MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

MORE ONLINE

Be sure to head online to check out the crime of the week.

mrt.com

BEER IMBIBING BUST

The first-ever Midland on Tap took place this Saturday, and, while the event had plenty to experience, it was a bit of a letdown. Read Business Reporter Rye Druzin's review of the event online.

mrt.com

Community discusses race, police for MLK day

Police chief at town hall meeting: 'This is my community'

Rye Druzin
rdruzin@mrt.com

In an MLK Center room adorned with pictures of Martin Luther King Jr., 30 residents were in attendance as Midland police Chief Price Robinson talked abonut falling crime statistics and the community's relationship with its police force.

"This whole city of Midland, as chief of police, this is my community," Robinson said as he explained why he came out to the town hall meeting on MLK Day.

The gathering was on a day of reflection on King's legacy and the nation's racial issues, as police killings of unarmed minorities in Ferguson, Missouri, and New York last year sparked riots and protests against perceived police brutality.

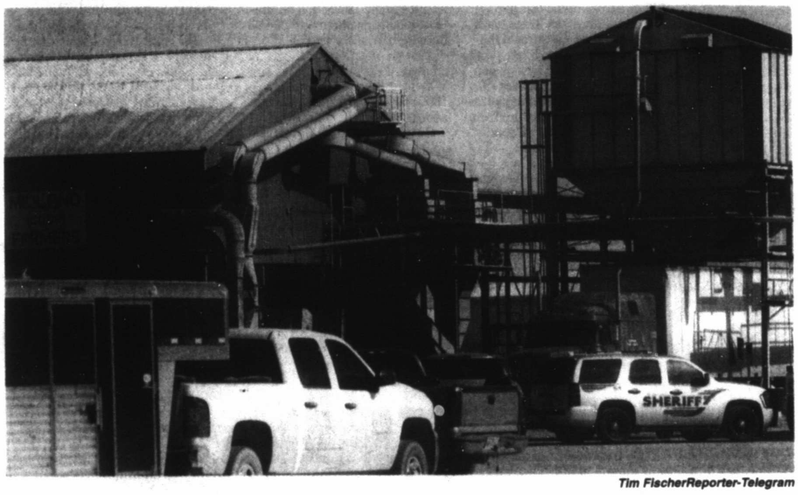
"The relations between the Midland Police Department and the community are good," said Robinson when asked about the national issues and how they pertain to Midland. "They can always get better. And if you think, 'Well, they're good enough, we don't have to do anything,' that's the mistake, because the relationship can always be better. You just have to work on it to make it better."

But the Rev. Billy Ashley of the Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, whose Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance co-hosted the town hall meeting, said Midland was slow to celebrate MLK Day and doesn't do enough.

"I think there ought to be a lot more going on, and more roundtable discussions about race relations, economic development and programs that could be beneficial to the community," Ashley said of preparations for the holiday.

Please see **MLK**/2A

Fatal accident



Tim FischerReporter-Telegram

A police vehicle is parked outside of Midland Farmer's Co-Op. A 77-year-old Odessa man was found dead Monday following an industrial accident at the Co-Op's cotton gin.

Odessa man dies in cotton gin accident

By Rye Druzin and Rachael Gleason
rdruzin@mrt.com, rgleason@mrt.com

A 77-year-old Odessa man was found dead Monday following an industrial accident at the Midland Farmer's Co-Op's cotton gin, according to Midland County Fire Marshal Dale Little.

Monty D. Daniels III was loading cotton seed from a hopper into a truck trailer when he somehow became covered in it, Little told the Reporter-Telegram.

Daniels was last seen at about 5:30 p.m. Sunday, and his truck was found full and overflowing with cotton seed Monday, according to a press release from the Midland County Sheriff's Office.

"It is believed that the hopper had become jammed from the cotton seed and Daniels was using a long stick to clear the jam," according to the press release.

Authorities were dispatched to the co-op — located in the 1400 block of Fairgrounds Road — at about 9:58 a.m. Monday. Daniels was pronounced dead by Justice of the Peace David Cobos.

Little said Daniels was a truck driver, but did not know if he was an employee of the co-op. He said that an autopsy would be performed to determine the cause of death and that the incident is being treated as an accident.

Monday's death is the 16th worker fatality in West Texas so far this fiscal year, according to a Reporter-Telegram analysis of Occupational Safety and Health Administration records.

Last October, a Midland County energy service company worker died in a fatal wreck on Business 20. About six workers were killed in traffic fatalities in West Texas since Oct. 1, 2014, records show.

Oilfield fatalities included a worker who died last November after falling from an oil derrick in Big Spring. In December, a drilling company worker was fatally crushed between an iron roughneck and pipe in Garden City, according to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Another farm fatality occurred last November when a worker was pulled into a hopper in Seagraves.

Of the more than 1,300 worker deaths reported during fiscal year 14 — between Oct. 1, 2013, and Sept. 30, 2014 — 166 occurred in Texas and two in Midland County.

An industrial equipment worker died last April in a fire caused by a heater and an electrical worker died in June after being electrocuted while repairing a mud agitator, according to records.

Cheap oil means change across nation

By Henry C. Jackson
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Cheap oil doesn't only mean cheaper gas in the tank. It means that a car dealer in Illinois is shuffling the inventory of models he'll be selling, that more students in Wisconsin may get school-provided iPads, that some planned projects in a Southern California city will get delayed, and that some expected oilfield hiring in North Dakota and Texas may not happen.

In ways large and small, plummeting oil prices are now reverberating through businesses, towns, schools and family budgets, causing confusion and changing plans. With prices having fallen by nearly half in just six months, the potential impact has been sudden and wide ranging.

"I'm always chasing my tail," said Ron Hicks, who has sold cars for 10 years in Galesburg, Illinois, and overall for 38 years, and suddenly finds himself with too many smaller fuel-efficient cars

Please see **CHEAP**/2A

Should forecasts promote optimism or pessimism?

■ COMMENTARY

By Chris Tomlinson
Houston Chronicle

When it comes to economic forecasts, would you rather be told the glass is half-full or half-empty?

This is a serious question in the middle of forecasting season, when it seems every government agency, bank, financial analyst and newspaper columnist is writing about what to expect in the year ahead. And as someone who has heard accusations that I am both too optimistic and too pessimistic, I wonder whether I should warn or reassure readers. Because frankly, I can find a professional prognosticator who will make any argument you want about how Texas will fare in 2015.

What everyone wants to talk about these days is the price of crude. Moody's Analytics predicts the average international Brent price in January 2016 will be $80, Goldman Sachs calls it at $70 and the International Monetary Fund says it will be more than $60. BP's new economic model is based on $50-$60 Brent oil for the next three years, according to a report by the British Broadcasting Corp.

Brent settled Friday at $50.17 a barrel.

These differences may not sound like a lot, but in a world that consumed 93 million barrels a day in 2014, each $1 change in price represents $2.8 billion a month that either goes to the oil industry or is spent elsewhere. A $10 difference in the average annual price represents $339 billion in potential revenue for oil companies.

Economists derive different predictions based on what they think accounts for the current oil price. Moody's said the decline since June was 50 percent due to oversupply, 30 percent due to lower demand, 15 percent due to the U.S. dollar's appreciation and 5 percent due to lower political risk in countries that supply oil.

Starting on the supply side, U.S. production almost doubled between 2008 and 2014 to about 9.2 million barrels a day in December, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, leaving the world with a million more barrels a day than the 93 million it needed in December. Prices began dropping slowly at first. But they gained speed when OPEC said it would maintain its quotas and suspend its role as moderator of global supply.

That leaves economists guessing how quickly oil companies will reduce production, and thereby reduce supply.

Please see **FORECASTS**/2A

Weather Sunny 72/38 Get your complete forecast on 3B

Did you know? Archivists now say that the Sam Houston Bible might never have belonged to Houston. More on Page 2A.

The big number "American Sniper" made a record $105.3 million over the Martin Luther King Jr. four-day weekend. Page 4A.

Today in Sports See a Midland High vs. Lee basketball preview and recaps from the OC and Midland College game. Page 1C

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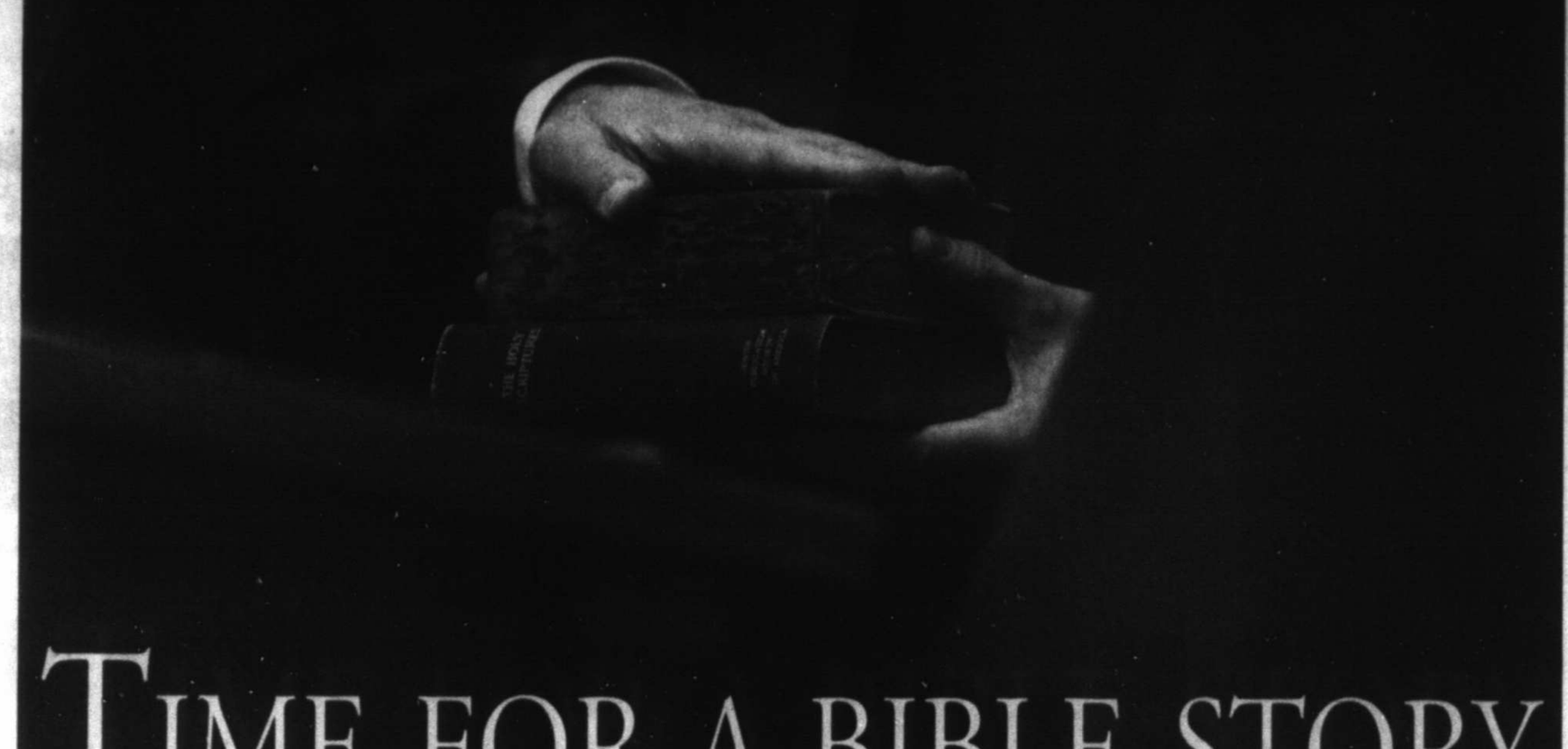

TIME FOR A BIBLE STORY

Associated Press

State Rep. Joe Straus, R-San Antonio, left, is sworn in as Speaker of the House on the opening day, Jan. 13, of the 2015 Legislative session using the Sam Houston Bible in Austin. Over the past 200 years, there has been one constant in Texas politics: the Sam Houston Bible, which is steeped in Lone Star State lore and has been used for the swearing-in of every state leader the past two centuries.

Doubts raised over a Texas inaugural tradition

By Paul J. Weber
Associated Press

AUSTIN — George W. Bush called it Sam Houston's bible. Rick Perry swore on its centuries-old sheepskin four times. And today, Gov.-elect Greg Abbott is set to preserve one of the oldest inaugural traditions in the U.S. when he lays his hand on the historic tome to take the oath of office.

But archivists now say it's possible that Texas governors have been duped for centuries.

Caretakers of the brittle, brown 199-year-old holy book long known as the Sam Houston Bible — a would-be link to the former president of an independent Texas cherished by both Republicans and Democrats — have evidence that suggests the book may have never belonged to the state's equivalent of George Washington.

More than 30 governors are taking oaths of office this month, with the vast majority placing their palms on bibles pulled from family bookshelves. Most presidents do the same, though President Barack Obama requested Abraham Lincoln's for his first oath.

In Texas, the oath almost exclusively involves Sam Houston, the titan of Texas history who led the fight for independence from Mexico at the Battle of San Jacinto. He was twice president of the Republic of Texas in the 1840s and the state's seventh governor. He is so idolized by Perry that last year the governor was baptized in the small creek where Houston, who struggled with alcohol, once went to be born again.

But quietly over the last five years, archivists at the Texas Supreme Court have questioned the bible's lore. They have filled a thin manila folder with old newspaper clippings that dispute decades of Texas tales about a thieving janitor who tore Houston's signature from the bible during a game of dominoes in the court basement.

"You would think that if he (Houston) had given the bible to the court, and journalists are writing stories about it in the late 1800s, they would have mentioned that," said Texas Supreme Court Clerk Blake Hawthorne, the bible's custodian.

Here are the undisputed facts: The publishing date inside is 1816. The binding is original, but the book was re-cased and is now more flexible. Souvenir-seekers would tear out pages and pocket them, then sheepishly hand them back after being chased down.

Houston's connection to the book is fuzzier, and big clue is long gone: The bible's flyleaf reads "Supreme Court of the Republic of Texas," but the bottom half is torn away. A Texas Supreme Court justice told colleagues in the 1940s that he saw Houston's signature on the now-missing half of the page.

That recollection satisfied amateur historians for a long time. When Bush was inaugurated in 1995, he called it "Sam Houston's own bible, simple and worn."

But the story doesn't quite add up, according to court archivist Tiffany Shropshire.

The torn flyleaf was long blamed on a janitor, who in the 1970s stole thousands of pages of old Supreme Court archives. But the janitor is off the hook — Shropshire found a 1941 newspaper article that described the torn flyleaf.

She also questions whether Houston ever signed the bible. In 2012, she asked three Houston historians to inspect the handwriting on the remaining portion of the flyleaf. Each said it looked like Houston's. Her skepticism deepened, though. None was a handwriting expert. And letters found in state archives show the penmanship closely resembles that of John Hemphill, the court's first chief justice, she said.

Asked why the court simply didn't hire handwriting experts, Shropshire said, "Those aren't free."

The court would like to put the mystery to rest, and in the meantime have everyone who touches the book wear white gloves. "But I'm not going to ask the governor to put on gloves," Shropshire said.

Proponents of the Sam Houston bible legend are undeterred.

"It still has significant value," said Mac Woodward, who runs the Sam Houston Memorial Museum in Huntsville and believes the handwriting belongs to Houston. "What's most important and what we need to remember is what Sam Houston represented in character."

CHEAP

From 1A

on his City Select lot when trucks and sports cars might sell better. "I need to be smarter even than I've been in the past. I need to find the balance."

Fuel is a major cost item for many businesses and local governments, and the recent changes are upending budgets that were drafted month ago and used to plan hiring and authorize projects for 2015. For a medium-sized city with police cars and garbage trucks to fuel, gasoline costs can amount to several hundred thousand dollars annually.

But oil is also a revenue source in more than two dozen states, especially for about a third of them. In Alaska, where up to 90 percent of the budget is funded by oil, new Gov. Bill Walker has ordered agency heads to start identifying spending cuts.

"This pullback caught most everyone by surprise," Brian M. Youngberg, a senior energy analyst for Edward Jones wrote in analysis last week.

The stakes are especially high for transportation companies. But at Delta Airlines, which now projects $1.7 billion in fuel savings in 2015, no adjustments are envisioned, at least in ticket prices.

"When it comes lower, hang on to all of it," Delta CEO Richard Anderson told investors in December about likely profits. "That's kind of our philosophy."

In states like North Dakota, Oklahoma and Texas, which have reaped the benefits of a domestic oil boom, the retrenchment is beginning.

"Drilling budgets are being slashed across the board," said Ron Ness, president of the North Dakota Petroleum Council, which represents more than 500 companies working in the state's Bakken oil patch.

Drilling and extraction jobs that soared from 293,000 to more than 586,000 since 2003 are now heading back down.

In Houston, the self-declared "Energy Capital of the World," the local Association of Realtors predicts home sales will slide between 10 and 12 percent in 2015.

A handful of housing projects being built on the fringes of the Bakken oil patch in North Dakota have paused or slowed down as developers reassess.

But because of the "flying pace" of growth, a slowdown actually could be healthy, said Rob Lindberg, director of a group that promotes business growth in western North Dakota.

In many cities, budgets are back on the drawing board.

In Long Beach, California, where man-made islands built to pump oil sit just off shore, the city is deciding which capital projects can still move forward. Oil revenue pays for the basketball courts, pools and other amenities on the waterfront, but there is only $95 million on hand for $232 million in work authorized.

"You ask anyone on the street, including here in Long Beach, they're excited that they're paying less at the gas pump," said Mayor Robert Garcia. "But we do rely on oil particularly for these capital projects."

But in the West Allis-West Milwaukee school district in Wisconsin, $16,000 in unexpected fuel savings is accelerating an initiative to provide iPads for all 10,000 students.

"It's definitely better to be able to use that money on textbooks and instructional materials in classrooms rather than gasoline," said Interim Superintendent Paul Strobel.

And a $50,000 fuel savings from the police fleet in Rochester, Minnesota, means a $350,000 budget shortfall suddenly got easier to navigate.

Lee Sapp, who runs a Ford dealership in Ashland, Nebraska, said he's wondering what the price drop will mean for his customers. It's not that simple, he said.

"If a guy thinks he needs an F-150 or wants an F-150, it's not going to make him switch to a Fusion," Sapp said, referring to a popular Ford truck and a compact car.

MLK

From 1A

"You do understand that (MLK) wasn't only fighting for voting rights, but he was also fighting for economic development among the poor."

He emphasized that the conversation between the community and the police department was a two-way street and said that both sides have to treat each other with respect and responsibility.

"They're not working against us; they work with us and they work for us. And if we can get that across to them that — they work for us; don't just let them take home a paycheck," Ashley said. "If you see something, then call it in. The least they can do is come knock on your door and then it's on them. We have to help our people understand that the police department is not our enemy."

Robinson also presented graphs showing data for the last five years charting downward trends in forcible rapes, aggravated assaults, burglaries and total crime. But murders were up to seven in 2014 compared to five in 2013; 2010 only had two murders. The number of thefts, robberies and auto thefts all had increased

Robinson told the meeting that MPD was working more calls than ever. The department fielded more than 88,000 calls in 2014, compared with 80,000 in 2012, and is currently short by at least 20 officers, he said.

FORECASTS

From 1A

That's not easy because oil executives are playing a game of chicken, hoping the other guys will take their oil off the market first and they'll benefit from higher prices. Optimists expect oil companies to respond quickly, while pessimists think they'll fall on their swords.

Technology in the oil patch also fogs the horizon. In the early days of fracturing, a well's production dropped 50 percent in the first three years, making them very short-lived. But clever drillers have developed new techniques, and recent wells show signs of producing more oil for longer periods, meaning no one is sure when they'll dry up.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration predicts U.S. production will actually rise to 9.3 million barrels a day in 2015 and 9.5 million barrels a day in 2016.

"Drilling activity is expected to increase, and U.S. production should rise in 2016 to its second-highest daily output level since record production was set in 1970," Adam Sieminski, administrator of the EIA, said in a statement.

That means for oil prices to go up, some other country will need to cut, and OPEC, which produces 40 percent of the world's oil, says it won't be them. Meanwhile, Russia, the world's largest producer, is exporting more than ever.

The demand side doesn't look like it will help either.

For years the International Energy Agency has shown that oil use in the U.S. and Europe is on a slow decline, but that growing demand in China, India, the Middle East and Africa will make up for it. In July, though, we learned that those economies are not expanding as quickly as expected. Traders took their disappointments out on crude prices, which are currently in the $40s in the U.S.

Many economists have predicted the global economy in 2015 will do better, particularly in the United States.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration predicted on Jan. 13 that world consumption would rise 1 million barrels a day in 2015, and 1.02 million barrels in 2016. But the next day the World Bank cut its 2015 forecast for global economic growth from 3.4 percent down to 3 percent, throwing a wet blanket on the EIA's prediction.

How badly will low oil prices hurt Houston and Texas? The predictions are equally as broad, with Fitch's Rating Service predicting a recession, while local economists say we'll see nothing more than a cooling off after years of over-heated growth. Analysts at BBVA Compass predict Texas' GDP growth will slip 2 percentage points from 3.6 percent in 2014.

The fundamental question is how well have we diversified the Texas economy.

"In Houston, secondary drivers like health care, professional services and some other types of downstream manufacturing industries have really picked up over the last few decades," Adam Kamins of Moody's said. "So even as the economy suffers and growth rates do decline with less drilling ... that economy is well-positioned to continue to grow."

Houston's economy will certainly slow. The question is whether you want to be told how much it will grow, or how much less it will grow? Do you want to be told how diverse Houston's economy has become, or how reliant it remains on the oil and gas sector?

The best fortunetellers confirm to clients what they want to believe, and that's equally true of many economists.

TODAY IN MIDLAND

This date in Midland

On Jan. 20, 2009, former President George W. and Laura Bush returned to Midland immediately after leaving Washington, following the inauguration of Barack Obama. An estimated 30,000 were on hand at Centennial Plaza to welcome back George and Laura to Texas.

Snow to follow warmer temperatures

After high temperatures more than 10 degrees above normal for this time of year, another round of lower temperatures and snow is headed to Midland this week.

The National Weather Service in its online forecast Monday is calling for a chance of colder weather and precipitation on Wednesday and Thursday. The forecast even calls for a 50 percent chance of snow Thursday.

The good news in the forecast is the lowest temperature expected this week is 30 degrees on Thursday night. That means the NWS does not expect the ice this area encountered during the recent holiday season to return for a second act.

However, there is a 30 percent chance of rain Wednesday and a 50 percent chance of precipitation Wednesday night.

Also, after temperatures in the 70s Monday and in the upper 60s on Tuesday, the NWS is calling for high temperatures in the 40s on Wednesday and Thursday.

The average for this time of year is 57.

Meetings

■ **Permian Basin Airport Board** 10:30 a.m.
Midland International Air and Space Port Media Room
9506 La Force Boulevard

■ **Planning and Zoning Commission**
3:30 p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers
300 N. Loraine St.

■ **Midland College Board of Trustees**
4 p.m.
Midland College Gibson Board Room
3600 North Garfield Street

Support groups

■ Survivors of sexual abuse; interactive Bible study to help deal with the consequences of sexual abuse meets Tuesdays. Child care available; House of Hope, 570 5935.

■ The Helping Hand Metastatic Cancer Support Group meets noon, Texas Tech Physicians of the Permian Basin Clinic, Room 210B. Lunch will be served. To RSVP, call Amber Chavez at 820-1023.

■ Midland Chapter of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church (Koinonoa Room); Judith Craig, 683-3648.

■ A confidential peer-to-poer support gathering for combat veterans, first, third and fifth Tuesdays at Midland College Cogdell Center, 201 Florida Ave.; Steve Cree, 770-7469.

■ Peer to Peer support group for veterans, active duty, guard, reserves and their families, 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Permian Basin Community Center, 401 E. Illinois Ave., Suite 403; Wil Hoggard, 213-5342, william.hoggard@wtcmhmr.org.

■ Classic Movie Club, 7 p.m., Cigar Frog's, 216 N. Main St.; 687-1671.

■ Permian Basin Dance Club, 7:30 p.m., St. Stephen's Catholic Church; cost is $5 for members. $6 for non-members; 520-4343.

■ Midland Optimist Club, noon, Abuelo's, 4610 N. Garfield St.; 685-7486.

■ Sons of Confederate Veterans, Dunn-Holt-Mid-kiff Camp No. 1441, 7 p.m., Fairmont Park Church of Christ Activities Annex; Tom Owens, tmowens44@juno.com or 697-6955.

■ American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 19, 6:30 p.m., 501 Veterans Airpark Lane; 682-5511.

■ Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1303 E. Taylor, bingo games 7 p.m.

■ National Active & Retired Federal Employees meet 6 p.m., Jack E. Brown Dining Hall at Midland College. For information, call 634-7826.

■ Pop-Up Toasters Toastmasters Club., 6:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church's Family Life Center - Room 228, 800 W. Texas Ave.; 432-242-2061 or popuptoasters@gmail.com.

Tree limb disposal

The temporary drop-off location for tree limb disposal at the Scharbauer Sports Complex has been reopened through Feb. 1 because of high demand, according to a press release from the city. The temporary drop-off site will remain open 24 hours a day.

The drop-off locations at Beal and Hogan parks are closed.

Storm debris can be dropped off during regular business hours at the Citizens Collection Station, 4100 Smith Road, or the city's landfill, 7901 Garden City Highway. Fees for disposing limbs at the landfill will be waived through Saturday, according to the release.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 6-2-3
Pick 3 day: 0-2-9
Pick 3 evening: 0-2-7
Pick 3 night: 8-9-0
Daily 4 morning: 5-9-1-6
Daily 4 day: 6-1-3-8
Daily 4 evening: 4-4-1-2
Daily 4 night: 7-5-6-7
Cash Five: 2-9-12-13-32
Texas Two Step: 10-11-25-30 BB: 33
All or Nothing morning: 1-2-4-8-9-10-11-13-16-17-21-24
All or Nothing day: 2-3-7-8-9-10-11-13-17-18-20-23
All or Nothing evening: 2-4-6-8-10-12-13-14-15-18-21-24
All or Nothing night: 2-3-4-5-8-10-15-17-18-19-20-22

Today in history

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 20, the 20th day of 2015. There are 345 days left in the year.

CRIMEBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Authorities allegedly find drugs in stolen vehicle after driver flees

A Midland man was arrested this month after allegedly fleeing from a routine traffic stop that later turned up drugs in a stolen vehicle, according to court documents.

Jose G. Morales was charged Jan. 12 with a state jail felony of unauthorized use of a vehicle and third-degree felony charge of possession of a controlled substance. He was held Monday on a $57,500 bond for multiple charges that include evading arrest.

Morales

Authorities stopped Morales on Interstate 20 in the early hours of Jan. 12 after he allegedly failed to properly signal a lane change.

During the traffic stop, a Texas Department of Public Safety trooper spotted a white crystal substance in a clear plastic baggie in the passenger seat of Morales' vehicle, according to his arrest affidavit.

Morales then allegedly fled on foot across a quarter of a mile of shrubs and brush, passing through a barbed wire fence and hiding between two storage tanks, according to his affidavit. After taking the suspect into custody, troopers determined Morales had a theft warrant issued for his arrest.

Authorities found multiple controlled substances — including pills and a white substance that tested positive for methamphetamine — in his vehicle, the affidavit stated. The vehicle, which had plates that did not match its registration, was also confirmed stolen, it stated.

If convicted, Morales faces up to two years in prison for the state jail felony and up to 10 years in prison for the third-degree felony.

MPD: Employees arrested after allegedly stealing more than $6,000

Two employees at a Midland retail store were arrested this month after allegedly stealing more than $6,000 in items and cash linked to fraudulent returns, according to court documents.

Nilson Gomez, 21, of Midland was charged Jan. 13 with the state jail felony of theft between $1,500 and $20,000.

Marianna F. Maya, 20, of Midland was also charged Jan. 13 with the state jail felony of theft between $1,500 and $20,000.

Gomez

Maya

Both Midlanders posted bond and were released from custody last week, according to court documents.

The retail store's manager told police Jan. 13 that Gomez and Maya "fraudulently returned items by keeping the receipt from customers, then doing a return without actually returning the item to get the money back," according to their arrest affidavit.

Both employees admitted to taking items from the store, as well as taking cash linked to the fraudulent returns, according to the affidavit.

Gomez allegedly stole more than $2,000 and Maya about $4,750, the affidavit stated.

If convicted, the employees each face up to two years in prison for the state jail felony charges.

FELONYARRESTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Roberto G. Cuevas, 28, of Midland was charged Sunday with sexual assault and possession of a controlled substance between one and four grams.

Lorenzo N. Ortiz Jr., 43, was charged Sunday with aggravated assault of a date, family, or house member with a weapon.

William M. Benton, 48, of Midland was charged Saturday with three counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Ola J. Harris, 41, of Midland was charged Saturday with possession of a controlled substance of less than one gram.

Vivian M. Pando, 22, of Midland was charged Saturday with aggravated assault of a date, family, or house member with a weapon.

Levi S. Taylor, 35, of Midland was charged Saturday with possession of a controlled substance of less than one gram.

Xavier L. Burns, 20, of Midland was charged Friday with failure to register as a sex offender.

Humberto Nava, 26, of Midland was charged Friday with two counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

STATECRIME

FROM WIRE REPORTS

LUBBOCK

Vandals cause $10K in damage to aquariums store

A fish store has reopened after vandals shot into 10 aquariums and sent about 1,000 gallons of water gushing to the floor.

Officials with Mr. Aquarium in Lubbock report most of the fish were saved following the break-in that triggered a store alarm.

Lubbock police are trying to find who's responsible for the $10,000 in vandalism early Saturday.

Kyle Howard with Mr. Aquarium said thieves shot through 10 tanks, stole cash and damaged equipment. The vandals apparently broke through a wall in the back of the store. Two employees responded to the alarm and saved most of the fish.

Lubbock police are trying to determine if the fish store damage is related to more than two dozen vehicles and other shops also found vandalized Saturday.

EL PASO

Fort Bliss soldier gets 8 years, plea deal in son's death

A Fort Bliss soldier has been sentenced to eight years in prison in a plea deal over the 2012 beating death of his year-old son.

Sgt. 1st Class Crispen Hanson was accused of causing the death of his son, Malachi, and faced trial this week in El Paso.

The father was charged with capital murder and murder after an autopsy determined the toddler died of blunt force trauma. Hanson faced two counts of injury to a child for alleged incidents prior to his son's April 2012 death.

Hanson pleaded guilty Friday to the injury to a child counts.

AMARILLO

Police: Man used cleaver in break-in attempt

A Texas Panhandle man has been arrested after police allege he used a meat cleaver to try and hack his way into an apartment.

The Amarillo Globe-News reported police responded to the apartment shortly after 2 a.m. Sunday, finding Naisikenyan Pha crouched in the yard after he had allegedly used the meat cleaver to try and enter the apartment.

Police said the 41-year-old refused to put down the knife and officers used a Taser on him, which had no effect. Pha was eventually handcuffed by officers.

The apartment's residents said they did not know Pha.

GUILTYPLEAS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Guilty pleas accepted and sentences imposed Jan. 12-16 by district Judges George D. Gilles, Robin Malone Darr, Elizabeth B. Leonard and Rodney W. Satterwhite:

Amanda Lippe Allen, 29, manufacture or delivery of controlled substance, extended three years community supervision, 300 hours community service.

Jason Brian Bell, 37, aggravated robbery, revoke five years TDCJ.

Edmundo Alberto Bermudes, 28, tampering with government records, six months state jail.

Dustin Leon Brown, 36, felony driving while intoxicated, extended one year community supervision, 45 days in jail.

Victor Ray Brown, 48, theft by repetition, three years TDCJ.

Eleazar Cisneros, 41, impersonating a public servant, deferred adjudication, four years community supervision, $1,000 fine.

Victor Manuel Castillo, 18, criminal mischief, revoke six months in jail.

Philip Andrew Cates, 24, theft over $1,500 but less than $20,000, extended two years community supervision, 150 hours community service.

Malcolm Howard Clay, 21, organized retail theft, confinement in CRCT.

Jaime Fino Dominguez, 41, felony driving while intoxicated, 10 years TDCJ, suspended for seven years community supervision, $1,500 fine, 30 days jail, TAIP.

Javier Jose Fuentes, 42, possession of a controlled substance, revoke six months state jail.

Alfonso Galindo, 24, evading arrest, 30 days jail.

Alice A. Garcia, 45, burglary, two years TDCJ.

Elpidio Garcia, 52, aggravated assault, three years TDCJ.

Antonio Martinez Gonzalez, 34, felony driving while intoxicated, three years TDCJ.

Bryce Aaron Gould, 22, obstruction or retaliation, revoked two years TDCJ.

Mauricio Ornelas Guerrero, 52, possession of a controlled substance, adjudicate and revoke, 180 days state jail.

Duncan Josiah Hamm, 36, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, five years adjudicated, $1,500 fine, court cost, 250 hours community service, Project Adam.

David Lee Hernandez, 22, evading motor fuel tax, deferred adjudication, three years community supervision, $2,500 fine, 30 days jail, 300 hours community service, TAIP.

Dennis Day Hill Jr., 38, assault on a public servant, 11 years TDCJ.

Sandrella Lakay Hill, 33, aggravated assault, 10 years TDCJ; harassment by a person in a correctional or detention facility, 10 years TDCJ; obstruction or retaliation, 10 years TDCJ.

Homer Lynn Hixon, 59, possession of a substance in penalty group 1, 30 years TDCJ; manufacture or delivery of a substance in penalty group 1, 30 years TDCJ.

Saxon Alexander Johnson, 23, possession of a substance in penalty group 1 in drug-free zone, deferred adjudication, three years community supervision, 180 days driver's license suspension; tampering with or fabricating physical evidence, deferred adjudication, three years community supervision, $1,000 fine.

Harvey Wayne Kiser, 74, theft by repetition, 1 year state jail; theft by repetition, one year state jail; theft by repetition, one year state jail.

Ramiro Lucio Jr., 24, burglary, seven years TDCJ, suspended for seven years community supervision, pay restitution.

Ricardo Mendoza Jr., 22, tampering with physical evidence, deferred adjudication three years community supervision, $1,300 fine, 160 hours community service, TAIP.

Robert Mireles, 19, possession of a controlled substance deferred adjudication, three years community supervision, $500 fine, 200 hours community service, 180 days driver's license suspension, TAIP.

Buddy Vaughan Myers, 53, aggravated assault, deferred adjudication, four years community supervision, $500 fine.

Robert Rashaan Owens, 21, tampering with or fabricating physical evidence, deferred adjudication, four years community supervision, $750 fine, 200 hours community service.

Christian Ramirez, 20, felony driving while intoxicated, 10 years TDCJ suspended for five years community supervision, $1,500 fine, 30 days jail, 200 hours community service, one year driver's license suspension, 90 AA meetings in 90 days.

Nick Ramirez, 29, possession of a controlled substance, deferred adjudication two years, $1,000 fine, pay restitution, TAIP.

Daniel Anthony Reyes, 27, assault family violence by strangulation, six years deferred, $1,000 fine, court cost, 200 hours community service.

Michael Anthony Riek, 21, tampering with or fabricating physical evidence, two years TDCJ, revoke two years TDCJ.

Eliceo L. Robledo, 52, possession of a controlled substance - cocaine, extended one year community supervision.

Fernando R. Rodriquez, 29, credit card abuse, deferred adjudication, two years community supervision, $1,200 fine, pay restitution, 120 hours community service.

Emmanuel N. Sanches, aka, Emmanuel Sanchez, 34, felony driving while intoxicated, six years TDCJ suspended for seven years probation, $1,000 fine, court cost, 30 days jail, 150 hours community service, 365 days' driver's license suspension.

Chase Alan Savage, 24, possession of a controlled substance, revoke two years TDCJ; evading arrest, revoke two years TDCJ.

Anna Martina Silva, 37, theft of property over $1,500 but less than $20,000, deferred adjudication, four years community supervision, 200 hours community service, pay restitution.

Josephine G. Solano, 44, theft over $1,500 by check - 10 months state jail, $1,581.52 restitution.

Vincent Paul Tran, 27, assault family violence, four years deferred, $750 fine, court cost, 200 hours community service, anger management program.

Jesus MartinVela, 22, unlawful possession of a firearm, three years TDCJ; manufacture or delivery of a substance, revoke three years TDCJ.

Samuel Madrid Villa, evading arrest, revoked six months TDCJ.

Kendal Barsean Williams, 24, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, six years deferred, $1,500 fine, court cost, 20 days jail, 250 hours community service, TAIP.

Atreon Bronzell White, 20, possession of a controlled substance, deferred adjudication, three years community supervision, $1,000 fine, pay restitution, 120 hours community service, TAIP.

Mickey Lamar Wright Jr., 25, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, five years deferred, $1,500 fine, court cost, 30 days jail, 250 hours community service, Project Adam; endangering a child, five years adjudicated, court cost, Project Adam; theft of a firearm, five years deferred, $1,000 fine, court cost, 250 hours community service.

[TDCJ = Texas Department of Criminal Justice; TIC = ; TAIP = treatment alternative to incarceration program]

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

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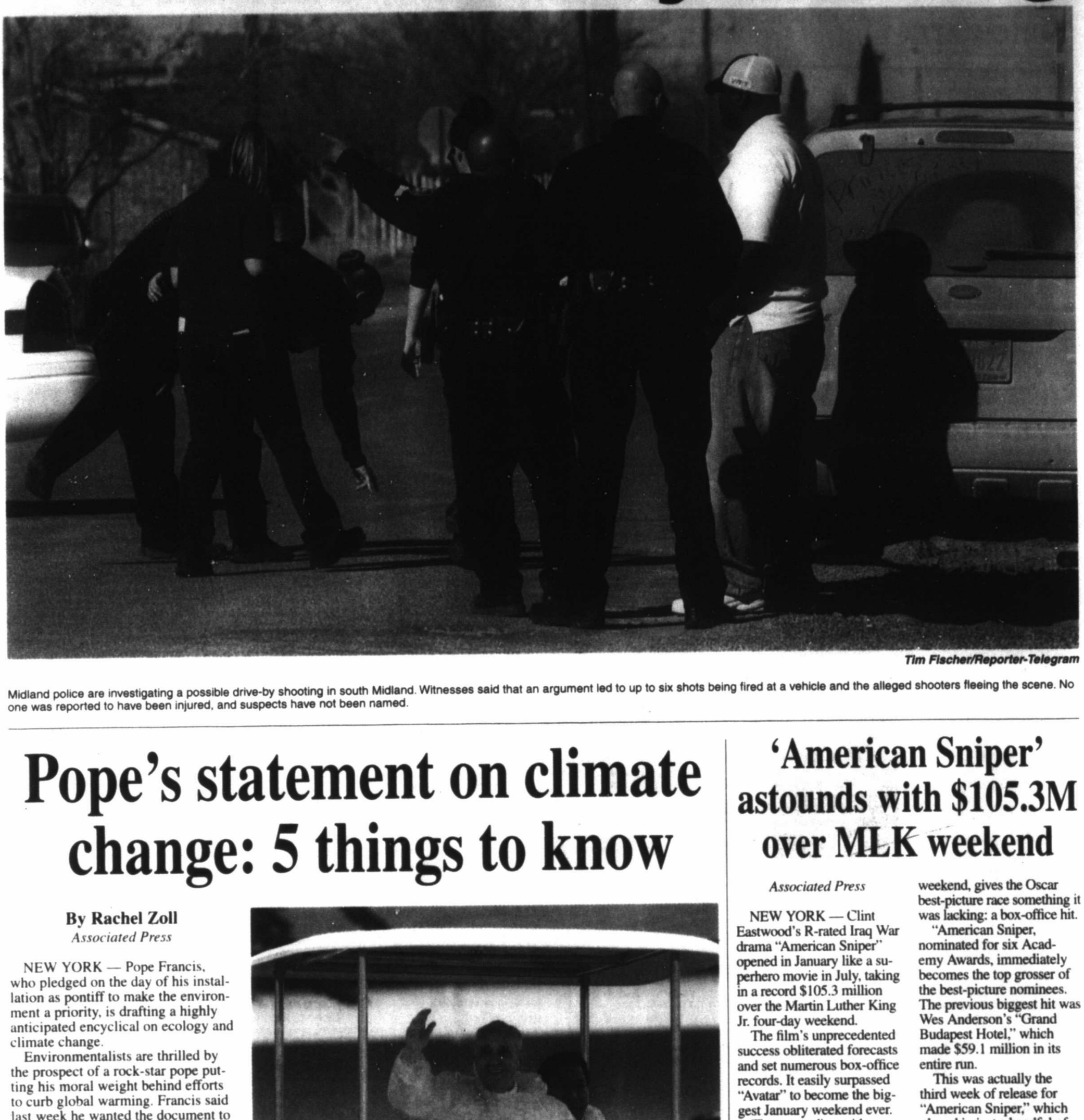
Possible drive-by shooting



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland police are investigating a possible drive-by shooting in south Midland. Witnesses said that an argument led to up to six shots being fired at a vehicle and the alleged shooters fleeing the scene. No one was reported to have been injured, and suspects have not been named.

Pope's statement on climate change: 5 things to know

By Rachel Zoll
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Pope Francis, who pledged on the day of his installation as pontiff to make the environment a priority, is drafting a highly anticipated encyclical on ecology and climate change.

Environmentalists are thrilled by the prospect of a rock-star pope putting his moral weight behind efforts to curb global warming. Francis said last week he wanted the document to be released in time to be read before the next round of U.N. climate treaty talks in Paris at the end of the year.

But skeptics of global warming are irate that Francis is taking up the cause. Several of the critics have accused him of using Catholicism to cloak a radical environmental agenda.

Encyclicals are among the most important means for papal teaching and are written with the help of a small group of advisers under strict secrecy. Still, over the last year, Francis and his top aides have provided some clues about what the document could say.

Here are five things to know ahead of the document's release:

Papal precedent

Francis is extending the work of his predecessors. Popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI both spoke of environmental protection as an urgent moral concern and placed the issue the context of church social teaching on helping the poor and promoting the common good.

In 1990, John Paul II said Catholics had a special religious obligation to protect God's creation from damage caused by "industrial waste, the burning of fossil fuels, unrestricted deforestation" and other practices. Benedict was dubbed "the Green Pope," for his frequent calls to stop ecological devastation and his efforts to bring solar power to the Vatican city-state. "Can we remain indifferent before the problems associated with such realities as climate change?" Benedict said in 2010.

Both pontiffs advocated for conservation as part of a "culture of life" that includes ending abortion. Francis has done the same in his remarks, decrying a "culture of waste" that devalues human life.

How far will he go?

Francis has already asserted that climate change is happening and that people are partly to blame. "I don't know if (human activity) is the only cause, but mostly, in great part, it is man who has slapped nature in the face," he said last week. He has also indicated the body of the encyclical will not be consumed with scientific analysis.

"It's not an easy issue because on the protection of creation and the study of human ecology, you can speak with sure certainty up to a certain point then come the scientific hypotheses some of which are rather sure, others aren't," Francis said at a news conference last August. "In an encyclical like this that must be magisterial, it must only go forward on certainties, things that are sure."

Associated Press

Pope Francis waves to the faithful on his arrival Saturday, Jan. 17 in Tacloban, Philippines, as rain drips from the roof of his vehicle. For months, Francis has been drafting an encyclical on the environment and global warming which he hopes to release by June or July 2015. In a news conference as he traveled last week to the Philippines, he said global warming was "mostly" man-made. And he said he wanted his encyclical out in plenty of time to be absorbed before the next round of U.N. climate change talks in Paris in November after the last round in Lima, Peru, failed to reach an agreement.

"I don't know if (human activity) is the only cause, but mostly, in great part, it is man who has slapped nature in the face."

Pope Francis

At a U.N. Climate Change Summit in New York last September, the pope's top diplomat, Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin, urged international intervention to curb global warming, "not only strengthening, deepening and consolidating the political process on a global level, but also intensifying our commitment to a profound cultural renewal," according to a Vatican radio transcript.

In a November speech in London, Argentine Bishop Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo, chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and a close friend of Francis, called for consideration of such policies as taxing and regulating environmental violations, among other moral and social remedies.

"Market forces alone, with no ethics and collective action, cannot solve the interrelated crises of poverty, exclusion and the environment," Sanchez Sorondo said.

Still, Francis alone will decide what the encyclical will say.

Timing

On his trip to Sri Lanka and the Philippines last week, Francis said he had sent a third draft of the document for review by the Vatican orthodoxy guardian, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, along with the Vatican Secretary of State's office and his own theologian and had just received their replies.

The pope said he plans to "take a week" in March to review their suggestions and finish the encyclical, which will then be translated into several languages. The pope said he expects the document to be released in June or July.

Geography matters

So far, the loudest outcry against papal intervention on climate change is coming from political conservatives within the United States. Anthony Leiserowitz, director of the Yale Project on Climate Change Communication, said the greatest resistance to taking action against climate change is centered in the U.S., Canada, Britain and Australia.

The strongest concern about global warming can be found in Latin America. The trend holds within the U.S., where Latinos are far more worried than whites about climate change, according to the Public Religion Research Institute.

Francis, a native of Argentina, is the first non-European pope in more than 1,000 years.

