

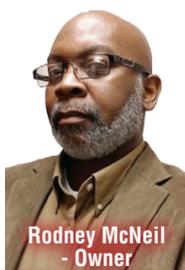


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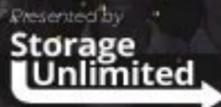


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**BREAKING NEWS: Mexico sends mixed signals about U.S. returning asylum seekers**

DENIES BEING IN BLACKFACE, KKK PHOTO

**VA. GOV NORTHAM WON'T RESIGN**



Virginia Governor Ralph Northam shown here in November 2018, held a news conference Saturday to address a photo appearing in his medical school yearbook showing an individual in blackface and another in a Ku Klux Klan robe. File photo by Kevin Dietsch/UPI | License Photo

By Sommer Brokaw and Allen Cone  
UPI

Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam apologized Saturday for a racist photo appearing on his

page of a medical school yearbook, but said after further contemplation that he was not in the photograph.

His revised comments came as politicians and black activists nationwide called on him

to resign.

Lt. Gov. Justin Fairfax, who would replace Northam as governor if he leaves office, said

See Northam, page 5

**Stacey Abrams delivers Democratic response to SOTU**

By Daniel Uria  
UPI

Former Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams will deliver the Democratic response to President Donald Trump's State of the Union address next week.

Adams, who also served as Democratic leader of Georgia's House of Representatives from 2011 to 2017, accepted an invitation from Senate Democratic Leader Charles Schumer to deliver the response following Trump's address, which is scheduled for Feb. 5.

"At a moment when our nation needs to hear from leaders who can unite for a common purpose, I am honored to be delivering the Democratic State of the Union response," Abrams wrote on Twitter.

Schumer said he called Abrams last week to ask her to deliver the response

because "she has led the charge for voting rights, which is at the root of just about everything else," the Atlanta Journal Constitution reported.

Abrams was defeated by Republican opponent Brian Kemp in Georgia's gubernatorial race last year and refused to formally concede due to what she described as irregularities in the election after Kemp declined to step down as the state's top elections official.

Trump and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi reached an agreement Monday to hold the State of the Union address in the Capitol's House Chamber on Feb. 5.

Pelosi had previously announced she wouldn't invite Trump to host the State of the Union in the House Chamber until the 35-day government shutdown was ended.

Trump initially said he would seek a

See SOTU, page 5



Former Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams will host a Democratic response to President Donald Trump's State of the Union address on Feb. 5. File Photo by Pat Benic/UPI | License Photo

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'Shaft': Three generations of Shaft come together in first trailer  
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# OPINION

## Brexit and the future of US-Britain relations

## Education, technology should be used to deter drone disasters

By John E. Jackson  
UPI

With every report of an airport intrusion or an airborne near-miss with a flying drone, I fear that a follow-up story will soon detail the tragic results of a large-scale disaster caused by the collision of a drone and a commercial aircraft.

In recent weeks, Newark Liberty Airport was forced to suspend operations for a period of time following reports of nearby drone activity. In December, 140,000 passengers and over 1,000 flights were impacted by reports of drones in the area of England's Gatwick Airport. While no confirmed drone/aircraft collisions have occurred, the threat is real and the potential for disaster is ever present.

Aggressive action taken now could help minimize the likelihood of such events, but will require coordinated effort by public and private entities. The data on drone events around the world indicate that they fall into three basic categories, some of which are more easily addressed than others. First, many events occur due to the lack of awareness by hobbyists and casual operators of the potential seriousness of their actions. Secondly, some instances can be attributed to shortcomings in the hardware and software embedded in the aircraft and their controllers. Thirdly, and the most difficult to counter, are events that are purposeful and driven by malicious intent.

In the first case, we need a dedicated campaign of public education through the media, in our schools and through the membership of clubs and organizations with an interest in aviation and aviation safety. Many ill-informed fledgling drone pilots simply un-box their new quadrotor drones, toss out any instructions provided by the manufacturer and fling the mini-aircraft into the sky with little forethought about the potential consequences.

