

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

"For last year's words belong to last year's language
And next year's words await another voice."

T.S. Eliot

WHAT'S AHEAD IN 2014?

Some of the events expected to make news in the coming year

Parade civil lawsuit

A civil lawsuit stemming from the Nov. 15, 2012, Show of Support parade train wreck that killed four military veterans goes to trial beginning April 21 in Dallas County. The lawsuit originally was filed in Midland County in November 2012.

Victims, including widows and veterans who were injured as a result of the collision between a parade float and a Union Pacific train, filed a lawsuit against UP and Smith Industries, which provided the tractor-trailer used for the float.

The plaintiffs claimed that negligence on the part of UP and Smith Industries' contributed to the wreck. They claimed that the warning signals at the Garfield Street railroad crossing did not provide enough time.

UP claimed that the tractor-trailer crossed the railroad crossing after warning signals were activated. UP also named the city of Midland, Midland County and Show of Support as responsible third parties that contributed to the wreck.



Construction

Wall Street Lofts in downtown, the latest subdivisions from D.R. Horton and Betenbough Homes, several new apartments and subdivision expansions across Midland are in progress and are set to open up this year.

The city estimates that about 2,000 apartment units are expected to open by the spring. And in 2013, the city issued 700 new housing permits this year, a 20 percent increase year-over-year.

In the wake of a housing shortage, the city has begun outsourcing tasks to companies outside of Midland to expedite several departments and divisions including the planning division.

As Colliers International continues to sign 10- to 15-year leasing contracts with tenants for Energy Tower at City Center, co-developers Energy Related Properties and Wexford Capital are expected to tell the city of Midland later this year that they are ready to build the 53-story skyscraper.

ERP's due diligence period ends Sept. 30. At that time if developers tell the city they are confident in moving the project forward, the city will then transfer ownership of the City Center block to ERP. If ERP says otherwise, the city could then deny transfer of the deed or they could grant developers monthly extensions up to nine months at a cost of \$100,000 per month.

Inside

OUR VIEW: 2014 offers clean slate, great expectations for our community.

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Once ERP owns the land, the project — including the demolition of the former Midland County Courthouse — will begin, perhaps by the end of 2014. Close to 1,000 construction workers are expected to work on the tower construction.

Energy Tower has an expected completion date of late 2015 to early 2016.

Water issues

Effective today, water rates increased \$1.45-\$2.55 per thousand gallons while the sewer rate decreased \$0.17. But now a \$0.71 per thousand-gallons rate is included.

The city began to examine water rates after its water and sewer fund was \$6 million short for fiscal year 2014, a trend from fiscal year 2013. A statewide drought and subsequent decreased residential usage led to the shortfall.

Water rates

Base charge (includes first 2,000 gallons) - \$17.50
Apartment monthly base rate per unit (includes first 2,000 gallons) - \$14.25
Gallons 2,001 - 10,000 - \$4.95 per 1,000 gallons
Gallons 10,001 - 25,000 - \$6.50 per 1,000 gallons
Gallons more than 25,000 - \$8.75 per 1,000 gallons
Residential only more than 50,000 gallons - \$43.75 per 1,000 gallons

Sewer rates

Base charge - \$17.65 (includes first 2,000 gallons)
Gallons more than 2,000 - \$0.71 per 1,000 gallons

Midlanders became aware in April 2009 of chromium contamination in a private water well near West County Road 112 and County Road 1205 that stretches one mile from this epicenter.

And now, three years after the site became listed on the Environmental Protection Agency's National Priorities List in March 2011, the federal agency is anticipated to release a proposed cleanup plan in May and will finalize its study in September.



Politics

Though he has been unchallenged for most of his career, state Sen. Kel Seliger, of Amarillo, will have to prepare for a campaign this year as he faces former Midland Mayor Mike Canon, who is embarking in statewide politics for the first time.

The race could become a territorial one, as Seliger may claim the north, and Canon may claim the south.

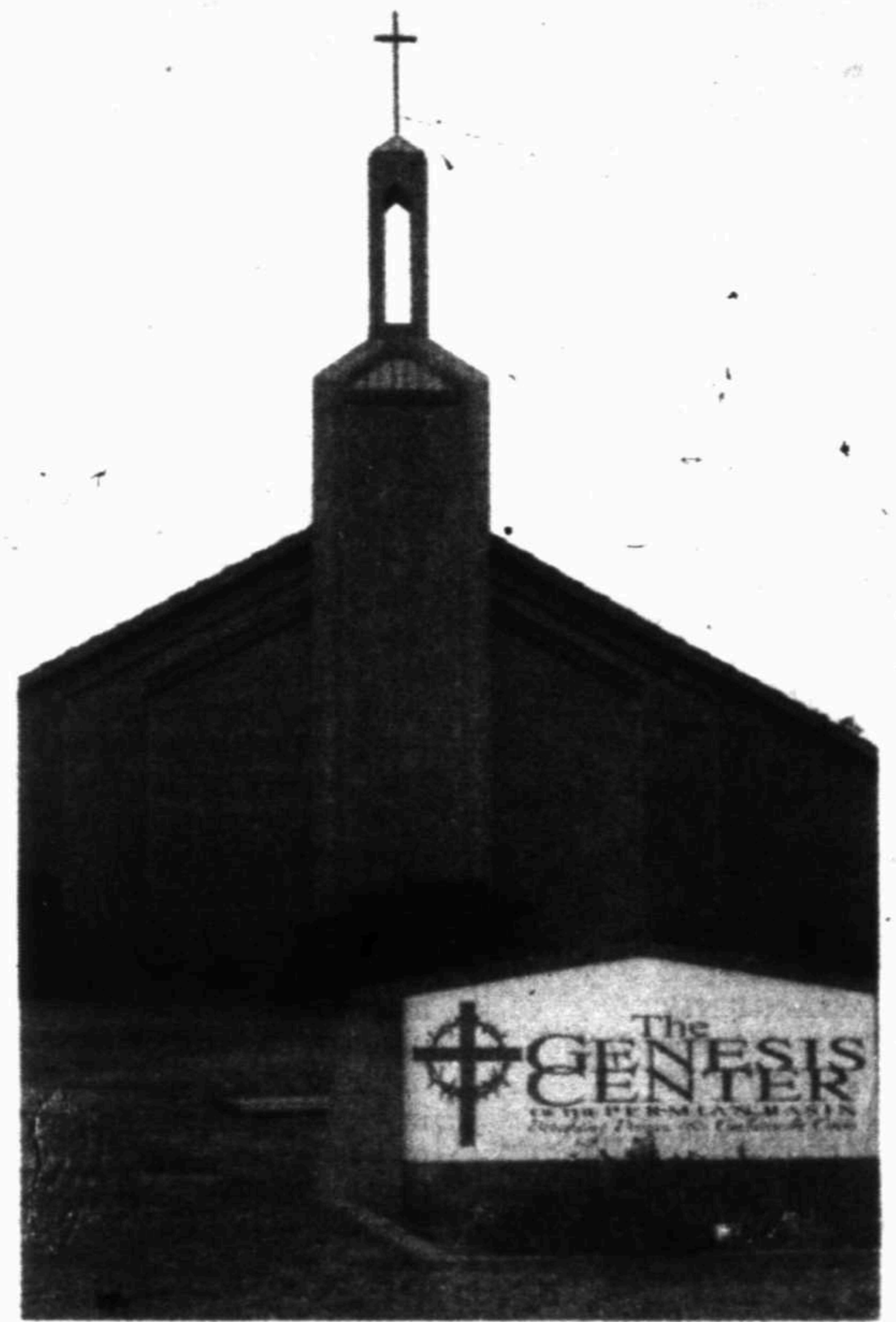
Both Republican candidates have discussed examining each other's track records. Former opponents of Seliger have criticized the senator for not being fiscally conservative, while Seliger has made subtle remarks on Canon's mayoral tenure.

The Republican primary elections will take place on March 4.

County Judge Mike Bradford and former county Tax Assessor and Collector Kathy Reeves will face off in the March 4 Republican Primary elections.

Bradford has been in the county judge seat since January 2007 and is looking to stay in place for four more years. Reeves has worked for the county for 30 years.

In their respective campaigns, both candidates may be addressing the county's \$65 million fund balance, as well as what their proposals will be for deteriorating county roads.



Nonprofits

Set to open this week is Midland Shared Spaces, a venture in which several nonprofit organizations are being housed in the same building and will share administrative and building costs.

Abell-Hanger Foundation spearheaded the project and purchased the building that was the former location of Hillcrest School.

MSS tenants are Agape Ministries, CampFire, Family Promise, Keep Midland Beautiful, Midland Area AIDS Support, Midland Opera Theatre, Midland Shared Spaces, Mission Adult Day Services, Nonprofit Management Center, Recording Library of West Texas, Safe Place and SHARE.

Because of contributions from local donors, MSS is debt-free, said Vicki Jay, executive director.

A community open house will be held later this month. The Genesis Center of the Permian Basin will open its doors soon.

Plans are being made for a new Salvation Army shelter and a West Texas Food Bank facility in Midland.

Education

Talk about a secondary schools bond for Midland ISD may begin early this year if trustees plan to call a May bond election.

Trustees held seven town hall meetings last fall to gain input on the district's future configuration and needs.

Superintendent Ryder Warren had made known his desire to build two new high schools, one on the southwest side of town and the other in east Midland, during this fall's town hall meetings regarding secondary schools.

No decision has been made whether MISD will add a third comprehensive high school or build a replacement campus for Midland High School outside of downtown.

Midland College trustees got their first look at a \$50 million master plan to bring new academic and community facilities to the campus.

Please see 2014/4A



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Natural Gas	\$4.230	▼	\$0.019
Gasoline	\$0.074	▼	\$0.000



Ken Herman

Be on the lookout for missing Capitol marker.
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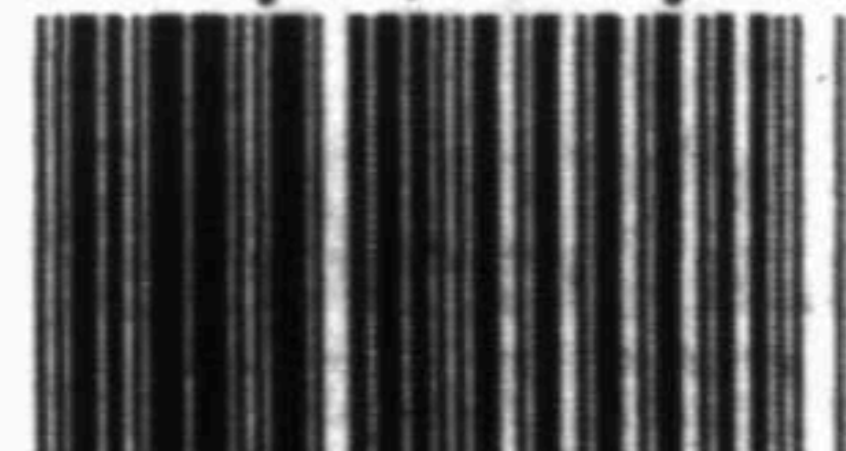
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Girl declared brain dead remains on life support

Associated Press
OAKLAND, Calif. — A 13-year-old California girl declared brain dead after tonsil surgery remained on life support Tuesday after a state judge gave her family at least another week to find a place to move her.
Doctors at Children's Hospital Oakland want to take Jahi McMath off the machines that are keeping her body functioning, saying she will never recover. Her family wants to continue life support, saying they have hope she will still pull through.
Jahi's mother, Nailah Winkfield, hailed the judge's decision to give them until Jan. 7 before allowing the hospital to

withdraw life support as an answer to her prayers and a sign that she has been right to keep fighting for the teen.
With television cameras clustered outside the hospital, the family maintained a vigil as the Monday deadline approached.
When Winkfield heard of the judge's decision to push back the deadline, she wept and hugged relatives outside the hospital.
"Who wants to know the date and the time their child would die?" Winkfield said. "I don't care what anyone has to say about what I'm doing. ... I have to do what is right for me and for Jahi."
She said she does not believe her daughter is dead because her heart is still

beating.
Shortly before a previous ruling would have allowed doctors to end life support at 5 p.m. Monday, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Evelio Grillo ordered the hospital to keep Jahi on a ventilator until Jan. 7 to give the family time to file a petition in state appellate court.
Grillo's ruling Monday is the latest twist in a harrowing legal and medical fight that has reignited a heated debate about when life support should end for a severely brain-damaged person.
Also on Monday, the family's lawyer filed suit in federal court, requesting that the hospital be compelled to perform a

tracheotomy for breathing and to insert a feeding tube — procedures that would allow Jahi to be transferred to a facility willing to care for her. The hospital has said it's unethical to perform surgery on a person who is legally dead.
Sam Singer, a hospital spokesman, said it would comply with the judge's new order but would oppose any efforts by Jahi's family to convince a court that she is still alive and entitled to the same rights as a living person.
"We are hopeful we will be successful so this tragedy can end," Singer said.
He also dismissed claims by Jahi's relatives that she has shown signs of life, saying any muscle activity

was an involuntary muscle reflex.
The family's lawyer, Christopher Dolan, said when he called Jahi's mother at the hospital about the extension of the deadline, she said hospital staff had cleared family members out of a waiting room as doctors prepared to remove Jahi from the ventilator.
"He's giving us a meaningful opportunity to seek relief and what I consider a stay of execution," Dolan said of the judge's ruling. "I feel like I'm a death row lawyer, and it does not feel good."
The attorney said he knows he has been widely criticized by some for giving the girl's family a false sense of hope.

Pot, guns and paparazzi: New laws run gamut in US

Associated Press
The new year is bringing a host of new laws taking effect in January or thereabouts. A look at some state and local laws that are making news:

ALCOHOL AND MARIJUANA

COLORADO, MAINE AND WASHINGTON: Colorado pot stores open Jan. 1 as retailers usher in the nation's first legal recreational pot industry. Sales in Washington, which also legalized recreational marijuana, are expected to start later in the year. The laws still fly in the face of federal drug rules, but the federal government has said it's not going to fight to shut down pot shops for now. A law legalizing recreational marijuana went into effect in early December in Portland, Maine, but it's largely symbolic because the state has said it will continue to enforce its own ban.

ILLINOIS: It becomes the 20th state to legalize medical marijuana in a pilot project with some of the strictest standards in the nation. However, it may take more than a year to actually buy marijuana as separate state agencies draft rules that must be approved by a legislative committee.

WISCONSIN: Towns and cities may legalize pedal pubs, multiple-person bicycles that ferry rid-

ers to and from taverns. A driver steers while multiple riders sit at a bar mounted behind him, each with his or her own pedal-and-chain assembly.

TRANSGENDER RIGHTS

CALIFORNIA: It becomes the first state to give specific rights to transgender students starting in January unless opponents show they have gathered enough petition signatures to put a referendum before voters seeking to overturn the law. It lets transgender students choose which restroom to use and whether to play on boys' or girls' sports teams. Critics say that violates the privacy of other students.

GUNS

CONNECTICUT: Guns that are considered assault weapons and large-capacity ammunition magazines that haven't been registered with Connecticut authorities will be considered illegal contraband as of Jan. 1. The law was passed in April in response to the massacre that left 26

people dead at Newtown's Sandy Hook Elementary School.

NEW YORK: The state's new gun law, passed shortly after the Sandy Hook shooting, already banned high-capacity magazines and the purchase or sale of popular AR-15 semi-automatic rifles. By April 15, it will also require registration of weapons now classified as assault weapons by owners who previously bought them legally.

PAPARAZZI

CALIFORNIA: Photographers who harass celebrities and their children face tougher penalties under a law backed by actresses Halle Berry and Jennifer Garner, who testified in favor of it. Berry told lawmakers her daughter has been intimidated by aggressive photographers who follow them daily. Those who take photos and video of a child without consent and in a harassing manner could face up to a year in county jail and a fine of up to \$10,000. They also can be sued for

damages and attorney's fees under the new law, which media organizations opposed. Supporters say it also will help protect the children of police officers, judges and others who might be targets because of their parents' occupations.

IMMIGRATION

NEVADA: Immigrants living in the United States without legal permission can apply for driver authorization cards starting Jan. 2. State officials anticipate tens of thousands of people will apply under the program.

MARYLAND: In a program similar to Nevada's, immigrants living in the U.S. illegally will be able to obtain a state driver's license or identification card if they can provide evidence of a filed state income tax return or were claimed as a dependent for each of the preceding two years.

HEALTH COSTS

MAINE: Health care providers will have to provide patients who request it a list of prices of the most

common health services and procedures, a law designed to boost transparency around medical costs.

DELAWARE: The state will limit patient copays for "specialty tier" prescription drugs to \$150 a month for up to a 30-day supply.

WORKING AND WAGES

OHIO: The minimum wage for untipped employees rises from \$7.85 to \$7.95 an hour, while tipped employees will go from \$3.93 to \$3.98 an hour, plus tips.

CALIFORNIA: The minimum wage is being boosted to \$9 an hour starting in July, the first of two dollar-an-hour boosts that will push the base minimum wage to \$10 by 2016, making it one of the nation's highest minimums. Under another bill, domestic workers will have to be paid time and a half if they work more than nine hours in a day or more than 45 hours in a week; baby sitters are exempt.

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2013 headlines spotlight disorder, fuel distrust

By Adam Geller
Associated Press

At last, the damage done by an agonizing global recession was easing. A bitter U.S. presidential election was finally over. And as 2013 began, it seemed the year might bring news headlines offering the public some reassurance or relief.

The year started, after all, with an inauguration that held out the chance for at least a slight thaw in the nation's political deep freeze. The prospects were bolstered by economic tail winds that pushed unemployment to its lowest level in five years, lifted stocks to record highs and juiced home prices. News is never predictable, of course. But as 2013 unfolded, it seemed possible that a country worn by infighting, the toll of tough times and tragedy, might begin to find its stride.

Instead, the year's headlines were often filled with tales of dysfunction, discord and misplaced trust that added distressing new chapters to an already too-long narrative. At a time when many people say that the political system and societal institutions aren't working, the news in 2013 provided multiple sources of confirmation, both at home and abroad. It was the year that things broke down — or at least it often left many people feeling that way.

Those misgivings were validated when star cyclist Lance Armstrong and slugger Ryan Braun admitted their long, proud denials of doping were lies; by revelations of the warning signals authorities missed before the mass shooting at the Washington Navy Yard, and missed chances to save lives after a mammoth typhoon hit the Philippines; by angry street protests in Turkey, Egypt and the Ukraine and even by a new pope who acknowledged the need to clean up the Vatican.

But the dysfunction that often grabbed the headlines this year found its anchor in Washington, D.C., beginning almost immediately after President Barack Obama took the oath for his second term and a Congress supposedly mindful of the public's dissatisfaction returned to the capital.

For weeks, senators on both sides of the aisle spoke of a new willingness to come together on previously non-existent common ground and attempt to reform immigration laws.

"We have an obligation and the need to address the reality that we face," said Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., a leading voice in his party on immigration.

"Now is the time," Obama said days later.

But after the Senate passed a comprehensive bill, efforts at reform stalled in the House, putting even piecemeal changes at least temporarily out of reach.

At about the same time, with the grief of last December's school shooting in Newtown, Conn., still fresh, the White House pushed forward on its pledge to bridge divisions and shepherd reforms to gun laws through Congress. But the more time passed the more likely it seemed that lawmakers might find nothing they could agree on, until even a push to compromise on expanded background checks for gun purchases that was widely supported by voters also failed.

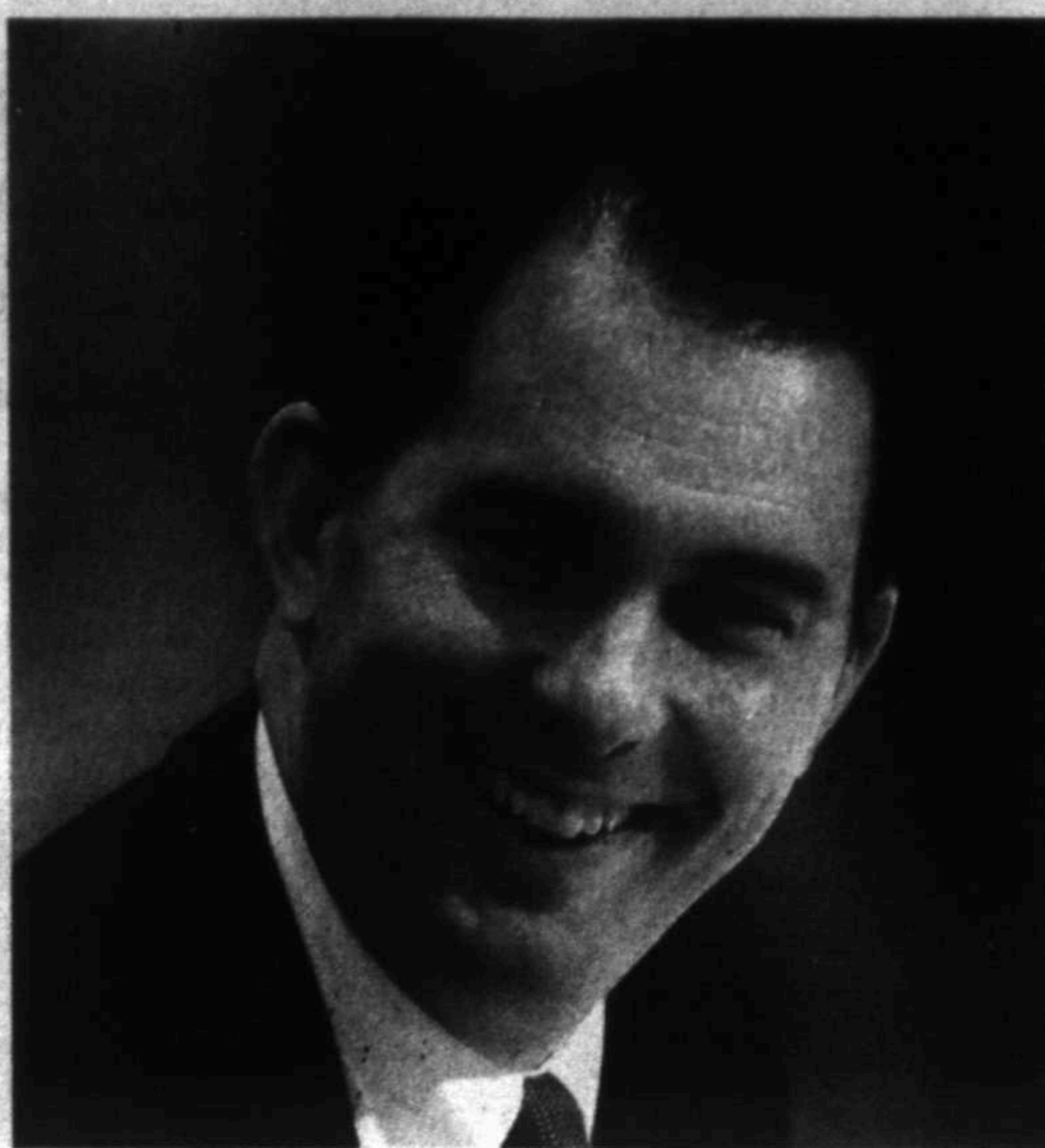
"Shame on you!" two women in the Senate gallery shouted out when the results of the vote were tallied, voicing a disgust with government that, by year's end, became the one commonality among Americans who agreed on little else. It didn't end there.

Shadows were again cast over the government's ability to act fairly and functionally when scandal enveloped the Internal Revenue Service over its intense scrutiny of conservative organizations. Later, it became clear, the agency had also screened liberal groups.

Then, in June, Americans were confronted by disturbing new questions. Ever since the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the public had largely accepted the proposition that entrusting government to keep society safe meant ceding some measure of privacy and convenience. Then, a previously unknown former National Security Agency contractor named Edward Snowden began leaking classified documents pointing to the government's broad surveillance of not just potential foreign enemies, but also America's allies and its own citizens.

Still, while critics lambasted the NSA as a symbol of government unbridled, nobody questioned that the agency was at least working. By October, many Americans counting on government for more mundane services would have been grateful for such functionality. First, the Republican-controlled House refused to fund the government without cuts in spending or delays in Obama's Affordable Care Act, resulting in a shutdown that cast a capital built on a swamp into a new morass of hot air and stagnation.

The shutdown, and the coinciding worries about whether it might soon be repeated, dominated the news even as the debut of the health care overhaul it sought to derail went largely overlooked. But when lawmakers reopened the government after more than two weeks with little, if any, discernible gain, the spotlight turned on the workings of Obama's signature law — the one that was supposed to demonstrate government's singular ability to deliver change — and found it almost entirely out of order, feeding the public's broadening and deepening sense of distrust and dismay.



Morry Gash/AP

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker is seen April 4 in Milwaukee.



Ross D. Franklin/AP

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie speaks Nov. 22 in Phoenix.

GOP looks to governors' mansions for 2016 White House potential

By David Lightman
McClatchy Washington Bureau (MCT)

WASHINGTON — Watch out for the governors as the 2016 presidential race starts to sizzle.

Talk to Republicans in Iowa, traditionally the nation's first caucus state, and they mention Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker or New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie as potential White House candidates. In New Hampshire, which usually has the country's first primaries, executive experience also comes up.

"We tend to like governors," said former New Hampshire Attorney General Tom Rath, a Republican. "We like the idea that they get things done."

Already, the 2016 presidential cycle is seeing a familiar pattern. Current and former U.S. senators, vice presidents or Cabinet secretaries do well in polls and attract big crowds and big money. They're national figures, and they're well-known.

But lurking are the governors, the doers with management experience in tough economic times. Four of the past six presidents came from statehouses: Jimmy Carter in 1976, Ronald Reagan in 1980, Bill Clinton in 1992 and George W. Bush in 2000. The last time a major presidential election didn't feature a governor on someone's ticket was in 1964.

2016 would seem like an unusually good time for a governor to run for president.

"With the deterioration of people's feelings about Washington, they look to

the states," said Timothy Hagle, an associate professor of political science at the University of Iowa. "Governors can talk about their support for legislation."

A Quinnipiac University poll taken Dec. 10-15 found Christie leading former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in Iowa by 45 to 40 percent. Independents preferred Christie by 44 to 35 percent.

That's a better showing than Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, who trailed Clinton by 1 percentage point, or Sen. Ted Cruz, whom Clinton would defeat by 8.

"Governors have accomplishments they can talk about, and they can be anti-Washington," explained Craig Robinson, the editor of The Iowa Republican Magazine.

Senators have a dilemma, he said: "You may be anti-Obama, but you're part of a system people see as dysfunctional."

Governors also like to tout their independence from party orthodoxy. Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, another potential presidential candidate, shook up a national party meeting this year when he told participants to "stop being the stupid party."

He protested: "We had a number of Republicans damage the brand this year with offensive and bizarre comments. I'm here to say we've had enough of that."

Christie has a national platform next year as the chairman of the Republican Governors Association.

That might cool the ire of many Republicans that lingers from 2012, when he embraced President Barack

Obama as the administration helped with the Superstorm Sandy cleanup.

Voters like such actions, though. "They like how every act of government doesn't have to be an ideological statement," Rath said. "The pragmatism of governing takes off some of the harder edges."

There are risks. If a governor's image sours or his policies get controversial, he loses his cachet. In Maryland, Gov. Martin O'Malley, a Democrat, is seen as a presidential hopeful. But he's been dogged in recent weeks by a balky health care exchange. Gov. Rick Perry, a candidate in 2012 who might run again in 2016, has had to defend his support for allowing undocumented immigrants to get in-state tuition at Texas colleges.

The biggest unknown today is Walker, the 46-year-old Wisconsin governor. Conservatives regard him as a hero because he took on public employee unions, diluted their right to collective bargaining and last year became the first governor in American history to survive a recall election. He came into office in 2011 facing a \$3.6 billion shortfall; the state is now in the black.

Walker has published a book, "Unintimidated," and he recently met with Washington reporters. The question about his ambitions came up, and he said, "I'm not focused on the national. I'm focused on being governor."

But he also saw an opening for a governor in 2016: "There is a real sense across America that people want an outsider." Walker was careful not to dwell on

the more incendiary social issues. "I don't apologize for that," he said of his anti-abortion-rights view, "but I don't focus on that; I don't obsess with it."

In Iowa, his name is mentioned frequently among activists. Gov. Terry Branstad called Walker "kind of a folk hero among Republicans."

On paper, Walker has a lot of appeal in a state that has much in common with Wisconsin. While Iowa Republicans and conservative, they're also practical. "He would appeal to the tea party conservative without being a tea party acolyte," said Charles Franklin, the director of the Marquette Law School poll in Wisconsin. "He can say he's not anti-government, he's for smaller government."

Walker, like other governors, faces some unique challenges. Mitt Romney learned during his 2008 and 2012 presidential runs that one's record is closely scrutinized. Romney was forever explaining how his near-universal Massachusetts health care plan differed from Obama's Affordable Care Act, which most Republicans hate. It was a hard sell.

Governors also find that styles that had special appeal to their states don't always work elsewhere. Howard Dean's energy and outspokenness worked in Vermont, but were less welcomed nationwide.

Still, the 2016-watchers warn not to forget the governors. "They bring a freshness," Rath said, "and they're out there doing things."

MSNBC host apologizes for jokes about Romney baby

Associated Press

NEW YORK — An MSNBC host is apologizing to Mitt Romney's family after she and guests on her show joked about a Christmas picture that showed the 2012 Republican presidential candidate's adopted, African-American grandson.

Melissa Harris-Perry said Tuesday her intention was to celebrate diversity, but the segment took an unexpected and offensive turn. The photo shows infant Kieran Romney with his grandparents and their 21 other grandchildren, all of them white.

One guest on her Sunday show,

actress Pia Glenn, sang "one of these things just isn't the same."

Comedian Dean Obeidallah, said it "sums up the diversity of the Republican Party."

Harris-Perry said she'd like to see Kieran marry Kanye West's daughter so West and Romney would be in-laws.

Randy's Rings

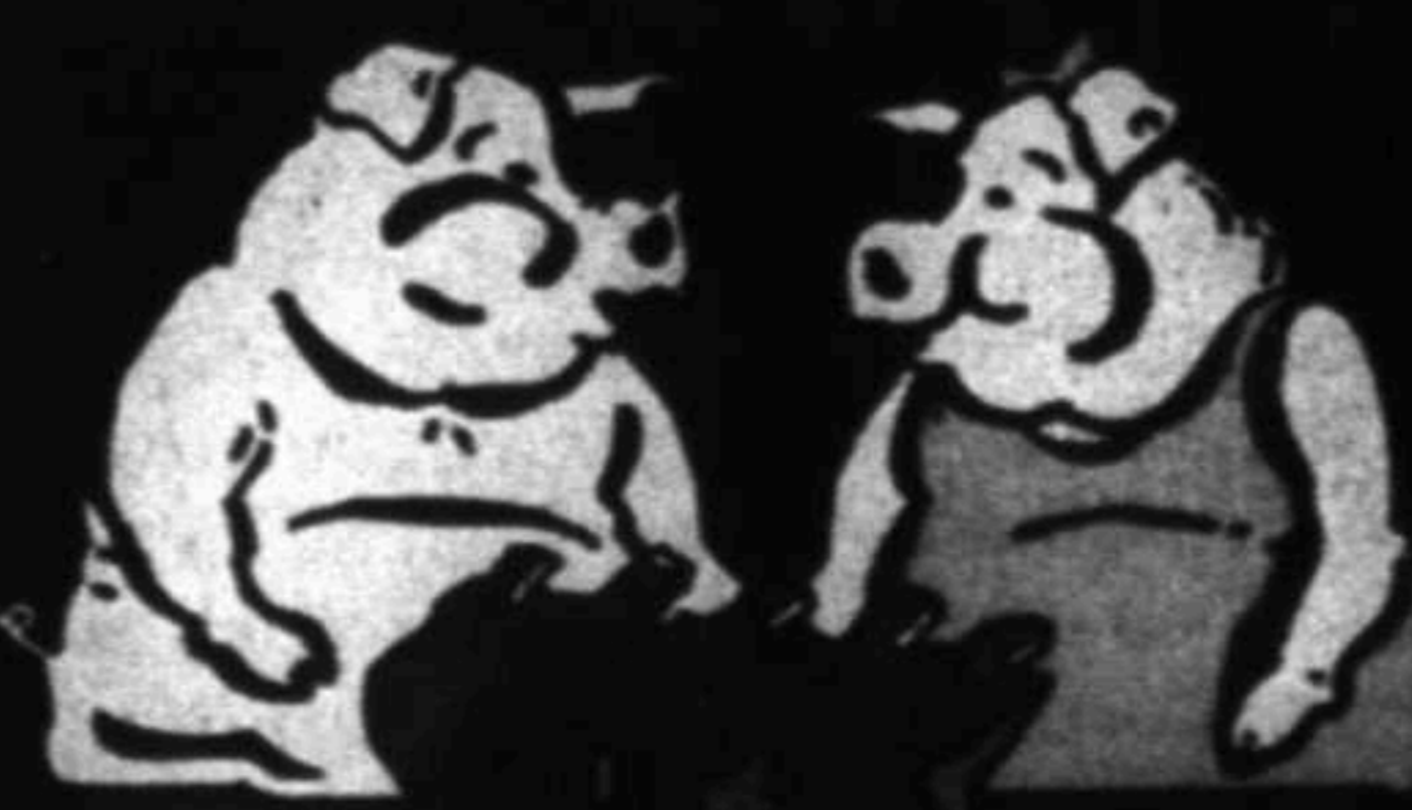
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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Today is New Year's Day

New Year's Day falls on Jan. 1 and marks the start of a new year according to the Gregorian calendar. It marks the end of New Year's Eve celebrations in the United States and gives many Americans a chance to remember the previous year.

Source: www.timeanddate.com

Support groups today

Note: Subject to change because of the holiday.

- Overeaters Anonymous: noon, B&J Plaza, 206 N. Midkiff Road, Suite 1-D; 553-1031.
- Alcoholics Anonymous — hotline 580-7868.
- Narcotics Anonymous — hotline 582-2926.

New Year's Day weather

Average high: 57
 Average low: 30
 Record high: 76 (2000 and 2006)
 Record low: 5 (1979)
 Record precipitation: 0.28 inches (1944 and 1983)
 Record snow: 2.8 inches (1983)

Source: National Weather Service

Community calendar

- The Midland Archeological Society is to meet 7 p.m. Thursday at Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. Paul Katz is to present "Irish Antiquities and Archaeoastronomy." The program is an overview of the prehistory and early history of Ireland and a look at the stone monuments that dot the countryside.
- Midland Association of Retired School Personnel will meet 11:45 a.m. Jan. 9 at First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Midland ISD Superintendent Ryder Warren is to be the guest speaker.
- Lunch is \$5 a person. To make a reservation, contact Anita at 697-1602 or apatton123@sbglobal.net.
- United Way of Midland will launch USA Fit Midland on Saturday. The program is designed to help individuals of all fitness levels to run a 5K or 10K race at the Run a K for United Way on April 12.
- Organizers have added a walking group to the training program.
- USA Fit Midland will include Saturday group runs and informational sessions on proper footwear, nutrition and other topics.
- For more information or to register online, visit www.usafitmidland.com.

Hotel Business in Midland

(Taxable receipts)
 September 2013
 Midland: \$7,258,925
 Odessa: \$5,902,582
 Abilene: \$3,067,769
 Lubbock: \$8,012,335
 San Angelo: \$3,699,370

Midland in September 2012: 6,584,194
 Midland in September 2011: \$4,672,822
 Midland in September 2010: \$2,903,876
 Midland in September 2009: \$2,479,543
 Midland in September 2008: \$3,541,580

Top Midland hotels

(total receipts)
 DoubleTree \$992,108
 Residence Inn \$597,503
 Hilton Garden Inn \$566,702
 Holiday Inn Express \$413,923
 Courtyard by Marriott \$339,801
 Townplace Suites \$382,144
 Springhill Suites \$374,283
 Sleep Inn \$333,014
 Best Western \$302,758
 Plaza Inn (Big Spring St.) \$295,277
 Hampton Inn and Suites \$288,748
 La Quinta (Wall) \$278,880
 Midtown Hotel \$275,717
 La Quinta (Loop 250) \$274,674
 Clarion Hotel \$259,328
 Value Place \$253,974
 Baymont Inn \$241,316
 Comfort Inn \$224,892
 Fairfield Inn \$219,754
 Comfort Suites Airport \$217,588
 KJ Texas Properties \$187,345
 Best Value Inn \$145,512
 Studio 6 \$144,096
 West Texas Inn and Suites \$132,080
 Super 8 Motel \$126,131
 Travelodge \$105,841
 Also listed: HB Rentals \$195,880

Christmas tree disposal

The city of Midland has two drop-off areas designated for Christmas tree disposal. Residents are encouraged to take their trees to the following areas:

- Citizen Collection Station, 4100 Smith Road (north of ClayDesta post office off Veterans Airpark Lane)
- Hogan Park - Field No. 7, 1201 E. Wadley Ave. (behind the Army; enter off Lamesa Road) — trees can be dropped off through Jan. 15.

Parks and sanitation crews will pick up the trees from the Hogan Park location and haul them to the city landfill for mulching.

Disposing trees in other areas is considered illegal dumping.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 2-1-3
 Pick 3 day: 2-1-6
 Daily 4 morning: 6-3-7-2
 Daily 4 day: 6-7-8-5
 All or Nothing morning: 1-3-4-6-12-13-15-16-17-20-22-24
 All or Nothing day: 2-3-5-6-8-10-11-13-14-15-19-22

Because of an early deadline, evening and night lottery numbers were unavailable.

2014

From 1A

MC President Steve Thomas hopes to complete all projects in the seven-year master plan through a capital campaign, rather than ask voters to approve a bond measure.

"We have some money already in reserve for facilities, and combined with what we can do with private donations, over time we can get this done with some sort of capital campaign," Thomas said.

MC's \$50.2 million, three-phase facilities master plan includes a new building for Early College High School, dining expansion at the Scharbauer Student Center, creation of a retreat complex, relocating the Petroleum Professional Development Center from downtown to the main MC campus and building a fourth residence hall.

It is expected that the first phase, which includes the \$7.8 million dining expansion at the Scharbauer Student Center and a \$12.4 million building for Early College High School, could be completed by 2015.



Business

XCOR Aerospace anticipates a move to Midland by this summer as officials finish negotiations with a contractor for hangar renovations, but it is still yet unknown whether its Lynx 1 suborbital spacecraft will be flying into space by then.

During a visit to Midland in Mid-December, the aerospace company said it plans to relocate its headquarters by summer as the first and second phases of hangar renovations are to be complete by July. And depending on the Lynx's date of completion, testing of the spaceplane will be conducted either in Mojave, Calif., or in Midland.

But a spaceport license for Midland International Airport by the Federal Aviation Administration continues to hold back progress. After the FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation reviews the airport's environmental assessment, the FAA will have 180 days to approve the spaceport license application.

SM Energy is expected to move into its new regional headquarters in the first quarter of the year.

The company's two-story, 58,000-square-foot office building is at Fasken Oil and Ranch's The Office Park at the Vineyard on Holiday Hill Road west of Green Tree Country Club.

The Board for Lease of University Lands is holding its first oil and gas lease sale of the year on March 19.

Previous lease sales — before University Lands saw most of its West Texas holdings leased for oil and gas activity — had brought in a record \$310 million in September 2011 and \$247 million in March 2011.

West Texas oil and gas operators will be watching the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which will announce on or before March 30 its decision on whether to list the lesser-prairie chicken as endangered. A listing could impact oil and gas, agriculture and ranching operations on several million acres across Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado.

A grand opening is set for April for the new, larger Abuelo's restaurant. Abuelo's is building a new, 10,200-square-foot restaurant, with outdoor patio, on a pad at The Commons at North Park.

