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TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 27, 2011
Daily 75¢, Sunday $2
Vol. 83, No. 200

Council to mull shift to water ordinance

Change will reduce burden of proof on officials to cite residents who violate rule

By Kathleen Thurber
Staff Writer

It might become a little easier to cite residents for allowing water to pour from their sprinklers into the street in the coming months.

The Midland City Council will consider today approving on first reading a change to the water nuisance ordinance that will negate the need for code enforcement and police officers to prove a resident knowingly, intentionally and recklessly violated the rule. The ordinance requires people to not allow water — whether from a well or the city's system — to flow into and pool on public roadways.

"We no longer (would) have to prove intent, which can be difficult," said Steve Thorpe, building official for the city.

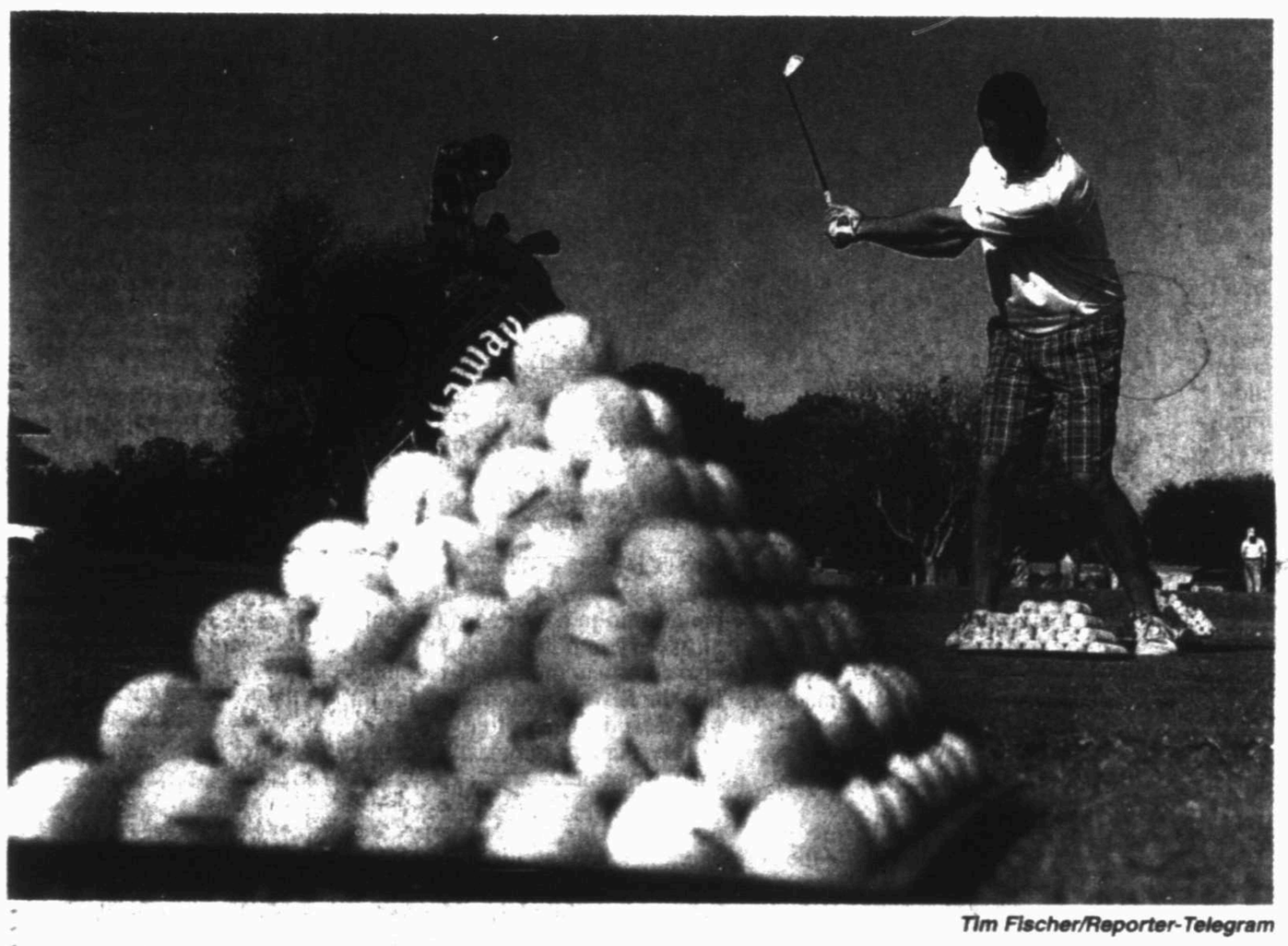
Thorpe said Texas law states that when the maximum penalty for violating a citation is set at $500, tickets can be given out without having to prove the mental state of a person. For example, he said, in the front yard parking ordinance, a home owner can be ticketed regardless of whether they're aware the car parked on their front lawn violated city rules.

With the present language, Thorpe said code enforcement and police have the burden of proving not only that a person knew they were creating nuisance water, but also that they knew it wasn't permitted under the city's statutes. To do that, he said officers typically provide warnings before citations were given. He said they believe giving out warnings demonstrates a person knew of the ordinance and can be cited if they're repeatedly caught in violation of it.

Now, he said the city still will have the burden of

Please see **WATER**/2A

HOME ON THE RANGE



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Lance Wright from Lubbock gets in some practice shots Monday on the driving range at Midland Country Club as he waits to meet his partners to play in the charity golf classic Monday afternoon. The Nationwide Tour WNB Golf Classic started Monday as more than 150 players went through a one-day qualifying tournament at Green Tree Country Club and Ranchland Hills Golf Club. Today, Midland Country Club will host practice rounds for the touring professionals, and Wednesday will be the annual Pro-Am tournament. The tournament will start Thursday with 144 players expected to tee off vying for a $94,500 winner's check and $525,000 tournament purse.

US marshals join forces to find murder suspect

■ Crime Stoppers announces $1,000 cash reward for information leading to suspect's whereabouts.

By Audrie Palmer
Staff Writer

United States marshals have joined the Midland Police Department in trying to locate a man wanted for a murder last week.

Christopher Marchel Hill: The 24-year-old is sought for questioning in the Sept. 18 shooting death of Jeremy Jerome Johnson.

Christopher Marchel Hill, 24, was still at large Monday evening, more than a week after he allegedly fired a gun multiple times inside a home at 911 N. Weatherford St.

Jeremy Jerome Johnson, 28, was the fifth murder victim in Midland County this year, according to Reporter-Telegram records.

Tasa Watts, MPD public information officer, said investigators were continuing Monday to follow up on leads they had received and have not ruled out the possibility Hill is still in the Midland area.

Authorities also have received information Hill may be out of the area and have the assistance of U.S. marshals in trying to locate him, Watts said.

Hill is wanted on a first-degree felony

Please see **MURDER**/2A

Average income in Texas takes a dip; not as bad as US average

By Kyle Glazier
Hearst Newspapers

WASHINGTON — The Texas economy stayed stronger than the national average during the two year Great Recession but U.S. Census Bureau data also showed the state's overall poverty rate remained among the highest in the nation and more than 600,000 Texans joined the ranks of the officially impoverished during that time.

A report by the Joint Economic Committee of Congress said Census Bureau data from 2007-10 showed the average income of a Texas household fell by 2.8 percent to $48,615, during those three years. That drop contrasts with the much steeper national average decline of 6.2 percent; several states had double-digit percentage decreases in income.

Income for the typical household increased in only North Dakota (up 5.9 percent) and the District of Columbia (up 6.2 percent), according to the report.

Despite the resiliency of wage-earners in the Lone Star State, Texas' poverty rate climbed by 1.6 percent, with 4.4 million Texans — nearly 18 percent of the population — officially below the poverty line, according to the Census Bureau data.

The federally defined poverty line is based on annual income and varies depending on the size of a family. The 2010 poverty line for a family of four was an annual income of $22,050 or less. Texas' poverty rate of 17.9 percent outstripped the U.S. average of 15.3 percent, and only eight states and the District of Columbia had higher rates. Mississippi had the nation's highest poverty rate, at 22.4 percent.

New Hampshire had the lowest rate, at 8.3 percent.

Nationally, the number of people living in poverty in 2010 totaled 46,216,000, up from 8,164,000 in 2007, according to the committee report.

The poverty report comes two weeks after newly released Census data showed that Texas had the nation's highest rate of people without health insurance.

Please see **POVERTY**/2A

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OIL PRICES MONDAY
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COWBOYS WIN
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WATER

From 1A

proof when showing why they believe nuisance water found in the street came from a certain property. But, he said if the change to the ordinance is approved, they could ticket people who created nuisance water even if that person wasn't aware letting water flow into a public road is prohibited.

"We could probably move to a citation quicker with this language," he said.

The maximum fine for creating nuisance water is $500. The rule had been in place long before the drought, but code enforcement officers have looked for compliance amid the dry weather and water restrictions.

Tasa Watts, public information officer, said the goal for the proposed change is simply to make the rule more enforceable. The shift was prompted by the City Attorney's Office.

"It's pretty hard to prove that someone intentionally created nuisance water so that's the main purpose in taking out that verbage," she said.

Thorpe said the intent in having ordinances is not to write tickets, but rather to create that incentive for residents to follow the guidelines established.

"Our goal, as we've always talked about, is to gain compliance, not to write citations," he said.

If approved at today's 10 a.m. meeting, the ordinance shift would have to be approved during a second vote before taking effect.

Kathleen Thurber can be reached at kthurber@mrt.com.

City Council
10 a.m. today
Council Chambers, 300 N. Loraine St.

Online:
Check for updates from meeting
www.facebook.com/TheReporterTelegram

MURDER

From 1A

for murder and has a set bond once captured of $1 million.

According to an arrest warrant affidavit, witnesses told police that Hill and Johnson were involved in an argument in the early afternoon of Sept. 18. Hill then came back to the house and allegedly shot Johnson while he was sitting in the living room with a black, semiautomatic gun around 6:03 p.m.

Johnson was taken to Midland Memorial Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Hill is described as a black male, about 6 feet, 3 inches tall and weighing about 220 pounds.

Midland Crime Stoppers is offering a $1,000 cash reward for anyone with information leading to the arrest of Hill.

Anonymous tips can be submitted either by phone at 694-TIPS (8477), online at www.midlandcrimestoppers.com or by texting "TIP247" plus a message to "CRIMES" (274637).

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

Online:
Read the arrest affidavit at
www.mywesttexas.com

POVERTY

From 1A

The Joint Economic Committee presented the report as an opportunity to measure the impact of the recession, which officially lasted from December 2007 until June 2009, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Texas was among 46 states to see an increase in its poverty rate during the three year span including the recession. Children were the hardest-hit group: The rate of poverty among Texans under 18 years old rose 2.6 percent. More than one-quarter of all Texas children — 25.7 percent — fell below the poverty line. That's also above the national average of 21.6 percent.

The survey counted children living in poverty if they belong to a family that met that definition.

"Numbers don't lie," said Anat Kelman Shaw, communications director for Children's Defense Fund-Texas in Houston. "We do see the differences in families' ability to care for their children. We are still seeing the aftershocks of this recession."

The Joint Economic Committee report said its report was a call to action for policy makers.

"The assessment gives a stark reminder of the need for continued government support to help American households regain their economic footing," the report said.

Shaw agreed, saying that continued and increasing government support for health care resources and education are key to combating the issue.

"We've got to invest in what works," Kelman Shaw said.

Jewelers want states to replace limits on cadmium

By Justin Pritchard
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The U.S jewelry industry wants states to overturn laws that limit the toxic metal cadmium in children's trinkets and adopt new voluntary guidelines it helped create, saying stricter rules in several states create chaos for manufacturers and importers.

Persuading legislators to reopen the issue won't be an easy sell: Many consumer and environmental advocates say the new guidelines weaken protection of children's health.

While the voluntary rules have the support of federal regulators, states that passed much stricter limits over the past year would have to backtrack and allow higher levels of a metal that can cause cancer.

That didn't sound likely Monday.

"Maryland ought to set whatever standard we feel is correct," said Delegate James Hubbard, a Democrat who successfully sponsored the nation's toughest cadmium-in-jewelry limits this spring. "We made a judgment call based on what we felt was in the best interest of the people we represent."

A jewelry industry that has been hammered by more than a year of recalls and legal setbacks does have some momentum, now that the rules it drafted were passed last week by the respected organization ASTM International, which sets voluntary rules for a range of goods. Industry's goal is to replace the current patchwork of regulation with a unified standard.

"Our whole mission in this is to have standards that are not floating in quicksand," said Brent Cleaveland, head of the ASTM subcommittee that wrote the rules and executive director of the Fashion Jewelry and Accessories Trade Association. He described the limits he oversaw as "way more conservative than necessary" to protect kids' health.

Cleaveland says his next move is to press legislatures in states that have set limits to reopen the issue and adopt the voluntary standards. If that succeeds, Cleaveland would then ask Congress to pass legislation to make the voluntary standard national law.

If the industry lobbying effort fails, state limits that are much tougher than the voluntary rules will effectively remain the national standard. That's because manufacturers that sell in places like California and Maryland would need to comply with limits there, and wouldn't create different products for the rest of the country.

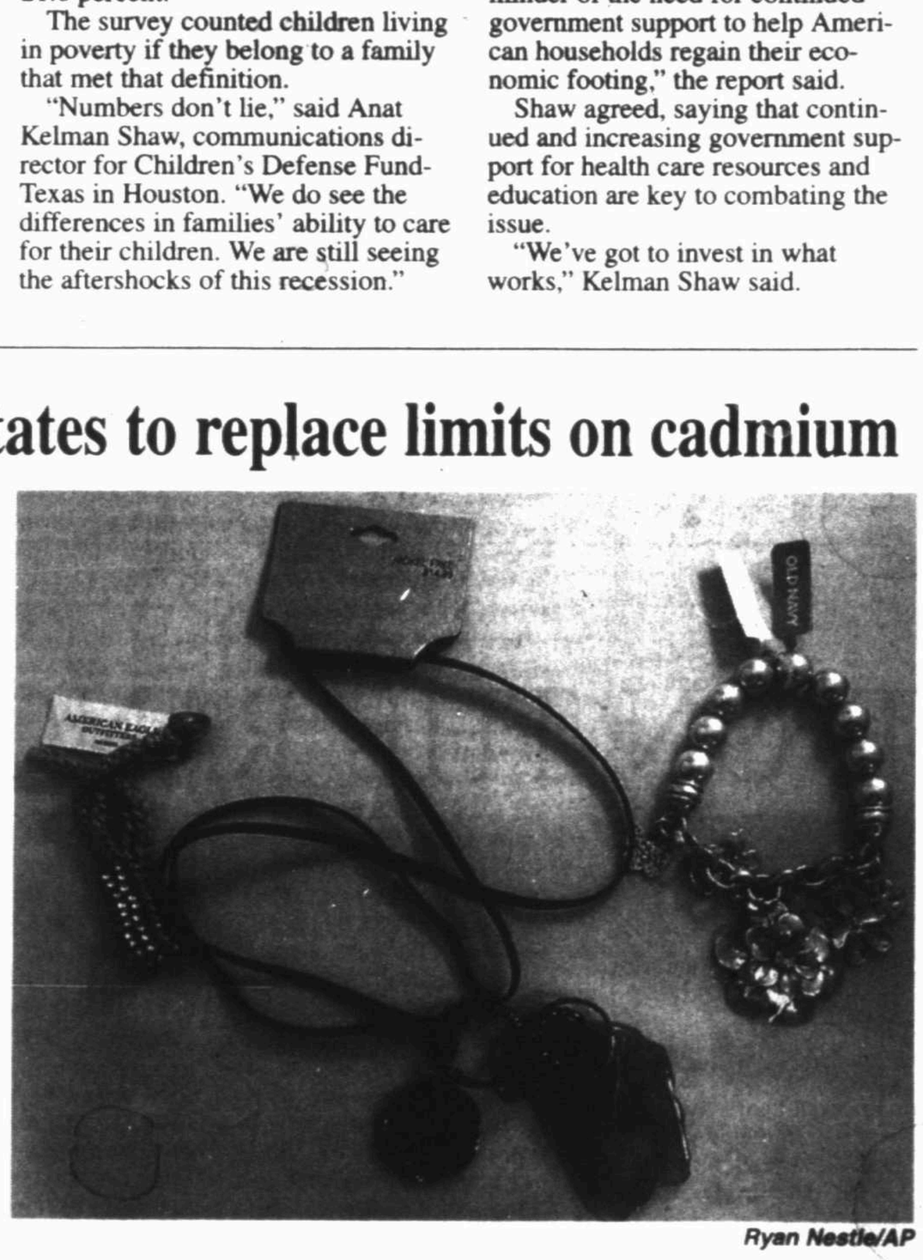
Mandatory limits adopted over the past year already deter use of the heavy metal, which over time can also cause bone and kidney diseases, though there have been no documented deaths or serious injuries.

While the voluntary standards don't trump limits from states and legal settlements, they do create a consensus national standard that jewelry manufacturers and importers endorse.

Because the limits are voluntary, there is no automatic penalty for jewelry sold with cadmium levels exceeding them. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission will, however, use the limits in deciding whether to pursue product recalls.

The agency has argued that voluntary limits were the appropriate — and fastest — way to create a common understanding of what constitutes a problem piece of jewelry. The agency said that unless it finds widespread failure to comply, it will not seek mandatory rules.

In response to an Associated Press investigation, the Consumer Product Safety Commission helped recall about 300,000 pieces of high-cadmium necklaces, bracelet and rings last year. The AP reported that some of the jewelry contained more than 90 percent cadmium and would release alarmingly high levels of the metal into stomach acid if swallowed.



Ryan Nestle/AP

This undated image provided by the Center for Environmental Health shows jewelry containing cadmium from Old Navy, right, American Eagle, left, that have been among the major national retailers that have agreed to all but eliminate the toxic metal cadmium in jewelry and other accessories they sell.

Problem jewelry, typically made in China, was available across the marketplace, from Walmarts to chain stores specializing in jewelry to dollar-type shops.

Five recalls were done before the agency decided how to handle the problem. By last fall, guidelines were in place for how to identify a hazardous piece of jewelry based on lab testing that mimicked how much cadmium would enter a child's body from jewelry that was licked or swallowed. In that process, the agency more than tripled its estimate of how much cadmium a child could safely ingest.

Jewelry test results above those levels may — or may not — trigger the agency to ask businesses to yank an item from their shelves.

It wasn't just fuzzy federal guidelines that drove the jewelry industry to seek predictable rules. Importers and manufacturers had to comply with new testing demands from retailers, the varying limits imposed by California, Maryland and three other states, as well as a limit that was established when major retailers recently settled a lawsuit with environmentalists.

Aside from California and Maryland, there are cadmium laws in Connecticut, Illinois and Minnesota. Legislation is pending in other states, including Massachusetts, New York and Florida.

A compromise approach was overwhelmingly endorsed by the panel Cleaveland led, which included consumer advocates, retailers and representatives of testing labs.

The full ASTM committee on consumer products approved the standard, which also addresses other potential jewelry hazards, such as lead and magnets.

Under the ASTM approach, children's jewelry — defined as items "primarily intended" for kids 12 and under — would first be lab tested to see whether it contains more than 0.03 percent cadmium.

Items that failed the "total content" test could be scrapped or sent for further analysis. For smaller pieces, a second test gauges how much cadmium would dissolve into stomach acid a day after the jewelry was swallowed; for larger pieces, an additional test measures how much cadmium escapes under conditions that simulate licking.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission supports this approach — indeed, the ASTM standard borrows heavily from the agency's safety levels and test methods.

"ASTM's approval of a new cadmium standard for children's jewelry is a positive step forward," the agency's chairman, Inez Tenenbaum, said in a written statement. "It is very important for ASTM to also complete their work and publish the new cadmium standard for toys as soon as possible."

The standard may take effect by early November.

Industry had wanted the stomach acid test to last just two hours, but eventually agreed to the 24 hours the Consumer Product Safety Commission advocated. On the other side, the CPSC rejected the approach preferred by environmentalists and consumer advocates, who favor a standard based solely on how much cadmium jewelry contains, not how much it might release.

Total content is how the agency currently regulates lead, the metal that some jewelry makers abandoned in favor of cadmium after Congress passed strict lead limits in 2008.

While the ASTM committee resoundingly endorsed the new voluntary limits, there were dissenters.

The principal one was Caroline Cox, research director at the Center for Environmental Health, Her Oakland-based organization found cadmium in jewelry at dozens of stores, and earlier this month settled legal cases against chains including Target Corp. and Gap Inc., which agreed not to sell jewelry with more than 0.03 percent cadmium, even if very little leached out.

Cox argued that pieces of new jewelry that might fare fine in an initial stomach acid test might prove far more dangerous? if swallowed following months of wear and tear. Testing has shown that as electroplating wears down, or if a piece of jewelry's surface is punctured, cadmium inside can leach out at much greater levels.

If the standard were based solely on a limit of 0.03 percent cadmium, "We don't want to have to worry about all that," Cox said. "Let's just set a total content standard from the beginning that takes care of the problem."

Maryland and Connecticut based their limits on total content; in both states, children's jewelry which exceeds 0.0075 percent cadmium would be illegal based on laws that go into effect in 2012 and 2014 respectively.

"When we've passed something, there's a hesitancy to go back and change it, particularly when you are the most strict," said Conn. Rep. Pam Sawyer, a Republican and co-sponsor of the state's legislation. For Connecticut to begin allowing jewelry with cadmium levels that are four times higher than current law, she said, would "raise some eyebrows."

Living people on US stamps: Who would you choose?

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Who would you put on a stamp? Charlie Sheen? Lady Gaga? Yourself?

Hoping to boost sagging revenue, the U.S. Postal Service on Monday abandoned its long-standing rule that stamps cannot feature people who are still alive and is asking the public for suggestions.

It's a first that means living sports stars, writers, artists and other prominent — or not-so-prominent — people could take their places in postal history next to the likes of George Washington, Martin Luther King Jr., and Marilyn Monroe.

"This change will enable us to pay tribute to individuals for their achievements while they are still alive to enjoy the honor," said Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe.

But it seems to be at least as much about money as admiration.

For years, the post office has been facing severe financial problems due to the growing use of email. A burst of interest in stamp design and collecting — which the Postal Service is seeking to promote partly through social media — could bring in new dollars, because stamps that are collected rather than used for postage provide added revenue.

Poking fun at the Postal Service's money woes, comedian Stephen Colbert has been pushing to become the first living person depicted on a government-issued stamp. His Comedy Central website proposes a "Farewell to Postage" stamp with a photo of him holding up a smartphone that shows an email telling the Postal Service "See Ya!"

Judging by initial public reaction in interviews Monday, Colbert faces competition.

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Thing to do

■ Lunch and Lecture Series: David Arrington on "Shale Exploration," 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Permian Basin Petroleum Museum. Admission: Free. Info: Dessert and drink provided. Bring a brown bag lunch.

■ Porter's Farm Market, 4-7 p.m., 5401 S. County Road 1140. Web: www.portercommunityfarm.com.

■ Classic Movie Club: "For Whom the Bell Tolls," 7 p.m., Cigar Frog's.

Meetings schedule

City Council
10 a.m. today
Council Chambers City Hall
300 N. Loraine St.

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.

Midland County Young Republicans meeting

The Midland County Young Republicans will hold their monthly meeting at 7 p.m. today at Gerardo's Casita, 2407 N. Big Spring St.

District Judge John Hyde will be the keynote speaker with focus on politics in the local community. All interested community members are invited to attend.

Items on the agenda include officer announcements, new committees, upcoming activities and website launch. Members will be encouraged to engage in an open floor discussion.

The Midland County Young Republicans welcome any Midland County residents between the ages of 18-40 to become a new member. Chapter dues are $30 for singles, $40 for married couples and $20 for students. An associate membership also is available to anyone outside of the age range or county for $25.

More information about the chapter can be found by visiting the MCYR website http://midland.texasyoungrepublicans.com, twitter (@MidlandYoungRep), or calling J. Ross Lacy, president at 432-242-2065.

Public viewing for recovered property

The Midland Police Department and property detectives have recovered a good amount of stolen property. Arrests have been made in reference to thefts across Midland for offenses over the past 12 months.

The property recovered includes power tools, generators and air compressors.

MPD will hold a public viewing of the recovered property in hopes of returning the property to the rightful owner. The viewing will be held from 8 a.m. Thursday and Friday at the Armory, 3900 N. Lamesa.

Please bring your case number and valid ID card in order to claim any recovered property.

Conaway picks Ewing for national honor

Rep. Mike Conaway has selected Midland resident Robert Ewing as a 2011 Angels in Adoption awardee for his outstanding advocacy for foster care and adoption.

The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI), which orchestrates the Angels in Adoption program, will honor Ewing, along with more than 150 Angels, at an awards ceremony and gala event in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 5.

Ewing was nominated by Buckner Children and Family Services for his selfless leadership and advocacy for children who have been neglected or abused. Ewing, a single father to six adopted children and foster parent to one, has not allowed any obstacles to come between him and his love for his children.

"Robert is an advocate by example," said De'An Davis, foster care supervisor for Buckner Children and Family Services in Midland. "His love of children and desire to provide this ministry for children is evident every day. We were honored to nominate Robert for his humility, sacrifice and unconditional love."

The Angels in Adoption program is CCAI's signature public awareness campaign and provides an opportunity for all members of the U.S. Congress to honor the good work of their constituents who have enriched the lives of foster children and orphans in the United States and abroad.

For more information visit www.angelsinadoption.org.

Lost hearing aid

While attending the Lee High School homecoming parade, a girl lost her hearing aid. If anyone found a pink hearing aid, please contact Brenda Barragan at 689-5995. This hearing aid will help make a difference in this girl's life.

Source: Brenda Barragan

What's on the radio

News talk: KCRS (AM 550), KWEL (AM 1070)
Sports talk: KMND (AM 1510)
Contemporary Christian: KFRI (FM 88.7)
NPR: KDCV (FM 91.3)

Lottery

Pick 3 day: 6-6-9
Pick 3 night: 0-3-8
Daily 4 day: 3-3-2-7
Daily 4 night: 2-5-9-2
Cash Five: 5-9-22-30-34
Texas Two Step: 8-22-23-25 BB: 22

Today in history

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 27, the 270th day of 2011. There are 95 days left in the year.

On this date:

In 1939, Warsaw, Poland, surrendered after weeks of resistance to invading forces from Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union during World War II.

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Disaster-stricken cluck tongues at Congress

By Michael Hill
Associated Press

WATERBURY, Vt. — For disaster victims rebuilding their homes, towns and lives, the anxiety is matched only by anger at Congress for entangling their future in a political battle over government spending.

A sharply divided Congress had repeatedly rejected a deal that included funding federal disaster assistance, raising fears that there would be no plan to continue aid for victims of disaster like storms Irene and Lee or the tornado in Joplin, Mo.

On Monday, Congress advanced legislation to assure there would be no interruption in assistance through the new budget year, which begins Saturday. But that didn't do much to appease those who would have paid perhaps the highest price for politics.

They're spreading the blame both among Republicans, who want cuts in other government spending, and Democrats, who are accused of using the GOP opposition to win political points.

"They aren't looking so much at what is actually needed as what's good for their party, and that to me is wrong, wrong, wrong," said Lawrence Sayah, a Waterbury resident whose home, ravaged by the floods wrought by the remnants of Hurricane Irene, is still stripped to the studs inside.

Sayah already received $18,000 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, although he and his wife are appealing for more for repairs that will run more than three times that. He worried that an impasse could affect his appeal.

Congressional members trying to appropriate money to keep the government running bickered over federal dollars to help victims of floods, hurricanes, tornadoes and other natural disasters.

Some Republicans had been pushing for expenses to be offset by cuts elsewhere. Democrats, like Sen. Patrick Leahy, who represents flood-stricken Vermont, countered that the same budgeting standards are not enforced when it comes to Afghanistan and Iraq.

"Here you have Americans, and you say you can't help Americans in America with American dollars," Leahy told the Associated Press. "It's 'Alice in Wonderland.'"

As of Monday, FEMA had $114 million left in its disaster relief fund and expected it to last until Thursday or Friday, agency spokeswoman Rachel Racusen said.

Feelings were especially raw around the Northeast, where the double whammy of Irene and Lee in recent weeks ripped up roads, flooded towns and shuttered businesses.

"Talk about heartless; it seems heartless when you think how we're suffering, throughout our country right now, being inundated with disasters everywhere you go," said Martha Gordon, who was still mucking out her home in the New York suburb of Wayne, N.J., on Monday, weeks after flooding destroyed the three-story white shingled place she had lived in for 50 of her 78 years.

In Philadelphia, a steady stream of flooding victims headed into a FEMA disaster aid center downtown Monday, where people arrived looking for help and left with yellow forms to apply for assistance.

"If the funding is held back, I may have no other choice but to leave my house because of the mold," said 61-year-old Barbara Lewis, of Philadelphia, whose home was damaged by the remnants of Lee. "Politicians will play politics because it's not their lives."

Lewis, who is allergic to mold and recently lost her job, said she was worried that a serious problem could develop if she can't get money to fix the problem now. If that happens, she said, she would likely have to move out of the home she has lived in for 31 years.

"We're just waiting out Washington to make the move. It's our survival in this little town," said Bill Briggs, whose factory making baseball bat blanks in upstate New York's Prattsville was destroyed by flooding wreaked by Irene. He was meeting Monday with his insurance man and a structural engineer to decide whether he could rebuild.

"There is an expectation — this supports the major reason why we have government. If the expectation is there, it seems like the performance should be there," said Philip Zea, president of western Massachusetts' Historic Deerfield, a center that includes an inn and a classic New England village museum.

While flood insurance may cover most of the costs of restoring the inn, Zea said, he hopes to get some federal aid for the loss of business during the months it will be shuttered. He had to lay off 20 employees when it closed.

"You really wonder, what are they doing down there? What are they thinking?" said Skip Flanders, of Waterbury, who already got a $30,200 FEMA grant for his home. "They've certainly never been through it themselves to see what it's like to have your house and living somewhere else and not knowing how you're going to put it back together.

In Joplin, where a tornado killed more than 100 people in May, Mayor Mike Woolston acknowledged the depth of the debate but noted the anxiety the debate in Washington was causing.

"We can appreciate the efforts to get our national economy in better order, but we're concerned about how that's going to affect us," Woolston said. "If some sort of budgetary measure is not passed soon, I'm worried about what that will mean for us."

Even some of the politicians involved in the debate appeared exasperated. On Monday, Leahy and his Vermont colleague, Sen. Bernie Sanders, denounced the impasse as they boarded a flight back to Washington. Gov. Peter Shumlin, who estimated damage from Irene could cost Vermont $1 billion, sounded a similar note.

"I never could have predicted that disaster relief to states would be held up by partisan bickering in Washington," he said.

The Senate Republican leader, Kentucky's Mitch McConnell, took exception with Democratic complaints last week that Republicans were asking for a government shutdown.

"If there's any lesson we can draw from the debates we've been having here over the last six months, it's that the American people won't accept that excuse anymore," he said last week. "The whole 'That's the way we've always done it' argument is the reason we've got a $14 trillion dollar debt right now."

Julio Cortez/AP

A piano chair hangs from the ceiling in the home of Martha Gordon on Monday as she looks through her home destroyed during the flood in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene in Wayne, N.J. The chair, which was on top of a piano, was lodged into the ceiling when the Ramapo River crested, sending floodwaters into the residence. Gordon, who has lived at the house for 50 years, says she has given up and will be tearing the house and moving to Maine. She has talked to FEMA, but doesn't expect any quick relief aid.

ACROSS THE NATION

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Study: Dads less likely to die of heart problems

Fatherhood may be a kick in the old testosterone, but it may also help keep a man alive. New research suggests dads are a little less likely to die of heart-related problems than childless men are.

The study — by the AARP, the government and several universities — is the largest ever on male fertility and mortality, involving nearly 138,000 men. Although a study like this can't prove that fatherhood and mortality are related, there are plenty of reasons to think they might be, several heart disease experts said.

Marriage, having lots of friends and even having a dog can lower the chance of heart problems and cardiac-related deaths, previous research suggests. Similarly, kids might help take care of you or give you a reason to take better care of yourself.

NEW YORK

GOP candidates seek Trump stamp of approval

Donald Trump has become a must-stop for GOP candidates looking for advice or hoping to bask in the celebrity real estate mogul's star power.

All the major Republican presidential hopefuls have sought an audience with Trump, just months after President Barack Obama dismissed the TV reality show personality as a "carnival barker" for raising debunked questions about Obama's citizenship.

Trump's money and fame as host of "Celebrity Apprentice" are part of the draw for GOP candidates. But Republican strategists say candidates could also learn a lot politically from Trump, whose aggressive criticism of Obama and blunt portrait of the U.S. as a nation in decline have resonated with conservative voters looking for an in-your-face challenge to the president.

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Family suspects drugs in 5 Ind. deaths

By Tom Lobianco
Associated Press

LAUREL, Ind. — A driver in rural Indiana made a startling discovery, finding a young girl walking in the road, alone.

But what police found at the 4-year-old's home was even more disturbing: four people dead, at least some of them shot. A fifth person was dead on a nearby property.

Indiana State Police said autopsies were done Monday on four of the five victims, and they didn't plan to release the IDs until after the fifth autopsy is completed today.

With few details released from authorities, residents were left speculating about what brought violence to their area about 50 miles southeast of Indianapolis — and whether the danger had passed.

"People who haven't locked their doors in years, they're definitely locking up tight now," said Ryan Renfro, who lives nearby. "I actually took off work today because I'm here with my elderly grandparents and I didn't want to leave them here alone until they caught who they are looking for."

Sgt. Jerry Goodin, a spokesman for the Indiana State Police, did not say whether the shooter or shooters were believed to be among the deceased. He did say Monday that no manhunt was being conducted.

Although police weren't releasing the names, people in this area, where many are related by blood or through marriage, talked about their relatives who had been killed. Those included four members of one family — a man, his estranged wife and their two adult children — as well as a neighbor who had gone to visit a member of the household.

Jewel Compston said her son, Henry Smith, 43, left the house they share Sunday morning to go to the home where the four bodies were found.

"He never made it back," she said, tearing up.

Compston said police told her early Monday that Smith had been shot to death.

Smith's aunt, Evelyn Renfro, lives nearby and said she heard shots around noon Sunday.

"Nobody went out because they were loading the cattle here and they didn't pay no attention to that," Renfro said.

Police wouldn't comment on motive, but neighbors said they had complained about drug activity in the area, and the sister of one victim said the family had been involved with drugs.

Franklin County Sheriff Ken Murphy said his deputies have been to the address before but did not say whether drugs were involved.

Teresa Richardson said the home where the bodies were found belonged to her sister's estranged husband, who lived there with the couple's daughter and son. She said her sister was visiting them Sunday.

She said police called her Monday afternoon and confirmed the four dead inside the home were her sister, Angie Napier, her sister's estranged husband, Roy Napier, daughter Melissa Napier and son Jacob Napier.

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The truck stops in Grassland, Greentree, Mockingbird Heights, Saddle Club, Saddle Club Lakes, Polo Park, Manor Park and other retirement centers and many locations throughout town. There is no monthly delivery fee.

You may schedule pickups once, twice or three times per week.

Fashion Cleaners has two convenient locations: 801 W. Wall and in the Imperial Shopping Center at Midkiff and Wadley. They do all kinds of cleaning and laundry, as well as alterations, keepsaking of bridal gowns and reweaving.

With Fashion Cleaners' pickup and delivery service you can have all the convenience of great cleaning without ever leaving your home. Fashion's Philip McCain and driver Jorge Peralta (not pictured) invite you to call 684-6657 to learn more.

Staffing Resources: Work temporary, try before you buy

Have you ever started a new job excited at first about the possibilities, only to find out within the first week (or less) that it is not what it was represented to be? The boss who was nice and courteous at the interview turns into a tyrant once your name is on the dotted line. Or the workload, which seemed manageable from the outside, becomes a pile of paperwork so tall that there are sherpas leading climbing teams to the top.

These days jobs are plentiful in this area, so there is NO NEED to subject yourself to that kind of thing for even one hour, says Patricia Gomez of Staffing Resources. "First of all, we try really hard to match not only your skills but your personality with the right job," she says. If you are a person who enjoys work but has no patience for jokes or pranks at the office, Staffing Resources can match you with a similar office.

If, on the other hand, you like to work hard in a more casual atmosphere, that's available, too. "Everyone assumes the employer is trying out the employee, and that is true," Patricia says. "But it can just as much be the other way around also."

Staffing Resources makes the job search easier from the start. You do not have to go door to door, scour job ads or pester your friends about possible job openings. Neither do you need to go to interview after interview hoping to make at least one good impression.

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And—if you do not like the job, or are not comfortable in with the office atmosphere—you can talk to Debbie Court, Fran Hawke or one of the other friendly professionals at Staffing Resources, and they will move you to another assignment. It is as simple as that.

Your paychecks come weekly, issued on a local bank, so your funds are available quickly. Direct deposit is available, or you can pick your check up on Wednesday at the Staffing Resources office. Because Staffing Resources is locally owned, all decisions are made right in the Midland office.

If you are new to Midland and unfamiliar with the work situation here, Staffing Resources is the way to get plugged in. They can help you find the right job in a jiffy.

So feel free to kick those tires at that new job and see if it's the right one for you. Staffing Resources makes that so much easier.

Call Staffing Resources at 684-0527 to start making your work life easier. Their web address is www.igotthejobs.com.

Staffing Resources' Fran Hawke (left) and Patricia Gomez can help you "try out" that new job and, if it's not right for you, they can find you another one. Call 684-0527 to let them help you.

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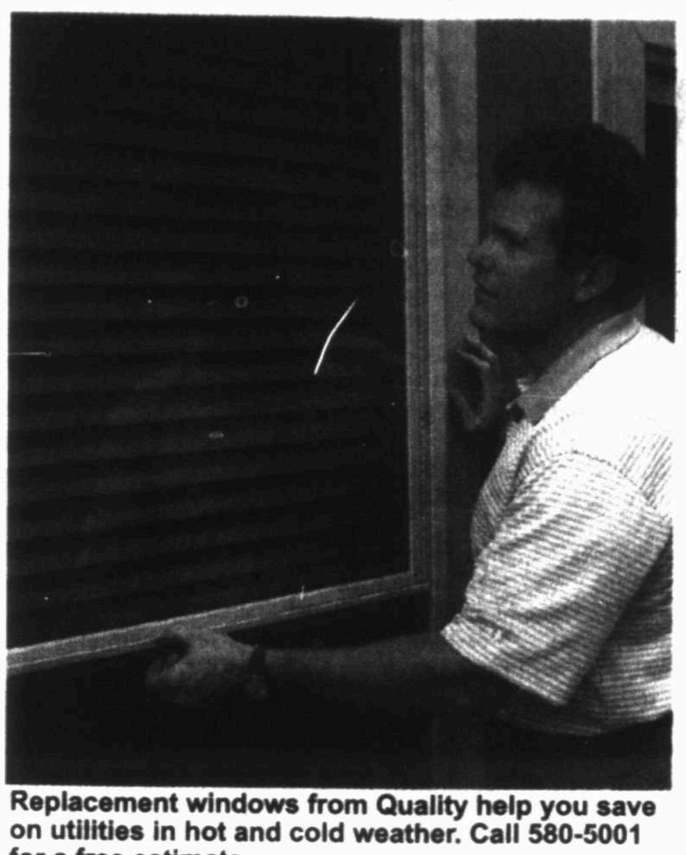

Replacement windows from Quality help you save on utilities in hot and cold weather. Call 580-5001 for a free estimate.

Quality customers: Thanks for helping us cut energy bills

Quality's Darren Webb wants to thank all the customers who bought windows and other home improvement products from him over the summer. It's been a great year for Quality.

"The exciting thing is that the thankfulness works both ways," says Darren. "I've had a number of homeowners thank me for installing windows that kept out the summer's extreme heat and saved them on their cooling costs."

"The same low-e insulated windows that kept out summer's heat will also keep out winter's cold," Darren explains. "So now is the perfect time to get new windows in order to prepare for winter."

Replacement windows keep out heat or cold also by simply closing tightly—no drafts or air leaks around the edges. But they open easily and tilt in for easy cleaning.

Lots of customers ask Darren about the installation process—does it take long and will the process disturb the brick around the windows?

Darren explains that Quality installers replace one window at a time, and most homes can be finished in one to two days, depending on the number of windows. As for the brick, there is no damage or replacement needed. The new windows simply fit snugly next to the existing drywall. "If the windows are framed in wood, on rare occasions some trim work is needed, but that is really rare," Darren says.

Because Quality also does siding, they can cover the exterior wood around the windows with steel trim siding, so you do not have to worry about painting around your new windows.

Many homeowners spread the cost out by replacing windows in two stages. You might start with the rooms that are the hottest in summer, coldest in winter or draftiest year round—that way you will gain the most benefit right away. Then do the others when you can afford the next step.

Quality compares well to the national companies. Many homeowners say the salesman from the national company was pushy, window prices were given at around $1,000 per window, the salesman had only a couple of color samples and the crew might come from who knows where.

"Our windows start at around $200 and go up from there depending on the size, shape and quality," Darren explains. "There are cheap windows available, but do you really want them? With windows, as with most things, you really do get what you pay for." All Quality crews are local—if there is ever a question or problem with an installation, Quality will work with you to make it right.

Quality offers a variety of styles and colors. Darren carries several window samples because he likes to show you good, better, and best then let you make your own decision.

Let Quality help you save on utility bills year round by replacing those leaky, drafty windows with low-e insulated windows.

Quality is owned by Steve Kallestad, who has been providing professional workmanship and service since 1979. Call Steve or Darren Webb for a free estimate at 580-5001. The address is 416 South Meadow.

Keep all choices in mind when choosing flooring

With all the great choices, how do you know what kind of flooring you need when you decide to replace what you have?

The answer, say the experts at Southwest Floors, depends on how you live and who's walking on your floor. And there may not be one single answer for your entire home.

You may want to know the current trends, and Robert, Travis or Tebo at Southwest Floors can certainly help you with that. But the truth is that during the life of your flooring, trends will change several times. The best idea is to get what you will be happy with now and several years from now. And each type of flooring—carpet, wood, laminate and tile—has its benefits.

Take carpet, for example: once the darling of all homeowners, carpet has lost some of its prominence in recent years, but it still is a staple of home flooring. It provides warmth for feet and has an insulating factor in the cold months. Because there are thousands of styles and colors, it can match any décor. It reduces slips and softens falls, making it a great idea for bedrooms with toddlers or senior citizens. The softness of carpet also reduces noise.