Beyond Catholic

Over the last two decades, every major religious group has made environmental protection a priority in one way or another. From using solar power for houses of worship to advocating for limits on greenhouse gases, religious leaders have framed the issue as a moral imperative driven by their faith's teachings. Among the most prominent has been Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople, spiritual leader of the world's Orthodox Christians.

Francis said he read Bartholomew's writings as part his research on the encyclical. Sometime this year, Francis is expected to host a summit of world religious leaders to urge decisive action on protecting the environment.

'American Sniper' astounds with $105.3M over MLK weekend

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Clint Eastwood's R-rated Iraq War drama "American Sniper" opened in January like a superhero movie in July, taking in a record $105.3 million over the Martin Luther King Jr. four-day weekend.

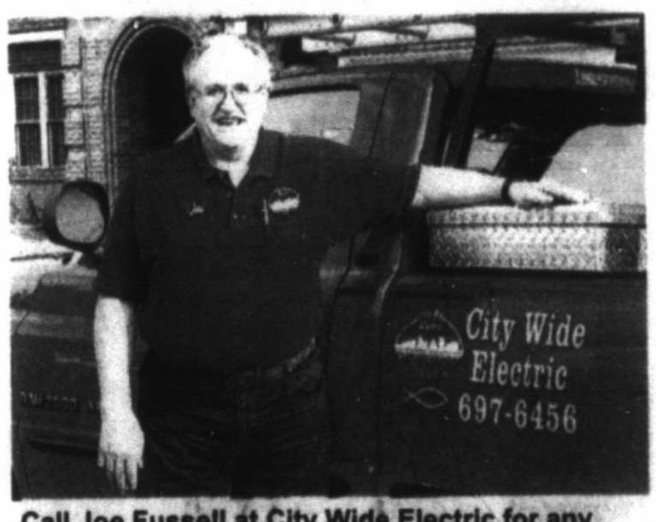
The film's unprecedented success obliterated forecasts and set numerous box-office records. It easily surpassed "Avatar" to become the biggest January weekend ever.

The resounding wide-release opening is also tops for the 84-year-old Eastwood, whose previous best weekend was the $29.5 million wide release of 2009's "Gran Torino. And it, in one weekend, gives the Oscar best-picture race something it was lacking: a box-office hit.

"American Sniper, nominated for six Academy Awards, immediately becomes the top grosser of the best-picture nominees. The previous biggest hit was Wes Anderson's "Grand Budapest Hotel," which made $59.1 million in its entire run.

This was actually the third week of release for "American Sniper," which played in just a handful of theaters for two weeks. That slow release pattern helped stoke demand for the film, in which Bradley Cooper stars as Navy SEAL marksman Chris Kyle.

for your information



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"If you're remodeling a home that was built in the 1960s or earlier, this would be a good time to have Joe and his staff upgrade your wiring to current standards.

If you have an out building that needs wiring, call City Wide. It is always best to use a professional for wiring, to make sure everything is safe and up to code.

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Call City Wide for electrical projectsinstalls custom-made miniblinds and vertical blinds, including standard one-inch types and wood blinds.

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PAID CONTENT

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State Farm teams up with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for health insurance

Now is the time to move! The Open Enrollment Period for 2015 health insurance plans runs from November 15, 2014 – February 15, 2015. This means that the period is just about to close!

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The Affordable Care Act extends health insurance to millions of previously uninsured Americans, expands coverage options, and provides additional alternatives and requirements for employers. This alliance with BCBS will ensure customers have the health insurance plan options and resources they need, from an agent they trust, to help them navigate the changes and complexity of the new health insurance landscape.

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- The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association is a national federation of 37 independent, community-based and locally operated Blue Cross® and Blue Shield® companies.
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Why not replace those rotting bricks now?

Very often, the need for a home repair is obvious. A ceiling that leaks right on top of you or a bathtub that won't drain gets your attention immediately. But a far less obvious problem can cause more damage – and far more often goes unchecked.

"We deal a lot with rotting brick," says George Rood, owner of George Rood Masonry. "All around the area, people have problems with it. By the time a homeowner finally realizes it, the problem has been going on for 10 years."

Frequently, homeowners won't notice areas of rotting brick until they try to sell the house. Then, when the damage is noticed, the real estate agent often recommends that the homeowner call George Rood.

However, George says, there is good reason to repair the damage now - long before you try to sell the home.

"The rotting areas of the brick can cause a loss of heating or cooling," George says. "Holding down energy use, lowering your utility bills and keeping your house comfortable are all good reasons to keep your brickwork in repair."

Often, the repair costs less and takes less time than the customer imagined.

"Many customers tell me, 'If I'd known it was this easy and that you could do it, I would have called you years ago,'" George says.

In addition to brick repairs, he builds new fences and lays brick for patios and swimming pools. For those projects, George takes the time to sit down with you and discuss layouts and floor plans. He knows exactly what you need before he begins the project. "I go out to customers' homes, help lay out the job, show them all their possible options and give them free estimates," George says.

A hands-on boss, George can usually be found working right alongside his crew. Often, he is the only bricklayer on the project. "If I'm right there, I can be sure the job will be done right," he says.

George has been repairing brickwork and building fences for 48 years, 35 of those years in this area.

Many years ago, George started a trend in fence building that has kept up till this day. Columns built into the fences about every 20 feet ensure fences that are strong, sturdy and built to last.

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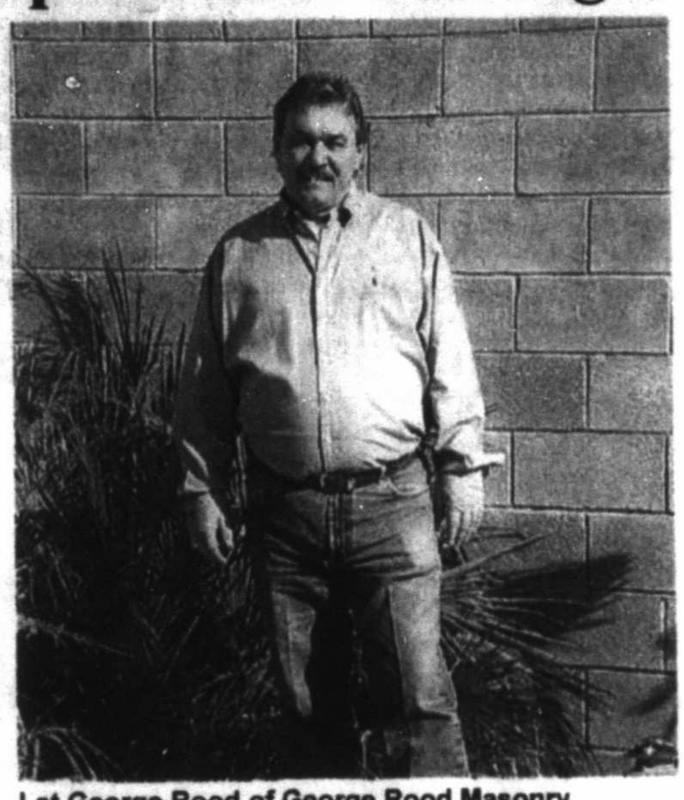

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President Obama can't wish away terrorism

■ The world doesn't act like the president would like, and our commitment to the fight will be for years

MICHAEL GERSON
Washington Post Writers Group

President Obama's 2014 State of the Union address is remembered today mainly for this bit of rhetorical irony: "America must move off a permanent war footing."

It was the triumph of speechwriting over experience. Obama's pledge came about three weeks after the fall of Fallujah to the Islamic State. By June, Mosul would be overrun. Global jihadism now has a cause — Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi's sham caliphate — around which to rally. It controls unprecedented territory and resources. It has a stream of thousands of Western recruits cycling in and out of the Middle East. And it encompasses a dangerous competition between the Islamic State and al-Qaida, in which acts of terrorism are a source of street credibility.

Obama's reaction, as always, has been restrained. The world does much to disappoint him, but it apparently has nothing to teach him. Every signal he has recently sent — in his lack of an appropriate symbolic reaction to the Paris attacks, in his limp, equivocal performance beside a more determined Prime Minister David Cameron — seems to be saying: I am not going to repeat George W. Bush's overreaction to terrorism, which only feeds extremism.

So, Obama is careful to explain that terrorism is not "an existential threat." "Intelligence and military force alone," he said, "is not going to solve this problem." And he urges Europeans to "not simply respond with a hammer."

We have come a long way when an American president pompously urges the French to curb their cowboy instincts.

But the situation in Europe reveals this line of argument — that overreaction provokes terrorism — to be farcical. The French did not support the Iraq War. They did not engage in enhanced interrogation. They have been consistent supporters of the Palestinian cause. They have tried not to offend. But it didn't matter. Some offense by Charles Martel in the eighth century would have been sufficient pretext. Western countries are not engaged in policy disagreements with violent Islamism. They are facing, in Cameron's words, a "fanatical death cult."

Obama is correct to distinguish that cult from the faith of Islam. Equating the two is not only substantively wrong, it is strategically insane. No president would criticize the religious beliefs of millions of his fellow citizens — particularly when their good faith is necessary to isolate violent radicalism. And any fight against terrorism depends on good relations with Muslim allies who take many of the front-line risks. Islam is not the same as Islamism. And not even all Islamism is violent Islamism. Such distinctions are essential to successfully conduct a war on terrorism.

And Obama is correct that this war requires a variety of non-military strategies: diplomacy that somehow corrals Sunni and Shiite powers into anti-terror alliances; economic development that provides opportunities for alienated youth; effective ideological campaigns (which are now badly underfunded) to counter violent extremism. We do need "all the elements of our national power."

But even with these caveats, the task that remains is a global armed conflict of uncertain duration. It will involve maintaining a technological edge to monitor the communications of potential terrorists. It will involve arming, training and guiding (sometimes with American boots on the ground) proxies to fight battles. It will involve targeted killings with drones, bombers and special operations forces.

Particularly with the rise of the Islamic State during the last year — which occurred in a vacuum of local sovereignty and global attention — America has an enormously complex and difficult task ahead. It involves building up allies that have previously proved hollow and fragile; patiently reclaiming territory; preventing infiltration by jihadist veterans and attacks by homegrown sympathizers; helping re-establish some semblance of legitimate government in Iraq (challenging) and in Syria (pretty near impossible).

It is not sufficient to describe this — or dismiss this — as "counterterrorism." Even the effort that Obama currently describes requires the end of a terrorist regime holding large portions of two countries in the Middle East. Americans need to be prepared for years of conflict — and for the strong possibility of terrorist escalations such as we saw in Paris. Or worse. And American allies need to be led and encouraged in this effort, not ignored or lectured.

President Obama has variously tried to declare victory against terrorism ("al-Qaida's core leadership has been decimated") or to claim that America has turned a corner past war. But his wishes do not make it so. Displaying his own core of leadership — if only to justify his stated strategy of regime elimination — has never been more needed.

GUEST VIEW

Texas' first new governor in 14 years has major challenges to confront

Houston Chronicle

The old joke about the twice-married widower who resolved his dilemma regarding where to be buried when his time came — in the middle, "but tilt me toward Tillie" — is an apt metaphor, we would suggest, for the new governor of Texas as the beginning of his tenure coincides with the opening of the 84th Legislative Session. Greg Abbott's approach to governance, we can hope, will tilt toward House Speaker Joe Straus rather than Lt. Governor-elect Dan Patrick.

Straus, during his previous three terms as speaker, has been a relatively moderate (for Texas, at least), consensus-building, pragmatic leader rather than a Patrick-style provocateur. The new lieutenant governor may be less combative and confrontational in a leadership role than he was as senator — we'll have to wait and see — but for the good of Texas, we hope Abbott finds the Straus model more appealing.

The state's first new governor in 14 years will be his own man, of course, but if he sticks to the legislative priorities he laid out a few weeks ago, he'll have more than enough chores to occupy his time and energy without delving into the divisive and inflammatory that are Patrick's forte. In his public statements, Abbott has focused on core issues, including public and higher education, border security, highway and water projects and economic development. They're the very issues that a legislature and a governor ought to be addressing at a time when the economy is in relatively good shape and the need for investment in the state's future is urgent. Each of those broad policy areas include numerous knotty subheads that will require leadership, not only from a speaker and a lieutenant governor, but from a chief executive with a clear vision of where he wants to take Texas.

"We're number one for energy. We're number one for exports, for farms. The time has come for Texas to set its sights on another number one," Abbott said last spring. "Texas should be number one in the nation for educating our children."

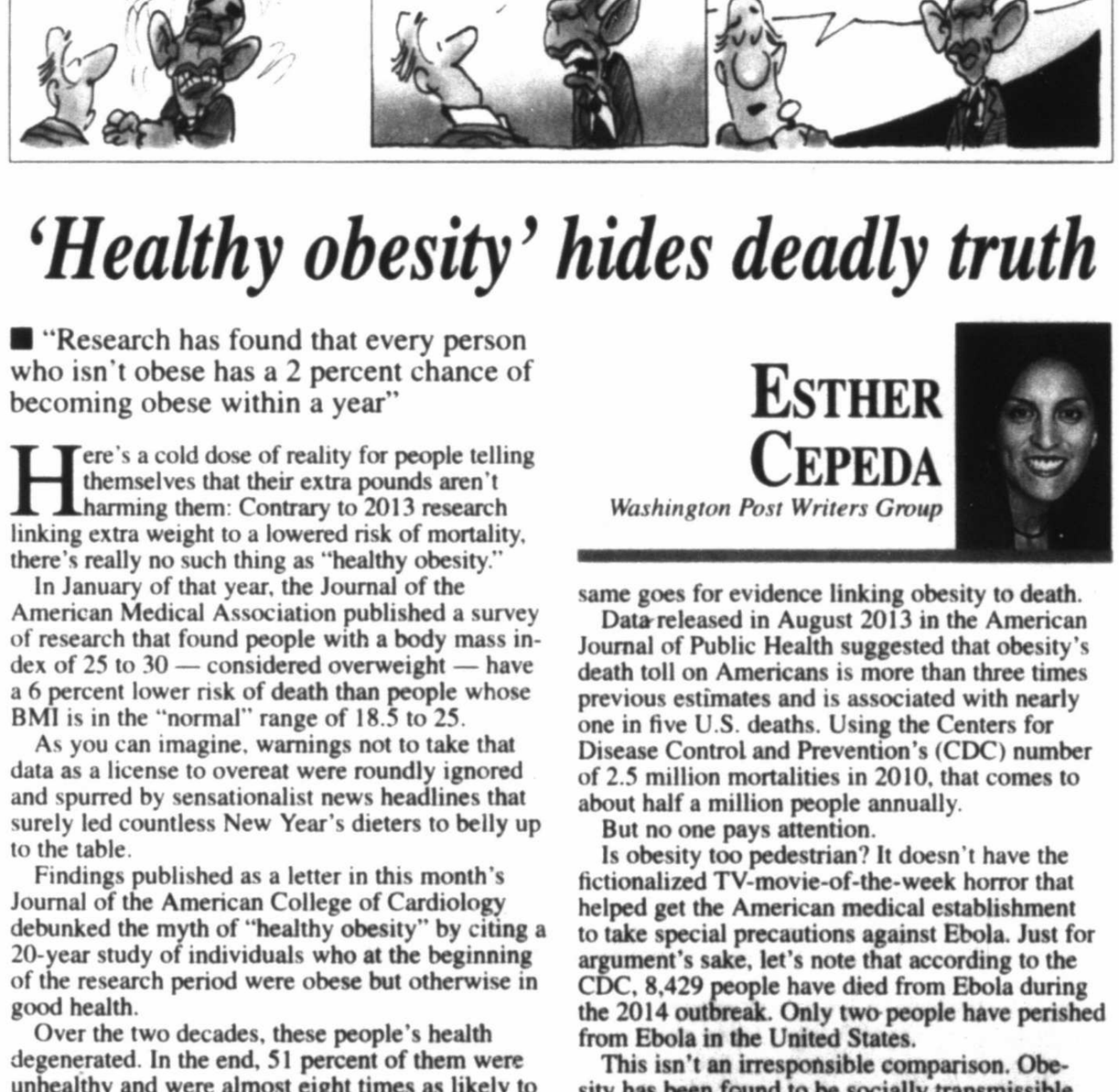
That's a worthy aim, to be sure, but with a court order in the offing, the state's public education challenge is even more daunting than usual. So far, Abbott has talked about increased funding for pre-kindergarten — an idea we enthusiastically support — but he'll have to persuade obstructionist tea partiers that the kindergarten price tag, $118 million over two years, is worth the cost. We're hoping that he'll also insist on adequate funding for public schools in general, and that he'll resist Patrick's voucher uber alles.

Additionally, we hope he'll resist Patrick's border-security crusade, whatever form it happens to take. It's an important issue for Texas, certainly, but with "boots on the ground" already stepping all over each other along the Mexican border, the state has little to add to a complex matter that's the responsibility of the federal government.

Texas transportation needs are almost as daunting as public education. In 2013, the Texas Department of Transportation informed lawmakers that the state needed at least $5 billion annually just to keep up with what we have now. Abbott has said he can find $4 billion for transportation without new taxes, fees or tolls. We're skeptical, but we hope he's right. Voter approval of Proposition 1 last fall helped a bit but is nowhere near enough.

"Many people will say we can't do all these things. That we can't have tax relief, build more roads, have better schools and cut spending, all at the same time," Abbott has said, offering his assurance that we can by "working together." We'll see. Abbott is a rookie governor with no legislative experience. However well-intentioned he may be, we'll know how realistic he is in 140 days.

Beyond the Legislature, the new governor will begin putting his personal stamp on state government almost immediately through the power of appointment to some 200 boards and commissions. Obviously, governors reward longtime loyalists, volunteers and big donors, but we hope Abbott goes further. A great beginning for the new governor would be for his appointments to reflect the deep and rich diversity of the state he was elected to lead.



'Healthy obesity' hides deadly truth

■ "Research has found that every person who isn't obese has a 2 percent chance of becoming obese within a year"

ESTHER CEPEDA
Washington Post Writers Group

Here's a cold dose of reality for people telling themselves that their extra pounds aren't harming them: Contrary to 2013 research linking extra weight to a lowered risk of mortality, there's really no such thing as "healthy obesity."

In January of that year, the Journal of the American Medical Association published a survey of research that found people with a body mass index of 25 to 30 — considered overweight — have a 6 percent lower risk of death than people whose BMI is in the "normal" range of 18.5 to 25.

As you can imagine, warnings not to take that data as a license to overeat were roundly ignored and spurred by sensationalist news headlines that surely led countless New Year's dieters to belly up to the table.

Findings published as a letter in this month's Journal of the American College of Cardiology debunked the myth of "healthy obesity" by citing a 20-year study of individuals who at the beginning of the research period were obese but otherwise in good health.

Over the two decades, these people's health degenerated. In the end, 51 percent of them were unhealthy and were almost eight times as likely to arrive at unhealthy obesity as the healthy, non-obese adults.

Joshua A. Bell, the study's lead author, told The New York Times' Well blog: "'Healthy obesity' is quite a misleading term. It sounds safe, but we know that it's only healthy in a relative sense. The healthy obese become unhealthy and progress into the highest risk group. This is a real challenge to the idea that the obese can be healthy in the long term."

Sadly, it's not enough of a challenge that it'll make a dent in the country's apathy toward a state of health that the American Society of Clinical Oncology recently said could soon overcome tobacco as the leading preventable cause of cancer in the U.S.

The identity politics around the issue always keep obesity just outside its proper realm of epidemic-level public health crisis. The clashes pit individual liberties vs. nanny statism, and personal nutritional responsibility vs. predatory junk food marketing. We have endless debates over evolving attitude about what is "beautiful."

Alarming statistics about the number of adults, minorities, women, children and babies who are overweight or morbidly obese have failed to ignite interest that could lead to significant change. The same goes for evidence linking obesity to death.

Data released in August 2013 in the American Journal of Public Health suggested that obesity's death toll on Americans is more than three times previous estimates and is associated with nearly one in five U.S. deaths. Using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) number of 2.5 million mortalities in 2010, that comes to about half a million people annually.

But no one pays attention.

Is obesity too pedestrian? It doesn't have the fictionalized TV-movie-of-the-week horror that helped get the American medical establishment to take special precautions against Ebola. Just for argument's sake, let's note that according to the CDC, 8,429 people have died from Ebola during the 2014 outbreak. Only two people have perished from Ebola in the United States.

This isn't an irresponsible comparison. Obesity has been found to be socially transmissible — that is, friends, family, co-workers, peers and classmates influence individuals to eat or overeat certain foods in myriad ways.

Research has found that every person who isn't obese has a 2 percent chance of becoming obese within a year because of their sedentary lifestyle and access to unhealthy foods. But it has been estimated that this number rises by 0.5 percent for every obese person they socialize with, meaning that knowing just four obese people can double a person's risk of becoming obese.

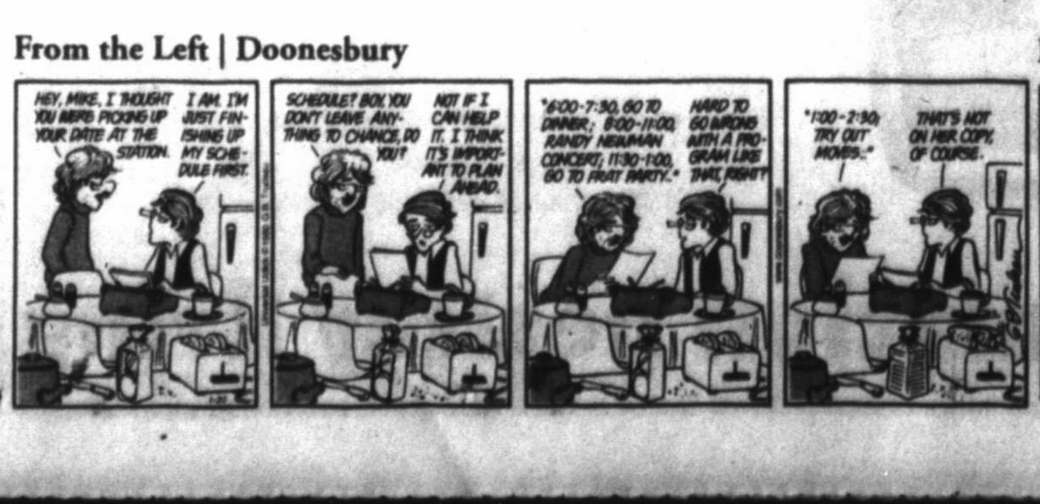
While experts have proposed ideas to define obesity as a disease or a federally protected disability falling under the Americans with Disabilities Act, nothing has yet to "take," even as a national discussion issue.

Perhaps we just don't have enough concrete numbers to scare people into paying attention to the ravages of obesity.

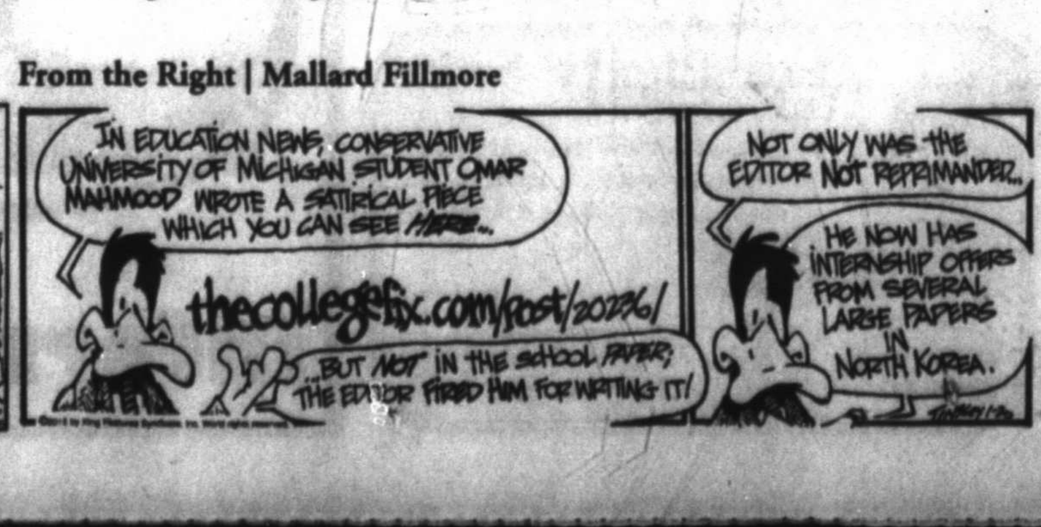
For that we'll need a movement to get the CDC to list obesity as an official cause of death and articulate clear guidelines for the medical establishment to start attributing morbidity to it.

If dread of a sick old age doesn't get people's attention about the risks of obesity, maybe fear of death will.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



GOP divided over using budget process on Obamacare

By Andrew Taylor
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans running Congress have promised to use every weapon in their arsenal to take down President Barack Obama's health care law.

But now some are questioning whether to use the congressional budget process to derail the 2010 law or save the special step for more traditional purposes like cutting spending or overhauling the tax code. A potentially divisive debate between tea party forces and GOP pragmatists looms.

At issue is an arcane process known as budget reconciliation. It's the only filibuster-proof option available to Republicans, who control the Senate with 54 seats but must still muster 60 votes to pass other legislation.

Senate precedents limit the number of reconciliation bills — one for taxes, one for spending and one to raise the government's borrowing cap — and so a major debate has begun among Republicans over what to put in it.

Hard-line conservatives want to use the process to force a showdown with Obama over the law.

Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, told a Heritage Foundation gathering of conservatives last week that Republicans should "use every procedural tool available, including reconciliation, to repeal Obamacare with 51 votes in the Senate."

That's a view shared by conservative groups like the Senate Conservatives Fund and Heritage Action, and prominent voices on the right like Erick Erickson, publisher of the Redstate.com conservative blog.

"It's time to stop pussy-footing around with excuses and half-assed attempts at partial repeal, and get serious," Erickson wrote last week. "Make Obama veto the repeal of his signature legislation."

Pragmatic voices in the GOP, however, said the certainty of an Obama veto effectively means that Republicans would be wasting the opportunity given them under special budget rules that limit debate and can guarantee delivery of legislation to Obama.

"I'd like to get tax reform done. I think we could do infrastructure in that process. And I think that's something that could actually get enacted," said Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., chairman of the Senate Commerce committee. "I mean we're going to have a lot of Obamacare votes one way or the other."

A reconciliation measure can only advance after the House and Senate have agreed upon a measure called a budget resolution, which sets broad parameters for spending, revenues and curbs to benefit programs such as Medicare and Medicaid.

Democrats used reconciliation to help pass Obama's health care plan. And Bill Clinton and Republicans controlling Congress used it in 1997 to advance a balanced budget bill.

5 goals from Obama's 2014 State of the Union

By Nedra Pickler
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama used his last State of the Union to declare 2014 a "Year of Action," and he can claim credit for accomplishing several of the goals he laid out. The smaller ones.

That's because while he was able to check off most of what he promised to do through executive action in last year's speech, Obama was unable in the bitterly partisan election year to get Congress to go along with the bigger plans he had for the country that required their approval.

As Obama prepares to make that annual trek up Pennsylvania Avenue to address Congress once again, here's a look back a year later at five of the promises he made — and which got fulfilled and denied.

Immigration

"Let's get immigration reform done this year," Obama declared to a Congress that had long blocked his efforts. And so he did, although it was not the broad plan he envisioned that would have allowed a path to citizenship for more than 11 immigrants illegally in the United States. Instead, Obama took executive action to make more than 4 million of those immigrants eligible for protection from deportation and eligible for work permits.

Minimum wage

One of Obama's most ambitious ideas was to raise America's minimum wage from $7.25 to $10.10 an hour, upping the ante from the $9-an-hour proposal he made in the 2013 State of the Union. Congress wasn't keen on the idea, but the president was able to unilaterally make the change for new federal contractors. The White House estimated it would directly help a few hundred thousand people, but argues the bigger impact has been that several states and localities raised their minimum wage last year after Obama raised the debate.

Retirement savings

Obama was able to create a new retirement savings account — dubbed "myRA" for "my IRA" — geared toward low- and middle-income Americans who don't have the upfront investment that many commercial IRAs require. For years, Obama has been asking Congress to encourage more Americans to grow a retirement nest egg by allowing all workers to be automatically enrolled in IRAs unless they specifically opt out. But Congress hasn't acted on that, so Obama offered the more modest myRA plan. The Treasury Department has set up a new security as the basis for the investment and for the past month has been running a pilot program with a small group of employers, with plans to expand the program by the end of 2015.

Taxes

While most of Obama's proposals last year were positions he had long advocated, one of the few new proposals he offered was extension of the earned-income tax credit, which helps boost the wages of low-income families through tax refunds. Obama wanted it broadened to provide more help to workers without children, a view embraced by some Republicans and conservative economists. "Let's work together to strengthen the credit, reward work, and help more Americans get ahead," Obama said optimistically — too optimistically, it turned out. The proposal never passed.

Energy

Obama said the goal of his energy policy is to create jobs and a cleaner planet and announced that he wanted to set higher fuel economy standards for trucks. He followed up by visiting a Safeway distribution center to promote the idea. The process for making the change is underway within the administration, with a new regulation planned to be proposed in March 2015 and finalized in March 2016.

Associated Press

President Barack Obama participates in a service project at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington, to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service and in honor of Dr. King's life and legacy on Monday in Washington.

Obama honors King by helping next generation

By Darlene Superville
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama honored Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy Monday by big-brothering members of the next generation.

Obama, his wife, Michelle, and daughter Malia traveled to a District of Columbia site for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington where they helped paint murals and assemble packets with flashcards and books to help the center's young students improve their skills.

The family was joined by Wendy Spencer, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service, and city police officers who are regular volunteers at the club. Sasha Obama did not join her family.

Obama sat with a boy in a blue T-shirt and used a large marker to draw as they chatted. Reporters who spent a few minutes in the room observing couldn't hear any part of Obama's conversation with the boy. Mrs. Obama and Malia sat at separate tables with other children.

In a proclamation issued last week, Obama said the U.S. has made "undeniable progress" since King agitated for justice and equality for all. But Obama said securing the gains requires "constant vigilance, not complacency" and he called on all Americans to stand together for good jobs, fair wages, safe neighborhoods and quality education.

Much of Obama's Cabinet fanned out across the country Monday to participate in community service projects and events in remembrance of the slain civil rights leader.

Speaking at a Delaware breakfast, Vice President Joe Biden said communities and police departments need to build relationships of trust. Biden devoted his remarks to tension between police and minorities in some communities after the deaths last summer of two unarmed black men in encounters with white officers in Missouri and New York City.

US officials seek end to Cuban restrictions on diplomats

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — American officials head to Havana this week with fairly modest goals of cooperation with the Cuban government, seeking an end to restrictions on the U.S. Interests Section there so that an embassy — and symbol of the two countries' new relationship — can eventually be established.

The migration and normalization talks between the United States and Cuba are the biggest face-to-face meetings since Presidents Barack Obama and Raul Castro announced their intentions last month to re-establish diplomatic ties. Leading the U.S. delegation is Roberta Jacobson, the top U.S. diplomat for Latin America, the most senior American official to visit Cuba in more than three decades.

A senior administration official said the Obama administration has concrete if limited objectives for the discussions Wednesday through Friday. They include American diplomats being reaccredited in Cuba and facing no travel restrictions, no limits on the number of U.S. diplomats in the country, unimpeded shipments to the U.S. mission and free access for Cubans to the mission. Jacobson will meet Cuban activists and civil society representatives, as well.

How quickly the Cubans meet the requests related to the Interests Section will help determine when the two countries can re-establish embassies, post ambassadors in each other's capitals and restore full diplomatic relations, the official said. Reporters were briefed on this process Monday on the talks on condition the official not be quoted by name.

The U.S. and Cuba haven't had diplomatic relations since 1961, shortly after Fidel Castro seized power. Interests sections were established in the late 1970s to boost cooperation, but never really advanced a detente between the two countries. In the years since, both governments have enforced restrictions on the activity of each other's diplomats in their countries.

But changes have come quickly since December's announcement of a prisoner exchange between the U.S. and Cuba and their promises to end the decades-long estrangement.

Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly
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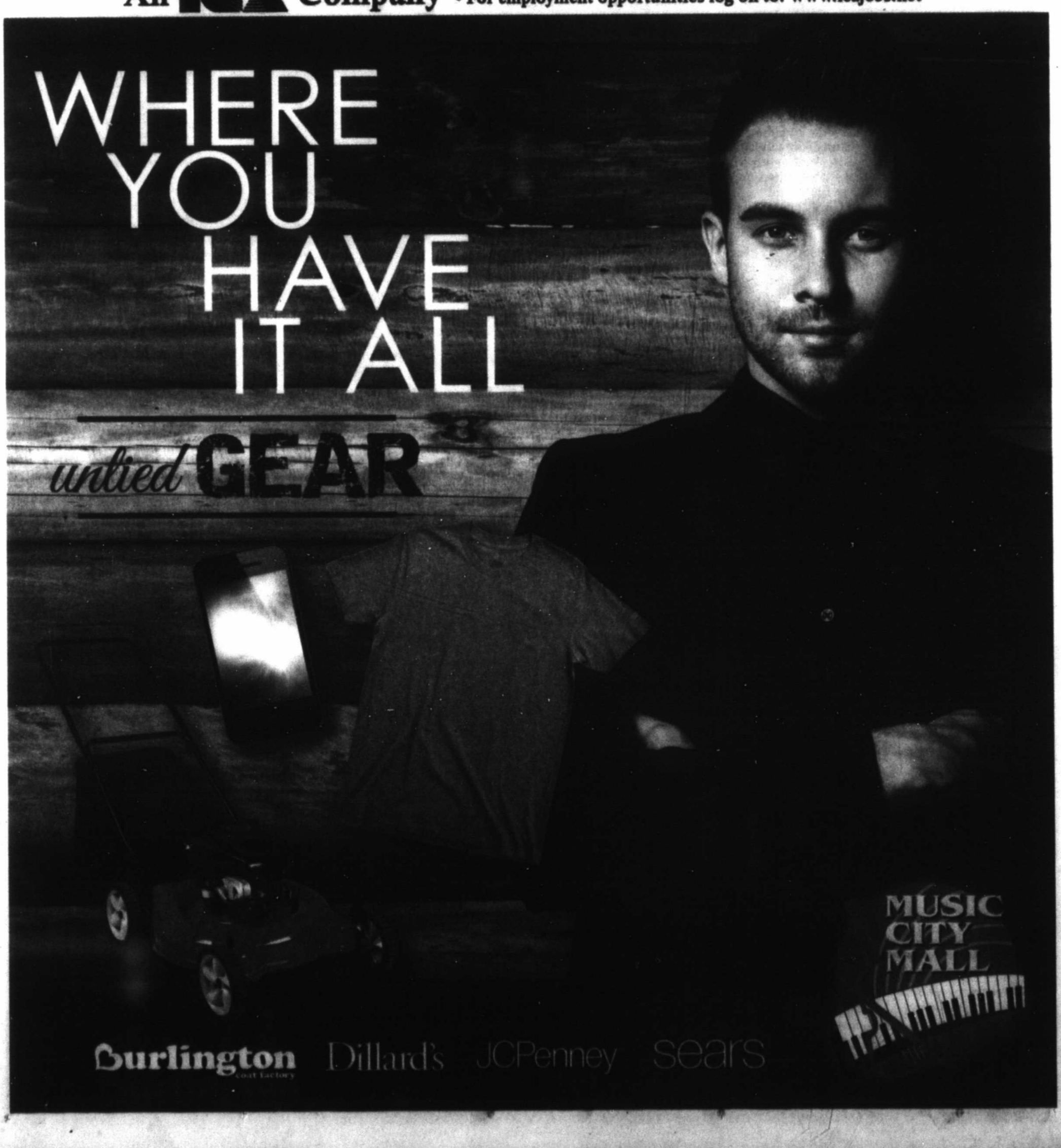
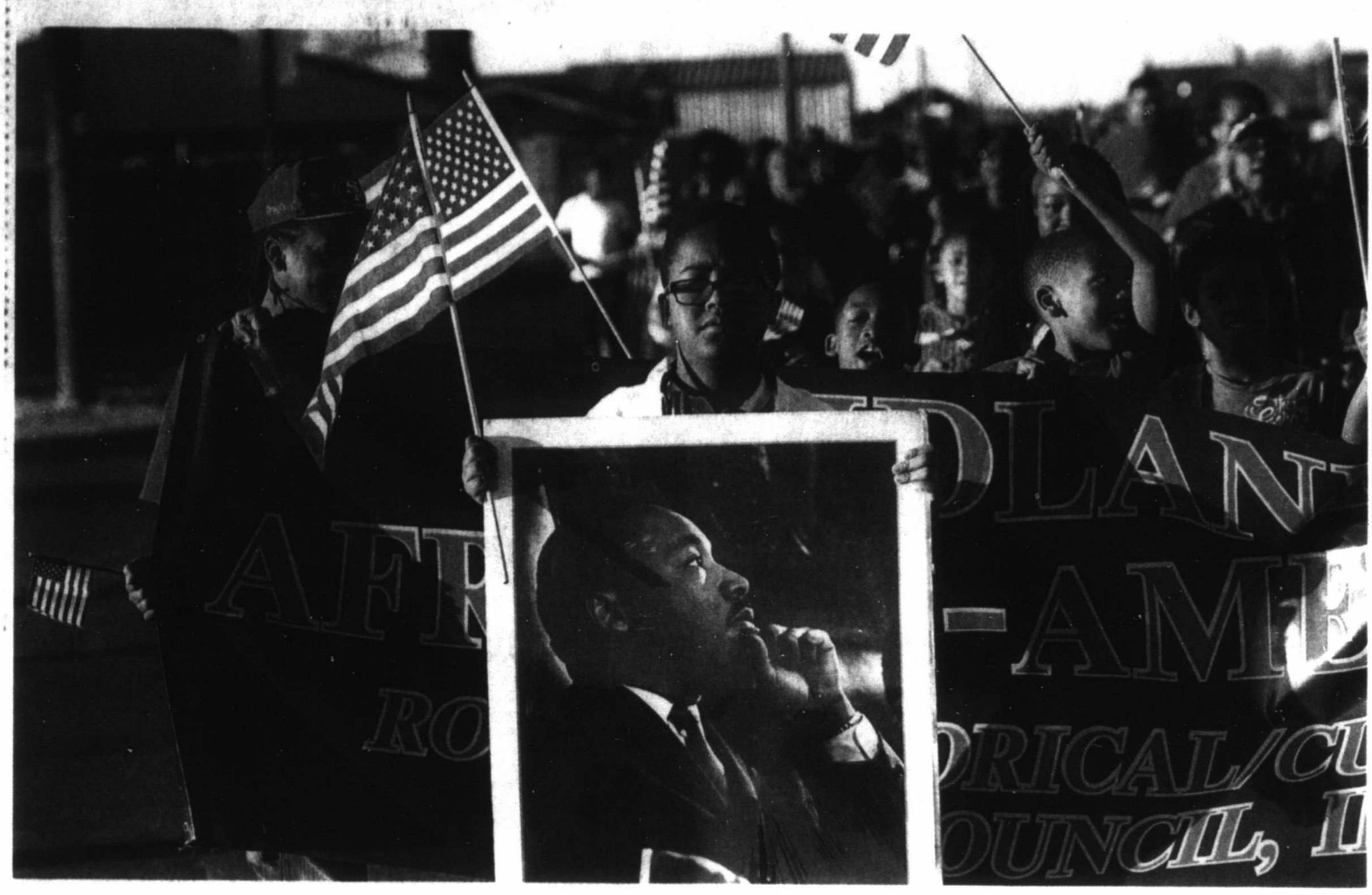




Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Jakylan Fuller Reed leads the MLK March on Monday as Midlanders come together to remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Events in Midland mark MLK Day

Town hall meeting, annual march among activities

By Steve Kuhlmann
skuhlmann@mrt.com

As the nation observed Martin Luther King Jr. Day with a day off from work and school, the Tall City celebrated the late civil rights leader's legacy with the MLK Day of Service.

From the annual MLK March to the presentation of the annual MLK Community Service Award, a volunteer expo and a town hall meeting with the Midland Police Department, the community's focus was on working together to make Midland better.

Here are a few of our takeaways from the day's events:

■ Residents have several ways to get involved and partner with the Midland Police Department. Both the community and the MPD are looking for opportunities for greater communication and cooperation to make Midland the best — and the safest — that it can be.

■ Starbucks' donation of snacks and coffee was a big hit, helping to keep everyone energized for the evening.

■ The weekend's warm front made for a beautiful evening for the annual march as songs were sung and parents talked to their children about the civil rights movement.

■ While attendance was lower in the afternoon, the number of participants grew by nearly three times for the presentation of the annual MLK Community Service Award to Raynetta Williams and the evening's main program.

■ Personal expression spotlighted in the evening's final program, featuring dance, song and written word from children and members of the

Please see **MLK**/2B

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

James and Robyne Hocker Fuller present a painting to Raynetta Williams on Monday for the MLK Community Service Award. Williams was not able to make the ceremony, so her Women of Faith Dance Team from Macedonia Batist Church accepted on her behalf.

New nonprofit focuses on mentoring youth

By Steve Kuhlmann
skuhlmann@mrt.com

The youth of a community are sometimes the target of criticism and cynicism for the future, but new nonprofit Making an Impact is seeking to give them a push in the right direction.

"One of our main focuses is on the youth of our community," said Morris Williams, director of Making an Impact. "We identify that sometimes our youth just don't have the mentors or role models that they need to point them in the right direction. It just seems as though often our youth just keeps going in the wrong direction, and they think that it's, more or less, cool to be the bad kid."

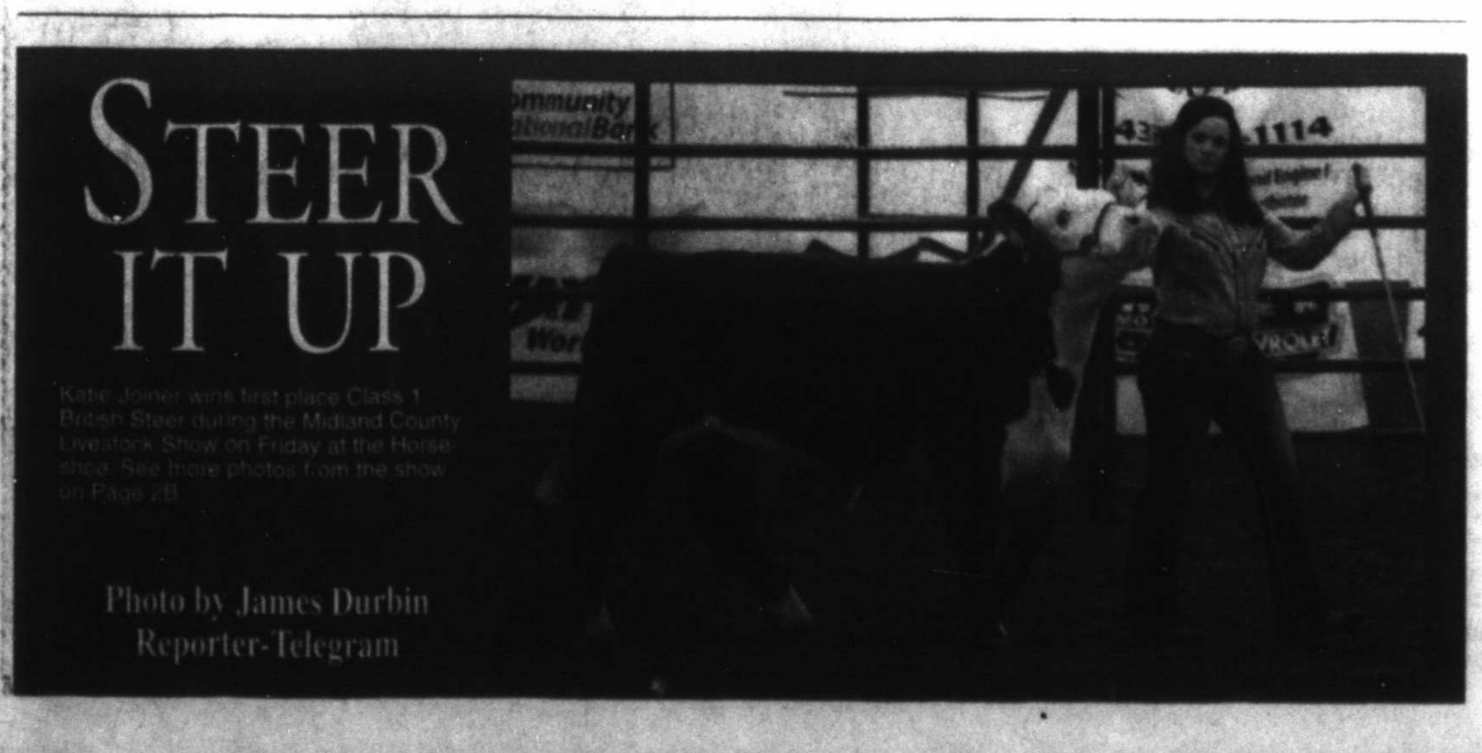
The nonprofit made its first appearance in Midland during the 2014 Juneteenth celebration when it hosted a scholarship pageant for local students.

Williams said the organization will work to "showcase the kids doing something good" whenever it can to reinforce positive behavior and combat negative assumptions. Working primarily as a mentoring organization, the nonprofit will "fill gaps wherever we see them" by partnering with "just about anybody if we're on the way to doing good, if it's going to make a difference in the community by affecting the youth."

