

“When you’ve worked hard, and done well, and walked through that doorway of opportunity, you do not slam it shut behind you.”

Michelle Obama



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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

March 7 - 13, 2019

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ERIC JOHNSON ENTERS THE RACE TO BECOME THE NEXT MAYOR OF DALLAS



DALLAS, TX — State Representative Eric Johnson (D-Dallas) today appointed a campaign treasurer with the City Secretary of Dallas to state publicly his intention to run for Mayor of Dallas in the May 4, 2019 municipal election. Serving as Johnson’s campaign treasurer will be National Football League Hall of Famer and Dallas Cowboys Ring of Honor member, Mel Renfro.

“I’ve been around winners all my life, from winning football state championships in high school to winning two Super Bowls with the Dallas Cowboys, so I know a winner when I see one. Eric Johnson is a winner and he’ll be a great mayor,” said Renfro.

Johnson is the chairman of the Dallas Area Legislative Delegation and has represented Dallas in the Texas Legislature since 2010. Johnson issued the following

statement today:

“I believe I offer the citizens of Dallas a unique combination of experience, energy, and creativity when it comes to solving problems, along with a proven track record of working well with people from varying backgrounds in order to accomplish great things. I have represented one of the most diverse House districts in the state for nearly a decade and I’ve shown that I can bring people together to get the job done for all of our families,” Johnson stated.

“Dallas is a great city, but we have some serious challenges ahead of us. We need to make sure that the Dallas of tomorrow is full of opportunity for everyone. It’s time to move beyond the old divisions at City Hall and work together toward real solutions. If we do, Dallas will be a city of strong, safe neighborhoods where families thrive and where every child has the opportunities to succeed that I enjoyed growing up in this incredible city,” Johnson added.

“And that’s why I’m running to become the next mayor of Dallas,” Johnson concluded.

Johnson is a Dallas native. He attended Dallas Independent School District schools through the first grade when he received a scholarship to attend Greenhill School through the West Dallas Boys and Girls Club. Johnson earned an undergraduate degree with honors in History from Harvard University, a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, and a Master of Public Affairs from Princeton University. He is currently Of Counsel to the international law firm of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP where he practices public finance and public policy law. Johnson and his wife, Nakita, reside in Dallas with their two children, William (age 4) and George (age 1).

RECOGNIZING FIRST LADY MICHELLE OBAMA DURING THE CELEBRATION OF WOMEN’S MONTH



Michelle LaVaughn Robinson Obama (born January 17, 1964) is an American writer, lawyer, and university administrator who was First Lady of the United States from 2009 to 2017. She is married to the 44th U.S. President, Barack Obama, and was the first African-American First Lady.

Raised on the South Side of Chicago, Illinois, Obama is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School. In her early legal career, she worked at the law firm Sidley Austin, where she met Barack Obama. She subsequently worked in non-profits and as the Associate Dean of Student Services at the University of Chicago and the Vice President for Community and External Affairs of the University of Chicago Medical Center. Michelle married Barack in 1992 and they have two daughters.

Obama campaigned for her husband’s presidential bid throughout 2007 and 2008, delivering a keynote address at the 2008 Democratic National Convention. She returned to speak for him at the 2012 Democratic National Convention. During the 2016 Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, she delivered a speech in support of the Democratic presidential nominee, Hillary Clinton, a former First Lady.

As First Lady, Obama served as a role model for women, and worked as an advocate for poverty awareness, education, nutrition, physical activity and healthy eating. She supported American designers and was considered a fashion icon.

Michelle Obama’s sales of her book , *Becoming* hit a record high of three million as she continues to add new cities during her 2019 tour.

COMMENTARY: ‘Leaving Neverland’ is Michael Jackson’s Pandora’s Box



Those are just three of what’s become a cavalcade of headlines about the gut-wrenching and disturbing documentary, “Leaving Neverland,” that finally aired on HBO Sunday night with part two and a post-film interview by Oprah Winfrey on Monday night.

