

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2018

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LOOKING FOR A WIN

Democrat Mike Collier is aiming to beat Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick.

Page 6A



DEVASTATING DOINK

The Washington Redskins held on to edge Dallas 20-17 when a last-second, 52-yard field-goal attempt by Cowboys' kicker Brett Maher went off the left upright.

Page 1B

Election official confident about voting security

New voter equipment for Midland County to be available next year

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

As time nears for residents to cast their ballots in this fall's early voting period, Midland County's election administrator said measures are taken to ensure equipment works correctly and that voter records are secure.

"We're feeling very confident about everything that we do — that we've always done — here at Midland County to keep everything safe and secure," Deborah Land said.

The topic of election security gained national attention with the case of pos-

Early voting

Early voting for the Nov. 6 general election begins today and continues through Nov. 2. See a list of the early voting centers and schedule.

Page 2A

sible Russian interference with the 2016 presidential election. The efforts to keep information safe come at a time when Land's office is also seeking election workers and received approval for a system that includes paper ballots.

Land this month told the Reporter-Tele-

gram she was scheduled to receive cyber security information from a representative of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. She said workers in her office are required to change passwords every 30 days and use their thumbprints to clock into their shifts.

As for elections equipment, the county undergoes testing to make sure it tabulates correctly, according to Land. She said certain devices have online access.

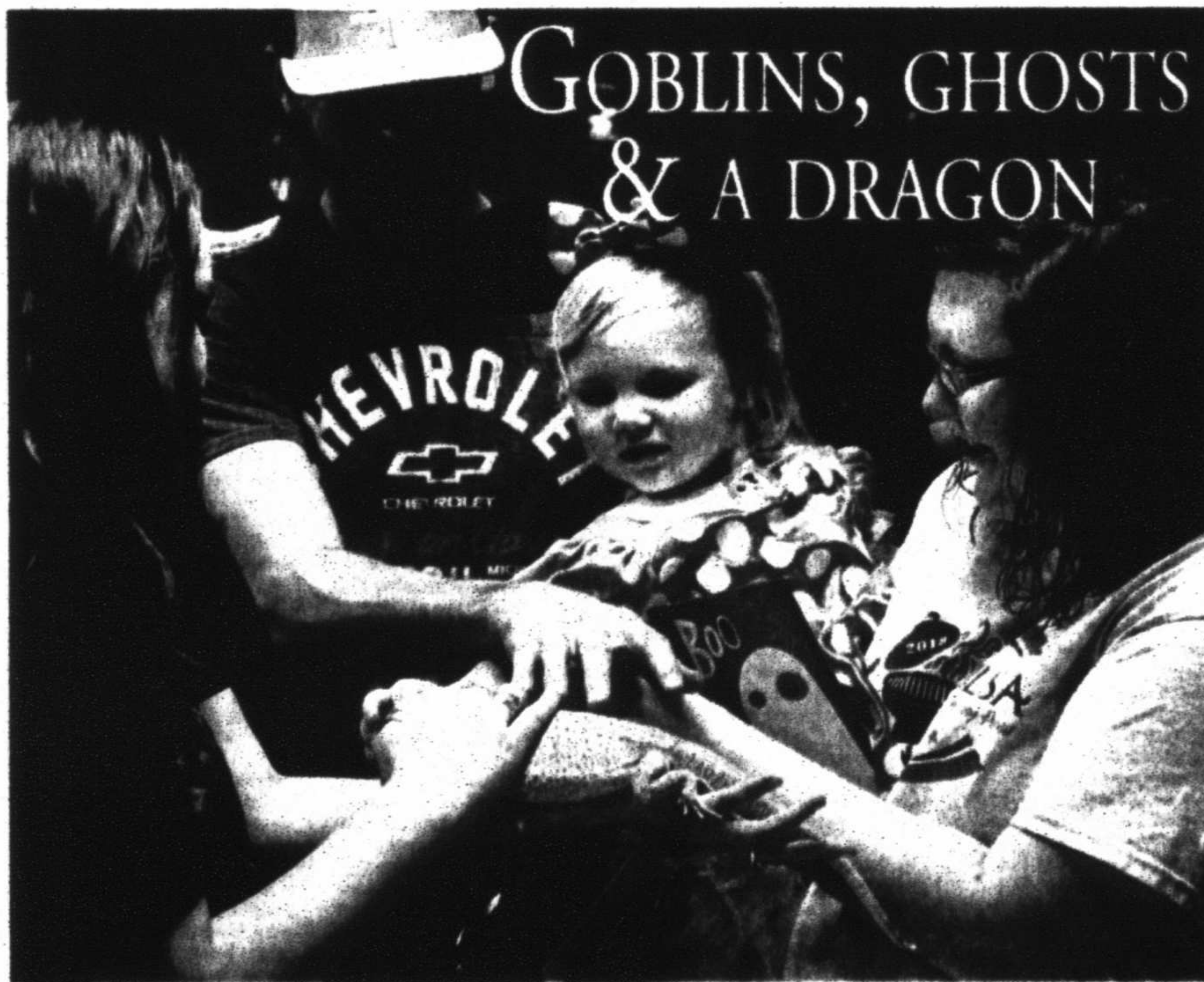
"The only thing in everything at a vote center that is connected to the internet is the computer where you check in, which is exactly what you want," said Land, noting the system ensures each voter casts his or her ballot once.

The upcoming election season kicks off Monday with the first day of early voting, and Land's office is searching for people who are interested in working at election sites. She said several Midlanders who previously worked elections are unable to do so this year.

"We need some people that would be willing to come on board and learn ... the ropes of being an election worker and that we could count on later to move up to an election judge," she said.

Fewer election workers will be needed after people become accustomed to recently ordered equipment, according to Land.

Please see SECURITY/2A



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Andrew Nichols and Taylor Keck Makenna Nichols touch a bearded dragon displayed by Shaye Greenwood, tour coordinator with the Petroleum Museum Saturday at the Halloween festivities at Sibley Nature Center.

Republicans double down on Ted Cruz

■ Fear of an upset by O'Rourke rouses the troops and donors

By Dave Montgomery
Houston Chronicle
correspondent

Since storming into Texas politics six years ago, Ted Cruz has drawn national attention as a political giant killer, tea party champion, Senate firebrand and Donald Trump's last rival in the battle for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination.

Now, with the approach of the 2018 midterm elections, the junior senator from Texas is cast in yet another role — that of a threatened incum-

bent.

In a race that was initially expected to easily return Cruz to another six years in the Senate, he instead finds himself under attack from a popular Democratic challenger who has raised a jaw-dropping \$61.7 million in red-state Texas, nearly twice as much as the \$35 million raised by Cruz.

The mountain of cash and Beto O'Rourke's rise have instilled Texas Democrats with the hope that maybe, just maybe, they can win a statewide election for the first time in nearly a

Please see CRUZ/2A

Downtown library expected to reopen in 2019

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

With a longer-than-expected renovation timeline, the Midland County Public Library downtown branch is now projected to reopen next year. The estimate comes after the county previously anticipated the facility would serve the public this holiday season.

The building has been closed to patrons since February as it undergoes a renovation project. Plans include creating a more open layout and moving the entrance to the south side of the building.

John Trischitti III, library director, told the Reporter-Telegram on Friday that the downtown library is expected to have a certificate of occupancy in December. He said it could then take about eight to 12 weeks to move furnishings, books and personnel into the building.

The library director said the county's goal at the beginning of the project was opening this holiday season. During the renovation, issues were addressed regarding structural support and asbestos.

"I don't think there's been any significant delays as far as materials, supplies or labor," Trischitti said. "I think MW (Builders has) done a great job of keeping the county abreast of what's going on and trying to meet these deadlines."

Midland County last fiscal

Please see LIBRARY/6A

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on social media



Did you know?

Six people were shot in Florida near the stadium where the Texans were playing. Page 6A

The big number

Auctioneer Christie's of London is putting 22 Rems belonging to Stephen Hawking — including his wheelchair — up for bid. Page 8A

Word of the Day

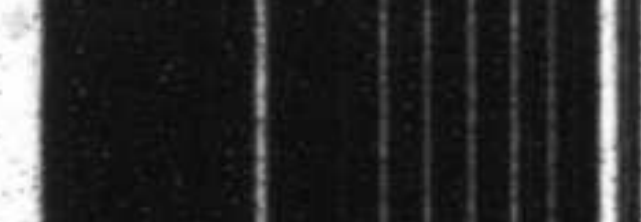
azonic
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 3A.

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GENERAL ELECTION - NOVEMBER 6, 2018

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Cruz

From 1A

quarter of a century.

Though one recent poll has shown Cruz with a 9-point lead, the lingering fear of a Texas upset among Republicans has served as a wake-up call to stoke fundraising and rouse the troops.

"We're taking it very seriously," Cruz said Thursday in a 50-minute interview at his campaign headquarters. "I'm confident we're going to win this race, but part of the reason we're going to win is that we're not taking it for granted."

Signaling the high stakes for the campaign, President Donald Trump will be in Houston on Monday for a Cruz rally at the Toyota Center. The 6:30 p.m. event coincides with Monday's start of early voting in the Nov. 6 election.

Trump and Cruz may have peppered each other with name-calling and personal insults during their fight for the 2016 Republican nomination, but Trump now relies on Cruz as an important Capitol Hill ally in advancing conservative priorities and the president's agenda.

For Cruz, a victory over O'Rourke, a three-term congressman from El Paso, is crucial to perpetuating his brand as one of the nation's leading conservatives and preserving a political base deemed essential for possibly another run at the presidency in the post-Trump era.

