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BIG SPRING HERALD

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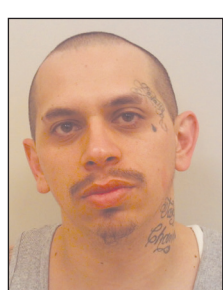
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Police arrest fugitive after shooting

Special to the Herald

A Big Spring man was injured in a confrontation with local law enforcement, and is now in police custody. According to a press release issued by the Big Spring Police Department Friday: "On the 28th of December 2018 at approximately 1:48 p.m., officers with the Big Spring Police Department ob-

served a subject they knew as Peter Candelaria, Hispanic/Male, 31 years of age, driving a 2012 red in color Buick four-door in the area of 4th and Douglas."



Candelaria

The officers recognized Candelaria and knew that he was wanted for firearms smuggling and burglary of a building, so they tried to pull him over. "Candelaria refused to stop, and a pursuit initiated in the

400 block of S. Douglas," the press release continues. "The pursuit continued southbound, and ended in the 400 block of Edwards. Candelaria exited his vehicle and ran northbound in between houses."

Police set up a perimeter and began searching for the suspect.

"Candelaria was ultimately located hiding in a dumpster in the alley of the 400 block of Dallas," says the release. "Once Courtesy photo

See **ARREST**, Page 3A

City announces street and holiday closures

By **ROGER CLINE**
 Staff Writer

The City of Big Spring reports some upcoming closures that will impact local residents.

First, the city will be performing street maintenance and repair Monday on Birdwell Lane from 11th Place to Washington Avenue. The repairs will last from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., or until complete.

The city regrets any inconvenience related to the street repairs and requests patience during the project.

Also, city offices will be closed for the New Year's holiday.

All city offices will close beginning at 3 p.m. on New Year's Eve, Monday, and remain closed on New Year's Day, Tuesday, Janu-

ary 1, 2019. Landfill and Sanitation Departments will also be closed on New Year's Day.

All city of Big Spring offices, landfill, and sanitation will be open on Wednesday, January 2, 2019, at 8 a.m. with normal working hours.

Emergency services (Police, Fire, and EMS) will continue normal operation throughout the holidays. Emergency Utility Services will be on call and can be contacted at 264-2392.

The City of Big Spring wishes you a Happy New Year and reminds everyone, "If you drink, please don't drive."

Contact Staff Writer Roger Cline at 432-263-7331 ext. 235, or by email at reporter@bigspringherald.com.



One more Christmas miracle



Courtesy photo

A few members of the Signal Mountain Quilting and Crafting Guild (SMQCG) stand with everything that was donated to The Life Center through the SMQCG's Christmas tree at the Heritage Museum Christmas Tree Forest. Jeanne Vande Weerd hands a crocheted Afghan with matching booties to Tracy Watson from the Life Center. Also shown left to right are Nancy Avalos, Gerri York, Maggie Brasel and Mary Grummitt.

By **AMBER MANSFIELD**
 Staff Writer

Demonstrating generosity this past Christmas, Signal Mountain Quilting and Crafting Guild (SMQCG) hosted an event to get the community involved in giving back and helping make the holiday season for others a little more merry and bright this past December.

"We decorated a Christmas tree at the museum, and asked the community to help aid us in giving a little this holiday to the newborns and toddlers of Big Spring," said Jeanne Vande Weerd, Leader of the Guild. "There were several who came to put donations under our Christmas tree at the Museum that all will go towards helping The Life Center here in Big Spring."

The Big Spring Life Center is a non-profit, faith-based, alternative-to-abortion organization, promoting sexual integrity for life and also helps moms cloth newborns and toddlers.

"These are some of the pics from Dec. 19, 2019 from the Heritage Museum Tree of Lights," said Vande Weerd. "We have the lap quilts, Afghans, baby hats and clothes and toys we donated to The Life Center in Big Spring."

The SMQCG are a group of quilters and crafters from Big Spring, Texas, and anyone else who cares to contribute is more than welcome, stated Vande Weerd. SMQCG meets at 10 a.m. on the second Friday of every month at Spring Creek Fellowship church inside the Big Spring Plaza for anyone who is interested in joining and is always a potluck, the next meeting is Nov. 23.

For more information about the Quilt Drawing or the donating to the Life Center, please contact Jeanne Vande Weerd Leader at 432-556-6403.

Contact Staff Writer Amber Mansfield at 432-263-7331 ext. 234, or by email at life@bigspringherald.com.

Brave fashion: Relay for Life's second annual Survivor Fashion Show



HERALD file photo

By **AMBER MANSFIELD**
 Staff Writer

"Cancer patients are brave because they are battling life threatening conditions and still managing their life. They are rising above the mundane tasks that most of us are involved in, and that makes them brave."

Amit Mahipal, Medical Oncologist, Moffit Cancer Center.

Home Hospice knows just how courageous cancer survivors are and wants to celebrate them, which is why they're hosting their second annual Relay for Life Fashion Show to honor cancer survivors. The event will also include a brunch, and is scheduled for Saturday,

Laura Liphim walks with her three year old daughter, Audrey, in the first ever Brunch and Fashion Show that took place on April 21, 2018, at the First United Methodist Church in the Garrett Hall.

Home Hospice is hosting their second annual Relay for Life Fashion Show to honor cancer survivors. The event will also include a brunch and is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 16, 2019, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the First Methodist Church, Ryan Hall.

Feb. 16, 2019, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the First Methodist Church, Ryan Hall.

"We are honoring all of the survivors of Howard County and Glasscock County," said Beverly Grant from Home Hospice, and coordinator of the fashion show. "We want to let our survivors know that we appreciate them, and we thought a fashion show would be a great and fun way to do that."

According to Grant, the fashion show will feature different survivors who will get to showcase different clothing from all of the boutiques around town, and strut their stuff along the catwalk.

See **FASHION**, Page 3A

Trump, Democrats play the blame game in 2nd shutdown weekend



By **ZEKE MILLER, JILL COLVIN and LISA MASCARO**
 Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump and Democrats are trading blame for the partial government shutdown but doing little substantive talking with each other as

the border with Mexico to press Congress to cave to his demand for money to pay for a wall. Democrats vowed to pass legislation restoring the government as soon as they take control of the House on Thursday, but that won't accomplish anything unless Trump and the Republican-controlled Senate go along with it.

The effects to the public of the impasse grew as the Environmental Protection Agency, which had the money to function a week longer than some agencies, implemented its shutdown plan at midnight Friday night. EPA spokeswoman Molly Block said many of the agency's 14,000 employees were being furloughed while disaster-response teams and certain other employees deemed essential would stay on the job.

Also running short on money: the Smithsonian Institution, which said its museums and galleries popular with visitors and locals in the capital will close starting midweek if the

See **SHUTDOWN**, Page 3A

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2 million in Times Square for New Year's? Experts say no way



AP photo

In this Dec. 31, 2016 file photo, Andrew Dickens, 21, of Toledo, Ohio, stands with other revelers during the New Year's Eve celebration in New York's Times Square. Year after year, people watching New York City's New Year's Eve celebration are told by city dignitaries and TV personalities that they are watching a million people gathered in Times Square. The AP asks experts whether it is actually possible to fit that many people into the viewing areas.

By MICHAEL R. SISAK

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Ryan Seacrest and Anderson Cooper will be there. Snoop Dogg, too.

But 1 or 2 million people in New York's Times Square for New Year's Eve? As Snoop would say, you must be sippin' on gin and juice.

Crowd-size experts scoff at those mammoth figures — floated annually by city officials and event organizers — saying it's impossible to squeeze that many of even the skinniest revelers into such a relatively small space.

The real Times Square ball drop crowd likely has fewer than 100,000 people, crowd science professor G. Keith Still said.

"Generally, people are overestimating crowd sizes by 10- to 100-fold," said Still, who teaches crowd science at Manchester Metropolitan University in England and trains police departments on techniques to calculate crowd sizes.

The crowd estimates come from the New York

City Police Department, according to the Times Square Alliance, which runs the ball drop.

In recent years, the department estimated that 2 million people had packed into Times Square. Mayor Bill de Blasio used a big number again Friday, saying the city expected "up to 2 million people in Times Square itself," a bow-tie-shaped zone running five blocks between Broadway and 7th Avenue.

New York University professor Charles Seife, a mathematician and journalist who explored statistical manipulation in his book "Proofiness," said the city has an interest in promoting a bigger number because it "helps cement the image of New York City as the center of the universe at a certain date and time."

He suggested fuzzy math and fuzzier geometry were also at play.

"How do you count a participant in the Times Square ball drop?" Seife asked. "Is it everyone you can see the ball, or anyone squeezed into a bar in Manhattan?"

To actually fit 1 million revelers, the city would have to jam more than the equivalent of a sold-out Yankee Stadium on every block of 7th Avenue between Times Square and Central Park — which starts about 15 blocks to the north.

Still and his colleagues perform detailed analyses when calculating precise crowd totals. But even using simple techniques, like measuring Times Square on a map and running a few calculations, it's

clear the numbers don't get anywhere near 1 million.

Times Square would hold about 51,000 people at a density of 3 people per square meter (square yard), Still said, or about 86,000 at 5 people per square meter. It might reach 120,000 if the crowd packed in at 7 people per square meter, but he said that density, involving people squished together front-to-back and shoulder-to-shoulder, is unlikely.

Those numbers don't count people watching from hotel and office building windows or from penned-off areas farther away. They also don't account for space taken up by stages, security apparatus and egress routes, where people would otherwise be able to stand.

New York's crowd estimate has evolved over time. As late as 1998, the police department was estimating that roughly 500,000 people attended. But for the millennium bash at the close of 1999, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani predicted as many as 2 million.

FASHION

Continued from Page 1A

Grant also stated that Merle Norman has wigs and scarfs available for free for any survivors who are dealing with hair loss from treatment.

"We pick a survivor and send them to a boutique or clothing store here in town. The store personnel will help them pick out what they will get to wear during the fashion show," said Grant. "If you know any survivors, or if you are a survivor, please come be a part of our Fashion Show and celebrate life!"

During the brunch, Home Hospice will serve drinks and finger foods for attendees to enjoy along with the show.

The whole event will last for about two hours long, and there are limited tickets for this event, so don't delay.

"We only have a limited amount of tickets, which will

buy you brunch and a seat for the Fashion Show," said Grant. "All of the proceeds made from this event will go back to Howard and Glasscock County's Relay for Life." If you want to purchase tickets for this event, please call Debbye ValVerde at the Chamber of Commerce at 432-263-7641. You can also get tickets from Home Hospice.

If you're a survivor or know a survivor who would want to be a part of the Fashion Show, please call Home Hospice at 432-264-7599.

"Here at Home Hospice and Relay For Life, we think that you become a survivor from the very first moment you are diagnosed with cancer," said Grant. "This show is for them and to honor them for their courageous acts, for being mentors to others, and to show how much we appreciate them. Come show your appreciation and support too by attending the Brunch and Fashion Show."

ARREST

Continued from Page 1A

the Howard County Sheriff's Office returned fire, striking Candelaria in the hand.

Despite the injury, Candelaria continued to hide in the dumpster, according to the report.

"Candelaria refused

to exit the dumpster or comply with orders," the report says. "Nearby houses were evacuated and a negotiator with the Howard County Sheriff's Office was notified to respond."

The negotiator was eventually able to talk Candelaria out of his hiding place.

"After approximately two hours of negotiating, Candelaria exited

the dumpster and was taken into custody," the report says. "Candelaria was immediately transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center for treatment and later transported by ambulance to a Midland hospital for further treatment."

While at the hospital, Candelaria will remain under constant guard by BSPD and HCSO of-

icers and deputies, and will be taken to the Howard County Jail upon his release from the hospital.

"Candelaria is charged with the two warrants; and, in addition, six counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon on a peace officer, all Felony 1 offenses; evading in a vehicle, a State Jail Felony; and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, 3rd-Degree Felony," according to the release. "Due to the officer-involved shooting, the investigation is being turned over to the Texas Rangers. This is an ongoing

investigation and there is no further information available at this time."

Contact the Big Spring Police Department at 432-264-2550 if you have information regarding this incident.

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Nease Crosby, 59, died Wednesday. A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, 2018, at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Lamesa.

Deborah Allen, 60, died Monday. Memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Myers & Smith Chapel.

SHUTDOWN

Continued from Page 1A

partial shutdown drags on. But federal flood insurance policies will continue to be issued and renewed, in a reversal prompted by pressure from lawmakers, said Republican Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida.

Trump appeared no closer to securing money for his signature border wall, which he vowed during the campaign that he would make Mexico pay for. He's failed to do so. Now Democratic leaders are adamant that they will not authorize money for the project, calling it wasteful and ineffective. They show no signs of bending, either.

"We are far apart," White House press secretary Sarah Sanders told CBS on Friday.

Trump tweeted: "We will be forced to close the Southern Border entirely if the Obstructionist Democrats do not give us the money to finish the Wall & also change the ridiculous immigration laws that our Country is saddled with." He also threatened to cut off U.S. aid to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, among countries he deems have not done enough to combat illegal immigration.

He's made similar threats in the past without following through, and it is Congress, not the president, that appropriates aid money.

The shutdown is forcing hundreds of thousands of federal workers and contractors to stay home or work without pay.

Trump's incoming chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, said Democrats are no longer negotiating with the administration over an earlier offer by the White House to accept less than the \$5 billion Trump wants for the wall.

Democrats said the White House offered to accept \$2.5 billion for border security, but that Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer told Vice President Mike Pence that it wasn't acceptable. It was also not guaranteed that Trump would settle for that amount.

"There's not a single Democrat talking to the president of the United States about this deal," Mulvaney said Friday

Speaking on Fox News and later to reporters, he tried to drive a wedge between Democrats, pinning the blame on House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi.

Mulvaney said Schumer was "really interested in doing a deal and coming to some sort of compromise" but he understood that Pelosi was at risk of losing the speakership of the House if she went along. "So we're in this for the long haul," he said.

In fact, Pelosi has all but locked up the support she needs to win the speaker's gavel Thursday and there has been no sign that she and Schumer are in conflict.

"For the White House to try and blame anyone but the president for this shutdown doesn't pass the laugh test," said Justin Goodman, a spokesman for Schumer.

Pelosi has vowed to pass legislation to reopen the nine shuttered departments and dozens of agencies now hit by the partial shutdown as soon as she takes the gavel, which is expected when the new Congress convenes. But that alone won't solve the shutdown, absent Senate approval and Trump's signature.

Pelosi spokesman Drew Hammill added that Democrats united against the wall and won't seriously consider any White House offer unless Trump backs it publicly because he "has changed his position so many times."

Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador reacted cautiously to Trump's threat to close the border, calling it an "internal affair of the U.S. government."

"We are always seeking a good relationship with the United States. We do not want to be rash," he said.

As for EPA, workers needed for preventing immediate public health threats at more than 800 Superfund hazardous-waste sites will remain on the job as well as emergency response workers for disasters.

Check it out at the Howard County Library

We hope you all enjoyed the holidays. This week, the library will be open Monday, December 31st but will be closed on January 1st for New Year's celebration. We will re-open Wednesday, January 2nd. Also, Babytime and Storytime will not be meeting this week. We wish everyone a wonderful 2019.

This week's reviews include, biography, fiction, mystery and western.

Written with raw honesty, **"In Pieces"** (B FIE S) by Sally Field is an important and unforgettable account of life as a woman in the second half of the twentieth century. From Gidget's sweet-faced girl next door to the dazzling complexity of Sybil to the Academy Award-worthy ferocity and depth of Norma Rae and Mary Todd Lincoln, Sally Field has amazed audiences time and time again with her artistic range and emotional acuity.

Yet, over the course of her five decades in Hollywood, there has been one character who has always remained hidden: the shy and anxious little girl within. In this intimate, haunting memoir, an American icon tells her story for the first time, opening about a challenging and lonely childhood, the craft that helped her find her voice, and a powerful emotional legacy that shaped her journey as a daughter and a mother.

When Russian president Maxim Krupin discovers that he has inoperable brain cancer, he's determined to cling to power. In **"Red War"** (F FLY V) by Vince Flynn, Krupin's first task is to kill or imprison any of his countrymen who pose a threat. Soon, though, his illness becomes serious enough to require a more dramatic diversion-war with the west.

Upon learning of Krupin's condition, CIA director Irene Kennedy

understands that the United States is facing an opponent who has nothing to lose. The only way to avoid a confrontation that could leave millions dead is to send Mitch Rapp to Russia under impossibly dangerous orders. With the Kremlin's entire security apparatus hunting him, Rapp must find and kill a man whom many have deemed the most powerful man in the world.

An epic Robert Galbraith novel yet, **"Lethal White"** (M GAL R) is both a gripping mystery and a page-turning instalment in the ongoing story of Cormoran Strike and Robin Ellacott. When Billy, a troubled young man, comes to private eye Cormoran Strike's office to ask for his help investigating a crime he thinks he witnessed as a child, Strike is left deeply unsettled.

While Billy is obviously mentally distressed, and cannot remember many concrete details, there is something sincere about him and his story.

But before Strike can question him further, Billy bolts from his office in a panic. Trying to get to the bottom of Billy's story, Strike and Robin Ellacott-once his assistant, now a partner in the agency-set off on a twisting trail that leads them through the backstreets of London, into a secretive inner sanctum within Parliament, and to a beautiful but sinister manor house deep in the countryside. During this labyrinthine investigation, Strike's own life is far from straightforward: his newfound fame as a private eye means he can no lon-

ger operate behind the scenes as he once did. Plus, his relationship with his former assistant is more fraught than it ever has been-Robin is now invaluable to Strike in the business, but their personal relationship is much, much trickier than that.

"Where the Crowdads Sing" (M OWE D) by Delia Owens is at once

an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heart-breaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and in-

telligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand.

Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life-until the unthinkable happens. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps.

"The Story of Buckhorn, A Western Duo" (LP W PAI L) by Luran Paine, are two western stories in one book. In "The Valley of Thunder," range men have been bursting into

Dunningan, Wyoming, scattering pedestrians, spoiling for trouble even when they have not been drinking and more when they have. Marshal Hugh Mitchell's job is to put an end to this chaos. The problem is not simply the rowdy range men, but also the owners of the ranches. They are not about to have their power questioned or challenged by law enforcement and are unwilling to have any restraint whatsoever imposed on their men by anyone.

"The Story of Buckhorn" is not the story of a man, but of a ranch. The Buckhorn is owned by two brothers, opposites in all things. Gard Ashley is steely in his determination to keep the Buckhorn the best cattle ranch in the Dakota Territory. Court Ashley, Gard's truculent brother, sees his wealth as an excuse to bully and misbehave. Elisa Benton, a dance-hall singer, is loved by Court and intensely disliked by Gard. When Court is robbed and murdered, Gard is bent on personal vengeance, while Elisa seems to be protecting the criminals from his wrath.

Anthony Trollope said **"What on earth could be more luxurious than a sofa, a book, and a cup of coffee?"** Treat yourself to a good book, come by the library and pick up one of these titles or browse for other titles.

The Howard County Library's hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 am to 6 pm; the internet/video room closes at 5:30. Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 7 pm; the internet/video room closes at 6:30. You may reach us at (432) 264-2260 and our fax number is (432)264-2263. Our website is <http://howard-county.ploud.net>. Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HowardCoLibrary.



Sandra Verdin

PBUWCD personnel to begin annual water level measurements in Howard and Martin counties

Special to the Herald

STANTON - Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District (PBUWCD) personnel have begun their annual depth-to-water level measurements. The data collected helps determine the effect of the 2018 pumping on groundwater levels in the aquifers within the district.

After the measurement is made, a blue vinyl sticker with the observation well number, the

depth-to-water level measurement, and the date of the measurement is affixed to the well equipment or other appropriate surface near the well site.

PBUWCD personnel measure the same wells in the observation well network each year, as long as the individual wells are accessible and provide satisfactory data. The current depth-to-water measurements in individual wells are compared to that of the previous years to determine the annual change in water levels of the aquifers within the

district.

The staff of the PBUWCD appreciates the cooperation of the landowners as we continue to provide this service for the residents of Howard and Martin counties. Additional information about the observation well and water level measurement programs is available by contacting the Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District at (432) 756-2136 or by visiting our website at www.pbuwcd.com.

Texas shelters grapple with more migrants released by US

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A shelter director in the Texas border city of El Paso says his agency has served 1,300 people in the last five days after they were released by U.S. immigration authorities.

Ruben Garcia of Annunciation House said Thursday that nonprofit groups have had to expand their services because

more people are crossing the border and the government doesn't have the space to hold them.

Garcia estimates his organization spends \$150,000 a month renting rooms because there isn't enough shelter space. More than 500 people arrived on Wednesday.

