MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2016 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

DID YOU WIN BIG?
Double check the winning Powerball numbers.
Page 4A

LAST HURRAH
The Living Deads will headline the Blue Max's final show. Get to meet the band and find out what else is happening around town this weekend and beyond in this week's edition of Weekender.
Inside

Search for savings spurs boom for digital tools

Oil companies look for ways to swap pencils and paper for sensors and tablets

By Rhiannon Meyers
Houston Chronicle

In the predawn hours, Gaye Hester would make her way down the South Texas gravel ranch roads, checking on oil wells like a doctor making rounds in a hospital.

It was a time-consuming routine. Hester, who works for private oil company Welder Exploration & Production, climbed each narrow staircase to the tank's lid, dipped a long stick into the darkness, jotted down her notes by hand, then spent the afternoon logging numbers into a spreadsheet. A well could lose hours of precious production before Hester discovered the problem and called a technician to make repairs.

Oil and gas companies have been working for years on ways to swap pencil and paper in the oil patch for sophisticated sensors and iPads, but the digital oilfield initiative fell by the wayside during the flush days of the recent shale boom. That effort is gaining renewed attention during the worst crude slump in decades as oil and gas firms scramble to squeeze more out of smaller fleet of wells and workers. Since the collapse forced a slowdown in the oil patch, energy companies are taking a second look at devices, tools and software systems that promise to help them produce more for less, even if that means spending a little extra on technology while cutting elsewhere.

"We're seeing a lot more traction now," said Kirk Coburn, CEO of a Houston-based company that funds energy tech startups. "We will come out of this downturn with a more digital footprint than we've ever had."

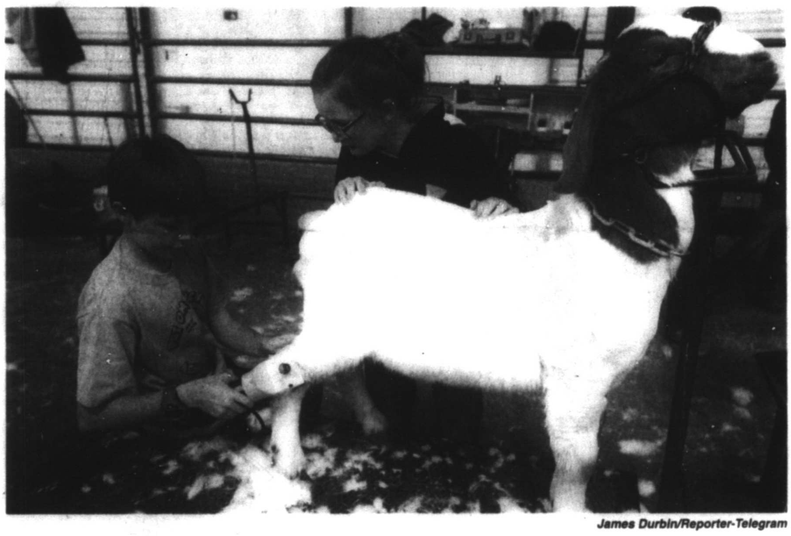
The industry may be known for its space-age innovations to pull oil and gas from the toughest rocks and deepest seas, but basic daily functions, such as monitoring wells and keeping track of production, remained old school, creating costly inefficiencies and pricey delays. The drive to digitize the oil field began in earnest years ago as the industry looked to improve its operations, make smarter decisions and cut down on the time employees wasted traveling between remote well sites.

But it hasn't been easy.

The cellphones and tablets consumers embraced had to be modified to withstand harsh conditions. Remote oil fields often

Please see **TOOLS**/4A

PRIMPED FOR PRIME TIME



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Gage Hale and Paije Mulkey trim their goat during check-in for the Midland County Livestock Show on Wednesday at the Hoseshoe Arena. Find more information about the show on **Page 4A**.

In Texas, clean energy is ready to boom

By Mitchell Schnurman
Dallas Morning News

■ **ANALYSIS**

Texas is greener and cleaner than it sounds, and getting more so.

Elected officials often mock climate change and sue the EPA regularly, giving the impression that we're some kind of backwater for clean energy. In fact, Texas is a leader in many ways, especially electricity, and should be crowing about it.

The progress is a result of market competition, the deregulation of the electricity market and a big boost from government.

While Texas has long been the top state for oil and gas, much more is going on here. In electricity, cleaner-burning natural gas plants are pushing out coal faster than in the rest of the nation, and that's before the next air pollution regulations kick in.

Texas easily leads all states in wind power, and wind generation on the giant ERCOT grid grew 26 percent in 2015. Solar, a tiny part of the energy portfolio, is projected to grow sixfold this year. By 2030, solar is expected to add more generation than wind and natural gas combined. Even conservation and energy efficiency, often ridiculed here, are improving.

Businesses, cities and individuals are embracing clean energy and often wearing the green halo proudly.

Facebook is building a giant data farm in Fort Worth that will be driven entirely by wind power. Georgetown, north of Austin, will soon get all of its energy

Please see **BOOM**/4A

Willow, Lone Star Animal Sanctuary partner

By Erin Stone
estone@mrt.com

Regina Tubbs, the new owner of Willow, a women's clothing and jewelry boutique in Midland, has decided to combine her love of fashion with her love for animals.

Ten percent of the proceeds from various items will go to Lone Star Animal Sanctuary.

"My passion is puppies, and I really wanted to bring donations back home," Tubbs said. "I love dogs. I wanted to contribute back to the community, and that was how I wanted to do it."

Donations from the sale of scarves will run through the end of February. In subsequent months, Tubbs will choose a different item to promote and donate the proceeds to Lone Star.

Tubbs always had the desire to own a boutique, so when she walked into the store on her birthday and learned then owners Paula Cannon, Debbie Burke and Diana Barker were thinking of selling, she felt God had planned this for her.

"This store has never gotten out of my head because I love it," Tubbs said. "It's like a little Hill Country store right here in Midland. So when I came in, I asked Diana if they would ever considering selling, and she was like 'Well, actually we are' — because their lives had taken them other places. So it just kinda happened, and two months later, we signed."

Everything was finalized by the middle of December, and Tubbs knew from the start she'd want to give back to Lone Star Sanctuary.

Beth Meeks, sanctuary manager, knows the partnership with Willow will be a tremendous help.

"It's so exciting for us whenever anybody in the community wants to partner with us," Meeks said. "When they suggested this, I was so excited."

A tangible gesture of this partner-

Please see **PARTNER**/4A

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66/33
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Energy prices

WTI Futures	$30.48	▲	$0.04
WTI Posted	$27.00	–	$0.00
WTS Posted	$23.35	–	$0.00
Natural Gas	$2.268	▲	$0.011
Gasoline	$1.747	▼	$0.019

The big number
Since October, more than
16,000 children
traveled alone across the border into the U.S. Page 5A

Our View
We weigh in on who shined in the SOTU. Page 6A

Coming Friday
Catch up on the week's faith and philanthropy news.

Vol. 87, No. 309
Daily $1, Sunday $2

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STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

KOUNTZE

2 whooping cranes shot dead in Southeast Texas

Two endangered whooping cranes have been shot dead in Southeast Texas, and state game wardens have identified a suspect.

A statement from then International Crane Foundation said the shootings happened Sunday in Hardin County, but state Game Warden Mike Boone said Wednesday in Kountze that the shootings happened just to the south in Jefferson County.

No other details were available, but the foundation statement quoted Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials as saying a suspect has been identified. Boone said no arrests had been made.

The foundation says more than 20 whooping cranes have been shot and killed in the United States over the past five years, leaving about 600 whooping cranes in the world. The two cranes shot Sunday were part of a Louisiana flock that numbered about 30.

BROWNSVILLE

Border Patrol agent, 4 others indicted in decapitation death

A U.S. Border Patrol agent and four other men have been indicted on capital murder and other charges in the death of a man whose decapitated body was found floating near Texas' South Padre Island.

Joel Luna is on indefinite leave from the Border Patrol. A Cameron County grand jury in Brownsville on Wednesday charged him and the others with capital murder, murder and two counts of engaging in organized criminal activity. He and the other four are in the Cameron County jail without bond.

Jail records don't list attorneys for them.

The body of Jose Francisco Palacios-Paz was found last March. At the time of the November arrests, Cameron County Sheriff Omar Lucio said a safe at Luna's Hebbronville home contained nearly $90,000, a kilogram of cocaine and handguns.

GREENVILLE

Standoff ends, driver held in Texas stolen truck incident

A Texas standoff involving a stolen tractor-trailer has safely ended with the driver captured.

The Hunt County Sheriff's Office identified the driver in Wednesday's chase as 60-year-old David Allen Arnold of Burkeville, Virginia.

The Texas Department of Public Safety says Fresno, California-based Intrade Industries had reported its truck missing. A state trooper spotted the rig on U.S. 80 near Forney, about 15 miles east of Dallas. He tried to pull the truck over, but the driver paid no heed to the trooper's flashing lights. Other units joined the 45-mile pursuit that ended at the dead end of an Interstate 30 frontage road near Greenville.

An hourlong standoff ensued before tear gas forced Arnold and his dog from the truck. Arnold is jailed on evading-arrest and unauthorized motor vehicle use charges.

CORPUS CHRISTI

Audit details items bought with stolen Corpus Christi funds

Auditors say two Corpus Christi city beach workers who pleaded guilty last year to theft used stolen city funds to buy fishing supplies, deer feeders and other sporting goods.

The Corpus Christi Caller-Times reported that an audit presented to city officials Tuesday cited gaps in policies and weaknesses in internal controls that allowed the theft of more than $100,000 that was meant for the city.

City Auditor Arlena Sones conducted the audit. Michael Smith and Derek Herzog each pleaded guilty to theft in June and agreed to repay the city as part of their plea agreements. Smith was the beach operations supervisor and Herzog was the beach and special events superintendent before they were fired last year.

Auditors said some items could have been for business purposes, but were overpriced.

The audit says the men purchased "two Yeti ice chests for $1,080. Similarly-sized, less costly ice chests would have cost under $300."

City spokeswoman Kim Womack said that in response to the audit's findings, each city department will now designate an employee to review all contracts and invoices.

E. Jay Ellington, the director of the Parks and Recreation Department, who was not working for the city at the time of the reported theft said, "We're doing annual, biannual, monthly checks with our management team concerning purchasing and time allocations, as well as implementing a thorough checks and balance system with our management team that hopefully prevents any misuses in the future."

ARLINGTON

About 32K at AT&T Stadium in Texas for '13 Hours' premiere

More than 32,000 people showed up at AT&T Stadium in Texas for the premiere of "13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi" but some left early amid trouble hearing the movie.

Organizers provided 30,000 free tickets for Tuesday night's showing at the home of the Dallas Cowboys.

Stadium spokesman Joe Trahan said a high-definition screen was lowered and sound engineered for guests on the first, second and third levels.

The fourth level was opened because so many additional people showed up. Trahan had no estimate on how many people in the upper area left due to sound issues.

The movie is about the 2012 attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, and heroic actions of veterans serving as private security. Four Americans were killed, including Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens.

SAN ANTONIO

South Texas jailer charged with raping female inmate in van

A South Texas sheriff's deputy has been charged with raping a female inmate in a transport van in the jail parking lot.

Erick Montez was being held Wednesday in San Antonio on felony charges of sexual assault and violating the civil rights of a person in custody.

The Bexar County Sheriff's Office on Tuesday announced the arrest of the 35-year-old detention officer and plans to fire him.

The inmate reported that Montez forced her to have sex with him Dec. 27 in the van while he was on duty. A sheriff's statement says surveillance video appears to support the allegations. Investigators did not release further details on the woman.

Jail records don't list an attorney to speak for Montez, whose bond was $85,000. He's been a deputy since 2008.

HOUSTON

New York man condemned for Texas slayings loses appeal

Texas' highest criminal court has rejected an appeal from a man condemned for killing two teenagers near Austin during a 2007 crime binge that left six people dead.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals declined Wednesday to rule on the merits of the appeal from 52-year-old Paul Devoe, saying only the appeal was improper.

Obituaries

Alene Lippe

Alene Lippe, age 95, of Odessa, TX, passed away peacefully on January 12, 2016 in Odessa.

Funeral Services will be at 1:00 pm, Thursday, January 14, 2016 at Sunset Funeral Home Chapel with Brother Jeff Franklin officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial gardens.

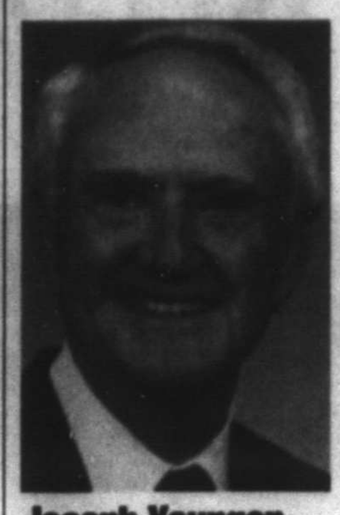
Alene was born on November 9, 1921 at home in Coleman County, TX to Trox Oliver and Lena (Eschburger) Burleson. She married Edward Adolf Lippe in 1938 in Miles, TX. They remained married until his passing in June of 1985. Alene loved gardening, watching the Dallas Cowboy games and especially taking care of her family. She loved to cook for her entire family.

Alene is preceded in death by her loving husband of 46 years, Edward Adolf Lippe; daughter, Lena Pauline Parish and grandson; Jimmy Rey Parish.

She is survived by her sister, Ruth Lippe of Odessa, TX; brother, Clifton Burleson of Houston, TX; daughters, Laverne Ann Lippe, Barbara Marie Lippe, both of Odessa, TX, Debrah Ruth Coots and husband Jim Bob Coots of Midland, TX, their children Meagan Coots of Ft. Worth, TX and Caden Coots of Odessa, TX; granddaughter, Rhonda House and husband Michael House, of Woodstock, GA, their children Taylor House, of Tifton, GA and Jaden House of Woodstock, GA; grandson, John Jones and wife Claudia Jones, their child, Christabelle Jones all of Odessa, TX; grandson, Joe Jones of Round Rock, TX; granddaughter, Renay Goodman and husband, Tony Goodman of Oak Point, TX and their children, Bubba Goodman of Oak Point, TX and Ayren Goodman of San Angelo, TX; great grandsons, Braden Parish, Cameron Parish, Jared Parish and Cabot Parish all of Crane, TX.

Arrangements are entrusted to Sunset Memorial Gardens and Funeral Home. To send family condolences please sign the guestbook at *www.sunsetodessa.com.*

SUNSET MEMORIAL
GARDENS & FUNERAL HOME



Joseph Younger

Joseph William Younger, 87, went to be with our Lord on January 11, 2016 in Newport, Arkansas.

Joe was born on October 26, 1928 in Newport, Arkansas. He was the youngest of five children born to Joseph William and Willie Mae Younger of Newport. Mr. Younger attended Newport High School where he participated in several sports, including baseball and golf. From 1950 to 1952, Mr. Younger honorably served his country in the Korean War, as a member of the Army's 45th Infantry Division. After returning from Korea, Joe was married to Wanda Leigh Langston in 1953. Joe and Wanda moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma where Joe received a degree in Petroleum Engineering from Tulsa University in 1957. Joe worked many years for Marathon Oil Company before retiring in 1982. Joe and Wanda had four children, six grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and remained married until Wanda's death in 2011. Joe and Wanda lived in several towns in Oklahoma and Texas, and spent most of their years in Hobbs, New Mexico and Midland, Texas before returning to Newport in 2008. Joe was a loving husband and devoted father and enjoyed tennis, golf, and spending time with his family and many friends.

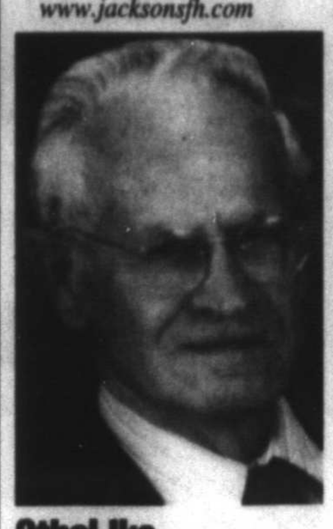
Mr. Younger is preceded in death by his mother, father, sisters, Peggy Younger-Penix, and Ruth Willbanks; brothers, Billy Younger and Robert Robinson; son Joseph (Joey) Younger; and daughter Julie Lynne Younger.

Mr. Younger is survived by his daughter, Sally Elizabeth Younger Harmier of New Caney, Texas; and his son Thomas Craig Younger of Santa Barbara, California; his grandchildren Timothy Kyle Clifton of Asheville, North Carolina; Kasey Leigh Clifton of Midland, Texas; James Phillip Slaughter and Michael Aaron Slaughter of Houston, Texas; Joseph Eric Younger and Robert Clinton Younger of Santa Barbara, California; and his great-grandchildren, Sophie Slaughter, Naya Slaughter, and James Slaughter of Houston, Texas.

Funeral service will be at Jackson Funeral Home in Newport at 2 pm Saturday, January 16, 2016 with Reverend Liz Lindsey officiating, with graveside service to follow at Walnut Grove Cemetery in Newport.

Memorials may be made to the First Presbyterian Church, 4th and Main, Newport, AR 72112

Arrangements by Jackson's Newport Funeral Home.
www.jacksonsfh.com



Othal Ike Fitzgerald

Ike Fitzgerald, of Midland, went to be with his Lord Jesus on Saturday, January 9, 2016.

He was born November 11, 1926 to Esley Doyle Fitzgerald and Dola Lee Henley in Guion, Texas. Six weeks after Ike was born the family moved to Midland, Texas.

Ike grew up playing music in his Dad's band "The Lone Star Ramblers". He also played with his dad in the Downtown Midland Lions Club Orchestra.

After graduating from Midland High School, Ike joined the Navy on November 3, 1944 and was later transferred to the Marines. He fought in World War II and was honorably discharged July 9, 1946.

Ike and Sue were high school sweethearts. Sue waited for Ike and upon his return from the service, they were married on May 30, 1948 in Austin, TX by Ike's Uncle Brice Fitzgerald, who was a Baptist Preacher.

Ike was a devoted husband and his wife's best friend, a loving Dad, Grandad and a blessing to all who knew him.

Ike learned at an early age to make money running parts for his dad. Ike sold his first advertisement space on the side of his dad's downtown City Service Garage. It was all uphill from there. He and Sue owned a skating rink, an amusement park with a super slide in Midland, and Ike trained a hockey team, "The Silver Wheels". They also made numerous real estate investments throughout their lifetime together.

Ike and Sue achieved many accomplishments. He was a jack of all trades but a master of none. Like his Dad, E.D. "Fritz" Fitzgerald, Ike retired as a Captain with the Midland Fire Department. Ike held several positions with the Lions Club, locally, nationally and internationally. Ike was the driving force developing TLERC, Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center. He's eternally grateful to all the people who assisted in developing this program. He was PID, Past International Director. Ike was bestowed the highest honor a Lion can receive when he was awarded the "Ambassador of Good Will", and inducted into the Lion's Club international Hall of Fame.

He has been an active member of the Midland Downtown Lions Club since 1960. The Midland Downtown Lions Club building is named in his honor.

Ike was always smiling, laughing and pestering people.

He was preceded in death by his parents and loving wife of sixty years.

Ike is survived by his son, Guy Wayne Fitzgerald and Cheryl Reed; granddaughter Shanla Joann Chesnut and husband Jason; grandsons, Eric Wayne and Brice Wayne Fitzgerald; and a great granddaughter Camber Christine Fitzgerald all of Midland, Texas.

The family will receive friends at Ellis Funeral Home Friday, January 15, 2016 between the hours of 6:00 PM to 8:00 P.M., Services will be held at Ellis Funeral Home Saturday at 11:11 A.M. followed by graveside services at Resthaven Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in honor of Ike may be sent to the Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Program C/O Midland Downtown Lions Club, 200 Plaza Dr., Midland, Texas 79701.

Online condolences may be offered at
www.ellisfunerals.com

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-5535

Death Notices

Billy J. Smith

Billy J. Smith, 93, passed away on Tuesday, January 12, 2016.

Family will be receiving friends on Thursday, January 14th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home. Graveside service will be held on Friday, January 15th 2016 at 11 a.m. at Resthaven Memorial Park

He is survived by his daughter, Sharon Sage.

Teresa Mitchell

Teresa Mitchell, 53, of Midland, Texas passed away on January 11, 2016.

She is survived by her parents, Joe and Mary Crabtree; husband, Mitch Mitchell; daughter, Meagan Wilson and brother Randy Crabtree.

There will be a Visitation at Ellis Funeral Home on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. A Funeral Service will be held at Golf Course Road Church of Christ at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2016.

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Patty Hearst prosecutor James Browning dies at 83

By Adam Kealoha Causey
Associated Press

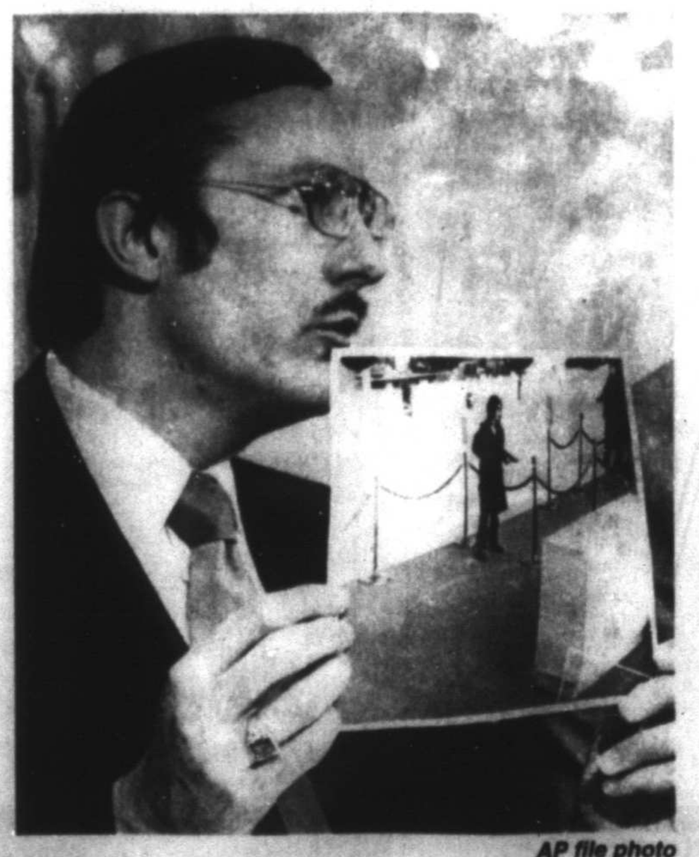
PHOENIX — The lead prosecutor in the case that sent newspaper heiress Patty Hearst to jail in what was then one of the most sensational trials in U.S. history has died in Arizona. He was 83.

James Browning Jr. died in the Tucson suburb of Oro Valley on Tuesday after a fall, his brother David Browning said.

Born in Globe, Arizona, in 1932, James Browning attended law school in San Francisco before becoming the prosecutor in San Mateo County, California. He was appointed U.S. attorney in Northern California by then-President Richard M. Nixon.

He rose to even greater prominence when he won the case against Hearst, who was 19 when she was kidnapped in 1974 by a group known as the Symbionese Liberation Army, and then joined their cause. The self-styled radicals viewed aspects of U.S. society as racist and oppressive, and were accused of killing a California school superintendent. Several members of the group died in a fire and shootout with police in Los Angeles.

But it was a group bank robbery that raised questions about whether Hearst was forced into crime or a willing participant. The daughter of newspaper magnate Randolph A. Hearst eventually went on trial in 1976 on bank robbery and other charges.



AP file photo

On April 15, 1974, U.S. Attorney James L. Browning Jr., holds a bank surveillance photo which the FBI said resembled Patricia Hearst in San Francisco, Calif. Browning, who led the prosecution of newspaper heiress Patty Hearst during a sensational 1976 trial, died Tuesday in Arizona, according to his brother, David Browning. He was 83.

James Browning helped secure her conviction, squaring off with noted defense lawyer F. Lee Bailey.

Linda Deutsch, a retired Associated Press reporter who wrote about the Hearst trial and many others, said Browning was known as a low-key, methodical prosecutor, particularly in comparison to Bailey, whose courtroom theatrics would aid in O.J. Simpson's acquittal two decades later.

Bailey had portrayed Hearst as a brainwashed victim, and Deutsch said the jury believed that until Browning presented his last piece of evidence. He played a jail cell recording of Hearst talking with a friend. She was confident, cursing and fully aware of her role with the Symbionese Liberation Army.

It changed the course of the trial.

"He was just very quiet, unassuming. So the prosecutor who seemed to be soft spoken and not a particularly impressive personality turned out to be a powerful force," Deutsch said. "The Hearst family was stunned. Everybody was stunned."

David Browning said his brother, a U.S. attorney, decided to prosecute Hearst himself because it was such a high profile case.

But outside the courtroom, it didn't appear like Browning looked for the limelight.

Deutsch said she didn't recall Browning even doing interviews.

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MAIN SWITCHBOARD
432-682-5311

PUBLISHER
Jeffrey Shabram 687-8880
jshabram@mrt.com

NEWSROOM

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New Mexico AG seeks funds in Rio Grande water fight

By Susan Montoya Bryan
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas on Wednesday said the legal battle with Texas over management of the Rio Grande is moving ahead and this is no time for the Legislature to cut funding.

Balderas testified before the House Appropriations and Finance Committee, one of the key panels that will be hammering out the state spending plan for the next fiscal year when the legislative session begins next week.

Legislative finance analysts are recommending $500,000 for Balderas' office to use for the ongoing litigation. Past funding has topped $2 million and Balderas had requested $3 million for the next fiscal year.

The funding would come from the attorney general's consumer protection fund, according to his office. Balderas voiced concerns last year that lawmakers would try to siphon money from the fund to pay for other projects given that it's a tight budget year.

Balderas said the funding is critical since the water case is ratcheting up.

"I would think that we would receive support from this committee to really consider at least keeping that funding line at the status quo, especially when our economy and our rural communities could be impacted," he told lawmakers.

Lawmakers indicated that they would weigh the request along with numerous special appropriations that will be considered during the 30-day session.

Texas sued New Mexico in 2013, claiming the state failed to deliver water as required under the Rio Grande Compact. The federal government intervened and said groundwater pumping in New Mexico is tapping the shallow aquifer that should drain back into the river and flow to Texas.

Balderas has said he wants to find a reasonable resolution to the fight with Texas but still protect the rights of New Mexico residents. He contends that the federal government is overreaching when it comes to the state's well-established water rights.

STATE&REGIONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

WACO

Irishman sentenced to prison for rhinoceros horn trafficking

An Irishman has been sentenced to one year in federal prison after pleading guilty in Texas to illegal trafficking in rhinoceros horns.

Patrick Sheridan was arrested in January 2015 in Holyhead, Wales, on an indictment returned in May 2014 by a federal grand jury in Waco. It charged that he and a co-defendant conspired to traffic in the horns of the critically endangered black rhinoceros by using a "straw buyer" to buy two horns from a Texas taxidermist. Then, they sold in New York those and two others also illegally purchased in Texas.

Co-defendant Michael Slattery Jr. pleaded guilty in Brooklyn, New York, to his role in the scheme and was sentenced to 14 months in prison.

HOUSTON

Inmate with mandatory life term for teen crime wins appeal

Texas' top criminal court has ruled a mandatory life without parole sentence given in 2007 to a man convicted of capital murder for a fatal robbery at an Arlington convenience store when he was 17 was improper.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals on Wednesday agreed with a Tarrant County trial court that determined the sentence for Julis Edward Perales violated constitutional prohibitions against cruel and unusual punishment. Perales, now 28, will be returned to the court in Fort Worth for a new sentencing hearing.

The U.S. Supreme Court in 2012 ruled the mandatory sentence for defendants under 18 was unconstitutional. When Perales was tried for capital murder in 2007, it was the only sentence available. Two years earlier, the high court had barred death sentences for defendants under 18.

GILMER

1 killed, 1 hurt in single-engine plane crash in East Texas

An East Texas pilot has been killed and his wife critically hurt when their single-engine plane crashed into some woods.

Emergency personnel around midnight Tuesday located the wreckage of the Cessna 172 in a field near Gilmer.

The plane took off from Sulphur Springs Municipal Airport earlier Tuesday. Relatives of the couple contacted authorities when the plane failed to arrive as scheduled at Fox Stephens Field-Gilmer Municipal Airport.

Upshur County Justice of the Peace Rhonda Welch says 73-year-old Samuel Oliver Lucky of Gladewater was dead at the scene. He's the registered owner of the aircraft. His wife, 57-year-old Pamela Rickman Lucky, was in critical condition Wednesday at East Texas Medical Center in Tyler.

Investigators are trying to determine what caused the crash. Cellphone data helped pinpoint the accident site.

AUSTIN

Teenager dies after Jeep flips, catches fire in South Austin

A teenage boy has died in a vehicle fire in South Austin.

Austin-Travis County EMS said crews were called to the scene around 6 p.m. Tuesday.

Austin police said a Jeep flipped and became engulfed in flames in an area typically used for off-roading.

An adult and two juveniles were able to escape uninjured, but the teenager in the front passenger seat was unable to get out.

Police believe alcohol was a factor in the crash. They don't know if everyone was wearing a seatbelt.

NEW MEXICO

Teachers, state workers describe teen who killed family

ALBUQUERQUE — A state worker at a residential treatment center for juveniles on Wednesday described the New Mexico teenager who shot and killed five family members in 2013 as having matured into a role model for other troubled boys at the facility.

Meanwhile, one of 18-year-old Nehemiah Griego's teachers said he was a good student but had expressed racist viewpoints and a fascination with history, war and Nazi Germany.

The testimony from staff at the state-run Sequoyah Adolescent Treatment Center in Albuquerque came during the third day of a hearing that will determine whether Griego should be sentenced as a juvenile or an adult for killing his parents and three younger siblings.

Griego was 15 when he opened fire in his family's home south of Albuquerque in January 2013, killing his mother as she slept, then his younger brother and two sisters, authorities said. Griego's father was the last of the five to be killed, with sheriff's officials saying he was ambushed by his teenage son after he returned home.

"There were times that he cried," said Armando Heres, who supervises Griego and other teens at the treatment center, when asked about Griego's demeanor at the facility. "I assumed he was crying because he missed his family."

Griego pleaded guilty in October to two counts of second-degree murder and three counts of child abuse resulting in death.

Several witnesses for both the prosecutors and the defense have said the teen was physically abused by his father, a former pastor at an Albuquerque megachurch and Army veteran who had trained his son to use firearms and tasked him with guarding the family's home.

At least once, Griego was beaten so severely he lost consciousness and likely has suffered traumatic brain injury from the abuse, public defender Stephen Taylor said.

In court on Wednesday, Heras testified that Griego arrived at the facility with an intensely quiet and reserved personality, but he eventually began to open up, socialize with others and carry himself as a leader.

"It was hard to get him to talk about his problems and what he was thinking about," Heras said, when asked about Griego's demeanor when he first arrived.

Prosecutors have focused largely when questioning witnesses on Griego's manner immediately after the shooting and during psychological examinations, with those on the stand suggesting his demeanor seemed emotionless and even callous in light of the tragedy.

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Art: Original art by R H Clair, W Brauer, F. Buzzardi, Wanema Howard, Paul Sanchez, Bill Prince, Prints by Bev Doolittle, & Charles Beckendorf, Wayne Baize,19th century engraving Last Meeting of Lee & Jackson, Remington, Nancy Kyle Ely, Bronzes by Remington (racist) and James Earle Fraser

Saddles & Tack: McClellan Saddles, New Bridles and Halters, Spurs, Early Hand forged Iron Bits

Native American: Sterling & Turquoise Concho Belt, Excellent Weavings, Arrowheads, Beaded Horse Tobacco Pouch, Squash Blossom, and more

Special Interest & Collectibles: Jane Thomas Sterling, F.E. Hendricks engraved Belt Buckle from C M Russell series, Fine Knives including Donald Two Deer Dagger, Benchmade, Microtech, Pro Tech, Browne & Pharr, and others, Edged Weapons, Bandoleers, Chains, Civil War collectibles, Fishing Lures, Boots & Hats, Lincoln Drape Aladdin Lamp, Pony Express Lamp, Militaria, Neon Beer signs, Fender Guitar, Sports Memorabilia including signed Dallas Cowboy Jerseys, Laptops & Iphones, Rodeo Buckles Signed 1st ed Elmer Kelton, "Land of the High Sky" commissioned by First National Bank in 1999, First Ed, 10' Tandem Axle Trailer

Furniture: Antique Jewelry Display counter, Leather Sofa & Loveseat, Red Leather Chair & Ottoman.

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

GOP debate on Suddenlink

Fox Business Network has teamed up with Suddenlink to make the upcoming Republican presidential debates available to all subscribers. Today, Suddenlink will unbundle Fox Business Network, making the channel available to their full subscriber base ahead of the debates.

Source: Fox Business Network

Things to do

■ Kathleen Madigan, 7 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $29-$39. wagnernoel.com.

■ J.B. and the Moonshine Band, 8 p.m., Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com

Note: See more information on this weekend's Entertainment calendar in Weekender.

Support groups, club meetings today

■ Permian Basin Community Service Organization (for individuals, organizations or businesses that provide services to improve quality of life), 11:45 a.m., Mi Piaci Italian Restaurant, 2607 N. Grandview Ave., Odessa, 432-210-4234.

■ Chronic fatigue fibro-myalgia syndromes support group meets noon, Rays of Hope Grief Center, 520-3500.

■ TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:30-7:30 p.m., Christian Church of Midland, 2609 Neely Ave 694-8643.

■ Permian Basin Chess Club, 6 p.m., University of Texas of the Permian Basin student union; Steve Dudley, 556-1920; Brian Farrell, 288-7141, pbcc.50gigs.net; odessachess@cableone.net.

■ Sun Country Gentlemen, 7 p.m., Rea Greathouse Room at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 553-1952 or 425-5662.

■ The Midland Blue Star Military Family, 7 p.m., Koinonia Room at First Presbyterian Church; Doc Weathers 631-7646 or docweathers@suddenlink.net.

■ Bingo, 7-10 p.m., American Legion Post 19, 501 Veterans Airpark Lane, 682-5511.

Early College High School meetings

Meetings about Early College High School@Midland College are planned for parents of Midland ISD eighth-graders. The meetings are 6:30 p.m. today at Goddard Junior High School, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at San Jacinto Junior High School and 6:30 p.m. Jan. 25 at ECHS. Allison Fine Arts Building at MC.

Parents can attend any of the meetings. For more information, call 685-4641.

Livestock Show

The Midland County Livestock Show is today through Saturday at the Midland County Horseshoe. The event kicks off noon today with poultry and rabbit shows. The show continues on Friday with goat and lamb shows at 8 a.m., followed by steers and heifers at 1 p.m. The events on Saturday are culinary arts at 10 a.m.; pee-wee rabbit show at 12:45 p.m. and finally, the premium auction sale and awards at 1 p.m. A barbecue lunch, which is open to the public, will be served at 11 a.m. Tickets are $10.

For more information, visit midlandhorseshoe.com or contact Paula Morrison at pmmorrison14@gmail.com.

When it's open

City Hall
300 N. Loraine St.
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday
Customer Service line 685-7320

Municipal Courthouse
406 E. Illinois Ave.
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday
8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday
A deposit box for payments is open 24 hours a day
685-7314

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 6-4-3
Pick 3 day: 6-7-0
Pick 3 evening: 4-9-1
Pick 3 night: 8-9-5
Daily 4 morning: 7-9-7-0
Daily 4 day: 1-2-3-4
Daily 4 evening: 7-4-3-5
Daily 4 night: 6-3-5-6
Cash Five: 02-03-13-17-19
Lotto Texas: 03-08-14-15-26-41
Powerball: 04-08-19-27-34 PB: 10 Power Play: 2
All or Nothing morning: 01-02-03-04-06-12-15-16-18-21-23-24
All or Nothing day: 01-02-04-05-07-10\16-17-19-22
All or Nothing evening: 02-03-04-05-07-10-11-15-16-18-21-23
All or Nothing night: 04-06-07-09-13-14-15-16-17-18-20-23

Today in history

In 1784, the United States ratified the Treaty of Paris ending the Revolutionary War; Britain followed suit in April 1784.

In 1952, NBC's "Today" show premiered, with Dave Garroway as the host, or "communicator."

In 1954, Marilyn Monroe and Joe DiMaggio were married at San Francisco City Hall. (The marriage lasted about nine months.)

One year ago: Eight inmates and two corrections officers died when a prison bus skidded off an icy West Texas highway, slid down an embankment and collided with a passing freight train.

Today's birthdays: Actress Faye Dunaway is 75. Movie writer-director Steven Soderbergh is 53. Rapper-actor LL Cool J is 48. Actor Jason Bateman is 47. Rock singer-musician Dave Grohl (Foo Fighters) is 47.

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Regina Tubbs, owner of Willow, shows off her new office dog, Vader, with Beth Meeks of Lone Star Animal Sanctuary on Wednesday. Willow is partnering with Lone Star to give a portion of sales to help the sanctuary.

PARTNER

From 1A

ship happened serendipitously Wednesday morning. When Meeks arrived at Willow to pose for a photo with Tubbs, she brought along a little dog named Vader.

As soon as Vader entered the room, a symphony of "oohs" and "aahs" erupted from everyone in the store; he immediately was the center of attention. And from the little wag in his tail and a brightness in his brown eyes, it was apparent he was enjoying the warm welcome.

The 5-year-old mutt had been hit by a car a little over a month ago, and was left lying on the street for five days before someone picked him up and brought him to Lone Star, Meeks said. When Lone Star first got him a month ago, he was in bad shape.

"When we first got him, he was really sick. They found him at that first cold spell," Meeks said. "He had a really nasty respiratory infection so we treated that, got him neutered and now he's good to go. We took him to our vet and they X-rayed him and everything."

Not only did Vader survive five days on the side of the road, but none of his bones had been broken when he was hit. However, the impact and lack of immediate care caused his back legs to heal oddly, and Vader now walks with a bit of a "wobble," as Meeks described it.

"But nothing slows him down," Meeks said.

Vader is sweet, calm and quiet, and Tubbs took a liking to him from the start.

After questioning Meeks about whether he was house trained, his barking habits and friendliness, Tubbs — who already has three dogs — decided to adopt Vader.

"He's our Willow puppy. Everybody's gonna love him, sweet baby boy," Tubbs said, scooping him up in her arms, as he wagged his tail.

