MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2018 mrt★com *320,000 readers in print and online*

SPORTS

Lee girls basketball team defeats Odessa High to clinch playoff spot.

Page 1C

CAPACITY ISSUES

According to MISD, six elementary schools face critical student population issues.

Page 2A

MC board approves lawsuit settlement

Midland College plans softball facility upgrades in compliance with Title IX

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

The Midland College board of trustees on Tuesday voted to approve settling a lawsuit filed against the institution. A complaint filed in April claimed disparities between the facilities for the college's softball and baseball teams, made up of women and men, respectively.

The college will start making softball complex upgrades in compliance with Title IX, which protects people from sex-based discrimination in federally funded education programs or activities.

"We focused on those areas where the college had not completed the projects we had always planned to complete in a timely way to be in compliance with Title IX requirements," **MC President Steve** Thomas said after Tuesday's special board meeting. "This settlement puts us in really good shape in terms of the compliance issues."

MC plans to complete the softball

Please see **LAWSUIT/2A**

EXCAVATION CONTINUES

Courtesy of Midland County Sheriff's Office

A set of remains was found Sunday in a pit in Midland County, and the search continues for a second set. The remains found Sunday are believed to be of a female teen who has been missing since October 2015. View a slideshow of more photos online at mrt.com.

Painter: Search to target north end of 15-foot pit

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

The search continues for more remains from a crime scene in Midland County.

Sheriff Gary Painter told the Reporter-Telegram on Tuesday that officials are going through every bucket of dirt looking for a second set of remains.

He said the remains of one person — possibly connected to a case of two missing teenagers from 2015 — have been sent to the Tarrant County Medical Examiners' Office. DNA from the remains will be compared to DNA samples made available from the parents of the missing teens. It was reported Monday that the remains that were found are believed to be female.

Painter said 120,000 yards of dirt have been moved thus far in the effort to find remains. The discovery of a skeletal foot was made in a pit in the area of the 5000 block of West County Road 116 at about 6:20 p.m. Sunday. The pit is 15 feet deep on the south end and between 6 to 10 feet deep on the north end, according to Painter.

The digging will continue on the north end, Painter said Tuesday afternoon, as more equipment is brought into the area, located generally southwest of the southwest part of the city of Midland. Painter expects that equipment, which includes a Caterpillar D6 track-type

Please see **SEARCH/2A**

ExxonMobil plans to triple Permian production

■ The company will invest $2 billion in West Texas

Houston Chronicle

ExxonMobil said Tuesday it plans to triple its oil and gas production in West Texas' booming Permian Basin as part of its heightened emphasis on U.S. growth.

The country's largest energy company said it aims to grow its Permian production to 600,000 barrels a day by 2025 and also spend more than $2 billion on transportation and terminal upgrades in west Texas, including expanding its crude oil terminal in Wink.

ExxonMobil is beginning to break out specifics of its spending plans after announcing Monday that it wants to invest $50 billion in the U.S. during the next five years, in part because of extra financial benefits gained from the new U.S. tax law.

Last year, ExxonMobil agreed to spend up to $6.6 billion to buy the Permian acreage of Fort Worth's prominent Bass family to more than double its Permian acreage holdings.

Through the Bass deal and other smaller ones, ExxonMobil said it has doubled its footage drilled per day on horizontal wells in the Permian since early 2014 and reduced its drilling costs per foot by about 70 percent as wells are drilled increasingly longer horizontally. Exxon said its combined development and production costs in the Permian are less than $15 a barrel.

"Our geographic and competitive advantages in the Permian position the company for strong growth and long-term value creation," said Sara Ortwein, president of ExxonMobil's onshore shale subsidiary, XTO Energy.

The production growth and transportation upgrades will help feed ExxonMobil's expanding refineries and petrochemical plants in Baytown, Mont Belvieu, Beaumont and Baton Rouge, Louisiana. with much of the oil and natural gas liquids they need to churn out fuels and plastics. "With this production growth, we are well positioned to maximize value as increased supply moves from the Permian to our Gulf Coast refineries and chemical facilities where higher-demand, higher-value products will be manufactured," Ortwein added.

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Price of oil
$64.50 ▼ $1.06
March 2018

Did you know?
Top official resigns after the false missile alert in Hawaii. Page 7A

Word of the Day: furtive
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 3A.

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Vol. 88, No. 326
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MRT file photo

Bunche Elementary students await the arrival of author of Marc Brown during Project Literacy on Sept. 14, 2015. Bunche is one of six Midland ISD elementary schools that are facing a "critical" point in terms of enrollment.

MISD: Six elementary schools face critical student population issues

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

Midland ISD elementary schools, as a whole, have room to grow.

However, that won't keep six campuses from reaching a "critical" point when it comes to membership. Information from a board workshop last week shows Bunche, Fasken, Greathouse, Santa Rita, Scharbauer and South will be at or more than 95 percent of their buildings' capacity next year.

All six also were identified as being at a critical stage when factoring in the current number of portable buildings on the respective campuses.

The district factored in a 2.5 percent enrollment increase when figuring campus memberships for 2018-19.

Midland ISD officials believe Bunche will be the most crowded campus heading into the next school year. A building capacity study shows Bunche membership growing from 806 to 826. That figure is above the 95 percent building capacity of 778 without portables factored in. It is also greater than the projected capacity of 798 with the current portables. District staff is recommending two more portables for the campus.

Another southside school — South Elementary — also is expected to be a crowded campus. Midland ISD considers South "over capacity," and district officials think transfers into South should be limited. At 2.5 percent growth, South's membership will increase from 579 to 593, which is higher than the 577 with the building cap at 95 percent without portables. The building cap with its eight portables is 735.

The other schools on the list are in west, northwest and north Midland. Greathouse, which lies in the middle of a high-growth area, tops the list. Last year, Greathouse grew by 68 students, well about the 2.5 percent level. MISD officials expect that a 2.5 percent increase to its membership will mean an enrollment push from 782 to 802. The building cap at 95 percent without portables is 785. The projected cap with added units is 806. The school is considered at capacity, and the expectation is to add one to three portable classrooms for 2018-19. There also is a recommendation to move selected programs, including pre-K, to another campus, according to the building capacity study.

Scharbauer Elementary in west Midland experienced a 74-student increase in its membership this year. With a 2.5 percent increase, its student population will increase from 765 to 784. Its building capacity at 95 percent without portables is 756. Its capacity with the one portable on its campus is 776. The district considers Scharbauer at capacity and may require one or two portable buildings, according to the building capacity study.

Santa Rita Elementary in north Midland is also considered at capacity. After a 48-student increase this academic year, the district reports a 2.5 percent increase will take its membership from 600 to 615 in 2018-19, according to the building capacity study. The building capacity at 95 percent is 619 students. There aren't any portables currently on campus.

Fasken Elementary carries a membership of 752 students. With a 2.5 percent increase, district officials project an enrollment of 771, which is just short of the 778 building capacity at 95 percent without portables. Fasken's capacity with the three portables on its campus is 840. The district considers Fasken "nearing capacity with growth," according to the building capacity study.

Overall, the district reports a total elementary enrollment at 15,282. With 2.5 percent growth, membership would rise to 15,662. The building capacity study also shows a total building capacity of 17,085 and a projected capacity with portables of 17,887. The district reports there are 47 portables on its elementary campuses.

District officials said last week the membership trends likely will require moving portable buildings from some elementary campuses to secondary campuses, where membership totals as a whole are closer — if not already surpassing — to building capacities.

LOCAL&STATEBRIEFS

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

MIDLAND

Man charged with sexual assault

A Midland man was arrested Jan. 24 after he allegedly had sexual encounters with a teenager, according to court documents.

Wright

Harrison Dewade Swindell Wright, 22, was being held Tuesday on two $50,000 bonds for second-degree felony charges of sexual assault of a child.

Midland police contacted a person on Jan. 18 in reference to a report involving Wright.

Wright knew a teenager was a minor and had sexual encounters with her on two occasions, according to his arrest affidavit.

If convicted of the second-degree felony charge, Wright could face up to 20 years imprisonment.

BROWNSVILLE

SpaceX wants $5M more in funding for spaceport

SpaceX is seeking up to $5 million more in new state funding to build a commercial spaceport in Texas, a high-profile project that's behind schedule after breaking ground in 2014.

SpaceX is seeking the money to help build infrastructure related to the launch facility at Boca Chica beach outside Brownsville, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

The Cameron County Spaceport Development Corp. recently applied for the $5 million at the request of SpaceX, according to county Judge Eddie Trevino Jr. The new money for the project would come from the Spaceport Trust Fund, a state economic development fund.

The application was due last month. Gov. Greg Abbott's economic development and tourism division is currently considering the application, said a spokeswoman for the governor.

About $15.3 million in state funding has already been set aside for the planned spaceport, but less than $3 million has been used so far. SpaceX has also returned a small portion of the funds pledged from the state's jobs-focused Texas Enterprise Fund because the company fell short of hiring goals as the project couldn't keep pace with its original timetable.

The California-based company was founded by billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk with the goal of reducing the cost of space travel and eventually facilitating the colonization of Mars.

Texas executes man for killing ex-girlfriend in 1999

By Michael Graczyk
Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE — A Dallas man was executed Tuesday for the 1999 slaying of his ex-girlfriend while he already was on parole for killing his estranged wife.

William Rayford, 64, became the nation's second inmate put to death this year, both in Texas, when he received lethal injection for beating, stabbing and strangling 44-year-old Carol Lynn Thomas Hall. Her body was found about 300 feet inside a drainage pipe behind her home in South Dallas' Oak Cliff area.

Hall's 11-year-old son, Benjamin, also was stabbed in the attack but survived. He testified against Rayford.

Asked by the warden at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Huntsville Unit if he had a final statement, Rayford apologized repeatedly to his victim's four children who watched through a window a few feet from him.

"Carol didn't deserve what I done," he said. "Please try to find it in your heart to forgive me. I am sorry. It has bothered me for a long time what I have done." He said he has made mistakes and asked God to forgive him.

"If this gives you closure and makes you feel better, I have no problem with this taking place," Rayford said.

As the lethal dose of pentobarbital began taking effect, he lifted his head from the pillow on the death chamber gurney, repeated that he was sorry and then said he was "going home."

He began to snore. Within seconds, all movement stopped. He was pronounced dead at 6:48 p.m., 13 minutes after the powerful sedative was injected.

Among the four witnesses present was the victim's son who was also stabbed in the attack. He and three siblings showed no emotion as they watched Rayford die. They declined interviews afterward.

SEARCH

From 1A

tractor/bulldozer, will replace an excavator that was being used in the search.

He said Tuesday afternoon that the north end is where the K9 dogs hit originally.

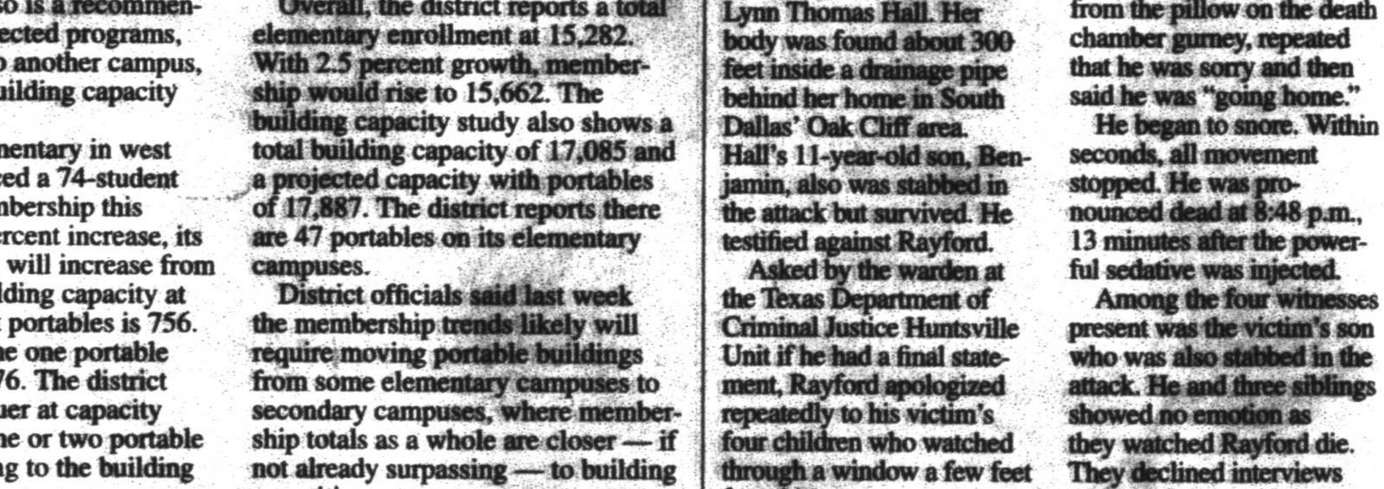
"When (the dogs) hit on the location, that is when we took it seriously and moved forward," Painter said.

He said there is a possibility officials "might have to move to a different pit" because nothing new had come to light on Tuesday.

"We are in prayer for the family," Painter said, "and in prayer for the ones whose lives were taken so early."

The remains, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article, were discovered after investigators were led to the WCR 116 area after receiving information in reference to a possible homicide.

A K9 team on Saturday began searching an 18-acre area, and the dogs made hits on two locations in a pit that was mostly filled in.



A set of remains was found Sunday in a pit in Midland County and the search continues for a second set. The remains found Sunday are believed to be of a female teen who has been missing since October 2015. Photos Courtesy of Midland County Sheriff's Office

LAWSUIT

From 1A

facility changes by the start of the 2020 season. Thomas said the cost of upgrades hasn't been determined and that the money will come out of the college's operational budget over the next two or three cycles.

The upgrades include: installing lights for flexible practice times; enlarging dugouts; renovating bleachers for comfortable seating; and replacing the portable locker room building with a new dressing space.

"We had some issues around some of the disparities in the baseball field and the softball field," Thomas said. "So, the major thrust of the settlement is to do the upgrades and modify the softball complex so it's an equitable facility for the softball players."

Tommy Ramos was the head MC softball coach last season when he sought declaratory relief, injunctive relief and damages for Title IX violations, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram report. Ramos, now an assistant coach at New Mexico State University, was pleased that MC planned to make updates.

"I think it's fantastic," he said. "The (college has) taken the lead, not just on the campus. This is an example for other small colleges or universities."

Three softball players — Kiani Telles, Elizabeth Chastain and Crystine Kistner — had joined the lawsuit as plaintiffs. John Klassen, attorney for Ramos and the athletes, said he and his clients were thrilled about the results.

"Many of the things — and certainly the most important things — were addressed," he said.

The lawsuit was originally filed in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas. The settlement has to receive federal court approval as a formality, according to Klassen.

The two sides of the lawsuit previously had a mediation conference, and Thomas thinks the results were satisfactory for the parties. He said the college wants its teams to be successful.

"We've offered athletic programs at Midland College for well over 30 years, and it's always been important to us to have equitable and quality facilities and support for our athletic programs," Thomas said.

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TODAYINMIDLAND

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Furtive
[fur-tiv]
adjective
1. taken, done, used, etc., surreptitiously or by stealth; secret.

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League of Women Voters forums

The League of Women Voters will hold a pair of candidate forums ahead of the March 6 primary elections.

The first will be a forum for state Senate candidates vying for the Republican nomination in District 31. The candidates are Mike Canon, Victor Leal and Kel Seliger. The forum will take place at 7 p.m. Feb. 13 in the Scharbauer Student Center's Carrasco Room at Midland College.

The second forum is for candidates running for the Republican nomination for Midland County judge — the head administrator in county government.

The candidates speaking will be James Beauchamp, Terry Johnson and Stephen Robertson. That forum is scheduled for 7 p.m. Feb. 20 at the F. Marie Hall Building at MC.

GOP forum

The Midland County Republican Party will hold a candidate forum 5:30-7 p.m. Feb. 6 at the Midland County Public Library Centennial branch.

The forum will be held in the Laura Bush Room.

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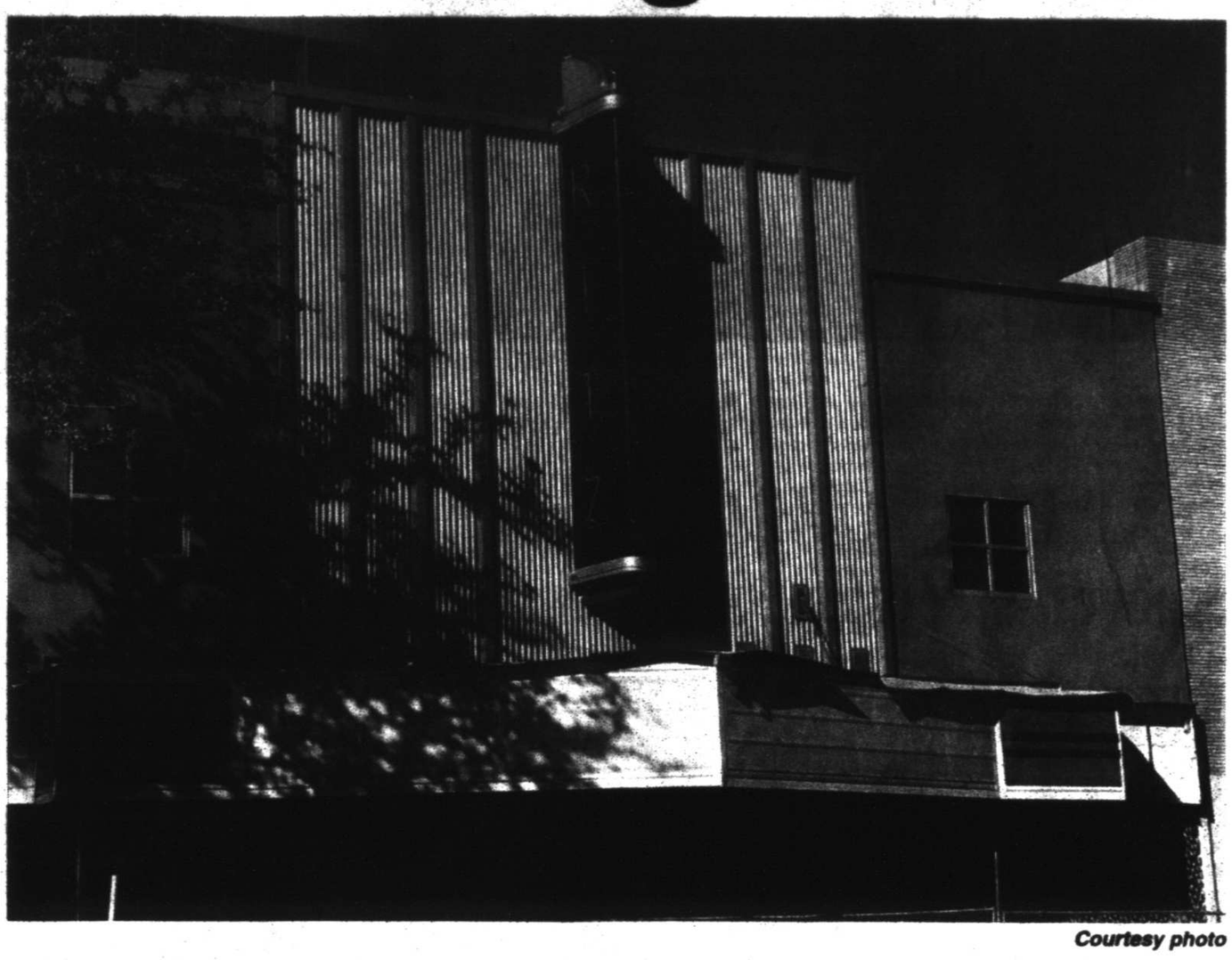
Renovating the Ritz



Courtesy photo

Renovations are almost complete on the façade of the new home of Basin PBS, which is in the old Ritz Theatre on North Main Street. The neon Ritz sign and marquee have been constructed to replicate the original features of the 1950s era façade, according to a press release from the nonprofit. The studio project is expected to be completed in June.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 9-8-9
Pick 3 day: 8-6-4
Pick 3 evening: 8-2-9
Pick 3 night: 7-8-9
Daily 4 morning: 2-1-8-3
Daily 4 day: 8-4-0-7
Daily 4 evening: 4-9-3-4
Daily 4 night: 2-9-7-5
Cash Five: 7-9-15-20-37
Triple Chance: 9-11-15-19-28-35-37-44-46-49

Mega Millions: 29-41-42-49-57 BB: 24 Megaplier: 3
All or Nothing morning: 2-3-4-5-9-10-14-16-17-18-20-21
All or Nothing day: 2-4-6-8-9-10-11-13-14-18-20-22
All or Nothing evening: 1-3-4-12-13-14-15-17-18-19-20-21
All or Nothing night: 1-2-6-7-8-11-12-14-18-19-22-24

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Weather

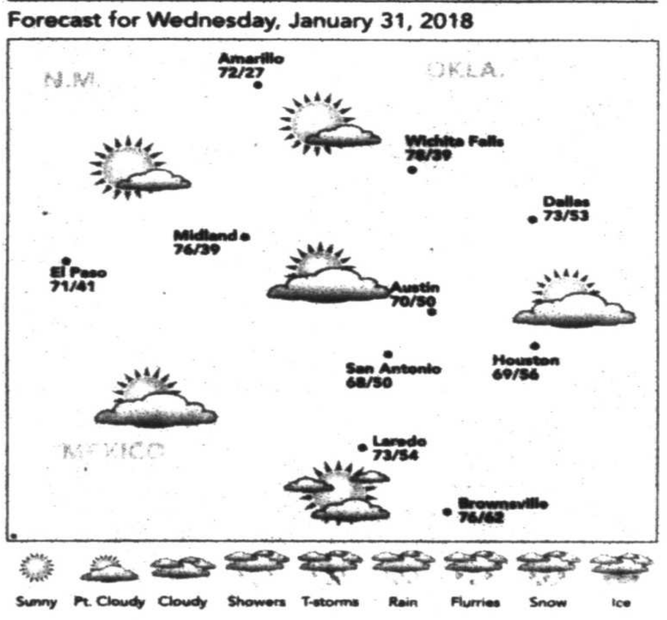
Tuesday's temperatures
High ... 69
Low ... 32
Normal high ... 59
Normal low ... 32

Jan. 30's records
Record high: 80, set in 1967 and equaled in 1971 and 2016
Record low: 8, set in 1949 and equaled in 1951

Precipitation
Monday ... 0.00 in.
Tuesday ... 0.00 in.
Month total ... 0.01 in.
Year total ... 0.01 in.
Normal total (year to date) ... 0.53 in.

Winds
Average speed: 10.4 mph
Highest speed: 21 mph
Highest gust speed: 26 mph

Forecast for Wednesday, January 31, 2018



Today's forecast
High: 76
Low: 38
Conditions: Sunny during the day/mostly clear at night
Winds: 10-15 mph during the day and night
Chance of rain: None
Sunrise ... 7:43 a.m.
Sunset ... 6:22 p.m.

Source: National Weather Service

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

Note: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun in Aquarius and a Moon in Leo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2018:
This year you will be observing your life from different points of view. What you see as not working well could be subject to transformation. You have resisted making changes up to this point, but you might not have a choice any longer. If you are single, don't commit until you have been together a full year, as your needs and desires could change. Be true to yourself. If you are attached, the two of you communicate with excellence. Live your life together to the max. Let LEO give you some of his or her helpful life tips.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Unless you are particularly gifted at dealing with Full Moon energy and eclipses, a lot could unravel quite suddenly. Trust that whatever falls apart has a reason for doing so. Express your caring attitude while remaining confident. **Tonight:** Lighten up the evening with a friend.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You might feel caught between a rock and a hard place because of today's eclipse. On top of that pressure, a partner seems to need more attention. You will need every ounce of energy available. A friend comes to the rescue and helps however he or she can. **Tonight:** Head home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Examine the bottom line in a confusing situation. You have very little control over what happens, as there is a lot more going on than you might realize. Be sensitive to what occurs. You will want to make a major change. Wait for better timing, if possible. **Tonight:** Speak your mind.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★ Understand the importance of being sensitive to the moment. A lot happens quickly. You might be going to extremes. You have strong energy that needs to be applied appropriately. Be aware of your limitations, which could change in the next few days. **Tonight:** Don't overdo it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Take a deep breath, knowing that you will need to make many adjustments this morning. Stay on top of all the various changes. You understand what is needed in order to get past a particular situation. If you feel tired or frantic, slow down. **Tonight:** Paint the town red.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Pace yourself, as you have a lot to do and need to get it done quickly. Be open to an unusual method of approaching a personal matter. A loved one needs some open conversations in order to establish your concerns about how to proceed. **Tonight:** Avoid going to extremes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ One-on-one relating seems rather exaggerated at the moment. Opt to postpone coming to an agreement with others, as people seem to be more negative than usual. Go off and do what is important to you. Cynicism marks the next few days. **Tonight:** Happiest close to home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Beam in more of what you want, but do not expect cooperation from others. Take any news you hear with a grain of salt. Do not make a big deal out of something that is out of your control. A situation involving a family member is subject to change. **Tonight:** All smiles.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Keep communication moving. You could have difficulty making contact with those who are close to you. Conversations continue to be lively, though what someone says could be subject to change. Open up to new possibilities and allow greater give-and-take. **Tonight:** Remain open.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ One-on-one relating takes you down a new path. You feel more upbeat and energized than you have in a long time. You see past the present moment and are able to understand that a positive change could be in the offing. **Tonight:** Choose a favorite stress-buster.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Let go of needing to be so dominant. Today's eclipse has long-term potential to shake up the status quo. Initiate an important conversation, but expect to get a strong response from the other party involved. Embrace an opportunity to increase your patience. **Tonight:** Defer to others.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might want to change direction, which becomes apparent with today's eclipse energy. Your creativity emerges as you eye different possibilities. Others want to be more dominant, so consider letting them take the lead and observing how well they land. **Tonight:** Happy at home.

BORN TODAY
Singer/songwriter Justin Timberlake (1981), baseball player Nolan Ryan (1947), actress Carol Channing (1921)

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President Donald Trump pauses as he gives his first State of the Union address Tuesday in the House chamber of the U.S. Capitol to a joint session of Congress in Washington, as Vice President Mike Pence and House Speaker Paul Ryan applaud.

AP FACT CHECK: Trump's speech stretches on taxes, energy

By Christopher Rugaber and Calvin Woodward
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump took his penchant for inflated claims to his biggest stage Tuesday night, asserting in his State of the Union speech that he signed the most consequential tax cuts in history, when his achievement was far from that, and declaring an end to a "war" on energy that did not exist when he took office.

A look at some of the statements in his speech and how they compare with the facts:

TRUMP: "We enacted the biggest tax cuts and reform in American history."

THE FACTS: No truer now than in the countless other times he has said the same. The December tax overhaul ranks behind Ronald Reagan's in the early 1980s, post-World War II tax cuts and at least several more.

An analysis by the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget in the fall put Trump's package as the eighth biggest since 1918. As a percentage of the total economy, Reagan's 1981 cut is the biggest followed by the 1945 rollback of taxes that financed World War II.

Valued at $1.5 trillion over 10 years, the plan is indeed large and expensive. But it's much smaller than originally intended. Back in the spring, it was shaping up as a $5.5 trillion package. Even then, it would have only been the third largest since 1940 as a share of gross domestic product.

TRUMP: "After years and years of wage stagnation, we are finally seeing rising wages."

THE FACTS: Actually, they are not rising any faster than they have before. Average hourly pay rose 2.5 percent in 2017, slightly slower than the 2.9 percent increase recorded in 2016 under President Barack Obama.

Most economists say that wages should increase at a faster rate as the unemployment rate drops. The unemployment rate stands at a 17-year low of 4.1 percent, but that has done little so far to spark rising wages.

The last time unemployment was this low, in the late 1990s, average hourly pay was rising at a 4 percent pace.

TRUMP: "We have ended the war on American energy."

THE FACTS: Energy production was unleashed in past administrations, particularly Barack Obama's, making accusations of a war on energy hard to sustain. Advances in hydraulic fracturing before Trump became president made it economical to tap vast reserves of natural gas. Oil production also greatly increased, reducing imports.

Before the 2016 presidential election, the U.S. for the first time in decades was getting more energy domestically than it imports. Before Obama, George W. Bush was no adversary of the energy industry.

One of Trump's consequential actions as president on this front was to approve the Keystone XL pipeline — a source of foreign oil, from Canada.

TRUMP: "We are now very proudly an exporter of energy to the world."

THE FACTS: There's nothing new in that: The U.S. has long exported all sorts of energy, while importing even more. If Trump meant that the U.S. has become a net exporter of energy, he's rushing things along. The U.S. Energy Information Agency projects that the U.S. will become a net energy exporter in the next decade, primarily because of a boom in oil and gas production that began before Trump's presidency. The Trump White House has predicted that could happen sooner, by 2020. But that's not "now."

TRUMP: "We slashed the business tax rate from 35 percent all the way down to 21 percent, so American companies can compete and win against anyone else anywhere in the world. These changes alone are estimated to increase average family income by more than $4,000. A lot of money."

THE FACTS: Few economists think average incomes will jump by $4,000 simply because companies are paying less in taxes.

The figure cited by Trump comes from his chief economist, Kevin Hassett. Many mainstream economists poked wide holes into this claim, including the author of one of the research papers cited by Hassett. Economists generally say most of the savings from lower corporate taxes would flow to investors, rather than workers. The problem with the $4,000 claim is that Trump is essentially promising $500 billion in income gains across the entire economy from tax cuts that are a small fraction of that total on an annual basis.

TRUMP: "Since we passed tax cuts, roughly 3 million workers have already gotten tax cut bonuses — many of them thousands and thousands of dollars per worker."

THE FACTS: This appears to be true, but may not be as impressive as it sounds. According to a tally of public announcements by Americans for Tax Reform, a conservative group that supported the tax law, about 3 million workers have gotten bonuses, raises or larger payments to their retirement accounts since the tax law was signed.

That's about 2 percent of the more than 154 million Americans with jobs. The Labor Department said before the tax package was signed into law that 38 percent of workers would probably get some form of bonus in 2017.

Few companies have yet granted across-the-board pay raises, which Trump and GOP leaders promised would result from the cut in corporate tax rates included in the overhaul. Many, such as Walmart and BB&T Bank, said they will raise their minimum wages. Walmart made similar announcements in 2015 and 2016.

TRUMP: "Many car companies are now building and expanding plants in the United States, something we haven't seen for decades."

THE FACTS: He's wrong about recent decades. The auto industry has regularly been opening and expanding factories since before Trump became president. Toyota opened its Mississippi factory in 2011. Hyundai's plant in Alabama dates to 2005. In 2010, Tesla fully acquired and updated an old factory to produce its electric vehicles.

Trump also declared that "Chrysler is moving a major plant from Mexico to Michigan." That's not exactly the case, either. Chrysler announced it will move production of heavy-duty pickups from Mexico to Michigan, but the plant is not closing in Mexico. It will start producing other vehicles for global sales and no change in its workforce is anticipated.

TRUMP: "We repealed the core of the disastrous Obamacare — the individual mandate is now gone."

THE FACTS: No, it's not gone. It's going, in 2019. People who go without insurance this year are still subject to fines.

Congress did repeal the unpopular requirement that most Americans carry insurance or risk a tax penalty, but that takes effect next year.

Trump warns of immigration dangers in State of the Union

By Julie Pace and Zeke Miller
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Addressing a deeply divided nation, President Donald Trump called for a "new American moment" of unity Tuesday night and challenged lawmakers to make good on long-standing promises to fix a dangerously fractured immigration system, warning of evil outside forces seeking to undermine the nation's way of life.

Trump's State of the Union address blended self-congratulation and calls for optimism amid a growing economy with dark warnings about deadly gangs, the scourge of drugs and violent immigrants living in the United States illegally. He cast the debate over immigration — an issue that has long animated his most ardent supporters — as a battle between heroes and villains, praising the work of an immigration agent who arrested more than 100 gang members and saluting the families of two alleged gang victims.

He also spoke forebodingly of catastrophic dangers from abroad, warning that North Korea would "very soon" threaten the United States with nuclear-tipped missiles.

"The United States is a compassionate nation. We are proud that we do more than any other country to help the needy, the struggling and the underprivileged all over the world," Trump said. "But as president of the United States, my highest loyalty, my greatest compassion, and my constant concern is for America's children, America's struggling workers and America's forgotten communities."

Trump spoke with tensions running high on Capitol Hill. An impasse over immigration prompted a three-day government shutdown earlier this year, and lawmakers appear no closer to resolving the status of the "Dreamers" — young people living in the U.S. illegally ahead of a new Feb. 8 deadline for funding operations. The parties have also clashed this week over the plans of Republicans on the House intelligence committee to release a classified memo on the Russia investigation involving Trump's presidential campaign — a decision the White House backs but the Justice Department is fighting.

The controversies that have dogged Trump — and the ones he has created— have overshadowed strong economic gains during his first year in office. His approval ratings have hovered in the 30s for much of his presidency, and just 3 in 10 Americans said the United States was heading in the right direction, according to a poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. In the same survey, 67 percent of Americans said the country was more divided because of Trump.

At times, Trump's address appeared to be aimed more at validating his first year in office than setting the course for his second. He devoted significant time to touting the tax overhaul he signed at the end of last year, promising the plan will "provide tremendous relief for the middle class and small businesses." He also highlighted the decision made early in his first year to withdraw the U.S. from a sweeping Asia-Pacific trade pact, declaring: "The era of economic surrender is totally over."

He spoke about potential agenda items for 2018 in broad terms, including a call for $1.5 trillion in new infrastructure spending and partnerships with states and the private sector. He touched only briefly on issues like health care that have been at the center of the Republican Party's policy agenda for years.

Tackling the sensitive immigration debate that has roiled Washington, Trump redoubled his recent pledge to offer a path to citizenship for 1.8 million young immigrants — but only as part of a package that would also require increased funding for border security, including a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border, ending the nation's visa lottery method and revamping the current legal immigration system. Some Republicans are wary of the hardline elements of Trump's plan and it's unclear whether his blueprint could pass Congress.

Trump played to the culture wars, alluding to his public spat with professional athletes who led protests against racial injustice by kneeling during the national anthem, declaring that paying tribute to the flag is a "civic duty."

Republicans led multiple rounds of enthusiastic applause during the speech, but for the opposition party it was a more somber affair. Democrats provided a short spurt of polite applause for Trump as he entered the chamber, but offered muted reactions throughout the speech. A cluster of about two dozen Democrats, including members of the Congressional Black Caucus, remained planted firmly in their seats, staring sternly at the president and withholding applause.

After devastating defeats in 2016, Democrats are hopeful that Trump's sagging popularity can help the party rebound in November's midterm elections. In a post-speech rebuttal, Massachusetts Rep. Joe Kennedy, the grandson of Robert F. Kennedy, was seeking to undercut Trump's optimistic tone and remind voters of the personal insults and attacks often leveled by the president.

"Bullies may land a punch," Kennedy said, according to excerpts from his remarks. "They might leave a mark. But they have never, not once, in the history of our United States, managed to match the strength and spirit of a people united in defense of their future."

On international affairs, Trump warned of the dangers from "rogue regimes," like Iran and North Korea, terrorist groups, like the Islamic State, and "rivals" like China and Russia "that challenge our interests, our economy and our values." Calling on Congress to lift budgetary caps and boost spending on the military, Trump said that "unmatched power is the surest means of our defense." The president also announced that he had signed an executive order directing the Department of Defense to keep open the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay. The order reverses the Obama-era policy of the executive branch, long stymied by Congress, to close the prison.