The outcome of the Texas battle could also help determine whether Republicans retain their narrow control of the Senate or surrender the 100-member upper chamber to Democrats.

Delivering for the GOP

As his campaign team manned the phones on the 12th floor of the Phoenix Tower near Greenway Plaza, Cruz, 47, waved off any discussion of a future presidential run and focused on accomplishments in the Senate, his race against O'Rourke, his alliance with the president and other political topics.

"My focus is on the U.S. Senate," Cruz responded when asked if he still harbors presidential ambitions. "And I feel blessed to have the opportunity to play a real role bringing Republicans together to deliver on our promises."

Cruz is the first Hispanic from Texas to serve in the U.S. Senate. During the first four years of his six-year term, he was often depicted as a troublesome outlier who frequently caused headaches for Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Texas' John Cornyn, No. 2 in the Senate leadership.

Cruz staged a 21-hour filibuster against Obamacare in 2013, his first year in the Senate, delivering what became known as the "Green Eggs and Ham" speech after he read a bedtime passage from Dr. Seuss to his two daughters who watched the performance on TV. In a speech on the Senate floor in July 2015, he accused McConnell of "telling a flat-out lie" to colleagues.

"If you killed Ted Cruz on the floor of the Senate, and the trial was in the Senate, nobody would convict you," said U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., who was also a Cruz presidential rival in 2016. Another fellow Republican, former U.S. House Speaker John Boehner, once described Cruz as "Lucifer in the flesh."

But a new version of Cruz has

emerged since the Republicans' White House punching bag — President Barack Obama — was replaced by Trump in 2017. Senate leaders say Cruz is now a reliable team player who has a productive working relationship with fellow senators as well as the president.

"Both Ted and I would admit that our relationship started off a little bumpy obviously when he decided to run for president and he had all the Democrats and President Obama, but also the leadership, in his crosshairs," Cornyn said in a telephone interview. With the presidential race behind him, Cornyn said, Cruz has "refocused his attention on being a good senator" and works closely with his Texas colleague as well as the rest of McConnell's leadership team.

"He's definitely recalibrated and refocused on Texas, so we get along fine," Cornyn added, noting that they worked together to raise billions of dollars in federal aid for their home state after Hurricane Harvey.

Don Stewart, McConnell's deputy chief of staff, describes Cruz as "a key member of the team" who has resolved his differences with the majority leader. "They're in a much different place," said Stewart.

Cruz said the troublemaker image from his earlier years in the Senate was never an accurate portrayal.

"The first several years in the Senate, we saw a lot of media caricatures that painted me as a wild-eyed bomb-thrower," said Cruz. "Those caricatures weren't true then, and they're not true now."

But he acknowledged that during his first four years when he considered his mission to be "doing whatever I could to stop bad policies from being implemented that would harm the people of Texas."

Supporters mobilized

Even some Republicans acknowledge that the GOP incumbent is not guaranteed a victory in a race that the Cook Political Report deemed a "toss-up" in mid-September. O'Rourke, a photogenic former El Paso City Council member who comes from a wealthy family, has campaigned in all 254 counties with a progressive message and promises to work with both Republicans and Democrats for the good of Texas.

The tenor of the race has become increasingly acerbic with the approach of early voting. In their second debate last week, O'Rourke came out swinging and reprised one of Trump's insults against Cruz by calling him "Lyn' Ted."

Cruz, in turn, has assailed O'Rourke for liberal beliefs that he calls out of step with Texas, and hammering O'Rourke for saying he favors impeaching the president, which Cruz said would fuel a "partisan circus" in Washington.

O'Rourke's mastery at raising money — more than \$38 million poured into the campaign in the third quarter — both alarmed and motivated major Cruz donors.

"I assumed he would have an easy re-election," said David McIntosh, president of the Washington, D.C.-based Club for Growth, a major conservative organization that helped fuel Cruz's comeback from behind victory over Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst in the 2012

Senate race.

But after an internal poll suggested that Cruz was vulnerable, said McIntosh, the organization rallied with an outpouring of donations that so far have amounted to \$254,000 for Cruz's re-election, a separate Club for Growth super political action committee has spent an additional \$1 million for pro-Cruz ads.

"That kicked us into high gear," said McIntosh, a former Indiana congressman. "Honestly, we realized that if Ted Cruz were to lose the Senate race, it would be a huge setback for Club for Growth, to the conservative movement, and that moved it from being an easy win to our No. 1 priority."

Robert Marling, chairman of Woodforest National Bank in The Woodlands, had a similar reaction. A self-made executive who started out as a bank mailroom worker to ultimately head a 700-branch banking network, Marling became one of Cruz's pioneer supporters after the two men, accompanied by their wives, met over dinner at Amerigo's Grille in The Woodlands before the 2012 Senate race.

"Ted was very much a long shot," Marling said in recalling his initial impressions of the young attorney. "I was one of those believers before he had a chance."

Like McIntosh, "I was hoping I wouldn't have to do much" in the re-election campaign, he said, but after donations began "flying in" to fund Cruz's opponent, Marling went to work to "make sure that Texas stays red."

Woodforest executives and employees are the top individual contributors to Cruz, giving more than \$163,000 from 2013 to 2018, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, which analyzes donations. Marling also arranged a fundraiser in Magnolia in early October attended by Donald Trump Jr. and former Fox TV personality Kimberly Ann Guilfoyle.

From 'maverick' to ally

Perhaps Cruz's most dramatic conversion — and one Democrats have exploited as a campaign issue — is his rapprochement with the president after Trump, as a candidate, displayed an unflattering picture of Cruz's wife, Heidi, and implied that Cruz's Cuban immigrant father may have had a tie to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

At the time, Cruz was outraged and refused to immediately endorse Trump at the Republican National Convention, drawing boos from delegates. Cruz the candidate repudiated Trump with a stream of put-downs: pathological liar, utterly amoral, narcissist, bully, serial philanderer.

But Cruz says their enmity ended shortly after Trump won the presidency. In the week after the election, Cruz recalled, he flew to New York for a four-hour meeting with Trump and his key strategists. "I told him I wanted to do everything humanly possible to deliver on our promises," Cruz said.

Cruz also recalls that he spent 45 minutes during a ride on Air Force One trying to persuade the president to pull out of the Paris climate accord.

A day after Trump withdrew the United States from the 2015 agreement, Cruz said, he received a call on his cellphone while standing in the cab line at Newark Liberty International Airport.

"Well, Ted, I did it," Cruz quoted

the president as saying.

Stewart, McConnell's aide, said Trump and Senate leaders relied heavily on the Texas lawyer, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, for helping advance the troubled nomination of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, who ultimately won Senate confirmation despite sexual assault allegations from his high school days.

Cruz was also a Senate leader on the president's tax plan and was instrumental in winning approval for repealing a controversial Obamacare provision requiring most Americans to have health care.

As chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Space, Science and Competitiveness, Cruz has worked with the administration to advance space exploration and protect the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, which provides more than \$2 million a year to the Texas economy. He recently accompanied the president's daughter and adviser, Ivanka Trump, on a tour of the facility.

The Republican portrayal of Cruz is starkly different from that of Democrats, who are waging a campaign to kick him out of the Senate. The Fire Ted Cruz PAC, chaired by Dallas attorney Marc Stanley, depicts Cruz as a "selfish, mean, divisive person who isn't someone you want to have a beer with ... it's someone you want to pour your beer on."

Cruz's coziness with the president has provided fodder for Democrats to mock his "Tough as Texas" campaign theme. "That's a surrendering of dignity," said Democrat Matt Angle, head of the Lone Star Project, which critiques Republican policies.

A social media ad directed by Oscar-nominated Austin filmmaker Richard Linklater depicts an elderly man unloading on Cruz's behavior. "I mean, come on, if somebody called my wife a dog and said my daddy was in on the Kennedy assassination, I wouldn't be kissing their ass," said the actor, wearing a cap and clutching a cup of coffee. "You stick a finger in their chest and give them a few choice words."

Cruz said he would "not go down into the gutter" to respond to the criticism, which he described as Democratic "politics as usual." "There's no doubt 2016 was a bare-knuckles election," Cruz said. "And some hard shots were thrown."

With the 2018 election closing in, many of those who have watched Cruz throughout his rise in politics say they have little doubt that the Texas senator also has his eye on the more distant future — another run for the Republican presidential nomination.

"You think he's going to breathe tomorrow? Of course, he's going to run for president," said Garry Mauro, a longtime Texas Democratic leader who chaired Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign in Texas.

But no one expects the Texas senator to run in 2020, when the president would presumably sweep the Republican nomination.

"Assuming he is re-elected, I wouldn't be surprised if some of his supporters start talking about 2024," said Mark McKinnon, who was an adviser to former Republican President George W. Bush and co-hosts "The Circus" on Showtime.

Some of his Texas supporters say they are already eager to help Cruz make another lunge for the

White House.

"If Ted Cruz were in the running after a Trump presidency, he would be at the top of my list for sure," said state Rep. Matt Schaefer, R-Tyler, who has backed Cruz since the outset of his political rise. Schaefer chairs the tea party-aligned Texas Freedom Caucus that frequently rebelled against the moderate leadership of outgoing House Speaker Joe Straus in the state Legislature.

Still a tea party star

Much of Cruz's core support still comes from the grassroots movement that propelled him from less than 2 percent in the polls to his unexpected triumph over the Republican establishment in 2012.

