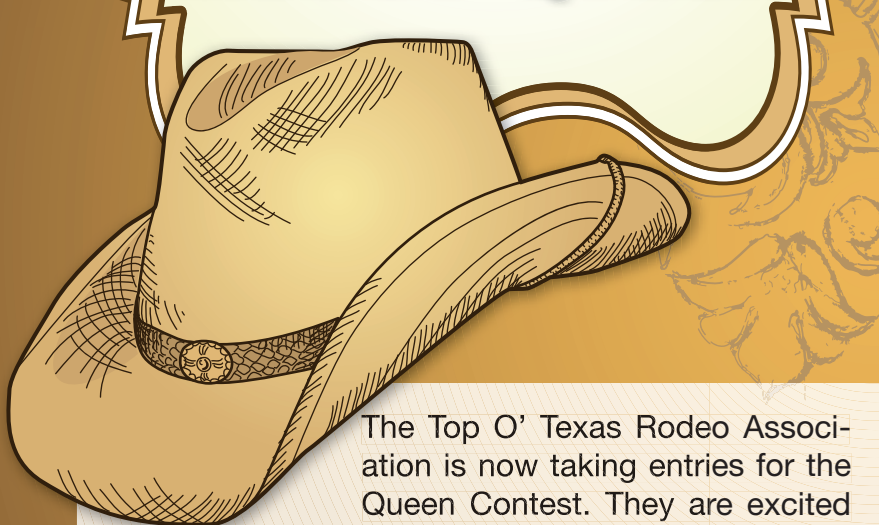
conditions the past couple of years don't necessarily mean fewer mosquitoes. Baylor University biologist and mosquito researcher Richard Duhrkopf said mosquitoes can still find puddles, which contain foul water.

There are "not as many puddles but the water is dirtier and thus support those mosquitoes better," he said.

Lee, who does regular mosquito checks at 62 locations around Fort Worth, said cities' storm systems get plenty of runoff from sprinklers in times of drought, creating stagnant water — and good breeding environments — for mosquitoes. He attributes the high number of West Nile cases in 2012 to this.

While West Nile is the virus people are more familiar with, health officials nationwide are looking ahead to be prepared for the next mosquito-borne virus. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is also asking states to be on the lookout for chikungunya (CHICK-un-goon-yay) virus.

2014-2015 TOTRA RODEO QUEEN



The Top O' Texas Rodeo Association is now taking entries for the Queen Contest. They are excited to hold the contest this year and crown the TOTRA Queen for 2014-2015.

Entry forms are at the rodeo office at the Chamber of Commerce and can also be requested by emailing TotRodeo@gmail.com.

To enter you must be a female and between the ages of 14-19 years of age by August 1, 2014. Contestants will be judged on horsemanship, public speaking and the ability to properly represent the association.

The entry fee is \$125 per contestant and each contestant must find a local business sponsor.

Entries are due by July 7 at 4 pm. There will be an informal mandatory meeting for contestants on July 7th at 6 pm at the Chamber of Commerce.

Pick up applications from The Pampa News office at 403 W. Atchison.

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Author

Continued From Page 1

The newly released books are Scarecrow Pie and Little Mountain. Scarecrow Pie is a delightfully silly autumn story embracing a child's imagination. Little Mountain is a creative book to use as a tool for helping children understand their feelings/emotions.

Moran will be having a book signing at 10 a.m. on July 14 at Lovett Memorial Library.

Personalized copies can be ordered by e-mail at cmoran@cableone.net or by phone at 806-440-3077.

Both books are also available online through Tate Publishing and Enterprise, LLC, Amazon.com and iTunes.

Editor's note: This article had information from a press release about Camille Moran.

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Wednesday	Thursday
High 80 Low 61	High 77 Low 61	High 78 Low 63

Today: Scattered thunderstorms with a high of 80. Chance of rain: 40 percent. Winds east-northeast at 16 mph. Sunrise at 6:32 a.m.

Tonight: Thunderstorms with a low of 61. Chance of rain: 90 percent. Winds east-northeast at 16 mph. Sunset at 9:03 p.m.

Wednesday: Scattered thunderstorms with a high of 77. Chance of rain: 60 percent. Winds east at 12 mph. Sunrise at 6:32 a.m.

Wednesday night: Scattered thunderstorms with a low of 61. Chance of rain: 40 percent. Winds east-southeast at 9 mph. Sunset at 9:03 p.m.

Thursday: Isolated thunderstorms with a high of 78. Chance of rain: 30 percent. Winds southeast at 15 mph. Sunrise at 6:33 a.m.

Thursday night: Mostly clear with a low of 63. Winds south-southeast at 12 mph. Sunset at 9:03 p.m.

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WORSHIP IN The Park, Sun. June 29, 2014, 10:45am, Recreation Park Pavilion. First Presbyterian Church. Dress is casual; bring your lawn chairs and sack lunch. Cups & drinks will be provided. In case of inclement weather, worship will be held in church parlor.

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Obituaries

Betty Marx Gordon

Betty Marx Gordon, 93, of Pampa, died Saturday, June 28, 2014, in Pampa.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 1, 2014, at the First Presbyterian Church with Rev. Jim Friedewald, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.



Betty Gordon

Mrs. Gordon was born Jan. 17, 1921 in Burkburnett to Fred and Gertrude Shryock and had been a resident of Pampa since 1935. She was a 1938 graduate of Pampa High School and received a bachelor of arts degree from Texas Tech University. While at Tech, she was a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority. Betty married Henry Roy Hastings on March 18, 1943. He preceded her in death in 1944. She later married Myron A. Marx on Jan. 25, 1947, and he preceded her in death in 1975. On Oct. 2, 1982, she married Joe Gordon, and he died in 1993.

Betty worked for the district engineer's office while they were building the Pampa Army Airfield. She also worked as a home service secretary for the American Red Cross. She was a legal secretary for the Gordon Law Firm for 36 years. Betty was a member of First Presbyterian Church, the Pampa Army Airfield Reunion Association, the 20th Century Culture Club, and the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City. She was also a former director of the Texas Tech Ex-Students Association.

Survivors include a son, Bob Marx, and wife Johnnie of Pampa; a niece, Betty K. Meyer of Idaho; a nephew, Buddy Shryock of Idaho; four cousins, Shirley Childress of Roswell, N.M., John Cochran of Troy, Ala., and Jim Tripplehorn and Tom Tripplehorn, both of Tulsa, Okla. Betty was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Fred E. Shryock, Jr.

Memorials may be made to First Presbyterian Church, Book of Remembrance, 525 N. Gray, Pampa, TX 79065.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Lovetta Harris

Lovetta Harris, 56, of Pampa, passed away Sunday, June 29, 2014 in Pampa.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 3, 2014 in White Deer Cemetery with Matt Bales, her cousin, officiating. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, July 3, 2014, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel with Van Christenson, her cousin, and Jim Yates, chaplain of Interim Hospice, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.



Lovetta Harris

Lovetta Harris was born on Sept. 21, 1957 in Lubbock to Glen and Erlene Harris. Shortly after her birth Lovetta and her family moved to Montrose, Colo. She attended and graduated from the Happiness School of Montrose. Several years later, Lovetta and her parents made their home in Joplin, Mo., where she worked at their sheltered workshop. After leaving Joplin, she lived in Amarillo for 20 years before moving to Pampa in 2009. Lovetta's greatest joy was being with her family, and she was especially proud of being an aunt to her nieces and nephews.

The family would like to express their gratitude to Interim Hospice for their care of Lovetta. Lovetta was preceded in death by her sisters, Carol and Sheryl Harris; her maternal grandparents, Joe and Johanna Young, and her paternal grandparents, Amos and Verna Harris.