Ceramic tile, on the other hand, is hypoallergenic, easily cleaned and very durable. After installation, little maintenance is needed other than cleaning. Ceramic tile also has a wide variety of styles and colors, including types that look like natural stone of various sorts—and even a type that looks like wood.

It's great for high traffic areas and places where water can splash, such as kitchens, baths and entryways.

Laminate flooring also resists wear and scratches. It is also hypoallergenic and easily cleaned. Laminates are well suited to high traffic areas such as hallways and game rooms, although they can certainly be used anywhere in the home.

Real wood, while the most expensive option, also is the one that typically adds the most value. Real wood floors often are engineered to look "antique," which makes scratches and dents less of an issue. Most also have a transparent "wear layer" applied to the top which extends the life and look. Like other hard surfaces, wood is hypoallergenic and easily cleaned. There are many types and colors in wood flooring that are available, and there is just something about real wood that gives a rich tone to any room.

Wood is often used in formal dining areas and other similar places.

Still have questions? No problem, just stop in at Southwest Floors and let the friendly experts there answer them all and help you get the right flooring for your needs.

Southwest Floors was opened by Robert Burton in 1990. They carry a wide selection of carpet, tile, wood and vinyl tile flooring. The address is 1113 Andrews Highway, next to McDonald's. The phone number is 689-9312. Store hours are 9-5:30 Monday through Friday and 10-1 Saturday. They accept Visa, Master Card, American Express and Discover.

Travis Kendrick and Tebo Vaughn at Southwest Floors can help you get the right flooring for your home. See them at 1113 Andrews Highway.

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Opinion

Just remember to keep paying your fair share

■ Payment to dead federal employees or postal workers on "stand by" are examples of why we need spending accountability.

CAL THOMAS
Tribune Media Services

There isn't much about dysfunctional government that shocks me anymore, but this story did.

According to a report by the Office of Personnel Management and reported in Ed O'Keefe's "The Federal Eye" column in the Washington Post, our government has been sending checks to dead people. "In the last five years," O'Keefe writes, "the Office of Personnel Management has made more than $601 million in payments to dead federal retirees, according to the agency's inspector general. Total annual payouts range between $100 million and $150 million."

This isn't something new. Inspector General Patrick McFarland had urged OPM in 2005 and again in 2008 to more closely monitor such payments. It appears his advice has gone unheeded.

"Improper payments to dead retirees are up 70 percent in the last five years," cites the OPM report. In one outrageous case, the son of a deceased annuitant kept receiving federal benefits for 37 years after his father's death. OPM didn't learn about the improper payments until after the son died. Of course, the agency never recovered any of the money. Could this be why the government has no qualms about spending other people's money?

Sen. Tom Coburn, Oklahoma Republican, conducted an investigation and reported last October on his findings. Coburn discovered that "the federal government had paid nearly $1 billion to at least 250,000 dead people since 2000. That same month, a watchdog reported that the Obama administration's economic stimulus program had made 89,000 payments of $250 each to dead or incarcerated people," writes O'Keefe.

I wonder how many of the dead and incarcerated got to vote and for whom.

As congressional Democrats and Republicans play another round of "chicken" over what, if anything, can be cut from the bloated budget and engage in phony theatrics over another possible government shutdown, those members who wish to be more responsible with other people's money ought to make the issue of wasteful spending central to the upcoming campaign.

After removing the dead and incarcerated from the federal payroll, they can go after an agency that touches all Americans: the United States Postal Service. According to Citizens Against Government Waste (www.cagw.org), "The USPS has 600,000 employees and is the second largest employer in America behind Wal-Mart. The USPS Office of Inspector General reported that employees were paid $21.9 million for 875,540 hours of 'stand-by' time in FY 2010, and $4.3 million for 170,666 hours in the first half of FY 2011. The USPS also has a 24 percent vacancy rate in its 284 million square feet of interior office space."

The problem is that once a federal agency or program is started, it is easier to find an honest politician than it is to cut something from the budget. Ronald Reagan noted the only proof of eternal life on Earth is a government program. Being dead does not have to remove one from the "spread the wealth" mentality of the current administration, or any administration. Misspending is clearly bipartisan.

Then there's Solyndra, the California solar panel company that received half a billion dollars in loan guarantees and then declared bankruptcy. Solyndra officials invoked the Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination last week before a congressional committee.

Also last week, Senate Democrats rejected a continuing spending resolution passed by the House because, among other reasons, it contains cuts in the very solar energy program that funded Solyndra. So just because a company or a person dies does not necessarily disqualify them from receiving additional taxpayer money (borrowed from the Chinese, of course). Eternal life, you see.

It is beyond disgraceful that so many elected officials and unelected bureaucrats continue to waste so much of our money, all the while demanding we be taxed more because they can't "afford" to cut a dime and some of us allegedly aren't contributing our "fair share."

We are past not being able to afford our government, and it's long past time to start cutting them off, much as a parent might stop sending money to a spendthrift college student who wastes it on partying and high-living.

OUR VIEW

Midland-Odessa bus route needs to be used

After a funding delay, EZ Rider will start its new bus service between Midland and Odessa on Oct. 24. This certainly will be a highly anticipated event and will mark the beginning of a new transportation era in the Petroplex.

We think hundreds of citizens in the region will benefit from the service, and it is our hope that the venture is highly successful. We would like to see these bus routes used to the fullest extent and come to be as close to self-sustaining as possible.

However, we have to keep in mind that if this service isn't used, it probably will be discontinued. The project is being funded through a $1.6 million federal transit grant provided through the Texas Department of Transportation as a Job Access and Reverse Commute program grant.

What we do expect in the long term is the cities of Midland and Odessa aren't going to pick up this tab locally if the route isn't paying its own way. We would hate to see this program fail because it is never a popular endeavor to take services away from area residents after a service has been set in motion.

So, we have to enter this task with the knowledge that if it is not at least a break-even fashion, it won't survive. That would be a shame because it makes sense that our area has this kind of transportation between these two cities.

Area needs strong national, world economies

Living here in the Permian Basin can somewhat skew your overall perception of the economy that exists across much of the rest of the United States. While the economies of both Midland and Odessa are racing full steam ahead, there are signs that the American economy is stagnating before our very eyes.

In fact, many investors on Wall Street and around the world are convinced more than ever that the United States and perhaps the globe are headed for a new recession. One financial indicator after another shows investors are quickly losing hope that the economy can keep growing.

That "feeling" eventually could be a game-breaker for the strength of the Permian Basin economy, and here's why: Investors worry that demand for oil and metals will fall if the world economy keeps slowing or falls into recession again.

Oil, gold and silver all have seen prices tumble in recent market activity because of mistrust over global trends, including here in the United States. If investors lose faith, the oil industry is just as vulnerable to a setback as are other industries.

The current trend is not good news for the Permian Basin and proves what we have been saying all along. We can't be an island unto ourselves. Our best position for the future is a strong America from coast to coast.

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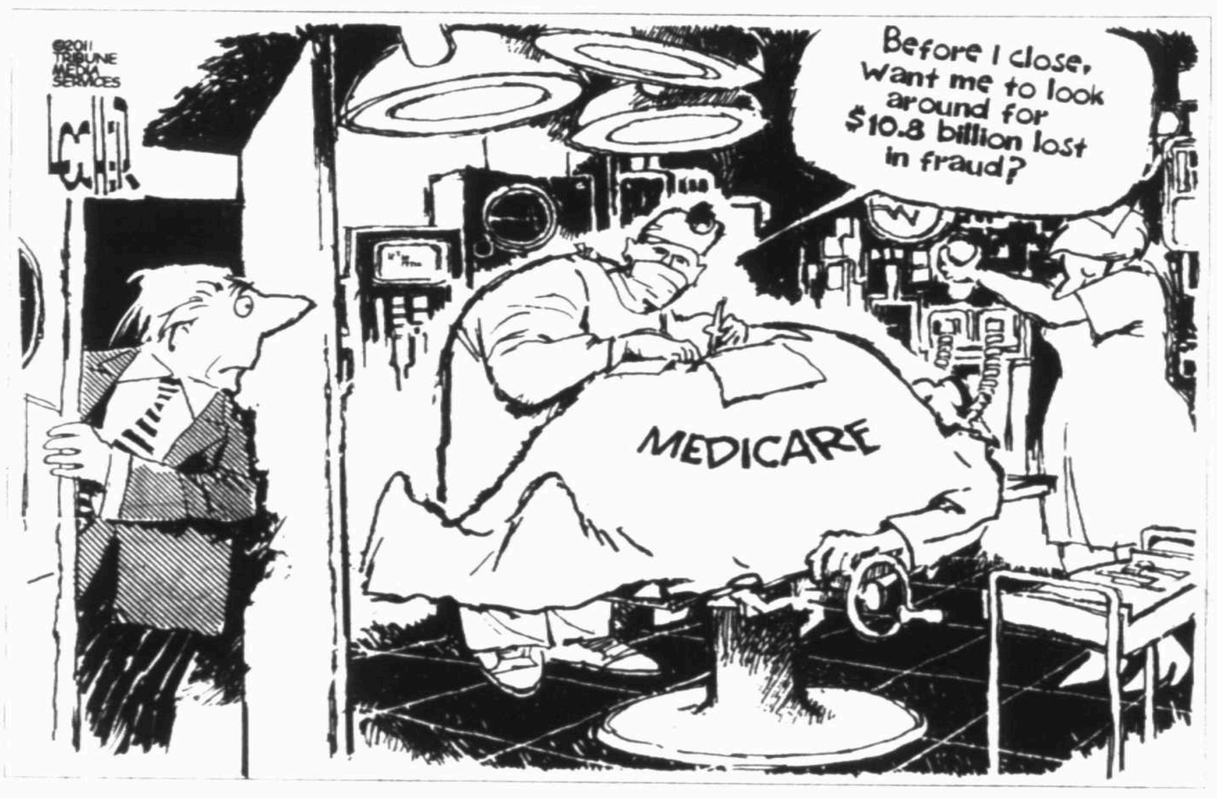


Future of America demands leadership now

■ It's time for someone — anyone — to step up.

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
N.Y. Times News Service

To Barack Obama, John Boehner, Harry Reid, Mitch McConnell, Nancy Pelosi and Eric Cantor, I just have two words of advice: Herbert Hoover.

I know you're all familiar with that name. Hoover lives in infamy in U.S. history for having been on duty when the Great Depression happened. You're all courting a similar fate. Your collective behavior is setting all of you up to be known as our generation's Herbert Hoovers — the leaders who were on duty when we entered our second great economic meltdown.

But unlike Hoover, who was just practicing the conventional economic wisdom of his day when we fell into the Depression, you have no excuses. We know what to do — a Grand Bargain: short-term stimulus to ease us through this deleveraging process, debt restructuring in the housing market and long-term budget-cutting to put our fiscal house in order. None of this is easy and the economy will not be fixed overnight; it will take years. But there is every chance it will get healed if our two parties construct the Grand Bargain we need.

But the more I read the papers the more I'm convinced that "we the people" are having an economic crisis and "you the politicians" are having an election — and there is frighteningly little overlap between the two.

What's worse — both parties seem to have concluded lately that no compromise is possible and therefore their differences will just have to be settled by the 2012 election. No problem! I'm sure our markets will be patient until the next president is in place in early 2013! And I am sure the European debt crisis will be happy to take the next year off. In fact, that must be why Republicans held another presidential debate Thursday night and the European economic crisis and how it might affect us — and what we must do to insulate ourselves — merited no discussion.

Has our leadership lost its mind? Do these people go home on weekends to some offshore island, where everyone's retirement fund is doing fine, everyone's kids have jobs and no one's mortgage is under water? Where is the urgency? This is code red. We are facing a possible global financial contagion triggered by European banks choking with sovereign debt spreading their woes to an already weakened U.S. financial system.

President Barack Obama says he tried to strike a Grand Bargain with Boehner on taxes and spending but the speaker of the House backed off, when it became clear he could not deliver his own caucus. Boehner says it was the president who undercut the deal, when he asked for more tax revenues than the two of them had already agreed upon.

All I know is this: If either of you had been a real leader truly committed to a Grand Bargain — which you both know is what we need — you wouldn't have just walked away from your negotiations. You would have taken the issue to the country and not let up until the other guy came back to the table.

Instead you both mumbled publicly about a Grand Bargain and how you were prepared for it but the other guy folded — and then retreated to your bases. Boehner went back to his base, arguing that more tax cuts can get us out of this, and Obama moved back to his base, with his focus on taxing millionaires. (In my next life, I want to be a member of the "base" — any base. They seem to have so much more fun and influence.)

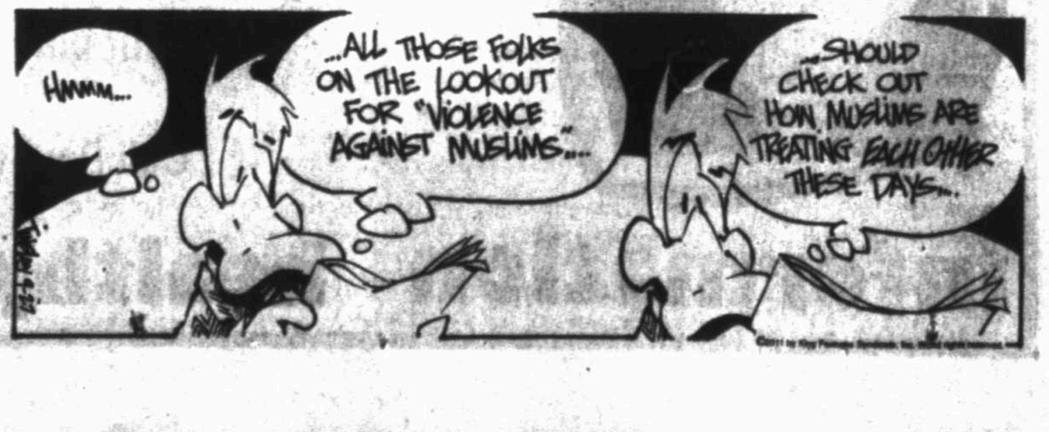
If the president really wants to lead from the front, he should summon the Democratic and Republican leadership, along with all 12 members of the House-Senate deficit "supercommittee," to join him at Camp David and tell the world that they are not coming back without a Grand Bargain — one that offers some short-term jobs stimulus, a credible long-term debt reduction plan with entitlement cuts and tax reform that increases revenues.

Do I feel that Republicans have tried to make Obama fail from Day One? Yes, I do. And their dabbling with another government shutdown now is pure madness. But the president is not blameless. He walked away from his own Simpson-Bowles deficit reduction commission, which still could be the foundation for a sane Grand Bargain.

Most important, Obama is in charge. He is going to be held most responsible by history for what happens and therefore he needs to take the lead in getting the leaders of both parties back to the Grand Bargaining table.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



ACROSS THE NATION

FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON

GOP's Cain says win in Fla. straw poll not a fluke

Businessman Herman Cain said his victory in the Florida Republican straw poll was authentic and wasn't a statement by voters against Gov. Rick Perry.

Cain told NBC's "Today" show the weekend test balloting was "not a protest vote."

Cain said his performance shows "the voice of the people is more powerful than the voice of the media."

He won roughly 37 percent of the vote, compared to 15 percent for Perry and 14 percent for former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney.

Cain also said he doubts Perry's poor showing was the result of his uneven performance earlier in the week in the Orlando candidate debate.

ATLANTA

Fish luggage? Bomb squad makes odd find in luggage

Police said a bomb squad called to the world's busiest airport found something fishy about the unclaimed luggage at Atlanta's international airport — spicy fish wrapped up in aluminum foil.

Baggage handlers going through unclaimed luggage Monday thought something was amiss and called police. Broadcaster WSB-TV reported that the Atlanta Police Department shut down about half of the baggage claim area for an hour and ordered passengers to stand back 200 feet.

An investigator said a traveler apparently was trying to spice up some fish with herbs while flying, something he insisted had been seen before. Police said the fishy luggage has not been reconnected with its owner.

NEW YORK

Wall St. protest gets boost from Michael Moore

Protesters who have been camping out in lower Manhattan have gotten an unexpected morale boost from filmmaker Michael Moore.

The "Occupy Wall Street" protest is in its second week, as demonstrators speak out against corporate greed and social inequality.

Moore visited Zuccotti Park on Monday evening to cheer the protesters on after they marched through lower Manhattan.

Police made 87 arrests on Saturday during a march north to Union Square. Protesters criticized the police response as heavy-handed and said officers used pepper spray on people who did nothing wrong.

Shutdown averted; disaster aid dispute surmounted

By David Espo
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Ending weeks of political brinkmanship, Congress finessed a dispute over disaster aid Monday night and advanced legislation to avoid a partial government shutdown this weekend.

The breakthrough came hours after the Federal Emergency Management Agency indicated it had enough money for disaster relief efforts through Friday. That disclosure allowed lawmakers to jettison a $1 billion replenishment that had been included in the measure — and to crack the gridlock it had caused.

Senate passage of the legislation was expected within hours. There was no immediate comment from House Republican leaders, although their agreement seemed a formality after the party's Senate leader signed off.

The events assured there would be no interruption in assistance in areas battered by disasters such as Hurricane Irene and last summer's tornados in Joplin, Mo., and also that the government would be able to run normally when the new budget year begins on Saturday.

The agreement also spelled the end to the latest in a string of political standoffs between Democrats and Republicans over deficits, spending and taxes that have rattled financial markets and coincided with polls showing congressional approval ratings at historically low levels.

"This compromise should satisfy Republicans ... and it should satisfy Democrats," said Senate Majority leader Harry Reid, who added that Budget Director Jacob Lew had informed him that FEMA did not need any additional funding to meet its needs for the final few days of the budget year.

"It's a win for everyone," Reid declared.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell said it was a "reasonable way to keep the government operational."

But not even the dispute-resolving agreement prevented Democrats from proceeding to a politically charged vote earlier in the evening that was designed to force Republicans to decide whether immediate aid to disaster victims or deficit concerns held a higher priority.

And the rhetoric was far harsher during the day on the Senate floor, when Mary Landrieu, D-La., unleashed an unusually personal attack on House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, R-Va., saying the weeks-long controversy started when he said, "Before we can provide help we need to find offsets in the budget."

She called that "the Cantor doctrine" and said the controversy "could have been avoided if Cantor had just said, 'I'm sorry, but I made a mistake.' But instead of saying that, he doubled down," she said.

Laena Fallon, a spokeswoman for Cantor, responded that the Virginia Republican had "never said the things she alleged, he has only suggested that we ought to provide disaster aid dollars to those who need them in a responsible way — something that she's voted to block despite the urgent need."

In fact, House Republicans insisted that any new disaster aid for the expiring budget year be offset by cuts elsewhere in the budget, a decision that Democrats seized on in hopes of reshaping the political terrain to their advantage.

Hours earlier, FEMA spokeswoman Rachel Racusen, said the agency had $114 million left in its disaster relief fund, enough to last until Thursday or Friday, the final business day of the current budget year. She said the exact timing would depend on the number of emergency victims who apply for aid, and whether any new disasters happen.

FEMA officials had said previously the funds would run out early this week. That concern prompted the Obama administration a few weeks ago to ask Congress to approve a replenishment to tide the agency over through the Sept. 30 end to the fiscal year.

House Republicans agreed weeks ago to provide $1 billion and include the money in a bill that also provides money for most federal agencies for the first few weeks of the 2012 budget year. At the same time, they insisted on cutting spending elsewhere in the budget by $1.5 billion to prevent the deficit from rising, an amount later raised to $1.6 billion.

That, in turn, produced a quick attack from Senate Democrats, who opposed cuts.

While it was unclear precisely how long FEMA's remaining funds would last, one official said the agency began conserving funds last month as Hurricane Irene approached the U.S. mainland, prioritizing its aid to help individual disaster victims and pay states and local governments for immediate needs such as removing debris and building sand bag barricades.

Funding of $450 million has been put on hold for longer-term needs such as reconstruction of damaged roads, the official said. In addition, the agency has been able to reclaim unused money from past disasters.

Fundraiser Obama works in tough money environment

By Ken Thomas and Erica Werner
Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — This is no 2008, when money seemed to fall from the sky for a young senator named Barack Obama.

In theory, fundraising should be even easier this time for the Democrat who shattered money records in his first White House campaign. He's the president now, with an unparalleled bullhorn and reach.

But his title isn't all that's changed. The economy is sickly, and he's in charge. That's not only threatening his re-election; it's also making it more difficult to inspire people to open their checkbooks for his campaign.

Many of the core supporters he counted on last time for small-dollar donations are disgruntled now. Some are personally cash-strapped. And he's had to cancel a slew of fundraisers as he tends to the business of governing a country that some fear could slide back into a recession.

With an important reporting deadline Friday, the sour environment explains why Obama is holding seven fundraisers on the West Coast this week — and why he held a private conference call with donors late last week aimed at bucking up his top backers.

The president offered a spirited defense of his administration's accomplishments in those remarks, and campaign officials urged the top donors to redouble their efforts and stay focused ahead, according to a person familiar with the private call. They disclosed the contents of it only on the condition of anonymity.

Obama made a similar pitch — face to face — at fundraisers at the homes of wealthy donors from Seattle to the Silicon Valley to Hollywood over the past two days, appealing to mostly small groups of big-money supporters to hang onto the loving feeling they had for him back when he first ran for president.

"I need you guys to shake off any doldrums," the president told a Seattle audience Sunday. "I'm asking you to join me in finishing what we started in 2008."

For all the difficulties, Obama still is outpacing his Republican rivals in the money chase by the tens of millions, and, without a primary challenge, he doesn't have to spend what he's raising until next year. He's still going to raise a ton of money, which is needed for pricey TV ads and get-out-the-vote operations. He'll be helped by the Democratic National Committee's coffers, too.

At the same time, Democratic-aligned outside groups — he once opposed them but now all but supports them after GOP-leaning groups helped Republicans win big last fall — are banking cash to help him on the air and on the ground.

Still, there are signs money isn't coming nearly as quickly or easily this year as it did in 2007 and 2008.

Back then, Obama raised a jaw-dropping $750 million for the primary and general elections.

He started raising money for his re-election this spring, and, within the first three months, raised $86 million for his campaign and the DNC, whose primary mission is helping the president win. But his team has dealt with canceled fundraisers due to the protracted debt ceiling debate — some of the events on the West Coast are making up for ones previously scrapped — as well as unhappiness from liberal groups and the typical summer lull in money raising.

ELECTION 2012

Mindful of the tough environment, Obama's team set a goal of $55 million between the campaign and the party for the quarter ending Friday. If the campaign meets its goal, Obama would have to bring in roughly $120 million combined for each of the next five quarters to keep pace with his previous totals — an enormous task, given that the president's advisers initially told supporters privately they expected to match or exceed his totals of the 2008 race.

There are signs of difficulties.

The Obama Victory Fund — a joint fundraising arm between the DNC and Obama's campaign — raised just $3.6 million during July and August, compared with $7 million in June.

His campaign issued a "grassroots fundraising challenge" during the summer as a way to encourage activists to create their own fundraising Web pages and set individual targets. It set a goal of 20,000 donations through the program by this Friday. But by Monday morning, the website showed that the program had received only about 7,500. And a "national leaderboard" listing the top performers showed only five people raising more than $1,000, a fraction of what it would cost to attend one of Obama's high-end fundraisers.

Several times a week, Obama's campaign sends out emails trying to raise money by touting his policies, such as the jobs bill he's trying to get Congress to pass and the end of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy for gays and lesbians in the military.

In one, deputy campaign manager Jen O'Malley Dillon said the campaign faced a serious deadline that would "determine what kinds of resources we can commit to which states."

In another, Ann Marie Habershaw, Obama's chief operating officer, asked supporters for donations of $3 or more — about the cost of a Starbucks latte. "What we do before midnight on September 30th determines our budget until the end of this year. And what happens this year will set in motion the results on Election Day 2012. It's that simple," Habershaw wrote.

Some of the president's fundraisers say Obama's jobs plan, announced earlier this month, helped them focus their pitches to prospective donors after many liberals criticized him for giving in to Republican demands during the summer's debt ceiling debate.

"After a very difficult period, the American Jobs Act has given this administration a very clear agenda and plan and that has given greater energy to the Democratic donor community," said Robert Zimmerman, a member of the Democratic National Committee.

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AROUND THE GLOBE

FROM WIRE REPORTS

CAIRO

Saudi authorities to try woman for driving

A Saudi activist will stand trial for defying the kingdom's ban on female drivers, a lawyer and rights advocates said Monday, revealing clear limits on how far the conservative Muslim land is willing to go to grant women greater rights.

Just a day earlier, King Abdullah, who is regarded as a reformer by Saudi standards, decreed that women would be allowed for the first time to vote and run as candidates in elections for municipal councils starting in 2015. He also promised to appoint women after two years to the Shura Council, the currently all-male consultative body with no legislative powers.

Activists in Saudi Arabia and abroad welcomed the changes as a step in the right direction, while urging the kingdom to end all discrimination against women. Some also pointed to the case against Najalaa Harriri as evidence of how far the kingdom still has to go on the path of reforms.

MOSCOW

Russian finance minister out after Medvedev spat

Russia's influential finance minister was forced out Monday following a televised confrontation with President Dmitry Medvedev, who had angrily demanded that Alexei Kudrin immediately explain his criticism of Medvedev's policies or resign.

The open conflict within Russia's leadership follows the announcement over the weekend that Prime Minister Vladimir Putin plans to return to the presidency next year and Medvedev would then take his old job as prime minister. Russia will have a presidential vote in March, but Putin is sure to win.

The departure of Kudrin is likely to unsettle investors and further shake Russia's markets. A longtime member of Putin's team, he has been finance minister since 2000 and his tight hold over the budget has been seen as key to Russia's economic stability.

"It is difficult to see how Mr. Kudrin's resignation can be anything but market-negative," said Neil Shearing, chief emerging markets economist at Capital Economics Ltd in London. "With oil prices starting to slide and financial markets still jittery, now is not a good time for the government to lose its arch fiscal hawk."

On Saturday in the U.S., Kudrin said he would refuse to serve in the government if Medvedev was made prime minister because of policy disagreements he had with him, including plans to substantially boost military spending.

US Marines find rewards in Afghanistan

By Christopher Torchia
Associated Press

FORWARD OPERATING BASE JACKSON, Afghanistan — An American in uniform stands near a landing zone at about 2 a.m., moonlight framing his features, and talks about dead and maimed men he knows. His flight out isn't until next month, and he is counting the days.

Then he says he will miss Afghanistan.

"It's just life or death; the simplicity of it," said Cpl. Robert Cole of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, which ends a seven-month deployment in the southern region of Sangin in October. "It's also kind of nice in some ways because you don't have to worry about anything else in the world."

The dominant narrative about war in a foreign land says its practitioners yearn for home, for the families, the comforts, and the luxury of no longer worrying about imminent death or injury. It applies to young American troops in Afghan combat zones, but it's not the whole truth.

Combat can deliver a sense of urgency, meaning, order and belonging. There is the adrenaline-fueled elation of a firefight, and the horror of rescuing a comrade wounded by a bomb on patrol. It is magnified, instantaneous experience. An existence boiled down to the essentials mocks the mundane detritus, the quibbles and bill-paying and anonymity, of life back home.

Building on the costly inroads of a previous unit, the Marine battalion has seen a decline in Taliban attacks in Sangin, a southern Afghan area where the insurgency battled British forces to a stalemate for years. Now the troops have more time to build bridges and sluice gates, and sit cross-legged at meetings with Afghan elders in hopes of stripping the insurgency of popular support.

Early on, the going was hard. Cole said his platoon suffered close to 30 percent casualties, mostly from bombs hidden around its patrol base.

He described how one Marine on patrol triggered a bomb that severed his legs. Another Marine rushed forward to apply tourniquets, knowing his friend would bleed to death if he methodically checked, as training dictated, for more boobytraps in his path. The second Marine started dragging the first toward safety when he set off another bomb, severing his own legs, according to Cole. But he saved his comrade in the process.

"He didn't lose his legs for his country, he lost his legs for his brother," Cole, of Klamath Falls, Oregon, said bluntly. He gestured to another Marine in the dark at the landing zone at Forward Operating Base Jackson, the battalion's headquarters.

"The only shred of sanity that keeps us going out here is that I have to protect his ass and he has to protect my ass," said Cole, who is confined to the base after suffering concussions in two explosions.

Cole, 22, is not bitter. He treasures the fierce loyalty, born of bloodshed. Politics, the debate about the wisdom of the decade-long U.S. involvement in Afghanistan, the plan to withdraw international combat forces by the end of 2014, seem irrelevant to young Marines.

When they talk about friends with amputated limbs under treatment in the United States, they often stick to the line, "he's doing really good right now," even if they know that isn't true.

"Get some!" is a Marine slogan, reflecting the U.S. military branch's traditional taste for expeditionary action. On the night of Sept. 11, possibly to mark the 10th anniversary of the terror attacks in the United States, insurgents fired on guard posts at the Jackson camp. It was harassment, not a major attack. Marines returned fire in great volume, red tracer rounds plunging into the darkness.

"Watch your sectors!" warned a company captain as some Marines, adrenaline unleashed, broadened their sweep of fire from defensive berms. After a while, the shooting subsided. One Marine was asked: Is it over?

"I have no clue," he laughed. "They can fire at us all night if they want, as long as nobody gets hurt."

At Patrol Base Fulod, about a 15-minute ride in an armored vehicle from the Jackson camp, Cpl. Ernest Tubbs is something special among his peers. He has discovered three-dozen hidden bombs on this deployment. A smooth talker who radiates confidence, he remembered the first time he uncovered an IED, or improvised explosive device, "heart racing, so many emotions at one time."

Tubbs, 22, of Parsonsburg, Maryland, leads patrols with a metal detector, potentially the most dangerous job in the lineup. In a small victory celebration, he smokes a cigarette whenever he finds an IED; he smoked two in a row after one very hazardous experience.

He is desperate to return to his wife and newborn son, and become a civilian, but he won't forget what it is like to be a kind of savior, to know men depend on him for their lives.

"The feeling of when things happen out here, it's a feeling that you'll never get rid of. But it's a feeling that will always belong to you," he said. "There's no more adrenaline rush in the world than finding an IED. I'm going to miss that a bunch."

For families in the United States, there are no such thrills, only the grind of not knowing. Tubbs' wife, Hannah, gave birth to a boy, Gabe, last month. Her husband's oldest brother cut the umbilical cord. In an e-mail to the Associated Press, she wrote:

"Even when I was still pregnant with him I would tell him that his daddy loves him and can't wait to meet him. I tell him who his daddy is and all about him. Being pregnant for most of the deployment didn't help the emotional part of it all. It was hard getting ready for the baby without him. It was even harder to hear about guys who had been hurt or even killed knowing they did the same job as my son's father."

She continued: "His best friend is a triple amp (amputee) and another lost his life, he had not even been married a year. We kept in touch with his wife and she plans on being at the homecoming. There are no words that describe what families go through during a deployment. The days drag on when there is no phone call and your heart drops when there is an unexpected knock on the door."

Various books, films and television series address the theme of troops liking aspects of war, or missing it when they get home. Many focus on the sacrifice, the brotherhood, or the bloodshed, or some combination. Norman Mailer's novel, "The Naked and the Dead," and the 1998 movie "Saving Private Ryan" are among works that explore the psychological impact of intense combat on its protagonists.

"It is well that war is so terrible — otherwise we would grow too fond of it," U.S. Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee reportedly said at the Battle of Fredericksburg on Dec. 13, 1862.

Some transitions to home are the hardest of all.

Walking past cornfields on a patrol, 1st Lt. Richard Marcantonio of Corpus Christi, Texas, talked about a Marine who lost three limbs in a bombing and was transferred to a military hospital in the United States. One day, his father walked in and handed his son's baby to him as he lay in bed.

According to Marcantonio, the father said something like: "Here's your child. I'm not going to bring her up, so you better do it."

And, this story of tough love goes, the Marine is doing just that.

Some who come from rural areas in the United States feel a curious affinity with Afghanistan and its web of sparsely populated villages and farmland. Capt. Brian Huysman of Delphos, Ohio — "Good luck finding Delphos on the map," he said — sees parallels between the "small town mentality" and rivalries back home and the jostling for advantage among local leaders in southern Afghan settlements.

"It's very eerie," said Huysman, Weapons Company commander for the battalion.

When these men are retired veterans, many will look back on Afghanistan as a place of loss, but also a place that made them better than they were, whether the U.S. military succeeds in its long-term goals or not. The cult of sacrifice finds expression in a shrine to the missing in action of past wars in the dining hall at Camp Leatherneck, the main Marine base in southern Afghanistan.

There, an empty chair sits in front of a table laid with white cloth and a place setting for one. On the bread plate, a notice says, a slice of lemon symbolizes their "bitter fate," and salt stands for families' tears. There are dog tags and an inverted drinking glass.

Cole, the corporal at the landing zone, said that in his time in Sangin, he had seen Taliban fighters only once, in a treeline hundreds of yards (meters) away, too far to fire on them accurately. Marines called for an air strike, but it was denied because there were children in the area. International forces have "rules of engagement" designed to avoid civilian casualties.

As Cole talked, the dark mass of an Osprey aircraft rumbled inward, its lights off to make it less of a target for insurgents. The back ramp was open, a tethered gunner at the edge with a mounted machine gun.

Dust and wind swirled, tossed up by churning rotors. The courteous corporal pulled a departing passenger into a half-embrace.

"Thank you for listening," he said.

Dead Sea Scrolls go online

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Two thousand years after they were written and decades after they were found in desert caves, some of the world-famous Dead Sea Scrolls went online for the first time Monday in a project launched by Israel's national museum and the web giant Google.

The appearance of five of the most important Dead Sea scrolls on the Internet is part of a broader attempt by the custodians of the celebrated manuscripts — who were once criticized for allowing them to be monopolized by small circles of scholars — to make them available to anyone with a computer.

The scrolls include the biblical Book of Isaiah and the manuscript known as the Temple Scroll.

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HENRY
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EQUINE EXPANSION

MRT file photo

Ryan Pedone of Weatherford exercises her horses before competing in the Jurassic Goes West barrel race at the Horseshoe in June 2007. The Horseshoe is looking to expand to accomodate more equine events.

Horseshoe looks to grow for more events

By Kathleen Thurber
Staff Writer

Midland County Horseshoe Arena managers say they'll be going after more equine events in the future after seeing horse-related activities at the venue increase by more than 200 percent this year.

"The really good news is the area we thought we'd be strongest in presents our best opportunity to grow," said Michael Dooley, president of Dooley Management Company, which operates the arena.

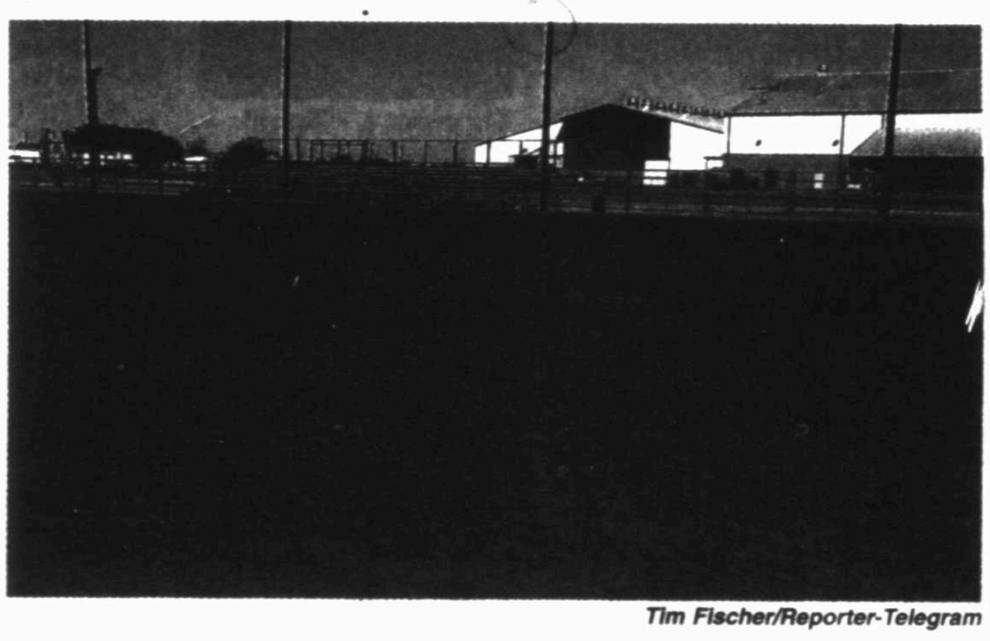
Inside

Read about how the cost to bury large animals is set to increase to $125 and other commissioner business. Page 2B

With $500,000 budgeted by the county for the addition of a roof to the outdoor arena in 2012 and $11 million budgeted for the possibility of a new building at the complex, Dooley said the potential for growth in equine and other events only will increase.

"The outdoor arena roof will allow us to go for bigger horse shows," Dooley said.

With a new building that would be constructed next to the Horseshoe and connected by a breezeway if approved, Dooley said they could attract bigger concerts, meetings and citywide conventions. Plus, he said with a separate meeting facility they would be able to leave dirt on the arena floor throughout much of the year and book multiple events at the complex rather than having to schedule around when the dirt can be moved.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland County commissioners want to add a roof the outdoor arena to try to attract more events to the Horseshoe Center.

"It costs several thousand dollars to move the dirt in and out," he said.

Dooley came before the court on Monday to present his annual report to Midland County commissioners, as is required by the management contract. He also provided a review of the activity in the five years since the arena opened.

In total, 517 events have been hosted at the venue since 2006 and have brought in just 413,777 visitors, Dooley said.

During fiscal year 2011, 120 events were hosted over 211 days, up from the 117 events that were hosted over 183 days in 2010, according to the report. Together, this year's events brought in 92,950 visitors, which represented a slight decrease from the 93,511 who came through the venue in fiscal year 2010, the report says.

Please see **EVENTS**/2B

Lee debate team wins national award

By Meredith Moriak
Staff Writer

Debate students at Lee High School know winning doesn't come easy.

They see it as something that comes as a payoff for hard work and tournament preparation.

The students in Cindy Wiebusch's debate program recently learned they were named to the National Forensic League's 100 Club for achieving more than 100 degrees as a program last year.

This means they're in the top 10 percent of NFL chapters nationwide and the award is a milestone that demonstrates "outstanding commitment to teaching students essential life skills — including communication, research, listening, writing and organization," according to a news release.

Students participate in three different kinds of debate — cross-examination, Lincoln-Douglas and public forum — and though they're partial to their own style, said they all cater to different styles and abilities.

Lincoln-Douglas is a solo debate that focuses on morality and logic, rather than actual evidence, senior Cory Stewart said. Students get a different topic every two months and are currently debating animal rights. They'll receive another topic on Oct. 15 and begin preparing for November and December tournaments.

For students who participate in cross-examination, they must have a partner and spend their time extensively researching the topic, which stays the same the entire year. This year, they're focusing on space exploration and senior Marissa Kent said everything has to be found in evidence.

The need for a partner has required some students to switch to other debate styles.

Senior Ashlesha Shah said she initially learned cross-examination debate, but decided to become a Lincoln-Douglas debater when she and her partner couldn't make it to the same tournaments.

Wiebusch's students all write individual cases on both the affirmative and negative side of each issue.

"The groundwork is individual and then you come together as a team," senior Arjun Mocherla said.

He said he has other members of the debate team look for fallacies in his case and edit it to make it stronger.

Even though they're on the same team and debating the same issues, the students said they always have different points for the same argument. They end up presenting their cases differently, they said.

"Usually you write the side you feel most passionate about first and then write the other one to completely negate everything you said," senior Ruddy Tchao said.

Wiebusch said debate is a valuable class because students learn to see two-sides of every issue and have to learn to be respectful of the opinion that isn't

Please see **LEE**/2B

'The toughest athlete in the world is a 62-year-old woman'

Surely, I'm not the only one who followed in amazement one woman's attempt to swim 103 miles through shark-infested waters from Cuba to Florida over the weekend.

How many of us could even stay awake for about 60 hours straight, much less only taking breaks by treading water? That was her plan.

By all accounts, her body — even at the age of 62 — was conditioned and fit to push the boundaries of human possibility. And she opted to do it without a shark barrier cage.

Seas perhaps couldn't have been more perfect — nearly flat in the middle of the ocean — nor her determination more fierce. Curious people including myself cheered her from afar, following news reports and blog posts.

But in the end, it wasn't a shark, or even fatigue, that resulted in her reaching the Florida coastline by boat.

A pesky sea creature called a Portuguese man o' war and jelly fish stings rendered her incapacitated. She tried to carry on, despite excruciating pain she later said couldn't compare to kidney stones or anything she'd ever before experienced.

After doctors gave her shots in an attempt to combat the poison, she battled paralysis settling into her back and breath obstruction that came along with the stings. But visions of the Florida coastline kept her going against all odds.

Then another man o' war struck unmercifully.

Finally, physicians with her flotilla agreed another sting could prove fatal.

So after three days in the ocean, swimming 92 miles and over 40 straight hours into a lifelong dream, a full focused mission was aborted in a heartbreaking scene.

But Diana Nyad is still a hero in my book. She's one of those people who make us go "Wow!" and consider how pathetic are our own small achievements.

While I question the wisdom of her undertaking, the guts and courage it took — not to mention strength nearly unhuman—is mind boggling.

"But for each of us, isn't life about determining your own finish line? This journey has always been about reaching your own other shore, no matter what it is, and that dream continues," Nyad said.

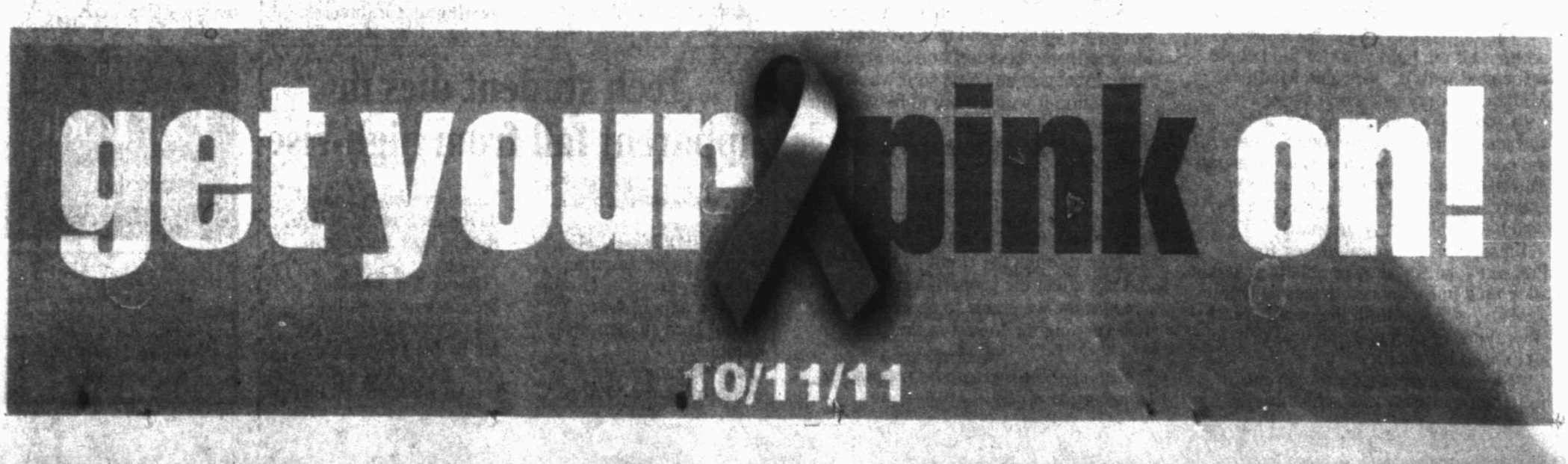
Somewhere along the way, this woman has inspired me to get in better shape myself.