Sister Norma Pimentel of Cath-

olic Charities in Texas' Rio Grande Valley says her respite center is also serving more people than usual.

The Department of Homeland Security has come under harsh scrutiny after the second death of a migrant child in U.S. custody in three weeks.

A DHS spokeswoman says the U.S. is in "an immigration crisis."

Texas governor visits Toyota CEO while on vacation in Japan

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas Gov. Greg Abbott is in Japan on what his office says is a family vacation but also taking some official meetings.

Abbott spokesman John Wittman said Thursday the governor met the day after Christmas with Toyota Motor Corp. CEO Akio Toyoda. The automaker relocated its North American headquarters to Dallas last year.

Abbott has also met with

U.S. Ambassador to Japan Bill Hagerty.

Wittman says the governor is paying for the trip and will return next week.

Earlier this year, Abbott took a nine-day trip to India that he said was aimed at bringing more jobs and businesses to Texas. That trip was paid for by the Texas Economic Development Corporation, which uses corporate donations to promote business in the state.

Nation's oldest World War II vet dies in Texas at age 112

By PAUL J. WEBER

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Richard Overton, the nation's oldest World War II veteran who was also believed to be the oldest living man in the U.S., died Thursday in Texas, a family member said. He was 112.

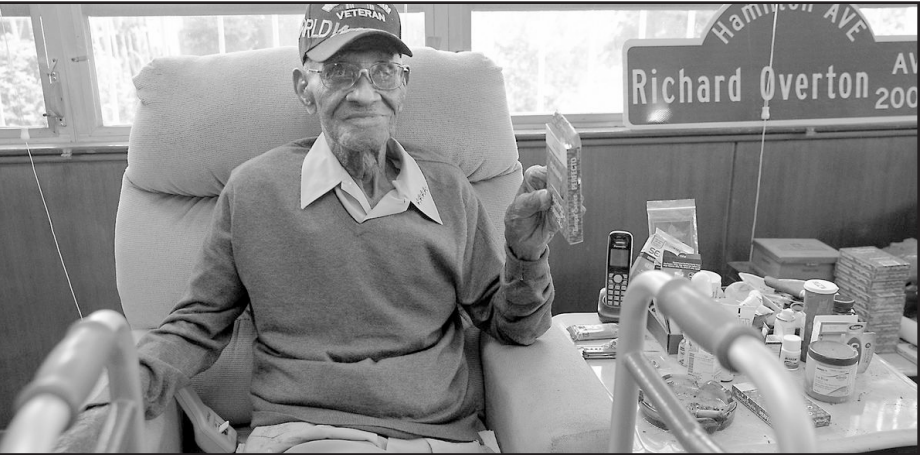
The Army veteran had been hospitalized with pneumonia but was released on Christmas Eve, said Shirley Overton, whose husband was Richard's cousin and his longtime caretaker.

"They had done all they could," she said.

He died Thursday evening at a rehab facility in Austin, Texas, she said.

Richard Overton was in his 30s when he volunteered for the Army and was at Pearl Harbor just after the Japanese attack in 1941. He once said that one secret to his long life was smoking cigars and drinking whiskey, which he often was found doing on the porch of his Austin home.

His recent birthdays drew national attention and strang-



AP photo

In this May 10, 2018 photo Richard Overton, the oldest living U.S. Veteran at the age of 111, is back in the east Austin home he has owned since 1948 after a renovation provided by Meals on Wheels of Central Texas and the Home Depot Foundation.

ers would stop by his house to meet him. Even well into his 100s, he would drive widows in his neighborhood to church.

"With his quick wit and kind spirit he touched the lives of so many, and I am deeply honored to have known him," Texas Gov. Greg Abbott said in a statement Thursday, calling Overton "an American icon and Texas legend."

"Richard Overton made us proud to be Texans and proud to be Americans," the governor added. "We can never repay Richard Overton for his service to our nation and for

his lasting impact on the Lone Star State."

Overton was born in 1906 near Austin and served in the all-black 1887th Engineer Aviation Battalion.

In 2013, former President Barack Obama honored Overton at a Veterans Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

"He was there at Pearl Harbor, when the battleships were still smoldering," Obama said of Overton. "He was there at Okinawa. He was there at Iwo Jima, where he said, 'I only got out of there by the grace of God.'"

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EPA targets Obama crackdown on mercury from coal plants

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration on Friday targeted an Obama-era regulation credited with helping dramatically reduce toxic mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants, saying the benefits to human health and the environment may not be worth the cost of the regulation.

The 2011 Obama administration rule, called the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards, led to what electric utilities say was an \$18 billion clean-up of mercury and other toxins from the smokestacks of coal-fired power plants.

Overall, environmental groups say, federal and state efforts have cut mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants by 85 percent in roughly the last decade.

Mercury causes brain damage, learning disabilities and other birth defects in children, among other harm. Coal power plants in this country are the largest single manmade source of mercury pollutants, which enters the food chain through fish and other items that people consume.

A proposal Friday from the Environmental Protection Agency would leave current emissions standards in place. However, it challenges the basis for the Obama regulation, calculating that the crackdown on mercury



AP photo

In this July 27, 2018, file photo, the Dave Johnson coal-fired power plant is silhouetted against the morning sun in Glenrock, Wyo

and other toxins from coal plants produced only a few million dollars a year in measurable health benefits and was not "appropriate and necessary" — a legal benchmark under the country's landmark Clean Air Act.

The proposal, which now goes up for public comment, is the latest Trump administration move that changes estimates of the costs and payoffs of regulations in arguing for relaxing Obama-era environmental protections.

It's also the administration's latest proposed move on behalf of the U.S. coal industry, which has been struggling in the face of competition from natural gas and

other cheaper, cleaner forms of energy. The Trump administration in August proposed an overhaul for another Obama-era regulation that would have prodded electricity providers to get less of their energy from dirtier-burning coal plants.

In a statement, the EPA said Friday the administration was "providing regulatory certainty" by more accurately estimating the costs and benefits of the Obama administration crackdown on mercury and other toxic emissions from smokestacks.

Hal Quinn, head of the

See EPA, Page 7A

Shutdown could block federal aid to farmers hit by trade war

By JULIET

LINDERMAN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

— The end of 2018 seemed to signal good things to come for America's farmers. Fresh off the passage of the farm bill, which reauthorized agriculture, conservation and safety net programs, the USDA last week announced a second round of direct payments to growers hardest hit by President Donald Trump's trade war with China.

Then the government shut down.

The USDA in a statement issued last week assured farmers that checks would continue to go out during the first week of the shutdown. But direct payments for farmers who haven't certified production, as well as farm loans and disaster assistance programs, will be put on hold beginning next week, and won't start up again until the government reopens.

There is little chance of the government

shutdown ending soon.

Trump and Congress are no closer to reaching a deal over his demand for border wall funding, and both sides say the impasse could drag well into January.

Although certain vital USDA programs will remain operational in the short term, that could change if the shutdown lasts for more than a few weeks.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or food stamps, helps feed roughly 40 million Americans. According to the USDA, eligible recipients are guaranteed benefits through January. Other feeding programs, including WIC, which provides food aid and nutrition counseling for pregnant women, new mothers and children, and food distribution programs on Indian reservations, will continue on a local level, but additional federal funding won't be provided. School lunch programs

See BLOCK, Page 7A

More US police officers die on duty than before



AP photo

In this Oct. 8, 2018, file photo, mourners and police officers from around the country attend a memorial service before the funeral for fallen Florence police officer Sgt. Terrence Carraway at the Florence Center in Florence, S.C.

By ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More police officers have died in the line of duty this year in the United States than in 2017, according to data released Thursday. The most common cause of death was gunfire, and vehicular accidents claimed nearly as many officers' lives.

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund said in a report that 144 federal, state and local officers have died so far in 2018. That figure represents roughly a 12 percent increase from the 129 who died in 2017.

The majority of the officers who died were either shot — 52 this year, up from 46 in 2017 — or fatally injured in car or motorcycle crashes, which accounted for 50 deaths. Other fatalities involved heart attacks, strokes, drownings and cancer and other illnesses among those who responded to the 9/11 World Trade Center attack.

Of the officers who were shot, eight were killed during investigative activity and six were killed while responding to calls of a domestic or public disturbance, according to the report. Two were fatally shot while serving warrants, two died while handling or transporting prisoners and two others were inadvertently shot by other offi-

cers.

Craig Floyd, the fund's chief executive officer, called the increase in deaths disappointing after a decline in 2017.

"Sadly this reminds us that public safety is a dangerous job and can come at a very steep price," Floyd said in a statement accompanying the report. "We must never take the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers for granted, and we must remember the families of the fallen who are left behind."

Of the officers who died in traffic-related incidents, 32 were killed in crashes involving another vehicle and 14 were struck while outside their vehicle. An additional four were killed in motorcycle crashes.

The officers who died in 2018 include a sheriff's deputy in Sacramento County, California, killed in a shootout at an auto parts store; a Greensboro, North Carolina, police officer killed in a car crash while responding to a call for a robbery; and a Greene County, Missouri, sheriff's deputy who drowned when his car was swept away by rising water.

The states that experienced the highest number of officer fatalities were Texas, California, Florida and New York, with 11 fatalities each.

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Latino support for GOP steady despite Trump immigration talk

By **NICHOLAS RICCARDI**

Associated Press
LITTLETON, Colo. — Pedro Gonzalez has faith in Donald Trump and his party.

The 55-year-old Colombian immigrant is a pastor at an evangelical church in suburban Denver. Initially repelled by Trump in 2016, he's been heartened by the president's steps to protect religious groups and appoint judges who oppose abortion rights. More important, Gonzalez sees Trump's presidency as part of a divine plan.

"It doesn't matter what I think," Gonzalez said of the president. "He was put there."

Though Latino voters are a key part of the Democratic coalition, there is a larger bloc of reliable Republican Latinos than many think. And the GOP's position among Latinos has not weakened during the Trump administration, despite the president's rhetoric against immigrants and the party's shift to the right on immigration.

In November's elections, 32 percent of Latinos voted for Republicans, according to AP VoteCast data. The survey of more than 115,000 midterm voters — including 7,738 Latino voters — was conducted for The Associated Press by NORC at the University of Chicago.

EPA

Continued from Page 6A

National Mining Association, charged in a statement Friday that the Obama administration had carried out "perhaps the largest regulatory accounting fraud perpetrated on American consumers" when it calculated that the broad health benefits to Americans would outweigh the cost of equipment upgrades by power providers.

Sen. Tom Carper of Delaware, the top Democrat on the Senate's Environment and Public Works Committee, condemned the Trump administration's move.

The EPA has "decided to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory" after the successful clean-up of toxins from the country's coal-plant smokestacks, Carper said.

He and other opponents of the move said the Trump administration was playing with numbers, ignoring what Carper said were clear health, environmental and economic benefits to come up with a bottom line that suited the administration's deregulatory aims.

Janet McCabe, a former air-quality official in the Obama administration's EPA, called the proposal part of "the quiet dismantling of the regulatory framework" for the federal government's environmental protections.

Coming one week into a government shutdown, and in the lull between Christmas and New Year, "this low-key announcement shouldn't fool anyone — it is a big deal, with significant implications," McCabe said.



AP photo

In this May 25, 2016, file photo, a man holds up a sign for then-Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump before the start of a rally at the Anaheim Convention Center, Wednesday, May 25, 2016, in Anaheim, Calif. Republicans are holding onto a steady share of the Latino vote in the Trump era.

Other surveys also found roughly one-third of Latinos supporting the GOP. Data from the Pew Research Center and from exit polls suggests that a comparable share of about 3 in 10 Latino voters supported Trump in 2016. That tracks the share of Latinos supporting Republicans for the last decade.

The stability of Republicans' share of the Latino vote frustrates Democrats, who say actions like Trump's family separation policy and his demonization of an immigrant caravan should drive Latinos out of the GOP.

"The question is not are Democrats winning the Hispanic vote — it's why aren't Democrats winning the Hispanic vote 80-20 or 90-10 the way black voters are?" said Fernand Amandi, a Miami-based Democratic pollster. He argues Democrats must invest more in winning Latino voters.

The VoteCast data shows that, like white voters, Latinos are

split by gender — 61 percent of men voted Democratic in November, while 69 percent of women did. And while Republican-leaning Latinos can be found everywhere in the country, two groups stand out as especially likely to back the GOP — evangelicals and veterans.

Evangelicals comprised about one-quarter of Latino voters, and veterans were 13 percent. Both groups were about evenly split between the two parties. Mike Madrid, a Republican strategist in California, said those groups have reliably provided the GOP with many Latino votes for years.

"They stick and they do not go away," Madrid said. Much as with Trump's own core white voters, attacks on the president and other Republicans for being anti-immigrant "just make them dig in even more," he added.

Sacramento-based Rev. Sam Rodriguez,

See **GOP**, Page 8A

BLOCK

Continued from Page 6A

will continue through February.

USDA has earmarked about \$9.5 billion in direct payments for growers of soybeans, corn, wheat, sorghum and other commodities most affected by tariffs. The first round of payments went out in September. The deadline to sign up for the second round of payments is January 15.

The impact of the shutdown, which began shortly before most federal workers were scheduled for a holiday break, started coming into focus by midweek.

About 420,000 employees are working without pay, while another 380,000 are being forced to stay home. In the

past, federal employees have been paid retroactively. But government contractors won't get paid for hours they'll lose staying home, causing problems for those who rely on hourly wages.

In anticipation of the financial bind many federal workers and contractors may soon find themselves in, the Office of Personnel Management offered some advice: haggle with landlords, creditors and mortgage companies for lower payments until the shutdown is over.

The shutdown also is affecting national parks, although unevenly: Some remain accessible with bare-bones staffing levels, some are operating with money from states or charitable groups, while others are locked off.

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Officials: California officer killed by man in US illegally

By **OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ**

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The police chief of a tiny California town fought back tears as he described an officer gunned down during a traffic stop as a patriot who fought to serve his adopted country and the man who killed him as a "coward" who crossed the border illegally.

The manhunt for the suspect stretched into a third day Friday, and while law enforcement agencies statewide were on alert, he's believed to still be in the area southeast of San Francisco. His name hasn't been released, and he's considered armed and dangerous.

Cpl. Ronal Singh, who came to the U.S. from his native Fiji, was shot early Wednesday after stopping the man he suspected of driving drunk in Newman.

There was a gunfight as Singh "absolutely tried to defend himself" but he apparently didn't hit the suspect, said Stanislaus County Sheriff Adam Christianson, whose agency is leading the investigation and is holding a news conference Friday.

"He came to America with one purpose, and that was to serve this country," said Newman Police Chief Randy Richardson, choking up. He called the 33-year-old with a newborn son an "American patriot."

Investigators on Thursday searched a farmhouse in the town of El Nido but didn't find the suspect, authorities said.

"This suspect is in our country illegally. He doesn't belong here. He is a criminal," the sheriff told reporters.

The shooting comes amid a political fight over immigration, with President Donald Trump and congressional Democrats at odds over funding for a border wall that has forced a partial government shutdown.

Trump tweeted about Singh's killing Thursday, saying it was "time to get tough on Border Security. Build the Wall!"

Newman's police chief said his 12



AP photo

This undated photo provided by the Newman Police Department shows officer Ronil Singh of Newman Police Department who was killed by an unidentified suspect.

sworn officers were grieving Singh, who was the department's first officer to die in the line of duty.

Singh drove more than two hours each way to attend the police academy in Yuba City, Richardson said. He joined the Merced County sheriff's office as a reserve officer and worked as an animal control officer in Turlock before being hired by the Newman force in 2011.

English was Singh's third language and he had a thick accent but took speech classes to improve his communication, the chief said.

Singh is survived by his wife, Anamika, and their 5-month-old son.

"Please help us find this coward," Richardson said of Singh's killer. "We need closure, his family needs closure."

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NYC utility probes electric flash that lit sky in eerie blue

By JENNIFER PELTZ

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Electric utility Con Edison was working Friday to figure out what caused a high-voltage equipment failure that unleashed an otherworldly flash of bright blue light in the night sky over New York City.

The event Thursday caused power outages, briefly grounded flights at LaGuardia airport and filled social media feeds with eerie photos, questions and jokes, to the point that even the New York Police Department tweeted there was "no evidence of extraterrestrial activity."

While Con Ed initially described a "brief electrical fire" at a power substation in the Astoria section of Queens, spokesman Bob McGee said Friday that what happened was an electrical flash after a malfunction involving 20-foot-high (6-meter-high) equipment with cables carrying 138,000 volts. By comparison, a standard U.S. household gets 120-volt service.

"It was like a lightning bolt, essentially," said McGee.

Substations transform electricity that comes in from power plants at high voltage down to lower voltage levels, and send it on for use.

Thursday's malfunction involved voltage-monitoring equipment, Con Ed said in a release.

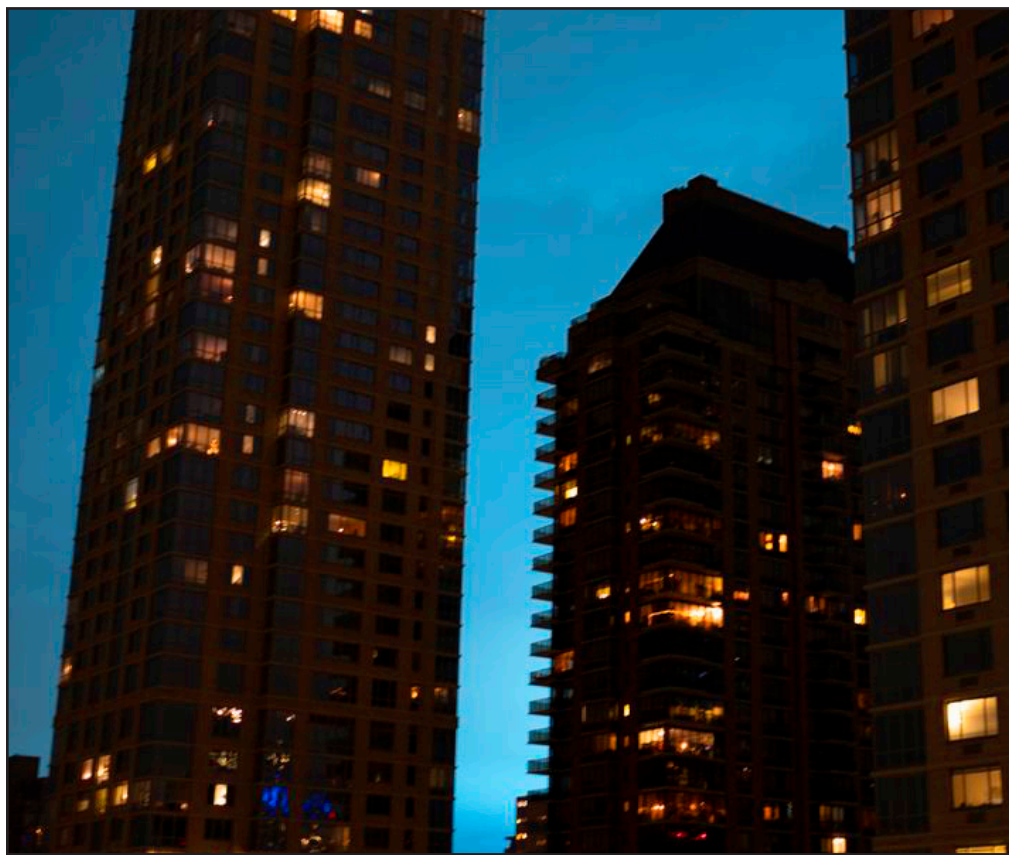
Normally, a circuit-breaker-like device intervenes and quickly cuts off power to the affected equipment if there's an electrical fault, but that apparently didn't happen Thursday, McGee said. Instead, the electricity kept cycling through, causing the flash.

Across much of the nation's most populous city, people looked up around 9:12 p.m. to see a pulsing orb of blue light that lasted a minute or more in the sky over Queens, casting the skyline into a strange silhouette.

"It was pitch black outside, and then suddenly the whole side of the eastern sky was lighting up and changing colors," said Madeleine Frank Reeves, who saw the lights from her Upper West Side apartment.

As for why the cyan sky: When electric charges move through air, the air gets superheated and glows blue, explains Eric O'Dea, of Boston's Museum of Science, which is known for generating indoor lightning bolts in its Theater of Electricity. He said its sparks are similar to the arcs over Queens, but they lasted considerably longer, painting the sky.

Onlookers invoked supernatural and sci-fi



Viewed from the Upper West Side of Manhattan, the night sky is alight as a Con Edison facility in the Queens borough of New York experiences a transformer explosion, Thursday, Dec. 27, 2018, in New York.