Survivors include her parents, Glen and Erlene Harris; two brothers, Gary Harris and wife Laurie of Fountain, Colo., and Michael Harris of Boise, Idaho; three nephews, Tramos Harris of Hobbs, N.M., Cooper Harris and Brody Harris all of Fountain, Colo.; three nieces, Skyler Harris, Morgan Harris and Blayke Harris all of Boise, Idaho and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Memorials may be made to Pampa Sheltered Workshop, P. O. Box 2808, Pampa, TX 79066-2808.

Sign the online register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

William J. "Bill" Berry

William J. "Bill" Berry, 79, died June 29, 2014 in Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

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Andrew J. Christensen

Andrew J. Christensen, 89, died June 28, 2014 in Wheeler.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Andy Christensen was born April 18, 1925 in Fowler, Colo. to Theodore and Hannah Christensen. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving his country during World War II. He was perceived by many as a person with many talents. The Lord has taken Andy for his own, but his memory remains eternal in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. He was preceded in death by his wife, Floye Gay Crites Christensen, a sister and a stepbrother.

Survivors include two sons, Ted Christensen of Luling, and Larry Christensen and wife Valerie of Oregon, Ohio; a daughter, Connie Kettinger of Amarillo; two stepdaughters, Nancy Crites of Panhandle, and Karen Smith and husband Jim of Buena Vista, Colo.; a stepson, Wes Crites and wife Sheila of Shamrock; and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sign the online guest register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

OBITS cont. on page 5

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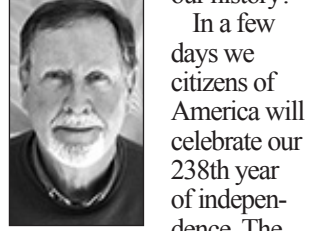
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Prairie Plains Perspective

The joys of American history

History folks. Where would this great country, where would we be today without our history?



DENNIS PALMITIER

In a few days we citizens of America will celebrate our 238th year of independence. The history of how America has gotten to those 238 years is to say the least, phenomenal. History is what has made America the exceptional country (contrary to what Vladimir Putin says) it is today. I feel America's history is in jeopardy, particularly so with the secular liberal agenda our current leadership is extolling along with an already well entrenched education system being forced upon our children. You may know such by its other name, also known as the dumbing down of America.

"The aim of public education is not to fill the young of the species with knowledge and awaken their intelligence....Nothing could be farther from the truth. The aim is simply to reduce as many individuals as possible to the same safe level, to breed and train a standardized citizenry, to put down dissent and originality. That is the aim

in the United States" - Henry Mencken, The American Mercury, April 1924.

Ouch H.L.! Per teaching American and World history, Mr. Mencken may have been on to something?

A recent survey by none other than Common Core (no, I am not a proponent) revealed an embarrassing ignorance among high school students of basic U.S. and world history. Out of 1,200 17-year-old respondents to a national telephone survey, nearly a quarter could not identify Adolf Hitler, less than half could place the Civil War in the correct half-century, a third did not know that the Bill of Rights guarantees the freedom of speech and religion! Equally frightening is the fact the liberal agenda knows this; hence, the dumbing down and ringing true of H.L. Mencken's quote.

Who are you? Man, woman? Student, professional person? Texan? Republican or Democrat? No matter what is asked about who we are, at some point we all define ourselves as American. Being part of a nationality is to identify with a shared history. I think and feel that it is our shared American history that shapes.

The American dream and gives us hope for our future, but our future is in jeopardy.

If you haven't by this time figured such out, better grab a newspaper, turn on your TV, and read/listen to the assault that is occurring today on America and Americans.

Parents, grandparents must take up the task where education is failing our children. If we rely solely on today's educators to teach history, we as Americans are going to lose the multitude of perspectives on the great events that shaped our nation, our generational footprint. But the unique stories of our parents and grandparents can give us the perspective of our shared humanity, our losses and struggles that have united us, along with the demand to bring teaching of American and world history by doing away with the political correctness that has diminished our history that is presently going on in the classroom.

Another take. "If the right-wing billionaires and apostles of corporate power have their way, public schools will become 'dead zones of the imagination,' reduced to anti-public spaces that wage an assault on critical thinking, civic literacy and historical memory." - Henry Giroux, 2013.

Many public schools,


particularly in the urban sense, are already such, however, corporate America via right-wing billionaires and conveniently omitted from quote by Mr. Giroux, liberal left-wing billionaires, have become powerful and successful because of first; their critical thinking, civic literacy and historical memory provided by their families and education. Corporates ladders are not climbed by the uneducated. Yea, it's fun to blow things up come this 238th Fourth of July.

How many of you know the historical significance of why fireworks are a part of the celebration? Parents, grandparents. Ask your school age children why we do such with fireworks on the 4th. If you don't hear the name Francis Scott Key part parcel the answer, well then, there's a lack of fundamental history with your child or children.

Pampa resident Dennis Palmitier is a regular contributor to the opinion page on issues that affect Pampa and Gray County. He can be reached at denpalm1949@yahoo.com. Anyone wishing to respond to Palmitier's viewpoints in the form of a letter to the editor can email Editor John Lee at jlee@thepampanews.com.

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Obits

Continued From Page 3

Burton Tolbert Bearden

Burton Tolbert Bearden, 96, of Amarillo and formerly of Pampa, died Monday, June 30, 2014 in Amarillo.



Burton Bearden

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 3, 2014, at Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel in Pampa, with John Curry, officiating. Private burial will be in Fairview Cemetery in Pampa, under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Bearden was born Aug. 12, 1917 in Roberts County to W. S. and Ariana McAfee Tolbert, and was the granddaughter of A. B. and Bush McAfee, both early day pioneering families.

Burton married Jeff D. Bearden in 1941 in Pampa. He preceded her in death in 1989. She was a homemaker. She was a member of First United Methodist Church, and the Twentieth Century Study Club, and she loved to play bridge. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Mildred Tolbert and Frances McMurray.

Survivors include two daughters, Martha Bearden of Houston, and Mary M. Bearden and husband Sterling K. Adams of Amarillo; and three nieces, Kay Andrews of Haskell, Okla., Anna Bush Crews of Taos, N.M. and the United Kingdom, and Carole Crews of Taos, N.M.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be sent to Pampa Senior Citizens Center, P.O. Box 475, Pampa, Texas 79066-0475; Panhandle Plains Historical Museum, 2503 4th Street, Canyon, Texas 79015; or a favorite charity.

The family will receive friends from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 2, 2014, at Carmichael-Whately Funeral Home in Pampa.

Sign the on-line guest register at www.carmichael-whately.com

Justices: Can't make employers cover contraception

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court ruled Monday that some corporations can hold religious objections that allow them to opt out of the new health law requirement that they cover contraceptives for women.

The justices' 5-4 decision is the first time that the high court has ruled that profit-seeking businesses can hold religious views under federal law. And it means the Obama administration must search for a different way of providing free contraception to women who are covered under objecting companies' health insurance plans.

Contraception is among a range of preventive services that must be provided at no extra charge under the health care law that President Barack Obama signed in 2010 and the Supreme Court upheld two years later.

Two years ago, Chief Justice John Roberts cast the pivotal vote that saved the health care law in the midst of Obama's campaign for re-election. On Monday, dealing with a small sliver of the law, Roberts sided with the four justices who would have struck down the law in its entirety.

Justice Samuel Alito wrote the majority opinion. The court's four liberal justices dissented.

The court stressed that its ruling applies only to corporations that are under the control of just a few people in which there is no essential difference between the business and its owners, like the Oklahoma-based Hobby Lobby chain of arts-and-craft stores that challenged the provision.

Alito also said the decision is limited to contraceptives under the health care law. "Our decision should not be understood to hold that an insurance-coverage mandate must necessarily fall if it conflicts with an employer's religious beliefs," Alito said.

He suggested two ways the administration could ensure women get the contraception they want. It could simply pay for pregnancy prevention, he said.

