



## Savaneta: Aruba's first capital city



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### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

#### SUNDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO  
SINGER  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### MONDAY:

ANDERSON BAHAMON  
SINGER  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### TUESDAY:

JEAN PAUL  
SAXOPHONIST  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

MAILLEYN ALVARADO  
VIOLINIST  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### THURSDAY

MARRYBELL MADURO  
SINGER  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

#### FRIDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO  
VIOLINIST  
7:00 TO 9:00 P.M.

#### SATURDAY:

RICKY THOMAS  
GUITAR  
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.



Happy Hour  
12-1 / 4-6 / 9-10

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# Trump signs his tax and spending cut bill at the White House July 4 picnic

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE and NICHOLAS RICCARDI

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Donald Trump signed his package of tax breaks and spending cuts into law Friday after his cajoling produced almost unanimous Republican support in Congress for the domestic priority that could cement his second-term legacy.

Flanked by Republican legislators and members of his Cabinet, Trump signed the multitrillion-dollar legislation outside the White House, and then banged down the gavel that House Speaker Mike Johnson gifted him that was used during the bill's final passage Thursday.

Against odds that at times seemed improbable, Trump achieved his goal of celebrating a historic — and divisive — legislative victory in time for the nation's birthday. Fighter jets and a stealth bomber streaked through the sky over the annual White House Fourth of July picnic as Trump and first lady Melania Trump stepped out onto the White House balcony.

"America's winning, winning, winning like never before," Trump said, noting last month's bombing campaign against Iran's nuclear program, which he said the flyover was meant to honor.



President Donald Trump bangs a gavel presented to him by House Speaker Mike Johnson of La., after he signed his signature bill of tax breaks and spending cuts at the White House, Friday, July 4, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

"Promises made, promises kept and we've kept them." The White House was hung with red, white and blue bunting for the regular Fourth of July festivities. The United States Marine Band played patriotic marches — and, in a typical Trumpian touch, tunes by 1980s pop icons Chaka Khan and Huey Lewis. The two separate flyovers book-ended Trump's appearance and the band playing the national anthem.

Democrats assailed the pack-

age as a giveaway to the rich that will rob millions more lower-income people of their health insurance, food assistance and financial stability. "I never thought that I'd be on the House floor saying that this is a crime scene," Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York said during a record-breaking speech that delayed the bill's passage by eight-plus hours. "It's a crime scene, going after the health, and the safety, and the well-being of the

American people."

The legislation extends Trump's 2017 multitrillion-dollar tax cuts and cuts Medicaid and food stamps by \$1.2 trillion. It provides for a massive increase in immigration enforcement. Congress' non-partisan scorekeeper projects that nearly 12 million more people will lose health insurance under the law.

The legislation passed the House on a largely party-line vote Thursday, culminating a monthslong push by the GOP

to cram most of its legislative priorities into a single budget bill that could be enacted without Senate Democrats being able to block it indefinitely by filibustering.

It passed by a single vote in the Senate, where North Carolina Republican Thom Tillis announced he would not run for reelection after incurring Trump's wrath in opposing it. Vice President JD Vance had to cast the tie-breaking vote.

In the House, where two Republicans voted against it, one, conservative maverick Tom Massie of Kentucky, has also become a target of Trump's well-funded political operation.

The legislation amounts to a repudiation of the agendas of the past two Democratic presidents, Barack Obama and Joe Biden, in rolling back Obama's Medicaid expansion under his signature health law and Biden's tax credits for renewable energy.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates the package will add \$3.3 trillion to the deficit over the decade and 11.8 million more people will go without health coverage. Trump exulted in his political victory Thursday night in Iowa, where he attended a kickoff of events celebrating the country's 250th birthday next year. □

## Judge briefly blocks immigrants' deportation to South Sudan after Supreme Court cleared the way

By NICHOLAS RICCARDI

Associated Press

A federal judge on Friday briefly halted deportations of eight immigrants to war-

torn South Sudan, sending the case to another judge, in Boston, the day after the Supreme Court greenlighted their removal.

District Judge Randolph Moss sent the case north from Washington after an extraordinary Fourth of July hearing on Friday afternoon.

He concluded that the judge best equipped to deal with the issues was Brian Murphy, the one whose rulings led to the initial halt of the Trump administration's effort to begin deportations to the eastern African country.

He extended his order halting the deportation until 4:30 p.m. Eastern time, but it was unclear whether Murphy would act on the federal holiday to further limit the removal. Moss said new claims by the immigrants' lawyers deserved a hear-

ing.

The administration has been trying to deport the immigrants for weeks. None are from South Sudan, which is enmeshed in civil war and where the U.S. government advises no one should travel before making their own funeral arrangements. The government flew them to the U.S. Naval Base at Djibouti but couldn't move them further because Murphy had ruled no immigrant could be sent to a new country without a chance to have a court hearing.

The Supreme Court vacated that decision last month, then Thursday night issued a new order clarifying that that meant the im-

migrants could be moved to South Sudan. Lawyers for the immigrants, who hail from Laos, Mexico, Myanmar, Vietnam and other countries, filed an emergency request to halt their removal later that night.

The case was assigned to Moss, who briefly barred the administration from moving the immigrants from Djibouti to South Sudan until his afternoon hearing concluded. He slightly extended that bar after he sent the case to Murphy. The administration has said it expected to fly the immigrants to South Sudan sometime Friday.

The temporary stay was first reported by legal journalist Chris Geidner. □



A U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer listens during a briefing, Jan. 27, 2025, in Silver Spring, Md.

Associated Press



# Joey Chestnut reclaims title in Nathan's Famous hot dog eating contest, wins 17th Mustard Belt

By SUSAN HAIGH  
Associated Press

Famed competitive eater Joey "Jaws" Chestnut reclaimed his title Friday at the Nathan's Famous Fourth of July hot dog eating contest after skipping last year's gastronomic battle in New York for the coveted Mustard Belt. Chestnut, 41, consumed 70 1/2 hot dogs and buns in 10 minutes, falling short of his 2021 record of 76 wieners and buns. It marked the 17th win in 20 appearances for the Westfield, Indiana, eater at the internationally televised competition, which he missed last year over a contract dispute. "I wish I ate a couple more. Sorry guys," a smiling Chestnut told the crowd, many chanting his name. "I'll be back next year." Defending champion in the women's division, Miki Sudo of Tampa, Florida, won her 11th title, downing 33 dogs, besting a dozen competitors. Last year, she ate a record 51 links. She also was apolo-



Competitive eater Joey Chestnut eats hot dogs during the 2025 Nathan's Famous Fourth of July hot dog eating contest in the Coney Island section of the Brooklyn borough of New York, Thursday, July 4, 2025.

Associated Press

getic for her performance. "I feel like I let the fans down a little bit. I heard people in the crowd saying, 'Go for 52,'" Sudo told ESPN. "Obviously, I'm always setting my goals high, but the hot

dogs weren't cooperating. For some reason, the buns felt larger today." A large crowd, peppered with foam hot dog hats, turned out to witness the annual eat-a-thon, held

outside the original Nathan's Famous restaurant in Coney Island, Brooklyn, since 1972. Many fans showed up to see Chestnut's much-awaited return to an event he has called

"a cherished tradition, a celebration of American culture, and a huge part of my life."

Chestnut bested 14 fellow competitors from across the U.S. and the world, including Australia, the Czech Republic, Ontario, England and Brazil. Last year's winner, Patrick Bertoletti of Chicago, came in second place after gobbling up 46 1/2 hot dogs and buns, falling short of the 58 he ate to earn the 2024 men's title.

"I love being here," Chestnut told ESPN after his win. "As soon as I found out I was coming, my body it was easy to train. I love doing it. And love pushing myself and beating the heck out of people."

Last year, Major League Eating event organizer George Shea said Chestnut would not be participating in the contest due to a contract dispute. Chestnut had struck a deal with a competing brand, the plant-based meat company Impossible Foods. □

# Trump says he didn't know an offensive term he used in a speech is considered antisemitic

By MICHELLE L. PRICE  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump says he didn't know the term "shylock" is considered antisemitic when he used it in a speech to describe unscrupulous moneylenders. Trump told reporters early Friday after returning from an event in Iowa that he had "never heard it that way" and "never heard that" the term was considered an offensive stereotype about Jews. Shylock refers to the villainous Jewish moneylender in Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice" who demands a pound of flesh from a debtor. The Anti-Defamation League, which works to combat antisemitism, said in a statement that the term "evokes a centuries-old antisemitic trope about Jews and greed

that is extremely offensive and dangerous. President Trump's use of the term is very troubling and irresponsible." Democrat Joe Biden, while vice president, said in 2014 that he had made a "poor choice" of words a day after he used the term in remarks to a legal aid group. Trump's administration has made cracking down on antisemitism a priority. His administration said it is screening for antisemitic activity when granting immigration benefits and its fight with Harvard University has centered on allegations from the White House that the school has tolerated antisemitism. But the Republican president has also had a history of playing on stereotypes about Jewish people. He told the Republican Jewish Coalition in 2015 that "you want to control

your politicians" and suggested the audience used money to exert control. Before he kicked off his 2024 presidential campaign, Trump drew widespread criticism for dining at his Florida club with a Holocaust-denying white nationalist. Last year, Trump made repeated comments accusing Jewish Americans who identify as Democrats of disloyalty because of the Democratic leaders' criticisms of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Critics said it perpetuated an antisemitic trope about Jews having divided loyalties and there being only one right way to be Jewish. On Thursday night in his speech in Iowa, Trump used the term while talking about his signature legislation that was passed by Congress earlier in the day.

