Texas Tech has hired a new football coach. Find out who on Page 1C

Midland Reporter-Telegram

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2012 mywesttexas.com Vol. 84, No. 277 Daily 75¢, Sunday $2

SHAC wants employee wellness program

Council suggests hiring full-time wellness coordinator for its 3,000 employees

By Meredith Moriak
mmoriak@mrt.com

Tackling teen drinking and promoting physical, mental and emotional wellness for Midland ISD's 3,000-plus employees are top priorities for the School Health Advisory Council this school year.

Council members discussed recommending the district hire a full-time employee wellness coordinator to create, market and implement a program for employees at Wednesday's regular meeting.

The majority of Texas school districts — MISD and its 29 peer-comparison districts included — don't provide employees with a wellness program, said Nancy Surber, MISD's director of athletics, physical education and health. Knowing many corporations with 3,000-plus employees offer incentive-based wellness programs, SHAC members said they would like to see MISD follow suit.

"If teachers improve their health, they'll be more productive in their jobs and model positive health for children. There's tons of research that shows active and healthier kids test better and get higher scores," Surber said. "I hope our district would value employees enough to do this."

In addition to helping overall morale, Surber said a wellness program likely would decrease the district's insurance costs. Surber said a Class 4A district near San Antonio reported a 16 percent reduction in insurance premiums and a 50 percent decrease in major medical claims in less than three years after implementing such a plan.

Though SHAC members cannot approve creating a new district position for employee wellness, they can recommend it to MISD Superintendent Ryder Warren and trustees, which they plan to do after additional research on the cost-saving benefits of creating this position.

Also at the meeting members discussed the need to start a conversation about teen alcohol and marijuana use with parents. Members hope to change the apparent societal norms that it's OK for teens to drink.

"We have kids in our high schools that are getting drunk and high every day of the week," said Karen Fullen, a SHAC and school board member.

In an effort to shame parents and students from providing minors with alcohol, Midland High School PTA President Lisa Beck said teen drug and alcohol abuse is discussed in some form at every PTA meeting.

"Some parents are well-seasoned and know it's happening and others are shocked, asking the question about where kids can get it," Beck said. "We tell (parents) if they leave town for the weekend and leave a teen here, they're stupid and they will get burned."

Please see **SHAC**/4A

A LITTLE BIT OF LUCK



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Elizabeth Talamantes holds her newborn baby, Eniyah Elizabeth Talamantes, who was born at 12:58 p.m. Wednesday in Midland, making her birthday 12-12-12.

Baby born on 12-12-12; one of several lucky births

By Joseph Basco
jbasco@mrt.com

A Midland family welcomed its newest member to the world on Dec. 12, 2012, or 12-12-12.

Eniyah Elizabeth Talamantes was born at 12:58 p.m. Wednesday at a healthy 7 pounds, 9 ounces. Midland Memorial Hospital reported as of 6:45 p.m. she was one of five babies born Wednesday with another mother still in labor.

The mother, Elizabeth Talamantes, said she is happy but a little sleepy from the operation. She held her baby and tried to put Eniyah to sleep in the afternoon as she herself felt tired from the delivery.

The father, Erazmo Talamantes, initially said he was speechless about the 12-12-12 delivery but then thanked God for baby Eniyah.

"It's God's plan for her to be born on this day," Erazmo said. "Everything happens for a reason."

Eniyah's aunt, Ofilia Fernandez, said her niece was born on the Day of the Virgin Mary, a day observed by Catholics.

"Her birthday is a full blessing," Fernandez said.

The family has had multiple lucky birthdays. Both Erazmo and Elizabeth will celebrate their golden birthdays on the same year, Eniyah's older brother, Jeremiah, was born Jan. 1, Erazmo's grandmother was born Christmas Day and Aunt Sonia Sanchez was born Nov. 11, or 11-11.

Luck also ran in Erazmo's life leading up to Eniyah's birth. He said he was working on County Road 1212 the day he found out his child's delivery date.

"Not only that, my mailbox number happens to be 1212," Erazmo said.

Grandmother Maria Guadalupe Sanchez said Eniyah is a little angel born on a special day, a day that may bring good luck.

"I hope she becomes famous one day," Sanchez said.

Fernandez said Eniyah's fame already has started on this century's final sequential date.

"She's making herself known," Fernandez said. "She'll be confident when she grows up, having already made a big impression."

What's a golden birthday?

A golden birthday is when a person turns the same age as their birthdate. For example, a person born on the fifth day of a month will have their golden birthday when they turn 5 years old. A person born on the 21st day of a month will have their golden birthday when they turn 21 years old.

From staff reports

What else happened on 12-12-12?

Birthday boy

Midlander Isaac Van Nice turned 12 on 12-12-12. And if it weren't for his grandmother, he might not have realized the special day.

Wedding bliss

A federal prosecutor in Pittsburgh made the most of the date by getting married at exactly 12:12 p.m. on 12-12-12.

Music to their ears

New Jersey hero Bruce Springsteen opened a benefit concert for victims of Superstorm Sandy that included other rock royalty.

Read more on Page 4A

UP trains blare horns in post-accident quiet zone

By Joseph Basco
jbasco@mrt.com

Midland residents living near the site of the Nov. 15 fatal train crash have heard train horns blaring in their neighborhood since that tragic day, preventing some residents from sleeping at night.

"Last Friday, I heard train horns at 3:25 a.m., 4:40 a.m. and 5:25 a.m.," said Steve Scisney, who lives on South K Street.

The tracks in this neighborhood, designated by the city of Midland as a "quiet zone," mandates restrictions on train horn honking, according to Gary Saunders, city of Midland transportation manager.

He said train conductors are not required to honk their horns if they see that there is no pedestrian or vehicular activity nearby an incoming intersection.

"But if there's no one around, no danger present and the horn is sounded, then I would ask questions," Saunders said.

Residents in this area said trains are sounding their horns all day and night, regardless of intersection activity.

Please see **HORNS**/4A

Holiday package shipments up from last year

By Joe Basco
jbasco@mrt.com

It's that time of the year when delivery businesses are ramping up their efforts to handle a heavier-than-usual load of packages through the Christmas holiday.

According to each company's website, Federal Express' busiest shipping day was Monday, the U.S. Postal Service's will be next Monday and United Parcel Services' will be Dec. 20.

Toby Kiker, owner of The UPS Store in Midland and Odessa, said the holiday shipping season, much like the holiday shopping season, begins the day after Thanksgiving.

"During this time, both stores together handle between 2,500-3,000 packages a week," Kiker said.

On Tuesday, both stores received between 400-500 packages. Kiker said the average daily amount is between 70-100.

But unlike the company's busy "day," Kiker said his stores will go through a busy "week" all next week.

FedEx, one of UPS' competitors, already went through its busiest shipping day of the year.

Scott Fiedler, spokesman for FedEx, said the company handled an all-time record of 19 million packages Monday, a

Please see **PACKAGES**/4A

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Gasoline	$3.221	▼ $0.004

The big number
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$209 million,
but so far it's going unused.
More on 1B.

Today in Local & State
Buffalo Trail Council picks new executive director. 1B

Coming Friday
Preview to the Miracle on Tyler Street event.

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For good and ill, Internet transforms adoption

Associated Press

NEW YORK — In the emotion-charged realm of adoption, the Internet has been a transformative force, often for good, sometimes for ill.

It has facilitated matches bringing neglected orphans into loving homes on the far side of the world and provides crucial advice and support for families at every challenging stage of the adoption process. Yet it also can be an effective tool for scammers and hucksters seeking to exploit birthmothers and would-be adoptive parents.

"I can't imagine an area more ripe for exploitation — people trying to form families or find a place for their unborn child," said Denise Bierly, president of the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys. "It's like Internet dating, except way more scary and dangerous."

Through two decades of widespread Internet use, there's been little rigorous research into its impact on adoption. A leading think tank, the Donaldson Adoption Institute, has launched a multiyear study to fill that void and is issuing a comprehensive report today outlining the profound changes that have unfolded.

Internet-based tools "are transforming adoption practices, challenging laws and policies, offering unprecedented opportunities and resources, and raising critical ethical, legal and procedural issues," the report notes.

On the plus side, the report notes that many websites and Internet-based tools — including the photo-listing of available children — have expedited adoptions of countless children. The Internet offers a vast array of information and training, and enables would-be adoptive parents to present themselves in online profiles to pregnant women considering adoption.

Vicki and Jed Taufer, of Morton, Ill., battled months of bureaucratic delays to adopt a girl from Nepal. They said they could scarcely imagine going through that trying experience in the pre-Internet age.

They were able to communicate regularly by Skype during the six months in 2010-11 when Vicki stayed with their daughter, Purnima, in Katmandu, waiting for the adoption to be authorized by U.S. authorities while Jed was working in Illinois. They used the Internet to build close friendships with other families struggling to complete adoptions from Nepal, and to raise funds to cover their ever-ballooning legal and logistical costs.



Associated Press

This May 2012 photo provided by studioU photography shows, from left, Jed and Vicki Taufer, of Morton, Ill., and their adopted 3-year-old daughter, Purnima, while the family was attending a wedding in Kona, Hawaii. The Taufers, who adopted Purnima from Nepal, found the Internet invaluable during the process. They were able to communicate regularly by Skype during the six months in 2010-11 when Vicki stayed with Purnima in Katmandu, waiting for authorization.

"We had to make some pretty big decisions over Skype," said Vicki. "It allowed us to stay connected as a family."

Another important consequence of the Internet: Finding birth relatives is becoming easier and more common thanks to online search capabilities, hastening the likely phase-out of "closed" adoption while broadening relationships between adoptive and birth families.

The report advises adoption professionals to revise their training regimens to reflect the reality that many affected parties will be able to find each other at some point, and to prepare them for such reunions, whether wanted or unwanted.

On the negative side, the report details how adoption scams — which predate the Internet — now take more sophisticated and wide-ranging forms through misuse of social media.

There have been several recent cases across multiple states where women claiming to be pregnant used the Internet to connect with couples yearning to adopt. In exchange for paying the woman's living expenses, couples were promised — falsely — that they would eventually be able to adopt the baby.

Scott Rowland, a prosecutor in Oklahoma, said one victim lost $30,000 while supporting what turned out to be a fictitious pregnancy.

"People need to be more educated, or there's a very real risk they can pulled into bad practices and scams," said Donaldson Institute executive director Adam Pertman. "We hope regulators, educators, law enforcement officials and child welfare organizations will look at this and say 'Enough already. We can't allow the Wild West.'"

The Donaldson report also warns that the Internet is accelerating a "commodification" of adoption, with would-be adoptive parents being viewed as commercial clients and less emphasis placed on the idea that adoption's primary purpose is finding families for children.

Far too often, says Pertman, the child's best interest is not the paramount factor as an adoption is arranged.

The report notes that ads for adoption services can crop up on websites amid ads for other commercial products, pitching the possibility of completing adoptions in a few months.

"Promising a quick, easy adoption raises serious questions about how that can be accomplished," Pertman said. "That's not how it works in most of the real world."

The Adoption Consultancy, based in Brandon, Fla., is among many Internet services which do promote the possibility — though not the guarantee — of quick adoptions. Its executive director, Nicole Witt, describes herself as a "wedding planner for adoptions" and says she's assisted in about 75 adoptions annually since founding the firm seven years ago, with fees that range up to $2,750.

"We help you through the process, quickly and safely, usually within three to 12 months," Witt's website says. "We connect you with adoption agencies and attorneys in states where birth parents cannot revoke their consent."

Witt says many of her clients have struggled for years in futile pursuit of treatment for infertility, and deserve help avoiding drawn-out adoption procedures. She says she counsels them that the ultimate goal is to find the best home for the baby being adopted, "and that may or may not be you."

The president of one of the largest U.S. adoption agencies, Bill Blacquiere of Bethany Christian Services, advises caution as people browse online for adoption services.

"An organization could have a very sophisticated website, but maybe isn't delivering on all the services they should be," he said. "You can promote yourself well, but that doesn't necessarily mean it's the highest quality organization."

Chuck Johnson, CEO of the National Council for Adoption, said that when he entered the field in the pre-Internet 1980s, local adoption agencies were the primary source of information.

"Now, you look at the Internet, maybe you use an out-of-state agency," he said. "You're conducting very personal affairs with someone, and your first and sometimes only connection with them is over the Internet."

That lack of personal connection, Johnson said, can increase vulnerability to exploitation.

"Almost every one of them knew they were doing something stupid," he said of his exchanges with scam victims. "They were just desperately trying to make the right decision."

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NEWSBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW YORK

Shhhh! A new law says TV ads can't blare anymore

TV viewing could soon sound a little calmer. The CALM Act, which limits the volume of TV commercials, goes into effect today.

CALM stands for Commercial Advertisement Loudness Mitigation. The act is designed to prevent TV commercials from blaring at louder volumes than the program content they accompany. The rules govern broadcasters as well as cable and satellite operators.

The rules are meant to protect viewers from excessively loud commercials.

The Federal Communications Commission adopted the rules a year ago, but gave the industry a one-year grace period to adopt them.

Suspected violations can be reported by the public to the FCC on its website.

OREGON

Police: Mall shooter used stolen rifle

PORTLAND — Gunfire rang out in the mall food court, instantly transforming a casual afternoon of holiday shopping into a nightmare. The shooter, armed with a rifle, was dressed in dark clothing and wore a hockey-style face mask.

As panicked shoppers fled for cover, workers ushered some into hiding places within stores, or helped them to the exits. The first officers to arrive formed groups and rushed into the chaos, rather than waiting for the more heavily armed SWAT team.

"If we would have run out, we would have ran right into it," said Kaelynn Keelin, who saw a window get shot out and, along with other Made In Oregon coworkers, pulled customers into the store for shelter.

The quick mobilization of mall workers and police reflects the reality that, while mass shootings are rare, they have forced authorities to rehearse for such outbreaks of violence as if they are the norm.

"This could have been much, much worse," Clackamas County Sheriff Craig Roberts said.

WASHINGTON

Senate intern, a sex offender, faces deportation

Sen. Robert Menendez employed as an unpaid intern in his Senate office an illegal immigrant who was a registered sex offender, now under arrest by immigration authorities, The Associated Press has learned. The Homeland Security Department instructed federal agents not to arrest him until after Election Day, a U.S. official involved in the case told the AP.

A Homeland Security spokesman, Peter Boogaard, said Wednesday that it was "categorically false" that the department delayed the arrest of Luis Abrahan Sanchez Zavaleta, 18, until after the election.

Sanchez, an immigrant from Peru, was arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents in front of his home in New Jersey on Dec. 6, two federal officials said. Sanchez, who entered the country on a now-expired visitor visa from Peru, is facing deportation and remains in custody. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss details of Sanchez's immigration case.

Boogaard said in a statement that ICE followed standard procedures working with local prosecutors before taking what he described as appropriate enforcement action.

SAN DIEGO

Marine who died in Iraq won't get Medal of Honor

The secretary of defense has denied a request to upgrade a fallen Marine's Navy Cross to the Medal of Honor, a San Diego congressman's office said Wednesday.

The Pentagon told Rep. Duncan Hunter it supports the decision of former Defense Secretary Robert Gates, who honored Sgt. Rafael Peralta with the Navy Cross instead of the military's highest honor.

Peralta was not conscious when his body smothered a grenade in Iraq in 2004, saving the lives of other Marines, Gates ruled in 2008.

The case was reopened this year after Hunter obtained a video of the battle action and a new forensics report. The lawmaker said the new evidence proved Peralta's actions were intentional.

LAS VEGAS

Colorado River seen as depleting regional resource

The federal government isn't going to tap the Missouri River to slake the thirst of a drought-parched Southwest, the government's top water official said Wednesday.

But rising demand and falling supply have water managers in the arid West considering a host of other options to deal with dire projections that the Colorado River — the main water supply for a region larger than the country of France — won't be able over the next 50 years to meet demands of a regional population now about 40 million and growing.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar issued what he termed "a call to action" with a three-year study of the river, its flows and its ability to meet the future needs of city-dwellers, Native Americans, businesses, ranchers and farmers in seven Western states.

"We are in a troubling trajectory in the Colorado River basin, as well as the Rio Grande basin," Salazar told reporters on a conference call outlining the math in the findings of the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study.

LONDON

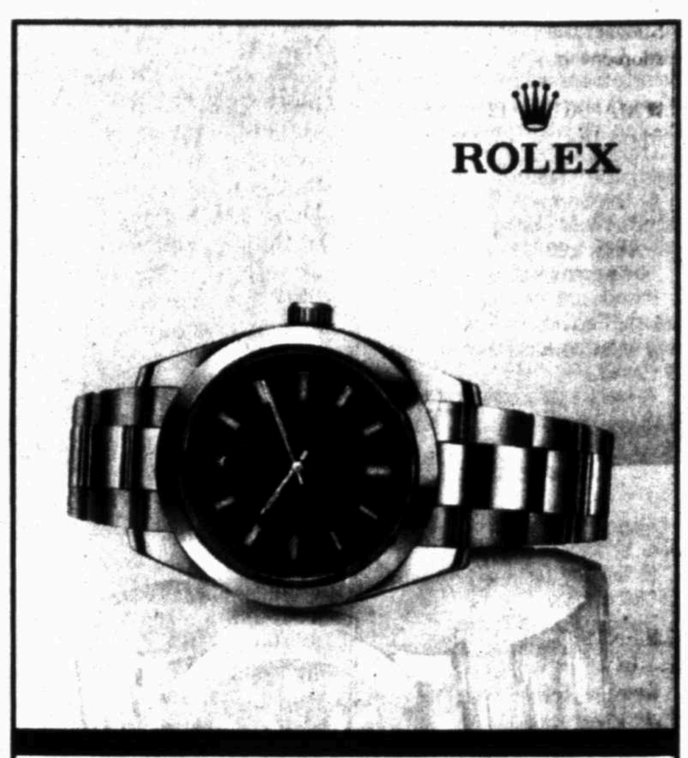
Cheese first made at least 7,500 years ago

Little Miss Muffet could have been separating her curds and whey 7,500 years ago, according to a new study that finds the earliest solid evidence of cheese-making.

Scientists performed a chemical analysis on fragments from 34 pottery sieves discovered in Poland to determine their purpose. Until now, experts weren't sure whether such sieves were used to make cheese, beer or honey.

Though there is no definitive test for cheese, Richard Evershed at the University of Bristol and colleagues found large amounts of fatty milk residue on the pottery shards compared to cooking or storage pots from the same sites. That suggests the sieves were specifically used to separate fat-rich curds from liquid whey in soured milk in a crude cheese-making process.

"It's a very compelling forensic argument that this was connected to cheese," Evershed said. "There aren't many other dairy processes where you would need to strain," he said. He and colleagues weren't sure what kind of milk was used, but said there were lots of cattle bones in the region. The study was published online Wednesday by the journal Nature.



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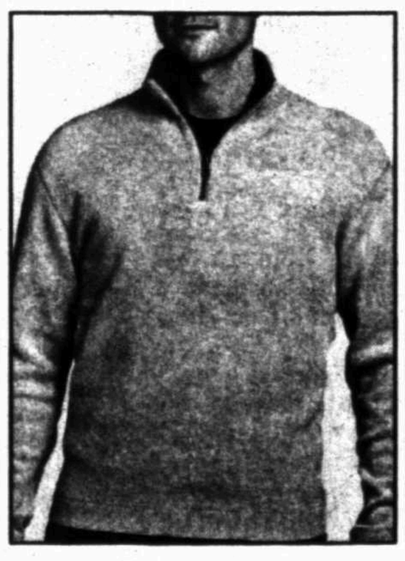
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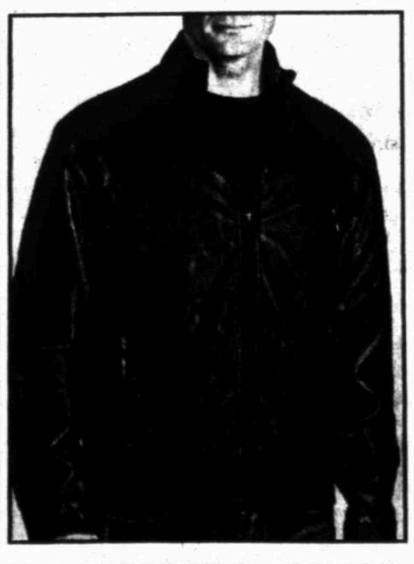
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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Thing to do

Bryan Adams: Bare Bones Tour: Solo and Acoustic at the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center. Read more in Pulse/Inside.

Community calendar

■ Registration for adult education classes at Casa de Amigos continues from 9-11 a.m. and 6-8:30 p.m. today at Casa de Amigos, 1101 E. Garden Lane.

There will be opportunities at the Learning Center at Casa de Amigos to get a GED diploma for free. There are morning and evening GED and ESL courses. There are also Skills 4 Life courses like Parent Connection, MoneySmart and Computer Skills. Casa de Amigos officials said learning to speak English and to communicate effectively can improve your quality of life in many ways.

Classes will begin Jan. 7. Pre-registration is required.

■ The George W. Bush Childhood Home monthly reading event is planned for 4:30-5:30 p.m. Dec. 20.

This month's featured book is "Priscilla and the Great Santa Search." Each child will receive a copy of the book. Refreshments will be served.

To make a reservation, call 685-1112.

New movies

Films opening and closing this week at Midland theaters:

■ **Tall City 14:**

Closed today: "Taken 2"

Opening Friday: "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey" in 2D, 3D and HFR 3D

Midnight showing today: "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey"

■ **Big Sky Drive-in:**

Closed today: "Skyfall" and "Wreck it Ralph"

Opening Friday: "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey"

Notice: Big Sky is showing "Monday Night Football" every Monday during the season for free on Screen 2.

ODESSA: Century 12 has been showing Christmas films on Wednesdays. "It's a Wonderful Life" will be shown at 2 and 7 p.m. Dec. 19.

See the Pulse entertainment and dining guide in this issue for movie and DVD reviews.

Support groups and club meetings

■ Chronic fatigue fibro-myalgia syndromes support group meets noon, Rays of Hope Grief Centre; 520-3500.

■ Permian Basin Community Service Organization (for individuals, organizations or businesses that provide services to improve quality of life), 11:45 a.m., Mi Piaci Italian Restaurant, 2607 N. Grandview Ave., Odessa; 432-210-4234.

■ TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), 6:30 p.m., Midland Senior Center, Midkiff Road and Illinois Avenue; weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m.; 694-8643 and 10 a.m., Christian Church of Midland, 2608 Neely; 694-8347.

■ Permian Basin Chess Club, 6 p.m., University of Texas of the Permian Basin student union; Steve Dudley, 556-1920; Brian Farrell, 288-7141; pbcc.50gigs.net; odessachess@cableone.net.

■ The Midland Blue Star Military Family, 7 p.m., Koinonia Room at First Presbyterian Church; Doc Weathers 631-7646 or docweathers@suddenlink.net.

Water worries

Based on limits set by the Colorado River Municipal Water District and the amount the city can take from the Paul Davis water fields, city officials expect water delivery to be limited to 18.5 million gallons. Using more than that figure consistently could result in the city halting outdoor watering.

Tuesday's total: 11,844,000 gallons (CRMWD 8,759,000, Paul Davis fields 3,085,000)

Dec. 4 total: 11,981,000 gallons

The average CRMWD delivery for November was 10,035,067. The current average for December is 9,848,000.

Sales tax numbers increase

The city of Midland reported a 12.34 percent increase in its December sales tax collection from the Texas Comptroller's Office.

The total revenue received — $2,988,914 — was a $329,323 increase from December 2011.

Year-to-date total sales tax revenue for fiscal year 2012-13 is up 15.20 percent or a $1,214,607 increase from last year's total ($9,204,866) at this time.

Sales tax revenue is generated by sales tax income from two months prior to collection.

Source: City of Midland

Reporter-Telegram on the radio

Editor Stewart Doreen discusses local news at 9:35 a.m. Thursdays on KWEL (AM 1070).

Lottery

Pick 3 day: 6-5-8
Pick 3 night: 2-6-1
Daily 4 day: 0-3-9-5
Daily 4 night: 9-1-2-2
Cash Five: 3-14-17-19-24
Lotto Texas: 2-9-15-18-21-22
Powerball: 8-10-25-36-44 PB: 28
All or Nothing (morning): 2-4-5-6-9-11-14-16-18-20-23-24
All or Nothing (day): 3-5-7-8-10-14-15-18-19-20-22-23
All or Nothing (evening): 4-5-6-7-8-10-15-16-17-19-20-23
All or Nothing (night): 1-2-4-5-6-8-12-13-14-15-18-22

Today in history

In 2003, Saddam Hussein was captured by U.S. forces while hiding in a hole under a farmhouse in Adwar, Iraq, near his hometown of Tikrit.

Midland boy celebrates 12th birthday on 12-12-12

By Audrie Palmer
apalmer@mrt.com

Wednesday may have been a typical birthday for Isaac Van Nice — except that he was turning 12.

The rare moment of being 12 on 12-12-12 might have slipped his mind had his grandmother, Constance Van Nice, not brought it up earlier this week when she heard about the date being discussed on television.

"It was just something random that happened," he said.

He went to school as normal and was congratulated by friends and family on his birthday. At 12:12 p.m., he said the whole class gathered around to take a photograph.

After school, his grandmother picked him up and took him out to get a celebratory birthday snow-cone on the way home.

"It's very rare that there are repeating numbers," she said about his birthdate. "I just think that is so cool."

The odd birthdays happen to run in his family. Van Nice's father has a birthday of Aug. 3, 1983, or 8-3-83, and his great-grandfather was born on March 23, 1923, or 3-23-23, said his grandmother.

She believes her grandson is just following along with the other rare birthdays in the family.

Van Nice will have a birthday party this weekend, although his grandmother thinks it would have been fun to have one on the rare date.

"It's too bad he couldn't have his party today," she said Wednesday. "This is the last time anyone is able to have a repeat of numbers in a birthday like that."

The last time for the next 100 years.

When Isaac was asked Wednesday if he'd like to see his next rare birthdate happen in 2112, the shy birthday boy said he wasn't sure.

"Not really," he said. "I don't know."



Associated Press

Federal Judge Donetta Ambrose, left, signals that there are five more minutes before she starts the wedding between Deputy U.S. Marshal Brian Allen, center, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Amy Johnson in federal court in Pittsburgh on Wednesday. Ambrose started their wedding at 12:12 p.m. at the couple's request, where they exchanged 12-word vows on 12-12-12.

Fed prosecutor married on 12-12-12 at 12:12 p.m.

By Joe Mandak
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — It'll be 100 years before another 12-12-12 date rolls around, so a federal prosecutor in Pittsburgh made the most of it.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Amy Johnson has announced her wedding on that date — Wednesday — to Deputy U.S. Marshal Brian Allen.

A federal judge married the couple at 12:12 p.m., and they exchanged 12-word vows: "Do you, Brian/Amy, take this woman/man to be your lawfully wedded wife/husband?"

Margaret Philbin, the spokeswoman for the prosecutor's office, got into the spirit with a news release Tuesday that contained sentences of 12 words each and — counting her first-name salutation of "Margaret" — also contains 12 lines.

The post-script on the release underscored the point: "Headline and sentences each contain 12 words to further attract your attention."

Duly noted.

Johnson, 34, said the couple had been planning a small ceremony in the courtroom of Senior U.S. District Judge Donetta Ambrose, attended by Allen's 16-year-old son, their infant son, and her mother, who was to watch over the baby.

But as friends learned of their numerically unique plans, the couple decided to spread the word — it's not every day that the U.S. attorney's office issues a news release announcing the nuptials of a staffer.

"We initially started this out as kind of being low-key," Johnson said. "But as word kind of filtered around, a lot of people started thinking it was interesting and intriguing that we chose this day. Prior to that, it was going to be a very small venture, but it's kind of spiraled into something."

Because both have friends and co-workers elsewhere in the federal courthouse downtown, the couple expected many last-minute guests to wander in on their lunch hour to witness the event.

The couple thought of the idea when Allen proposed last December, and Johnson said both realized, "This is really the last opportunity in our lifetimes that we'll have a chance to get married on a day when the month, day and year will all be the same."

The date has other perks, too.

"First and foremost, Brian will never have an excuse for not remembering our anniversary," Johnson quipped. "So that's a bonus."

12-12-12BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW YORK

Music royalty rocks city in Sandy benefit concert

NEW YORK — New Jersey shore hero Bruce Springsteen opened a benefit concert for victims of Superstorm Sandy on Wednesday by making a plea that what made his boyhood home special not be forgotten when it is rebuilt.

Music royalty from the Rolling Stones to Kanye West, including several artists with direct ties to the New York metropolitan area, gathered at Madison Square Garden for the concert.

Springsteen and his E Street Band began the show with a roar, singing "Land of Hope and Dreams" and "Wrecking Ball." He addressed the rebuilding process before his song "My City of Ruins." He noted that the song was written about the hard times suffered by Asbury Park, N.J., before a renaissance over the past decade.

He lauded the Jersey shore as an inclusive area, where the rich and the poor can find a place.

"I pray that that characteristic remains along the Jersey shore because that's what makes it special," Springsteen said.

The sold-out "12-12-12" concert was shown on 37 television stations in the United States and more than 200 others worldwide. It was streamed on 30 websites, including YouTube and Yahoo, and played on radio stations.

More than 2 billion people were expected to have access to the performance.

Proceeds from the show will be distributed through the Robin Hood Foundation. More than $30 million was raised through ticket sales alone.

BOSTON

Massachusetts baby born at 12:12 on 12-12-12

With a little help from her mother, Noelle Joy Klinker started life as a happy coincidence.

The newborn's parents welcomed her into the world at 12:12 p.m. on 12-12-12 after her mother was in labor for about 12 hours.

Weighing 9 pounds and one ounce, the 21.5-inch-long infant was born Wednesday at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston to parents Colleen and Joe Klinker.

Her proud papa, a 31-year-old Coast Guard lieutenant and public affairs officer, said the timing was mostly a coincidence. At 12:11 p.m., Colleen Klinker saved the final push until the clock ticked to a minute later.

Noelle's dad said her arrival was a special blessing after he and his wife lost a daughter Melody at childbirth last October.

NEBRASKA

Baby born on 12-12-12 at 12:12 p.m.

OMAHA — One newborn baby in Nebraska has come into the world with a little once-a-century good luck.

The Nebraska Medical Center said Robin Heaton of Fremont gave birth to her daughter, Zoey, by C-section on Wednesday. That happens to be the date of 12-12-12 on the calendar. Even more luck comes with the fact that Zoey's birth was clocked in at 12:12 p.m.

Officials posted a photo of the newborn on their Facebook page, which received hundreds of well wishes.

HORNS

From 1A

Nancy Maberry, a resident on West Kentucky Avenue, said her medical equipment puts her into deep sleep, so it is unusual for her to be woken up. She said the train horn is loud enough to do so.

"There are a lot of elderly people in this neighborhood," Maberry said. "This makes it hard for them to sleep."

Mary Trevino also lives on West Kentucky Avenue, which is four blocks away from the railroad tracks. She said the trains are traveling slower than usual, which she finds disrespectful.

The Union Pacific train that hit a Show of Support parade float Nov. 15 was traveling 62 mph at the time, according to a preliminary report by the National Transportation Safety Board. As a result of the accident, four military veterans died and 14 other people were injured.

"No trains were honking horns or going slow until after the accident," Trevino said. "It's too late now."

According to Union Pacific spokeswoman Raquel Espinoza, all trains that pass through the Garfield intersection have been slowing down to 15 mph and sounding their horns since the accident because of increased pedestrian activity and pending inspections.

Scisney said he understands Union Pacific is doing this to prevent further injuries to people, but questions why the horns are still sounded at night.

"The horns sound like the start of a NASCAR race," said Scisney, who said he is currently an assistant gasoline loader for the motorsport.

Espinoza said Union Pacific trains will follow quiet zone rules after signal tests are completed early next week.

"We appreciate everyone's patience," Espinoza said. "Everybody is ready for operations to go back to how they used to be."

According to a release by city spokeswoman Sara Higgins, the Union Pacific railroad crossing on Garfield Street between Industrial and Front streets — where the accident took place — will be closed starting at 9 a.m. Monday.

"All involved, including the public, are asked to take extra safety precautions as roadway traffic on Front Street and Industrial Avenue may still be open to the public," Higgins said in the release.

Kevin Glasheen, an attorney representing at least four of the victims from the accident, will be inspecting the signal system and train tracks that day, as reported last week in the Reporter-Telegram.

Saunders said he wasn't aware that Union Pacific was sounding their horns and slowing down in the quiet zone all day and night but does not plan to take action under one condition.

"I have no issues as long as quiet zone regulation resumes next week," Saunders said.

PACKAGES

From 1A

10 percent increase from last year.

By contrast, FedEx handled 9.8 million packages on the same day in 2005.

Fiedler said an increase in online shopping has attributed to the rise in FedEx's holiday shipping numbers.

"FedEx's busiest day was on the second Monday of December, known by online retailers as "Green Monday."

According to Internet analytics company comScore, online shoppers spent more than $1.1 billion during last year's Green Monday.

"Green Monday is a lucrative day for retail companies," Fiedler said.

To accommodate the rush of packages from online retailers, family and friends, shipping companies are hiring seasonal employees. FedEx had more than 300,000 employees to help out during Green Monday.

At the local UPS Store though, Kiker said he's trying to hire holiday help.

"It's harder to find holiday help this year," Kiker said. "The oil companies are taking all the people."

On a company-wide level, UPS will hire 55,000 seasonal employees, according to its website.

Despite the struggles Kiker has with hiring employees, he said UPS packages are guaranteed to be delivered by Christmas Eve if a person brings the items in by Dec. 19-21, depending on the type of delivery.

"The sooner, the better," Kiker said.

Critical dates

Shipping dates for Christmas Eve delivery

UPS

■ Dec. 19 for Three Day Select
■ Dec. 20 for Two Day Shipping
■ Dec. 21 for Next Day Air

FedEx

■ Dec. 13 for International Shipping
■ Dec. 17 for Ground Shipping
■ Dec. 22 for Express Shipping

Note: Shipping deadlines vary for military bases. Go to fedex.com to find the transit time for a specific military base.

USPS

■ Dec. 14 for Parcel Post
■ Dec. 20 for First-Class Mail
■ Dec. 21 for Priority Mail
■ Dec. 22 for Express Mail

From staff reports

SHAC

From 1A

"People need to stop thinking that it's OK for teens to drink just because we did," Beck said. "The penalties for our kids are huge. Gone are the days when (the police) just tell you to pour out your drink and call your mom."

SHAC members discussed using results from Midland County's 2012 Texas Prevention Impact Index survey, paid for annually by the Midland Coalition and administered by Research and Educational Services of Houston, to start a conversation with parents about alcohol use and community expectations.

According to survey results released in September, teens in Midland County first use alcohol at age 12 and marijuana at age 12.2. Of the students surveyed, only 42 percent had discussed alcohol use and 33 percent drug use with their parents during the 30-day period before taking the survey.

SHAC is a state-mandated health advisory committee responsible for ensuring local community values are reflected in the district's health education instruction. The council makes annual recommendations regarding coordinated school health programming.

State law requires every school district to have a SHAC where at least 51 percent of members are parents who are not employed by the school district. MISD's council is made up of school administrators, parents, health care professionals, business members, clergy and nonprofit health organizations.

MISD's council is always seeking additional members. Those interested in serving can email Chairman Mike Mills at mikemills@midlandisd.net. SHAC's next meeting will be at noon Jan. 23 at MISD's administration building.

Sides aren't budging as 'fiscal cliff' talks appear stalled

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans aren't budging on tax rates, and Democrats are resisting steps like raising the eligibility age for Medicare. Negotiations on averting a year-end fiscal train wreck combining big automatic tax hikes and sweeping spending cuts again appear stalled.

There are less than three weeks before the government could careen off this "fiscal cliff," but the chief GOP negotiator, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said Wednesday that "serious differences" remain between him and President Barack Obama after an exchange of offers and a pair of conversations this week.

Boehner spoke after a closed-door meeting with fellow GOP lawmakers in which he advised them not to make plans for the week after Christmas.

Neither side has given much ground, and his exchange of proposals with Obama seemed to generate hard feelings more than progress. The White House has slightly reduced its demands on taxes — from $1.6 trillion over a decade to $1.4 trillion — but isn't yielding on demands that rates rise for wealthier earners.

Boehner responded with an offer very much like one he gave the White House more than a week ago that offered $800 billion in new revenue, half of Obama's demand. Boehner is also pressing for an increase in the Medicare eligibility age and a stingier cost-of-living adjustment for Social Security recipients.

Boehner spokesman Michael Steel said the two men did not have any follow-up talks Wednesday.

"There were some offers that were exchanged back and forth yesterday, and the president and I had a pretty frank conversation about just how far apart we are," Boehner said after his meeting with fellow Republican lawmakers. "He said it's looking like trench warfare," said Rep. John J. Duncan Jr., R-Tenn., referring to Boehner.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke weighed in, as well. He said, "Clearly, the fiscal cliff is having effects on the economy," the uncertainty affecting consumer and business confidence and leading businesses to cut back on investment.

There is increasing concern about a Dec. 31 deadline to stop the expiration of Bush-era tax cuts and the start of across-the-board spending cuts that are the result of Washington's failure to complete a deficit-reduction deal last year. Even if an agreement can be reached, the halting pace of negotiations is jeopardizing chances that it could be written into proper legislative form and passed through both House and Senate before the new Congress convenes on Jan. 3.

Both sides accuse the other of slow-walking the talks. Democrats say Boehner is unwilling to crack on the key issue of raising tax rates on family income over $250,000 because he's afraid of a revolt on his right flank and from younger, ambitious members of his leadership team.

"I do have an increasing concern that the speaker ... is trying to string this out until January 3rd because that's when he would be re-elected as speaker," Rep. Chris Van Hollen, of Maryland, ranking Democrat on the House Budget Committee, told The Associated Press. "And I think he's nervous that if he can't get a majority of his House Republican members to support a reasonable agreement that that could put his speakership election in jeopardy. And so that might cause him to try and string these talks."

Many conservatives say they would oppose a deficit-cutting package negotiated by Boehner that included higher tax rates.

"I'll say no, because the focus has got to be on economic growth," said Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio. "The simple fact is raising taxes is not going to grow our economy."

Others wouldn't rule it out completely.

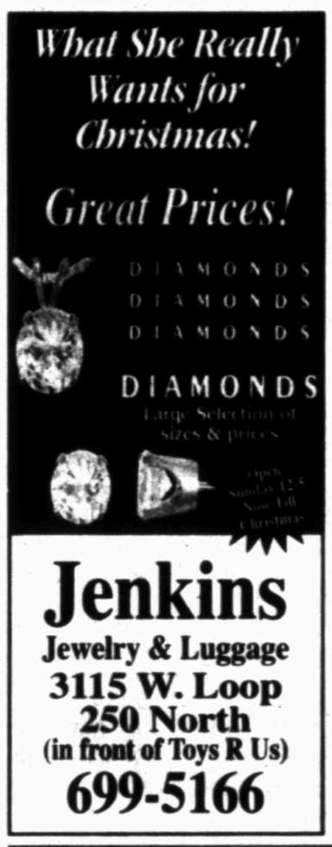
"If there's real cuts in spending, if there's real reform of entitlement programs, I think all of us would have to reconsider our position," Rep. Raul Labrador, R-Idaho, said Wednesday. "But the problem is, I don't see real cuts, real cuts. I'm not saying yes, and I'm not saying no."

Where the wealthiest live

President Barack Obama says tax cuts should expire on single tax filers making more than $200,000 and couples earning more than $250,000 a year. Percentage of households with earnings of $200,000 or more by state:

D.C.	10%	North Carolina	2.7%
Connecticut	7.8	Louisiana	2.5
New Jersey	7.8	Michigan	2.5
Maryland	7.0	North Dakota	2.5
Massachusetts	6.5	Wisconsin	2.4
New York	6.1	Tennessee	2.4
Virginia	6.1	Vermont	2.4
California	5.9	Missouri	2.4
Alaska	4.6	Wyoming	2.3
Hawaii	4.5	Ohio	2.3
Illinois	4.5	New Mexico	2.3
New Hampshire	4.2	Nebraska	2.3
Colorado	4.1	Oklahoma	2.2
Delaware	4.0	South Dakota	2.2
Rhode Island	3.9	Iowa	2.2
Washington	3.9	South Carolina	2.2
Texas	3.8	Alabama	2.1
Minnesota	3.7	Maine	2.0
Pennsylvania	3.5	Indiana	1.9
Georgia	3.4	Kentucky	1.9
Florida	3.1	Idaho	1.8
Arizona	3.0	Arkansas	1.8
Utah	3.0	West Virginia	1.7
Kansas	2.9	Montana	1.7
Nevada	2.8	Mississippi	1.7
Oregon	2.8		

SOURCE: Census Bureau AP





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OPINION

Why America approaches the 'fiscal cliff'

■ There are, contrary to popular belief, reasons for sides to hold their ground on the battle being waged in Washington.



GEORGE WILL
Washington Post Writers Group

If you have worked hard for five decades, made pots of money and now want to squander it all in Las Vegas on wine, women and baccarat, go ahead. If, however, you harbor the anti-social desire — stigmatized as such by America's judgmental tax code — to bequeath your wealth to your children, this would be an excellent month to die. Absent a congressional fix before Jan. 1, the death tax, which is 35 percent on estates above $5 million, reverts to 55 percent on those above $1 million.

This is one of many tax changes that could be triggered. The Hoover Institution's Tammy M. Frisby, writing in Policy Review, says that — not counting temporary disaster relief tax breaks — 31, 56 and 37 provisions of the tax code expired in 2010, 2011 and 2012, respectively. "The country," she says, "is trying to create sustained economic growth using temporary tax laws." It is not working.

Unless Congress quickly reaffirms its follies, this month the tax credit that subsidizes wind power — a long-standing adventure in industrial policy — expires. This is not quite a sufficient reason to go over the "fiscal cliff" but would be a consolation for doing so.

The cliff, an action-forcing mechanism, could cause a potentially constructive chaos of questioning. Is it wise to increase taxes as student debt passes the $1 trillion mark, dampening graduates' powers as consumers? Two-thirds of them have mini-mortgages (average debt, $27,000). Is it wise to increase the top tax rates, which are paid by small businesses with more than half of small business income, just as the Obamacare tax (called a mandate until Chief Justice John Roberts' clarification) produces many "49ers"? Those are businesses that stay below the 50-employee threshold for providing insurance, or reduce full-time employees to part-timers. A defense sequester might raise questions about who — Denmark? Poland? — our 54,000 troops in Germany are protecting Germans against.

Washington, with its (at most) one-track mind, is fixated on the "Bush tax rates" but cannot even accurately describe its monomania. It actually is the Bush-*Obama* rates. Two years ago, when the economy was, as now, sputtering along barely above stall speed, Obama — joined by 43 Senate and 139 House Democrats — extended the rates for two years because the economy was too weak to absorb large tax increases.

That was then. This is now:

When Sen. Richard Durbin said "Social Security has not added one penny to the deficit," Charles P. Blahous III, a member of the Social Security board of trustees, wrote to The Washington Post to say that in 2012 this program will add $165 billion because benefit expenditures exceed Social Security tax revenues by that amount and "this gap is filled entirely by revenue that the federal government borrows." The fact that the second-ranking Senate Democrat is off by 16,500,000,000,000 pennies reveals the sort of precise thinking that got the country into its current condition and that supposedly will produce a cure. It is enough to make you want to hop in your Fisker and drive off a fiscal cliff.

You should know Fisker because you have helped to finance the Anaheim, Calif., company that makes — well, has made a few — electric cars. Its only model, the Karma — really; Obama administration green investments are beyond satire — costs $110,000. Your subsidy helped Justin Bieber, the fabulously rich Canadian adolescent (he sings), buy one. No one ever said saving the planet one electric car at a time would be easy.

The Wall Street Journal reports that in spite of Fisker's $192 million in Energy Department loans, the Karma "has been hobbled by recalls and quality problems" and Fisker has sacked half its employees. But perhaps Fisker's biggest problem is that its source of batteries, A123 Systems, has gone bankrupt in spite of its $249 million Energy Department grant. The administration that in the fiscal cliff drama is demanding control of much more of the nation's wealth is the author of many Solyndra-style debacles.

American politics has generally been about allocating abundance, not scarcity.

It has, however, occasionally confronted issues not susceptible to compromise — e.g., expansion of slavery into the territories. The fiscal cliff argument is about splittable differences — this or that tax rate or entitlement rule — but also about the proper scope and actual competence of government. This necessary argument should not be truncated until the cliff is even closer.

OUR VIEW

Post graduation readiness depends on diversification

You can bet that funding for education will be a hot topic in the upcoming Texas legislative session, but we hope the way we educate our children also gets a good hearing.

Certainly, there is movement underway to present legislation that will focus on school accountability with increased emphasis on post-secondary readiness.

We have longed for such ideas to reach the ears of our lawmakers and education standard bearers. We have long asked for a greater diversification in the students' pathway to graduation and how they should be equipped to face the challenges beyond high school whether it be the job market or the Texas workforce.

A group of educators and business leaders have formed the Texas Coalition for a Competitive Workforce and will be challenging the legislators in Austin with new reforms that will ask for accountability standards, less testing and expanded post-secondary readiness.

Andrew Erben, president of the Texas Institute for Education Reform, says, "We've seen that holding schools accountable works, but there remains considerable flexibility beyond the 4x4 requirements for additional credits in applied courses, technical courses or community colleges."

Erben said the state-mandated testing system needs to stay in place, but a different focus should be brought to the table in regards to testing. He said there could be as few as five end-of-course exams required for graduation.

The key to these intriguing reforms to the 2009 House Bill 3 is that local school districts will make the decisions on how to implement the programs they select.

Of course, we haven't seen the legislation and we are a long way from seeing any finished version, but we hope these ideas get a firm hearing. We hope good legislation can come from the proposals at hand.

Whatever way we choose to guide our children's educational path, we want them well-equipped for the future they face. We want to see the day when all our students graduate from high school ready for the workplace or ready for higher education without the need for remediation.

A one-way path to a diploma for all students simply isn't a viable alternative in today's society. We need to move away from a one-size-fits-all approach to a diversified pathway that still requires the basic fundamentals of science, math and reading skills.

Certainly, our business community could benefit from — and contribute to — a system where those not wanting to go to college be better prepared to join the workforce.

The new reforms are not meant to strip away the gains we have made in state education, but to enhance the potential of the gains we have made. We think this is a good approach, one that should be given a serious look by our legislature.

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

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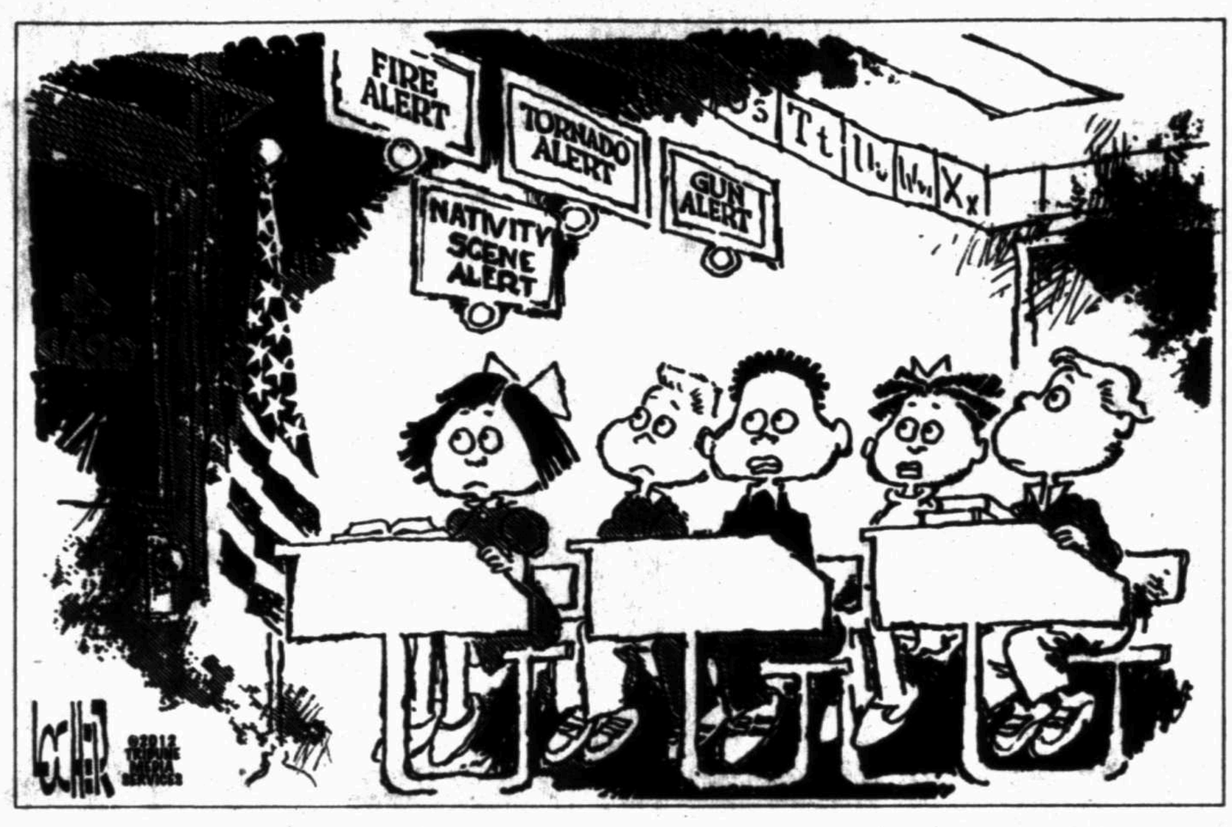
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Republicans, immigrants are calling

■ Democrats are acting like hypocrites, and Republicans could benefit with meaningful dialogue.