It’s the story of Wade Robson and James Safechuck, two men who describe in the most heart-breaking and wrenching ways the abuse they say they suffered at the hands of the late Michael Jackson when they were little boys.

While Michael’s family, fans and the executors of his

multi-billion dollar estate, have blasted everyone involved in the film, this fact remains indisputable:

Only the young men know what really happened between the sheets at Neverland, the King of Pop’s sprawling 2,700-acre estate in the Santa Ynez Valley of California.

And, while it’s noble that Tito, Jackie, Marlon, Jermaine and the lawyers who represent Michael’s estate have pushed back against the film, one thing director Dan Reed’s documentary does make clear:

Continues on Page 2

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA
Newswire Correspondent
@StacyBrownMedia

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**COMMUNITY
FEEDBACK SOUGHT ON
PROPOSED DALLAS ISD
2020-2021
STUDENT CALENDAR**

SEE PAGE 6



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EDITORIAL PAGE

COMMENTARY: 'Leaving Neverland' is Michael Jackson's Pandora's Box

Continued from Page 1

Michael and his family really were strangers over the last 25 years of his life.

They didn't know him and he really didn't care to know them.

His interactions with his brothers, whom he once led as the Jackson 5 and later as The Jacksons, were mere token visits on "Family Day" once a year.

During the 1993 investigation into Michael's alleged pedophilia, his sister Latoya created a firestorm by saying that she "would not be a silent collaborator in my brother's crimes against little children."

Latoya claimed that she and her mother had seen checks written out for "lots of money" to the families of her brother's alleged child victims. Her mother, Katherine, "was so disgusted that she wrote a letter in which she used [a homophobic slur] to describe Michael," Latoya alleged.

Katherine vehemently denied "every word Latoya had to say."

She'd been brainwashed, the Jacksons said.

For this reporter and one-time close family friend, their denials were shattered years later when the Jackson

family forfeited possession of a storage unit upon being sued in 2002.

That storage unit, Jermaine and Katherine would admit to me, contained "those checks and that letter" Latoya had spoken of.

Several Jacksons, including Jermaine, Rebbie, Katherine and even Joseph often confided in me and much of those discussions have remained confidential despite the sour ending to the friendship.

Jermaine and Rebbie both poured out their souls for book proposals.

Others including Tito, Jackie and Randy also often spoke openly.

"Michael is messed up," Randy has said.

One family member expressed his fear that "Michael may have touched [his son]."

My response at the time: Ridiculous.

His take: "I hope not," and "How would you know?"

Like him, I didn't really know. At the time, I had my doubts.

Michael's family often fumed about his "Carrying on with little white boys," though they never said he was molesting his special friends.

One morning in 2003, I received in succession, two phone calls pleading for my intervention. One from a girlfriend of Jermaine's and the other from one of Michael's nephews.

Both had the same concern: A teenage family member was telling others that Michael was guilty of bad behavior with little boys - this was taking place while police were investigating Michael.

Authorities eventually questioned the teen family member and two lead detectives said the boy denied that Michael had done anything wrong, but they were convinced he knew a lot more than what he said.

One month before jury selection in Michael's 2005 trial, members of the Jackson family attended my wedding on Long Island.

At a dinner, a heated argument between two members ensued over whether Michael was a pedophile.

I interjected, "Let me ask you a question, you all still believe he was regularly high on drugs, correct?" Both agreed. "Could it be possible that he behaved with these boys inappropriately while under the influence?"

The dissenting family member paused and con-

ceded to me: "You have a point."

While Safechuck declined to testify for Michael, Robson did.

And, despite being a "star" witness for the defense, Robson's testimony, and that of his mother, were amongst the most disturbing in a trial that made most observers feel "unclean."

Robson testified that he shared a bed with the King of Pop regularly and Robson's mother, Joy, said Jackson would "cry like a baby" if she denied any of his requests to have a sleep-over with Wade.

Detectives approached one family member during the trial in which Michael was acquitted on all charges.

That family member declined to take the stand for either side. "I told them," the family member said. "I will tell you that Michael's a pedophile because I know that he is. But, take me to jail now because I'll never say that in court."