This photo shows blue light over New York, as seen from Manhattan Brough of New York on Thursday, Dec. 27, 2018. New York police said a transformer exploded at a Con Edison facility in Queens on Thursday, causing some power outages.

screen classics — "Ghostbusters," "Independence Day," "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and more. There were, of course, hashtags — including #alieninvasion — and a tongue-in-cheek take on a real scientific phenomenon: the "Astoria Borealis."

Witnesses' video showed plumes of smoke pouring from a piece of equipment at the substation, and nearby residents reported hearing banging or roaring sounds. Those likely were caused by the electrical arc going to the ground, McGee said.

The arc subsided on its own, he said. No one was seriously injured, though an employee at the substation reported eye irritation, Con Ed said.

Meanwhile, power flickered or went out at least briefly around northern Queens. Lights flickered in parts of the massive Rikers Island jail complex before backup generators kicked in, according to the city Correction Department.

Although LaGuardia also has backup power, outages closed parts of the airport for a time. Some subway service was disrupted for about a half-hour, according to Con Ed.

McGee didn't immediately have information on whether there had been any recent problems with or repairs to the equipment that failed.

The utility will examine instrument readings to try to pinpoint the cause of the malfunction, he said.

Thursday wasn't the first time a substation power problem has illuminated the city's skies with a strange glow. Superstorm Sandy flooded a Con Ed substation in 2012, a producing a great, greenish flash and plunging a swath of Manhattan into darkness.



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GOP

Continued from Page 7A

one of Trump's spiritual advisers, said evangelical Latinos have a clear reason to vote Republican. "Why do 30 percent of Latinos still support Trump? Because of the Democratic Party's obsession with abortion," Rodriguez said. "It's life and religious liberty and everything else follows."

Some conservative Latinos say their political leanings make them

feel more like a minority than their ethnicity does. Irina Vilariño, 43, a Miami restaurateur and Cuban immigrant, said she had presidential bumper stickers for Sen. John McCain, Mitt Romney and Trump scratched off her car. She said she never suffered from discrimination growing up in a predominantly white south Florida community, "but I remember during the McCain campaign being discriminated against because I supported him."

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Forsan finds their footing in third game of Rankin tournament

By JORDAN PARR
Sports Editor

RANKIN - After dropping their first two games of the Rankin tournament to Midland Trinity 74-55 and McCamey 54-43 the Buffs found their range in their third game against Wink. Forsan beat Wink 69-54 behind a 38 point offensive explosion from their star guard Kobe Richardson Friday. Richardson who scored 32 points in the opening game against Midland Trinity and scored another 17 points against McCamey, really took over against the Wildcats hitting 9 threes in the game and grabbing 11 rebounds to lead his team with an impressive double-double and show his two way capabilities as a

guard. The Buffs have struggled early on this year to string together wins but have shown

the potential to be a great pressure defense and shooting offense. Forsan has the ability to really make a push in district play but that will depend on their ability to play their best defense. When the Buffs can play their pressure defense and stay out of foul trouble they are able to use their athleticism and discipline to make up for their lack of size. Look for Coach Richardson to really drive that point home as his team moves forward into district play. As Coach Richardson says "the man who thinks he can and the man who thinks he can't are both right".



Courtesy photo

Buff's guard Kobe Richardson scores early in the season against Crane. Richardson has been a scoring machine for Forsan this year and has also led the team in rebounding showing his two-way capabilities as a

Bulldogs head to championship game Saturday night



Courtesy photo/Lyndel Moody

Bryson Cline, No. 14, shoots for the basket during the Coahoma Bulldogs/Ballinger Bearcats game held Friday, Dec. 28, 2018, in Big Lake. This was the second of two games the Bulldogs competed in during the first day of the Mary Tatum Holiday Classic.

Special to the Herald

BIG LAKE — After a successful day in Reagan County, the Coahoma Bulldogs will head to the Mary Tatum Holiday Classic basketball tournament championship set for 7:30 p.m. Saturday after back-to-back wins this past Friday

Game 2
Bryson Cline had a game high of 16 points and Gage Clark-Burdell added 14 more to help lead the Bulldogs to 56-45 win over the Ballinger Wildcats.

Coahoma ended the first quarter with an 8-point advantage after a hard fought game between the two teams. Joe Manning jump started the Bulldog offense by nailing two baskets back-to-back to put the first points on the board for the game. Clark-Burdell, Zack Schneider, Gage Hill, and Cline all contributed to the Bulldogs in the first.

By the half, Coahoma continued to hold onto the lead 31-24 but Ballinger came back in the third cutting the deficit by just 2 points at the end of the quarter. The Bearcats managed to knot the score 36-36 to start the last quarter of play but the Bulldogs pulled out the win with a strong surge in the last three minutes of the game.

COAHOMA 56 BALLINGER 45
COAHOMA: 20, 11, 5, 20 — 56
Ballinger: 12, 12, 10, 11 — 45
Coahoma — Joe Manning 11, Zack Schneider 7, Gage Hill 8, Bryson Cline 16, Gage Clark-Burdell 14.

Ballinger — Keynan Gonzales 14, Marcus Toliver 3, Jonathan Delgado 12, Cole Zentner 10, Kenjrik Manley

Bulldogettes split first day of Reagan Co. tourney



Courtesy photo/Lyndel Moody

Caitlyn Corley, No. 11, gets off a jump shot while being heavily guarded by a couple of Fort Stockton game held Friday, Dec. 28, 2018. This was the second game of the day for the Bulldogettes who are participating in the Mary Tatum Holiday Classic Basketball tournament held in Big Lake

Special to the Herald

BIG LAKE — The Coahoma Bulldogettes split their first two games of the Mary Tatum Holiday Classic basketball tournament Friday.

Game 2
The Bulldogettes lost to the Fort Stockton Lady Prowlers 45-62 in the second game of the day.

After falling behind by 20 points at the end of the first quarter, Coahoma

made a major comeback in the second narrowing the score to a 9-point deficit by the half. Caitlyn Corley and Abbie Lopez led the Bulldogettes to a 16-point drive while Coahoma kept the Lady Prowlers to 5.

Corley and Lopez scored 5 points each. Kenzi Canales added 4 more and Paige Atkins hit the goal for 2 to help Coahoma claw back from the huge hole left after the first quarter.

The Lady Prowlers regrouped for the second half to hold on to the win.

Corley had a game high of 13 points for the Bulldogettes followed closely by Lopez with 12. Corley also nailed two 3-point goals while Macee Grant added one from behind the arc.

COAHOMA 45, FORT STOCKTON 62

Coahoma: 7, 16, 6, 16 — 45
Fort Stockton: 27, 5, 19, 12 — 62
Coahoma — Macee Grant 4, Caitlyn Corley 13, Paige Atkins 4, Jovi Gonzales 2, Kenzi Canales 10, Abbie Lopez 12.

Free Throws — Coahoma 12-22, Fort Stockton 9-22; Three-Point Goals — Coahoma 3 (Corley 2, Grant), Fort Stockton 5 (B. Rodriguez 4, K. Salmon 1); Total Team Fouls — Coahoma 16, Fort Stockton 15.

Game 1
The Coahoma Bulldogettes handily won against the Marfa Lady Shorthorns 44-12 in their opening game of the tournament.

By halftime, the Bulldogettes had built a substantial lead of 23-4 over the Lady Shorthorns. Overall the Coahoma girls squad was dominate at the net while keeping Marfa to single digits on the scoreboard throughout four quarters of play.

Corley had a game high of 13 points for the Bulldogettes followed by Lopez with 10.

Next: The Bulldogettes will finish the tournament on Saturday.

COAHOMA 44, MARFA 12
Coahoma: 8, 15, 11, 10 — 44
Marfa: 4, 1, 4, 3 — 12
Coahoma — Macee Grant 9, Caitlyn Corley 13, Paige Atkins 4, Jovi Gonzales 2, Kenzi Canales 6, Abbie Lopez 10.

Marfa — Citalali Sanchez 2, Kaci Florez 2, Brianna Sanchez 2, Kendra Serrano 3, Alexia Marquez 3.

Free Throws — Coahoma 7-12; Marfa 4-12; Three-Point Goals — Coahoma 1 (Grant); Total Team Fouls — Coahoma 13; Marfa 11.

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No. 11 Texas Tech eases past Texas Rio Grande Valley, 71-46

Associated Press

LUBBOCK, Texas — Some rust was inevitable for 11th-ranked Texas Tech after eight days off, and the Red Raiders looked sluggish for a half against Texas-Rio Grande Valley.

Then Texas Tech flipped the script in the second half with defense, something it's done plenty this season.

Jarrett Culver scored 19 points, first-time starter Deshawn Coprew added 13 points and 10 rebounds and the Raiders pulled away from Texas-Rio Grande Valley for a 71-46 victory Friday night in their final tuneup before Big 12 Conference play.

Culver and the Red Raiders defended to their standards in the second half, turning a close game into a rout with 12 minutes to go as Texas Tech bounced back from its first loss of the season, 69-58 to top-ranked Duke in New York on Dec. 20.

The Red Raiders (11-1) open the Big 12 season Wednesday at West Virginia.

Terry Winn led the Vaqueros (8-7) with 17 points.

Texas Tech led 38-31 at halftime but didn't play the same level of defense that has been its staple this season. Rio Grande Valley shot 46 percent (12 of 26) before halftime against the Red Raiders, who came in leading the country in field-goal defense at 33 percent.

Things changed early in the second half. The Vaqueros missed 11 of their first 12 shots in the period.

"They took it up a notch," Rio Grande Valley coach Lew Hill said. "When you can't score against a good team, eventually they're going to start scoring."

Brandone Francis made two straight baskets, Culver knocked down a jumper and on the next pos-



Texas Tech's Kyler Edwards (0) shoots over Texas-Rio Grande Valley's Javon Levi (14) during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game Friday, Dec. 28, 2018, in Lubbock, Texas.

session grabbed a rebound of his missed 3-pointer and zipped a pass to Coprew for a backdoor layup.

That series of events pushed the Raiders' lead to 52-35 and prompted a timeout by Hill. The Vaqueros shot 17 percent (4 of 23) in the second half and finished the game at 33 percent.

"We've proven we can be a great team defensively," Texas Tech coach Chris Beard said. "Offensively, I'm pleased. We're a work in progress and we have this huge ceiling that we haven't even touched, and then defensively we continue to be committed to our identity and that's being hard to

score against."

There were seven lead changes and four ties in the initial 7:14 before Tech threatened to blow the game open late in the first half.

Rio Grande Valley made seven of its first nine shots. Winn led the way with seven early points, the last one a baseline jumper that tied the score 17-17.

Moments later, Greg Bowie hit a 3-pointer, was fouled and made the free throw to pull the Vaqueros back even at 21-21. But Culver tipped in a missed 3-pointer to ignite a 13-4 surge that ended with him hitting a jump

shot from the baseline to beat the shot clock for a 34-25 lead.

As has been the case on a regular basis this season, Culver was at the heart of several Raider spurts.

"They made some tough shots," Hill said. "They've got a pro in Culver and sometimes when we played good defense, he just made a play."

BIG PICTURE

Rio Grande Valley: The Vaqueros lost for the third time in four games but showed that their pressure defense can create problems, which will come in handy against Western Athletic Conference foes.

Texas Tech: Once the Red Raiders found their defensive rhythm, Rio Grande Valley struggled to score and managed only 15 second-half points.

STATS OF THE NIGHT

Tech converted 13 second-half turnovers by the Vaqueros into 13 points. They also dominated on the offensive glass, turning nine offensive boards into 13 second-chance points.

TIP-INS

Coprew got the start because senior forward Norensse Odiase sat out after what Beard said were injections in his hip to help manage chronic pain. ... Beard opted for a different look to start the second half, with Francis part of the five who took the floor. ... New Texas Tech football coach Matt Wells was at the game and was shown to the crowd on the big screen at halftime but wasn't introduced.

UP NEXT

Rio Grande Valley: The Vaqueros head west for two games, starting Thursday night at UC Irvine.

Texas Tech: With most of the non-conference schedule done, the Red Raiders jump into the rigors of Big 12 play at West Virginia on Wednesday.

Texas pulls away in 2nd half, beats Texas-Arlington 76-56

By MARK ROSNER

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — When the Texas Longhorns needed a boost, Kerwin Roach II did what he does best.

Roach attacked the basket, scoring six straight points in a span of 1:20 to help Texas pull away from Texas-Arlington en route to a 76-56 victory Friday night.

Texas (8-4) led by just six early in the second half against a smaller, over-matched opponent. Then Roach, who has been erratic but leads the team in scoring, made three driving shots, giving the Longhorns a 14-point lead.

"That's who he needs to be," Texas coach Shaka Smart said. "He's worked a lot on his ability to make 3-point shots, but he's always gonna be a guy who has a special ability to attack the paint."

Jase Febres scored 12 points, leading five Longhorns in double figures. Roach and Eli Mitrou-Long scored 11 each, while Courtney Ramey and Royce Hamm Jr. had 10 apiece.

"We fought them for a while, but the early part of the second half they stretched on us and beat us to a couple of loose balls, knocked down some shots," said Chris Ogden, Texas-Arlington's first-year coach. "They separated and it was hard to get it back."

Hamm had played in only three games and a total of just 24 minutes before Friday. His 10 points and two blocks, in 13 minutes against Texas-Arlington, were career-bests. His playing time increased the last two games in part because former starter Jericho Sims has struggled all season.

Hamm said he tried to exercise patience during his time on the bench.

"Not listening to outside voices, just your loved ones, friends and family," Hamm said. "Taking advice from the right people."



Freshman forward Mohamed Bamba squares up against a Kansas State defender earlier this year.

Texas excelled in the second half despite some inefficiency on offense. On one possession early Dylan Osetkowski missed three layups, each time retrieving the rebound. His fourth attempt was blocked by Andres Ibarguen.

Jaxson Hayes, the Longhorns' 6-foot-11 freshman who is regarded as an NBA prospect, made his first start but spent chunks of the game in foul trouble. He finished with four points, four rebounds and two blocks in 16 minutes. Hayes did hit both of his shots, extending his streak to 18 in a row over the last four games.

Edric Dennis led Texas-Arlington (4-9) with a season-best 23 points and had eight rebounds. Dennis made six 3-point baskets. Brian Warren scored 12.

BIG PICTURE

Texas-Arlington: The Mavericks are missing their top nine scorers from last season and it shows. Ogden, a former Longhorn forward and assistant coach, inherited players who accounted for just 3.2 percent of Texas-Arlington's points last

season, and with those meager resources the Mavs lost to Indiana, Arkansas, Tulsa, Missouri and Gonzaga before facing Texas. The smallest margin of defeat was 14, against Indiana and Tulsa. Texas-Arlington ranks between 327th and 347th nationally in three major categories: scoring, field goal accuracy and 3-point accuracy. The Mavs fell short of their usual numbers in points and overall shooting accuracy.

Texas: Smart said a critical component to winning was deflections on defense. The Longhorns' goal each game is 32. Smart said after the game Friday, before watching the tape, that he thought the Longhorns had 33 deflections.

"If we get 30 or more, it's amazing, we average scoring about 20 more points than in games when we are in the 20s," Smart said. "You might say, 'what does that have to do with the ball going in. But it's about our juice level, our energy level. When we are able to impact the game on the defensive end, it helps us score.'"

JONES UPDATE

Texas guard Andrew Jones, diagnosed with leukemia in January, was back on the bench, but not in uniform Friday, after leaving the team more than two weeks ago to undergo scheduled treatments. He is scheduled to rejoin the team in mid-January.

NEXT UP

Texas-Arlington faces Georgia State on Thursday in their Sun Belt Conference opener. They split two regular season games last year, each winning at home. Georgia State then beat Texas-Arlington in the championship game of the Sun Belt tournament.

Texas begins Big 12 competition on Wednesday at Kansas State. The Longhorns have lost four straight to the Wildcats, last winning in 2016.

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Nuggets keep rolling at home, hold off Spurs 102-99

By **PAT GRAHAM**

AP Sports Writer

DENVER — Jamal Murray and the Denver Nuggets keep right on rolling. Not just ankles, either.

Murray scored 31 points despite turning his right ankle late in the fourth quarter, Monte Morris hit two big free throws with 7.2 seconds remaining and the Nuggets held off the San Antonio Spurs 102-99 on Friday night to extend their home winning streak to eight.

After the game, Murray eased into his dress shoe, wincing in pain.

"Feeling great," he said. "Feeling sensational."

Murray wasn't the only one to land wrong. Malik Beasley had 21 points, but rolled his left ankle on a drive in the fourth quarter. He made two free throws before exiting.

"I'll be good. I'm a mutant," Beasley pronounced. "I'll be all right."

Nikola Jokic added 21 points, nine rebounds and nine assists before fouling out as the Nuggets nearly squandered an 18-point, first-half lead. Bryn Forbes had a 3-point look to tie the game in the final second but couldn't get it launched in time over Trey Lyles.

"We try to show our guys what we think they're going to run, to give them an awareness," coach Michael Malone said.

Just then, Spurs coach Gregg Popovich walked by and playfully lobbed in his thoughts.

"Love you, too," Malone cracked as Popovich continued down the hallway.

LaMarcus Aldridge finished with 24 points for San Antonio, while DeMar DeRozan added 15.

The Spurs, the top free throw shooting team in the league, went 4 of 8

from the line over the final 1:48. They were 11 of 20 for the game.

"None of us go out there and miss free throws," DeRozan said. "We've been great all year. We gave ourselves countless opportunities to be able to take the lead, tie the game up and give ourselves a great chance to win."

It was the second game of a home-and-home between the teams. The Spurs won 111-103 in San Antonio on Wednesday. In that game, DeRozan and Aldridge combined for 57 points.

"They're a good team over there. They play well together, they move the ball, so we had to take some things away," Aldridge said.

The Nuggets remained percentage points ahead of Golden State for the top mark in the Western Conference despite missing starters Paul Millsap, Will Barton and Gary Harris due to injuries.

San Antonio turned up the defense in the second half to climb back into the game. Trailing 100-98 with 28 seconds remaining, Derrick White made one of two free throws. Morris then was fouled on a drive to the basket and made both. Morris finished with seven points, five rebounds and seven assists.

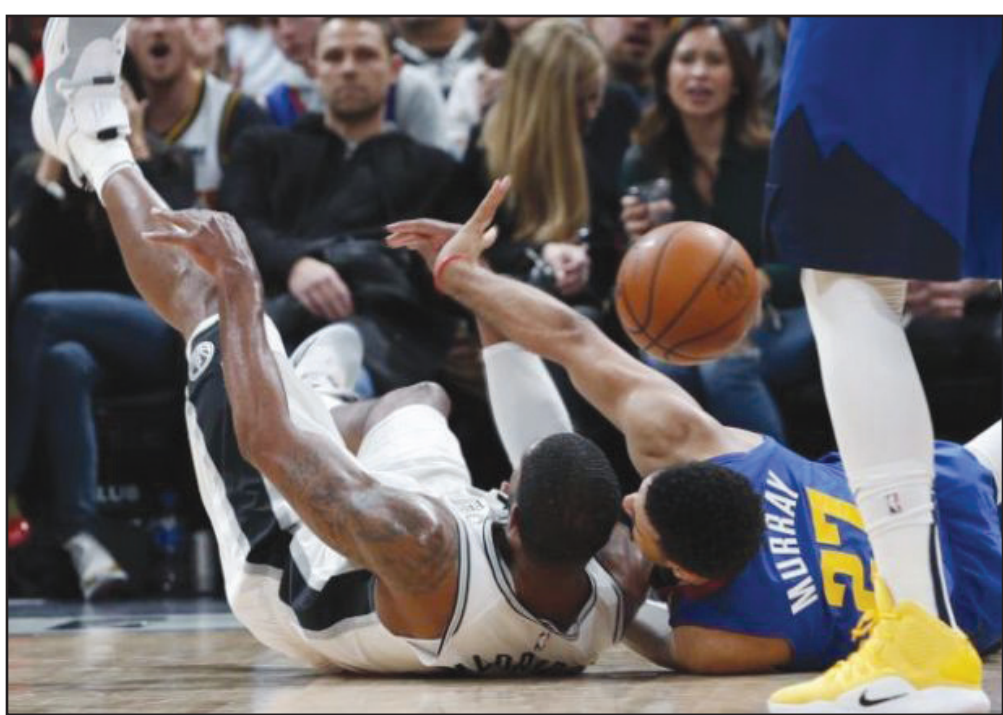
"The littlest guy on the floor, least experienced guy on the floor coming up in big, big ways time and time again," Malone said.

TIP-INS

Spurs: F/C Pau Gasol (right foot) made the trip with the team and is getting closer to a return. ... Popovich called a timeout just 46 seconds into the game.

Nuggets: Harris (right hip) and Millsap (fractured right big toe) are nearing a return. ... Mason Plumlee had 13 rebounds.

