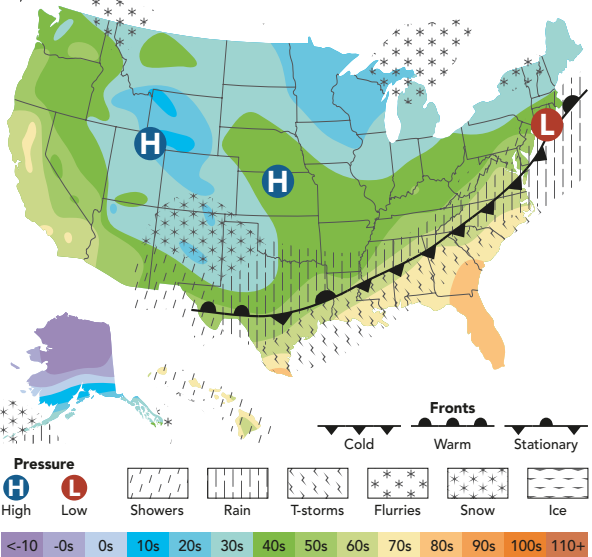
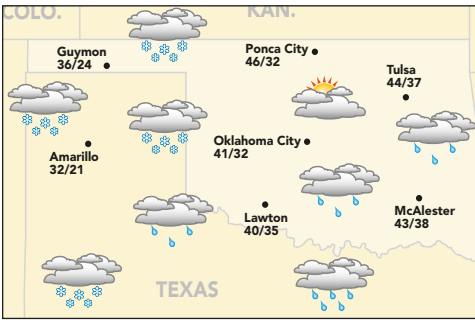


WEATHER ■ STATE ■ WORLD

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
44/34	42/23	37/22	46/36



WEATHER PHOTO OF THE DAY:



A man casts his fishing line into the Mediterranean Sea from the promenade in Beirut, Lebanon, Monday. (AP Photo)

GOT A WEATHER PHOTO? Submit it as our PHOTO OF THE DAY. Include name, hometown and photo location. SEND THE 3-INCH-WIDE BY 2-INCH-DEEP, 200 RESOLUTION, .JPG PHOTO TO ENIDNEWS@ENIDNEWS.COM.

WEATHER TRIVIA:

On this date in 1972, a winter storm covered much of Oklahoma with up to 6 inches of snow.



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ENID AND AREA: Today, cloudy with a 20% chance of rain and snow before noon. High, 43. North wind at 7-11 mph. Tonight, 50% chance of rain and snow, mainly after midnight. Low, 34. Northeast wind around 6 mph.

ENID ALMANAC

YESTERDAY	YEAR AGO TODAY	RECORD THIS DATE	TODAY
High: 43 Low: 29 Precipitation: 0.01 inches	High: 50 Low: 38 Precipitation to date: 1.72 inches	High: 80 in 1932 Low: minus 23 in 2011	Sunrise: 7:25 a.m. Sunset: 6:07 p.m.

MOON PHASES

	NEW 2/23		FIRST 3/2
	FULL 3/9		LAST 2/15

EXTENDED FORECAST: Cloudy with a slight chance of rain and snow. The chance of rain and snow increases tonight and continues through Wednesday night. Highs will be in the 40s today and Wednesday, and the 30s Thursday.

Driver charged with 13 felonies in Moore student deaths, injuries

By Tim Farley
CNHI News Oklahoma

NORMAN — Alcohol played a critical role in the fatal hit-and-run that killed two Moore High School athletes and injured four others, prompting Cleveland County prosecutors to file 13 felony charges against the driver.

Max Leroy Townsend, 57, of Tuttle, was charged with two counts of manslaughter, two counts of leaving the scene of a fatality accident, four counts of driving under the influence causing great bodily harm and five counts of leaving the scene of an accident involving injury.



Cleveland County District Attorney Greg Mashburn announced 13 felony charges against Max Leroy Townsend Friday as he speaks to the media at the Cleveland County Courthouse. (Kyle Phillips / CNHI News Oklahoma)

Cleveland County District Attorney Greg Mashburn told reporters during a Friday press conference that investigators have made initial findings which show Townsend was driving 65-70 miles per hour when he drove into a pack of high school track and cross country runners. The athletes were participating in a routine workout in a neighborhood near the school.