Stacy M. Brown is a journalist and former family friend of the Jacksons. He's the author of the forthcoming biography, "Aftermath: Michael Jackson's Dysfunctional Family and the Legacy of the King of Pop."

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Young Musicians' Showcase

The Dallas Metroplex Musicians' Association (DMMA) invites you to attend our annual Young Musicians' Showcase. The performers are 9th through 12th grade students who attend schools in the Dallas Metroplex area. Earlier this year, they performed for judges and earned medals, ribbons, and other accolades in local, region, and state competitions. These young musicians excel in voice, instrumental, and in piano performance. This is our opportunity to applaud and encourage their accomplishments and musical pursuits.

Saturday, March 9, 2019 at 3:00 PM
Doors Open at 2:30 PM@ Barack Obama Male Leadership Academy, 3030 Stag Road, Dallas, Texas 75241

HEALTH / INFORMATION FAIR

The Bexar Street Connection Association is sponsoring a Health/ Information Fair (ME First)

When: Saturday March 23, 2019
Where: T.R. Hoover Center
5106 Bexar St., Dallas, TX 75215
Time: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm



Dr. Crystal R. Sanders

Black History Month Speaker Shares Stories of Lesser-known Women Activists

"We are all bound up together in one big bundle of humanity," Dr. Crystal R. Sanders said during the Black History Month lecture in Neville Hall at Presbyterian College on Thursday, Feb. 28. "Society cannot trample on the weakest and feeblest of its members without receiving the curse in its own soul."

Sanders, associate professor of history and African American studies at Penn State University, was quoting Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, a poet and writer who lived from 1825 to 1911.

According to Sanders, Harper was telling a mostly white audience in 1866 that denying the freedom of African Americans indirectly weakened the freedom of white Americans.

"She was urging white women in particular to not just be progressive when it came to women's suffrage," Sanders said. "Harper wanted that resolve and commitment to extend to black civil rights."

Women Who Stood Up for Civil Rights

During her talk, which she noted came on the heels of Women's History Month, Sanders told the stories of several other lesser-known women, mostly African Americans, who stood up for civil rights for African Americans.

"Oftentimes in civil rights history, black women are relegated to secondary roles," Sanders said. "However, when we tell accurate, inclusive accounts of American history, women should be a key part of the narrative."

Sanders told the story of Ona Judge, who was enslaved to George and Martha Washington before she escaped the president's mansion. Sanders shared the story of Viola Gregg Liuzzo, a white civil rights activist from Michigan who traveled to Alabama to help Dr. Martin Luther King register African-American voters before she was killed for her advocacy.

Sanders also spoke about Claudette Colvin, a pioneer

of the civil rights movement who was arrested when she was 15 years old for not giving up her seat on a bus, as well as the Bennett College Belles, who coordinated sit-ins at lunch counters in North Carolina. And Sanders noted Diane Nash, an American civil rights activist known for organizing sit-ins and continuing the Freedom Rides.

"Black women have been political strategists and leaders in their own rights," Sanders said. "They have been central to our country's social movements."

"We are all bound up together"

Sanders relayed that Americans must rely on one another today the same way Harper argued we must in 1866.

"This idea of interdependency is still true today," Sanders said.

For America to be America, Sanders argued, all citizens' rights should be protected and everyone should abide by the law. Furthermore, all citizens

should be concerned about residential segregation, the re-segregation of public schools and the lack of living wages for all workers.

"It might not be our problem, but it is our problem," Sanders said. "It is our problem because we are all bound up together. A forgotten figure in history told us so more than a century earlier."

About Presbyterian College

Presbyterian College is between Columbia and Greenville, S.C., in the college town of Clinton, S.C. At PC, we're noted as much for our challenging academics as we are for our one-of-a-kind mascot: the Blue Hose. Our students are one-of-a-kind too: They bring their own interests and abilities to campus and pursue them with gusto. Students customize their education by choosing from 50-plus majors and pre-professional programs. They're taught and mentored by a faculty whose #1 priority is their students' success. Students research, intern, and study abroad. And they get involved on campus, a place defined by honor and ethics. PC prepares students to be fulfilled personally and professionally so they can contribute to today's global society. For more information about Presbyterian College, visit www.presby.edu.

