Learning process
Puppy helps third-grader find his way
Learn more in TEXAS EDUCATION/9B

Wendy's is new No. 2
Hamburger chain dethrones Burger King
Learn more in NATION/7A

Midland Reporter-Telegram

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2012 mywesttexas.com Vol. 84, No. 9 Daily 75¢, Sunday $2

Company could begin to bury nuclear waste

State expected to approve transport of radioactive material to area near Andrews

By Betsy Blaney
Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Trucks carrying low-level radioactive waste from 38 states will likely be rolling along Texas highways as early as April, bound for permanent burial at a dump near Andrews.

The arrival of the low-level radioactive waste will end a yearslong effort by a Dallas-based company, whose majority owner is big-time political contributor Harold Simmons, to win permission from Texas officials to accept the waste at 1,340-acre tract of scrub brush terrain outside Andrews. Opponents say Waste Control Specialists has benefited from Simmons' connections to top Republicans, including Gov. Rick Perry.

The state's commission overseeing disposal of low-level waste in Texas is expected to approve on Friday the final rule changes needed. State lawmakers cleared the way with a new law passed in the last legislative session. State regulators still need to sign off on the burial site's construction.

Environmental groups have for years voiced concerns about the geology of the site and about the potential for contamination of underground water sources they say are too close. A "nightmare scenario" exists, though, in transporting the waste to the site, said Karen Hadden, director of the Texas SEED Coalition.

"All of it is dangerous but we are very concerned about highway accidents," she said. "There could be accidents in downtown Dallas or downtown Fort Worth and Houston. There is risk of radioactive contamination and exposure."

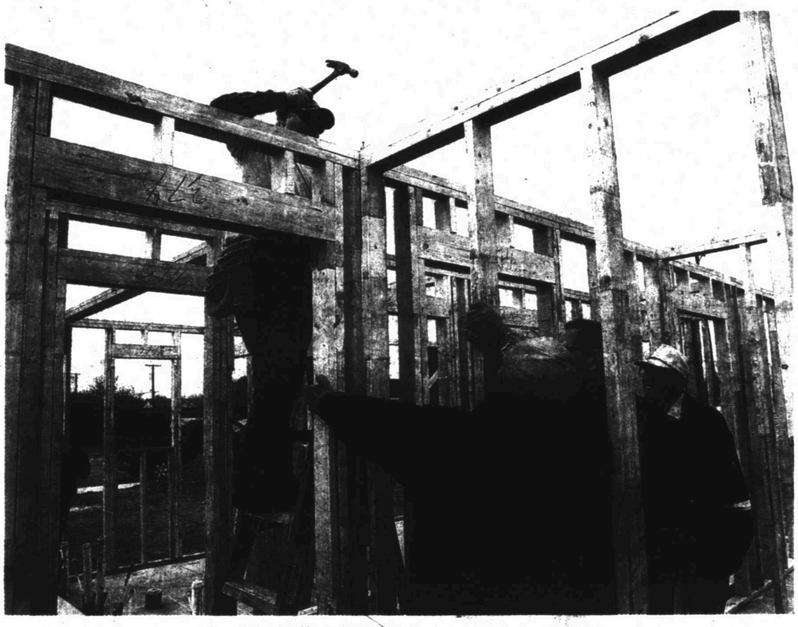
Company spokesman Chuck McDonald, who noted extensive testing at the site has shown it's safe, said accidents involving transportation of radioactive material are infrequent.

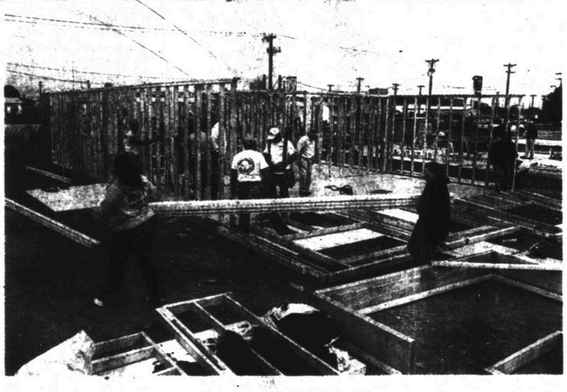
"It's actually a very good the track record," he said.

Data from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration show that from 2003 through 2011 there were 72 incidents involving trucks with radioactive material traveling on highways. One

Please see **WASTE**/2A

LABORING FOR NO. 111





ABOVE: Stonnie Pollock with Fasken Oil & Ranch prepares to drive a nail into an interior wall frame Monday at the construction site for Habitat for Humanity's 111th home, located at 910 S. Jefferson St.

RIGHT: Valerie Galindo, left, and Laura Hill, with Fasken Oil & Ranch, haul lumber to their co-workers and Habitat for Humanity volunteers Monday. Employees from various departments of Fasken Oil & Ranch are volunteering their time this week building the fourth home the company has helped fund.

Photos by Cindeka Nealy
Reporter-Telegram

Habitat, MCDC could receive lots for affordable housing

From staff reports

Forty lots could be transferred today to Habitat for Humanity and the Midland Community Development Corp. for the construction of affordable homes.

The Midland City Council will vote on whether to turn 23 properties over to the MCDC and 17 to Habitat for Humanity. The lots were purchased with Community Development Block Grant funds and would be transferred to the organizations at no cost.

The land is located in the Sparks Park area, near East Golf Course Road and Tilden Street.

"It's going to become homes, which is something the city desperately needs," said Alynda Best, executive director for Habitat.

David Diaz, MCDC executive director, said the need for affordable housing is tremendous. The addition of these homes will help but won't solve the problem, he said.

"We constantly get families through our doors who are seeking affordable housing," Diaz said. "The demand is tremendous. The need is a lot greater than what the Midland Community Development Corporation is capable of (addressing)."

Infrastructure also will be added to the Sparks Park neighborhood through Community Development Block Grant funds, which are administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and are meant to help those with moderate to low incomes.

Diaz said some families have been pre-qualified for the homes that will be built near Sparks Park, but MCDC still is taking applications.

Best said they have not started accepting applications for the future home sites.

"Those lots will provide about two years worth of building," she said.

Those interested in applying through MCDC must have credit that allows them to take out a mortgage and an income of below 80 percent of the median family income.

At Habitat, applicants must be in an inadequate housing situation, be a resident of Midland County for at least one year, fall within 25 to 60 percent of the median income in Midland County and be willing to commit to 350 "sweat equity" hours by working on their home and other Habitat homes.

Judge gives Tavarez 180 days in jail on top of probation

By Audrie Palmer
Staff Writer

The 24-year-old drunken driver who killed a couple and injured their two daughters in 2010 began serving a six-month jail sentence Monday as part of his probation.

Joel Galindo Tavarez Jr., of Odessa, was sentenced to 10 years probation on Monday and taken to the Midland County jail, where he will be in custody for the next 180 days.

Tavarez

If Tavarez violates the terms of his probation, he can face the sentence imposed by the jury: 10 years in prison and fine. There's also a possibility he could face up to 40 years in prison for the four charges if the judge orders the sentences stacked.

Prosecutors Tim Flathers and Rebecca Patterson and defense attorney Brian Carney met Monday before Judge Robert Moore in the 238th District Court to work on the terms of Tavarez's probation.

A Midland County jury convicted Tavarez on March 9 for the intoxication manslaughter deaths of Jenna Vela and Perry Jeffery and the intoxication assaults of their two toddler daughters.

The same jury sentenced him on March

Please see **TAVAREZ**/2A

Trial begins for man accused of murder

By Audrie Palmer
Staff Writer

Opening arguments began Monday afternoon in the trial of the first of two men accused in the death of a Midland man and the stabbing of his girlfriend last June.

"This is one of the most troubling, upsetting and savage cases that I've ever come across working in the District Attorney's Office," Midland County District Attorney Teresa Clingman told jurors during opening arguments.

She said evidence will show that defendant Stephen Craig Whitworth, 21, and Paul Curtis Lee, 24, killed a local restaurant cook with a bolt cutter and beat and slashed the victim's girlfriend and left her for dead.

Clingman said that late on June 5, 2011, 23-year-old Anne Bostic picked up Christopher Aaron Easley, 25, and went

Please see **TRIAL**/2A

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ENERGY PRICES MONDAY

WTI Futures	$108.09	▲ $1.09
WTI Posted	$104.75	▲ $1.25
WTS Posted	$98.80	▲ $1.25
Natural Gas	$2.361	▲ $0.025
Gasoline	$3.238	▲ $0.007

Mostly sunny
High: 75 Low: 40

Coming Wednesday
Ed Todd is back! Read his profile about Colleen Church Leonard, a poet published at age 86, in West Texas Living Midweek

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Meetings schedule

City Council
10 a.m. today
Council chambers
300 N. Loraine St.

Midland College board
4 p.m. today
Gibson Board room
Administration Building, Midland College campus

Midland-Odessa Urban Transit District
Noon Wednesday
MOTOR MPO Office
9601 Wright Drive

Community calendar

■ Anthropologist Mireya Mayor, known as the "female Indiana Jones," will speak 7 p.m. today at the Petroleum Museum.

Her appearance is part of the Arlen Edgar Distinguished Lecture Series and is made possible by National Geographic's Speakers Bureau.

The lecture is free, but tickets are required. For more information, call 683-4403.

■ The 5 Browns, presented by the Phyllis & Bob Cowan Performing Arts Series and the Midland College Foundation, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Chap Center. Tickets are free and not required for general admission seating.

■ Brown Bag Lunch and Lecture Series presents "spOILed" the movie at 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday at the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, 1500 I-20 West. People may bring lunch; the Petroleum Museum will provide drinks and cookies. DVDs are available in the Museum Store. For more information, call 683-4403.

It's your birthday

Miguel Anthony Puente Jr., of Midland, turns 4 today.

Quinn Burns, of Midland, turns 6 today.

It's your anniversary

Nick and Monica Kincheloe, of Midland, celebrate their second anniversary today.

Max and Kinsley Rupe, of Midland, celebrate their fourth anniversary today.

The Reporter-Telegram runs birthdays and anniversaries as part of our daily presentation on 2A or 4A. This includes Sunday's Your City section.

If you would like to submit an entry, please send us the following information.

■ Birthdays: Name, age, birthday and place of residence.

■ Anniversaries: Names, years married, anniversary date and place of residence.

This will not replace the longer, more detailed announcements that run in Sunday's West Texas Living section.

Please submit your item to Editor Stewart Doreen (sdoreen@mrt.com). We will run as many items as space allows.

City's watering schedule

According to the city's Drought Contingency plan, the watering schedule is:

■ Odd addresses: beginning 6 p.m. Sundays through 10 a.m. Mondays and beginning 6 p.m. Wednesdays through 10 a.m. Thursdays.

■ Even addresses: beginning 6 p.m. Saturdays through 10 a.m. Sundays and beginning 6 p.m. Tuesdays through 10 a.m. Wednesdays.

When you can water starting April 1

■ Residents and businesses can water for two hours between the hours of 6 p.m. and midnight on their assigned day.

■ Days are being assigned based on zones. To find out which zone you're in, visit: http://www.ci.midland.tx.us/departments/utilities/WaterUse_DaysofWeek%20030512.pdf or call 685-7474

■ All types of watering devices are permitted.

■ New pools are allowed only if they are filled with water purchased and trucked in from outside the city.

■ Washing outdoor surfaces, such as sidewalks, driveways, building exteriors and parking lots is not allowed.

Know a member of the military who is coming home?

Military families can call 689-8698 or email Vickie Gomez (zemogy@cableone.net) when they know their family member in military is flying into our airport so the Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee can be there to greet them.

Lottery

Pick 3 day: 8-5-5
Pick 3 night: 5-0-3
Daily 4 day: 5-8-8-3
Daily 4 night: 6-5-3-6
Cash Five: 3-9-14-15-20
Texas Two Step: 2-4-24-30 BB: 5

Today in history

Today is Tuesday, March 20, the 80th day of 2012. There are 286 days left in the year. Spring arrives at 1:14 a.m. Eastern time.

Today's highlight:
On March 20, 1912, a coal mine explosion in McCurtain, Okla., claimed the lives of 73 workers.

On this date:
In 1969, John Lennon married Yoko Ono in Gibraltar.

Ten years ago: Accounting firm Arthur Andersen pleaded not guilty to charges it had shredded documents and deleted computer files related to Enron. (Andersen was later found guilty of obstruction of justice, but the verdict was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court.)

Today's birthdays: Producer-director-comedian Carl Reiner is 90. Actor William Hurt is 62. Movie director Spike Lee is 55. Actress Holly Hunter is 54.

TRIAL

From 1A

to his father's Midland house, Clingman told the court.

Evidence will show that Whitworth contacted the couple "to hang out" and the four drove out into the county together, she said.

"(Easley and Bostic) had absolutely no idea they were in the presence of danger," Clingman said.

Once in the county, Lee got out of the car, retrieved a set of bolt cutters from the trunk and called Easley to the back of the vehicle where he struck him until he died, Clingman told the jury.

Whitworth allegedly made Bostic watch and held her by the throat to the point of suffocation and cut her throat, the district attorney said.

Clingman told the jury that Bostic waited until it was light out, pulled herself off the ground and walked to Midkiff Road where she was able to flag down a passer-by for help.

Online

Read the arrest warrant for this incident at www.mywesttexas.com.

"She had been left for dead," Clingman said. "She had multiple stab wounds to her back and front, but she lived to tell what happened to her."

Defense attorney Roy Scott told the court that Lee wanted Bostic in a romantic way and the four people went out to the county to smoke marijuana and drink beer.

"Paul Lee was the only one who knew what was going to happen," he said.

Scott said Whitworth was holding Bostic but in a way so she couldn't see what was happening to her boyfriend and that his client was afraid of Lee.

"He does exactly what Lee tells him to do," Scott said.

Lee then allegedly ordered Whitworth to kill Bostic. But because of his martial arts training, Whitworth knew how "to choke someone out" and then popped his knuckles to make it sound as if he had broken her neck.

Lee was not satisfied and stabbed Bostic, Scott said.

Details surrounding the killing and assault have not been made public until now. At the time of the incident, Clingman filed a motion to seal the arrest affidavits and other reports and documents because of the sensitive details, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram report.

A search warrant was issued on June 6 for a room at Travelodge Motel where it was believed Whitworth and Lee were staying.

Sheriff's deputies found a knife believed to be used in the crimes and bloodied clothing and shoes that matched footprints found at the scene.

Whitworth and Lee both were charged with a first-degree felony of murder and a second-degree felony of aggravated assault. Lee is scheduled to go to trial starting April 2.

Since their arrests, both men have remained at the Midland County jail on $1.25 million bonds.

The trial will continue at 8:30 a.m. today in the 441st District Court.

Audrie Palmer can be reached at apalmer@mrt.com.

MRT file photo

Children play at the Hogan Park playground in 2011. The City Council will could decide today to build a pavilion at the park.

Hogan Park, Washington Pool could receive upgrades

By Kathleen Petty
Staff Writer

Hogan Park could see the addition of a picnic pavilion in the coming months if the Midland City Council votes today to move forward with the project.

"Last summer, our rentals on those kind of pavilions were at an all-time maximum," said Tina Jauz, director of Community Services. "Our public is telling us they want more to rent."

A new playground was opened at Hogan Park just more than a year ago and, the addition of the pavilion would complete the park's renovations. The council decided in 2009 to defer the construction of the pavilion to a later date and is considering the issue again, according to a memo filed with the city secretary's office.

If the council approves the project today, the city will release bids seeking a contractor to complete the pavilion.

It's estimated the total cost for the addition will be $115,000, according to the memo. The construction would be paid for with certificates of obligation still available from a 2007 issue.

The pavilion's octagonal design is about 70 feet, built onto a concrete base. Jauz said the roof would be made of galvanized metal and the supports of would be made of laminated wood. It's planned for the southeast region of the park, near the playground.

Jauz said rental costs for the pavilion, if it's approved, will be comparable to other pavilions in the city.

Currently, residents must put down a $100 deposit to rent a pavilion and then pay a rental fee of $30 to $60, depending upon the time slot and amount of time reserved.

Want to go?

Today's City Council meeting will begin at 10 a.m. at Council Chambers, 300 N. Loraine St.

Also under consideration at today's meeting will be renovations at Washington Pool.

The council will discuss awarding a contract to Bluescape Pools by Ranae for the resurfacing of Washington Pool.

In addition to resurfacing the larger pool at Washington, which is a regular maintenance item, the company also would improve the pool area so that it meets national ADA accessibility standards.

Currently, the large pool is accessible by wheelchair, but the smaller children's pool is not.

If awarded the contract, Bluescape Pools will add a ramp into the smaller pool and ensure both pools are up to national standards. It's anticipated the project will cost just more than $70,000, according to the memo.

Following the 2012 swimming season, Jauz said Parks and Recreation will turn its attention to Doug Russell Pool.

When completed, Jauz said the city wants Doug Russell to become more of a family-friendly play area that could include a slide and other additions.

"We're hoping Doug Russell will have some neat features that will appeal to all age groups," she said.

Kathleen Petty can be reached at kpetty@mrt.com.

TEXASROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

SAN ANTONIO

Report: Tornado touches down near San Antonio

The National Weather Service said Monday that a tornado touched down southwest of San Antonio, while thunderstorms and rain blanketed much of the state.

A tornado touched down Monday night about 25 miles southwest of San Antonio and moved northeast. The tornado was not reported to have struck the city, though parts of Bexar County were placed under tornado warnings.

In neighboring Medina County, officials told the San Antonio Express-News that several people were reportedly trapped in mobile homes, but deaths were reported.

In Dallas-Fort Worth, storms flooded roads and delayed flights. Other parts of Texas saw several inches of rain.

Parts of North, East and South Texas remained under a tornado watch late Monday. Other areas were warned about flash flooding through much of today.

IRVING

Family sick, carbon monoxide at hotel

Hospital officials say five members of an Oklahoma family have gotten sick from apparent carbon monoxide exposure at a Dallas-area hotel.

An Irving Fire Department spokesman said the incident happened at about Monday at the Hyatt Place in the Las Colinas district. A Hyatt spokeswoman said the hotel's boiler caused the incident and is now in the process of being replaced.

Officials with Las Colinas Medical Center said a man, a pregnant woman and their three children, ages 1, 8 and 10, were treated for nausea and headaches.

Hospital officials said the family from Tulsa, Okla., was on vacation in the Dallas area when they started feeling sick. The family has been transferred to another undisclosed hospital for further treatment.

The hotel spokeswoman says 30 to 40 people were evacuated.

WACO

4 in ambulance taken to hospital after Waco wreck

Authorities say a cardiac patient and three Central Texas medical personnel have been hurt after their ambulance flipped on a rain-slick highway.

The Texas Department of Public Safety said the accident happened late Sunday afternoon in Waco.

DPS said the ambulance overturned during wet conditions on the road. The National Weather Service says the area had rain on Sunday.

KWTX-TV reported the ambulance was transporting a patient who had suffered a heart attack. A paramedic and two other emergency medical officials were also on board.

WASTE

From 1A

person died and the accidents caused $2.4 million in damages.

That compares with almost 64,000 incidents involving flammable/combustible liquids — the leader in hazardous materials accidents in the nine-year span. Seventy-six people have died in those incidents, which caused $319.5 million in damages.

There is no requirement to notify law enforcement officials along routes trucks will travel with the low-level waste, said Chris Van Deusen, spokesman for the Texas Department of State Health Services, which oversees the transportation of the waste.

One state legislator said he wonders whether those living along the routes are ready, were an incident to occur.

"Transportation of this waste is not route-restricted, and we don't know whether local emergency response teams are prepared for such a scenario," said state Rep. Lon Burnam, a Democrat from Fort Worth.

Waste Control, which also stores, processes and manages hazardous wastes at the site, has spent hundreds of millions of dollars to open the dump. In 2009, the state issued two licenses to the company to bury low-level radioactive waste, making it the nation's only dump for all classes — A, B and C — of nuclear debris and the first low-level site to open in 30 years.

One license pertains to a compact between Texas and Vermont that allows for disposal of radioactive materials such as uranium, plutonium and thorium from commercial power plants, academic institutions and medical schools. Last year, though, lawmakers approved allowing low-level radioactive waste from 36 other states to be buried in West Texas.

Petitions to bury waste from the compact states and the three dozen other states must be approved by the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Disposal Compact Commission, whose meeting is Friday, on a case-by-case basis.

The other license deals with similar materials from sites run by the U.S. Department of Energy, such as Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, Hanford Site in Washington state and other federal facilities.

Simmons, who is the world's 100th wealthiest man with $9 billion on this year's Forbes list, has given Perry's campaigns $1.1 million during his time as governor. The governor is responsible for appointing environmental commissioners.

Hadden pointed to last fall when Waste Control was allowed to use stock from a publicly traded sister company, Titanium Metals, to fund a trust to cover potential liability at the radioactive waste facility. The license required the company to provide $140 million in financial assurance.

State law allows several methods for the assurance, including a fully funded or a standby trust, a surety bond or an insurance policy but it also allows the agency's executive director to approve other mechanisms on a case-by-case basis.

Once the waste is in the ground it becomes the property of the state. The disposal license is good until 2024 and can be extended by 10-year periods after that.

In an email response, an environmental commission spokesman said Waste Control told his agency that the cost to get a letter of credit in 2010 was prohibitive and that's why they used stock as collateral instead. The company blamed changes in the market and the inability to get commercial insurance.

Environmental commission spokesman Terry Clawson's email said using publicly-traded stock "has been done before for hazardous waste facilities." The agency required additional protections in allowing the company to use stock from the sister company, including a $20 million surety bond along with a standby trust agreement. After five years the company must come up with cash or a more secure, traditional form of financial assurance.

TAVAREZ

From 1A

12 to 10 years in prison and a $10,000 fine for each of the four charges, but jurors asked that the sentence and fine be suspended for probation.

Jeffery's mother, Sylvia Fuller, testified at Monday's hearing that she has outstanding balances for the two girls' medical bills at Midland Memorial Hospital and at Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas. Medicaid has covered some of the hospital bills, but she still owes about $25,000, she said.

Fuller said she also spent more than $24,000 for gas and motels to take her orphaned granddaughters to hospitals in Lubbock and Dallas, to purchase medical equipment such as wheelchairs and to pay for Jeffery's funeral.

The grandmother told the court that because the girls were registered under Vela's name at the time of the accident, they qualified for Medicaid but the assistance expired on Dec. 14. She since has applied for the Children's Health Insurance Program, but if the girls do not qualify she'll have to pay their medical expenses out of pocket.

Carney said Tavarez would like to pay restitution and establish a trust fund for the girls.

"They'll obviously need money in the future," Carney said.

Flathers asked that an Interlock device, which monitors the wearer's breath alcohol levels before starting a vehicle, and a SCRAM unit, which is an ankle bracelet that monitors an individual's blood alcohol, be a part of the probation terms to be decided at the next hearing.

Carney asked that the two devices not be made terms of Tavarez's probation so the money he would spend on the devices could be used to benefit the girls instead.

The court will re-convene at 9 a.m. April 2, when Moore will decide the remaining probation terms.

Audrie Palmer can be reached at apalmer@mrt.com.

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MAIN SWITCHBOARD
432-682-5311

■ PUBLISHER
Dave Wedel 687-8880
Email: dwedel@hearstnp.com

NEWSROOM
■ EDITOR
Stewart Doreen 687-8856
Email: sdoreen@mrt.com

■ MANAGING EDITOR
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Email: mdearen@mrt.com

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■ GENERAL ASSIGNMENTS
Audrie Palmer 687-8859
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■ CITY, COUNTY REPORTER
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Email: kpetty@mrt.com

■ POLICE REPORTER
James Cannon 687-8858
Email: jcannon@mrt.com

■ EDUCATION REPORTER
Meredith Moriak 687-8853
Email: mmoriak@mrt.com

■ FEATURES WRITER
Sara Higgins 687-8862
Email: shiggins@mrt.com

CIRCULATION
■ DIRECTOR
Tami Gillean 687-8802
Email: tgillean@hearstnp.com

■ DELIVERY/ SERVICE
688-2700
Out of Town: 1-800-542-3952

■ MANAGER
Tony Gonzalez 687-9002
Email: antoniomgonzalez@hearstnp.com

Circulation Fax: 682-3793

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Email: brandi@mrt.com

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Email: jhouston@mrt.com

CLASSIFIED ADS
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Oil committee favors directional drilling

By Kathleen Petty
Staff Writer

Members of the Oil & Gas Advisory Committee said while they know it's more expensive, directional drilling is the method they prefer to see when mineral exploration takes place within the city.

That doesn't mean requests for vertical drilling aren't recommended. However, committee members said directional drilling often allows for a lesser impact on nearby neighborhoods when wells are placed inside of the city limits.

"We are looking at the interest of several parties," said Pat Darden, who chaired the committee's Monday meeting. "We need to try to coexist. It's going to be more expensive."

Monday, the committee considered two requests from Vector Oil & Gas LP that included plans for vertical drilling activity and two requests from Bluestem Energy Holdings, LLC that would use directional drilling activity.

Vector Oil & Gas LP has requested permits for two wells in northwest Midland, near Holiday Hill Road and Mockingbird Lane. If approved by the City Council, they would sit amid the Los Conchos Greathouse 7 neighborhood that's planned for that area.

Mike Wallace, vice president of operations for Vector Oil & Gas, said they have worked with developers at Los Conchos LLC in putting together their drilling plans and even reduced the number of well sites from the eight originally considered down to four.

> **“”**
> We always would consider (consolidating drilling onto one or two pad sites), but it is considerably more costly. It would be tough economically.
> **— MIKE WALLACE**
> Vector Oil & Gas vice president of operations

To reduce those sites further by consolidating drilling onto one or two pad sites only would increase the cost, he said.

"We always would consider it, but it is considerably more costly," he said. "It would be tough economically."

Darden, though, said another operator, Callon Petroleum, has proposed to use directional drilling in northwest Midland. The technique may be more expensive, but it should be looked at as it can decrease the impact on nearby homes or even future neighborhoods, he said.

"We all know Midland is growing to the west and to the north," he said.

Committee member David Rosen agreed and said while the committee certainly doesn't have the final say, he would recommend the city at least have Vector Oil & Gas look into the cost of directional drilling.

Wallace said his company could investigate the alternative method. However, he said the wells they've applied for are in compliance with the city's oil and gas ordinance.

With Los Conchos working on its housing development, Wallace said he knows there are homes on the way.

But, he added that they're not there yet. And, in working with Los Conchos developers, they agreed it's best for the mineral owner to develop first and then "get out of the way" so the surface owner can proceed.

Scott Bowden, of Los Conchos LLC, said they do support the drilling locations requested.

Bluestem Energy already has had permits approved for vertical drilling just north of Mockingbird Lane and Midkiff Road.

It returned to the committee Monday with two additional requests.

John Anderson, head engineering coordinator with Bluestem Energy, said his company plans to test two different methods but is using directional techniques to reach minerals located, at least in one area, under already established homes.

Anderson said the company did request a variance from the city's landscaping requirements. The landowner they've worked with has asked for landscaping to be delayed so it can match later development.

The Oil & Gas Advisory Committee agreed to recommend the council allow for a landscaping variance provided it not last for longer than two years. At that point landscaping would be required.

Both companies will take their requests to the City Council. The council will hold public hearings on the permit and then wait at least 30 days before taking a vote.

Kathleen Petty can be reached at kpetty@mrt.com.

FELONY ARRESTS
FROM STAFF REPORTS

Gregory T. Bagwell, 47, of Odessa, was arrested Sunday by Department of Public Safety troopers on a charge of possession of a controlled substance between 4 and 200 grams.

Diana Florez, 23, of Midland, was arrested Sunday by Midland police on two charges of unauthorized use of a vehicle.

David Arturo Jasso-Lujan, 28, of Midland, was arrested Sunday by Midland police on a charge of assault bodily injury to a family and/or house member.

Brian James Romero, 34, of Midland, was arrested Sunday by Midland police on a charge of fugitive from justice.

Jason Keith Taylor, 38, of Midland, was arrested Sunday by Midland police on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

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Dillard's

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ACROSSTHENATION

FROM WIRE REPORTS

MONTANA

Feds: Some Custer museum artifacts were stolen

BILLINGS — A cache of American Indian artifacts seized during raids on a Custer-themed museum in southeast Montana includes items allegedly stolen from members of the Crow Tribe.

The allegation was detailed in court documents filed by the government to explain why it still has the artifacts three years after federal agents dropped their criminal probe of the Custer Battlefield Museum in Garryowen.

Federal officials investigated museum director Christopher Kortlander for more than four years for alleged artifact fraud. No charges were filed, and the case was dropped in 2009.

Government attorneys contend 22 items seized in raids on Kortlander's museum and businesses in 2005 and 2008 are illegal "contraband" that cannot be returned. They include war bonnets, medicine bundles and other items that contain feathers from protected eagles and other migratory birds.

MONTANA

Deal signed; bison going to Fort Peck

BILLINGS — Sixty-four bison from Yellowstone National Park were due to arrive at northeast Montana's Fort Peck Reservation on Monday, under a long-stalled relocation initiative meant to repopulate parts of the West with the iconic, genetically pure animals.

Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer described the bison transfer as a major step in efforts to bring the animals back across a larger landscape.

"This is where we're going to establish the beachhead of genetically pure bison that will be available as their numbers grow to go to other reservations and other public lands all across the West," Schweitzer said.

Tribal and state officials signed an agreement Friday allowing the transfer to take place, said Robert Magnan with the Fort Peck Fish and Game Department.

ARIZONA

Judge rules against Grand Canyon Skywalk developer

FLAGSTAFF — A federal judge says a Las Vegas developer must keep fighting in tribal court as he tries to retain his contractual rights to the Grand Canyon Skywalk.

The tourist attraction is on Hualapai tribal land in northwestern Arizona.

David Jin alleges the tribe acted in bad faith in asserting tribal jurisdiction over the case. But, U.S. District Judge David Campbell disagreed on Monday, saying Jin first must exhaust remedies in tribal court.

Campbell issued a stay in the federal case.

Earlier this year, the tribe cut Jin out of a revenue-sharing and management contract that the two sides signed in 2003. Jin contends the action violates his constitutional rights

Jin's attorneys said they'll challenge the ruling.

A tribal spokesman said the ruling shows that tribal court is the proper venue.

NORTH CAROLINA

Report slams foreign exchange student programs

CHARLOTTE — A federal report says State Department programs that bring foreign exchange students to the United States to work or attend school require urgent attention because students are being put at risk for abuse.

The report from the Inspector General's office said that's because the State Department's programs are poorly run. It said some programs need to be restructured and another federal agency — the Labor Department — may need to take over others.

IG spokesman Doug Welty said Monday that his agency has no power to force the State Department to make changes.

The State Department said the report will be a helpful tool as it improves the programs.

The report is the latest in a series of problems that have plagued State Department student exchange programs.

NEW YORK

Zoo gorilla escapes, bites keeper, tranquilized

BUFFALO — A 400-pound gorilla that escaped from its cage at an upstate New York zoo and bit a zookeeper has been captured in a zookeepers' lounge and has been tranquilized.

The Buffalo Zoo said a 24-year-old male gorilla named Koga got out of his cage into an aisle where the keeper was working Monday morning and bit her on the hand and calf.

The keeper locked herself in with the zoo's other gorillas and called the animal escape team.

Police locked down the zoo while Koga was confined to a lounge outside public areas and was tranquilized.

The Buffalo Zoo has six western lowland gorillas in its main animal building: Koga, four females and a baby female. It's investigating how Koga escaped.

The zookeeper suffered minor bite wounds. She was taken to a hospital for evaluation.

CALIFORNIA

Instrument on Cassini craft working again

PASADENA — An instrument aboard the international Cassini spacecraft is making measurements again after nine months offline.

NASA said Monday the plasma spectrometer, which measures the energy of electrons and protons, is back in business after engineers spent months troubleshooting the problem.

The instrument was turned off as a precaution last June after Cassini experienced fluctuating voltage. The spacecraft used its other instruments to study Saturn and its many moons even with the spectrometer out of service.

Wendy's takes No. 2 spot from Burger King

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wendy's has dethroned Burger King as the country's second biggest hamburger chain.

Wendy's edged out Burger King in U.S. sales volume for the first time last year since Wendy's was founded in 1969, according to a report by the food industry research firm Technomic Inc. that's set to be released next month.

Wendy's had sales of $8.5 billion in 2011, compared with $8.4 billion for Burger King. McDonald's remained far larger than both with $34.2 billion in sales.

The figures are based on Technomic's estimates of system-wide sales at franchise and company-owned restaurants, rather than corporate revenue, which includes fees from franchise operators. Worldwide, Burger King still has far more restaurants than Wendy's and remains the second biggest hamburger chain behind McDonald's.

Both Burger King and Wendy's have struggled in recent years to keep up with the growth of McDonald's, which has managed to keep prices low through the recession, while also introducing a new menu items and remodeling restaurants. Sales are up 26 percent in the past five years at McDonald's, up 9 percent at Wendy's and flat at Burger King, according to Technomic.

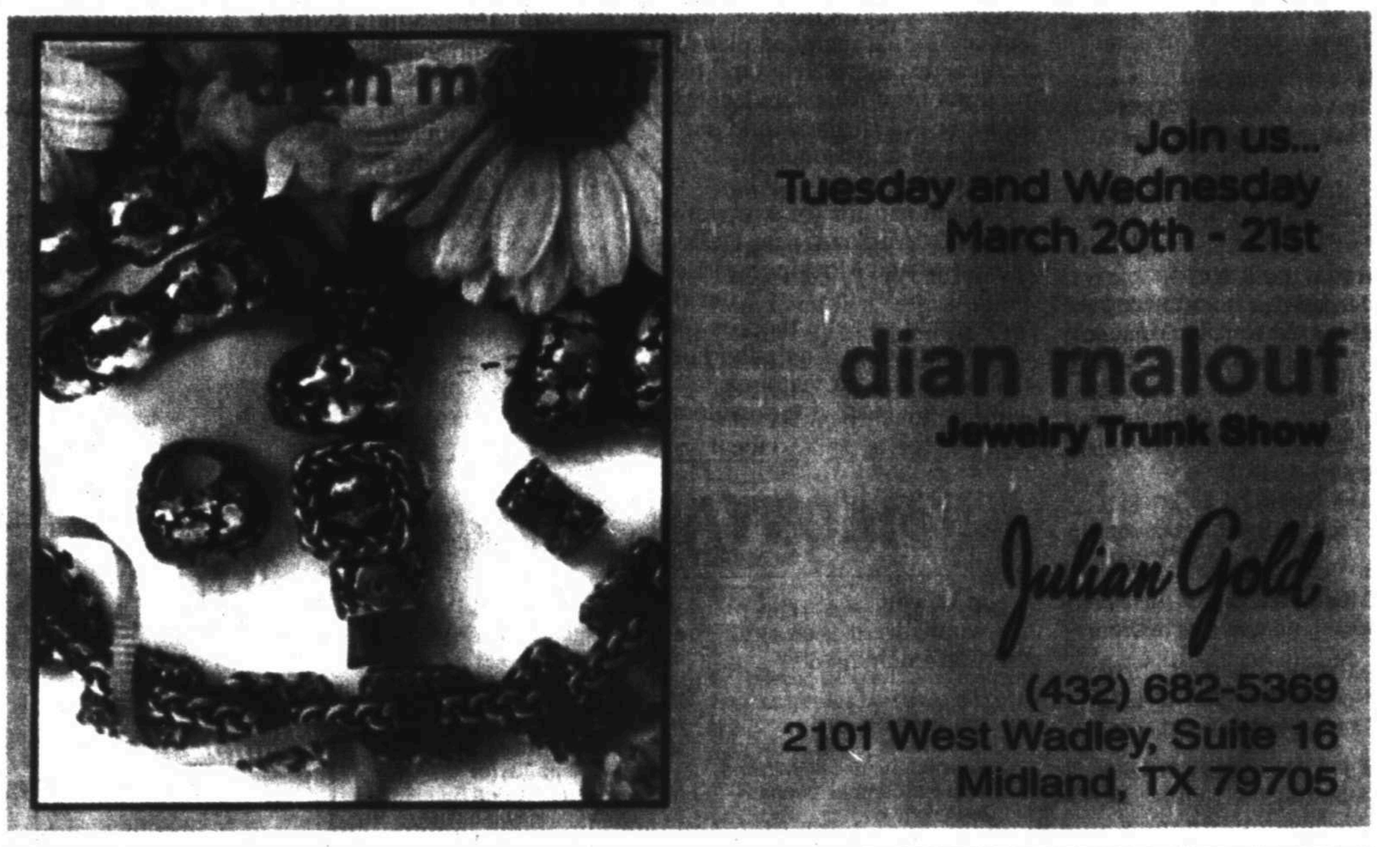
Burger King has been re-evaluating its business since it was acquired by investment firm 3G Capital in 2010. The privately held company that's based in Miami recently retired its mascot "The King" last year and launched a new advertising campaign focused more on food.

Despite its edge over Burger King, Wendy's also has been on a mission to reinvent itself as a higher-end hamburger chain with new items like the Dave's Hot 'N Juicy burger introduced last fall. CEO Emil Brolick laid out plans this year to raise standards for employees and update stores with an airier, more modern look.

The sales rankings for the top five restaurant chains have undergone another dramatic shift in the past five years, according to Technomic.

In 2006, the No. 2 and No. 3 spots were held by Burger King and Wendy's, respectively, making the top three companies all hamburger chains.

Subway now is No. 2 with $11.4 billion in sales last year, and Starbucks is No. 3 with $9.8 billion.



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Midland FASTSIGNS® celebrates 17-year anniversary in new location

The team at the Midland FASTSIGNS® sign and graphics center has begun to settle into their new location after moving several storefronts down within the same shopping center at the end of January. Still operating within The Courtyard at Midland Park, located at 4410 N. Midkiff, the center can now be found several doors down from their previous location in the larger end unit.

"After opening almost two decades ago, this center has seen quite a few changes, the most recent of which has been this move," said Mike Hogue, owner of the Midland Fastsigns center. "I opened this center March 25, 1995, and now, almost exactly 17 years later, my team and I are just putting the finishing touches on what has been one of our biggest changes to date."

Of course, such an adjustment was necessary in order for the center to accommodate the growth that it has experienced through the years. This growth was brought about not only by changes in the center's capacity to create signs, but also by changes within the industry.

"When the Midland Fastsigns center first opened, our business consisted almost entirely of signs that were composed of a substrate, such as coroplast or banner material, with vinyl lettering. I would say that nearly all of what we did had to first be cut from vinyl and then applied by hand. Complex pictures had to be created by cutting the various elements of an image from different colors of vinyl and then piecing the image together. Now, we have printers that can print large, lifelike pictures in a matter of minutes. These printers not only made it possible for us to service more customers in a shorter amount of time, they also allowed us to begin offering a wider variety of products to our clients. All of this led to the growth of our center."

Through the years, Hogue added several new printers to his center's equipment lineup and, most recently, the team purchased a new router and engraver. With this addition, the center can now create contour-cut shapes, dimensional lettering and Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant signage. On top of the traditional types of signs and graphics that the Midland Fastsigns center provides, Hogue has also added signs featuring QR codes and custom mobile websites to his center's offering.

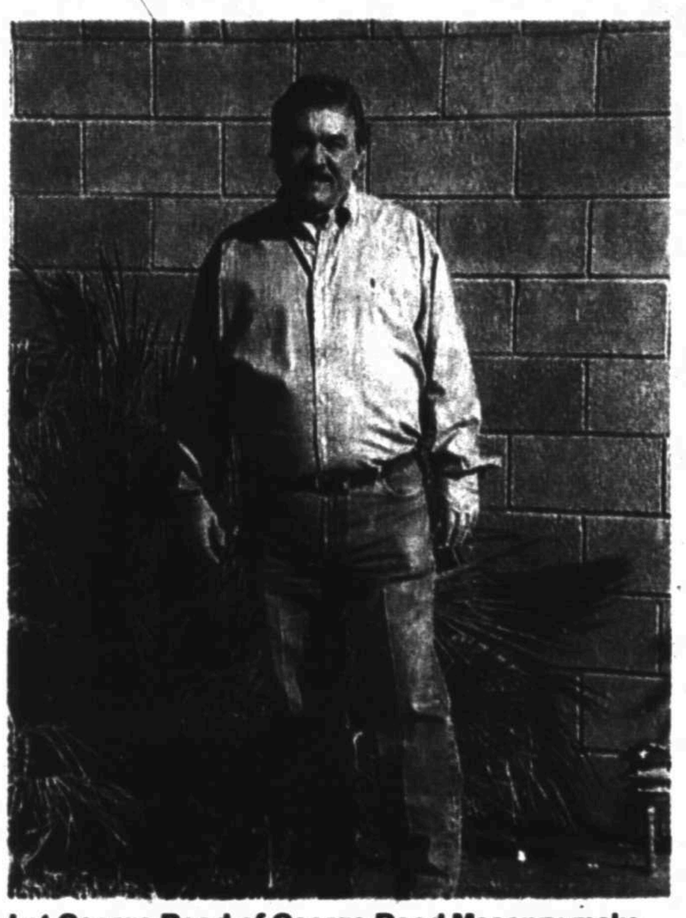
"With the way smartphones have exploded in recent years, it only makes sense to start providing signs that specifically cater to a mobile audience. My goal is to make sure that the Midland Fastsigns center continues to offer cutting-edge solutions to our customers so they can stay a step ahead of the competition. By doing this, I am confident that Fastsigns of Midland will still be here for at least another 17 years helping our customers solve their marketing challenges."

The Midland FASTSIGNS® center helps businesses, organizations and events solve their marketing challenges by providing consulting, file transfer, design, production and installation for a full range of custom sign and graphics solutions. For more information, call 520-0491 or visit www.fastsigns.com/222.

FASTSIGNS caption... Call Fastsigns at 520-0491.

Selling your home? Call George Rood Masonry for brick repairs

In most cases, 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.



Let George Rood of George Rood Masonry make those brick repairs to reduce drafts and improve your home's appearance. Call (432) 664-1341 for more information.

"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 they finally realize 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 45 years, 32 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.

"Before I came here and started doing it, no one had really used columns before," George says. "The columns keep the fences from cracking and falling over."

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Decision on Obamacare about threat to liberty

■ Imposing more government on the people is not the answer, even to the nation's health care questions.

CAL THOMAS
Tribune Media Services

Next week, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear three days of oral arguments in the health care lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the Patient Protection and Affordable Health Care Act, otherwise known as "Obamacare."

We now know the law was based on phony predictions about its cost. After promising the price would be less than $940 billion over 10 years, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has issued a correction of its initial estimate, which appears to have been based on sleight of hand accounting tactics by congressional Democrats and the White House. CBO now projects the measure will cost taxpayers at least $1.76 trillion over a decade.

Randy E. Barnett, the Carmack Waterhouse professor of legal theory at the Georgetown University Law Center, is troubled by the administration's shifting rationale in its defense of the health care law: "First they told us this was an easy 'Commerce Clause' case. Then they (said) it was an exercise of the Tax Power. Now it is the Necessary and Proper Clause. If the mandate was so obviously constitutional, the government would not be shifting its position 10 days before oral argument."

Ilya Somin, an associate professor at George Mason University School of Law, adds, "Despite this seeming shift, the federal government's brief almost completely fails to consider the question of whether the mandate is 'proper,' as well as 'necessary.' The Supreme Court has made clear that these are two separate requirements, both of which have to be met. And a law that only can be defended by a rationale that gives Congress a blank check to enact virtually any other mandate clearly is not 'proper.'"

Many wonder what will happen to needed reforms in health care should the individual mandate — the heart of Obamacare — be struck down. That question is answered in a timely new book published by the Pioneer Institute, a Boston-based public policy research organization, titled "The Great Experiment: The States, the Feds and Your Healthcare." In a series of essays compiled by Joshua Archambault, director of Health Care Policy at the Pioneer Institute, and with a forward by Jeffrey S. Flier, M.D., the dean of Harvard Medical School, experts propose the states take the lead in reforming health care, as Massachusetts did, rather than dictate a one-size-fits-all system from dysfunctional Washington.