Or it could provide the same kind of accommodation it has made available

to religious-oriented, not-for-profit corporations. Those groups can tell the government that providing the coverage violates their religious beliefs. At that point, the groups' insurers or a third-party administrator takes on the responsibility of paying for the birth control.

The accommodation is the subject of separate legal challenges, but the court said Monday that the profit-seeking companies could not assert religious claims in such a situation.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, who was part of the majority, also wrote separately to emphasize that the administration can solve its problem easily. "The accommodation works by requiring insurance companies to cover, without cost sharing, contraception coverage for female employees who wish it," Kennedy said. He said that arrangement "does not impinge on the plaintiffs' religious beliefs."

Houses of worship and other religious institutions whose primary purpose is to spread the faith are exempt from the requirement to offer birth control.

Bumpy road ahead for legal pot in Washington

SEATTLE (AP) — Pete O'Neil saw Washington's legalization of marijuana in 2012 as a path to retirement, or at least to his kids' college tuition.

He's paid tens of thousands of dollars in rent on possible locations for a pot-shop chain, hired lawyers and picked out flooring. But now the nation's second legal recreational marijuana industry is about to start without him.

O'Neil struck out in Washington's lottery for coveted pot-shop licenses. He has unsuccessfully tried to buy companies that scored a lucky number. In frustration, he's turning what would have been his Seattle retail store into a medical marijuana dispensary.

"Our company is bleeding money, and I haven't sold a single joint," O'Neil says.

As Washington plows toward the legal pot promised land, it's finding that getting the cannabis market off the ground has been even tougher than anyone imagined.

Among the frustrated are growers who have been waiting months for permission to start raising their bar-coded plants; advocates who wish more public health messaging had been done by now; and would-be pot vendors like O'Neil who say bad luck, minor oversights on their applications, or errors by state officials have torpedoed otherwise promising efforts.

Washington's Liquor Control Board expects to issue the first 15 to 20 marijuana retail licenses July 7, months later than first expected, but it's not clear how many of those shops are ready to open.

Board staff said last week only one shop in Seattle is prepared for its final inspection.

Randy Simmons, the board's legal pot project manager, predicts "a bumpy road," with an initial shortage of stores and marijuana alike. Many businesses that got lucky in the pot-shop lottery in April have since been disqualified, such as by being too close to schools or playgrounds. Others haven't finished building or made deals to buy pot from licensed growers.

"This is a gold-rush mentality and everybody wants to get rich," Simmons says. "Some people just don't have an idea what they're doing — no clue at all. It slows down the process."

Pot shortages are certain. More than 2,600 people applied last fall to grow marijuana, but those applications are being reviewed glacially by the board's 18 swamped licensing investigators. Only about 80 growers have been approved, and some won't harvest by early July. Hundreds of applicants haven't even been assigned an investigator.

Prices could run more than \$25 a gram for the heavily taxed pot — about twice what the state's unregulated medical dispensaries charge — until more growers are licensed, Simmons says.

There will be no edibles available. People who want to make brownies, cookies or other pot-infused treats must have their kitchens inspected by the state. Of the two tested so far, one failed — it didn't even have a hand-washing sink. The

report on the other hasn't been completed.

The board has capped the number of retail stores statewide at 334, but dozens of jurisdictions have banned them, prompting lawsuits in two cities.

Colorado, which also voted in 2012 to legalize pot for adults over 21, is bringing in millions of dollars a month while

Washington struggles to build its industry. Unlike Washington, Colorado already had a regulated medical system, making for a smoother transition when it allowed dispensaries to begin selling for recreational use in January. Washington has also done more work developing marijuana safety standards.

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Reports: Pistorius not mentally ill during killing

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — A panel of mental health experts has concluded that Oscar Pistorius was not suffering from a mental illness when he killed girlfriend **R e e v a Steenkamp** in his home last year, the chief prosecutor at the athlete's murder trial said Monday.

Pistorius' trial resumed after a break of one month during which a psychologist and three psychiatrists also assessed whether the double-amputee runner was capable of understanding the wrongfulness of his act when he shot Steenkamp through a closed toilet door.

The panel's reports were submitted to Judge Thokozile Masipa, and prosecutor Gerrie Nel referred to key parts of the conclusions, noting that the experts believed Pistorius was "capable of appreciating the wrongfulness of his act" when he killed Steenkamp, a 29-year-old model.

Pistorius faces 25 years to life in prison if found guilty of premeditated murder, and could also face years in prison if convicted of murder without premeditation or negligent killing. He is free on bail.

The evaluation came after a psychiatrist, Dr. Merlyll Vorster, testified for the defense that Pistorius, who has said he feels vulnerable because of his disability and long-held worry about crime, had an anxiety disorder that could have contributed to the killing in the early hours of Feb. 14, 2013. He testified that he opened fire after mistakenly thinking there was a dangerous intruder in the toilet.

Prosecutor Gerrie Nel has alleged that Pistorius, 27, killed Steenkamp after a Valentine's Day argument, and has portrayed the Olympic athlete as a hothead with a love of guns and an inflated sense of entitlement. But he requested an independent inquiry into Pistorius' state of mind, based on concern the defense would argue Pistorius was not guilty because of mental illness.

Pistorius was evaluated as an outpatient at Weskoppies Psychiatric Hospital in Pretoria, the South African capital. He has been staying at the upscale home of his uncle.

Later Monday, defense lawyer Barry Roux called surgeon Gerald Versfeld, who amputated Pistorius' lower legs when he was 11 months old, to testify about the runner's disability and the difficulty and pain he endured while walking or standing on his stumps without support. Pistorius was born without fibulas, the slender bones that run from below the knee to the ankle.

At Roux's invitation, Judge Masipa and her two legal assessors left the dais to closely inspect the stumps of Pistorius as he sat on a bench.

The athlete was on his stumps when he killed Steenkamp, and his defense team has argued that he was more likely to try to confront a perceived danger rather than flee because of his limited ability to move without prostheses. Versfeld noted that Pistorius' disability made him "vulnerable in a dangerous situation."

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Owner of sunken ferry blamed for 5 earlier crashes

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — In the same narrow waterways where more than 300 people died this spring aboard the ferry Sewol, another ship owned by the same company crashed into an oil tanker 11 years earlier. The ferry's captain had chosen the difficult water path to cut a mere seven miles from its journey.

It was among five crashes, from 2003 to 2011, that government investigators blamed mostly on sailors of Chonghaejin Marine Co. ferries. Three of the incidents occurred within a 12-month span, and after those occurred, a government investigator chided the company for failing to make safety reforms.

None of the crashes caused fatalities, but together, some experts say, they were reason enough for regulators to suspend or even revoke the company's license. That never happened. Chonghaejin was even allowed to expand by adding the Sewol to its fleet last year.

Chonghaejin's punishment for those five failures: two one-month suspensions for sailors, three verbal warnings to captains, one verbal warning to the company and a fine of 7.5 million won (\$7,400). The biggest fine that can be issued in ferry-safety cases is just 30 million won (\$29,400).

The Korean Maritime Safety Tribunal, an arm of the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries that serves as a maritime court, recommended safety changes to the company as well, but they were nonbinding.

After the 2003 oil-tanker crash, the tribunal asked that Chonghaejin stop using the Maenggol Channel. Maenggol — the name means "fierce bones" — consists of narrow passages between small islands and is known for having fast, strong currents.

But the shortcut saved the company money on fuel. The Sewol sank in the same channel, about 16 kilometers (10 miles) from the 2003 crash.

Chung Yeong-seok, a professor of maritime law at Korea Maritime and Ocean University, said South Korea could have and should have gone further than it did.

"Even though the current law is not strict, the maritime ministry, with its administrative power, could (cancel a ferry license) based on the tribunal's findings. But it didn't do it," Chung said.