BE KIND! Never speak harsh words. Be kind and gentle with your tongue. For it has been said that the tongue can be like a sword. Think long before you criticize your neighbor. Your tongue can be nasty. Living is one of the most beautiful things in the world. But the tongue can kill!

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9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship
10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship
6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service - 6:30 p.m.
Bible Class - 7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY
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Sammie Berry
Minister

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Sunday Bible School
8:45 a.m.
Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Song Practice
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Wednesday Bible Class
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NEWS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

Sacramento police who killed Stephon Clark won't be charged

By **DON THOMPSON**
SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — California's attorney general announced Tuesday that he won't charge two Sacramento police officers who fatally shot an unarmed black man last year, joining a local prosecutor in finding that the officers reasonably believed Stephon Clark had a gun as he moved toward them.

Attorney General Xavier Becerra announced the results of a nearly yearlong investigation after telling Clark's mother privately. He acknowledged that it was not what Clark's family wanted but said the evidence showed the officers had reason to believe their lives were in danger, though investigators found only a cellphone. SeQuette Clark did not comment Tuesday on Becerra's findings.

The Tommie Robinson American Legion Post 802

Dallas - The Tommie Robinson American Legion Post 802 will observe its anniversary with a salute to the black soldier. This will take place Saturday, March 9, 2019, at the Veteran Resource Center in Dallas. Mr. Jerry Sillemon will be the speaker. Mr. Sillemon was the FIRST African American Navy Seal.

R. Kelly tells CBS 'I didn't do this stuff' in interview

CHICAGO (AP) — In his first interview since being charged with sexually abusing four people, including three underage girls, R. Kelly says he "didn't do this stuff" and he's fighting for his life.

The R&B singer, out on bail after his Feb. 22 arrest in Chicago, gave the interview to

Gayle King of "CBS This Morning," with excerpts airing Tuesday night. More of the interview will air Wednesday and Thursday on "CBS This Morning."

In an excerpt, Kelly tells King that rumors of him having sex with and abusing underage girls are, "Not true."

Financing Your Franchise Is Upcoming Lunch & Learn Topic at Frazier House

Dallas - Financing Your Franchise is the March Lunch & Learn topic to be presented at Frazier House. Join us Tuesday, March 19, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Frazier House, 4600 Spring Avenue. This workshop will help clarify your thinking about how to finance your business whether you are a franchisor, an existing business or a startup business.

The Lunch & Learn Series is a signature program of the Zan Wesley Holmes, Jr. Community Outreach Center. It launched in July 2018 with Marketing Basics and continues each month with a class that provides learning opportunities for small businesses and non-profit organizations, specifically targeted to those in the South Dallas area.

To register: <https://www.zwhjcc.org/classes-franchise>

The classes are free and open to the public. Join us in person or via Facebook Live. Bring your lunch; we will provide the drinks. For more information, email: info@zwhjcc.org or call Jasmine Anderson at 214.324.4443.

Former Dallas City Council member Carolyn Davis

Dallas – Former Dallas City Council member, Carolyn Davis pleaded guilty to accept-

ing bribes from a real estate developer in exchange for support of an affordable housing project during the time she was chair of the council's Housing Committee. She is being charged for taking \$40,000 from developer Ruel Hamilton between November, 2013 to June, 2015.

Rep. Eric Johnson to File Anti-Corruption Bill in Wake of Latest Dallas Bribery Scandal

AUSTIN, TEXAS – State Rep. Eric Johnson said Monday he will file legislation this week to eradicate corruption surrounding the awarding of affordable housing tax credits.

Rep. Johnson, who sits on the House Urban Affairs Committee, announced his proposal just days after a former Dallas City Councilwoman pleaded guilty for accepting bribes from a real estate developer in exchange for her support of an affordable housing project. She was the latest elected official from Dallas found to have used their power over affordable housing programs for personal enrichment.