ESTHER CEPEDA
Washington Post Writers Group

Based on the post-election coverage of the immigration issue, you'd think that Republicans have no reason to believe they can ever get Latino voters to pay attention to them.

As the prevailing narrative goes, the GOP will soon be extinct since President Obama has promised yet again to lead Hispanics to long-awaited comprehensive immigration reform.

The view from the president's hometown is slightly different, however. In the last few days, several of Chicago's Hispanic leaders have publicly criticized Obama for again being all talk and no action on immigration.

Last Friday, despite a Los Angeles Times article citing unnamed White House sources predicting an immigration push in mid-January, Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Ill., told The Hill newspaper that the president has gone AWOL when it comes to immigration reform discussions.

"When senators from both parties and members of the House are talking, when you have the Senate majority leader and (House) Speaker (John) Boehner both saying that this is an important priority, who's the one missing? The president," said Gutierrez. With no election-year party unity restraining him, look to Gutierrez to become one of Obama's loudest critics should the president even appear to slack on his campaign promise.

Gutierrez isn't the only one wondering why raids on homes and workplaces by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and continued deportations of undocumented workers — the tally for 2012 stood at 366,292 through Aug. 25 — rarely merit news coverage amid all the stories of how the president and the Democrats are immigrants' true allies.

Even faith leaders are showing disbelief in the president's ability to deliver what he promised. Last week a coalition of them told reporters at a news conference that Obama has 92 days after the inauguration to introduce a reform plan.

The Rev. Jose Landaverde, a Chicago-based priest and immigration-reform activist, laughed that notion off when I spoke with him. Landaverde, who heads Our Lady of Guadalupe Anglican Catholic Church in Little Village, the city's largest enclave of Mexican immigrants, spent last week sending out impassioned press releases criticizing the president for letting ICE unleash "a post-election surge of raids to randomly pick up undocumented workers" even as Obama promises Latinos relief from family separation.

"The president lies to us. These raids go against his call for prosecutorial discretion for immigrants with no criminal records, but every week I have families whose members are picked up and sent away to detention centers where no one can find them," Landaverde said. "That certainly was not the mandate he received in the recent election. That's not what he promised."

Living at ground zero of the strife that the current immigration laws breed, Landaverde said he's fed up with Obama's double-talk — some of which is well-received in the Latino community because it's delivered in Spanish. Plus, he said, he is sick of the Democrats' continued assurances that their party is the true champion of immigrants and tired of the "empty promises" from large immigrant advocacy organizations such as the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights or the National Council of La Raza. Landaverde says such groups are actually more focused on amassing their own political power than on the people who stand to benefit from real reform.

The priest said it's time to send a message to the people he thinks could make the most difference in this impasse: Republicans.

Echoing others who have called on the GOP to open a meaningful dialogue with Latino voters through grass-roots community outreach, Landaverde said, "I want the Republicans to come talk to the real people who are affected daily by this lack of reform. Forget the Democrats, forget the big advocacy groups — let them come talk to the leaders at the churches and the neighborhood coalitions and the people in the community.

"I can't guarantee that if a reform passes with Republican help that Latinos will automatically vote for them, but if anyone really wants to cut through the hypocrisy of the Democrats who speak to us in our language but never seem to get anything done, come talk to us. We will listen to anyone who is willing to talk about answering a plea for human dignity."

The GOP really should take Landaverde's advice and consider now the ideal moment to lead a revival of compassionate conservatism.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Census: Whites will no longer be a majority in US by 2043

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — White people will no longer make up a majority of Americans by 2043, according to new census projections. That's part of a historic shift that already is reshaping the nation's schools, workforce and electorate, and is redefining long-held notions of race.

The official projection, released Wednesday by the Census Bureau, now places the tipping point for the white majority a year later than previous estimates, which were made before the impact of the recent economic downturn was fully known.

America continues to grow and become more diverse due to higher birth rates among minorities, particularly for Hispanics who entered the U.S. at the height of the immigration boom in the 1990s and early 2000s. Since the mid-2000 housing bust, however, the arrival of millions of new immigrants from Mexico and other nations has slowed from its once-torrid pace.

The country's changing demographic mosaic has stark political implications, shown clearly in last month's election that gave President Barack Obama a second term — in no small part due to his support from 78 percent of non-white voters.

There are social and economic ramifications, as well. Longstanding fights over civil rights and racial equality are going in new directions, promising to reshape race relations and common notions of being a "minority." White plaintiffs now before the Supreme Court argue that special protections for racial and ethnic minorities dating back to the 1960s may no longer be needed, from affirmative action in college admissions to the Voting Rights Act, designed for states with a history of disenfranchising blacks.

Residential segregation has eased and intermarriage for first- and second-generation Hispanics and Asians is on the rise, blurring racial and ethnic lines and lifting the numbers of people who identify as multiracial. Unpublished 2010 census data show that millions of people shunned standard race categories such as black or white on government forms, opting to write in their own cultural or individual identities.

By 2060, multiracial people are projected to more than triple, from 7.5 million to 26.7 million — rising even faster and rendering notions of race labels increasingly irrelevant, experts say, if lingering stigma over being mixed-race can fully fade.

The non-Hispanic white population, now at 197.8 million, is projected to peak at 200 million in 2024, before entering a steady decline in absolute numbers as the massive baby boomer generation enters its golden years. Four years after that, racial and ethnic minorities will become a majority among adults 18-29 and wield an even greater impact on the "youth vote" in presidential elections, census projects.

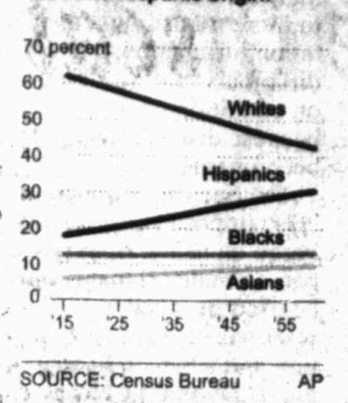
"The fast-growing demographic today is now the children of immigrants," said Marcelo Suarez-Orozco, a global expert on immigration and dean of UCLA's Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, describing the rate of minority growth in the U.S. as dipping from "overdrive" to "drive." Even with slowing immigration, Suarez-Orozco says, the "die has been cast" for strong minority growth from births.

As recently as 1960, whites made up 85 percent of the U.S., but that share has steadily dropped after a 1965 overhaul of U.S. immigration laws opened doors to waves of new immigrants from Mexico, Latin America and Asia. By 2000, the percentage of U.S. whites had slid to 69 percent; it now stands at nearly 64 percent.

"Moving forward, the U.S. will become the first major post-industrial society in the world where minorities will be the majority," Suarez-Orozco said.

Projections

White people will no longer make up a majority of Americans by 2043. Projected population by race and hispanic origin:



SOURCE: Census Bureau AP

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UN Security Council condemns NKorea rocket launch

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The U.N. Security Council condemned North Korea's successful rocket launch on Wednesday and said it will urgently consider "an appropriate response."

Whether that response includes new sanctions against the North, which the United States and its European allies are seeking, depends first and foremost on China, the North's closest ally which has not made its position clear.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei cautioned Wednesday in Beijing that the council's response should be "prudent and moderate and conducive to maintaining stability and avoiding escalation of the situation."

The Security Council said in a brief statement after closed consultations that the launch violated council resolutions adopted after North Korea's nuclear tests in 2006 and 2009 and a ban on "any launch using ballistic missile technology."

The U.N.'s most powerful body recalled that after the North's failed launch in April it demanded that Pyongyang halt any further launches using ballistic missile technology and expressed its determination to take action in the event of another launch.

"Members of the Security Council will continue consultation on an appropriate response ... given the urgency of the matter," the council statement said.

The successful rocket launch is widely seen as a test that takes North Korea one step closer to being capable of sending a nuclear-tipped warhead as far as California. North Korea officials say the rocket is meant to send a satellite into orbit to study crops and weather patterns, and Pyongyang maintains its right to develop a civilian space program.

U.S. Ambassador Susan Rice said that no matter how the North Koreans choose to describe the launch it violates two council resolutions and shows that the country "is determined to pursue its ballistic missile program without regard for its international obligations."

The Security Council has imposed two rounds of sanctions against the North, following each of its nuclear tests in 2006 and 2009.

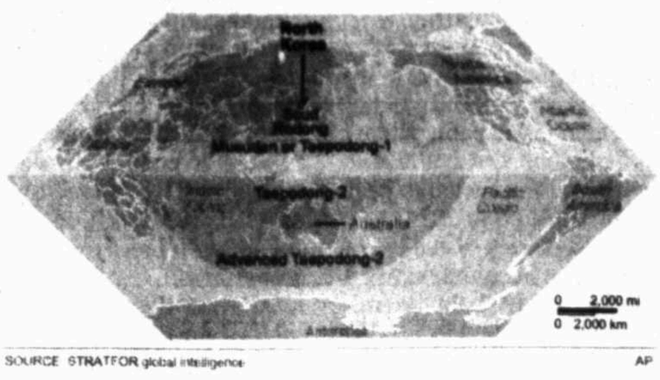
Council diplomats have speculated that existing sanctions could be widened to include financial measures and additional companies and individuals in North Korea. The council could also consider measures that would lead to more robust implementation of sanctions, the diplomats said, speaking on condition of anonymity because discussions have been private.

The Security Council in 2006 imposed an arms embargo on heavy weapons, a ban on material that could be used in missiles or weapons of mass destruction and a ban on luxury goods favored by North Korea's ruling elite. It also ordered an asset freeze and travel ban on companies and individuals involved in the North's nuclear and weapons programs.

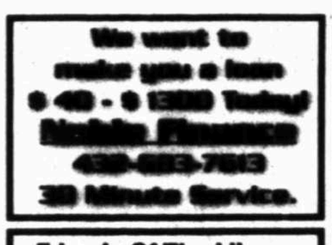
In 2009, the council toughened the arms embargo and authorized searches of North Korean cargo at airports, seaports, on land and on the high seas if there are "reasonable grounds" to believe that the shipment contains banned arms or weapons or the material to make them. It calls on all countries to prevent financial institutions or individuals in their countries from providing financing or resources that could contribute to North Korea's weapons-of-mass-destruction and missile programs — but it does not require that they do so.

The missile arsenal reach of North Korea

North Korea successfully fired a long-range rocket, defying international warnings. A look at some of North Korean missiles and their potential ranges:

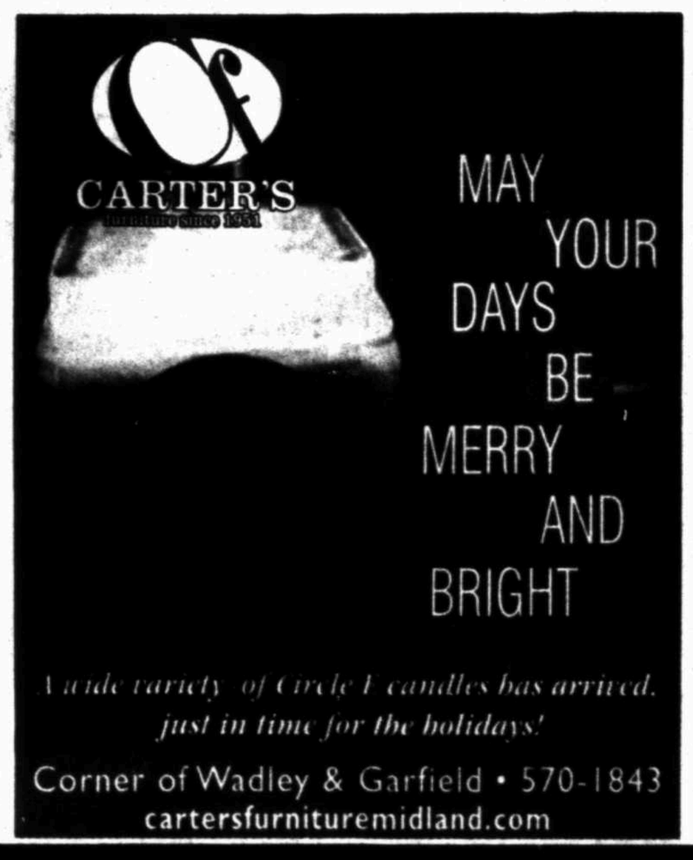


SOURCE: STRATFOR global intelligence AP











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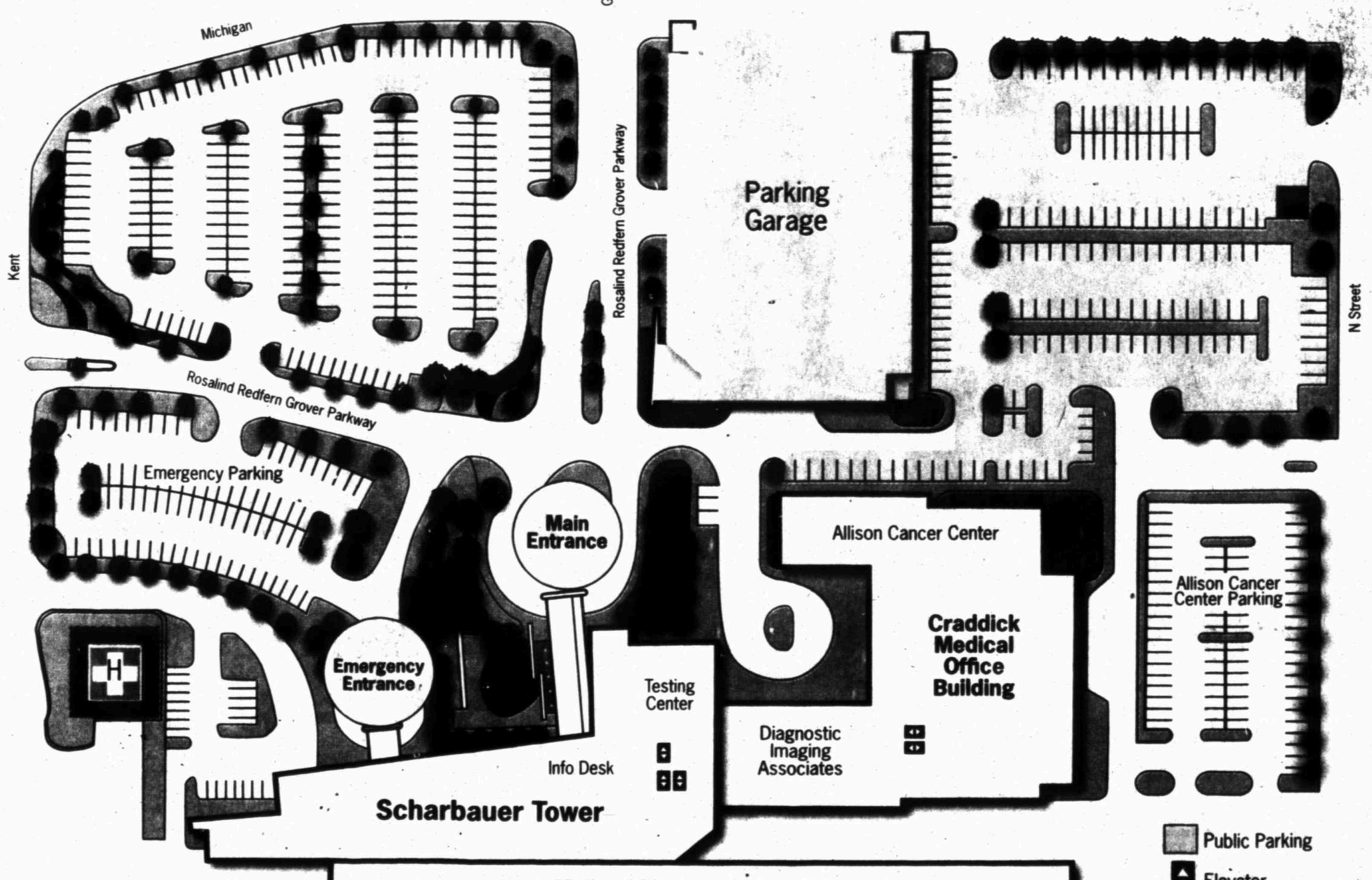
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Scouts name new executive director

David Chapman, of Virginia, will oversee the Buffalo Trail Council

By Tyler White
twhite@mrt.com

A selection committee with the Buffalo Trail Council has selected a new executive director to oversee all major functions for the region's Boy Scouts organization.

David Chapman, 49, of Newport News, Va., received the position at about 2:30 p.m. Wednesday after the BTC's selection committee interviewed him and three other candidates from Piedmont, Calif.; Wichita, Kan.; and the Boy Scouts of America's national office in Irving.

The executive director position drives the major initiatives and programs for the organization, which covers 18 counties in the West Texas region.

Chapman, a northeast Texas native, has worked with the Boy Scouts for 22 years. He has worked a number of positions within the BSA in Tulsa, Okla., as well as a number of councils in Texas, including San Angelo, Waco and Sherman. He currently works as the chief operating officer for the Colonial Virginia Council, which covers 13 counties across Virginia.

West Texas culture is what drew Chapman to this position. He said it aligns with the beliefs of the BSA. Familiar with the area, he hopes to see a growth in programs that allows for the area to continue to boom.

"The folks in West Texas are our greatest asset," he said.

Chapman is married with two grown sons, Justin and Hunter, with the latter being an Eagle Scout. He and his wife are looking to move to West Texas before Jan. 15.

The Buffalo Trail Council's previous executive director, Lyman Gifford, left the position at the end of August to fill a position in Alaska, said Valerie Acosta, development director for the council.

Charlie Spence, chairman of the council's selection committee, said the Buffalo Trail Council was looking for someone who has demonstrated great growth in building programs in other Scout organizations and has great communication skills. The right candidate also has a knack for community relations and extensive experience in handling fundraisers, he said.

Spence said while all of the candidates were exceptional, Chapman really exemplified what they were looking for in an executive director.

"We're just thrilled to have David on board," He said. "He just seemed to fit what our needs were at the Buffalo Trail Council."

Spence said the group has seen a lot of growth over the past few years. Dave Bauer, area director for the Buffalo Trail Council, said the group had an 11 percent growth in traditional programs from November 2011 to November 2012.

West Texas has a lot going for it lately, with the area being the second- or third-most desired designation for

Please see **SCOUTS/4B**

PARADE OF CHAMPIONS





ABOVE: Children collect candy thrown by the Midland Christian football team during a parade and pep rally Wednesday celebrating the state championship football win. **LEFT:** Players enter the pep rally.

Photos by James Durbin
Reporter-Telegram

Perry appoints Craddick to Railroad Commission

From staff and wire reports



Craddick

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry has appointed Christi Craddick to the Texas Railroad Commission, giving her a two-week head start on a post she was elected to in November.

Perry said Wednesday that effective Dec. 17, Craddick will fill the vacancy created by Commissioner Buddy Garcia's resignation. She will be sworn

Please see **CRADDICK/3B**

Business group pushes changes to STAAR tests

By Will Weissert
Associated Press

AUSTIN — A top business group called Wednesday for easing Texas' tough new high school graduation standards amid widespread outcry over the set of standardized tests known as STAAR.

The Texas Association of Business said it wants the state Legislature to scrap STAAR exams in world geography and world history now required for graduation. It also recommended giving schools more leeway in deciding how much the test results will count toward students' final grades and a three-year transition period to give current students a reprieve from STAAR's full consequences.

The association, one of the most-influential groups of its kind statewide, had been a vocal supporter of the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness, or STAAR, which students began taking last school year. STAAR replaced a different standardized test called TAKS.

Association President Bill Hammond has long said tougher academic standards are the only way to prepare the state's workforce for the more-demanding jobs of the future. Asked Wednesday if he was retreating from that position, Hammond said "some can view it that way."

"I think it is a modification that gets us to where we need to be," he told a news conference at the State Capitol.

Hammond added that the 2009 law that raised graduation requirements and created STAAR "quite honestly overdid it a little bit."

Please see **STARR/3B**

LOREN STEFFY
Houston Chronicle



Despite gas drop below $3, it's been a costly year

Pump prices may finally be coming down, but the modest declines cap a year that has been the costliest ever for U.S. motorists. GasBuddy, which tracks pump prices, found recently that the average price for regular unleaded nationally was $3.63 a gallon so far this year, and that comes on top of an average of $3.51 last year, which was also a record.

(Tuesday, the average price in Houston was $3.15 a gallon, according to AAA.)

Now, on the one hand, this shouldn't surprise us.

The average price for a barrel of crude oil has increased about 23 percent, to $85.79 from $69.51, in the past three years.

More surprising is that oil and gasoline prices have been rising in tandem with increases in domestic production. This wasn't supposed to happen. We are greeted almost weekly, after all, by some new prediction that the U.S. or North America is on the cusp of "energy independence."

On Tuesday, for example, Exxon

Please see **STEFFY/3B**

Virgin Galactic future at Spaceport America uncertain

By Jeri Clausing
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The deal was sold to New Mexicans in classic Richard Branson fashion. If taxpayers would build the colorful British businessman a $209 million futuristic spaceport, he would make New Mexico the launching point for a space tourism business catering to the rich and famous.

Now, with Spaceport America nearly complete but still mostly empty, a Virgin Galactic official said the company will reassess its agreement if lawmakers don't pass liability exemption laws for its suppliers, raising the possibility it could take its spacecraft elsewhere.

And state officials acknowledge the company — which has yet to post a deposit for what is supposed to be a $1 million-a-year lease — could walk away from the quarter-billion-dollar project.

"They really could, if they are not committed. I would hope that they are and I think that they are," Spaceport America Executive Director Christine Anderson said.

Asked if she thought the state failed to properly protect itself in the deal, she said the agreement negotiated under former Gov. Bill Richardson and approved by lawmakers in 2005 was for the state to build the spaceport and Virgin Galactic to develop the spacecraft.

"It's easy to second guess what was in people's minds," she said. "I'm sure everybody was excited to have Virgin Galactic as an anchor tenant."

Paul Gessing, president of the conservative Rio Grande Foundation, said the lack of protections for the state was not surprising, "given the Richardson administration's record of throwing money at 'development' of these big vision projects" like the spaceport and a $400 million commuter train.

Richardson's spokeswoman did not respond to an email seeking comment.

Other states, including Texas and Florida, are also developing spaceports and aggressively courting commercial space businesses with incentives. Most of them are revamping old airports or other facilities. New Mexico's is unique because it is the first to be developed from scratch.

With an elegant and futuristic design, the spaceport is intended to become an attraction unto itself.

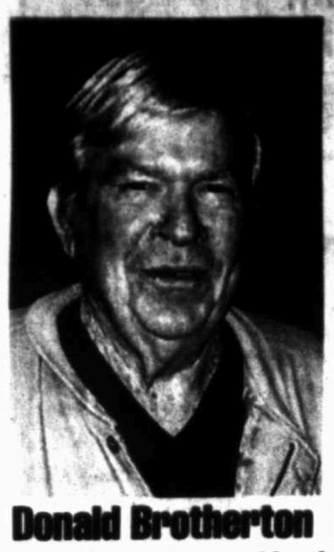
Building the spaceport with taxpayer money could be likened to governments spending taxpayer dollars on stadiums or arenas for sports teams, Gessing said, noting that building a stadium "is not completely speculative with an industry in mind that may never materialize."

"What is truly unique about this project is that it was completely, 100 percent speculative," he said.

Tourism and spaceport officials have estimated as many as 200,000 people a year will visit the first-of-its kind center. And officials promised it would spur

Please see **SPACEPORT/2B**

Obituaries



Donald Brotherton

Donald Brotherton, 82, of Midland, Texas, passed away, Tuesday, December 11, 2012, at his home after a short illness.

Don was born in Longstreet, Louisiana, on August 15, 1930. He graduated from Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana, in January 1953. Don then joined the Navy, and graduated from the Naval Officers Candidate School in New Port Rhode Island in 1953. After Officers Candidate School, Don attended several advanced Navy schools including Navy photo intelligence school in Washington DC. He soon served as a photo-intelligence officer. During his Naval career, he alternated duties on carriers such as the USS Lexington, USS Yorktown, the USS Midway, and several other carriers. In this role, he served as the Intelligence officer on the admiral's staff for the Carrier Division Task Force 77, Commander US 7th Fleet that was the in charge of the Carrier Task Force in the South Pacific. The Task Force 77, 7th Fleet patrolled the waters of the South China Sea, off the coast of China, to prevent invasion of Taiwan during the Korean War.

After leaving the Navy he moved to Baton Rouge, where he married his wife, Doris L. Brotherton, and continued his studies in Geology, later graduating with a Master's in Geology from LSU. Don worked briefly in New Orleans for Tidewater Oil Company (Getty) and was transferred to Midland, Texas in 1961, where he served as the District Development Geologist. Don formed Brotherton Production Company in 1975 and drilled, owned, and operated a number of wells in West Texas. Don was a member of the Society of Independent Petroleum Geologists, West Texas GPS Society & the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

Don is survived by his wife, Doris; his six children: Joan Brem and husband, Henry of Midland; Jane Weldon and husband, John (deceased) of Midland; Debbie Garner and husband, DeWayne of Austin; Michael Brotherton and wife, Margaret of San Marcos; Patrick Brotherton of Dallas; Jim Brotherton and wife, Shannon of San Marcos; eleven grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; and his brother, Al Brotherton of Lafayette.

Don spent a lot of time at their condo in South Padre Island, with his wife Doris. His other interests include: Outdoor Nature Photography, Fishing, Sailing his Hobie Cat, and Playing Tennis with his wife, Doris and their friends. Later in life, Don applied for a Trademark to venture into the greeting card business, with aspirations to promote his long held belief to: "*Enjoy Living*", which he named the brand.

Funeral services will be held 2:00 p.m., Friday December 14, 2012, at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to: Hospice of Midland, P.O. Box 2621, Midland, Texas 79702; Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675 or woundedwarriorproject.org.



Travis Lee Bevers

Travis Lee Bevers, 50, of Chappell Hill, TX, died Dec. 10, 2012, at Scott and White Hospital in Brenham.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Dec. 14 at 10:00 a.m., at First Baptist Church of Chappell Hill, in its new building at FM 2447 and U.S. Hwy. 290. Rev. David Beckworth, Jack Faulkner, and Bill Montgomery will officiate. Burial will be in Atkinson Cemetery in Chappell Hill.

The family will receive visitors from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, at Memorial Oaks Chapel.

Mr. Bevers was born May 21, 1962, in Mission, TX, to Kenneth Hubert and Ann Hallock (Abney) Bevers. On Jan. 24, 1982, he was married to Kelly McVey. Mr. Bevers was a member of First Baptist Church of Chappell Hill, where he served as a deacon and chairman of the church's project steering building committee; Travis had a passion for ministry to men and started the Just For Men Sunday morning Bible study at his church. He also served on the board of Sandy Bay Lighthouse Ministries in Roatan, Honduras, planned and served on various mission trips to Mexico and Honduras and served on the board of Brenham Christian Academy.

Mr. Bevers was a businessman of integrity, as well as a master electrician and realtor. He was an incredible son, husband, father, and friend. He loved his wife more than words could say, and he loved her well. He was the best Popi to his dear grandsons. Mr. Bevers was an avid fisherman and hunter, a baby whisperer, and a "fisher of men". He was generous of his time, talent, and treasure.

Survivors include his wife, Kelly Bevers of Chappell Hill; parents, Ken and Ann Bevers of Chappell Hill; son and daughter-in-law, Marshall and Sarah Bevers of Brenham; daughter and son-in-law, Halley and Josh Johnson of Brenham; godson, Tyler Kmiec of Chappell Hill; grandchildren, Jesse Alan Johnson, Silas Duane Johnson, and Noah Sebastian Lucas Hall; brother and sister-in-law, Troy and Tracie Bevers of Shenandoah; sister and brother-in-law, Tracy and Jeff Kamprath of Chappell Hill; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Reta and Ted McVey of Midland; sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Shelly and Travis Stovall and Ronda and Rusty Theobald, all of Midland.

Mr. Bevers was preceded in death by his brother-in-law, Jeff McVey.

Pallbearers will be Marshall Bevers, Tyler Kmiec, Josh Johnson, Troy Bevers, Jeff Kamprath, David Sowers, Shelby Brady, and Dave Curry. Honorary pallbearers will be the deacons of First Baptist Church of Chappell Hill and his brothers of Southeast Texas Tres Dias.

Memorials may be directed to the First Baptist Church of Chappell Hill Building Fund -"Faith Building Project @24 47".

Funeral arrangements are entrusted to Memorial Oaks Chapel, 1306 W. Main St., Brenham. To post a tribute to the family, visit: memorialoakschapel.com.



Virginia Naomi Sharp Harrison

Virginia Naomi Sharp Harrison was born on August 16, 1928, in Hale Center, TX to Gladys Shahan Sharp and Robert Thomas Sharp; the first of their eight children. She grew up in the panhandle of Texas and eastern New Mexico, finishing high school in Clovis and Portales, NM. She attended ENMU and El Paso Community College, where she received her Associate's Degree in drafting. She used that degree working for AO Smith in El Paso, TX.

She married Hulan Arnold Harrison on April 18, 1953, and together they have four children: Kathy Smith and husband, Gary; Patti Higgins; Leland Harrison and wife, Laurie; and Jay Harrison. They have three grandchildren: Rebecca Higgins Arons, James Caleb Higgins, and Elizabeth Harrison.

She was a faithful member and beloved Sunday School teacher at First Baptist, Jal, NM; Northgate Baptist, El Paso, TX; and Alamo Heights Baptist in Midland. She was a long-time volunteer with Midland Need to Read.

Virginia passed from this life early on December 11, 2012. She was preceded in death by her parents; four of her brothers: Robert, Elbert, William, and Don; and her son-in-law James Higgins. She is survived by her husband, her children, her grandchildren, two sisters, and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that donations be made in her name to Midland Need to Read, 1709 W. Wall, Midland, TX 79701; Home Hospice, 901 W. Missouri, Midland, TX 79701; Meals on Wheels, 3301 Sinclair Ave., Midland, TX 79707; or Alamo Heights Baptist Church, 1305 N. Midland Dr., Midland, TX 79703.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Friday, December 14, 2012, from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 15, 2012, at Alamo Heights Baptist Church, with Rev. Gary Redwine, officiating. Burial will be at Terrace Cemetery in Post, TX, on Saturday, December 15, 2012, at 3:00 p.m.

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



James D. Crow

Services for James D. Crow, 56, of Midland, TX, will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday, December 15, at Hospice Inspiration Center with Chaplin Robert Kirk.

Mr. Crow died Wednesday, November 21, at Midland Memorial Hospital while under the care of the Hospice Midland.

He was born on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 1955, in Hutchinson, KS. As a youth, Crow enjoyed baseball, football and wrestling. In the spring of 1971, he moved to Midland with his family where he attended Robert E. Lee High School. In 1982, he obtained his Master Electrician license He also began his own business, Crow Electric, Inc., that year. Crow was an avid snow and water skier. He loved music, golfing and traveling.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Douglas Ray and Mary Joan Crow.

Survivors include two daughters, Allison L. Crow and Leann R. Crow, both of Midland; one brother, William R. Crow, of Midland; two grandsons, Landon J. and Peyton W.; one niece, Lauren N. and one nephew, Nicholas R.

The family requests that in lieu of sending flowers, donations be made to Hospice Midland.

Death Notices

Benny Lee Martin

Benny Lee Martin, 70, of Big Spring, passed away Tuesday, December 11, 2012, in a local hospital.

Graveside funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m., Friday, December 14, 2012, at Rosehill Cemetery in Merkel, Texas, with Rev. Elwin Collom, officiating.

The family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday, December 13, 2012, at the funeral home.

Survivors include his wife, Vera Martin; three daughters, Bonnie Billings (Duwane), Libby Ezell (John Ed), and Letty Moore (David); two sons, Clay Martin (Edie) and Clint Martin; six sisters, Faye Champagne (Beau), Linda Miller, Betty Steele (Billy), Joyce Burns, Darene Loyd (Bob) and Mimi Mathis (Jack); and six grandchildren.

Arrangements under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Beulah Louise Galyardt

Beulah Louise Galyardt entered her heavenly home on Wednesday, December 12, 2012.

Louise is survived by daughters, Judy Roberts and Barbara Cumbie; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Following a private graveside service, a memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 15, 2012, at Grace Lutheran Church.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Dan Pennell

Dan Pennell, 55, of Lubbock, and formerly of Midland, passed away Thursday, November 29, 2012.

The family will have a private family memorial service.

Arrangements were entrusted to Agape Funeral Chapel, Lubbock.

Ellen M. Bland

Ellen M. Bland, 101, passed away on Wednesday, December 12, 2012.

Arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Ofelia Galan

Ofelia Galan, 78, of Big Spring, passed away Monday, December 10, 2012, at her residence.

Vigil services will be at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, December 13, 2012, at Myers & Smith Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 2:00 p.m., Friday, December 14, 2012, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, with burial at Mt. Olive Memorial Park.

She is survived by two sons: Ascencion Hilario, Jr. and Sammy Hilario; twelve daughters: Yolanda Fierro, Ester Calderon, Estella Hilario, Marylou Villareal, Norma Juarez, Isabel Hilario, Diana Rodriguez, JoAnn Hilario, Rosemary Guiterrez, Sarah Scalf, Sally Correa, and Cecilia "Tina" Hilario; one brother: Isidoro Galan; fourty-five grandchildren; seventy-three great grandchildren; and two great great grandchildren.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

Robert Dwayne Pursley, Jr.

Robert Dwayne Pursley, Jr., 52, of Midland, passed away on Friday, December 7, 2012.

He is survived by his wife, Kathryn Pursley; son, Stephen Scott Pursley and his mother, Glenys Dawn Mathis.

A memorial service has been set for Saturday, December 15, 2012, at 3:00 p.m., at Los Carnales Ector Club House, in Odessa.

Memorial service is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home.

Sue Balios

Sue Balios, 76, of Big Spring, passed away Tuesday, December 11, 2012, at her residence.

The family will receive friends from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., Thursday, December 13, 2012, at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be at 10:00 a.m., Friday, December 14, 2012, at First United Methodist Church, with burial at Trinity Memorial Park.

Sue is survived by two daughters: Mitzi Balios (Rhonda Abbott) and Molly Smith (Maury); one son: Mark Balios; one sister: Jimmie Lou Drake; one brother: Judge McLeod (Linda); four grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home.

SPACEPORT

From 1B

economic development and bring high-paying jobs to the mostly rural state.

But other space companies have passed New Mexico over and there is growing skepticism about whether Virgin, which has pushed its estimated date for starting flights from 2011 to 2014, will ever move into the spaceport.

A provision in the development agreement prohibiting it from operating its aircraft at competing spaceports without permission expires at the end of the month, and Virgin has entered a deal with a Middle East investment group to develop another spaceport in the emirate of Abu Dhabi.

Investors from Abu Dhabi have contributed hundreds of millions of dollars to help Virgin Galactic develop its spacecraft.

Due to delays in both the construction of Spaceport America and development of Virgin's spacecraft, the company has yet to begin paying rent on the facility, which is located in remote southern New Mexico, about 45 miles from Las Cruces and 200 miles from Albuquerque.

An unsigned, undated copy of the lease agreement provided by the state calls for Virgin Galactic to be penalized $2 million if it breaks it lease with New Mexico and then begins flying elsewhere within two years. But state officials said Wednesday the company won't post that deposit until it activates the lease.

When asked for copies of the quarterly business plans Virgin Galactic is supposed to submit to the state, officials with the state economic development said those updates were given orally to Anderson.

Anderson and state Economic Development Secretary Jon Barela said they expect the company to begin paying rent next month.

Virgin Galactic President and CEO George Whitesides was less specific and noted the company, which is testing its spacecraft in the Mojave Desert, has an office in Las Cruces and will move to Spaceport America "when the Spaceport Authority finishes the level of the work that it has agreed to provide on our building."

Whitesides denied news reports that quoted him as saying Virgin might leave if lawmakers for a third year in a row refuse to approve exemptions for parts suppliers from being sued for liability by any passengers on spacecraft launched from New Mexico. But he also didn't rule it out.

He said that it was "very concerning" that companies were not coming to the spaceport. The company, he said, signed up for a "healthy spaceport" with multiple businesses that could divide the costs. Whitesides said Virgin Galactic would work with lawmakers, and then reevaluate.

New Mexico has exempted spacecraft operators from liability lawsuits from passengers, but competing states have also extended that exemption to parts suppliers.

Virgin Galactic officials "have not told me that they are going to leave if they do not get this done," Barela said. "By the same token, I can assure you they are getting calls constantly from other states saying, 'New Mexico hasn't passed the law and we can get you a better deal.'"

In Sierra County, one of three counties that implemented a special tax to help develop spaceport infrastructure, some remain optimistic about project.

"I think Richard Branson is not where he is by luck," said Gary Whitehead, a car dealer in Truth or Consequences and a former Spaceport Authority board member, adding that he feels encouraged because of Branson's history of success.

Rancher Jim Taylor, however, calls the project a "terrible, terrible rip-off.

"Some people are concerned that Virgin might leave, conversely some wish it would all just go away," he said. "Maybe they could convert the 'hangar' into a concert hall for 'Woodstock West' or something that would actually generate money."



AP file photo

In this Oct. 17, 2011, photo, guests stand outside the new Spaceport America hangar in Upham, N.M. With the spaceport nearly complete but still mostly empty, Branson and Virgin Galactic has hinted it may take its spacecraft and launch elsewhere.

STEFFY

From 1B

Mobil released its long-term energy outlook, which predicts North America will become a net energy exporter by 2025.

That followed a report by the International Energy Agency a few weeks ago that grabbed headlines by predicting that U.S. oil production will surpass Saudi Arabia by 2020.

Both reports credit hydraulic fracturing with reversing years of declining domestic production. In September, the U.S. Energy Information Administration said domestic daily production had reached its highest in 15 years and predicted it would keep rising.

While the weak economy has kept U.S. energy demand in check, prices have increased because if oil companies can't sell refined products such as gasoline here, they can find ready buyers overseas. Oil, after all, is a global market.

"The gas station at Kirby and the Southwest Freeway is competing with Japan to buy that gasoline," said Ed Hirs, a professor of energy economics at the University of Houston.

And that isn't going to change. In fact, the international competition for oil and petroleum products is likely to intensify.

The same IEA report that predicted our production would outpace Saudi Arabia's in less than a decade also predicted that demand from emerging markets such as China, India, and even Middle Eastern oil-producing countries, will continue to grow at a faster pace than world production will increase.

Those emerging economies, quite simply, are going to keep sopping up the world's oil at a far faster rate than the U.S. is going to be able to increase production — even if it meets the production forecasts found in reports such as Exxon Mobil's and the IEA's.

That's not all bad. Those higher global prices that are encouraging the wave of new drilling here at home, from offshore development to the shale plays onshore. That, in turn, is creating jobs, promoting more efficient drilling technology and, in the long run, giving us a fighting chance at meeting that increased global energy demand in the future.

"That's what encouraging these producers to dive into new frontiers," said Ken Medlock, an economics professor at Rice University and senior director for the Baker Institute's Center for Energy Studies. "All signals are that demand is going to outgrow supply if we don't do something new."

In the U.S., "something new" also means more fuel-efficient vehicles and hybrids, which we're already seeing hit the market, and vehicles that run on alternative fuels such as natural gas and electricity, which are further off.

That doesn't mean our efforts to increase domestic production are fruitless. After all, we are ultimately competing for a dwindling supply of available oil in the world, which means the more we can produce here, the better.

But it also may mean that whatever we produce here will continue to rise in price over time. American motorists continue to compete for fuel against a growing tide of demand for a relatively static supply of oil.

So enjoy sub-$3 gasoline while you can, but don't get too used to it.

STARR

From 1B

"Given the criticism, we've come up with something that will meet the needs of employers in the future," Hammond said.

STAAR requires high school students to pass 16 exams to graduate. The testing system was originally designed to count 15 percent toward some students' final high school grades in core courses. But Texas has suspended that rule until at least next school year in response to complaints from parents and students who felt it could hurt their chances of being accepted to top universities.

Hammond said core skills like math and science were more vital to career-readiness than world geography and world history and dropping both tests would eventually help reduce to six the overall number of exams high school graduates need to pass.

Dan Patrick, chairman of the Texas Senate Education Committee, said in a statement Wednesday that the state shouldn't "back away from rigor or accountability."

"At the same time we must ensure that our test schedule accomplishes our goal of measuring student performance," the Houston Republican said. "Too much testing could have an opposite impact on student performance."

CRADDICK

From 1B

in by State District Judge Rodney Satterwhite, of Midland.

An attorney and Austin resident, Craddick will remain in the post through December. She will then begin her six-year, elected term as commissioner Jan. 1.

"I am ready to get to work for the people of Texas," Craddick said in a press release. "I am humbled and honored by the trust the people of Texas and Gov. Perry have placed in me to serve Texas on the Railroad Commission. I am eager to get to work ensuring the Texas energy industry continues to be a job creator and growing our Texas economy."

The governor tapped Garcia in April to fill a vacancy on the commission after Elizabeth Ames Jones stepped down to run unsuccessfully for the Texas Senate.

Garcia's term was set to expire at the end of the year, but he resigned Dec. 7.

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THURSDAY PRIME TIME — DECEMBER 13, 2012

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	C	3	4	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	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Last Resort "Blue Water" (N)		Grey's Anatomy "Run, Baby, Run" (N)		Scandal "Blown Away" (N)		KMID News	(:35) News Nightline	J. Kimmel	Zachary Knighton, Dan Deacon
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	CBS 7	Ent. Tonight	Big Bang Theory	Two and Half Men	Person of Interest "Shadow Box" (N)		Elementary "The Leviathan" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) Foxx, Julie Chen (N)	Letterman	Jamie Lee Late
KWWT CW	5	14		14	Rules of Engage.	Rules of Engage.	Vampire D. "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (N)		Beauty and Beast "Bridesmaid Up!" (N)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	'Til Death	'Til Death	That '70s Show	That '70s Show
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	The X Factor "Live Results" (N)		Glee "Glee, Actually" (N)		The Simpsons	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Loves Ray	Law & Order: Criminal Intent	
KMLM IND	11	11	12	11	Dr's B & S	R' Itzhak Shapira	Update News	Mark Biltz	Light of the Southwest				Joe McGee	Matt Staver	Audra Grace	Thurman Scrivner
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	Be Millionaire	Up All Night (N)	Up All Night (N)	Take It All (N)		Rock Center With Brian Williams		News-West 9	(:35) Tonight Leno	Show J. Hugh Jackman	(:35) LateNight
KPBT PBS	13	13		8	PBS NewsHour		Live From Lincoln Center "The Richard Tucker Opera Gala"				Antiques Roadshow "Orlando (Hour One)"		Charlie Rose		BBC News	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4		16	Corona de lagrimas		Por ella soy eva		Amores Verdaderos		Amor Bravio		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Al Diablo con los Guapos	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16	Office	30 Rock	W.Collar "In the Red"		White Collar		My News	Baggage	30 Rock	Sunny	Scrubs	Access H.
FLIX	340	65		165	(5:05) The Snow ...		Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle o...		★★★ Windtalkers Nicolas Cage.						(:15) The Italian...	
HBO	300	68	14	14	(5:00) Welcome to...		Mel Brooks Strikes		★★ What's Your Number? Anna Faris.				Katie (N)	Cathouse	24/7	Movie
HBO2	302	69	15	101	23 ★★ Collateral ('04, Thril) Tom Cruise.				Journey 2: The Mysterious ...		Making		★★★ Tower Heist		Movie	
HBO5	304	70	16	102	(5:20) Live)		The Sopranos		★★★ The Change-Up Jason Bateman.				★ Your Highness		Movie	
MAX	380	71	17	120	24 (5:20) The Whole ...		★★★ What's Love Got to Do With It?				Big Mommas: Like Father, ...		(:50) Dark Secrets			
MAX2	382	72	18	122	(5:50) ★★ 3,000 Miles to Graceland				★★ Horrible Bosses			Lingerie	(:20) ★★ The Girl Next Door		Emile Hirsch.	
PLEX			96		(:20) ★★ Mozart and the Whale				It Could Happen to You		(:45) ★★ The Toy ('82, Com)		Richard Pryor.		Movie	
SHOW	320	66	19	140	25 Movie	★★★★ Red ('10, Act) Bruce Willis.				★ Sexy Baby ('12, Documentary)			Old Porn	Reality	Old Porn	NextStop
TMC	336	67	22	155	26 (5:20) Far Cry		★★★ Ransom ('96, Susp) Mel Gibson.				(:05) ★★ Five Fingers			(:35) Chick Magnet		
A&E	27	32	28	35	47	The First 48 "Dead Sleep/ Tag Team"	The First 48 "Fatal Call"		The First 48 (N)		Panic 9-1-1 (N)		Panic 9-1-1		The First 48 "Fatal Call"	
AMC	40	21	23	42	51	CSI: Miami			★★★★ Miracle on 34th Street				(:15) ★★★★ Miracle on 34th Street			Movie
BET	58	26		40		(5:00) 106 & Park (N)	Apollo Live (N)		★ We The Party ('12, Com) Mario Van Peebles.					Vindicat	Wendy Williams	
BRAVO	65	63		41		House Miami	Housewives Atlanta		House Miami (N)		House Miami		Watch (N)	House Miami		Atlanta
CNBC	46	45		39	72	The Kudlow Report	Behind Closed Doors		Cruise Inc.		American Greed		Mad Money		Crackberry'd	
CNN	43	24	51	30	56	OutFront	A. Cooper 360		Piers Morgan		A. Cooper 360		OutFront		Piers Morgan	
DISC	50	20	31	24	42	Amish Mafia	Amish Mafia		Moonshiners		Ghost Town Gold (N)		Moonshiners		Ghost Town Gold	
DISNEY	56	27	36	25	36	A.N.T.	Gravity		★ The Santa Clause 3: The E...		(:35) A.N.T.		Gravity	Phineas	Jessie	A.N.T.
ESPN	32	29	48	31	30	Audibles (L)			H.S. Basketball		H.S. Basketball		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	34	28	49	32	31	NCAA Volleyball Division I Tournament (L)					NCAA Volleyball Division I Tournament (L)			Football	NFL Live (L)	
FAMILY	53	54	34	42	33	★ National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation					★★★ The Polar Express Tom Hanks.		The 700 Club		★ Christmas Every...	
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			Sugar Dome (N)		Sweet Genius		Sweet Genius (N)		Iron Chef "Fusion"	Sweet Genius
FSSW	37	43	50	45	29	(5:00) H.S. Football LHSAA Championship					SportsDay OnAir	Cowboys Insider	H.S. Football	Game Time		
FX	31	31	59	64	69	2½Men	Two 1/2...		★ Deck the Halls Scottie Thompson.				Sunny	League	League	Unsup.
HALLMARK	54	49	58		34	(5:00) ★ Gift of the ...			★ Help for the Holidays Summer Glau.				★ The Town Christmas Forgot Lauren Holly.		Sunny	League
HGTV	63	50	26	48	44	House	HouseH		Hotel Impossible		Extreme Homes		HouseH	House Hunters International	★ The Ultimate Gift	
HISTORY	71	62	29	50	43	Pwn Star	Pawn Star		Pwn Star	Pwn Star	Pwn Star	Pwn Star	Bamazon		Ax Men	Extreme Homes
LIFETIME	28	25	25	28	48	Trading Spouses "Joseph/ Gibbons" 2/2			Runway "Green Dress for the Red Carpet"		Project Runway: All Stars (N)		Abby's Comp. "Dance For Your Life" The final three dancers compete for the grand prize.		Pwn Star	Pwn Star
MSNBC	47	51		49	73	Hardball			The Ed Show		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		Runway "Green Dress for the Red Carpet"	
NBCSN	38	39				Game On!	Dew Tour		Fight36		Sports Illustrated		The Ed Show		Rachel Maddow	
NICK	55	34	39	34	37	Figure	Figure Out	Yes, Dear	K & Kel		Hollywood Heights		IRB Rugby Sevens World Series		NFL Turning Point	
SPIKE	30	22	55	53	58	Jail	Jail	Impact Wrestling (N)					Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear	Friends	Friends
SYFY	66	64	41	57	67	Star Trek: Next Gen.		Star Trek: Next Gen.		Star Trek: Next Gen.			Ink Master		MMA Un.	WaysD
TBS	25	11	44	66	41	Sein. "The Blood"	Seinfeld	Family Guy	Family Guy	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan (N)	
TCM	41	61	24	63	66	Movie	TomJerry	★★★ Les Miserables Charles Laughton.					★★★ Les Miserables Michael Rennie.			
TELE	20	8	10	20		Caso cerrado		Rosa Diamante		Corazon valiente			El patron	Rostro	Al rojo	Titulares
TLC	51	33	32	38	52	Suddenly Single		Sin City Rules "What Happens in Vegas..."		Top 10 Weddings of 2012 (N)			Say Yes-Dress	Say Yes-Dress	Top 10 Weddings of 2012	Say Yes-Dress
TNT	24	23	40	26	50	The Mentalist "Rhapsody in Red"		NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers vs. New York Knicks Site: Madison Square Garden -- New York City, N.Y. (L)					NBA Basketball San Antonio Spurs vs. Portland Trail Blazers Site: Rose Garden -- Portland, Ore. (L)			
TVLAND	49	48	35	54	35	MASH	Cosby	Cosby	Cosby	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens
USA	26	30	42	27	49	NCIS "Patriot Down"		NCIS "A Desperate Man"		NCIS "Secrets"			Burn Notice "Odd Man Out" (N)		NCIS "Left for Dead"	Queens
WGN	19	18				America's Funniest Home Videos		Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Mother "Brunch"	Met Your Mother		WGN News at Nine		America's Funniest Home Videos	Queens
															Rules of Engage.	Rules of Engage.