HOMEcomings



AP photo

San Antonio Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge, left, competes for control of a loose ball with Denver Nuggets guard Jamal Murray during the second half of an NBA basketball game Friday, Dec. 28, 2018, in Denver. The Nuggets won 102-99.

White grew up in the area and played a season at the University of Colorado. He's gone from sporadically playing for the Spurs last season — he also helped the Austin Spurs win the 2018 G League championship — to becoming their starting guard.

White had 10 points on Friday.

"He's just a young man who's gaining confidence day by day," Popovich said. "Just believing he belongs is really the important thing for him."

DIFFERENT STRATEGY

Jokic drew a crowd, but kept finding the open player before fouling out with 1:33 left. That was a departure from Wednesday when he was held to four points.

"It's like a playoff series where you make adjustments," Murray said. "We

made some key adjustments to give him some space to work."

MURRAY'S DETERMINATION

Seeing Murray in pain after turning his ankle, Malone was going to send in Morris.

"I saw him running toward the corner, like he was going to the tunnel," Malone said. "He pulled a Willis Reed on us and did a U-turn and came back on the court."

Murray said there was never a doubt he would keep playing.

UP NEXT

Spurs: Visit the Los Angeles Clippers on Saturday.

Nuggets: At Phoenix on Saturday. The Nuggets are 3-0 in the second game of a back-to-back this season.

Davis, Pelicans hold off Doncic-led Mavs 114-112



AP photo

New Orleans Pelicans forward Anthony Davis (23) shoots as Dallas Mavericks forwards Dorian Finney-Smith (10) and Harrison Barnes (40) defend during the first half of an NBA basketball game in New Orleans, Friday, Dec. 28, 2018.

By **PETER FINNEY JR.**

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Dallas Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle called it "breathtaking."

Anthony Davis called it just another day at the office, admittedly with a few extra deep breaths.

Davis hit a go-ahead, fall-away jumper with 43.9 seconds left and scored a season-high 48 points to out-duel rookie Luka Doncic and lift the New Orleans Pelicans over the Mavericks 114-112 on Friday night.

"It just feels good to get back in the win column," Davis said after playing a season-high 43 minutes, including all 24 in the second half, to carry the Pelicans (16-20) and halt a five-game losing streak.

Davis was fouled on the shot and made the free throw for a two-point

lead. Dallas got two more possessions, but Doncic had a layup blocked by Jrue Holiday, Dennis Smith Jr. missed a 3-pointer and the Mavericks couldn't get off a shot on a final possession with four seconds left.

"If he's not the MVP, he's going to be right there," Carlisle said of Davis. "You double-team him and he finds people for open 3s, and then you have a hard time rebounding. The guy is a breathtaking talent. He's a great, great player."

Davis said he was proud of

the "hustle play" by guard E'Twaun Moore that led to his go-ahead basket. Moore poked the ball free from Doncic, chased it down to the end line and saved it inbound to Solomon Hill, who got the ball to Holiday, who finally found Davis on the wing.

"We take a lot of pride in the hustle points," Davis said. "Alvin talks about us getting on the floor for 50-50 balls. Plays like that win you games."

Davis also grabbed 17 rebounds and the Pelicans held a 49-39 edge on the boards. New Orleans dominated in the paint, scoring 70 points, including 22 from Julius Randle.

Doncic scored 34 points and hit 7 of 10 3-pointers, and Harrison Barnes had 21 points.

Dallas set up for its final possession with Smith inbounding the ball. Smith got it back and drove into the lane against Davis, but his scoop shot did not beat the buzzer and fell off the rim anyway.

Trailing 66-55 at the half, New Orleans coach Alvin Gentry lit into his team with what he said was "not a G-rated speech." Over the final 24 minutes, the Pelicans held the Mavericks (16-18) to 46 points on 40.5 percent shooting and forced nine turnovers.

That made up for Dallas' barrage of perimeter shooting. The Mavs out-gunned the Pelicans from long range, 15-4.

"It's hard to win a game when you get outscored by 33 from the 3-point line, but the way we played — with 70 points in the paint — that could kind of negate the 3-point thing," Gentry said.

The Mavericks outscored the Pelicans from long range in the first half, cruising to a 66-55 lead by making 10 of 19 3-pointers while holding New Orleans to just 1 of 13 from behind the arc.

Davis kept the Pelicans in the game with 22 first-half points on 9-of-15 shooting. Holiday had 14 first-half points, but seven of the Pelicans'

other nine players had two or fewer points.

New Orleans chipped away, outscoring Dallas 31-22 in the third quarter to pull within 88-86.

The Pelicans took their first lead since late in the first quarter on a 3-pointer by Frank Jackson from the right baseline that put them up 99-96 with 7:43 left. J.J. Barea answered with a 3-pointer a few seconds later for Dallas.

Davis made a 15-foot fadeaway over Jordan to tie it at 105 with 3:59 left, and his floating right-hand hook and 18-foot jumper on two of the Pelicans' next three possessions gave New Orleans a 111-109 lead.

TIP-INS

Mavericks: Smith returned after missing 11 games with a right wrist sprain. It was his first start since Dec. 13. ... The Mavs are in a stretch in which they will play 14 games in 25 days in four time zones.

Pelicans: New Orleans inserted F Darius Miller into the starting lineup for perimeter shooting help. Miller missed two shots in 10 minutes and have any points. ... In games decided by five or fewer points, the Pelicans have lost seven of their last eight.

UP NEXT:

Mavericks: Host Oklahoma City on Sunday night.

Pelicans: Host Houston on Saturday night, the second game of a three-game homestand.



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29/09/18

Minschew leads Washington State past Iowa State, 28-26.

By JIM VERTUNO

AP Sports Writer
SAN ANTONIO — Gardner Minschew II and that glorious mustache conjured up a final bit of magic in a grand finale for Washington State.

The graduate transfer quarterback whose whiskered upper lip was loved and mimicked by Cougars fans all season, threw two touchdown passes and ran for another score in sending No. 12 Washington State to a 28-26 win over No. 25 Iowa State in the Alamo Bowl on Friday night.

Minschew's passing and scrambling earned the Cougars (11-2) a school record for wins in a season.

He threw for 299 yards, none of them bigger than a play made out of desperation when Iowa State had all the momentum.

After watching a 21-10 lead dwindle to 21-20 by early in the fourth quarter, the Cougars stripped the ball from Iowa State running back David Montgomery at the Cyclones' 30. Minschew, who had been held in check in the third quarter, escaped a third-down pass rush to flip a last-second shovel pass to Tay Martin that went for 20 yards.

The play stunned the Cyclones, and Max Borghi scored on a 10-yard run the next play.

It was just another big fourth-quarter moment for the transfer from East Carolina who coach Mike Leach had lured out West with the promise he could lead the nation in passing.

Minschew was the nation's leading passer in yards per game this season and won the Johnny Unitas Award as the nation's top senior quarterback in a season the Cougars fell one game short of playing for the Pac-12 championship.

Nearly all of his completions this season were more orthodox than the flip to Martin. None were bigger for



Washington State quarterback Gardner Minschew (16) throws a pass against Iowa State during the the first half of the Alamo Bowl NCAA college football game Friday, Dec. 28, 2018, in San Antonio.

the season and the legacy it set for the program.

"I want to say thank you to these coaches, this university and these fans for taking me in," Minschew said.

"So glad to be a part of this," he said. "One thing I've always been told is to leave a place better than we found it. This place could be really special."

The Cyclones did a good job in bottling him up for much of the game. Iowa State's defense held Washington State 10 points and 135 yards below their season averages and two of the Cougars' touchdowns came on short drives after turnovers.

But after Minschew found a way to get Washington State in the end zone, the Cougars' defense made the one play it had to at the end.

Iowa State's last chance came after quarterback Brock Purdy scored from a yard out with 4:02 left. The Cyclones went for two, but a pass to Montgomery was stopped well short of the goal line after a false-start penalty pushed the line of scrimmage back to the 8.

Iowa State had seven false start penalties and had two players ejected for targeting hits on Minschew.

Purdy passed for 315 yards and Cyclones receiver Hakeem Butler caught nine passes for 192 yards, six yards shy of the Alamo Bowl record. Montgomery rushed for 124 yards.

The Cyclones (8-5) had rallied from a 1-3 start to finish third in the Big 12, the program's best conference finish in 40 years.

"This team never quits, plays with elite attitude and elite effort. The missing piece for us right now is in the detail," Iowa State coach Matt Campbell said. "Now, to take the next step in this program, is detail. It's what got us tonight. Silly mistakes."

THE TAKEAWAY

Washington State: Minschew survived several tough hits in the first half, then was excellent when it was time to kill the clock. He completed 9 of 13 passes in the fourth quarter for 78 yards. After Iowa State's final touchdown, he completed three passes, two

of them converting third downs, as the Cougars ran out the clock.

Iowa State: Turnovers and targeting calls were critical. Purdy threw two first-quarter interceptions and Montgomery's fumble was a game-changer. Iowa State had two key defenders ejected in the second quarter for targeting hits to Minschew. Senior linebacker Willie Harvey was ejected after smashing Minschew in the facemask on a scramble. Defensive end Enyi Uzuzike was booted after a sack knocked Minschew's helmet off.

TOUCHDOWN TAUNTING

Washington State cornerback Marcus Strong had a long touchdown interception return wiped out in the first quarter when he was flagged for taunting on his way into

the endzone. Strong stepped in front of a pass intended for Butler and had a clear path to the goal line. He was penalized because he held the ball out and looked back as Purdy made a futile dive for his feet. Instead of the score, the Cougars got the ball on the Iowa State 20 and scored two plays later when Minschew connected with Renard Bell.

UP NEXT

Washington State: Leach has to find another big-armed quarterback to be among the nation's passing leaders in 2019. Do that and the Cougars should be among the Pac-12 favorites as they return 14 starters on offense and defense, plus their kicking specialists.

Iowa State: The Cyclones were in the mix for a Big 12 title-game berth late in the season and will expect to again in 2019 with Purdy leading an experienced lineup that loses only five senior starters. The key will be the NFL draft options for 1,000-yard rusher Montgomery and 1,000-yard receiver Butler.

Farabee has natural hat trick, US beats Kazakhstan 8-2



United States' Joel Farabee (28) puts a shot past Kazakhstan goaltender Demid Yermeyev (30) during the first period of a world junior hockey championship game in Victoria, British Columbia, Friday, Dec. 28, 2018.

Associated Press

VICTORIA, British Columbia — Boston University freshman Joel Farabee had a natural hat trick in a 6:52 span of the first period and the United States beat Kazakhstan 8-2 on Friday night to improve to 2-0 in the world junior hockey championship.

Drafted 14th overall by the Philadelphia Flyers this year, Farabee gave the United States a 2-1 lead with a power-play strike at 5:13 and added goals at 8:53 and 12:05.

"Scoring a hat trick is definitely nice, but I've got to give it to my linemates and the D getting the puck up," Farabee said. "We created a lot of turnovers, which gave me those chances."

Boston College's Oliver Wahlstrom, St. Cloud State's Ryan Poehling, Northeastern's Tyler Madden, Michigan's Josh Norris and Sasha Chmelevski of the Ontario Hockey League's Ottawa 67's also scored to help the Americans keep pace with Sweden atop Group B heading into their showdown Saturday night.

Sweden has a 46-game preliminary round winning streak in the tournament.

"It's definitely going to be a bit more skill, a little tougher game," Farabee said. "We definitely want to end their streak in the prelims, so I think we'll be throwing the kitchen sink at them."

Jason Robertson of the OHL's Niagara IceDogs assisted on all three

of Farabee's goals, and also set up Norris' goal. Northeastern's Cayden Primeau made 11 saves.

Jack Hughes, projected as the top pick in next year's NHL entry draft, did not play for the Americans. The team says Hughes is listed as day-to-day.

The United States opened Wednesday night with a 2-1 victory over Slovakia. After facing the Swedes, the Americans will complete round-robin play against Finland on Monday night.

"I think we're going in the right direction," Poehling said. "We've played two games and I think we've played well. But we've got to continue to grow. It's a long tournament and you can't be satisfied with anything until the end of the day."

Andrei Buyalski and Dmitri Mitenkov scored for Kazakhstan, a 5-0 loser to Finland in its opener Thursday.

In Group A play in Vancouver, Artyom Galimov and Nikolai Kovalenko scored short-handed goals and Russia beat the Czech Republic 2-1 to improve to 2-0.

Pyotr Kochetkov made 24 saves for Russia, allowing only Jachym Kondelik's second-period goal.

Tied with Canada for the Group A lead, Russia opened Thursday with a 4-0 victory over Denmark. The Czech Republic was coming off a 2-1 overtime victory over Switzerland on Wednesday.



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OUR DOWNTOWN BIG SPRING OFFICE WILL BE OPEN SOON!

As oil and gas exports surge, West Texas becomes the world's "extraction colony"

By Kiah Collier, The Texas Tribune and Jamie Smith Hopkins and Rachel Leven, Center for Public Integrity

Read more: The Gilmer Mirror - As oil and gas exports surge West Texas becomes the world's extraction colony

MIDLAND — Drilling booms have come and gone in this oil town for nearly a century. But the frenzy gripping it now is different. Overwhelming. Drilling rigs tower over suburban backyards. There's a haunting crunch so severe that rents are up 30 percent in the last year alone. Tax-averse city officials raised fees this spring just to keep basic services afloat.

This boom is engulfing the rest of West Texas, too, extending to areas that drilling hasn't touched before. As communities welcome the jobs and the new business, they're struggling with an onslaught of problems that include spikes in traffic accidents and homelessness.

What's happening is unprecedented. In December, companies in the Permian Basin — an ancient, oil-rich seabed that spans West Texas and southeastern New Mexico — were producing twice as much oil as they had four years earlier, during the last boom. Forecasters expect production to double again by 2023.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott and others say the drilling spree is ushering in a new era of American energy independence, but American demand isn't driving it. Foreign demand is.

In late 2015, Congress cut a deal to lift 40-year-old restrictions on the export of crude oil. That opened the floodgates. The U.S. sold 230 million more barrels of crude to other countries in the first half of this year than it did three years earlier — a surge made possible by a virtually identical spike in Permian production.

The U.S. just surpassed Russia as the world's top oil producer. The International Energy Agency predicts that American oil — most of it from the Permian — will account for 80 percent of the growth in global supply over the next seven years. That's bringing big profits to oil companies as well as lung-searing pollution to places where drilling has skyrocketed, while threatening to exacerbate climate change.

Loading...

"Every single molecule from here on out has to be exported," said Cynthia Walker, a senior vice president at Houston-based Occidental Petroleum, one of the largest Permian producers. American crude is now sold to countries from South Korea and India to Italy and Colombia. Even the oil-rich United Arab Emirates buys some. The lifting of the export restrictions "is tantamount to one of the most important things that's ever been done for the industry," said Tim Dove, chief executive officer of Pioneer Natural Resources, headquartered near Dallas.

But the country is not "energy independent" in the way most Americans would conceive of the idea. Nor can anyone make the promise that America, as Abbott put it in a recent tweet, "will NEVER

AGAIN depend on Foreign Oil Cartels for energy."

That's because the U.S. is still importing oil. Substantially less than the high point in 2005, but plenty: 1.4 billion barrels in the first half of this year alone, a third of which came from the foreign oil cartel known as OPEC, whose membership includes political minefields like Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

The country will keep buying oil from other parts of the world indefinitely even as it sells more abroad, the U.S. Energy Information Administration forecasts.

Residents with no say in these decisions are stuck with the consequences, said Coyne Gibson, who lives in a part of the Permian that saw little oil and gas activity until a few years ago. He's among a handful of West Texans who show up at hearings to object to soaring water use and waste disposal, even though "the outcome is almost always not in our favor."

"The bitter, cynical way to look at this is, West Texas becomes an extraction colony for the fuel resources for the rest of the world," said Gibson, a volunteer with the Big Bend Conservation Alliance who once worked in the oil and gas industry. "Everybody's going to go hog wild and suck the region dry of everything they can without thinking of the long-term, big picture."

Texas regulators, long criticized for being too industry-friendly, seem wholly unprepared for what's happening. Booms, predictably, bring air pollution, oil spills, groundwater loss and contamination. But the state isn't tracking or policing these problems aggressively. For example, the Texas portion of the Permian — roughly the size of Georgia — has only a few air pollution monitoring stations, leaving residents largely in the dark about what's in the air they breathe.

In return for mostly leaving the industry alone, the state receives a lot of money. Oil and gas tax revenue is up more than 50 percent this year. The boom has created high-paying jobs for some residents, too. Said James LeBas, a Texas Oil and Gas Association economist who previously worked for the state comptroller's office: "When oil and gas is doing well, the state is doing well."

But there are major trade-offs — and not just for locals. Scientists warn this drilling rush almost certainly will worsen climate change by increasing the world's fossil fuel use at a fraught time. They say drastic reductions in greenhouse gases are needed to avoid intensifying climate-linked disasters already pummeling the planet.

Two massive wildfires in California this summer were among the largest in state history. Record-high temperatures in Japan killed more than 100 people in July. In September, as Hurricane Florence pounded the Carolinas with devastating rain, a typhoon tore through the Philippines and forced more than 3 million people to evacuate in China. And in Texas, Gulf Coast communities are still struggling to recover from last year's super-powered Hurricane Harvey, which broke all previous U.S. rainfall records and caused \$125 billion in property damage.

On Monday, the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned that the "next few years are probably the most important in our history" because extreme weather will imperil even more people without "deep emissions reductions."

"Climate change exacerbates the risks we already face," said Katharine Hayhoe, who directs the Climate Science Center at Texas Tech University. "Every additional gigaton of carbon that we produce as a global society carries with it a very real cost."

Oil — and natural gas, which comes up with it in the Permian — releases carbon dioxide when burned. On top of that, methane — an even more potent greenhouse gas — leaks from wells, pipelines and other parts of the supply chain.

The Texas Tribune and the Center for Public Integrity spent eight months investigating the scope and impacts of the export boom, analyzing data, interviewing experts and traveling across the Permian to hear from local officials, activists, oil producers and others. The project is part of a collaboration with Newsy and the Associated Press.

Among the findings:

- Climbing production hasn't boosted local tax revenues fast enough to address all the increased needs that come with it, from crowded classrooms to wrecked roads. Schools, police departments and hospitals are struggling to keep employees lured by better-paying jobs in the oilfield.

- The state often fails to step in when oil and gas operations foul the air. Unpermitted air pollution is higher in West Texas counties than in much of the state, and regulators are giving operators the OK to burn off far more excess natural gas there than was allowed a decade ago.

- The industry is consuming water in an arid region at an unsustainable rate: Permian Basin operators used eight times as much water to frack and drill last year as they did in 2011; the ultimate consequences are unknown because the state doesn't require companies to disclose basic information that would allow scientists to understand the risks of all this consumption.

With the boom has come a building spree of plants, terminals and other major oil and gas facilities — more than 100 have been added, or will be, in Texas alone. Companies are laying enough pipeline in the state to stretch from the Atlantic to the Pacific three times over, more than 8,000 miles in all.

Such investments are meant to last for decades. "Once you've sunk the costs, you're really not going to just stop," said Richard York, an environmental studies and sociology professor at the University of Oregon. All this infrastructure makes it "very unlikely that we can dramatically curtail fossil fuel use," he said.

It increases the odds that the Permian free-for-all isn't a flash in the pan, a last gasp before nations get serious about their climate promises.

Read more: The Gilmer Mirror - As oil and gas exports surge West Texas becomes the world's extraction colony



Courtesy photo

A plastic lined pit near Big Spring holds water that will be used to hydraulically fracture — or "frack" — oil wells.

Read more: The Gilmer Mirror - As oil and gas exports surge West Texas becomes the world's extraction colony



Courtesy photo

A homemade sign on Moore School Road in Big Spring advertises oilfield water for sale.

Read more: The Gilmer Mirror - As oil and gas exports surge West Texas becomes the world's extraction colony

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Arizona man finds magic moments in TV show on uncle Houdini



AP photo

This October 2018 photo provided by the Science Channel shows George Hardeen, the great-nephew of magician Harry Houdini, at the Magic's Theater & Museum in Austin, Texas. At 66, Hardeen is delving into the history of his great-uncle in a journey that is the heart of a new series, "Houdini's Last Secrets," set to begin airing Jan. 6, 2019, on the Science Channel.

By **TERRY TANG**

Associated Press
PHOENIX (AP) — Growing up, George Hardeen never thought too much about being related to arguably the most famous magician of all time, whose name is synonymous with great escape.

But at 66, the Arizona man is delving into the history of his great-uncle Harry Houdini in a journey at the heart of a new series on the Science Channel.

"We spoke to many collectors and historians. These guys live Houdini all the time," Hardeen said. "They know more about Houdini than I will ever be able to."