When developers are seeking affordable housing tax credits, support from elected officials is part of the criteria used to evaluate those proposals. Under Rep. Johnson's bill, backing from elected officials would no longer factor into the evaluation and scoring process.

"Too many elected officials have abused their role in this process and abandoned their commitment to their constituents," said Rep. Johnson, D-Dallas. "These stories have become far too familiar, and I'm tired of reacting to the crimes. We need to prevent the crimes."

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SPORTS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, March 7

Friday, March 8

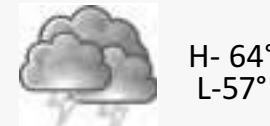
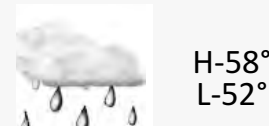
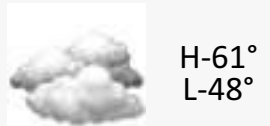
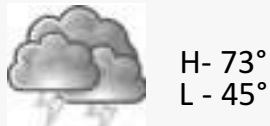
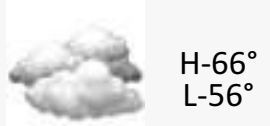
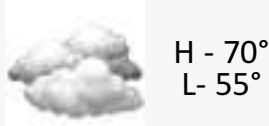
Saturday, March 9

Sunday, March 10

Monday, March 11

Tuesday, March 12

Wednesday, March 13



Official: Santa Anita cancels racing after 21 horse deaths



ARCADIA, Calif. (AP) — Santa Anita has canceled racing indefinitely to re-examine its dirt surface after the deaths of 21 horses in the last two months.

Tim Ritvo, chief operating officer of The Stronach Group, which owns Santa Anita, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that racing won't be held this weekend, when two major races were scheduled: the San Felipe for 3-year-old Kentucky Derby hopefuls and the Santa Anita Handicap for older horses.

Ritvo wouldn't speculate on when training and racing would resume. After this weekend, races were to be run again starting March 14 at the storied racetrack that will host the Breeders' Cup world championships for a record 10th time this fall.

"In whole, we feel confident in the track and we're just being very proactive," Ritvo said. "We want to do all the testing that needs to be done. When we believe we're in good shape, we'll start to train over it again."

The Daily Racing Form first reported the cancellation. The latest fatality occurred during training on Tuesday, when a 4-year-old filly got injured and was euthanized.

"Obviously, one horse is too many," Ritvo said. "The recent rash is just horrible. We need to definitely take a step back and evaluate everything."

Santa Anita received 1 1/2 inches of rain and had unusually cold temperatures in February, but it's unclear whether track conditions played a role in any of the fatalities.

The National Weather Service was forecasting 1 to 2 inches of rain in Los Angeles County starting overnight Tuesday and into Wednesday.

"We think that (rain) could definitely contribute even though our experts are telling us not," Ritvo said. "The tracks out here are built not for weather like that."

Ritvo said officials are "a little bit concerned" with the latest impending storm and how the dirt surface can change from muddy to fast in a short time.

Besides re-examining the dirt track, Ritvo said all racing protocols would be looked at.

"We won't rush it," he said. "Everybody takes a deep breath."

Ritvo was uncertain whether the San Felipe and Santa Anita Handicap would be rescheduled.

"Those are huge races," he said. "We hope so."

Seven deaths have occurred during races on the dirt oval at Santa Anita since the track's winter meet began on Dec. 26. Five have occurred on the turf course and nine came during training on dirt. The highest-profile horse to be euthanized was Battle of Midway, winner of the 2017 Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile. The 5-year-old bay also finished third in the 2017 Kentucky Derby for Hall of Fame trainer Jerry Hollendorfer. The horse suffered injuries during a workout on Feb. 23.

Last week, Santa Anita was closed for two days while the dirt surface underwent extensive testing and was declared fit for racing.

Hall of Fame trainer Ron McAnally said 4-year-old filly Lets Light the Way "took a bad step or something" on Tuesday.