Tech startup will use pioneering radar to guard sAn education campaign would use public service announcements, focused lesson plans for use in schools, and celebrity messages on social media platforms to reach the target audience of tech-savvy users. At the local community level, designated drone "free-fly" zones and parks could be established and promoted as places where the growing hobby can be safely practiced. The Academy of Model Aeronautics has been active for more than 80 years and has a membership in excess of 195,000. It works to ensure that radio-controlled aircraft of all types are operated in a responsible manner. The AMA is expanding its reach to support the explosion of drone hobbyists, and could be a strong partner in efforts to address concerns about uncontrolled drone usage.

Pressure should be brought to bear on manufacturers to ensure that technology, such as geo-fencing, is installed in every device marketed in the United States. Chinese manufacturer DJI, which accounts for nearly 74 percent of the drones manufactured worldwide, has led the effort by installing software (called GEO, for Geospatial Environment Online) that limits the ability of their drones to fly into restricted airspace. Such efforts should be mandatory for any drones sold and operated in the United States, and federal consumer protection efforts should prevent unsafe drones from being imported.

Third, our airports and municipalities must invest in systems and personnel to protect our airports and large public gatherings where the greatest number of attacks may occur. Many different "counter/anti" unmanned aerial systems devices are being developed, ranging from systems that seek to jam a drone's control signals, to clever systems that capture the drone through mechanical means. The SkyWall-100, developed by British-based OpenWorks Engineering, is a hand-held anti-drone gun that launches a projectile at the target and captures it by deploying a net and parachute to bring the drone safely back to earth.

This kinetic approach protects people and equipment on the ground, and enables first responders to perform forensics on the device to help prevent future attacks. Airborne capture systems, such as the Interceptor by Airspace Systems, utilize a net-capture approach by carrying a package on a flying drone that is vectored to the vicinity of the target to snag the drone and safely fly it away from the intended target.

The future of Brexit, England's historic divorce from the European Union, hangs in a precarious balance. Last week, British Prime Minister Theresa May's Brexit plan failed miserably when put to a vote in the British Parliament. May's "soft exit" proposal failed by a whopping 230 votes, prompting many to predict that May's tenure as prime minister was officially doomed. However, the next day, members of Britain's labor party failed to mount a no-confidence vote, which would have challenged her continued leadership.

As things stand, May remains the leader, and Britain remains committed to exiting the European Union.

But the stakes for all involved just got higher.

At issue is the reality that a significant portion of the British GDP -- approximately 12 percent -- comes from trade with the EU. Britain, having invoked Article 50, has until late March to negotiate a deal to leave the union or face a "hard exit," which would essentially cut Britain off from all trade within the EU.

At stake for the United States is our own trading relationship with the EU and, perhaps more importantly, our ongoing "special relationship" with Great Britain.

At this point, the U.S. has signaled that it is ready to enter into a beneficial bilateral trade, relationship with Britain, which makes sense, after all.

The U.S. is already Britain's most significant trading partner. Many U.S. nationals work at British companies and vice versa. Investments between the countries amount to an es-

timated \$1 trillion.

There is, however, more to the special relationship than the economic benefits of trade. England has been

America's primary contact with the EU, facilitating America's priorities vis-a-vis Europe and

NATO. Part of Britain's discomfort with the EU's structure was Germany's ascendance as Europe's most important economic and political power. England has longstanding antagonism toward Germany, dating back to World War I, and German excesses in World War II are still on the minds of many Britons, who do not want to live under Germany's shadow.

As England continues to attempt to gracefully leave the EU, the U.S. will have to develop other allies within the union, which will potentially diminish Britain's influence upon the U.S. with respect to European affairs.

Some U.S. political conservatives fear that Britain leaving the EU provides an opening for antagonistic forces such as Russia, which has been courting many of the Southern and Eastern European nations with access to Russia's vast natural resources.

It also remains to be seen whether the EU can even survive in its current state without a strong Britain anchoring it to a pro-West stance. Trade, however, remains the big ape in the room.

While a considerable amount of Britain's trade is with the EU, the growth of this trade has averaged

about 1 percent over the past five years, while British trade with the rest of the world has rapidly expanded.

Once unfettered from the EU, Britain has the leverage to make even more substantive bilateral and (in some cases) multilateral trade deals with the world's emerging economies.