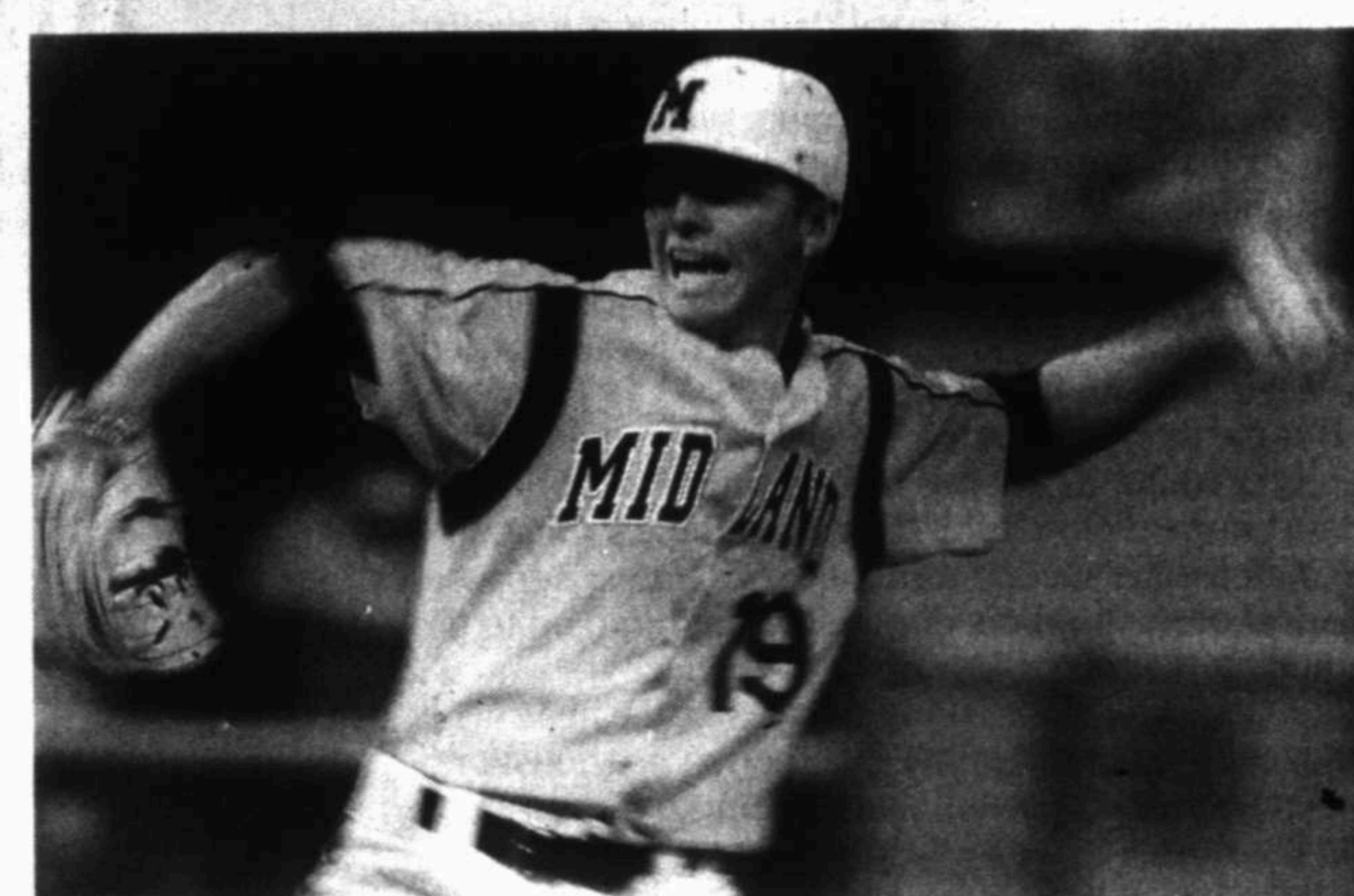
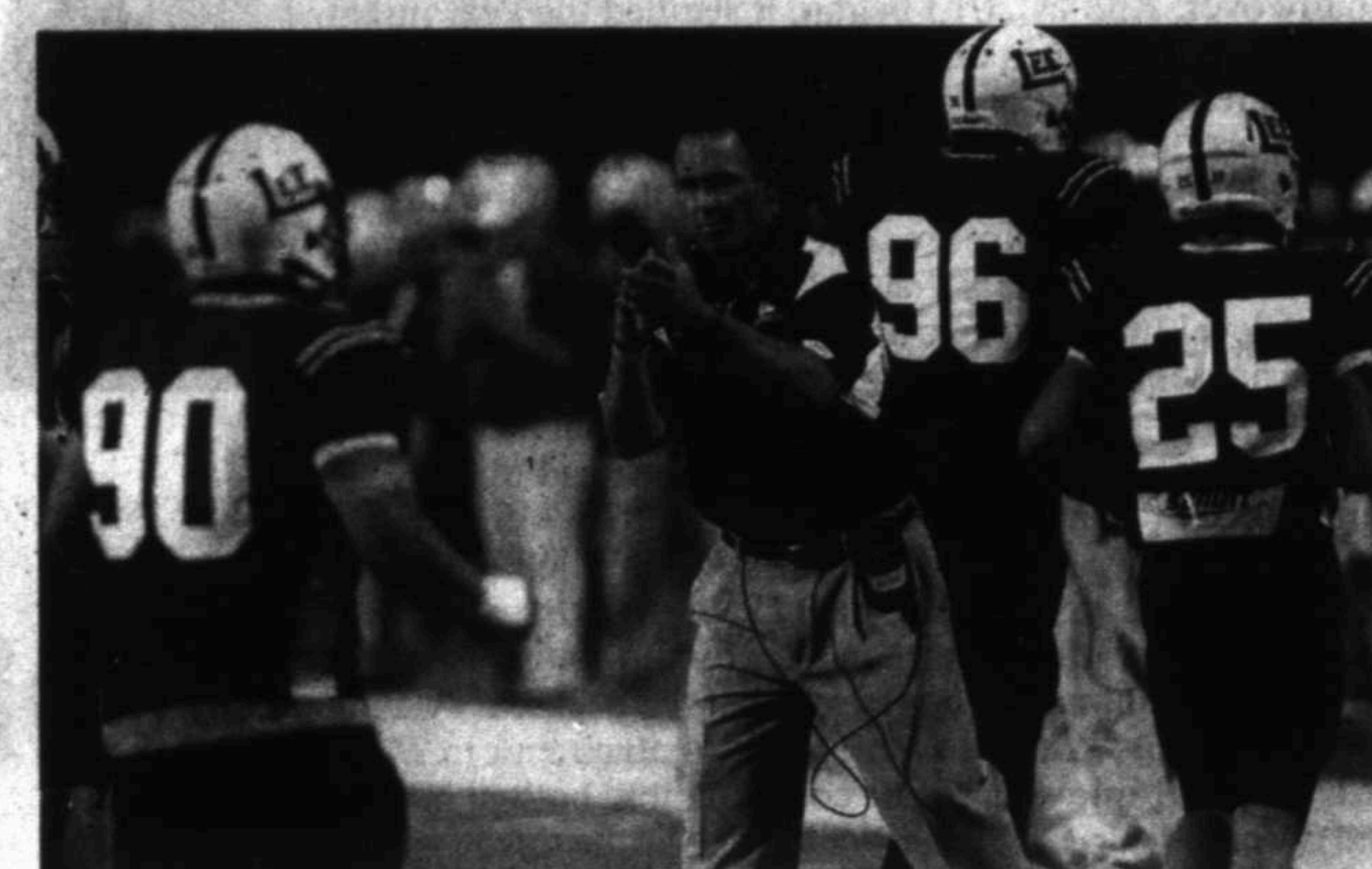
The Permian Basin International Oil Show, held in even-numbered years, will attract exhibitors and visitors from around the globe to the Ector County Coliseum in Odessa on Oct. 21-23.

Pioneer Natural Resources employees can expect to be settled into their new six-story, 272,000-square-foot office building in the ClayDesta Plaza on north Big Spring Street by the end of 2014.

Entertainment

The Band Perry will headline Texas Thunder music festival in May. Tony Bennett, Trisha Yearwood and Foreigner will play Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center in the next few months.

Midland Community Theatre and Midland-Odessa Symphony and Chorale will team up in April to present "Les Miserables" at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center.



Sports

The University Interscholastic League's biennial realignment is set for Feb. 3, and Class 5A schools in the Permian Basin will be anxiously awaiting the decision from the UIL. The UIL announced cutoff numbers in December. There are 11 Class 5A schools in between El Paso and Weatherford, and the speculation began about what the league would do in regards to districts. There are plenty of scenarios that could happen, even some that haven't been considered.

Can the Midland High baseball team overcome its playoff hump this spring? The Bulldogs have been a perennial power but it's been a few years since they've made a deep playoff run. With ace Jackson Lancaster (pictured) returning, the Bulldogs could be primed for a playoff run.

It's still eight months from the start of football practices, but the 2014 season could be intriguing for a number of reasons.

Lee had a resurgent year under James Morton (pictured), while Midland High missed the playoffs for the first time in back-to-back years in 2013 under coach Craig Yenzen. Midland Christian will be moving to the ultra-competitive TAPPS Division I next season, looking to win a fourth straight state championship.

Antwan Goodley will play in the Fiesta Bowl tonight for Baylor after a breakout year as a wide receiver. Look for him to have another big year for the Bears in 2014 as they go for another Big 12 title.

Mexican sales tax increase seen as boon on US border

By Elliot Spagat
 Associated Press

CHULA VISTA, Calif. — Mexican license plates are common in parking lots of shopping malls in U.S. border cities. They will be even more familiar after Mexico raises its federal sales tax in border regions to match the rest of the country, say merchants and shoppers.

The increase to 16 percent from 11 percent, which takes effect today, has sparked large protests on the Mexican side of the border. Facebook pages with secessionist tones have generated about 200,000 "likes." Thousands have signed petitions to challenge the tax increase in court.

The Mexican government said the two-tiered tax structure, which was introduced decades ago to make border cities competitive, is no longer justified. Others said the increase may backfire by driving more shoppers north of the border, harming the economy and raising less tax revenue than anticipated.

"We don't compete against the rest of Mexico, we compete against the American economy," said Juan Manuel Hernandez, president of the Tijuana Business Coordinating Council, an umbrella group of business chambers.

U.S. border regions like California's Imperial Valley — which has three Wal-Mart Supercenters and only 175,000 residents — have long depended on Mexican

shoppers who buy everything from gasoline to groceries. Brand-name clothing and electronics are perennial draws for Mexicans seeking products that are more expensive or hard to find south of the border.

Mexican shoppers spend more than \$4.5 billion a year in Texas border cities, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. Fed economists estimated in March that Mexican border crossers account for 58 percent of retail sales in Laredo and 42 percent in McAllen.

Published research is more dated for other border states, but the impact is undeniable. University of Arizona researchers concluded that Mexican shoppers accounted for 48.6 percent of taxable sales in Santa Cruz County, Ariz., which includes Nogales, from July 2007 through June 2008.

Thomas Fullerton, an economics professor at University of Texas at El Paso, estimates the tax increase will cause Mexican shoppers to spend between 5 percent and 10 percent more on the U.S. side of the border in 2014. Smaller cities like Douglas, Ariz., and Calexico, Calif., are expected to feel it more than San Diego and El Paso, which have more diverse economies.

U.S. businesses will benefit less in later years as Mexicans adjust to higher taxes, said Fullerton, who has studied how changes in the Mexican economy affect retail sales in El Paso.

The tax increase, which the government of Mexican President

Enrique Pena Nieto estimates will raise \$1.15 billion a year, is part of a package of fiscal measures that also raises taxes on businesses and top-end wage earners, ends some deductions and introduces a tax on junk food.

Pena Nieto's administration said border businesses haven't shared savings from lower sales taxes with consumers. It found consumer goods were 4 percent higher than in the rest of the country and noted that other countries and states within the U.S. don't allow lower sales taxes for business on their borders.

Hernandez and business leaders from other border states challenged those findings at a meeting with Treasury Secretary Luis Videgaray in Mexico City in October, showing results of their own survey of a basket of consumer goods that found prices in San Diego were 4 percent lower than Tijuana and 37 percent lower than Mexico City. They offered studies predicting dire economic consequences.

The secretary didn't argue with the studies, according to Hernandez, but asked what would happen if businesses absorbed the impact or shared the hit with consumers. The discussions went nowhere.

The tax increase spawned Facebook pages with renegade slogans for Mexican border states. "Republic of Baja California" has 140,000 likes, and "Republic of Chihuahua" has 36,000 likes.

About 2,500 shoppers signed a petition the weekend before

Christmas at a Tijuana shopping mall to seek an injunction against the tax increase, Hernandez said. The Tijuana business group is leading an effort in Mexican border states to submit tens of thousands of signatures to a federal court in Tijuana in early February.

"It's necessary to speak up because the border needs to be able to compete," said Esteban Elias, 44, a Tijuana auto mechanic who signed the petition and buys groceries and clothing in the San Diego suburb of Chula Vista.

Until recently, Elias, like millions living in Mexican border regions, went to the U.S. on a "border crossing card," which allows quick visits within short distances of the border. Since his card expired, he places orders through others. Other Mexican shoppers are U.S. citizens or legal residents.

Some speculate that Mexican customs officials will step up inspections on returning shoppers, discouraging cross-border jaunts. Purchases are duty-free up to \$300 a person during the winter holiday season, but many shoppers flout the rules.

Still, U.S. business leaders are geared for a sales bump.

"This tax increase gives Mexican nationals an excuse to shop and spend money on the U.S. side," said Steve Ahlenius, president of the McAllen Chamber of Commerce.

Utah asks Supreme Court to block same-sex unions

By Paul Foy
 Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah took its fight against gay marriage to the U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday, asking the high court to suspend same-sex unions that became legal when a judge struck down the state's voter-approved ban.

The heavily Mormon state wants the marriages to stop while it appeals a judge's decision, which

said banning gay couples from marrying violates their right to equal treatment under the law.

In papers filed Tuesday with Justice Sonia Sotomayor, the state asked her to overturn court decisions to let the marriages go forward. Sotomayor handles emergency requests from Utah and other Rocky Mountain states. She can act by herself or get the rest of the court involved.

"Numerous same-sex marriages are now occurring every day in Utah," Utah lawyers complain in the filing. "Each one is an affront not only to the interests of the state and its citizens in being able to define marriage through ordinary democratic channels, but also to this court's unique role as final arbiter."

Utah repeatedly stressed that states have the authority to define marriage as between a man and woman. "That states have a powerful interest in

controlling the definition of marriage within their borders is indisputable," Utah said in the filing.

U.S. District Judge Robert Shelby's decision on Dec. 20 came as a shock to many in the state, which approved the ban on same-sex marriage in 2004.

Since the judge's decision, more than 900 gay couples in Utah have gotten marriage licenses. Shelby and the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals

have already refused to halt weddings while the state appeals.

Shelby's decision came late on a Friday afternoon and sent people rushing to a county clerk's office in Salt Lake City — about 3 miles from the headquarters of the Mormon church — for marriage licenses.

The following Monday, 353 more gay and lesbian couples grabbed a license, some camping out overnight to get in line early the next morning.

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2014

Obama care

By F Alonso

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Obama's tarnished health care law at a crossroads

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — All things good, bad and unpredictable converge today for President Barack Obama's health care overhaul as the law's major benefits take effect, along with an unpopular insurance-mandate and a risk of more nerve-wracking disruptions to coverage.

The changes bring big improvements for some, including Howard Kraft of Lincolnton, N.C. A painful spinal problem left him unable to work as a hotel bellman. But he's got coverage because federal law now forbids insurers from turning away people with health problems. "I am not one of these people getting a policy because I'm being made to," Kraft said. "I need one to stay alive."

What's good for millions like Kraft is secured through what other people see as an imposition: requiring virtually every American to get covered, either through an employer, a government program, or by buying a plan directly.

But the biggest health care headlines early in the year could come from continued unpredictable consequences of the administration's messy rollout.

The consumer-facing side of the HealthCare.gov website now appears to be largely fixed — with more than 2 million people enrolled, the administration said Tuesday. But on the back end, insurers say they are still receiving thousands of erroneous sign-ups from the government.

That means early in the year patients who signed up could go for a medication refill — or turn up in the emergency room — only to be told there is no record of their coverage.

One of the main worries now is over certain error-tainted enrollment records that insurers call "orphans" and "ghosts."

"Orphans" are sign-ups that the government has a record of, but they do not appear in insurer systems. Insurers say those customers never left the government's "orphanage" to "go and live" with the carrier they selected.

"Ghosts" are new customers that the insurer does have a record of, but mysteriously the information does not appear in the government's computers. The Health and Human Services department said the rate of such errors has been dramatically reduced, and insurers agree. The catch is that the volume of sign-ups has also surged, which means even with a lower error rate the number of problem cases keeps growing. And there is no automated way to clear up mistakes; it has to be done manually.

"Some people are actually going to start using their coverage Jan. 1, and that is a good thing for them,"

said Mark McClellan, who oversaw the rollout of Medicare's prescription drug benefit — a program that also had its share of issues. "But there are going to be problems for any number of people who thought they had signed up, and it won't work right off the bat. It would be particularly disruptive for people in the midst of treatment."

Anticipating disruptions, major drug store chains such as CVS and Walgreens have announced they will help customers who face coverage glitches, even providing temporary supplies of medications without insisting on up-front payment. Many smaller independent pharmacies are also ready to help.

Obama had envisioned that the arrival of the Affordable Care Act's major benefits in 2014 would be like a national seminar, showcasing his philosophy that government can and should smooth the rough edges of an unforgiving economy for struggling working people.

The goal was that in a midterm election year, Democrats would be able to point to millions of newly insured Americans, thanks to subsidized private plans and an expanded version of Medicaid. Media reports would feature compelling cases of people literally handed a lifeline.

That's indeed happening, but it seems to be only part of the story. The Republican portrayal of "Obamacare" as government inept and out of control appears to be unfolding right alongside.

Although the stated goal of the law was to cover the uninsured, at least 4.7 million insured people had current individual policies cancelled that didn't measure up to new requirements. That forced an apology from the president, who had famously promised that if you like your health plan, you can keep it. It remains to be seen how many of those people suffer a break in coverage.

Americans with job-based health plans are also worried. A recent Associated Press-GfK poll found that most people who've seen their employers scale back coverage blame that on Obama's law, even though the trend of businesses shifting health costs to workers predates the law's passage.

It may take years to settle the nation's divisive debate over health care.

For now, administration officials say they are just focused on getting through the March 31 end of open enrollment. People who enroll by that date will not face the law's tax penalty for remaining uninsured.



Ed Andrieski/AP

A worker processes marijuana Dec. 5 in the trimming room at the Medicine Man dispensary and grow operation in northeast Denver. Colorado prepares to be the first in the nation to allow recreational pot sales, beginning today.

Colorado readies for 'Green Wednesday' pot sales

By Kristen Wyatt
Associated Press

DENVER — Police were adding extra patrols around pot shops in eight Colorado towns that plan to allow recreational sales to anyone over 21 today. Officials at Denver International Airport installed new signs warning visitors their weed can't legally go home with them.

And at a handful of shops, owners were scrambling to plan celebrations, set up coffee stations, arrange food giveaways and hire extra security to prepare for potential crowds and overnight campers ready to buy up to an ounce of legal weed.

While smoking pot has been legal in Colorado for the past year, so-called Green Wednesday represents another historic milestone for the decades-old legalization movement: the unveiling of the nation's first legal pot industry.

"It could be crazy. Or it could be crickets out there. Who knows? No one's ever done this before," said Robin Hackett, manager of BotanaCare in Northglenn, a suburb of Denver, who planned to have a DJ to greet shoppers.

Preparation for the retail market started more than a year ago, soon after Colorado voters in 2012 approved the legal pot industry. Washington state has its own version, which

is scheduled to open in mid-2014.

Pot advocates, who had long pushed legalization as an alternative to the lengthy and costly global drug war, had argued it would generate revenue for state coffers and save money in locking up drug offenders.

Still, setting up regulations, taxation and oversight for a drug that's never been regulated before took some time.

Colorado set up an elaborate plant-tracking system to try to keep the drug away from the black market, and regulators set up packaging, labeling and testing requirements, along with potency limits for edible pot.

The U.S. Justice Department outlined an eight-point slate of priorities for pot regulation, requiring states to keep the drug away from minors, criminal cartels, federal property and other states in order to avoid a federal crackdown. Pot is still illegal under federal law.

With the additional police patrols, the airport warnings and various other measures, officials are hoping they had enough safeguards in place to avoid predictions of public health

and safety harm from the opening of the pot shops.

But they confessed anxiety about the opening of retail sales.

"We understand that Colorado is under a microscope," Jack Finlaw, lawyer to Gov. John Hickenlooper and overseer of a major task force to chart new pot laws, recently told reporters about the first day.

Would pot-shop parking lots be full of overnight campers and crowds lined up to buy pot? Would sellers run out of marijuana? Would shoppers abide by state law and refrain from using pot publicly, or would clouds of pot smoke drift through neighborhoods?

Interviews with dozens of marijuana critics, legalization advocates and industry workers showed many share Finlaw's opinion.

Colorado's on a big green stage as dozens of state and foreign countries mull changing marijuana laws.

Since Colorado and Washington state's votes, Uruguay became the first nation to regulate pot.

Across the U.S., several municipalities, including Portland, Maine, have

ratcheted back criminal penalties for possessing small amounts of pot.

Critics fear the changing global marijuana approach is setting up Colorado and other places for serious public health problems.

"This movement in public policy basically conflicts with the essence of bringing greater mental health and public health," said Patrick Kennedy, a former Rhode Island congressman and chairman of Smart Approaches to Marijuana, which opposes legalization.

Marijuana supporters, meanwhile, were hoping that they'll make the best use of their chance to show that legalization can work.

Maura Foss, compliance manager at Breckenridge Cannabis Club in the ski resort town, is upping inventory from a normal 5 or 6 pounds to 50 pounds of weed for Green Wednesday.

Foss said she wasn't sure how long the pot would last given a steady stream of tourists calling and coming in seeking to buy it.

"We've been scrambling to get the basics ready, and we're as ready as we can be," Foss said.

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, January 1, 2014 | Page 6A

Goodbye to a year of shameless people, actions

■ Maybe 2014 will be better than the year that gave us Cyrus, Weiner, Rodman and A-Rod

All things considered, it was a year without shame. It was the year that Miley Cyrus French-kissed a sledgehammer in the music video for her song "Wrecking Ball," and cavorted naked on said wrecking ball. The former Disney star popularized the act of twerking in a performance at the MTV Video Music Awards that was so luridly infantile, it wasn't outrageous so much as pathetic. Yet it worked. It gained her at least another 15 minutes of fame and probably more, to have people pay attention to other insipid things she might do, usually half-clothed. Cyrus made us yearn for the good taste and restraint of the era of Lady Gaga, not to mention the golden age of classic Britney Spears.

It was the year the president of the United States posed in a selfie with other foreign leaders at a memorial service for Nelson Mandela. He evidently had a grand time, but made us nostalgic for the period before our presidents posed in selfies with other heads of state, i.e., the long stretch

RICH LOWRY
King Features Syndicate



of American history ending on Dec. 9, 2013.

It was the year Anthony Weiner admitted in the midst of his New York City mayoral campaign that he had continued to sext after resigning from Congress for sexting. Under the delightfully absurd alias "Carlos Danger," he had sent pictures of his private parts to a 22-year-old woman, whose notoriety instantly launched her career in adult film and as a spokesmodel for an adultery-facilitating website. Weiner made us fondly recall the self-effacing modesty of past New York City politicians such as Ed Koch and Rudy Giuliani.

It was the year that Toronto Mayor Rob Ford denied smoking crack, before admitting smoking crack — probably "in one of

my drunken stupors." He blamed reporters for not asking "the correct questions" when he made his initial lawyerly denial, in which he had only said, "I do not use crack cocaine, nor am I an addict of crack cocaine." He denounced a successful effort by the City Council to strip him of most of his powers as a "coup d'etat." While running around like a bull high on amphetamines during the raucous council debate, he knocked a woman down. The good mayor made us miss the decorum and straightforwardness of former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich.

It was the year Dennis Rodman nominated himself as goodwill ambassador to North Korea, touchingly pronouncing himself Kim Jong Un's "friend for life." He excused the dictator's brutal rule by explaining that the supreme leader is only 28 years old. "The Worm," as the former basketball player is known, made Jane Fonda's infamous visit to North Vietnam in 1972 seem an effective, well-calibrated act of international diplomacy in comparison.

It was the year Lance Armstrong confessed to cheating in every single one of his Tour de France victories, after attempt-

ing for years to destroy anyone who had blown the whistle on his doping. He did the obligatory interview with Oprah as a first step to redemption. Armstrong made us miss the sportsmanship of Rosie Ruiz, who won the Boston Marathon years ago in record time by neglecting to run the entire course.

It was the year that New York Yankees star Alex Rodriguez alleged a vast conspiracy encompassing most of Major League Baseball to bust him for using performance-enhancing drugs — again. The third baseman leads the league in misplaced sense of victimhood. Rodriguez made us long for the guilelessness of Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa.

It was the year something truly outlandish happened on "The Real Housewives of Somewhere or Other." It was the year "Mob Wives" got crazy. It was the year that "16 and Pregnant" descended into moral chaos. They all made us remember a time when "Jersey Shore" represented a more decorous, elevated form of reality television.

So good riddance to a year of shamelessness. It is sure never to be excelled — except by 2014.

OUR VIEW

2014 offers clean slate, greater expectations for our community

Happy New Year's Day to all our readers and their families and friends. We have expectations that 2014 will be a great year. Just hours into the year, we already know that there will be plenty of news to be made.

We know former Midland Mayor Mike Canon is challenging Kel Seliger for the District 31 seat in the Texas Senate. We also know Tax Assessor-Collector Kathy Reeves is challenging incumbent Mike Bradford for the county judge's seat.

We expect the school district will set a 2014 date for its next bond election, and we expect that number to blow way past the \$163 million bond total from 2012.

Here are other issues we would like to be writing about by the end of the year.

■ The city of Midland takes the initiative and bans texting while driving. We know state Rep. Tom Craddick will author another statewide bill during the 2015 Legislature (and we expect it to become law), but we would like to see the city beat the state to the punch. And if the city called on drivers to communicate on their cells "hands-free," we would have no problem with that at all.

■ We want to see the United Way of Midland set a new record. Its goal is \$3.52 million, but why not \$4 million? This community has delivered more than \$3 million every year since 2000. That even included years when the economy wasn't nearly as good. Well, it's time for people to help United Way meet the need and kick in a little extra. No community in the nation can boast the per-capita money that Midland does. It's time to seriously challenge that \$4 million mark.

■ We want a plan in place to finish off the north half of Loop 250. Two huge needs on the transportation front are the improvement of entrances and exits along Interstate 20 and the completion of the northern loop. We believe Midland leaders can make it happen as they did with the State Highway 349 project. It might mean our local officials have to contribute a few bucks and partner with Texas Department of Transportation. If that is the case, make it happen Midland County, city of Midland and the Midland Development Corp.

■ We want to see the number of semifinalists from Midland County in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program increase to at least 10. This county's education officials, specifically those from Midland Independent School District, have shortchanged our community when it comes to delivering on the brightest of the bright. While certain schools in the Metroplex annually have placed 10 or more onto the list, our schools limp along. We can do better. We can't hold back our best and brightest while trying to widen the middle. Our students have to achieve everything possible for Midland to boast the best education facilities around. We believe increasing the number of semifinalists by a factor of more than two would be a great place to start.

Quick takes: We want to see business taking place at XCOR. It's time to see Midland's \$10 million investment take shape in the form of the aerospace company being headquartered at Midland International. ... We want to see a lowering of housing costs. Let's get those new apartments in west Midland completed to help relieve that demand. We are all for free enterprise, but something must be done to bring down housing costs. The cost of housing is the greatest "quality of life" problem we have in Midland right now.

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TO OUR READERS

Opinions, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the author's or artist's views and not necessarily the view of the Reporter-Telegram.



Crises exist beyond 'Duck Dynasty'

■ We can't afford to be distracted by insignificant incidents when there are real problems to solve

I'm just back from a week out of the country, and it appears I missed some major happenings.

Political news sites report a significant development in the Pajama Boy controversy (involving a promotion for Obamacare) and the "Duck Dynasty" flap. There's apparently a new scandal, as well, over the Obama family's failure to attend church on Christmas. Then there's the brouhaha about a church in California putting a likeness of Trayvon Martin in its Christmas manger.

From the Drudge Report, meanwhile, I learned the naked truth about two other incidents: a Louisville, Ky., man who ran through a bingo hall with his pants down yelling "Bingo!" and police in Portland, Ore., who used a sandwich to convince an unclothed man not to jump off of a building.

According to ABC News, the man reportedly requested a cheeseburger but eventually settled for turkey and bacon.

That the headlines are about pajamas and bingo is both good and bad. Good, because it means we have no crisis during this holiday season; Congress is in recess, the president is on the beach, and there is no imminent standoff in Washington. Bad, because we're letting ourselves be distracted again.

In the weeks before the 9/11 attacks in 2001, President George W. Bush was on his ranch in Texas, the big news was about shark attacks, and nobody connected the terrorists' dots. This time, there's more than just the theoretical possibility of a crisis to worry about.

On Saturday, 1.3 million unemployed Americans were kicked off unemployment benefits. And if our vacationing lawmakers don't do something about it when they return, millions more will follow. The matter is getting less attention than Phil Robertson of "Duck Dynasty," but it's a real crisis for those affected and a disgrace for the rest of us.

As The Washington Post's Brad Plumer expertly outlined on Friday, there are 4 million people who have been out of work for 27 weeks or longer, translating to the highest long-term unemployment rate since World War II. These people — young, old and from all kinds of demographics — have a 12 percent chance of finding a job in any given month, and, contrary to the theories of Rand Paul Republicans, there's little evidence that they're more likely to find work after losing benefits. Cutting off their benefits only causes more suffering for them and more damage to the economy.

Also last weekend, the Obama administration

reported that 1.1 million people had signed up online for coverage under the new health-care law. That's a dramatic acceleration in enrollment, but it also leaves uninsured millions of people who are eligible for coverage. Some of them are working poor in states where Republican governors have refused to implement the law's Medicaid expansion, and many more are being discouraged from enrolling by Republicans' incessant opposition. This month's CBS News/New York Times poll found that a majority of uninsured Americans disapprove of the new law, even though nearly six in 10 of the uninsured think insurance would improve their health.

These real outrages make the Christmas-week controversies seem like tinsel.

"Can you guess what key thing Obama did not do on Christmas Day?" asked Glenn Beck's TheBlaze, full of outrage that the president didn't go to a public worship service. Breitbart.com found it "ironic" that Obama had "recently asked all Christians to remember the religious aspects of Christmas."

What did they expect from a Muslim born in Kenya?

While that was going on, David Kirkpatrick of the New York Times was deflating an earlier scandal hawked by Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., chairman of a House committee that had been examining the killing of Americans in Benghazi last year. Issa had charged that the attackers were affiliated with al-Qaida, and he disparaged the administration's claim that the attack had been stirred up by an anti-Islam video; Kirkpatrick, after an extensive investigation in Benghazi, found no international terrorist involvement but did find that the video played a role.

On NBC's "Meet the Press" on Sunday, Issa offered the more qualified claim that while there was no al-Qaida "central command in control," some of the attackers were "self-effacing or self-claimed as al-Qaida-linked."

Those self-effacing terrorists are so beguiling. No doubt Issa will continue to pursue the Benghazi "scandal." Others will look deeper into Pajama Boy, or Obama's religion. If they'd devote a similar intensity toward the jobless and the uninsured, they might actually do some good.

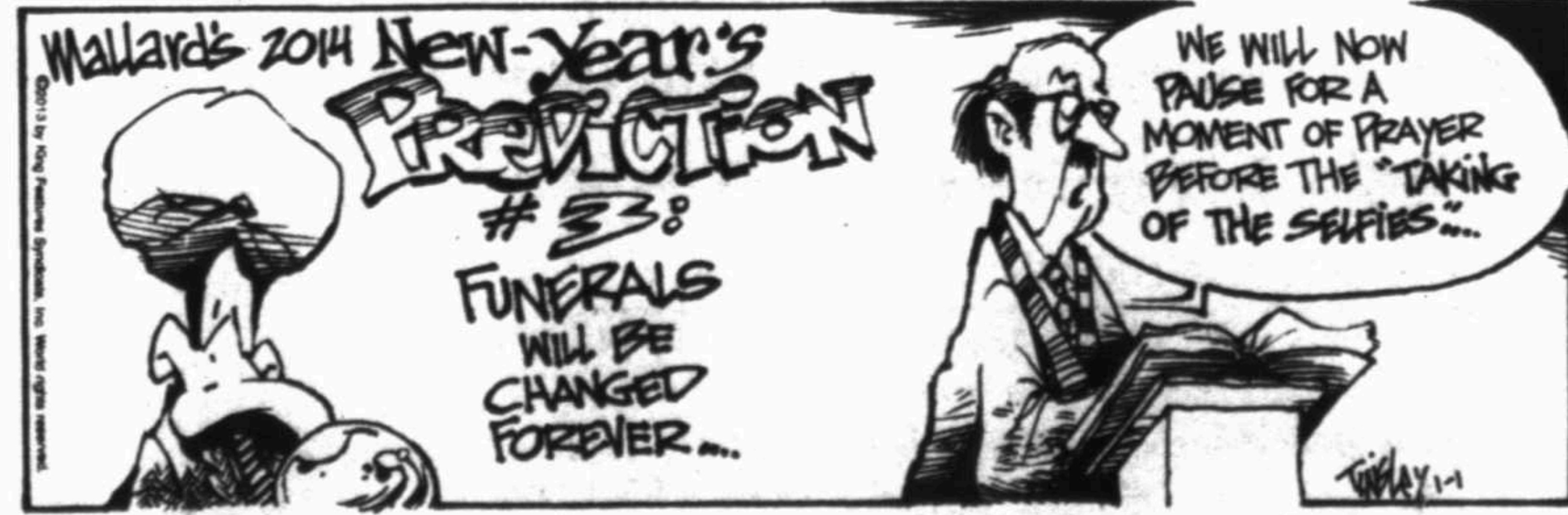
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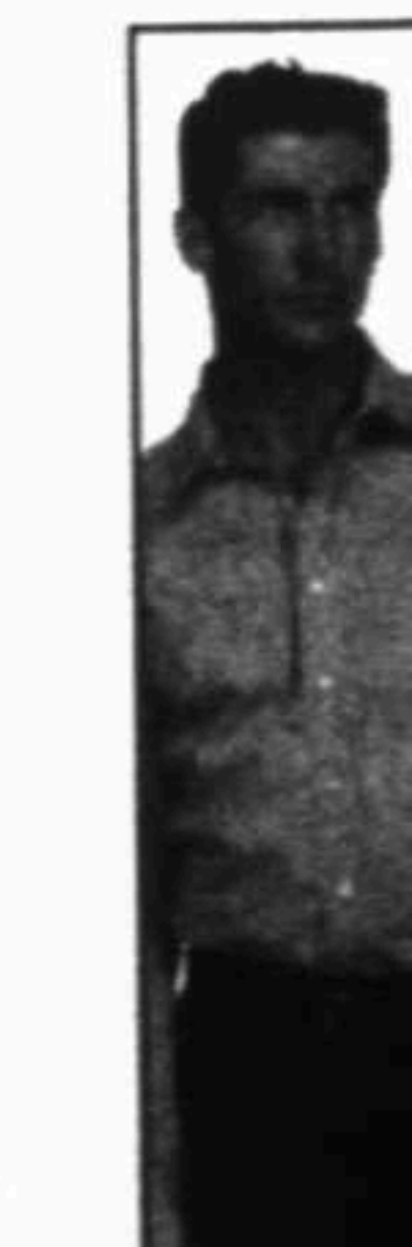
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That health care law, by the numbers

By Calvin Woodward
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The government churns out tons of numbers, but here's one you won't see: 0.0002. That's the percentage of estimated online visitors to healthcare.gov who actually signed up for coverage the first day.

Altogether, that's six people out of just over 3 million. Not all the figures associated with the rollout of President Barack Obama's health care law are so ridiculously dreary. Three million tells a happier tale, too. That's how many young adults have been able to get coverage under their parents' plan thanks to the law's rule that people up to age 26 can do so.

A look at the health care law's early going, by the numbers:

OBAMACARE, BY ANOTHER NAME, SMELLS SWEETER

81: Percentage of young Democrats who approve of the Affordable Care Act, according to December poll by Harvard's Institute of Politics.

58: Percentage of young Democrats who approve of "Obamacare," which is the same thing.

PROBLEM SOLVED? NOT ENTIRELY.

55 million: Estimated number of uninsured in America.
31 million: Remaining number of uninsured in America in 2016, when most of the law's provisions have taken hold, according to federal projections.

89: Percentage of all residents expected to have health insurance in 2016.

91: Percentage of all residents, excluding people living in the country illegally, expected to have health insurance in 2016.

WHO'S IN?

14: States that set up their own health insurance exchanges. District of Columbia also has its own exchange.

36: States that refused, leaving the federal government to do it.

WHO'S IN? PART TWO.

25: States that are expanding Medicaid to more people under the health care law, along with the District of Columbia.

19: States that refused.

6: States that haven't decided.

100: Percentage of the cost of the state Medicaid expansion being paid by Washington for three years, then dropping to 90 percent.

WHO'S IN? PART THREE

1 million: People who had signed up for private coverage under the federal health law by Dec. 20, up from 364,682 three weeks earlier.

1.2 million: People the administration originally projected would sign up for private coverage under the law, as of Nov. 30.

LOCATION, LOCATION

227,478: People who had signed up through the 14 state-run exchanges as of Nov. 30.

137,204: People who had signed up through the federally run exchanges operating in 36 states by that same date.

THIS IS PROGRESS?

65: Percentage of people who reported in early October that they had failed when they tried to buy insurance through the health exchanges, according to an AP-GfK poll.

51: Percentage of people who reported in early December that they had failed when trying to buy from the exchanges, according to another AP-GfK poll.

A NEW FISCAL CLIFF?

\$95: Fine for an adult who goes without health insurance in 2014, or 1 percent of taxable income, if greater. Maximum \$285 penalty per family.

\$695: Fine for an adult going without health insurance in 2016, or 2.5 percent of taxable income. Up to \$2,085 per family.

6 million: The number of people who could be fined in 2016 for going without insurance, according to federal researchers.

POCKETBOOK POINTERS

\$46,000: Individuals earning up to this amount should qualify for some level of subsidy to buy private insurance. Same for a family of four earning up to \$94,200.

\$328: Average estimated monthly premium, before any subsidies, for a mid-range silver plan that covers 70 percent of medical costs.

\$516: Estimated cost of that plan in Wyoming. Prices vary widely depending on where you live and other factors.

\$6,350: The most anyone with an individual plan (whether bronze, silver, gold or platinum) will have to pay for medical care in a year, on top of premiums. Family out-of-pocket expenses are capped at \$12,700.

COMING, GOING

3 million: Number of young adults up to age 26 who have stayed on their parents' health plans under the law.

4 million-plus: People whose individual plans were canceled because the plans didn't measure up under the law. The government changed rules to allow standard plans to exist for another year; it's not known how many canceled policies will be revived. Another rules change allowed cancellation victims to sign up for bare-bones catastrophic coverage.

JUST VISITING

39.1 million: Visitors to state and federal health insurance web sites as of Nov. 30.



Carolyn Kaster/AP

A U.S. Park Police officer watches at left as a National Park Service employee posts a sign on a barricade closing access to the Lincoln Memorial in Washington on Oct. 1. Congress plunged the nation into a partial government shutdown as a long-running dispute over President Barack Obama's health care law stalled a temporary funding bill, forcing about 800,000 federal workers off the job and suspending most non-essential federal programs and services.

DIGITS: By the numbers, 2013 a year to forget?