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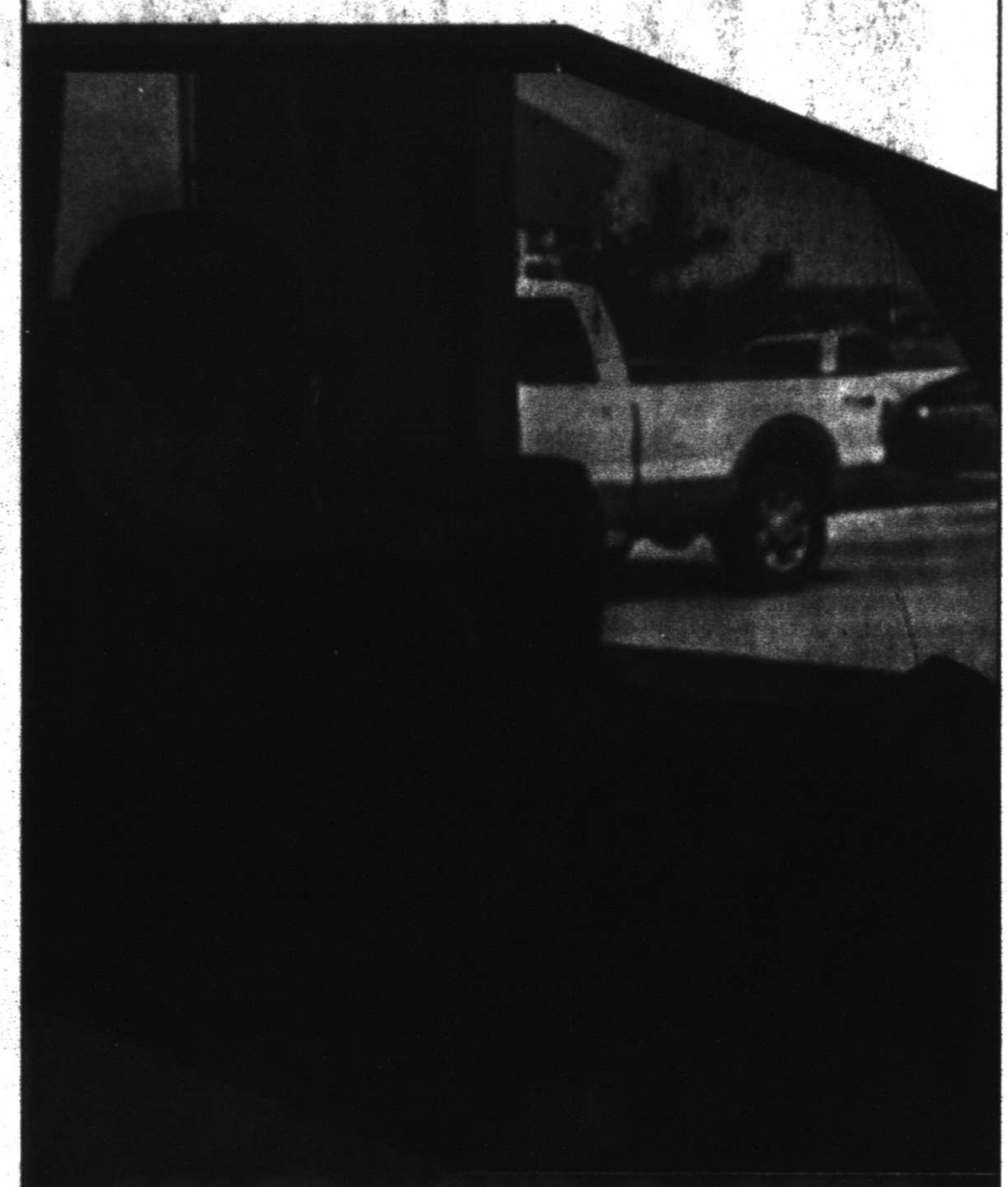

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Trump should lower temperature on investigation

■ Absent collusion (or some other sinister secret), president is guilty of raging against an investigation that, at the end of the day, really is built on sand

RICH LOWRY
King Features Syndicate

President Donald Trump has had impure thoughts about special counsel Robert Mueller.

That much, we know. The New York Times reported last week that Trump asked White House counsel Don McGahn to fire the special counsel. When McGahn resisted, Trump backed off and left Mueller in place.

Talking their clients out of bad ideas — especially impulsive clients likely to blunder into gross mistakes — is what lawyers are supposed to do.

The Trump-Mueller episode is like the "Saturday Night Massacre" if Richard Nixon had merely thought about firing Archibald Cox, then got dissuaded by his advisers and, under advice of counsel, began cooperating with the Watergate special counsel.

Is it more meaningful that Trump wanted to fire Mueller, or that the special counsel's work has continued apace for the past six months, with indictments, guilty pleas and extensive interviews of White House officials? Surely it is the latter, but Trump's critics argue that his withdrawn directive establishes motive in a prospective obstruction-of-justice case.

What it establishes is what we already knew: Trump hates the investigation and everyone associated with it. He considers the FBI officials who have been central to the probe politically compromised hatchet men. He disdains his own attorney general, Jeff Sessions, for recusing himself from the matter, and has no use for Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, either.

We don't need an investigation to know any of this, because Trump advertises it all the time. What else is his Twitter feed for?

What we don't know, at least with certainty, is what's behind Trump's animus? It's one thing if he hatched a high-level conspiracy with the Russians during the election that he's ham-handedly trying to cover up; it is another if he knows there was no such conspiracy and believes the investigation is, as he repeatedly says, "a witch hunt."

This is why it makes no sense for Democrats and the press to blow right by collusion — compelling evidence of which has not yet emerged — to obsess with alleged obstruction instead. If there was no collusion, it is doubtful that Trump has the corrupt motive necessary to make an impeachable obstruction-of-justice case against him.

Absent collusion (or some other sinister secret), Trump is guilty of raging against an investigation that, at the end of the day, really is built on sand. In which case, it'd be better if Trump, secure in his ultimate vindication, lowered the temperature around the investigation. But the scorpion is going to sting the frog — especially if the frog is getting round-the-clock cable coverage.

One of the counts against Trump is that he told Lester Holt of NBC News that he fired FBI Director James Comey over the Russia investigation. This isn't quite right. "I said, you know," Trump explained to Holt, "this Russia thing with Trump and Russia is a made-up story." Then, he went on to say he was happy for the investigation to continue.

The thrust of the interview accords with Trump's conversations with Comey. The FBI director repeatedly told the president that he himself wasn't under investigation. Trump badgered Comey about getting this out. At the same time, Trump stipulated that he was fine with a probe of any "satellites" of his suspected of wrongdoing. The picture is of a president desperate to remove an unwarranted cloud around his presidency, rather than a president shuttering an investigation at all costs.

It is certainly true that Trump has not made the transition from thinking like the owner of a family business to thinking like a president entrusted with the care of our institutions.

If Trump had his druthers, he'd probably appoint his personal fixer, Michael Cohen, as his attorney general and run the Department of Justice like an arm of The Trump Organization. But there are all sorts of political and institutional constraints to acting on these impulses, including a White House counsel willing to say "No."

OPINION EXTRA

Senate fails on abortion ban after 20 weeks

The U.S. Senate didn't deliver for the unborn this week as lawmakers failed to pass the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which would have banned abortions after 20 weeks, according to National Review.

Democrats cowered to their base, succeeding with a filibuster as the bill failed to make it out of debate and to a final floor vote, according to the report. Two Republicans — Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska — disappointed with their vote against the legislation. Three Democrats, showing the political courage the life movement needs, voted in favor of the bill. Overall, the vote was 51 in favor and 46 against.

The National Review reported the bill was based on scientific evidence showing that fetuses have the capacity to feel pain beginning at 20-weeks' gestation. National Review also showed that recent polling from Marist finds that two-thirds of Americans support a 20-week abortion ban, including more than half of Democrats and more than half of those who describe themselves as pro-choice.

Gallup reported in 2013 that only 27 percent of Americans support second-trimester abortions and only 14 percent support third-trimester abortions.

A Texas Tribune poll in 2013 showed that 62 percent of Texans said they would support "prohibiting abortions after 20 weeks based on the argument that a fetus can feel pain at that point," and that same percentage said they support "prohibiting abortions after 20 weeks."

I hope that Republicans will continue to make headway on this issue, one that has public support. There will be plenty of Democratic Senate candidates who will have to answer to voters in middle-of-the-political-road states. This is a life issue that resonates. Conservatives in both parties should take advantage of it.

Locally, representatives at the state and federal levels are on the side of life in this argument.

I'm pleased to say people seeking local organizations that can provide needed information on pregnancy, parenting and adoption will find it at The Life Center, which has offices in Midland and around the Permian Basin.

The debate about banning abortion after 20 weeks will come up again. And as long as there is another vote, we will have — on the record — those politicians who favor in abortion on demand — no matter the circumstances — over life.

More importantly, another vote means another opportunity for those in Washington to do the right thing.

— Stewart Doreen, sdoreen@mrt.com

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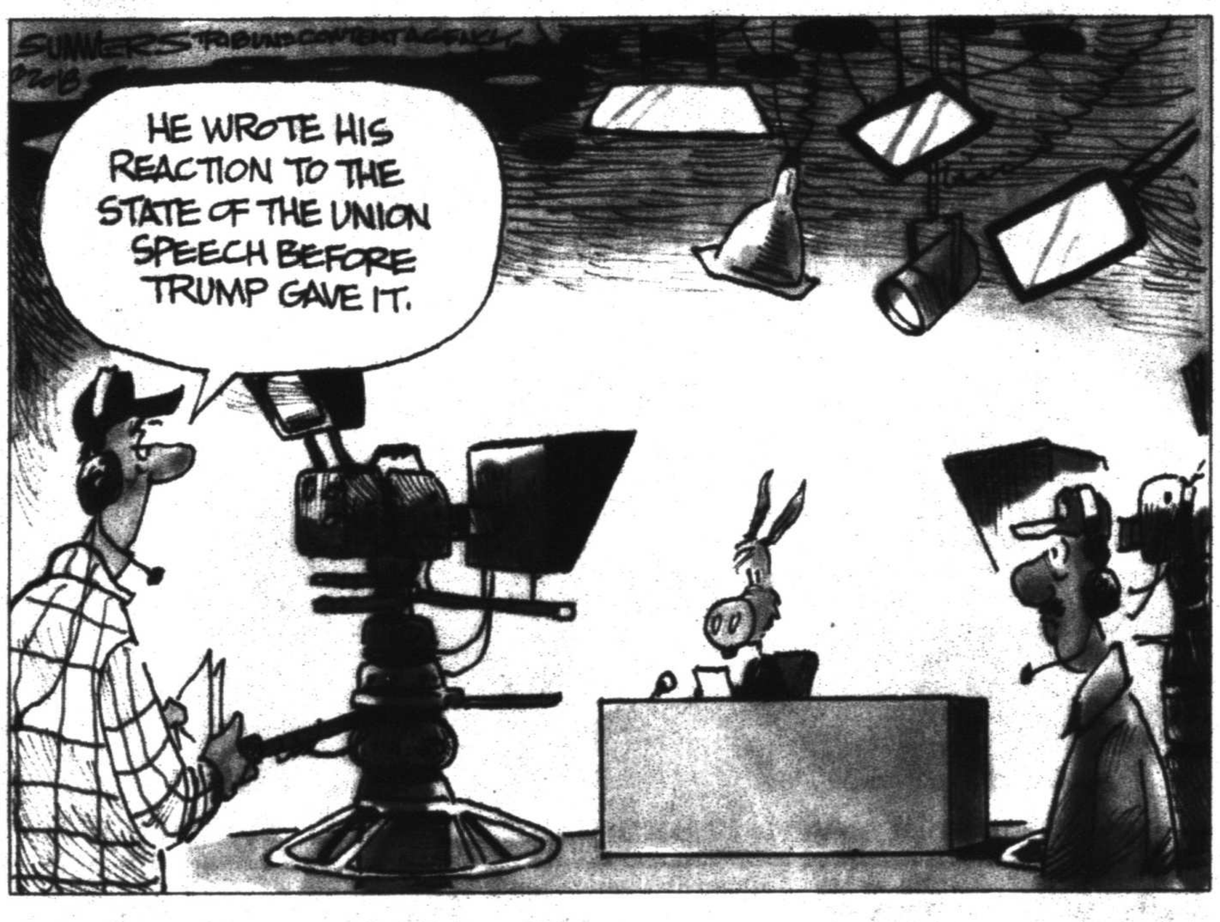

Not all Dreamers should get legal status

■ Now that a resolution may be in sight, they can't just ride the coattails of those who went the extra mile and put their trust in America to do the right thing

RUBEN NAVARRETTE
Washington Post Writers Group

The entire immigration debate — over who comes, who goes, and who should stay — has funneled down to one thing: ending the legal and bureaucratic nightmare caused by Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

The White House is poised to reveal the details of what it claims will be an immigration reform plan that can win support from both political parties, and one element of the proposal reportedly will be a permanent fix to DACA.

This boils down to essentially creating a legal "safe space" for undocumented young people who are DACA recipients, whose personal information went into a government database, and who are at risk of being deported when the program expires in March.

So it's time to make clear that there is a big difference between the nearly 700,000 DACA recipients and the estimated 2.9 million Dreamers who don't have DACA protection — because they did not apply, or applied but didn't qualify.

All of these undocumented people have at least one thing in common: They were brought to the United States as children through no fault of their own. Thus, Democrats want them all treated the same and given the same benefit: permanent legal status with a quick and automatic pathway to citizenship.

No such luck. The White House isn't offering what the Democrats were looking for. That can't be a surprise. The very fact that President Trump is considering any accommodations for Dreamers has already caused a firestorm from the nativist wing of the GOP. That's where you'll find simpletons arguing that anything that lets an undocumented person remain in the United States is — gasp! — "amnesty." In fact, Breitbart is calling the president "Amnesty Don."

Someone needs a dictionary. Amnesty means escaping accountability. And — whatever the final legislative remedy for DACA recipients — you can bet it'll be saturated with accountability. Besides, DACA has always been all about holding recipients accountable: requiring them to turn themselves in, get fingerprinted and photographed, hand over their home address and other personal information, etc.

The furthest the White House appears willing to go is to offer 1.8 million Dreamers — or about half of the 3.6 million total undocumented immigrants who arrived under age 18 — permanent legal status and a long road to "earned" citizenship. Trump is said to be offering citizenship after 10 to 12 years. In exchange, the president wants an end to so-called chain migration, the elimination of the diversity lottery and $25 billion to build his "big beautiful wall" on the U.S.-Mexico border.

To buy into this plan, Republicans will need to have faith that 10 to 12 years is enough time for young people to get over their hatred of the GOP so these newly minted citizens will not simply vote Democratic in perpetuity.

That gamble could pay off, given how badly Democrats have disappointed the Dreamers by overpromising and underdelivering.

The more delicate question is who should get legalized. And here again, the Democrats ask for too much by proposing an across-the-board accommodation for all undocumented young people.

I'm all for giving DACA recipients legal status and a pathway to citizenship — which should not be automatic, but earned. It means something to be a U.S. citizen, and it should be worked toward.

But, for me, that's where it ends. I'm not in favor of giving legal status to the entire universe of Dreamers — all 3.6 million of them.

It's not fair to legalize hundreds of thousands of people who didn't go through background checks, didn't take a risk in coming forward and didn't lose sleep over whether they were going to be deported by the Trump administration. Those folks just hung back, and let this tense drama play out. Now that a resolution may be in sight, they can't just ride the coattails of those who went the extra mile and put their trust in America to do the right thing.

And speaking of America, the concept of risk-taking is in the DNA of this place. It's what immigrants do. It's what the parents of these people did in coming here — even if it was illegally. We ought to honor those who stiffen their spine and take risks. And we should not go out of our way to accommodate those who play it safe — and then have the gall to come around and expect a share of the bounty.

From the Left | Doonesbury

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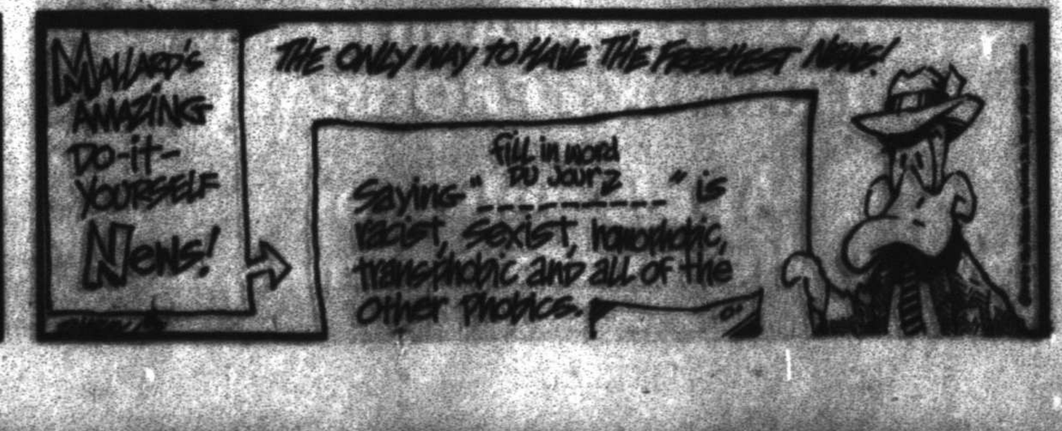


WH reviewing classified GOP memo alleging surveillance abuse

By Chad Day and Zeke Miller
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House said Tuesday it will conduct a legal and national security review before President Donald Trump decides whether to release a classified memo on the Russia investigation that has sparked a political fight pitting Republicans against the FBI and the Department of Justice.

Trump has five days to object to the release of the memo, though he has signaled he wants it made public. The memo arrived at the White House on Monday evening after Republicans on the House intelligence committee brushed aside opposition from the Justice Department and voted to release it.

The four-page memo was written by Republicans on the committee, led by chairman Rep. Devin Nunes of California, a close Trump ally who has become a fierce critic of the FBI and the Justice Department.

Republicans have said the memo reveals improper use of surveillance by the FBI and the Justice Department in the Russia investigation. Democrats have called it a selectively edited group of GOP talking points that attempt to distract from the committee's own investigation into Russian meddling.

On Tuesday, House Speaker Paul Ryan said he supports the memo's release but doesn't want Republicans to use it to attack special counsel Robert Mueller, who is investigating Russian meddling in the 2016 election and whether Trump's campaign was involved.

"This is a completely separate matter from Bob Mueller's investigation and his investigation should be allowed to take its course," Ryan said, noting that he also supports Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein who oversees Mueller.

Ryan said the memo shows "there may have been malfeasance at the FBI by certain individuals." He did not provide additional details, only saying that "there are legitimate questions about whether an American's civil liberties were violated by the FISA process," a reference to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

It's unclear how FBI malfeasance could have solely resulted in a judge signing off on a FISA warrant. Applications for such warrants are submitted by Justice Department lawyers before a judge of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court.

J. Scott Applewhite/Associated Press

Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, R-Wis., confers Tuesday with Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., right, during a news conference at the Capitol in Washington.

Those lawyers would have to authorize and ultimately prepare any filing that is made.

Ryan's comments came after House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi said late Monday on CNN that Ryan is allowing the release of a "false memo based on a false premise."

The vote to release the memo is an unprecedented move by the committee, which typically goes out of its way to protect classified information in the interest of protecting intelligence sources and methods.

On Tuesday, a senior White House official said the National Security Council is leading an interagency review of the memo, and no decision has yet been made on public disclosure. If Trump decides to release the memo, it could be made public as early as Wednesday afternoon, said the official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss confidential internal deliberations.

So far, the official said, the Justice Department is the only agency opposing its release. Asked Tuesday about the department's position on the memo's release, Justice Department spokeswoman Sarah Isgur Flores declined comment.

Republicans said they are confident the release won't harm national security. They also said they would not release the underlying intelligence that informed the memo.

"You'll see for yourself that it's not necessary," said Rep. Mike Conaway, who's leading the House's Russia investigation.

But Rep. Adam Schiff of California, the ranking Democrat on the committee, said the memo's release could compromise intelligence sources and methods.

The Justice Department said in a letter last week that it would be "extraordinarily reckless" to release the memo without first giving the FBI and the department the chance to review it.

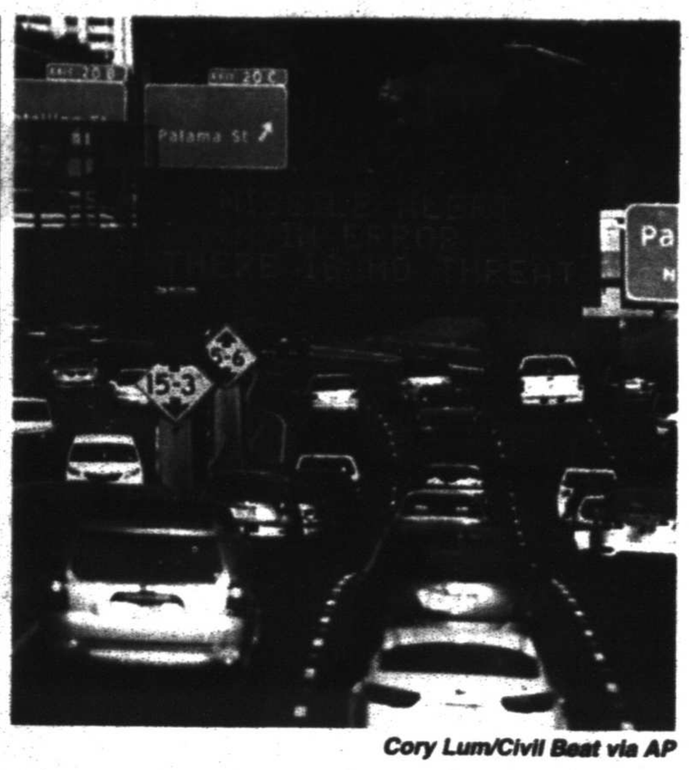
After those complaints, FBI Director Christopher Wray reviewed the memo over the weekend.

Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., who was with Wray when he reviewed the memo, said the FBI director did not raise any national security concerns with him. Gowdy said the memo doesn't reveal any intelligence methods but it does reveal "one source."

But Schiff said Wray told him Monday that the review didn't satisfy his concerns about the memo's release. Wray wanted to brief the committee about FBI and Justice Department concerns ahead of any release, a request committee Republicans blocked, Schiff said.

Some Republican senators have said they don't want to release the memo, and Democrats have pushed back on Republican criticism of the FBI, saying it is an attempt to discredit Mueller's investigation. The probe has already resulted in charges against four of Trump's former campaign advisers and has recently moved closer to Trump's inner circle.

In response, Democrats on the panel have put together their own memo. On Monday, the committee voted to make the Democratic memo available to all House members — but not the public. Conaway said he was open to making it public after House members have a chance to review it.



Cory Lum/Civil Beat via AP

Cars drive past a highway sign Jan. 13 that says "MISSILE ALERT ERROR THERE IS NO THREAT" on the H-1 Freeway in Honolulu. A Hawaii employee who mistakenly sent an alert warning of an incoming ballistic missile earlier this month, creating a panic across the state, thought an actual attack was imminent, the Federal Communications Commission said Tuesday.

Top official resigns after false missile alert in Hawaii

By Audrey McAvoy
Associated Press

HONOLULU — Hawaii's emergency management leader has resigned and a state employee who sent an alert falsely warning of an incoming ballistic missile has been fired, officials said Tuesday, weeks after the mistake caused widespread panic.

Hawaii Emergency Management Agency Administrator Vern Miyagi stepped down Tuesday, state Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Joe Logan said. A second agency worker quit before disciplinary action was taken and another was being suspended without pay, Logan said in announcing results of an internal investigation.

The fallout came the same day the Federal Communications Commission revealed that the worker who pushed out the alert thought an actual attack was imminent. It was the first indication the Jan. 13 alert was purposely sent, adding another level of confusion to the misstep that left residents and tourists believing their lives were about to end.

The state emergency agency worker believed the attack was real because of a mistake in how the drill was initiated during a shift change, the FCC said in a report. The worker said he didn't hear the word "exercise" repeated six times even though others clearly heard it.

There was no requirement to double-check with a colleague or get a supervisor's approval before sending the blast to cellphones, TV and radio stations statewide, the agency said.

"There were no procedures in place to prevent a single person from mistakenly sending a missile alert" in Hawaii, said James Wiley, a cybersecurity and communications reliability staffer at the FCC.

The worker, who was fired Friday and whose name has not been revealed, has confused real-life events and drills in the past, the state said in a report. His poor performance has been documented for years, and other members of the team say they were not comfortable working with him in any role.

The employee heard a recorded message that began by saying "exercise, exercise, exercise" — the script for a drill, the FCC said. Then the recording used language that is typically used for a real threat, not a drill: "this is not a drill." The recording ended by saying "exercise, exercise, exercise."

Once the employee sent the false alert, he was directed to send a cancel message but instead "just sat there and didn't respond," according to the state's report on its internal investigation. Later, another employee took over the computer and sent the correction because the worker "seemed confused."

Compounding the issues was that the agency lacked any preparation in how to correct the false alert. The federal agency, which regulates the nation's airwaves and sets standards for such emergency alerts, criticized the state's delay in correcting it.

In addition, software at Hawaii's emergency agency used the same prompts for both test and actual alerts, and it generally used prepared text that made it easy for a staffer to click through the alerting process without focusing enough on the text of the warning that would be sent.

The FCC said the state Emergency Management Agency has already taken steps to try to avoid a repeat of the false alert, requiring more supervision of drills and alert and test-alert transmissions. It has created a correction template for false alerts and has stopped ballistic missile defense drills until its own investigation is done.

EPA chief doesn't recall 2016 statements slamming Trump

By Michael Biesecker
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Environmental Protection Agency chief Scott Pruitt sought to distance himself Tuesday from his 2016 statements that then-presidential candidate Donald Trump is a bully who, if elected, would abuse the Constitution.

Pruitt made the comments in February 2016 while appearing on a conservative talk radio program in Oklahoma, where he served as the state's Republican attorney general. At the time, Pruitt supported Jeb Bush for the GOP nomination.

Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse sought to use Pruitt's own words against him during an oversight hearing and had an aide hold the quotes up on large signs. The Rhode Island Democrat's office also released audio of Pruitt's 2016 comments to talk radio host Pat Campbell of station KFAQ in Tulsa.

Pruitt said he appeared on Campbell's show several times, but could not recall making those specific comments about Trump, who appointed him a year later to lead EPA. Pruitt added that he now would not agree with his past comments.

Pruitt later issued a statement praising President Trump as "the most consequential leader of our time."

But asked by Campbell two years ago if he was a big Trump supporter, Pruitt replied "No, no." The clip of from the program was unearthed by Documented, a left-leaning watchdog group.

"I believe that Donald Trump in the White House would be more abusive to the Constitution than Barack Obama — and that's saying a lot," Pruitt said during the 2016 interview. "I think executive orders with Donald Trump would be a very blunt instrument with respect to the Constitution."

As EPA administrator, Pruitt has cited Trump's executive orders as the basis for a wide array of regulatory rollbacks, including moves to weaken limits on emissions of toxic heavy metals from coal-fired power plants and water pollution from fossil-fuel operations. Environmentalists say those changes will lead directly to dirtier air and water.

Whitehouse pressed Pruitt about his past comments during a contentious hearing lasting more than two hours. It was Pruitt's first appearance before the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works since his confirmation hearing nearly a year ago.

Republicans used the occasion to praise Pruitt's leadership at the agency.

"Administrator Pruitt has ... balanced the need to prioritize environmental protection with the desires of Americans to have thriving and economically sustainable communities," said committee Chairman John Barrasso, a Republican from Wyoming.

Democrats, meanwhile, peppered Pruitt with detailed questions about policy changes favoring fossil-fuel and chemical companies.

"EPA has moved to either repeal, reconsider or delay at least 25 environmental and public health protections in the last year alone," said Tom Carper of Delaware, the ranking Democrat on the committee. "Those aren't achievements, Mr. Pruitt. Those are the exact opposite — clear failures to act."

Pruitt brushed off questions from reporters as he left the hearing, but minutes later EPA's press office issued a statement disavowing his 2016 comments on the radio.

"After meeting him, and now having the honor of working for him, it is abundantly clear that President Trump is the most consequential leader of our time," Pruitt said Tuesday, according to the agency's statement. "No one has done more to advance the rule of law than President Trump. The president has liberated our country from the political class and given America back to the people."

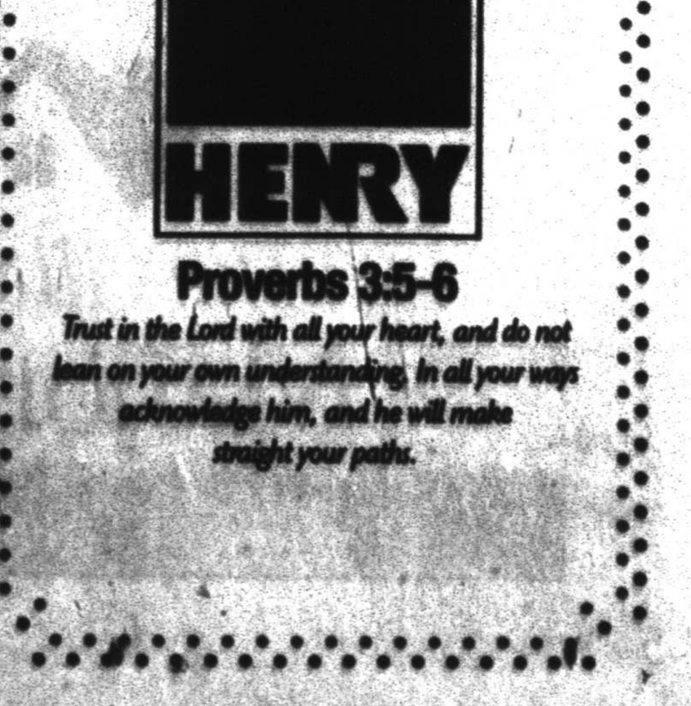
That's a far cry from Pruitt's impression of Trump two years ago.

"If Donald Trump is the nominee and eventually the president, he would take, I think unapologetic steps, to use executive power to confront Congress in a way that is truly unconstitutional," Pruitt told Campbell.

Pruitt also agreed with a characterization repeated by Campbell of Trump as "our bully" for the GOP.

"I think he has tendencies that we see in emerging countries around the world where — he goes to the disaffected — those individuals. And says, 'Look you give me power and I will give voice to your concerns,'" Pruitt said of Trump.

"And that's a dangerous place to be. ... But President Obama, we don't need to replace him with another individual — as you said, our bully — in the White House, to do what he's done from the Republican side of things."



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HEALTH + WELLNESS

midland memorial hospital

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt★com | Wednesday, January 31, 2018 | Section B

Amazon, Buffett, JPMorgan form health care company

By Tom Murphy
Associated Press

Amazon, Warren Buffett and JPMorgan are forming a new company to address the health care costs of their employees, sending shares of health care companies down sharply across the entire sector despite the vague nature of the announcement.

On Tuesday, Amazon's Jeff Bezos said that he, along with Buffet and JPMorgan, would attempt to make health care better for hundreds of thousands of their employees, and perhaps, eventually, the country.

There were few details and those involved said the project is in the early planning stage.

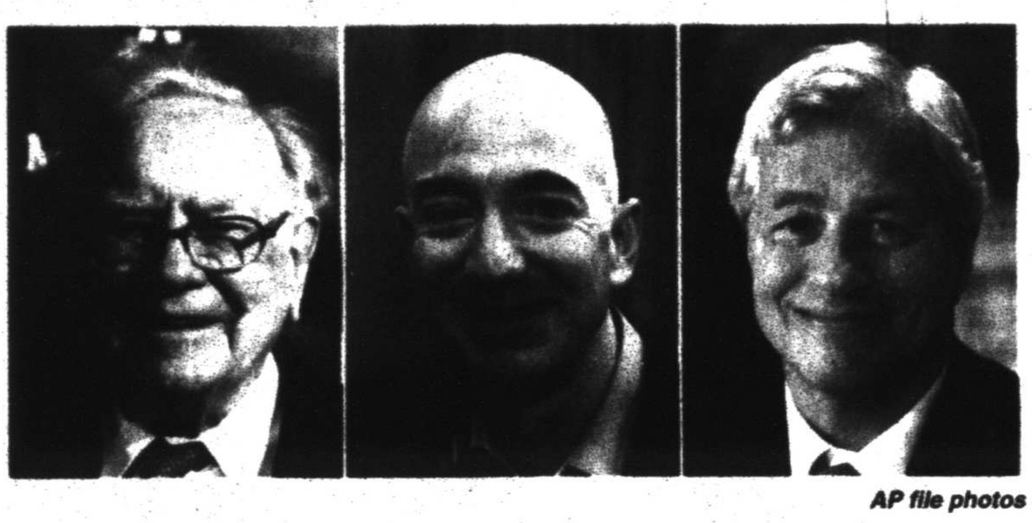
"The ballooning costs of (health care) act as a hungry tapeworm on the American economy," said Buffett, the head of Berkshire Hathaway, in a prepared statement. "Our group does not come to this problem with answers. But we also do not accept it as inevitable."

The new company will be independent and "free from profit-making incentives and constraints." The businesses said the new venture's initial focus would be on technology that provides "simplified, high-quality and transparent" care.

It was not clear if the ultimate goal is to eventually move beyond Amazon, Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway and JPMorgan. However, JPMorgan Chairman and CEO Jaimie Dimon said, "our goal is to create solutions that benefit our U.S. employees, their families and, potentially, all Americans."

The potential disruption from three

Please see COMPANY/2B



AP file photos

This combination of photos from left shows Warren Buffett on Sept. 19, 2017, in New York, Jeff Bezos, CEO of Amazon.com, on Sept. 24, 2013, in Seattle and JP Morgan Chase Chairman and CEO Jamie Dimon on July 12, 2013, in New York. Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway, Amazon and the New York bank JPMorgan Chase are teaming up to create a health care company announced Tuesday that is "free from profit-making incentives and constraints."

TRANSPLANTTRACKING

Laurie Skrivan/St. Louis Post-Dispatch via AP

SLUCare transplant surgeon Dr. Chintalapati Varma physically grabs the kidney from the body of living organ donor Robyn Rosenberger Jan. 18 during surgery at SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital in St. Louis. British researchers reported Monday that living kidney donors are more likely to develop later kidney failure than non-donors, and female donors may experience a pregnancy complication, problematic high blood pressure.

Living kidney donors may be monitored longer

By Lauran Neergaard
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The big unknown when someone donates a kidney: The long-term health consequences. Now the U.S. is taking a step toward finally tracking how living donors fare over decades — just as candidates are getting some new cautions to consider.

Specialists insist the surgery seldom brings serious complications for the donor. What happens later in life is less certain.

British researchers reported Monday that living kidney donors are more likely to develop later kidney failure than non-donors — and female donors may experience a pregnancy complication, problematic high blood pressure.

Overall, the chances of trouble still are pretty low, according to the analysis of international donor studies published in Annals of Internal Medicine. But there hasn't been enough research to advise donor candidates — especially younger ones — about who's really most at risk and if there are protective steps they could take.

"For those of us who counsel potential donors, there is reason for pessimism that we will soon be able to estimate individual risk with any precision," Drs. Peter Reese of the University of Pennsylvania and Emilio Poggio of the Cleveland Clinic wrote in an accompanying editorial.

Until there's better information, it might be safer to accept donations from middle-aged donors than younger ones, the duo proposed. For example, the best studies of how the remaining kidney functions have tracked donors for eight to 15 years, which "should not be particularly reassuring when advising a 25-year-old donor," they wrote.