"We've decided that instead of just sitting around and talking about, just looking at the problem, that we would try to do something about," Williams said. "(The youth) are our future, they are our leaders, and so we want to teach them how to lead and how to be good representatives of themselves, their families, our community and, in some cases, even their race."

In addition to facilitating the "Making Midland Better Together" town hall meeting with the Midland Police Department during the MLK Day of Service events Monday, Williams said the nonprofit is planning to host a program next month in honor of Black History Month.

"We've got several things working, and, as we go forward, we're going to grow," Williams said. "We're excited, but we understand that it's a process."



Katie Jones wins first place Class 1 Bassin Steer during the Midland County Livestock Show on Friday at the Horse Barn. See more photos from the show on Page 2B.

Basin PBS hosts writing contest for kids

By Megan Lea Buck
mbuck@mrt.com

Basin PBS last week began accepting entries to its third annual PBS KIDS Writers Contest. The contest aims to encourage creativity and literacy skills in children in kindergarten through third grade.

Entries will be accepted through April 3. Each submission must include an original story with five colorful illustrations. Specific rules differ by age group and are available on the Basin PBS website. The contest encourages kids to be creative with their stories.

"They can pretty much write anything they want," said Alyson Trevino, creative director of Basin PBS. "There is no set topic; it's whatever motivates them."

One local winner will be selected from each grade level.

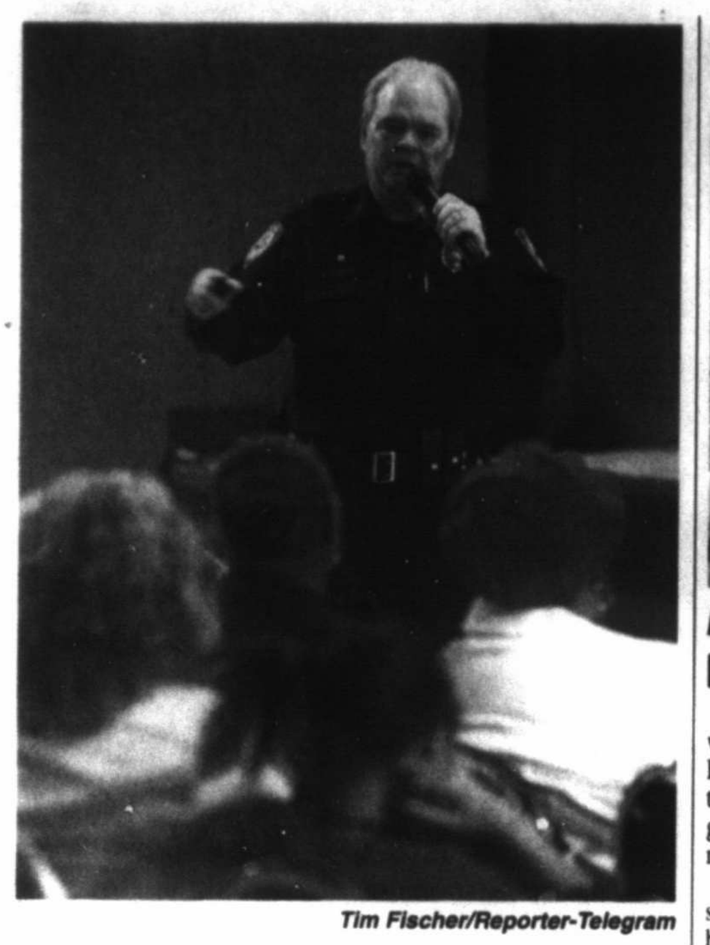
"The staff will go through, and we'll pull the best of the best from the staff point of view, and then we'll pass those on to the judges," Trevino said.

Judges include Vicki Rice, a former teacher now with Permian Basin Area Foundation; Jennifer Seybert, UTPB STEM Academy principal; and Jeff Wood, art teacher at Odessa High School and owner of ONETREE Consulting and Design.

Entries will be judged on creativity and originality of story, story structure and use of literary devices and relevance and quality of illustrations.

"We'll have an awards ceremony at the

Please see **PBS**/2B



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland Police Chief Price Robinson talks about the yearly crime statistics from the past few years during a town hall meeting Monday evening at the MLK Community Center.

MLK

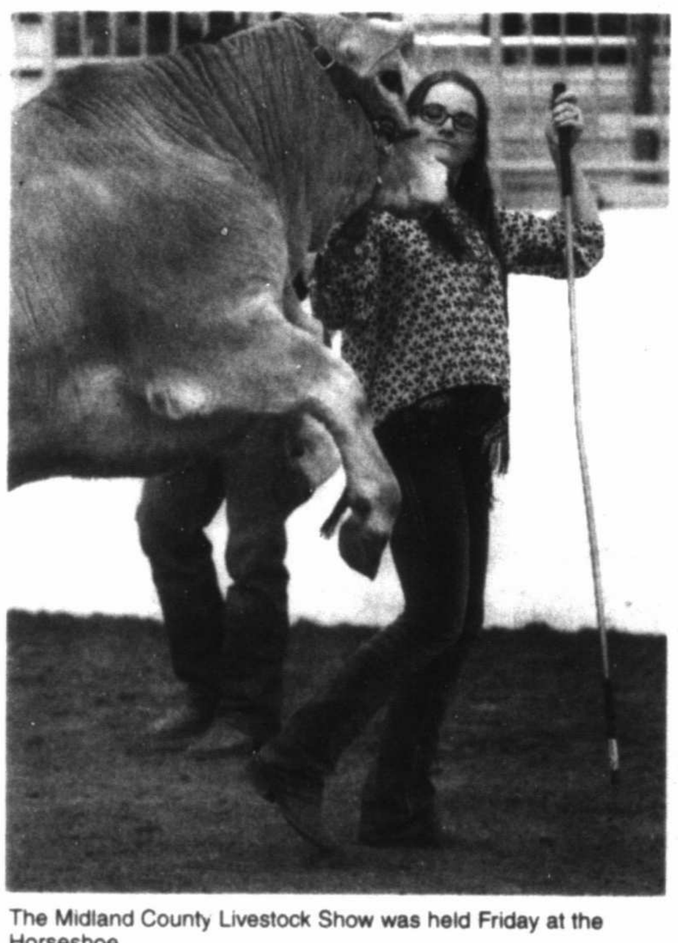
From 1B

community.

■ The theme of "Looking Back, Moving Forward" was present throughout the day's events, with speakers encouraging all in the audience to begin by making a change themselves.

Midland County Livestock Show

PHOTOS BY JAMES DURBIN | REPORTER-TELEGRAM



The Midland County Livestock Show was held Friday at the Horsehoe.

PBS

From 1B

end of April and then the winners from each grade level are sent on to the national competition and they're judged with kids from all over the country," Trevino said.

National judges in past years have included writers and producers from PBS KIDS programs as well as well-known children's authors and illustrators. PBS has not yet announced this year's national judges.

The top 12 entries at the national level will be awarded first-, second- and third-place prizes. Four national first-place winners will receive a tablet or electronic learning device and a set of "Arthur" books. National winners will be announced during the summer.

Students don't have be live in the Permian Basin to be eligible for the local contest. Anyone who learns about the contest on Basin PBS' website may enter.

"We just want to really motivate kids to write, create, read," said Trevino. "So we're not going to be picky about where they come from."

For more information or to submit entries, go to www.basinpbs.org.

Obituaries

Amy Elizabeth Roberts

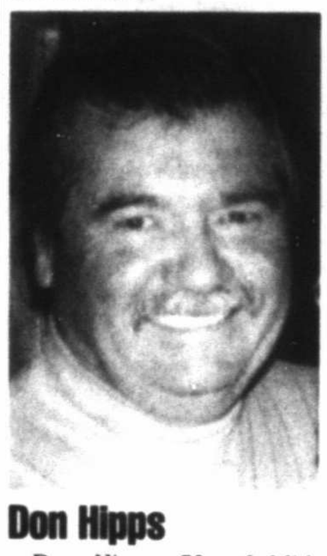
Amy Elizabeth Roberts went to be with Jesus on Friday, January 16, 2015, at the age of 28 after a courageous, life-long battle with multiple illnesses.

Born on January 4, 1987, she was preceded in death by her beloved grandmother "Mimi" Frieda Ward; grandfather, "Gran" John Roberts; and her cousin, Brandon Gonzalez.

She is survived by her parents, John and Donna Roberts; her beloved brother, Johnny Roberts; her nieces Harper Elizabeth Stone and Brooklyn Chayse Roberts; her great grandmother, Kathryn Beam; grandfather, Charlie Ward; grandmother, Pat Roberts; aunts, Kathy Ward, Sharon Ward Gonzalez, and Pam Roberts Simpson; uncles, Charlie Ward and Craig Thompson; and numerous cousins and countless friends.

Although she will be terribly missed, her life shined so brightly that her genuine love, substantial influence, and invincible spirit will continue to inspire any and all who knew her in this world. Once you met Amy, you were her friend forever, and you knew that you were a better person for having known her.

Visitation and viewing will be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 - from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Rhoton Funeral Home, 1511 South I-35 East, Carrollton, Texas 75006. A Life Celebration Service will be held on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. at Bent Tree Bible Church, 4141 International Pkwy., Carrollton, Texas 75007, with a reception to follow.



Don Hipps

Don Hipps, 72, of Midland, passed away January 17, 2015 in Odessa, Texas.

Don was born April 10, 1942 in Midland to Lou Spinks and Harrell Hipps. He has lived a good life but as a believer he knew the best is yet to come as he is now with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Funeral services will be held at Midland Bible Church, 5900 Whitman Drive at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 21, 2015, with Pastor Mark Rae officiating. There will be no graveside services. Arrangements are under the care of Martinez Funeral Home.

Don worked for his father, a house builder, from the time he could hold a hammer. His real love was working on cars and had a natural ability in this area. He was always available to help friends with their cars and as a result received lots of experience. With his quick smile and great sense of humor he made friends easily. Don loved people and often said he wished to be remembered as a good friend to others.

He met Olivia Inman in the summer of 1958 and in January 17, 1959 they eloped in Acuna, Mexico. After the parents found out, they decided that the "kids" should be married in the US, a month later in the home of Don's parents the couple exchanged wedding vows.

Don worked for his father as a pawn broker a while later went to work for El Paso Products. He was a mechanical draftsman for Ortloff Engineers and later a partner in the company, Process Modules. He worked for Southwestern Bell Co., leasing cars and performing vehicle maintenance on the company trucks.

He enjoyed snow skiing more than any other sport and went as often as time would allow. He had skied from California to Canada and most of the areas in between those.

He leaves behind his wife, Olivia; two children, Tammy K. Dopp of Lubbock, Texas, and D. Todd Hipps of Midlan, sister, Phyllis Zeteman of Florida; three grandchildren, Tifancy and Scott Painter of Lubbock, Caleb Dopp and fiancée Lauren Williams of Odessa, and Jarib Dopp and Veronica of Lubbock, Texas; great grandchildren, Tanner Michael of Topeka, Kansas, Tayler and Kaitlyn of Lubbock, Caden of Odessa, Zoey of Austin, Elijah of Lubbock, and various nephews and nieces and cousins.

The Hipps family wishes to extend our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Reddy, Dr. Dare, Dr. McLarey, and nurses, Carol, Michelle, and Sondra.

Memorials may be made to Parkinsons's Disease Foundation, 1359 Broadway Suite 1509 New York, NY 10018.

Lillie Mae O'Quinn

Lillie Mae O'Quinn, 91, of Midland, Texas, passed away peacefully on January 18, 2015.

Lillie Mae was born in Franklin, Texas on April 17, 1923. She graduated from Hull-Daisetta High School in Daisetta, Texas, a small town east of Houston. On December 4, 1942, she married Percy C. O'Quinn. They were married for over 72 years.

Lillie Mae was a loving homemaker and mother. She thoroughly enjoyed and was an avid reader of her Bible. She was an active, loyal member of First Baptist Church in Midland for over 50 years. Along with church activities, she spent many years as a volunteer with several of the nursing homes within the local area.

Lillie Mae was preceded in death by her parents and her brother.

She is survived by her spouse, Percy; their son and daughter; two grandchildren and three great grandchildren; a sister; and numerous nieces, nephews, and many friends

A memorial service will be held in the chapel at First Baptist Church in Midland on Wednesday, January 21 at 10:00 a.m. Bob Hopkins will be leading the services.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be given in Lillie Mae's name to: Community National Bank, Account titled, "Benefit Account for George and DiAnn Koehl" at any Community National Bank branch or if by mail: Community National Bank, "Benefit Account for George and DiAnn Koehl," 401 West Texas, Midland, Texas 79701.

The family wishes to especially thank the care givers of Manor Park, Younger Care Unit, and Hospice for their loving care and assistance.

Online condolences may be offered at *www.ellisfunerals.com*.

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-3535

Timothy (Tim) Erb

May 26, 1964 - January 15, 2015

On Thursday, January 15, 2015, with his entire family by his side, Tim passed away at the age of 50 years.

Tim will be dearly missed by his beloved wife, Kristine; his adored children, Molly, Jed, and Misty; his father, Doug; and mother, Marilyn; brothers, Brad (Louise), Jamie (Cheryl), and Derek (Erin); father-in-law, Terry; brother-in-law, Scott; sister-in-law, Julie; uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews, and nieces.

Tim forever will be remembered as a loving husband, caring father, cherished son, and best friend to his brothers.

Tim grew up in Oak Bluff, Manitoba on the family farm. He attended school in Oak Bluff and in Sanford. He received his welding ticket from Red River Community College, and from there he started his lifelong farming career, spending winters working in the Artic oil fields for 15 years.

In 1995, Tim and Kristine were married. They started their family and remained in Oak Bluff. Tim's passions were his family, and his love of farming and fishing. Tim's greatest characteristics were that he was extremely giving, loyal to a fault, and his wonderful sense of humor. Tim also liked to think of himself as the row crop specialist in the family.

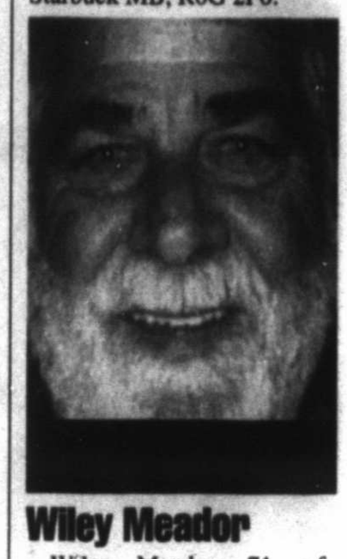
If you ever met Tim, you would never forget him. He would never say goodbye, he preferred to tell you to "take care." From everyone who loved him, 'Take Care, dear Tim."

The family would like to thank all the doctors, nurses and staff that cared for Tim at the Victoria Hospital.

"Remember me with smiles not tears, For all the joy through all the years. Recall the closeness that was ours, A love as beautiful as a field of sunflowers."

Funeral service will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Starbuck, Manitoba, Canada on Wednesday, January 21, 2015, 1:00 p.m., with burial at the Oak Bluff Cemetery to follow. The funeral reception will take place at the Oak Bluff Recreation Centre. Viewing will take place from 11:00 a.m. to service time.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Trinity Lutheran Church, 43 River Avenue, P.O. Box 118, Starbuck MB, R0G 2P0.



Wiley Meador

Wiley Meador, 71, of Midland passed away on Saturday, January 17, 2015 at his home surrounded by his family. The family will be accepting guests at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2015. Memorial services will be held on Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home Chapel.

Wiley was born on April 18, 1943 in Prescott, Arizona to Wiley and Frances Meador. He married Terri Theus in November of 1981 in Midland, Texas. He was the proud father of two sons, Trevor and Ty.

Wiley loved spending time with his family at Lake JB Thomas, riding motorcycles, and watching NASCAR. He was often lovingly referred to as "Wild Man" by those that knew him well. He was always the first person to the party and the last to leave. He lived life to the fullest and cherished every moment. Wiley never met a stranger. His witty, happy personality was contagious and so was his huge smile. He was a wonderful provider with a great work ethic and his memory will live on in all of the lives he touched.

Wiley "Wild Man" is survived by his loving wife, Terri Theus of Midland, Texas; son, Ty Meador and wife, Loree, of Midland, Texas; son, Trevor Meador and wife, Pam, of Phoenix, Arizona; four grandchildren, Alex, Mikel, Troy, and Chris; three sisters, June Nulliner, Linda Kronenbitter and husband, Don, and Pam Coker and husband, Thurston; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be donated to Hospice Midland, PO Box 2621, Midland, TX, 79702 or American Cancer Society, 2304 W. Wadley, Midland, TX, 79705.

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

Death Notices

Macario Aguilar

Macario Aguilar of Stanton, Texas, passed away on Wednesday, January 14, 2015.

Funeral service will be held on Friday, January 16, 2015 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stanton, Texas, at 10:00 a.m. Interment will be at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Stanton, immediately following the service.

Macario is survived by his daughter; Beatrice Rowell; and by one sister and one brother.

'Coronation Street' star Anne Kirkbride dies at 60

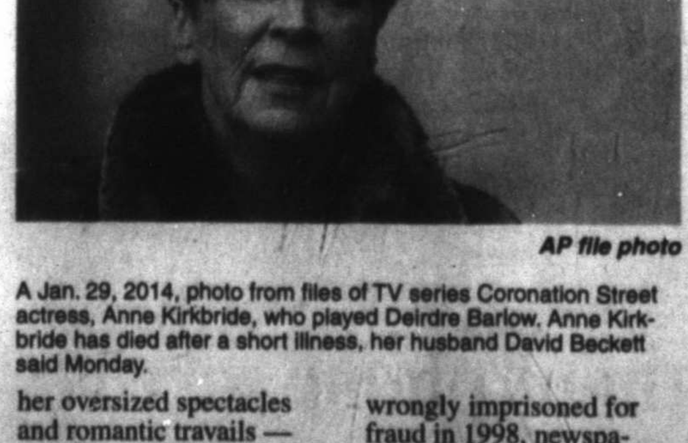
By Jill Lawless
Associated Press

LONDON — Actress Anne Kirkbride, a star of British soap opera "Coronation Street" for more than 40 years, has died at the age of 60.

Network ITV said Kirkbride, who played the long-suffering, much-married Deirdre Barlow, died Monday in a hospital in Manchester, northwest England, after a short illness.

Set in the fictional working-class community of Weatherfield, "Coronation Street" has been chronicling its characters' lives since 1960, with an enduringly popular mix of social realism, melodrama and humor. Kirkbride's character — renowned for her oversized spectacles and romantic travails — was at the heart of some of the soap's most dramatic story lines for decades.

The show is so popular that when Deirdre was wrongly imprisoned for fraud in 1998, newspapers campaigned for her release, and Prime Minister Tony Blair was among those who proclaimed her innocence.



AP file photo

A Jan. 29, 2014, photo from files of TV series Coronation Street actress, Anne Kirkbride, who played Deirdre Barlow. Anne Kirkbride has died after a short illness, her husband David Beckett said Monday.

"Coronation Street" executive producer Kieran Roberts said the program makers "know only too acutely how much Anne meant to the millions of people who watched her create the legendary character of Deirdre Barlow."

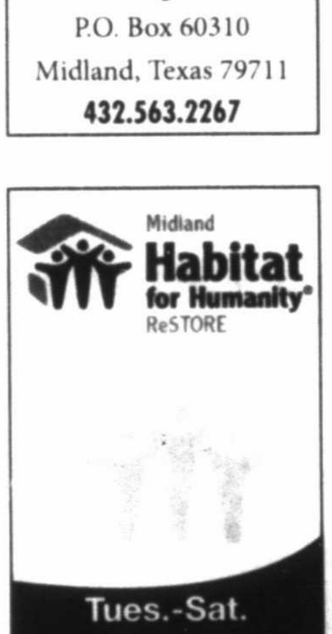
William Roache, who played her onscreen husband Ken Barlow — the characters married, divorced then remarried years later — said the show had lost "one of its iconic characters."

He said Kirkbride "was an impeccable performer with superb comedy timing and an immense gift for really heightened drama. We had some rows over the years as Ken and Deirdre and it was wonderful to play those scenes opposite her."

TUESDAY PRIME TIME — JANUARY 20, 2015

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	C	A	F	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Agent Carter "Time and Tide"		State of Union View coverage of the State of the Union Address. (L)			Black-ish	KMID News	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live	Eric Stonestreet	(:35) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	7 News	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Kill the Messenger"		State of the Union View coverage of the State of the Union Address.		Mike & Molly		CBS 7 News	(:35) David Letterman		(:35) Late Show (N)
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H "Back Pay"	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Hogan's Heroes	Cheers	Taxi	Taxi	Carol Burnett	Perry Mason		McMillan and Wife
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Masterchef Junior "Grandad Gordon" (N)		State of Union View coverage of the State of the Union Address. (L)		Modern Family		Hot in Cleveland	Hot in Cleveland	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother
KMLM IND	11	11	12	11	11	Joe McGee	HaYesod	Update News	Mission: M25	Light of the Southwest				Exploring With the Scholars		Ministerios Nueva Vida	
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News	West 9 at 6 p.m.	Parks and Rec (N)	Parks and Rec (N)	State of the Union Address View coverage of the State of the Union Address. (L)				News	We-st 9 at 10	(:35) Jimmy Fallon	(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Genealogy "St. Louis: Central Library" (N)		American Experience "Edison" Thomas Edison was nearly synonymous with invention.				Charlie Rose (N)		Tavis Smiley (N)	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	La Gata		Mi corazón es Tuyo		Hasta el fin del mundo		Que te perdone Dios... Yo no		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Discurso Sobre el Estado de la Union	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Fam.Feud	Million..	Law & Order: C.I.		Law & Order: C.I.		My News	Million..	Anger M.	M&M	Office	Access H.
FLIX	340	65		165		(3:25) Krippendorf...		★★★ Tin Men Richard Dreyfuss.						★★ What About Bob?		(:40) ★★ Perfume Paul Sorvino.	
HBO	300	68	14	14		(5:00) The Devil W...		Together	★ Runner Runner			Real Sports (N)		RoadTo	Looking	1stLook	Movie
HBO2	302	69	15	101	23	★★ Identity Thief Jason Bateman.				Looking	Bill Maher			★★★ The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey			
HBO5	304	70	16	102		(5:45) ★★★ Moulin Rouge! Nicole Kidman.				★★★ Wedding Crashers Owen Wilson.				★★ The Other Woman Cameron Diaz.			
MAX	380	71	17	120	24	(3:30) ★ The Godfat...		★★ The Wolverine Hugh Jackman.				(:10) ★ Snitch ('13, Act) Dwayne Johnson.				Femme	Movie
MAX2	382	72	18	122		Movie	★★ The Purge Ethan Hawke.			★★ Transcendence Johnny Depp.				Jump Off	SinCity	★ We're the Millers	
PLEX			96			(5:10) ★ Standing In...		★ Constellation				(:40) ★★ Mama Flora's Family		(:10) ★★ Mama Flora's Family		Movie	
SHOW	320	66	19	140	25	(4:25) Cocaine Cow.		Shameless		Inside the NFL		Lies	Episodes	Inside the NFL		★★ Next Day Air	
TMC	336	67	22	155	26	(5:30) ★ Derailed		★★★ Lord of War Nicolas Cage.				(:05) ★★ Snake Eyes Nicolas Cage.				★ Killing Them So...	
A&E	27	32	28	35	47	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars (N)	Wild Tr. (N)	Wild Tr. (N)	Wild Transport	Wild Transport	Storage Wars	Storage Wars
AMC	40	21	23	42	51	(5:00) ★ Lake Placid		★ Fantastic 4: Rise of the Silver Surfer				★★★ Ocean's Eleven ('01, Cri) George Clooney.					Movie
BET	58	26		40		Movie	★ Lottery Ticket ('10, Com) Ice Cube, Bow Wow.					Husbands	Husbands	Husbands	Husbands	Wendy Williams	
BRAVO	65	63		41		Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills (N)		Girlfriends' Guide (N)		Watch (N)	Beverly Hills		Guide
CNBC	46	45		39	72	Restaurant Startup		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Restaurant Start (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	43	24	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		CNN Special				A. Cooper 360		CNN Special	
DISC	50	20	31	24	42	Moonshiners		Moonshiners (N)		Moonshiners (N)		Big Giant Swords (N)		Moonshiners		Big Giant Swords	
DISNEY	56	27	36	25	36	Girl	Austin	★ Tinker Bell & the Lost Trea...		Girl		Jessie	Liv/Mad	Dog Blog	A.N.T.	GoodLuck	GoodLuck
ESPN	32	29	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball LSU vs Florida (L)				NCAA Basketball Iowa vs. Wisconsin (L)				SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	34	28	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball Kan St./Iowa (L)				ITF Tennis Australian Open Second Round Site: Melbourne Park -- Melbourne, Australia (L)							
FAMILY	53	54	34	42	33	Liar "Fresh Meat"		Pretty Little Liars (N)		Switched at Birth (N)				Liar "Over a Barrel"		The 700 Club	Liar "Over a Barrel"
FNC	45	58	53	23	55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The O'Reilly Factor	The Kelly File
FOOD	64	59	27	68	54	Chopped		Chopped		Chopped		Chopped (N)		Chopped		Chopped	
FSSW	37	43	50	45	29	Insider (N)	Stars Insider (N)	Stars Pre-game (L)	NHL Hockey Airlines Center -- Dallas, Texas (L)	Boston Bruins at Dallas Stars Site: American				Stars Live (L)	Rangers Insider	Champio. "Football 4A, 5A and 6A"	
FX	31	31	59	64	69	★★★ The Bourne Legacy ('12, Act) Rachel Weisz, Jeremy Renner.								Justif. "Fate's Right Hand" (SP) (N)		Justified	Justified
HALLMARK	54	49	58		34	The Waltons		The Waltons		Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	50	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper (N)		H.Hunt	House	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper	
HISTORY	71	62	29	50	43	Counting	CountCars	Counting	Counting	Counting	Counting	Counting	Counting	(:05) Count.	Counting	Counting	Counting
LIFETIME	28	25	25	28	48	Dance Moms		Dance Moms (N)		Dance Moms "JoJo with a Bow Bow" (N)		Child Genius "Focus, Focus, Focus" (N)		Dance Moms "JoJo with a Bow Bow"		Dance Moms	
MSNBC	47	51		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow	
NBCSN	38	39				NHLLive	NHL Hockey	Pittsburgh Penguins at Philadelphia Flyers (L)				Overtime	Rivals	NHLTop10	EPL Soccer		
NICK	55	34	39	34	37	WitchWay	Sam & Cat	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Fresh P.	Fresh P.	Friends	Friends	(:10) Ray	(:50) Ray
SPIKE	30	22	55	53	58	Bar Rescue		Framework		Frame "King of Pong"		Frame "Junk Genius"		Framework		Frame "King of Pong"	
SYFY	66	64	41	57	67	(5:25) ★★★★ Raiders of the Lost Ark				Face Off (N)		Troy: St. Magic (N)		Face Off		Troy: Street Magic	
TBS	25	11	44	66	41	Sein. "The Checks"	Seinfeld	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Ground Floor (N)	Cougar Town (N)	Conan (N)		Ground Floor	Conan
TCM	41	61	24	63	66	(:15) S. light "Joan Allen"		★★★ Out of Africa ('85, Rom) Robert Redford, Meryl Streep.						★★★ The Way We Were			
TELE	20	8	10	20		Caso cerrado		Los miserables		Tierra de reyes		Dueños del paraiso		Al rojo	(:35) Titular.	Tierra de reyes	
TLC	51	33	32	38	52	Big Fat Fabulous Li. "A Fat Girl Dancing"		Kate+ "New England Adventures" (N)		Kate Plus Eight "Rocking the Boat" (N)		Big Fat Fab. (N)	Big Fat Fab. (N)	Kate Plus Eight "Rocking the Boat"		Big Fat Fabulous	Big Fat Fabulous
TNT	24	23	40	26	50	Castle "Number One Fan"		★★★★ Red (2010, Action) Mary-Louise Parker, John Malkovich, Bruce Willis.				★★ Rush Hour 3 (2007, Action) Jackie Chan, Roman Polanski, Chris Tucker.				CSI: NY "Boo"	
TVLAND	49	48	35	54	35	Walker, Texas Ranger		Fam.Feud	Fam.Feud	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens	Friends	Friends
USA	26	30	42	27	49	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Deception"	
WGN	19	18				America's Funniest Home Videos		★★ Wild Wild West (1999, Action) Kevin Kline, Salma Hayek, Will Smith.				Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling



Network television news is a big medicine show

TUMBLEWEED SMITH
Big Spring storyteller

In the movie "Mary Poppins," Julie Andrews sings a song that states: "A spoonful of sugar makes the medicine go down in a most delightful way."

These days, it takes a lot of medicine to take the news.

I have a good friend, a lawyer, who says he watches the 5:30 p.m. news every day and ends up in tears because it has the entire spectrum of emotions.

He cries at the horrible things happening around the world, and then does the same thing when the feel good stuff comes on at the end of the newscast.

He might need some medicine to make him feel better. And that may apply to a bunch of other people, too. I think the 30-minute evening network newscast is a big medicine show.

Late last year, I carefully watched the 5:30 p.m. news for three days straight and counted commercials for medicines. I watched CBS on Wednesday, then watched NBC on Thursday and then watched ABC on Friday. I suspected the number of medicine commercials was greater than commercials for other things, but I was amazed to learn how many there were for various drugs designed to make people feel better.

CBS had 15 commercials during the 30-minute cast. There were two for Trivago, one for GMC and the rest were for Xarelto, Prevnar 13, Gaviscom, Nexium, Tamiflu and similar items.

NBC also had 15 commercials during its 30-minute news report. Very similar to CBS, it included three for investment services and two for insurance. The others were for Brisdelle, Jublia, Linzess, Cialis and other things for various ailments. The news report did have a lengthy report on a breast cancer symposium.

During ABC's evening news, there was just one of the 13 spots that was not medicinal. It was for Ameritrade. Again, we're talking about commercials for Brisdelle, Jublia, Tamiflu, Bayer Aspirin, Cialis, CVS Health, Chrones disease, Ensure, Chantix, Alka-Seltzer, Symbicort and Coricidin.

So when network news goes after sponsors, the obvious targets are firms dealing in medicines. That is quite different from local newscasts, which depend mainly on car dealers and furniture stores.

Advertising is the engine that runs the American economy. More than anything else (except maybe for our right to report the news), it represents what America is all about and it's a perfect example of how our free enterprise system works.

My wife and I have owned an advertising agency since 1981 and love the business. It's encouraging to see how effective advertising can be. Apparently network television news and medicine were meant for each other.

MOSC without phone service

From staff reports

The Midland-Odessa Symphony & Chorale office is still without telephone service. The office hasn't had phone service since the New Year's ice storm. MOSC is working to get the problem resolved.

To contact the symphony office, please email symphony@mosc.org.

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

Use the 15 tiles in this bunch to create words that fit into the grids below. The BANANA BITES provide hints. Reuse the tiles for each grid.

BANANA BITE: Cube

BANANA BITE: Color

Yesterday's Answer: GRAND, PLAID, MODEM, DAUNT

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Re-Leaf by Debbie Frost

To the casual observer, trees can look perfectly healthy on the outside, but inside there can be trouble can be brewing in the form of decay, weak branch unions, insect activity, root problems and poor architecture. The recent ice storm may have revealed these problems, but they would have shown up sooner or later.

Decay is a tree defect that can be very difficult to identify ahead of time. It can enter a tree from a improper pruning cut, tree topping, mechanical injury from mowers or string trimmers or similar wound. Fungi can invade the wound and spread. A healthy tree with strong defense mechanisms can stop the spread of the decay from advancing throughout the tree. This compartmentalization stops the spread of the decay, but there will leave a pocket of decay or defect in the wood.

The extent of decay damage to a tree depends on how large or devastating the injury was, the general health of the tree and the strength of the tree species. As the years go by, wood can eventually grow over the wound site helping us forget there was ever a problem. But, lurking behind the bark is a pocket of weak wood that could reveal itself during a storm.

Weak branch unions are evident, but unless you are trained in recognizing them and correcting them they are easily overlooked. Many tree species form narrow branch angles that are crowded and weak. Bark can be trapped in the angle between two narrow branches, creating pressure that eventually will lead to splitting. These problems can be avoided by selecting a tree species with wide angled branches or by pruning one of the branches out early in their formation. Ornamental pears are a classic example of a tree species that forms narrow branches.

Trees with lean, weakened root systems or wood or root rot were subject to falling in the storm. It is easy to understand why a leaning tree that developed a load of ice would fall over, but some root injuries are harder to identify and understand. Roots injured by underground pipes and utilities, girdling roots, grade changes, pavement, construction and other disturbances can weaken a root system and make it vulnerable to leaning or falling.

With some of the tree damage it appeared moisture came from a north-easterly direction. More ice accumulated on that side of trees, resulting in more limb breakage on that side.

With or without a major ice storm, some of the splits, tears, gaps and toppling of trees that we are seeing would have eventually shown up because a defect or problem already existed. The recent ice storm just made problems show up a little sooner.

Find re-leaf for your storm-damaged trees by attending the Keep Midland Beautiful, Midland Tree Keepers, Tree Care - 911 Seminar 6:30-8 p.m. Jan. 29 at the Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W Loop 250 N.

Debbie Frost is a local horticulturist specializing in regionally appropriate horticulture. Email her at garden.frost@gmail.com.

Neil Sperry

Neil Sperry's "Plant Talk Texas" and "Texas Lawn and Garden Hour" can be heard on radio stations across the state. Email him at mailbag@sperrygardens.com.

Staking trees for first 2 years ensures alignment

Dear Neil: I have an oak tree that will be 2 years old next month. It's doing really well, but it is still growing at a slight angle, even though I left the support attached for a year. Is there a way to correct this?

Answer: It's critical that we get trees precisely plumb when we plant them. Usually that involves three stout stakes placed equidistant around the trunk. One should be positioned due south of the trunk, because prevailing winds in Texas are from the south in the summer, while trees are fully leafed. Cables used to secure the trunk to the stakes should be taut at all times (with the trunk padded to prevent damage). This should be left in place for one to two years, until the tree is firmly rooted.

To your specific tree, there is no way to straighten it at this point other than to dig and reset it. Pulling, pushing or propping it will only work as long as it is secured. Once released, it will go back to the old angle. This winter, while it's dormant, would be the time to do this.

Dear Neil: What would cause black pits in the rinds of our lemon and grapefruit fruits? They are only on the outside, but they make the fruit very unappealing to eat.

Answer: It's difficult to be absolutely certain without seeing it, but it is probably a fungal spot if it's a pit. Scale insects will also get on citrus fruit, but they are only on the surface. You can flick them off with your nails. It might be worth sending a sample to the Plant Disease Diagnostic Lab at Texas A&M to see what disease specifically is causing it. You could also look through the huge Texas A&M Aggie Horticulture website to see what suggestions they might have. You might start with a fungal disease called "greasy spot rind blotch."

Dear Neil: We have St. Augustine that has not gone dormant this winter, and we're seeing yellowed and dry patches in it. I read that it could be grub worms, but I sprayed and it is getting worse. What could be causing it?

Answer: There are many insect and disease pests that bother St. Augustine. This time of year, white grub worms are one of the likely problems. Grass that has been attacked by them will be loose and lifeless on top of the soil because they will have devoured its roots. Pull on your grass, and if it comes loose easily, grubs are quite likely. If you dig in affected areas and find several grubs per square foot, they are probably the culprits. They're the larval form of June beetles, and they are white with brown heads. They have legs, and they are always C-shaped. They are 1/2 to 3/4 inches long, and by now they'll be several inches into the soil. There is no control that will be effective this late in their life cycle. They begin feeding in mid- to late summer. At that point, they have just hatched and are BB-sized. You'll find them in the very top portion of the soil. They will feed from late August through October, as they reach full size. Treatment time with Merit granules would be mid-July into early August. Follow the treatment with a deep watering. At this point, there is no chemical control. They have stopped feeding already as they begin to pupate into the adult beetles. You may have to replant the worst areas come spring.

Dear Neil: Which of the red oak species has the stronger, more dominant central leader? Shumard or Texas red oaks?

Answer: Those tree subspecies are actually very similar. Most nurserymen will tell you they are quite hard to tell apart. In general, however, Shumard red oaks tend to have single trunks and grow tall, while Texas red oaks are likely to stay shorter and in clumps.

Dear Neil: I have a mature yaupon holly tree with three trunks. I planted dwarf yaupons around it when it was small, but now they're too big, and they're hiding the lovely trunk of the big sister. If I cut them off just above the ground, can I drill into their stumps and fill the holes with 2,4-D, or would that be too close to the mother tree?

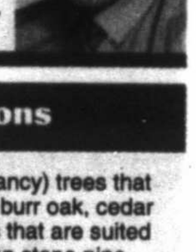
Answer: You really ought to be able to cut them off at the ground and not have to worry about them. They're not very likely to regrow. Any that do should be fairly easy to dig and remove. To answer your specific question, however, you should be able to "drill and fill" as you described if you'll do so carefully.

Dear Neil: When I trim my St. Augustine lawn, the trimmer picks the grass up. Why does it have such shallow roots? It gets between 4 and 5 hours of sunlight daily.

Answer: It may be white grub worm damage, as in the answer earlier, but that's also not a lot of sunlight, even for St. Augustine. It really does better with 6 or more hours. You're on the borderline. Pull on the grass to see if there are grubs present. If so, the prior answer will apply. If not, the grass may just be weakened by all the shade.

Tree diversification will protect urban forest

Jeff Floyd



Jeff Floyd is a horticulturist with Texas AgriLife Extension Service. Email him at jeff.floyd@ag.tamu.edu.

If someone told you Midland residents could all work together toward a storm-resistant urban forest, would that grab your attention? What is an urban forest? I'm glad you asked. An urban forest includes your trees and your neighbor's trees and all of the trees that are on the properties of local businesses and those that belong to the city, too.

I've got great news for you. We can have a community filled with trees that resist drought, disease and storms, require less maintenance than you think and add property value. I'm about to give you a list of a few trees that will give you just that, but first I want to offer a few examples of how the long-term success of your entire landscape hinges around the right selection of trees.

As regal and picturesque as the live oak is, it is a little overplanted and sometimes too large for the average sized front lawn in Midland. When mature, it casts a deep shade and creates stress for the light-starved plants beneath it. Having been fully leafed out during the recent ice storm, it captured large amounts of freezing precipitation, leading to high losses of this gorgeous species across the Permian Basin. In some cases, this was the only type of tree homeowners had on their property.

Likewise, the state tree of Texas, the water-loving pecan, is best suited in very large landscapes rather than the average lawn. The pecan should be planted away from sidewalks and automobiles where its seasonlong debris and pest problems create a need for extra maintenance. It is an excellent orchard tree in the Permian Basin if you can provide it with a minimum of one inch of high quality water each week during the growing season. However, the pecan has limited value as a shade tree in for an average West Texas lawn.

Even though willow, ash, mulberry and Siberian elm trees weren't leafed out, their weak-wooded nature left them vulnerable to serious failure on some sites. We've just about learned our lessons with the Siberian elm and mulberry. Having found their way to Midland in the 1940s and '50s, these fast-growing trees show decades of storm damage and poor maintenance practices. They may have a use in the landscape as temporary trees that offer a quick sense of landscape maturity. Meanwhile, the homeowner can patiently tolerate the development of slower-growing longer-lived species elsewhere on their property.

With just those few examples in mind, what can we do to create beautiful regionally appropriate landscapes with an urban forest that resists drought, disease and storm damage? Arborists call it species diversity. Problems associated with trees are often specific to each species. For example, oak wilt destroys many oaks but doesn't destroy lacebark elm trees. We know planting more than one species of regionally adapted trees in our landscapes will go a long way toward ensuring no single event or disease will have the capacity to damage our urban forest as seriously as the recent ice storm did.

Also, proper maintenance performed on these trees many years ago may have afforded them a little protection. Certified arborists have a reason for every cut they make in a tree. Preferably, they would help make the tree selection for the site and begin caring for it from day one. Proper branch structure created through a science-based maintenance schedule may have reduced some of the damage we observed.

Ask a Master Gardener about trees on the Llano Estacado and you'll get an earful. You can join in on the fun, too. An orientation for the Texas Master Gardener volunteer program will be held 9-11 a.m. Jan. 24 at the Midland County Extension office, 2445 East Highway 80. Bring a sack lunch because we will visit some of the gardens maintained by the Permian Basin Master Gardeners. Cost is $250 which covers the training materials and speaker fees. To receive an application packet and class schedule, contact the Midland County Extension office at 6864700 or email me at jeff.floyd@ag.tamu.edu.

Tree recommendations

Large deciduous (drop leaves during dormancy) trees that perform well in the Permian basin include the burr oak, cedar elm and Texas red oak. Large evergreen trees that are suited for our environment are the Afghan pine, Italian stone pine and eastern red cedar. Some excellent medium deciduous trees include Mexican white oak (semi-evergreen), Chinese pistache (number one choice), lacebark elm, soapberry, golden raintree and honey mesquite. A few medium evergreen trees that perform well here include the Mexican pinyon pine, Arizona cypress and Aleppo pine. Small deciduous trees include desert willow, vitex-agnus castus, Mexican buckeye and Mexican redbud. Small evergreen trees suited to our conditions include Texas mountain laurel and yaupon holly.

Debris cleanup

What are we to do with all of the debris created by the ice storm? Citizens and contractors can always drop off storm debris between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays at the Citizens Collection Station, 4100 Smith Road, or during regular business hours at the city of Midland landfill, 7901 Garden City Highway. All fees for disposing of tree limbs at the landfill will be waived to both citizens and contractors through Jan. 24. Don't throw debris in the alleyway or near dumpsters. The city will not pick up this debris and may fine anyone who does this.

Watch for the MRT Magazine

BUSINESS INSIDER

Edition coming March 22, 2015

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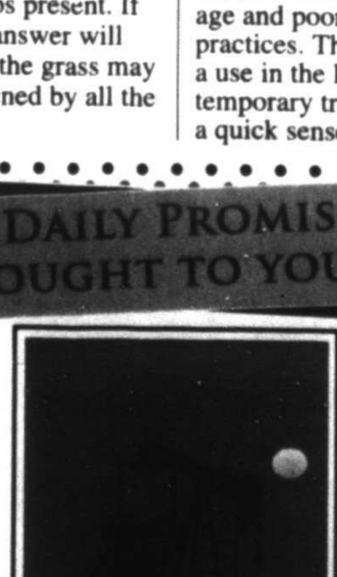


Psalm 7:10

My shield is God Most High, who saves the upright in heart.

TODAY: Mostly sunny High: 67 Low: 35

WEDNESDAY: Mostly cloudy High: 49 Low: 36

THURSDAY: Cloudy High: 36 Low: 32

FRIDAY: Sunny High: 51 Low: 31

SATURDAY: Sunny High: 58 Low: 34

SUNDAY: Sunny High: 60 Low: 35

Local forecast

Expect mostly sunny skies today with a high around 72 and west winds between 5 and 10 mph. Tonight's forecast calls for partly clear skies with a low around 35 and northeasst winds between 5-10 mph.

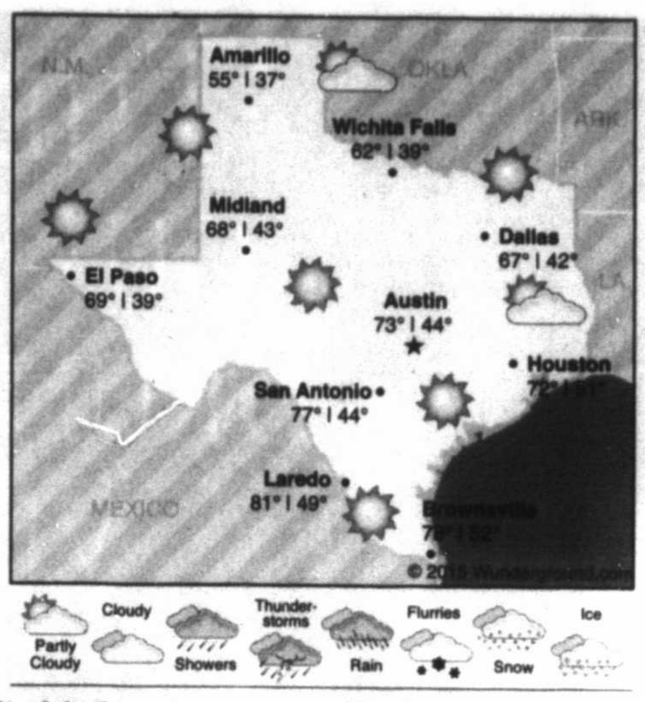
On Wednesday, look for mostly cloudy skies with a high near 49 and northeast winds between 5 and 15 mph. On Wednesday night look for cloudy skies with a low around 36 and northeast winds 15 mph. There is a 20 percent chance of showers during the day and a 60 percent chance of precipitation at night.

The high on Monday reached 75, while the low dropped to 36. The record high for Jan. 19 is 81 set in 2012. The record low is 11 set in 1985.

National forecast

With Sunday's winter storm continuing to move slowly through eastern Canada today, brisk winds will again chill New England. Aside from a snow shower in western Maine, dry weather will dominate. It will be cold despite a good deal of sunshine.