The authors propose what they call "Competitive Federalism" that would allow for a federal partnership, but permit states to fashion their own approach to health care based on their individual circumstances. Refundable tax credits, high-risk pools and Medicaid reform are among the specific recommendations for maintaining the high quality of health care America now enjoys while providing coverage and reducing costs for people whose access to care is now limited and for those now paying the bills.

Along with the bipartisan Medicare reform plan developed last year by Rep. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., and Paul Ryan (R-Wis., which was dismissed by supporters of the status quo who prefer the issue to a solution, these are serious and doable proposals that deserve congressional consideration.

As Pioneer Institute Executive Director Jim Stergios writes, "Despite years of effort and mountains of regulations, the federal government has proven incapable of screening for quality (health care), and acting on that information. It is time for states and the federal government to hit the reset button."

The Supreme Court might give them that opportunity. We should know by June how the likely slim majority will rule. Much of our future depends on the court's decision because it goes to the heart of what the government can be allowed to impose on a free people.

If the high court doesn't invalidate the individual mandate, there will be no stopping government from threatening our most valuable possession: liberty.

GUEST VIEWS

Could the US join OPEC?

Houston Chronicle

Like most everybody, we've been transfixed, and maybe a little shell-shocked, by the upward spiral of prices at the gas pump. It's hard not to be. But we'll step out of our trance for just a moment — long enough to ponder a question raised recently in a column by Thomas L. Friedman of the New York Times. His topic was a question posed in an email he had received from Phil Verleger, an oil economist: Should the U.S. join OPEC?

Say what? Join OPEC? Is Verleger serious? Is Friedman serious? Maybe so.

The reasons we might just be able to do so someday are several, and they're fascinating to contemplate.

One is the ethanol mandate requiring that fixed amounts of biofuels be used in our gasoline. Along with others, we have problems with that, but for now it's the rule.

Second is the federal mandate, agreed to by Detroit, to bump fleet vehicle mileage standards to 50 miles per gallon by 2025, just 13 years from now.

The last reason is the one most familiar to those of us in the oil patch, and the most significant, we would assert: The prospects for potentially enormous boosts in petroleum production thanks to offshore and unconventional sources in the United States. This serendipitous combination of reduced domestic demand and increased domestic production could well qualify us for membership in OPEC.

Why join? Doing so, Verleger contends, would give us a significant competitive advantage over our major trade competitors: the European Union (if it survives politically), Japan and, above all, China, which would all be forced to pay higher prices for imported energy. For this reason, Verleger maintains it would actually be in the U.S.' self-interest to support high oil prices.

Of course, there are a lot of ifs and buts to be settled before such a decision even could be considered. Who knows? The U.S. as a member of OPEC? It sounds a lot better than being jerked around at the cartel's whim.

TAPPS needs to reconsider Muslim school

San Antonio Express-News

The Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools acted prudently when it reversed — under legal threat and immense public pressure — a decision that would have forced a team from an Orthodox Jewish school in Houston to choose between forfeiting a spot in the TAPPS championship basketball tournament and observing the Jewish Sabbath.

The team from the Robert M. Beren Academy lost in the championship game on March 3. The incident, which gained national attention, was a positive learning experience about principle and religious tolerance.

"We have students from a large number of ethnic and religious backgrounds," reads a statement about the Beren episode on the TAPPS website. "Our state is becoming more diverse. Because of that, we are reaching out to leaders around the state. We want to listen, to hear their concerns and most of all, to hear their ideas."

Here's one: TAPPS should revisit its decision to exclude a Muslim school from the organization.

When Houston's Iman Academy sought to join TAPPS in 2010, it duly received a membership application. The New York Times reported that it also received a questionnaire inquiring, among other things, "Why do you wish to join an organization whose membership is in disagreement with your religious beliefs?" and "What is your attitude about the spread of Islam in America?"

An Iman Academy administrator said the school did its best to answer the questions "in an inclusive manner." TAPPS denied the application. At least two other Islamic schools that sought TAPPS membership also received the questionnaire but declined to respond.

The TAPPS constitution notes that the organization's purpose is "to foster a spirit of fair play, good fellowship, true sportsmanship and wholesome competition for boys and girls." No student in Texas should be excluded from such competition simply on the basis of his or her religion.

Social media, 'Kony 2012' documentary spotlights a murderer

■ Viral sensation helps tell the tale of the leader of the Lord's Resistance Army, which has wreaked havoc in Africa.

JONATHAN GURWITZ
San Antonio Express-News

Parents of teenagers likely have observed an unlikely topic of discussion on the lips — or the thumbs — of their children in recent weeks. Across the nation, young people are talking about Joseph Kony.

Kony is not a singer. He is not an actor or comedian. He is not a superstar athlete. He's a megalomaniac, the leader of a violent cult, the Lord's Resistance Army, which for 26 years has waged a campaign of terror across five countries in Central and Eastern Africa.

"What distinguishes Kony and the LRA in the annals of depravity," I wrote in an editorial piece in 2005, "is the abuse of children." At the time, UNICEF estimated the LRA had abducted more than 20,000 children, frequently dragging them away from their murdered parents and siblings. "Boys and girls, often as young as 8 and 9, are put to work as soldiers and sex slaves."

Kony has continued to abduct, rape and murder in international obscurity. But now, thanks to a brilliant 30-minute video produced by filmmaker Jason Russell, a campaign to stop Kony and his atrocities has become a viral sensation.

Video analytics firm Visible Measures reported last week that "Kony 2012," uploaded to YouTube on March 5, had racked up more than 112 million views, putting it past the 100 million threshold faster than any other video — faster than Lady Gaga, "Charlie Bit My Finger" or dancing cats.

"Kony 2012" is slickly produced, but it is also lethally serious. Russell tells the story of one of Kony's victims, Jacob Acaye. In one heart-wrenching scene in which the teen describes his brother's murder during an LRA raid on his village, Jacob expresses his desire to have his own life ended.

Russell has his detractors. "Kony 2012" doesn't meet the same standards for depth and accuracy as an episode of PBS "Frontline." His narrative simplifies an ugly conflict in which some of the government forces fighting against Kony and the LRA also are guilty of human rights abuses.

Charity Navigator — the independent evaluator that rates charities — gives Invisible Children, the nonprofit organization behind "Kony 2012," somewhat lower marks than similar charitable groups receive. And simply watching "Kony 2012" easily can be branded as an example of "slacktivism," a feel-good measure that has no practical impact.

Still.

The goal of "Kony 2012" is to mobilize public opinion. With the tools of social media, a well-designed marketing campaign and a lot of hard work, Russell has found a sort of holy grail of humanitarian activism. And there's good reason to believe that Russell's advocacy leading up to "Kony 2012" has had a practical effect in Washington — in October, President Obama deployed 100 U.S. military advisers to assist African governments in the fight against the LRA and in the effort to capture or kill Kony.

The goal of Invisible Children is to make the invisible visible. In six days, 112 million views. My heart soars when I hear my children and their friends discussing, without the prompting of an adult, a long-forgotten humanitarian problem halfway around the world.

My heart sinks when I consider how many people may have been slaughtered in Rwanda for want of YouTube and Facebook, how the victims of genocide in Darfur — about whom I have written more than 50 columns in whole or in part since 2004 — might have benefited from the creative application of someone like Russell, and how many other instances of human cruelty remain invisible to the digital eye.

The motto of "Kony 2012" is "Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come." The tragedy is that it didn't arrive sooner and in more places.

For more information:
■ www.kony2012.com
■ www.invisiblechildren.com
■ info@invisiblechildren.com or call 619-562-2799

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

NATION BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ALASKA

Rare whale swims up West Coast to Russian home

ANCHORAGE — A rare western Pacific gray whale that crossed the Pacific Ocean from Russian waters and spent time off Baja Mexico has moved back north along the west coast of the United States.

Scientists expect the whale to cross the Pacific again to summer feeding grounds off Russia's Sakhalin Island.

The 9-year-old whale was named Varvara, the Russian version of Barbara. It was tagged off Sahkalin last fall by U.S. and Russia scientists.

Her journey is the first time scientists have documented an endangered western gray whale traveling to Baja Mexico, where most eastern gray whales breed and give birth every year.

Oregon State University's Bruce Mate said that as of Saturday, Varvara had passed the entire West Coast and was in Canadian waters at the northwest end of Vancouver Island.

MASSACHUSETTS

9-year-old boy summoned to jury duty

YARMOUTH — Like many people who get summoned to jury duty, Jacob Clark didn't want to go.

But unlike most people, he had a legitimate excuse: He's 9 years old.

"I was like, 'What's a jury duty?'" Jacob told the Cape Cod Times in response to his summons to appear in Orleans District Court in Massachusetts on April 18.

His grandmother told him it was a good excuse to miss a day of school.

His dad called the jury commission office to find out what happened. It turns out that someone apparently had typed 1982 for the Yarmouth third-grader's birth year instead of 2002.

The mistake was quickly corrected.

Massachusetts Jury Commissioner Pamela Wood said a child gets called for jury duty once or twice a year.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sheriff sentenced for false imprisonment

A contrite and emotional San Francisco sheriff apologized Monday for a domestic violence incident with his wife after a judge sentenced him to three years of probation and ordered him to attend an anti-domestic violence program.

"There are no excuses and I accept full responsibility," Sheriff Ross Mirkarimi said outside court.

He read a prepared statement and appeared to choke up several times when he mentioned his longing to reunite with his wife and 3-year-old son.

Santorum courts conservative Christians

Associated Press

CENTRAL, La. — When a nationally influential evangelical leader gathered dozens of pastors at his home church to hear from a presidential candidate, he had a simple message: Rick Santorum is one of us, and your parishioners should vote for him.

Nearly a hundred pastors from all over Louisiana and from as far away as Texas and Colorado accepted Family Research Council President Tony Perkins' invitation to hear a personal pitch Sunday from the former Pennsylvania senator, who met with them in a private briefing before he addressed the more than 1,400 faithful who crowded into the sanctuary at Greenwell Springs Baptist Church.

"What we need to do in this country is to rebuild that culture of life and rebuild that culture of marriage and families," Santorum said, standing in a small back room as the invited pastors gathered in an informal circle wearing handwritten name tags. "No one else talks about social issues."

After the briefing, Rev. Dennis Terry introduced Santorum to the congregation. "I know Rick really well, and he is the real deal," said Terry, whose fiery opening remarks included an insistence that America is a Christian nation.

"I'm tired of people telling us as Christians that we can't voice our beliefs or we can no longer pray in public. Listen to me: If you don't love America, if you don't like the way we do things, I got one thing to say: get out!" Terry said. "We don't worship Buddha! We don't worship Mohammed! We don't worship Allah!"

Santorum sat on the left side of the stage next to Perkins through Terry's nearly 20-minute introduction. Both men applauded throughout.

In speaking to the group and then spending more than an hour with the congregation, answering Perkins' questions from the stage where Terry normally preaches, Santorum was courting the religious conservatives who are keeping him in a drawn-out fight for the GOP nomination.

Mitt Romney leads the race for delegates but has long struggled to win over a conservative GOP base that still questions his significant shifts on social issues.

Religious conservatives helped propel Santorum to victory over Romney and former House Speaker Newt Gingrich in recent primaries in Mississippi and Alabama and are critical to his presidential ambitions.

Many of the Christians who shouted "Amen!" and stood to applaud Santorum's comments on Iran and his pledge to repeal President Barack Obama's national health care overhaul are the voters who could help him win Saturday's Louisiana primary and upcoming contests in the drawn-out GOP race.

"I know what's in his heart. It's the fact that he's a Christian," said 69-year-old Vickie Rabbs, a retiree from Central who has been attending another nearby Baptist church for decades and says she will vote for Santorum.

What about Romney, the front-runner?

"I just don't like him," she said. Implicit in many of the attendees' dislike for the former Massachusetts governor was a discomfort with his religion. Why does Valerie, a longtime worshipper who wouldn't give her last name, support Santorum instead? "Mormonism," she said, unprompted. "I don't believe that (Romney's) a Christian."

Many evangelicals say Mormons are not Christians.

Terry, the pastor at Greenwell Baptist, said in an interview: "I want to hear about (Romney's) true belief in Jesus. Mormons believe that Jesus is a created being... In the South, you know, we believe that Jesus is the son of God."

Santorum, who is Catholic, doesn't have that problem.

Perkins, the head of the socially conservative Family Research Council, can't officially endorse a presidential candidate, but he made his personal feelings clear. "I'll tell you this," he said, "I wouldn't invite just anybody to my church."

Perkins was part of a group of evangelical leaders who gathered in Texas earlier this year to select a conservative alternative to Romney, who one time supported abortion rights. They voted to back Santorum, but it wasn't immediately clear how their support could directly help him.

That's where the pastors — and their churches — come in. The field has narrowed, with Santorum winning in nine states and Gingrich making a lackluster showing in the South, his home region.

"I hope that you said something about that today from the pulpit that people need to be voting next Saturday," Perkins told the pastors' briefing.

At Greenwell Baptist, there was an intense focus on bringing faith into the public square — and on making sure the faithful are engaged in the political process. Voter registration forms and "how to vote" guides sat on a table just inside the main entrance.

Santorum spent more than an hour answering mostly friendly questions from Perkins about his religion, his understanding of what it means to oppose abortion rights, and his positions on Iran and Israel.

"I don't believe life begins at conception," Santorum said. "I know life begins at conception."

In his remarks to the congregation, Santorum steered clear of mentioning his rivals. But he told the pastor's briefing that Romney is "compromised on the issue of freedom" because of his health care record in Massachusetts and said Romney reduces the election to "management of the economy."

"If this is about management of the economy, we're going to lose," Santorum said. "This election is about bigger things."

Associated Press

Standing in front of a statue of former President Ronald Reagan on horseback, Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum speaks at a campaign rally Monday in Dixon, Ill. Dixon was Reagan's boyhood home.

Obama raises $45 million in February

President Barack Obama collected $45 million for his re-election bid in February, accelerating his fundraising pace as his campaign frets over an oncoming spending blitz by Republican-leaning outside groups.

Obama's monthly haul was nearly twice as much as the $23 million per month average he raised during the final three months of 2011 and more than the $29.1 million he raised in January. Yet the largesse still fell short of the $56 million he raised in February 2008, when he was seeking the Democratic nomination against Hillary Rodham Clinton.

With Republicans locked in an extended primary, Obama's team has tried to build a large 50-state operation that will help it register new voters, bring back past supporters and boost turnout. Obama's campaign had about $75 million in the bank through the end of January; totals for February were not immediately available.

Campaign officials have implored supporters to donate money and get involved, pointing to Republican-leaning super PACs expected to raise hundreds of millions of dollars to defeat the president. Obama's campaign said earlier this year that it would bless big-money super PACs supporting Democrats as a way of countering the Republican effort.

In an email to donors last week, campaign manager Jim Messina cited a poll showing Obama trailing Republican Mitt Romney and asked them to get involved.

"We're looking at a race that will be tighter than you think. And the other side has groups ready to spend hundreds of millions of dollars to tear down President Obama," Messina said.

Obama has consistently outraised his Republican opponents. Romney, who has led the Republican field in fundraising, brought in $6.5 million in January, about a quarter of what Obama raised that month.

But Obama's totals in February lagged behind what candidate Obama raised four years ago, before he had the benefit of the entire Democratic Party apparatus behind him.

Kirsten Kukowski, a Republican National Committee spokeswoman, said Obama was "having a hard time convincing voters he deserves another term" following three years of "record debt, high unemployment, and soaring gas prices and healthcare costs."

Obama's campaign said nearly 350,000 people contributed in February and the average donation was about $59 for the entire election cycle. Nearly 98 percent of the donations were $250 or less. The money was spread among Obama's campaign, the Democratic Party and two campaign funds.

Associated Press

Students want watch leader who shot teen arrested

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — College students around Florida rallied Monday to demand the arrest of a white neighborhood watch captain who shot an unarmed black teen last month, though authorities may be hamstrung by a state law that allows people to defend themselves with deadly force.

Students held rallies on the campus of Florida A&M University in Tallahassee and outside the Seminole County Criminal Justice Center.

Authorities said 28-year-old George Zimmerman shot 17-year-old Trayvon Martin last month during a confrontation in a gated community in Sanford.

Ed Todd
Wednesdays in the Reporter-Telegram

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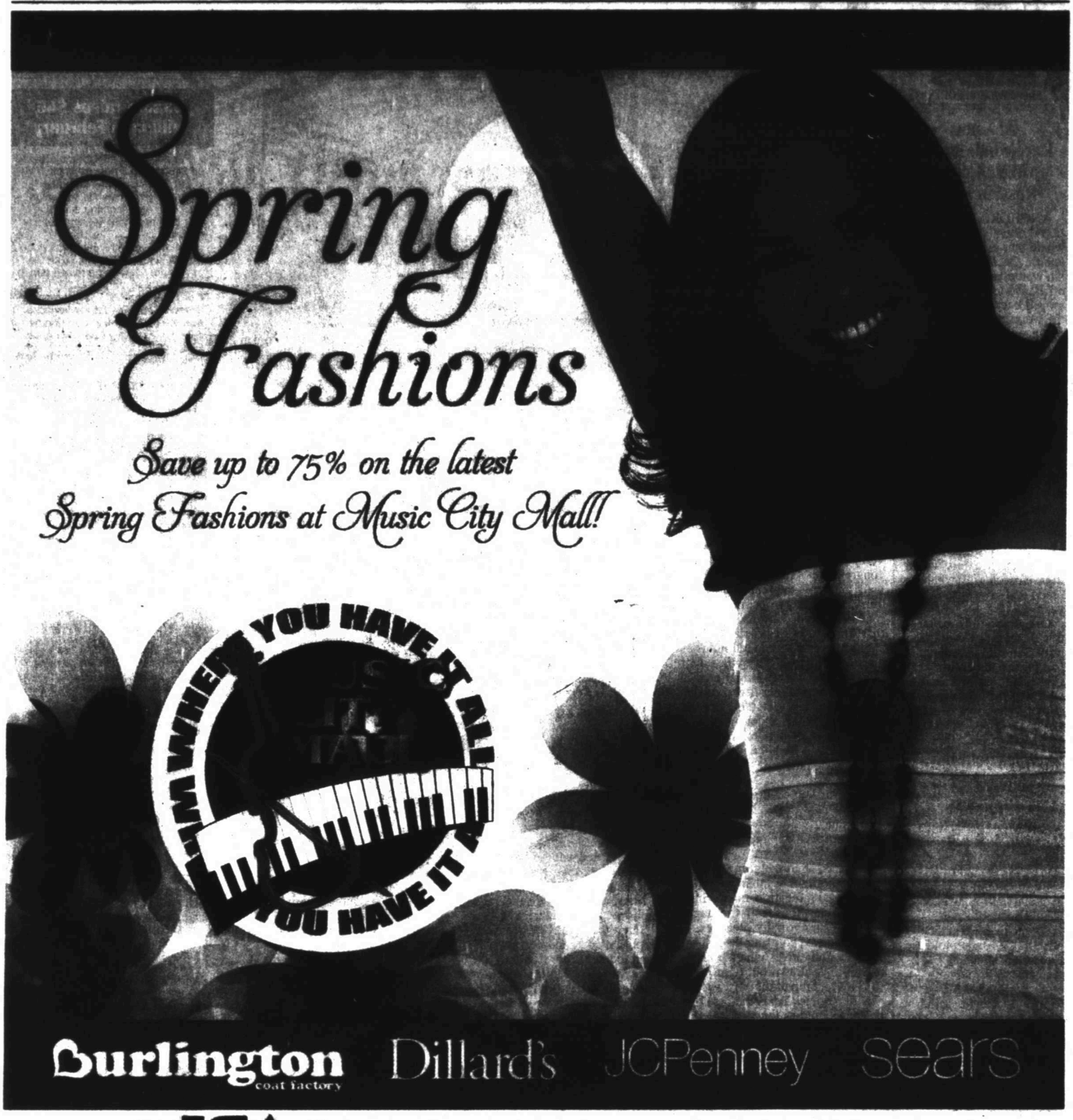

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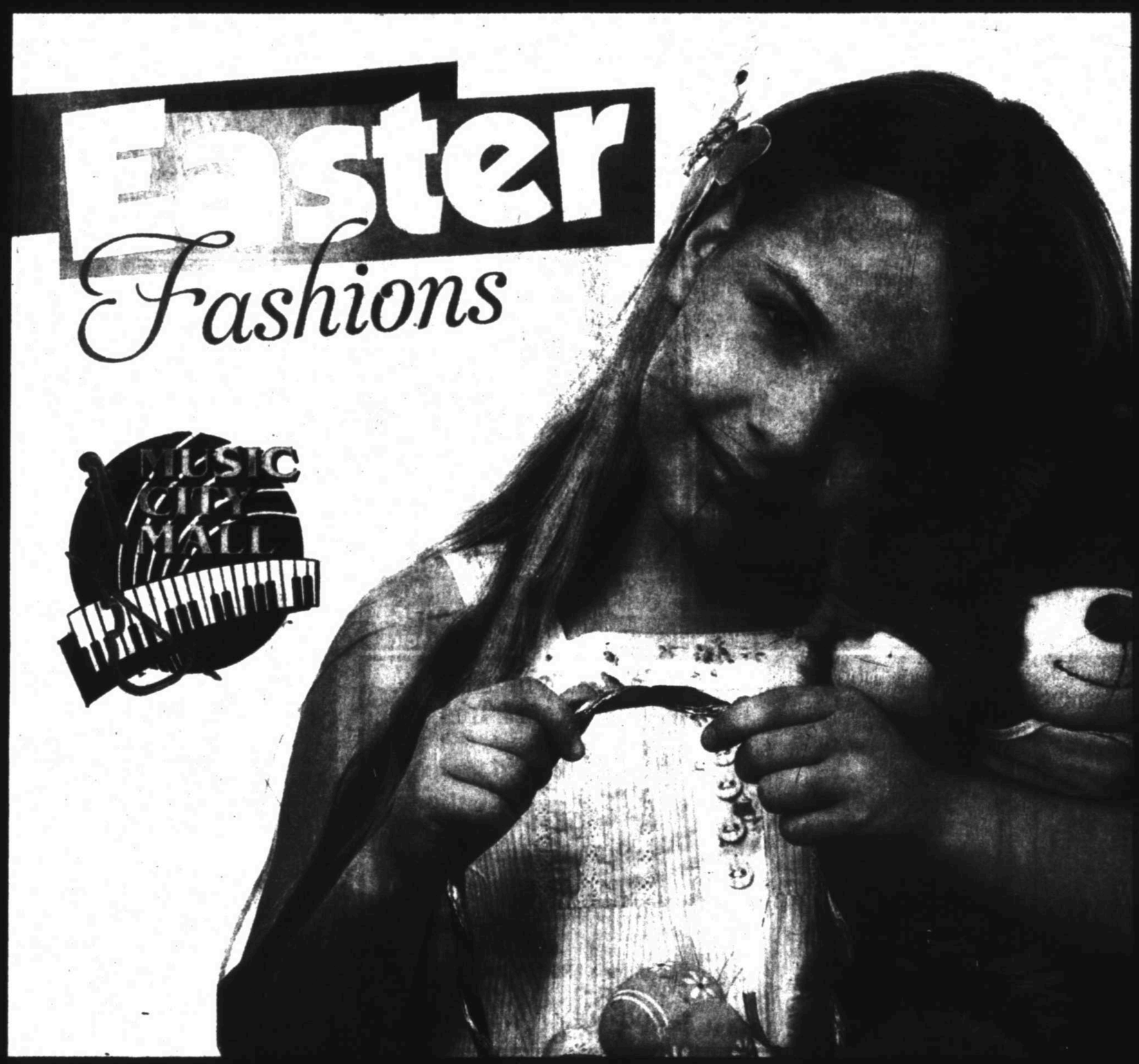

Hunting for the Easter Bunny?

You ll find him at the Dillard s Courtyard starting March 24th ! Every child receives a FREE gift !

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Education

MHS Latin teacher to study in Rome

Janet England to spend 2 months in Europe with a continuing education program

By Meredith Moriak
Staff Writer

After school lets out in June, Midland High School Latin teacher Janet England will head to Rome to study the culture she teaches her students.

She will join about 25 other teachers and graduate students from the United States for a program sponsored by the American Councils for International Education and American Academy in Rome.

"This is the opportunity of a lifetime," England said. "I get to gain a one-on-one understanding of what it is that I'm teaching these kids."

England heard about the program 10 years ago, but knew the timing wasn't right as she was newly married and might not have the teaching resume to qualify.

However, when information about the program popped up again this year, England decided the time might be right.

"I decided let's just put the application out there and see if I would get accepted. I figured I have nothing to lose," England said, about the long application that detailed her educational philosophy, community involvement and teaching experience.

Having a great passion for Latin, England said she believes the summer study courses will be a great opportunity to learn more and bring it back to the classroom.

England will leave for Rome on June 17, spend six weeks studying there and then visit other cities and countries before she returns to Midland on Aug. 11.

"It's really not work at all," England said. "I love to learn and I love anything that will help me give the students more."

England said she's looking forward to visiting different archeological sites and seeing the Roman artifacts.

"Just seeing them and learning about them is enriching and something I can share with my students," England said. "Personal experience can help enrich what is in the textbooks."

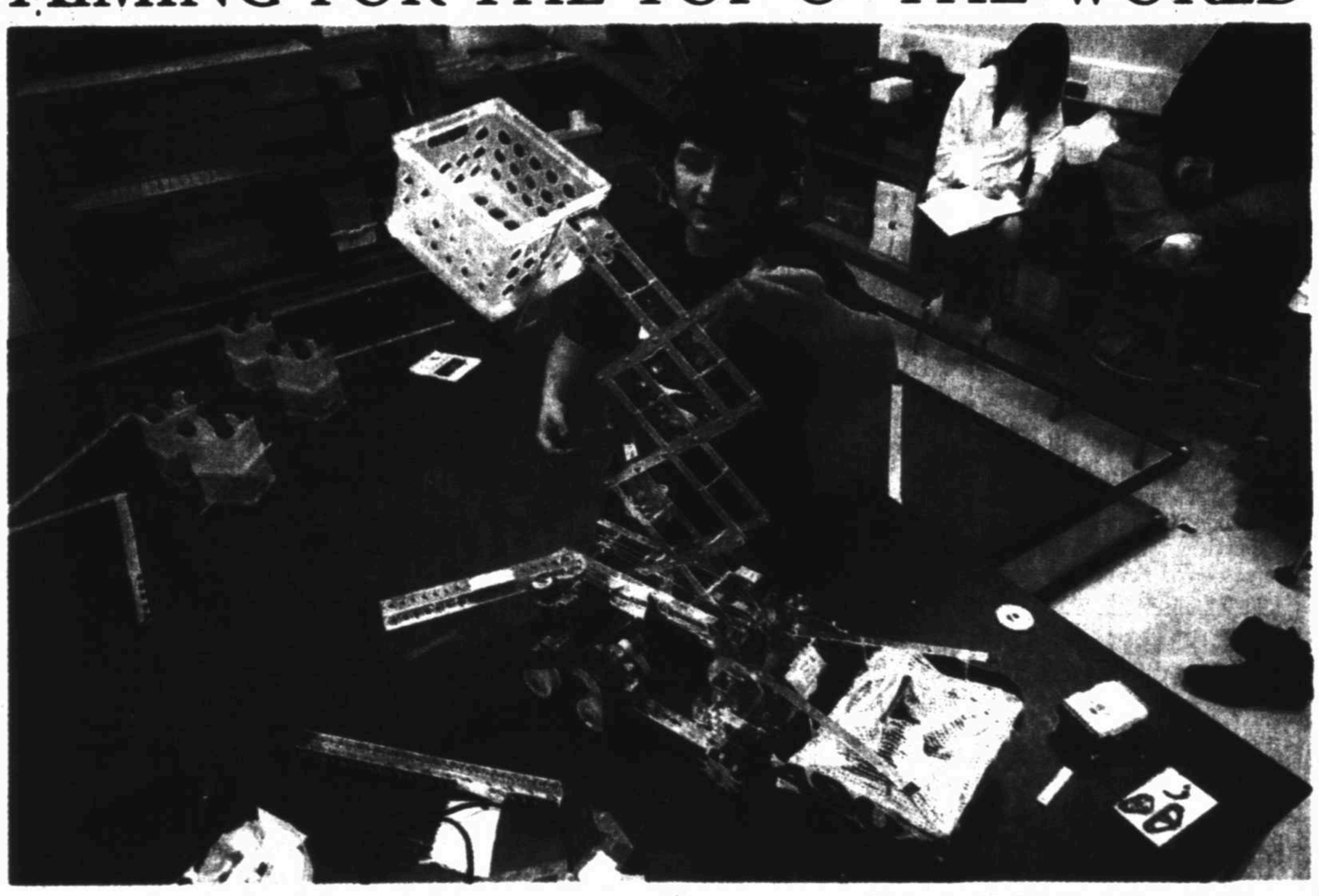
A fan of Roman literature, England said she is looking forward to being where authors were inspired to write and seeing what they described.

In September, England and all of the trip's participants will meet in Washington, D.C., to debrief and present different lessons they have developed as a result of their time in Rome.

"I'm absolutely honored to have been chosen and excited for the summer," England said.

Meredith Moriak can be reached at mmoriak@mrt.com.

AIMING FOR THE TOP O' THE WORLD



Photos by Cindeka Nealy/Reporter-Telegram

ABOVE: Jay McDoniel, 16, demonstrates how the 4906 Junkyard Dawgs robot lifts crates before stacking them earlier this month in the Midland High School First Tech Challenge robotics team workshop. The group, which consists of two teams — #4906 Junkyard Dawgs and #4897 Bodacious Bulldawgs — are preparing for the World First Tech Challenge Championship competition, which will be held in St. Louis in April. **BELOW:** Rob McAlpine sits on a piece of aluminum pipe as students make cuts to add the piece to their robot in the workshop.

MHS robotics team prepares for world championship

By Meredith Moriak
Staff Writer

While science and engineering are at the heart of robotics, it's the camaraderie and family-like atmosphere that's been most rewarding, said many members of Midland High School's team.

"No matter what you do outside of robotics, you're all nerds when you come in here," said senior Kristy Taylor of a transformation that occurs every afternoon in Cory Callaway's physics classroom.

As some students work on programming the robots to drive autonomously, others work on rebuilding parts arms and appendages. Taylor documents everything that happens in the engineering notebook, while other team members take inventory of tools and supplies.

It might look like chaos, but the students are in the zone, working to improve their robots before they take them to the FIRST Tech Challenge World Championship, April 25-28 in St. Louis.

Midland High has two teams competing in the world championships. Junkyard Dawgs and Bodacious Bulldawgs both qualified at the regional Panhandle Plains FTC Championship March 3 in Lubbock.

The Junkyard Dawgs won the overall competition and the Bodacious Bulldawgs will advance based on earning the Inspire Award, which is given to a team that demonstrates gracious professionalism, works to educate the community about robotics programs, maintains a detailed engineering notebook, is a strong contender for all judged awards and overall serves as a leader for other teams at the competitions.

Callaway, one of Midland High's four robotics sponsors and mentors, said he is very proud of the team's success this year and knows the students are working their hardest to prepare for worlds.

"We're pretty much always here and it allows the kids to come and go when they can," Callaway said, of the team that has met for at least 2 1/2 hours after school each day since in October.

This is Midland High's second year to have a robotics team. Curt Cowdrey, MISD robotics coordinator, said the students' dedication to improving their robots has made it possible for them to

Please see **ROBOTICS**/5B

MHS senior to compete at DECA internationals

By Meredith Moriak
Staff Writer

Even though she'd never heard of DECA until this year, Erin Bamford was the first Midland High School student to qualify for the organization's international competition since 2004.

DECA — formerly Distributive Education Clubs of America — is an organization that prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management. Students compete at regional, state and international competitions, and Bamford advanced to the DECA International Career Development Conference April 28-May 1 in Salt Lake City.

Bamford, a senior who aspires to become a doctor, joined DECA in January after multiple invitations from friends.

"Joining DECA was random. I just decided, 'What the hey, what else do I have to do with my time?'" said the former athlete and orchestra member.

Once she joined, Bamford said she learned about the 13 different individual events in which she could compete but wasn't so sure she wanted to.

However, with the nudging of DECA sponsor Justin Walker, Bamford selected an event that few people were registered for and one in which she thought she could be successful.

She selected business services marketing and studied DECA materials so she was able to earn a high score on the 100-question cluster exam that counts for one-third of her score.

The other portion of the score is calculated through role-playing events where students must "accomplish a task by translating what they have learned into effective, efficient and spontaneous action," according to 2011-12 Aspire Higher DECA materials.

At state, Bamford said her task was to instruct a software company how to market and sell new and old software for the Internet.

Having some practical experience selling T-shirts to school and church friends, Bamford said she "used real-life scenarios from my own business to figure out how to do free trials and get people using the software."

Though the ideas presented during role-play are important, Bamford said it's also really important to portray professionalism by dressing appropriately, maintaining eye contact and having good body language.

While Bamford said she didn't have to study that much before the state contest, she has increased her preparation

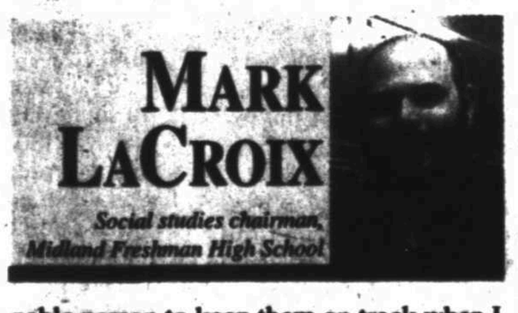
Please see **DECA**/2B

Working as a substitute teacher at MISD is a worthy job

Many people are vital to the daily process of educating our children. While educating students is the ultimate goal, transportation, nutrition services, health care services and maintenance and custodial services each play their part. Unfortunately, these folks often receive little recognition. That also is true of another group of people that holds a special place in my heart — substitute teachers.

No teacher worth his or her salt wants to be out of the classroom. There is too much to be done in too short of a time to miss precious days. On days when teachers must be out, knowing one's classes are in capable hands brings great peace of mind. In my career I have seen the spectrum of substitutes.

For several years I almost always knew my students would have a strong and ca-



pable person to keep them on track when I was away. Phil Caudle was my go-to guy. He also became my friend. I knew when my classes were in Mr. Caudle's hands, students would stay on task and the standards I set for behavior would be reinforced.

It was not uncommon for Mr. Caudle to call and check on my kids if one of them was sick. Sadly, Mr. Caudle passed away a few years ago and the district lost one of its best substitutes. As department chairman, whenever a teacher in my department has need of a substitute, I try to visit with the sub before the first class of the day to make sure they know the layout of the campus and to thank them for being there.

Having been a sub during college I know that some kids can be quite a handful and that a friendly face and a thank you can go a long way. Though I have yet to establish a rapport with another sub like I had with Mr. Caudle, it certainly isn't because we don't have a number of excellent substitutes in the district. They generally are hard-working folks whose paycheck often is inversely proportional to the grief they receive.

From college students to retired teachers and from people between jobs to people who do not need to work but want to we have a wide array of quality substitutes taking care of our students when we cannot. But we can always use more.

It is difficult on all parties involved when a teacher who needs to be out doesn't have a sub to cover his or her classes. While recent training has brought a new crop of subs into service, it is my hope that some of you who have the needed time and the required qualifications will read this article and get involved.

In general, people in Midland are generous, service-oriented people who are active in churches, civic groups and many other worthy causes. I submit that there is no cause more worthy than the education of our children. If you have at least 30 hours of college, are available at least one day a week and have a desire to impact the

Please see **LACROIX**/2B

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Obituaries

Coach Dean Bates

"Coach" Dean Bates, 67, died suddenly on March 18, 2012, at his home in Devine, TX.

Coach Bates was born June 1, 1944, in Hamilton, TX to James and Anna Lee Bates, He was raised in Wink, TX and was a 1962 graduate of Wink High School, where he earned All-State honors in football and basketball. Upon graduation, he accepted a scholarship to play basketball at McMurry College. He later transferred to Eastern New Mexico University, where he continued to compete collegiately in both football and baseball. It was during this time, he married his childhood sweetheart, Beverly K. Wilson, on December 20, 1964.

Upon graduation from ENMU in 1967, he began his coaching career in Wink, followed by coaching stints in Devine, Brady, Kermit, Port Isabel, and Floydada. He accepted his first head coaching assignment in 1991 at Floydada High School, where his team finished undefeated in his inaugural season. In 1994, he returned to Devine High School as head coach and Athletic Director, where his teams went a combined 66-42-1 and was named Coach of the Year in 1995 by the Southwest Texas Sportswriters. When Coach Bates resigned in 2004, he resigned as the winningest coach in school history. He finished his successful career as Athletic Director of Pleasanton High School from 2004 until his retirement in 2011.

Coach Bates will always be remembered for his love of Christ, his zest of life, and his love for his family, players, and coaches. Those who played for him experienced a relationship that extended far beyond the field of play and he genuinely loved each and every one of them. His legacy is evident in the lives of the young men and women he inspired through his teaching and his coaching, as his life was equally enriched by these relationships. "Papa" will be missed by all....but never forgotten.

Coach Bates is preceded in death by his parents, James and Anna Lee Bates; brother, James Bates, Jr.; and granddaughter, Karah Northcutt Brooks, July 18, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Beverly K. Bates of Devine; son, Corey Bates and wife, Tana of Sherman; daughter, Kellye Northcutt and husband, Kevin of Midland; sister-in-law, Nema WestMoland of Knox City; brother-in-law, Rickey WestMoland of Corpus Christi; niece, Debbie Yates and husband, Burt of Caldwell and their children, Zach and Barrett Yates; niece, Jamie Murrell and husband, Todd of Leander; nephew, Kyle Bates and wife, Rachel of Mansfield and their children, Destini, Sarah, and Andrew; sister, Emily Bradberry and husband, Johnny of Weatherford; grandsons, Colton Northcutt of Lubbock, Bryson and Brennan Bates of Sherman; grandson-in-law, James Randall Brooks of Midland; great-grandson, Madden Kellye Brooks of Midland.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, March 20, 2012, at the Hurley Funeral Home in Devine from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Funeral service will be held at 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 21, 2012, at the First Baptist Church in Devine. Interment will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, March 23, 2012, at the Resthaven Cemetery in Midland, TX.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested memorials can be made to the Dean Bates Scholarship Fund @ Security State Bank in Devine.

Arrangements are under the direction of Hurley Funeral Home, 303 W. College Ave, Devine, Texas 78016, (830) 663-4445.

Donna Jean Zimmerman

Donna Jean Zimmerman, 50, of Midland, passed away Monday, March 19, 2012. The family will receive friends from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 20, 2012, at the funeral home. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 21, 2012, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland, with Dr. Robert Zimmerman, officiating.

Donna was born August 31, 1961, to Donna and Robert Profitt in Hannibal, Missouri. She always put others first. She was a wonderful mother to her sons.

Survivors include husband, Thomas Zimmerman of Midland; two sons, John and Michael, both of Florida; mother, Donna Dean Robinson of Grand Prairie; mother and father-in-law, Pat and George Zimmerman of Midland.

She was preceded in death by her father, Robert Profitt and her sister, Karen Profitt.

The family suggests memorials be made to Hospice Midland, PO Box 2621, Midland, TX 79702.

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

Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory (432) 550-5800

Death Notices

Dennis McClure Collins, Sr.

Dennis M. Collins, Sr. passed away early Saturday morning, March 17, 2012, in Kermit.

Survivors include his wife Gail, son, Dennis (Lettia) Collins; daughters, Melissa (Johnny) Midkiff, Stacey (Martin) Garcia; three sisters, Frances Mincey, Grace Greenwood, and Josephine Reynolds; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Funeral services will be at 1:30, Wednesday, March 21, 2012, at the First United Methodist Church in Kermit.

Services will be under the direction of Family Services Funeral Parlor.

Gordon Day

Gordon Day, 85, of Andrews, passed away Saturday, March 17, 2012, at his home in Andrews.

Visitation will be Tuesday, March 20, 2012, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., at McNett Funeral Home. Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 21, 2012, at McNett Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be in Andrews West Cemetery, under the direction of McNett Funeral Home.

He is survived by his wife, Elsie Day; sons, Mitchell Day and Marshall (Debbie) Day; daughters, Dianne (Gill) Warren, Cynthia (Larry) Blocker, Carolyn (James) Abney; brothers, Pete (Pat) Day, Wallace (Thelma) Day, Ted (Martha) Day; sister Ginger Barnhill; fifteen grandchildren; twenty-four great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

Hannah Charlene Ables

Hannah Charlene Ables, 77, of Seagraves, passed away Sunday, March 18, 2012, in Seminole, Texas.

Graveside services were held Monday, March 19, 2012, at 10:00 a.m., at Gaines County Cemetery in Seagraves. All services directed by Boyer Funeral Home.

Suvivors include sons: Tim (Sylvia) Ables and Danny (Rhonda) Ables; daughter, Alisa (Glen) Kinard; two brothers; one sister; eight grandchildren; and eleven great grandchildren.

Jacob Letkeman

Funeral services for Jacob Letkeman, 46, of Seminole, will be held Wednesday, March 21, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., at Gospel Mission Church in Seminole. Burial will follow at Gaines County Cemetery. All services are under the direction of Boyer Funeral Home.

Mr. Letkeman passed away Saturday, March 17, 2012, in Lubbock.

He is survived by one brother, Peter (Margarita) Letkeman; three sisters, Mary Enns, Tina (Peter) Wiebe, Anna (John) Neufeld; and one sister-in-law, Anna Letkeman.

Norma Faye (Martin) Phillips

Norma Faye (Martin) Phillips, 87, of Midland, passed away on Monday, March 19, 2012.

Family will welcome friends at Ellis Funeral Home on Wednesday, March 21, 2012, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Graveside services are planned for Thursday, March 22, 2012, at Resthaven Memorial Park, at 3:00 p.m.

Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home of Midland.

Roy O. Lindsay

Roy O Lindsay, 83, of Pecos, passed away March 12, 2012, in Odessa. A church service was held on Saturday, March 17, 2012, at 10:00 a.m., at the First Baptist Church in Pecos, with burial following at Mount Evergreen in Pecos.

He is survived by his wife, Jo Lindsay; sons, Roy "Sonny" Lindsay, Jr., Jeffery Allen Lindsay; daughter, Joni Kay Lindsay; brother, Jim Gunn; sisters, Hazel Lindsay, Helen Lindsay, Mary Lee Driskell, Jean Vickers; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Services under the direction of Pecos Funeral Home of Pecos.

"Questions about death notices or online Guest Books? Email: obits@mrt.com

Report: US dominates list of top schools; Asia gains ground

By Joyce Horchung Lau
N.Y. Times News Service

HONG KONG — Do the reputations of Asian universities precede them?

Every year, Times Higher Education, a magazine in Britain, rates universities on the quality of their teaching and research. In 2011, it began a separate ranking based on a more nebulous criterion: a school's reputation according to the opinions of about 17,000 academics.

Last Thursday, the magazine released its second World Reputation Rankings in a report that said, "The West loses ground to the East in the global index of academic prestige."

The very elite schools, which the magazine calls the "top six supergroup," are the same American and British schools that top most university rankings: Harvard in Massachusetts; the Massachusetts Institution of Technology; Cambridge in England; Stanford in California; the University of California, Berkeley; and Oxford in England. The United States dominates the list, with 44 of the top 100 universities in the world.

Japan is the only Asian nation to crack the top 20, with the University of Tokyo, also known as Todai, keeping its previous spot as No. 8, and Kyoto University squeaking in at No. 20.

Phil Baty, the editor of the Times Higher Education Rankings, said by telephone from London that Japan's success was "exceptional" and was based on decades of postwar development.

The upward movement of Asian schools is seen mostly in the rankings' second tier. The National University of Singapore moved up to 23 from 27. Tsinghua University in Beijing improved its standing to 30 from 35. Peking University rose to 38 from 43, leapfrogging the University of Hong Kong, which moved up to 39 from 42.