Vader is lucky. There currently are 147 dogs and 53 cats at Lone Star. Because of the oil downturn and people needing to relocate, Lone Star has had 134 pets returned, which is more than they've ever had, Meeks said.

The donations from Willow will help Meeks and her eight staff members manage and provide for the influx of animals.

Meanwhile, as Vader explored his new home, he slipped and slid a little on the wood-paneled floor, but his tail didn't stop wagging.

Tubbs doesn't plan to offer a dog line, but she said Vader probably will be one of the best-dressed pups in Midland.

Vader's spontaneous adoption reflects the store's slogan: "Have faith, give hope, show love." Tubbs also hopes to give back at Chocolate Decadence, a fundraiser for the Aphasia Center of West Texas. Willow will be the featured boutique at next month's event.

A candle line created by Willow will be launched at the store Feb. 1. All candles will be handmade and original. Tubbs also plans to add plus-sized clothing to the boutique.

As Tubbs and Meeks chat, Vader wanders toward the front door. Meeks lets him out and he settles down on the sun-drenched mat at the entrance. He's already made himself at home, and it looks like he has a knack for his new job as boutique dog and customer greeter at Willow.

Winning Powerball ticket sold in California

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A winning ticket in Wednesday night's record $1.5 billion Powerball jackpot was sold in suburban Los Angeles, a spokesman for the California lottery says.

It could take several hours before officials know whether any winning tickets were sold elsewhere. The winning numbers were 4-8-19-27-34 and Powerball 10.

One winning ticket was sold at a 7-Eleven in Chino Hills, California, said Alex Travesta, a spokesman for that state's lottery. The identity of the winner is not yet known.

Officials with the Multi-State Lottery Association, which runs the Powerball game, said they expected more than 85 percent of the possible number combinations would have been bought for the drawing. The odds of winning were 1 in 292.2 million.

Winners have to pay 39.6 percent of the prize in federal income taxes, in addition to any state taxes.

Estimated jackpot amounts, which are released daily, have been steadily rising since Nov. 4, when the jackpot was reset at $40 million.

Powerball tickets are sold in 44 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

Powerball ticket buyer rescued from hole

FORT WORTH — A 67-year-old North Texas man with medical issues who disappeared while going to buy a Powerball ticket has been rescued from a 7-foot hole.

Fort Worth police found Ascension Garcia scared and cold, in the hole at a construction site, but he suffered no serious injuries.

Relatives of Garcia, who has Parkinson's disease, contacted police Monday night after he stepped out to go to a convenience store for a lottery ticket and didn't immediately return.

Officer Dustin Shaw was among those searching for Garcia when he noticed a large, open hole nearby. Shaw spotted Garcia at the bottom, in shallow water.

Officials believe Garcia was walking home, after his purchase, and fell.

Garcia was examined by medical personnel and allowed to go home to await results of Wednesday night's drawing.

Associated Press

BOOM

From 1A

from renewable sources. Proctor & Gamble and Mars are buying enough Texas wind power to meet all their electricity needs.

Luminant, the state's largest power generator and a big coal user, signed a solar deal to power over 50,000 homes. Its sibling, TXU Energy, just unveiled an all-solar electricity plan, which follows a solar rooftop offer for homeowners.

What's driving the clean energy push — and what does it say about business and politics?

Falling prices

Start with the economics: The prices for wind and solar power have dropped enough to compete with fossil fuels. Solar prices, for instance, are down over 80 percent since 2009.

That enabled Austin Energy, one of the more progressive city utilities, to sign solar power deals for less than 4 cents a kilowatt-hour (kWh), hailed last summer as "the cheapest solar ever." A week later, a Nevada utility signed a solar deal at a lower price.

Georgetown, a small, conservative city, will be using all renewable energy by next year and the power contracts will keep rates steady through 2041. Mayor Dale Ross doesn't want people getting the wrong idea.

"No, environmental zealots have not taken over our city council, and we're not trying to make a statement about fracking or climate change," Ross wrote in an essay in Time. "Our move to wind and solar is chiefly a business decision based on cost and price stability."

For many others, it's also important to support sustainable energy and demonstrate that they're not making climate change worse.

Environmental concerns are often top of mind for young people, and the issues are also important to many consumers in Europe, Asia and the U.S. Companies must be responsive, especially those with international operations.

"It's about reputation, and it's important to customers and employees," said John Hall, state director of clean energy for the Environmental Defense Fund in Austin. "They want to know you're doing your part to reduce your carbon footprint."

Boosting the brand

For a large computer company, such as Dell, committing to clean energy is also a way to burnish the brand, he said. Late last year, as President Barack Obama was preparing for the climate talks in Paris, he announced that 154 companies had pledged to support the agreement and a low-carbon future.

Combined, the companies have nearly 11 million employees and over $4.2 trillion in annual revenue. AT&T, Verizon, Hewlett-Packard, Wal-Mart and Dell were among the signatories. Dell not only pledged to cut greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2020; it also will plant 1 million trees to help sequester carbon.

"Many companies feel they have a social responsibility to choose renewables," said Brian Walker, a principal at Energy Edge Consulting in Dallas.

Among commercial and industrial users, he said, he's never seen so much interest in clean energy.

"They're making big statements," he said. "And this isn't because of government mandates. The regulatory issues are secondary."

Some clients are worried that fuel costs will rise, and that may hinge on how quickly states must adjust to tougher air pollution standards. But Texas is well-positioned to thrive because it has so much natural gas, sunshine and wind — and a competitive electricity market that rewards the most efficient options.

Yet Texas politicos keep sounding the alarm. Sen. Ted Cruz said the president is more worried about your SUV than terrorists. Attorney General Ken Paxton said the federal pollution plan is a major threat to anyone who powers up a computer or turns on a light. And Gov. Greg Abbott warned about the feds' "job-killing agenda."

"There's a significant disconnect between these pronouncements and what's happening in Texas," Hall said.

If the energy future means more wind, solar and efficiency, bring it on. No state has more upside.

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TOOLS

From 1A

had unreliable cellular coverage, making it difficult for sensors to transmit information wirelessly, and it was expensive to outfit far-flung oil fields with the sophisticated technology needed to digitize operations.

Recent technological advances in software, sensors, communications systems and other digital oilfield tools helped spur the initiative forward, but efforts got sidelined as high crude prices boosted profits, triggering a drilling frenzy and leaving the industry with little financial incentive to get more efficient.

"At $100 per barrel, they figured, 'Why break something that's working? We're making plenty of money. There's no need to fundamentally change what we're doing,'" said Brian Richards, the innovation lead at global consulting firm Accenture. "Now, nothing is sacred. Everything is on the table, and anything that can help you operate more efficiently and achieve more production is something worth looking at and pushing forward with."

GroundMetrics, a San Diego-based energy tech startup that uses electromagnetic sensors to take subsurface images, struggled to drum up meetings with oil executives to pitch their product during the boom times because oil companies were too busy to carve out the time, CEO George Eiskamp said. Since the downturn started, some of those firms now are seeking meetings with GroundMetrics and bringing an entire team to listen to the sales presentations, he said.

The privately owned company has snapped up new customers in the past year, locking in three big sales over a three-week timeframe, and has plans to to grow its Houston staff from three to eight and establish an office space, Eiskamp said.

"It's surreal," he said. "It's like I'm waiting for someone to pinch me and say, 'Now wake up.'"

Cash-strapped oil companies slashing spending and curtailing drilling plans are trying to glean as much as possible from existing investments. As the industry shies away from exploration, the investment appetite has shifted from technologies that help companies peer underground to find the sweetest spots to drill to tools aimed at bolstering production.

WellAware, an oilfield monitoring and data analytics company, said it's seen a surge of interest from customers in the downturn, helping the San Antonio-based company grow its customer base and hire more employees despite the slump.

"Our customers are coming to us and asking how we can help streamline operations, cut costs, improve production, improve downtime and improve safety," CEO Matt Harrison said. "It's an entirely different mindset that these customers are in today than they were a year ago."

The company worked with Welder Exploration & Production, where Hester works, to install meters and sensors at the wellhead that monitor flow rates, pressure and temperature, and transmit that data via wireless network to Welder's employees on their iPads, cellphones or computer screens.

WellAware's technology has improved the company's operations by transforming workers from data gatherers to troubleshooters, allowing them to prioritize wells that need the most attention and reducing the amount spent stuck behind a wheel crisscrossing South Texas ranchlands, said Welder CEO Raymond Welder, who is also a board member of WellAware.

"It makes a person much more efficient, and that's fairly critical, especially in this price environment," he said.

For Hester, who now provides support to the gaugers checking on wells out in the field, the results have been tangible.

"It knocks out the whole process of having to drive back to the office and enter data into the computer, which saves a lot of time," she said. "A lot of guys don't even come back to the office anymore. They go straight to the field or straight home, and come to the office only as needed."

Digital initiatives also promise to save money, a key selling point for oil companies struggling to balance their books.

An analysis by IHS found that in the past decade, the application of digital technologies boosted output by up to 8 percent and lowered operating costs by up to 25 percent. Innovations helped lower the price tags of expensive projects, including deep-water projects that came in $1 to $3 cheaper per barrel of oil equivalent over the lifetime of the developments, IHS said.

Digital technologies also tend to be cheaper solutions that reap quicker benefits, and tend to be easier to scale across a company, said Jud Jacobs, director of upstream oil and gas research at IHS who authored the analysis. That's why companies have continued spending money on those technologies, Jacobs said.

"I know of two or three companies that had substantial layoffs, and my contacts there that are working on those initiatives largely came through unscathed," he said. "That's a reflection that this is still valued within the company."

Houston-based oilfield services giant Baker Hughes, which has slashed thousands of jobs, has continued investing in digital technology, such as a system to remotely monitor and control the pumps that haul oil to the surface. Data gathered from oil patches across the globe are sent to a control room in Oklahoma, where employees can tweak the pumps' settings to keep them running.

"Digital oilfield initiatives and digital technologies are probably more important than ever because they really enable more efficient operations and you can do more with less," said Tommy Denney, Baker Hughes' product line manager of well monitoring.

Iraqi refugee held without bail on terror-related charges

By Juan A. Lozano
Associated Press

HOUSTON — An Iraqi refugee who is facing charges he tried to help the Islamic State group was denied bond on Wednesday after a federal agent testified the Iraqi man had wanted to set off bombs at two Houston malls.

Omar Faraj Saeed Al Hardan who came to Houston from Iraq in 2009, was indicted last week on three charges, including attempting to provide support to a designated terrorist organization. He pleaded not guilty to all three charges on Wednesday.

U.S. District Judge Lynn Hughes ruled there would be a serious risk that Al Hardan would flee if granted bond.

Hughes made his decision after listening to testimony from Homeland Security Special Agent Herman Wittliff, who said that in addition to Al Hardan wanting to set off bombs at the two Houston malls, including the popular Galleria mall, the Iraqi man was also learning how to make electronic transmitters that could be used to detonate improvised explosive devices.

"He wanted to build them (the transmitters) for ISIL," Wittliff said.

"For what purpose?" asked prosecutor Ralph Imperato.

"So he could kill people," Wittliff replied.

Al Hardan's arrest brought criticism of the Obama administration's refugee policies from Texas Gov. Greg Abbott, who has been a leader among Republican governors calling for a halt to resettlement of Syrian refugees in their states. Republican presidential candidate Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas called for a retroactive review of all refugees who have come to the U.S.

Immigrant advocates say they have full confidence in the vetting process and that tens of thousands of Iraqi refugees have been successfully resettled in the U.S.

Prosecutors allege Al Hardan was coordinating efforts with another Iraqi refugee living in California, Aws Mohammed Younis Al-Jayab, to get weapons training and eventually sneak into Syria to fight alongside the terrorist group.

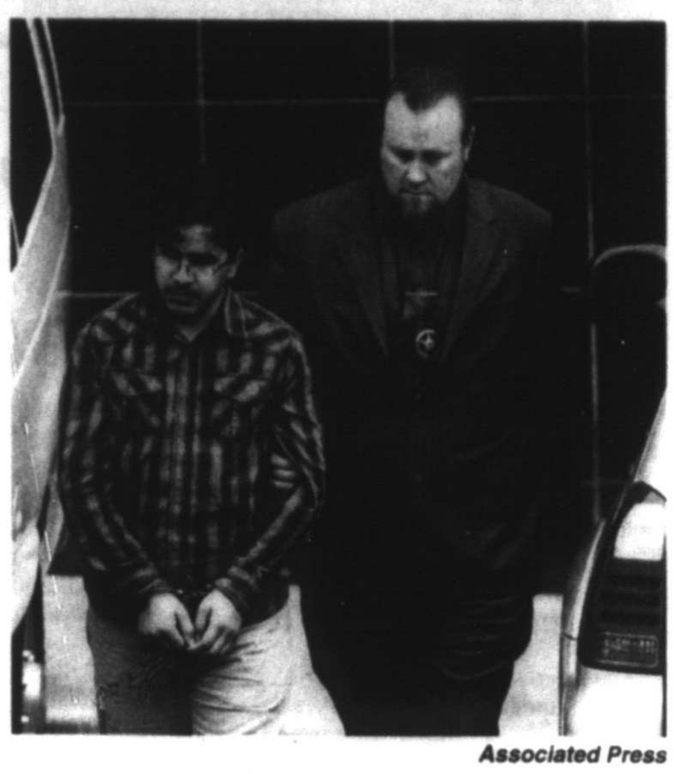
Wittliff was the only prosecution witness at Wednesday's hearing. Defense attorney David Adler didn't present any witnesses but while questioning Wittliff, suggested there was nothing illegal about Al Hardan having the electronic components that FBI agents found in his apartment.

Al Hardan's older brother, Saeed Faraj Saeed Al Hardan, has said his sibling has denied any wrongdoing and that neither his sibling nor anybody in their family had ever expressed any support for the Islamic State.

Authorities say Al Hardan and Al-Jayab used social media to discuss their support of the terrorist group. Al-Jayab and Al Hardan communicated in April 2013, and Al Hardan expressed interest in fighting in Syria, authorities said. Prosecutors allege Al Hardan tried to provide resources to the Islamic State beginning around May 2014.

If convicted, Al Hardan faces up to 25 years in prison.

Al Hardan, who is a legal permanent resident, is married, has an 8-month-old son and had worked as a limousine driver before his arrest, according to his brother.



Associated Press

Omar Faraj Saeed Al Hardan, left, is escorted Friday by U.S. Marshals from the Bob Casey Federal Courthouse, in Houston. Al Hardan, who came to Houston from Iraq in 2009, was held without bail Wednesday after his arrest on charges he tried to help the Islamic State group.

US turns to UN for initial screenings of refugees from Central America

By Josh Lederman and Alicia Caldwell
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is planning to expand a program to let would-be migrants from Central America apply for refugee status before they attempt to come to the U.S., Secretary of State John Kerry said Wednesday.

The office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees will now conduct initial screenings to see whether migrants from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala may qualify as refugees eligible to come to the United States legally.

"I am pleased to announce plans to expand the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program to help vulnerable families and individuals from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, and offer them a safe and legal alternative to the dangerous journey many are currently tempted to begin, making them easy prey for human smugglers who have no interest but their own profits," Kerry said in a speech at the National Defense University.

Later Wednesday President Barack Obama authorized the State Department to access up to $70 million from the U.S. Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund "for the purpose for meeting unexpected urgent refugee and migration needs related to the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program."

In December 2014, the U.S. began offering refugee status to children in those countries who have parents already living legally in the United States. So far thousands of children have applied for the program but very few been approved to come to the U.S.

The latest effort is aimed at expanding that program by moving applicants, both families and single individuals, into safe zones to await processing.

AP file photo

A U.S. Border Patrol agent drives near the U.S.-Mexico border fence in Santa Teresa, N.M., on Jan. 4. A spike in families and children arriving at the U.S. southern border from Central America has prompted fears of another crisis like the one that dominated national news during the summer of 2014.

Refugee processing for Central Americans was launched as part of a broader effort to curb the unprecedented surge of families and children traveling alone caught at the Mexican border in recent years.

During the 2014 budget year, more than 67,000 children were apprehended, along with more than 68,000 people traveling as families. The majority of immigrants in both groups were from Central America.

The flow of Central American children and families declined during the 2015 budget year, but border agents have noted significant rise in the numbers of immigrants from both groups in recent months. Since October, more than 16,000 children traveling alone and more than 20,800 people traveling as families have been caught.

The Obama administration has been trying for nearly two years to curb the flow of migrants from Central America, using a variety of public relations campaigns to warn would-be migrants that crossing the border illegally would not entitle them to stay in the United States. Until now, the government had stopped short of calling such immigrants refugees.

Vice President Joe Biden was scheduled today to discuss the migrant problem at a meeting with the presidents of El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala in that country's capital, where he is slated to attend the inauguration of the new president, Jimmy Morales.

Senior administration officials said the leaders would specifically review each country's plan to dissuade families, and particularly children, from making the dangerous journey, plans for facilitating their citizens' safe return and progress toward reducing violence, corruption and poverty. Some $750 million in aid appropriated by Congress is contingent upon the countries demonstrating progress on those fronts.

Annually the U.S. admits about 70,000 refugees from around the world. Obama has called for relocating about 10,000 Syrian refugees in the U.S. this year.

The refugee program has come under fire from lawmakers who worry that that there are gaps in the security vetting process, though the focus of their concerns has been primarily on refuges from Syria and other Middle Eastern countries. Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has even called for a temporary ban on Muslim refugees being admitted to the United States.

Kerry said Wednesday that security is a top priority for the program.

"Let me be very, very clear. We can both maintain the highest security standards and live up to our best traditions as Americans by welcoming those in need of help to our great country," Kerry said. "That is who we are. That is what we do."

Iran releases 10 US Navy sailors unharmed in less than a day

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — It turned out to be the international crisis that wasn't.

Less than a day after 10 U.S. Navy sailors were detained in Iran when their boats drifted into Iranian waters, they and their vessels were back safely Wednesday with the American fleet.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry tapped the personal relationship he has formed with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif in the three years of negotiations over Iran's nuclear program, speaking with him at least five times by telephone. Kerry credited the quick resolution to the "critical role diplomacy plays in keeping our country secure and strong."

U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter thanked Kerry after the sailors' release and couched the incident in humanitarian terms, noting that "the U.S. Navy routinely provides assistance to foreign sailors in distress."

For Tehran, the Americans' swift release was a way to neutralize a potential new flashpoint days before it was expected to meet the terms of last summer's nuclear deal, which will give Iran significant relief from painful economic sanctions.

It is likely that Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has the final say on all matters of state, would have had to approve the release, given the immense political sensitivities.

But the rapid resolution also was a victory for moderate President Hassan Rouhani, who has promoted greater openness with the outside world despite strident opposition from deeply entrenched hardliners at home.

"Rouhani's policy of interaction is working," said Iranian political analyst Saeed Leilaz. "Iran and the U.S. have gone a long way in reducing tensions but still have a long way to go in improving their contacts. It was a big step forward."

The nine men and one woman were detained Tuesday after at least one of their boats suffered mechanical problems off of Farsi Island, an outpost in the middle of the Persian Gulf that has been used as a base for Revolutionary Guard speedboats since the 1980s.

The Americans' small Riverine boats were sailing between Kuwait and Bahrain on a training mission when the U.S. lost contact.

The sailors left the island at 2:43 a.m. CST Wednesday aboard their boats, the Navy said. They were picked up by Navy aircraft, and other sailors took control of the vessels for the return voyage to Bahrain, where the U.S. 5th Fleet is based.

Cmdr. Kevin Stephens, a 5th Fleet spokesman, said the priority now would be determining "how exactly these sailors found themselves in Iran."

He declined to say where they were going or give details on their identities, but a senior defense official said they were heading to a U.S. military facility in Qatar. The official, who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly, said they are being debriefed and getting medical exams but were not harmed.

Wingsuit flier dies after jump from cliff

Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — A California man has died while wingsuit flying among remote cliffs on the Arizona-Utah border, authorities said.

The Coconino County Sheriff's Office said Wednesday that it is devising a plan to recover the body of Mathew Kenney, 29, of Santa Cruz. It is trapped in a crevice about 600 feet below where he jumped Tuesday in the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness.

Kenney hit a wall after jumping with a wingsuit, but investigators said they're not sure exactly how it happened. Once they reach his body, they will examine his equipment, Axlund said.

Patches of ice and steep terrain atop the canyon walls kept a helicopter from landing Tuesday to try to reach the body.

Wingsuit flying is one of the most extreme forms of BASE jumping — BASE being an acronym of the different platforms, "building, antenna, span and earth." Wingsuit fliers glide close to cliffs and trees before deploying their suits that resemble flying squirrels. It is illegal in national parks but not in the wilderness area where Kenney jumped.

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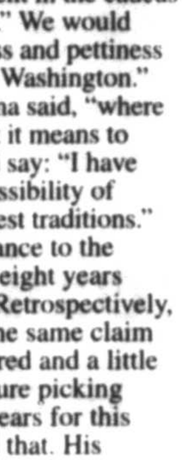
OPINION

President promised hope; he delivered rage

■ State of the Union was more about Obama, and Republicans are in no position to take advantage



MICHAEL GERSON
Washington Post Writers Group

Now let us praise laundry lists. Every year at State of the Union time, the president and his staff say the speech will not include them. But the laundry won't keep track of itself. The union is varied and expansive, and so are the responsibilities of its chief executive. Enumerating accomplishments and objectives amounts to lists, which Obama had in plenty Tuesday night.

The interesting thing is why this particular laundry was chosen. By what principle does the president want personalized medical treatments, paid leave, pre-K for all, the cure for cancer, a transition away from dirty energy and the Trans-Pacific Partnership?

Obama advanced no ideological claim of what government should do; no technocratic vision of how its performance might be improved. The lists exist because Obama, who sees the "next frontier," chose them. His person unites his agenda — not quite in the leadership league, he admits, of Lincoln or Roosevelt, but he has obviously thought hard and long about the comparison.

This was the way Obama was introduced to the country eight years ago. His victory in the Iowa caucuses had little to do with an ideological vision or policy agenda (which was, in fact, the utterly predictable liberalism of a backbench senator). That giddy night, he claimed that a "divided" and "disillusioned" country found "a common purpose." His 38 percent in the caucus proved "we are one people." We would "move beyond the bitterness and pettiness and anger that's consumed Washington." "This was the place," Obama said, "where America remembered what it means to hope." Elsewhere he would say: "I have become a symbol of the possibility of America returning to our best traditions."

Obama would bring balance to the Force. Prospectively, with eight years ahead, this was inspiring. Retrospectively, with seven years behind, the same claim comes across as self-centered and a little sad — a world-historic figure picking through the refuse of the years for this shiny accomplishment and that. His solutions to 21st-century problems look suspiciously like 20th-century liberalism. And where has Obama actually left his party and American liberalism?

Obama is the first Democrat since Franklin Roosevelt to win back-to-back majorities of the national popular vote. But members of his party who venture beyond the 18 acres of the White House will find political ruin. Since taking office, Democrats have lost 13 Senate seats, 69 House seats, 11 governorships, 30 state legislative chambers and more than 900 state legislative seats. In border states that not long ago produced national Democratic leaders — such as Arkansas and Tennessee — the Democratic collapse is especially pronounced. Few presidents have done better for themselves and worse for their parties.

And perhaps most disturbingly for America's liberal party, trust in government to do the right thing is near historical lows. According to a Pew Research Center average, just 19 percent of Americans trust government to do the right thing all or most of the time. The whole of the Democratic agenda, the whole of Hillary Clinton's agenda — from gun control to immigration reform to reducing greenhouse gases — requires some modicum of trust in the capacity of government to act in the public interest. What is liberalism without public trust in government? A college class.

Declining trust in government is part of a larger decline in the trust of institutions generally. But it is fair to say that the launch of Obamacare, the Veterans Affairs hospital scandal and the IRS political targeting scandal did little to halt the slide. Obama was either complicit in the trend, or helpless against it.

The same could be said of political polarization — which Obama eventually decided he could not fight, and joined with enthusiasm. Or the rise of an angry, anti-establishment populism. More than 10 years of belief that America is on the "wrong track" has hardened into outrage and cynicism, and left some Americans vulnerable to ideologues and demagogues. These will be remembered as the characteristics of the Obama era — not hope, but anger and cynicism. It was a time when many Americans learned to rage.

The president and the future nominee of his party now have one advantage. Somehow these trends have produced another cult of personality, on the other political side — untethered to ideas, offering only himself as the solution to our problems, turning bitterness and pettiness into a previously undiscovered political art. This might be the strangest turn: a Republican Party that copies and amplifies the worst tendencies of our time.

OUR VIEW

Haley shines, Obama not so much during State of the Union

How can things improve in our country? We won't count the ways, but one thing not in its favor could be found with State of the Union address on Tuesday.

State of the Union should be must-see TV for all Americans. It should be an honest evaluation of where our country stands and where we need to go. It's not. It's an hour-long infomercial for the party in the White House. President Obama did nothing to change that. He took the opportunity to lay out a very liberal agenda, unnecessarily raised Donald Trump's status to a political figure worth addressing in a SOTU and held everyone but himself accountable for what's wrong with American politics. What a shame.

There isn't enough space here to write about what the president got wrong in his SOTU. Considering the fractured nature of our politics, it likely would be a waste of time. We will address items from State of the Union and its Republican response, which got our attention.

■ Of course the president took his shots at oil. He grouped "big oil" with "big banks" and "hedge funds" as "making their own rules at the expense of everyone else." How did oil make its own rules, Mr. President?

The president mentioned the country had cut imports of foreign oil by nearly 60 percent — through no help of Washington, we might add. He also said he's going to "push to change the way we manage our oil and coal resources, so that they better reflect the costs they impose on taxpayers and our planet. That way, we put money back into those communities and put tens of thousands of Americans to work building a 21st century transportation system."

Consider the Permian Basin, its companies and those who work in the energy industry on notice. The president and people in his party will lie about the industry, totally misrepresent Washington's involvement in reducing America's dependence on foreign oil and kick an industry when it's down.

■ The president mentioned that one of the "few regrets" of his presidency — there have only been a few — was that the rancor and suspicion between the parties have gotten worse instead of better. No argument here. However, he fast-forwarded through the eight years of his presidency when some of the biggest offenders of dividing this country were the president, his administration and leaders of his party (while he looked the other way).

He had a chance to really offer a mea culpa that would have served the process well. He didn't. It would be rewriting history in the worst way to deny his involvement in the deterioration of politics, yet the problems with Washington didn't involve our president, according to him. "Elections have consequences," you remember.

■ One of the only bright spots of the evening was the Republican rebuttal offered by Gov. Nikki Haley of South Carolina. She offered arguably the best rebuttal in recent memory. While she capably crafted out a conservative response to the president's ideological wish list, she held her own party accountable for the problems in Washington. "We as Republicans need to own that truth. We need to recognize our contributions to the erosion of the public trust in America's leadership. We need to accept that we've played a role in how and why our government is broken."

She recognized the opportunities in front of her party in 2016, and the dangers of the carnival barkers offering a lot of talk but little substance. "During anxious times, it can be tempting to follow the siren call of the angriest voices. We must resist that temptation."

She offered real leadership takes on the economy, immigration, health care, religious liberties and foreign policy. And in just a few minutes, Americans got a glimpse of the person who led her state through the aftermath of the Charleston, South Carolina, shootings, showing skills and leadership rarely seen in today's politics. She might not be running for president, but her words on this night were presidential.

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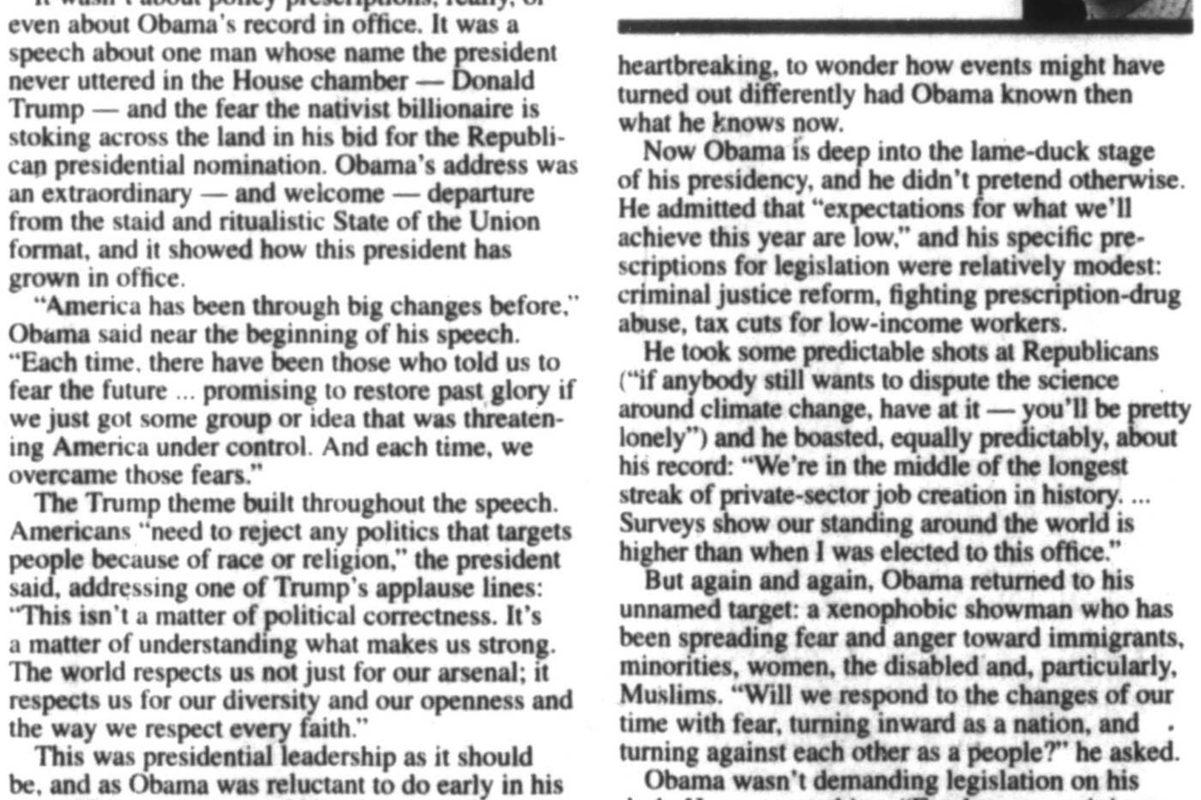
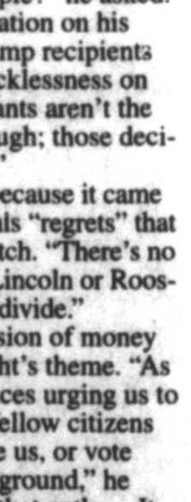


Obama finds his moral voice

■ President aimed his rhetorical arrows at Trump, Republicans and the partisan rancor and said what needed to be said



DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group

President Obama's final State of the Union address Tuesday night wasn't a speech to Congress. It was a sermon to the nation.

It wasn't about policy prescriptions, really, or even about Obama's record in office. It was a speech about one man whose name the president never uttered in the House chamber — Donald Trump — and the fear the nativist billionaire is stoking across the land in his bid for the Republican presidential nomination. Obama's address was an extraordinary — and welcome — departure from the staid and ritualistic State of the Union format, and it showed how this president has grown in office.

"America has been through big changes before," Obama said near the beginning of his speech. "Each time, there have been those who told us to fear the future ... promising to restore past glory if we just got some group or idea that was threatening America under control. And each time, we overcame those fears."

The Trump theme built throughout the speech. Americans "need to reject any politics that targets people because of race or religion," the president said, addressing one of Trump's applause lines: "This isn't a matter of political correctness. It's a matter of understanding what makes us strong. The world respects us not just for our arsenal; it respects us for our diversity and our openness and the way we respect every faith."

This was presidential leadership as it should be, and as Obama was reluctant to do early in his term: Using the power of his office to deliver a forceful moral message. Some may have thought it petty or unseemly that Obama was devoting a State of the Union address to the message of a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination. But in the current environment, there is nothing more important than answering the dangerous demagoguery that has arisen.

In a pre-speech interview with NBC's Matt Lauer, Obama said that if he could go back in time, "I think the most important thing I would say to an earlier version of myself would be to communicate constantly and with confidence to the American people." He added: "The things I've done well during the campaign I have not always done well as president."

Obama's grasp of this crucial point was on display for the world Tuesday night, though the president, maddeningly cool and cerebral through much of his tenure, learned this important lesson far too late in his presidency. It's tempting, even heartbreaking, to wonder how events might have turned out differently had Obama known then what he knows now.

Now Obama is deep into the lame-duck stage of his presidency, and he didn't pretend otherwise. He admitted that "expectations for what we'll achieve this year are low," and his specific prescriptions for legislation were relatively modest: criminal justice reform, fighting prescription-drug abuse, tax cuts for low-income workers.

He took some predictable shots at Republicans ("if anybody still wants to dispute the science around climate change, have at it — you'll be pretty lonely") and he boasted, equally predictably, about his record: "We're in the middle of the longest streak of private-sector job creation in history. ... Surveys show our standing around the world is higher than when I was elected to this office."

But again and again, Obama returned to his unnamed target: a xenophobic showman who has been spreading fear and anger toward immigrants, minorities, women, the disabled and, particularly, Muslims. "Will we respond to the changes of our time with fear, turning inward as a nation, and turning against each other as a people?" he asked.

Obama wasn't demanding legislation on his desk. He was preaching. "Food stamp recipients didn't cause the financial crisis; recklessness on Wall Street did," he said. "Immigrants aren't the reason wages haven't gone up enough; those decisions are made in the boardrooms."

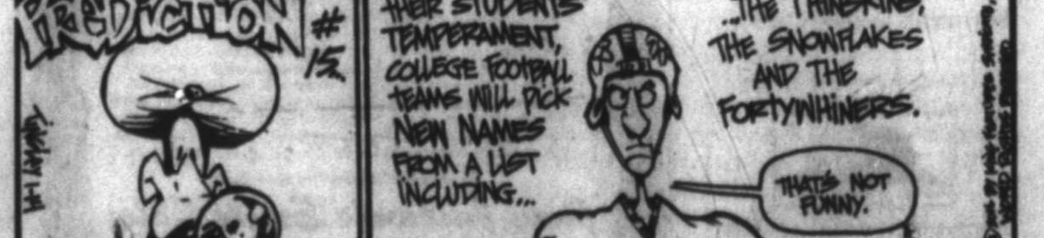
The sermon was more effective because it came with some humility. He expressed his "regrets" that partisan rancor worsened on his watch. "There's no doubt a president with the gifts of Lincoln or Roosevelt might have better bridged the divide."

Obama meandered into a discussion of money in politics before resuming the night's theme. "As frustration grows, there will be voices urging us to fall back into tribes, to scapegoat fellow citizens who don't look like us, or pray like us, or vote like we do, or share the same background," he said. "We can't afford to go down that path. ... It contradicts everything that makes us the envy of the world."

The president was late to find his moral voice, but it was important that he spoke.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Associated Press

Republican presidential candidate, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush speaks during an interview with The Associated Press on Tuesday in Coralville, Iowa. Bush said he misjudged the intensity of anger among Republican voters before launching his White House campaign, calling the country in 2016 one that is "dramatically different" than in past elections. Yet the former Florida governor insists he's still a viable candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, and one who has broadened his mission to include defending conservativism from GOP front-runner Donald Trump.

Jeb Bush sees conservatism at stake in 2016

By Thomas Beaumont and Steve Peoples
Associated Press

■ AP CONVERSATION

CORALVILLE, Iowa — Jeb Bush says he misjudged the intensity of anger among Republican voters before his White House campaign and believes the country in 2016 is "dramatically different" than in past elections.

Yet he insists he's still a viable candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, and one who has broadened his mission to include defending conservativism from GOP front-runner Donald Trump.

"I just think it's important to fight this fight," a reflective Bush said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I don't know what the consequences politically for me are. But I do think it's important that the conservative party nominate a conservative, and someone that understands the role of America in the world."

In particular, Bush reaffirmed his commitment to conservative social issues in an AP Conversation, the latest in a series of extended interviews with the candidates to become the next president.

Speaking to the AP in Iowa, he said the Supreme Court should overturn its landmark Roe v. Wade ruling affirming abortion rights. And, as he has for weeks, he pummeled Trump incessantly — and accused him of hijacking conservatism.

But as the state's leadoff Feb. 1 caucuses draw closer, the Republican Party's summertime front-runner shows few signs of momentum. Bush is favored by just 4 percent of likely caucus-goers in the Iowa Poll, published Wednesday by The Des Moines Register and Bloomberg News, down two points in the past month and mired in sixth place.

To be sure, the former Florida governor isn't giving up. Yet rather than talking about winning in the early voting states, Bush says he's working to "beat expectations" in the February contests before moving "into March as a candidate that's viable."

"After that, the fur starts flying pretty quick," he said. "We'll be viable."

The son of one president and brother of another, Bush told AP this week he was never comfortable with his place as the early favorite for the GOP nomination. This, despite winning over many of Mitt Romney's donors from 2012 en route to raising more than $100 million last year to support his bid.

But that political pedigree and fundraising prowess scared no other rivals, least of all Trump, who got into the race the day after Bush in June.

Bush told AP he failed to predict Trump's popularity, reflected in the real estate mogul's sustained lead among GOP voters in preference polls and the large, raucous crowds he draws to his rallies.

"This is dramatically different, because the country is dramatically different, and people are reflecting their anger and angst in a way that is very different than any time that I can recall," Bush said. "And I've been involved in politics for a long while."

Bush's vow to champion conservative principles to counter Trump's rise came hours before President Barack Obama condemned "voices urging us to fall back into tribes, to scapegoat fellow citizens who don't look like us, or pray like us, or vote like we do, or share the same background" in his final State of the Union address.

That veiled reference to Trump's anti-Muslim rhetoric was echoed by South Carolina's Republican governor, Nikki Haley. In the official Republican response to Obama's speech, she called on voters to tune out "the siren call of the angriest voices."

It's a message Bush has carried forward for weeks, predicting a moment when Republican primary voters would start to see Trump as more showman than statesman and begin to favor an experienced leader in uncertain economic times and perilous ones overseas.

That hasn't happened.

As Bush's campaign and well-funded super PAC search for a spark, he has more recently seized upon Trump's past contributions to Democrats, moderate social positions and public praise of Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton to show that he's a charlatan whom others are too meek to take on.

"The pursuit of that, of protecting the conservative cause, it's being hijacked by Donald Trump, who's not a conservative," Bush said. "And others are cautious about expressing this, because God forbid you get into a Twitter war with a guy who has a lot of free time on his hands, I guess."