"No death tax, no estate tax, no going to the banks and borrowing some from, in some cases, a fine banker and in some cases shylocks and bad people," he said.

When a reporter later asked about the word's antisemitic association

and his intent, Trump said: "No, I've never heard it that way. To me, a shylock is somebody that's a money lender at high rates. I've never heard it that way. You view it differently than me. I've never heard that." □



President Donald Trump arrives to speak at a rally at the Iowa State Fairgrounds, Thursday, July 3, 2025, in Des Moines, Iowa. Associated Press



# Confederacy group sues Georgia park for planning an exhibit on slavery and segregation

By CHARLOTTE KRAMON  
Associated Press/Report for America

STONE MOUNTAIN, Ga. (AP)

— The Georgia chapter of a Confederacy group filed a lawsuit Tuesday against a state park with the largest Confederate monument in the country, arguing officials broke state law by planning an exhibit on ties to slavery, segregation and white supremacy.

Stone Mountain's massive carving depicts Confederate President Jefferson Davis, Gen. Robert E. Lee and Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson on horseback. Critics who have long pushed for changes say the monument enshrines the "Lost Cause" mythology that romanticizes the Confederate cause as a state's rights struggle, but state law protects the carving from any changes.

After police brutality spurred nationwide reckonings on racial inequality and the removal of dozens of Confederate monuments in 2020, the Stone Mountain Memorial Association, which oversees Stone Mountain Park, voted in 2021 to relocate Confederate flags and build a "truth-telling" exhibit to reflect the site's role in the rebirth of the Ku Klux Klan,



A carving depicting Confederate Civil War figures Stonewall Jackson, Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis, is seen in Stone Mountain, Ga., June 23, 2015.

along with the carving's segregationist roots.

The Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans also alleges in earlier court documents that the board's decision to relocate Confederate flags from a walking trail violates Georgia law.

"When they come after the history and attempt to change everything to the present political structure,

that's against the law," said Martin O'Toole, the chapter's spokesperson.

Stone Mountain Park markets itself as a family theme park and is a popular hiking spot east of Atlanta. Completed in 1972, the monument on the mountain's northern space is 190 feet (58 meters) across and 90 feet (27 meters) tall. The United Daughters of the Confederacy hired sculp-

tor Gutzon Borglum, who later carved Mount Rushmore, to craft the carving in 1915.

That same year, the film "Birth of a Nation" celebrated the Reconstruction-era Ku Klux Klan, which marked its comeback with a cross burning on top of Stone Mountain on Thanksgiving night in 1915. One of the 10 parts of the planned exhibit would expound on

Associated Press

the Ku Klux's Klan reemergence and the movie's influence on the mountain's monument.

The Stone Mountain Memorial Association hired Birmingham-based Warner Museums, which specializes in civil rights installations, to design the exhibit in 2022.

"The interpretive themes developed for Stone Mountain will explore how the collective memory created by Southerners in response to the real and imagined threats to the very foundation of Southern society, the institution of slavery, by westward expansion, a destructive war, and eventual military defeat, was fertile ground for the development of the Lost Cause movement amidst the social and economic disruptions that followed," the exhibit proposal says.

Other parts of the exhibit would address how the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Sons of Confederate Veterans perpetuated the "Lost Cause" ideology through support for monuments, education programs and racial segregation laws across the South. It would also tell stories of a small Black community that lived near the mountain after the war. □

## Missouri judge again blocks many of the state's anti-abortion laws



Participants in the Midwest March for Life walk through the streets of Jefferson City, Mo., in front of the state Capitol on May 1, 2025.

Associated Press

By DAVID A. LIEB  
Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP)

— A Missouri judge blocked many of the state's abortion restrictions Thursday, reim-

posing a preliminary injunction against them just a little over a month after the state's highest court had lifted a previous hold.

The order by Jackson County

Circuit Judge Jerri Zhang said the abortion restrictions likely violate a state constitutional right to abortion that was approved by voters last year. Planned Parenthood said the order clears the way for it to again provide procedural abortions in Missouri. But Missouri Attorney General Andrew Bailey said his office "will expeditiously appeal this ruling."

The court order marks the latest twist in a multiyear battle that has seen Missouri swing back and forth between banning and allowing most abortions.

When the U.S. Supreme Court ended a nationwide right to abortion by overturning Roe v. Wade in 2022, it triggered a Missouri law to take effect banning abortions "except

in cases of medical emergency." But abortion-rights activists gathered initiative petition signatures to reverse that law.

Last November, voters narrowly approved a constitutional amendment guaranteeing a right to abortion until fetal viability, generally considered sometime past 21 weeks of pregnancy. That made Missouri the only state where voters have used a ballot measure to overturn a ban on abortion at all stages of pregnancy.

The state Supreme Court ruled in May that Zhang had applied the wrong standard when issuing rulings in February and December that blocked Missouri's abortion restrictions.

Upon reconsideration, Zhang

again issued preliminary injunctions against the abortion ban. The judge also reimposed a hold on various other laws, including a 72-hour waiting period for abortions, numerous abortion facility licensure requirements and a mandate that physicians performing abortions have admitting privileges at certain types of hospitals located within 30 miles (48 kilometers) or 15 minutes of where an abortion is provided.

"Abortion is legal again in Missouri because voters demanded it and we fought for it," said Emily Wales, president and CEO of Comprehensive Health of Planned Parenthood Great Plains. "Care starts again on Monday in Kansas City." □



# A bill setting new limits on asylum-seekers passes in the Dutch parliament

By **MIKE CORDER** and **MOLLY QUELL**

Associated Press

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)** — A pair of bills crack-

ing down on asylum-seekers wishing to settle in the Netherlands has passed in the Dutch parliament after wrangling and soul-searching by some lawmakers who feared the law would criminalize offering compassionate help to undocumented migrants.

The legislation cuts temporary asylum residency from five to three years, indefinitely suspends the issuance of new asylum residency permits and reins in family reunions for people who have been granted asylum. It passed in the lower house late Thursday evening but could still be rejected in the upper house.

Organizations that work with migrants have condemned the legislation. VluchtelingenWerk, an organization which helps refugees living in the Netherlands said in a statement that the bills were "harmful to society as a whole" and called on the upper house to reject the bill.

The Association of Dutch



**Far-right lawmaker Geert Wilders after pulling his party out of the four-party Dutch coalition in The Hague, Netherlands, Tuesday, June 3, 2025.**

Associated Press

Municipalities, which represents city governments, said the bills were "legally untenable" and would cause chaos. "Municipalities will soon have to break one law in order to comply with another law," the group's chairperson Sharon Dijksma said in a statement. The acting immigration minister David van Weel

told reporters on Friday that the bills don't "win any beauty prizes."

Taking tough measures to rein in migration was a policy cornerstone for the four-party coalition led by Geert Wilders' far-right Party for Freedom. The coalition collapsed last month after just 11 months in office, and migration is expected to be

a key issue ahead of the snap election on Oct. 29.

Wilders pulled the plug on the coalition saying it was taking too long to enact moves to rein in migration. His coalition partners rejected the criticism, saying they all backed the crackdown. His party currently holds a narrow lead in opinion polls over a center-left two-party

bloc that recently agreed to a formal merger.

The opposition Christian Democrats withdrew its support for the legislation put to the vote Thursday over a late amendment that would criminalize people living in the Netherlands without a valid visa or asylum ruling and would also criminalize people and organizations that help such undocumented migrants. The amendment was introduced by a member of Wilders' party and passed narrowly because a small number of opposition lawmakers were not present for the vote.