EDITOR'S NOTE — Digits is Associated Press Director of Polling Jennifer Agiesta's take on the numbers that reflect our world and the survey research techniques used to find them.

By Jennifer Agiesta
Associated Press

About half of Americans expect 2014 to be a better year than 2013, according to the recent AP-Times Square New Year's Eve poll. And judging by the typical questions pollsters use to measure the public mood, it doesn't seem like it could be much worse. A look at how the public rated the nation's performance in 2013:

RIGHT DIRECTION? NOT QUITE YET

Whether people think the nation is heading the right way or the wrong way is a basic measure of optimism that pollsters have used for decades to gauge the public mood. In AP-GfK polling this year, few thought the United States had found the right path.

The December AP-GfK poll showed the share of Americans who feel the nation is heading in the right direction rebounded, to 34 percent from its October low of 22 percent, but it's not clear yet whether that's a directional shift or just a temporary recovery — what Wall Street calls a dead-cat bounce. On average in this year's AP-GfK polls, 33 percent said the country was heading the right way, down from 38 percent in 2012 but about on par with the 2011 average of 32 percent. That 2011 figure marked the low point of President Barack Obama's time in office.

This year, average "right

direction" numbers among Republicans (10 percent) and independents (24 percent) are at new lows for Obama's term, but Democrats buoy this year's figure with 54 percent saying the nation is on the right path, a bit above 2011's average of 47 percent.

OBAMA'S APPROVAL FALLS

Obama's approval ratings shifted notably this year, landing in negative territory on average for the first time in his presidency. In AP-GfK polling conducted this year that averaged the president's approval rating, 46 percent approved of the president's job performance, while 50 percent disapproved.

This year marks the first substantial dip in the president's approval since 2010. After a well-regarded first year (58 percent approval on average in 2009), Obama's approval rating dipped to 50 percent in 2010, then generally held steady — 51 percent on average approved in 2011, 52 percent in 2012.

LITTLE LOVE FOR CONGRESS

About 82 percent of

Americans disapproved of the way Congress handled its job this year, according to an average of AP-GfK polls. That's 20 points higher than average disapproval rate in 2009 and the worst since the inception of the AP-GfK poll in 2008. In a rare show of party unity, disapproval of Congress topped 80 percent among both Democrats (83 percent) and Republicans (87 percent).

THE ECONOMIC BRIGHT SPOT?

One positive note: More now say the economy is in good shape than have at any previous point in Obama's tenure, though the rating remains fairly anemic. Overall, 26 percent on average described the economy as "good" in

this year's polling, up from an average of 23 percent in 2012, 17 percent in 2011, 19 percent in 2010 and an abysmal 11 percent in 2009.

Still, people don't hold much hope for the economy's prospects. Asked to look ahead a year, 37 percent of Americans in the December AP-GfK poll said they thought the general economic situation would worsen, while 33 percent thought it would improve. And while 32 percent thought the number of unemployed Americans would drop, 36 percent thought more people would lose jobs than get them in 2014.

Online:
AP-GfK Polls:
<http://www.ap-gfkipoll.com>

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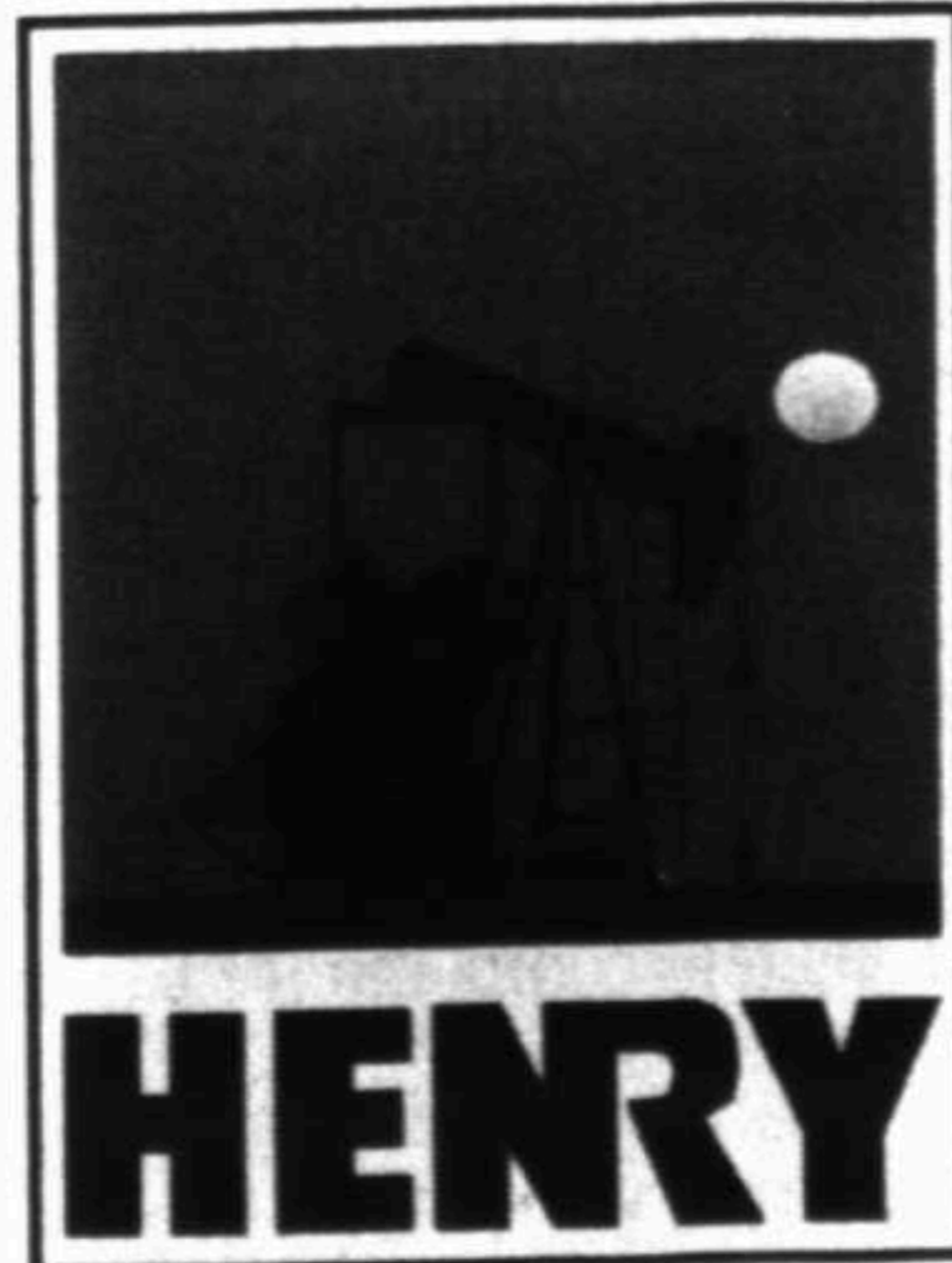
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Proverbs 15:9

The LORD detests the way of the wicked but he loves those who pursue righteousness.

Who's jumping through which hoops for 2016

By Calvin Woodward
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hillary Clinton as couch potato didn't last long. Was anyone surprised?

While she was getting back in the game, others who might run for president were in motion, too.

Republican Gov. Chris Christie socked away a big re-election victory in New Jersey and scored a prime position in his party to raise money and make friends.

Gov. Scott Walker, R-Wis., plugged a gaping hole in his resume with a new book.

Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin rode to the rescue as Republican broker of a December budget deal that avoided a repeat of the fall government shutdown.

Vice President Joe Biden popped up in so many places, with his hand in so much, it might be fair to wonder if there's more than one of him.

For the more than a dozen likely and just-maybe 2016 presidential contenders, it's been a busy year laying the groundwork for a potential campaign even as they continue to deny, though with less oomph than before, that they are doing any such thing.

The election is almost three years away, for goodness sake. But time flies when you have so much prep, positioning and auditioning to do.

It's a tricky balance, getting in people's faces so they get to know you but don't get sick of you.

Might Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, peak too soon with his firebrand politicking and relentless networking?

That's not a risk faced by Gov. Andrew Cuomo, D-N.Y. He's been blowing off almost everything a potential candidate is supposed to be doing at this point.

Other than governing his state, Cuomo is doing little more than sitting back and being his sexy self. Anointed sexiest 55-year-old by People magazine, he set aside his distaste for national TV long enough to rub it in with his brother, Chris, a CNN host. But he called in instead of appearing.

Here is a look at how these potential 2016 presidential candidates are progressing on a big to-do list as they head into an even more demanding political year: Clinton, Biden, Cuomo and Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley for the Democrats; former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, Christie, Cruz, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul, Gov. Rick Perry, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, Ryan, former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum, and Walker for the Republicans.

NON-DENIAL DENIAL: Cagney words that cloak presidential ambitions, none too convincingly.

Democrats
Biden: "Oh, we'll talk about that." In November 2013, when asked about running.

Clinton: "I'm not in any hurry. I think it's a serious decision, not to be made lightly, but it's also not one that has to be made soon."

Cuomo: Concerning a presidential poll suggesting New Yorkers prefer Christie to him: "It said Chris Christie has better numbers for president than I do. Yeah, because he's running for president, and I am not."

O'Malley: "By the end of this year (2013), we're on course to have a body of work that lays the framework of the candidacy for 2016."

Republicans
Bush: "There's a time to make a decision. You shouldn't make it too early, you shouldn't make it too late. There's a time. There's a window. And this is not the time for me. This is the time to show a little self-restraint."

Christie: "I am not going to declare tonight ... that I am or I'm not running for president. I won't make those decisions until I have to." — October 2013.

Cruz: "My focus is entirely on the U.S. Senate." His standard disclaimer.

Jindal: "I don't know what I'm going to be doing in 2016."

Paul: Americans want "for example, someone like myself" in 2016 if he chooses to run.

Perry: "Second chances are what America has always been about" — referring to his ill-fated 2012 campaign and chances he'll try again.

Rubio: "I told people I haven't even thought about that. That's a decision far in the future."

Ryan: "If I'm going to do a job as chairman of the Budget Committee, as a leader of my party, I cannot let my mind be clouded with personal ambition. I'm going to make those decisions later."

Santorum: "A year from now, I'll have to make that decision," he said in November. Is he open to running? "Sure."

Walker: "Right now, my calling is to be the governor. ... I don't rule anything out."

WRITE A BOOK: The perfect stage-setter for a campaign season, just ask Barack Obama ("The Audacity of Hope," 2006; "Dreams from My Father," 2004)

Presidential hopefuls, 2016

Hillary Clinton dominates the potential field of candidates for the Democratic nomination, and the Republican race is wide open, according to a new McClatchy-Marist poll.

• If the 2016 state Democratic primary/caucus were held today, who would you support?

Hillary Clinton	65%
Joe Biden	12
Elizabeth Warren	9
Andrew Cuomo	3
Martin O'Malley	1
Undecided	9

• If the 2016 state Republican primary/caucus were held today, who would you support?

Chris Christie	18
Rand Paul	12
Paul Ryan	11
Ted Cruz	10
Jeb Bush	10
Sarah Palin	8
Marco Rubio	7
Scott Walker	4
Rick Santorum	4
Rick Perry	3
Undecided	13

• What is more important for Democratic nominee?

Continue Obama's policies	49
Move in different direction	46
Unsure	4

Source: McClatchy-Marist poll, Dec. 3-5, 2013, of 1,173 adults, margin of error: +/- 2.9 percentage points. 988 registered voters. MOR: +/3.1; 466 Democrats and leaners. MOR: +/4.5; 419 Republicans and leaners. MOR: +/- 4.8. Graphic: Judy Treible © 2013 MCT

Democrats

Biden: No, not since 2007.
Cuomo: Yes, coming in 2014.
Clinton: Yes, coming in 2014.
O'Malley: No.
Republicans
Bush: Yes, on immigration.
Christie: No.
Cruz: No.
Jindal: No, not since 2010.
Paul: "Government Bullies: How Everyday Americans Are Being Harassed, Abused, and Imprisoned by the Feds," in 2012; "The Tea Party Goes to Washington," 2011.
Perry: Not since 2010.
Rubio: Yes, coming in late 2014 from the publisher of his 2012 memoir, "An American Son."
Santorum: Yes, coming in 2014. "Blue Collar Conservatives."
Ryan: Yes, recently announced and coming in 2014.
Walker: Yes, "Unintimidated: A Governor's Story and a Nation's Challenge," came out in the fall.

GO TO IOWA: Its caucuses are the opening act of the nomination contest.

Democrats
Biden: Yes, spoke at Sen. Tom Harkin's fall 2013 steak-fry fundraiser. Raised money for Iowa congressional candidate Jim Mowrer.

Clinton: No, avoiding big primary/caucus states.
Cuomo: No.
O'Malley: Yes, in 2012, when he headlined Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin's annual steak fry, a must-stop for many Democrats seeking to compete in the leadoff caucuses.

Republicans
Bush: Yes, in 2012.
Christie: Yes, in 2012.
Cruz: Yes, three times in three months in 2013.
Jindal: Yes, summer 2013 visit, then flew with Iowa governor to governors association meeting in Milwaukee. In Iowa seven times in 2012.
Paul: Yes, three times in spring and summer 2013.
Perry: Yes, returned in November 2013 for first time since 2012 campaign.

Rubio: Yes, in 2012 just days after the election. A new wave of visits to early voting states expected.
Ryan: Yes, keynote speaker at governor's annual birthday fundraiser in November, in first visit since 2012 campaign.
Santorum: Yes, August 2013 speech to conservative Christians in state where he won the 2012 caucuses. Screened his new Christmas movie in Iowa in November.
Walker: Yes, May fundraiser.

GO TO NEW HAMPSHIRE: Nation's first primary comes after Iowa and is just as important.

Democrats
Biden: Yes, in 2012 campaign. Canceled planned 2013 fundraiser for state's Democratic governor because of son's health scare.
Clinton: No.
Cuomo: No.
O'Malley: Yes, spoke at Democratic Party dinner in November. Also spoke at 2012 convention of

• If the 2016 election were held today, who would you support if the candidates were:

Hillary Clinton	48
Chris Christie	45
Clinton	52
Marco Rubio	42
Clinton	53
Jeb Bush	41
Clinton	55
Rand Paul	40
Clinton	56
Paul Ryan	40
Clinton	58
Rick Perry	37
Clinton	57
Ted Cruz	35
Clinton	59
Sarah Palin	36

• What is more important for Republican nominee?

Have conservative principles	67
Someone who can win	31
Unsure	2

New Hampshire Democrats

Republicans
Bush: No.
Christie: Yes, three times in 2012.
Cruz: Yes, GOP fundraiser in August.
Jindal: Yes, headlined state GOP fundraiser in May 2013, visited twice in 2012.
Paul: Yes, headlined state GOP fundraiser in May.
Perry: No.
Rubio: Yes, multiple times in 2012.
Ryan: Yes, in 2012. Canceled October 2013 visit because of government shutdown.
Santorum: No.
Walker: Yes, headlined a GOP state convention in October 2013, keynote at state party convention in September 2012.

DON'T FORGET SOUTH CAROLINA: First Southern primary and big in its own right.

Democrats
Biden: Yes, headlined annual fundraising dinner in May 2013 for state party, appeared at Rep. James Clyburn's annual fish fry. Easter weekend vacation on Kiawah Island.
Clinton: No.
Cuomo: No.
O'Malley: Yes, April speech to party activists.

Republicans
Bush: Yes, 2012 speech.
Christie: Yes, helped Mitt Romney raise money in 2012.
Cruz: Yes, "Pastors and Pews" event in November 2013, cultivating relationship with religious conservatives. Also visited in May, speaking to annual state GOP dinner.
Jindal: Yes, August fundraiser for governor.
Paul: Yes, Yes, foreign policy speech at the The Citadel military college and small GOP fundraiser in Charleston in November 2013 visit; headlined several fundraisers earlier in year.
Perry: Yes, two-day visit in December 2013, addressed state GOP. In August, raised money for re-election campaign of Gov. Nikki Haley.
Rubio: Yes, headlined 2012 Silver Elephant dinner.
Ryan: Yes, in 2012 campaign.
Santorum: Yes, Campaigned in April 2013 for Curtis Bostic in GOP House runoff race.
Walker: Yes, attended August fundraiser for Haley, who came to Wisconsin to campaign for him in 2012 recall vote.

GO ABROAD: Helps to give neophytes foreign policy cred, and Israel is a touchstone for U.S. politicians.

Democrats
Biden: Yes, globe-trotter, to nearly a dozen countries in Obama's second term including December 2013 visits to China, Japan and South Korea.
Clinton: Another globe-trotter, nearly 1 million miles as secretary of state. Limited overseas travel in 2013: honorary degree at St. Andrews University in Scotland in September; trip to London in

October for a diplomacy award and a fundraising concert for the family's foundation. Canadian speech.

Cuomo: Not much lately. Israel twice in 2002.
O'Malley: Yes. Israel in 2013 this year for a second time. Also Denmark, Ireland, France, Brazil and El Salvador in 2013. Asia in 2011, Iraq in 2010.

Republicans
Bush: Yes, several overseas trips a year. Three times to Israel since 1980s.
Christie: Yes, Israel and Jordan in 2012.
Cruz: Yes, first visit to Israel in December 2012, again in January 2013 as part of Senate Republican delegation that traveled to Afghanistan, too.
Jindal: Canadian speech to oil industry in August 2013, not overseas as governor.
Paul: Yes, Israel and Jordan in January.
Perry: Yes, recently back from Israel, latest of several trips there. Stopped in London to see British officials and financial leaders.
Rubio: Yes, Israel and Jordan in February 2013, also Israel after 2010 Senate election. Britain in December.
Ryan: Yes, Middle East during congressional career; visited troops in Afghanistan and Iraq.
Santorum: Scant foreign travel while in the Senate drew notice in 2012 GOP campaign.
Walker: Yes, China in April. Not been to Israel.

MEET THE MONEY: To know donors now is to tap them later.

Democrats
Biden: Yes, schmoozes party contributors at private receptions, helping Democratic campaign committees raise money from big-dollar donors before 2014 midterms.
Clinton: Yes, can tap deep can tap deep well of Dem and activist money. Bundlers such as Hollywood moguls Jeffrey Katzenberg and Haim Saban have signaled support. Worked fundraising circuit to help Terry McAuliffe's campaign for governor in Virginia and Bill de Blasio's mayoral bid in New York City.
Cuomo: Flush coffers for 2014 governor's race.
O'Malley: Yes, as finance chairman for Democratic Governors Association in 2014 midterm campaign, and as one of the party's top fundraisers.

Republicans
Bush: Yes, party this summer for his book at home of Woody Johnson, owner of New York Jets and leading Republican bundler.
Christie: Yes, now chairman of Republican Governors Association, which means regular access to GOP's top national donors. This follows aggressive 2013 national fundraising tour for his governor's race.
Cruz: Yes, visited major donors in New York City in November 2013 and met with Donald Trump. Building donor lists from the more than 1.5 million people who signed the online petition "Don't Fund ObamaCare."
Jindal: Yes, met leading GOP donors in New York City. Among prospective candidates who visited Iowa GOP donor Bruce Rastetter's farm in August 2013 for annual fundraiser for the governor.
Paul: Yes, attended Romney's Utah retreat with major party donors, met GOP donors in New York City.
Perry: Yes, has proven an effective fundraiser as America's longest-sitting governor, both from grassroots activists and mainstream Republicans. Has led many job-poaching missions in big states with Democratic governors and met privately during those trips with donors in California and New York.
Rubio: Yes, met major GOP donors in New York City, attended Washington meeting with Romney bundlers.
Ryan: Yes, attended Romney's Utah retreat with major party donors, has 2012 campaign money connections.
Santorum: 2012 shoe-string campaign was largely fueled by a super political action committee to which Republican donor Foster Friess gave more than \$2 million.
Walker: Yes, headlined 2013 fundraisers in New York and Connecticut.

NETWORK LIKE MAD: Taking their case to ideologues, activists and party heavyweights who hold great sway in nomination race.

Democrats
Biden: Yes, vigorously with Dems and activists. Keynote speeches at annual state Democratic Party dinners across country. Campaigned for new Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe, new Massachusetts Sen. Ed Markey.
Clinton: Steady presence now on speaking circuit, delivering paid speeches to industry groups and conferences and appearing before a number of groups with ties to the Democratic coalition.
Cuomo: Very little on the radar. Skipped national governors meeting in August.

O'Malley: Yes, vigorously, and big splash at national governors meeting.

Republicans
Bush: Yes, with conservative activists, education leaders.
Christie: Yes, vigorous outreach now as the new Republican Governors Association chairman.
Cruz: Addressed 2012 Republican National Convention before he was even elected to the Senate; landed coveted slot as keynote speaker at Conservative Political Action Conference in March. Persistently courts religious and economic conservatives; campaigned for Virginia tea party-backed gubernatorial hopeful Ken Cuccinelli in Richmond in October 2013.
Jindal: Yes, plenty of conservative courtship. Campaigned for GOP in 2013 Virginia governor's race. Speeches to Republican and conservative groups in Michigan, Oklahoma, Tennessee, New York, Alabama and Indiana in the fall about Justice Department lawsuit against Louisiana's school voucher program. December speech in Philadelphia about energy policy.
Paul: Yes, plenty. Campaigned in fall 2013 for GOP candidates in Virginia governor's race and New Jersey U.S. Senate election. Met Michigan Republicans in September. Conservative activists, tech leaders, Reagan Presidential Library speech.
Perry: Conservative Political Action Conference, March 2013, and its regional meeting in St. Louis in September. RedState Gathering in New Orleans in August; job-pitching tour in various states helps make connections.
Rubio: Yes, conservative and party activists, focused lately on repairing tea party relationships strained over immigration. Campaigned for Republican in Virginia governor's race. Spent more than \$200,000 in early December 2013 from PAC to help Arkansas Senate candidate Rep. Tom Cotton.
Ryan: Yes, prime networker as 2012 vice presidential candidate. Helping fellow House members raise money.
Santorum: His Christian-themed film company is his calling card. Previewed "The Christmas Candle" for conservative religious leaders at Values Voter conference in Washington, and screens it for other like-minded groups.
Walker: Campaigned for GOP in Virginia governor's race. Spoke to Michigan Republican Leadership Conference on Mackinac Island in September 2013. Belle of the ball as host of the National Governors Association summer meeting in Milwaukee. Conservative Political Action Conference, Aspen Institute.

HOG THE TV: Achieving national recognition by sermonizing on the Sunday news shows, or going for soft questions and easy laughs on late-night TV.

Democrats
Biden: No, not lately.
Clinton: No.
Cuomo: No. Prefers radio.
O'Malley: Spurred with Perry over job creation and health care on CNN's "Crossfire" in September 2013. Not much on the Sunday shows since 2012 campaign, when he appeared frequently.

Republicans
Bush: Blanketed the five Sunday shows one day in March 2013 to plug his book on immigration, a few appearances other times.
Christie: Yes, late-night TV circuit, playing for laughs. Four Sunday news shows in one day after his 2013 re-election.
Cruz: Yes, half dozen Sunday news show invites since August alone. "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" in November 2013. Appears on Fox News almost every week, sometimes multiple times; frequent guest on CNN.
Jindal: No, only a couple of Sunday news show appearances since 2012 election.
Paul: Leader of the chattering pack with more than a dozen Sunday talk show appearances since 2012 election. Frequent guest on news networks, especially Fox.
Perry: Might be picking up pace. Only a few Sunday talk show appearances since the election. Debated Obama's health care law with O'Malley on "Crossfire" in September.
Rubio: Yes. Blanketed all five Sunday news shows one day in April 2013, before he dropped the subject of immigration, and several other appearances since. Frequent guest on news networks.
Ryan: A half-dozen Sunday news show appearances since 2012 election. Occasional guest on network news.
Santorum: Yes, plugging Christmas movie, on "The Colbert Report," Fox News, MSNBC and more. Radio, too. Teamed up with Democrat Howard Dean as sparring partners for debates on the air and with audiences.
Walker: Half dozen Sunday news show appearances since 2012 election. "Crossfire" debate with Delaware Gov. Jack Markell, former Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer and former House Speaker Newt Gingrich. Also, Piers Morgan, Lou Dobbs, more appearances.

GOVERNOR'S RACE: The 2013 election is a key test for presidential ambitions.

Democrats
Biden: Yes, in 2012 campaign.
Clinton: Yes, in 2012 campaign.
Cuomo: Yes, in 2012 campaign.
O'Malley: Yes, in 2012 campaign.
Perry: Yes, in 2012 campaign.
Rubio: Yes, in 2012 campaign.
Ryan: Yes, in 2012 campaign.
Santorum: Yes, in 2012 campaign.
Walker: Yes, in 2012 campaign.

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REGION

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20 years of NAFTA

ABOVE
Workers at one of maquiladoras of the Tecma group prepare to raise the U.S. flag along with the Mexican and Tecma flags Dec. 27 in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. Tecma currently has 14 maquiladora plants in Ciudad Juarez. With the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement 20 years ago, many North American and international companies have moved their manufacturing to Mexico at a lower cost. While there is undoubtedly a larger middle class today, Mexico is the only major Latin American country where poverty also has grown in recent years.

RIGHT
Marcos Godoy of Mexico City manufactures car dash mats Dec. 27 at a maquiladora belonging to the Tecma group in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

Ivan Pierre Aguirre/AP



At 20 years, NAFTA didn't close Mexico wage gap

By Mark Stevenson
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Looking around a Mexico dotted by Starbucks, Wal-Mart and Krispy Kreme outlets, it's hard to remember the country before the North American Free Trade Agreement, which has dramatically expanded consumer choice and trade since it took effect 20 years ago on Jan. 1.

While it changed the country in some fundamental ways, the treaty never met many of its sweeping promises to close Mexico's wage gap with the United States, boost job growth, fight poverty and protect the environment. Mexico's weak unions and competition from Asia and Central America kept wages down; the tightening of security along the U.S. border closed off Mexico's immigration "escape valve," and environmental provisions in the agreement proved less powerful than those protecting investors.

Mexico took advantage of the accord with the United States and Canada in some areas. The auto, electronics and agriculture sectors grew, and foreign banks moved in, increasing access to credit, but a majority of Mexicans saw little benefit in income. While there is undoubtedly a larger middle class today, Mexico is the only major Latin American country where poverty also has grown in recent years.

According to the Economic Commission for Latin America, poverty fell from 48.4 percent in 1990 to 27.9 percent in 2013 for all of Latin America. In Mexico, where it stood at 52.4 percent in 1994, the poverty rate dropped to as low as 42.7 percent in 2006; but by 2012, it had risen again to

51.3 percent.

"About 30 or 40 percent of what they promised (in the trade pact) never came through," said Rodolfo Hurtado Corona, 65, a chauffeur waiting for his boss on a Mexico City street. Still, motioning to the gleaming sport utility vehicle he drives for his boss, he noted that "before, there were only a couple of brands, now you can choose among many."

Economist Alfredo Coutino, director for Latin America at Moody's Analytics, said, "the benefits arrived, but perhaps not of the magnitude that had been hoped for." He notes that "if this agreement had not been signed, Mexico would have been in a much worse situation than it has been over the last 20 years."

Before NAFTA, Mexico was a closed, state-dominated economy reeling from debt and the underlying problems of Mexican farms — low productivity on small plots. That had set up a perfect storm of mass unemployment.

The trade accord, globalization and foreign investment did help create jobs, albeit low-paying ones.

At supermarkets, shoppers are now familiar with everything from cranberries to chai and lemons (as opposed to the Mexican lime) that few had tasted before the treaty tore down trade barriers and tariffs between Mexico, Canada and the United States.

Consumer goods and clothing that were trendy among Mexico's wealthy are now available to everyone, with more products and choice, especially among electronics, appliances and cars.

Coutino recalls that "before, in Mexico, it was a question of social status to have a

pair of imported sneakers, they were very expensive ... now the majority of Mexicans can have these things that were once considered luxuries."

Mexicans remain ambivalent: A recent Universal newspaper/Buendia-Laredo poll showed that while about half would approve the trade pact if it was proposed again today, about 34 percent would reject it. The rest had no opinion. The margin of error was 3.5 percent.

There is no turning back. The three North American countries are pushing to become even more economically integrated. With Mexico's newly passed energy reform allowing private investment in the country's oil sector, they aim to make the continent energy independent as well.

NAFTA is almost forgotten in the latest controversial free-trade effort, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a negotiation among 12 countries, including NAFTA's three, to open trade between Asia and the Americas.

Opposition to the TPP is reminiscent of the dire predictions when NAFTA was being negotiated in the early 1990s.

At the time, NAFTA opponents predicted millions of U.S. jobs would move south, and labor and farm groups forecast a mass exodus from the Mexican countryside. But as a 2010 Congressional Research Service report said, "Most studies after NAFTA have found that the effects on the Mexican economy tended to be modest at most."

On the plus side, trade between the three countries vastly increased, to about 3.5 times the 1994 levels, though U.S.

Please see NAFTA/3B

Q&A: 'The old rules don't apply' in Mexico energy sector

By Emily Pickrell
Houston Chronicle

On Dec. 20, Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto signed constitutional reforms into law to open Mexico's energy sector to private investment.

The reforms will allow international companies for the first time in decades to share in the risks and rewards of oil and gas production. Mexican lawmakers hope the reforms will attract much needed capital investment. FuelFix.com asked Houston-based attorney, Carlos Sole, a partner at Baker Botts, about what the reforms mean. Edited excerpts follow.

Q: What part of the energy do your clients think is the most important?

A: There are two fundamental elements of the reform that capture the interests of exploration and production companies. The first is allowing companies to book the reserves for the value of the contracts for accounting purposes. The other fundamental reform is allowing companies to enter into contracts and agreements and to get paid in the actual production produced. This is important because you can take that production and you can trade it, you can sell it, and you control its ultimate destination and the ultimate price, versus having the production, and worrying about the price that Pemex is going to pay you.

Q: Which countries are Mexican leaders looking to in trying to open up Mexico's industry?

A: Mexican government officials have cited the experience of Brazil, Colombia and Norway, which have all had state control of their resources and have liberalized them while still retaining state participation. What is unique about Mexico is how unique it was in being so closed off. For deep-water plays, the geology is very similar to what you see on the U.S. side of the Gulf of Mexico. Technical experts said it has the same geological characteristics as the U.S. side of the shale for onshore plays. But while there are several thousand wells on the U.S. side of the Gulf, there are currently only a dozen or so on the Mexican side.

Pemex has put out statistics that to fully capture their reserves, they will need about \$60 billion of investment, while their own budget is \$27 billion.

Q: What will be the biggest challenges for the next system?

A: Up until now, Pemex has been the monopoly and dictated the rules. But with the new legislation, you are stepping into a new environment and the old rules don't apply. The Ministry of Financial will be responsible for economic terms. The National Hydrocarbon Agency will be responsible for the actual bidding processes. The Ministry of Energy is the entity that will provide the technical support. These are three distinct agencies that will need to be coordinated.

Q: What will the reforms mean for Houston?

A: For Houston companies in the oil and gas sector — be they upstream, midstream or downstream — there is going to be a new market next door and it is going to create economic opportunities. The technological advances that Houston has developed — its expertise on how and where to look for oil and natural gas plays — can now be used in Mexico.

Q: How will safety concerns affect decisions on whether to invest in Mexico?

A: Safety is a risk factor in northern Mexico, and the violence that folks see is in places along the border. For the shale plays in northern

Please see ENERGY/3B

Hearing set in New Mexico lawsuit on domestic horse slaughter

By Jeri Clausing
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A court hearing is set Friday on the latest effort to block a Roswell company from resuming domestic horse slaughter.

State District Judge Matthew Wilson in Santa Fe has issued a temporary restraining order preventing Valley Meat Co. from opening before he can hold the initial hearing on New Mexico Attorney General Gary King's lawsuit against the plant.

It is the latest in a series of stops and starts for Valley and a Missouri company, which have

been preparing to open in the coming weeks after a federal judge threw out a lawsuit by animal protection groups and a federal appellate court lifted a stay on operations pending the group's appeal.

Following the federal court rulings, King stepped in last month with a lawsuit saying Valley Meat's operations would violate state laws related to food safety, water quality and unfair business practices. Although the meat would not be sold domestically, it would be processed and shipped to other countries for human consumption and use as animal and zoo food.

Valley Meat attorney Blair Dunn calls the lawsuit frivolous and was preparing a response Tuesday challenging the state district court's jurisdiction in the matter.

Meantime, Valley owner Rick De Los Santos said he has been working with state environment department officials to get the proper permits for removing wastewater in hopes of opening in the next week or two.

He said he is planning to initially only slaughter horses under contract with a larger Canadian slaughterhouse, which he said will supply drug-free horses from their feedlots.

"A big deal with Gary King is that we are going to be putting drugged meat into the food chain," De Los Santos said. "The (company) actually buys the horses and puts them in the feedlot and has them graze there for 180 days to ensure there is no drug residue. ... So I think that is the best way to do it, especially at the beginning. People think, oh they are going to be buying horses here and there, and they are going to be stealing little girls' ponies. It's not that way at all."

In Missouri, Rains Natural Meats had horses on site ready to open but has run into its own

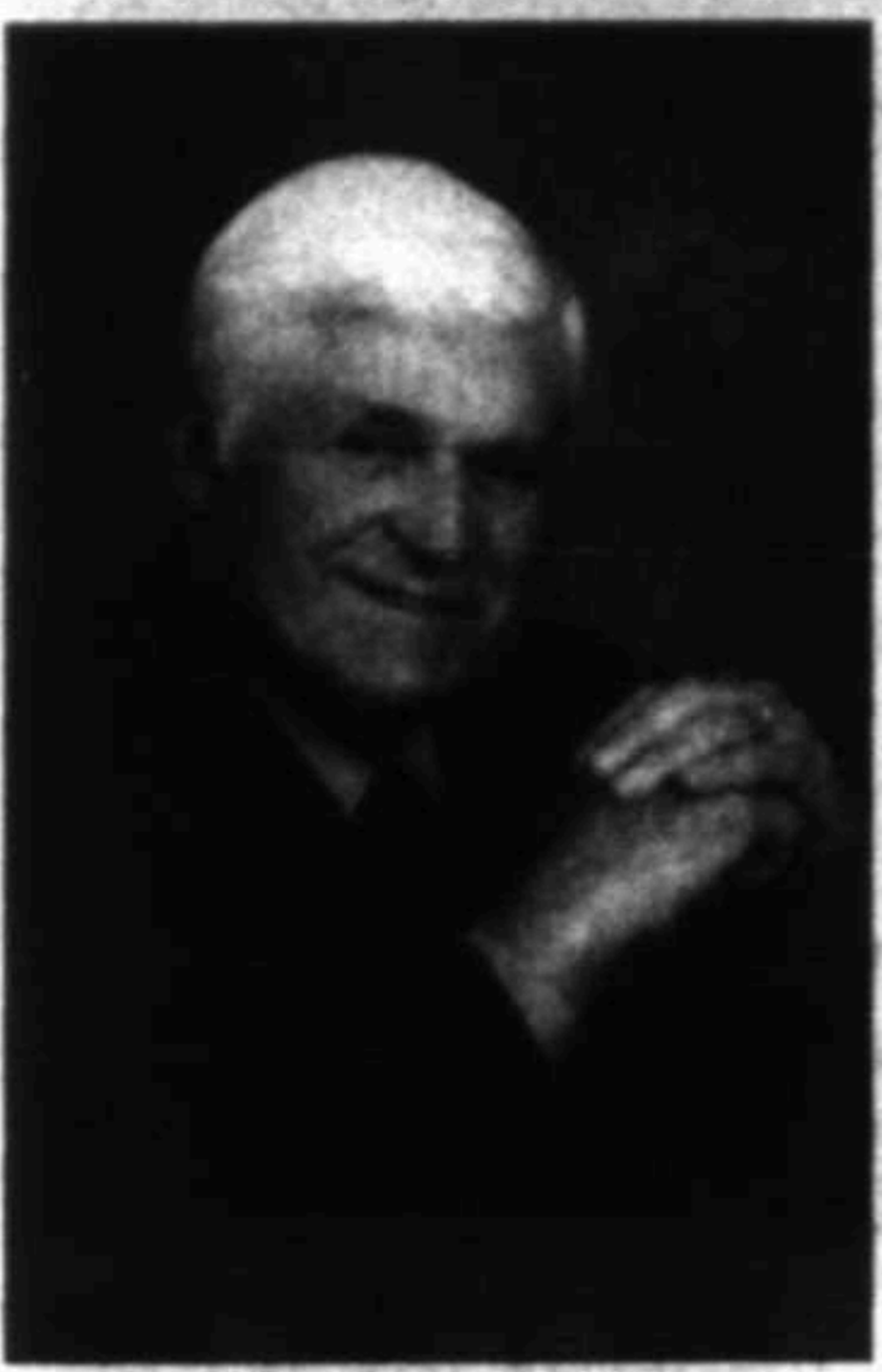
roadblocks with its state environmental permits, Dunn said.

Valley, Rains and an Iowa company last year won federal permits to become the first horse slaughterhouses to operate since Congress effectively banned the practice by cutting funding for inspections at the plants in 2006. The last of the domestic plants closed in 2007, but Congress in 2011 reinstated the funding.

The Iowa company switched to cattle after being blocked from opening in August by the filing of the lawsuit by The Humane Society of the United States and

Please see HEARING/4B

Obituaries



Billy "Bill" F. Rea

Billy "Bill" F. Rea, 75, of Odessa, Texas passed away in his home at Possum Kingdom Lake, Texas after a brief illness on December 29, 2013.

Funeral services will be held Friday, January 3, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 415 N. Lee Street, Odessa, TX 79761 with Pastor Terry Tamplen officiating.

Bill was born in Calhoun, Louisiana to Mary Etta and Britton Rea on July 4, 1938. He graduated from Kermit High School in 1956. Bill married Mary Elizabeth Means, the love of his life, on July 9, 1960 in Odessa, Texas. In 1962, he graduated college from Texas Western University in El Paso, Texas with a Business Degree. Bill began his career in Odessa, Texas starting an insurance agency. He eventually moved to Kermit, Texas and, in 1964, opened Kermit Insurance Agency. In 1975, he purchased an insurance agency in Odessa and began operating as Bill Rea Insurance Associates, Inc. In 1989, he purchased West Texas Insurance Exchange, Inc. and in 1994 incorporated all branches under that name.

Bill held several highly respected licenses within his industry. Bill has served the Permian Basin well, acting as Director and President of the Kermit Rotary Club, the Kermit Jaycees, Odessa American Cancer Society, Odessa United Way, as well as several other civic organizations. Bill was very involved with his church, First United Methodist of Odessa, serving as a volunteer with the Food Pantry, Chairman of the Finance Committee, and was appointed to the Church Council.

Bill achieved the Award of Eagle Scout through the Boy Scout Council as a child. He was married, worked for El Paso Natural Gas and had a child, all the while working on his college degree. Bill was a Million Dollar Round Table Life Producer early and often throughout his business career. He was appointed to Agent Advisory Councils of many insurance companies. In 1966, he was elected President of the Kermit Chamber of Commerce. In 1971, Bill was voted Kermit's "Young Business Man of the Year". In 1973, he was appointed President of the Kermit Industrial Foundation. In 1974, Bill was elected as a Director of Permian Savings and Loan of Kermit, Texas. He served on the Board of Directors of the Odessa Texas Savings and Loan in the late 70's and early 80's. In 1976, he was nominated to the Odessa Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. He was appointed by the Board of Governors of the Society of Certified Insurance Counse-

lors as a Certified Insurance Counselor in 1985; and, in 2003, Bill was inducted into the Odessa Chamber of Commerce, "Business Man Hall of Fame" by the State of Texas House of Representatives for his dedication to commerce and industry.

Bill is preceded in death by his mother, Mary Etta Rea; his father, Britton Rea; grandfather, J.E. Bryan; grandmother, Henrietta Bryan; grandfather, J.Z. Rea; grandmother, Zola Rea; a grandchild, Dawson Lynn Freeman; and by other prior descendants.