Prosecutors blame the CEO and four company employees for causing the April 16 Sewol sinking by overloading the ship with poorly stowed cargo after a risky redesign, and by neglecting safety in other ways. They also accuse 15 crew members of negligence and of failing to perform their duty to rescue passengers. All but one of the crew have pleaded not guilty, and lawyers for the other defendants have said the cause of the sinking remains unclear.

Chonghaejin's license has been revoked, and authorities continue to search for the patriarch of the family that owns the company, 73-year-old billionaire Yoo Byung-eun.

The government has blamed its failure to prevent the disaster on the cozy ties between the industry and regulators. President Park Geun-hye has vowed to get rid of what she and South Korean media have called a "government mafia" consisting of retired public servants who work at private companies.

South Korea had reason not to revoke or suspend Chonghaejin's license before the Sewol sank. The company had a monopoly on South Korea's longest domestic sea route, the one between Incheon and Jeju

that the Sewol was plying when it went down. A license suspension or revocation would have affected travel plans for thousands of people and transport for thousands of tons of cargo.

Monopolies, or near-monopolies, are the rule among South Korea's roughly 100 coastal ferry routes. All but four of them are operated by either one or two ferry operators, according to Kwon Jun-young, a director at the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries.

Officials said they did not know how many ferry licenses South Korea has revoked in recent years, but they added that it was a rare move.

"Canceling a license causes huge difficulties for island residents, so instead we impose fines and urge companies to take cautions," Kwon said.

Ministry officials said the loss of Chonghaejin's Incheon-Jeju ferries has been tough on residents and shipping companies, and that they are trying to find another company to take over the route.

Instead of taking disruptive measures against Chonghaejin, South Korean regulators chose gentler methods that had little apparent effect on safety.

The tribunal found Chonghaejin to be 80 percent at fault for the 2003 ferry-oil tanker crash, and asked the company's sailors not to sail in the area again. The investigative report said the captain used the route to cut the length of the ship's journey by 7 miles, and faulted the crew for not being careful as they attempted to move ahead of the tanker.

In 2006 and 2007, the

Ohamana, a Chonghaejin car ferry that plied the same route as Sewol, was primarily responsible for three crashes, according to the tribunal. In two of the accidents, the tribunal gave the ship's captain a verbal warning for setting sail despite strong wind or heavy fog. The tribunal said the third accident occurred while just one sailor was on the bridge of the ferry; it suspended the license of the first mate and asked the company to make improvements.

An official at Incheon Regional Maritime Affairs and Port Administration, the government agency that imposes fines and issues and revokes licenses to sailors and shipping companies, said he recalled Chonghaejin was

penalized with 7.5 million won (\$7,400) in fines after the last of those three accidents. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, citing department rules, said that was the only record of a fine on Chonghaejin that the office has. The Incheon office is part of the maritime ministry, but the ministry said it has no records regarding fines.

A 2008 report by a tribunal investigator following the 12-month run of accidents noted that Chonghaejin repeatedly failed to come up with reform measures and recommended that the company improve how it manages safety.

But problems continued. From 2009 to 2013, Chonghaejin was responsible for nearly 10 percent of maritime accidents among

domestic South Korean ferries, even though its five ferries make up less than 3 percent of the overall fleet, according to the office of opposition lawmaker Kim Choon-jin, which analyzed ministry data. The six Chonghaejin accidents included one crash, one less serious incident of contact and four engine failures.

The crash, in 2011, involved the Chonghaejin ferry Democracy No. 5 and a fishing boat. The tribunal said the company was 60 percent responsible. The investigative body said the ferry maintained a speed of 22 knots (41 kph, 25 mph) even as it entered heavy fog.

Yet another accident involving a Chonghaejin ferry occurred just two weeks before the Sewol disaster.



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Top left, Bagpipe player John Brewer takes time before the relay kicked off to speak with some of the survivors and fighters. Top middle, Krissa Hall sings the Star Spangled Banner. Top right, Brewer leads the survivor lap. Middle left, the Angels of Hope team rounds a corner of the track during the community lap. Middle right and bottom, community members joined together to take part in the 2014 Gray County Relay for Life.

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SPLASH DAY AT THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM



Photos by Forrest Grimes

Children listen to a story and play with bubbles during Monday morning's season of the Summer Reading Program at Lovett Memorial Library. The theme for the day was "Splash Day", and the children also played in the sprinklers. Wednesday's theme will be "The Senses".



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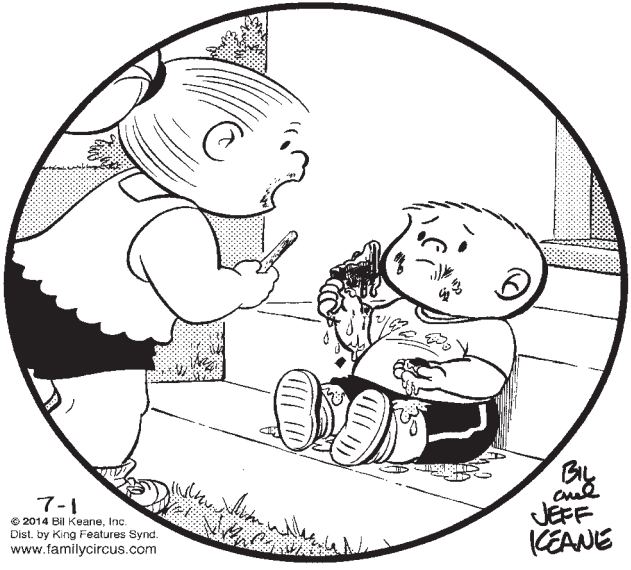
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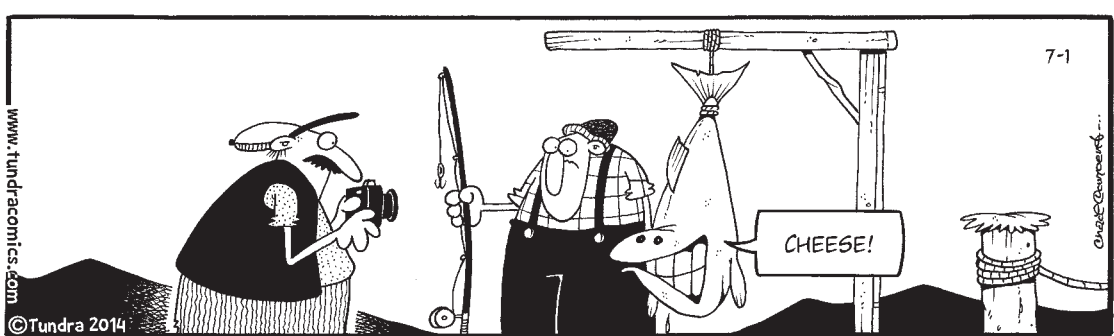
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