But don't expect me to be writing about my own shark-infested water marathon.

Here's something for us all to ponder:

"The toughest athlete in the world is a 62-year-old woman" —D.L. Stewart, DaytonDailyNews.com.

Shanna Sissom can be reached at ssissom@mrt.com.



County votes to raise cost of burying large animals

By Kathleen Thurber
Staff Writer

Midlanders needing assistance in laying their horses to rest will have to pay a bigger fee from now on.

Midland County commissioners approved on Monday an increase from $40 to $125 in the charge for large animal burial.

"They've been $40 since I can remember," County Judge Mike Bradford said.

And with the cost of burying large animals, such as horses, coming in at $100 or more, Bradford said it was time to make a change.

The increase in price will make the county more competitive with others who offer the service, he said, which could prevent the county from receiving a large percentage of the calls simply because it's the most affordable.

Animals typically are buried on the animal owner's property, Bradford said.

The change in pricing will begin on Saturday Oct. 1.

In other business, commissioners:

■ Heard a report from Carl R. Griffith and Associates Inc. on cost savings found at the Midland County Detention Center since 2007.

When the firm came in during March of 2007, Midland County was sending 45 to 60 inmates every day to other counties at a cost of more than $800,000 a year, said Richard Kirkland, CRG Midland project manager. Additionally, it was spending between $400,000 and $600,000 on overtime annually and was watching its jail population inch toward 400 per day.

At that time, plans for a new jail had been submitted that would have followed a similar design as the former detention center.

Through work with county staff from various departments and more than 30 recommendations, Kirkland said they were able to see several improvements and cost savings.

The new jail was designed for direct supervision and will allow for more inmates without requiring additional staff, he said. They worked with the district attorney's office to reduce the backlog of cases and ensure individuals weren't sitting in jail longer than necessary.

A data sharing system that could be shared with all criminal justice agencies also was worked on. Kirkland said that system still needs to be improved in Midland and across the state, but that improvements made thus far have been helpful.

In total, he said, the county has saved or avoided spending $4.5 million during the last four and a half years through implementing new methods of supervision, preventing overtime and preventing the need to send inmates to other counties, among other initiatives.

■ Approved a resolution for the Texans Feeding Texans program that allows Community and Senior Services to accept a grant for providing meals to seniors. The nonprofits' Meals on Wheels program delivered more than 160,000 meals last year, said Jody Sneed, development director for CSS.

■ Agreed to donate surplus furniture from the Court Residential Treatment Center to Helping Hands of Midland. The state now requires addiction treatment programs to have metal furniture so the wooden desks and other pieces in the facility can no longer be used, purchasing agent Bob Henderson said. "I need more furniture like I need a hole in the head," Henderson said, adding with its age the county wouldn't be able to make money off of the items.

■ Voted to pay $166,222.35 to the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone board.

The county entered into the TIRZ board in 2001 when the property values for the downtown area included in the zone were at $97 million, said Kathy Reeves, tax assessor/collector.

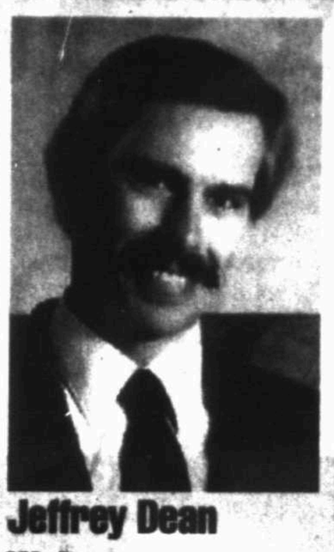
The values in that area now have increased to $176 million. In agreeing to be part of the TIRZ, the county consented to provide the TIRZ board any property tax revenue generated when values increased beyond the $97 million point. The county has a representative on the board and any money the board agrees to utilize is to be invested in a way that further increases downtown property values.

■ Signed contracts with Alternative Life Solutions Counseling and Centers for Children and Families to work with the Juvenile Probation department.

■ Recognized a presentation of certificate from the Drug Enforcement Agency to Dale Little, Midland County Emergency Management coordinator.

Kathleen Thurber can be reached at kthurber@mrt.com.

Obituaries



Jeffrey Dean Welter

Jeffrey Dean Welter of Gardendale, TX, age 55, passed from this life on Sunday, September 25, 2011, at Medical Center Hospital in Odessa, TX. He was born on May 28, 1956, to Fred Ernest Welter and Anna Bell (Shipley-Gardner) Welter in Sheridan, WY. He married Cerise Smith and they shared 34 wonderful years together. Jeffrey was the manager of Primetime Christian Broadcasting for many years and also worked as a power lineman for Central Valley Electric Co-Op. He was also a circuit riding preacher all over Texas and Northern New Mexico. In 1994, he was electrocuted but he came back because God had more work for him. He spent his time fasting and praying for the Body of Christ and teaching God's word. Jeffrey was an awesome man and loved by many.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Cerise Welter of Gardendale; daughter, Janine Deckard of Amarillo; parents, Fred and Anna Bell Welter of Sheridan, WY; brothers, Fred Welter, Jr., Roger Welter, and T.J. Welter, all of Sheridan, WY, Chuck Charles Welter of Hawaii, Christopher Welter of Big Horn, WY and Timothy Welter; sister, Mary Sundberg of Kent, WA; and two grandchildren, Azariah Deckard and Tziporah Deckard, both of Amarillo.

Graveside services will be 10:00 a.m., Friday, September 30, 2011, at Los Angeles Garden of Ector County Cemetery in Odessa.

In lieu of flowers, your support for his wife would be greatly appreciated.

Arrangements are entrusted to Acres West Funeral Chapel, 8115 W. University Blvd. in Odessa, TX and condolences to the family may be sent online at: acreswestfuneral.com.

Margarita Fierro

Margarita Fierro, 51, of Midland, passed away on September 25, 2011, at her residence after a long battle with cancer.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, September 28, 2011, at the Living Way Four Square Church, with Pastor Gavino Guerrero, officiating. Viewing will be held on Tuesday at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

Margarita grew up in Midland and graduated from Midland High School. She later attended Western Governor's University and received a BS in Education. Margarita taught 3rd grade at Midland Academy School, teaching was her passion. Margarita was an inspiration to everyone in her life. She will be dearly missed.

Survivors include her husband, Pablo Fierro of Midland; two sons, Raymond F. Revilla, Jr. and wife, Sonya, and Daniel Ontiveros and wife, Carmen, all of Midland; one daughter, Jessica Ontiveros of Midland; three sisters, Maria Inez Jones of Midland, Gianna Madrini of Dallas, Paula Baker of Midland; two brothers, Joey Baltier of Midland, and Mark Castellon of San Antonio; her mother, Elidia Lopez of Del Rio, Texas; and seven grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father, Jose Baltier.

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

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

Thomas I. "Tom" Coleman, Jr.

Thomas I. "Tom" Coleman, Jr. went to be with His Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Saturday afternoon, September 24, 2011, in Midland. A memorial service and interment will be held at the Wildwood Chapel at Restland Cemetery, in Dallas, on Wednesday, September 28th at 3:00 p.m. A memorial service will also be held in Midland at the Glass Chapel of First United Methodist Church on Saturday, October 1st, at 1:00 p.m.

Tom was born to T. I. Coleman, Sr. and Vesta Smith Coleman on September 8, 1924, in Dallas, Texas. Following graduation from W. H. Adamson High School in Oak Cliff (Dallas) in 1942, Tom enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps and served for three years in the Pacific in World War II. He was in 'A Company of the First Armored Amphibian Battalion and was in the 'Zero' (first) landing wave under heavy Japanese fire in three landings. Tom served bravely in Guam, Saipan, the Marshall Islands, and Okinawa and attained the rank of Private First Class, with service commendations. He was truly one of the 'Greatest Generation'. He and the surviving members of 'A' company held reunions around the country for many years and Tom and Margaret attended many of them.

Following the war, Tom returned to Dallas, where he briefly worked for his father in the construction business. At Oak Cliff United Methodist Church, he was invited to a Sunday School party by a beautiful, young brunette named Margaret (Martelle) Bohanan. They fell in love and became engaged, but waited until her graduation from SMU to marry at Oak Cliff Methodist Church in Dallas on June 29th, 1948. Tom and Margaret had three children together; Beth, Kay, and Kelly. They celebrated 63 years of marriage on June 29th of this year.

Tom attended SMU on the GI Bill, and graduated with a BS in Journalism in 1949. He was a sports writer for the Dallas Morning News and traveled around the state covering high school sporting events and later college football. He interviewed notable sports figures of the day such as Byron Nelson, Dizzy and Daffy Dean, Babe Didrickson Zaharias, and Bear Bryant. In the early 1950's, Tom became one of the first petroleum landmen. He was one of the eight founding members of the American Association of Petroleum Landmen (AAPL). He worked originally with Indian Territories Illuminating Oil Company, which later became Cities Service. Daughter, Beth, was born in Dallas in 1950. Tom moved his family to Roswell, New Mexico, from Dallas, where his second daughter, Kay was born in 1953. Tom was a landman for Atlantic Richfield (ARCO). The Coleman's moved to Midland in the mid-50's, where son, Kelly, was born. He moved the family briefly back to Dallas in 1957. The following year the Coleman's moved back to Midland, where Tom lived the rest of his life. He worked as an independent oil operator and also with Aikman Brothers, Midwest, and Apache before becoming Land Manager for Wagner and Brown in 1974. He worked for Wagner and Brown for ten years. During that time, he acquired many Leases in the Conger/Big Salute field in Sterling County, where over 500 wells were successfully completed. Tom formed Tomarco, Ltd. and worked for several years more in the oil business, with his son Kelly before retiring.

Tom served on several boards during his lifetime. He was active in the YMCA and also served on the board here. He was in Toastmaster's Club briefly and served in both Dallas and Midland in leadership with the Boy Scouts of America for several years. He was Chairman of the Board at First United Methodist Church, where he and his family were active members for over 50 years. Tom also served as President of the local chapter of the Optimist Club. He was Chairman of the Board at Manor Park and served on the board for 12 years. While serving as Chairman, he acquired 40 acres of adjacent land where independent living homes were built. He spent the last four years of his life in one of those homes! Tom founded the local chapter of Christian Oilmen's Association and served as its President and later as President of the International Christian Oilmen's Association. Tom also served on the board of directors of Blessings For Obedience Ministry for 25 years. He also coordinated several Lay Witness Missions throughout Texas and New Mexico in the 1970's.

Tom was a devout Christian and known for his gentle spirit, great wisdom and abundant generosity. He never wanted to be repaid for his generosity but always wanted those he helped to 'pay it forward'. Tom helped build the Midland Soup Kitchen and helped Blessings For Obedience Ministry to place Christian FM, AM and Shortwave broadcast stations in Sudan, Rwanda, Indonesia, Burma, Nicaragua, Israel, Iraq, and many other parts of the world. He taught single adult Sunday School classes at both Oak Cliff Methodist Church in Dallas and First United Methodist Church in Midland. He also taught the Mr. and Mrs. Class at First Methodist as well as the Homer Fort Fellowship Class, of which he and Margaret were active members at the time of his death.

Tom was noted for his tremendous, self-effacing sense of humor. He was our 'live entertainment'! He kept us all in stitches and kept a smile on his face and ours to the very end of his earthly life.

Tom Coleman has no doubt received a glorious and joyous welcome in heaven, where his reward is great! He was preceded in death by his parents and oldest sister, Frances Lansdowne. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, his bride of 63 years; his three children, daughter, Beth Bradley of Arlington, Texas, daughter, Kay Grissom and her husband, Jon of Wichita, Kansas, and son, Kelly and his wife, Tina, of Midland; as well as eight grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren.

Memorials may be directed to Blessings For Obedience Ministry, P. O. Box 2315, Midland, Texas 79702.

Death Notices

Clyde James "Jimmy" Bailey, Jr.

Clyde James "Jimmy" Bailey, Jr., 65, of Big Spring passed away Friday, September 23, 2011, in Odessa. No services are planned.

He is survived by one sister, Phyllis Smith and one nephew, Mike Rush.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

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

EVENTS

From 1B

"Attendance leveled off this year," Dooley said, adding it could be attributed to the decrease in performances over the last year. There were eight performances at the Horseshoe in 2011, down from 12 in 2010.

The Midland County Fair was among the events that helped boost attendance, he said, and will continue to be an event they make a priority. Midland County commissioners were presented with a $16,000 check from the Midland County Fair board on Monday. The county agreed to provide the fair $20,000 in seed money during each of its first two years and was to receive 40 percent of any profits earned over $20,000, according to the agreement.

"The fair couldn't have been successful without all the hard work of the people associated with it," said Zan Matthies, Midland County extension agent.

In addition to increasing the number and length of equine and other events in the coming years, Dooley said the arena also will continue to host community events such as "Movies on the Terrace," which took place this summer.

Jimmy Smith, commissioner for Precinct 1, said if they're able to schedule additional horse-related events as Dooley predicts, that will limit the county on the other types of events it can host if it doesn't expand the facility.

"If we get more equestrian events, it limits what else we can schedule," he said.

County Judge Mike Bradford said discussions about whether to add on to the Horseshoe will take place in the new fiscal year. Having budgeted for an addition doesn't mean it will happen; it allows for commissioners to discuss the issue.

"Do you add the new building? Maybe, maybe not," he said. "You don't want to miss business and if you're missing too much business you need to address it."

Luis Sanchez, commissioner for Precinct 3, said he's concerned the county continues to have to provide funds for the operation of the Horseshoe.

Bradford said that number continues to decrease — it was at $500,000 following the first year of operation and has been as low as $80,000 — and that event centers like the Horseshoe don't break even or make money in any city, so it was their expectation it would have to be supported at some level.

"In my view, it's been extremely successful," he said.

Randy Prude, commissioner for Precinct 4, added that any capital improvements made at the Horseshoe will be done through the county's reserve fund and not affect the property tax rate, which is why they were able to approve a rate that's among the lowest in the state.

Kathleen Thurber can be reached at kthurber@mrt.com.

LEE

From 1B

their own.

"I've found that you come in with a narrow mindset but the more you look at the other side and read information, the easier it is to see things from both sides," Mason Wuthrich said.

For junior Jordan Darling, debate is something that's given him confidence.

"I was never comfortable public speaking before, but debate has opened my world. I can speak in front of everyone and not be worried about it," Darling said.

Darling also considers debate class to be the place he's made his best friends.

"I enjoy school, but I love debate," Darling said. "It has opened my eyes to different people from different cultures and it's not just the sport of debate that I love, but the people I've met."

The team will host the Tall City Invitational Speech & Debate Tournament Oct. 21-22 and are gearing up for intense competition season in January and February.

"We all have individual goals for competition and goals as a team, but I think that we just want to perform to the best of our abilities," Wuthrich said. "We want to show Mrs. Wiebs that everything she's done for us wasn't a waste and thank her for her effort."

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

Tech student dies in apparent fall from high-rise

Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Police suspect a fall from the upper levels of an 11-story parking garage killed a Texas Tech student near campus.

Investigators said a passerby found Mason Vanstory's body around daybreak Sunday at the Raider Park Parking Garage.

Police Sgt. Jonathan Stewart said it's still unknown what led to the fall by the 19-year-old sophomore mass communications student from Dallas.

Read
Ed Todd
Thursdays in the Reporter-Telegram

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STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

LUBBOCK

Police say suspect ID'd in 2004 slaying

Police say they have issued a murder warrant for a man identified by DNA tests as a suspect in the 2004 slaying of a 78-year-old Lubbock woman.

A statement issued Monday by Lubbock police say Clarence Lee Hooker already is serving prison sentences for unrelated Lubbock County convictions. He's not accused of the January 2004 death of Mary Elizabeth Davis.

The 78-year-old woman was found dead of multiple stab wounds at her home. Her body was found by police officers called by family members and neighbors concerned about not having seen her for several days.

LUBBOCK

Police shoot man, 90, who shot at them

Lubbock police say they shot and wounded a 90-year-old man who opened fire on officers responding to a burglary call.

The victim, whose name was not released, was hospitalized after the Sunday shooting although his wounds were not considered life threatening.

Police were called to a west Lubbock apartment complex after getting a call that several people were trying to break into an apartment. Sgt. Jonathan Stewart told the Lubbock-Avalanche Journal that when officers showed up, the man in a neighboring apartment fired a shot at them.

Neighbors said the man may have become confused, that he was known to be forgetful but not aggressive or violent.

HOUSTON

Piranha caught in suburban lake

Texas Parks and Wildlife officials say a fish caught by a pre-teen girl in a suburban Houston lake last month was a red-bellied piranha. It's only the second piranha ever verified in Texas waters and the first in nearly 30 years.

The hand-sized fish chomped down on piece of hot dog used as bait at the 23-acre lake at Harris County's Tom Bass Park. When adults with the girl saw the fish's razor-sharp teeth, they turned it over to authorities.

Parks officials told the Houston Chronicle the notoriously aggressive meat-eating fish likely was dumped in the lake by an aquarium owner. The fish is illegal in Texas, but officials said it's easily obtainable on the Internet.

The only other verified Texas piranha came in Kendall County in 1982.

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND

Illegal net kills thousands of sharks off Texas

As many as 3,000 sharks died in an illegal gill net state officials say stretched for miles just off the South Texas Gulf coast.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department spokesman Steve Lightfoot says game wardens found the three-mile net just off the South Padre Island beach on Sept. 20.

Lightfoot says no arrests have been made, but officials suspect Mexican nationals set the net.

GALVESTON

Coast Guard searches for capsized boats

The Coast Guard is searching the waters near the Galveston causeway after two crudely built sailboats were found apparently capsized.

Union Pacific officials reported the vessels near the West Bay railroad bridge between Galveston and the mainland about 11 a.m. Monday. A Coast Guard statement said both vessels were apparently homemade of wood, 10 to 15 feet long and with green tarpaulins used as sails.

4-H participants, supporters recognized by county

By Kathleen Thurber
Staff Writer

While stock shows and equine events still are a big part of 4-H, its organizers said it's also not just about horses.

"We're building leaders for tomorrow," said Lindy Tefteller, Midland County extension agent. "It's not just horses. We have robotics, photography, textiles and shooting sports."

Tefteller, along with extension agent Zan Matthies and a group of about 10 youth were recognized Monday when a proclamation in support of National 4-H week was signed by Midland County commissioners.

As part of its celebration, members of the club also recognized Stripes and KWEL radio as its "Friends of 4-H" award recipients for the year.

"The friend of 4-H is the highest honor we have to present to an individual or organization," Tefteller said.

Stripes, which raised $3,204 for Midland County and $41,621 statewide in 2010 through its Clover Mobile Stripes campaign, was honored because of its continued support, Tefteller said. This year, the convenience store's campaign, which runs through Oct. 2, is on track to far exceed what it raised last year, she said.

Craig and DoriLynn Anderson, of KWEL radio, also were honored for their partnership with the program through on-air coverage, campaigns and 4-H-related programming.

DoriLynn Anderson said they think it's important for kids to have exposure to agriculture while growing up, both for their own benefit and also to see how it contributes to the community.

"I'm very proud of all the people in 4-H, especially the volunteers," she said. "It's a very important and worthwhile program."

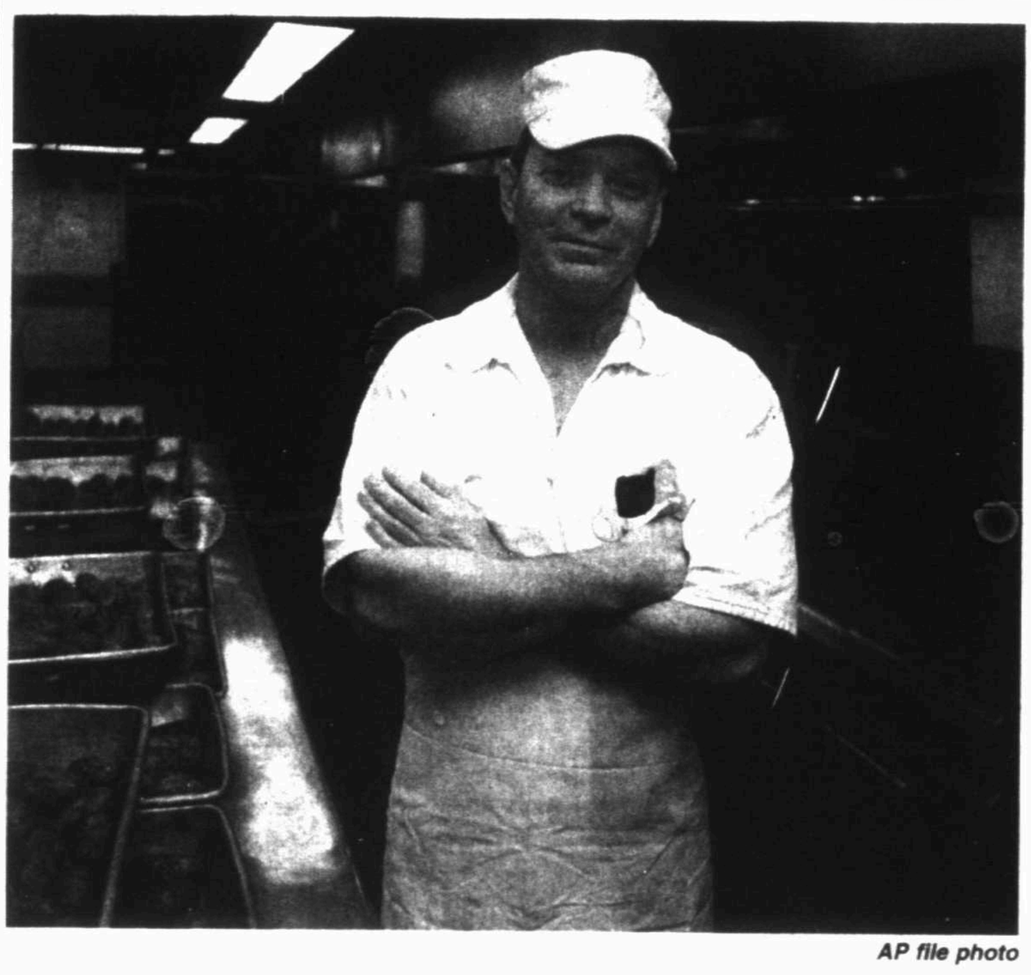
Tefteller said 4-H is in its open enrollment period now and welcomes new youth participants as well as adult volunteers.

The organization is broken into six clubs, though inividuals can take part in events and activities without being a part of any particular club, she said.

Hannah Kirby, who's been involved with 4-H for 11 years and was among the youth to participate in Monday's festivities, said the stock shows are the most enjoyable part of the club, though it also offers a lot of other options, as well.

"It's fun getting to meet new people," she said. "The opportunities that 4-H gives are great."

Kathleen Thurber can be reached at kthurber@mrt.com.



AP file photo

Brian Price stands in the kitchen of the Walls Unit of the Texas prison in Huntsville in 2000. Price, a former Texas inmate who cooked the final meals for hundreds of condemned prisoners, is offering to start doing it again at no cost to the state now that officials have ended the practice of allowing the special last requests.

Taking final requests

Former prison cook wants last meal continued

By Michael Graczyk
Associated Press

HOUSTON — A former Texas inmate who cooked the final meals for hundreds of condemned prisoners is offering to start doing it again at no cost to the state now that officials have ended the practice of allowing the special last requests.

Brian Price, who wrote a cookbook called "Meals to Die For," about his former duties and now runs a restaurant on Houston County Lake in East Texas, said Monday the move by prison officials was "cold-hearted." If it's tax dollars people are worried about, he said, he'll make a last meal for free for any condemned inmate in Texas.

"I am offering to prepare, and or pay for, all of the last meal requests from this day forward," he said. "Taxpayers will be out nothing."

Officials who oversee the country's busiest death chamber stopped the practice of giving special final meals last week after a prominent state senator complained about an extensive request from a man being executed for his role in a notorious hate-crime dragging death. The prison agency quickly said condemned prisoners will now get the same dinner that other inmates eat that day.

Department of Criminal Justice spokeswoman Michelle Lyons called Price's proposal "a kind offer."

"It's not the cost but rather the concept we're moving away from," she said.

The meal flap erupted after Lawrence Russell Brewer was executed for the hate crime slaying of James Byrd Jr. in Jasper more than a decade ago. Brewer, a white supremacist gang member, was convicted of chaining Byrd, 49, to the back of a pickup truck and dragging him to his death along a bumpy road in a case shocked the nation for its brutality.

For his final meal, Brewer asked for two chicken fried steaks, a triple-meat bacon cheeseburger, fried okra, a pound of barbecue, three fajitas, a meat lover's pizza, a pint of ice cream and a slab of peanut butter fudge with crushed peanuts. Prison officials said Brewer didn't eat any of it.

The request raised the ire of Sen. John Whitmire, who is chairman of the Texas Senate's criminal justice committee. He called the tradition of offering a special last meal ridiculous and illogical.

Since Texas resumed carrying out executions in 1982, the state correction agency's practice has been to fill a condemned inmate's request as long as the items, or food similar to what was requested, were readily available from the prison kitchen supplies.

The exact request almost never was filled, Price said Monday. He noted that when one condemned inmate asked for two T-bone steaks, the prisoner got a hamburger steak instead.

Price made 220 final meals, beginning in 1991 and until his parole in 2003, while serving 14 years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Huntsville Unit for a pair of convictions related to the abduction of his brother-in-law and a sexual assault on an ex-wife.

He already was working as a prison cook, and volunteered to make a final meal after other cooks indicated they were squeamish about the task. The condemned inmate complimented his work and the duties stuck.

State Deptartment hears from Kansas, Texas on oil pipeline

Associated Press

PORT ARTHUR — At public meetings in two states on Monday, a proposed pipeline that would bring oil from Canada into the U.S. was criticized as environmentally dangerous by people in Kansas while being praised in Texas as a safe way to create much needed jobs nationwide.

In the Southeast Texas refinery town of Port Arthur, more than 500 people packed a meeting where many planned to speak in favor of the Keystone XL oil pipeline at a public hearing sponsored by the State Department.

It was the second hearing of the day on the proposed structure. Earlier Monday, 200 people attended a meeting in Topeka, Kan., with many environmentalists speaking against the pipeline, claiming it would move a "dirtier" and "environmentally" devastating form of energy" from Canada through six U.S. states before ending up in Port Arthur on the Texas coast.

At the Texas meeting, Bobby Petty was like many of those attending who wore T-shirts with slogans in favor of the pipeline. Slogans included, "Keystone XL Pipeline Means Jobs" and "Build Keystone XL Now."

Petty, who was with a group called "Veterans For Keystone XL," told State Department officials running the meeting that while he wants clean air and water, he also wants the thousands of jobs the pipeline will create. Many of the speakers said with high unemployment besieging the current economy, these jobs are desperately needed in Texas and across the country.

"As an American, I'm proud to stand here with my union friends, with my veteran friends, with my Canadian neighbors to please ask the president to approve this pipeline," Petty said.

In Topeka, Rabbi Moti Rieber, coordinator of the Kansas Interfaith Power & Light, said he and others in his coalition disagreed with the State Department's report, which said there are unlikely to be any serious environmental problems with the proposed 1,700-mile pipeline.

"Exploring tar sands will keep us hooked on this form of oil for another 50 years," Rieber said.

Perry ups ante with twist on Romney's '4 aces'

By Thomas Beaumont
Associated Press

JEFFERSON — Call it a personal class war: Gov. Rick Perry is trying to draw sharp class lines with his chief GOP presidential rival, the well-heeled former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney.

"As the son of tenant farmers, I can promise you I wasn't born with four aces in my hand," Perry recently told about 200 central Iowa GOP activists. He grinned and then paused to allow chuckles to roll through the audience as the message became clear: Perry was a product of humble beginnings — ordinary folk like them — while Romney came from privilege.

The line was a riff on Romney's zinger during a debate in Tampa, Fla., when he suggested that Texas' job growth had more to do with the state's natural gas and oil supply than Perry's leadership.

When asked how much credit Perry deserves for the state's growing employment, Romney replied: "If you're dealt four aces, that doesn't necessarily make you a great poker player."

Perry's advisers apparently saw the crack as an opportunity to illustrate personality, background and, perhaps, character differences between Perry and Romney, the top two candidates in a GOP field that mostly agrees on major policy issues.

In Iowa and elsewhere, Perry has started linking himself to the middle class, if not to low-income Americans, and tying Romney to the nation's upper echelon. His larger strategy is to paint Romney as a pre-packaged politician out of step with everyday Americans, plant suggestions with Republicans feeling the pinch of tough economic times that Romney doesn't understand their plight, and undermine Romney's attempts to connect with middle-class voters.

Perry sees another opening with his I'm-like-you-and-he's-not argument: Tea party activists and other conservatives who dominate the GOP primary electorate are clamoring for an authentic candidate to challenge a Democratic incumbent they view as a detached elitist.

He's also using class to draw distinctions in part to counter criticism that he is not up to challenging Romney, who ran for the GOP nomination in 2008 and led in national polls for 2012 until the Texan entered the race last month.

Still, reflecting the sensitivity of the issue, Perry has stopped short of acknowledging publicly that he was drawing a direct comparison with Romney.

"This country that we live in is not a class society," Perry said when pressed recently by reporters in Iowa. "This country is based on hard work and vision and anyone who does that can achieve anything."

Not that his campaign was even making an effort at subtlety. In a sign of the sharp attacks to come, Perry aides sent out an email last week titled "Middle Class Mitt."

It noted that Romney has a net worth of more than $190 million and resurrected a Romney remark in which he seemed to suggest that he was part of "the great middle class — the 80 to 90 percent of us in this country." It also highlighted Romney's comment to voters last June: "I'm also unemployed."

"Hundreds of millions in the bank. Beach and lake houses around the country. A successful career acquiring and dismantling companies and jobs," according to the Perry camp statement — a script that read much like a possible future TV ad.

Perry's discussion of class differences comes as a debate rages in Washington between President Barack Obama, who is calling for higher taxes on the richest Americans, and the Republican-controlled House, which is accusing the president of "class warfare" as he seeks to rally support for legislation designed to boost the economy.

Within the GOP presidential primary, Perry's allies hope that he can sow mistrust of Romney, a multimillionaire former businessman born into a wealthy family, among conservatives who already are skeptical of the Northeastern Republican who has flip-flopped on a series of issues they hold dear.

The Perry strategy carries a risk: Discussions of class may invite increased scrutiny of Perry, who today lives comfortably thanks to Texas taxpayers.

Still, the differences between the two couldn't be clearer.

Perry, 61, was raised on a West Texas farm, attended Texas A&M University and worked on the family's farm after five years in the Air Force before entering politics in the 1980s. He has spent the last 27 years in elected office, including a decade as governor, and has a net worth of roughly $1.1 million.

FELONY ARRESTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Carlton Lory Carter, 44, of Gardendale, was arrested Sunday by Midland police on two charges of possession of a controlled substance between 4 and 200 grams.

Lennie Tiberous Hill II, 36, of Midland, was arrested Sunday by Midland police on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Marisa Leberio, 34, of Midland, was arrested Sunday by Midland County deputies on a charge of burglary of a habitation.

Amber Nicole Mendoza, 26, of Midland, was arrested Sunday by Midland police on a charge of driving while intoxicated with a child under 15 years old.

Andres Martinez Rios, 18, of Midland, was arrested Sunday by Midland police on a charge of criminal mischief between $1,500 and $20,000.

Luis M. Sotelo, 36, of Midland, was arrested Sunday by Department of Public Safety troopers on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

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CERTIFIED GAF MASTER PREFERRED CONTRACTOR

TODAY Mostly sunny high 94 low 65

WEDNESDAY Mostly sunny high 94 low 66

THURSDAY Mostly sunny high 93 low 63

LOCAL FORECAST

Expect mostly sunny skies today with a high around 94 and east winds between 5 and 10 mph. Tonight's forecast calls for isolated showers and thunderstorms and partly cloudy conditions with a low around 65 and east winds between 5 and 10 mph.

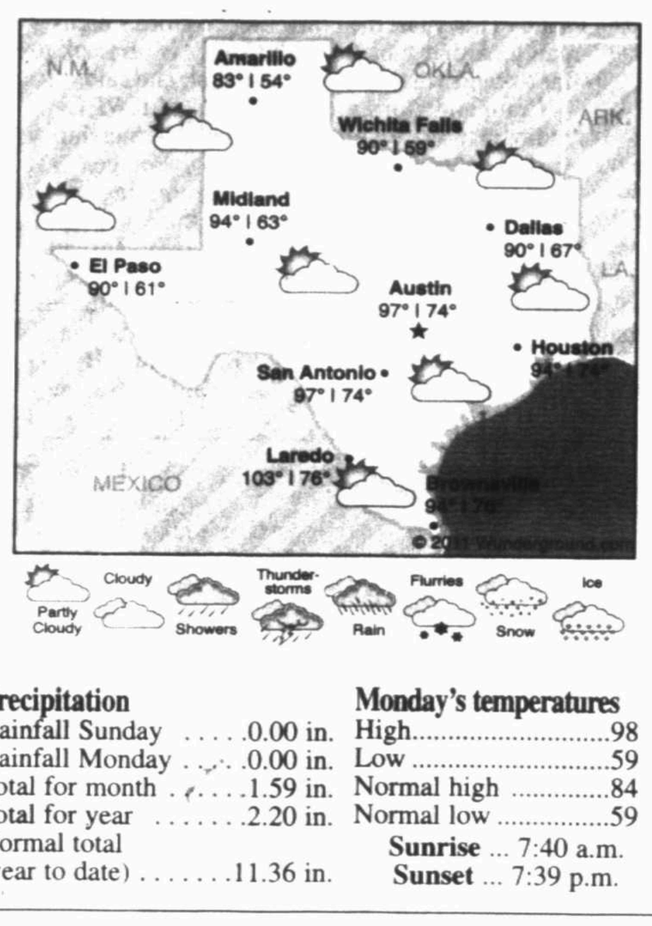
Wednesday, look for a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms and mostly sunny skies with a high around 94, a low around 66 and east winds between 5 and 10 mph becoming south.

Thursday, the forecast calls for mostly sunny skies with a high around 93 and a low around 63.

The high on Monday reached 98 while the low dropped to 59. The record high for Sept. 26 is 105 set in 1977. The record low is 44 set in 1989.

***

A slow-moving storm system at most levels of the atmosphere will continue to bring clouds and showers to the upper Midwest and rounds of rain and thunderstorms to the Atlantic seaboard Tuesday. Locally severe thunderstorms can affect part of the mid-Atlantic states, southern Atlantic Coast and central Gulf Coast areas. Dry weather will hold on over much of New England, with high pressure over central Quebec in control of the region.



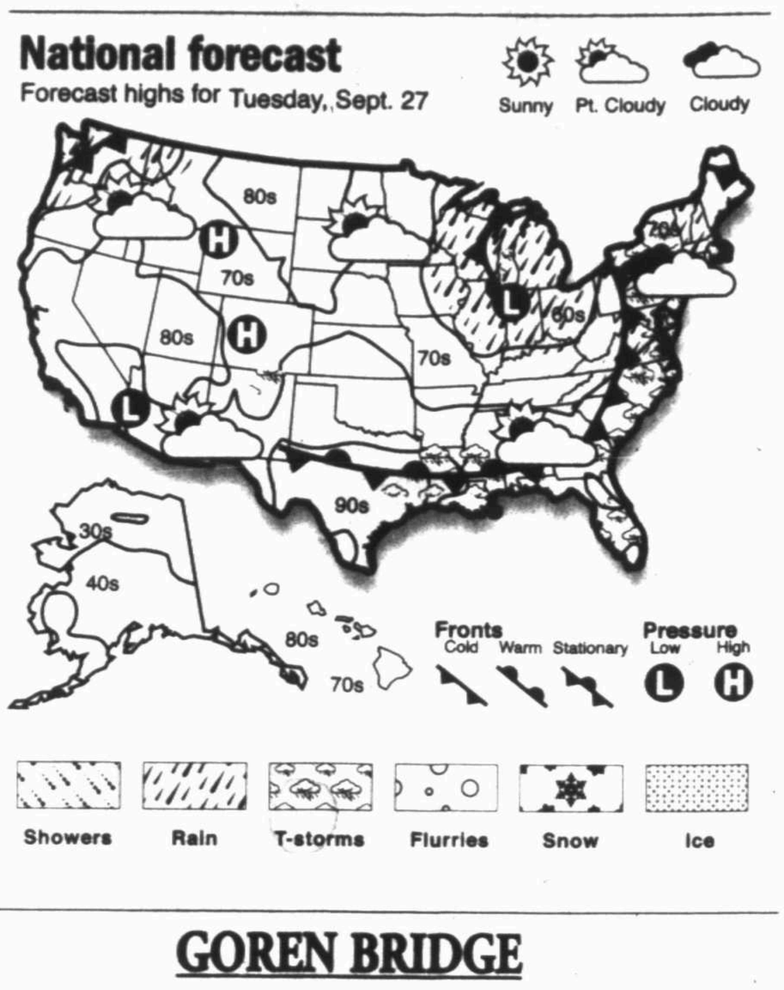
Precipitation

Rainfall Sunday	0.00 in.
Rainfall Monday	0.00 in.
Total for month	1.59 in.
Total for year	2.20 in.
Normal total (year to date)	11.36 in.

Monday's temperatures

High	98
Low	59
Normal high	84
Normal low	59

Sunrise ... 7:40 a.m.
Sunset ... 7:39 p.m.



Readers reject aunt's demand that bashful niece talk to her

DEAR ABBY

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

DEAR ABBY: I think your response to "Outgoing Aunt in Texas" (July 16) about the shy 12-year-old girl was misguided. The aunt felt "Tammy's" parents should "make" her come to the phone and speak to her. You felt the child's behavior was rude and said perhaps her mother was covering for her.

Being shy or overly sensitive is an inborn personality trait that can be very disturbing. Forcing a shy person to do something uncomfortable may make the problem worse. Talking on the phone is one of the hardest things for a shy person because he or she can't read the other person's face or body language.

Many 12-year-olds feel awkward in social situations, particularly if they are shy. A loving family member should try to be sensitive to this and not force the child to do something he or she is not comfortable doing. It's possible that Tammy may have a hard time talking to this aunt if she asks Tammy embarrassing questions or makes comments that are hurtful. If that's the case, then Tammy's mom is doing the right thing by trying to protect her. — SHY M.D. IN TENNESSEE

DEAR SHY M.D.: Thank you for offering another perspective. Readers who shared their experiences helped me to view this with a fresh perspective. My newspaper readers comment:

DEAR ABBY: Twelve-year-old daughters have a terrible fear of criticism, a fear of failure and a fear of being made fun of by adults and peers. "Outgoing Aunt" sounds heavy-handed to me. I have to wonder what she might have said in the past (or how she said it) that has made Tammy so reluctant to even be in the same room with her. Tammy's mom is right to "cover for her." — I WAS THE SAME 12-YEAR- OLD

DEAR ABBY: It bothered me that "Outgoing Aunt" was so determined and aggressive about speaking to Tammy. Has this aunt been unkind to her in the past? I think the aunt should back off and stop demanding to speak to the child through doors and on the phone. Perhaps the girl isn't shy or rude — just a great judge of character. — USED TO BE A SHY NIECE

DEAR ABBY: You're correct in saying Tammy's behavior may be anxiety-based. There is a childhood anxiety disorder called selective mutism in which an expectation to speak can cause a child extreme panic. It results in temporary physical paralysis of the vocal cords, and can render a child unable to cry or communicate distress when severely injured.

These children can speak just fine in some situations but not in all others, which can be misunderstood as willful behavior. One of the most common situations in which a child cannot speak is with a close friend or relative.

I had SM as a child and I helped my son find successful treatment for it. Without treatment, Tammy is at a heightened risk for depression, panic attacks, agoraphobia, substance abuse and more. I now speak about this disorder to spread awareness and help others locate resources to seek treatment. — ANN SANDER IN HOUSTON

DEAR ABBY: I am deeply in love with two wonderful women. I know I have to let one go, but I don't want to break either one's heart. Instead of "dumping" one of them, can I explain the situation to them and ask that one of them dump ME? I realize I could lose them both, but I'm willing to take the chance. Please help. — DOUBLE TROUBLE IN BLOOMINGTON, IND.

DEAR DOUBLE TROUBLE: I'll try, by courteously advising you to stiffen your spine and make a decision. If you announce to these two wonderful women that you can't choose between them, the odds are likely that they will both dump you.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Finesses, Finesses Everywhere

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A Q
♡ K 4 3 2
♢ Q 10 9
♣ 8 5 3 2

WEST
♠ J 10 9 2
♡ A 6 5
♢ 8 7 4
♣ Q 6 4

EAST
♠ K 6 5 4 3
♡ 8
♢ K 6 5 2
♣ K 9 7

SOUTH
♠ 8 7
♡ Q J 10 9 7
♢ A J 3
♣ A J 10

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♢	Pass	3♢	Pass
4♢	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

How many finesses can South take at a contract of four hearts after the opening lead of the jack of spades?

North-South were playing old-fashioned forcing jump raises. The ruffing value in spades and the fact that the king of trumps should be upgraded one point in value just makes the North hand qualify for that action.

After the opening lead of the jack of spades, South has five finesses available! Although there is not much hope of it succeeding, take the spade finesse at the first trick. East wins and returns a spade. Win in dummy perforce and take your second finesse, a club to the 10. West wins with the queen and exits with a low trump, East contributing the eight as you win with the nine. Now you can continue with the queen of hearts to drive out the ace and force an entry to dummy. (If West fails to take the ace, you can endplay him with another trump.)