"Houdini's Last Secrets," which begins airing Jan. 6, follows Hardeen as he and escape artist Lee Terbosic explore the engineering behind some of Houdini's most legendary feats.

The Hungarian-born illusionist, who came to the U.S. as a child, generated headlines in the early 1900s for escaping from handcuffs, straitjackets and even a milk can.

Each of the four episodes focuses on a different stunt, including being buried alive and the water torture cell, in which Houdini was lowered upside down into a water tank with his feet locked in stocks. A stunt builder constructs the props, and Terbosic re-enacts the stunts.

"No one knows how Houdini did the

tricks. So, we pondered it and came up with our own methodology so that Lee could perform the trick," Hardeen said.

Wyatt Channell, a Science Channel executive producer, said Houdini knew how to create a persona and hold people's interest but the program tries to look at him from a different perspective.

"Everybody thinks of him as an escape artist, illusionist and magician. But there was a ton of engineering behind what he was doing," Channell said.

The production company approached Hardeen about a year ago.

"I think, in many ways, the show is George's journey," Channell said. "George is really the one, as the everyman, asking the questions we all are wondering: How Houdini did these things."

It also touches on other questions, such as whether Houdini could have been recruited to be a spy. For that, Hardeen interviewed John McLaughlin, former acting director of the CIA and a lifelong magician and Houdini fan.

Hardeen's grandfather Theo Har-

deen was Houdini's younger brother and an illusionist in his own right. George Hardeen's father didn't tell his son about his magical lineage until he was about 10.

"My sister found a piece of mail that came addressed to my dad, Harry Houdini Hardeen. He always went by Harry H. Hardeen," George Hardeen said. "That's when he basically told us."

The show has helped Hardeen learn more about the man behind the magician.

Houdini, who died on Halloween 1926 at 52, and other family members had an incredible work ethic and aimed to be the best, Hardeen said. Houdini ran 10 miles (16 kilometers) a day to keep his body in peak shape but also was a hoarder with a compulsive side, he said.

"It jibes with stuff my dad told me," said Hardeen, a communication consultant for an Arizona utility.

The show brought him to the House of Houdini, a museum in his ancestral home of Budapest,

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Hungary, where he hopes to take his three children. His youngest daughter, Shonie Hardeen, said she would love that opportunity. The 24-year-old from the Arizona mountain town of Flagstaff said the show has increased her interest in her dad's family and

Houdini. "Some people are from somewhere in Europe, and they can't pinpoint it," Shonie Hardeen said. "I guess it's easier for my family to figure out stuff because he's been written about for so long."

Las Vegas to welcome 2019 with superstars, fireworks show

By **REGINA GARCIA CANO**

Associated Press
LAS VEGAS (AP) — No other city does New Year's Eve like Las Vegas.

Lady Gaga, Bruno Mars and Gwen Stefani are among the superstars who will be ushering in the new year with performances at venues on the Las Vegas Strip, while more than 300,000 people are expected to gather on the world-famous corridor Monday to watch eight minutes of fireworks.

At another celebration in the downtown Fremont Street entertainment district, 12 bands will play under a massive video canopy that will show the ball drop in New York's Time Square.

"The only thing that can top Las Vegas is Las Vegas on New Year's Eve," said Jacqueline Peterson of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority. "The city continues to evolve itself. We never run out of things to do."

Gaga's New Year's Eve concert at Park Theater at Park MGM casino-resort will be the third of her long-anticipated residency, which will debut Friday. Veteran Las Vegas performer Celine Dion will be at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace, and Ma-

room 5 will celebrate the holiday once again at the Mandalay Bay Events Center.

Stefani will take the stage at Zappos Theater at Planet Hollywood casino-resort as part of the residency she kicked off this year. Calvin Harris, The Chainsmokers and J. Cole are among those performing at nightclubs.

While Las Vegas is known as a place for last-minute trips, tourists who want to ring in 2019 there should act fast. Tourism officials

expect 318,000 people to travel to Sin City for the holiday and nearly all the city's more than 147,000 hotel rooms to be booked.

"Now is the time to do it," Chris Baldizan, senior vice president of entertainment booking and development at MGM Resorts International, said about booking a trip for the holiday. But "we'll always find a spot for somebody."

Las Vegas police are planning an "all-hands-on-deck approach" to

security, Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said.

Authorities will deploy plainclothes officers, federal agents and police in and around the casino-resorts, along with rooftop snipers, Lombardo said.

New Year's Eve is worth an estimated \$403 million to Las Vegas, according to the convention and visitors authority, which is responsible for promoting the destination.

In addition to concerts with tickets on sale for

the general public, casino operators also host over-the-top private parties for their VIP guests.

Caesars Entertainment hosted nine of those last year, which included DJs, dancers, fireworks shows, thousands of bottles of champagne and performances by Katy Perry, Jennifer Lopez and other stars. Five hangover brunches were served the next morning.

Unlike the two previous years, New Year's Eve falls on a weekday. Casino operators say

the Monday celebration is a positive because it gives people a reason to stay beyond a typical weekend trip.

"It just means that more of our guests are coming in even earlier to spend more days celebrating in this great tradition," said Chris Holdren, executive vice president and chief marketing officer for Caesars Entertainment. "So, they may come in, spend the weekend and extend it to encompass the great holiday."

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ROGER'S REVIEW: MARY POPPINS RETURNS

Mary Poppins has been a household name for many American children since Walt Disney made a movie out of P.L. Travers' book in 1964, starring Julie Andrews as the magical nanny and Dick Van Dyke as the Cockney chimney sweep Bert.

Now, Ms. Poppins is back on screen in a new Disney production: "Mary Poppins Returns." Does it recapture the magic of the original? Well...

In "Mary Poppins Returns," the Banks children, Michael (Ben Whishaw) and Jane (Emily Mortimer), have grown up. Michael is a widower, and is raising three young children of his own - Annabel (Pixie Davies), John (Nathanael Saleh), and Georgie (Joel Dawson) - with the help of housekeeper Ellen (Julie Walters).

Unfortunately, John has taken out a loan with the Fidelity Fiduciary Bank to help make ends meet, and has gotten behind on the payments. Now the bank has sent lawyers Hamilton Gooding (Jeremy Swift) and Templeton Frye (Kobna Holdbrook-Smith) to serve notice that the family's home at 17 Cherry Tree Lane will be repossessed unless the loan is repaid in full by Friday.

Searching for the stock certificate, Michael discovers the old kite he made at the end of the original movie, and throws it out. A gust of wind blows it into the park, where Georgie finds it and flies it, almost being pulled into the air by the wind. Friendly lamplighter Jack (Lin-Manuel Miranda) pulls him down and helps reel in the kite...only to discover Mary Poppins (Emily Blunt) descending along with it, holding on to the kite tail. Jack knows Mary Poppins from his time apprenticing with chimney sweep Bert, and introduces the children to the nanny.

Mary Poppins accompanies the children to the Banks home and agrees (without being asked) to become their nanny. Michael argues that he can't afford a nanny, but that doesn't seem to be a problem for her (and Jane argues on her behalf), so the deal is done.

Remembering that their father



ROGER CLINE



purchased shares in the bank which would be enough to cover the loan, Jane and Michael go to visit William "Weatherall" Wilkins (Colin Firth), the bank president and nephew of Mr. Dawes (Dick Van Dyke), the bank president from the original "Mary Poppins," to see if he has a record of the transaction.

Wilkins is very polite, but says he cannot locate any such record. He offers to remain in his office until midnight on Friday to give them every opportunity to save their home by finding the share certificate. After the Banks leave, we see Wilkins tear the record of the transaction from his record book and burn it.

Meanwhile, Mary and the children are having bath time, and of course, the bath leads to a magical underwater adventure.

I'll halt the summary there, but look for scenes with Angela Lansbury as an old woman selling balloons in the park; Meryl Streep as Topsy, Mary Poppins' cousin with an Eastern European accent, who runs a fix-it shop; and David Warner and Jim Norton as Admiral Boom and Mr. Binnacle, still

doing their thing from the ship-house next door to the Banks' home.

"Mary Poppins Returns" is well-made and well-acted. The animated sequences are well-done and reminiscent of those in the original. It's a fun movie.

It's not perfect, however. The music is a bit lacking. I realize the songs from the original have had more than 50 years to drill themselves into American popular culture, but the tunes from the new movie are a bit like Salieri to the original's Mozart. Perfectly serviceable, just not particularly memorable. There are no "Spoonful of Sugar"s or "Chim-Chim-Cheree"s here.

Also, many of the scenes in "Returns" are direct analogues to scenes in the original. Remember "Step in Time," the fun rhythmic dance number with the chimney sweeps atop the roofs of London? Now we get "Trip a Little Light Fantastic," a fun rhythmic dance number with the lamplighters in a London park. Remember "I Love to Laugh" with Uncle Albert (Ed Wynn) and the gang floating around inside his quirky shop? Now

we get "Turning Turtle" with Cousin Topsy and the gang defying gravity inside her quirky shop. Remember the gang getting lost in the stylized art of Bert's sidewalk drawings? Now they get lost in the stylized art of a porcelain bowl. And so forth.

"Mary Poppins Returns" is a worthy successor to the original, but it isn't quite as practically perfect in every way. Seven stars out of 10.

Mary Poppins Returns
Director: Rob Marshall
Writer: Screenplay by David Magee; story by David Magee, Rob Marshall and John DeLuca; based on "Mary Poppins" by P.L. Travers
Production companies: Walt Disney Pictures; Lucamar Productions; Marc Platt Productions
PG; 2 hrs. 10 min.; Comedy/Family/Fantasy; Dec. 19, 2018

Roger saw this movie at Big Spring's own Cinemark Cinema 4, located inside the Spring Town Plaza, 1801 E. FM 700. Visit www.cinemark.com and enter the ZIP code 79720 for more information.

Angelina Jolie doesn't rule out move into politics

NDON (AP) — Angelina Jolie has not ruled out a move into politics — and has joked that she might be tough enough to take the rough and tumble that comes with it.

The American actress and U.N. envoy told BBC radio she "can take a lot on the chin" — a possible reference to her bitter divorce from Brad Pitt.

When asked if she is moving in the direction of politics, the 43-year-old Oscar winner said, "I honestly will do whatever I think can really make change."

Jolie is a special envoy for the U.N. refugee agency. She used her slot as a "guest editor" on the BBC to highlight refugee issues in the Middle East.

She also included Chinese artist Ai Weiwei and Nobel Peace Prize winner Denis Mukwege on the show.

Chris Brown charged with monkey-related misdemeanors

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Chris Brown has been charged with monkey-related misdemeanors.

The Los Angeles city attorney's office confirms Thursday that the 29-year-old singer was charged last week with two counts stemming from his possession of a pet capuchin monkey without a permit.

Brown posted a picture to his 44 million Instagram followers in January showing his 3-year-old daughter, Royalty, cuddling with the monkey, named Fiji.

California fish and wildlife agents took the monkey away soon after.

Brown is scheduled to be arraigned Feb. 6. An after-hours email seeking comment from his attorney Mark Geragos was not immediately returned. Brown has been in repeated legal trouble since pleading guilty to the felony assault in 2009 of his then-girlfriend, Rihanna. He completed his probation in that case in 2015.

'The Voice' finale helps NBC to weekly ratings win



AP photo

This Monday, Dec. 17, 2018 photo provided by NBC shows "The Voice" finalist, Chevel Shepherd, for season 15 in Universal City, Calif. Shepherd, who is 16, was declared the winner of "The Voice" on Tuesday after weeks of competition.

By LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The 16-year-old charmer who conquered "The Voice" with her old-school country touch helped boost NBC to a weekly ratings win.

Nearly 10 million viewers watched Chevel Shepherd win the singing contest, making it last week's most popular entertainment show. Shepherd, of Farmington, New Mexico, was coached by another talent show discovery: inaugural "American Idol" victor Kelly Clarkson.

Football once again proved its ratings dominance, with broadcast and cable games and pre- or post-game shows claiming six of the week's top 10 spots, according to Nielsen figures released Thursday.

The top-ranked game — and program overall — was NBC's Sunday night NFL showcase, in which the Seattle Seahawks clinched a spot in the NFC playoffs with a 38-31 win over the Kansas City Chiefs.

NBC won the week in prime time, averaging 6.7 million. CBS, aided by "60 Minutes" and top 20 reruns of stalwart series including "NCIS" and "The

Big Bang Theory," followed with 6.4 million.

ABC had 3 million, Fox had 1.7 million, ION Television had 1.28 million, Univision had 1.2 million, Telemundo had 1 million and the CW had 790,000.

Prime-time TV viewing typically drops during the holidays for broadcast networks, but Fox was particularly hard hit as it marked its first week this fall without Thursday Night Football. For the week of Dec. 10, when the network's L.A. Chargers-Kansas City telecast ranked second among all programs, the network averaged 5.1 million total viewers.

ESPN was the week's most popular cable network, averaging 2.8 million people in prime time. Holiday-spirited Hallmark had 2 million, MSNBC had 1.9 million, Fox News Channel had 1.87 million and CNN had 1.1 million.

ABC's "World News Tonight" topped the evening newscasts with an average of 8.7 million viewers. NBC's "Nightly News" was second with 8.4 million and the "CBS Evening News" had 6.2 million.

For the week of Dec. 17-23, the top 10 shows, their networks and viewerships: NFL Sunday Night Football: Kansas City at Seattle, NBC, 19.6 million; NFL Regular Season: New Orleans at Charlotte, ESPN, 13.3 million; "Sunday Night NFL Pre-kick," NBC, 12.6

million; "60 Minutes," CBS, 12 million; "NFL Sunday Postgame," Fox 10.3 million; "The Voice (Tuesday)," NBC, 9.9 million; "The Voice (Monday)," NBC 9.5 million; Thursday Night Football: Baltimore at Los Angeles Chargers, NFL Network, 8.2 million; "Football Night in America," NBC. 8.1 million;

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More volatility: US stocks extend gains after early wobble



AP photo

Traders Robert Charmak, Michael Milano, and Steven Kaplan, left to right, work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Friday, Dec. 28, 2018. Stocks are opening higher Friday as U.S. markets try to maintain the momentum from a late-day rally on Thursday.

By ALEX VEIGA

AP Business Writer

U.S. stocks rebounded after an early wobble Friday afternoon, building on gains from a two-day winning streak in a week of volatile trading. Gains in health care stocks and banks outweighed losses in energy companies, which fell despite a gain in the price of oil.

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index rose 14 points, or 0.6 percent, to 2,503 as of 2:20 p.m. Eastern Time. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 106 points, or 0.5 percent, to 23,245. The Nasdaq added 53 points, or 0.8 percent, to 6,632. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks rose 8 points, or 0.7 percent, to 1,340.

On Thursday the Dow erased a 600-point loss and finished with a gain of 260 points. The swing was indicative of the volatility that has gripped the stock market throughout December.

THE QUOTE: "It seems like convulsions in either direction have been the real norm for much of December and that's certainly been the case this week," said Eric Wiegand senior portfolio manager for Private Wealth Management at U.S. Bank. "The initial push higher and then seeing it subside a little bit is perhaps getting back to a little bit more of a normal environment, reflecting the reality that we have still a number of issues overhanging the market."

VOLATILE WEEK: Volatility has been the norm in December

as investors have grown worried that the testy U.S.-China trade dispute and higher interest rates would slow the economy, hurting corporate profits. The Dow has dropped 2 percent or more in six trading sessions and had a 5 percent gain on Wednesday. The market's sharp downturn since October has intensified this month, erasing all its 2018 gains and nudging the S&P 500 closer to its worst year since 2008. Even with the two-day winning streak heading into Friday, the Dow, S&P 500 and Nasdaq are all down more than 9 percent for the month and stocks are on track for their worst December since 1931.

BETTING ON BANKS: Several big banks were trading higher.

See **STOCKS**, Page 5C

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- Kerr Management Inc., 2516 Langley Dr., res gas, Val: \$1,500, Fee: \$32
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- Katie Cole L. Baker, P.O. Box 3372, Big Spring
- Letitia Baucham, 1202 Stanford, Big Spring
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- Joshua Bell, 1962 Tuscola, Snyder
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See **RECORDS**, Page 5C

Wells Fargo pays \$575 million to settle state investigations



AP photo

In this May 17, 2018 file photo, the logo for Wells Fargo appears above a trading post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Wells Fargo is paying \$575 million as part of deal to resolve investigations by every state into its banking practices, which have included creating phony accounts and using manipulative sales practices. The deal also includes creating teams to review and respond to customer issues about its banking and sales practices.

NEW YORK (AP) — Wells Fargo will pay \$575 million in a settlement with attorneys general from all 50 states and the District of Columbia that are investigating fake accounts opened without the knowledge of customers and a string of other dodgy practices.

Under the agreement announced Friday, the bank will also create teams to review and respond to customer complaints about its banking and sales practices.

The bank has been under a cloud since 2015 when it acknowledged that employees had opened millions of fake bank accounts for customers in order to meet sales goals. It has also said that it sold auto insurance and other financial products to customers who didn't need them.

Wells Fargo has already been ordered to pay more than \$1.2 billion in penalties and faced stricter regulations.

"This agreement underscores our serious commitment to mak-

ing things right in regard to past issues as we work to build a better bank," said CEO Tim Sloan.

Tim Sloan apologized for the phony accounts and other practices during a congressional hearing in 2017, but the company remained under pressure from the weight of all the scandals. The company has announced plans to lay off up to 10 percent of its workforce over the next three years.

See **WELLS FARGO**, Page 5C

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EPA targets Obama crackdown on mercury from coal plants



By **ELLEN KNICKMEYER**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration on Friday targeted an Obama-era regulation credited with helping dramatically reduce toxic mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants, saying the benefits to human health and the environment may not be worth the cost of the regulation.

The 2011 Obama administration rule, called the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards, led to what electric utilities say was an \$18 billion clean-up of mercury and other toxins from the smokestacks of

AP photo
In this July 27, 2018, file photo, the Dave Johnson coal-fired power plant is silhouetted against the morning sun in Glenrock, Wyo. The Trump administration on Friday targeted an Obama-era regulation credited with helping dramatically reduce toxic mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants.

coal-fired power plants.

Overall, environmental groups say, federal and state efforts have cut mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants by 85 percent in roughly the last decade.

Mercury causes brain damage, learning disabilities and other birth defects in children, among other harm. Coal power plants in this country are the largest single manmade source of mercury pollutants, which enters the food chain through fish and other items that people consume.

See **EPA**, Page 11C

Tesla names independent board members in SEC settlement



Ellison



Wilson-Thompson

NEW YORK (AP) — Tesla named two independent board members Friday as part of a settlement with U.S. regulators who demanded more oversight of CEO Elon Musk.

Oracle co-founder Larry Ellison and Kathleen Wilson-Thompson, an executive vice president at Walgreens Boots Alliance, join the board as independent directors, effective immediately.

Musk got into trouble with the Securities and Exchange Commission in early August when he said in a tweet that he had "funding secured" to take the electric car company private at \$420 per share.

The SEC accused Musk of committing securities fraud, saying that the funding had

not been secured and that he had duped investors who drove shares of Tesla up by 11 percent on the day of the tweet. Several weeks later, Musk said the go-private deal was

off. Regulators initially wanted to force Musk out of his job as CEO, but agreed to accept \$20 million in penalties from both Musk and Tesla. Musk did agree to step down as chairman for at least three years, but acknowledged now wrongdoing.

Despite the agreement, Musk has continued to clash with regulators.

Just days after settling the case, Musk taunted the government via Twitter, referring to the SEC as the "Shortseller Enrichment Commission."

Musk has had a long-running feud with short sellers, a category of investors that have bet that the price of Tesla

See **TESLA**, Page 11C

STOCKS

Continued from Page 4C

Bank of America gained 1 percent to \$24.60. Wells Fargo rose 1.5 percent to \$46.18 on news that the lender has agreed to pay \$575 million in a national settlement with state attorneys general over its fake bank accounts scandal. The San Francisco-based bank admitted in 2015 that its employees opened millions of unauthorized bank accounts for customers in order to meet unrealistic sales goals.

MORE OVERSIGHT: Tesla climbed 5.4 percent to \$333.03 after naming two independent directors to its board under an agreement with federal regulators.

HOUSE OF PAIN: Homebuild-

ers fell broadly in the morning after the National Association of Realtors said its pending home sales index fell last month as fewer Americans signed contracts to buy homes. Higher mortgage rates and prices are squeezing would-be buyers out of the market, especially in the West. The stocks mostly recovered by mid-afternoon. Beazer Homes USA was flat at \$9.71 after being down more than 5 percent earlier.

ENERGY: Oil prices recovered after wavering in midmorning trading. Benchmark U.S. crude was up 1.5 percent to \$45.29 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, rose 1.3 percent to \$53.40 a barrel in London.