He said the injury was a shattered sesamoid in her right front leg. Sesamoid bones provide anchor points for the two branches of the suspensory ligament. The bones are under stress each time a horse takes a step. Lets Light the Way was X-rayed and later euthanized.

"I think the weather has a lot to do with it," said McAnally, whose wife, Debbie, owned the filly.

"Santa Anita has been a wonderful track, and they've done all kinds of tests," McAnally said. "I don't know what else they could do. It's a fluky thing."

In 2017, 20 deaths occurred among a total of 8,463 starts over a span of 122 racing days at Santa Anita, according to the most recent figures compiled by The Jockey Club. That's a rate of 2.36 deaths per 1,000 starts.

There were 1.61 deaths per 1,000 starts in the U.S. in 2017, according to the most recent figures from the Equine Injury Database, compiled by The Jockey Club. That was a slight increase in the rate of fatal injury compared with 2016, when there were 1.54 deaths per 1,000 starts.

The deaths were more frequent on dirt surfaces (1.74 per 1,000 starts) than on turf (1.36).

Santa Anita was closed for two days last week while the dirt surface was tested.

Warriors draft first woman player into NBA 2K esports league

NEW YORK (AP) — After over three hours of sitting, waiting and stressing, Chiquita Evans heard her name called. She stood, smiled and put on a Warriors cap, striding to the stage backed by the loudest applause of the night.

Someone put a microphone in front of her and asked her how it felt. That's when she finally choked up.

"It changes everything," she said. "It means everything to me." Evans became the first woman ever drafted into the NBA 2K League on Tuesday night, going in the fourth round to Warriors Gaming, which is operated by the NBA's Golden State Warriors. A former college and semipro basketball player, Evans is now the esports league's first female pro, one of the 126 players who will make between \$33,000 to \$37,000 per season, plus benefits and team housing.

No more sessions as a trainer at Planet Fitness. The Chicago native is heading to the Bay Area.

"It feels surreal," she said. Evans was one of two women who qualified for the 2K League draft this year through the league's online combine. The other, Brianna Novin, was not selected but could still sign as a free agent.

The NBA runs the league in coordination with 2K game publisher Take-Two Interactive, and it did not have any women for its inaugural season. Prior to last year's draft, NBA Commissioner Adam Silver called the lack of gender diversity "a disappointment for all of us so far."

The league set out to solve that problem by holding focus groups with top women gamers to spot potential barriers. One key problem: Data showed that male players weren't passing the ball to their female teammates — something that wasn't accounted for when the league analyzed players to build the 2018 draft pool.

"It made us put more emphasis on how good a player was when they got the ball in their hands," said 2K League managing director Brendan Donohue. "That's the only part of it they can control."

The league also monitored communication between players more carefully at this year's combine, removing several players for sexist remarks.

That kind of harassment isn't new to Evans, or women in esports in general. One of the biggest challenges for women is finding teammates for games that rely so heavily on teamwork. Female gamers can try to ignore an offensive, trash-talking opponent — and there are plenty of those in the 2K community.

But just like in real life, you can't defend a pick-and-roll if your teammates aren't willing to communicate.

Evans has done most of her competitive gaming with a coed team — right now, five of its 12 players are women — and that's helped her thrive as a shot-creating small forward.

Her experience when gaming outside that team — with both teammates and opponents — hasn't always been as rosy.

"I've had sexual remarks put towards me," she said. "I get told I should be back in the kitchen. '2K is not for women,' I've had that. There's no question about that."

Evans also got loud pushback on social media when she announced last month — on her 30th birthday, no less — that she'd qualified for the draft.

"That's the only time that it's been discouraging for me," Evans said. "In that moment, because it was a great moment for me, and I felt like people ruined it."

Other gamers at Tuesday's draft were eager to welcome Evans and Novin.

"Male, female, dog, cat, frog, I don't care," said Alexander Bernstein,



a returning player with 76ers Gaming. "If you're the best in the world, I feel like you deserve to be able to play."

That doesn't mean the women won't face extra skepticism. Kimanni Ingram, another draft-eligible player, has played with Evans and respects the way she has navigated blowback from male gamers.