At least 500 supporters, and possibly more, turned out recently for a Cruz rally at a steakhouse and saloon in Montgomery, about 50 miles from Houston. Throngs of Cruz fans pressed their way to the front to pose for pictures with the senator after the speech.

Todd Keller, 52, pastor of the Cowboy Fellowship of Aggie Land in College Station, showed up with his wife and two grown daughters, all proclaiming their intentions to send Cruz to another term in the Senate.

"I've always appreciated his constitutional conservatism and that everything lines up according to the Constitution," said Keller, who wore a beige cowboy hat, jeans and scuffed boots. "I think if all our elected officials would pay more attention to the Constitution, we'd be in a better situation."

While the tea party helped make Ted Cruz, Ted Cruz also helped make the tea party, a movement built on a contempt for government overreach and runaway spending. Cruz's win showered the tea party with more national attention and helped it advance into a potent Texas political force that has racked up a progression of victories over moderate Republican incumbents, shifting the party further to the right.

Both Cruz and Trump have towering approval ratings among Texas Republicans, according to analysts and pollsters. While some grassroots voters, in random interviews, say they are a bit uncomfortable with Trump's tweet-fests and flamboyant unpredictability, they also applaud his success at reducing taxes, reining in regulations and talking tough with foreign leaders.

Julie McCarty of Grapevine, president and founder of the Northeast Tarrant Tea Party in the Fort Worth-Dallas region, said Cruz is still very much a tea party darling.

"Yes, absolutely," she said, describing how she has been inundated with phone calls asking about getting yard signs or supporting the candidate. "I just posted on Facebook a few minutes ago that I cannot take calls all day long for Ted Cruz. I mean everybody in the tea party is supporting Ted Cruz."

While the tea party has been an integral part of his political success, it was part of a broader coalition that included young people, Hispanics, police and firefighters, small business owners and workers with "calluses on their hands," Cruz said.

"What we saw in 2012 was a grassroots army come together," he said. "That coalition remains the heart of my base."

SECURITY

From 1A

Commissioners this month approved the purchase of new machines for Election Systems and Software for \$1.02 million.

Though the equipment won't be used this fall, Land thinks workers could be up to speed for possible special elections in May. She said the current system is aging but expects it to hold up until equipment arrives to replace it.

"We are going to a new system that looks similar to what we have now," Land said. "It's still the same touch screen."

Land said voters will notice election machines placed on tables instead of on their own stands. Also, each person will be given a paper ballot to put in a tabulation slot.

"It's going to be not a whole lot of change for the voters, except for the paper ballot part," Land said. "But that will also enable us to have a paper backup trail for down the road if something comes up. Things happen to electronics."

The subject of paper ballots arose earlier this month during a League of Women Voters forum at Midland College's Schaefer Student Center. Jennie Lou Leader, the Democrat

Early voting

Early voting for the Nov. 6 general election begins today and continues through Nov. 2. The early voting centers and schedule are as follows:

Midland County, Midland County Annex, 2110 N. "A" St.

- Today through Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday: 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
- Oct. 28: 1-5 p.m.
- Oct. 29-Nov. 2: 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Midland County Public Library Central Branch, 5200 W. Loop 201

- Today through Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Oct. 28: 1-5 p.m.
- Oct. 29-Nov. 2: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Cogdell Learning Center, 211 W. Florida Ave.

- Today through Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Following Community Church, 3200 N. Midland Blvd.

- Today through Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Oct. 28: 1-5 p.m.
- Oct. 29-Nov. 2: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Honor Park — Cowden Childhouse, 912 Blumhardt Ave.

- Today through Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Oct. 28: 1-5 p.m.
- Oct. 29-Nov. 2: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

A sample ballot and other pertinent information is provided on the Midland County website: midland.tx.us and click on Department: Ballot Request Office. For more information, call 688-4890.

running to represent Texas Congressional District 11, said machines being used in several states can be hacked. "It is a big concern of mine, and I do believe the easiest way that we can guarantee our elections in 2018 are the way we want them to be, is by paper ballots," said Leader, who is from Llano.

U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway, the incumbent in the race, said systems connected to the Internet are subject to hackers and that the country should be on guard. The

Midland Republican thinks secretaries of state should have appropriate resources and said paper ballots could help with tracking.

Conaway and Leader's opponent, Rhett Smith, said a need for paper ballot

backup. The Eastland Libertarian thinks the situation facing elections should be taken more seriously.

For information about being an election worker, call 688-4890.

HENRY

1 John 5:14

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

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Justin Justin lost \$2,000 in her will for her friends to "have a ball after his game."

WORD OF THE DAY

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azonic

(ey-zon-ik)

adjective

1. not confined to any particular zone or region; not local.



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Democrats in Odessa

Blue Wave block party
Featuring Lupa Valdez and Mike Collier
6 p.m. today
Ector County Democratic Party headquarters
514 N. Lee Ave., Odessa

Things to do

■ **Photos: Digize That Moment**
Learn about archiving, editing and sharing digital visual media, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2903 W. Loop 250 N.

■ **Gentle Healing Yoga**
This weekly yoga camp is open to all survivors of cancer, 5:30 p.m., Yoga Sanctuary, 4202 Down Circle, Free, 575-837-3809.

■ **Brigade**, 6 p.m., 1st City VFW Post 7208, 1306 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.

■ **Open Shop Nights** are hosted by the Midland Gem and Mineral Society and open to the public, 6:30-9 p.m. Mondays at 602 S. Main St. midlandgemandmineral.org. Visitors can watch members cut rock and work on lapidary projects.

■ **Bridge game play**, 8:45 p.m., Alton Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$6. For more information call 682-8595.

■ **Alan Parsons Live Project**, 8 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$41.75-\$51.75. wagnernoel.com

■ **Monday Mayhem** features unlimited bowling for \$14.95 with free shoe rentals after 6 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com

Meeting schedule

Commissioners' Court 9 a.m.
Midland County Courthouse auxiliary courtroom, 500 N. Lorraine Ave.

When it's open

■ **Midland County Tax Assessor's Collector** 2110 N. "A" St. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday 888-4810

■ **Midland Central Appraisal District** 4831 Andrews Highway 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday 888-4810

■ **Department of Public Safety** Driver's License Office, 2800 Wright Drive 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Wednesday through Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays 688-1120

How sick are you?

Midland Memorial Hospital offers a nurse triage program "88-NURSE." The program is designed to help

BEST RETIREMENT PARTY



James Burdette/Reporter-Telegram

Alynda Best, third from left, speaks with supporters during her retirement party Thursday after 20 years of service to Habitat For Humanity. Also pictured are Best's son Trevor, far left, and Nancy Moreland, second from left.

people determine whether their

health situation warrants a trip to the emergency room. Midland residents can call the line by dialing 688-8773. The program is free and available 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Local nurses are available to help you determine the best place to receive care for your situation. 88-NURSE can help you save time and money by directing you to the most appropriate healthcare option, whether it's a neighborhood clinic, urgent care center, emergency room... or just staying home.

Today in history

Today is Monday, Oct. 22, the 295th day of 2018. There are 70 days left in the year.
Today's highlight in history:
On Oct. 22, 1978, the U.S. govern-

ment allowed the deposed Shah of Iran to travel to New York for medical treatment — a decision that precipitated the Iran hostage crisis.

On this date:
In 1748, Princeton University was first chartered as the College of New Jersey.

In 1811, composer and piano virtuoso Franz Liszt was born in the Hungarian town of Raiding in present-day Austria.

In 1934, bank robber Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd was shot to death by federal agents and local police at a farm near East Liverpool, Ohio.

In 1962, in a nationally broadcast address, President John F. Kennedy revealed the presence of Soviet-built missile bases under construction in Cuba and announced a quarantine of all offensive military equipment being shipped to the Communist island

nation.

In 1981, the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization was decertified by the federal government for its strike the previous August.

In 1986, President Reagan signed into law sweeping tax-overhaul legislation.

In 2001, a second Washington, D.C., postal worker, Joseph P. Curran, died of inhalation anthrax.

In 2002, bus driver Conrad Johnson was shot to death in Aspen Hill, Md., in the final attack carried out by the "Beltway Snipers."

Ten years ago Wall Street tumbled again as investors worried that the global economy was poised to weaken. The major indexes fell more than 4 percent, including the Dow Jones industrial average, which finished with a loss of 514 points. The fishing vessel Kalina sank in the Bering Sea

off Alaska's Aleutian Islands, killing seven crewmen, four survived. India launched its first mission to the moon to redraw maps of the lunar surface (India last contact with its lunar satellite Chandrayaan-1 last August.) The Philadelphia Phillies won Game 1 of the World Series, defeating the Tampa Bay Rays 3-2.

Five years ago: The United States defended drone strikes targeting al-Qaida operatives and others, rejecting reports by Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International questioning the legality of attacks that the groups asserted had killed or wounded scores of civilians in Yemen and Pakistan.

Today's birthdays: Black Panthers co-founder Bobby Seale is 82. Actor Christopher Lloyd is 80. Actor Jeff Goldblum is 58. Actor-comedian Bob Odenkirk is 56.

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High 92, set in 2007
Low 37 set in 1999

Records for Oct. 21

High 92, set in 2007
Low 37 set in 1999

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Low 37 set in 1999

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Low 37 set in 1999

Weather

Sunday's temperatures

High 64
Low 46
Normal high 77
Normal low 50

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Low 37 set in 1999

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Low 37 set in 1999

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Records for Oct. 21

High 92, set in 2007
Low 37 set in 1999

Forecast for Monday, October 22, 2018

Winds: Average speed 7.0 mph
Highest sustained 17 mph
Highest gust 23 mph

Today's forecast

High: 68
Low: 51

Conditions: Mostly cloudy during the day and night. Winds: 5-10 mph during the day and night

Chance of rain: None

Sunrise: 7:57 a.m.