Gov. Haley, Speaker Ryan offer new GOP answer to Trump

By Erica Werner
Associated Press

Haley

Ryan

WASHINGTON — Two fresh faces in the Republican Party — House Speaker Paul Ryan and South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley — are offering messages of diversity and openness to immigrants that could answer the GOP establishment's increasingly desperate search for an antidote to the loud pronouncements of presidential front-runner Donald Trump.

Delivering the GOP rebuttal to President Barack Obama's State of the Union address Tuesday night, Haley, a daughter of Indian immigrants, called for welcoming legal immigrants to the country as long as they're properly vetted, and for resisting the temptation "to follow the siren call of the angriest voices."

She acknowledged Wednesday that her comments were partly aimed at Trump, telling NBC's "Today Show": "Mr. Trump has definitely contributed to what I think is just irresponsible talk."

Ryan, the Wisconsin Republican beginning his third month as speaker of the House, has been pledging to offer a bold agenda that will position the GOP as a positive alternative to Obama and the Democrats. Last weekend he helped convene an anti-poverty summit with some of the GOP presidential candidates — Trump was absent — where he pressed for "a safety net that is designed to help get people out of poverty."

Such rhetoric from two young and charismatic officeholders cheers establishment Republicans who fear that the rise of Trump and of Sen. Ted Cruz — with their frequent strong words on immigrants in the country illegally — could ruin the GOP for years, eliminating any chance of winning the White House if either is the nominee and turning off swing voters, minorities and women.

"Speaker Ryan and Gov. Haley provide an important contrast, particularly with independent voters, to show what the Republican Party is really about, and it's not about Donald Trump," said Brian Walsh, a Republican strategist. "The key, though, is continuing to shine a light on leaders like the two of them, and that will depend in part on who we nominate."

Whether Haley or Ryan can do anything to sideline Trump or Cruz remains to be seen. That's not their explicit goal, and Haley, in particular, drew a backlash from some conservatives for her State of the Union rebuttal.

"Trump should deport Nikki Haley," conservative talk host Ann Coulter said over Twitter.

And at the Capitol, Haley's comments on immigration were being interpreted by House conservatives including Rep. Steve King of Iowa, a Cruz supporter, as a call for unlimited legal immigration into the country, something they reject.

"I keep trying to remember when a principled conservative has been given the opportunity to provide that rebuttal," King told reporters, adding that Haley's comments would indicate she's not one.

"They are looking for someone who fits the profile that they want to be the face of the Republican Party and that's the rationale," King added later in an interview, speaking of party leaders. Asked if he would want Haley as the face of the party King said laughingly: "I think she's beautiful so I'd be happy if she's the face of the party."

Trump himself criticized Haley in an interview on "Fox & Friends," calling her "very weak on illegal immigration."

Yet for a GOP establishment that has struggled with how to respond to Trump and Cruz, Haley and Ryan stand as a welcome rejoinder. Their messages are not too different from what has been heard from some of the mainstream presidential candidates, notably former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush. But Bush and other establishment Republicans have struggled to break through, while Ryan and Haley, as prominent elected officials in their own right, have their own platforms.

"What Paul Ryan is trying to do is put forward a substantive, thoughtful policy agenda for the country," said moderate Rep. Charlie Dent, R-Pa. "Every presidential candidate should be doing the same thing."

At the same time party leaders are mindful that Trump and Cruz are channeling very real voter anger and a backlash against Washington, which is at least partly a creation of GOP leaders' failure to make good on repeated promises to effectively oppose Obama.

Conservatives warn that activists will not respond well if GOP party leaders start aligning themselves with Obama against Trump, as some interpreted Haley's remarks.

"Trump's response the next day will just be 'Well you heard President Obama and the Republican leadership response echo each other, they're on the same team.' That's his thesis," said conservative Rep. Dave Brat of Virginia. "And his thesis seems to be correct."

POLITICSBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON

High court raises doubts over Puerto Rico sovereignty

The Supreme Court on Wednesday raised doubts about whether Puerto Rico should be treated as a sovereign state with powers that go beyond its status as a territory of the United States.

The justices considered the question during arguments in a criminal case involving two men who claim that Puerto Rico and the federal government can't prosecute them for the same charges of selling weapons without a permit.

The double jeopardy principal prevents defendants from being tried twice for the same offense. But there is an exception that allows prosecution under similar state and federal laws, since states are considered separate sovereigns.

Several justices said Puerto Rico's power to enforce local laws really comes from Congress, which in theory could take it away.

The case has broad political and legal implications that could affect Puerto Rico on issues ranging from taxation and bankruptcy to federal benefits. It comes as the high court prepares to hear a separate dispute later this year over whether the financially struggling Puerto Rican government can give its municipalities the power to declare bankruptcy.

The Caribbean island of 3.5 million people is a U.S. territory acquired in 1898 following the Spanish-American War. But it gained a measure of autonomy in 1952, when it adopted its own constitution with the approval of Congress and was allowed to pass its own local laws.

Justice Elena Kagan said that history means the ultimate source of the island's legal power is Congress.

"If Congress is in the driver's seat, why isn't Congress the sole source of authority?" she asked Christopher Landau, the lawyer representing Puerto Rico.

Landau said that under Puerto Rico's constitution "the political power of the commonwealth emanates from the people." He said Congress had essentially relinquished control over Puerto Rico's internal affairs when it allowed the island to create its own laws and government.

But Justice Antonin Scalia said that doesn't mean Congress couldn't change the law.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor, the daughter of Puerto Rico-born parents, seemed sympathetic to the argument that Congress meant to confer sovereignty when it approved the island's constitution — even if Puerto Rico is not quite equivalent to a state.

"Before 1952, Congress could veto Puerto Rico's laws," Sotomayor said. "It has relinquished that right."

The case involves Luis Sanchez Valle and James Gomez Vazquez, who pleaded guilty in federal court to selling illegal firearms. When Puerto Rican officials later charged them under local laws, they moved to dismiss the charges on double jeopardy grounds.

The Puerto Rico Supreme Court ultimately sided with the men, ruling that the island is not a separate sovereign.

Arguing for Valle and Vazquez, lawyer Adam Unikowski said the issue is simple: "States are sovereign; territories are not."

WASHINGTON

House approves greater oversight of Iran nuclear deal

Less than 24 hours after Iran's detention and release of U.S. sailors, the House approved GOP-backed legislation that amplifies Republican distrust of Tehran and would give Congress greater oversight of the landmark nuclear agreement.

Lawmakers voted 191-106 Wednesday to approve the Iran Terror Finance Transparency Act, spurning a veto threat from President Barack Obama. However, the vote count fell well short of the number needed to override a veto: Speaker Paul Ryan, determined to keep the House on schedule, had the vote gaveled to a close even though 137 lawmakers hadn't voted.

Faced with frustrated members, Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., later "vacated" the vote — essentially rendering it null and void — and scheduled another one for Jan. 26, when House Republican will almost certainly approve the legislation for a second time.

By that time, it may be too late for the legislation to have the impact its backers envisioned. The House bill would bar the removal of certain individuals and foreign financial institutions on a restricted list kept by the Treasury Department until the president certifies to Congress that they weren't involved in Iran's ballistic missiles program or in terrorist activities.

Yet the United States is poised to begin lifting sanctions against Iran as Tehran fulfills its obligations under the July deal. Secretary of State John Kerry said Wednesday that Iran will likely be in compliance within days. The White House said the bill could cause "the collapse" of the agreement and that the president will reject the legislation if it ever reaches his desk.

The vote came as the potentially volatile incident in Iran's territorial waters was swiftly resolved. The 10 U.S. Navy sailors were freed unharmed early Wednesday as the White House cited new lines of communication with Iran established during the nuclear negotiations as key to the speedy resolution.

The agreement, forged by the United States and Iran and signed by five other nations, commits Tehran to cutting back over more than a decade on nuclear technologies that could be used for weapons-making. In exchange, Iran will have access to about $100 billion in previously frozen assets and fully return to the oil market.

Republicans have said sanctions relief will leave Iran flush with cash to fund terrorism.

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Russia warns cuts needed to avoid repeat of '98 crash

By James Ellingworth
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia's leaders are warning the government will need to make more cutbacks if the nation is to avoid a repeat of the 1998 financial crash, the country's biggest post-Soviet economic trauma.

The economy, which is heavily reliant on its massive oil and gas industry, is getting hammered by the plunge in global energy prices. State revenues are running dry and the cost of living is soaring for Russians as the currency drops.

Faced with the prospect of the economy languishing in recession in an election year, the government sought Wednesday to manage expectations.

"Our task is to bring the budget in line with new realities. If we don't do that, then the same thing will happen as in 1998 and 1999, when the people pay through inflation for what we haven't done," finance minister Anton Siluanov was quoted as saying by state news agency Tass.

At the time, Russia devalued its currency and defaulted on its debts, events that caused inflation to jump to around 85 percent. Analysts say Russia's situation is not as dire now, as it has very little debt. But its economic prospects grow darker as energy prices drop.

The International Monetary Fund forecast in November that the Russian economy would shrink by 0.6 percent in 2016. Since that estimate was made, oil has dropped almost another 40 percent, to about $30 per barrel. The Russian budget drawn up in October is based on oil at $50 a barrel.

That leaves few opportunities for the government's traditional largesse to voters ahead of September's parliamentary elections, a key test for the ruling United Russia party, which has much lower levels of popularity than President Vladimir Putin's soaring personal ratings. The last legislative elections in 2011 saw United Russia win a majority but were dogged by allegations of electoral fraud that led to street protests.

In a warning against "populism" at a conference in Moscow, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev tried to temper hopes for the future.

Quoting former British Prime Minister Margazet Thatcher, he said "there can be no liberty without economic liberty," before adding: "However, liberty does not come without responsibility ... It's always nice to make promises about a bright future, but promises must be kept."

As Russia burns through once-ample cash reserves, the budget adopted in October increasingly seems a relic.

"If the oil price continues to fall, the parameters of the budget will require correction," Medvedev said. "That needs to be understood. We need to prepare for the worst-case scenario, as other countries are doing."

Following 10 percent cuts in most budget areas in 2015, with a few exceptions such as military spending, further reductions will be a test of public support for the government. Alexander Zhukov, a senior United Russia figure who is also deputy speaker, said Wednesday the ax would likely fall first on investment projects, something he said was "deeply unpleasant" but necessary to avoid painful cuts to social spending.

Consumer price inflation was over 12 percent last year, accompanied by increasing cases of unpaid wages and particular concern over rising food prices pushed up by Russia's ban on food imports from the European Union and other countries.

On the opening day of the Gaidar Forum in Moscow, traditionally a start-of-year showcase for Russian government policy following the 10-day New Year break, there was a mood of grim endurance.

Leading figures did not echo the assurance that Putin regularly made in the fall that "the peak of the crisis is behind us," instead focusing on the challenges yet to come. Low energy prices are the "new normal," Economic Development Minister Alexei Ulyukayev said.

Ulyukayev said that the budget deficit could hit 7.5 percent of GDP in 2016 because of the low oil price, compared to a planned deficit for 3 percent outlined in the budget, in comments reported by RIA Novosti.

To raise funds, privatization of state-owned banks and oil company Rosneft has been discussed, though similar ideas have been raised in the past to no avail.

Louisiana theater shooter's journal calls US a 'filth farm'

Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — The mentally unstable gunman who shot up a Louisiana movie theater last summer left a rambling, hate-filled journal in which he called the U.S. a "filth farm," railed against women, gays and blacks, and thanked a man accused of killing nine churchgoers in South Carolina for his "wake up call."

The hand-written, 40-page journal released Wednesday doesn't explain why John Russell Houser decided to kill two people and wound nine at a screening of "Trainwreck" last July 23. He didn't say a word as he opened fire, killing Jillian Johnson, a 33-year-old musician and business owner, and Mayci Breaux, a 21-year-old student. He died from his own gun before anyone could question him.

But the contents suggest Houser expected to die, and knew others would read the words he left in his room at a Motel 6. Shortly before the shooting, Houser wrote on the last page that he was leaving the journal "in hopes of truth, my death all but assured."

Houser, a 59-year-old drifter, also shared his "random thoughts" on politics, the news media, the presidential race, the Ten Commandments, his favorite movies and music and his view of the future.

"If you have not stood against filth, you are now a soft target," he wrote on the lined pages of the notebook.

"America is in the midst of celebrating filth, and as such they are the enemy," he later added.

Houser described Dylann Roof — a young white man accused of killing nine people inside a historic black church in Charleston that June 17 — as "green but good."

"Thank you for the wake up call Dylann," he added.

Investigators described the shooting in gruesome detail in reports that totaled 589 pages. They determined that Houser entered the theater with a handgun hidden in his pants, and waited several minutes before pulling it out and opening fire. Police swiftly responded, and eventually interviewed 70 witnesses.

One described seeing Houser walking down the steps, firing rounds at victims before shooting himself in the head. Another said she heard someone scream "He's reloading!" before she ran out.

Authorities also shared findings of their investigation into Houser's troubled past. In social media posts, Houser talked about his political beliefs and "anti-government tendencies," they noted.

Michigan National Guard, FEMA help Flint amid water crisis

Associated Press

FLINT, Mich. — Members of the Michigan National Guard began arriving in Flint on Wednesday for briefings on the drinking water crisis just as state health officials reported a spike in Legionnaires' disease cases in the county where the city is located.

Gov. Rick Snyder activated the National Guard late Tuesday, and Lt. Col. William Humes confirmed about a half-dozen representatives arrived Wednesday morning. They are part of a larger contingent of Guardsmen who will help distribute bottled water, filters and other supplies to residents.

Flint's tap water became contaminated with too much lead after the city switched its water supply in 2014 to save money while under state financial management. Local officials first declared a public health emergency in October in response to tests that showed children with elevated levels of lead.

"I'm glad the state is putting in resources and we welcome the Michigan National Guard with open arms," Flint Mayor Karen Weaver said in a statement. "However, we also need federal assistance as we continue to cope with this man-made water disaster."

Meanwhile, Michigan's Department of Health and Human Services said Wednesday that there's been an increase in Legionnaires' disease cases during periods over the past two years in Genesee County.

Legionnaires' disease is a type of pneumonia caused by bacteria that infect the lungs. Health officials say they can't conclude that the increase is related to Flint's water crisis.

There were 45 confirmed cases, including seven associated deaths, in Genesee County from June 2014 to March 2015. In 47 percent of the cases, the water source at the primary residence was from the Flint River. A comparative chart that officials provided shows only 21 cases were confirmed in all of 2012 and 2013.

Preliminary data also indicates 42 cases of Legionnaires' disease between May 2015 and November 2015, with three deaths, health officials said.

A Legionnaires' disease outbreak in western Illinois last summer that killed 12 and sickened dozens was likely spread by an aging water system at a 129-year-old facility that lacked several safeguards, The Associated Press reported last month based on a federal report.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is consulting with state health officials and local health departments in Michigan on the increase in Legionnaire's disease cases in and around Flint, agency spokesman Ian Branam told The AP Wednesday in a statement.

The CDC currently has no plans to send staff to Flint, and says state and local health department have jurisdiction over investigations in their states, Branam said.

Snyder has requested support from the Federal Emergency Management Agency in coordinating a recovery plan with other federal agencies that have the programs, authorities or technical expertise to help with Flint's water crisis.

FEMA appointed a disaster recovery coordinator to assist, spokesman Rafael Lemaitre said.

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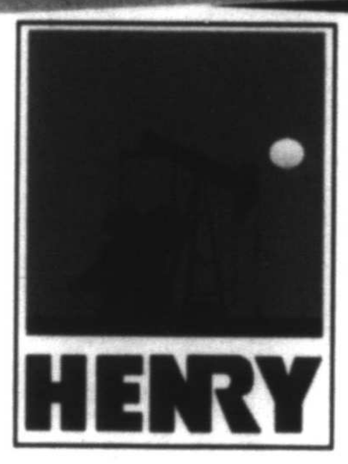

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WEEKENDER

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PERMIAN BASIN

WEEKEND TO-DO LIST

TODAY

TALKING ART Artist Billy Schenck talks about his unique brand of Pop Western Art on display at the Ellen Noel Art Museum. 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

ONE-TWO PUNCH Put on your dance shoes for a big night of Tejano. The double bill of Intocable and Duelo at Hacienda Event Center is a party not to be missed. 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

GOAL ASSIST The YMCA is hosting Super Saturday with free fitness classes open to the public including BodyCombat, RPM and more beginning at 8:30 a.m.

SUNDAY

WIND DOWN End the weekend with the help of San Angelo's Kirk Whipple Band at Fire Water Bar and Grill. The two-man team mix country and singer-songwriter sounds into his own brand. 7 p.m.

See complete schedule of weekend events on Page 2.

MOVIES

Films opening and closing this week at Midland theaters:

TALL CITY 14
Opening: "13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi," "Norm of the North," "Ride Along 2."
Closing: "Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Road Chip," "Creed," "Good Dinosaur," "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2," "Point Break."

CINERGY CINEMAS
Opening: "13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi," "Norm of the North," "Ride Along 2."
Closing: "The Big Short," "Good Dinossiur," "Point Break."

BIG SKY DRIVE-IN
Opening: "Ride Along 2."
Closing: "Joy"

STAYING IN?
Find out which movies are worth watching from the comfort of your couch.
Page 4

END OF AN ERA

The Living Deads play out the final hours of Blue Max

By Trent Johnson
tsjohnson@mrt.com

Life on the road can range from a luxurious tour bus or a stuffy van shuffling from city to city. Playing more than 200 shows in the past year, punk band The Living Deads found a happy medium, as the two-person band currently tours, writes, records and lives out of a humble recreational vehicle.

Formed five years ago in Denver, the duo has trekked throughout the United States and Canada. The two have even abandoned their home-on-wheels temporarily for the occasional club tour in Europe. This Saturday, the band and their RV will stop in Midland to headline the last show at Blue Max.

The music venue will close its doors after the concert.

Making her way to Midland, vocalist and standing bass player Symphony Tidwell talked about their travels, the passing of David Bowie and being the last headliners at the Max while drummer Randee McKnight commanded the steering wheel.

MRT: Have you always played standing bass? It seems like very unusual instrument to play in a rock band.

Tidwell: I come from a musical family. I played piano growing up and stopped in high school when I lost interest. I went to college for visual art with drawings and paintings, and I never really considered doing music until I met Randy and his band the Hillbilly Hellcats. His group had just returned from Europe. I had never thought about being in a band, but he showed me all of these pictures of where he was and what he'd seen, and he flew me out to Denver. I ended up staying for three years. I wanted him to teach me how to play drums, but he said I should learn how to play bass. I bought a bass on Craigslist and their bass player showed me everything he knew. Next thing I knew, I was playing my own gigs.

When I told my mom, I found out that my grandmother played standing bass, and before she passed away, I got to play bass with her. She had dementia and she couldn't remember me but she remembered bass, and began to play, and the look on her face when she remembered something for the first time in a while was amazing. So that's another aspect I carry on, it's a wonderful instrument.

MRT: People often say "I want to travel," and you actually live in an RV and do it full time. What's that experience like for you?

Tidwell: It takes a special kind of person to do it. When we tour with guitar players, sometimes they don't make it to the end because living in an RV is very public. There's weird stuff happening outside your bedroom.

You really have to enjoy the person you're sharing it with. It works well for us. I think I was always meant to do this; I was always meant to be a gypsy. We just have to get an RV over in Europe, too. Sometimes, strangers knock. You gotta be guarded to some degree, too, but that's part of the adventure.

MRT: Many of your songs have an extremely personal tone. Are any the result of your on-the-road experiences?

Tidwell: We write from our experiences, so being on the road, we're in a lot of interesting situations. We're living in a different parking lot every night, so we experience a lot of crazy stuff. I would say our songs are very diverse in subject matter and style.

For "Robot Kids," we were noticing the people at shows on their phones. It's weird when people experience the whole thing through their phones, so we wrote a song.

For another, I told Randy I had a list of weird stuff men have said to me, and I wanted to make it a song.

Right now, we're in the middle of recording our second album ourselves. We record in the RV, and sometimes projects take a little longer than we'd like them to, but we do what we can. You have to write from what you know, and we are lucky to be in an interesting place.

MRT: How did the death of David Bowie affect you?

Tidwell: One of our friends told us David Bowie passed away. We looked it up and our jaws hit the floor. It was really hard to believe. And (country singer) Red Simpson, too. He was a huge influence, and we got to play with him in California.

We've been listening to Bowie's latest album, and it's the most artistic way he could have gone out. He turned his own passing into a work of art. It's the best masterpiece anyone could have left. When you're a musician, once you're gone, your body is gone, but your work lives on forever. In a way, it keeps the artist here with us.

Please see **DEADS**/Page 3

WANT TO GO?

Blue Max Farewell Party with The Living Deads, Viva las Vegas, Gil Christ, Dirty Dave and Strange Wool. 9 p.m. Saturday at Blue Max, 7409 W Industrial Ave. facebook.com/bluemaxrocks.

Heat Index: Five to things to do this weekend

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

We hope one resolution you've made for 2016 is quitting the mantra "There's nothing to do." That's simply not true — especially this weekend. Our top picks for your things to do are a mix of diverse outings and exciting discoveries.

THURSDAY

Midland County Livestock Show at Horseshoe Arena and Pavilion, 2514 Arena Trail.

Where else can you see goats, lambs and heifers in town? The Horsehoe turns into a menagerie of farm animals competing for blue ribbons this weekend at the annual show. But it's not just for rural types. Who can resist today's peewee rabbits show or the peewee goats on Saturday. The show culminates with a barbecue meal open to the public and the auction and awards Saturday afternoon. Visit midlandhorseshoe.com for a full itinerary.

J.B. and the Moonshine Band at Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St.

In June 2015, the East Texas band dropped their third album "Mixtape" which debuted at No. 33 on the Top Country Albums chart and would

Please see **INDEX**/Page 3

Fame is a different avenue for Madigan

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

With Amy Schumer, Tina Fey and Amy Poehler as today's icons for women comedy, Kathleen Madigan sidesteps their A-lister status to keep her work straightforward.

"I just want to tell jokes," she said. "I didn't start doing open mics to become an actor or do a sitcom or commercials."

Madigan didn't even consider comedy a career. Open mics were just something to do. But she was good at it.

The comedian will headline the Wagner Noel tonight when her Mermaid Lady tour stops in Midland.

"A career in comedy sounded like fun," she said. "I felt like if I'm going to do something, or make a lot of money or even be OK without money, it should be something I had a passion about. I mean I really enjoyed bartending and the money was pretty good. At the time, it was like one or the other. I honestly don't even think about the celebrity of it."

She almost shuns the attention. Madigan's name isn't far from Fey's or Sarah Silverman's when female comics are mentioned, but

Please see **MADIGAN**/Page 3

CALENDAR

SUPER SATURDAY AT THE YMCA

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

ART & DANCE

First Friday: The works of James Hieb and Chris Hieb. The opening reception includes refreshments and music and is open to all ages. 6 p.m. Friday at Kamiposi. 510 S. Big Spring St. facebook.com/kamiposi.

Ancient Ivory Exhibit features more than 50 pieces of carved ivory on loan from the OS Ranch Museum. Through Jan. 22 at Midland County Public Library - Centennial, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

Winter Art Exhibit featuring artists from ArtQuest, ArtiZen, Midland Arts Association and Palette Club of Midland as well as works by clients from Rays of Hope and MARC. The exhibit runs through March 15. The Gallery at Midland Shared Spaces, 3500 N. "A" St. midlandss.org.

"Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown" exhibition is organized by the Charles M. Schulz Museum in Santa Rosa, California. The exhibition contains reproduction comic strips, quotes by Schulz, memorabilia from "A Charlie Brown Christmas special" and more. Through Jan. 31, 2016. Durham Children's Museum, 3705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

"Apparat" features works by 13 artists. Through Feb. 14, 2016. Ballroom Marfa, 108 E. San Antonio St. ballroommarfa.org.

EVENTS

Midland County Livestock Show will feature animal shows, judging and barbecue meal for the public Saturday. Thursday-Saturday at Midland Horseshoe, 2514 Arena Trail. midlandhorseshoe.com.

FAMILY FUN

Star Parties with the West Texas Astronomers at Haley Park behind the planetarium. All parties begin at dusk. Friday. Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

Wild Kratts Live will have two same-day performances. 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $29-$34. wagnernoel.com.

Old Miner's Maze interactive adventure features a maze, rock walls, mechanical bull and more. Winter hours: Fridays 5-8 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday noon to 6 p.m. 4305 N. County Rd. 1140. oldminersmaze.com.

GAMES & SPORTS

Super Saturday at the YMCA. The Midland YMCA is opening its doors to the public and will offer group fitness classes beginning at 8:30 a.m. including Water in Motion, BodyCombat, RPM, BodyPump and Zumba. Saturday at Midland YMCA, 800 N. Big Spring St. midlandymca.org.

Friday Night Magic at Hastings, 3111 W. Cuthbert Ave. Fridays at 7 p.m. Free.

Hold 'em poker tournaments, 7 p.m. Friday at The Detour.

Senior bingo, 10 a.m. Fridays at Cimarron House.

Free skateboarding lessons, noon-1:30 p.m. Saturdays at RTD Skatepark. rtdskatepark.com.

Tabletop players group at Astral Castle, 10 Meta Drive. 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

Family Nite roller skating, Sundays from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at KC's Nutty Roller, 1004 A Andrews Highway. kcsnuttyroller.com.

Live Trivia, 7 pm. Tuesdays at Basin Burger House.

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 8 p.m. Wednesdays at Torino's. challengeentertainment.com.

MUSIC

J.B. and the Moonshine Band, 8 p.m. today at Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

Intocable, Duelo, 8 p.m., Friday at Hacienda Event Center, 12610 SH 191. $35. haciendamidland.com.

Maximus, 7 p.m. Friday at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

Jake Pyeatt, 7 p.m. Saturday at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

THEATER, COMEDY & FILM

Kathleen Madigan, 7 p.m. tonight at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $29-$39. wagnernoel.com.

Improv at the Yucca with local performers. The monthly event is intended for mature audiences. 8 p.m. Friday at The Yucca Theatre, 208 N Colorado St. $12-$15. mctmidland.org.

COMING SOON

JANUARY

Brown Bag Lunch and Lecture Series: Tall City Tomorrow with speaker Mayor Jerry Morales. Drinks and dessert provided. 11:30 a.m. Jan. 19 at The Petroleum Museum, 1500 W. Interstate 20 West. Free. petroleummuseum.org.

2016 Season Kick-Off and Recruitment Night hosted by Basin Derby Revolution. The roller derby team is recruiting skaters of all levels, referees and non-skating officials as well as welcomes fans. Donations accepted. 6:30 p.m. Jan 20 at Odessa Roller Rink, 4140 W. University Blvd., Odessa. Free.

Jon Wolfe, 8 p.m. Jan 21. at Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

The Damn Quails, Jan. 22 at The Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St. facebook.com/thelonestarbar.

Winter's Magic: Third Anniversary Celebration of the I-20 Wildlife Preserve. The event will feature a hot chocolate bar, a session on building birdfeeders and lessons on how to identify area birds. Binoculars, sturdy walking shoes and weather-appropriate clothing encouraged. Jan. 23. 2201 S. Midland Drive. Free. i20wildlifepreserve.org.

MOSC: Latent Emotions featuring John Madura on violin. 7:30 p.m. Jan. 23 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $22-$32. MOSC.org.

Dalton Domino, Roger Creager, 8 p.m. Jan. 23 at Fire Water Bar and Grill, 3113 W. Industrial Ave. firewaterbarandgrilltx.com.

The Oak Ridge Boys, Jimmy Fortune, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 25 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $38-$63. wagnernoel.com.

Family Science Night: Oceans. Families are invited to partricipate in science experiments and creative projects. Refreshments provided. 6-8 p.m. Jan. 28 at The Petroleum Museum, 1500 W. Interstate 20 West. Free. petroleummuseum.org.

Zane Williams, 8 p.m. Jan 28. at Rockin Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

Midland on Tap craft beer festival features more than 100 samples of craft breweries, live music and food. Jan. 29 and 30 at Commemorative Air Force Museum, 9600 Wright Drive. $20. americaontap.com.

Little River Band, 8 p.m. Jan. 29 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $32-$63. wagnernoel.com.

Vanessa Silberman, 7 p.m. Jan. 29 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

Jack Nelson, 8 p.m. Jan. 30 at Beer Garden at Garden View, 7112 West Highway. midlandbeergarden.com.

Camila, 8 p.m., Jan. 30 at Hacienda Event Center, 12610 SH 191. haciendamidland.com.

Midnight River Choir, 8 p.m. Jan. 30 at Fire Water Bar and Grill, 3113 W. Industrial Ave. firewaterbarandgrilltx.com.

North by North, 7 p.m. Jan. 30 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

"Annie." 7:30 p.m. Jan. 31 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $49.50-$88. MOSC.org.

ROBERT PLANT

FEBRUARY

MOSC: Mozart's Magnificent Voyage, 4 p.m. Feb. 6 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $15-$9. wagnernoel.com.

Cody Bryan Band, 8 p.m. Feb. 4 at Fire Water Bar and Grill, 3113 W. Industrial Ave. firewaterbarandgrilltx.com.

Fire and Ice: Exploring Volcanoes on Earth and Beyond by Dr. Rosaly M. C. Lopes. The NASA scientist speaks about the prevalence of volcanoes throughout the solar system and the spectacle of eruptions. This is part of the Museum of the Southwest's Relativity Lecture Series. 6 p.m. Feb. 5 at Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

Family Days features dome shows and family-friendly activities. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 6 at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

Bruce Salmon, 7 p.m. Feb. 6 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

My Little Sweetheart Dance. The YMCA invites "couples" to dress their best for their father/daughter, mother/son, guardian/child dance. The event will feature refreshments, photos, games and more. 7-9 p.m. Feb. 6 at Midland YMCA, 800 N. Big Spring St. $10 per couple. Additional children $5 each. midlandymca.org.

Hooking Up with the Second City, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $22-$42. wagnernoel.com.

Casey Berry, William Clark Green, 8 p.m. Feb. 11 at Rockin Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. $10. rockinrodeomidland.com.

Star Parties with the West Texas Astronomers at Haley Park behind the planetarium. All parties begin at dusk. Feb. 12. Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

Bret Michaels, Big Casino, 7 p.m., Feb. 12 at Hacienda Event Center, 12610 SH 191. $40. haciendamidland.com.

Pepe Aguilar, 8 p.m., Feb. 13 at Hacienda Event Center, 12610 SH 191. haciendamidland.com.

Mark McKinney, Feb. 13 at The Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St. facebook.com/thelonestarbar.

Savannah Jack, 7 p.m. Feb. 16 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $11-$35. liveonstage-pb.com.

2016 Student Art Exhibition: Storytellers. The annual art show features works by area students representing elementary through high school in a variety of media. On display Feb. 19 through April 10. Public opening and teacher appreciation night at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 18. Durham Children's Museum, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

Dancing with the West Texas Stars benefiting the Crisis Center. Feb. 20.

Rosewood Thievz, 7 p.m. Feb. 20 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

MOSC: From Winter Winds to Shades of Summer, 3 p.m. Feb. 21 at Rea-Greathouse Hall at Wagner Noel, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $15. MOSC.org.

Clifford the Big Red Dog: A Big Family Musical, 4 p.m. Feb. 21 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $19-$50. wagnernoel.com. $19-$50.

Trout Fishing in America, 3:30 p.m. Feb. 21 at The Yucca Theatre, 208 North Colorado St. troutmusic.com.

Ailey II, 7:30 p.m. Feb. 22 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $24-$44. wagnernoel.com.

Diana Ross, 8 p.m. Feb. 25 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $78-$112. wagnernoel.com.

Costello Country, 9 p.m. Feb. 25 at Graham Central Station, 4240 Preston Smith Road, Odessa.

Eric Sommer, 7 p.m. Feb. 26 at The Garage Coffee, Music and More, 1100 N. Main St., Fort Stockton. thegaragetx.com.

Tao: Seventeen Samurai, 7 p.m. Feb. 28 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $24-$44. wagnernoel.com.

MARCH

"Riverdance - 20th Anniversary World Tour," 7:30 p.m. March 1 and 2 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $45-$88. wagnernoel.com.

Family Science Night: Mad Scientist. Families are invited to partricipate in science experiments and creative projects. Refreshments provided. 6-8 p.m. March 3 at The Petroleum Museum, 1500 W Interstate 20 West. Free. petroleummuseum.org.

MOSC: Mozart Requiem 7:30 p.m. March 5 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $17-$30. MOSC.org.

Mike Farris, 2:30 p.m. March 13 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $11-$35. liveonstage-pb.com.

MOSC: Permian Basin String Quartet perform the next in their Late Beethoven Cycle and will include Beethoven Op. 135 and Brahms Op. 51. 3 p.m. March 13 at the Rea-Greathouse Recital Hall at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $15. MOSC.org.

Robert Plant and the Sensational Space Shifters, March 18 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. wagnernoel.com.

Permian Basin Comic Con X 2016 with announced guests Kevin Nash (from "Magic Mike" films and WWE wrestler), Verne Troyer (Mini Me from "Austin Powers") and Mighty Morphin Power Rangers. March 18-20 at Horseshoe Pavilion, 2514 Arena Trail. pbcomicconx.com.

Stomp, 7:30 p.m. March 31 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $40.50-$88. broadwayinthebasin.com.

APRIL

The Browders, 7 p.m. April 1 at Calvary Assembly, 508 S. Johnson Drive. thebrowders.com.

MOSC: Lone Star Brass performs "Odessa - From Russia to Texas." 3 p.m. April 3 at the Rea-Greathouse Recital Hall at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $15. MOSC.org.

Stringfever, 7 p.m. April 5 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $11-$35. liveonstage-pb.com.

MOSC: "Bravo Broadway" 7:30 p.m. April 9 at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $28-$48. MOSC.org.

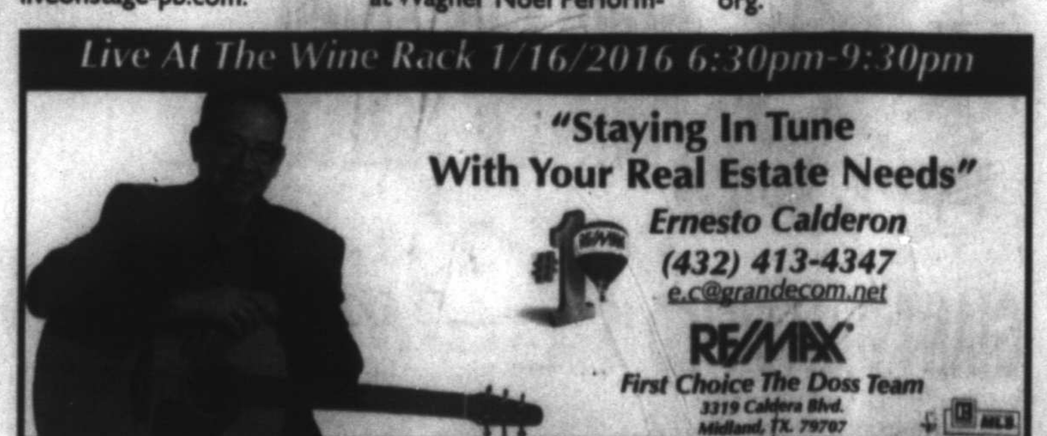
MOSC: Voices of the Permian Basin performs "Put a Spring in You Step" 3 p.m. April 17 at the First Presbyterian Church, 800 W. Texas Ave. $15. MOSC.org.

"The Marriage of Figaro" by Permian Basin Opera. 7 p.m. April 23 at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $25. midlandoperatheater.org.

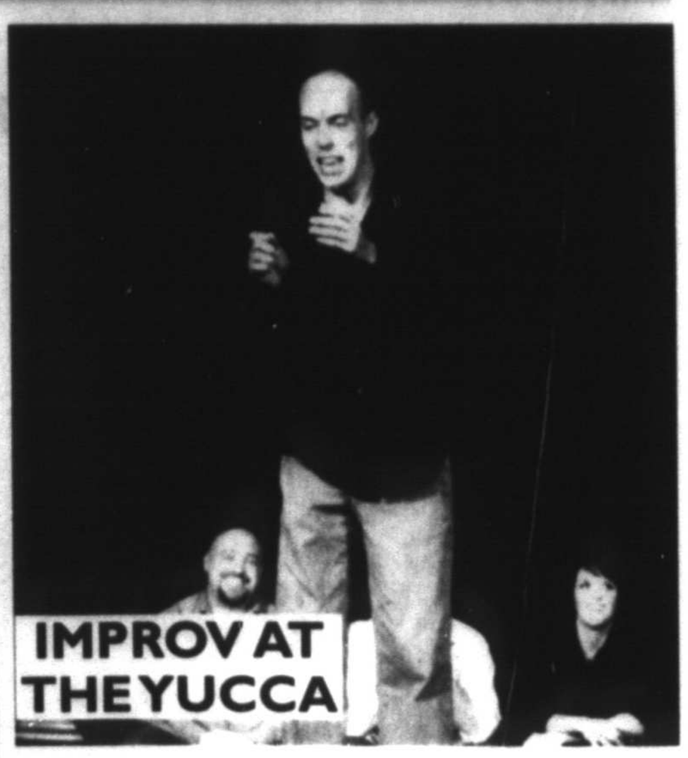
"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," 7:30 p.m. April 25 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $40.50-$88. broadwayinthebasin.com.

Matt Dusk, 7 p.m. April 26 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $11-$35. liveonstage-pb.com.

MOSC: Chorale performs "The Glory of Venice Music for Chorus and Brass," 7:30 p.m. April 30 at the First Presbyterian Church, 800 W. Texas Ave. $15. MOSC.org.



EVENTS & MORE



DEADS

From Page 1

It's sad we won't be able to go see a David Bowie show again, but you can listen to your favorite artist and they're right there with you.

MRT: Is there any pressure being the last performance at Blue Max?

Tidwell: This will be the second time we're playing there, and Erika Berry was really sweet to us. We're glad we get to play there again, and we're honored to be the grand finale. There are select venues and club owners that mean a lot to us, and Erika and Blue Max is that kind of place and person. We're sad, but glad we get to play it one more time, and we'll do our best to close it out right.