A pair of storm systems will track through the north-central states. One will push a band of snow through the lower Great Lakes.

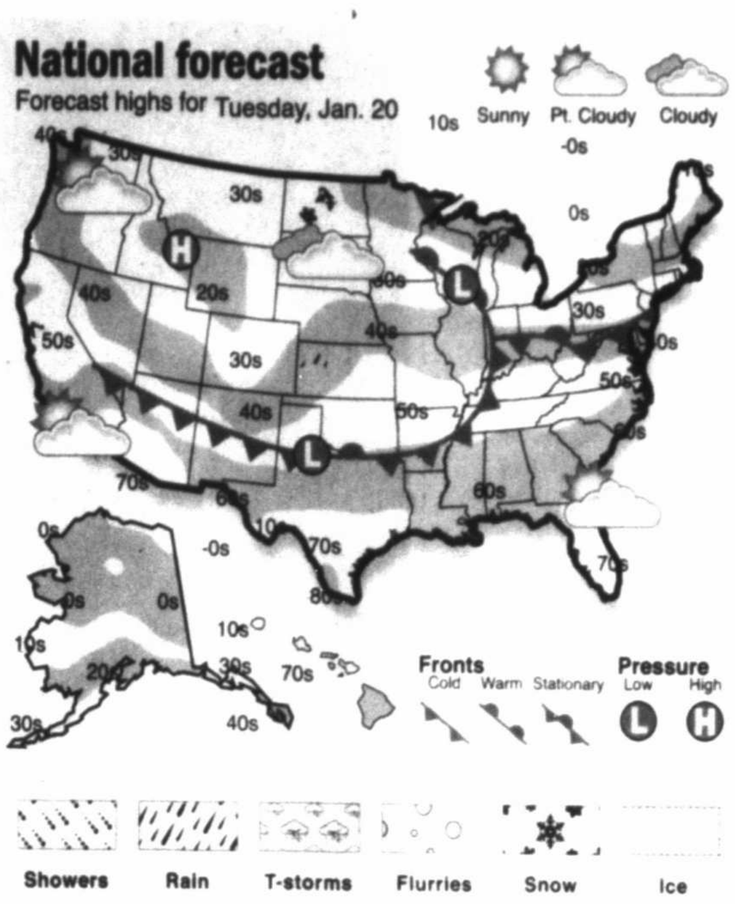


Precipitation

Sunday	0.00 in.
Monday	0.00 in.
Month total	1.53 in.
Year total	1.53 in.
Normal total (year to date)	0.24 in.

Monday's temperatures

High	75
Low	36
Normal high	58
Normal low	30
Sunrise	7:48 a.m.
Sunset	6:23 p.m.



Gay grandma is unhappy being shielded from son's kids

DEAR ABBY

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Her column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.

DEAR ABBY: I came out of the closet when my son was 4. I thought I had taught him not to judge because of a label. He's now 30, with a wife and two adorable children who own my heart.

When my granddaughter was born, my partner and I were at the hospital and have visited with them often and they with us. However, after my grandson was born last year, my son quit speaking to me.

I have asked him numerous times what the issue is. His response is: "I have to protect my children from people who are gay. I don't want them to know anyone who is gay." His wife and her family are very religious, and I feel this is the real reason. What can I do? — HEARTBROKEN GAY GRANNY

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: If your son is under the mistaken impression that he is going to somehow "protect" his children by isolating them from gay people, he must be living in an alternate reality. Does he also plan to emigrate to the moon?

I suspect you have put your finger squarely on the reason why your son is now ostracizing you. His wife appears to wield the power in that family, and could benefit by learning more about homosexuality AND her religion, which I assume preaches love and tolerance for one's fellow man rather than judgment and exclusion.

You can't force your son and his wife to have contact with you if they don't want to. Leave open the possibility that they may, over time, reconcile their love for you with their faith.

For your own emotional well-being, it's important you find other outlets for your maternal instincts and go on with your life because any child would be blessed to be a part of it. Sadly, a large number of LGBT young people are rejected by their parents when they come out. These kids would benefit greatly from having a positive adult mentor like you. This could be your golden opportunity to make a significant, positive difference in someone's life. Contact Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays at pflag.org to find out how to get involved.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend is a widower. We have been dating for more than a year. He has his house and I have mine.

I just found out that we are sleeping in the bed his late wife died in. (She died in her sleep.) I had assumed that he had taken care of all that stuff because her clothes and other personal effects are gone.

How do I suggest we get another bed at his place? I try to have him come to my home as often as I can. But there are still times we end up at his house, and it's creepy. — SLEEPING POORLY IN FLORIDA

DEAR SLEEPING POORLY: I agree. Tell him how you feel and suggest the two of you select a new mattress for his bed together. You have been a couple long enough that you should be able to speak frankly with him. And he has enough time invested in you that he should be willing.

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 Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2015:

This year you are unusually dynamic and creative. You are able to make your desires possible. Doing so adds to your confidence and sense of well-being. If you are single, you probably have noticed more admirers around you. Your dating life will be active. After August, you might decide to settle down. If you are attached, the next 12 months promise a new beginning for you and your relationship. Your bond functions best when you allow it to flow without judging every interaction. AQUARIUS seems to have an unusual need for independence.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Once you wake up, an idea you have been mulling over for a while will emerge! Test it out on several people. The time has come to make it a reality. The feedback you get might cause some adjustments, but they will point you down the right path. Tonight: Where your friends are.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ All eyes are likely to turn to you. A new beginning becomes possible, especially with a higher-up, parent or boss. You might not be ready to assume all the responsibility that you want or need to, but you will do it anyway. Tonight: Have a serious talk.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ You'll be encouraged to get an overview and detach from the here and now. You could gain a new perspective that will force you to rethink a decision. Someone you view as an authority figure might be overly serious. Tonight: Feed your mind with a good book or movie.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ Defer to someone for whom you have a great deal of respect. Do not be surprised if you suddenly begin to pick up on different vibes and need to rethink your relationship with this person. You could feel less than highly energized. Tonight: Be a duo.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ If you have felt as though you have been on unsteady ground with a key person in your life, you'll want to stabilize the situation at this point. You have a potential new beginning with a relationship. Tonight: All smiles.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ You might be overly concerned about a situation and unsure what would be the best way to calm it down. Try not to trigger someone. You have the possibility of a new beginning. Allow your creativity to flow, and find the appropriate path. Tonight: Play it low-key.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Your creativity flourishes, whether you're dealing with a loved one or seeking a solution for a problem that plagues your daily life. A wish or resolution made today is likely to stick. Decide to use the New Moon energy of the day properly. Tonight: Let the fun begin!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ You will want to understand what is going on with a loved one. Focus on the quality of your daily life. Loosen up and remain confident. A close neighbor or friend could need time with you to talk. You might not want to hear what he or she has to say. Tonight: Mosey on home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ A new beginning becomes possible with a key relationship or in your immediate surroundings. You could be out of sorts, as if someone is raining on your parade. Might you be misreading the other party? Give this person space. Tonight: Hang out with a pal.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Reach out to a loved one whom you care a lot about. Weigh the pros and cons of a money matter. You might need to pull back some with regard to your budget. Follow your sixth sense, should you get confused. Tonight: Make it your treat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ You might feel ready to make a move on an important situation. Remember to think before you leap! You will follow a path close to what you initially visualized. You could be confused by a friend who might be less than optimistic. Tonight: Where the fun is.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ You'll have information that you must keep hush-hush. You could be overly concerned about what you need to do. Trust that you will make a good choice if you follow your intuition. Understand what an older friend or relative expects from you. Tonight: A must appearance.

BORN TODAY

Comedian George Burns (1896), actor Tom Baker (1934), astronaut Buzz Aldrin (1930)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Trickery

Both vulnerable, South deals

NORTH
♠ J 8 6 2
♥ A K 10 9
♦ 9 2
♣ 10 9 3

WEST
♠ A 5
♥ 8 7 3
♦ K 10 8 4 3
♣ Q 5 2

EAST
♠ K Q 10 7 4
♥ 5 4 2
♦ J 7 5
♣ 8 6

SOUTH
♠ 9 3
♥ Q J 6
♦ A Q 6
♣ A K J 7 4

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All pass

Opening lead: Four of ♥

South was grateful for the friendly diamond lead, and he captured East's jack with the queen at trick one. Declarer crossed to dummy with a low heart to the 10 and led the 10 of clubs for a finesse. West won the queen and realized there was no hope except for the spade suit, so he banged down the ace and another spade. The defense took five spade tricks to defeat the contract by two tricks.

South might have tried a heart to the ace, rather than a heart to the 10, but West was likely to find the spade switch anyway. There was something else declarer could have tried that might have led to a better result. Can you spot it?

South might have won the opening diamond lead with the ace, rather than the jack. He had plenty of tricks, even if the club finesse lost. Look at the effect this would have on West when he won his queen of clubs. He would almost certainly be convinced that his partner held the queen of diamonds, not South. How could he possibly find the spade shift? West would continue with a low diamond, and he would follow shortly by canceling his dinner arrangements with South.

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 PBS science series since 1974
5 Barton of the Red Cross
10 Secret language
14 Fictional rabbit's title
15 Persian Gulf tanker
16 __ about: roughly
17 Soccer scoring opportunity
19 Lang of Smallville
20 Hairpiece
21 How French dip sandwiches are served
22 Neruda's "__ to Wine"
24 Vice presidential hopeful
27 Cultural no-nos
29 Goings-on
30 Hamilton opponent
31 NFL Hall of Famer Lynn
33 Returning to action, and, on a gridiron, what each first word of 17-, 24-, 47- and 55-Across is
39 "Am not!" reply
40 Whacked arcade critter
42 Greek markets
45 Between-meals meals
47 Musical symbol
50 Disney frame
51 Vaulted church areas
52 Singer Newton-John
54 Table salt, to a chemist
55 Hold that's illegal in amateur wrestling
59 "Buenos __"
60 Characteristic
61 Frustrating toy for Charlie Brown
62 "Rule, Britannia" composer Thomas
63 Breaks bread
64 Shoveled precipitation

DOWN

1 "Football Night in America" network
2 Guatemala gold
3 Spinal bone
4 River of Pisa
5 Habeas
6 Compare
7 From another planet
8 Camcorder button
9 "Raiders of the Lost __"
10 Op-Ed piece
11 Deep into the pub crawl, say
12 Dunkin
13 Take off the board
18 Currency since 1999
21 Winery process that can take years
22 Wagering letters
23 Apply haphazardly
25 Potato state
26 __ of the above
28 Tolkien monster
31 Look of disdain
32 Scale amts.
34 Wii game rides for Mario and Luigi
35 "Dies __" hymn
36 Physicians' org.
37 Soft shoe
38 Sommer of films
41 Immigrant's class: Abbr.
42 Live-in nanny
43 Stranded motorist's aid
44 Threat-ending words
45 Tours of duty
46 Campbell of "Scream"
47 Info-gathering exchange
48 Ryan with a record seven no-hitters
49 Hardy of Laurel & Hardy
53 Classes
55 Teleflora rival
56 Sch. in the smallest state
57 Oklahoma tribe
58 Cutting-edge

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

O	K	R	A		J	U	G	S		B	A	U	E	R
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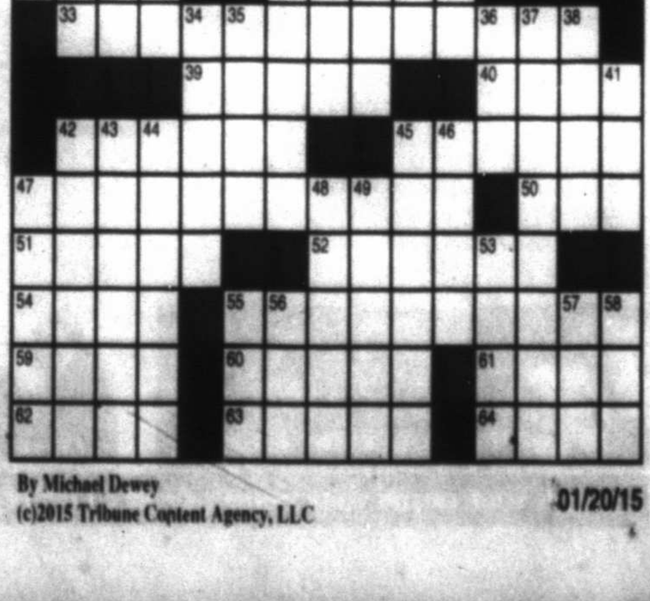
xworditor@aol.com 01/20/15



By Michael Dewey
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01/20/15

NOTEWORTHY
Music in the news

ATLANTA

TLC looks to fund final album through Kickstarter campaign

Grammy-winning R&B group TLC is depending on fans to fund the release of their final album through a Kickstarter campaign.

The group, which currently consists of T-Boz and Chilli, launched the campaign Monday. It's been nearly 13 years since their last album, "3D," which was released seven months after the death of Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes in 2002.

"We've always been known to do things differently," said T-Boz, who was born Tionne Watkins. "We've always been trailblazers and trendsetters. We've always been outspoken, and this seems like the perfect opportunity."

TLC released back-to-back hits, including "Creep," "Waterfalls" and "No Scrubs." Their Grammy-winning sophomore album, "CrazySexyCool," sold more than 10 million units. The group once filed for bankruptcy in 1996, despite having two multiplatinum albums.

T-Boz and Rozanda "Chilli" Thomas have already begun the writing phase and production of their fifth album, expecting to release it in May when their tour starts. The group is hoping to collect at least $150,000 through the campaign to fund the recording process from paying for studio time, production, compensating the musicians and promoting the album.

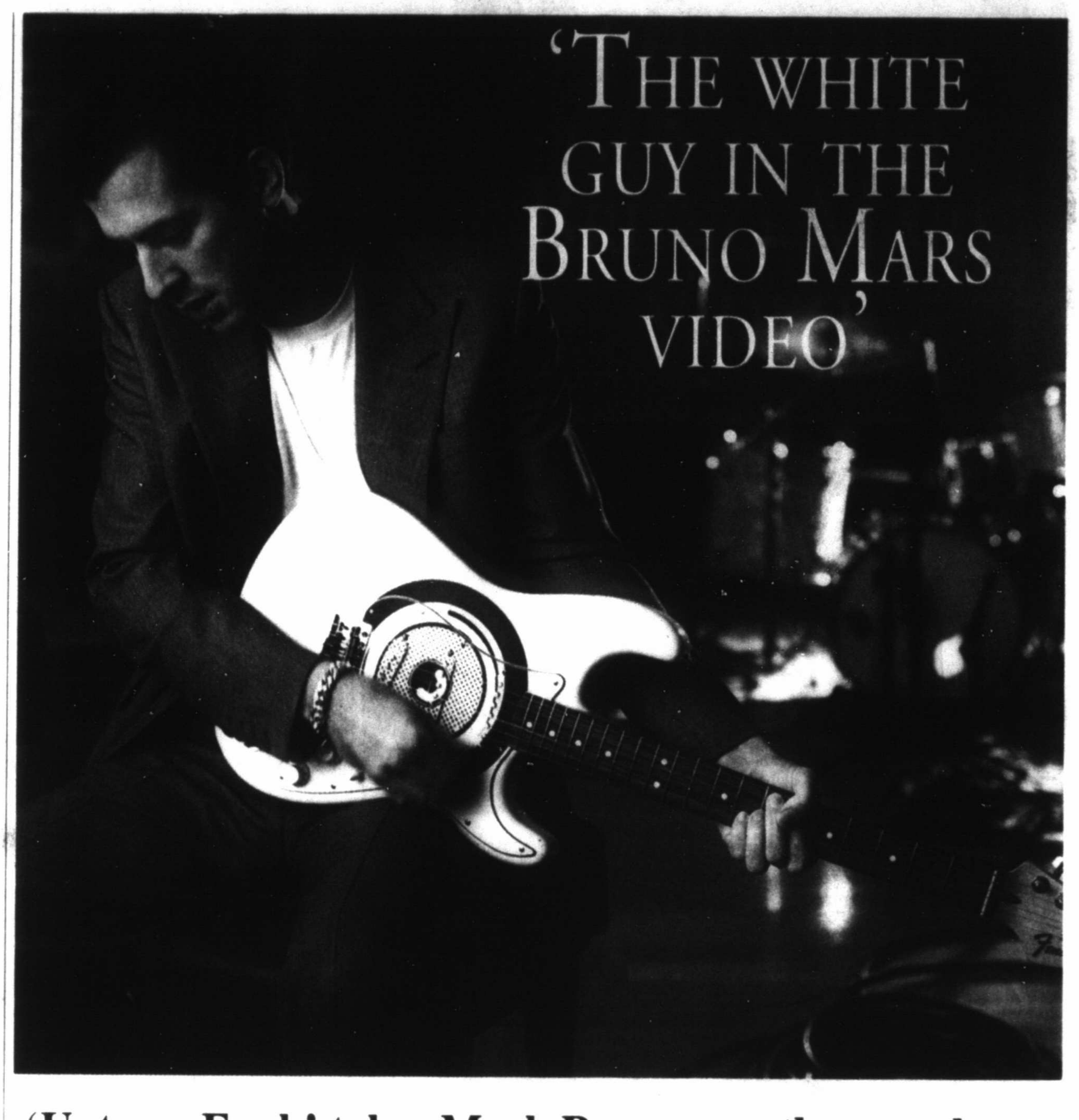
"People may say, 'Hey, you are celebrities. Why can't you just pay for it yourself?'" Chilli said. "But it doesn't work that way. There's a lot that goes into it. We want to bring our fans into the process and see how it's done."

TLC's campaign efforts follow Neil Young, who used Kickstarter to raise $6.2 million through 18,000 supporters last year to fund his digital music project PonoMusic.

With donations starting at $5, supporters will receive an exclusive digital track and communicate with them during their recording process. Higher pledges will include VIP concert tickets, a recorded custom voicemail by T-Boz and Chilli, an in-person fitness class taught by Chilli and wardrobe pieces worn by TLC during their music videos.

Chilli said using Kickstarter would allow them to have more control over the direction of the album.

"We could knock out two birds with one stone," Chilli said. "We can have them involved in our album."



'Uptown Funk' takes Mark Ronson up the pop charts

By Ryan Pearson
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Mark Ronson has multiple Grammy Awards and the current No. 1 song in the U.S. and U.K. Still, he had to agree when a photographer recently called him "the white guy in the Bruno Mars video."

Ronson, soft-spoken and analytical, is happy to stand just outside the spotlight as he promotes "Uptown Special," his fourth album. He recorded over the last year with producer Jeff Bhasker (Kanye West, fun.) and enlisted author Michael Chabon, who won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2001 for the novel "The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay," to write lyrics.

The 39-year-old British producer partnered with Mars on the hit "Uptown Funk," a throwback tune influenced by early 1980s funk groups like The Time. It's become the biggest hit for Ronson, best known for producing Amy Winehouse's "Back to Black."

Ronson spoke with The Associated Press at Bhasker's poolside music studio in Venice about collaborating with Chabon and Mars, whom Ronson worked with on the crooner's hits "Locked out of Heaven" and "Gorilla."

AP: You've had success as a writer and producer, but "Uptown Funk" is a huge hit that's your song. How significant is that to you?

Ronson: I know, of course, it has so much to do with Bruno. It's like even if the record was garbage, it's Bruno Mars, you're guaranteed a certain level of attention, right? ... I'm as proud of ('Uptown Funk'). ... It's awesome, but at the same time it almost feels like it's happening to somebody else.

AP: Are you taking tips from Mars on how to handle the attention? He seems to thrive on energy of fans, but I don't get the sense that you do.

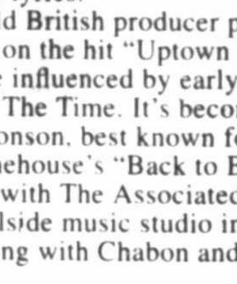
Ronson: When you're going on tour and you get to play these songs that you wrote and get the thing from the crowd, that is fun. But when you're standing next to somebody like Bruno Mars — probably, maybe the greatest male live performer-entertainer of his generation — there's no need to try and claw some of the spotlight for yourself. ... There was some MTV thing that (called us) 'Pop's new power couple.' ... I just wrote him an email. I was like, 'Is it weird that I get a nice feeling when someone calls us a power couple? As if we're Barry Diller and Diane von Furstenberg or something. Do we need a name — like Brark Manson?'

AP: Once Michael Chabon gave you lyrics, you had to say no to some of them. What's that feel like?

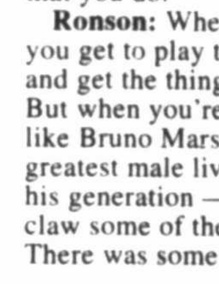
Ronson: So I would have a piece of music and Michael would have these amazing lyrics, much cooler and more interesting than anything I've ever worked on, which is why I asked him to be a part of it. But maybe sometimes I'd realize it was more interesting than I was even with my pop sensibility attuned to. Some of the lyrics, they were Leonard Cohen-like — these stories of these kind of dark people that were awesome but maybe for the music that I'd written it didn't seem to fit. ... Jeff (Bhasker), in his endearing but superblunt way, has these really adamant rules about songwriting. He's had all these hits. 'These words, no you can't say that cause that word doesn't sing well and you have to have more repetition here, nobody's going to want to hear that.'

Today's releases

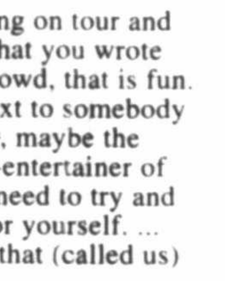
Jackson Browne and David Lindley 'Live at the Main Point 19th August 1973'



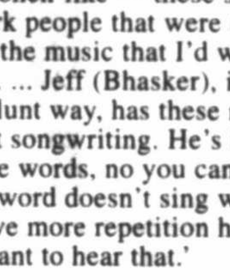
Ryan Bingham 'Fear and Saturday Night'



Lady Gaga and Tony Bennett 'Cheek to Cheek Live!'



Fall Out Boy 'American Beauty/ American Psycho'



The Decemberists 'What a Terrible World, What a Beautiful World'

LIVEWIRE

MIDLAND/ODESSA/ BIG SPRING/ANDREWS

JANUARY

20 **Urban Pioneers, The Rock Botton String Band, Armadillo Creek** @ Blue Max
20 **Johnny and Susie Band** @ Permian Basin Dance Club
20 **Matthew Smith** @ Grace Covenant Church
22 **Ernesto Caldeon** @ The Wine Rack
22 **JB and the Moonshine Band** @ Rockin Rodeo
22 **Stevie Tombsrone** @ Blue Max
22 **Goodtimers** @ West Texas Dance Club
23 **Loco Motive** @ The Detour
23 **Siggno** @ Club la Playa
23 **Mark McKinney** @ Lone Star Bar
23 **Tommy, Jean, Jerry & Co.** @ Midland Senior Center
23 **Gary Gorence** @ Polo Park Estates
23 **Meredith Andrews, Shaun Groves** @ Stonegate Fellowship
23-24 **Mister Happy** @ The Bar
23-24 **Santa Fe Band Featuring Welvis** @ Your Place
24 **MOSC Masterworks III: There's a Good Chance You'll Love Strauss** @ Wagner Noel
24 **Aaron Einhouse** @ Lone Star Bar
24 **Texas Buck'n Heat Band** @ Rhemadeez
24 **Hammer Down** @ Redneck's
24 **Ty Miller, All Stars, Mike Leonard** @ Music City Mall
24 **Roger Creager, Mario Flores** @ Graham Central Station
24 **Gerardo Ortiz el rey del corrido** @ Far West Event Center
24 **Lil.T.Ton, T.Ton** @ Shack in nthye Back
25 **Goodtimers, Gregory Blair, Martha Elliot** @ Music City Mall
25 **Kari Jobe** @ First Baptist Church (Odessa)
26 **Oak Ridge Boys** @ Wagner Noel
27 **Another Lost Year, Brother Grey, Drugs Delaney** @ Blue Max
27 **Goodtimers** @ Permian Basin Dance Club
29 **Chance Anderson** @ Lone Star Bar
29 **Mobile Deathcamp, Final Drive, Adipocere** @ Blue Max
29 **Tommy, Jean, Jerry and & Co.** @ West Texas Dance Club
28 **Kyle Park** @ Rockin Rodeo
30 **Sunny Sweeney, Judson Cole Band** @ Graham Central Station
30 **Back Row Sinners** @ Your Place
30 **Forgotten Road** @ The Detour
30 **The Band McGraw** @ Redneck's
30-31 **Freeride** @ The Bar
30 -31 **Gary Nix & West!Texas** @ Riley's
31 **Tyler Farr** @ La Hacienda
31 **Jay Strahan, Midnight River Choir** @ Lone Star Bar
31 **Samuel Zachary, Mike Leonard, Martha Elliot** @ Music City Mall
31 **Jack Nelson Band** @ Redneck's
31 **Justin Langston** @ Cigar Frog's

FEBRUARY

5 **Era 9, 7 Stone Riot** @ Blue Max
5 **Cory Morrow** @ Rockin Rodeo
6 **Brian Roman** @ Wagner Noel
6 **Stoney LaRue** @ Graham Central Station
6 **Forgotten Road** @ Redneck's
6 **Jamie Berryhill and the Hard Times** @ 10 Sports Bar
6-7 **MoneyShot Band** @ The Bar
7 **Reverse Order** @ Pine Box
7 **Ernesto Calderon** @ The Wine Rack
7 **Gary Nix & West Texas** @ Barn Door
7 **Sensletch, Speed Limit** @ Cigar Frogs
7 **Hogg Maulies** @ Redneck's
7 **No Dry County** @ Lone Star Bar
7 **nathan kalish and the Lastcallers** @ Blue Max
7-8 **Texas Buck'n Heat Band** @ Rhemadeez
12 **Tracy Lawrence** @ Graham Central Station
12 **Micky and the Motorcars** @ Rockin Rodeo
13 **Chubby Checker & The Wildcats** @ Wagner Noel
13 **Texas Buck'n Heat Band** @ Rhemadeez
13-14 **Cory Dutton** @ The Bar
19 **William Clark Green** @ Rockin Rodeo

LUBBOCK

FEBRUARY

5 **Adam Crabb** @ City Bank Colisium
6 **Enrique Iglesias, Pitbull, J Balvin** @ United Supermarkets Arena
11 **Excision, Protohype, Minnesota** @ Fair Park Coliseum
12 **10 Years, Otherwise. The Glorious Sons, Luminoth** @ Jake's Sports Cafe & Backroom

NEW MEXICO

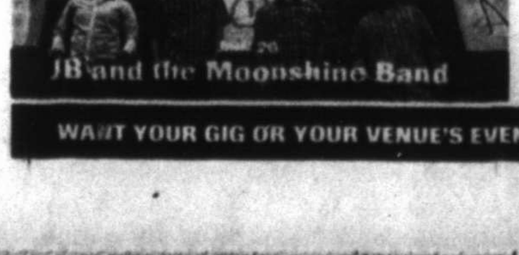
JANUARY

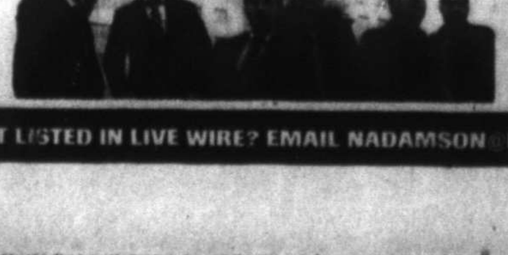
24 **Tesla** @ Inn of the Mounain Gods

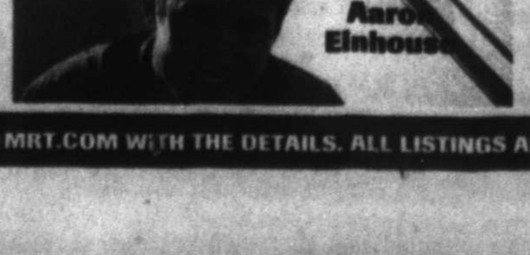
DALLAS-FORT WORTH AREA

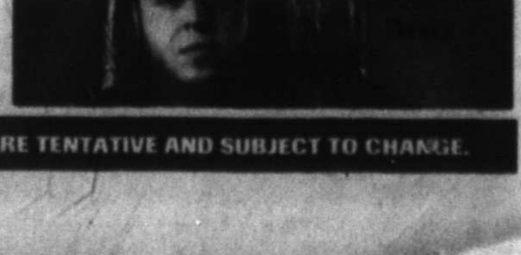
JANUARY

22 **Bahamas, Field Report** @ The Kessler Theater
22 **Billy Joel, Jamie Cullum** @ American Airlines Center
22 **Led Zeppelin 2** @ House Of Blues
23 **This Will Destroy You, Pure X, True Widow** @ Granada Theater
24 **John Doe** @ Three Links Event Center





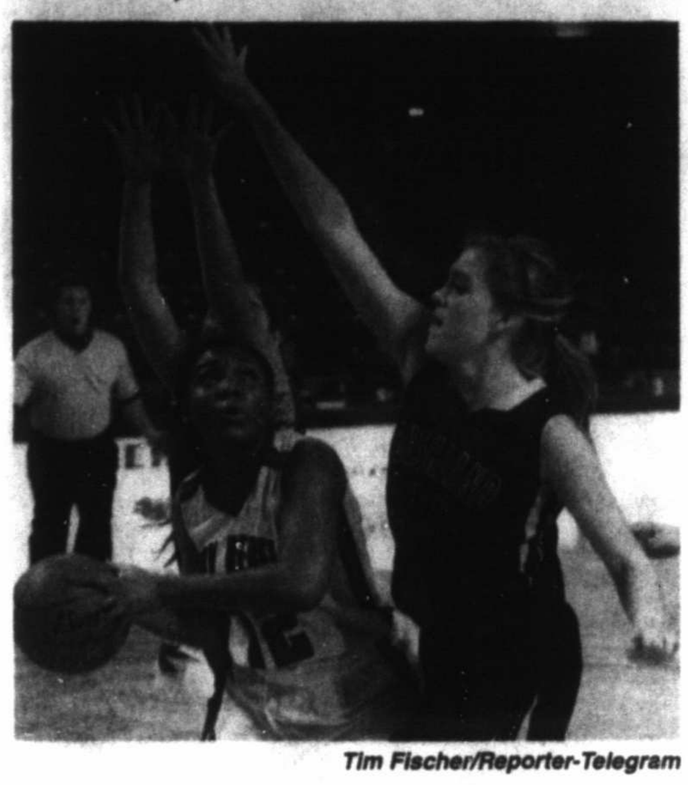




WANT YOUR GIG OR YOUR VENUE'S EVENT LISTED IN LIVE WIRE? EMAIL NADAMSON@MRT.COM WITH THE DETAILS. ALL LISTINGS ARE TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

HS GIRLS BASKETBALL REPORT

Lee, Midland High ready for another 3-6A battle



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Kyra Lewis looks to put up a shot as Bushland's Bree Romo and Kori Wilhelm defend Dec. 29 at the Byron Johnston Holiday Classic at Chaparral Center.

Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

The much-awaited showdown between what are very likely the top two teams in District 3-6A, is here. Both MHS and Lee come into this bout with 3-0 records in 3-6A play and neither squad has yet to even flinch against a district opponent thus far.

Elliott

Tip off for the game is set for 6 p.m. today at Chaparral Center.

MHS head coach Wes Torres is expecting the game to live up to its hype.

"I'm expecting a great matchup between two great basketball teams," Torres said. "They (Lee) are well coached and Monica (Lee head coach Ramirez) does a great job. There's no doubt in my mind that our girls will be ready and so will theirs."

MHS (21-4, 3-0 in 3-6A) comes into the game against Lee having outscored its opposition by 96 points over its first three district contests. The Lady Bulldogs' depth scoring and interior rebounding has been overwhelming at times. It has allowed MHS to dominate second halves by wearing down opponents, even if the game was close in the first half.

The game

MIDLAND HIGH VS. LEE

When: 6 p.m. today
Location: Chaparral Center

MHS senior forward Aubrie Elliott appears to be at the top of her game and lately has gotten a lot of help in the scoring department from her teammates.

Lee (11-9, 3-0 in 3-6A) has arguably looked even more impressive, albeit against slightly weaker competition over its first three district games. The Lady Rebels' high-octane transition offense, paired with its lockdown defense, has limited two different opponents — Odessa High and San Angelo Central — to 17 and 16 points, respectively. Like MHS, this a group that really hustles and forces the issue at both ends of the court.

Lee head coach Monica Ramirez says despite the high profile matchup, she isn't leaning on the rivalry exclusively to keep her girls motivated. Rather, she expects that from them regardless of the opponent.

"I've tried to take the spotlight off of MHS," Ramirez said. "I've tried to emphasize competition in every game. But I've let them (the Lee players) know it's the biggest game of the district. It'll come down to who plays best."

The Lady Rebels are led by the always dangerous backcourt duo of seniors Daija Stanford and Bri'An Washington. It can be very difficult to contain both of them, as they can use their speed and athleticism to impact the game in other ways

Please see **REPORT**/2C

MC pulls off sweep

Chaps get big victory

Chaparrals 72
No. 10 Wranglers 64

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

As the Odessa College men's basketball team was focusing much of its attention on Midland College's big man Torren Jones on Monday, Dontay Caruthers was quietly making plays for the Chaparrals.

The 6-foot-2 freshman point guard for MC not only ran the Chaparrals' offense well but made key shots down the stretch to help the Chaps to a 72-64 victory over No. 10 Odessa College at Chaparral Center.

The win by Midland College (13-8, 3-4 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference) snaps a four-game losing streak to the Wranglers (16-4, 4-3), who have now dropped three straight in conference play.

This was a classic WJ-CAC game as it seemed like both teams needed to wear shoulder pads along with their sneakers as it got a little chippy at times.

But regardless of how much talking there was going on, the Chaps had the last word as they pulled away down the stretch with Caruthers scoring six of last 11 points for the Chaps.

"We've been going through a lot of adversity as a team, but I felt against Odessa we just needed to find a way to calm down

Please see **CHAPS**/2C

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Dontay Caruthers, left, drives to the basket as Odessa College's Donte Reynolds, right, tries to defend Monday at Chaparral Center.

Wright pushes MC to upset of No. 6 Odessa College

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Walnatia Wright (24) gets a block as Odessa College's Anushka Maldonado tries to put up a shot Monday, at Chaparral Center.

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Lady Chaparrals 69
No. 6 Lady Wranglers 57

There were times in the game against No. 6 Odessa College on Monday night that Midland College freshman post Walnatia Wright could have taken a few plays off considering how tired she was.

But Wright wasn't going to let that happen. And she wasn't going to allow her Lady Chaparrals to lose a key Western Junior College Athletic Conference game at Chaparral Center.

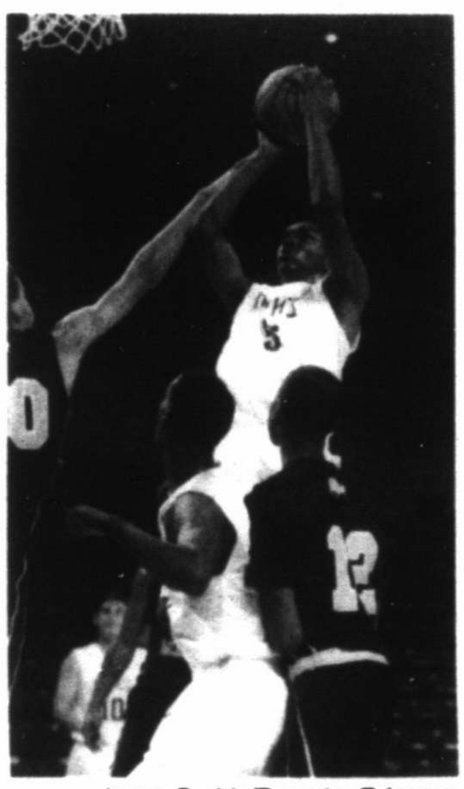
Wright helped the Lady Chaps overcome an ugly start and post a come-from-behind 69-57 victory by having her best game in an MC uniform with a game-high 21 points to go with 12 rebounds.

"I tried to improve from the last game, because lately I've been having bad second halves," said, the 6-foot-2 freshman from Augusta, Georgia. "I just tried to keep that energy up and just think about us winning because that was a win that we needed."

While Mary Savoy had a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds in the winning effort, Tajanay Veiga - the other Lady Chap captain - only had six points, six rebounds and four assists. With MC's top two players not having monster games, the Lady Chaps needed Wright's production and tenacity on the court to help beat the Lady Wranglers.

"Walnatia was really physical, really active, and at times she was really tired," MC coach Ron Jones said. "She fought through that and that's one of her best games since she's been here. I hope that's a sign of things to

Please see **LADY CHAPS**/2C



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Gary Ringo goes up for a shot against Triple A Academy during the Tall City Oilman's Invitational on Dec. 12 at Chaparral Center.

Despite records, Lee, MHS still a big game

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

The Midland High and Lee boys' game today doesn't carry quite the same wave of excitement that comes with the girls' rivalry game.

The disparity between MHS' and Lee's boys' overall record is eye popping, but make no mistake — this is very much an important game.

Packer

After all, it's district play and in a boys' field where two or three teams have a chance to win District 3-6A, an early hiccup could potentially derail a team's district title hopes.

Tip off is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. today at Chaparral Center.

"MHS and Lee, it's always a fun game to play in," Tatum said. "You throw records out the window. These guys have known each other for years and have been playing with an against each other for years. We've had our ups and downs all season and are focusing on one quarter at a time."

MHS (10-8, 1-0 in District 3-6A) comes into this game on the momentum of winning its district opener, 78-64, over Abilene High on Friday. The Dawgs used a first quarter explosion to take a 31-7 lead by the end of the period. AHS chipped away, but MHS held it off the rest of the way.

Meanwhile, Lee's struggles this season have been semingly unending and well documented.

The Rebels (1-18, 0-1 in District 3-6A) have talented players, but they have generally been outmatched and have difficulty putting solid stretches of play together consistently.

An area Lee could really struggle with in this contest is the length of MHS' big men, notably Nate Rogers,

Please see **GAME**/3C

The game

MIDLAND HIGH VS. LEE

When: 7:30 p.m. today
Location: Chaparral Center

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

TODAY

WHAT'S ON TV

BOXING

Eric Hunter vs. Rene Alvarado, 7 p.m., FS1/FOXDEP

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Senior Bowl Practice Day 1, North Squad, 2:30 p.m., NFL

GOLF

European PGA: Commercialbank Qatar Masters, First Round, 12:30 a.m., GOLF

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Michigan at Rutgers, 5:30 p.m., BTN

LSU at Florida, 6 p.m., ESPN

Kansas State at Iowa State, 6 p.m., ESPN2

Boston College at Syracuse, 6 p.m., ESPNU

Ole Miss at Georgia, 6 p.m., SEC

Dayton at Davidson, 6:30 p.m., CBSSN

Minnesota at Nebraska, 7:30 p.m., BTN

Iowa at Wisconsin, 8 p.m., ESPN

Tennessee at South Carolina, 8 p.m., ESPNU

Vanderbilt at Kentucky, 8 p.m., SEC

San Diego State at Air Force, 8:30 p.m., CBSSN

MEN'S SOCCER

CAF Orange Africa Cup of Nations: Cote d'Ivorie vs. Guinea, 9:55 a.m., beIN/beIN2

English League Cup Semifinal: Liverpool vs. Chelsea, 1:45 p.m., beIN/beIN2

UEFA U-20: Paraguay vs. Ecuador, 3:45 p.m., beIN2

UEFA U-20: Bolivia vs. Peru, 5:45 p.m., beIN2

Copa MX: Puebla vs. Atlante, 6:55 p.m., ESPNDEP

Copa MX: Jaguares de Chiapas vs. CF Alebrijes de Oaxaca, 6:55 p.m., UniDep

Copa MX: Club Santis Laguna vs. Mineros de Zacatecas, 8:55 p.m., ESPNDEP

Copa MX: Monterrey vs. Correcaminos UAT, 8:55 p.m., UniDep

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

King of the Cage: Diversion, Part 1, 7 p.m., MAVTV

NBA

Oklahoma City at Miami, 6:30 p.m., NBAtv

San Antonio at Denver, 7 p.m., FSSWP/FSSWSA

NHL

Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m., NBCSN

Boston at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., FSSW

TENNIS

Australian Open, Second Round, 6 p.m., TENNIS

Australian Open, Second Round, 8 p.m., ESPN2

WHAT'S ON DECK

TODAY

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

Midland High vs. Lee, 7:30 p.m.
Pecos at Greenwood, 7:30 p.m.
Trinity at Midland Classical, 7:30 p.m.
Midland Christian at Lubbock Trinity, 7:30 p.m.
Water Valley at Garden City, 7:45 p.m.
Coahoma at Colorado City, 8 p.m.
Loop at Grady, 8 p.m.
Big Spring at Snyder, 8 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Midland High vs. Lee, 6 p.m.
Pecos at Greenwood, 6 p.m.
Trinity at Midland Classical, 6 p.m.
Andrews at Seminole, 6 p.m.
Midland Christian at Lubbock Trinity, 6 p.m.
Water Valley at Garden City, 6:15 p.m.
Big Spring at Snyder, 6:30 p.m.
Loop at Grady, 6:30 p.m.
Coahoma at Colorado City, 6:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

HOUSTON ASTROS — Traded OF Dexter Fowler to the Chicago Cubs for INF Luis Valbuena and RHP Dan Straily.

TEXAS RANGERS — Acquired RHP Yovani Gallardo and cash considerations from Milwaukee for RHP Corey Knebel, INF Luis Sardinas and RHP Marcos Diplan.

National League

CHICAGO CUBS — Agreed to terms with RHP Daniel Bard on a minor league contract.

LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Agreed to terms with LHP Erik Bedard on a minor league contract.

MIAMI MARLINS — Agreed to terms with INF-OF Don Kelly on a minor league contract.

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Agreed to terms with OF Nori Aoki on a one-year contract.

Frontier League

FLORENCE FREEDOM — Acquired RHP Chase Boruff from Sioux Falls (AA) for a player to be named.

NORMAL CORNBELTERS — Signed RHP Race Parmenter.

WINDY CITY THUNDERBOLTS — Signed OF Brian Wuest.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS — Signed F James Michael McAdoo to a 10-day contract.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

BUFFALO BILLS — Named David Lee quarterbacks coach.

CHICAGO BEARS — Named Jeff Rodgers special teams coordinator.

DENVER BRONCOS — Named Gary Kubiak coach and signed him to a four-year contract.

OAKLAND RAIDERS — Named Bill Musgrave offensive coordinator.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Named Cory Undlin defensive backs coach and Justin Peelle tight ends coach. Announced defensive backs coach John Lovett and tight ends coach Ted Williams will move to the pro scouting department. Canadian Football League

CALGARY STAMPEDERS — Re-signed QB Drew Tate. Released DL Shawn Lemon.

MONTREAL ALOUETTES — Named Kavis Reed special teams coordinator.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

NHL — Suspended Chicago F Daniel Carcillo six games for cross-checking Winnipeg F Mathieu Perreault during a Jan. 16 game.

LOS ANGELES KINGS — Activated D Robyn Regehr from injured reserve. Placed G Martin Jones on injured reserve, retroactive to Jan. 14.

NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Reassigned F Viktor Stalberg to Milwaukee (AHL). LACROSSE

EDMONTON RUSH — Traded F Corey Small to Vancouver for first-round picks in the 2016 and 2019 NLL entry drafts.

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

MONTREAL IMPACT — Named Enzo Concina assistant coach.

TORONTO FC — Signed F Sebastian Giovinco, effective July 1 North American

Soccer League

NEW YORK COSMOS — Signed MF Walter Restrepo.

COLLEGE

BIG TEN CONFERENCE — Suspended Wisconsin hockey student-athlete Eddie Wiltchow one game for receiving a disqualification penalty in a Jan. 17 game against Minnesota, plus one additional game under the conference's supplemental discipline process. Suspended Minnesota hockey student-athlete Vinni Lettieri one game for leaving the bench during the same incident.

CCNY — Named Andriana Todorovic men's volunteer volleyball coach.

NORTH CAROLINA — Named Gene Chizik defensive coordinator.

VANDERBILT — Cortez Hankton wide receivers coach.

FIGHT SCHEDULE

Today

At 2300 Arena, Philadelphia (FS1): Eric Hunter vs. Rene Alvarado, 10, featherweights.

Saturday

At 1stBank Center, Broomfield, Colo. (HBO): Mike Alvarado vs. Brandon Rios, 12, welterweights. Gilberto Ramirez vs. Maxim Vlasov, 10, super middleweights.

At GPG Event Center, Pennsauken, N.J.: Chazz Witherspoon vs. Cory Phelps, 10, heavyweights.

Jan. 26

At Cowboys Dance Hall, San Antonio (FS1): Rocky Juarez vs. Robinson Castellanos, 10, featherweights.

Jan. 30

At Foxwoods Resort, Mashantucket, Conn. (ESPN2): Karl Dargan vs. Tony Luis, 10, lightweights.

Feb. 6

At Beau Rivage Resort & Casino, Biloxi, Miss. (ESPN2): Jermain Taylor vs. Sergio Mora, 12, for Taylor's IBF middleweight title.