Sunset: 7:09 p.m.

Source: National Weather Service

Source: National Weather Service

Source: National Weather Service

Source: National Weather Service

Source: National Weather Service

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PINK THE PARK

PHOTOS BY TIM FISCHER | REPORTER-TELEGRAM



CANCER SURVIVORS, CAREGIVERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS WALK AROUND GRAFA PARK ON SATURDAY FOR THE ANNUAL PINK THE PARK EVENT.



BARBRA STUBBS, CHARLESS RODGERS AND MOLLY COOLEY, ALL CANCER SURVIVORS, HUDDLE FOR A PICTURE. LEFT: CHARLOTTE WHITESIDE, WHO LOST HER SISTER TO CANCER, CUTS BUBBLE HEARTS.



SARAH CARR AND HER SISTER RACHEL PAINT CANVASES.



JOLIET HERNANDEZ GETS HER FACE PAINTED BY NU-UH, PART OF THE ODD COUPLE CLOWNING.



CANCER SURVIVOR JANETTA OLASENI WAS THE GUEST SPEAKER.



SUSAN KING AND HER SISTER LISA MELÉNDEZ, BOTH CANCER SURVIVORS, HUG. SUSAN IS FROM KELLEY LOWE.



BANNERS AND BALLOONS DECORATE GRAFA PARK.



BANNERS AND BALLOONS DECORATE GRAFA PARK.



MEMBERS OF GODDARD JUNIOR HIGH ORCHESTRA PERFORM.

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PAID CONTENT

AUDIO ACOUSTICS

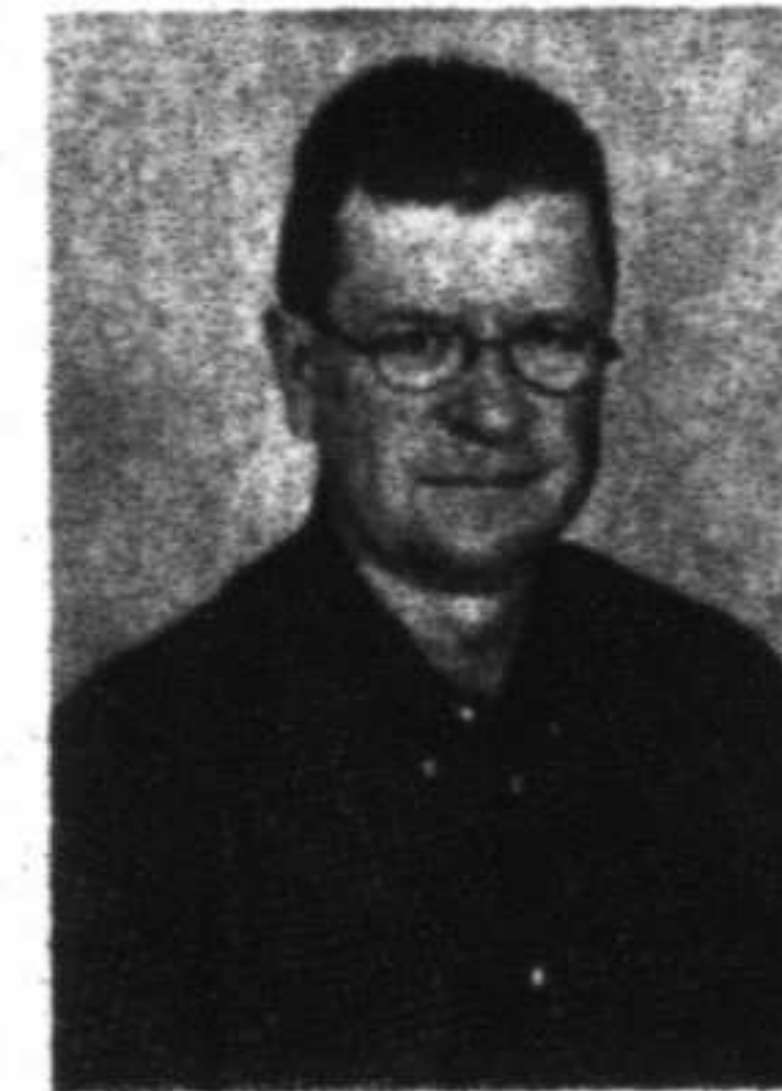
Hearing loss is different than losing your vision

By Orland Purcell Au.D., CCC-A

There seems to be a common misconception about hearing loss. The reality is that while hearing and vision are both senses, that's where the similarity ends. In other words, losing your hearing is much different than losing your vision — and here are some reasons why.

Correcting hearing loss is more complex

You can't expect to have "20/20" hearing from wearing hearing aids like you can with your vision from wearing corrective eye ware. That's primarily because we only expect to see what we're looking directly at, but we expect to hear in a 360 degree radius around us even in a noisy environment. Talk about different expectations!



ORLAND PURCELL, AU. D.

According to the American Foundation for the Blind, as many as 25 million Americans aged 18 years and older reported experiencing vision loss.

In many of these cases, eyesight can be corrected back to "normal" vision with the correct prescription eyeglasses, contact lenses or corrective eye surgery.

While hearing device technology has improved substantially in the last five years, hearing aids can't repair the damage to the hair cells of the inner ear. These hair cells do not regenerate, so when they die or are damaged, the brain has a harder time interpreting the signals it receives.

Hearing devices are great at amplifying the specific missing sounds coming into your auditory system. However, it is much more difficult for the hearing impaired person to single out the signal of interest and have their brain interpret it out of a complex listening environment. The digital hearing aids that are now available have made great strides in this area — hearing aids today are very good at processing complex sounds to pick out the useful signals.

Unfortunately, the average person waits 7-10 years to get their first hearing aids, reducing the stimulation of the auditory portion of the brain during this time. When hearing aids are finally fitted, the first-time user often needs to retrain the brain to grow accustomed to the wide range of sound stimulation again.

The auditory system is more difficult to access
Eye surgery can correct a variety of vision problems because you can actually "see" what you are doing. Modern medical science has discovered how to replace and reshape the lens of the eye to correct problems such as near and farsightedness and astigmatism. Additionally, cataracts, can be surgically removed and photorefractive keratectomy (PRK) surgery corrects myopia and laser in situ keratomileusis (LASIK) surgery corrects those who are either nearsighted or farsighted. All of this is made possible by the surgeon's easy physical access to the eyes.

Sadly, most hearing loss cannot be surgically corrected. Sensorineural hearing loss, which accounts for as much as 90 percent of all hearing problems, is damage to the inner ear or the nerve that runs from the ear to the brain.

Cochlear implants are miraculous things but are not appropriate for the majority of the hearing impaired population. The location of the inner ear, deep within the temporal bone, makes it difficult if not impossible to access the structure for repair, even if we could repair or regrow those delicate hair cells of the inner ear.

Here's the bottom line
Both your vision and your hearing are important senses which should be evaluated regularly. Eye care professionals recommend adults have their vision tested every two years, while hearing healthcare professionals recommend having a baseline hearing test at age 50, with follow up exams annually after the age of 55.

Naturally, if you experience a sudden decline in either your vision or hearing, you should seek medical treatment immediately. When you have reached the point where you are ready to explore the options available to help you communicate better, please let us help you.

Audio Acoustics, a full-service hearing center owned by Orland Purcell, Au. D., has been in business since 1975. Ginger Peugh, Au. D., is his associate. They offer industrial hearing conservation, diagnostic audiology and a wide variety of hearing aids. They are located at 2101 North Midland Drive, Suite Four. The phone number is 689-4327.

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during event dates only. May
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details. No cash value. Offer
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NEWSBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

COLLEGE STATION Texas A&M earns USDA approval for cottonseed genetic process

Scientists at Texas A&M University have earned federal approval of a genetic process to unleash cottonseed as possibly one of the world's leading sources of protein-rich food.

The San Antonio Express-News reports the patent-pending process is known as "TAM66274." The process this month won nonregulation status from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service.

Officials with Texas A&M AgriLife Research say cottonseed possibly could become a food source for the world's growing population, such as grinding seed into flour.

Experts say it will take a couple of years before there's enough seed for a commercial-scale run at a cottonseed oil mill. An agreement will have to be reached with a seed company willing to market the trait for cotton farmers worldwide.

BELTON Non-lawyer represents self, gets life term

A Central Texas man who's not a lawyer but insisted on representing himself in a 2016 custody and kidnapping case has been convicted and sentenced to life in prison.

The Temple Daily Telegram reports 36-year-old Tutankhamun Holt of Kempner must serve 30 years before he's eligible for parole.

Jurors in Belton convicted Holt of aggravated kidnapping with a deadly weapon.

Prosecutors say a 7-year-old girl was abducted from her custodial father in November 2016 in Harker Heights. She was found safe, a day later, near Tuskegee, Alabama.

Her mother, who allegedly was with Holt during the abduction, awaits trial.

An attorney on standby to help, Michael White, says he told Holt the case was going badly. The defendant thought he'd win.

SANTA FE Crosses part of memorial for school shooting victims

Crosses and flowers are part of a memorial for 10 people slain this spring in a shooting at a Texas school.

That dedication ceremonies were held Saturday at Maranatha Christian Center in Santa Fe, 30 miles southwest of Houston.