"East Asia is consistently creeping up the rankings," Baty said. "The notable shift is from West to East. It's subtle, but significant."

Top Asian schools seem to do better when ranked on reputation than on more solid criteria and performance. In the more conventional rankings, Todai is listed at 30 and Tsinghua at a modest 71.

"Reputation is more forward looking," Baty said about the discrepancy. "Meanwhile, our regular rankings take a long time to climb, since they depend on criteria like research and citations."

IG report slams foreign exchange student programs

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — State Department programs that bring foreign exchange students to the United States to work or attend school require urgent attention because students are being put at risk for abuse, according to a report from the federal Inspector General's office.

That's because the State Department's programs are poorly run, according to the report. It said some programs need to be restructured and another federal agency — the Labor Department — may need to take over other programs.

IG spokesman Doug Welty said Monday that his agency has no power to force the State Department to make changes.

"That's where Congress comes in," he said.

The State Department said the report, released last week, will be a helpful tool as it improves programs in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

"We are reviewing all of the recommendations in the report with a critical eye towards how we can improve and have already made significant progress on many of them," State Department spokesman Mark Toner said in an email. "We recognize that there are major issues that must be addressed."

The agency has taken measures to reform the bureau's operations and its programs, Toner said.

"We have zero tolerance for abuse or mistreatment of exchange program participants, nor for misconduct by sponsor organizations or host families. We are committed to keeping international exchange program participants safe during their time in the United States," he said.

Panel: Problem schools hurt nation's security

By Kimberly Hefling
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The nation's security and economic prosperity are at risk if America's schools don't improve, warns a task force led by former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Joel Klein, the former chancellor of New York City's school system.

The report, obtained by the Associated Press, cautions that far too many schools fail to adequately prepare students. "The dominant power of the 21st century will depend on human capital," it said. "The failure to produce that capital will undermine American security."

The task force said the State Department and U.S. intelligence agencies face critical shortfalls in the number of foreign language speakers, and that fields such as science, defense and aerospace are at particular risk because a shortage of skilled workers is expected to worsen as baby boomers retire.

According to the panel, 75 percent of young adults don't qualify to serve in the military because they are physically unfit, have criminal records or inadequate levels of education. That's in part because 1 in 4 students fails to graduate from high school in four years, and a high school diploma or the equivalent is needed to join the military. But another 30 percent of high school graduates don't do well enough in math, science and English on an aptitude test to serve in the military, the report said.

The task force, consisting of 30 members with backgrounds in areas such as education and foreign affairs, was organized by the Council on Foreign Relations, a New York-based research and policy organization focused on international issues. The report was scheduled to be released today.

Too many Americans are deficient in both global awareness and knowledge that is "essential for understanding America's allies and its adversaries," the report concludes.

"Leaving large swaths of the population unprepared also threatens to divide Americans and undermines the country's cohesion, confidence, and ability to serve as a global leader," the report said.

Rice and Klein said in interviews that they are encouraged by efforts to improve schools such as the adoption of "common core" standards set in reading and math in a vast majority of states and the Obama administration's "Race to the Top" competition, in which states compete for federal money in exchange for more meaningful teacher evaluations.

But, they added, the pace to improve America's schools must accelerate.

"The rest of the world is not sitting by while we, in a rather deliberate fashion, reform the education system," Rice said.

Klein said he hopes the findings will prompt discussions beyond the education community that engage those in the defense and foreign policy establishments about how to improve schools.

"I don't think people have really thought about the national security implications and the inability to have people who speak the requisite languages who can staff a volunteer military, the kind of morale and human conviction you need to hold a country together. I don't think people have thought about it in those terms," Klein said.

The panel makes three main recommendations:

- Adopt and expand the common core initiative to include skill sets critical to national security such as science, technology and foreign languages;
- Structural changes to provide students with more choices in where they can go to school, so many students aren't stuck in underperforming schools;
- A national security readiness audit, prepared by governors working with the federal government, that can be used to judge whether schools are meeting national expectations in education.

Not all panel members agreed with all the task force findings. One dissenting opinion said a proposed national audit will only increase the pressure to focus on standardized tests and that money would be better used to improve the neediest school districts. That opinion was issued by Carole Artigiani, founder of Global Kids Inc., and agreed to by Stephen Walt, an international affairs professor at Harvard, and Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers.

Weingarten, in another dissent, said that some elements of the report undermine schools, and that school choice options such as vouchers and charters, which use public funds but are run by a third party, have not proven to be sustainable or to improve schools. Artigiani and Walt supported that argument.

In an interview, Weingarten said it doesn't make sense to provide an "opt-out" option with school choice, when public schools should be strengthened instead.

Related news

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Report shows declines in Arizona, NM grad rates. Page 3B

Online:
Council on Foreign Relations: http://www.cfr.org/

LaCroix

From 1B

future, you could be a substitute teacher.

It will not be easy. Some of the kids will test you. Some of the adults will disappoint you. Some of the things you see or hear will shock you. But that is OK. You simply will need to remember what I remind myself and my teachers of from time to time: You are not there for you, you are there for the kids. I learned a lesson as a substitute that I feel is key for all teachers and subs: Be willing to ask for help if you need it. A perk of substitute teaching is the flexibility. You can choose the days you work and the campuses you prefer. If you have a child in school you can sub only at that campus. Doing so frees up another sub to work somewhere else. But don't shy away from other campuses, as well. All of our campuses and students need quality subs and positive role models. Even one day a week can make a real impact.

If you have the time, the qualifications and the desire to make a difference I encourage you to visit the MISD website or to call Michele Harmon at 689-1927 to start the process. I hope to see you at Midland Freshman one day soon.

DECA

From 1B

for the national competition.

"I've having to study a lot more on marketing because I kind of got by on luck at state," Bamford said. "I'm having to study terms I don't know and do a lot of readings."

Though DECA is considered a club, the majority of students are also in Walker's marketing classes that give them a foundation for topics discussed in DECA competitions.

Walker said he was amazed by how hard Bamford worked to prepare and how well she did.

Walker said Bamford always was "eager to find me after school and get questions answered whenever she didn't know what to do. She put in the time and is a very bright student. With that dedication, you can find lots of success."

Though there will be 14,000 other high school students competing at the international competition, Bamford hopes she does her best.

"I hope if I work really hard it will pay off," Bamford said.

Meredith Moriak can be reached at mmoriak@mrt.com.

Report: US makes modest gains in graduation rate

By Kimberly Hefling
Associated Press

HAGERSTOWN, Md. — The last straw for 17-year-old Alton Burke was a note left on his door. The high school dropout picked up the phone and re-enrolled at South Hagerstown High.

Burke missed roughly 200 days of class, but Heather Dixon, the student intervention specialist who left the note, never gave up on him.

Aggressive efforts to prevent students such as Burke from dropping out contributed to a modest 3.5 percentage point increase nationally in the high school graduation rate from 2001 to 2009, according to research presented Monday at the Grad Nation summit in Washington. The event was organized by the children's advocacy group America's Promise Alliance founded by former Secretary of State Colin Powell.

The graduation rate was 75 percent in 2009, meaning 1 in 4 students failed to get a diploma in four years, researchers found. That's well below the organization's goal of 90 percent by 2020.

Researchers found that the number of "dropout factories," schools that fail to graduate more than 60 percent of students on time, had dropped by more than 450 between 2002 and 2010, but that 1,550 remain. The largest declines in dropout factories were in the South and in suburban communities.

"Big gains are possible if you work hard at it, and if you don't focus on it, you're going to go backward," said Robert Balfanz, a report author and director of the Everyone Graduates Center at the School of Education at Johns Hopkins University.

The increase in graduation rates was primarily because of growth in 12 states, with New York and Tennessee showing double digit gains since 2002, according to the research. At the other end, 10 states had declines: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, New Jersey, Nebraska, New Mexico, Nevada, Rhode Island and Utah.

So far, only Wisconsin has met the 90 percent benchmark, although Vermont is close.

"This year's report proves struggling schools are not destined to fail," said Education Secretary Arne Duncan. "The reality is that even one dropout factory is too many."

The authors said there are proven strategies to tackle the problem, such as getting all students to read at grade level, raising the compulsory school attendance age to 18 and developing "early warning" systems to help identify students who might be at risk of later dropping out.

In his State of the Union address, President Barack Obama encouraged states to pass laws to require students to stay in school until they graduate or they turn 18.

It's estimated that high school graduates will earn $130,000 more over their lifetimes than dropouts, and high school graduates will generate more than $200,000 in higher tax revenues and savings in government expenditures over their lifetime, the report said. And, the report said that if the 90 percent goal had already been met, 580,000 more students would have graduated last year, generating $1.8 billion in additional revenue because of increased economic activity.

How to track high school graduation rates has been a contentious issue for years, with states using different methods to come up with a number. Balfanz cited this as a reason why the report does not include the names of the dropout factories. He said they will be included in a future report once all states are consistently reporting data.

States now are required to use the same method to compute graduation rates based on a Bush administration rule issued in 2008.

Nevada stood out for its low graduation rate of 56 percent, a decline of more than 15 percentage points from 2002 to 2009, the largest of any state, the report said. During Nevada's boom years, students dropped out to earn hefty paychecks parking cars, pouring concrete or serving drinks along the Las Vegas Strip.

"Today, many of Las Vegas' dropouts are out of work and unable to jump-start the economy because they lack the required credentials," the report said.

But Balfanz said there are some signs the state is "organizing itself against its big challenge."

The Clark County School District of Las Vegas, for example, has developed a partnership with Vegas PBS for an online program designed to help students earn missing credits needed to graduate. It also started the "Reclaim Your Future" program, which sent school employees and community volunteers door to door to persuade dropouts to return to school.

Many of the strategies encouraged by the authors have been adopted in Washington County, Md. The district has a 92 percent graduation rate, up 15 percentage points from 2000. It's made progress in recent years even as the county's unemployment rate lingered above the national average and more students needed homelessness services.

The district offers e-learning classes for credit recovery, evening classes, and a family center where pregnant teens and student parents can attend class. Student attendance and performance data are carefully tracked to identify early any students at risk. Intervention specialists develop relationships with these students, doing everything from visiting their homes to helping them connect with community mental health services.

Report: Texas high school graduation rates rising

AUSTIN — A new report found Texas' average graduation rate for high school students increased 1.9 percent in seven years.

Texas increased its graduation rate from 73.5 percent to 75.4 percent between 2001 and 2009.

The report didn't provide state rankings, but comparing results manually showed Texas and Colorado are tied for 28th.

More good news for Texas came in the state's percentage of fourth-graders testing at or above proficient in reading, which increased a single percentage point to 28 percent between 2003 and last year. The percentage of eighth-graders testing at or above proficient in math also jumped from 25 percent to 40 percent over the same period.

Texas is in the first year of implementing a new standardized testing system, and some districts have drawn criticism for spending more time preparing kids for statewide exams than they do on actual classroom instruction. But Robert Scott, appointed by Gov. Rick Perry as head of the Texas Education Agency, has maintained that students statewide are improving in reading, math and science — and that their high school graduation rates have increased — despite more-strenuous standardized testing.

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For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

						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	Last Man St (N)	Cougar Town	The River "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" (N)		B. Proof "Sympathy for the Devil"		KMID News	(:35) News Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "The Tell" (N)		NCIS: LA "The Dragon and the Fairy" (N)		Unforgettable "The Comeback" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) Late5 Jennifer Lawrence (N)	The Shins, (:35) LateL (N)	
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	90210 "The Heart Will Go On" (N)		Ringer (N)		Cops	'Til Death	King of Queens	South Park	SouthPk "Pip"	Rose. "No Talking"
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Raising Hope	Hate Teen (N)	New Girl (N)	Breaking In (N)	The Simpsons	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Ray "The Canister"	Law & Order: C.I. "Albatross"	
KMLM IND	11	11	12	11	11	Alan Lee	Cardoza Moore	Update News	Rico Cortes	Light of the Southwest				Jean-Claude	NewBe-ginning	Ministerios Nueva Vida	
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	Be Millionaire	The Biggest Loser The remaining contestants visit the paradise of Hawaii. (N)				Fashion Star (N)		News^2 West 9	(:35) Jay Leno Caliendo, Ron Paul	(:35) LateN (N)	
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		American Experience "Into the Deep: America, Whaling and the World"				Frontline "The Vaccine War"		Charlie Rose		BBC News	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Una familia con suerte				Abismo De Pasion		La Que No Podia Amar		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Hasta que el dinero nos separe	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Office	30 Rock	Cold Case		Case "Sanctuary"		My News	Earl	30 Rock	Sunny	Scrubs	Access H.
FLIX	349	65		165		(5:30) ★ Alien Uprising		★ ★ ★ Sleepless Man Sean Connery.				★ ★ The Core ('03, Sci-Fi) Hilary Swank.				(:15) ★ Fist of the ...	
HBO	300	68	14	14		(5:45) ★ Scott Pilgrim vs. The World		★ Game Change (11, Doc) Julianne Moore.			Down	Real Sports		Luck	(:50) ★ Saving Face	Movie	
HBO2	302	69	15	101	23	(5:45) ★ Win A Date ...		★ ★ Something Borrowed				Bill Maher		Boxing WCB Martinez vs. Macklin & Rodrig			
HBO3	304	70	16	102		(5:30) ★ Jay Chandler ...		Luck		Luck		Luck		★ ★ My Cousin Vinny Joe Pesci.			
MAX	380	71	17	120	24	(5:00) ★ ★ Knight and Day ...		★ House of the Rising Sun ...				★ Red Riding Hood			(:40) Guide	(:15) ★ Knight & Day	
MAX2	382	72	18	122		(5:45) ★ Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps				★ Win Win Paul Giamatti.				(:20) ★ Predators ('10, Sci-Fi) Adrien Brody.		(:40) Spring	
PLEX			96			(:30) ★ First Dog (10, Fam) Eric Roberts.				★ Major League: Back to the ...				(:45) ★ ★ Beverly Hills Ninja		(:15) ★ ★ Twins	
SHOW	320	66	19	140	25	(5:30) ★ The Heart Specialist Wood Harris.				Penn &...	Comedy	Califor.	Lies	Shameless		★ Faster	
TMC	336	67	22	155	26	(5:30) ★ Love Shack ...		★ ★ Air Force One Harrison Ford.				(:05) ★ Brighton Rock ('10, Cri) Sam Riley.				★ Addicted to He...	
A&E	27	32	28	35	47	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars
AMC	40	21	23	42	51	CSI "Entrance Wound"		★ ★ ★ ★ The Shawshank Redemption ('94, Dra) Tim Robbins.						★ ★ ★ ★ The Shawshank Redemption			
BET	58	26		40		(5:00) 106 & Park		Together	Together	Game	Game	Game (N)	Together	Game	Together	Wendy Williams	
BRAVO	65	63		41		The Real Housewives		Real Housewives		Real Housewives (N)		Take Over (N)		Real Housewives		Real Housewives	
CNBC	46	45		39	72	The Kudlow Report		IMW		60 Minutes		60 Minut. "Disaster"		Mad Money		60 Minutes	
CNN	43	24	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		Piers Morgan		A. Cooper 360		OutFront		Piers Morgan	
DISC	50	20	31	24	42	D. Catch "Valhalla"		D. Catch "Endless"		To Be Announced		To Be Announced		To Be Announced		To Be Announced	
DISNEY	56	27	36	25	36	Jessie	Austin	A.N.T.	★ ★ ★ G-Force Bill Nighy.			(:05) Jessie	Shake Up	Austin	A.N.T.	Wizards	Wizards
ESPN	32	29	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball NIT Tournament (L)				NCAA Basketball NIT Tournament (L)				SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	34	28	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament (L)				NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament (L)					Score.	Baseball Tonight (L)	
FAMILY	53	54	34	42	33	Switched at Birth		Switched at Birth (N)		Make It or Break It		Switched at Birth		The 700 Club		Fresh P.	Fresh P.
FNC	45	58	53	23	55	FOX Report		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity		On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity	
FOOD	64	59	27	68	54	Cupcake Wars		Cupcake Wars		Chopped		Chopped (N)		Chopped		Chopped	
FSSW	37	43	50	45	29	Own Words	Stars Insider	AHL Hockey Grand Rapids Griffins vs. San Antonio Rampage (L)					SportsDay OnAir	WPT Poker Grand Prix de Paris		Coaches' Tournament Show	
FX	31	31	59	64	69	2½Men	★ ★ ★ ★ I, Robot ('04, Sci-Fi) Will Smith.					Justified (N)		Justified		Justifie "Loose Ends"	
HALLMARK	54	49	58		34	Little House Prairie		Little House "Plague"		Little House Prairie		Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	50	26	48	44	House	HouseH	MillionDollar Rm (N)		Property	Property	HouseH	House (N)	Love It or List It		Property	Property
HISTORY	71	62	29	50	43	Pwn Star	Pawn Star	Pwn Star	Pwn Star	Top Gear "Limos" (N)		Top Shot (N)		Top Shot		Pwn Star	Pwn Star
LIFETIME	28	25	25	28	48	Reba	Reba	Dance Moms "Miami Heat Wave"		DanceMom "Melissa Pleads the 5th" (N)		DanceMom "Melissa Pleads the 5th"		Project Runway: All Stars "Finale"		Dance Moms "Miami Heat Wave"	
MSNBC	47	51		49	73	Hardball		The Ed Show		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		The Ed Show		Rachel Maddow	
NBCSN	38	39				NHL Live!		NHL Hockey Phoenix Coyotes vs. Dallas Stars (L)						NHL Hockey San Jose Sharks vs. Los Angeles Kings (L)			
NICK	55	34	39	34	37	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	'70s	'70s	G. Lopez	G. Lopez	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	22	55	53	58	★ ★ ★ The Rundown ('03, Adv) The Rock.				★ ★ ★ The Rundown ('03, Adv) The Rock.				WaysD	WaysD	WaysD	WaysD
SYFY	66	64	41	57	67	Ghost Hunters Int'l.		Ghost Hunters Int'l.		Ghost Hunters Int'l.		Ghost Hunters Int'l.		Monster Man		★ Fertile Ground	
TBS	25	11	44	66	41	Sein. "The Outing"	Seinf. "The Seven"	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan		The Office	Office "Mafia"
TCM	41	61	24	63	66	(5:15) ★ The Mon ...		★ ★ ★ Gold Diggers of 1933				★ ★ ★ ★ My Man Godfrey			(:45) ★ They Drive by Night		
TELE	20	8	10	20		Caso cerrado		Maid en Manhattan		Corazon valiente		Relaciones Peligrosa		Noticiero	Sin senos no paraiso	Decision	
TLC	51	33	32	38	52	The Little Couple	The Little Couple	The Little Couple	The Little Couple	19 Kids & The Count	The Little Couple	The Little Couple	The Little Couple	The Little Couple	The Little Couple	19 Kids & Count	The Little Couple
TNT	24	23	40	26	50	(4:00) ★ The Lo...		★ National Treasure Fortune hunters search for treasure using clues found in the Declaration of Independence.				Southland (N)		CSI: NY "Crime and Misdemeanor"		Southland	
TVLAND	49	48	35	54	35	(4:00) Bonanza				Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Divorced	Hot In	Queens	Queens
USA	26	30	42	27	49	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Conscience"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Charisma"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Doubt"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Haunted"		CSI: Crime Scene "Slaves of Las Vegas"		CSI: Crime "And Then There Were None"	
WGN	19	18				America's Funniest Home Videos		Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Mother "Hooked"	Met Your Mother	WGN News at Nine		30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	'Til Death

Report shows declines in Arizona, NM grad rates

By Susan Montoya Bryan
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The number of high schools with chronically low graduation rates has fallen in Arizona and New Mexico, according to a study released Monday by a group of education organizations.

The two states also have increased the percentage of fourth- and eighth-grade students who can read proficiently. And more students in both states are taking advanced placement tests than several years ago.

However, the report shows Arizona, New Mexico and other western states are lagging behind when it comes to improving their graduation rates. In fact, the report puts Arizona and New Mexico in a group of 10 states that had lower rates in 2009 than they did seven years earlier.

The report ranks Arizona and New Mexico fifth and sixth, respectively, when it comes to childhood poverty. The states also have high populations of Hispanic and American Indian students, who typically fall below the national average when it comes to graduating. And there has been an influx of English-learning students.

"There are school districts that are trying," said Colleen Wilber, a spokeswoman for America's Promise Alliance, one of the groups behind the report. "They've got to adjust to all of that."

Arizona's graduation rate dropped from 74.7 percent in 2002 to 72.5 percent in 2009, according to the report. New Mexico's rate went from 67.4 percent to 64.8 percent.

The goal of the organizations is to boost the national rate — 75.5 percent in 2009 — to 90 percent by 2020. The battle to reach that level will be won or lost in states like Arizona and New Mexico, the groups said.

State education officials pointed to their own graduation statistics, which show rates gradually increasing for three consecutive years.

Between 2008 and 2010, figures from the New Mexico Public Education Department show rates climbing from just over 60 percent to 67.3 percent.

Education Secretary Hannah Skandera said New Mexico is in line for more improvements thanks to legislation approved in 2011 that revamps part of the education system.

Now, school progress is linked to a letter grade based on standardized tests, the growth of student performance in reading and mathematics, and other factors such as graduation rates and college and career readiness.

Skandera said the system makes schools more accountable and helps parents understand where their child's school can improve.

New Mexico's other push is also something stressed by the report's authors: ensuring students can read proficiently before leaving third grade. The reading initiative is something Republican Gov. Susana Martinez has been promoting in meetings with education and business leaders around the state.

"As we look at what creates real change in high school, we have to acknowledge that if a student can't read by the end of third grade, they're four times more likely to drop out," Skandera said. "One of the things we're doing is investing early — kindergarten through third grade."

Skandera acknowledged that New Mexico is "new" when it comes to reform, but there's no reason some changes can't happen quickly.

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LEVEL

Each set of 10 tiles below contains two common five-letter words. The letters of the first five-letter word are adjacent, but not in order. Find them and rearrange them to spell a word. Cross out those letters and rearrange the five remaining letters to spell the second word.

L A H N A E H N E V

D A E A W V E L R W

I B A R T T C L M P

Yesterday's Answer: VOICE, SOUND, TENOR

3.20

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EDUCATIONINBRIEF

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Chamber to hold education luncheon

The Midland Chamber of Commerce will host a State of Education luncheon at 11 a.m. Thursday at Midland Center.

MISD Superintendent Ryder Warren, Midland College President Steve Thomas and Midland Christian School Superintendent Eddie Lee will serve on a panel.

Also at the event, awards will be presented for Excellence in Teaching and the Unsung Hero. Tickets are $30 for chamber members and $45 for non-members.

For more information, call the chamber at 683-3381. The chamber is accepting questions for the panelists by email: info@midlandtxchamber.com.

Top MISD students to be recognized

The top students from Midland ISD's high schools will be honored by the MISD Education Foundation at Sunday's Shining Stars Awards ceremony.

Scholarships will be awarded to the top student from Coleman High School and the top five students from Midland and Lee high schools, said Foundation Director Jami Owen.

LHS's top students are Arjun Mocherla, Kshitij Delvadiya, Sagar Patel, Arzina Amin and Tamara "Monni" Roesner. MHS' top students are Hunter Drozd, Alexander Hoagland, Robert McDonnold, Sarah Burns and Caitlyn Locklar. Brianna Lewis will be honored from Coleman High School.

Each student will honor their own "shining star" — a teacher who made a significant impact on their life or education.

UTPB to dedicate building named after Wests

ODESSA — The University of Texas of the Permian Basin building that houses the Presidential Archive & Library and the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute will be dedicated Thursday as The Buddy and Shirley West Building.

Buddy West, a retired safety engineer, was first elected to the Texas House in 1992 to represent Ector, Andrews and Winkler counties. He served on the House Environmental Regulation and Law Enforcement committees.

Rep. Jim Pitts of Waxahachie, West's desk mate of many years, sponsored a resolution directing UTPB to name a building after the longtime Odessans. It was adopted in the 81st Legislature.

In 2011, the Board of Regents of the University of Texas System, approved naming the building housing the archive and institute after the Wests.

"Buddy and Shirley West dedicated their lives to make Odessa and West Texas a better place to live," said David Watts, president of UTPB. "A graduate of UT Permian Basin, Buddy was always proud of the university and worked hard to make sure that his university served the needs of the community.

"During his tenure, the building housing the Presidential Archives was funded, along with the Library Lecture Center, the Science and Technology Building, the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center, and the Student Activity Center. Buddy believed in the people of West Texas, and they believed in him."

UTPB grad named top medical student

ODESSA — UT Permian Basin alumni Andrew Torres was named the top first-year medical student in the state by the Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions and given the 2011 Stanley H. Kaplan Achievement Award for Graduates.

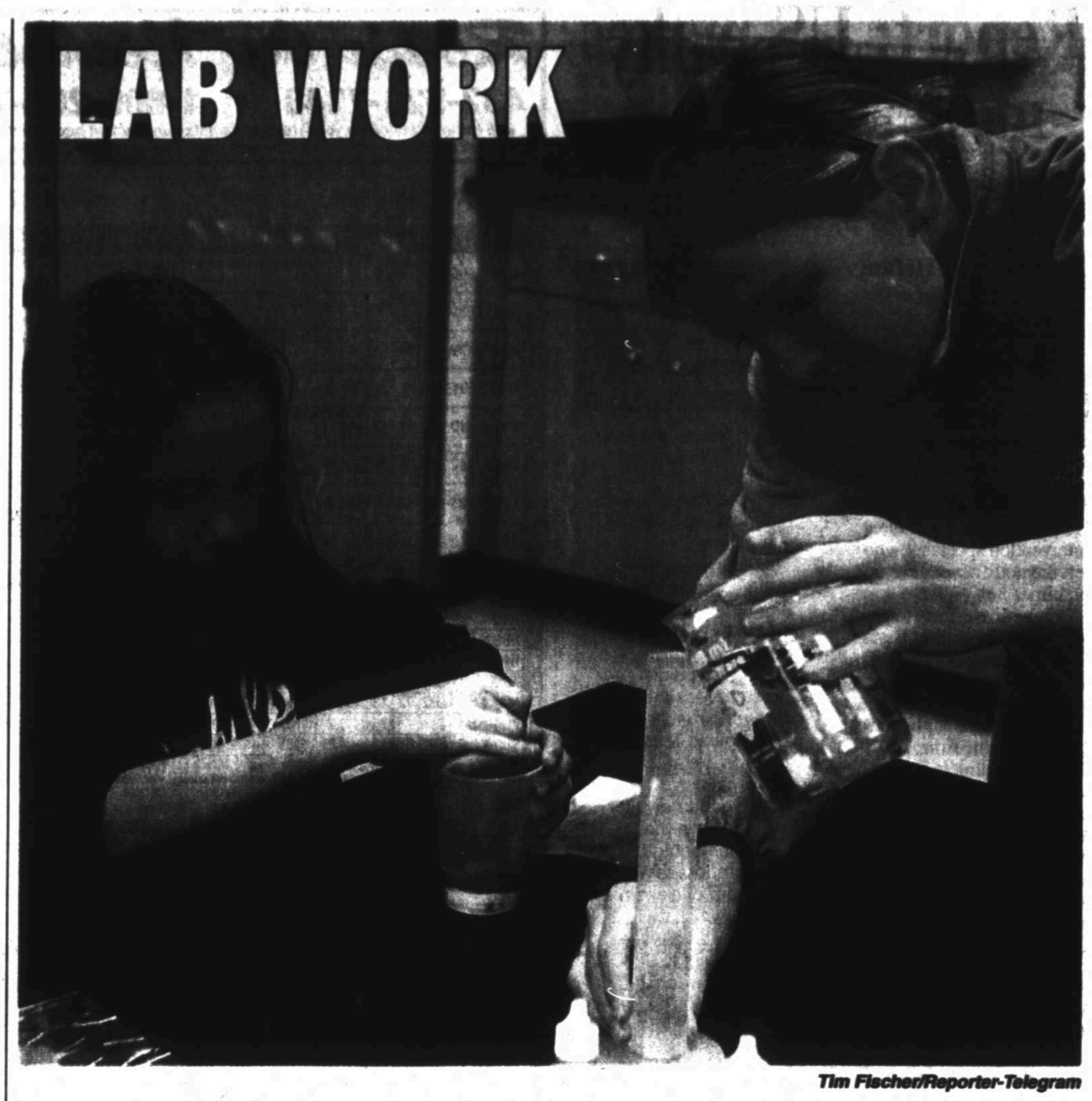
"The winner of the Kaplan Achievement Award has the bragging rights of being considered the outstanding first-year medical student in the state of Texas," said professor Doug Spence, Torres' former instructor and advisor.

Torres, 23, graduated from UTPB in 2011 with a major in biology and double minor in chemistry and English. He attends medical school at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. He plans to be an anesthesiologist.

"When I first found out I had won the award I was completely shocked, and it took me a few days to really believe I had. Since I had been to the TAAHP conference the previous two years, I had seen the caliber of students who were selected for this award. I honestly didn't think I matched up," he said. "Finding out the news was a great surprise, and extremely humbling."

The winner receives a $1,000 cash award, plus a free review course for the USMLE (United States Medical Licensing Exam) Step 1 exam, which all second-year medical school students are required to pass in order to proceed to the third year.

LAB WORK



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Chasity Manley, a Lee High School senior, measures out water as Jasmin O'Neal, from Bush Elementary, mixes her compounds March 8 to make a Silly Putty-type compound during Lee Lab Days.

SCHOOLCALENDAR

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Thursday
Midland Chamber of Commerce's State of Education luncheon at Midland Center.

Cowan Performing Arts Series presents The 5 Browns —"classical music's First Family of Piano Virtuosos" — 7 p.m., Chaparral Center

March 23-24
UIL Academic District Meet

March 29
UTPB Shepperd Distinguished Lecture Series: Mary Matalin and James Carville Moderated by: Evan Smith, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center

March 31
Prom: Early College High School

April 6
Holiday: Midland ISD, Greenwood ISD

April 6 and 9
Holiday: Midland Christian School, Trinity School, Midland Classical Academy

April 12
Midland High School Catoico

April 14
Prom: Midland High School

April 16
Texas Scholars banquet

April 21
Prom: Lee High School, Greenwood High School

April 22
Lee High School ReBeLee Court

April 24
Davidson Distinguished Lecture Series presents Fareed Zakaria, foreign policy adviser, columnist and television host, 7 p.m., Chaparral Center

May 1
Trinity Science Night and Physics Circus, 5:30-8:30 p.m., science demonstrations and projects

May 3
Prom: Trinity School

May 28
Memorial Day holiday: Midland ISD

Graduations
- Midland High School and Lee High School, June 2
- Greenwood High School, May 25
- Trinity School, May 25
- Midland Christian School, May 25
- Midland Classical Academy, May 5
- Midland College, May 11
- University of Texas of the Permian Basin, May 12

Meetings schedule
MISD's board of trustees typically meet at 5:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. Meetings take place in the first floor board room at 615 W. Missouri Ave.

Midland College's board of trustees typically meet at 4 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month. Meetings take place in the Gibson Board room in the Administration Building.

Greenwood ISD's board of trustees typically meet at 7:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. Meetings take place in the Distance Learning Center at Greenwood High School.

Midland Chamber of Commerce

State of Education

MIDLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Panelists:

Mr. Eddie Lee
Superintendent
Midland Christian

Dr. Steve Thomas
President
Midland College

Dr. Ryder Warren
Superintendent
Midland ISD

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MidlandTXChamber.com
For more information, call us at:
432-683-3381

THE MIDLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE recognizes the value of an educated workforce. The Chamber's State of Education luncheon is designed to facilitate meaningful discourse on the topic and inform the business community about pressing issues faced by today's educators.

Chris Robin
Moderator

Our panel has been selected to provide a look at several facets of education in Midland - both private and public school options for elementary and secondary education as well as higher education.

The discussion will be moderated by the Chamber's Board Chairman, Chris Robin. As a local business owner, Mr. Robin will focus the discussion on the interdependence of business and education.

March 22, 2012 11 a.m.
Midland Center 105 N. Main
Tickets - 30/Members 45/Non-Members

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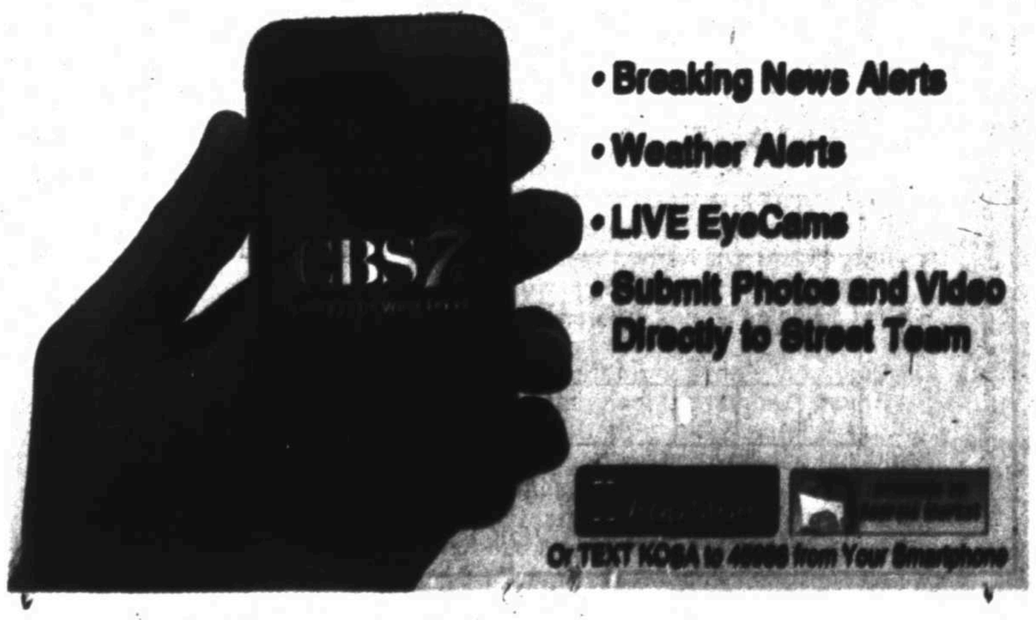

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Rural community colleges face financial squeeze

By Reeve Hamilton
Texas Tribune

SNYDER — The coffers at Western Texas College are about as dry as the windswept West Texas plains that surround it. Reductions in state financing have been a literal drain — last year, the college cut costs by emptying its NCAA competition-sized pool.

"We have a large hole that used to be a swimming pool," said Mike Dreith, the college's president. "And we have a beautiful room designed to be a planetarium. It's a nice, circular storage room now."

Any more cuts would certainly mean faculty layoffs, said Patricia Claxton, the college's chief financial officer. "We are already to the bone," she said.

The remote institution in Snyder, population 11,000, has a shallow bench to begin with: Only two people in the town are qualified to teach public speaking at the collegiate level. One teaches at Western Texas, and the other is Dreith.

In rural West Texas, as with elsewhere in the state, community colleges play a pivotal role in the higher-education landscape, providing academic opportunities for students who are not able or willing to go away to universities to further their education. In Snyder, for example, it's roughly a 100-mile drive to the nearest university. But the institutions also face unique financial challenges that demand creative solutions to keep the doors open and to help sustain the region.

State Sen. Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock, said such schools allow young people to stay close to home longer. "The key to maintaining population in rural areas is making sure different generations have a reason to come back," he said.

Duncan noted that in addition to state appropriations declining, which means schools are increasingly relying on tuition and local taxes, a quirk in the taxing system can limit financing for such colleges.

South Plains College in Levelland, for example, serves a region in the Panhandle that is larger than some states, but it can only collect taxes from its local area. Though it is the main feeder school for Texas Tech University in Lubbock, its tax base does not extend the 30 miles to the city.

Rural West Texas colleges, therefore, must generate significant local buy-in. The community college tax rates around South Plains and Western Texas are more than double those for colleges in urban areas like Austin or Dallas.

Western Texas officials have struck a deal with the local community. Scholarships are available for students from Scurry County, the local tax base, that completely cover their tuition and fees, provided they maintain certain grades and standards.

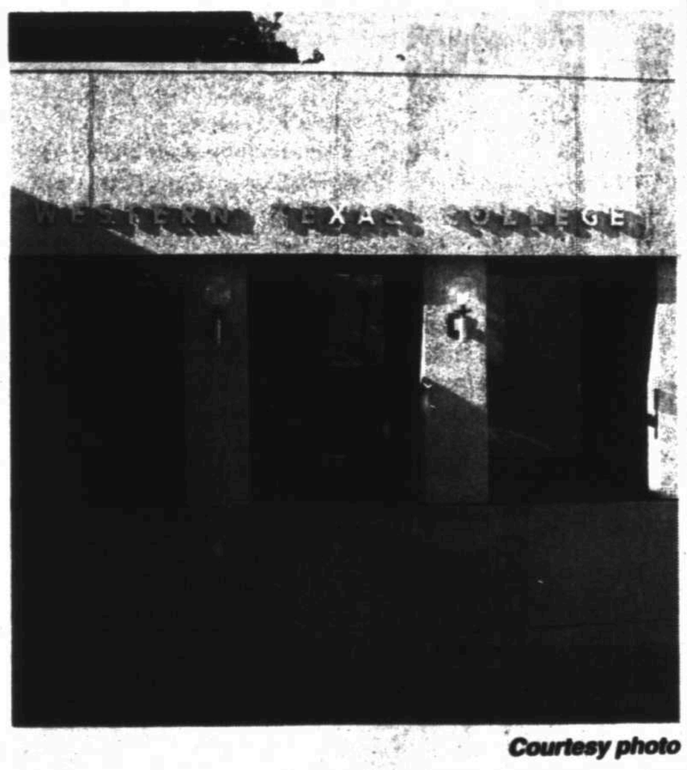
For many residents, it is an impossible deal to turn down. Tanner Robertson, a student from Snyder in his second year at Western Texas, never questioned where he would go after high school. "You graduate from Snyder High School, and you go to WTC," he said. "It's what you're raised to do."

Increasingly, Dreith said, the school is working with estate planners and companies to finance its operations to ensure its future.

"We spend as much time on that, unfortunately, by virtue of the financial circumstances that we're in, as we do on student success, which is really job one," he said, noting that Western Texas still has among the highest community college graduation rates in the state.

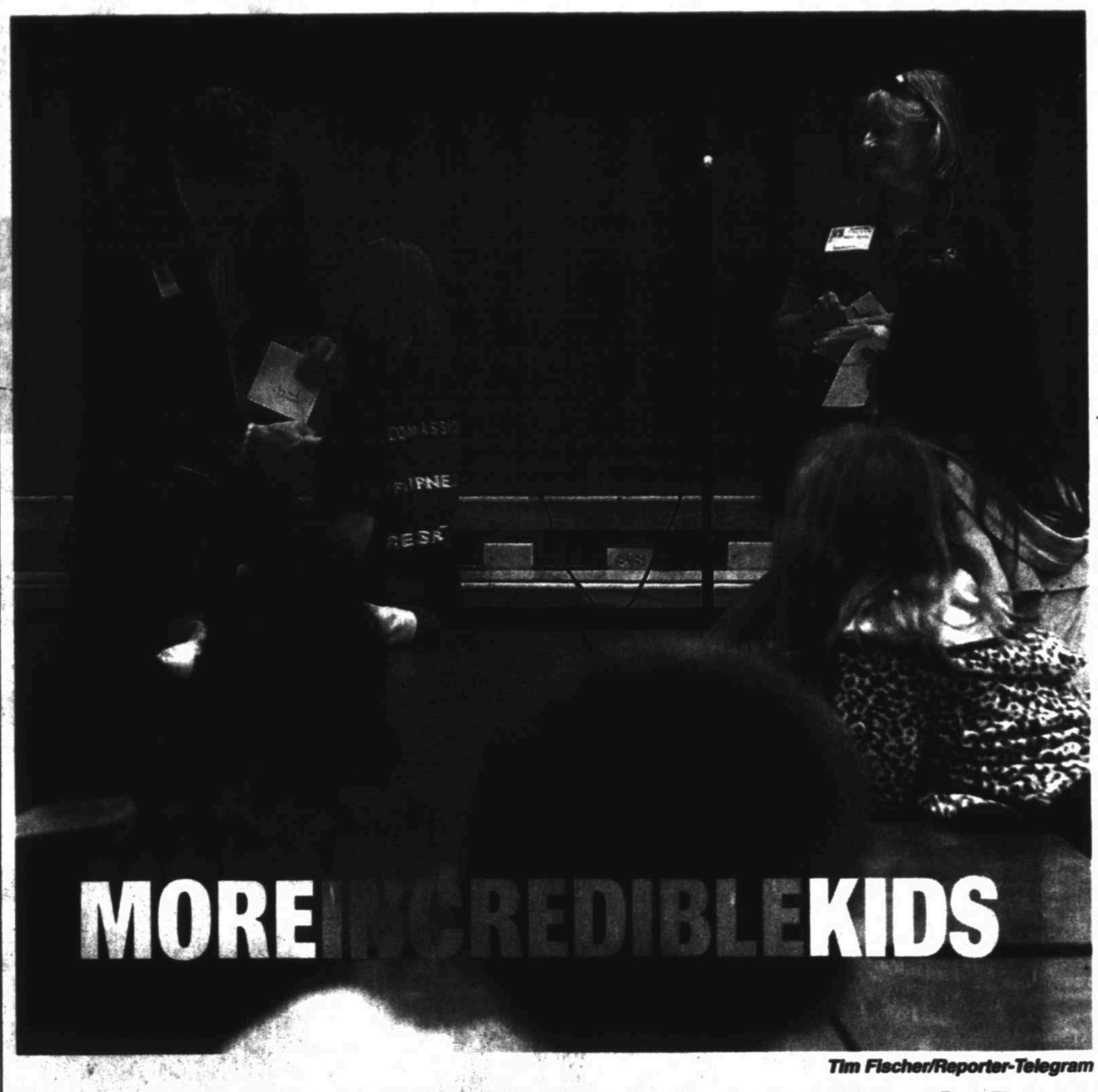
The financial situation at South Plains is not as dire, because it is less remote, but the schools' concerns are similar, and so are their aspirations. "Our goal is to sustain rural Texas," said Kelvin Sharp, the college's president.

"We can't all live in Lubbock," he said. "Some people have to live in Muleshoe, Plains or Denver City. And you have to have an auto mechanic, and firefighters, nurses and all the things we offer in technical ed. You have to have those basic services."



Courtesy photo

Western Texas College in Snyder. The school is among many in the nation that face unique financial challenges that demand creative solutions to keep the doors open and to help sustain the region.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Tommy Reed, Camp Fire USA board president, and Martha George, board member, hand out letters at Rusk Elementary during Incredible Kid Day, which was March 8. In the annual event, community members such as police officers, athletes, firefighters, school administrators, TV anchors and judges, write letters to students who might need an extra boost, said Nancy Burgess, Camp Fire USA West Texas Council director of operations.

Robotics

From 1B

qualify for the world championship.

While many of the team's members were involved in Cowdrey's junior high robotics classes, Callaway said not all kids were exposed to it before joining the team at the beginning of the year when club membership is open to anyone.

Though recruitment was tough when the club started in fall 2010, Callaway said it is getting easier as more students learn about it from friends and take junior high robotics classes.

Team members represent all grade levels and have varying interests outside of robotics. "We have football players, track runners, students in band and drama," Callaway said, noting the thing that unifies the students is that they've "all been involved in video gaming to some degree."

Though he joined the robotics team because his mother told him to and an engineering career probably isn't in his future, junior Jay McDoniel said he loves robotics because of the family-like atmosphere and ability to work on all parts of the project.