Expert: More school funding won't improve outcome

Associated Press

AUSTIN — An expert testifying for the state said Wednesday that increasing the amount of money spent per public-school pupil hasn't translated to higher standardized test scores or increased student performance.

"If you look at the data, it doesn't support the argument that spending more money will improve student achievement," University of Missouri economist Michael Podgursky, an expert on education spending, told state District Judge John Dietz.

More than 600 school districts have sued the state after the Legislature voted in 2011 to cut $5.4 billion from public schools and educational grants. They claim the way Texas funds schools is now so inadequate that it violates state constitutional guarantees. They also said funding is unfairly distributed because districts in wealthy areas tend to get more per-pupil than those in poor parts of the state.

Attorney General Greg Abbott's office counters that funding levels are adequate and that school districts don't always spend their resources wisely. The trial began in October, and Podgursky was called by the state to dispute some claims made by experts and superintendents who testified earlier about problems caused by funding cuts.

Testimony in the case is expected to last into February, after which Dietz will rule. Whatever he decides, however, is likely to be appealed to the state Supreme Court.

Podgursky said most of the variations in Texas student achievement is within districts rather than between them.

Asked what would happen if funding differences between districts are eliminated, Podgursky said, "I don't agree with the belief that if you spend a certain amount of money, you can predict that there will be a certain level of improvement in student achievement."

"There is no evidence of a positive relationship between student performance and spending by a school district," he said.

Texas school districts have argued that the cuts have been especially costly because they have come as the state's booming population has seen public school enrollment in Texas increase by about 80,000 students annually.

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LEVEL

Each of the following six-letter sets can be rearranged to spell out a common word that either starts with B, S or U and/or ends with C, D or H.

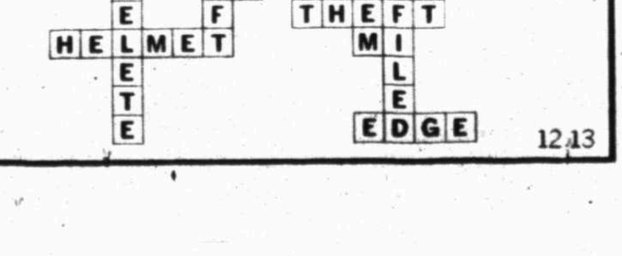
B C I L P U

A C D I N R

A B I M R U

C E I P S T

Yesterday's Answer:



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12/13

MPD: Man arrested in connection with sexual assault

From staff reports


Natividad

A Midland man was in custody Wednesday after he was arrested for allegedly raping a woman, according to his arrest affidavit.

Eduardo Natividad, 17, was being held late Wednesday on a $50,000 bond for a second-degree felony charge of sexual assault.

Midland Police Department responded to a call from Midland Memorial Hospital at around 2:50 p.m. Dec. 9. It was at MMH that the alleged victim said she was sexually assaulted by Natividad at about 2 a.m.

The alleged victim said she had gone willingly to his residence on the 300 block of Alpine Street. They had begun making out on his bed, but when Natividad asked if she wanted to have sex, she said she did not. He took off her clothes and began having sex with her anyway, according to the report.

The alleged victim tried pushing him off repeatedly and told him to stop, but he was using his body weight to keep her under control. The alleged victim took part in a sexual assault exam, and its findings were consistent with the victim's account of the incident, according to the report.

Natividad was arrested Monday. If convicted, he could face up to 20 years in prison.

George H.W. Bush remains stable

Associated Press

HOUSTON — The condition of former President George H. W. Bush remains stable at a Houston hospital, where he is being treated for a bronchitis-related cough.

Bush has been in the Methodist Hospital for almost three weeks. Spokesman George Kovacik said Wednesday that the ex-president's condition has not changed. No additional information was provided.

The 88-year-old Bush also spent about week in the hospital in early November for the same ailment.

Midland woman charged with endangering child, threatening officer

From staff reports


Strnad

A Midland woman was in custody Wednesday after ramming her vehicle into her boyfriend's house multiple times, according to the arrest report.

Jennifer Drianne Strnad, 26, was being held on a $20,000 bond for a second-degree felony charge of abandoning or endangering a child with imminent danger of bodily injury and a $30,000 bond for a third-degree felony charge of obstruction or retaliation.

An officer responded to a disturbance at around 10:45 p.m. Monday in the 1200 block of South Dallas Street. The complainant told the officer that his girlfriend, Strnad, had become intoxicated and rammed her vehicle into the house multiple times. When the officer had arrived at the scene, Strnad ran beyond the backyard and into the alley, clutching her 4-year-old daughter. The child was wearing shorts and a tank top at the time of the incident, even with temperatures around 30 degrees.

Once apprehended, the officer also found a large bag of synthetic marijuana in her possession, according to the report. Also, as the officer was transporting Strnad to the patrol vehicle, she tried to get away from the officer, who had to subdue her with physical force. Once in the patrol car, Strnad began slamming her head into the Plexiglas partition multiple times. She also yelled threats against the officer's family, according to the report.

Other charges against Strnad include misdemeanor charges of possession of marijuana in a drug-free zone, resisting arrest and driving with an invalid or suspended license.

If convicted, Strnad could face up to 20 years for the first charge and up to 10 years for the second

MPD: Two arrested for assault after racing incident

From staff reports

Two Midlanders were arrested in connection with an assault involving vehicles, according to their arrest affidavits.


Muniz


Oviedo

Brandon Muniz and Julian Oviedo Jr., both 17, were being held on $50,000 bonds for second-degree felony charges of aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury.

On Oct. 4 at around 3:51 p.m., Muniz and Oviedo Jr. were driving a 2008 Ford F-150 and 2011 Chevrolet Silverado, respectively, south on Garfield Street. The two drivers were racing their vehicles, with evidence showing Oviedo's speed was at least 82 mph, while Muniz' speed was at least 78 mph, according to the report.

The area in which they were driving has a posted 45 mph speed limit, and there were other vehicles on the roadway at the time. The report states that while the two drivers were racing, they lost control of their respective vehicles and started sliding. Oviedo's vehicle slid across the road, striking a 2006 Buick Lucerne occupied by two people. The collision caused serious bodily injury to the two occupants, according to the report.

Muniz and Oviedo Jr. were arrested Monday. If convicted, they could face up to 20 years in prison.

FELONY ARRESTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Legusta T. Childs, 35, of Midland, was arrested Tuesday on charges of violation of probation and unauthorized absence from a community corrections facility.

Billy Evans Jr., 35, of Stoneville, N.C., was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Rodrigo G. Hernandez, 40, of Midland, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of credit card or debit card abuse.

Genaro A. Vargas, 43, of Midland, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of unauthorized use of a vehicle.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

SCOUTS

From 1B

Scouting in America, Spence said. The Buffalo Trail Scout Ranch, located between Fort Davis and Balmorhea, is a popular site for camping and other Scouting activities. The council has undergone some struggles because of fires at Fort Davis, but they've continued to build programs there for the Scouts, he said.

The welfare of the council is important, Spence said, because the effect of a good Scouting experience can instill great leadership qualities within the boys who participate in the program.

"It's critical to the future of our country," He said.

Get ready for the weekend by reading
PULSE
Today in the Reporter-Telegram

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BUSINESS TAX FACTS
ONLY 19 DAYS LEFT
YOU COULD QUALIFY FOR A 2012 TAX DEDUCTION OF UP TO $139,000[1]

New tax limitations for 2012 continue to provide signifi cant tax benefi ts to small business owners.[2]
Now when you purchase qualifying GM vehicles for your business before 12/31/12, you could earn a tax deduction of up to $139,000. Plus you can stack other available incentives to really increase your savings.

BERG VEHICLE DEDUCTION ELIGIBILITY
There are some limitations to the expense deduction, including vehicle eligibility.

Up to $11,160 total deduction per vehicle	Up to $11,360[3] total deduction per vehicle	Up to $25,000[4] total deduction per vehicle	Up to $139,000[5] total deduction (aggregate for per vehicle limit)
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Buick Regal		GMC Acadia	GMC Savana Cutaway
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GMC Terrain		GMC Sierra (short box)	GMC Sierra (standard and long box)
		GMC Yukon	GMC Sierra Chassis Cab

For additional business savings opportunities, ask your dealer about the GM Business Choice Program, or visit gmbusinesschoice.com for program details and vehicle eligibility.
To learn more, visit gmfi eet.com/vehicle-tax-deductions/index.jsp
1 The tax incentives are available for depreciable tangible property which is acquired by purchase for use in the active conduct of a trade or business. Additional limitation based on purchases—for the 2012 tax year, the aggregate deduction of $139,000 under Internal Revenue code Section 179 is most benefi cial to small businesses that place in service no more than $560,000 of "Section 179 property" during the year. Certain vehicles, models and restrictions apply. Consult your tax professional for details.
2 Each individual's tax situation is unique; therefore, please consult your tax professional to confi rm vehicle depreciation deduction and tax benefi ts. For more details, visit www.irs.gov, or to calculate your bonus depreciation, visit www.depreciationbonus.org.
3 For vehicles that qualify as passenger automobiles under the Internal Revenue Code, there is a $11,160 per vehicle depreciation deduction cap.
4 For vehicles that qualify as passenger automobiles under the Internal Revenue Code that are trucks or vans, there is a $11,360 per vehicle depreciation deduction cap.
5 For vehicles that qualify as sport utility vehicles under the Internal Revenue Code, there is a $25,000 per vehicle depreciation deduction cap.© 2012 General Motors. All rights reserved.
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TODAY: Sunny
High: 63
Low: 48

FRIDAY: Partly sunny
High: 65
Low: 36

SATURDAY: Mostly sunny
High: 63
Low: 37

Local forecast

Expect sunny skies today with a high near 63 and low around 48. Winds could reach 20 mph. Similar high temperatures are expected through Sunday. There is no rain in the seven-day forecast.

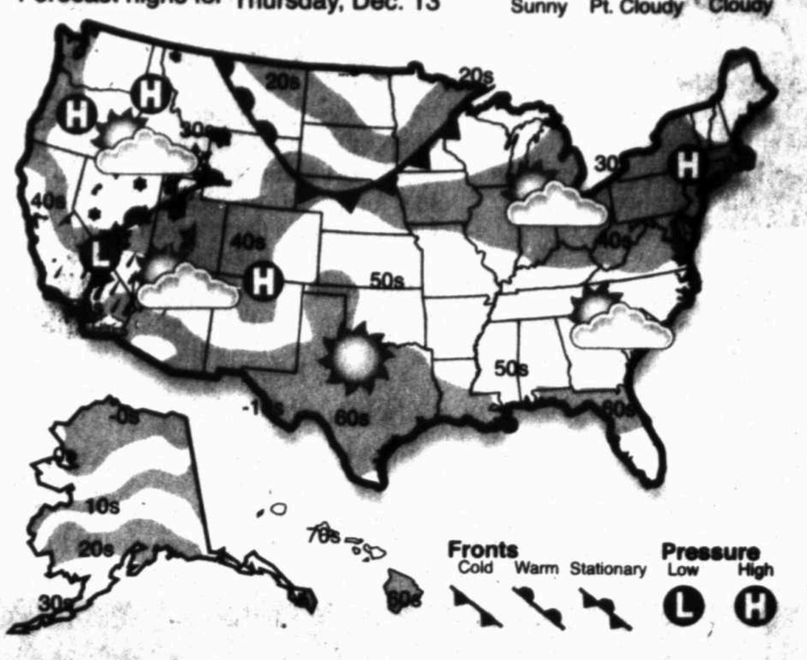
The high on Wednesday reached 64, while the low dropped to 25. The record high for Dec. 12 is 80 set in 1995. The record low is 10 set in 1989.



National forecast

Forecast highs for Thursday, Dec. 13

Sunny Pt. Cloudy Cloudy



Precipitation

Tuesday	0.00 in.
Wednesday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.00 in.
Year total	12.72 in.
Normal total (year to date)	14.74 in.

Wednesday's temperatures

High	64
Low	25
Normal high	58
Normal low	31
Sunrise	7:41 a.m.
Sunset	5:46 p.m.

Weather Q and A

Q: How fast can the temperature drop when a cold front arrives?

A: Sometimes amazingly fast, Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University said. It is not uncommon for the temperature to drop 15 degrees or more in just one hour after a cold front arrives. "There are some incredible stories about temperature changes, with one in particular that stands out" he adds. "On Jan. 22, 1943, Spearfish, S.D., was sitting on the edge of an arctic air mass and recorded a temperature of -4 degrees at 7:30 in the morning. Within two minutes, the thermometer shot up to 45 degrees. By 9 a.m. the temperature was 54 degrees, but as cold air mass settled in, the temperature fell to -4 degrees within 27 minutes, a 58-degree temperature drop."

Dental school would welcome Tooth Fairy's treasure trove

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 must respond to "Always His Mom" (Sept. 26), who asked what to do with her grown son's baby teeth. She can contact the college of dentistry close to her and ask if the school would like to have the baby teeth the Tooth Fairy collected.

When I was in dental school, we used deciduous teeth (baby teeth) to study the dental anatomy of children. It's rare to have a complete set from one person, which would make these a good learning aid for students. When I was in school, the deciduous teeth were nearly smooth because of the number of students who had handled them, making them very difficult to identify. — DOUG FROM SOLON, IOWA

DEAR DOUG: Your suggestion to contact a dental school and ask if they would be interested in using the baby teeth as learning aids is sensible. Other readers offered some "unique" ideas on the subject:

DEAR ABBY: I'd like to comment about what to do with those baby teeth. The original reasoning behind the tooth under the pillow custom was to keep witches from getting ahold of them and casting a spell on the child. The traditional disposition of those teeth was straight into the fire! — LADAWN IN WISCONSIN

DEAR ABBY: I had a neighbor with five children. She also kept their baby teeth and was inspired to use them to make a present for her father. At the time we were into casting things in plastic, so she bought a mold for a toilet seat and embedded all the teeth neatly into it. Her father refused to use it because he said it would be like sitting in a shark's mouth. — CAROLE IN GILFORD, N.H.

DEAR ABBY: My son passed away. His girlfriend was pregnant and had the baby four months later. We had a DNA test done using his baby teeth, which I saved. It proved he was the father, and the baby, our grandson, is now 10 years old.

Also, with this information, the boy was able to get Social Security benefits for survivors. It was a bit of a struggle, but well worth it. How's that for a good use for baby teeth? — GRANDMA IN NEWBURGH, N.Y.

DEAR ABBY: As I was cleaning out my father's dresser, I found an envelope with a drawing that I had done in kindergarten and another envelope containing a tooth and a note to the Tooth Fairy written in my childish hand.

Imagine how touched I was when I found it — knowing he had kept these things for nearly a half a century. I think putting the teeth in an envelope for "Always'" son to find later on would be a lovely thing to do. — SISSY IN LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND

DEAR ABBY: My favorite Tooth Fairy memory is when my 6-year-old daughter asked if she would hear the "Tooth Fairy's wings flapping" when she came to collect the tooth that had been placed under her pillow. Kids do say the darnedest things, and yes, I still have her teeth and the notes she wrote to the Tooth Fairy. — KARIE'S MOM IN ENCINO, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: When my daughter did a science fair project on tooth decay, I let her have the jar of saved teeth for her experiments. She did a thorough research job and a beautiful presentation, earning a blue ribbon. — JANICE IN ROCHESTER, WASH.

DEAR ABBY: When I married, my mother-in-law gifted me with my husband's baby teeth and first curl of hair. It sounds weird, but it gave me a warm, fuzzy kick to receive them. It also was a bonding moment with my "new mom." — KERRY IN WICHITA FALLS

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 Thursday, Dec. 13, 2012:

This year you will have a new beginning in whatever area you deem necessary. Your personal power will expand because you live your word. Many people in your life want to draw you in, both professionally and personally. Your magnetism soars, and if you are single, you will see direct results. If you are attached, curb a tendency to be me-oriented. Yes, it is an exciting year, but a relationship will succeed only with the combined efforts of two people. CAPRICORN is cautious.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ A matter from the recent past could come back to haunt you. You can't take back words said or actions done, but the good news is that you can remedy what happened. Your instincts speak to you and show you the right path to follow. Tonight: Touch base with an older relative.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Reconsider a situation involving a close partner. You can work through nearly anything together, as long as you are able to remain detached. You might surprise yourself with the sense of elation and harmony you could achieve as a result. Tonight: Answer your calls.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Reflect rather than react. A friend's unpredictability could create uncertainty in your world. On the other hand, you just might find exactly what you've been looking for. Relate to others directly, especially when discussing finances. Tonight: Dinner for two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ Dive right into work. You'll discover the importance of clearing up as much as possible in the late afternoon. Free yourself up for some socializing with friends and loved ones. A boss or someone you respect startles you with his or her response. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ You feel the weekend in your bones, but you have a lot to do before then. As you attempt to accomplish everything you must, you could get bogged down in a project. A different perspective could help you see the situation in a new light. Tonight: Do your thing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ If you're considering the possibility of staying home more often, know that you'll have to indulge this fantasy sooner or later. You could find a friend or loved one most distracting, though, so you might want to rethink this plan. Tonight: Now for the romp.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ You could be overwhelmed by everything that falls into your lap. You are incapable of handling it all, as you are only human. Your sense of humor emerges because of a child's antics. Can you even question how much you are cared about? Tonight: Get some errands done.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★★ You could have a lot to say, and perhaps it is more than someone wants to hear. Be sensitive to this person. You might have a lot to say, but the purpose of saying it is to be heard. You need this individual around for his or her support. Tonight: Out and about.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ Make a resolution in the morning, and you'll stand a chance of making it so. Your creativity springs forward whenever there is a need for a solution. You delight others, as well as yourself, with an addition to a project or a special purchase. Tonight: More holiday duties.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★★ In the morning, you could have a case of the lazies or seem a bit passive. By midafternoon, you'll start acting like the Energizer bunny, and few can hop as fast as you. What you initially had resisted doing becomes a piece of cake. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ Use the morning to the max. You could be inordinately lucky or just have a lot of support. Whatever you launch, do or decide seems destined to succeed. An interpersonal relationship glows. A neighbor or friend could surprise you with his or her antics. Tonight: Not to be found.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ Take charge of a project early on. You might feel as if you do not have enough time in the day to handle what you must. Lighten up and prioritize, and by late afternoon, the Fish will beam. A meeting could be more important than you realize. Tonight: Start the weekend early.

***

BORN TODAY

Singer Taylor Swift (1989), former first lady Mary Todd Lincoln (1818), Tea Party activist Herman Cain (1945)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Famous hand

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ K 9 6 3
♡ 9 8
◇ A K J 10 9
♣ Q 5

WEST
♠ 8 5 2
♡ 2
◇ Q 8 6 2
♣ J 8 7 6 4

EAST
♠ Q 10 7
♡ Q 7 6 4
◇ 7 5 3
♣ 10 9 3

SOUTH
♠ A J 4
♡ A K J 10 5 3
◇ 4
♣ A K 2

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♡	Pass	2♡	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	7♡	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: Six of ♣

We must set the scene. It was the semifinal of the 1943 Spingold Team Championship in New York. At the halfway point of one of the matches, a team captained by Jigger Dornbusch was trailing a powerful squad led by Howard Schenken by more than 1,000 points (in those days scoring was by total points). Spearheaded by Dick Frey and Lee Hazen, the Dornbusch team had staged a tremendous rally, but the match was crawling along at a snail's pace. With one board to play Frey announced that he had to leave to make the last train home to Great Neck, so captain Dornbusch was pressed into service to play the last board.

Unaware that his team was back in the match and thinking that his team needed a large swing to win, Dornbusch pressed on to a grand slam in hearts on this, the final hand. All the tricks were there for the taking provided declarer took a first-round heart finesse — the percentage play with a 6-2 fit. Unfortunately Dornbusch first cashed a high heart and could no longer avoid losing a trump trick for down one.

When scores were compared, Dornbusch was stunned to learn that, had he been content to play a partscore in hearts, his team would have won! Known for always doing the right thing, Dornbusch offered to jump out the window! A team meeting resolved to reject the offer — after all, Dornbusch did not know the state of the match when he had to enter the fray. The four players reconvened, however and because of Frey's precipitate departure, by a 3-1 vote decided to accept a similar offer from Frey should it be tendered. It never was!

Today's Crossword Puzzle brought to you by Quiroz Custom Home Builders
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DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Song title spelled out in a 1967 hit
8 Wicket defender
15 Composer Vivaldi
16 People people?
17 Crick who co-discovered DNA structure
18 It went down in history
19 Start of quote attributed to Victor Hugo
21 Troubadours' instruments
22 Follower of Stalin?
23 Tale spinner
26 Bastille Day season
27 Coal carrier
30 Statue at St. Peter's
31 Pachy- add-on
33 Quote, part 2
36 Novelist Ferber
38 Met, as a bet
39 Quote, part 3
43 Crash site?
47 Elegant tapestry
48 Saintly ring
50 Rock's __ Lobos
51 Volvo competitor
52 __-Julie, Quebec
54 Round at the saloon
56 End of the quote
60 Barbecue cook
62 Head-in-the-clouds sort?
63 Meet unexpectedly
64 Fraction, e.g.
65 Protective sac for some embryos
66 Locks overhead

DOWN

1 Offered as a door prize, say
2 Going somewhere
3 First-pitch thrower
4 Florence's __ Vecchio
5 Form into a sac
6 MXXX ÷ X
7 Deep-six
8 Second Hebrew letters
9 Trying to lose, with "on"
10 Bandleader Puente
11 Stud farm studs
12 Kin of "Sacre bleu!"
13 D-backs, on scoreboards
14 Defense advisory gp.
20 It marches and flies
24 Verizon rival, initially
25 Stadium sound
28 Royal sari wearer
29 Turkish titles
30 English poet laureate, 1790-1813
32 Like diets based on body type
34 Workplace protection org.
35 Have a hunch
37 Functional opening
39 Scale notes
40 Author Levin
41 Coming apart at the seams?
42 Kojak, to friends
44 Fatty-acid ointments
45 Like some conclusions
46 States categorically
49 Bind legally
52 16-Across reversals
53 Spasm
55 Red-wrapped cheeses
57 Radius neighbor
58 Ramadan practice
59 At an end
60 Univ. sr.'s exam
61 Persian, e.g.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 12/13/12



By Pawel Fludzinski
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TEXASROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW YORK

Ex-first daughter Jenna Bush Hager is pregnant

Former first daughter Jenna Bush Hager announced Wednesday that she's pregnant with her first child, due in the spring.

The 31-year-old made the announcement on NBC's "Today" show, where she is a contributing correspondent.

Hager is the twin daughter of former President George W. Bush.

HOUSTON

UT probe says study didn't meet standards

An independent review of a University of Texas study into hydraulic fracturing found the research did not meet standards for scientific work.

The Energy Institute researched hydraulic fracturing and water contamination. The head of the study, Chip Groat, had not revealed he was on the board, and had received in 2011 $413,000 in cash and stock from Plains Exploration and Production Co.

The review panel said in its report, released Friday, that Groat's failure to disclose this was a "principal shortcoming" in the research because it could have put into question the study's credibility.

EL PASO

School trustees to appeal state oversight

Leaders of a West Texas school district where a scandal to improve test scores sent an ex-superintendent to prison have voted to fight state oversight.

Trustees of the El Paso Independent School District voted early Wednesday to ask the Texas Education Agency to review the appointment of a new board. Education Commissioner Michael Williams last week named a new panel to take over for elected trustees.

RICHLAND HILLS

Man accused of carving pentagram into son's back

A North Texas man carved a large pentagram into his 6-year-old son's back Wednesday, telling a 911 dispatcher that he did it because "it's a holy day," police said.

In a matter-of-fact tone, Brent Troy Bartel told a dispatcher, "I shed some innocent blood," according to a copy of the recording of his 911 call released by Richland Hills police.

AUSTIN

State pays $29.3M to F1 race organizers

Texas has paid Formula One organizers more than $29 million for hosting costs during the mid-November race weekend that drew fans worldwide to Austin.

State Comptroller Susan Combs approved payment from the Major Events Trust Fund. The fund involves local and state gains from sales and use, auto rental, hotel and alcoholic beverage taxes generated from major sporting events.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Hollen Wheeler and Shanna Bennett, with Oxy Permian, help drop off toys collected by Oxy Permian and subsidiary Centurion Pipeline, Tuesday at the Salvation Army warehouse.

Police await autopsy on Carlsbad man

Associated Press

CARLSBAD, N.M. — Police said they were awaiting autopsy results to determine how an 88-year-old man found buried in pieces in his backyard died.

A family member of Thomas Allumbaugh called authorities Friday because he had not been heard from for some time.

Police became concerned that Allumbaugh might be dead. Cadaver dogs found his body Sunday.

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Texas Tech hires 33-year-old Kingsbury as coach

By Betsy Blaney
Associated Press

LUBBOCK — Texas Tech hired one of its own Wednesday, bringing back former Red Raiders quarterback Kliff Kingsbury to become the head coach.

Kingsbury was offered the job in the afternoon and Texas Tech athletic director Kirby Hocutt announced the news with a video posted on Twitter not long after.

"Wreck 'em Tech," Kingsbury said in the video, giving the school's Guns Up sign when the camera panned to him.

Kingsbury was the offensive coordinator at Texas A&M, coaching Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Manziel, this year and was the first in a string of record-setting quarterbacks for the Red Raiders under former coach Mike Leach.

He has never been a head coach, and at 33, he'll be one of the youngest in major college football.

Not long after Kingsbury was hired. former Texas Tech receiver Danny Amendola, now with the Los Angeles Rams, tweeted: "We jus got our swagger back. Wreck em TECH. Lets ride."

Hocutt was set to fly back to Austin with Kingsbury, athletic department spokesman Blayne Beal said.

Kingsbury succeeds Tommy Tuberville, who left unexpectedly last week to take the Cincinnati job. Red Raiders fans never warmed to Tuberville. Texas Tech still emphasized the passing game and the spread offense under Tuberville, but many Tech fans had a hard time getting past the firing of the popular Leach.

There's no doubt about what kind of offense the Red Raiders will run now. Kingsbury has been part of some of the most prolific offenses in the country the past few years. His offenses spread the field and move quickly, favoring the up-tempo that is all the rage. Texas A&M is third in the nation in total offense at 552 yards per game heading into the Cotton Bowl against Oklahoma.

Before Tuberville came to West Texas, the Red Raiders had two coaches in 24 years — Spike Dykes and Leach. Kingsbury becomes their second coach in four years.

Kingsbury will work with sophomore quarterback Michael Brewer,

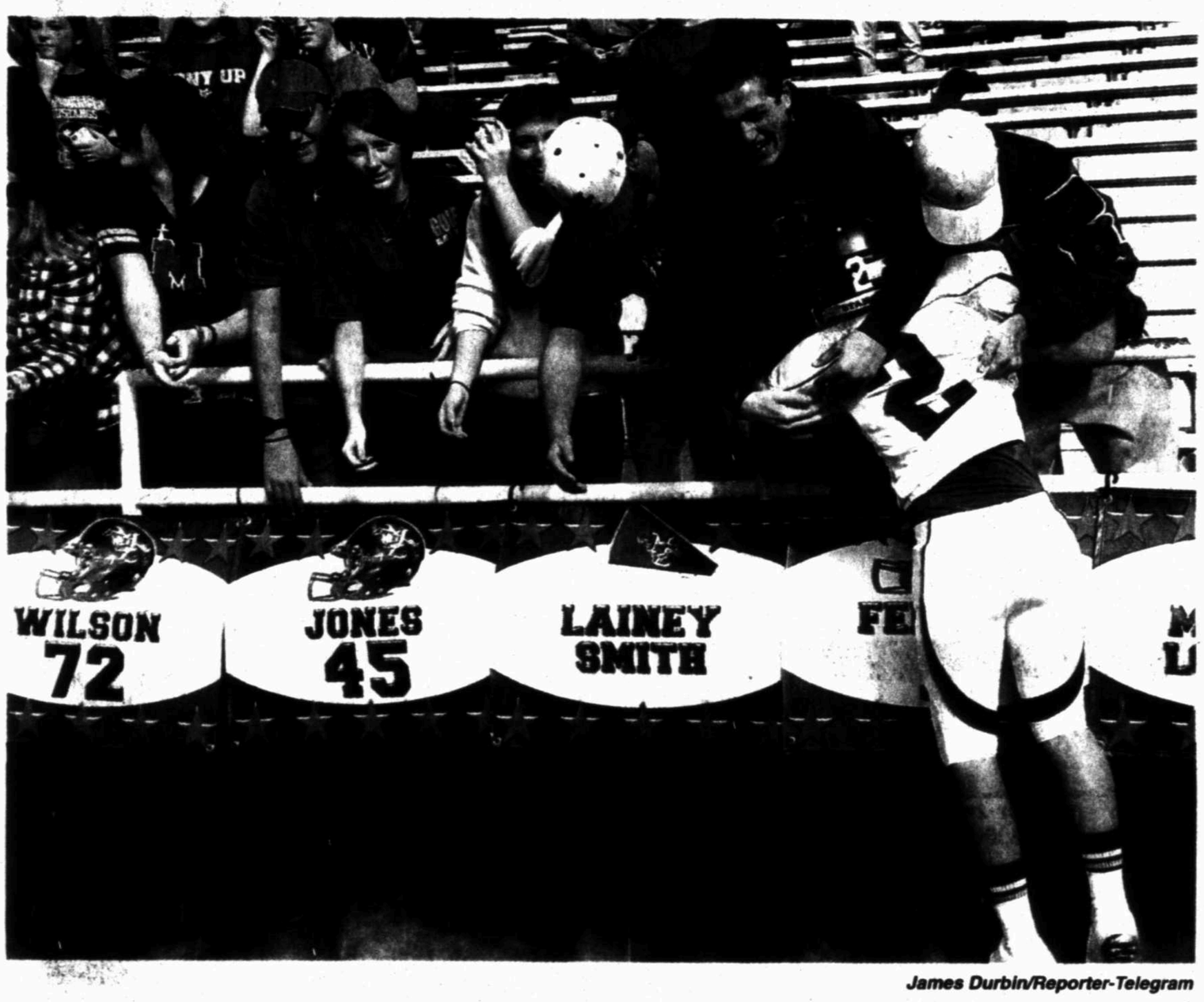
Please see **KINGSBURY**/4C



Ray Abrams/AP

Texas A&M quarterback Johnny Manziel, center, is joined by coach Kevin Sumlin, right, and offensive coordinator Kliff Kingsbury after becoming the first freshman to win college football's Heisman Trophy on Saturday in New York. Kingsbury has been named Texas Tech's new coach.

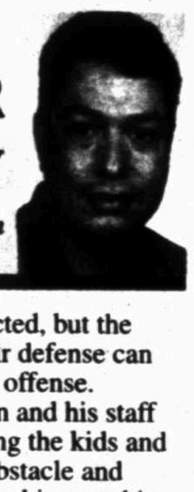
END OF THE YEAR AREA COLUMN



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland Christian's Davis Fender celebrates with fans after after beating Houston Northland 14-7 to win the TAPPS Division II state championship game Saturday at Floyd Casey Stadium in Waco.

Small schools continue to surprise me



OSCAR LEROY
oleroy@mrt.com

I admit that each year I enter the high school football season with a little bit of skepticism.

The reason is I just never know what the area high school football teams are capable of accomplishing. Let's face it: Unlike larger metropolitan areas, there's not an abundance of speed and talent — you know, attributes that college recruiters covet the most. It seems like each signing day in February we see fewer and fewer of our kids signing football scholarships. I think we see more talent coming from the baseball and soccer ranks these days, and that's OK.

But while fewer state title trophies are brought to the Permian Basin area these days, it doesn't mean they are not coming in.

The Midland Christian football team carried that banner this season, winning its second consecutive TAPPS Division II state title over the weekend with a 14-7 victory over Houston Northland Christian. Not the score I expected, but the Mustangs proved that their defense can do the job as well as their offense.

Coach Greg McClendon and his staff do a great job of motivating the kids and helping them overcome obstacle and adversity. And they faced a big one this season when star running back Christian Whigham was lost for the season late in district play with a knee injury. But the Mustangs can overcome that adversity with their depth and the belief in the slogan "Next Man Up."

Not many programs can overcome a big injury like Midland Christian did, but the Mustangs are a rare exception.

And it seems like injuries were a big theme around area high school football this year. While programs such as Big Spring and Coahoma suffered too many in district play to overcome, programs like Greenwood and Andrews found other kids to step up and get the job done on the way to making the playoffs out of their respective districts.

I have to give first-year Andrews coach Ralph Mason kudos for doing a great job of keeping the team together after the loss of star quarterback Shane Dolgener. Not only did he keep the team from falling apart but got sophomore Jase Hammack to believe in himself and fill the critical role of being the team's quarterback.

It was another interesting year for our area high school football teams, and it

Please see **LEROY**/2C

Cowboys remove Brent from active roster

By Tom Orsborn
San Antonio Express-News

Josh Brent won't play another down for the Dallas Cowboys this season, but that doesn't mean the team has cut ties with the troubled nose tackle.

Far from it, in fact.

After consulting with the NFL, the Cowboys on Wednesday removed Brent from their 53-man roster and placed him on the reserved/non-football illness list.

The move allows him to continue to have access to the team's facilities and personnel.

Brent, 24, was charged with intoxication manslaughter after the death early Saturday morning of practice squad linebacker Jerry Brown, a 25-year-old former member of the San Antonio Talons. Irving police say Brent was at the wheel of a speeding 2007 Mercedes when he lost control on the service road of State Highway 114 with Brown as a passenger.



Brent

"Josh is part of our family," coach Jason Garrett said at a news conference in Irving.

"We have unconditional love for him and we're going to make sure we support him every way we can. … having him be here and knowing people are around him to help him, and that he can call us, just be around us, cry, laugh, do whatever he needs to and we'll be there to help him."

Players echoed Garrett's comments.

"He's got our support," defensive end Jason Hatcher. "He is our brother. He is family.

"Like I told him, he is going to play football again. We are going to do what we can to fight for him and keep him on the right track … I love him with all my heart."

The Cowboys signed free agent defensive tackle Brian Schaefering to fill Brent's roster spot. A third-year pro from Lindenwood (Mo.), the 6-foot-4, 292-pound St. Louis native has experience with Rob Ryan's defensive scheme after logging nine starts for Cleveland in 2010, Ryan's last season with the Browns.

With Brent's football fate decided at least for this season, and Tuesday's memorial service for Brown behind

Please see **COWBOYS**/4C



Elise Amendola/AP

Boston Celtics guard Rajon Rondo, center, is caught against a pick by Dallas Mavericks forward Shawn Marion (0) as guard O.J. Mayo (32) drives with the ball in Boston on Wednesday.

Pierce scores 34 as Celtics top Mavs in 2OT

By Jimmy Golen
Associated Press

Celtics	117
Mavericks	115 (2OT)

BOSTON — Paul Pierce scored 34 points, including a 3-pointer at the start of the second overtime to give Boston the lead for good, and the Celtics held on to beat the Dallas Mavericks 117-115 on Wednesday night.

Rajon Rondo had 16 points, 15 assists and nine rebounds, and Kevin Garnett added 16 points for Boston.

O.J. Mayo scored 24 points for Dallas, and Shawn Marion had 16 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists.

Pierce made five of six free throws in the second overtime to help the Celtics clinch their second straight victory. With his basket with 59 seconds left in the first overtime, he surpassed 23,000 points in his career — the 25th player in NBA history to reach the mark.

Boston led by 14 in the third quarter and eight after the first basket in the fourth before Dallas chipped away at the deficit and tied it at 92 on Darren Collison's drive to the basket. After Rondo made a jumper, Derek Fisher hit a 3-pointer with 1:47 left in the fourth to give the Mavericks their first lead of the game.

Rondo had a chance to win it at the end of regulation, but Fisher blocked the shot and it floated just a few feet. Pierce also had a chance at the end of the first overtime, but his shot was blocked by Dahntay Jones.

But Pierce came out in the second overtime and hit a 3 to make it 108-105. Mayo's basket made it a one-point game and the tired teams struggled to score until Rondo drove to the basket to give Boston a 110-107 lead with 36 seconds to play.

From there, Dallas was forced to foul.

NASCAR PAGE 5C

Four Trinity players named to TAPPS All-State team

From staff reports

Four players from Trinity were named to the TAPPS Six-Man Division II All-State team on Wednesday.

Sophomore Ethan Samuels earned a slot on the second team as a spread back. Senior Brantley Harrington was an honorable mention selection on the offense line, and fellow seniors Taylor Cory and Weldon Boley were also honorable mention as receivers.


Samuels


Harrington


Cory


Boley

'Hounds owner Richmond honored at Winter Meetings

From staff reports

Midland RockHounds co-owner Bob Richmond was the recipient of three major awards at Major League Baseball's Winter Meetings earlier this month.

Richmond was named winner of the Warren Giles Award, Baseball America's Minor League Executive of the Year Award and received a commendation for his years of service from Minor League Baseball by president Pat O'Connor.

The Warren Giles Award is presented in recognition of outstanding service by a league president. Richmond is just the fifth league president to win the Giles Award twice since its inception in 1984.

The Baseball America honor is going to a RockHounds executive for the second time in the last three years after general manager Monty Hoppel won the award in 2010. The winner is chosen from executives of Minor League Baseball's 18 leagues and more than 200 clubs in the U.S., Canada, Dominican Republic and Venezuela.

Richmond, along with Miles Prentice, has owned the Midland franchise since 1991. He has been involved with minor league baseball for more than 30 years, which earned him the commendation from O'Connor.

"Bob was always a calming influence, not only to me, but to any league of conversation he was a part of," O'Connor said. "A smart guy, but humble, and just as good a person. He's one of the good guys in our business."

LeRoy

From 1C

just goes to show me in particular that sometimes there are some teams that will come up and surprise from time to time.

Before we get too far deep into basketball season, it's time to hand out some awards after a year's absence from doing this column and honor teams, players and coaches from the lower classifications.

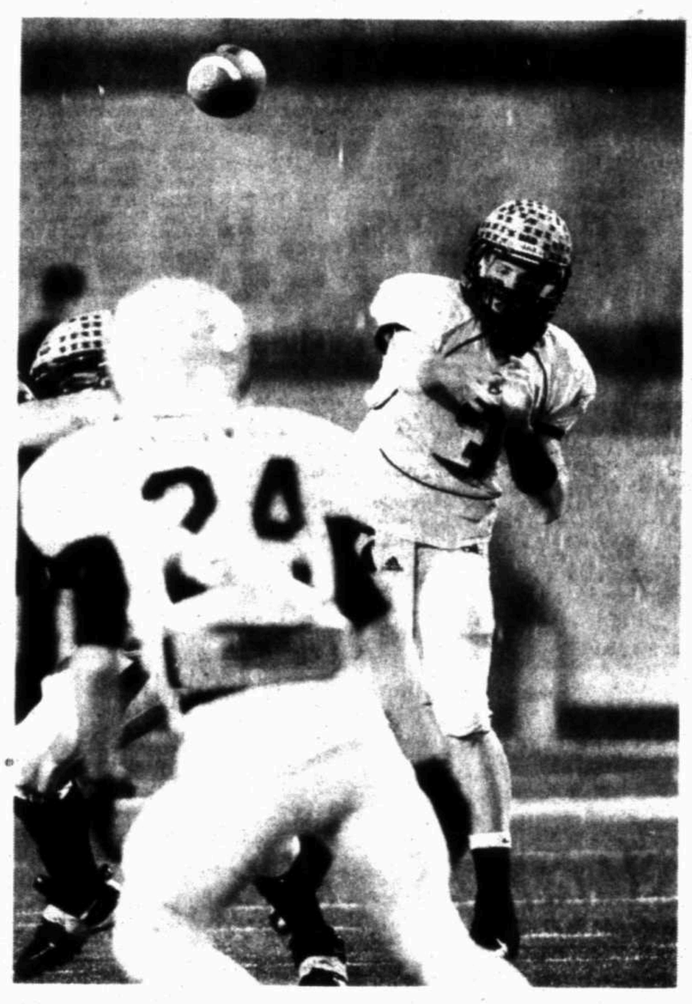
Team of the Year: Midland Christian — What more can you say about the Mustangs, which won their second consecutive TAPPS Division II title and sixth 11-man title? They overcame the loss of a star player, shook off an early season stumble against Big Spring and reeled off 12 consecutive victories en route to the crown. This is currently the banner program of the Permian Basin.

Other teams for consideration: Greenwood and Rankin

Coach of the Year: Greenwood's Shad Hanna — All of our area football coaches are great to deal with and get the most of out of their kids. But you have to give Hanna credit for getting a lot out of this team. The Rangers finished the season going 9-4 and three rounds deep in the Class 3A Division II playoffs, which is more than what many people expected. Hanna and his staff also did a great job of helping the team overcome injuries and other adversity this season to make a magical run in the postseason.

Others for consideration: Midland Christian's Greg McClendon, Rankin's Shannon Williams, Andrews' Ralph Mason.

Player of the Year: Greenwood's Kam Williams — Teams and coaches are only as good as the players leading them and Greenwood had one of the best around in Williams. The senior quarterback for the Rangers was not only a great playmaker but a respected leader. He was also the main focus for many opposing defenses. Every opposing coach I spoke with mentioned that the biggest key in stopping the Rangers was containing Williams. The Ranger finished his career with not only a good playoff run but with 2,661 passing yards, 1,360 yards rushing and accounted for 49 total touchdowns.


James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Greenwood quarterback Kam Williams throws against Graham in the Class 3A Division II regional round game Nov. 30 at Mustang Bowl in Sweetwater.

Others for consideration: Midland Christian's Mason McClendon, Rankin's Dalton Michum, Grady's E.J. Rodriguez

Heart and Guts Award: Andrews — This award is given to a team that shows the most determination to overcome adversity and the Mustangs fit that mold perfectly this season. First of all, they lost their head coach over the summer because off an off-the-field incident. Then they lost their heart-and-soul leader in Dolgener. This was also a team that was picked by many to finish fifth in the revamped District 2-3A. Yet, the Mustangs overcame the coaching change, overcame the loss of their leader, and qualified for the playoffs for the first time in two years.

Others for consideration: Trinity and Garden City.

Well, there you have it another high school football season in the books in the Permian Basin. While we won't know for sure if the Mayans were correct or not in their prediction until Dec. 21 comes and goes, if there is a football season a year from now maybe a few more surprises will be in store.

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @ OLeRoy_MRT

Ex-Cowboy Lockhart sentenced to 4 1/2 years in jail

By Nomaan Merchant
Associated Press

DALLAS — Former Dallas Cowboys linebacker Eugene Lockhart Jr. has been sentenced to 4 1/2 years in federal prison for his role in a mortgage fraud scheme to swindle millions of dollars from home lenders.

Lockhart was sentenced Wednesday in Dallas after pleading guilty last year to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud.

Lockhart and others indicted were accused of using fraudulent loan paperwork to deceive mortgage lenders in buying dozens of homes in the Dallas area. Prosecutors say some of Lockhart's co-defendants recruited potential home buyers with bonuses and promises of help with mortgage payments.

Lockhart formed several companies with names that referenced his career with the Cowboys, including "America's Team Brokers" and "Cowboys Mortgage."

Lockhart was drafted by the Cowboys in 1984 and played seven seasons for the team.

THURSDAY'S NBA ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ROCKETS 99
WIZARDS 93

HOUSTON — James Harden scored 31 points to lift the Houston Rockets to a 99-93 victory over the Washington Wizards on Wednesday night.

After suffering a sprained ankle last Saturday against Dallas and missing Monday night's loss to San Antonio, Harden returned to lead the Rockets to their first victory under coach Kevin McHale in more than a month.

The Wizards threatened late in the fourth quarter, but Chandler Parsons scored eight straight points for Houston in the final three minutes, including two 3-pointers, to secure the victory. Parsons finished with 18 points and eight rebounds.

It was Houston's first victory since McHale rejoined the team last Saturday after taking a leave of absence for almost a month following the death of his 23-year-old daughter.

Rookie Bradley Beal had 20 points to lead Washington.

WARRIORS 97
HEAT 95

MIAMI — Draymond Green made a layup with 0.9 seconds left to give the streaking Golden State Warriors a 97-95 win over the Miami Heat on Wednesday night.

Klay Thompson tied a season high with 27 points to lead the Warriors, who have won five straight.

LeBron James led Miami with 31 points, reaching the 20-point mark for the 25th consecutive game — the longest current streak in the NBA.

Warriors guard Jarrett Jack dribbled the ball at the top of the key as the clock ticked down before finding Green, who caught a quick pass from Jack underneath the basket and made the layup.

James then missed a baseline jumper, sending Miami to only its second loss in 12 home games.

David Lee had 22 points and 13 rebounds, and Jack added 20 points for the Warriors.

THUNDER 92
HORNETS 88

OKLAHOMA CITY — Kevin Durant scored 35 points and Oklahoma City extended its winning streak to nine games with a victory over New Orleans.

The Thunder rallied from an 11-point second-half deficit and matched their longest win streak since the franchise moved from Seattle.

CLIPPERS 100
BOBCATS 94

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Chris Paul had 19 points and 10 assists to help the Clippers extend their longest win streak in two decades to eighth with a victory over Charlotte.

Blake Griffin and Matt Barnes also scored 19 points for the Clippers, who maintained sole possession of first place in the Pacific Division.

NETS 94
RAPTORS 88

TORONTO — Joe Johnson scored 23 points, and Andray Blatche had 14 points and nine rebounds to help Brooklyn end a five-game losing streak with a win over Toronto.

C.J. Watson scored 16 points and Deron Williams added 12 as the Nets won for the first time since Nov. 30 at Orlando.

BULLS 96
76ERS 89

PHILADELPHIA — Joakim Noah scored 21 points, and Luol Deng added 19 points and 12 rebounds to help Chicago win its fourth in a row on the road with a victory over Philadelphia.

Less than 24 hours after losing to the Los Angeles Clippers by five points at United Center, the Bulls traveled to Philadelphia and appeared more rested than the Sixers, who had Tuesday off.