Bill is survived by his wife of 53 years, Mary Rea; his son, Jeff Rea and wife Michelle and their son, Denton of Odessa, Texas; a daughter, Kristen Rea Freeman and her children Collin Freeman, Parker Freeman and Karley Freeman of Ardmore, Oklahoma; his sister, Wanda Dews and her husband Ted of San Angelo, Texas; a brother, Tony Rea and wife Brenda of Amarillo, Texas; and by many beloved nieces and nephews.

The family sends sincere appreciation to M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston, Texas, The Center of Cancer and Blood Disorders in Ft. Worth, Texas, Palo Pinto General Hospital and IntegraCare in Mineral Wells, Texas, the Volunteer EMS of Possum Kingdom Lake, Texas and Sunset Memorial Gardens & Funeral Home for their outstanding care and affection. The Rea's cannot express in words the feelings felt to the church, family, friends and business associates for their comforting words and gifts of food and goods.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests Memorials be sent to First United Methodist Church of Odessa, Texas.

The services are under the direction of Sunset Memorial Gardens and Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.sunsetodessa.com.



Gerald R. McCann

Gerald R. McCann, 76, of Midland passed away on December 30, 2013 at a local hospital. Memorial services are scheduled for Thursday, January 2, 2014 at 10 a.m. at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel with Mike Vestal and Don Mitchell officiating.

Gerald was born on December 26, 1937 to George Floyd and Ora Mae McCann in Calexico, California. He graduated high school in Lorraine, Texas in 1957 and earned his Associates Degree from El Centro College of Dallas in 1977. Gerald was employed by the Texas Highway Department in Colorado City and also worked for General Portland Cement in Dallas. He was a member of Westside Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife, Tanya McCann of Midland; one brother Glenn L.

McCann and his wife Gladys of Irving, Texas; and by numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.



Joseph A. Hogan

Joseph A. Hogan, 53, passed away Monday, December 30, 2013 at Medical Center Hospital. He was born August 24, 1960 to Joseph Hogan, Sr. and Jeanne (Greenlee) Hogan in Hobart, Indiana.

Joe met and married the love of his life, JaLynn in June of 1987. He worked as a production foreman for Citation Oil and Gas for the past 25 years. Joe lived for God and loved his family.

Joe was a compassionate man who always put others before himself. One of his great passions was being outdoors hunting, fishing, hiking, and enjoying God's creation.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Jeanne Hogan.

He is survived by his wife, JaLynn Hogan of Midland, Texas; a daughter, Jamie Hogan of Scottsdale, Arizona; and by a sister, Martha White of Kamuela, Hawaii.

Family will receive friends from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 2, 2014 at Frank W. Wilson Funeral Directors.

A memorial service will be Friday, January 3, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. at Crossroads Fellowship in Odessa with David Newton officiating.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the High Sky Children's Ranch.

Services are entrusted to Frank W. Wilson Funeral Directors.



LeRoy B. Griffin

LeRoy B. Griffin passed away on December 29, 2013 in Midland, Texas. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky on October 24, 1946.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Loner Griffin; two sons, LeRoy Griffin, Jr. and Jacory Griffin, both of Midland, Texas; a daughter, Demikia Cooper of Aurora, Colorado; sisters, Marcie White of Cleveland, Ohio, Adell Weaver and Dela Durah, both of Louisville

Kentucky, and Shirley Cunningham of San Antonio, Texas; and by a brother, Julian Griffin of Louisville, Kentucky.

Viewing will be on Thursday, January 2, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, January 3, 2013 at the Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church. Reverend Alvin Mills will officiate with burial in the Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Thomas Funeral Home of Midland.



WEST TEXAS MEMORIAL PARK



Janie Lynn Huckaby

*I fell in love with you
When you were forming in
my womb
Now I carry you in my heart
Instead of my arms*

Janie Lynn Huckaby was

born and met the eyes of Jesus the same day, December 28, 2013. She was born to John Huckaby and Brandi Duke.

Those left to cherish her memory are her parents, John Huckaby and Brandi Duke; sisters, Stevie and Rickie Hunter; grandparents, Gary and Shelley Duke, Walter and Tracy Smith, and Missy and Terry Huckaby; aunt/uncle, Jennifer Lovell, Robert and Brecklyn Neal; and by numerous cousins.

Graveside services were held December 31, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at American Heritage Cemetery and Funeral Home.



Richard A. Reker

Richard A. Reker, 75, of Midland passed away on Saturday, December 28, 2013. A rosary will be held on Wednesday, January 1, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church. Memorial services will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church with Monsignor Larry Droll officiating.

Richard was born on April 27, 1938 to Caroline and Charles Reker in Jasper, Indiana. Richard grew up in Jasper and graduated from Jasper High School in 1956 and then Lockyear Business College. Richard married the love of his life, Suzanna Orth, on September 5, 1959

in Indiana. He worked at RK Petroleum as an accountant in Illinois and then transferred to Midland, Texas in 1978.

Richard was a very patient man. He provided the best life for his family, not only financially but spiritually as well. Richard taught his family about having faith, as well as how to walk by faith and not by sight. The most important thing in life for Richard was spending time with his family, and most of all his grandchildren. Richard was their biggest supporter. He never missed any of their extracurricular activities.

Richard was in the Knights of Columbus 3071 Midland Council, the Share & Care Group at St. Ann's Catholic Church for over 20 years, and he served on the St. Ann's Parish Educational Endowment Board.

Survivors include his wife, Suzanna Reker; son, Keith and wife Donna Reker; son, Karl and wife Wendy Reker; daughter-in-law, Kelli Reker; seven grandchildren, Charles Reker (Jennifer), Steven Reker, Emily Edwards (Kelton), Adam Reker, Braxton Reker, Delaney Reker, Preston Reker; and by one great-grandchild, Jack Reker.

He was preceded in death by his son, Kevin Reker.

The family would like to thank all of the CCU Nurses and Respiratory Therapists at Midland Memorial Hospital for all of their services.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be donated to St. Ann's Parish Educational Endowment Fund Inc., 1906 W Texas Avenue, Midland, TX 79701.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at <http://www.npwelch.com>.

Death Notices

L.O. Brewer

L.O. Brewer, 83, passed away Sunday, December 29, 2013 at Seminole Memorial Hospital in Seminole, Texas.

He is survived by two daughters, Vicki Jensen and Pam Burrell; one brother; 5 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held Friday, January 3, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. at Plainview Cemetery in Plainview, Texas. The family will greet friends and visitors on Thursday, January 2, 2014 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Boyer Funeral Home in Seminole, Texas.

Roy Raul Rodriguez

Roy Raul Rodriguez, 47, of Big Spring, Texas passed away Tuesday, December 24, 2013 at Stanton Care Center in Stanton, Texas.

Private family services will be held at a later date. He is survived by two daughters, Sabrina Rodriguez and Maleri Bean; his father, Alfonso Rodriguez; seven sisters; and four brothers.

www.westtexas.com
Questions about death notices or online Guest Books?
Email to obits@mrt.com

O'Connor, advocate for Mexican journalists, dies at 67

By Michael Weissenstein
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Mike O'Connor, a veteran war correspondent who became a tough advocate and counselor for threatened journalists in one of the world's most dangerous countries for the press, has died. He was 67.

O'Connor, the Mexico representative of the Committee to Protect Journalists, died in his sleep at his home in Mexico City on Sunday. The cause was a heart attack, according to his wife Tracy Wilkinson, who is bureau chief for the Los Angeles Times.

Local journalists and colleagues remembered O'Connor as a man with an unparalleled grasp of the perils and complexities of working as a journalist

in Mexico. Hard on those he felt were failing to protect reporters, O'Connor showed boundless sympathy for journalists struggling to maintain careers and personal lives in the face of threats.

"He would spend hours over the phone with local journalists in the most isolated places in Mexico, just to listen to the stories and to try to help them cope with fear," said Carlos Lauria, senior Americas program coordinator for the New York-based nonprofit where O'Connor had worked since 2009.

Born in a refugee camp where his father was stationed in post-war Germany, O'Connor lived along the U.S.-Mexican border with his parents, often moving between the two countries on short notice, a childhood he described in a 2007 memoir, "Crisis, Pursued by Disaster, Followed Closely by Catastro-

phe: A Memoir of Life on the Run."

O'Connor worked as a television reporter in California, then covered Latin America during the 1980s for CBS News before moving into print, writing for The New York Times in Central America and the former Yugoslavia. He also reported for National Public Radio from Haiti, where he earned an Overseas Press Club award, the former Yugoslavia and the Middle East, where he covered the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"He was a journalist and this made him different from other members of groups that protect the press and freedom of expression," said Marcela Turati, a reporter who covers the drug war for the investigative news magazine Proceso. "He took defending journalists very personally."

O'Connor was one of the

most important forces behind a 2012 Mexican law giving federal authorities greater powers to prosecute crimes against journalists in Mexico. The Committee to Protect Journalists says 29 have been killed in the country in retaliation for their work since 1992.

O'Connor's reporting skills and knowledge of Mexico allowed him to pierce the secrecy and ambiguity around many attacks and determine which had been motivated by the victims' work and which were unrelated.

At one press conference in the Pacific Coast state of Sinaloa, long dominated by a cartel of the same name, O'Connor issued a challenge to authorities, saying "Who's in control here? You or them? In the government, the governor's office, who's in control?" remembered Javier Valdez Cardenas, a correspondent for the Sinaloa paper

Rio Doce.

O'Connor also made many trips to Mexican states where journalists were under daily threat, producing vivid, highly detailed reports on areas that were receiving little national or international attention.

U.S. State Department spokesman Jen Psaki issued a message of condolences on O'Connor's death, calling him "a fearless truth seeker" as well as "a passionate and articulate voice of conscience for many." "We honor the memory of Mike O'Connor, and know that his legacy will inspire many to keep fighting for truth and for the defense of human rights and a vibrant, free press," Psaki wrote.

O'Connor is survived by his wife, two sons from a previous marriage, and two granddaughters, as well as two sisters and two half-brothers.

MPD: Man arrested for allegedly snapping woman's wrist

From staff reports

A Midland man was arrested Friday after a woman claimed he broke her wrist, according to court documents.

David Russell Spencer, 54, was being held on a \$100,000 bond for a first-degree felony charge of aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury to a family member.

A Midland police officer was on patrol at about 6:30 p.m. Friday near the intersection of Lamesa Road

and Texas Avenue. A woman waved down the officer and said a man broke her arm. The man, Spencer, was intoxicated and began walking toward traffic when the officer asked for his identification.

The officer observed her left wrist, which appeared to have a bone protruding from the skin. She said Spencer grabbed her wrist and twisted it until it snapped, according to the arrest affidavit.

If convicted, Spencer faces five to 99 years in prison.

MPD: Drunk man passes out at restaurant, assaults officer

From staff reports

A Midland man who allegedly was intoxicated and passed out at a local restaurant assaulted a police officer who arrested him, according to his arrest affidavit.

Randy Dwayne Rogers, 28, is being held on a \$30,500 bond for a third-degree felony charge of assault on a public servant, a class B misdemeanor charge of possession of marijuana less than 2 ounces and a class C misdemeanor charge of public intoxication.

The officer responded at about 5:45 a.m. Saturday to check on a person who had passed out at his table at the Denny's at 3701 W. Wall St. Emergency personnel

determined that the man, Rogers, was highly intoxicated and he was arrested for public intoxication.

The officer said Rogers would not comply with his instructions, and he had to use physical force to place Rogers in the patrol car.

He searched Rogers' car and found a partially burned marijuana cigarette on the floorboard. Rogers then started hitting the back passenger window of the patrol car and screaming at the officer.

While the officer attempted to gain control over the situation, Rogers kicked the officer in the pelvic region. The officer had to use pepper spray to subdue Rogers, according to the affidavit.

If convicted, Rogers could face up to 10 years in prison for the felony charge.

MPD searching for man last seen on Saturday

From staff reports

Midland Police Department is asking for the community's help in locating a man who was last seen on Saturday, according to the city's public information officer.

Gregory Thomas Randolph Donaghe, 31, was seen at 6:20 a.m. on Saturday at the southside Wal-Mart, where he purchased a box of cigarettes and a Red Bull. He then walked west across the parking lot toward his temporary residence at Park Glen Apartments and was never

seen again, said Sara Higgins, city PIO.

Donaghe is described as 5 feet 9 inches tall, with brown hair, hazel eyes and a scar in the middle of his forehead. He has a Japanese tribal cat tattoo on his left arm and a tattoo on the outside of his left ankle with the word "SOCAL." He has last seen wearing a brown VANS hoodie, black work shirt, blue jeans and black Nike tennis shoes, Higgins said.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Midland Police Department at 685-7169.

FELONY ARRESTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Carlos A. Angeles Jr., 21, of Midland, was charged Monday with unlawful manufacturing of a dangerous drug.

Juan M. Carrasco, 22, of Midland, was charged Monday with possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Edmundo L. Villarreal, 48, of Midland, was charged Monday with driving while intoxicated three or more times.

Shoriezetta S. Warren, 24, of Midland, was charged Monday with driving while intoxicated with a child passenger under 15 years of age.

Obed E. Borjon, 31, of Midland, was charged Sunday with unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon and tampering with or fabricating physical

evidence. David R. Ortiz, 33, of Midland, was charged Sunday with evading arrest and detention with a vehicle.

Jacob Porras, 34, of Midland, was charged Sunday with deadly conduct by discharging a firearm.

Ricky J. Spratt, 33, of Midland, was charged Sunday with unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

Mario Villa-Deigado Jr., 50, of El Paso, was charged Sunday with possession of a controlled substance between 28 and 200 grams.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

ENERGY

From 1B

Mexico, there is a recognition that you need the appropriate safety. Some companies may look at some of the security risks and say, no thank you. But the situation is not as dramatic as it was a few years ago, and all the folks we are advising are folks who are interested in the space.

The reform also includes opening up the power sector to private investment, allowing private

generation to compete for the first and for private retailers. This has been called one of the most fundamental changes of the Mexican energy reform.

A: The Federal Electricity Commission has been state-owned but will now be thrown into the open market. They plan to create an independent system operator, but there is the potential for a very chaotic landscape, where lots of changes are going on, but no one knows for sure what they will be.

Table with columns for channel, time, and program listings for Wednesday Prime Time, January 1, 2014.

NAFTA

From 1B

trade with China and other Asian nations has grown even faster in the last two decades. More foreign automakers have set up plants in Mexico, which now produces about 3 million vehicles per year.

But Mexico's auto jobs are notoriously low-paying, and little progress has been made in closing the wage gap with the U.S. Average manufacturing industry wages in Mexico were about 15 percent of U.S. wages in 1997.

The North American Development Bank, part of the side agreements to the accord, has spent more than \$1.33 billion to finance border projects for drinking water, waste water and sewage treatment.

U.S. exports of spent lead-acid car batteries to Mexico spiked 500 percent between 2004 and 2011. Authorities are only now beginning to consider certification requirements for companies that export batteries for processing to recover the lead.

NAFTA has done a very good job of protecting foreign investors, however. The trade pact set up binding arbitration panels, where investors can bypass the courts with complaints that government regulation unfairly affects their businesses.

The (arbitration) process is not like the domestic court system, it's not fair and open," said Scott Sinclair of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

The U.S. government is pushing to include the same system in the TPP. And agricultural openings, as in NAFTA, are proving controversial; in developing countries, farms are culturally sensitive, big employers and often are the first to suffer in trade pacts.

"They have left us at a disadvantage," said Josefina Rosas, a corn farmer who is trying to introduce better farming techniques to lower the use of costly fertilizers and store-bought hybrid seeds in the Pacific coast town of Azoyu, Guerrero. Still, with all her efforts small farmers often don't make back the costs of planting.

"We don't have the conditions to compete," Rosas said.

BANANAGRAMS!

For each word or phrase below, rearrange the letters to spell two new words that are trees. For example: LEAP AMOK can be rearranged to spell OAK and MAPLE.

Word puzzle grid with letters C H A S E S M A Y O R and other words to be rearranged.

Yesterday's Answer: FEUD, TAX, E CUE, CUT, FAXED, ZEE.

Advertisement for Midland Humane Coalition, featuring a dog named Aubrey and a cat named Solo, with contact information and a thank you to Brown's Permian Electric.

Be on the lookout for missing Capitol marker

Well, this is kind of embarrassing. Not as embarrassing, perhaps, as the devastating arson fire that decimated the heavily guarded Governor's Mansion back in 2008, but embarrassing nonetheless.

Seems that somebody or somebodies have stolen the official Texas Historical Marker that officially marked the heavily guarded Texas Capitol as historically worth marking. Nobody seems to know who took it or where it went. (I'm no detective and I don't mean to cast aspersions, but shouldn't we check the frat houses?)

Here are the troubling facts; as relayed to me by Ali James, the State Preservation Board's curator of the Capitol:

"The historical marker was on a pole to the east of the 11th Street entrance to the Capitol. A small portion of the pole remains in place showing its location. The marker was placed (around 1995 upon the completion of the building restoration and disappeared at some point during the last couple of years. We look forward to the placement of the new marker sometime in 2014."

Sure enough, there's kind of a slightly rusted, headless, hollow pole where the marker used to be, just outside the Capitol fence on East 11th Street. It's pretty sad looking, though not without function. It's become a trash receptacle.

James said the Preservation Board is in contact with the Department of Public Safety "with regards to the marker." DPS said it recently got the report about the missing marker

KEN HERMAN
Cox Newspapers



mystery and, spokesman Tom Vinger said, "we are looking into it." Best the Preservation Board can tell, the marker disappeared between June 12, 2009, and Jan. 12, 2011.

I told James I'd keep an eye out for the missing marker. You should too. We're looking for a 27-inch-by-42-inch marker with the title "The Texas Capitol" and it has a nice, concise history of our historic (and now historical markerless) Capitol.

Records show the marker was placed in 1976, thanks to the Kiwanis Club of the University Area. The legislative resolution, sponsored by then-Rep. Wilhelmina Delco, D-Austin, authorizing its placement at the Capitol said the building "stands in significant grandeur in the center of the City of Austin (and) is a symbol of this state's great heritage and of state government at its best."

Interestingly, a proposed draft of the resolution noted there was "no official State Historical Marker pointing out the unusual manner by which this building was constructed and paid for." That verbiage was not in the final version of the resolution. Somebody, I guess, didn't want to broach the topic of the unusual manners in which the Texas Legislature sometimes pays for stuff.

A grand ceremony for the marker was held on Aug. 25, 1976. Former Texas Attorney General John Ben Shepperd was the featured speaker.

"Every school child in Texas would immediately recognize that this beloved building — with its unsurpassed heritage, legacy, challenge, character and identity — far exceeds any other in the state in all these categories," Shepperd said.

And he said the real question about "this citadel of freedom, of state foresight, ingenuity, pride, protector of sovereign rights and vehicle for state responsibilities" is "not whether it is worthy of being awarded one of these official Texas Historical Markers, but whether the marker is worthy of it."

He noted that "a Yankee from Detroit" won the design contest for the building and "another one from Illinois got the contract in 1882, then he sold three-fourths of it to four more Yankees to get the money to build it."

"The Civil War was over," Shepperd said.

The historical marker was removed during the 1990-95 extensive restoration of the Capitol. James said it went back up shortly after the project was completed. And it remained in place until it was removed by a person or persons

unidentified on a date uncertain to parts unknown.

Maybe the replacement should have a GPS-enabled chip that would allow law enforcement to track it down next time it leaves campus.

James said the process for coming up with a replacement marker includes "reviewing the text to determine any minor edits the State Preservation Board might want to make." I'm sure she meant that experts with specific, important knowledge about the Capitol will be consulted to see if any changes should be made.

But, though I'm sure she wasn't asking for it, I'm taking James' comment as an invitation for any and all members of the great Texas public to offer suggestions on what might be appropriate on an historical marker at the Texas Capitol.

My inbox is now open for your suggestions. I'll kick it off with this proposed text, in full, for the marker: "The Texas Capitol: Don't ask."

The text on the missing Texas Capitol historical marker:

Austin became the capital of Texas Jan. 19, 1840, and this hill was platted as Capitol Square. A modest statehouse built here in the 1850s soon developed structural flaws. The Constitutional Convention of 1876 set aside 3,000,000 acres of public land to finance another building. This was authorized after the 1850s Capitol burned on Nov. 9, 1881.

Architect E.E. Myers of Detroit won a national competition with his plans for this Capitol. The contractor was Mattheas Schnell of Rock Island, Ill.

Basement excavation began early in 1882. Railroads built especially for this project hauled limestone from the Oatmanville quarries in Travis County as well as stone donated by the owners of the Granite Mountain in Burnet County. The 900 workmen on the project included 86 granite cutters brought from Scotland. Charles B. and John V. Farwell, Chicago bankers, funded the construction and were repaid in land in ten Panhandle counties, on which they found the famous XIT Ranch. At dedication ceremonies on May 18, 1888, the Capitol was accepted on behalf of the people by state senator Temple Houston, son of Texas hero Sam Houston. He called it a "structure that shall stand as a sentinel of eternity."

HEARING

From 1B

other groups.

De Los Santos has led the effort to force the Department of Agriculture to permit the plants, spark-

ing an emotional, national debate on whether horses are livestock or companion animals.

Animal protection groups have thrown their support behind King.

Proponents argue it is better to slaughter unwanted horses domestically than have them shipped thousands of miles to Canada or less humane facilities in Mexico.

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<p>Thirsty Thursday All Drinks \$1</p>	<p>Friday Football Fever 16 Tenders, Family Gravy, 2 Family Sides & 5 Rolls \$19.99</p>
<p>Kids Eat Free Saturdays With each adult combo purchase #1-6</p>	<p>Free Tea Sunday Free gallon of tea with all family meals #7-12</p>

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TODAY'S THE LAST DAY

RANKIN HWY 349 SOUTH ONE MILE SOUTH OF I-20

ACROSS FROM MR. W INDOOR WAREHOUSE

EAST HWY 80 & COUNTY RD. 1140

NEXT TO MR W LOOP 250 EAST AT COUNTY RD 1140

Expect and south becoming forecast ca low around 5 and 10 m

Thursday around 51 becoming the foreca during the high arou no rain in

The high low dropp 31 is 77 so in 1976.

Q: You hurry in the larger

A: Mo says Bren versity. " at Fairfiel noon to m ing the te

DEAR come to 2 world spi With each chance fo It's an op destructiv ate health in mind, requested resolution by my m from the Al-Anon

JUST live thro will not or obsess will not or try to problems can do so that woul had to ke

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JUST improve somethi thought will not

JUST make a agreeab courteo

The st

HAPPY 2014:

This ye to be o a joke o of this the oth likely mate. Y know t that yo your be her de more c

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TAUR not ap know more o your f back a

GEM your p loved heartl irritati pressu person

CAN Moon sign. bit ou ing st Let th are th

LEO playi your Some fight, Deal good

VIRG New

TODAY: Sunny  High: 64 Low: 30	THURSDAY: Sunny  High: 51 Low: 29	FRIDAY: Mostly sunny  High: 58 Low: 35	SATURDAY: Partly cloudy  High: 68 Low: 32	SUNDAY: Partly cloudy  High: 55 Low: 41	MONDAY: Partly cloudy  High: 54 Low: 23
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Local forecast

Expect sunny skies today, a high around 64 and southwest winds between 5 and 10 mph becoming north in the afternoon. Tonight's forecast calls for mostly clear conditions, a low around 30 and northeast winds between 5 and 10 mph.

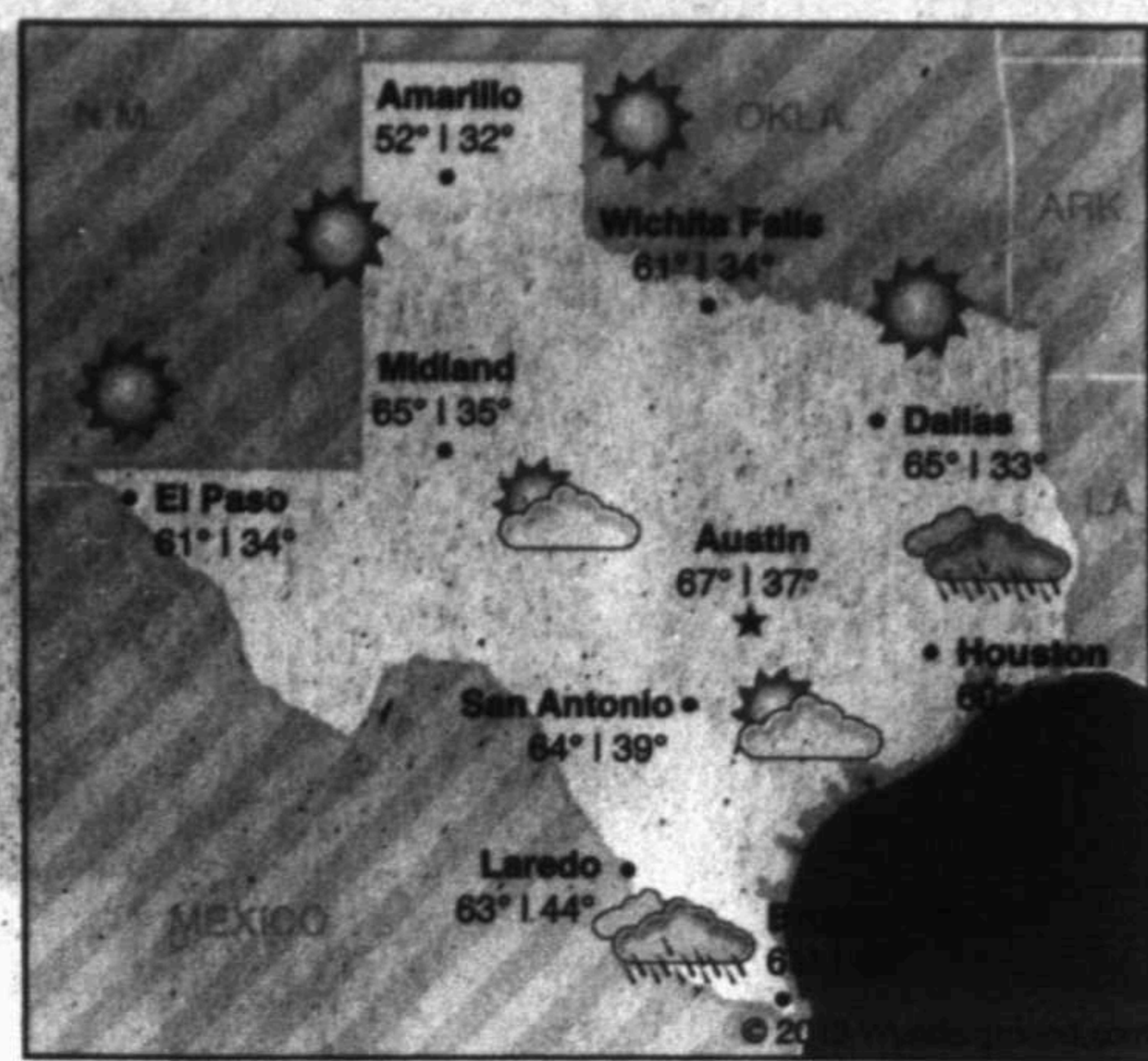
Thursday, look for sunny skies, a high around 51 and northeast winds around 5 mph becoming southeast in the afternoon. Friday, the forecast calls for mostly sunny skies during the day, partly cloudy skies at night, a high around 58 and a low around 35. There is no rain in the seven-day forecast.

The high on Tuesday reached 56, while the low dropped to 27. The record high for Dec. 31 is 77 set in 2011. The record low is 14 set in 1976.

Weather why

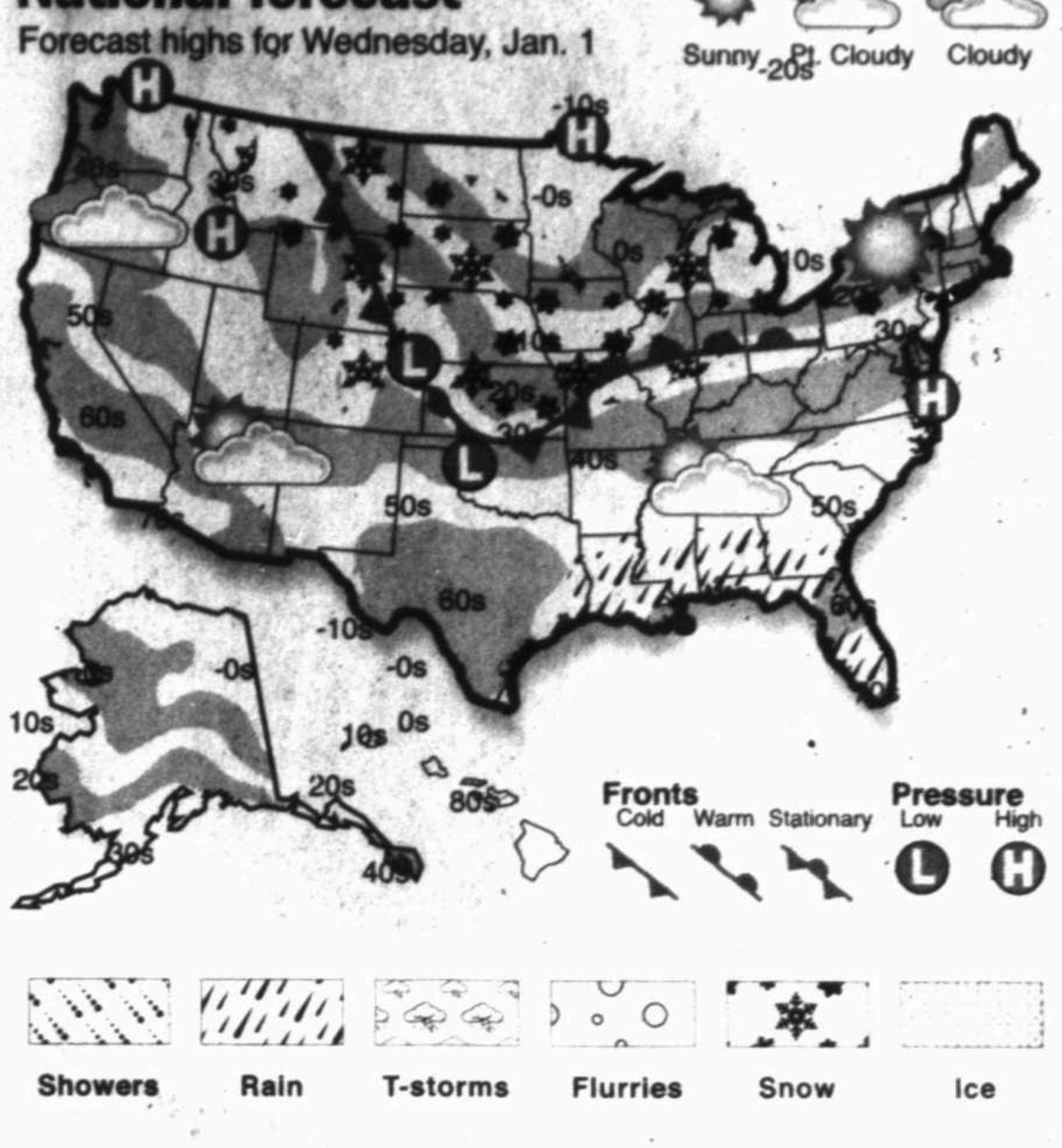
Q: You often see temperatures fall in a hurry in some parts of the country. What's the largest temperature drop in the U.S.?

A: Montana appears to hold the record, says Brent McRoberts, of Texas A&M University. "On Dec. 14, 1924, the temperature at Fairfield, Mont., went from 63 degrees at noon to minus 21 degrees at midnight, meaning the temperature fell 84 degrees.



Precipitation	Tuesday's temperatures
Monday 0.00 in.	High.....56
Tuesday 0.00 in.	Low27
Month total 1.44 in.	Normal high57
Year total 8.51 in.	Normal low30
Normal total (year to date) 14.60 in.	Sunrise7:49 a.m.
	Sunset5:56 p.m.

National forecast



Today is our opportunity to make a fresh start

DEAR READERS: Welcome to 2014! It seems like the world spins faster every year. With each new year comes our chance for a new beginning. It's an opportunity to discard destructive old habits and create healthy new ones. With that in mind, I will share my often-requested list of New Year's resolutions that were adapted by my mother, Pauline Phillips, from the original credo of Al-Anon:

JUST FOR TODAY: I will live through this day only. I will not brood about yesterday or obsess about tomorrow. I will not set far-reaching goals or try to overcome all of my problems at once. I know that I can do something for 24 hours that would overwhelm me if I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will be happy. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. If my mind fills with clouds, I will chase them away and fill it with sunshine.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will accept what is. I will face reality. I will correct those things that I can correct and accept those I cannot.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will improve my mind. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration. I will not be a mental loafer.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will be kind and courteous to those who cross

my path, and I'll not speak ill of others. I will improve my appearance, speak softly, and not interrupt when someone else is talking.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will refrain from improving anybody but myself.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will do something positive to improve my health. If I'm a smoker, I'll quit. If I am overweight, I will eat healthfully — if only for today. And not only that, I will get off the couch and take a brisk walk, even if it's only around the block.

JUST FOR TODAY: I will gather the courage to do what is right and take the responsibility for my own actions.

And now, Dear Readers, I would like to share an item that was sent to me by I.J. Bhatia, a reader from New Delhi, India:

DEAR ABBY: This year, no resolutions, only some guidelines. The Holy Vedas say: "Man has subjected himself to thousands of self-inflicted bondages. Wisdom comes to a man who lives according to the true eternal laws of nature."

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.



The prayer of St. Francis (of which there are several versions) contains a powerful message:

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;

"Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

"Where there is injury, pardon;

"Where there is doubt, faith;

"Where there is despair, hope;

"Where there is darkness, light;

"And where there is sadness, joy."

"Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

"To be understood, as to understand;

"To be loved, as to love;

"For it is in giving that we receive,

"It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

"And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

And so, Dear Readers, may this new year bring with it good health, peace and joy to all of you. — LOVE, ABBY

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Irina rules

East-West vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH	▲ A 5 4	▲ K Q 9 5	▲ A 8	▲ J 5 3
WEST	▲ 9	▲ J 10 6 4 3	▲ 10 9 7 6	▲ A 6 4
EAST	▲ 10 8 7 2	▲ 7	▲ K Q 5 3	▲ K Q 9 7
SOUTH	▲ K Q J 6 3	▲ 8 2	▲ J 4 2	▲ 10 8 2

(Hands rotated.) The bidding:

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	1♠*	Pass	1♠
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

*Asking for three-card spade support

Opening lead: Ten of

This hand is from the World Championship Ladies Teams, known as the Venice Cup, played in Bali, Indonesia recently. South was Irina Levitina of New York, representing the United States.

Declarer won the ace of diamonds and played a trump to her king. She reasoned that East's double, as a vulnerable

passed hand; surely meant that she held a singleton heart. This presumed 5-1 heart split would prevent her from developing dummy's long heart for her 10th trick, and the other suits offered no hope. Levitina backed her card-reading with her courage and led a heart toward dummy at trick three, inserting dummy's nine when West played low! She now had the 10 tricks she needed — five spades, four hearts, and one diamond.

The percentages were in her favor. There were four low hearts outstanding and only two high ones — the jack and 10. Should East have a singleton heart, as declarer believed, it was twice as likely to be a low card rather than a high card.

There is a legitimate defense to defeat this contract. East-West must start with three rounds of clubs, ending in the East hand. The fourth round of clubs now promotes a trump trick for East.

The new year starts with a beautifully played hand. May there be many more. Happy New Year!

DAILY CROSSWORD

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18 Go-___ small racer	8 "Rank below earl		
19 Dry gulch	9 Beale Street blues legend		
20 Write-Out maker	10 "Driving hazard		
21 Mind flash	11 Cornfield measure		
22 Move, to an agent	12 "Ciao!"		
24 Seemingly forever	14 Food recall cause		
26 Doing the math, in a way	17 Watched		
28 Top priority	23 Deli counter qty.		
31 National rival	25 Times in history		
33 Supreme Court justice Kagan	26 "Theater guide		
35 Dark horse	27 Procter & Gamble toothpaste		
36 "With 45-Across, Iowa's most populous city	29 Polish target		
37 Many Greta Garbo films, and what you'll find at the intersections of four pairs of answers to starred clues	30 Prepare a blog post, say		
39 Runway disaster	31 Yemen's Gulf of ___		
40 Bigger picture: Abbr.	32 Part of a memorable boast		
41 Fireplace bit			
42 Ill humor			
43 Caroline and Maria, to Ted Kennedy			
45 "See 36-Across			
48 Some cosmetic surgeries, for short			
50 Middy			
51 Fail to mention			
53 Classic Pontiac			
55 Crunchy snack			
59 Gift-bearing trio			
60 "Aptly named New York region			
62 Longing			
63 Company removed from the Dow 30 in 2013			
64 Sicilian resort			
65 Fish catchers			
66 Scout's good work			
67 Positive votes			

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

S	L	U	M	A	V	I	S	O	M	O	A	T
C	A	P	E	L	E	G	O	S	I	N	G	E
A	I	D	E	A	E	O	N	S	S	O	O	N
B	R	O	K	E	N	D	R	E	A	M	S	
				E	S	A	U		O	U	S	T
G	H	O	S	T	B	L	I	N	D	S	P	O
R	A	P	T	O	R	E	D	U	A	P	E	R
A	V	I	P	E	P	T	A	L	K	E	R	R
P	E	A	U	N	E	A	L	A	D	D	I	E
H	O	T	P	O	T	A	T	O	P	R	O	D
S	N	E	A	D					T	R	U	E
					H	O	W	S	W	E	E	T
L	U	B	E		H	E	E	L	S		D	A
I	K	E	A		E	X	A	L	T		E	L
D	E	E	D		T	Y	R	O	S		L	E

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/01/14

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 Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014:

This year you eye a new beginning. You will tend to be overserious, and you sometimes might take a joke or a fun comment the wrong way. Be aware of this tendency to make more of a statement than the other party intended. If you are single, you are likely to meet someone you feel is your soul mate. You naturally will take your time getting to know this person. If you are attached, understand that you might be a little too me-oriented. Do your best to make time for your partner and his or her desires. A fellow CAPRICORN might be more challenging than you think.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ The New Moon christens the New Year. This specific New Moon carries responsibilities and a serious tone with it. This event is merely a passage. Make time for what you enjoy, whether you watch a football game or visit with friends. Tonight: Get some much-needed rest.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ You might not appreciate the insight you gain, yet you still know how to look at the big picture. Do not make more of a situation than is necessary. Catch up on your friends' and family's news. Tonight: Don't back away from an important question.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Make it your pleasure to share your resolutions with a loved one. You might find that a child or a new heartthrob could aggravate you and be a source of irritation. A change of plans could take some pressure off you. Tonight: Be with your favorite person.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★★ The New Moon affects you more than it affects any other sign. Partners, friends and loved ones could feel a bit out of sync. They could be acting out or making strange requests. You understand moodiness. Let this roll off your back like water. Tonight: You are the party.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ You could be playing it unusually low-key, perhaps because your mind is on taking care of another person. Someone actually might try to engage you in a fight, just to see some of your spark come out. Deal with this person directly. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★★ Today's New Moon might affect your mood toward a

loved one, or if you're single, it could ignite a new romance. Children could be very touchy or serious. Use your imagination to help others perk up. Your resourcefulness emerges. Tonight: Let the romantic within come out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ You could be more irritable than you have been in a while. Whatever symbolism this particular day holds for you might need evaluation. In any case, you have a very serious and touchy overtone to whatever you do. Tonight: Don't be surprised at others' distancing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ Speak your mind with a little diplomacy, and you will get positive results. Others could be unusually sensitive and reactive. If you find that you are getting angry, try to detach rather than judge the situation. Tonight: Make a call to a friend.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ A loved one might need to kick up his or her heels. Avoid a discussion, at least for today. Don't make any financial commitments at present; otherwise, there could be a problem. Tonight: Try not to let someone pick your brain on a certain topic.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ You might want to revise your New Year's resolutions after some thought. Do it today, while the symbolism of the New Year still exists. Some of you could be overserious and decide not to follow through on a resolution. Tonight: Let the party begin.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ You will sense that a partner or loved one is off or depressed. You might choose to express your sensitive side when interacting with this person. Hold off on making any judgments. News from a distance could be irritating at best. Tonight: Take some personal time for yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ The New Moon could give power to an important resolution or decision on your part. This notion might stem from an extended period of deep thought and evaluation. Let go of seriousness for now, and head over to a get-together of loved ones. Tonight: Let the party begin.