About 40 people were present to remember those killed on May 18 at Santa Fe High School. A student was indicted in August and remains jailed on capital murder and other charges in the attack that also left 13 wounded.

Pastor Alex Yovan says the memorial includes a landscaped pavilion that faces 10 white crosses with victims' names. Donations funded the memorial.

AUSTIN Troopers to ride some school buses for safety week

Texas troopers will be riding in or following some school buses this week in an effort to make sure other drivers are obeying traffic laws related to transporting students.

The Texas Department of Public Safety says the effort is part of National School Bus Safety Week, which runs Monday through Friday.

The Texas Education Agency reports more than 43,000 buses transport about 1.6 million children to school each day across the state.

DALLAS Police officer critically hurt when hit at wreck site

A Dallas police officer has been critically hurt after investigators say he was hit by an SUV while placing cones on a highway exit.

lowing an unrelated traffic accident.

The officer was struck shortly before dawn Sunday along westbound Interstate 20. The officer was transported to a hospital, where he's listed in critical condition.

Police say the 57-year-old SUV driver stopped and will be charged with aggravated assault with a motor vehicle. Dallas police say the driver allegedly drove around a patrol car with its emergency lights on and struck the officer standing in the far right lane.

FLORIDA 6 shot on street near stadium before NFL game

JACKSONVILLE — Six people have been wounded in a street shooting blocks from the Florida stadium where the NFL's Houston Texans played and defeated the Jacksonville Jaguars on Sunday afternoon, authorities said.

Ron Lendvay, director of investigations for the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, said several shots rang out about 12:35 p.m. Sunday on a boulevard in the stadium's general area and that five men and one woman were hit by gunfire. All were rushed to hospitals, and the sheriff's office tweeted that three of the victims were in critical condition. The victims ranged in age from their 20s to the 70s, according to Lendvay.

The shooting broke out before the scheduled 1 p.m. start of play. Lendvay reported no link to the game, which went on without incident, and said investigators were investigating whether it was gang-related.

LONDON Stephen Hawking wheelchair, thesis up for sale

Stephen Hawking was a cosmic visionary, a figure of inspiration and a global celebrity.

His unique status is reflected in an upcoming auction of some of the late physicist's possessions. It includes complex scientific papers, one of the world's most iconic wheelchairs and a script from "The Simpsons."

The online sale announced last week by auctioneer Christie's features 22 items from Hawking, including his doctoral thesis on the origins of the universe, some of his many awards, and scientific papers such as "Spectrum of Wormholes" and "Fundamental Breakdown of Physics in Gravitational Collapse."

MEXICO CITY Tropical Storms Will and Vicente swirling off Mexico

Two tropical storms are swirling in the Pacific Ocean off Mexico, and one is forecast to become a hurricane and approach the country's west coast late next week.

Tropical Storm Willa is the 21st named storm of the eastern Pacific hurricane season. It was about 280 miles south-southwest of the port city of Manzanillo on Saturday afternoon with maximum sustained winds of 60 mph.

Tropical Storm Vicente formed Friday off the coast of the southern state of Chiapas. Its core was about 135 miles southeast of Salina Cruz, Mexico. It had maximum sustained winds of 50 mph.

MEXICO Ragged, growing army of migrants resumes march toward US

TAPACHULA — A ragged army of Honduran migrants streamed through southern Mexico on Sunday heading toward the United States, after making an end-run around Mexican agents who briefly blocked them at the Guatemalan border.

They received help at every turn from sympathetic Mexicans who offered food, water and clothing. Hundreds of locals driving pickups, vans and cargo trucks stopped to let them cluster around.

Democrat is still swinging for Texas' No. 2 job

By Lauren McGaughey

Dallas Morning News

If the race for lieutenant governor were a boxing match, Mike Collier would be the intrepid underdog — suited up, limbered up and waiting in the ring.

Problem is, his opponent doesn't even have his gloves on.

For a year, Collier has pulled no punches in his fight to unseat Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick. But Patrick, easily one of the state's most influential Republicans, behaves as though he's running unopposed. With statewide name recognition and a 4-to-1 fundraising advantage, Patrick has dodged Collier's volleys, right and left.

It'd be hard for any boxer to expect a fair fight with their punches seeming to fall on empty air. Yet Collier keeps swinging. And all he needs to land a knockout, he claims, is for the fans to turn out.

"I'm not ready to say we're going to win, I'm saying that we can," Collier told The Dallas Morning News. "If Democrats turn out, we win."

'What about you?'

Both Collier and Patrick live in the Houston area, but the two men have never met.

Patrick has refused to debate Collier or engage with his campaign. He hasn't sat down with newspaper editorial boards or answered their voter guide questionnaires. He doesn't need to do these things to win, his campaign thinks, so he won't.

"There isn't anyone in the Lone Star State who isn't absolutely clear about where Dan Patrick stands on the issues," Allen Blakemore, Patrick's spokesman, said earlier this year. "He told us what he was going to do, then he did it."

Patrick rarely even mentions Collier. Instead, he's dipped into his coffers to support other more vulnerable candidates, to hold a series of traveling press conferences touting his 2019 agenda and to cut ads that attack a more amorphous enemy he makes out as a gun-stealing, unpatriotic liberal mob.

"Democrats support open borders, sanctuary cities, taking our guns and undermining the Texas values that protect innocent life and liberty. And they celebrate those who take a knee during our national anthem," Patrick said in a recent YouTube video. "Truth is, Democrats want to turn Texas into California. Well, I'm not about to let that happen."

Sitting in a rocking chair on a porch, a tractor visible in the background, Patrick affects the perfect image of rural Texas idyll. A dog lays on the floor beside him and, as the ad fades to black, Patrick is pictured driving away in a spotless '57 Chevy truck.

Dan Patrick, born Dannie Scott Goeb in Baltimore, Md., is the son of a newspaper vendor and bookkeeper. Before his time in politics, he spent years as a radio and television broadcaster in Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., and Houston. His first stage name was Dan Scott, but he later changed his surname to Patrick, his brother-in-law's middle name, to avoid confusion with a fellow broadcaster in Scranton.

Once in Texas, he opened a chain of sports bars. They went bust in the mid-1980s, after which Patrick filed for bankruptcy and returned to media as a conservative talk radio show host. He's written a book encouraging people to read the Bible — called *The Second Most Important Book You Will Ever Read* — and produced an hourlong Christian documentary, *The Heart of Texas*.

In the power vacuum left by former Gov. Rick Perry, Patrick has thrived. After eight years representing the Houston area in the Texas Senate, he challenged fellow Republican David Dewhurst for the job of lieutenant governor in 2014, unseating the incumbent by convincing voters he was the more conservative choice.

The lieutenant governor, widely considered the second most powerful elected position in Texas, presides over the Senate and has outside control over what becomes law. While other men in the role have exerted influence behind the scenes, Patrick has been a far more visible leader. He's helped move the Senate — and therefore the entire Texas Legislature — further to the right, ensuring his priorities have become the state's as well.

In his first year, Patrick failed to repeal Perry's law allowing in-state tuition for undocumented college students but succeeded in sending



Houston Chronicle file photo

Mike Collier, Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor, speaks about his plans for school finance reform and property taxes at El Bosque Mexican Grill on Oct. 3, 2017, in Sherrill, Texas. Collier challenges incumbent Republican Dan Patrick in the 2018 election.

Collier in Odessa

Blue Wave block party
Featuring Lupa Veldz and Mike Collier
6 p.m. today
Ector County Democratic Party headquarters
514 N. Lee Ave., Odessa

hundreds of millions of dollars to the border for more troopers and cameras. Then in 2017, the last time lawmakers met in Austin, he had a list of 30 legislative asks. While many were held up in the Texas House, including the so-called bathroom bill, Patrick's priorities steered the political conversation all year.

If he's re-elected, Patrick has promised to focus anew on education and property taxes. His efforts to limit the taxing authority of local governments, which failed two years ago, would be back.

Collier, too, wants to overhaul taxes by changing the system by which property owners can contest their appraisals. He says his plan would bring in billions in revenue from large and industrial commercial property owners that could be used to fund public schools, but conservatives challenge that claim and say homeowners' ability to challenge their appraisals would also be hampered.

Collier has been making this same pitch for more than four years, since he first ran for elected office in Texas. Back then, he was gunning for the job of comptroller, the state's tax collector. He says his tax plan is even more important now that he's running for a position that could help make it law.

"Watch," Collier said, smiling, "and I'll rectify the state's finances in two minutes or less."

Like Patrick, Collier, too, was a Texas transplant, although he got here a bit sooner. The son of a worker at Westinghouse Electric Corp., Collier went to high school in Georgetown, where he marched in the band and was also the principal trumpet player in the all-state symphony orchestra.

He got his degree in petroleum land management at the University of Texas at Austin (where he also played in the Longhorn Band) as well as his MBA, and has since worked for Exxon and as a top partner at accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers. This experience in finance and accounting, he says, would be invaluable to figuring out how to fix the state's ailing school finance system.

Collier says it was this — education — that first drew him to politics. He stands by his proposals to fully fund prekindergarten programs and opposes so-called school vouchers. Charter schools are no longer fulfilling their purpose of encouraging innovation in public schools, he said, and should be approached "with a great deal of skepticism."

Collier also opposes campus carry, the law Patrick championed that allows licensed Texans to carry concealed handguns in most university buildings, as well as the state's recently passed ban on sanctuary cities. But he rejects Republican claims that his party doesn't want a secure border.