Feb. 13

At the Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, Conn. (ESPN2): Boxcino Quarterfinals-Junior Middleweights: Cleotis Pendarvis vs. Ricardo Pinnell. Stanyslav Skorokhod vs. Michael Moore. Brandon Adams vs. Alex Perez. Vito Gasparyan vs. Simeon Hardy.

Feb. 14

At Tepic, Mexico: David Sanchez vs. Juan Alberto Rosas, 12, for the interim WBA super flyweight title.

Feb. 20

At Turning Stone Resort Casino in Verona, N.Y. (ESPN2): Boxcino Quarterfinals-Heavyweights: Donovan Dennis vs. Steve Vukosa. Razvan Cojanu vs. Ed Fountain: Andrey Fedosov vs. Nate Heaven. Mario Heredia vs. Lenroy Thomas.

Feb. 21

At Monte Carlo, Monaco (HBO), Gennady Golovkin vs. Martin Murray, 12, for Golovkin's WBA Super World-WBC World-IBO middleweight titles. Hekkie Budler vs. Jesus Silverio, 12, for Budler's WBA-IBO minimumweight titles. Lee Haskins vs. Omar Lamiri, 12, for the vacant EBU bantamweight title.

At O2 World Arena, Berlin, Arthur Abraham vs. Paul Smith, 12, for Abraham's WBO super middleweight title.

Feb. 27

At Paramount Theatre, Huntington, N.Y. (ESPN2): Cletus Seldin vs. Johnny Garcia, 10, junior welterweights.

At Fantasy Springs Casino, Indio, Calif.: Randy Caballero vs. Alberto Guevara, 12, for Caballero's IBF bantamweight title.

Feb. 28

At Odyssey Arena, Belfast, Northern Ireland, Carl Frampton vs. Chris Avalos, 12, for Frampton's IBF super bantamweight title.

At O2 Arena, London: Dmitriy Chudinov vs. Chris Eubank Jr., 12, for the interim WBA middleweight title.

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	47	29	14	4	62	152	126
Detroit	46	26	11	9	61	134	115
Montreal	44	28	13	3	59	121	105
Boston	45	24	16	6	54	121	117
Florida	44	20	14	10	50	107	122
Toronto	47	22	22	3	47	139	146
Ottawa	44	18	18	8	44	120	122
Buffalo	47	14	30	3	31	89	167

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Islanders	46	31	14	1	63	151	129
Pittsburgh	44	26	12	6	58	134	111
N.Y. Rangers	43	26	13	4	56	131	104
Washington	45	24	13	8	56	133	115
Columbus	44	20	21	3	43	113	138
Philadelphia	47	18	22	7	43	127	144
New Jersey	46	16	22	8	40	102	132
Carolina	46	16	25	5	37	98	120

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	44	30	10	4	64	138	102
St. Louis	46	29	13	4	62	148	111
Chicago	45	28	15	2	58	139	105
Winnipeg	47	25	14	8	58	131	117
Dallas	45	21	17	7	49	143	148
Colorado	47	19	18	10	48	122	135
Minnesota	45	20	20	5	45	124	132

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	46	30	10	6	66	133	121
Vancouver	44	26	15	3	55	123	110
San Jose	46	24	16	6	54	125	125
Calgary	45	24	18	3	51	131	118
Los Angeles	45	20	14	11	51	126	120
Arizona	45	16	24	5	37	104	150
Edmonton	46	11	26	9	31	104	154

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

Monday's Scores

N.Y. Islanders 7, Philadelphia 4
Carolina 4, Toronto 1
Vancouver 2, Florida 1
St. Louis 3, Colorado 1
Columbus 3, Minnesota 1
Calgary at Los Angeles, late
New Jersey at San Jose, late

Today's Games

Ottawa at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.
Edmonton at Washington, 6 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m.
Nashville at Montreal, 6:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.
Arizona at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

NBADL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Fort Wayne	16	10	.615	—
Grand Rapids	13	9	.591	1
Sioux Falls	12	11	.522	2 1/2
Iowa	10	11	.476	3 1/2

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Maine	17	5	.773	—
Canton	13	11	.542	5
Delaware	8	13	.381	8 1/2
Erie	8	16	.333	10
Westchester	8	16	.333	10

WEST CONFERENCE

Southwestern Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Austin	16	7	.696	—
Oklahoma City	14	10	.583	2 1/2
Texas	12	10	.545	3 1/2
Rio Grande Valley	11	12	.478	5

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Bakersfield	16	8	.667	—
Santa Cruz	13	9	.591	2
Reno	9	13	.409	6
Los Angeles	8	17	.320	9 1/2
Idaho	4	20	.167	12

Monday's Scores

Bakersfield 105, Grand Rapids 99
Oklahoma City 101, Westchester 96
Fort Wayne 114, Idaho 109

Today's Games

No games scheduled

Wednesday's Games

Delaware at Canton, 10 a.m.
Maine at Erie, 6 p.m.
Santa Cruz at Los Angeles, 6 p.m.

LADY CHAPS

From 1C

come. I think anytime when teammates see another one of their teammates push themselves, I think that's going to carry over."

Early on, it looked like the Lady Wranglers (18-4, 4-2 in the WJCAC) were going run MC (13-8, 4-2) out of the building as they took advantage of turnovers and missed shots to take as much as a 26-12 lead midway through the first half.

"When we were down 28-12, 12 of their points were off turnovers," Jones said. "They were pressuring but we weren't handling the pressure well at all. When we stopped doing that, we still had a few lapses where we turned it over and they got easy baskets. I'm not taking anything away from Odessa, but I think we gave them too many possessions early in the game, and on top of that they were shooting the ball well early."

Despite that rough start, the Lady Chaps used a 15-2 run to pull to within 36-31 at halftime.

"The only thing we talked about at halftime was taking care of the basketball," Jones said. "We're still making a lot of mistakes but that's the second game in a row we fought for 40 minutes, regardless of what was going on."

Wright had 13 of her 21 points in the second half, while Sierra Dixon had eight of her 13 points - including the go-ahead 3-pointer to give MC a 56-54 lead with 3:29 remaining - to lead the second half charge by the Lady Chaps.

Octavian Reedy was the only Lady Wrangler to finish in double figures with 14 points.

"This was a big win," Wright said. "Even though we didn't beat New Mexico (last Thursday) I felt (Odessa) was every bit as (talented) as New Mexico was, so this was very big."

Midland College next hosts South Plains College in another key WJCAC game on Thursday night.

WJCAC basketball

WOMEN

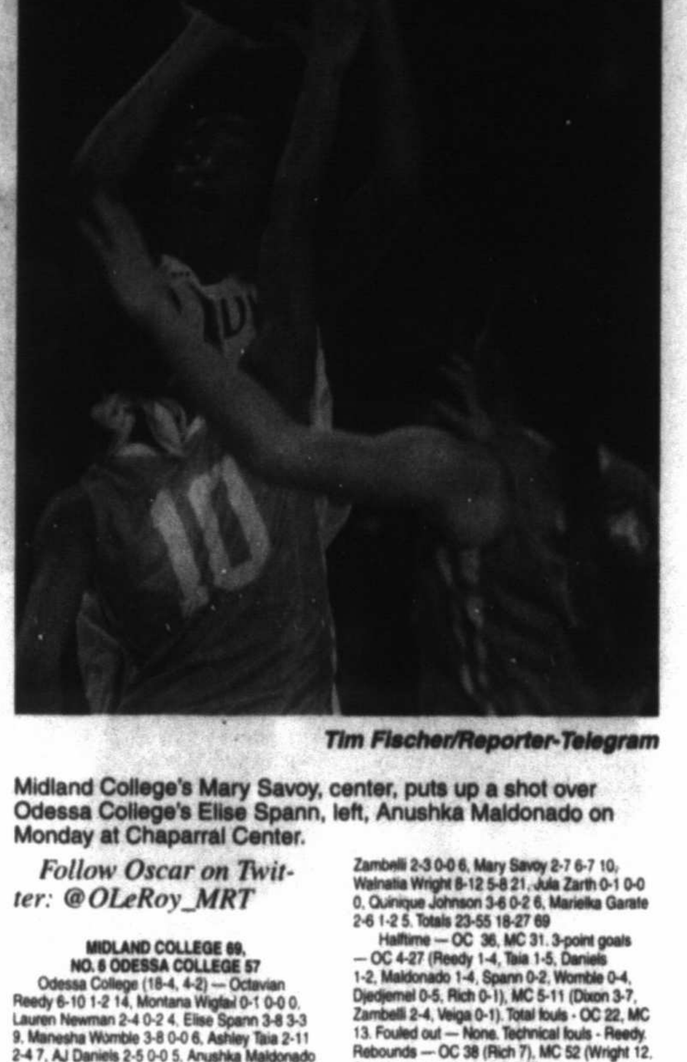
Team	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
New Mexico JC	5	0	18	1
Odessa College	4	2	18	4
Midland College	4	2	13	8
South Plains	3	2	6	11
Frank Phillips	3	3	15	4
Clarendon College	3	3	12	7
Western Texas	0	5	9	10
Howard College	0	4	5	13

Monday's Scores

Midland College 69, Odessa College 57; Clarendon College 70, Western Texas College 58; South Plains College 85, Frank Phillips College 63 ; Victoria College at Howard College (non-conference), late; New Mexico JC was open

Thursday's Games

South Plains College at Midland College; New Mexico JC at Howard College; Western Texas College at Frank Phillips College; Clarendon College at Southwest Texas JC (non-conference); Odessa College is open



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Mary Savoy, center, puts up a shot over Odessa College's Elise Spann, left, Anushka Maldonado on Monday at Chaparral Center.

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MIDLAND COLLEGE 69, NO. 6 ODESSA COLLEGE 57

Odessa College (18-4, 4-2) — Octavian Reedy 6-10 1-2 14, Montana Wigfall 0-1 0-0 0, Lauren Newman 2-4 0-0 4, Elise Spann 3-8 3-3 9, Mahesha Womble 3-8 0-0 6, Ashley Tate 2-11 2-4 7, AJ Daniels 2-5 0-0 5, Anushka Maldonado 3-11 1-2 8, Anna Djedjemel 0-6 0-0 0, Tabaylah Rich 2-8 0-0 4, Stephanie Verduzco 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 23-72 7-13 57

Midland College (13-8, 4-2) — Tajanay Veiga 1-5 4-6 6, Sierra Dixon 4-12 2-2 13, Tatiana Randle 1-1 0-0 2, Mary King 0-2 0-0 0, Valentine Zambelli 2-3 0-0 6, Mary Savoy 2-7 6-7 10, Walnetia Wright 8-12 5-8 21, Jolie Zarth 0-1 0-0 0, Quinique Johnson 3-6 0-2 6, Mariella Garate 2-6 1-2 5. Totals 23-55 18-27 69

Halftime — OC 36, MC 31. 3-point goals — OC 4-27 (Reedy 1-4, Tate 1-5, Daniels 1-2, Maldonado 1-4, Spann 0-2, Womble 0-4, Djedjemel 0-5, Rich 0-1), MC 5-11 (Dixon 3-7, Zambelli 2-4, Veiga 0-1). Total fouls - OC 22, MC 13. Fouled out — None. Technical fouls - Reedy. Rebounds — OC 38 (Rich 7), MC 52 (Wright 12, Savoy 10). Assists — OC 6 (Three with 2 each), MC 12 (Veiga 4, Savoy 4). Turnovers — OC 8, MC 14.

Next game: South Plains College at Midland College, 5:45 pm. Thursday; Odessa College at South Plains College, 5:45 p.m. Jan. 26

CHAPS

From 1C

and execute the way our coach wanted us too," said Caruthers, who finished with 15 points, five rebounds and five assists. "Coach looks to me to mature more and more with each game. I hope I did that just to become that point guard that our team needs to win."

While the Chaps have arguably given away some games in the WJCAC play to put them in an early hole, Caruthers said he saw his team have more confidence than maybe in previous games. He also saw several different players contribute and make critical plays.

Jones finished with a double-double of 18 points and 14 rebounds, Maurice O'Field added 15 points and Quay King chipped in with 12 points for the Chaps.

It had to take a team effort and some toughness for the Chaps to beat a talented Wrangler squad and head coach Jordan Dreiling said that toughness was what his team needed the most.

"We still gave up a few offensive rebounds, which kept their possessions alive, but offensively I think we showed toughness," Dreiling said. "We waited for the breakdown to happen defensively and we took advantage of it. I thought Dontay did a great job.

"We made some plays late and that's where we showed toughness," Dreiling added. "I know we're capable of that but now we're showing that in games. That's huge with South Plains coming in here on Thursday."

Clyde Santee led the Wranglers with 17 points, 12 of which coming in the second half, while Jaylen Brantley added 15.

The Chaps hope this was a step in the right direction.

"The job is not finished yet," Caruthers said. "This is just one game. Now we've got to go on to the next, which is South Plains on Thursday."

The Texans come to Chaparral Center on Thursday in what should be another entertaining game in the WJCAC.

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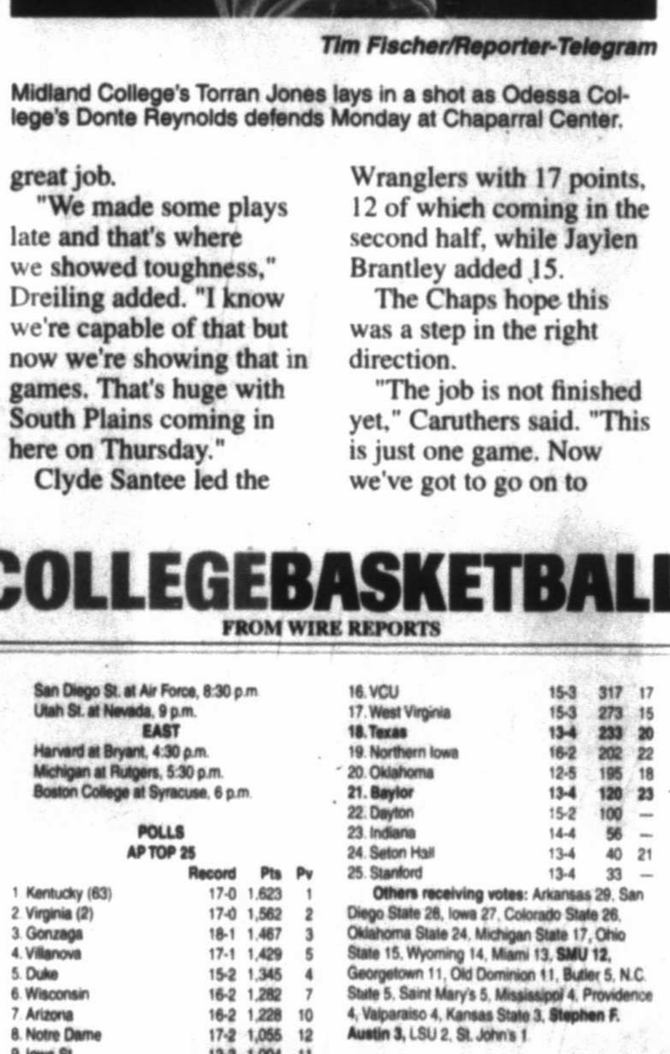

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Torran Jones lays in a shot as Odessa College's Donte Reynolds defends Monday at Chaparral Center.

WJCAC basketball

MEN

Team	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
Howard College	9	0	16	4
South Plains	5	1	15	4
Odessa College	4	3	16	4
Frank Phillips	3	3	14	6
New Mexico JC	3	3	14	6
Midland College	3	4	13	8
New Mexico Military	2	4	6	8
Western Texas	2	4	6	8
Clarendon College	1	4	4	14

Monday's Scores

Midland College 72, Odessa College 64; Clarendon College 66, Western Texas College 58 ; South Plains College 85, Frank Phillips College 79; New Mexico JC was open

Thursday's Games

South Plains College at Midland College; New Mexico JC at Howard College; Western Texas College at Frank Phillips College; Clarendon College at New Mexico Military Institute; Odessa College is open

MIDLAND COLLEGE 72, NO. 10 ODESSA COLLEGE 64

Odessa College (16-4, 4-3) — Willie Conner 3-8 0-0 7, Devarus Craig 2-9 2-4 15, Jaylen Brantley 5-15 2-4 15, Victor Evans 3-6 1-2 7, Clyde Santee 5-17 5-6 17, Donte Reynolds 1-2 5-6 17, Dominique Davis 3-9 0-2 7. Totals 22-66 13-20 64

Midland College (13-8, 3-4) — Torren Jones 8-16 2-3 18, Tyler Whitehead 1-3 2-4 4, Quay King 4-10 0-0 12, Dylan Cham 0-0 0-0 0, Maurice O'Field 5-13 2-2 13, Bryce Ervin 0-0 0-0 0, Jamal Evans 4-9 0-0 8, Dontay Caruthers 5-11 3-3 15, Tyler Herron 1-3 0-0 2, William Tchiengang 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 28-67 9-12 72

Halftime — MC 38, OC 32. 3-point goals — OC 7-17 (Brantley 3-5, Santee 2-6, Davis 1-3, Conner 1-3), MC 7-23 (King 4-8, Caruthers 2-4, O'Field 1-5, Jones 0-1, Whitehead 0-1, Evans 0-3, Tchiengang 0-1). Total fouls - OC 16, MC 18. Fouled out — None. Rebounds — OC 45 (Reynolds 11), MC 42 (Jones 14). Assists — OC 10 (Santee 3, Reynolds 3), MC 12 (O'Field 6). Turnovers — OC 15, MC 12

Next game: South Plains College at Midland College, 7:45 pm. Thursday; Odessa College at South Plains College, 7:45 p.m. Jan. 26

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Men

MONDAY'S SCORES

SOUTHWEST

Georgia St. 60, Arkansas St. 54
Houston Baptist 84, Cent. Arkansas 61
Lamar 57, SE Louisiana 50
Prairie View 74, Grambling St. 60
Stephen F. Austin 79, New Orleans 54
Texas 66, TCU 48
Texas Southern 67, Jackson St. 54
Texas-Arlington 66, Texas St. 55

SOUTH

Appalachian St. 69, Troy 64
Ark.-Pine Bluff 54, Alcorn St. 49
Bethune-Cookman 65, Morgan St. 58
Charleston Southern 82, UNC Asheville 75
Coppin St. 87, Florida A&M 75
Delaware St. 59, Savannah St. 50
Duke 79, Pittsburgh 65
ETSU 90, Tusculum 52
Florida St. 59, Clemson 55
High Point 72, Longwood 67
Louisiana-Monroe 57, Louisiana-Lafayette 55
NC Central 59, Hampton 52
Norfolk St. 74, NC A&T 60
SC State 73, Md.-Eastern Shore 72, OT
South Alabama 66, UALR 64
Southern U. 79, MVSU 55

MIDWEST

Kansas 85, Oklahoma 78

EAST

Albany (NY) 64, Stony Brook 47
Detroit 81, Northeastern 69, OT
Georgetown 78, Villanova 58
Hartford 65, UMBC 63
NJIT 65, Maine 55
New Hampshire 87, Mass.-Lowell 64, OT
Vermont 84, Binghamton 44

TODAY'S GAMES

SOUTHWEST

Northwestern St. at Texas A&M-CC, 7 p.m.

SOUTH

LSU at Florida, 6 p.m.
Mississippi at Georgia, 6 p.m.
Dayton at Davidson, 6:30 p.m.
Sam Houston St. at Nicholls St., 6:30 p.m.
Abilene Christian at McNeese St., 7 p.m.
Vanderbilt at Kentucky, 8 p.m.
Tennessee at South Carolina, 8 p.m.

MIDWEST

Kansas St. at Iowa St., 6 p.m.
Valparaiso at Youngstown St., 6 p.m.
IU.-Chicago at Green Bay, 7 p.m.
Wright St. at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Illinois St. at Drake, 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota at Nebraska, 7:30 p.m.
Iowa at Wisconsin, 8 p.m.

FAR WEST

San Diego St. at Air Force, 8:30 p.m.
Utah St. at Nevada, 9 p.m.

EAST

Harvard at Bryant, 4:30 p.m.
Michigan at Rutgers, 5:30 p.m.
Boston College at Syracuse, 6 p.m.

POLLS

AP TOP 25

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. Kentucky (63)	17-0	1,623	1
2. Virginia (2)	17-0	1,562	2
3. Gonzaga	18-1	1,487	3
4. Villanova	17-1	1,429	5
5. Duke	15-2	1,345	4
6. Wisconsin	16-2	1,282	7
7. Arizona	16-2	1,228	10
8. Notre Dame	17-2	1,055	12
9. Iowa St.	13-3	1,004	11
10. Louisville	15-3	1,003	6
11. Kansas	14-3	943	9
12. Utah	14-3	940	8
13. Maryland	17-2	937	14
14. Wichita St.	16-2	857	13
15. North Carolina	14-4	803	15
16. VCU	15-3	670	17
17. Texas	13-4	594	20
18. West Virginia	15-3	501	16
19. Oklahoma	12-5	445	18
20. N. Iowa	16-2	387	23
21. Baylor	13-4	280	22
22. Dayton	15-2	241	—
23. Indiana	14-4	93	—
24. Seton Hall	13-4	91	21
25. Iowa	13-5	85	—

Others receiving votes: Oklahoma St. 47, Miami 41, San Diego St. 34, Georgetown 33, Stanford 31, Saint Mary's (Cal) 18, Providence 17, Colorado St. 16, Arkansas 15, Georgia 13, Butler 11, SMU 11, Michigan St. 8, LSU 6, Old Dominion 5, Wyoming 4, Ohio St. 3, Louisiana Tech 2, Tennessee 2, George Washington 1, St. John's 1, Washington 1.

USA TODAY TOP 25

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. Kentucky (31)	17-0	799	1
2. Virginia (1)	17-0	768	2
3. Gonzaga	18-1	723	3
4. Villanova	17-1	697	5
5. Wisconsin	16-2	654	6
6. Duke	15-2	653	4
7. Arizona	16-2	602	9
8. Maryland	17-2	514	11
9. Notre Dame	17-2	504	12
10. Louisville	15-3	502	7
11. Utah	14-3	479	8
12. Iowa State	13-3	443	10
13. Wichita State	16-2	424	14
14. Kansas	14-3	422	10
15. North Carolina	14-4	396	16
16. VCU	15-3	317	17
17. West Virginia	15-3	273	15
18. Texas	13-4	233	20
19. Northern Iowa	16-2	202	22
20. Oklahoma	12-5	195	18
21. Baylor	13-4	130	23
22. Dayton	15-2	100	—
23. Indiana	14-4	56	—
24. Seton Hall	13-4	40	21
25. Stanford	13-4	33	—

Others receiving votes: Arkansas 29, San Diego State 28, Iowa 27, Colorado State 26, Oklahoma State 24, Michigan State 17, Ohio State 15, Wyoming 14, Miami 13, **SMU 12,** Georgetown 11, Old Dominion 11, Butler 5, N.C. State 5, Saint Mary's 5, Mississippi 4, Providence 4, Valparaiso 4, Kansas State 3, **Stephen F. Austin 3,** LSU 2, St. John's 1

Women

MONDAY'S SCORES

SOUTHWEST

Arkansas St. 76, Georgia St. 65
Baylor 75, Texas 58
Oklahoma 73, Oklahoma St. 54
Prairie View 66, Grambling St. 57
Texas Southern 70, Jackson St. 53
Texas St. 60, Texas-Arlington 53

SOUTH

Alcorn St. 45, Ark.-Pine Bluff 39
Bethune-Cookman 55, Morgan St. 48
Chattanooga 81, UNC-Greensboro 46
Coppin St. 70, Florida A&M 65
Furman 58, Mercer 55
Hampton 75, NC Central 39
Louisiana-Monroe 67, Louisiana-Lafayette 60, OT
McNeese St. 83, Austin Peay 72
Norfolk St. 76, NC A&T 75, OT
SC State 64, Md.-Eastern Shore 59
Samford 68, W. Carolina 52
Savannah St. 76, Delaware St. 45
South Carolina 77, Florida 42
Southern U. 70, MVSU 51
Troy 91, Appalachian St. 87
UALR 56, South Alabama 34
Wofford 69, Bluefield 45

MIDWEST

Nebraska 69, Purdue 59
Notre Dame 86, Tennessee 77

FAR WEST

Arizona St. 60, Stanford 57
Oregon St. 75, Washington 67

EAST

Albany (NY) 69, Stony Brook 58
Bryant 64, Wagner 48
CCSU 75, LIU Brooklyn 70
Fairleigh Dickinson 76, Mount St. Mary's 66
Hartford 70, UMBC 63
Maine 70, Binghamton 48
New Hampshire 58, Mass.-Lowell 51
Robert Morris 76, Sacred Heart 65
St. Francis (NY) 70, St. Francis (Pa.) 55

TODAY'S GAMES

SOUTH

Campbell at Coastal Carolina, 6 p.m.
Gardner-Webb at High Point, 6 p.m.
Charleston Southern at Presbyterian, 6 p.m.
Radford at UNC Asheville, 6 p.m.
Liberty at Winthrop, 6 p.m.
Tulsa at Tulane, 7 p.m.

MIDWEST

SIU Edwardsville at SE Missouri, 6:30 p.m.

EAST

NJIT at Brown, 10:30 a.m.
Fairfield at Saint Peter's, 6 p.m.
Cincinnati at Temple, 6 p.m.

POLL

AP TOP 25

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. South Carolina (27)	17-0	867	1
2. UConn (6)	16-1	848	2
3. Baylor	16-1	787	3
4. Louisville	17-1	748	4
5. Tennessee	15-2	740	9
6. Notre Dame	16-2	708	7
7. Maryland	15-2	629	8
8. Texas	14-2	618	6
9. Oregon St.	15-1	608	5
10. Texas A&M	16-3	591	11
11. Stanford	13-4	482	13
12. North Carolina	16-3	452	12
13. Arizona St.	15-1	451	14
14. Kentucky	15-4	421	10
15. Duke	13-5	371	16
16. Nebraska	13-3	315	17
17. Florida St.	17-2	283	20
18. Mississippi St.	19-2	267	15
19. Princeton	17-0	219	19
20. Iowa	14-3	209	22
21. Minnesota	16-2	191	23
22. Georgia	16-3	132	18
23. Syracuse	13-5	90	25
24. W. Kentucky	16-2	80	—
25. Rutgers	14-4	65	24

Others receiving votes: Oklahoma St. 52, Chattanooga 45, Washington 30, Green Bay 21, Oklahoma 21, LSU 13, Seton Hall 13, George Washington 12, Long Beach St. 10, Miami 10, Iowa St. 6, South Florida 2, DePaul 1, Pittsburgh 1.

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

MAVERICKS 103 GRIZZLIES 95

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Dirk Nowitzki scored 21 points, including the last eight for Dallas in the final 2 minutes, and the Mavericks defeated the Memphis Grizzlies 103-95 on Monday.

ROCKETS 110 PACERS 98

HOUSTON — James Harden scored a season-high 45 points, including 18 in the third quarter, and the Houston Rockets beat the Indiana Pacers 110-98 on Monday.

HORNETS 105 TIMBERWOLVES 80

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Gerald Henderson scored 17 points, Brian Roberts added 16 and the Hornets defeated the Timberwolves 105-80 on Monday — their seventh win in eight games.

WIZARDS 111 76ERS 76

WASHINGTON — Marcin Gortat scored 20 points, John Wall had 11 points and 10 assists and the Washington Wizards beat the overmatched Philadelphia 76ers 111-76 on Monday.

RAPTORS 92 BUCKS 89

MILWAUKEE — Kyle Lowry scored 18 points and was one of 5 Toronto players to reach double figures in the Raptors' 92-89 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Monday night.

CAVALIERS 108 BULLS 94

CLEVELAND — LeBron James scored 26 points and J.R. Smith added 20 as the Cleveland Cavaliers entered a favorable portion of their schedule with a 108-94 win over the Chicago Bulls on Monday night.

WARRIORS 122 NUGGETS 79

OAKLAND, Calif. — Klay Thompson scored 22 points, Stephen Curry had 20 points and eight assists, and the Golden State Warriors matched a franchise record with their 16th consecutive home win in impressive fashion, whipping the Denver Nuggets 122-79 on Monday.

KNICKS 99 PELICANS 92

NEW YORK — The New York Knicks snapped their 16-game losing streak Monday, getting 24 points and nine rebounds from Carmelo Anthony to beat the short-handed New Orleans Pelicans 99-92.

CLIPPERS 102 CELTICS 93

LOS ANGELES — Blake Griffin scored 22 points, DeAndre Jordan had 19 points and 12 rebounds, and the Los Angeles Clippers held off the Boston Celtics 102-93 Monday after losing most of a 23-point lead.

HAWKS 93 PISTONS 82

ATLANTA — The Atlanta Hawks won their 13th straight game, one shy of tying the team record, as Mike Scott and Paul Millsap each scored 20 points Monday in a 93-82 victory over the Detroit Pistons.

NBA STANDINGS & BOXES

STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	27	14	.659	—
Brooklyn	17	24	.415	10
Boston	13	26	.333	13
Philadelphia	8	33	.195	19
New York	6	36	.143	21 1/2

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	34	8	.810	—
Washington	29	13	.690	5
Miami	18	22	.450	15
Charlotte	17	25	.405	17
Orlando	15	29	.341	20

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	27	16	.628	—
Cleveland	22	20	.524	4 1/2
Milwaukee	21	20	.512	5
Detroit	16	26	.381	10 1/2
Indiana	15	28	.349	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Memphis	29	12	.707	—
Houston	29	13	.690	1/2
Dallas	29	13	.690	1/2
San Antonio	26	16	.619	3 1/2
New Orleans	20	21	.488	9

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	30	11	.732	—
Oklahoma City	20	20	.500	9 1/2
Denver	18	23	.439	12
Utah	14	27	.341	16
Minnesota	7	33	.175	22 1/2

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	33	6	.846	—
L.A. Clippers	28	14	.667	6 1/2
Phoenix	24	18	.571	10 1/2
Sacramento	16	24	.400	17 1/2
L.A. Lakers	12	29	.293	22

Monday's Scores

Washington 111, Philadelphia 76
Charlotte 105, Minnesota 80
Atlanta 93, Detroit 82
L.A. Clippers 102, Boston 93
Golden State 122, Denver 79
Dallas 103, Memphis 95
Houston 110, Indiana 98
New York 99, New Orleans 92
Cleveland 108, Chicago 94
Toronto 92, Milwaukee 89
Sacramento at Portland, late
L.A. Lakers at Phoenix, late

Today's Games

Oklahoma City at Miami, 6:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Denver, 8 p.m.

MONDAY'S BOKES

MAVERICKS 103, GRIZZLIES 95

DALLAS (103): Parsons 5-14 2-4 15, Nowitzki 7-13 5-5 21, Chandler 3-6 4-5 10, Rondo 3-8 0-0 6, Ellis 9-18 4-7 25, Harris 5-8 1-1 12, Powell 0-2 3-4 3, Jefferson 1-3 0-0 2, Amiritu 1-2 1-1 3. Totals 0-2 2-2 2. G.Smith 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 34-76 25-33 103.

MEMPHIS (95): Allen 1-3 2-2 4, Randolph 8-13 2-2 18, Gasol 6-13 8-9 20, Conley 7 16-6 7 22, Lee 5-14 1-2 11, Udrih 2-8 0-0 4, Green 5-14 1-1 11, Adams 0-1 0-0 0, Calathes 1-2 0-0 2, Koufos 1-2 0-0 2, Carter 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 36-85 20-22 95.

Dallas	25	28	29	21 — 103
Memphis	16	30	29	20 — 95

3-Point Goals—Dallas 12-25 (Ellis 3-7, Parsons 3-8, Nowitzki 2-4, Jefferson 1-3, Harris 1-3), Memphis 3-22 (Conley 2-8, Lee 1-6, Adams 0-1, Carter 0-2, Green 0-5). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Dallas 48 (Chandler 16), Memphis 53 (Randolph 15). Assists—Dallas 17 (Ellis 7), Memphis 21 (Conley 7). Total Technicals—Dallas 22, Memphis 23. Technicals—Dallas defensive three second.

A—18,119 (18,119).

ROCKETS 110, PACERS 98

INDIANA (98): S.Hill 4-10 1-2 9, West 4-7 0-0 8, Hibbert 6-10 0-0 12, Watson 2-7 4-6 8, Stuckey 2-6 0-0 4, Miles 9-18 1-1 23, Mahinmi 3-5 3-4 9, Scola 2-6 0-0 4, Stone 1-1 2-3 17, Rodez 0-5 0-0 0. Totals 39-85 14-18 98.

HOUSTON (110): Ariza 3-7 2-2 9, Motiejunas 4-8 2-2 10, Howard 4-6 6-10 14, Beverley 2-6 0-0 6, Harden 12-18 14-15 45, Smith 3-11 0-1 6, Terry 3-5 0-1 7, Brewer 6-10 0-0 13, Papanikolaou 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 37-72 24-33 110.

Indiana	21	24	23	30 — 98
Houston	29	28	34	21 — 110

3-Point Goals—Indiana 6-27 (Miles 4-11, Stoan 1-2, S.Hill 1-6, Stuckey 0-1, Scola 0-1, Watson 0-3, Rudez 0-3), Houston 12-31 (Harden 7-12, Beverley 3-6, Terry 1-3, Brewer 1-4, Ariza 1-5, Motiejunas 0-1, Smith 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Indiana 49 (Mahinmi 14), Houston 46 (Howard 17). Assists—Indiana 21 (Scola 6), Houston 26 (Harden 7). Total Fouls—Indiana 21, Houston 19. Technicals—Houston defensive three second. A—18,298 (18,023).

HORNETS 105, TIMBERWOLVES 80

MINNESOTA (80): Hummel 0-1 0-0 0, Young 7-15 4-4 18, Dieng 3-10 2-2 9, M.Williams 3-15 4-4 10, Wiggins 3-14 5-6 12, Budinger 1-3 0-0 3, Bennett 4-8 0-1 9, LaVine 4-9 1-3 9, Radulica 0-1 0-0 0, Daniels 3-5 0-0 8, Robinson III 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 29-80 16-20 80.

CHARLOTTE (105): Kidd-Gilchrist 5-10 0-0 10, Zeller 1-5 0-0 2, Biyombo 3-3 2-5 8, Roberts 8-12 2-2 16, Henderson 5-10 4-4 17, Mo.Williams 2-4 0-0 4, Stephenson 2-9 4-4 8, Jefferson 4-11 0-0 8, Hairston 4-8 0-0 11, Neal 5-11 0-0 12, Taylor 3-4 1-4 9, Vonleh 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 40-89 13-19 105.

Minnesota	20	13	19	28 — 80
Charlotte	23	27	33	22 — 105

3-Point Goals—Minnesota 6-19 (Daniels 2-4, Budinger 1-1, Dieng 1-1, Bennett 1-2, Wiggins 1-6, LaVine 0-2, M.Williams 0-3), Charlotte 12-22 (Henderson 3-4, Hairston 3-5, Taylor 2-2, Neal 2-3, Roberts 2-4, Mo.Williams 0-2, Stephenson 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Minnesota 49 (Dieng 10), Charlotte 61 (Mo.Williams 11). Assists—Minnesota 16 (M.Williams 4), Charlotte 27 (Stephenson 8). Total Fouls—Minnesota 20, Charlotte 20. A—17,989 (19,077).

WIZARDS 111, 76ERS 76

PHILADELPHIA (76): Covington 4-10 1-1 10, Noel 4-8 3-4 11, Sims 5-10 3-3 13, Carter-Williams 2-13 3-6 7, McDaniel 3-9 1-3 5, Grant 4-10 1-2 12, Alleanni 1-1 0-0 2, Thompson 3-9 2-4 8, Thomas 1-4 0-0 2, Drew II 1-4 0-0 2, Sampson 1-4 0-0 3. Totals 29-85 14-23 76.

WASHINGTON (111): Pierce 4-8 0-0 10, Nene 4-7 3-4 12, Gortat 8-11 2-2 20, Wall 4-9 3-3 11, Seal 4-6 1-2 10, Humphries 2-7 2-4 6, Butler 3-7 7-7 16, Porter 4-9 0-2 10, Miller 0-0 0-0, Seraphin 7-9 0-0 14. Booker 0-1 0-0 0. Webster 1-2 0-2 2. Temple 3-3 0-0 8. Totals 45-81 14-18 111.

Philadelphia	14	18	26	18 — 76
Washington	27	29	30	25 — 111

3-Point Goals—Philadelphia 8-24 (Grant 3-6, Sampson 1-2, Thompson 1-5, Covington 1-5, McDaniel 0-1, Carter-Williams 0-1, Thomas 0-1, Drew II 0-3), Washington 7-14 (Temple 2-3, Pierce 2-4, Nene 1-1, Butler 1-2, Seal 1-2, Webster 0-1, Gooden 0-1, Porter 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Philadelphia 56 (Noel 7), Washington 58 (Humphries, Seraphin 10). Assists—Philadelphia 19 (Drew II 6), Washington 26 (Wall 10). Total Fouls—Philadelphia 17, Washington 22. Technicals—Wall, A—19,040 (20,308).

RAPTORS 92, BUCKS 89

TORONTO (92): Vasquez 4-10 1-3 10, A.Johnson 4-8 3-4 11, Valanciunas 5-8 1-1 11, Lowry 8-25 1-4 18, DeRozan 0-9 0-1 0, Patterson 3-4 1-2 7, Williams 4-12 5-5 15, Ross 7-12 0-2 16. Hansbrough 1-2 2-2 4. Totals 36-90 14-24 92

MILWAUKEE (89): Antetokounmpo 3-8 0-0 6, O'Bryant 3-5 0-0 6, Pachulia 3-3 3-6 9, Knight 7-21 4-6 20, Middleton 4-10 0-0 9, Dudley 0-2 0-0 0, Henson 3-4 1-2 7, Maci 4-8 4-4 13, Bayless 2-5 1-1 5. Ilyasova 5-9 3-6 14. Martin 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 34-76 16-25 89

Toronto	22	31	15	24 — 92
Milwaukee	25	19	18	27 — 89

3-Point Goals—Toronto 6-24 (Williams 2-4, Ross 2-5, Vasquez 1-2, Lowry 1-8, A.Johnson 0-1, DeRozan 0-3), Milwaukee 3-18 (Knight 2-7, Maci 1-2, Middleton 1-3, Ilyasova 1-3, Bayless 0-1, Dudley 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Toronto 63 (Valanciunas, Patterson 13), Milwaukee 52 (Ilyasova 7). Assists—Toronto 17 (DeRozan 4), Milwaukee 22 (Knight, Antetokounmpo 5). Total Fouls—Toronto 20, Milwaukee 22. Technicals—Milwaukee Coach Kidd, Martin, Milwaukee defensive three second. A—12,707 (18,717).

CAVALIERS 108, BULLS 94

CHICAGO (94): Butler 6-16 7-9 25, Gibson 4-10 2-5 10, Gasol 4-14 3-4 11, Rose 5-14 5-5 18, Hinrich 0-4 0-0 0, Snell 5-8 0-0 12, Mirotic 0-1 3-3 3, Moore 1-3 0-0 2, Brooks 5-9 4-4 16, Barnstow 0-1 2-2 2, Mohammed 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 30-80 26-32 94

CLEVELAND (108): James 12-23 2-3 26, Love 3-13 9-10 16, Mozgov 7-14 1-1 15, Irving 7-16 3-4 18, Smith 7-11 0-0 20, Thompson 3-10 0-1 6, Marion 1-1 0-0 2, Dellavedova 1-1 1-2 3, Haywood 0-0 2-2 2, Harris 0-0 0-0 0, Miller 0-0 0-0 0, Jones 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 41-90 18-25 108.

Chicago	19	27	23	25 — 94
Cleveland	24	30	30	24 — 108

3-Point Goals—Chicago 8-16 (Rose 3-5, Brooks 2-3, Snell 2-4, Butler 1-3, Hinrich 0-1), Cleveland 8-18 (Smith 6-9, Irving 1-2, Love 1-3, Jones 0-1, James 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Chicago 49 (Gasol 11), Cleveland 63 (Mozgov 15). Assists—Chicago 12 (Brooks, Butler 3), Cleveland 20 (Irving 12). Total Fouls—Chicago 16, Cleveland 19. Technicals—Rose, Cleveland defensive three second. A—20,562 (20,562).

WARRIORS 122, NUGGETS 79

DENVER (79): Chandler 5-8 0-0 7, Faried 2-6 3-5 7, Nurkic 0-0 0-2, Lawson 5-14 2-2 14, Affalo 1-8 0-0 2, Hickson 1-6 1-2 3, Nelson 6-12 0-0 14, Arthur 1-4 2-2 4, Foye 1-10 0-0 3, Gee 2-2 4-4 9. Harris 2-6 0-0 5. E.Green 2-5 0-0 4. Totals 30-87 12-19 79.

GOLDEN STATE (122): Barnes 2-7 0-0 4, D.Green 2-4 0-0 6, Bogut 1-4 1-2 3, Curry 7-13 4-4 20, Thompson 7-13 4-4 22, Iguodala 3-6 0-0 9, Speights 3-6 3-4 9, Smith 2-4 0-0 4, Amitru 1-2 1-1 3, Barea 0-2 2-2 2. G.Smith 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 34-76 25-33 122.

Denver	15	13	32	19 — 79
Golden State	25	30	34	33 — 122

3-Point Goals—Denver 7-24 (Nelson 2-6, Gee 1-1, Lawson 1-2, Harris 1-3, Foye 1-4, Chandler 1-4, E.Green 0-1, Affalo 0-3), Golden State 13-27 (Thompson 4-8, Barbosa 2-2, D.Green 2-3, Curry 2-5, Holiday 2-5, Iguodala 1-2, Barnes 0-2). Fouled Out—Nurkic. Rebounds—Denver 46 (Faried 9), Golden State 61 (Lee 10). Assists—Denver 17 (Lawson 6), Golden State 30 (Curry 8). Total Fouls—Denver 19, Golden State 14. A—19,596 (19,596).

CLIPPERS 102, CELTICS 93

BOSTON (93): Crowder 2-9 0-0 5, Dalinger 5-14 2-2 14, Zeller 3-6 2-2 7, Turner 2-8 5-6 10, Bradley 1-7 0-0 3, Bass 6-12 5-6 17, Thomson 6-13 0-1 15, Smart 4-8 2-2 14, Olynyk 5-11 0-2 11. Prince 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 39-82 15-19 102

Boston	17	20	25	31 — 93
L.A. Clippers	23	34	27	28 — 102

3-Point Goals—Boston 12-29 (Smart 4-7, Thornton 3-6, Sullinger 2-4, Turner 1-3, Bradley 1-3, Olynyk 1-4, Crowder 0-2). L.A. Clippers 9-21 (Redick 3-5, Paul 2-2, Crawford 2-6, Hawes 1-3, Barnes 1-4, Griffin 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Boston 53 (Turner 10), L.A. Clippers 51 (Jordan 12). Assists—Boston 24 (Smart 7), L.A. Clippers 27 (Paul, Griffin 6). Total Fouls—Boston 14, L.A. Clippers 14. Technicals—L.A. Clippers defensive three second. A—19,060 (19,060).

HAWKS 93, PISTONS 82

DETROIT (82): Singler 2-7 0-0 5, Monroe 5-11 6-6 16, Drummond 5-9 3-12 13, Jennings 1-10 5-6 7, Caldwell-Pope 4-15 0-0 10, Tolliver 2-5 1-2 7, Butler 0-2 0-0 0, Meeks 4-11 0-0 11. Augustin 4-5 0-0 8, Jerebko 2-7 0-0 5. Totals 29-82 15-26 82.

ATLANTA (93): Carroll 2-7 1-2 5, Millsap 8-15 1-2 20, Horford 6-9 2-2 14, Teague 4-15 2-2 10, Korver 4-8 2-2 13, Antic 0-5 0-0 0, Sefolosha 1-2 0-0 2, Schroder 1-3 2-2 4, Scott 9-15 0-0 20. Sizemore 2-3 0-2 5. Totals 37-84 10-14 93.

Detroit	12	20	21	29 — 82
Atlanta	15	28	24	25 — 93

3-Point Goals—Detroit 9-35 (Meeks 3-7, Tolliver 2-5, Caldwell-Pope 2-8, Singler 1-4, Jerebko 1-4, Augustin 0-1, Butler 0-1, Jennings 0-4). Atlanta 9-30 (Korver 3-6, Millsap 3-6, Scott 2-6, Sizemore 1-2, Antic 0-2, Carroll 0-3, Teague 0-5). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Detroit 67 (Monroe 20), Atlanta 46 (Millsap 7). Assists—Detroit 17 (Jennings 5), Atlanta 31 (Teague, Horford 7). Total Fouls—Detroit 17, Atlanta 19. A—19,106 (18,729).

KNICKS 99, PELICANS 92

NEW ORLEANS (92): Anderson 4-17 0-0 11, Cunningham 1-3 0-0 2, Asik 5-8 1-6 11, Gordon 7-15 4-4 20, Evans 9-20 5-6 23, Pondexter 3-5 3-3 10, Alleng 3-6 2-5 8, Fredette 3-5 0-0 8, Babbitt 0-0 0-0 0, Withers 0-1 0-0 0, Withey 0-2 1-2 1. Totals 35-86 14-26 92.