If the legislation moves forward, anyone providing assistance to an undocumented person could face jail time, leading to accusations that there could be crackdowns at homeless shelters and soup kitchens. "There should be no soup police," the caretaker deputy minister for public transport Thierry Aartsen told reporters after the weekly cabinet meeting on Friday. The vote took place in the final session of parliament before lawmakers broke for the summer. □

## Pro-Palestinian group loses bid to block UK government's ban under anti-terrorism laws

By **PAN PYLAS** Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — The pro-Palestinian activist group Palestine Action lost a bid Friday to block the British government's decision to ban it under anti-terrorism laws after activists broke into a military base last month and vandalized two planes.

At a hearing at the High Court in London, the group had sought to temporarily block what it considered to be an "authoritarian" ban, which will go into effect at midnight. The ban will make membership of the group and support of its actions a criminal offense punishable by up to 14 years in prison.

But Justice Martin Cham-

berlain, who spent all day listening to lawyers representing the group and the government, declined to give the organization interim relief from the ban, which was first proposed by Home Secretary Yvette Cooper and approved by lawmakers earlier this week.

While conceding that the order to proscribe Palestine Action a terrorist organization may have "wider consequences for the way the public understands the concept of 'terrorism'," he said it is not "the court's function to comment on the wisdom of the use of the power in the case."

Huda Ammori, the co-founder of Palestine Action, was hoping the court

would temporarily block the government from banning the group as a terrorist organization under the Terrorism Act of 2000 before a potential legal challenge. Some 81 organizations are already proscribed under the 2000 Act, including Hamas and al-Qaida.

Ammori's lawyer Raza Husain had asked the court to suspend the "ill-considered" and "authoritarian abuse of statutory power" until a hearing, which is due around July 21.

"This is the first time in our history that a direct action civil disobedience group, which does not advocate for violence, has been sought to be proscribed as terrorists," he said.

He added that his client

had been "inspired" by a long history of direct action in the UK, "from the suffragettes, to anti-apartheid activists, to Iraq War activists."

The ban was triggered after pro-Palestinian activ-

ists broke into a Royal Air Force base in Brize Norton, damaging two planes using red paint and crowbars in protest at the British government's ongoing military support for Israel in its war in Gaza. □



**Demonstrators hold up a banner during a protest by Palestine Action group in London, Monday, June 23, 2025.**

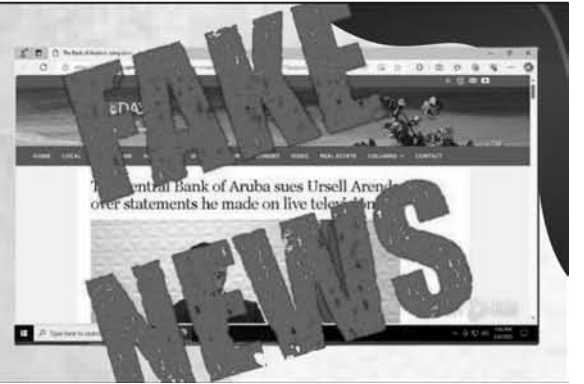
Associated Press



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## U.N. experts say Rwanda supported rebels in Congo and smuggled minerals at 'unprecedented levels'

By **MONIKA PRONCZUK**  
Associated Press

**DAKAR, Senegal (AP)** — Rwanda provided "critical" support to the M23 rebels' recent offensive in eastern Congo, which helped secure Kigali's access to minerals and fertile ground, according to a confidential United Nations report seen by The Associated Press. The Rwanda-backed M23 rebel group is the most prominent armed group in the conflict in Eastern Congo, which has been in and out of crises for decades. The rebels earlier this year advanced and seized the strategic city of Goma and Bukavu in a major escalation of the conflict. Rwanda has denied any involvement. But U.N. experts say Kigali provided backing to the rebels with an aim to "control the territory of the DRC and its natural resources," using "advanced



People displaced by the fighting with M23 rebels make their way to the center of Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025.

military equipment, including jamming systems, short-range air defense system and armed drones." Rwanda has been accused of exploiting eastern

Congo's minerals, used in smartphones, advanced fighter jets and much more, which Kigali denies. The report said that smuggling of coltan, considered a criti-

cal mineral, from M23-controlled territories in recent months reached "unprecedented levels." "Evidence indicated increasing risk of cross-bor-

der fraud as minerals from North Kivu, particularly coltan from the AFC-controlled Rubaya mine, continued to be smuggled to Rwanda," the report said. "These minerals were then mixed with production of Rwandan origin and exported downstream." AFC, or Congo River Alliance, is an umbrella groups which includes M23. The M23-controlled Rubaya mines produce coltan short for columbite-tantalite an ore from which the metals tantalum and niobium are extracted. Both are considered critical raw materials by the United States, the European Union, China and Japan. Tantalum is used in mobile phones, computers and automotive electronics, as well as in aircraft engines, missile components and GPS systems. Niobium is used in pipelines, rockets and jet engines. □

Associated Press

## Mexico President Sheinbaum hopes deported boxer Chávez Jr. will serve time in Mexico

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Mexico President Claudia Sheinbaum said Friday that Mexico hadn't previously



Julio Cesar Chavez Jr., right, of Mexico, talks with his father, legendary boxer Julio Cesar Chavez, left, at a news conference to promote his upcoming middleweight championship boxing match with Sergio Martinez, of Argentina, in Los Angeles, July 10, 2012.

Associated Press

arrested boxer Julio César Chávez Jr. on a 2023 arrest order, because he had been mostly been in the United States since. Sheinbaum spoke a day after U.S. authorities announced the boxer's arrest in California for overstaying his visa and lying on a green card application. He was being processed for expedited removal, according to U.S. authorities. "The hope is that he will be deported and serve the sentence in Mexico," Sheinbaum said during her daily news briefing Friday, referring to charges that Chávez faces for arms and drug trafficking. The 39-year-old boxer, ac-

cording to his attorney Michael Goldstein, was picked up Wednesday by a large number of federal agents while he was riding a scooter in front of a home where he resides in the upscale Los Angeles neighborhood of Studio City, near Hollywood. The arrest came only days after the former middleweight champion lost a match against influencer-turned-boxer Jake Paul in Anaheim, California. Chávez split his time between both countries. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers detained Chávez for overstaying a tourist visa that he entered the U.S. with in

August 2023 and expired in February 2024, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security said. The agency also said Chávez submitted multiple fraudulent statements when he applied for permanent residency on April 2, 2024, based on his marriage to a U.S. citizen, Frida Muñoz. She is the mother of a granddaughter of imprisoned Sinaloa cartel kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman. U.S. officials said that he's believed to have ties to the powerful Sinaloa Cartel, which is blamed for a significant portion of Mexico's drug violence. □



## Meet Aruba's biggest hero Boy Ecury

(Oranjestad)—This past May 4th, Aruba as well as The Netherlands commemorated those who sadly perished during the Second World War. As is known around the globe, this chapter in world history is one of the most tragic yet, and many soldiers and rebels have died on the frontline during this time.

One of those rebels who have fought against the Nazi regime, was an Aruban named Segundo Jorge Adelberto "Boy" Ecury. Born in Aruba on April 23rd, 1922, Boy spent his childhood on the island, before being sent to The Netherlands by his father when he was 15 years old to continue his studies abroad. This was in 1937, three years before WWII broke out.

During the war, he actively participated in the rebellion in The Netherlands against the Nazi regime, but his rebellious streak and constant drive to fight for justice began even before the war broke out. Being a person of color with a Haitian heritage living in The Netherlands made him vulnerable to discrimination, and this inspired him to be



an activist, to stand up and fight against discrimination and oppression.

After seeing the horrific bombings of Rotterdam firsthand, he decided to join the resistance. At the same time, he was still studying and living with family in Tilburg. It was there where he met people who printed and distributed the rebellion newspaper. This would be the first of three rebellion groups that he would join throughout his 4-year service to the resistance.

Boy's primary task as member of the group was to distract the German soldiers while others ran into hiding into alleyways. This he was able to do because of his skin color and confronting

demeanor. Boy also participated in the multiple sabotaging operations against the German military occupying The Netherlands. These included bombings on German military trucks and trains. The group also helped people go into hiding, as well as opened fire against allies of the Nazi regime. In these operations, Boy really stood out for his cold bloodedness.

In 1943, he received a notice to be placed for work in Germany. This he refused, of course, and went into hiding using multiple addresses in multiple cities. Because he was a wanted man, he of course could not continue to be active as a rebel. However, stubborn and naturally rebellious as he was, he always tried to join in on the operations regardless.

In 1944, after his friend Luis de Lannoy, a fellow rebel from Curacao, was arrested and executed, he moved to Delft, where he joined his third and last group in Rotterdam. During this time, he wrote a goodbye letter for his family, possibly knowing the risks of him being active again in the big cities.



