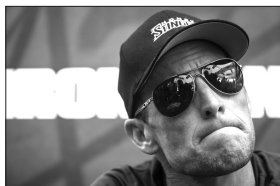


Briefs



This photo shows Lance Armstrong during a news conference in Galveston, Texas.

Judge refuses to block government's lawsuit against Armstrong

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A federal judge on Monday refused to block the government's \$100 million lawsuit against Lance Armstrong, putting the former cyclist on course for trial in a 2010 case stemming from his performance-enhancing drug use.

The lawsuit was filed by Armstrong's former U.S. Postal Service teammate Floyd Landis. The federal government joined in 2013 after Armstrong publicly admitted he cheated to win the Tour de France seven times from 1999-2005. Armstrong was stripped of those titles and banned from competition.

Armstrong has also taken huge hits financially, losing all his major sponsors and being forced to pay more than \$10 million in damages and settlements in a series of lawsuits. The Landis lawsuit would be the biggest by far, and the ruling from U.S. District Judge Christopher Cooper in Washington was a major setback for Armstrong with a trial most likely in the fall.

Landis, himself a former doping cheat who was stripped of his 2006 Tour de France title, sued Armstrong under the federal False Claims Act, alleging Armstrong and his team committed fraud against the government when they cheated while riding under the Postal Service banner. According to court records, the contract paid the team, which was operated by Tailwind Sports Corp., about \$32 million from 2000 to 2004. Armstrong got nearly \$13.5 million.

The law allows Landis and the government to sue to get that money back and for "treble" damages, or triple the amount, and Armstrong could be forced to pay all of it. Landis stands to receive up to 25 percent of any damages awarded.

Armstrong claims he and the team don't owe the Postal Service anything because the agency made far more off the sponsorship than it paid. Armstrong's lawyers have introduced internal studies for the agency that calculated benefits in media exposure topping \$100 million.

The government has countered that the negative fallout from the doping scandal tainted the agency because of its association with Armstrong.

Jordan, commissioner helping repair Oakley, Dolan relationship

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Jordan and NBA Commissioner Adam Silver are helping repair the relationship between Charles Oakley and Madison Square Garden chairman James Dolan.

Oakley and Dolan met with Silver on Monday at NBA headquarters, with Jordan participating by phone, the league said in a statement.

Oakley was arrested last Wednesday following an altercation with MSG security while attending a Knicks game, and Dolan banned the former Knicks star from the arena two days later.

"It is beyond disheartening to see situations involving members of the NBA family like the one that occurred at Madison Square Garden this past week," Silver said.

Jordan and Oakley were teammates in Chicago before Oakley was traded to New York, where he became a fan favorite with the Knicks from 1988-98.

Oakley and Dolan have had a strained relationship in part because of Oakley's criticisms of the team. It hit a low point when security surrounded Oakley in his seat a few rows behind Dolan during a nationally televised game, and Oakley responded by shoving at least two of the security officials.

Derek Jeter and wife expecting their first child, a girl

NEW YORK (AP) — Derek Jeter's wife, Hannah, says they are expecting their first child together, a girl.

The Sports Illustrated swimsuit star made the announcement Monday in an essay on her husband's Player's Tribune website. The announcement includes a photo of the 42-year-old Yankees legend holding a bouquet of pink balloons.

She says Derek already has a name picked out, but she's not settled on it yet. Hannah Jeter writes: "Whatever her name is, I know she'll run circles around him."

The 26-year-old says they want her "kids' lives to be as 'normal' as possible," because "they're going to be born into such an extraordinary situation."

Jeter and the former Hannah Davis married in July.

Giants parting ways with receiver Victor Cruz, running back Jennings

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — The New York Giants said goodbye to Victor Cruz after a seven-year storybook run during which he developed into one of the NFL's most feared receivers and a fan favorite, helping the franchise to a Super Bowl title before being slowed by injuries.

The Giants announced the parting Monday as they released the 30-year-old Cruz and starting running back Rashad Jennings in moves that will save the team roughly \$10 million in salary cap space.

The moves came about a month after the players helped the Giants get back into the playoffs for the first time since playing in the Super Bowl in 2012.

"Victor is one of the great stories of the National Football League," general manager Jerry Reese said. "It has been amazing to see him grow from an undrafted free agent to a Pro Bowl player and one of our go-to guys during the Super Bowl XLVI run. He will always be one of the great Giants."

Cruz has 303 catches for 4,549 yards and 25 touchdowns in his career. His receptions and yardage totals are 10th in Giants history, and his 25 touchdowns are 17th.

pare your kids and go play."

As for the Eagles, they are scoring 71 points a game while allowing just 58. In the Eagles last meeting with Mayfield, Hobbs won by 20 points, 66-46.

Hobbs had three players in double figures against Mayfield: Clay Strainey led with 21 points while Deuce Goodrich had 16 and Vincent Taylor chipped in 14. All three are capable of doing plenty of damage to opposing defenses. Add in that the Eagles are coming off a big home win and there is plenty of momentum.