BORN TODAY

Silversmith Paul Revere (1735), seamstress Betsy Ross (1752), FBI chief J. Edgar Hoover (1895)



AP photo

This handout photo provided by University of Colorado, Boulder, taken Dec. 20, shows University of Colorado, Boulder, student Karlie Johansen collecting a saliva sample from 3-year-old Anders Todd, as part of a study of sleep patterns in young children. In an earlier study, researchers reported that if young children continually struggle to fall asleep at night, it might be because their body clock is out of sync with their bedtime.

BEDTIME

Body clock may be to blame when tots fight sleep

By Lauran Neergaard
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — “Just one more story, please?” “I need a glass of water.” “Mom, I can’t sleep!”

When youngsters continually struggle to fall asleep at night, new research suggests maybe their body clock doesn’t match their bedtime.

That doesn’t mean tots should be up at all hours.

“Just like nutrition and exercise, sleep is critical for good health,” said sleep scientist Monique LeBourgeois of the University of Colorado, Boulder, who is leading the research.

The ultimate goal is to help reset a delayed sleep clock so that young children can settle down more easily, she said. Hint: It seems to have a lot to do with light.

We all have what’s called a circadian rhythm, a master biological clock, that regulates when we become sleepy, and when we’re more alert. Those patterns vary with age: It’s the reason teenagers are notorious for late nights and difficult-to-wake mornings.

But how does that clock work in preschoolers, who need more sleep than older kids or adults? A first-of-its-kind study tracked 14 healthy youngsters for six days to begin finding out.

The children, ages 2 1/2 to 3, wore activity monitors on their wrists to detect when they slept. Parents kept diaries about bedtime routines.

Then on the last afternoon, researchers visited each home, dimming lights and covering windows. Then, every 30 minutes for six hours leading up to the child’s appointed bedtime, they also coaxed each tot to chew on some dental cotton to provide a sample of saliva.

The reason: To test for levels of a hor-

mone named melatonin that is key to the sleep cycle and also sensitive to light. At some point every evening, people’s melatonin levels surge and a while later, they begin to feel sleepy. Among adults who sleep well, that melatonin rise tends to happen about two hours before whatever is their chosen bedtime.

For preschoolers, the new study found that on average, the melatonin surge occurred around 7:40 p.m. The children tended to be tucked in around 8:10 p.m., and most were asleep 30 minutes later, LeBourgeois reported in the journal *Mind, Brain and Education*.

When melatonin rose earlier in the evening, tots who hit the sack around 8 fell asleep a bit faster. But when the melatonin surge was closer to bedtime, the youngsters were more likely to fuss or make curtain calls after lights-out.

Two children in the study actually were tucked in before their rise in melatonin ever occurred, and it took them up to an hour past bedtime to fall asleep, she said.

“We don’t know what that sweet spot is yet,” LeBourgeois said, but the data suggest bedtime is easiest if the melatonin surge occurred at least 30 minutes earlier.

The study reinforces what doctors have long suspected is one bedtime barrier, said Dr. Jyoti Krishna, a pediatric sleep expert at the Cleveland Clinic. Other factors can disrupt a child’s sleep, too, such as noise, stress or anxiety, or disrupted home routines, he cautioned.

“But this paper reminds us that, hey, there is a time that the body is more ready to sleep than at other times,” Krishna said.

The National Institutes of Health said preschoolers need 11 to 12 hours of sleep each day; some typically comes from an afternoon nap.

Parents don’t have melatonin tests as a guide, so Krishna advises looking for cues when setting a bedtime — yawning,

rubbing eyes — and then to adjust that bedtime as the child gets older.

“The melatonin onset and our body rhythms change,” Krishna said. “You can’t stick to what worked two years ago with this child, because this child is now a different child.”

About 25 percent of young children experience some type of sleep difficulty, including trouble settling down at bedtime, LeBourgeois said. Harried parents aside, there’s concern that early-in-life bedtime frustration might lead to more persistent sleep trouble.

“Listen to your child’s physiology,” she advised. Some steps that might help:

- Research shows that in adults, too much light in the evening delays the melatonin surge and subsequent sleepiness. While there’s no data in young children yet, LeBourgeois said dimming the lights about an hour before bedtime makes sense.

- Avoid electronics near bedtime, because they generate a specific type of light that triggers wakefulness. LeBourgeois was horrified to hear one parent offer a sleepless youngster an iPad to play with as long as the child stayed in the bedroom.

- And make sure blackout shades aren’t keeping your children from getting enough morning sunlight, she said. Light in the morning also is key to keeping the biological sleep clock on schedule.

Stay tuned: With funding from the National Institute of Mental Health, LeBourgeois has begun a larger study that will track sleep patterns of 40 2-year-olds until they’re 5. She’ll also measure their light exposure, and periodically record their brain waves during sleep, in a bid to better understand the influence of sleep patterns on children’s development.

Cholesterol and Alzheimer’s link strengthens in study

By Melissa Healy
Los Angeles Times (MCT)

Well before signs of dementia trigger a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease, a person’s cholesterol levels may be a bellwether of amyloid plaque buildup in the brain, a new study finds. Long considered a reliable predictor of heart attacks and strokes, worrisome cholesterol levels may now raise concerns about dementia risk as well, prompting more aggressive use of drugs, including statins, that alter cholesterol levels.

The current study does “not convincingly exclude the possibility” that taking statins might lower amyloid deposition, the researchers said. But neither did it show that those taking cholesterol medication were less likely to have the sticky plaques that gum up brain function. Only a larger study that gathers more of subjects’ past health history can determine what role cholesterol-lowering medication might play in protecting against Alzheimer’s disease, the authors wrote.

Published Monday in the journal *JAMA Neurology*, the latest research used PET imaging to conduct a one-time “snapshot” of the brains of 74 older patients without dementia. They looked specifically to gauge the presence and concentration of amyloid plaques in brain regions most prone to early signs of the abnormal protein buildup: the frontal cortex, lateral parietal cortex, lateral temporal cortex, posterior cingulate and precuneus.

Past research has found higher levels of amyloid deposits in the post-mortem brains of people who had worrisome cholesterol readings before their death. But this is the first to find that beta-amyloid proteins may accumulate steadily in those living with higher cholesterol, possibly resulting — should one live long enough — in dementia symptoms.

Among the subjects, with an average age of 78, having high levels of LDL-C “bad” cholesterol was closely linked to having more amyloid plaque deposits in those regions. On average, those with low levels of HDL cholesterol — the “good” cholesterol that at high levels is protective against cardiovascular disease — also had more amyloid plaque in their brains.

The researchers, from the University of California, Berkeley, UC Davis and the University of Southern California, found that other measures physicians use to gauge a patient’s risk of heart attack or stroke — triglycerides and total cholesterol — had no clear relationship to amyloid plaques in the brain.

While none of the subjects in the study had been diagnosed with dementia, more than half suffered mild cognitive impairment — a decline in mental performance that sometimes progresses to Alzheimer’s disease. Three had been diagnosed with mild dementia.

As a group, the study’s subjects had been aggressively treated for high cholesterol, however. Their average cholesterol levels were within the optimum range set by the American Heart Association (until recently published guidelines minimized the importance of such guideposts). Because researchers had only a one-time snapshot of subjects’ cholesterol levels as well, they were unable to discern whether lowering cholesterol with medication resulted in fewer amyloid deposits.

Scans urged for people at high risk for lung cancer

By Lauran Neergaard
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Certain current or former heavy smokers should start getting yearly scans for lung cancer to cut their risk of death from the nation’s top cancer killer, government advisers said Monday — even as they stressed that the tests aren’t for everyone.

The long-anticipated decision by the influential U.S. Preventive Services Task Force said these CT scans of the lungs should be offered only to people at especially high risk: those who smoked a pack of cigarettes a day for 30 years or an equivalent amount, such as two packs a day for 15 years — and who are between the ages of 55 and 80.

That’s roughly 10 million people, but not all of them qualify for screening, said task force vice chairman Dr. Michael LeFevre, a University of Missouri family physician. Even those high-risk people shouldn’t be scanned if they’re not healthy enough to withstand cancer treatment, or if they kicked the habit more than 15 years ago.

Lung cancer kills nearly 160,000 Americans each year. Smoking is the biggest risk factor, and the more and longer people smoke, the higher their risk. Usually, lung cancer is diagnosed too late for treatment to succeed, but until now

there hasn’t been a good means of early detection.

The newly recommended screening could prevent as many as 20,000 deaths a year, LeFevre said — if it’s used correctly.

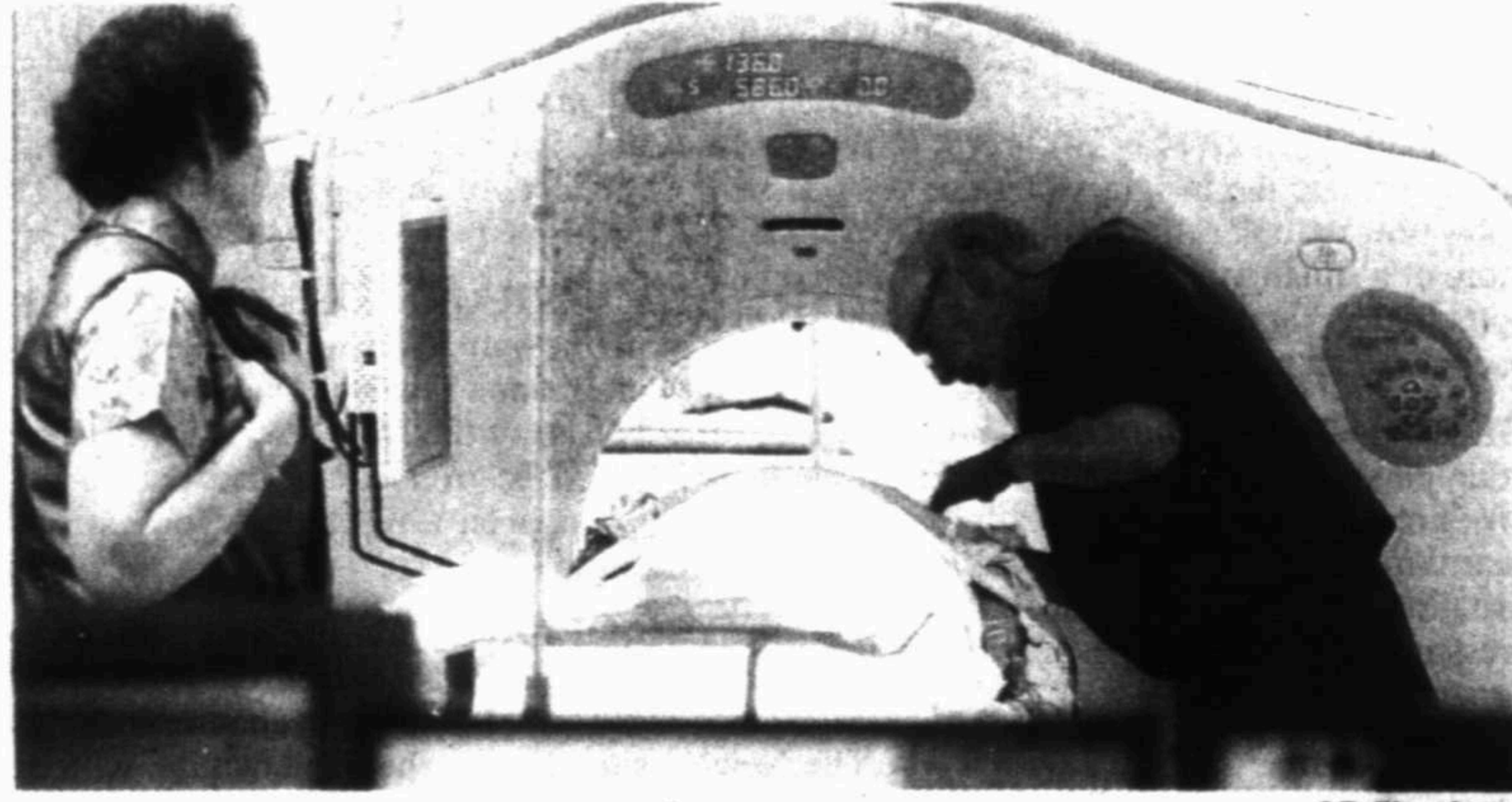
That estimate assumes good candidates seek the scans. There’s no way to know if people at the highest risk will, or if instead the overly anxious will flood testing centers.

Screen the wrong people, “and we could see more harm than good,” LeFevre said. “There’s a lot of room for what I would call people exploiting the recommendation. I can imagine a street-corner imaging center advertising to invite people in.”

Why not screen younger or lighter smokers? There’s no data to tell whether they’d be helped. Lung cancer is rare before age 50, and the major study that showed screening could save lives enrolled only heavy smokers starting at age 55.

But screening isn’t harm-free. A suspicious scan is far more likely to be a false alarm than a tumor, LeFevre said. Yet patients may undergo invasive testing to find out, which in turn can cause complications.

Moreover, radiation accumulated from even low-dose CT scans can raise the risk of cancer. And occasionally, screening detects tumors so small and slow-growing that they never would have threatened the



AP file photo

Dr. Steven Birnbaum works with a patient in a CT scanner at Southern New Hampshire Medical Center in Nashua, N.H., in this 2010 file photo. A national study suggests the world’s top cancer killer isn’t always as deadly as doctors once thought, finding that more than 18 percent of lung cancers detected in screening scans are likely so slow-growing that they’d never cause problems. But the provocative results are unlikely to change how doctors treat lung cancer.

person’s life. While screening clearly can benefit some people, “the best way to avoid lung cancer death is to stop smoking,” LeFevre said.

The task force proposed the screenings last summer but published its final recommendation Monday in the journal *Annals of Internal Medicine*. That clears the way for insurers to begin paying for

the scans, which cost between \$300 and \$500, according to the American Lung Association.

Under the Obama administration’s health care law, cancer screenings that are backed by the task force are supposed to be covered without copays, although plans have a year to adopt new recommendations.

SPORTS

Due to New Year's Eve, deadlines were pushed up to allow our employees a chance to enjoy the holiday. A number of Wednesday evening contests did not make today's paper.

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, January 1, 2014 | Section C

Webb's 4 TD passes tie Holiday Bowl record

By Bernie Wilson
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Davis Webb helped end Texas Tech's unsightly five-game losing streak while making sure the Red Raiders' seniors had a great sendoff.

The freshman threw for 403 yards and tied a Holiday Bowl record with four touchdown passes, and Texas Tech raced to a 37-23 victory over No. 16 Arizona State on Monday night.

Webb tied the record set by BYU's Jim McMahon in 1980 and matched by Kansas State's Brian Kavanagh in 1995 and Texas' Major Applewhite in 2001.

"When Coach told me I was going to start, there was nothing but joy," Webb said. "I told myself that I was going to make sure that I was going to send the seniors out right. We came prepared. We leaned on each other and we showed that today."

"It's pretty exhilarating right now. I'm so

Red Raiders 37
Sun Devils 23

proud of this team," he added.

The Red Raiders (8-5) won for the first time since beating West Virginia on Oct. 19. Arizona State (10-4) lost its second straight.

Webb completed 28 of 41 passes. He threw touchdown passes of 18 and 21 yards to Jakeem Grant, 1 yard to Rodney Hall and 23 yards to Bradley Marquez, all in the first half.

"He's really battled to separate himself all year," said first-year coach Kliff Kingsbury, a former Red Raiders quarterback.

"To play that young in this type of arena, D-1, that's very rare and I think he does a great job handling the pressure coming out here and making things happen," wide receiver Eric Ward said.

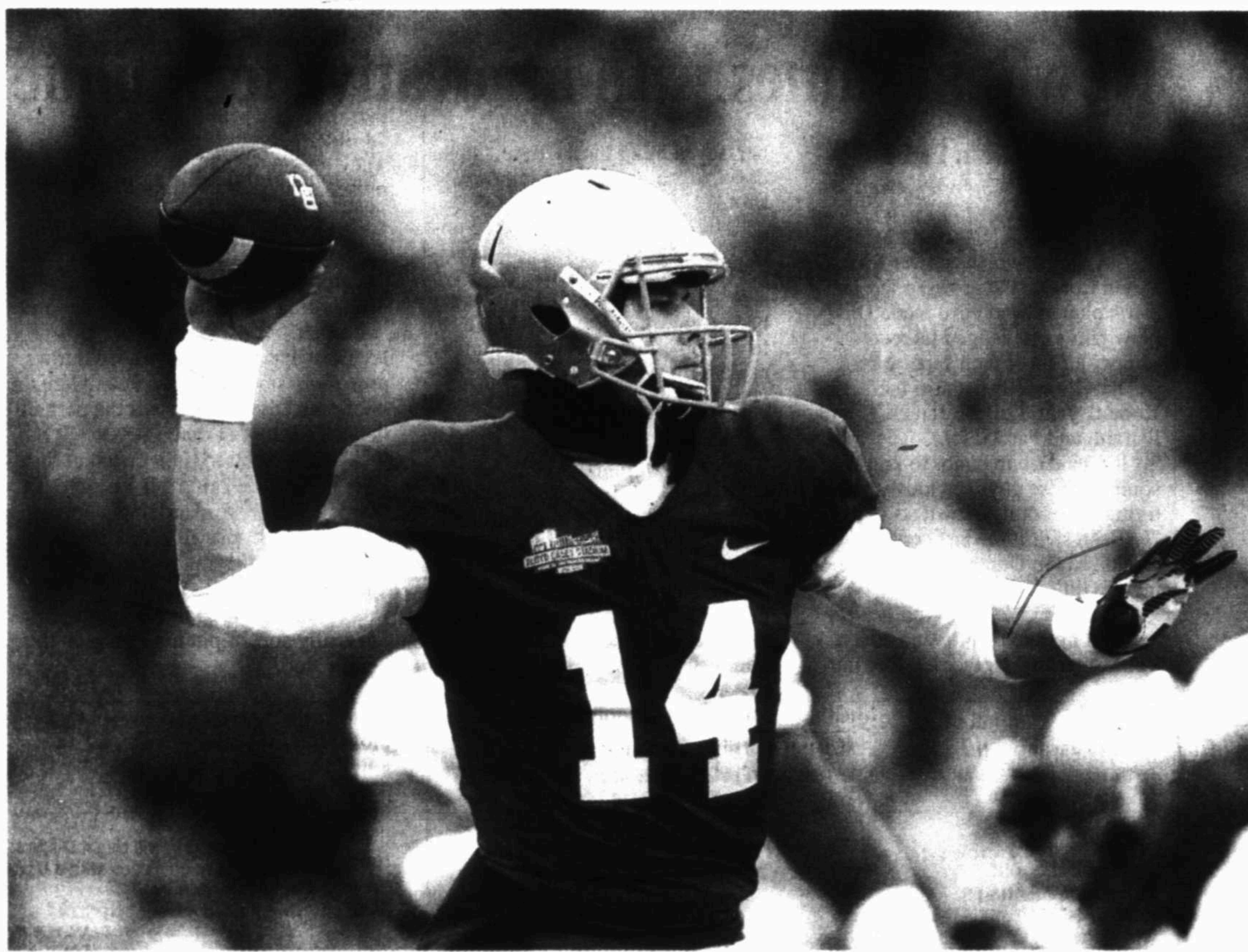
After losing their final five games by an

Please see HOLIDAY BOWL/4C



Texas Tech quarterback Davis Webb, left, throws a pass under pressure from Arizona State linebacker Carl Bradford, right, in the second half during the Holiday Bowl on Monday in San Diego.

RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR



Baylor quarterback Bryce Petty prepares to throw the ball during a game against Texas in Waco on Dec. 7.

North Texas near home vs. UNLV in Heart of Dallas

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

DALLAS — When North Texas became bowl eligible for the first time since 2004 after their victory on Halloween night,

The game

When: 11 a.m. today
Where: Cotton Bowl in Dallas
TV: ESPNU

What about Christmas in Hawaii? A trip to New Orleans or maybe New Year's Eve in Memphis?

Nope, the Mean Green seniors preferred staying close to home.

"I really was taken aback. Every one of them wanted to be in the Heart of Dallas Bowl," McCarney said. "It wasn't against anything else or anybody else. It was for family, for friends, for high school coaches, for all us to be together for their first and only bowl appearance for these seniors."

North Texas (8-4) got its wish and plays Wednesday against UNLV (7-5) in the Heart of Dallas Bowl in the historic Cotton Bowl stadium only about 45 miles from the Denton campus.

"As enticing as Hawaii sounds, I don't think a lot of parents or family members could have made that trip," quarterback Derek Thompson said. "I wanted to stay home and play in front of our fans, right down the road in our backyard."

The Mean Green have won six of their last seven games and came within one victory of playing in the Conference USA championship game in their first season in the new league. Before McCarney arrived three years ago, they were 13-58 the previous six seasons.

Please see DALLAS/4C

Knights hoping to avoid Fiesta blowout

By John Marshall
Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — By now, Central Florida has heard it over and over: It has no shot at beating No. 6 Baylor in the Fiesta Bowl.

Viewed as the team none of the other BCS bowls wanted, the 15th-ranked Knights landed in the Fiesta Bowl by earning an automatic berth as American Athletic Conference champions.

Awaiting Central Flor-

The game

When: 7:30 p.m. today
Where: University of Phoenix Stadium, Glendale, Ariz.
TV: ABC

ida on New Year's Day is the nation's most explosive offense, a group filled with big, athletic and fast players who churned out more yards than all but one team in FBS history.

But no way are the Knights intimidated. They're in a BCS bowl

for the first time and want to prove they belong, that they're not just some patsy for the Bears to beat up on.

"Our motivation is we're in a BCS bowl game and we're trying to put UCF on the map," UCF linebacker Terrance Plummer said. "This is our prime-time game, we want everyone to know about us, so as a team we're not worried about what others have to say

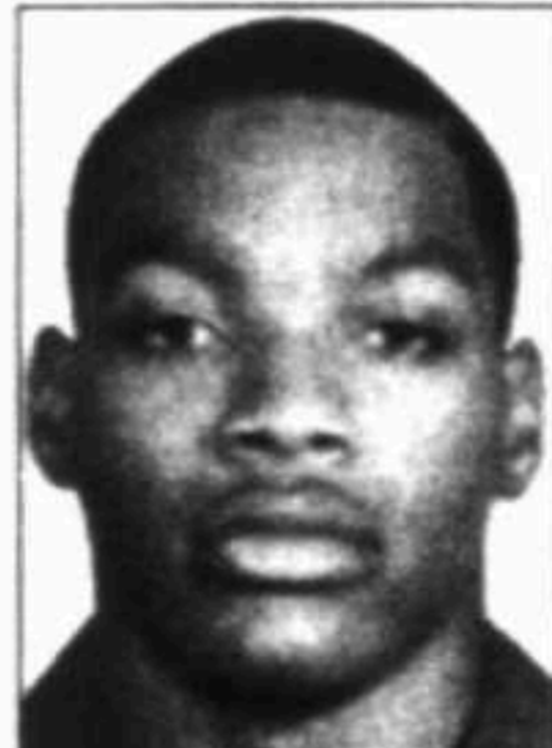
Please see FIESTA/4C

Tall City Connection

Goodley, a junior and Midland High grad, had a breakout season for the Bears in 2013. He led the Bears in receiving yards with 1,319, and also had a team-high 67 catches to go with 13 touchdowns.

Tonight's Fiesta Bowl will conclude a season for Goodley where he earned first team honors on the Associated Press' All-Big 12 team, and the All-Big 12 team chosen by the league's coaches. He was also named a

second-team All-American by cbssports.com and was an honorable mention All-American selection by si.com.



Goodley

Underdog Sooners not 'scared' of Alabama

By Kurt Voigt
Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — Gabe Lynn understands if Oklahoma is considered an overwhelming underdog in the Sugar Bowl against Alabama.

Just don't expect the senior safety to react with such understanding when asked if the No. 11 Sooners are "scared" of the Crimson Tide — a question several teammates have been peppered with since the bowl selections were announced Dec. 8.

"Nobody's asked me that, but (they've) kind of talked about how they're such a great team or whatever (and) how we can't play with them," Lynn said. "I've heard stuff like that, but I haven't heard anything like, 'We're scared of them.' Because we're definitely not scared of them."

Oklahoma (10-2), a 16-point underdog, will have its chance to prove worthy of a BCS bowl selection on Thursday night when it takes on third-ranked Alabama (11-1).

The game carries with it plenty of intrigue simply because of the presence of the Crimson Tide — winners of three of the last four national championships and the premier program in college

Editor's note

Tuesday's Liberty Bowl between Rice and Mississippi State and the Chick-fil-A Bowl between Texas A&M and Duke finished after press time. Go to mrt.com for results on those games.

football since coach Nick Saban's arrival in 2007.

The might of Alabama, however, is far from the only story line.

Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops made sure of that as far back as last spring when he challenged the notion that the Southeastern Conference — which has fielded the last seven national champions — is the most complete league in the country.

Stoops called some of the stories about SEC supremacy "propaganda." He followed that by taking a jab at SEC defenses this season, all of which made for quality radio and Internet material.

The winningest coach in Oklahoma history, having surpassed former Sooners coach Barry Switzer this season, has wanted little to do with the SEC story line leading to Thursday's game. The closest he's come to providing clarity on his earlier comments about the conference was to say he was talking about

the lack of quality teams in the league's bottom half — not teams like Alabama.

"There's always a lot of talk because newspapers have to be filled and airtime has to be filled," Stoops said. "You have to talk about something. We don't concern ourselves with it, really. That's their job to do. Our job is to get ready to play and to do the work we do."

Stoops has lost three games in a row to SEC teams, including a Sugar Bowl loss to LSU after the 2003 season and to Florida in the national championship game after the 2008 season. He's 3-4 overall against the league, with the latest loss coming against Texas A&M in last season's Cotton Bowl.

The last SEC team Stoops and Oklahoma beat was Alabama — doing so in back-to-back regular-season games during the 2002 and 2003 seasons.

Of course, that was the pre-Saban Crimson Tide, and the games were also the last time the Sooners played an SEC team during the regular season.

Oklahoma center Gabe Ikard knows few expect the Sooners to win or even stay close. The senior said he wanted to play the Crimson Tide at the beginning of the season, though he had hoped to do so in the national championship game.

Tall City Connection



Watson

Dutton Watson, DT, North Texas
Watson, a redshirt freshman and Midland High grad, has not recorded a tackle this season for the Mean Green as they make their first bowl appearance since 2004.



North Texas Breelan Chancellor catches a pass during the first half of a college football game in Tulsa, Okla., on Nov. 30.

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

WHAT'S ON TV

COLLEGE FOOTBALL
Gator Bowl, Nebraska vs. Georgia, at Jacksonville, Fla., 11:00 a.m., ESPN2
Capital One Bowl, Wisconsin vs. South Carolina, at Orlando, Fla., noon, ABC
Outback Bowl, Iowa vs. LSU, at Tampa, Fla., noon, ESPN
Rose Bowl, Stanford vs. Michigan St., at Pasadena, Calif., 4 p.m., ESPN
Fiesta Bowl, UCF vs. Baylor, at Glendale, Ariz., 7:30 p.m., ESPN
NBA
Dallas at Washington, 5 p.m., FSSW
NHL
Winter Classic, Toronto vs. Detroit, at Ann Arbor, Mich., noon, NBC
SOCCER
Premier League, Manchester City at Swansea City, 6:40 a.m., NBCSN
Premier League, Chelsea at Southampton, 8:55 a.m., NBCSN
Premier League, Tottenham at Manchester United, 11:25 a.m., NBCSN
WINTER SPORTS
Olympic trials, speed skating: women's 5000 and men's 10000 long track, at Kearns, Utah, 4 p.m., NBCSN

WHAT'S ON DECK

JUNIOR COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL
Midland College at Central Arizona, 6 p.m.

GLANTZ-CULVER LINE

Table with columns for TODAY, FAVORITE, OPEN, and UNDERDOG. Includes teams like Georgia, North Texas, Wisconsin, LSU, Stanford, Baylor, Alabama, Missouri, Ohio St., and various NFL and MLB games.

NBA STANDINGS

NBA Standings table with columns for Eastern Conference (Atlantic, Southeast, Central, Western) and Western Conference (Southwest, Pacific, Central, Northwest). Includes teams like Toronto, Boston, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, New York, Miami, Atlanta, Washington, Charlotte, Orlando, Indiana, Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, Milwaukee, San Antonio, Houston, Dallas, New Orleans, Memphis, Oklahoma City, Portland, Minnesota, Denver, Utah, L.A. Clippers, Phoenix, Golden State, L.A. Lakers, Sacramento, Atlanta, Boston, Cleveland, Golden State, Sacramento, Toronto, Portland, Milwaukee, Dallas, Houston, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Charlotte, L.A. Clippers.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
HOUSTON ASTROS — Agreed to terms with RHP Jesse Crain on a one-year contract.
American Association
GARY SOUTHWEST RAILCATS — Signed RHP Kagen Hopkins, RHP Ethan Gibbons and RHP Mike Westberry.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NEW YORK KNICKS — Signed F. Jeremy Tyler from Erie (NBAU). Released G Chris Smith.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
ARIZONA CARDINALS — Signed WR Mike Thomas to a reserve/future contract.
BALTIMORE RAVENS — Signed TE Matt Furstenburg and Nathan Overbay (TE), WRs Gerard Sheppard and Kamar Aiken, DT Cody Larsen, OT David Mims, QB Nick Stephens and C Reggie Stephens to reserve/future contracts.
BUFFALO BILLS — Signed DB Brandon Burton to a reserve/future contract.
CHICAGO BEARS — Signed P Drew Butler and RB Willie Carter to reserve/future contracts.
DALLAS COWBOYS — Signed WR Tim Brentford, G Ray Dominguez, WR Lance Lewis, DE Caesar Rayton, LB Jonathan Stewart and OT John Wetzal to reserve/future contracts.
HOUSTON TEXANS — Signed WRs Rico Richardson, Andy Cruse and Uzoma Nwachukwu, DB Steven Terrell, and CB Loyce Means to reserve/future contracts.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — Signed WRs

NHL STANDINGS

NHL Standings table with columns for Eastern Conference (Atlantic, Metropolitan, Central, Western) and Western Conference (Pacific, Northwest). Includes teams like Winnipeg, Nashville, Boston, Tampa Bay, Montreal, Detroit, Toronto, Ottawa, Florida, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Washington, Philadelphia, New Jersey, N.Y. Rangers, Columbus, Carolina, N.Y. Islanders, Chicago, St. Louis, Colorado, Dallas, Minnesota, Anaheim, San Jose, Los Angeles, Vancouver, Phoenix, Calgary, Edmonton, New Jersey, Pittsburgh, N.Y. Rangers, St. Louis, Montreal, Buffalo, Phoenix, Los Angeles, Columbus, Philadelphia, Edmonton, Toronto vs. Detroit, Tampa Bay at Vancouver.

NHL hopes bigger makes the Winter Classic better this time around

Associated Press
ANN ARBOR, Mich. — As the novelty of playing hockey outdoors seems to be wearing off, the NHL is hoping bigger is better at the Winter Classic. The league has been playing at least one game outdoors annually since 2008 other than last season because of the lockout. The popularity of the concept is being tested by putting six games in the elements this season.



Associated Press
Toronto Maple Leafs defenseman Dion Phaneuf (3) stretches during practice on the outdoor rink for the NHL Winter Classic hockey game against the Detroit Red Wings at Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Mich., on Tuesday. The game is scheduled for today.

With a lot more fans and two Original Six teams, including one from Canada for the first time, the NHL is confident the 2014 Winter Classic will be different. "Those are two distinguishing factors," NHL Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly said. "It'll be special." The league said 105,500 tickets have been sold for the game Wednesday between the Detroit Red Wings and Toronto Maple Leafs at Michigan Stadium. That almost doubles the average of 53,045 spectators who watched the first five Winter Classics.

If every person who paid for a ticket braves temperatures in the teens on a snowy afternoon, a record will be broken. In the same football stadium, known as the Big House, Michigan and Michigan State set a hockey attendance record of 104,173 in 2010. "If you haven't been to a football Saturday here, then you should put it on your bucket list," Red Wings coach Mike Babcock said Tuesday after a brief practice. "It's the best sporting event I've been to the Olympic Games, the World Series, the Stanley Cup. This is probably the best sporting event I've ever been to, bar none. "Can it transfer into hockey? I assume it can. Some players will borrow a practice from football, putting eye black on their cheeks to help cope with glare. "I remember back to

Wrigley Field (in the 2009 Winter Classic), I thought it looked kind of silly when guys were doing it," Red Wings defenseman Niklas Kronwall said with black smudges under both eyes. "But it does actually help." And like some football games, shoveling might be necessary to clear the playing surface. Skaters with shovels cleared the ice before both teams practiced on Tuesday and they might be busier during the game. A winter weather advisory is calling for 4 to 6 inches to fall from Wednesday morning through Thursday morning in Ann Arbor. "A little bit of snow just adds to the romance of the game," NHL Chief Operating Officer John Collins said. A lot of snow, though, and 10 mph wind could become a problem for the Red Wings and Maple Leafs, who enter the game tied in the Eastern Conference standings with 45 points halfway through their seasons.

Nowitzki shines with innovative technique

By Dwain Price
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
MINNEAPOLIS — Add Minnesota Timberwolves power forward Kevin Love to the growing list of NBA players who have made Dirk Nowitzki's one-legged fallaway jumper a part of their repertoire. That illustrious list also includes Kobe Bryant, LeBron James, Kevin Durant, and Pau Gasol. "It's kind of an honor to know that some of these guys obviously are trying to shoot it," Nowitzki said. "LeBron shot it the last couple of weeks, Kevin Durant has been shooting it a little bit." Coach Rick Carlisle credits Nowitzki's longtime mentor and coach from Germany, Holger Geschwind-

ner, for helping the 11-time All-Star develop the one-legged fallaway shot. "They work on a lot of these unorthodox looking shots because Holger knew that with Dirk's body type, size and athleticism that somewhere he was going to need to be able to do some unconventional things extremely well," Carlisle said. "It's a very unique shot, it's an original, and Dirk's an original. "You've got guys like Kobe Bryant and Kevin Durant copying that shot," Carlisle said. "That's a huge nod of respect towards one of the all-time greats." When Nowitzki was told Love had added his one-legged fallaway jumper to his game, he smiled and said: "That's a nice shot to add. It's a tough shot to shoot, but I think if you

have good balance and if you have the touch, I think it's a shot that you can master. "It's a shot that you can get off at any time because you're always leaning back and getting a little separation between the defender and yourself." For what Nowitzki needed during the early stages of his career, Carlisle believes Don Nelson was the perfect coach for him at that time. "Nellie was the right coach at that time," Carlisle said. "He knew to put Dirk at power forward and some at center and let big guys run around the perimeter trying to chase him, and it was tough to do. "Nellie's helped in his own way to really sort of put his stamp on the game, too."

HSBBALL ROUNDUP

FROM STAFF REPORTS
Boys
MONAHAN'S 69 MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 55
Monahans got off to a strong start to defeat Midland Christian in a non-district game at the McGraw Events Center on Tuesday. Grant Little scored a game-high 32 points for Midland Christian (10-7), which trailed 32-20 at the half. Daniel Venzant added 12 for the Mustangs, who begin
TAPPS 1-4A play Saturday at Arlington Grace Prep.
Girls
BIG SPRING 61 SAN ANGELO LAKE VIEW 42
SAN ANGELO — Big Spring raced out to a 22-8 first quarter lead and rolled to a non-district victory over San Angelo Lake View on Tuesday. Dyrshae Vanderbilt led the Lady Steers (13-4) with 13 points, while Jackie Castillo and Julianna Rodriguez each added 12 points.
Big Spring will begin District 4-3A play on Friday with a trip to Sweetwater.
BIG SPRING 61, SAN ANGELO LAKE VIEW 42
Big Spring (13-4) — Dyrshae Vanderbilt 13, Jackie Castillo 12, Julianna Rodriguez 12, Autumn Minter 7, Alexis Casino 6, Diamondique Mayes 6, Sietana Dax 5.
Lake View — Brooks 11, Nonera 8, Bankston 8, Solo 7, Sois 4, Ridgeway 2, Silva 2.
Big Spring 22 8 22 9-61
Lake View 8 13 15 6-42
Free throws — BSHS 9-16, LV 8-20. 3-point goals — BSHS 4, Rodriguez 4; LV 2 (Nonera 2). Total fouls — BSHS 17, LV 17. Fouled out — None.
Next game: Big Spring at Sweetwater, 6:15 p.m. Friday.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Savannah St. at Baylor, 7 p.m.
EAST
S. Dakota St. at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
Georgia at Georgia Washington, 6 p.m.
SOUTH
CCSU at Coastal Carolina, 6 p.m.
Lees-McRae at High Point, 6 p.m.
Mount St. Mary's at Norfolk, 6 p.m.
SC State at South Carolina, 6 p.m.
Drexel at Southern Miss., 7 p.m.
Stony Brook at VCU, 8 p.m.
MIDWEST
Oakland City at Ball St., 6 p.m.
Marygrove at Cent. Michigan, 6 p.m.
Bethune-Cookman at N. Illinois, 7 p.m.
FAR WEST
Nebraska-Omaha at Hawaii, 11 p.m.
Saint Mary's (Cal.) at Portland, 10 p.m.
UMKC at Seattle, 10 p.m.
San Diego Christian at UC Irvine, 10 p.m.
Air Force at UNLV, 10 p.m.
Wright St. at Dayton, 6 p.m.
Iowa at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Purdue at Ohio St., 6 p.m.
S. Utah at North Dakota, 6 p.m.
N. Colorado at N. Dakota St., 7 p.m.
Idaho at UMKC, 7 p.m.
Seattle at Chicago St., 7 p.m.
Loyola of Chicago at Evansville, 7 p.m.
Baylor at Kansas St., 7 p.m.
West Virginia at Kansas, 7 p.m.
FAR WEST
Simpson at UC Davis, 6:45 p.m.
La Verne at UC Irvine, 7 p.m.
Montana at N. Arizona, 7:30 p.m.
Northwestern at Nebraska, 8 p.m.
Saint Mary's (Cal.) at San Diego, 8 p.m.
Colorado St. at San Diego St., 8 p.m.
Pacific at BYU, 8 p.m.
SOUTH
Weber St. at E. Washington, 8 p.m.
Idaho St. at Portland St., 9 p.m.
CSU Bakersfield at CS Northridge, 9 p.m.
Santa Clara at Pepperdine, 9 p.m.
San Francisco at Loyola Marymount, 9 p.m.
Montana St. at Sacramento St., 9 p.m.
Incarville Word at Rice, 7 p.m.
EAST
Saint Peter's at Niagara, 11 a.m.
Rider at Quinnipiac, 3 p.m.
New Hampshire at Brown, 6 p.m.
Iona at Canisius, 6 p.m.
Fairleigh at Monmouth (N.J.), 6 p.m.
Manhattan at Marist, 6 p.m.
SOUTH
UNC Wilmington at Charlotte, 11 a.m.
N.C. A&T at William & Mary, 6 p.m.
MIDWEST
N. Iowa at Indiana St., 6:05 p.m.
Wisconsin at Illinois, 7 p.m.
Roosevelt at W. Chicago, 7 p.m.
Drake at Illinois St., 8:05 p.m.
FAR WEST
Oregon at Stanford, 8 p.m.
Utah at UCLA, 8 p.m.
Denver at Cal State Fullerton, 9 p.m.
 Gonzaga at Portland, 9 p.m.
Arizona at Washington, 9 p.m.
Arizona St. at Washington St., 9 p.m.
Colorado at Southern Cal., 10 p.m.
Oregon St. at California, 10 p.m.