REVIEW

'Ride Along 2' is a fun little journey

By Katie Walsh
Tribune News Service

Watching the "Ride Along" films (this is the second installment in the buddy cop franchise) is an exercise in succumbing to Kevin Hart's unique, manic charms. By the end, it's most likely you'll be laughing at the antics of the bite-sized comic — whose style is reminiscent of an over-enthusiastic puppy nipping at your ankles — even if you're not sure why. This is why Ice Cube is the perfect audience proxy as Hart's tough and taciturn counterpart; while he initially wants to bat the irritating pup away, Hart's persistence and moxie are difficult to resist.

"Ride Along" saw Cube as James Patton, a hard-boiled detective of few words, pressured by his sister Angie (Tika Sumpter) to take her boyfriend Ben (Hart) along for a ride, on which disastrous capers, and some unlikely detective work, ensued. In "Ride Along 2," directed again by Tim Story, James heads for parts south after a "Fast and the Furious"-style opener, in which he uncovers a mysterious USB drive from a drug dealer with a hacker's calling card leading him Miami. You can guess who begs to go along for the ride again. This time, Ben's a fresh police academy graduate, who's a bit of an idiot-savant when it comes to law enforcement.

In South Beach, James and Ben link up with hacker AJ (a loopy Ken Jeong), and another tough homicide cop Maya Cruz (Olivia Munn). They make an odd foursome, with Ben and AJ bonding over their nerdy hobbies, and Maya and James sharing a similarly serious approach ("It's like watching rams mate," Ben spits in disgust). Jeong makes a surprisingly good foil for Hart — the two comedians both subvert the stereotypes of their outward appearances — balancing the qualities that make them less-than-macho with over-the-top braggadocio and ego. AJ the hacker turns out to quite the ladies man, and Ben has no qualms embracing his feminine side, whether it's in his overzealous wedding planning or his choice of undergarment.

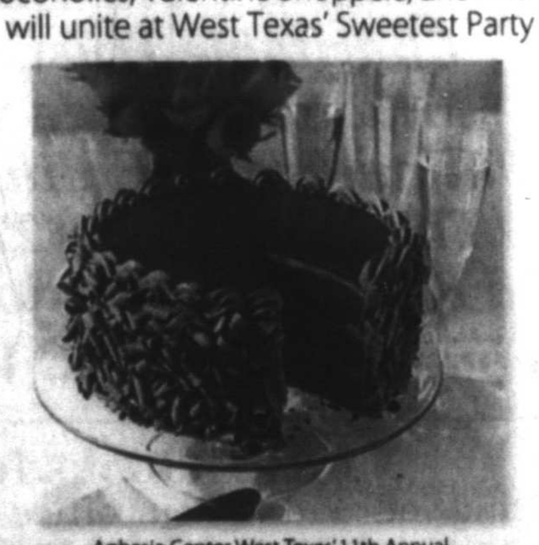
The plot itself is run-of-the-mill cop comedy stuff, with Benjamin Bratt delivering the villain role as a suave Miami heavyweight who's smuggling drugs and other contraband. The story beats are well-trodden, the action sequences and visual effects nothing more than serviceable, if chaotic, but there's fun to be had in "Ride Along 2" thanks to Hart and Jeong, who play fast and loose with the tropes. All Ben wants is to prove himself as a cop and a brother, but he doesn't feel the need to change anything about his metrosexual nerd persona, finding strength in it. All those hours of video games somehow pay off.

Despite this progressive attitude toward masculinity, the film is rife with lazily executed stereotypes about women — what they might wear to go bikini shopping, and what might make them jealous — but the larger female roles are fierce too, including Sherri Shepherd as a rabid wedding planner who spars with Groomzilla Ben. "Ride Along 2" takes quite a bit of time to pick up speed, and doesn't have the verve and energy of the first film, but it has its moments, particularly when Hart hits the gas on his signature zingers.

2.5 stars out of 4
Cast: Ice Cube, Kevin Hart, Olivia Munn, Ken Jeong, Benjamin Bratt, Tika Sumpter
Directed by Tim Story
Running time: 1 hour, 41 minutes
Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence, sexual content, language and some drug material.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Chocoholics, Valentine Shoppers, and Friends will unite at West Texas' Sweetest Party



Aphasia Center West Texas' 11th Annual
Chocolate Decadence
Thursday, Feb. 4th, 7 p.m. at Midland's Horseshoe Pavilion
Reserve Now! 432.699.1261 or
www.AphasiaWTx.org
Benefitting stroke survivors with a loss of language

INDEX

From Page 1

ultimately peak at No. 4 on the U.S. Heatseekers charts. The band moves into the new year with a slew of live shows including tonight's. No strangers to Midland, the band will likely bring their A-game to the local stage. 9:30 p.m. $10. Rockinrodeo-midland.com.

FRIDAY

Improv at the Yucca at Yucca Theatre, 208 N. Colorado Ave.
After a brief hiatus, Improv at the Yucca returns to their home stage downtown. Regular cast members come back for a night of unscripted laughs and bawdy jokes. So much so that the show isn't recommended for ages 16 and younger. 8 p.m. $15. Mctmidland.org.

SATURDAY

Wild Kratts Live at Wagner Noel, 1310 N. FM 1788.
The hit television series "Wild Kratts" comes to life with a double-header of shows. Audiences will follow the Kratt brothers as they engage their creature power while searching for a stolen invention. Along the way, fans will learn about animals and their abilities while the brothers work to make sure the creature world is safe from the bumbling Zach and his robots. Two showings at 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. $29-$34. Wagnernoel.com.

Aloha O Hawaii at Yucca Theatre
The local Polynesian dance troupe performs their annual show Dances from the Islands. This year, the show will highlight new dances by the male members of Aloha. Led by Ben Sola, the men will display traditional Samoan dancing. The show is also a fundraiser for the troupe. Aloha has been invited to perform at Disneyworld and Universal Studios this summer and proceeds from the show will help them fund their June trip. 7 p.m. $10 advance, $15 door. Advanced tickets can be purchased by calling 432-528-1192.

MADIGAN

From Page 1

those comparisons or groupings are trivial for her.

"It's very kind when they put me in that same group but it's really just the same as if they were adding my name in talking about a group of dentists. What I do has nothing to do with what they do," she said.

But she has had her moments.

Madigan won "Funniest Female Stand-Up Comic" at the American Comedy Awards in 1996. The comedian has appeared on "The Tonight Show," "The Late Late Show" and "Comedy Central Presents." She shares the stage often with friend and popular comic Lewis Black. Despite no films or sitcoms, with her four CDs and three DVDs and countless TV appearances, fame isn't too far off from the comic.

It's just that Madigan would just rather be on the road and onstage delivering her signature, brazen wit on current events — or tweeting.

"Oh, I really enjoy it," she beamed "It's instantaneous and you almost have to think harder with the limited characters about what to say. Even if I wasn't a comedian, I'd be all over Twitter doing what I do."

She was thrilled about the political season and consistently tweets the presidential debates. And like many other comedians, she's overjoyed during election season.

"All the candidates are highly entertaining. Right now, it's like 'Survivor' and we're just seeing which candidate gets off the island next," she said.

IF YOU GO

Kathleen Madigan's Mermaid Lady Tour, 7 p.m. Thursday at Wagner Noel PAC, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $27-$37. Wagnernoel.com.

MIDLAND COMMUNITY THEATRE
IMPROV AT THE YUCCA
Friday, January 15 at 8 PM
Join us at the Historic Yucca Theatre for lowbrow comedy and cheap booze!
(Due to the adult nature, Improv at the Yucca is recommended for mature audiences only)
The Yucca is located in Downtown Midland 208 Colorado Ave.
Doors opens on Thursday at 7 PM and the show starts at 8 PM
Tickets on sale now. Don't miss this ridiculously entertaining event!
Contact the MCT Box Office at (432) 570-4111 for more information or visit us online at www.mctmidland.org

ON SCREEN

'The Martian' proves to be a solid best picture contender

Reeled & Stream

By Nancy Adamson | nadamson@mrt.com

PICK O' THE WEEK

"The Martian" (PG-13) Even though Leo DeCaptio and "The Revenant" have all the momentum for this year"s Oscar race, this film is surely a close second. As for its star, Matt Damon, he gives the best performance of his career. "The Martian" is for Damon what "Cast Away" was for Tom Hanks; what "The Old Man and the Sea" was for Spencer Travy; and what "The Spirit of St. Louis" was for Jimmy Stewart." **A**

ICK! O' THE WEEK

"Close Range" (unrated) Soulless action film will have trouble appealing to fans of the genre, much less the rest of us. **F**

MORE REVIEWS

""Ashby" (R) The few sincere moments this film has are quickly forgotten in the overall experience. **C-**

"The Bird Men" (unrated) After collecting dust on a shelf since 2013, this lukewarm comedy finally gets a chance to fly. Unfortunately, it looks as though somebody clipped its wings. **D+**

"The Blackout" (R) Considering it was probably made on a shoestring budget, this thriller was believable and thought-provoking. **B**

"Captive" (PG-13) Kate Mara and David. Oyelowo shine in this true story that otherwise plays like a bad Lifetime movie. **D+**

"Condemned" (unrated) Save for the feature film debut of Dylan Penn, who is the daughter of Sean Penn and Robin Wright, the promise of torture porn is not delivered, something strongly alluded to in the marketing and strongly needed to make watchable. **D+**

"The Experimenter" (PG-13) As with the recent "Stanford Prison Experiment," this film is based on actual testing conducted in the 1960s on the limits of human endurance. The first-person account method of storytelling ruins this experiment. **C-**

"The Green Inferno" (R) It's "The Ruins" meets "At Play in the Fields of the Lord" in this hair-raising, unbelievably graphic horror film that also features one of the most realistic plane crash effects ever filmed. **B-**

"Hell and Back" (R) Adult claymation feature comes from guys used to making people laugh in 30-minute increments on TV, and it shows. There are several laugh-out-loud moments, but the time in between is unbearably slow. **C+**

"Infinitely Polar Bear" (R) Like the character he plays, Mark Ruffalo is immensely likable one minute and despicable the next. His performance and a tender story make this worth watching. **B**

"Joe Dirt 2: Beautiful Loser" (unrated) Every once in a while, you'll run across someone who thinks "Joe Dirt" is one of the funniest movies ever made. Even they don't think a sequel was necessary. **D**

"Scouts Guide to the Zombie Apocalypse" (R) Although it never quite delivers on its potential, this film does fulfill a quotient for charming. **B-**

"Sleeping With Other People" (R) The dialogue is absolutely brilliant, but it doesn't sound the way real people talk. The film's cute factor, though, will win your heart. **B+**

"The Visit" (PG-13) M. Night Shyamalan is still nowhere near the quality of his early films that had some critics — including yours truly — comparing him to Alfred Hitchcock, but this is his best film in a long time. **B**

"The Walk" (PG) Even if you are familiar with the true story or saw the amazing documentary — "Man on Wire" — about the event, you'll still be on the edge of your seat as director Robert Zemeckis delivers his finest effort since "Cast Away." **A**

FILM CAPS

"13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi" (R) During the 2012 terrorist attack on the U.S. diplomatic compound in Libya, elite ex-military operatives bravely fight back when plans go awry. With James Badge Dale, John Krasinski, Max Martini, Pablo Schreiber, Toby Stephens. Directed by Michael Bay.

"The Big Short" (R) Angered by the greed of corporations and anticipating the housing bubble, Christian Bale, Steve Carell, Ryan Gosling and Brad Pitt set out to make the big banks pay. With Finn Whitrock, Marisa Tomei, Karen Gillan and Melissa Leo. Written by Charles Randolph and Adam McKay, based upon the book by Michael Lewis. Directed by McKay.

"Carol" (R) Impeccably acted by Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara as two women in love, with an exquisite look captured by cinematographer Ed Lachman, "Carol" has been made under the complete and total control of Todd Haynes, a gifted director who always knows what he's doing.

"Concussion" (PG-13) Writer-director Peter Landesman pushes too hard to make this story of a scientist who sounded the alarm about concussions and football fit into a dramatic mold, alternating melodrama and romance with earnest warnings in a way that is more ungainly than effective. (K.Tu., Dec. 25) (2:03) PG-13.

"Creed" (PG-13) In the hands of director Ryan Coogler and star Michael B. Jordan, what is nominally a spinoff of the celebrated "Rocky" series plays like a spiritual remake of the 1976 film that retells the original story in the kind of involving way one would not have thought possible. Wrtten by Coogler.

"Daddy's Home" (PG-13) In its best moments, it's a sly expose of the frailties of the contemporary male self-image and in its lesser moments a simplistic slapstick. This being a Will Ferrell comedy, sometimes those moments are one and the same. Written by Brian Burns. Directed by Sean Anders.

"The Danish Girl" (R) Stars Eddie Redmayne and Alicia Vikander shine in this Tom Hooper-directed story of one of the first individuals to receive gender-reassignment surgery.

"The Forest" (PG-13) Despite dire warnings, a young American enters Japan's Aokigahara Forest in search of her missing sister and encounters the malevolent souls of the dead. With Natalie Dormer, Taylor Kinney, Eoin Macken and Yukiyoshi Ozawa. Written by Sarah Cornwell and Nick Antosca, based on an idea by David S. Goyer. Directed by Jason Zada.

"The Hateful Eight" (R) An ultrawide bore, writer-director Quentin Tarantino's post-Civil War picture, set largely in a Wyoming roadhouse with a blizzard raging outside, is not so much a shoot-'em-up (though the violence is outlandishly rough when it comes) as a guess-'em-up.

"Joy" (PG-13) David O. Russell reunites with stars Jennifer Lawrence, Bradley Cooper and Robert De Niro in this intergenerational story of a young woman who founds a business dynasty based on a cleaning product. With Edgar Ramirez, Diane Ladd, Virginia Madsen and Isabella Rossellini. Story by Annie Mumolo and Russell. Directed by Russell.

"Norm of the North" (PG) Animated tale about a talkative polar bear who travels to New York City to stop a greedy developer from building condos in the Arctic. Voices of Rob Schneider, Heather Graham, Ken Jeong. Directed by Trevor Wall.

"The Revenant" (R) Oscar-winning director Alejandro Innaritu is up to his old pretentious tricks, but his wilderness survival tale is saved by a potent performance by Leonardo DiCaprio and brilliant cinematography by Emmanuel Lubetzki.

"Ride Along 2" (PG-13) Kevin Hart and Ice Cube reunite for this sequel to the 2014 comedy. With Ken Jeong, Benjamin Bratt, Olivia Munn, Bruce McGill, Tika Sumpter. Written by Phil Hay & Matt Manfredi. Directed by Tim Story.

"Sisters" (R) Tina Fey and Amy Poehler star as out-of-touch siblings who return to clean out their childhood home when their parents decide to sell and throw one last party for old times' sake. With Maya Rudolph, John Leguizamo, Dianne Wiest and James Brolin. Written by Paula Pell. Directed by Jason Moore.

"Star Wars: The Force Awakens" (PG-13) Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill and Carrie Fisher return for the latest installment of the space saga as it kicks off another trilogy set in a galaxy far, far away. With Adam Driver, Oscar Isaac, Lupita Nyong'o, Andy Serkis, Domhnall Gleeson, Anthony Daniels, Peter Mayhew and Max Von Sydow. Written by J.J. Abrams & Lawrence Kasdan. Directed by Abrams.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

REVIEW

Michael Bay slips into war movie cliches with '13 Hours'

By Michael Phillips
Chicago Tribune

Everything in director Michael Bay's cinematic vocabulary — the glamorizing slo-mo, the falling bomb point-of-view shots, the low-angle framing of his heroes with blue sky, fireballs or an American flag in the background — suggests not real life, or the way things might have happened, but a Michael Bay movie.

It's true of the "Transformers" movies and it's true of "13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi." Bay's latest is a mixed-up blend of truth and distortion. Parts of it deliver a punch, and a jolt, and ripples of earnest (and even complicated) emotion. Then the characters, some of them composites or fabrications, start talking again. The cliches tumble out. And Bay gets preoccupied with delivering audience-baiting "kill shots," engineered to appease our bloodlust and avenge our enemies.

At such moments "13 Hours" becomes less convincing in its interpretation of what happened Sept. 11-12, 2012, when terrorists attacked two CIA compounds (one official, one unofficial) in Benghazi, Libya. The key figures here, the men who helped Mitchell Zuckoff write the account on which Bay's film is based, are members of the CIA's sub-contracted GRS, or Global Response Staff. Six members of what was known as the Annex Security Team were hired to protect CIA staffers at the compounds.

Photographed in Malta, doubling for Libya, "13 Hours" begins with the usual introductions of the six GRS security personnel soon to be under siege. John Krasinski of "The Office" plays Jack Silva, the most amiable of the guys, who has left a wife and children behind to make a living, keep the adrenaline going and serve a higher cause in a dangerous place. James Badge Dale portrays the stalwart Tyrone "Rone" Woods, a natural leader and a bullheaded adversary to the sniveling CIA base chief (David Costabile) who symbolizes everything wrong with foreign policy, in Bay's eyes, under the Obama administration. Screenwriter Chuck Hogan ("The Town") leaves nothing to chance, as Costabile's soft-beflied Ivy League punk looks one of our protectors straight in the eye and says: "You're not a first responder. You're the last resort." Such moments push "13 Hours" far, far into movieland.

But of course "13 Hours" is a movie, and movies owe their subjects and the audience something larger than the facts. The characters refer to other films: "Black Hawk Down," "The Bourne Identity," "Tropic Thunder." At his shrewdest, Bay handles the action swiftly and well. The compound assaults; the perplexing array of Libyan militia fighters (never humanized, barely dramatized) working with, or against, the U.S.; the physical spaces in which the battles take place and the bodies fall, often video-gamer style, with little poofs of red blood hitting the air after the bullets hit the targets' skulls.

Fox News and other conservative outlets are all over "13 Hours" and, judging from many early reports, loving it. Early in the film President Barack Obama is heard in voice-over, praising "a new and democratic Libya" in the wake of the post-Gadhafi era. It's a "what-an-idiot!" moment, disproven immediately by a quick montage of chaos and destruction. The other off-screen villain of the movie, then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, will no doubt be answering question after question on the campaign trail about the film's inference, largely supported by the historical record, that the U.S. underestimated security concerns before and after the terrorist attacks in Benghazi.

"13 Hours" says one thing — "You can't tell the good guys from the bad guys" — and shows you quite another. Bay and company have no trouble telling the good guys from the bad guys. We are only meant to care about certain deaths, not the vast majority. The key characters are pencil sketches, not flesh-and-blood, but they serve Bay's purposes, as do the performances.

2.5 out of 4 stars
MPAA rating: R (for strong combat violence throughout, bloody images, and language)
Running time: 2:24

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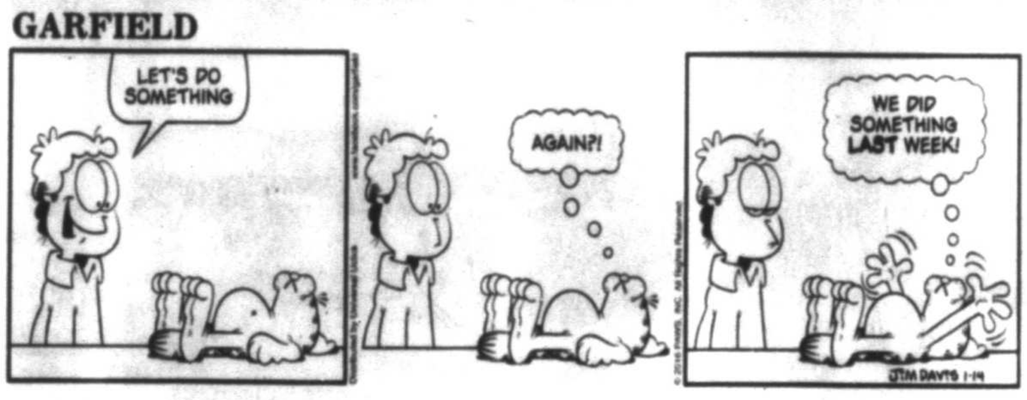
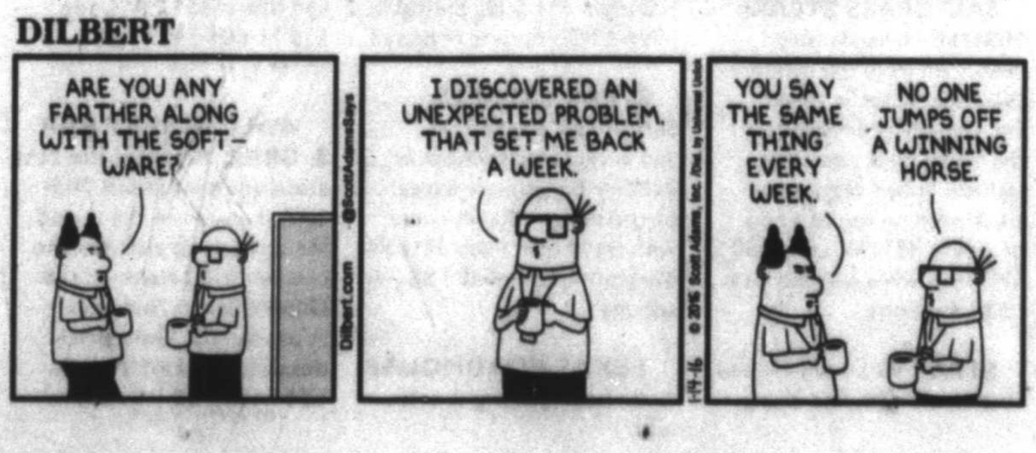


PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS

BABY BLUES

MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME

"Yay! You guys finally found our place! Were our directions OK?"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"WHY DOES MR. WILSON HAVE READING GLASSES WHEN ALL HE DOES IS WATCH TV?"

LOCKHORNS

"LEROY LOCKHORN, THE 376,687TH BEATLE."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"We're always s'posed to say 'please' and 'thank you,' even if we don't mean it. Right, Mommy?"

DINING

WEEKENDER PUBLISHES A PORTION OF THE RESTAURANT GUIDE EACH WEEK. ENTREE PRICE RANGE IS BASED ON THE AVERAGE ENTREE PRICE ON THE MENU:
$ = $1-10, $$ = $10-20 AND $$$ = $20 OR MORE. RESTAURANTS ARE GIVEN A GENERAL RATING BASED ON QUALITY OF FOOD, SERVICE, CLEANLINESS, ATMOSPHERE AND OVERALL EXPERIENCE.
1 SPOON = POOR, 2 SPOONS = AVERAGE, 3 SPOONS = ABOVE AVERAGE, 4 SPOONS = GOOD AND 5 SPOONS = EXCELLENT.

ATHENIAN RESTAURANT
4610 N. GARFIELD AVE., STE. B| 247-5280

CAFE UNIQUE
3303 N. MIDKIFF ROAD STE. B| 247-1487

SHAHI TANDOOR
3400 W. WALL ST. | 618-9090

GREEK

ATHENIAN RESTAURANT The only Greek restaurant in Midland features classics like dolmades, spanakopita and gyros along with Greek-style burgers for lunch and an extensive menu of seafood, lamb, beef, chicken and vegetables for dinner. Whatever you choose, try the Greek potato salad on the side. 4610 N. Garfield St. Suite B | 247-5280 | $$ | 4 spoons

VENEZUELAN

CAFE UNIQUE Chef Gabriel Alvarado hails from Venezuela and serves Midlanders a varity of arepas, empanadas and other unique specialities. Try any of the arepas. Our favorite is stuffed with black beans, shredded beef, sauteed plantains and white cheese. 3303 N. Midkiff Road | 247-1487 | $ | 4 spoons

INDIAN

SHAHI TANDOOR In a hotel lobby off of West Wall Street, Shahi Tandoor offers a authentic Indian cuisine to West Texans and visitors. The lunch buffet offers a variety of salads, meats and vegetarian dishes. Try the sag paneer or chicken tikka masala. Order the garlic naan from the menu. Evening is menu service only. 3400 W. Wall St. | 618-9090 | www.indianfoodmidland.com | $$ | 4 spoons

JOHNNY'S BAR B-Q & DINER
316 N. BIG SPRING ST. | 683-458

TEXAS BURGER
500 W. WADLEY AVE., 3306 W. LOOP 250 WEST | 620-9838

TANK'S BAR-B-QUE AND CATERING
401 E. SCHARBAUER DRIVE | 684-0006

BURGERS & BARBECUE

BASIN BURGER HOUSE With buns made in-house and creative combinations this isn't your typical burger joint. Try the black & blue burger and follow it with the Nutella & banana milkshake. Live music on the patio. 607 N. Colorado St. 687-5696 www.basinburgerhouse.com | $$ | 4 spoons

BOB'S BETTER BURGER Step back in time as you stand outside the screen window to order some of the best burgers, fries and onion rings in town. 3417 Thomason Drive 694-1561 | $ | 4 spoons

BROOKS BAR B-Q The barbecue is great but it's hard not to order the fat burger. Whatever you decide be sure to save room for pie. Order it first — the kitchen tends to run out during the lunch rush. 501 E. Texas Ave. 685-5079 | $ | 4 spoons

DICKEY'S BARBECUE PIT Texas-based barbecue marketed as fast food. Try the pulled pork sandwich and the baked potato casserole. 5210 W. Wadley Ave. 689-4500 www.dickeys.com | $ | 4 spoons

FUDDRUCKERS Choose your burger size and add whatever toppings you want. If you're feeling adventurous, try the ostrich or bison. Located inside the mall. 4511 N. Midkiff Road 689-0448 |$ | 3 spoons

GRUB BURGER BAR The fast-casual College Station-based restaurant offers gourmet burger selections, milkshakes and a full bar. 4400 N. Midland Drive, Suite 500 789-1855 www.grubburgerbar.com | $ | 4 spoons

HOG PIT PUB & GRUB This out-of-the-way bar and barbecue joint offers all the traditional favorites plus unexpected menu items like fried sausage. Go hungry and relish the oversized portions of Texas goodness. 7400 West County Road 116 | 561-9301 | 3 spoons

JOHNNY'S BAR B-Q & DINER Downtown barbecue joint. Try the chopped beef sandwich for lunch. Look for the pig on the roof. 316 N. Big Spring St. 683-4581 | $ | 3 spoons

K-D'S BAR B-Q Pick your meat from the grill then add sides like potato salad, beans and peach cobbler. Try the sausage. Or the brisket. Or the chicken. It's all good. 3113 Garden City Highway 683-4013 | $ | 5 spoons

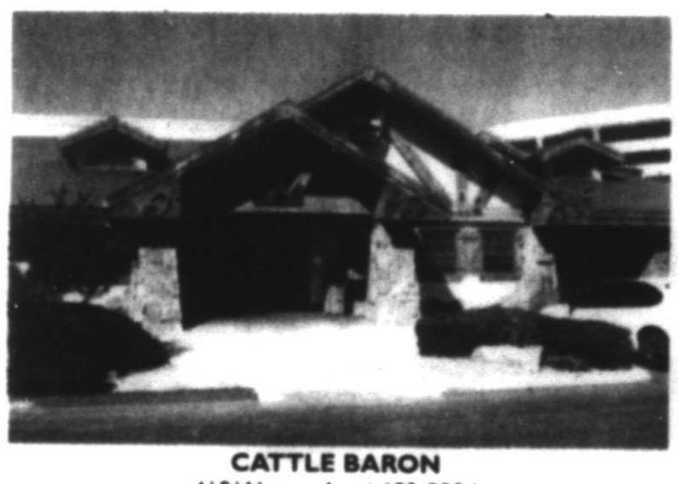
MICHAEL'S CHARCOAL GRILL Great barbecue and great burgers, including the King Kong burger. Michael's also has a great salad bar. Something for everyone. 723 W. Wadley Ave. 686-9030 | $$ | 4 spoons

SAM'S BAR-B-QUE You can smell the smoke before you get into the parking lot at this longtime Midland establishment. Whether you go for ribs, brisket or sausage be sure to save room for the peach cobbler. 1113 E. Scharbauer Drive | 570-1082 | 3 spoons

SCOTTY'S SOUL FOOD Tucked in a hole-in-the-wall location on North Big Spring Street, Scotty's offers everything comfort food. Try the ribs or the chicken fried steak. Don't leave without a helping of cornbread. 2907 N. Big Spring St. | 695-6511 | $ | 4 spoons

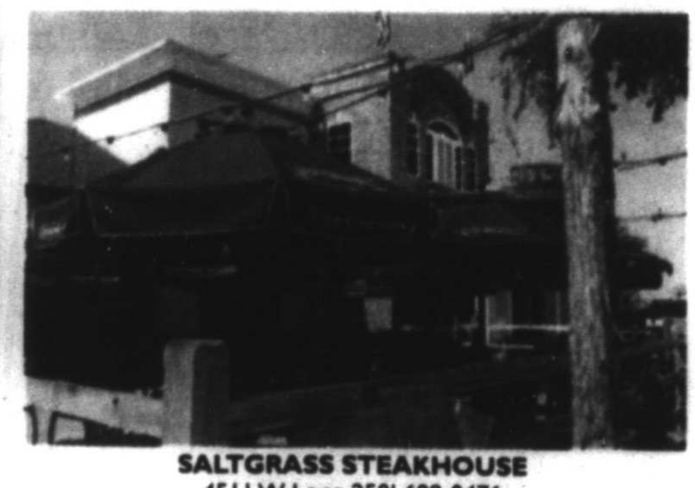
TANK'S BAR-B-QUE AND CATERING Stop by Tank's for lunch and get a full plate of barbecue with all the sides to take back to the office or enjoy at a nearby picnic table. Don't skip the potato salad. 401 East Scharbauer Drive 684-0006 | $ | 4 spoons

TEXAS BURGER Fast-food burgers with more of a local — or regional feel — than the national chains. Try the jalapeno burger and spicy fries. Don't forget the ice cream. 3306 W. Loop 250 West, 522-2177 and 500 W. Wadley Ave. 620-9838 | $ | 3 spoons



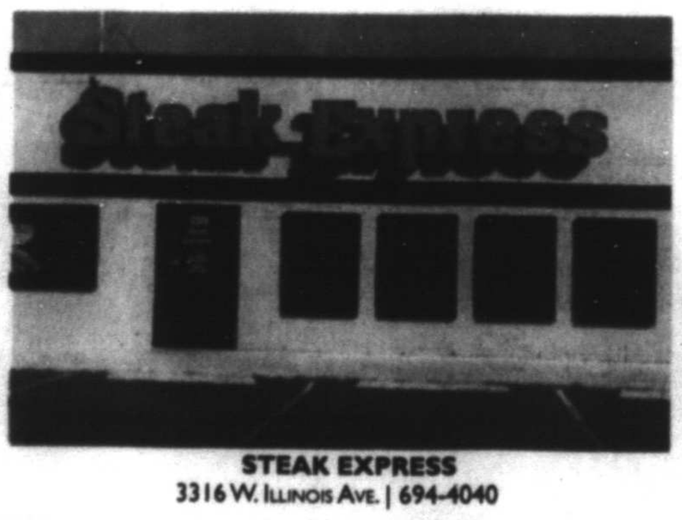
CATTLE BARON
418 WADLEY AVE. | 683-2334

CHURRASCA BRAZILIAN STEAKHOUSE
4610 N. GARFIELD ST. | 618-1110



SALTGRASS STEAKHOUSE
4511 W. LOOP 250| 699-0476

RANCHLAND HILLS GOLF CLUB
1600 E. WADLEY AVE. | 682-3729



STEAK EXPRESS
3316 W. ILLINOIS AVE. | 694-4040

TEXAS ROADHOUSE
4511 W. LOOP 250 N. | 689-7427

STEAKS & SEAFOOD

BILL'S BISTRO Locally-owned fine dining establishment featuring steaks and fresh seafood specials for dinner service and salads and burgers for lunch. Located next to The Wine Rack, diners may sit inside Bill's Bistro or The Wine Rack for lunch service. Appetizers from the restaurant are offered in the evenings at The Wine Rack. 4610 N. Garfield St. Suite D3 | 218-7383 | $$$ | not yet reviewed

CATTLE BARON Western-themed steakhouse with prime rib, fresh catfish and Alaskan king crab. The salad bar is worth the trip. 418 Wadley Ave. 683-2334. cattlebaron.com | $$ | 3 spoons

CHURRASCA BRAZILIAN STEAK HOUSE Churrasca serves meat — from chicken to lamb and pork to beef — directly at the table in an all-you-can-eat style. 4610 N. Garfield St., 618-1110 | $$$ | Not yet reviwed

GARLIC PRESS Fine dining with menu items including hand-cut steaks, seafood and pasta. Or try something from the small plates menu. Dessert menu changes weekly. 2200 W. Wadley Ave. No. 6 Oak Ridge Square | 570-4020 | thegarlicpress.net | $$$ | 4 spoons

RANCHLAND HILLS GOLF CLUB Renovated club restaurant doesn't require a membership. Go for breakfast or try steak seafood at dinner. 1600 E. Wadley Ave. 682-3729 www.Ranchlandhills.com | $$ | 4 spoons

SALTGRASS STEAKHOUSE Midland's only restaurant from the Landry's chain specializes in steaks. For something different, try the warm steak salad that includes grilled veggies and steak piled on top of a bed of greens. 4511 W. Loop 250 699-0476 www.saltgrass.com | $$ | 4 spoons

STEAK 42 Locally-owned steakhouse with fine dining menu and occasional live music and special events. Look for quarterly pop-up brunches. 911 S. Big Spring St. | 704-5242 | not yet reviewed

STEAK EXPRESS Surprisingly good steaks and burgers for take-out or delivery. Burgers are a meal by themselves. Steaks come with traditional sides. 3316 W. Illinois Ave. 694-4040 | $$ | 4 spoons

TEXAS ROADHOUSE Call-ahead seating is available for busy chain restaurant on Loop 250 offers steaks, burgers, sandwiches and more. 4512 W. Loop 250 N. 689-7427 | $$ | 4 spoons

WALL STREET BAR & GRILL Arguably the best steak and seafood in Midland. If you're in the mood for something else, try the chicken fried steak or the Dijon chicken. And save room for the Gold Brick dessert. 115 East Wall St. 684-8686 | $$ | 5 spoons

Texas says no evidence of academic misconduct

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — An investigation into allegations of academic misconduct in the University of Texas men's basketball program found no violations, though a broader probe of support services questioned whether the school focuses too much on boosting team grade-point averages than an athlete's overall education, the school announced Wednesday.

Texas President Greg Fenves ordered the investigations last year after the Chronicle of Higher Education alleged three incidents of cheating, improper assistance and school policy violations over several years. Texas hired Gene Marsh, a former chairman of the NCAA infractions committee, to conduct what it called an "independent" review of the allegations.

Marsh's investigation focused on five unidentified former Texas players and included interviews with athletes, faculty and staff and a review of academic records, according to a letter of findings Marsh sent to the school Tuesday. Although Marsh noted that one former player refused to cooperate, "we find no support for the allegations of academic misconduct or violations of the institution's procedures."

Texas also released a September 2015 "case closing letter" from the NCAA that noted its investigation and said "it does not appear there is need for further inquiry into this matter at this time."

The investigation covered years under coach Rick Barnes, who was fired in March 2015 after 17 seasons. Barnes is now at Tennessee, where a spokesman said Barnes would not comment on the report. Barnes has previously said he was unconcerned by the investigation.

"I want to take every allegation seriously," Fenves said. "(Marsh) did a very throughout examination. I'm convinced they weren't substantiated."

Marsh's broader review of academic support suggested athletes may be enrolling in less-demanding majors than their first choice, some were concerns that football and basketball players had priority access to be the best tutors and wanted more flexibility scheduling study sessions.

The report found that a large majority of Texas football, baseball, and men's and women's basketball players, and more than 70 percent of black athletes are pursuing education degrees.

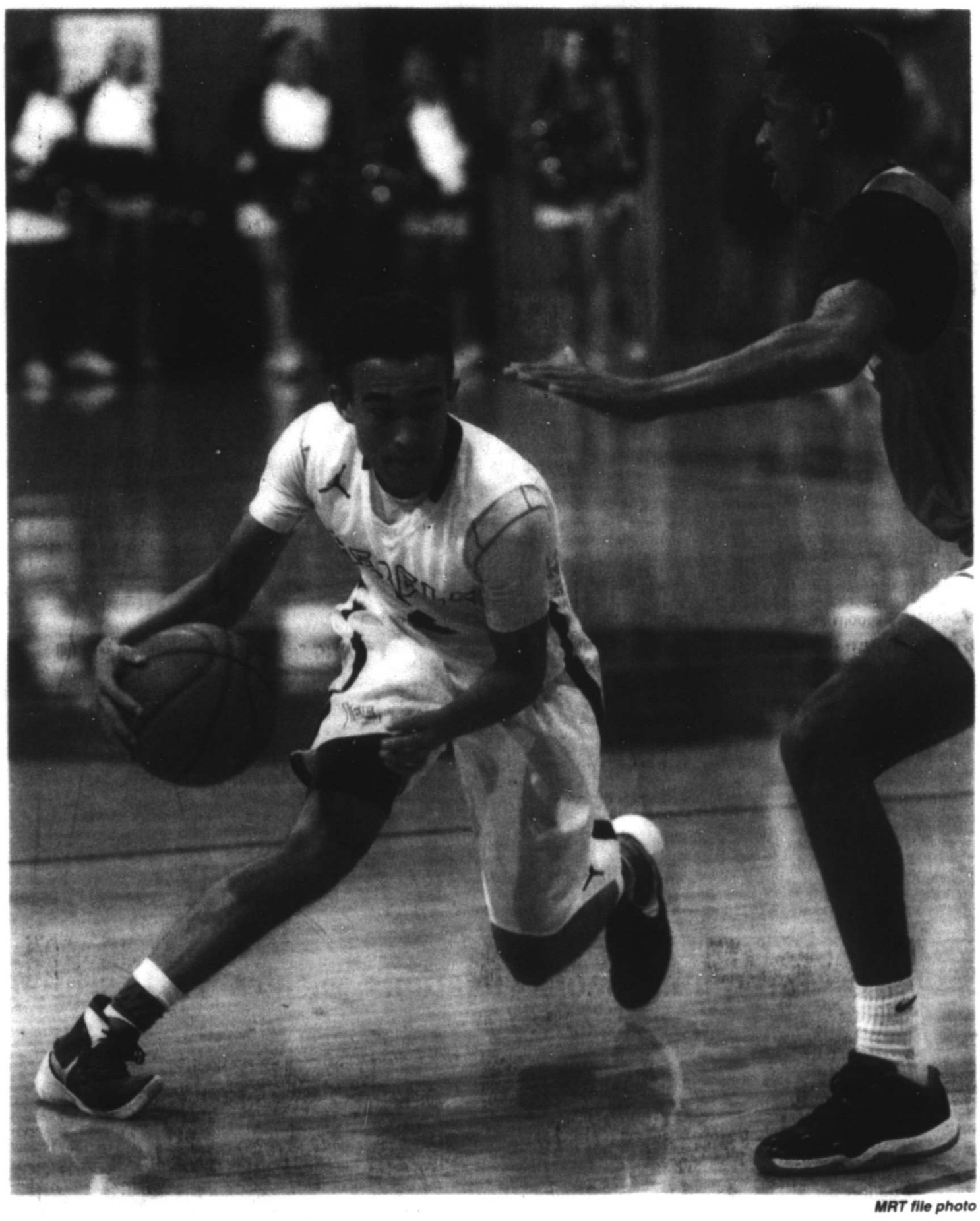
Fenves called the College of Education an outstanding school that ranks among the best in the country.