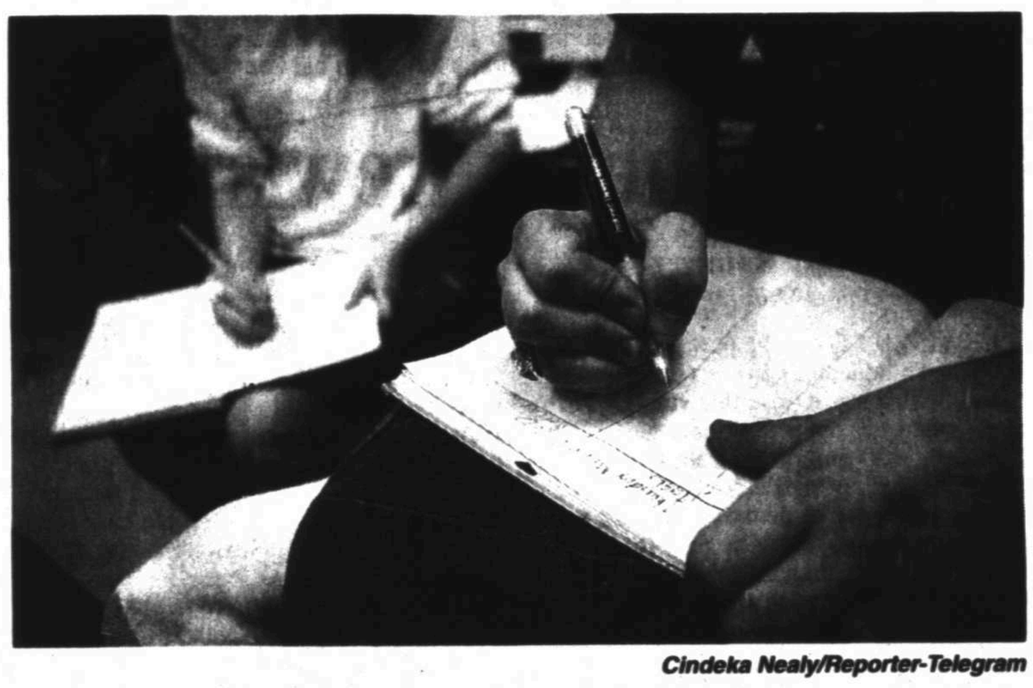
"I wasn't sure I wanted to join at first, but I came any way and was overwhelmed by the jokes everyone told and how much fun we could have building robots," McDoniel said.

Though some students spend the majority of time focusing on a specific area like programming, notebooks, building or maintenance, McDoniel said it's possible to contribute in every area.

Junior Barrett Hinson agrees.

"People don't technically have set jobs and everyone can do everything on the team," Hinson said.

Even though Midland High fielded two teams and each built a different robot for competition, students said they don't consider themselves competitors.



Cindeka Nealy/Reporter-Telegram

Kristy Taylor, 18, left, and Jay McDoniel, 16, with the 4906 Junkyard Dawgs, document the team's activities in their engineering notebooks earlier this month in the Midland High School First Tech Challenge robotics team workshop.

How are matches played?

This year's FIRST Tech Challenge is named Bowled Over! and is played on a 12-foot-by-12-foot diamond-shaped field. Two alliances — one "red" and one "blue" — composed of two teams each, compete in matches consisting of a 30-second autonomous period followed by a two-minute driver-controlled period.

The object of the game is to score more points than your opponent's alliance by placing racquet balls into crates and then stacking the crates. Teams can score extra points by completing tasks with special racquetballs and 6 pound bowling balls.

— Source: FTC 2011-12 Bowled Over! Official Game Manual

Rather, they're all members of the MHS team and working toward overall success, regardless of which robot places first.

"Even though there are more freshmen on one team than the other, they are pretty evenly matched as far as skill level goes," said Callaway, a MHS physics teacher and science department head.

Though teams may compete against each other in preliminary rounds of the tournament, they are built to complement each other and work together as allies for tournament finals, when teams can pick their ally.

Though the game's objectives stay the same all year, team members say the robots continue to evolve and develop as the season progresses.

"They area always modifying the robots to some degree," Callaway said. "They'll see things at a competition and develop a strategy to make a big change."

Freshman programmer Chris McAlpine said he can't even remember what the first robots looked like, but just knows they're changing on a daily basis.

"The first design didn't go well and did not work the way we wanted it to," McDoniel said of the first Bodacious Bulldawg bot. "We're never done with this and always (are) working on them."

During the next month, freshman Cullen Gray said the teams will work to improve the robots so they can score about 200 points at the competition. He said this is a big challenge, because the bots currently are scoring about 70 points.

Meredith Moriak can be reached mmoriak@mrt.com.

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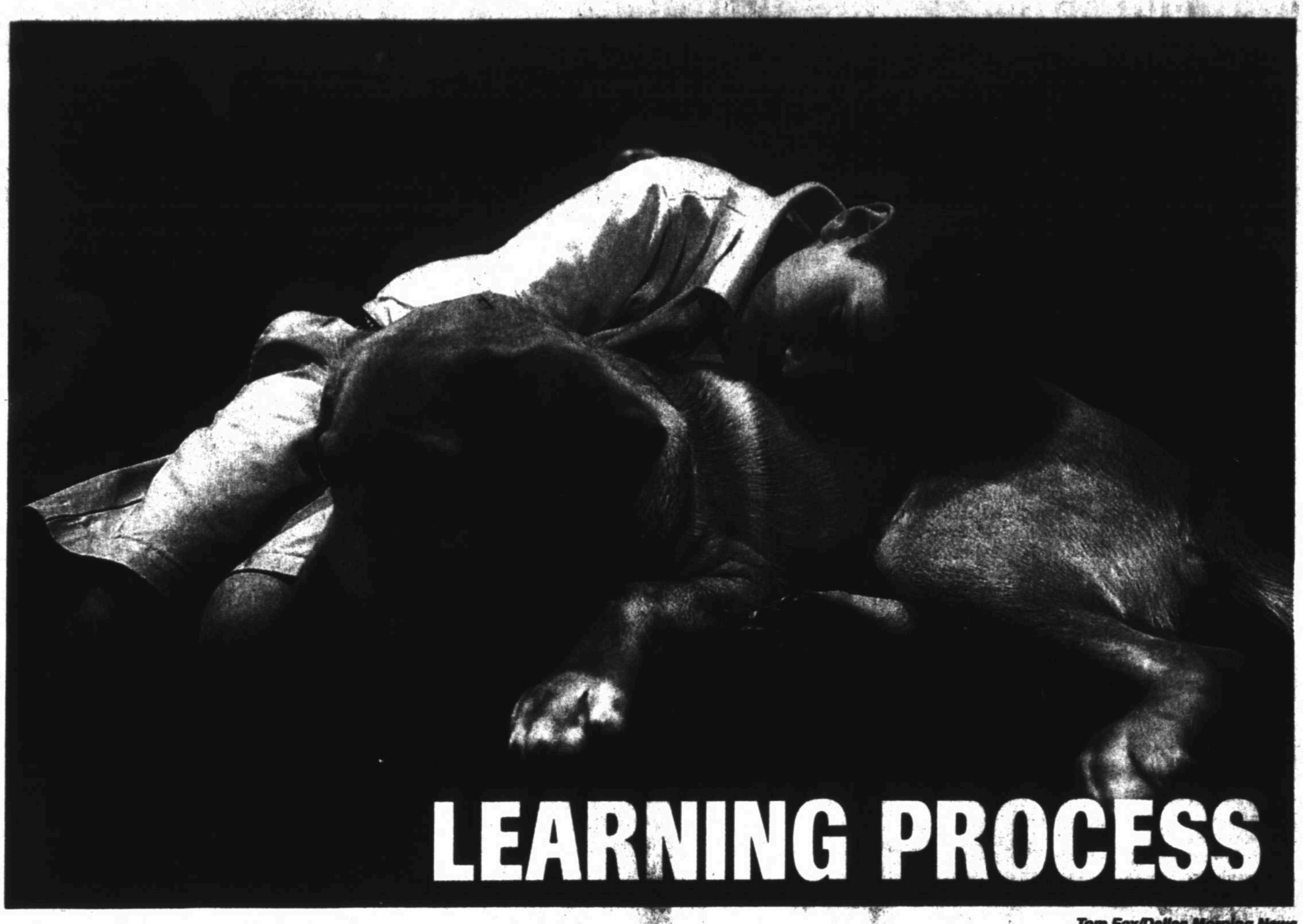


Tom Fox/Dallas Morning News

Zach Thibodeaux hugs Natura during a break from playing Mancala, in Addsion. The new companion in Zach's life is young and blond, with a moist nose that snuggles in close whenever opportunity allows. Natura, a 20-month-old Labrador retriever, is the Lewisville boy's latest bid for independence as he moves toward a life of blindness.

Puppy helps Lewisville third-grader find his way

By Marc Ramirez
The Dallas Morning News

LEWISVILLE — The new companion in Zach Thibodeaux's life is young and blond, with a moist nose that snuggles in close whenever opportunity allows.

Natura, a 20-month-old Labrador retriever, is the Lewisville boy's latest bid for independence as he moves toward a life of blindness.

It's been more than a year since Zach, a 9-year-old third-grader, was diagnosed with cone-rod dystrophy, an incurable disease quickly stealing away his eyesight. With just slivers of his vision remaining, Zach sees Natura mostly as a shadow, a vaguely golden shape at his side.

Natura became a part of Zach's life three months ago as part of the K9 Buddy program run by California-based Guide Dogs for the Blind. By providing visually impaired kids and adults with canine companions, K9 Buddy aims to foster independence and the prospect, should they choose, of having an actual guide dog someday.

"Basically, it's to teach them the responsibility of having a dog, so when it's time to receive their own guide dog they know how to live with a dog, as well as work with one," said Sandi Alsworth, who oversees Guide Dogs for the Blind's puppy-training efforts in Texas and Arizona.

Zach is learning to be fully in charge of Natura's behavior and well-being, meaning he could qualify for a guide dog as early as age 14. Typically, recipients must be 16.

"We'll be watching him grow into a natural guide-dog user as he ages," Alsworth said.

As Zach is proud to point out, he's just one of seven kids in the U.S. to have a dog like Natura. "And the only one in Texas," he said.

For Zach, having a dog not only spurs maturity, it's improving his cane skills and providing companionship during what is increasingly an isolating disability.

Zach knows the situation is a trial run of sorts. He and Natura are constantly together; they play fetch and tug-of-war.

"It's just more fun to have a dog and not be alone," Zach said.

Zach has long been fond of animals, and last year, Johanna Uek, his mother, got him a pair of dogs — a small terrier and a Chihuahua mix — to help ease the stress of dealing with his worsening condition.

Those dogs moved on to a relative's house with Natura's arrival. Despite her larger size, she's a typical puppy, bounding up and down stairs, tongue lapping, tail whipping side to side.

Zach called her over one morning at his father's Addison townhouse and slid a red muzzle over her snout as she obediently waited, all business.

"When that leash is on, it's work time," Adam Thibodeaux said. "Her personality changes."

They stepped outside and toward the small park abutting the complex. It was cold and wet, but Zach knew this was something he had to do.

He sensed the damp air, the soggy soil. "It rained again last night?" he asked as Natura wandered onto a patch of grass and circled, sniffing the ground.

"Give her a longer leash, Zach," his father said. "She's got a real short leash right now."

They began their stroll, a morning-chat routine for Zach and his dad. Natura, docile and content, knew the route now, a winding path barely an eighth of a mile long.

"Natura is different," Zach said. "My other dogs, they scream. They blow up: RAAR RAAR RAAR RAAR!"

The two actually met last summer. But only by chance did they reunite.

After Zach applied for a companion dog through the K9 Buddy program, Guide Dogs for the Blind called on Beth Allen, co-founder of newly launched Lone Star Puppy Raisers in Garland, whose members train puppies to become full-fledged guide dogs.

Natura had been among the new group's first six puppies, and when Allen stopped by Zach's home to assess his readiness for a dog, she brought Natura with her.

"It was just a fluke that they were able to meet," Allen said. "They got to walk down the street a little bit together."

The two obviously clicked. But Natura already was on her way toward becoming a guide dog. By Labor Day weekend, she was headed to California to be matched with a visually impaired person in the Bay Area.

But during the transition, she showed signs of stress — first on the plane, then during the loud mechanized noise of a ramp being lowered on a van for the disabled.

"That's a huge part of what guide dogs do," said Guide Dogs for the Blind's Alsworth. "It was asking too much of her. That's trauma they didn't want to put her through on a daily basis."

Natura had a change of careers.

"Only 60 percent of dogs who go through the training end up working as guides," Allen said. Some instead become companion dogs for diabetics, search-and-rescue dogs or therapy dogs.

Natura was placed in the K9 Buddy program, and though Alsworth recalled the dog's affinity for Zach, the two flights she'd have to take from Northern California to Dallas would be terrifying for her.

Response came quickly after she explained the situation in an email. Within minutes, someone had volunteered to drive Natura from Los Angeles to Palm Springs.

More emails and phone calls followed as a relay system fell into place. "I had three MapQuest screens up," Alsworth said. "I had no clue where these people lived."

Ultimately, Natura's four-day trek to Dallas unfolded in six legs. Alsworth herself was part of so-called Team Natura, driving the last leg from Phoenix with another volunteer and arriving in time to meet Zach on New Year's Day.

"He was quite surprised," Alsworth said. "It was a touching moment for all of us."

Don't pull the leash till you've asked her to come to you. Hold the kibble to your waist so she'll come to your side. Don't pet Natura before she's finished a task or she'll think she's done.

The instructions fly as Alsworth helps Zach with his dog-handling skills on a frigid February morning.

"See what happened there?" she said after Zach called Natura over, noting that the dog actually came to him before the order. "Why? Because you did this."

She yanked the leash. "So she had the option of either having her head pulled off or coming with you," Alsworth said. "Wait until you say 'come' to pull."

Alsworth said having a dog will provide Zach with what she called "a bridge to society," sparking interaction.

"When you have a cane, people move out of the way," she said. "When you have a dog, people come toward you."

In coming years, Zach will attend Lone Star Puppy Raisers meetings to continue Natura's training and hone his own dog-handling skills.

"She has totally bonded with Zach," his father said. "They're really a pair now."

And Zach's parents, who are divorced, agree the experience is teaching their son to empathize with the duties of parenthood.

"It's building his confidence," Uek said. "He's learning to take care of something other than himself."

Thibodeaux said Zach has had to learn to put off playing his video games after school until he feeds Natura and takes her for a walk.

"That's been the best thing about this," he said. "I've seen Zach grow into responsibility."

Richardson high school includes student-run cafe

By Jeffrey Weiss
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — The front house manager kept her eye on the customers. The back house manager focused on the orders. The various servers, prep workers and sous-chefs attended to their tasks. Just like a real restaurant.

And why not? The Eagle Cafe is a real restaurant, staffed by juniors in Richardson High School's culinary arts program. The cafe, inside the school on Fridays, has been a weekly second-semester project for 11th-graders for about five years.

Special orders don't upset them. Salad dressing on the side? Cheese left off? No problem.

"You have to work fast," said Faith Banks, the back house boss. "And be very, very organized."

These days, many North Texas districts have culinary arts programs and associated student-run restaurants. But 11 years ago, when Karen Hill started Richardson's culinary arts program, there weren't many local models.

"I had nine kids and no curriculum and no budget," Hill said cheerfully. Now she has about 60 students in the program and works out of a spacious kitchen with enough cookery for a competition — or a small restaurant.

When Hill decided to start the restaurant, it was among the first of its kind in North Texas, she said. But it was a logical next step for a program designed to give students practical skills they'll need to go on to cooking schools or jobs in the food service industry.

"This gives them restaurant experience without having to go to work," Hill said.

Culinary arts is one of several such programs offered at many local high schools. From auto repair to cosmetology to a variety of tech-related courses, kids graduate with experience and nationally recognized certificates that demonstrate they're ready for hiring or more advanced education.

The Eagle Cafe has some challenges compared with your standard eatery. The 13 juniors enrolled in the "practicum" culinary class have it for only two hours a day, so a lot of prep work has to be done a day or so in advance. Many of the customers are teachers and school staffers who get only 45 minutes for lunch, so speed is of the essence. And there's only room for 20 in the small conference-room-turned-dining-room.

But the cafe pays for itself. On a recent Friday, it served about 60 plates: salads, grilled panini, sandwiches, soup, desserts made from scratch. Any adult can eat there or order takeout. Workers in several nearby offices regularly take advantage of that.

Laura Shorlo and a co-worker dropped by to pick up their orders Friday. Shorlo found out about the cafe last year when her son, Zak, was a junior working there. Shorlo had nothing but praise for the food — and the program.

"He may have found his future," she said of her son's participation.

The kids were efficient but not perfect last week. Hill caught a couple of boys not wearing gloves as they chopped fruit. An oven door was left ajar. A soup recipe needed tweaking. But mainly, the students took care of business without much oversight.

The culinary arts program, the students were near-unanimous in saying, has been much harder than they expected.

David Woo/Dallas Morning News

Ralyn Ivy helps with the lunch menu at Richardson High School on March 2 in Richardson. The Eagle Cafe is a real restaurant, staffed by juniors in Richardson High School's culinary arts program. The cafe, inside the school on Fridays, has been a weekly second-semester project for 11th-graders for about five years.

Sports

Chaps finish first day of MC Invite in 3rd

By Len Hayward
Sports Editor

If there was one place the Midland College golf team thought it might come up with the kind of consistency it needed to win a tournament, it would be Green Tree Country Club.

But after a stellar first round that had the Chaps leading after 18 holes, Midland College struggled in the second round and ended Monday in third after the first 36 holes of the Omega Treating Chemicals Midland College Invitational at Green Tree.

The Chaps shot 287-296—583 during the first two rounds and were 15 strokes behind first place Odessa College (288-280—568) and nine behind second place New Mexico Junior College (290-284—574).

"It was a weird weather day, and it was so cold and windy," said MC sophomore Luke Richardson. "We managed to get around (in the afternoon), and it was a bit of a struggle out there. It was just about hanging in there and getting around."

Inside

See scores from the first two rounds of the Midland College Invitational on Page 4C.

During Monday's first round, four of the five Chaps' players carded rounds of 72 or below with David Ryan's 1-under par 71 the best during that round. Richardson, Richie Farmer and Paul Simpson all shot 72s, while Tyler Brown fired an 80.

But in the second round as the wind began to kick up, the Chaps struggled to put up low enough numbers to keep up with rivals Odessa College and New Mexico Junior College.

Richardson's 2-under 70 in the second round coupled with his first round 72, has his him tied for third in the medalist standings. He said he struggled with his putter during Monday's afternoon round, but was able to sink about a 20 footer on his final hole of the day for an eagle.

"I hit a good drive, had a decent iron shot and rolled in about a 20 footer, which was nice to see go in," Richardson said.

Other than Richardson, though, the Chaps struggled to post even par or better rounds as the other four players on the squad shot 74 or higher in Monday's second 18 holes. Farmer and Ryan each had 74s with Simpson a 78 and Brown a 79.

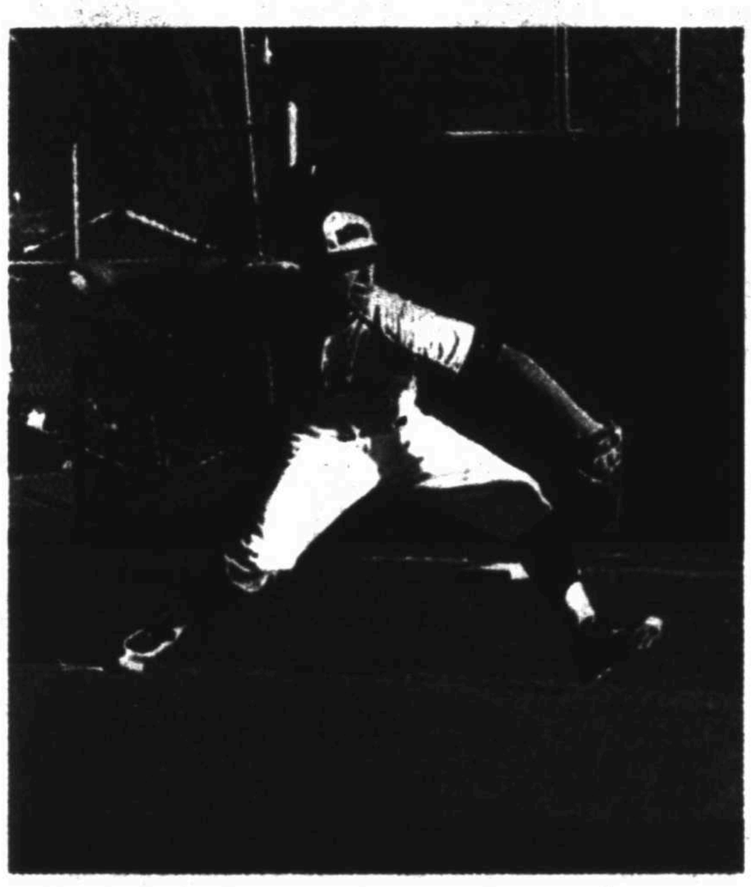
"I was real pleased with the first round, and that shows that we can compete with some of the best teams in the nation," Midland College coach Delnor Poss said. "I think in

Please see **CHAPS**/4C

Cindeka Nealy/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Luke Richardson putts Monday during the Omega Treating Chemicals Midland College Invitational at Green Tree Country Club.

A mind game



MRT File photos

Left: Midland High's Michael Dominguez throws a pitch. Right, Lee's Skyler Estrella picks up the ball and looks to throw. Both are looking for big games as Midland High and Lee square off tonight.

As crosstown rivalry draws near, teams make finishing touches

By Jordan Mason
Sports Writer

Lee and Midland High have had ample opportunity to devise a strategy for the first edition of the crosstown rivalry at 4:30 p.m. today at Zachery Field.

Yet the chess match between Lee baseball coach Hector Limon and Midland High coach Barry Russell, the reigning District 3-5A co-Coaches of the Year, raged on just about 24 hours before game time and figures to continue in the first meeting between the 2011 co-district champions.

While Limon continued to tinker with his lineup, Russell was deciding how he was going to approach the Rebel lineup, which can have as many as four left-handed hitters including switch-hitter Clay Marburger.

"That is a problem we're going to have to deal with," Russell said. "Obviously, we've got two lefties ... but that is a problem. I'm not sure what we're going to do with that one yet."

Lee vs. Midland High

- When: 4:30 p.m. today
- Where: Zachery Field

Yet Limon, ever the perfectionist, said he wasn't quite sure what he was going to do with the lineup either.

But even Limon admitted it was a nice problem to have. To start the season, for example, Limon put seniors Skyler Estrella, Mick Limon and Luke Stice, all left-handed hitters, at the top of the order.

"That's part of the beauty of trying to figure out the makeup of this team," Limon said.

For Russell, it's not as nice of a problem to have, seeing Stice — who Russell said was likely one of the best hitters in the district — in the fifth spot in the lineup and Mick Limon — the 2011 district co-MVP — in the six-hole.

"(Mick Limon) should be in the top three or four hitters, and (Hector Limon)'s got his butt sitting down there in the six-spot," Russell said. "That's just illegal, that's not fair."

But players like Michael Dominguez, the winning pitcher in the Bulldogs' first two district wins, are prepared for whatever the Rebels throw at them.

"Anybody you put up there, I'm going to pitch my game," Dominguez said. "Once I'm in my zone, I'm in my zone."

Hector Limon, meanwhile, is hoping his team can rebuild momentum after Lee (13-4, 1-0 in District 3-5A) followed a run-rule win in its district opener against Odessa High with a close one-run loss to Lubbock Coronado.

Yet Estrella said the loss to Coronado ought to prepare his team well for the challenge it'll face in Midland High (12-7, 2-0).

"Midland High is going to be just like Coronado," Estrella said. "So, we know what we're going to be up against and what kind of game it's going to be — it's going to be a close game, we've just got to finish at the end."

And that's why, even with all the tin-

Please see **CROSSTOWN**/2C

Manning chooses Broncos, deal pending

Arnie Stapleton
Associated Press

DENVER — The Denver Broncos got Peyton Manning.

Pending final contract negotiations, Manning will join John Elway's Broncos with hopes of winning another Super Bowl.

So much for Tebowmania.

Still to be decided is what happens to last season's quarterback sensation, Tim Tebow.

The Broncos and Manning agent Tom Condon spent Monday working out parameters of a deal expected to be worth about $95 million over five years after the NFL's only four-time MVP called Elway, the Broncos' revered QB-turned-executive, and told him he had decided to come to Denver.

Manning

Tennessee Titans owner Bud Adams also said Manning let him know that he had picked the Broncos. Adams released a statement Monday confirming the Titans were out of the running and later said to The Tennessean: "He called me himself and told me he wasn't coming, that he made his mind up to go with Denver."

Besides the Titans, the San Francisco 49ers had been a finalist in the chase for Manning, who turns 36 on Saturday and missed all of 2011 because of multiple neck surgeries.

ESPN first reported the record-setting quarterback instructed his agent to negotiate the details of a deal with the Broncos, less than two weeks after the Indianapolis Colts released him rather than pay a $28 million bonus.

"I think it's a great place for him," Broncos defensive end Robert Ayers said outside the Broncos' complex. "I don't think he made a bad decision. I think he made a great decision. Hopefully we can prove him right and hopefully we can win a lot of games here."

Despite being sidelined all of last season, Manning's success in the past — the Colts averaged a 12-4 record from 2001-10 — made him by far this offseason's top potential signing and perhaps the most desired free agent

Please see **MANNING**/4C

Elonu scores 23, Texas A&M women edge Arkansas

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION — With top scorer Tyra White taking just two shots and second-leading scorer Kelsey Bone missing most of the ones she tried, Texas A&M needed someone else to step up.

Adaora Elonu was up for the challenge, tying a career high with 23 points as the Aggies fought off scrappy Arkansas for a 61-59 win in the second round of the NCAA tournament Monday night.

And with the game on the line with 23 seconds remaining, A&M's best free throw shooter, Sydney Carter, hit the go-ahead foul shots.

Aggies 61
Razorbacks 59

The sixth-seeded Razorbacks (24-9) had another chance after Carter's free throws, but Quistelle Williams missed a short jumper. White was fouled on the rebound and made one of two free throws for the final margin.

The victory put the third-seeded Aggies (24-10) in the round of 16 for the fourth time in five years. The defending national champions will play No. 2 seed Maryland in the semifinals of the Raleigh Regional.

Inside

See men's and women's NCAA Tournament coverage on Page 5C.

Texas A&M coach Gary Blair got the best of former assistant and current Arkansas coach Tom Collen in Blair's first meeting with the Razorbacks since he left the school for A&M in 2003.

A jumper by Lyndsay Harris as the shot clock expired gave the Razorbacks their first lead of the second half, 59-58. Both teams missed layups on their next possession before Carter's free throws.

Elonu was the only Aggies player to score in double figures. Bone had eight points on 3-of-12 shooting, but led the team with 10 rebounds.

White, who led A&M with 18 points in a 69-47 win over Albany on Saturday, had just three points and eight turnovers in this one.

A pair of free throws by Ashley Daniels with 2:20 remaining cut A&M's lead to 58-57 before the shot by Harris.

The Razorbacks were led by Williams, who had 14 points. Williams didn't start, but also paced Arkansas in its first NCAA tournament game Saturday.

The Aggies led for most of the second half, but Arkansas used a 16-6 run to get within 55-53 with 3 1/2 minutes remaining. C'eira Ricketts powered the spurt with eight points and Harris started and ended it with 3-pointers.

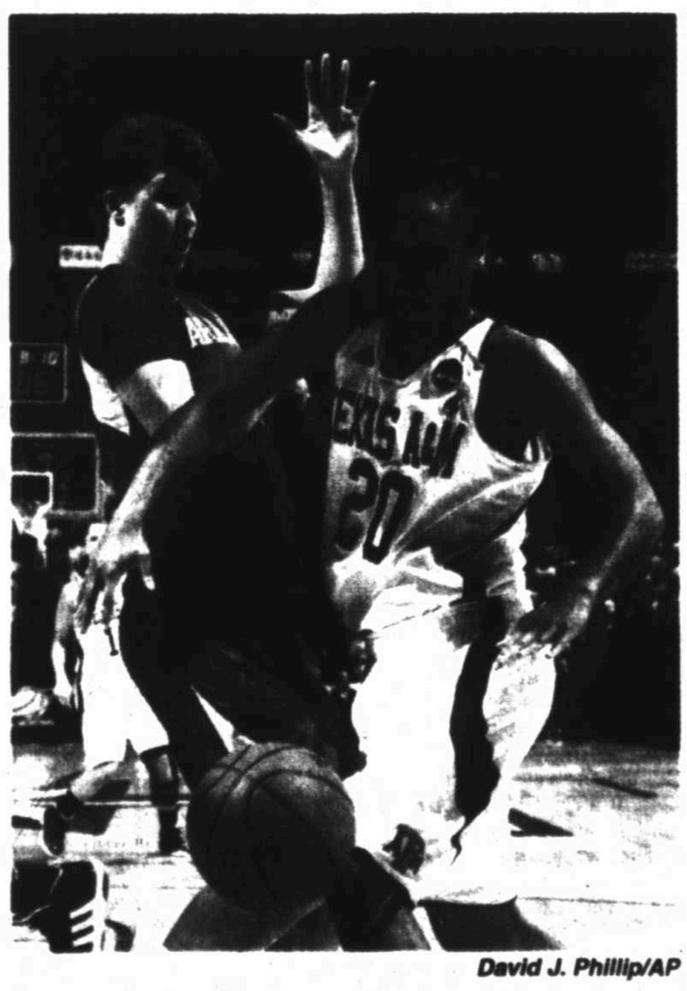
Harris finished with 13 points, and Ricketts and Sarah Watkins had 10 apiece.

Blair coached Arkansas from 1993 until he was hired by A&M in 2003. Collen worked for him from 1993-97.

This was the first meeting between these teams since 1991 and a preview of next season, when Texas A&M leaves the Big 12 to join the Razorbacks in the Southeastern Conference.

Entering the game, the Aggies had just two wins in 22 meetings with the Razorbacks, with both of them coming in 1988.

The Razorbacks used a 6-0 run that included four points from Williams to shave a 13-point A&M lead to 44-37 midway through the second half. The Aggies responded by scoring six straight points, aided by a pair of Arkansas turnovers, to stretch the lead to 49-37.



David J. Phillip/AP

Arkansas' Sarah Watkins, left, and Texas A&M's Tyra White (20) look to pick up a loose ball Monday during an NCAA tournament second round game in College Station.

HSBASEBALL

FROM STAFF REPORTS

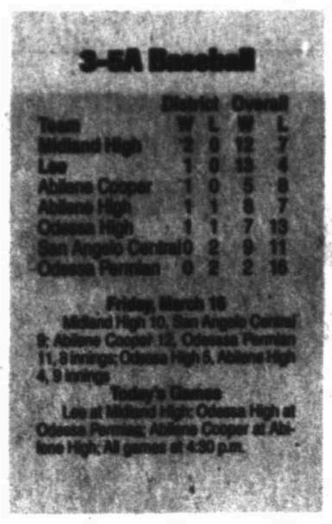
LEE AT MIDLAND HIGH

When/where: 4:30 p.m. today, Zachery Field

Records: Lee 13-4, 1-0 in District 3-5A; Midland High 12-7, 2-0

Last game: Lubbock Coronado 4, Lee 3; Midland High 10, San Angelo Central 9

Notes/quotes: Both teams enter the game looking for momentum as Lee is coming off a loss to Lubbock Coronado and Midland High is coming off of two close wins to start district play that coach Barry Russell said his team must improve on. ... Russell was concerned with the Rebels' potent lineup, as the Bulldogs' pitching — a strength in non-district — has struggled at times in district play. Senior Michael Dominguez, who picked up consecutive wins on the mound in the Bulldogs' two district games, said he believes the team is close to improving in that aspect. "We've just got to execute on plays like the double-play ball," Dominguez said. "We just need to execute every time." ... Russell said the key for him was how his young squad was going to respond to the atmosphere of its first crosstown rivalry game. The Bulldogs played in a similar atmosphere against perennial Class 4A power Highland Park in its host Scotland Yard Classic, but Russell said the size of the crowd and potential trash talk will be different from what most of his players have seen before. "That's going to be the big question mark is how our youngsters handle that," Russell said. .. Lee, meanwhile, will be looking to get off to a faster start than it has in the last two games, after falling behind to start both games. Rebel coach Hector Limon said he's hoping to see a fine effort from start to finish rather than just in flashes as his team has shown. "We have to hope that we hit on all cylinders, which we have at times this year. We're very capable of that," Limon said. ... Limon said he will likely start either Mick Limon or Michael Brosig on the mound while Russell said Alex Mata, Jackson Lancaster, Jimmy Essman and even the reliever Dominguez were all in consideration to start as of Monday afternoon. ... Lee and Midland High split the season series last year, with both teams winning at home. The series split paved the way for the teams to share the District 3-5A title.



3-5A Baseball

Team	District W	District L	Overall W	Overall L
Midland High	2	0	12	7
Lee	2	0	13	4
Abilene Cooper	1	0	15	6
Abilene High	1	1	6	7
Odessa High	1	1	7	10
San Angelo Central	0	2	7	11
Odessa Permian	0	2	2	16

Friday, March 16
Midland High 10, San Angelo Central 9; Abilene Cooper 15, Odessa Permian 11; Lubbock Coronado 4, Lee 3; Abilene High 4, Snyder 1

Today's Games
Lee at Midland High; Odessa High at Odessa Permian; Abilene Cooper at Abilene High. All games at 4:30 p.m.

Next: Odessa Permian at Lee, 4:30 p.m. Friday, Ernie Johnson Field; Midland High at Odessa High, 4:30 p.m. Friday, Pressly Field.

ODESSA HIGH AT ODESSA PERMIAN

When/where: 4:30 p.m. today, McCanlies Field

Records: Odessa High 7-13, 1-1 in District 3-5A; Permian 2-16, 0-2

Last game: Odessa High 5, Abilene High 4, 9 innings; Abilene Cooper 12, Odessa Permian 11, 8 innings

Next: Odessa Permian at Lee, 4:30 p.m. Friday, Ernie Johnson Field; Midland High at Odessa High, 4:30 p.m. Friday, Pressly Field

ODESSA HIGH AT ODESSA PERMIAN

When/where: 4:30 p.m. today, McCanlies Field

Records: Odessa High 7-13, 1-1 in District 3-5A; Permian 2-16, 0-2

Last game: Odessa High 5, Abilene High 4, 9 innings; Abilene Cooper 12, Odessa Permian 11, 8 innings

Next: Odessa Permian at Lee, 4:30 p.m. Friday, Ernie Johnson Field; Midland High at Odessa High, 4:30 p.m. Friday, Pressly Field

ABILENE COOPER AT ABILENE HIGH

When/where: 4:30 p.m. today, Blackburn Field

Records: Cooper 5-8, 1-0 in District 3-5A; Abilene High 8-7, 1-1

Last game: Cooper 12, Odessa Permian 11, 8 innings; Odessa High 5, Abilene High 4, 9 innings

Next: Cooper at San Angelo Central, 4:30 p.m. Friday; Abilene High at Midland High, 4:30 p.m. March 30, Zachery Field

Compiled by Jordan Mason

CROSSTOWN

From 1C

kering and last-minute adjustments, both coaches admitted the game may very well come down to who can remain the most collected in the heat of the moment. After all, this is the crosstown rivalry.

"There's a lot to prove because whoever wins is the leader of the town," Estrella said. "There's a big rivalry."

"When we play Lee, it's the biggest district game," Dominguez said. "We love playing Lee."

Added Russell: "It's just something about when you put that 'L' on one hat and that 'M' on the other that changes the direction of the game."

Jordan Mason can be reached at jmason@mrt.com.

LOCALSPORTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

MCA BOYS PLAYERS EARN TAPPS 1-3A HONORS

Midland Classical Academey boys basketball players Rett Taylor and Jared Nelson each earned first team honors on the TAPPS 1-3A All-District boys basketball team, which was recently announced.

Taylor and Nelson were also Academic All-State selections in TAPPS 3A.

On the girls side, Karis Johnson and Amy Hinton, who were both named to the TAPPS 1-3A All-District girls team, were also academic all-state selections.

Kayla Beattie was a first team TAPPS 3A All-State selection, while Johnson was a second team selection and Amy Hinton earned honorable mention honors.

UTPB BASEBALL GAMES POSTPONED

Due to a scheduling conflict, the University of Texas of the Permian Basin baseball team's doubleheader with the University of the Southwest will be rescheduled at a date to be determined.

The two teams were due to play a pair of games today starting at 1 p.m. at the UTPB baseball field.

WINNERS CROWNED AT DESERT THUNDER'S OPENER

Benny Gossett, Kris Coppedge and Rowdy Huff all won final events on Saturday night during the Classic Rock Bracket Blitz at Desert Thunder Raceway.

Taylor

Nelson

It was the season-opening event for the eighth-mile drag strip located just west of Midland.

Gossett won the No Box division, with Coppedge taking top honors in the Box division and Rowdy Huff winning the CBS7 Jr. Dragster final.

Racing will resume on Friday at the track with the Friday Nite Shakedown Test and Tune, and on Saturday with the Big Buck Blowout.

8-A D-II ALL-DISTRICT BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

8-A Division II Boys
Basketball All-District Team

Co-MVPs — Branson Richards, Grady, Sr.; Zeke Clay, Grady, Sr.

Offensive MVP — Albert Ybarra, Sands, Sr.

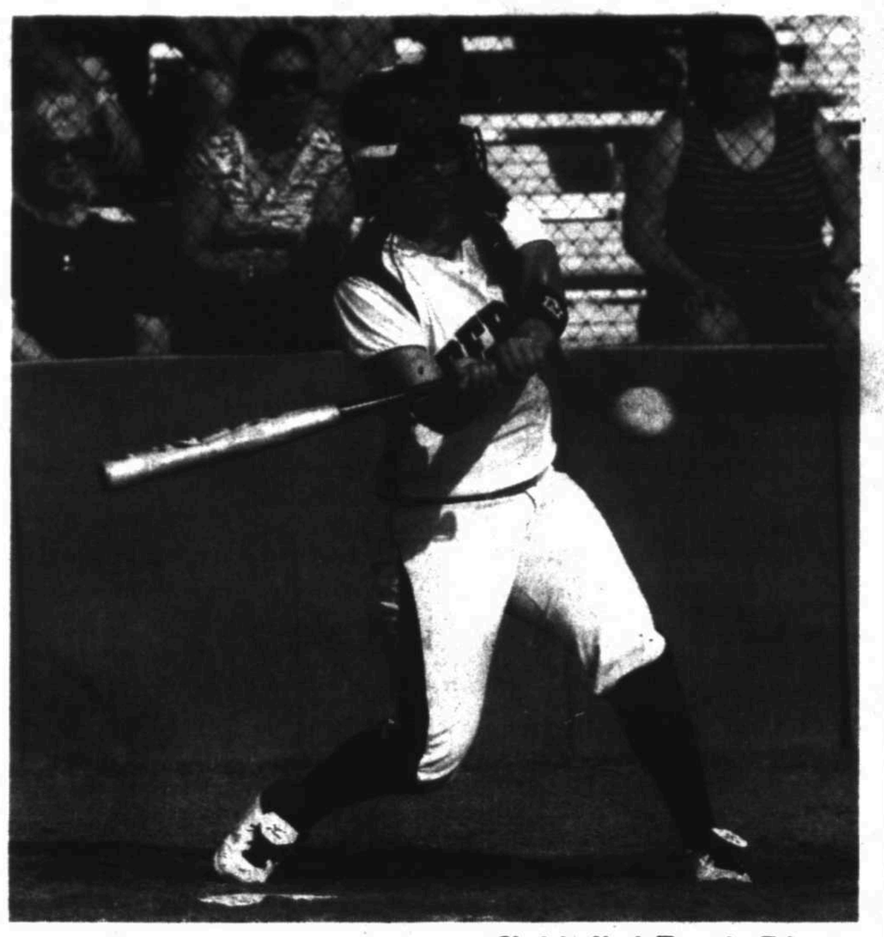
Defensive MVP — Caleb Thomasson, Sands, Jr.

Newcomer of the Year — E.J. Rodriguez, Grady, Fresh.

First team — Dylan Gruben, O'Donnell, Sr.; Preston Zant, Sands, Jr.; Tanner Richey, Borden County, Jr.; Quint Shafer, Borden County, Sr.; Michael Jimenez, Grady, Jr.; Landry Barton, O'Donnell, Sr.; Nick Garcia, Dawson, Soph.; Michael Gomez, Sands, Sr.; Taylor Polson, Grady, Soph.; Mitchell Gregory, Klondike, Sr.

Second team — Kiley Davila, Wellman-Union, Sr.; Junior Rogers, Sands, Sr.; Brett Glaze, Grady, Jr.; Wyatt Tidwell, Klondike, Soph.; Zach Bartkowsky, Klondike, Sr.; Ladarean Hunter, O'Donnell, Soph.; David Valero, Dawson, Soph.; Ivan Sanjuan, Grady, Jr.; Jadiel Ontiveros, Loop, Jr.; Hayden Ware, Sands, Sr.

Grady Honorable Mention: Uziel Sanjuan



Cindeka Nealy/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Rosie Marquez hits a triple during a March 15 softball game against Odessa Permian at Gene Smith Field. The Lady Rebels play San Angelo Central today.

HSSOFTBALLTODAY

FROM WIRE REPORTS

DISTRICT 3-5A SAN ANGELO CENTRAL AT LEE

When/where: 4:30 p.m. today, Gene Smith Field

Records: Central 8-14, 0-4 in 3-5A; Lee 12-10, 1-3

Last game: Odessa Permian 10, Central 0; Abilene Cooper 6, Lee 3

Notes: This is a matchup of the bottom two teams in the District 3-5A standings with Lee in sixth place with one 3-5A win and Central winless in district play in seventh. ... Central has particularly struggled in district play with three of its four losses coming by at least 10 runs. The Lady Bobcats have been shut out in their last two games against Abilene High and Odessa Permian and have failed to score more than two runs in a single district game this season. ... After coming on in relief in the fifth inning of Lee's 6-3 loss to Abilene Cooper on Saturday, junior pitcher Emily Hardaway hasn't allowed a run to score in more than nine consecutive innings. Hardaway pitched a three-hit shutout against Odessa Permian on Thursday.

Next: Odessa High at San Angelo Central, 2 p.m. Saturday; Abilene High at Lee, 2 p.m. Saturday, Gene Smith Field.

MIDLAND HIGH AT LUBBOCK MONTEREY

When/where: 6 p.m. today, Monterey High School, Lubbock

Records: Midland High 15-8; Monterey 11-9

Last game: Abilene High 8, Midland High 6; Monterey 5, Amarillo High 4

Notes: Midland High is taking a break from District 3-5A play to take on Lubbock Monterey in a non-district game. ... The Lady Dawgs are fresh off their first loss in District 3-5A play, falling to Abilene High 8-6 on Saturday. Midland High remains atop the district standings despite the defeat, though, holding a half-game lead on second-place Abilene High. MHS won three of the four games it played in six games last week.

Next: Midland High at Abilene Cooper, 2 p.m. Saturday

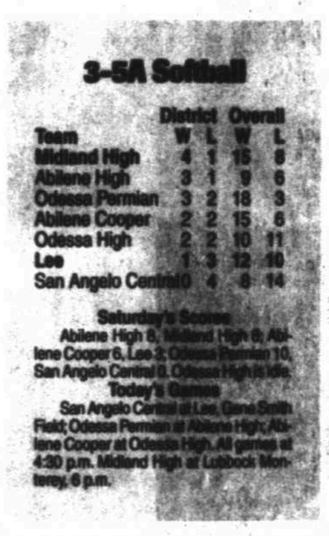
ODESSA PERMIAN AT ABILENE HIGH

When/where: 4:30 p.m. today, Abilene High School

Records: Permian 18-3, 3-2 in 3-5A; Abilene High 9-6, 3-1

Last game: Permian 10, San Angelo Central 0; Abilene High 8, Midland High 6

Next: Odessa Permian at Midland High, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 27, Audrey Gill Sports Complex; Abilene High at Lee, 2 p.m. Saturday, Gene Smith Field



3-5A Softball

Team	District W	District L	Overall W	Overall L
Midland High	4	1	15	8
Abilene High	3	2	9	8
Odessa Permian	3	2	18	3
Abilene Cooper	2	2	15	6
Odessa High	2	2	10	11
Lee	1	3	12	10
San Angelo Central	0	4	8	14

Saturday's Games
Abilene High 8, Midland High 6; Abilene Cooper 6, Lee 3; Odessa Permian 10, San Angelo Central 0. Odessa High at Odessa Permian, 4:30 p.m.