Advertisement for Vince Lombardi sports featuring the text 'Show me a good loser, and I'll show you a loser.' and 'Find the winners at mywesttexas sports'.

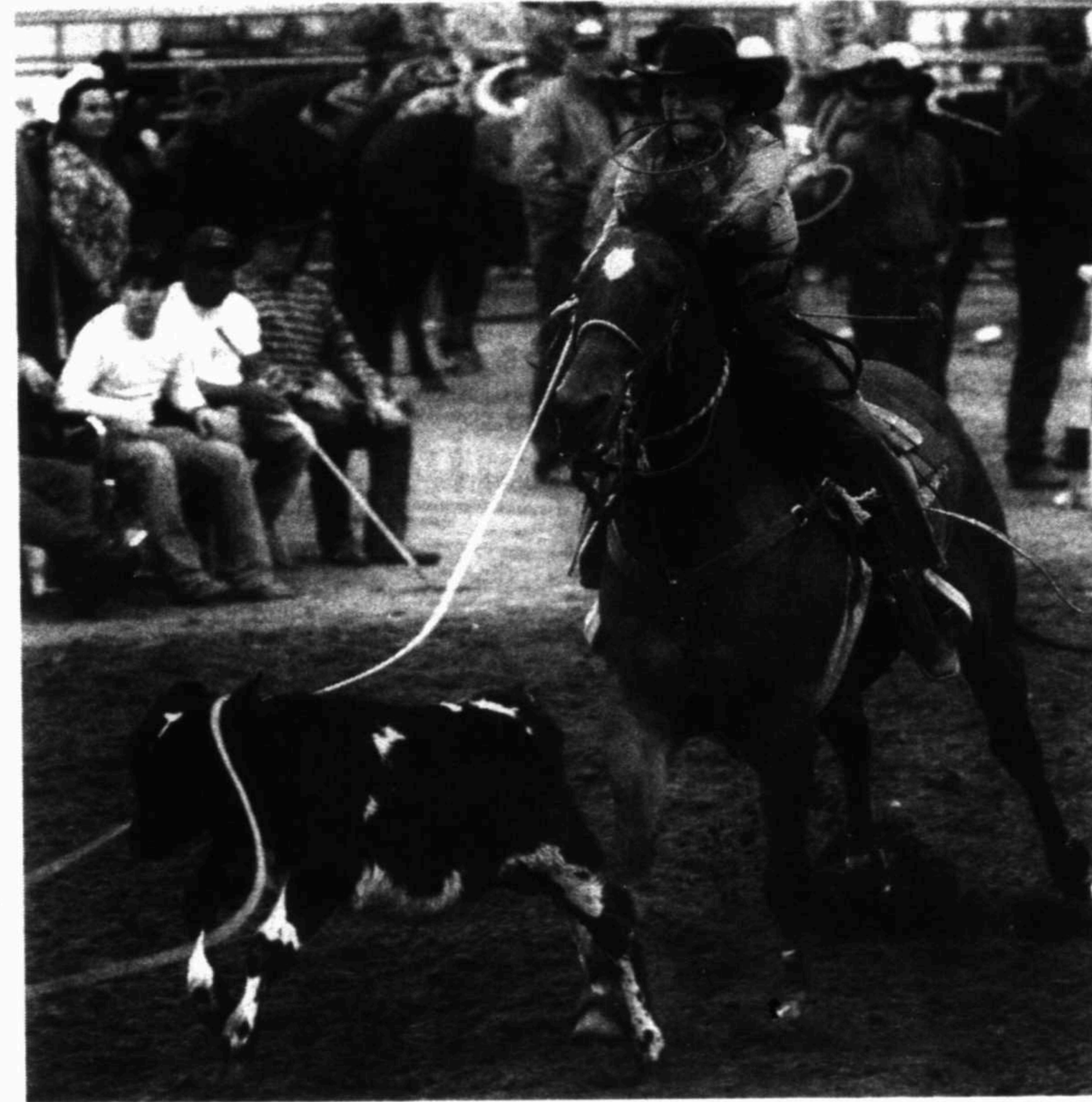
Advertisement for Honda Owners Lube, Oil & Filter featuring a \$9.95 coupon for a winter special. Includes contact information for Kelly Grimsley Honda at 5301 JBS Parkway, Odessa, TX.

NEW YEAR'S CALF ROPING BLOWOUT



Photos by Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Competitors took part in the the Tall City New Year's Calf Roping Blowout at the Horseshoe Arena on Monday.



ROPING RESULTS

Tall City New Year's Calf Roping Blowout		Horseshoe Arena		Monday's results	
Note: Only go-round winners are listed					
Match roping winners					
16 and under — Marcus Theriot 19 and under — Jim Brock Bean					
13 and under					
Tiedown					
1st go-round — Grady Kirkes 15.92					
2nd go-round — Shad Mayfield 11.97					
3rd go-round — Levi Jackson 12.35					
Short go-round — Shad Mayfield 11.42					
Average — 1. Chel Weitz 84.77. 2. Chance Thiessen 86.28. 3. Tyler Espenson 121.03					
Boys Breakaway					
1st go-round — Chel Weitz 3.01					
2nd go-round — Quade Hart 3.46					
3rd go-round — Trevor Hale 3.02					
Short go-round — Chance Thiessen 3.64					
Average — 1. Chance Thiessen 14.94. 2. Colton Greene 16.11					
16 and under					
Tiedown					
1st go-round — Hagen Houck 9.71					
2nd go-round — Marcus Theriot 8.61					
3rd go-round — Westlyn Hughes 8.23					
Short go-round — Westlyn Hughes 8.7					
Average — 1. Westlyn Hughes 38.75. 2. Marcus Theriot 40.55. 3. Layton Little 43.92					
19 and under					
Tiedown					
1st go-round — Trenton Downing 9.86					
2nd go-round — Marcus Theriot 8.46					
3rd go-round — Westlyn Hughes 8.26					
Short go-round — Marcus Theriot 8.54					
Average — 1. Marcus Theriot 39.43. 2. Sam Powers 43.82					
Fastest time — Westlyn Hughes 8.26					
Girls Breakaway					
1st go-round — DeLaine Wood 3.58					
2nd go-round — Rylea Fabrizio 3.94					
3rd go-round — Lauren Bane 3.43					
Short go-round — Lauren Bane 3.14					
Average — 1. Lauren Bane 14.95. 2. Terra Gray 33.64					

Jones says he decided to keep Garrett 'weeks ago'

By Tom Orsborn
San Antonio Express-News

DALLAS — Although Jerry Jones admitted "there's no joy in Mudville" after the Cowboys failed to reach the playoffs for a fourth straight season, the owner said Tuesday there won't be as many changes to the coaching staff as there were a year ago.

Jones said on his weekly radio show his decision to keep Jason Garrett as coach was made long before the hard-fought 24-22 loss to Philadelphia that doomed Dallas to yet another 8-8, out-of-the-playoffs finish.

"I had made that decision several weeks ago," Jones told Dallas' KRLD-FM. "I think what's important here is I haven't given (firing Garrett) a consideration. I like what we are doing. I like what he's doing as coach."

Garrett is 24-24 over the last three years after three consecu-



Associated Press

Dallas Cowboys head coach Jason Garrett hugs a member of the Philadelphia Eagles staff after the game Sunday in Arlington.

tive 8-8 finishes. In each season, the Cowboys lost finales to NFC East foes with the division title and a playoff berth at stake.

Jones seemed less certain about the future of offensive

coordinator Bill Callahan and defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin.

After the 2013 season, Dallas fired Rob Ryan and replaced him with Kiffin. Callahan, mean-

while, was promoted to play-caller, a job held previously by Garrett. Several other changes were made, including the hiring of Rod Marinelli as defensive line coach.

The offense ranked 16th in the NFL after compiling 5,461 yards, the club's lowest total since 2005. The defense finished last in the league and ranked as the third worst in NFL history after allowing an average of 415.3 yards per game.

"Well, I'm pleased we have them," Jones said of Callahan and Kiffin. "I know when we got them I never had so many people talk about, 'Boy, you have really upgraded... added plus to your coaching staff.'"

"Now, we had a rough year defensively, but we didn't necessarily have a rough year because of coaching."

Jones said staff evaluations haven't started yet.

"I haven't really sat down and discussed it, looked at it and I don't know how much thought Jason has given to it here in this latter part of the season," Jones said.

"We'll look at that in the future. There's no hurry."

Jones pointed out that Callahan and Kiffin remain under contract.

"You've got to assume their contract status is the answer (to their futures) until we do differently," Jones said.

Jones was asked why he thinks Garrett should continue as coach.

"One thing that is positive here is we've been in (the playoff hunt) the last three years," Jones said. "I am in complete step with our fans that want more than 8-8, so you don't have to be playing for the NFC East and a division berth in the last game every year. That's where we can have improvement."

FINAL NFL STATISTICS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Team Statistics

Week 17

TOTAL YARDAGE

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

OFFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
Denver	7317	1873	5444
San Diego	6293	1965	4328
New England	6152	2065	4087
Cincinnati	5994	1755	4139
Houston	5556	1743	3813
Indianapolis	5468	1743	3725
Cleveland	5423	1383	4040
Buffalo	5410	2307	3103
Pittsburgh	5400	1383	4017
Kansas City	5396	2056	3340
Tennessee	5390	1894	3496
Oakland	5340	2000	3340
N.Y. Jets	5090	2158	2932
Miami	5007	1440	3567
Baltimore	4917	1328	3590
Jacksonville	4701	1260	3441

DEFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
Cincinnati	4888	1544	3344
Houston	5081	1958	3123
New Orleans	5319	1781	3538
Buffalo	5334	2063	3271
N.Y. Jets	5359	1412	3947
Baltimore	5368	1687	3681
Pittsburgh	5395	1849	3546
Tennessee	5407	1795	3612
Denver	5696	1626	4070
Indianapolis	5713	2002	3711
Miami	5750	1998	3752
Oakland	5819	1727	4092
San Diego	5864	1725	4139
Kansas City	5885	1923	3962
Jacksonville	6070	2108	3962

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

OFFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
Philadelphia	6676	2566	4110
Green Bay	6404	2136	4268
New Orleans	6391	1473	4918
Detroit	6274	1792	4482
Chicago	6109	1828	4281
Washington	5915	2184	3731
Arizona	5542	1540	4002
Minnesota	5508	2061	3447
Atlanta	5480	1247	4233
Dallas	5461	1507	3954
Seattle	5424	2188	3236
San Francisco	5180	2201	2979
Carolina	5069	2026	3043
N.Y. Giants	4920	1332	3588
St. Louis	4877	1732	3145
Tampa Bay	4432	1612	2820

DEFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
Seattle	4378	1626	2752
New Orleans	4820	1391	3429
New Orleans	4891	1786	3105
San Francisco	5071	1535	3536
Arizona	5079	1351	3728
N.Y. Giants	5316	1743	3573
St. Louis	5520	1646	3874
Seattle	5546	1596	3950
Tampa Bay	5568	1762	3806
Washington	5665	1769	3896
Green Bay	5956	2000	3956
Atlanta	6070	2173	3897
Philadelphia	6307	1671	4636
Chicago	6313	2583	3730
Minnesota	6365	1767	4598
Dallas	6645	2056	4589

AVERAGE PER GAME

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

OFFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
Denver	457.3	117.1	340.3
San Diego	393.3	122.8	270.5
New England	384.5	129.1	255.4
Cincinnati	368.4	109.7	258.7
Houston	347.3	108.9	238.3
Indianapolis	341.8	108.9	232.8
Cleveland	338.9	86.4	252.5
N.Y. Jets	338.1	144.2	193.9
Buffalo	337.3	86.4	251.1
Pittsburgh	337.3	128.5	208.8
Kansas City	336.9	118.4	218.5
Oakland	334.9	88.3	246.7
Chicago	334.9	88.3	246.7
N.Y. Jets	318.1	134.9	183.3
Miami	312.9	90.0	222.9
Oakland	307.4	83.0	224.4
San Diego	293.8	78.8	215.1

DEFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
Cincinnati	305.5	96.5	209.0
Houston	317.8	122.4	195.2
Cleveland	332.4	111.3	221.1
Buffalo	333.4	128.9	204.4
Baltimore	334.9	88.3	246.7
N.Y. Jets	335.5	105.4	230.1
Oakland	337.2	115.6	221.6
Tennessee	337.9	112.2	225.8
Denver	356.0	101.6	254.4
Indianapolis	357.1	125.1	232.0
Miami	363.7	107.9	255.8
Oakland	367.8	120.2	247.6
San Diego	368.5	107.8	260.7
Kansas City	367.8	120.2	247.6
New England	373.1	134.1	239.0
Jacksonville	373.1	131.8	241.3

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

OFFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
Philadelphia	417.3	160.4	256.9

DEFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
Green Bay	400.3	133.5	266.8
New Orleans	399.4	92.1	307.4
Detroit	392.1	112.0	280.1
Chicago	381.8	114.3	267.6
Washington	369.7	135.3	234.4
Arizona	346.4	96.3	250.1
Minnesota	344.3	130.1	214.2
Atlanta	343.1	77.9	265.2
Dallas	341.3	94.2	247.1
Seattle	339.0	136.8	202.3
San Francisco	323.8	137.6	186.2
Carolina	316.8	126.6	190.2
N.Y. Giants	307.5	83.3	224.3
St. Louis	304.8	109.5	195.3
Tampa Bay	277.0	100.8	176.3

AVERAGE PER GAME

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

OFFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
Green Bay	311.7	84.4	233.0
San Francisco	316.9	95.9	221.0
N.Y. Giants	317.4	84.4	233.0
Arizona	332.3	108.9	223.3
St. Louis	345.0	102.9	242.1
Detroit	346.6	99.8	246.9
Tampa Bay	348.0	110.1	237.9
Washington	354.1	110.6	243.5
Green Bay	372.3	125.0	247.3
Atlanta	379.4	135.8	243.6
Philadelphia	394.2	104.4	289.8
Chicago	394.6	110.4	284.3
Minnesota	397.8	116.4	281.4
Dallas	415.3	128.5	286.8

DEFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
P. Manning, DEN	659	450	5477
P. Rivers, SND	544	378	4478
Rodriguez, PIT	584	375	4261
Ala. Smith, KAN	528	308	3315
Dalton, CIN	586	383	4298
Brady, NWE	628	380	4343
Luuk, IND	570	343	3262
Fitzpatrick, TEN	350	217	2454
Tannehill, MIA	588	355	3913
Kaepernick, HOU	253	137	1780

Individual Leaders

AFC

Quarterbacks

Player	Att	Com	Yds	TD	Int
P. Manning, DEN	659	450	5477	55	10
P. Rivers, SND	544	378	4478	32	11
Rodriguez, PIT	584	375	4261	28	14
Ala. Smith, KAN	528	308	3315	23	7
Dalton, CIN	586	383	4298	33	20
Brady, NWE	628	380	4343	25	11
Luuk, IND	570	343	3262	23	9
Fitzpatrick, TEN	350	217	2454	14	17
Tannehill, MIA	588	355	3913	24	12
Kaepernick, HOU	253	137	1780	9	6

DEFENSE

Team	Yards	Rush	Pass
Green Bay	400.3	133.5	266.8
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Detroit	392.1	112.0	280.1
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AVERAGE PER GAME

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Atlanta	379.4	135.8	243.6
Philadelphia	394.2	104.4	289.8

HOLIDAY BOWL

From 1C

average of 20.6 points, the Red Raiders scored on four of their first five drives to take a 27-6 lead 5 minutes into the second quarter.

Kingsbury said the Red Raiders had seen predictions that they'd lose by 22 points.

"We saw that all week. We knew what people thought and we knew the type of team we had," the coach said.

"We didn't get any respect all weekend long," Ward said. "It was all about Arizona State and their record and this, that and the other. So we used that to fuel the fire."

Ward said the losing streak "preyed upon us pretty heavily. No one likes losing that much and lose that much on the road. It starts depressing the team a little bit. We just did all we could to prepare for this game. During the bowl practices, the time we had together helped us bond together."

Texas Tech All-America tight end Jace Amaro had eight catches for 112 yards. He set the FBS single-season record for yards receiving by a tight end with 1,352.

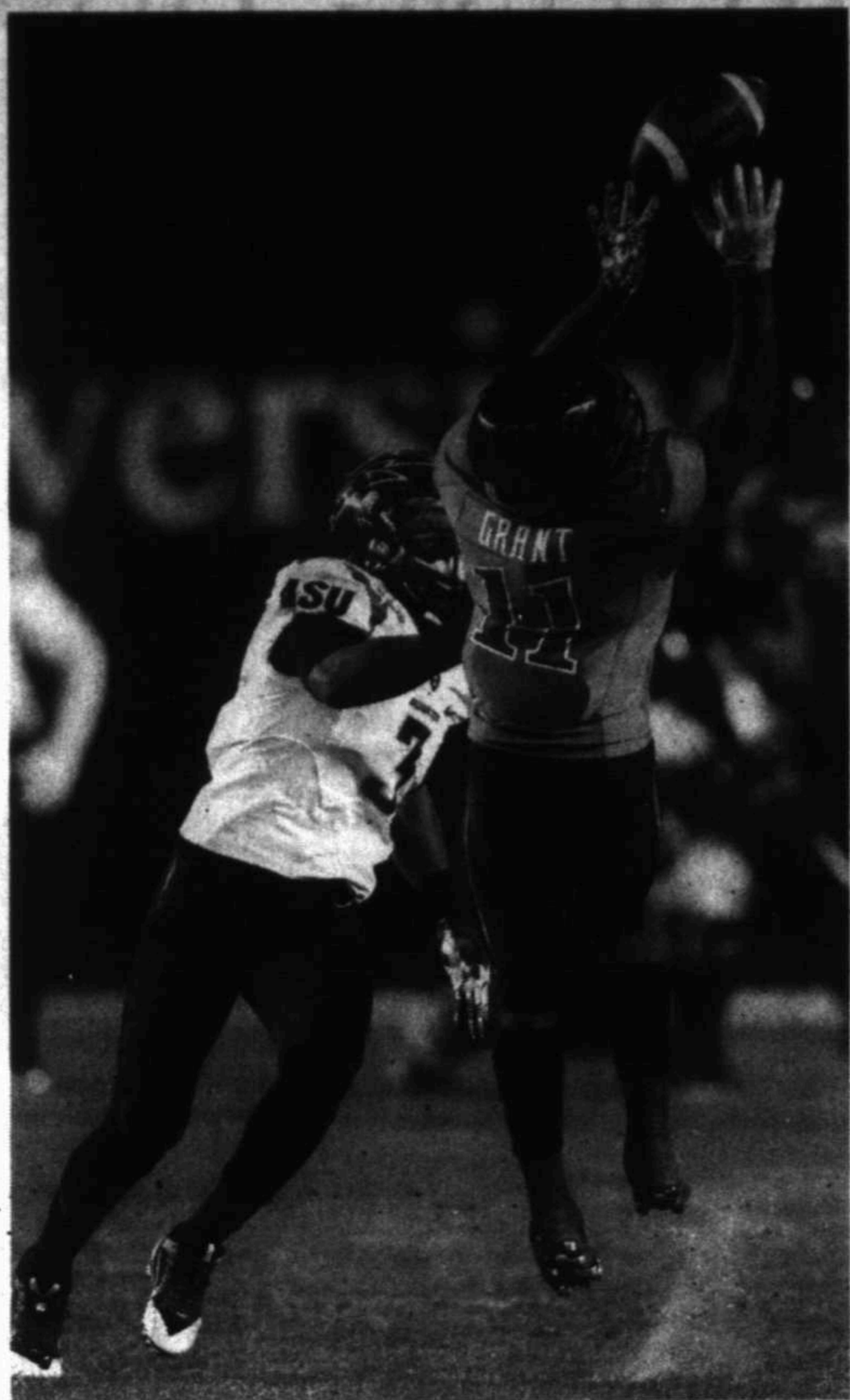
The Sun Devils, coming off a 38-14 loss to Stanford in the Pac-12 championship game, were held 18 points below their average. They dropped to 0-4 in the Holiday Bowl dating to 1985.

"I'm very embarrassed for our program," coach Todd Graham said. "As coaches we didn't have our guys prepared to play. They came to play. We didn't give them credit. I was embarrassed for the fans that showed up today. We didn't have our players prepared. Zero excuses, but we didn't have our players prepared to play. It was an ugly game offensively and defensively. We just didn't play very well. They were the more passionate team today."

While Texas Tech was finding the end zone early on, Arizona State had to settle for field goals of 44 and 31 yards by Zane Gonzalez.

The Sun Devils got their first touchdown when D.J. Foster scored on a 20-yard run with 7:52 left in the second quarter to close to 27-13. ASU quarterback Taylor Kelly scored on a 44-yard run early in the third, but Reginald Davis returned the ensuing kick-off 90 yards for a touchdown to extend the Red Raiders' lead to 34-20.

Kelly gained 135 yards on 25 carries but threw for only 125 yards, going 16 of 29. He was sacked three times. Foster gained 132



Associated Press

Texas Tech wide receiver Jakeem Grant (11) can't hold on to a pass as Arizona State defensive back Damarious Randall, left, defends during the second half of the Holiday Bowl Monday in San Diego.

yards on 20 carries. Arizona State's Richard Smith couldn't hold onto a 50-yard pass from Kelly as he tripped and tumbled into the end zone with 9:50 left and the Sun Devils trailing by 14.

TEXAS TECH 37, No. 16 ARIZONA ST. 23

Arizona St.	6	7	7	3	—23
Texas Tech	13	14	10	0	—37

TT—Hall 1 pass from Webb (kick failed), 9:41
TT—Grant 18 pass from Webb (Bustin kick), 6:27

ASU—FG Gonzalez 44, 4:26
ASU—FG Gonzalez 31, 2:22

Second Quarter
TT—Marquez 23 pass from Webb (Bustin kick), 14:30

TT—Grant 21 pass from Webb (Bustin kick), 10:08

ASU—Foster 20 run (Gonzalez kick), 7:52

ASU—T. Kelly 44 run (Gonzalez kick), 13:13

TT—R. Davis 90 kickoff return (Bustin kick), 13:02

TT—FG Bustin 23, 5:28

Fourth Quarter
ASU—FG Gonzalez 33, 13:39

A—52, 9:30

First downs	20	24
Rushes-yards	49-287	34-81
Passing	125	403
Comp-Att-Int	16-29-1	28-41-0
Return Yards	7	1-141
Punts-Avg	6-40.0	5-32.2
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	3-2
Penalties-Yards	7-59	8-60
Time of Possession	29:19	30:41

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

PASSING—Arizona St. T. Kelly 25-135; Foster 20-132; D. Nelson 1-8; R. Smith 1-7; Robinson 1-4; D. Lewis 1-1; Texas Tech. Washington 14-51; Ke. Williams 8-17; Brewer 2-9; S. Foster 4-5; Webb 3-3; Team 3-minus 4

PASSING—Arizona St. T. Kelly 16-29-1-25; Texas Tech. Webb 28-41-0-403

RECEIVING—Arizona St. Foster 5-23; Strong 4-28; R. Smith 3-26; Ozer 2-31; Cofie 1-10; Robinson 1-7; Texas Tech. Amaro 8-112; Grant 6-89; Marquez 3-67; E. Ward 3-43; Ke. Williams 2-26; J. Davis 2-3; R. Davis 1-38; Washington 1-15; S. Foster 1-9; Hall 1-1

Texas Tech Bowl History
Record: 14-21-1

Dec. 30, 2013 Holiday Bowl—Texas Tech 37

Arizona State 23

Dec. 28, 2012 Menck Car Care Bowl—Texas Tech 34

Minnesota 31

- Jan. 1, 2011 TicketCity Bowl—Texas Tech 45, Northwestern 38
- Jan. 2, 2010 Alamo Bowl—Texas Tech 41, Michigan State 31
- Jan. 2, 2009 Cotton Bowl—Mississippi 47, Texas Tech 34
- Jan. 1, 2008 Gator Bowl—Texas Tech 31, Virginia 28
- Dec. 29, 2008 Insight Bowl—Texas Tech 44, Minnesota 41, OT
- Jan. 2, 2008 Cotton Bowl—Alabama 13, Texas Tech 10
- Dec. 30, 2004 Holiday Bowl—Texas Tech 45, California 31
- Dec. 30, 2003 Houston Bowl—Texas Tech 38, Navy 14
- Dec. 23, 2002 Tangerine Bowl—Texas Tech 55, Clemson 15
- Dec. 29, 2001 Alamo Bowl—Iowa 19, Texas Tech 16
- Dec. 27, 2000 GatewayFurniture.com Bowl—East Carolina 40, Texas Tech 27
- Dec. 31, 1998 Independence Bowl—Mississippi 35, Texas Tech 16
- Dec. 29, 1996 Alamo Bowl—Iowa 27, Texas Tech 10
- Dec. 27, 1995 Copper Bowl—Texas Tech 55, Air Force 41
- Jan. 2, 1995 Cotton Bowl—Southern Cal 55, Texas Tech 14
- Dec. 24, 1993 John Hancock Bowl—Oklahoma 41, Texas Tech 10
- Dec. 28, 1989 All American Bowl—Texas Tech 49, Duke 21
- Dec. 20, 1986 Independence Bowl—Mississippi 20, Texas Tech 17
- Dec. 31, 1977 Tangerine Bowl—Florida St. 40, Texas Tech 24
- Dec. 31, 1976 Bluebonnet Bowl—Nebraska 27, Texas Tech 24
- Dec. 28, 1974 Peach Bowl—Texas Tech 6, Vanderbilt 6, tie
- Dec. 29, 1973 Gator Bowl—Texas Tech 28, Tennessee 19
- Dec. 30, 1972 Sun Bowl—North Carolina 32, Texas Tech 28
- Dec. 19, 1970 Sun Bowl—Georgia Tech 17, Texas Tech 9
- Jan. 1, 1965 Gator Bowl—Georgia Tech 31, Texas Tech 21
- Dec. 26, 1964 Sun Bowl—Georgia 7, Texas Tech 0
- Jan. 2, 1956 Sun Bowl—Wyoming 21, Texas Tech 14
- Jan. 1, 1954 Gator Bowl—Texas Tech 35, Auburn 13
- Jan. 1, 1952 Sun Bowl—Texas Tech 25, Pacific U. 14
- Dec. 31, 1949 Raisin Bowl—San Jose St. 20, Texas Tech 13
- Jan. 1, 1948 Sun Bowl—Miami, Ohio 13, Texas Tech 12
- Jan. 1, 1942 Sun Bowl—Tulsa 6, Texas Tech 0
- Jan. 2, 1939 Cotton Bowl—St. Marys 20, Texas Tech 13
- Jan. 1, 1938 Sun Bowl—West Virginia 7, Texas Tech 6

Baylor Bowl History
Record: 10-9

Dec. 27, 2012 Holiday Bowl—Baylor 49, UCLA 26

Dec. 29, 2011 Alamo Bowl—Baylor 67, Washington 56

Dec. 29, 2010 Texas Bowl—Illinois 38, Baylor 14

Dec. 31, 1994 Alamo Bowl—Washington St. 10, Baylor 3

Dec. 31, 1992 John Hancock Bowl—Baylor 20, Arizona 15

Dec. 31, 1991 Copper Bowl—Indiana 24, Baylor 0

Dec. 31, 1986 Bluebonnet Bowl—Baylor 21, Colorado 9

Dec. 27, 1985 Liberty Bowl—Baylor 21, LSU 7

Dec. 31, 1983 Bluebonnet Bowl—Oklahoma St. 24, Baylor 14

Jan. 1, 1981 Cotton Bowl—Alabama 30, Baylor 2

Dec. 31, 1979 Peach Bowl—Baylor 24, Clemson 18

Jan. 1, 1975 Cotton Bowl—Penn St. 41, Baylor 20

Dec. 21, 1963 Bluebonnet Bowl—Baylor 14, LSU 7

Dec. 9, 1961 Gotham Bowl—Baylor 24, Utah St. 9

Dec. 31, 1960 Gator Bowl—Florida 13, Baylor 12

Jan. 1, 1957 Sugar Bowl—Baylor 13, Tennessee 7

Dec. 31, 1954 Gator Bowl—Auburn 33, Baylor 13

Jan. 1, 1952 Orange Bowl—Georgia Tech 17, Baylor 14

Jan. 1, 1949 Dixie Bowl—Baylor 20, Wake Forest 7

Longhorns could have new coach by mid-January

By Drew Davison
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

SAN ANTONIO — University of Texas men's athletic director Steve Patterson expects to have a new football coach in place before the end of the NCAA dead period on Jan. 15.

"We've got to be back open for business in the middle of the month once the dead period ends, so we need to get it done before then," Patterson said. "The coach has to put together a staff and be up and running, making sure we keep the recruits we got in the spots we've got."

Patterson made his first public comments on the football coaching search before the Alamo Bowl on Monday, the fi-

nal game of Mack Brown's 16-year run at Texas. Brown announced Dec. 14 that he would be stepping down as UT's coach.

Patterson said several coaches have expressed interest in the job, but would not get into specifics as to who is being considered or how the process is playing out.

Asked if they are going through a formal application process, Patterson joked by saying: "The guys we're talking to are not filling out applications."

Patterson went on to say that UT would honor the oral commitments of the 2014 recruits who committed under Brown. Patterson added that UT is "not out to set a new threshold" in terms of the coach's salary.

DALLAS

From 1C

UNLV won two games in each of coach Bobby Hauck's first three seasons before breaking through this season with their first bowl since 2000.

"When you go forward with the thought that who would have thought that UNLV would be playing in a New Year's Day football game, it's just really, really exciting," said Hauck, who went to three FCS championship games in seven seasons with Montana before going to UNLV. "We've had so many milestones we surpassed this year. UNLV had never had five Mountain West Conference wins before. First bowl game since 2000. We've had about three winning seasons before this one in the last 30 years, and now we're playing in a New Year's Day bowl game."

Here are five things to know when UNLV and North Texas play for the first time since 2000, when the Rebels won 38-0.

BIG TURNAROUNDS: North Texas has already doubled its win total from 2012 to 2013, going from four to eight. Only twice in the 100 years of North Texas football have teams

had better improvements. The best was the 1983 team that won eight games after a 2-9 record in 1982. UNLV's seven wins so far this season are one more than its combined total the past three seasons.

TD-SCORING REBELS: Tim Cornett is UNLV's career rushing leader already with 3,700 yards, and is in reach of a couple of other 40-year-old school records — his 35 rushing TDs and 38 overall TDs are two short of in both categories. Junior receiver Devante Davis has a set a school-record this season with 14 receiving TDs. Davis' 1,194 receiving yards this season are third-most at UNLV, and he could have the school record with a 153-yard game Wednesday.

SMALL RETURNS: North Texas and UNLV have two of the most productive kick returners in the nation, and both are only 5-foot-9. Mean Green returner Brelan Chancellor is averaging 28.1 yards per return, which is ninth nationally. UNLV's Marcus Sullivan is average 28.8 yards per return, though since he didn't play in four games doesn't qualify to top Chancellor in the

NCAA statistics.

INITIAL COTTON: North Texas coach Dan McCarney has been coaching since 1977, with stops at places like Iowa, Wisconsin, Iowa State and Florida. But he had never stepped foot in the Cotton Bowl stadium until a few weeks ago after the Mean Green got their Heart of Dallas Bowl bid. "I had flown over it, driven by it, but had never been in there," he said. "You just feel it. When I grew up, it was the granddaddy of them all, the Rose Bowl and the Cotton Bowl. ... It's pretty special to stop and think of all the coaches and players that have come down through that same tunnel, been on that same field."

GREEN REBEL: Texas native Neal Smatresk has been UNLV's president since 2009. In November, it was announced that Smatresk is leaving UNLV to become president of North Texas, a position he will assume Feb. 3. Smatresk said he made the move to be closer to family, including two of his children and a newborn granddaughter.

Needed.



Wanted.

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FIESTA

From 1C

about us."

What they're saying is not good.

The Fiesta Bowl is viewed as the most lopsided game when the matchups were announced and the perception has not changed.

Baylor enters as a 16 1-2-point favorite, highest among the 35 bowls.

The reason is that offense.

The Bears averaged 624.5 yards per game during the regular season, second-most in FBS history to Houston in 1989 (624.9) and 50 yards more than any other team averaged this season. Baylor also led the nation in scoring (53.3), has one of the nation's best quarterbacks in Bryce Petty and a star running back in Lache Seastrunk.

But for all the Bears have done this season, they're in the same position as Central Florida, in a BCS bowl game for the first time.

And because of that, they are in no way taking this matchup lightly.

"We're never going to feel like we're the big dog," Baylor coach Art Briles said. "When you start walking around wondering who is looking at you is when you walk into a pole. You better make sure you are taking care of your business or someone is going to sneak up on you and get you."

Here are five things to look for when Baylor (11-1) meets Central Florida (11-1) in the Fiesta Bowl: **WHAT TO STOP?:** One of the reasons Baylor's

offense has been so difficult to stop is its balance. Briles' system forces defenses to cover not just the 100-yard length of the field, but the 53 from one sideline to the other. Except for Oklahoma State, teams were unable to do that this season, allowing the Bears to finish the regular season fifth nationally with 359 yards passing per game and 12th with 262 yards rushing per game.

BORTLES' FINALE?: The speculation heading into the Fiesta Bowl is that it might be the final game for Central Florida QB Blake Bortles, who is reportedly considering a jump to the NFL after his junior year. If it is his final season, he'll go out on a high note, regardless of what happens in the bowl game. The AAC's offensive player of the year, Bortles was ninth nationally in pass efficiency at 163.3 and 18th in passing yards per game with 273.3 while completing 68 percent of his passes.

BRILES' FINALE?: With the success he's had with Baylor, Briles has become a sought-after commodity, rumored to be in the running to replace Mack Brown at Texas or Mike Shanahan at Washington. Briles is a beloved figure in Waco and has said he loves coaching there, but a bigger opportunity could persuade him to leave.

STORM TIME: One of the best ways to slow Baylor's offense is by keeping it off the field with long drives going the other way. Running back Storm Johnson will likely be

the key to Central Florida being able to do that. The sturdily built junior had a breakout season in 2013, more than doubling his rushing total from a year ago by rushing for 1,105 yards and had 11 touchdowns. He's also a threat out of the backfield, catching 29 passes for 261 yards and three more scores.

THE TRUNK: Seastrunk has been a big reason Baylor has been able to stay so balanced on offense. The junior from Temple, Texas, had a 1,000-yard season in 2012 and backed it with another this year, running for 1,060 yards with 11 touchdowns. Petty has put up prodigious numbers and is among the nation's passing leaders, but might not have had as much success without a back like Seastrunk behind him.

- Dec. 27, 2012 Holiday Bowl—Baylor 49, UCLA 26
- Dec. 29, 2011 Alamo Bowl—Baylor 67, Washington 56
- Dec. 29, 2010 Texas Bowl—Illinois 38, Baylor 14
- Dec. 31, 1994 Alamo Bowl—Washington St. 10, Baylor 3
- Dec. 31, 1992 John Hancock Bowl—Baylor 20, Arizona 15
- Dec. 31, 1991 Copper Bowl—Indiana 24, Baylor 0
- Dec. 31, 1986 Bluebonnet Bowl—Baylor 21, Colorado 9
- Dec. 27, 1985 Liberty Bowl—Baylor 21, LSU 7
- Dec. 31, 1983 Bluebonnet Bowl—Oklahoma St. 24, Baylor 14
- Jan. 1, 1981 Cotton Bowl—Alabama 30, Baylor 2
- Dec. 31, 1979 Peach Bowl—Baylor 24, Clemson 18
- Jan. 1, 1975 Cotton Bowl—Penn St. 41, Baylor 20
- Dec. 21, 1963 Bluebonnet Bowl—Baylor 14, LSU 7
- Dec. 9, 1961 Gotham Bowl—Baylor 24, Utah St. 9
- Dec. 31, 1960 Gator Bowl—Florida 13, Baylor 12
- Jan. 1, 1957 Sugar Bowl—Baylor 13, Tennessee 7
- Dec. 31, 1954 Gator Bowl—Auburn 33, Baylor 13
- Jan. 1, 1952 Orange Bowl—Georgia Tech 17, Baylor 14
- Jan. 1, 1949 Dixie Bowl—Baylor 20, Wake Forest 7

Arizona qu AdvoCare

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Associated Press

Arizona quarterback B.J. Denker (7) throws a pass against Boston College during the first half of the AdvoCare V100 Bowl NCAA on Tuesday at Independence Stadium in Shreveport, La.

Arizona cruises past Boston College 42-19

By David Brandt
Associated Press

SHREVEPORT, La. — B.J. Denker threw for 275 yards and two touchdowns, Ka'Deem Carey rushed for 169 yards and two touchdowns and Arizona had an easy time Tuesday in beating Boston College 42-19 in the AdvoCare V100 Bowl.

Arizona (8-5) never trailed, leading 21-6 by halftime and 42-6 early in the fourth quarter. Carey had his 16th straight game with at least 100 yards rushing while Denker added a 14-yard touchdown run.

The game was billed as a matchup between two of the nation's top running backs — Arizona's Carey and Boston College's Andre Williams. But the duel between AP All-America first team selections was one-sided.

Williams, who won the Doak Walker Award over Carey, was held to 75 yards rushing and a touchdown. Boston College (7-6) didn't score a touchdown until Williams' 4-yard run early in the fourth quarter.

Arizona's Nate Phillips caught nine passes for 193 yards while redshirt freshman Trey Griffey — the son of former baseball star Ken Griffey Jr. — caught two touchdown passes. Arizona's six touchdowns tied an AdvoCare V100 Bowl record.

Boston College's remarkable turnaround season came to a disappointing conclusion. First-year coach Steve Addazio took

a team that finished with a 2-10 record in 2012 back to the postseason, but the Eagles couldn't do much of anything right Tuesday.

Williams, who came into the game with 2,102 rushing yards, looked ordinary against Arizona's active defensive line. The senior never had much of a chance, usually meeting a pile of defenders right at the line of scrimmage.

The Eagles' secondary struggled to contain Arizona's receivers, who repeatedly found space in the defense. Boston College's Alex Amidon caught 10 passes for 129 yards and Nate Freese made field goals from 32 and 41 yards to cap a 20 for 20 season.

Both teams took to the air early. Denker completed 8 of 12 passes for 145 yards in the first half, including a 26-yard touchdown pass to Griffey late in the second quarter that gave the Wildcats their 21-6 halftime lead. Griffey's two touchdowns were the first of his career.

Boston College looked much less comfortable throwing. Chase Rettig tossed two first-half interceptions, including one that was returned by Arizona's William Parks for a 69-yard touchdown.

Denker was named the game's Most Valuable Player on offense while Parks won defensive honors.

Carey had 116 of his 169 yards rushing in the second half. The Wildcats pushed ahead 28-6 early in the third quarter after a long drive ended with Carey's second touchdown — a 5-yard run up the middle.

Two upstanding coaches standing on sidelines at Rose Bowl

By Bill Dwyre
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — This season's college bowl schedule is reminiscent of how it used to be in the last months of the year in pro golf, or the last five minutes of an NBA rout.

There is no compelling reason to watch or buy. Then there is the Rose Bowl, Stanford versus Michigan State on Wednesday, a sign that all is not lost. These are two excellent teams, finishing off compelling seasons played in tough, competitive conferences.

No, the Pac-12 and the Big Ten are not the SEC, but there will be time a few days hence to start facing south and bowing a lot.