Win the heart return on the table and take your third finesse by leading the queen of diamonds and, if East fails to cover, unblock the jack from hand — that allows you to remain in dummy to repeat the finesse should East fail to cover. Continue with the 10 and again run it. Now abandon diamonds to take a second club finesse and, when that wins, you have 10 tricks. Your unblock of the jack of diamonds allows you to get back to dummy in diamonds for another club finesse should East cover. Note that should you tackle diamonds any way other than to lead the queen and unblock the jack will leave you an entry short to take all the finesses you need.

Today's Crossword Puzzle brought to you by Quiroz Custom Home Builders
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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, Sept. 27, 2011:

Many currents move through your life this year. With them come options, new people and a personal assessment. You could hear many unexpected pieces of news. Often, you see so many paths that you could feel confused and not know which way to go. You get a new beginning this year. Be honest with yourself about what part of your life you would like to change, and do just that. For those who are single, you have an innate charisma that draws many admirers and suitors. If you are attached, you can infuse your relationship with some of the initial magic and charisma. You both will enjoy it. A fellow LIBRA understands you a little too well for your comfort!

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Understand another person's expectations. At that point you'll have a choice of whether to meet his or her implied desires. A new beginning is possible within a relationship. Meanwhile, there could be a misunderstanding, and getting it straightened out could take talent. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ Pace yourself. Try not to get involved in an upset. You might have a very strong reaction. Do everything you can to distance yourself from a situation that could be hurtful. Stay centered on certain key tasks you need to accomplish. Tonight: Put your feet up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ Your creativity keeps mounting when faced with many different opinions. Some people might choose to say nothing. You could be set back by their attitude. Tonight: Your creativity flows.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ You might strive for stability, but instead you are surrounded by chaos. Not sure about what to do, you feel torn. Why not detach and mentally put yourself in a position where you look down on the situation? Tonight: Stay anchored.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Speak your mind. There could be considerable upset in your immediate circle. Speak directly to a loved one or dear friend, especially if you need to neutralize a problem. A new beginning becomes possible. Tonight: Where the action is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ You might need to make an extra effort to pull a situation together. The unexpected has an impact. Confusion surrounds communication and plans. You might not be able to handle what is coming up. Tonight: Buy a little treat on the way home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ You naturally bloom, and many people come toward you. You could be tired and need to take another look at a personal matter. A new beginning becomes possible. You have a lot to celebrate. Tonight: Full steam ahead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ If you're questioning which solution might work best, stop. You aren't ready to act just yet. You might consider doing something very differently. Slow down and consider options you had not previously considered. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ Zero in on your priorities. A meeting could pave the way to better understanding, if you are willing to let go. You feel very good about a key friend. Express your caring in a meaningful way. Tonight: Clear out a problem with a loved one.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Take a stand with a boss. You might not see the end results immediately, but you will eventually. In a sense, you have created a new beginning. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ Try to detach, and you will be far happier. You have plenty of energy and get-up-and-go. A new beginning becomes possible because of your willingness to do something differently. Tonight: Change the tune.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ Deal directly with a friend or loved one. Hemming and hawing won't work. Make an effort to loosen up and try another way. Be direct. Let someone else put in his or her two cents. Tonight Have a long-overdue chat.

***

BORN TODAY

Actress Gwyneth Paltrow (1972), musician Meat Loaf (1947), baseball Hall-of-Famer Mike Schmidt (1949)

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Dinner wear for the highchair set
5 Talisman
11 Spoil
14 Working without __
15 Next to
16 Sam Adams product
17 Invasive airline inconvenience
19 Groovy relative?
20 One with an office couch, maybe
21 Untrustworthy
23 __ garden
24 A/C measure
26 Durante's "__ Dinka Doo"
27 Wood-dressing tool
29 Uncomfortable airline inconvenience
33 President when Texas was annexed
35 With 1-Down, discoverer of cave treasure
36 Island ring
37 Salon polish target
39 Flippable card file
43 Mag. edition
44 Father's Day mo. in Australia
45 Congenial
46 Wearying airline inconvenience
51 Lawn strip
52 Moonfish
53 Lumberjack's tool
54 Subj. with x's
56 Faraway
59 Paid no attention to
63 Roam (about)
64 Excruciating airline inconvenience (the last straw!)
66 Due-in hr.
67 One way to share
68 Clickable image
69 Not optional: Abbr.
70 French film festival site
71 "__ la vie"

DOWN
1 See 35-Across
2 Part of, as a plot
3 Awe
4 Panache
5 Basics
6 Spaghetti go-with
7 Mil. branch
8 Connection
9 Barbara who played a genie
10 Giga- x 1,000
11 Oceanic
12 State with the Big Dipper on its flag
13 Papa Smurf's headgear
18 Pop music's 'N__
22 Sight
25 "More than I need to know!"
27 Suited
28 Scooby-__
30 Mrs. Gorbachev
31 Skip church, in a way?
32 Sci-fi's Lester __ Rey
34 Jumping chess piece
38 Comm. for the hearing-impaired
39 Military day starter
40 Shame
41 Green prefix
42 Struck (out) of the text
44 Red or White team
46 Inn resident
47 Morphine, e.g.
48 Where YHOO stock is traded
49 China's Sun
50 Pealed
55 Spock's forte
57 Baldwin of "30 Rock"
58 Bright star
60 Dolls' dates
61 They may not be quiet on the set
62 Small body-shop job
65 Former Opry network

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

M	A	N	S	E		O	C	S		O	M	A	H	A
A	L	O	H	A		F	O	O		L	A	C	E	D
T	U	B	E	S		F	U	L	L	D	R	E	S	S
C	L	E	A	T	S		L	O	O	P				
H	A	L	F	W	I	N	D	S	O	R		E	B	B
			E	E	E			M	O	S	Q	U	E	
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Q	U	A	R	T	E	R	F	I	N	A	L	I	S	T
U	P	T	O			S	A	T	O	N		P	A	S
A	R	T	E	R	Y			Z	O	T				
L	A	Y		E	M	P	T	Y	N	E	S	T	E	R
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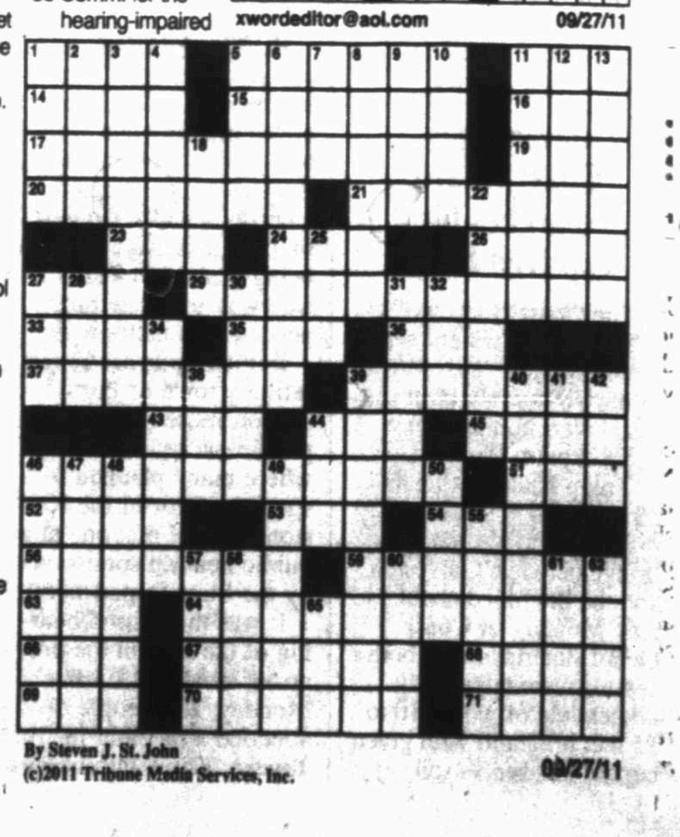
F	U	E	L	G	A	U	G	E		T	O	T	E	S
A	T	S	E	A		G	A	S		E	N	A	C	T
B	E	T	O	N		S	T	S		R	E	N	T	S

xwordeditor@aol.com 09/27/11



By Steven J. St. John
(c)2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc. 09/27/11

Exciting times at MISD include need to hire 20 teachers

■ Exciting times include 'impending recommendation' of a 'historic building project.'

RYDER WARREN
Midland ISD superintendent

We are in our last week of the first grading period, and I am very pleased and proud of the efforts I see from all involved. Everyone — from our students, our teachers to our parents and caregivers — is exhibiting the dedication necessary to make this one of the best school years MISD has enjoyed. There are several issues I want to focus on in this article because we are dealing with multiple challenges right now, and I do want to make sure everyone is on the same page with these. The first two issues I want to discuss are truly our "thank you's" from the school district to our community. Two activities took place just this last week, and I want to lift up these community members and groups who sponsored these activities for being champions for our children.

The first phenomenal event, which took place last Thursday, was the MISD Education Foundation's annual concert. The hours of work that went in to planning such an activity truly paid off, because from all reports, this was one of the best concerts ever. The foundation's governing board members have dedicated themselves to positively changing the lives of our students, and their love for and support of our children is exceptional.

Craig Dawson deserves a special pat on the back for being this year's concert chair. The other foundation members include Rachel Stone (president), Jerry Cavitt (vice president), Daphne Dowdy Jackson (vice president), Laura Buckner (treasurer) and board members — Jon Blair, Dolores Cano, Arturo Carrasco, Karen Fullen, James Fuller, Matt Hyde, Ken Marks, Jim Nelson, Leticia Reinke, Michael Rhoads, Mary Smith, Tommy Taylor, Melissa Ware, Dave Wedel, Tim Whalen, Barbara Yarbough and Jerry Zant. Also worthy of much thanks are two MISD employees — Jami Owen and Peggy Kuss — who put in hundreds of hours working to make this concert special. I personally thank these community members and school staff members who have given so much of themselves for our children.

The second very positive activity, which also took place last week, was our second annual Midland Literacy Project. Two leaders of our community and two organizations in our community stepped up and put exclamation points on the importance of reading. David O'Neil, president of Wells Fargo Bank, and Dave Wedel, publisher of the Midland Reporter Telegram, partnered again this year to purchase books for every first-grader in our community. We also had many organizations and individuals volunteer their time to deliver these books across the community and actually sit down and read to our children. The Midland Downtown Rotary Club was one of the local organizations that provided volunteers to serve all of our first-grade students.

And when I say every first-grader, please understand this goes beyond Midland ISD. Wells Fargo and the Reporter-Telegram made sure every first-grader in our community — MISD, Greenwood ISD and the community's private schools — were given these books that placed an emphasis on the importance of reading. Every school district in the state of Texas is mandated by the state to have all Texas public school children reading at grade level by the third grade. The trick for us is to accomplish this goal without the children feeling they are being mandated to read. We strive to instill a life-long love of reading, and the bank and the newspaper truly are assisting us with this mission.

As I stated above, the district is facing many challenges at this time. The No. 1 challenge on which I am reporting is the enrollment spike MISD has seen over the last two school years. As of last week, MISD has more than 22,500 students. If we add last year's growth to the enrollment growth we are seeing right now, Midland ISD schools have seen more than 1,200 new students. This is a challenge to say the least, but it is a very positive issue. I have told many groups in the community that I would much rather be pressed to find places to put new students than try to figure out which programs have to be cut because of declining enrollment.

When dealing with enrollment growth, the No. 1 priority as a district is the protection of classroom sizes. Because of the deep cuts made to public education by our Legislature this last session —more than $9 million for MISD — we already knew our class sizes would be rising. Out of more than 130 positions that were dissolved this summer during our budget process because of the revenue cuts, roughly 80 were teaching positions. I already have given the OK to re-establish 20 teaching positions — all at the elementary level — to deal with this increased student enrollment. These 20 positions will place a $1.3 million impact on our budget, but I feel the academic needs of protecting classroom sizes far outweigh the financial burden. We either will maintain a balanced budget by finding cuts elsewhere throughout the school year, or I will recommend to the MISD Board of Trustees to pass a budget amendment in order to use the district's fund balance.

The last issue I would like to discuss with everyone is the impending recommendation I will make to our school board members that will call for what I would deem a historic building project in relation to Midland and its public schools. Three years ago, a community committee worked for months on several recommendations to improve our schools. Using this committee's plan as the guide, the leadership team of MISD is assisting me in putting together a recommendation that will ask our community's voters to completely change how we educate children in Midland.

To make sure I am keeping everyone up to date on these activities, let me communicate the timeline we are looking at right now. I would like to be finished with the district recommendation in the next couple of weeks. I am going to invite a team of community members/leaders to a meeting in October to review the recommendation after working with this group to finalize a plan. It is my intention to bring the recommendation to the MISD Board of Trustees during their regular January board meeting. By law, if the school board members wish to call a bond election in May 2012, they must do so before their March board meeting, so I would like them to have as much time as possible to assess the recommendation and to make a decision.

In my opinion, these are very exciting times for Midland ISD. Though we are dealing simultaneously with decreased revenue and increased academic expectations from the state, and we are dealing with increased student enrollment and potential academic and facility changes, I am so excited about the future of MISD. I see students dedicating themselves to excellence every day. I see our teachers and staff doing everything in their power to support our children, and I see our parents and caregivers maintaining high expectations for our students and our schools. Working together, we will all turn MISD into the school district we want and need for our children.

If anyone has questions about the issues in this article, or about anything else, please do not hesitate to contact me at our central office (689-1002), or email me at ryder.warren@midlandisd.net. Thank you for supporting our schools and our children.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Oct. 9
Midland Christian's Fall Fun Festival

Oct. 25
Midland College Petroleum Professional Development Center and Pioneer Natural Resources present Pulitzer-prize winner Daniel Yergin and his lecture on energy, globalization and economic forecasting, 7 p.m., Chaparral Center.

Oct. 28
Midland High vs. Lee in football, Grande Communications Stadium.

Nov. 1
Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center Grand Gala: Rod Stewart Concert

Nov. 10
Rusk Elementary School USO Show, 10:15 a.m.
CAF Hangar

Thanksgiving holiday
Midland ISD, Trinity School: Nov. 21-25
Greenwood ISD, Midland Academy Charter School: Nov. 23-25
Midland Christian School: Nov. 22-25
Midland Classical Academy: Nov. 21-25 (upper school); Nov. 18-25 (grammar school)

Christmas holiday
Midland ISD, Greenwood ISD, Trinity School, Midland Christian School, Midland Academy Charter School: Dec. 19-Jan. 2
Midland Classical Academy: Dec. 12-Jan. 2 (upper school); Dec. 9-Jan. 3 (grammar school)

March 12-19
Spring break

March 22
Cowan Performing Arts Series presents The 5 Browns — "classical music's First Family of Piano Virtuosos" — 7 p.m., Chaparral Center

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

May 11
Midland College graduation

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.

Homecoming football games
Trinity, Oct. 21 vs. Anton

ROBOTS

From 6B

Seniors Ariel Nolte and Jared Nelson said they joined because it offers them the opportunity to develop skills for the future.

Internal and external communications is why Nolte, a hopeful public relations practitioner, said she joined. It was the opportunity to work on the build team and learn more about robots that got Nelson interested.

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

EDUCATION IN BRIEF

FROM STAFF REPORTS

From 6B

through 12-graders with their math homework. Positive response from students in the program and their parents has continued the success of this program, now in its 11th year.

Math Mentoring tutors are qualified and trained students in the math program at Midland College. Most have tutoring experience. Margaret Wade, Midland College dean of math and science, began MC's Math Mentoring program in 1999 in response to a need in the community for qualified math tutors. One of the early program tutors was Michael Dixon, who now teaches math at MC.

The fall semester sessions of Math Mentoring are now in progress. Students in the seventh through 12th grades who are enrolled in pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Algebra II, pre-Calculus, Geometry or Calculus are eligible for the program.

Students enroll by the month for eight one-hour sessions at a cost of $128 per month. Meetings with their MC peer tutor are scheduled two times a week, on Mondays and Wednesdays, or Tuesdays and Thursdays for one hour each day. These sessions take place from 6-7 p.m. or 7-8 p.m. All tutoring is done in the Math Lab, Room 124 of the F. Marie Hall Academic Building.

To ensure that students get the attention they need from their tutor, each tutoring session is limited to two students. The tutor works with each enrolled student individually.

Commended scholars recognized

Local students have been named Commended Scholars in the National Merit Scholarship Program.

They are among the top 5 percent of more than 1.5 million students who took the PSAT qualifying test in 2010.

Trinity School students were Maddie Farish, Austin Green, Sam Hart, Jason Hilgemeier, and Addison Larson. Lacy McMurtrey, a senior at Big Spring High School, also was named a scholar.

Additional students were Hunter Drozd, Midland; Caitlyn Locklar, Midland; Kelsey Ricketson, Greenwood; Monni Roesner, Lee; Jake Taylor, Midland; Ross Whitten, Lee; Mason Wuthrich, Lee.

MC to host College Night

High school students interested in learning more about higher education can attend College Night on Oct. 5 at Midland College.

More than 60 schools will be at the fair to talk with students about educational opportunities and admissions requirements.

Though the event is hosted by Midland ISD, it is open to all students interested in colleges.

The event will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in MC's small gym, 3600 N. Garfield St.

For more information, contact MISD's student development director Ron Moss at rmoss@midlandisd.net.

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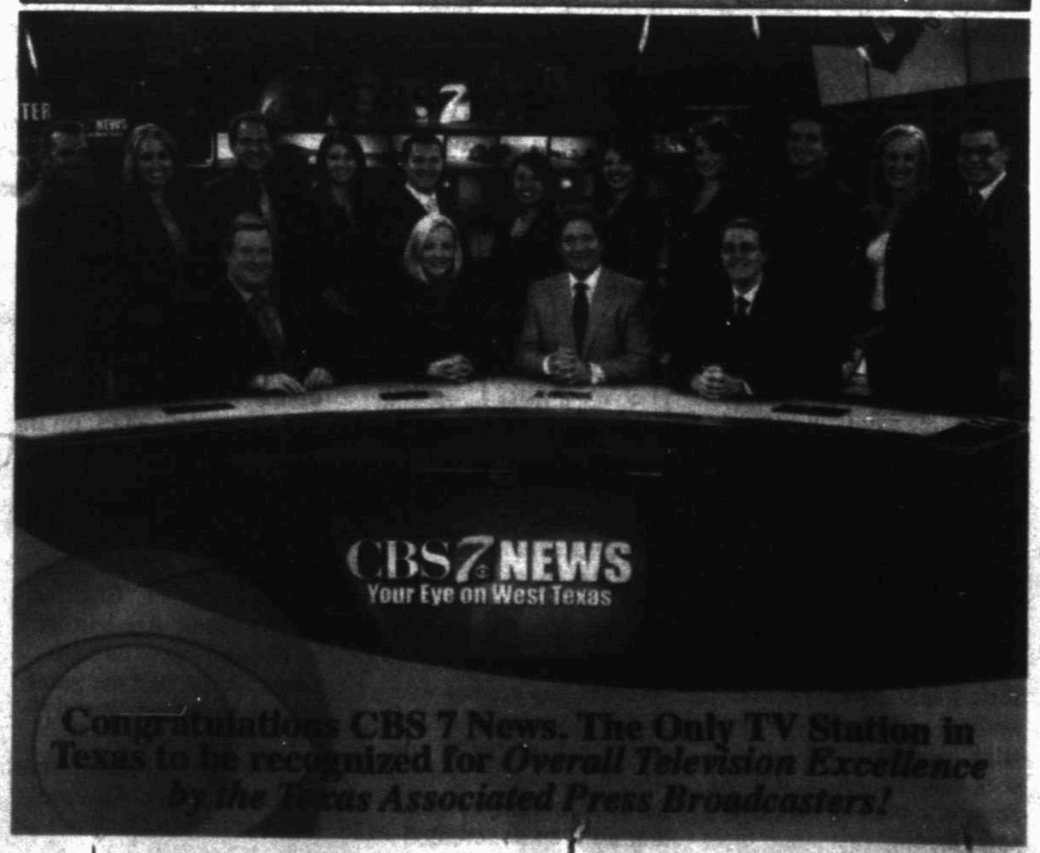


Education

EDUCATION INBRIEF

FROM STAFF REPORTS

MISD needs more substitute teachers

Midland ISD is accepting applications for teacher, classroom paraprofessional, clerical and nurse substitutes. All substitutes should have a high school diploma or GED. Teacher substitutes should have completed at least 30 hours of college credit, and nurses should be licensed RNs or LVNs.

Michele Harmon, MISD director of Support Services Staff, said that with an influx of students and a small pool of substitutes, more workers are needed.

"The successful local economy makes it very challenging to fill positions," she said.

Harmon said schedules are flexible and subs can pick the days they want to work. Substitute applicants should fill out an application under the "Employment" tab at www.midlandisd.net.

For information, e-mail mharmon@midlandisd.net or call MISD Human Resources at 689-1921.

MISD orchestra students to play with Barrage

The Midland and Lee high school orchestras will join the internationally renowned Barrage for a special performance at 7 p.m. Oct. 20 at Chaparral Center.

Barrage was formed in 1996 by a group of five young performers and event managers who believed that artistic expressions can motivate, educate, cross cultural boundaries and still be fun.

The show will feature MISD orchestra students performing "Mountain Spring" and "Kumpania" with the group as part of the Phyllis & Bob Cowan Performing Arts Series at Midland College.

Free tickets are available by visiting www.midlandcollegefoundation.org or calling the Midland College Foundation at 685-4526.

MISD seeks applications for bus drivers

Midland ISD is accepting applications for 47 bus drivers.

Drivers are responsible for transporting 3,700 students daily. Applicants, ages 18 and older, should have a good driving record, a clear background check, and a CDL (Commercial Drivers License).

Full-time bus drivers receive MISD benefits, and have a work schedule with a break in the middle of the day.

"It gives a person the opportunity to have a large portion of the morning and afternoon off," said Willie Tarleton, director of Transportation "Drivers like that flexibility."

Applicants should fill out an application under the "Employment" tab at www.midlandisd.net.

For information, call MISD Human Resources at 689-1921.

Midland College offers math mentoring

An on-going tutoring program in the Midland College Math Lab is available to help seven-

Continued on 5B

LEFT: Matthew Sirgo, left, looks on as Eli Hartman works on the computer program Thursday to build and program the robots for Midland Classical Academy's robotics program. **ABOVE:** Students designed this robot to move and shoot marbles. **BELOW:** Matt Fenn, from left, Ben Tate, Tim Snell and Bryce Carrigan work on their robot design.

Photos by Tim Fisher/Reporter-Telegram

MCA expands robotics program

By Meredith Moriak
Staff Writer

When Matt Sirgo's friends talked him into joining Midland Classical Academy's robotics team last year, he didn't quite know what he was getting into.

He didn't consider himself a math-science person and he wasn't exactly sure what a robotics team did.

But after a busy spring full of build sessions, trial and error and robotics competitions, Sirgo and the members of the Hot Bots robotics team found out anything is possible.

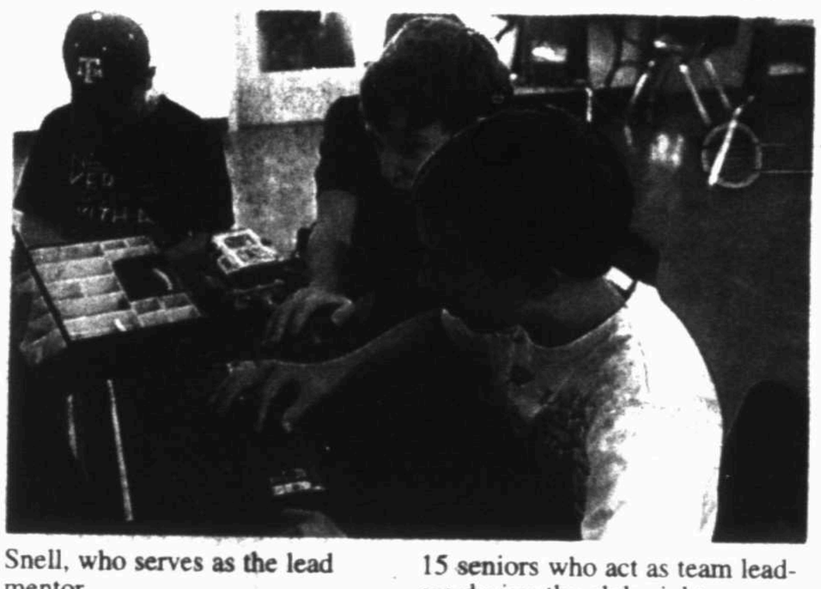
"I never would've imagined a robot rolling down the hall," Sirgo said Thursday during club night at school. He was helping younger students program Lego robots to launch marbles at targets.

Meanwhile, his classmates were outside learning how use a joystick to control Sir Lancebot, last year's competition robot.

Jon Snell, head of Academics, said he's proud of how much the robotics program has grown in less than a year and knows there's room for continued growth.

After receiving a $15,000 grant in October from JCPenny and the Texas Workforce Commission, Midland Classical jumped head-first into the For Inspiration and Recognition in Science and Technology robotics program, known as FIRST.

They didn't have a large or established team at first, but they slowly began recruiting students and community mentors to work with the team and prepare for build season in January, said



Snell, who serves as the lead mentor.

As a rookie team, the Hot Bots were one of 2,400 high school teams that competed regionally in the FIRST Robotics Competition last year. Each team had six weeks to build a robot from a common kit of parts.

At first Snell said the team wasn't quite sure what to do, but eventually hit their stride and had a successful first year.

Sirgo said he quickly found his niche for the team as the rule master, who dissected the thick regulations book and told them team what was acceptable and what wasn't.

By the end of the season, Sirgo said he was hooked on the program.

"The whole program of FIRST is amazing. You have a whole worldwide community to help you out and mentor you," Sirgo said.

Because of last year's interest, Midland Classical is offering robotics as an elective class to 15 seniors who act as team leaders during the club nights open to all upper school students, Snell said.

This fall, the Hot Bots are taking advantage of the off-season and preparing for the intense build season that starts in January by acquainting students with the different parts of the process like programming, building, finance and communications.

He said they're trying to identify each student's strengths and identify the best position for them on the team once the season starts.

"When a team has time to form, and time to figure out what each person is good at, you're going to be more successful," Snell said.

They've also been teaching students about safety when using power tools and completing team-building activities -- things they weren't able to spend a lot of time on last year.

Club member Kaitlyn Rabe, who is a seventh-grader, said she's always been interested in building things.

"My little brother gets lots of Legos and we build random things," Rabe said.

Rabe said she'd participated in a Lego League at another school, but it was nothing like the hands-on, computer programming aspect of Midland Classical's program.

Mentor Dann Schantz said it's important for kids to have the opportunity to participate in robotics because they get to apply academic lessons directly to a project.

"The wonderful thing about this is you can inject practical experience into the classroom and not just talk about physics and how things work, but actually do it," said Schantz, who works for Dawson Geophysical.

He volunteers at Midland Classical for an hour on Mondays and Wednesdays and said he's focused on letting students know about the scholarship opportunities available.

"Ten years ago there wasn't an opportunity for something like this," said Schantz, a 2000 graduate of Midland High School. "I'm pleading with the kids to understand the opportunities that are out there."

Snell said robotics isn't just for kids who are hands-on and good at math and science.

"Through robotics, kids learn excitement toward science and technology, but they also learn communication skills and about teamwork and community," Snell said. "They learn skills applicable for life."

Please see **ROBOTS**/5B

Funds for students

Hector Raul Acosta Flores, of the Consulate of Mexico in Presido, right, presents David Watts, president of University of Texas of the Permian Basin, with a $20,000 grant from the Institute for Mexicans Abroad. The donation is for the benefit of Mexican-American students. On hand for the presentation is Lael Cordes-Pitts, executive director of Casa de Amigos. The man at left is not identified.

Photo by Rafael Aguilera

No one student should have more value than his peers

MARK LACROIX
Social studies chairman, Midland Freshman High School

In 1517 Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses and the Christian world changed forever. He saw the need for change to be more important than his own station or well-being. While I am no Martin Luther, I know that this article will ruffle feathers and I write it against the advice of some I greatly admire in the field of education.

Like the church of the 1500s, education today has serious flaws. I have chosen the single greatest flaw — the accountability system — to highlight today. Of course accountability is needed. But the current accountability system is the 900-pound gorilla in the room that nobody will challenge. Educators beat their heads against it and suffer for the sake of the students, while the public sees state ratings and wonders how the schools got so bad.

In all likelihood, many of the hundreds of academically unacceptable campuses in Texas really aren't all that bad. Their numbers can be skewed by a small fraction of students. Let me introduce you to two fictional students: Ben and Matt. Ben comes from a middle-class home that he has lived in all of his life. He is white and he is an average student. Matt has migrant parents. He has been in the U.S. for a little more than two years. His parents speak only Spanish and his English is poor because he has bounced from school to school. While they have little money or education, Matt's parents work very hard and want a better life for him. So, which of these students has greater worth? In direct violation of a bedrock principal of our nation — "we hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal" — the state would have you believe that Matt is twice as valuable as Ben. Ben counts for the accountability ratings twice: once in "all students" and once in "white, not Hispanic." Matt, on the other hand, counts four times: once under "all students," once under "Hispanic," once under "economically disadvantaged" and once under "ELL, or English language learner."

Though these two students likely take the same test, if Matt fares poorly his score counts in four separate accountability categories. In education parlance, students like Matt are referred to as "heavy hitters," Now, I know that at times in our nation's history we have withheld educational opportunities from some groups. I find that shameful. Likewise, I find shameful a system that treats any of our students as less than equal. All it takes is a small number of heavy hitters to drastically change the ratings of a campus.

Let's say a junior high campus gave a total of seven STAAR tests to a combined population of 800 seventh- and eighth-graders across math, science, English/ language arts and social studies. Even if every student passed six of the seven exams, if a large enough group of heavy hitters performed poorly on the seventh test, the numbers possibly would earn the campus an overall Academically Unacceptable or Unaccredited rating.

All it takes to earn a separate rating for an ethnicity is a student population of at least 10 percent, or 50 students. In the above scenario, 50 students would be only 6.25 percent, yet their performance on only one of seven exams could earn the campus the lowest possible rating regardless of the performance of the other 93.75 percent of the student body on all seven exams.

At first glance, a system that would allow such a travesty is laughable. However, given the pain and shame it causes it is no laughing matter. I personally feel such a system is a violation of the "equal protection" clause of the 14th Amendment. Now complaining without offering a solution is nothing short of whining. Thus, here is my solution. The rating for campuses should be based solely upon the "all students" category.

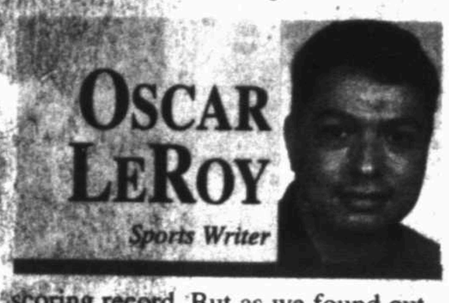
Beyond that, campuses should be singled out for distinction or for review of programs based upon performance in the specific subgroups. This would give everybody involved a true sense of how the campus performed while ensuring the incentive to teach and challenge all students in a way that they deserve. I categorically reject the notion that one student has more value than another. It pains me that the state does not feel the same way and that so many good people get hurt in the process.

Sports

BENSON SUSPENSION

Bengals player rep upset about running back and Lee graduate Cedric Benson facing suspension for an incident that occurred during the lockout.
See story on Page 4C.

Week 4 showed lots of excitement and a little bit of craziness



OSCAR LEROY
Sports Writer

It was an exciting week of high school football for our area schools in Week 4 of the season with the beginning of district play for some, blowout victories for others, and a wild and wacky game that won't be soon forgotten.

The game to be at last Friday night was the one taking place in town at Coombes Field. If you wanted to see defense, you might as well have driven down the street to H-E-B looking at drivers fighting for the best parking spot because you really weren't going to find it in a 124-108 victory by Fort Davis over Trinity.

It was originally thought that the combined score might have broken a scoring record. But as we found out on Saturday, a pair of San Antonio Six-Man schools have that distinction when The Winston and Town East combined for 242 points.

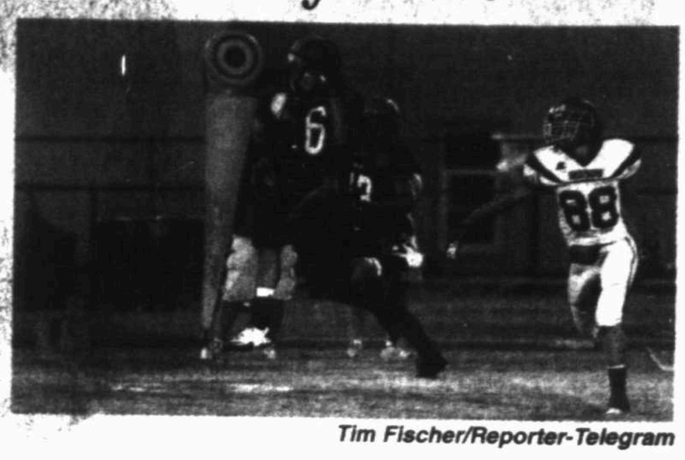
I think keeping stats at a Six-Man game can be hard enough, but this is bordering on ridiculous.

After arriving in the office from covering a game Friday night, Trinity coach Chris Jauz was calling in his game, and in his own way, politely declined to go through the scoring summary. I don't blame him one bit. If I was a coach I would have wanted to put that game out of my mind as soon as possible and move on with the rest of my life.

At least it was exciting for the fans to watch. I'm sure years from now, hundreds of more fans will be claiming they were there on the night Fort Davis and Trinity almost caused the scoreboard at Coombes Field to blow up.

DISTRICT PLAY BEGINS

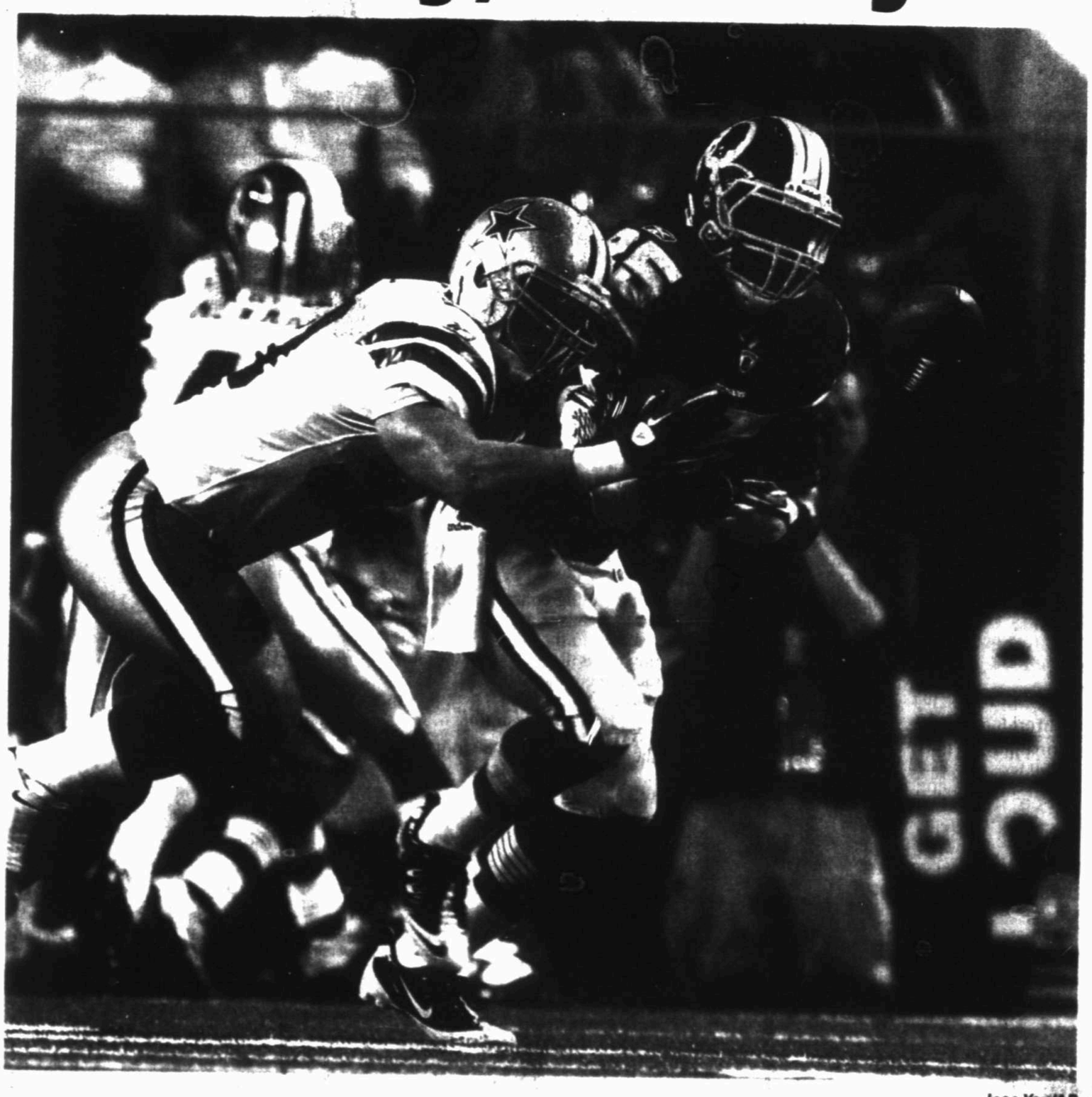
Please see **LEROY**/2C



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Greenwood's Colin Sullivan, left, beats Sweetwater's Jacob Villalpando, right, downfield for a reception and a touchdown Friday night at JM King Memorial Stadium.

Oh boy, Cowboys



Jose Yaul/AP

Dallas Cowboys inside linebacker Sean Lee (50) deflects a pass intended for Washington Redskins running back Tim Hightower (25) on Monday during the first half in Arlington. The Cowboys beat the Redskins, 18-16.

Cowboys beat Redskins behind Bailey's 6 field goals

By Tom Orsborn
San Antonio Express-News

ARLINGTON — DeAngelo Hall never got close to Tony Romo.

And he wasn't close to Dez Bryant when it mattered most either.

Rookie Dan Bailey kicked a franchise rookie-record six field goals, including the 40-yard winner with 1:47 left, and the Dallas Cowboys beat the Washington Redskins 18-16 Monday night in a nationally televised game.

Cowboys	18
Redskins	16

Romo started despite suffering a fractured rib and a punctured lung in last week's 27-24 overtime win at San Francisco. Hall, the Redskins' outspoken cornerback, said last week that he wanted "to get a chance to put my helmet on whatever's hurt" on Romo and that he would be "asking for some corner blitzes."

Hall should have been more concerned with his coverage duties.

Trailing 16-15 and faced with third-and-21 from the Dallas 30-yard line, Romo dropped back to pass only to see his pocket collapse quickly. After scrambling to his left to buy time for Bryant to get free from Hall, Romo lofted the ball to the second-year receiver for a 30-yard gain.

Hall grabbed Bryant's facemask, resulting in a 15-yard penalty that put the ball at the 25. Three plays later, Bailey drilled his second game-winning kick in as many weeks.

The Redskins' desperate attempt to rally ended when Anthony Spencer stripped the ball from quarterback Rex Grossman. Sean Lee recovered the fumble with 28 seconds left, giving him another turnover to go along with his first-half interception.

Afterward, Romo downplayed his second-straight gutsy effort.

"This isn't about one person, or two people," he said. "It's a team effort. I'm not doing anything different than Jason Witten, Dez Bryant, 15 other guys are doing out here. It's football. It's football season, we usually play football."

Please see **COWBOYS**/4C

Trinity back to TAPPS in 2012

By Len Hayward
Sports Editor

Trinity is making a return to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools after a seven-year absence.

The Chargers were part of TAPPS' latest realignment for the 2012-2014 school years and they will play in Six-Man Division I in football and in TAPPS Class 3A in all other sports. The realignment was announced last week.

In football, the Chargers will play in Six-Man Division I, District 1 and will be joined by Abilene Christian, Amarillo Arbor Christian Academy and Amarillo Holy Cross Catholic Academy.

In all other sports, Trinity will compete in TAPPS District 1-3A with Amarillo Arbor, Amarillo San Jacinto, Lubbock Christian and Midland Classical Academy. Trinity will begin play in TAPPS in the fall of 2012.

Trinity head football coach and

Please see **TRINITY**/2C

Sheppard shoots 6-under to qualify for WNB Golf Classic

By Len Hayward
Sports Editor

Tyler Sheppard's recent move to the professional golf ranks received a rousing start Monday morning.

Sheppard turned professional earlier this summer, and on Monday attempted to qualify for this weekend's Nationwide Tour WNB Golf Classic at Midland Country Club. Not only did Sheppard qualify for the event but he also recorded the low round at Ranchland Hills Golf Club.

Sheppard, a Lee and former Midland College standout, fired a 6-under 64 and tied for first with two other players during the Monday qualifying event, assuring him of a spot in his first official tournament as a professional.

Sheppard

Sheppard will be one of at least three native Midlanders playing in this week's tournament as former Midland High and Midland College player Lane Branum will play, and long time touring pro John Adams is expected to participate this year.

"It's something I've always wanted to do, and since last summer my game has really made some strides," said Sheppard, who goes to school at Abilene Christian and now lives regularly in Magnolia. "Things have fallen into place, and I've started playing well and I was ready to give it a shot."

Sheppard tied with Purcellville, Va.'s Scott Langley and San Antonio's Will Griffin, who also shot 64s at Ranchland on Monday. Sheppard's round was bogey-free as he had six birdies, and said he knew when it was over early Monday afternoon that he'd have a shot at qualifying.

"That was sweet," Sheppard said of tying for first. "I knew there was a six or seven under out there, and that if I got six I'd be OK. I knew that five under would probably be a playoff, which it was."

Sheppard has played the last two years at Abilene Christian and will receive a

Please see **SHEPPARD**/5C

The Event

- What: WNB Golf Classic
- When: Thursday-Sunday
- Where: Midland Country Club

Slive offers hearty SEC welcome in Aggieland

Nick de la Torre/Houston Chronicle

Patrick Davis, a senior from Brenham, waves a flag he made as Texas A&M celebrates entering the SEC on Monday in Kyle Field in College Station.

By Brent Zwerneman
San Antonio Express-News

COLLEGE STATION — Texas A&M fans who've yearned for the Southeastern Conference were presented a perfect portrait on Monday night: SEC commissioner Mike Slive smiling and rhythmically nodding to the strains of the Aggie War Hymn, belted out by the Aggie Band in a crowded, festive Zone Club of Kyle Field.

"On behalf of the league of champions," a jubilant Slive told the A&M faithful and school president R. Bowen Loftin, "welcome to the SEC."

So went A&M's enthusiastic launch into a marquee league that's won the last five national football titles, and one greeting the Aggies with open arms at a celebration and press conference for the league's 13th member.

