



WEEKEND EDITION
★★★★

Garden Grove Huntington Beach Stanton Westminster

The Tribune

Weather Forecast

74 53

Saturday: 74/53 sunny
Sunday: 75/54 mostly sunny
Monday: 72/55 partly cloudy
Tuesday: 68/55 partly cloudy

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Townhomes' Final Vote At Tuesday Meet

Also, update on Civic Ctr. revitalization

The second and final reading and adoption of an ordinance for the building of a 26-unit, two-story townhouse project on spare land of the church campus in West Garden Grove goes before the Garden Grove City Council when it meets on Tuesday.

This project – to be con-

■ **GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

structed by Brandywine Homes behind the Grace Baptist Church – will be at 5802 Santa Catalina Avenue between Valley View Street and St. Mark Street on a 1.73-acre portion of the lot.

Also on the agenda for the meeting are:

- an update on the Civic Center Revitalization Project – including a new three-story police facility,

Continued on page 2

YOU ARE NOW HERE



THIS NEW SIGN was erected Friday along a stretch of the San Diego (405) Freeway between Bolsa Chica Street and Bolsa Avenue in Westminster. It's a project of Assemblyman Tri Ta. No taxpayer funds were used for the creation of the signage..

■ **STANTON CITY COUNCIL**

Fee increases on agenda

A public hearing on a proposed increase in fees paid to the city for a variety of services greets the Stanton City Council when it meets on Tuesday night.

The increases are based on the cost of living,

placed at 3.4 percent as calculated in the federal consumer price index. The new rates go into effect on July 1, 2025.

Also on the agenda are:

- approval of an ordinance restricting the sale

Continued on page 2

Quick action knocks out fire in GG strip center

A quick response to a fire inside a commercial strip center in Garden Grove on Thursday morning kept the blaze from spreading to other businesses.

According to the Orange County Fire Authority, the call reporting the fire in the 13900 block of Brookhurst Street (north of Westminster Avenue) came in shortly before 10

Continued on page 2

Two people injured in house fire

A pre-dawn fire in a house in Midway City sent one person to a hospital on Friday morning.

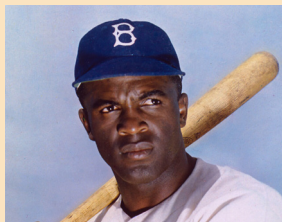
According to the Orange County Fire Authority, the blaze was reported just before 4:30 a.m. in the 8200 block of Bolsa Avenue, east of Beach Boulevard.

A crew from Engine 25 was first on the scene and started the attack on the

Continued on page 2

In The Tribune

Dodgers' number 42 was the very first



THE SPORTS PAGES page 6 and 10

Garden Grove City Council

Continued from page 1

attached parking structure and new park – at Acacia Parkway and Euclid Street;

• “Community Spotlights” in recognition of Dr. True McMahan for being named Cypress College 2025 Americana

Awards Garden Grove Citizen of the Year, and 2024 Republic Services Sustainability Awards recipients.

The city council meets in its chambers in the Community Meeting Center, 11300 Stanford Ave. at 6:30 p.m.

Stanton City Council meets

Continued from page 1

of nitrous oxide and inhalants – except for medical purposes – in the city;

• a “social host ordinance” placing legal liability on the owner of property where illegal fireworks are discharged.

• a report on the result of a goal- and priority-setting workshop with councilmembers, five updated strategic goals will be discussed.

The council will meet in special closed session at 5:30 p.m. and joint regular session at 6:30 p.m.

Quick reaction defeats fire

Continued from page 1

a.m.

In three minutes, OCFA firefighters were at the scene and were able to knock the fire down in about 20 minutes.

Engine 80 arrived first and light smoke was showing from the building. Firefighters discovered a fire hidden inside a wall between two businesses.

Additional units helped evacuate the building while crews worked to isolate and extinguish the fire.

There were no injuries and the cause of the fire is being investigated.

Midway City fire

Continued from page 1

fire and to search for residents. More firefighters arrived to fight the blaze and kept it from extending to the house behind it.