Despite the rise in oil prices, energy sector stocks declined. Cabot Oil & Gas slid 3.2 percent

to \$23.01, while Newfield Exploration lost 0.8 percent to \$14.39.

BOND YIELDS: Bonds prices rose early then leveled off. The yield on the 10-year Treasury was flat at 2.74 percent.

CURRENCY: The dollar declined to 110.41 yen from Thursday's 110.74 yen. The euro weakened to \$1.1436 from \$1.1449.

MARKETS OVERSEAS: In Europe, Germany's DAX rose 1.7 percent and France's CAC 40 added 1.7 percent. London's FTSE 100 gained 2.3 percent. Major indexes in Asia finished mostly higher. Tokyo's Nikkei 225 shed 0.3 percent, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng ended 0.1 percent higher. Seoul's Kospi added 0.6 percent. India's Sensex gained 1 percent. Benchmarks in Taiwan, New Zealand and Singapore also rose.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 4C

Abilene

Isaiah Green, 4801 State St., Abilene
James Michael Griffin, 303 Butler St. #502, Atlanta, Texas

John Grima, 914 E. Sixth St., Big Spring
Thomas E. Gross, 4100 S. Highway 87 #37, Big Spring

Lynn Guerrero, 203 W. Ave #3, Clayton, N.M.
Melissa Gutierrez, 3310 SF Austin, No. 58, Brownwood

Sandra Ann Gutierrez, 1501 N. Fourth Place, 1312 S. Ave. L, Lamesa

Mike Haddix, 401 Humble St. Apt. E, Midland
Dylan Hammons, 4401 E. 11th Place, Big Spring
William J. Harman, HC 76, Box 147K-1, Big Spring

Nicholas D. Hasenbalg, 207 W. Williams St. #9, Breckenridge

Ann Hashem, 120 Airbase Rd. 15-5, Big Spring
Christine Henderson, 420 N. El Paso

Juanita Hernandez, 1502 Bluebird, Big Spring
Matias Hernandez Jr., 620 E 4th St., San Angelo
Scott Herrera, H.C 76, Box 97B Ash Rd., Big Spring

Billy Dean Hill, 7117 Alissa, Rowlett
Johnny R. Hill, 704 San Antonio, Big Spring
Kaleb Hill, 910 Baylor, Big Spring

Shatiya Lasha Jenkins, 4590 N Texas #198 Odessa
Jim Bob Jennings, 4446 Ridgecrest Amarillo 9001 In-diana Apt D, Lubbock

Stephanie Ford Johnson, P.O Box 483, Coahoma
David Kelley, P.O Bobx 724, Salado

Joni D. Kelly, 3050 Co. Rd 139, Colorado
Renola S. Kelly, 4503 LA Salle Circle, Colorado City
Cynthia Lee Kent, Moved to Newport News, Virginia

Kimberly Jo Kenneumur, 120 Hooser Rd., Big Spring
Cynthia Lee Kent, Moved to Newport
Kayle R. Lane, P.O Box 83965, Waco

Daniel Jerome Langston, 3307 Cornell Ave., Big Spring

Rafael Lemus, 1804 Mittel, Big Spring
Jesse Paul Lopez, 101 Scurry St., Big Spring
Ruben Lopez jr., 107 Milburn St., Snyder, Texas

Clifford G. Lowe, 501 Circle, Big Spring
Patricia D. Lyons, 7502 Interstate 27 number A, Lubbock

Aaron Christopher Mack, 2134 Bonham Ave., Odessa
Bruce Edward Mallard, P.O Box 3265 504 Westover, Big Spring

Barbara A. Marshall, P.O. Box 1065, Deming, New Mexico
Martha McDonald Martin, 600 Driver Rd, Big Spring

James Martinez, P.O. Box 269, Ft. Davis
Rene N. Martinez, 8618 Serene Ridge, Big Spring, Texas
Victoria Josephine Martinez, 323 S. Main St., Loraine
Karen McCalister, 5925 Raton Ln. number 154, Ft.

Worth

O'Neal McClain, 911 17th St., Snyder
Diana McCool, 504 Donley, Big Spring
Ethel Laverne McVae, 4202 Parkway Rd., Big Spring, Texas

Heriberto Palafox Mora, 1311 Mobile St., Big Spring
Felicia Ornelas, 538 Westover Rd.

Dana Kay Peach, 1806 N 13th, Lamesa
Nicole Preston, 1605 E 11th place, Big Spring

Jacquelin Dannon Ramey, 1404 E 6th St.,
Gilbert P. Ramirez, 1614 Settles, Big Spring
Byron Roberts, 2206 Alabama St Big Spring

Michael Robinson, 801 Anne St., Big Spring
Juan Romero, 2504 March CR, Big Spring
Veronica Romero, 103 Becker Rd., Big Spring

Yuri Lozano Rubio, 421 Cedar, P.O. Box 173, Colorado City

Polly Ann Rusk, 4201 W Hwy 80, Big Spring
Juan Romero, 2504 March CR, Big Spring

Veronica Romero, 103 Becker Rd., Big Spring
Yuri Lozano Rubio, 421 Cedar, P.O Box 173, Colorado City

Polly Ann Rusk, 4201 W Hwy 80, Big Spring
Anthony Frank Salazar, 1808 Hearn St., Big Spring

Elizabeth Salazar, 1808 Hearn, Big Spring, Texas
Shane Skaggs, 1 Courtney Place, Apt. 301, Big Spring
Derrick Dewayne Smith, 703 West 16th, San Angelo, Texas

Leon Torres, 1500 Lincoln, Big Spring
Michael Ray Watson, 1503 Tucson Rd., Big Spring

Tamara Ruth Whitt, 1909 Morrison, 2526 Fairchild, Big Spring

Jamie Wiggins, 1905 Wasson Rd., Apt. #28, Big Spring

Marriage Licenses

Dubley Ray Tipton, 54, and Dana Cary Torres, 53, both of Big Spring.

Christopher Lee Thompson, 34, and Catrece Denea Durbin, 25, both of Big Spring.

Carlos Steven Chalambaga, 57, and Faith Nicole Falcon, 27, both of Coahoma.

Philip Anthony Cerino, 54, and Marife Harina Belza, 46, both of Big Spring.

Derek Jerone Reese, 27, and McKenzie Bree Metcalf, 25, both of Big Spring.

Ernesto Morales Jr., 45, and Rose Mary Vega, 45, both of Big Spring.

Lawrence Ray Lewis Jr., 65, and Emma Leticia Aguilar, 65, both of Big Spring.

Michael Jay Speck, 49, and Lori Vashon Speck, 47, both of Big Spring.

Mindy Lynn Ralston, 25, and Charles Tyler Matlock, 33, both of San Angelo.

See **RECORDS**, Page 11C

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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Lunar Friend Zone Pass

Good news for any romantic hopeful who's been unwittingly relegated to the friend zone without a passport to Passionland: The moon is rooting for you! The lunar change from the affable, respectable partnership of Libra into the steamy, sultry waters of Scorpio will turn up the heat and strip away miscommunication and misunderstanding.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). If you grew up in an environment that wasn't conducive to attaining wealth, don't worry. New teachers are coming into your realm, and you're now ready to learn.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The power of a smile can certainly reverse the tone of an interaction, which you'll prove today as you let the tension out of a potentially terse interaction with the magic of your pearly whites.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Those who are younger, especially under 8 years old, have something to teach you about your own worthiness, because they accept you for who you are and want lots of your attention for

reasons outside of the superficial.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Feeling good won't be complicated. The single best thing you can do for your mood is exercise in fresh air. This will set everything straight. You'll crave better nutrition and hydration. You'll sleep better, too.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The "helper's high" is a measurable state of brain chemistry, so don't doubt that you will be boosted mentally and physically by following through on an impulse to give.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The energy of joy cannot be felt unless it's moving, and the quickest way to move it is to give. So though you can certainly be truly happy inside yourself, you still need to connect to others to keep the current strong.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've cultivated a safe space around yourself, maybe without even realizing it. So it should come as no surprise that people share with you, sometimes things they don't even tell their nearest and dearest.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

There are carefree impulses you could follow -- fun, colorful, opinionated and outside the social norms. You're not afraid to heed them, but what would be the underlying reason? And at what cost? You'll give it a think.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If people are made better through sacrifice and characters are made stronger through hardship and hearts are made kinder through heartbreak, then the question "What's in it for me?" becomes much more complicated.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). To avoid burnout, just remember that you don't have to try unless you want to. You give back to the world every day in small ways just by being you. When it's time to make a push to

By HOLIDAY MATHIS



the next incarnation of you, you'll know.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Because you're ready to learn something new, you give off a welcoming energy that even the birds and squirrels can feel, not to mention people around you who come closer in the spirit of curiosity, seeking common ground.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If you needed another reason to make yourself happy, consider that every person in the room is contributing to the vibes there. Your happiness will raise the level of everyone else who shares the space.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 30). You will make it your habit to lean into the

sun. Counterintuitively, as you worry less, you see new ways to eliminate the stressors. New optimism touches every aspect of you, starting with raising your physical energy and improving relationships. Libra and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 40, 12, 22 and 16.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: Put your ear up to the last gasps of the year and you may hear 2018 asking, "What is it that needs to change?" Many answers may rush to mind at once. What if you had to choose just one and focus all of your energy on that singular goal?

On New Year's Eve, warrior planet Mars marches home to Aries, which happens to be his power zone. It's a passage signaling intensity, desire and courage. The transit has a way of concentrating our inner forces and unifying our drives as we cross into anno Domini 2019.

New Year's Day brings a conjunction of the sun and Saturn, suggesting we'll notice straight away that the task ahead will require us to take a risk, be brave and learn something more than we already know about ourselves. This is best accomplished

by assuming a position of responsibility. Be warned: There will be no take-backs. This is going to be a full-on, wholehearted commitment. If there's a time to bail, it would be before you agree to take on the job in the first place.

Wishing you a safe and joyous passage, and may the stars shine favorably on all your magnificent hopes for the new year!

CELEBRITY PROFILES: Capricorns are goal getters who love a challenge, and for NBA superstar and Olympic gold medalist LeBron James, the biggest challenge is in beating his own records. This ambitious Capricorn, with his moon in fiery Aries, not only is a star on the court but also has graced the cover of Vogue and was such a smooth host of "Saturday Night Live" that he was praised by Lorne Michaels for his versatility.

Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com.

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HERALD

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The pressure principle

East dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 7 3
♥ 10 2
♦ 9 6 5 4 2
♣ A K 6

WEST
♠ 9 8 6 4 2
♥ 7 5 4
♦ J 8
♣ 10 9 4

EAST
♠ A 10 5
♥ A Q J 9 6
♦ Q 10 3
♣ 5 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q
♥ K 8 3
♦ A K 7
♣ Q J 8 7 3

The bidding:
East 1♥ South 1NT West Pass North 2NT

Opening lead — seven of hearts.
Let's say you get to three notrump as shown, and West leads a heart. East plays the jack, which you duck, and returns the queen, which you take with the king. How would you continue?

When the deal occurred in a team-of-four match, the declarer at the first table decided that his only real chance was to try to steal a spade trick before East learned too much about the hand. So at trick three, he crossed to dummy with a club and returned the jack of spades as if he

intended to take a finesse.

But East did not fall for South's ploy. Looking at the setting tricks in his own hand, he rose with the ace and cashed his three remaining hearts to put the contract down one.

At the second table, declarer decided against trying to sneak a spade past East for two reasons: First, he didn't think East would fall into the trap, and second, if East had three or more diamonds, the contract was ice-cold!

Accordingly, after winning the second heart lead, declarer immediately cashed four club tricks, producing this position:

North	West	East
♠ J 7	Immaterial	♠ A
♦ 9 6 5 4 2		♥ A 9 6
		♦ Q 10 3
		South
		♠ K Q
		♥ 8
		♦ A K 7
		♣ 8

When South now cashed his last club, East found himself in dire straits. He could not spare a spade or a diamond, so he was forced to part with a heart. Declarer thereupon led the spade king to establish his ninth trick, and the contract was home.

Tomorrow: Famous Hand.
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SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

Annie's Mailbox

Private School Doesn't Fulfill All Needs

Dear Annie: I am the mother of three boys. Two of my boys are enrolled at the local public school and are quite happy. They are thriving academically and socially. Their class sizes are big, but the school is not overcrowded, and they receive plenty of attention from their teachers. They are also close with many of their classmates, and because the classes are larger, the naughty children don't stand out much and aren't very disruptive. My third child is enrolled at a private school specializing in children with learning disabilities. My husband and I believe it is important to help our youngest child with the private schooling, as the testing and recommendations from schools have indicated it's helpful to his learning and school experience. His school has a great reputation locally, and we were excited for him to attend. My husband, our two elder children and I are very supportive of him and don't ever discourage him because he has learning disabilities. We are confident he is in a supportive environment at home. We are concerned, though, because the school where he is enrolled seems to be poorly managed and struggling with enrollment. His particular grade has

only five kids. Because there are two separate classes, the grade is split into a class of two and a class of three. So he is not getting a rewarding experience socially, and the naughty children stand out and are disruptive to his experience. He is doing well academically, but part of that may be because my husband and I get him extra help. We are concerned that the lack of a quality social environment will put our son at a long-term disadvantage. Do you have any thoughts? -- Concerned Mommy

Dear Concerned Mommy: If it walks like a duck, acts like a duck and quacks, it must be a duck. Social exposure is critical for young children, and if you are noticing these issues, then your concerns must be valid. It is great that your family has the willingness and means to support your son and provide him an educational experience that addresses his needs. Given that you are willing to do this, I'd recommend you do some research on schools that offer similar programs and visit these schools. Visit as many times as you need to understand both the academic and the social aspects of these schools. Start to build a pros-and-cons analysis of each school, and determine

what environment will be best for him. Good luck.

Dear Annie: I really enjoyed the responses from your recent question to readers about whether they would have children if they had a do-over, so to speak. All the different points of view were very interesting and thought-provoking. Another age-old question I think might be of interest to explore is, Which do you think is easier to raise, a boy or a girl? I'm sure there would again be many points of view to contemplate. I had three daughters, and my best friend had three sons. We often discussed the topic and one day decided we would trade children for eight hours. I had not realized how physically active boys are -- jumping, climbing and wrestling -- and was ecstatic once the boys went home. My girlfriend thoroughly enjoyed her day and asked whether we could do it again sometime. I said, "Maybe we can once my house and I recover." She laughed and said, "See? I told you girls are easier!" -- Terry

Dear Terry: Great idea. I'd like to officially pose the question to readers: Do you think boys or girls are easier to raise? Send responses to dearannie@creators.com.

Worker Gets Ahead of Herself

Dear Annie: I work as an editor at a publishing company. It has been difficult to find capable proofreaders. I've had one working with me for the past few years who proved herself to be capable. She showed great attention to detail and would make occasional suggestions to books that added value. In the past few months, she has grown frustrated that she hasn't advanced to editor and has let her proofreading responsibilities slip. I've noticed obvious errors that she's missed. More importantly, she has become more vocal about making story suggestions and has gone behind my back to make these in an attempt to prove herself. I am supportive of her advancing, but at the appropriate timing, which is dictated by the company and our needs, not based on her desired timing. Do you have any advice on how I might approach her and motivate her? -- Frustrated Editor

Dear Editor: Trust takes years to earn and seconds to lose. Careers are built over a long period of continued success and having a positive attitude, and a change in course can destabilize everything a person has worked for. I recommend

taking this proofreader out of the office for lunch, coffee or a walk and asking her about her career ambitions, both short-term and long-term. Taking her out of the office will make it less formal, and you will have more success helping her plot a course to achieving these ambitions in a realistic time frame. Some mentorship and guidance should go a long way toward creating a grateful and loyal person and a successful career path.

Dear Annie: I am sending this out to anyone considering suicide. Please reconsider what you are thinking. My father killed himself in 1978. I still think about the many what-ifs. What if I had called? What if I had gone to see him? Why didn't I notice that he was down and depressed when I saw him two weeks before he did it? The guilt is always with me, even after all these years. He has missed so much in our family -- grandchildren, marriages, etc. I think of my dad often and will always wonder whether I could have done more to let him know how much I loved him. Don't do this to the ones you leave behind. I know you probably think they would be better off without you, but that is not true. The guilt we carry is awful. -- Daughter

Dear Daughter: I am so incredibly sorry for the loss of your father. Please do not blame yourself for what happened. Though I understand you mean well and speak from the heart when you implore suicidal people not to go through with it because of what it would do to their loved ones, I want to note that this style of appeal can heap guilt onto suicidal people when they're already depressed beyond management. To anyone reading this right now who is considering suicide, please seek help immediately. Dial 911 or call the Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-799-4889. Counselors are waiting to listen. You do not need to be considering suicide to call the hotline; if you're struggling with depression, give it a call, too.

To anyone worried a loved one may be considering self-harm, call the Suicide Prevention Lifeline or visit <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/help-someone-else>.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

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|--|--|---|--|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Felonious pier group</p> <p>10 Let heat build internally</p> <p>15 Lecture circuit income</p> <p>16 Opposite of claustrophobia</p> <p>17 Quantum leap of creativity</p> <p>18 They have fire-resistant spiny leaves</p> <p>19 Merest traces</p> <p>20 It's served by Air India</p> <p>22 Make barely perceptible progress</p> <p>23 They undo deadlocks: Abbr.</p> <p>25 Dedicated</p> <p>27 Shuts up</p> <p>31 Place to sign up for driving lessons</p> <p>33 Commuter van, initially</p> <p>34 Coronation location, often</p> <p>36 Getup</p> <p>37 Swell</p> <p>38 They're very well-fixed</p> <p>40 Its MD museum displays an Enigma machine</p> <p>41 Bringing inevitable results</p> <p>43 1980s auto from Serbia</p> <p>44 Sound of startlement</p> <p>45 Wine-cooler category</p> <p>47 Surroundings of many hotels</p> <p>49 Spreads</p> <p>51 Washington ordered it for his first inaugural party</p> <p>52 More than that</p> | <p>53 Old Norse name meaning "heir"</p> <p>55 Artisan affected by high altitudes</p> <p>59 Ball contact, in soccer</p> <p>61 "I can relate"</p> <p>63 Company founded by a periodontist</p> <p>64 Southwest's one-time "Secret City"</p> <p>65 Fare featuring wild fruit</p> <p>66 There when needed</p> | <p>6 Place concentrated pressure on</p> <p>7 Quarter of a city</p> <p>8 Mere suggestion</p> <p>9 Tin-pot dictator</p> <p>10 Publisher of the <i>Plane Sense</i> guidebook</p> <p>11 Least congenial</p> <p>12 Cagney, in <i>Public Enemy</i></p> <p>13 Start of many a mechanical invention</p> <p>14 Flamboyance</p> <p>21 Record company VIP</p> <p>24 Refuse to be baited</p> <p>26 Ham-fisted</p> <p>27 Given name adopted by the "Queen of Funk"</p> <p>28 Something Darwin studied in South America</p> | <p>29 Not deferential enough, maybe</p> <p>30 Mark after another's slip</p> <p>32 High points of meringue</p> <p>35 Source of ink</p> <p>39 ___ Lady of (start of many church names)</p> <p>42 <i>Sesame Street's</i> Count wears it</p> <p>46 City not far from Pikes Peak</p> <p>48 Missouri River fur traders of old</p> <p>50 Wear, as some masks</p> <p>52 Riding</p> <p>54 Cousin of -palooza</p> <p>56 Gore debater in '96</p> <p>57 Switch back</p> <p>58 Depend (on)</p> <p>60 <i>Last Week Tonight</i> aier "As if!"</p> |
|--|--|---|--|

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15									16					
17									18					
19					20			21		22				
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63								64						
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Answer to previous puzzle

SOMALIS	SHOULDIA
TORNADO	NUCLEUS
LOBSTER	ONESTOP
WHATSWHAT	
WERE	LOOP
EMERY	FILM
LASSOS	TOOT
FIT	WHOSWHO
ALI	LONE
RENT	LOPED
EDGES	AMOS
THATSTHAT	
REDHAIR	COLOGNE
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GETREAL	MESSAGE

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US pending home sales slipped 0.7 percent in November



A realtor sign hangs in front of a home for sale in Pittsburgh on Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2017. Fewer Americans signed contracts to buy homes in November as higher mortgage rates and prices squeezed would-be buyers out of the market, especially in the West.

By PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — Fewer Americans signed contracts to buy homes in November as higher mortgage rates and prices continued to squeeze would-be buyers out of the market.

The National Association of Realtors said Friday that its pending home sales index dipped 0.7 percent last month to 101.4. The index based on contract signings has dropped 7.7 percent over the past year and has recorded 11

straight year-over-year decreases.