As things stand today, the World Trade Organization rules are facing a brave new world.

The EU's technocratic, rigid and red tape-laden trading policies are ill-suited for a rapidly evolving global economy.

The WTO dispute resolution mechanism, on the other hand, is woefully inadequate to protect intellectual property or the rising tide of protectionism, especially given China's volatile trade policies.

Furthermore, most of the trading policies adopted by both the U.S. and Britain do not directly punish countries that refuse to open their economies to goods coming from the two countries.

President Donald Trump as already drastically reoriented U.S. trading policies to force its largest trading partners -- China, Canada and Mexico -- to open their economies to U.S. goods and services or face significant reciprocal trade barriers.

Despite heavy criticism from both Democrats and Republicans, evidence shows the Trump's trade policy is moving the process along in terms of forcing China to come to the table to make a better deal.

At the end of the day, Britain leaving the EU is about expressing the democratic will of the British people, who voted to leave the union.

As one of the world's oldest democracies, Britain is showing the world that the elites in government should not decide matters of national concern; the will of the people should dictate how they are governed.

Europe's technocratic centralized administration proved to be not only ineffective in staving off economic crises -- its intended purpose -- but impervious to the democratic instincts of the European people.

The U.S. is facing similar tension, with Americans largely rejecting centralized government control and overregulation and seeking to instead vest more power in local governments.

The Trump administration has already eliminated more tedious pieces of regulation in its first two years than any other president in recent history.

The soaring U.S. economy is seen as proof that unfettering businesses and citizens and allowing them to act in their own economic interests is a potentially powerful tool for economic progress.

With growth rates in Europe stagnating around 2 percent, England is right to question whether it is in its best interests to remain within the union. The U.S. can support Britain by continuing its robust trade and investment relationship and by leading by example.

*Armstrong Williams is manager and sole owner of Howard Stirk Holdings I & II Broadcast Television Stations and Executive Editor of American CurrentSee online magazine. Watch our Right Side Forum every Saturday on NewsChannel 8 TV 28, 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., with repeats at 6:30 p.m. EST.*



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## Trump's State of the Union reveals no strategy for Middle East

By: Dania Koleilat  
Khatib  
UPI

U.S. President Donald Trump's State of the Union address was nothing less than sensational, a great show worthy of a great showman. The show included several people/attractions who added an emotional spin to the presidential speech. People like the officer who was badly wounded in the attack on the synagogue in Pittsburgh or the father of a fallen soldier who perished in the attack on the USS Cole 18 years ago were present. Every now and then, Trump would call on one of them, salute to him or her and receive a huge round of applause.

However, the speech laid no strategy for the year to come, especially regarding the Middle East. He started his talk on the Middle East by saying that he adheres to realism and rejects "discredited theories" that achieved no progress in the past. From this perspective, he said, he moved the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. However, Trump did not explain how this move will achieve any progress. What is next? What is the strategy behind this move? Will it galvanize the stalling peace

talks? Will it ensure a viable Palestinian state that can co-exist peacefully next to the Israeli state? Nothing of this sort was revealed.

He said that before he assumed the presidency, the Islamic State had control of over 20,000 square miles in Syria and Iraq. He claimed that IS is defeated and that U.S. allies will exterminate its remnants. However, Trump should have known better from the Iraq episode how the early disengagement allowed terrorist groups to re-emerge in a more virulent manner. His statement totally contradicts the account of his generals who realize that IS can regroup and reorganize.

He also said, "Great nations do not fight endless wars." The problem with war is that a country can decide when to start it, but does not necessarily have control of when to end it. Ending a war haphazardly, when certain conditions are not met, will only result in more chaos. So far, we have seen increased chaos in Syria because of the unplanned American withdrawal. The president also did not mention Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, despite the fact that he is today the platform for Iranian expansionism that

is fueling the instability in the region.

On Afghanistan, he pledged to give peace a chance and to engage with various Afghani groups, including the Taliban. However, Trump, being a tough negotiator, should have known better that negotiations should be conducted from a position of strength and not of weakness. The unconditional accelerated withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan is likely to be perceived as a sign of weakness by the United States' most vehement enemies in the country.