Eventually, he proved himself right. On November 5th, 1944, Boy Ecury was arrested by German soldiers. He was placed in the "Oranjarahotel" prison in Scheveningen, The Hague, where he was questioned. Despite being given away by an acquaintance, he himself never gave away the names of his comrades. Famously, he told his cell mate: "I will die with a smile on my face."

On November 6th, 1944, Ecury was executed. He was only 22 years old.

Ecury was buried with military honor. In 1949, the Aruban Government erected a monumental bust of him in front of what is now the linear park trail, and in 1984 he received the Resistance Memorial Cross postmortem.

Boy's life motto was this: "In my father's house, there is no place for a traitor." □

**Source: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.**

## Lessons from our elders: Plants and fruits for medicinal use

(Oranjestad)—Though western medicine is now widely used for common illnesses and to keep our bodies healthy and happy, it is still very common in every household in Aruba (and around the world) to have staple home remedies that is passed on through generations. Here are some tips that our elders have passed on to us over the years.

### Pineapple

Pineapple has more uses than topping it on your Christmas ham. According to elders, the skin of a pineapple is great to use to refresh your body. Clean the skin thoroughly and make tea or warapa\* with it. It is



said that this tea can also be drank after an operation on the ovaries or uterus. This gets rid of irritation and inflammation.

When the fruit is unripe and green, this can be used to stimulate menstruation flow in women. This also stimulates the passing kidney stones. When ripe, the fruit can be used for poisoning in the gut and can help treat rheumatic diseases, like arthritis.

However, breastfeeding women who cannot produce much milk are advised not to consume too pineapple, and people with acid reflux are recommended to not consume any pineapple at all.

### Arrowroot

Arrowroot is native to tropical America and can be sold as a powder or whole. It is said that you can take arrowroot powder and make a "shalup" (porridge) for stomach pain or

when you're feeling weak. You can make it with milk too, but it is advised to best use just water. You can also add prunes for a bit of sweetness. Arrowroot shalup is also good to treat an unhealthy gut or for diarrhea.

To make arrowroot shalup, boil a bit of water and add one tablespoon of arrowroot powder and stir continuously until you reach porridge consistency. If you make a shalup with milk, add a pinch of salt. Raw arrowroot powder can be used to powder babies.

### Eggplant/Aubergine

Eggplants, or aubergines, are easy to find in supermarkets around the world and can be grown all year round on the island. Related to potato and tomato, eggplants are good to calm nerves. It can also be used to lower blood pressure, by steeping its



leaves in boiled water and drinking it. You can also make eggplant juice to help purify your blood. However, do make sure to drink slowly; let it mix with your spit and then swallow.

Eggplant kataplan\* can also be used to treat skin tumors, abscesses and hemorrhoids. Eggplant kataplan can also be used externally to treat arthritis. □

**\*warapa: term referring to a water and sugar solution, a.k.a simple syrup.**

**\*kataplan: porridge-like mixture used externally for wounds or parts of the body that are painful or swollen.**



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## Aruba's Nature is to be Cherished



**ST. CRUZ —** The national park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There is numerous wildlife to discover like for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches. There are more places on the island that are a preserved area like the Bubali Plas which is a bird sanctuary.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the islands past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available. Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a

strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches. A very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

### Bubali Magic

This beautiful close-up image of the pink bird is courtesy of Michiel Oversteegen of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation. This important foundation showcases and builds awareness of Aruba's birds and other native flora and fauna. You may have seen a 'pink cloud' lately at the Bubali or Spanish Lagoon Wetlands areas? It's most likely to be Roseate Spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*) or 'Chucharon Cora'



as they are known in Papiamentu. This unusual looking bird forages in shallow muddy water while sweeping its flattened bill from side to side to catch small fish, crustaceans and other aquatic invertebrates. The Roseate Spoonbill remains an uncommon sight as they are vulnerable to degradation of feeding and nesting habitats (Wetlands). (Source: arikok national park)

The aforementioned is just a part of what Aruba's nature has to offer. We cannot stress enough to go, see for yourself. The island has the most beautiful beaches but it is also worthwhile to go beyond this and get an idea

of our entire island. Lately there is a discussion going on about the effect certain activities have on our nature, for example the ATV vehicles cause a lot of dust, noise and leave tire tracks. Animals live in these areas where the vehicles run, often with high speed and with detrimental consequences to flora and fauna. Motorized vehicles are forbidden to drive on the sand dunes in the Northern part of the island and all beaches in Aruba are forbidden for any motorized vehicle. Treasure our island to enjoy it like you do: as a tropical and natural paradise. We truly appreciate it! □



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**ORANJESTAD —** You are back or still enjoying your vacation?... we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

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## Keeping up with the conniving spider... Nanzi fools Cha Tiger

Many years ago, Cha\* Tiger did not live in the mondi\*, but among civil society. Back then, he was feared by everyone. When he walked past in a halfway, everyone around would make room immediately, that's how ferocious he was.

One night a group of friends was hanging out and they were talking about Cha Tiger. "You know, that tiger sure is incredibly strong and I don't trust him one bit. He probably eats a lot too. Oh, I'm so scared of him!" one person said.

"Oh, don't be stupid! What can Cha Tiger do? He's all bark and no bite, that's it. I certainly am not afraid of him. I bet you guys that I could even sit on his back like I would any donkey." It was Nanzi who said this. The people around him laughed at his remarks, thinking how silly it was for him to say such things.

"You, Nanzi? You are such a liar! He'll stomp you into

next Tuesday, stop saying such nonsense."

"I'm not lying!" Nanzi defended himself. "He'll take me all the way to Shon Arei\*."

The next morning, Shon Arei already knew of what Nanzi had been saying about Cha Tiger. He was really curious to see if Nanzi was brave enough to put his money where his mouth is. Cha Tiger walked past.

"Hey, Cha Tiger!" someone called to him. He growled at the person. "Hey, Cha Tiger! Listen!"

"Nanzi made fun of you, said he wasn't afraid of you at all! Said he could sit on your back and that you weren't as strong as we think you are."

Cha Tiger stopped dead in his tracks, furious. "Well, I'll set him straight!" Cha Tiger ran toward Nanzi's house, prepared to teach Nanzi a painful lesson. The entire way there he was growling and yelling, making every-

one around aware what was going to happen. They all ran inside and peaked through the blinds to see the fight that was going to unfold.

Nanzi also heard Cha Tiger's screams, slowly getting closer and closer. He was terrified. His face turned pale, and his teeth started chattering like someone with a high fever. Sweat was dripping down his forehead.

When Cha Tiger arrived at Nanzi's place, he stormed in and saw Nanzi's frail body lying face down in the corner. "Hey, how are you, Cha Tiger?" Nanzi asked, his voice trembling. "I Heard you were making fun of me in front of your little friends, so I came to hear from your own mouth what you have to say to me," Cha Tiger retorted, still fuming.

"Me? Talk bad about you?" Nanzi chuckled nervously. "People are such liars, I swear. Can't you see how sick I am here?" Nanzi took a pause, like someone who couldn't breathe properly. In his case of course, it was probably from extreme fear. "Shi Maria\* wanted to take me to Shon Arei, where someone can heal me from my illness." Still wrapped up in his act, Nanzi turned back face down. "Me, a father of nine little children..."

Cha Tiger was shocked. Nanzi looked absolutely terrible, God knows he was dying. "Cha Tiger, you're strong. Could you put me on your back and take me to Shon Arei, I can barely walk," Nanzi pleaded. Cha Tiger took pity on the spider and



agreed to do this favor. Nanzi climbed on the tiger's back, letting his body fall down and grabbing on to Cha Tiger's neck. "Would you mind putting a rope in your mouth so I can hold on? That way I can sit up straight," Nanzi asked. Cha Tiger growled in reluctance but said OK. And so they made their way to Shon Arei.

Once they started traveling through the mondi, Nanzi turned to Cha Tiger and said: "These mosquitos are so annoying! Cha Tiger, do you mind if I cut a piece of branch so I can keep these mosquitos away?" Cha Tiger let him take his branch. Eventually they made it out the mondi to where everyone else was. Nanzi immediately perked up and whacked Cha Tiger with his branch, making the tiger jump. He ran all the way to

Shon Arei's castle. Exhausted, he plumped down in front of His Majesty.

"See, Shon Arei? Cha Tiger ain't nothing but a big donkey!" Nanzi said proudly. Everyone around cheered: "Hurray, Nanzi!" Poor Cha Tiger was so embarrassed that he was fooled by the conniving spider, and so he ran into the mondi to hide. To this day, it's said that the tiger still hides away in the mondi.