Meanwhile, the United Network for Organ Sharing, which oversees the U.S. transplant system, has added the cautions contained in Monday's report to the risk information given to would-be donors.

And 10 transplant centers are about to pilot-test a new Living Donor Collective — an attempt to track donors' health for the remainder of their lives, instead of the mere two years of monitoring now required. The goal is to eventually expand to all U.S. transplant programs.

"The more we understand risk, and disclose it transparently, the more we're ensuring public trust," said Dr. Krista Lentine of Saint Louis University, one of the pilot sites, who also directs UNOS' living donor committee.

More than 95,000 people are on the national waiting list for a kidney. Of 19,848 transplants performed last year, 5,811 involved living donors, according to UNOS. Living donations shorten the years-long

Please see DONORS/3B

New report says E-cigarettes may lead to cancer, heart disease

By Janine Wolf
Bloomberg

E-cigarette users are possibly putting themselves at risk for developing heart disease, lung and bladder cancers, according to a new report. The findings, though preliminary, indicate that the devices — which aerosolize nicotine and don't contain tobacco — may not be as safe as previously assumed.

The study, conducted by researchers from the New York University School of Medicine, exposed mice to e-cigarette smoke (ECS) for 12 weeks at a dose and duration equivalent to light e-cigarette smoking for 10 years in humans. By the end of the trial, the smoke had caused DNA damage in the animal's lungs, bladders and hearts, as well as limiting lung proteins and important DNA repair.

Evidence points to the "almost unambiguous" conclusion that nicotine can convert to a carcinogen once inside the human body, said study author Moon-shong Tang, a professor of environmental medicine and pathology at NYU School of Medicine. "Nicotine is not as innocent as conventional wisdom thinks," he said.

Currently, 18 million Americans smoke e-cigarettes. Sixteen percent of those users are high school students, according to the report. Manufacturers have advertised the devices as a safer alternative to traditional tobacco products.

A slew of studies examining the long-term health consequences of vaping have been conducted, but the conclusions have been mixed.

In 2013, a trial found the practice to be as effective in helping smokers quit as using nicotine patches. Another study, published August, compared cancer potencies of e-cigarettes and tobacco smoke and found most ECS to have a cancer risk of less than 1 percent of that from smoking.

Many are worried that the mild flavor of ECS will hook young people on nicotine, encouraging teenagers to smoke tobacco in the future. In 2016, U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy called e-cigarette use among American youth a "major public health concern," citing a 900 percent growth rate among high school students.

Please see REPORT/2B

Child experts: Just say 'no' to Facebook's kids app

By Matt O'Brien and Barbara Ortutay
Associated Press

BOSTON — Child development experts and advocates are urging Facebook to pull the plug on its new messaging app aimed at kids.

A group letter sent Tuesday to CEO Mark Zuckerberg argues that younger children — the app is intended for those under 13 — aren't ready to have social media accounts, navigate the complexities of online relationships or protect their own privacy.

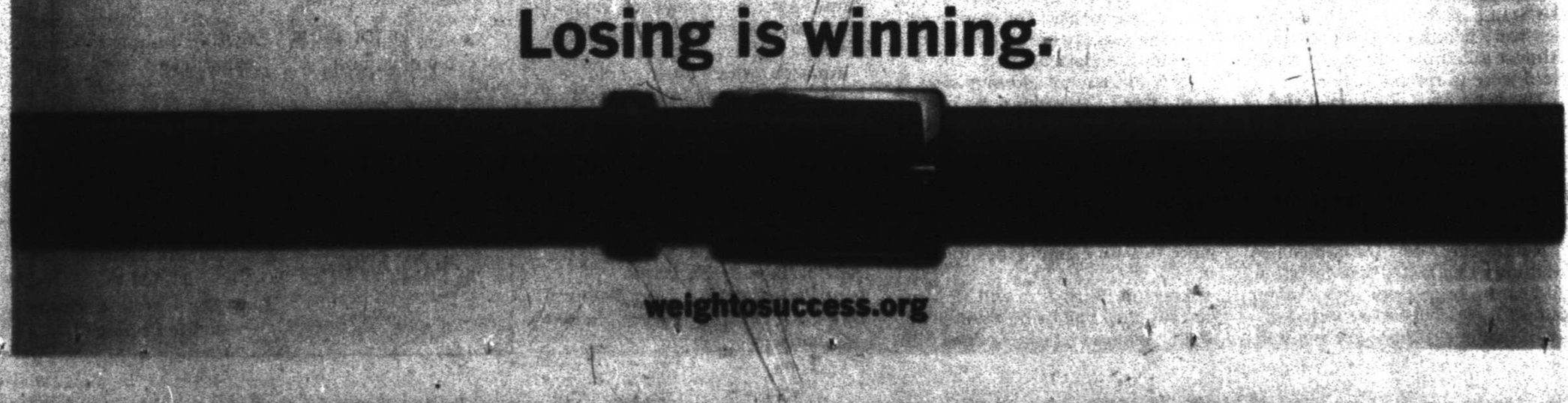
Facebook launched the free Messenger Kids app in December, pitching it as a way for children to chat with family members and friends approved by parents. It doesn't give kids separate Facebook or Messenger accounts. Rather, the app works as an extension of a parent's account, and parents get controls such as the ability to decide who their kids can chat with.

The social media giant has said it fills "a need for a messaging app that lets kids connect with people they love but also has the level of control parents want." But critics see the move as a way for Facebook to lure in a younger audience before they could move on to a rival service such as Snapchat.

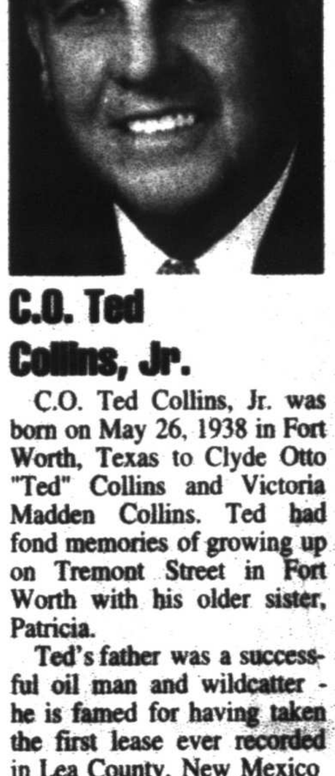
"TARGETING YOUNGER CHILDREN"

A group of 100 experts, advocates and parenting organizations is contesting Facebook's claims of filling a need. Led by the Boston-based Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood, the group includes psychiatrists, pediatricians, educators and the children's music singer Raffi Cavoukian.

Please see APP/3B



Obituaries



C.O. Ted Collins, Jr.

C.O. Ted Collins, Jr. was born on May 26, 1938 in Fort Worth, Texas to Clyde Otto "Ted" Collins and Victoria Madden Collins. Ted had fond memories of growing up on Tremont Street in Fort Worth with his older sister, Patricia.

Ted's father was a successful oil man and wildcatter - he is famed for having taken the first lease ever recorded in Lea County, New Mexico - and Ted was eager to follow in his father's footsteps. After graduating from Arlington Heights High School, he pursued a Bachelor of Science degree in Geological Engineering, graduating from the University of Oklahoma in 1959.

Ted started his career in the business as a Petroleum Engineer with Pan American Petroleum, where he was stationed in West Texas. At 26, he struck out on his own as an independent, buying and trading leases and prospects with several partners. Just a few years later, he and a few partners created American Quasar Petroleum Company, which at one point was the largest publicly traded drilling fund in the country.

In 1982, Ted left American Quasar to become President of HNG Oil Company which would later merge into and ultimately become Enron Oil and Gas, now known as EOG Resources.

In 1988, Ted partnered with an old friend with whom he had worked at America Quasar, Herb Ware, to start Collins and Ware. Collins and Ware was one of the first companies to use 3D seismic technology as an exploration tool, which helped them find a number of new discoveries including Fusselman/ Ellenburger zones. Herb and Ted ultimately operated numerous wells in multiple basins, including the Permian and Williston Basins.

Ted then turned his attention to new partnerships and ventures, and it was during this time that he started truly earning the moniker, "Ten Percent Ted," for his entrepreneurial pursuit of oil and gas deals and willingness to quickly make decisions and partner with a number of people and companies. One of the first new investments was an early lease play in Montana that became what we now know as the Bakken.

Ted was among the first to sell Continental Resources leases in the play, and today they are one of the largest operators in the region. Ted also partnered with his old Fort Worth friend, George Young, to form Collins and Young, LLC. Together they had great fun building a sizable position in the Barnett Shale, ultimately making several sales alongside their partners Chief Oil & Gas. He then went on to help create, with his partner Mike Wallace, what ultimately became RSP Permian, now a public company chaired by his close friend Mike Grimm. He also invested with a number of good friends in different ventures, including Cortez Resources, Crown Oil Partners, Double Eagle Development, Echo Energy, OGP Energy, Patriot Resources, Rubicon Oil and Gas, and Silverback Exploration. He served on a number of Boards over the years including most recently RSP Permian, Energy Transfer Partners, Oasis Petroleum, and Kimbell Royalty Partners.

Ted was fortunate to have many wonderful partners and was always humble despite his many successes. He was known to repeat the old saying, *"Have you ever seen a turtle perched on top of a fence post? If you think about it, he didn't get up there on his own - someone had to put him up there."* Ted is the recipient of numerous industry awards and honors, including the 2006 AAPL Lifetime Achievement award, the 2008 Permian Basin Petroleum Association Top Hand award, induction into the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum Hall of Fame, along with Herb Ware, in 2009, the 2017 Hart Energy's Industry Leader Award, and he was set to receive the 2018 Mewbourne Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Oklahoma. As Ted would say, *"It really does not seem fair to get an award for doing something that you enjoy so much."* He was also known to say each time he got one of these awards that he did not deserve it, he had just outlived his competition.

Ted was ingrained in his community and enjoyed helping others. He was always willing to take the time to speak with young folks trying to make their way in the industry. He served as the Chairman of Midland Wildcat Committee since 1984, was past President of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, the Permian Basin Landman's Association, the Petroleum Club of Midland, and was an Advisory Director of TPH Asset Management. He was on the Midland Memorial Hospital Board of Governors, a member of the Exchange Club of Fort Worth, and a Board Member of the CLL Global Research Foundation. He was actively involved in the OU Foundation as part of the Seed Sowers Society and was a member of the Longhorn Foundation. He was also a member of the All American Wildcatters, a group to which he was very proud and honored to be included.

Ted had a great passion for the oil and gas industry, but his true treasures were his family and friends. He was a proud father of three boys, James Patrick Collins, Christopher Michael Collins, and Ted Collins III. He enjoyed partnering with Patrick on a number of oil and gas ventures, admired Michael's success in the real estate industry, and was also very proud of Teddy in his many and various ventures. He was happiest spending time with his wife, Diana Lorenzen Collins. Their relationship blossomed over 20 years together where they loved walking their dog, Reagan, traveling to California, attending UT football games, and relaxing in each other's presence. Together they were actively involved in the Midland YMCA's addition to the Child Day Care Center and the renovation of the Midland Memorial Hospital.

Ted had countless friends with whom he shared many fond memories, including numerous golf outings, trips all over the country, attending Monday Lunch Bunch with his buddies, and college football games to see either the Oklahoma Sooners or Texas Longhorns. He loved calling friends to discuss the latest score or reminisce about good times and the history of the oil business - often telling the same stories over and over again, or a great joke he'd recently heard. Ted was always optimistic, saw the positive in every situation, and made you feel like you really mattered because he truly cared about you. Everyone who knows him has a "Ted Collins" story, and he will be truly missed by so many of those whose lives he impacted.

Ted is preceded in death by his father and mother.

He is survived by his beloved wife Diana; his mother-in-law, Joyce Souza; sister, Patricia and her husband Bill Massad, whom Ted considered his brother; three wonderful sons, J. Patrick Collins and his wife Lindsey Collins, Michael Collins, and Teddy and his wife, Rocia Collins; and his cherished grandchildren - Patrick's Ford, Petra, and Delphine, Michael's Lila, and Teddy's Evanka.

The family would love to hear, see, and share your memories and photos of Ted, which can be sent to *memories@collinsog.com*. Please feel free to send anything that comes to mind - a story, a conversation, an old photo, etc.

We will celebrate the life and memory of Ted with a visitation from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at The Branch at Nalley-Pickle & Welch on Wednesday, January 31, 2018.

His memorial service will be at First Presbyterian Church of Midland at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 1, 2018. A memorial reception will follow at the Petroleum Club of Midland at 4:00 p.m.

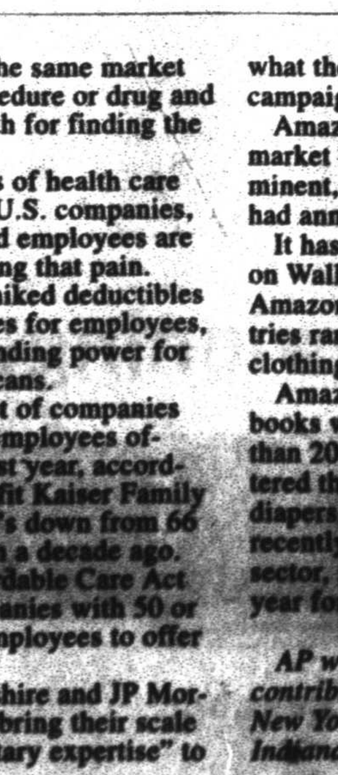
Ted will be laid to rest at a private burial service at Greenwood Memorial Park in Fort Worth on Saturday, February 3, 2018. A memorial reception will take place following the burial at 12:00 p.m. at River Crest Country Club on Saturday.

Honorary pallbearers are Bill Bowerman, Bill Granberry, Bob Garbrecht, Brett Smith, Clifton Morris, Dick McMillan, Don Evans, Don Jones, George Young, Jim Alsup, Joe Liberty, Joe Martin, Joe O'Neill, Jon Brumley, Mac Thompson, Mike Grimm, Mike Wallace, Pete Russey, Phil Pritchett, Randy Geiselman, and Robert Tucker, Jr.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Lighthouse for the Blind in Fort Worth located at 912 W. Broadway Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76104 or *https://lighthousefw.org/donate/*

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

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



James Hawk

James Hawk, 61, beloved husband, father, son, brother, uncle, and friend, was called home to his Heavenly Father on January 28, 2018 after a courageous eight month battle with cancer. He passed away peacefully surrounded by his family at MD Anderson in Houston, Texas. He entered this world bringing joy with him on February 22, 1956 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Hawk; daughter, Jadyn and son-in-law, Shane Walker; parents, John and Cecile Hawk; siblings, Julie Hawk, Jayne Box, and John Hawk and wife, Ann; his beloved nieces and nephews; and sister-in-law, Nancy Rankin.

James grew up in Albuquerque and graduated from Del Norte High School in 1974. James served a two year mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Roanoke, Virginia mission during 1977 and 1978.

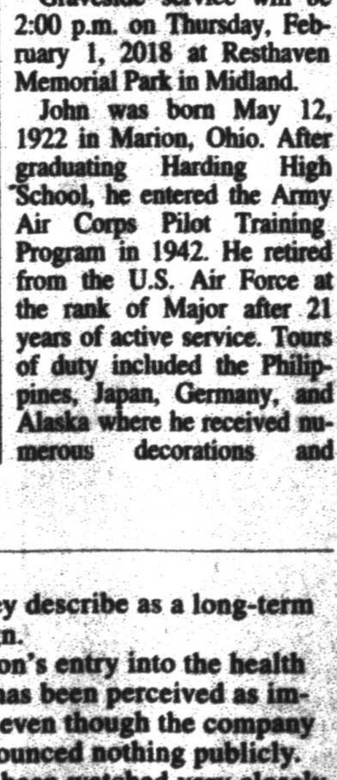
In 1980, James received an electronics degree from Albuquerque Technical/ Vocational Institute. James and Carol were married on April 22, 1980 in the Salt Lake City Temple. They have lived in Midland, Texas for 37 years. In December of 2017, James retired from the Midland Independent School District after working in the technology department for 35 years.

James was a devoted husband and father. He liked to spend his free time with his family. James had a serving heart and was always giving of his time and resources to help friends in need. James has served in many positions in his church and had a strong testimony of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ, and that he will live with his family again in Heaven. He was a humble and faithful servant of God. James was loved by all who knew him and will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints located at 4805 Gateway St. Midland, Texas; burial to follow on Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. in Albuquerque at Sunset Memorial Park located at 924 Menaul Blvd. NE.

For those who would like to make a donation in memory of James, please make them to MD Anderson Cancer Center at *gifts.mdanderson.org*. or to a charity of your choice.

Please visit our online guestbook for James at *www.FrenchFunerals.com*.



John Wilson Smith

John Wilson Smith, a retired U.S. Air Force Command Pilot, passed away at the age of 95 in Fort Worth, Texas on January 27, 2018.

Graveside service will be 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 1, 2018 at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland.

John was born May 12, 1922 in Marion, Ohio. After graduating Harding High School, he entered the Army Air Corps Pilot Training Program in 1942. He retired from the U.S. Air Force at the rank of Major after 21 years of active service. Tours of duty included the Philippines, Japan, Germany, and Alaska where he received numerous decorations and commendations during his military service.

John continued his aviation career with the Federal Aviation Administration in Fort Worth, Texas as an Air Space System Inspection Pilot. In 1974, he transferred to the national field office in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He retired from the FAA in 1984 as the Chief of the Flight Standards National Field Office Oklahoma City, Oklahoma after 42 years of Federal Service, and returned to Fort Worth, Texas.

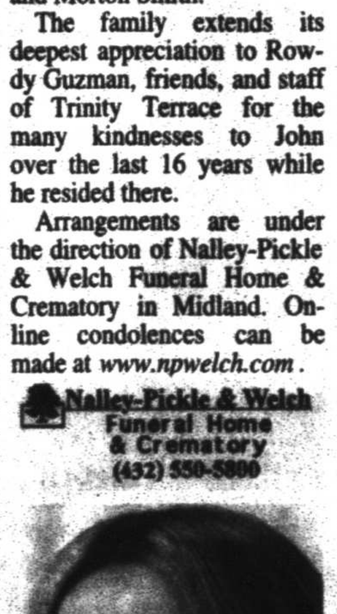
Survivors include his son, John M. Smith and his wife Terri of Marlow, Oklahoma; sister, Elaine Smith Mitchell of Dayton, Ohio; granddaughters, Kristen Pollard and her husband Jared, and Allison Burchfield and her husband Brandon; and great-grandchildren, Paige Pollard, Preston John Burchfield, and Gunner Burchfield, all of Marlow.

John was preceded in death by his wife of 40 years, Lorena "Susie" Smith; his son, Rocky Smith; and his mother and father, Dortha and Morton Smith.

The family extends its deepest appreciation to Rowdy Guzman, friends, and staff of Trinity Terrace for the many kindnesses to John over the last 16 years while he resided there.

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

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



Kaye Darlene Kinsey

Kaye Darlene Kinsey, 57, of Midland, joined our Heavenly Father on January 26, 2018. She was born to Thomas and Augustine Gravitt on June 10, 1960 in Oglethorpe, Georgia and was an identical twin.

She graduated from Odessa College with an Associate's degree in Medical Billing. She worked as a home health care nurse and a stay at home mom. She loved her family, shopping, and antiques. She collected many treasures and loved movies and books. She was an avid reader and could read several books at a time. Family and friends were her delight.

Kaye is survived by her husband, Bryon Kinsey; and daughters, Samantha Mooring and husband Cody Mooring, Rusti Scott and husband Will Scott, and Reagan Carroll and husband Curtis Carroll.

She is also survived by grandchildren, Alex Molina, Cori Rose Carroll, Eden Scott, Zoe Scott, Maddison Mooring, and Sophia Mooring; step-father, Bob Shrout; her siblings, Faye Miller, Terry Shrout, Richard Gravitt, Mary Gibson, and Christy Farmiga; and by numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Her father and mother preceded her in death.

There will be a memorial service in her honor, at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel, 801 Andrews Hwy, Midland, Texas 79701 on Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Midland, 911 West Texas Ave. Midland, TX 79701.

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

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity Memorial 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-5035

Death Notices

Bobby Gene Thomas

Memorial services for Bobby Gene Thomas, 83, of Midland, will be held on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in the First Baptist Church, Denver City Texas.

Ersilia Jaso Aguirre

Ersilia Jaso Aguirre, 79, of Midland, passed away on Sunday, January 28, 2018.

Funeral service will be Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at Heavenly Gate Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

She is survived by a son, Robert Aguirre; three daughters, Elizabeth Aguirre, Norma Alvarez, and Delia Aguirre; and by one brother and three sisters.

Harold "Jack" Barnes

Harold "Jack" Barnes, 89, of Midland, Texas, passed away on January 28, 2018.

A graveside service will be held on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at Meadow Cemetery in Meadow, Texas.

Jocelyn Williams

Jocelyn Williams, 78, of Midland, passed away on Monday, January 29, 2018.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at Stonegate Fellowship.

Private burial will be held at Resthaven Cemetery.

She is survived by her husband, Richard O. Williams; son, Tom W. Williams; and daughter, Terri A. Solari.

Margaret M. Robson

Margaret Robson, 71, of Midland, Texas, passed away January 26, 2018.

Services are pending with Stanton Memorial Funeral Home.

Rosa Hardison Black

Rosa Hardison Black, 48, of Midland, passed away January 27, 2018.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, February 1, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Ava-los-Sanchez & Thomas Funeral Home Chapel, 1502 N. Lamesa Road, Midland, Texas.

She is survived by her sons, Michael Price, Derrick Bremby, and Richard Black, Jr.; daughters, Jarvisha Black, Loquita Hardison, and Rosslyn Black; and by one sister and three brothers.

Thomas Peter Huntoon

Thomas Peter Huntoon, 69, of Midland, passed away January 22, 2018.

He is survived by his children, Thomas J. Huntoon, Michael D. Huntoon and Lisa M. Huntoon; and by one sibling.

There are no service scheduled at this time with American Heritage Cemetery /Funeral Home/Crematory.

COMPANY

From 1B

renowned innovators in technology and finance sent a shock wave through the health care sector, erasing billions in market capitalization in seconds.

Six of the top ten companies with significant share declines on the Standard & Poor's 500 index were health care companies. Almost all companies in the health field were in retreat Tuesday.

The need for a solution to the health care crises in the U.S. is intense. With about 151 million non-elderly people, employer-sponsored coverage is the largest part of the U.S. health insurance market.

Health care costs for companies routinely rise faster than inflation and eat up bigger portions of their budgets. Americans are mired in a confusing system that creates a mix of prices in the same market for the same procedure or drug and offers no easy path for finding the best deal.

The rising costs of health care have dragged on U.S. companies, big and small, and employees are increasingly feeling that pain. Employers have hiked deductibles and other expenses for employees, meaning less spending power for almost all Americans.

Only 50 percent of companies with three to 49 employees offered coverage last year, according to the nonprofit Kaiser Family Foundation. That's down from 66 percent more than a decade ago. The federal Affordable Care Act requires all companies with 50 or more full-time employees to offer it.

Amazon, Berkshire and JP Morgan say they can bring their scale and "complementary expertise" to what they describe as a long-term campaign.

Amazon's entry into the health market has been perceived as imminent, even though the company had announced nothing publicly.

It has been watched very closely on Wall Street, which has seen Amazon disrupt numerous industries ranging from book stores to clothing chains.

Amazon, which mostly sold books when it was founded more than 20 years ago, has radically altered the way in which people buy diapers, toys or paper towels. Most recently it has upended the grocery sector, spending $14 billion last year for Whole Foods Market Inc.

AP writer Joseph Pisani contributed to this report from New York. Murphy reported from Indianapolis.

REPORT

From 1B

Tang wouldn't recommend vaping to nonsmokers, in particular young people: "Don't think a vapor is harmless."

As for cigarette smokers thinking about going electronic, Tang hesitates.

"We don't know which one is more harmful," he said.

This latest study is not, by itself, conclusive. Tumors can't develop in 12 weeks — the length of the study — and if tobacco smoke-induced cancer is indeed a model for e-cigarette smoking-induced cancer, then meaningful human evidence won't be available for at least another decade.

In the meantime, scientists are turning to animal experiments, which may be able to provide in about a year further evidence as to the full-blown effects of e-cigarette smoking.

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Sleep cycle troubles may be early sign of Alzheimer's

By Melissa Healy
Los Angeles Times

A fitful night's sleep and a habit of daytime catnapping may be an early-warning sign of Alzheimer's dementia, according to new research conducted in humans and mice.

Restless nights and sleepy days are a common pattern in patients with full-blown Alzheimer's. Those disrupted circadian rhythms are a symptom that can upend the lives of caregivers and cause confusion and anxiety in patients.

Less dramatic levels of sleep disruption, including trouble falling asleep and more frequent nighttime wakening, are also typical as people age.

A new study finds that, in older people who don't show signs of cognitive impairment, those with a sleep-wake cycle that is subtly off-kilter are more likely to have amyloid protein deposits in their brains. Those amyloid "plaques" are a hallmark of Alzheimer's, and they can develop years before symptoms of memory loss or thinking problems are evident.

Study participants whose sleep patterns followed a clearer pattern of sleeping through the night and staying awake during the day were less likely to have significant clumps of amyloid protein in their brains, suggesting they were less likely to go on to develop Alzheimer's disease.

The new research, published Monday by the journal JAMA Neurology, doesn't answer the question of whether a messy sleep pattern actually contributes to the development of Alzheimer's or is just a sign of the disorder.

If it's merely a sign of impending Alzheimer's, it could still be a useful tell. Currently, the earliest clear signs of Alzheimer's disease — those plaque deposits — can be detected only with sophisticated brain imaging. If physicians and researchers had a behavioral signpost that could be readily detected with a wearable activity monitor, they'd likely identify more people who could enroll in research studies, or who might benefit from early efforts to head off dementia.

On the other hand, if a sleep-wake cycle with frequent nighttime awakening and more daytime sleeping actually helps Alzheimer's gain a foothold, that finding could be even more valuable: Patients with broken sleep patterns could be counseled to take steps to improve their nighttime sleep quality, perhaps delaying or preventing their progression toward dementia.

"I don't want to scare people into thinking that if they wake up often at night they'll have Alzheimer's," said study co-author Dr. Erik S. Musiek, a Washington University neurologist who studies the role of the circadian clock on aging.

Some changes in sleep are typical as people age. But while disrupted sleep patterns generally manifest themselves as nighttime awakenings and short bursts of compensating daytime sleep, participants didn't always notice or report these occurrences, Musiek said.

"These are subtle things, and we can detect them in a large group of people," he said.

The role that sleep disruption plays in early Alzheimer's — whether it contributes to the disease or merely signals its presence — should become clearer as his research team tracks study participants into old age.

In the meantime, research conducted on mice offers a tantalizing peek at an answer, Musiek said. When scientists from Washington University and the University of Pennsylvania bred mice whose normal circadian rhythms were completely knocked out by a combination of drugs and genetic engineering, amyloid plaques accumulated quickly in the hippocampus, a key structure in memory and learning.

Only later would the behavioral symptoms of Alzheimer's appear.

That study, slated for publication in the Journal of Experimental Medicine, suggests that irregularities of circadian rhythm accelerate amyloid plaque accumulation in the brain and speed the appearance of Alzheimer's more obvious symptoms — memory and thinking problems.

Whether that dynamic is repeated in humans remains to be shown.

In the research published Monday, 189 participants had an average age of close to 67 years when they enrolled in the study between 2010 and 2012. Each wore an activity monitor for seven to 14 days. The wearable device detected when and for how long a participant slept, how often she awakened at night, and when she appeared to be napping during the day.

The participants, both men and women, all were cognitively healthy at the time they enrolled, with no signs of mental impairment or memory problems.

Around the time they wore their activity devices, 142 of the participants also had a specialized PET scan of the brain to detect amyloid deposits.

About 26 of the study's subjects showed amyloid deposits suggestive of very early Alzheimer's disease, while 116 did not. On three of eight arcane measures of circadian function, the group with early Alzheimer's scored higher than those shown to have no significant build-up of amyloid in their brains.

"A clear implication of our findings is that therapies directly targeting the circadian system to normalize circadian timing, rather than just augmenting total sleep, may be beneficial in the prevention of Alzheimer's disease," the authors wrote.

Musiek said he recommends a range of practices to patients concerned about the prospect of dementia. They aren't that different from the usual "sleep hygiene" practices that sleep-medicine specialists recommend for all patients.

"You want to consolidate your sleep as much as possible at night," he said. "I always tell my patients not to use electronic devices at night, to sleep in a dark room — and to go to sleep, not watch TV in bed."

Musiek also urges his patients to "get up in morning, get active, go out and get into the morning light." Eating a good breakfast "helps synchronize your clock," he said.

Finally, he said, our early-bird and night-owl inclinations often have their roots in our genes. We would do well to try to accommodate, not fight, those differences.

"People get into trouble trying to force themselves into a different mode," Musiek said. "We should listen to our bodies, and try to understand our own rhythms, and keep day and night within that range."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Common headaches could signal more-serious conditions, doctors say

By Jill U. Adams
Special to The Washington Post

Headaches are a common ailment — so common, perhaps, that many of us just accept them as part of life.

"When I do routine physicals, I'll ask about headaches," says Michael Munger, a primary-care physician in Overland Park, Kansas.

He said he is always surprised that many of his patients report frequent headaches when asked but never bring them up otherwise. "Some people just live with it."

Tension headaches, sinus headaches and migraine headaches are among the most common varieties.

Tension headaches affect 30 to 70 percent of the population, said Nauman Tariq, director of the Headache Center at Johns Hopkins Medicine in Baltimore. These are usually mild and can be alleviated with nonprescription pain relievers.

Migraine headaches affect 12 to 27

Please see HEADACHES/4B

App

From 1B

"Messenger Kids is not responding to a need — it is creating one," the letter states. "It appeals primarily to children who otherwise would not have their own social media accounts." Another passage criticized Facebook for "targeting younger children with a new product."

In a statement, Facebook said Monday that the app "helps parents and children to chat in a safer way," and emphasized that parents are "always in control" of their kids' activity. The social media giant added that it consulted with parenting experts and families, and said "there is no advertising in Messenger Kids."

Kids and Facebook

A variety of experts and technology insiders have begun questioning the effects smartphones and social media apps are having on people's health and mental well-being — whether kids, teens or adults. Sean Parker, Facebook's first president, said late last year that the social media platform exploits "vulnerability in human psychology" to addict users. A chorus of other early employees and investors piled on with similar criticisms.

Many preteens have already found their way onto Facebook and more youth-oriented social media platforms such as Snapchat and Facebook's own Instagram, despite internal rules that require users to be at least 13 years old. Those rules are based in part on federal law, which prohibits internet companies from collecting personal information on children without their parents' permission and imposes restrictions on advertising to them.

Some companies have offered parental controls as a way of curbing unauthorized preteen use of their platforms. But Facebook's new kid-focused app, which features animations and emojis, seems to cater to a younger audience, said Josh Golin, executive director of Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood.

"It looks like something that would appeal to a 6-year-old or 7-year-old," he said.

He said the app gets those younger ones used to Facebook's platform "and then they transition to the mature version of Facebook."

Uncertain impact

Facebook wouldn't answer questions about how popular the messaging app has been. But App Annie, an app analytics firm, said Messenger Kids has been downloaded about 80,000 times on Apple's iOS devices — iPhones, iPads and the iPod Touch — since it launched on Dec. 4. It's been in the top 40 most popular kids' apps since then. That sounds like a lukewarm reception at best.

University of Michigan developmental behavioral pediatrician Jenny Radesky, who co-signed the letter, said she's never met a parent who was clamoring to get their children onto social media at an earlier age.

"One can only assume that Facebook introduced it to engage users younger and younger," Radesky said.

That's troubling, she said, because younger children haven't yet developed the cognitive skills that enable them to think about and regulate their thoughts and actions and "allow them to realize when persuasive technology design might be manipulating them."

At the time it launched Messenger Kids, Facebook said it won't show ads or collect data for marketing to kids. And it stressed that it won't automatically move users to the regular Messenger or Facebook when they get old enough — though it might give them the option to move contacts to Messenger down the line.

Donors

From 1B

wait, and those transplants tend to last longer.

Surgery always brings risks, but donor deaths from the operation are rare — three deaths for every 10,000 donors, according to the most-cited estimate. About 8 percent of donors experience surgical complications such as bleeding or blood clots, according to another study.

What about later? University of Cambridge researchers examined dozens of international studies that tracked donors for varying lengths of time. Two concerns emerged:

- One study found that for every 10,000 people tracked over 15 years, 31 living donors experienced kidney failure compared to four non-donors.
- Among post-donation pregnancies, high blood pressure known as pre-eclampsia occurred in 11 percent of donors in one study, about twice the rate of non-donors.

Lentine said such information can help would-be donors understand the need to avoid later damage to their remaining kidney — like developing high blood pressure or obesity. She points to a new online tool doctors can use to predict if a candidate's possible risk is OK for donation.

Far more follow-up still is needed, said Vicky Young, a psychology professor in Arizona who suffered painful nerve damage and chronic kidney disease after donating nearly 14 years ago. She doesn't regret donating, but as a former UNOS board member she pushed for better risk disclosure — nerve injuries now are on the list.

And Young, 64, still wonders about her kidney, "Will I deteriorate as I age?"

Are you concerned about your water? You should be!

With all the water contaminants in the news, you've probably thought about filtering your drinking water, but what about the water you're using to shower, bathe, brush your teeth and wash your hands with every day. Harsh chemicals and contaminants are a concern even if you're not drinking them!

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HEALTHBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Community garden plots available

The Midland Health Community Garden is now accepting applications for the spring and summer seasons. Plots are available to rent for $16 per season.

To download an application, visit midlandhealth.org/garden or email midlandhealthgarden@gmail.com.

Stress management is class topic

A grocery store tour is the topic of the Lifestyle Medicine Center's weekly class. The tour is 7:30 p.m. Thursday at H-E-B, Andrews Highway and Loop 250.

Classes are open to the public and patients of the Lifestyle Medicine Center.

Each class is $5. To register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events. For more information, call 221-5433.

Upcoming classes are:

Feb. 8 - Understanding Glycemic Index and Macronutrients

Feb. 22 - Resolving Conflict and Finding Purpose

March 1 - Meal Planning and Cooking Demonstration

March 8 - Benefits of Physical Activity

March 22 - Plant-based Nutrition and Diabetes

March 29 - Meditation and Finding Balance

Conference on aging is planned

Midland College is partnering with various nonprofit agencies to offer the annual West Texas Conference on Aging. The conference is 8 a.m.-4 p.m. March 6 at Golf Course Road Church of Christ, 3500 W. Golf Course Road.

Early registration fee of $50 is available until Feb. 23; after that date, registration is $75. Seven Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available to health care professionals.

Registration is available online at www.midland.edu/agingconference or by phone, 681-6354. For more information, contact Kimberly Daw at 681-6338 or kdaw@midland.edu.

Heart institute to sponsor seminar

The Heart Institute of Midland Memorial Hospital is sponsoring its annual Radiology & Cardiovascular Imaging Seminar in recognition of American Heart Month. The seminar, set for Saturday, is for registered radiological technologists and registered nurses. Other topics will also include peripheral vascular diseases, mammography and electrophysiology studies of the heart.

For more information, contact Tonya Dawson at 221-1626 or tonya.dawson@midlandhealth.org.