BUCKS 98
KINGS 85

MILWAUKEE — Brandon Jennings scored 19 points, and Monta Ellis had 17 points and 11 assists to lead Milwaukee past Sacramento.

Ersan Ilyasova added 16 points and a season-high 14 rebounds, and Luc Richard Mbah a Moute scored a season-high 17 in his first start of the season for Milwaukee (11-9), which has its best 20-game start since 2005-06.

PACERS 96
CAVALIERS 81

INDIANAPOLIS — Paul George scored 27 points to help Indiana overcame a 16-point deficit in a win over Cleveland.

David West added 18 points and nine rebounds, and George Hill scored 17 points for the Pacers, who snapped a two-game skid.

TIMBERWOLVES 108
NUGGETS 105

MINNEAPOLIS — Nikola Pekovic had 22 points and 11 rebounds and Minnesota used a big advantage at the free throw line to overcome Kevin Love's shooting struggles and beat Denver.

Love finished with eight points on 3-for-17 shooting and grabbed 14 rebounds on a day he had to explain to Minnesota's owner and his teammates some critical comments he made about the franchise.

HAWKS 86
MAGIC 80

ORLANDO, Fla. — Josh Smith and Jeff Teague scored 16 points apiece, Al Horford added 13 points and 13 rebounds, and Atlanta Hawks held off a late charge to beat Orlando.

Atlanta extended its regular-season win streak against Orlando to eight with its second win over the Magic this season.

Rangers acquire C Whiteside on waiver claim

Associated Press

ARLINGTON — The Texas Rangers have acquired catcher Eli Whiteside on a waiver claim from Toronto.

Texas, which lost All-Star catcher Mike Napoli in free agency, also Wednesday re-signed infielder-outfielder Brandon Snyder to a minor league contract with an invitation to major league spring training.

Whiteside has been claimed on waivers by three different clubs this offseason. He had been acquired in a claim by Toronto after he was designated for assignment by the New York Yankees, who got him on a waiver claim from San Francisco.

In 208 major league games with Baltimore (2005) and San Francisco (2009-12), Whiteside has a .224 average with one homer and 20 RBIs. He appeared in 12 games with the Giants last year.

Snyder hit .277 in 40 games for the Rangers last season.



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Rebecca Creek Texas Spirit Whiskey - 750ml 80°.....Save $5 | 29.99
Crown Royal Canadian Whisky - 1.75L/80° *(not pictured)*.....Save $7 | 53.99
Hpnotiq Fruit Infused Liqueur - 750ml/34° *(not pictured)*.....Save $3 | 24.99
Barbaro Tequila - 1.75L/80° *(not pictured)*.....Save $2 | 32.99
Kahlua Coffee Liqueur - 750ml/53° *(not pictured)*.....Save $5 | 19.99
Riunite Lambrusco & Rosato - 1.5L *(not pictured)*.....Save $1 | 7.99
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NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-New England	10	3	0	.769	375	274
N.Y. Jets	7	6	0	.462	245	306
Buffalo	5	8	0	.385	289	292
Miami	5	8	0	.385	260	278
South						
x-Houston	10	3	0	.769	392	309
Indianapolis	4	9	0	.692	292	329
Tennessee	4	9	0	.308	271	366
Jacksonville	2	11	0	.154	195	352
North						
Baltimore	9	4	0	.692	331	273
Pittsburgh	7	6	0	.538	276	264
Cincinnati	7	6	0	.538	321	280
Cleveland	5	8	0	.385	253	288
West						
y-Denver	10	3	0	.769	375	257
San Diego	5	8	0	.385	292	281
Oakland	5	8	0	.385	329	329
Kansas City	2	11	0	.154	195	352

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	8	5	0	.615	373	270
Washington	7	6	0	.538	327	329
Dallas	7	6	0	.538	300	314
Philadelphia	4	9	0	.308	240	341
South						
y-Atlanta	11	2	0	.846	337	259
Tampa Bay	6	7	0	.462	297	329
New Orleans	5	8	0	.385	348	379
Carolina	4	9	0	.308	265	312
North						
Green Bay	9	4	0	.692	323	246
Chicago	8	5	0	.615	308	219
Minnesota	7	6	0	.538	283	286
Detroit	4	9	0	.308	320	342
West						
San Francisco	9	4	0	.692	331	216
Seattle	8	5	0	.615	300	202
St. Louis	6	6	1	.500	236	279
Arizona	5	7	0	.417	308	186

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Today's Game

Cincinnati at Philadelphia, 7:20 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Green Bay at Chicago, Noon
Tampa Bay at New Orleans, Noon
Minnesota at St. Louis, Noon
Indianapolis at Houston, Noon
N.Y. Giants at Atlanta, Noon
Washington at Cleveland, Noon
Jacksonville at Miami, Noon
Denver at Baltimore, Noon
Carolina at San Diego, 3:05 p.m.
Detroit at Arizona, 3:05 p.m.
Seattle vs. Buffalo at Toronto, 3:05 p.m.
Kansas City at Oakland, 3:25 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
San Francisco at New England, 7:20 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 17

N.Y. Jets at Tennessee, 7:30 p.m.

NFL Injury Report

CINCINNATI BENGALS at PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — BENGALS OUT: CB Dre Kirkpatrick (hamstring), DOUBTFUL: K Mike Nugent (calf), RB Castro Peerman (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: DE Michael Johnson (shoulder), P Clint Gresham (illness), LB Vontaze Burfict (shoulder), DE Carlos Dunlap (calf), LB Rey Maualuga (shoulder), LB Dan Skuta (back). EAGLES: OUT: TE Brent Celek (concussion), S Kurt Coleman (chest), RB LeSean McCoy (concussion), DT Mike Patterson (calf), CB Cary Williams (concussion, illness). QUESTIONABLE: RB Chris Polk (toe), PROBABLE: S Nate Allen (shoulder), CB Nnamdi Asomugha (neck, quadriceps), DE Trent Cole (ankle), Jay Hawk (ankle), LB Mychal Kendricks (shoulder), WR Jeremy Maclin (groin), G Evan Mathis (ankle), G Dallas Reynolds (ankle).

GREEN BAY PACKERS at CHICAGO BEARS — PACKERS OUT: S Sean Richardson (collarbone). DNP: CB Davon House (illness), WR Jordy Nelson (hamstring). RB James Starks (knee), DE CJ Wilson (knee), LB Erik Walden (hand), LB Dezman Moses (illness), WR Jordy Nelson (hamstring), RB James Starks (knee), DE CJ Wilson (knee), LB Erik Walden (hand), LB Dezman Moses (illness), WR Jordy Nelson (hamstring), RB James Starks (knee), DE CJ Wilson (knee), LB Erik Walden (hand), LB Dezman Moses (illness), WR Jordy Nelson (hamstring), RB James Starks (knee), DE CJ Wilson (knee), LB Erik Walden (hand), LB Terrell Manning (shoulder), LB Clay Matthews (hamstring). DE Mike Neal (shoulder). LIMITED: Jermichael Finley (knee). BEARS: DNP: WR Earl Bennett (concussion), LB Lance Briggs (groin), RB Michael Bush (ribs), QB Jay Cutler (neck, knee), TE Kellen Davis (knee), LB Geno Hayes (knee), CB Tim Jennings (shoulder), CB Charles Tillman (knee), DT Henry Melton (chest), T Jonathan Scott (shoulder), LB Brian Urlacher (hamstring). FULL: DT Stephen Bodi, G Chris Spencer (knee), QB Charles Tillman (shoulder).

NEW YORK JETS at ATLANTA FALCONS — GIANTS: DNP: CB Prince Amukamara (hamstring), LB Michael Boley (back), RB Ahmad Bradshaw (knee, foot), WR Hakeem Nicks (knee), G Kenny Phillips (knee), DE Jason Pierre-Paul (back), S Tyler Sash (hamstring). FULL: C David Baas (knee), TE Travis Beckum (knee), G Chris Snee (knee). DNP: DT Jonathan Babineaux (ribs), S William Moore (hamstring), WR Roddy White (knee), LIMITED: T Sam Baker (knee), G Garrett Reynolds (knee), WR Harry Douglas (ribs), CB Asante Samuel (shoulder).

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS at NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — BUCCANEERS: DNP: DE DaQuan Bowers (ankle), LB Quincy Black (knee), S Jamon Meredith (ankle). FULL: DE Michael Bennett (shoulder), CB Anthony Gaitor (hamstring), CB LeQuan Lewis (calf), DT Roy Miller (shoulder). SAINTS: DNP: T Charles Brown (knee), RB Jed Collins (knee), RB Chris Ivory (hamstring), S Malcolm Jenkins (hamstring), T Zach Strief (knee). FULL: CB Corey White (knee).

MINNESOTA VIKINGS at ST. LOUIS RAMS — VIKINGS: DNP: CB A.J. Jefferson (concussion), CB Antoine Winfield (knee). LIMITED: LB Jasper Brinkley (shoulder), CB Chris Cook (shoulder), QB Phil Loadholt (knee), RB Adrian Peterson (abdomen), TE Kyle Rudolph (shoulder). FULL: DE Jared Allen (shoulder), S Robert Blanton (shoulder), DT Letroy Guion (shin), P Chris Kluwe (left knee, right groin). DNP: G Harvey Dahl (shoulder), CB Cortland Finnegan (ankle), RB Steven Jackson (calf), LB James Laurinaitis (back), TE Mike Mitchell (thigh), S Darian Stewart (calf). LIMITED: WR Danny Amendola (foot). FULL: LB Mario Haggan (elbow).

WASHINGTON REDSKINS at CLEVELAND BROWNS — REDSKINS: DNP: LB London Fletcher (ankle), LIMITED: CB DeAngelo Hall (knee), T Trent Williams (thigh). FULL: NT Chris Baker (wrist), CB Richard Crawford (knee), WR Pierre Garcon (knee), LB Rob Jackson (hamstring), CB Josh Wilson (shoulder). BROWNS: LIMITED: WR Joshua Cribbs (knee), DE Jaquis Parker (knee), T Joe Thomas (knee), DT Ahtyba Rubin (calf), DT Letroy Guion (shin), P Chris Kluwe (left knee, right groin). DNP: G Harvey Dahl (shoulder), CB Cortland Finnegan (ankle), RB Steven Jackson (calf), LB James Laurinaitis (back), TE Mike Mitchell (thigh), S Darian Stewart (calf). LIMITED: WR Danny Amendola (foot). FULL: LB Mario Haggan (elbow).

WASHINGTON REDSKINS at CLEVELAND BROWNS — REDSKINS: DNP: LB London Fletcher (ankle). LIMITED: CB DeAngelo Hall (knee), T Trent Williams (thigh). FULL: NT Chris Baker (wrist), CB Richard Crawford (knee), WR Pierre Garcon (knee), LB Rob Jackson (hamstring), CB Josh Wilson (shoulder). BROWNS: LIMITED: WR Joshua Cribbs (knee), DE Jaquis Parker (knee), T Joe Thomas (knee), DT Ahtyba Rubin (calf), DT Letroy Guion (shin), P Chris Kluwe (left knee, right groin). DNP: G Harvey Dahl (shoulder), CB Cortland Finnegan (ankle), RB Steven Jackson (calf), LB James Laurinaitis (back), TE Mike Mitchell (thigh), S Darian Stewart (calf). LIMITED: WR Danny Amendola (foot). FULL: LB Mario Haggan (elbow).

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS at MIAMI DOLPHINS — JAGUARS: DNP: RB Rashad Jennings (concussion), RB Maurice Jones-Drew (foot), RB Greg Jones (foot), S Dwight Lowery (ribs), TE Brad Meester (foot), CB Aaron Ross (calf), RB Jordan Todman (calf). LIMITED: DE George Selvie (concussion). CB Derek Cox (hamstring). FULL: DT Tyson Alualu (calf), CB Derek Cox (hamstring), LB Russell Allen (groin). DOLPHINS: DNP: WR Brian Hartline (back), LB Koa Misi (ankle). LIMITED: S Chris Clemons (ribs), S Jimmy Wilson (hip). FULL: S Jonathon Amaya (knee), LB Karlos Dansby (biceps), P Brandon Fields (right knee), WR Brian Hartline (glute), LB Austin Spitler (ankle).

DENVER BRONCOS at BALTIMORE RAVENS — BRONCOS: LIMITED: G Chris Kuper (ankle), LB Wesley Woodyard (concussion). FULL: WR Brandon Stokley (knee), WR Demaryius Thomas (shoulder), WR Eric Decker (hip). RAVENS: OUT: LB James Anderson (neck). DNP: LB Darnell Ellerbe (ankle), DE Arthur Jones (shoulder), RB Vonta Leach (calf), TE Dennis Pitta (hip), S Bernard Pollard (chest), G Marshal Yanda (ankle). LIMITED: TE Ed Dickson (back), RB Bernard Pierce (back), RB Ray Rice (hip), LB Terrell Suggs (biceps). FULL: WR Jacoby Jones (ankle), S Ed Reed (shoulder), CB Jimmy Smith (abdomen), WR Deonte Thompson (thigh), WR LaQuan Williams (thigh).

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS at HOUSTON TEXANS — COLTS: DNP: RB Delone Carter (ankle), LB Kavell Conner (hamstring), LB Dwight Freeney (hip), WR Austin Collie (concussion), C Samson Satele (ankle), S Tom Zbikowski (knee). LIMITED: WR Donnie Avery (ribs). FULL: TE Cody Fleener (ankle), QB Andrew Luck (knee), G Joe Reitz (head). TEXANS: DNP: CB Alan Ball (foot), P Donnie Jones (knee), LB Brooks Reed (groin), LB Darryl Sharpton (toe). LIMITED: NT Shaun Cody (ribs, back), LB Tim Dobbins (shoulder), CB Johnathan Joseph (groin), T Derek Newton (knee), DE Antonio Smith (ankle), G Wade Smith (knee, ribs), RB Ben Tate (hamstring, foot). FULL: DE Jared Crick (neck), TE Garrett Graham (back), RB Justin Forsett (knee), TE Garrett Graham (concussion), LB Bradie James (knee), WR Lestar Jean (knee), LB Whitney Mercilus (knee), NT Earl Mitchell (shoulder), LB Jesse Nading (hip), QB TJ Yates (right elbow).

DETROIT LIONS at ARIZONA CARDINALS — LIONS: DNP: S Louis Delmas (knee), DT Nick Fairley (shoulder), CB Chris Houston (hamstring), CB Jacob Lacey (foot, ankle), TE Brandon Pettigrew (ankle). LIMITED: S Don Carey (knee), WR Calvin Johnson (knee). FULL: T Corey Hilliard (knee). CARDINALS: DNP: WR Early Doucet (concussion), DE Ronald Talley (shoulder), DT Dan Williams (hamstring). LIMITED: DE Calais Campbell (calf), DT Nick Eason (ankle), TE Rob Housler (knee), LB Kerry Rhodes (abdomen), WR Andre Roberts (ankle), CB Greg Toler (hamstring), FULL: TE Mike Leach (back, shoulder), RB Beanie Wells (knee).

CAROLINA PANTHERS at SAN DIEGO CHARGERS — PANTHERS: DNP: LB Thomas Davis (knee), DT Dwan Edwards (calf), DT Geno Hangartner (foot), WR Brandon LaFell (toe), WR Louis Murphy (hamstring), RB Jonathan Stewart (ankle). LIMITED: LB James Anderson (back), G Jeff Byers (back), S Charles Godfrey (back). CHARGERS: DNP: RB Ronnie Brown (groin), LB Donald Butler (groin), T Jammey Clary (knee), C Tyronne Green (hamstring), LB Demorrio Williams (ankle). LIMITED: T Mike Harris (ankle), WR Eddie Royal (hamstring). FULL: DE Kendall Reyes (quadriceps).

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS at BUFFALO BILLS — SEAHAWKS: No Data Reported BILLS: DNP: LB Nick Bellore (knee), S Jairus Byrd (knee), DT Marcell Dareus (shoulder), DT Spencer Johnson (knee), CB Leodis McKelvin (groin), DT Kyle Williams (ankle). DNP: G Eric Wood (knee). LIMITED: DE Mark Anderson (knee), CB Ron Brooks (hip), TE Scott Chandler (groin), G Andy Levitre (knee), CB Jairus Byrd (knee), TE Lee Smith (knee), C Kraig Urbik (knee), LB Chris White (thumb). FULL: WR Donald Jones (calf), S Da'Norris Searcy (hand), RB C.J. Spiller (shoulder), CB Aaron Williams (knee), DE Mario Williams (wrist).

PITTSBURGH STEELERS at DALLAS COWBOYS — STEELERS: DNP: T Mike Adams (ankle), CB Cortez Allen (groin), G Willie Colon (knee), LB James Harrison (illness), CB Keenan Lewis (hip), S Troy Polamalu (not injury related), WR Emmanuel Sanders (concussion), LB Lawrence Timmons (ankle). FULL: LB LaMarr Woodley (ankle). COWBOYS: DNP: WR Dez Bryant (finger), CB Morris Claiborne (concussion), G Nate Livings (concussion), S Danny McCray (foot), RB DeMarco Murray (foot), S Charles Pepnah (foot), NT Jay Ratliff (groin), LB DeMarcus Ware (elbow). FULL: C Ryan Cook (knee), RB Felix Jones (knee), T Tyron Smith (ankle).

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

CLASS 5A DIVISION I
State Quarterfinals
DeSoto 49, Southlake Carroll 45
Allen 37, Dallas Skyline 17
Houston Lamar 28, Galena Park North Shore 7

5A O'Connor 52, 5A Madison 49

State Semifinals
DeSoto (14-0) vs. Allen (13-1), 6 p.m. Saturday, Cedar Hill Ford Stadium
Houston Lamar (14-0) vs. 5A O'Connor (12-2), 3 p.m. Saturday, Austin's Burger Center

CLASS 5A DIVISION II
State Quarterfinals
Cedar Hill 49, Waco Midway 34
Austin Westlake 42, Plano West 35
Katy 76, Cypress Ranch 21
Cibolo Steele 28, SA Northside Brandeis 12

State Semifinals
Cedar Hill (10-4) vs. Austin Westlake (10-4), 2 p.m. Saturday, Waco ISD Stadium
Katy (14-0) vs. Cibolo Steele (14-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, Waco's Floyd Casey Stadium

CLASS 4A DIVISION I
State Quarterfinals
Denton Guyer 52, N. Richland Hills Birdville 42
Tyler 38, Frisco Centennial 24
Georgetown 36, Nederland 6
Leander Rouse 34, CC Flour Bluff 0

State Semifinals
Denton Guyer (12-2) vs. Tyler (13-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Midlothian
Georgetown (14-0) vs. Leander Rouse (10-4), 1 p.m. Saturday, Cedar Park's Cupton Stadium

CLASS 4A DIVISION II
State Quarterfinals
WF Rider 33, Wichita Frenship 7
Lancaster 21, Mesquite Poteet 13
Manor 26, Fort Bend Marshall 20
Cedar Park 32, SA Northside Brennan 7

State Semifinals
WF Rider (12-2) vs. Lancaster (13-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Justin Northwest HS
Manor (11-3) vs. Cedar Park (12-2), 1 p.m. Saturday, Georgetown ISD Complex

CLASS 3A DIVISION I
State Semifinals
Stephenville 42, Kilgore 35
El Campo 29, Carthage 25

State Championship
Stephenville (12-1) vs. El Campo (14-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Arlington's Cowboys Stadium

CLASS 3A DIVISION II
State Quarterfinals
Graham 40, Gatesville 35
Gilmer 41, Henderson 32
Navasota 38, West Orange-Stark 7
Bellville 22, Port Isabel 0

State Semifinals
Graham (13-1) vs. Gilmer (13-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Mansfield's Newsom Stadium
Navasota (14-0) vs. Bellville (11-3), 7 p.m. Friday, Waller

CLASS 2A DIVISION I
State Quarterfinals
Wall 48, Edgewood 34
Daingerfield 35, New Boston 28
Newton 49, Franklin 13
Cameron Yoe 38, Hallettsville 19

State Semifinals
Wall (12-1) vs. Daingerfield (11-3), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Waco ISD Stadium
Newton (13-0) vs. Cameron Yoe (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Shanandoah's Woodforest Stadium

CLASS 2A DIVISION II
State Quarterfinals
Sonora 42, Colorado City 21
Corsicana Mildred 45, Nocona 35
Elysian Fields 21, Hughes Springs 14
East Bernard 54, Refugio 23

State Semifinals
Sonora (11-3) vs. Corsicana Mildred (12-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Marble Falls
Elysian Fields (11-3) vs. East Bernard (13-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Waco's Floyd Casey Stadium

CLASS 1A DIVISION I
State Quarterfinals
Stamford 27, Stratford 7
Italy 14, Goldthwaite 3
Miami 64, Iraan 62
Shiner 21, Mason 3

State Semifinals
Stamford (12-1) vs. Italy (14-0), 4 p.m. Friday, Mineral Wells
Miami (11-2) vs. Shiner (12-1), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Round Rock's Reeves Complex

CLASS 1A DIVISION II
State Quarterfinals
Wellington 56, Sudan 20
Munday 35, Albany 13
Tenaha 34, Frost 30
Falls City 29, Burton 7

State Semifinals
Wellington (13-0) vs. Munday (13-0), 7 p.m. Friday, Wichita Falls
Tenaha (9-4) vs. Falls City (11-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Cypress Berry Center

SIX-MAN DIVISION I
State Semifinals
Throckmorton 60, Turkey Valley 48
Abbott 74, Zephyr 28

State Championship
Throckmorton (12-1) vs. Abbott (12-2), 7 p.m. Saturday, Abilene's Shotwell Stadium

SIX-MAN DIVISION II
State Semifinals
Follett 44, Grandfalls-Royalty 32
Richland Springs 82, Brown 44

State Championship
Follett (9-4) vs. Richland Springs (14-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, Abilene's Shotwell Stadium

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	16	5	.762	—
Brooklyn	12	9	.571	4
Boston	12	9	.571	4
Philadelphia	12	10	.545	4 1/2
Toronto	4	19	.174	13

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	14	6	.700	—
Atlanta	13	6	.684	1/2
Orlando	8	13	.381	6 1/2
Charlotte	7	14	.333	7 1/2
Washington	3	16	.158	10 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	12	9	.571	—
Indiana	11	9	.550	1/2
Detroit	11	11	.500	1 1/2
Cleveland	7	12	.292	4 1/2
Milwaukee	8	15	.348	5

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	18	4	.818	—
Memphis	14	5	.737	2 1/2
Dallas	11	11	.500	6
Houston	10	12	.476	7 1/2
New Orleans	5	16	.238	12 1/2

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	16	5	.762	—
Utah	12	10	.545	6
Minnesota	10	9	.526	6 1/2
Denver	11	12	.478	7
Portland	9	12	.429	8 1/2

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	16	6	.727	—
Golden State	15	7	.682	1
L.A. Lakers	11	9	.550	4
Phoenix	8	15	.348	8 1/2
Sacramento	7	14	.333	8 1/2

Wednesday's Scores

Brooklyn 94, Toronto 88
Indiana 96, Cleveland 81
Atlanta 86, Orlando 80
L.A. Clippers 103, Charlotte 94
Chicago 96, Philadelphia 89
Golden State 97, Miami 95
Houston 99, Washington 93
Minnesota 108, Denver 105
Oklahoma City 92, New Orleans 88
Milwaukee 98, Sacramento 85
Boston 117, Dallas 115,2OT
Phoenix 82, Memphis 80
San Antonio at Utah, late

Thursday's Games

Charlotte at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at New York, 7 p.m.
San Antonio at Portland, 9:30 p.m.

Friday's Games

Dallas at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Philadelphia at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Golden State at Orlando, 6 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Washington, 6 p.m.
Milwaukee at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.
Boston at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Boston at Houston, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
Utah at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Memphis at Denver, 9:30 p.m.

THURSDAY'S BOXES

CELTICS 117, MAVERICKS 115, 2OT

DALLAS (115) Da.Jones 5-10 2-2 12, Marion 6-14 4-5 16, Kaman 5-7 2-2 12, Fisher 4-12 0-0 10, Mayo 10-19 1-2 24, Brand 4-6 1-1 9, Collison 8-11 3-5 20, Carter 4-10-0-0 10, Wright 1-0 0-2, Beaubois 0-2 0-0 0, Do.Jones 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 47-97 13-17 115.

BOSTON (117) Pierce 11-25 9-11 34, Bass 3-7 3-6 9, Garnett 7-15 2-2 16, Rondo 8-14 0-0 16, Terry 3-10 3-3 10, Wilcox 4-5 2-2 10, Green 5-16 4-4 15, Lee 2-5 2-2 7. Sullinger 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 43-100 25-30 117.

Dallas 28 **18** 27 **26** 5 — **115**
Boston 27 **21** 28 **20** 9 **12** — **117**

3-Point Goals—Dallas 8-23 (Mayo 3-7, Fisher 2-4, Carter 2-5, Collison 1-3, Marion 0-1, Beaubois 0-1, Da.Jones 0-3), Boston 4-22 (Pierce 3-8, Lee 1-3, Green 1-4, Terry 1-6, Rondo 0-1). Fouled Out—Fisher. Rebounds—Dallas 60 (Marion 15), Boston 57 (Garnett 15). Assists—Dallas 27 (Marion 7), Boston 24 (Rondo 15). Total Fouls—Dallas 27, Boston 22. A—18,624 (18,624).

ROCKETS 99, WIZARDS 93

WASHINGTON (93) Singleton 0-7 0-0 0, Nene 6-13 3-4 15, Vesely 3-12 1-2 7, Crawford 6-18 2-2 17, Beal 6-15 5-6 20, Martin 1-6 0-0 2, Nene 4-9 5-7 13, Seraphin 2-9 0-0 4. Livingston 0-1 2-2 2. Totals 35-89 16-20 93.

HOUSTON (99) Parsons 7-14 1-2 18, Patterson 4-11 4-7 13, Asik 3-6 3-4 9, Lin 4-8 2-4 10, Harden 10-20 9-9 31, Smith 0-2 1-2 1, Douglas 4-9 2-2 12, Delfino 1-5 0-0 2, Morris 1-1 0-0 3. Totals 34-76 22-30 99

Washington 17 **27** 27 **22** 29 — **93**
Houston 27 **18** 23 **31** — **99**

3-Point Goals—Washington 7-25 (Beal 3-7, Crawford 3-9, Martin 1-4, Singleton 0-2, Martin 0-3), Houston 9-24 (Parsons 3-8, Douglas 2-4, Harden 2-6, Morris 1-1, Patterson 1-1, Lin 0-1, Delfino 0-3). Fouled Out—Beal. Rebounds—Washington 53 (Nene 9), Houston 55 (Asik 16). Assists—Washington 18 (Beal 6), Houston 19 (Lin 6). Total Fouls—Washington 20, Houston 19. Technicals—Washington defensive three second. A—13,351 (18,023)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men's

Top 25 Fared
Wednesday

1. Indiana (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Butler, Saturday.
2. Duke (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Cornell, Wednesday.
3. Michigan (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. West Virginia, Saturday.
4. Syracuse (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Canisius, Saturday.
5. Florida (7-0) did not play. Next: at No. 8 Arizona, Saturday.
6. Louisville (8-1) did not play. Next: at Memphis, Saturday.
7. Ohio State (7-1) beat Savannah State 85-45. Next: vs. UNC Asheville, Saturday.
8. Arizona (7-0) did not play. Next: at No. 5 Florida, Saturday.
9. Kansas (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. Belmont, Saturday.
10. Illinois (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Eastern Kentucky, Sunday.
11. Cincinnati (9-0) did not play. Next: at Marshall, Saturday.
12. Missouri (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. South Carolina State, Saturday.
13. Minnesota (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Lafayette, Saturday, Dec. 22.
14. Gonzaga (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Kansas State, Saturday.
15. Georgetown (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Western Carolina, Saturday.
16. Creighton (9-1) did not play. Next: at California, Saturday.
17. New Mexico (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. New Mexico State, Saturday.
18. San Diego State (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. San Diego, Saturday.
19. Michigan State (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. Tennessee, Saturday.
20. UNLV (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. La Verne, Thursday.
21. North Carolina (7-2) did not play. Next: vs. East Carolina, Saturday.
22. Notre Dame (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Purdue, Saturday.
23. Wichita State (9-0) did not play. Next: at Tennessee, Thursday.
24. Oklahoma State (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. Central Arkansas, Sunday.
25. N.C. State (6-2) did not play. Next: vs. Norfolk State, Saturday.

Women's

Women's Top 25 Fared
Wednesday

1. Stanford (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Pacific, Saturday.
2. UConn (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Oakland, Wednesday.
3. **Baylor (8-1) beat Oral Roberts 94-56. Next: vs. No. 13 Texas, Saturday.**
4. Duke (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Cal State Bakersfield, Friday, Dec. 21.
5. Notre Dame (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Alabama A&M, Wednesday.
6. Georgia (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Lipscomb, Sunday.
7. Kentucky (8-1) did not play. Next: at Pepperdine, Tuesday.
8. Louisville (9-1) did not play. Next: at Colorado, Friday.
9. California (7-1) did not play. Next: at Northwestern, Monday.
10. Maryland (7-2) did not play. Next: at Delaware, Thursday, Dec. 20.
11. Penn State (9-2) beat Virginia Tech 60-41. Next: vs. South Dakota State, Sunday.
12. Oklahoma (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Vanderbilt, Sunday.
13. Tennessee (6-1) did not play. Next: at No 18 Texas, Sunday.
14. UCLA (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. Saint Mary's (Cal.), Saturday.
15. Purdue (9-1) did not play. Next: at Oakland, Sunday.
16. Oklahoma State (6-0) did not play. Next: vs. Vermont, Sunday.
17. Dayton (10-0) did not play. Next: at Akron, Tuesday.
18. Texas (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 13 Tennessee, Saturday.
19. North Carolina (9-1) beat North Carolina Central 49-21. Next: at Coastal Carolina, Sunday.
20. Ohio State (6-2) did not play. Next: at Washington State, Saturday.
21. Miami (7-1) did not play. Next: at Rutgers, Sunday.
22. Kansas (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Prairie View, Sunday.
23. Texas A&M (5-3) did not play. Next: at Southern Cal, Saturday.
24. South Carolina (10-0) did not play. Next: vs No. 1 Stanford, Wednesday.
25. West Virginia (6-2) did not play. Next: vs Youngstown State, Sunday.

THURSDAY'S SCORES
SOUTHWEST
Baylor 94, Oral Roberts 56
SOUTH
Anderson (SC) 59, Winston-Salem 39
Chattanooga 72, Jacksonville St. 59
Louisiana Tech 52, Alabama St. 50
North Carolina 49, NC Central 21
Penn St 60, Virginia Tech 41
SC State 73, Charleston Southern 57
UNC Pembroke 60, Chowan 45
Young Harris 77, Truett-McConnell 44
MIDWEST
Illinois 80, Oregon 62
St. Benedict 64, Augsburg 49
St. Mary's (Minn.) 56, Wis.-LaCrosse 45
Wis.-Platteville 68, Augustana (Ill.) 53
Wis.-River Falls 72, Wis.-Stout 61
Wis.-Superior 73, Wis.-Eau Claire 65
Wis.-Whitewater 58, Wis.-Stevens Pt. 55
Wright St. 78, Urbana 61
FAR WEST
Arizona St. 72, San Diego 39
Nevada 91, Cal State-LA 81
Santa Clara 62, San Jose St. 47
EAST
Auburn 69, George Washington 59
Rutgers 63, Southern U 49
Villanova 61, Princeton 54

THURSDAY'S TEXAS BOX
No. 3 BAYLOR 94, ORAL ROBERTS 56
ORAL ROBERTS (3-4): Cooper 6-13 0-2 16, Buck 1-2 0-0 2, Shelton 5-11 2-2 11, Luper 8-22 2-2 19, Bigham 3-10 0-0 6, Gade 0-1 2-2 2, Veltkey 0-3 0-0 0, Key 0-1 0-0 0, Balta 0-7 0-0 0. Totals 23-66 5-8 56.
BAYLOR (8-1): Pope 8-9 3-6 19, Griner 10-18 2-2 22, Sims 11-16 3-3 27, Hayden 2-4 0-0 5, Madden 2-2 2-2 6, Johnson 0-0 0-0 0, Williams 1-5 4-6 6, Chandler 0-0 0-0 0. Prince 2-6 2-2 6, Fudge 0-0 1-2 1, Robertson 0-3 0-0 0. Agbuke 0-1 2-2 2. Higgins 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 36-64 19-25 94.
Halftime—Baylor 51-34. 3-Point Goals—Oral Roberts 5-19 (Cooper 4-7, Luper 1-4, Buck 0-1, Gade 0-1, Bigham 0-6), Baylor 3-10 (Sims 2-5, Hayden 1-2, Robertson 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Oral Roberts 29 (Shelton 7), Baylor 44 (Griner 10). Assists—Oral Roberts 11 (Bigham 6), Baylor 21 (Sims 6). Total Fouls—Oral Roberts 16, Baylor 11. A—7,767.

Fishing Report

WEST

ALAN HENRY: Water lightly stained; 52-58 degrees; 9.45' low. Black bass are fair on black/blue jigs. Texas rigged 10" Power Worms and shaky heads. Crappie are fair on live minnows. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.

ARROWHEAD: Water off color; 51-56 degrees; 8.25' low. Black bass are fair on Texas rigs and jigs. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair to good on slabs. Catfish are fair on prepared bait.

COLORADO CITY: 16.1' low. No report available.

FORT PHANTOM HILL: Water clear; 52-57 degrees; 10.54' low. Black bass are fair on chrome Rat-L-Traps, Texas rigs, jigs and shaky heads. Crappie are fair on minnows. White bass are fair on slabs. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.

HUBBARD CREEK: Water off color; 52-58 degrees; 19.02' low. Black bass are fair on Texas rigs and jigs. Crappie are fair on live minnows. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.

NASWORTHY: No report available.

OAK CREEK: Water stained; 51-56 degrees; 16.77' low. Black bass are fair to good on jigs, chrome Rat-L-Traps, Texas rigs and shaky heads. Crappie are good on jigs and live minnows over brush piles. Catfish are good on prepared bait and chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers.

O.H. IVIE: Water stained; 52-57 degrees; 33.09' low. Black bass are fair to good on shad pattern crankbaits, Rat-L-Traps, Texas rigs and jigs. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on slabs. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.

POSSUM KINGDOM: Water fairly clear; 51-56 degrees; 8.55' low. Black bass are fair to good on Texas rigs and shaky heads. Crappie are good on live minnows. White bass are fair on slabs. Striped bass are fair on live shad. Catfish are fair on prepared bait and nightcrawlers.

SPENCE: 62.85' low. No report available.

STAMFORD: 7.72' low. No report available.

SWEETWATER: Water murky; 51-56 degrees; 17.96' low. Black bass are fair on Texas rigs and jigs. Crappie are fair on live minnows. Catfish are fair on prepared bait and chartreuse (use Worm-Glo) nightcrawlers.

WHITE RIVER: Water stained; 50-56 degrees; 28.82' low. Black bass are slow. Crappie are fair on live minnows. Catfish are fair to good on nightcrawlers.

PANHANDLE

GREENBELT: Water stained; 51-56 degrees; 42.18' low. No report on black bass. Crappie are fair on live minnows. The Old Mason Park pump is still open.

MACKENZIE: Water stained; 52-57 degrees; 91.57 low. No report available.

MEREDITH: 28.80' low. No report available.

PALO DURO: 53.1' low. No report available.

Ski Report

ROCKIES
New Mexico

Angel Fire — Plan to Open 12/14
Pajarito — Opening Soon for Snow Sports
Red Rvr — Reopen 12/14 Fri 9a-4p; Sat/Sun 9a-4p Open Fri-Sun.
Sandia Peak — Opening Soon for Snow S

Goodell: Bounty players should be punished

By Scuyler Dixon
Associated Press

IRVING — NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said he "fundamentally disagrees" with former league boss Paul Tagliabue's decision not to discipline players in the New Orleans Saints' bounty scandal.

Speaking Wednesday after an owners meeting in the Dallas area, Goodell said he respected his predecessor's decision, and believed it backed up the commissioner's conclusion that the Saints ran a bounty program for three years and covered it up.

But Goodell took issue with Tagliabue vacating the yearlong suspension of linebacker Jonathan Vilma and shorter bans for three other current and former Saints players. In an NFL appeal ruling issued Tuesday, the former commissioner placed much of the blame with the Saints' coaches and front office.

"I fundamentally disagree that this is something that lies just with coaches and management," Goodell said. "I do think their leadership position needs to be considered, but I also believe these players were in leadership positions, also."

Like Vilma, Saints coach Sean Payton received a yearlong suspension. Defensive coordinator Gregg Williams was suspended indefinitely, and assistant Joe Vitt, who is now the interim head coach, was banned for six games. General manager Mickey Loomis got an eight-game suspension.

"My personal view is I hold everyone responsible," Goodell said. "Player health and safety is an important issue in this league. We're all going to have to contribute to that, whether you're a commissioner, whether you're a coach, whether you're a player, and we all have to be held accountable for it."

The 22-page ruling allowed both sides to claim victory more than nine months after the league first revealed the Saints' bounty scandal to shocked fans, describing a performance pool operated by Williams that, among other things, rewarded hits that injured opponents.

"Frankly, I think everybody's a winner to get this issue behind us," Jacksonville owner Shahid Kahn said.

On Wednesday, Vilma asked a federal judge to allow him to move forward with a defamation lawsuit against Goodell in U.S. District Court in Louisiana. Vilma's lawyers filed a motion to drop his case against the NFL's disciplinary process now that his suspension has been lifted.

Tagliabue didn't find the players completely without fault, though. He said Vilma and defensive end Will Smith participated in a performance pool that rewarded key plays — including hard tackles — while defensive lineman Anthony Hargrove, following coaches' orders, helped to cover up the program when interviewed by NFL investigators in 2010.

Arkansas State hires former Texas OC Harsin

Associated Press

JONESBORO, Ark. — Former Texas co-offensive coordinator Bryan Harsin hopes to bring some stability to Arkansas State as its new coach.

Harsin was introduced as the new coach of the Red Wolves on Wednesday — one day after he agreed to leave the Longhorns and replace former Arkansas State coach Gus Malzahn.

The former Boise State assistant coach becomes the third head coach in as many years for the two-time Sun Belt Conference champion Red Wolves. Malzahn left after one season to take over Auburn last week, while current Mississippi coach Hugh Freeze did the same two years ago.

"It was the right time," Harsin said at a news conference in Jonesboro. "I had a purpose, and this was the opportunity and the chance that I've been looking for and wanting to be a part of and to be a part of this family and this team and this community. I'm excited to be here."

The 35-year-old spent the last two seasons with the Longhorns, but he'll begin work immediately with the Red Wolves and won't coach Texas during the Alamo Bowl against Oregon State.

The Longhorns, who were 16-9 the last two seasons, will turn over play-calling duties to co-offensive coordinator Major Applewhite.

"Brian has done a tremendous job for us, and we appreciate all the energy he's poured into our program the past two seasons," Texas coach Mack Brown said. "He's a bright young coach with great enthusiasm and passion for the kids and the game. He'll do a tremendous job at Arkansas State."

Arkansas State will continue preparations for the GoDaddy.com Bowl on Jan. 6 against Kent State. The Red Wolves, who are 19-6 the last two seasons, will also begin to prepare for life under another new coach.

Since Malzahn left for Auburn last week, Arkansas State athletic director Terry Mohajir said he conducted a nationwide search for a replacement. He said the search included former NFL and BCS championship head coaches, but it was Harsin's sincere interest in the job — and his family — that "made it very easy when we started zeroing in."

"When we find who we want, we go get them," Arkansas State president Chuck Welch said. "We've identified the best and brightest around the country, and we've made it happen."

Mohajir flew to Austin on Tuesday to meet with Harsin, who spent the bulk of his coaching career at Boise State before being hired by Texas two years ago. The athletic director said it was important to hire someone who would remain with the program for more than one season, a thought that's reflected in Harsin's contract.

Harsin signed a five-year contract for $700,000 annually, including a $1.75-million buyout if he leaves during the first year. That buyout lowers to $1 million in the second year, $500,000 in the third, $300,000 in the fourth and $100,000 in the fifth.

Cowboys

From 1C

them, the Cowboys returned to work Wednesday with at least the beginnings of a sense of closure.

Their healing process received a major boost from the actions of Brown's mother, Stacey Jackson. After arriving in Dallas from St. Louis on Tuesday morning, Jackson rode to the memorial service with Brent and also insisted he sit on the same row with her during the service at Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship.

Brent and Brown, former teammates and roommates at Illinois, were best friends. They also roomed together after Dallas signed Brown Oct. 24.

"You can tell she has so much love for Josh, and there's been a real connection there for a long time," Garrett said. "She too wants to supports him every way she can…It's like nothing I've ever seen."

The Cowboys declined to give details of the hour-long service, but Garrett called it "incredible on so many different levels…There was a lot of love in the room."

It all began with Jackson.

"Jerry's mom…it was as remarkable a thing as I've seen in my life," Garrett said. "I got a chance to visit with her prior to the memorial, and the strength she demonstrates, the faith she has, her ability to understand and have peace in this situation so quickly is remarkable. She has been a rock for everybody."

Brent's removal from the active roster capped a turbulent four days for the Cowboys in which they coped with the sudden death of a teammate and the knowledge that another had entered a world of emotional pain — all while preparing for and then beating Cincinnati 20-19 on a field goal as time experienced.

Executive vice president Stephen Jones praised Garrett for the leadership he showed during the ordeal.

"As a leader of our team, he certainly did well in the face of adversity," Jones said.

Possibly fearing an emotional letdown, Garrett cautioned the tough times aren't over as the team prepares to host Pittsburgh on Sunday in a clash of 7-6 playoff hopefuls.

"The whole situation has been very challenging for all of us right from the start and for obvious reasons — a 25-year-year old man we were all very close to is no longer with us," Garrett said. "I don't know if it gets more challenging than that.

"But it is challenging going forward as well. The big thing we have to do is balance remembering and honoring Jerry, supporting Josh and also getting back to living our lives."

Kingsbury

From 1C

this season's backup to Seth Doege. Brewer played high school football under Chad Morris, who Hocutt interviewed for the Red Raiders coaching job Tuesday in South Carolina. Hocutt later flew to Nashville, Tenn., to meet with Titans defensive coordinator Jerry Gray.

Kingsbury followed Kevin Sumlin to A&M from Houston, where he mentored quarterback Case Keenum and the 2011 Cougars led the nation in total offense, passing offense and scoring.

He is a Texas native from New Braunfels, not far from Austin.

During his years as Texas Tech's quarterback Kingsbury put together some monster passing games passing. He still holds the school record for most completions in a game. Against Missouri in 2002 he completed 49 of 70 passes for five touchdowns and 510 yards.

Drafted by the New England Patriots in 2003, Kingsbury played for five NFL teams. He also played in the Canadian and All-American football leagues.

The past two seasons have seen the Red Raiders slide down the stretch. This year they lost four of their last five games and in 2011 they dropped five straight to close the season for the program's first losing season since 1992. Under Tuberville, Texas tech did not have a winning Big 12 season.

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NASCAR THIS WEEK

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BURNING ISSUES

▶ Sprint Cup teams entered this week's tests at Charlotte Motor Speedway with much to learn about the so-called G6 car designs. They are anxious for NASCAR to stop experimenting and give them a reliable design.

▶ The good news is that the Daytona Shootout format has been restored to what is approximately its old format: a showcase of pole winners from the previous year. The bad news is that the reigning champion, Brad Keselowski, and runner-up, Clint Bowyer, aren't eligible.

▶ Not since 2004, when 2003 champion Matt Kenseth was ineligible, has the Shootout been run without the previous year's champion.

▶ Everyone wants to win the Daytona 500, but none more so than Tony Stewart, an adept plate racer who has won three championships but never prevailed in NASCAR's most famous race.

▶ Stewart has won 17 races at Daytona in various series, including four victories in the track's Independence weekend 400-miler.

▶ Chief current humbling effect on Keselowski? The Michigan native still pulls for the Detroit Lions.

▶ It will be interesting to see how Clint Bowyer reacts to the expectations and scrutiny that come with being Chase runner-up and, in a sense, heir apparent for the following year.

▶ John Steinbeck's "The Winter of Our Discontent" actually has nothing to do with Kyle Busch during the offseason.

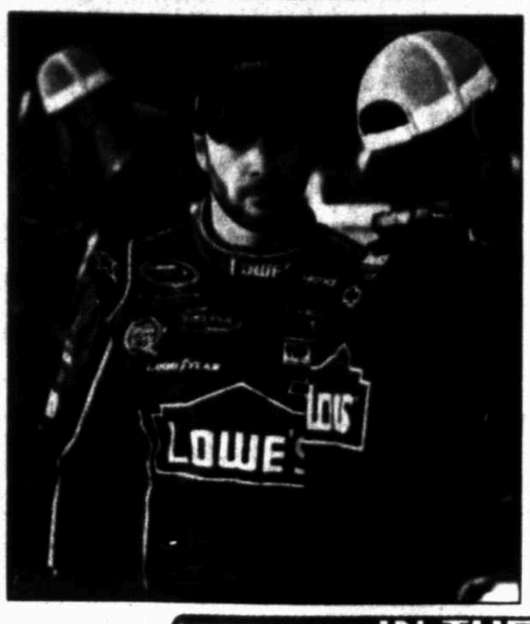
▶ The 11th-hour tweaking of NASCAR's new Sprint Cup cars leads one to wonder: Are they gradually being made more alike? Is the manufacturer identity being slightly undermined in the name of equal competition?

▶ Drivers who had rough years and blamed it on luck can take heart. It really does all even out in the long run.

ON THE TUBE

2013 CUP SCHEDULE

Feb. 16 Daytona Shootout	Fox
Feb. 17 500 qualifying	Fox
Feb. 21 Daytona Duel	Speed
Feb. 24 Daytona 500	Fox
March 3 Phoenix	Fox
March 10 Las Vegas	Fox
March 17 Bristol	Fox
March 24 Fontana	Fox
April 7 Martinsville	Fox
April 13 Texas	Fox
April 21 Kansas	Fox
April 27 Richmond	Fox
May 5 Talladega	Fox
May 11 Darlington	Fox
May 18 Charlotte All-Star	Speed
May 26 Charlotte	Fox
June 2 Dover	Fox
June 9 Pocono	TNT
June 16 Michigan	TNT
June 23 Sonoma	TNT
June 29 Kentucky	TNT
July 6 Daytona	TNT
July 14 New Hampshire	TNT
July 28 Indianapolis	ESPN
Aug. 4 Pocono	ESPN
Aug. 11 Watkins Glen	ESPN
Aug. 18 Michigan	ESPN
Aug. 24 Bristol	ABC
Sept. 1 Atlanta	ESPN
Sept. 7 Richmond	ABC
Sept. 15 Chicagoland	ESPN
Sept. 22 New Hampshire	ESPN
Sept. 29 Dover	ESPN
Oct. 6 Kansas	ESPN
Oct. 12 Charlotte	ABC
Oct. 20 Talladega	ESPN
Oct. 27 Martinsville	ESPN
Nov. 3 Texas	ESPN
Nov. 10 Phoenix	ESPN
Nov. 17 Homestead	ESPN



THEY SAID IT DURING THE SEASON

As a group, they're not notable for their book learning, but NASCAR figures learn to turn a phrase, as collected during another grueling Sprint Cup season:

"I feel as if our sport is extremely safe until something goes wrong." – **Jeff Gordon**.

"To switch teams like I did was a huge risk and a chance for me to show my talents." – **Clint Bowyer**.

"I don't pay attention to what everyone else is doing. I think it screws me up more times than it helps me." – **Kyle Busch**.

"I ran out of brakes and talent with two to go." – **Denny Hamlin**, at New Hampshire.

"Last year if Tony Stewart hadn't won the Chase, I think he would've won the championship anyway." – **Bowyer**, suggesting an impossibility.

"I couldn't see. I was just riding along, and everybody crashed. The whole field." – **Dale Earnhardt Jr.**, at Talladega.

"All it takes (to win the Chase) is more points than them other 11 guys." – **Matt Kenseth**.

"Live by the sword, die by the sword." – **Jimmie Johnson**, referring to Brad Keselowski running out of fuel.

"There's a good chance of anything." – **Ryan Newman**, title prognosticator.

"I want to be considered the best driver to ever sit in a stock car." – **Johnson**.