Two persons were treated by firefighter/paramedics; one taken to the hospital for further care. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

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News & Views

Good vision is necessary for seeing clearly

I have to admit I appreciate any person or organization with vision. Even if what's planned for doesn't always happen, it focuses attention and proves intention to improve yourself and others.

The City of Garden Grove held a City Council Retreat for its elected officials and the central management team back on March 14 and came up with a list of the top items for their visions for the future of the city.

Not in any order are: no more homelessness; affordable housing to rent or buy; having the best quality parks throughout the city; educating the public about available services; being recognized state- and nationwide; more hotels on Harbor Boulevard.

Now, that's a pretty good list. To that I would add further steps toward creating a true civic center-downtown core as well as adding additional resources – such as a branch library/community facility in eastern Garden Grove. Overall a darned nice job.

Now, Huntington Beach has a vision for the community that's sometimes been – perhaps unintentionally – divisive. If you don't see that, just watch (and listen) to the public comments at city council meetings. Has that resonated outside the boundaries of Surf City? Maybe. I see that – contrary to what city leaders had hoped – the 2028 Summer Olympics surfing competitions will be held not in Huntington Beach but down at

Continued on page 8



THE PROPOSED "HUNTINGTON'S" restaurant for the municipal pier (City of HB photo).

Yes to eatery on pier, no to kids' smoking

By Jim Tortolano
Orange County Tribune

Another place to eat and perhaps fewer places to buy tobacco. That's what the Huntington Beach City Council voted for Tuesday.

The council approved and authorized a lease agreement with the State Lands Commission and an agreement with the California Coastal Commission that clears the way for a new restaurant to be called "Huntington's" on the municipal pier.

Approvals at the city level have already been secured. Originally approved in 2022 was a conditional use permit for the construction of a 250-foot kitchen addition and two outdoor dining patios totaling 620 square feet to an existing building.

In another major action, the council gave second and final

approval to zoning text amendments intended to keep smoke shops from being too accessible to younger people.

The new regulations limit the construction of new smoke and tobacco stores to commercial areas, and none in residential zones. Also required is that all such shops have a minimum of a 1,000-foot separation from hospitals, or "youth-populated areas," which would include schools, child care facilities, libraries, parks and youth centers.

The regulations also require all smoke shops in Huntington Beach to put up two specific signs in the front of their stores. One sign is a notice that all children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to enter the store. The second has a phone number on it, where unlawful tobacco sales can be reported.

Stanton State of City on June 26

A brand-new look and new city website will be revealed at the free Stanton "State of the City" event on Thursday, June 26.

It will be a "fun-filled family evening" at which city leaders will speak about the city's future and attendees will have an opportunity to explore upcoming projects and connect with neighbors.

The first 100 registered participants will receive a free dinner. The event will conclude with a Symphony on the Go performance beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The event will be held from 6-8:30 p.m. at 10660 Western Ave. For more information or to register call (714) 890-4268.

Checkpoint for DUI set for G.Grove on April 25

A driving under the influence (DUI) checkpoint will be held by the Garden Grove Police Department from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. at on Thursday, April 25 at an undisclosed location.

DUI checkpoint locations are determined based on data showing incidents of impaired driving-related crashes.

The primary purpose of DUI checkpoints are to promote public safety by taking suspected impaired drivers off the road.

"Impaired drivers put others on the road at significant risk," Garden Grove Police Chief Amir El-Farra said.

"Any prevention measures that reduce the number of impaired drivers on our roads significantly improve traffic safety."

The GGPD reminds the public that impaired driving is not just from alcohol.

Some prescription medications and over-the-counter drugs may interfere with driving.

While medicinal and recreational marijuana are legal, driving under the influence of marijuana is illegal.

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NewsUpdate

Was Letter to Harvard A ‘Mistake’?

Demands may be premature or speculative

The potentially momentous showdown between The White House and America’s most prestigious university may have all been a mistake.