"The issue that I think is important is not the numbers in a particular degree program, it's the process how student athletes decided on their majors," Fenves said. "I want to make sure we are not precluding student athletes from pursuing certain majors."

The report said some coaches and faculty were concerned about an emphasis on publicizing a high team GPA over academic progress toward a degree. And they

Please see **TEXAS**/3C

Ready for the fight ahead



MRT file photo

Lee's Taye Britt tries to drive around Lubbock Coronado's Jarrett Culver on Dec. 1, 2015, at the Lee High gym.

President's Cup has strong field for 2016

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

For just the second time in the last four years, Midland's President's Cup is returning to Grande Communications Stadium.

The 10-team boys soccer tournament, which has been held off and on depending upon Midland High and Lee's district alignment, will kick off at 2 p.m. today and run through Saturday.

Cottle

Only six of last year's participants are back to compete in this year's tournament. Perhaps the most noteworthy absence from this year's field is 2015 champion El Paso Socorro, which went 3-0-0 and outscored its opponents 12-2 on its way to the title.

This year's President's Cup offers a slate of new competition and it's one that MHS head coach Warren Cottle is excited about hosting. Overall six of the 10 teams, including two of the four newcomers, made the playoffs last season.

"Keeping it (the President's Cup) with 10 teams, we like to get as many quality teams as we can," Cottle said. "The quality of play on Thursday should be pretty close to what it is on Saturday."

For Cottle and the Bulldogs (1-2-0), who will open against Amarillo Palo Duro at 8 p.m. today, squaring off against tough competition this early in the season is nothing new. MHS has already played three legitimate teams — Grand Prairie, Round Rock McNeil and Deer Park — all in the Coppell Showcase held last weekend.

Cottle believes his team played very well in those three matches, despite the underwhelming result in the win-loss-draw columns. Entering the President's Cup, Cottle said he likes where his group is at.

"The (technical) things we weren't hitting (in the Coppell Showcase), like (shots) hitting the (goal) post against Grand Prairie, are things we can fix," Cottle said. "We can clean that up in practice. But we've been playing with heart, determination and (good) speed of play. I've been very pleased with that. I'm really pumped about this team."

Though MHS has lost two of its first three matches of the season, Cottle

Please see **PRESIDENT'S CUP**/2C

Lee, MHS focused heading into district play

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

BASKETBALL REPORT

Since the first official day of practice back in October, the Lee and Midland High boys varsity basketball teams have had Jan. 15 circled on their respective schedules.

Hooker

The two teams open District 3-6A play on Friday, with Lee hosting Odessa Permian at 6 p.m. at Chaparral Center and MHS traveling to Abilene to take on the Eagles at 6 p.m.

Both the Rebels (3-13) and the Bulldogs (6-11) will enter district play with rosters that are still largely inexperienced at the varsity level. As the next 10 games are by far the most important of any on the schedule, neither team has more than a handful of players who have been through the intense battles that are typical of 3-6A action.

MHS head coach Shan Hooker knows that finishing in the top four in district after the next five weeks will be no easy task.

But he said he's confident that his team has been well prepared thanks to a grueling non-district schedule, headlined by undefeated Amarillo Tascosa, the No. 6-ranked Class 6A team in the state.

"We've played a lot of tough teams,

Please see **REPORT**/3C

NCAA votes to allow Big 12 to hold a football title game

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — The Big 12 Conference will be allowed to hold a football championship game in the future if it wants to under a rule change approved Wednesday at the NCAA annual convention.

The change scraps the requirement that leagues have 12 members and play in two divisions in order to hold a title game. The new rule lets a smaller league play a title game pitting its top two teams, provided it plays a round-robin regular season schedule as the Big 12 does now.

The vote by the NCAA Division I Council passed 7-2 on Wednesday. The Atlantic Coast Conference and the American Athletic Conference voted against it and the Pac-12 didn't vote.

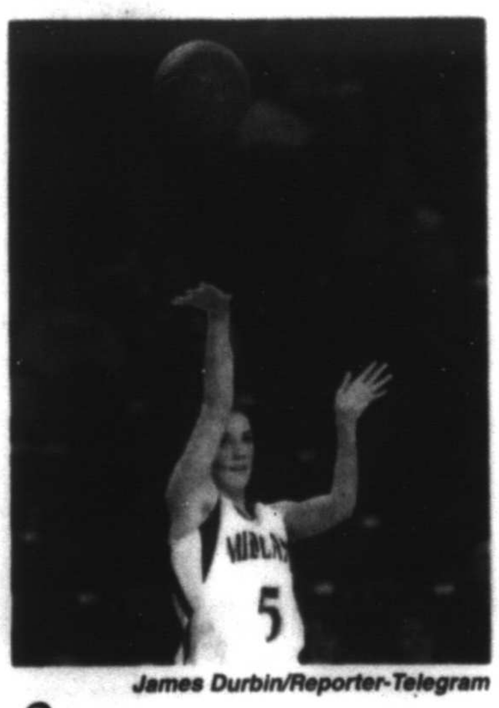
The 10-member Big 12 is the only major conference that doesn't play a football title game. Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby said he doesn't know if the change will guarantee the league plays one, but it was determined to have the right to do so.

The decision to hold a championship game rests with Big 12 member schools, whose next meetings are in early February, Bowlsby said. If approved this year, a title game could be played as early as next season, but 2017 would be more likely.

"I could not forecast how the school athletic directors, presidents and chancellors will vote," Bowlsby said. "(But) we accommodated for it in our schedule as early as next (season)."

Although the Big Ten initially wanted

Please see **BIG 12**/4C



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

3-POINT SHOT

Midland College's Morgan Ashton (5) attempts a three point shot against Ranger College on Jan. 6 at Chaparral Center. Be sure to check out preview capsules for Friday's games on Page 2C.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV
GOLF
European PGA: Joburg Open, 1st Round, 6 a.m., GOLF
Latin America Amateur Championship, 1st Round, 1 p.m., ESPN2
Diamond Resorts Invitational, Day 1, 1:30 p.m., GOLF
PGA: Sony Open, 1st Round, 6 p.m., GOLF
European PGA: Eurasia Cup 1st Round, 10:30 p.m., GOLF
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Iowa at Michigan State, 6 p.m., ESPN
Connecticut at Tulsa, 6 p.m., ESPN2
High Point at Winthrop, 6 p.m., ESPNU
UAB at Old Dominion, 6 p.m., CBSSN
James Madison at Northeastern, 6 p.m., SNY
Washington State at Arizona State, 7 p.m., P12, P12 AZ, P12 WA
Montana State at North Dakota, 7 p.m., FCSC
Pittsburgh at Louisville, 8 p.m., ESPN
BYU at Gonzaga, 8 p.m., ESPN2
Murray State at Belmont, 8 p.m., ESPNU
Washington at Arizona, 8 p.m., FS1
Oregon at Utah, 9 p.m., P12, P12 Mtn, P12 OR
San Diego at Portland, 9 p.m., ROOT
UC Irvine at Long Beach State, 9:30 p.m., FCSP
Pacific at Saint Mary's, 10 p.m., ESPNU
Cal at Stanford, 10 p.m., FS1
MEN'S SOCCER
Copa del Rey: Club Atletico de Madrid vs. Rayo Vallecano de Madrid, 1:20 p.m., beIN, beIN2
Copa Bandes: Banfield vs. Cerro Porteno, 5 p.m., GolTV
Copa Bandes: Nacional vs. Penarol, 7 p.m., GolTV
NBA
Toronto at Orlando, 2 p.m., NBAtv
Cleveland at San Antonio, 7 p.m., TNT
LA Lakers at Golden State, 9:30 p.m., TNT
NHL
Chicago at Montreal, 6:30 p.m., NBCSN
TENNIS
ATP/WTA: Australian Open Qualifiers, 5:30 p.m., TENNIS
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Maryland at Michigan, 5 p.m., BTN
South Carolina at Kentucky, 6 p.m., SEC
NC State at Duke, 6 p.m., FSSW
Ohio State at Northwestern, 7 p.m., BTN
Ole Miss at Texas A&M, 7 p.m., SEC+
Idaho at Northern Arizona, 7:30 p.m., FCSP
FAU at Southern Miss, 8 p.m., FSSW
Tennessee at Arkansas, 8 p.m., SEC
Gonzaga at BYU, 8 p.m., BYUtv

WHAT'S ON DECK

High school

BOYS SOCCER
MHS, Lee at President's Cup, Grande Communications
GIRLS SOCCER
MHS at Forney Tournament

Junior college

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Frank Phillips College at Midland College, 7:30 p.m.
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Frank Phillips College at Midland College, 5:45 p.m.

NJCAA POLLS

NJCAA Division I Men's Basketball Poll (first place votes in parentheses)

No. Team	Record	Pts.	Pvs.
1 Trinity Valley CC (14)	15-1	349	2
2 Georgia Highlands	14-1	330	4
3 Gillette	16-0	310	5
4 Iowa Western	15-1	297	7
5 North Idaho (1)	18-0	293	8
6 Palm Beach State (1)	14-0	273	3
7 John A. Logan	13-1	256	10
8 Northwest Florida State	14-2	255	9
9 Indian Hills	14-2	239	12
10 Hutchinson CC	16-0	217	1
11 Harcum College	15-2	202	15
12 Connors State	13-1	196	6
13. Odessa College	13-2	191	18
14 Chattahoochee Tech	14-1	164	20
15 Daytona State	16-3	148	19
16. McLennan CC	14-2	118	14
17 Vincennes	13-3	115	22
18. Hill College	15-2	108	11
19 Arizona Western	13-2	88	16
20 Salt Lake CC	16-2	70	21
21 Eastern Florida State	12-3	53	25
22 Mineral Area	19-3	56	NR
23 Arkansas Baptist	15-2	42	NR
24 Southwest Tennessee	12-3	38	RV
25 Williston State	13-3	33	RV

Others receiving votes: Midland College (13-3), 11 points

NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Poll (first place votes in parentheses)

No. Team	Record	Pts.	Pvs.
1 Trinity Valley CC (8)	14-1	200	2
2 Gulf Coast State	17-0	192	3
3 Daytona State	17-1	184	5
4 Salt Lake CC	19-1	176	1
5 Shelton State	16-1	168	6
6 Chipola College	14-3	160	7
7 Southern Idaho	19-1	152	4
8 Hutchinson CC	16-1	144	8
9. New Mexico JC	16-2	136	9
10. Midland College	16-2	128	10
11 Walters State	18-0	120	12
12 Northwest Florida State	15-3	112	11
13 Tyler College	15-2	104	13
14 Casper College	15-2	96	14
15 Northeastern Okla A&M	12-3	88	15
16 Iowa Western	16-3	80	16
17 Copiah-Lincoln	11-0	72	17
18. Odessa College	13-4	64	18
19. Collin County	13-4	56	19
20 Northern Oklahoma Enid	15-2	48	20
21 State Fair	14-3	40	21
22 Seward County	13-4	32	23
23 Vincennes	16-1	24	24
24 Mineral Area	13-3	16	RV
25 North Idaho	15-3	8	25

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
DETROIT TIGERS — Agreed to terms with LHP Justin Wilson on a one-year contract.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Agreed to terms with 1B Yonder Alonso on a one-year contract.
SEATTLE MARINERS — Designated RHP A.J. Schugel for assignment. Named Todd Donovan assistant director of player personnel and Nick Manno, Andy Pratt and Jason Lefkowitz pro scouts.
TEXAS RANGERS — Released RHP Kohsuke Tomita. Agreed to terms with RHP Tom Wilhelmsen on a one-year contract and INF Pedro Conazo on a minor league contract. Named Ben Baroody assistant to the senior director of amateur scouting.
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Named Gil Kim director of player development.
National League
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Agreed to terms with RHP Chris Hatcher on a one-year contract.
MIAMI MARLINS — Designated 1B Tommy Medica and RHP Andre Rienzo for assignment. Agreed to terms with RHP Edwin Jackson and 3B Chris Johnson on one-year contracts.
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Traded RHP Cody Hall to Arizona for a player to be named or cash.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Agreed to terms with C Wilson Ramos on a one-year contract. Assigned RHPs Erik Davis and Taylor Hill outright to Syracuse (IL).
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
CHICAGO BULLS — Recalled F/C Cristiano Felicio from Canton (NBADL).
FOOTBALL
National Football League
ARIZONA CARDINALS — Signed LB Quayshawn Nealy to the practice squad.
BUFFALO BILLS — Named Ed Reed assistant defensive backs coach.
CAROLINA PANTHERS — Signed WR Jarrett Boykin to a reserve/future contract.
CINCINNATI BENGALS — Signed WR Greg Little to a reserve/future contract.
CLEVELAND BROWNS — Named Hue Jackson coach.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Signed G David Yankey to a reserve/future contract.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Released OL Tonian Wilson from the practice squad. Re-signed WR DeAndre Carter to the practice squad. Signed DB Cedric Thompson and WR J.J. Worton to the practice squad.
NEW YORK JETS — Signed DE Lawrence Okoye to a reserve/future contract.
Canadian Football League
WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Signed WR Ricky Collins.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
NHL — Suspended New Jersey F Bobby Farnham for four games, without pay, for interference against St. Louis F Dmitrij Jaskin during a game on Tuesday. Fined Winnipeg D Tyler Myers $5,000 for cross-checking San Jose F Tommy Wingels during a game on Tuesday.
ARIZONA COYOTES — Claimed D Kevin Connauton off waivers from Columbus.
COLORADO AVALANCHE — Waived D Nathan Guenin. Recalled D Chris Bigras and Nikita Zadorov.
EDMONTON OILERS — Recalled F Zack Kassian from Bakersfield (AHL). Assigned F Greg Chase from Bakersfield (AHL) to Norfolk (ECHL). Recalled D Ben Betker from Norfolk to Bakersfield.
MONTREAL CANADIENS — Assigned F Tim Bozon from St. John's (AHL) to Brampton (ECHL).
NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Recalled Fs Kevin Fiala and Cody Bass from Milwaukee (AHL). Assigned F Victor Arvidsson to Milwaukee. Placed F Colin Wilson on injured reserve. Assigned D Garrett Noonan from Milwaukee (AHL) to Cincinnati (ECHL).
SAN JOSE SHARKS — Placed F Danius Zubrus on injured reserve. Sent F Raffi Torres to San Jose (AHL) for a conditioning assignment.
WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Assigned G Vitek Vanecek to South Carolina (ECHL) from the Czech National Junior Team.
American Hockey League
MANITOBA MOOSE — Assigned D Aaron Hansted to Tulsa (ECHL).
SAN DIEGO GULLS — Signed LW Zac Larraza to a professional tryout agreement.
ECHL
BRAMPTON BEAST — Signed G Jordan Ruby.
ELMIRA JACKALS — Signed D Ian Young. Claimed G Alex Velazquez off waivers from Cincinnati. Released G Chris Bourgeois as emergency backup.
IDAHO STEELHEADS — Added G Doug Melvin as emergency backup.
READING ROYALS — Released G Nick Riedert as emergency backup.
SOCCER
FIFA — Fined secretary general Jerome Valcke. Fined Chile $70,000 and Argentina, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay $20,000 for anti-gay chants by their national team's fans.
Major League Soccer
COLUMBUS CREW — Traded F Jack McInerney to Portland for general and targeted allocation money.
SPORTING KANSAS CITY — Signed F Daniel Salloi.
National Women's Soccer League
SKY BLUE FC — Promoted assistant coach Christy Holly to head coach.
COLLEGE
ARKANSAS STATE — Named Buster Faulkner offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach.
CLEMSON — Announced DE Kevin Dodd, Ss Jayron Kearse and T.J. Green and CB Mackensie Alexander will enter the NFL draft.
IOWA STATE — Named Jim Hofher passing game coordinator.
MISSOURI — Announced it is self-imposing sanctions to its men's basketball team, including a ban from postseason play this season and vacating all 23 wins from the 2013-14 season.
PENN STATE — Named Matt Limegrover offensive line coach.
SYRACUSE — Named Mike Hart running backs coach, Vinson Reynolds defensive line coach and Akil Mutbah director of recruiting operations.
UCLA — Promoted running backs coach Kennedy Polamalu to offensive coordinator. Named Marques Tuiasosopo quarterbacks coach and passing game coordinator and Rip Scherer tight ends coach.
VANDERBILT — Named Cameron Norrross offensive line coach.
VILLANOVA — Announced football coach Andy Talley will retire following the 2016 season and will be replaced by assistant coach Mark Ferrante. Talley will stay at the school through 2017 as special assistant to the athletic director.

FISHING REPORT

WEST
ALAN HENRY: 1.45 feet low. No reports due to winter weather.
FORT PHANTOM HILL: Water murky; 54-59 degrees; 0.25 feet low. Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits, weighted flukes and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair on jigs and minnows. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers.
HUBBARD CREEK: Water off color; 55-61 degrees; 13.81 feet low. Black bass are fair on chatterbaits, spoons, Texas rigs and jigs. Crappie are fair on jigs and minnows. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers and live shad.
NASHBITH: 52-58 degrees; 1.44 feet low. Black bass are fair on Texas rigs and jigs. No reports on crappie. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers.
OAK CREEK: Water stained; 51-58 degrees; 16.86 feet low. Black bass are fair to good on weighted flukes, medium running shad pattern crankbaits, Texas rigs and jigs. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are fair on chartreuse (use Worn-Out) nightcrawlers.
O.H. IVIE: Water stained; 53-59 degrees; 45.76 feet low. Black bass are fair to good Texas rigs, jigs, squarebill crankbaits and spinnerbaits. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs fished shallow. Catfish are fair to good on live bait.

Banzhoff to head UTPB golf programs

From staff reports

ODESSA — The University of Texas of the Permian Basin introduced Mike Banzhoff as its first head men's and women's golf coach in a Wednesday morning press conference. UTPB's golf teams will begin competition in the Lone Star Conference in the fall of 2016.

Banzhoff comes to UTPB after three seasons as the head men's golf coach at Penn State Harrisburg in Middletown, Penn.

"We are pleased to have Mike join our coaching staff," UTPB athletics director Steve Aicinena said. "He has demonstrated in previous positions that he can make players better and that is one of the keys to successful coaching. His professional playing experience will assist him in bringing a perspective to his coaching that most other coaches cannot provide. Building a new program is a challenge, but it is also a great opportunity. We believe Mike is up to the task and that our teams will represent the university well on the course, in the community and in the classroom."

Banzhoff's teams at Penn State Harrisburg won a pair of tournaments in his three seasons at the helm for the Lions, and he had four different individual tournament champions. Penn State Harrisburg had seven different individuals make first team all-conference and had back-to-back Freshmen of the Year.

Prior to his term at Harrisburg, Banzhoff was the men's head coach at Penn State Mont Alto for three seasons, where his team won a pair of conference championships in three seasons and won eight of 12 tournaments over that span.

He began his career in golf at Penn State, playing for the Nittany Lions from 1992-96 where he won two tournaments, had a pair of top-15 finishes at the Big Ten Championships and was on the team that qualified for the 1996 NCAA Championships.

Banzhoff turned pro after his final season at Penn State and played professionally in the United States for over 12 years before returning to Penn State to complete his degree in Commercial Recreation in 2012.

"I'm very excited to be here at UTPB," Banzhoff said. "I would like to thank Steve Aicinena for giving me the opportunity. It is a great honor to begin two new programs and I'm looking forward to getting them off the ground. I know there is a lot of talent both in the area and Texas in general, so I'm excited to get out and begin the recruiting process. My main focus will be to bring in student-athletes who will be successful on and off the course."

PRESIDENT'S CUP

From 1C

said he believes he has a talented team which will begin to come into its own as the year progresses.

While there are always technical tweaks that can be made, Cottle said he is hoping to use the next three matches at the President's Cup to work toward rekindling the unity and teamwork that characterized last season's Bulldogs squad.

"(We want to work on) switching the point of attack, getting the younger guys used to a faster speed of play," Cottle said. "We want to continue to improve, continue to ramp up the speed of play. We need to find ourselves in the little areas. When we get it going, it's going to be unbelievable."

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

2016 PRESIDENT'S CUP
Today-Saturday
Note: All games at Grande Communications Stadium unless otherwise noted.*
Thursday's matches
El Paso Eastwood vs. Odessa High - 2 p.m.
Odessa Permian vs. Amarillo High - 4 p.m.
El Paso Parkland vs. North Crowley - 6 p.m.
* Lee vs. El Paso Jefferson - 6 p.m. (at Lee)
Amarillo Palo Duro vs. Midland High - 8 p.m.
Friday's matches
Odessa High vs. El Paso Parkland - 10 a.m.
Amarillo Palo Duro vs. Lee - Noon
El Paso Jefferson vs. Odessa Permian - 2 p.m.
Midland High vs. North Crowley - 5 p.m.
El Paso Eastwood vs. Amarillo High - 7 p.m.
Saturday's matches
Amarillo High vs. El Paso Parkland - 9 a.m.
Odessa Permian vs. Amarillo Palo Duro - 11 a.m.
Odessa High vs. El Paso Jefferson - 1 p.m.
Lee vs. North Crowley - 3 p.m.
Midland High vs. El Paso Eastwood - 5 p.m.

MCBASKETBALLCAPSULES

COMPILED BY OSCAR LEROY

Women

FRANK PHILLIPS COLLEGE AT NO. 10 MIDLAND COLLEGE
When/where: 5:45 p.m. today, Chaparral Center
Records: Midland College 17-2, 4-0 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference; Frank Phillips 8-6, 1-2
Last WJCAC game: Midland College 76, Western Texas College 61; Howard College 84, Frank Phillips College 60
Notes & quotes: Midland College is seeking its ninth straight victory tonight as it has a rare WJCAC home game this season. MC has played three of its first conference games on the road and MC coach Ron Jones said it's good to finally play at home. ... Jones said the team is working on being consistent with everything it does. ... The Lady Chaparrals are coming off a hard-fought win at Western Texas College on Monday night as they battled back from an early deficit with a strong second half performance. Walnatia Wright had a game-high 25 points and 14 rebounds to lead MC, Lisa Kaempf added 14 points and Tae'lor Hodge chipped in with 10. ... Jones said Frank Phillips has a couple of good scorers but it is a team that plays more around the perimeter than in the post. "That may take some getting used to," Jones said ... Demi Read, a 5-foot-10 sophomore forward, leads the Lady Plainsmen with 14.4 ppg.
Next: Midland College at New Mexico JC, 6:45 p.m. Monday; Western Texas College at Frank Phillips College, 5:45 p.m. Monday

WJCAC Women's basketball

	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
Midland College	4	0	17	2
New Mexico JC	4	0	17	2
Howard College	3	1	13	6
Odessa College	2	1	13	4
Frank Phillips	1	2	8	6
South Plains	1	3	13	7
Western Texas	0	3	13	8
Clarendon College	0	5	5	16

Monday's Scores
Midland College 76,Western Texas College 61; Howard College 84, Frank Phillips College 60; New Mexico JC 115, Clarendon College 54; South Plains College and Odessa College were open
Today's Games
Frank Phillips College at Midland College; South Plains College at Howard College; Western Texas College at Odessa College; Clarendon College and New Mexico JC are open

Men

FRANK PHILLIPS COLLEGE AT MIDLAND COLLEGE
When/where: 7:30 p.m. today, Chaparral Center
Records: Midland College 15-3, 3-1 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference; Frank Phillips 14-3, 3-1
Last WJCAC game: Midland College 66, Western Texas College 60, OT; Frank Phillips College 77, Howard College 71
Notes & quotes: Midland College looks to extend its three-game WJCAC winning streak tonight . ... MC is coming off a tough road win at Western Texas College on Monday. The Chaparrals were out-rebounded 46-41 and that included giving up 24 offensive rebounds. That is a statistic that is unacceptable for head coach Jordan Dreiling. "I'm not sure how you can dominate the boards against Howard and then give up 24 offensive rebounds against Western. Teams that get offensive rebounds usually get a brand new shot clock, which means we have to defend 22, 24 seconds longer than we have to. We need rebounding to be our backbone, close out plays and offensively having an understanding of what we're supposed to do." ... MC out-scored WTC 9-3 in the OT period to get the win. Jachai Simmons led MC with 14 points, while Solomon Hainna had 11 as he was coming off a knee injury. ... Dreiling said the Plainsmen can really score and will tend to look for a shot 8-12 seconds into the possession. "They're really versatile and they have big, athletic guards," said Dreiling of the Plainsmen. "Most of their production comes from four guys, so we have to have an good understanding of our defensive assignments when guarding those four. We also need other guys to step up as well and create some depth for us." ... FPC is led by 6-foot-8 sophomore forward Alize Johnson with 16.0 ppg and 13.0 rpg, 6-0 sophomore G Lucious McKay averages 11.4 ppg, while 6-4 freshman guard Isaiah Palmer is averaging 11.0 ppg.
Next: Midland College at New Mexico JC, 8:30 p.m. Monday; Western Texas College at Frank Phillips College, 7:30 p.m. Monday

WJCAC Men's basketball

	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
Odessa College	4	0	15	2
New Mexico JC	4	1	14	5
Midland College	3	1	15	3
Frank Phillips	3	1	14	4
South Plains	3	2	12	6
Howard College	1	3	11	7
Western Texas	1	3	10	8
Clarendon College	1	4	13	6
NMMI	0	5	8	10

Monday's Scores
Midland College 66, Western Texas College 60, OT; Frank Phillips College 77, Howard College 71; New Mexico JC 97, Clarendon College 87; South Plains College 99, New Mexico Military Institute 62; Odessa College was open
Today's Games
Frank Phillips College at Midland College; South Plains College at Howard College; Western Texas College at Odessa College; New Mexico Military Institute at Clarendon College; New Mexico JC is open

MC TEAMS TO WEAR SPECIAL WARM-UP TOPS
Tonight is "Energy Industry Appreciation Night" at Chaparral Center.
Both teams will wear commemorative warm-up tops during pregame warm-up and when players are seated on the bench during the games.
There will be specially-priced tickets of $1 per person, up to five people for $5.

Missouri admits hoops violations, vacates '13-14 season

By R.B. Fallstrom
Associated Press

Admitting it found NCAA violations in its men's basketball program dating to 2011, Missouri on Wednesday banned itself from the postseason this year and said it is vacating all 23 wins from the 2013-14 season.

The NCAA is still investigating and Missouri said it was working with the organization in hopes of limiting the punishment to its self-imposed sanctions, which includes the SEC tournament.

"We have already taken many proactive steps to address concerns, including appropriate self-imposed sanctions," athletic director Mack Rhoades said in a statement. "We will win at Mizzou and do so with integrity and class."

Missouri was 23-12 in 2013-14, Frank Haith's final season. Haith left for Tulsa not long after the school received a verbal notice of inquiry from the NCAA in April 2014. The Tigers won just nine games last season under new coach Kim Anderson.

"We are obviously very disappointed that the actions of a few individuals have put our program in this situation," Anderson said in a statement.

Besides the postseason ban, the school has stripped itself of one scholarship this season and a second scholarship no later than the 2017-18 season, plus has restricted recruiting through 2016-17. It also said it would pay a $5,000 fine.

The school permanently banned one unidentified donor who the NCAA said provided impermissible benefits to three players and one recruit in 2013-14. The benefits included compensation for work not done at a business through a summer intern program, along with housing, $520 cash, local transportation, iPads, meals and use of a local gym.

"It is clear from our collaborative investigation with the NCAA that a former member of our athletics staff and members of our donor community violated NCAA bylaws, and we take those actions seriously," chancellor Hank Foley said.

A second donor has been banned for two years after providing 11 players and three members of one player's transportation for multiple players to the hotel from the campus.

The school was hit with a third major infraction for failing to adequately monitor the internship program.

There were two minor infractions cited. A former associate head coach helped a recruit relocate by providing the phone number of the recruit's mother to the second donor to arrange for rental housing, and the first donor had multiple impermissible contacts with a recruit.

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AP source: Giants hire Ben McAdoo

By Tom Canavan
Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — A person familiar with the decision tells The Associated Press the New York Giants are hiring offensive coordinator Ben McAdoo as their next head coach.

The 38-year-old McAdoo is being given the job a little more than a week after Tom Coughlin stepped down after 12 seasons, the person spoke Wednesday on condition of anonymity because the team has not officially announced the hiring.

The Giants have liked what McAdoo has done with the offense the past two seasons, helping two-time Super Bowl MVP quarterback Eli Manning get back on track.

It didn't hurt that Manning voiced support for his coach after the season. This would be McAdoo's first head coaching job.

It is uncertain whether defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo, who also interviewed for the top job, will stay.

The story was first reported by several media outlets.

The Giants interviewed six men after Coughlin stepped down. They intended to interview Cincinnati offensive coordinator Hue Jackson today, but he accepted the Browns job hours before the Giants decided on McAdoo.

No. 22 Baylor wins to stay unbeaten vs. TCU in Big 12

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

No. 22 Baylor	82
TCU	54

WACO — No. 22 Baylor got on a roll after a couple of significant switches — Terry Maston coming off the bench and making shots, along with coach Scott Drew's decision late in the first half to go from zone to man-to-man defense.

And the Bears once again beat TCU in the Big 12, running away with an 82-54 victory Wednesday night.

"If we had known it would have that kind of impact, we would have done it at the beginning of the game," Drew said of the defensive change in the closing minutes of the half.

Maston had a career-high 17 points and combined with Taureen Prince for all the scoring in a game-turning run 13-0 run in the final 3 1/2 minutes of the first half that put Baylor (13-3, 3-1 Big 12) ahead to stay.

"We got out and started running and we saw what worked as a team and started getting stops," said Maston, the 6-foot-7 sophomore who was 7-of-8 shooting before halftime. "That really helped us on the offensive end, brought confidence to us. And the game just came to us, and we ran away with it in the second half."

TEXASCOLLEGEROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Men

NO. 10 SMU EAST CAROLINA 55

GREENVILLE, N.C. — No. 10 SMU has found a bright spot in only having seven scholarship players: Plenty of touches for everyone.

Ben Moore scored 17 points and the Mustangs remained unbeaten by routing East Carolina 79-55 on Wednesday night.

Six of the seven SMU players who played the first 39 minutes reached double figures in either scoring or assists, strong production from a group that's become so short-handed that coach Larry Brown says they practice 4 on 4.

"We're all learning how to adjust, but they're a unique group of kids who care about each other," Brown said. "We know it's not going to get any easier."

Markus Kennedy had 11 points and 10 rebounds, Jordan Tolbert finished with 15 points and Nic Moore had a career-high 12 assists for the Mustangs (16-0, 5-0 American Athletic Conference), who had five double-figure scorers for the fourth time this season.

Women

NO. 4 TEXAS 75 KANSAS 38

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Imani Boyette only needed 21 minutes on the court to prove a major factor in No. 4 Texas' 75-38 romp over Kansas on Wednesday night.

Boyette had 15 points, eight rebounds and three blocks to help the Longhorns pull away in the second half.

"I thought Kansas settled into the game in the second quarter and started making shots," Texas coach Karen Aston said. "Then we regrouped at halftime and got our big girl (Boyette) involved a little bit and got on the boards a little bit better. Finished good."

Boyette was an asset on both ends of the court.

"Scoring around the rim was going to be difficult tonight," Kansas coach Brandon Schneider said.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL GLANCE

Wednesday's Scores

MEN
SOUTHWEST
Baylor 82, TCU 54
Houston Baptist 76, Nicholls St. 69
Oklahoma 74, Oklahoma St. 72
SOUTH
Alabama 73, South Carolina 50
Augusta 92, Armstrong St. 87
Barton 80, Erskine 72
Bowie St. 59, Winston-Salem 53
Carson-Newman 86, Brevard 60
Clemson 68, Duke 63
Emmanuel (Ga.) 71, Mount Olive 67
Florida St. 85, NC State 78
Georgia 81, Tennessee 72
Guilford 61, Emory & Henry 60
Hampden-Sydney 100, Roanoke 92
King (Tenn.) 71, North Greenville 59
LSU 90, Mississippi 81
Lees-McRae 85, Limestone 79
Lincoln Memorial 85, Anderson (SC) 72
Memphis 67, Temple 65
Randolph-Macon 79, Shenandoah 68
Reinhardt 104, Milligan 103
Richmond 93, La Salle 81
SMU 79, East Carolina 55
Saint Joseph's 87, George Mason 73
Spalding 84, MacMurray 70
UT Martin 96, Tennessee Tech 90
VCU 88, Fordham 54
Va. Wesleyan 86, E. Mennonite 94, OT
Virginia Tech 93, Wake Forest 91
Washington & Lee 74, Bridgewater (Va.) 55
MIDWEST
Albion 83, Kalamazoo 67
Alma 86, Hope 75
Aquinas 71, Siena Heights 63, OT
Augsburg 66, Bethel (Minn.) 62
Bradley 54, Loyola of Chicago 53
Calvin 91, Olivet 44
Carleton 81, Hamline 69
Cincinnati 70, Houston 59
Concordia (Moor.) 81, St. Mary's (Minn.) 65
Cornerstone 105, Concordia (Mich.) 58
Davenport 82, Lawrence Tech 47
Elmhurst 78, Carthage 58
Indiana St. 74, N. Iowa 60
Jacksonville St. 74, SE Missouri 60
Michigan-Dearborn 73, Madonna 60
N. Dakota St. 66, South Dakota 65
Notre Dame 72, Georgia Tech 64
Ohio St. 94, Rutgers 68
Purdue 74, Penn St. 57
Robert Morris-Chicago 96, Cardinal Stritch 92
St. Olaf 71, Macalester 64
St. Thomas (Minn.) 85, St. John's (Minn.) 73
Wichita St. 78, Missouri St. 62
Wis.-Eau Claire 72, Wis.-Stout 58
Wis.-Oshkosh 80, Wis.-La Crosse 69
Wis.-River Falls 75, Wis.-Whitewater 70
Wis.-Stevens Pt. 60, Wis.-Platteville 57
EAST
Boston U. 61, American U. 50
Colgate 80, Army 66
Duquesne 81, Saint Louis 71
Georgetown 85, St. John's 73
Hartford 76, Binghamton 72
Lafayette 66, Holy Cross 52
Lehman 78, Baruch 72
Maine 95, Mass.-Lowell 81
Navy 60, Loyola (Md.) 52
Philadelphia 89, Kutztown 82
St. Bonaventure 69, Rhode Island 64
St. Rose 73, Assumption 63
Staten Island 77, York (NY) 55
Stockton 84, Montclair St. 71
Stony Brook 86, UMBC 74
Susquehanna 80, Juniata 55
Syracuse 62, Boston College 40
Thiel 86, Waynesburg 79
Villanova 83, Marquette 68

WOMEN
SOUTHWEST
Abilene Christian 79, McNeese St. 62
Cent. Arkansas 45, Houston Baptist 44
Cincinnati 55, Tulsa 53
Nicholls St. 67, Sam Houston St. 63
TCU 69, Texas Tech 48
SOUTH
Anderson (SC) 88, Lincoln Memorial 83
Augusta 80, Armstrong St. 73
Bridgewater (Va.) 84, Va. Wesleyan 78
Carson-Newman 75, Brevard 57
Chattanooga 77, W. Carolina 59
Clayton St. 52, Georgia College 48
Columbia (SC) 75, St. Andrews 74
Erskine 89, Barton 78
Kalamazoo 71, St. Mary's (Ind.) 60
King (Tenn.) 71, North Greenville 59
Limestone 82, Lees-McRae 60
Mars Hill 80, Tusculum 70
Milligan 72, Reinhardt 65
Mount Olive 69, Emmanuel (Ga.) 61
Northwestern St. 60, Texas A&M-CC 43
South Florida 71, Tulane 67
Spalding 72, MacMurray 45
St. Bonaventure 59, Davidson 47
Temple 71, UCF 63
Transylvania 76, Franklin 60
UConn 86, Memphis 46
UT Martin 67, Tennessee Tech 53
FAR WEST
Boise St. 66, Nevada 58
New Mexico 67, UNLV 53
San Jose St. 67, Wyoming 66
Utah St. 68, Air Force 53
MIDWEST
Akron 71, Bowling Green 55
Augsburg 58, Bethel (Minn.) 56
Ball St. 68, Buffalo 63
Calvin 91, Adrian 81
Cardinal Stritch 61, Robert Morris-Chicago 42
Carleton 58, Hamline 56
Cent. Michigan 95, N. Illinois 63
Concordia (Wis.) 52, Wis. Lutheran 23
Edgewood 66, Marian (Wis.) 53
Gustavus 74, St. Catherine 59
Hope 66, Albion 54
IUPUI 75, Nebraska-Omaha 59
Indiana St., Michigan St. 85
Iowa 57, Wisconsin 54
Kansas St. 47, Oklahoma St. 44
Lawrence Tech 64, Davenport 59
Madonna 78, Michigan-Dearborn 56
Milwaukee Engineering 68, Lakeland 65
North Central (Ill.) 88, Augustana (Ill.) 75
Ohio 71, E. Michigan 64
Olivet 70, Alma 66
S. Dakota St. 61, IPFW 42
SE Missouri 61, Jacksonville St. 47
Saint Louis 69, UMass 49
Siena Heights 71, Aquinas 61
St. Thomas (Minn.) 54, St. Benedict 36
Texas 75, Kansas 38
Toledo 55, Miami (Ohio) 50
VCU 74, Dayton 72
W. Michigan 73, Kent St. 52
Wis.-Eau Claire 81, Wis.-Stout 67
Wis.-Oshkosh 48, Wis.-LaCrosse 38
Wis.-River Falls 74, Wis.-Whitewater 69
Wis.-Stevens Pt. 67, Wis.-Platteville 48
EAST
Albany (NY) 78, New Hampshire 52
Army 67, Colgate 55
Baruch 94, Lehman 55
Binghamton 53, Hartford 47
Boston U. 63, American U. 59
Bucknell 80, Lehigh 77 OT
Duquesne 79, Rhode Island 70
Fordham 66, George Mason 54
George Washington 63, La Salle 59
Holy Cross 66, Lafayette 49
Loyola (Md.) 51, Navy 38
Maine 74, Mass.-Lowell 44
Nebraska 83, Penn St. 78
Rutgers 67, Illinois 54
Saint Joseph's 64, Richmond 53
St. Rose 67, Assumption 55
Staten Island 84, York (NY) 62
Stockton 65, Montclair St. 54
Stony Brook 69, UMBC 60, OT

Today's schedules

MEN
SOUTHWEST
UConn at Tulsa, 6 p.m.
Marshall at North Texas, 7 p.m.
Chicago St. at Texas Rio Grande Valley, 7 p.m.
Appalachian St. at UALR, 7:15 p.m.
W. Kentucky at Rice, 8 p.m.
SOUTH
Wofford at The Citadel, 5 p.m.
Longwood at Campbell, 6 p.m.
Middle Tennessee at Charlotte, 6 p.m.
W. Carolina at Chattanooga, 6 p.m.
Presbyterian at Coastal Carolina, 6 p.m.
UNC Wilmington at Elon, 6 p.m.
Southern Miss. at FAU, 6 p.m.
NJIT at Florida Gulf Coast, 6 p.m.
Kennesaw St. at Jackson-ville, 6 p.m.
Furman at Mercer, 6 p.m.
Youngstown St. at N. Kentucky, 6 p.m.
Lipscomb at North Florida, 6 p.m.
UAB at Old Dominion, 6 p.m.
UNC Asheville at Radford, 6 p.m.
SC-Upstate at Stetson, 6 p.m.
High Point at Winthrop, 6 p.m.
Liberty at Charleston Southern, 6:30 p.m.
William & Mary at Coll. of Charleston, 6:30 p.m.
Louisiana-Lafayette at Georgia Southern, 6:30 p.m.
Louisiana-Monroe at Georgia St., 6:30 p.m.
FIU at Louisiana Tech, 7 p.m.
Texas St. at South Alabama, 7:05 p.m.
Austin Peay at Tennessee St., 7:30 p.m.
Texas-Arlington at Troy, 7:30 p.m.
Murray St. at Belmont, 8 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Louisville, 8 p.m.
ETSU at Samford, 8 p.m.
FAR WEST
Washington St. at Arizona St., 7 p.m.
Washington at Arizona, 8 p.m.
BYU at Gonzaga, 8 p.m.
Montana at N. Colorado, 8 p.m.
UMKC at New Mexico St., 8 p.m.
S. Utah at E. Washington, 8:05 p.m.
UC Santa Barbara at Cal Poly, 9 p.m.
N. Arizona at Idaho, 9 p.m.
San Diego at Portland, 9 p.m.
Idaho St. at Sacramento St., 9 p.m.
Loyola Marymount at San Francisco, 9 p.m.
Pepperdine at Santa Clara, 9 p.m.
Hawaii at UC Riverside, 9 p.m.
Oregon at Utah, 9 p.m.
Weber St. at Portland St., 9:05 p.m.
UC Irvine at Long Beach St., 9:30 p.m.
CS Northridge at UC Davis, 9:30 p.m.
Pacific at Saint Mary's (Cal., 10 p.m.
California at Stanford, 10 p.m.
MIDWEST
Oral Roberts at IUPUI, 6 p.m.
Iowa at Michigan St., 6 p.m.
Cleveland St. at Wright St., 6 p.m.
Green Bay at IL-Chicago, 7 p.m.
IPFW at S. Dakota St., 7 p.m.
Morehead St. at SIU-Edwardsville, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Valparaiso, 7 p.m.
Denver at W. Illinois, 7 p.m.
Montana St. at North Dakota, 7:05 p.m.
E. Kentucky at E. Illinois, 8 p.m.
EAST
St. Francis Brooklyn at Bryant, 6 p.m.
Sacred Heart at CCSU, 6 p.m.
Towson at Delaware, 6 p.m.
Drexel at Hofstra, 6 p.m.
James Madison at Northeastern, 6 p.m.
Mount St. Mary's at Robert Morris, 6 p.m.
Fairleigh Dickinson at St. Francis (Pa.), 6 p.m.
LIU Brooklyn at Wagner, 6 p.m.
Marist at Rider, 7 p.m.