Midland Health events

- Weigh to Success Support Group, 5:30 p.m. Thursday at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus; Sundae Adkins, 638-8081;sundae.adkins@midlandhealth.org.
- Find a Job Friday, 9 a.m. Friday, Midland Memorial Hospital; 221-4305.
- Breastfeeding Support Group, 11 a.m. Monday at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus; Amber Cunningham, 221-3283,childbirtheducation@midlandhealth.org.
- Birthplace Tour, 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. Monday at Midland Memorial Hospital; Amber Cunningham, 221-3283,childbirtheducation@midlandhealth.org; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.

Weekly support groups & hotlines

(subject to change)

- TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Christian Church of Midland, 2609 Neely Ave. 694-8643.
- Overeaters Anonymous; 3 p.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, St. Stephen's Catholic Church. 553-1031.
- Survivors of sexual abuse; interactive Bible study to help deal with the consequences of sexual abuse meets Tuesdays. Child care available; House of Hope, 570-5935.
- Peer to Peer support group for veterans, active duty, guard, reserves and their families, 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Permian Basin Community Center, 401 E. Illinois Ave., Suite 403; Wil Hoggard, 213-5342, william.hoggard@wtcmhmr.org.
- PDAP meetings: 7-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays: Parents group and younger group (12-17), 1208 W. Wall St.; college group (18-26), 2503 W. Ohio Ave.; older group (27 and over), First Presbyterian Church 11:30-1:30 p.m. Wednesdays: older group, 1208 W. Wall St., includes lunch.
- Alcoholics Anonymous — hotline 580-7868.
- Serenity Group, 8 p.m. daily, 3101 N. "A" St., Building C; 685-3100. 710 Group, 7 a.m., noon and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 710 Ohio Ave.; 682-8162.
- Alpha Omega, 8 p.m. Tuesdays and 11 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays, 311 S. Pecos St.
- 12-Step Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, 10 a.m. Saturdays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 553-7220.
- Al-Anon (support group for family members of alcoholics), Serenity Group 3101 N. "A" St. Bldg. C. noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday; 8 p.m. Monday and Wednesday.
- Narcotics Anonymous — hotline 582-2926.
- Laundry Group, 8 p.m. daily and noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 104 N. Marshall St.
- Xodus Group, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St., 634-7609.
- CODA Group, 12-step program for relationships, 7 p.m. Fridays and Sundays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 599-4490.
- La Hacienda Alumni, support group for former patients, 7 p.m. Thursdays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 553-7220.

Finding a doctor

Access to a primary care provider is one mission of Midland Health. Residents who need help finding a physician or setting up an appointment can call 221-3627 (221-DOCS).

Hope Chest

Hope Chest is a program that provides support for women during their pregnancy and after their baby is born.

Hope Chest allows mothers and mothers-to-be to earn necessities such as diapers, wipes, clothing and car seats through a point system.

Points are earned by attending prenatal appointments and childbirth classes, and once the baby is born, moms continue to earn points at pediatrician visits until the child turns 2.

The program office is at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus. For more information or to enroll in the program, call 221-1150. To make a monetary donation or donate brand new baby items to Hope Chest, call the March of Dimes office at 416-7310.

MMH payment options

Midland Memorial Hospital recognizes that our community is facing challenging financial times. Resources are tight and families are having to make important decisions about what to spend money on now and what has to wait.

Realizing health care can be expensive and the increasing deductibles make it hard to manage, the hospital has adjusted its payment procedures. We want to make sure you receive the care you need, when you need it. To find out about the new options now offered to better accommodate your payment needs, call 221-4705.

Source: Midland Memorial Hospital

How sick are you?

Midland Memorial Hospital offers a a nurse triage program "68-NURSE." The program is designed to help people determine whether their health situation warrants a trip to the emergency room. Midland residents can call the line by dialing 686-8773.

The program is free and available 24 hours a day-365 days a year. Local nurses are available to help you determine the best place to receive care for your situation. 68-NURSE can help you save time and money by directing you to the most appropriate healthcare option, whether it's a neighborhood clinic, urgent care center, emergency room … or just staying home.

Help line for long-term or disabled care

The Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services has a toll-free number residents can call to obtain information on services for the disabled or long-term care.

For more information, call 855-937-2372.

Contact your Hospital District representative

Midland Memorial Hospital 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland, Texas, 79701

Phone: 221-1111

Website: www.midlandhealth.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MidlandMemorialHospital Twitter: twitter.com/MidlandMemorial

MidlandMemorial President Russell Meyers 221-1584

Directors — District 1: Tracie Greene, District 2: Dwain Tomlin, District 3: Larry Mercer, District 4: Cressinda Hyatt, District 5: Cari Chaplin, District 6: Joe Kiowski; District 7: Jeffrey Beard

HEADACHES

From 3B

percent of people, Tariq said. These range in severity and frequency, "from two headaches a year to daily headaches," he said. Over-the-counter drugs are used for migraines, as are prescription drugs such as the triptan group of medications including Imitrex, Zomig and Maxalt.

Sinus headaches are a result of excess mucus in nasal passages and are typically associated with allergies, colds or flu. Antihistamines or decongestants can relieve the pressure and pain.

Munger, who is also the president of the American Academy of Family Physicians, said headaches often are innocuous, but they can be symptomatic of more-serious conditions such as brain tumors or aneurysms.

"You don't want people to overreact, but you also don't want them to underreact."

So, should you see a doctor for your headaches? It depends, of course, on frequency and severity — how much they interfere with your life and whether you can manage them through self-care or by taking over-the-counter analgesics such as aspirin, ibuprofen, acetaminophen and naproxen.

However, these drugs come with their own risks.

"Over-the-counter drugs seem safe, but not so when they're taken frequently," Tariq said. "Long-term or frequent use can be more damaging than the headache itself."

For instance, aspirin and ibuprofen can cause gastrointestinal bleeding, ulcers and kidney problems with long-term use; Tylenol can cause liver damage with high doses.

When deciding whether to see a doctor, Munger advises the rule of twos: "More than two headaches a week for more than two weeks." That rate of occurrence doesn't mean it's an emergency, he said, but it's worth checking out.

A doctor's visit likely is to include questions about the headaches — when they happen, what they feel like and what triggers them.

When headaches happen can lead to indications about triggers. Munger said patients often have some clue about these already.

"The goal is to avoid triggers," said Tariq, citing some common ones (not all of which can be avoided): certain foods, dehydration, alcohol, sleep deprivation, weather changes, menstrual cycle, work and stress.

The location of pain on a patient's head gives clues as to the type of headache. Tension headaches derive from muscle tension, and they "start at the back of the head, then radiate up and over the crown," Munger said. Sinus headaches, in contrast, tend to affect people on the face, commonly above or below the eyes. Migraine or vascular headaches often are localized to one side of the head and can be accompanied by nausea and visual oddities such as flashes and blind spots. Munger said some patients report very specific locations for their migraines, such as "on the left side of my head over my ear."

Doctors will look for red flags, too, asking about numbness or tingling, nausea, speech disturbances or memory problems. Such symptoms may indicate -- or rule out -- a more serious condition. They may ask about conditions associated with headache. For instance, "50 percent of people with chronic headache also have anxiety and depression," Tariq said. "Addressing those issues, with psychotherapy and/or meds, can help headache."

Your doctor may suggest a prescription medicine, such as a muscle relaxant for tension headaches or one of the migraine drugs. Steroid or antihistamine nasal sprays may be recommended for sinus headaches.

Drugs are not the only solution. Tariq said certain procedures interfere with the transmission of pain. With a treatment called nerve block, an injected deadening agent — anesthetic, steroids or Botox — can quiet nerve activity. Alternatively, neurostimulation techniques use vibration or cold to compete with pain messages, he said.

COURTNEY SAMSEL

Centers

Trauma victims often fight silent battle

Has tragedy become entertainment in our world? CNN boasts headlines of current news and circumstances throughout the world, reality television seems to be increasing in popularity, and tabloid magazines continue to sell the pain inflicted in others' lives. Some would argue that the news allows for growth of knowledge and understanding in order to prevent circumstances of their own, while others state that focusing on another's drama allows them to escape their own. What most may people not realize is that a process of desensitization occurs in the midst of the escape. Some are challenged to battle chains from wounds that affect them daily. Such individuals seek consistent escape from the dungeon of trauma from their past.

Trauma comes in all shapes and forms and can best be described as an experience that causes serious emotional distress. Examples of traumatic events could include catastrophic storms such as hurricanes or tornadoes; community violence; loss of a loved one; abuse; or deployment to a war zone.

Trauma is often a silent battle fought by those who are inflicted. Survivors often feel as though something is wrong — whether it be socially, mentally, physically, or emotionally. But their bodies are attempting to survive in the midst of a highly stressful situation.

Therapy may help a trauma survivor to walk out of the dungeon and into reality to enjoy daily living. Therapy can enable a survivor to move impulsive behaviors and thoughts into a more rational side of the nervous system in order to consider the consequences of their behavior.

There have been instances where I have observed trauma survivors maintain obsessive compulsive behaviors in an attempt to feel safe and secure — for instance wrapping themselves tightly in their sheets each night. Once the transition occurs allowing more rational thinking, individuals are able to manage their emotions and maintain self-regulation. This means that they are able to "grab the reins" of their life and head toward goals of happiness and contentment.

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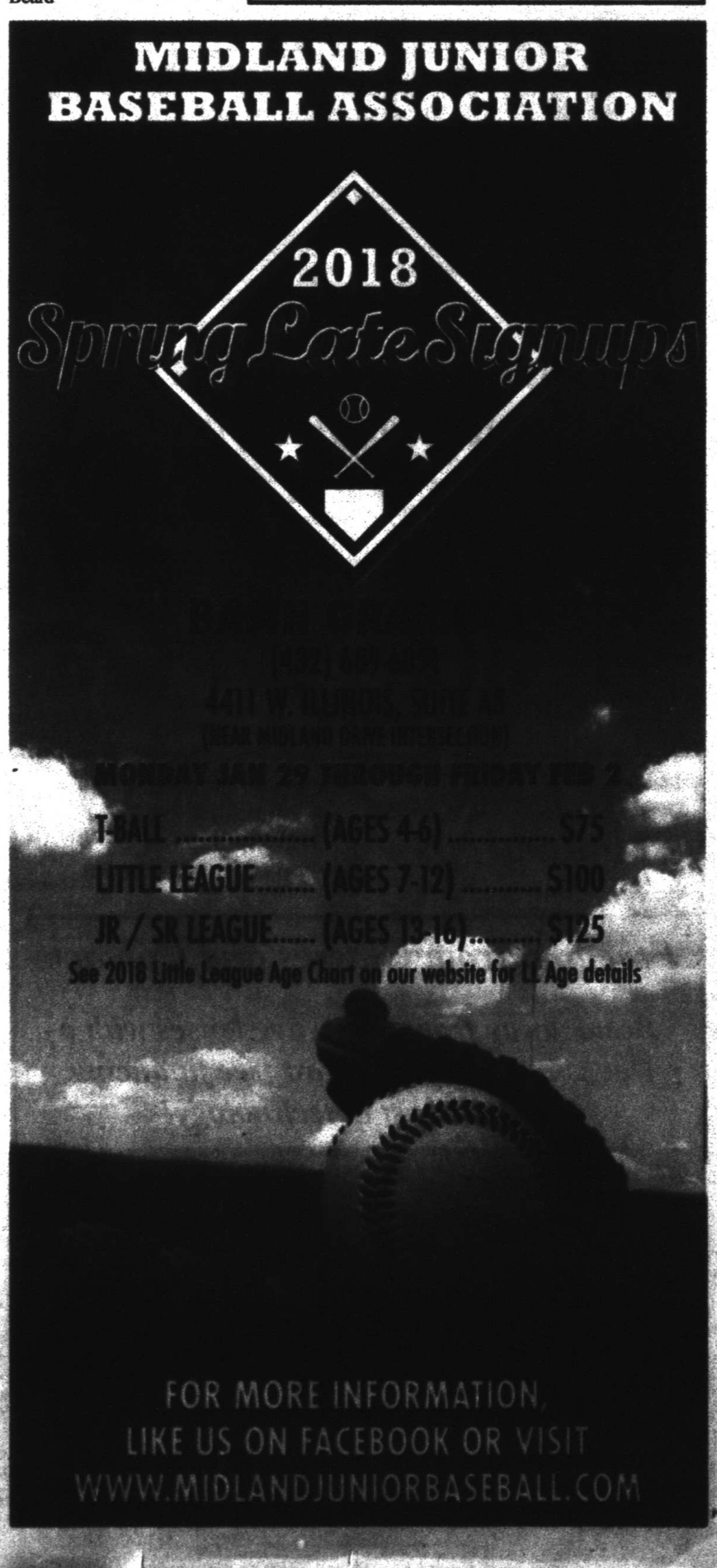

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

		1				4		8
				4				5
			6					
7					9		2	
	5		4		1			
2	6		8					9
		7			5			
3				7				2
1		6				8		

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

2	3	4	6	8	5	9	1	7
1	7	5	9	4	2	8	3	6
8	9	6	1	3	7	4	5	2
9	5	1	2	7	6	3	4	8
7	6	3	8	9	4	1	2	5
4	8	2	5	1	3	7	6	9
5	1	7	4	2	9	6	8	3
6	4	9	3	5	8	2	7	1
3	2	8	7	6	1	5	9	4

1/31/18

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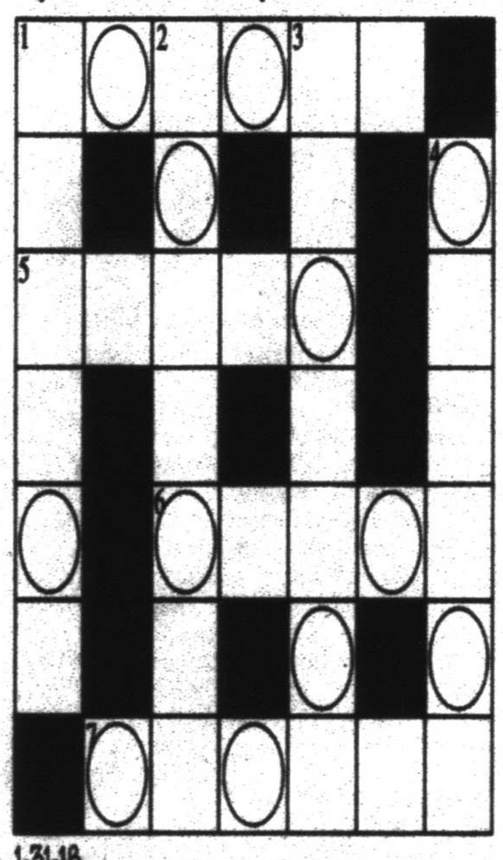

ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Fuser	DREWEL
5. Regional, close	CLLOA
6. Asian country	PAELN
7. Say no to	JEETRC

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Large aquatic mammal	AUSWLR
2. Fishing ___	SNELCEI
3. Curve	PEELILS
4. Billfold	ALWTLE

How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

1-31-18

CLUE: In 2002, ___ ___ was voted the 59th "Greatest Briton Ever" in a BBC poll.

BONUS

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ANSWERS: 1A-Mister 5A-Local 6A-Nepal 7A-Reject 1D-Wilma 2D-Ukrnee 3D-Elmos 4D-Wales B-Jule Andrews

Send comments to TCA - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, IL 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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TBUDO

GONLOA

SSUIME

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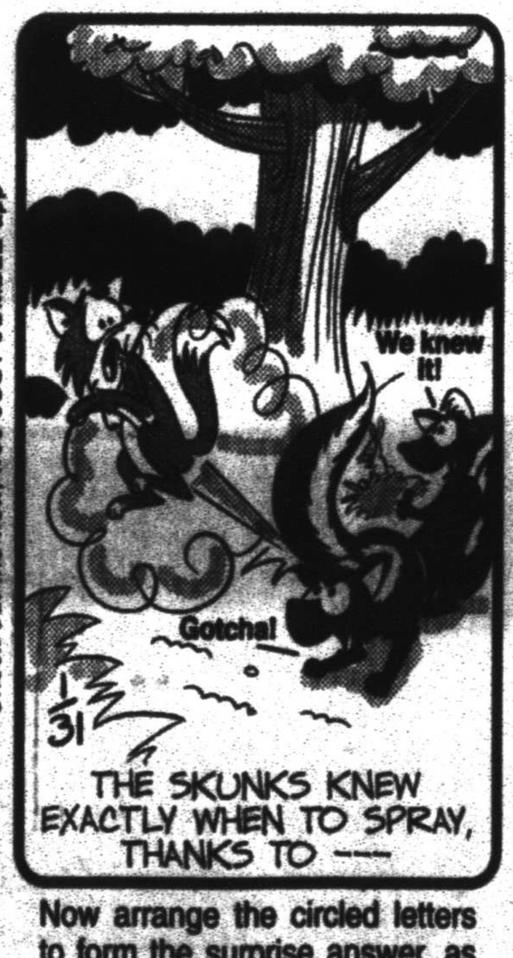
Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

"___-___"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PETTY HONOR FAMOUS CALMLY
Answer: He didn't do so well on his algebra test and worried about the — AFTERMATH

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Heist
4 Pasta nutrient
8 Archie Bunker types
14 Statement softener, in emails
15 Command to Silver
16 Shangri-la
17 Five-time NBA championship-winning coach
19 Find hilarious
20 No votes
21 Half an oz.?
23 Olympian Lipinski
24 German wheels
27 Seize the opportunity, sunshinewise
29 Same old story
32 Metal corrosion
33 Part of a biathlete's gear
34 2017 award for Emma Stone
38 Yale email address ender
39 Finger painting?
42 "Deadwood" channel
43 A little lit
45 Hellenic "H"
46 All hands on deck
47 Captain's choice at the Super Bowl
51 Italian rice dish
54 Transparent soap brand
55 "I'm __ you!"
56 "Hunh!?"
58 Harvard's is "Veritas"
61 Excited reply to "Who wants dessert?"
63 Hiker's snack that's literally found in 17-, 29-, 39- and 47-Across
66 Evening meal
67 John known for overlapping diagrams
68 Loved, with "up"
69 Agrees
70 Air Quality Index factor
71 Owen, to Stephen King

DOWN

1 Morning co-host with Seacrest
2 Muscat's country
3 "Cheers!"
4 Sculptor's tool
5 Be under the weather
6 Grass in a J.D. Salinger title
7 R&B's __ Il Men
8 Part of a bedroom set
9 "What am __ do?"
10 Buffalo Bill and Charles Dickens wore them
11 "60 Minutes" part-time correspondent
12 Prom queen's crown
13 Thai snack
18 Hit the ball hard
22 Defib expert
25 Bart's brainy sibling
26 Munro-pen name
28 Pretzel shape
29 Ridge on a neck
30 German wheels
31 Makes mad
35 Present time?
36 Eve's second
37 Theater seating arrangements
39 Putin's no
40 Perched on
41 Like a double eagle in golf
44 Sure victors
46 35-Down song
48 On the clock
49 "How stupid am I?!"
50 Title job for Shakespeare's Petruchio
51 PEDs, in slang
52 "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" locale
53 Poker-faced
57 Off-rd. transports
59 Bandleader Puente
60 Team on a field
62 __ volente
64 Sleep phase
65 Mexican year

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

L	E	W	D		A	B	O	R	T		B	A	I	L
A	S	I	A		R	O	D	E	O		U	G	L	Y
R	A	N	D		G	R	E	E	N	S	N	A	K	E
D	I	D	A	G	O	O	D	D	E	E	D			
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F	O	R	M	E	R	R	O	O	M	M	A	T	E	S
G	U	M			E	R	O	S	I	O	N			
			R	E	P	O	R	T	S			J	O	E
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S	E	X	I	E	R				I	C	O	N		
			T	R	I	P	L	E	D	O	U	B	L	E
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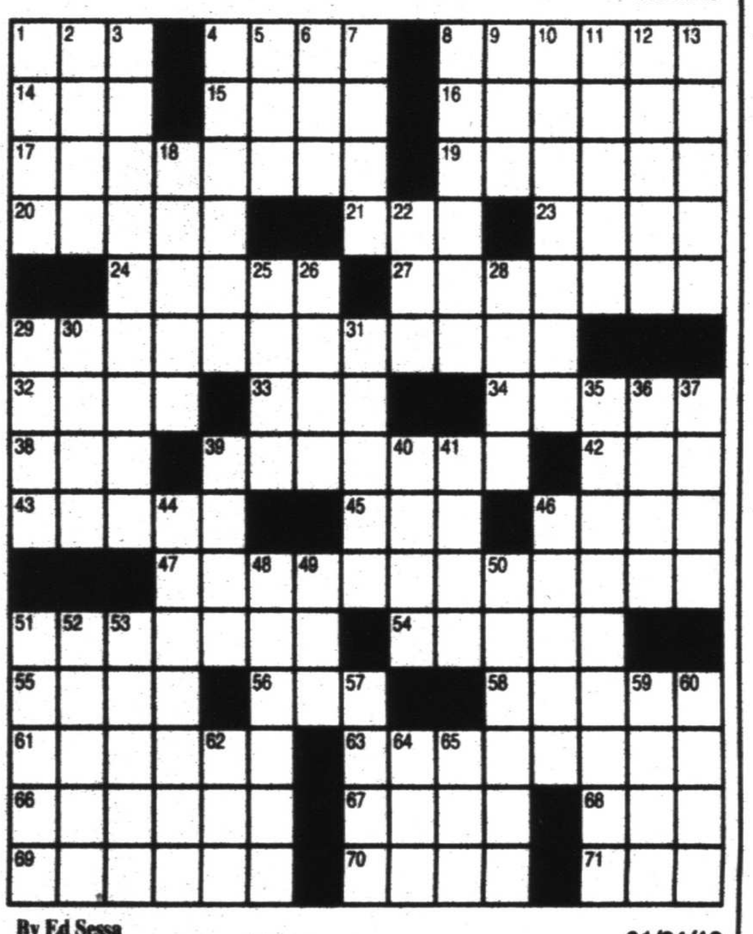
01/31/18



By Ed Sessa

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01/31/18

WUZZLES

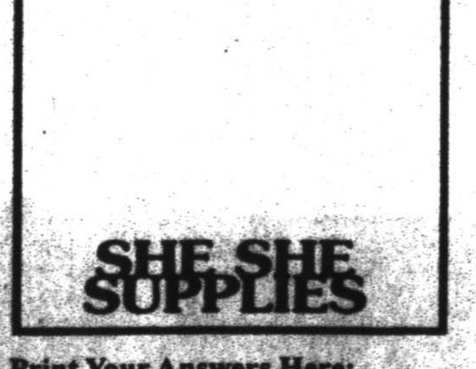
WORD PUZZLES BY WOOD TOM

Each Wuzzle is a word riddle which creates a disguised word, phrase, name, place, saying, etc. For example, NOON GOOD = GOOD AFTERNOON

3 WUZZLES BOOKLETS

"The Best of Wuzzles" ($4.00), "More of the Best of Wuzzles" ($4.50), and "Wuzzles for Kids" ($4.25) are available, postpaid, from Wuzzles, Box 1141, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406

1.



2.

FLU
BAD
NN

Print Your Answers Here:

1.

2.

1-31

Created by Tom Underwood
www.wuzzleking.com

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WUZZLES®
Answers
1. She's low on supplies
2. Bad influence
1-31

There's a little bit of everything in
Education
Look for it in Tuesday's edition of the Reporter-Telegram

GUEST VIEW

This winter's bad flu should be cure for complacency

This year's flu epidemic arrived early, spread widely and brought extraordinary suffering expected to continue for months. The question is whether it will be enough to jolt the medical world and its funders from their complacency about influenza's persistent power.

Much more investment is needed to get hospitals better prepared for future outbreaks, and to improve seasonal flu shots and treatments. Also lacking is a lasting, universal vaccine.

Researchers have been working on such a vaccine for years — one that could induce immunity to parts of the flu virus that don't vary among strains or change over time. They've developed promising strategies, but they need more funding to speed the work along. This year, the U.S. government is devoting just $32 million to the effort.

At the same time, more should be done to address the annual flu threat. Viruses like H3N2, the one causing all the trouble this year, are bad enough. But things will get far worse when a new virus arises to which almost no one is immune. Such viruses cause pandemics, such as the Spanish flu of 1918 and the Hong Kong flu of 1968-69.

The next time this happens, there's a real danger that hospitals and public-health programs will not be ready. In recent years, their budgets have fallen by about a third. The next big flu could leave them short of beds, ventilators and other equipment. This year, many are straining to accommodate the flood of patients.

Researchers also need to improve the process for creating annual flu shots, which normally takes six to nine months. That's time enough for the target viruses to become resistant. Moreover, the way the vaccines are usually grown, in chicken eggs, can lead to mutations that render them less effective. That's what happened with this year's vaccine.

Vaccines produced in mammalian cells could get around this problem, though the method is currently more expensive and takes just as long. Vaccine makers are still testing other strategies to make effective flu shots faster.

Better efforts are also needed to raise the vaccination rate in the U.S. above 50 percent. New tools are required for diagnosing flu, and doctors need treatments without punishing side effects.

H3N2 is an uncommonly fierce virus, especially for people born before 1968, whose crucial first exposure was to a different strain. With luck, the misery it's bringing will deliver a sufficiently strong warning. If more isn't done, the next big flu could be much worse.

Bloomberg View

Medical records soon may be accessed on iPhone

■ Initially, a limited number of hospital systems, record vendors are participating in Apple's emdeavor

By Carolyn Y. Johnson
Washington Post

Imagine this: you're on vacation and slip and fall at the pool. You head to the hospital, where doctors ask if you're taking any medications or have had any recent medical procedures. Instead of trying to recall the names of all your pills or your medical history while in pain, you easily pull up your medical record on your phone.

Apple announced last week it would soon allow people in certain hospital systems to tether their medical records to their iPhones, getting easy access to seven categories of information, including immunizations, lab results or allergies.

The medical records capability will roll out through a beta available to the general public in the coming months. It's an update of a less sophisticated medical records function in Apple's Health app. Previously, people could download specific medical records and add them to the app, but the new version will aggregate information and update it as a person's medical record evolves.

The announcement comes about a decade after Google launched a similar effort — and then pulled the plug, noting in its blog that its offering was used by a narrow bandwidth of people — tech-savvy patients and caregivers and fitness enthusiasts.

"But we haven't found a way to translate that limited usage into widespread adoption in the daily health routines of millions of people," Google leadership wrote on its blog in 2012.

Microsoft has a similar product, HealthVault.

"If you rewind the clock, when they did their efforts in technology-speak, that could be considered a lifetime ago," said Darren Dworkin, chief information officer of Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles.

How sweet it was: Saying goodbye to sugar

■ COMMENTARY

By Casey Seidenberg
Special to The Washington Post

It is the end of January, and Instagram is bursting with self-effacing pictures of people who swore off sugar at the beginning of the month, only to fail. My boys both decided to cut back on the sweet stuff that became commonplace over the holidays, but they, too, are struggling. The soda they drank every time we went to a party, the leftover pie that seemed bottomless and the Pop Tarts I bought as part of my resolution to rethink restriction continue to call their names. Why is sugar so powerful, and how can we beat it?

Sugar has been shown to have an effect on the brain similar to that of an addictive drug. In fact, quickly removing it from your diet can cause withdrawal symptoms, including fatigue, depression, headaches and muscle aches. No wonder it isn't easy to quit.

Not easy, but not impossible, although there are a few questions to answer before weaning yourself off sugar. First, is your blood sugar unbalanced? Next, are you getting enough of the right nutrients? Last, do you sleep enough, and are you able to manage stress? The answers to those questions will help you figure out what, specifically, you need to address to beat sugar successfully. And there are some additional hacks that can help anyone trying to tame their sweet tooth.

Many sugar cravings stem from a blood sugar imbalance. When your body ingests sugar, your blood sugar spikes and your body releases insulin to lower it to a safer level. If the insulin brings your blood sugar level a bit too low, as often happens, your body craves foods that will raise it and increase your energy. You're on a blood sugar roller coaster, and it's hard to get off it. The key to balancing blood sugar is to eat foods that prevent too much insulin from being released, such as protein and healthy fats, and consuming only small amounts of sugar (if any). It's also important to eat regular meals and snacks, because blood sugar drops when you skip a meal.

Protein and fat are crucial to kicking a sugar habit. Unlike sugar, healthy fats and protein provide slow and steady forms of energy, more like a flat, newly paved road rather than that glucose-flavored roller coaster. When your body doesn't find sugar for fuel, it turns to fats, so eating plenty of healthy fats such as nuts, seeds, avocados and olive oil can help your body adjust to getting its energy elsewhere. Protein helps you feel satiated, which can reduce hunger and cravings, and many of the amino acids in protein help build the brain chemicals — such as dopamine — that make us feel good. When we feel balanced and energized, we are less likely to seek a sugar high.

Other important nutrients while trying to wean yourself from sugar include fiber, which slows digestion and stabilizes blood sugar; iron, which when depleted can cause low energy and cravings; and the energizing B vitamins, which are often depleted by sugar consumption and stress.

Some cravings emanate not from your belly, but from your brain, as a result of lifestyle. Stress causes the hormone cortisol to flood your body, releasing glucose from your liver, which in turn raises your blood sugar. We know fluctuations in blood sugar can cause cravings, so being constantly stressed is like begging for trouble. Poor sleep also can trigger excess eating, including increased sugar consumption, as you seek energy to combat your fatigue. It's critical to get enough sleep when trying to cut back on sugar.

Sometimes we experience cravings that are nothing but a habit. Perhaps throughout your childhood, you watched your parents overeat on Thanksgiving, so now you do the same, bingeing on pie, for example, even when you are not hungry. Or perhaps you've spent decades reaching for chocolate to combat stress, or relying on ice cream to soothe sadness. Listen to cravings and try to determine their root: true hunger, emotional eating or habit.

Here are some tricks to help you successfully kick the sugar habit:

1. Start with a solid breakfast. The less sugar you eat in the morning, the more balanced you will be all day. High-protein breakfasts have been proven to reduce cravings.

2. Plan your meals in advance to prevent dips in blood sugar.

3. Dehydration can make you feel hungry, so drink plenty of water. Add lemon, berries or other fruit to your water to make it more flavorful.

4. When you crave sweets, wait 10 minutes and change your environment. Take a walk, or get into a project. Perhaps you can distract yourself out of at least one sugar fix.

5. To satisfy your sugar cravings in a more healthful way, turn to vegetables such as sweet potatoes, squash, beets and carrots. Other naturally sweet foods include coconut, bananas, frozen grapes, dates, vanilla, raw cacao and cinnamon (which has been shown to reduce sugar cravings by helping to manage insulin sensitivity). Berries are another option, and their sugars are released more slowly than those of other fruits. And high-fiber foods such as broccoli, cauliflower and kale make you feel full longer than many quickly digested foods such as cereal, bagels and other simple carbohydrates.

6. Smoothies are a sweet treat that, if made without added sugars or too many sweet foods and with plenty of fiber, will satisfy without causing a blood sugar surge.

7. Avoid artificial sweeteners, such as aspartame, saccharin and sucralose, which have been shown to increase sugar cravings.

8. Trick your body by eating something sour when you want something sweet. The sour flavor can stimulate the taste buds and distract you from the sugar craving.

9. Ginger and turmeric help prevent insulin resistance, so don't be afraid to consume them freely, in turmeric lattes or ginger-infused smoothies, as you work to balance your blood sugar.

Carson Wentz goes from MVP contender to cheerleader

By Rob Maaddi
Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — Carson Wentz made the rounds along Radio Row at last year's Super Bowl and promised himself he'd back for this one.

He's here, but only as a cheerleader.

Wentz led the Philadelphia Eagles to a 10-2 start before he tore his left ACL and LCL in Week 14. Nick Foles replaced him, helped the Eagles clinch the NFC East and secure the No. 1 seed, and was spectacular in the conference championship game against Minnesota.

Wentz watched both playoff games from the sideline: the victory over the Falcons on crutches and the rout of the Vikings on a cane. He's rooting hard for his teammates and enjoying their success without him. Wentz will be their No. 1 fan Sunday when they take on the New England Patriots and try to win the franchise's first NFL title since 1960.

It's not easy for any competitor to be forced to sit out.

"It's just tough knowing that could be you," said Wentz, who is walking without assistance now. "I had my sights set on this thing since I knew we weren't making the playoffs last year. I had my sights set on playing in Minneapolis. It's right down the road from home. Here we are. It just looks different for me."

Wentz, from neighboring North Dakota, is more than just a spectator. He has been a major presence around the team following surgery, goes to quarterback meetings, watches film and supports Foles as much as possible.

"He's been outstanding," offensive coordinator Frank Reich said. "One of the greatest things about a person is when you see him celebrating somebody else's success. To be happy for Nick who is at your position, who could potentially be stealing another person's thunder, that's the pretty cool thing about, of all the great things that he's done this year, even more exemplifies the kind of leader that he is."

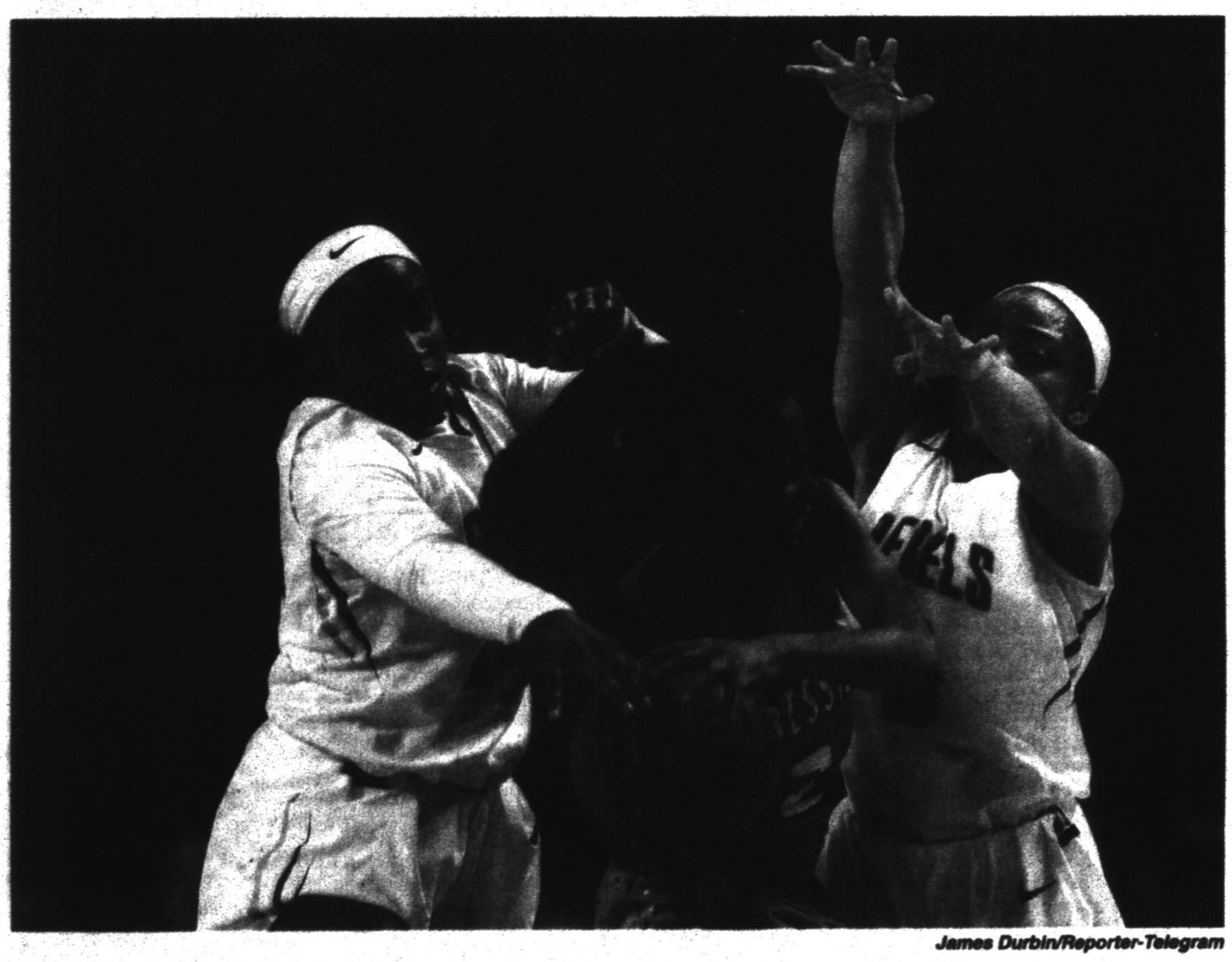
Foles has said all the right

Please see **WENTZ/4C**

Patrick Semansky/Associated Press

Philadelphia Eagles' Carson Wentz, right, congratulates Nick Foles (9) during the second half of the NFC championship game against the Minnesota Vikings on Jan. 21 in Philadelphia.