Today's Games
San Angelo Central at Odessa High, Kelly Field; Odessa Permian at Abilene High; Abilene Cooper at Odessa High. All games at 4:30 p.m. Midland High at Lubbock Monterey, 6 p.m.

ABILENE COOPER AT ODESSA HIGH

When/where: 4:30 p.m. today, Ratliff Sports Complex, Odessa

Records: Cooper 15-6, 2-2 in 3-5A; Odessa High 10-11, 2-2

Last game: Cooper 6, Lee 3; Midland High 11, Odessa High 1

Next: Midland High at Abilene Cooper, 2 p.m. Saturday; Odessa High at San Angelo Central, 2 p.m. Saturday.

DISTRICT 4-3A GREENWOOD AT MONAHANS

When/where: 5:30 p.m. today, Monahans High School

Records: Greenwood 15-6, Monahans NA

Last game: Lubbock Cooper 9, Greenwood 2

Notes: This is the District 4-3A opener for both squads. ... The Rangerettes are coming off a pair of losses to No. 5 Lubbock Cooper in a doubleheader played on Saturday. The first game was highly competitive with Cooper needing to push two runs across in the seventh inning to secure the victory. ... Greenwood was state ranked at the start of the season, but currently sits outside the TGCA Top 20. Andrews is the highest ranked team from District 4-3A, holding the No. 8 spot.

Next: Andrews at Greenwood, 1 p.m. Saturday; Monahans at Andrews, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 27.

Compiled by Jonathan Hull

MLBROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ASTROS 7, MARLINS 4

JUPITER, Fla. — Miami's Anibal Sanchez gave up six runs and seven hits in just 2 2-3 innings.

All the hits against Sanchez were singles. He threw 38 of 49 pitches for strikes as his ERA rose from 0.00 to 11.57.

Brett Wallace hit a three-run homer, just inside the right-field foul pole, on Wade LeBlanc's second pitch.

Jose Reyes had hit first three-hit game of spring training, raising his batting average from .182 to .269.

BREWERS 5, RANGERS 3

SURPRISE, Ariz. — Norichika Aoki had three hits, including a triple, and drove in three runs.

Aoki hit an RBI single in the second off fellow Japanese newcomer Yu Darvish, then tied the game at 3 in the sixth when he tripled to score Alex Gonzalez and George Kottaras. Aoki came home on Cesar Izturis' squeeze bunt.

Making his third start, Darvish allowed one hit and three walks in four innings with four strikeouts and a hit batter. He threw 39 of 70 pitches for strikes.

CARDINALS 4, BRAVES 3

KISSIMMEE, Fla. — Carlos Beltran hit his first home run for the St. Louis Cardinals, a leadoff drive off Julio Teheran in the sixth inning during Monday's 4-3 win over the Atlanta Braves.

Beltran, who signed a free agent after splitting last year between the New York Mets and San Francisco Giants, also had a single.

Matt Carpenter hit a two-run homer in the fourth against Randall Delgado.

Cardinals starter Lance Lynn pitched four perfect innings, then allowed one run, two hits, a walk and a sacrifice fly in the fifth.

PHILLIES 4, TIGERS 3

CLEARWATER, Fla. — Detroit third baseman Miguel Cabrera left a loss to Philadelphia with a bloody face after a hard grounder from Hunter Pence hit him near the right eye.

Cabrera was taken to a hospital to receive stitches and get precautionary X-rays.

TWINS 8, RED SOX 4

FORT MYERS, Fla. — Felix Doubront's bid for a spot in Boston's starting rotation took a hit when he allowed eight hits in 4 2-3 innings. The left-hander gave up two runs, struck out three and walked one.

Twins starter Jason Marquis allowed three runs, five hits and two walks in four innings with two strikeouts.

Pinch-hitter Joe Benson put the Twins ahead with a three-run double in the sixth.

INDIANS 4, DODGERS 3

GOODYEAR, Ariz. — Pitching on his 24th birthday, NL Cy Young Award winner Clayton Kershaw allowed one run — his first this spring — and three singles over 5 1-3 innings. He struck out four, walked two and got eight outs on grounder. He has a 0.73 ERA in 12 1-3 innings.

Carlos Santana hit the first pitch from Dodgers reliever Javy Guerra for his second homer and a 2-0 lead.

ATHLETICS 6, DIAMONDBACKS 5

PHOENIX — Manny Ramirez hit a home run off the center-field batter's eye, about 430 feet away, and Josh Reddick and Brandon Allen also went deep for the Athletics.

Jarrod Parker, acquired by Oakland from Arizona in the trade for starter Trevor Cahill, was reassigned to minor league camp after the game. He allowed two runs, one hit and seven walks in 3 2-3 innings.

CUBS 12, MARINERS 7

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP) — Seattle starter Jason Vargas was pounded for seven runs and eight hits while getting just two outs.

REDS 1, WHITE SOX 0

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Chris Sale pitched two-hit ball over six innings and struck out six.

Sale allowed a one-out double to Zack Cozart in the first inning and a single to Cozart leading off the fourth. Sale, who had allowed eight runs in 7 1-3 innings in his previous two starts, is moving to the rotation following two seasons in the bullpen.

ROCKIES 4, ANGELS 3

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Howie Kendrick hit his third homer and Ervin Santana threw four scoreless innings.

Rebels move into 2nd-place tie with win over Central

From staff reports

SAN ANGELO — The Lee boys soccer team moved into a tie for second place with a 3-2 victory against San Angelo Central on Monday night at San Angelo Stadium.

The Rebels scored two second-half goals to clinch the victory as the two teams were tied at 1 after the first 40 minutes of play. Kaegan Davis scored in the 45th minute when he finished a feed from Jakob Marquez, and then Riley Gwin scored in the 49th minute after taking a pass from Derek Sanchez.

Rebels 3
Bobcats.....2

Davis

Marquez

Lee is now 7-10-2 overall and 6-3-0-2 with 20 points in District 3-5A and is tied with Abilene Cooper for the second spot. Cooper will take on Odessa High at 5:30 p.m. today. Central (6-12-0, 4-6-0-1, 13 points), meanwhile, needs to beat Odessa High on Saturday and have Midland High lose to grab the fourth spot in the postseason.

"We started the game off a little sluggish," Lee coach Scott Hicks said. "We were not passing the ball well but I kind of think we were just getting our feet back under us. We played exceptionally well in the second half. We played like we are capable of playing."

Marquez also had a goal in the first half as Davis had the assist on that goal.

Lee will conclude the regular season on Saturday against Abilene High at Shotwell Stadium.

Lady Rebels fall in close one to Central

From staff reports

SAN ANGELO — The Lee girls soccer team's playoff chances took a hit on Monday night against San Angelo Central with a 2-1 shootout loss to the Lady Bobcats at San Angelo Stadium.

The Lady Rebels took a 1-0 lead in the game when Haley Smith scored of an assist from Sammie Stewart in the 50th minute. But Central, which was tied for second in the District 3-5A standings heading into the game, came back in the 68th minute when Central's Lauren Bateman scored to tie the game.

"We played pretty well tonight, and I felt like we had the most chances," Lee coach Brian Pollard said. "We marked Lauren Bateman all night long with Maddie Bacon and Jessi Gonzalez and we took her out of the game. But she had one good look and unfortunately she buried it."

Lady Bobcats 2
Lady Rebels 1

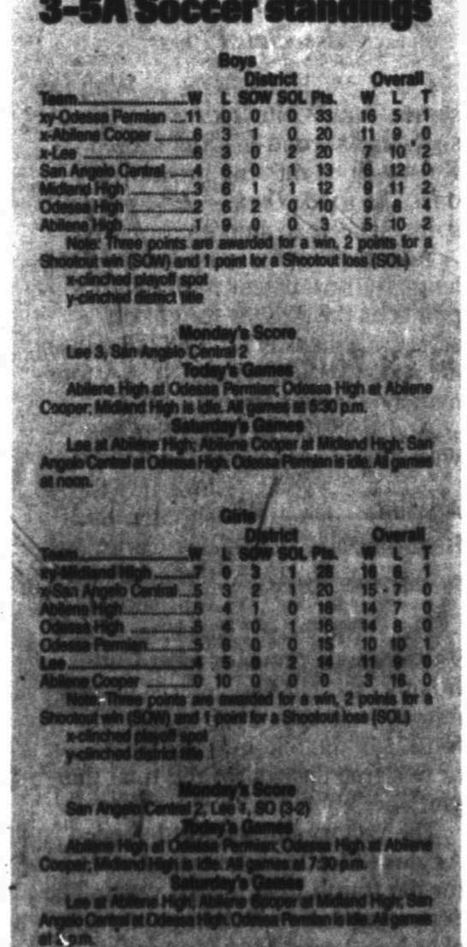
Stark

In the shootout, Central (15-7-1, 5-3-2-1, 20 points in District 3-5A) outscored Lee 3-2 to clinch the two points needed to secure a playoff spot. Kendeal Stark and Sammie Stewart scored in the shootout for Lee.

Lee, meanwhile, fell to 11-9-0 overall and 4-5-0-2 with 14 points in District 3-5A and need Odessa High and Odessa Permian to lose tonight either in regulation or a shootout to have a shot at the postseason.

"We'll just kind of wait and see and we'll know (today) if we have any real chance of anything," Pollard said. "The girls are pretty disappointed but they are overall in good spirits. They are OK with how far we've come this year and hopefully we can use it as a learning experience for the younger ones."

Lee will travel to Abilene High on Saturday to conclude the regular season.



3-5A Soccer standings

Boys	District W	District L	District SOW	District SOL	District Pts.	Overall W	Overall L	Overall T
Team								
x-y-Odessa Permian	11	0	0	0	33	16	5	1
x-Abilene Cooper	6	3	1	0	20	11	9	0
x-Lee	4	5	0	2	14	7	10	2
San Angelo Central	4	6	0	1	13	6	12	0
Midland High	3	6	1	1	12	9	11	2
Odessa High	3	6	1	1	12	9	4	1
Abilene High	1	9	0	0	3	5	10	2

Note: Three points are awarded for a win, 2 points for a Shootout win (SOW) and 1 point for a Shootout loss (SOL).
x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched district title

Monday's Scores
Lee 3, San Angelo Central 2

Today's Games
Abilene High at Odessa High; Odessa Permian at Abilene Cooper; Midland High to site. All games at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games
Lee at Abilene High; Abilene Cooper at Midland High; San Angelo Central at Odessa High; Odessa Permian to site. All games at noon.

Girls	District W	District L	District SOW	District SOL	District Pts.	Overall W	Overall L	Overall T
Team								
x-Midland High	6	0	2	1	23	15	4	0
San Angelo Central	5	1	2	1	20	15	7	0
Abilene High	3	4	1	0	10	14	7	0
Odessa High	3	4	1	0	10	14	7	0
Odessa Permian	3	4	0	1	10	10	10	1
Lee	1	6	0	2	4	11	9	0
Abilene Cooper	0	10	0	0	0	5	16	0

Note: Three points are awarded for a win, 2 points for a Shootout win (SOW) and 1 point for a Shootout loss (SOL).
x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched district title

Monday's Scores
San Angelo Central 3, Lee 1, SO (3-2)

Today's Games
Abilene High at Odessa Permian; Odessa High at Abilene Cooper; Midland High to site. All games at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games
Lee at Abilene High; Abilene Cooper at Midland High; San Angelo Central at Odessa High; Odessa Permian to site. All games at noon.

Spring Training

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct
Detroit	12	2	.857
Oakland	14	4	.778
Toronto	13	4	.765
Boston	9	5	.643
Seattle	11	7	.611
Minnesota	11	8	.579
Kansas City	9	7	.563
Los Angeles	9	7	.563
New York	8	9	.471
Baltimore	7	8	.462
Cleveland	5	10	.333
Chicago	5	11	.313
Tampa Bay	4	10	.286
Texas	4	12	.250

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct
San Francisco	11	5	.688
Los Angeles	8	5	.615
St. Louis	8	5	.615
Colorado	9	7	.563
Houston	9	7	.563
San Diego	9	7	.563
Miami	7	7	.500
Philadelphia	8	9	.471
Cincinnati	8	10	.444
Milwaukee	7	9	.438
Chicago	8	11	.421
Pittsburgh	6	10	.400
Arizona	7	11	.389
Washington	5	8	.385
Atlanta	5	12	.294
New York	3	11	.214

NOTE: Split-squad games count in the standings; games against non-major league teams do not.

Monday's Scores

St. Louis 4, Atlanta 3
Houston 7, Miami 4
Philadelphia 4, Detroit 3
Minnesota 8, Boston 4
Chicago Cubs 12, Seattle 7
Cleveland 4, L.A. Dodgers 3
Oakland 6, Arizona 5
Cincinnati 1, Chicago White Sox 0
Milwaukee 5, Texas 3
Colorado 4, L.A. Angels 3

Today's Games

Atlanta vs. Detroit at Lakeland, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
St. Louis vs. Houston at Kissimmee, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay vs. Miami at Jupiter, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
Philadelphia vs. Baltimore at Sarasota, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels vs. Kansas City at Surprise, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
Seattle vs. Cincinnati at Goodyear, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
Milwaukee vs. L.A. Dodgers at Glendale, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (ss) vs. Oakland at Phoenix, 3:05 p.m.
Texas vs. Chicago Cubs (ss) at Mesa, Ariz., 3:05 p.m.
San Francisco vs. Arizona at Scottsdale, Ariz., 3:10 p.m.
Washington vs. N.Y. Mets at Port St. Lucie, Fla., 5:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Fla., 6:05 p.m.
Toronto vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Fla., 6:05 p.m.
Colorado vs. San Diego at Peoria, Ariz., 9:05 p.m.

MONDAY'S TEXAS LINESCORES

BREWERS 5, RANGERS 2
At Surprise, Ariz.

Milwaukee	010 003010	5	7	1
Texas	201 000000	2	5	1

Wolf, Veras (6), Axford (7), Dillard (8), Mc. Clendon (9) and Lucroy, Maldonado; Darvish, Scheppers (5), B.Snyder (5), Nathan (6), Beimel (7), Tateyama (8), M.Lowe (9) and Napoli, L.Martinez. W--Wolf. L--Nathan. Sv--McClendon. HRs--Milwaukee, K.Davis (1).

ASTROS 7, MARLINS 4
At Jupiter, Fla.

Houston	100 000030	7	13	0
Miami	002 001001	4	11	0

Weiland, J.Valdez (4), Harrell (5), S.Escalona (7), R.Cruz (8), W.Wright (9) and Powell, J.Castro; Ani.Sanchez, Latroy (3), Glover (8), Ceda (9) and Hayes. W--Weiland. L--Ani.Sanchez. HRs--Houston, Wallace (1).

Coll. Baseball

Collegiate Baseball Poll

TUCSON, Ariz. — The Collegiate Baseball poll with records through March 18, preseason and previous rank. Voting is done by coaches, sports writers and sports information directors:

Team	Record	Pts
1. Florida	(19-1)	498
2. Kentucky	(21-0)	493
3. Stanford	(13-2)	492
4. Arkansas	(19-2)	489
5. Florida St.	(16-2)	486
6. South Carolina	(15-4)	484
7. North Carolina	(16-4)	482
8. Louisiana St.	(16-4)	479
9. Miami, Fla.	(16-4)	476
10. Rice	(15-6)	475
11. N.C. State	(15-3)	471
12. Cal St. Fullerton	(12-7)	470
13. Texas A&M	(16-5)	468
14. Arizona	(16-4)	463
15. Stetson	(15-4)	464
16. UCLA	(15-4)	460
17. Oregon	(13-5)	458
18. Arizona St.	(12-7)	452
19. Texas Christian	(11-6)	451
20. Georgia Tech	(14-6)	450
21. Texas	(10-8)	447
22. Louisville	(14-6)	442
23. Georgia	(15-6)	444
24. Purdue	(14-3)	441
25. Oregon St.	(14-5)	439
26. Mississippi	(15-5)	435
27. Baylor	(14-7)	434
28. Central Florida	(16-5)	432
29. Appalachian St.	(17-3)	429
30. Texas St.	(13-6)	424

Baseball America Top 25

DURHAM, N.C. — The top 25 teams in the Baseball America poll with records through March 18 and previous ranking (voting by the staff of Baseball America):

Team	Record	Pts
1. Florida	19-1	1
2. Stanford	13-2	2
3. Arkansas	19-2	4
4. North Carolina	16-4	5
5. Arizona	16-4	6
6. Florida State	16-2	7
7. UCLA	15-4	9
8. South Carolina	15-4	3
9. Rice	15-6	8
10. Texas A&M	16-5	10
11. Louisiana State	16-4	13
12. Miami	16-4	14
13. Cal State Fullerton	12-7	15
14. Arizona State	12-7	11
15. Georgia Tech	14-6	16
16. Kentucky	21-0	NR
17. Mississippi	15-5	12
18. Georgia	15-6	18
19. Oregon State	14-5	25
20. North Carolina State	15-3	23
21. Central Florida	16-5	20
22. Texas	10-8	NR
23. Texas State	13-6	29
24. Oregon	13-5	17
25. Purdue	14-3	24

Tennis

WTA Money Leaders
Through March 18

1. Victoria Azarenka	$3,927,423
2. Maria Sharapova	$1,731,350
3. Agnieszka Radwanska	$932,084
4. Petra Kvitova	$520,965
5. Kim Clijsters	$492,691
6. Julia Goerges	$465,570
7. Sara Errani	$439,040
8. Caroline Wozniacki	$432,188
9. Angelique Kerber	$401,462
10. Svetlana Kuznetsova	$375,938

ATP World Tour Money Leaders
Through March 18

1. Novak Djokovic	$2,684,106
2. Roger Federer	$2,293,375
3. Rafael Nadal	$1,556,985
4. Andy Murray	$731,481
5. Juan Martin del Potro	$725,868
6. David Ferrer	$689,728
7. John Isner	$684,497
8. Tomas Berdych	$494,786
9. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga	$484,408
10. Nicolas Almagro	$413,561

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-N.Y Rangers	72	45	.615	
Pittsburgh	71	44	.617	1
Philadelphia	72	42	.632	2
New Jersey	73	41	.627	2
N.Y. Islanders	72	29	.321	11

Northeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	72	42	.571	3
Toronto	73	37	.503	8
Buffalo	73	34	.463	11
Toronto	73	32	.438	13
Montreal	73	28	.384	17

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Florida	71	35	.493	13
Washington	73	37	.507	12
Winnipeg	72	34	.472	13
Carolina	73	29	.397	19
Tampa Bay	72	23	.319	25

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-St. Louis	73	46	.630	
Nashville	72	42	.583	4
Detroit	73	44	.603	2
Chicago	73	40	.548	6
Columbus	72	23	.319	27

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Vancouver	72	43	.597	8
Colorado	74	39	.527	13
Calgary	73	34	.466	19
Minnesota	72	30	.417	23
Edmonton	72	28	.389	25

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	72	39	.542	5
Phoenix	73	36	.493	8
San Jose	71	35	.493	8
Los Angeles	72	35	.486	8
Anaheim	73	30	.411	14

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.
x-clinched playoff spot

Monday's Scores

Boston 8, Toronto 0
N.Y. Rangers 4, New Jersey 2
Buffalo 7, Tampa Bay 3
Toronto at New York, 6:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Houston, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Utah, 8 p.m.
Memphis at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
Milwaukee at Portland, 9 p.m.

MONDAY'S BOXES

BULLS 85, MAGIC 59

CHICAGO (85): Deng 5-13-3-14, Boozer 12-19-0-24, Noah 4-12-1-9, Watson 0-8-1-1, Brewer 1-4-1-2-3, Asik 1-2-1-2-3, Gibson 2-5-0-4, Lucas 8-13-0-0-20, Jones 2-6-0-4, Bogans 1-4-0-2-3, Scalabrine 0-0-0-0-0, Teague 3-7-0-1-11. 85.

ORLANDO (59): Turkoglu 3-6-0-2-7, Ariza 4-13-0-0-10, Howard 8-12-2-7-18, Nelson 0-1-0-0-0, J.Richardson 1-7-0-0-2, Davis 1-5-3-5, Duhon 0-3-1-1-1, Q.Richardson 2-0-0-4, Redick 1-7-1-2-3, Smith 0-0-0-0-0, Lighty 0-0-0-0-0, Clark 0-2-0-0-0. Totals 24-68 7-18 59.

Chicago 22 26 12 25 — 85
Orlando 14 19 15 11 — 59

3-Point Goals—Chicago 7-18 (Lucas 4-7, Korver 2-3, Deng 1-4, Brewer 0-1, Watson 0-3), Orlando 4-20 (Anderson 2-8, Turkoglu 1-2, Nelson 1-4, Duhon 0-2, Redick 0-2, J.Richardson 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Chicago 55 (Boozer 13), Orlando 47 (Howard 12). Assists—Chicago 19 (Noah 5), Orlando 9 (Howard, Redick, J.Richardson 2). Total Fouls—Chicago 17, Orlando 12. Technicals—Chicago defensive three second, Howard, Orlando defensive three second. A—18,998 (18,500).

CELTICS 79, HAWKS 76

BOSTON (79): Pierce 4-14 5-6 13, Bass 4-7 0-0 8, Garnett 7-17 2-2 16, Rondo 4-14 2-3 10, Allen 5-9 5-5 19, Stiemsma 2-3 0-0 4, Petrus 3-8 1-2 9, Bradley 0-1 0-0 0, Dooling 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 29-74 15-17 79.

ATLANTA (76): Jo.Johnson 9-17 3-4 25, Smith 5-20 0-0 10, Pachulia 4-7 8-9 16, Teague 4-13 0-0 8, Hinrich 3-7 2-2 9, McCraty 2-4 0-0 4, I.Johnson 0-2 0-0 0, Collins 0-1 0-4 0, Stackhouse 2-4 0-0 4. Totals 29-75 13-19 76.

Boston 12 19 19 29 — 79
Atlanta 15 18 18 25 — 76

3-Point Goals—Boston 6-16 (Allen 4-8, Pierce 2-5, Garnett 0-1, Dooling 0-1, Pierce 0-3), Atlanta 5-15 (Jo.Johnson 4-5, Hinrich 1-3, Teague 0-2, Stackhouse 0-2, Smith 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Boston 46 (Bass 10), Atlanta 53 (Pachulia 13). Assists—Boston 21 (Rondo 13), Atlanta 15 (Smith 6). Total Fouls—Boston 23, Atlanta 19. Technical—Chicago Flagrant Foul—Bass. A—18,412 (18,729).

CAVALIERS 105, DEVILS 100

CLEVELAND (105): Gee 3-6 2-4 8, Jamison 5-20 2-2 13, Thompson 12-18 3-4 27, Irving 8-20 7-8 26, Parker 2-6 0-2 4, Sloan 4-6 2-2 11, Samuels 0-3 0-0 0, Gibson 2-4 0-2 4, Cassipi 1-5 0-0 2. Totals 41-89 16-27 105.

NEW JERSEY (100): Wallace 8-14 10-11 27, Hamphries 5-9 3-5 13, S.Williams 4-5 1-2 9, D.Williams 8-23 8-9 28, Brodiis 3-10 4-6 10, Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Green 2-6 0-0 5, Morrow 3-10 0-0 6, Petro 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 34-81 26-31 100.

Cleveland 30 23 23 29 — 105
New Jersey 17 33 24 26 — 100

3-Point Goals—Cleveland 5-15 (Irving 3-6, Sloan 1-1, Jamison 1-3, Gibson 0-1, Cassipi 0-2, Parker 0-2), New Jersey 6-23 (D.Williams 4-10, Green 1-2, Wallace 1-4, Smith 0-1, Brooks 0-2, Morrow 0-4). Fouled Out—Gee. Rebounds—Cleveland 62 (Jamison 13), New Jersey 47 (Wallace 12). Assists—Cleveland 21 (Irving 7), New Jersey 15 (D.Williams 6). Total Fouls—Cleveland 25, New Jersey 24. Technicals—D.Williams, A.—11,254 (18,711).

76ERS 105, BOBCATS 80

PHILADELPHIA (105): Iguodala 1-4 1-2 3, Brand 5-13 0-0 16, Hawes 6-11 1-1 13, Holiday 8-13 4-4 20, Turner 3-11 0-0 6, Vucevic 0-3 0-0 0, T.Young 10-12 0-0 20, S.Young 0-1 0-0 0, L.Williams 6-12 0-0 19. Meeks 2-5 2-2 6, Allen 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 46-86 8-9 105.

CHARLOTTE (80): R.Williams 4-7 4-5 13, Thomas 3-10 0-0 6, Biyombo 0-3 2-4 2, Augustin 2-8 3-3 7, Henderson 5-10 4-4 14, Brown 2-5 1-3 5, Mullens 2-8 0-0 4, White 5-10 2-2 12, Walker 5-11 2-2 13, Najera 0-2 0-0 0, Carroll 0-0 0-0 0, Higgins 1-1 2-5 4. Totals 29-75 20-28 80.

Philadelphia 25 21 30 29 — 105
Charlotte 19 25 19 17 — 80

3-Point Goals—Philadelphia 5-11 (L.Williams 3-3, Meeks 2-5, Holiday 0-1, Turner 0-1, Iguodala 0-1), Charlotte 2-8 (Walker 1-1, R.Williams 1-2, Brown 0-1, Augustin 0-2, Najera 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Philadelphia 58 (Hawes 11), Charlotte 37 (Biyombo 9). Assists—Philadelphia 26 (Holiday 6), Charlotte 23 (Augustin, Walker 5). Total Fouls—Philadelphia 21, Charlotte 19. A—12,792 (19,077).

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-N.Y Rangers	72	45	20	7	97	219	160
Pittsburgh	71	44	21	6	94	231	180
Philadelphia	72	42	22	8	92	231	204
New Jersey	73	41	27	5	87	200	191
N.Y. Islanders	72	29	32	11	69	189	216

Northeast Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	72	42	27	3	87	236	178
Toronto	73	37	26	10	84	221	213
Buffalo	73	34	29	10	78	187	207
Toronto	73	32	30	8	72	208	227
Montreal	73	28	32	13	69	191	203

Southeast Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	71	35	23	13	83	180	197
Washington	73	37	30	6	80	198	208
Winnipeg	72	34	30	8	76	192	203
Carolina	73	29	29	15	73	194	217
Tampa Bay	72	33	37	2	71	202	247

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-St. Louis	73	46	19	8	100	247	192
Nashville	72	42	22	8	92	208	186
Detroit	73	44	25	4	92	224	179
Chicago	73	40	25	8	88	222	204
Columbus	72	23	42	7	53	166	231

Northwest Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	72	43	21	8	94	223	184
Colorado	74	39	30	5	83	194	195
Calgary	73	34	26	13	81	182	199
Minnesota	72	30	32	10	70	156	199
Edmonton	72	28	36	8	64	190	213

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	72	39	28	5	83	189	192
Phoenix	73	36	26	11	83	191	188
San Jose	71	35	25	10	82	194	181
Los Angeles	72	35	25	12	82	167	158
Anaheim	73	30	32	11	71	180	203

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.
x-clinched playoff spot

Monday's Scores

Washington 3, Detroit 3
Minnesota 2, Vancouver 0
Anaheim at San Jose, late

Today's Games

N.Y. Islanders at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Florida at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Winnipeg at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.
Chicago at Columbus, 6 p.m.
New Jersey at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Nashville, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Colorado, 8 p.m.
San Jose at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

MONDAY'S SUMMARIES

WILD 2, CANCUKS 0

Vancouver	0	0	0	0
Minnesota	1	0	1	2

First Period—1, Minnesota, Christensen 5 (Brodziak, Clutterbuck), 19:36 (pp).

Second Period—None.

Third Period—2, Minnesota, Brodziak 19, 19:57 (en).

Shots on Goal—Vancouver 11-12-10—33. Minnesota 12-17-5—34.

Goalies—Vancouver, C.Schneider. Minnesota, Harding. A—17,188 (18,064). T—2:31.

RANGERS 4, DEVILS 2

New Jersey	0	2	0	– 2
N.Y. Rangers	3	2	1	– 4

First Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Dubinsky 8 (Stepan, Callahan), 1:11.

Second Period—2, N.Y. Rangers, Girardi 5 (Hagelin), :33. 3, New Jersey, Elias 25 (Sykora), 5:03. 4, N.Y. Rangers, Zuccarello 2 (Callahan, Richards), 7:33 (pp). 5, New Jersey, Sykora 17 (Zidlicky, Kovalchuk), 11:08.

Third Period—6, N.Y. Rangers, Stepan 16 (Dubinsky, Hagelin), 18:50.

Shots on Goal—New Jersey 6-10-6—22. N.Y. Rangers 13-7-7—27.

Goalies—New Jersey, Brodeur. N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist. A—18,200 (18,200). T—2:30.

CAPITALS 5, RED WINGS 3

Washington	3	1	1	– 5
Detroit	0	1	2	– 3

First Period—1, Washington, Ovechkin 31 (Johansson, Wideman), 7:48 (pp). 2, Washington, Knuble 6 (Chimera, Perreault), 11:29. 3, Washington, Ovechkin 32 (Laich, Semin), 14:51 (pp).

Second Period—4, Detroit, Quincey 7 (Smith, Hudler), 5:15 (pp). 5, Washington, Aucoin 3 (Semin, Johansson), 17:24.

Third Period—6, Detroit, Bertuzzi 13 (Nyquist, Stuart), :36. 7, Detroit, Cleary 12 (Abdelkader, Smith), 8:18. 8, Washington, Chimera 17 (Knuble, Green), 19:39 (en-pp).

Shots on Goal—Washington 10-9-3—22. Detroit 12-10-11—33.

Goalies—Washington, Holtby. Detroit, Howard. A—20,066 (20,066). T—2:22.

SABRES 7, LIGHTNING 3

Buffalo	2	4	1	– 7
Tampa Bay	0	1	2	– 3

First Period—1, Buffalo, Stafford 15 (Ehrhoff), 11:31. 2, Buffalo, Pominville 26 (Hodgson, Vanek), 15:50 (pp).

Second Period—3, Buffalo, Foligno 4 (Ennis, Stafford), 1:09. 4, Tampa Bay, Gervais 5 (Purcell), 7:12. 5, Buffalo, Tropp 3 (Vanek, Hodgson), 8:16. 6, Tampa Bay, Smith 1 (Malone, Gervais), 14:14. 7, Buffalo, Foligno 5 (Stafford, Ennis), 18:22 (pp). 8, Buffalo, Boyes 6 (McCormick, Sulzer), 17:00.

Third Period—9, Buffalo, Pominville 27, :17. 10, Tampa Bay, Malone 14 (Brewer), 14:57.

Shots on Goal—Buffalo 9-18-11—38. Tampa Bay 6-9-12—27.

Goalies—Buffalo, Miller. Tampa Bay, Tokarski, Roloson. A—17,212 (19,204). T—2:28.

BRUINS 6, MAPLE LEAFS 0

Toronto	0	0	0	– 0
Boston	2	4	1	– 6

First Period—1, Boston, Kelly 18 (Paille), 2:25. 2, Boston, Campbell 8 (Ference, Paille), 5:40. 3, Boston, Paille 11 (Bogdanov, Roloson), 10:58. 4, Boston, Marchand 24 (Seguin, Seidenberg), 12:42 (pp).

Second Period—5, Boston, Paille 12 (Roloson, Kelly), 2:31. 6, Boston, Chara 10 (Roloson), 5:45 (pp). 7, Boston, Roloson 6 (Krejci, McQuaid), 19:25.

Third Period—8, Boston, Seguin 26 (Krejci, Lucic), 18:29.

Shots on Goal—Toronto 2-5-6—13. Boston 9-8-7—24.

Goalies—Toronto, Reimer, Gustavsson. Boston, Thomas. A—17,565 (17,565). T—2:16.

PRO RODEO LEADERS

Through March 18
All-Around

1. Trevor Brazile, Decatur $49,783
2. Landon McClaugherty, Tilden $20,073
3. Bobby Mote, Culver, Ore. $18,865
4. Ryan Jarrett, Comanche, Okla. $16,284
5. Cimarron Boardman, Stephenville $15,760
6. Clint Robinson, Spanish Fork, Utah $15,160
7. Brent Lewis, Pinon, N.M. $14,876

Bareback Riding

1. Wes Sisemore, Lubbock $49,533
2. Will Lowe, Canyon $32,250
3. Steven Dent, Mullen, Neb. $29,169
4. Kaycee Field, Payson, Utah $21,807
5. Winn Ratliff, Leesville, La. $20,075
6. Matt Bright, Azle $19,778
7. Tilden Hooper, Carthage $18,453
8. Casey Colletti, Pueblo, Colo. $18,394
9. Bobby Mote, Culver, Ore. $14,487
10. Caleb Bennett, Morgan, Utah $13,046
11. Caine Riddle, Vernon $12,432
12. Chris Harris, Itasca $11,661
13. J.R. Vezain, Douglas, Wyo. $10,973
14. Matthew Smith, Clinton, Miss. $10,751
15. Jared Keylon, Uniontown, Kan. $10,656
16. Dustin Smith, Rome, Ga. $8,851
17. Luke Creasy, Brownfield, Alberta $8,370
18. Richie Champion, The Woodlands $7,618
19. Ryan Gray, Cheney, Wash. $7,466
20. Heath Ford, Slocum $6,945

Steer Wrestling

1. Ethen Thonesenl, Napa, Calif. $30,239
2. Billy Bugenig, Ferndale, Calif. $22,456
3. Beau Clark, Belgrade, Mont. $16,454
4. Ben Sholher, Jasper $15,919
5. Curtis Cassidy, Donalda, Alberta $14,834
6. Olin Hammum, Maitad, Idaho $14,647
7. Shane Henderson, Winfield, Kan. $14,103
8. Kyle Whitaker, Chambers, Neb $13,878
9. Josh Peek, Pueblo, Colo. $13,696
10. Ben Goodman, Beaumont $13,543
11. Dean Gorsuch, Gening, Neb. $13,434
12. Jake Rinehart, Highmore, S.D $12,961
13. Les Shepperson, Midwest, Wyo $12,329
14. Straws Millan, Cochrane, Alberta $10,689
15. Cody Harmon, Stephenville $9,990
16. Jake Shaw, Marshall $9,938
17. Todd Suhn, Hermosa, S.D $9,825
18. Trevor Knowles, Mount Vernon, Ore $9,586
19. Matt Reeves, Cross Plains $9,380
20. Justin Blaine Davis, Argyle $9,240

Team Roping (header)

1. Nick Sartain, Dover, Okla. $26,290
2. Colby Lovell, Mordsomville $25,664
3. Kevan Daniel, Franklin, Tenn. $23,572
4. Kaleb Driggers, Albany, Ga. $21,065
5. Garrett Tonuzzi, Fruita, Colo. $18,416
6. Clay Tryan, Billings, Mont. $18,275
7. Shane Phillips, Washington $17,327
8. Trevor Brazile, Decatur $15,902
9. Travis Tryan, Billings, Mont. $15,846
10. Luke Brown, Stephenville $14,714
11. Arky Rogers, Lake City, Fla. $12,646
12. Dustin Bird, Cut Bank, Mont. $12,449
13. Erich Rogers, Round Rock, Ariz. $11,868
14. Dustin Davis, Marshall $11,244
15. Manny Egusquiza Jr., Madison, Ga. $11,229
16. Spencer Mitchell, Colusa, Calif. $11,165
17. Paul David Tierney, Oral, S.D. $11,145
18. Ty Sr. Goddard, Browning, Mont. $10,793
19. Charly Crawford, Prineville, Ore. $10,435
20. Nick Rawlings, Stephenville $10,041

Team Roping (heeler)

1. Kollin VonAhn, Durant, Okla. $26,290
2. Kinney Harrell, Marshall $23,705
3. Chase Tryan, Helena, Mont. $23,572
4. Russell Cardoza, Terrebonne, Ore. $18,769
5. Travis Graves, Jay, Okla. $18,275
6. Jade Corkill, Fallon, Nev. $17,901
7. John Philipp, Washington $17,327
8. **Patrick Smith, Midland $15,902**
9. Martin Lucero, Stephenville $14,714
10. Joel Bach, Millsap $14,529
11. B.J. Duff, Campbell, Wickenburg, Ariz. $13,923
12. Clint Summers, Lake City, Fla. $13,618
13. Brad Culpepper, Poulan, Ga. $11,975
14. Kory Koontz, Sudan $11,653
15. Tyler Barton, Buckner, Ark. $11,453
16. Broc Cresta, Santa Rosa, Calif. $11,165
17. Ryan Motes, Weatherford $11,072
18. Ryle Whitwell, Browning, Mont. $10,793
19. Clay O'Brien Cooper, Gardnerville, Nev. $10,435
20. Justin Copp, Justin $9,968

Saddle Bronc Riding

1. Cody Wright, Milford, Utah $28,245
2. Cody Teton, Mud Butte, S.D. $24,737
3. Chad Johnson, Stephenville, Wyo. $21,129
4. Cody DeMoss, Heflin, La. $20,460
5. Jacobs Crawley, College Station $20,150
6. Cole Elshere, Faith, S.D $18,521
7. Jeff Willert, Belvidere, S.D $18,258
8. Wade Sundell, Boxholm, Iowa $17,003
9. Jesse Wright, Milford, Utah $17,402
10. Jake Wright, Milford, Utah $15,093
11. Bradley Harter, Weatherford $14,229
12. Chad Ferley, Gretchis, S.D. $13,150
13. Joaquin Real, Woody, Calif. $13,005
14. Tyrel Larsen, Ingle, Manitoba $12,658
15. Sterling Crawley, College Station $12,215
16. J.J. Elshere, Hereford, S.D. $11,641
17. Taos Muncy, Corona, N.M. $10,002
18. Curtis Garton, Kaitaia, New Zealand $9,464
19. Troy Crowser, Whitewood, S.D $8,247
20. Jesse Kruse, Great Falls, Mont. $7,797

Tie-down Roping

1. Justin Maass, Giddings $35,241
2. Houston Hutto, Tomball $22,440
3. Cory Solomon, Prairie View $21,415
4. Riley Pruitt, Goring, Neb. $18,052
5. Fred Whitfield, Hockley $17,391
6. Tuf Cooper, Decatur $17,464
7. Jake Hannum, Plain City, Utah $17,460
8. Shane Edwards, Tatum, N.M. $17,115
9. E.J. Roberts, Stephenville $15,631
10. Jake Pratt, Ellensburg, Wash. $14,916
11. Adam Gray, Seymour $14,260
12. Jared Kempker, Eugene, Mo. $13,975
13. Clint Cooper, Decatur $13,511
14. Sterling Smith, Stephenville $12,230
15. Brent Lewis, Pinon, N.M $11,780
16. Logan Hofer, Magrath, Alberta $11,553
17. Jeremiah Peek, Pueblo, Colo. $11,425
18. Shane Hanchey, Sulphur, La. $11,317
19. Ryan Jarrett, Comanche, Okla. $11,176
20. Cliff Cooper, Decatur $11,089

Steer Roping

1. Trevor Brazile, Decatur $24,578
2. Kim Ziegelgruber, Edmond, Okla. $20,814
3. Cody Lee, Gatesville $19,736
4. **Dan Fisher, Andrews $14,086**
5. Jess Tierney, Hermosa, S.D. $13,551
6. Rod Hartness, Pawhuska, Okla. $13,226
7. **Vin Fisher Jr., Andrews $9,811**
8. Chet Herren, Pawhuska, Okla. $9,665
9. Chris Glover, Keenesburg, Colo. $8,798
10. Mike Chase, McAlester, Okla. $8,660
11. Marty Jones, Hobbs, N.M. $8,522
12. **A. Tom Fisher, Andrews $6,618**
13. Landon McClaughterty, Tilden $6,566
14. Lawson Plemons, Axtell $6,114
15. Tony Reeks, Wharton $5,865
16. Scott Snedecor, Fredericksburg $5,868
17. Ty Herd, Irene $5,862
18. Walter Priestly, Robstown $5,784
19. Jay Peters, San Antonio $5,778
20. Cecil Wilson, Bose City, Okla. $4,674

Steer Riding

1. Cody Teel, Kountze $50,512
2. Cody Samora, Cortez, Colo. $40,979
3. Karan Hale, Powell, Mont. $39,124
4. J.W. Harris, Mullin $32,062
5. Trey Benton III, Rock Island $27,735
6. Tyler Willis, Wheatland, Wyo. $23,144
7. Ardie Maier, Timber Lake, S.D $21,135
8. Brett Stall, Detroit Lakes, Minn $20,947
9. Seth Glause, Cheyenne, Wyo $20,832
10. Chandler Wheeler, Hulbert, Okla. $19,995
11. Trevor Kastner, Ardmore, Okla. $18,617
12. Patrick Gepell, Elbert, Colo. $17,121
13. Douglas Duncan, Alvin $17,012
14. Nile Lebaron, Hamilton $15,724
15. Cody Rostocky, Hillsboro $15,534
16. Bobby Hogan, Gilchrist, Ore. $15,229
17. Paul Coppini, Kuna, Idaho $14,028
18. L.J. Jenkins, Porum, Okla. $13,757
19. Tag Elliott, Thatcher, Utah $13,732
20. Cody Whitney, Sayre, Okla. $13,089

Barrel Racing

1. Carlee Pierce, Stephenville $66,754
2. Brittany Pozzi, Victoria $64,641
3. Lindsay Sears, Nanton, Alberta $60,328
4. Benette Barrington-Little, Ardmore, Okla. $53,365
5. Mike Steffes, Vale, S.D $25,470
6. Sammi Bessert, Loma, Colo. $22,876
7. Angie Meadors, Blanchard, Okla. $21,740
8. Truia Churchill, Valentine, Neb. $20,134
9. Robyn Herring, Huntington $19,691
10. Lisa Lockhart, Gilchrist, S.D $18,976
11. Shelley Morgan, Eustace $17,633
12. Sherry Cervi, Marana, Ariz. $17,538
13. Liz Combs, Etiopia, Wash. $15,864
14. Savanah Reeves, Cross Plains $15,737
15. Tana Renick, Kingston, Okla. $15,468
16. Karen Little, San Saba $15,445
17. Brenda Mays, Terrebonne, Ore. $14,719
18. Linda Vick, Hesperia, Calif. $14,662
19. Callie Chamberlain, Colorado City $11,878
20. Pamela Capper, Cheney, Wash. $11,836

GOLF

PGA Tour

FedExCup Standings
Through March 18

Rank	Name	Points	Bonus Money
1.	Rory McIlroy	1,015	$2,392,000
2.	Kyle Stanley	954	$1,985,390
3.	Johnson Wagner	920	$1,761,250
4.	Mark Wilson	877	$1,667,235
5.	Phil Mickelson	865	$1,645,431
6.	Justin Rose	806	$1,

OG Kosier released by Cowboys after 6 seasons

Associated Press

IRVING — The Dallas Cowboys have released starting guard Kyle Kosier, a 10-year veteran who spent six seasons in Dallas.

The move Monday wasn't a big surprise. The Cowboys last week signed a record seven free agents, including offensive guards Nate Livings and Mackenzy Bernadeau to multiyear contracts.

Kosier started all 80 games he played in Dallas since arriving from Detroit in 2006. The 33-year-old guard played one season for the Lions after opening his career with three seasons in San Francisco.

Kosier played all 16 games four different seasons in Dallas, including last year though he tore a knee ligament in the regular season finale. He missed 13 games in 2008 because of a right foot injury, and also missed three games in 2010 with knee problems.

MANNING

From 1C

ever.

He was wooed to Denver by Hall of Fame quarterback Elway, who led the Broncos to two Super Bowl championships and now serves as their vice president of football operations.

Elway, who retired from the game after winning his second straight title in 1999, never sounded all that convinced Tebow was the answer at the sport's most important position and now could trade the enormously popular but flawed QB.