WOMEN
SOUTHWEST
Appalachian St. at UALR, 5:15 p.m.
Mississippi at Texas A&M, 7 p.m.
Tennessee at Arkansas, 8 p.m.
SOUTH
Texas St. at South Alabama, 11 a.m.
Louisiana-Lafayette at Georgia Southern, 4 p.m.
Louisiana-Monroe at Georgia St., 4 p.m.
Murray St. at Belmont, 5 p.m.
North Texas at Marshall, 5 p.m.
Texas-Arlington at Troy, 5:15 p.m.
Austin Peay at Tennessee St., 5:30 p.m.
Alabama at Auburn, 6 p.m.
Florida St. at Clemson, 6 p.m.
N.C. State at Duke, 6 p.m.
Houston at East Carolina, 6 p.m.
UNC Greensboro at ETSU, 6 p.m.
Georgia at Florida, 6 p.m.
North Carolina at Georgia Tech, 6 p.m.
South Carolina at Kentucky, 6 p.m.
Wake Forest at Miami, 6 p.m.
Louisville at Virginia, 6 p.m.
FIU at Louisiana Tech, 6:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Middle Tennessee, 6:30 p.m.
Stephen F. Austin at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Lamar at SE Louisiana, 7 p.m.
Old Dominion at UAB, 7 p.m.
LSU at Vanderbilt, 7 p.m.
Rice at W. Kentucky, 7 p.m.
FAU at Southern Miss., 8 p.m.
FAR WEST
Portland St. at Weber St., 1 p.m.
Idaho at N. Arizona, 7:30 p.m.
UC Irvine at UC Davis, 7:30 p.m.
Gonzaga at BYU, 8 p.m.
Sacramento St. at Idaho St., 8 p.m.
N. Colorado at Montana, 8 p.m.
North Dakota at Montana St., 8 p.m.
Portland at San Diego, 8 p.m.
E. Washington at S. Utah, 8 p.m.
UC Santa Barbara at Cal St. Fullerton, 9 p.m.
San Francisco at Loyola Marymount, 9 p.m.
Santa Clara at Pepperdine, 9 p.m.
CS Northridge at Hawaii, 11 p.m.
MIDWEST
Maryland at Michigan, 5 p.m.
E. Kentucky at E. Illinois, 5:15 p.m.
Morehead St. at SIU Edwardsville, 5:30 p.m.
Wright St. at Detroit, 6 p.m.
N. Kentucky at Oakland, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at Purdue, 6 p.m.
Texas-Rio Grande Valley at Chicago St. 7 p.m.
Valparaiso at Green Bay, 7 p.m.
IL-Chicago at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Mississippi St. at Missouri, 7 p.m.
South Dakota at N. Dakota St., 7 p.m.
Ohio St. at Northwestern, 7 p.m.
New Mexico St. at UMKC, 7 p.m.
EAST
Fairfield at Rider, 4 p.m.
Notre Dame at Boston College, 6 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Syracuse, 6 p.m.

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

THUNDER 108 MAVERICKS 99

OKLAHOMA CITY — Kevin Durant had 29 points and 10 rebounds and the Oklahoma City Thunder, helped when Dallas sat out its usual starters, beat the Mavericks 108-89 Wednesday night.

Thunder star Russell Westbrook was ejected in the second quarter after getting his second technical foul following skirmishes with J.J. Barea. Westbrook went scoreless, but had had eight assists and seven rebounds in 14 minutes.

ROCKETS 107 TIMBERWOLVES 104

HOUSTON — James Harden had 27 points and 11 assists and the Houston Rockets got their season-high fifth straight win, 107-104 over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday night.

Minnesota lost its season-worst eighth in a row.

The Timberwolves stuck around the entire second half. They trailed by three when Jason Terry made a 3-pointer with about two minutes left to extend Houston's lead to 105-99.

Harden followed with a jump shot before Minnesota got a layup from Kevin Martin and a pair of free throws from Karl-Anthony Towns to get within 107-104.

WIZARDS 106 BUCKS 101

WASHINGTON — With guard Bradley Beal back from injury and a defense causing havoc Wednesday night, the Washington Wizards got a much-needed victory at home.

John Wall scored 19 points, Beal added 11 to join seven players in double figures, and Washington held on for a 106-101 win over the Milwaukee Bucks.

Ramon Sessions added 15 points and Jared Dudley had 13 for Washington. The Wizards scored 36 points off a season-high 27 forced turnovers, including 12 in the fourth quarter.

"When we get our hands on the ball, that's when we're the best," Dudley said. "Because we get out in transition."

The Wizards won their third straight and snapped a three-game home skid.

Beal came off the bench and played 23 minutes in his first game since Dec. 9. He missed 16 games with a stress reaction in his lower right leg, but insisted he was "100 percent" recovered just before the midway point of Washington's season.

"I just took my time with this injury," said Beal, who missed eight games with a similar injury last season. "I definitely wanted to make sure I was 100 percent before I got back out here."

NETS 110 KNICKS 104

NEW YORK — With Spike Lee barking at referees from a sideline seat and the Knicks wearing their white uniforms, it felt like a game at Madison Square Garden.

The Nets were the ones on their home floor, though, and they left it as winners for the first time in more than a month.

Brook Lopez scored 20 points, Thaddeus Young had 19 points and 11 rebounds, and Brooklyn ended its 10-game home losing streak with a 110-104 victory on Wednesday night.

HORNETS 107 HAWKS 84

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Steve Clifford wasn't surprised that the Charlotte Hornets finally broke out of their seven-game losing streak Wednesday night.

That it came against the Atlanta Hawks — well, that did catch the Hornets coach by surprise.

"We've really struggled against them since I've been here, especially trying to defend them," Clifford said after Charlotte's 107-84 victory over the Hawks.

CELTICS 103 PACERS 94

BOSTON — Isaiah Thomas scored 28 points, Jae Crowder matched his career high with 25 and the Boston Celtics snapped a four-game losing streak with a 103-94 win over the Indiana Pacers on Wednesday night.

Amir Johnson had a season-high 18 rebounds and scored 14 points for the Celtics, who beat the Pacers for the first time this season after losing the first two meetings.

Paul George led Indiana 23 points. George Hill had 13 and Monta Ellis 12 for the Pacers, who wore their old-fashioned Hickory High School uniforms from the movie "Hoosiers."

Boston closed with a 12-0 run over the final 1:46

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Toronto	24	15	.615	
Boston	20	19	.513	4
New York	20	21	.488	5
Brooklyn	11	28	.282	13
Philadelphia	4	36	.100	20½
Southeast Division				
Atlanta	23	16	.590	
Miami	22	16	.579	½
Orlando	20	18	.526	2½
Washington	18	19	.486	4
Charlotte	18	20	.474	4½
Central Division				
Cleveland	27	9	.750	
Chicago	22	15	.595	5½
Indiana	22	17	.564	6½
Detroit	21	17	.553	7
Milwaukee	16	25	.390	13½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
San Antonio	34	6	.850	
Dallas	22	18	.550	12
Memphis	21	19	.525	13
Houston	21	19	.525	13
New Orleans	11	26	.297	21
Northwest Division				
Oklahoma City	28	12	.700	
Utah	17	20	.459	9½
Portland	16	24	.400	12
Denver	15	24	.385	12½
Minnesota	12	28	.300	16
Pacific Division				
Golden State	36	3	.923	
L.A. Clippers	25	13	.658	10½
Sacramento	15	22	.405	20
Phoenix	13	27	.325	23½
L.A. Lakers	9	31	.225	27

Scores and schedule

Wednesday's Scores
Washington 106, Milwaukee 101
Charlotte 107, Atlanta 84
Brooklyn 110, New York 104
Houston 107, Minnesota 104
Oklahoma City 108, Dallas 89
Boston 103, Indiana 94
Denver 112, Golden State 110
New Orleans at Sacramento, late
Utah at Portland, late
Miami at L.A. Clippers, late

Today's Games
Toronto vs. Orlando at London, England, 2 p.m.
Chicago at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Cleveland at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Utah, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

NHL GLANCE

Standings

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
EASTERN CONFERENCE							
Atlantic Division							
Florida	43	26	12	5	57	118	92
Detroit	43	22	14	7	51	107	112
Montreal	43	23	17	3	49	122	107
Tampa Bay	43	22	17	4	48	111	102
Boston	42	21	16	5	47	126	113
Ottawa	43	20	17	6	46	119	131
Toronto	41	16	18	7	39	105	115
Buffalo	43	17	22	4	38	100	117
Metropolitan Division							
Washington	42	32	7	3	67	139	90
N.Y. Rangers	42	23	14	5	51	123	110
N.Y. Islanders	43	23	15	5	51	119	109
New Jersey	44	21	18	5	47	99	107
Pittsburgh	42	20	16	6	46	99	103
Philadelphia	41	19	15	7	45	94	110
Carolina	44	19	18	7	45	105	120
Columbus	45	16	25	4	36	114	145
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
Dallas	44	29	11	4	62	149	116
Chicago	45	28	13	4	60	129	106
St. Louis	46	25	14	7	57	116	114
Minnesota	43	22	13	8	52	113	102
Nashville	43	19	17	7	45	109	118
Colorado	44	21	20	3	45	125	127
Winnipeg	43	19	21	3	41	112	125
Pacific Division							
Los Angeles	42	27	12	3	57	112	92
Arizona	42	22	16	4	48	120	128
San Jose	41	21	16	4	46	118	113
Vancouver	43	17	16	10	44	105	120
Anaheim	41	17	17	7	41	78	99
Calgary	41	19	20	2	40	109	129
Edmonton	44	17	23	4	38	108	131

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Scores and schedule

Wednesday's Scores
Columbus 3, Toronto 1
Philadelphia 3, Boston 2
Florida at Calgary, late
Ottawa at Anaheim, late

Today's Games
N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m.
Vancouver at Washington, 6 p.m.
Chicago at Montreal, 6:30 p.m.
Carolina at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Colorado, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Arizona, 8 p.m.
Edmonton at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.

REPORT

From 1C

state-ranked teams," Hooker said. "The teams we've played are going to prepare us for district. We don't get a lot of cupcake games."

Meanwhile, the Rebels will begin their district slate on the heels of convincing back-to-back wins against Andrews and San Angelo Lake View. Lee hasn't won back-to-back games since the 2013-14 season.

Head coach Chris Packer said that as a result of the recent surge, his team is fired up and has been more focused and hungry at practice.

"We had a good last couple of days at practice," Packer said. "I hope it (the momentum) will carry over into Friday. It'll be a lot tougher competition. (Doing) the little things have helped us win and we've got to focus that much more on them (now)."

And while there's usually a renewed sense of urgency when a team stares down its final few games against district rivals, both Packer and Hooker said they aren't going to change the way they approach each game.

Neither coach is treating Friday or any upcoming district game as a pressure-packed situation. Healthy starts are important, but they know that improvement is a process over a 10-game span.

"There's no extra pressure," Hooker said. "I've had teams that lost that first game and came back and won district. I've had teams that won the first game and ended up finishing second or third. You can't put a lot of pressure on that first game (especially)."

Added Packer: "It'd be great to get a win (to start district play). But we've got to take it one game at a time. Guys have to play for each other for a full 32 minutes and do the little things. (We need to) worry about what we can control, what we do. I'm looking forward to it."

Stanton heating up

After stumbling to a 3-8 record to open the season, the Buffaloes have now won six straight games dating back to their Dec. 18 victory against Crane. In that span, Stanton has outscored its opponents by an average of 13.6 points per contest thanks to a balanced offense led by guard Tristian Graves.

The Buffaloes (9-8) will try to keep their winning streak alive when they host Reagan County to open District 5-3A play at 8 p.m. Friday.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

G Daniel Venzant, Jr., Midland Christian — Venzant reeled off 45 points — just shy of 70 percent of MCS' total score — in the Mustangs' 65-57 win against Flower Mound Coram Deo on Friday.

HONOR ROLL

G Blake Gladson, Sr., MCA — Gladson hit four 3-pointers and scored a game-high 28 points in the No. 6-ranked Knights' 65-44 win against Trinity on Tuesday.

G Sema'J Davis, Jr., Lee — The Rebels' point guard tallied a team-high 20 points in Lee's 60-48 victory over Andrews last Friday.

F Andrew Norwood, Sr., MHS — Norwood registered 20 points and dominated the paint in the Bulldogs' 76-55 win against No. 3-ranked Grady last Friday.

F Jaylen Short, Jr., Grady — The Wildcats' star lit up the MHS defense for a game-high 24 points in Friday's loss against the Bulldogs.

G Benjamin Witt, Jr., Trinity — Witt contributed a team-high 16 points in the Chargers' 65-44 loss against MCA on Tuesday.

G Tristian Graves, Jr., Stanton — The junior guard scored 18 points to lead the Buffaloes to a 52-42 win against San Angelo Grape Creek last Friday. He followed that up with a 21-point output in Stanton's 70-58 victory over Buena Vista on Tuesday.

G Tanner Davis, Sr., Garden City — Davis' 20-point performance helped lift the Bearkats to a 57-42 win over Robert Lee on Friday.

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

TEXAS

From 1C

worried that the athletic department's academic advisers exert too much control over selection of majors.

"One coach said he would happily trade a lower team GPA for the operating principle that student-athletes should be in a full course load, staying on track to graduate on time and in a major that the coach has discussed with the student-athlete as being the student-athlete's first choice," the report said.

Marsh's review interviewed more than 80 athletes, administrators, academic advisers, faculty and staff. It made several recommendations, including:

■ Examine the over-representation of athletes enrolled in the College of Education.

■ Have "meaningful discussions" with incoming freshman about their academic and future plans as soon as they arrive to make sure they enroll in the right classes from the start to advance toward those degrees.

■ Ensure that academic advising be conducted by both athletics counselors and college advisers.

"The report gives me an even fuller understanding of how we, as a university, serve our student-athletes, what we are doing well — and what we can do better," Fenves said. "Most of the findings are positive, but there are opportunities to improve the programs and experiences for student-athletes."

Associated Press

The Hollywood Park Casino stands on the grounds of the former Hollywood Park horse-racing track in Inglewood, Calif., on Wednesday. League owners voted Tuesday to allow the St. Louis Rams to move to Los Angeles starting next season. A new stadium for the team is expected to be completed in 2019.

Rams face huge tasks before they reap big rewards from LA move

By Greg Beacham
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — When the Rams take the field for their regular season opener in September, they will end the NFL's 21-year journey back to a sprawling, vibrant city that loves both a spectacle and a winner.

September is a long way away, though. The Rams have an incredible amount of work to do before they can truly call Los Angeles home again.

They must decide where to play on Sundays until their palatial, billion-dollar new home in Inglewood is completed in 2019.

They must find or build a training complex to be their home for the other six days of the week, and their players, coaches and key employees must find homes close to it. They've got to move untold tons of equipment from the franchise's current base in Earth City, Missouri, to their new home 1,800 miles west.

They've also got to decide what to wear. The current uniforms or their classic LA blue and gold?

After that, all they've got to do is hire hundreds of new employees, sell tens of thousands of tickets and corporate sponsorships, establish charity connections to restore community ties and promote their product to 18 1/2 million people who have been getting along just fine without pro football.

And if the Rams truly hope to succeed, it would really help for local boy Jeff Fisher to put a winning team on the field in September.

The franchise hasn't publicly announced how it will do any of that. Rams employees spent Wednesday learning about the months of hard work ahead, and Rams spokesman Artis Twyman said the team hasn't made any logistical decisions yet about the move.

But if the Rams pull it off with no major missteps and a reasonably successful on-field product, this move could be extraordinarily rewarding for owner Stan Kroenke and his lavish Inglewood stadium complex.

"If they didn't believe that, they wouldn't have paid to move now," said David Carter, the executive director of the Sports Business Institute at the University of Southern California. "They want to be very careful coming back into Southern California because of the previous failures. They knew they had to get it right this time around, and I believe that they think they've got the right business model."

The Rams haven't formally secured a home stadium for next season, although they appear likely to return to the Coliseum, their home from 1946-79, after the Rose Bowl expressed no interest in fostering an NFL team last year. USC athletic director Pat Haden, the former Rams quarterback, plans to talk with the Rams soon about returning to the Trojans' 93-year-old home, which is managed by the school.

The Rams would be a financial windfall for USC, which wants to make $270 million in upgrades. Haden said its current lease with the Coliseum Commission allows for only one NFL team to use the arena, although it could be amended if the Chargers decide to move as well.

When the Rams spent two days in Oxnard, California, last August for training camp, a widespread rumor claimed the Rams are interested in building a permanent base in Thousand Oaks, the upscale suburb 35 miles west of downtown Los Angeles.

Although the Rams haven't confirmed that plan, Kroenke lives in Malibu, and Thousand Oaks is only a picturesque canyon drive away.

"I've had a home in the area for 20 years," Kroenke said Tuesday. "It will be a lot of fun for me, as I spend a lot of time out there anyway, to move forward, to look forward and build a great stadium for our league and for Los Angeles."

The players have a bit of time to get settled in LA. The Rams held their minicamp and organized team activities in June last season, and while Fisher has scheduled their off-season workouts for May in other years, that plan typically isn't set for three more months.

The Rams' ticket office was closed Wednesday, but it will have plenty of work to do after a temporary venue is chosen. The NFL schedule usually isn't finalized until mid-April, and the Rams will have only seven regular-season home games in 2016, playing the eighth in London against the New York Giants.

Carter thinks the team's marketing department will need a smart plan to reintroduce the Rams, who broke hearts in 1994 with their departure.

"I think it's appropriate, and would be helpful, to have the right kind of 'We're back' campaign," Carter said. "With the passage of time, people might give them a little bit of a pass on how it played out 20 years ago. But simply relying on history and mythology is not going to get it done. They need to take a fresh look at this market and make sure they're really involved in all aspects of Southern California."

Ex-NFL running back Lawrence Phillips found dead in prison

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Lawrence Phillips, a star running back at Nebraska and first-round NFL draft pick whose pro career quickly unraveled amid disciplinary problems, was found dead in his California prison cell early Wednesday, and officials said they suspect suicide.

Guards at Kern Valley State Prison found Phillips, 40, unresponsive in his cell. He was taken to an outside hospital and pronounced dead about 1:30 a.m., the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation said.

He had been housed alone in a segregation cell since April 2015 after he was suspected of killing his cellmate. A Kern County judge had ruled Tuesday that there was enough evidence to try Phillips in the death of Damion Soward, 37.

Phillips went to prison in 2008 to serve a sentence of more than 31 years after he was convicted of twice choking his girlfriend in 2005 in San Diego and of driving his car into three teens later that year after a pickup football game in Los Angeles.

He played for the St. Louis Rams before being released in 1997 for insubordination. He also played for the Miami Dolphins and San Francisco 49ers.

Phillips was once one of the nation's top college football players at Nebraska, but he went from Heisman Trophy candidate to pariah after he beat a former girlfriend hours after a spectacular performance in a September 1995 win at Michigan State.

Phillips pleaded no contest to third-degree misdemeanor assault and trespassing and was sentenced to one year of probation. Tom Osborne, Phillips' former coach at Nebraska, arranged for Phillips to undergo inpatient therapy for anger management at a Kansas clinic and suspended him for six games, a punishment many national observers deemed too lenient.

Osborne defended his decision to reinstate Phillips, saying medical personnel agreed that Phillips needed the structure of football in his life.

His former coach said Wednesday that Phillips' death surprised him.

"All of his correspondence with me, in spite of his circumstances, have been fairly upbeat," Osborne said.

Big 12

From 1C

to keep divisions as a requirement, it ultimately accepted the Big 12's position.

"Instead of complete deregulation there was a consensus we should have some parameters ... without the need to go expand conferences and go through some of the past experiences we've seen," Northwestern athletic director Jim Phillips said.

How the Big 12 would decide who plays the game would still have to be determined.

Selling the idea to each Big 12 school may not be a slam dunk. Football coaches may not like the guaranteed rematch of a regular-season game.

For example, this past season, Oklahoma and Oklahoma State, the top two teams at the end of the regular season, could have played in a title game just a week or two after the Sooners beat the Cowboys in the Bedlam rivalry showdown.

"That's hard to swallow to say now you gotta go beat them again to be the conference champion. What if they split?" Bowlsby said.

Being the only major conference without a championship game hurt the Big 12 when Baylor and TCU were left out of the 2014 College Football Playoff when both programs had strong resumes to make the final four. Many pointed to the lack of a title game on the final weekend of the season as the reason why.

Mayor hopes for fresh start with Chargers

By Bernie Wilson
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Mayor Kevin Faulconer left a message for Chargers chairman Dean Spanos on Wednesday, inviting him back to the negotiating table.

Spanos was still traveling back from Houston, where on Tuesday night he suffered a stinging defeat while still being granted the chance to leave San Diego for Los Angeles.

"I indicated I'm looking forward to the opportunity to get together and discuss things positively and collaboratively," Faulconer said at a news conference at City Hall, where he was joined by County Commissioner Ron Roberts and City Attorney Jan Goldsmith.

Faulconer said the NFL's rejection of the Chargers' plans to build a stadium in Carson with the Oakland Raiders gives both sides the opportunity for a fresh start in what has been a bruising saga in San Diego that has damaged the team's relationship with what had been a loyal fan base.

But it's up to Spanos to decide if he wants to restart talks in San Diego with an extra $100 million from the NFL to go toward a replacement for aging Qualcomm Stadium, or come to an agreement with Stan Kroenke to join the St. Louis Rams in Inglewood.

NFL owners voted 30-2 to allow Kroenke to build a $1.8 billion stadium in Inglewood. The Rams are expected to play in the Los Angeles Coliseum beginning in the fall.

Spanos appeared stunned at a news conference in Houston on Tuesday night.

The Chargers walked away from talks with San Diego city and county leaders in June.

Mark Fabiani, the attorney who has led the Chargers' stadium effort on Spanos' behalf, declined to answer specific questions about San Diego on Wednesday.

"I will just reiterate what Dean said last night: The Chargers have been approved by the NFL to relocate to Los Angeles, and now that the NFL meetings are over Dean is going to take a few days to evaluate the franchise's new options," Fabiani said in an email.

Fabiani did not respond when asked if he and Spanos had met with Kroenke on Tuesday night to discuss a deal to be either a partner or a tenant in Inglewood.

The Chargers must notify the NFL by March whether they intend to move to Los Angeles for the 2016 season.

The Chargers have been trying since 2002 to replace Qualcomm.

Faulconer and Roberts issued a statement Tuesday night that had a bit of an edge to it, saying they "are not interested in a charade by the Chargers if they continue to pursue Los Angeles."

Faulconer had a little different outlook Wednesday.

"Today is an opportunity for a fresh start," he said. "I sincerely believe that we can create both success for the Chargers' organization and the San Diego region if we have a sincere commitment to work together, the city and Mr. Spanos."

Asked who had the leverage, Faulconer replied: "I don't think it's about that at all. I think it's about an opportunity for a fresh start. A lot happened this past year. But we do have on the table a plan that's viable, if we approach this in a spirit of openness and cooperation."

Faulconer and Roberts indicated that it could be difficult getting a measure on the June ballot, and that the November ballot seemed more realistic.

The leaders indicated they don't plan to move off their offer of a $350 million public contribution toward a $1.1 billion stadium at the Qualcomm Stadium site. The city-county proposal calls for the Chargers to contribute $353 million with the NFL adding another $200 million in a loan, plus the $100 million in new money. Naming rights could be credited toward the Chargers' portion.

Finances were never discussed during three brief negotiating sessions between the team and the city and county. Instead, the Chargers raised concerns with a hastily conducted environmental impact statement they felt could get tied up in court.

Faulconer's top political strategist, Jason Cabel Roe, has said that if the Chargers resume negotiations, they need to come without Fabiani because he has no credibility with elected officials.

NFL PLAYOFFS GLANCE

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 9
Kansas City 30, Houston 0
Pittsburgh 18, Cincinnati 16
Sunday, Jan. 10
Seattle 10, Minnesota 9
Green Bay 35, Washington 18
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 16
Kansas City at New England, 3:35 (CBS)
Green Bay at Arizona, 7:15 p.m. (NBC)
Sunday, Jan. 17
Seattle at Carolina, 12:05 p.m. (FOX)
Pittsburgh at Denver, 3:30 p.m. (CBS)
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 24
AFC, 2:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC, 5:30 p.m. (FOX)
Pro Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 31
At Honolulu
Team Rice vs. Team Irvin, 6 p.m. (ESPN)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 7
At Santa Clara, Calif.
TBD, 5:30 p.m. (CBS)

Midland College Lady Chap and Chaparral Basketball
"Energy Industry Appreciation Night"
Al G. Langford Chaparral Center
Thursday, January 14, 2016

Both MC basketball teams will be wearing commorative shooting shirts during pregame warm ups (modeled by Morgan Ashton and Jachal Simmons).

5:45 PM
Frank Phillips College Plainswomen
vs
Midland College Lady Chaps

7:30 PM
Frank Phillips College Plainsmen
vs
Midland College Chaparrals

Tickets are available at various locations throughout the city, including the Midland Chamber of Commerce and the Permian Basin Petroleum Association as well as in the Midland College Athletic Department - Physical Education Building (432-685-4579).

Redeem your ticket(s) at the game (Door #2 of the Chap Center) for a $1.00 general admission ticket (up to a family of five for $5.00).

Those in attendance can enter a prize drawing with their lucky ticket winning shooting shirts that night!

There will also be two silent auctions for the shirts with the funds going to a local charity to be chosen by the members of the Lady Chap and Chap basketball teams (TBA the following week).

CHAP ATHLETIC CLUB DINNER
Lemon Pepper Chicken, Veggies, Roll, Dessert, Iced Tea and Water

Come out to the Chap Center on Thursday, January 14th as we fill the arena with "Energy" on "Energy Industry Appreciation Night"!

Mario's Italian Village Restaurants
True, Authentic Italian Cuisine
Full Bar
Daily Lunch & Dinner Specials
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Best veal or bread in Texas!
OPEN Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
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52 FACES OF COMMUNITY

To nominate a Face of Community, please visit mrt.com/52Faces

PRESENTED BY CHEVROLAND AND THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

THURSDAY PRIME TIME — JANUARY 14, 2016

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

		G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
BROADCAST	KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Beyond the Tank (N)		My Diet is Better Than Yours "Strong, Safe and Sexy/ The One Month Mark" (N)				KMID News	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
	KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	Big Bang Theory	Life in Pieces (N)	Mom (N)	Angel Hell (N)	Elementary "A Burden of Blood" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert		(:35) J.Corden
	KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	MASH "Letters"	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Happy Days	Laverne & Shirley	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Crippled Cougar"		McCloud
	KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	American Idol "Auditions #4" The auditions continue. (N)				TMZ	2 Broke Girls	Modern Family	Two and Half Men	Met Your Mother	Hot in Cleveland
	KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Lars Enarson	Zola Levitt Presents	Update News	HaYesod	Light of the Southwest			Light of the Southwest	Joshua Caleb	Jean-Claude	Called Out	Biblical Israel
	KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsWest 9 at 6 p.m.		Heroes "Company Woman" (N)		Blacklist "The Director: Conclusion" (N)		Shades of Blue "Original Sin" (N)		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
	KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		West. Perspec.	Masterp. Abbey: Season Six"	"Downton	Manor of Speaking	The Royal Paintbox		Charlie Rose (N)		World News	Tavis Smiley
	KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Muchacha Italiana viene a casarse		Antes muerta que lichita		Pasion y poder				Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
	KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Fam.Feud	Fam. Feud	The Mentalist		Mentalist "Redacted"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	To Be Announced		Anger M.	Anger M.
PREMIUM	FLIX	340	575			165	(5:00) Six Days, Se...		★★ Captain Ron Kurt Russell.		(:45) Going Overboard Adam Sandler.				★★ Son-in-Law Pauly Shore.			
	HBO	300	550	14	14		(5:30) The Avengers		★★★★ Mad Max: Fury Road				This Is Where I Leave You		(:45) J. Cole Forrest Hill			
	HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	Blended (14, Com) Adam Sandler.				★★★ Dumb and Dumber To Jim Carrey.				Taxicab: NY		Heroin: Cape Cod	
	HBO5	304	552	16	102		★★ Shallow Hal Gwyneth Paltrow.				★★★★ Blazing Saddles		(:45) ★★★ Spaceballs Bill Pullman.					Movie
	MAX	380	557	17	120	24	Movie (:550) The Fault in Our Stars (14, Dra) Shailene Woodley.						★★ Swimfan Jesse Bradford.		Life Top	LifeTop		Movie
	MAX2	382	558	18	122		(:210) Annabelle (14, Hor) Annabelle Wallis.				★★★★ Smokin' Aces				(:645) ★★★ Stargate ('94, SCI-FI) Kurt Russell.			
	PLEX			96			(5:20) ★★ Jury Duty		★★ He Said, She Said Kevin Bacon.				★★ Milk Money Melanie Griffith.			(:55) Cherry 2000		
	SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	(4:55) Rampart.		(:55) ★★★ Shooter Mark Wahlberg.				Shameless		Gigolos	Shameless		Movie
	TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:20) The Joneses		★★ Nothing to Lose		(:140) Tooken Ethan Suplee.				★★ Underclassman			Movie
CABLE	A&E	27	58	28	35	47	The First 48 "Bad Love"		The First 48 "Blood on Bourbon"		The First 48 "Knock Knock" (N)		Nightwatch "Dark Side of the City" (N)		The First 48		The First 48 "Blood on Bourbon"	
	AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(4:00) U.S. Marshals		★★★ Transporter 2 Jason Statham.				★★ Transporter 3 ('08, Act) Jason Statham.					Movie
	BET	58	-		40		Martin	Martin	Martin	Zoe Ever	Zoe Ever	Husbands	Criminals at Work		Criminals at Work		Wendy Williams	
	BRAVO	65	76		41		Vanderpump Rules		Vanderpump Rules		Beverly Hills		Top Chef (N)		Watch (N)	T. Chef "Bananaise"		VanderR
	CNBC	46	52		39	72	Restaurant Startup		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		The Profit "Fuelfood"		Restaurant Startup		Restaurant Startup	
	CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		Anthony "Charleston"		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360 "Post Debate Special" (L)			
	DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Bush "Blindsided"		Bush "Fight or Flight"		Bush "The Wild Life"		Bush "Breaking Free"		Alaskan Bush People		Alaskan Bush People	
	DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Bunk'd	Underc.	★★ Cars 2 ('11, Ani) Larry the Cable Guy.				Austin	Liv/Mad	Girl M.	Friends	Jessie	Jessie
	ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball (L)				NCAA Basketball (L)				SportsCenter			
	ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball (L)				NCAA Basketball (L)				Basketb.	Basketb.	NFL Live	
	FAMILY	53	63	34	42	33	(4:30) National T...		★★★ Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix						The 700 Club		Mirror Mirror	
	FNC	45	48	53	23	55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File	
	FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Chopped "Rock Stars"		Chopped		Kids Baking		BeatFlay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Beat Flay	Kids Baking	
	FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	NCAA Basketball (L) North Carolina State vs. Duke				NCAA Basketball (L) Florida Atlantic vs. University of Southern Mississippi Women's				Champio. "Football: 1A, 2A and 3A"		Champio. "Football: 4A, 5A and 6A"	
	FX	31	56	59	64	69	(5:00) Hotel Tran...		★ Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2				★ Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2				Austin Powers: ...	
	HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
	HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	FlipFlop	H.Hunt	House	H.Hunt	House	FlipFlop	FlipFlop
	HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers		SmartGuy	SmartGuy	American Pickers	
	LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Child Genius "I'm The Fun Parent"		Child Genius (N)		Project Runway Junior "#OOTD" (N)		Child Genius		Project Runway Junior "#OOTD"		Child Genius	
	MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow	
	NBCSN	38	43				NHLLive	NHL Hockey	Chicago Blackhawks at Montreal Canadiens (L)				NHL Overtime (L)		NFL Turning Point		Rally	Rally
	NICK	55	-	39	34	37	MakePop	Thunder	★ Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed				F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
	SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
	SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:30) ★★ The Conjuring Patrick Wilson.				★★ Silent Hill ('06, Hor) Radha Mitchell, Sean Bean.						★ Silent Hill: Revelation 3D	
	TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Sein. "The Truth"	Seinfeld "The Dog"	2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	2 Broke Girls	2 Broke Girls	Conan Kevin Hart. Nick Robinson (N)		2 Broke Girls	Conan
	TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(5:00) Stand Up &...		★★★★ Gone With the Wind (1939, Epic) Clark Gable, Olivia De Havilland, Vivien Leigh.								Things to Come	
	TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado		Celia		Bajo el mismo cielo		Querida centauro		Al rojo	(:35) Titular.	Hermano "La novela"	
	TLC	51	61	32	38	52	My 600-lb Life "Pauline's Story"		600 Life: Supersized "Nikki's Story" (N)		Extreme Weight Loss "Tony" Tony's weight is damaging his life and relationships.				Skin Tight "Megan and Yalena"		600 Life: Supersized "Nikki's Story"	
	TNT	24	34	40	26	50	Castle "Child's Play"		NBA Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at San Antonio Spurs Site: AT&T Center -- San Antonio, Texas (L)						NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers at Golden State Warriors Site: The Oracle -- Oakland, Calif. (L)			
	TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	FactsLife	FactsLife	FactsLife	(:50) Ray	(:25) Loves Ray		Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
	USA	26	55	42	27	49	(5:00) ★★ 2 Fast 2 Furious Paul Walker.		WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries.				Colony "Pilot" (P) (N)		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	
	WGN	19	85				Elementary "Internal Audit"		Elementary "The Diabolical Kind"		Elementary "All in the Family"		Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother

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Steve Stricker feeling rejuvenated about the new year

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

HONOLULU — Steve Stricker decided three years ago to start cutting back on his schedule. Now he can't wait to get started.

That's why he left Wisconsin for the California desert the day after Christmas for six days of hard work, followed by a trip to the North Shore of Oahu for a week of work and play before starting his season at the Sony Open.

At first, he barely beat his daughter. Bobbi Maria, a senior in high school who devoted the fall to tennis, shot a 79. Her dad, a 12-time winner on the PGA Tour, shot 73.

He turns 49 next month. He helped bring a Champions Tour event to his home state of Wisconsin this year. On the practice green Tuesday at Waialae, he was surrounded by players who had not even started kindergarten when Stricker began his PGA Tour career.