"When they say that Democrats don't believe that, don't believe them," Collier said. "We need to do it intelligently. ... We should do it humanely."

Nothing Patrick has done surprises Collier. When he refused to debate, Collier was disappointed, but resigned. When Patrick then challenged Gerardo Rivera to go head-to-head on Fox News, Collier wasn't shocked. And when

that tête-à-tête, too, didn't pan out, he shrugged.

"I've never really thought of Dan Patrick as a serious person," Collier said in an interview. "I've always thought of him as a carnival act, a showman."

Despite the Democrat's criticisms, Patrick remains well-known and well-funded. As Trump 2016 Texas campaign chairman, Patrick regularly appears with the president's surrogates and is a fixture on Fox and other conservative news outlets. His name recognition at home and presence nationally is growing, and with increased exposure comes more cash.

Heading into the final months of election season, Patrick has more than \$8 million in the bank — compared to Collier's \$200,000 — and, in the last three months, he spent \$7.4 million. That's more than 12 times Collier's fundraising all year.

Collier has relied on support from teacher and education groups, among his strongest backers, as well as many individual donors. Nearly 3,000 people contributed to his campaign between July and September. Patrick's donors, far fewer but with much deeper pockets, include oil baron Ray Hunt and Empower Texans, a conservative advocacy group financed by Midland's Tim Dunn.

These two donors — Hunt and Empower Texans PAC — gave Patrick \$225,000 in August alone.

Southern Methodist University political science professor Matthew Wilson said these elements — plus the fact that Texas hasn't elected a Democrat to statewide office in two dozen years — mean the odds are against Collier.

"It be a real stunner for Republicans not to retain that office," Wilson said. Unlike the race for attorney general, in which Wilson says Democrat Justin Nelson may have a fighting chance, he'd bet "the top two state offices are highly likely to remain in Republican hands."

Yet still, Collier hopes to land that fatal blow.

Earlier this month, he hit the road with fellow Democrats for their final round in the ring. The "Stop the Madness" tour, as Collier calls it, will come at Patrick with everything he's got left. He said he doesn't need the cash advantage because his digital campaign is punching above its weight, reaching voters unhappy that Republicans are "acting like complete buffoons."

Plus, Collier said, this time feels different. The Democrats have stronger candidates, they're running on kitchen-table issues and their voters are enthusiastic, he said, thanks in part to U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke's race to unseat U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz.

"In 2014, I was swimming against a hard current. I didn't know any better because I'd never swam before," Collier said. "This time around, we're swimming with the current."

Election Day is Nov. 6. Early voting starts Oct. 22. For more information on all the candidates running for office this year, check out our voter guide here.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

LIBRARY

From 1A

year spent nearly \$2.4 million on the downtown library capital project and has budgeted \$3.7 million in 2018-19. Commissioners in January awarded MW Builders a request for proposal for construction and remodeling of the facility, according to previous Reporter-Telegram stories.

The library sees itself as a part of the conversation regarding downtown revitalization, accord-

ing to Trischitti. He also thinks people will notice the work that has gone into the project, which is taking place five years after the opening of the Centennial library branch.

"We have additional features that are going into the downtown library that aren't at Centennial," he said. "The biggest one that seems to get the most conversation is being a passport acceptance facility."

Trischitti thinks residents are interested in

having a passport office close to town and that has hours on Saturdays and evenings. He said staff will undergo training to work at the facility.

As the reopening nears, Trischitti said the bookmobile that had been serving the downtown library area will return to its normal service at locations around the community.

Also, Trischitti doesn't anticipate much difference in day-to-day operations at the Centennial branch. He thinks it's possible the facility may close briefly while workers select materials to bring back to the downtown building.

"We're going to have to go back through and filter out and pull those books," Trischitti said. "There may be a couple of work days in there that would affect the public."

MW Builders as of press time didn't return the Reporter-Telegram's request for comment.



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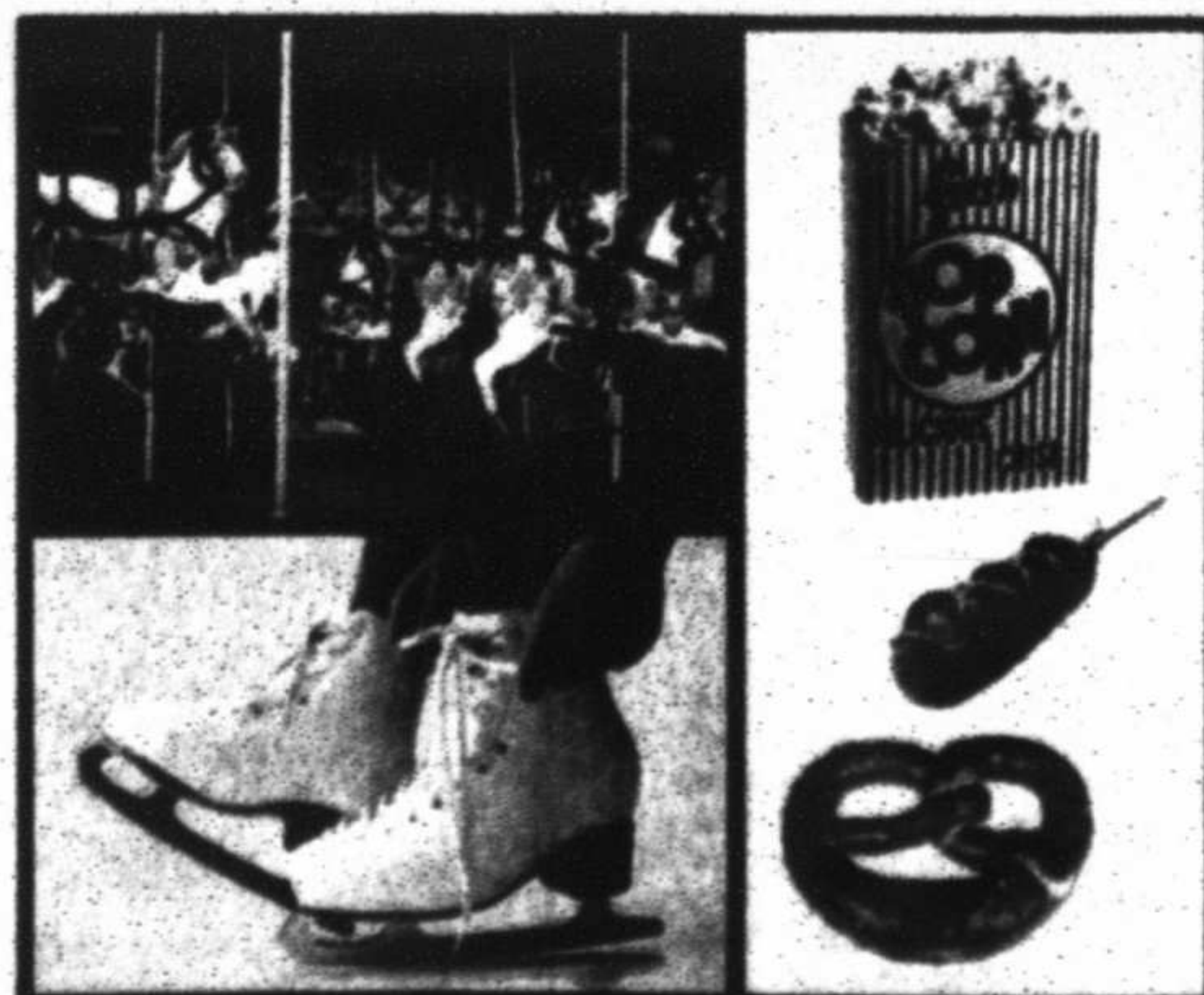
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Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Monday, October 22, 2018 | Section 8

Elliott wins for 2nd time in 3 NASCAR playoff races

By Jenna Fryer
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Chase Elliott won at Kansas Speedway on Sunday for his second victory in three races, cementing himself as a championship threat.

Elliott needed 98 career starts before he figured out how to close out a win. The breakthrough victory 11 events ago sparked his performance in NASCAR's playoffs and Elliott bookedended this second round with wins.

His victory three races ago at Dover ensured Elliott a spot in the round of eight, and the Kansas

victory showed he just might contend for the title.

The playoff field was trimmed to eight and those who didn't advance out of Kansas were Team Penske teammates Ryan Blaney and Brad Keselowski, both winners in the first round of the playoffs. Kyle Larson and Elliott teammate Alex Bowman

Larson needed to win to make it into the third round and was frantically chasing Elliott in the closing laps but settled for third. He was docked 10 points by NASCAR earlier this week for an infraction at Talladega, his team lost two appeals of the penalty and he was in a must-win situation at Kansas.

Advancing into the third round of the playoffs were Elliott, Kyle Busch, Kurt Busch, Martin Truex Jr., Kevin Harvick, Clint Bowyer, Aric Almirola and Joey Logano.

Stewart-Haas Racing has all four of its cars in the round of eight and Ford has five of the slots. Toyota has two entrants in Kyle Busch and defending series champion Truex, while Elliott is the only representative from Chevrolet and Hendrick Motorsports.

"This is a huge time of year. We've got a lot of work to do and a long ways to go," Elliott said.

Please see ELLIOTT 4B



Colin E. Braley/AP

Joey Logano (22) and Kevin Harvick (4) lead the pack at the start of a NASCAR Cup Series race Sunday at Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kan.

ANOTHER LOSS ON THE ROAD



Andrew Harnik/AP

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott (4) dives over Washington Redskins defensive end Jonathan Allen (93) for a touchdown Sunday during the second half in Landover, Md.