Shut them down



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Quinci Strambler (14) and Alaysha Green (3) guard Odessa High's Kheeauna Lide (2) on Tuesday, at Chaparral Center.

Hernandez leads OHS past sliding Rebels

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

Odessa High senior guard Isaac Hernandez showed why he's District 2-6A's reigning Offensive Player of the Year Tuesday night at Chaparral Center.

With his team leading 33-26 late in the first half, Hernandez scored 15 straight points for the Bronchos over the second and third quarters to help them pull away from Lee for a 76-61 victory.

Hernandez finished with a team-high 20 points for OHS (21-6, 5-1 in District 2-6A), including 11 straight — highlighted by a buzzer-beating 3-pointer — to close the second quarter and hand the Bronchos an 18-point halftime lead.

Freshman guard Zhuric Phelps netted a game-high 21 points for Lee (7-21, 0-6), which dropped its 11th consecutive contest and now must prepare for a tilt with archrival Midland High at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

Odessa High head boys basketball coach Jance Morris said offensively, everything starts with Hernandez. He added the Bronchos didn't have the sort of start to the game he was hoping for, but Hernandez did his part to spark them into gear.

"We kind of started slow offensively and I thought we weren't attacking," Morris said. "We called a timeout, talked to them and just said 'Just go. Just attack gaps' and once they start doing that, it all starts with Isaac. It

Please see **BOYS/3C**

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Zhuric Phelps (3) guards Odessa High's Isaac Hernandez (2) on Tuesday, at Chaparral Center.

Lady Rebels clinch playoff spot with blowout win

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

With a playoff spot in sight, the Lee girls basketball team turned on a switch Tuesday night.

The Lady Rebels played lights out in the second half to roll past Odessa High, 47-18, in District 2-6A play at Chaparral Center.

Lee (15-15, 4-4 in District 2-6A) dominated the game after intermission with a suffocating 30-4 run, and clinched a postseason berth for the eighth straight year.

"We just knew that we needed to pick up the intensity and the energy," Lady Rebels sophomore post Paige Low said. "We were just playing really hard the second half. We came out strong."

Low and senior point guard Alaysha Green led Lee with 13 points apiece.

Leading 17-14 at halftime, the Lady Rebels defense clamped down on the Lady Bronchos (5-24, 0-8) by holding them scoreless for the first seven minutes of the third quarter.

Abigail Rodriguez, who led OHS with seven points, scored all of the Lady Bronchos' four second-half points.

Lee head coach Alfred Acosta said the difference between the first half and second half was his players converting their shots.

"The biggest thing was just taking advantage of opportunities, that's what it comes down to again," Acosta said. "We missed some easy ones (early)."

"We tell the girls we can't get into that defense if we're not finishing our opportunities at the basket," Acosta added. "If we finish opportunities at the basket, we have the opportunity get into that (defense) in a consistent basis."

With Lee ahead 31-18 with seven minutes left, Low sparked a 16-0 run to close out the game.

Low scored on a pair of baskets in the paint, pushing the Lady Rebels to a 35-18 lead.

Following Low's two baskets, the Lady Rebels scored four straight baskets where

Please see **GIRLS/4C**

Lawsuit probing how Texas handled Applewhite misconduct case

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press

AUSTIN — A lawsuit by former Texas women's track coach Bev Kearney against the school is probing how administrators in the offices that investigate campus sexual misconduct handled former football assistant Major Applewhite's 2009 relationship with a student trainer on a bowl trip.

Kearney, who is black, was forced out in 2013 after the school learned she had a relationship with one of her athletes a decade earlier. She has alleged race and sex discrimination, noting that Applewhite, who is white, was allowed to keep his job and was later promoted after his incident was discovered. Applewhite, a former quarterback at Texas, stayed on staff through 2013 and is now the head coach at Houston.

Kearney's lawyers told Texas officials in December they want to interview LaToya Hill Smith and Linda Millstone, who were administrators in the Dean of Students office and what is now called the Office for Inclusion and Equity, when the Applewhite and Kearney incidents were discovered in 2009 and 2012, respectively.

Smith was later the school's top Title IX compliance coordinator and is now a senior associate athletic director for student services. Millstone retired in 2017.

Kearney's lawyers also want interviews with Brian Farr, director of Texas's student athletic training education program since 2002, and Kenny Boyd, who was the head football trainer from 2002-13. Boyd is now an associate athletic director for student health and wellness at Baylor University.

Kearney's lawyers have been pressing for interviews and evidence discovery since late last year after the state Supreme Court denied Texas's efforts to get the lawsuit dismissed. In November, her lawyers interviewed former school President Bill Powers, former athletic director DeLoss Dodds and former head football coach Mack Brown. Applewhite was deposed in early 2014 shortly before Texas asked appeals courts to block the case.

All of the testimony and documents gathered so far remain sealed under a court order the university requested on grounds it would protect private student records. Kearney is also expected to be deposed soon.

Kearney lawyer Jody Mask declined comment on the new round of deposition requests. Texas spokesman J.B. Bird said, "the university does not discuss personnel matters and generally does not comment on litigation in the media."

A Houston spokesman said Applewhite wouldn't comment, and Boyd didn't respond to requests for comment.

The new round of depositions would move the lawsuit beyond the athletics department and deeper into the school's administration and how it handled sexual misconduct cases. Kearney's lawsuit has focused on the differences between how the two coaches were treated.

When Kearney's relationship was discovered in 2012, the school announced the national championship-winning coach

Please see **LAWSUIT/4C**

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

Golf

Asian Tour: Myanmar Open, Final Round, 10 a.m., GOLF

EPGA: Maybank Championship, 1st Round, 9:30 p.m., GOLF

Men's College Basketball

Tulane at ECU, 5:30 p.m., ESPNews

LSU at Tennessee, 5:30 p.m., SEC

Penn State at Michigan State, 5:30 p.m., BTN

Louisville at Virginia, 6 p.m., ESPN2

West Virginia at Ohio State, 6 p.m., ESPNU

Providence at Seton Hall, 6 p.m., FS1

Houston at Cincinnati, 6 p.m., CBSSN

Pitt at Miami-FL, 6 p.m., FSSW+

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi at Southeastern Louisiana, 7 p.m., ELVN

Memphis at USF, 7:30 p.m., ESPNews

Mississippi State at South Carolina, 7:30 p.m., SEC

Maryland at Purdue, 7:30 p.m., BTN

Missouri at Alabama, 8 p.m., ESPN2

Texas at Texas Tech, 8 p.m., ESPNU

Butler at Marquette, 8 p.m., FS1

UConn at UCF, 8 p.m., CBSSN

Virginia Tech at Boston College, 8 p.m., FSSW+

UC Irvine at Long Beach State, 9:30 p.m., FCSP

Fresno State at Nevada, 10 p.m., CBSSN

Men's Soccer

Coppa Italia: Milan vs. Lazio, 1:30 p.m., GolTV

PL: Tottenham Hotspur FC vs. Manchester United FC, 1:55 p.m., NBCSN, NBCU

Portugal: Sporting vs. V. Guimaraes, 3:30 p.m., GolTV

Copa Libertadores: Chapecoense AF vs. Club Nacional, 5:30 p.m., FXDEP

Copa Libertadores: Universidad de Concepcion vs. CR Vasco de Gama, 8 p.m., FXDEP

National Basketball Association

New York at Boston, 7 p.m., ESPN, ESPNDEP

Dallas at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m., ESPN, ESPNDEP, FSSW

NBA G League

Westchester at Raptors 905, 7 a.m., ELVN

Maine at Santa Cruz, 9 p.m., ELVN

National Hockey League

Philadelphia at Washington, 7 p.m., NBCSN

Tennis

WTA: St. Petersburg Ladies Trophy, 4 a.m., TENNIS

Women's College Basketball

Kansas State at Oklahoma, 10:30 a.m., FSN (FSSW)

Fordham at St. Louis, 11 a.m., NBCSN

Oklahoma State at Baylor, 6:30 p.m., FSSW, FCSC

RADIO

Men's College Basketball

Texas at Texas Tech, 8 p.m., KPET 105.1 FM/690 AM (Lamesa)

National Basketball Association

Dallas at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m., KBST 1490 AM (Big Spring)

WHAT'S ON DECK

HS Boys Soccer

San Angelo Lake View at Midland High, 6 p.m., Grande Communications Stadium

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

DETROIT TIGERS — Agreed to terms with LHP Travis Wood on a minor league contract.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Named Fernando Alcala director of baseball communications.

TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with LHP Jon Niese on a minor league contract.

National League

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Agreed to terms with RHP Naftali Feliz on a minor league contract.

CINCINNATI REDS — Agreed to terms with RHP David Hernandez on a two-year contract.

COLORADO ROCKIES — Agreed to terms with INF Shawn O'Malley and RHP Brooks Pounders on minor league contracts.

LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Agreed to terms with LHP Manny Banuelos and Brian Moran, LHP/RHP Pat Venditte, C Shawn Zarraga, INFs Max Muncy and Donovan Solano, OFs Henry Ramos and Travis Taijeron and RHPs Daniel Corcino, CC Lee, Mark Lowe and Zach Neal on minor league contracts.

MILWAUKEE BREWERS — Designated C Andrew Susac for assignment. Agreed to terms with RHP Matt Albers on a two-year contract.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Placed LHP Nik Turley on the restricted list.

American Association

LINCOLN SALTDOGS — Signed INFs Nathaniel Maggio and Christian Ibarra.

Can-Am League

NEW JERSEY JACKALS — Released OFs Brian Joynt, Daniel Rockett and Joe Dunigan.

SUSSEX COUNTY MINERS — Signed RHP Williams Durruthy and LHP Alex Demchak.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

TENNESSEE TITANS — Named Dean Pees, defensive coordinator and Matt LaFleur offensive coordinator.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Activated G Keith Kinkaid and D Mirco Mueller from injured reserve.

NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled D Tony DeAngelo and F Peter Holland from Hartford (AHL).

ECHL

BRAMPTON BEAST — Signed G Carmine Guerriero.

GREENVILLE SWAMP RABBITS — Released F Shawn Bates.

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

ATLANTA UNITED — Waived F Jacob Peterson.

COLUMBUS CREW — Traded M Justin Meram to Orlando City SC for a 2019 international roster slot and general and targeted allocation money for the 2018-19 seasons.

FC DALLAS — Loaned D Artibal Chala to LDU Quito (Serie A-Ecuador) for the 2018 season. Traded the No. 1 allocation ranking to Orlando City for targeted allocation money and the No. 6 allocation ranking.

LOS ANGELES FC — Signed D Dejan Jakovic.

LA GALAXY — Named Ezra Hendrickson assistant coach.

NEW YORK CITY FC — Announced M Jack Harrison signed a contract with Manchester City (Premier League-England) and loaned to Middlesbrough (Championship-England).

ORLANDO CITY SC — Signed M Oriol Rosell.

SEATTLE SOUNDERS — Signed M Magnus Wolff Eikrem.

National Women's Soccer League

SKY BLUE FC — Traded the No. 1 overall selection in Tuesday's dispersal draft to Washington for the No. 2 overall selection in the dispersal draft and a 2019 conditional first-round draft pick and a second-round draft pick in the college draft.

COLLEGE

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN — Named Brad Robbins wide receivers coach.

EAST CAROLINA — Announced QB Gardner Minshew has withdrawn from school.

OREGON STATE — Named James Rodgers director of football player development.

RUTGERS — Named Corey Brown defensive line coach.

NBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	36	15	.706	—
Toronto	34	15	.694	1
Philadelphia	24	23	.511	10
New York	23	26	.451	13
Brooklyn	18	33	.353	18

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	29	21	.580	—
Washington	28	22	.560	1
Charlotte	20	29	.408	8½
Atlanta	15	35	.300	14
Orlando	14	35	.286	14½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	29	20	.592	—
Milwaukee	27	22	.551	2
Indiana	26	23	.549	2
Detroit	23	26	.469	5
Chicago	18	32	.360	11½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	36	13	.735	—
San Antonio	34	19	.642	4
New Orleans	27	23	.540	9½
Memphis	18	31	.367	18
Dallas	16	35	.314	21

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	32	22	.593	—
Oklahoma City	30	21	.588	½
Portland	27	22	.551	2½
Denver	26	25	.510	4½
Utah	22	28	.440	8

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	40	11	.784	—
L.A. Clippers	25	24	.510	14
L.A. Lakers	19	30	.388	20
Phoenix	17	34	.333	23
Sacramento	16	34	.320	23½

Tuesday's Scores

Washington 102, Oklahoma City 96
New York 111, Brooklyn 95
Toronto 109, Minnesota 104
Detroit 125, Cleveland 114
Houston 114, Orlando 107
Sacramento 114, New Orleans 103
San Antonio 103, Denver 104
Utah 129, Golden State 99
Portland at L.A. Clippers, late

Today's Games

L.A. Lakers at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Memphis at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Charlotte at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
Miami at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m.
New York at Boston, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Portland, 9 p.m.
Dallas at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.

NHL GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	50	34	13	3	71	176	128
Boston	48	29	11	8	66	157	119
Toronto	51	28	18	5	61	162	146
Florida	48	20	22	6	46	136	159
Detroit	48	19	21	8	46	126	148
Montreal	50	20	24	6	46	139	165
Ottawa	48	15	24	9	39	125	168
Buffalo	50	14	27	9	37	115	166

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	49	29	15	5	63	150	138
Pittsburgh	52	28	21	3	59	156	155
New Jersey	49	25	16	8	58	147	147
Columbus	50	27	19	4	58	133	140
Philadelphia	49	24	17	8	56	141	141
N.Y. Rangers	50	25	20	5	55	153	151
N.Y. Islanders	51	25	21	5	55	173	184
Carolina	50	23	19	8	54	139	155

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Winnipeg	51	30	13	8	68	167	137
Nashville	48	29	12	7	65	148	125
St. Louis	52	31	18	3	65	151	131
Dallas	51	28	19	4	60	160	157
Minnesota	50	27	17	5	59	147	142
Colorado	48	27	16	3	57	157	139
Chicago	50	24	19	7	55	148	137

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	48	32	12	4	68	164	128
San Jose	49	26	16	7	59	145	138
Los Angeles	50	27	18	5	59	142	121
Anaheim	51	25	17	9	59	144	142
Calgary	49	25	16	8	58	137	135
Edmonton	49	22	24	3	47	135	157
Arizona	49	19	24	6	44	127	159
Arizona	50	12	29	9	33	116	172

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Tuesday's Scores

Minnesota 3, Columbus 2, SO
Pittsburgh 5, San Jose 2
Florida 4, N.Y. Islanders 1
Anaheim 3, Boston 1
Carolina 2, Ottawa 1
New Jersey 3, Buffalo 1
Winnipeg 3, Tampa Bay 1
St. Louis 3, Montreal 1
Chicago 2, Nashville 1
Los Angeles 3, Dallas 0
Vegas at Calgary, late
Colorado at Vancouver, late
Today's Games
N.Y. Islanders at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
San Jose at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Washington, 7 p.m.

NFL PLAYOFF GLANCE

Wild-card Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 6

Tennessee 22, Kansas City 21

Atlanta 26, Los Angeles Rams 13

Sunday, Jan. 7

Jacksonville 10, Buffalo 3

New Orleans 31, Carolina 26

Divisional Playoffs

Saturday, Jan. 13

Philadelphia 15, Atlanta 10

New England 35, Tennessee 14

Sunday, Jan. 14

Jacksonville 45, Pittsburgh 42

Minnesota 29, New Orleans 24

Conference Championships

Sunday, Jan. 21

AFC

New England 24, Jacksonville 20

NFC

Philadelphia 38, Minnesota 7

Pro Bowl

Sunday, Jan. 28

at Orlando, Fla.

AFC 24, NFC 23

Super Bowl

Sunday, Feb. 4

At Minneapolis

New England vs. Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m.

(AP)

HS SOCCER ROUNDUP

LEE BOYS GET SHUTOUT WIN

The Lee boys soccer team got an impressive 7-0 non-district victory over Brownwood on Tuesday at Grande Communications Stadium.

Lee took a 5-0 lead at halftime as Luis Aranda scored off an assist by Dillon Crabtree in the fifth minute, Esau Soto scored off an assist by Jose Gutierrez in the 11th minute, Gutierrez scored an unassisted goal in the 21st minute, Tyler Erwin scored in the 33rd minute off an assist by Jacob DeLaRosa, and Daniel Santos scored off an assist by Marco Jurado in the 36th minute. In the second half, Aranda scored in the 43rd minute off an assist by Jurado, and then Aranda scored his third goal unassisted in the 48th minute.

"The kids played well," Lee coach Scott Hicks said. "They implemented the game plan that they worked on in practice and I'm proud of them and proud of their effort. We're working for our district schedule and hopefully we'll be ready to go (on Feb. 10)."

Lee (7-4-1) next travel to Lubbock's Lowrey Field to play Lubbock Estacado at 5 p.m. Friday.

LADY REBELS FALL TO BROWNWOOD

The Lee girls soccer team lost 4-0 to Brownwood in a non-district match at Grande Communications Stadium on Tuesday.

Lee coach Mark Hinshaw said Brownwood's a very confident team, took a 1-0 lead at the half, and then put it away with two quick goals in the second half when his Lady Rebels lost some of their focus.

"We came close to scoring on them and we put some pressure on them but Brownwood's a sound team defensively," Hinshaw said. "We weren't able to capitalize on the game plan we had for this game. The task now is to regroup and get ready for district, which starts a week from Saturday."

Lee (7-3-1) next travels to Amarillo Tascosa at noon Feb. 10 to begin District 2-6A action.

NBA ROUNDUP

Associated Press

ROCKETS 114 MAGIC 107

HOUSTON — James Harden became the first player in NBA history to score 60 points as part of a triple-double and the short-handed Houston Rockets beat the Orlando Magic 114-107 on Tuesday night.

Harden scored 18 points in the fourth quarter to eclipse the 57 points Calvin Murphy scored in 1978 to break Houston's single-game scoring record. After Harden broke the record, cameras in the arena showed a shot of Murphy, who works on the television broadcast team, smiling and clapping for the Beard, who also had 10 rebounds and 11 assists.

The game was tied at 107 after a basket by Marreese Speights with just under four minutes to play. Neither team scored for more than two minutes after that before Harden took over, scoring the next six points to make it 113-107 with 45 seconds left.

He set the scoring mark when he stepped back and made a 3-pointer before crashing to the court after being fouled by Mario Hezonja. He then made the free throw to give him 60 points and bringing the crowd to its feet.

SPURS 106 NUGGETS 104

SAN ANTONIO — LaMarcus Aldridge scored 30 points and the Spurs escaped with a victory over the Nuggets.

The Spurs had four players in double figures, including 18 points each from Kyle Anderson and Pau Gasol.

Every Denver starter scored in double figures with Jamal Murray leading the way with 18 points and Garry Harris adding 17.

San Antonio had to battle to win its 11th straight at home over Denver. There were 18 lead changes and the Nuggets came within inches of a game-winning 19th.

PISTONS 125 CAVALIERS 114

DETROIT — Andre Drummond had 21 points and 22 rebounds, and the short-handed Detroit Pistons beat Cleveland after the Cavaliers lost Kevin Love to a potentially season-altering hand injury.

Love exited in the first quarter with a broken left hand, and the Pistons took advantage of his absence, snapping an eight-game losing streak despite a roster that was depleted by their blockbuster trade for Blake Griffin.

Detroit gave up three players to get Griffin, and neither he nor the other two players the Pistons received in return were available against Cleveland. Drummond — whose own status was in question because of an illness — had a huge game, and Stanley Johnson added a career-high 26 points.

WIZARDS 102 THUNDER 96

WASHINGTON — Beginning what could be a significant stretch without All-Star point guard John Wall, the Washington Wizards got 25 points from Otto Porter Jr., limited Russell Westbrook to 13 and stopped Oklahoma City's eight-game win streak.

Bradley Beal had 21 points and nine assists for Washington, which announced about 7 1/2 hours before tipoff that Wall will have arthroscopic surgery on his left knee Wednesday.

Paul George had 28 points for Oklahoma City, but zero in the fourth quarter. Carmelo Anthony scored 19, but he missed three shots in the final 30 seconds. Westbrook wound up with 10 assists, six rebounds and seven turnovers and made only 5 of 18 shots.

Wall, picked for his fifth All-Star game last week, is second on the Wizards in scoring, averaging 19.4 points, and is second in the league with 9.3 assists per game.

In July, he agreed to a $170 million, four-year contract extension that starts next season.

KNICKS 111 NETS 95

NEW YORK — Kristaps Porzingis scored 26 points, Enes Kanter had 20 points, 20 rebounds and five assists, and the Knicks completed a New York City sweep of the Nets with a victory.

The Knicks returned home from their longest road trip of the season in new uniforms but their same old dominance of the Nets, with their fourth victory in four tries this season. They dominated the interior again and swept the series for the first time since 2010-11 — before the rivals shared the same city.

DeMarre Carroll scored 13 points for the Nets, who lost their fourth straight game.

RAPTORS 109 TIMBERWOLVES 104

TORONTO — DeMar DeRozan scored 23 points, Jonas Valanciunas had 18 points and 11 rebounds and the Raptors rallied from a 13-point deficit to beat the Timberwolves.

Kyle Lowry and Serge Ibaka each scored 15 points and Jakob Poeltl had six of his 12 points in the fourth quarter as the Raptors won their 14th straight home meeting with the Timberwolves.

Minnesota has not won in Toronto since Jan. 21, 2004, when current Timberwolves star Andrew Wiggins was eight years old.

Toronto is 19-4 at home this season, the second-best record in the NBA behind San Antonio (21-4).

Jimmy Butler scored 25 points, Wiggins had 15 and Jeff Teague and Gorgui Dieng each finished with 14 but the Timberwolves lost for the fourth time in five games.

KINGS 114 PELICANS 103

NEW ORLEANS — Zach Randolph scored 26 points and grabbed 12 rebounds, and the Kings beat the Pelicans.

Kosta Koufos had 17 points and 17 rebounds for the Kings, who were able to exploit the absence of Pelicans All-Star and former King DeMarcus Cousins by getting double-doubles from both of their starting big men.

Rookie De'Aaron Fox and reserve guard Garrett Temple, a former LSU player, each scored 15 for the Kings, who've won three of their last four games.

Kuemper makes 28 saves, Kings shut out Stars 3-0

Associated Press

DALLAS — Darcy Kuemper made 28 saves in his ninth career shutout, leading the Los Angeles Kings to a 3-0 victory over the Dallas Stars on Tuesday night.

Paul LaDue, Drew Doughty and Alec Martinez scored as Los Angeles (27-18-5) earned its second straight win. The Kings are among a group of playoff contenders with 59 points, one point behind Dallas.

Ben Bishop made 39 saves for the Stars (28-19-4), who dropped their second straight game, but retained a tenuous one-point lead for the Western Conference's first wild card. Dallas came up empty on each of its four power plays against the NHL's best penalty killers.

LaDue scored just 3:05 into the game. Anze Kopitar skated from behind the net almost to the left point, and passed across to LaDue in the right faceoff circle. He sent a wrist shot inside the left goalpost.

Los Angeles increased its lead to 2-0 after Dallas forward Alexander Radulov was sent off for holding in the second. Doughty's shot from above the right circle deflected in off Bishop as Stars defenseman Stephen Johns tried to prevent the puck from crossing the goal line.

The Kings were unable to score during a four-minute power play midway through the second. Los Angeles stopped two Dallas power plays in the closing minutes of the period and the first minute of the third.

Nine seconds after Dustin Brown left the penalty box, Martinez scored on a snap shot from the left circle.

NOTES: Los Angeles has successfully stopped 86 percent of opponents' power plays. ... Kuemper got the start in place of Jonathan Quick, who is on injured reserve because of an upper-body injury. ... LaDue's goal was his first in 24 career games. ... Stars D Dan Hamhuis played in his 1,000th career game.

Up next

Kings: Visit Nashville on Thursday.

Stars: Travel to Arizona for a game on Thursday.

AP Sources: Chiefs agree to trade Smith to Redskins

By Stephen Whyno
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Kansas City has agreed to trade quarterback Alex Smith to Washington, a move that spells the end of Kirk Cousins' time with the Redskins and hands the Chiefs' job to Patrick Mahomes.

Two people with direct knowledge of the deal confirmed the move to The Associated Press on Tuesday night on condition of anonymity because the transaction can't be completed until the start of the new league year in March. One person told the AP the Redskins had agreed to a four-year extension with Smith, who had one year left on his contract.

Smith, who turns 34 in May, spent the past five seasons with the Chiefs, leading them to the playoffs four times while throwing for 102 touchdowns and 33 interceptions. He carries a $17 million salary-cap hit for 2018.

Kansas City saves cap space and can turn to Mahomes, the 10th pick in last year's draft out of Texas Tech, as its new starter.

Smith becomes Washington's new franchise quarterback after throwing for 31,888 yards and 183 touchdowns in 12 NFL seasons with the San Francisco 49ers and Chiefs.

Smith is "one of the best competitors and teammates I've ever been around," Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce posted on Twitter. "Someone who I owe a lot of my success to, and a guy that's been a class act through all the ups n downs."

The Redskins acquired Smith and signed him to the kind of long-term deal they balked at with Cousins, who became the first QB to play back-to-back seasons on the franchise tag. Cousins can become a free agent next month at age 29.

"Nothing really surprises me anymore," Redskins tight end Niles Paul tweeted . Former Redskins QB Robert Griffin III tweeted : "Some how...Some way...they will blame this on me. No doubt."

Cousins, drafted by the Redskins in the fourth round out of Michigan State in 2012 — the same year they traded up to Griffin with the No 2 pick — likely leaves Washington with the fourth-most passing yards in franchise history, more than 16,000.

Under coach Jay Gruden, Cousins became the first Redskins QB to start all 16 games for three consecutive seasons. He threw for at least 4,000 yards in each, while totaling 81 touchdowns and 36 interceptions. But Washington only played in one playoff game during that span, going 9-7, 8-7-1 and, most recently, 7-9 in Cousins' time as a starter. Cousins has been the biggest question hovering over Washington's offseason — and, indeed, hovering over the whole organization for a couple of years as the team failed to sign him to a long-term deal.

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION

UPCOMING EVENTS

2/12 8:00 pm Adoption Center Volunteer Orientation

2/16-18 PetSmart Charities National Adoption Weekend

3/08 6:30-8:30 Microchip Clinic at Beer Garden's Yappy Hour

PLEASE HELP US CONTROL OVERPOPULATION & PROTECT YOUR PET FROM STRESS & ACCIDENTAL PREGNANCIES.

$70 SPAY/NEUTER VOUCHERS AVAILABLE TO MIDLAND CITY & COUNTY RESIDENTS.

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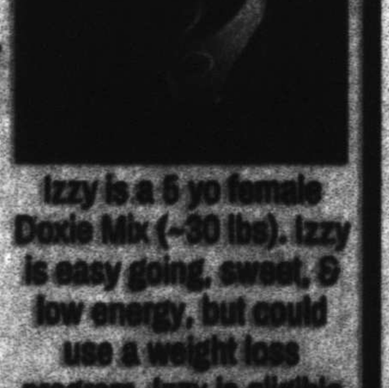


Izzy is a 5 yo female Doxie Mix (~30 lbs). Izzy is easy going, sweet, & low energy, but could use a weight loss program. Izzy is eligible for our Senior to Senior Program which offers waived adoption fees for pets aged 5 years or older to senior citizens.

MHS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

MHS GIRLS FALL AT TASCOSA

AMARILLO – The Midland High girls basketball team had a rough start and Ka'lie Smith was tough to stop as Amarillo Tascosa defeated the Lady Bulldogs, 67-57, in District 2-6A action on Tuesday.

Behind Smith, who scored a game-high 25 points, the Lady Rebels (20-10, 7-1) took a 42-23 lead at the half.

"They're so long and Smith is the best player in the district, by far," MHS coach Wes Torres said. "She's tough to contain at 6-(foot)-2. We don't have anybody as big or as athletic as she is."

MHS (21-12, 5-3) had a much better second half and Torres said his team cut it down to seven points before Tascosa extended the lead again.

"The girls came out with much a much better effort in the second half but we spent so much energy trying to come back that it caught up to us," Torres said.

Jurnee Williams led MHS with 17 points, Maya Duarte had 15 and Taysha Rushton added 12.

MHS next takes on Lee at 6 p.m. Friday at Chaparral Center.

AMARILLO TASCOSA 67, MIDLAND HIGH 57

Midland High (21-12, 5-3) – Jurnee Williams 17, Maya Duarte 15, Taysha Rushton 12, Clay Webster 7, Rooney Halle 4, Tekeshia Dahill 2

Tascosa (20-10, 7-1) – Ka'lie Smith 25, Gonzales 8, Miller 8, Zimmer 6, Romero 5, McGee 4, Nash 4, Valdez 4, Wall 3				
MHS	5	18	20	14–57
Tascosa	14	28	12	13–67

Free throws – MHS 14-19, Tascosa 15-27. 3-point goals – MHS 5 (Webster 2, Duarte, Rushton, Williams), Tascosa 3 (Gonzales, Miller, Romero). Total fouls – MHS 19, Tascosa 19. Fouled out – None. Next: Midland High vs. Lee, 6 p.m. Friday, Chaparral Center

FOUL TROUBLE PLAGUES MHS BOYS AT TASCOSA

AMARILLO – Amarillo Tascosa shot 19 of 29 from the free-throw line to defeat Midland High, 60-50, in District 2-6A play on Tuesday.

The Bulldogs (11-16, 2-4 in District 2-6A) were called for 27 fouls and had two players foul out.

Furthermore, MHS shot 5 of 11 from the charity stripe, as Tascosa was called for 13 fouls.

The game began as a defensive skirmish as Tascosa led 17-8 at halftime. In the second half, both offenses got rolling as the Bulldogs and Rebels each scored 20 or more points in the third and fourth quarters.

"In the first half, neither team could get offensive rhythm," MHS head coach Shan Hooker said. "In the second half, the offenses came out clicking and neither defense could stop anyone."

The Bulldogs had three players score in double figures, as Duce Warren had 12 points, Nat Rodriguez had 11 and Rahkiem Petterson added 10.

Tascosa's B.J. Anderson led all scorers with 14, while his Rebel teammate J'Sean Miller had 13.

MHS meets Lee at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Chaparral Center.

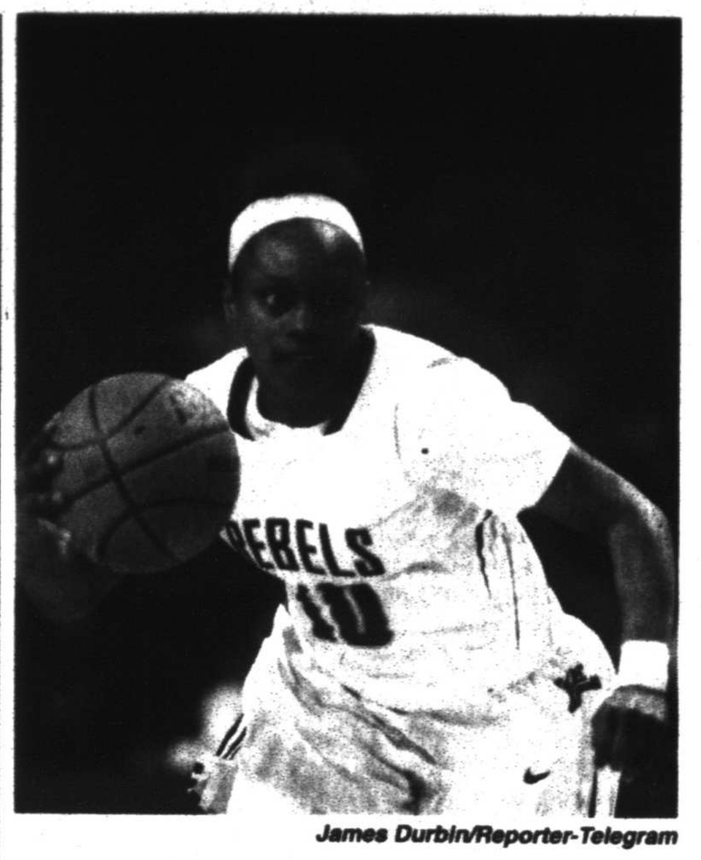
AMARILLO TASCOSA 60, MIDLAND HIGH 50

Midland High (11-16, 2-4 in District 2-6A) – Damorri Williams 3, Daniel Elliot 3, Rahkiem Petterson 10, Nat Rodriguez 11, Duce Warren 12, Jordan Riley 7, Rayshad Chambers 4

Tascosa (19-9, 4-2) – Dshandrick Alexander 3, J'Sean Miller 13, Chaunce Askew 3, Cameron Brown 9, B.J. Anderson 14, Isaiah Johnson 2, Clark Davidson 8, Peyton Dickerson 7

Midland	5	3	22	20–50
Tascosa	6	11	24	20–60

Free throws – Midland 5-11, Tascosa 19-29. 3-point goals – Midland 5 (Warren 2, Williams, Elliott, Riley), Tascosa 3 (Brown 2, Dickerson). Total fouls – Midland 27, Tascosa 13. Fouled out – Chambers, D.Warren.



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Braydyn Hill (10) dribbles against Odessa High on Tuesday, at Chaparral Center.

HS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Girls

GRAPEVINE FAITH 42 MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 34

Midland Christian was held to 13 points in the second half as Grapevine Faith improved to 5-1 in TAPPS 1-5A play at the McGraw Event Center.

Blaire Neatherlin had 10 points to lead Midland Christian (19-10, 3-2), which sits in third place in the district.

GRAPEVINE FAITH 42, MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 34

Grapevine Faith (5-1 in TAPPS 1-5A) – Widow 3, Erwin 18, Berry 2, Sowinski 1, Leonard 20

Midland Christian (19-10, 3-2) – Faith Truex 3, Brooklyn Johnson 9, Kelsi Moore 4, Blaire Neatherlin 10, Bre Culbertson 8

Grapevine	8	14	11	11–42
MCS	7	14	7	6–34

Free throws – GF 19-26, MCS 9-15. 3-point goals – GF 1 (Erwin), MCS 1 (Truex). Total fouls – GF 15, MCS 18. Fouled out – MCS: Mackenzie Fryer

Next: Midland Christian at Fort Worth Christian, 5:30 p.m. Friday

LUBBOCK TRINITY 64 TRINITY 20

LUBBOCK – Trinity's playoff hopes were dealt a severe blow as Lubbock Trinity rolled to a 44-point win in TAPPS 1-4A play.