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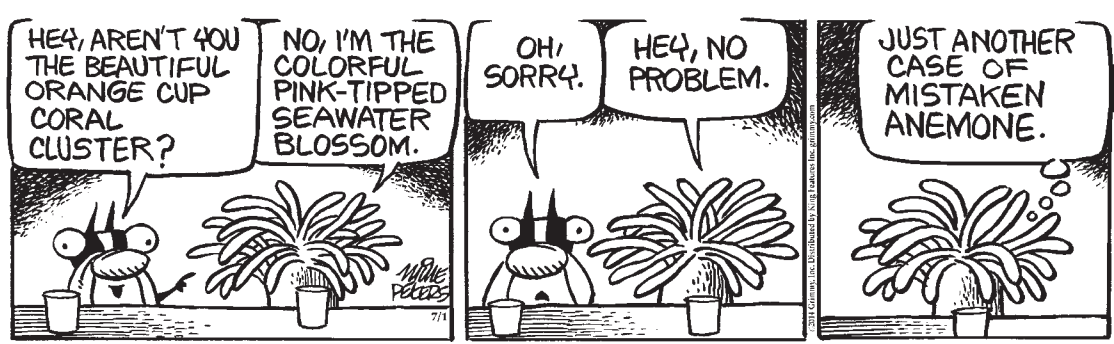
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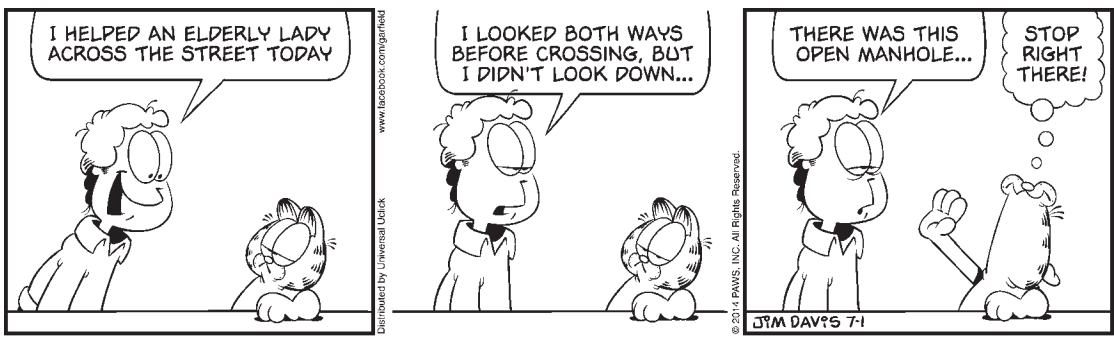
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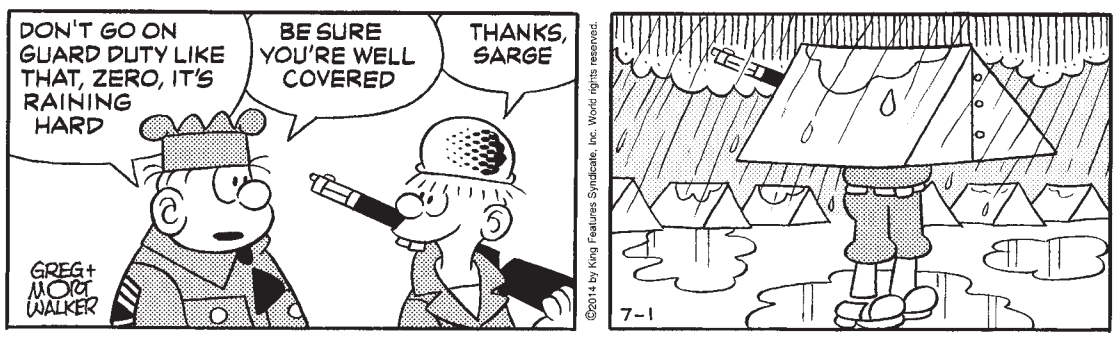
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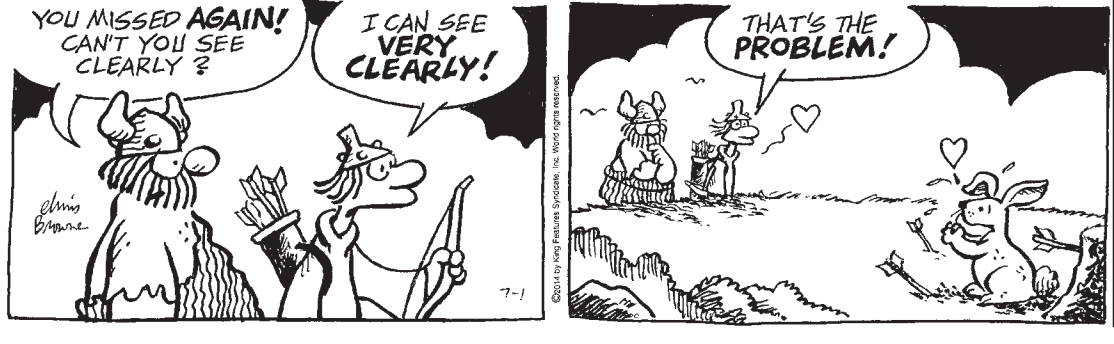
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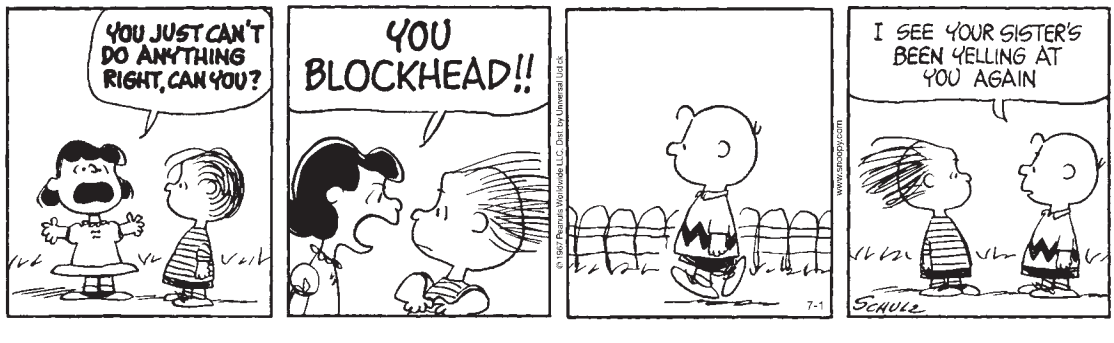
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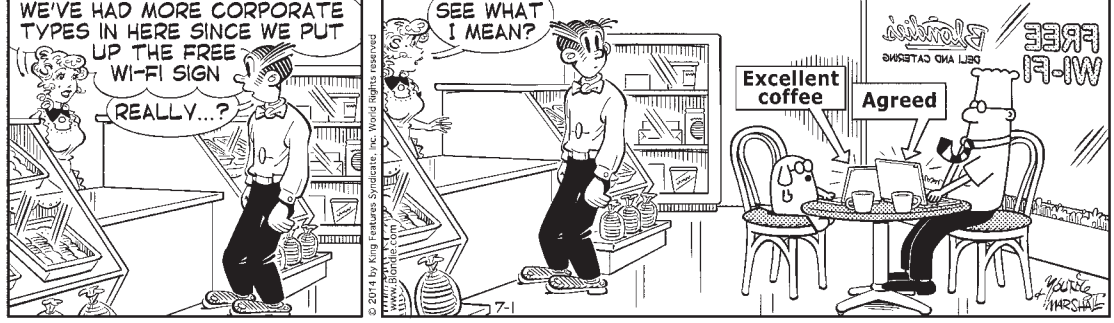
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, July 2, 2014:
 This year you have the ability to make some dramatic changes without having to deal with much upheaval. You will perfect the art of conversation. Downtime and time alone will continue to be important to you. If you are single, you might think that the person you meet is great, but you later could discover that he or she is emotionally unavailable. Use care before committing. If you are attached, you might want to run away with your sweetie, never to be found again. You probably will opt for more weekends away together as a couple. VIRGO speaks his or her mind and can be critical.
The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult
ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ★★★★★ The best of intentions could be misunderstood. Clarify your objectives before you hit a problem, and you will build your confidence as a result. You are a dynamic fire sign, and you often seem impulsive to those who are more reserved. Tonight: Have an overdue chat.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★★★ You roll into your day with not an obstacle in sight. As a result of your upbeat attitude, everything will seem to fall into place. You might see a misunderstanding brewing that involves your funds. Step back to get clarification. Tonight: Act as if you don't have a care in the world.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★ Give up being a whirling dervish, and slow down. You must handle a matter involving your funds. A friend might ask you for help, and a loved one predictably will seek you out. You'll be in the position of making a judgment call. Get the facts first. Tonight: Say "yes" to living.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ You will say the right words at the right time. However, you might be oversensitive, and you could take someone's statement the wrong way as a result. Let it go. Consider how a particular person is transforming in front of your eyes. Tonight: Be a flirt.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★★★ Check out a situation with care. Do your homework, and come up with as many solutions as possible. Though you can be a delightful, care-free personality, you'll need to be serious for others. They'll want to know where you are coming from. Tonight: Pay bills first.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★★★ Your smile will attract more people than usual. Your sense of what must happen will appeal to those around you. Your consistency and endurance gains you a great deal of trust from others. Make sure you mind your p's and q's. Tonight: Clear out what you must.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★★★ Express what you feel is a high priority. Listen to others, and internalize their message. Make time for an important conversation that involves a vulnerable situation. Others will want to make adjustments for you, as you do for them. Tonight: Not to be found.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ Your sixth sense will kick in during a discussion, and it could indicate that not everything is on the up and up. One person might ask for your help in order to get the type of results he or she wants. Make it your pleasure. Tonight: Off where the crowds are.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★★★ You will want to move forward with a project, while others might seem to have various regrets and questions. You will need to listen to what they have to say, and work through it together. Ultimately, what happens will affect all of you. Tonight: Say "yes" to a loved one.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ Reach out to someone you care a lot about. Instead of minimizing a problem, try to solve it. You might not feel as if it is your job, but the issue is likely to create bigger problems for you if it is left unresolved. Tonight: Read between the lines.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★ Others will display their desire to handle a problem. You subconsciously might create some kind of block that prevents you from participating in this matter. You know when enough is enough; try to disengage and avoid being an obstacle. Tonight: All smiles.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★★★ Others will come forward and listen to your ideas, but your determination to complete what you are doing your way is likely to emerge. Be careful. Think about the complications of not having the help and support you need. Tonight: Be as easygoing as possible.