Kerrigan's strip-sack helps 'Skins top 'Boys

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

LANDOVER, Md. — Redskins linebacker Ryan Kerrigan's strip-sack of Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott was recovered for a touchdown by Preston Smith with just under five minutes left in the fourth quarter Sunday, and Washington held on to edge Dallas 20-17 when a last-second field-goal attempt by Brett Maher went off the left upright.

What would have been a 47-yard kick became a 52-yarder when Louis-Philippe Ladoceur was called for a snap infraction.

That Kerrigan-Smith play that provided the winning points was Washington's fourth sack of Prescott, who appeared to use smelling salts after taking a shoulder to his helmet at the end of a run in the first quarter. Prescott lost two fumbles in the game, including one on an earlier fourth-and-1 keeper.

The Redskins (4-2) won consecutive games for the first time this season and stretched their lead atop the NFC East. They also dropped the Cowboys to 0-4 on the road, 3-4 overall, as they head into their bye week.

Washington won this one thanks to its staunch defense and 99 yards on 24 carries from Adrian Peterson, who helped mask the latest so-so performance from quarterback Alex Smith and a generally iffy offense that was missing three injured playmakers.

The Redskins twice had to settle for short field goals in the second half despite having first-and-goal opportunities. On each of those possessions, Alex Smith missed an open receiver in the end zone from down close.

Washington's QB finished 14 for 25 for 178 yards, including a 23-yard TD on a swing pass to Kapri Bibbs in the first quarter. But there were some questionable decisions, including running out of bounds on third down with 78 seconds left, stopping the clock before a punt gave the ball back to Dallas.

The Redskins limited Ezekiel Elliott, the NFL's No. 2 rusher entering the week, to 34 yards on 15 carries.

He ran 10 times for only 13 yards in the first half, his second-lowest total through two quarters in his pro career.

Prescott was 22 for 35 for 273 yards, with one TD pass and one TD run. He connected with rookie receiver Michael

Gallup on a 49-yard score a minute before halftime that made the score 7-all, then — after Kerrigan's key play made it 20-10 — scored on a 1-yard quarterback draw to cut Dallas' deficit to three points with 1½ minutes remaining.

Much earlier, Prescott could be seen waving something near his nose as he headed back into the game after being checked in the blue medical tent for a big blow to his head from cornerback Greg Stroman. Prescott was trying to get to the first-down marker on a third-down run, and he didn't slide at the end of the play.

Prescott was slow to get up, Dallas punted on fourth down, and while Washington had the ball, he was looked at on the sideline.

The QB didn't miss a play, returning for the Cowboys' next possession.

Injuries

Cowboys: TE Geoff Swain left with a knee injury. ... CB C.J. Goodwin hurt his forearm.

Redskins: Both Kerrigan (chest) and

Please see COWBOYS 3B



Brett Coomer/Houston Chronicle

Jacksonville Jaguars running back Tommy Bohanon (40) is tripped up by Houston Texans strong safety Kareem Jackson (28) during the fourth quarter of a game Sunday at TIAA Bank Field in Jacksonville.

Texans take advantage of Bortles' miscues, beat Jaguars 20-7

By Mark Long
Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Blake Bortles fumbled on Jacksonville's third play of each half, leading to 10 points and his benching in a 20-7 loss to the streaking Houston Texans on Sunday.

The Texans (4-3) won their fourth consecutive game thanks to those two turnovers and took a one-game lead in the AFC South.

Deshaun Watson, who reportedly made the 800-mile road trip by bus instead of plane, had a touchdown pass despite playing with a bruised lung and injured ribs. Lamar Miller ran for a season-high 100 yards and a score.

Watson's health and Jacksonville's quarterback situation surely will be the main topics going forward.

Cody Kessler replaced Bortles in the third quarter and threw a short touchdown pass to T.J. Yeldon, creating speculation he might supplant Bortles in the starting lineup.

The Jaguars (3-4) signed Bortles to a three-year, \$54 million contract in February with the belief he was good enough to lead the defensive-minded team back to the playoffs. Bortles has been downright awful in three straight losses, with two touchdown passes and eight turnovers.

Coach Doug Marrone clearly had seen enough when he made the switch Sunday. Marrone also benched Bortles in the 2017 preseason, only to give him the starting job back nine days later.

Bortles played turnover-free football in the postseason, gaining top executive Tom Coughlin's confidence and landing the new contract. Now it's unclear how much of the money he will get.

Bortles lost the ball both times trying to scramble. The first one led to a field goal, and Watson connected with DeAndre Hopkins for a 10-yard score following the second one. That was one of several one-on-one matchups Hopkins won against talkative cornerback Jalen Ramsey.

Hopkins' best was a one-handed catch for 31 yards along the sideline in the first quarter.

The Texans led 13-0 at the break, the third time in as many games Jacksonville has failed to score before halftime. The Jaguars had never done that previously in franchise history.

They also had scoreless halves against Kansas City (24-0) and Dallas (20-0), so the Jags were outscored 57-0 in the first half in three straight weeks.

Stat starts

Texans safety Andre Hal, who returned to practice this week following treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma, was in the starting lineup. Hal was diagnosed with the disease in May and immediately began treatment. He received the news of his remission last month.

The 26-year-old Hal, a seventh-round draft pick from Vanderbilt in 2014, is in his fifth year with the Texans. He started all 16

Please see TEXANS 7B

NFL SCOREBOARD WEEK 7

Redskins.....	20	Vikings.....	37
Cowboys.....	17	N.Y. Jets.....	17
Texans.....	20	Buccaneers.....	28
Jaguars.....	7	Browns.....	23, OT
L.A. Chargers.....	20	Saints.....	24
Titans.....	19	Ravens.....	23
Colts.....	37	L.A. Rams.....	29
Bills.....	5	49ers.....	10
Panthers.....	21	Chiefs.....	45
Eagles.....	17	Bengals.....	10
Lions.....	32		
Dolphins.....	21		
Patriots.....	38		
Bears.....	31		

NFL ROUNDUP

UNRATED PRESS



PANTHERS 21
EAGLES 14 — Cam Newton tossed a 1-yard touchdown pass to Greg Olsen with 1:22 left and the Carolina Panthers overcame a 17-point deficit in the fourth quarter to defeat the Washington Redskins 21-17 on Sunday.

Julian Edelman sacked Carson Wentz, forcing a fumble on fourth down from the Panthers 14, to seal the victory.

The Panthers improved to 4-2 with the biggest comeback in franchise history. The defending Super Bowl champion Eagles had led 17-0.

After Carolina took the lead, the Eagles started at their 30. A 48-yard pass interference penalty on James Bradberry against Allen Jeffery put the Panthers in the red zone. Jeffery tied the game with a 10-yard touchdown pass to Eric Decker.

With 1:22 left, Newton threw a video review. Wentz threw incomplete to Jeffery in the end zone on third and 2 and was stripped on the next play.

BUCCANEERS 26
BROWNS 23 — Tom Brady threw a 38-yard touchdown pass to Mike Evans on overtime, giving the Tampa Bay Buccaneers a 26-23 victory over the Cleveland Browns on Sunday at Sun Life Stadium.

Brady, who has played four overtime games this season, also threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Evans on fourth down with 1:03 remaining in regulation.

Reid Ryan intercepted a pass from Baker Mayfield on third down with 1:03 left, setting up the game-winning drive.

Mayfield threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Josh Gordon on fourth down, but the Browns' drive ended in a punt.

The Browns had won their first game since losing to the Patriots in the AFC Championship game on Jan. 7, 2018.

RAVENS 24
PACKERS 10 — Lamar Jackson threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Mark Ingram on fourth down, giving the Baltimore Ravens a 24-10 victory over the Green Bay Packers on Sunday at M&T Bank Stadium.

Jackson, who has played four overtime games this season, also threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Ingram on fourth down, but the Ravens' drive ended in a punt.

The Packers had won their first game since losing to the Patriots in the AFC Championship game on Jan. 7, 2018.

COLTS 37
RAVENS 10 — Andrew Luck threw a 38-yard touchdown pass to Marvin Mack on fourth down, giving the Indianapolis Colts a 37-10 victory over the Baltimore Ravens on Sunday at Lucas Oil Stadium.

Luck, who has played four overtime games this season, also threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Mack on fourth down, but the Colts' drive ended in a punt.

The Ravens had won their first game since losing to the Patriots in the AFC Championship game on Jan. 7, 2018.

CHARGERS 20
TITANS 19 — Adrian Phillips broke up Marcus Mariota's pass attempt, the Titans second straight, playing the game-winning drive on fourth down.

The Titans (2-5) snapped a four-game losing streak and moved to 1-1 in the AFC South.

The Titans (2-5) snapped a four-game losing streak and moved to 1-1 in the AFC South.

CHIEFS 40
BENGALS 10 — Patrick Mahomes threw for 358 yards and four touchdowns, leading the Kansas City Chiefs to a 40-10 victory over the Cincinnati Bengals on Sunday at Arrowhead Stadium.

Mahomes, who has played four overtime games this season, also threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Travis Kelce on fourth down, but the Chiefs' drive ended in a punt.

The Bengals had won their first game since losing to the Patriots in the AFC Championship game on Jan. 7, 2018.

Cowboys

From 18

Preston Smith (ankle) left the game with a hamstring injury. CB Fabian Moreau hurt his ankle in the last minute of the fourth quarter.