The New York Times is reporting that the e-mail letter sent to Harvard University last Friday making broad demands was actually “unauthorized.”

Sources told The Times that the letter – which demanded that the university yield to the government’s demands on hiring admissions and curriculum – “should never have been sent.”

In the aftermath of the letter, Harvard was threatened with



HARVARD UNIVERSITY In Cambridge, Mass. (Wikipedia).

losing millions of dollars in research grants and contracts with the federal government.

Harvard officials were willing to negotiate some issues, The

Times reported, but the demands were considered so “extreme” that they were rejected.

What’s unclear is whether the leader was simply sent too early

or was intended to circulate for discussion among White House staff, The Times reported on Friday.

Great Thoughts

“The growth of a large business is merely a survival of the fittest.”

– John D. Rockefeller, capitalist, philanthropist

“Government exists to protect us from each other. Where Government has gone past its limits is in deciding to protect us from ourselves.”

– Ronald Reagan, film actor and 40th President of the United States.

Full recoveries for six who were shot at FSU

Full recoveries are expected for all six victims wounded during a mass shooting event at Florida State University.

United Press International is reporting that the two people killed were not students.

Speaking of the survivors, Dr. Brett Howard of Tallahassee

Memorial Hospital Hospital said, “They were all very brave. There’s the moment of shock ... but they were all able to talk to us.”

The suspected gunman, Phoenix Ikner, was shot by police and remains hospitalized.

Deported man is moved from high-security prison

Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-Maryland) returned from El Salvador on Friday, declaring that the imprisonment of Kilmar Abrego Garcia was “not only about one man,” reports The Associated Press.

Van Hollen said in Washington, DC, that the issue was “about protecting the constitutional rights of everybody who resides in the United States.”

Garcia, a Venezuelan native, was living in Maryland when he

was taken into custody by immigration agents who deported him to Venezuela, where he was being held in a high security prison before being transferred to a detention center “with better conditions.”

But immigration officials quickly realized that his deportation was an error. However, the Trump Administration has ignored federal court rulings demanding his return to the United States.

Weather: It’s made to order

It’s a made-to-order weekend for our West Orange County cities, with daytime highs in the mid-to-low 70s.

Saturday’s daytime high is predicted to be 74 with an overnight low of 53 amid sunny skies. Sunday will be similar at 75 (54) and mostly sunny. After that it’s partly cloudy skies and temps of 72 (55) on Monday and 68 (55) on Tuesday.

Arts & Living

‘Wedding Banquet’ is Heartfelt

A fake straight marriage is the device

By Lindsey Bahr
AP Film Writer

Two gay couples decide to embark on one fake straight marriage to get what they need in Andrew Ahn’s modern update of “The Wedding Banquet.”

Min (Han Gi-Chan), a young artist from an extremely wealthy Korean family, wants to stay in the U.S. longer to be with his boyfriend Chris (Bowen Yang) and delay his family obligations. Angela (Kelly Marie Tran) and Lee (Lily Gladstone) need money for another IVF attempt after their second round failed.

In 1993, when Ang Lee released “The Wedding Banquet,” same sex marriage was not legal in the U.S. In a modern-day remake set in and around Seattle, they would need another obstacle preventing Min from marrying his way into a green card. Here, Chris is the holdup. He refuses Min, not wanting to be the thing that gets in the way of his inheritance, but also perhaps because he carries some deep feelings of inadequacy.

So, Min proposes that he marry Angela instead as a short-term fix. He’ll give them money for IVF, and he can hang around and try to work things out with Chris. These couples also happen to share a backyard — Lee owns a home and rents the one room ADU to Chris and Min. There is a version of this setup that would lend itself to some wacky hijinks as they clumsily embark on this poorly thought-out plan. If you’ve seen the trailer, you’ve probably seen one of the main ones: A panicked “de-gay” the house montage when they discover that Min’s grandmother Ja-Young (Oscar-winner Youn Yuh-jung of “Minari”), is 45 minutes away from an unan-



HAN GI-CHAN and Bowen Yang in “The Wedding Banquet” (Bleecker Street release).