NEW YORK (99): Amundson 2-5 0-0 4, Anthony 7-15 7-11 24, Smith 2-8 0-0 12, Calloway 8-14 2-2 21, Calderon 2-10 0-0 5, Stoudemire 6-9 2-2 14, Hardaway Jr. 4-7 0-0 11, Larkin 2-5 0-0 4, Thomas 1-4 2-2 4, Wear 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 39-76 13-17 99.

New Orleans	19	25	24	27—92
New York	22	31	25	21—99

3-Point Goals—New Orleans 9-27 (Anderson 3-13, Evans 2-4, Gordon 2-6, Pondexter 1-3, Fredette 0-1), New York 10-23 (Anthony 3-5, Calloway 3-6, Hardaway Jr. 3-6, Calderon 1-5, Stoudemire 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—New Orleans 66 (Asik 17), New York 41 (Anthony 9). Assists—New Orleans 13 (Gordon 5), New York 22 (Smith 6). Total Fouls—New Orleans 17, New York 14. Flagrant Fouls—Calderon. A—19,812 (19,763).

Girls HS basketball honorables

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Caroline Hammond, Sr., Midland Christian

Hammond was dominant over her teams's two TAPPS 1-4A wins in the Metroplex last week. Against Arlington Pantego, Hammond recorded 12 points to go along with 10 rebounds. The next day, she scored a game-high 18 points to help MCS cruise to a 66-16 win over Ft. Worth Christian.

Hammond

HONOR ROLL

Aubrie Elliott, Sr., MHS — Elliott scored 14 points in the Lady Dawgs' 65-24 whipping of Odessa High last Tuesday. She proceeded to score a game-high 20 points in MHS's 77-45 win over Abilene High on Friday.

Delanie Griffin, Soph., MCA — Griffin scored 20 points in MCA's 79-40 win at Abilene Christian last Tuesday.

Carli Richards, Grady — Richards collected a game-high 21 points in the Lady Wildcats 52-44 win over Klondike on Friday.

Britney Garza, Grady — Garza led all scorers with 21 points in Grady's 70-33 victory over Dawson last Tuesday.

Kyra Lewis, Jr., Lee — The junior forward tallied a game-high 18 points while controlling the boards in Lee's 68-17 thrashing of San Angelo Central at home last Tuesday. On Friday, Lewis picked up 15 points in the Lady 61-34 road win over Odessa Permian.

REPORT

From 1C

besides scoring. Kyra Lewis' matchup against Elliott in the post will also be key.

The winner of this game will no doubt earn a leg up in the standings in the early goings of the 3-6A schedule.

MCS CONTINUES EARLY DISTRICT DOMINANCE

There seems to be no stopping Midland Christian these days. The Lady Mustangs blasted their way through two more TAPPS District 1-4A opponents on the road last week. MCS dominated Arlington Pantego, 47-23 on Friday night in Arlington and then hammered Fort Worth Christian, 66-16, Saturday in Fort Worth.

The Lady Mustangs — currently the No. 18 girls' large private school team in Texas — have an opportunity to keep things rolling against a tougher opponent in Lubbock Trinity at 6 p.m. today in Lubbock. MCS head coach Chris Ryburn said he knows his team is playing very well but needs to remain focused.

"We have definitely taken a lot of confidence from our first four games in district," Ryburn said. "We are playing better than we have all year right now, but it's very important for us to stay humble and continue to improve in practice."

District 3-6A basketball

GIRLS

Team	District W	District L	Overall W	Overall L
Midland High	3	0	9	1
Lee	3	0	11	9
Odessa Permian	1	2	6	11
Abilene High	1	2	5	13
San Angelo Central	1	2	6	19
Odessa High	0	3	3	15

Friday's Scores

Midland High 77, Abilene High 45
Lee 61, Odessa Permian 34
San Angelo Central 39, Odessa High 29

Today's games

Lee at Midland High
San Angelo Central at Odessa Permian
Odessa High at Abilene High
All games at 6 p.m.

BOYS

Team	District W	District L	Overall W	Overall L
Midland High	1	0	10	0
Odessa Permian	1	0	9	9
San Angelo Central	1	0	8	11
Abilene High	0	1	8	9
Odessa High	0	1	6	12
Lee	0	1	1	18

Friday's Scores

Midland High 78, Abilene High 64
Odessa Permian 90, Lee 40
San Angelo Central 44, Odessa High 38

Today's games

Lee at Midland High
Odessa High at Abilene High
Odessa Permian at San Angelo Central
All games at 7:30 p.m.

MCA PICKS UP NICE ROAD WIN

No. 7 Midland Classical picked up a convincing road win at Abilene Christian last Tuesday to move to 2-0 in TAPPS 1-3A and 13-5 overall on the season. Delanie Griffin, who has been on a tear recently, co-led the Lady Knights with 20 points in that game. MCA jumped out to a 27-4 lead by the end of the first quarter and cruised to the victory.

MCA co-head coach Carla Cunneen said she likes what she's been seeing from her team lately.

"We are playing good team basketball at this point in the season and focusing on our goal of improving every game," Cunneen said.

MCA will play host to crosstown rival Trinity (9-11, 0-1) at 6 p.m. today.

TRINITY CRUSHED BY LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN

Trinity struggled on the road against No. 4 Lubbock Christian on Friday, falling, 51-18. But Trinity head coach Jeff Young said his team played better than the score showed at the end of the night.

"We knew they (Lubbock Christian) were very good," Young said. "We actually executed very well. We got great shots and had 10 to 12 shots that just rolled out, so the score did not indicate how we played."

The Lady Chargers (9-11, 0-1 in TAPPS 1-3A) will be in search of a rebound and their first district victory when they battle MCA at 6 p.m. today at MCA. Young says the game will be a measuring stick for where his team is at right now.

"Coach Cunneen and coach Beattie do a great job preparing their team (MCA)," Young said. "They are the defending state champions. What a great chance as a competitor to see where you stand."

GREENWOOD STAYING READY

After winning its first two District 4-4A games against Ft. Stockton and Andrews, the Greenwood girls fell, 54-39 on the road to Seminole on Friday. The Rangerettes led, 16-14, after the first quarter but were outscored, 40-23, the rest of the way in the loss.

Greenwood head coach Quint Anthony says his team needs to stay ready for every team it plays if it wants to accomplish its goal of winning the district. The Rangerettes next chance comes against Pecos.

The Rangerettes will host Pecos at 6 p.m. today.

"We have to come out ready to play," Anthony said. "Pecos is much improved this year and is playing some good basketball. The girls are still positive about winning out district and we need to have a great night against Pecos."

GRADY PICKING UP MOMENTUM

Grady has been getting big individual scoring efforts on the way to winning its last two District 11-1A games. The Lady Wilcats received 21 points from Britney Garza in a 70-33 win over Dawson last Tuesday. Then, Grady got 21 points from Carli Richards in a 52-44 victory over Klondike on Friday.

Grady (13-8, 2-1 in 11-1A) will host Loop at 6 p.m. today.

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GAME

From 1C

who is 6-foot-10 and has the ability to score and be a disruptive shot blocker on defense.

Lee head coach Chris Packer also understands the importance of this game, and for his team, an upset win against an archrival like MHS could be a real spark going forward.

"Coach Tatum does a great job and I know his kids will be ready," Packer said. "We hope to go compete and meet the challenge."

Lee will have to play a perfect game to give itself the chance. That means doing all the little things well and cutting down on mistakes.

"We hope to limit our turnovers and play solid defense," Packer said.

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TEXAS HS BASKETBALL POLLS

BOYS

Class 5A

1. Plano West. 19-2. 2. Humble Atascocita 23-1. 3. Cedar Hill, 19-1. 4. League City Clear Creek, 21-2. 5. DeSoto, 20-4. 6. Converse Judson, 22-4. 7. Amarillo, 21-2. 8. Houston Clear Lake, 21-1. 9. Schertz Clemens, 20-4. 10. Galena Park North Shore, 18-6. 11. SA Northside Brennan, 20-2. 12. Killeen Harker Heights, 18-4. 13. Cypress Lakes 16-6. 14. Cypress Woods, 15-6. 15. Richardson 19-4. 16. Duncanville, 20-6. 17. Killeen Ellison, 18-4. 18. North Crowley, 18-5. 19. Houston Sam Houston, 20-3. 20. SA Northside Brandeis, 19-3. 21. Lake Travis, 18-4. 22. Allen, 16-7. 23. Port Arthur Memorial, 15-5. 24. Houston Bellaire, 12-8. 25. SA Reagan, 15-6

Class 5A

1. Beaumont Central, 20-2. 2. Lancaster, 19-4. 3. Beaumont Ozen, 18-3. 4. EP Bel Air, 21-0. 5. EP Andress, 20-1. 6. Dallas South Oak Cliff, 22-4. 7. Dallas Kimball, 18-6. 8. Fort Bend Dulles, 19-2. 9. Dallas Wilson, 17-3. 10. Rockwall Heath, 19-0. 11. Austin LBJ, 16-7. 12. Fort Bend Bush, 17-6. 13. Frisco Liberty, 20-2. 14. Fort Bend Marshall, 14-8. 15. Mansfield Summit, 16-6. 16. FW Arlington Heights, 14-6. 17. FW Dunbar, 9-10. 18. Houston Yates, 14-7. 19. Frisco Lone Star, 16-4. 20. Austin Bowie, 23-2. 21. Mission Sharyland, 21-4. 22. Edinburg Vela, 21-5. 23. WF Rider, 16-5. 24. Mission Memorial, 22-3. 25. Cedar Park, 15-5.

Class 4A

1. Dallas Triple A Academy, 14-3. 2. Houston Sterling, 15-6. 3. Dallas Lincoln, 6-11. 4. Dallas Madison, 11-7. 5. Liberty Hill, 22-0. 6. Bridgeport, 19-4. 7. Silsbee, 19-4. 8. Lubbock Estacado, 16-7. 9. Argyle, 15-8. 10. Wimer-Hutchins, 11-6. 11. Winnsboro, 18-5. 12. Navasota, 3-3. 13. West Columbia, 16-4. 14. Kennedale, 17-4. 15. Decatur, 13-6. 16. Abilene Wylie, 13-7. 17. Fairfield, 15-2. 18. Mexia, 15-6. 19. Waco La Vega, 9-11. 20. Cleveland, 13-2. 21. CC West Oso, 13-7. 22. Hidalgo, 19-5. 23. Paris, 22-0. 24. Houston Worthing, 13-7. 25. Taylor, 16-3.

Class 3A

1. Brock, 21-2. 2. Pondor, 16-4. 3. Brownfield, 15-4. 4. Rockdale, 16-5. 5. Buna, 18-7. 6. Kountze, 18-6. 7. Aransas Pass, 21-5. 8. Dallas Faith Family, 17-5. 9. Kermit, 20-4. 10. Pleaster, 14-6. 11. Whitesboro, 17-4. 12. Whitewright, 17-2. 13. Van Alstyne, 15-7. 14. Jarrell, 17-6. 15. Crockett, 14-7. 16. Glen Rose, 16-4. 17. Denver City, 13-4. 18. Shallowater, 5-4. 19. Hooks, 19-1. 20. Universal City Randolph, 17-2. 21. Hallettsville, 14-4. 22. Waskom, 4-4. 23. Childress, 17-4. 24. Goliad, 22-4. 25. Vanderbilt Industrial, 21-5.

Class 2A

1. Dallardsville Big Sandy, 23-3. 2. Muenster, 20-2. 3. Martins Mill, 19-4. 4. Mumford, 21-3. 5. Port Aransas, 21-2. 6. Smyer, 18-2. 7. La Rue La Poynor, 18-3. 8. Olney, 16-5. 9. Canadian, 12-3. 10. Kerens, 13-9. 11. Stratford, 11-2. 12. Clarksville, 13-8. 13. Shamrock, 10-2. 14. Pickville, 14-9. 15. Blue Ridge, 18-1. 16. Gruver, 9-10. 17. Wellington, 10-2. 18. Thorndale, 16-5. 19. Schulenburg, 14-7. 20. San Augustine, 5-10. 21. New Summerfield, 16-4. 22. SA Stacey, 14-5. 23. Bogata Rivercrest, 17-5. 24. Merit Bland, 17-4. 25. Wolfe City, 13-4.

Class 1A

1. Textine, 20-2. 2. Lanevile, 15-3. 3. Crowell, 16-4. 4. Grady, 18-2. 5. Throughman, 10-1. 6. Groford, 18-1. 7. Calvert, 8-1. 8. Eula, 16-4. 9. Coolidge, 17-6. 10. Huckabay, 11-10. 11. Nazareth, 16-7. 12. Happy, 13-13. Moulton, 14-7. 14. Waelder, 16-6. 15. Jayton, 17-4. 16. La Marque Premier, 19-3. 17. Bellevue, 11-5. 18. Campbell, 18-4. 19. Paducah, 16-5. 20. Meadow, 16-3. 21. Abernathy, 16-3. 22. Borden County, 13-5. 23. Water Valley, 14-3. 24. Cumby, Miller Grove, 13-10. 25. Ackerly Sands, 11-6.

Large Private Schools

1. Plano Prestonwood Christian, 20-4. 2. Addison Trinity Christian, 22-3. 3. Houston Episcopal, 16-6. 4. Houston Westbury Christian, 22-6. 5. Houston Concordia Lutheran, 20-8. 6. Austin St. Stephen's, 17-6. 7. SA Christian, 24-5. 8. Tyler All Saints Episcopal, 25-2. 9. Houston Christian, 12-12. 10. SA St. Mary's Hall, 16-5. 11. Lubbock Trinity Christian, 17-9. 12. Dallas St. Mark's, 12-9. 13. FW Southwest Christian, 19-4. 14. Dallas Bishop Dunne, 10-11. 15. SA Antonian, 22-8. 16. Dallas Parish Episcopal, 10-7. 17. Houston St. Thomas, 18-10. 18. Dallas Episcopal, 11-8. 19. Brownsville St. Joseph's, 17-6. 20. Dallas Bishop Lynch, 17-9. 21. Plano John Paul II, 11-10. 22. Dallas Christian, 12-5. 23. Austin St. Dominic Savio, 14-9. 24. Dallas Greenhill, 10-9. 25. SA TMI-Episcopal, 17-14.

Small Private Schools

1. Cedar Hill Trinity Christian, 24-1. 2. Houston St. Thomas Episcopal, 17-11. 3. Lubbock Christian, 18-4. 4. Arlington Grace Prep, 19-7. 5. Waco Vanguard College Prep, 20-2. 6. FW Bethesda Christian, 18-3. 7. FW Lake Country Christian, 16-10. 8. Christian Academy of San Antonio, 18-1. 9. Abilene Christian, 15-6. 10. Austin Waldorf, 16-6. 11. Cambridge School of Dallas, 14-2. 12. Dallas Yavneh, 15-8. 13. League City Bay Area Christian, 10-3. 14. The Woodlands Christian, 22-10. 15. Baytown Christian, 17-4. 16. Bryan Brazos Christian, 13-4. 17. De Soto The Canterbury Episcopal, 10-3. 18. Victoria Faith, 23-5. 19. Midland Classical, 16-5. 20. Universal City First Baptist, 16-8. 21. Geneva School of Boerne, 18-8. 22. Beaumont Legacy Christian, 12-10. 23. Bryan Allen, 16-7. 24. Kingwood Northeast Christian, 17-6. 25. Katy Faith West, 12-2.

GIRLS

Class 6A

1. Cypress Woods, 21-1. 2. Galena Park North Shore, 22-2. 3. Round Rock Cedar Ridge, 21-2. 4. Plano West, 19-4. 5. Austin Bowie, 22-4. 6. Duncanville, 23-5. 7. Dallas Skyline, 20-5. 8. Amarillo, 25-2.

Cowboys' Witten in 10th Pro Bowl as sub

Associated Press

IRVING — Dallas tight end Jason Witten is going to his 10th Pro Bowl, as an injury replacement for Denver's Julius Thomas.

Witten's addition Monday night sends him to his third straight Pro Bowl after a seven-year streak ended in 2011. The game is Sunday in Arizona.

The 32-year-old Witten had 64 catches for 703 yards and five touchdowns in his 12th season. He and Tony Gonzalez are the only tight ends with 11 straight 700-yard seasons.

Witten is the fourth player with at least 10 Pro Bowls for the Cowboys. Defensive lineman Bob Lilly made 11 appearances, while defensive back Mel Renfro and offensive lineman Larry Allen had 10 apiece.

Witten has a franchise-record 943 catches, with 10,502 yards receiving and 57 touchdowns.

NFL investigating if Pats deflated footballs

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

The NFL is investigating whether the New England Patriots deflated footballs that were used in their AFC championship game victory over the Indianapolis Colts.

"We are looking into it," league spokesman Brian McCarthy wrote in an email to The Associated Press on Monday. "We do not have anything further to add at this point."

The inquiry was first reported by the website for WTHR-TV in Indiana, citing an unnamed source.

"We'll cooperate fully with whatever the league wants us to, whatever questions they ask," Belichick said Monday during his regular conference call with reporters.

He said he was unaware there was an issue until Monday morning.

The Patriots have come under scrutiny with regards to NFL rules in the past, most infamously when they were punished for videotaping sideline signals used by the New York Jets during a 2007 game. Belichick was fined $500,000, and the team was docked $250,000 and stripped of its 2008 first-round draft pick.

According to the NFL rule book, home teams are responsible for furnishing playable balls at all times. Each team brings 12 primary balls, while home teams are required to also bring 12 backup balls.

Once the referee makes sure the footballs are properly inflated, they're delivered to ball attendants provided by the home team.

The league's game operations manual notes: "If any individual alters the footballs, or if a non-approved ball is used in the game, the person responsible and, if appropriate, the head coach or other club personnel will be subject to discipline, including but not limited to, a fine of $25,000."

Deflating a football could change the way it would be gripped by a player or the way it travels through the air.

The Patriots beat the Colts 45-7 to reach the Super Bowl. New England will play the defending champion Seattle Seahawks for the NFL title at Glendale, Arizona, on Feb. 1.

In Sunday night's lopsided AFC finale, quarterback Tom Brady threw for three touchdowns and running back LeGarrette Blount gained 148 yards while scoring three touchdowns to send New England to its sixth Super Bowl in the past 14 years.

Colts quarterback Andrew Luck had his worst game as a pro, completing only 12 of 33 passes for 126 yards, no touchdowns and two interceptions.

On his regular weekly morning-after-game appearance Monday on WEEI radio, Brady said he wasn't aware of the report about the league's investigation into whether footballs were properly inflated against Indianapolis.

"I think I've heard it all at this point," Brady said with a laugh.

"That's the last of my worries," he said. "I don't even respond to stuff like this."

Seattle's comeback still hard for everyone to fathom

By Tim Booth
Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — A day later, it was still hard to fathom how the Seattle Seahawks are headed for their second straight Super Bowl.

Even for those directly involved in Seattle's stunning comeback to win the NFC title.

"A little bit," said wide receiver Jermaine Kearse, who caught the winning 35-yard touchdown in overtime of Seattle's 28-22 win over Green Bay.

"But the type of guys that we have in our locker room is a bunch of different stories of different paths of how people got to where they got.

"You think about all the undrafted guys, you think about the guys that were drafted in the late rounds and rose to the occasion. I feel like our team story is full of adversity and pushing through it and that's what showed."

Just how the Seahawks rallied to stun the Packers was still being comprehended on Monday while Seattle began preparations for its chance at a second straight championship facing New England.

Seattle is keeping the same schedule as last year with three days of practice this week before heading to Arizona on Sunday.

Seattle coach Pete Carroll intends on having most of the game plan in place before the Seahawks leave.

"We do have to get a lot done. This is a very heightened time for us. This is not sit back and take a couple of days. We're going after it," Carroll said. "Wednesday, Thursday, Friday we're game planning and we'll have the game plan in before we leave. That's an old Bill Walsh way.

"That's the way we've always done the bowl games and stuff since we've been doing it. It's a really good way for the coaches and players to focus before the distractions that naturally come up when you get on the road."

Elaine Thompson/AP

Seattle Seahawks' Russell Wilson celebrates after overtime of the NFL football NFC Championship game against the Green Bay Packers Sunday, Jan. 18, 2015, in Seattle. The Seahawks won 28-22 to advance to Super Bowl XLIX. (AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

Seattle still expects both safety Earl Thomas and cornerback Richard Sherman to be available to play in two weeks even though Carroll did not have results of MRIs on Monday. Thomas separated his shoulder in the first half, but returned before halftime and played with a brace.

Sherman injured his left elbow when his arm was sandwiched between teammate Kam Chancellor and Green Bay's James Starks on the first play of the fourth quarter. Sherman played the rest of the game with his arm pinned against his chest, but while it was obvious Sherman was limited the Packers rarely challenged him.

Rodgers threw at Sherman only once in the fourth quarter.

"Both those guys were in dire straits could they play. They didn't flinch, not for a second," Carroll said. "When they played, they played their hearts out.

"The courage and the toughness and standing up for who they are and what they mean to this team couldn't have been more evident and the willingness to throw their body out there again and try to finish this game and would not allow it to be any other way. It was so impressive. It really was and there were a lot of guys who do that but it was just really symbolic."

According to STATS, Seattle is just the second team to trail by 12 or more points and rally in the final 2:10 of regulation to win. On Dec. 23, 1972, the Cowboys trailed San Francisco 28-16, but scored twice in the final 1:20 to win 30-28.

Seattle's improbable comeback started when it trailed 19-7 after Russell Wilson threw his fourth interception of the game with about five minutes remaining.

But the interception started the chain of events that helped Seattle pull off its rally, beginning with Morgan Burnett's decision to slide down in the open field rather than trying to return the pick as far as possible.

Seattle was able to force Green Bay into a three-and-out with the Seahawks using only two of their timeouts and just 1:12 elapsing off the clock. The Seahawks needed only 1:43 to go 69 yards and score on Wilson's 1-yard touchdown with 2:09 remaining.

Then came the onside kick, which Carroll said Monday gets practiced once a week. Just 44 seconds later, Marshawn Lynch was in the end zone after a 24-yard run and the ensuing 2-point conversion pass from Wilson to tight end Luke Willson, who wasn't supposed to be involved in the original play.

And lastly, on the first drive of overtime, Wilson made a check at the line of scrimmage and recognizing there was no safety in the middle of the field and Kearse had single coverage. All Kearse had to do was win his matchup.

"We're all real grateful that we were a part of it and had the opportunity to be faced with so much adversity and so much of a challenge and see guys really play through it and come through," Carroll said. "It wasn't a one play thing. A lot of stuff had to happen."

Seahawks recognize need for improvement against Patriots

BARRY WILNER
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Now that they've pulled off a comeback for the ages, the Seattle Seahawks must recognize how fortunate they are to be in a second consecutive Super Bowl.

And how much better they must play on Feb. 1 to grab another NFL championship.

Seattle's memorable victory — forgettable if you are a Cheesehead — displayed a champion's resilience and confidence. It also revealed issues that Pete Carroll's team needs to solve before facing an equally resilient and confident bunch from New England.

"We had troubles with these guys," said of the Packers, "and really we couldn't get out of our own way. We couldn't get our rhythm going, couldn't get on schedule.

"It just took us a long time before those penalties that were jumping up and moving around, and all of the things that were kicking us in the butt went away. And then we started playing, and it was just we believed that once we started playing we can really go. And it just took a long time for it to show up, but once it did ..."

The skills that have made the Seahawks the team to beat can't show up in the last few minutes in the Super Bowl. With the way New England's offense is rolling, it isn't likely to settle for field goals like Green Bay did. The Patriots won't back off defensively as the Packers did when it was 19-7.

And they can't be expected to fall apart on special teams, which saved the Seahawks and doomed the Packers on Sunday.

"The ball didn't bounce our way the whole game," said Russell Wilson, who was picked a career-high four times, and also ran for a TD before his 35-yard pass to Jermaine Kearse won it in overtime. "But it bounced our way at the right time, so that's always good."

Some things that must be better in the Super Bowl for Seattle to become the first repeat winner since New England after the 2003 and '04 seasons:

CUT DOWN ON TURNOVERS: The Seahawks had only 14 giveaways during the season, one more than New England. There were five (Doug Baldwin fumbled on a kickoff return) against the Packers.

Two of the interceptions were on passes tipped by Kearse, the target on all four picks. Still, Wilson must be more precise while remaining aggressive because New England doesn't back off. Ever.

FEED THE BEAST: Marshawn Lynch rushed for 157 yards, including a powerful yet speedy 24-yard TD run with 1:25 remaining for a short-lived 22-19 lead. But he had only 37 in the first half. Seattle needs a more effective opening two quarters from him.

While we're at it, the Seahawks can't get off to such a spotty start in the Super Bowl. Green Bay outgained Seattle 137-3 in the first period and was ahead 13-0.

PRESSURE BRADY: The only way to slow the Patriots' offense is by making Brady uncomfortable. Force him to throw before wants to or when his feet are not set. Collapse the pocket.

Rarely did the Seahawks do that against the Packers. Indeed, if Aaron Rodgers wasn't so hobbled by a calf injury, he probably would have made enough effective runs to send Green Bay to the big game.

Even with Rodgers struggling, Seattle had one sack.

GET HEALTHY: Both All-Pro defensive backs, CB Richard Sherman (arm) and S Earl Thomas (shoulder) were banged up against Green Bay. While the matchup of huge strong safety Kam Chancellor against star tight end Rob Gronkowski could be the key, going up against Brady and Co. without Sherman and Thomas at full strength is a recipe for defeat.

Carroll doesn't sound worried that his guys won't come through.

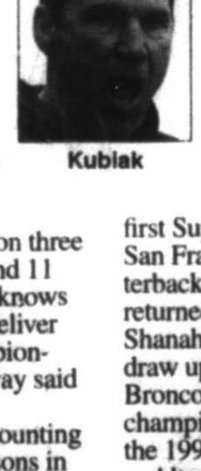
"This is a group that has really committed to understanding what it takes from themselves and from the team and they have learned a lot," he said. "So their expectations are very high because they know when they do things together, ain't nothing we can't do."

Kubiak hired as Denver Broncos head coach

By Arnie Stapelton
Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — John Elway and Gary Kubiak are back together drawing up blueprints for the Denver Broncos to get back to the Super Bowl.

Elway hired Kubiak on Monday, inking his former backup QB and offensive coordinator to a four-year contract. Kubiak replaces John Fox, who was ousted last week following Denver's stunning loss to the Indianapolis Colts in the AFC divisional playoffs.



Kubiak

"Having coached on three Super Bowl teams and 11 playoff teams, Gary knows what it will take to deliver another world championship" to Denver, Elway said in a statement.

Fox went 49-22, counting playoffs, in four seasons in Denver, where he won four AFC West titles. But Elway didn't like the lack of fire the team displayed in its biggest games, including a 35-point loss in last year's Super Bowl and a 24-13 loss at home as a heavy favorite two weeks ago.

Fox was hired as the Chicago Bears' new coach on Friday.

Kubiak and his staff are expected to bring a discipline and toughness that Elway deemed was lacking in Denver, where a talent-laden roster that featured an NFL-high 10 Pro Bowlers lost at home in the playoffs after a bye for the second time in three years.

In each of the past two seasons, Elway, the team's general manager and executive vice president, found it necessary to address the players himself following particularly bad performances, something the head coach usually handles.

In Kubiak, Elway brings back a man who went down the championship trails with him in the 1990s.

Kubiak's relationship with Elway includes nine seasons as his backup QB, from 1983-91, and four seasons as his offensive coordinator.

After winning his first Super Bowl ring as the San Francisco 49ers' quarterbacks coach in 1994, he returned to Denver on Mike Shanahan's staff and helped draw up the blueprint for the Broncos' two Super Bowl championships following the 1997 and '98 seasons.

Altogether, Kubiak spent 11 seasons as Shanahan's top offensive assistant before leaving in 2006 to coach the Houston Texans. He went 63-66, counting 2-2 in the playoffs, in eight seasons in Houston.

"Gary Kubiak has established a track record of leadership, success and high character during his 30 seasons in the NFL," Elway said in a statement. "While there is no question he is a Bronco, what Gary has learned from his other opportunities around the league, especially in his eight seasons as a head coach, will tremendously benefit our organization."

NFL PLAYOFFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 3
Carolina 27, Arizona 16
Baltimore 30, Pittsburgh 17
Sunday, Jan. 4
Indianapolis 26, Cincinnati 10
Dallas 24, Detroit 20

Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 10
New England 35, Baltimore 31
Seattle 31, Carolina 17
Sunday, Jan. 11
Green Bay 26, Dallas 21
Indianapolis 24, Denver 13

Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 18
Seattle 28, Green Bay 22, OT
New England 45, Indianapolis 7
Pro Bowl
Sunday
At Glendale, Ariz.
Team Irvin vs. Team Carter, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 1
At Glendale, Ariz.
New England vs. Seattle, 5:30 p.m. (NBC)

Fox 'looking forward' to challenge with Bears

By Andrew Seligman
Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — John Fox was not backing down from the challenge as the Chicago Bears' new coach.

No matter how tough it is, he was not shying away.

"I'm looking forward to this challenge," Fox said Monday. "I can't tell you exactly what that challenge is yet, but I understand that it starts with being successful in your division."

The Bears finished last in the NFC North at 5-11, missed the playoffs for the seventh time in eight years and fired general manager Phil Emery and coach Marc Trestman.

They hired Ryan Pace as GM and then turned to Fox last week, just days after he coached the Denver Broncos in the playoffs, to replace Trestman.

Fox did not provide any answers about the futures of quarterback Jay Cutler or receiver Brandon Marshall at his introductory news conference. He is more focused on filling out his staff.

Fox brings a 119-89 regular-season record in 13 years with Carolina (2002-10) and Denver (2011-14), with six division titles and seven playoff appearances. He is one of six coaches to lead two franchises to Super Bowl appearances, joining Don Shula, Bill Parcells, Dan Reeves, Dick Vermeil and Mike Holmgren.

"John Fox is a proven winner and when he became available, honestly, the game changed," Pace said. "The more time I spent with him and his family, the more it became apparent that he's the perfect man to lead our charge."

Fox oversaw turnarounds in Carolina and Denver, and the Bears are hoping for a similar result this time.

It won't be easy, considering how chaotic last season was in Chicago.

There was no shortage of drama, whether it was Lance Briggs missing practice the week of the opener to open a restaurant in California, former offensive coordinator Aaron Kromer leaking a critical story of Cutler or Marshall repeatedly drawing headlines for reasons that had little to do with his play.

Fox brings credibility. He led the Broncos to division titles all four years, even if those seasons ended in ugly losses. He oversaw an impressive turnaround in Carolina, with the Panthers going from 1-15 in 2001, the year before he arrived, to the Super Bowl in his second season.

Brewers trade Yovani Gallardo to Rangers

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

AP file photo

In this Sept. 19 photo, Milwaukee Brewers starting pitcher Yovani Gallardo delivers during a game against the Pittsburgh Pirates in Pittsburgh. The Milwaukee Brewers have agreed to trade Gallardo to the Texas Rangers.

Yovani Gallardo is getting a chance to pitch at home.

The Milwaukee Brewers traded Gallardo and $4 million of his $14 million salary to the Texas Rangers for infielder Luis Sardinas and right-handers Corey Knebel and Marcos Diplan on Monday.

"It definitely means a lot. I grew up here, went to high school here," said Gallardo, who lives in North Texas. "I'm very excited for this opportunity and looking forward to it."

While the deal gives the Rangers a needed proven starter in the middle of their rotation behind Yu Darvish and Derek Holland, it could also indicate the Brewers may try to pursue free-agent pitcher James Shields

Gallardo, who turns 29 next month, was 8-11 last year with a 3.51 ERA in 32 starts last season. He was 89-64 with a 3.69 ERA in an eight-year career with Milwaukee.

The right-hander's contract specifies his 2015 salary increased from $13 million to $14 million when he was traded. Gallardo is eligible for free agency in November, though there seemingly is already interest on both sides from a longer stay in Texas even without such discussions so far.

"It's something I expect we will revisit with him and his agent," general manager Jon Daniels said.

Gallardo said "of course" he would like to be pitch in Texas for more than one season, but that his focus now is getting ready for spring training.

Daniels said Gallardo was one of the pitchers the Rangers had targeted this offseason, and fills a specific need. Gallardo worked at least 180 innings in each of the last six seasons.

"The biggest thing we were lacking was innings in our rotation," the GM said.

Milwaukee took Gallardo in the second round of the 2004 amateur draft out of Trimble Tech High School in Fort Worth, less than 20 miles from the Rangers' ballpark.

"Yovani has been a huge part of the Brewers organization and has left a mark as one of the best pitchers in franchise history," Brewers general manager Doug Melvin said in a statement. "He is a great competitor and professional who will be missed. At the same time, we have added three young and talented players to our organization."

Gallardo's departure presumably frees up a spot for young right-hander Jimmy Nelson to join Kyle Lohse, Matt Garza, Wily Peralta and Mike Fiers in the Brewers' rotation.

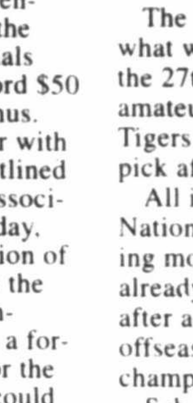
Milwaukee went 82-80 last year after adding free-agent pitcher Matt Garza with a $50 million, four-year contract and burst to a 20-7 start that allowed the Brewers to open a 6 1/2-game NL Central lead and stay atop the division for five months. Milwaukee dropped out of first place on Sept. 1, lost 22 of its last 31 games and missed the playoffs.

Texas is coming off a last-place finish in the AL West. Plagued by injuries, the Rangers lost 95 games — their most since 1985 — and are hoping for a turnaround under new manager Jeff Banister, who as a coach on Pittsburgh's staff was in the same division as Gallardo the past six years.

"He was a workhorse against us. We didn't really barrel him up very good," Banister said. "When he's on top of his game, the command was plus. ... More than anything else, it was the tenacity by which he pitched and he loved to compete. He really wanted to show our hitters that he was in command anytime he faced them."

Scherzer, Nationals agree to $210M, 7-year deal

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press



Scherzer

WASHINGTON — Sure seems as if Max Scherzer and his wife now will be able to afford to buy themselves at least one of those non-stick baking sheets they were hoping to receive as a wedding gift.

Or even a few million of 'em.

The 2013 AL Cy Young Award winner will become the highest-paid right-handed pitcher in major league history after agreeing to a $210 million, seven-year contract with the Washington Nationals that includes a record $50 million signing bonus.

A person familiar with the negotiations outlined the terms to The Associated Press on Monday, speaking on condition of anonymity because the deal hadn't been announced. It creates a formidable rotation for the Nationals — who could try to boost the rest of their roster by trading one of their other starters.

Washington is now the 4-1 favorite to win the World Series, down from 6-1 odds when the offseason started.

Scherzer's signing bonus tops the previous high of $30 million for any player, given by the Cubs to pitcher Jon Lester this offseason. Scherzer plans to establish residency in Florida, which would shield his signing bonus from D.C. income tax, the person familiar with the negotiations said.

The person said the pitcher is scheduled to take a physical Tuesday, one of the steps needed for the deal to be finalized.

Scherzer, who spent the past five seasons with the Detroit Tigers before becoming a free agent, will receive the money from the Nationals spread out over 14 years, which lowers its present-day value.

Still, Scherzer did quite well for himself. Indeed, he and his bride — they were married in November 2013 — won't have to depend on their friends to finish filling the requests on their bridal registry at Crate & Barrel, including the pair of $19.95 baking sheets that no one gave them.

The 30-year-old right-hander's contract is the second-largest for a pitcher, behind only Los Angeles Dodgers lefty Clayton Kershaw's $215 million, seven-year deal that runs from 2014-20. The previous high for a righty was the $180 million, seven-year agreement from 2013-19 signed by Justin Verlander, another Cy Young Award winner for the Tigers.

Scherzer turned down an offer from Detroit last March that would have paid him $144 million from 2015-20, an average of $24 million per year.

The Nationals will lose what would have been the 27th pick in June's amateur draft, while the Tigers will gain an extra pick after the first round.

All in all, for the Nationals, it's a surprising move to upgrade an already imposing rotation after a relatively quiet offseason for the NL East champions.

Scherzer was 18-5 with a 3.15 ERA in 2014, a year after going 21-3 with a 2.90 ERA and being voted the best pitcher in the American League. He now joins a club whose starting staff in 2014 included Stephen Strasburg, Jordan Zimmermann, Doug Fister — Scherzer's former teammate with the Tigers — Gio Gonzalez, and Tanner Roark.

That group already was considered among the best — if not the best — rotation in the majors. The question now is what move could come next for the Nationals, who might pursue a trade.

Zimmermann went 14-5 with a 2.66 ERA and 182 strikeouts in 199 2-3 innings in 2014, and he threw the first no-hitter in Nationals history on the last day of the regular season. But he can enter free agency after next season.

Last season, Strasburg was 14-11 with a 3.14 ERA and 242 strikeouts in 215 innings; Fister was 16-6 with a 2.41 ERA; Gonzalez went 10-10 with a 3.57 ERA, and Roark went 15-10 with a 2.85 ERA in 198 2-3 innings.

Gonzalez, third in NL Cy Young Award voting in 2012, is the only left-hander in the bunch.

Fowler traded from Astros to Cubs for Valbuena and Straily

Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Chicago Cubs hope Dexter Fowler will provide outfield strength and spark at the top of the batting order.

"He does control the strike zone really well," Cubs general manager Jed Hoyer said Monday after acquiring Fowler from the Houston Astros for infielder Luis Valbuena and right-hander Dan Straily.

Fowler, 28, hit .276 with eight homers and 35 RBI last year in his only season with the Astros, who obtained him from Colorado for outfielder Brandon Barnes and right-hander Jordan Lyles.

Fowler, who has a .271 career average, asked last week for $10.8 million in arbitration and was offered $8.5 million. He is eligible for free agency after the season.

"He can potentially lead off for us. I won't sit here and make the lineup card out for Joe (Maddon), but he certainly fits well in that role," Hoyer said. "It really gives us much needed depth in center field and in the outfield. We felt like we were a little bit imbalanced as far as our depth, that we were certainly a deeper team in the infield than we were in the outfield."

The 29-year-old Valbuena played third base primarily last year but also saw time at second. He hit .249 with 33 doubles, 16 homers and 51 RBI Valbuena agreed Friday to a $4.2 million, one-year contract and can become a free agent after the 2016 World Series.

Straily, 26 and a former Midland RockHoun, was 1-3 with a 6.75 ERA last season in eight starts and six relief appearances for Oakland and the Cubs, who acquired him as part of the trade that sent Jeff Samardzija to the Athletics. He was 10-8 for the A's in 2013.

The arrival of Fowler puts Arismendy Alcantara in more of a utility role. The departure of Valbuena creates an opening at third, although Hoyer insisted it will not accelerate prized prospect Kris Bryant's arrival in the majors.

He said Mike Olt, Tommy La Stella and Alcantara will compete for time until Bryant is ready.

"When Kris is ready, when we think he's ready to come up to the big leagues, we'll make that decision," Hoyer said. "But certainly trading Valbuena is not gonna speed that clock up at all. It's all dependent on Kris."

Chicago also agreed to a minor league contract with right-hander Daniel Bard, who has not pitched in the major leagues since 2013 with Boston. Bard had surgery in January 2014 for Thoracic Outlet Syndrome, then agreed to a minor league deal with Texas. He made four appearances in June for the Hickory Crawdads of the Class A South Atlantic League and allowed 13 runs in two-thirds of an innings, a 175.50 ERA.

WESTTEXASSPORTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

To submit an item for West Texas Sports, please either fax, bring in, mail or email your information in hard-copy form to the Reporter-Telegram sports department.

Please make your submission as detailed as possible, including dates of events, deadlines, fees, age groups, etc.

To bring your item to the MRT, come to 201 E. Illinois Ave. in Midland. To mail your information, send it to Reporter-Telegram, c/o Sports Department, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

To fax your information, send to 570-7650.

Baseball

GCM Baseball Academy
What: Professional private baseball lessons & clinics covering pitching, fielding, catching and hitting provided by three former professional players.
For: Ages 5 & up.
Cost: Individual lessons $65 an hour or $40 for 30 minutes. Bulk purchases & group lesson rates available at discount.
For more info: Call (432) 425-6108.

Private batting and pitching instruction
For more info: Call Danny Jordan at 230-0096 for instruction on mechanics and pitch selection in a one-on-one setting.

Private hitting and catching instruction
For more info: Call Scott Chapman at 967-2364 for instruction in a one-on-one environment.

Pitching, hitting and fielding lessons
For more info: Call Midland High baseball coach Barry Russell at 296-2438.

Private Baseball/Softball lessons
For more info: Contact Extra Innings Midland/Odessa at (432) 617-4487 or visit www.extrainnings-midlandodessa.com.

Midland Little League Umpires Needed
For more info: Contact 889-6080.

WTX Baseball
What: Instruction for players 5 and up
For more info: wtxbaseball.com; facebook.com/wtxbaseballmidland; 413-0329

Basketball

Permian Basketball Association needs officials
For more info: Jim Cox, 685-4143 or 559-3714.

YMCA needs basketball referees
For more info: 682-2551.

Midland Hoops 32 Basketball Skills Training
Cost: $25 per session, one to two people; $15 for groups of three or more.
For more info: Contact Eddie Venzant at 254-8894 or go to midlandhoops32.com; venzanteddie@yahoo.com.

Bowling

Tuesday Night Petroleum Men's League
When: Meets at 6:45 p.m.
For more info: Motion Post 694-5176 or Cactus Lanes 694-0177.

Edith McElmore Three-Person League
When: 10 a.m. Wednesdays
Where: AMF Lanes
For more info: Call AMF Lanes at 689-9725.

Where: Jimenez Tae Kwon-Do Studio, 4400 N. Midland Dr.
For more info: Call 697-8554.

Private Tae Kwon-Do lessons
Where: Jimenez Tae Kwon-Do Studio, 4400 N. Midland Dr.
For more info: Call 697-8554.

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu
When: 6-8 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 2-3 p.m. Saturdays
Where: Perez Martial Arts Academy, 350 N. Midland Dr., Suite A.
For more info: Call 634-9621 or (469) 248-8472.

Matthews Martial Arts
When: Monday through Thursday, 5-8 p.m.
What: Karate-Judo-Jujitsu-Kempo-KungFu
For: Ages 3 and up.
Where: 3205 Cuthbert
For more info: Contact Jason Matthews at 488-7467 or 689-8444.

Cycling

Permian Basin Bicycle Association Meetings
When: 7 p.m., third Monday of every month
Where: Beak Park Ranch House, 5200 W. Wall Street, Midland.
Dues: $25/$30 for a family
For more info: Peyton's Bikes 699-1718 or go to www.pbbatx.com

Dodgeball

Sticks and Kicks Leagues
Who: Kids, adults, co-ed players
Cost: $35 per player (8 game season)
Where: Register at Sticks and Kicks, 3918 W. Wall
For more info: Call 520-8633.

Flag Football

YMCA Officials Needed
What: The YMCA needs officials for Youth Flag Football games Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
For more info: Call 682-2551.

Football

Permian Basin Officials Chapter seeks officials
Note: Education and training will be provided.
For more info: Call Terrell Pierce at 559-5004 or Don Orren at 631-2395.

Martial Arts

Aikido
When: Monday-Friday, 7 to 9 p.m.; Saturdays, 12:30 p.m.
Note: Specializing in traditional Hombu style Aikido.
For more info: Call John Riggs, 684-7008 or 770-3155.

Private Martial Art/Self-Defense Lessons
Ages: Men-Women-Children
What: Learn Basic Skills to Advanced Techniques
Note: Private, Semi-Private and Group Lessons are available.
For more info: Call Master Oscar Jimenez, 432-559-5009, Ojimenez3@att.net.

Women's Self Defense Class
When: Monday and Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.

Shooting

Comanche Trail Shootists
What: Single Action Shooting Society affiliated club in Midland.
When: Monthly shoots first Saturday and third Sunday of each month; first Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. Third Sunday from 1 p.m. (Mandatory safety meeting at 12:30 p.m.) Also shoot on fifth Sunday on months that have them (begin at 1 p.m. and are no cost to the shooter). Mandatory safety meeting at 9:30 a.m.
Where: Timberline Ranch adjacent to Jake's Clays.
For more info: Go to comanchetrailshootists.org or call Hoodoo Brown 682-1422.

Midland Shooters Association
What: All types of shooting practice and competition; featuring archery, benchrest rifle, bulls-eye rifle, high power rifle, pistol silhouette, rimfire silhouette, 3 gun, practical pistol, skeet, trap, 5 state and sporting clays.
When: Members can access rifle and pistol ranges from sunrise to sunset seven days a week. Shotgun ranges open 11 a.m. until dusk Wednesday to Sunday.
For more info: Go to www.midlandshooters.com.

Lee Booster Club hosting fundraiser, clay shoot
Purpose: To help raise money for continued improvements to the softball field at Lee High School and player uniforms and equipment.
When/Where: Saturday, Jan. 24 at Jake's (13301 FM 1379, Midland).
Registration: Begins at 11 a.m., lunch at noon.
For more info: Call 432-570-0290 or call Tina Greenlee at 432-634-5149.

Soccer

Permian Basin Soccer Association
What: Registration for women's spring summer season.
Where: Dunagan Park, located at corner of Gist and Terrell.
When: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
For more info: Contact Jesus Chavez at 557-7032 anytime or Josh Chavez at 238-6947 after 6:30 p.m.