And he's not ready to stop just yet.

"I feel younger this year than I did at times last year," Stricker said.

The Sony Open is the first full-field event of the new year, and this won't be a cameo appearance for Stricker. He still plans a limited schedule. Being home for his wife and two daughters remains a priority. He also wants to give himself a fair chance at winning.

"My No. 1 goal is to win again," he said. "I'm hitting the ball not much differently from five years ago. It's about getting it in the hole, and I've been grinding on my putter for the last five months."

Stricker, who had surgery on his back on Christmas Eve in 2014, didn't play until the Masters last year and tied for 28th. He played only nine more times and didn't fare much better, and he faced the harsh reality of a player in semi-retirement. He wasn't eligible for any of the World Golf Championships, and he wasn't in the U.S. Open for the first time in five years. This year, he isn't guaranteed a spot in any of the big events.

His world ranking, which reached as high as No. 2 in September 2009, has dropped all the way to No. 245.

It's about the world ranking. It's not about the money. It's not even about hanging on.

Stricker didn't mind easing his way back into golf last year, especially after back surgery. And he concedes to feeling older than he really was. Maybe it was the time away from the competition that rekindled his excitement.

Jessica Mendoza joins 'Sunday Night Baseball'

By Rachel Cohen
Associated Press

Jessica Mendoza wonders what she'd be doing during the upcoming Major League Baseball season if not for some events out of her control.

The retired softball star was scheduled to call two Monday night MLB games late in 2015 for ESPN and hoped to get a regular gig this year, but figured she might need to wait longer for a slot to open up.

Instead, six days after her debut, she leapt onto the network's showcase platform of "Sunday Night Baseball" — and hasn't left since.

ESPN announced Wednesday that the 35-year-old Mendoza is now a permanent fixture in the Sunday prime-time booth. She'll join another new analyst, Aaron Boone, alongside returning play-by-play voice Dan Shulman.

Just like that, she's the most prominent woman calling national games for a major men's sport — one of the few in the booth, not limited to sideline reporter. It's an ascension that seems to have happened blindingly fast, and yet it was also a slow and steady climb.

An Olympic gold medalist and the sport's premier hitter, Mendoza found herself needing a new career when softball was dropped from the Summer Games. The Stanford alum joined ESPN in 2007 and didn't give much thought to calling baseball until the following year, when Kruk took part in Women's College World Series coverage.

Mendoza saw how knowledge of one sport could translate to the other. Still, she acknowledged, historically there was just "one-way traffic" — her father, a baseball coach, would guide her softball teams, but a woman typically wouldn't instruct baseball players.

She later did some sideline reporting on men's sports and studio work for "Baseball Tonight." In June, Mendoza became the first female game analyst for a men's College World Series telecast.

Meeting with senior coordinating producer Phil Orlins in April, she was eager to work games but wary of seeming like a gimmick. Mendoza remembered watching in 2012 when former U.S. teammate Michele Smith appeared on a nationally televised MLB game on TBS and "feeling like she was a guest."

She dryly describes how she didn't want her male colleagues to promote her presence in the booth: "We have a female with us today, yay."

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

Each set of letters below is arranged alphabetically, and the ? is in the correct alphabetical position. Figure out what letter the ? represents, and then rearrange the letters to spell a six-letter word. For example, in DL?PRUY the ? could be an L, M, N, O or P. Here it represents an O, which can be combined with the other letters to spell PROUDLY. The first letter is placed to get you started.

A F H I M ?
_ _ _ _ _ H

A L L O ? R
_ _ _ _ _ R

A ? H K N S
_ _ _ _ _ N

Yesterday's Answer: AFFAIR, FRESCO, RAINED, SALAMI

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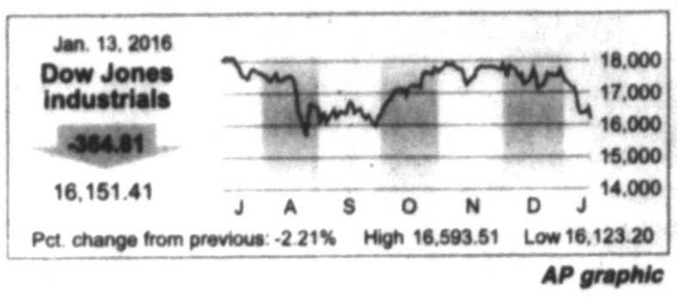
BUSINESS & OIL

A DAY ON WALL STREET



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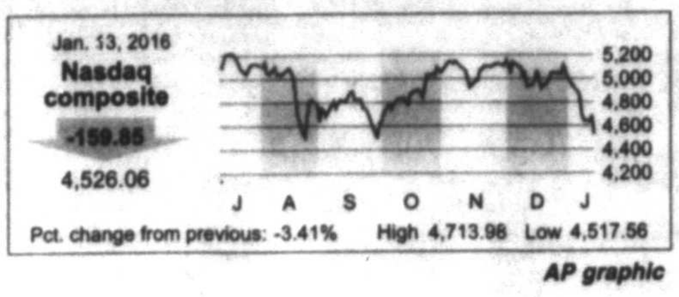

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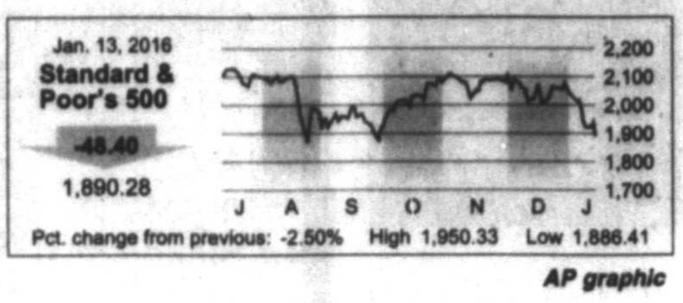


AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Wednesday: $30.48
Previous: $30.44

POSTED

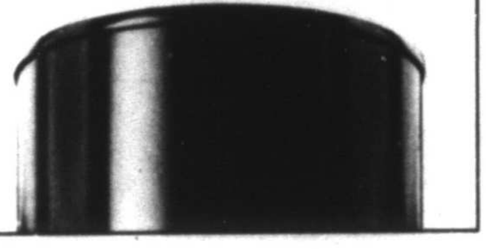
Wednesday: $27.00
Previous: $27.00

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Wednesday: $23.35
Previous: $23.35

NATURAL GAS

Wednesday: $2.268
Previous: $2.257



NYSE

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
S&P500ETP	2008138188.83		-4.83
B iPvIxST	1177653	25.20	+2.29
BkofAm	1163278	14.90	-.41
FordM	1001062	12.20	-.65
SPDR Fncl	996653	21.72	-.58

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
BcoBrades s	5.13	+.79	+18.2
Dntgdat	2.27	+.27	+13.5
EmergeES	3.35	+.37	+12.4
AcomInt rs	8.35	+.86	+11.5
PatriotN n	5.95	+.61	+11.4

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
AlonBlue rs	2.11	-.88	-29.5
GlaxAos n	18.59	-6.53	-26.0
TargaRes	17.28	-4.74	-21.5
TargaRsLP	10.61	-2.85	-21.2
DxBotBull	9.58	-2.48	-20.6

Diary

Advanced	361
Declined	2,785
Unchanged	57
Total issues	3,203
New Highs	13
New Lows	757
Volume	4,960,159,732

AMEX

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BarcGSOil	68907	5.31	-.09
ChesnesEn	60534	32.59	.88
GlobalStar	40876	1.21	
SynergyRs	37227	5.71	+.07
NwGold g	34048	2.18	+.04

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
GreenH pfC	3.00	+.35	+13.2
Nobilelrn n	2.68	+.28	+11.7
YunaE pfA	4.35	+.25	+6.1
MAG Slv g	7.05	+.34	+5.1
AdcareHlt	2.11	+.08	+3.9

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Libbey	16.35	-3.15	-16.2
EnnEn rs	2.07	-.35	-14.5
Earthstone	11.40	-1.56	-12.0
Amplnph rs	2.82	-.36	-11.3
Hc2 Hldgs	3.88	-.47	-10.8

Diary

Advanced	89
Declined	290
Unchanged	16
Total issues	395
New Highs	1
New Lows	62
Volume	82,182,627

NASDAQ

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
PwShs QQQ	6486990101.90		-3.64
Apple Inc	609519	97.39	-2.57
Microsoft	563396	51.64	-1.14
ActivsBliz	533241	34.86	-2.26
CSVxSh rs	486180	9.54	+1.59

Gainers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
JaguarAH n	4.31	+.81	+23.1
CSVxSh rs	9.54	+1.59	+20.0
CyberArk	45.27	+7.43	+19.6
ProUltSnBo	34.51	+4.76	+16.0
StarBulk19	9.51	+1.26	+15.3

Losers ($2 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
LendgTree	61.14	-25.49	-29.4
OceaTher	2.11	-.68	-24.4
Zais Grp	6.09	-1.75	-22.3
MultiFnEic	12.86	-3.54	-21.6
MeetMe	2.95	-.76	-20.5

Diary

Advanced	384
Declined	2,461
Unchanged	131
Total issues	2,976
New Highs	12
New Lows	569
Volume	2,452,524,404

What is a market 'correction' and why does it even matter?

Associated Press

A dismal start for the stock market this year has pushed its major indexes into what is known as a "correction," or decline of 10 percent or more from a recent peak. Here are some common questions asked about corrections and what they mean to investors:

Q: What is a stock market correction?

A "correction" is a Wall Street term for when an index like the S&P 500 or the Nasdaq — or an individual stock — falls 10 percent from its most-recent high. The S&P 500, the index that investors pay most attention to, fell 48 points Wednesday to 1,890, which is 10.4 percent below a recent high of 2,109 set on November 3 and 11.3 percent from its record high of 2,130 set on May 21.

A correction is not the same as a bear market, which is defined as when a stock index or individual stock falls 20 percent from its most-recent peak.

Q: Is the entire stock maket in a correction?

Not every individual stock is in a correction, but the three major indexes are. The Dow Jones industrial average, comprised of 30 stocks, fell 364 points Wednesday to 16,151, that's 9.9 percent below its November 3 peak and 11.8 percent below its record high of 18,312 set May 19.

The Nasdaq, a technology-dominated index that far outperformed the other two major indexes in 2015, is lagging the other indexes this year. On Wednesday, it fell 159 points to 4,526. That's 12.2 percent below its recent peak December 2 and 13.3 percent below its record high of 5,218 set on July 20.

Q: When was the last time we had a correction?

The U.S. stock market entered into its last correction in August. That correction, much like this one, was sparked by financial turmoil in China.

Chinese stock markets have been extremely volatile in recent months, rising to record highs and then plummeting on worries about policy changes, slowing economic growth and a weaker currency. While U.S. investors are not exposed to those stock markets directly, China has been the engine of global economic growth since the financial crisis and weakness there concerns investors everywhere.

Those concerns have had an outsized effect on prices of oil and other commodities because China is such a big consumer, and energy companies have led markets lower in recent weeks.

Q: Are corrections normal for the market?

Stock market corrections have historically happened every 18 months. The August correction was the first in nearly 4 years, an unusually long gap. Even the most bullish of market strategists say a correction is ultimately healthy for a market because it removes some of the froth and speculation, and allows investors to buy stocks at more reasonable prices.

Stocks tumble again

The dismal start to 2016 on Wall Street got a lot worse Wednesday.

Stocks tumbled again on fears of a global slowdown and alarm over plummeting oil prices, officially sending the Standard & Poor's 500 index into what's known as a correction, or a drop of 10 percent or more from its peak.

The Dow Jones industrial average also slumped, losing more than 300 points.

The drop over the first eight trading days of 2016 represents the worst start to a year in the history of both the S&P 500 and the Dow.

The rocky start to the year reflects mounting worries on Wall Street about the slowdown in China, the world's second-biggest economy; a plunge in oil prices to the lowest level in 12 years; and the implications for U.S. corporations, especially energy companies. The S&P 500, which is the most closely watched gauge of the broader market and reached a record high in May, is now down 7.5 percent this year, while the Dow is off 7.3 percent.

The Nasdaq is deeper in the red, down 9.6 percent. The Russell 2000, which is made up of small-company stocks, is down 20 percent from its June peak.

Metals rise

Gold rose $1.90 to $1,087.10 an ounce, silver rose 41 cents to $14.16 an ounce and copper was little changed at $1.96 a pound.

Treasury to track some real estate deals in NY and Miami

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Treasury Department will begin tracking sales of high-end real estate in two of the country's most expensive markets — Miami and Manhattan — to try to crack down on money laundering.

The department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network said Wednesday that it will temporarily require certain title companies to identify individuals behind companies that buy properties exceeding $3 million in these two markets with all-cash transactions.

The government said it's concerned that some of these real estate deals are made by corrupt foreign government officials or international criminals who use expensive real estate to launder dirty money. By using holding companies, some buyers might be able to disguise their identities.

The disclosure requirements would apply for 180 days beginning in March, according to the announcement.

High-end home prices in both Manhattan and Miami have soared over the past year. The median Manhattan home sold for $1.15 million at the close of 2015 — a 17.3 percent leap from a year ago, according to the real estate brokerage Douglas Elliman.

That price put it at highs last glimpsed before the financial crisis erupted in 2008. The median sales price for a luxury unit in Manhattan was $6 million, a 25 percent jump from a year ago.

Douglas Elliman reported that the entry point for luxury single-family homes in Miami Beach exceeds $6 million. Buyers are also flocking to the chic condo towers that increasingly line the area's most expensive avenues.

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Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $18.34 Down 1.88

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $78.40 Down 2.12

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $3.08 Down 0.05

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $59.51 Up 0.99

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $1.14 Down 0.06

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $1.81 Up 0.24

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $18.13 Down 1.12

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $20.62 Down 0.19

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $4.87 Down 0.28

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $14.06 Up 0.75

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AT&T Inc	1.92f	37	33.74	-.16	-1.9
Abraxas	...	**5**	**.81**	**-.05**	**-23.5**
ActivsBliz	.23f	23	34.86	-2.26	-9.9
AdaDvsEq	**.92e**	...	**11.89**	**-.29**	**-7.3**
Alcoa	12	12	7.13	-.15	-27.8
AlonUSA	.60	8	12.39	-1.00	-16.5
AlpAlerMLP	1.19e		9.71	-.65	-19.4
Ambev	.19e		4.14	-.06	-7.2
Amgen	**4.00f**	**17**	**145.46**	**-5.33**	**-10.4**
Anadarko	**1.08**	**...**	**34.86**	**-2.47**	**-28.2**
Apache	**1.00**	**...**	**35.60**	**+.18**	**-19.9**
Apple Inc	2.08	11	97.39	-2.57	-7.5
ApldMatl	**.40**	**14**	**16.20**	**-.55**	**-13.2**
Archrock	.60	16	5.25	-.53	-30.2
Atmel	.16	...	7.96	+.28	-7.5
ATMOS	**1.68f**	**20**	**61.74**	**-.35**	**-2.1**
AutoData	2.12f	25	77.34	-2.13	-8.7
BP PLC	**2.40**	**...**	**28.77**	**+.12**	**-8.0**
BabsCCInv	1.20		17.13	.14	-.7
BakrHu	.68		39.25	-1.79	-15.0
BkofAm	.20	11	14.90	-.41	-11.5
B iPvIxST			25.20	+2.29	+25.4
BarrickG	.08	22	8.04	+.14	+8.9
BasicEnSv			1.78	-.07	-33.6
Baxalta n	.28	...	40.32	+.01	+3.3
BerkHa A	**...**	**141190499.50**	**-3500.50**		**-3.7**
BkHillsCp	**1.62**	**30**	**46.27**	**-.62**	**-.3**
BostonSci		...	17.55	-.24	-4.8
BrityEq	**1.52f**	**59**	**61.28**	**-2.16**	**-10.9**
BrownFA	**1.36f**	**32**	**101.46**	**-3.25**	**-7.9**
BrownFB	**1.36f**	**28**	**91.51**	**-3.06**	**-7.8**
CSX	.72	11	22.35	-1.35	-13.9
CVS Health	1.70f	21	94.11	-1.58	-3.7
Cameron		15	59.17	-.54	-6.4
Caterpillar	3.08	12	60.89	-.71	-10.4
Celestic g	...	12	9.99	-.31	-9.4
CntryLink	2.16	17	23.02	-.38	-8.5
ChesEng	...	...	3.64	-.41	-19.1
Chevron	**4.28**	**18**	**91.33**	**-.82**	**-9.6**
Chicos	.31	44	10.21	-.45	-4.3
Cimarex	.64	...	80.09	+.02	-10.4
Cisco	.84	13	24.60	-.75	-8.7
Citigroup	.20	10	45.19	-1.69	-12.7
ClayEng	**...**	**...**	**18.34**	**-1.88**	**-38.0**

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
CocaCola	**1.32**	**27**	**41.85**	**-.27**	**-2.6**
ColgPalm	**1.52**	**23**	**62.91**	**-.47**	**-5.6**
ConAgra	**1.00**	**21**	**39.53**	**-1.16**	**-6.2**
ConchoRes	**...**	**47**	**78.40**	**-2.12**	**-15.6**
ConocoPhil	**2.96**	**43**	**39.00**	**-1.25**	**-18.5**
CrackerB	4.40a	17	120.83	-1.04	-4.7
CSVLgNG rs		...	2.25	+.07	-7.8
CSVLgCrd rs			...	2.19	-.04
-44.6					
CSVelVST		...	19.79	-2.19	-23.3
CSVlxSh rs		...	9.54	+1.59	+52.4
CrosTim	**1.55e**	**8**	**12.38**	**+.17**	**-4.8**
DCP Mid	3.12	10	19.61	-1.08	-20.5
DTE	2.92f	15	80.25	+.65	+.1
Dataram	...	...	.60	-.05	-8.5
DevonE	**.96**	**...**	**24.80**	**-.92**	**-22.5**
Disney	**1.42f**	**19**	**98.48**	**-2.98**	**-6.3**
DowChem	**1.84f**	**11**	**43.63**	**-1.16**	**-15.2**
EOG Resce	**.87**	**...**	**64.17**	**+1.42**	**-0.4**
EmpDist	**1.04**	**21**	**27.50**	**-.26**	**-2.0**
EnCana g	.28	...	4.22	-.35	-17.1
Energen	.08	...	31.50	-1.25	-23.2
EgyTrEq s	1.14f	9	6.09	-.89	-41.1
EngyTsfr	4.22f	79	25.12	-2.03	-25.5
EnPro	**.80**	**...**	**41.06**	**-1.81**	**-6.3**
EntProPt	1.56f	17	21.79	-1.56	-14.8
Ericsson	.39e	...	9.10	-.14	-5.3
ExxonMbl	**2.92**	**16**	**75.65**	**+.45**	**-3.0**
Facebook	...	96	95.44	-3.93	-8.8
FifthThird	.52	10	17.33	-.94	-13.8
FordM	.60	10	12.20	-.65	-13.4
FreeSea hrs	...	...	.01	+.00	-37.5
FrptMcM	...	...	3.74	-.37	-44.8
FrontierCm	.42	...	4.17	-.21	-10.7
GATX	**1.52**	**7**	**36.25**	**-1.68**	**-14.8**
GabMultT	**.94e**	**...**	**6.83**	**-.26**	**-8.9**
GAInv	**1.15e**	**...**	**28.71**	**-.59**	**-10.1**
GenElec	**.92**	**...**	**28.24**	**-.40**	**-9.3**
GenMotors	1.44	11	30.49	+.19	-10.3
GtPlainEn	**1.08f**	**20**	**26.60**	**-.07**	**-2.6**
HP Inc	.50	...	10.58	-.24	-10.6
HalconRs rs	...	...	.58	-.00	-54.3
Hallibrtn	**.72**	**39**	**30.46**	**-1.01**	**-10.5**
iShJapan	.13e	...	11.36	-.10	-6.3

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	30.82	-.58	-12.7
iShEMkts	.84e	...	29.25	-.31	-9.1
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	54.56	-.86	-7.1
iShR2K	1.73e	...	100.38	-3.33	-10.9
Intel	**.96**	**14**	**31.91**	**-.77**	**-7.4**
InterDig	.80	17	45.27	-.74	-7.7
JPMorgCh	1.76	10	57.34	-1.62	-12.6
JohnJn	**3.00**	**18**	**97.02**	**-1.22**	**-6.5**
Keycorp	.30	11	11.68	-.37	-11.4
KimbClk	**3.52**	**67**	**125.46**	**-.67**	**-1.4**
KindMorg	.50m	24	12.95	-.65	-13.2
LegacyRes	.60m	...	1.14	-.06	-34.9
Lubys	**...**	**...**	**3.76**	**-.31**	**-15.9**
MarathnO	.20m	71	8.54	-.65	-32.2
MktVGold	.12e	...	13.61	...	-.8
McDnlds	3.56f	24	115.12	-2.32	-2.6
Merck	1.84f	14	50.66	-1.10	-4.1
MerMfMd	**...**	**27**	**15.93**	**-.32**	**-14.3**
MexcoEn	...	...	1.81	+.24	-43.9
MicronT	...	7	12.06	-.66	-14.8
Microsoft	1.44	35	51.64	-1.14	-6.9
MorgStan	.60	9	26.89	-1.57	-15.5
Nabors	.24	...	6.50	-.29	-23.6
NatGrid	**3.35e**	**...**	**67.89**	**-.23**	**-2.4**
NOilVarco	1.84	8	29.08	-1.35	-13.2
Netflix s	...	...	106.56	-10.02	-6.8
NvMAd	**.79e**	**...**	**13.88**	**+.02**	**+.2**
NvPfII	**.78e**	**...**	**13.70**	**-.06**	**+.3**
NuvPI	**.82e**	**...**	**14.08**	**-.07**	**-.1**
NSTFI3	**.55e**	**...**	**14.50**	**-.12**	**-.3**
NTXQI	**.65**	**...**	**14.35**	**...**	**-.6**
OasisPet	...	3	5.47	-.47	-25.8
OcciPet	**3.00**	**26**	**60.40**	**-.57**	**-10.7**
Oracle	.60	16	34.08	-1.29	-6.3
ParTech	**...**	**...**	**5.91**	**-.10**	**-12.2**
ParkDri	**...**	**...**	**1.36**	**-.04**	**-25.3**
PattUTI	**.40**	**...**	**12.58**	**-.56**	**-16.7**
Penney	...	...	7.36	+.05	+10.5
PennaRE	**.84**	**...**	**20.30**	**-.88**	**-7.2**
Pmian	.38e	11	4.72	-.18	-6.7
Petrobras	...	...	3.35	-.14	-22.1
Pfizer	**1.20f**	**23**	**30.57**	**-.63**	**-5.9**
PlnBrt	.08	22	114.20	+.96	-8.9
PlainsAAP	**2.80**	**12**	**19.85**	**-2.11**	**-14.1**
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	101.90	-3.64	-8.9

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Praxair	**2.96**	**18**	**98.01**	**-1.88**	**-4.3**
PrmEgy	**...**	**23**	**50.00**	**...**	**-6.7**
PUVixST rs	...	...	43.46	+7.29	+53.3
PrUCrude rs	...	...	8.58	-.16	-31.6
ProctGam	**2.65**	**27**	**75.85**	**-.86**	**-4.5**
ProUShSP	...	...	23.15	+1.10	+16.2
RangeRs	.16	14	23.91	+.66	-2.8
RegionsFn	.24	12	8.33	-.41	-13.2
Rowan	.40	...	12.98	-.51	-23.4
RoyDShllA	3.76	59	38.94	-.99	-15.0
SpdrDJIA	3.90e	...	161.35	-3.60	-7.3
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	188.83	-4.83	-7.4
SpdrLehHY	2.30	...	33.06	-.45	-2.5
SpdrOGEx	.73e	...	25.23	-.89	-16.5
SabnR	3.09e	8	26.06	-.42	-.8
SanderFn	**.88e**	**8**	**79.72**	**...**	**+2.8**
Schlmbrg	2.00	22	63.95	-.79	-8.3
SiriusXM	...	37	3.71	-.08	-8.8
Smucker	2.68	34	119.16	-2.51	-3.4
SwstnEngy	...	...	6.46	+.52	-9.1
Sprint	...	...	3.10	-.27	-14.4
SP CnSt	1.28e	...	48.84	-.91	-3.3
SP Engy	2.04e	...	53.66	-1.32	-11.0
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	21.72	-.58	-8.9
SP Inds	1.12e	...	48.94	-1.21	-7.7
SP Tech	.78e	...	39.73	-1.10	-7.2

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
SP Util	1.55e	...	43.15	-.02	-.3
SunEdison	...	...	2.81	-.21	-44.8
SunocoLog	1.83f	...	18.99	-2.14	-26.1
TeleflEsp	**1.09e**	**...**	**10.13**	**-.16**	**-8.4**
Tesoro	2.00	7	91.92	-12.73	-12.8
3M Co	4.10	18	138.72	-2.14	-7.9
Torchmark	**.54**	**13**	**53.52**	**-1.11**	**-6.1**
TrCntl	**.81e**	**...**	**18.71**	**-.34**	**-6.5**
Twitter	...	...	18.68	-.94	-19.3
TylerTech	**...**	**75**	**157.50**	**-6.41**	**-9.6**
UBSI	**1.32f**	**17**	**33.50**	**-1.25**	**-6.4**
US OilFd	...	...	9.09	-.08	-17.4
Vale SA	.29e	...	2.23	-.14	-32.2
ValeroE	2.00f	7	65.03	-6.16	-8.0
VangEmg	1.10e	...	29.64	-.34	-9.4
VerizonCm	2.26	17	44.15	-.78	-4.5
ValceanM	**.40**	**63**	**53.55**	**-3.16**	**-12.0**
WEC Engy	1.98f	19	51.84	+.29	+1.0
WaldBoots	1.44	24	79.93	+1.69	-6.1
WestfnInt	...	...	6.22	-.44	-25.9
WellsFargo	1.50	12	49.73	-1.63	-8.5
WstnRefin	1.52f	6	34.79	-3.57	-2.3
WhitingPet	...	...	6.00	-.57	-36.4
WmsCos	2.56	39	13.61	-2.93	-47.0
XcelEngy	**1.28**	**19**	**36.11**	**-.22**	**+.6**
Xerox	**.28**	**32**	**9.22**	**-.31**	**-13.3**

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to sdoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com.
We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
18,351.36	15,370.33	Dow Jones Industrials	16,151.41	-364.81	-2.21	-7.31	-7.32
9,214.77	6,820.66	Dow Jones Transportation	6,721.37	-256.84	-3.68	-10.49	-22.65
657.17	539.96	Dow Jones Utilities	579.01	-.48	-.08	+.21	-6.18
11,254.87	9,435.82	NYSE Composite	9,374.23	-202.29	-2.11	-7.58	-11.27
5,231.94	4,292.14	Nasdaq Composite	4,526.07	-159.85	-3.41	-9.61	-2.44
2,134.72	1,867.01	S&P 500	1,890.28	-48.40	-2.50	-7.52	-6.02
1,551.28	1,291.90	S&P Midcap	1,274.37	-35.20	-2.69	-8.88	-10.66
22,537.15	-19,619.26	Wilshire 5000	19,440.93	-531.28	-2.66	-8.16	-8.15
1,296.00	1,028.14	Russell 2000	1,010.18	-34.51	-3.30	-11.07	-14.18

TODAY: Sunny High: 66 Low: 33

FRIDAY: Sunny High: 64 Low: 39

SATURDAY: Mostly sunny High: 51 Low: 32

SUNDAY: Mostly sunny High: 59 Low: 31

MONDAY: Sunny High: 54 Low: 35

TUESDAY: Sunny High: 62 Low: 39

Local forecast

The National Weather Service forecast is calling for winds that could gust as high as 25 mph today. Otherwise, expect high temperatures that will fluctuate above the normal high for this time of year (57 degrees).

There is no rain in NWS' seven-day forecast.

The record high for Jan. 13 is 80 set in 1957. The record low is 7 set in 1964. On Jan. 13 of last year, the high was 32 and the low was 27.

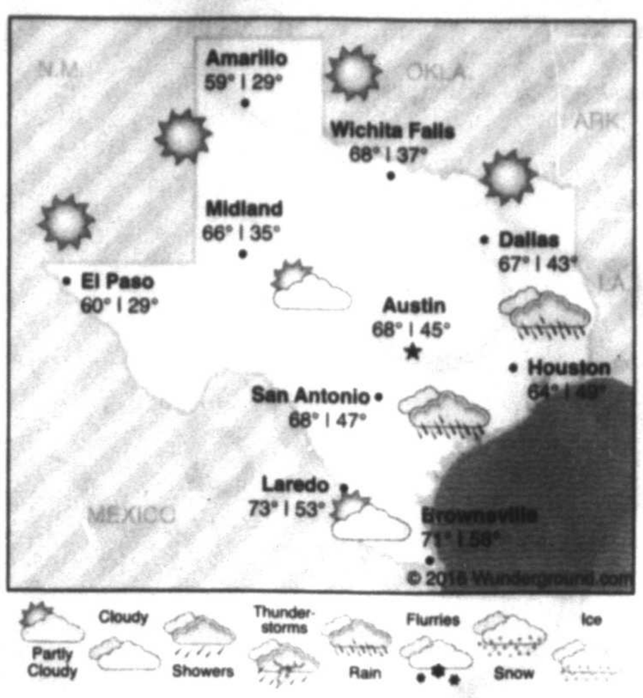
Weather brief

MIAMI

Subtropical Storm Alex forms far out

Forecasters say a rare, out-of-season subtropical storm has formed far out in the Atlantic Ocean and could threaten the Azores in the coming days.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said Wednesday that Subtropical Storm Alex could produce powerful winds and heavy rains over the Azores later this week. It's only the fourth time a storm has formed in January since 1851, according to the Hurricane Center's Facebook page.



Precipitation

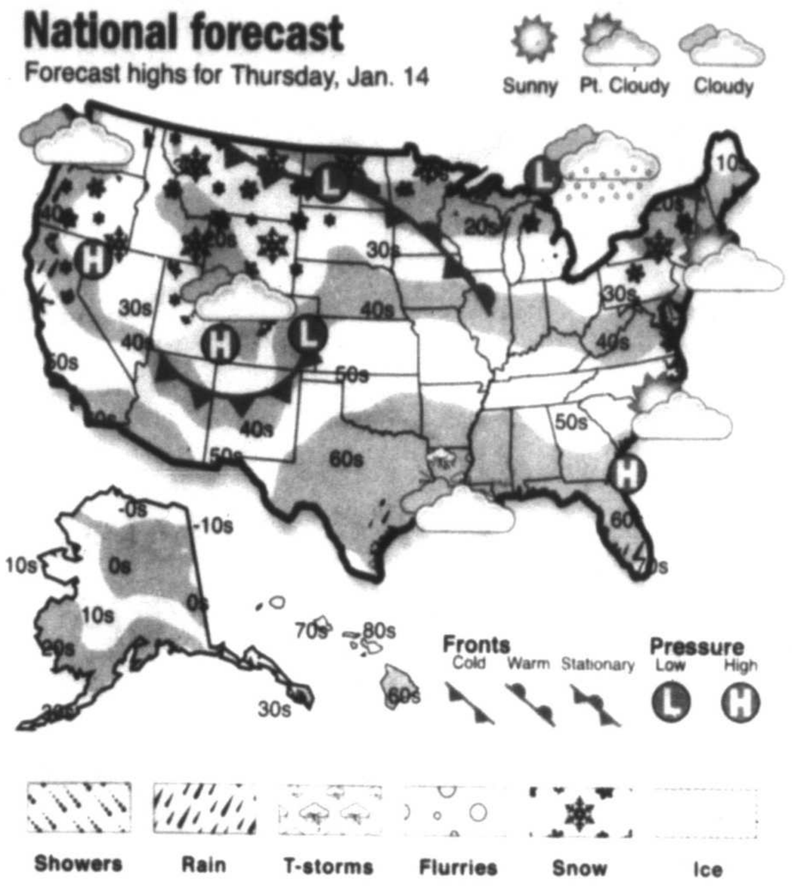
Tuesday	0.00 in.
Wednesday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.09 in.
Year total	0.09 in.
Normal total (year to date)	0.09 in.

Wednesday's temperatures

High	63
Low	30
Normal high	57
Normal low	30
Sunrise	7:50 a.m.
Sunset	6:06 p.m.

National forecast

Forecast highs for Thursday, Jan. 14



Gulf separating mother, son grows greater than distance

DEAR ABBY

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Her column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.

DEAR ABBY: I moved overseas for work when I was 18. My father divorced my mom around the same time. I used to come back to the U.S. for two weeks every year to visit and stay with Mom. However, for the past eight years, she has sent me emails "suggesting" in a roundabout way that I was not totally welcome. Because of this, I haven't been back in six years.

For the last 20-plus years I have given my mother about $7,000. Because I'm not welcome in her home, I told her I won't give her any more. She now shows regret for her previous emails, but, for me, it's too late. Since I'm no longer sending money, she will have to sell her condo.

She's getting old and doesn't have much time left, and I can't wait until she passes on. I despise her. For me, it is unacceptable for a mother to not welcome her son into her home for two weeks a year. Am I overreacting? Is my level of hate valid? — REJECTED SON IN THAILAND

DEAR REJECTED SON: Not knowing your mother's reason for implying you weren't welcome to stay with her, your question is hard to answer. I understand why you would feel hurt, even angry. But looking forward to the day she's no longer on this earth strikes me as an overreaction.

From what I have read on the subject — as well as personal experience — I have concluded that hatred is like acid. It hurts the hater worse than the person at whom it is aimed. At this point, your mother has lost her son and now she's losing her home. I'd say that's a large dose of punishment for her lack of hospitality. If you can't mend fences, then dwell on the positive things you have in your life rather than wasting time wishing her dead.

DEAR ABBY: I've been married to my wife for nine years. She is addicted to Ambien and pain meds. I love her with all my heart, but the constant trips to the hospital and emergency rooms have left me feeling numb. The episodes are all pretty much the same "Groundhog Day" scenario. I'm in so much pain emotionally.

They treat her because she claims to have lupus. The real story is her addiction. My question is, what do I do? She has been to the hospital at least 30 times in our nine years of marriage. Please help me help her. Thank you. — TIRED IN TEXAS

DEAR TIRED: You say the people at the hospital are unaware that your wife is a prescription drug addict. Why haven't you told them the truth and revealed where your wife is getting all those pills? For too long you have tolerated a situation that is destructive for both of you.

You might love your wife and want to be supportive, but you can't save her from her addiction. Only she can do that by admitting she's out of control, seeking help and sticking to a program.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Arrest that man!

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ 8 5 2
♡ 7 4 3
♢ K Q 8 4
♣ 7 4 3

WEST
♠ 7 6 4
♡ A J 8 2
♢ 10 5 3 2
♣ 8 5

EAST
♠ Q 10
♡ 10 6
♢ 7
♣ A K Q J 10 9 6 2

SOUTH
♠ A K J 9 3
♡ K Q 9 5
♢ A J 9 6
♣ Void

The bidding:

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
3NT*	4♣	Pass	Pass
5♣	5	Dbl	5♠
All pass			

*Gambling, a long solid minor with no side ace or king

Opening lead: Eight of ♣

The Gambling Three no-trump opening has been popular with tournament players for several decades. Partner needs a stopper in all three side suits to play there, and runs out to four clubs otherwise — the usual action. Opener corrects to four diamonds holding diamonds rather than clubs.

South ruffed the opening club lead and cashed the ace and king of trumps, delighted with the fall of the queen and ten. The only chance to come to 11 tricks was a dummy reversal, which would need three entries to dummy. He needed a swindle to pull this off. South led the nine of diamonds to dummy's king and ruffed a club in his hand. He held his breath and led the six of diamonds, inserting dummy's eight when West played low. Swindle achieved! Declarer ruffed dummy's last club with his last trump, then led the jack of diamonds to dummy's queen. The eight of spades drew the last trump and a heart was led to the king and ace. South had six trump tricks, four diamonds and one heart — just enough!

West realized, too late, that he could have defeated the contract had he simply covered the six of diamonds with his ten. That would have denied dummy the third entry needed for the dummy reversal to work. Rather than congratulating South for his clever play, West threatened to have him arrested for grand larceny, all with a smile on his face, of course.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016:

This year people seem to perpetually express themselves to you, expecting you to respond accordingly. You will need to let others know that you are your own person who makes your own decisions. If you are single, you might be very desirable, but perhaps not emotionally available to many suitors. When Mr. or Ms. Right appears, you will become far more accessible. If you are attached, the two of you often have very different ideas and challenge each other. You also share a mutual respect for each other. ARIES can be controlling and challenging.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Much has been going on behind the scenes. You could be more challenging than you realize because of your unusually high drive. This push will continue to build in the next few days. You might opt to take a strong stance. Tonight: Do whatever pleases you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ You might be a lot more outwardly directed than you had anticipated. Someone has made choices that you don't like, but your creativity works through the problem in a way that surprises not only you, but also others. Share your ideas. Tonight: Get some much-needed R and R.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ You are in charge of a situation, and you'll manage to make a difference that counts. You could feel pressured. You come from a resilient point of view, and your solutions reflect this same resilience. Use this to handle a personal matter. Tonight: Go where your friends are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ Look beyond the obvious. Understand that there is another path or a different approach to a problem you have been facing that you have yet to find out about. Your sense of direction and a willingness to brainstorm will allow others to open up. Tonight: In the limelight.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Someone close to you refuses to walk away from the bottom-line issue. You can present other views and/or bait this person, but it won't make a difference. Extremes mark the next few days. Be aware of what you are doing. Be as precise as possible. Tonight: Consider a visit.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ You might be more resilient than anyone would anticipate. Your ability to get past a problem puts you in an awkward situation. You'll want to have a discussion with someone about recent events. Be willing to make the first move. Tonight: Share news with a loved one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★ Dive into a project. You might be distracted by an idea from a friend whose opinions you welcome. Make a difference, and listen to news more openly. Your inner strength comes forward later in the day when handling a personal matter. Tonight: Be more upbeat than in the past.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ Differ to someone else, and listen to what is being said. You could find a situation to be far more complicated than you had originally thought. Lady Luck plays into the mix, and somehow the situation works out. Tap into your creativity, and you'll be delighted. Tonight: Clear your desk.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★ Staying close to home might be a great idea; however, it also could add to a feeling of cabin fever. An unexpected offer or call might be so enticing that you will decide to bolt right out the door. Your creativity colors the afternoon. Tonight: Use your imagination well.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Keep conversations moving, even if you find the small talk to be tedious. If you listen, important nuggets of wisdom will emerge. If you remain nonchalant, you will hear a lot more. Take an overview. Detachment will help you know which way to proceed. Tonight: Head home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ Be more forthright and direct in how you handle a difficult situation involving finances. Your ability to make a financial difference depends on previous connections and decisions. You might need to rely on previous resources. Tonight: Send and return emails. Ask questions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Feel your power. Know where you are coming from and why. You'll discover that others respond in a positive way, no matter what you do or say. Opportunities seem to surround you, so be open and receptive. Know what you want, and then go for it! Tonight: Indulge a little.