Rebecca Long scored a team-high 14 points for the Lady Chargers (12-11, 2-3 in TAPPS 1-4A), who were playing short-handed with injuries to their post players.

LUBBOCK TRINITY 64, TRINITY 20

Trinity (12-11, 2-3 in TAPPS 1-4A) – Reagan Long 6, Rebecca Long 14

Lubbock Trinity (8-2 in TAPPS 1-4A) – Peyton Dove 6, Claire Beck 5, Abigail Bosbrog 10, Lauren Catherman 14, Brooke Rinehart 16, Abby Miller 13

Trinity	2	6	9	3–20
Lub Trinity	13	22	21	8–64

Free throws – Trinity 4-7, Lubbock Trinity 2-6. 3-point goals – Lubbock Trinity 6 (Beck, Catherman 2, Rinehart 4, Miller). Total fouls – Trinity 7, Lubbock Trinity 8. Fouled out – None.

Next: Lubbock Christian at Trinity, 6 p.m. Friday

FORSAN 41 IRION CO. 35

MERTZON – Forsan used an 11-5 run in the second quarter to spark a District 7-2A victory at Irion County.

Chasidy Grantham scored 14 points to leads Forsan (21-5, 10-1), while Mikahaela Willard added nine in the win.

FORSAN 41, IRION COUNTY 35

Forsan (21-5, 10-1) – Chasidy Grantham 14, Mikahaela Willard 9, Rylee Evans 8, Jenna Evans 5, Emily Garcia 5

Irion County – McNutt 14, Davis 10, Miller 8, Harkin 3

Forsan	7	11	10	13–41
Irion County	9	5	11	10–35

ALPINE 47 CRANE 23

ALPINE – Alpine used an 18-7 advantage in the second quarter to roll past visiting Crane for a District 3-3A win.

Savannah Garcia paced Crane (1-22, 0-6) with six points.

ALPINE 47, CRANE 23

Crane (1-22, 0-6 in District 3-3A) – Savannah Garcia 6, Jackie Sanchez 2, Dianna Perez 2, Genesis DeLeon 3, Ester Garcia 2, Cali Jones 3, Valerie Velasco 4

Alpine (5-2 in District 3-3A) – Mata 3, Furman 17, Morris 2, Dominguez 8, Nunez 5, Carrasco 5, Hernandez 7

Crane	6	7	10	0–23
Alpine	12	16	13	4–47

Free throws – Crane 0-0, Alpine 4-7. 3-point goals – Crane 5 (Garcia 2, Sanchez, DeLeon, Jones), Alpine 7 (Furman 2, Dominguez 2, Mata, Nunez, Carrasco). Total fouls – Crane 5, Alpine 1. Fouled out – None.

Next: Kermit at Crane, 6:30 p.m. Friday

BOYS FORT STOCKTON 63 GREENWOOD 58

FORT STOCKTON – Fort Stockton held off a late Greenwood rally for a key District 4-4A victory.

Omarion Jameson led Greenwood (16-14, 2-3) with 16 points, Ryan Snodgrass had 14 and Brody Ray added 12.

Andrick Herrera led Fort Stockton (3-2 in district) with a game-high 24 points and Casey Nolen added 19.

FORT STOCKTON 63, GREENWOOD 58

Greenwood (16-14, 2-3) – Brody Ray 12, Max Montes 6, Ryan Snodgrass 14, Omarion Jameson 16, Logan Jarvis 6, Jayden Kitchens 1

Fort Stockton (3-2 in District 4-4A) – Nick Johnson 9, Jovanni Wisker 8, Andrick Herrera 24, Casey Nolen 19, Luis Guerra 2, Cole Daggett 3

Greenwood	16	9	10	23–58
Fort Stockton	18	14	16	15–63

Free throws – Greenwood 13-20, Fort Stockton 21-32. 3-point goals – Greenwood 5 (Jameson 2, Ray 2, Montes), Total fouls – Greenwood 24, Fort Stockton 15. Fouled out – None

Next: Andrews at Greenwood, 8 p.m. Feb. 6

MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 90 GRAPEVINE FAITH 60

Freshman Joseph Venzant just missed a triple-double with 31 points, 17 rebounds and eight assists to lead Midland Christian to a rout of Grapevine Faith in TAPPS 1-5A play at McGraw Event Center.

Gunnar Griffin had 16 points for the first-place Mustangs (22-11, 5-1 in TAPPS 1-5A), while teammate Mitch McCann chipped in with 13.

MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 90, GRAPEVINE FAITH 60

Faith (17-16, 0-6 in TAPPS 1-5A) – Jared Greer 2, Garrett Ford 9, Tyler Lundblade 16, Fielder Summy 6, Malik Caper 9, Jackson Braun 6, Luke Amen 6, Kristopher Hogan 2, Grant Scaley 4

Midland Christian (22-11, 5-1) – Coy Stewart 4, Mitch McCann 13, AJ Brown 5, Silas Crews 7, Jacob Thomas 8, Gunnar Griffin 16, Joseph Venzant 31, Tommy Beebe 6

Faith	15	16	14	15–60
MCS	21	24	23	22–90

Free throws – Grapevine Faith 11-14, MCS 19-24. 3-point goals – Faith 7 (Lundblade 2, Summy 2, Caper, Amen 2), MCS 7 (McCann 3, Crews, Venzant, Beebe 2). Total fouls – Faith 17, MCS 13. Fouled out – Caper

Next: MCS at Fort Worth Christian, 5:30 p.m. Friday

ALPINE 59 CRANE 44

ALPINE – Derek Rojo scored a game-high 16 points to lead Alpine to a District 3-3A victory over visiting Crane Tuesday.

Carlos Montes scored 14 points to lead Crane (18-4, 4-1), which was tied with Alpine 26-26 at halftime.

ALPINE 59, CRANE 44

Crane (18-4, 4-1 in District 3-3A) – Brandon Cerna 10, Iye Heard 2, Kolton Sena 3, Ivan Esparza 5, Carlos Carrasco 8, Ryan Hartman 2, Carlos Montes 14

Alpine (4-1 in District 3-3A) – Frankie Garcia 2, Aaron Fellows 4, Derek Rojo 16, Andre Gonzales 2, Owen Thomas 7, Alex Gonzalez 14, Isaiah Miranda 2, Dorian Cordero 12

Crane	13	13	7	11–44
Alpine	14	12	17	16–59

Free throws – Crane 5-13, Alpine 4-8. 3-point goals – Crane 5 (Cerna 2, Carrasco 2, Montes), Alpine 7 (Rojo 3, Gonzales 2, Cordero). Total fouls – Crane 12, Alpine 14. Fouled out – None.

Next: Kermit at Crane, 6 p.m. Friday

GRADY 64 DAWSON 20

LENORAH – Isaiah De Anda scored a game-high 18 points to lead Grady to a District 11-1A victory over Dawson.

Cole Short added 12 points for the Wildcats (17-6, 5-2), who played a Dawson team that was made co-ed because of a shrinking enrollment.

GRADY 64, DAWSON 20

Dawson – Donovan 9, Ashton 2, Espinosa 2, Marcus 4, Johnathen 4

Grady (17-6, 5-2) – TJ Shands 6, Charles Cassell 5, Isaiah DeAnda 18, Cole Short 12, Dante Ruiz 3, Cristian Jimenez 6, Marshall Cox 6, Jodan Rodriguez 6, Payton Welch 2

Dawson	0	6	4	10–20
Grady	21	17	13	13–64

Free throws – Dawson 0-2, Grady 3-4. 3-point goals – Grady 14 (De Anda 6, Short 4, Jimenez 2, Cassell, Ruiz). Total fouls – Dawson 8, Grady 2. Fouled out – None.

Next: Grady at Klondike, 8 p.m. Friday

FORSAN 84 IRION CO. 62

MERTZON – Kobe Richardson scored a game-high 27 points to lead No. 24 Forsan to a District 7-2A victory over Irion County.

Bryce Hergert added 18 points and Garrett Evans chipped in with 15 for Forsan (22-3, 9-0).

FORSAN 84, IRION COUNTY 62

Forsan (22-3, 9-0) – Garrett Evans 15, Bryce Hergert 18, Aaron Gutierrez 4, Kobe Richardson 27, Ehren Hilger 4, Zane Rifle 8, Jaeden Peaser 6, Caden Williams 2

Irion County (6-3 in 7-2A) – Gomez 6, Chacon 10, Sparks 8, Paxton 2, West 33, Connilliam 3

Forsan	19	15	25	25	19–84
Irion County	21	13	13	15	–62

Free throws – Forsan 7-8, ICHS 16-25. 3-point goals – Forsan 11 (Evans 3, Hergert 2, Richardson 6), ICHS 2 (Sparks, Connilliam). Total fouls – Forsan 19, ICHS 16. Fouled out – None.

Next: Eldorado at Forsan, 8 p.m. Friday

LEVELLAND 66 LAMESA 57

LEVELLAND — Buddy Williams scored a team-high 19 points and Jordan Derrington added 13 for Lamesa in the Golden Tornadoes' District 2-4A loss to Levelland Tuesday.

LEVELLAND 66, LAMESA 57

Lamesa (18-11, 2-4 in District 2-4A) – Buddy Williams 19, Jordan Derrington 13, Kaleb Contreras 9, Victor Barajas 9, Jackson Napper 7

Levelland – Ramirez 3, Salazar 10, Ford 20, O'Connor 4, Golightly 17, Reyna 2, White 8, Dobson 2

Lamesa	7	13	16	21–57
Levelland	12	13	23	18–66

Free throws – Lamesa 9-14, Levelland 13-22. 3-point goals — Lamesa 6 (Contreras 2, Barajas, Napper Williams, Derington), Levelland 3 (Ramirez, Salazar, Ford). Total fouls – Lamesa 19, Levelland 15. Fouled out – Napper.

Next: Lamesa at Seminole, 8 p.m. Friday

Francis eclipses 1,000-point mark in UTPB loss to WTAMU

From staff reports

CANYON – Daeshon Francis reached a milestone but No. 10 West Texas A&M won the battle of nationally-ranked Lone Star Conference teams with a convincing 105-86 victory over No. 9 UTPB on Tuesday night at First United Bank Center.

Francis, the former Midland College standout, led UTPB (18-3, 10-2 in LSC) with a game-high 26 points to go with nine rebounds to surpass the 1,000-point mark in his UTPB career. He was four points shy of that mark going into the game.

WTAMU (20-2, 10-2) scored 27 points off 18 Falcon turnovers and also got 26 points from David Chavlovich.

Gaige Prim had 18 points and 12 rebounds, CJ Jennings added 16 points and Jordan Evans had 15 for the Buffaloes, who led 51-38 at the half. For UTPB, Amari Bryant had 17 points, James McPherson had 16 and Josh Morris added 12.

Young's 44 help No. 12 Oklahoma top Baylor

By Cliff Brunt
Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — Trae Young scored 31 of his 44 points in the second half to help No. 12 Oklahoma hold off Baylor 98-96 on Tuesday night.

Young, a freshman guard who leads the nation in scoring and assists, made 11 of 20 field goals and 16 of 19 free throws. It was his fourth game this season with at least 40 points, and the third time in the past six games he has scored that many.

Rashard Odomes scored 18 points, Brady Manek had 16 and Khadeem Lattin added 15 for the Sooners (16-5, 6-3 Big 12).

Oklahoma led 97-96 when Baylor's Jake Lindsey was fouled with 4.7 seconds remaining. Lindsey missed the free throw and Oklahoma rebounded. Odomes was fouled with 3.9 seconds to play. He made the first free throw and missed the second, but Baylor's King McClure missed a wild shot at the buzzer.\

Manu Lecomte scored 29 points and Nuni Omot scored 23 for Baylor (12-10, 2-7), which lost its fourth straight.

Big picture

Baylor: The Bears missed a chance to revive a season that had been falling off the rails. They did a lot of things right but could not handle Young in the second half.

Oklahoma: The Sooners bounced back from a loss to Alabama on Saturday and remained within striking distance of Big 12 leader Kansas.

Up next

Baylor hosts Iowa State on Saturday.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men

SOUTHWEST

Oklahoma St. 76, Texas 68
TCU 79, Oklahoma St. 69
Texas A&M 80, Arkansas 69

SOUTH

Auburn 79, Mississippi St. 77
Charleston So. 76, North Carolina 70
Clemson 82, Virginia Tech 67
Florida 91, Vanderbilt 61, OT
Georgia 71, Alabama 61
Georgia Tech 81, Miami 67
Kentucky 97, Mississippi 65
Louisville 71, Boston College 61
New Mexico St. 71, Northwestern St. 65
Tennessee 77, Arkansas 69

MIDWEST

Ball St. 76, Toledo 63
Bowling Green 84, Ohio 67
Cent. Michigan 81, N. Illinois 67
Illinois 91, Rutgers 60
Iowa 83, Minnesota 81, OT
Iowa St. 84, Minnesota 81, OT
Kent St. 82, Buffalo 71
Michigan 71, E. Michigan 67
Michigan St. 74, Indiana 61
Ohio St. 71, Indiana 67
Purdue 88, N. Kentucky 62
S. Dakota St. 85, Nebraska-Omaha 69
S. Illinois 76, Bradley 71
Wichita St. 84, Missouri St. 67
Wright St. 87, Milwaukee 77

SOUTHWEST

Abilene Christian 74, Houston Baptist 67
Baylor 98, Oklahoma 96
Dallas Baptist 7, St. Johns 6
Houston 74, Memphis 69
Lamar 75, St. John's 69
Oklahoma St. 76, Texas 68
Prairie View A&M 74, Alcorn St. 70
Rice 76, Marshall 71
Sam Houston St. 74, Texas A&M-Commerce 70
Texas A&M 80, Arkansas 69
Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 74, Incarnate Word 69
Texas Southern 74, Grambling St. 73
Texas Tech 74, Kansas St. 71
TCU 79, Oklahoma St. 69
Texas-Arlington 74, Georgia St. 70
Texas-Rio Grande Valley 74, Houston Baptist 67
UTSA 74, Florida Atlantic 73

FAR WEST

Air Force 74, Colorado St. 71
Boise St. 74, Utah St. 70
Cal Poly 74, Hawaii 73
Fresno St. 74, Wyoming 70
Gonzaga 84, Pepperdine 61
Loyola Marymount 74, Portland 70
Montana 74, Montana St. 70
Nevada 74, San Diego St. 70
New Mexico 74, Air Force 71
Northern Arizona 74, Idaho St. 70
Portland St. 74, Sacramento St. 70
Saint Mary's (Cal.) 74, Santa Clara 71
San Diego 74, Pacific 70
San Francisco 74, San Diego St. 70
Seattle 74, Utah Valley 70
Southern Utah 74, Idaho 70
Stanford 74, Arizona St. 70
UC Irvine 74, Cal St. Fullerton 70
UC Riverside 74, Cal St. Bakersfield 70
UC Santa Barbara 74, Cal St. Northridge 70
UCLA 74, Arizona 70
Utah 74, Colorado 70
Utah Valley 74, Seattle 70
Weber St. 74, Northern Colorado 70

Top 25 Fared

1. Villanova (20-1) did not play. Next: vs. Creighton, Tuesday
2. Virginia (20-1) did not play. Next: vs. Louisville, Wednesday
3. Purdue (21-2) did not play. Next: vs. Maryland, Wednesday
4. Duke (19-3) did not play. Next: at St. John's, Saturday
5. Michigan State (20-2) did not play. Next: vs. Penn State, Wednesday
6. Xavier (20-2) beat St. John's 75-68. Next: vs. Georgetown, Saturday
7. Kansas (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma, Saturday
8. Cincinnati (19-3) did not play. Next: vs. Houston, Wednesday
9. Auburn (19-4) did not play. Next: at Washington State, Saturday
10. Texas Tech (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. Texas, Wednesday
11. Arizona (20-3) beat Washington 79-70. Next: vs. UCLA, Friday
12. Oklahoma (16-5) beat Baylor 98-96. Next: at Texas, Saturday
13. Florida (21-2) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia, Saturday
14. West Virginia (19-5) did not play. Next: at Texas Tech, Wednesday
15. Wichita State (17-4) did not play. Next: at Temple, Wednesday
16. Ohio State (19-5) beat Indiana 71-65. Next: vs. Wisconsin, Sunday
17. Tennessee (19-4) did not play. Next: vs. LSU, Wednesday
18. North Carolina (16-7) lost to No. 25 Clemson 80-73. Next: vs. Pittsburgh, Saturday
19. Texas A&M (19-4) did not play. Next: at North Carolina State, Saturday
20. Rhode Island (19-4) beat Duquesne 85-63. Next: at VCU, Friday
21. Kentucky (17-5) beat Vanderbilt 89-81, OT. Next: at Missouri, Saturday
22. Rhode Island (19-4) beat UMass 85-63. Next: at VCU, Friday
23. Florida (15-7) lost to Georgia 79-60. Next: vs. Alabama, Saturday
24. Michigan (18-5) did not play. Next: vs. Minnesota, Saturday
25. Arizona State (19-4) did not play. Next: at Washington, Thursday

Women

SOUTH

Charleston So. 64, Presbyterian 61
East Carolina 77, Wichita St. 67
Liberty 85, High Point 62
Marshall 81, Cincinnati 69
UNC-Asheville 61, Coastal Carolina 60
Winthrop 69, Longwood 65

MIDWEST

YSU 75, Iowa St. 69
UCF 80, Cincinnati 58

Top 25 Fared

1. UConn (22-0) did not play. Next: at No. 7 South Carolina, Thursday
2. Mississippi State (20-2) did not play. Next: at No. 10 Texas A&M, Thursday
3. Baylor (19-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 25 Oklahoma, Thursday
4. Louisville (20-1) did not play. Next: at Virginia Tech, Thursday
5. Notre Dame (20-2) did not play. Next: vs. North Carolina, Thursday
6. Mississippi (20-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 22 California, Friday
7. South Carolina (18-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 1 UConn, Thursday
8. Texas (16-4) did not play. Next: at Kansas, Wednesday
9. UCLA (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. Southern Cal, Friday
10. Florida State (18-3) did not play. Next: at N.C. State, Thursday
11. Maryland (18-3) did not play. Next: vs. Rutgers, Thursday
12. Tennessee (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 14 Texas A&M, Thursday
13. Michigan (18-4) did not play. Next: vs. Purdue, Thursday
14. Texas A&M (17-4) did not play. Next: at No. 12 Tennessee, Thursday
15. Miami (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. No. 3 Mississippi State, Thursday
16. Oregon State (16-5) did not play. Next: vs. No. 24 Arizona, Friday
17. Georgia (16-5) did not play. Next: at LSU, Thursday
18. Ohio State (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. Penn State, Wednesday
19. Duke (17-4) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Tech, Thursday
20. Green Bay (19-2) did not play. Next: vs. Northern Kentucky, Thursday
21. West Virginia (17-4) did not play. Next: at Oklahoma, Wednesday
22. TCU (16-4) beat Iowa State 75-68. Next: at No. 8 Texas, Saturday
23. Oklahoma (16-5) did not play. Next: at Kansas State, Wednesday
24. Arizona (19-3) did not play. Next: at No. 16 Oregon State, Friday
25. Clemson (18-4) did not play. Next: at No. 19 Duke, Thursday

GIRLS

From 1C

they gained possession off steals.

In roughly a minute span, the barrage of turnovers propelled Lee to a 43-18 advantage with 3:50 left.

"Our press was working really well and we just kept getting steal after steal, which we converted really well," Low said. "It just worked really well for us."

The Lady Rebels tallied 17 steals, as Karigan Edwards led with five thefts, Quinci Strambler had four and Green and Braydyn Hill each had three.

Strambler, who led Lee with eight rebounds, scored all eight of her points in the fourth quarter.

Green also caught fire in the second half, scoring nine points. Green's last two baskets were quick scores following in-bounds steals by Hill and Strambler.

With their playoff ticket punched, the fourth-place Lady Rebels can improve their standing when they meet third-place Midland High (21-12, 5-3).

"We're excited and we're dialed in," Acosta said. "I told the girls 'Enjoy this one tonight but tomorrow we're talking about the next opponent.'"

Odessa High's Skylar Herrera had a game-high 11 rebounds and added four steals.

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

District 2-6A Girls Basketball Standings

	District W	District L	Overall W	Overall L
x-Frenship	7	1	27	6
x-Tascosa	7	1	20	10
x-Midland High	5	3	21	12
x-Lee	4	4	20	10
Permian	1	7	11	16
Odessa High	0	8	5	24

x-clinched playoff berth

Tuesday's scores

Lee 47, Odessa High 18; Amarillo Tascosa 67, Midland High 57; Wolfforth Frenship 54, Odessa Permian 45

Friday's games

Lee vs. Midland High at Chaparral Center, Odessa Permian at Odessa High, Amarillo Tascosa at Wolfforth Frenship, all games at 6 p.m.

LEE 47, ODESSA HIGH 18

Odessa High (5-24, 0-8 in District 2-6A) – Roxana Jimenez 2, Amber Escontrias 4, Abigail Rodriguez 7, Skylar Herrera 5

Lee (15-15, 4-4) – Karigan Edwards 2, Alaysha Green 13, Jalea Morris 2, Braydyn Hill 6, Quanci Strambler 8, Elizabeth McRae 1, Mackenzie Ross 2, Paige Low 13

OHS	4	10	2	2–18
Lee	13	4	12	18–47

Free throws – OHS 4-10, Lee 6-9. 3-point goals – OHS 2 (Escontrias, Rodriguez), Lee 1 (Green). Total fouls – OHS 9, Lee 16. Fouled out – None.

Next: Lee vs. Midland High, 6 p.m. Friday, Chaparral Center; Odessa Permian at Odessa High, 6 p.m. Friday

BOYS

From 1C

opens so much up for the other players and he led the way."

Added Hernandez, who facilitated crisp ball movement that got nine other of his teammates into the scorer's book: "I'm the point guard, I control the game and I control what we've got to do. I know I'm going to have to drive it in to help my team out and if I'm not getting points, I'm looking for a man who's open. The ball was in everybody's hands, moving faster than man."

After missing its first four shots of the night, OHS answered with six straight made baskets to take an early lead. But thanks to timely outside shooting, the Rebels hung around and trailed just 19-13 after the first quarter.

Midway through the second, Lee picked up some momentum with a Phelps trey and a steal and breakaway layup by Jaythan Jones to slash the deficit to seven points.

But Hernandez had had enough.

The Bronchos gobbled up rebounds and got into their transition offense with ease, setting up Hernandez with a slew of finishes in the paint, a pair of free throws and a 3-pointer from the top of the key just before the halftime buzzer.

"He hit that shot at the buzzer that extended (the lead) even more," said Lee head coach Justin Boswell. "(OHS) was doing better in their transition offense than we were in transition defense. We didn't give ourselves second chance opportunities, we were putting up some air balls and when you've got a little bit of a size advantage, they were able to get some of those rebounds.

"We didn't have a lot of bad shots, but we had enough for them to rebound and outlet and that's where they really got their separation."

OHS grew its lead to as much as 22 points in the second half, but a number of Rebel players left their mark on the night with some hustle plays. Boswell said he was pleased of his team's effort for the full 32 minutes.

Jones added 12 points for Lee, while Mykai Pertile and Loic Fouoonji each supplied seven.

"In the second half, I was proud of our effort and we made some plays," Boswell said. "We played much more cleanly in the second half and I was proud that we were seeing some guys emerge. Jaythan did some really good things, Karl (Taylor) did some really good things on both ends of the floor. Mykai played probably one of the best games he's had in the last month, Cevonte (Eaden) hit a couple (3-pointers). That's huge.

"I don't ever want to celebrate a loss, but I was proud of their effort. Mentally they stayed in it and played hard with a good attitude against a really good team."

OHS converted 19 of its 22 free throw attempts in the win.

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

District 2-6A Boys Basketball Standings

	District W	District L	Overall W	Overall L
Odessa Permian	8	0	24	3
Odessa High	5	1	21	6
Amarillo Tascosa	4	2	18	9
MHS	2	4	11	16
Wolfforth Frenship	1	5	13	15
Lee	0	6	7	21

Tuesday's Scores

Odessa High 70, Lee 61; Amarillo Tascosa 60, MHS 50; Odessa Permian 64, Wolfforth Frenship 28

Friday's Games

MHS vs. Lee, Chaparral Center; Amarillo Tascosa at Wolfforth Frenship; Odessa Permian at Odessa High. All games at 7:30 p.m.

ODESSA HIGH 70, LEE 61

OHS (21-6, 5-1 in District 6-4A) – Ralashay Jones 8, Isaac Hernandez 20, Josh Cabello 8, Nate Rodriguez 4, Kaleb Murry 8, Kameron Gonzalez 2, Jaylon Jones 12, Miguel Fonseca 6, Mario Tenorio 6, Cole Bodiker 9

Lee (7-21, 0-6) – Mykai Pertile 7, Zhuric Phelps 21, Cevonte Eaden 4, Jaythan Jones 12, Pat Obina 4, Loic Fouoonji 7, Karl Taylor 4, Rylor Patton 2

OHS	19	25	15	11–70
Lee	13	15	19	14–61

Free throws – OHS 19-24, Lee 13-20. 3-point goals – OHS 6 (Fonseca, Bravard, Cabello, Hernandez), Lee 7 (Phelps 4, Eaden 2, Fouoonji). Total fouls – OHS 16, Lee 14. Fouled out – None. Technical – Ramirez, Frenchi

Next: Odessa Permian at Odessa High, 7:30 p.m. Friday; Lee vs. MHS, 7:30 p.m. Friday

Texas Tech hires Johns as Offensive Coordinator

From staff reports

LUBBOCK – Texas Tech head football coach Kliff Kingsbury announced on Tuesday that he has hired Kevin Johns as offensive coordinator and inside receivers coach.

Johns joins Texas Tech after spending the 2017 season as the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Western Michigan and the three seasons before that in a similar role at Indiana. He replaces Eric Morris, who was hired as head football coach at Incarnate Word University.

"We're excited to have Coach Johns join our staff," Kingsbury said. "He has a tremendous record as one of the top offensive minds in college football, and I know he will be a great resource for our staff and players. We'd like to welcome him, his wife Krista and his three sons to Lubbock."

In his lone season at Western Michigan, Johns coordinated a balanced offense that ranked 25th nationally in scoring after averaging 33.9 points per game. The Broncos averaged 224.8 rushing yards per game on the ground, which ranked 21st in the country and second in the Mid-American Conference.

"It's a privilege to join the staff Coach Kingsbury has assembled," Johns said. "Texas Tech has long been known as one of the top offenses in the country, and it's an honor to work alongside Coach Kingsbury in continuing that tradition. I'm fortunate for the opportunity and can't wait to get started."

> *"It's a privilege to join the staff Coach Kingsbury has assembled. Texas Tech has long been known as one of the top offenses in the country, and it's an honor to work alongside Coach Kingsbury in continuing that tradition."*
>
> **Kevin Johns,** Offensive Coordinator

Johns made his way to Western Michigan following six seasons at Indiana (2011-16), the final three of which were spent as the primary offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach. He assisted with the wide receivers during all six seasons as well after arriving as a co-offensive coordinator in 2011.

The Hoosiers rewrote the school record book during his tenure as Indiana regularly ranked among the Big Ten's top offensive units. Indiana snapped 54 school records over his six seasons, including the single-season marks for points, total yards, passing yards and rushing yards.

WENTZ

From 1C

things since the minute he stepped into the starting lineup. He's close with Wentz and makes it a point to always give him credit for leading the Eagles from worst to first in the division.

"This is Carson's team," Foles said. "I've had to take it over, but Carson is a tremendous player. I think he's the MVP of the league. He's a huge reason why we're in this position. It's been awesome just being around him. He's handled this thing amazingly and he continues to be such a great leader in our locker room. When we go through game film and we go through everything, he's an extremely intelligent player, so I listen to everything that he says."

Wentz, the No. 2 pick in the 2016 draft, started every game his rookie season when the Eagles went 7-9. He took a giant leap as a sophomore, tossing 33 touchdowns and seven interceptions in 13 games.

Wentz was voted to the Pro Bowl and is a contender for the NFL MVP award that will be announced Saturday night.

"He's done such an amazing job in his two years in the NFL of continuing to create this atmosphere and obviously going out there making electric plays, but really just making everyone believe," Foles said. "That hasn't changed though he's injured. He's still around, and I love having him around."

While Foles stood center stage with Tom Brady at media night, Wentz sat in the stands at the hockey arena and spoke to reporters for about 25 minutes. He has relied on his strong faith to get him through the disappointment.

"When it comes to an injury like this, the season we were having, the season I was having personally and it gets taken away, it's just a chance to practice what I preach and that I play for (God) and it's not for myself," Wentz said. "It's taught me a lot so far. He closed this door on this season for me but I know he's going to open many other doors and he's going to use me."

If Foles leads the Eagles to victory over the Patriots , there still won't be a quarterback controversy in Philadelphia. Foles is signed through next season and provides insurance if Wentz isn't ready to start the season opener. Having Foles on the roster allows Philadelphia the luxury of giving Wentz all the time he needs to get his knee right.

"Two years ago, the plan was to acquire a quarterback," coach Doug Pederson said. "That was our first plan, and we were able to do that in Carson. We do have the quarterback of the future for the Eagles, obviously."

LAWSUIT

From 1C

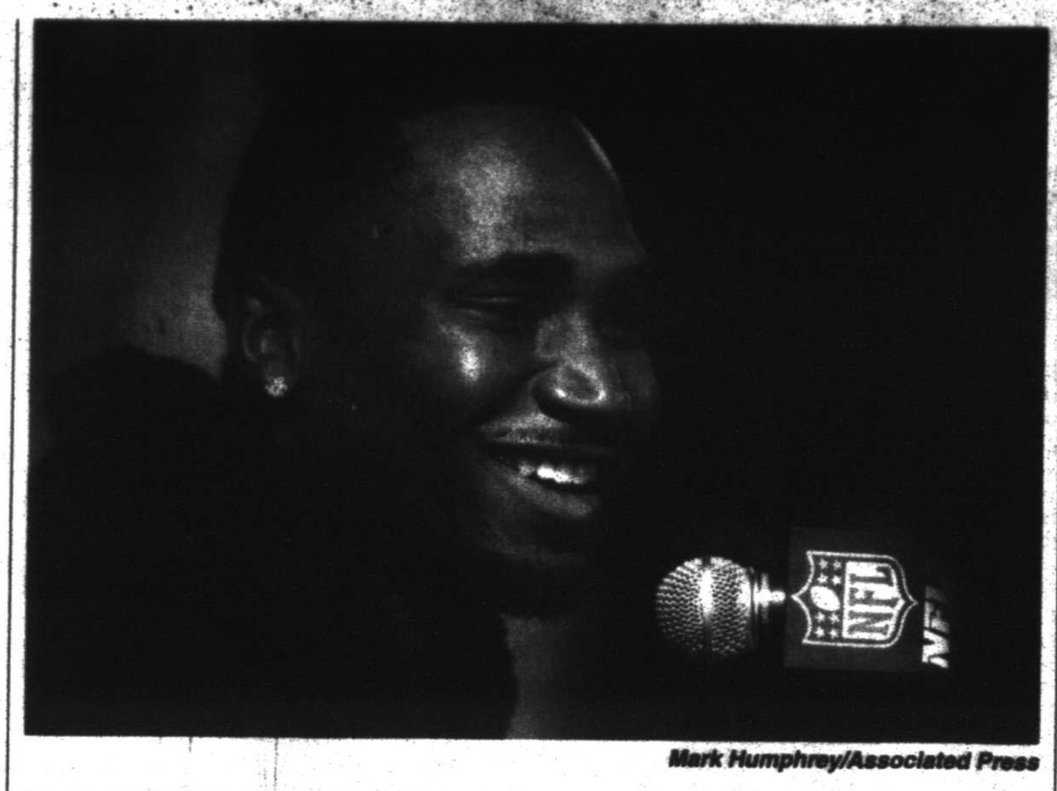
was suspended and under investigation. The first black women's head coach in school history was hired in 1993 and up for a significant raise when she was suspended and forced out within a few months. Texas has repeatedly said her relationship with one of her athletes "crossed a line" for a coach that wouldn't be tolerated.

Texas kept quiet about Applewhite's incident, which officials have said was consensual. It didn't surface until four years later when the Daily Texan student newspaper filed a public records request for his personnel file. University regents said they didn't know about the Applewhite incident until it was forced out in the open in early 2013.

Applewhite had returned to his alma mater as a running backs coach in the 2008 season, and his incident occurred on the team's trip to the Fiesta Bowl in Arizona. Once it was discovered, Applewhite was ordered by Dodds to enter counseling, and he was not given a raise that was given to other assistants after that season. But he was allowed to remain on staff and was eventually promoted to offensive coordinator, the position he had at the end of the 2013 season when Brown was fired and his staff replaced.

In 2012, the former student-athlete informed the school of the 2002 relationship with Kearney.

Kearney's lawyers have said they are willing to discuss settling the case. Texas has already spent more than $500,000 to defend the lawsuit, according to financial records obtained by the AP.



Mark Humphrey/Associated Press

New England Patriots running back Dion Lewis answers questions during a news conference Tuesday in Minneapolis.

Rejected by Eagles, Patriots' trio has shined in New England

By Kyle Hightower
Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — One thing sticks out to Patriots running back Dion Lewis about his time with the Philadelphia Eagles.

"Not playing," Lewis said Tuesday with a smirk.

Lewis is one of three Patriots starters who will be facing their former team in Sunday's Super Bowl, along with receiver Danny Amendola and safety Patrick Chung.

All three players look back on their experiences in Philadelphia differently, but they have played their best football since being rejected by the Eagles early in their careers.

Lewis was drafted by Philadelphia in the fifth round in 2011 and played two seasons for them before he was traded to Cleveland. Amendola was among Philadelphia's final cuts in training camp in 2009. Chung started his career in New England, spent a forgettable year with the Eagles in 2013, then returned to the Patriots in 2014.

Amendola has experienced people doubting his abilities since he entered the league as an undrafted free agent with Dallas in 2008. He signed with Philadelphia in 2009 after being cut by the Cowboys. But after eight months with the Eagles, he was released. He was signed up by the St. Louis Rams and stayed there for four seasons before signing a five-year contract with the Patriots in 2013.

This past Christmas he tweeted a picture of his framed No. 11 Eagles jersey, a gift from a friend.

"It's in my pool room — hanging as daily motivation," Amendola said. "I've come a long way since getting the opportunity to play there. It obviously didn't work out, so I guess I take it as a learning experience and just realize how far I've come."

Chung thought he was heading for a fresh start when he signed a three-year contract with Philadelphia in 2013, but it didn't work out under then first-year coach Chip Kelly. Chung was back in New England the next season. The decision paid off with a Super Bowl ring last season.

As for that 2013 season, Chung was coy about what he remembers about the experience.

"That'll be between me and those people," Chung said.

Lewis said despite his success in New England winning a ring last season and leading the team this season in rushing yards (896) and rushing touchdowns (six), he has learned to stay motivated.

"Never safe. You still gotta put the work in. You still gotta get an opportunity. That's what most of the guys in the league need — just an opportunity to compete," Lewis said.

He said he's matured a lot since leaving Philly.

"People look at you and kind of characterize you," Lewis said. "They try to tell you what they think you can do without even really knowing you. That's kind of what I went through. I just kind of keep battling and showing people what I can do."

As much as Lewis, Amendola and Chung have enjoyed their time in New England, they aren't naive to how the Patriots deal with aging players. This past offseason the Patriots parted with LeGarrette Blount, who led the NFL with 18 regular-season rushing touchdowns in 2016. But he also had turned 30, long considered the age of decline for running backs.