Midland Soccer Association
For: Youth Recreational League Ages 4-18
When: Spring/Fall Games
Note: Also information on becoming a certified referee.
For more info: Register online at www.midlandsoccer.com and go to 432-684-5425.

Softball

Midland Softball Association Tournament Schedule
Now available at www.midlandsoftball.com.
For more info: call Tommy Hawkins at 520-9100.

Midland Men's Woodsat Fastpitch Association
What: Men's fastpitch softball
For more info: Call 634-6474 or visit www.facebook.com/pages/Midland-Texas-Mens-Fastpitch or wyotestpitch@gmail.com.

Swimming

COM Pre-competitive swimming
Where: Mabee Aquatic Center
Cost: $49 per month
Prerequisite: Must be able to swim 25 yards or freestyle or backstroke.
For more info: 684-7755.

COM Water Aerobics Classes
When: All times Monday through Saturday.
Who: All skill levels.
For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755.

COM Learn to Swim
Ages: All ages.
Note: Private, semi-private and group lessons are available.
For more info: 684-7755.

COM Masters Swimming
What: Competitive or non-competitive program for adults of all skill levels.
When: 5-6 p.m., 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday.
Cost: $40 per month (includes cardio training).
For more info: Call 684-7755.

COM Diving Instruction
Who: All ages and levels invited.
For more info: 684-7755.

COM Learn to Dive
What: Learn basic skills for beginners then advance to pre-competitive and competitive diving that emphasize skilled diving techniques and participation in diving meets.
Ages: 4 and up.
For more info: 684-7755.

COM Competitive Dive Team
Who: Try out for Bronze, Silver, Gold Prep or Gold levels of COM Dive Team.
What: Emphasizes is on diving techniques and participation in local and out of town competitive meets.
For more info: 684-7755.

COM Elite Dive Team
What: Highest level of COM diving. Concentrates on perfecting Olympic level skills, national and international travel.
For more info: 684-7755.

COM Competitive Swim Team
Who: Try out for COM Swim Team, tryouts available by appointment.
What: Emphasizes stroke correction and participation in local and out of town competitive meets.
For more info: 684-7755.

COM Adult Conditioning
What: Allows adult participation use of top quality lap pools and fitness room during specified hours.
For more info: 684-7755.

COM Water Walking Class
What: Unstructured, self-paced class.
For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755.

COM Senior Fitness Class
Who: Senior citizens that need help with physical conditions resulting from injury, disease, chronic conditions, advanced age, etc.
For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755.

Central YMCA Water Aerobics Classes
When: Early morning, morning and evening.
For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551.

Central YMCA Arthritis Water Exercise Classes
When: Monday, Wednesday, Friday.
For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551.

Central YMCA Swimming Lessons
Who: All ages and ability.
For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551.

Central YMCA Synchronized Swimming
For: Ages 6 and up.
For more information: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551.

Tennis

West Texas Tennis Association
What: West Texas Tennis Association, a non-profit community tennis association, promotes and oversees USTA leagues, programs and events in the area.
For more info: Call 432-563-1333 or www.westtexastennis.com for more information.

Bush Tennis Center Clinics
What: Ballcon Tennis 34 (ages 3-4); Redball 56 (ages 5-8); Orange and Green Ball 910 (ages 9-10); Junior Development (6th-8th grade, freshman-JV); Junior Select (varsity); RSR Adults (adult beginners, intermediate Adults 4.0-5.0; Adults (advanced adults). Also: Junior Team Tennis registration now open.
Where: Bush Tennis Center.
For more info: Visit www.bushtenniscenter.com and /or call 620-8180.

USTA Team Tennis Adult Leagues
When: Leagues run May through November.
Where: Midland College Tennis Center.
For more info: Sherry 620-8610 or Email www.midlandtennis@aol.com.

Midland College tennis classes
When: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 to 1:50 p.m.
Where: Midland College.
For more info: Call 686-4266.

Youth Clinics
When: For children 4-8 years of age (Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 to 4 p.m.) and 9-15 years of age (Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Where: Midland College Tennis Center.
For more info: 686-4266.

Midland Women's Tennis Association fall league
For more info: 689-4340.

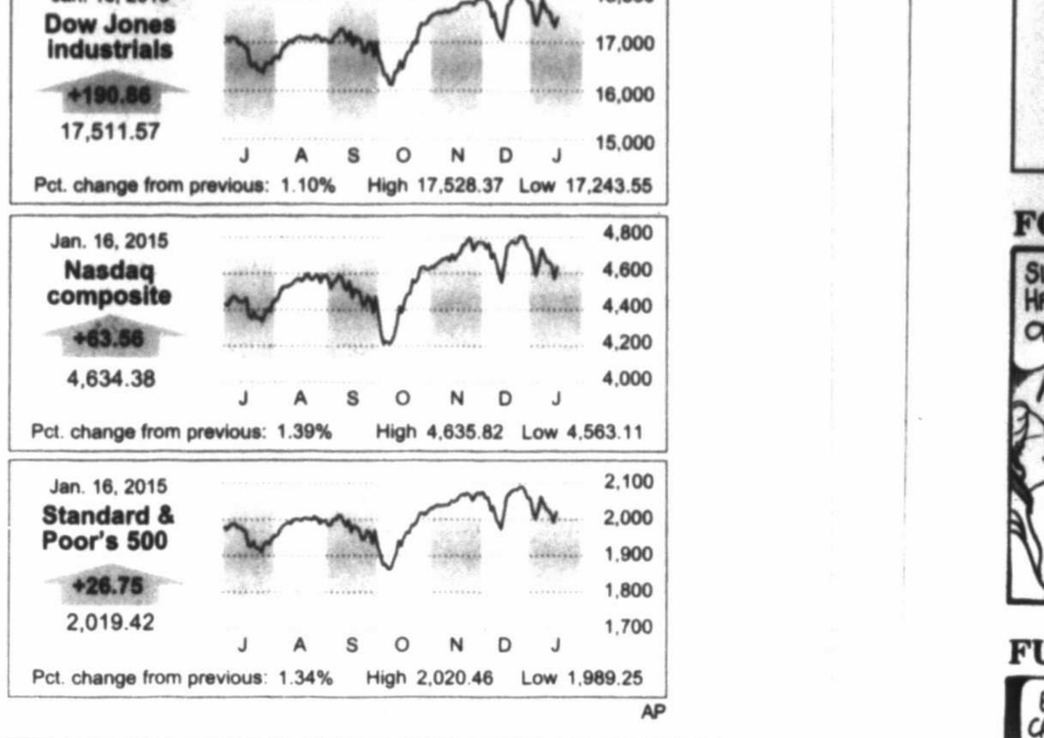
Midland Tennis Club
Where: Midland College Tennis Center.
Annual dues: Adults $65, youth $30; families $140.
For more info: Call 686-4266 or email midlandtennisclub@yahoo.com.

Walking

Midland Walkabout AVA Club Meetings
When: Fun Walks, 10K, 3rd Saturday morning of the month; Monthly meeting 3rd Sunday at 5 p.m.
Where: Fun Walks, vary; meetings in Room 227, First Presbyterian Church, 800 W. Texas Ave.
Who: All ages.
For more info: Call Alex Rose 687-2588 or go to www.midlandwalkabout.org.

THE MARKET IN REVIEW

A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

NYSE	AMEX	NASDAQ
MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)	MOST ACTIVE ($2 OR MORE)	MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
S&P500ETF1842402201	63	+2.61	
AlldNwrkQ	58295	1.25	+.04
CheniereEn	38576	73.23	+.17
B2gold g	35850	2.10	+.10
BarcGSiOi	32439	11.09	+.61

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
NwGold g	81720	4.60	+.34
Intel	599828	36.45	+.26
MicronT	579054	28.99	-.31
Microsoft	350603	46.24	+.76
PwShs QQQ337554100.82			+1.17

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Apple Inc s	774499	105.99	-.83
Intel	599828	36.45	+.26
MicronT	579054	28.99	-.31
Microsoft	350603	46.24	+.76
PwShs QQQ337554100.82			+1.17

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
EKodak wt	4.86	+1.30	+36.5
GoodrPet	3.06	+.33	+12.1
BeytexE g	15.72	+1.70	+12.1
BonanzaCE	23.38	+2.17	+10.2
NewfldExp	25.88	+2.38	+10.1

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
AltisrcAst	300.01	+68.66	+29.7
StrPathCm	17.00	+1.70	+11.1
GranTrra g	3.60	+.35	+10.8
TmsEntrs rs	2.98	+.27	+10.0
Skyline	3.77	+.32	+9.2

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Altisrce n	27.66	+9.29	+50.6
Courier	19.82	+5.13	+35.4
AldeyraT n	10.01	+2.27	+29.8
Cyclacel pf	5.70	+1.20	+26.7
E2open	6.72	+1.25	+22.9

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
EKodk wtA	4.04	-1.06	-20.8
CSVInvCrd	148.00	-26.36	-15.1
DrDGldBr	12.77	-1.57	-10.9
Roundys	3.51	-.43	-10.9
DnxRsaBear	23.57	-2.61	-10.0

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
FatWV	20.02	-1.26	-5.9
EnerJex pf	15.00	-.75	-4.8
HSBC CTI	5.91	-.29	-4.7
SCEd pfB	21.30	-.93	-4.2
EnviroStr	2.59	-.10	-3.7

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
KingtoneW	3.35	-.77	-18.7
CathGn wt	5.51	-1.02	-15.6
Repros wtB	6.19	-1.05	-14.5
CSVS3xInSh	49.20	-8.19	-14.3
Quotinet wt	5.99	-.86	-12.6

DIARY

Advanced	2,588
Declined	572
Unchanged	78
Total issues	3,238
New Highs	260
New Lows	95
Volume	3,977,652,079

DIARY

Advanced	255
Declined	145
Unchanged	15
Total issues	415
New Highs	20
New Lows	9
Volume	106,870,627

DIARY

Advanced	2,071
Declined	666
Unchanged	133
Total issues	2,870
New Highs	44
New Lows	111
Volume	1,914,648,358

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Name	Div	Last	Chg
A-B-C			
Abengoa Yld		34.71	-.88
Abraxas		2.81	-.02
Achillion		14.52	-.80
ActivsBiz	20f	20.25	
Adobe			
Adtran			
Advantest			
Aegerion			
Affymetrix			
Agilent			
Agnico g			
AkamaiTec			
Alaska Air			
Alexion			
Alkermes		70.96	
Allscripts			
Altera			
Amazon			
Ambarella		56.46	
Amedisys			
Amerigon			
Ameriprise			
Amgen		3.16f	158.43
Amkor			
Amylin			
Analog			
Ansys			
Apollo Gr A			
Apple Inc s			
Applied Mat			
Approach		5.99	-.70
Arena			
ArenaPhm			
Ariad			
ArrayBio		4.49	-.27
Arris			
Arrowhead			
Art Tech			
Aruba			
AsiaInfo			
ASML Hld			
Astex			
Atheros			
Atmel			
Autodesk			
Auxilium			
AvagoTech			
Avanir			
Avid Tech			
Axcelis			
Bally Tech			
BankAtl A			
BeaconPwr			
Bidz			
BioMarin			
BioSante			
BioSpecif			
BlackBaud			
BlkRkTact			
BlueNile			
BodyCote			
Bofl			
Bottomlin			
Braskem			
Brightpnt			
Broadcom			
Brocade			
Bruker			
BrukerAE			
BsRiver		44.24	2.80
Cabelas			
CadenceD			
Cadence			
CalDive			
Calpine			
CamMax			
CdnNRs gs		90.29	66+2.37
CapFedFn			
CapstoneT			
Carbonite			
CardioNet			
CardiumTh			
Carrizo		44.22	
Catalyst			
CathayGen			
Celadon			
Celgene			
Celldex			
Cellular			
Cellularn			
CelSci			
Cemex			
Cemig pf		3.56e	4 79 -.26
CentAl			
CentEuro			
CentGold g			
CentPac			
CentralGrn			
Cepheid			
Ceragon			
Cerner			
CerusCp			
ChaseCp		35.19	03 -.70
ChkPoint		4.28f	105.12+2.45
ChkptSft		28	40 171 -.76
Chelsea		1.89	13 -.06
Cimarex		84	98.99+7.06
Ciprico		04	47 31 -.78
CityEng			66 64+1.55
CitrixSys		1.60	36 -.96
Clearfld			35 36 -.15
CobaltEn			44 9.66 -.24
CocaCola		1.22f	42 53 +.15
CocaCE		1.04f	33 +.66
Coherent			5.94 +.41
ColgPalm		1.44f	69 17 +.85
Comarco		80	41 47 +.51
ComcstNs		50	4.90 -.07
ComcspA		1.00	36 23 -.11
ComcspSpl		1.00	35 22 -.09
ConocoPhil		2.92	63.08
Conseco		17	87
ContlRes s			39.60+2.69
Copart			99e 13 30 +.41
Corning			48f 23 17 +.15
Costplus			1 44 104 -.17
CSVInvNG			6.10 +.43
CSVLgNGs			4.34 -.36
CSVLgCrde			3.37
Cree			
CredSuiss		79e	22.05 -1.17
CrosTm		2.68e	20 40+1.23
CrwnCstle		3.28f	82 63+1.00
CullenFr		2.04	63 29+1.26
D-E-F			
DR Horton		0.20	23 76 +.58
DTE		2.76	89 96 +.99
DanaHldg		0.20	20 49 +.26
Danaher			40 82 54 +.51
Deere		2.40f	1 90 +.10
DelphiAuto		1.00	66 59 -.55
DenburyR			36 45 64 +.79
DenburyR			25 6.85 +.32
DeutscheBk		2.00f	28 +.15
DeutEaste		0	37e27.02 -.39
DevonE			96 60 70+2.84
DGMnBR rs			40 43
DGMnBl rs			1.60
DirSPBear			21.66 .90
DxGldBull			18.68+1.72
DirFinBear			14.12 .53
DxEnBear			23.80-2.58
DrxSCBear			12.76 .72
DrxEmMBull			17.07 .37
DrxDNGBull			3.05
+.38			
DirDGldBr			d12.77-1.57
DirxEnBull			48e 74 61+3.51
DirxEnBull			51.01+4.57
Discover			9f 66 73 +.91
Disney			1.15f95 18+.83
DollarGen			67 63 +.76
DomResrc			2.40 77 +.59
Dover			1.60e 61 +.98
DowChm			1.68f44 79+1.48
DrmWksA			68f 74 22 +.90
DukeEngy			3.18u87 35 +.59
DukeRlty			1.08 22 +.30
DunBrad			1.20 46 27 +.66
EMC Cp			46 27 88 +.07
EOG Res s			87 90.31+3.78
Eaton			1.96e64 59 -.52
EatnVan			2.80f69 44 +.84
EatnVan pf			2.80f69 44 +.84
Ebix			88f60 35 +.97
EchoStar			40.00 74+.36
EnCana g			.28 13 82 +.33
EnPro			80 63.70 -1.13
ENSCO			1.00 28 99 +.34
EntPrPt			2.10f 48 +.66
Equinix			12437 38
Exterran			60 28.64 -.87
ExxonMbl			2.76f91 12+2.16
EZCorp			15 4.69
EdnRfn gs			90 29.66+2.37
FEI Co			59 50 -.02
FLIR Sys			60 34.45 -.99
FMC Tech			1.20 53 24 -.80
FactSet			2.40 125 -.66
Fastenal			1.40 45 25 +.60
FedExCp			1.60 145 -.76
FemsaCom			1.40 80 +.44
FidNatInf			1.00 50 +.66
FifthThird			30 21 +.43
FstHorizon			40 11 +.19
FstSolar			1.44 42 92 +.99
FirstEngy			2.20 34 +.46
Fiserv			1.00 69 +.65
FlowrsFd			1.60 21 +.37
FootLocker			1.00 60 27 +.46
ForestCA			24 67 -.10
FrankRes			1.00 120 +.66
FredMac			1.20 3 +.01
FredMac pf			1.20 3 +.01
FreeptMcM			1.20 19 24 +.91
FrontLine			3.35 -.04
G-H-I			
GATX			1.00 50 +.38
GT Solar			7 +.01
Gafisa			1.44 +.06
Gallagher			1.44 48 +.52
GameStop			1.20 46 +.06
Gaylord			1.20 +.06
Genentech			88 40 50 +.19
GenMills			1.64 53 +.41
GenMotors			1.00 33 69 +.05
Genworth			07 30 +.17
Gentex			1.00 18 +.15
GileadSci			46e 43 70+.79
GlaxoSKlin			2.46e 43 70+.79
GoldFLtd			04e 5 73 +.04
Goldcrp g			80 23.81+1.12
GoodrPet			24 3.06 +.33
Google A			1.20 +.06
GpoAeroMx			1.20 +.06
GpoFinSan			1.20 +.06
GpoTelevisa			1.20 +.06
GreenMtn			1.20 +.06
GulfportE			1.20 +.06
HCA Hldg			69 84 +.23
HCP Inc			2.15e42 15 +.05
HSBC			2.45e45 24 -.02
HalconRes			61.20 +.14
Halliblrtn			72f39.13+1.80
HarmonyG			1.20 +.06
HarthFin			72 39.96 +.38
HarvNRes			08 19 43 +.75
Heclalnl			01e 3.06 +.15
Herbalife			1.80 +.18
Hershe			28 7.13 +.25
Hertz			1.20 11.92 +.66
Hess			1.00 70 02+2.10
HewlettP			64 30 26 +.56
Hilton			25 86 +.26
HollyFront			1.20e 34 10 +.45
HomeDp			1.88 104 12+1.31
HonwllIntl			1.92 93 +.66
HostHotls			80e 23 72 -.04
HovnanE			1.80 +.18
Humanam			50 22 44 +.51
HumGen			1.20 +.06
ICICI Bk s			15e 12 13 +.13
ING			1.80 63 +.08
ISh Gold			12 35 +.17
ISh Brazil			1.39e36 37 +.19
ISh EMU			1.08e36 06 -.69
ISh Japan			1.15e27 89 +.64
ISh HK			75e21 26 -.06
ISh Malay			1.12e 14 86
ISh Japan			15e 11 34 +.10
ISh SKor			1.64e56 21 -.08
ISTaiwn			29e 15 12 +.11
iShSilver			16.90 +.80
iShChinaLC			1.04e42 22 -.56
iShEMkts			88e 43 33 +.39
iShJpnSml			1.15e 58 +.26
iShKorea			1.15e 11 34 +.10
iShMexico			88e 16 95 +.80
iShNetwk			1.04e 42 22 +.25
iShSelect			1.88e 39 49 +.33
iShSilver			16.95 +.80
iShTelecm			1.04e 42 22 +.25
iShTransp			2.08e 99 +.52
iShUtil			1.88e 39 49 +.33
iShChinaLC			1.04e 42 22 +.25

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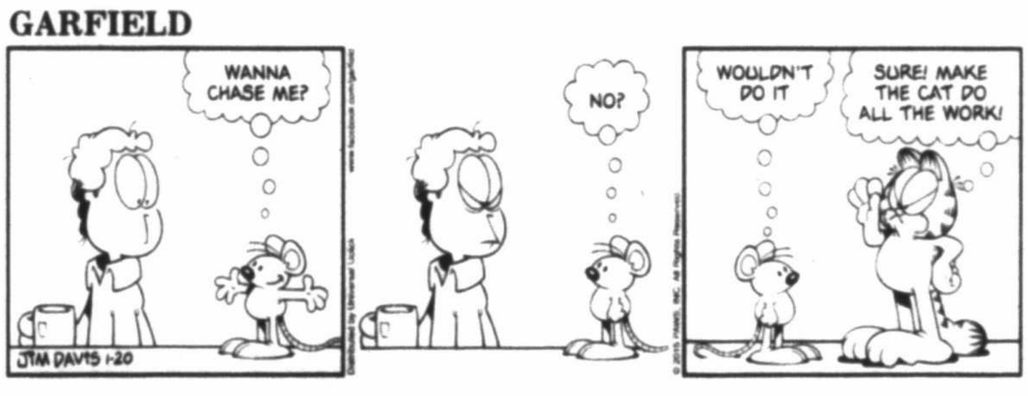
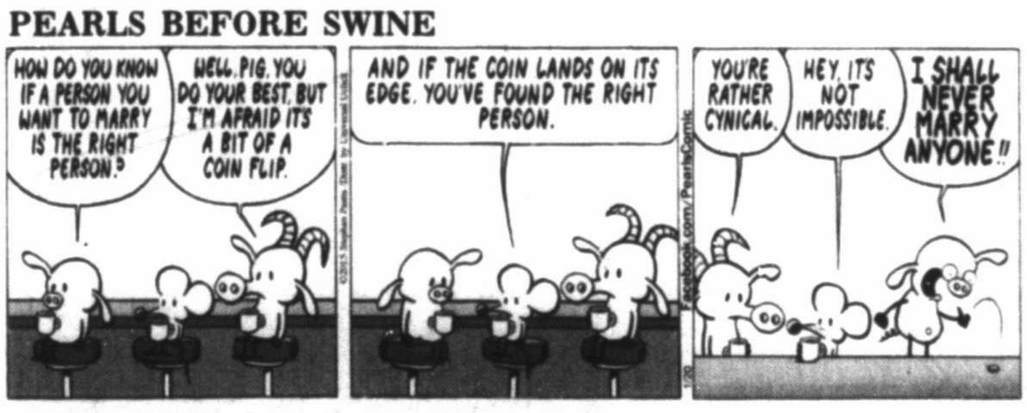


PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



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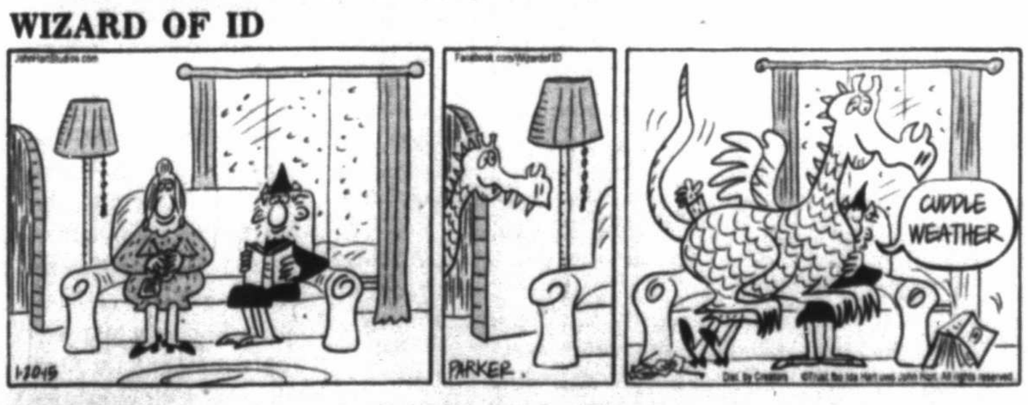

DILBERT

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS

BABY BLUES

MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME

"We use only chemical-free methods to rid homes of ants."

DENNIS THE MENACE

*DO WE HAVE ANY ICE WATER? OUR SNOWMAN NEEDS A *TRANSFUSION.*"

FAMILY CIRCUS

"I don't know about you, but I'm tired, so it's time for me to call it a day."

LOCKHORNS

"LORETTA CAN'T COME TO THE PHONE RIGHT NOW ... SHE'S BUSY FINDING FAULT."

Agent: Woods' front tooth knocked out by videographer

Associated Press

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy — Tiger Woods has another reason not to like cameras — his agent said it cost him a tooth.

Woods made a surprise visit to Italy on Monday to watch girlfriend Lindsey Vonn capture her record 63rd World Cup title. The photo that generated all the buzz was Woods missing his front tooth.

The culprit, according to his agent, was a camera.

"During a crush of photographers as the awards podium at the World Cup event in Italy, a media member with a shoulder-mounted video camera pushed and surged toward the stage, turned and hit Tiger Woods in the mouth," Mark Steinberg of Excel Sports said in an email. "Woods' tooth was knocked out by the incident."

Race organizers said this was not reported to them. They added that Woods did request extra security and a snowmobile to exit the finish area, and organizers met both requests.

"I was among those who escorted him from the tent to the snowmobile and there was no such incident," Nicola Colli, the secretary general of the race organizing committee, told The Associated Press. "When he arrived he asked for more security and we rounded up police to look after both him and Lindsey."

Woods had been wearing a scarf with a skeleton pattern over the lower part of his face, sunglasses and a stocking cap. The photo was taken when the scarf was lowered.

Steinberg was traveling and did not say when Woods would have the tooth replaced. Golf's biggest — and most photographed — star returns to competition next week in the Phoenix Open, and his smile is sure to produce a stream of shutters from the cameras.

Woods has a long history with cameras, often frustrated when shutters go off in the middle of his swing. One notable episode came during the Skins Game in 2002 when a corporate photographer clicked his camera as Woods was hitting a shot from the bunker on the final hole. His former caddie, Steve Williams, took the camera and set it on a steep bank of a pond so that it tumbled into the water.

Another time, Woods was on the verge of his first bogey-free tournament at a World Golf Championship in Ireland when a camera clicked at the top of his tee shot. He made bogey, but still won.

Armando Trovati/AP

Tiger Woods shows his broken tooth as he walks in the finish area of an alpine ski, women's World Cup super-G on Monday in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy.

Lee Jin-man/AP

Stan Wawrinka makes a forehand return to Marsel Ilhan during their first-round match at the Australian Open on Tuesday in Melbourne, Australia

Wawrinka, Nishikori advance to 2nd round

By John Pye
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Stan Wawrinka began the defense of his Australian Open title with a 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 win over Marsel Ilhan on Tuesday, taking less than 1 1/2 hours to breeze through the first round.

Wawrinka was barely tested against the No. 100-ranked Ilhan, striking 34 winners and saving the only two break points he faced.

In a breakthrough 2014 season, Wawrinka claimed his first Grand Slam title, reached a career-high ranking of No. 3 and helped Roger Federer win the Davis Cup for Switzerland for the first time.

He warmed up for the season-opening major by successfully defending his title at the Chennai Open.

"It's great, bringing me a lot of memories from last year," Wawrinka said of his return to Rod Laver Arena. "It was great to come back here feeling happy, happy with my game."

Two other men widely considered to be in the next generation of major winners advanced in straight sets, with No. 5 Kei Nishikori beating Nicolas Almagro 6-4, 7-6 (1), 6-2 and No. 8 Milos Raonic firing 30 aces in a 7-6 (3), 7-6 (3), 6-3 win against qualifier Illya Marchenko.

No. 12 Feliciano Lopez struggled past American wild-card entry Denis Kudla 3-6, 6-2, 4-6, 6-2, 10-8. No. 18 Gilles Simon beat Robin Haase 6-1, 6-3, 6-4 and No. 19 John Isner beat Taiwanese qualifier Jimmy Wang 7-6 (5), 6-4, 6-4. No. 16 Fabio Fognini lost in four sets to Alejando Gonzalez.

Nishikori, returning to Grand Slam action for the first time since his run to the U.S. Open final, dropped his opening service game but recovered the break quickly and weathered a difficult opening match against Almagro.

Nishikori is coming off a big year in 2014, when he became the first Asian man to reach a Grand Slam singles final. He's determined to go one better and win a major.

"Yeah for sure that was one of my best results in my career that gave me a lot of confidence," the Japanese star said. "I beat a lot of top 10 players."

Two-time champion Victoria Azarenka continued her comeback from a foot injury with a convincing 6-3, 6-2 win over Sloane Stephens and will next have to play U.S. Open finalist Caroline Wozniacki, who beat 18-year-old Taylor Townsend 7-6 (1), 6-2.

No. 11 Dominika Cibulkova, a finalist here last year, opened with a 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 comeback win against Kirsten Flipkens.

Limited to just nine tournaments last year, Azarenka's ranking has fallen to No. 44 and she is unseeded at a Grand Slam for the first time since the 2007 U.S. Open.

Her Australian Open history with Stephens included the semifinals in 2013, when Azarenka controversially took an extended injury timeout at a critical point late in the match.

"Sloane is a very tricky opponent. It's a great first round for me to really test my game," Azarenka said. "I'm happy with what I did today."

2011 U.S. Open champion Sam Stosur opened with a 6-4, 6-1 victory against Monica Niculescu, and No. 19 Alize Cornet had a 6-3, 6-2 win over Zhang Shuai. No. 24 Garbine Muguruza and No. 25 Barbora Zahlavova Strycova advanced with straight-sets wins, while Tsvetana Pironkova beat Hobart International champion Heather Watson of Britain 6-4, 6-0.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN RESULTS

Tuesday
At Melbourne Park
Melbourne, Australia
Purse: $32.9 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Men
First Round

Santiago Giraldo (30), Colombia, def. Jan Hernych, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.
Kei Nishikori (5), Japan, def. Nicolas Almagro, Spain, 6-4, 7-6 (1), 6-2.
Alejandro Gonzalez, Colombia, def. Fabio Fognini (16), Italy, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.
Adrian Mannarino, France, def. Blaz Rola, Slovenia, 7-6 (7), 6-3, 6-2.
Guillermo Garcia-Lopez, Spain, def. Peter Gojowczyk, Germany, 6-7 (1), 7-5, 6-4, 1-0, retired.
Steve Johnson, United States, def. Kyle Edmund, Britain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-3.
Stan Wawrinka (4), Switzerland, def. Marsel Ilhan, Turkey, 6-1, 6-4, 6-2.
Feliciano Lopez (12), Spain, def. Denis Kudla, United States, 3-6, 6-2, 4-6, 6-2, 10-8.
Donald Young, United States, def. Tim Puetz, Germany, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.
Milos Raonic (8), Canada, def. Illya Marchenko, Ukraine, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (3), 6-3.
John Isner (19), United States, def. Jimmy Wang, Taiwan, 7-6 (5), 6-4, 6-4.
Gilles Simon (18), France, def. Robin Haase, Netherlands, 6-1, 6-3, 6-4.
Andreas Haider-Maurer, Austria, def. Laurent Lokoli, France, 6-4, 7-5, 4-6, 6-3.

Women
First Round

Denisa Allertova, Czech Republic, def. Romina Oprandi, Switzerland, 6-0, 6-2.
Sam Stosur (20), Australia, def. Monica Niculescu, Romania, 6-4, 6-1.
Victoria Azarenka, Belarus, def. Sloane Stephens, United States, 6-3, 6-2.
Alize Cornet (19), France, def. Zhang Shuai, China, 6-3, 6-2.
Garbine Muguruza (24), Spain, def. Marina Erakovic, New Zealand, 7-5, 6-0.
Tsvetana Pironkova, Bulgaria, def. Heather Watson, Britain, 6-4, 6-0.
Chang Kai-chen, Taiwan, def. Zheng Jie, China, 6-1, 6-2.
Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, def. Zheng Saisai, China, 6-4, 6-4.
Barbora Zahlavova Strycova (25), Czech Republic, def. Timea Babos, Hungary, 6-4, 6-4.
Dominika Cibulkova (11), Slovakia, def. Kirsten Flipkens, Belgium, 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.
Caroline Wozniacki (8), Denmark, def. Taylor Townsend, United States, 7-6 (1), 6-2.
CoCo Vandeweghe, United States, def. Francesca Schiavone, Italy, 6-2, 6-2.

Monday
First Round

Grigor Dimitrov (10), Bulgaria, def. Dustin Brown, Germany, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2.
Martin Klizan (32), Slovakia, def. Tatsuma Ito, Japan, 7-6 (6), 6-2, 6-4.
Joao Sousa, Portugal, def. Jordan Thompson, Australia, 6-4, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Jeremy Chardy (29), France, def. Borna Coric, Croatia, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5, 6-4.
Andreas Seppi, Italy, def. Denis Istomin, Uzbekistan, 5-7, 6-3, 2-6, 6-1, 6-4.
Ricardas Berankis, Lithuania, def. Igor Sijsling, Netherlands, 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (2), 6-7 (6), 6-4.
Marinko Matosevic, Australia, def. Alexander Kudryavtsev, Russia, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 4-6, 7-5, 6-3.
Kevin Anderson (14), South Africa, def. Diego Schwartzman, Argentina, 7-6 (5), 7-5, 5-7, 6-4.
Richard Gasquet (24), France, def. Carlos Berlocq, Argentina, 6-1, 6-3, 6-1.
Lukas Lacko, Slovakia, def. Maximo Gonzalez, Argentina, 4-6, 6-2, 7-5, 6-7 (4), 6-1.
Andy Murray (6), Britain, def. Yuki Bhambri, India, 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (3).
David Goffin (20), Belgium, def. Michael Russell, United States, 6-3, 6-3, 5-7, 6-0.
Tomas Berdych (7), Czech Republic, def. Alejandro Falla, Colombia, 6-3, 7-6 (1), 6-3.
Rafael Nadal (3), Spain, def. Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2.
James Duckworth, Australia, def. Blaz Kavcic, Slovenia, 6-2, 5-7, 7-6 (7), 3-6, 6-2.
Marcos Baghdatis, Cyprus, def. Teymuraz Gabashvili, Russia, 6-2, 6-7 (5), 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Bernard Tomic, Australia, def. Tobias Kamke, Germany, 7-5, 6-7 (1), 6-3, 6-2.
Leonardo Mayer (26), Argentina, def. John Millman, Australia, 6-3, 6-3, 6-2.
Lukas Rosol (28), Czech Republic, def. Kenny de Schepper, France, 4-6, 6-2, 6-7 (4), 6-3, 6-4.
Jurgen Melzer, Austria, def. Victor Estrella Burgos, Dominican Republic, 6-1, 6-4, 6-2.
Philipp Kohlschreiber (22), Germany, def. Paul-Henri Mathieu, France, 6-2, 6-2, 6-1.
Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France, def. Tommy Robredo (15), Spain, 2-3, retired.
Tim Smyczek, United States, def. Luke Saville, Australia, 7-6 (2), 7-5, 6-4.
Dudi Sela, Israel, def. Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, 6-4, 4-6, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5.
Sam Groth, Australia, def. Filip Krajinovic, Serbia, 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-4.
Thanasi Kokkinakis, Australia, def. Ernests Gulbis (11), Latvia, 5-7, 6-0, 1-6, 7-6 (2), 8-6.
Simone Bolelli, Italy, def. Juan Monaco, Argentina, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.
Viktor Troicki, Serbia, def. Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3.
Malek Jaziri, Tunisia, def. Mikhail Kukushkin, Kazakhstan, 6-2, 6-3, 2-6, 7-6 (3).
Ivo Karlovic (23), Croatia, def. Ruben Bemelmans, Belgium, 6-2, 6-2, 6-4.
Roger Federer (2), Switzerland, def. Yen-hsun Lu, Taiwan, 6-4, 6-2, 7-5.
Nick Kyrgios, Australia, def. Federico Delbonis, Argentina, 7-6 (2), 3-6, 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-3.

Women
First Round

Julia Goerges, Germany, def. Belinda Bencic (32), Switzerland, 6-2, 6-1.
Magdalena Rybarikova, Slovakia, def. Ana Konjuh, Croatia, 6-4, 6-4.
Lara Arruabarrena, Spain, def. Renata Voracova, Czech Republic, 6-1, 6-2.
Simona Halep (3), Romania, def. Karin Knapp, Italy, 6-3, 6-2.
Jarmila Gajdosova, Australia, def. Alexandra Dulgheru, Romania, 6-3, 6-4.
Klara Koukalova, Czech Republic, def. Storm Sanders, Australia, 7-5, 6-4.
Peng Shuai (21), China, def. Tatjana Maria, Germany, 6-4, 7-5.
Caroline Garcia, France, def. Svetlana Kuznetsova (27), Russia, 6-4, 6-2.
Lucie Hradecka, Czech Republic, def. Ana Ivanovic (5), Serbia, 1-6, 6-3, 6-2.
Kristina Mladenovic, France, def. Sabine Lisicki (28), Germany, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2.
Anna Schmiedlova, Slovakia, def. Chanelle Scheepers, South Africa, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.
Karolina Pliskova (22), Czech Republic, def. Evgeniya Rodina, Russia, 7-5, 6-1.
Polona Hercog, Slovenia, def. Wang Qiang, China, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.
Stefanie Voegele, Switzerland, def. Pauline Parmentier, France, 6-1, 3-6, 6-2.
Oceane Dodin, France, def. Alison Riske, United States, 7-6 (5), 3-6, 6-3.
Yanina Wickmayer, Belgium, def. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (23), Russia, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.
Bethanie Mattek-Sands, United States, def. Duan Ying-Ying, China, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.
Katerina Siniakova, Czech Republic, def. Elena Vesnina, Russia, 6-2, 7-5.
Irina-Camelia Begu, Romania, def. Angelique Kerber (9), Germany, 6-4, 0-6, 6-1.
Ekaterina Makarova (10), Russia, def. An-Sophie Mestach, Belgium, 6-2, 6-2.
Sara Errani (14), Italy, def. Grace Min, United States, 6-1, 6-0.
Zarina Diyas (31), Kazakhstan, def. Urszula Radwanska, Poland, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2.
Silvia Soler-Espinosa, Spain, def. Annika Beck, Germany, 7-5, 6-4.
Christina McHale, United States, def. Stephanie Foretz, France, 6-4, 1-6, 12-10.
Monica Puig, Puerto Rico, def. Arina Rodionova, Australia, 6-0, 6-3.
Kiki Bertens, Netherlands, def. Dania Gavrilova, Russia, 7-6 (8), 5-7, 6-2.
Carina Witthoeft, Germany, def. Carla Suarez Navarro (17), Spain, 6-3, 6-1.
Roberta Vinci, Italy, def. Bojana Jovanovski, Serbia, 7-5, 6-1.
Yaroslava Shvedova, Kazakhstan, def. Lucie Safarova (16), Czech Republic, 6-4, 2-6, 8-6.
Alexandra Panova, Russia, def. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, 7-5, 6-0.
Eugenie Bouchard (7), Canada, def. Anna-Lena Friedsam, Germany, 6-2, 6-4.
Maria Sharapova (2), Russia, def. Petra Martic, Croatia, 6-4, 6-1.

Dramatic day at Australian Open brings bad news for top-seeded women

By Gardiner Harris
N.Y. Times

MELBOURNE, Australia — It was a day of high drama for the top female tennis players at the Australian Open, with eight of the top seeds losing, another vomiting on court before eventually winning, and a former champion announcing that she was pregnant.

Having reached the final of the Brisbane International the week before, Ana Ivanovic of Serbia came into the Open as one of the favorites. But she has proved unable to control her nerves in Grand Slam matches since winning the French Open in 2008, and the jitters seemed to undo her again Monday on the first day of play.

Ivanovic won the first set, 6-1, not so much because she was playing well but because her opponent, Lucie Hradecka of the Czech Republic, played worse, getting only 40 percent of her first serves in.

But in the second set, an early error at the net seemed to undo Ivanovic. She began looping shots back to Hradecka, who started crushing the ball into the corners. Ivanovic lost one game in which she double-faulted three times.

With Ivanovic doing so poorly, Hradecka ran away with the third set, 6-2.

"It was really tough for me to find a rhythm," Ivanovic said. "In the third set, she really raised her game."

Ivanovic said that a first-round loss was a difficult beginning for her season.

"But the year is young, and I really have to sit and work on a few things," she said.

Later, Christina McHale became the second U.S. player - the first being Pete Sampras in 1996 at the U.S. Open - to vomit and emerge triumphant during a Grand Slam match.

"First I was feeling it in my shoulder. I was feeling some pain. Then I started not to feel well at all. So I threw up," McHale said after the match.

Actually, she threw up twice.

"Once I did that, I felt much better," she said.

McHale triumphed in the third set, 12-10, by crushing a forehand service return into the right corner and then slamming a short response into the left.

"I would have preferred not to have thrown up on the court," she said. "I told myself to keep fighting. The match wasn't over."

At least eight seeded female players lost matches Monday, including Belinda Bencic, Karolina Pliskova, Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Sabine Lisicki, Svetlana Kuznetsova, Lucie Safarova and Angelique Kerber.

Simona Halep of Romania, the tournament's No. 3 seed, easily beat Karin Knapp of Italy 6-3, 6-2.

And Li Na, who recently retired, announced to the crowd that she was expecting a child.

"Dennis made just one ace," she said of her husband and longtime coach, to laughter.

In the men's draw, Roger Federer won his match easily, 6-4, 6-2, 7-5, cruising through his own service games and suddenly breaking his opponent Yen-Hsun Lu at 5-5 in the third set with apparent ease. Earlier, Andy Murray won in three sets against a surprisingly tough qualifier, Yuki Bhambri of India.

Bhambri started pressuring Murray's serve by crushing his returns, and he succeeded in breaking his serve early in the third set. Murray broke back and won the set and the match in a tiebreaker.

"I thought it was a tricky match," Murray said. "He got very close to the baseline and he was coming forward a lot."

Bhambri said later that he was thrilled with his performance but knew he had to improve his fitness to compete at the highest levels of tennis.

"I was worried that it was going to go 6-0, 6-0 and 6-0," Bhambri said. "But I definitely held my own, and as the match progressed, felt more and more comfortable."

Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria easily won his first-round match while Borna Coric, a teenage sensation from Croatia, was beaten by Jirimy Chardy of France in four sets.

Dimitrov needed just three sets to defeat Dustin Brown, a hard-hitting hopeful from Germany who may have the longest hair in men's tennis history. Ranked 10th, Dimitrov is widely seen as one of a new generation of stars challenging the dominance of Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Federer, after whom he has patterned his game.

Brown had few answers for Dimitrov's precision and often resorted to unfortunate drop shots that either fell short or that Dimitrov easily retrieved. Dimitrov won 6-2, 6-3, 6-2.

Coric, who turned heads in October when he beat Nadal in Basel, Switzerland, was overwhelmed by Chardy's blistering serves and powerful forehand in four sets.

Serving at 5-5 in the third set, Coric found himself chasing heavy baseline shots from Chardy, who twice hit down-the-line forehand winners. Down a break point, Coric finally rushed the net only to dump a volley wide.

Coric responded by whacking the net with his racket while Chardy screamed in triumph. Chardy won the next game and the set with an ace.

Lukas Lacko of Slovakia outlasted Maximo Gonzalez, one of Argentina's best hopes in this tournament after Juan Martmn del Potro bowed out because of a wrist injury. The two men were evenly matched through four sets, with Gonzalez winning the fourth in a tie break. Lacko came back to win the fifth set 6-1.

Tomas Berdych of the Czech Republic won his match 6-3, 7-6, 6-3 against Alejandro Falla of Colombia, while James Duckworth, a great hope for Australia, won in five sets against Blaz Kavcic of Slovenia.

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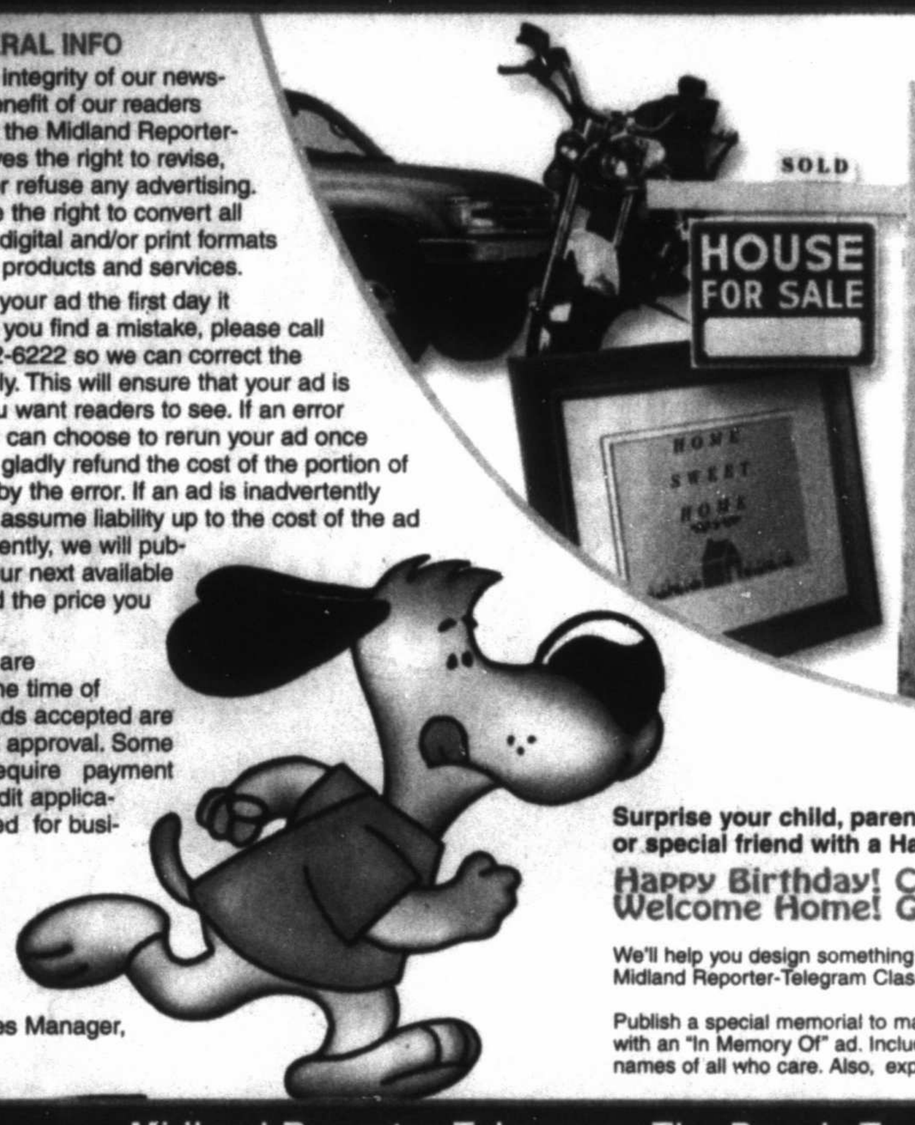

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3111 Calders Blvd, Midland, TX 79705
Sharon Thompson: Grill, couch, toys, dishes, night stand, 2 dressers, bed frame, mattress & boxpring, misc. bags.
Simon Herrera III: Kids bicycle, clothing, misc. boxes
Christopher Dobbs: Computer, computer desk, computer monitor, coffee table, end table, television, toys, misc. boxes
Jeremiah Coughron: Mattress, box spring, 3 televisions, blankets, pictures, misc. boxes.