Tebow energized the Broncos in leading them to the playoffs last season — and has fans all over the country — but his play was erratic.

"I wouldn't say I feel bad for him," Ayers said. "It's a business. And I'm pretty sure Tim understands that. ... We wish him luck, no matter what he does. I hope he's here. He's a great leader, a great locker room guy."

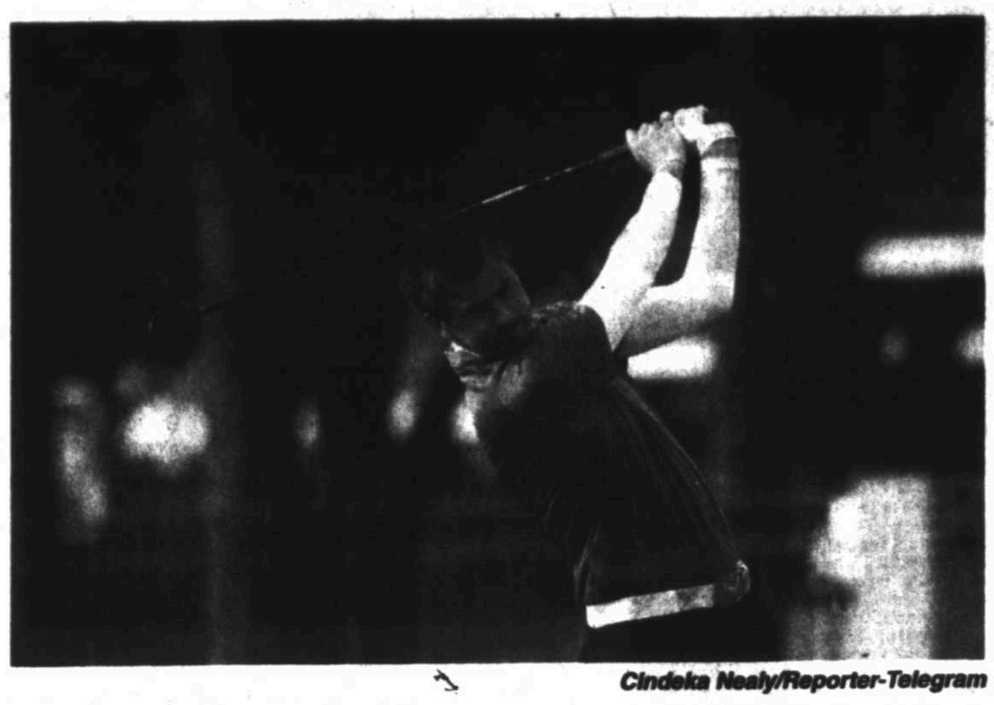
Manning was cut loose March 7 by the Colts. The move marked the end of an era, a 14-year alliance between the team that drafted Manning No. 1 overall and the QB who brought Indianapolis from football irrelevance to the 2007 Super Bowl title and a second appearance in the NFL championship game three years later.

But with Manning's rehab continuing, the Colts decided it was time to rebuild from top to bottom, and they are expected to take Stanford quarterback Andrew Luck with the top pick in April's draft.

Two days after standing alongside Colts owner Jim Irsay at an emotional farewell news conference, Manning began his free agency tour in the place it was ending: Denver. Manning landed on Tebow's turf with all the trappings of star treatment — flown to town on a chartered plane, then spending the day with Elway, coach John Fox and general manager Brian Xanders.

From there, Manning crisscrossed the country in search of a new team, as various clubs courted a guy with more than 50,000 yards passing, nearly 400 touchdowns and 11 Pro Bowl selections. After Denver, next up was a meeting with the Arizona Cardinals, and he also spent time speaking with — or throwing for — the Titans, 49ers and Miami Dolphins, with TV cameras and even helicopters often on the trail.

In the end, though, Manning decided he wanted to trade in his Colts horseshoe helmet for one adorned by a Bronco. The move would allow him to stay in the AFC, a conference he knows well and one considered weaker than the NFC at the moment, and would re-establish the tantalizing prospect of playing against his brother, New York Giants quarterback Eli, in a Super Bowl. They already have three titles in the family.



Cindeka Nealy/Reporter-Telegram

Odessa College's Chris Bell tees off at the fourth hole Monday during the Omega Treating Chemicals Midland College Invitational at Green Tree Country Club.

MCINVITESCORES

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Omega Treating Chemicals
Midland College Invitational
Green Tree Country Club
North-East Courses
Monday's Results

Team standings — 1. Odessa College 289-280—568; 2. New Mexico Junior College 290-284—574; 3. Midland College I 287-296—583; 4. Ranger College 297-303—600; 5. Hutchinson Community College 306-303—609; 6. Trinidad State CC 308-309—617

Medalist standings — 1. Antonio Morales, OC 69-71—140; 2. Willy Hogan, NMJC 72-68—141; 3. (tie) Luke Richardson, MC 72-70—142; Chris Bell, OC 73-69—142; Logan Philley, OC 72-70—142; 6. (tie) Jamie Warman, OC 78-65—143; Richard James, NMJC 71-72—143; 8. Corbin Adams, NMJC 72-72—144; 9. David Ryan, MC 71-74—145; 10. (tie) Riche Farmer, MC 72-74—146; Saad Milan, OC 70-76—146

Team results

Odessa College I (289-280—569) — Jamie Warman 78-65—143, Chris Bell 73-69—142, Antonio Morales 69-71—140, True Graves 73-75—148, Tad Dorland 73-75—148

New Mexico Junior College (290-284—574) — Richard James 71-72—143, Donavin Sanchez 81-71—152, Willy Hogan 72-69—141, Camren Bergman 75-79—154, Corbin Adams 72-72—144

Midland College (287-296—583) — Luke Richardson 72-70—142, Riche Farmer 72-74—146, Paul Simpson 72-78—150, David Ryan 71-74—145, Tyler Brown 80-79—159

Ranger College (297-303—600) — Jordan Holloway 76-75—151, Zeb Littlefield 72-78—150, Trevor Corbet 75-75—150, Marcus Gue 81-82—163, Brad Goodlander 74-75—149

Hutchinson Community College (306-303—609) — Ryley Haas 76-73—149, Mike Muller 76-78—154, Ben Cotton 78-74—152, Trey Hayden 76-79—155, Mason Varner 82-78—160

Trinidad State College (308-309—617) — Kyle Roll 82-82—164, Josh Woodworth 77-80—157, Mike Marquez 84-80—164, Joe Apache 75-73—148, Kaelen Gunderson 74-76—150

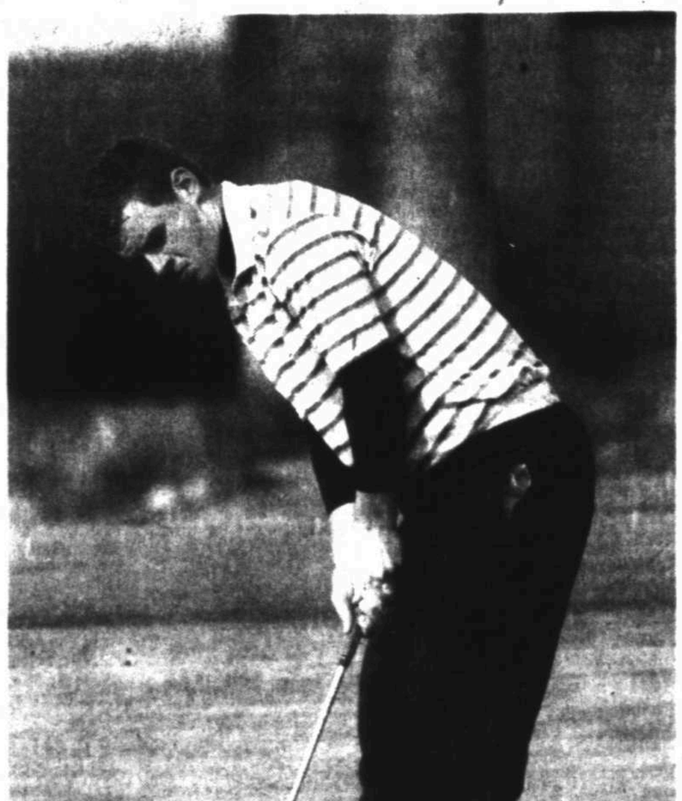
Individual medalists

Midland College — Sean Lawrie 79-74—153, Blake Broman 74-74—148, Tyson Turnbow 78-75—153, Stephen Gage 78-79—157, Connor Brockhurst-Souter 87-78—165

New Mexico Junior College — Taylor Arreola 77-71—148, Marc Smith 75-74—149, Steven Boden 75-74—149, Will Mahan 72-77—149, Jonathon Jones 75-75—150

Odessa College — Ryder Skillern 75-78—153, Logan Philley 72-70—142, Saad Milan 70-76—146, Stuart McKechnie 73-77—150, Collin Ward 75-77—153, Stephen Street, OC 75-74—149; Bobby Flores, OC 80-78—158;

Other individuals — Jack Yeates, Ranger College 87-87—174; Nick Von Lintel, Hutchinson CC 74-79—153; Truman Haeny, New Mexico Military Institute 75-76—151; Brandon Jennings, NMMI 74-83—157; Sage Cunningham, NMMI 87-91—178



Cindeka Nealy/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Paul Simpson putts his ball on the green at the sixth hole Monday during the Omega Treating Chemicals Midland College Invitational at Green Tree Country Club.

CHAPS

From 1C

the second round, the inexperience caught up with some of the guys in the lineup. We had to count a 78, and that pretty well show down for us staying in there in close contention."

The Wranglers, meanwhile, improved on their first round score by eight strokes as Jamie Warman fired the best round of the day with a 65 during Monday's second round. In fact, Warman's round was one of three sub-70 rounds Odessa College posted on Monday as Antonio Morales shot a 69 in the first round and Chris Bell a 69 in the second round.

Morales, meanwhile, leads the medalist standings at 69-71—140, and is one stroke ahead of New Mexico Junior College's Willy Hogan.

Len Hayward can be reached at lhayward@mrt.com

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

CELTICS 79, HAWKS 76

ATLANTA — Ray Allen hit two 3-pointers in Boston's 13-0 run in the fourth quarter and protected the lead with two free throws in the final seconds as the Boston Celtics held on to beat the Atlanta Hawks 79-76 on Monday night.

The Celtics led 73-58 at the end of the run. Joe Johnson, who had 25 points, had three late 3-pointers as the Hawks rallied. Johnson's 3 with 11.8 seconds remaining cut the lead to 77-76.

Allen, who had 19 points, made two free throws with 10.9 seconds remaining.

Jeff Teague launched an air ball on Atlanta's final possession.

Kevin Garnett had 16 points and Rajon Rondo had 10 points, 13 assists and six steals for Boston, which took charge with a 17-2 run, including 13 unanswered points, after a 56-56 tie in the final period.

76ERS 105, BOBCATS 80

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Jrue Holiday had 20 points and six assists as the first-place Philadelphia 76ers defeated the Charlotte Bobcats to snap a three-game losing streak and sweep the three-game season series between the teams.

Holiday, coming off a career-high 30 points in Saturday's night loss at Chicago, was 8-of-13 shooting from the field and made all four shots from the free-throw line.

Doug Collins said before the game the key to snapping the losing skid was to get a more balanced scoring attack from his players and he got just that.

Thaddeus Young also had 20 points and Louis Williams chipped in with 19 for the 76ers.

Gerald Henderson had 14 points for the Bobcats, who failed to win back-to-back games for the first time this season.

CAVALIERS 105, NETS 100

NEWARK, N.J. — Tristan Thompson scored a career-high 27 points, grabbed 12 rebounds and gave Cleveland the lead with a tip-in with 1:11 to play, leading the Cavaliers over the New Jersey Nets.

Fellow rookie Kyrie Irving added 26 points, seven assists and five rebounds as the Cavaliers snapped a three-game losing streak and sent the Nets to their third straight loss.

Newcomer Gerald Wallace had 27 points and 12 rebounds to lead New Jersey. Deron Williams added 28 points, but threw the ball away with roughly 16 seconds to play when he passed up a 3-point attempt to make a pass underneath with New Jersey down 103-100.

Irving, who scored the Cavaliers' final six points, was fouled after the turnover and pushed the lead to five.

BULLS 85, MAGIC 59

ORLANDO, Fla. — Carlos Boozer scored 24 points and had 13 rebounds, John Lucas scored 20 points off the bench and the Chicago Bulls beat the Orlando Magic.

Chicago coach Tom Thibodeau also became the fastest coach in NBA history to earn 100 career victories. The Bulls won for the fifth time in six games.

They also improved to 3-1 over the past four games playing without guard Derrick Rose, who continued to nurse a sore groin.

Dwight Howard had 18 points and 12 rebounds to lead the Magic, who had 19 turnovers.

The Magic have lost three of their last four since posting a three-game win streak. They've also gone six straight quarters without scoring at least 20 points.

NHLROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

RANGERS 4, DEVILS 2

NEW YORK (AP) — Brandon Dubinsky scored shortly after a fight-filled opening faceoff, and the New York Rangers became the first Eastern Conference team to earn a playoff spot by beating the New Jersey Devils 4-2 on Monday night.

Three fights broke out at the outset and that seemed to jump-start the Rangers, who had lost two straight and five of seven as their once commanding lead in the East dwindled to almost nothing.

Defenseman Dan Girardi scored in the first minute of the second period, and Mats Zuccarello and Derek Stepan added goals for the Rangers, who lead the Pittsburgh Penguins by three points. New York (45-20-7) has 10 games remaining. Pittsburgh has 11 to play, including one against the Rangers.

Henrik Lundqvist stopped 20 shots and got the Rangers back on track after home losses to Colorado and Pittsburgh. New York, which has two games remaining on a seven-game homestand, went 3-2-1 against New Jersey in the season series.

CAPITALS 5, RED WINGS 3

DETROIT (AP) — Alexander Ovechkin scored twice and the Washington Capitals held on for a 5-3 win over injury-plagued Detroit.

BRUINS 8, MAPLE LEAFS 0

BOSTON (— Benoit Pouliot scored two goals, Brian Rolston had a goal and three assists and the Boston Bruins completed a six-game season sweep of Toronto.

SABRES 7, LIGHTNING 3

TAMPA, Fla. — Marcus Foligno and Jason Pominville each scored twice.

Foligno had two of Buffalo's four second-period goals, helping the Sabres take a 6-2 lead. Pominville scored in the first as the Sabres went up 2-0, and made it 7-2 on a goal 17 seconds into the third.

Bristol showcases second-chance success stories

By Jenna Fryer
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Everyone deserves another chance at some point, even a NASCAR driver who has wrecked everyone in his way, or let his temper derail his career, or lost both his confidence and competitive edge.

Elliott Sadler got another chance, from Kevin and DeLana Harvick, who gave him a job last season when nobody else was interested in a journeyman driver running at the back of the pack.

The Harvicks believed Sadler still had something in his tank, and took a gamble on him with one of their stout Nationwide Series cars. For the first time in years, Sadler had competitive equipment and a chance to run up front and race for the championship.

OK, so he went winless and fell short in the title race. But he showed enough that Richard Childress kept him this season after buying out the Harvicks' Nationwide program.

On Saturday, Sadler went to Victory Lane for the second time in three races. A 36-year-old father of two in his 15th season in NASCAR, Sadler is now the Nationwide Series points leader.

Before this month, it had been 14 years since Sadler last won in the Nationwide Series. His last Sprint Cup Series win was in 2004. His parents, who were present Saturday at Bristol Motor Speedway, had never before been on site for one of his NASCAR victories.

"When you have an owner, Richard, who when he talks to you, believes in you as a person, believes in you as a driver, it makes all the difference in the world," Sadler said. "For my self-confidence and what I can do as a driver, when you have people around you that believe in your talent, or believe in what you can do in a race car, it makes you feel like a different person.

"Compared to what I was going through three or four years ago to now, I am a totally different person mentally and physically, especially in the race car."

Ironically, its Sadler's resurgence that created an opportunity for Brian Vickers.

Michael Waltrip Racing announced on March 3 that Sadler would run six of the Cup races Mark Martin doesn't have on his schedule, but the deal blew up hours later after Sadler won the Nationwide race at Phoenix. That victory, his first in the series since 1998, apparently made RCR and Chevrolet balk at the idea of Sadler driving a Toyota for another team.

So MWR turned to Vickers, who has been unable to find a ride since Red Bull Racing closed at the end of last season.

Vickers' predicament is a combination of both a down economy and his own actions coming back to bite him. He closed last year with a horrendous final month on the track, starting at Martinsville, where he was involved in five cautions and initially accepted no responsibility for any of the accidents.

The final caution was a deliberate wrecking of Matt Kenseth, who was second in the championship standings at the time, and it brought out a yellow that affected the final outcome of the race. Two weeks later, he wrecked Kenseth again at Phoenix.

In a strong economy, maybe those skirmishes wouldn't have mattered. But the bad press could not have been ignored by sponsors considering working with Vickers. Plus, he had spent five years living a "Red Bull lifestyle" that doesn't fit with everyone's marketing model.

Back at the track last weekend for his first race of the season, the Vickers who met with the media Friday morning was a humbled man. He distanced himself from a notorious 2011 profile in Maxim magazine — it depicted Vickers as a hard-partying playboy with a tremendous ego — and emphasized his focus was on a strong run at Bristol and getting back into a full-time ride.

Bristol is not the ideal place to emerge from a nearly four-month layoff, and Vickers has never been very good at the Tennessee track. He'd led only one lap in 14 previous starts at Bristol, and had finished on the lead lap only four times.

Yet there he was out front on Sunday with a new car and a new team. He led a career-high 125 laps and finished fifth, his first top-five at Bristol. Say what you want about improved equipment and attitudes at Michael Waltrip Racing, but Vickers deserves a huge pat on the back for his performance.

"When it's your only (race), you have to make it count," said Vickers, who quickly deferred all credit to MWR. He's got five more races lined up with MWR this season, but showed Sunday he should be in a full-time Cup ride.

And then there's Kurt Busch, who got another chance when Phoenix Racing partnered with him when he was absolutely untouchable.

Too many public meltdowns led to him parting ways with Penske Racing in December, and landing a quality ride was just not going to happen. In some respects, Busch was lucky to get any ride at all, and has James Finch to thank for giving him a chance.

But a month into the season, it's very clear that the driver ability far outclasses the team capabilities. A rash of bad luck has nearly derailed the effort, and it was no different Sunday, when Busch turned lap-after-lap in the middle of the pack trying hard not to be lapped.

A flat tire — Busch really hasn't caught a single break through the first month of the season — was yet another setback, but Busch hung with it and eked out an 18th-place finish.

"That was a good run for us," the five-time Bristol winner said.

Seriously? Does Busch want us to believe he's content with an 18th-place finish?

Alas, these are the cards he's been dealt, and he's got no one to blame but himself for his current position. But with every flat tire, bad pit stop and fluke accident, one begins to wonder if Busch hasn't been punished enough. He's too good a wheelman to be sentenced to a lifetime of irrelevance, or, even worse for him, mediocrity.

For now, with thicker skin and a deep sigh, Busch keeps plugging along.

"It's just, there's only 24 hours in the day, and there's only six days between each race day," he said Friday at Bristol. "We have to go through some of these growing pains, we have to mesh together, and I hope we are able to do it sooner rather than later."

■ Commentary

State of Ohio sends 4 teams to sweet 16

By Joe Kay
Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Stirred by a pep talk from the school president, the Ohio Bobcats applauded themselves in the locker room and celebrated their trip to the NCAA tournament's round of 16 by chanting: "We are Ohio!"

Not a bad March motto for the whole state.

The nation's 17th state is the first to send four teams to the NCAA's round of 16 — the Bobcats, Ohio State, the University of Cincinnati and Xavier. The four come from different conferences and play different styles, but have gone a combined 8-0 in the tournament.

Beware the Buckeyes — all of them.

"It's super for Ohio basketball," former Ohio State star Jerry Lucas said in a phone interview on Monday. "It's always been good, and will always be good. This whole region has traditionally had great basketball. To see Ohio be the first to have four in the Sweet 16 — that's great."

Seven other states have managed to get three teams into the round of 16, according to STATS LLC: Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Texas, California, North Carolina, Kansas and Tennessee. Ohio has topped them all.

No state has ever had a better opening week in the tournament.

The First Four games were played in Dayton, where President Barack Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron watched Western Kentucky pull off an historic comeback in the opener.

The rest of the state has kept up the excitement.

Ohio State — the Big Ten school whose band spells "Ohio" in script at halftime of football games — lived up to its No. 2 seed by beating Loyola, Md., and Gonzaga. Ohio University — the Mid-American Conference representative whose band dances to the "Party Rock Anthem" at halftime — got a 13th seed and became the tournament's latest mid-major darling.

The Bobcats knocked off Michigan — a result as pleasing on High Street in Columbus as on Court Street in Athens — in their first game, then beat South Florida to get to the round of 16 for the first time since 1964.

Meanwhile, Cincinnati and Xavier — the city rivals who brawled on the court in December — took big strides in refurbishing their seasons and reputations.

The Big East's Bearcats knocked off Texas and Florida State to reach the round of 16 for the first time since 2001 under coach Bob Huggins. No. 10 seed Xavier, the only Atlantic 10 team left, beat Notre Dame and Lehigh to reach the regional semifinals for the fourth time in five years.

Some of their neighbors are coming along. Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky are supplying seven of the final 16 teams this weekend, another numerical measure of the area's rich college basketball tradition.

"Oh my gosh, we talk about that all the time," said Xavier athletic director Mike Bobinski, who is on the NCAA tournament selection committee. "Within a 150-mile radius or so, there's a tremendous concentration of high-level basketball competition and talent, and great coaching and committed programs. I'm not sure this area gets its due in terms of how big college basketball is.

"You hear of Tobacco Road, but this region is as powerful and basketball-committed as any in the country. It's there for everybody to see at this point based on how the tournament has played out."

Ohio's still-standing schools may seem so dissimilar, but there's less than six degrees of separation between them. Xavier has a hand in much of that.

Buckeyes coach Thad Matta emerged as an up-and-coming coach at Butler — which plays in Hinkle Fieldhouse, where "Hoosiers" was filmed — with John Groce as an assistant. They moved on to Xavier together, then to Ohio State. Groce then made the 90-minute trip to the southeast corner of the state to become the Bobcats' coach.

Current Xavier coach Chris Mack and Cincinnati coach Mick Cronin grew up in the city, attending Catholic high schools that play in the same conference.

At various times, they've all shared a path.

"The fact that so many have come through Xavier at some point of time — there's a lot of pride in that, honestly," Bobinski said. "We feel good for their success. We appreciate what they added to Xavier while they were here. The fact that they're running their own programs and are doing a great job is terrific.

Michael Conroy/AP

South Carolina guard La'Keisha Sutton, left, is defended by Purdue guard Courtney Moses on Monday during the second half of NCAA tournament second round game in West Lafayette, Ind.

WOMEN'S TOURNEY ROUNDUP

FROM STAFF REPORTS

KINGSTON REGIONAL
NO. 1 CONNECTICUT 72, NO. 8 KANSAS STATE 26

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — Bria Hartley scored 13 of her 16 points in the first half and top-seeded Connecticut set a women's NCAA tournament record for fewest points allowed in a 72-26 victory over Kansas State on Monday night.

Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis added 15 points and Kiah Stokes had a career-high 13 for the Huskies (31-4), who advanced to play Penn State or LSU in Kingston, R.I., on Sunday in the regional semifinals. It's the 19th straight season that UConn has made it to the round of 16.

Eighth-seeded Kansas State (20-14) was trying to make it that far for the first time since 2002. The Wildcats were no match for the Huskies, unable to surpass the previous tournament low of 27 points scored by Southern against Duke in 2006.

Brittany Chambers had 11 points to lead the Wildcats, who went 11 minutes in the first half without a point.

NO. 2 KENTUCKY 65, NO. 7 GREEN BAY 62

AMES, Iowa — Keyla Snowden hit a jumper and two free throws in the final 18 seconds, and Kentucky held off Green Bay for a second-round victory.

Samarie Walker had 15 points and 13 rebounds, and Snowden added 13 points for the Wildcats (27-6), who will play Gonzaga in the regional semifinals in Kingston, R.I.

Kentucky opened the game with a 21-6 run, then rallied after Green Bay erased a 17-point deficit and took a 62-61 lead with 1:57 left. Snowden responded with a short jumper that rolled in after sitting on the rim, and Adrian Ritchie airballed a 3-pointer with a second left.

Julie Wojta and Sarah Eichler each scored 16 points for Green Bay (31-2), which forced 34 turnovers.

NO. 11 GONZAGA 65, NO. 3 MIAMI 54

SPOKANE, Wash. — Kayla Standish scored 19 points and Gonzaga beat Miami to advance to the round of 16 for the second consecutive season.

Katelan Redmon added 16 points for Gonzaga (28-5), which was playing on its home floor in front of an overwhelmingly supportive sold-out crowd.

Shenise Johnson had 20 points and 13 rebounds for Miami (26-6), which was undone by poor shooting in the second half.

The game between two of the nation's best offenses was expected to be high-scoring, but turned into a defensive battle. Miami pressed most of the game.

DES MOINES REGIONAL
NO. 2 TENNESSEE 63, NO. 7 DEPAUL 48

ROSEMONT, Ill. — Shekinna Stricklen scored 17 points and Glory Johnson grabbed a season-high 21 rebounds to lead coach Pat Summitt and Tennessee past DePaul in the second round.

Vicki Baugh scored 16 points and the Lady Volunteers (26-8) took another big step toward their 19th Final Four, grabbing a double-digit lead early in the second half and hanging on in a physical game in which players seemed to hit the floor about as often as they hit shots. Now, they're headed to the round of 16, where they'll meet third-seeded Delaware or 11th-seeded Kansas on Saturday.

Anna Martin scored 20 points for DePaul (23-11), but a difficult season came to an end. The Blue Demons were hit hard by injuries, losing star Keisha Hampton (knee), and were forced to go with a seven-player rotation.

RALEIGH REGIONAL
NO. 2 MARYLAND 72, NO. 7 LOUISVILLE 68

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Laurin Mincy scored 24 points, Tianna Hawkins had 15 points and 14 rebounds, and Maryland squeezed past Louisville to reach the round of 16.

The Terrapins trailed 64-59 with 6 minutes left before closing with a 13-4 run and limiting Louisville to only one field goal.

Next up, Maryland (30-4) will face defending national champion Texas A&M. The Terrapins charge into Sunday's regional semifinal riding a nine-game winning streak.

Shoni Schimmel scored 22 points and Shawnta' Dyer had 17 for the Cardinals (23-10). Louisville had a chance to tie in the closing seconds before Mincy blocked a shot by Becky Burke.

Burke, who came in averaging 11.7 points, finished with five.

FRESNO REGIONAL
NO. 1 STANFORD 72, NO. 8 WEST VIRGINIA 55

NORFOLK, Va. — Freshman guard Amber Orrange scored a career-high 18 points and Stanford beat West Virginia in the second round.

Nnemkadi Ogwumike added 16 points and Chiney Ogwumike finished with 13 for the Cardinal (33-1), who easily stretched their school-record winning streak to 30 games. The sisters were hampered by foul trouble, but Orrange also helped out with seven rebounds and five assists.

Ayana Dunning led the Mountaineers (24-10) with 14 points and Asya Buassie had 11, but West Virginia shot just 31 percent.

The Cardinal were leading 16-12 when Nnemkadi Ogwumike's two free throws sparked a 17-0 run. West Virginia went more than 6 minutes without scoring and trailed 33-14 when Dunning finally broke the drought with a 15-foot jumper.

Stanford remained in control for the rest of the game

NO. 5 SOUTH CAROLINA 72, NO. 4 PURDUE 61

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Markeshia Grant scored 21 points, Ieasia Walker added 17 and South Carolina beat Purdue.

The Gamecocks (25-9) will face top-seeded Stanford in the regional semifinals Saturday in Fresno, Calif.

Brittany Rayburn scored 13 in her final game at Purdue (25-9). She finished her career with 1,795 points, good for sixth in school history. KK Houser led the Boilermakers with 15 points.

But Rayburn and her teammates never quite figured out South Carolina's defense, which forced 20 turnovers.

Purdue closed to 53-46 midway through the second half, but the Gamecocks thwarted the comeback with six straight points. Purdue never got closer than eight again.

Texas coach Goestenkors resigns, citing fatigue

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Texas women's basketball coach Gail Goestenkors resigned Monday, saying she is "tired" and needs to step away from basketball.

Goestenkors was in the fifth year of a seven-year contract paying her $1.25 million per season and she needed to stay only until April 1 to get an automatic one-year extension.

"After a lot of soul searching .... I am tired and it's not fair to this program," Goestenkors said at a news conference to announce her decision a few minutes after she told her team. "It's not fair to the kids to have a coach that's just tired."

Texas women's Athletic Director Chris Plonsky, who gave Goestenkors a public vote of confidence two weeks ago, said she wanted Goestenkors to stay and insisted the coach was not forced out after a disappointing 18-14 season.

"I tried to re-recruit her (to stay)," Plonsky said.

Goestenkors, 49, said she would have made the same decision even if Texas had won more games this season or gone deeper in the NCAA tournament. She said she is healthy and not facing a medical problem that forced her decision.

A more successful season would have made it easier to leave, she said.

"I'm leaving basketball," Goestenkors said. "My heart is telling me it's time to take a break."

Goestenkors, one of the hottest coaches in the country when she left Duke for Texas in 2007, was clearly comfortable with her decision. She walked into her farewell news conference and flashed a "hook'em horns" sign for television cameras.

She smiled several times, never shed a tear and stayed around for a long time afterward to answer more questions.

"I feel very much at peace," Goestenkors said.

Yet it was a scene no one imagined five years ago when Texas lured her away from Duke with hopes she would rebuild the Longhorns into a national powerhouse similar to what she had accomplished with the Blue Devils: Four Final Four appearances and 10 years in a row reaching the NCAA round of 16 or better.

NCAA TOURNEY SCORES

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Men

FIRST ROUND
At UD Arena
Dayton, Ohio
Tuesday, March 13
Western Kentucky 59, MVSU 58
BYU 78, Iona 72
Wednesday, March 14
Vermont 71, Lamar 59
South Florida 65, California 54

EAST REGIONAL
Second Round
Thursday, March 15
At The CONSOL Energy Center
Pittsburgh
Kansas State 70, Southern Mississippi 64
Syracuse 72, UNC Asheville 65
Gonzaga 77, West Virginia 54
Ohio State 78, Loyola (Md.) 59
At The Pit
Albuquerque, N.M.
Wisconsin 73, Montana 49
Vanderbilt 79, Harvard 70
Friday, March 16
At Bridgestone Arena
Nashville, Tenn.
Cincinnati 65, Texas 59
Florida State 66, St. Bonaventure 63
Third Round
Saturday, March 17
At The CONSOL Energy Center
Pittsburgh
Syracuse 75, Kansas State 59
Ohio State 73, Gonzaga 66
At The Pit
Albuquerque, N.M.
Wisconsin 60, Vanderbilt 57
Sunday, March 18
At Bridgestone Arena
Nashville, Tenn.
Cincinnati 62, Florida State 56
Regional Semifinals
At TD Garden
Boston
Thursday, March 22
Syracuse (33-2) vs. Wisconsin (26-9), 6:15 p.m.
Ohio State (29-7) vs. Cincinnati (25-10), 8:45 p.m.
Regional Championship
Saturday, March 24
Semifinal winners

SOUTH REGIONAL
Second Round
Thursday, March 15
At The KFC Yum! Center
Louisville, Ky.
Kentucky 81, Western Kentucky 66
Iowa State 77, UConn 64
At The Pit
Albuquerque, N.M.
Baylor 68, South Dakota State 60
Colorado 68, UNLV 64
At The Rose Garden
Portland, Ore.
VCU 62, Wichita State 59
Indiana 79, New Mexico State 66
Friday, March 16
At Greensboro Coliseum
Greensboro, N.C.
Lehigh 75, Duke 70
Xavier 67, Notre Dame 63
Third Round
Saturday, March 17
At The KFC Yum! Center
Louisville, Ky.
Kentucky 87, Iowa State 71
At The Pit
Albuquerque, N.M.
Baylor 80, Colorado 63
At The Rose Garden
Portland, Ore.
Indiana 63 VCU 61
Sunday, March 18
At Greensboro Coliseum
Greensboro, N.C.
Xavier 70, Lehigh 58
Regional Semifinals
At The Georgia Dome
Atlanta
Friday, March 23
Baylor (29-7) vs. Xavier (23-12), 6:15 p.m.
Kentucky (34-2) vs. Indiana (27-6), 8:45 p.m.
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 25
Semifinal winners

MIDWEST REGIONAL
Second Round
Friday, March 16
At Greensboro Coliseum
Greensboro, N.C.
Creighton 58, Alabama 57
North Carolina 77, Vermont 58
At Nationwide Arena
Columbus, Ohio
N.C. State 79, San Diego State 65
Georgetown 74, Belmont 59
At Bridgestone Arena
Nashville, Tenn.
Ohio 65, Michigan 60
South Florida 58, Temple 44
At CenturyLink Center
Omaha, Neb.
Purdue 72, Saint Mary's (Calif.) 69
Kansas 65, Detroit 50
Third Round
Sunday, March 18
At Greensboro Coliseum
Greensboro, N.C.
North Carolina 87, Creighton 73
At Nationwide Arena
Columbus, Ohio
N.C. State 66, Georgetown 63
At Bridgestone Arena
Nashville, Tenn.
Ohio 62, South Florida 56
At CenturyLink Center
Omaha, Neb.
Kansas 63, Purdue 60
Regional Semifinals
At Edward Jones Dome
St. Louis
Friday, March 23
North Carolina (31-5) vs. Ohio (29-7), 8:47 p.m.
N.C. State (24-12) vs. Kansas (29-8), 9:17 p.m.
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 25
Semifinal winners

WEST REGIONAL
Second Round
Thursday, March 15
At The KFC Yum! Center
Louisville, Ky.
Murray State 58, Colorado State 41
Marquette 88, BYU 68
At The Rose Garden
Portland, Ore.
Louisville 69, Davidson 62
New Mexico 75, Long Beach State 68
Friday, March 16
At Nationwide Arena
Columbus, Ohio
Saint Louis 61, Memphis 54
Michigan State 89, LIU 67
At CenturyLink Center
Omaha, Neb.
Florida 71, Virginia 45
Norfolk State 86, Missouri 84
Third Round
Saturday, March 17
At The KFC Yum! Center
Louisville, Ky.
Marquette 62, Murray State 53
At The Rose Garden
Portland, Ore.
Louisville 59, New Mexico 56
Sunday, March 18
At Nationwide Arena
Columbus, Ohio
Michigan State 65, Saint Louis 61
At CenturyLink Center
Omaha, Neb.
Florida 84, Norfolk State 50
Regional Semifinals
Thursday, March 22
At US Airways Center
Phoenix
Michigan State (29-7) vs. Louisville (28-9), 6:47 p.m.
Marquette (27-7) vs. Florida (25-10), 9:17 p.m.
Regional Championship
Saturday, March 24
Semifinal winners

FINAL FOUR
At The Superdome
New Orleans
National Semifinals
Saturday, March 31
East champion vs. Midwest champion
South champion vs. West champion
National Championship
Monday, April 2
Semifinal winners

Women

DES MOINES REGIONAL
First Round
Saturday, March 17
At Allstate Arena
Rosemont, Ill.
Tennessee 72, UT Martin 49
DePaul 59, BYU 55
Sunday, March 18
At Stroh Center
Bowling Green, Ohio
Florida 70, Ohio State 65
Baylor 81, UC Santa Barbara 40
At Carmichael Arena
Chapel Hill, N.C.
Georgetown 61, Fresno State 56
Georgia Tech 76, Sacred Heart 50
At Jack Stephens Center
Little Rock, Ark.
Delaware 73, UALR 42
Kansas 57, Nebraska 49
Second Round
Monday's Scores
At Allstate Arena
Rosemont, Ill.
Tennessee 63, DePaul 48
Today's Games
At Stroh Center
Bowling Green, Ohio
Baylor (35-0) vs. Florida (20-12), 6:05 p.m.
At Carmichael Arena
Chapel Hill, N.C.
Georgetown (23-8) vs. Georgia Tech (25-8), 6:15 p.m.
At Jack Stephens Center
Little Rock, Ark.
Kansas (20-12) vs. Delaware (31-1), 8:40 p.m.
Regional Semifinals
At Wells Fargo Arena
Des Moines, Iowa
Saturday, March 24
Baylor-Florida winner vs. Georgetown-Georgia Tech winner, TBA
Kansas-Delaware winner vs. Tennessee (26-8), TBA
Regional Championship
Monday, March 26
Semifinal winners, TBA

FRESNO REGIONAL
First Round
Saturday, March 17
At Ted Constant Convocation Center
Norfolk, Va.
West Virginia 68, Texas 55
Stanford 73, Hampton 51
At Mackey Arena
West Lafayette, Ind.
South Carolina 80, Eastern Michigan 48
Purdue 83, South Dakota State 68
Sunday, March 18
At Lloyd Noble Center
Norman, Okla.
St. John's 69, Creighton 67
Oklahoma 88, Michigan 67
At Memorial Gymnasium
Nashville, Tenn.
Vanderbilt 60, Middle Tennessee 46
Duke 82, Samford 47
Second Round
Monday's Scores
At Ted Constant Convocation Center
Norfolk, Va.
Stanford 72, West Virginia 55
At Mackey Arena
West Lafayette, Ind.
South Carolina 72, Purdue 61
Today's Games
At Lloyd Noble Center
Norman, Okla.
St. John's (23-9) vs. Oklahoma (21-12), 8:45 p.m.
At Memorial Gymnasium
Nashville, Tenn.
Vanderbilt (23-9) vs. Duke (25-5), 8:35 p.m.
Regional Semifinals
At Save Mart Center
Fresno, Calif.
Saturday, March 24
Stanford (33-1) vs. South Carolina (25-9), TBA
St. John's-Oklahoma winner vs. Vanderbilt-Duke winner, TBA
Regional Championship
Monday, March 26
Semifinal winners, TBA

RALEIGH REGIONAL
First Round
Saturday, March 17
At Reed Arena
College Station
Arkansas 72, Dayton 55
Texas A&M 69, Albany (NY) 47
At Comcast Center
College Park, Md.
Maryland 59, Navy 44
Louisville 67, Michigan State 55
Sunday, March 18
At Joyce Center
Notre Dame, Ind.
California 94, Iowa 74
Notre Dame 74, Liberty 43
At Donald L. Tucker Center
Tallahassee, Fla.
Marist 76, Georgia 70
St. Bonaventure 72, Florida Gulf Coast 65, OT
Second Round
Monday's Scores
At Reed Arena
College Station
Texas A&M 61, Arkansas 59
At Comcast Center
College Park, Md.
Maryland 72, Louisville 68
Today's Games
At Joyce Center
Notre Dame, Ind.
California (25-9) vs. Notre Dame (31-3), 6:30 p.m.
At Donald L. Tucker Center
Tallahassee, Fla.
Marist (26-7) vs. St. Bonaventure (30-3), 6:10 p.m.
Regional Semifinals
At PNC Arena
Raleigh, N.C.
Sunday, March 25
Texas A&M (24-10) vs. Maryland (30-4), TBA
California-Notre Dame winner vs. Marist-St. Bonaventure winner, TBA
Tuesday, March 27
Regional Championship
Semifinal winners, TBA

KINGSTON REGIONAL
First Round
Saturday, March 17
At Webster Bank Arena
Bridgeport, Conn.
Kansas State 67, Princeton 64
UConn 83, Prairie View 47
At McCarthy Athletic Center
Spokane, Wash.
Gonzaga 86, Rutgers 73
Miami 70, Idaho State 42
At Hilton Coliseum
Ames, Iowa
Kentucky 62, McNeese State 62
Green Bay 71, Iowa State 57
Sunday, March 18
At Maravich Center
Baton Rouge, La.
Penn State 85, UTEP 77
LSU 64, San Diego State 56
Second Round
Monday's Scores
At Webster Bank Arena
Bridgeport, Conn.
UConn 72, Kansas State 26
At McCarthey Athletic Center
Spokane, Wash.
Gonzaga 65, Miami 54
At Hilton Coliseum
Ames, Iowa
Kentucky 65, Green Bay 62
Today's Game
At Maravich Center
Baton Rouge, La.
Penn State (25-6) vs. LSU (23-10), 8:40 p.m.
Regional Semifinals
At The Ryan Center
Kingston, R.I.
Sunday, March 25
UConn (31-4) vs. Penn State-LSU winner, TBA
Gonzaga (28-5) vs. Kentucky (27-6), TBA
Regional Championship
Tuesday, March 27
Semifinal winners, TBA

FINAL FOUR
At Pepsi Center
Denver
National Semifinals
Sunday, April 1
Des Moines champion vs. Fresno champion, TBA
Raleigh champion vs. Kingston champion, TBA
National Championship
Tuesday, April 3
Semifinal winners, TBA

TEXAS BOX
RALEIGH REGIONAL
TEXAS A&M 61, ARKANSAS 59

ARKANSAS (24-9): Watkins 3-11 4-4 10, Daniels 1-4 3-4 5, Robinson 2-3 3-3 7, Ricketts 3-13 3-3 10, Harris 4-9 3-4 13, Peak 0-1 0-0 0, Berna 0-1 0-0 0, Williams 7-14 0-1 14. Totals 20-56 16-19 59

TEXAS A&M (24-10): Bone 3-12 2-4 8, Carter 0-4 6-6 6, Standish 2-5 0-0 6, White 1-2 1-2 3, Elonu 9-17 5-5 23, Collins 3-3 2-2 8, Pratcher 1-3 0-0 2, Gilbert 2-3 1-1 5. Totals 21-49 17-20 61

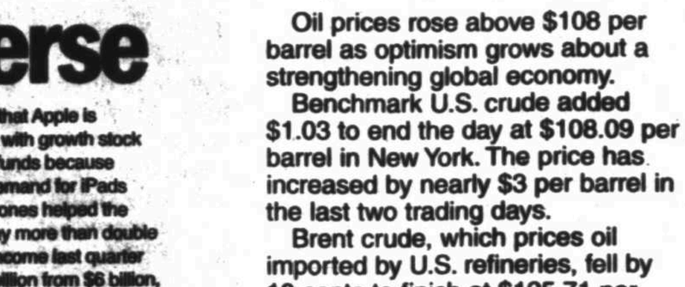
Halftime—Texas A&M 27-20. 3-Point Goals—Arkansas 3-14 (Harris 2-6, Ricketts 1-2, Peak 0-1, Watkins 0-1, Williams 0-4), Texas A&M 2-9 (Standish 2-5, Carter 0-2, Pratcher 0-2). Fouled Out—Watkins. Rebounds—Arkansas 33 (Williams 8), Texas A&M 35 (Bone 10). Assists—Arkansas 11 (Berna 4), Texas A&M 16 (Pratcher 6). Total Fouls—Arkansas 15, Texas A&M 15. A—6,185.