Team	Score	Time
Cowboys	17	0:00
Chargers	20	0:00
Colts	37	0:00
Chiefs	40	0:00
Browns	23	0:00
Packers	10	0:00
Ravens	10	0:00
Titans	19	0:00
Bengals	10	0:00

TEXANS

From 18

games last season and had three interceptions.

Key injuries
 Texans WR Keke Coutee left in the second quarter with a hamstring injury and was ruled out at halftime. Jaguars CB Tyler Patmon was ruled out in the second quarter because of a strained neck, forcing rookie safety Ronnie Harrison into a bigger role. Backup linebacker Donald Payne injured his left knee on a special teams play. DE Calais Campbell left the game in the fourth with a stinger.

Team	Score	Time
Texans	17	0:00
Chargers	20	0:00
Colts	37	0:00
Chiefs	40	0:00
Browns	23	0:00
Packers	10	0:00
Ravens	10	0:00
Titans	19	0:00
Bengals	10	0:00

NFL GLANCE

AMSTATED PRESS

Team	Score	Time
Texans	17	0:00
Chargers	20	0:00
Colts	37	0:00
Chiefs	40	0:00
Browns	23	0:00
Packers	10	0:00
Ravens	10	0:00
Titans	19	0:00
Bengals	10	0:00

NFL BOXES

AMSTATED PRESS

Team	Score	Time
Texans	17	0:00
Chargers	20	0:00
Colts	37	0:00
Chiefs	40	0:00
Browns	23	0:00
Packers	10	0:00
Ravens	10	0:00
Titans	19	0:00
Bengals	10	0:00

Team	Score	Time
Texans	17	0:00
Chargers	20	0:00
Colts	37	0:00
Chiefs	40	0:00
Browns	23	0:00
Packers	10	0:00
Ravens	10	0:00
Titans	19	0:00
Bengals	10	0:00

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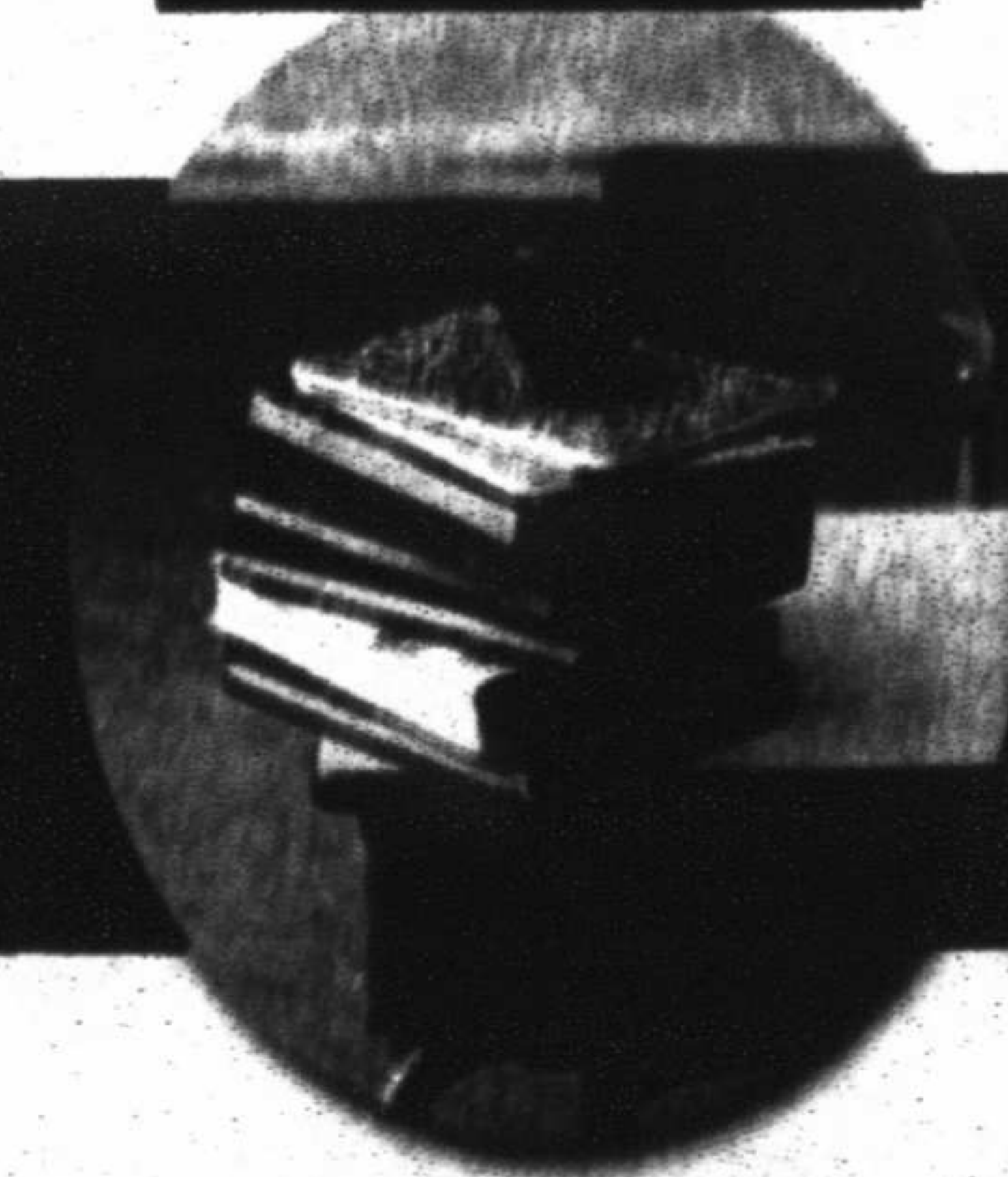
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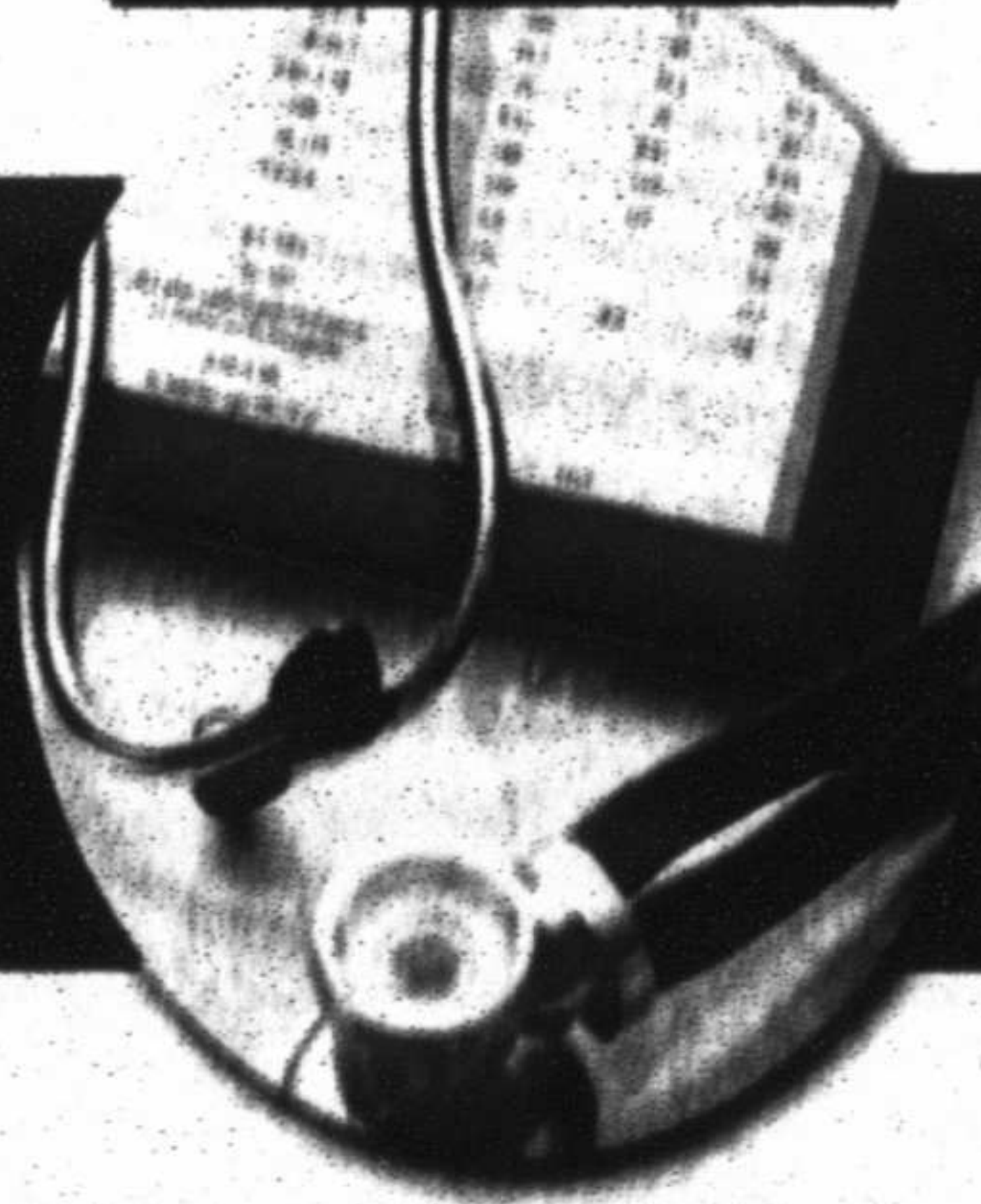
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City of Midland, Texas

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Bid No. 19000057

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