Right now, the Rose Bowl — as is so often the case despite politics and shenanigans of college football's power brokers — is worth heavy anticipation.

For starters, oddsmakers have Stanford a 37-point favorite. No romp expected.

More telling, the game features coaches who champion the credibility of their schools, and do the same for the game itself. If you named this Rose Bowl in the image of the men coaching it, you'd call it

COMMENTARY

the Solid Citizen Bowl.

Mark Dantonio is 57. He has coached Michigan State since 2007. He is tough, less serious than he appears to the media, and quite articulate about how his Spartans are approaching their first appearance in this legendary game since 1988.

"We are going to make sure on game day," Dantonio says, "that when we walk into that Rose Bowl, we live a moment and we remember that moment."

David Shaw is 41. He has coached Stanford since 2011. He replaced the meteoric Jim Harbaugh and kept the Cardinal climbing. He is poised, hard to fluster, smiles a lot more than Dantonio and will be taking his team into its second straight Rose Bowl, where it beat Wisconsin in last season's game. Much has been made about that advantage, but Shaw handles that easily.

"The only real advantage is during the (lead-up) week," he says. "Once we get to game day, Michigan State has played big games. ... I don't think the game is going to be any different."

Dantonio grew up in an Italian Catholic family

in Ohio and was a Notre Dame fan. Coincidentally, it was the Fighting Irish who spoiled the Spartans' chance of playing whichever deity the SEC offered this season in the national title game. Notre Dame beat Michigan State, 17-13, on Sept. 21, the Spartans' only loss.

Dantonio was a defensive back at South Carolina in the mid-1970s, has bachelor's and master's degrees in education, and moved through college football's assistant ranks until he landed the head job at Cincinnati in 2004. Three seasons later, he took over in East Lansing.

Shaw was born in San Diego but bounced around with family as his father, Willie, moved from one coaching job to another. Those were mostly NFL jobs, but Willie had two stints as a Stanford assistant, and David Shaw says those made him a Stanford fan, at age 3 or 4.

"Those are some of my earlier memories," he says, "playing in the eucalyptus grove and that eucalyptus tree smell. ..."

He eventually played in the nearby stadium as well, catching 57 passes for 664 yards and five touchdowns, and earning a Stanford sociology degree.

BOWL GLANCE

Monday Armed Forces Bowl At Fort Worth Navy 24, Middle Tennessee 6 Music City Bowl At Nashville, Tenn. Mississippi 25, Georgia Tech 17 Alamo Bowl At San Antonio Oregon 30, Texas 7 Holiday Bowl At San Diego Arizona State (10-3) vs. Texas Tech (7-5), late	Tuesday AdvoCare V100 Bowl At Shreveport, La. Arizona 42, Boston College 19 Sun Bowl At El Paso Virginia Tech (8-4) vs. UCLA (9-3), late (CBS) Liberty Bowl At Memphis, Tenn. Rice (9-3) vs. Mississippi State (6-6), 3 p.m. (ESPN) Chick-fil-A Bowl At Atlanta Texas A&M (8-4) vs. Duke (10-3), late (ESPN)	Wednesday Gator Bowl At Jacksonville, Fla. Nebraska (8-4) vs. Georgia (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN) Capital One Bowl At Orlando, Fla. Wisconsin (9-3) vs. South Carolina (10-2), Noon (ABC) Outback Bowl At Tampa, Fla. Iowa (8-4) vs. LSU (9-3), Noon (ESPN) Rose Bowl At Pasadena, Calif. Stanford (11-2) vs. Michigan State (12-1), 4 p.m. (ESPN) Fiesta Bowl At Glendale, Ariz. Baylor (11-1) vs. UCF (11-1), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN) Thursday Sugar Bowl At New Orleans Alabama (11-1) vs. Oklahoma (10-2), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN) Friday Orange Bowl At Miami Ohio State (12-1) vs. Clemson (10-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN) Cotton Bowl	At Arlington Missouri (11-2) vs. Oklahoma State (10-2), 7:30 p.m. (FOX) Saturday BBVA Compass Bowl At Birmingham, Ala. Vanderbilt (8-4) vs. Houston (8-4), Noon (ESPN) Sunday, Jan. 5 GoDaddy.com Bowl At Mobile, Ala. Arkansas State (7-5) vs. Ball State (10-2), 8 p.m. (ESPN) Monday, Jan. 6 BCS National Championship At Pasadena, Calif. Florida State (13-0) vs. Auburn (12-1), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN) Saturday, Jan. 18 East-West Shrine Classic At St. Petersburg, Fla. East vs. West, 4 p.m. (NFLN) Saturday, Jan. 25 Senior Bowl At Mobile, Ala. South vs. North, 4 p.m. (NFLN)
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TODAY'S BOWLS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

FIESTA BOWL
No. 6 Baylor (11-1) vs. No. 15 Central Florida (11-1), 9:15 p.m. (ESPN)
Line: Baylor by 16 1/2.
Series Record: First meeting.

WHAT'S AT STAKE
Both teams are playing in a BCS bowl for the first time. Baylor has been building toward this in its six seasons under Art Briles after making appearances in smaller bowls the previous three years. A decided underdog, Central Florida is trying to cap off the best season in school history and prove it was worthy of a BCS bowl berth.

KEY MATCHUP
Central Florida's defense against Baylor's offense — all of it. The Bears led the nation in scoring at over 53 points per game and in total offense with 624.5 yards, which was second-most in FBS history — by percentage points — behind Houston in 1989 and 50 more than any other team this season. What makes Baylor so good is that it gains all those yards with a near-equal reliance on passing and running, leaving the Knights with a tough decision on what to try stopping.

PLAYERS TO WATCH
Baylor: QB Bryce Petty. The junior led the nation in yards per completion at 17.4, was second in passing efficiency at 179.2 and eighth in passing yards per game at 320.3. He has several talented receivers and a running back (Lache Seastrunk) who can take the pressure off.

Central Florida: RB Storm Johnson. He led the American Athletic Conference in rushing with 1,015, touchdowns with 14 and all-purpose yards with 1,276. The Knights could use a big game from him to help keep Baylor's offense off the field.

FACTS & FIGURES
Baylor scored 70 or more points four times during the regular season. It also scored 28 points in a quarter seven times, matching the number of times it had in 1,137 previous games all-time. ... Central Florida finished 15th in the BCS rankings, highest in school history, after winning the inaugural ACC title. ... The Bears won their first Big 12 title since the conference was formed in 1996 and their third conference title overall. ... UCF played eight games decided by seven points or less, including five by three points or less. ... Baylor is known for its offense, but its defense was sixth nationally in yards per play allowed (4.53), seventh in tackles for loss per game (7.9) and first downs allowed (213). ... UCF QB Brian

Bortles was ninth nationally in passing efficiency (163.3) and 18th in passing yards per game (273.3).

HEART OF DALLAS BOWL
UNLV (7-5) vs. North Texas (8-4), 11 a.m., (ESPN)
Line: North Texas by 6 1/2.
Series record: UNLV leads 4-0.

WHAT'S AT STAKE
UNLV and North Texas, two of the most improved teams from 2012 to 2013, both end long postseason droughts in the Heart of Dallas Bowl. The Rebels are in their first bowl since 2000, and the Mean Green play in the postseason for the first time since 2004. UNLV improved from two wins — its total in each of the past three seasons — to seven this season. North Texas already has a four-win improvement after going 4-8 last season.

KEY MATCHUP
Brandin Byrd, who has 1,023 yards rushing, and the North Texas running game against the UNLV defense. The Mean Green are 7-0 this season when rushing for 150 yards or more. UNLV has allowed 222 yards rushing a game, and allowed at least 150 yards nine times.

PLAYERS TO WATCH
UNLV: Running back Tim Cornett is UNLV's career rushing leader with 3,700 yards, including 1,251 this season with 15 touchdowns. He is also in reach of a couple of other 40-year-old school records — his 35 rushing TDs and 38 overall TDs are two short of in both categories. He could also break the all-purpose record with 214 yards.

North Texas: LB Zach Orr has 114 tackles this season, including 11 tackles for loss. He also returned a fumble 55 yards for a touchdown against Rice and goes into his final game with 22 1/2 career tackles for loss, and nine fumble recoveries — four this season.

FACTS & FIGURES
North Texas has already set a school record with 4,939 total yards. ... The Mean Green are 2-5 in bowl games. ... UNLV is playing only the fourth neutral site game since its first football season in 1968, and its first since the 1984 California Bowl. The Rebels' other two bowl games were at their own stadium in Las Vegas. ... North Texas leads Conference USA and is ninth nationally, allowing only 18.1 points per game — only 6.5 after halftime. ... For the first time since 2004, UNLV players will have their names on the back of their jerseys. That is a reward from coach Bobby Hauck for making it to a bowl.

GATOR BOWL

Nebraska (8-4) vs. No. 23 Georgia (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN2)
Line: Georgia by 9
Series record: Tied 1-1
WHAT'S AT STAKE
Maybe a little momentum heading into 2014. Both coaches agree that a win would provide a feel-good atmosphere for a few weeks or a couple months, but Nebraska's Bo Pelini adds that "whether you win, you lose, no matter how the game goes, the same challenges lie ahead as far as what we need to do as a football team to win a championship next year."

KEY MATCHUP
Nebraska's defense vs. Georgia RB Todd Gurley. The sophomore has 903 yards rushing and 10 TDs despite missing three-plus games with an ankle injury. He could become the third tailback in school history with consecutive 1,000-yard seasons. Herschel Walker (1980-83) and Knowshon Moreno (2007-08) also accomplished the feat. The Cornhuskers, meanwhile, have allowed 161.2 yards a game on the ground.

PLAYERS TO WATCH
Nebraska: Junior I-back Ameer Abdullah has 1,568 yards rushing and eight TDs, the fifth-best season in program history. The only Cornhuskers with more yards in a single season are Mike Rozier, Ahman Green and Lawrence Phillips.

Georgia: Junior QB Hutson Mason, who will make his second career start in place of Aaron Murray. Mason completed 22 of 36 passes for 299 yards, with two touchdowns and an interception in a double-overtime victory against Georgia Tech in November.

FACTS & FIGURES
Rematch of last year's Capital One Bowl, which Georgia won 45-31 in Orlando. ... Nebraska making its 50th bowl appearance. Only two programs (Alabama and Texas) have more. ... Cornhuskers are 12-7 against the Southeastern Conference in bowl games, but have lost the last four meetings. ... Georgia has won four of its last five games, the only loss coming on a fluke touchdown pass in the final seconds against Auburn. ... Bulldogs averaging 38.2 points a game, on pace to break the school record of 37.8 set last year.

CAPITAL ONE BOWL
No. 19 Wisconsin (9-3) vs. No. 8 South Carolina (10-2) noon (ABC)
Line: Wisconsin by 1 1/2
Series record: First meeting

WHAT'S AT STAKE
Both the Badgers and

Gamecocks had a chance to be playing in the BCS before unexpected losses. Wisconsin was No. 15 in the BCS standings, but had its season stunted by early-season losses to Arizona State and Ohio State and lost to Penn State in their finale. The Gamecocks reeled off four straight wins following a loss to Georgia, but were upset by Tennessee before ending the season on a five-game win streak. Wisconsin will now try to end a three-game bowl losing streak. South Carolina has won two straight bowl games over Big Ten foes, defeating Nebraska in 2012 and Michigan in 2013.

KEY MATCHUP
South Carolina defensive line vs. Wisconsin offense. The Gamecocks have two of the nation's most imposing threats up front in DE Jadeveon Clowney and DT Kelsey Quarles. Both were first team All-Southeastern Conference and lead a defense that ranked fourth in the SEC and tied for 14th in the country allowing 20.0 points per game. Wisconsin's offense ranks 18th in the country averaging 486.8 yards per game.

PLAYERS TO WATCH
Wisconsin: Sophomore RB Melvin Gordon (1,466 yards) and senior James White (1,337) had big years and helped make the Badgers just one of five teams with a pair of 1,000-yard rushers.

South Carolina: Along with Clowney and Quarles on defense, QB Connor Shaw has impressed when he hasn't been injured. For the season the senior passed for 2,135 yards and 21 TDs.

FACTS & FIGURES
The Badgers will be appearing in their 12th consecutive bowl game, a streak that includes a 3-1 record in four Orlando bowl games. ... With 39 wins since the 2010 season, Wisconsin's senior class can match the school record for most wins in a four-year span (40) with a victory. ... The Badgers are seeking their ninth 10-win season in school history and the fourth in five years. ... A win would give the Gamecocks an 11-win season for the third consecutive year. ... South Carolina is 6-12 all-time in bowl games, but has won its last two — the 2012 Capital One and 2013 Outback Bowl.

OUTBACK BOWL
No. 14 Louisiana State (9-3) vs. Iowa (8-4), Noon (ESPN)
Line: LSU by 8.
Series record: Iowa leads 1-0

WHAT'S AT STAKE
LSU, the only team that has beaten No. 2 Auburn, is looking to finish with at least 10

wins for a school-record fourth consecutive season. The Tigers won 11 games in 2010, 13 in 2011 and 10 in 2012 and also had a stretch of three straight seasons with double-digit victories under coach Les Miles from 2005-07. Iowa finished the regular season on a three game winning streak and won four of five overall following a 4-3 start to get back to a New Year's bowl for the first time in four seasons.

KEY MATCHUP
LSU freshman quarterback Anthony Jennings, who's making his first college start, against an Iowa defense that ranked third in the Big Ten and seventh nationally in fewest yards (303.2) allowed per game. Jennings replaced injured senior QB Zach Mettenberger late in the Tigers' regular season finale and led a 99-yard, game-winning drive against Arkansas.

PLAYERS TO WATCH
LSU: Jennings is a true freshman, but he won't be asked to carry the entire load for the Tigers. Wide receivers Odell Beckham Jr. (1,117 yards receiving, 8 touchdowns) and Jarvis Landry (1,172 yards, 10 TDs), and RB Jeremy Hill (1,185 yards rushing, 14 TDs) are game-changers. They teamed with Mettenberger to make LSU the first team in Southeastern Conference history to feature a 3,000-yard passer, two 1,000-yard receivers and a 1,000-yard rusher in the same season.

Iowa: Quarterback Jake Rudock has thrown for 2,281 yards, 18 touchdowns and 12 interceptions. Running back Mark Weisman had four 100-yard games rushing this season and led the Hawkeyes with 938 yards and seven TDs on the ground. Wide receiver Kevonte Martin-Manley was the team's leading receiver with 39 receptions for 384 yards and four TDs. Tight end C.J. Fiedorowicz has six TD receptions.

FACTS & FIGURES
Iowa won the only previous meeting between the schools 30-25 in the Capital One Bowl following the 2004 season, scoring the winning touchdown on Warren Holloway's 56-yard reception as time expired. ... LSU is appearing in a bowl game for the 14th consecutive season and 45th time overall. The Tigers are 5-3 in bowl games under Miles, who led them to a national championship in 2007. ... Iowa is back in a bowl game after remaining home for the holidays after a 4-8 finish in 2012.

ROSE BOWL
No. 4 Michigan State (12-1) vs. No. 5 Stanford (11-2), 4 p.m., (ESPN)

Line: Stanford by 6 1/2.
Series Record: Michigan State leads 3-2.

WHAT'S AT STAKE
The 100th edition of the Granddaddy of Them All matches two appropriate throwback teams. Stanford and Michigan State have dominant defenses and run-first offenses capable of grinding out a victory, but the Cardinal also has the edge of experience from last season's Rose Bowl victory and four straight BCS bowls overall.

KEY MATCHUP
Stanford RB Tyler Gaffney vs. Michigan State LB Kyler Elsworth. Gaffney rushed for 1,618 yards and 20 TDs behind the Cardinal's dominant offensive line, and he's facing a Michigan State defense missing LB Max Bullough, who is suspended for the Rose Bowl. Elsworth will start and call defensive signals in Bullough's place, and he'll have to lead an inspired effort to slow down Stanford's run game.

PLAYERS TO WATCH
Michigan State: QB Connor Cook. He isn't flashy, but the sophomore quietly gets things done right. After passing for 2,423 yards with 20 TDs and just five interceptions, Cook and his offense face an opponent that didn't allow more than 28 points all year.

Stanford: LB Trent Murphy. The second-team All-American wraps up his college career with his 40th consecutive start, and leads the Cardinal's big-play defense with 14 sacks and 21 1/2 tackles for loss.

FACTS & FIGURES
The first Rose Bowl game was played Jan. 1, 1902, and Stanford lost 49-0 to Michigan in what was billed as the "Tournament East-West football game" in Pasadena's Tournament Park. The game wasn't played again until 1916. ... Michigan State has won nine straight games and is making its first BCS appearance. ... Stanford has won six of seven, including the Pac-12 title game. ... Stanford beat Wisconsin 20-14 last year in Pasadena for the Cardinal's first Rose Bowl victory in 40 years. ... Michigan State is making its fifth Rose Bowl appearance, but its first since 1988. ... The last time these schools met, Stanford routed Michigan State 38-0 in the Sun Bowl on Dec. 31, 1996. ... The Cardinal are tied for the FBS lead with 40 sacks. ... Michigan State leads the FBS in total defense (248.2 yards per game), holding that spot for 13 consecutive weeks.

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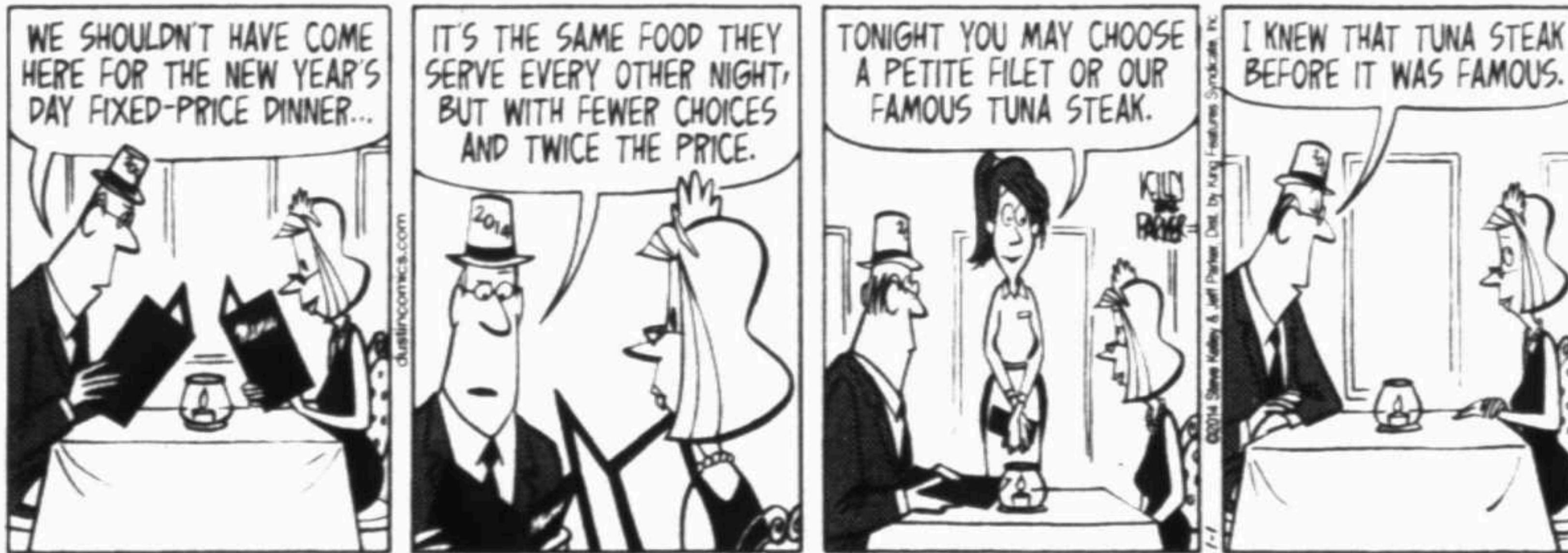
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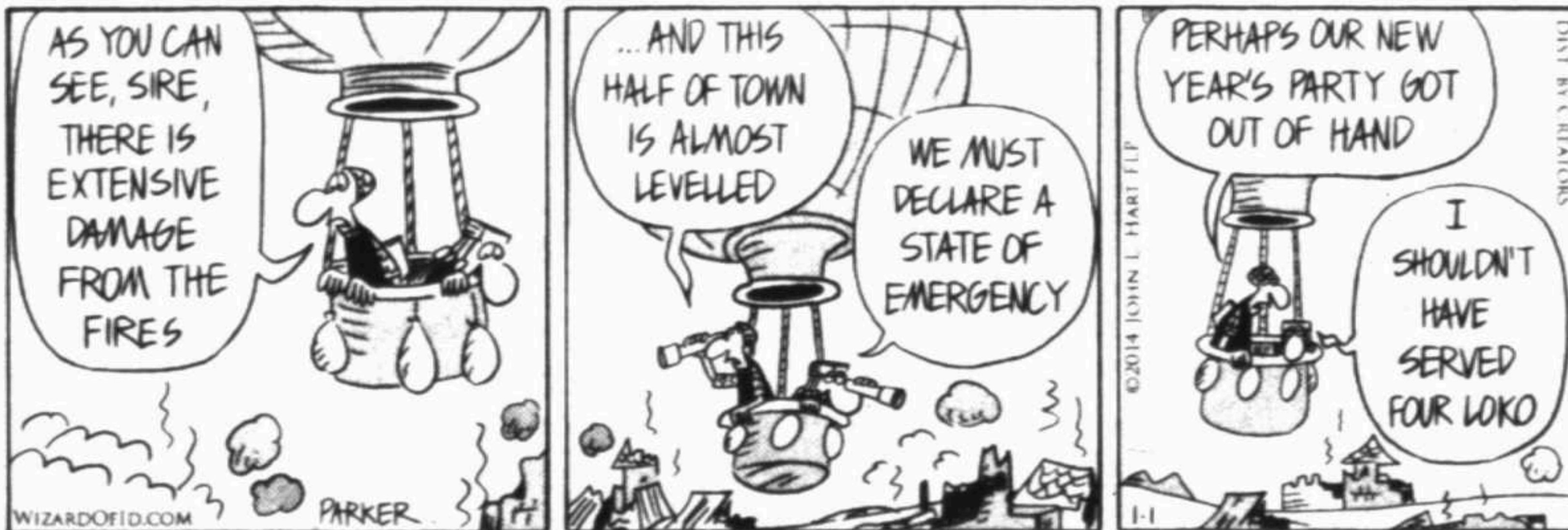
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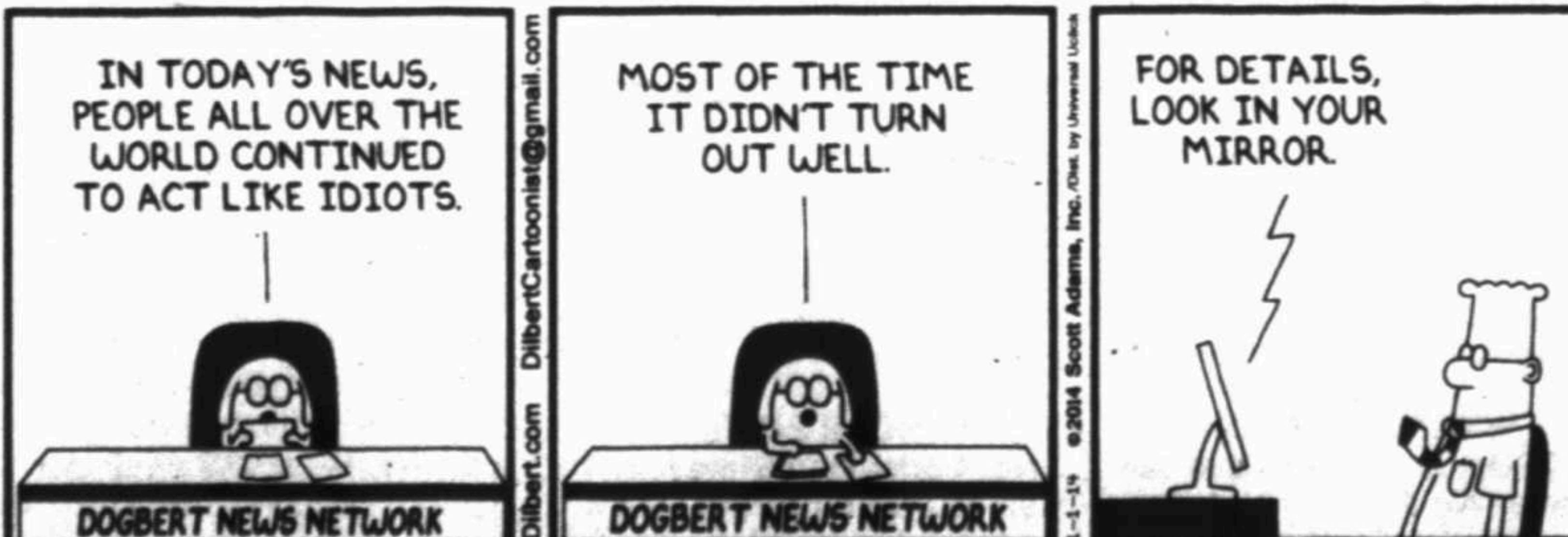
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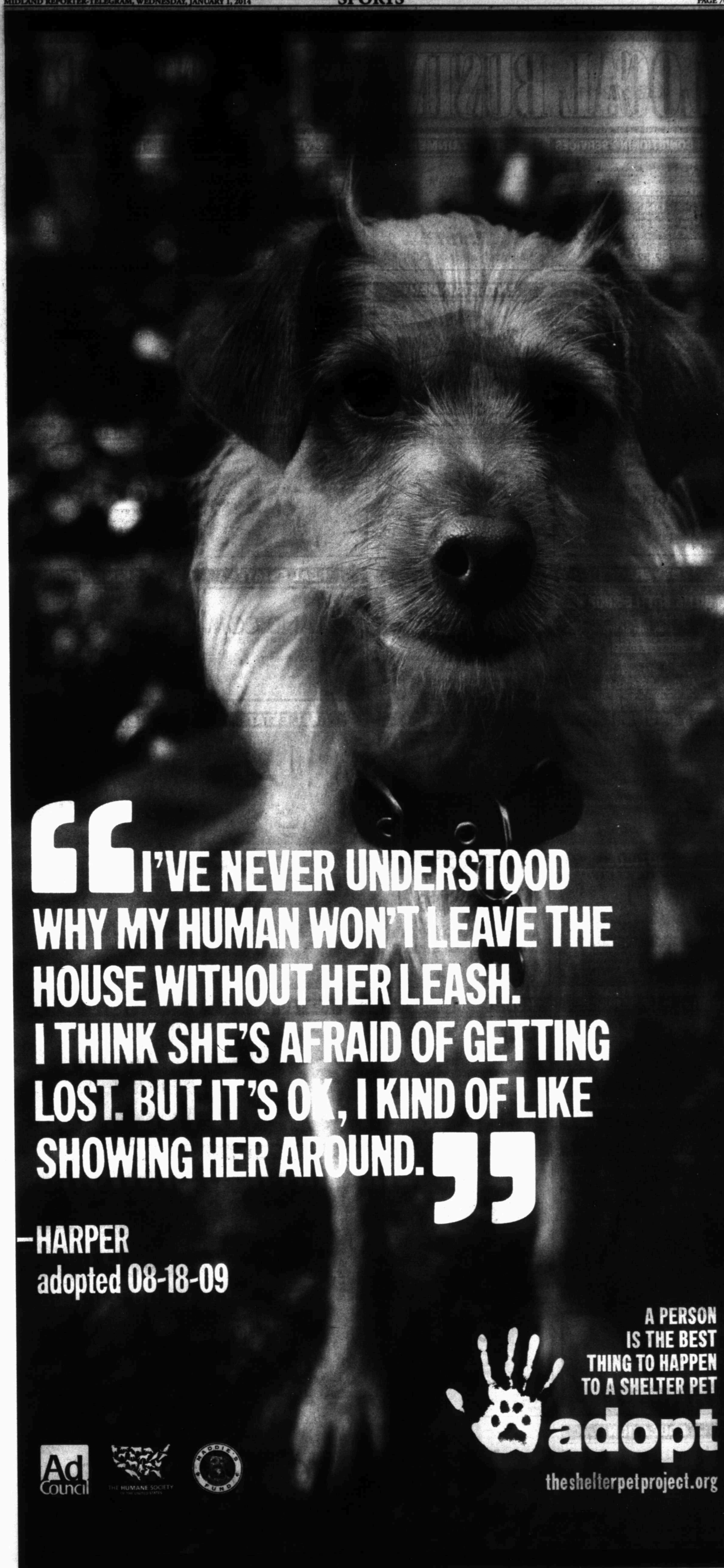
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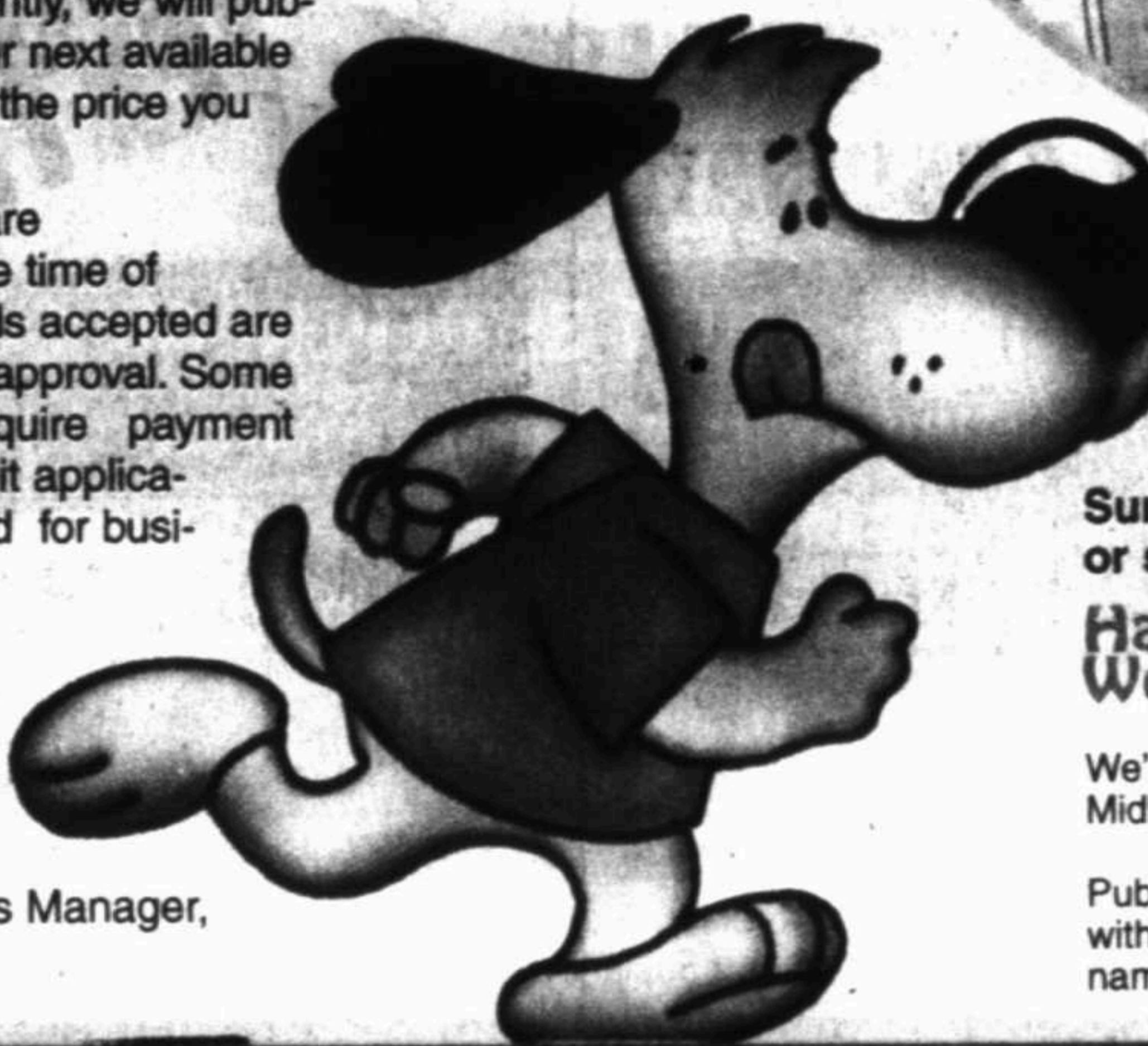
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To ensure the integrity of our newspaper, for the benefit of our readers and advertisers, the Midland Reporter-Telegram reserves the right to revise, reclassify, edit or refuse any advertising. We also reserve the right to convert all advertising into digital and/or print formats within our other products and services.

Please check your ad the first day it appears, and, if you find a mistake, please call our office at 682-6222 so we can correct the error immediately. This will ensure that your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. If an error does occur, you can choose to rerun your ad once for free, or we'll gladly refund the cost of the portion of the ad affected by the error. If an ad is inadvertently omitted, we will assume liability up to the cost of the ad itself - consequently, we will publish your ad in our next available edition or refund the price you have paid.

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Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Barbara Ann Blocker, Deceased, were issued on December 23, 2013, in Cause No. P17703, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to
Shelley Ann Blocker Edwards.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o David W. Lindemood
Attorney at Law
TGAAR Tower
24 Smith Road, Suite 400
Midland, TX 79705

DATED the 27th day of December, 2013.

/s/ David W. Lindemood
Attorney for Shelley Ann Blocker Edwards
State Bar No.: 12361900
TGAAR Tower
24 Smith Road, Suite 400
Midland, TX 79705
Telephone: (432) 686-7743
Facsimile: (432) 683-6229

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Tom Tankersley Nolan, Deceased, were issued on October 15, 2013, in Cause No. P17578, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to
Teresa Jean Tankersley.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o C.H. Brockett, Jr.
Attorney at Law
TGAAR Tower
24 Smith Road, Suite 400
Midland, TX 79705

DATED the 27th day of December, 2013.

/s/ C.H. Brockett, Jr.
Attorney for Teresa Jean Tankersley
State Bar No.: 03046200
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Legal & Public Notices

Construction Manager at Risk Solicitation
The Glasscock County Independent School District solicits credentials and pricing from qualified firms to provide Construction Manager at Risk services associated with proposed improvements to the school's facilities.
Interested firms should contact the school at 432-354-2230 or Tom Weeaks at 432-270-1312 to request a copy of the Request for Proposal. You may also go to our website: www.gckats.net and download the information packet and RFP.
All submissions must be delivered to the school office in Garden City, Texas, no later than 3:00pm CST on January 7, 2014. Glasscock County ISD reserves the right to overlook any irregularities, and waive any and all formalities.

Legal & Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Statements of Qualifications will be received until 4:00 PM, January 8, 2014, in the office of the Purchasing Manager, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following:

Request for Qualifications 7240-14. The City of Midland is seeking an architectural/engineering firm to provide complete architectural/engineering and project management services for improvements and renovations at the existing Hogan Park Golf Course located at 3600 N. Fairgrounds Road, Midland, Texas.

This RFQ is now available. To receive a copy of this RFQ, please call 432-685-7234 or e-mail: purchasing@midlandtexas.gov

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code.

City of Midland, Texas

General Announcements

ABRAXAS BOOK KEEPING is closing permanently on January 6, 2014. If you have any records that you would like to pick up, the office, located at 4500 W. Illinois suite 201-A, will be open from January 1- January 3-9:00am-12 noon and 1:30pm-5:30pm.

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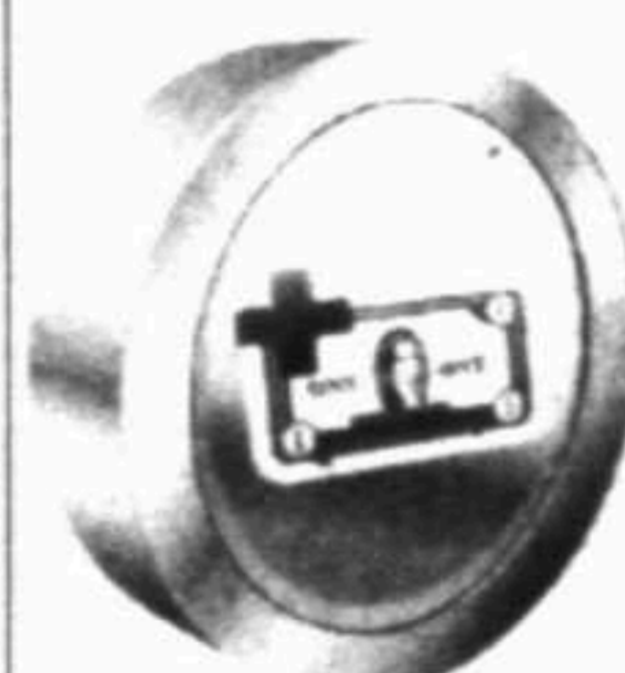
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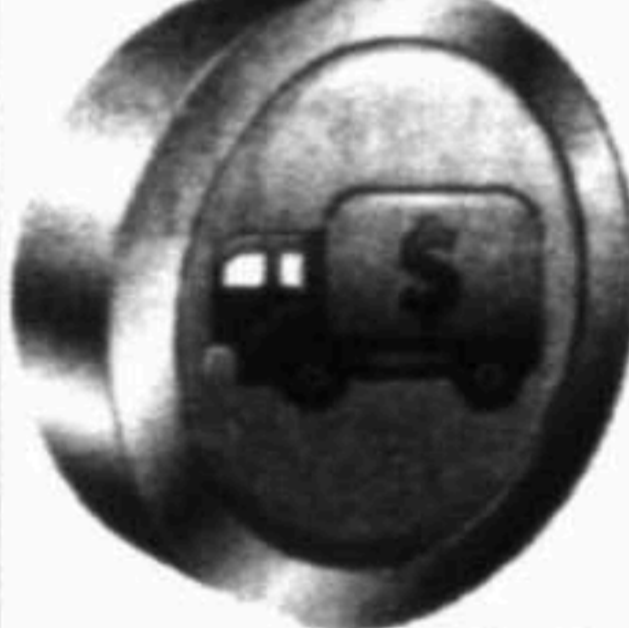


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Legal & Public Notices

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
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DISTRICT 08
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Dec 5, 2013
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jan 9, 2014
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

Rule 38 Case No. 08-0286036
Status/Permit No. 773154

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., [RRC Operator No. 665748] has made application for a density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the DENSITY requirement of the field rules for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 34, Bk. 37 T3S, T&P RR CO/ROE C Survey, A-981, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, MIDLAND County, being 18 miles SE direction from MIDLAND, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512) 463-6848.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jan 9, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name: SCHACKELFORD SPRABERRY UNIT
Lease/Unit Well No.: 3002H
Lease/Unit Acres: 28731.0
Nearest Lease Line (ft): 100.0
Nearest Well on Lease (ft): 241.0

Lease Lines: 10246.0 F NORTH L, 2395.0 F EAST L
Survey Lines: 342.0 F SOUTH L, 2395.0 F EAST L

Wellbore Profile(s): Horizontal

Lateral: TH1
Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines: 10246.0 F NORTH L
2395.0 F EAST L

Terminus Location
BH County: MIDLAND
Section: 46 Block: 37 T-3-S Abstract: 928
Survey: T&P RR CO / HASELDEN, J
Lease Lines: 90.0 F SOUTH L
2395.0 F EAST L
1420.0 F SOUTH L
2395.0 F EAST L
Survey Lines:

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA): Special Rules 4670, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 8500 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, MANDY HEDGPETH, at (972) 969-3873.

SUDOKU
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:

1 2
3 4

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

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
TUESDAY'S PUZZLE**

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

1/1/14

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mywesttexas jobs

http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs

Midland Reporter-Telegram
in partnership with
monster

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

EXPERIENCED TAX ACCOUNTANT
Johnson, Miller & Co., CPAs FT
Immediate openings for experienced tax accountants in our Odessa and Midland tax offices. Competitive salary and benefits. Come join our team of professionals at Johnson, Miller & Co., CPAs. Submit your resume to jobs@jmcotexas.com.