Trump then moved to Iran, accused the country of doing very "bad bad" things. He also promised that he will never allow Iran to acquire nuclear weapons. This is why, he said, he withdrew the United States from what he described as a "disastrous" nuclear treaty. He did not say how he can ensure that Iran will not acquire nuclear weapons now that the United States can no longer inspect its nuclear sites. Was he signaling a possible pre-emptive strike on Iran's nuclear facilities? Again, on this very important issue, the speech was ambiguous.

He referred to sanctions. Nevertheless, sanctions in

the past did not deter Iran from pursuing its nuclear program. The nuclear program is developed domestically in Iran and does not rely on any expertise or input from the West. Therefore, there is no clear policy on Iran except for increased sanctions. No policy was spelled out to counter the proliferation of its non-state actors in the region. Nothing. Though the imminent threat from Iran comes from those militias fomenting chaos more than from a hypothetical nuclear strike that will be fatal to everyone, including Iran.

In a nutshell, we see no strategy behind the president's speech, but only a glimpse of a fragmented policy. American troops are withdrawing from conflict zones without any concrete agreements with allies. On the contrary, we see allies acting on their own, now that they can no longer rely on American support. Most importantly, there is no coherent and complete team in Washington to devise a comprehensive plan for the region. The very critical position of assistant secretary of state for near eastern affairs remains vacant. The nominated candidate has not been confirmed by the Senate due to bitter and petty partisan bickering.

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# Northam

continued from page 1

in a statement the image had "shocked and saddened" him did not explicitly call for him to resign.

"They are an example of a painful scourge that continues to haunt us today and holds us back from the progress we need to take," said Fairfax, who is African American.

The 1984 Eastern Virginia Medical School yearbook shows one person in blackface and one person in a Ku Klux Klan outfit together in a photograph next to the governor's name. Northam, a pediatrician who graduated from the school that year, apolo-

gized Friday for appearing in the photo, but backtracked that statement in a news conference a day later, saying he was not in the photograph.

Northam also said he has no intention of resigning from office, despite a groundswell of calls to do otherwise from prominent Democrats, including former Vice President Joe Biden.

Northam said Saturday he once used shoe polish to darken his face to look like pop star Michael Jackson in a San Antonio dance contest in the mid-1980s, but after thinking about the yearbook photo and discussing it with other people, Northam said he wasn't the individual in the

KKK robe or the individual in blackface. He suggested photos also mistakenly appeared on other peoples' pages of the yearbook.

"That is not my picture," he told reporters Saturday. "That is not my person on the pictures."

Northam acknowledged the controversy swirling around the photo, which first surfaced Friday on the conservative news website Big League Politics, as well as the calls for his resignation.

"Yesterday, I took responsibility for content that appeared on my page in the medical school year-

book that was clearly racist and offensive," Northam said.

"I cannot and will not excuse the content of the photos. It was racist and despicable."

Northam added that when his staff showed him the yearbook, he was "seeing it for the first time."

When pressed about the pressure for him to resign, he said that would be the easy way out and a way for him to dodge responsibility.

"Today, I am not ready to ask Virginians forgiveness for my past actions," Northam said.



# SOTU

continued from page 1

new venue, before agreeing to wait for the invitation to deliver the address in the

House Chamber.

Two days later, he signed a short-term spending bill that reopened the federal government and ended the longest shutdown in U.S. history.

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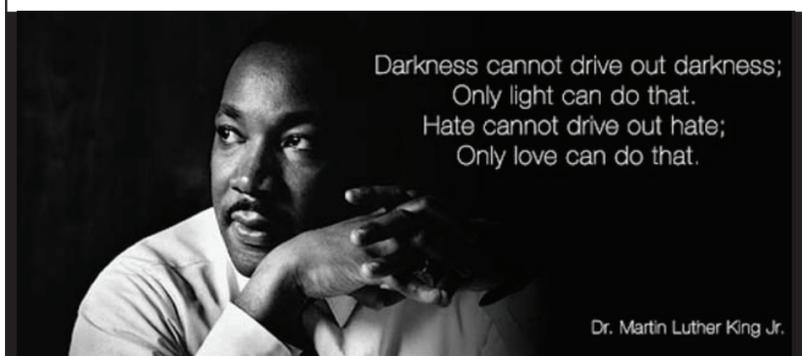
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## Sentence for Chicago Cop in shooting death of Laquan McDonald considered too short