Movie Review

nounced visit. Perhaps it’s to Ahn and co-writer James Schamus’s credit that these are kept to a minimum. Part of this is due to the fact that Ja-Young is no fool — she knows her grandson and has everyone in full confessional mode in under 15 minutes. This was a wise choice.

And yet, I still wanted it to be more fun, or, rather, I wanted the characters to be having more fun together. There’s a through-line about found families, but I’m not totally convinced that these people are great for each other. Chris and Angela, who we’re told have been unhealthily co-dependent since college, seem to be the dead weight in both relationships as a result of their own traumas and general youthful messiness.

Angela even has the gall to propose to Lee that they should use Min’s money to travel the world instead. This is done in a drunken haze that will result in more bad decisions, but it seems like a rather important conversation to revisit, especially for Lee who has been open about her desire

to have a child and who is worried that she doesn’t have much time left to do so.

There is so much crying, so much anguish, so many issues left unexamined that it’s hard not to find yourself rooting for everyone (especially Lee and Min) to just cut their losses and find new people. It can be a little tiresome at times watching them agonize over problems that seem surmountable.

The biggest relief comes in the form of the older characters including Ja-Young and Joan Chen as May, Angela’s mother. May is introduced accepting an award from a local LGBTQ+ group for her advocacy work, while Angela seethes in the audience. Her mother, who we later find out didn’t speak to her for a time after she came out, has devoted her life to advocacy on behalf of her gay daughter now, which Angela suspects is done for the spotlight, not the cause.

But Chen, and the script, imbue the scenario with unexpected nuance and wisdom. Likewise, Ja-Young doesn’t fall into any expected cliché trappings of an older Korean woman reconciling with her gay grandson. She’s

Good: ★★★

thoughtful and personal about it, wondering if she made the right decisions about Min’s upbringing years ago. May, too, is trying to atone for her past mistakes, however clunkily. Both women just seem to want the kids to be happy — and their scenes together, though brief, are some of the best in the film.

Yang might be a little out of his depths in some of the more emotional scenes — especially difficult since Tran is a world-class crier. Gladstone also seems woefully underutilized, but perhaps that’s just part of her particular magic even in a solid supporting role.

But you can also excuse a lot in a film that was clearly made with its heart in the right place and a deep love for all its characters, even in their messiest, most unsympathetic moments.

“The Wedding Banquet,” a Bleecker Street release in theaters Friday, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for “language, some sexual material and nudity.” Running time: 103 minutes.

TheSportsPages

Shorter season and more teams? Points to ponder

I sometimes wish that the baseball season – as full of pleasures as it is – was a bit shorter. Like a lot shorter, actually.

It's now 162 games plus, and – for the good and fortunate teams – as many as three rounds of playoffs, stretching from March into October – eight months.

And that doesn't cover the spring training that can start as early as February.



Sports Retorts

Jim Tortolano

This thought occurred to me while looking at the MLB Standings on Friday morning. With the busiest teams having played no more than 20 games, there are terrific races in both the AL West and the NL West.

In the former, the top four (of five in each division) are within three games of each other. In the latter, the stretch is just two games.

Now, of course, that will change. But nothing stirs a true fan's blood like a genuine foot-stomping, beer-slurping, flag-waving pennant race. So I gaze at these standings and sigh. Unless the Angels and Dodgers meet in the World Series, this may be as good as it gets.

And on the subject of baseball getting too grand, there is some serious talk about expansion to 32 teams.

Do we need two more? Maybe, maybe not. But the main motivation is for the team owners who are always able to get a fat hunk of cash from franchise fees paid to the MLB.

The last time that big league baseball expanded was in 1998 when the Arizona Diamondbacks and Tampa Bay (Devil)

Continued on page 8

No. 42 Was The First

Dodgers, others honor man who broke color line

By Beth Harris
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jackie Robinson was the first to break baseball's color barrier with the Brooklyn Dodgers 78 years ago Tuesday. His legacy continues to inspire people inside the major leagues — and outside, too.