Cha: Nickname placed in front of someone's name and can mean anything, like friend. However, it often has negative connotations first. Mondí: dry wooded areas found on the ABC islands. Shon Arei: The King Shi Maria: Nanzi's wife. Story and pictures are from "Kon Nanzi a Nek Shon Arei (i otro kuentanan antiano di e araña sabi)" by Nilda Pinto.



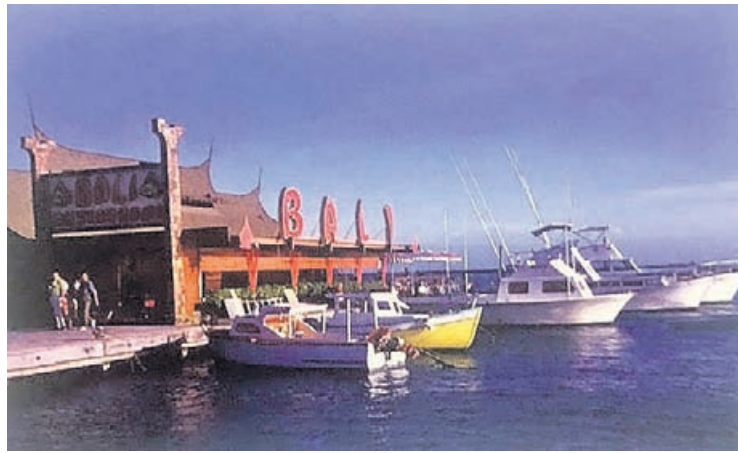


## The Bali Restaurant: a touristic hot spot and lost gem on the island

(Oranjestad)—Once located in what is now the Renaissance Marina, the Bali Restaurant was once both a touristic and local hot spot, and nowadays it's considered a forgotten gem on the island.

Known as "the floating restaurant", Bali first opened in 1955 by Willem "Bill" Strijland, who had experience in Javanese cuisine. At the time, the restaurant was pretty exclusive—with space to host only 25 guests. Yet, 4 years later, it was named the best restaurant in the Caribbean by the Caribbean Tourist Association.

The restaurant was probably most iconic for its Javanese-inspired exterior with its pointy, slanted roofs. However, the first version of Bali did not look like that at all but was still considered as one of the most popular restaurants on the island at



the time. The restaurant saw three different owners during its existence, during which it underwent various renovations and rebranding.

In 1964, the restaurant was taken over by Karel "Carl" Schmand. Over the years, the restaurant needed constant renovation and repair, mainly due to its vulnerability to leaks and the unstable pillars underneath the foundation. However, the biggest change made to the restaurant happened

in the year 1970—still under the ownership of Schmand, when it got its iconic pointy roofs. The restaurant was also expanded to host a total of 85 guests. This was "The New Bali", who had its official (re) opening in 1972.

After 1972, when Ronny Schmand took over, the restaurant saw yet another expansion; this time complete with a long bar and dance floor, where guests enjoyed live music from legendary Aruban musician and com-



poser, Toti Arends.

After 1989, the restaurant was again handed over to other owners, and since then suffered from unstable pillars underneath the foundation, resulting in various leaks and overflowing of water into the restaurant. And as most great things come to an end, so did the survival and maintenance of the Bali Restaurant. However, folks today still reminisce its legacy, and it's now considered a lost monument.

Be apart of the conversation: if you or any family member of yours have a memory of the Bali restaurant, whether it be a picture or just a story, share it with us! We would love to see this legendary hot spot through the lens of our visitors! □

Source and pictures credit to: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over de geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.

## Monuments in Oranjestad: Town House and Cas Veneranda

(Oranjestad)—If you've ever taken a stroll through main street Oranjestad, you may have stumbled upon a big green house with beautiful colonial design. This legendary house, now used as a town hall for civil marriages, was once owned by a wealthy doctor and formed part of the elite neighborhood in Oranjestad.

Jacobo Eloy Arends was an Aruban physician, and in lived in Oranjestad during

the 1920s. In 1922, he married Maria Monica Lacle, the daughter of well-known business man at the time, Adriaan Lacle. The two lived a posh life in the city center, and their mansion—once the center for neighborhood parties—now serves as a public town hall for civil marriages and is a cultural monument on the island.

The house was designed by architect Chibi Wever, and constructed under the



leadership of famous master carpenter, Dada Picus, who was famous at the time for his construction of beautiful buildings.

The construction of the house started once Jacobo and Maria got engaged. It is said that during the time of construction, Maria was not allowed to see the building nor be anywhere near the construction site. It wasn't until after her honeymoon that she saw the completed mansion for the first time, fur-

nished entirely by her sisters-in-law.

The mansion also contained the doctor's office, as well as a pharmacy. After the death of Jacobo, the house was inherited by his son, an Aruban dentist, who converted Jacobo's office into his own dental practice. Over the years, the house was rented and used by third parties, but eventually fell into disrepair, as the maintenance cost became too high to cover.

The land was sold to Land Aruba in 1986, but it did not see a renovation until 1997. Nowadays, it serves to host weddings, and is attached to a modern building situated behind—the Aruban census office.

Jacobo and Maria's mansion was situated in front of another famous mansion, owned by Jacobo's brother Frederico Maximiliaan (Machi) Arends. Frederico was married to Veneranda (whom the mansion was named after). Their house was also constructed by Dada Picus, utilizing Veneranda's design vision that was inspired by a house she saw in Cartagena, Colombia.

Nowadays, this mansion lies in ruins. However, the Aruban government announced its official restoration last year, with ongoing steps to convert this monument into a governmental office and public space for visitors of Oranjestad. □

Source and pictures credited to: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.





## The district of Savaneta: The capital before Oranjestad

**(Oranjestad)—Before Oranjestad became the island nation's capital, Aruba's first capital was the district of Savaneta. Here is where the cultural identity of Aruba was born, and from where the rest of the island developed into what it is today.**

Savaneta is said to have been the first place where the Caquetio inhabitants first stepped foot on the island. Though there isn't hard evidence to back this up, but considering the legend of the Cacique Arua, it is believed that there were already movements on Aruba—and Savaneta—around 88 AD.

The Caquetios probably made their way to the island either from Venezuela, Colombia or other Caribbean islands in the region, but with good weather it was relatively easy for them to travel back and forth in their canoes. So, since the Caquetios discovered the island, Aruba found her first form of civilization.

It wasn't until 1499 when Aruba met another group of people who set foot on the island: the Spanish explorer Alonso de Ojeda. De Ojeda first took notice of Aruba off the coast of Venezuela, during his exploration of the Latin American country. This was on August 9th, 1499. However, de Ojeda didn't actually sail to the island till 4 days later, on August 23rd, 1499. This was the beginning of the Spanish era on Aruba (1499-1636).

Alonso usually didn't stop at every island or land he saw, especially not in the Caribbean. He would often take notice of land from afar and continue sailing. However, Aruba was an exception. He had heard that there were "quebracho" trees on the island, which were commonly used to produce dye or paint. But since these trees could not be found in Savaneta, he continued to search

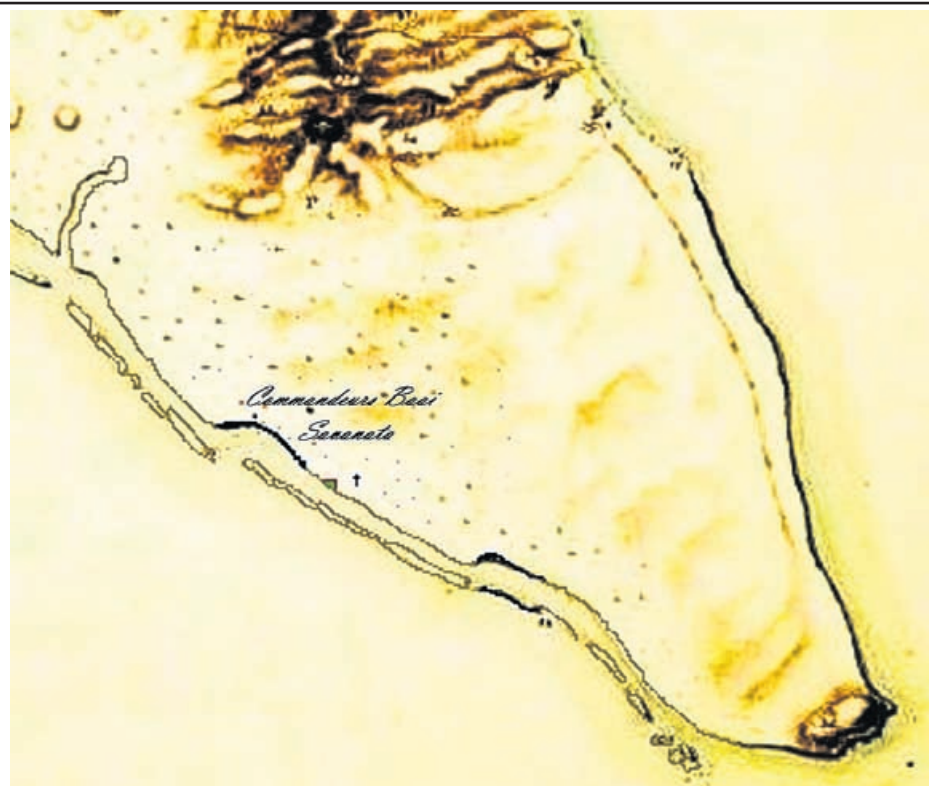
in the area of what is now known as Santa Cruz. The best way to transport the tree barks was via a route passing through Savaneta, and so the first road between Savaneta and Santa Cruz was made.