By Frederick H. Lowe  
Trice Edney Wire

Former Chicago cop Jason Van Dyke's African-American brother-in-law said Van Dyke wasn't a racist although he shot to death Laquan McDonald, a 17-year-old black teenager holding a pen knife in a non-threatening way, brutalized other black men he stopped or arrested and had 22 excessive force

complaints lodged against him during his years on the job, most brought by black men.

"He's my brother," Keith Thompson testified at Van Dyke's sentencing hearing on Friday.

Thompson, who is married to Van Dyke's wife's sister, hoped Cook County Judge Vincent Gaughan would sentence Van Dyke to probation and send him back to his wife and two daughters who need him because their lives are falling apart.

Van Dyke wasn't sentenced to probation but he received a much lighter sentence than the 18 years special prosecutors had sought. However, it was more than the probation defense attorneys wanted for Van Dyke.



Jason Van Dyke/ Trice Edney Wire

Judge Gaughan sentenced Van Dyke, 40, to 81 months or 6 years and 9 months in prison for the 2014 murder of McDonald. The former police officer

had been convicted of second-degree murder and 16 counts of aggravated battery with a firearm on October 5, 2018 in the shooting death of McDonald.

The unshaven Van Dyke, dressed in an yellow DOC jumpsuit, was sentenced only on the second-degree murder charge.

Van Dyke was the first on-duty police officer in 40 years charged with murder to be convicted.

His arrest occurred after Cook County Judge Franklin Valderrama ordered the release of a police-dash cam video showing Van Dyke repeatedly shooting McDonald who was lying on the ground, posing a threat to no one. The other cops at the scene did not pull their guns.

After Judge Gaughan issued his ruling, Pastor Marvin Hunter, McDonald's great uncle, said it was both a sad day and a happy day.

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FTA-LARCENY - MISDEMEANOR  
FTA-MISDEANOR LARCENY - MISDEMEANOR  
FTA-POSSESS DRUG PARAPHERNALIA - MISDEMEANOR  
FTA-POSSESS MARIJ PARAPHERNALIA - MISDEMEANOR  
FTA-RESISTING PUBLIC OFFICER - MISDEMEANOR



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POSSESSION OF FIREARM BY FELON - FELONY  
CONSP ROBBERY DANGRS WEAPON - FELONY  
ROBBERY WITH DANGEROUS WEAPON - FELONY  
FTA-DWLR NOT IMPAIRED REV - MISDEMEANOR  
FTA-DWLR NOT IMPAIRED REV - MISDEMEANOR  
FTA-FAIL STOP SIGN/FLSH RED LT - MISDEMEANOR



**MICHAEL PEARSON BRAY**

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BREAK OR ENTER A MOTOR VEHICLE - FELONY  
BREAK OR ENTER A MOTOR VEHICLE - FELONY  
ATTEMPTED LARCENY - MISDEMEANOR  
LARCENY, FELONY - FELONY  
LARCENY, MISDEMEANOR - MISDEMEANOR



**KEITH DEVON ACKLIN**

MAINTN VEH/DWELL/PLACE CS - FELONY  
MAINTN VEH/DWELL/PLACE CS - FELONY  
POSSESS MARIJ PARAPHERNALIA - MISDEMEANOR  
POSSESS MARIJ PARAPHERNALIA - MISDEMEANOR



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OBTAIN PROPERTY BY FALSE PRETENSE - FELONY  
IDENTITY THEFT - FELONY  
COMMON LAW UTTERING - FELONY  
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## Martin Community College will celebrate Black History Month on Thurs., 2/21/19.

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## Harris and Booker presidential races stir Pride, excitement and high hopes

By Barrington Salmon  
Edney News Wire  
Dr. Shiela Harmon Mar-

tin said she recently got two very pleasant surprises within days of each other when Sens. Kamala Harris (D-Calif.) and Cory Booker (D-N.J.) announced that they are joining the race to become America's next

president. Harris, a former San Francisco prosecutor and California attorney general, set off serious buzz after her announcement and African-Americans have been digging into her law enforcement record and perusing her policy platforms and prior statements in order to discover what type of president she might be.