Blount was vocal about his desire to stay in New England, but the Patriots signed Mike Gillislee. Blount took a one-year deal with the Eagles, where he has had a good season and been a leader.

Amendola restructured his contract to remain with New England this season. With Julian Edelman out for the season with a knee injury, Amendola has stepped up, leading the team with 196 yards receiving and two touchdowns in the playoffs.

At 32, he will also enter free agency this summer.

Lewis is in the second year of a two-year deal and becomes an unrestricted free agent in the offseason. Chung, who turns 31 this summer, is signed through 2018.

Chung said he's always admired Belichick's no-nonsense approach to football. When reports came out about Belichick possibly considering retirement, Chung joked that his future was linked to that of his coach.

"When he's done, I'll be done, too," Chung said.

Lewis said he will have no regrets if this is in his final season in New England.

"Just being here and learning what it takes to be a champion," Lewis said. "I think that's something I'll always remember, regardless of what happens. I'll just cherish my moments here."

The Patriots gave him — and Amendola and Chung — what they've always wanted: an opportunity.

"Nobody's really given me a chance, and these guys gave me a chance. So that definitely means a lot to me," Lewis said. "So I'll always just remember what I've learned here. And hopefully I'll still be here."

MLB asks All-Star 11th start with runner on 2nd

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A runner would be put on second base at the start of the 11th inning of the All-Star Game and each additional inning, according to the latest pace-of-game proposal by Major League Baseball.

The experiment also would be used in the 10th inning of spring training games, according to the Jan. 9 proposal obtained by The Associated Press. Spring training games would be capped at 10 innings.

Concerned about injuries in games that don't count, the players' association isn't expected to oppose the concept. MLB isn't considering using the rule in any games that count.

Baseball experimented with the rule last year at the rookie level Gulf Coast and Arizona leagues, putting a runner on second base starting in the 10th. Extra-inning games in those two leagues averaged 27 minutes longer than nine-inning games, down from 43 minutes for all other minor leagues.

Unable thus far to negotiate a deal with players for a pitch clock or limits on mound visits, baseball owners discuss their next step this week during meetings that end Thursday in Beverly Hills, California.

Commissioner Rob Manfred met Jan. 23 with union head Tony Clark. Manfred has long vowed to make changes for this season with or without an agreement but says his preference is for a deal and is willing to negotiate the rules.

MLB has the right to implement the proposal it made last offseason, which includes a 30-second clock between batters and a 20-second clock between pitches that would reset when a pitcher steps off the rubber and when he makes or feints a pickoff throw, according to details obtained by the AP. There also would be a limit of one mound trip per pitcher each inning, whether by a manager, coach or player, and a second visit would result in a pitching change. Violations would be punished by ball-strike penalties.

Nine-inning games averaged a record 3 hours, 5 minutes during the 2017 regular season and 3:29 during the postseason. Players have resisted a pitch clock while appearing slightly more amenable to limits on mound visits.

Los Angeles Angels owner Arte Moreno is among those who doesn't think radical changes are needed.

"We just watched a World Series game that lasted over five hours and my wife hung with me the whole night," he said last week at the Hall of Fame news conference. "I would probably say I'm a traditionalist and let them play."

Under the latest MLB proposal, there would be a pitch timer this year only when no runners are on base and it would be set to 18 seconds. A 20-second timer with runners on base would be added for 2019.

The clock would not be used for the pitch following a foul ball or an umpire calling time, and there would be no penalties this year during spring training or April. Starting in May, each player would receive a warning for a violation and penalties would not start until a team's third violation in a game.

Abbott orders criminal probe of Texas gymnastics ranch

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott ordered a criminal investigation Tuesday into claims that former doctor Larry Nassar abused some of his victims at the Karolyi Ranch, a Texas facility that was the training ground for U.S. women's gymnastics.

Abbott ordered the Texas Rangers, the state's top criminal investigations unit, to look into ranch, which hosted training camps for more than a decade until earlier this year. The Walker County Sheriff's Office is already investigating.

Several gymnasts have said Nassar abused them at the ranch. Nassar was sentenced to 40 to 175 years in prison last week. More than 150 women and girls have said he had molested them under the guise of medical treatment.

Abbott called the allegations "gut-wrenching." He ordered the state investigation because the claims involve multiple jurisdictions and states.

"Those athletes, as well as all Texans, deserve to know that no stone is left unturned to ensure that the allegations are thoroughly vetted and the perpetrators and enablers of any such misconduct are brought to justice. The people of Texas demand, and the victims deserve, nothing less," Abbott said.

The ranch is owned by former national team coordinators Bela and Martha Karolyi. USA Gymnastics cut ties with the ranch earlier this month, a few days after Olympic champion Simone Biles and said she dreaded the thought of having to return there to train. Other gymnasts have also said they were abused at the ranch.

"It is impossibly difficult to relive these experiences and it breaks my heart even more to think that as I work towards my dream of competing in Tokyo 2020, I will have to continually return to the same training facility where I was abused," Biles said in a statement.

Nassar's accusers have said he would use his ungloved hands to penetrate them and other inappropriate touching when they were seeking treatment for back, hip, leg, foot and other injuries. Victims blamed Michigan State, USA Gymnastics and the U.S. Olympic Committee for not doing more to stop him earlier.

The Karolyis established the rustic estate in 1983 in Sam Houston National Forest, about an hour north of Houston, and eventually expanded it to 2,000 acres. USA Gymnastics had planned to buy about 40 acres, including training gyms, housing for up to 300 athletes, and medical and recreational facilities, but backed out in 2017.

When Martha Karolyi was elevated to national team coordinator in 2001, she installed a centralized system that required national team members to make regular visits to the ranch for training. Gymnasts have said their parents were not allowed at the ranch.

McKayla Maroney, who won gold in 2012, has said she was molested at the ranch by Nassar, starting when she was 13 years old. Biles' teammates from the 2016 squad, Aly Raisman and Gabby Douglas, also have said they were abused by Nassar there.

An attorney for the Karolyis did not immediately respond to request for comment.

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WEDNESDAY PRIME TIME — JANUARY 31, 2018

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

					6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID	ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	Goldberg	Speech-less	Modern Family	Am. Ho-usewife	Match Game (N)		News (N)		(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) News Nightline
KOSA	CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	Amazing Race "The Claws Are Out" (N)		SEAL Team "Getaway Day" (N)		Criminal Minds "Miasma" (N)		CBS 7 News (N)		(:35) The Late Show	(:35) J.Corden
KWWT	CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Mama's Family	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett		Mason "The Case of the Left-Handed Liar"	Twilight Zone
KPEJ	FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	The X-Files "Ghouli" (N)		9-1-1 "Point of Origin" (N)		Fox 24 News (N)	TMZ	Mom		Modern Family	Modern Family	Met Your Mother
KMLM	IND	11	12	12	11	11	Shepherd's Heart		Update News	Creation Magazine	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Update News		In Touch With Dr. Charles Stanley	The Essentials
KWES	NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsW-est 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 Now	The Blacklist "Tommy Wattles" (N)		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Info Wars" (N)		Chicago "Chasing Monsters" (N)		NewsW-est 9 (N)		(:35) The Tonight Show	(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT	PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour (N)		Nature "Animals With Cameras" (N)		Nova "The Impossible Flight" Two pilots take on the greatest adventure of our time. (N)				Aman-pour (N)		News (N)	News (N)	Stories
KUPB	UNI	4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		El Rico y Lazaro		Papa a Toda Madre		Caer en Tentacion		Noticias Tejas		Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
KOSA	MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	Dateline HBC		Dateline NBC				Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Game	Game
FLIX		340	575			105	(5:30) ★★ American Outlaws (01, Act) Colin Farrell.													
HBO		300	350	14	14		Mosaic	News (N)	★ ★★ The Fate of the Furious (17, Act) Vin Diesel.				(:20) Divorce "Ohio"				★ Ring It Lost: A Portrait of ...		Movie
HBO2		302	351	15	101	23	(6:30) ★ Hidden Fig...		Divorce	Divorce							(:10) ★★ The War of the Roses			
HBO5		304	552	16	102		(:05) ★ A United Kingdom (Avail Online)				★ ★★★ Sex and the City Sarah Jessica Parker.							★ Almost Christmas		
MAX		380	557	17	120	24	(6:20) ★ Rano 911!...		★ ★★ The Truth About Charlie (05) ★ Black Sea (14, Thri) Jude Law.								(:30) ★★ Kill the Messenger			
MAX2		382	558	18	122		(:35) ★★ Duplicity (09, Rom) Clive Owen.		★ ★★★ Practical Magic						(:45) ★★ Dead Calm (89, Susp) Sam Neill.				Movie	
PLEX				96			(5:30) ★ The Out of...		★ ★★ Lone Survivor (13, Act) Mark Wahlberg.						(:40) ★★ Bebe's Kids		(:20) ★ Nick & Norah's Infinite...		Movie	
SHOW		320	385	19	140	25	(6:40) ★ A Beautiful ...		★ ★★ Cold Mountain (03, Rom) Nicole Kidman.						(:30) ★ ★★★ Zack and Miri Make a Porno				Movie	
TMC		306	579	22	155	26	(6:00) ★ Mother's Day		★ ★★ Cold in July Michael C. Hall.						★ ★★★ Hail or High Water (16)			★ ★★★ The Revenant		
ABE		27	58	28	35	47	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars	Storage Wars (N)	Storage Wars (N)	Rooster & Dutch "A Blind Man's Bluff" (N)		(:05) Rooster & Dutch "Ride the Bull"		(:05) S. Wars	(:35) S. Wars		
AMC		40	74	23	42	51	(6:30) ★ Demolition...		★ ★★ Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines							★ ★★★ Denial (16, Act) Ken Urban.			Movie	
BET		58	-		40		★★★ Django Unchained (12, Wes) Christoph Waltz, Jamie Fox...				To Be Announced				★ ★★★ Akeelah (10, Act) Chris Brown.					
BRAVO		65	76		41		Housewives NJ		Housewives NJ		Housewives NJ (N)		Relative Success (N)		Watch (N)		Housewives NJ		Success	
CNBC		46	52		39	72	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Billion Buyer (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank			
CNN		43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360			
DISC		50	80	31	24	42	Street Outlaws		Street Outlaws (N)		Street Outlaws (N)		(:10) G.Rehab (N)		(:10) Street Outlaws		(:10) Street Outlaws			
DISNEY		56	64	36	25	36	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Underc.	Andi M.	StuckMid.	Bizaard.	Bunk'd	Jessie	Underc.	StuckMid.	Underc.	GoodLuck		
ESPN		32	35	48	31	30	NBA Countdown (L)		NBA Basketball New York Knicks at Boston Celtics (L)						NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Phoenix Suns (L)					
ESPN2		34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball Louisville at Virginia (L)				NCAA Basketball Missouri at Alabama (L)				SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)			
FNC		45	48	53	23	55	The Story		Tucker Carlson		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night		Tucker Carlson			
FOOD		64	70	27	68	54	Guy's Grocery Games		Guy's Game		Guy's Game (N)		Game "Fried Feud"		Game "Friend Or Foe"		Guy's Game			
FREEFORM		53	63	34	42	33	(6:00) ★ ★★★ Hidden...		Grown (N)	Alone (N)	★ ★★★ Hidden (18, Adv) Bella Thorne.				The 700 Club		★ The Iron Giant			
FSSW		37	38	50	45	29	Rangers Insider	NCAA Basketball Oklahoma State vs. Baylor -- Waco, Texas (L)			Mavs Pre (L)	Cowboys Legends	NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Phoenix Suns Site: Talking Stick Resort Arena -- Phoenix, Ariz. (L)							
FX		31	56	59	64	69	Movie	★ ★★★ Terminator: Genisys Arnold Schwarzenegger.					Gianni Versace (N)		(:10) Versace "A Random Killing"		Versace			
HALLMARK		54	71	58		34	F.House	Full House	F.House	F.House	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls		
HGTV		63	69	26	48	44	Property Brothers		Property Brothers		Property Brothers (N)		H.Hunt	House (N)	Property Brothers		Property Brothers			
HISTORY		71	59	29	50	43	Forged in Fire		Buried: Knights "Holy City, Holy Grail" (N)				Knightfall "Fiat" (N)		Knightfall "Fiat"		Buried: Knights			
LIFETIME		28	30	25	28	48	Little Women ATL "Juicy's Got Talent"		Woman ATL (N)	(:55) LW Atlanta	Little Women: Atlanta "Road Trippin'" 2/2		from Jan 24 (N)		Bring It! "The Dolls' Last Chance" (N)		Little Women	(:50) LW Atlanta		
MSNBC		47	53		49	73	Hardball (N)		All In (N)		Rachel Maddow (N)		The Last Word (N)		The 11th Hour (N)		Rachel Maddow			
NBCSN		38	43				NHL Live! (L)		NHL Hockey Philadelphia Flyers at Washington Capitals (L)				(:45) NHL Overtime (L)		Sport		Sport			
NICK		55	-	39	34	37	Hunter	Sponge ...	★ ★★★ Kings (11, Ani) Bill Hader, Anthony Daniels.				Fresh P.		Friends		Friends			
SPIKE		30	-	55	53	58	(6:00) ★ ★★★ Ultimate...				Waco		Waco		Cops		Cops			
SYFY		66	82	41	57	67	(6:00) ★ ★★★ Ant Games (15, Ani) Paul Rudd.				The Magicians (N)		Happy!		(:10) ★ ★★ Battle Los Angeles Aaron Eckhart.					
TBS		25	33	44	66	41	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Frontal (N)	Conan (N)		Full Frontal	Conan		
TCM		41	75	24	63	66	(6:00) ★ Home Befor...		★ ★★★ My ...						★ ★★★ Tonight They Come (41, Mys) Chester Morris.		(:10) ★ ★★★ Klute			
TELE		20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado (N)		Jose Jose, el privci		Sangre de mi Tie (N)		Señora acero (N)		Al rojo	Tinisimos	Sangre de mi Tierra			
TLC		51	61	32	38	52	My 600-lb Life "Alicia's Story" 2/2		My 600-lb Life "Liz's Story" (N)		To Be Announced		(:05) Family "You Have to Fight for It" (N)		(:10) My 600-lb Life "Liz's Story"		To Be Announced			
TNT		24	34	40	26	50	(6:00) ★ ★★ Red 2 ('13, Act) Bruce Willis.		Librarians "And the Trial of the One" (N)		★ ★★ Vacation (15, Com) Ed Helms, Leslie Mann, Ed Helms.				The Librarians "And the Trial of the One"		Hawaii Five-0 "I Ka Wa Mamua"			
TVLAND		49	-	35	54	35	MASH	M*A*S*H	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Mom	Mom	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens		
USA		26	55	42	27	49	NCIS "Charade"		NCIS "Privileged Information"		NCIS "Shell Game"		NCIS "Pay to Play"		NCIS "Return to Sender"		NCIS "Homefront"			
WGN		19	85				Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops		

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Man puts drinking problem on display in widow's yard

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'm a widowed senior who has been dating a very kind man, "Ben," for three years. He's retired; I am not. He does things for and with me, and we enjoy traveling together.

The problem is, Ben usually starts drinking about 3 p.m. at the neighborhood bar. I'm welcome to join him, but I prefer to work at my job or volunteer in the community. By the grace of God, Ben has made it home safely every night, but I'm afraid he will eventually hurt someone.

My son came home for a month because of a job change, and tonight he found Ben passed out in the front yard. I told my son I was sorry, and he said not to be, but he does not want his family — my grandchildren — around when Ben is like this.

I am so embarrassed. I would miss this relationship, but I'm wondering if you think I should end it. — MISSING THE GOOD IN HIM

DEAR MISSING THE GOOD: It must have been clear to you for some time that Ben has a serious drinking problem that needs to be addressed. Whether you should end the relationship depends upon whether he is willing to admit that he has a problem and is willing to do something about it.

Because Ben's drinking is now affecting you and, by extension, your family, it's time to confront him and give him a choice — get help or find another lady friend. There are Alcoholics Anonymous groups worldwide and in almost every community. Steer Ben in that direction, and while you're at it, locate the nearest Al-Anon group for yourself. You will find it both sympathetic and helpful. These groups are as close as your phone directory or your computer. Visit al-anon.org.

DEAR ABBY: I recently utilized a national ancestry company to determine my heritage. I also provided kits to my adult children thinking it would be a fun exercise we all could share. Unfortunately, my good deed came with unexpected consequences.

According to the results, my youngest son isn't related to me. Apparently, unbeknownst to me, my ex-wife had an affair 25 years ago. What do I do now? Should I confront my ex to verify the affair and learn the identity of my son's father? How do we tell my son? Should we? How do we handle our families? Keep it a secret? I would appreciate your guidance. — UNKNOWN FAMILY TREE

DEAR UNKNOWN: Before making accusations or announcements, it is important that you determine the accuracy of the test to make absolutely sure the results are conclusive. If a second test verifies the first, your son should be informed because he has a right to know his familial medical history — and HE should talk to his mother about who his biological father is.

Goren Bridge

With Bob Jones

Overcoming bad news

East-West vulnerable, North deals

NORTH
♠ 10 8 7
♡ A 7
◇ K Q J 10
♣ Q 10 6 4

WEST
♠ Q J 4 2
♡ 9 4
◇ 9 6 4 3
♣ A K 9

EAST
♠ Void
♡ 10 8 5 3 2
◇ 8 2
♣ J 8 7 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A K 9 6 5 3
♡ K Q J 6
◇ A 7 5
♣ Void

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1◇	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♡	Pass
2♣	Pass	6♠	All pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♣

This was an excellent slam, needing only a 3-1 split in trumps to succeed. A 2-2 trump split would provide an easy overtrick. This was not to be, as South, quickly discovered when he ruffed the opening club lead and cashed the ace of trumps.

The only possibility was an end play against West. South would have to ruff two more clubs in his hand to get the ending that he wanted, so it was necessary that West started with three clubs. West's required holding in the red suits was a different matter. South could handle it as long as West was 2-4, 3-3, or 4-2 in the red suits, but South had to guess which one. As two out of the three possible red suit holdings would have West holding at least three diamonds, South cashed the ace, king, and queen of diamonds. East showing out on the third diamond was helpful.

South ruffed a second club and crossed back to dummy with the ace of hearts. He cashed the jack of diamonds and ruffed another club, then cashed the king of hearts. In this three-card ending, South had the king-nine of trumps and the queen of hearts. Dummy had the 10-eight of spades and the queen of clubs, and West had the queen-jack-four of trumps. South led the queen of hearts and West was finished. He could ruff high, but then had to lead away from his other trump honor and give South the last two tricks. Nicely done!

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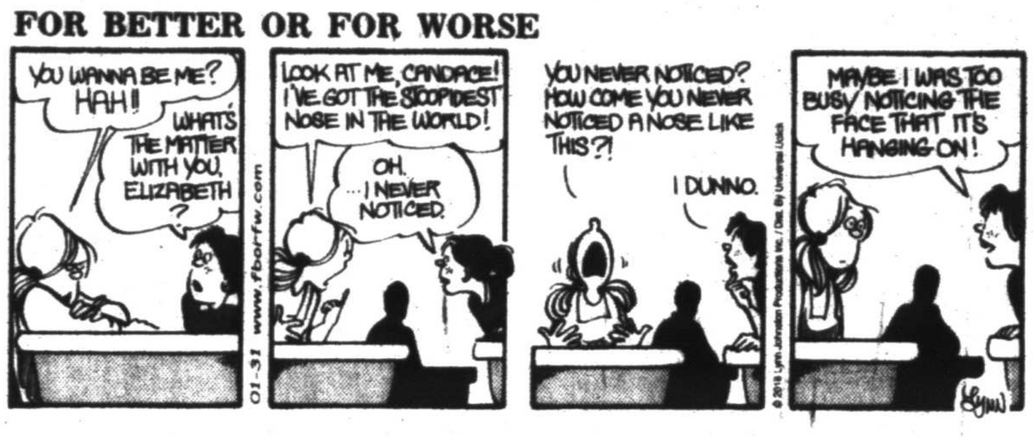


HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

FUNKY WINKERBEAN

LUANN

BLONDIE

MARY WORTH

BEETLE BAILEY

ZITS

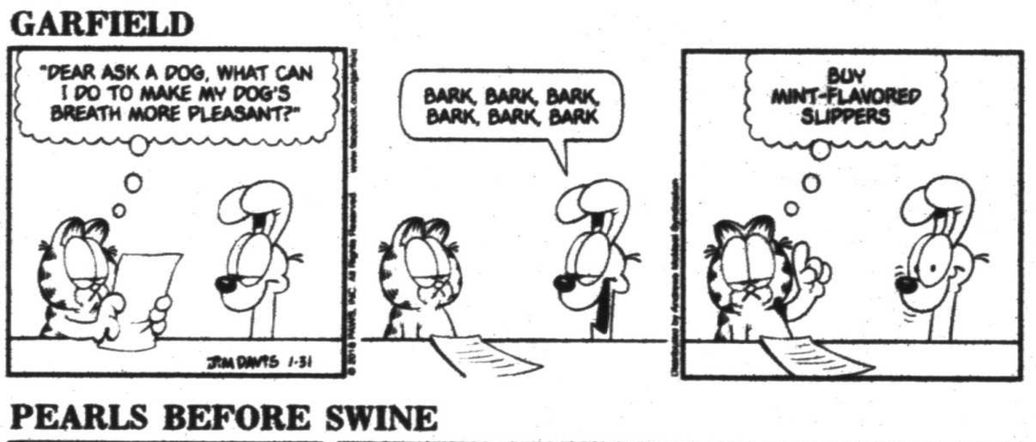
CLASSIC PEANUTS

BABY BLUES

SHOE

MUTTS

GARFIELD



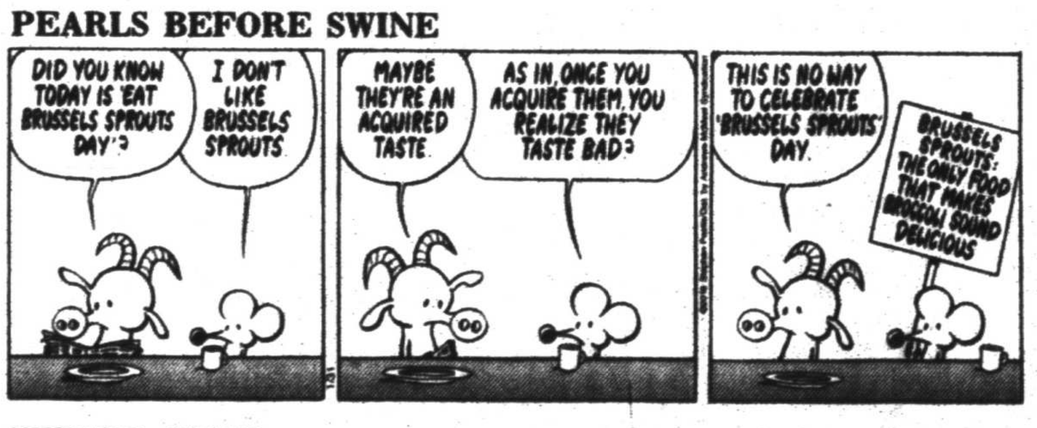
CLOSE TO HOME

"I don't know. I just thought that a chair message was ... well, different than this."

DENNIS THE MENACE

"BOY, THERE'S A WHOLE LOT OF 'CAT PEOPLE' THAT OWN STORES."

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



FAMILY CIRCUS

"C'mon, Dolly, Mommy said it's time for Daddy to wake up."

WIZARD OF ID

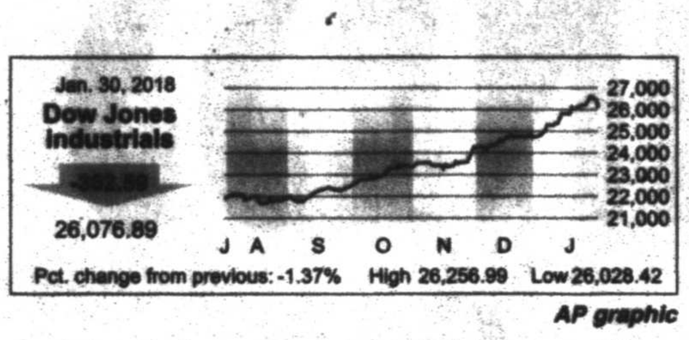
LOCKHORNS

"THIS LOOKS LIKE THAT LUMP OF COAL I ONCE GOT FOR CHRISTMAS"

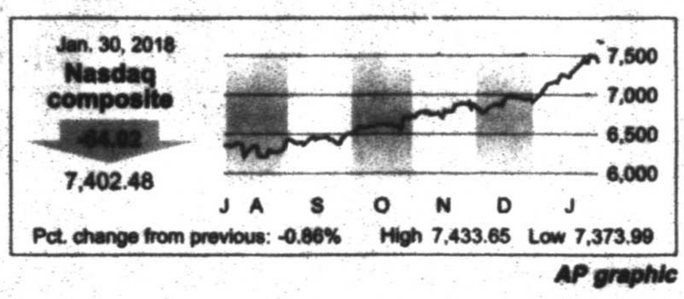
DILBERT

BUSINESS & OIL

A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



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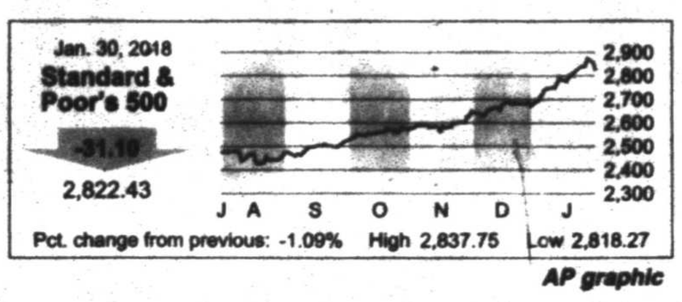


AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Tuesday: $64.50
Previous: $65.56

POSTED

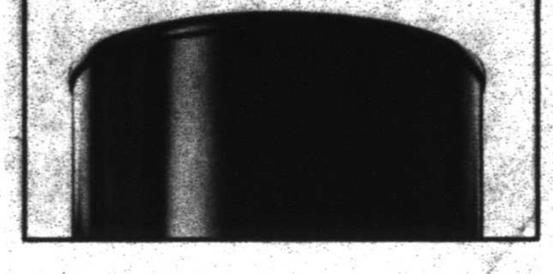
Tuesday: $61.00
Previous: $61.75

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Tuesday: $58.65
Previous: $59.40

NATURAL GAS

Tuesday: $3.195
Previous: $3.631



Oklahoma-based Chesapeake announces hundreds of layoffs

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Chesapeake Energy Corp. has announced the layoffs of about 400 employees, the vast majority at its headquarters in Oklahoma City.

The layoffs were announced Tuesday in an email to employees from Chesapeake CEO Doug Lawler.

Lawler says the layoffs are part of the company's continuing effort to "structure and position" itself for success.

The layoffs include about 330 employees in Oklahoma City. The remainder will be at company field offices in Louisiana, Ohio, Texas, Pennsylvania and Wyoming. That accounts for about 13 percent of the company's workforce.

The job cuts leave Chesapeake with a total of about 2,900 employees. About 1,800 of them are in Oklahoma City.

Lawler's email says employees affected by the layoffs will receive undisclosed assistance in "their personal and career transition."

Harley shuts plant as woes worsen for Trump's model manufacturer

Bloomberg

A deepening slump in U.S. motorcycle demand is spurring more job cuts and a plant closure at Harley-Davidson Inc., a company President Donald Trump has cast as a model American manufacturer.

The Milwaukee-based motorcycle maker will close its factory in Kansas City, Missouri, and consolidate production in York, Pennsylvania, according to a statement Tuesday. The restructuring will eliminate about 260 U.S. jobs, Chief Executive Officer Matt Levatich said on a conference call. Trump praised the company last year as a "great example" of a business creating jobs and building factories in the country.

Harley is consolidating its U.S. manufacturing presence as its bike sales fall on every continent. And the pain won't end this year: The company projected global sales will drop as much as 4.9 percent more in 2018 after a 6.7 percent decline last year.

U.S. motorcycle ridership has stalled in spite of Levatich's efforts to introduce models for first-time buyers and teach more Americans how to safely get around on bikes. Harley shares fell as much as 9.4 percent in New York, the biggest intraday drop since July. The issue for investors isn't the fourth-quarter miss, which was complicated by a number of one-time items, David Beckel, an analyst with Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., said in a note to clients.

"The story is, or continues to be, that Harley is in the throes of a significant secular decline," he wrote.

Sales in the crucial U.S. market fell 11 percent in the fourth quarter and 8.5 percent for the year.

Value meals and new chicken snack boosts McDonald's

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Cheap eats, $1 sodas and a new chicken snack helped bring more people to McDonald's, the company said Tuesday.

The world's largest hamburger chain said U.S. sales rose 4.5 percent at established locations during the fourth quarter, thanks to its two-for-$5 deal called McPick 2, soda promotions and new Buttermilk Crispy Tenders. Its delivery service, which it is expanding, also helped. Worldwide, sales rose 5.5 percent at established restaurants.

"We served more customers more often," said CEO Steve Easterbrook.

Value menus have become increasingly important to fast food companies looking to boost sales. Earlier this month, McDonald's replaced McPick 2 by reviving the name of its once-popular Dollar Menu, but this time items cost $1, $2 or $3. About the same time, fellow burger chain Wendy's expanded its four-for-$4 menu, which includes chicken sandwiches, spicy wraps and bacon cheeseburgers.

Easterbrook said it was too early to tell if the $1, $2, $3 Dollar Menu is bringing in more diners.

"We feel good about the Dollar Menu," he said in a call with investors. "It's very early days to comment on anything meaningful."

Neil Saunders, a retail analyst at GlobalData Retail, said that the value meals are a "necessary evil," because, while they bring in more customers, the deals lower profits and hurts sales of pricier items. He added that McDonald's should find a way to increase the number of items it sells, or get people to order more of its pricier items.

US stocks have biggest drop since August, led by health care

Hefty losses in health care and technology companies led U.S. stocks sharply lower Tuesday, handing the market its biggest pullback since August and its worst two-day drop since May.

The broad slide, which briefly sent the Dow Jones industrial average down by more than 400 points, erased some of the big gains the market had racked up since the beginning of the year, though the market was still on track to close out January with a gain.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 31.10 points, or 1.1 percent, to 2,822.43. That's the biggest one-day drop since August 17. The Dow had its biggest decline since May, losing 362.59 points, or 1.4 percent, to 26,076.89. The average had been down more than 411 points.

The Nasdaq slumped 64.02 points, or 0.9 percent, to 7,402.48. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks gave up 15.29 points, or 1 percent, to 1,582.82.