But even his compliments Tuesday came with a qualifier. "She has the basketball IQ for a girl," Ingram said. "Most people would be like, 'I'm playing with a girl. She's not going to know what to do.' She knows what she's doing. You can tell."

News of Evans' selection traveled fast. Warriors coach Steve Kerr was asked about her prior to a game against Boston.

"I think that's really cool that she's passionate and inspired and broke a barrier," Kerr said. "That's awesome."

"Esports has become a huge thing now," said Kevin Durant, Evans' favorite player. "More people who enjoy the game might get an opportunity to be professionals and make some money for themselves and make some money. I think it's cool."

Female gamers have had difficulty breaking into pro esports. Among the most popular circuits, League of Legends Championship Series and the Overwatch League have each had just one female player. Those women both received ample praise and criticism on social media.

The NBA wants to help Evans and Novin manage that. The 2K League has a transition program based on the NBA's rookie symposium, and it added sessions specifically for Evans and Novin to help them navigate their potential barrier-breaking roles, including help with social media.

One item 2K hopes to change soon: The video game still does not include any female players. Unlike EA Sports' NBA Live series — which includes WNBA rosters and the ability to create female players — NBA 2K is still male-only. Donohue says 2K is working to add women to future versions of the game.

That's not bumming out Evans right now. She's already building out her to-do list for her new home in Oakland.

"I'm going to see if I can do a real-life shooting competition with (Stephen) Curry," Evans said. "That's what I was known for. See if I can shoot with the best."

Little League to include Cuban youth players

HAVANA (AP) — Cuban baseball and Little League International say they are launching a relationship that will allow young Cuban players to participate in international Little League tournaments.

The agreement announced Wednesday follows a deal between Major League Baseball and the Cuban Baseball Federation that will allow Cuban players to legally play professionally in the United States for the first time.

The two organizations said that Cuba's roughly 170 programs for children between 4 and 12 will now be included in Little League's international programs, including the Little League International Tournament. The Cubans will have a chance to qualify at the Caribbean Region Tournament in Curacao in July.

The deal comes at a time of high tension between Cuba and the Trump administration, which is increasing pressure on the island's socialist government.

If you have sports information that you would like placed in the DALLAS POST TRIBUNE Sports Section e-mail us at: production@dallasposttrib.net

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World Summit 2019 Semi-Highlights



My Day
By Dr. J. Ester Davis
www.esterday.com

“Dear Excellency’s, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is a great pleasure for me to welcome all of you who have come to Seoul, Korea to congratulate and encourage the laureates of 2019. In particular, the presence of distinguished leaders and representatives from around the world, including current and former heads of state and special guests from Africa, brings great value to this program.” The world summit theme was “Peace and Human Development in Africa”.

The welcoming airport staff were all young African students attending college or some form of higher education from around the world. With several trips aboard, my favorite questions to ask especially young people is how many languages do you speak? The answer is almost always over four . . . to ‘I do not know’ how many. At Incheon Airport, Seoul, Korea, the real red carpet was rolled out. . . with the most massive size signs welcoming the delegations from around the world to the World Summit. Upon arrival, we knew we were in a special time

for a special reason. With a very demanding schedule, the first session was held hours after our arrival.

My highlights for this first accounting centers around the two winners of the Sunhak Peace Prize, a Noble Peace Prize equivalency, with more money attached. Please join our blog and conversation about Africa’s more than forward worldwide march.

Quite possibly, most Americans are not familiar with the African model, Waris Dirie, who has graced many high fashion magazines as a world class supermodel, domestically and abroad. She is also the founder of the Desert Flower Foundation leading the campaign for the elimination of female genital mutilation (FGM) in 1997. This innovative awareness milestone saved the lives of millions of girls who were at risk of this violent practice. Waris was available, though uncomfortable with the attention, for questioning and granted many interviews during the summit.

Another impactful highlights of the summit was the Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina, leading Africa’s development through agricultural innovations and by promoting good governance in Africa. Having received a Master of Science and a PhD,




in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University in America, he returned to his native country and created a fertilizer. His story is mesmerizing . . . bringing great improvement to Africa’s food supply and leading the world in innovation styling.