### The Dutch colonial era (1636-1805)

During the 80-year war between The Netherlands and Spain, Dutch explorers and merchants began to travel to the ABC islands. Once they landed in Aruba, they deported the small Arawakan and Spanish community that was living on the island. This was the beginning of colonization of the ABC islands by the Dutch empire. Around the same, the West Indian Company (WIC) was born. Bonaire and Curacao were mostly used for plantations, where the Dutch had transported slaves from Africa. Aruba, on the other hand, was mostly used to raise cattle and to house the haring factory. The Dutch had often forced the indigenous community to work for them.

In 1636, when the Netherlands won the war against Spain, the country surrendered the islands to the Dutch.

The Dutch administration appointed the island's first commander, an Irish man named N. Williams. Because the Dutch were interested in other Caribbean islands and countries in South America, they imported Dutch merchants and business men, all of whom resided in Savaneta. This way, Savaneta officially became the island's first capital.



**Commandeursbaai (Commander's Bay) at Savaneta**

However, at the end of the 18th century, the commander at the time, J.R. Lauffer, moved his office to what is now "Horse Bay" in Oranjestad. Because the highest office on the island moved away from Savaneta, the capital lost its title to what was called then Playa.

### How Savaneta got its name

The name Savaneta probably has a Spanish origin. It was said that when the Spanish climbed a hill called Yara, they saw that the area was mostly open and had no big trees. In Spanish, such a land area is called a "sabana".

Because of its land surface, Savaneta was a great place to construct

cattle farms. From here, the farmer culture on Aruba was born. Before the Aruban Gold Rush and the construction of the Refinery in San Nicolas, most residents were farmers, and Savaneta had many inhabitants that farmed fruits and vegetables. They also continued the tradition of raising cattle, like goat, sheep, pigs and horses. Savaneta was one of the first places on the island to have a general farming culture. From this culture, many other traditions were born, like the Dera Gay Holiday that we celebrate every year on June 24th.

**Source: Historia di Savaneta (History of Savaneta) by Adolf "Dufi" Kock.**



**Alonso de Ojeda**



**"Quebracho" (Kibrahacha) tree; used to make dye and paint**



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 42 Backbone

1 Dense 43 Soda

6 Mascara bottle target size

10 Zellweger 44 Supplies of with turf "Chicago" 45 Kick off

11 Patriot Ethan

13 Bronze or brass 1 Barter

14 Tire in the trunk 2 Spiral shape

15 Conk out 3 Bay

16 Diner dessert 4 Co. bigwig

18 At present 5 ATM parts

19 Student's grade booster 6 Intense beam

22 Poem of praise 7 The Mat-terhorn, for one

23 Fallon's predecessor 8 Libel's kin

24 Puts away 9 Jane Eyre or Scarlett O'Hara

27 Ambulance sound 26 Toronto's province

28 Ebb 25 Accountant's pointers

29 Drama division 39 Terminate

30 Pizza option 41 Set fire to

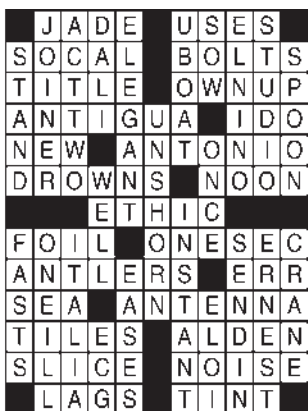
35 Seventh Greek letter

36 "The Matrix" hero

37 Puzzle

38 Exhausted

40 Martini garnish



DOWN

1 Barter

2 Spiral shape

3 Bay

4 Co. bigwig

5 ATM parts

6 Intense beam

7 The Mat-terhorn, for one

8 Libel's kin

9 Jane Eyre or Scarlett O'Hara

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30 Pizza option

35 Seventh Greek letter

36 "The Matrix" hero

37 Puzzle

38 Exhausted

40 Martini garnish

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

7-10 CRYPTOQUOTE

WDHE YO TR BR PWRUYZRBLQW

OYP WMWPXIEBZA DZN IY

WMWPX ETJDZ LWBZA

— RBJYZW NW LWDTMYBP

Cryptoquote: HOUSEWORK  
CAN'T KILL YOU, BUT WHY TAKE A CHANCE?

— PHYLLIS DILLER

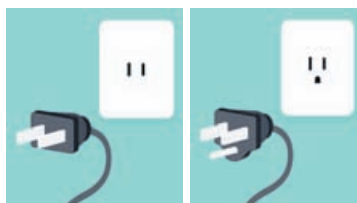
Cruise ship Schedule: July 02 - 16 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
WED	02	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS FREEWINDS	08.00 06.00	23.00 ****	C E	1 1
SUN	06	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	08	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
WED	09	FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
SUN	13	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	15	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	07.00	16.00	C	1
WED	16	OASIS OF THE SEAS CARNIVAL VISTA RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS FREEWINDS	11.00 08.00 08.00 06.00	23.00 16.00 23.00 ****	I C B E	1 1 1 1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding

prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from

the store.

Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

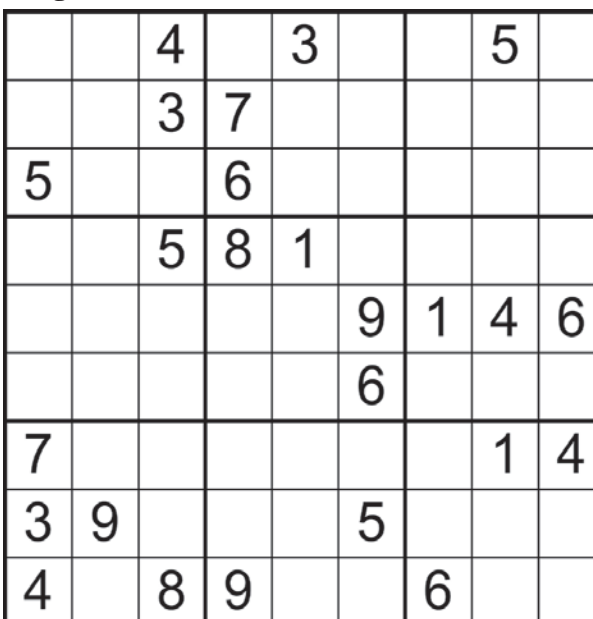
Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku



Difficulty: ★★★★★

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★

7/4



# Scientists transplant crossbred corals to help save Miami's reefs from climate change



This image provided by the University of Miami Rosenstiel School shows a diver planting a crossbred coral species from Honduras on Tuesday, July 1, 2025 off the coast of Miami to help Florida's coral reefs become more resilient to climate change.

Associated Press

BY CODY JACKSON and  
FREIDA FRISARO

Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. (AP) —

A team of scientists from the University of Miami, the Florida Aquarium and Tela Marine in Honduras is working together to transplant crossbred coral fragments onto a reef off Miami's coastline that was devastated by coral bleaching two years ago.

They're looking for ways to help reefs survive increased ocean temperatures caused by global warming and climate change.

"It's the end of a very long process," Andrew Baker, professor of marine biology and ecology at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School and director of the Coral Reef Futures Lab, said Tuesday as divers planted the corals off Miami.

The plan of introducing corals from the Caribbean evolved over the past few years.

"We had this idea that we really needed to try to help Florida's coral reef by introducing more diversity from around the Caribbean, recognizing that some of the biggest threats to corals, like climate change, are really global phenomena and if you try to have Florida's reefs save themselves on their own, we could give them some out-

side help," Baker said.

Coral breeding has also been done in Hawaii, where in 2021, scientists were working to speed up the coral's evolutionary clock to breed "super corals" that can better withstand the impacts of global warming.

Why crossbreed with corals from Honduras?

Baker's group teamed with the Florida Aquarium and Tela Marine, bringing in fragments of corals from a warm reef off of Tela, Honduras, which spawned in tanks at the aquarium.