Players and staff from the Dodgers, including Shohei Ohtani, Mookie Betts and rookie Roki Sasaki, and the Colorado Rockies surrounded Robinson's statue in Centerfield Plaza hours before game time in Los Angeles on Jackie Robinson Day around the major leagues.

They were joined by Basketball Hall of Fame player Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, who turns 78 on Wednesday. He recalled wearing a Brooklyn baseball cap while growing up in the neighboring borough of Manhattan.

"I'd get in fights with people from the Giants, the Yankees, pretty often," he said, "but I kept my cap on and nobody



JACKIE ROBINSON starred for the Brooklyn Dodgers and broke the modern color line in baseball (Wikipedia).

was able to knock it off. I was so tall."

Abdul-Jabbar, then known as Lew Alcindor, followed in Robinson's footsteps as a sports star at UCLA, where he won three national championships under

Hall of Fame coach John Wooden.

Robinson has continued to be a lifelong inspiration for Abdul-Jabbar.

"He meant excellence, giving

Continued on page 10

Angels, Dodgers shut out foes

With a 3-0 win over the Texas Rangers on Friday night, the Los Angeles Dodgers closed within a half-game of the first place San Diego Padres in the National League West race.

The Dodgers (15-6) led 1-0 from the first to eighth innings, then got two insurance runs in the top of the ninth in Arlington. Tommy Edman had a leadoff homer for the early lead, and the ninth inning runs were brought in by a single by Teoscar Hernandez and a sacrifice fly by Will Smith.

It was the Blue Crew's fourth

straight win.

Yosh Yamamoto (3-1) pitched well, working seven innings and yielding five hits and no runs. He struck out 10 batters and walked one.

The two teams will meet again on Saturday at Globe Life Field.

Back in Anaheim after a long stretch on the road, the Los Angeles Angels were glad to be back home and glad to have Zach Neto back in the lineup.

Neto doubled in a run in the first inning and scored on an error as the Halos defeated the

San Francisco Giants 2-0 in Anaheim and snapped a four-game losing streak.

Now 10-9, the Angels are back in second place in the American League West, and 1.5 games behind the first place Texas Rangers (12-8), who lost to the Dodgers (see above).

Ty Anderson (2-0) worked six innings, yielding no runs and just three hits. He struck out six batters and walked two, lowering his earned-run average to 2.08.

The Angels and Giants (13-7) will play again on Saturday.

Jaguars caged; beach v-ball playoffs start

The Segerstrom High baseball team was sailing along in first place in the Golden West League until it hit a roadblock: CIF-SS sanctions.

On Thursday the governing body for prep athletics in the area announced that the Jaguar program has been found guilty of using undue influence to induce a player to transfer schools to play baseball at SHS.

The result is that the program has been placed on probationary status until Feb. 16, 2026.

Of more immediate effect is that the Santa Ana baseball team is banned from the CIF-SS baseball playoffs this year, and will forfeit all wins.

By our calculations, that makes the team – which had been 5-2 (and leading the GWL) and 11-8 overall – now 0-7 in league and 0-19 overall.

The new Golden West League leader is Costa Mesa, which goes from 4-2 in league to 6-0 and 15-6 overall.

The effect on teams in our West Orange County cities is



BEACH VOLLEYBALL is a relatively new team sport for girls, but is a fast-growing athletic endeavor. The play-offs start next week and the CIF-SS championships will be held on May 3 at Long Beach City College.

that Los Amigos gets one more win from a March 29 game. Garden Grove High will host Segerstrom in a non-league game on Monday, April 21.

Girls' beach volleyball playoffs start next week

Playoffs for one of the newer high school sports – girls' beach volleyball – will start on Wednesday, April 23.

Here are the matchups for Round 1 involving local schools. All contests are scheduled to start at 2 p.m.

Division 1

Edison (10-4) at Laguna Beach (16-2)

San Juan Hills (10-1) at Huntington Beach (11-5)

Division 3

Westminster (8-6) at Warren (8-5).