Dr. Martin, division chair and professor of Political Science at the Uni-



versity of the District of Columbia, said she hopes and expects both Black



senators to do well.

"I hope one of them emerges as the top contender and at a minimum in second place," Martin said.

"African-Americans have been the most loyal constituency to the Democratic Party.

I don't feel that because we had one African-American president we shouldn't have another one for the next 20 years...Hopefully the Democratic pool will look like America."

Because both candidates have been watched by political observers for years, their formal announcements may also impact the strength of the electorate, Martin says.

She hopes their candidacies will lead to increased voter registrations and voter turnout in Black communities.

The announcements of Harris and Booker are already attracting the attention of people from diverse walks of life.



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### NCDOT TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING ON FEBRUARY 26 REGARDING THE PROPOSAL TO WIDEN U.S. 13 (BERKELEY BOULEVARD) FROM NEW HOPE ROAD (S.R. 1003) TO NORTH OF SAULSTON ROAD (S.R. 1572) IN GOLDSBORO

**STIP Project No. U-3609B**

The N.C. Department of Transportation proposes to widen U.S. 13 (Berkeley Boulevard) between New Hope Road (S.R. 1003) and north of Saulston Road (S.R. 1572) in Wayne County.

A public meeting will be held from 4-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 26 at Maxwell Regional Agriculture Center located at 3114 Wayne Memorial Drive in Goldsboro.

The purpose of this meeting is to inform the public of the project and gather input on the proposed design. As information becomes available, it may be viewed online at the NCDOT public meeting webpage: <https://www.ncdot.gov/news/public-meetings>.

The public may attend at any time during the public meeting hours, as no formal presentation will be made. NCDOT representatives will be available to answer questions and receive comments. The comments and information received will be taken into consideration as work on the project develops.

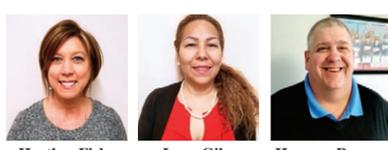
The opportunity to submit written comments will be provided at the meeting or can be done via phone, email, or mail by Mar. 12, 2019.

For additional information, please contact Addison Gainey, NCDOT Division 4 Project Team Lead at P.O. Box 3165, Wilson, NC 27895, (252) 640-6428, or [nagainey@ncdot.gov](mailto:nagainey@ncdot.gov).

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this workshop. Anyone requiring special services should contact Matthew LeShure, Environmental Analysis Unit, at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, at (919) 707-6087 or [maleshure@ncdot.gov](mailto:maleshure@ncdot.gov) as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Persons who do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior to the meeting by calling 1-800-481-6494.  
Aquellas personas no hablan inglés, o tienen limitaciones para leer, hablar o entender inglés, podrían recibir servicios de interpretación si los solicitan antes de la reunión llamando al 1-800-481-6494.



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# Rockets' James Harden answers Kobe Bryant's ball dominance criticism

By Alex Butler  
UPI

James Harden offered a response to Kobe Bryant saying that the Houston Rockets can't win a title with their current playing style. He agrees.

Harden leads the NBA with 36.5 points per game this season. He is averaging 42 points per game in his last 27 starts and has

scored at least 30 points in each of those appearances.

He chipped in another 44 points in the Rockets' 118-110 win against the Phoenix Suns on Monday in Phoenix.

Before that showing, Bryant was asked about Harden's hot streak.

"I'm not a fan of it in terms of winning championships," the Los Angeles



Houston Rockets guard James Harden is averaging 42 points per game in his last 27 starts, but Los Angeles Lakers legend Kobe Bryant says his team's current style of play won't lead to a championship. Photo by George Frey/EPA-EFE/UPI

Lakers legend told ESPN. "I don't think that style is ever going to win championships. But at the same time, you have to keep your team's head above water to win games. You have to do what you have to do to win games and he's doing that."

"Not with this style of play, it won't win, with one player dominating the

ball." Bryant said that when Chris Paul fully returns it will help the Rockets' ball movement.