"Are you ready for the SEC?" A&M athletic director Bill Byrne asked the crowd, which responded with a resounding, "Hell, yeah!"

Slive and SEC presidents and chancellors chairman Bernie Machen joined Byrne and Loftin on the podium for the boisterous event in the large, ritzy ballroom overlooking Kyle Field.

"It's a great day in Aggieland," said Loftin, catalyst behind A&M's exit from the Big 12 following 16 years, and its entrance into the SEC starting in July.

A&M women's basketball player Kelsey Bone, on hand for the celebration, was ecstatic for A&M's future. Bone, a Houston-area product and one of the

Please see **SEC**/4C

AREAFOOTBALLSTANDINGS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

District 4-3A
Overall Standings

Team	W	L	PF	PA	Pct.
Fort Stockton	5	0	106	47	1.000
Seminole	4	1	172	113	.800
Monahans	4	1	143	97	.800
Andrews	3	2	151	102	.600
Greenwood	3	2	124	102	.600

Last week's results

Greenwood 28, Sweetwater 26; Andrews 67, Anthony 6; Fort Stockton 43, Lovington, N.M. 13; Monahans 49, Clint Mountain View 7; Seminole 55, Brownfield 29

This week's games

Greenwood at Big Spring; Andrews at Pecos; Lamesa at Fort Stockton; Monahans vs. Borger at Woodrow; Seminole vs. Dalhart at Plainview

District 5-3A
Overall Standings

Team	W	L	PF	PA	Pct.
Brownwood	4	1	153	150	.800
Snyder	4	1	163	61	.800
Sweetwater	3	2	89	53	.600
Abilene Wylie	2	3	102	115	.400
Big Spring	0	5	41	149	.000

Last week's results

Greenwood 28, Sweetwater 26; Brownwood 21, China Spring 17; Snyder 39, Levelland 0; Seminole 55, Brownfield 29; Lucas Lovejoy 21, Abilene Wylie 17; Midland Christian 34, Big Spring 9

This week's games

Greenwood at Big Spring; Snyder at Pampa; FW All Saints Episcopal at Brownwood; Sweetwater at Midland Christian; Abilene Wylie at Lubbock Estacado

District 2-2A, Division I
Overall Standings

Team	W	L	PF	PA	Pct.
Alpine	5	0	178	55	1.000
Wall	5	0	174	78	1.000
Colorado	4	1	175	82	.800
Crane	3	2	130	87	.600
Kermit	2	2	127	62	.500
Denver City	2	3	69	131	.400
Grape Creek	0	5	40	221	.000

District Standings

Team	W	L	PF	PA	Pct.
Alpine	1	0	41	14	1.000
Wall	1	0	33	7	1.000
Colorado	1	0	42	7	1.000
Kermit	0	0	00	00	.000
Crane	0	1	7	33	.000
Denver City	0	1	7	42	.000
Grape Creek	0	1	14	41	.000

Last week's results

Wall 33, Crane 7; Alpine 41, San Angelo Grape Creek 14; Colorado City 42, Denver City 7; Kermit was open

This week's games

Alpine at Wall; Colorado City at San Angelo Grape Creek; Kermit at Denver City; Crane is open

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland Christian's Elias Aguirre pulls in a reception for a touchdown as Big Spring's Ransom Parks tries to strip the ball Saturday night at Grande Communications Stadium.

District 2-2A, Division II
Overall Standings

Team	W	L	PF	PA	Pct.
Hawley	5	0	208	55	1.000
Forsan	4	1	187	105	.800
Idalou	3	1	132	41	.750
Stanton	2	3	97	71	.400
Coahoma	2	3	138	163	.400
Anson	0	5	86	188	.000
Post	0	5	53	194	.000

District Standings

Team	W	L	PF	PA	Pct.
Forsan	1	0	47	14	1.000
Hawley	1	0	27	14	1.000
Coahoma	1	0	20	16	1.000
Idalou	0	0	00	00	.000
Stanton	0	1	16	20	.000
Anson	0	1	14	27	.000
Post	0	1	14	47	1.000

Last week's results

Coahoma 20, Stanton 16; Hawley 27, Anson 14; Forsan 47, Post 14; Idalou was open

This week's games

Anson at Post; Coahoma at Hawley; Idalou at Stanton; Forsan is open

District 5-A, Division II
Overall Standings

Team	W	L	PF	PA	Pct.
Irion	4	1	168	88	.800
Van Horn	3	1	98	73	.750
McCamey	3	2	142	91	.600
Wink	2	2	117	136	.500
Marfa	2	3	119	179	.400

Last week's results

Irion 27, Eldorado 6; Marfa 28, Plains 21; Ozona 34, McCamey 7; Eunice, N.M. 50, Wink 35; Van Horn was open

This week's games

Bovina at Irion; Eldorado at McCamey; Tornillo at Van Horn; Wink at Sonyer; Marfa is open

District 5 Six-man
Overall Standings

Team	W	L	PF	PA	Pct.
Sands	4	1	314	136	.800
Klondike	4	1	219	119	.800
Borden County	4	1	270	88	.800
O'Donnell	3	2	229	189	.600
Grady	2	3	355	264	.400

Last week's results

Ropes 62, Grady 32; Borden County 52, Petersburg 14; Klondike 48, Loop 10; Crowell 62, O'Donnell 30; Water Valley 58, Sands 44

This week's games

Grady at Sterling City; Whitharral at Klondike; O'Donnell at Spur; Sands at Dawson; Borden County is open

District 7 Six-man
Overall Standings

Team	W	L	PF	PA	Pct.
Rankin	5	0	299	106	1.000
Fort Davis	4	0	342	252	1.000
Garden City	3	2	316	152	.600
Sierra Blanca	1	3	152	226	.250

Last week's results

Fort Davis 124, Trinity 108; Garden City 84, El Paso Faith 12; Rankin 77, Meadow 30; El Paso Jesus Chapel 58, Sierra Blanca 6

This week's games

El Paso Immanuel at Fort Davis; Garden City at Ropes; Ira at Rankin, Sierra Blanca at El Paso Home School

TAPPS Division II District 1
Overall Standings

Team	W	L	PF	PA	Pct.
FW Christian	5	0	162	65	1.000
Grace Prep	4	1	191	111	.800
Pantego Christ.	3	1	120	46	.750
FWSW Christian	3	1	111	122	.750
Grapevine Faith	3	2	167	129	.600
Mid. Christ.	2	2	88	77	.500

Last week's results

Fort Worth Christian 38, Fort Worth Poly 3; Arlington Grace Prep 42, Burleson Centennial 38; Grapevine Faith 56, Cleburne 20; Midland Christian 34, Big Spring 9; Arlington Pantego Christian and Fort Worth Southwest Christian were open

This week's games

Sweetwater at Midland Christian at Grande Communications Stadium; Dallas Gateway Charter at FW Southwest Christian; Arlington Grace Prep at Aubrey; Colleyville Covenant at Arlington Pantego Christian; Fort Worth Christian and Grapevine Faith are open

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Eliza Marks tries to spike the ball as Abilene Cooper's Kinsey Watkins tries to block Saturday afternoon at Lee High School.

HSVOLLEYBALL

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DISTRICT 3-5A
LEE AT ODESSA HIGH

When/where: 6 p.m. today, OHS Fieldhouse

Records: Lee 20-14, 2-2 in District 3-5A; Odessa High 19-17, 0-4

Last 3-5A match: Abilene Cooper def. Lee, 25-21, 25-23, 25-12; Abilene High def. Odessa High, 25-20, 25-22, 25-21

Notes: The Lady Rebels now find themselves in a fight for the playoffs as the first half of the District 3-5A season winds down. Lee is among three teams that have two losses heading into today's match. Midland High leads the district at 5-0, with Abilene Cooper second. San Angelo Central, Abilene High and Lee all have two losses. ... The Lady Rebels were swept in three games by second-place Abilene Cooper on Saturday, which was the second time during the district season that Lee had been swept. ... Odessa High, meanwhile, has had a rough start to the league season as it is winless in coach David Patrick's first season as coach. ... Three of the four Lady Broncho losses have been in three games as Odessa High took San Angelo Central to five games on Sept. 16 at home. ... Lee and Odessa High split their two matches last season.

Next: Lee at Midland High, 6 p.m. Friday; Odessa High at Odessa Permian, 5 p.m., Friday

ODESSA PERMIAN AT ABILENE COOPER

When/where: 6 p.m. today, Abilene Cooper HS

Records: Odessa Permian 15-19, 0-5; Abilene Cooper 19-14, 3-1

Last 3-5A match: San Angelo Central def. Odessa Permian, 25-12, 25-16, 19-25, 25-7; Abilene Cooper def. Lee, 25-21, 25-23, 25-12

Next: Odessa High at Odessa Permian, 5 p.m. Friday; Abilene High vs. Abilene Cooper, 6 p.m. Friday, Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene

SAN ANGELO CENTRAL AT ABILENE HIGH

When/where: 6 p.m. today, Abilene HS

Records: San Angelo Central 18-11, 3-2; Abilene High 23-10, 2-2

Last 3-5A match: Abilene High def. Odessa High, 25-20, 25-22, 25-21; Midland High def. San Angelo Central, 25-19, 25-20, 25-20

Next: Abilene High vs. Abilene Cooper, 6 p.m. Friday, Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene; Grape Creek at San Angelo Central, 4:30 p.m. Friday

TAPPS 1-3A
LUBBOCK TRINITY CHRISTIAN AT MIDLAND CHRISTIAN

When/where: 7 p.m. McGraw Special Events Center

Records: Midland Christian 15-19, 2-3 in TAPPS 1-4A; Lubbock Trinity Christian 24-7, 3-2

Last district match: Fort Worth Christian def. Midland Christian, 23-25, 25-17, 25-21, 25-16

Notes: The Lady Mustangs close out the first half of the TAPPS 1-4A season today with another tough challenge. If Midland Christian can win, they will be tied with Lubbock Christian and will help their playoff chances in the district. ... MCS will have to rebound from a four-game loss to league favorite Fort Worth Christian. The Lady Mustangs won the first game of the match on Saturday, but the Lady Cardinals won the final three.

Next: Midland Christian at Arlington Pantego Christian, 6 p.m. Friday; Lubbock Trinity Christian at Fort Worth Southwest Christian, 6 p.m. Friday

DISTRICT 4-3A
SEMINOLE AT GREENWOOD

When/where: 6:30 p.m. today, Greenwood HS gymnasium

Records: Greenwood 19-12, 1-0 in District 4-3A; Seminole 5-25, 0-1

Last district match: Greenwood def. Fort Stockton, 25-13, 25-23, 25-16; Seminole, first district match

Notes: The Rangerettes had a solid start to the district season with an impressive three-game victory against Fort Stockton on the road. Greenwood's Emily Dye had 16 kills in the match and Peyton Pyle added 11.

Next: Monahans at Greenwood, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4; Seminole at Monahans, 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1

Around the Area

TRINITY (19-10) AT COLORADO CITY, 6 P.M.: Trinity returns to the non-district schedule after winning its lone district match on Saturday.

MIDLAND CLASSICAL (19-9) AT CRANE, 6 P.M.: The Lady Knights are looking to rebound after dropping their TAPPS 1-3A opener on Saturday in Amarillo.

Compiled by Len Hayward

3-5A Volleyball

Team	District	Overall
Midland High	6 0	24 14
Abilene Cooper	5 1	19 14
San Angelo Central	3 2	18 11
Lee	2 2	20 14
Abilene High	2 2	23 10
Odessa High	0 4	19 17
Odessa Permian	0 4	15 19

Friday's Scores
Midland High def. San Angelo Central, 25-19, 25-20, 25-20; Abilene High def. Odessa High, 25-20, 25-22, 25-21
Saturday's Scores
Abilene Cooper def. Lee, 25-21, 25-23, 25-12
Today's Matches
Lee at Odessa High; Odessa Permian at Abilene Cooper; San Angelo Central at Abilene High; Midland High is idle. All matches at 6 p.m.

HSFOOTBALLPOLLS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Here is The Associated Press high school poll, with first place votes in parentheses, records, points based on 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1, and the team's ranking in the preseason poll

Class 5A

School	Record	Points	Prv
1. Allen (19)	(5-0)	234	1
2. Katy (2)	(4-0)	211	2
3. DeSoto (2)	(5-0)	182	4
4. Euless Trinity (1)	(5-0)	177	3
5. Cibolo Steele	(5-0)	137	5
6. Coppell	(5-0)	110	6
7. Southlake Carroll	(5-0)	78	7
8. Converse Judson	(5-0)	76	8
9. Arlington Martin	(4-0)	61	9
10. Dallas Skyline	(4-0)	24	

Others receiving votes: 11. Longview 19. 12. Galena Park North Shore 5. 13. Port Arthur Memorial 2. 13. Round Rock Westwood 2. 15. The Woodlands 1. 15. Klein Collins 1.

Class 4A

School	Total	Points	Prv
1. Lake Travis (24)	(5-0)	240	1
2. Denton Ryan	(5-0)	203	2
3. Brenham	(4-0)	185	3
4. Smithson Valley	(5-0)	150	4
5. Dallas Highland Park	(4-0)	136	5
6. Port Lavaca Calhoun	(5-0)	111	6
7. Marvel	(5-0)	83	8
8. Cedar Park	(4-1)	64	7
9. Pearland Dawson	(5-0)	63	10
10. Stephenville	(4-1)	44	9

Others receiving votes: 11. Rosenberg Terry 11. 12. Aledo 8. 13. Angleton 5. 13. Montgomery 5. 15. Hewitt Midway 4. 15. FW Arlington Heights 4. 17. La Marque 1. 17. Corsicana 1. 17. Wolfforth Frenship 1. 17. Mesquite Poteet 1.

Class 3A

School	Total	Points	Prv
1. Tyler Chapel Hill (15)	(5-0)	227	1
2. Wimberley (5)	(4-0)	207	2
3. Henderson (4)	(5-0)	196	3
4. Coldspring-Oakhurst	(5-0)	172	5
5. Gilmer	(5-0)	145	6
6. Celina	(4-0)	123	7
7. Alvarado	(4-0)	77	9
8. West Columbia	(5-0)	71	10
9. SA Houston	(5-0)	23	
10. Argyle	(4-1)	18	4

Others receiving votes: 11. Lindale 17. 12. Carthage 13. 13. Waco La Vega 10. 14. Nevasota 4. 14. Ingleside 4. 14. Snyder 4. 17. Giddings 2. 17. Sanger 2. 19. Smithville 1. 19. Prosper 1. 19. Gonzales 1. 19. Devine 1. 19. Van 1.

Class 2A

School	Total	Points	Prv
1. Refugio (18)	(4-0)	232	1
2. Godley (4)	(5-0)	213	2
3. Schulenburg	(4-0)	188	3
4. Idalou	(3-1)	151	4
5. Hemphill-sad (1)	(4-0)	134	6
6. Tatum (1)	(3-1)	109	7
7. New Boston	(4-1)	89	8
8. Rogers	(5-0)	74	10
9. Wall	(5-0)	40	
10. Daingerfield	(3-2)	28	5

Others receiving votes: 11. Newton 15. 12. Corsicana Mildred 13. 13. Crockett 9. 14. Sonora 8. 15. Mineola 6. 16. Lago Vista 5. 17. Arp 2. 17. Muleshoe 2. 19. Poth 1. 19. Melissa 1.

Class 1A

School	Total	Points	Prv
1. Olmado (20)	(5-0)	236	1
2. Tenaha (3)	(5-0)	214	2
3. Mason (1)	(4-0)	191	3
4. Muenster	(5-0)	136	4
5. Goldthwaite	(4-1)	112	9
6. Albany	(5-0)	105	8
7. Garrison	(4-1)	97	7
8. Windthorst	(4-1)	66	10
9. Burton	(4-0)	41	
10. Clarksville	(3-1)	33	5

Others receiving votes: 11. Stamford 19. 12. Canadian 18. 13. Marfa 15. 14. Wellington 14. 15. Price Carbide 11. 16. Ben Bolt 4. 17. Honey Grove 3. 18. Sundown 2. 18. Sunray 2. 20. New Deal 1.

LeRoy

From 1C

FOR SOME: Both of our area 2A districts began play last week as 2-2A Division I and 2-2A Division II got under way.

In the Division II district, the game of the night was in Coahoma as the Bulldogs edged Stanton 20-16 in a game dictated by defense and special teams miscues.

While Stanton coach John Peterson and Coahoma coach Trey Gardner were looking for the Maalox after the game, at least it was exciting for the fans to watch two rivals take a game down to the wire. Coahoma's Tanner Ruiz scored the game-winner on a 9-yard touchdown run with 1:58 remaining.

It was a big win for Coahoma (2-3, 1-0 in district) but a heartbreaker for Stanton (2-3, 0-1).

It only gets tougher for Stanton as it hosts district favorite and No. 4-ranked Idalou (3-1, 0-0) this week, while Coahoma heads on the road to face upstart Hawley (5-0, 1-0), which is coming off a 27-14 victory over Anson.

In 2-2A Division II, there weren't any nail-biters as all three games were blowouts. Alpine (5-0, 1-0) rolled past Grape Creek, 41-14, Wall (5-0, 1-0) also stayed perfect by downing Crane, 33-7, while Colorado City (4-1, 1-0) pounced on Kermit, 42-7.

The most surprising score came from Wall and Crane. I expected the Golden Cranes (3-2, 0-1) to put up a better fight at home but the Hawks showed they are indeed for real. Crane should be in the mix for a playoff spot but the Golden Cranes begin the district looking up at the big three for at least two weeks as Crane is idle this Friday.

RANGERS GET BIG BOOST: Whether it was the regular season or the playoffs, Greenwood had trouble beating Sweetwater. That was until the Rangers hung on for a 28-26 victory at home over the Mustangs.

That was the first win for Greenwood over Sweetwater since the 2002 Class 3A Division II state quarterfinal game (34-28) at Lubbock's Lowrey Field.

The Rangers (3-2) did it by coming up with five turnovers, got 332 total yards by quarterback Kam Williams, who miraculously recovered from an injured right throwing hand suffered two weeks earlier, and a nice defensive play by Jacob Armitage to preserve the two-point victory

Sweetwater had scored as time expired to pull to within 28-26, but a 2-point conversion pass attempt failed when Armitage tipped the ball enough to fall incomplete.

The Rangers not only exorcised some demons against the Mustangs, but now must be feeling confident about themselves as they inch closer to the start of play in what is shaping up to be a very competitive District 4-3A.

Greenwood gets one last tune-up on Friday before district when it heads to Big Spring (0-5), which will be in desperate search of some momentum as it heads in District 5-3A play.

RANKIN TAKES TOP SPOT: Rankin has moved into the No. 1 spot in the sixmanfootball.com rankings after whipping up on a good Meadow team, 77-30.

The Red Devils (5-0) leapfrog No. 3 Ira and No. 2 Throckmorton to take over the No. 1 ranking.

Garden City (3-2), an 84-12 winner over El Paso Faith Christian, stayed at No. 11 in the latest rankings.

Oscar LeRoy can be reached at oleroy@mrt.com.

Chap sophomore Farmer wins medalist title in Ruidoso

From staff reports

RUIDOSO, N.M. — Midland College sophomore golfer Richie Farmer shot a 6-under 66 on Monday to win the medalist title at the High Country Shootout at The Links at Sierra Blanca.

Farmer finished with a 67-69-66—202 total to finish one stroke ahead of Western Texas College's Matthew Whittaker. Farmer was tied for second heading into Monday's final round.

Farmer helped Midland College finish tied with Odessa College for fourth in the tournament as the Chaparrals shot 275-288-281—844. Western Texas won the tournament with an 830 total, South Mountain (Ariz.) Community College was second with an 837, and New Mexico Junior College was third with an 839.

Farmer

"I thought the team played really well considering we had three guys who never played before in this kind of competition," MC coach Delnor Poss said.

Freshman Sean Lawrie finished tied for fifth in the medalist standings after shooting 69-72-67—208. Also for MC, freshman Tyson Turnbow shot 69-75-72—216, sophomore and returning NJCAA All-American Luke Richardson finished with a 70-72-76—218, and freshman Blake Borman shot 70-76-77—223. Freshman Stephen Gage played as an individual and shot 77-76-70—223.

But Poss said the impressive performance of the tournament came from Farmer, who had a bogey-free first round, had six birdies and three bogeys in the second round, and then he didn't have a bogey until the next to the last hole during Monday's play. Poss added Farmer turned the front nine with a 5-under 31 score.

Midland College next plays in Andrews Collegiate/Amateur Invitational on Oct. 1-3.

High Country Shootout
at The Links at Sierra Blanca
Ruidoso, N.M.
Monday's final results

Team standings — 1. Western Texas College 281-277-272—830; 2. South Mountain (Ariz.) Community College 276-277-284—837; 3. New Mexico Junior College 272-284-283—839; 4. (tie) Midland College 275-288-281—844; and Odessa College 281-277-286—844; 6. Clarendon College 286-286-298—872; 7. New Mexico Junior College 291-281-301—873; 8. Eastern Arizona Community College 286-285-295—876; 9. Western New Mexico University JV 300-299-293—892; 10. Odessa College B 300-294-290—884; 11. New Mexico Military Institute 301-308-307—916; 12. Eastern Arizona B 311-317-309—937

Medalists standings (top 10) — 1. Richard Farmer, Midland, 67-69-66—202; 2. Matthew Whittaker, Western Texas, 69-69-65—203; 3. Richard James, New Mexico JC, 67-70-67—204; 4. Julian Hilbertz, Western Texas, 69-68-70—208; 5. (tie) Jamie Warman, Odessa, 68-70-70—208; Dan Seward, South Mountain, 69-69-70—208; Sean Lawrie, Midland, 69-72-67—208; 8. Willy Hogan, 68-68-75—209; 9. (tie) Jimmy Kozlikowski, South Mountain, 70-70-70—210; Chris Bell, Odessa, 69-72-70

Other Midland College results — Tyson Turnbow 69-75-72—216; Luke Richardson 70-72-76—218; Blake Borman 70-76-77—223. MC individual, Stephen Gage 77-76-70—223

TRINITY

From 1C

Director of Athletics Chris Jauz said on Monday the realignment will be official in about two weeks after TAPPS officials await on any appeals.

Trinity is returning to TAPPS after competing in the Texas Christian Athletic League and the Texas Christian Athletic Fellowship the last seven years.

Trinity joined TCAL in 2004 and later TCAF in 2007 and the main reason was for football.

Trinity's enrollment during TAPPS' realignment in 2003 placed it in 11-man football and the Chargers were looking at going back to Six-Man football. That prompted the move to TCAL.

This time around, though, because of TAPPS' formula that uses the average enrollment of boys at a school, Trinity fit into the Six-Man enrollment in TAPPS.

In other TAPPS realignment news, Midland Christian remained in Division II in football and will compete in District 1 with Arlington Grace Prep, Arlington Pantego, Fort Worth Christian, Fort Worth Southwest Christian and Grapevine Faith.

It will compete with the same schools in TAPPS 4A in all other sports as Lubbock Trinity Christian will be in the district.

Midland Classical will again compete in TAPPS 3A in the district listed above.

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MLBROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

RAYS 5, YANKEES 2: At St. Petersburg, Fla., the Tampa Bay Rays moved into a tie with the Boston Red Sox for the wild-card lead, beating the New York Yankees 5-2 on Monday night behind another strong performance by James Shields.

Shields came within one out of his 12th complete game, yielding six hits. Kyle Farnsworth finished for his 24th save, closing it out moments before the Red Sox lost 6-3 at Baltimore. The Rays and Red Sox each have two games left.

ORIOLES 6, RED SOX 3: At Baltimore, the Boston Red Sox found another way to lose, this time on a broken-bat single and an inside-the-park homer, and their defeat against the Orioles dropped them into a tie in the AL wild-card race.

TIGERS 14, INDIANS 0: At Detroit, Doug Fister pitched eight strong innings and Alex Avila drove in three runs to help the Tigers beat the Indians.

WHITE SOX 4, BLUE JAYS 3: At Chicago, in what turned out to be manager Ozzie Guillen's last game with the White Sox, Tyler Flowers hit a three-run homer, rookie Dylan Axelrod threw six shutout innings and Chicago beat the Blue Jays.

ROYALS 7, TWINS 3: At Minnapolis, Melky Cabrera became the first Kansas City player in 11 years to get 200 hits and Mike Moustakas hit the go-ahead home run in a four-run sixth inning as the Royals topped the Twins.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Astros 5, Cardinals 4, 10 innings: At Houston, St. Louis missed out on a chance to join Atlanta atop the wild-card standings when Brian Boguesevic scored on Angel Sanchez's bunt in the 10th inning Monday night, giving the Houston Astros a 5-4 victory over the Cardinals.

PHILLIES 4, BRAVES 2: At Atlanta, the Atlanta Braves took another wrenching loss in their September swoon, squandering an early two-run lead against Cliff Lee as the playoff-bound Philadelphia Phillies rallied for a 4-2 victory Monday night.

REDS 6, METS 5: At New York, Chris Heisey hit a go-ahead, three-run homer just moments after making a diving catch and Cincinnati held off New York.

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ST. ANN'S FAMILY FAIR

We'd like to thank everyone that attended the 63rd Annual St. Ann's Family Fair.

See you again next year!

ST. ANN'S FAMILY FAIR

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	3	0	0	1.000	113	73
New England	2	1	0	.667	104	79
N.Y. Jets	2	1	0	.667	83	61
Miami	0	3	0	.000	53	78
South						
Houston	2	1	0	.667	90	60
Tennessee	2	1	0	.667	57	43
Jacksonville	1	2	0	.333	29	49
Indianapolis	0	3	0	.000	46	84
North						
Baltimore	2	1	0	.667	85	40
Cleveland	2	1	0	.667	61	62
Pittsburgh	2	1	0	.667	54	55
Cincinnati	1	2	0	.333	57	54
West						
Oakland	2	1	0	.667	92	82
San Diego	2	1	0	.667	65	69
Denver	1	2	0	.333	58	62
Kansas City	0	3	0	.000	27	109

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	2	1	0	.667	69	67
Washington	2	1	0	.667	66	53
N.Y. Giants	2	1	0	.667	71	60
Philadelphia	1	2	0	.333	78	77
South						
Tampa Bay	2	1	0	.667	60	60
New Orleans	2	1	0	.667	104	88
Carolina	1	2	0	.333	60	66
Atlanta	1	2	0	.333	60	77
North						
Green Bay	3	0	0	1.000	99	74
Detroit	3	0	0	1.000	101	46
Chicago	1	2	0	.333	60	69
Minnesota	0	3	0	.000	60	74
West						
San Francisco	2	1	0	.667	70	52
Seattle	1	2	0	.333	30	67
Arizona	1	2	0	.333	59	56
St. Louis	3	0	0	1.000	36	96

Sunday's Scores

New Orleans 40, Houston 33
Tennessee 17, Denver 14
Detroit 26, Minnesota 23, OT
San Francisco 13, Cincinnati 8
Buffalo 34, New England 31
N.Y. Giants 29, Philadelphia 16
Cleveland 17, Miami 16
Carolina 16, Jacksonville 10
San Diego 20, Kansas City 17
Oakland 34, N.Y. Jets 24
Baltimore 37, St. Louis 7
Seattle 13, Arizona 10
Green Bay 27, Chicago 17
Tampa Bay 16, Atlanta 13
Pittsburgh 23, Indianapolis 20

Monday's Score

Dallas 18, Washington 16

Sunday, Oct. 2

Detroit at Dallas, noon
Washington at St. Louis, noon
Minnesota at Kansas City, noon
Carolina at Chicago, noon
Pittsburgh at Houston, noon
New Orleans at Jacksonville, noon
San Francisco at Philadelphia, noon
Tennessee at Cleveland, noon
Buffalo at Cincinnati, noon
N.Y. Giants at Arizona, 3:05 p.m.
Atlanta at Seattle, 3:05 p.m.
Miami at San Diego, 3:15 p.m.
New England at Oakland, 3:15 p.m.
Denver at Green Bay, 3:15 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Baltimore, 7:20 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 3

Indianapolis at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.

WNBA Playoffs

CONFERENCE FINALS
(x-if necessary)
Eastern Conference
Indiana 1, Atlanta 1
Thursday, Sept. 22: Indiana 82, Atlanta 74
Sunday, Sept. 25: Atlanta 94, Indiana 77
Today: Atlanta at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Western Conference
Minnesota 2, Phoenix 0
Thursday, Sept. 22: Minnesota 95, Phoenix 67
Sunday, Sept. 25: Minnesota 103, Phoenix 96

CHAMPIONSHIP
Sunday, Oct. 2: Indiana-Atlanta winner at Minnesota, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 5: Indiana-Atlanta winner at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
x-Friday, Oct. 7: Minnesota at Indiana-Atlanta winner, 7 p.m.
x-Sunday, Oct. 9: Minnesota at Indiana-Atlanta winner, 3 p.m.
x-Wednesday, Oct. 12: Indiana-Atlanta winner at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

NHL Preseason

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	3	3	0	0	6	17	4
Pittsburgh	3	3	0	0	6	11	4
New Jersey	3	1	2	0	2	7	11
N.Y. Islanders	3	1	2	0	2	9	10
N.Y. Rangers	3	1	1	1	3	8	10
Northeast Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	4	3	1	0	7	16	9
Buffalo	5	4	1	0	8	12	9
Toronto	5	3	2	0	6	11	13
Ottawa	5	2	2	1	5	14	17
Montreal	6	1	5	0	2	14	24
Southeast Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Winnipeg	5	2	3	0	4	13	15
Washington	4	1	2	1	3	8	10
Tampa Bay	4	2	2	0	4	14	12
Carolina	3	1	2	0	2	7	6
Florida	4	1	3	0	2	12	18

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	5	4	1	0	8	17	12
St. Louis	5	3	2	0	6	15	12
Detroit	4	2	2	0	4	11	12
Chicago	4	1	2	1	3	9	14
Columbus	5	2	3	0	4	18	18
Northwest Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	4	3	1	0	6	10	10
Edmonton	5	3	2	0	6	13	9
Vancouver	5	2	3	0	4	11	17
Calgary	4	1	3	0	2	9	10
Colorado	3	1	2	0	2	7	8
Pacific Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	4	4	0	0	8	16	5
Dallas	4	3	1	0	6	14	10
Anaheim	5	2	3	0	4	13	20
Phoenix	4	2	2	0	4	11	9
Los Angeles	3	1	1	1	3	5	7

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

Monday's Scores

Winnipeg 3, Ottawa 1
Washington 3, Columbus 1
Philadelphia 5, N.Y. Rangers 3
Boston 2, Montreal 1

Today's Games

Dallas at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
Toronto at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh vs. Los Angeles at Kansas City, Mo., 7 p.m.
Phoenix at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Calgary, 8 p.m.

Tennis

ATP World Tour Malaysian Open
Monday
At Putra Stadium
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Purse: $647,750 (WT250)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
David Goffin, Belgium, def. Matthew Ebden, Australia, 6-4, 7-6 (4).
Marcos Baghdatis, Cyprus, def. Alex Bogomolov Jr. (8), United States, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Dmitry Tursunov (7), Russia, def. Paul Capdeville, Chile, 6-2, 2-6, 6-1.

WTA Toray Pan Pacific Open
Monday
At Ariake Coliseum
Tokyo
Purse: $2,207 million (Premier)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round
Ana Ivanovic (12), Serbia, def. Anastasia Rodionova, Australia, 6-4, 6-0.
Maddy Minella, Luxembourg, def. Kristina Barrois, Japan, 1-6, 6-3, 6-3.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Wild Card Standings

American League	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	89	71	.556	—
Tampa Bay	89	71	.556	—
Los Angeles	86	73	.541	2 1/2
National League	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	89	71	.556	—
St. Louis	88	72	.550	1

Monday's Games

American League
Baltimore 6, Boston 3
Tampa Bay 5, N. Y. Yankees 2
Texas at L.A. Angels, 10:05 p.m.
National League
Philadelphia 4, Atlanta 2
Houston 5, St. Louis 4, 10 innings

Today's Games

American League
Boston (Bedard 5-9) at Baltimore (Britton 11-10), 6:05 p.m.
N. Y. Yankees (Colon 8-10) at Tampa Bay (Hellickson 13-10), 6:10 p.m.
Texas (C.Lewis 13-10) at L.A. Angels (E.Santana 11-12), 9:05 p.m.
National League
Philadelphia (Oswalt 8-10) at Atlanta (D.Lowe 9-16), 6:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Westbrook 12-9) at Houston (Sosa 3-5), 7:05 p.m.

American League	W	L	Pct	GB
x-New York	97	63	.606	—
Boston	89	71	.556	8
Tampa Bay	89	71	.556	8
Toronto	80	80	.500	17
Baltimore	68	92	.425	29
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Detroit	93	67	.581	—
Cleveland	80	80	.500	13
Chicago	78	82	.488	15
Kansas City	71	89	.444	22
Minnesota	61	99	.381	32
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Texas	93	66	.585	—
Los Angeles	86	73	.541	7
Oakland	72	88	.450	21 1/2
Seattle	67	93	.419	26 1/2

National League	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Philadelphia	100	60	.625	—
Atlanta	89	71	.556	11
Washington	79	80	.497	20 1/2
New York	76	84	.475	24
Florida	71	89	.444	29
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Milwaukee	94	65	.591	—
St. Louis	88	72	.550	6 1/2
Cincinnati	78	82	.488	16 1/2
Pittsburgh	71	88	.447	23
Chicago	70	89	.440	24
Houston	56	104	.350	38 1/2
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Arizona	93	66	.585	—
San Francisco	84	75	.528	9
Los Angeles	80	78	.506	12
Colorado	72	87	.453	21
San Diego	69	90	.434	24

x-clinched division

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Monday's Scores
Baltimore 6, Boston 3
Detroit 14, Cleveland 0
Tampa Bay 5, N.Y. Yankees 2
Kansas City 7, Minnesota 3
Chicago White Sox 4, Toronto 3
Seattle 4, Oakland 2
Texas at L.A. Angels, late

Today's Games

Boston (Bedard 5-9) at Baltimore (Britton 11-10), 6:05 p.m.
Detroit (J.Gomez 5-2) at Detroit (Scherzer 14-9), 6:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Colon 8-10) at Tampa Bay (Hellickson 13-10), 6:10 p.m.
Kansas City (O'Sullivan 2-5) at Minnesota (Swarzak 3-7), 7:10 p.m.
Toronto (H.Alvarez 1-2) at Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 12-9), 7:10 p.m.
Texas (C.Lewis 13-10) at L.A. Angels (E.Santana 11-12), 9:05 p.m.
Oakland (Cahill 11-14) at Seattle (Beavan 5-5), 9:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Monday's Scores
Cincinnati 6, N.Y. Mets 5
Philadelphia 4, Atlanta 2
Washington 6, Florida 4
Houston 5, St. Louis 4, 10 innings
Pittsburgh 3, Milwaukee 8
L.A. Dodgers at Arizona, late
Chicago Cubs at San Diego, late
Colorado at San Francisco, late

Today's Games

Cincinnati (Arroyo 9-12) at N.Y. Mets (Capuano 11-12), 6:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Oswalt 8-10) at Atlanta (D.Lowe 9-16), 6:10 p.m.
Washington (Lannan 10-13) at Florida (Vazquez 12-11), 6:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Westbrook 12-9) at Houston (Sosa 3-5), 7:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Ohlendorf 1-3) at Milwaukee (Wolf 13-10), 7:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Kuroda 13-16) at Arizona (Parker 0-0), 9:40 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Garza 9-10) at San Diego (Baez 2-0), 9:05 p.m.
Colorado (White 2-3) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 12-13), 9:15 p.m.

AL Boxes

TIGERS 14, INDIANS 0

Cleveland	ab	r	h	bi	Detroit	ab	r	h	bi
Fukudm rf	3	0	0	0	Rhyms 2b	5	2	2	0
Head ph	1	0	1	0	Kelly 3b-1b	4	2	2	1
Kipnis 2b	3	0	0	0	Dthrng 1	4	2	2	3
Phelps pr	0	0	0	0	MCarr 1b	5	1	3	1
ACarer ss	3	0	1	0	Worth pr-3b	0	1	0	0
Valuen ph	1	0	0	0	VMrtnz dh	4	1	2	1
Hafner dh	3	0	0	0	Inge pr-dh	0	1	0	0
Donald ph	1	0	0	0	Avila c	3	1	2	3
Duncan lf	3	0	0	0	OSants ph-c	1	0	0	0
Chisnhl 3b	3	0	0	0	Raburn rf	4	1	2	2
LaPort 1b	3	0	2	0	RZrngz ss	5	1	1	0
Carrer cf	3	0	0	0	Dirks cf	5	1	2	3
Marson c	3	0	0	0					
Totals	**31**	**0**	**4**	**0**	**Totals**	**41**	**14**	**18**	**14**

Cleveland	000	000	000	—	0
Detroit	013	030	08x	—	14

E—Kelly (5). DP—Cleveland 1. LOB—Cleveland 4, Detroit 8. 2B—Kelly (8), V.Martinez 2 (36). Avila (33). Dirks (13). 3B—Raburn (2). HR—D.Young (11).

Cleveland	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
U.Jimenez L,4-4	5	9	6	6	3	3
Kluber	2	4	4	4	0	2
Judy	1	5	4	4	0	2
Detroit						
Fister W,11-13	8	3	0	0	0	9
Below	1	1	0	0	0	0

Kluber pitched to 4 batters in the 8th.
HBP—by Kluber (Kelly, D.Young). WP—Kluber.
T—2:40. A—29,886 (41,255).

RAYS 5, YANKEES 2

New York	ab	r	h	bi	Tampa Bay	ab	r	h	bi
Jeter ss	3	0	0	0	Jnnngs lf	3	1	0	0
Grndrs cf	4	0	0	0	Bptstor cf	4	2	2	0
Cano 2b	4	1	2	2	Longori 3b	1	0	1	0
ARdrgz dh	4	0	1	0	Zobrist 2b-rf	2	0	0	0
Posada 1b	4	0	1	0	Damon dh	3	0	1	0
Er.Chvz 3b	3	0	0	0	Joyce rf	4	0	2	0
RMartn c	2	0	1	0	SRdrgz 2b	5	0	0	0
AJrmn rf	3	1	0	0	Kotchm 1b	4	0	1	0
JMrtnr ph	1	0	0	0	Shppch c	4	1	1	1
ENunez rf	2	0	1	0	Brignc ss	4	1	1	0
Gardnr lf	1	0	0	0					
Totals	**31**	**2**	**6**	**2**	**Totals**	**29**	**5**	**9**	**5**

New York	101	000	000	—	2
Tampa Bay	002	100	10x	—	5

E—Longoria (14). DP—New York 2, Tampa Bay 2. LOB—New York 5, Tampa Bay 9. 2B—E.Nunez (17). B.Upton 2 (26). Joyce (32). HR—Cano (28), Shppch (11). SB—B.Upton (34). CS—Longoria (3). Damon (6). SF—Damon.

New York	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Noesi L,2-2	2	5	3	3	2	1
Warden	2	2	1	1	0	2
P.Hughes	1-2/3	1	0	0	2	1
Kontos	2-3	0	1	1	2	1
Avila	1	0	0	0	0	1
Brackman	2-3	0	0	0	1	0
Tampa Bay						
Shields W,16-12	8	2-3	6	2	2	3
Farnsworth S,24-30	1-3	0	0	0	0	0

Noesi pitched to 4 batters in the 3rd.
WP—Noesi 2.
T—3:07. A—18,772 (34,078).

ORIOLES 6, RED SOX 3

Boston	ab	r	h	bi	Baltimore	ab	r	h	bi
Ellsbury cf	4	1	2	0	Angle lf	3	0	1	0
Crawford lf	5	0	0	0	Hardy ss	4	0	0	0
Pedroia 2b	4	0	2	1	Markks rf	3	0	1	0
D.Ortiz dh	5	0	2	0	Guerrn dh	4	1	1	0
AdGnzl 1b	3	0	1	0	Wieters c	4	1	1	1
Lowrie 3b	4	1	1	1	Adjms cf	4	1	1	0
J.Drew rf	4	0	2	0	MRyhs 1b	2	1	0	0
Sltmch c	4	0	0	0	C.Davis 3b	4	1	2	2
Lvrnwy c	0	0	0	0	Andino 2b	2	1	1	3
Scutaro ss	4	1	1	0					
Totals	**37**	**3**	**11**	**2**	**Totals**	**30**	**6**	**8**	**6**

Baltimore	010	100	001	—	3
Boston	010	014	00x	—	6

E—Angle (2). DP—Boston 1, Baltimore 1. LOB—Boston 12, Baltimore 5. 2B—Ellsbury (46), D.Ortiz (40), Markakis (30), C.Davis (11). HR—Lowrie (8), Wieters (21), Andino (5). SB—Angle (11), Guerrero (2). CS—Markakis (6). SF—Andino (8).

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Beckett L,13-7	6	7	6	6	4	5
Aceves	1	0	0	0	0	1
Weiland	1	4	2	1	0	0
Baltimore						
Tom.Hunter	5	7	2	2	3	2
Patton W,2-1	1-2/3	0	0	0	0	2
Eyre	1-3	0	0	0	0	1
Rapada	1-3	1	0	0	0	1
Strop	2-3	1	0	0	0	1
Jo.Johnson	1	2	1	1	0	1

HBP—by J.Johnson (Ellsbury). Balk—J.Johnson.
T—3:17. A—21,786 (45,438).

ROYALS 7, TWINS 3

Kansas City	ab	r	h	bi	Minnesota	ab	r	h	bi
Dyson cf	4	1	1	0	Revere cf	4	0	1	0
McCarr lf	3	1	2	0	DrMrtn lf	3	0	1	0
Maier pr-lf	2	1	0	0	Benson ph-lf	1	0	0	0
Butler dh	4	1	2	1	Cuddyr rf	4	1	2	2
Hosmer 1b	4	0	1	0	Parmel 1b	3	1	1	0
S.Perez c	4	1	2	2	Valenzu 3b	4	0	1	0
Mostks 3b	5	1	2	1	Plouffe ss	4	0	0	0
L.Cain rf	4	1	2	0	Tosoni dh	3	0	1	1
Giavtll 2b	3	0	1	1	LHughs 2b	4	0	1	0
AEscor ss	4	0	2	1	Butera c	2	1	0	0
					Tolbert ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	**37**	**7**	**14**	**7**	**Totals**	**33**	**3**	**6**	**3**

Kansas City	100	004	011	—	7
Minnesota	000	120	000	—	3

E—F.Paulino (3). DP—Minnesota 1. LOB—Kansas City 8, Minnesota 6. 2B—Butler (42), Moustakas (17), Parmelee (5). HR—Moustakas (5), Cuddyer (20). SB—Dyson 2 (11), Butler (2), A.Escobar (26). CS—A.Escobar (9). SF—Hosmer, S.Perez, Gavioletta.