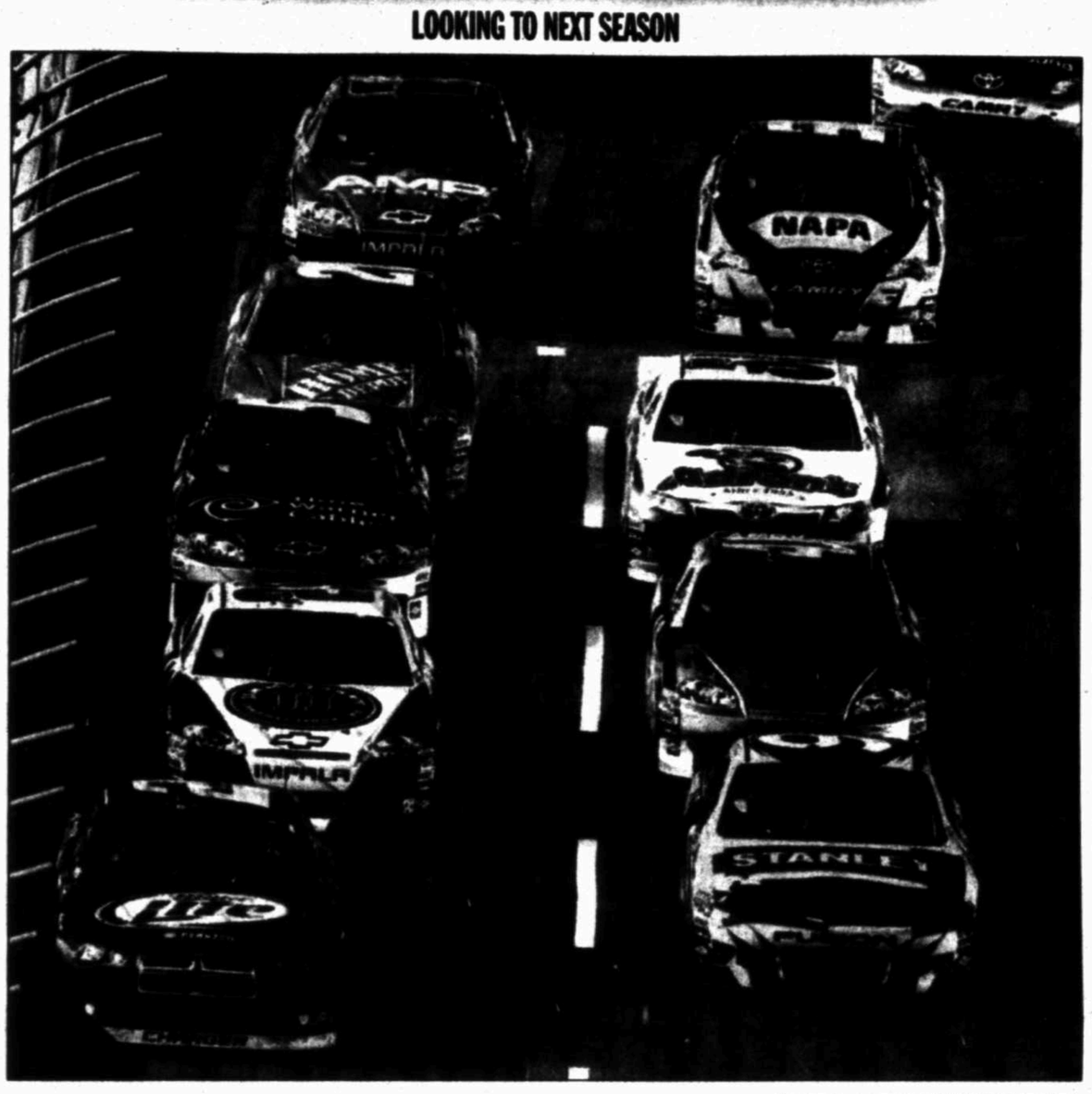
"The reason the wreck happened on the front straight (at the end) was there was oil all over it. Ray Charles could see that." – **Hamlin**, at Phoenix.

John Clark/NASCAR This Week

Yeah, Jimmie Johnson didn't win his sixth Cup title this year, but he's fast at work in adding to his legacy. Will the Hendrick driver fulfill his desire to become 'the best driver to ever sit in a stock car?' Maybe he's getting tips from Richard Petty somehow.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

LOOKING TO NEXT SEASON



Photos by John Clark/NASCAR This Week

Yeah, Brad Keselowski, front left, won the Cup after Tony Stewart and Jimmie Johnson held court the past few years. The trend toward different drivers winning with different teams and cars is taking NASCAR by storm. This trend could open things up for your favorite driver to take over and run wild.

A New Ballgame

The new season figures to be newer than usual

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

For five years, Jimmie Johnson ruled the Sprint Cup Series. He didn't go away in 2011-12, but he didn't win any championships, either.

Tony Stewart won his third championship — and first in six years — in 2011, and his razor-sharp duel with Carl Edwards provided the 10-race Chase with its all-time classic, but Stewart was a throwback, and as many were quick to point out, over seven seasons, the sport had only two champions, Johnson (2006-'07-'08-'09-'10) and Stewart (2005, '11).

In a span of three years, NASCAR has produced an unprecedented achievement — Johnson's fifth straight title — a memorable championship by one of the sport's more popular stars (Stewart), and the emergence of a new and unexpected superstar.

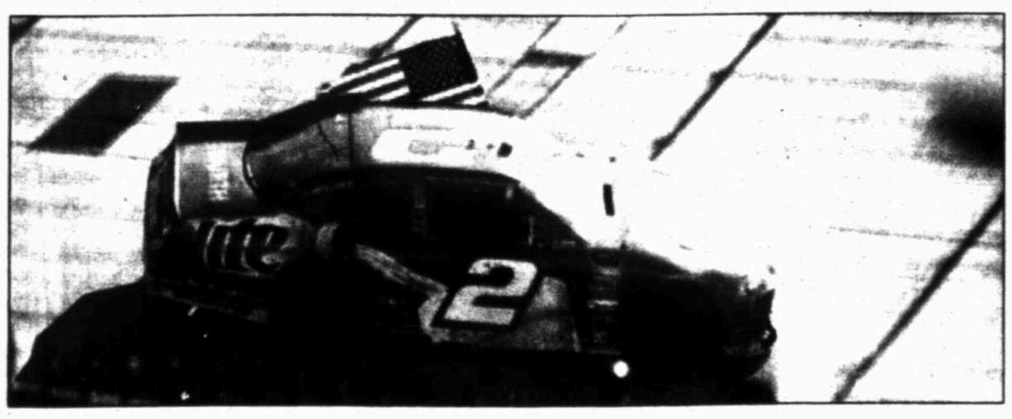
Next, all must adjust to changes because a new car — Generation 6, or G6 — will debut, providing fans with three makes — Chevy, Ford and Toyota — that are more distinct than the largely generic models used for most of six seasons.

Another change, of course, is the departure of Dodge, which bowed out in spite of winning a championship in its final year.

Brad Keselowski and Penske Racing will switch to Ford next season. Perhaps, given that all the cars are changing, it's a good time. Keselowski has a new teammate in Joey Logano, who won twice in four full seasons with Joe Gibbs' Toyota powerhouse. The champion is undaunted.

"I feel like this team … can do anything we set our mind to if we work together like we have over the last few years. I really do," Keselowski said. "And I just feel so fortunate to be where I'm at right now in life and with racing, to have guys like this around me because you're a product of who you surround yourself by, and I'm surrounded by the best."

Perhaps another championship is within Keselowski's grasp, but the competition most definitely isn't going away.



Will a switch from Dodge to Ford keep Keselowski and Penske Racing dominant into next season? The move to Ford could pay off as the competition gets more and more intense for the Sprint Cup.

FEUD OF THE WEEK



VERSUS



Kenseth Logano

MATT KENSETH VS. JOEY LOGANO

It's always a little awkward for one driver to compete against the driver who replaced him. In this case, Kenseth has moved to Joe Gibbs Racing, where Logano used to be, and Logano is now champion Brad Keselowski's teammate at Penske Racing, which brings with it an element of pressure, as well.

NASCAR This Week's Monte Dutton gives his take: "Both Logano and Kenseth come across as mild-mannered, but in their race cars, they really aren't. For the most part, that is a good thing."

NASCAR Trivia

1. What is the maximum number of points a driver can get for winning a race?
2. What track was added to the Sprint Cup schedule in 2011?
3. Who won the only Cup (then Grand National) race ever run at Five Flags Speedway in Pensacola, Fla.?
4. Who was NASCAR's first Rookie of the Year?
5. What race shop was on property now occupied by Charlotte Douglas International Airport?
6. What track touts itself as "the World's Fastest Half Mile"?
7. Where did the great Jimmy Clark make his only NASCAR start?
8. Who collected the last of the Hudson Hornet's 79 NASCAR victories?
9. When did the Daytona 500 become the first race of the Cup schedule?
10. Who was fined $100 for beating his car with a jack handle?
11. In what year were Indianapolis Motor Speedway's bricks covered with asphalt?
12. Who was the first female owner to win at NASCAR's top level?

1. 48
2. Kentucky Speedway
3. Herb Thomas
4. Smoky Rollins
5. Holman-Moody
6. Bristol Motor Speedway
7. Rockingham, N.C.
8. Herb Thomas
9. 1982
10. Joe Fasson
11. 1961
12. Mamie Reynolds

FAN TIPS

Outsider Now An Insider

Chris Myers was an outsider when brought in by Fox to hosts its NASCAR coverage more than a decade ago. Now, with Michael Levin, he has written NASCAR Nation: How Racing's Values Mirror America's (Fenny/M&S, $24.99 U.S., $27.99 Canada). "It's no small wonder," Myers writes, "that America is the birthplace of NASCAR."

LEGENDS AND LORE

That Took Some Talent ...

On April 12, 1970, a fan threw a glass bottle over the fence at Talladega Superspeedway, and the bottle hit the windshield of Cale Yarborough's Mercury, shattering it. Although Yarborough wasn't injured – and continued to race – glass bottles have been banned at NASCAR races ever since. (Source: "The Official NASCAR Trivia Book")

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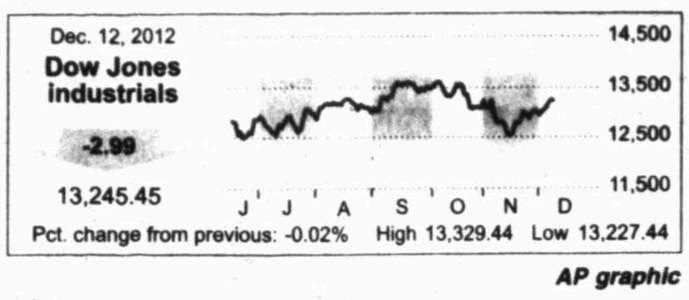
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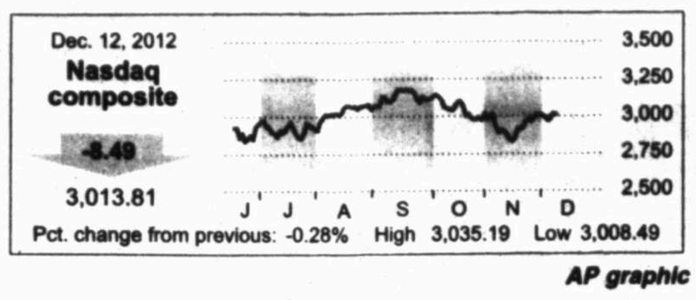
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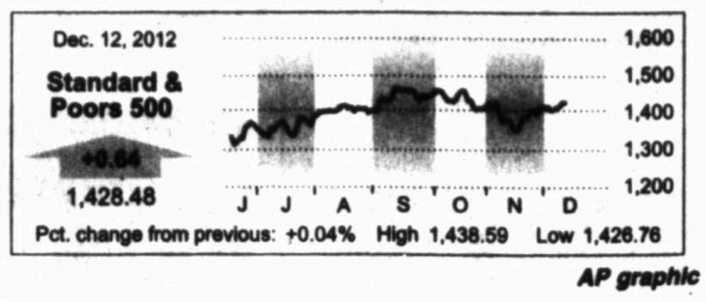
A DAY ON WALL STREET



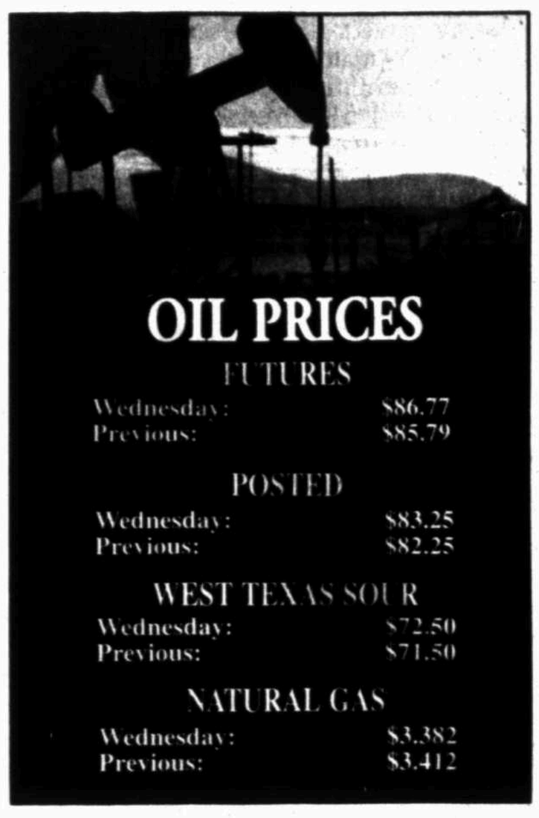
AP graphic



AP graphic



AP graphic



OPEC keeps output target on hold amid weak economy

Associated Press

VIENNA — OPEC ministers agreed to keep their daily crude production target unchanged at a meeting Wednesday. But in a sign of internal rivalries, they failed to reach consensus on a new secretary general, a post sought by Saudi Arabia, Iran and resurgent oil-power Iraq.

The agreement to leave the production ceiling at 30 million barrels a day was expected. Actual output, however, is a million barrels higher because some countries produce above their limits.

The 12-nation Organization of the Petroleum Producing Countries is expected to continue breaching the ceiling, despite a plentiful world supply of oil. Robust U.S. production and anemic world demand due to flagging economic growth have further contributed to pushing crude inventories unusually high.

OPEC predicts even less demand for its oil next year in part because of weak economic growth in consuming countries — something the organization said was the "biggest challenge facing global oil markets in 2013."

OPEC Secretary General Abdullah Al-Badry detailed some of the key risks to growth and oil demand — Europe's debt crisis, Japan's weak economy and America's "fiscal cliff," the hundreds of billions of dollars in tax hikes and spending cuts due to take effect on Jan. 1 unless politicians reach a budget deal.

"We see uncertainty in 2012 and in 2013, and we see the world economy is not in good shape," Al-Badry told reporters.

On the bright side, he said he expected the U.S. Congress and the White House to reach an agreement to avoid the fiscal cliff, which could push the world's largest economy into recession. He also forecast continued economic growth — and oil demand — from America, as well as China, India and other developing countries.

The decision to keep to the present production target reflected most OPEC nations' belief that prices remain high enough to keep sales profitable, despite the weak global economy.

Benchmark crude for January delivery was up 70 cents to $86.49 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange, gaining for the second day after falling for five straight sessions.

Brent crude, used to price international varieties of oil, was up 90 cents to $108.91 per barrel on the ICE Futures exchange in London. Brent has been well over $100 a barrel most days this year — a level within OPEC's comfort zone.

Iranian oil minister Rostam Ghasemi — whose country is losing hundreds of thousands of barrels a day in oil sales due to international embargoes over its nuclear program — said the Islamic Republic ideally sought a cut of 2 million barrels a day to the OPEC ceiling. But even he added that Tehran could accept the current daily ceiling of 30 million barrels.

"The state of the market today is fine, but if OPEC does reduce its production the state will improve," he said.

Ghasemi also played down the effects the sanctions were having on his country as an instrument of pressure to force concessions on a nuclear program some nations fear may be geared to making weapons — allegations Tehran denies.

He claimed the Iranian state had cut its financial dependence on oil income by 20 percent in the last three years. "Next year we will do the same," he said.

OPEC ministers did not agree, however, on replacing Al-Badry as the organization's secretary general — the public face of the organization between ministerial meetings and a symbol of the cohesion the group likes to project despite persistent internal rivalries.

Instead, the meeting extended him for a sixth year, making him one of the longest-serving officials in that post in OPEC's history.

The choice of secretary general must be unanimous among OPEC's 12 members. The failed Saudi, Iranian and Iraqi bids reflected the divisions between those member states, despite the cartel's outward show of unity.

Oil prices rise

Oil traders got what they wanted Wednesday: another big move by the Federal Reserve to stimulate the slow-growing U.S. economy.

The Fed said it will spend $85 billion a month to sustain an aggressive drive to keep long-term interest rates low. It also plans to keep a key short-term rate near zero until unemployment drops below 6.5 percent.

Stimulus measures generally weaken the dollar, which tends to direct more investors into buying commodities.

Benchmark crude gained 98 cents to close at $86.77 a barrel in New York. It rose as high as $87.68 after the Fed's announcement.

Before the Fed statement was released Wednesday afternoon, oil was only moderately higher, with gains dampened by a big increase in the nation's gasoline supply. The government said gasoline supplies jumped by 5 million barrels last week, twice as much as analysts. That's a sign of weak demand.

Meanwhile, prices at the pump fell to $3.31 a gallon, about 4 cents higher than this day a year ago.

Dollar sinks

The euro rose to $1.3063 Wednesday from $1.3003 late Tuesday.

The British pound rose to $1.6139 from $1.6111. The dollar also slipped to 0.9263 Swiss franc from 0.9333, and to 98.43 Canadian cents from 98.66. The dollar rose to 83.20 Japanese yen from 82.50 yen.

Gold for February delivery rose $8.30 to finish at $1,717.90 per ounce.

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BkofAm	1643849	10.61	+.10
S&P500ETF	1204577	143.51	+.07
AmIntlGrp	597956	34.85	-.41
SPDR Fncl	551810	16.14	+.07
iShEMkts	525108	43.38	+.13

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
JinkoSolar	6.32	+1.03	+19.5
YingliGrn	2.14	+.33	+18.2
NoahEduc	2.25	+.22	+10.8
TrinaSolar	3.76	+.35	+10.3
USMetlIdx	27.33	+2.41	+9.7

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
CorEngyInf	6.48	-1.01	-13.5
AVangrd	29.59	-3.45	-10.4
ChRvLab	35.65	-3.65	-9.3
DirDGldBr	30.48	-2.76	-8.3
Haverty	15.91	-1.36	-7.9

DIARY

Advanced	1,465
Declined	1,582
Unchanged	110
Total issues	3,157
New Highs	122
New Lows	19
Volume	3,594,465,591

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
YM Bio g	885692	2.88	+1.25
Rentech	35295	2.94	-.05
ChenereEn	31795	17.60	-.12
NwGold g	25894	11.23	+.42
GoldStr g	23204	1.87	-.01

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
YM Bio g	2.88	+1.25	+76.7
Aerosonic	3.88	+.39	+11.2
PacBkrM g	6.34	+.49	+8.4
PyramidOil	4.02	+.27	+7.2
SoCTBcp	2.29	+.14	+6.5

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Accelr8	2.97	-.21	-6.5
SCEd pfC	21.08	-1.13	-5.1
ParkCity	2.80	-.15	-5.1
RareEle g	3.62	-.17	-4.5
SCEd pfB	20.85	-.97	-4.4

DIARY

Advanced	206
Declined	233
Unchanged	30
Total issues	469
New Highs	7
New Lows	8
Volume	167,957,511

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
RschMotn	628642	13.31	+.71
Intel	470515	20.67	+.02
Facebook n	448691	27.58	-.40
Microsoft	426718	27.24	-.08
PwShs QQQ	424218	65.83	-.14

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
AspnBio rs	2.72	+.63	+30.1
JA Solar rs	4.08	+.67	+19.6
Iridium un	11.89	+1.65	+16.1
SuperMda	2.69	+.34	+14.5
GeoMet pf	8.49	+.99	+13.2

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
WashFd wt	2.90	-1.03	-26.2
ParametSd	5.32	-.98	-15.6
CenGrdA lf	10.00	-1.85	-15.6
AcuraPhm	2.96	-.53	-15.2
CentGard lf	9.64	-1.52	-13.6

DIARY

Advanced	977
Declined	1,498
Unchanged	124
Total issues	2,599
New Highs	83
New Lows	24
Volume	1,714,541,138

Avon to cut 4 pct of jobs in global restructuring

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Avon Products plans to cut about 1,500 jobs and exit two Asian markets, as the struggling beauty products seller starts on a broad restructuring plan in an effort to turn around results.

The job cuts amount to almost 4 percent of its workforce and mark one of the first major moves by CEO Sheri McCoy. McCoy was brought on in April to replace longtime CEO Andrea Jung at Avon, a direct seller of beauty products like Skin So Soft lotion and Mark cosmetics.

Avon said the job cuts span all regions and functions. The 1,500 cuts include 100 employees in Vietnam and South Korea, which Avon will exit entirely.

Avon said in November that it would embark on a plan to save $400 million in three years, but the jobs cuts and market exits are the first details about the plan.

The restructuring follows moves other consumer product makers have made this year to cut costs and exit businesses as they face an uncertain global economy.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $40.24 Up 0.21

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $84.01 Up 0.34

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $23.80 Up 0.82

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $17.64 Up 0.10

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $23.24 Down 0.26

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $5.33 Down 0.12

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $16.48 Down 0.27

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AT&T Inc	1.80f	45	34.49	+.34	+14.1
Abraxas	...	...	1.90	+.01	-42.4
AdamsEx	.67e	...	10.50	...	+8.9
AMD			2.37	+.04	-56.1
Alcoa	.12	54	8.65	-.03	...
AlonUSA	.16	23	13.85	-.03	+59.0
AlphaNRs	...	...	9.36	+.26	-54.2
AmIntlGrp		2	34.85	-.41	+50.2
Amgen	1.44	16	90.17	+.22	+40.4
Anadarko	.36	...	75.54	+.25	-1.0
Apache	.68	12	77.81	+1.46	-14.1
Apple Inc	10.60	12	539.00	-2.39	+33.1
ApldMatl	.36	85	11.09	+.01	+3.5
ArchCoal	.12	...	7.65	+.16	-47.3
ATMOS	1.40f	15	35.62	-.27	+6.8
AutoData	1.74f	20	57.40	-.19	+6.3
BP PLC	1.92a	6	41.62	+.45	-2.6
BabsCCInv	1.20	...	16.06	-.15	-10.7
BakrHu	.60	13	42.92	+.03	-11.8
BkofAm	.04	28	10.61	+.10	+90.8
BariPVix rs	...	...	29.57	+.72	-79.2
BasicEnSv		7	11.15	-.08	-43.4
BerkHa A	...	17	134000.00	+3169.00	+16.8
BerryPet	.32	...	33.23	-.39	-20.9
BlkHillsCp	1.48	16	35.61	-.20	+6.0
BrMySq	1.40f	30	33.21	+.14	-5.8
BrownFA s	1.02a	24	61.78	-1.67	+16.9
BrownFB s	1.02a	25	64.00	-1.48	+19.2
CSX	.56	11	19.64	+.05	-6.7
CVS Care	.65	16	47.54	-.01	+16.6
Cameron	...	22	55.00	-.26	+11.8
Caterpillar	2.08	9	87.95	+.62	-2.9
Celestic g	...	7	7.56	+.02	+3.1
CntryLink	2.90	35	39.07	+.50	+5.0
ChesEng	.35	...	16.96	-.13	-23.9
Chevron	3.60	9	108.08	+.34	+1.6
Chicos	.21	17	18.07	+.01	+62.2
Cimarex	.48	13	57.89	+1.13	-6.5
Cisco	.56	13	19.73	-.05	+9.5
Citigroup	.04	12	37.53	+.53	+42.6
ClayEng	...	27	40.24	+.21	-47.0
Clearwire	...	...	2.75	+.07	+41.8
CobaltIEn	...	...	25.45	-2.00	+64.0
CocaCola s	1.02	20	37.64	-.22	+7.6
ColgPal	2.48	21	106.99	-.89	+15.8
ConAgra	1.00	21	30.28	+.57	+14.7
ConchoRes	...	18	84.01	+.34	-10.4
ConocPhil s	2.64	7	58.20	+.08	+4.8
CrackerB	2.00	14	62.70	+.84	+24.4
CrpsTim	2.37e	10	24.55	-.62	-49.8
DCP Mid	2.72f	...	39.14	-.08	-17.5
DTE	2.48	16	61.55	+.26	+13.0
Dataram h		...	.40	-.07	-50.4
Dawson	...	17	23.80	+.82	-39.8
Dell Inc	.32	7	10.57	-.10	-27.8
DeltaAir	...	5	10.72	+.06	+32.5
DevonE	.80	33	52.91	+.65	-14.7
DirSCBear	...	...	14.66	+.21	-44.6
DirFnBear	...	...	16.14	-.18	-56.8
Disney	.75f	16	49.64	+.16	+32.4
DollarGen	...	16	44.39	+1.45	+7.9
DowChm	1.28	24	31.15	+.10	+8.3
EMC Cp	...	20	24.67	-.65	+14.5
EOG Res	.68	27	120.74	+2.01	+22.6
EmpDist	1.00	16	20.03	...	-5.0
Energen	.56	13	45.24	-.31	-9.5
EngyTsfr	3.58	9	43.00	-.20	-6.2
EnPro	...	20	40.25	+.07	+22.0
EntPrPt	2.60f	18	49.36	-.64	+6.4
Ericsson	.35e	...	9.64	-.17	-4.8
ExterranH	...	...	21.72	-.12	+138.7
ExxonMbl	2.28	11	89.45	+.46	+5.5
Facebook n		...	27.58	-.40	-27.9
FordM	.20	9	11.47	-.02	+6.6
ForestOil		10	6.80	+.16	-49.8
FMCG	1.25	10	32.52	+.53	-11.6
FrozenFd	...	...	.88	-.02	-31.8
GATX	1.20	17	42.82	+.14	-1.9
GabMultT	.80	...	7.71	+.08	+23.7
GAInv	2.00e	...	28.53	+.06	+14.5
GenElec	.68	16	21.78	+.27	+21.6
GtPlainEn	.67f	16	20.35	-.02	-6.6
Groupon		...	4.58	+.17	-77.8
HalconR rs	...	...	6.81	-.05	-27.5
Hallibrtn	.36	10	34.05	+.08	-1.3
Heinz	2.06	19	58.66	+.11	+8.5
HewlettP	.53	...	14.53	+.27	-43.6
HuntBncsh	.16	11	6.25	-.01	+13.8
iShJapn	.20e	...	9.38	+.04	+3.0
iShSilver		...	32.37	+.46	+20.2
iShChina25	.93e	...	39.00	+.20	+11.8
iShEMkts	.82e	...	43.38	+.13	+14.3
iS Eafe	1.72e	...	56.05	+.18	+13.2
iSh20X	1.32e	...	82.94	-.47	+12.5
IntegrysE	2.72	17	53.24	-.32	-1.7
Intel	.90	9	20.67	+.02	-14.8
InterDig	.40a	7	44.46	-.59	+2.0
JPMorgCh	1.20	9	42.77	+.13	+28.6
JohnJn	2.44	23	70.96	-.14	+8.2
Keycorp	.20	9	8.20	-.03	+6.6
KimbClk	2.96	18	85.50	-.28	+16.2
KindME	5.04f	...	78.35	-.25	-7.8
KindMM	5.04t	...	73.43	-.72	-6.5
LegacyRes	2.26f	...	23.24	-.26	-17.7
LillyEli	1.96	13	49.00	-1.60	+17.9
Lubys	...	24	6.57	-.07	+45.7
MktVGold	.15e	...	47.63	+1.35	-7.4
McDnlds	3.08f	17	89.31	-.31	-11.0
Merck	1.72f	21	45.26	+.07	+20.1
MeritMed	...	24	13.49	+.01	+.8
MexcoEn	...	...	5.33	-.12	-23.9
MicronT	...	...	6.71	-.06	+6.7
Microsoft	.92	15	27.24	-.08	+4.9
Molycorp	...	...	10.99	-.34	-54.2
MorgStan	.20	...	17.70	-.05	+17.0
Nabors	...	...	14.53	-.09	-16.2
NatGrid	3.17e	...	57.70	+.46	+19.0
NOilVarco	.52f	12	66.48	-1.51	-2.2
NewsCpA	.17	23	24.79	-.14	+39.0
NokiaCp	.26e	...	3.83	+.04	-20.5
NStarRlt	.68f	...	6.33	-.31	+32.7
NvMAd	.85a	...	15.45	-.12	+5.2
NvPMI	.88	...	15.55	-.06	+5.0
NuvPI	.86	...	15.39	-.10	+6.4
NSTFI3	.66e	...	15.14	-.05	+5.8
NTXQI	.73	...	16.23	-.41	-.7
OcciPet	2.16	11	76.42	+.41	-18.4
Oracle	.24	16	31.94	-.22	+24.5
PerTech	...	15	4.96	+.08	+25.9
ParkDrl	...	...	4.41	-.03	-38.5
PattUTI	.20	8	17.86	-.18	-10.6
PennaRE	.64	...	17.29	-.16	+65.6
Prmian	1.21e	10	12.87	-.15	-38.8
Pfizer	.88	16	25.51	-.13	+17.9
PioNtrl	.08	...	105.60	+1.37	+18.0
PlainsAA s	2.17f	19	45.16	-.91	+23.0
PwShs QQQ	.61e	...	65.83	-.14	+17.9
Praxair	2.20	19	106.63	-1.35	-.3
PrmEgy	...	9	28.00	+1.70	+23.9
ProctGam	2.25	19	70.76	+.10	+8.1
RangeRs	.16	...	65.84	+1.17	+6.3
RegionsFn	.04	12	6.78	+.03	+57.7
RschMotn	...	8	13.31	+.71	-8.2
Rowan	...	24	32.10	-.07	+5.8
RoyDShllA	3.44	9	68.60	+.79	-6.1
SpdrDJIA	3.30e	...	132.51	+.01	+8.7
S&P500ETF	2.85e	...	143.51	+.07	+14.4
SabnR	3.70e	12	44.75	-.11	-29.0
SanderFm	.68	52	49.53	-.01	-1.2
SandRdge	...	...	6.84	-.01	-16.2
Sapient	...	20	10.33	-.28	-18.0
Schlmbrg	1.10	18	72.79	+.19	+6.6
SigmaAld	.80	20	72.68	-.73	+16.4
SiriusXM	.05e	5	2.78	+.05	+52.7
Smucker	2.08	20	87.83	+.10	+12.4
SprintNex	...	...	5.66	+.09	+141.9
SPDR Fncl	.25e	...	16.14	+.07	+24.2
Staples	.44	...	11.70	+.14	-15.8
SunocoLog	2.07f	12	49.05	-.66	+24.5
Synovus	.04	...	2.46	+.10	+74.5
TeleflEsp	...	...	13.12	+.14	-23.7
Tesoro	.60f	10	39.99	-.87	+71.2
TevaPhrm	1.03e	16	39.47	-2.20	-2.2
3M Co	2.36	15	93.12	-.56	+13.9
Torchmark	.80	10	52.09	+.09	+20.1
TriContl	.51e	...	16.13	-.08	+13.4
TylerTech	...	48	47.26	+.34	+67.0
UBWV	1.24	16	24.87	-.08	-12.0
US Bancrp	.78	11	31.87	-.10	+17.8
Vale SA	1.15e	...	18.88	+.11	-12.0
ValeroE	.70	9	32.79	+.13	+55.8
VangEmg	1.44e	...	43.72	+.17	+14.4
VulcanM	.04	...	51.30	-.95	+30.4
WalMart	1.59	14	68.94	-1.95	+15.4
Walgrn	1.10	15	36.67	+.02	+10.9
WellsFargo	.88	11	33.50	+.21	+21.6
WstnRefin	.32a	14	29.35	+.71	+120.8
WhitingPet	...	11	42.61	-.06	-8.7
WmsCos	1.30f	20	31.13	-.25	+15.5
XcelEngy	1.08	15	27.21	-.07	-1.6
Xerox	.17	8	7.08	-.04	-11.1
YM Bio g	...	...	2.88	+1.25	+75.6
Yahoo	...	6	19.38	-.14	+20.1
Zynga n	...	...	2.63	+.18	-72.1

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We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
13,661.72	11,735.19	Dow Jones Industrials	13,245.45	-2.99	-.02	+8.41	+12.03
5,390.11	4,750.12	Dow Jones Transportation	5,174.74	-15.21	-.29	+3.09	+8.77
499.82	435.57	Dow Jones Utilities	453.43	-.64	-.14	-2.42	-2.87
8,515.66	7,129.84	NYSE Composite	8,380.88	+14.40	+.17	+12.09	+16.65
2,509.57	2,164.87	Amex Index	2,398.61	+6.61	+.28	+5.28	+8.35
3,196.93	2,518.01	Nasdaq Composite	3,013.82	-8.48	-.28	+15.69	+18.69
1,474.51	1,202.37	S&P 500	1,428.48	+.64	+.04	+13.59	+17.88
15,432.54	12,618.11	Wilshire 5000	14,960.44	-9.33	-.06	+13.42	+17.81
868.50	705.78	Russell 2000	829.39	-5.60	-.67	+11.94	+17.07

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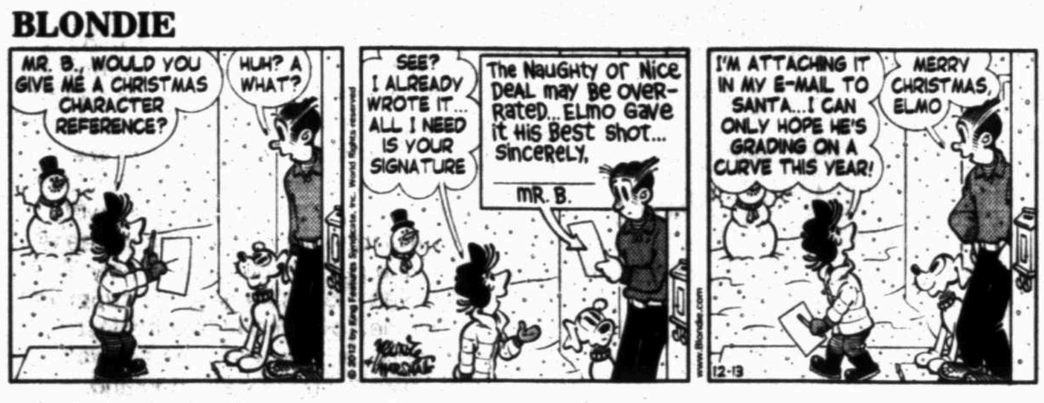
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



FUNKY WINKERBEAN



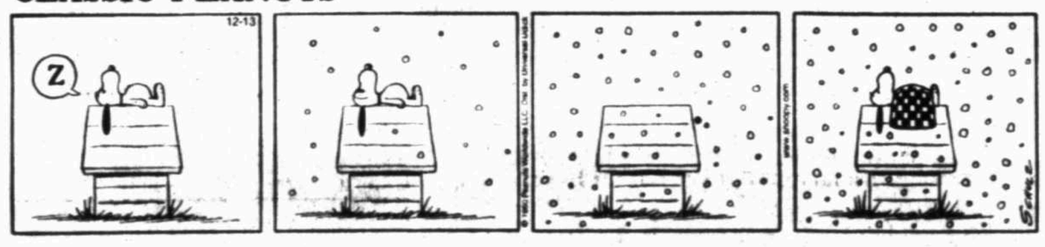
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CLASSIC PEANUTS



SHOE



GARFIELD



DUSTIN



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



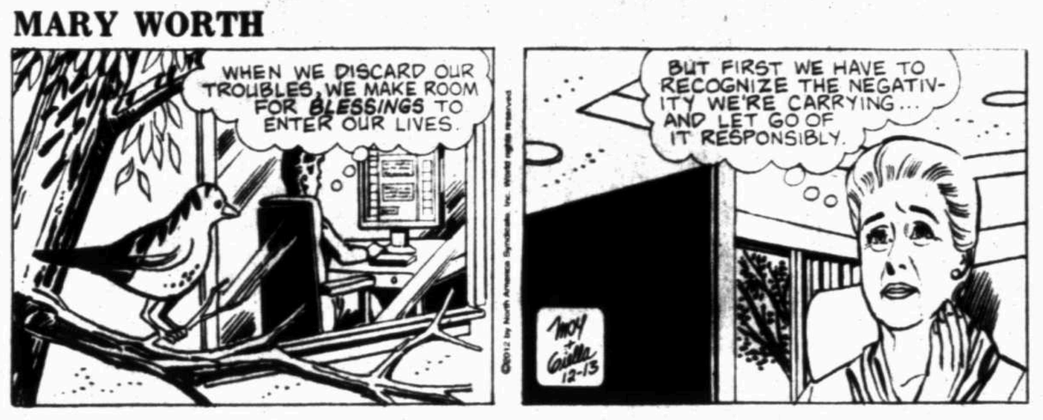
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



LUANN



MARY WORTH



ZITS



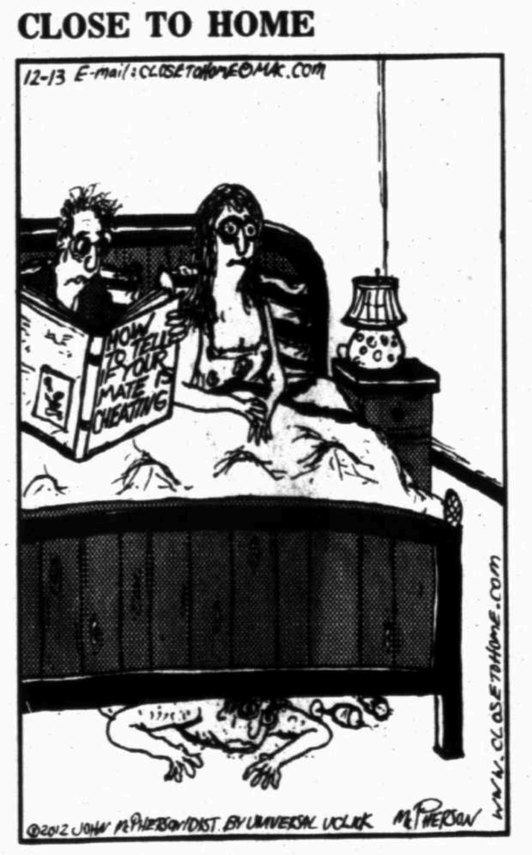
BABY BLUES



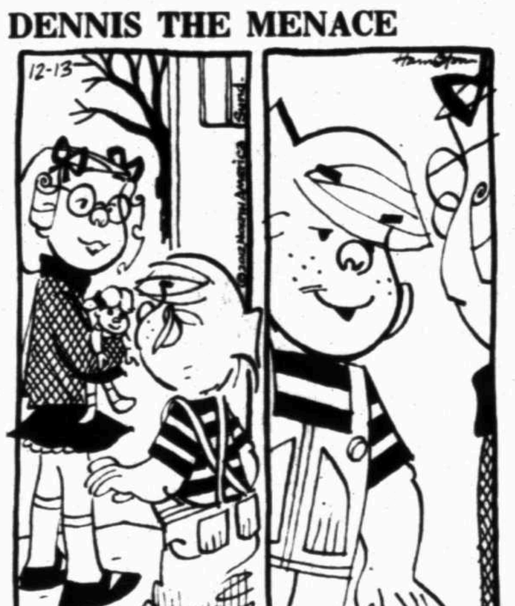
MUTTS



CLOSE TO HOME



DENNIS THE MENACE



LOCKHORNS



FAMILY CIRCUS

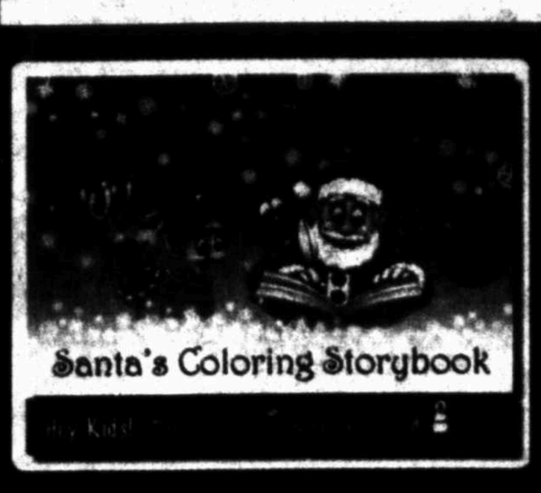


COME VISIT SANTA!

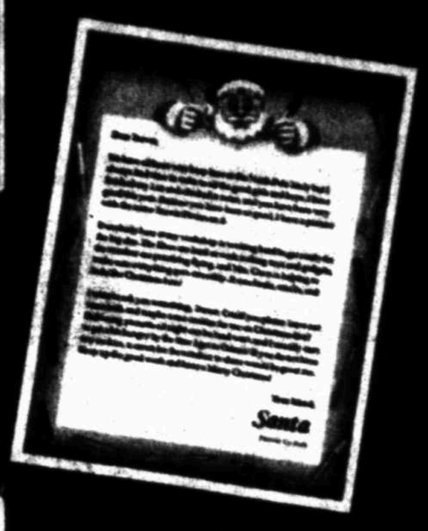




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A friendly Advertising Consultant will help you word and schedule your ad for best results.

HOW TO WRITE A CLASSIFIED AD THAT WORKS!
- Promote Your Merchandise
- Check The Market Value
- Always Include The Price
- Keyword Your Ad

Midland Reporter-Telegram Classifieds 682-6222

mywesttexas.com
brought to you by the Midland Reporter-Telegram

Notices | Auto | Real Estate | Jobs | Marty's Market | Who's Who

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:
Jeri Houston,
Advertising Sales Manager,
687-8894.



DEADLINES:

WORD ADS:

PUBLISHES ON:	DEADLINE IS:
Sun, Wed, Thu, Fri	5p.m. Prior Day
Saturday	12p.m. Friday
Sunday	5p.m. Friday
Monday	5p.m. Friday

DISPLAY ADS:

PUBLISHES ON:	DEADLINE IS:
Wednesday	3p.m. Monday
Thursday	3p.m. Tuesday
Friday, Saturday	3p.m. Wednesday
Sunday, Monday	3p.m. Thursday
Tuesday	3p.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.

Ads containing art or photos need to be in our office 2 working days before the ad is to be published and we ask that you pay in advance.

Midland Reporter-Telegram • The People To People Marketplace • 201 E. Illinois

Legal & Public Notices

APPLICATION HAS been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit for Javi's Restaurante Mexicano dba Javi's Restaurante Mexicano located at 1511 Rankin Hwy, Midland, TX 79701 Midland County, TX. Officer of said corporation is Bertha Ramirez, Owner.

Legal & Public Notices

MOTOR POLICY BOARD

Announcement of Meeting:

Date: December 17, 2012
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Located at: Wright Office Complex, Suite 1
9601 Wright Drive
Midland, Texas 79706

Conduct Executive Session concerning any and all subjects and for any and all purposes permitted by Chapter 551 of the Texas Administrative Code, including but not limited to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 for the purpose of consulting with the board's attorney; Texas Government code Section 551.072 to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property; Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to discuss personnel matters. NOTE: An Amendment to the MOTOR MPO 2035 MTP will be considered at this meeting.

Legal & Public Notices

Notice of Application for Salt Water Disposal Well Permit

Reliance Energy, Inc., 500 W. Illinois, Suite 1200, Midland, Texas 79701
is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced salt water by well injection into a porous formation not productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to dispose of salt water into the San Andres formation, Mabee 240C Lease, Well Number #1SW. The proposed disposal well is located 16.5 miles East of Andrews, Texas in the Mabee Field, in Andrews County. The waste water will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 4,670 to 5,800 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended. Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

Legal & Public Notices

Notice of Application for Salt Water Disposal Well Permit

Reliance Energy, Inc., 500 W. Illinois, Suite 1200, Midland, Texas 79701
is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to dispose of produced salt water by well injection into a porous formation not productive of oil or gas.

The applicant proposes to dispose of salt water into the San Andres formation, Mabee 240B Lease, Well Number #1SW. The proposed disposal well is located 16 miles Southeast of Andrews, Texas in the Mabee Field, in Andrews County. The waste water will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 4,670 to 5,800 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

Lost & Found

FOUND DACHSHUND. Found near Dengar & Mark Ln on Monday evening. Call Ashley to identify. 934-2868.

LOST SMALL white female cat with Calico markings. Vicinity of Kansas & "A" Street. 432-212-9112

TAN MALE Chihuahua found in HEB parking lot. Call 978-3836 to indentify, after 3:30 pm please

LOST TAN and White Cavalier Spaniel name Cooper he is deaf, if found please call 689-4011 there is a Reward, wearing red christmas pajamas.

MISSING SINCE 11/29 dark gray cat from A & Kinsey area. Call 770-3003.

Legal & Public Notices

Notice of Sale of Personal Property to satisfy a landlords lien for CASH ONLY. Sale Date is Thursday, January 10, 2013 at 11 a.m.
Aztec Storage Center
1131 E. 52nd Street
Odessa, TX 79762

#97 Monica Jacobo *Household Goods



Business Center

Business Opportunity

TURN YOUR monthly royalty payments into lump sum cash! We will close by December 31st. Mid-Cities Minerals and Royalties, LLC. 1-855-643-2484 Jason@MidCitiesLLC.com



Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

1999 TOYOTA Camry needs timing belt, tires and battery. Asking $2000 OBO. 432-889-0312

CADILLAC 2011 CTS 12k miles, like new. See to believe, beautiful fire red. $29,900. 432-682-8647. 2300 West Front St.

Passenger Cars

CHEVROLET 1977 Monte Carlo. 1 owner. 454/400 HP. 400 Trans. Edelbrock intake manifold & carbureator. Dual Exhaust, New a/c, good tires, Runs & drives good. Good Shape. $7000. 806-681-6700.

CHEVY 2011 Impala LT1, 44k miles w/ warranty B&B Auto Sales 432-683-6222

CHRYSLER 2007 300C, 5.7 Hemi, We finance. B&B Auto Sales 432-683-6222

DODGE 2010 Charger SXT, 38,000 miles, very nice. We finance. B&B Auto 683-6222.

FORD 2000 Taurus Blue,V6, 127K $2,700. 432-683-8462.

HONDA 2000 A.C. CORD, 4 door, runs great, sunroof, Blue Book $4500. Ask $3500. Call Micheal 413-5217, 684-8135.

Legal & Public Notices

ONSITE AUCTION
DECEMBER 15TH 10AM
Tim Watkins
Auctioneer TX
Lic 13861
Selling Dealership. Telephone System, 1942 South Bend Lathe, Motorcycle Lift, Jacks, Vacuum Cleaners, Battery Chargers, Tool Boxes, Compressors, Solar Charger, Office Equipment, Office Furniture, Executive Meeting Table, Shelves, Desks, Chairs, Printers, Copy Machines, Books, Treadmill, Work Out Center, Framed Artwork, Home Décor, Bedroom Furniture, Household Furniture, BridgePort Mill, 16" Swing Lathe, Mustang Cobra Convertible, 20 Plus New Bed liners, Counter Tops, Scrap Metal, Recycle Machine, Tires and Wheel Sets and Singles, Motor Hydraulic Lift, Flood Lights, Lawn Mowers, Craftsman Table Saw, Pressure Washer, Complete Office Furniture Suite, 4 Door Horizontal Files, Microwaves, TVs, Audio Stands, Stereos, Speakers, Wall hangings, Bedding Clinical Centrifuse, Wheels, Tires, Weight Sets, 5.9 Cummins Diesel Engine out of truck, Clearing 11,000 Foot buildings, 2,000 foot building, 6,000 foot Barns, Headache Racks, Grill Guards, 5th Wheel and Hitches, Misc. TOO MUCH TO LIST!
2301 E. 8th Street.
Odessa, Texas
www.auctionsandservices.com or
www.auctionzip.com
432-683-2262
432-349-6890
Tim Watkins Tx Lic 13861
Watkins@planetlink.net

Passenger Cars

MERCURY 1997 Grand Marquis white, 4 dr. only 119k Miles. Excellent condition! $2.500. 432-218-9941

MITSUBISHI 2007 Eclipse, 52k miles, auto. We finance. B&B Auto 432-683-6222

TOYOTA 2010 CAMRY Hybrid Loaded. White with Tan Leather. 23k miles. Excellent Condition. $22,900. Call 432-559-8200

Fax Your Classified Ad In Today! 682-6999

Lost & Found

FOUND AN ITEM?