AUTOMOTIVE

Applicants for various positions
Stanley Ford - Andrews FT
Stanley Ford - Andrews is currently seeking applicants for the following positions:
Service Advisors
Certified Diesel Techs
Experienced Techs
Sales Associate
State Inspectors
Parts Manager
We are willing to offer top pay depending on experience. Benefits include: vacation and medical benefits.
Qualified individuals may send resumes by fax to: 432-524-9112 or via email at: pplunkett@stanleyautogroup.com

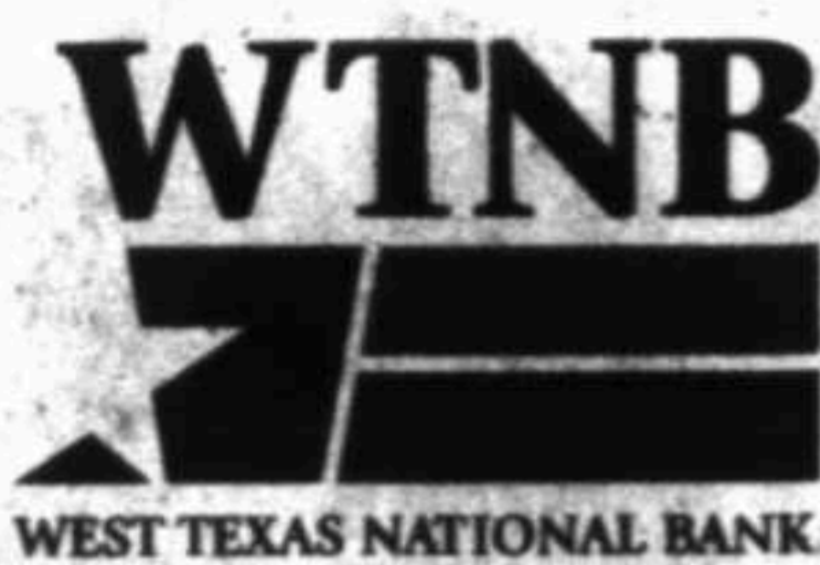
BANKING & MORTGAGE

WEST TEXAS NATIONAL BANK IS EXPANDING.

Because of our continued growth, WTNB has several opportunities available within our Operations group in Midland TX. Prior experience in bank Operations or IT is required: ATM, Item Processing, Project Management, Loan Processing, etc. For consideration please contact Jeard Taylor at jtaylor@wtbnb.com.

WTNB.COM

MEMBER FDIC EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LENDER
WEST TEXAS NATIONAL BANK IS AN
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



Alpine, Crane, Denver City, Kermit, Lubbock, Midland, Pecos, Seminole, Tule Wyo.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Financial Literacy Specialist
Tax experience preferred. Please apply M-F, 9am-5pm at Casa de Amigos, 1101 Garden Ln. Midland. For more info. Contact HR at 432-682-9701

ENERGY & UTILITIES

AutoCAD Draftsman
Sport Environmental Services FT NOW HIRING!
Midland company seeking qualified draftsman. Autodesk AutoCAD experience required. Autodesk Inventor 3D modeling experience and ESRI's GIS mapping capabilities preferred. Send resume to: info@sportenvironmental.com.

DIRECTIONAL DRILLER
Directional drilling company seeking experienced drillers in West Texas. Must have at least 2 yrs experience. Send resume to resumes@aimdir.com.

Plant Operator
West Texas Gas FT
PLANT OPERATOR NEEDED IMMEDIATELY. Experience preferred but not required. Location near Stanton, TX. Fax resume to: (432) 458-3423 or mail to: Sale Ranch, 2873 FM 829, Stanton, TX 79782. Can Email resume to dsatterfield@wtgbenedum.com.

HEALTHCARE

PREMIER PHYSICIANS

Premier Physicians currently has openings in the following offices:

Urgent Care - Walk In Clinic
Experienced Physician's Assistant or Nurse Practitioner - must have at least one year experience in busy clinic setting.

Premier Physicians offers a competitive benefit package including paid vacation and sick time, health insurance and retirement.

Please send qualified resumes to:
Premier Physicians
Attn: Arita Routh
P.O. Box 5291
Midland, TX 79704 or by fax to 432.682.2284

PO# UC-7090

Medical Assistant
Medical Assistant needed for busy physicians practice. Great Benefit Package. Please fax resumes to 682-2284 or mail to Premier Physicians, Attn: Arita Routh, PO Box 5291, Midland, Texas 79704. No phone calls please PP-7233

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
SEMINOLE HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Positions Available:

Full-Time
Registered Nurses
Certified Nurse Aides
Licensed Vocational Nurse
Division Director of Extended Care Services

Part-Time
Medical Record Clerk
Dietary Aide
Housekeeping
Respiratory Therapist

APPLY ONLINE TODAY
www.seminolehospitaldistrict.com

HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

Hiring all Positions
Hampton Inn FT/PT
5011 North Loop 250 W.
Midland, TX 79707
Now hiring all positions for Full/Part time. Apply in person

Immediate Openings
Plaza Inn Midland has immediate openings for:
• Front Desk Agents (PT) • Night Auditors (PT)
Please apply in person to Midland Plaza Inn
4108 N. Big Spring St., Midland, TX. 79705

OTHER JOBS

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
Pay \$10.00 per hour paid every 2 weeks

These positions require some physical lifting 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: jmadbox@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Midland Reporter-Telegram
HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

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
Pay \$10.00 per hour paid every 2 weeks

These positions require some physical lifting 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: jmadbox@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Focus Group
KP Recruiting & Data Collecting PT
Earn \$150 participating in a focus group. Saturday, January 4th from 8am-1pm or 1:30pm - 6:30pm in Crane, TX. Call 1-877-591-7530 or 773-256-9411.

Janitorial Help
Part-time Janitorial work in the evening. Apply at: 2311 Elizabeth Ave or call 432-570-9903.

The Midland Reporter Telegram has an opening in its Production Department for the position of:

Pressman/Pressman Trainee
for our Harris N 1650 Printing presses. This 5-6 day per week, fast paced, deadline oriented position, requires: night shift weekend work, with a strong emphasis on safety. The Midland Reporter Telegram offers a full package of company benefits including 401K program. Salary DOE.

Send resume and salary requirements to:
John Maddox, Production Director
c/o Midland Reporter Telegram
201 E. Illinois St., Midland, TX 79701
E-mail: jmadbox@hearstnp.com
or
come by 201 E. Illinois Street to fill out an application.

HEARST corporation
Midland Reporter-Telegram is a part of Hearst Corp.
NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE

Pump Down Supervisors and Operators
O-Tex FT/PT
Midland, TX
O-Tex Pumping is currently hiring experienced pump down supervisors and pump down operators. We offer competitive pay, job bonuses, matching 401K, full medical benefits, and life insurance. Please come by 2611 E. I-20 or go to www.otexpumping.com and fill out an application. Must be able to pass a MVR and drug screen. O-Tex Pumping is an EOE.

PURCHASING / WAREHOUSE CLERK
Purchasing from vendors, maintaining stock, inventory count. Requires Microsoft Excel, communication skills and Team player. FT. Benefits. Send Resume to info@blazinsafety.com

Wyndham Garden Hotel & Wall Street After 5 Sports Lounge
Positions needed: Front Desk agents, Admin Assistant, Housekeepers
Food & Beverage Director & Supervisor, Cooks, Servers/Hostesses, Breakfast Attendants, Bar Managers, Bartenders
Pay based on experience. Please email resume wyndhammidlandgm@gmail.com or hand deliver at 3100 W. Wall Street, Midland, TX.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
Oilfield Construction Manager
Minimum 5 years experience with bidding, invoicing and job cost tracking. Oversee building locations, roads, and containment pads. Please send resume to M-31 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX. 79701

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE
DOMINO'S PIZZA NOW HIRING!
•Drivers: Make cash everyday, Great part time & full time shifts, Starting wage of \$7.50 an hour (no split tip/wage here) plus delivery reimbursement, plus tips. •CSRs: Great part time & full time shifts, Starting wage of \$8.25 an hour, Bright & Friendly people only! •Shift Leaders: Great part time & full time shifts, Starting wage of \$10 an hour, Flexible Schedules. Apply at any Domino's Pizza Midland or Odessa or send resume: dominoes@clearwire.net. Senior citizens & stay at home moms always welcome. EOE

Now Hiring
Lori's Cafe hiring dishwashers & cooks. Experience required. Apply on site 2201 W. Wall

SALES JOBS

APPRENTICE
Peerless Tyre Company FT
Do you have the desire to make an above average income? Peerless Tyre Co. is now hiring for an Apprentice. Person should have previous sales experience or tire experience but not necessary. Person must be over 18 years of age, possess a valid driver's license and pass a pre-employment drug screen and background check. Starting \$12/hour or depending on experience. Apply 2804 W. Wall, Midland or 3401 Andrews Hwy, Odessa

Sales And Designer
FLOWERLAND FT
Salesperson and designer needed. Must have good customer relations and phone etiquette. Computer experience preferred. Saturdays & holidays included. Fax resume to 432-682-8949, apply in person, or email resume to tomwilliams@flowerlandmidland.com, no phone calls please.

Salesperson
Salesperson needed for mattress store in Midland. Are you tired of working furniture store hours from dawn to dark? Personable, energetic individual needed for full time position. Should be good with people and have a professional appearance. Job description includes both sales and clerical/administrative duties. Compensation includes full commission (no tiers, minimums or holdbacks), plus spiffs, vacation, and 401k. No late hours or Sundays. Mail resume to Sleep Shop, 3303 W. Illinois, Midland, TX. 79703

STORE MANAGERS and CASHIERS
Smoker's Outlet is looking for Store Managers and Cashiers in the Midland area. We offer competitive wages and a good work environment. Paid weekly. Go by your nearest Smoker's Outlet to apply.

SKILLED LABOR

2 Backhoe Operators
FirstShot Production Services, LLC FT
2 Backhoe Operators with CDL needed, 3 yrs exp required, contact Harvey at 432-853-4932 or apply in person at 1601 Idlewide Dr

Apprentice/Journeyman Electricians
Apprentice/Journeyman Electricians needed. Fort Worth Electrical Contractor needs Apprentice and Journeyman Electricians for work in Andrews, TX area. Please fax resume, list of experience & salary requirements to: 817-355-5355, Attn: H.R. Dept.

Document Preppers
Kelly Services now hiring Document Preppers, Drug & background screen required. \$11.75/hour. Must be flexible and willing to work occasional Saturdays. Both Full Time and Part Time positions available. Apply in person at 4900 E. 42nd, Suite 205, Odessa. Or call 432-363-0123 for more information. Equal Opportunity Employer; Never an applicant fee.

Electrician
Apple Electrical Contractors FT
Odessa, TX
Apple Electrical Contractors, Inc. has immediate openings for experienced and/or licensed Journeyman and Apprentice Electricians. Pre-employment drug test required. Fill out an application at 7540 Andrews Hwy, Odessa, TX 79765 or fax a resume to 432-363-0192 or email alan@appleelectric.com. No phone calls please.

Electricians
Confidential FT
Midland, TX 79701
Experienced Electricians needed. Please call 432-413-9344.

I&E Tech : IMMEDIATELY NEEDED
West Texas Gas FT
I&E Tech for natural gas processing plant and gathering system near Rankin, Texas. Must have experience with electronic and pneumatic instrumentation and be able to troubleshoot 480V 3 phase electrical service. Experience with generators and plant automation a plus. Must be willing to take night and weekend call outs. Fax resume to (432)639-2132 or mail to Benedum Gas Plant, HC 34 Box 63, Midkiff, Texas, 79755.

Long time respected drilling fluids company needs Experienced Drilling Mud Technician in the Permian Basin. Applicant needs to have 2+ years experience in the Permian or equivalent area and be versed in water based and oil based systems. Company offers insurance, 401K, scheduled days off, vacations and FRC clothing reimbursement and other incentives. Please send resume to c/o MRT Box M34 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX, 79701

Multiple Positions
Confidential FT/
Midland, TX 0-1 Years Exp.
Wood production facility has immediate openings for production laborers, in Midland. Please call 806-773-2520 to schedule an interview.

mywesttexas jobs

<http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs>

Midland Reporter-Telegram

in partnership with

monster

SALES JOBS

Multi-Media Sales Consultant

The Midland Reporter-Telegram and mywesttexas.com advertising department is looking for a Multi-Media Sales Consultant. The ideal candidate will have a proven track record of personal sales successes, preferably in a newspaper/media environment. Some knowledge of the advertising industry would be helpful, but not required.

Duties for this position will include, but are not limited to selling advertising in all print publications of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and all online products, including mywesttexas.com.

Qualifications & Skills:

- Ability to work in a fast-paced, deadline oriented environment
- Excellent customer service and time management skills
- Highly organized with the ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Detail-oriented with good communication, spelling and math skills

The Hearst Corporation is one of the largest diversified communications companies. Its major interests include magazine, newspaper and business publishing, cable networks, television and radio broadcasting, Internet businesses and more. As an associate of the Midland Reporter-Telegram, you join more than 20,000 in the Hearst family. The Multi-Media Sales Consultant is a full-time, outside sales position. We offer a competitive compensation plan and benefits package, comprehensive training, mileage allowance, and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive, and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you are the one we are looking for, please send current resume to:

Jeri Houston, Advertising Sales Manager

Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Avenue, Midland, TX 79701
or email to: jhouston@mrt.com

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER / NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE



SKILLED LABOR

Forklift Operator

The Midland Reporter-Telegram has an opening in its Production Department for the Position of "Fork Lift Operator" and other duties as assigned.

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- Ability to read and write
- Ability to lift up to 50 lbs.
- Ability to bend and reach overhead
- Ability to count accurately and do simple math
- Able to operate a forklift and willing to be certified
- Be reliable, responsible and able to follow instructions
- Capable of standing and walking for extended period of time
- Able to work in various environments that include winter and summer conditions.
- Must be able to work weekends when necessary

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Accurate loading and unloading of printed materials in a safe and efficient manner
- Ensure material are efficiently/properly stacked and stored in appropriate and designated areas
- Perform other non-forklift duties when assigned

The Hearst Corporation is one of the largest diversified communications companies. Its major interests include magazines, newspapers and business publishing, cable networks, television and radio broadcasting, Internet businesses and more. As an associate of the Midland Reporter-Telegram, you join more than 20,000 in the Hearst family.

Send resume and salary requirements to: **John Maddox, Director of Production/Facilities**
c/o Midland Reporter Telegram - 201 E. Illinois St - Midland, TX 79701
Email to: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

HEARST media services

Midland Reporter-Telegram
Delivering life...every day.

Multiple Positions

Nolan H. Brunson is looking for experienced Tandem Operators, Haul Truck Drivers, Swampers, and Pumping Unit Inspectors for its Midland yard. Nolan H. Brunson has been serving the Permian Basin for over 65 yrs. we offer top competitive wages, health/vision/dental insurance, 401 K plan and paid holidays and vacations. Nolan H. Brunson is the premiere Pumping Unit Service company in the Permian Basin, with yards in Midland-Hobbs-Andrews, please call Yard Mgr. **Trey Aguilar** @ (432)-557-4636 or come by in person @ 2306 N. FM 1788.

Now Hiring

Mattlock Drilling FT
Are you needing a change? Want to work close to home? Have at least 6 months experience working as a actual hand on a drilling rig and have never worked for us. Then Mattlock Drilling is the place for you. We offer insurance after 90 days and vacation after a year. The schedule is 12 days on and 4 off. NO CAMP JOBS
Hiring for:
• Drillers
Top Wages. If interested come in and apply at 12505 WCR 124, Odessa Texas, 79765. Off of business 20 and the coors road. NO PHONE CALLS. Drug and Alcohol Testing. EOE

Rocker A Cementers

Rocker A Cementers is currently hiring Pump Operators, Bulk Equipment Operators, P&A Supervisors, and Wireline Operators. All positions are in the Lubbock area. Must have a Class A CDL, and be able to pass regular DOT drug testing. Fax resumes and contact information to 806-495-0066, or email to mtrmcalls@gmail.com

PRESSMAN

The Midland Reporter-Telegram has an immediate opening in its Production Department for the position of: PRESSMAN for our Harris N 1650 Printing presses.
This 5-6 day per week, fast paced, deadline oriented position, requires: night shift/weekend work, with a strong emphasis on safety. The Midland Reporter-Telegram offers a full package of company benefits including 401K program. Salary DOE.
Send resume and salary requirements to:
John Maddox, Director of Production/Facilities
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram 201 E. Illinois St., Midland, TX 79701. E-mail: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
Midland Reporter-Telegram is part of Hearst Corporation
NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE

Shop/Field Mechanics

Basin Engine and Pump FT
Shop and Field Mechanics needed for Industrial Oilfield Shop. Uniforms provided. Benefits package. Pay DOE. Please submit resume by fax to 432-570-1115 or email to felicia@basinengine.com. Office 432-570-1114. Applications may be filled out at: 1914 South County Rd 1083, Midland, TX

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Class A CDL Truck Drivers

Prefer drivers with Pneumatic Tanker experience. Benefits include: driver \$2,000 sign-on bonus, medical, life and dental insurance, and paid vacation. Applicants having experience hauling sand and/or dry cement helpful. Good driving record, DOT, drug & alcohol testing required. Apply in person, call 432-563-1894 for interview or online @ www.rockwaterenergy.com

DRIVERS WANTED!

B-Dun Trucking FT
Local Trucking Company with competitive pay needing:Swampers, Hotshot Drivers, Flat Bed Drivers & Winch Truck Drivers. Paula, 432-218-6843.

Experienced Driver

G & K Trucking, Inc. FT
Local trucking company seeks an experienced Class A CDL HOTSHOT driver in the Midland area for local, regional and out of state deliveries. Benefits include bonuses, scheduled days off, medical insurance and paid vacation. Hazmat preferred. Please call 432-413-2472 Mon-Fri.

TTI TRUCKING IS NOW HIRING!

We now have immediate openings for the following positions: KILL TRUCK DRIVERS, VAC TRUCK DRIVERS, TRUCK PUSHERS, & MECHANICALLY INCLINED SHOP HANDS. We offer weekly pay and benefits after 90 days. All drivers and pushers must have at least 2 yrs. experience and all applicants must be able to pass a drug test. Apply in person at 3404 W. Illinois Ste. 204 Midland, TX 79703.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

General

NEWSPAPER STREET CORNER SALES



Selling Newspapers On The Street Corners (avg. income \$50.00 - \$100.00/day)

MUST BE AT LEAST 14 YEARS OLD SUNDAYS ONLY IF INTERESTED CALL TOMMY 967-2267



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

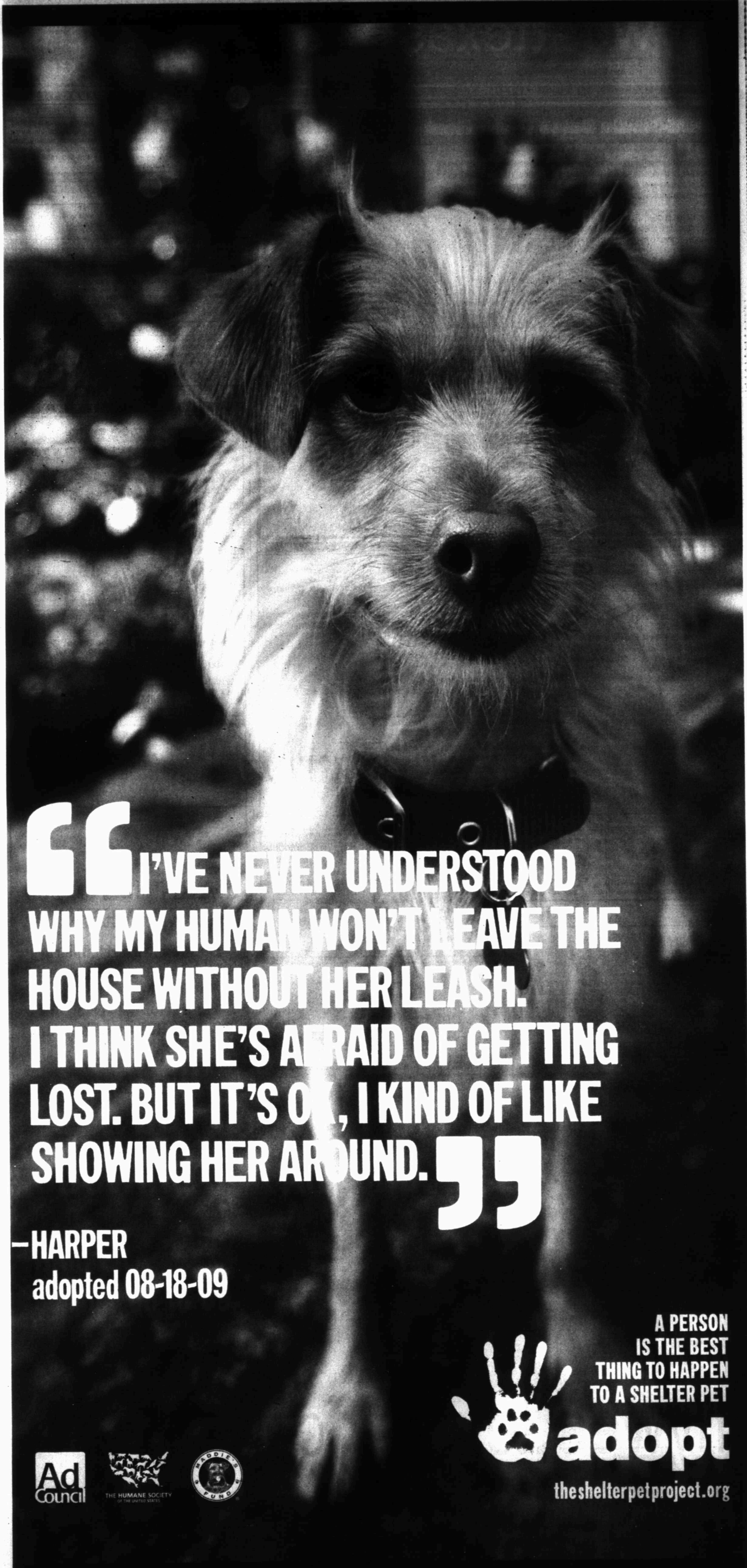
TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

CDL and Non CDL Drivers

B & B Wrecker Service is looking to hire CDL and Non CDL Drivers. Must be 21 years or older. Good driving record. Paid every Friday. Health insurance provided. Please come by 2823 S. Rankin Hwy.

mywesttexas.com/forum

Where your "two cents" are priceless.



“ I’VE NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY MY HUMAN WON’T LEAVE THE HOUSE WITHOUT HER LEASH. I THINK SHE’S AFRAID OF GETTING LOST. BUT IT’S OK, I KIND OF LIKE SHOWING HER AROUND. ”

HARPER
adopted 08-18-09

A PERSON IS THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN TO A SHELTER PET



adopt

theshelterpetproject.org



MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2014

1- AAA Free p 0104

FREE up ap al. Ca

REFR \$225, Dryer stove Freez \$200.

SELLIN car, Tracke gine, \$2,500

Will buy wanted RVs, F 432-68

Pick

DODGE 1500, vin#:31 72379, age \$3 ed call

DODGE 1500, Tires, 172000 Engine, 432-52

FORD pane \$1000 0346

FORD 2 Cab 51,000 entry leather seats, multi with p running tow p and 19,000 432-66

FORD step s or with nor : 5 5936

4W

2007 C 95K m clean \$15,00 312-04

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2010 M SL, 4 premi CD, 2 XM, w/black seats, 1 ow \$18,50 432-23

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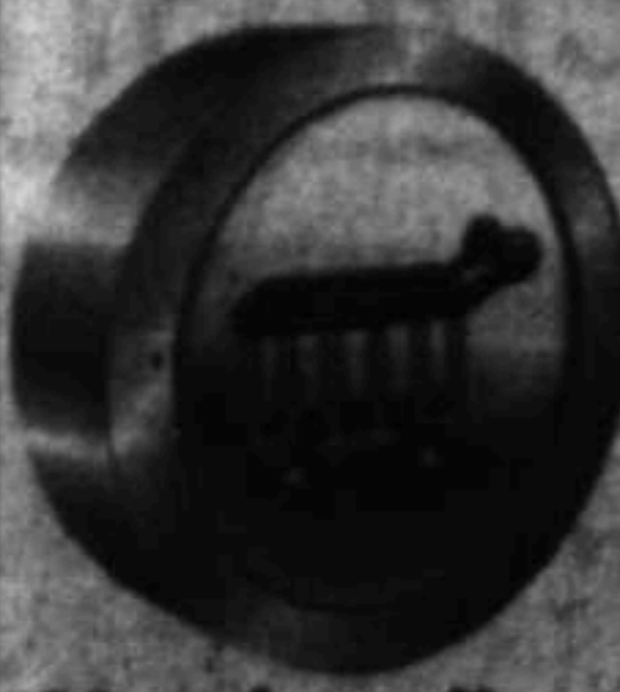
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Marty's Marketplace

... leading you to the best bargains in the Permian Basin



Merchandise
Appliances
 1-AAA Appliance
 Free pickup. Call 558-0104/528-3046.
 FREE 30 minute pick-up appliances & metal. Call 432-352-7988.
REFRIGERATOR
 \$225, Washer \$150, Dryer \$150, Electric stove \$150, small freezer \$75, Organ \$200. 432-352-7988.
Free Staff
FREE WOODEN PALLETS!
 Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

Appliances
 We buy broken appliances w/ free removal. Also we repair appliances. 432-570-8278

Furniture
 Secretary row top desk \$150. 432-262-2988

Miscellaneous for Sale
 RESTHAVEN GARDEN Of Hope. Lot 43, space 1 & 2. \$2,000 each. Call 432-634-4733.

Miscellaneous for Sale
 Celebrate with Savings
Your Full Service Dealer
 Try us once You'll Be Back!

KEN'S RV SALES
 5904 Hwy 80 • Midland • 432-677-4447
 Sales • Service • Parts
 Financing Available up to 120 months
 Great Rates from \$89

Miscellaneous for Sale
NEW TODAY!
 VINTAGE BEER Can Collection purchased at estate sale in Nebraska. Selling entire lot of 3000+ cans for \$6000 or best offer. Available for local pickup in Midland, Texas. I am not a collector and planned on selling individually or using as decor in mancave, but ran out of time. They take up a lot of space. Contains cans from all over the world and range in ages from 20-60+ years. Have not even gone through 10% of the inventory. Text or email offers or for more information: viperfanatic@hotmail.com or 432-258-5559

Tools & Hardware
 92 FT. LOUISVILLE Heavy Duty Fiberglass Extension Ladder \$250. 432-238-7079
 FIREWOOD FOR sale \$85 per truck load. Call 432-296-9040
 OAK, PECAN, mesquite, phon, 432-209-0416, 325-782-4262.

Pets
 CKC REGISTERED German Shepherd puppies, Mom is CKC & Dad is AKC. 432-664-9827 or 432-289-2960. mabel_aranda19@yahoo.com
NEW TODAY!
 ENGLISH BULL DOG puppies. Beautiful, 2 males, 1 female, all shots, Pedigree and Health records. Call 806-341-4340
 FREE TO good home Lab Retriever mixed puppy 6 to 7 month old, very gentle with kids. Call 432-230-2763.
 SCOTTISH TERRIER puppies. Adorable AKC register. Black beauties. Born 10/04/13. Current on shots. Call 325-207-0042.
 YORKIE PUPPIES, Teacup. CKC Registered. First Shots, Ready Now! \$900. 432-213-2138 or 432-816-4216.



Animals & Pets
NEW TODAY!
 1 FRENCH bull dog pup, female, fawn, all shots, pedigree and registration papers. Call 806-341-4340
 SCHNAUZER AKC register 2 males left \$350 Please call 432-889-4044.

Lots & Land
Acres
 Owner finance 5 acres water. Site built homes only, off Hwy 349, 20 mins. south of Midland. \$59,500 432-631-8100/266-1212

Oil & Gas Leases
 MOUNT JEWETT, PA. Marcellus Shale & Utica 53 acres, mineral rights for sale, high activity area. 814-778-5210 ask for Roger Hann

Ranches
 562 ACRES for sale south of Abilene in Runnels County. Lots of trees, wildlife & water. Two homes / lodges; main lodge 4,600sqft. with large open floor plan. 2nd lodge 750sqft. Awesome getaway, home or business. \$1.6 mil. 325-668-9299

Commercial
"MAN CAVE"
 New storage on 1788. 1500-4500 square ft starting at \$650 RV's/cars/industrial ask for Don 352-2067.

Commercial
NOW LEASING
 Office/Warehouses Small Office Suites and Fenced Yards Various locations. Call 432-661-4057.

Commercial
RED WAREHOUSE
 Yard for sale or lease 1015 West Industrial. 432-553-4586.

Commercial
REGENCY CENTER, available for lease commercial spaces. 2203 A & B. Big Spring Street and 1700 W. Texas Street. Call 817-583-9736

Commercial
AIRPORT HANGER
 located at MAF Airport. New construction. 80'x80'x35'. \$750,000. Ask for Don 432-352-2067.

Commercial
NEW CONSTRUCTION
 5/10/2050 acres +/- yard with 5,000 or 10,000 sq. ft. building with Bridge Cranes/ wash bays. Ask for Don. 570-9155 or 352-2067.

Commercial
OFFICE, 1800 to 2000 sq excellent location. Parking and other amenities. 432 697-6268

Commercial
FOR SALE by owner-
 4508 Lanham St., 2BR/2BA, 1400 sqft patio home \$165,000. Call 940-597-6743 to make appointment to see

Commercial
FSBO EXECUTIVE
 home 4/5/3+ Gourmet kitchen, green house. Artist/dance studio, office/hobby room, wood floors, waterwell, 5000+ sq ft. \$575,000. 1704 West Missouri. Call 432-254-2744.

Commercial
HOME TO BE MOVED!
 Pier & beam, 3 bed/3 bath, 2273 sq ft., metal roof, large master, his/her closet, remodeled kitchen open to living, office. Appraisal value \$188,205 asking \$155,000 located 40 miles SE of Midland. 432-268-5897

Commercial
IN MIDLAND home
 3 bedroom 1 bath. Ready to move in \$95,000 No owner finance 4715 Comanche Dr Call 432-262-3841

Commercial
OWNER FINANCED
 3 bed 2 bath, nice neighborhood. 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Commercial
OWNER FINANCED
 4403 Trevino, 3 /2 Small down. 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Commercial
REDUCED \$25K
 2201 W. Golf Course, 2.871 sqft., indoor pool, 4 car garage. \$299k. Check zillow.com 432-530-8844

Commercial
WE BUY HOMES!
 Fair prices, quick cash! Call 432-266-1212, 432-631-8100.

Lots & Land
Acres
 10 ACRES in Vista Rio Bonito Subdivision, 220 Vista Rio Bonito Dr. (Tract 20) in a gated community in Alto, NM. Paved road. HOA dues \$17,000 per acre Great investment or retirement property! Surrounded by Mountains! 10 minute drive north of Ruidoso, NM. Call 432-238-1031

Lots & Land
 1.1 Acre lots 22K., 1.1 Acre lots with water well 28K., 1.5 Acre lot 30K., Greenwood area, new roads, electricity, mobile or modular OK. Britt 512-573-5479

Lots & Land
 12.08 ACRES corner lot located at 3201 Cynthia Dr. Site to build homes only. Water well 300-gpm. White Pipe fencing. \$25,000 per acre 432-238-1031.

Lots & Land
 40 ACRES 1-20 Odessa location, \$25,000 per acre. Ask for Don 432-352-2067.

Lots & Land
 4.17 ACRES in Stanton City Limits. Has electricity and water, but will need septic. \$50,000. Call 432-894-6015

Lots & Land
 HOUSE AND 50 acres for sale, 1 mile south of Interstate off Cotton Flat. Will Divide. \$13,500 per acre. 432-661-5742

Lots & Land
 1-20 MIDLAND location, 27 acres. \$60,000 per acre. Ask for Don 432-352-2067.

Passenger Cars
 SELLING WIFE'S work car, 2003 Chevy Tracker, 2.0 liter engine, 4 door, asking \$2,500. 432-894-8234

WANTED!
 Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. FREE pick-up. 432-685-4078

Pickup Trucks
 DODGE 2001 Ram 1500, white in color vin#:3B7HC13Y91G7 72379, 114,571 mileage \$3,500. If interested call (432)661-1809

Pickup Trucks
 DODGE 2002 Ram 1500. 4X4. Large Mud Tires. Dark Blue. 172000 miles. Newer Engine. \$5750 OBO. 432-528-8994

Pickup Trucks
 FORD 1990 F250, propane and gasoline. \$1000 OBO. 432-212-0346

Pickup Trucks
 FORD 2006 F150 Crew Cab Lariat only 51,000 miles keyless entry 5.4 liter V8 all leather dual power seats, heated seats, multi disk cd player with premium sound running boards and tow package runs and drive like new 19,000 OBO. Call 432-661-2808

Pickup Trucks
 FORD '97 F150 3 door step side white exterior with burgundy interior. \$2000. 432-559-5936

4WD & SUV
 2007 CHEVY Tahoe, 95K miles, impeccably clean & maintained \$15,000. Call 432-312-0401

4WD & SUV
 2007 LINCOLN Navigator, Ultimate, fully loaded, very good condition. 80K \$19,999 432-553-2135

4WD & SUV
 2010 NISSAN Rogue SL, 4 dr, SUV., leather premium pkg. 3 disc CD, 22K miles GPS, XM, metallic gray w/black leather, power seats, sunroof & rails. 1 owner, excellent \$18,500 all records 432-230-2680

4WD & SUV
 2007 ESCALADE PEARL White 132,800 miles New Tires \$23,900 432-557-5557

4WD & SUV
 2011 TRAIL Runner for sale \$10,000 Clean and roomy travel trailer, has plenty of storage both inside and outside. Two 30 gallon propane bottles located on the front of the trailer. Fully equipped kitchen. Travel trailer sleeps 3 comfortably, fold out couch, kitchen table folds down to make a bed, Furnace and A/C work perfectly. Call 832-579-6484

4WD & SUV
 2012 LEXION S-Lite 31' with 1 slide Loaded! Pulled 1 time. Used retail \$30,310. Asking \$27,300 or best offer 432-687-2621 after 5pm

4WD & SUV
 KEYSTONE 2007 Montana Montaneer, 5th wheel, 33ft., 3 slides, awning. Excellent condition! \$22,500 OBO 432-653-7824

4WD & SUV
 REMODELED SMALL efficiency, washer, dryer, cable, RO water, ice. \$1650 monthly. \$1000 deposit. 432-631-8100.

4WD & SUV
 LOFT APARTMENT, will be ready 1st week of January. \$1200mo. \$500dep. 1brdm., 1 1/2 bath. Must have references. 432-425-4871

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4WD & SUV
 GMC 2003 Envoy XL SLE Great buy, always garaged, wife's car, very good mechanical condition \$5500. 432-638-1747

4WD & SUV
NEW TODAY!
 GMC 2004 Envoy Red Come see at 3930 Farwood CT. Good condition. Asking \$6,250.00. 432-553-3248

4WD & SUV
 JEEP 2006 BLACK Wrangler X 2 door, 26700 m, \$18,000, garage kept, great condition. Call 432-556-7724

4WD & SUV
 INTERNATIONAL 2004 4300. Bucket truck with chip box. Great condition. With 68,390 miles. \$72,400. Call 432-553-2155.

4WD & SUV
 2002 GOLDWING, GL1800, beautiful black, perfect condition with lots of extras. 10,200 miles. 432-520-3177 or 432-559-1674 LM

4WD & SUV
 HARLEY Davidson 2012, 1200 Sportster 72. stage 1 upgrade, Open air Willie G breather, Basanni pipes. Burly lowering kit. Leather side saddle bag. Only 3,600 miles. Garage kept \$9,500 or best offer 432-559-2508.

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Residential Rentals
Apartment for Rent Unfurnished
 NEW MANAGEMENT Spacious 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments. Call 432-687-4514.

Residential Rentals
Townhouse/Condo for Rent Unfurnished
 2 BD, 2 BA, upstairs over looking pool. \$1295. 432-699-7720.

Residential Rentals
 4404 BROOKDALE, Midland, 3 bedroom, 2 bath 1 car garage. 432-934-4938 or 432-685-1711

Residential Rentals
 SPACIOUS REMODELED 1600 +/- sq. ft. w/garage & fenced patio. 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Residential Rentals
 VERY NICE Town-home for rent in Midland 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. Call or text 325-207-0173

Residential Rentals
Houses for Rent Furnished
 2, BEDROOM 3 miles out of town. Includes all utilities. Direct TV/DVR. High speed internet. Washer and dryer, fridge & stove, microwave and dishwasher, and jacuzzi tub. \$1400 month. 1st and last month due at signing \$500 damage deposit. Available 1/01/14 Call Bob for application. 432-352-4509

Residential Rentals
 4005 ST. Andrews, custom built 3 bd, 2 ba \$2,500. 432-699-7720.

Residential Rentals
 NICE NEW totally furnished 1 bedroom, 1 bath, washer, dryer, cable, ice, RO water, \$1950/mo \$1,000 deposit. 432-631-8100

Residential Rentals
Houses for Rent Unfurnished
 2 BEDROOM, 1 bath, 2 living areas, \$1525 per mo. & \$1250 deposit. 432-413-3489.

Residential Rentals
 3 6 0 3 HUMBLE LARGE 43/32, new carpet, RusK/Alamo/ Lee \$2950/mo UP Group 889-2934.

Residential Rentals
Residential Rentals
 Spacious 1 & 2 Bdrms w/ patios
 * Ceramic Tile
 * W/D Connections
 * Fireplaces
 2301 N. Pecos
 * 432-614-1710

Residential Rentals
Residential Sales
 By Owner - 2807 Sentinel Drive \$229,000 - 2300 sq ft
 Wonderful family home in Old Midland has - lots of flexible space inside and out with 2 large living areas, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, galley kitchen, laundry room, 2 car garage, 2 workshops, storage building and 20 feet behind the back fence for parking boats, trailers or cars. The home is well maintained with new carpet, fresh paint and many other amenities.
 See pictures and more information on Zillow.com
 Please call (432) 770-3003 to see.

Residential Rentals
Residential Sales
 3608 SINCLAIR, 4bedroom 3 bath 2900 + sq ft Owner finance 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Residential Rentals
 3611 BAUMANN Ave Well Maintained 3/2/2 Large living with lava rock fireplace with gas logs. Nice kitchen, dining with breakfast bar, dbl closets, walk in closet in master large back yard with storage \$195K 432-218-8869

Residential Rentals
Residential Sales
 4.17 ACRES in Stanton City Limits. Has electricity and water, but will need septic. \$50,000. Call 432-894-6015

Residential Rentals
 HOUSE AND 50 acres for sale, 1 mile south of Interstate off Cotton Flat. Will Divide. \$13,500 per acre. 432-661-5742

Residential Rentals
 1-20 MIDLAND location, 27 acres. \$60,000 per acre. Ask for Don 432-352-2067.

Residential Rentals
Real Estate Quick Sale
 (Private Parties Only)
 • 14 days in the Midland Reporter-Telegram
 • 14 days on mywesttexas.com
 • Up to 10 lines of text
 • New Today Banner-1st Day Only
 • (1) Homes Gallery listing with photo
\$75
 (each additional line \$5)
 Call 682-6222 today!

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Residential Rentals
Houses for Rent Unfurnished
 4705 A Harvard, 2 Bedroom 2 Bath, 2 carport, fenced yard. No pets. \$1550 monthly. 432-620-9222 432-694-2074

Residential Rentals
 HOUSE FOR rent 4 bedroom 2 bath 2 living areas. All bills paid. All appliances included. \$2,300 month. Call 806-729-5596