Kansas City	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
F.Paulino W,4-6	6	6	3	3	2	9
Collins	1	0	0	0	0	1
K.Herrera	1	0	0	0	0	1
Crow	1	1	0	0	1	1
Minnesota						
Swarzak L,0-8	5-2/3	10	5	5	0	3
Hoey	2-1/3	3	1	1	1	0
Dumatrait	1	1	1	1	2	1
PB—Butera.

T—2:46 A—34,847 (39,500)

WHITE SOX 4, BLUE JAYS 3

Toronto	ab	r	h	bi	Chicago	ab	r	h	bi
McCoy ss	3	0	0	0	Pierre lf	4	0	1	0
Cooper ph	1	0	1	2	ARmrez ss	3	1	1	0
Wdwrd pr	0	0	0	0	Przynsz c	4	0	2	0
E.Thme lf	4	0	2	0	Vckerman rf	4	0	1	0
Bautist dh	2	0	0	0	A.Dunn dh	2	0	0	0
Wise pr	0	0	0	0	Morel 3b	4	1	0	0
Lind 1b	3	0	1	0	De Aza cf	3	1	1	0
K.Johnsn 2b	4	0	1	0	Flowrs 1b	4	1	1	3
Arencib c	2	1	0	0	Bckhrn 2b	3	0	0	0
Tejeda 3b	3	1	2	0					
Rasms cf	4	0	0	0					
Loewen rf	4	0	1	0					
Totals	**32**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**Totals**	**31**	**4**	**7**	**4**

Toronto	000	000	012	—	3
Chicago	030	000	10x	—	4

E—Loewen (3). LOB—Toronto 10, Chicago 8. 2B—Cooper (7), Loewen (1). Viciedo (33). HR—Flowers (4). SB—McCoy 2 (12), Bautista (9), De Aza (12).

Toronto	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
McGowan L,0-2	4	4	3	3	3	3
C.Villanueva	2	2	0	0	1	2
Drabek	1	2	1	1	1	0
Beck	1	0	0	0	0	1
Chicago						
Axelrod W,1-0	6	3	0	0	2	6
Ohman	1	0	0	0	1	1
Crain	1-3	0	1	1	1	0
Thornton	2-3	0	0	0	0	1
S.Santos S,30-36	1	2	2	2	0	1

HBP—by McGowan (De Aza), by Axelrod (Arencibia). WP—McGowan, S.Santos.
T—2:49 A—21,320 (40,615).

MARINERS 4, ATHLETICS 2

Oakland	ab	r	h	bi	Seattle	ab	r	h	bi
J.Weeks 2b	4	0	1	0	Suzuki rf	4	0	1	0
Crisp cf	4	1	1	0	Rdrgz ss	4	0	0	0
Matsui dh	4	0	2	1	Ackley 2b	4	1	1	0
Wright f	4	0	1	0	Carp dh	4	1	1	0
SSizmr 3b	4	0	1	0	Smoak 1b	4	1	1	3
KSuzuki c	4	0	1	0	Olivo c	3	1	2	1
Coffey p	0	0	0	0	TRonsn lf	3	0	1	0
Taylor rf	3	0	0	0	Lodzk 3b	3	0	1	0
Rosales ss	3	0	1	0	MSndrs cf	3	0	0	0
Totals	**33**	**2**	**7**	**2**	**Totals**	**32**	**4**	**8**	**4**

Oakland	100	000	001	—	2
Seattle	000	013	00x	—	4

LOB—Oakland 4, Seattle 4. 2B—J.Weeks (25), S.Sizemore (21), Olivo (19), Lodzk (2). HR—Smoak (15), Olivo (19). SB—Crisp 2 (48).

Oakland	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
McCarthy L,9-9	8	8	4	4	0	6
Seattle						
Vargas W,10-10	8	5	1	1	0	10
League S,37-42	1	2	1	1	0	1

T—2:13 A—17,057 (47,878).

NL Boxes

ASTROS 5, CARDINALS 4, 10 INNINGS

St. Louis	ab	r	h	bi	Houston	ab	r	h	bi
Furcal ss	3	0	1	0	Bourgs cf-lf	4	0	1	1

McCllln p	0	0	0	0	AngSnc 2b	5	0	1	1
MBggs p	0	0	0	0	Mhrnt rf	3	0	1	0
Craig ph	1	0	0	0	JSchatt pr-cf	1	0	0	0
Salas p	0	0	0	0	Cai Lete 1b	2	1	0	0
Schmkr ph	1	0	0	0	MDwns rf	2	0	0	0
Dotel p	0	0	0	0	CJhnsn 3b	4	0	0	0
Freese 3b	3	1	1	0	Barmes ss	4	1	1	0
Picnlo ph-3b	2	0	1	0	Towles c	4	1	1	0
Pujols 1b	5	1	2	1	WRdrgz p	3	0	1	1
Holliday lf	4	1	2	1	WLopez p	0	0	0	0
Descalso 2b	4	0	1	0	Fbck p	0	0	0	0
Chamrs pr-rf	1	0	0	0	FRdrgz p	0	0	0	0
YMolnr c	2	0	1	0	Wright p	0	0	0	0
Theriot 2b	4	0	1	0	Qnntrll lf	0	0	0	0
Jay cf	4	1	2	0	Melncn p	0	0	0	0
JGarcr p	0	0	0	0	Bogsvc ph	1	1	1	0
G.Laird ph	1	0	0	0					
Punto ss	1	0	0	0					
Totals	**36**	**4**	**12**	**3**	**Totals**	**34**	**5**	**9**	**5**

St. Louis	001	010	020	0	—	4
Houston	002	200	000	1	—	5

No outs when winning run scored.
E—Descalso (1). DP—St. Louis 1, Houston 2. LOB—St. Louis 9, Houston 6. 2B—Pujols (29), Holliday (36), Berkman (22), Y.Molina (32), Jay (24), Bourgeois (8), W.Rodriguez (3), Boguscevic (13). HR—M.Downs (10), Carlos Lee (9). SB—Holliday (2). CS—Theriot (6). S—Theriot, Punto, Bourgeois, W.Rodriguez.

St. Louis	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
J.Garcia	4	4	4	4	1	5
McClellan	1	2	0	0	1	1
M.Boggs	1	0	0	0	0	1
Salas	2	1	0	0	0	2
Dotel L,3-3	1	2	1	1	0	1
Houston						
W.Rodriguez	6 1-3	8	2	2	3	2
W.Lopez	2-3	0	0	0	0	1
Fe.Rodriguez	0	1	2	2	1	0
W.Wright	0	1	0	0	0	0
Del Rosario	0	0	0	0	0	0
Melancon W,8-4	2	2	0	0	0	0

Fe.Rodriguez pitched to 2 batters in the 8th.
W.Wright pitched to 1 batter in the 8th.
Dotel pitched to 3 batters in the 10th.
WP—J.Garcia.
T—3:18. A—20,017 (40,963).

NATIONALS 6, MARLINS 4

Washington	ab	r	h	bi	Florida	ab	r	h	bi
Desmnd ss	4	3	2	1	Bonifac ss	5	0	2	0
Ankiel cf	5	1	2	0	Infante 2b	4	0	1	0
Zimrmn 3b	4	0	1	0	Stanton rf	2	1	1	0
Morse f	5	1	1	3	GSnchz 1b	4	0	1	1
HRdrgz p	0	0	0	0	Ramos c	4	1	1	1
Werth rf	4	0	2	0	J.Buck c	4	0	0	0
Espinos 2b	3	0	0

Bengals rep upset over Benson suspension

By Joe Kay
Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Bengals union representative Andrew Whitworth is upset that running back Cedric Benson, a graduate of Lee High School, and other NFL players could face suspensions for offseason incidents.

Benson and cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones are subject to league discipline for arrests that occurred during the NFL's lockout. Eight players overall are facing discipline under the league's conduct policy. Benson has a hearing scheduled for today.

Benson

Whitworth said Monday he wouldn't have supported the new collective bargaining agreement if he knew players would be suspended for things that happened before the deal was reached.

"I was very shocked," Whitworth said. "It doesn't make a whole lot of sense to me.

"I feel like it's the wrong decision, and I also believe the union let those eight guys down. I don't feel like that was fair. To me, if I was told that was a make-or-break, I would have said that's a make-or-break deal, that we were going to sell out eight guys to have an agreement."

When the deal was reached in July, it was unclear whether the league could fine or suspend players who got in trouble during the NFL's 4 1/2-month lockout, when there was no collective bargaining agreement. The NFL Players Association had decertified as part of the labor dispute.

The league and the NFLPA eventually agreed that eight players could be disciplined for incidents in the offseason, while 25 others would not be.

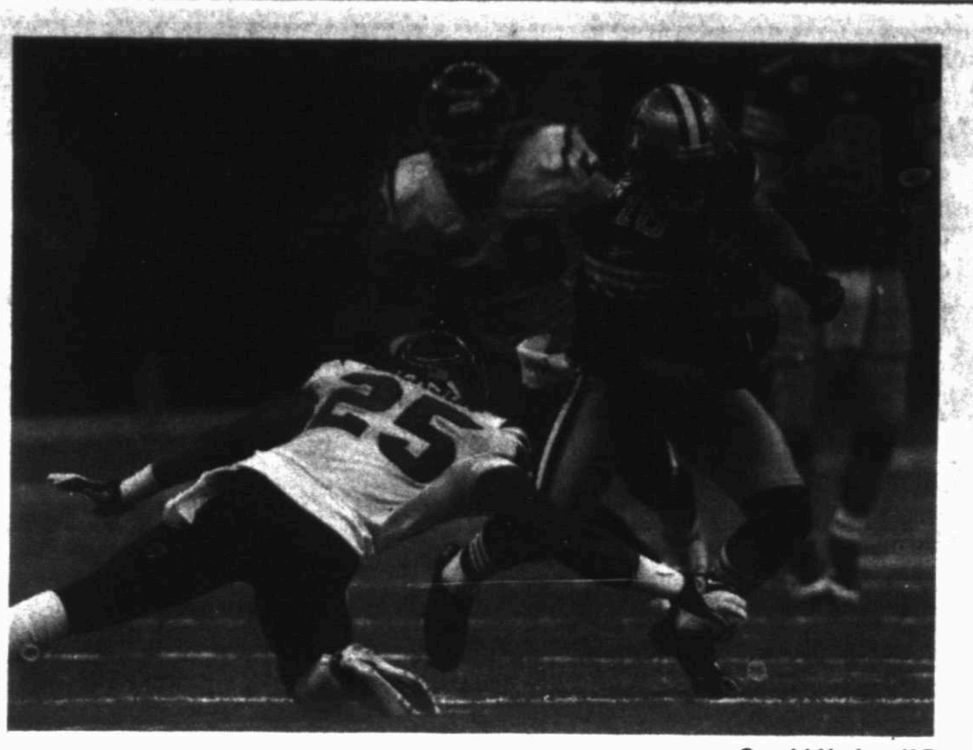
"I feel like it was the wrong decision to allow those guys to be punished," Whitworth said. "They weren't employed (during the lockout) and they didn't have a job, so they shouldn't be able to be punished for it.

"Now, I don't think that them doing stuff is OK. But if no one else can get punished, they shouldn't be able to, either."

Benson was arrested during the summer of 2010 over an alleged bar fight in Austin. He was charged with misdemeanor assault. Benson met with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell after the incident and wasn't disciplined. He was arrested again last July and charged with misdemeanor assault over an altercation with a former roommate in Austin.

Benson reached a plea agreement to settle both court cases and served five days in a Texas jail before the season began.

Jones faces trial in November over his arrest at a Cincinnati bar last July on misdemeanor charges. The case is being monitored by authorities in Las Vegas, where Jones is on probation from a 2007 strip club fracas. Jones has repeatedly been in trouble during his NFL career.


Gerald Herbert/AP

New Orleans wide receiver Lance Moore (16) runs up field as Houston cornerback Kareem Jackson (25) defends Sunday during the second half in New Orleans.

Saints expose Texans' weaknesses

By Chris Duncan
Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston Texans say they're different, better and more mature than they were in 2010.

In one half on Sunday, Drew Brees and the New Orleans Saints showed the Texans what still needs fixing.

The Saints rallied from a 26-17 deficit in the fourth quarter of a 40-33 victory, leaving the Texans (2-1) right where they were last year, when a 2-1 start disintegrated into a 6-10 finish. Houston plays Pittsburgh (2-1) on Sunday.

Houston's defense ranked near the bottom in every statistical category in 2010, and Brees exposed the same old deficiencies. The Texans' pass rush failed to generate pressure, and Brees picked apart the secondary in the fourth quarter, going 12 for 17 with two touchdown passes.

Coach Gary Kubiak said Monday that the defense seemed to lose its focus late in the game. But he said one bad quarter won't shake his belief in new coordinator Wade Phillips' 3-4 scheme, or in the players Houston has in place.

"We didn't play well, especially in the fourth quarter," Kubiak said. "We weren't as aggressive in our coverages in the fourth quarter than we had been earlier in the game, trusting in some of the things we're doing defensively, and what Wade's asking us to do.

"We played a good team, and we did not close the game," Kubiak said. "We take full responsibility for that. But we've got a lot of confidence in what we're doing. We'll get our chins back up and correct our mistakes."

Second-year cornerback Kareem Jackson, the lightning rod for criticism of the secondary last year, struggled to keep up with Lance Moore, who finished with nine catches for 88 yards and a touchdown.

Kubiak said Jackson shouldn't be singled out for the defensive breakdowns in New Orleans.

"Any time you get beat, that's not good enough as a team," Kubiak said. "It's just not about Kareem. He has to get better, but so does everybody within the group."

The Texans were closing in on their first 3-0 start until the fourth quarter, and Kubiak can still glean plenty of positives up to that point.

Houston seems to have found the remedy for its slow starts, a major issue last year. The Texans have outscored their first three opponents 33-3 in the first quarter.

And the defense seems to be making more plays, with key offseason acquisitions Johnathan Joseph and Danieal Manning both intercepting Brees. Houston already has six takeaways after producing only 18 last season.

But Kubiak started Monday's team meeting by addressing Houston's red-zone problems, a new issue. With 2010 NFL leading rusher Arian Foster sidelined for the second time in three games with a left hamstring injury, the Texans have struggled to convert drives inside the 20-yard line.

The Texans are tied with New England for most red-zone possessions through the first three games (16), but Houston has settled for nine field goals. They penetrated the Saints' 20-yard line on five series on Sunday, and only scored one touchdown with four field goals.

Houston kicked field goals at the end of three drives in its 23-13 win over Miami the previous week. The Texans' defense held up, though, so the red-zone issues weren't as noticeable.

Last year, Houston scored on 62.3 percent of its red-zone chances, fifth-best in the league. Kubiak said the issues this year are a combination of play-calling and lack of execution.

"Coaches have got to do a better job in the preparation of their groups, and the players have got to make plays when it's time to make plays," Kubiak said. "We have a nice problem, going down there a lot. But obviously, what we're doing is not good enough and we've got to figure out a way to fix it."

Houston has called 26 running plays inside the red zone through three games, and gained 1 yard on 11 of them. The Texans have also faced 10 third downs in the red zone, and needed at least eight yards to convert on seven of them.

Kubiak is hoping that Foster will be healthy enough to start against Pittsburgh on Sunday, and that would be a big help.

"Down there, the field gets very small. Every yard is huge. Positive yardage is huge," Kubiak said. "We had a couple of runs (Sunday) that, in my opinion, they ought to score, but they didn't. So we've got to go figure out how we can get them to score.

"It's not one thing," he said. "It's not like saying, 'fix this and we'll be okay.' It's everybody taking responsibility and see if we can be better against Pittsburgh. Like I said, we just have got to improve on it, no excuses."

No. 17 Texas starting tour of revenge

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press

AUSTIN — There were seven losses for Texas last season. One of them sticks out as worse than the others.

To coach Mack Brown, the 28-21 shocker at home to Iowa State was the "lowest point" in a disaster of a season that ended 5-7.

"And there were a lot to choose from," Brown said.

Now comes the Saturday night rematch at Iowa State with more than just a little payback on Texas' mind.

"They did come in here and embarrass us," Texas senior safety Blake Gideon said Monday.

The No. 17 Longhorns (3-0) are in the middle a four-week stretch against teams that beat them last year. The revenge tour began Sept. 17 with a win at UCLA, followed by a bye week.

And now it is the Cyclones in the Big 12 opener for both teams. Iowa State (3-0) is expecting a rested Texas team still angry about last season's beatdown in Austin.

"I know that's one of the things on their mind. We came to their home field and we beat them," Iowa State defensive back Ter'ran Benton said. "They want to come to our home field and beat us."

Texas senior linebacker Emmanuel Acho said the Longhorns want to have a "little something extra for these teams" that beat them last season.

Losing to Iowa State proved to be the breaking point for a fragile and fractured team that was a shadow of the squad that played for the national championship in 2009. After losing two in a row to UCLA and Oklahoma, Texas seemed to rebound with a huge win on the road at Nebraska.

The Longhorns were feeling so confident there was talk of winning the rest of the games on the schedule and still challenging for the Big 12 crown.

The Cyclones certainly didn't look like a threat. Iowa State had never beaten Texas and usually hovered near the bottom of the Big 12.

Instead, Iowa State jumped out to a 28-6 lead and pounded Texas with tough running, tougher defense and big plays on special teams to earn its first road win over a ranked opponent in 20 years. Cyclones players danced on Texas' home turf and coach Paul Rhoads called the victory "historic."

After the game, Brown was as emotional as he has ever been with the media. In candid postgame reviews of his entire program, Brown said he couldn't trust his coaching staff or his players to give their best effort on the field.

Texas stumbled badly the rest of the way, losing four of its last five games to finish with its first losing record since 1997.

"I couldn't believe we would not play with more emotion and passion. They outcoached us, outplayed us and outhit us," Brown said of Iowa State.

Brown has spent the last year trying to fix everything he saw go wrong that day.

He shook up his staff with six new assistants, challenged his veterans to earn their starting jobs and two weeks ago benched starting quarterback Garrett Gilbert for the tandem of Case McCoy and David Ash. Gilbert had shoulder surgery last week and is now out for the season.

The result has been a great start. Texas started 3-0 last season as well, but Brown said he can feel this team is different.

"It's just been a fun team and I credit the seniors and the staff for that," he said. "This staff is fun. It's fun for these guys, they have never been in these stadiums and it's an

Dave Einsel/AP

Southeastern Conference commissioner Mike Slive, left, talks with Texas A&M president R. Bowen Loftin, right, during a celebration of A&M's move to the SEC on Monday in College Station.

SEC

From 1C

nation's top recruits two years ago, had played a season in the SEC at South Carolina before transferring to A&M.

"There's this saying here at A&M that you can't really understand this school from the outside looking in — you have to be here," Bone said. "That goes for the SEC, as well. It's a culture, and there really is a bond within the conference."

Loftin said A&M must still work out a final exit fee with the Big 12, but that is in the works. On July 21, frustrated by the upstart Longhorn Network's intentions to air high school content and Big 12 football games, Loftin said he called Slive and informed him of the Aggies' interest in the SEC.

Loftin said Slive responded, "I'm sitting on my porch with a glass of whiskey and a cigar, and thinking about you."

Slive said the SEC was content with 12 members — until Loftin dropped him a line.

"We said, 'That's a great university, athletically, academically, culturally, it's just a great fit,'" Slive said. "Having A&M as a member of the SEC was not something we wanted to give up."

Meanwhile the 14th-ranked A&M football team, coming off a 30-29 loss to Oklahoma State in its Big 12 opener, is preparing for Arkansas in Arlington at 11 a.m. Saturday. Byrne said he would prefer the now-nonconference series stay in the Metroplex because "we need a presence there," but will take it up with Arkansas about where the series will be played once it becomes an SEC showdown.

Byrne, in reiterating Loftin's stance, said he'd love for the annual rivalry with Texas to continue as a nonconference game.

"We've been competing 117 years," Byrne said. "That is such a storied tradition, and we would like to continue that."

UT athletic director DeLoss Dodds said last week he didn't expect the series to continue. On Monday A&M coach Mike Sherman dubbed the A&M-UT rivalry "one of the premier games in the country."

"It would be sad to see it go away, but certainly I understand the logistical elements that go along with it," Sherman said. "From a scheduling standpoint it might be very difficult."

A&M junior linebacker Sean Porter said Monday he's thrilled to play a season in the SEC a year from now.

"It's supposed to be the best conference in the country," Porter said. "We have the fan base for it, and we have the team for it."

COWBOYS

From 1C

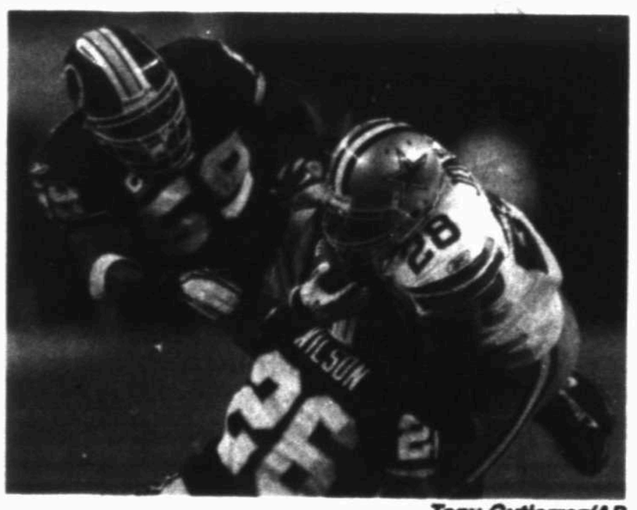
The Cowboys are one of three 2-1 teams in the NFC East, along with the Redskins and the New York Giants.

Aided by a protective vest and some pain-killing injections, Romo was 22 of 36 for 255 yards with an interception that the Redskins turned into the game's only touchdown, a 1-yard pass from Grossman to Tim Hightower with 4 minutes left in the third quarter that made it 16-9.

"(The pre-game shot) did some good, but it wears off a little bit," Romo said. "I don't like them very much, but you have to do them. Hopefully, you don't pass out from them."

The Cowboys overcame dropped passes in the end zone by Kevin Ogletree and Martellus Bennett, six penalties for minus-55 yards and a handful of premature shotgun snaps by Phil Costa that promoted Romo to bark at the second-year center.

"We had a million mistakes," Romo said. "We got a lot of young guys. You know, they are out there for a reason, so we depend on them. We'll get it right. We were lucky to come out of here with a win with as many mistakes as we made. Costa said they kept calling out the cadence. We're gonna get it fixed. We can't have that happen, can't happen."


Tony Gutierrez/AP

Dallas Cowboys running back Felix Jones is tackled by Washington Redskins inside linebacker London Fletcher, left, and cornerback Josh Wilson, bottom during the first half Monday in Arlington.

Starting in place of the sidelined Miles Austin (hamstring), Ogletree redeemed himself with a one-handed catch for a 20-yard gain on the second-play of the game-winning drive, which covered covered 64 yards and lasted nine plays.

Bailey's field goals covered 41, 27, 32, 41, 23 and 40 yards. Lee's interception set up Bailey's second field goal.

The Redskins Graham Gano kicked field goals of 46, 27 and 50 yards.

The only miss by the kickers came when the Cowboys' Gerald Sensabaugh blocked a 36-yard attempt by Gano in the second quarter. Sensbaugh broke through from the outside after holder Save Rocca mishandled the snap.

COWBOYS 18, REDSKINS 16

Washington	6	3	7	0	—16
Dallas	3	6	3	6	—18

First Quarter
Was—FG Gano 46, 10:06.
Dal—FG Bailey 41, 5:34.
Was—FG Gano 27, :21.

Second Quarter
Dal—FG Bailey 27, 12:20.
Dal—FG Bailey 32, 2:25.
Was—FG Gano 50, :00.

Third Quarter
Was—Hightower 1 pass from Grossman (Gano kick), 4:00.
Dal—FG Bailey 41, :19.

Fourth Quarter
Dal—FG Bailey 23, 6:58.
Dal—FG Bailey 40, 1:47.
A—91,017.

	Was	Dal
First downs	20	17
Total Net Yards	298	375
Rushes-yards	22-95	26-125
Passing	233	250
Comp-Att-Int	22-37-1	22-36-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-17	1-6
Punts	5-48.4	3-50.7
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	6-1
Penalties-Yards	4-35	6-55
Time of Possession	28:24	31:36

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Washington, Hightower 14-41, Helu 5-15, Grossman 1-8, Cooley 2-3. Dallas, Jones 14-115, Murray 2-6, Choice 7-5, Flammella 1-4, Romo 2-(minus 1).

PASSING—Washington, Grossman 22-37-1-250. Dallas, Romo 22-36-1-255.

RECEIVING—Washington, Moss 5-70, Gaffney 5-60, Hightower 5-39, Cooley 4-41, Helu 2-17, Davis 1-23. Dallas, Witten 6-80, Bryant 4-63, Robinson 3-49, Jones 3-40, Ogletree 3-19, Flammella 1-15, Bennett 1-6, Choice 1-3.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Washington, Gano 36 (BK).

WNBGOLFCLASSIC

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Nationwide Tour
WNB Golf Classic
Open Qualifying
Monday's Results
Green Tree Country Club
East-North Courses
Par 72, 6,879 yards
x-Qualified through playoff
Qualified

Kyle Kallan, Peoria, Ariz. ..... -63
Mark Anderson, Austin ..... -63
Jeremy Alcorn, Brownwood ..... -64
Craig Lile, Little Rock ..... -64
Chris DeForest, Purcellville, Va. ..... -65
Clark Dennis, Fort Worth ..... -65
x-Tom Hoge, Fort Worth ..... -66

Failed to Qualify

Trent Whiteaker, Sallisaw, Okla. ..... -66
Kevin Tway, Purcellville, Va. ..... -66
Michael Whitehead, Houston ..... -66
Stuart Hendley, Midland ..... -67
Tommy Sikes, Baton Rouge, La. ..... -67
Cole Moreland, Austin ..... -67
Will Collins, Albuquerque, N.M. ..... -67
Robby Orman, Austin ..... -67
Chawn Stefani, Houston ..... -68
Wes Worster, Arlington ..... -68
Jeremy Frye, Palestine ..... -68
Tony Finau, Lehi, Utah ..... -68
Bryan Ivorys, San Antonio ..... -68
Brian Scherer (a), Midland ..... -68
Dustin Morris, Crosby ..... -68
Hudson Swafford, St. Simons Island, Ga. ..... -68
Michael Martin, Fort Worth ..... -68
Dodge Kemmer, Mountain View, Calif. ..... -68
Brian McKinley, Midland ..... -68
Armando Villarreal, Dallas ..... -68
Liam Logan, Fort Worth ..... -69
Esteban Calleto, Windermere, Fla. ..... -69
Ryan Myers, Flint ..... -69
Casey Devoll, Arlington ..... -69
Bobby Massa, Grand Prairie ..... -69
Santiago Rivas, Windermere, Fla. ..... -69
Andrew Putman, University Place, Wash. ..... -69
Will Doughtie, Amarillo ..... -69
Jeremy Langdale, Midland ..... -70
Mike Carnes, New Braunfels ..... -70
Thomas Kearney, San Antonio ..... -70
Harry Rudolph III, La Jolla, Calif. ..... -70
Lance Vasquez, Aledo ..... -70
Mark Barker, Scottsdale, Ariz. ..... -70
Joshua Havard, Wilmer ..... -70
Brandon Ellis, Village Mills ..... -70
Tyson Alexander, Gainesville, Fla. ..... -70
Jordan Hoffman, Hasler ..... -70
Phillip Hui, San Antonio ..... -70
Wes Heffeman, Calgary, Alberta ..... -70
Charlie Holland, Dallas ..... -70
Todd Rossetti, Plano ..... -70
Bryan Lach, The Woodlands ..... -71
Cody Ebert, Lakewood, Colo. ..... -71
Scott Harrington, Scottsdale, Ariz. ..... -71
Tyler Weworoski (a), Carlsbad, Calif. ..... -71
Mark Jones, Odessa ..... -71
Zack Reeves, Arlington ..... -71
Ryan Posey, Dallas ..... -71
Brian Harman, St. Simons Island ..... -71
Derek Jordan, Austin ..... -71
David D. Schultz, Dallas ..... -71
Derek Tolan, Highlands Ranch, Colo. ..... -71
Joseph Epperson (a), Plano ..... -72
Dane Lewis, Madisonville ..... -72
Jeremy Reed, Houston ..... -72
Linus Gilgoen, Little Rock ..... -72
Chase Barnes, Houston ..... -72
Adam Baltz, Mansfield ..... -72
Joel McCumber, Ft. Fort Myers, Fla. ..... -72
Justin Davidson, Trophy Club ..... -72
Deane Pappas, Fayetteville, Ark. ..... -72
Bill Wenning, The Woodlands ..... -73
Chris Wall, Dallas ..... -73
J.T. Upshaw, Corpus Christi ..... -73
John Battenday, Monroe, Ga. ..... -73
Andrew Braun (a), Trophy Club ..... -74
Austin Anderson, Carrollton ..... -74
Steve Rey Martinez, Cibolo ..... -74
Tommy Murray, Ponte Verde Beach, Fla. ..... -75
Rob Snyder, Heathrow, Fla. ..... -75
Matthew Thomas (a), Dallas ..... -76
Johnathon Dickerson, Richardson ..... -76
Jordan Marlow, Lubbock ..... -77
Tim Kunkle, Dallas ..... -77
Michael Evans, Albuquerque, N.M. ..... -78
A.J. Gioni, New York ..... -82
Brandon Bierson, Frisco ..... -84
Jason Gonzalez, Lubbock ..... -84
Randall Free, Frisco ..... -86
Nicholas Sogianch, Dallas ..... -87
Russell Hentley, Charlotte, N.C. ..... WD
Stephen Cannon (a), Southlake ..... DQ
Mark Walker, Hurst ..... DQ

Ranchland Hills Golf Club
Par 70, 6,980 yards
x-Qualified through playoff
Qualified

Scott Langley, Purcellville, Va. ..... -64
Tyler Sheppard, Magnolia ..... -64
Will Griffin, San Antonio ..... -64
x-Will Dodson, Dallas ..... -65
x-Jason Meece, Ardmore, Okla. ..... -65
x-Scott Roudebush (a), Dallas ..... -65
x-J.P. Thornton, Memphis, Tenn. ..... -65

Failed to Qualify

Jon McLean, Weston, Fla. ..... -65
KC Lim, San Antonio ..... -65
Anthony Broussard, Addison ..... -66
Dalton Osborn, Birmingham, Ala. ..... -66
Bobby Hutcherson, Memphis ..... -66
Michael Lavery, Mission Viejo, Calif. ..... -66
Joseph Totah, San Antonio ..... -67
Brian Prouty, Tucson, Ariz. ..... -67
Travis Klutts, Lake Kiowa ..... -67
Steve Saunders, Albuquerque, N.M. ..... -67
David Venegas, Weston, Fla. ..... -67
Lan Mattlace, Jacksonville, Fla. ..... -67
Paul Haley, Dallas ..... -67
Conrad Shindler, Westlake ..... -67
Wes Homan, Cincinnati, Ohio ..... -67
Rodney Hamblin, Phoenix ..... -67
Casey Clendenon, Houston ..... -67
Paul Ayaan, Hixson ..... -68
Kyle Robbins, Southlake ..... -68
Drew Stoltz, Scottsdale, Ariz. ..... -68
Ezequiel Reyna, Weslaco ..... -68
Michael Buttacavoli, Miami Beach, Fla. ..... -68
Omar Uresti, Austin ..... -68
James Vargas, Miami ..... -68
Jason Brigman, Frisco ..... -68
Josh Ray, New Braunfels ..... -68
Sonny Rodriguez, Corpus Christi ..... -68
Andrew Koonce, Burleson ..... -68
Connor McHenry, Jefferson City, Mo. ..... -68
Travis Woolf, Fort Worth ..... -69
Ryan Timmons (a), Fort Worth ..... -69
Emiliano Martinez, San Antonio ..... -69
Neal Gruszczynski, Plano ..... -69
Juan Saicedo (a), The Woodlands ..... -69
Mikel Martinson, Lubbock ..... -69
Ted Smith, Orlando, Fla. ..... -69
Scott Mawvinah, The Woodlands ..... -69
Tyler Russell (a), Elk City, Okla. ..... -69
Brent Long, Carthage, Tenn. ..... -69
Franklin Corpening, Fort Worth ..... -70
Kelvin Day, San Antonio ..... -70
George McMichael, Trinity ..... -70
Andrew Dresser, Addison ..... -70
Sean Frost, Dallas ..... -70
Chris Pierce, Dallas ..... -71
Jim Lemon, Madison, Wis. ..... -71
Charles Bettis, Hobbs, N.M. ..... -71
Michael Campbell, Dallas ..... -71
Colin Cruz, Amarillo ..... -71
Brady Shivers, Seminole ..... -71
Ian Ford, Fort Worth ..... -71
Andrew Long, Seguin ..... -71
Brooklin Bailey (a), Waco ..... -72
David Heller (a), San Angelo ..... -72
Bret Parker, Villa Park, Calif. ..... -72
Travis Wadkins, Dallas ..... -72
Justin Payne, Floydada ..... -72
Chris Mangold (a), Victorville, Calif. ..... -73
Robert Ennis (a), Frisco ..... -73
Geoffrey Sterling (a), ... -73
Brandon Ellis, San Antonio ..... -73
Rhein Gibson, Edmond, Okla. ..... -73
Cole Howard, Burleson ..... -73
Zachary Fischer, Wake Village ..... -73
Hunter Mayes, The Woodlands ..... -74
Brett Waldman, Hurst ..... -74
Chris Battenday, Monroe, Ga. ..... -74
Brandon Banks (a), Irving ..... -74
Karl Broesche, Houston ..... -75
Zack Krenek (a), Midland ..... -75
Michael Rush (a), The Woodlands ..... -76
Matthew DeKraker (a), Livingston, N.M. ..... -76
Terrence Chaska, Austin ..... -76
Derek Allison, San Antonio ..... -77
Jason Enck, Frisco 81
Jason Escobedo (a), Plano 82
Morgan Hoffmann, Charlotte, N.C. ..... WD
Doug Chc, Laguna Hills, Calif. ..... DQ
Mark England, Roswell, N.M. ..... DQ
Tyler Fernandez, Borger ..... DQ
Ryan Kiel, Seguin ..... DQ
John Lucas, Corpus Christi ..... DQ
Jace Moore, Keller ..... DQ

SHEPPARD

From 1C

degree in Finance in December. Even though he will be pursuing a degree, Sheppard said he will continue to chase some professional tournaments.

He participated in a PGA Tour Q-School qualifying tournament last week, and will also have to miss some school this week while playing in Midland. But that is something he is more than willing to do as he will spend the next day figuring out who his caddy will be and preparing for a practice round on Tuesday at Midland Country Club, and then Thursday teeing it up with the rest of the Nationwide Tour pros.

"I knew I could qualify but it's just hard," Sheppard said. "There's a ton of good golfers out there. It was really just putting it together at the right time."

At Green Tree Country Club, former MHS and MC standout Tommy Sikes and current Green Tree assistant professional Stuart Hendley each finished one stroke out of qualifying for a playoff with 67s. Four players tied at 66 for the final playoff spot as Fort Worth's Tom Hoge won the playoff.

Kyle Kallan, of Peoria, Ariz., and Austin's Mark Anderson tied for the top spot at Green Tree with a 9-under 63.

Sikes said this was the first professional tournament he's tried to qualify for as he is currently an assistant pro in Baton Rouge, La.

"You know, I played good but I just had two three putts," Sikes said. "I've been struggling with my putting. But I will take it as a positive, and I wish I could've stayed in town a little longer. It's my first one, and hopefully one of many tournaments."

Former Lee golfer Brian Scherer shot a 68 and Green Tree head professional Brian McKinley also shot a 4-under 68 at Green Tree. Green Tree assistant professional Jeremy Langdale shot a 70, and Midlander Zack Krenek shot 75 at Ranchland.

Len Hayward can be reached at lhayward@mrt.com.

Ryder Cup captains like what they see at Medinah

By Nancy Armour
Associated Press

MEDINAH, Ill. — Ryder Cup captains Davis Love III and Jose Maria Olazabal liked what they saw at Medinah Country Club, including the shortened No. 15.

Rain kept Love and Olazabal from playing the famed No. 3 on Monday, as they marked the one-year countdown to next year's Ryder Cup. But they did get out to look at some holes, and said they don't envision many changes being needed.

"I cannot imagine a better host for this event," Olazabal said. "It's a traditional, tree-lined course, and I think the changes you've done to the15th hole, I think last four holes are going to be very exciting for the matches in the year to come. ... The last four holes are perfect for match play. You have a combination of two tough holes, 16 and 18, and two exciting holes, 15 and 17."

Since the PGA Championship was at Medinah in 2006, No. 15 has been shortened 100 yards and is now a drivable par-4. A lake was also added on the right side of the fairway and green.

"I can see a lot of things going on in that hole, guys going for the green, guys being safe," Olazabal said. "With that little change on 15, those last few holes are going to be very, very interesting. That's what you need in match play. You have to have holes where risk-reward can be part of it."

Europe has won six of the last eight Ryder Cups, including last year's dramatic finish in Wales. The Ryder Cup was decided by the final singles match for the first time since 1991 after the Americans rallied from a three-point deficit on the last day.

As the host, the Americans will get a say in how the course is set up for the Ryder Cup, to be played next Sept. 25-30. But Love said he doubts he'll need to have much input. Medinah has hosted three U.S. Opens (1949, 1975 and 1990) along with two PGA Championships (1999 and 2006). It also hosted the 1988 U.S. Senior Open.

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TUESDAY PRIME TIME — SEPTEMBER 27, 2011

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	C	5	8	4	3	2	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	Dancing With the Stars: The Encore (N)		Dancing Results (N)		Body of Proof "Hunting Party" (N)		KMID News	(:35) News Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KOSA	CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Restless" (N)		NCIS: Los Angeles "Cyber Threat" (N)		Unforgettable "Heros" (P) (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) Letterman	Anna Faris, Jack Hanna (N)	(:35) LateL (N)
KWWT	CW	5	14		5	14	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	90210 "Greek Tragedy" (N)		Ringer (N)		Cops	'Til Death	King of Queens	South Park	South Park	Roseanne
KPEJ	FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Two and Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Glee "I Am Unicorn" (N)		New Girl (N)	Raising Hope (N)	The Simpsons	Met Your Mother	Mother "Hooked"	Loves Ray	Law & Order: C.I. "The Pardoner's Tale"	
KMLM	IND	11	11	12	11	11	Dr. William	Rico Cortes	Update News	Rico Cortes	Light of the Southwest				NewBeginning	NewBeginning	Ministerios Nueva Vida	
KWES	NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News	Be Millionaire	The Biggest Loser The gym will only be opened three times a day. (N)				Parenthood "Step Right Up" (N)		News-West 9	(:35) Tonight Show J. Leno	Lauren Graham	Show L. LateN (N)
KPBT	PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS Newshour		History Detectives (N)		Frontline (N)		POV "Last Train Home" (N)		Yellowstone: Land		News	Tavis Smiley (N)
KUPB	UNI	4	4		4	16	Cuando me Enamoro		Teresa		La Fuerza del Destino		Aquí y Ahora		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero Noctu.	Para Volver a Amar	
KOSA	MNT	16	16		16		Office	30 Rock	Smarter	Smarter	Lyrics	Lyrics	My News	Earl	30 Rock	Sunny	Scrubs	Access H.
FLIX		340	b5		165		(8:00) ★ Falling in Lo...		★ The Blair Witch Project				★★ Hannibal ('01, Thril) Julianne Moore.			(:45) ★ Kill Me Later		
HBO		300	68	14	14		(6:15) ★ Just Wright		★★ Little Fockers Ben Stiller.			(:45) ★ Machete ('10, Act) Danny Trejo.				Boardwalk E. "21"		Movie
HBO2		302	69	15	101	23	(5:00) ★ The Lawnm...		★ Cirque Du Freak: The Vampire's Assis...				Bill Maher		Real Sports		★★ Conviction	
HBO5		304	70	16	102		(:15) Board	★ Catfish Melody C. Koscher.			★ Hereafter ('10, Dra) Matt Damon.				(:15) ★★★ Adaptation Nicolas Cage.			
MAX		380	71	17	120	24	Movie	★★★★ Inception ('10, Act) Joseph Gordon-Levitt.					★★★ Independence Day ('96, SciFi) Will Smith.				Skin Max	
MAX2		382	72	18	122		(:10) ★★ Songcatcher Janet McTeer.				★ Hatchet 2 ('11, Hor) Danielle Harris, Kane Hodder.				Erotica	(:55) ★ Due Date		
PLEX				96			(:20) ★ Seventeen Again Taliaferro.				★ Dream a Little Dream 2				(:35) ★ Falling Up Joseph Cross.		(:15) ★ The Brink's...	
SHOW		320	66	19	140	25	(:15) ★ The Other Woman (2011, Drama)				Weeds	The Big C	Weeds	The Big C	★ The Six Wives of Henry Lefay		Movie	
TMC		336	67	22	155	26	(5:30) ★ Grace		★★ Paris, Je T'aime Hervé Pierra.					★★ Cairo Time			★ Blue Seduction Billy Zane.	
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	(4:00) ★ The Perfect...		★★★ The Mummy ('99, Adv) Brendan Fraser.						(:45) ★★★ The Mummy ('99, Adv) Brendan Fraser.			
BET		58	26		40		(5) 106&P	★★ Preacher's Kid ('10, Dra) Lenoya Luckett.					★ The Perfect Man Molly Shannon.				Wendy Williams	
BRAVO		65	63		41		Beverly "Gossip Girls"		Rachel Zoe Project		Rachel Zoe Proj. (N)		Rachel Zoe Project		Rachel Zoe Project		Most Eligible Dallas	
CNBC		46	45		39	72	The Kudlow Report		BMW		Dreamliner (N)		Dreamliner		Mad Money		Dreamliner	
CNN		43	24	51	30	56	John King, USA		A. Cooper 360		Piers Morgan		A. Cooper 360		John King, USA		Piers Morgan	
DISC		50	20	31	24	42	(5:00) TBA		Auction	Auction	Auction	Auction	Carfellas	Carfellas	Auction	Auction	Carfellas	Carfellas
DISNEY		56	27	36	25	36	A.N.T.	Wizards	PrankSt.	★★★ Enchanted Julie Andrews.				FishHook	A.N.T.	Wizards	Wizards	Wizards
ESPN		32	29	48	31	30	Rise Up "Boston" (N)		★ Catching Hell (2011, Sport)				Poker World Series		Poker World Series		SportsCenter	
ESPN2		34	28	49	32	31	NFL Live (N)		WNBA Basketball Playoffs (L)				Baseball Tonight (L)		SportsCenter		Baseball Tonight (L)	
FAMILY		53	54	34	42	33	★★ Step Up 2: The Streets Briana Evigan.				★★★ 50 First Dates Adam Sandler.				The 700 Club		Line?	Line?
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	The Stampede	MLS Soccer Kansas City Site: Livestrong Sporting Park	Philadelphia Union vs. Sporting			Pre-game (L)	MLB Baseball Texas Rangers vs. Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim Site: Angel Stadium -- Anaheim, Calif. (L)					
FX		31	31	59	64	69	2½Men	★★★ Wanted ('08, Act) James McAvoy.							Sons of Anarchy (N)			
HALLMARK		54	49	58		34	Little House Prairie		Little House Prairie		Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Anarchy "Una Venta"		Anarchy "Dorylus"	
HGTV		63	50	26	48	44	House	HouseH	HouseH	For Rent	Property	Property	HouseH	House	HouseH	House	Property	Property
HISTORY		71	62	29	50	43	Pickers "Keep Out!"		American Pickers		American Pickers		Top Shot (N)		Top Shot		American Pickers	
LIFETIME		28	25	25	28	48	Unsolved Mysteries		American Pickers "5 Acres of Junk"		American Pickers "Frank Flips"		Picker Sisters "It's a Sign"		Picker Sisters	Picker Sisters	American Pickers "5 Acres of Junk"	
MSNBC		47	51		49	73	Hardball		The Last Word		Rachel Maddow		The Ed Show		The Last Word		Rachel Maddow	
NICK		55	34	39	34	37	Big Time	Sponge	Brain	Wife Kids	G. Lopez	G. Lopez	Friends	Friends	'70s	'70s	G. Lopez	G. Lopez
SPIKE		30	22	55	53	58	(:10) Auct	(:40) Auction	(:15) Auct	(:50) Auct	(:20) Auct	(:45) Auction	Hunt (N)	Auction	RepoG	RepoG	Auction	Auction
SYFY		66	64	41	57	67	★★ P2 ('07, Hor) Wes Bentley.				★★ The Devil's Advocate ('97, Sus) Al Pacino, Keanu Reeves.						★ The Messengers	
TBS		25	11	44	66	41	Seinfeld	Seinf. "The Yada Yada"	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan		Office "The Job"	Office "The Job"
TCM		41	61	24	63	66	(4:00) ★ The Group		★★★★ Spartacus ('60, Epic) Laurence Olivier, Charles Laughton, Kirk Douglas.								★★★ Lonely Are the Brave	
TELE		20	8	10	20		Caso Cerrado		MiCorazoninsiste (N)		Flor Salvaje (N)		La Casa Lado (N)		Noticiero	El Cartel		Decision
TLC		51	33	32	38	52	19 Kids & Count	19 Kids & Count	19 Kids & Count	19 Kids & Count	19 Kids & Count	19 Kids & Count	The Little Couple	The Little Couple	19 Kids & Count	19 Kids & Count	19 Kids & Count	19 Kids & Count
TNT		24	23	40	26	50	Law & Order "Embedded"		Law & Order "The Wheel"		★★ Rush Hour 3 (2007, Action) Jackie Chan, Roman Polanski, Chris Tucker.				CSI: NY "Point of View"		CSI: NY "Vacation Getaway"	
TVLAND		49	48	35	54	35	All Family	All Family	MASH	MASH	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne
USA		26	30	42	27	49	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Unstable"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Sugar"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Locum"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Bullseye"		CSI: Crime "Go to Hell" 1/2 cont'd next		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Shaken" 2/2	
VERSUS		38	39				AdvSprt	Poker Heads Up		★★ Tin Cup ('96, Com/Dra) Rene Russo, Kevin Costner.			SportTlk		★★ Tin Cup Kevin Costner.			
WGN		19	18				America's Funniest Home Videos		30 Rock	30 Rock	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	WGN News at Nine		30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Always Sunny

Is 2 races too soon to count Johnson out of hunt?