2504 N Loop 250 W, Midland,TX 79707
Curtis Medlock: Mattress and box spring, 3 end tables, vacuum, office chair.
Rosio Valdez: Glass vases, shelf, small and large boxes, totes, end table, clothes, multiple buckets with lids.

5306 N Grandview Ave, Odessa, TX 79762
Usbaldo Saenz: Headboard, mattress and box spring, clothing, small refrigerator, sofa, table lamp, speakers, and fireplace accessories.
Evelyn Taylor: Headboard, 10+ small boxes, 20+ large boxes, 4 kitchen chairs, sofa, 5+ plastic totes, sewing machine, and misc.
Sarah Hernandez: Coffee table, 2 end tables, floor lamp, shelves, and misc.

3125 Kermit Hwy, Odessa, TX 79764
Tina Fillion or Troy Anderson: Bags, box spring, mattress, 10+ small boxes, 10+ large boxes, clothing, cooler, kitchen chairs, couch, stools, kitchen table, night table, pictures, plastic totes, rope, shop vac, and misc.
Michael Venegas: bags, small box, cooler, plastic tote, speakers, stereo, T.V., 5 tools boxes, Harley Davis Motorcycle, compressor, army bag.
Andrew Ruiz: Baskets, floor lamp, microwave, household items, dog kettle and dog food.

Legal & Public Notices

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The following healthcare organizations are accepting applications for physicians and providers who wish to become contracted physicians and providers during the period of **February 1, 2015 through February 20, 2015.** UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, offered by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Texas, L.L.C. is a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) located at 14141 Southwest Freeway, Suite 800, Sugar Land, TX 77478, offers Medicaid Managed Care (STAR and STAR+PLUS) and Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP). UnitedHealthcare of Texas, Inc. and UnitedHealthcare Benefits of Texas, Inc. both located at 5800 Granite Parkway, Ste. 900, Plano, Texas 75024 offer basic health care service Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) plans. United HealthCare Insurance Company and PacifiCare Life and Health Insurance Company offer Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) and Exclusive Provider Organizations (EPOs). Applicants must meet practice standards, qualifications and other participatory criteria established by the HMO and/or PPO/EPO's. To initiate the application process, have your tax ID number available and please call 1-877-842-3210. Select the following prompt: 4) Credentialing.

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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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1	2	3	8	6	7	4	5	9
7	4	5	9	1	2	6	3	8
6	9	8	5	4	3	2	1	7
8	5	2	1	7	6	3	9	4
4	7	9	3	2	5	1	8	6
3	6	1	4	8	9	5	7	2
9	1	6	7	5	4	8	2	3
2	8	7	6	3	1	9	4	5
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1/20/15

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Marty's Marketplace

...leading you to the best bargains in the Permian Basin

Merchandise

Appliances

AAA Appliance 15 minute pickup. 432-556-0104 / 432-528-3046

Free Stuff

FREE WOODEN PALLETS!

Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

Furniture

BEAUTIFUL CHERRY crib with one toddler side rail. Call 684-6978 or 638-4842

Furniture

DINING TABLE & 6 chairs $300, yellow print cloth loveseat, ottoman & 2 pillows $300, patio table, 6 chairs, umbrella & stand $275. 432-352-3584 call or text.

LAZY BOY Couch. $300. Lane recliner, $75. Accent chair, $25. Holand Electronic piano, $600. Call 432-520-4343

NEW TV bookshelf, TV stand, dining room table w/4 chairs, sofa, coffee & end table, $350 for all. Call 915-525-6965.

Miscellaneous for Sale

COMPLETE SET of Maple kitchen cabinets with Cherry finish. 38 linear ft. with island rounded corners, custom doors and fronts. $3,500. Call Kevin 349-9436

Sporting Goods

☆☆ GUN SHOW ☆☆
Midland Horseshoe Pavilion
January 31 (9-5)
February 1 (10-5)
Kim-806-252-6933
midlandgunshow.com

OAK, PECAN, mesquite, pinon, 432-209-0416, 325-762-4262.

Industrial Products & Supplies

Heavy Equipment

2011 850K John Deere Dozer. 5,000 hours. Warranty. $180,000. Abilene. 325-669-0912.

Fax it.. 682-6999

Miscellaneous for Sale

KEN'S RV SALES
5904 W Hwy 80 • Midland, TX 79706
432-697-6447 • kensrv.com
LARGEST SELECTION OF USED TRAILERS IN THE BASIN
TRY US ONCE YOU'LL BE BACK
TOY HAULERS FIFTH WHEEL GO RVing BUMPER PULLS MOTORHOMES
Sales: 8:30-5:30 Mon.-Fri. • 9-3 Sat. Service:

Animals & Pets

Pets

FREE TO good homes, 6 puppies and their dad, a beautiful black lab. 432-238-2950

LAB PUPPIES AKC & started dogs. Hips/eyes guaranteed. Training available. Pooles Labs. www.pooleslabs.com. Call (806) 533-4364.

FOR SALE Miniature Schnauzer registered AKC. Please call 432-889-4044

Fax Your Classified Ad in Today! 682-6999

Pickup Trucks

GMC 2007 Sierra Z71 4WD Nagivation loaded, always garaged, one owner. 87K miles. Bed cover. $17,000. Call 432-413-6167

Vans & Minivans

PLYMOUTH 1988 Voyager 4cyl. new paint, new tires, new interior, only 50k original miles. $2800. Call 432-770-7982

4WD & SUV

CHEVY 2002 Suburban 4x4. Well maintained. $5200 OBO 432-413-2744

FORD 2009 Expedition Eddie Bauer edition. 4wd, leather, running boards, 3rd row seating, clean. 77,000 miles. $17,500. Call 432-631-5451. leave message.

LINCOLN 2009 Black Navigator. 4X4. All power including running boards, third row seats, sunroof, liftgate, Sirius and Bluetooth connectivity. 54K miles. New Michelin tires. Extended warranty. Excellent condition. $19,500. 684-4407 or 260-0010

TAHOE 2005 Z71. 122K miles, fully loaded, new tires, great condition. $9,400. 432-557-8220 text only

RVs

2000 DUTCHSTAR diesel. One slide, sleeps 6. New batteries, washer, dryer and 2 flat screen TVs. Ice maker. Includes tow package. $46,900. Call 806-470-6485 Andrews

Recreational Vehicles

13 NOMAD 34.2 14 living room slideouts 15,000 BTU air, awning, excellent condition. In OKC $21,000. 309-269-1738

2002 29.5 Montana 5th wheel. $18,000 OBO 432-557-2257

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

NEW MANAGEMENT Spacious 1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments. Call 432-687-4514.

Townhouse/ Condo for Rent Unfurnished

1 BEDROOM all newly remodeled great locations, wood floors granite counter, Italian tile. $1,150.00 per month plus deposit. Call 432-697-3739

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

OILFIELD SPECIAL
3 Amhurst Ct.
Large 4 Bdr, 2 1/2 Ba, 2 living areas, dining area, fireplace, all new flooring, 2 car garage, large backyard, great neighborhood. Swing set for small children & outdoor patio. No pets. $2,495 + $3,000 deposit. Background check. 432-695-4449

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

1407 W. Golf Course Road. 3BD/2BA Townhome with pool, complete remodel, move-in ready. $365,000 no realtors. 432-687-5952

2603 WARD 3/2/2 Large garage/shop. Water feature. Great Location! $220,000. See MLS# R102270A for pics. 512-983-8722

2818 METZ beautifully remodeled. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living area home. **$239,000.** OPEN HOUSE every Saturday & Sunday 2pm-4pm. Call 432-683-2243.

3214 BAUMANN
Open Sat. 1-3
Updated 3/2/2/2
$189,900
Up Group 889-2934

BEAUTIFUL 3BD/2BA Granite countertops. Cathedral ceilings. Built in 2012. $172,000. 1804 E Pecan. OPEN HOUSE every Saturday & Sunday from 2pm-4pm. Call 432-683-2243

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

BEAUTIFULLY-UPDATED, Open, 4-3, custom home in Grassland on popular cul-de-sac. Remodeled kitchen with granite. Remodeled master bath with granite and beautiful tiled shower with dual heads. Wood floors in study and dining. Rounded corners. Plantation shutters throughout. Outdoor living area. 5807 Sundance Place. $449,900. 432-301-4167.

Country home on 5 acs. 3 bd. 4 ba. Lots of custom Oak cabinets & wood work. Anderson wood windows. Exterior Cedar trim never needs painting. 3000 sq. ft. with 1600 sq. ft. of wrap around porch. $345k 432-264-8577

FOR SALE by owner 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath, 6302 Driftwood Drive $265K. 432-770-7309

FSBO 3203 Ranchland Drive. 3 bedroom, 2 bath 1426 sq. ft. Asking $195,000. 432-634-4671

HOUSE FOR Sale. $99,100. Call for details 432-222-1959

Lots & Land

Acreage

6.02 ACRES for sale in Midland County by owner. $155,000. Close to town, no restrictions. 2 water wells, septic, electric, cable, phone, barn, fenced. Home or business ready. Corner lot, paved on two sides. 432-425-5979 or 432-557-9328.

GREAT YARD in Crane, TX on 1.4 acres with office and two work shops. $350K. Call Will Barnes 325-450-7699

LAND FOR Sale North of Cristoval. 20, 40, 80 and 150 acre tracks. One 300 acre track. Only 21 tracks available. Private, gated entrance, beautiful scenic home sites. 12 minutes from San Angelo. 20ac track - $170K, 40ac track - $260K. 325-650-9960

MOBILE HOME LOT. 1217 W. Montgomery. $16,000. 407 E. Montgomery-1 acre, $28,000. 810 S. Madison $10,000. Call 432-683-2243.

MONTANA WORKING Cattle/Recreational Ranch. 3000+/- acres. 30 min to international airport, medical, shopping, etc. www.watranch.com 406-875-2514

Ranches

RANCH FOR SALE
4,212 Acres
near Snyder, Tx.
Water, 3 houses, great hunting.
Owner Financing
$795/ Acre
(432) 664-7764

Commercial

5405 E. Hwy. 80, 2400 sq. ft. warehouse, 4 overhead doors, 2 restrooms, office, security fence. Easy access to Loop 250 & I-20. 664-2718

FOR LEASE: 1500 sq. ft. Toy Box with attached enclosed space for RV parking. $650/month. 1303 Dayton Road. 432-699-0063

Commercial

Commercial Building For Lease
13,500sq/ft
Fenced/Paved Yard
Midland, Texas
$14,750/month
432-664-7764

COMMERCIAL YARD FOR LEASE
5 ACRES, FENCED
2 AC CALICHED
ELECTRIC GATE
$2200/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
432-664-7764

FOR LEASE /Build to Suit
Commercial shop with 5 acre yard
East of Midland.
432-664-7764
432-934-7777

"MAN CAVE"
New storage on 1788. 1500-4500 square ft. starting at $650. RV's/cars/industrial ask for Don 352-2067.

NOW LEASING
Office/Warehouses
Small Office Suites
Various locations.
Call 432-661-4057.

NEW CONSTRUCTION
5/10/20/50 acres +/- yard with 5,000 or 10,000 sq. ft. building with Bridge Cranes/ wash bays. Ask for Don. 563-1610 or 352-2067.

Modular & Mobile Homes

Mobile Homes for Rent

3 BED, 2 bath, large living room with fireplace, dining & laundry room, storage building, on 1 acre of land. 1508 W. Griffin. $1,500 mo & $1,000 deposit. 432-557-3328 or 432-215-5943

RV $200 Deposit, $850 a month. Bills Paid. Remodeled. East Loop. New Fridge, new mattress. 806-448-8634

RV FOR rent $800 month + deposit, bills paid in Midland. 806-292-2695 Hablo Espanol

VERY CLEAN 3BD/2BA plus office Doublewide. $2200 month, $1000 deposit. First and last month's rent due at signing, available 2/15/15. 3 miles out of town. Large deck. Call 432-352-4509

Mobile Homes for Sale

2014 SINGLE Wide Clayton Mobile Home, 1216 Sq/ft. 3-Bedroom/2-bath. Includes Skirting, Axels, Tires & Wheels. $46,000. Call Richard 631-1011

FOR SALE: 2008 Fleetwood mobile home, 4br / 2bath / 2LR, 2300sf, Excellent condition. 2 large decks included. Must be moved. $90k Call: 432.238.7895

What's Read!

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Studies show that more readers turn to Classifieds everyday than almost any other section of the newspaper.

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432-682-6222

Homes for Sale

We buy homes in any area in any condition.

Call the Scott Williams Team of Realtors 432-689-7770.

Commercial

READY-RANCH RR
WWW.READY-RANCH.COM
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

- **Kent County**
  - *11,155 ac. ½ of Snyder. 4 houses, pens/roping arena, 800 ft. mtn. creek, lakes. Whitetail deer, mule deer and quail. ...$795/ac
  - *4,212 ac. Maverick Creek, canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail. ...$875/ac
  - *1,771 ac. windmill, creek, blinds and feeders, great w-tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail. ...$850/ac
- **Nolan County**
  - *646 ac. over 1 mile SOLD d creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oaks/mesq. ...$3,550/ac
  - *565 ac. Pecan Creek. New Living/Shop. 200 acres covered for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill ...$3,550/ac
- **Howard County**
  - *642 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite surface water, some oilfield traffic ...$750/ac
  - *150 ac. big canyons SOLD anks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, jim ...$895/ac
- **Martin County**
  - *135 ac. Sulphur Springs SOLD deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal dom ...$1,150/ac

(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777
No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
Deal with Landowners that know the Country!!!
Owner Financing Available

Lots & Land

Acreage

18 - 20 AC. EDWARDS, MENARD OR CONCHO COUNTIES. LIVE OAK, MESQUITE, CEDAR COVER, ABUNDANT NATIVE & EXOTIC GAME. STARTING AT $2,695 DOWN, $491/MO.
800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

45 AC. VAL VERDE COUNTY N. OF COMSTOCK.
GOOD BRUSH COVER. DEER, TURKEY, HOGS, JAVELINA, QUAIL. NEAR LAKE AMISTAD. $2,239 DOWN, $408/MO.
800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

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Ad Council

NHTSA

Find it fast in the Midland Reporter-Telegram

CLASSIFIEDS

mrt★com/jobs

AUTOMOTIVE

Rogers Ford is currently looking to hire employees to fill positions as fast lube technicians and as porters. Rogers offers health insurance, 401K, Paid Vacations and room for advancement. We will train on the job if needed. If interested contact **Jacob Klein at 432-694-8801**

ROGERS
Ford LINCOLN
www.rogersford.com
4200 W. Wall • Midland, TX 432-694-8801

CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Administrative Assistant
Family Promise of Midland is seeking a full-time administrative assistant to enhance the services to our guests and congregations. Candidate must possess a minimum of a Bachelor's degree; excellent organizational skills; be able to multi-task; excellent public speaking skills; and a desire to assist families experiencing homelessness. Please email letter of interest and resume to familypromiseofmidland@gmail.com or call 432-352-6141.

CONSTRUCTION & FACILITIES

Overhead Door Installers
Accepting applications for experienced **Overhead Door Installers**. Pay based on experience. Apply in person **Affinity Overhead Door 1809 W County Rd 114, Midland,TX** Call **432-695-6287** for directions.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Caregiver
Animal Krackers FT/PT
Patient and driven employees needed to care for children. Flexible hours and good pay. Paid vacations & holidays. Part-time or Full-time, experience preferred. Needs to be available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm. Please call Amee Janna at **432-687-4000**.

HEALTHCARE

FT Pharmacy Technician
Super Mercado Pharmacy, an independent retail pharmacy is looking to hire full time Pharmacy Technician. We offer competitive hourly pay, medical, benefits, and holidays. Hours are Monday-Friday 9am-7pm and Saturday 9am-1pm. Closed most holidays. Please contact Eric or Sokkan at **432-682-9501**

Now Hiring - Home Health Agency
Come join a fast growing HHA in Midland and surrounding areas as a full timne nurse. HHA experience is a plus but will train the right individual. Positions Available: • RN Case Managers (bi-lingual preferred) • Staff Nurses (RN/LVN For more information Call: 432-686-7449 or 432-686-7535.

RN for Su Casa Home Health
We are growing again! In need of full time, **RN.** Bilingual a plus. Full benefits package. Call **432-520-2556** or apply online at **www.sucasahomehealth.com.**

HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

Housekeepers & Laundry Attendants & Front Desk Clerks
LaQuinta Inn & Suites - Loop 250 & Hwy 191 FT/PT
Full time and part-time. Bilingual a Plus! Please Apply at LaQuinta Inn & Suites, Loop 250, Next to Kohl's

OTHER JOBS

CARETAKER
Caretaker for small ranch and animals/dogs, horses. Salary and housing provided. Non-smokers and no drinking. References required. Call **432-413-2861**

DELIVERY DRIVERS / PHONE HELP
FLOWERLAND
Valentine's Day is just around the corner.
Hiring for Seasonal Help!
Drivers (must be 21) paid per delivery using your own vehicle,
phone help - taking orders for Valentine deliveries,
general help - process flowers and help in needed areas
Smoke free environment. Fax resume to 432-682-8949, apply in person, or email resume to tomwilliams@flowerlandmidland.com, no phone calls.

FIELD SERVICE TECHNICIAN

CPI MIDLAND IS HIRING!

We are looking for a dynamic Field Service Technician who will be responsible for installation and service of compressor lubrication systems

Candidates are required to be **Safety Conscience** and must have prior experience in the following:

- Compressor/Lubrication experience. Heavy mechanical experience considered or basic understanding of hydraulic systems in lieu of compressor industry experience.
- Must have strong commitment to safety.
- Effective written & verbal communication.
- Must be able to work independently with interpersonal skills to work in a collaborative environment that includes shared responsibilities.
- Must be able to set job priorities & possess a sense of urgency in completion.
- Will be in direct contact with the customer so professional appearance and attitude is paramount.

Additional Requirements:

- High School diploma or equivalent.
- Trade School Certification
- Must have valid driver's license & have demonstrated safe driving habits.
- Basic knowledge of MS Office/Email

CPI offers competitive salary and benefits along with a challenging growth environment. Must be able to pass background check, drug screen and physical.

Please send resumes to pat.cartmell@c-p-i.com or fax 432-520-6707

General Labor
General laborer needed. Oil field experience a plus. Must have a clean driving record. Send resume to admin@zephyrot.com

Immediate Openings
Availeble in Midland & Odessa area grocery and retail stores.

Now hiring qualified applicants for newspaper subscription sales in our growing company. We offer flexible schedules, Paid Training, excellent work environment, and stable work all year round to our **Sales Representatives.** Applicants must be Friendly, Professional, Organized and Reliable. Must be 18 years old with valid drivers license and cell phone. Previous sales or marketing experience is preferred, but not required. Position starts at $10/Hr with Bonuses and Commissions that can surpass $50/Hr for above average Sales Reps working part time. Paid Training provided to new new reps. Professionally set promotional subscriptions at one of our several Kiosk locations in the Midland area. www.FrontlinePromotion.com

For an immediate opportunity, email your resume to Dustin@FrontlinePromotion.com or call 810-875-6301 to join our team.

MAIDS & JANITORS
Needed for part time janitorial work. Great jobs to supplement income, work Monday-Friday Apply at **1307 N Big Spring. 8:30am-5:30pm. 5:30pm - 8:30pm. Apply at 1307 N. Big Spring.**

Tire Service Tech
Wanted: Outside tire service tech for service truck. Will train right person. Excellent compensation package. Lots of hours. Call **432-682-1671** ask for Desmond.

SALES JOBS

Our Support. Your Success.

Are you ready for the easiest, highest paying job you'll ever have? We have just the right place for you!

Denver Mattress is looking for motivated individuals who want a career in sales and management and want to partner with a fast growing company.

No sales experience necessary – We will train you!

Average 1st year salesperson makes over $40k per year
Benefits include: 401k, Health Benefits, Paid Vacations, and Paid Training
$3,000 EMPLOYMENT BONUS!
(See local store for details)

DENVER MATTRESS CO.

Apply in Person
2700 West Loop 250 North
(Between Garfield & Midkiff)
Midland
Denvermattresscareers.com

OTHER JOBS

Several Positions
The Genesis Center of the Permian Basin, a faith based organization has several positions open for women to work with clients. These positions require working nights or weekends. It is a full time position. Call the office at 432-682-2514 to make an appointment to interview. Great opportunities for ministry locally. Contact Alan Austin Executive Director.

TNT
CRANE & RIGGING

YOU WANT TO BE
THE BEST,
COME WORK FOR THE BEST!
CURRENT OPENING FOR A
SAFETY MANAGER @ MIDLAND

Class A CDL Preferred Not Required
Send resume to jharrison@tntcrane.com
or Fax: (432-242-4982)
Apply in Person: 9112 W CR 127 Midland TX

Want to work in a recession proof industry?
Sick & Tired of the ups and down of the oil industry?
How about a job that's always up?

We are looking for highly motivated individuals to work in a fast growing insurance and investment company. Base salary plus commission. No Prior experience is required we will train. Mon-Fri.
$40,000-80,000 a year.
Fax or email resume to ATTN: Crystal Weeks
Crystalweeks1@allstate.com
Fax # 432-848-3337

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Case Manager
Family Promise of Midland is seeking a full-time case manager/ social worker to work with guest families. Requires a Bachelor's degree in Social Science or related field, or three years of experience in a similar position. Candidate must have high energy, a positive attitude, and a passion to help people in crisis. Please email letter of interest and resume to familypromiseofmidland@gmail.com or call 432-352-6141

QA & QUALITY CONTROL

Quality Control Inspector
Natural Gas Services Group FT
NCSG has immediate opening for a **Quality Control Inspector** for Flares and Compressor Packages. This individual is required to have knowledge of ASME and AWS Code, will arrange and document all radiographs, manage all hydrostatic testing, perform visual inspections and dimensional checks of fabricated equipment and outsourced equipment and able to read drawings. The ability to read P&IDs is a plus. CWI certification is a plus but not required. Excellent Salary and Benefit package. For more information or to submit your resume contact employment@ngsgi.com or call (432) 262-2700.

REAL ESTATE

Leasing Agent
Midland Village & Silver Creek Apartments now hiring Leasing Agent. For appointment call 432-687-0053 or 432-683-9726

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Available Positions
Sidekicks & Legends Restaurant now hiring. Call 432-352-0603 or 432-683-8811.

Host Staff, Cooks and Dishwashers
The Garlic Press is hiring Host Staff, Cooks and Dishwashers. Flexible hours. Great work environment and benefits. Apply in person at The Garlic Press in Oak Ridge Square at Wadley and Garfield. 11am-2pm only.

Manager
Little Caesars Pizza is accepting applications/resumes for store Manager in Odessa for a new store opening soon. Requires about 50 hours per week. Must work many nights and most weekends (we are closed Sundays). Involves hiring, training, product ordering, inventory control, scheduling, making pizzas and cash handling. Must be good with people! Must have experience and good references. About $50k per year - benefits (health plan + paid vacation) + performance bonuses. Email resume to eric_carr49@hotmail.com

SALES JOBS

FULL-PART TIME SALES ASSOCIATES
We are looking for **Insurance Associates** who possess these important qualities. *Cool under pressure, *Enjoy working hard, *Relate well to all kinds of people *Energetic, *Dedicated to meet customers needs. P&C license preferred. Must have customer service experience. Bilingual a plus. Please fax your resume to: **432-570-9501** or Mail to **P O Box 8830**, Midland, TX 79708. Bring by **4410 N Midkiff, Ste D1F, Midland, TX 79705.**

Route Sales
Work 4, Play 3!!! Schwan's is now hiring Route Sales Reps in Odessa. $45.5K starting salary. $70K+potential. 4 day work week. Full benefit pkg. No CDL req'd. Apply online at www.schwansjobs.com. Keyword: Midland. Call: 806.290.8122. EOE.

SKILLED LABOR

Automotive Mechanic - Journeymen
Experienced Automotive Mechanic - Journeymen. UPS Midland is seeking to hire a permanent Automotive Mechanic - Min. 2 years experience, college preferred, ASC Certified. Apply at UPSJOBS.COM

Designer
FLOWERLAND FT
Designer needed. Some 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.

Electrician and Apprentices
TTG Electric Co., is hiring electricians and apprentices at high scale. Housing can be provided in Midland. Please call Felix Montoya at 254-535-3143, Joe Anderson at 254-535-0510 or our office at 254-526-7284.

Flare Service Technician
Natural Gas Services Group FT
NGSG has an opening for a Flare Service Technician. This person will provide major maintenance and repairs on Customer-owned flares as well as company rental fleet. The individual must have a mechanical background and be familiar with hand tools, electronics and electrical power. A good driving record is required. **Excellent Salary and Benefits for the right person.** To apply submit your resume to employment@ngsgi.com or call 432-262-2700

Utilities Crews
JOHN BURNS CONSTRUCTION CO. Lewisville, Texas. Hiring Utility Crews. Email work history/Resume to jobtech@jbcco.com or contact Rich at 214-226-9872.

SKILLED LABOR

Warehouse Person/Driver
Basin Engine & Pump is looking for an industrial oilfield warehouse person. Pump and or warehouse experience preferred. This position includes uniforms and a benefits package. Please submit resume by fax to 432-570-1115 or email to Todd@basinengine.com. Applications may also be filled out at 1914 S. County Rd. 1083, Greenwood/Midland.

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Bobtail Fuel Delivery Driver Wanted:
Allstar Fuel Fred Garrison Oil Company: Gas, diesel and propane experience helpful. Local delivery driver must have a valid CDL and Hazmat endorsement. Need to have Medical Card or have the ability to obtain one. We offer a competitive wage and benefits. Apply in person at Allstar Fuel at 1107 Walter Griffin St. No calls please

CDL Drivers
Horizon Transportation FT
Now hiring Class A CDL Drivers, clean driving record is required. Must pass a criminal background check and DOT drug test. Please call **432-699-4468**

Drivers
AES Drilling Fluids Permian, LLC is hiring drivers for our yards in Midland, Big Lake, and Kermit. Must have a class A CDL. Great pay and benefits for Tanker and Flatbed drivers. call Austin at 432-684-7101, 805-570-6194

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

General

NEWSPAPER STREET CORNER SALES

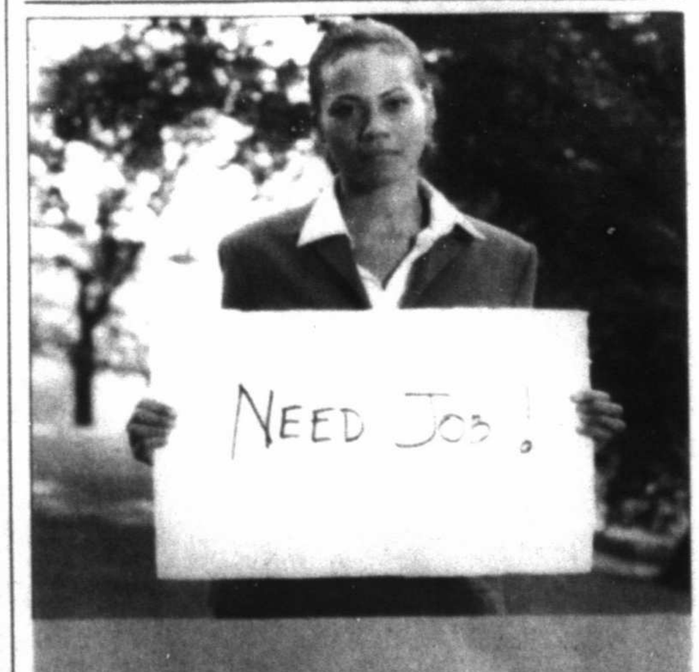
Selling Newspapers On The Street Corners
(avg. income $50.00 - $100.00/day)
MUST BE AT LEAST 14 YEARS OLD
SUNDAYS ONLY
IF INTERESTED CALL
TOMMY 967-2267

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



mrt★com/jobs
Beats standing on the street corner!

mrt★com/jobs

OTHER JOBS

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN IT'S 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

Starting pay $10.00 per hour/after 60 days pay will be $11.00 per hour

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: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NOPHONECALLSPLEASE

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN IT'S 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

Starting pay $10.00 per hour/after 60 days pay will be $11.00 per hour

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: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NOPHONECALLSPLEASE

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

RESPONSIBILITES:

- 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

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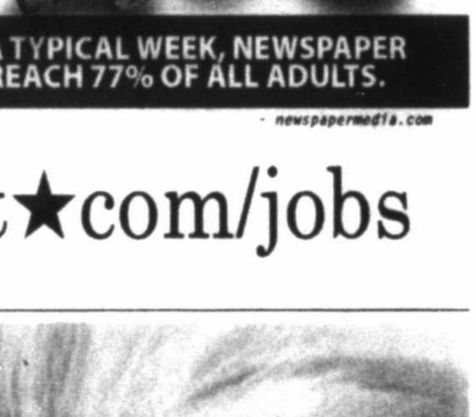

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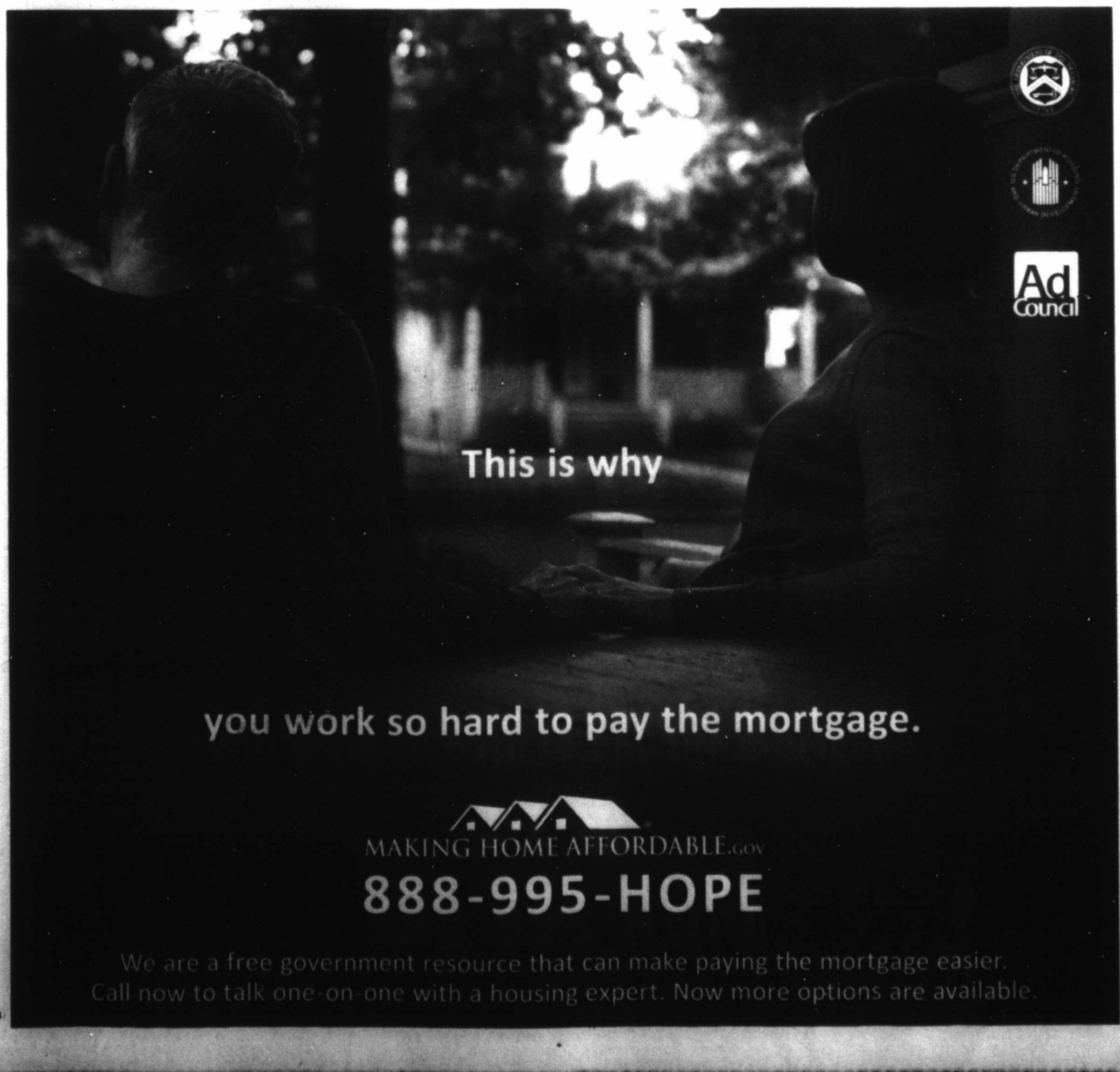

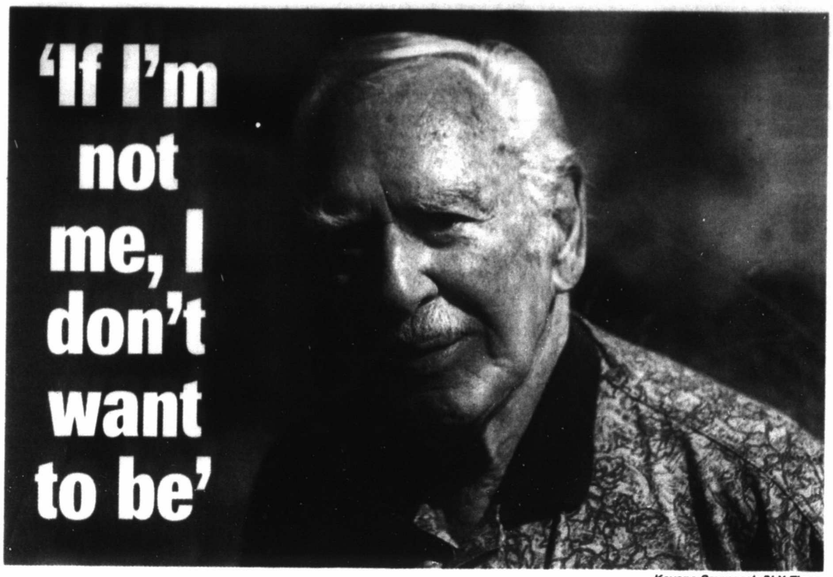

Kayana Szymczak /N.Y. Times

Jerome Medalie, 88, does not want to be given "ordinary means of nutrition and hydration" if he reaches a certain stage of dementia.

Families face dilemmas in choosing end game for dementia

By Paula Span
N.Y. Times News Service

DEDHAM, Mass. — Jerome Medalie keeps his advance directive hanging in a plastic sleeve in his front hall closet, as his retirement community recommends. That's where the paramedics will look if someone calls 911.

Like many such documents, it declares that if he is terminally ill, he declines cardiopulmonary resuscitation, a ventilator and a feeding tube.

But Medalie's directive also specifies something more unusual: If he develops Alzheimer's disease or another form of dementia, he refuses "ordinary means of nutrition and hydration."

A retired lawyer with a proclivity for precision, he has listed 10 triggering conditions, including "I cannot recognize my loved ones" and "I cannot articulate coherent thoughts and sentences."

If any three such disabilities persist for several weeks, he wants his health care proxy — his wife, Beth Lowd — to ensure that nobody tries to keep him alive by spoon-feeding or offering him liquids. VSED, short for "voluntarily stopping eating and drinking," is not unheard-of as an end-of-life strategy, typically used by older adults who hope to hasten their decline from terminal conditions. But now ethicists, lawyers and older adults themselves have begun a quiet debate about whether people who develop dementia can use VSED to end their lives by including such instructions in an advance directive.

Experts know of just a handful of people with directives like Medalie's. But dementia rates and numbers have begun a steep ascent, already afflicting an estimated 30 percent of those older than 85. Baby boomers are receiving a firsthand view of the disease's devastation and burdens as they care for aging parents.

They may well prove receptive to the idea that they shouldn't be kept alive if they develop dementia themselves, predicted Alan Meisel, the director of the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Bioethics and Health Law.

"People in their 50s and 60s frequently say 'I don't want to be in that situation. I don't want to put my family in that situation,'" he said. "And people will increasingly voice those views to others, sometimes in a formal way through advance directives."

Medalie, fierce-eyed at 88, has seen people close to him die lingering deaths from dementia and has already decided. His motto, pithy enough for a T-shirt: "If I'm not me, I don't want to be."

Dementia, though a terminal diagnosis, presents unique obstacles for those who want some control over the way they die. It generally kills slowly, over years, and "there is often no plug to pull," said Dr. Stanley Terman, a psychiatrist in Carlsbad, California, who specializes in end-of-life decision-making and estimates that several hundred people have requested copies of his Natural Dying Living Will. "There's no high-tech, life-sustaining treatment that can be withdrawn or withheld."

Even in the few states where physicians can legally prescribe lethal medication for the terminally ill, laws require that patients be mentally competent and able to ingest those drugs themselves. Medalie would prefer that option if he were to become demented, preferably with the barbiturates dissolved in "a little vodka."

But demented patients don't qualify for so-called death with dignity. VSED is a lawful way to hasten death for competent adults who find life with a progressive, irreversible disease unendurable. Several medical studies have reported that, with proper oral and palliative care, it can also be a comfortable way to die.

The question for proponents of VSED by advance directive is whether the practice can also provide a humane exit for those who, years later, no longer remember or understand why they wanted to use it.

Proponents of the approach acknowledge that dementia patients and their health care proxies will face great controversy if they try to cut off food and water; so will the professionals who care for them.

Nourishment carries connotations, from infancy, that make stopping it feel different from rejecting medical machinery.

"It's the rhetoric more than anything," said Meisel, the author of the legal treatise "The Right to Die." "You can apply the word 'starvation.'"

If those opposed to removing patients from ventilators had thought to call it "suffocation," he adds, the issue might be similarly contentious.

Moreover, the legal status of VSED by advance directive remains untested. In a recent article in The Hastings Center Report, two advocates argued that food and water should not be withdrawn until severe dementia has eroded the patient's quality of life and "the self has withered."

That approach would probably pass legal muster, said Paul Menzel, philosophy professor emeritus at Pacific Lutheran University, and an author of the piece.

Spoon-feeding may constitute basic care, however, more akin to changing sheets or bathing than to medical interventions.

"People get in trouble — nursing homes, even family members — for inadequate nutrition or letting someone dehydrate," said Thaddeus Pope, the director of the Health Law Institute at Hamline University School of Law. "Neglecting basic human comfort care is a big source of elder abuse complaints and criminal prosecutions."

And if a patient demands that his basic care be withheld in the event of dementia?

"Nobody from a legal perspective has really meaningfully grappled with that," he said.

In several states, including New York, Wisconsin, Minnesota and New Hampshire, legislatures have banned the withdrawal of oral nutrition or hydration at all, no matter what a directive or a proxy says.

None of this remotely dissuades Jerome Medalie. For now, "life is exceptionally good." A veteran of bypass surgery, multiple angioplasties and two knee replacements, he exercises daily, canoes on the nearby Charles River with his grandchildren in summer, and uses a voice-controlled computer to counter the effects of macular degeneration.

'America's Worst Mom' offers tips for raising free range kids

By Jane E. Brody
N.Y. Times News Service

Lenore Skenazy, a New York City mother of two, earned the sobriquet "America's Worst Mom" after reporting in a newspaper column that she'd allowed her younger son, then 9, to ride the subway alone.

The damning criticism she endured, including a threat to have her arrested for child endangerment, intensified her desire to encourage anxious parents to give their children the freedom they need to develop the self-confidence and resilience to cope effectively with life's many challenges.

One result was the publication, in 2009, of her book "Free Range Kids: How to Raise Safe, Self-Reliant Children (Without Going Nuts with Worry)." A second result is the Free Range Kids Project and a 13-part series, starting Thursday on Discovery Life Channel, called "World's Worst Mom." In it, Skenazy (to whom the title ironically applies) intervenes to rescue bubble-wrapped kids from their overprotective parents by guiding the children safely through a sequence of once-forbidden activities and showing their anxious parents how well the children perform and how proud the youngsters are of what they accomplish.

The term "helicopter parents" applies to far more than those who hover relentlessly over their children's academic and musical development. As depicted in the series' first episode, it applies to 10-year-old Sam's very loving mother who wouldn't let him ride a bike ("she's afraid I'll fall and get hurt"), cut up his own meat ("Mom thinks I'll cut my fingers off"), or play "rough sports" like skating. The plea from a stressed-out, thwarted Sam: "I just want to do things by myself."

In an interview, Skenazy said, "Having been brainwashed by all the stories we hear, there's a prevailing fear that any time you're not directly supervising your child, you're putting the child in danger." The widespread publicity now given to every crime has created an exaggerated fear of the dangers children face if left to navigate and play on their own.

Yet, according to Peter Gray, research psychologist at Boston College, "The actual rate of strangers abducting or molesting children is very small. It's more likely to happen at the hands of a relative or family friend. The statistics show no increase in childhood dangers. If anything, there's been a decrease."

Experts said there is no more child-centered crime committed by strangers today — and probably significantly less — than when I was growing up in the 1940s and '50s, a time when I walked to school alone and played outdoors with friends unsupervised by adults. In 1979 when my own sons were offered the opportunity to attend private school to escape their crime-ridden public middle school, they said, "What would we learn about life in private school?" So they stuck out those three years and emerged street-smart and confident in their ability to cope, lessons far more valuable than any they might have acquired in a safer school.

Find sleeping accomodations with non-traditional methods

Dear PropellerHeads: I don't get out that much but one of my New Year's resolutions is to sleep somewhere else besides my house. Should I just ring my travel agent to get started?

A: Good for you for making resolutions and following through. First, you really don't get out much; I am pretty sure the only people who still use a travel agent live in Boca and only call their agents for their holiday travels back to Jersey. Secondly, there are other ways to sleep somewhere else besides your own bed. They involve liquor, a new shirt, a night out and some luck. Perhaps we'll tackle that in another article.

So let's just focus on where to stay, since you are so concerned with sleeping arrangements. You can check out the big dogs; Expedia (expedia.com), Orbitz (orbitz.com), Kayak (kayak.com), Priceline (priceline.com), Hotwire (hotwire.com) and Booking.com. They could handle pretty much all of your travel needs. If you need a travel site to tell you how to use the interwebs, while speaking with a bedroom voice and an loosely buttoned un-ironed shirt, check out the ads for Trivago (trivago.com) here — bit.ly/1FaBFyp. If you have an agreement with credit card points, or a loyalty program with a hotel chain, you might want to follow that route to use your points to your advantage and save some cheddar.

But globetrotters and homebodies alike have been finding their lodging using the newer non-traditional methods. I'll give you a glimpse of a few to see if they may help you find a new place to rest your head.

Do you want the hotel experience, but perhaps don't want to stay in a hotel? You should check out sites like VRBO (vrbo.com). This site is run by the HomeAway company (homeaway.com), but lists privately owned properties like apartments, houses and other rental properties all over the world. There are no rental or booking fees, it's easy to search, and the pricing may save you some money. You'll feel like you are searching a traditional travel site, but may get access to stay at a property more outside-the-box.

If you want to get even more of a personal touch and gain some more flexibility on your searches, you may want to check out Airbnb (airbnb.com). They have rooms, apartments, condos and whole houses available for your stay. This site has more of a social media feel, and rating and review system similar to eBay sellers. You can get to know your property owners and read ratings and reviews from other travelers before you book.

Many users of this site will contact the owners in advance of staying to ask questions or voice concerns before booking, so there is an opportunity for a unique customer experience. On the flipside, you are dependent on your owners to respond to your needs or concerns about the property once you arrive, so if they are unresponsive, this could be an issue.

Do you need some company? Do you want to spend nothing for your stay? You may want to check out Couchsurfing.com. It's what it sounds like and also a little more. You can find a couch to crash on, all over the world, for free. You may find that that couch is really a pull-out sofa bed, you may have a private room, or you might be all up in someone's business.

There is also a social aspect to this agreement. Your hosts will most likely want to socialize with you or show you around. You are a guest in their home, so the expectation is that you treat them as the hosts they are.

Perhaps you don't leave your house very much because your house is awesome. You could consider a house-swapping arrangement through Homeexchange.com. You list your house, search other members' listings, chat it up, plan your trip and swap. Be aware that they get access to your whole house, your pets, your plants, your pantry and perhaps your panty drawer. There is an annual fee of $120, but no others. Since you have big travel plans in the new year this could be a nice choice for you.

Safe travels, sleep tight, and don't let the bed bugs bite. For real, some places still have them. Enjoy!

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