Samples of Townsend's blood have been sent to the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation for analysis. Additional felony charges could be filed depending on Townsend's blood-alcohol content.

school and neighborhood residents that shows Townsend's Ford-F250 pickup hitting a vehicle and then ramming into the students. Part of the video showed at least two students being thrown in the air with one female landing in a nearby pond, Mashburn said. Another student who was unharmed dragged the female out of the pond and to safety.

"(The video) is very shocking," the prosecutor said, acknowledging that some of the victims were knocked out of their shoes. Photographs and video of the crime scene showed several pairs of running shoes strewn along the street.

Townsend took his keys away from him as he tried to restart the vehicle.

Townsend admitted he drank a beer before driving, but Mashburn declined to provide other details about Townsend's comments to police. A police affidavit shows officers at the scene determined Townsend had "several" indicators that he was intoxicated. Police reported that the defendant performed poorly on the field

Three of the runners — Joseph White, Shiloh Hutchison and Ashton Baza — who suffered injuries have been released from the hospital, a spokeswoman at Children's Hospital said Friday. However, senior Kolby Crum remains in critical condition. Social media posts from his family indicate Crum suffered major head trauma and has experienced a series of strokes.

After hitting the students, Townsend continued driving and finally came to a stop after striking another vehicle in a driveway at 108 S. Morgan Drive. Mashburn said students who followed

Rachel Freeman, a senior at Moore High School, died from her injuries at the scene. Yuridia Martinez, a 16-year-old sophomore, died Tuesday. Her funeral will be held 11 a.m. today at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 2706 S. Shartel, in Oklahoma City. Freeman's funeral is set for 11 a.m. Tuesday at First Moore Baptist Church, 301 NE 27th.

Investigators recovered video footage from the

sobriety tests.

Townsend reportedly spent most of Monday "drinking and mourning the loss of his son," Mashburn said. Townsend's son, who was 29, died in a car crash in Moore Sunday.

Townsend, who is on suicide watch at the county jail, has a lengthy criminal history which prosecutors might be able to use to enhance punishments if the defendant pleads guilty or is convicted by a jury.

Mashburn reassured victims' families during the press conference that he will work to convict Townsend of the felonies filed on Friday.

"This is why I do the job," he said. "I didn't want to meet them (families) in these circumstances. They need to know our thoughts and prayers go out to them."

Mashburn also made it clear Townsend will not see the light of day since he has a \$1.2 million bond. However, if Townsend were able to post bail, prosecutors would seek a higher bond and possibly ask a judge to deny bond, the prosecutor said.

Norman man receives life sentence in toddler's death

CNHI News Service

Michelle Cox expressed outrage toward the man who murdered her grandson by telling him during a sentencing hearing, "there is no telling what he endured at your hands."

Cox made her remarks as part of a victim impact statement that was read aloud Friday before Cleveland County District Judge Jeff Virgin.

After hearing from two family members of the 20-month-old victim and attorneys from both sides, Virgin followed the jury's recommendation and ordered Jake Holman to spend the rest of his life in prison without the chance of parole. Holman, dressed in an orange county jail jumpsuit with feet and hands shackled, showed no emotions during the hearing.

The jury agreed with prosecutors that Holman stomped Maddox Abner to death, causing his liver and pancreas to break apart. Holman was convicted Nov. 18 when a jury spent about an hour in deliberations.

During Friday's hearing, Cox told Holman, "The enormity of your actions are hard to put into words. We are the victim of your rage and jealousy."

Holman was dating the child's mother, Cydney Cox, when the boy died. Trial testimony showed Holman killed the boy sometime late Feb. 4 or early Feb. 5, 2017, as the child's mother slept. Defense attorneys tried to portray Cydney Cox as the killer and a parent who ignored her child.

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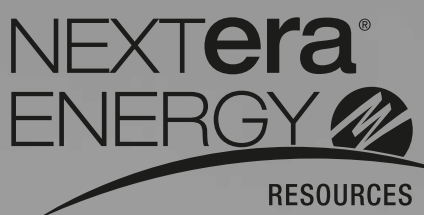
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Open House for Skeleton Creek Wind Energy Center

An affiliate of NextEra Energy Resources is proposing to build a wind energy generation facility in Garfield, Alfalfa and Major Counties. Residents are invited to stop in, meet our team, and discuss the proposed project.

For additional information visit: www.SkeletonCreekProject.com

Thursday, Feb. 25
from 5 – 7 p.m.

Location:
Stride Bank Center
301 S. Independence Ave.
Enid, OK 73701