By Jenna Fryer
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — There was something different about Jimmie Johnson this year as he readied for yet another challenge to his reign of NASCAR.

The five-time defending champion had a clear understanding that his record-setting run couldn't last forever. Eventually, somebody would figure out how to beat him, and if Johnson were a gambler, well, he probably wouldn't like the odds of him holding off 11 other drivers for a sixth consecutive year.

That's not to say he had any intention of rolling over for the competition. If Johnson is to be dethroned this year, he's going to go down swinging.

Now, just two races into the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship, many believe the 5-time winner is already on the ropes.

His 18th-place finish at New Hampshire on Sunday dropped Johnson to 10th in the 12-driver Chase field. It's the lowest Johnson has ever been ranked in the 12-driver format, and he trails leader Tony Stewart by 29 points.

He knows he needs to be pretty close to perfect from here on out to hold onto his title.

"We need eight great ones from here," Johnson said. "We can't run 10th anymore. We need a bunch of Ws.""

Only Johnson doesn't seem to have a bunch of victories in him. He's got only one this season, at Talladega in April, and that's actually his only victory over the last year. Then there's the tense radio chatter between Johnson and crew chief Chad Knaus midway through Sunday's race.

With the No. 48 Chevrolet not handling to Johnson's liking, Knaus tried to keep the driver motivated and focused. Johnson didn't want to hear it, telling Knaus his cheerleading was "annoying" and essentially demanded the crew chief shut up and let him drive.

So, yeah, there's some compelling evidence to the argument that Johnson is in deep trouble after only two weeks.

Do so, though, at your own risk because counting out Johnson is about the dumbest thing his rivals could possibly do right now.

Maybe it seems too long ago, but Johnson prepared for this Chase with seven top-10 finishes in nine races. During a five-race span over the last month, he finished second twice and fourth twice.

And maybe everybody forgets Round 1 of the Chase, when Johnson led 39 laps and had to back off racing for the win to conserve fuel. He was running third when he ran out of gas as he took the flag on the final lap, and he faded to a 10th-place finish.

As the celebration on Stewart's first win of the season faded, the talk shifted to Johnson and the strong statement his Hendrick Motorsports team made at Chicago. "He ran out of gas and still finished 10th! If that's his bad day, everybody else is in trouble."

Now here we are, one poor run later, and suddenly the guy is finished?

His little spat with Knaus, in the grand scheme of things, was nothing to be alarmed about and not all that out of the ordinary. Little has been said about Ryan Newman, Kyle Busch, Kurt Busch or Kevin Harvick, who all got testy on the radio at times Sunday.

Then there's Stewart, the sudden points leader after wins in the first two Chase races, who cryptically credited the removal of some "dead weight" as reason for his surge. His refusal to elaborate left most everyone wondering about his current state of mind.

■ Commentary

Sure, Johnson is in a hole right now. But nobody is immune from a bad race or two, Stewart isn't going to win all 10 Chase races, and Johnson has some very good tracks looming.

Johnson has a combined 26 career victories at the eight remaining Chase tracks. In 129 starts, he's got 94 top-10 finishes and an average finish of 9.8.

First up is Round 3 of the Chase, at Dover, where Johnson has six career victories. Toss out crashes in 2003 and 2004, and Johnson's lowest finish is 16th. He's got three wins in his last five visits to Dover, including a victory in last year's Chase.

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LEVEL

Each of the two-letter groups below may be extended both on the right and the left to form a six-letter word. Use the tiles directly above each group to fill in the blanks.

A C L L N S
_ _ P E _ _

E E G I O R
_ _ A T _ _

A G I P R S
_ _ E R _ _

C I M T W Y
_ _ O P _ _

Yesterday's Answer: WEAPON, SWEATY, WEALTH, CASHEW

9.27

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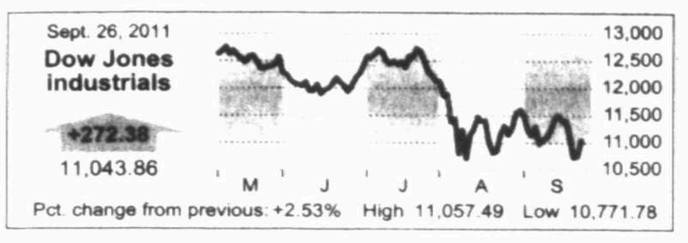
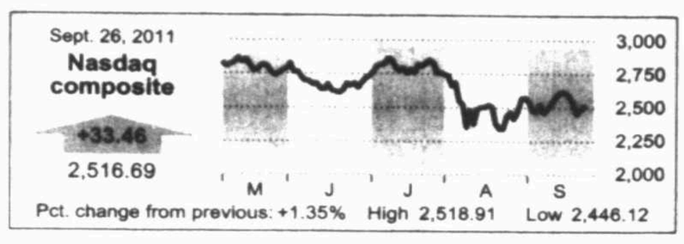
Business & Oil

A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



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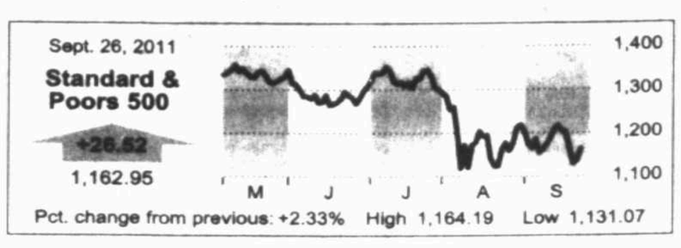


AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Monday	$80.24
Previous	$79.85

POSTED

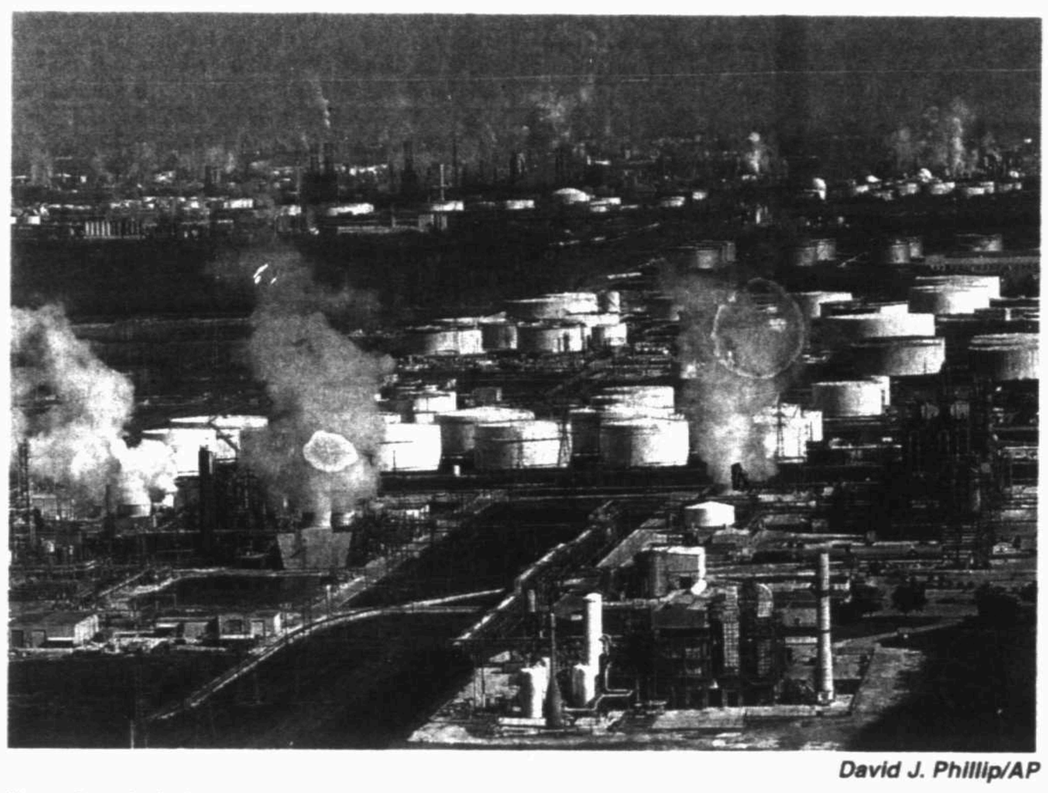
Monday	$77.00
Previous	$76.25

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Monday	$74.35
Previous	$73.60

NATURAL GAS

Monday	$3.782
Previous	$3.701



David J. Phillip/AP

Petrochemical plants and refineries are shown Nov. 10, 2010, in this aerial view, in Deer Park. Three commissioners appointed by Gov. Rick Perry may grant some of the nation's largest refineries a tax refund of more than $135 million.

Oil refineries seek huge tax refunds

By Ramit Plushnick-Masti
Associated Press

PASADENA — Some of the nation's largest oil refineries are seeking huge tax refunds that could force school districts and local governments across Texas to give back tens of millions of dollars they were counting on to pay teachers and provide other services.

The refineries want the tax breaks in exchange for buying pollution-controlling equipment. But the cost to public schools would be dear, coming only months after lawmakers slashed education spending by more than $4 billion.

If a three-member commission appointed by Gov. Rick Perry grants the refunds, nearly half the money would be taken from schools. Classrooms in cities with refineries would be hurt most.

"We were already cut at the knees as it is, but more cuts? It's appalling," said Patricia Gonzales, a single mother of twins at Park View Intermediate School in Pasadena, a refinery town just south of Houston.

She is president of the parent-teacher organization, which was created this past summer after budget cuts left the school without basic supplies such as pencils and paper towels.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is evaluating 16 refund requests that could add up to more than $135 million, according to county tax data and application documents analyzed by the Associated Press.

What's more, if the commission grants the requests, at least 12 other refineries that have not sought a refund also could qualify.

On Monday, about a dozen community activists handed out fliers in Pasadena as they conducted a mock bake sale offering $10,000 cookies, brownies and cupcakes to draw attention to the problem.

Gonzales lives near a miles-long stretch of refineries, where massive pipes and stacks light the night like skyscrapers do in other cities. An intense odor of burnt chemicals hangs over the town.

"There are days when we can't go out because our children's asthma is that bad," she said. "And then they want money back?"

The state commission expressed some support for the refund last year, raising speculation that it is preparing to side with the industry.

Beginning in 2006, the Environmental Protection Agency began requiring refineries to remove sulfur dioxide from diesel and gasoline, and many refineries had to either upgrade existing "hydrotreater" units or purchase new, more effective equipment.

San Antonio-based Valero Energy Corp. argues that the units should qualify for a tax exemption under an amendment to the Texas Constitution that says industrial plants don't have to pay taxes on equipment purchased to reduce on-site pollution.

Valero first asked for the refund for six of its refineries in 2007. Since then, at least four other companies have asked for the same retroactive refund.

Valero's initial request was denied. The company appealed, and the panel's chairman, Bryan Shaw, said last April that the Legislature probably intended a broader interpretation of the law. He instructed his staff to research whether they could award partial exemptions to Valero.

Shaw declined to comment, saying it could present a conflict because the issue will be brought before him again.

Valero could potentially get a refund of more than $92 million, but company spokesman Bill Day said executives believe the final refund would be much smaller. He said appraisers will probably estimate the value of refinery properties below the amount submitted by the company.

Oil wavers

Oil hovered around $80 a barrel Monday after new home sales dropped to a six-month low, adding to worries about energy demand in the slowing economy.

The Commerce Department said that sales of new homes fell in August and are on pace for the worst year since the government began keeping records a half century ago. High unemployment and the possibility of another recession are keeping home buyers on the sidelines.

The discouraging government report came as European leaders continued to debate the best way to resolve the months-old debt crisis that could drag down the regional economy. Investors are concerned that Europe's problems could lead to another recession, which would cut demand for oil and gasoline. Demand for gasoline in the U.S. is already below year-ago levels.

Benchmark oil rose 39 cents to finish at $80.24 per barrel in New York. Crude has traded between about $79 per barrel and $90 per barrel this month.

At the pump, gas prices fell about a penny on Monday to $3.49 per gallon, according to a survey by AAA, Wright Express and the Oil Price Information Service. That's 11 cents less than a month ago and 79 cents more than a year ago.

Dollar turns lower

The dollar turned lower against the euro Monday as investors evaluated published reports that European officials are working on a plan to help resolve the region's debt crisis.

In trading Monday, the euro rose to $1.3472 from $1.3467 late Friday.

The dollar was also lower against most other currencies. The British pound rose to $1.5530 from $1.5431 late Friday. The dollar fell to 76.49 Japanese yen from 76.72 Japanese yen and to 0.9056 Swiss franc from 0.9070 Swiss franc.

Gold prices sank Monday, sending the metal below $1,600 an ounce for the first time since July.

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
S&P500ETF	2377463	116.24	+2.70
BkofAm	2170938	6.60	+.29
SPDR Fncl	1019725	12.20	+.52
ShEMkts	890622	36.42	+.54
GenElec	747163	15.57	+.36

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
ChNBorun	3.69	+.64	+21.0
Generac	18.59	+3.02	+19.4
ZuoanF n	2.88	+.33	+12.9
GlbGeophy	8.28	+.93	+12.7
Comerc wt	4.94	+.54	+12.3

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
DirFnBr rs	61.38	-7.74	-11.2
DrxEnBear	20.98	-2.51	-10.7
iSoftStn n	8.82	-1.06	-10.7
XuedaEd n	3.52	-.41	-10.4
C-TrCVOL	62.81	-7.19	-10.3

DIARY

Advanced	2,227
Declined	825
Unchanged	73
Total issues	3,125
New Highs	9
New Lows	222
Volume	4,547,747,656

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
NovaGld g	84869	7.28	+.46
GoldStr g	58105	1.96	+.11
NthgtM g	45361	3.41	+.11
GrtBasG g	40062	1.88	+.11
NwGold g	39930	11.83	+.18

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
AvalRare n	3.17	+.44	+16.1
StreamGSv	2.32	+.31	+15.4
OrientPap	3.00	+.33	+12.4
HaderaPap	38.90	+4.07	+11.7
EstnLCap	2.72	+.24	+9.7

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
CagleA	3.50	-.45	-11.4
ASpecRlty	13.60	-1.37	-9.2
SL Ind	16.00	-1.30	-7.5
DocuSec	2.75	-.20	-6.8
GoldRsv g	2.33	-.17	-6.8

DIARY

Advanced	231
Declined	229
Unchanged	29
Total issues	489
New Highs	4
New Lows	67
Volume	111,383,931

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
SiriusXM	1319900	1.67	.04
PwShs QQQ	992035	54.78	+.63
Intel	617027	22.24	+.08
Cisco	518291	15.99	+.38
Microsoft	499967	25.44	+.38

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
MELA Sci	4.93	+1.75	+55.0
ZionO&G	2.39	+.72	+43.1
ZionsBc wt	3.00	+.49	+19.5
WestwdOne	4.43	+.72	+19.4
SGOCO n	2.45	+.38	+18.4

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
NaturtAll	3.70	-1.18	-24.2
OakRidgeF	2.25	-.65	-22.4
MagvarSc	3.17	-.82	-20.5
CmtyFns	2.39	-.44	-15.5
CrescntF	2.41	-.43	-15.1

DIARY

Advanced	1,663
Declined	936
Unchanged	107
Total issues	2,706
New Highs	8
New Lows	207
Volume	1,964,730,889

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Basic Energy Services (BAS)
Closing Price $13.77 Up 0.51

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $48.30 Up 2.06

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $78.60 Up 3.39

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $24.10 Up 0.19

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $25.94 Up 0.11

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $6.13 Up 0.04

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $11.42 Up 0.19

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AT&T Inc	1.72	9	28.34	+.49	-3.5
Abraxas	...	63	3.14	+.22	-31.3
AdamsEx	.51e	...	9.47	+.19	-11.8
AMD	...	6	6.40	+.23	-21.8
Alcoa	.12	12	10.45	+.38	-32.1
AionUSA	.16	...	6.85	+.45	+14.5
Amgen	1.12	11	55.43	+.33	+1.0
Anadarko	.36	42	69.81	+3.23	-8.3
Annaly	2.59e	6	17.43	-.05	-2.7
Apache	.60	9	85.56	+2.83	-28.2
Apple Inc	...	16	403.17	-1.13	+25.0
ApldMatl	.32	7	10.38	-.21	-26.1
ATMOS	1.36	14	31.44	+.11	+.8
AutoData	1.44	19	47.75	+.79	+3.2
BP PLC	1.88	14	36.93	+1.07	-16.4
BakrHu	.60	16	50.88	+1.27	-11.0
BkofAm	.04	...	6.60	+.29	-50.5
Bar iPVix rs	...	...	48.60	-1.74	+29.2
BasicEnSv	...	43	13.77	+.51	-16.4
BerkHa A	...	15	108449.00	+8129.00	-10.0
BerryPet	.32f	21	39.23	+.94	-10.2
BkHillsCp	1.46	15	30.49	+.33	+1.6
BritySq	1.32	16	30.94	+.05	+16.8
BrownFA	1.28a	17	66.86	+1.37	-3.7
BrownFB	1.28a	17	67.92	+1.29	-2.4
CVS Care	.50	14	34.40	+.27	-1.1
Cameron	...	20	45.79	+2.05	-9.7
Caterpillar	1.84f	13	76.85	+2.99	-17.9
Celestic g	...	8	7.35	+.18	-24.2
Cemex	...	...	3.71	+.17	-64.0
CntryLink	2.90	12	33.99	+.62	-26.4
ChesEng	.35	10	27.53	+1.49	+6.3
Chevron	3.12	8	91.49	+1.48	+.3
Chicos	.20	16	12.54	+.25	+4.2
Cimarex	.40	10	59.44	+1.56	-32.9
Cisco	.24	14	15.99	+.38	-21.0
Citigrp rs	.04	8	26.72	+1.74	-43.5
ClayEng	...	14	48.30	+2.06	-42.5
CocaCola	1.88	14	68.76	+1.34	+4.5
ColgPal	2.32	19	90.89	+1.97	+13.1
CompPrdS	...	10	20.53	+.69	-30.5
ConAgra	.96f	14	24.15	+.53	+7.0
ConchoRes	...	...	78.60	+3.39	-10.3
ConocPhil	2.64	8	64.13	+1.62	-5.8
Corning	.20	6	12.34	-.01	-36.1
CrackerB	1.00f	12	41.69	+.69	-23.9
CrosTim	2.96e	16	45.39	+.64	+13.8
DCP Mid	2.53f	...	37.73	+.58	+.9
DTE	2.35	12	49.12	+.65	+8.4
Dataram h	...	...	1.37	-.10	-12.7
Dawson	...	...	24.10	+.19	-24.5
Dell Inc	...	8	14.75	+.35	+8.9
DevonE	.68	4	57.43	+2.06	-26.9
DrSCBr rs	...	...	49.22	-2.91	+5.1
DrxFnBull	...	...	11.67	+1.14	-58.1
DrxSCBull	...	...	36.69	+1.97	-49.3
Disney	.40f	13	30.30	+.47	-19.2
DowChm	1.00	11	24.51	+.98	-28.2
EMC Cp	...	22	21.30	+.68	-7.0
EOG Res	.64	45	75.68	+2.96	-16.1
EKodak	...	10	1.74	-.64	-67.5
EmpDist	...	17	19.85	-.01	-11.5
Energen	.54	11	41.45	+1.16	-14.1
EngyTsfr	3.58	26	42.51	+.38	-18.0
EnPro	...	17	30.02	+.46	-27.8
EntPrPt	2.42f	34	40.90	+.30	-1.7
EricsnTel	.37e	...	10.04	+.55	-12.9
ExterranH	...	...	9.11	+.90	-62.0
ExxonMbl	1.88	9	71.72	+2.41	-1.9
FordM	...	5	10.08	+.22	-40.0
ForestOil	...	14	15.67	+.76	-58.7
FMCG s	1.00a	6	33.77	+1.40	-43.8
FrozenFd	...	...	2.54	-.04	-42.4
GATX	1.16	18	31.88	+.56	-9.6
GabGlobl	.80	...	6.52	+.16	-20.6
GAInv	.43e	...	23.53	+.44	-12.3
GenElec	.60	13	15.57	+.36	-14.9
Goflsmith	...	...	2.96	-.01	+22.3
Goodrich	1.16	28	121.40	-.35	+37.8
GtPlainEn	.83	15	20.01	+.51	+3.2
Hallibrtn	.36	13	33.74	+2.07	-17.4
Heinz	1.92	16	50.72	+.98	+2.5
HewlettP	.48	5	22.71	+.39	-46.1
Hitachi	...	...	49.16	-.02	-7.9
iShGold	...	...	15.79	-.23	+13.6
iShBraz	3.42e	...	54.49	+.89	-29.6
iShJapn	.17e	...	9.39	+.05	-13.9
iShSilver	...	...	29.77	-.21	-1.4
iShChina25	.85e	...	32.13	-.14	-25.4
iShEMkts	.84e	...	36.42	+.54	-23.6
iS Eafe	1.68e	...	48.16	+.97	-17.3
iShR2K	1.02e	...	66.37	+1.23	-15.2
IntegrysE	2.72	16	48.59	+.75	+.2
Intel	.84	10	22.24	+.08	+5.8
InterDig	.40	20	49.54	-8.27	+19.0
JPMorgCh	1.00	7	31.65	+2.06	-25.4
JohnJn	2.28	14	62.69	+1.10	+1.4
KimbClk	2.80	17	70.80	+.83	+12.3
KindME	4.60f	...	69.29	+1.16	-1.4
KindMM	4.60f	...	59.29	+.62	-11.3
LVSands	...	32	43.69	-.69	-4.9
LegacyRes	2.16f	...	25.94	+.11	-9.7
Level3	...	...	1.53	+.04	+56.1
Lubys	...	...	4.13	+.06	-34.1
MGM Rsts	...	...	10.64	+.32	-28.4
MktVGold	.40e	...	57.34	+.93	-6.7
MassMCp s	1.20	...	16.65	-.08	+9.0
McDnlds	2.80f	18	89.34	+1.97	+16.4
Merck	1.52	12	31.61	+.56	-12.3
MeritMed s	...	31	13.76	+.32	+8.7
MexcoEn	...	51	6.13	+.04	-19.9
MicronT	...	11	6.58	-.07	-18.0
Microsoft	.80f	9	25.44	+.38	-8.8
MorgStan	.20	32	14.61	+.89	-46.3
Nabors	...	15	14.82	+.75	-36.8
NatGrid	2.92e	...	48.99	+.29	+10.4
NOILVarco	.44	13	55.05	+1.82	-18.1
NewsCpA	.19f	14	16.34	+.23	+12.2
NokiaCp	.55e	...	5.47	+.23	-47.0
NvMAd	.99	...	14.42	-.02	+10.2
NvPMI	.94	...	14.03	+.06	+7.5
NuvPt	.92	...	13.57	+.10	+6.9
NSTFI3	.54	...	13.55	+.01	+3.4
NTXQI	.86	...	15.90	+.10	+6.6
Nvidia	...	15	13.82	+.03	-10.3
OcciPet	1.84	11	76.99	+4.73	-21.5
Oracle	.24	17	29.71	+.61	-5.1
ParTech	...	14	3.10	+.02	-48.7
ParkDrl	...	...	4.69	+.16	+2.6
PattUTI	.20	12	18.87	+1.04	-12.0
PenRE	.60	...	8.42	+.16	-42.1
Pmian	1.36e	15	20.80	-.22	-8.2
Pfizer	.80	12	17.77	+.32	+1.5
PioNtrl	.08	11	70.30	+2.74	-19.0
PlainsAA	3.93f	20	58.69	+.38	-6.5
PwShs QQQ	.41e	...	54.78	+.63	+.6
Praxair	2.00	22	95.08	+2.17	-.4
PrmEgy	...	...	19.00	+.21	-1.8
PrUSh$&P	...	...	24.25	-1.25	+2.1
ProUltSP	.31e	...	40.10	+1.91	-16.5
ProUSSlv rs	...	...	18.36	-.98	-53.3
ProctGam	2.10	16	62.54	+1.29	-2.8
Qualcom	.86	22	50.58	+.29	+2.2
RAM En h	...	...	.79	-.01	-57.0
RangeRs	.16	...	60.00	+1.47	+33.4
RegionsFn	.04	...	3.60	+.17	-48.6
Rowan	...	21	33.36	+1.29	-4.4
RoyDShllA	3.36	14	61.96	+.64	-7.2
SpdrDJIA	3.14e	...	110.24	+2.79	-4.7
SpdrGold	...	...	157.58	-2.22	+13.6
S&P500ETF	2.46e	...	116.24	+2.70	-7.6
SabnR	3.99e	16	61.96	+.06	+4.1
SanderFm	.68	...	43.85	+1.14	+11.2
SandRidge	...	26	6.32	+.31	-13.7
Sapient	.35e	24	10.00	-.04	-17.4
Schlmbrg	1.00	17	63.27	+2.07	-24.2
SigmaAld	.72	18	62.86	+2.45	-5.6
SiriusXM	...	56	1.67	-.04	+2.1
Smucker	1.92f	18	74.90	+.66	+14.1
SprintNex	...	...	3.09	-.09	-27.0
SP Engy	1.08e	...	50.84	+2.14	-10.9
SPDR Fncl	.20e	...	12.20	+.52	-23.5
SP Inds	.69e	...	30.05	+.74	-13.8
SP Tech	.36e	...	24.30	+.30	-3.5
SunocoLg	4.86f	8	86.71	+.39	+3.7
TeleflEsp s	1.98e	...	16.89	+.55	-17.2
Tesoro	...	7	20.34	+1.41	+9.7
3M Co	2.20	13	75.19	+1.20	-12.9
Trchmrk s	.48f	8	35.25	+.94	-11.5
TriContl	.31e	...	13.04	+.18	-5.2
TyllrTech	...	33	24.77	+.82	+19.3
UBWV	1.20	12	20.80	+.88	-29.5
Vale SA	1.14e	...	24.04	+.05	-30.5
ValeroE	.20	16	19.20	+.72	-17.0
VangEmg	.82e	...	37.15	+.36	-22.8
VulcanM	1.00	...	29.80	+.92	-32.8
Weigrn	.90f	14	36.03	+1.14	-7.5
WellsFargo	.48	10	24.79	+1.10	-20.0
WstnRefin	...	13	14.36	+1.36	+35.7
WhitingPt s	...	13	36.69	+.51	-37.4
WmsCos	1.00f	19	26.16	+1.15	+5.8
XcelEngy	1.04	15	24.84	+.15	+5.5
Xerox	.17	14	7.40	+.30	-35.8
Yahoo	...	17	14.75	+.04	-11.3

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INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD %Chg	52-wk %Chg
12,876.00	10,597.14	Dow Jones Industrials	11,043.86	+272.38	+2.53	-4.61	+2.14
5,627.85	4,095.81	Dow Jones Transportation	4,310.61	+91.84	+2.18	-13.59	-4.39
449.09	381.99	Dow Jones Utilities	435.84	+4.29	+.99	+7.82	+8.80
8,718.25	6,641.30	NYSE Composite	6,940.81	+170.08	+2.51	-12.85	-4.44
2,490.51	1,984.93	Amex Index	2,086.27	+22.91	+1.11	-5.53	+3.38
2,887.75	2,316.11	Nasdaq Composite	2,518.69	+33.46	+1.35	-5.13	+6.20
1,370.58	1,101.54	S&P 500	1,162.95	+26.52	+2.33	-7.53	+1.82
14,562.01	11,570.57	Wilshire 5000	12,191.89	+284.88	+2.22	-8.74	+1.56
868.57	634.71	Russell 2000	685.62	+13.19	+2.02	-15.06	-.40

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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

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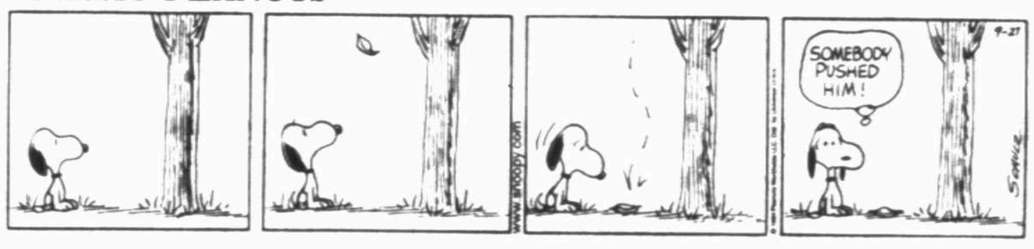
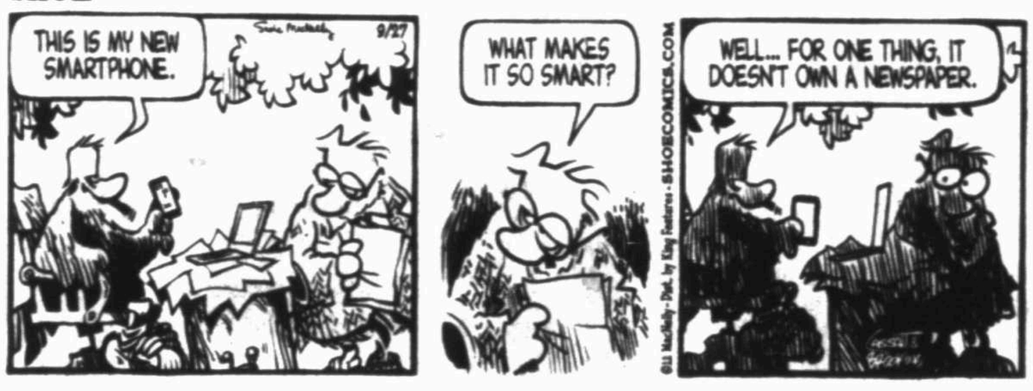
ZITS

CLASSIC PEANUTS



BABY BLUES

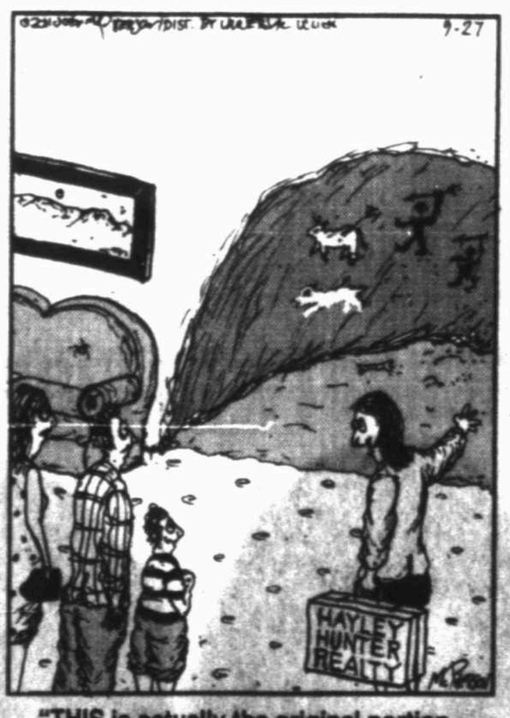
SHOE



MUTTS

GARFIELD

CLOSE TO HOME



"THIS is actually the original portion of the house. The other rooms were added in 1974."

DENNIS THE MENACE

"WHEN I GROW UP, I WANNA BE JUST LIKE MR. WILSON 'CEPT YOUNGER, THINNER AN' LESS GROUCHY."

DUSTIN

WIZARD OF ID

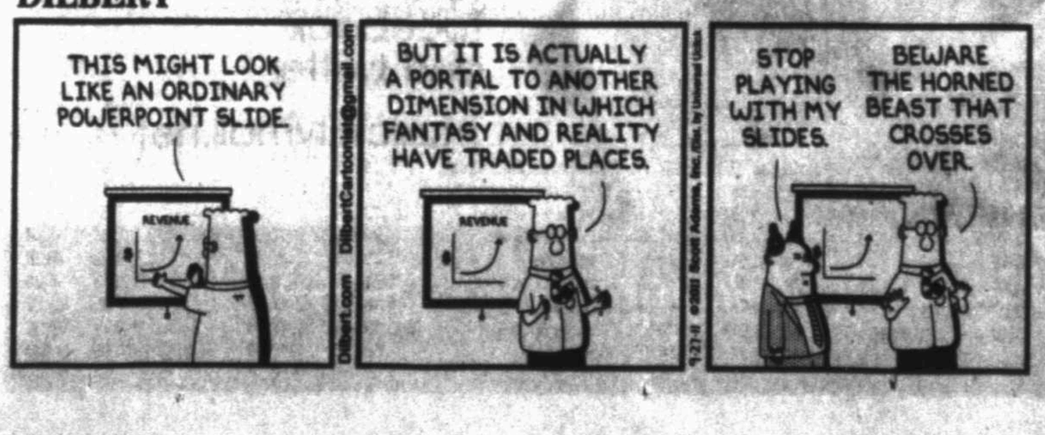
LOCKHORNS

"I THINK I'M GOING TO NEED JUMPER CABLES THIS MORNING."

FAMILY CIRCUS

"They forgot to put raisins in my cereal!"

DILBERT



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GENERAL INFO

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, 687-8613.

DEADLINES:
WORD ADS: PUBLISHED ON: Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Friday, Saturday, Sunday — DEADLINE IS: 2 p.m. Friday
DISPLAY ADS: PUBLISHED ON: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday — DEADLINE IS: 4 p.m. Wednesday, 3 p.m. Tuesday, 3 p.m. Wednesday, 3 p.m. Thursday, 3 p.m. Friday

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

Events and Notices

Need some cash? Call CLASSIFIED 682-6222

Lost & Found

FOUND 2 Corgies at Illinois and McDonald. Call to identify, 432-212-1490.

FOUND BORDER Collie, mall area, 432-631-2473.

FOUND MALE Sheep/Husky??? Black & white, found at Manor Park. 432-978-5744.

LOST FEMALE DOG BOXER MIX Adult, Brown w/ white paws $150 Reward. Contact 432-853-0599 or 432-349-7165.

REWARD LOST ENGLISH Mastiff, weighs 160 lbs, answers to Minnie, tan colored with black muzzle. 557-2121.

REWARD LOST gray and white female tabby, 9/15/11. Pinehurst & A St. 432-556-7545.

Meetings

Acacia Masonic Lodge #1414
1600 W. Wall
Stated Communication, 2nd & 4th Tues. @ 7:30pm.
432-557-6041
Mike Patton, W.M.
Ed Wilson Sec.
Did you know General Douglas MacArthur was a Master Mason?

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

The sale of property is to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held at 349 S. Self Storage at 5700 State Hwy 349 South, Midland, TX 79706 on October 8th at 9:00a.m. Cleanup deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold for cash to highest bidder. Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenants Gabriela Chavez: Couch, loveseat, futon, twin bed, TV, entertainment center, stroller, and miscellaneous household items.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

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CIVIL RIGHTS

OPEN ADMISSION/EMPLOYMENT POLICY
PUBLIC NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Rockwood Manor operates in full compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section VI of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996.

This policy has been adopted by the facility on July 14, 2009.

Peter O. Porras
Peter O. Porras, M.S., C.H.E.
Administrator
Rockwood Manor
2000 N Main St
Midland, Texas 79705

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Statements of Qualifications will be received until 5:00 PM, November 15, 2011, in the office of the Purchasing Manager, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following:

Request for Qualifications (RFQ 4029-11) for professional services to provide design, plans, specifications and architectural services for the construction of a new Municipal Court building.

The RFQ is now available. To receive a copy of the RFQ, please call 432-685-7234 or e-mail: purchasing@midlandtexas.gov

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code.

City of Midland, Texas

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LOTA JERNIGAN WILEY, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Lota Jernigan Wiley, deceased, were issued to John Robert Wiley, Independent Executor, on September 20, 2011, in the proceeding styled "Estate of Lota Jernigan Wiley, Deceased," No. P16731 in the County Court of Midland County, Texas; which is still pending and that said person now holds such Letters. All persons having claims against said Estate, which is being administered in Midland County, Texas, are hereby required to present the same to said Independent Executor, at 1907 Tarleton, #207, Midland, Texas 79707, before suit upon same is barred by the general statutes of limitation; before such Estate is closed, and within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

John Robert Wiley, Independent Executor of the Estate of Lota Jernigan Wiley, Deceased,
No. P16731 in the County Court of Midland County, Texas

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Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

BMW 2004 545i, 97K miles, 8 cylinder, dark blue & tan leather, M1 wheels, salvage title. $12,000. 352-3644

BMW 2007 X3, black/tan, excellent condition, garaged, 27k, loaded, $27,200. Call 432-638-0067

BUICK 2003 White clean, 19,500 mi. $7500. 432-634-3835

CADILLAC 2007 DTS, V-8, leather We finance W.A.C. B&B Auto 683-6222.

CHEVROLET 1997 Camaro 198K miles 30th Anniversary Edition T-Tops, leather seats Needs some work $2,000 OBO Call Whitney 432-238-1548

CHEVROLET 2010 Camaro Super Sport Leather, Corvette engine, sunroof, 24k mi. $32,500. 665-7036

CHEVY 2004 Duramax 2500HD, LWB, 2WD, crew cab, 205,000 miles, $8500 Call 432-934-3869

CHEVY 2005 CAVALIER, A/C, good motor & body, $3500. Call after 7. 432-697-2997.

DODGE 1999 STRATUS, runs good, gold, 132k mi, $2700 obo 432-349-7890.

DODGE 2005 Magnum SXT, V-6, Leather. We finance. W.A.C. B&B Auto 683-6222

FORD 1983 Mustang 460 big block, C6 Transmission, runs 7.50 in 1/8 mile $6,000 obo. 352-8555.

FORD 2000 Mustang convertible, V6. Great condition, new tires, $4,500 432-687-4638.

FORD 2001 Taurus, pw, pl, cold ac, nice car. $2500. 432-664-4690

FORD 2002 Mustang, V-6, Auto, low miles. We finance. W.A.C. B&B Auto 683-6222.

FORD 2008 Focus SE, 4 Door, 4 Cylinder. We finance. W.A.C. B&B Auto 683-6222

HONDA 2004 Accord XE. Perfect back to school car, 3 door, V6, all bells and whistles. $10,000 obo. Call 432-699-4523.

HONDA 2010 Accord Coupe EX-L, like new 8805mi, leather heated seats, moonroof, 33mpg hwy, 27k miles remaining on warranty $24,845. Call 806-632-2595. zomigman@gmail.com

INFINITY 2003 G35 Coupe. Excellent condition, auto, chrome wheels, navigation, 47k miles, asking $14,000. 432-559-5396.

MAZDA 2008 Mazda 6 37000 miles 4 door, automatic transmission good condition, Red exterior, Sand interior, 2WD ABS, A/C, radio, bucket seating, CD, cruise, driver airbag, power locks, power windows, sun roof. Great car, excellent gas mileage. Only 37,000 miles, in excellent mechanical condition. $13,000 432-553-9401 johnpswe@hotmail.com

MERCURY 1993 Sable wagon, pw, pl, cold ac, $1400. 432-664-4690

NISSAN 2009 Altima 2.5 Coupe, red Just like new. Under 1,300 miles, garaged kept. Smoke free, still smells new. $18,000. OBO. 432-638-6375.