"We were able to cross the spawn from those corals, the sperm and the eggs, to produce babies. One parent from Florida, one par-

ent from Honduras," Baker said.

They chose the reef off of Tela because the water is about 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) warmer than the water off the coast of Florida.

"And yet the corals in those environments, and especially the Elkhorn corals, are really thriving," Baker said.

He noted that there are extensive beds that are hundreds of meters long, full of flourishing Elkhorn.

"And yet they survive there despite really warm conditions and also quite nutrient-polluted waters," Baker said.

The conditions are similar to those Florida will face over the next century, Baker said.

It's also the first time international crossbreeding of corals has been permitted for planting onto wild reefs. "So we're really excited to see how these do," he said.

The hope is the corals will be more "thermally tolerant," which Baker and the team will be testing throughout the summer.

What are Elkhorn corals? Elkhorn corals are some of Florida's most iconic species and are valuable because they form the crest of the reef, Baker said.

"And the reef is what protects shorelines from storms

and flooding. So if you have healthy Elkhorn coral populations, you have a great reef that is acting almost like a speed bump over which waves and storms pass and dissipate their energy before they hit the coast," he said.

Elkhorn corals are in serious decline, thanks in part to the coral bleaching in 2023 and warming sea temperatures, Baker said.

While coral get their bright colors from the colorful algae that live inside them, prolonged warmth causes the algae to release toxic compounds. □

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ARUBA TODAY NEWS





# LL Cool J says he won't perform at Philadelphia's July Fourth festival in support of workers strike

Associated Press

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Rap-  
per LL Cool J and R&B singer  
Jazmine Sullivan say they will  
not perform at a Fourth of  
July festival in Philadelphia in  
support of a strike by nearly  
10,000 city workers in Phila-  
delphia.

LL Cool J had been sched-  
uled to appear at the Wawa  
Welcome America Festival on  
Friday, along with Sullivan  
and other performers.

LL Cool J said in a video  
posted on social media that  
"there's absolutely no way  
that I can perform, cross a  
picket line and pick up mon-  
ey when I know that people  
are out there fighting for a  
living wage."

"I hope, I hope, I hope that,  
you know, the mayor and  
the city can make a deal.  
I hope it works out," he said.

LL Cool J also said that he  
never wants to disappoint  
his fans and that he plans to  
be in Philadelphia in case an  
agreement is reached.

The festival comes as the  
strike moved into a fourth  
day Friday. Trash has been  
piling up in some areas, and  
more than 30 Medical Exam-  
iner's Office staffers have  
been ordered back to work  
because of a growing back-  
log of bodies in storage.



LL Cool J arrives at the Black Music Action Coalition Gala on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024, at The Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

Sullivan, a Philadelphia na-  
tive and Grammy award-  
winning artist, said in a post  
on Instagram on Friday that  
she would stand with the  
striking workers "until the city  
and the union find a way to  
bring fair living wages to our  
working class. I love my city  
and I believe in you," she  
wrote. "Hopefully we will get  
to celebrate when things  
are better."

The latest talks between the

city and leaders of District  
Council 33 — the largest of  
four major unions represent-  
ing city workers — ended  
late Wednesday. Both sides  
have said they were willing  
to continue negotiations.  
The union represents many  
of the city's blue-collar work-  
ers, from trash collectors to  
clerks to security guards. Po-  
lice and firefighters are not  
on strike.

The city has offered a three-

year contract with annual  
raises of about 3%, which  
the union said amounts to  
little more than \$1,000 after  
taxes for members making  
\$46,000 a year on average.  
Mayor Cherelle Parker has  
said the city has "put its  
best offer on the table."  
She stressed that the effec-  
tive 13% pay hike over her  
four-year term — including  
last year's 5% bump — along  
with a fifth step on the pay

scale would be the best  
contract the union has seen  
in decades.

Parker responded to LL  
Cool J's statement, saying  
that she spoke with him on  
Thursday.

"I respect his decision, and  
understand his desire to see  
the city unified," the mayor  
said. "He is always welcome  
in Philadelphia."

The union also responded,  
saying LL Cool J's support  
for municipal workers "high-  
lights his commitment to so-  
cial justice and community  
well-being."

"His support not only brings  
attention to our efforts but  
also inspires others to rec-  
ognize and advocate for  
the rights and respect of all  
workers," the union said. "It's  
heartening to see public fig-  
ures using their influence to  
champion causes that mat-  
ter to everyday people."

On Thursday, Common Pleas  
Court Judge Sierra Thomas-  
Street approved the city's  
request to have the medi-  
cal examiner's office staff-  
ers return to work because  
bodies have been piling up  
there in storage, posing a  
health and safety risk. Those  
workers include death and  
forensic investigators, foren-  
sic technicians and clerks. □

## Book Review: Critic Maris Kreizman charts her political awakening in smart, funny essay collection

By ANN LEVIN

Associated Press

Maris Kreizman always loved books and TV. As a self-de-  
scribed ambition monster, she once thought that if she  
worked hard and played by the rules, she would land her  
dream job in publishing and live happily ever after with a  
house, husband, good health insurance and fat 401(k).  
Well, she got the husband and with him, the insurance.  
But alas, the rest was not be. In her debut essay collec-  
tion, "I Want to Burn This Place Down," the 40-something  
book critic, columnist for Lit Hub and erstwhile podcast-  
er recalls a series of mini-awakenings in college and the  
New York publishing world in the 2000s that shook her faith  
in the American dream of her boomer parents.

"Common wisdom has it that people grow more conser-  
vative as they age," she writes. "I'm the opposite, having  
moved further and further left with every year, growing  
more progressive as I, a straight cisgender white woman  
from a middle-class background, learn all the ways the  
world is rigged in my favor, even as I myself have been  
severely let down by the status quo."

In the essay "She's Lost Control Again" she writes with  
barely suppressed fury about how her lifetime struggle  
with Type 1 diabetes opened her eyes to the reality of  
the broken health care system, which "creates chaos for

those without copious economic resources," forcing peo-  
ple to turn to GoFundMe to pay for their insulin.

In a sweeter, more nostalgic register, she reminisces about  
her great-great-uncle Barney's iconic clothing store in  
Manhattan and what it taught her about the predato-  
ry world of capitalism on steroids. She also considers her  
relationship with her older twin brothers, with whom she  
shared a love of cop shows. But while her faith in policing  
was deeply shaken by the murder of George Floyd and  
other police abuses, they ended up becoming cops with  
conservative views.

The title of the book hails from the final season of "Mad  
Men." After Peggy and Joan have spent years "clawing  
their way to the middle" of their ad agency, it is bought  
out by a bigger firm whose new owners treat them with  
sexist contempt. After their first meeting, Peggy asks Joan  
if she wants to get lunch. To which Joan replies, "I want to  
burn this place down."

Kreizman brings that incendiary tone to parts of the book,  
but others are infused with deep affection for her family,  
Jersey roots, geriatric pug Bizzy and life partner Josh. If you  
like her sassy voice, check out an earlier work, "Slaughter-  
house 90210," which paired passages from serious litera-  
ture with pop culture images. In these troubled times, it's  
sure to make you laugh. □



This book cover image  
released by Ecco shows "I  
Want To Burn  
This Place Down" by Maris  
Kreizman.

Associated Press



# Dominant Pogačar and resurgent Vingegaard set to ignite Tour de France

By SAMUEL PETREQUIN and  
JEROME PUGMIRE  
AP Sports Writers

**PARIS (AP)** — At just 26 years old, Tadej Pogačar is among cycling's greats and also admired as a spectacular rider. The world champion wins on all terrains, and is favorite to win a fourth Tour de France title.

Pogačar lines up Saturday in the northern city of Lille with his confidence sky-high, boosted by a stellar first half of the season punctuated with prestigious wins in both one-day and stage races.

This year, the Slovenian rider won a third Liège-Bastogne Liège title and other one day-classics. Most recently, he won the Critérium du Dauphiné, a Tour tune-up, with a dominant display in the mountains.

"I'm lucky to have had close to the perfect preparation this year," the UAE Team Emirates leader said. "Everything has gone really smoothly, especially coming off a great altitude camp with my teammates."

Pogačar posted back-to-back wins in 2020 and 2021, becoming the youngest double winner of the three-week showcase race. He was also runner-up in 2022 and 2023.



Denmark's Jonas Vingegaard is followed by Slovenia's Tadej Pogacar, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, during the twentieth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 132.8 kilometers (82.5 miles) with start in Nice and finish in La Couillole pass, France, Saturday, July 20, 2024.

Associated Press

"It's hard to believe it's already my sixth Tour de France," he said. "Time flies."

So does Pogačar.