"It gives the kids confidence to play good basketball," Smith said. "The confidence should build for the rest of the year. That is what we are looking for and the next game up is Mayfield."

Tonight's road trip to Las Cruces will be the Eagles' final of the regular season. Though, they could have to travel back for the District 3-6A Tournament championship game. However, that has yet to be determined.

"We have to go out and play good basketball," Smith said. "We haven't played good basketball in Las Cruces yet. Hopefully we can do that (tonight)."

Next up for Jones and the Miners is a road trip to Denton, Texas on Thursday to face North Texas. Then, on Saturday, UTEP (9-15, 7-5 Conference USA) will battle Rice in Houston.

Keveny Ferriera and the Temple College women's basketball team won both its game last week, beating Cisco College on Wednesday and surviving a game against Hill College on Saturday.

In the win over Cisco College, Temple won 92-66. Ferriera had three points, two rebounds, and two assists for the Lady Leopards. Saturday, the 2016 Tatum graduate and her Lady Leopard teammates survived a double overtime battle, winning 88-86. Ferriera had 18 points, one steal, and an assist.

Temple improves to 14-11 on the season and 4-5 in conference play. Next up for Ferriera and the Lady Leopards is a home game against Westwood College tomorrow and then a road game against Ranger College on Saturday.

Myra Salazar and the Howard College women's basketball team had one game last week, a 56-55 loss to Western Texas College on Thursday. Salazar did not score in the game. This week, Salazar and the Lady Hawks head to Midland and then travel to Borger, Texas for a game against Frank Phillips College.

Spieth piling up wins at rate not seen since Tiger Woods

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Winning has come so quickly for Jordan Spieth that even at age 23, he wondered if he took it for granted.

He got some perspective from a victory Sunday at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am that was dull as it was dominant.

Few walks up the 18th hole are more enjoyable than Pebble Beach, especially with the sun gleaming off the Pacific and the sound of waves on the shore. It's even better with a four-shot lead, with nothing left to do but hoist the trophy.

Spieth's four-shot victory after closing with a 2-under 70 was the ninth of his PGA Tour career in 100 tournaments, making him the youngest player since Tiger Woods to claim that many titles.

"I remember walking up 18 today thinking to myself, 'I was the ninth of his PGA Tour career in 100 tournaments, making him the youngest player since Tiger Woods to claim that many titles.'"

He sure made it look easy.

Spieth effectively won this tournament late Saturday afternoon, when he took only 10 putts on the back nine and closed with three birdies over his final four holes to build a six-shot lead.

He thought about Woods when he set out to play the final round. Spieth was only 6 when Woods won the 2000 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach with a record 15-shot victory. Woods set a private goal of not making a bogey in the final round, and he wound up playing the final 26 holes without dropping a shot.

"I don't remember watching it, but I remember watching highlights of Tiger trying to hold his bogey-free round when he had such a big lead," Spieth said. "That was kind of his goal. That was mine today. Hey, let's try and keep a clean card. ... Played a lot of boring golf today, which is exactly what was needed."

Spieth played his final 28 holes without a bogey, not as

remarkable as what Woods did in U.S. Open conditions, but it did the trick.

No one had much of a chance. Spieth punted for birdie on all but one hole. The one time he was in trouble, with a shot that was in the 13th green, he hit a flop shot up to 5 feet and saved par. The other 17 holes, his longest two par putts were from 3 feet.

"He did exactly what he was supposed to do and played a great round of golf," said Brandt Snedeker, a two-time Pebble winner who played in the final group with Spieth and shot 76 to finish fourth. "Sometimes those are the hardest rounds of golf, when you have the lead that he had. It was fun to watch him do his thing out there."

Kelly Kraft, a former U.S. Amateur champion, was in the best position to apply a little pressure. He ran off four straight birdies on the front nine to get within four: made another birdie on No. 11 to get within three and didn't make anything else the rest of the way.

This was Spieth's day in the sun, and it felt sweet for a number of reasons.

He had not won on the PGA Tour since Colonial last May,

and part of him wanted to get going before he arrived at Augusta National the first week in April. This was the first time Spieth had a 54-hole lead since the Masters last year, when he stretched a one-shot lead to five shots at the turn only to collapse around Amen Corner.

This was a clinic.

"I didn't rely on the putter at all today," Spieth said. "And to win that way is new for me, and it certainly kept more movie hair on my head."

Spieth didn't move anywhere in the world ranking. He was at No. 6, but because he had fallen so far behind the top five, he stayed at No. 6. That figures to change over the next month during the latest battle for supremacy.

But his name, and the way he won with a combination of a reliable swing and his putting stroke, is sure to get attention.

Spieth was the seventh straight PGA Tour winner in his 20s. Justin Thomas (23) won back-to-back weeks in Hawaii. Hudson Swafford (29) won in the California desert. Jon Rahm (22) won at Torrey Pines and Hideki Matsuyama (24) won in Phoenix. Late last year, Mackenzie Hughes (25) won at Sea Island.