SCION 2005 XB. Black base model, good condition, 55k miles, $8500. 432-661-9355

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AWD, 36k/Blk Premium Pkg., Nav.

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TOYOTA 2000 Celica GT automatic, good condition. Asking $3,900. OBO. 432-599-0233.

VOLVO 2007 S40i, 63K miles, 4 door, good condition, silver exterior, leather interior, power seats, sun roof. (432) 653-8118

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Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars & pickups. 432-685-4078

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2007 CORVETTE C6 Silver, 2 tops, Chrome wheels, 30k miles, $35,000. 432-699-0743.

CHEVROLET 2011 CAMARO SS, black on black, hard loaded with all options, SS2/RS package, auto, sunroof, custom exhaust, 4k miles, $34,950. Call 432-634-5888.

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CHEVROLET 1964 impala, convertible, needs work, runs. $9500. 575-390-5488.

Pickup Trucks

CHEVROLET 1982 Silverado, $2,450. Call 432-684-6894

CHEVROLET 2002 1500 Silverado. Single cab, short bed, 4.3 liter, V6, 5 speed, 104k miles, black $5,300 obo. 432-249-1367

CHEVROLET 2002 1500 Silverado, work truck, A/C, automatic, 287,000k miles, fair condition, headache rack, good tires. $2,350 obo. Call 432-682-5157

CHEVROLET 2002 Avalanche. Tan, 4" lift, all new wheels & rims, perfect interior, 111k miles, asking $11,000 obo. For more info 432-268-3899 or 296-1121.

CHEVROLET 2003 S10 ZR2, extended cab, auto, 4WD, 6 cylinder 4.3, 3 inch lift, 31 X 10.5 tires, 78k miles, excellent condition, great power, spray on bed, $9,300 neg. 408-839-0319.

CHEVROLET 2005 2500 HD, 110K miles, loaded, great truck for new driver or great work truck. $18,000 obo. 432-557-7512.

CHEVY 2007 Avalanche, LT, Leather Extra Nice, B&B Auto Sales, 683-6222 or 559-4977

CHEVY 2007 Avalanche, sunburst orange, LT2 package, Bose stereo, leather, loaded, custom Hot Wheel rims, original owner, 22k mi, $25,000 OBO. 557-2121.

CHEVY 2008 COLORADO Crew Cab, black like new, low mi $16,750. 556-6947.

Pickup Trucks

CHEVY 2010 Silverado 1500 crew cab, charcoal grey metallic 38k miles, $21,000. 432-349-4301

DODGE 2001 Ram 1500 Quad Cabg. $2500. 432-664-4690.

DODGE 2002 Ram 1500, quad cab, red 5.9 litre, 58K miles, like new, $10,400. 1-985-255-2929

DODGE 2005 SRT10 pickup yellow fever. Speial Edition, #339 of 500. Serious inquiries only, 432-352-0770.

DODGE 2006 Ram 3500, mega cab, white, 86k miles, 4wd auto, lots of extras. $27,000. 813-0666.

FORD 2002 F150 XLT, short wheel base, 4.6 V8, 109k miles, 2WD, good condition. $6500 obo. 432-553-0822

FORD 2007 F150, Super crew XLT, Nice Truck, $16,900, B&B auto 683-6222

GMC '05 CREWCAB SLE, in great condition, $12,500. Call 432-230-3372

NEW TODAY!

GMC 2000 Sonoma, 1 owner, 57,000 miles, new tires, new compressor on a/c, V6 motor, 3 dr extended cab. $7000 699-5505.

GMC 2001 Sierra HD crew cab, 4 wd. $6,700. 170k miles. 432-238-5028

TOYOTA 2008 Tundra Grade, 2x4, silver w/gray interior, 23,500 miles, bed liner, running boards, V6, $20,000. 682-7950.

Vans & Minivans

2000 FORD Mini Bus, wheel chair accessible, air conditioner/heater works. 253k Hwy. miles, $8,000 Negotiable. Call Amy @ 432-230-2114

CHEVROLET 1997 Astro Van, 160k miles, good condition, white exterior, gray interior, leather interior, conversion, tv/vcr, $3,500. (432) 352-9366.

CHEVY 2002 1500, cargo van, extra clean, B&B Auto Sales 683-6222.

FORD 2004 V Star Limited, 7 passenger rear A/C, 121K miles, $2100. 432-664-4690.

AWD & SUV

BMW 2003 X5, 1 owner, 52k miles, black/tan interior, CD changer, excellent condition, $17,200. 978-1332.

BUICK 2008 Enclave CXL, 3rd row seat, leather, B&B Auto Sales 683-6222.

CHEVROLET 1997 Suburban 4 wd, side bars, grill guard, 196k miles, $5,000 OBO. 697-7020.

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

	4			9		8	6	
		7		5				
9	2			7				3
			4				7	
		1				9		
	8				2			
8				1			2	6
						7		
	6	5		2			3	

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

3	4	2	7	9	8	6	5	1
6	7	8	1	3	5	2	9	4
9	1	5	6	2	4	7	3	8
7	5	9	2	4	1	8	6	3
8	3	1	5	7	6	9	4	2
4	2	6	9	8	3	5	1	7
2	8	3	4	5	9	1	7	6
5	6	7	3	1	2	4	8	9
1	9	4	8	6	7	3	2	5

9/27/11

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ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

YATES PETROLEUM CORPORATION

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY IN ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
REVENUE AUDIT COORDINATOR

DUTIES
- Maintain a current knowledge base of regulatory information from the various State and Federal agencies
- Verify (by liaise) allowable deductions for royalty and tax purposes in accordance with various State and Federal guidelines
- Provide auditors with the appropriate documentation to support revenue calculations
- Supervise the organization of gas and oil sales and deductions / revenue documentation to facilitate quick retrieval for both management reporting and audit purposes
- Maintain the status of various audits and provide regular / timely status reports to management
- Work to establish and maintain working relationships with the various State and Federal agencies and outside auditors

QUALIFICATIONS
- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Business, or Finance preferred; CPA a plus
- 5+ years of oil and gas industry revenue experience preferred
- Knowledgeable about the MMS and State regulations (allowable deductions) preferred
- Ability to work under pressure in a fast paced environment
- Detail-oriented, strong organizational and analytical skills
- Must communicate effectively with internal & external parties
- Highly motivated and team-oriented individual
- AS400 experience preferred, proficient in the Microsoft Office suite of products, especially Excel, proficient in data queries, as well as possess the aptitude to effectively learn company-specific accounting systems
- Flexible to work longer hours during peak periods

Excellent benefits package including: 401(k), Medical & Dental Insurance, Basic & Supplemental Life Insurance, AD&D, Short & Long Term Disability Insurance, AFLAC, Cafeteria Plan, Vacation and Sick Leave.

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BANKING & MORTGAGE

Position Available
Employee needed with experience as a lending assistant in preparation of loan documents as well as oil and gas documents. Applicant must type 60+ wpm. Excellent benefits. Resumes will be kept in strictest confidence. Please send resume to P-105 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX. 79701

CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

MAXWELL

Administrative Assistant

Permanent, Part Time, Flexible Schedule
Professional Environment
Must have oil & gas office experience
Must be proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel & QuickBooks
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Please email or fax resumes to:
(432)684-4146
lesawyer@hotmail.com

L.E. Sawyer, Jr. – President
500 West Texas Ste. 1220
Fasken Center I
Midland, TX 79701

Clerical
Clerical experience in Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable. Knowledge in Microsoft Office a must. Please send resume to P-104 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, Tx. 79701

CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Receptionist
Midland Pediatric Associates FT
Busy medical office is seeking a Full time front office receptionist.

Must be detail oriented, possess good phone skills, computer experience, data entry and interpersonal skills a must, as well as medical office experience. Must be a team player.

Please include salary requirements and references. Benefits offered.

Please come by Midland Pediatric Associates 2409 W. Illinois, Ste. D and fill out an application.

CONSTRUCTION & FACILITIES

Blade Operator
Roadrunner Dirt Contractors FT
Midland, TX 79701
Need an experienced blade operator to build drilling pads. Excellent Salary call Bobby 432-634-0410.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Youth Development Professionals
The Boys & Girls Club of Midland PT
Looking for outgoing, dedicated, responsible staff members. Must be able to work school days M-F, 2:30pm - 8:30pm. Apply in person at 1321 South Goode St. - Taylor Park Unit. Midland, TX. 79702 from M-F, 1pm- 2:30pm or 6:30pm - 8pm. Must be able to pass drug and background check.

ENERGY & UTILITIES

H2S Safey Technicians
Secorp Industries FT
Established Oilfield Service Company has immediate openings for H2S Safety Technicians. Oilfield experience a plus. Mechanical abilities and medical certification helpful. Job consists of both shop and field work, must be able to work extended hitches on locations. Good Driving Record and Reliable transportation recommended. Include references and salary requirements on resume. Send Resume and Salary Requirements to 772 State Hwy 173 South Devine, TX 78016 Phone: 830-663-1972 Fax – 830-663-9574 Email – james.strange@secorpindustries.com.

Industrial Radiographer/Radiographer Assistant
Team Industrial Services FT
Needed: Industrial Radiographer/Radiographer Assistant with 40 hours radiation safety. General summary: working in plants, pipelines, & other industrial sites. Travel & overtime is required. Hourly pay with benefits, insurance, & 401K. Send resume to morris.miller@teaminc.com or fax to 432-563-0689. Check us out at www.teamindustrialservices.com

Mud Loggers
Immediate opening for experienced only Mud Loggers in the Permian Basin area. Please call Truman Alberts at 432-687-4445.

Now Hiring
Crucial Energy Solutions, LLC FT
Petroleum Land Management Leasing Department Supervisor- strong background in Petroleum Land Management leasing
Petroleum Landman- Excellent computer skills required; work ethic imperative; must provide personal laptop
Office Administrator- strong computer skills required, experience assisting in administrative capacity of petroleum landwork; strong capability to learn new computer software
Please email resume with cover letter to:
Kendra.sparks@crucialenergysolutions.com

Tubing Tester
Confidential FT
Experienced Tubing Tester. CDL with tank endorsement required. Call 432-557-2809 or 432-557-2807.

HEALTHCARE

LVN
Needing an experienced LVN's for a busy Urology Office. Must have at least two years experience (SAB-5027). Competitive Salary and wonderful work environment. Please mail or fax your resume to: P.O. Box 5291 Midland, Texas 79704 or fax at 432-682-2284 Attn: Alesha McCoy

MIDLAND SURGICAL ASSOCIATES, P.A.
is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions

BILLING/CODING/ COLLECTIONS SPECIALIST
Applicant must have experience with CPT and ICD9 coding and compatibility, electronic billing/posting, exception reports, claim appeals, disputes and collection methodologies

RN/ LVN /OFFICE NURSE
Experienced candidate must be able to work independently and possess both excellent communication and patient skills. Sterile technique, surgical assistant skills, colonoscopy experience and computer knowledge desired

RECEPTIONIST/MEDICAL RECORDS
Applicant must be able to process medical records with attention to detail and handle heavy phones. Multi-tasker with a pleasant disposition, excellent communication and clerical skills required

All Positions
M-F 8:30-5:30. Benefit package includes
P.T.O. Health, Life & AFLAC insurance
coverage and 401-K retirement plan
Send resume to: P- 128 c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois Midland, TX 79701

Patient Billing Manager
Experienced patient Billing Manager needed for sole practitioner. Familiarity with Medical Manager software desirable. Great pay & benefits. Fax resume to 432-570-0602

Providers
Interim Healthcare PT
Interim Healthcare is searching for providers in the Midland area to provide care for the elderly and disabled. Please call 432-617-0252 and talk with Amber or Claudia. EOE

Provider
St. Joseph Home Health is immediately seeking providers in Midland and Odessa. Bilingual preferred. Please contact Stephanie at 432-683-4663.

HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

Breakfast Host/Housekeeping
Holiday Inn Express FT
5309 N. Loop 250 W. **Apply in person**
Midland, TX 79707 **No phone calls**
Now hiring Breakfast Host and Housekeeping. Professional appearance required. Will train the right person. Serious inquiries only. Previous applicants need not apply. Apply in person only. No phone calls

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Manager
BJB Services, Inc. FT
This leading oilfield pipeline construction company is looking to move quickly for the right candidate. Would like to see candidates with 2+ years experience in human resources and payroll. Looking for a self-motivated individual, detail oriented and one that can work closely with employees and executives. Competitive, market-based salary and benefits commensurate with level of experience. Also offer bonus plan, 401(k), medical/dental, and vacation. Applicants can forward résumés by email to mandee@bjbinc.com or by mail to 921 N. Fairgrounds Rd., Midland, TX 79706

OTHER JOBS

COUNSELOR / DRIVER
YMCA of Midland has part time positions for **Counselor/Driver**. Apply in person at 800 N. Big Spring. No phone calls please.

Installation Technician
Rhino Linings FT
Rhino Linings and Truck Accessories now hiring Installation Technicians. Experience and own tools preferred. Top pay! Call 432-262-6463 or come by 5306 West Wall.

Janitorial/Floor Techs
Confidential FT/PT
Full and part-time Janitorial/Floor Techs needed. Day and evening positions available. Call 432-570-9903.

Sam's Club is Now Hiring For Following Positions:
• Cashier-PT • Maintenance-FT • Meat Market-FT/PT
• Cafe - PT • Carts - PT
Flexible schedules required. Apply at the store kiosk in person at 1500 N. Tradewinds, Midland, TX 79706 or online at samsclub.com

Sam's Club

OTHER JOBS

General
NEWSPAPER STREET CORNER SALES
Midland Reporter-Telegram

Selling Newspapers On The Street Corners
(avg. income $50.00 - $100.00/day)
MUST BE AT LEAST 14 YEARS OLD
SUNDAYS ONLY
IF INTERESTED CALL
TOMMY 967-2267

NOW HIRING
Carpet, Tile, Upholstery & Duct Cleaning and Restoration assistant needed. Call 432-230-8607 to interview.

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 $8.75 hourly.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk
Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: efitzworth@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Personnel Needed
Personnel needed to run computer driven equipment. Good typing & spelling skills a plus. Supervisor & time management skills also a plus. Needs to be able to read work orders and pay close attention to details. Apply in person at 501 W. Industrial Monday-Friday 10:00am - 5:00pm

Phone Book Delivery
Deliver AT & T phone books in Midland. Job #20108, Odessa & surround areas. Payment issued within 72 hours. 18 or older, have a valid driver's license, social security card and insured vehicle. **432-558-0067**

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EARN EXTRA MONEY
Do You:
Need help paying monthly bills and enjoy early Morning hours
Call Tony Gonzalez (432) 687-9002
*Must have vehicle, insurance, & valid driver's license

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Professional Cleaners $10/Hr
Join a Professional Cleaning Team. $10 hour and management advancement opportunities. Training, equipment and uniform supplied. Team members are drug tested and background checked. Bonded/Insured. Call J. Williams Management at 432-699-2090. (office hours only).

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Drivers
Papa John's Pizza
Papa John's Pizza is Now Hiring Drivers--Apply Today, Start Today
Our drivers can earn $10-$15/hr. You must be 18, have a clean driving record & verifiable insurance. Apply in person at 4408 W Loop 250 N.

Night Line Cooks and Dining Room Service Staff
We hire attitude and personality over experience.
Midland's Premier Country Club Currently Has Openings! In addition to competitive wages we offer paid medical and 401k. Please apply in person Tues-Sun: Midland Country Club, 6101 N. Hwy 349, Midland, TX 79705.

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RETAIL JOBS

Full Time Store Representatives
Del-Tex Marketing Inc. FT/PT
F/T P/T In-Store Representatives. Must pass background 400/800 weekly. Call Yeny (432)349-7207

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MCU MARKETING

Account Sales Manager

Set up and Maintain Accounts

Manage a small sales team

2 Years in sales and management

Average Annual Income FT 40-50k

Send resume to:

mkelley@mcumarketing.com

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 to:

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

Brandi Price, Advertising Director
Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Avenue, Midland, TX 79701
or email to: bprice@mrt.com

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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.

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Call Classifieds Today!
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KEITH

Import & Craft Beer Distributor of Texas

September 26, 2011

Job Opening – Specialty Sales Reps
Midland and Odessa Marketing Area

1. Description of Specialty Sales Rep:
This Specialty Sales Rep will live in the Midland/Odessa marketing area. The Specialty Sales Rep is responsible for developing this large area of distribution by recruiting new accounts and developing current accounts.
The Specialty Sale Reps presales and tell sales on Monday and Tuesday for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday delivery. The Specialty Sales Rep helps deliver on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from a Van to various small towns around the Midland/Odessa area. The Specialty Sales Reps will be required to spent one night stay in Alpine every other week.

2. Job Qualifications:
- Preferred Bachelor's degree
- Some Knowledge of Beverage industry
- Must be a self starter
- Microsoft Excel and Word skills
- Strong organization skills
- Good communication skills
- Strong work ethic
- Will train qualified applicant
- Must pass a physical and drug screening

3. Application Information:

- apply at benekeith.com Job Code 3785 Sales Representative Beverages

Starting date November 1st or sooner.

Ben E. Keith Beverages is an EOE.

SKILLED LABOR

Coiled Tubing Operators

Sanjel USA, Inc. FT

Sanjel USA is looking for experienced Coiled Tubing Operators! Build your future with Sanjel USA. We are an industry leading oilfield service company, looking for motivated individuals to join our team! Sanjel offers competitive salaries, excellent benefits, and a great schedule. Experienced Coiled Tubing Operators and Supervisors with experience call 1-800-972-6535 today to speak with a recruiter about all the benefits of joining Team Sanjel!! Or visit www.sanjel.com.

Drivers

FT

Class A CDL drivers needed. Must have clean driving record and clean background. Have at least 3 years minimum experience. Sand hauling experience a plus. Call 432-699-4468.

Glaziers

Bethlehem Glass, Inc. FT

Needing qualified Glaziers or persons with Finish Carpentry Skills 5 or more yrs experience. Must have valid drivers license and hand tools. Pay according to experience, benefits call 432-570-9174 or fax resume to 432-683-6889.

Journeyman Electrician

City Wide Electric FT

Seeking dependable and responsible Journeyman Electrician. Must have state license. Excellent pay and benefits. Please call 432-697-6456.

Landscape Mainteance Foreman

Arbor-Tech Horticulture
International Society of Arboriculture

Weekly pay with benefits. Experienced individuals only. Please call 432-682-8222

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Lead Maintenance must have HVAC License
Experience preferred.
Apply in person @ 2601 N. A St.

Licensed Service Plumber

Now Hiring Apply in Person
1101 W. Florida
Midland, TX

FT
Salary DOE
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Maintenance

Greenwood ISD FT

Perform general maintenance and repair of building structures. Assist with maintenance of grounds. Valid Texas driver's license, willing to get CDL. Insurance provided. Contact Scott Knippa, 685-7828, leave message.

Maintenance/Make Ready

Summerhill Apartments FT

Now hiring **Maintenance/Make Ready**. Apply at **3001 North Midland Dr. Midland, TX 79707** or call **432-697-6039.**

SERVICE TECH

Culligan Water Systems now hiring. Please apply in person 10018 W. Business I-20, Midland. Benefits, 401K, and insurance provided.

SKILLED LABOR

MECHANICAL DESIGN DRAFTSMAN

Eckel Manufacturing Co., Inc

Desired skills include Inventor 3D Modeling, AutoCAD experience, FEA analysis experience and knowledge of CNC and manual machining, welding and other fabrication techniques. Must be willing to work with a team to resolve design problems. Strong organizational, communication and computer skills are required. College degree preferred but will accept individuals with experience and/or equivalent education. Excellent benefits include 401K, Health Insurance, Life Insurance and Paid Vacation / Holidays. Applicants may submit their resume to jobs2@eckel.com or apply in person at Eckel Manufacturing Co., Inc. 8035 North County Road West, Odessa, Tx.

Painter, Tape and Bed

Confidential FT/PT

Now hiring Tape, Bed man and Painter. Must have 5 years of experience, valid driver's license and transportation. Fax 432-684-4868. Call 432-683-7500.

Parts Inspector

Eckel Manufacturing Co., Inc

Eckel Manufacturing Company is looking for a Parts Inspector. Must have experience with parts inspection, assemblies and finished products to drawings and specifications. Perform limited and repetitive visual, mechanical, dimensional, functional, inspection of products in the production and assembly process through final system assembly. Apply established inspection procedures and use inspection tools and instruments and identify workmanship and material defects. High school diploma or equivalent. Salary dependent on experience. Excellent benefits include 401K, Health Insurance, Life Insurance and Paid Vacation / Holidays. Applicant is required to pass a drug test. Apply in person at Eckel Manufacturing Co., Inc. 8035 North County Road West, Odessa, TX

Substation Technicians

Tessco FT

Now hiring for substation technicians, pay depends on experience. Please apply at Tessco Reclosure, 11310 W. I-20 E., Odessa Tx, 79765.

Truck Mechanics

Silverline Transportation **Odessa, Tx**

Truck Mechanics neded. Excellent pay based on experience with a minimum of 1 year experience. Must have own tools. Benefits include medical, life, and dental insurance. Paid vacation and 401k. Call 432-563-0722 or 432-254-9431 to schedule interview.

Utility Worker/Handyman

UGL Services FT

UGL Services is seeking a Utility /Handyman. Responsible to perform general help, minor repairs and maintenance for miscellaneous equipment for a client locate in Midland, TX area, must have at least 2-5 years of handyman exp. Some basic computer exp helpful. Drug and Background check req'd. Email resumes to: jgather@na.ugllimited.com, rgiordano@na.ugllimited.com
UGL Services is an EOE M/F/D/V

Video Game Technician and Shop Hand Needed

Jordan Amusement FT

Both positions require good driving record, video game mechanical and electrical ability and a strong work ethic. Apply in person at Jordan Amusement, 10100 W. Hwy 80, Midland.

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Class A CDL Truck Drivers

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Prefer drivers with Pneumatic Tanker experience. Benefits include: driver 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

Drivers

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Coastal Transport is seeking Drivers with Class (A) CDL (X) Endorsement. Must be 23 yrs Old with 1 Yr Tractor Trailer experience. Home every day! Scheduled Days Off, Paid Vacation, Safety Bonus, $2000 sign on bonus. For more Information call 888-527-7221

Drivers

Select Energy Service FT

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Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Signing up is FREE & Easy* Simply log onto www.mywesttexas.com/mobile

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Merchandise

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REFRIGERATOR $200. Gas stove, $160. Electric stove $125. Washer & dryer, $250. 432-352-7988.

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FREE TO good home, 4 kittens, (3) 1 year old cats. Call 432-599-2580.

FREE TO good home, Kittens, liter trained. Call 432-689-6091.

Free Stuff

FREE WOODEN PALLETS!

Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

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MEN'S ROLEX 2 tone, gold/steel, submariner date blue face with box and papers. $7,000. 432-699-7178.

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Miscellaneous for Sale

25" COLOR TV with remote. $20 262-1192

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Miscellaneous for Sale

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AREA RUG $40, chest freezer $420, Sanyo TV 51"x34" $400, call 432-661-6775

CUSHIONS, THROW pillows, tote bags, aprons, etc. box full $10. Phone 694-9491.

NEW PACKAGED New Testament on CD. Dramatic audio theatre with Jim Caviezel. $25. 699-6457

Miscellaneous for Sale

FILL DIRT for sale at Loop 250 and NCR 1135. Contact Phil Stroud, Montevallo, Inc. at 661-0013 or cmc@montevalloinc.com

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BALDWIN CLASSIC piano. Excellent condition, $2,000. Serious inquiries only. Call 432-425-0366 leave message.

Sporting Goods

ELIPTICAL TRAINER, green master, ZF8 1, never used, $500. Cash and carry. Will include used exercise bike. 432-296-8464.

Animals & Pets

Livestock & Feed

YOUNG HENS, Rhode Island Red, Americana and 1 Rhode Island rooster, 432-288-3465.

Pets

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ENGLISH BULLDOGS 2 females, ages 2 1/2 years & 1 year old, shots, $600 each, 432-230-0197.

GERMAN SHEPHERDS AKC registered, top of the line, German bloodlines, pedigrees available, all shots, 4 weeks old, 4 males, 3 females, 254-424-8992.

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Pets

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CHEVROLET 2002 Trailblazer, 93K miles, 1 owner, clean, runs great, $6900 obo. 432-556-6225, Shelley.

CHEVROLET 2003 Suburban, LS, extra clean, only 87,000 miles, 3 seats, good tires, Bose Sound, new detail, 2nd owner, 432-853-5229. 432-683-2321.

CHEVY 2007 Tahoe LT Looks BRAND NEW! Pewter color, leather, 5.3L V8 automatic, 3rd row, tow/haul, 73k mi. $23,000, 940-3606.

DODGE 2004 Ram 4x4, good cond., silv, 119k mi, Ranchhand bumper & steps, tool box, BFG tires $21,500 432-349-4279

FORD 1998 EXPLORER 4X4, mechanical sound, comes with 3 months warranty, must see, $4,500 349-0041.

FORD 1999 F 250 SUPER DUTY XLT 74,000 miles, 4 door 2WD, GARAGE KEPT, Diesel 7.3, bed liner, camper shell, grill guard GREAT shape $14,000. 432-556-2500 toddhowey@hotmail.com

FORD 2003 F150 Supercrew 92300 miles, White with Gold exterior, Tan interior, 2WD, Great Cond 432-967-0728

FORD 2003 F250 Super Duty V8 Black 75K $19,900 OBO Call 432-352-2986

FORD 2004 Expedition, Eddie Bauer, 3rd row seat, leather, nasty nice, 683-6222

FORD 2005 Expedition EB 4WD, loaded, 86k miles, $14,600. Call 432-682-5362

GMC 2007 2500, HD, crew cab, 4x4, LS, $17,999, B&B Auto Sales 683-6222

GMC 2007 Yukon, fully loaded, navigation, DVD player, leather, tinted windows, 75K miles, very clean $22,000 Call 432-638-0824

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HUMMER 2009 H3X prestine condition, 20k mi, navagation, side bars, grill guard, sunroof, leather interior, black/cream interior, all electric, $43,100 (day) 432-661-7627, (evenings) 432-686-2432.

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JEEP 2002 Wrangler X 6 in lift, 35in tires, 109k mi, 5 speed, 4.0 engine, $12,800, 915-217-5228.

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NISSAN 2006 Murano SL, sunroof, leather, loaded, $18,900. Call 432-682-1995.

TOYOTA 1984 Land Cruiser, 93k original miles, 4x4 A/C, good condition, $9500. Call 432-230-1617.

TRIUMPH TR4 Wanted for restoration. Good, bad or ugly. 0049-171-4928-185. We'll call you back.

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Heavy Equipment

1981 MACK Pump truck for sale $85,000 approximately 300k miles. Call 432-685-3236 for info

1982 MACK Hot Oiler for sale $85,000, approximately 300k miles. Call 432-685-3236 for info

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2 Rough Terrain Scissor Lifts $10900 ea. 1 JLG scissor lift $3500, 25ft Dove Tail Gooseneck Trailer $7500. 432-296-2178

Specialty Vehicles

CHEVROLET 2002 Corvette, hard top convertible, red with ebony interior, fully loaded 432.557.3282

NEW TODAY!

MINI 2008 Cooper S Convertible, white/ black, 8k miles, navigation, 1 owner, clear title, $9,400. wandakar@gmail.com (281) 517-2163.

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Motorcycles

HARLEY DAVIDSON 2007 Ultra Classic, low mi (6,500), many extras $16,500 301-3733

HD '07 blk Softtail, custom FXSTC, Samson pipes, leather bags, tuner, chrome, 8600mi $10,200 661-5388

HD 2003 Fatboy, Black & chrome. Like new, 18k miles, 4 helmets & soft cover, $11,000. 432-230-0076

MGB TRIKE project w/ parts to finish, Ebay value on parts-$6500, chromed engine, $1500 OBO. 559-4536

SUZUKI 2007 Blvd. 90 Touring, 1500cc, 6,750 miles, garaged, excellent condition, all-vel. & gray. $6,500. Must sell! 770-5793.

WEST COAST chopper 2005 CFL, S&S 113, rev tech 6 speed, $15,400 432-413-0995

RVs

2005 WORK & Play Forest River Toy Hauler, 28 feet, with 14 foot living quarters, dinette and couch fold out for beds, 14 foot garage with tie down rings, removable wheel shocks, with two fold out couch/beds, unit sleeps 6 to 8, rooftop AC, ducted furnace, water heater, fridge, gas cook top, microwave, enclosed bath with shower, original owner, stored inside, used once per year since new. $12,000. Call 432-296-1174.

2006 LEXINGTON Forest River, 21ft., like new, 10k miles, $40,000. Call 432-282-3598.

2010 HY-LINE 5th wheel. 37 foot, triple slide-out, washer/dryer, 2 A/C's, triple axle, 4 seasoned, $29,800. Call 806-206-4984.

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28FT. CAVALIER travel trailer $5000. Call 432-664-5457.

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20x55 & 40x55ft stalls available. 50 amp service, fully insolated, concrete drive, keypad entry
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17" TOYOTA Rims Four 6 lug, 6 spoke, excellent condition, $600. 432-934-7858.

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TAKE A LOOK AT THIS 1219 SQ FT BARNS AND STABLES AND BEAUTIFUL UPDATED 3 BDRM, 2 BATH, 2 CAR GARAGE THAT SITS ON 1.504 ACRES.
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Home in Hands 3/2, granite throughout, all the bells & wood flooring, in-ground pool, open and bright, must see! ... $257,000 DENE
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2 Houses currently leased, a 2/1, 1,260 sq ft, 1/1, 1,125 sq ft, 2 car garage, and single car carport ... $159,000 DENE
Countryside Home Listing 4/3, extra spacious living, dining, & bedrooms, lots of new ... $240,000 DAISY
Double Click South 4/2.5, fresh paint, formal living and dining areas, lots of pretty windows, bonus room ... $259,000 TERA
Old Midland 3/2, wood floors throughout, updated kitchen, bonus room, guest house, workshop ... $140,000 DENE
WOW! Gorgeous 3/2.5, oversize rooms, granite kitchen, in-ground pool, 2/1 guest house, recently remodeled ... $400,000 DENE
Lafayette Townhouse 3/2.5, formal living area, in-ground pool, 2 story, big rooms, lots of storage ... $229,000 LAURA
Lovely Home Listing! 3/2, 2 living areas, open kitchen/family room, 1 car garage, 2 workshops ... $122,000 LAURA
Handyman's Dream 2/1 formal living area, cinder block fence, 1,304 sq ft ... $60,000 DENE

COMMERCIAL

Office Space Weld St, kitchen, storage, parking, formerly Dr's office ... $270,000 DENE
Industrial Warehouse 7 Offices, Kitchen, Conference room, wired for 440 & 3 phase electrical ... $400,000 TERA
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Residential Rentals

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

111 CLUB nice 3 bed 2 bath, hardwood floors, 16x20 shop, great neighborhood, $1850/mo. 664-4776.

Residential Sales

Condos/ Townhouses

BY OWNER, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Close to great school & shopping. $23,000. Call 432-978-0692.

BY OWNER. Wallace Patio Townhouse, 3bdrm, 2bth, 2 car, 2318 sq. ft. Brick flooring in living, dining, eat-in kitchen, laundry, hallway & patio. 2011 Updates: 50gal hot water heater, double pane insulated windows, faux wood floors in bdrms, AC/gas heating. 432-553-1207, 683-1989

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OPEN HOUSE 9/25 from 2pm-4pm. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 3 car garage on cul-de-sac, sequestered master, 2 year old AC, 1 year old heater, sprinkler system. 5010 Candle Tree Cove. $278,000. 853-5224.

Homes for Sale

1806 MCDONALD St. Large 3/2/2. $109,900 Tile! Handicap access. Up Group 889-2934.

BEAUTIFUL HOME in Grassland. 5500 Ashwood Ct. Open bright floor plan. 4 Bed/3 Bath/2 Living/2 Dining/4 Car Garage, plus office. Over 3,400 sq. ft. $380,000. 210-393-9469.

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

211 HOLLY Street - 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 car garage, central AC & heat. Needs updating and repairs. Sold in AS IS condition at this price $52,900. No owner financing. Drive by then call 553-9136 to see inside. Owner/ Agent.

2 STORY BRICK home, 85% complete, 3 bd/3 ba, over 3000 sq. ft, sits on 3/4 of an acre. $149,000. 432-634-7255.

4 bed, 2 bath, 2 story home, nicely updated, approx 2,140sf. $180,000. Call for info. 432-661-0912.

5 ACRES with beautiful home large shop and livestock pens, patio, concrete drive and landscaping $380,000 negotiable. Call for appointment. 8am-7pm. 432-631-1931.

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3 BDR, 2 BA, mobile home for rent. 432-570-4578 for more info

REAL NICE 3 bed, 2 ba, 1400sq.ft., 24'X50' carport. Greenwood School, no pets. Midland $1250 rent $1000 dep. 528-1609

Mobile Homes for Sale

28FT. CAVALIER travel trailer $5000. Call 432-664-5457.

BEAUTIFUL SW Texas Ranch. 20 minutes from San Angelo. 300-1000 acres. Great views. Great Hunting. Call 325-234-3840. Some minerals.

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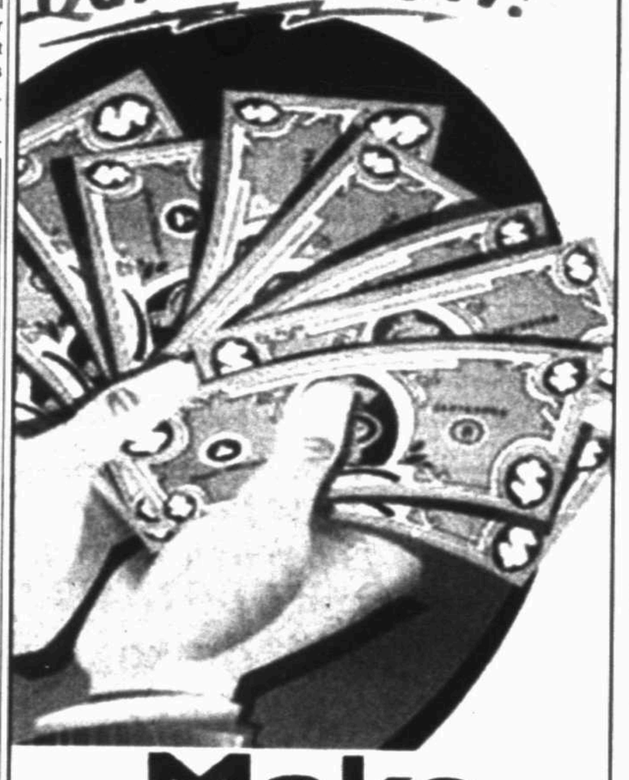

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Frontiers

QUAKE warning

Reed Saxon/AP

This Sept. 13 photo shows Anthony Guarino Jr., a seismic analyst at the California Institute of Technology, demonstrating an early earthquake warning system in Pasadena, Calif. The U.S. government has been testing an alert system in California that may someday warn residents and businesses an earthquake has hit. It's still in the test phase and only about 30 scientists have been hand-picked to receive the warnings. The project is headed by the U.S. Geological Survey based on computer code developed by the California Institute of Technology and University of California, Berkeley.

US scientists testing earthquake early warning

By Alicia Chang
Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — Elizabeth Cochran was sitting in her office when her computer suddenly sounded an alarm.

Beep. Beep. Beep.

A map of California on her screen lit up with a red dot, signaling an earthquake had struck. A clock next to the map counted down the seconds until shock waves fanning out from the epicenter north of Los Angeles reached her location in Pasadena: 5-4-3-2-1.

Right on cue, Cochran felt her chair quiver ever so slightly from a magnitude-4.2 that rumbled through Southern California on Sept. 1.

"If I hadn't known it was an earthquake, I would have thought it was a truck going by," she said.

After years of lagging behind Japan, Mexico and other quake-prone countries, the U.S. government has been quietly testing an earthquake early warning system in California since February. Cochran belongs to an exclusive club of scientists who receive a heads up every time the state shakes.

The alert system is still crude and messages are not yet broadcast to residents or businesses.

With more testing and funding, researchers hope to build a public warning system similar to the Japanese that has been credited with saving lives during the March 11 magnitude-9 disaster.

Since earthquakes are unpredictable, supporters of early warning say it's the next best thing to prepare people and the commercial sector before the ground rocks. Even a 5-second advance notice can be precious, they contend.

"You want to get under a sturdy table before things start falling off the wall," said University of California, Berkeley seismologist Richard Allen, a project participant. "We don't want people to start running out of buildings."

Early warning is designed to sense the first pulses of energy after a fault breaks and estimate the magnitude based on limited information. This is possible because of the different speeds at which seismic waves travel.

A sprawling web of underground sensors can detect the faster-moving and less damaging primary or "P" waves before the secondary "S" waves that can cause buildings to pancake. A warning is issued ahead of the arrival of the stronger waves.

How much warning — a few seconds to tens of seconds — depends on the distance from the epicenter. The farther away, the more lead time.

Project chief Doug Given of the U.S. Geological Survey ticked off actions that can be taken: Trains can be slowed or stopped. Air traffic controllers can halt takeoffs and landings. Power plants and factories can close valves. Schoolchildren can dive under their desks and cover their heads.

Early warning is useless at the quake's origin because the tremors radiate out almost simultaneously.

Japan invested in a public alert system after the deadly 1995 magnitude-6.9 Kobe earthquake. Development began in 2000. Seven years and $500 million later, Japan unveiled the world's first early warning network. Parts of Mexico, Taiwan and Turkey also have embraced early warning, but their systems are less sophisticated.

The Japanese got their big test in March when a massive quake hit off the northeast coast and spawned a tsunami. A public emergency announcement was sent out 8 seconds after sensors detected the first inkling of the quake, interrupting regular TV and radio programming, and buzzing cell phones.

Millions received 5 to 40 seconds of warning depending on how far they were from the epicenter. Tokyo — about 230 miles away — got about 10 to 30 seconds of notice before high-rises swayed. A dozen trains were stopped in their tracks without derailing.

There were glitches. Sensors underestimated the quake at a magnitude-8.1 when it was actually 22 times stronger. Because of the error, warnings were not sent to certain cities. The jolt was so violent that it knocked 55 seismic stations offline and there were no warnings sent for aftershocks for several hours.

Still, in a hearing before a House subcommittee a week after the disaster, USGS director Marcia McNutt told lawmakers the Japanese early warning system saved thousands of lives. McNutt also acknowledged the financial cloud surrounding the U.S. effort.

"Shame on us if we do not learn from their misfortune," she testified.

Since 2006, the U.S. has been testing three alert systems and launched a prototype internally known as "ShakeAlert" in February, a month before the Japan devastation. For now, messages are only blasted out to about 30 scientists at the USGS, California Institute of Technology and University of California, Berkeley, where they are working out software bugs on a shoestring budget.

Where possible, the U.S. has borrowed aspects of Japan's warning system. Researchers said it's not possible to just replicate it because of differences in the countries' seismic sensor networks.

"It's not perfect," said Berkeley's Allen of the U.S. effort. "Frankly, it's stuck together with duct tape, but it's operational."

The next steps are to partner with businesses to test the system in the real world later this year and work on a more robust network. The Southern California Earthquake Center, made up of 55 research institutions worldwide, has been chosen to independently rate how it's working.

Let the browser updates come and enjoy the ride

Dear PropellerHeads: I just received an iPad for my birthday and, well,.. I'm not sure what I'm supposed to do with it. Any ideas?

A: Just strut around looking cool. That is pretty much what I do. I mean, I don't really do anything other than waste a lot of time playing Angry Birds thinking most people looking upon me and my iPad must be really jealous.

When you first fire up an iPad, it looks strikingly like the iPhone, but with a much larger screen and no way to make a phone call. It comes with all the basic features: web browsing, email, contacts list, calendar, note taker, camera, music and video player, Google Maps and YouTube. What more could you possibly need?

In my mind: everything! I can do all of this already, and more, on my smartphone. So why the iPad? After playing with mine awhile (my wife would say I play with it too much), I've come to realize the iPad doesn't do anything a smartphone can't, but it does certain things better because of that much larger screen.

Ask the PropellerHeads

What can it do better? WRAP. Watch stuff, Read stuff, Amaze friends with stuff and Play stuff. OK, I admit it. I just came up with that one. You can shake my hand later.

I bet your next question is why not use a netbook or a laptop? Well, then you are just lugging around all that extra weight and heat. Yes, heat! You know how many times I nearly burned myself while using a laptop in bed? Those items just aren't as mobile as the iPad is, nor as sexy.

OK, so I may have convinced you the brand new iPad you are holding is actually worth something. Now let's get you started with some applications you can get by going to the App Store. And since I'm cheap, all of these will be perfectly free.

In the "watching stuff" category, if you have subscriptions to Netflix, HBO and ESPN, there are specific apps for those content providers which will allow you to view some of their content free on your iPad. For the rest of us, you might look into Crackle and SnagFilms. Crackle, like Netflix, has a limited selection of free movies you can stream. I found the quality to be low on the few I tried out. SnagFilms specializes in documentaries.

In the "reading stuff" category, you can get the e-reader that empowers iBooks and Kindle. Naturally, although the apps are free, you need to pay for the books you want to read. Comic books look absolutely gorgeous on an iPad. Marvel has a free app, but again you'll need to pay for the pleasure of an issue of X-Men. Use CNN to keep up with the news. The Daily gets rave reviews and it does have an amazing interface, but I found the content a little too tabloid for my tastes. Pulse is a good RSS reader.

Amazing your friends should be a lot easier just by the presence of an iPad. Friendly and Twitter provide free apps for Facebook and Twitter. TextNow sets you up with a phone number so you can both send and receive text messages on your iPad. Add in Skype and you basically just made your iPad into a really large iPhone. Dragon Dictation sounds like a really good idea, and it works really well for about the first 10 words, but then it starts speaking Engrish.

Of course, what better time-waster is there than playing games? Angry Birds certainly has caught all the attention lately and this comes in all sorts of editions, many for free. If you like to blow stuff up, I find Demolition Master thoroughly enjoying. Harbor Master makes you appreciate how tough that job must be. And for those with a more historical bent, look into Empire Story.

Install some of these and I can guarantee you'll find it hard to put that new iPad down. That's a wrap!

Send questions on business or consumer technology to questions@asktheapropellerheads.com; or Data Directions Inc., 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, Va. 23116. For more information visit www.asktheapropellerheads.com.

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