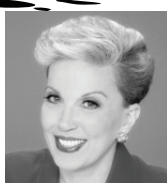
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My girlfriends are always trying to get me drunk. I don't need alcohol to have a good time, and in fact, I rarely drink. They say I'm "no fun," which is probably true. But that's just who I am.

Although they never drink and drive, they drink a lot and are embarrassing when they sing loud, stumble on the dance floor and slur their words. I'm afraid if I get drunk I may say something hurtful to them, and they will no longer be my friends.

My boyfriend says they're not true friends if they want me to drink to excess. My college days are behind me. I am mature enough not to succumb to this peer pressure. Is my boyfriend right? Do I need new friends? — TEETOTALER IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR TEETOTALER: There are few things more unattractive than a person who is drunk. Your boyfriend may be right that you need some new friends, if yours can have a good time only if they use alcohol.

If I'm reading your letter correctly, it appears you may be their designated driver. My advice is to take yourself out of that equation, and if possible, socialize with them in situations that do not involve drinking. If that's not possible, then for your

own sake, start cultivating friends with wider interests.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been married for 20 years. Before our two children started high school two years ago, we had a great marriage. Unfortunately, my wife has put our children's high school education above everything else. She's a classic "helicopter mom" who says that once the kids leave for college, our relationship will become great again.

As the months go by, I find myself being more of a father and a tutor than a husband and "intimate friend" to my wife. We have little in common with each other, little intimacy, and everything revolves around our children — not us.

I have talked to her about this, and we have seen a counselor and a priest who told my wife that what she's doing is wrong. But things are getting worse, not better.

Any suggestions on how to get the message across before we get totally separated or even divorced? Or am I the one who needs to see things differently? — NO HELICOPTER DAD

DEAR DAD: Your letter touches upon a conversation I have had several times over the last few years, and it involves whether helicopter parents are giving their chil-

dren an advantage, or preventing them from developing social skills and independence. If your kids are having problems in school and need extra parental guidance, then I'm all for it. But if they aren't — and their teachers should be able to tell you that — then your wife isn't doing this because of their need but her own.

Because you say you're not sure your marriage will be intact by the time they graduate, I'm urging that you both have more marriage counseling NOW. I hate to see a 20-year marriage go down

the drain, because that's where it's headed.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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LEVEL	Word	Pairs
1.	COUNT	— —
2.	PARTY	— —
3.	DOWEL	— —
4.	PEKOE	— —
5.	PUTON	— —
6.	CRYPT	— —
7.	WOULD	— —
8.	ELOPE	— —

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Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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6	7	1	9	5	4	2	3	8
4	2	8	6	7	3	5	1	9
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Level: Beginner

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

T	A	M	S	S	W	E	A	T	
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	R	A	G	E	D		A	W	E

Yesterday's answer

ACROSS	40 Battery end	DOWN	7 Scents	25 Knave
1 Nick and Nora's dog	41 Makes smooth	1 Song-writers' org.	8 Bristle at	26 Large lizard
5 Swiss watch parts	42 Touches down	2 Ski run	9 Handled	27 "Imagine" singer
10 Replay feature	43 Tennis star	3 This evening, in ads	11 Black Sea port	29 Insight
12 Concur	Roddick	4 "I — Rock"	14 River and lake of Alberta	30 Mail over
13 Black-headed bird		5 Crazy	19 Peruvian peaks	33 Pert
15 Boxing great		6 Sense of self	20 Singer Page	35 March time
16 Greek vowel		21 Brainy group	24 Claim	38 Throw in
17 Fellows		22 Regarding	of film	39 Gardner
18 Fertilizer ingredient		23 Sponge gently		
20 Gasp for air		25 Stir up		
21 Brainy group		28 Church sight		
22 Regarding		31 A long time		
23 Sponge gently		32 Pizzeria units		
25 Stir up		34 Day light		
28 Church sight		35 Motel freebie		
31 A long time		36 Much of N. Amer.		
32 Pizzeria units		37 Biennial sporting event		

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GOP bucking business priorities on Capitol Hill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Traditional ties between the business community and the Republican Party are fraying on Capitol Hill, where the House GOP has bucked corporate interests on a series of priorities this year, from immigration to highway funding to trade.

Rebuffed in Congress, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other business groups have found more success backing pro-business candidates for election, but even they don't always deliver.

It adds up to a significant shift in how the GOP operates, ushered in by the rise of the tea party movement and its distrust of the federal government and of big corporate America. But whether the business community's success this year in electing its favored candidates in primaries can swing the pendulum back its way remains to be seen. There's plentiful evidence that the Chamber of Commerce and other business groups are struggling to get a hearing from congressional conservatives who out-

right reject their goals and are having outsized influence on House leaders and legislation.

"I think it's the Chamber that's drifted away from conservative pro-business values, not Republicans," said Rep. John Fleming, R-La., a conservative who said that the Chamber of Commerce and other business groups may speak for corporate America, but they don't speak for him. "I think that the Chamber has been moving away from its traditional role and that is to protect small businesses. I don't know why."

This past week the divide played out in the debate over whether to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank, a government agency that makes and guarantees loans to help U.S. exporters sell their products. It's a priority for the business community, but conservatives have seized on it as the latest example of corporate welfare, with conservative groups like the Heritage Foundation urging lawmakers to stand opposed.

It's certainly a minor matter to most voters, and some more establishment-aligned Republicans marveled that it's become an issue at all.

"I never thought in my wildest dreams that the reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank could become a defining issue for Republicans," said Rep. Charlie Dent, R-Pa.

Yet the conservative opposition has been such that the newly elected House majority leader, Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., reversed himself and announced his opposition to the bank, and Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, a supporter in the past and a leading business ally, elected to remain neutral in this go-round.

As with last year's government shutdown, it's an issue where conservative Republicans swatted away the desires of business leaders and their GOP allies, in the process delighting Republican base voters and possibly turning off moderates.