The playoffs will conclude on Saturday, May 3 at Long Beach City College.

Prep Sport Spotlight

Baseball, Softball Scores

Thursday softball
Pacifica 5, Cypress 2

Thursday baseball
Bolsa Grande 4, R. Alamitos 1

Friday baseball
Cerritos 2, Ocean View 1
Hunt. Beach 7, Los Alamitos 1
Magnolia 17, Santa Ana Valley 5
Loara 15, Western 0
Corona del Mar 5, Marina 2
Los Amigos 3, La Quinta 0
Saddleback 9, Santiago 2
La Habra 5, Pacifica 1
Estancia 15, Orange 3

Friday softball
Loara 7, La Quinta 5
Santiago 10, Anaheim 0
Bolsa Grande 19, Magnolia 13
Los Amigos 12, Western 2
Garden Grove 4, Segerstrom 3

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Lakers and Clippers to open the NBA playoffs

Associated Press

The 2024-25 NBA playoffs will start on Saturday, and both area teams – the Los Angeles Lakers and the Los Angeles Clippers – are legitimate contenders to have a deep run in the tournament. Here are “capsule” looks at “our” teams in the Western Conference playoffs from the Associated Press.

No. 3 Los Angeles Lakers (50-



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32) vs. No. 6 Minnesota Timberwolves (49-33)

Season series: Tied, 2-2.

Story line: LeBron James and Luka Doncic, together in the playoffs for the first time. Will it be enough? The Lakers won the title in 2020 and have won only two series since then, getting ousted by Denver in 2023 and 2024 — and now having to face the team that went into Denver and won a Game 7 to end the Nuggets’ reign last season.

The Timberwolves will rely on Anthony Edwards as always, and he’s shown in previous playoff runs (and last summer with USA Basketball) that he isn’t afraid of the moment.

Key matchup: The Timber-

Lakers host Wolves; Clips visit Denver

The Los Angeles Lakers will open the Western Conference playoffs at home on Saturday, hosting the Minnesota Timberwolves on Saturday (5:30 p.m., Channel 7) and Tuesday (7 p.m., TNT, ESPN).

The Los Angeles Clippers will be visiting Denver to play the Nuggets on Saturday (12:30 p.m., ESPN) and Monday (7 p.m., TNT).

vs. No. 5 Los Angeles Clippers (50-32)

Season series: Tied, 2-2.

Story line: The Clippers roll into the postseason as one of the hottest teams in the NBA, winning their last eight games and 18 of their final 21.

Denver won its final three after firing coach Michael Malone and general manager Calvin Booth to match the Clippers at 50-32 and got home-court advantage via a tiebreaker.

Neither had it last time the teams met in the playoffs: Denver overcame a 3-1 deficit to beat the Clippers in 2020 at the Walt Disney World resort.

Key matchup: Nikola Jokic vs. Ivica Zubac. No team has an advantage at center against the Nuggets, with Jokic averaging 29.6 points, 12.7 rebounds and 10.2 assists to become the third player to average a triple-double for a season.

But the Clippers would have one against many other teams after Zubac’s excellent season in which he averaged 16.8 points and 12.6 boards, leading the NBA in total rebounds.

wolves’ size vs. the 1-2 punch of James and Doncic. Do the Lakers have an answer for the waves of bigs — Rudy Gobert, Julius Randle, Naz Reid, etc. — inside? No.

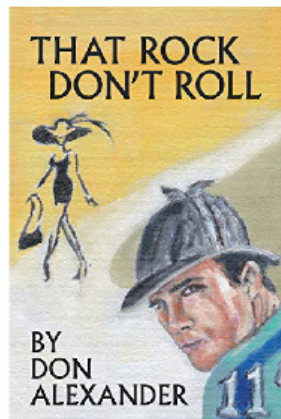
Do the Timberwolves have a way to stop both James and Doncic? Of course not, because nobody does. The team that exploits its clear advantages the most wins the series.

Prediction: Lakers in 7.