If you are trying to return an item to its rightful owner, let us help you. Call 432-682-6222 For Your Complimentary Ad!

Passenger Cars

WANTED! Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. FREE pick-up. 432-685-4078

Exotic Cars

CORVETTE 1994 Red garaged kept, immaculate. 92k/miles. $8900. 432-557-4222.

NEW TODAY!
MINI COOPER 2012 S. Blue, standard trans.-$24,000 Black leather seats. Wife can't drive standard. 352-9660

2000 PONTIAC Trans Am, T-tops low mileage, LS1 engine, automatic transmission, red with tan interior, new tires, excellent condition, 432-553-5052.

Fax Your Classified Ad In Today! 682-6999

Meetings

Masonic Lodges

Communications
1600 W. Wall
432-853-1273
Stated Meetings
Acacia Lodge #1414
1st & 3rd Tues.
@ 7:30pm.
Midland Lodge #623
2nd & 4th Thurs.
7:30pm
Centennial Lodge #1448
1st & 3rd Sat.
8:30am
Did you know Christopher 'Kit' Carson was a Master Mason?

Antique & Vintage

CHEVROLET 1977 Monte Carlo. 1 owner. 454/400 HP. 400 Trans. Edelbrock intake manifold & carbureator. Dual Exhaust, New a/c, good tires, Runs & drives good. Good Shape. $7000. 806-681-6700.

DODGE 1973 Charger. Very nice car. Tag and sticker current, $10,000 obo. Call 432-634-3034.



FOR SALE: Antique Ford Mustang 1964 1/2 - 1965 totally refurbished, original parts, less than 30,000 original miles. $40,000 OBO. Call 432-683-9120.

Pickup Trucks

1984 GMC 1/2 ton pickup, crash bar & plate, headache rack, 8 ply tires. $2,000. 432- 557-5557

1990 Ford F350, Crew-cab, 72K Miles, 460, Automatic. $5,500. 432-853-3316

2010 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT 2WD. Loaded, leather, grill guard, bed liner, running boards, 27K miles. $27,500 432-556-3588

CHEVY 2008 1500 crew cab, LT, Z71. We finance. B&B Auto Sales 432-683-6222.

General Announcements

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed on Tuesday, December 18th, from 1:00 pm until 3:30 pm in order for our employees to enjoy our annual

Christmas Party.

Happy Holidays!
FROM THE
Midland Reporter-Telegram

mywesttexasjobs

http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs

Midland Reporter-Telegram

monster

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Accounting, Business, or Finance Graduate

West Texas Gas FT

"NEED IMMEDIATELY" — Accounting, Business or Finance Graduate to handle various functions for West Texas Gas, et al. Job consists of analyzing various insurance coverages, property, workers comp, liability, etc.; processing claims, and related legal matters; and other analytical assignments - ad valorem tax matters, electrical power costs; stock portfolio, liquid fuel margins, etc. Salary commensurate with experience. E-mail resume to: Employment@westtexasgas.com or mail to HR, 211 N. Colorado, Midland, TX 79701

Bookkeeper

Precision Pipe Coatings FT

WANTED - Full Time Full Charge Bookkeeper Offices in Odessa. MUST have experience in Quickbooks and a strong bookkeeping background. Excellent Benefits including Health and 401K. Competitive Salary. Please fax resumes to 432-262-3970.

AUTOMOTIVE

Lot Attendant

GREAT JOB OPPORTUNITY in an excellent work environment. Lot attendant needed for car detail, make-ready, etc. Join our team at The Car Store of Midland. Ready for immediate hire!

CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Office Assistant

Permian Petroleum Services, Inc. PT

Family owned oil field trucking company needs adaptable office assistant for invoice preparation, data entry and various other clerical duties. MUST have experience in computer skills with knowledge of Quickbooks and Excel. Very casual and flexible atmosphere. Please fax resume to 687-1643, mail to P. O. Box 3663, Midland, TX 79702, email to rvmaskell@gmail.com, or apply to 4601 Rankin Highway.

Receptionist/Office Clerical

Accurate, Inc. FT

Seeking Receptionist/Office Clerical. Apply at 9504 W. County Rd 127, Midland or call 432-563-1224.

CONSTRUCTION & FACILITIES

Laborers and Carpenters

Campbell Construction Company FT/PT

Midland, TX 79702

Campbell Construction Company **seeking Laborers** and Carpenters. Pre-employment drug test required, Good **Benefits, Salary** DOE., Apply at 241-A Spring Park Drive, Midland or send **resume to PO Box** 11293, Midland, TX 79702 or fax to (432) 683-5943

ENERGY & UTILITIES

Pipeline Operator

West Texas Gas, Inc. FT

West Texas Gas, Inc. has an immediate opening for a natural gas liquids (NGL) Pipeline Operator for the Big Spring/Midland area. Primary responsibilities require experience in pipeline operations including measurement, regulation, pump stations, line locates, routine maintenance, computer skills and cathodic protection systems. Duties also include pipeline regulatory compliance responsibilities. Benefits include group health insurance & 401K Plan. Salary DOE. Interested applicant can forward resume to West Texas Gas, Inc., 211 N. Colorado, Midland, Texas 79701 or email to employment@westtexasgas.com

HEALTHCARE

Caregiver's

Visiting Angels FT/PT

Now hiring in home caregivers. Please call 432-897-4094.

MARC

CREATING CHOICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES...

MARC, Inc. has multiple positions available; with schedules to fit any lifestyle. Come make a difference in your community.

Now Hiring:

- ***Direct Support Professionals (no experience required)***
- ***Case Managers***

If interested, please fill out an application at 2701 North "A" St., Midland, TX 79705 or on our website

www.marcinc-tx.org

CNA, LVN or MA

Seeking LVN/MA/CNA for a busy family practice office. Experienced in lab draws, EKGs, injections, lab reporting, medications and general patient care. Multi-tasking is a must. Resumes may be faxed to 432-699-6012 or bring to 4214 Andrews Hwy #306 - Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus.

CNA's

Nurses Unlimited, Inc. PT

Nurses Unlimited, Inc. is seeking enthusiastic CNA's to assist clients in the home with personal care, meal prep. and light housekeeping. P-T E.O.E. Call: Codee, Joanna or Wanda 1-800-458-3257. E.O.E.

MARC

Creating choices for people with disabilities...

Currently Seeking Direct Support Professionals

Duties:
Direct support of children and adults who have developmental disabilities in all areas of their lives

Apply in person at the MARC office
2701 North A Street
or by email to Deanna Evans at
devans@marcinc-tx.org

www.marcinc-tx.org
432-498-8590

Evening Medical Assistant

Busy Allegy Office needs MEDICAL ASSISTANT for EVENING hours 2pm to 10:00pm. Please bring resume by 606 N Kent Suite B Midland Texas 79701. Or fax to 432-684-7004, or 432-682-0497.

LPC/LCDC/License Counselor/Intern

Midland Addiction Treatment Center PT

Monday-Friday 6:00am-10:00am

Treatment planning/Case management. Personal days/CEU days. Paid holidays. Fax resume to 800-671-8364.

LVN or MA

James R Panuska, M.D. FT

LVN or MA needed for busy physician office. Monday-Thursday from 8am-5:30pm and Friday from 8am-1pm. Competitive salary and benefits. Please call Rita at 432-682-5385 ext 14.

Medical Assistant

Confidential FT

Seeking full-time Medical Assistant for busy Internal Medicine office. Benefits offered. 1 year experience. Email resume to monicaofficemgr@ymail.com or mail to PO Box 50850, Midland, Texas 79710-0850

Optician

Phillips Eye Clinic FT

4311 W. Wadley Ave. **Midland, TX 79707**

Experienced preferred but not required. Please apply in person.

HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

Housekeepers/ Houseman & Breakfast Attendant

Grand Texan Hotel FT

Seeking Experienced Housekeepers, Houseman and Breakfast attendant. Apply in person at 4300 W. Wall St. Grand Texan Hotel.

Texas Western Hospitality Now Hiring!

Apply online: **www.permianbasinhoteljobs.com**.

OTHER JOBS

NOW HIRING EXTRA! EXTRA!

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 $10.00 hourly.

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: etitsworth@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

HEALTHCARE

MARC

CREATING CHOICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES...

MARC, Inc. is now accepting applications for a Case Manager.

Applicants must have a 4 year degree from an accredited university. Experience working with people with disabilities is a plus.

Must be organized, positive, and ready to make a difference in your community!

If interested, please bring your resume to 2701 North "A" St., Midland, TX 79705 or visit
www.marcinc-tx.org

MARC

Creating choices for people with disabilities...

Currently Seeking Contract RN Up to 8 hours/week

Duties include, but not limited to:

- On-call Rotation
- Individual Assessments
- Some Administrative Duties

Apply in person at the MARC office
2701 North A Street
or by email to Deanna Evans at
devans@marcinc-tx.org

HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

House Keeping

Midland's Premier Country Club FT

Midland's Premier Club is looking to fill a House keeping position for evening hours 2-10pm. We hire personality and enthusiasm over experience. Good wages, benefits, and 401K available for full time. Please apply in person at 6101 Hwy 349, Monday through Friday 8a-5p.

LAW ENFORCEMENT & SECURITY

Security Officers

AlliedBarton Security Services FT

NOW HIRING! Security Officers Needed! Full benefits including 401(k), paid vacation, and tuition reimbursement. $500 sign on bonus after 90 days. Contact Dan for more information at (972) 560-1489 EOE M/D/F/V.

MANAGEMENT & EXECUTIVE

Certified Pharmacy Tech & Store Shift Lead

Walgreens Drug Store FT

Now hiring certified pharmacy technicians. Must be state certified. Also looking for Store Shift Lead. Must be flexible. Apply in store at 3300 N Midland Dr. or online at walgreens.com

OTHER JOBS

Administrative Supervisor

Kelly Services - Administrative Supervisor. Associate's Degree or 2 years of relevant experience required. Experience in the conversion-scanning, processing, prep, data entry field and experience interacting successfully with project staff and subcontractors. Excellent organizational, interpersonal, written, and verbal communication skills. Previous supervisory experience preferred. Bring qualified resume to Kelly Services, 4800 E. 42nd, Suite 205 or call 432-363-0123 for more information. Never an applicant fee. Equal opportunity employer.

Ameriflush

Ameriflush is hiring the following positions: Mechanick, Deisel Mechanic, CDL and non-CDL Drivers and Accounting Clerk with QuickBooks experience. Great pay and benefits package! Apply at 4606 Johnson Rd, Odessa, TX 79764 or ameriflush.deborah@gmail.com

Delivery Driver

Delivery Driver needed. Salary based on experience. Call 432-689-0933.

Document Processing Assistant Manager

Great Opportunity with a leading employer in the Midland/Odessa area! Requirements include:
• Experience with scanning of documents or a mailroom environment • Experience in managing teams • Experience in mailroom operations, document preparation and document scanning • QA strongly preferred • Strong knowledge of Microsoft Office programs • Bachelor's Degree or equivalent experience
Call Kelly Services at 432-363-0123 or submit qualified resume to bushokj@kellyservices.com Never an applicant fee. Equal Opportunity Employer.

FULL TIME HELP WANTED

Stadium Sports FT

FULL TIME HELP WANTED. 9-6 MON-THURS, FRI 9-5
ABILITIES: PRESSING SHIRTS, PLACING AND TAKING CUSTOMER ORDERS. COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE A PLUS. ABILITY TO WORK UNDER PRESSURE AND BE SELF MOTIVATED.
DROP BY 2040 WEST CUTHBERT AVE, MIDLAND, TX 79701 FOR AN APPLICATION.

Golf Course Member Service

Midland's Premier Country Club • FT/PT

Midland's premier club is needing to hire outside golf course member service personnel. Part time and full time. We hire personality and enthusiasm over experience. Good wages, benefits, and 401K available for full time. Please apply in person at 6101 Hwy 349, Monday through Friday 8a-5p.

INSPECTORS

HMT INSPECTIONS FT

HMT Inspections is accepting resumes for an API 653 primary; API 570 a plus in Midland and surrounding area. Interpret written procedures, specifications and drawings. Good communication skills, written and verbal. Willingness to travel is necessary. Fulltime position with competitive wages and benefits. Email resumes to Becky.Judkins@hmttank.com.

Janitorial Help & Floor Tech

Part-time janitorial help needed in the evening. Also, part-time & full- time janitorial floor tech needed. Please call 570-9903.

Maids and Janitors

Confidential PT

Accepting applications for Maids and Janitors. Great PT jobs. Work Monday-Friday 5:30pm-8:30pm. Apply at:1307 N. Big Spring, 8:30am-5:30pm.

ENDURA PRODUCTS CORP

NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION(S)

TREATING TRUCK DRIVER- Requires CDL A/B with tanker/hazmat endorsements (Home every night, weekends- 12 hour days during the week) (Midland, Texas and Eunice, New Mexico)

SERVICE TECH- Requires experience in the chemical sales/service industry (Midland, Texas/Synder, Texas)

ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE- Requires experience in the chemical treating/sales/service (Midland, Texas)

Please send resume with summary of qualifications and salary expectations to:

rgutierrez@enduraproductscorp.com for immediate consideration

WE offer the following benefits:

- Medical/Dental- No cost to the employee for employee coverage
- Vision- minimal cost to the employee for employee/family coverage
- STD/LTD- No cost to the employee
- AD&D- No cost to the employee
- Vacation
- Sick Time
- 9 Paid Holiday's
- 401(K) with $1 to $1 match up to the maximum allowable per law of $17,000 per year!

SHOP PERSONNEL

Forklift handling experience preferred. Shipping and receiving tools. Tracking inventory. Some computer skills. 40+hrs/week. 24/7 on call status. Accepting resumes at **Pro Directional - Pro ThruTubing 3001 S. Co. Rd. 1260, Midland, TX 79706.**

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



"Two hours every morning paid off a $2,000 credit card debt."
Want to pay down your credit cards??
Do you have a reliable Car with insurance and a phone??
Become a Midland Reporter-Telegram carrier.
Contact:
Tony 687-9002

Warehouse Person

Anderson Tile Co. FT/PT

Warehouse person needed. Looking for someone who is friendly, outgoing, & enjoys working with people. Loading customers and unloading. Will train for position. Mon-Fri 8:00am - 5:30 pm. NO WEEKENDS. Call 432-683-5116.

westtexasjobs

http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs

Midland Reporter-Telegram in partnership with monster

REAL ESTATE

Leasing Agent & Experienced Bookkeeper
Santa Fe Apartments FT
Two positions for Santa Fe apartments. Stop by pick up application at 5010 W. Loop 250 North, # 10F, 79707. No phone calls please.

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Banquet Manager
Midland's Premier County Club FT
is looking for a Banquet Manager. We hire attitude and personality over experience. Position is Full Time. In addition to competitive wages we offer paid medical and 401K. Please apply in person at Midland Country Club 6101 N Hwy 349, Midland, TX 79705.

Breakfast Cooks
Breakfast Cooks with experience needed ASAP. Higher wage pay for experience. Also, looking for contract catering help, servers, chefs, cooks. Applications outside of peak periods only 8am-2pm. Apply in person at Lori's Cafe, 2201 W. Wall, Midland, TX.

DOMINO'S PIZZA NOW HIRING!
•Drivers: Make cash everyday. Great part time & full time shifts, Starting wage of $7.50 an hour (no split tip/wage here) plus delivery reimbursement, plus tips. **•CSRs:** Great part time & full time shifts, Starting wage of $8.25 an hour. **Bright & Friendly people only! •Shift Leaders:** Great part time & full time shifts, Starting wage of $9 an hour, Flexible Schedules. Apply at any **Domino's Pizza Midland or Odessa** or send resume: **cassie@clearwire.net**. Senior citizens & stay at home moms always welcome. EOE

Many Position
Schlotzsky's FT/PT
Schlotzsky's is hiring full and part-time, night & weekend positions and Shift Leaders Flexible scheduling, clean grease free restaurant, **$8.00 - $10.00 an hour**. Come by 5211 West Wadley or 1109 Andrews Highway to apply.

NOW HIRING - OFFICE ASSISTANT
Now hiring - Office Assistant, 40 hours a week, benefits, fun atmosphere. Must have Word and Excel experience. All holidays off! Starting wage $11.00 to $15.00, depending on experience. Apply at the Domino's Pizza office, 4400 N. Big Spring St. Ste. C34.

SALES JOBS

Oilfield Sales Person
Royal Services FT
Selling to drilling rigs in your area. For more info go to royalservices.com and click on JOBS. Send resume to: jobs@royalservices.com

SKILLED LABOR

Diesel Mechanic
Confidential FT
Diesel Mechanic needed for diesel and trucks and trailers. Experience required. Call 817-819-7051.

Manual & CNC Machinist & Inspectors
Hadco Services, Inc. FT
Level II NDT Inspectors, Minimum 5 years experience, $100-150K/year
Level I Inspectors, Salary dependent on experience
Inspector Helper, $14/hour
Manual & CNC Machinist, $20/hour
Resumes can be emailed to myself at pam@hadcoservices.com

Manual Lathe Operator
Premier Tools FT
Manual Lathe Operator needed. Contact Gary at (432) 563-1784 or apply in person at 2915 SCR 1255 in Midland.

Mechanic and POJ Cleaner
Hebbronville Lone Star Rentals FT
Seeking experienced diesel mechanic for maintenance and upkeep of company vehicles and equipment. Welding experienced a plus. Must be able to show previous mechanic experience. **POJ Cleaner** - good work history and driving record necessary, plus ability to work overtime on a regular basis. Benefits package includes 100% employer-paid health insurance for employee; dental, vision, and life insurance; 401(K) with 5% match; annual loyalty bonus plus much more. **Please email resume to hr@lonestarrentals.net, or fax with cover sheet to HR 855-833-8376. You may apply in person at 3808 W. Wall St. in Midland. EOE**

SALES JOBS

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

Jeri Houston, Advertising Sales Manager
Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Avenue, Midland, TX 79701
or email to: jhouston@mrt.com

SKILLED LABOR

Mechanic
Casedhole Solutions FT
Mechanic needed, entry level welcome. Apply in person at: Casedhole Solutions, 2801 S. County Rd. 1242, Midland,TX.

Shop/Field Mechanics
Basin Engine and Pump FT
Shop and Field Mechanics needed for Industrial Oilfield Shop. **Tools & Uniforms provided.** Benefits package. Pay DOE. Please submit resume by fax to 432-570-1115 or email to shawn@basinengine.com Office 432-570-1114. Applications may be filled out at 1914 South County Rd 1083 - Midland, TX.

SURVEYING
Experienced Crew Chief, SIT, Draftsman and Rodman (will train). Positions available at **Watson Professional Group Inc.** Email resume to **pwatson@wpg-us.com** or mail **P.O. Box 11186 , Midland, TX 79702**.

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Class A CDL Truck Drivers
Prefer drivers with Pneumatic Tanker experience. Benefits include: driver $2,000 sign-on bonus, medical, life & dental insurance, paid vacation, & 401k. Applicants having experience hauling sand and/or dry cement helpful. Good driving record, DOT, drug & alcohol testing required. Apply in person, call **432-563-1894** for interview or online @ **www.silverlinetx.com**

Hot Oil Unit Operator
Lenorah Operators FT
We are currently seeking a HOT OIL UNIT OPERATOR for our fluid services department located in Midland TX. Preferred Qualifications: Ability to communicate both verbally an written in English an Spanish. Must possess a valid active Commercial rivers License (CDL), a clean driving record with Tanker and Haz-Mat endorsement. Ability to work in a fast paced environment. Basic problem solving and organizational skills. Salary negotiable, Insurance available Contact Jerry 432-661-6546

Hot Shot Driver
G & W Trucking FT
Hot Shot Drivers wanted in the Midland area. Class A CDL, and drug screen required. Call 800-572-6338 or apply at Texas Work Force Commission for more information.

SKILLED LABOR

AST
Advanced Stimulation Technologies, Inc.

Immediate openings for:

Experienced Electronics Technician, Field Mechanic, Shop Diesel Mechanic; Night Crew

Also: DOT (Class A CDL Licensed) Equipment Operators, *Hydraulic Fracturing Experience Preferred--we will train inexperienced applicants*

AST offers: * Competitive wages *Medical-Vision-Dental-Life benefits * 401 K plan with company match * Paid vacation * Personal time off plan * Continued education assistance * Advancement opportunities

Must be willing to relocate to Midland/Odessa

Apply in person: 2903 I-20 Midland Texas 79706 (432) 617-3250 or www.advstimtech.com

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

Lead Mechanic
Full Time Position looking for a person will perform repairs and maintenance on diesel and/or gasoline engines including forklifts, and other vehicles to maximize safe and productive operations. Required Experience: Either high school diploma or G.E.D. Certification and 3 years of related truck or heavy equipment maintenance; OR 6 years of related truck or heavy equipment maintenance. DOT Qualifications including Brake Maintenance & Inspections, and Annual Vehicle Inspections. Must have a valid driver license. Compensation: Salaried position-DOE Shift: Typically Days, Monday thru Friday. Should be flexible to work extra hours as needed. Benefits: Benefits package including company paid major medical/dental coverage, supplemental insurance programs, company match 401k, company provided uniforms and paid time off. Interviewing immediately! Pre-employment background check, physical and drug screen required. To Apply: (No phone calls please): To have an interview scheduled, email resume and/or contact information to **Kent@Mudsmith.com** This employer may participate in a random drug screen program. Mudsmith, Ltd. is a drug free workplace.

Long Haul Delivery Driver
X-CHEM FT
X-Chem is seeking a Long-Haul Delivery Driver for our Midland office. The Driver is responsible for the delivery of chemical to customer facilities, picking up raw materials from suppliers, operating forklift in warehouse, maintaining delivery truck, and other duties assigned by the company. Although this position is based out of Midland, Texas; the Driver will travel throughout the states of Texas and Oklahoma.

The ideal candidate will have:
- High School Diploma (or equivalent)
- 3+ years long-haul driving experience
- Current Class A CDL with Hazmat and Tanker endorsements

We offer competitive salary and outstanding benefits including 401(K) with matching funds, major medical, dental, vision, life, long and short term disability. Additionally, we offer tuition reimbursement, paid vacation and holidays, and much more!

Qualified candidates, please contact Jenny Johnson in Human Resources at 972-721-6712 or jenny.johnson@nch.com.

Road Winch Driver & Rig Up Hands
Sandia Drilling Of Texas FT
Midland, TX 79707
Sandia Drilling of Texas now hiring experienced Road Winch Drivers and Rig up Hands, Call Q Ball 432-634-6843

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

The Bottom Line

76 percent of adults have read a daily newspaper in the past five days.

Source: Nationwide Research, 2006

Midland Reporter-Telegram

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Passenger Cars

Mazda of Midland
5115 W. Loop 250 N.
Midland, TX
432-617-2273

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2013 Mazda CX5

35 MPG

Only $24,493

Stock # 1961T

Highest MPG SUV On The Road In America

PRE-OWNED

Under $10,000

2007 Cadi	DTS	2346MA	SOLD
2003 F150	Supercab	U12080A	$5,995
2003 Chevy	Tahoe	U1209	$5,995

Sport Cars

2009 Saturn	Sky	U12047	$16,995
2011 Chevy	Camaro	U12184	$24,550
2012 Ford	Mustang	U12190	$19,550

SUV's

2011 Ford	Edge	U12127	$22,995
2011 GMC	Yukon XL 4wd	U12146	$29,995
2011 Ford	Expedition 4wd	U12163	$29,998
2009 Chevy	Tahoe LTZ	U12062	SOLD

Trucks

2012 Chevy	Silverado Crew	U12123	$25,995
2012 Chevy	Ext. Cab	U12181	$23,625
2011 Dodge	Ram Crew Hemi 4x4	U12080	$29,750
2011 Toyota	Crew Max 4x4	U12116	SOLD

Mazda of Midland
5115 W. Loop 250 N.
Midland TX 79707
(432) 617-2273
www.mazdaofmidland.com

Subject to prior sale, plus TTL, W.A.C. 35MPG on sport 5 speed hwy. mileage est. finds 12/31/2012 from dealer stock.

Pickup Trucks

DODGE 2004 Ram 2500, quad cab, SLT, diesel. $12,999 We finance. B&B 683-6222.

DODGE 2006 3500 DUALLY, 4 door, auto page alarm with remote start, Cortex Superchips Programmer. Everything works, new upholstery, $18,900 OBO, 432-349-3171.

DODGE 2006 Ram 1500 5.7 Hemi, 58,800 miles, 4 door, loaded. Extras: clean, Nice Christmas Gift. Asking, $15,900. Call 432-683-8345.

DODGE 2006 Ram 1500 black quad cab 4.7 small V8 loaded bed liner, new tires runs great 77k/mi., asking $12,500. 432-631-7001

FORD 2000 F350 Diesel, 7.3, 5th wheel setup, 6 speed, runs great, $4,600 OBO. Call 432-563-0156.

FORD 2008 F250 XLT, ext cab, $9950. We finance. B&B Auto Sales 432-683-6222

FORD 2010 F250 XLT, 4x4, crew cab, diesel, automatic, FX4 package, satellite radio, loaded, 153K miles. $25,900. Call Kenney 432-813-7985.

GMC 2011 Z71 Sierra Crew Cab, silver, black cloth, 43,000 miles, excellent conditions $26,500. 432-813-1992

4WD & SUV

2004 NISSAN Armada for sale! Fully loaded-leather interior, GPS, DVD, and towing package. 97k miles. Asking $12000-please call or text 432-352-4426.

2004 RV 36' 5th wheel, Mobile suite by Doubletree and a 2008 3/4 ton Lariat Ford Diesel Pickup, 55K + miles. Both have many amenities. Please call 806-894-5291 or 806-773-1464.

BMW 2007 X3, Leather. We Finance. Call B&B Auto Sales 432-683-6222.

CHEVROLET 1999 Suburban, very good condition, heated captain chairs, leather seats, new tires, $3,195. 432-638-3001

CHEVROLET 2004 Suburban 1500C. 78,800 miles, $8500. Call 432-770-2014 between 5-9pm.

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Passenger Cars

BMW of the Permian Basin
3715 Andrews Hwy - Midland
432-522-3900

1999 BMW M3
Dark Yellow/Black 5-speed, Sunroof, All records 122k Miles

2008 BMW X3 3.0
Platinum Bronze/Tan PanoRoof,Heated Seats 67k Miles

2008 BMW 335i
Jet Black/Terra Sport,SAT,Xenons, Htd Seats,Sunroof 28k Miles

2009 BMW 750i
Black Saphire/Black AC/Htd Seats,H-Up Disp, Nav,SAT,Xenon,Sport Pkg. 70k Miles

2009 Chevy Z71 P/Up
Blue/Gray Leather,LT,SAT 52k Miles

2010 Nissan Armada
Blue/Tan Leather,DVD,Sunroof, Bose,3rd Row 44k Miles

2010 Buick LaCrosse
White/Beige Leather, SAT Radio 41k Miles.

10 MERCEDES GLK
White Diamond/Black, Nav, AMG wheels, Htd Seats, AWD, Xenon, PanoRoof, 39k Miles

2011 BMW 328i
Alpine White/Tan Premium Pkg,Htd Seats, SAT,Roof 10k Miles

2012 BMW 650i CONVERTIBLE
Black Saphire/Black Lux Seats,NAV,Camera,A/C Seats, 19k Miles

2012 BMW X6 SUV
Black Saphire/Black Sport,NAV,SAT, Heads-Up,Sunroof 17k Miles

bmwpermianbasin.com

4WD & SUV

CHEVY 2006 Equinox LS. Maroon 95,500 miles, In great condition $7000 OBO Call 432-634-2082

CHEVY 2007 Tahoe LT. Just in time for holiday travel! Goldmist w/tan leather interior. In excellent condition. Fully Loaded. Must see! $28,500. Call 254-4865

GMC 2005 Yukon, 86k miles, 3rd seat. We finance. B&B Auto Sales 432-683-6222

JEEP 95' Wrangler. Completely restored and in perfect condition. Omaha orange. $10,000.00 432 556 8070

NISSAN 2005 Armada LE.

NISSAN 2007 Pathfinder V6, auto, 72k mi., $14,999. We finance. B&B Auto 683-6222

Specialty Vehicles

FORD 2012 GT500 Shelby Cobra Mustang, 1,400 miles, silver w/ black racing stripes w/ glass top. Serious inquiries only. Call 432-631-6573

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Recreational Vehicles

Motorcycles

KAWASAKI 1977 KZ1000A fully serviced and ready to ride. 15k miles. Detailed throughout very impressive. Serious inquires only asking $5500.00 432-230-3566

RVs

1997 ITASCA class A 30' Onan Gen,Air, 64k Miles, 30 Amp, Day shds, NON smoker $18,000 940-631-2589

2001 30' Skyline-Nomad RV travel trailor. Loaded. Mint condition. 1 slide. 325-236-9685 hm 325-721-0111 cell

2003 DUTCHMAN 28' 5th Wheel, 2 slide outs, excellent condition, $16,500. 432-689-0770.

2004 DAMON 38ft, M-375 wrk hrs class A motor home, 8.1 gasoline engine, 36k/mi, 2 slide outs, Texas/New Mexico vehicle no salt no sand, road ready. $42,500. 940-393-6815

RVs

2006 37' KZ Montego Bay, 5th wheel, 3 slides, awning, vacuum, 4 door refrigerator, loaded, oven/microwave, very clean, 2 AC's, generator ready, washer/dryer, fireplace. $23,000 432-694-0757.

2009 EVEREST 5th Wheel trailer. Harvest gold interior, has a 12 year roof warranty, central vacuum, back up camera, added A/C to front, fireplace, 32" flat screen TV & 19" flat screen TV in bedroom. Granite counter tops & a computer desk. $35,000. Like new used 1 time. 806-787-2061

DUTCH STAR Motorhome Office & Living. Great on-site for engineer in oil field exploration & development/completion. Cummins diesel, 3 slides, king bed w/washer & dryer, satelite TV, outside entertainment center, tow bar ready to go! 31,000 miles. Call 806-773-9070 retiring from engineering. Great Deal!

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RVs

NEW RV park spaces and storage. Quiet private road, utilities plus cable included. Except butane. 30 Amps $435 and 50Amps $475. 3 miles south of I-20 and 349 Call 432-770-5338 and 432-296-2077.

RVs

SAGEBRUSH RV AND STORAGE - spaces for lease off County Rd 60 behind the Bus Barn. fenced, W/D facility, clubhouse, cement pads, 30/50 GFI, utilities and Wi-Fi, 432.270.7979. Leave a message.

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4WD & SUV

Auto Sure Sell

30 days Midland Reporter-Telegram

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New Today Banner 1st day only

Up to 10 lines of text **$40** (each line after $5)

(Private Parties Only)

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

				2		1		
	5				8		4	
1		6		3		5		
3		1	6					9
4								
		8		7		9		1
	4		5		6		2	
		5		9				

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 WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

8	9	2	6	5	4	7	1	3
6	3	5	7	8	1	4	9	2
7	4	1	2	9	3	6	8	5
1	5	8	3	7	2	9	4	6
2	6	4	8	1	9	3	5	7
3	7	9	4	6	5	8	2	1
4	2	7	1	3	8	5	6	9
9	8	6	5	2	7	1	3	4
5	1	3	9	4	6	2	7	8

12/13/12

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Marty's Marketplace

... leading you to the best bargains in the Permian Basin

Merchandise

Antiques

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR YOUR LOVED ONE - ANTIQUE CLOCKS - Kitchen clocks, Mantel clocks, Wall clocks and Cuckoo clocks. Hurry while they last. 432-683-2675.

FINE ANTIQUES for sale. Must see to appreciate. Tables, chairs, side bar, and large buffet. Appointment only, 694-0148.

Appliances

1- AAA Appliance 1 hour free pickup. Call 238-9735 / 528-3046.

LG REFRIGERATOR. 19.7CF. bottom freezer, excellent condition, $600. 432-559-4453.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Appliances

REFRIGERATOR, $225, Matching Set Washer/Dryer $300, Washer $150, Dryer, $100. Gas dryer, $125, front end load washing machine, $300. Call 432-352-7988.

Free Stuff

2 - 12 week old female grey tabby's - great markings and sweet big eyes. Spayed; no disease; First shots but rabies; litterbox trained. No young children; prefer to keep them together; Call 683-2080

CHRISTMAS PUPPIES, 1/2 Blue Heeler furry babies, free, 432-853-2100.

FREE 50" working free standing HD tv. You load, no delivery. Call 432-697-3350.

FREE WOODEN PALLETS! Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

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Furniture

BEAUTIFUL FORMAL dining room table with eight chairs; two table extensions; Matching China Cabinet. Excellent condition $2,000 for both; 528-0767

Free Stuff

If You Have Items You Are Giving Away For FREE, Your Ad Is On Us! CALL 432-682-6222 TODAY!

Jewelry & Furs

GENTS 18K Diamond Rolex President. Stunning custom Diamond dial and Diamond Bezel. Aftermarket 18K band, Vintage 1979-1980 watch. $13,950 exclusively at D'Carroll's, 3303 N. Midkiff Rd., Suite 141.

Furniture

FULL SIZE Select Comfort Sleep Number bed. Good condition. Wireless remote. $150. 432-520-3588

NEARLY NEW sofa, love seat and double chair and ottomon. $1200. Brown leather, and tan material. Call 432-664-2014 after 1pm.

TELL CITY dining room set, hutch, corner hutch, table, 6 chairs, $1,000. Please call 432-853-3316.

Home Items

NEW TODAY!

JUST IN time for Christmas, Noritake ivory China, Asian Song pattern with gold rim, 12 place settings $1200, serving pieces available, 432-687-6561.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Miscellaneous for Sale

12X20 ABOVE ground hard sided swimming pool. New liner and sand pump, and all the attachments, $500. 432-288-3761.

18X30 STORAGE Space for lease 2423 W Indiana in Midland 432-553-7311.

1991 FONTAINE flat bed trailer $5,000. 2003 CBGT Trailer $5,000. 1980 Hyster Trailer $16,000 and 2008 Ford F350 Flatbed 138,000 miles $6,500. 432-269-6085

1 YEAR old 10x10 hawk metal building, double doors. Asking $1700 obo. 432-528-8559.

CHRISTMAS TREE beautiful 7ft Manhattan Pine, very full, purchase at Hobby Lobby paid $299 asking $40. call 682-5763

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Sporting Goods

Marty's Marketplace Quick Sale

7 days - Midland Reporter-Telegram & mywesttexas.com

New Today banner the 1st day only

Up to 10 lines of text

$15 (each additional line $1)

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Miscellaneous for Sale

CORDLESS PASLODE 16 ga. nail gun $175. 2003 Toyota Tacoma w/camper shell $4,000. Southwest style couch w/ matching chair, ottoman & coffee table $250. Dennis 432-222-9473

Miscellaneous for Sale

FRONT LOAD Washer & dryer, $350, big handmade gun cabinet, $125, dining table, $50. 432-557-1621.

RESTHAVEN CEMETERY Garden of Love. Lot 173, space 1, $1800. 432-528-8559.

Miscellaneous for Sale

KEN'S RV SALES

NEW AT KEN'S
• MOBIL REPAIR SERVICE
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FULL SERVICE DEALER
SAVE 1000's on Quality Pre-Owned RV's!
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NEW AND USED EQUIPMENT
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Wed Dec 19 @ 10am
Construct. Equip, Big Trucks & Trailers, Ag Haulers, Pickups & 1-Tons, Open Consignment Items
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Musical Instruments

STEINWAY - Grand Model M - 1912 Beautifully detailed complete restoration to like new condition by Steinway technician with Steinway parts, only Call Bill 214 878-3154

Oil & Gas

WORKER HOUSING. 188 bed man camp for sale or lease. Commercial kitchen and dining complex included. Contact Ben at 907-748-0083

Tools & Hardware

DITCH WITCH Backhoe/Trencher for sale $4,800. Runs great, works even better. Paint is faded but a steal at this price. Bob 512-461-5020.

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FARM SALE: 2 pickup bed trailers, Ford or Chevrolet, both with tool boxes, over head pipe rack. Shredder, lots of other things. 432-230-9792

Find It! Buy It! Sell It! 432-682-6222

Animals & Pets

Livestock & Equipment

FOR SALE 2 donkeys, 1 jack & 1 jenny. $200. Call 432-687-4900. Ask for Stella.

Pets

BLUE HEELER mix, furry Christmas babies. Free, 432-853-2100.

LAB PUPPIES AKC & started dogs. Hips/eyes guaranteed. Training available. Pooles Labs. www.pooleslabs.com. Call (806) 833-4364.

LAB PUPPIES Just in time for Christmas. Cute & adorable AKC black and yellow $300 Call 432-770-4877.

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BUYING/Hauling Off Junk Or Unwanted Vehicles. Dependable Junk Removal. 432-352-5031

DIESEL ENGINES Power stroke, Cummings, Duramax, re, remanufactured with warranty. Will deliver. Call 713-918-5811.

Real Estate Rentals & Sales

Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

FOR SENIORS 55 & up. Very nice 2 bedrooms, covered parking, W/D connections. $850/month. No pets. 432-694-9853.

NEW MANAGEMENT Spacious 2 Bedroom Apartments. Call 432-687-4514.

Townhouse/ Condo for Rent Unfurnished

SE RENTA casa. 2 Recamaras, 1 bano $850.00/ Al Mes 432-694-6591.

Townhouse/ Condo for Rent Furnished

1 BEDROOM, 846 sq ft. with office that can be changed to 2nd bedroom. All bills paid. New carpet, tile, granite, washer and dryer in unit. No pets. $1950/mo plust $750 deposit. Call 512-825-6879.

Houses for Rent Furnished

4 BEDROOM, 2 bath. $1600/mo. plus $1600 deposit. Please call 432-661-1430.

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

200 NORTH POWELL. 3/2/carport/appliances $1500/$1300. No pets/background check, 432-694-2736.

2-3 BEDROOM houses and mobile homes in Midland for rent. Credit and background check. No pets. Rent + deposit. 570-8555.

2 BEDROOM 1 bath, New paint, hardwood floors. $1550/mo $1500 deposit. Background check. No pets. 432-413-3489.

3/1/1 3403 Tanner. No pets. $1,350 month & $1,200 deposit. Must have good work & rental history. Application fee.Call 522-1166 9am-5pm only!!!

3218 BAUMANN, large 2bd/1ba, appliances, sunroom, $1200/$900, no pets, background check, 432-694-2736.

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Residential Rentals

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

4502 CLOUDCROFT Single family home, 3 br, 2 ba, double garage, fenced yard. NS, pets w/approval. $1,700 + deposit. Credit reports plus credit scores & proof of income required. 699-0851/ 894-5617

5104 B Rainbow 3 bedroom, 2 baths, 2 car garage, no pets, no smoking, $2100 monthly. 432-620-9222 or 432-694-2074

AWESOME 4/2, 2 car garage, storage building, nice yard. All appliances provided convenient to all schools. 432-352-2252.

HOUSE FOR rent 3 bedroom 2 bath, 2 car garage, fireplace, vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, covered patio, fenced in back yard. Near W Storey Ave and Loop 250. $2,000 per month with 1st and last month rent. $1,000 security deposit. call or text Rick 310-968-6299

TWO BEDROOM, 2 bath, 1 car garage. Non smokers only. No pets. 4106 Amistad. $2000/month 686-0734 or 432-889-1777

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

101 S Bentwood, Midland 4BR, 2BA, 2 Car garage, big corner lot, lots of updates. Move in ready. 352-1575

1107 AINSLEE, old Midland 3 bed 2 bath. Large attached 2 car garage, screened in patio, cinder block fence, storage bldg, double pane windows. On craigslist. $141,000 432-683-8755.

FOR SALE BY OWNER 3 Bedroom, 2 bath home in quiet cul de sac. Move-in ready with lots of new updates. $175K. 2407 Arbor Circle. Call for viewing 432-425-0168

2908 GODDARD Place Great Neighborhood! 3000 + sq. ft. 3-bed/ 3-bath, large den + living room, formal dining & breakfast nook. Asking $249,000. Bring your offer! FMI 432-349-6437

3315 W Dengar Ave 3,2,2,2 Great Home in A Great Location. Irene LeMarr Western Skies Realty 432-208-6341

3 BEDROOM, 2 bath just remodeled ready for occupancy 12/21/12. $124,900. Close to Hospital & Midland High School. Call Roger 432-638-6443. Owner/ Agent

3 YEAR old house, 4 BRD 2 BTH 2 car garage fenced in backyard. Spacious living room with fireplace. All appliance but washer and dryer. House has security system for added safety. Call for more info. Se habla español . 432-813-7710.

4 BEDROOM 2 1/2 bath on 9 acres, with large barn and horse stall, recently custom paint throughout the home. $198,000. 432-425-5711 or 432-425-1326.

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

BEAUTIFUL 5300 sqft. store home 4 bedroom 4 bath. gym, guitar shape swimming pool, 3 car garage on 2.8 acres, in Gardendale, price reduction from $1.4 million to $1 million. 432-889-6556

FOR SALE By Owner 3 BR with ofc that can be used as a 4th. All bdrs with walk-in closets. 2BA. Corner lot. 2005 home a must see!! Alarm system, nice sized back yard, very nice neighborhood! Pre-qualified inquiries only. Please call 405-220-7081

FSBO 3808 Cedar Springs. Brand NEW construction. 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 car garage, living, dining, laundry, big parking driveway, wood floors, crown molding. $189,900. No owner financing. 432-556-7074

HOUSE FOR SALE IN LAMESA, TEXAS
121 N.E. 27TH Street Newly Built 3 Bedrooms 21/2 Bath Fireplace, Stained Concrete and Hardwood Firs. Call Owner: Albert Acosta 806-200-3732

OWNER FINANCE 3/2, $109,500, & 3/2 on 9 acres, needs some repairs. As is $189,500 10% down. 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212.

OWNER FINANCE 3BR/2BA, small workshop, 3112 Illinois. Finance/lease, 432-661-2073.

OWNER FINANCE Three bedroom doublewide on 2.690 acres. 3- out buildings & horse shed. 432-230-9792

REDUCED PRICE Will consider trade in 4 Br - 3 bath completely remodeled. 3209 W. Ohio. $174,500. Bill Jackson Realtor. 432-557-3366

REDUCE PRICED $330,000. BEAUTIFUL BRIARWOOD addition, 4/3/3 home for sale, one block from Briarwood pool and playground. Approx 3000 sf. Great family living. Call Scott at 238-8007.

WE BUY HOMES! Fair prices, quick cash! Call 432-266-1212, 432-631-8100.

WE LOVE VETERANS Key Homes Inc. 432-520-9848 www.keyhomesinc.com

Vacation & Resort Property

LAKEFRONT San Angelo 3 bedroom cottage, metal roof; party barn; faboulus dock and deck; $250,000. UP Group, 325-245-7155

Lots & Land

Oil & Gas & Hunting Leases

1 1/4 acre waterfront lot on Lake Brownwood. First time offer. Deep water, community waterline, facing south. Estate settlement/same family since late 1800's. Paul McInnis RE, 830-637-9706.

Lots & Land

Oil & Gas & Hunting Leases

19 ACRES N. San Angelo homesite, 32 acres S. San Angelo homesite, 2 acres lake Nasworthy Home, lots of ranch listing: www.touchdwn.com. 325-657-6680

300 ACRES Prime Hunting Land For Sale $995/acre Will Negotiate. Call 817-538-7743

3.63 ACRES for sale $28,000 per acre or lease. Good location On West County 40 less than 1/10 miles from 1788 N. in Gardendale, Midland, TX . Has electricity & water. 480-729-9641

5.76 ACRES for sale in Gardendale with beautiful 6 stall barn, 400 sqft. shop with RV hook up white vinyl fence, water well and septic, ready to build. $350k. 432-889-6556

580 ACRES Brown County. Near airport, lots of views. Excellent deer cover; 6 tanks, paved road and community water. Possibly divide. Paul McInnis RE, 830-637-9706.

Acre, mobile home ok, Greenwood, $30,000 Betty Terrell, REALTOR Century 21 The Edge, 296-1925.

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Estate Sales

Open House
The Cats Meow
408 Andrews Hwy.
Thurs - Sat 10am-6pm

Its that wonderful time of year when the world celebrates the birth of Jesus. We would like to invite you to our Annual Open House this Friday & Saturday December 14 & 15. This year we have hundreds of ornaments from the early 1900's through the 1970's. They have come from Germany, Russia, Poland, Czech, Japan and the good old USA. Come view our Santa Collection with everything from a 1930's Santa who's eyes light up to mid century Velvet Santa's. We have trees decorated in everything from the traditional Holiday red and gold to trees trimmed with sewing items, photographs and vintage tins. Steven is selling some of his bottle brush trees. The shop is packed with fine antiques for friends, loved ones and even yourself. We may be the only store in town who sells mink and leopard bow ties. Come sign up for a $100.00 gift certificate and enjoy some cider and Christmas cheer.

December 22 at 2:00 and 4:00 we will have lectures on the Traditions of Christmas. We have a surprise guest speaker who will bring part of her Christmas collection. Steven will show you his "Good Shepard Tree" created in memory of his Grandmother. The lectures will take place in the doll museum and seating is limited. Come share your Christmas traditions with us.

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By
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4 Morningside
(Andrews)
Thursday and Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
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10% OFF Storewide Sale
307 Dodson, Midland, Tx 79701
closed Monday

79707

MOVING SALE
3400 Humble Ave., Midland
Friday Dec. 13th 8am-3pm
Saturday Dec. 15th. 8am-3pm
Enter from Alley only (no early birds)
Misc. furniture, game table w/chair, sofa/love seat, make-up table, record player/stereo system, sofa table, coffee table, kitchen ware/ dishes, World Book Encyclopedias.(circa 1966 with annuals thru 72), Living Bible Set (words and pictures). vintage Exer-Cycle, yard equipment, some tools/shop equipment, odds & ends & more.

Yard & Garage Sales

79701

1706 CAMP St. Friday and Saturday 9am-1pm. Christmas table, cars, games, clothes, movies, household items and lots of other great bargains!

79703

1403 EAST Front St. Saturday only from 7am-2pm. All precedes benefit Hoops and Dreams.

79705

GARAGE SALE 2827 Metz, Friday and Saturday 8am-2pm

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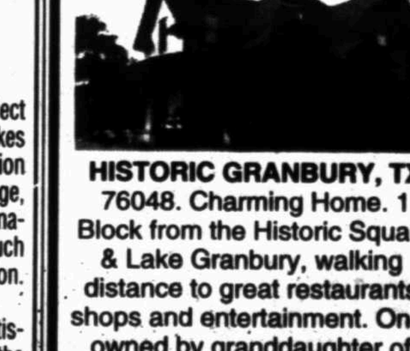
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*4,212 ac, Maverick Creek, canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail.....$820/ac
*1,771 ac, windmill, creek, blinds and feeders, great w-tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail.....$850/ac
• Runnels County
*548 ac. over 1 mile of spring fed creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oaks, mineral.....$2,295/ac
*565 ac, Pecan Creek, approx 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill, minerals.....$2,095/ac
• Sherman County
*842 ac, canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some oilfield traffic.....$750/ac
*150 ac., big canyons/ravines, cedar/mesquite, great deer, turkey, javelina.....$895/ac
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Reindeer Games

Don't let your brain hibernate on winter break! Join in the Reindeer Games and see if you can solve these puzzles designed to boggle your mind!

Change HOT Into TEA

DOG	Change the word **HOT** into the word **TEA** in just four steps. Change only one letter at a time. Need help? Look at how Randolph changed a **DOG** into a **CAT**.
DOT	
COT	
CAT	

Hint: *Golfers use the word on line 4.*

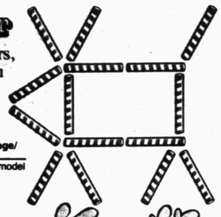
1	H	O	T
2			
3			
4			
5	T	E	A

Solution at www.kidscoop.com/kids/answer_page/

Standards Link: Spelling: Spell grade level words correctly; Phonemic Awareness.