Athlete

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Goodrich went to the free throw line with eight seconds left in the game. Missing both shots would have given the Knights time to try for a tie or even the win. However, Goodrich sank both shots, giving the Eagles four-point lead.

In Tuesday's game, Goodrich

scored 18 points, had six rebounds, came up with four steals, and had six assists as the Eagles crushed Gadsden 74-26.

Tonight, Goodrich and the Eagles head to Las Cruces where they will battle Mayfield.



USSSA Youth Softball & Baseball Signups

T-Ball Must be 4 by May 1st. Boys & Girls
Coach Pitch 5-7 Boys & Girls
 (Boys must be 7 after May 1st)
 Girls 8u, 10u, 12-14u combined (Age is January 1)
 Boys Baseball 8u-15u (Must be 7 by May 1st)
 \$60 per player Bring proof of age
Saturday February 25 10:00-2:00 pm Broadmoor Mall
Thursday March 2 & 9 6:00-8:00 pm Broadmoor Mall
Saturday March 25 10:00-2:00 pm Broadmoor Mall
 NO LATE SIGNUPS ACCEPTED! 4 signups ONLY!

Needing Coaches too!!

For more information, contact
 Julie Rodriguez (T-ball, CP and Girls Fastpitch)
 575-602-1717
 Sonny Simpson (Boys Baseball) 575-631-6385

NOTICE OF AIR QUALITY PERMIT REVISION APPLICATION

Schlumberger Technology Corporation announces that a Significant Revision application for its Hobbs District Bulk Products facility has been submitted to the Air Quality Bureau on January 31, 2017.

The Hobbs District facility, owned and operated by Schlumberger, is located at 1105 West Bender Avenue in Hobbs, New Mexico, near the intersection of Lovington Highway and West Bender Blvd. Operations at the Hobbs District facility involve the production of specialty cement mixes and sand products for oil and gas well exploration and production.

The proposed permit revision is for replacement of four (4) product blending tanks, similar to those presently existing at the facility, and installation of thirteen (13) new dust controllers serving existing and new silos. No increase in regulated air emissions will result from the proposed facility modification. The operating schedule of the facility is currently up to 24 hours per day, and will not change.

If you have any comments about the modification of this facility, and you want your comments to be made as part of the permit review process, you must submit your comments in writing to this address:

Permit Programs Manager
 New Mexico Environment Department
 Air Quality Bureau
 525 Camino de los Marquez, Suite 1
 Santa Fe, New Mexico; 87505-1816
 (505) 476-4300 or 1 800 224-7009, or on-line at
https://www.env.nm.gov/aqb/permit/aqb_draft_permits.html

Other comments and questions may be submitted verbally.

With your comments, please refer to the company name and facility name, or send a copy of this notice along with your comments. Please include a legible return mailing address. Once the Department has completed its preliminary review of the application and its air quality impacts, the Department's notice will be published in the legal section of a newspaper circulated near the facility location.

General information about air quality and the permitting process can be found at the Air Quality Bureau's web site. The regulation dealing with public participation in the permit review process is 20.2.72.206 NMAC. This regulation can be found in the "Permits" section of this web site.

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about who beats who. As long as we do our job, we have done our job and that is all we can do. I can't be concerned about Oñate, Las Cruces – we just have to be focused on us."

Mayfield comes into the game with a record of 7-16 overall and 3-7 in the district. The Trojans will be hosting Hobbs tonight with a win streak on the line. The Trojans beat Centennial a week about and then topped Gadsden on Friday. It is only the Trojans' second pair of back-to-back wins this season.

Mayfield is not scoring a ton of points. The Trojans are averaging just 46 points a game. On the flip side, Mayfield's defense is allowing 32 points a game.

Ismael Holguin is Mayfield's leading scorer this year, averaging 10.7 points a game. Others that are contributing are Torrey Locklin and Marc Macias, each of whom are averaging 6.3 points a game. Macias was the only Trojan to score in double figures against Hobbs, finishing with 13 points.

"We are just preparing our kids the best we can," Smith said. "I don't know who scored what the last time. I don't look at that. You just pre-

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innings. Alfaro allowed two hits, two walks, and four runs, though only one was earned thanks to three T-Bird errors.

Leitha pitched the final three innings to get the save. Leitha allowed three hits, two runs, and walked two while striking out four.

NMJC now returns to Hobbs where the T-Birds will host Trinidad State in the team's home opener. The four-game series will be played at Ray Birmingham Field on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The T-Birds will play one game on Friday and Sunday with a doubleheader being played on Saturday.

In other locally related sports action, Kelvin Jones and the University of Texas El Paso men's basketball team had its three-game win streak snapped on Thursday, but the Miners bounced back with a big win on Saturday.

Thursday, Jones and his UTEP teammates lost to Louisiana Tech 62-61. UTEP led 30-24 at the break, but was outscored 38-31 in the second half. Jones had five points and two rebounds in nine minutes of playing time.

Saturday, Jones finished with six points as the Miners beat Southern Miss 80-50. Jones also had two blocked shots and six rebounds for the Miners while playing 17 minutes.