BORN TODAY

Actor Jason Bateman (1969), actress Emily Watson (1967), actor Carl Weathers (1948)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Home of the Great Sphinx
6 French thinkers?
11 Priestly garb
14 Charter
15 Discharge
16 __ chi
17 Well-cast "Into the Woods" actress?
19 It's used for some trips
20 Bank customer acct. datum
21 Tackle box items
22 It may have a nice bouquet
23 Well-cast "An Education" actress?
26 Like the Detroit Lions in 2008
29 Financial pg. topics
30 Clod breakers
31 __ arguments
32 Spat
35 Director's explanation as to why this puzzle's actresses were well-cast?
40 Familiar saint?
41 Gets ready to fire
42 "Zounds!"
43 Cable service extras
44 "Spoon River Anthology" poet
47 Well-cast "Duplicity" actress?
51 Fissionable particle
52 "Sorry, __ go!"
53 Whale watcher's dream
56 Software issue
57 Well-cast "Birds of America" actress?
60 Bud
61 "Is that __?": challenging words
62 Quad Cities resident, maybe
63 Rule of crime writing
64 Actresses Diane and Cheryl
65 Address to a boy

DOWN

1 O'Neill's "Desire Under the __"
2 Heist units
3 Unlikely story
4 Subj. involving cognitive development
5 "Spill it!"
6 Aquarium fish
7 Wetlands wader
8 Top choice
9 Legal conclusion?
10 Brake fluid brand
11 Low-tech GPS?
12 Stock holder?
13 Former senator known as "Amtrak Joe"
18 Totals
21 LBJ and Nixon, e.g.
23 Einstein's second wife
24 Hawaiian food fish
25 Lawn problem
26 Blender button
27 Bit
28 Brooding spot
31 Iron-__
32 Extreme road response
33 "Rubáiyát" poet
34 Brings together
36 California's __ Beds National Monument
37 Way to get to N.Y.'s Citi Field
38 Response to happy news
39 Brings home
43 Lacking luster
44 Scotland yards?
45 Pretentious
46 Balanced state
47 "Star Wars" villain
48 Reversal
49 Start a telecommuting session
50 Advisory body
53 Puppet
54 Put-act link
55 Designer label initials
57 Evil computer of film
58 NW state
59 Court

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

S	M	S		A	M	P	E	D		S	A	T	C	H
T	I	E		M	A	R	L	O		C	A	R	L	A
E	N	A		M	A	I	L	C	A	R	R	I	E	R
P	I	N	T	A		G	E	I	C	O		V	A	L
D	O	P	I	N	G			L	U	D	D	I	T	E
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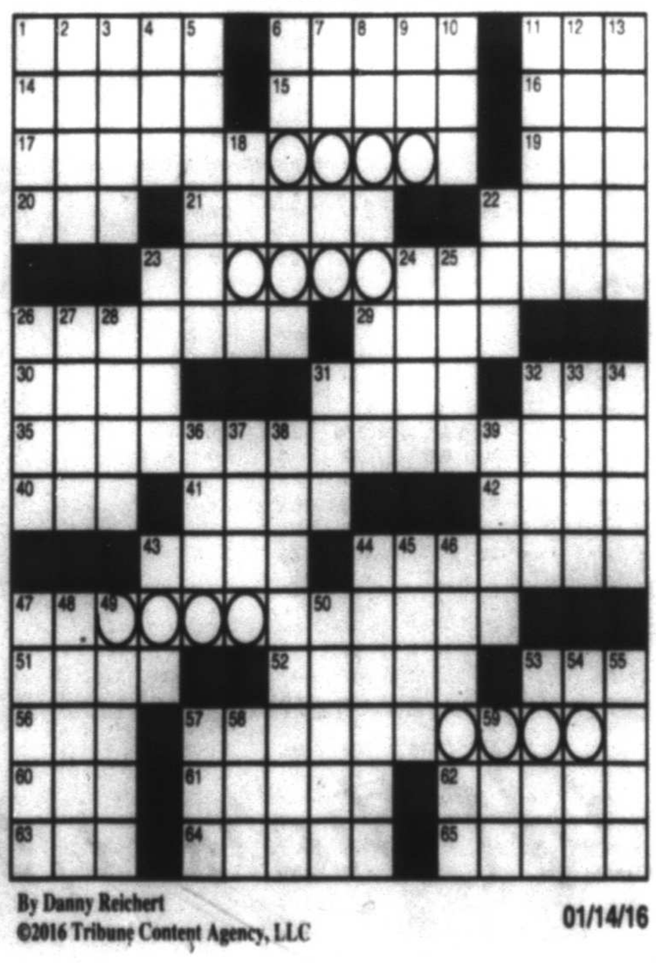
xwordeditor@aol.com 01/14/16



By Danny Reichert
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01/14/16

An ICA Company • For employment opportunities log on to: www.icajobs.net

mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Commercial Lending Assistant

Lone Star State Bank of Midland is seeking an experienced Commercial Lending Assistant to support the President and Vice President of the bank. Qualified candidates will demonstrate a high-level of customer service skills and familiarity with commercial loan documentation. Please submit your resume to Mdavis@LonestarWTX.com

Lone Star State Bank

Producer Accounting Position

Oil & Gas Energy firm in Midland, TX. is looking to fill an entry level Producer Accounting Position. Position involved monthly settlement of Gas Processing plants. Candidate must have excellent computer and communication skills. Four year degree in Accounting or Finance required. Benefits include Health Insurance, 401K and Cafeteria Plan. Mail resume to: Producer Accountant, 211 N. Colorado, Midland, TX. 79701 or email to employment@westtexasgas.com

REVENUE CLERK

A publicly-traded oil and gas company in Midland, Texas, is seeking a revenue clerk with experience in the following areas: revenue booking, and filing. Excel proficiency a must, Horizon experience helpful. This position demands an energetic individual who is conscientious, accurate and reliable. We are an equal opportunity employer and offer competitive salary with an excellent benefits package. Non-smoking environment.

Please email resumes to personneldept.resume@gmail.com

CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Sales Assistant

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for a dynamic self-starter with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task in a deadline oriented environment with minimal supervision. Duties include supporting the advertising sales staff in day-to-day operations and helping the sales team consistently reach its revenue targets. Conducting sales and marketing research, creating sales presentations, event coordination and preparing reports are a few of the duties required. Working knowledge of PowerPoint and Excel is necessary. Excellent wage and benefits package.

Please send resume to: jhouston@mrt.com or Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701, attn: Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising. No calls please.

ENERGY & UTILITIES

Permian Basin Area Sales Manager

UMC Energy Solutions an oilfield industry leader since 1966 in the design of LACT, VRU and compression packages is currently seeking a qualified candidate for PERMIAN BASIN AREA SALES MANAGER. Prior oilfield sales experience is required. Email resume to lacy@umcenergy.com. EOE

MANAGEMENT & EXECUTIVE

Sales Manager

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for an experienced and dynamic sales manager with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task in a deadline oriented environment and lead by example with confidence and enthusiasm. Responsibilities include managing all aspects of the inside sales department and lead generation process, including training and coaching Account Executives, helping the sales team consistently meet/exceed established revenue targets, monitoring and reporting on sales metrics, managing the administration process and providing support to the Director of Advertising as needed.

Working knowledge of PowerPoint and Excel is necessary. Excellent wage and benefits package.

Please send resume to: jhouston@mrt.com or Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701, attn: Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising. No calls please.

OTHER JOBS

Day People & Floormen

Now hiring janitorial Day People. Flexible schedules. Perfect for retired or semi retired person. Also hiring Floormen with experience maintaining floors. Pay DOE. Apply in person at 1307 N. Big Spring.
Monday - Friday 8:30am-5:30pm

Delivery Driver

American Glass Dist. FT

Help wanted: Male or Female Delivery Driver, must be able to drive standard transmission. Must be 25 years of age, have social security card, driver's license & have a decent driving record. Good benefits after 6 months of employment. Starting at $12/hr. Please call 432-699-5235 or come by 5002 Basin Street, A-2, to fill out an application.

Dispatcher

Purity Oilfield Services (EOE) is now hiring a Dispatcher with oilfield dispatching experience located in Midland. Competitive salary with excellent benefits. Please send your resume to cyonan@purityoilfieldservices.com or call 432-699-8600 for more information

Full Time Office Manager

Turf Specialties Inc. "Full time office manager with bookkeeping experience needed Monday-Friday 8am-5pm. Must be proficient in Quickbooks Premiere 2015 A/P, A/R, Payroll. Pay and other benefits will be discussed during the interview. Send resume via email to Susan Armendarez at susan@turfspec.com for interview consideration."

REAL ESTATE

Leasing Agent

Experienced in Commercial properties. Call 432-352-2067 ask for Don.

SALES JOBS

Sales Manager

Midland Reporter-Telegram - A Hearst Media Company

Immediate opening for an experienced and dynamic sales manager with great communication skills. Must be able to multi-task in a deadline oriented environment and lead by example with confidence and enthusiasm. Responsibilities include managing all aspects of the inside sales department and lead generation process, including training and coaching Account Executives, helping the sales team consistently meet/exceed established revenue targets, monitoring and reporting on sales metrics, managing the administration process and providing support to the Director of Advertising as needed.

Working knowledge of PowerPoint and Excel is necessary. Excellent wage and benefits package.

Please send resume to: jhouston@mrt.com or Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701, attn: Jeri Houston, Director of Advertising. No calls please.

Sales

Purity Oilfield Services (EOE) is now hiring a Sales Representative with oilfield and/or rental sales experience located in Midland. Competitive salary with excellent benefits. Please send your resume to wschwart@purityoilfieldservices.com or call 432-699-8600 for more information.

OTHER JOBS

NOW HIRING EXTRA! EXTRA!

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm -4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person

$10.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifiting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

OTHER JOBS

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

NOW HIRING EXTRA! EXTRA!

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person

$10.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifiting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

SKILLED LABOR

Drillers & Roughnecks

Pacesetter Drilling is looking for Safety minded Drillers and Roughnecks experienced in the operation of Top Drive and Mechanical Rigs. Applications are being accepted in person only at 12505 WCR 125 in Odessa, TX. We are between Midland and Odessa right off of Business 20. If you need directions please call 432-563-4000. All applicants must be able to pass a drug and alcohol screening before employment will be offered.

Mid-Tex of Midland

Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. Now hiring commercial construction project superintendents and assistant project coordinators. Competitive pay plus excellent benefits. Experience in commercial construction a must if applying for the project superintendent position. Experience not necessary, but a plus if applying for the coordinator position. Please send resumes to 5206 W. Wadley Ave., Midland, Texas 79707 or email them to Billy Mays at billy@midtexofmidland.com You may also fax your resume to (432) 694-9627.

Production/Facilities Engineer

Arris Petroleum Corporation

Currently seeking a 5-10 year experienced engineer with a wide range of production and facilities experience. Located in Midland, TX. Candidates are asked to send their resumes to: **HR@arrispetroleum.com**

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Drivers

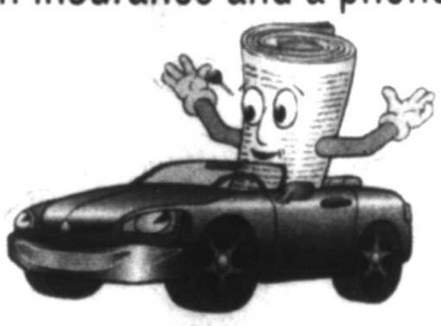
Purity Oilfield Services (EOE) is now hiring drivers with Class A CDL winch and/or vac truck experience with hazmat and tanker endorsements. Competitive pay and excellent benefits. Please contact 432-699-8600 for more information, submit a resume at mkiker@purityoilfieldservices.com, or stop by in person to apply at 11109 West CR 46, Midland, TX 79707.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone??



Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram.

Contact: Linda 687-8807

Newspaper Association of America
www.naa.org

Extend your digital reach with newspaper media today!

MILLENNIAL

women

ARE KEY CONSUMERS IN THE MARKETPLACE TODAY

And their digital footprint leads straight to newspaper media

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com
Source: comScore, December 2014

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE ON Sale of Personal Property to satisfy a landlords lien for CASH ONLY. Sale date is February 10, 2016 at 10am.

Aztec Storage Center
500 S Midland DR
Midland TX 79703

#2 Paula Morris Household Good

Legal & Public Notices

Notice to Physicians and Providers: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas, a Division of Health Care Service Corporation (HMO Blue Texas and Blue Advantage HMO) administers individual practice association health maintenance organizations that arrange for the provision of both basic and supplemental health services to their members. Any physician or provider can make application to participate in the HMO Blue Texas and/or Blue Advantage HMO networks, at BCBSTX, 3300 N. A Street, Bldg. 8, Ste. #120, Midland, Texas 79705 or Fax: 432-620-1428 from January 15, 2016, until February 3, 2016.

Legal & Public Notices

Notice to Phyaicians and Providers (per TAC § 11.1402)

SHA, L.L.C. dba FirstCare, 12940 N. Hwy 183, Austin, TX 78750, a basic health service, individual practice model health maintenance organization will accept written applications during the period of February 1, 2016, through February 20, 2016, from physicians and providers who wish to participate in the FirstCare network. Applicants must meet FirstCare's practice standards and qualifications for acceptance. Applicants will be notified in writing of acceptance or non-acceptance within 90 days after FirstCare receives an application for participation. Applications should be sent to the attention of the Provider Relations Department.

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of James Albert Bradshaw, Deceased, were issued on December 22, 2015. Cause No. P18526, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to Rita Kay Bradshaw, Independent Executor, whose residential address is 5202 Thomason Drive, Midland, TX 79703.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law, in care of the Executor.

DATED the 12th day of January, 2016.

COTTON, BLEDSOE, TIGHE & DAWSON, P.C.
P. O. Box 2776
Midland, Texas 79702
(432) 684-5782
(432) 682-3672 (FAX)

By: Robert H. Dawson
State Bar No. 05606000
bdawson@cbtd.com

ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

Legal & Public Notices

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MIDLAND DIVISION

In re:	§	Chapter 11
	§	
CCNG ENERGY PARTNERS, LP,	§	Case No. 15-70136
CCNG ENERGY PARTNERS GP, LLC,	§	Case No. 15-70141
MOSS BLUFF PROPERTY, LLC,	§	Case No. 15-70137
TRINITY ENVIRONMENTAL	§	
CATARINA SWD, LLC,	§	Case No. 15-70138
TRINITY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, LLC,	§	Case No. 15-70139
TRINITY ENVIRONMENTAL SWD, LLC,	§	Case No. 15-70135
AND TRINITY ENVIRONMENTAL	§	
TITAN TRUCKING, LLC	§	Case No. 15-70140
	§	
Debtors.	§	Jointly Administered

TO: ALL PERSONS AND ENTITIES WITH CLAIMS AGAINST ANY OF THE DEBTORS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the above-captioned debtors and debtors-in-possession (collectively, the "Debtors") filed voluntary petitions for relief under Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code") in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Texas, Midland Division (the "Court") on October 12, 2015 (the "Petition Date"). The Debtors are operating their businesses and managing their property as debtors-in-possession pursuant to Sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.

Pursuant to order of the Court entered on January 6, 2016 and except as otherwise provided herein, all persons and entities, including, without limitation, individuals, partnerships, corporations, estates and trusts (each a "Creditor" and, collectively, the "Creditors"), holding or wishing to assert claims (as defined in section 101(5) of the Bankruptcy Code, collectively, the "Claims") against one or more of the Debtors arising on and before the Petition Date are required to file a separate, completed and executed proof of claim (the "Proof of Claim") on account of any Claims such Creditors hold or wish to assert against the Debtors, on or before **February 4, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. Central Time** (the "Bar Date"). Each Proof of Claim should be completed on a proof of claim form conforming substantially to Official Bankruptcy Form No. 10.

All governmental units (as defined by Section 101(27) of the Bankruptcy Code, the "Governmental Units") holding or wishing to assert Claims against the Debtors are required to file a separate, completed and executed Proof of Claim on account of any Claims such Governmental Units wish to assert against the Debtors, on or before **February 4, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. Central Time** (the "Governmental Unit Bar Date," together with the Bar Date, the "Bar Dates").

Each proof of claim or interest must be written in English and be denominated in United States currency. All proofs of claim or interest must be filed so as to be actually filed on or before 5:00 p.m. Central Time on **February 4, 2016** with the Bankruptcy Court's docket or received by the Bankruptcy Court at the following address:

United States Bankruptcy Court
615 E. Houston Street, Room 597
San Antonio, TX 78205
Telephone: (210) 472-6720

ANY HOLDER OF A CLAIM OR INTEREST THAT IS NOT EXCEPTED FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE BAR DATE ORDER, AS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 9 OF THE BAR DATE ORDER, AND THAT FAILS TO TIMELY FILE A PROOF OF CLAIM OR INTEREST IN THE APPROPRIATE FORM WILL BE, FOREVER BARRED, ESTOPPED AND ENJOINED FROM ASSERTING SUCH CLAIM AGAINST OR INTEREST IN THE DEBTORS, THEIR SUCCESSORS, THEIR CHAPTER 11 ESTATES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE PROPERTY OR FILING A PROOF OF CLAIM OR INTEREST WITH RESPECT TO SUCH CLAIM OR INTEREST, FROM VOTING ON ANY PLAN OF REORGANIZATION FILED IN THESE CASES AND FROM PARTICIPATING IN ANY DISTRIBUTION IN THE DEBTORS' CASES ON ACCOUNT OF SUCH CLAIM OR INTEREST OR RECEIVING FURTHER NOTICES REGARDING SUCH CLAIM OR INTEREST.

General Announcements

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ. Teach the Lords' Word 1-4

THANK YOU St. Expedite.

Lost & Found

APPLE COMPUTER & camera equipment taken from SUV at LaQuinta on Loop 250. Reward. No questions ask. 432-689-1562

LOST 7 mo. old gray & white kitten with blue eye. Near corner of Wadley & Whitney. 432-559-2235.

LOST BROWN Siamese male cat. Vicinity of Henderson School. Bentwood & Graceland. If found please call 432-296-2081

Fax Your Classified Ad In Today! 682-6999

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

CADALLIC 2006 CTS good condition, black, $6,200. See at 2109 Western Drive, Midland, TX. 432-238-0614

FORD 1997 Taurus, good condition, new tires & battery, asking $1800. Call 432-528-1029

NISSAN 2012 JUKE SL only 20,100 miles!!! Garage kept and loaded with everything, 5 yr Extended warranty included. Excelient condition! Only $14,500. Call 432-230-2573

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO PHYSICIANS and PROVIDERS

Applications for participation in DentiCare, Inc.'s network of general and specialty dental commercial providers will be accepted March 1, 2016 through March 20, 2016. All applications will be reviewed and responses will be made within 90 days of receipt. To request an application, or for further information please write: Humana, Attention: Specialty Networks-Den, N19 W24133 Riverwood Drive, Suite 100, Waukesha, WI 53188, or email your request to: dentalrecruitment@humana.com.

Legal & Public Notices

Notice to Physicians and Providers

The following healthcare organizations are accepting applications for physicians and providers who wish to become contracted physicians and providers during the period of **February 1, 2016 through February 20, 2016.** UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, offered by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Texas, L.L.C. is a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) located at 14141 Southwest Freeway, Suite 800, Sugar Land, TX 77478, offers Medicaid Managed Care (STAR and STAR+PLUS) and Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP). UnitedHealthcare of Texas, Inc. and UnitedHealthcare Benefits of Texas, Inc. both locatéd at 1311 W. President George Bush Highway, Richardson, TX 75080 offer basic health care service Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) plans. United HealthCare Insurance Company and PacifiCare Life and Health Insurance Company offer Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) and Exclusive Provider Organizations (EPOs). Applicants must meet practice standards, qualifications and other participatory criteria established by the HMO and/or PPO/EPO's. To initiate the application process, have your tax ID number available and please call 1-877-842-3210. Select the following prompt: 4) Credentialing.

Passenger Cars

SATURN 2008 Aura LE Sedan, 77K miles, new tires. $5000. Call 432-853-0110.

Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. 432-685-4078

Antique & Vintage

86 Camaro IROC-Z T-tops. As seen on E-bay. $5,000. 432-559-0692.

Pickup Trucks

FORD, 2008 Ranger, $11,000. 53,500 miles, dark grey, excellent condition, bed liner & locked cover, clean title. Call or text Mike 432-664-6924

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Pickup Trucks

TOYOTA 2008 Tundra, exterior black, cloth seat, all power, AC, automatic, 5.7 V8, grill guard, Rhino lined bed, running boards tool box. 91K miles. Asking $15,500 432-254-1007

4WD & SUV

LEXUS 1995 SC400 135k miles, runs but needs work $1,500 OBO 432-238-8480

TOYOTA 2008 Highlander Hybrid. Pearl White, leather seats, great condition. 198K. Asking $10,000. Call 432-557-2869

RVs

RV PARK spaces between Midland & Stanton, quiet, clean, & safe. Adults only please. 432-238-3937

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Estate Sales

CHARLES & WYNON ROGERS MOVING SALE
1206 SHIRLEY LANE
THURS. 9-3 FRI. 9-3 SAT. 9-1
PLEASE DO NOT BLOCK DRIVEWAYS
NO CHILDREN PLEASE - FRAGILE ITEMS.

WOW!!! This home is filled with almost new high-end, designer furniture - Maitland Smith, Marge Carson, Lillian August, etc.
an awesome 8 ft. dining table inlaid with turquoise, six leather high back dining chairs, beautiful wall unit, TV armoire, sleeper sofa, 4 ft. square woven leather ottoman, Bombe chest, oversized chair, king pineapple bed, pair of bedside chests, Lillian August sofa, king bed with scroll design, black kidney shaped desk, Herman Miller desk chair, upholstered ottoman, 10 drawer oak map cabinet, drafting table, pair of arm chairs, 2 leather recliners, gorgeous twin pineapple beds and more.
We will also have available the remaining jewelry from MARY HUNTER'S sale.
MISCELLANEOUS: Oriental type rugs, glassware, lamps, Dyson vacuums, Tempurpedic bedding, beautiful duvets and decorative pillows, 2 12' decorative palm trees, clocks including a Ridgeway case clock, designer clothing, linens, stand alone Kyocera color copier, printer, scanner & fax machine, maps, small wine chiller, flatware, mirrors, fine art prints and giclees & more.
See photos at EstateSales.NET
JUDY JACKSON'S ESTATE SALES
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Estate Sales

Ethel Clark Estate Sale
1408 W. Pine - Midland
Thurs. - Fri. 10 - 6
Sat. 10 - 3

Chippendale Style dining room table & chairs, Thomasville buffet, Gilt curio, large secretary, sofa table, sofa, plant stands, coffee table, stools, antique chairs, 4 drawer chest, French Provincial dresser & nightstand, small Italian style tables, wicker table, large mirrors, Mahogany desk, sofa-bed, Marble style mantel, Stain glass floor lamp, Wing chairs, queen size bed, Thomasville 9 drawer chest, mirror & nightstands, Eastlake dresser, garden furniture, Bakers rack, (Paintings by W.B. Franklin, Violet, Christopher Fars, E.B. Weyman), needlepoint, Bell pulls, lamps, Tapestry suit cases, jewelry boxes, music boxes, Christmas, full length Ranch Mink, linens, Flintridge, Oneida, Royal Worcester Eversham, Pressed glass, Bisque figure, Cloisonne boxes,crystal, wall sconce, Brass, Jade tree, kitchen misc., Pyrex, clothing, purses, estate jewelry, pillows, Pigs, Cats, Costume jewelry, bookshelves, (books including cook, Princess Diana & Royals, Jackie O, Religious, Texas, cookbooks, Americana) and too much more to mention.
Services provided by The Cat's Meow
Visa, MC, AMEX accepted.
Please No Children
See photo's on estatesale.net

Recreational Vehicles

2015 ROYAL TRAVEL 5th wheel. 39 ft. 2 bedroom, 4 slides, island kitchen, king bed, garden tub, 3 ACs, washer/dryer, loaded with upgrades $41,500 OBO 682-712-3574

Garage -Estate & Yard Sales

Yard & Garage Sales

79703

4703 BOWIE Drive Thursday 7am-? 3 family sale, twin bedding, lots of womens clothing & misc.

Classified CAN 682-6222

Antiques

AKC SCOTTISH TERRIER PUPPIES for sale. Adorable black beauties, born 12-06-15. Credit cards accepted. Call 325-207-0042

Appliances

AAA Appliance 15 minute pickup. 432-556-0104 / 432-528-3046

Free Stuff

FREE PUPPIES to a good home. Adorable 12 1/2 weeks olds. 2 females. Lab/ shepard mix. 432-230-2763

FREE to good home. 2 AKC registered chocolate labs. Ages 11 & 12. 432-687-0304

FREE WOODEN PALLETS!
Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

MOVING BOXES 100 plus just come pick up. Call Steve at 432-559-6028.

Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE
by Lamar Coats
2824 Haynes
Saturday, 9:00am-12:00pm
75% off

3 sofas, coffee table, dining table, skirted tables, small chest, glassware, prints, paintings, jewelry, surger, books & more
432-694-5103

Sporting Goods

AUCTION #2016-003

AN online auction of Midland College surplus property will be held by Rene Bates Auctioneers, Inc. The auction will begin on Thursday, January 14, 2016 and close on Wednesday, January 27, 2016. Items will be available for viewing and bidding on the auctioneers website
http://www.renebates.com
The College will be auctioning treadmills. For additional information, contact Barbara Fennell, Director of Purchasing, (432) 686-4250 or bfennell@midland.edu. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all auction bids. For a complete list of instructions, or to participate in the online auction go to http://www.renebates.com

Miscellaneous for Sale

KEN'S RV SALES
5904 W. Hwy 80 • Midland, TX 79706
432-697-6447 • kensrvs.com
LARGEST SELECTION OF USED TRAILERS IN THE BASIN
TRY US ONCE YOU'LL BE BACK
TOY HAULERS FIFTH WHEEL GO RVing BUMPER PULLS MOTORHOMES
8:30-5:30 Mon.-Fri. • 9-3 Sat.

Furniture

For Sale-Invacare Semi Electric Hospital Bed $350. Sprague & Carleton Solid Rock Maple Kitchen Table and 6 Chairs with Hutch $800. Encore Oak Roll Top Desk $200. Broyhill End Table $50. For more information, call (432) 413-8583

Miscellaneous for Sale

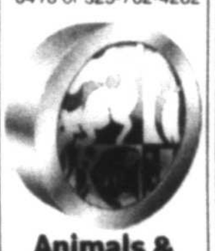
NEW TODAY!

19" TV for $20. 20" rims & tires for $500. Chandelier $20. Call 432-813-9211

FOR SALE Bridal shop merchandise. Chair covers, sashes, table clothes, various sizes of vases, flowers. Call 432-741-9829 to view.

MODINE WAREHOUSE gas heater $175, steel self dumping hopper, forklift accessible $175, 17" floor buffer with attachment pads $125. 432-352-8419.

OAK, PECAN, mesquite, pinon, 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4262



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

1/14/16

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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit ***www.sudoku.org.uk***

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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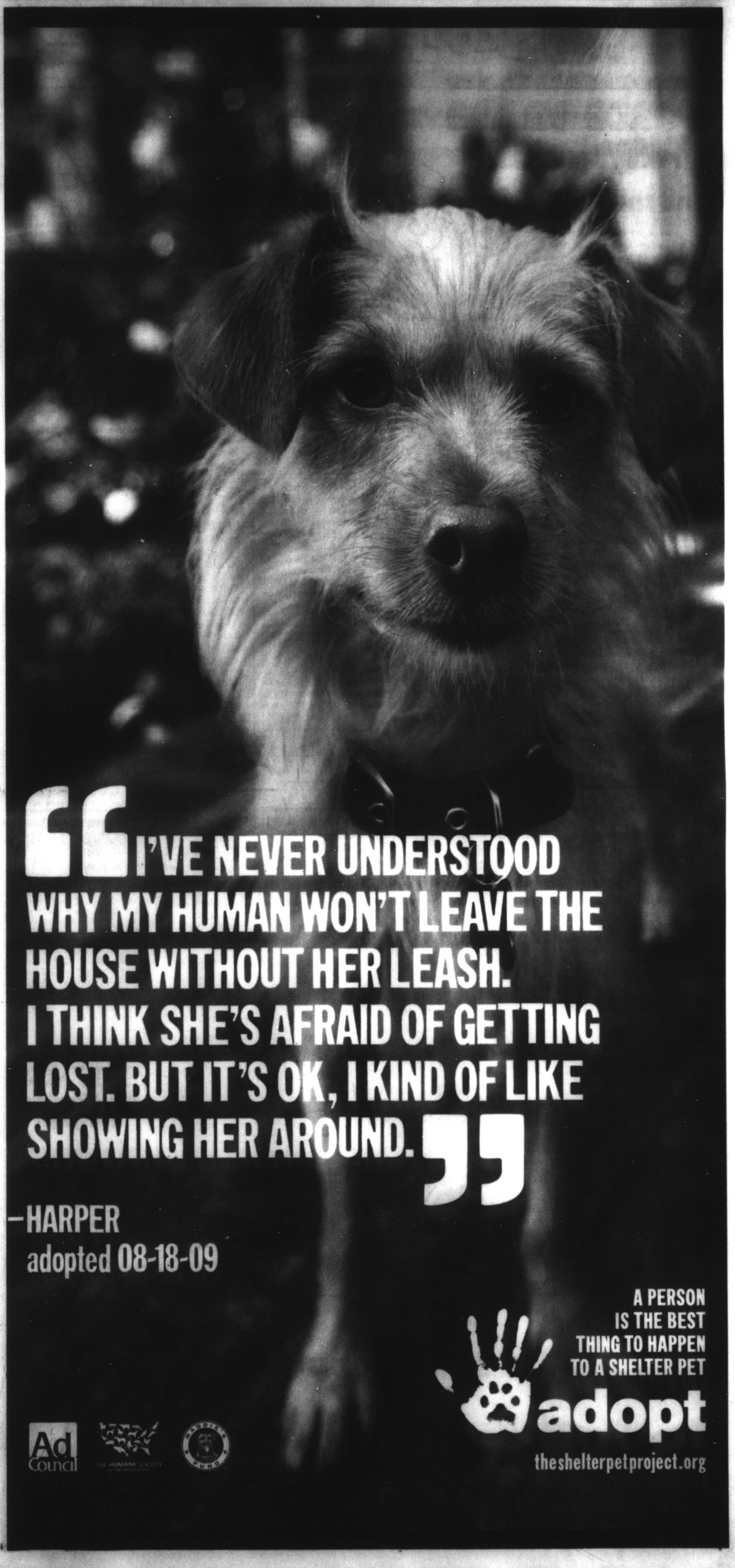
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Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Peace on the Playground

Bullying makes playgrounds, schools and even neighborhoods feel unsafe for some children. This week, in honor of Martin Luther King's message of peace, *Kid Scoop* looks at ways children can help themselves and others be safe on the playground.

Find the Bully

You can't tell a bully by his or her looks. You can tell who is a bully by the way he or she acts. Here are some of the things a bully might do:

- Hit, kick or push to hurt people.
- Call others bad names, tease or scare people.
- Say mean things about someone.
- Grab someone else's stuff.
- Leave a kid out of a game on purpose.
- Threaten another kid.

What else have you seen bullies do?

Standards Link: Health: Make decisions about feelings and safety issues that support mental and emotional health.

Bully Clues:

The bully is not wearing a hat. The bully isn't wearing a striped shirt. The bully is not wearing glasses. Which kid is the bully?

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow written directions.

A World of Bullies

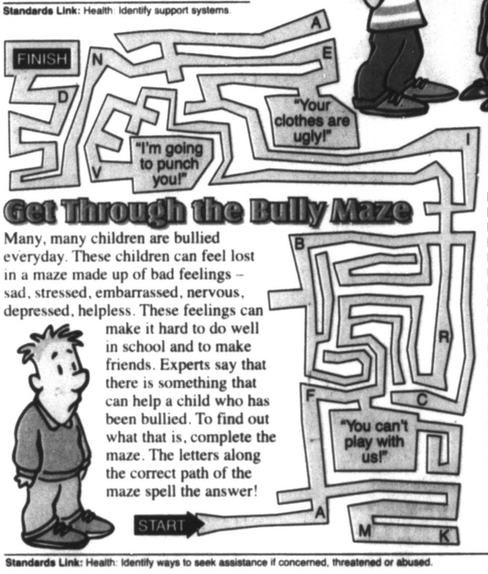
Bullying is a problem in schools all around the world. Kid Scoop found information from anti-bullying programs in Scotland, Australia and Canada as well as the United States.

Standards Link: Health: Identify support systems.

Action Plan

Bullying hurts. It hurts a lot. Bullying can make kids feel sick. It can make them not want to go to school. And no one likes to watch other kids getting picked on. No one likes a bully.

Stan is the shortest boy in the fourth grade. Greg, the tallest boy, picks on him every day. Abby and Eric are tired of watching this. What could Stan do or say? What could Eric do or say? What could Abby do or say? What does everyone want Greg to do?



Get Through the Bully Maze

Many, many children are bullied everyday. These children can feel lost in a maze made up of bad feelings – sad, stressed, embarrassed, nervous, depressed, helpless. These feelings can make it hard to do well in school and to make friends. Experts say that there is something that can help a child who has been bullied. To find out what that is, complete the maze. The letters along the correct path of the maze spell the answer!

Standards Link: Health: Identify ways to seek assistance if concerned, threatened or abused.

Who Can Help You?

Make a list of people you can talk to if you are being bullied. Cut the list out and keep it with you.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Extra! Extra!

Anti-Bully Armor

When you feel good about yourself, you're less likely to be hurt by what others say. Take a little time to build up your anti-bully armor. What is anti-bully armor? Feeling good about yourself! Look through the newspaper for words and pictures that show something that is good about you. Glue these onto a sheet of paper titled: **What's good about ME!** Post it where you can see it everyday.

Standards Link: Health: Develop and use effective coping strategies.

How to Deal with Bullies

- **Pretend not to hear.** Instead listen to your own [redacted] and tell yourself, "That's their problem, not [redacted]" and "I'm OK just the way I am."
- **Find a safe [redacted] to talk to.** Make a list of people you could talk to about being bullied or about [redacted] you have seen others being bullied.
- **Be a buddy.** Kids who are alone are more likely to be bullied. Make a plan to walk with a [redacted] wherever you think you might meet a bully.
- **Don't bully back.** Getting angry and [redacted] back sometimes is just what the bully wants. It's dangerous too, because someone could get hurt.

A bully scribbled over some of the words in our list of tips! Find the missing word or words in each tip.

fighting
friend
mine
person
times
thoughts

Standards Link: Health: Develop protective factors that help foster resiliency.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

PLAYGROUND
PEACE
BULLIES
HURTS
NERVOUS
THREATEN
HELP
BUILD
FRIEND
TEASE
ARMOR
GAME
FEELINGS
PATH
MEAN

P	E	F	E	E	L	I	N	G	S
D	N	U	O	R	G	Y	A	L	P
L	S	H	N	A	E	M	A	C	D
I	U	T	H	R	E	A	T	E	N
U	O	A	E	E	S	O	E	A	E
B	V	P	C	N	T	T	A	R	I
H	R	A	P	L	R	A	S	M	R
S	E	I	L	L	U	B	E	O	F
P	N	P	L	E	H	Y	G	R	O

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognizing identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Bullies in the News

Look through the newspaper for an article that portrays a person or a group of people who are hurting other people. Could this also be called bullying? Identify who in the article you think is the bully and who is being bullied.

Standards Link: Health: Recognize and respond appropriately to situations involving destructive behaviors.

Why did the teacher wear sunglasses?

ANSWER: Because her class was so bright!

Weekly Writing Corner

Kids Help Kids

Students describe how they handle a disagreement and provide ideas to solve disagreements.

There's a boy in another class who is always picking a fight. Everyone knows that he is a troublemaker. I try to avoid him when I can. I go to a different part of the playground and I don't stand next to him in the lunch line.

Jake,
3rd grade

I argue with my little sister a lot. I love her but she's three years younger than me and she can be spoiled. She likes to take my things and I really don't like that. I try to be nice to her but if we really can't get on, I go get my mom and she usually makes everything right.

Rebecca,
5th grade

At my school, if someone behaves badly, they have to sit in the bench through the whole time of recess. Kids need to learn to respect each other and not to pick fights.It's no fun to sit out recess.

Gloria,
4th grade

Sometimes I have a disagreement with my friends. My friends are not always nice to me. When I get home from school, I tell my mom and she gives me a hug. I stay away from my friends for a while but after a day or two days, I forget about the problem and we play together again.

Casey,
3rd grade

My advice to kids who are having a disagreement is to try to have some respect for each other. They should listen to the other person and then state their point of view without being mean or rude. If you respect the other person, you can usually come up with a solution.

Vicky,
7th grade

If someone if being mean to me, I go and sit somewhere quiet and I stay away from that person.

Josh,
4th grade

I always tell a yard duty person if someone is being mean. They make the kids stop and sometimes they send them to the principal.

Rachel,
4th grade

If you're having an argument over something, then it might be an idea to take turns or do something like flip a coin to decide who should go first or who gets to decide what to do. Or you can ask a yard duty to make the choice for you. It may not seem fair but that way you get on with the game and soon forget why you disagreed.

Stephen,
5th grade

At my house there are three brothers and we all like to play video games. Usually the first one home got to choose but that was always Greg and it wasn't fair and there were lots of arguments. My Mom came up with an idea. She drew out a plan so that we each had different days and different times. In the end it all worked out and we don't argue about that.

T.J.
5th grade

Write On!

Why I Read the Newspaper

Why do you like to read the newspaper? Which parts of the newspaper do you like the best?

Deadline: February 7
Published: Week of Mar. 6
Send your story to:

Newspaper In Education
201 E. Illinois
Midland, TX 79701
ljdiaz@mrt.com

Please include your school and grade.

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