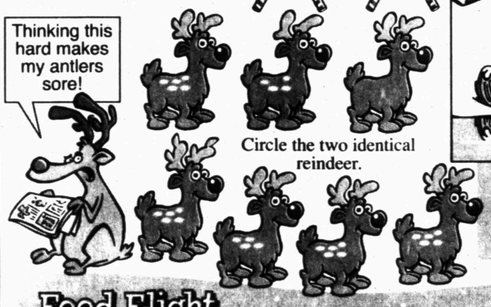
Peppermint Puzzler

This reindeer has a head, antlers, a tail, legs and a body. Can you move just two peppermint sticks to make the reindeer look in the opposite direction?



Solution at www.kidscoop.com/kids/answer_page/

Standards Link: Math/Problem Solving: Make a model to solve a problem.



Circle the two identical reindeer.



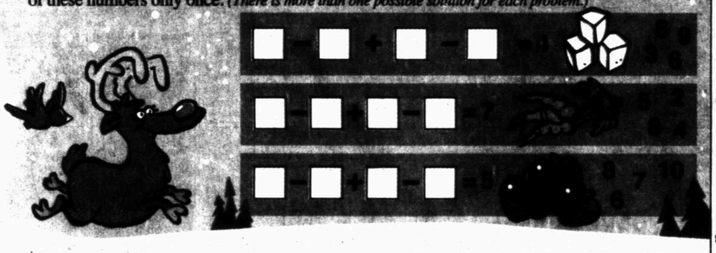


How many differences can you find between the two pictures above?

Standards Link: Investigation: Identify similarities and differences in common objects.

Food Flight

Rhoda is doing a little flight practice. Elmer Elf left her favorite treats: apples, carrots and sugar cubes. To help her get the treats, look at each math problem and the numbers next to each treat. Place a number in each empty box so that the problem equals the answer. Use each of these numbers only once. *(There is more than one possible solution for each problem.)*



Standards Link: Math: Solve addition and subtraction problems.

Extra! Extra! Headline Values

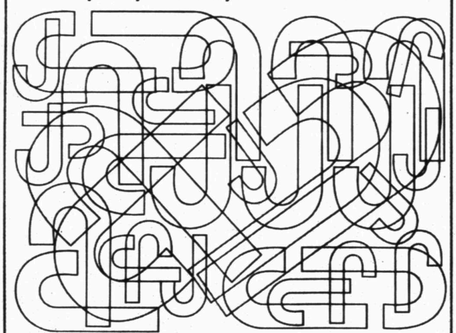
Pretend each letter of the alphabet could be exchanged for money. Imagine **A = $1, B= $2** and so forth until you get to **Z** which would equal **$26**.

Find a headline and figure out what each letter in the headline is worth. Add up those numbers to figure out what the dollar value of the entire headline would be.

Standards Link: Math/Number Sense: Solve addition problems using money amounts.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

How many candy canes can you find in this box?



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle, then in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

REINDEER
PUZZLES
TREATS
CANDY
GEOMETRIC
HIBERNATE
MONEY
ANTLERS
BRAIN
LEGS
BODY
WINTER
SOLVE
HARD
MIND

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Weekly Writing Corner

Make a Brain Builder

There were 1,156 Christmas trees in the Mall of America, but then many teenagers came and stole many of them to ruin the Christmas spirit. They stole 497 trees. How many trees are left in the Mall of America??
(A: 659 trees)

Porter Gotovac, 6th grade, Hillander

On the Monday before Christmas, we had nine inches of snow, then on Tuesday two inches melted. On Wednesday, it snowed another five inches, and then on Thursday we got five feet of snow. How many feet did we get?
(A: 6ft)

Callah Lancaster, 6th grade, Hillander

Last year our Christmas tree was 56 ft tall. This year it was 7 ft shorter. How tall is our tree this year?
(A: 49ft)

Makenzie Moon, 6th grade, Hillander

Missy bought twenty gifts for all of her family members. She gave each of them five gifts. Each gift cost her $5. How much money did Missy spend?
(A: $100)

Claire Keck, 6th grade, Hillander

A load of 15 Christmas trees came to the Christmas tree farm. At the end of the day, people had bought 6. The next day 3 more came in. How many Christmas trees were at the farm the second day?
(A: 12 trees)

Evan Witt, 6th grade, Hillander

John went to the store and bought seven snowmen. He sold three of them and bought one Christmas tree. How many items did he buy?
(A: 8 items)

Sathvir Deme, 6th grade, Hillander

There were 67 presents under the tree in the game room. In the living room, there were 68 presents under the tree. How many presents were under both trees together?
(A: 135 presents)

Kate Fisher, 6th grade, Hillander

Write On!

Chopping Onions

Write a legend that tells why chopping onions makes people cry.

Deadline: January 6
Published: Week of Feb. 3
Send your story to:

Newspaper In Education
201 E. Illinois
Midland, TX 79701
ljdiaz@mrt.com

Please include your school and grade.

Beyond Kid Scoop

Get In Shape

Find examples of each of these geometric shapes in your newspaper.

- pentagon
- circle
- square
- trapezoid
- triangle
- rectangle
- octagon

Standards Link: Math: Geometry: Identify basic geometric shapes.



Which reindeer have trunks?

ANSWER: The ones going on vacation.

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OXY Permian
ATMOS energy
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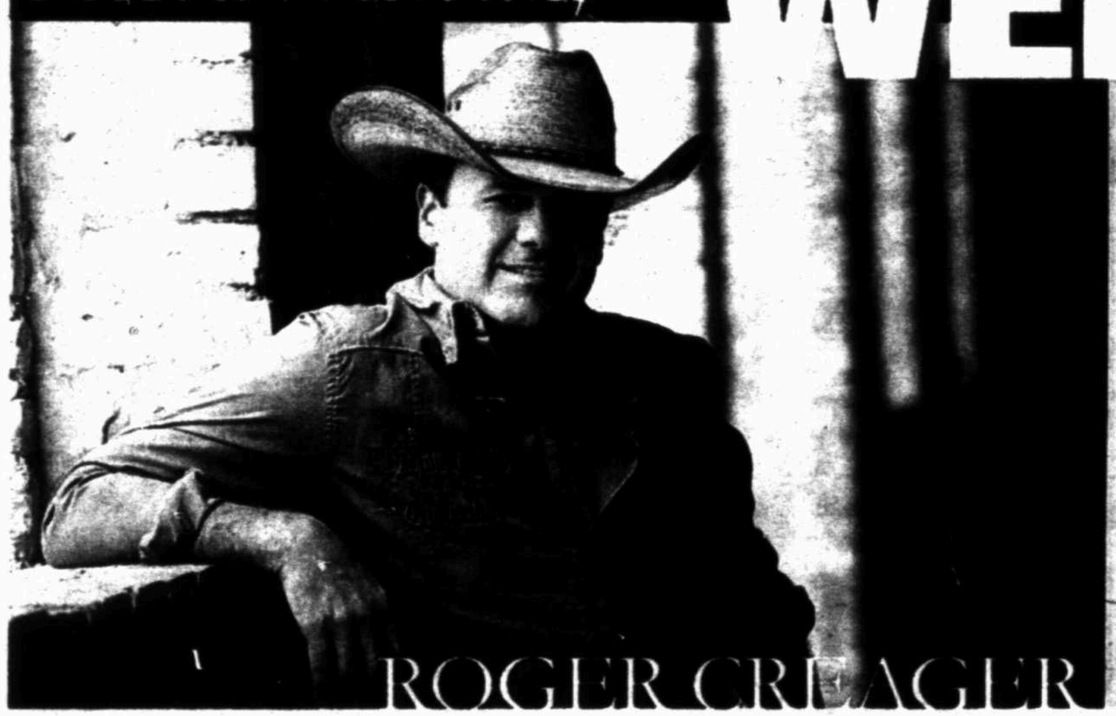
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THIS WEEK





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find out what's going on...







Event 4
First United Methodist Church prepares for One Night in Bethlehem

live and in concert 5-8, 12
- The K-LOVE Acoustic Christmas Tour brings Sanctus Real, Sidewalk Prophets and Dara Maclean to town.
- The Lone Star Brass presents its Christmas concert.
- The Big Spring Symphony strikes up the holiday spirit.
- Bryan Adams brings his Bare Bones Tour: Solo and Acoustic to the Wagner Noel.
- Roger Creager plays Rockin Rodeo.
- Western harmonies, instrumentals and homespun comedy come to the Globe Theatre with the Flying J Wranglers Christms concert.

On screen 9, 10
"The Hobbit : An Unexpected Journey" opens with a midnight preview today at Tall City 14.

Also
This week 3
DVDiva 11
What's coming 16

Welcome to Pulse, a guide to things to do and places to go in our area. To have your event listed here, email gtemple@mrt.com or sdoreen@mrt.com. To be listed in Live Wire, email nadamson@mrt.com. Please do so as soon as your organization, club or venue has a firm date.

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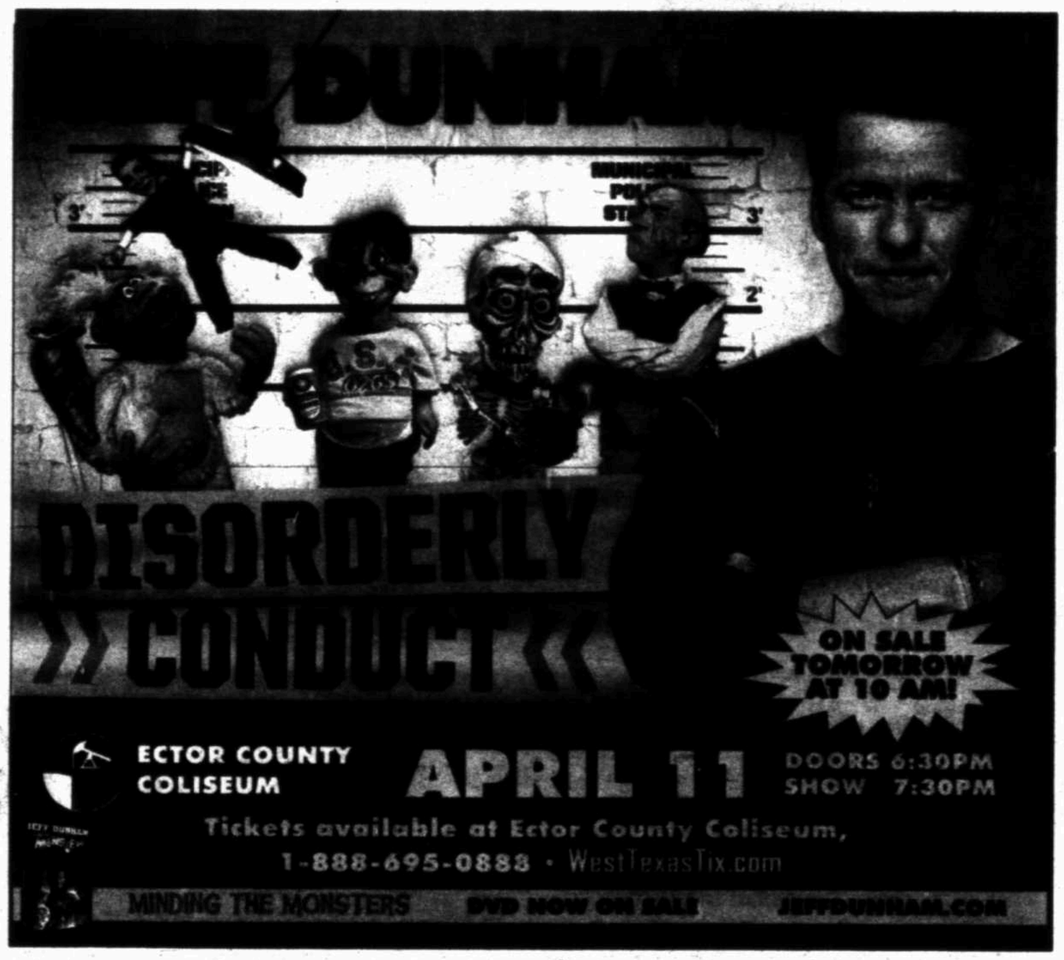
TIMES
4:30pm | 6:30pm | 8:30pm

DATES
Starting November 16th running through the holiday season. Check website for full schedule.

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thisweek

Today

CHRISTMAS AT THE MANSION
When: now through Dec. 29
Where: Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave.
Events: Christmas Teas 3 p.m. Friday and Tuesday. Free. Features a hot cup of tea and treats. No reservations required. Santa Claus, choirs and family workshops Saturday. Santa Claus on site from 2 to 4 p.m. Choirs are scheduled throughout the day. The opportunity to build Christmas tree ornaments to hang on the trees in the Fredda Turner Durham Children's Museum is part of the festive activities.

STARBRIGHT VILLAGE
When: 6-11 p.m. today-Jan. 4
Where: McKinney Park, 625 W Pool Road, Odessa
Admission: Free.
Info: Visit with Santa 7 to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Drive through lighted Christmas displays.

SENIOR CITIZEN THURSDAY NIGHT DANCE CLUB
When: 7:30-10 p.m.
Where: 1225 N. Adams, Odessa
Info: Live country band
Admission: $5 members, $6 non-members
Contact person: Faye Woolf, president, 366-8910. Dances on Thursdays except no dance Dec. 20 or 27. Special dance New Year's Eve from 8 to midnight, then serving black-eyed peas and cornbread.

Friday

HOLD' EM POKER TOURNAMENTS: LONESTAR POKER TOUR
When: No games Monday and Thursday. Games all other days
Where: Woofers and Tweeters and The Detour
Admission: Free to join, free to play.
Info: Seven games a week with cash prizes.
Details: All players must be registered by 6:45 p.m. Schedule: 7 p.m. Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at Woofers and Tweeters, Tuesday and Saturday at The Detour.

MIDLAND COMMUNITY SYMPHONIC BAND FREE CHRISTMAS CONCERT
When: 7 p.m.
Where: Wagner and Brown Auditorium, Midland College.

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL"
When: through Dec. 22
Where: Davis Theatre I, Cole Theatre
Tickets: Call 570-4111. Membership production. Last show of 2012 season.

"THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SCROOGE"
When: 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday
Where: Permian Playhouse, 310 W 42nd St, Odessa
Admission: Adults $14, seniors/students $12 and children $7. Call 550-5456 or go to www.permianplayhouse.com
Info: Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" with a twist.



SESAME STREET LIVE THIS WEEKEND @ ECTOR COUNTY COLISEUM, ODESSA
Sesame Street Live brings its "Elmo Makes Music" show to Odessa for five performances Saturday and Sunday. Shows Saturday are at 10:30 a.m., 2 and 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday at 1 and 4:30 p.m. Those 12 months old and older must have a ticket. Purchase online at info@centralticketoffice.com or call 1-800-462-7979.

Saturday

ONE NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM
Where: First United Methodist Church, 300 N. Main St.
When: 5-7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday
Info: The Christmas story will be presented through an interactive tour. To register for a tour visit www.firstmethodistmidland.com.
Admission: Free.

BIG SPRING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
When: 8 p.m.
Where: Big Spring Municipal Auditorium
Tickets: Blum's Jewelers, the Heritage Museum, the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce and at the box office the evening of the performance.

MIRACLE ON TYLER STREET CEREMONY
When: 6 p.m.
Where: 411 S. Tyler St.
Info: Call Greater Ideal Baptist Church for more information.

RANDOM ACTS OF ART CLASS
When: 1:30-3:30 p.m
Where: Ellen Noël Art Museum, 4909 E. Univesity Blvd., Odessa
Info: Enrollment limited. Advance registration required. Fee is $20. Registration must be made in person in the museum administrative office Monday through Friday 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Adults only class. Instructor Beckwith Thompson will teach post card making with unique mixed media techniques.

Sunday

MOSC CHAMBER CONCERT: LONE STAR BRASS CHRISTMAS
When: 2 p.m.
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE
Where: St. Nicholas' Episcopal Church, 4000 W. Loop 250 N.
When: 7 p.m.
Info: Music from St. Nicholas' choristers, the handbell choir, Gloria Steelman and The West Texas Winds. A reception with desserts from around the world will follow the service.

FUMC CHANCEL CHOIR'S SONGS OF CHRISTMAS
Where: First United Methodist Church, 300 N. Main St.
When: 10:45 a.m. during worship service.

Monday

CHESS CLUB
When: 7 p.m.
Where: Barnes and Noble Booksellers.

MIDLAND COMMUNITY SYMPHONIC BAND
When: 7 p.m.
Where: Midland College Fine Arts Building Band Hall
Info: Weekly meeting. New members welcome. Call Walter, 260-7136.

Tuesday

LUNCH AND LECTURE SERIES
When: noon
Where: Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa
Info: Steve Becker will discuss his art glass collection. Free. Attendees invited to bring a lunch and a friend to the Rodman Auditorium in the Museum.

PAINT TIME
When: 9 a.m.-noon
Where: Midland Palette Club, 907 West Wadley Ave.
Info: Call 352-8297.

CLASSIC MOVIE CLUB
When: 7 p.m.
Where: Cigar Frog's

PERMIAN BASIN DANCE CLUB
When: 7:30-10 p.m.
Where: St. Stephen's Catholic Church, 4601 Neely Ave.
Cost: $5 members, $6 non-members.
Call: 520-4343 or 218-8215.
Info: Live country and Western music each week

Kids Zone

BARNES AND NOBLE BOOKSELLERS
Where: 2617 West Loop 250 N.
Call: 682-8880
Friday: 4 p.m. American Girl
Saturday: 10:30 a.m. "The Dinosaurs Night Before Christmas"
Wednesday: 10:30 a.m. Storytime for Preschool

FREDDA TURNER DURHAM CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
Where: Museum of the Southwest complex, 1705 W. Missouri Ave.
Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 2-5 p.m. Sunday.
Exhibit: "Eat Well, Play Well" through Jan. 6. Educational science exhibition.
Call: 683-2882 for more information. Check for holiday hours.

Road Trip:

Post

"SAY NICKLAUS," RAGTOWN GOSPEL THEATER
When: 7:30 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. Saturday
Tickets: $20 adults, $15 groups of 12 or more and $10 students/children.
Info: 877-724-8696 or Ragtown.com.

Experience the birth of Christ in Bethlehem at FUMC

By Georgia Temple
gtemple@mrt.com

This month more than 100 volunteers are transforming First United Methodist Church into Bethlehem at the time of Christ.

"Many of these volunteers will be preparing Bethlehem for the second, third, fourth or fifth time and some will be new to the excitement," said Donna Fields, director of children's ministry. "All ages are involved, from our two precious babies who will be playing Jesus with their parents as Mary and Joseph, to some of us who are a little more seasoned.

"We come to this amazing opportunity with different life experiences, from different Sunday School classes, from preschools, elementary schools, junior high and high schools all across town. ... It has become a wonderful family of volunteers that love celebrating the birth of Jesus together. It feels like coming home to me each year. "

Sample treats from a first-century bakery, visit market place shops, run into a frantic census taker, meet shepherds eager to share the story of the birth of Jesus and speak with Mary and Joseph when First UMC presents "One Night in Bethlehem."

"We turn our fellowship hall into the town of Bethlehem," said Deborah Wilson, who has been involved with this special event since its inception five years ago. "When they register at the census, the children all get a gold Roman coin, and they can purchase things at the market. They really shop diligently."

The children are "really excited," said Wilson, who plays the role of the inn keeper's wife. "One of their favorite things is the market place."

Tours begin every 15 minutes and last approximately 30 minutes.

"First they do the market place, and then they go into another part of the building where we have the village set up," Wilson said. "The inn keeper's wife (Wilson) actually takes the groups to see Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus in the manger. Then they can go to the chapel and receive a family blessing from one of our pastors."

When a group tarries a little too long, Wilson said, "We do have a Roman gladiator who tells them the city is getting too crowded, and they have to move along. The tours all have tour guides who explain to them what they are seeing."

The adults seem to enjoy the experience as much as the children, Wilson said. "They really, really do. When they are crowding around to see Mary and Joseph and the baby, we have to ask the parents to step back so the children can see. It's interactive. They can ask questions. It truly is for all ages."

Britani Severance, seasonal assistant at First UMC, agreed.

"This is our sixth year doing it, and every year it gets bigger, and every year we get hundreds of people telling us how much they appreciate it and how wonderful the experience was — not just the kids because many people who come in are adults and don't even have children," Severance said.

The final tour leaves the Fellowship Hall at 7 p.m. Reservations are recommended but not necessary and can be made online at www.firstmethodistmidland.com through noon Friday. The wait may be longer without a reservation. For more information, call the church office at 682-3701.

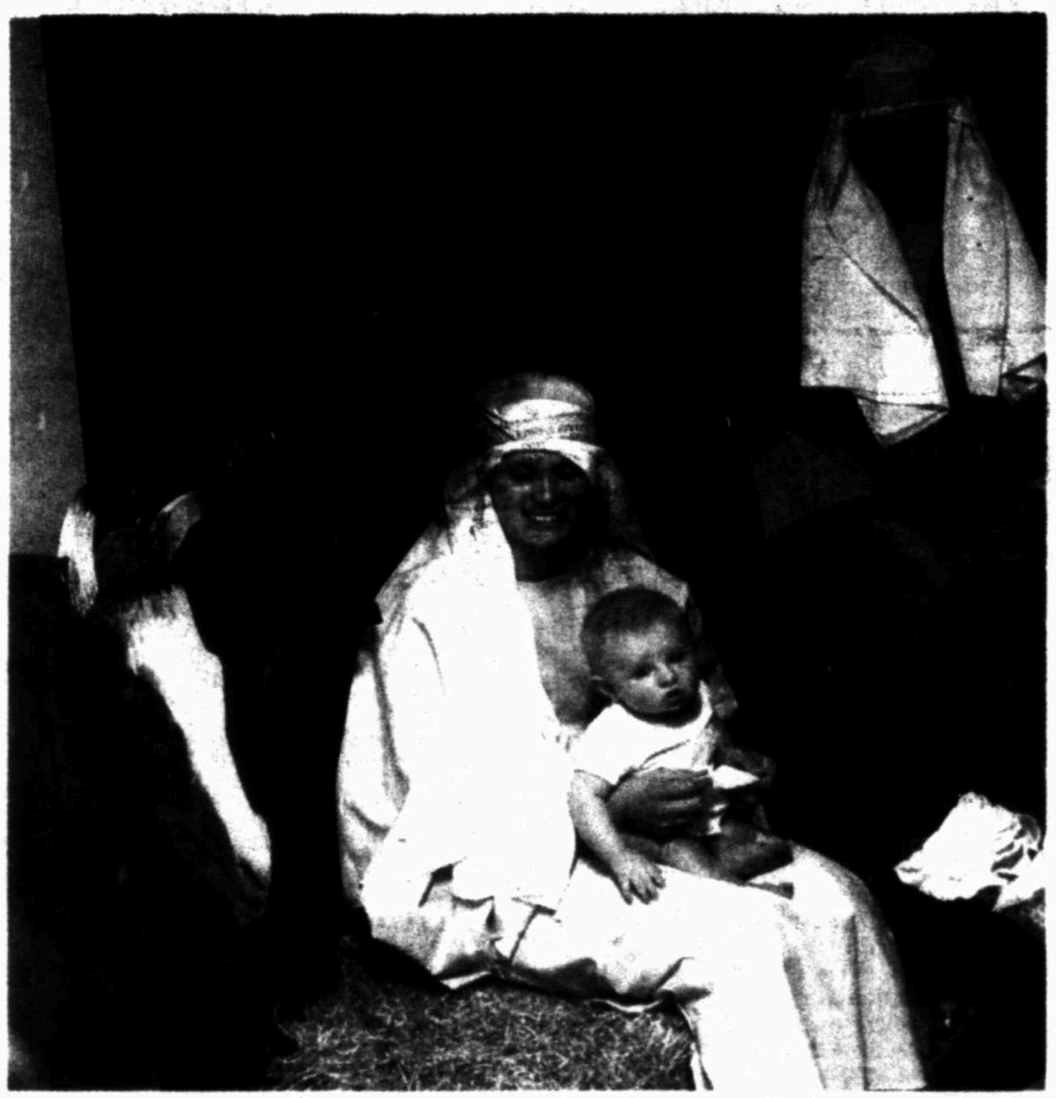
The idea for "One Night in Bethlehem" came from a aacation Bible school theme that was called "Five Days in Bethlehem," Wilson said. "We took the main idea and decided to make it one night."

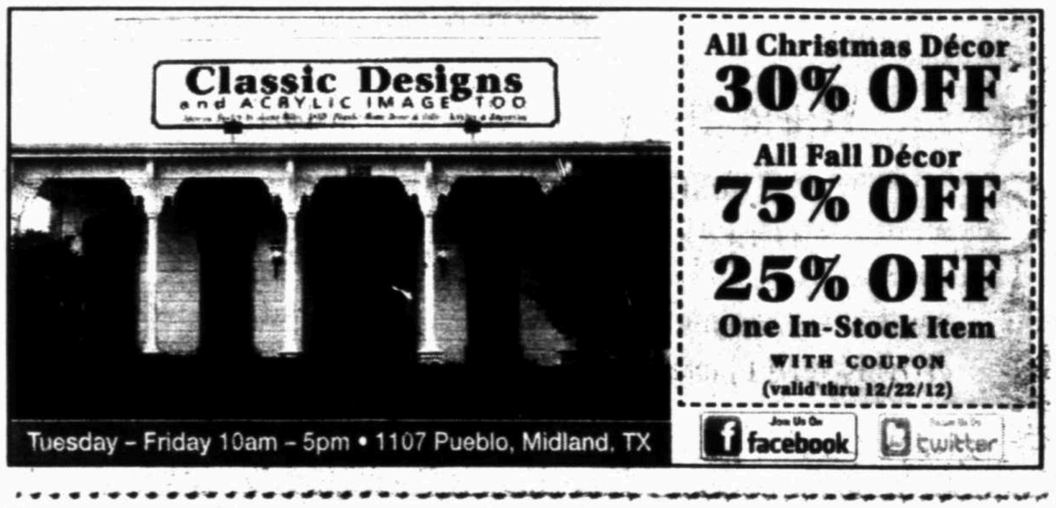
Georgia Temple is the entertainment editor for the Reporter-Telegram

ALL THE DETAILS

ONE NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM

When: 5-7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday
Where: First United Methodist Church, 300 N. Main St.
Info: Tours begin every 15 minutes, last approximately 30 minutes. Reservations are recommended and can be made at www.firstmethodistmidland.com through noon Friday. Call the church office at 682-3701 for more information. The event is planned by Donna Fields with assistance from Deborah Wilson.
Admission: Free.









ALL THE DETAILS:

K-LOVE ACOUSTIC CHRISTMAS TOUR
When: 7 p.m. Saturday
Where: Mid Cities Community Church, 8700 W. Hwy 191
Info: Bands include Sanctus Real, Sidewalk Prophets and Dara Maclean.
Tickets: $20. Visit www.acousticchristmastour.com.

Christian bands take stage at Mid Cities

The K-LOVE Acoustic Christmas Tour makes a stop here on Saturday at Mid Cities Community Church. The lineup includes:

Sanctus Real

The Christian rock band Sanctus Real formed in Toledo, Ohio, in 1996. That year lead singer and guitarist Matt Hammitt met guitarist Chris Rohman while they were 10th-graders attending Toledo Christian School. They led youth worship at their school and church, and began writing their own music. The band, composed of Hammitt (lead vocalist, guitar), Rohman (lead guitar), Dan Gartley (bass), Pete Prevost (guitar), and Mark Graalman (drums) is best known for its No. 1 singles "Beautiful Day" (a U2 cover), "Everything About You," "The Fight Song," "I'm Not Alright," "Don't Give Up," "We Need Each Other," "Forgiven" and "Lead Me."

Sidewalk Prophets

Sidewalk Prophets has toured with the Rock and Worship Roadshow with MercyMe and Francesca Battistelli, among others, and landed another Dove nomination for Group of the Year in 2011.

The members are hands-on about everything, from overall career direction to the smallest details of stage set-up and merchandise. They meet with fans at each stop, including those without tickets to sold-out shows, sign autographs, do interviews, handle their own driving, immerse themselves in PR strategy and keep up a steady contact with fans through social media.

The band features lead singer Dave Frey, lead guitarist Shaun Tomczak, rhythm guitarist Ben McDonald, bassist Cal Joslin and drummer Justin Nace.

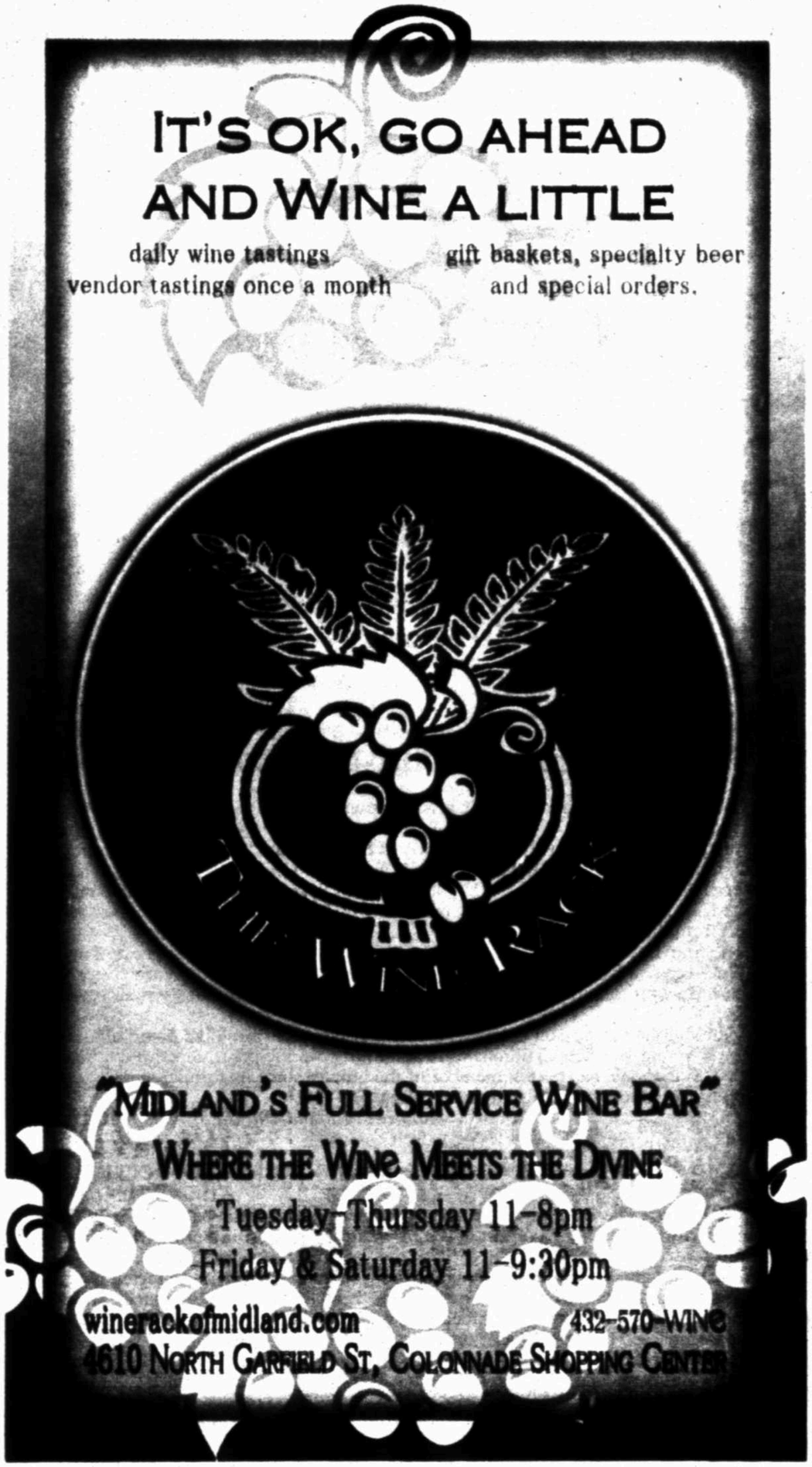
In describing the band's latest album, "Live Like That," Frey said on www.sidewalkprophets.com. "There comes a point in our lives when we ask: what exactly is this life for? It's in those moments that I'm reminded of those who have impacted my life — my grandparents, parents, teachers and pastor — and whether they knew it or not, I saw Christ in them. This album is a reflection of our journey in music and our desire to live our lives in such a way that it is rooted in a deep passion and love that knows no bounds."

Dara Maclean

Dara grew up outside Fort Worth in a family that encouraged her love for music and for the Lord. At the age of 13 she began leading worship and singing in church. She credits "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill"— debut solo album by American musician Lauryn Hill — with "helping me discover who I wanted to be as an artist," Maclean said on www.daramaclean.com. "I remember talking to my mom and dad about how she was quoting Scripture in her lyrics in such a unique way. I just loved it. Not long after that, I started playing guitar and diving into writing for myself."

In school, she was part of a singing group that traveled widely, performing everywhere from churches to conferences to the Superdome.

"I grew up singing, dancing and acting, and it's been in the church world," she said. "Music has always equaled ministry to me. Ministering to the broken, unloved and discouraged and ultimately showing people God's better way is what's in my heart. It's how I'm wired."



CHRISTMAS
concerts



The Lone Star Brass, from left, Mike Santorelli, Eric Baker, Kevin Young, Ben Walsh and Scott Millichamp, performs to a sold-out house Sunday at the Rea-Greathouse Recital Hall. For more information, call the Wagner Noel at 552-4438 or the MOSC at 563-0921.

LSB performs Christmas concert

The Lone Star Brass will perform its Christmas concert at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center.

The program includes "Arrival of The Queen of Sheba," from "Solomon," Georg Friedrich Händel, arr. Michel Torreilles; Quintet no. 2 in Eb major, Op. 6 (1905), Victor Ewald; From "The Art of Fugue," BWV 1080, Johann Sebastien Bach, Contrapunctus I, arr. Robert King; Contrapunctus III and Contrapunctus IX. The rest of the program will be announced from the stage.

The Lone Star Brass is a performing ensemble of the Midland-Odessa Symphony & Chorale. Inc. formed by symphony principals in 1981. In addition to giving concerts in the Permian Basin, the quintet has toured the U.S. and Mexico and has issued several recordings.

New to the quintet this season is Ben Walsh. Other members are Mike Santorelli, Eric Baker, Kevin Young and Scott Millichamp. Santorelli, co-principal trumpet of the Midland-Odessa Symphony, has been a member of the quintet since its formation.

For more information, call the symphony office, 563-0921.

Source: Midland-Odessa Symphony & Chorale

Big Spring Symphony performs holiday concert

BIG SPRING — The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Keith Graumann, will perform its holiday concert at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium.

The annual Christmas performance features the Coahoma Choir Kids, directed by Sandra Wallace. Malinda Flenniken will narrate 'Twas The Night Before Christmas. Soprano Joyce Bradley and Tenor Lawrence Thibeault (pronounced Tebo) will sing seasonal favorites accompanied by the 60-piece orchestra.

Tickets may be purchased at Blum's Jewelers, the Heritage Museum, the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce and at the box office the evening of the performance.

Doors will open at 7 p.m.

Source: Keith Graumann

Winter Wonderland at the INN *we drive ...you win!*

Casino Express

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Phone: 687-1671
Web: www.cigar-frogs.com

Courtyard Marriott
1505 Tradewinds
Phone: 689-9400

Dos Amigos
4700 Golder Ave., Odessa
Phone: 432-368-7556
Web: www.dosamigoscantina.com/

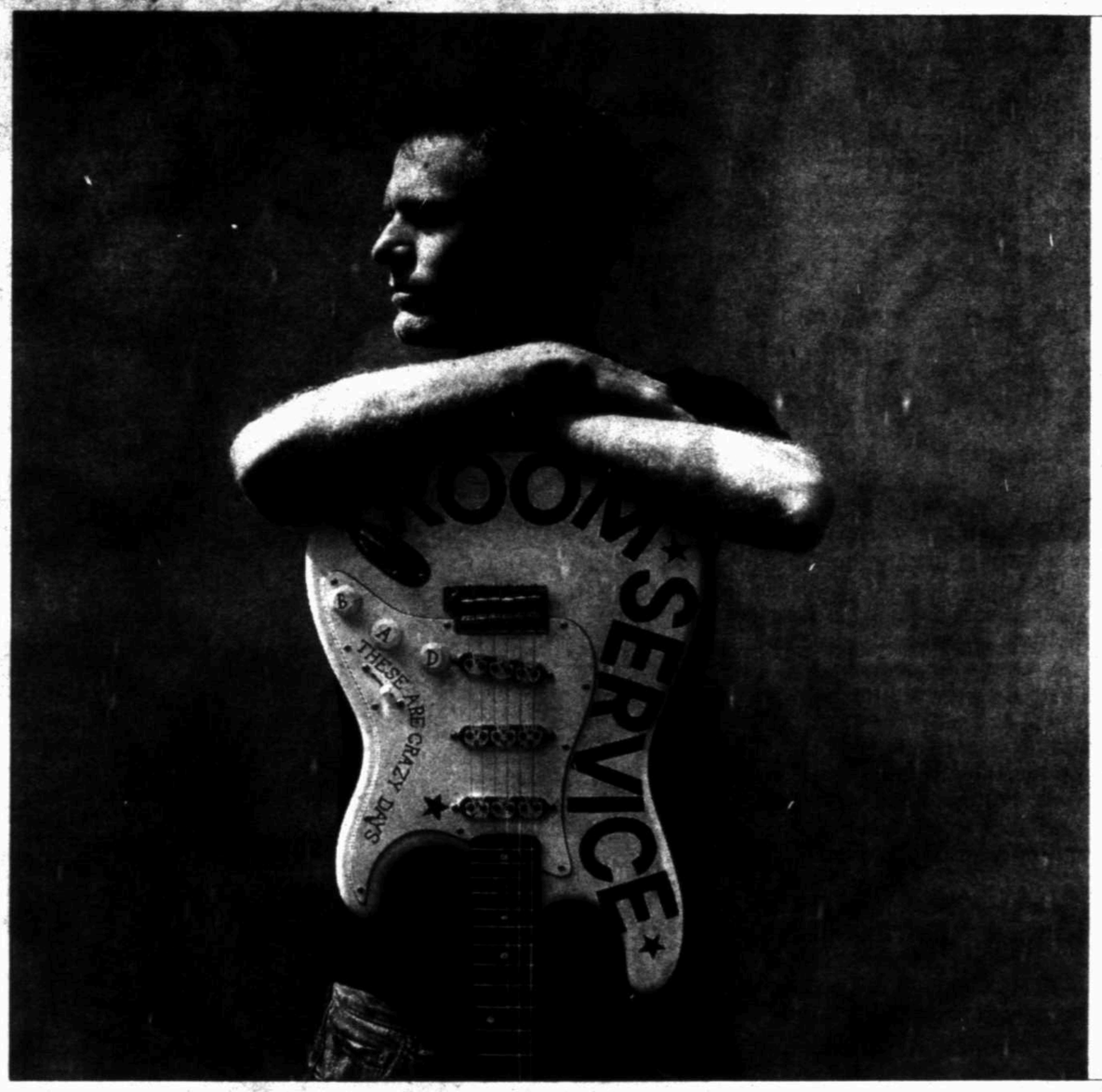
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Quality Inn & Suites, Odessa
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4240 Preston Road, Odessa
Phone: 432-552-0552
Web: www.grahamcentralstation-odessa.com

Harrigans Grill & Bar
2701 John Ben Shepperd, Odessa
Phone: 432-617-8301
Web: www.harrigansdining.com/

Hot Shots
615 W. Wall St.
Phone: 687-3582

Kroc's
2215 N Midland Drive # 2A
Phone: 262-5858
Web: www.krocs-bar.com/



BRYAN ADAMS BARE BONES TOUR: SOLO AND ACOUSTIC TODAY @ THE WAGNER NOEL

Adams — a Canadian rock singer-songwriter, guitarist, bassist, producer, actor and photographer — has sold more than 65 million records, toured six continents and achieved No.1 status in more than 40 countries around the world. His hits include "Cuts Like A Knife," "Summer of '69," "Kids Wanna Rock," "Can't Stop This Thing We've Started," "(Everything I Do) I Do It For You," "Open Road" and most recently "Thought I'd Seen Everything."

Regarding his "Bare Bones Tour," the St. Louis Post Dospatch wrote, "Armed only with a small array of acoustic guitars, Adams packed enthusiastic fans — sometimes a bit too enthusiastic — into the intimate Sheldon for a great night of music and insight."

The Toronto Star wrote, "They sang along with the ever-so-familiar choruses, filled in vocal gaps he left for them, clapped the missing drum parts, hummed the missing solos, and roared their approval after every offering, right up to a long and hearty standing ovation after 'Run To You'."

The show at the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center provides a rare opportunity for fans to see Adams as they've not seen him before: solo-acoustic and intimate.

La Playa de Colores
2101 E. 8th St., Odessa
Phone: 432-580-4200

Miami Nights
1600 North Farm-to-Market 1936, Odessa

Ogi's
4555 E. University, Odessa
Phone: 432-362-0300

Riley's Bar & Grill
3421 W. Wall St.
Phone: 520-0006.

Rockin' Rodeo
4400 N. Big Spring
Suite D46
Phone: 682-0401

Sedona Mexican Grill & Cantina
2101 W. Wadley
Phone: 570-9600

Shack in the Back
11520 W Highway 80 E, Odessa
Phone: 432-561-5105
Web: www.shackintheback.com

The Bar
606 W. Missouri Ave
Phone: 685-1757
Web: www.the-barmidland.com

The Detour
1708 Rankin Hwy
Phone: 685-1011

The Ground Floor
203 W. Wall St.
Phone: 683-4433

The Hemmingway
2200 W Wadley Ave, #2
Phone: 570-5333

The Hog Pit Pub & Grub
7400 W County Road 116
Phone: 561-9301

The New Blue Max
7409 W. Industrial Ave.

The Pine Box Collective
510 S. Big Spring

The Stardust
6300 Andrews Hwy., Odessa
Phone: 349-9879

The Velvet Room
The Midtown Hotel, 3100 W. Wall St.
Web: www.inthevelvetroom.com

Woofers and Tweeters
3303 N Midkiff Rd, No. 160
Phone: 522-2111

Your Place
3704 W. Wall St.
Phone: 262-3367

Live Wire

Midland/Odessa /Big Spring/Alpine

Thursday, Dec. 13
Roger Creager @ Rockin Rodeo
Friday, Dec. 14
Dix Hat Band @ Lone Star Bar
Rocky Lott Band @ Redneck's
Secrets, The Seeking @ Pine Box
Shane Rogers Band @ The Detour
Friday, Dec. 14, and Saturday, Dec. 15
Blue Midnight @ The Bar
Creed Fisher @ Hot Shots
The Road Kings @ Your Place
Saturday, Dec. 15
Jake Carr @ Redneck's
Sanctus Real, Sidewalk Prophets, Dara Maclean @ Mid-Cities Community Church
3 Lit Pigz @ Boomerz
Saturday, Dec. 15, and Sunday, Dec. 16
Sesame Street Live: Elmo Makes Music @ Ector County Coliseum
Sunday, Dec. 16
Midland-Odessa Symphony & Chorale Chamber Concert: Lone Star Brass Christmas @ Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center
Wednesday, Dec. 19
Charlie Stout @ Lone Star Bar
Wednesday Dec. 19, and Thursday, Dec. 20
Disney's Beauty and the Beast @ Wagner Noel

Lubbock

Thursday, Dec. 13
Casey James @ Wild West Lubbock

New Mexico

Thursday, Dec. 13
Tony Orlando @ Inn of the Mountain Gods

Texas country artist Roger Creager is writing songs, 'Living the Dream'

By Eric Woods

When Texas country artist Roger Creager cut his latest album "Surrender," he decided to revamp an old Bob Marley tune.

"I grew up in Corpus Christi and hearing that style of music was very commonplace, even in Texas," said Creager, who performs at 10:30 p.m. today at Rockin Rodeo. "I thought I had a new and interesting take on an old classic. I do it completely different, but I still pay homage to Bob Marley. I thought that it was something that was really cool."

Creager's most recent album was released in January and produced by Grammy-award winner Lloyd Maines. Creager co-wrote every song on the album except for Marley's "Redemption Song."

There is a gap of almost four years between Creager's last two releases, and he said the reason it has taken so long to record another album has a lot to do with the songwriting. And while some songs almost write themselves, there are others that take much more time to get nailed down. Creager said his single "Swinging From the Chandeliers" took almost seven years to write.

"I write most of the songs, and it takes me a while to do that," he said. "Every song has its own beginning and its own process."

Creager said his favorite kind of song to write usually deals with something that is on his heart and with those, all he has to do is rhyme it and tell the story.

"Other than that sometimes you have to sit down and imagine and think, and those are the hard ones," Creager said and laughed.

Besides touring in support of his latest album, Creager has participated in a reality television show. The Texas country icon was featured on the nationally syndicated docu-reality television series, "Troubadour, TX," which follows the careers of several Texas country artists tagged as either "Chasing the Dream," or "Living the Dream."

Creager is featured as one of the artists who are "Living the Dream." Other Texas favorites featured for that particular category are Wade Bowen, Walt Wilkins, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Cory Morrow and Jack Ingram.

"They asked me if they could come out and film us in our day-to-day life at some specific shows," Creager said. "I've always thought it would be interesting for people to see what it is like during the more behind-the-scenes aspects of our life. When you tell somebody what you do for a living they are instantly just fascinated. It's an interesting concept, and I'm pleased with the way it turned out, too."

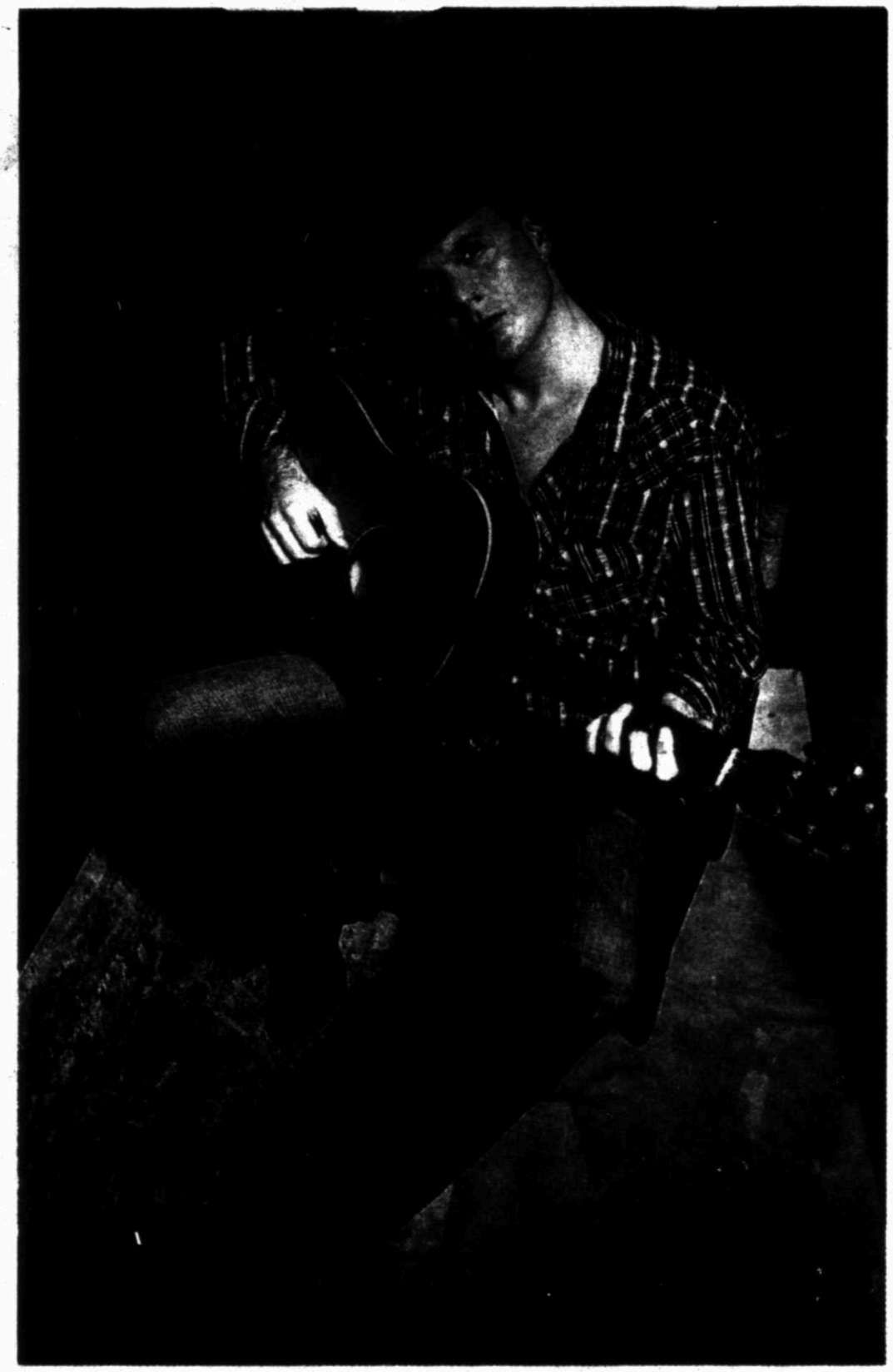
Creager said he wasn't sure how his appearance on the show would impact his career over time, but that it did give his current fans a chance to see what the music business in Texas is really all about.