"I have to be ball dominant just because we have injuries," Harden told reporters on Monday. "We've had injuries throughout the course of the year."

But when you get Chris in the rhythm and Eric

[Gordon] back, with our full roster ... We have multiple guys that can make plays, multiple guys that can dominate the ball.

"For right now, he's probably right. This way that we are playing won't happen in the playoffs. It's won't get us to where we want to go."

But we haven't had a full roster yet so I'm ex-

cited for that to come."

Paul returned to the Rockets' lineup on Jan. 27. The nine-time All-Star is averaging 15 points, 6.3 assists, 4.3 rebounds and 2.5 steals per game since his return.

The Rockets face the Sacramento Kings at 10 p.m. on Wednesday at the Golden 1 Center in Sacramento.

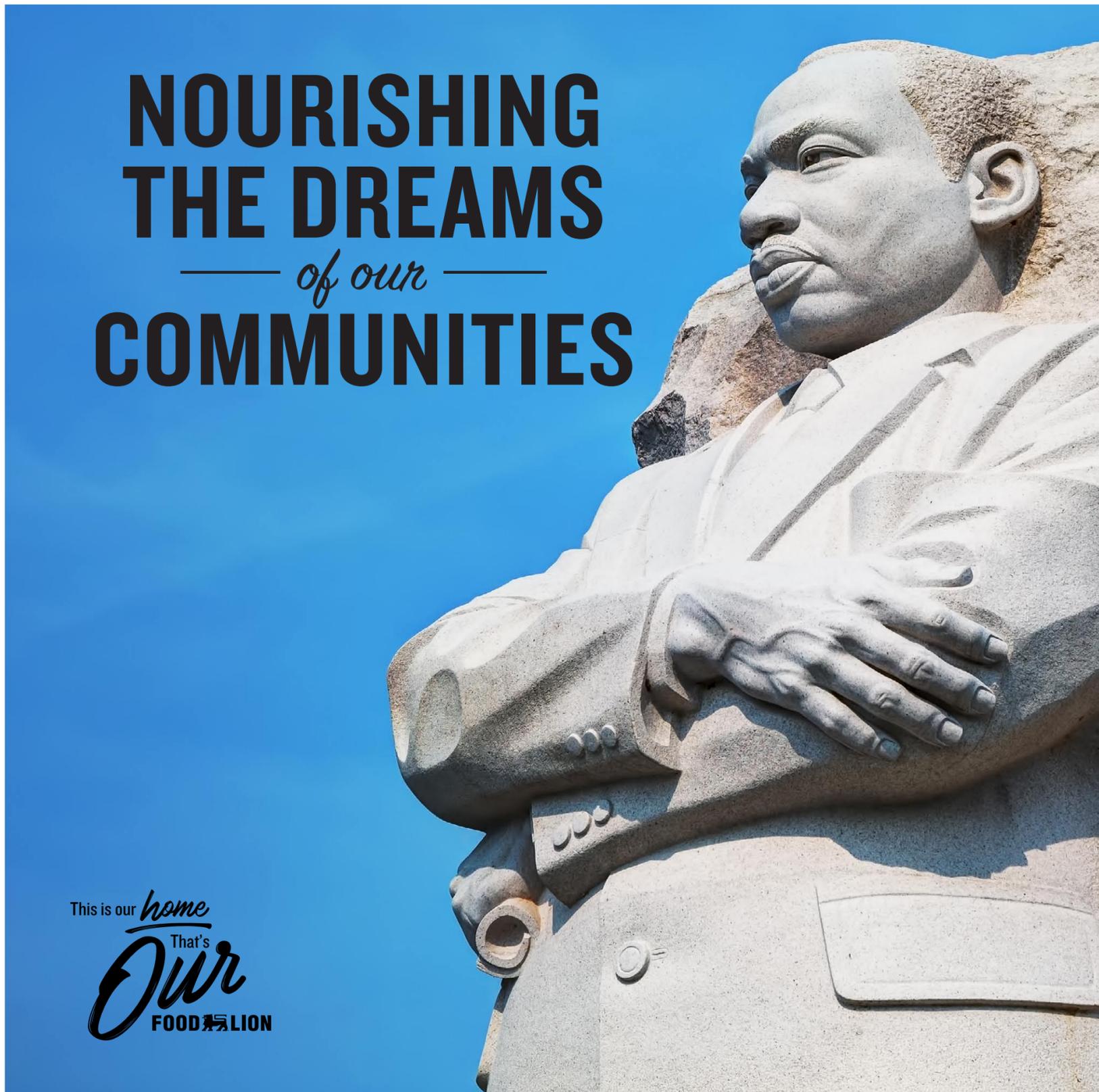


*African American History*

In the face of adversity, African Americans throughout history have worked hard to pave the way for future generations. During Black History Month, we salute their accomplishments and celebrate the African Americans men and women who continue to uphold a rich heritage full of pride and outstanding achievement.



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# La Voz Latina

## Mexico sends mixed signals about U.S. returning asylum seekers

By Patrick Timmons  
UPI

MEXICO CITY – Mexico's government is sending mixed signals

about who it will accept and how it will cope with an influx of migrants forced by the Trump administration to wait in Mexico for U.S. immigration court dates.

The "remain in Mexico" policy is adding to a sense of uncertainty and chaos in border cities like Tijuana. Mexico's Foreign Ministry has said it will accept some, but not all, asylum



seekers returned by the United States for "humanitarian reasons" under what are formally called the Migrant Protection Protocols. It will not accept unaccompanied minors and people with health conditions, according to a recent statement. The National Migration Institute, which is part of Mexico's Interior Ministry, is in a dispute

with the Foreign Ministry over key elements of the new U.S. policy. One key battle relates to the type of migrants the United States could return. Tonatiuh Guillén, head of the institute, said his agency will not accept anybody under age 18 or over 60, while the Foreign Ministry has issued no such restrictions.