"The Chamber was kind

of like the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval, but since 2007, 2008 I think that's changed," said John Feehery, a Republican consultant who worked for former House Speaker Dennis Hastert. "Some people see it as a negative, they see it as being suspect. And that's a sea change really."

It's a shift Republican activists celebrate.

"It seems like K Street has had an upper hand at the GOP table, and I think that's changing with the decentralization of politics that gives activists a bigger voice," said Matt Kibbe, head of FreedomWorks, an advocacy group affiliated with the tea party. "The tension's always been there but I think that in the past when push came to shove the Chamber was more likely to get its way, and that's not necessarily so anymore."

Mainstream congressional Republicans tend to play down the rift, and Chamber officials say their relations remain good with most GOP lawmakers.

"I think the vast majority of congressional Republicans in the House and in the Senate are traditionally and historically, and continue to be, on basically the same page as the small, medium and large business community," said Bruce Josten, executive vice president at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

"Are there some outliers within the conferences and caucuses that have different views?" Josten said. "Of course. There have always been outliers."

Josten disputed the notion that House Republicans' resistance to renewing the Export-Import Bank, overhauling immigration laws, replenishing the highway trust fund, or other issues was emblematic of a deeper trend.

Even so, the Chamber and other like-minded business groups have worked methodically this year to reduce the number of "outliers," spending millions in Republican primaries to elect more mainstream Republicans over their tea party oppo-

nents. They have racked up a string of victories, from Senate races in North Carolina and Kentucky to one most recently in Mississippi, where incumbent Thad Cochran narrowly survived a tea party challenge.

But if the candidates they're choosing are better than the alternatives, there's little sign they share the Chamber's priorities on all issues, particularly immigration, where the U.S. Chamber's alliance with labor unions to support an overhaul alienated some conservatives. And the Chamber's electoral involvement carries some risk, including hardening opposition from tea party lawmakers already on Capitol Hill who may not be going anywhere.

"It's hard for me to offer my staff to the U.S. Chamber to have conversations when they are targeting my allies here in Congress," complained Rep. Thomas Massie, R-Ky. "I think it undercuts their ability to have conversations with members of Congress."

The 6 most memorable moments from the BET Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP) — After nearly four hours of prizes, performances and the occasional bleeped expletive, the 2014 BET Awards came to a close.

When it was all over, Pharrell Williams had two trophies, as did newcomer August Alsina, and Lil Wayne dropped the mike, apparently breaking it.

Here's a look at some of the memorable moments that emerged from Sunday night's ceremony, broadcast live from the Nokia Theatre on BET:

- Accepting her fifth consecutive award for female hip-hop artist, Nicki Minaj gave a rambling speech in which she said she was recently near death.

- "The other day, literally I didn't tell anybody this, I really thought I was about to die. Like, I was saying my prayers to die. And I didn't even want to call the ambulance because I thought, 'Well if I call the ambulance, it's going to be on TMZ,'" Minaj said, as some of the audience laughed.

- "And I would rather sit there and die," she added, looking to the crowd. "And it made me realize I don't care what anybody got to say. I'm going to do me."

- Lil Wayne accompanied Minaj to the stage to accept her award, just as she joined him — and dozens of others — onstage

- to accept the best group award for Young Money. At the conclusion of that acceptance speech, which featured an appearance by Wayne's daughter, he didn't just drop the mike, but the whole microphone stand.

- Chris Rock proved a winning host, opening the show with barbs aimed at Donald Sterling and heavyset rapper Rick Ross, sneaking clever

swipes into his artist introductions and passing out food from Roscoe's House of Chicken and Waffles to hungry audience members.

- Of the 80-year-old Sterling, Rock said, "The first black man he ever met, he got for Christmas." Rock teased at the East Coast-West Coast rap rivalry, saying the West won because Dr. Dre sold his Beats brand to Apple for \$3 billion earlier this year. Everyone wants to get into the headphone business now, Rock said. "Dre has Beats," the comedian said. "Rick Ross has Diabeats."

- As Rock introduced Usher, he noted the singer "discovered Justin Bieber, and now he's going to spend the rest of his life apologizing for it." And the comedian aimed a zinger at Chris Brown, who was recently released from jail and performed two songs during the show.

- "He just signed a new deal," Rock said. "Too bad it was a plea deal."

- Maybe Pharrell Williams should have been seated just offstage. The multitasking entertainer opened the evening with a playful performance of "Come Get it Bae," backed by a flurry of cheerleaders. Reclusive rapper Missy Elliott also joined in.

- He was back onstage twice to accept awards — video of the year for "Happy" and best male R&B/pop artist — and returned a fourth time to introduce lifetime achievement award winner Lionel Richie.

- Richie's lifetime achievement award was celebrated with music. The 65-year-old singer-songwriter performed two of his classic hits: the Commodores' "Easy" and his '80s party anthem "All

Night Long (All Night)," before being feted by other artists. John Legend crooned Richie's love song "Hello" from the piano, a song he said he's been performing since high school. Ledi rocked an enthusiastic version of "Brick House." And gospel singer Yolanda Adams brought the house down with her moving rendition of "Jesus Is Love."

- Backstage, Richie called the honor "magical."

- "If you are lucky enough in this business to have years of songs, as opposed to a couple of songs, (it's) something to be proud of," he said.

- Rising stars Alsina and Jhene Aiko shined brightly. Alsina was moved to tears as he accepted the first award of the night, best new artist.

- "I represent the struggle," the New Orleans newcomer said onstage. "This award is not for me, it's for the people."

- Alsina returned to accept the fan-voted viewers' choice award, where he beat Beyonce and Drake, saying, "I ain't gon' cry this time!"

- Aiko performed with John Legend, singing "The Worst" as he played piano.

- The night's leading nominees, Drake, Beyonce and Jay Z, were all no-shows. Each had five nominations.

- Drake, who was originally set to perform, was named best male hip-hop artist. Beyonce won female R&B/pop artist. Her hit with Jay Z, "Drunk in Love," won best collaboration.

- The superstar couple, who recently launched their joint "On the Run" tour, still had a major presence: A prerecorded performance by the pair at their concert closed the show.

Google Glass taking fans closer to the action

CHICAGO (AP) — Your favorite team is playing for the title, and you are in the middle of the field. You have a ticket in the very top row for an NBA playoff game, and a court-side seat. The referees are reviewing a big play in the final seconds, and you are right there in front of them.

Google Glass is slowly becoming more common in sports as teams and broadcasters try to bring fans closer to the action. The Philadelphia Eagles are going to test the Internet-connected eyewear for in-game use, and a company with a key application for the technology says it has secured a new round of financing that will help roll out its Glass program to sports, entertainment and other fields.

"When I talk to teams and ask them about what technology are they looking at, what technology are they keeping track of, the two answers I mostly commonly get are Google Glass and Snapchat," said Eric Fernandez, a founder and managing partner of SportsDesk Media, a fan analytics and digital media activation company.

The futuristic eyewear was known as "Project Glass" when it was introduced by Google in a video and blog post in April 2012. The Mountain View, California, company started selling the \$1,500 glasses to a select crowd later that same year, but it only recently became available to the general public.

The use of Glass in sports has progressed from trendy athletes dipping their toes in the water to a tool for teams looking to draw fans to arenas and stadiums, and then keep their focus on the action, instead of their omnipresent smartphones and tablets. It comes with endless revenue possibilities, ranging from sponsorship deals for the new content streams to a possible attendance boost for teams with empty upper decks.

"I think the fan experience one is the one that's really hitting hard," said Eric Johnsen, the business development lead for Glass at Work, "and the performance line people are dabbling with, that's really interesting."

Punter Chris Kluwe used the eyewear in training camp last year to take fans inside an Oakland Raiders

practice. Seattle Seahawks wide receiver Golden Tate wore the glasses at Super Bowl media day. Roger Federer used one when he hit with former tennis star Stefan Edberg during a visit to Google's campus, and a referee at the recent USA Sevens Collegiate Rugby Championship donned the glasses for the NBC Sports broadcast.