The rate on benchmark 30-year, fixed rate mortgages was 4.55 percent this week, down from 4.62 percent last week but up from 3.99 percent a year ago.

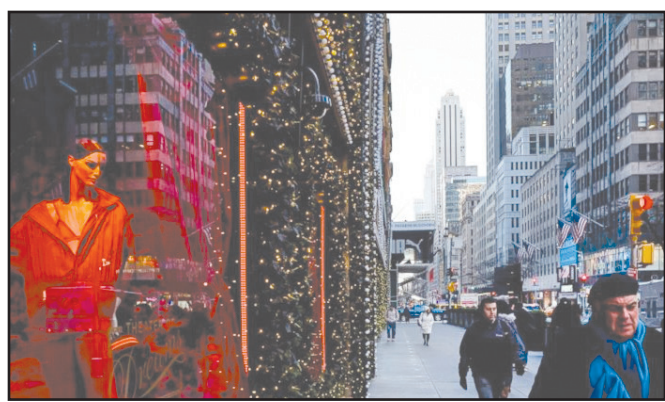
"The latest decline in contract signings implies more short-term pullback in the housing sector," said Lawrence Yun, chief economist at the National Association of Realtors.

All four U.S. regions have reported annual drops in pending

home sales: The West is down 12.2 percent, the South 7.4 percent, the Midwest 7 percent and the Northeast 3.5 percent. From October to November, sales rose 2.8 percent in the West and 2.7 percent in the Northeast but fell 2.7 percent in the South and 2.3 percent in the Midwest.

Pending sales are a barometer of home purchases that are completed a month or two later. So the November index suggests that sales will possibly decline through January.

US consumer confidence tumbles in December



In this Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018 file photo, people walk past a holiday window at Saks Fifth Avenue, in New York. U.S. consumer confidence tumbled this month as Americans began to worry that economic growth will moderate next year.

By PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. consumer confidence tumbled this month as Americans began to worry that economic growth will moderate next year. But consumer spirits are still high by historic standards.

The Conference Board, a business research group, said Thursday that its consumer confidence index fell to 128.1 in December, down from 136.4 in November and lowest since July.

The index measures

consumers' assessment of current economic conditions and their outlook for the next six months. Both fell in December. Consumers' expectations for the future dropped to the lowest level since November 2016.

The December readings "still suggest that the economy will continue expanding at a solid pace in the short-term," said Lynn Franco, the Conference Board's senior director of economic indicators. "While

See **CONFIDENCE**, Page 12C

EPA

Continued from Page 5C

A proposal Friday from the Environmental Protection Agency would leave current emissions standards in place. However, it challenges the basis for the Obama regulation, calculating that the crackdown on mercury and other toxins from coal plants produced only a few million dollars a year in measurable health benefits and was not "appropriate and necessary" — a legal benchmark under the country's landmark Clean Air Act.

The proposal, which now goes up for public comment, is the latest Trump administration move that changes estimates of the costs and payoffs of regulations in arguing for

relaxing Obama-era environmental protections.

It's also the administration's latest proposed move on behalf of the U.S. coal industry, which has been struggling in the face of competition from natural gas and other cheaper, cleaner forms of energy. The Trump administration in August proposed an overhaul for another Obama-era regulation that would have prodded electricity providers to get less of their energy from dirtier-burning coal plants.

In a statement, the EPA said Friday the administration was "providing regulatory certainty" by more accurately estimating the costs and benefits of the Obama administration crackdown on mercury and other toxic emissions from smokestacks.

Hal Quinn, head of the National Mining Association, charged in a statement Friday that the Obama administration had carried out "perhaps the largest regulatory accounting fraud perpetrated on American consumers" when it calculated that the broad health benefits to Americans would outweigh the cost of equipment upgrades by power providers.

Sen. Tom Carper of Delaware, the top Democrat on the Senate's Environment and Public Works Committee, condemned the Trump administration's move.

The EPA has "decided to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory" after the successful clean-up of toxins from the country's coal-plant smokestacks, Carper said.

He and other opponents of the move

said the Trump administration was playing with numbers, ignoring what Carper said were clear health, environmental and economic benefits to come up with a bottom line that suited the administration's deregulatory aims.

Janet McCabe, a former air-quality official in the Obama administration's EPA, called the proposal part of "the quiet dismantling of the regulatory framework" for the federal government's environmental protections.

Coming one week into a government shutdown, and in the lull between Christmas and New Year, "this low-key announcement shouldn't fool anyone — it is a big deal, with significant implications," McCabe said.

TESLA

Continued from Page 5C

stock will fall.

So far, Musk is winning that fight. Shares of Tesla Inc. are up more than 20 percent since his clash with the SEC.

Tesla named Australian telecommunications executive Robyn Denholm as board chairwoman last month as part of its agreement with the SEC. Although Denholm brings much-needed financial and auto industry expertise to Tesla -- which has struggled to produce cars and make money -- there hasn't been a marked change in Musk's unorthodox behavior, at least when compared with other chief

executives at major corporations that are publicly traded.

Tesla shares slumped 6 percent in early September after Musk was seen appearing to smoke marijuana during an interview that made the rounds on YouTube.

Earlier this month, Musk also dismissed the idea that Denholm could exert control over his behavior, saying in an interview with "60 Minutes" that "It's not realistic in the sense that I am the largest shareholder in the company."

And Ellison, one of the most recognizable names in Silicon Valley, revealed in October that not only was Tesla his second largest investment, but also that he and Musk are close.

"I'm very close friends with Elon Musk, and I'm a

big investor in Tesla," Ellison said.

One other thing required of Tesla by the SEC as part of the settlement is that somebody vet Musk's tweets and other comments about the company before they are released to the public. Musk also shrugged off that provision, saying none of his tweets have been censored so far and the company does not review his posts to determine beforehand whether they could potentially affect the company's stock price.

Still, in an SEC filing Friday, Tesla said that it "intends to certify to the Commission that it and Elon have timely completed each of their respective actions required pursuant to the Settlement."

Tesla shares rose more than 2 percent in midday trading.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 5C

Andrea Marissa Paradez, 26, and Andrew Dicierto Garcia, 22, both of Big Spring.
Nathan Jimenez, 22, and Des'ree Kae Richter, both of Big Spring.

County Court Judgments

(Note: The State of Texas is listed as prosecutor for all county court judgments)

Defendant: Anthony E. Trevino
Offense: Criminal Mischief
Sentence: \$100 fine, \$317 court cost, 20 days in jail
Date: Nov. 29, 2018

Defendant: Debra Lopez
Offense: Possession of dangerous drug
Sentence: 12 months probation
Date: Nov. 20, 2018

Defendant: Regino Mendez
Offense: DWLS with previous convictions
Sentence: \$267 one time payment
Date: Nov. 13, 2018

Defendant: Robert Deck
Offense: Harassment
Sentence: \$250 fine, \$269 court cost
Date: Dec. 3, 2018

Plaintiff: Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC
Respondent: Flora Gonzalez
Type of Case: Contract-consumer
Date: Dec. 26, 2018

Warranty Deeds

Grantor: Laura P Barraza FKA Laura Pena
Grantee: Cynthia Gurs Irrevocable Grandchildren's Trust
Property: Lot 6, block 6, Porter Addition to Big Spring.
Date: Dec. 18, 2018

Grantor: Terry Lee Hanson
Grantee: Debbie Newton
Property: Being a 8.03 acre tract out of section 32, block 32, T-1-N, T and P RR. Co., Survey, Howard County.
Date: Dec. 18, 2018

Grantor: Maria Margarita Sanchez Yanez
Grantee: Margarito Yanez Jr
Property: Being a 35 acres, more or less out of the W half section 27, block 32, T-1-N, T and P Co. Survey
Date: Dec. 27, 2018

Grantor: Ramon M. Saldivar
Grantee: Eddilisa Kathryn Saldivar
Property: Lot 4 and 5, block 26 Bauer Addition
Date: Dec. 27, 2018

Grantor: Betty Geraldine Bedell, Independent Executor of the Estate of Bettie

Gene Bedell, deceased
Grantee: Kyle W Nichols and Kayla Jo Nichols
Property: A 1.0 acre tract of land in the S/2 of section 31, block 32, T-1-S, T and P Ry. Co. Survey
Date: Dec. 27, 2018

Grantor: Chad Allen James
Grantee: Michael Piercefield and Stephanie Piercefield
Property: Being a 4.07 acre tract of land, more or less, out of a 10.0 acre tract of land out of NW/4 of section 19, block 32, T-1-S, T and P, RR. Co. Survey
Date: Dec. 27, 2018

Grantor: Elite Cabins and RV, LLC
Grantee: Anna Hernandez
Property: Being a 4.77 acre tract of land, more or less, out of the NW/4 of section 45, block 31, T-1-N, T and P. RR., Co., Survey
Date: Dec. 27, 2018

Grantor: Charlotte Ford
Grantee: Primelending
Property: Being lot 16, block 10, Kentwood Addition unit 1
Date: Dec. 27, 2018

Warranty Deeds with Vendors' Liens

Grantor: Carol Stephens

and Cecil Stephens
Grantee: Kyrstin Hearth
Property: Being the S/2 of lot 8, and N/40 degrees of lot 7, all in block 8, North Belvue Addition to the City of Big Spring
Date: Dec. 27, 2018

Grantor: Robert O'Daniel and Stacy O'Daniel
Grantee: Allan B Polunsky
Property: Being lot 3, save and except the W 50, thereof, and all to the West 60, of lot number four, in block number one, Cedar Ridge Addition.
Date: Dec. 27, 2018

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Quiz: Test your knowledge of this year's business news

The Associated Press

2018 was a big year in business news. A trade war heated up between the U.S. and China, Facebook's stock took a face-plant, and two big tech companies reached \$1 trillion in value, although that was before this fall's stock market rout. Test your knowledge of this year's notable events in business news with this end-of-year quiz.

1. Which CEO got in trouble with regulators for declaring that he was considering taking his company private at \$420 a share, and that funding was "secured"?
2. General Electric, a member of the Dow Jones Industrial Average since the index's founding in 1896, got booted from the prestigious club as its fortunes continued to founder. Which company replaced it?
3. Facebook's stock plunged 19 percent in one day in July after warning investors that its revenue growth would slow and its expenses continue to soar. How much of the company's value was wiped out that day?
4. Two American companies hit \$1 trillion in market value this year, but both are now worth considerably less after the stock market's big drop this fall. Which companies are they, and which hit the mark first?
5. Netflix, which has transformed the entertainment industry with its lavish spending on programming and its spectacular subscriber growth, recently paid how much to continue licensing the hit TV show "Friends" for another year?
6. Time magazine, once a dominant player in the U.S. media landscape, changed hands twice this year. Who owns it now, and who was the previous owner?
7. Which world leader, taking a tough stand on trade with China, referred to himself as "Tariff Man"?
8. The iconic "Fearless Girl" statue recently moved to a new location in lower Manhattan. Where is it?
9. France was gripped with protests this year as people protested the policies of French President Emmanuel Macron, including a higher fuel tax. The protesters became known as the "yellow vests" for the fluorescent safety vests they wore. Why do so many French people have those vests at the ready?
10. The tiny Estonian branch of which major Dan-



AP photo
Trader Andrew Silverman works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Thursday, Dec. 27, 2018. Wall Street's wild Christmas week goes on, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average slumping 300 points at the open Thursday, a day after notching its biggest-ever point gain.

ish lender is suspected of being at the center of a massive money laundering scheme between 2007 and 2015?

Answers:

1. Tesla CEO Elon Musk.
2. Walgreens Boots Alliance
3. \$119 billion.
4. Apple's value hit \$1 trillion in early August, and Amazon became worth \$1 trillion a month later. Both are now worth roughly \$700 billion.
5. \$100 million.
6. Salesforce.com co-founder Marc Benioff and his wife Lynne Benioff bought Time this September for \$190 million from Meredith Corp., a Des Moines, Iowa-based company whose magazines include Better Homes & Gardens. Meredith bought Time's parent company, Time Inc., in January.
7. U.S. President Donald Trump.
8. In front of the New York Stock Exchange.
9. The French government requires drivers to keep the yellow safety vests in their cars in case they break down on the side of the road.
10. Danske Bank.

CONFIDENCE

Continued from Page 11C

consumers are ending 2018 on a strong note, back-to-back declines in expectations are reflective of an increasing concern that the pace of economic growth will begin moderating in the first half of 2019."

For now, the U.S. economy is solid. Economic growth clocked in at a healthy 3.4 percent annual pace from July through September after surging 4.2 percent in the second quarter. At 3.7 percent, the unemployment rate is the lowest in nearly five decades.

But the U.S. stock market has dropped sharply since early October. Investors have plenty to worry about. The Federal Reserve has gradually been raising interest rates. The economic boost from year-old tax cuts is expected to fade in 2019. Global growth is sputtering. And the U.S. and China — the world's two biggest economies — are locked in a trade war that threatens to disrupt global commerce.

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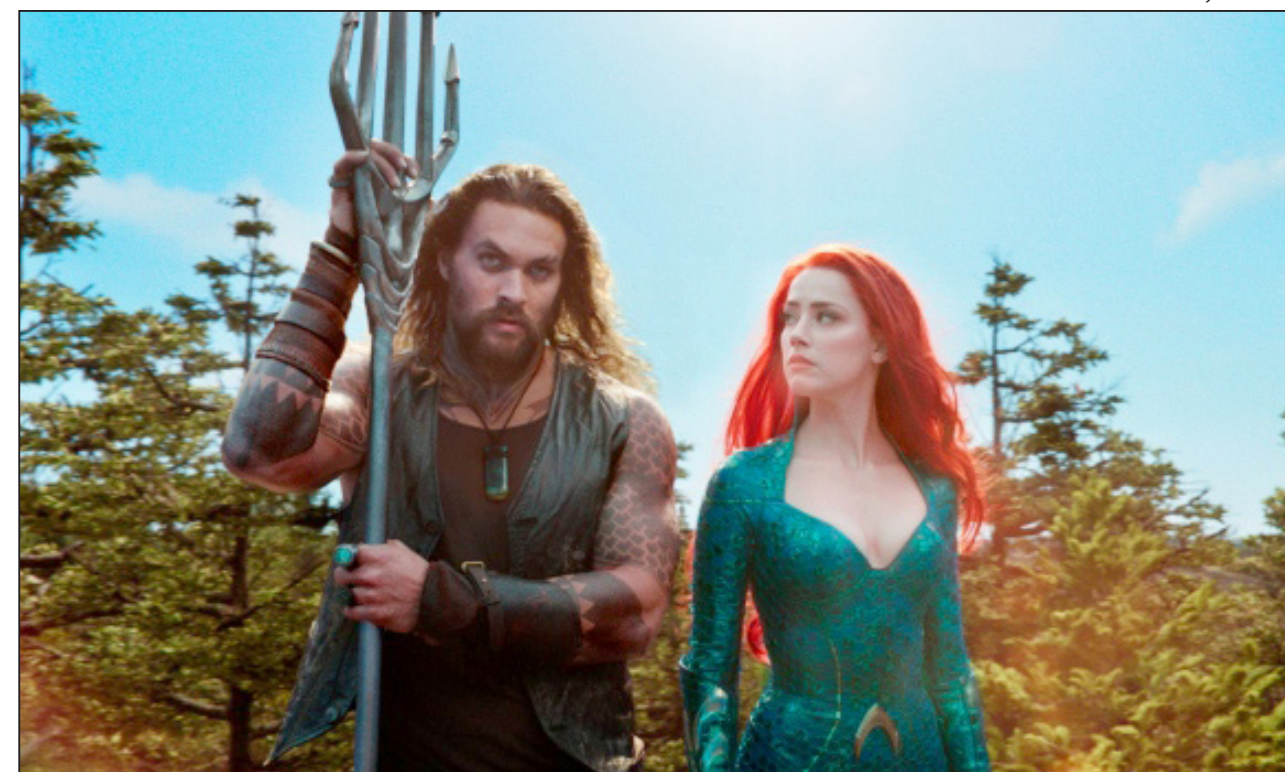
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ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

BIG SPRING HERALD

Week of December 30, 2018



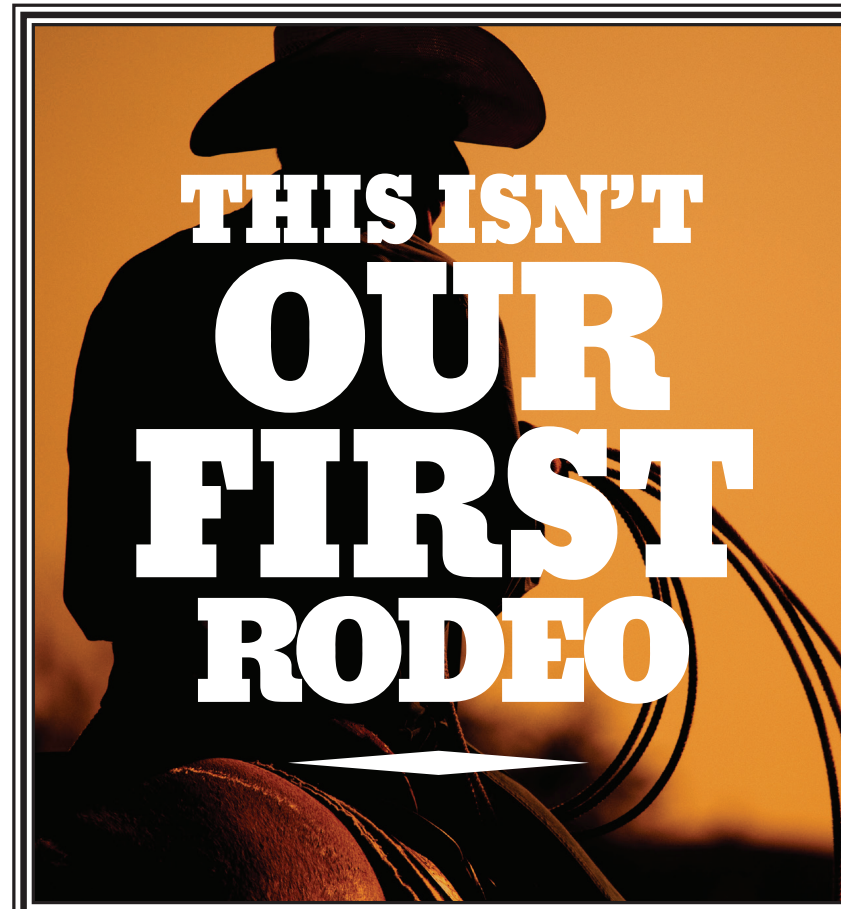
AP photo
This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Jason Momoa, left, and Amber Heard in a scene from "Aquaman." See story on Page 2.

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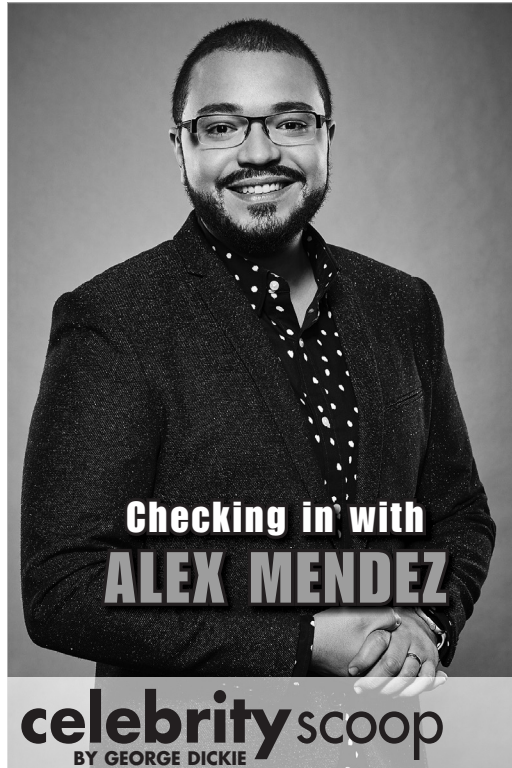
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Alex Mendez is a man who had a dream and made it come true. As a commentator on the new NBC competition series ‘The Titan Games,’ which premieres Wednesday, Jan. 2, the 31-year-old Bronx, N.Y., native has worked hard to get where he is, holding down jobs in retail and social work before eventually landing in his career passion, esports.

The man dubbed ‘Goldenboy’ is well known in videogaming circles as an accomplished gamer and a commentator for a number of eports events, among them Epic Games’ ‘Fortnite Battle Royale,’ Psyonix’s Rocket League Championship, 343 Industries’ Halo Championship Series and EA’s ‘Battlefield’ series. Also an avid WWE fan, he’s called the action for CEO X New Japan Pro Wrestling.