Metal prices fall

Gold fell $4.90 to $1,335.40 an ounce. Silver dropped 7 cents to $17.06 an ounce. Copper slipped 1 cent to $3.19 a pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $157.36 Down 3.92

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $6.58 Up 0.02

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $126.27 Down 2.78

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $2.36 Down 0.11

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $4.05 Down 0.15

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $28.55 Down 0.10

ProPetro Holdings (PUMP)
Closing Price $19.22 Down 0.45

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $40.50 Down 1.51

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $13.62 Down 0.50

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $24.23 Down 1.29

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AK Steel	...	15	5.49	-.02	-3.0
AT&T Inc	2.00f	14	37.44	+.16	-3.7
Abraxas	...	89	2.35	-.04	-4.5
AllisnBldg	1.28e	...	16.84	+.14	+8.6
AMD	...	...	12.87	+.46	+23.1
Alcoa	...	56	169.66	-3.50	+15.1
AlloMdtA rP	1.20e	7	111.46	-.10	+8.1
Amkor	.20e	7	5.84	+.02	+9.9
Ampio	0.20e	17	191.27	+5.79	+10.8
Anadarko	.20	...	59.79	+1.01	+11.4
Apache	1.00	...	44.67	-2.05	+5.8
Apollo Inc	0.52	20	105.07	-.90	-1.3
ApolloEd	.40	17	8.39	+.06	+4.4
Archrock	.48	...	9.60	+.45	+5.6
ATMOS	1.80	23	82.49	+.11	-4.0
AtlasSen rs	...	...	24	+.09	+103.0
AutoDesk	2.52	32	120.61	+.05	+3.1
BP PLC	2.38	21	39.93	-.24	+1.9
BakrHu	.48	21	31.83	+.40	+5.0
B FPldST n	...	...	20.09	+.03	+9.8
BarlogCp s	1.20	...	14.23	-.25	-3.0
BasicEnS	...	...	.45	...	...
Basillio A	...	...	2.00	+.01	+5.5
BBMBkCp	1.76	15	35.52	-.35	-7.9
BillyBg	1.60f	22	53.95	+.07	+4.4
BrownPA p	.72	40	63.10	+.07	+1.9
BrownPA p	.72	...	63.60	+.09	...
CVS Health	2.00	14	80.19	-0.44	+10.6
Cabela	...	...	58.90	+0.09	+25.5
CabotOil	...	89	11.97	-.03	-5.5
Calpine rs	0.12	39	169.73	+1.18	+8.9
Calumt g	...	8	10.58	-.15	-1.1
CntryLink	2.16	8	17.61	-.22	+6.6
Chesflng	...	6	3.63	-.02	-6.8
Chevron	4.28	57	125.29	-0.55	...
Chicos	.52	13	8.45	-.28	+7.1
Cimarex	.92	30	114.33	-4.35	-6.5
Cisco	1.16	22	42.33	+.60	+10.9
Citigroup	1.28	15	76.62	-1.04	+6.7
ClevCliffs	...	6	7.49	+.07	+6.1
ConchoRs	1.48	39	157.41	-.39	+6.3
ConocoPhil	1.76	9	57.47	-.03	+6.1
ContlRsc	1.00	25	47.71	+.12	+12.9
CrstonA n	.76	20	62.54	+.20	+6.1

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
ConAgra	.80	20	37.88	+.35	+.5
ConchoRes	...	...	157.36	-3.92	+4.0
ConocoPhil	1.84	47	59.48	-1.30	+6.0
Corning	.62	20	28.97	-1.02	+1.1
Crackerb	4.00	31	177.74	-.66	+11.0
CrthCstl rs	...	...	0.58	+.09	+16.0
CrstalRk	.20e	15	18.66	-.14	+8.8
DCP Mid	3.12	56	41.16	+.80	+13.5
DTE	3.80	20	104.24	-.15	+4.6
DeltaAir	...	...	52.49	-.10	+11.3
DenbryR	...	...	2.49	-.10	+11.3
DenrdC	.24	69	41.82	+.01	+.5
DxfltStBear	...	...	3.12	+.10	-52.3
Disney	1.68f	19	110.51	+.40	+8.4
DOG Rssia	.67	...	115.17	-1.41	+6.7
Energen	.05	...	63.59	-2.73	+5.0
EngyXPtr	2.28	25	19.74	+.35	+10.2
EnPro	.60	69	69.77	+1.91	-5.1
EQUITY	.84	...	5.59	-.25	+1.4
EntProPt	1.70f	22	59.30	+.29	+5.0
Ericsson	.11e	...	7.01	...	+4.5
Esterline	0.00	54	88.75	-1.20	+5.0
Facebook	...	35	187.12	+1.14	+8.0
FirstEngy	1.44	12	32.82	+.15	+5.6
FordM	.60a	6	11.08	-.06	-11.4
FrptMcM	...	...	19.13	-.50	+.9
GATX	1.76f	15	71.69	+.44	+10.3
GenMotF	.80a	...	9.67	+.08	+6.0
GMor	1.52a	...	60.63	+.60	+6.2
GMotorU	.48	...	40.62	+.38	+6.7
GnrlDyn	3.40	19	205.00	+.50	+6.0
GnrlElec	.24	...	16.67	+.04	+12.0
GnrlMot n	...	...	.05	+.01	+24.5
Gerdau	.04	31	4.03	+.07	+6.4

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
InterDig	1.40	11	79.55	+.45	+4.5
iShCorEM	.65e	...	60.08	-.01	+7.2
iaAtlInfr	.92a	...	16.35	+.10	+25.9
JD.com	...	89	49.28	-.08	+18.9
JPMorgCh	2.24f	19	116.11	-1.09	+7.0
JohnJn	3.80	28	140.48	-2.28	+1.8
KimbCtk	4.68f	18	118.89	-4.21	+1.8
Kindmorg	.80	97	16.23	-.35	+.9
LegacyRes	...	...	2.36	-.11	+46.6
Lehpe	...	...	2.89	+.16	+8.0
MGM Rsts	.44	45	37.11	-.92	+11.1
McDermt	...	16	8.75	+.03	+35.0
McDnlds	4.04	29	172.48	-5.09	+.2
Merck	1.92	18	60.65	-.90	+7.6
MetroMed	...	84	69.79	-.39	+9.2
MetLife	1.80	11	49.75	+0.67	-1.6
MonsterBv	...	...	4.06	+.16	+9.3
MorganSt	...	9	41.67	-1.02	+1.3
Microsoft	1.68	32	92.74	-1.16	+8.4
Nokia	.24	...	7.06	-.39	+16.0
NORWire	.20	...	36.59	-.14	+1.6
NSTRS	.80e	...	14.58	+.01	-6.9
NTMOf	.68	...	19.75	-.32	-4.9
Nvidia	.60f	59	242.72	-4.13	+65.4
OasisPet	...	...	8.61	-.52	...
OcciPet	3.00	...	74.78	-1.49	+1.8
Oneok	.76	22	50.05	-.99	+7.6
PDC Engy	...	...	59.05	-0.57	+1.5
PayPal	...	51	84.49	-.58	-7.9
PerkElf	.68	...	1.34	-.09	+14.0
Petrohwk	...	65	24.07	-4.01	-19.2
PetroBras	.65	19	11.39	-.46	-5.1
Pmian	.60e	20	9.27	-.14	+4.5
PetroDev	...	...	12.29	-.16	+25.0
Petrofrac	...	...	13.50	-.35	+29.9
Pfizer	1.28	16	37.80	-1.32	+4.6
Phillips	.28	...	102.61	-4.34	+5.7
PhilipsAR	0.20	59	31.33	-.09	+9.0
PnrDia ODO	1.52e	...	160.70	-1.34	+8.0
Pandora	0.00f	66	100.74	-0.11	+9.0
Penney	...	...	10.05	-0.00	-9.9
PVREMT rs	...	...	12.03	+.70	+17.9
ProShtVix s	...	...	115.60	-3.77	-9.8
ProShSvc	0.76	59	60.65	+.09	-5.4

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
PUSHSPX	...	...	9.66	+.31	-14.9
RangeRs	.08	16	14.03	-.46	-14.2
RiteAid	...	...	2.08	-.15	+5.6
Rowan	.40	9	14.81	-.29	-5.4
RyCrbbBAA	3.76	...	70.07	-.75	+5.0
SpdDJIA	3.09e	...	260.67	-3.59	+5.3
SAP500ETF	4.13e	...	281.63	-3.01	+5.5
SpdLehHY	2.30	...	38.04	-.16	-.2
SpdrOGEx	.70e	...	38.97	-1.35	-.8
SasolA	2.31e	22	40.20	-1.50	+3.6
SandRes	1.28	11	102.39	+2.79	-4.6
Schlmbrg	2.00	51	74.54	-1.84	+10.6
SilvaWM	.04	33	5.95	-.03	+11.0
Smucker	3.12	17	127.46	-1.96	+2.6
SwstnEngy	...	32	4.46	-.30	-20.3
SP HlthC	1.01e	...	89.34	-1.05	+6.1
SP Engy	2.04e	...	74.79	-1.39	+3.5
SPDR Fncl	.48e	...	29.60	-.37	+5.4
SP Ind	1.12e	...	70.49	-.63	+5.0
SP Tech	.70e	...	67.91	-.65	+6.2
SP Util	1.59e	...	50.49	+.69	-4.2
Starbucks s	1.20	27	57.19	+.17	-.4
TelloEng	1.28e	...	16.37	-.14	+6.1
TrueFrnt	.72e	7	20.65	-.06	+8.0
3M Co	5.44f	32	251.54	-4.47	+8.0
Toolmark	.60	20	91.39	-1.61	+.7
Transocn	...	10	10.99	-.02	+2.9
TriCntl	1.00e	...	27.89	-.49	+2.4
Twitter	...	...	25.02	+.44	+6.7
TylerTech	...	63	201.01	-.94	+13.8
USNG	1.28f	19	38.89	+.76	+8.8
US OilFd	...	...	12.90	-.21	+7.4
USSteel	.20	...	38.61	-2.54	+9.7
Vale SA	.20e	...	12.99	-.06	+6.2
ValeantPh	...	5	18.65	-.74	-10.3
ValeroE	3.20f	25	94.34	-2.05	+2.6
VanEGold	.08e	...	23.45	-.23	+.9
VanE JrGld	...	...	33.12	-.45	-3.0
VangEmg	1.10e	...	40.54	-.64	+7.9
VerizonCm	2.36	7	53.90	-.33	+1.8
Vistaoil	1.00	44	139.89	+.91	+8.9
WEC Engy	2.21f	21	63.32	+.30	-4.7
Weatherf	1.60	15	78.13	-4.14	+4.8
WestAstM	...	...	4.02	-.15	-3.6
WstAstEmg	1.56	15	65.35	-.54	+7.6
WstnDig	1.20	94	31.81	-.47	+9.3
Wynn	2.00	47	171.45	+7.97	+1.7
XcelEngy	1.44	19	48.21	+.36	-6.0
Xerox rs	1.00	12	32.68	-.16	+12.1
Yamana g	.02	...	3.40	-.06	+9.0
Zynga	...	...	3.80	-.07	-10.0

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We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD %Chg	52-wk % Chg
26,616.71	19,766.77	Dow Jones Industrials	26,076.89	-362.59	-1.37	+3.49	+31.20
11,423.02	8,744.35	Dow Jones Transportation	10,085.41	-148.02	-1.34	+3.33	+19.20
770.80	664.14	Dow Jones Utilities	691.71	+.69	+.09	-3.38	+3.41
10,037.03	11,147.11	NYSE Composite	10,376.81	-148.14	-1.10	+4.42	+18.18
7,903.77	5,370.09	Nasdaq Composite	7,402.48	-64.02	-.86	+7.03	+31.24
2,872.87	2,067.36	S&P 500	2,822.43	-31.10	-1.09	+5.57	+23.05
2,531.49	1,868.34	S&P Midcap	1,957.40	-21.14	-1.07	+2.39	+16.02
29,700.00	23,714.97	Wilshire 5000	29,254.84	-308.25	-1.04	+5.23	+22.69
1,615.78	1,305.99	Russell 2000	1,582.82	-15.29	-.96	+3.05	+19.35

NYSE

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
SPDR S&P T	2830222	281.83	-3.01
iS Eafe	1139863	73.94	-.82
iShCorEafe	957422	69.85	-.53
S P Vix ST	8842141	30.59	+.89
PUMidST n	881584	12.03	+.70

Gainers ($5 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Aquantia n	13.00	+1.41	+12.2
CNCBlood	9.82	+1.03	+11.6
Autolv	149.49	+11.16	+8.1
ThomasH	46.52	+3.07	+7.1
HarlaCorp	106.31	+6.12	+6.2

Losers ($5 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
FerroVn	24.07	-4.01	-14.3
Nordic	91.95	-15.31	-14.2
Polaris	118.40	-17.84	-13.1
AK Steel	5.49	-.82	-13.0
DstPOGBI	29.16	-3.43	-10.5

Diary

Advanced	984
Declined	2,575
Unchanged	73
Total Issues	3,012
New Highs	46
New Lows	289
Volume	3,952,255,838

AMEX

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
NwGold g	78407	3.01	-.05
MVEmMkt g	59805	1.54	-.05
GtUgld g	57027	3.00	-.06
iShsInBd bt	56805	37.23	-.57
22ndCentry	44359	3.48	+.04

Gainers ($5 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
ReVenuWk	14.07	+1.11	+8.6
AmpioPhrm	2.92	+.20	+7.4
HeadWtr rs	3.70	+.23	+6.5
MTN Buzz rs	5.87	+.34	+6.1
Mdjesco n	5.66	+.31	+5.8

Losers ($5 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
NthnO&G	2.02	-.28	-12.2
Pieris	3.45	-.41	-10.6
RedHrgMk	8.65	-.90	-9.3
Mygrnn n	4.41	-.37	-7.7
PacGE pfC	22.20	-1.58	-6.6

Diary

Advanced	78
Declined	247
Unchanged	20
Total Issues	345
New Highs	3
New Lows	33
Volume	164,645,573

NASDAQ

Most Active ($1 or more)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
CSVelIn rs	915729	6.58	+.28
Apple Inc	455094	166.97	-.59
PwShs QQQ	407705	160.70	-1.34
MicronT	370992	41.57	-1.62
Microsoft	371294	92.74	-1.16

Gainers ($5 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
KaloBTh rs	5.89	+1.05	+22.0
Inmsonn n	8.29	+1.31	+18.8
BrewDrkn	3.50	+.55	+18.6
Atomera n	4.90	+.65	+15.3
AzurRx n	3.48	+.42	+13.7

Losers ($5 or more)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
LibTipA B	9.05	-3.35	-27.0
Cassin rs	4.91	-1.20	-19.6
RenaMd rs	8.74	-1.85	-17.5
Lightbdg s	2.20	-.38	-14.7
CitCustR n	14.89	-2.10	-12.4

Diary

Advanced	713
Declined	2,139
Unchanged	165
Total Issues	3,017
New Highs	43
New Lows	64
Volume	2,141,158,698

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CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITIES

Contractors w/ Plumbing Construction Exp.

Power Plumbing, Inc. is searching for contractors with plumbing construction experience. All candidates must live locally and be registered as a Section 3 resident or be Section 3 owned business. Power Plumbing acknowledges that the Construction of this project is subject to the Section 3 plan of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Please call: Power Plumbing, Inc. Attn: Lisa S. 281-213-6919

CUSTOMER SERVICE

CASHIER / CLERK WANTED

MIDLAND CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTSRICT is accepting applications for the position of Cashier/Clerk. Previous cashiering experience required. Also required is use of a 10-key calculator, Excel software and the ability to learn other computer software. Should have strong interpersonal skills, be a team player and dependable. Qualified applicants may send resume to:

Midland Central Appraisal District
Attn.: Human Resources
PO Box 908002
Midland, TX 79708-0002

Deadline for accepting applications is February 9, 2018

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Downhole Tool Service Technicans

National Oilwell Varco now hiring Downhole Tool Service Technicians. Competitive pay and benefits. Apply in person or submit resume online at nov.com/careers or 8301 Groening Road, Odessa, TX. (Near the H & P yard). 432-563-1173

Mudloggers/Field Geologists

Advance Consultants Corp. is now hiring **Experienced Mudloggers/Field Geologists.** Geology Degree preferred. Email resumes to advance@advancelogging.com

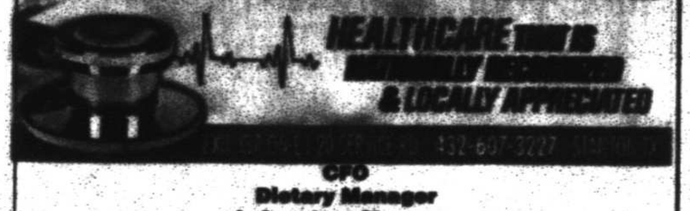
Producer Accounting Analyst

Oil & Gas energy firm in Midland, TX. is looking to fill a Producer Accounting Analyst position. Duties include data preparation and monthly settlement for Permian area Gas Processing plants. Candidate must have excellent computer and communication skills. Degree preferred but not required. PGAS and TIPS experience preferred. Competitive benefits including health insurance, 401K and Cafeteria Plan. Mail resume to Producer Accounting, 211 N. Colorado, Midland, TX. 79701 or email to **jterquhar@westtexasgas.com.**

Pump Systems Testing Supervisor

Pump Systems Testing Supervisor (Pioneer Natural Resources Pumping Services LLC; Midland, TX) Communicate repeated common failure in oilfield service equipment to sustaining engineers. Produce Business Intelligence reporting as it relates to quality of oilfield service equipment coming through test stand. Ensure test equipment delivered to field has all appropriate regulatory safeguards in place. Supervise daily operations of testing dpt to ensure oilfield service equipment is in full regulatory compliance. Min Reqs: High School diploma (college prep or vocational) or US equiv, plus 5 yrs exp supervising operation of oilfield service equipment (incl electronic instrumentation, automation equipment & hydraulic fracturing equipment for well servicing operations). Must also have: 5 yrs exp coordinating with other technicians to set operational specifications that comply with regulatory reqs; 2 yrs exp preparing Business Intelligence reports on oilfield service equipment; 2 yrs exp designing test stands to confirm oilfield service equipment is operating properly prior to entering field. Send resume to: Lenyle Whitehead, Pioneer Natural Resources Pumping Services LLC, 5205 N O'Connor Blvd, Ste 200, Irving, TX 75039. Specify ad code LWRO. EOE. MFDV.

HEALTHCARE



CFO
Dietary Manager
Laboratory Manager
Housekeeping
Aides
Apply at
www.martincountyhospital.org

EEOC Employer 2286611

Contact Lens Technician

Optometric practice needing someone with Contact Lens, Optical, and Computer experience. Please bring resume to Phipps Eye Clinic 4311 W. Wadley. Contact person Lizzie (432) 699-0325

SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER

Scenic Mountain Medical Center is excited to announce the opening of our Behavioral Health Unit on March 1st, 2018. We are looking for employees who have a servant's heart and will be focused on providing quality and compassionate care to the patients.

NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS
RN
LCSW- LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER
REGISTERED RECREATIONAL THERAPIST
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CASE MANAGER

Great Compensation and Benefits
APPLY ONLINE AT SMMCCARES.COM
For more information contact:
Nadine Reyes at (432) 265-5591

EOE

MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Management/ Sales

Management/ sales position. Salary is $75k/ year DOE. Working weekends and a valid drivers license is required. Must be able to pass a drug test. Management experience of 2 years or more is preferred. Please e-mail resume to Jonathan@fastenalmidla.com.

OTHER JOBS

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE
Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 6pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person.
$11.00 per hour

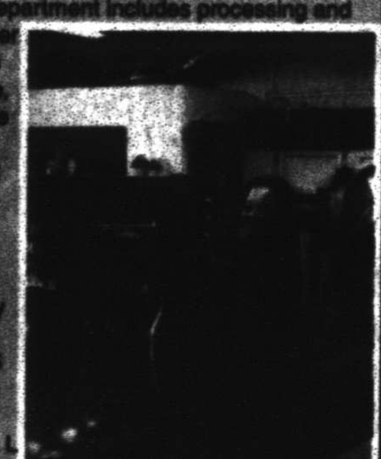
These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE
Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occassionally. We will train the right person.
$11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.



Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Janitors & Maids

Janitors and maids needed, work Monday - Friday 5:30 pm until 8:30 pm. Apply at 1907 N. Big Spring, Midland, TX.

Stylists

Locker Room Haircuts is looking to hire several stylists! Starting pay is $11 per hour plus tips and a $500 sign on bonus! kburns@fsalwireless.com

RETAIL JOBS

Full Time Manager & Cashiers

Smoker's Outlet has openings for Manager Trainee & Cashiers. Full-time & Part-time positions avaible, must have own transportation. Apply in person Mon-Fri 8-5 5000 E University Ste 11, Odessa, TX

SALES JOBS

OUTSIDE SALES REPRESENTATIVE

The Midland Reporter-Telegram is looking for someone with excellent communication skills to provide outstanding customer service to our Retail Advertising customers.

Responsibilities include prospecting new clients, working closely with new and existing clients to develop multi-media advertising campaigns that provide outstanding results, tracking sales activity, and meeting/ exceeding established monthly sales goals.

Qualified candidates must be a self-starter and possess excellent communication and organizational skills, be detail oriented and assertive, excel in spelling/grammar/punctuation, excel in time management, and possess a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months and the opportunity to advance your career in an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to: Cranderson@hearstnp.com

Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX 79701. No phone calls please.

SALES JOBS

DIGITAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST

MRT Media Group is seeking a Digital and Social Media Recruitment Specialist for TexasBackToWork.com. This is an exciting opportunity for an energetic, enthusiastic and career-minded individual with a passion to grow their career in a multi-media and recruitment sales industry.

Must be a self-starter with excellent attention to detail, spelling/grammar/punctuation, great time management and a positive attitude.

We are willing to train and offer a competitive compensation and benefits package, guaranteed commission for three months, and the opportunity to advance your career with an exciting, progressive and innovative organization in one of the fastest growing markets in Texas.

Must have a valid driver's license and insurance. Background check / drug screen required.

DIGITAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST

MRT Media Group is seeking a Digital and Social Media Recruitment Specialist for TexasBackToWork.com. This is an exciting opportunity for an energetic, enthusiastic and career-minded individual with a passion to grow their career in a multi-media and recruitment sales industry. Must be a self-starter with excellent attention to detail, spelling/grammar/punctuation, great time management and a positive attitude.

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If you want to join a GREAT TEAM and are ready to SUCCEED, please send a resume to: cranderson@hearstnp.com.
Chad Anderson, Advertising Sales Manager, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701. No phone calls please.

Sales

Lube/ Oil Positions available in the following territories: Amarillo, Midland, Abilene. Regional full line lubricant sales and distribution center has immmediate openings for experienced lube/oil sales personnel. Position offers full benefit package. Our growth-oriented environment offers excellent salary plus commission.
Resume to: pgilbert@ripgriffin.com

SKILLED LABOR

FIELD TECHNICIAN

Tanklogix is currently hiring for the position of "Field Technician". Electrical experience is required, Automation experience is preferred. Competitive pay and benefits. Applicants must successfully pass an electrical competency exam, along with a drug screen and background. Apply and test in person at 12200 W. Hwy 80 E, Odessa, TX.

Licensed Electrician & Apprentice

Licensed Electrician & Apprentice needed to work West Texas area. 40-50 hrs/ wk guaranteed. Please apply at tripleselectric44@gmail.com or fax resume 575-397-0358

REAGENT CHEMICAL & RESEARCH

YARD TECHNICIANS

* NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED *
* MUST BE OVER 21 YEARS OLD *
* Detailed Training Provided on Site *
* Must Speak, Read, and Write English *

- Medical, Prescription, & Dental Insurance
- 401K & Profit Sharing Savings Plan
- 2 Weeks Paid Vacation plus 10 Paid Holiday
- Affordable Life Insurance, Supplemental Insurance
- Scholarship Programs

Apply
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m 4:30 p.m.
2833 I-H 20, South Service Rd.
Stanton, Tx
432-458-3446

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

CDL-HAZMAT DRIVERS

REAGENT CHEMICAL & RESEARCH - NOW HIRING
*PROFESSIONAL CDL-HAZMAT DRIVER W/ TANKER ENDORSEMENT-*2 Yrs CDL Driving Experience w/ 1 Yr Tanker Experience* Good Driving Record Required*Must Be Over 23 Yrs Old* MUST PASS BACKGROUND CHECK*Great Benefit package offered. Apply Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm @ 2833 I-20, South Service Rd, Stanton TX or Call 432-458-3446

NEED ROAD WINCH, GIN TRUCK CDL DRIVERS

Please apply in person at 3828 E. Pecos, Odessa, TX. Benefits available.

Let Classifieds Work for You! Call
432-682-6222

Midland Reporter-Telegram
Media Group

Our goal is to be the premier media provider in the community. Let our team of experts work with you to develop a results-driven, first rate digital and print marketing strategy for your business.

DIGITAL MARKETING SERVICES

MRT Media Group has an extensive offering of digital promotional tools that produce measurable results for today's online marketing arena. We offer marketing solutions through digital channels such as search engines, websites, social media, email, and mobile apps.

MAGAZINE MARKETING SERVICES

MRT Media Group has an extensive line of Magazine publications offering a variety of local content and specialized categories to fit all your needs. We offer MRT Business Insider, Midland Magazine, Discover Midland, MRT All American and MRT Oil Report.

PRINT MARKETING SERVICES

MRT Media Group is a seven day a week paper offering a variety of local content and specialized categories to fit all your needs. We offer Education, Health, The Weekender, Faith & Philanthropy, Oil and Gas and Cultural sections.

We don't sell advertising, we offer marketing solutions!

MRT Digital Services will help you find your customers and engage with them to grow your business!

Local, Trustworthy, News At Your Finger Tips.
Advertise – 432-687-8811

MRT MEDIA GROUP mrt.com SELLTXTEXAS.com MRT TRUE PRECISION TARGETED DIGITAL ADVERTISING

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Legal and Public Notices

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 08 Rule 37 Case No. 0308863
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Jan 29, 2018 Status/Permit No. 824369
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Mar 5, 2018
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the DIAMONDBACK E&P LLC, [RRC Operator No. 217012] has made application for a spacing and density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 and 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37 and 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-pooled interest within the subject unit. Applicant also seeks exception to the density requirement of the field rules for the AMENDED NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 8, Blk. 39 T1S, T&P RR CO / EDWARDS, W Survey, A-719, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, MIDLAND County, being 5.89 miles NW direction from MIDLAND, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Mar 5, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name	:	WHITEFISH UNIT
Lease/Unit Well No.	:	812 MS
Lease/Unit Acres	:	320.0
Nearest Lease Line (ft)	:	1.0
Nearest Well on Lease (ft)	:	36.0
Lease Lines	:	985.0 F W (offlease) L, 306.0 F S (offlease) L
Survey Lines	:	985.0 F W (offlease) L, 306.0 F S (offlease) L
Wellbore Profile(s)	:	Horizontal

Lateral: TH1
Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines: 985.0 F W (OFFLEASE) L
306.0 F S (OFFLEASE) L

Terminus Location
BH County: MIDLAND
Section: 17 Block: 39 T1S Abstract: 37
Survey: T&P RR CO
Lease Lines: 330.0 F W L
50.0 F S L
Survey Lines: 330.0 F W L
2594.0 F N L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 330/0, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 9370 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Jerry Russell, at (512)4690064.

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE OF INTENTION
TO CONDUCT WEATHER MODIFICATION OPERATIONS IN THE STATE OF TEXAS

Date of the first of three weekly publications of this notice: 1/17/2018, in the Midland Reporter-Telegram published in Midland County, Texas.

1. Notice is hereby given that the West Texas Weather Modification Association has filed an application with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) for a State permit to conduct weather modification operations to change, or attempt to change, the natural development of clouds for the purpose, objective, period, and by the method summarized herein below.

2. The West Texas Weather Modification Association holds a valid Texas weather-modification license, issued by the State of Texas on August 31, 2017, for Fiscal Year 2018 which began on September 1, 2018.

3. The purpose of the proposed weather-modification operation is to augment rainfall for agricultural and water resources and to suppress hail within the target area of the West Texas Weather Modification Association. The requested period of the permit is 4 from the date of issuance of the permit.

4. The proposed weather-modification operation is to be carried out in both an operational area and a target area, to cause the intended affect(s) to occur only in the target area. The operational area is composed of the target area as well as the following counties. Howard, Mitchell, Coke, Runnels, Concho, Menard, Kimble, Edwards, Val Verde, Terrell, Pecos, Crane, Midland, Martin.

5. The area to be affected by the proposed weather-modification operation is the target area. The target area is that area contained within the following boundary (boundaries): Glasscock, Sterling, Reagan, Irion, Tom Green, Crockett, Schleicher, and Sutton.

6. The methods and materials to be used in conducting this operation are summarized herein. A meteorologist licensed by the TDLR to conduct weather-modification operations will select suitable clouds for seeding using a weather-radar system, as well as aircraft and analytical and weather-forecasting procedures, to guide aircraft to release cloud-condensation nuclei either at cloud base or at cloud top to promote the growth and development of the precipitation process within the clouds and/or suppress the formation of hail within the clouds. The aircraft will be equipped with flare racks or generators to disperse appropriate materials, either glaciogenic or hygroscopic or a combination of the two, into those clouds deemed suitable for seeding.

7. Persons interested in knowing more about the technical aspects of the proposed weather-modification operations should contact George Bomar, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR), P. O. Box 12157, Austin, Texas 78711 (512)936-4313); george.bomar@tdlr.texas.gov.

8. A public meeting on this application may be called by mailing letters, or petitions, that specifically request a meeting to the Executive Director, TDLR, P. O. Box 12157, Austin, Texas 78711. The letter or petition must contain (1) the signature, full name, phone number, and mailing address, including physical address and name of county, of each person requesting the meeting; (2) a statement that each person is at least 18 years of age and that he/she) resides or owns property in either the operational or target areas, and
(3) a description of each person's interest and how that interest would be adversely impacted by the proposed seeding operation. Requests for a meeting must be mailed and postmarked to the TDLR within 30 days after the date of first publication of the Notice of Intention, which is required by State rules to be published in newspapers of general circulation in the area of each county once a week for three consecutive weeks. If at least 25 eligible persons make appropriate written requests for a meeting, the TDLR will schedule a public meeting within the area where the operation is to be conducted. Public notice stating the time, place, subject, and legal authority of the public meeting shall be provided at least 20 days prior to the meeting. Since the application includes hail suppression as an objective, persons living in the affected area are eligible may petition for, and cause, an election, or elections, to be held; the results of such election(s), as certified and submitted by the respective county commissioners court, will be evaluated before the Department issues any permit.

9. Individual members of the public who wish to inquire about the information contained in this notice, or to inquire about other agency licensing and permitting procedures, may call the TDLR at (800) 803-9202 or access the following website: www.tdlr.texas.gov.

Legal and Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 2:00 P.M. local time, March 14, 2018 to be opened at 2:00 P.M., in the office of the City Secretary, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid No. 18000815 Re-Bid

For: Sealed bids for the City of Midland - WPCP Primary Treatment Rehabilitation Project for the Utilities Department. The project manual may be obtained at a non-refundable charge of $25 per electronic set ½ or full size, $100 per hard copy set of ½ size or $125 per hard full size copy of plans and specifications by contacting HDR Engineering, Inc. at 512-912-5192 or by email: lisa.singer@hdrinc.com

A pre-bid conference for this project will be held at 3:00 PM local time on February 14, 2018 at the City of Midland, 300 N. Loraine, Basement Conference Room, Midland, TX 79701. A site visit will take place immediately following the pre-bid conference. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is non-mandatory.

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division
City of Midland, Texas

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Request for Proposals will be received until 11:00 AM local time, February 7, 2018, in the Purchasing Office, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following:

Request for Proposals for the development of City-owned property for a development project for the City of Midland.

To receive a copy of the RFP, please contact the City of Midland Purchasing Office at 432-685-7234 or email us at purchasing@midlandtexas.gov. Proposals must be submitted no later than February 7, 2018 at 11:00 AM local time to the Purchasing Office, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

City of Midland, Texas

Midland Independent School District

Midland, Texas

Auction of Surplus Property

The Midland Independent School District will receive on-line bids for Surplus Property listed through the Rene Bates Auctioneers. This auction will begin at 8:00 A.M. C.S.T. on Thursday, February 8, 2018 and will close at 12:00 P.M. (Noon) on Thursday, February 22, 2018. Terms and Conditions of the sale are listed at www.renebates.com. Auction may be accessed at www.renebates.com or www.midlandisd.com/domain/44. For any questions, contact MISD Purchasing department at (432) 240-1983.

Find it fast in the Midland Reporter-Telegram

Lots and Land

46 64 AC. VAL VERDE COUNTY, N. OF COMSTOCK. W TX BRUSH COUNTRY. DEER, JAVELINA, TURKEY, QUAIL & DOVE. NEAR LAKE AMISTAD. $2,554 DOWN, $423/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 866-286-0199 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Commercial

COMMERCIAL YARD/ BUILD TO SUIT FOR LEASE
5 ACRES, FENCED
2 AC CALICHED.
$2350/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
432-664-7764

Office Building and 10 secure acres for lease. Great location. Cloverdale Road 432-634-2403

SHOP/ YARD for lease.
CR 90 Properties, LP Broker/ Owner
432-230-9139

For Lease: 20,00 ft Light Manufacturing or Storage Building, within Midland city limits.New sprinkler system.Call 432-349-2573

FOR SALE: Great Investment Property. 4 Unit apartment complex Located West of Downtown Midland. 100% leased. $275,000.00. Please call Harold Cornett to schedule a viewing. **432-889-5841**

For Sale : Established sales store for business (325)-725-1026, (432)-238-2116

Find it fast in the Midland Reporter-Telegram

VacationRealEstateSvc

IF YOU can drive a little, you can save a bunch!
An hour and 15 minutes out of Midland we have beautiful corporate lodging available. Fully furnished, linens, bedding, HVAC, flat screen TV, coffee service, all utilities provided. Cable TV, wireless internet, and housekeeping are available. Much more comfortable than hotel living and far More affordable.

Give us a call and let us create a lodging package tailored to your group's needs. Our monthly rate is about the same as a hotel's weekly rate!
La Posada, Ltd. - Housing with Distinction!
325-209-5079

General Announcement

Thank You! Jesus! Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

THANK YOU ST. JUDE for Prayers Answered 2017

Pets-Animals Cats

LOST: B & W Male Cat Has collar and tags if seen please call Ann @432-889-3615 last seen on Bedford &G St. Will offer small reward if found!!

Lots and Land Acreage

20 acres of rawland in North West Midland. Blacktop road in front, gravel road behind, 1/2 mile off of Loop 250 and 1 mile from I20 Call 432-349-2573

Oil and Gas Leases

MINERAL RIGHTS for lease in Stanton, TX. (townsite) Martin County. 1.9930 acre, only 3 years lease, at $15 K per acre at .25 % royalty, serious inquires only. 432-967-3710. Thank you.

24.29 AC. N. OF SAN ANGELO IN COKE COUNTY. MESQUITE, CEDAR COVER. DEER, HOGS, QUAIL & DOVE. $3,334 DOWN, $552/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

IRRIGATED Farm For Sale. 4,640 acres in Yoakum County TX. www.broncofarm.com or (806) 316-5055

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Commercial

READY-RANCH RR
WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

- Kent County
- *11,155 ac. n. of Snyder, 4 houses, pens/roping arena, 900 ft. mtn., creek, lakes, Whitetail deer, mule deer and quail $795/ac
- *4,212 ac, Maverick Creek, canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail $825/ac
- *1,771 ac, windmill, creek, blinds and feeders, great w-tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail $850
- Nolan County
- *648 ac. over 1 mile SOLD creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oak/mesquite $3,550/ac
- *585 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill $4,425/ac
- Howard County
- *642 ac, canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some offsite traffic $795/ac
- *150 ac. big canyon SOLD aries, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, qu $895/ac
- Starks County
- *135 ac, Sulphur Springs SOLD deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal stor $1,150/ac

(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777
Six Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
Deal with Landowners that know the Country!!!
Owner Financing Available

Autos For Sale Lease

Passenger Cars

IMMACULATE BEAUTY 2008 Mercedes Benz, E350, $15,000. 432-770-6217

TOYOTA 2000 Avalon 172,350 K miles. $3,500. Good condition. 432-638-7370

Merchandise Furniture

QUEEN SIZE bed and end table for sale. (don't have to buy both). Dark wood. Also available: Glass coffee table. Call 432-552-0805 if interested.

1980'S GIBSON Hollow body electric guitar, model # EB-140 3/4 with case. Collectors item. $2,800. 432-553-9419

Real Estate Rental Sale

Residential Rentals

EFFICIENCY APARTMENT located behind 907 W. Dakota. $700 monthly, utilities paid $500 deposit. Call Melissa 432-580-6767.

3 Bed 2 bath with garage, $ 950 a month College Av. Lease to own (575-937-0377)

4 bedroom 2 bath, 2 living areas in Alpine Mobile Home Park # 866. 432-813-4060.

UNDER CONTRACT! BEAUTIFULLY REMODELED 3 bedroom 2 baths. 2 car garage, large backyard. $1,650/mo. Open house every Saturday 2-4 until sold. 3121 W. Illinois. 432-682-2552. No owner financing.

FEATURED RANCHES FOR SALE

24,400 deeded acres in Sandoval County, New Mexico – The terrain varies from high thermal ponderosa pine mesas to lower wide valley bottoms. This scenic ranch has the perfect "land of enchantment" charm. The property is well watered with extra nice improvements and the ranch receives over 100 elk permits. One-half minerals. $550 per acre.

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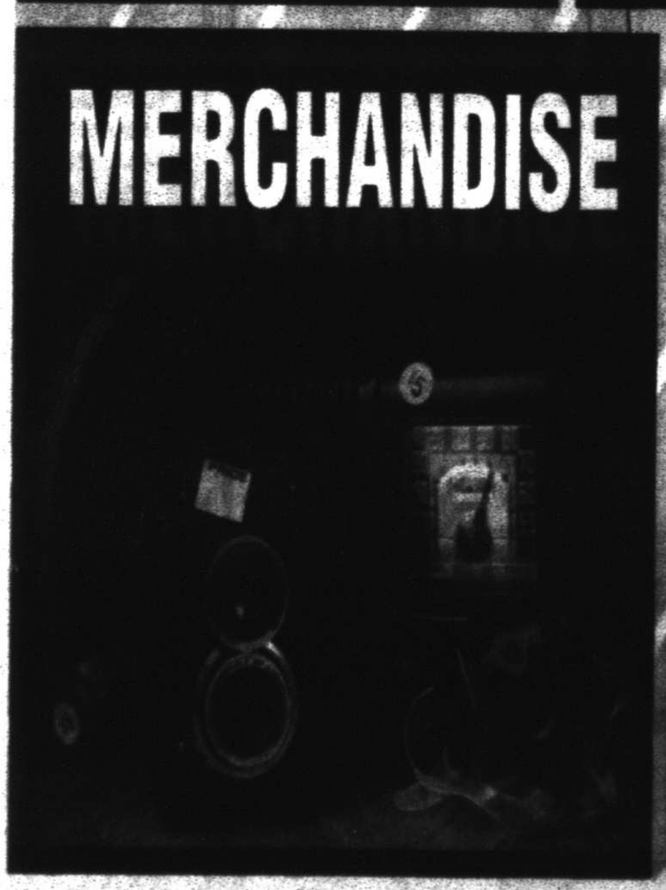

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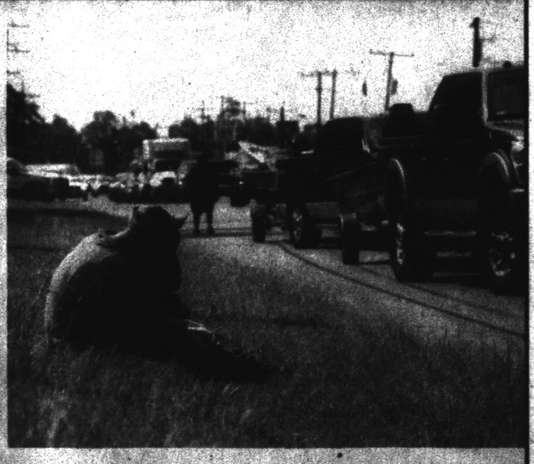

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