Business & Oil

A DAY ON WALL STREET

AP graphic

AP graphic



AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Monday $108.09
Previous $107.06

POSTED

Monday $104.75
Previous $103.50

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Monday $98.80
Previous $97.75

NATURAL GAS

Monday $2.351
Previous $2.326

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BkofAm	6495579	9.53	-.27
S&P500ETF	1129066	140.85	+.55
SPDR Fncl	1102893	15.80	+.08
SprintNex	1007991	2.76	-.13
Citigrp rs	715246	37.17	+.48

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
OxfordRes	8.26	+.95	+13.0
AboveNet	83.74	+9.49	+12.8
CitiS&P5-14	12.38	+1.09	+9.7
CaptlTr	4.15	+.34	+8.9
Frontline	8.28	+.63	+8.2

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
LeFON28	19.00	-3.95	-17.2
StratFON	17.41	-3.42	-16.4
ChiMYWnd	2.15	-.29	-11.9
PrUVxST rs	21.85	-2.92	-11.8
ML FON28	19.68	-2.22	-10.1

DIARY

Advanced	1,902
Declined	1,111
Unchanged	118
Total issues	3,131
New Highs	132
New Lows	7
Volume	3,844,623,627

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
AvainRare	54174	2.98	+.19
CheniereEn	46230	15.57	-.31
VantageDrl	37590	1.68	-.02
Rentech	29817	2.00	...
NwGold g	26635	9.47	-.09

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Geokinetics	2.02	+.47	+30.3
SaratogaRs	6.68	+.64	+10.6
TroTch	2.21	+.21	+10.5
Gastar grs	3.26	+.31	+10.5
GrahamCp	23.82	+1.99	+9.1

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
HstnAEn	6.30	-.67	-9.6
HKN	2.15	-.20	-8.5
SynthBiol	2.20	-.14	-6.0
LGL Grp	7.75	-.35	-4.3
Vicon	3.50	-.15	-4.1

DIARY

Advanced	276
Declined	189
Unchanged	37
Total issues	502
New Highs	13
New Lows	2
Volume	95,189,232

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
PwShs QQQ	497587	66.99	+.47
Microsoft	443178	32.20	-.40
Oracle	319098	29.76	+.02
Cisco	294509	20.14	+.11
Apple Inc	263902	601.10	+15.53

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
RaconT h	2.25	+1.41	+168.2
ReadgInt B	7.00	+2.74	+64.3
AmpioPhm	3.82	+1.14	+42.5
KenseyN	30.20	+5.61	+22.8
Iridium un	12.86	+2.36	+22.5

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
CarverB rs	6.80	-1.26	-15.6
UniBus un	6.02	-.98	-14.0
MEMSIC	4.56	-.64	-12.3
SumFWV	3.86	-.54	-12.3
Hastings	2.15	-.25	-10.4

DIARY

Advanced	1,658
Declined	894
Unchanged	108
Total issues	2,660
New Highs	176
New Lows	21
Volume	1,506,431,613

One big Apple universe

Just days after launching its new iPad, Apple says it will start paying a dividend. An annual payout of $10.60 per share is nothing to sneeze at. Yet with a share price of $601, the yield is a modest 1.8 percent.

Although the dividend may not make or break an investment decision, before you buy Apple stock, keep in mind that you probably already own it.

As the world's most valuable company, it is a mainstay of both index and actively managed stock funds. Consider that Apple makes up 4.3 percent of the Standard & Poor's 500 index. That means any index mutual fund or exchange-traded fund that follows the S&P 500 will try to maintain that percentage of its assets in Apple stock.

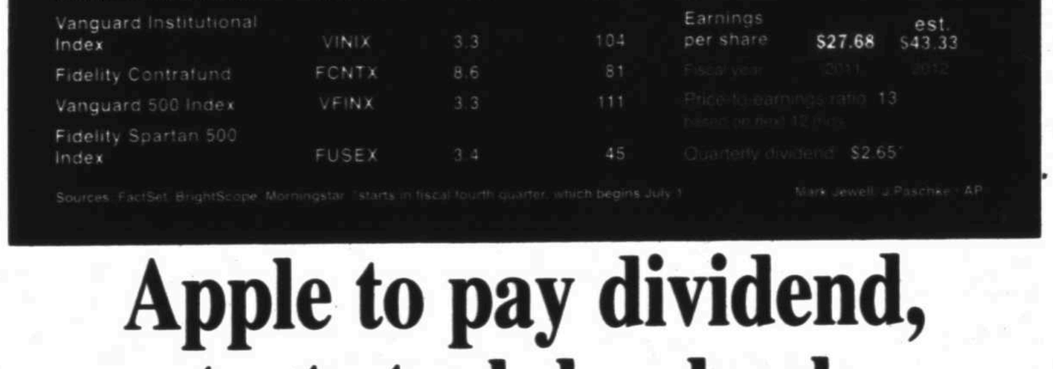
Add that Apple is popular with growth stock mutual funds because rising demand for iPads and iPhones helped the company more than double its net income last quarter to $13 billion from $6 billion, the year before. Value funds like it, too, because Apple trades at just 13 times its expected earnings per share over the next 12 months, the same as the S&P 500.

How common is Apple in 401(k)s? It was recently the largest holding of the most commonly held stock fund in 401(k) plans — some 4.4 percent of American Funds Growth Fund of America, according to 401(k) researcher BrightScope. At Fidelity Contrafund, the third-most commonly held U.S. stock fund, the weighting of Apple was nearly twice as large, 8.6 percent.

These are the five most popular U.S. stock mutual funds found in 401(k) accounts, and all of them own big chunks of Apple.

FUND	TICKER	PERCENT IN APPLE	TOTAL ASSETS (billions)
American Funds Growth Fund of America	AGTHX	4.4%	$130
Vanguard Institutional Index	VINIX	3.3	104
Fidelity Contrafund	FCNTX	8.6	81
Vanguard 500 Index	VFINX	3.3	111
Fidelity Spartan 500 Index	FUSEX	3.4	45

Sources: FactSet, BrightScope, Morningstar *starts in fiscal fourth quarter, which begins July 1



Mark Jewell • Paschen, AP

Apple to pay dividend, start stock buybacks

By Peter Svensson
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Apple is finally acknowledging that it has more money than it needs. But don't expect it to cut prices on iPhones and iPads. Instead, the company said on Monday that it will reward its shareholders with a dividend and a share buyback program.

Apple, the world's most valuable company, sits on $97.6 billion in cash and securities. The decision to return some of that money to investors is a clear signal that Apple is taking a different approach in the post-Jobs era.

Former CEO Steve Jobs resisted calls to issue dividends for years. He argued that the money was better used to give Apple maneuvering room to, for instance, make strategic acquisitions. Apple did pay a quarterly dividend between 1987 and 1995, but Jobs was not involved with the company at the time.

Jobs died in October after a long fight with cancer.

On Monday, new CEO Tim Cook said that, with as much cash as Apple has on hand, a dividend won't restrain the company's options.

"These decisions will not close any doors for us," he told analysts and reporters on a conference call.

Had it kept amassing cash and low-yielding securities, Apple eventually could have opened itself to a legal challenge from shareholders, who could have argued that it was misusing their money.

Apple said that it will pay a quarterly dividend of $2.65 per share, starting in its fiscal fourth quarter, which begins July 1.

The dividend works out to $10.60 annually, or 1.8 percent of the current stock price. Analyst Tavis McCourt at Morgan Keegan said the dividend is relatively generous for a large technology company. However, Microsoft Corp., pays 2.5 percent of its stock price in dividends, and Hewlett-Packard Co. pays 2 percent.

Energy and phone companies often pay dividends worth more than 5 percent of their stock price.

In absolute terms, Apple will pay one of the richest dividends in the U.S. It will spend more than $10 billion on dividends in its first year, placing it just below companies including AT&T Inc. and Verizon Communications Inc., which use dividends as their main way to attract investors.

Exxon Mobil Corp., the world's second largest company by market capitalization, pays about $9 billion in dividends annually.

Apple generated $31 billion in cash in the fiscal year that ended in September, and is on pace to generate even more in the current year. That means its cash pile will continue to grow even with a dividend and a buyback program, albeit at a lower rate.

Oil prices climb above $108

Oil prices rose above $108 per barrel as optimism grows about a strengthening global economy.

Benchmark U.S. crude added $1.03 to end the day at $108.09 per barrel in New York. The price has increased by nearly $3 per barrel in the last two trading days.

Brent crude, which prices oil imported by U.S. refineries, fell by 10 cents to finish at $125.71 per barrel in London.

Meanwhile, retail gasoline increased more than a penny over the weekend to an average $3.842 per gallon, according to auto club AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service. That's the highest ever for this time of year. Gas prices have risen by nearly 57 cents per gallon since the beginning of 2012.

In other energy trading, natural gas rose by 2.5 cents to finish at $2.351 per 1,000 cubic feet. Heating oil fell by 2.09 cents to end at $3.261 per gallon and gasoline futures added 1.11 cents to $3.368 per gallon.

Dollar falls

The dollar fell against most other major currencies in volatile trading Monday in the absence of major economic news from either the United States or Europe.

The U.S. currency rose against the euro in morning trading, but weakened in the afternoon.

The euro rose to $1.3238 late Monday from $1.3171 late Friday. The British pound rose to $1.5899 from $1.5832.

In other trading, the dollar fell to 0.9114 Swiss franc from 0.9158 Swiss franc and to 98.67 Canadian cents from 99.16 Canadian cents.

The dollar rose to 83.41 Japanese yen from 83.36 Japanese yen.

April gold rose $11.50 to end at $1,667.30 an ounce.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Basic Energy Services (BAS)
Closing Price $18.40 Up 0.01

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $84.13 Up 1.92

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $103.59 Up 1.85

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $35.37 Unchanged

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $29.72 Up 0.71

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $8.68 Up 0.58

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $13.77 Up 0.66

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AK Steel	.20	...	8.59	+.39	+4.0
AT&T Inc	1.76f	48	31.65	+.06	+4.7
Abraxas	...	16	3.17	-.10	-3.9
ActivsBliz	.18f	14	12.52	+.05	+1.6
AdamsEx	.65e	...	11.03	+.03	+14.4
AlcatelLuc	...	...	2.47	+.04	+58.3
Alcoa	.12	15	10.60	+.06	+22.5
AlonUSA	.16	14	9.85	+.35	+13.1
Amgen	1.44	17	68.05	+.67	+6.0
Anadarko	.36	...	84.25	-.43	+10.4
Annaly	2.43e	33	16.13	-.01	+1.1
Apache	.68f	9	108.60	-.38	+19.9
Apple Inc	10.60	17	601.10	+15.53	+48.4
ApldMatl	.36f	11	12.83	+.01	+19.8
ATMOS	1.38	14	30.78	+.07	-7.7
AutoData	1.58	20	55.32	+.22	+2.4
BP PLC	1.92f	6	46.92	+.09	+9.8
BabsCClnv	1.20	...	16.75	-.41	-6.9
BakrHu	.60	13	48.87	-.08	+.5
BkofAm	.04	...	9.53	-.27	+71.4
Bar iPVix	...	...	20.25	-1.30	-43.0
BasicEnSv	...	16	18.40	+.01	-6.6
BerkHa A	...	20	122115.00	-75.00	+6.4
BerryPet	.32	...	51.79	+.43	+23.3
BlkHillsCp	1.48f	31	33.07	+.02	-1.5
BrMySq	1.36	15	33.15	-.03	-5.9
BrownFA	1.40	20	78.02	-.03	-1.6
BrownFB	1.40	20	80.32	+.07	-.2
CVS Care	.65	17	45.13	-.15	+10.7
Cameron	...	24	53.50	+.56	+8.8
Cardiom g	...	...	.88	-1.05	-66.5
Caterpillar	1.84	15	113.73	+.15	+25.5
Celestic g	...	9	10.04	+.05	+37.0
CntryLink	2.90	24	39.37	+.29	+5.8
ChesEng	.35	8	25.46	+.40	+14.2
Chevron	3.24	8	110.70	+.42	+4.0
Chicos	.21f	18	15.09	+.01	+35.5
Cimarex	.48f	13	81.91	+.25	+32.3
Cisco	.32f	16	20.14	+.11	+11.8
Citigrp rs	.04	10	37.17	+.48	+41.3
ClayEng	...	11	84.13	+1.92	+10.9
Clearwire	...	...	2.34	+.07	+20.4
CocaCola	2.04f	19	70.40	+.24	+.6
ColgPal	2.48f	19	95.37	+.58	+3.2
ConAgra	.96	15	26.36	-.07	-.2
ConchoRes	...	21	103.59	+1.85	+10.5
ConocPhil	2.64	9	78.07	+.89	+7.1
Corning	.30	8	14.28	-.05	+10.0
CrackerB	1.00	16	56.92	+.53	+12.9
CrosTim	2.94e	15	44.73	-.37	-8.5
DCP Mid	2.60f	39	47.18	+.45	-.6
DTE	2.35	13	54.67	-.37	+.4
Dataram h	...	...	.76	+.04	-6.3
Dawson	...	...	35.37	...	-10.5
DevonE	.80	7	75.81	+2.08	+22.3
DirSCBear	...	...	17.39	-.51	-34.3
DirFnBear	...	...	20.65	-.35	-44.7
DirxSCBull	...	...	64.05	+1.65	+42.8
Disney	.60f	16	43.44	+.25	+15.8
DowChm	1.00	17	35.44	+.14	+23.2
EMC Cp	...	29	29.00	+.11	+34.6
EOG Res	.68f	28	117.39	+.61	+19.2
EmpDist	1.00	15	20.06	-.08	-4.9
Energen	.56f	13	52.43	-.07	+4.9
EngyTsfr	3.58	43	46.79	+.16	+2.1
EnPro	...	17	38.17	+.25	+15.7
EntPrPt	2.48f	22	51.57	+1.00	+11.2
Ericsson	.37e	...	10.15	+.14	+.1
ExterranH	...	...	14.25	+.11	+56.6
ExxonMbl	1.88	10	86.99	+.55	+2.6
FifthThird	.32	12	14.50	+.17	+14.0
FordM	.20	7	12.63	+.12	+17.4
ForestOil s	...	17	13.46	-.09	-.7
FMCG	1.25f	8	39.14	+.58	+6.4
Frontline	...	...	8.28	+.63	+93.0
FrozenFd	...	...	1.14	-.04	-11.6
GATX	1.20f	20	43.64	-.54	...
GabMultT	.80m	...	7.09	-.06	+13.8
Gap	.50f	17	26.08	+.69	+40.6
GAInv	.50e	...	28.93	+.06	+16.1
GenElec	.68	16	20.21	+.01	+12.8
Goltsmith	...	...	4.22	-.11	+31.9
Goodrich	1.16	20	125.80	-.08	+1.8
GtPlainEn	.85	16	20.08	+.01	-7.8
HalconR rs	...	...	10.48	+.37	+11.6
Hallibrtn	.36	11	35.00	+.46	+1.4
Heinz	1.92	17	53.43	...	-1.1
Hitachi	...	...	60.41	+.54	+15.9
HuntBnk	.16	13	6.49	+.06	+18.2
iShSilver	...	...	31.98	+.39	+18.7
iShChina25	.77e	...	37.97	-.79	+8.9
iShEMkts	.81e	...	43.92	-.17	+15.8
iS Eafe	1.71e	...	55.80	+.29	+12.7
iShR2K	1.02e	...	83.70	+.70	+13.5
IntegrysE	2.72	18	52.74	-.26	-2.7
Intel	.84	12	27.74	+.01	+14.4
InterDig	.40	19	36.28	+.42	-16.7
JPMorgCh	1.20f	10	45.00	+.43	+35.3
JohnJn	2.28	19	65.21	+.09	-.6
KB Home	.25	...	11.89	-.87	+76.9
Keycorp	.12	9	8.66	+.12	+12.6
KimbClk	2.96f	18	73.01	+.09	-.7
KindME	4.64	...	84.20	+1.69	-.9
KindMM	4.64t	...	76.79	+.87	-2.2
LVSands	1.00	30	59.12	+2.52	+38.4
LegacyRes	2.20f	17	29.72	+.71	+5.2
Lubys	...	29	5.74	+.32	+27.3
McDnlds	2.80	19	97.73	+.07	-2.6
Merck	1.68	19	37.89	-.14	+.5
MeritMed s	...	21	12.51	+.08	-6.5
MexcoEn	...	62	8.68	+.58	+24.0
MicronT	...	...	8.63	-.19	+37.2
Microsoft	.80	12	32.20	-.40	+24.0
MorgStan	.20	18	20.06	+.53	+32.6
Nabors	...	15	20.84	+.02	+20.2
NatGrid	3.00e	...	50.39	-.60	+3.9
NOilVarco	.48	18	82.93	-.63	+22.0
NokiaCp	1.26e	...	5.40	+.07	+12.0
NvMAd	.95e	...	14.29	+.09	-2.7
NvPMI	.94	...	14.40	+.13	-2.8
NuvPI	.92	...	14.05	+.09	-2.9
NSTFR	.86e	...	13.75	+.07	-3.9
NTXQI	.82	...	15.97	+.12	-2.3
OcclPet	2.16f	12	101.50	+.92	+8.3
Oracle	.24	16	29.76	+.02	+16.0
ParTech	...	17	5.08	+.21	+28.9
ParkDrl	...	...	8.42	+.03	-10.5
PattUTI	.20	9	18.82	-.05	-5.8
PenRE	.60	...	15.55	+.20	+48.9
Pmian	1.44e	17	22.76	+.10	+11.7
Pfizer	.88f	17	21.86	-.06	+1.1
PioNtrl	.08	16	111.31	+1.30	+24.4
PlainsAA	4.10f	16	79.77	+.28	+8.6
PwShs QQQ	.49e	...	66.99	+.47	+20.0
Praxair	2.20f	20	111.18	+.46	+4.0
PrmEgy	...	...	27.88	+2.36	+23.4
PrUShS&P	...	...	15.07	-.13	-21.9
ProUShL20	...	...	21.31	+.48	+17.9
ProctGam	2.10	17	67.21	-.04	+.7
PulteGrp	...	...	9.16	-.13	+45.2
Qualcom	1.00f	25	66.75	+1.34	+22.0
RangeRs	.16	87	63.46	+1.15	+2.5
RegionsFn	.04	37	6.35	-.06	+47.7
RschMotn	...	3	14.47	+.09	-.2
Rowan	...	34	36.56	-.47	+20.5
RoyDShllA	3.36	14	71.99	+.51	-1.5
SpdrDJIA	3.51e	...	132.07	+.02	+8.4
S&P500ETF	2.64e	...	140.85	+.55	+12.2
SabnR	4.12e	15	61.67	+.06	-2.2
SanderFm	.68	...	54.08	-.02	+7.9
SandRidge	...	65	8.39	-.08	+2.8
Sapient	.35e	24	12.55	+.04	-.4
Schlmbrg	1.10f	21	77.10	+.34	+12.9
Schwab	.24	22	15.31	-.01	+36.0
SigmaAld	.80f	20	73.53	+.12	+17.7
SiriusXM	...	17	2.27	+.01	+24.7
Smucker	1.92	20	78.55	+.47	+.5
SprintNex	...	...	2.76	-.13	+17.9
SP Engy	1.10e	...	75.14	+.34	+8.7
SPDR Fncl	.22e	...	15.80	+.08	+21.5
SP Inds	.75e	...	37.98	...	+12.5
SunocoL s	1.68f	13	38.07	+1.27	-3.4
Synovus	.04	...	2.15	+.07	+52.5
TeleEsp	2.14e	...	17.19	+.33	...
Tesoro	...	8	29.91	+.28	+28.0
3M Co	2.36f	15	89.74	+.18	+9.8
Trchmrk s	.60f	11	50.31	-.24	+15.9
TriContl	.43e	...	16.03	+.02	+12.6
TylerTech	...	45	37.73	+.35	+25.3
UBWV	1.24	19	30.41	+.11	+7.6
US Bancrp	.78f	13	31.85	+.20	+17.7
USSteel	.20	...	31.64	+1.89	+19.6
Vale SA	1.55e	...	23.78	+.02	+10.9
ValeroE	.60	8	27.95	-.04	+32.8
VangEmg	.91e	...	44.20	-.25	+15.7
VulcanM	.04	...	45.81	+.09	+16.4
Walgrn	.90	12	34.06	-.15	+3.0
WellsFargo	.88f	12	34.25	+.36	+24.3
WstnRefin	.04e	11	20.07	+.06	+51.0
WhitingPet	...	13	59.24	-.11	+26.9
WmsCos	1.04f	20	30.42	-.04	+12.8
XcelEngy	1.04	15	26.23	-.17	-5.1
Xerox	.17	9	8.33	+.01	+4.6
Yahoo	...	18	15.15	-.03	-6.1

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to sdoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com. We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
13,289.08	10,404.49	Dow Jones Industrials	13,239.13	+6.51	+.05	+8.36	+9.99
5,627.85	3,950.66	Dow Jones Transportation	5,360.04	+8.72	+.16	+6.78	+3.74
467.64	381.99	Dow Jones Utilities	451.67	-1.93	-.43	-2.80	+11.19
8,718.25	6,414.89	NYSE Composite	8,297.47	+27.06	+.33	+10.97	+.50
2,498.89	1,941.99	Amex Index	2,437.24	+13.35	+.55	+6.97	+5.43
3,060.82	2,298.89	Nasdaq Composite	3,078.32	+23.06	+.75	+18.16	+14.35
1,405.88	1,074.77	S&P 500	1,409.75	+5.58	+.40	+12.10	+8.58
14,792.23	11,208.42	Wilshire 5000	14,539.23	+64.78	+.44	+12.50	+7.89
888.57	801.71	Russell 2000	837.77	+7.59	+.91	+13.07	+3.04

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TODAY Mostly sunny High 59 Low 40

WEDNESDAY Partly sunny High 60 Low 45

THURSDAY Mostly sunny High 72 Low 43

LOCAL FORECAST

Expect mostly sunny skies today with a high around 59 and west winds between 10 and 15 mph. Tonight's forecast calls for a 20 percent chance of showers and mostly cloudy conditions with a low around 40 and north winds around 15 mph.

Wednesday, look for a 20 percent chance of showers and partly sunny skies with a high around 60, a low around 45 and northwest winds around 15 mph.

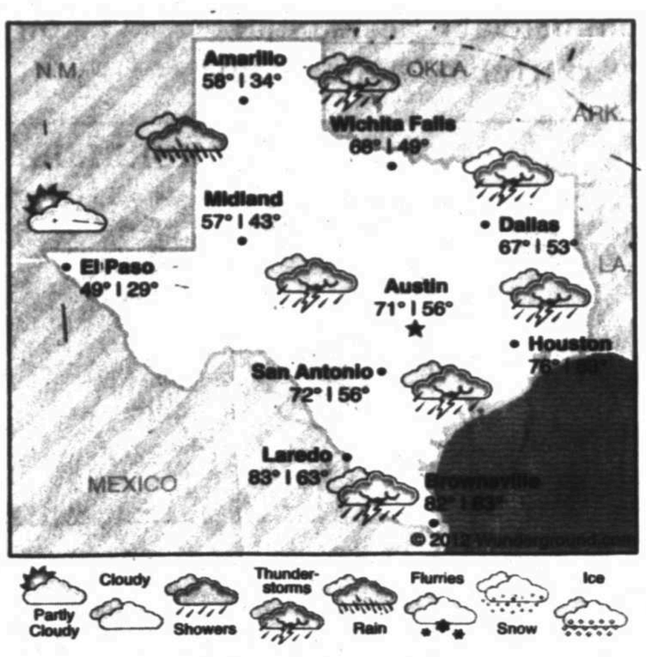
Thursday, look for mostly sunny skies with a high around 72 and a low around 43.

The high on Monday reached 71 while the low dropped to 51. The record high for March 19 is 89 set in 1994. The record low is 21 set in 1965.

***

Today, the first official day of spring, a strong storm system will move slowly through the southern Plains. Widespread flooding rain and severe weather will occur in places from eastern Kansas and western Missouri to East Texas and western Louisiana. Tornadoes are a concern.

The same storm system will also cause numerous thunderstorms to extend north to the Upper Midwest. Any severe weather in this zone will be isolated.



Precipitation	
Sunday	0.00 in.
Monday	0.03 in.
Total for month	0.10 in.
Total for year	1.29 in.
Normal total (year to date)	1.62 in.

Monday's temperatures	
High	71
Low	51
Normal high	71
Normal low	42
Sunrise	7:52 a.m.
Sunset	8:01 p.m.

National forecast

Forecast highs for Tuesday, March 20

Consider the consequences for marriage name change

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: Do you think IEVERY/I American child should get a four-year college degree? I keep meeting students who have a real talent and passion for other jobs — military, cosmetology or skilled trades, such as Internet technology and carpentry — but whose parents are furious at the suggestion they might not graduate from a four-year college.

It's a little-known fact that there is actually a shortage of skilled tradespeople these days. IT jobs pay well and are constantly in demand. As my grandmother used to say, "Everyone needs a plumber when the toilet's clogged." It distresses me to see so many parents disregard their kids' instincts about their skills and desired careers in favor of the "more schooling is always better" philosophy.

Graduating from college has been part of what we envision as the "American dream," but not every kid is going to be fulfilled after getting one of those degrees when the jobs that go with it don't materialize. If a child wants to go into the military or become a skilled tradesperson, parents should at least consider what they're suggesting. Because someone chooses a career path that isn't what a parent hoped for doesn't mean he or she can't be successful. — ANN ARBOR READER

DEAR READER: I have had this discussion with many people over the years and I agree. While it is crucial that young people finish high school, not every child is intellectually inclined. Many have talents better-suited to the trades. A person with skill and drive can earn a good living as a plumber, electrician, tailor or in the food industry.

Some brilliant and successful people started but didn't finish college. Many of them are in the arts and technology fields. Economic realities being what they are today, parents should be flexible and sensitive to their children's aspirations on this subject.

DEAR ABBY: For 20 years, my secret (to some, but not to others) involvement with a married man has kept me on an emotional roller coaster. We were both married at the time it began, and it was always understood that we would not leave our partners. However, since then my marriage has broken down.

Conventional wisdom — expressed by friends, family and your column repeatedly — has it that I should end this hopeless affair, get out and meet other men. I have made numerous attempts, but have accepted that he's the only man I feel comfortable being intimate with.

I don't want him to leave his marriage, from which he draws much respectability and desperately needed security. However, his obvious delight in our afternoon trysts does suggest that his so-called picture-perfect marriage doesn't meet his emotional and sexual needs. And that's what irks me!

This couple presents a happy profile in our community. The urge to burst his hypocritical bubble is growing within me with every passing year. Would it be morally reprehensible for me to let his wife know that she has been made a fool of for the last 20 years? — SEETHING IN CANADA

DEAR SEETHING: Yes. Resist the urge. What makes you think his wife doesn't know? Once more than two people know this kind of "secret," word has a way of circulating. I see nothing positive to be gained by trying to hurt the wife. If your lover has to make a choice between the two of you, the person who will get the boot will be you. You know this from the beginning. And you may find that it is not the wife who has been a fool for 20 years, but you.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Thrust and parry

East-West vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ K 6 3 2
♡ A 3
◇ K Q
♣ A 9 5 4 2

WEST
♠ Q 10 8 7
♡ K 7
◇ 10 4
♣ Q J 10 7 6

EAST
♠ J 5 4
♡ 9 8 6 2
◇ A J 7 5 2
♣ K

SOUTH
♠ A 9
♡ Q J 10 5 4
◇ 9 8 6 3
♣ 8 3

The bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♡
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♡
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: Queen of ♣

Games and slams are not always the most exciting hands at the bridge table. Follow the play and defense on this humble two-heart contract. Sitting North-South were Russ Ekeblad and Ron Sukoneck, pitted against Sabine Auken and Tommy Sanders.

North's one club opening was forcing and the one diamond response was negative, showing 0-7 high-card points. South's two heart bid bought the hand.

The queen of clubs was led to dummy's ace and East's king. The king of diamonds was taken by the ace and a trump was returned to dummy's ace. Declarer cashed the queen of diamonds, led a spade to the ace and continued with a diamond. West ruffed with the king of trumps and returned the jack of clubs. East ruffed and returned a trump, stranding declarer with a diamond loser.

Declarer ran trumps, bringing about this position:

	♠ K 6 ♡ — ◇ — ♣ 9	
♠ Q 10 ♡ — ◇ — ♣ 10		♠ J 5 ♡ — ◇ J ♣ —
	♠ 9 ♡ 5 ◇ 9 ♣ —	

When declarer led her last trump, the defenders were ruined. West had to keep a club and, when the club was discarded from the table, East could not guard against declarer's diamond and dummy's second spade. The second overtrick gave North-South 24 of 25 matchpoints on the board!

Today's Crossword Puzzle brought to you by Quiroz Custom Home Builders
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(432) 631-6734

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, March 20, 2012:

You could be unusually quiet this year as you become introspective. You are evaluating much in your life. An issue that will emerge will be your self-expression involving anger. Do you internalize your feelings? Or do you throw a tantrum? These abovementioned behaviors could be problematic. Follow your instincts with money. If you are single, someone you meet could be very exciting. Wait at least a year before deciding whether this bond is for life. If you are attached, share more private time together. Vulnerability will add more of a spark. PISCES makes a great doctor, teacher or healer for you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★ The wise person would say very little, yet your temper still might trigger. How you deal with that moment could be a problem. Remember, words that are said cannot be taken back. Try to process your thoughts before speaking, or postpone the conversation. Tonight: Get some much-needed rest.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ Zero in on what is important. Honor what is happening with your immediate circle. If something is not working, it could involve friends and/or family. Resistance could cause a problem, but not an unsolvable one. Tonight: Where the fun is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ The spotlight is on you, and you will not be able to defer to others — the option is not there. Step up to the plate, and accept your role. Someone might trigger or aggravate you. Reach out for a distant buddy or adviser. Tonight: Vanish into the night.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You might want to rethink a recent decision you have made. Find some experts, ask some questions. Be willing to admit whether you have enough information. A partner or close associate will be impressed by your integrity. Tonight: Use your imagination.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Remain sure of yourself, yet listen to others with that same confidence. The problem is not about being right, but about resolving the issue. Look for a mutually satisfying answer, especially if an argument breaks out. This animated discussion might have more to do with the past than with the reality of the issue. Tonight: Easy works.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Defer to others more often today. Note when anger rears its ugly head. Rather than follow your knee-jerk reaction, just wait. Detach and evaluate that anger, and learn how to express this feeling more appropriately. Tonight: Go with a suggestion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Your even pace allows greater give-and-take. You might not feel comfortable with everything that comes up. Note your feelings, but focus on the task at hand. You can clear up what you have been holding back, but only at the appropriate moment with the correct audience. Tonight: Put your feet up.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ No one can deny your ability to see past the obvious. Your vision of possibilities initially might confuse others and sometimes yourself. A meeting and/or discussion helps you sort fantasy from fiction. Tonight: Unleash your spontaneity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ You actively alternate between pursuing the conservative course and opting to be adventuresome. Try to merge the need for security with a little flair for living in the moment. Someone you look up to could be on the warpath. Say little, and give this person space. Tonight: Your home is your castle.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ You might be more in tune with someone's energy than you are aware. The problem could lie with this person's reaction. Sometimes others get nervous if they feel they are transparent. Find a way to reassure this person that you will honor his or her vulnerability. Tonight: Catch up with a friend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ You could create uproar, and probably a lot better than many people. Look at the long-run implications of this behavior. Some people cannot deal with this and might distance themselves. Work with others' changeability. Tonight: Your treat. Make peace, not war.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★★ Claim your power and use it well. If someone is being difficult and quarrelsome, it does not mean you need to get into a tiff with this person. Come up with effective ways of handling this irascible personality. Tonight: All smiles.

***

BORN TODAY

Psychologist B.F. Skinner (1904), former model Kathy Ireland (1963), film director Spike Lee (1957)

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Stove fuel
4 Consent (to)
10 Sauna sounds
13 Tiny troublemaker
14 Drink ordered dry or dirty
16 Cheer word
17 "Where some carry keys
19 Pie __ mode
20 New Mexico art colony
21 Volcano output
22 Flavor
24 Author Ferber and actress Best
26 "Behind-the-scenes area
29 Reno roller
30 "Now I __ me down . . ."
32 One more
33 Two-time N.L. batting champ Lefty
35 The Beatles' "__ Love You"
36 Physics particle
37 "Peugeot or Renault, e.g.
40 Coppertone letters
42 Remote batteries
43 Krispy __ doughnuts
46 Nonbeliever
48 "This __ rpoff!"
49 Farm worker?
51 "Campaign in rural areas
53 Slow, to Schumann
55 Brazilian writer Jorge
56 Velvet finish?
58 "Gypsys, Tramps & Thieves" singer
59 Grafton's "__ for Corpse"
60 School entrances, or, in a way, what each answer to a starred clue has
64 One for Monet
65 Evaporated
66 MGM mascot
67 Airline to Stockholm
68 Trattoria desserts
69 Time workers: Abbr.

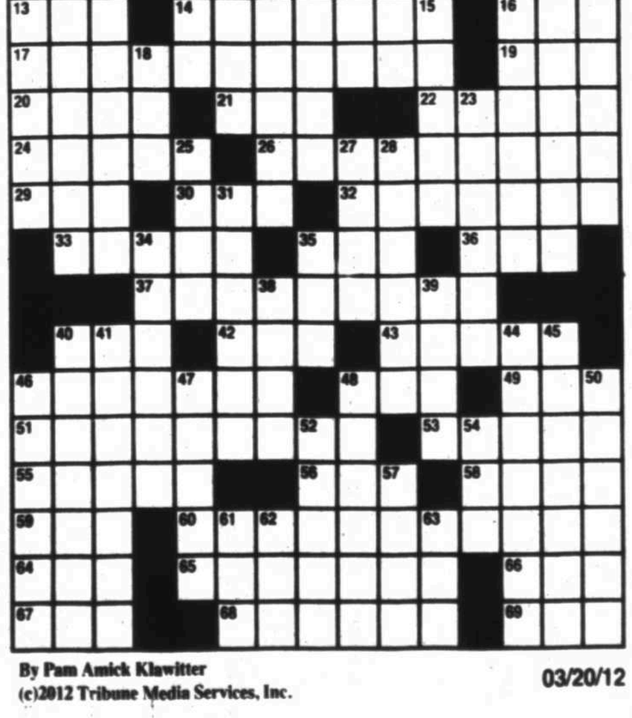
DOWN

1 Like geniuses
2 Medium with a lot of talk
3 Ale, as soup
4 Price to pay: Abbr.
5 Bullfighter's cloak
6 "Road" film co-star
7 __ Sketch: drawing toy
8 Hägar creator Browne
9 Suffix with benz-
10 Wind River Reservation tribe
11 Kind of lamp with a tungsten filament
12 One who doesn't hog
15 "__ Easy": Ronstadt hit
18 Decoding org.
23 Something to wear
25 Sol's speech problem
27 Money
28 Atlantic Division NBA team
31 Balt. Orioles' div.
34 Step on someone's toes, so to speak
35 Mac alternatives
38 Brussels-based defense gp.
39 Shrinking sea
40 Marathoner's need
41 They may be coined
44 Street opening
45 Became a contestant
46 Gadget you can count on?
47 "This ___": "How strange"
48 Well-heeled Marcos
50 Sculptors' subjects
52 Resist authority
54 Earth-friendly prefix
57 Neither an ally nor an enemy: Abbr.
61 Common URL ender
62 Slangy about-face
63 Printer resolution meas.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 03/20/12



By Pam Amick Klawitter
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03/20/12

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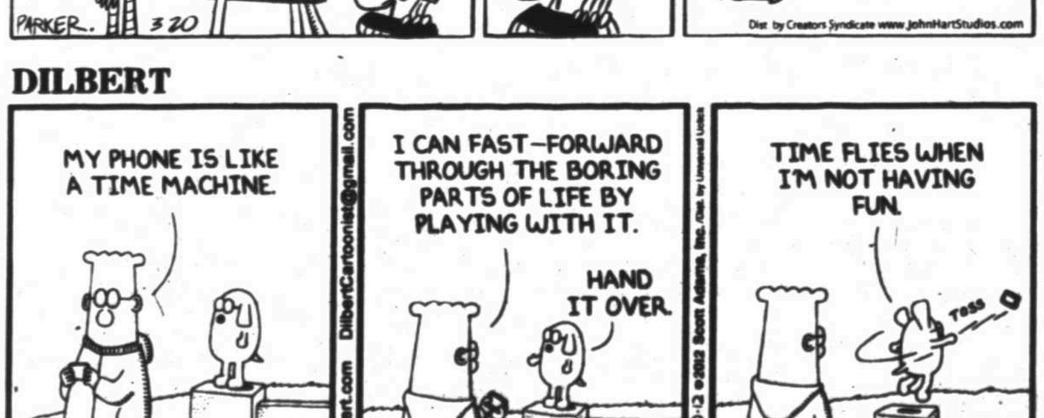
WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS

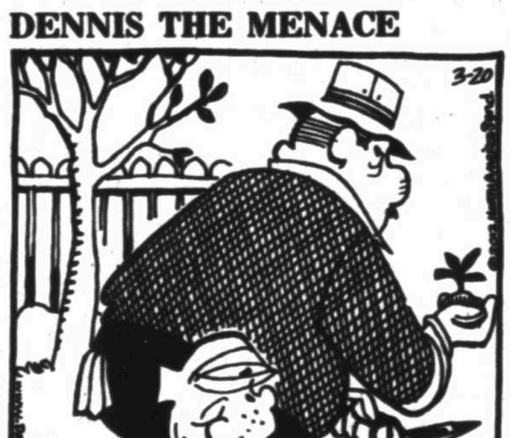
BABY BLUES

MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME

With Chris Millis now retired, Robert was clearly the new alpha accountant.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"HOW DO YOU GET A 'GREEN THUMB'? MINE ALWAYS ENDS UP BROWN."

LOCKHORNS

"BEN FRANKLIN HAD LEROY AT 'EARLY TO BED.'"

FAMILY CIRCUS

"Barfy's tail is REALLY happy to see me."

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- Check The Market Value
- Always Include The Price
- Research Your Ad

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ERRORS / REFUNDS
To ensure the integrity of our newspaper, for the benefit of our readers and advertisers, the Midland Reporter-Telegram reserves the right to revise, reclassify, edit or refuse any advertising. We also reserve the right to convert all advertising into digital and/or print formats within our other products and services.
Please check your ad the first day it appears, and, if you find a mistake, please call our office at 682-6222 so we can correct the error immediately. This will ensure that your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. If an error does occur, you can choose to rerun your ad once for free, or we'll gladly refund the cost of the portion of the ad affected by the error. If an ad is inadvertently omitted, we will assume liability up to the cost of the ad itself – consequently, we will publish your ad in our next available edition or refund the price you have paid.
Rate charges are determined at the time of placement. All ads accepted are subject to credit approval. Some classifications require payment in advance. Credit applications are required for business accounts.
We welcome suggestions or comments. Please call: Brandi Price, Classified Advertising Manager, 687-8813.

DEADLINES:
WORD ADS: PUBLISHED ON: Tues.-Thur./Fri. DEADLINE IS: Monday, Tuesday, Sunday, Friday
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HAPPY ADS
Surprise your child, parent, or special friend with a Happy Ad!
Happy Birthday! Congratulations! Welcome Home! Graduation Day!
We'll help you design something unique and publish it in the Midland Reporter-Telegram Classifieds...whatever the occasion!
Publish a special memorial to mark the passing of a loved one with an "In Memory Of" ad. Include a poem, prayer, and/or the names of all who care. Also, express your appreciation to everyone who brought food, sent flowers, or was there for you when you needed them most with a "Card of Thanks." We'll help you design a respectful, thoughtful ad.
With any ad of $42.00 or more, you can include a photo at no additional charge! Call for details.
Ads containing art or photos need to be in our office 2 working days before the ad is to be published and we ask that you pay in advance.

Midland Reporter-Telegram • The People To People Marketplace • 201 E. Illinois

Legal & Public Notices

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 7C — Rule 38 Case No. 7C-0275102
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Mar 12, 2012 — Status/Permit No. 734782
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Apr 23, 2012
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., [RRC Operator No. 665748] has made application for a density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the DENSITY requirement for the field rules for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 43, Bk. 39 T4S, T&P RR CO Survey, A-421, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, UPTON County, being 11 miles NW direction from MIDKIFF, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at **(512) 463-6848.**

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Apr 23, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name :	WINDHAM ' 43'	
Lease/Unit Well No. :	7	
Lease/Unit Acres :	483.2	
Nearest Lease Line (ft) :	467.0	
Nearest Well on Lease (ft) :	1332.0	
Lease Lines :	467.0 F NORTH L,	660.0 F EAST L
Survey Lines :	467.0 F NORTH L,	1980.0 F WEST L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 467/660, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 11000 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, MECHELLE TESTA, at (972) 969-4088.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 7C — Rule 38 Case No. 7C-0275110
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Mar 12, 2012 — Status/Permit No. 734837
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Apr 23, 2012
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

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Lease/Unit Well No. :	10	
Lease/Unit Acres :	483.2	
Nearest Lease Line (ft) :	467.0	
Nearest Well on Lease (ft) :	1318.0	
Lease Lines :	942.0 F NORTHEAST L,	1980.0 F WEST L
Survey Lines :	1980.0 F SOUTH L,	1980.0 F WEST L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 467/660, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 11000 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, MECHELLE TESTA, at (972) 969-4088.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Lost & Found

MISSING, 5.5 pound, brown nosed, brown colored male Yorkie. Large Reward has been DOUBLED. No questions asked for his safe return. Call 432-889-4402 day or night.

Legal & Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 11:00 A.M., April 11, 2012 to be opened at 11:00 A.M., in the Office of the City Secretary City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(w).

Bid No. 4591-12

For Request for Proposals for the purchase and installation of audio and video equipment for the City of Midland Council Chamber.

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.042 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division
City of Midland, Texas

Lost & Found

FOUND: MONGOOSE KIDS bicycle in 1600 block of Country Club Dr. 432-683-3719.

FOUND SMALL tan dog. 3500 Humble Ave. Must be able to describe leash & collar. 432-664-6434

FOUND YOUNG apperantly neutered Shepherd Mixed Male on FM 120 and Rankin Hwy. Call 432-528-0409.

LOST BLACK Shih Tzu female, micro chip & tags. Reward for return. 432-238-3350

LOST CHOCOLATE Lab, 9 mos, vacinity of 504 S G St, reward $200, 432-301-0670.

LOST DARK golden Retriever named Roxie w/ pink collar in vicinity of Kansas and Alpine. Call 349-8174

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432-557-6041
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Midland Lodge #623
2nd & 4th Thurs. 7:30pm
Centennial Lodge #1448
1st & 3rd Sat. 8:30am
Did you know John Wayne was a Master Mason?

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

BMW 2002 325i white w/ tan leather. 112,600 miles, $7500 or obo. Call 817-694-1946.

CHEVROLET 2002 Z28 convertible, 25K, looks and drives new, garaged, non smoker. $12,700. 685-4013.

CHEVY 2008 Impala LT, new tires, 73k miles, $11,950. Call 432-559-4977.

CORVETTE 1999 w/ TX Speed Performance package. 10,999 miles. $20,000 for more details call 425-3520. Serious inquiries only.

FORD 2009 Mustang V6 Coupe. 2D, 17,890 miles, red ext, black cloth int, $18,000 OBO. 432-368-3005

Passenger Cars

BMW of the Permian Basin
2775 Andrews Hwy - Midland
432 522 3900

2011 BMW 335i DIESEL
Silver/Gray, Prem. Pkg., Heated Seats, Sat., iPod/USB Adap. 16k Miles

(5) 2011 BMW 328i
Assorted Colors, Leather, Premium Pkg., iPod/USB Adaptor 10-13k Miles On All

2011 BMW 750i
Blk/Blk, Lux. Seating Pkg., Prem. Sound Pkg., Rear View Backup Camera, 9k Miles

2011 BMW 528i
White/Black, Convenience Pkg., Sport Pkg., Prem. Pkg., Nav., Sat., Heated Front Seats, Rear View Camera, 14k Miles

2006 BMW 330i
Barrique Red/ Beige Prem., Sport, Pkg., Xenon, Logic 7, CPO7 Maintenance expire 3/31/2012 Or 100k Miles, 42k Miles

2011 BMW 750iLi
Jet Blk/Blk, Camera, Prem Sound,Luxury Seating pkg's Ceramic Controls, 11k miles

bmwpermianbasin.com

HONDA 2008 Fit Sport. 46,500 miles, for sale by owner. $13,000 432-352-7489.

LINCOLN 2010 TOWN CAR, Signature Limited Edition. This car is showroom condition with 25,700 mi and 4 years and 75,000 miles left on bumper to bumper warranty, $25,900. 432-556-7765.

Fax Your Classified Ad in Today! 682-6999

Passenger Cars

MERCEDES 1997 E320, garage stored,only 55k mi, like new, $12,850. 432-559-9966.

NISSAN 2011 Maxima Sports, clean, loaded, 8K, black, $31,950. Call 432-978-0532 or 432-559-5317.