But it is the big-picture applications that offer intriguing possibilities for teams and leagues concerned about attendance in the 21st century, when flat-screen TVs and rising prices at sporting events have made the in-home experience even more appealing.

The 2014 Know the Fan Report, produced by Sporting News Media, Kantar Media and SportBusiness Group, found 45 percent of fans use a second-screen device while watching sports on TV, a definite factor in the willingness of teams and broadcasters to take a closer look at Glass. The report was based on a survey of more than 1,000 American adults conducted in February.

"The focus has been through sports at large, how do you get people using their phones to interact during the game?" said Rob Laycock, the vice president of marketing for the Indiana Pacers and Fever.

"What's nice about Glass is that it's keeping your focus on center stage, you know main court, with the scoreboard right above it."

The NBA's Sacramento Kings used a CrowdOptic application to become the first pro sports team to employ Glass in the arena when they put the eyewear on their mascot Slamson and others for a January loss to the Pacers, allowing fans at the game and viewing at home to witness the courtside experience. Indiana used it for the first time for a March 26 game against Miami, and the Orlando Magic broke it out for their April 9 game against Brooklyn.

The Eagles are the first NFL team to try the application for Google Glass. They are planning for a similar approach to the Pacers, who used the CrowdOptic program to provide multiple courtside perspectives over the video board during games.

"We're on a constant search for ways to enhance the overall fan experi-

ence at Lincoln Financial Field," said Brian Papson, the vice president of marketing for the Eagles. "So what caught us is that this is a creative, different, new innovative way to do that."

There are many factors at play with the use of Glass at sports venues, including the strength of the WiFi network and the reliability of moving people wearing the technology. Thousands of people using their phones to post to social media or check fantasy sports can grind WiFi networks to a halt, and a courtside perspective becomes much less attractive when it's an obstructed view.

That's where CrowdOptic comes in.

"What our stuff does is it really converts all this chaos into a demonstrable broadcast feed that, for example, the Pacers can really count on," said Jon Fisher, the CEO and co-founder of San Francisco-based company. "So they can put Glass out there and it can work in many cases as well as any other fixed camera asset because of these algorithms at work."

Maintaining a reliable feed is just one potential problem for sports teams deploying the technology. There is concern about overwhelming fans with a barrage of viewing options. The eyewear has faced criticism over its intrusiveness and its ability to take photos and video through voice-activated commands, making it more likely that even attentive fans could find themselves on the videoboard before they realize what's going on.

The rollouts have been conducted with great care.

"We haven't just determined yet who's going to be wearing the Glass and deploying it, that's all up for a lot of discussion," Papson said. "But I think as content such as this continues to be more available, I think every team has those discussions as to what's not appropriate to provide."

Asked about his vision of the future, Johnsen paints a compelling picture.

"If a fan wants to be Tom Brady, 10 seconds left in the Super Bowl, in the red zone making the call in the huddle and executing a play," he said, "I think it's absolutely possible next 10 years if not sooner ... with Glass-like technology."

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Costa Rica hangs on to beat Greece in shootout

RECIFE, Brazil (AP) — With his team down to 10 men for nearly an hour, Keylor Navas made sure Costa Rica's last line of defense held firm.

The goalkeeper came through with a string of stops in regulation and extra time and then made the only save in a penalty shootout to send Costa Rica through to the World Cup quarterfinals on Sunday with a win over Greece.

After Navas dived to his right to push out the effort by Theofanis Gekas, Costa Rica defender Michael Umana scored the decisive spot kick for a 5-3 win in the shootout, sending the team sprinting down the pitch to embrace its goalkeeper. The game had finished 1-1 following extra time, after Greece equalized in second-half injury time.

"It was only a dream for us, a dream that became

a reality," Navas said. "A dream that was dreamt by an entire country."

Costa Rica will play one of the tournament favorites the Netherlands in the quarterfinals on Saturday in a surprising appearance in the last eight for the small country that has a quarter of the population of Brazil's biggest city and which hardly anyone picked to even make it past the group stage.

"To the entire people in Costa Rica, those at home and out on the streets, this is for you," Costa Rica's Colombian coach Jorge Luis Pinto said. "This is a people that love football and they deserve it. ... We will continue fighting. We will go on. We see beautiful things."

The victory also delighted the majority of the just over 41,000 fans in Recife as the Brazilian locals shouted for Costa Rica throughout the

game and often broke out into chants of "Ole, Ole, Ole, Ole, Ticos!" — using the common nickname for Costa Ricans.

Greece was often booed. Costa Rica went ahead in the 52nd minute with a coolly taken goal by captain Bryan Ruiz, but the game changed when Oscar Duarte clumsily lunged at Greece's Jose Holebas in the 66th and was sent off with a second yellow card.

Pouring forward, the Greeks did beat Navas in injury time when defender Sokratis Papastathopoulos smashed in a rebound to make the team's numerical advantage eventually pay. Yet Navas kept denying the Greeks through extra time and then, crucially, when he dived, threw up a hand and pushed Gekas' spot-kick away at the end.

"Obviously he has to be congratulated," Greece

coach Fernando Santos said of Costa Rica's 'keeper. "If it weren't for (him), the results would have been different."

Santos was sent to the stands by Australian referee Ben Williams just before the penalties and said he watched the shootout on a television inside the stadium.

"Sadness," he said of Greece's elimination and his last game in charge of the team. "Definitely sadness. Not much (else) goes through your mind at that time."

The red card for Duarte changed the game — which

Costa Rica had slowly begun to control — and Greece surged forward for most of the remainder of the match.

But, with the exception of Papastathopoulos' goal, they just couldn't get past Navas as shot after shot was blocked. Greece had 13 shots on target to Costa Rica's two.

Navas smothered a volley from Dimitris Salpingidis from point-blank range in the first half. After the equalizer, he threw himself high to tip over a header from substitute Konstantinos Mitroglou that would have surely been the winner

in the dying seconds of regulation time. He then made three crucial stops in extra time, when Costas Katsouranis, Lazaros Christodouloupoulos and Mitroglou were all denied.

During the shootout, the Costa Rican squad knelt in a line. They then burst onto their feet to race over to Navas and smother him in a huddle when Umana's shot hit the net and Costa Rica made the last eight at the World Cup.

"We will not stay on the quarterfinals," coach Pinto said. "Rest assured that we will not get eliminated there."

Dutch defeat Mexico

FORTALEZA, Brazil (AP) — The Dutch were worried about the oppressive heat at Arena Castelao, and they left it with the stifling hot conditions to thank for a spot in the World Cup quarterfinals.

An inspired tactical change

during the second of two official stoppages led to a late goal from Netherlands forward Wesley Sneijder and an injury-time penalty from Klaas Jan Huntelaar in a dramatic 2-1 victory over Mexico on Sunday.

"I moved to 'Plan B' at the

cooling break," said Netherlands coach Louis van Gaal, soon to be the manager at Manchester United. "That is a good way to take advantage of those breaks."

Despite scoring 10 goals in three group matches, the Dutch again started the match with a defensive 5-3-2 system. Van Gaal made the switch to a more attacking 4-3-3 formation in the second half and tweaked it further when referee Pedro Proenca stopped the match in the 76th minute to allow players to rehydrate.

Watch the Pros

Baseball

Milwaukee Brewers at Toronto Blue Jays...MLBN 12 p.m.
Athletics/Tigers or Rockies Nationals.....MLBN 6 p.m.
Texas Rangers at Baltimore Orioles.....FSSW 7 p.m.

World Cup Soccer

Argentina vs. Switzerland.....ESPN 10:30 a.m.
Belgium vs. USA.....ESPN 2:30 p.m.

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