The National Migration Institute head has ruled out the return of migrant families. So far, the United States has only returned single adults, even though last week a Department of Homeland Security official told the Washington Post that U.S. Customs and Border Protection soon will start to return migrant families.

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## Big Boi, Dungeon Family announce spring reunion tour

By Wade Sheridan  
UPI

Big Boi is reuniting with rap collective the Dungeon Family for a new Spring tour.

The reunion tour, which will feature Big Boi, Goodie Mob, Sleepy Brown, Organized Noize and KP

the Great, is set to kick off on April 14 at the House of Blues in Chicago before wrapping things up on April 27 at the Salvage Station in Asheville, N.C.

Big Boi and the Dungeon Family will also be performing in Nashville, New Orleans, Dallas, Atlanta, Washington D.C., New York, Philadelphia and Boston.

Tickets go on sale for the general public starting on Feb. 8.

The tour was announced after Big Boi made a guest appearance during Maroon 5's Super Bowl halftime show on Sunday.

Sleepy Brown also took



the stage with Big Boi.

Big Boi has been linked to the Dungeon Family in the past through his two-man group with Andre 3000, Outkast.

## 'Shaft': Three generations of Shaft come together in first trailer



By Wade Sheridan  
UPI

Samuel L. Jackson has an action-packed family reunion with his son and father in the first trailer for Shaft.

The clip, released Wednesday on Jimmy Kimmel Live, features Jackson reprising his role as John Shaft II alongside the original John Shaft (Richard Roundtree) and newcomer John Shaft Jr. (Jessie T. Usher).

Usher, who has not followed in the family's footsteps of being a private eye, enlists the help of his estranged father in order to solve a case.

Roundtree also joins in on the investigation and

helps Jackson teach his son how to live up to his family name, with comedic results.

Shaft, from director Tim Story, is set to arrive in theaters on June 14. Regina Hall, Alexandra Shipp, Matt Lauria, Titus Welliver, Cliff Smith and Method Man also star. "He may be a cyber security expert with a degree from MIT, but to uncover the truth behind his best friend's untimely death, JJ -- aka John Shaft Jr. -- will need an education only his dad can provide," reads the synopsis.

"Absent throughout JJ's youth, the legendary locked-and-loaded John Shaft agrees to help his progeny navigate Harlem's heroin-infested underbelly.

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