"I think it gives my fans a little bit more of an insight into what it is like," Creager said. "They see the monotony of it and the fun of it as opposed to necessarily picking up new fans. I think it's new information and interesting information for the fans.

"I do think it will reach some viewers that are not necessarily fans of mine or fans of Texas country music," he added. "I think it will help my career some, but how much remains to be seen."

As for what the future holds for Creager and his career, the Texas country artist said he did have plans to release a compilation album early next year that was to be called "Jolly Rogers," but has since shelved the project and instead will begin working on another album with new material.

"I think we are going to do a new record with all originals," Creager said. "Hopefully we will create that within the next six months."



ALL THE DETAILS:

ROGER CREAGER
When: 10:30 p.m. today
Where: Rockin Rodeo.

'The Hobbit' suffers from story bloat

By David Germain
Associated Press



Judging part one of Peter Jackson's "The Lord of the Rings" prelude "The Hobbit" is a bit like reviewing a film after seeing only the first act.

Yet here goes: "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey" is stuffed with Hollywood's latest technology — 3-D, high-speed projection and Dolby's Atmos surround sound system. The result is some eye candy that truly dazzles and some that utterly distracts, at least in its test-run of 48 frames a second, double the projection rate that has been standard since silent-film days.

It's also overstuffed with, well, stuff. Prologues and sidestepping backstory. Long, boring councils among dwarves, wizards and elves. A shallow blood feud extrapolated from sketchy appendices to J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Lord of the Rings" to give the film a bad guy.

Remember the interminable false endings of "The Return of the King," the Academy Award-winning finale of Jackson's "Lord of the Rings"? "An Unexpected Journey" has a similar bloat throughout its nearly three hours, in which Tolkien's brisk story of intrepid little hobbit Bilbo Baggins is drawn out and diluted by dispensable trimmings better left for DVD extras.

Two more parts are coming, so we won't know how the whole story comes together until the finale arrives in summer 2014. Part one's embellishments may pay off nicely, but right now, "An Unexpected Journey" looks like the start of an unnecessary trilogy better told in one film.

Split into three books, "The Lord of the Rings" was a natural film trilogy, running nearly half a million words, five times as long as "The Hobbit."

Jackson and his wife, Fran Walsh, along with screenwriting partners Philippa Boyens and Guillermo del Toro — who once was attached to direct "The Hobbit," with Jackson producing — have meticulously mined Tolkien references to events that never played out in any of the books (stuff the filmmakers call the "in-between bits").

With that added material, they're building a much bigger epic than Tolkien's book, the unexpected journey of homebody Bilbo (Martin Freeman, with Ian Holm reprising his "Lord of the Rings" role as older Bilbo).

MIDNIGHT SHOWING TODAY AT TALL CITY 14

Bilbo has no desire to hit the road after wizard Gandalf (Ian McKellen, grandly reprising his own "Rings" role) and a company of dwarves turn up to enlist him on a quest to retake a dwarf mountain kingdom from the dragon that decimated it.

Yet off he goes, encountering trolls, goblins, savage orcs and a grisly guy named Gollum (Andy Serkis, re-creating the character that pioneered motion-capture performance in "The Lord of the Rings"). Improved by a decade of visual-effects advances, Gollum solidifies his standing as one of the creepiest movie creatures ever. And as big-screen prologue moments go, Bilbo's acquisition of Gollum's precious ring of power may be second only to Darth Vader's first hissy breath at the end of George Lucas' "Star Wars" prequels.

"An Unexpected Journey" resurrects other "Rings" favorites, some who didn't appear in "The Hobbit" (Elijah Wood as Frodo Baggins, Cate Blanchett as elf queen Galadriel, Christopher Lee as wizard Saruman) and some who did (Hugo Weaving as elf lord Elrond).

Richard Armitage debuts as dwarf leader Thorin Oakenshield, ennobled from a fairly comical figure in Tolkien's text to a brooding warrior king in the mold of Viggo Mortensen from the "Rings" trilogy.

The filmmakers also pluck orc bruiser Azog out of Tolkien's footnotes and make him Thorin's sworn enemy. Azog's a bland antagonist, adding little more than one-dimensional bluster.

While there are plenty of orc skewerings and goblin beheadings, the action is lighter and more cartoonish than that of "The Lord of the Rings." Still, much of it is silly fun, particularly a battle along a maze of footbridges suspended throughout a goblin cave.

The potential sea change with "The Hobbit" is Jackson's 48-frame rate. Most theaters are not yet equipped for that speed, so the film largely will play at the standard 24 frames a second.

Proponents, including James Cameron, say higher frame rates provide more lifelike images, sharpen 3-D effects, and lessen or eliminate a flickering effect known as "strobing" that comes with camera motion. I saw the movie first at 24 frames a second and then at 48, and they're absolutely right that higher speeds clarify the picture. Strobing noticeable at 24 frames is gone at 48, providing a continuity that greatly improves the action sequences. And the panoramas are like Middle-earth actually come to life, as though you're standing on a hill looking down at the hobbits' Shire. If Cameron's "Avatar" was like looking through a window at a fantastical landscape, "An Unexpected Journey" at 48 frames is like removing the glass so you can step on through.

But with great clarity comes greater vision. At 48 frames, the film is more true to life, sometimes feeling so intimate it's like watching live theater. That close-up perspective also brings out the fakery of movies. Sets and props look like phony stage trappings at times, the crystal pictures bleaching away the painterly quality of traditional film.

This may be cinema's future, and the results undoubtedly will improve over time. It'll be an adjustment for audiences, though, and like the warmth of analog vinyl vs. the precision of digital music, the dreaminess of traditional film vs. the crispness of high-frame rates will be a matter of taste.

The technology may improve the story's translation to the screen. There's just not that much story to Tolkien's "Hobbit," though. Jackson is stretching a breezy 300 pages to the length of a Dickens miniseries, and those in-between bits really stick out in part one.

"I do believe the worst is behind us," Bilbo remarks as "An Unexpected Journey" ends.

From a hobbit's lips to a filmmaker's ears. Let's hope Jackson has the goods to improve on a so-so start. Otherwise, "The Hobbit" — subtitled "There and Back Again" by Tolkien — is going to feel like traveling the same road more than twice.

"The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey," released by the Warner Bros. banner New Line Cinema and MGM, is rated PG-13 for extended sequences of intense fantasy action violence, and frightening images. Running time: 169 minutes. Two and a half stars out of four.

onscreen



"Playing for Keeps"



"Killing Them Softly"

"PLAYING FOR KEEPS" — This is supposed to be the time of year when high-quality movies come out, whether they're potential Oscar contenders or crowd-pleasing family fare. So the presence of this flat, hacky, unfunny dreck — the kind of film that ordinarily tries to fly under the radar in January or February but would be torture to sit through in any month — is a total mystery. It is truly baffling that all these talented, acclaimed people actually read this script and then agreed to devote their time to this movie, especially given its uncomfortably flagrant misogynistic streak. Judy Greer, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Uma Thurman couldn't possibly need work this badly. And yet, here they are as soccer moms shamelessly throwing themselves at Gerard Butler and his tousled, manly mane. Butler, still struggling with comedy, stars as George Dryer, a once-great Scottish soccer star who's now divorced and in financial straits. He moves to suburban Virginia to reconnect with his ex-wife (Jessica Biel) and their young son (Noah Lomax). Naturally, a couple of things happen pretty quickly, accompanied by an intrusively jaunty score. First, George gets suckered into coaching his kid's soccer team. Then, the mothers of all the other 9-year-olds start brazenly hitting on him. Director Gabriele Muccino veers wildly between wacky hijinks and facile sentimentality, and Robbie Fox's script doesn't feature a single character who resembles an actual human being. PG-13 for some sexual situations, language and a brief intense image. 105 minutes. Zero stars out of four.

— Christy Lemire, AP Movie Critic

Capsule reviews of feature films

RATINGS: 4 stars: Excellent; 3 stars: Good; 2 stars: Fair; 1 star: Poor

Distributed by MCT Information Services

"KILLING THEM SOFTLY" — Brad Pitt is a hitman called in to clean up after a messy mob-protected card game robbery, in Andrew Dominik's jolting, suspenseful, bloody and bloody entertaining crime pic, adapted from a vintage George V. Higgins' novel. With Richard Jenkins, James Gandolfini, Ray Liotta and a band of shifty mugs. 1 hr. 37 R (violence, profanity, adult themes) 3 1/2 stars.

"LIFE OF PI" Ang Lee's parable about a boy and a Bengal tiger adrift in a lifeboat (based on the bestseller by Yann Martel) is about the stories we tell to make peace with the incomprehensible. 2 hrs. 07 PG (its themes of loss and loss of innocence are best not for children under 12) 3 stars.

"LINCOLN" — Daniel Day-Lewis in an act of human alchemy, delivering an absolutely extraordinary performance as the 16th president of the United States, campaigning to end the Civil War and abolish slavery. A film about America's unqiue political process, and the leader trying to bend it to his will. 2 hrs. 29 PG-13 (violence, adult themes) 3 1/2 stars.

"RED DAWN" A laughably bad script and uniformly uncharismatic cast hobble this unnecessary, reboot of the 1984 Patrick Swayze cult fave. Instead of Russians invading the U.S. of A., this time it's the North Koreans. High school resistant fighters aren't going to let them stay. 1 hr. 33 PG-13 (violence, profanity, adult themes) 1 1/2 stars.

"SKYFALL" — The 23d Bond film, and the third with Daniel Craig as the steely 007, takes a veddy British turn, even if it starts in Istanbul and hopscotches across the Pacific. Javier Bardem is the fey and psycho (and not terribly interesting) villain and Judi Dench is back, and bristling, as M. There's a new young Q (Ben Whishaw) pleased with himself, and there's a fussy parliamentarian (Ralph Fiennes) displeased with MI6's security lapses. Bérénice Marlohe is the exotic Bond girl, Naomie Harris the empowered one. Great action, and a bit of Bond backstory, too. PG-13 (violence, intense action, profanity, adult themes) 3 stars.

"TAKEN 2" — Liam Neeson is back as the super-resourceful ex-CIA guy who saved his daughter from sex traffickers in the 2008 surprise hit. This time, he and his ex (Famke Janssen) and their daughter (Maggie Grace) go vacationing in Istanbul, but menacing Albanians wants blood and vengeance. Formulaic and far-fetched, and nowhere near as fun as the first one. 1 hr. 31 PG-13 (violence, adult themes) 2 stars.

"THE TWILIGHT SAGE: BREAKING DAWN — PART 2". — The trippiest and goofiest of the five filmic installments based on Stephenie Meyer's megaselling books about teenage hormones and vampire beaus. Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson are newlyweds, and parents of a beatific baby girl, while Taylor Lautner finds another excuse to strip down to his jockey shorts. Over. Done. Nail that coffin shut. 1 hr. 55 PG-13 (sex, vampire-on-vampire violence, adult themes). 2 1/2 stars

Also

"Flight" — A seasoned airline pilot is hailed as a hero after miraculously crash-landing a malfunctioning plane, but questions arise as to who or what really caused the accident. With Denzel Washington, Kelly Reilly, John Goodman and Don Cheadle. Written by John Gatins. Directed by Robert Zemeckis. (2:15) R.

"Rise of the Guardians" — Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy, the Sandman and Jack Frost join forces to battle an evil spirit known as Pitch in this animated film. With the voices of Chris Pine, Alec Baldwin, Hugh Jackman and Isla Fisher. Directed by Peter Ramsey. (1:37) PG.

"WRECK-IT RALPH" — Colorful, noisy and pixel-deep diversion about Ralph (John C. Reilly), a video-game villain who wants to be a hero. In 3-D. 1 hr. 33 PG (raucous humor, animated action violence, suitable for those 5 and older)

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DVDIVA'S *pick of the week*

Last film in 'Batman' trilogy wins top spot



Pick of the week:

"The Dark Knight Rises" (PG-13) While it is too soon — and it very well may always be too soon — to see this film without associating it with the terrible tragedy that happened in Colorado, it is a magnificent movie that will hopefully overcome the horrific shadow that hangs over it. Director Christopher Nolan's finale to the trilogy is not the best of the group: A breathtaking story and Heath Ledger's bravura performance in "The Dark Knight" wins that category hands down. But there's never a dull moment in "The Dark Knight Rises." OK, that speech Bane (Tom Hardy) gives toward the end of the film telling the citizens of Gotham why he must annihilate them is not only too long but rather silly. Otherwise, though, really, it's a nonstop thrill ride for its 165 minutes. A-

"Beasts of the Southern Wild" (PG-13) Charming tale about a 6-year-old girl named Hushpuppy who lives in the bayou with her dad. Hurricane Katrina sets them adrift in the waterways to search for food, shelter and the friends and family who survived the ordeal. The story is intriguing enough, but young Quvenzhané Wallis, who plays Hushpuppy, is spectacular. Her performance is nothing short of Oscar worthy. She beat out more than 3,500 for the role and it's not hard to see why within seconds of hearing her opening monologue. Again, the film deserves all the film festival accolades it's won. But Wallis is a name that deserves to be mentioned when the Academy Awards nominations are announced. A-

"Butter" (R) Odd film about a champion butter sculptor who decides to retire after making a life-size rendition of Leonardo Da Vinci's "The Last Supper" portrait with 3D characters. This satire of conservatives and the hypocrisy some can exhibit is somewhat timely but not really funny. In this case, an unfunny satire is almost excruciating to watch. C

"Craigslist Joe" (not rated) Borrowing a move from Morgan Spurlock, whose "Super Size Me" put the documentary filmmaker on the map, Joseph Garner makes his feature-length debut chronicling his attempt to live solely off the generosity of others for 30 days via posts on Craigslist. Using only his cellphone, a laptop computer and a few supplies tucked away in a backpack, Garner sets off on his adventure. Day One is spent mostly in a park. How exciting. Things do get a lot more lively, but it's hard to work up much sympathy for a guy who needs a couple thousand dollars worth of high-tech hardware to accomplish his goal of getting people to feed and house him. B-

"Hope Springs" (PG-13) Beautifully acted story about a woman who wants to save her marriage by forcing her grumpy husband to see a world-renown counselor. The performances by Meryl Streep, Tommy Lee Jones and Steve Carell carry this film. The trouble is with the characters played by Streep and Jones. They just aren't very likable. He's a curmudgeon who wants his breakfast on the table every morning and wants to watch golf shows on TV every night before retiring to his own bedroom. She's a subservient housewife who makes his breakfast every morning and spends her day wondering why the marriage has deteriorated before going off to her separate bedroom every night. They deserve each other and the misery they've brought to the relationship. C

"Last Call at the Oasis" (PG-13) Documentary features several segments, each highlighting a different part of the world with acute water woes. Foremost for those of us in West Texas is its Midland segment on the hexavalent chromium contamination in the water supply of many county residents. Featuring interviews with some of the residents living with the problem and interviews with Erin Brockovich-Ellis, the famous activist known for her battles with Pacific Gas & Electric in California that led to a huge victory in class action lawsuit, the ongoing contamination and possible fixes for it make for a heartbreaking segment. The remaining segments don't offer much more in the way the Earth is dealing with its water shortages save for an amusing piece about recycling sewer water featuring actor Jack Black. But for better or worse, it's an engrossing film that is well-made, cohesive and mind-boggling. A-

"The Odd Life of Timothy Green" (PG) Jennifer Garner and Joel Edgerton play a childless couple who use bits of paper to conjure up their dream child, bury the bits in their backyard, and voila, a wonderful little boy with leaves growing on his legs sprouts up. I can make the stretch for the story, mostly because of the terrific ensemble cast that back up Garner and Edgerton and one terrific little actor in CJ Adams, who plays the title character. But the direction these fine actors are given in some of the scenes is just plain awful and makes the whole thing cheesy and laughable. It also was reminiscent of "A.I." and "Martian Child," films that took the alienated child scenario to a higher level. C+





Flying J Wranglers like to interact with audience

By Georgia Temple
gtemple@mrt.com

The members of the Flying J Wranglers are known throughout the Southwest and the chuckwagon circuit for their original Western harmonies, instrumentals and homespun comedy. They find the Globe Theatre, where they will be performing Tuesday, a perfect venue for their Christmas special.

"It suits us really well," said Flying J Wrangler singer, songwriter and rhythm guitarist James Hobbs. "We're used to being right down there with our audience and close to them. We have a lot of audience interaction in our shows. And we like it (the Globe) because it's a real intimate theater, and the sound is good."

These longtime Lincoln County entertainers celebrate the heritage of the West and the spiritual wealth of the holiday season with rich melodious western yodeling, vocals, fiddle and guitars in soaring renditions of spirituals like "Go Tell It On The Mountain" and "Beautiful City," and old time cowboy Christmas tunes like "Corn, Water and Wood," "Christmas For Cowboys" and "Yuletide Yodel."

The audience can expect, Hobbs said, "Fun. And it's just a happy celebration. We've got some really upbeat fun songs. We do traditional Christmas music. We've got a medley of sing-along stuff and a couple of skits we work in and a lot of the traditional religious songs, and we have a couple of really great old spirituals that we've worked up."

The beauty of songs like "Virgén María" and "Mary Did You Know?" resonates with power, as do works like an a-cappella version of the traditional religious carol "The First Noel." The latter is included in the Flying J Wrangler's most recent Western flavored Christmas CD.

"Cindy always does 'Mary, Did You Know?' She does just such a great job on that song," said Hobbs. "At the end, where the focus in on the message, the reason for the season, the birth of Jesus, we do some audience sing-a-long. It's really a neat show."

Georgia Temple is the entertainment editor for the Reporter-Telegram.

ALL THE DETAILS

THE FLYING J WRANGLERS
When: 7 p.m. Tuesday
Where: Globe Theatre, 2308 Shakespeare Road, Odessa
Tickets: $25. 580-3177 or www.globesw.org.
Info: Members are James and Cindy Hobbs, Roy Black, Randy Jones and Corinna Ripple. For more information on the Flying J Wranglers go to flyingjranch.com. The Flying J Wranglers perform today at the Spencer Theatre, Alto, N.M.



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diningguide

Restaurant Guide: Pulse publishes a portion of the Restaurant Guide each week. Restaurants are listed in categories according to the type of food they serve and classified as order at counter (OAC) then sit down, or sit down (SD) and be waited on. Several are listed as cafeteria or buffet style, a few are carry out.
Entree price range is based on the average entree price on the menu: $ = $1-10, $$ = $10-20 and $$$ = $20 or more. Restaurants are given a general rating based on quality of food, service, cleanliness, atmosphere and overall experience. 1 spoon = poor, 2 spoons = average, 3 spoons = above average, 4 spoons = good and 5 spoons = excellent.

Barbecue/Burgers

◗ Bob's Better Burger (drive-in)
3417 Thomason Drive
694-1561

Serving burgers, fries, milkshakes for more than 50 years. Menu is posted in front of the kitchen where customers stand outside and place orders through a window. Menu includes small and large burgers with additions such as cheese, jalapenos, chili and bacon. Corn dogs, hot dogs, sandwiches, fries and onion rings are available. Kid's menu. Cash only.
Entree price range:$
Hours: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Monday - Saturday
4 spoons

◗ Dickey's Barbecue Pit (OAC)
5210 W. Wadley Ave.
689-4500, catering 212-3351
www.dickeys.com

The menu says, "Cooked slow, served fast." Quick, friendly service and traditional barbecue selections of brisket, chicken, pulled pork, all the sides. Also stuffed baked potatoes, chicken Caesar salad, sandwiches and platters. Kid's menu and family packs. Don't forget your yellow drink cup with your favorite drink. Catering.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. daily
4 spoons

◗ Johnny's Bar B-Q & Diner (cafeteria)
316 N. Big Spring
683-4581

Bar B-Q and all the fixings. Look for the neon pig sign. Sandwich specials include side and a drink for $6.49. Barbecue offerings include brisket, ribs, sausage, jalapeno sausage, turkey, ham and chopped barbecue. Plate meals with one, two or three meats and two sides and Texas toast. Half portion children's plates are available or try one of the value packs to feed the whole family. Park on side of building. Entrée price range $
Hours: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday – Thursday; 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

◗ Michael's Charcoal Grill (OAC)
723 W. Wadley Ave. 686-9030
and 4317 W. Illinois Ave. 689-9702

Barbecue specialties including ribs, brisket, sausage and chicken. Other entrees include rib eye steaks, pork chops, country fried steak, chopped sirloin steak as well as several seafood dishes including fried catfish and fried cod. Sandwiches, burgers, salads, low cal plates as well as junior pilot and senior menu. Beer and wine served. Airplane memorabilia decorates the large dining room. Catering available.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday.
4 spoons

◗ Burgers Fries and Cherry Pies (OAC)
5210 W. Wadley Ave.
617-2327

More than 20 combinations of burgers and toppings. Choose ground beef or a grilled chicken breast. Sizes are 1/3 or 1/2 pound burgers on white, wheat or jalapeno cheddar homemade sourdough buns. All types of fries are on the menu including border fries (picante, guacamole, jalapenos and cheese), chili cheese fries, cheese fries, feta fries and frontier fries (hickory, barbecue sauce, picante sauce and cheese).
Average Price: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Sunday
2 spoons

◗ Brooks Bar B-Q (SD)
501 E. Texas Ave.
685-5079

Known for "fat burgers" and barbecue plates, also serves entrees such as chicken fried steak, fried shrimp, hamburger steaks and more. Sandwiches include grilled or fried chicken or fish, patty melt, BLT, chopped beef and sliced beef. Save room for a slice of homemade pie or another dessert.
Entree price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday
4 spoons

◗ Tank's Bar-B-Que and Catering (Carry out)
401 East Scharbauer Drive
684-0006

Carry out restaurant, offering barbecue ribs, brisket, sausage and turkey by the pound or plate. Call in your order before you arrive or walk up to the window. Friday, try the fried catfish. Traditional side dishes, beans, potato salad, onion rings and fries are served. Claims to have one of the best burgers in town. Kid's menu and catering available.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday, 11 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday.
4 spoons

◗ Texas Burger (OAC)
3306 W. Loop 250 West, 522-2177
and 500 W. Wadley Ave. 620-9838

Texas Burger has three locations in Odessa, one in Andrews and two in Midland. Menu includes a variety of burgers and sandwiches as well as chicken strip, steak finger or shrimp dinner plates or baskets. Corn dogs, hot dogs, frito pie and a number of salads also are listed on the menu. Prices are reasonable and the kid's menu offers several options. The restaurant also features desserts with ice cream and frozen custard.
Entree price range: $
Hours: 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.
3 spoons

◗ Fuddruckers (OAC)
4511 N. Midkiff Rd.
689-0448

Located inside Midland Park Mall, Fuddruckers offers different sizes of hamburgers and a variety of toppings. The menu also includes chicken sandwiches, salads, hot dogs and more. For customers wanting healthier options, the restaurant serves buffalo, ostrich, turkey and veggie burgers. Desserts include freshly-baked cookies and brownies as well as ice cream and shakes.
Price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Sunday - Thursday, 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Friday - Saturday
3 spoons

◗ KD's Bar-B-Q (OAC)
3113 Garden City Highway
683-4013

KD's Bar-B-Q serves a variety of barbecued meats and sides. Customers choose their meat from the grill. Choices include turkey, brisket, ham, chopped beef, several types of sausage, pork chops, chicken, pork tenderloin and ribs. Sides include potato salad, coleslaw, corn and roasted jalapenos.
Entree price range: meat priced per pound; sandwiches $
Hours: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m., Friday-Saturday.
5 spoons

◗ Dixie Burger (OAC)
1300 Rankin Highway
email: dixieburger@gmail.com
686-0116

A chef brings his influence to a burger joint with delicious results. Great burgers and barbecue combo (smoked pork or beef sandwich with homemade Dixie BBQ sauce) and steak combo (thinly-sliced sirloin steak with onions and cheese served on white or wheat). Also featured are "classic meals" such as Frito pie, chili and chili cheese dogs, corn dogs and hot dogs. Daily specials include the "black and blue," sirloin steak grilled to your liking topped with bleu cheese and grilled onions on a toasted bun with horseradish mayonnaise, lettuce and tomatoes. Delicious desserts are available, too.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday
2 spoons

Mexican

◗ Ajuua's Mexican Restaurant and Drive-Thru (SD)
3205 W. Cuthbert Ave.
694-4116

Expansive menu with traditional Tex-Mex favorites such as enchiladas, tacos, burritos and combination plates. Seafood menu features dishes with catfish, shrimp and oysters. Fajitas with beef, chicken, pork, shrimp or fish are available for $7.99 daily. Menudo is available Saturday and Sunday.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Monday through Friday; 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday
2 spoons

◗ Casa Lopez Cafe (SD)
4411 W. Illinois Ave.
699-7373

Extensive menu featuring Mexican food specialties. Appetizers include bacon wrapped shrimp and stuffed jalapenos. Variety of fajitas, combination plates, enchiladas, salads, steaks and a kid's menu. Sports bar in separate room with large TV. Delicious food and friendly service. Catering.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Thursday-Friday 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.. Sunday.
4 spoons

◗ Casa Madrid (SD)
911 S. Big Spring St.
685-1350

In business for 25 years. Traditional Mexican dishes, fajitas, combination dinners, steak, tacos, tamales, flautas and enchiladas. Kids menu. Dailyall-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $8.25. Happy hour is each day from 5-7 p.m. offering $2 domestic longnecks and $2 margaritas. They make their own tortillas in the tortilla factory inside the restaurant.
Entrée price range: $8
Hours: 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday; 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m. Tuesday - Thursday and Saturday; 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; 5-10 p.m. Friday.
3 spoons

dininguide *cont.*

El Banquete (SD)
1802 Rankin Highway
620-0123

Appetizers such as chili con queso, guacamole, nachos and quesadillas. Taco salads, burritos, beef or chicken fajita salads as well as various enchiladas plates are also on the menu. Beef tacos as well as soft pork tacos and T-bone steaks are also offered. Breakfast burritos served daily. Kid's menu.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday -Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.
2 spoons

Jorge's Café (SD)
3323 N. Midland Drive (Fairmont Shopping Center near Miss Cayce's) 689-0032
4400 N. Big Spring 683-6303

Lunch specials from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Quick service and nice atmosphere. Appetizers, salads, Mexican specialties, combination plates, fajitas, and steaks. Breakfast served on Saturday and Sunday. Full service bar with happy hour 3-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, televisions in bar tuned to sports. Room for party. Catering available.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday.
4 spoons

Cancun Grill (SD)
223 W. Wall St.
618-0390

Located inside the Wall Towers across from the old courthouse, this Mexican restaurant offers everything. Colorful dining room and décor. Full service bar. Large menu offering traditional Mexican dishes as well as numerous specialties and seafood, chicken and salads. Food is beautifully displayed on the serving dishes. Tres Leches cake is delicious. Catering. Kid's menu.
Entrée price range: $$
Hours: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5:30-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 5:30-9 p.m. Saturday.
4 spoons

Casa del Sol Restaurante y Cantina (SD)
523 East Illinois Ave.
686-1118

Reminiscent of a Mexican cantina. Numerous appetizer selections, Mexican specialties and combination plates. Mexican stir-fry is a popular choice. West Texas specialties include country-fried steak, shrimp, grilled or fried catfish. Kid's menu.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday
3 spoons

Charlas Restaurante & Bar (SD)
3330 W. Illinois Ave.
699-2440

Delicious Mexican food in and casual atmosphere. Full service bar. Appetizers, enchiladas, tacos, shrimp nachos, tortilla soup, taco and tropical salad. Large choice of steaks, fajitas, burgers, seafood and chicken dishes as well. Delicious chips and salsa. Combination meals available as well as daily lunch specials. Kid's menu.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-10 p.m. daily
3 spoons

Rosa's Café & Tortilla Factory (OAC)
903 Andrews Highway 520-2358
2501 N. Big Spring St. 620-0634
4301 N. Midland Drive 520-0489

Large menu of tacos, burritos, nachos and salads and a la carte items. Offering Mexican platters such as a beef burrito plate, cheese enchilada plate, deluxe Mexican plate and chicken or beef fajita plates in addition to a tamale dinner. Family sized portions available. Try the fajita fiesta and don't leave without ordering the queso. Catering. Great atmosphere and quick service. Watch as they make fresh tortillas daily. Kid's menu.
Entree price range: $
Hours: 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday.
4 spoons

Caramba's Spanish Inn (SD)
3116 W. Front St.
520-9724 or 520-9525

Bustling Mexican restaurant with a wide variety of Mexican foods. Menu features appetizers, light plates with 10 different choices, a "customer favorites" section, Mexican specialties and combination plates, burritos, burgers, steaks and seafood. Several rooms available for parties.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday
4 spoons

Dos Compadres (SD)
2200 W. Wadley Ave,
#1 Oak Ridge Square
684-7239
www.Doscompadres.net

Appetizers offered include a variety of nachos and quesadillas as well as chile con queso. There are 15 house specials to choose from as well as a large selection of combination plates. Also steaks, seafood and fajitas. Try the carne guisada. Kid's menu available. Catering. Full service bar. Daily specials. Friendly service and family atmosphere.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
3 spoons

Gerardo's Casita (SD)
2407 N. Big Spring St.
570-8012
www.gerardoscasita.net

Mexican entrees, tacos, enchiladas and burritos, grilled specials including burgers, fajitas, steaks, taco salad and delicious tortilla soup. Great fajitas. Daily specials, kid's menu and several rooms for meetings or parties. Full service bar. Catering.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday.
4 spoons

La Herradura Mexican Cuisine (SD)
1422 Rankin Highway
687-3000

Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. Breakfast plates including huevos rancheros, omelettes, pancakes, French toast and other options with potatoes, beans and tortillas are served from 6 - 11 a.m. Lunch and dinner options include tacos, quesadillas, tostadas, fajitas, steaks, carne asada, enchiladas, flautas and burritos as well as hamburgers and other sandwiches. The restaurant serves menudo, caldo de res and cabrito en salsa verde on the weekends and a daily lunch buffet from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Kids menu.
Entree price range: $
Hours: 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. daily
2 spoons

La Mision (SD)
1008 S. Big Spring St.,
682-0320

Festive Mexican atmosphere with colorful décor and lights. Delicious chips and salsa. Large selection of appetizers, main dishes such as cheese enchiladas, carne guisada, hamburgers and fries, chicken fried steak, fajitas, chili rellenos, grilled specialties. Try the sopapillas with ice cream. Full service bar and outdoor seating available. Kid's menu.
Average entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday
4 spoons

Dona Anita's (SD)
305 W. Florida Ave.
683-6727

Traditional Tex-Mex entrees such as tacos, burritos, enchiladas, chile rellenos and combination plates, Dona Anita's is located near downtown and offers weekday lunch specials. Menu also includes fajitas with chicken, steak or shrimp, flautas, salads, quesadillas and American dishes such as hamburgers, a catfish platter and chicken fried steak. We recommend the chile rellenos. Huevos con chorizo, menudo, huevos rancheros and migas available on Sundays.
Entree price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m. Monday - Friday; 5-9 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m. -3 p.m. Sunday.
3 spoons

Fajitas Bravo (SD)
409 E. Scharbauer Drive
682-6848

The most delicious tender and flavorful beef and chicken fajitas I have had. Order at your table from the large menu on the wall offering barbecue brisket and ribs or grilled chicken breasts

THE GEORGE W. BUSH Childhood Home A PRESIDENTIAL SITE

10 AM-5 PM Tues.-Sat.
2-5 PM Sun.
1412 W. Ohio, Midland, TX
432-685-1112

www.bushchildhoodhome.org fan us on facebook & twitter

FREE-Laura Bush Literacy Program reading event, Thurs. Dec 20th , from 4:30-5:30 PM in our Visitor Center for kids of all ages. We will read a selection of books including "Priscilla and the Great Santa Search" and each child receives a free copy of the book along with refreshments.

Call 685-1112 to reserve a space!

Our reading programs are held the Third Thursday of every month.

Explore the joy of reading!

dininguide *cont.*

with potato salad and beans as well as traditional Mexican dishes such as nachos, burritos, burgers and quesadillas. Larger portion family packs with meats and side dishes also on the menu. Catering available for parties, meetings or any event. Thursday night pool contest from 9 p.m. until closing. Happy hour 7-9 p.m. daily.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-2 p.m; 6 p.m.-midnight Monday-Friday
3 spoons

La Bodega Mexican Restaurant and Bar (SD)
2700 N. Big Spring St.
684-5594

Opened in 1972, La Bodega serves a variety of traditional and unique Mexican dishes. Try the chile rellenos — stuffed with beef, chicken, cheese or shrimp, deep-fried and topped with red sauce, sour cream, pecans and raisins — or the rueda, described on the menu as a Mexican pizza. Several dining rooms, including an enclosed patio room. The bar is located upstairs and is accessible from both inside and outside the building. The bar allows smoking and keeps later hours than the restaurant.
Entree price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. daily
4 spoons

Romie's Mexican Restaurante (SD)
701 S. Marienfeld St.
432-683-5344

Daily specials, most at $6.99. Large selection of appetizers including, stuffed jalapenos and flautitas, nachos and homemade salsa. Traditional Mexican favorites such as chalupas, tacos, enchiladas, quesadillas, burritos. Steak, catfish and burgers and a kid's menu. Friendly and speedy service. Perfect for those working downtown and anyone looking for a delicious Mexican meal. Catering and take out available.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11-2 p.m. Monday-Friday
3 spoons

Sedona Mexican Grill & Cantina (SD)
2101 W. Wadley Ave., #45
570-9600

Sit out on the patio and enjoy traditional Mexican food dishes. Start your meal with delicious chile con carne queso. Enchiladas, quesadillas, burritos, carne guisada and tacos are all on the menu. All Mexican dinners are served with rice, beans, guacamole, and two flour tortillas. Assorted selection of soups, taco salads and sandwiches, burgers and salads, seafood and steaks. Daily specials and catering available.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-10 p.m. daily for restaurant, bar is open until midnight daily.
4 spoons

Tampico Spanish Inn (SD)
2411 W. Wall St.
682-5074

Go early to get a table at this popular Midland eatery. Wide variety of appetizers including jalapeno chips, queso, chile con queso, guacamole, avocado salad, stuffed jalapenos and a selection of quesadillas and nachos (available in whole and half orders). Lunch specials change daily.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9:45 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 11 a.m.-9:45 p.m. Saturday; 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday.
4 spoons

Javi's Mexicano Restaurante (SD)
1511 Rankin Highway
684-4898

Serving breakfast and lunch. Bakery, tortilla and tamale factory — all located right beside the restaurant. Menu includes a wide choice of burritos such as combination, steak with potatoes, chile relleno, great fajitas with chicken and beef or carne guisada. Nachos including bean, beef, chicken and beef fajita or combination. Single entrées can be ordered with a side of rice, beans and two flour tortillas for $5.99. Great selection of burgers with a side of fries. Breakfast burritos and plates can be ordered throughout the day.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 6 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday.
4 spoons

Garcia's Burritos (OAC)
1306 N. Lamesa Road
684-4383

Appetizers such as shrimp cocktail, chips and salsa or queso and guacamole, tortilla soup and a variety of burritos including beef, chicken or asado. Fajita plates include beans, rice, guacamole and sour cream with two tortillas. Menudo is offered on Fridays and can be purchased by the pint or quart. Pick up a breakfast burrito for $2 when Garcia's opens at 7:30 a.m. daily. Breakfast is served until 10 a.m. Monday-Friday. Small coffee bar.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 7:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
2 spoons

Chito's Mexican Restaurant & Sports Bar (SD)
4400 N. Midland Drive
689-8646
Fax: 689-8647

Mexican restaurant with sports bar atmosphere perfect for gathering with friends. Televisions on every wall. Traditional Mexican fare with large selection of appetizers. Full bar. Kid's menu and daily specials available. Breakfast served on weekends.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-midnight Friday, Saturday; 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday.
4 spoons

Peno's Café & Catering Company (SD)
4305 W. Illinois Ave.
Facebook: Café J-Peno
262-5720

Daily breakfast menu includes breakfast burritos and breakfast plates with eggs, potatoes Mexican style, beans and flour tortillas. Add any asadero, asado, chile verde, barbacoa or brisket and buttermilk pancakes for a very filling meal. Lunch menu includes enchiladas, gorditas plate and combination plates. Try the tacos. Menudo served on Saturday. Many of the menu items can be purchased by the pound. Tamales may be ordered by the dozen or half dozen. Catering available.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday; 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday; 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday.
3 spoons

El Burrito Restaurant (OAC)
1106 N. Big Spring St.
683-9701

In business since 1979 offering wide selection of burritos and more — homemade tortillas, breakfast plates and waffles. Lunch menu includes additional burrito choices and Mexican dishes such as a taco plate, combination plate, flautas, beef and cheese enchiladas, fajitas and tacos al carbon. Grilled chicken and a variety of salads. Non-traditional Mexican food — called "Happy Day Foods" — include steak fingers or chicken strips served with fries, gravy, salad and toast or several choices of hamburgers.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 6:45 a.m. -3 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.
4 spoons

Dos Margaritas (SD)
1501 North Big Spring St.
www.dosmargaritasusa.com
618-9536

Warm, inviting atmosphere, friendly service. Traditional Mexican fare. Breakfast platters served from 6 to 11 a.m. include huevos rancheros, chilaquiles and steak, steak and eggs, omelettes, taquitos, breakfast burritos and even pancakes, sausage and eggs. Wide choice of appetizers, salads, grilled items, combination plates and a la carte items. Daily lunch specials served 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Full bar.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 6 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 6 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday.
3 spoons

Freebirds (OAC)
3322 N. Loop 250 West
www.freebirds.com
689-9100
Fax: 689-9102

Burrito haven with a young vibe. Walk through the line and tell your "roller" how you want your burrito. Choose tortillas from spinach, flour, cayenne or wheat; a choice of cilantro lime or Spanish rice; refried, pinto or black beans; white or dark chicken, steak and carnitas; a wide choice of vegetables, cheeses and dressings and pico de gallo or salsa. Tacos, nachos and salads include same options of fillings or toppings. Online ordering.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday.
4 spoons

Reyna's Mexican Restaurant
3100 S. County Road 1210
(432) 699-2109

Drive south on Midkiff Road, over I-20 and continue about a half mile and Reyna's os on the right. Colorfully painted building with a dining room full of tables and booths. In the back is a smaller room for meetings or parties. Reyna's has a very large set of choices including appetizers, soups, salads, hamburgers, seafood and traditional Mexican fare. Delicious fajitas with large portions, kid's meals, and breakfast plates and burritos.
Entrée price range: $
Hours: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday; 6 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday; 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
4 spoons

Pizza/Italian

Brianna's Pizza (OAC)
4309 W. Illinois Ave.
689-3901

Dine-in or carry out. Brianna's offers personal, small, medium or large pizzas with a variety of toppings. Specialty pizzas include Hawaiian style, meat lovers, veggie, supreme, Mexican style and Sicilian style. Wings, boneless wings and subs also available. Lunch special from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. of $1.50 per slice of pizza.
Entree price range: $
Hours: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Monday - Saturday
2 spoons

Italian Village Ristorante (SD)
3211 W. Wadley Ave.
684-6595

Authentic Italian food with excellent service and food prepared to perfection. Pasta selections include items such as fettuccini di flavia (sautéed gulf shrimp proscuitto, broccoli, artichoke hearts in a creamy vodka sauce), cannelloni, spaghetti bolognese, and beef lasagna. Chicken, veal, steaks and seafood also on the menu. A little piece of Italy that happens to be in Midland.
Entrée price range: $$
Hours: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; 4:45-9:45 p.m. Monday-Friday; 4:45-9:45 p.m. Saturday
5 spoons

Pizzeria Venti (OAC)
3303 N. Midkiff Rd. #135
(San Miguel Square)
689-7220
www.pizzeriaventi.com

Pizzeria Venti serves piping hot slices of pizza from their wide selection. Glass display case containing all types of pizzas, a beautiful array of salads and timpanini (stuffed pizza pie). Crust made with extra virgin olive oil, imported Italian water, salt, flour and yeast. Baked pasta such as mostaccioli, cheese ravioli, manicotti and lasagna also on the menu. Soups including Tuscan white bean and minestrone can be ordered in small and large sizes. Italian pastries such as cannolis, tiramisu and various cakes. Catering available.
Price range: $
4 spoons

what'scoming

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
When: 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 24
Where: First United Methodist Church, 300 N. Main St.
Info: Family Christmas Eve candlelight service at 5:30 p.m. and a Communion, Carols and Candlelight Christmas Eve service at 7:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
When: 7 p.m. Dec. 24
Where: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 5110 N. Garfield St.
Info: Christmas Eve candlelight service

BROADWAY SERIES
When: next available Dec. 26
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center
Series: Mannheim Steamroller Christmas By Chip Davis, Dec. 26; and in 2013, Monty Python's Spamalot, Feb. 24; Rain: A Tribute To The Beatles, April 14; Blue Man Group, April 30-May 2; and The Addams Family, May 23.
Info: Box office open noon to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 552-4430 or visit wagner-noel.com.

THE NUTCRACKER BY THE MOSCOW BALLET
When: Dec. 27
Where: Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center

TALL CITY CALF ROPING
When: Dec. 29-31
Where: Horseshoe

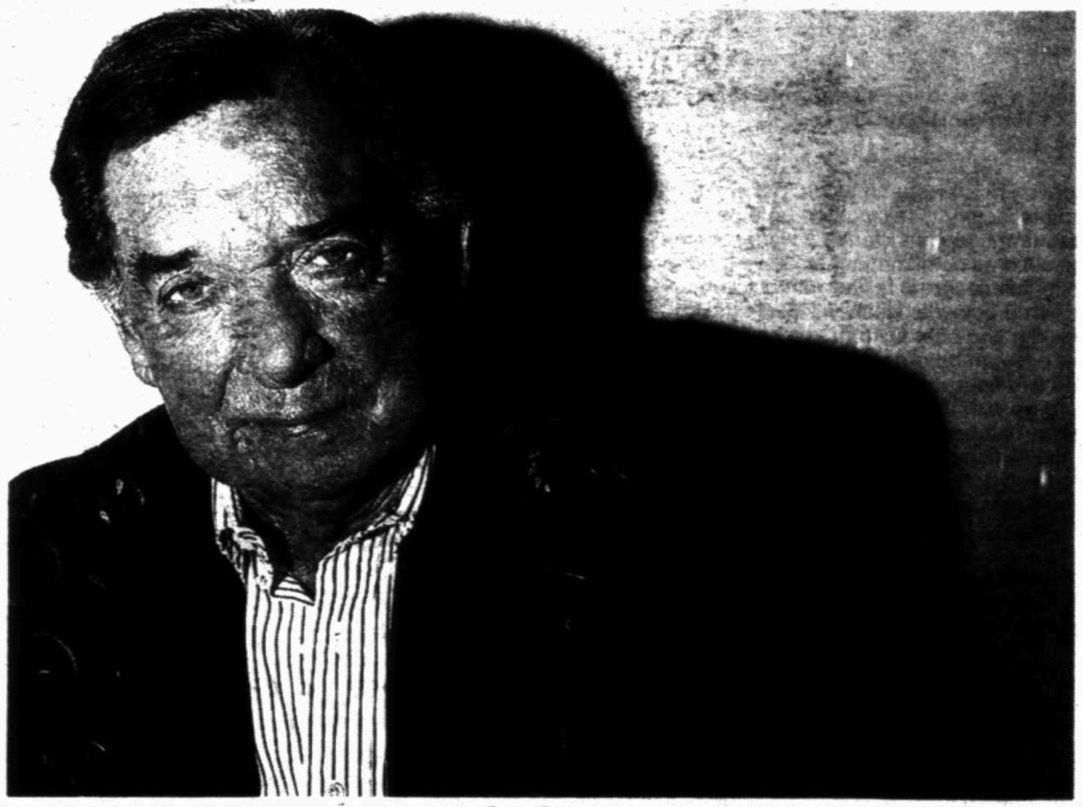
JERRY DUGAN & THE WEST WIND
When: 7 p.m. Dec. 31
Where: American Legion Hall 2701 E 8th St Odessa
Info: Fundraising event, New Year's Eve Bash, by the Crisis Center and The American Legion. Finger foods, a cash bar and silent auction.
Admission: $35 per person. Call 432-366-7273.

SANDHILLS STOCK SHOW AND RODEO
When: Jan. 3-12
Where: Ector County Coliseum

ODESSA'S BRAND NEW OPREE PRESENTS LATTER RAIN MINISTRIES
When: 7 p.m. Jan. 5
Where: Globe Theatre, Odessa

RAY PRICE
When: 7:30 p.m. Jan. 10
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

TWO ONE-ACT PLAYS BY DAVID MAMET
When: 8 p.m. Jan. 11, 12, 18 and 19
Where: The Black Box behind the Globe Theatre, 2308 Shakespeare Road.
Tickets: $15 adults, $10 for students and seniors. General admission.
Info: Adult themed, rated R. For more information, call 432-853-5249.



Ray Price

B.B. KING
When: Jan. 15
Where: Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center

MOSC MASTERWORKS III
When: 8 p.m. Jan. 19
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

THE MUSIC OF ABBA
When: 7:30 p.m. Jan. 20
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

OAK RIDGE BOYS
When: 8 p.m. Jan. 21
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS
When: 6:30-11:30 p.m. Jan. 25
Info: Call CASA of the Permian Basin Area for more Information, 498-4174. Chili Cook Off, exotic beers, hors d'oeuvres and dancing to Jerry Dugan and Westwind.

CINDY WARD & FRIENDS SHOW
When: 7 p.m. Jan. 25 and 26 and 2 p.m. Jan. 27
Where: Permian Playhouse, 310 W. 42nd St., Odessa
Tickets: Call the Playhouse, 550-5456 or 432-362-2329 Monday through Friday from 1 to 4 p.m. Closed for Christmas and New Year's.

"SHRECK: THE MUSICAL"
When: Feb. 8 through March 9
Where: Davis Theatre I, Cole Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave.
Info: Opening production of Midland Community Theatre's 2013 season. Call 570-4111 or go to www.mctmidland.org. Closed during the holidays.

MASTERS OF MOTOWN
When: 7 p.m. Feb. 9
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

LOS LONELY BOYS
When: 8 p.m. Feb. 22
Where: Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center

BRIAN REGAN
When: 8 p.m. Feb. 23
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center
Info: Regan's theater tour has visited more than 80 cities each year since 2005.

MONTY PYTHON
When: 2:30 and 7 p.m. Feb. 24
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center
Info: Spamalot tells the tale of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table as they embark on their quest for the Holy Grail.

MOSC CHAMBER CONCERT: LONE STAR BRASS
When: 2 p.m. Feb. 24
Where: Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center

TERRY BARBER
When: 7 p.m. Feb. 25
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

MOSC POPS III: SHOWER THE PEOPLE
When: 8 p.m. March 2
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

"BOEING-BOEING"
When: March 8-23
Where: Mabee Theatre II, Cole Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave.
Info: Midland Community Theatre production. Recommended for those age 12 and up due to subject matter and language. Call 570-4111 or go to mctmidland.org.

YO GABBA GABBA LIVE! GET THE SILLIES OUT
When: 6 p.m. March 13
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center
Tickets: Now on sale.
Info: Features DJ Lance Rock, plus Muno, Foofa, Brobee, Toodee, Plex and Biz Markie.

JBS DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES
When: 7 p.m. March 21
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

CRUDEFEST 2013
When: April 11-13
Where: Star of Texas Ranch, between Midland and Odessa
Camping : Call 432-685-3671
Info: Will feature more than 25 Texas country music artists and the Texas state championship barbecue cook-off.

Note:

GEORGE JONES
When: 7:30 p.m. June 14
Where: Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center
Info: This is the reschedule date for the Oct. 27th performance. All tickets for the October date will be honored for the rescheduled show. All refunds must be done at the box office or by filling out an online form through etix. Copy this link for details.
http://www.etix.com/ticket/online/help2.jsp