Now, in his new assignment for NBC, he’ll team with Liam McHugh and Cari Champion to call the action as competitors push themselves to their mental, emotional and physical limits in a series of head-to-head challenges.

It’s the logical next career step for a man who hopes his story can serve as inspiration for others.

‘My mother was a single mom going to college, trying to show her kids (that) if you work hard enough, you can achieve stuff,’ Mendez explains. ‘Her dream was to buy a house. And because of how hard she worked, she worked two jobs, went to college, took care of two kids by herself ... I saw my mom achieve her dream

of buying a house (and) it gave me this feeling of like anything is possible. If you really, really set your mind to it, you can accomplish this. And that was the basis of how I got involved in this industry in esports and now with ‘Titan Games.’”

‘The message I’m always telling people,’ he continues, ‘is no matter where you come from, if you love something and if you’re passionate about it and you want it, it is possible.’”

Name: Alex Mendez

Birth date: Nov. 8, 1987

Birthplace: The Bronx, N.Y.

Residence: Brooklyn, N.Y.

Education: certificate in graphic design

Family ties: Wife Cynthia; no children

Commentator credits: Blizzard Entertainment’s

Overwatch League; Epic Games’ ‘Fortnite Battle Royale’; Cheddar TV; TBS’ ELEAGUE; Major League Gaming; Psyonix’s Rocket League Championship Series; 343 Industries’ Halo Championship Series; Electronic Arts’ ‘Battlefield’ series; CEO X New Japan Pro Wrestling; ‘Call of Duty’ national championship

Broadcast idols: Jim Ross and Michael Cole of the WWE

QUOTE CRYPTOGRAM by Rebecca Kornbluh

S TGNXJ QGAK UQDU NPIKORUDPIJSPM DPJ OKHGHPSXSUSUSGP DOK PGU XSZSUKJ UG UQK PPKUKKPUQ QGXX DXGPK — MKODXJ LGOJ

Last Week’s Quote Cryptogram: No man is lonely while eating spaghetti — it requires so much attention — Christopher Morley 12/30/18

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Soap Synopses BY GEORGE DICKIE

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL Hope told Steffy and Liam she wanted to enjoy Christmas without Taylor. Steffy vowed to never turn her back on Taylor. Taylor told Reese she did something terrible and Brooke was using it against her. The Logans, Avants and Spencers joined the Forresters at their estate for Christmas. Hope and Liam announced their daughter’s name. Ridge gave Steffy a present to give to Taylor. Zoe demanded Reese stop pretending she was the reason he moved to Los Angeles. Hope set up a ‘babymoon’ for her and Liam. The thug threatened Reese to pay him or face the consequences. Ridge surprised Brooke with a kiss at work. Steffy and Liam took ailing Kelly to the doctor, thus changing his and Hope’s plans for leaving Catalina Island. Ridge shared his New Year’s resolution with Brooke.

DAYS OF OUR LIVES Gabi panicked when she learned Julie had awakened. Abigail dropped a bombshell on Stefan. Julie surprised her family as they hung ornaments. Abigail and Chad received a Christmas miracle. Leo made a spectacle of himself at the holiday children’s party at the hospital. Abe got an unexpected gift from Sheila. Chad reeled after learning he is Charlotte’s father. JJ tried to get Haley to talk about her problems. Chad demanded Rafe arrest Gabi for her deceptions. Jennifer apologized to Abigail for not believing in her daughter. Gabi feared for her life as she found herself at Stefan’s mercy. A face from the past turned up at a New Year’s Eve celebration at Doug’s Place. Eric consulted with Justin about suing for custody of Holly.

GENERAL HOSPITAL Ryan continued to torment Kevin. Lulu shared her findings with Laura. Julian celebrated a belated Christmas. Kevin bought a little time. Ava lashed out. Kevin got an unwanted visit. Laura sought help from Felicia. Griffin struggled with his feelings. Jason warned Sonny to not get too close to Margaux. Kim was touched by Kim’s support. Michael attended a charity gala. Willow went on a date with Chase. Kim reminisced. Kristina came to a decision. Olivia made a discovery.

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS Victoria spent the holiday with Billy and their romantic chemistry began to return. Jack spent the day with Dina and tried to remain festive despite her not recognizing him. Devon faced his first Christmas without Hilary, joined by Nate and Ana. Kyle and Lola exchanged gifts and she was horrified to realize how little he knows about her. Ana confronted Devon for taking credit for the talent she discovered and he asked her to sign the writer of Fen’s song to the label. Fen accused Ana of being the writer and she admitted he’s right.

SUNDAY DAYTIME

1 = Suddenlink 2 = Dish Network 3 = DirecTV

DECEMBER 30, 2018

Table with columns for Channel, Time, and Program Title. Rows include KVID, KWES, KWES2, KTLE, KPEJ, KOSA, KWWT, KPBT, MLM, and A&E through USA.

Table with columns for Channel, Time, and Program Title. Rows include AMC, AP, DISN, ESPN, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, TDC, TLC, TNT, and USA.

Table with columns for Channel, Time, and Program Title. Rows include HBO, SHOW, and TMC.

SUNDAY EVENING

1 = Suddenlink 2 = Dish Network 3 = DirecTV

DECEMBER 30, 2018

Table with columns for time slots (1-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (KMD, KWES, KWES2, KTLE, KPEJ, KOSA, KWWT, KPBT, MLM) listing program titles and descriptions.

CABLE STATIONS

Table with columns for channel numbers and rows for cable stations (A&E, AMC, AP, DISN, ESPN, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, TDC, TLC, TNT, USA) listing program titles and descriptions.

PREMIUM STATIONS

Table with columns for channel numbers and rows for premium stations (HBO, SHOW, TMC) listing program titles and descriptions.

SATURDAY EVENING

1 = Suddenlink 2 = Dish Network 3 = DirecTV

JANUARY 5, 2019

Table with columns for time slots (1-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (KMD, KWES, KWES2, KTLE, KPEJ, KOSA, KWWT, KPBT, MLM) listing program titles and descriptions.

CABLE STATIONS

Table with columns for channel numbers and rows for cable stations (A&E, AMC, AP, DISN, ESPN, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, TDC, TLC, TNT, USA) listing program titles and descriptions.

PREMIUM STATIONS

Table with columns for channel numbers and rows for premium stations (HBO, SHOW, TMC) listing program titles and descriptions.

SATURDAY DAYTIME

1 = Suddenlink 2 = Dish Network 3 = DirecTV

JANUARY 5, 2019

Table with columns for time slots (9:30, 10AM, 10:30, 11AM, 11:30, 12PM, 12:30, 1PM, 1:30, 2PM, 2:30, 3PM, 3:30, 4PM, 4:30, 5PM, 5:30) and rows for various channels (KMGD, KWES, KWES2, KMLE, KPEJ, KOSA, KQWT, KPBT, MLM, A&E, AMC, AP, DISN, ESPN, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, TDC, TLC, TNT, USA, HBO, SHOW, TMC).

WEEKDAYS DAYTIME

1 = Suddenlink 2 = Dish Network 3 = DirecTV

DECEMBER 31, 2018

Table with columns for time slots (9:30, 10AM, 10:30, 11AM, 11:30, 12PM, 12:30, 1PM, 1:30, 2PM, 2:30, 3PM, 3:30, 4PM, 4:30, 5PM, 5:30) and rows for various channels (KMGD, KWES, KWES2, KMLE, KPEJ, KOSA, KQWT, KPBT, MLM, A&E, AMC, AP, DISN, ESPN, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, TDC, TLC, TNT, USA, HBO, SHOW, TMC).

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com) PERSONS OF THE YEAR: Honored by Time Magazine by Mark McClain

CROSSWORD GRID with clues for Across and Down words.

Reach Stan Newman at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, or at www.StanXwords.com

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FRIDAY EVENING 1 = Suddenlink 2 = Dish Network 3 = DirecTV JANUARY 4, 2019

Table of broadcast and cable stations for Friday evening and January 4, 2019.

THURSDAY EVENING

1 = Suddenlink 2 = Dish Network 3 = DirecTV

JANUARY 3, 2019

Table with columns for time slots (1-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (KMD, KWES, KWES2, KTLE, KPEJ, KOSA, KWWT, KPBT, MLM) and cable stations (A&E, AMC, AP, DISN, ESPN, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, TDC, TLC, TNT, USA).

CABLE STATIONS

Table with columns for time slots (1-11:30) and rows for premium stations (HBO, SHOW, TMC) and cable stations (A&E, AMC, AP, DISN, ESPN, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, TDC, TLC, TNT, USA).

PREMIUM STATIONS

Table with columns for time slots (1-11:30) and rows for premium stations (HBO, SHOW, TMC).

MONDAY EVENING

1 = Suddenlink 2 = Dish Network 3 = DirecTV

DECEMBER 31, 2018

Table with columns for time slots (1-11:30) and rows for broadcast stations (KMD, KWES, KWES2, KTLE, KPEJ, KOSA, KWWT, KPBT, MLM) and cable stations (A&E, AMC, AP, DISN, ESPN, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, TDC, TLC, TNT, USA).

CABLE STATIONS

Table with columns for time slots (1-11:30) and rows for premium stations (HBO, SHOW, TMC) and cable stations (A&E, AMC, AP, DISN, ESPN, ESPN2, FOOD, FXSD, HGTV, HIST, SYFY, WTBS, TDC, TLC, TNT, USA).

PREMIUM STATIONS

Table with columns for time slots (1-11:30) and rows for premium stations (HBO, SHOW, TMC).

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BY GEORGE DICKIE

Gordon Ramsay makes 'Hell' worth their while in Season 2 of Fox restaurant-rescue series

Gordon Ramsay has seen it too many times. Restaurateurs become complacent and lazy and they stop paying attention to the competition. Often, cleanliness in the kitchen suffers and the food goes downhill. And if the business is family-run, there are likely morale issues as well, as no one wants to speak up for fear of ruffling feathers.

It's a downward progression of events that usually ends with the eatery going under – and family relationships fractured.

"The first question I ask," Ramsay says, "is: If this chef wasn't your son or daughter, would you fire them? Immediately, yes they would. And if your mother wasn't the manager, would you fire her? Yes, I immediately would. So they forget the importance of there's no family when you run into that business. ... Yes, you can love and support one another but you need to make decisions."

In Season 2 of "Gordon Ramsay's 24 Hours of Hell and Back," which commences Wednesday, Jan. 2, on Fox, the chef, author and restaurateur comes to the aid of more eateries suffering from morale, management, food and/or cleanliness issues that threaten to force their closure, giving the place a makeover over the course of one full day that is designed to get the place back on its feet. This season, he works his brand of tough love on businesses in New Orleans, Kansas City and Connecticut, among other locales.

But to be able to properly identify the issues, Ramsay can't go as Gordon Ramsay, so he's walked into restaurants dressed as everything from a woman from a local charity event to a police officer to a baggage handler. Hidden cameras capture the reactions of staff and customers when he un.masks himself.

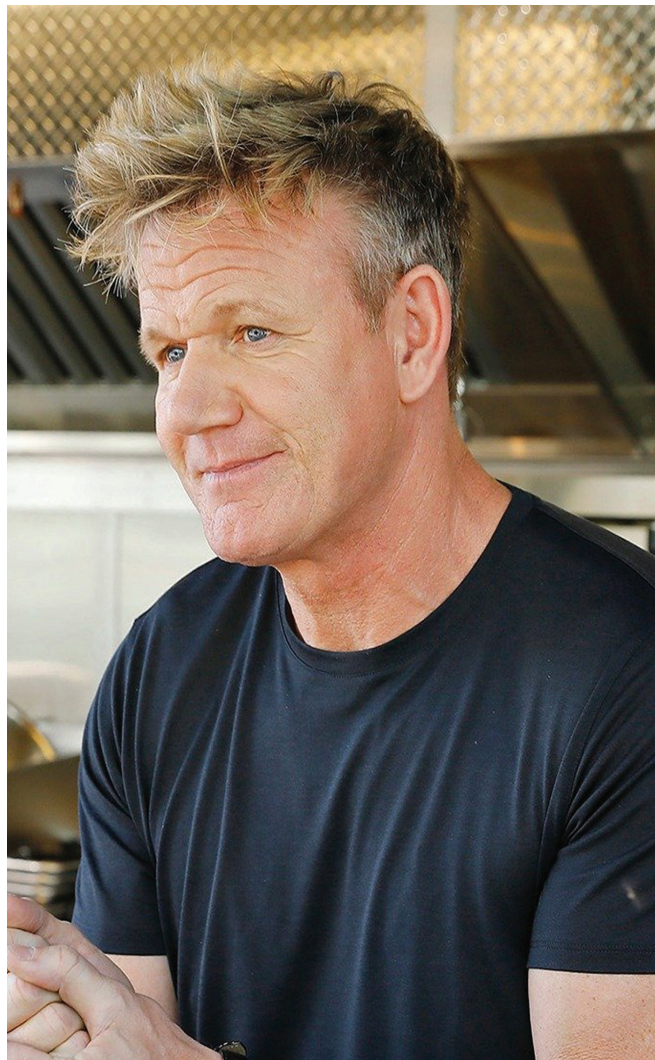
"Screaming, people standing up cheering, 'holy s...!,'" he says. "And I'll start peeling off my beard, my nose, my ears, my cap, and then they are f... freaking out."

In the end for Ramsay, it's all about getting the business – and in some cases the family – back on track.

"That's the bit for me ...," he says, "honestly handing those keys back over to those owners and seeing their faces, they're asking to hug and they're asking me to stay. And 23 hours prior to that, I'm called (many profane names) and oh my God! So to get through that process is quite an extraordinary turnaround."

"So that's when I get happy," he continues, "watching them fall back in love with their restaurant. They've been given this incredible, brand new fit-out. The restaurant's décor is in keeping with what it should be; it has an identity. And then of course, it's (been given a strong presence on) social media and we have local critics coming in.

"So they are back on the map."



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"The Orville" on Fox
 (Words in parentheses not in puzzle)

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Claire (Finn)	(Penny Johnson) Jerald	(The) Krill
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	6				9	8	
				9		6	
8	5	6		3			
		7	8	2			
	2		1		5	6	
2		5					
1	4		7		9		
9		6	7		5		

To complete this puzzle, place the numbers 1-9 in the empty cells, so that every row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold outline) contains all nine digits.

Each number 1-9 may appear only once in each row, column and 3-by-3 box.

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2:00 p.m. **College Basketball Lipscomb at Clemson.** From Littlejohn Coliseum in Clemson, S.C.

6:00 p.m. **NBA Basketball Oklahoma City Thunder at Dallas Mavericks.** From American Airlines Center in Dallas. **Monday**

12:00 p.m. **College Basketball Marshall at Virginia.** From John Paul Jones Arena in Charlottesville, Va.

7:00 p.m. **NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Oklahoma City Thunder.** From Chesapeake Energy Arena in Oklahoma City. **Wednesday**

6:00 p.m. **NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Charlotte Hornets.** From Spectrum Center in Charlotte, N.C.

7:00 p.m. **NBA Basketball Minnesota Timberwolves at Boston Celtics.** From TD Garden in Boston.

9:30 p.m. **NBA Basketball Oklahoma City Thunder at Los Angeles Lakers.** From Staples Center in Los Angeles. **Thursday**

3:00 p.m. **College Basketball DePaul at Villanova.** From Finneran Pavilion in Villanova, Pa. (Taped)

6:00 p.m. **College Basketball Penn State at Michigan.** From Crisler Center in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Women's College Basketball Duke at North Carolina State. From the Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh, N.C.

7:00 p.m. **NBA Basketball Toronto Raptors at San Antonio Spurs.** From the AT&T Center in San Antonio. **Friday**

8:00 p.m. **Women's College Basketball Connecticut at Baylor.** From the Ferrell Center in Waco, Texas.

9:30 p.m. **NBA Basketball Houston Rockets at Golden State Warriors.** From Oracle Arena in Oakland, Calif. **Saturday**

7:00 p.m. **NBA Basketball Washington Wizards at Miami Heat.** From the American Airlines Arena in Miami.

NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Boston Celtics. From TD Garden in Boston.

9:30 p.m. **NBA Basketball Oklahoma City Thunder at Portland Trail Blazers.** From Moda Center in Portland, Ore. **Saturday**

12:00 p.m. **College Basketball St. John's at Georgetown.** From Capital One Arena in Washington, D.C. **College Basketball Kentucky at Alabama.** From Coleman Coliseum in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

1:00 p.m. **College Basketball Villanova at Providence.** From the Dunkin' Donuts Center in Providence, R.I.

College Basketball Oklahoma State at Oklahoma. From the Lloyd Noble Center in Norman, Okla.

6:30 p.m. **NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Philadelphia 76ers.** From Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia.

BOWLING
Monday

2:00 p.m. **PBA Bowling PBA Clash.** From Conroe, Texas. (Taped)

FOOTBALL
Sunday

12:00 p.m. **NFL Football Jacksonville Jaguars at Houston Texans.** The Jaguars aim to avenge a Week 7 defeat to their division rival, the Texans. Houston bested Jacksonville 20-7 on Oct. 21 in Florida to extend their winning streak to four games at the time. Lamar Miller (HOU) gained 100 rushing yards in the win. **NFL Football Los Angeles Chargers at Denver Broncos.** The Chargers prep for the playoffs with their final regular-season game against the Broncos. Los Angeles aims to snap a five-game winless streak in Denver. Brandon McManus' 34-yard field goal at the horn gave Denver a 23-22 win over LA on Nov. 18. **NFL Football Teams TBA.**

3:25 p.m. **College Football Hyundai Sun Bowl - Stanford vs Pittsburgh.** Stanford (8-4, 6-3 Pac-12) plays the Sun Bowl against Pittsburgh (7-6, 6-2 ACC) in El Paso, Texas. This is the first meeting between the two schools since 1932, when the Panthers beat the Cardinal 7-0. Pittsburgh seeks its first bowl win since 2013. **College Football Redbox Bowl - Michigan State vs Oregon.** Michigan State (7-5, 5-4 Big Ten) and Oregon (8-4, 5-4 Pac-12) contest the Redbox Bowl in Santa Clara, California. The all-time series between these teams is tied at 3-3. The Spartans have won five of their last six bowl games, dating back to 2012.

2:45 p.m. **College Football AutoZone Liberty Bowl - Missouri vs Oklahoma**

State. Missouri (8-4, 4-4 SEC) faces Oklahoma State (6-6, 3-6 Big 12) in the Liberty Bowl. The Cowboys, playing their 13th-consecutive bowl game, are 3-1 against nationally-ranked opponents this season. The No. 23 Tigers are on a four-game winning streak. **College Football TaxSlayer Gator Bowl - North Carolina State vs Texas A&M.** Texas A&M (8-4, 5-3 SEC) plays North Carolina State (9-3, 5-3 ACC) for the Gator Bowl. The Wolfpack make their first Gator Bowl appearance since winning in 2003. The No. 19 Aggies seek their first bowl game triumph since the 2014 Liberty Bowl. **Tuesday**

12:00 p.m. **College Football VRBO Citrus Bowl - Kentucky vs Penn State.** The No. 12 Nittany Lions and No. 14 Wildcats face off in the Citrus Bowl. Penn State leads the all-time series with Kentucky by a 3-2 margin, and the teams last met Jan. 1, 1999 when the Nittany Lions outlasted the Wildcats 26-14 in the Outback Bowl. **PlayStation Fiesta Bowl LSU vs Central Florida.** Central Florida aims for a second-straight unbeaten season when it squares off versus LSU in the Fiesta Bowl. The Knights look to slay a Tigers team from the SEC for the second year in a row, after topping Auburn 34-27 in the 2018 Peach Bowl.

4:00 p.m. **Rose Bowl Washington vs Ohio State.** The 105th Rose Bowl sees No. 9 Washington (10-3, 7-2 Pac-12) take on No. 6 Ohio State (12-1, 8-1 Big Ten). One team will tie Michigan for second all-time with its eighth Rose Bowl win. The Huskies seek their first Rose Bowl title since 2001.

7:40 p.m. **Allstate Sugar Bowl Texas vs Georgia.** The Sugar Bowl in New Orleans sees No. 15 Texas (9-4, 7-2 Big 12) take on No. 5 Georgia (11-2, 7-1 SEC). This is the first meeting between the two powerhouse schools since Jan. 2, 1984, when the Bulldogs beat the Longhorns 10-9 in the Cotton Bowl.

Saturday

12:00 p.m. **High School Football The U.S. Army All-American Bowl.** From San Antonio.

3:30 p.m. **NFL Football AFC Wild Card: Teams TBA.**

7:00 p.m. **NFL Football AFC or NFC Wild Card: Teams TBA.**

GOLF
Saturday

3:00 p.m. **PGA Tour Golf Sentry Tournament of Champions, Third Round.** From Plantation Course at Kapalua, Maui, Hawaii.

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