His appetite for victory is insatiable and he has clearly established himself as the No. 1 rider in the world, drawing comparisons with the greatest of all time, Eddy Merckx. The Belgian great was known as "The Cannibal" for his ferocious taste for victory.

The new "Cannibal"

The 80-year-old Merckx believes Pogačar has already surpassed him.

"It's obvious that he is now above me," Merckx told L'Equipe newspaper after Pogačar won the world championship last year. "Deep down, I already thought as much when I saw what he did on the last Tour de France."

A fourth Tour win will draw Pogačar level with British rider Chris Froome for the fifth-most wins of all

time. Merckx, Jacques Anquetil, Bernard Hinault and Miguel Indurain have won cycling's biggest race five times.

**Vingegaard the main rival**

Pogačar's team is formidable. He will be supported by experienced all-rounders and climbers.

His main threat appears to come from two-time Tour champion Jonas Vingegaard, who leads Team Visma-Lease a Bike. The 28-year-old Danish rider

was runner-up at the Critérium and arrives in much better shape than last year, when his preparations were hampered by a crash that left him with a broken collarbone and ribs, and a collapsed lung.

Vingegaard's main concern is whether he can match Pogačar in the highest climbs. It is a key factor, since this year's Tour features six mountain stages, with five summit finishes. The support of teammates Wout van Aert, Matteo Jorgenson, Simon Yates and Sepp Kuss will be crucial to Vingegaard's chances.

"From day one we will have to be there as a team to optimally assist Jonas," said Grischka Niermann, the team's head of racing. "We have an optimal preparation behind us and with that, we think we can get the best possible result."

**Who else might challenge?**

Although there are two clear favorites, the length and intensity of the Tour makes it a race of attrition, where bad days and crashes are always a threat, keeping the door open for other contenders. Record four-time Spanish Vuelta champion Primož Roglič, who dramatically lost the 2020 tour to Pogačar in a time-trial, remains a dangerous outsider. □

# Trump wants to celebrate 250 years of independence with a UFC fight at the White House

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE and  
HANNAH FINGERHUT  
Associated Press

**DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)** — President Donald Trump said Thursday that he's thinking of staging a UFC match on the White House grounds with upwards 20,000 spectators to celebrate 250 years of American independence.

"We have a lot of land there," said Trump, a UFC enthusiast who has attended several of its mixed martial arts matches in recent months and is close friends with Dana White, the league's president.

Trump announced his plan in Iowa during the kickoff for a year's worth of festivities to celebrate America's 250th birthday on July 4, 2026. The Republican president also announced a culminating festival on the National Mall in Washington, and a separate athletic competition featuring high school athletes from across the country.

"So every one of our national parks, battlefields and historic sites are going to have special events in honor of America 250. And I even think we're going to have a UFC fight," Trump

said.

"Think of this on the grounds of the White House. We have a lot of land there," he said, adding that it would be a "full fight" with 20,000 to 25,000 people.

A White House spokesperson said they had no details to share beyond the president's announcement, but White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt later said Trump was "dead serious" about those plans. Trump has recently enjoyed standing ovations and cage-side seats for several UFC fights, including an appearance immediately

after his 2024 reelection and another just last month

alongside White for two championship fights. □



Alexandre Pantoja, right, and Kai Kara-France exchange blows in a flyweight title fight at UFC 317, Saturday, June 28, 2025, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press



# Another seed leaves Wimbledon when Madison Keys is surprised by Laura Siegemund

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**  
AP Tennis Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — This most unpredictable of Wimbledons delivered yet another surprise Friday when reigning Australian Open champion Madison Keys, the No. 6 seed, was a lopsided loser in the third round, eliminated 6-3, 6-3 by 104th-ranked Laura Siegemund of Germany. Keys' exit left just one of the top six women in the bracket before the end of Week 1: No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka, who was scheduled to face 2021 U.S. Open champion Emma Raducanu later in the day. No. 2 Coco Gauff, No. 3 Jessica Pegula, No. 4 Jasmine Paolini and No. 5 Zheng Qinwen already were out. The men's field also has seen its share of surprises, including a Wimbledon-record 13 seeds gone in the first round.

"At times, it wasn't the best quality, let's say. But I managed, and in the end, it's just important to find solutions and I did that well. Kept my nerves in the end," Siegemund said, then added with a laugh: "There are always nerves. If you don't have nerves in this moment, you're probably dead."

Wimbledon might be the only Grand Slam event where Keys hasn't reached at least the semifinals, but she has participated in the quarterfinals there twice and



**Laura Siegemund of Germany reacts after beating Madison Keys of the U.S. during their women's singles third round match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Friday, July 4, 2025.**

Associated Press

is enjoying a breakthrough 2025, including her title at Melbourne Park in January. Keys' power vs. Siegemund's spins and slices offered quite a contrast in styles, and this outcome was surprisingly one-way traffic on a windy afternoon at No. 2 Court. The key statistic, undoubtedly, was this: Keys made 31 unforced errors, 20 more than Siegemund.

When it ended with one last backhand return from Keys that sailed wide, Siegemund smiled broadly, raised her arms and jumped up and down repeatedly.

"You can't not be happy

when you beat a great player like Madison," Siegemund said.

How unexpected is this for Siegemund? Before this year, her career record at the All England Club was 2-5, and she'd never made it past the second round. Taking into account all four Grand Slam tournaments, she had reached the third round only once in 28 previous appearances, getting to the quarterfinals at the 2020 French Open.

"There is technically no pressure for me," said Siegemund, at 37 the oldest woman remaining in the tournament.

"I try to remember that I only play for myself. I don't feel like I need to prove anything anymore. My boyfriend often tells me that."

On Sunday, the German faces another unexpected participant at this stage of the grass-court major: 101st-ranked Solana Sierra of Argentina, who lost in qualifying and made it into the main draw when another player withdrew.

**What else happened at Wimbledon on Friday?**

Tenth-seeded Ben Shelton played for all of four points and about a minute, wrapping up his second-round

match against Rinky Hijikata that was suspended Thursday night. Defending champion Carlos Alcaraz reached the fourth round by beating Jan-Lennard Struff in four sets. The other seeded men who advanced were No. 5 Taylor Fritz, No. 14 Andrey Rublev and No. 17 Karen Khachanov. In the women's draw, four-time major title winner Naomi Osaka's Wimbledon ended in the third round for the third time, eliminated by Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova. And No. 13 Amanda Anisimova of the U.S. advanced to the fourth round. No. 24 Elise Mertens eliminated No. 14 Elina Svitolina. And No. 30 Linda Noskova also reached the fourth round.

**Who is scheduled to play at the All England Club on Saturday?**

Five-time Grand Slam champion Iga Swiatek will take on Danielle Collins at Centre Court — who could forget their testy exchange at the Paris Olympics? — while No. 1 Jannik Sinner and 24-time major champ Novak Djokovic also are involved in matches at the main stadium. Two American women will be in action at No. 1 Court: Hailey Baptiste faces No. 7 Mirra Andreieva of Russia, and No. 10 Emma Navarro plays defending champion Barbora Krejckova of the Czech Republic. □

## Reliever Santillan strikes out Bohm with bases loaded in the 8th, Reds beat Phillies 9-6



**Cincinnati Reds' Tyler Stephenson (37) scores past Philadelphia Phillies catcher J.T. Realmuto, left, on an RBI single by Reese Hinds in the second inning of a baseball game, Friday, July 4, 2025, in Philadelphia.**

Associated Press

By **DAN GELSTON**  
AP Sports Writer

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Spencer Steer hit a two-RBI double to spark a five-run third inning and Reds reliever Tony Santillan struck out Alec Bohm with the bases loaded to end the eighth and lead Cincinnati past the Philadelphia Phillies 9-6 on Friday.

Phillies starter Jesús Luzardo lasted only two-plus innings and Reds starter Andrew Abbott both pitchers entered with seven wins couldn't get out of the fourth. The Reds or Phillies scored at least one run in each of the first six innings and the defending NL East champion Phillies finished with 14 hits. The Reds had 11.

Nick Castellanos hit a two-run homer in the first inning to help stake Luzardo (7-5) to a 3-0 lead.

Luzardo pitched like an All-Star deep into May with an ERA hovering under 2.00 through his first 10 starts. He has been rocked in most of his outings since. He allowed a run in the second inning and gave up two run-scoring singles, a sacrifice fly and Steer's double in the third that made it 6-3.

Elly De La Cruz added an RBI single in the fourth and the Reds tacked on two more runs in the fifth for a 9-4 lead.

Sam Moll one of seven Reds pitchers tossed 1 1/3 scoreless innings to earn the win and Emilio Pagán got his 19th save. Santillan truly saved the game when he caught Bohm looking on a 98 mph fastball to keep the score 9-6. □