TOYOTA 2010 Camry, silver, 29k miles. $15,000. Call 432-230-9739

VOLKSWAGEN 2005 Passat, 4dr, silver, moon-roof, turbo diesel, 5 spd auto, very clean, 1 owner, non-smoker. 425-1446

WANTED!
Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars & pickups. 432-685-4078

Pickup Trucks

2005 FORD F250 Super Duty Crew cab King Ranch 4WD, 6 3/4 bed, 6.0L Turbo Diesel, 70K, white over bronze. $27,000 Call 432-664-9048.

CHEVROLET 2004 Silverado 1500 ext cab Z-71LT, 4WD, V8, 5.3 liter, New oversized off-road AT tires, 57k miles, 1 owner $16,500.432-638-3790

CHEVY 2004 Colorado, ext cab, auto, We finance, your job is your credit 683-6222

CHEVY 2005 2500HD #79, extended cab, V8, auto, cold air $7750. 432-683-6222

DODGE 1993 1 1/2 ton Panel truck has previously been used as a Rib shack! Vendor $6,200. 432-661-7727

DODGE 2003 Ram 95k mi great conditions $8500. 432-638-1814.

FORD 2006 F-250, EXT cab, XLT, We finance, your job is your credit, 683-6222.

FORD 2007 F150, regular cab, 45,300 miles, $10,000 432-218-8399

Lost & Found

FOUND AN ITEM?

If you are trying to return an item to its rightful owner, let us help you. Call 432-682-6222 For Your Complimentary Ad!

Legal & Public Notices

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 7C — Rule 37/38 Case No. 0275187
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Mar 19, 2012 — Status/Permit No. 735176
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Apr 30, 2012
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., [RRC Operator No. 665748] has made application for a spacing and density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 and 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37 and 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the LEASE LINE requirement of Rule 37, and the DENSITY requirement of Rule 38, for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 28, Bk. B, CCSD&RGNG RR CO / PRESTON, S R Survey, A-1488, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, UPTON County, being 13.6 miles N direction from RANKIN, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at **(512) 463-6848.**

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Apr 30, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name :	MORGAN '28'	
Lease/Unit Well No. :	10	
Lease/Unit Acres :	387.6	
Nearest Lease Line (ft) :	413.0	
Nearest Well on Lease (ft) :	1400.0	
Lease Lines :	660.0 F NORTH L,	413.0 F SOUTHEAST L
Survey Lines :	660.0 F NORTH L,	1980.0 F EAST L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 467/660, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 11100 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, DEBIE BAKER at (972) 969-3998.

mywesttexasjobs

http://www.mywesttexasjobs.com

Midland Reporter-Telegram in partnership with monster

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Bookkeeper/Accountant

Small company with various interests in the real estate market looking for Bookkeeper/Accountant. Some tax and financial reporting experience a plus. Send resume and salary requirements to Personnel, P.O. Box 52003 Midland, TX 79710.

AUTOMOTIVE

Auto Tech/Service Writer/Partsman

Wall Street Automotive FT
3404 West Wall St. Midland, TX 79701
We are looking to fill the following positions, Auto Technician, Service Writer and Partsman. Call Drew at 432-664-6511 or apply in person, see Drew/Doug

HELP WANTED
TOP PAY!
Quick Lube Tech
Must qualify to take & pass Texas State Inspector Test.
Experianced Preferred
Auto Detail Tech
Experianced Preferred
• Paid Vacation • Health Insurance
• Dental • Vision • Uniforms
Phone or See Bob Smith
FREEDOM
Buick • GMC Truck
5251 East 42nd • Odessa, TX 79762
432-550-9950 E.O.E

BANKING & MORTGAGE

Tellers Wanted

FT positions available. Cash handling and customer service a must. E-mail resume to employment@firstcash.com

CONSTRUCTION & FACILITIES

Carpenters and Laborers

Campbell Construction Co. FT
Campbell Construction Company seeking a Carpenters and Laborers.
Pre-employment drug test required
Good Benefits Salary DOE
Apply at 241-A Spring Park Drive, Midland or send resume to
PO Box 11293, Midland, TX 79702 or fax to (432) 683-5943

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Smoker's Outlet

Cashiers needed for Smoker's Outlet. Apply at either Midland locations. Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Infant and Toddler Teachers

TheVillage School FT
Preschool Teachers needed for Infant and Toddler classes. Must have high school diploma or GED. Must be dependable and available to work 7:30am-5:30pm. Background check will be conducted. Apply in person at: The Village School 2600 West Illinois, Midland, TX 79701.

ENERGY & UTILITIES

EAGLE RIG Manufacturing & Service, LTD.

Eagle Rig Manufacturing & Service, Ltd has guaranteed contracts for over 2 ½ years of work to manufacture well service and workover rigs. Eagle is API Certified and manufactures to the highest standards in the industry. Applicants must possess the skills and attitude that meets these standards.

LOOKING TO HIRE 7 PEOPLE IMMEDIATELY!

EXPERIENCED MANUAL MACHINISTS-
- SIGN ON BONUS
- PAY IS WEEKLY
- UP TO $30.00 PER HOUR BASED ON EXPERIENCE
- 40 + PLUS HRS PER WEEK
- PAID VACATION AND HOLIDAYS
- BLUE CROSS HEALTH INSURANCE
- UNIFORMS PROVIDED

Apply in person at:
Eagle Rig Manufacturing & Service, Ltd
13600 West Interstate 20 East
Odessa, Texas

Mail your resume to:
Eagle Rig Manufacturing & Service, Ltd
PO Box 60850,
Midland, Texas 79711
432-561-7000

Email your resume to:
sales@eaglerigusa.com

Fax your resume to:
(432) 561-7010

Eagle Rig Manufacturing is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Measurement Tech

WTG Gas Processing, LP FT
Need experienced Measurement Tech for natural gas processing plant. NE of Big Spring, TX. Must provide references. Competitive salary. Excellent benefits. Paid vacation, paid medical insurance and 401k. Must be able to pass drug screening. Must have valid Texas driver's license. Send resume to: Plant Supervisor, 11703 E. FM 846, Coahoma, TX 79511 or fax 432-399-4290 or email mwcol@wtggas.com

Sales Rep/Assistant Manager

Confidential FT
We are seeking a self motivated Sale representative for our oil field service company. Candidate must establish and maintain relationships with customers to increase our general purpose wire rope sales. Candidate must be a strong team player with relationship building skills. This position would also require assistance in managing our General Purpose wine Rope Shop. Experience preferred but not required. Competitive pay and benefits are available. M- 21, Midland Reporter-Telegram 201 E. Illinois Midland, TX 79701

Experienced Directional Drillers and MWD Engineers

Crescent Directional Drilling, L.P. FT
Help wanted for Experienced Directional Drillers and MWD Engineers. Please call 432-618-1135 or email gshipman@crescentdirectional.com

HEALTHCARE

CNA's All Shifts

Senior Care of Midland
Under New Management!! Flexible hours! New Sign on Bonus for new employees! We offer Competitive Wages, Shift Differential, Benefits Include: Holiday Pay, PTO, 401k, and Insurance. Apply in person at 3000 Mockingbird Lane, Midland, TX 79705. EOE

HEALTHCARE

Division Director

Seminole Hospital District FT
Division Director of Home Health, Hospice & Personal Home Care needed. RN w/ BSN preferred. Min 5 yrs management exp in healthcare. TX driver license and current CPR. For more info contact Carolyn at (432)758-4966.
SEMINOLE HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Division Director

Seminole Hospital District FT
Division Director of Memorial Place Assisted Living needed. State of TX CALM certification or RN w/3 yrs managerial exp. For more info contact Carolyn at (432)758-4966.
SEMINOLE HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Home Care Attendants

Confidential FT
1311 West Florida
Midland, TX 79701
Needed in Midland and Odessa to care for the elderly. Can possibly earn up to a $200 bonus at 3 months. Must have dependable transportation and reliable phone. Please call 432-685-1705 or come to: 1311 West Florida.

Laser Technician/Nurse

Confidential F/T
For Medical/Esthetics office. Fax resume and work experience to 432-684-7049.

Medical Assistant

Confidential FT
Medical Assistant needed for busy Cardiologist office. Applicant must be pleasant and hardworking. Experience is helpful. Bilingual a plus. Please call Elizabeth at (432) 684-4242.

PA or CNP

Confidential FT
PA or CNP needed, experience preferred. Competitive salary and benefits. Fax 682-6200.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

Premier Physicians has an opening for a Physician Assistant in Primary Care. Please fax resume to Human Resources at (432)682-2284.

Receptionist/Medical Assistant

Confidential FT
Odessa medical office seeking Full-Time Receptionist & Medical Assistant. Must be a self-starter & team player. Excellent benefits. Fax resume to: 432-332-9264.

RNs and LVNs

Encompass Home Health FTor PRN
Immediate start in our pediatric division, days, nights and weekend shifts available. Please contact Chad at 866-953-3444 or email: crigsby@ehhi.com

HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

FRONT DESK & HOUSEKEEPERS

Apply in person: **La Quinta Inn & Suites Midland North**, 2606 N. Loop 250 W. *Competetive Pay * Health Benefits available * Monthly bonus

Front Desk

Midtown Hotel FT
Midland, TX 79701
Seeking Front Desk position. Apply at: 3100 West Wall St. or call 432-699-4144.

Housekeeper

Midtown Hotel FT
Seeking a full-time Housekeeper. Experience helpful, will train. Please apply at 3100 West Wall Street, Midland, TX. or call 432-699-4144.

Housekeepers

Immediate opening for full-time Housekeepers. Apply at:
2500 Commerce Dr, Midland, Tx. 79703

Mainetenance/Housekeeping

The Grand Texan FT
Maintenance man needed. Must have experience in plumbing and electric. Also hiring Housekeeping. Apply at: 4300 West Wall St, Midland, Tx 79703.

Maintenance/Breakfast Host

Holiday Inn Express PT
5309 N. Loop 250 W. **Apply in person**
Midland, TX 79707 **No phone calls**
Now hiring part time Breakfast Host & part time Maintenance (30-35 hours a week). Professional appearance required. Will train the right person. Serious inquiries only. Previous applicants need not apply. Apply in person only. No phone calls. Competitive pay.

INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

Needed for Property in Midland. Applicant must have strong organizational skills and enjoy working outdoors. Ability to work independently with minimal supervision. 40 hours/wk. Hourly, Benefits, and Vacation. Fax resume to 432-264-1761.

Painter/Make Ready

MAINTENANCE NEEDED: Dakota Apartments is now hiring a Painter/Make Ready. GREAT BENEFITS/PAY. Apply online at www.bhmanagement.com or in person at 5101 North"A" Street, Midland, TX. 79705. EOE

MANAGEMENT & EXECUTIVE

Graphic Design Artist

Immediate opening for male or female graphic design artist. Must be proficient with Adobe Indesign, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Acrobat. Salary, benefits & good working conditions. Send resume to jimgolden@americanlenders.com or apply at BIDCO Corp. 312 E. 2nd St., Odessa, TX.

National Marketing Representative

Immediate opening for male or female. Sales experience mandatory. Finance background helpful. Some national air travel. Salary plus incentives. Benefits and good working conditions. Send resume to jimgolden@americanlenders.com or apply at BIDCO Corp. 312 E. 2nd St., Odessa, TX.

MANUFACTURING & OPERATIONS

Entry Level Positions

Teraco, Inc. FT
Teraco, Inc. is an industry leading plastic card manufacturer located in Midland. We currently have job openings in our Personalization and Production Departments. We have multiple positions available for both the morning and the night shifts. Candidates will need to pass a background check and drug test. At least a high school diploma or equivalent is required. Benefits include: paid vacation and holiday, tuition reimbursement, 401K, and medical insurance. Email your inquiries to: resume@teraco.com or stop by 2080 Commerce Dr. to fill out an application.

MANUFACTURING & OPERATIONS

Shift Supervisor

Teraco, Inc. FT
Teraco, Inc. is an industry leading plastic card manufacturer located in Midland. We currently have a job opening in our Personalization Department. We are looking for someone who has experience in management, employee development and training, quality control, and can adhere to production schedules. Must be willing to work nights and overtime. At least a high school diploma or equivalent is required. Benefits include: paid vacation and holiday, tuition reimbursement, 401K, and medical insurance. Email your inquiries to: resume@teraco.com or stop by 2080 Commerce Dr. to fill out an application.

Activities Director

Local nursing center looking for an Experienced Activities Director. Please email resume to M-22 c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX. 79701

CINDY CLEAN NOW HIRING FOR PART TIME

$9 hr. $50 sign on bonus! Must be over 18, non-smoker, available 8am to 5pm, have car, and cell phone. Call (800) 914-4670 ext. 5, leave message and mention Midland or online at www.cindyclean.net.

Detailer

Atkinson Mercedes-Benz/ Volvo is currently looking to hire an experienced Detailer for our growing dealership. Must have experience. Apply in person @ 5801 Andrews Hwy. Midland

Detailers

UNIBEAL FT
Detailers needed for Local new car dealership. Used experience is helpful. Good pay. Please call 832-499-9574

Draftsman

Topographic Land Surveyors
Drafting position available with Topographic Land Surveyors of Midland. Candidates must have experience with Auto CAD and basic computer skills. Prefer someone with a college background but not required. Salary DOE. Interested candidates please send resumes along with references and salary requirements to: eligio.ochoa@topographic.com

Janitor

Part time janitorial work in evenings. Must be dependable. Great supplemental income. Call 570-9903.

Labor

United Casing FT
Pipe yard in Midland, TX needs workers to rack pipe, clean & dope threads. $10/hour to start with potential to advance. Interviews March 20 at 1:00pm at 3610 E. Highway 158, Midland, TX 79706. Phone 432-682-0110.

Need extra dollars?
Or know someone who does?

Part time delivery drivers needed for the Midland Reporter-Telegram. Early morning hours. Must have car and phone.

Contact:
Tony:687-9002

Now Accepting Applications For The Following:

Henry Howard Services, LLC has openings in the West Texas areas: **Sales person, Dispatcher, Mechanics, and CDL Drivers** for Vacuum transports, Rolloff trucks and End dump trucks. Must have Tank vehicle and HazMat endorsements or able to get it within 90 days of hire. Must have clean driving record and able to pass DOT drug screen. Oilfield experience required. **Please send resume or requests for application to: PO Box 387 Carthage, TX 75633, operations@henryhowardservicesllc.com or Fax 903-693-8623 or call 903-754-3011.**

Positions Available

Desert Gardens Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
3203 Sage Street
Midland, TX 79705
Now hiring for the open positions at our facility. We have an opening for a
• 2-10 & 10-6 CNA • Housekeeper
Please apply in person.

PT Commissary Representatives (prison store)

Keefe Group (a division of Centric Group), a leader in the prison supply industry, seeks 2 PT Commissary Representatives in Ector County. Representatives: pack & hand deliver orders to inmates. To qualify: pass security, background, drug, & credit checks and lift up to 55 lbs. Great pay. Please see full description and apply online at www.centricgroup.com. EOE M/F/D/V

Sales Associates

Woods Boots FT
Wear boots and jeans to work. Wood's Boots is hiring retail sales associates high commissions, best hours in retail, great customers, full and part time positions available. Apply in person at any of the 4 locations in Midland/Odessa.

Warehouse/Delivery Person

Dinette Designs & Barstools F/T
Warehouse/Delivery man. Will recieve, assemble, lift and deliver furniture. Valid TDL and must pass drug/background test. Apply in person 1025 N. Midkiff. No phone calls.

OTHER JOBS

Midland Reporter-Telegram has immediate openings in it's Distribution Department (Mailroom)

Part-Time Shift Work Available

Schedule consists of a combination of day and night shifts. Night Shifts - 12 (midnight) until 3-5 a.m.
Starting pay is $9.50 hourly.

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: etitsworth@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

mywesttexas jobs

http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs

Midland Reporter-Telegram in partnership with monster

OTHER JOBS

The Midland Reporter-Telegram has an opening in its Production Department for the position of:

Pressman Pressman Trainee

for our Harris N 1650 Printing presses. This is a day per week, fast paced, deadline oriented position, requires night shift, weekend work, with a strong emphasis on safety. The Midland Reporter-Telegram offers a full package of company benefits including 401K program. Salary DOE.

Send resume and salary requirements to:
John Maddox, Production Director
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois St., Midland, TX 79701
E-mail: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
or
come by 201 E. Illinois Street to fill out an application.

HEARST corporation

Midland Reporter-Telegram is a part of Hearst Corp.

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Sam's Club Is Now Hiring For Following Positions:
• Cashier - PT • Overnight - FT • Carts - PT
Flexible schedules required. Apply at the store kiosk in person at 1500 N. Tradewinds, Midland, TX 79706 or online at samsclub.com

Sams CLUB

Service Driver
B&W Chemical Toilets FT
4500 S State HWY 349
Midland, TX 79706 0-1 Years Exp.
Service driver needed for portable toilet business. Must have a good driving record. Please apply in person or call 432-685-1082.

Shop Assistant
Permian Pertroleum Services, Inc. FT
Need experienced Shop Assistant to service and wash trucks, change truck tires and assist mechanics. Must be 21 years or older and have valid driver's license with clean driving history. Competitive wages, paid health insurance, uniforms and vacations. Retirement plan, vision and dental insurance available. Apply to 4601 Rankin Highway, Midland, fax resume to 432-683-7407, or call 432-682-0434.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Purchasing Agent
Midland County FT
Midland County has an opening for a Purchasing Agent. Please see our website www.co.midland.tx.us/hr for more details and other openings. To be considered you must send a completed application with job reference number and a background check to: Midland County Human Resources Office, 500 N Loraine St. Ste. 100 Midland, TX 79701 or hr@co.midland.tx.us. EOE

STYLISTS NEEDED
Master Cuts now hiring **Stylists**. New starting pay and benefits available. Call Sylvia **505-508-6356** or **432-689-8811**.

REAL ESTATE

Real Estate Instructor
Real Estate Instructor/Trainer. Must have 5 years real estate experience. Good earnings. Send resume to: M- 4, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

All PT/FT Positions
Domino's Pizza, Join the busiest and best Pizza Delivery Co. Now hiring for all PT/FT positions. CSR's, drivers, and shift management. Competitive pay and fun work environment. Drivers earn great tips and full hourly wage. No split wages! Apply at any Midland Domino's Pizza locations. 3300 W. Illinois Ave., 604 N. Big Spring St., 4519 N. Garfield St., 2410 Rankin Hwy.

Cook & Resident Monitor
Dismas Charities FT/PT
Dismas Charities is now hiring a full-time Cook and part-time Resident Monitor. Apply at: www.dismas.com

Cooks, Dishwasher & Waitstaff
Murray's Deli FT
Now hiring Cooks, Dishwashers and Waitstaff. Day shift and night shift Apply in person 9am-11am or 2pm-4pm Monday thru Friday. Murray's Deli, 3211 W. Wadley.

Cooks & Servers
Sedona Grill
201 W. Wadley
Midland, TX
Earn up to $1,000 per week. Experienced Cooks and Servers. Please apply in person

Dishwasher
Wall Street Bar & Grill FT
Midland, TX 79701
Wall Street Bar & Grill is now hiring a Full-time Dishwasher. Shift meal included. 401k available. Apply in person at:115 East Wall Street, Midland, Tx

Host Staff
The Garlic Press FT/PT
Midland, TX 79705
The Garlic Press is hiring Host Staff. Apply in person at Oakridge Square, Wadley and Garfield, between 11am and 1pm or 5:30 and 7pm.

LINE COOKS and DELIVERY DRIVERS
$150 bonus after 30 days!! Jason's Deli in Midland is now hiring **Line Cooks and Delivery Drivers**. Day or night shift, full or part time. Delivery drivers must have vehicle and proper insurance. Please apply in person at **Jason's Deli, Loop 250 and Garfield**.

Positions Available
Lori's Cafe is looking for full time Servers, part time Hosts and a Prep or Line Cook to join our team. Pay is above scale, however only for qualified individuals. Please apply in person at NON PEAK hours, or you will not be considered for the position.

SALES JOBS

Assistant Sales Manager
Affordable Storage FT
Ad Affordable Storage, is seeking a **FT Assistant Sales Manager. Applicants must have: Great Sales Experience, Excellent customer service and be able to perform multiple tasks.** They must also be able to work weekends. $24K-$28K starting Salary. Send Resumes to: jd@selfstorageclubbock.com, Fax to: (432) 694-4445, Drop off at: 3420 Thomason Dr.

Inside/Outside Sales
A-1 Sign Engravers FT
Inside Sales immediate opening. Call Jay Nichols at A-1 Sign Engravers @ 682-4503 for appointment.

Retail Asst. Managers
Wheels Boots FT
Hiring Retail Assistant managers. Wear boots, Midland/Odessa. Are you interesting in joining a fun and fast pace environment? We have the best hours in retail and you get to wear BOOTS! Come see if we are the right fit for you. Drop off your resume at any of our 4 locations.

RETAIL JOBS

MURPHY USA

NOW HIRING FOR ALL LOCATIONS IN MIDLAND AND ODESSA

Looking for Energetic Fast
- **Paced Managers!!!** Up to $38,000 per year + Monthly Commission
- **Assistant Managers!!** Up to $14 per hour + Monthly Commission
- **Cashiers!!** Up to $11 per hour

If you are looking for a progressive dynamic company that believes in its people, then Murphy USA is for you! We are #113 on Fortunes list of fastest growing convenience store companies in 2011. We have 1,119 stores in 23 states; growth that speaks to Murphy USA's commitment to quality fuels at competitive prices, convenient locations and excellent customer service. Mostly located in Wal*Mart parking lots. Our objective is to build our business with new stores, new ideas, and most importantly, people like you. Job qualities include but not limited to recruiting, training, developing, and motivating employees. Responsible for overall operations of store, providing excellent customer service, and implement corporate strategies and develop sales ideas. Salary + monthly Commission, Paid Vacation, Sick Time, 401k & Medical benefits.

Contact: Brad Petri
brad petri@murphyoilcorp.com
or Call 870-866-8269
EOE

SALES JOBS

Route Sales Representative
Deli Express FT
Deli Express is hiring for a FT Route Driver who swings between a route in Midland and Odessa. 40-45 hours/week. Route Sales Experience Preferred. Apply online: www.deliexpress.com click on "careers" and "apply." Search for #273. EOE/AA.

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

The Midland Reporter-Telegram Advertising Department is looking for an Outside Sales Representative.
The ideal candidate will have a proven track record of personal sales successes, preferably in a newspaper/media environment. Some knowledge of the advertising industry would be helpful, but not required.

Duties for this position will include, but are not limited to selling advertising in all print publications of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and all online products, including mywesttexas.com.

The right individual will enjoy an excellent compensation and full benefits package.
If you are the one we are looking for, please send current resume too

We're Raising the Bar!

Desirable Qualifications & Skills:
- Ability to work in a fast-paced, deadline oriented environment
- Excellent customer service and time management skills.
- Highly organized with the ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Detail-oriented with good communication, spelling and math skills

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Jeri Houston, Advertising Sales Manager
Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Avenue, Midland, TX 79701
or email to: jhouston@mrt.com

Service Technicians
Roberts Truck Center, LLC **Ask About Our Tech**
10101 W. I-20 **Sign On Bonus**
Midland, TX 79706 **When Applying!**
Now hiring for Service Technicians. Individual's must have own tools and transportation. Applicants will be responsible for Diagnosing and repairing Trucks. Roberts Truck Center, LLC is and Equal Opportunity Employer.

SKILLED LABOR

Blasters/Painter General Manager
Confidential FT
Send resume to:. M- 18, Midland Reporter-Telegram 201 E. Illinois Midland, TX 79701.

FLEET MECHANIC
Ingram Concrete is seeking full-time employees to fill Fleet Mechanic positions in various locations in West Texas. Diesel experience required and must have own tools. We offer competitive pay with excellent benefits. Please apply at 2608 N. FM 1788 in Midland, Texas 79707 or call 432-561-8922 for additional information. EEO Employer

Forklift/Front End Loader Operator
Smith Pipe of Abilene FT
Forklift/Front End Loader Operator needed in our Abilene location. Must have five years experience in a manufacturing or warehouse environment. Applicant will be tested on operating skills. Apply in person at Smith Pipe of Abilene, 7435 Hwy 277 South, Abilene, Texas, or call 325-691-1085 for an application. EOE

Full Time Maintenance
Villa Chateau Apartments FT
Full time maintenance person needed, must have own tools, Drug Screen/ Background Check done, Apply in person at Villa Chateau Apts. 1603 N. Midkiff Rd. No phone calls please.

General Labor & Truck Driver
Viking Pool FT
Vacation, dental and health insurance. Must pass drug screen. CDL required for truck driver. Apply in person, 8am-5pm, 10800 W. I-20 East, Odessa, TX 79765.

General Manager
Confidential FT
General Manager for Tank fabrication facility in Midland. Send resume to: M- 18, c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Midland, TX 79701.

Laborers, Equipment Operators
CSA Materials, Inc. FT
CRUSHED STONE AND ASPHALT PRODUCTS
Immediate Openings for:
Laborers
Equipment Operators
to work in Odessa, Texas.
CSA Materials, Inc. offers competitive pay, medical, dental vision and 401 (k).
Apply or send Resume to:
CSA Materials, Inc.
7000 N. CR 1150
Midland, Texas 79705
(432)570-0481
(432)682-3916 Fax
mitchelle@rescellerinc.com

SKILLED LABOR

Licensed Commercial Plumber
Tilll Mechanical currently hiring **Licensed Commercial Plumbers** for local jobsites. We offer top pay (up to $25 per hour for the right individuals), paid vacations and holidays. Must have good driving record. Please call 432-686-0002 for interview.

Manual Lathe Operator
Premier Tools FT
Manual Lathe Operator needed. Apply in person at: 2915 South County Rd. 1255, Midland, TX 79703.

Mechanics
Western Auto FT
Mechanics! Western Auto is accepting applications. 4000 S FM 1788, Midland, TX.

MIXER DRIVER and TRACTOR-TRAILER positions
Ingram Concrete, is seeking full-time employees to fill Mixer Driver and Tractor-Trailer positions. CDL license required. We offer competitive pay with excellent benefits. Please apply at 2608 N. FM 1788 in Midland, Texas 79707 or call 432-561-8922 for additional information. EEO Employer

Multiple Positions Available
Looking for responsible individual who can be at work on time, work at both a steady and fast pace. Hours are from 12pm to 9pm. Ability to work overtime and **MUST BE ABLE TO PASS INITIAL and RANDOM DRUG TEST.** Serious applicants can apply at 2800 SCR 1207 Midland, TX. Drive over I-20 on S Midkiff to County Road 113 and turn east. First Building on the right side.

Plumber Helpers
Apply in person at **1101 W. Florida**. Salary DOE. We offer benefits, paid holidays, paid vacation & 401k.

Production Manager
Confidential FT
Needed Production Mgr (must have paint and sandblast experience) and Maintenance person. Please apply in person to 9504 W Cnty Rd 127, Midland, TX 79706 432-563-1224.

Single Hand Welders
Fab Tech Drilling FT
Needed Single Hand Welders. Top pay $18-$25 depending on experience. Must pass 6G Test. Apply in person at: 7101 North County Rd West, 79764.

Welders/Fabricators
Energy Fabrication FT
Now accepting applications for Welders & Fabricators. Top pay, 401K and paid vacation. Apply in person: 3750 Kermit Highway, Odessa, TX 79764.

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Class A CDL Driver - $5,000 Sign On Bonus
Service Seal, LLC FT
Stable Company looking for Class A CDL Driver with Hazmat endorsement for local and regional deliveries. Minimum 3 to 5 years professional driving experience. Must be dependable, trustworthy and have clean driving record and background and willing to work in the warehouse when not driving. If you meet these qualifications, please call Melissa at 432-570-9414.

Class A CDL Truck Drivers
Silverline Transportation **432-563-1894**
Prefer drivers with Pneumatic Tanker experience. Benefits include: driver $2,000 sign-on bonus, medical, life & dental insurance, paid vacation, & 401k. Applicants having experience hauling sand and/or dry cement helpful. Good driving record, DOT, drug & alcohol testing required. Apply in person, call for interview or online @ **www.silverlinetx.com**
Also hiring for Field Coordinators.
Silverline

Crane Operator & Riggers
Looking for Crane Operators and Riggers with Class A CDL. Apply in person at: 4500 West Illinois Ave, Bldg 3, Ste. 303. Call for appointment to 432-520-1536 or 432-889-1237.

Delivery Driver
Catalyst Oilfield Services FT/PT
Delivery Driver needed for oilfield chemical company. Class B CDL with Hazmat required. Competitive hourly pay with overtime. Company offers 401K, paid employee health insurance and paid vacation. Please call Roman, 432-894-1416.

DOT SAFETY DIRECTOR
Experienced Professional needed to manage DOT and all safety requirements for local transportation company. Must be up to date with all aspects of DOT regulations and FMCSA rules & regulation and also CSA. Prior experience will be necessary for this position. Please call **432-563-1894** to schedule interview.

Drivers
Drivers wanted asap. Class A with Tanker required. Competitive wages. Fax resume to: 432-218-9305 or Call 719-859-1569.

Experienced Driver
G & K Trucking, Inc. FT
Local trucking company seeks an experienced HOTSHOT Driver with a Class A CDL. HazMat a plus. Please call 432-413-2472.

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X-Chem FT
X-Chem is seeking a Treater Truck Driver for our Midland location. The Treater Truck Driver is responsible for delivering chemical to customer locations, treating wells, monitoring raw material inventory supply, and other duties, as needed.

The ideal candidate will have 1-3 years experience in a similar role, a high school diploma (or equivalent), and a current Class A CDL with Tanker and Hazmat endorsements.

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Qualified candidates, please contact Jenny Johnson in Human Resources at 972-721-6712 or jenny.johnson@nch.com

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Permian Pertroleum Services, Inc. FT
Need Class A CDL vacuum and tank truck drivers with tank endorsement and clean driving records. Must be experienced. Offering sign-on bonus, competitive wages, paid health insurance, uniforms and vacations. Retirement, family medical, dental and vision insurance available. Apply to 4601 Rankin Highway, Midland, Texas, mail resume to P. O. Box 3663, Midland, TX 79702, fax to 432-683-7407, or call 24-hour phone 432-682-0434.

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2 SETS of bunk beds, 2 sets of under drawers, 2 night stands, and entertainment center. Call 432-570-7824.

3 PIECE sectional, dinette with 6 chairs, 2 extra pieces, exercise equipment. Call 432-599-8283

NEW TODAY!

BLUE COUCH for sale, good condition. Pls call 432-695-4962.

LIKE NEW blue floral Lazy Boy Serta sleeper sofa $350, 2 matching blue Lazy Boy recliners $100ea., 3 piece denim couch, chair, and ottoman $300, corner entertainment center and matching end table $100. 432-288-1775

SAUDER ENTERTAINMENT / Wall System. Book cases on each side/middle is for the TV w/ shelves above / cabinet below. $200 firm. Call 694-3938 to see.

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20" TIRES and rims $1500 OBO 967-5131

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*Rigid Contractor table saw, 10inch, $250.

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FORD F250 diesel 4x4 Off Road King Ranch crew cab. 91k miles. $28,000. Bucket seats in rear and front. Front grill guard and back bumper replacement. Please call (432-352-2826) or email (sdh05@acu.edu) for more information or to come and look at the truck.

Ford F-550 XLT, Super Duty, 2006, V-8 Power stroke diesel, 6.0 liter, crew cab, 2 ton, duel wheel, long custom work bed, Miles-223,211, Color—white, TiresMichelin IOply Has several accessories, great shape, field ready. 45K. Call 432-689-6492

FORD F-550 XLT, Super Duty, 2008, V-8 Power stroke diesel, 6.4 liter, crew cab, 1 ton, duel wheel, custom work bed, Miles—118,357, Color—white, Tires—Michelin 10ply. Has several accessories, great shape, field ready. 45K. Call 432-689-6492

GMC 2005 Sierra, 2500HD, crew cab, SLT, 4X4, 6.6 Diesel, all leather. 683-6222

GMC 2012 Denali 1500 XL, AWD, White Diamond, black leather, dual DVD player navigation, 11,000 miles. $55K. 432-664-1875

TOYOTA 2007 Tundra 5.7 L, 4X2, 67k miles, black, leather interior, cold A/C, good condition, up to current maintenance, new tires, $19k OBO. Call Chad 432-547-9646

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4WD & SUV

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CHEVY 2003 Suburban LT, all leather, 3rd row seat. B&B Auto Sales 432-683-6222.

FORD 2007 Freestyle SUV, 64,684 mi., red, good tires, excellent condition, $9500. Call 432-553-9267

JEEP 2001 Wrangler, 55k miles, 3 inch suspension lift, oversized tires, $12,000 or best offer. 432-238-4413.

JEEP 2012 Grand Cherokee SRT, black on black, perfect condition, loaded, navigation, non smoker, garage kept, 2k miles, $57,900 432-413-0394

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MECURY 1998 Mountaineer V8 110k/mi white, ac. $3250.

NISSAN 2009 Murano, pearl white, clean, loaded, $19,500. 432-978-0532 or 432-559-5317.

OLDSMOBILE 2002 Bravada, all leather, $6,999. We finance B&B Auto 683-6222.

TOYOTA 1999 4 Runner limited package, 128k miles, 4wd, towing, sun roof, leather seats, auto, cd, cassette, cruise, clean, and in great shape. $7,900. Call 432-352-5382.

TOYOTA 2002 Sequoia. 95k, very good conditon, leather, rear air, service records available. $11,000. 432-288-4024.

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HARLEY DAVIDSON 2007 Street Glide, 1 owner, $14,000 obo. Call 238-8294.

HONDA 2001 1100CC Shadow, fully loaded, chrome, extra goodies, pipes, blue metallic, 31k mi, $4,999, 432-683-1374, email pictures available.

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HONDA CBR 2007 12,056 mi, few blemishes, never been dropped, needs new wiring harness, $4,000. 935-676-3379.

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FLEETWOOD 2007 Excursion 39V, 2 slides, 350 diesel, 20k miles, $123,000. Call 432-686-7949.

MONTE CARLO 2011 5th wheel 37', 3 slides, 2 a/c, W/D, many extras, $30,500. Will deliver, call

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BY OWNER, 1909 Pagewood Dr. 79707, 5 BD, 3.5 BA, 4 car garage, 4042 sq.ft., and a pool, $630,000. Call 432-230-0531

For sale by owner 4424 Seminole Dr., Midland. 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 1,071 sq. ft., 1 car garage, fenced. $97,000. No owner finance. 432-967-5202

FOR SALE by owner 4609 Rosewood Dr. Midland, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, Briarwood edition. $298,000. Open house Sunday 2-4pm. 432-222-2424.

FOR SALE TO BE MOVED Historic Midland Ranch House w/ free outbuilding. $10,000 OBO. 432-741-1040

LOCATION LOCATION Location, old Midland, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, hardwood floors, granite kitchen, close to Hill Park, large yard and storage building. 1408 Storey. $198,000 Owner 432-686-7300 432-894-5589.

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			8			4		
		8				5	2	6
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Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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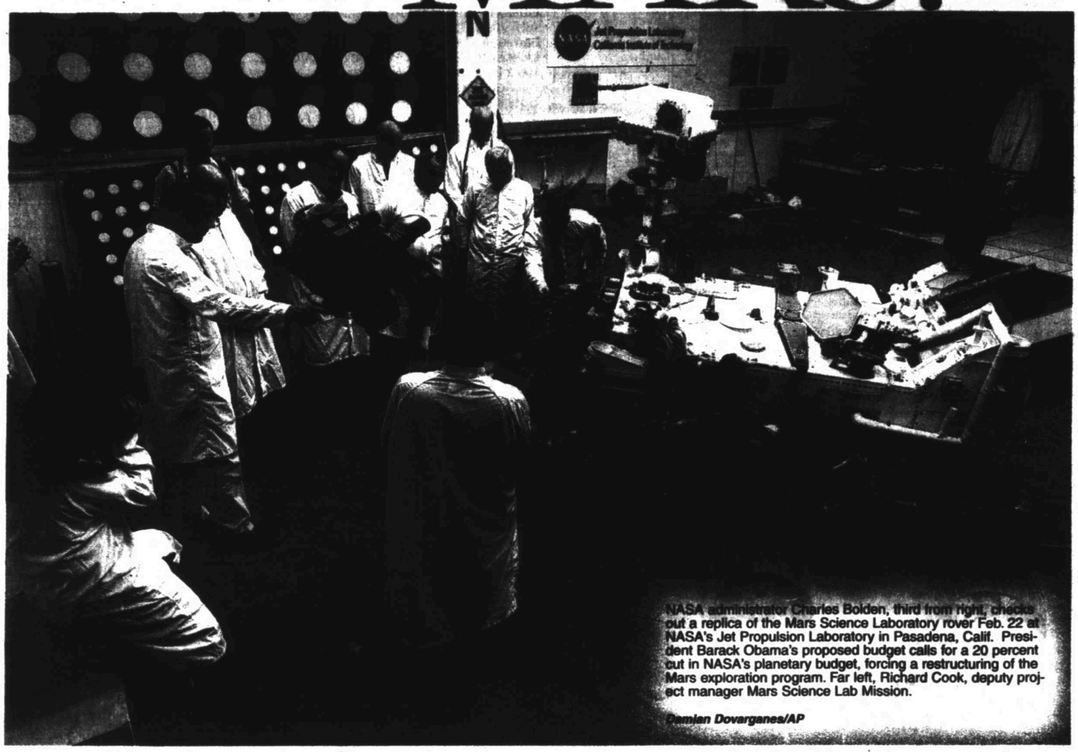

NASA administrator Charles Bolden, third from right, checks out a replica of the Mars Science Laboratory rover Feb. 22 at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. President Barack Obama's proposed budget calls for a 20 percent cut in NASA's planetary budget, forcing a restructuring of the Mars exploration program. Far left, Richard Cook, deputy project manager Mars Science Lab Mission.

Damian Dovarganes/AP

Funding to find answers to Mars questions fades

By Kenneth Chang
N.Y. Times News Service

Just as NASA is on the cusp of answering the most fascinating questions about Mars — is there, was there, or could there be life there? — the money needed to provide the answers is about to be abruptly withdrawn, a victim of President Barack Obama's budget request for 2013, scientists say.

Two ambitious missions NASA had hoped to launch to Mars, in 2016 and 2018, will be canceled. The first would have sent an orbiter to measure gases in the Martian atmosphere — methane in particular, since methane does not last long. Its presence could suggest that Martian microbes are busy at work emitting the gas (though other explanations are also possible).

The second, in 2018, would have set the stage to fulfill the longstanding desire of scientists to bring pieces of Mars back to Earth for close-up study with the full arsenal of instruments available in their laboratories. Now the prospect of bringing Martian rocks to Earth is likely pushed to the mid- or late-2020s, all because of budget cuts.

"The pipeline is being shut off, and that's not what anyone wants," said Bill Nye, executive director of the Planetary Society, a nonprofit group founded by Carl Sagan and others who wanted to foster interest in outer space. "We are closer than anyone has ever been to discovering life on another world."

Obama's budget request for 2013 calls for cutting NASA's robotic exploration of the solar system by 20 percent, to $1.2 billion, and the Mars program would be particularly hard hit. Already, NASA has withdrawn from a collaboration with the European Space Agency that would have launched the missions in 2016 and 2018, angering the Europeans and disappointing astrobiologists and planetary scientists.

"We seem to have gotten the drastic cuts relative to other parts of NASA," said Raymond E. Arvidson, a professor of earth and planetary sciences at Washington University in St. Louis. "Why?"

There are still a few tidbits left. A NASA rover called Curiosity is to land in August and look in ancient sediments for carbon-based molecules that could serve as the building blocks of life. Its instruments also could confirm the controversial claim that Mars' atmosphere contains methane. But Curiosity will not be able to provide definitive answers to the question of "Could there have been life on Mars?"

And a modest orbiter mission called Máven, to study Mars' upper atmosphere, remains on track for launching next year. By measuring the escape of carbon dioxide, nitrogen and water vapor to space, scientists hope to gain insight into the past climate of Mars.

But scientists are dismayed that they are being hamstrung on the brink of major breakthroughs. The problem, they say, stems from NASA trying to cram too many big-ticket items into a $17.7 billion budget — $1.75 billion less than what Congress had promised a couple of years ago.

"Right now NASA's Mars science exploration budget is being decimated," Neil deGrasse Tyson, director of the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, said in testimony before Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. "We're not going back to the moon. Plans for astronauts to visit Mars or anywhere beyond low-Earth orbit are delayed until the 2030s on funding not yet allocated, overseen by a Congress and a president to be named later."

In a letter sent March 5, a group of Mars scientists that provides feedback to NASA said it was "appalled" by the proposed budget cuts.

"Among the many dire impacts, the cuts threaten the very existence of the Mars exploration program, which has been one of the crown jewels of the agency's planetary exploration," wrote David J. Des Marais, a scientist at the NASA Ames Research Center in California and chairman of the group.

Because the Curiosity is already finished and launched, "From this point now forward, there is nothing active in the queue," Des Marais said in an interview. "The gap begins now."

Agency officials strongly dispute the notion that NASA is being idled. "We still have very exciting things to do in science," said John M. Grunsfeld, NASA's associate administrator for science.

While NASA will not have anything to launch to Mars in 2016, Grunsfeld said the agency was aiming to come up with a new mission to fill the 2018 slot. A planning group appointed by Grunsfeld is to provide a draft framework for a revised, cheaper Mars program this month.

Find online resources to help with aging parents

Dear PropellerHeads: I'm the sole care provider for my aging mother and I still have kids at home. This is making me so crazy I'm about to pull my hair out. Are there re-sources available on the web to help find services for the elderly?

A: Let's make sure your priorities are straight — do you need elder care for your mother, child care for your kids or mental health care for yourself? Isn't being a boomer fun? Don't bother answering that one, I already know!

There are numerous resources to help you in providing the care your mother needs currently as well as resources to help you plan for her future. There are even resources to help you with the stresses of being a caregiver.

Let's start with some sites that you help pay for with your taxes. First is the Social Security Administration's site, www.ssa.gov. If your mom hasn't started receiving Social Security benefits, she can apply for them on the site. There's also a wealth of information on topics such as replacing a lost card, getting help with Medicare prescription costs, and completing a change of address should she need to make a change in her living arrangements.

I've never made a trip to the local Social Security office, but I hear it's pretty similar to the experiences I've had at the Department of Motor Vehicles. I don't enjoy the taking-a-number-and-waiting routine, so I'm happy I'll be able to apply online when the time comes.

Our government wants us to stay healthy. That's evidenced by the "Preventive Services Checklist" on the Medicare site, www.medicare.gov. Your mom can register on the MyMedicare.gov site to keep a record of her preventive care services. She can easily print her personal record to take to her medical appointments to help ensure she's up to date on her care. The Medicare site also answers questions on many relevant issues and includes caregiver resources. You may want to check that out.

The AARP site, www.aarp.org, is a great resource for keeping up on topics and federal policies relating to aging. There's also a pull-down for you to select your state and browse resources provided at the state level. You don't have to be an AARP member to use the site's resources. However, an annual membership fee of $16 or less (depending on membership duration) will provide additional features such as their monthly magazine, discounts on travel, insurance and even dining and entertainment.

If you're looking for a caregiver, adult daycare, nursing homes, or assisted living facilities, take a look at www.caring.com. Caring.com is dedicated to helping with the aging process. The site defines each type and level of care, and also has a facility for entering your zip code to find the local resources that you need.

Another similar site is www.care.com. Care.com also provides information and allows you to search for caregivers based on zip code. However, it doesn't just cater to the elderly. It has a facility for searching for pet sitters, babysitters and even special-needs care providers. The site allows users to post jobs to find caregivers. Caregivers can also post their profiles, including background check results, pictures, and their personal stories.

I hope this has helped a bit. If you're still feeling overwhelmed, take some deep breaths, count to 10, and remember "this too shall pass." Oh, and let us know if you need help finding a wig!

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