The absolute BIG. . buzz . . . both in, after hours and during the summit was about Barack Obama, our President and his investment in Africa. Before my interview with the South Africa Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), the camera man asked about Mr. Obama. Fortunately, (whew). . . I had working knowledge about the next step concerning The Basketball Africa League, thanks to J. J. Chandler, grandson number 4, Texas A&M playing basketball. But according to reports now published, the league will debut soon in several African countries, to-wit: South Africa, Tunisia, and Egypt . . . about twelve countries.

Working on and still unpacking more highlights on this super packed summit. So many thanks to the other countries we interviewed and had the pleasure of meeting. Truly making the world better for future generations.

In Loving Memory of My Husband

Dr. Kendell Beck, D.Min; Ph.D.

AUGUST 19, 1933 - MARCH 11, 2015

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal,
Love leaves a sweet memory no one can steal.

"You will always be with me"

Dr. Mary E. Beck, D. Min; Ph.D.
March 11, 2019

Community feedback sought on proposed Dallas ISD 2020-2021 student calendar

DALLAS — Parents and community members are invited to review and comment on the district’s proposed student calendar for the 2020-2021 school year.

To provide feedback or pose questions, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021calsurvey> to participate in a short calendar survey, available through March 15.

Highlights:

- Teachers report for work August 8.
- The first day of class for students is Monday, August 17.
- The last day for students is Thursday, May 27.
- Holidays include Labor Day, Thanksgiving (Nov. 23-27), winter break (Dec. 21-Jan. 5), M.L. King Day (Jan. 18), Presidents Day (Feb. 15), spring break (March 15-19), and

Memorial Day.

- October 9 and 16 are non-school days for all students. Oct. 9 is state fair day for elementary students. October 16 is state fair day for secondary students.

- October 9 will serve as staff development day for secondary teachers. October 16 will serve as staff development day for elementary teachers.

- Two days in April (April 2 and 5) are designated bad weather make-up days.

- Students will attend school a total of 172 days

- Teachers will work a total of 185 days, including 9 staff development days and 5 preparation days.

Pending changes to the draft, trustees are expected to consider the calendar for approval in April.

Dallas ISD Trustees approve mid-year raises for identified Operations positions

DALLAS — Trustees have approved the recommendations of a salary study conducted by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) calling for mid-year salary increases for certain job positions in Food & Child Nutrition Services, Police & Security, and Maintenance & Facilities Services, Construction Services, and Transportation Services. The action will result in pay scale changes and compensation increases for 61 percent of employees in those departments effective March 1, 2019.

The TASB study compared the salaries and pay scales for positions in the Operations division with average pay for similar positions in the Dallas labor market. Comparisons were based on jobs requiring similar skills, qualifications and responsibilities at other school districts and Dallas employees.

The study found that salary adjustments are needed to recruit and retain employees in grounds and food services. As a result the study recommended the district provide an immediate pay raise to employees in certain job categories to be more competitive in the market.

Among recommendations approved by trustees:

- Raise the minimum wage for all employees

to \$12 per hour.

- Add adjustments for experienced employees in the bottom half of the pay range (i.e., those below market pay).

- Reset pay ranges to match market pay scales.

- Adjust the pay for other groups of employees during the regular budget cycle.

- Create a new pay structure for Construction Services.

Based on the Board’s action, 1,900, or 61% of employees in Police & Security, Maintenance, Food Services, Construction Services, and Transportation Services will receive immediate salary increases ranging from 9.6 percent to 15 percent. The anticipated cost for the raises for the remainder of the fiscal year is approximately \$1.6 million, which will be covered with funds from the district’s general operating budget and special revenue funds.

TASB is currently conducting a second study to review the salaries of all other district employees. It’s expected the findings will be presented to the board in April. Any recommendations for salary adjustments as a result of that study will be considered as part of the district’s 2019-2020 budget deliberations.



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March 1, 2019

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