No. 4 Denver Nuggets (50-32)

Some serious fun

Murder, corruption, sex, humor, sports and lottery



That Rock Don't Roll

“A fun story set in the OC that is sometimes tongue in cheek and sometimes deadly serious.”

– The Orange County Tribune

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Don Alexander has been a sports columnist, a sports broadcaster, talk show host and a college instructor. This is his first novel.

Retorts: Surf’s not up for H. Beach

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the Trestles in San Clemente, which I consider to be Honorary San Diego County.

Did the council majority’s decision to – essentially – ban the gay pride flag from city property create enough of a bad odor elsewhere that it resulted in potentially the loss of millions of dollars in tourist revenue for HB? I don’t know for sure, but I wouldn’t bet all my crypto against it.

Sports Retorts: Baseball’s growth

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Rays were established.

These things are always preceded by speculation in the press about which cities deserve a team. Based on a cursory scanning of the rumination by sports journalists, the hottest locations look like Utah and Tennessee (Nashville or Memphis).

Those are both growth areas that already have big league franchises in other sports. In the second tier are Montreal (remember the Expos?), Oakland (if someone will build them a stadium) and San Antonio in Texas.

MLB big-shots have been dreaming of expansion of the brand outside of the U.S., with Mexico City being the town most mentioned. But today’s politico-economic environment may not be appropriate for that.

Adding more teams also points toward the possibility that MLB will reorganize by abolishing the leagues and creating divisions based primarily on geography.

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Number 42 was Number 1 in breaking the color line

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your all, giving your best," Abdul-Jabbar said, "and for all the detractors that are out there, just ignore them and keep on."

Every team playing Monday wore No. 42 jerseys. It's the only number universally retired in the majors.

"It's not just a one-off day," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "We understand what this man did for our world, our country. This is how you go about life. This is something for me, keeping his legacy burning."

Roberts, Ron Washington of the Los Angeles Angels and Will Venable of the Chicago White Sox are only Black managers currently in the majors.

"One of the things Jackie obvi-

ously nailed is he realized from an early time that life was going to be hard," Roberts said. "He was special and he was put in this certain position to rise above and know that it's not just about the game of baseball. It's bigger than him."

The Dodgers and Rockies were joined by Sonya Pankey Robinson, the oldest grandchild of Jackie and Rachel Robinson and the only child of Jackie Jr., who was killed in a car accident in 1971 at age 24. Granddaughter Ayo Robinson, whose father is David Robinson, was on hand, too.

"He was so progressive in so many ways," Pankey Robinson said of her grandfather. "When I think about him fondly, I just think about all of his contribu-

tions to society and to us as a family. I feel a real responsibility to uphold his values and I take that job very seriously."

Robinson's 102-year-old widow marked the anniversary at the Jackie Robinson Museum in Brooklyn with Commissioner Rob Manfred.

"She is out looking great and greeting everyone," Pankey Robinson said. "Not only did she instill the values that she knows my grandfather would expect us to uphold, but she had her own values and her own expectations of us early on to set goals for ourselves in life."

Pankey Robinson lives near her grandmother in New York, saying, "We keep it close and tight."

Robinson was in the news last month when a Defense Department page describing his military service was restored after it briefly went missing. The department has been removing content highlighting contributions by women and minority groups as part of a directive for

President Donald Trump's administration to delete material promoting diversity, equity and inclusion.

"Disheartening but not discouraged because I think what he's done is etched in history and it's not anyone else's place to remove that," Pankey Robinson said after the ceremony. "His impact is large and we feel good knowing, that while disappointed, what he did mattered."

The Angels' Washington learned about Robinson when he bought a book about him during a bus stop in Waterloo, Iowa, on a minor league trip in 1972.

"It impacted me tremendously to find out what he had to go through just to play the game of baseball," Washington said, "and then you look back and say, 'Wow, in this period could I have done that?' I want to think I could, but I don't know if I could."

New York Yankees manager Aaron Boone called Robinson "one of the most important figures in American history."

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