

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018

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MPD WRECK

An MPD vehicle was involved in a 2-vehicle wreck.

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STRAMBLER'S DEFENSE

Quinci Strambler's defense and rebounding helped the Lady Rebels make it to the playoffs.

Page 1C

OPEC president: Shale won't thwart plan

Surging US output won't hinder efforts by global producers to clear a glut

By Mahmoud Habboush, Wael Mahdi, Salma El Wardany and Tamim Elyan
Bloomberg

Surging output of U.S. shale oil won't be a "huge distorter" of efforts by global crude producers to clear a glut, according to OPEC's president. The market should re-balance this year,

given robust demand and producers' compliance with their pledges to curtail supply. United Arab Emirates Energy Minister Suhail Al Mazrouei, currently the president of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, said Monday in an interview in Dubai. The market is "on course to restoring balance" for the first time since 2014. OPEC's Secretary-General Mohammad Barkindo said at a conference in Cairo. Oil demand is set to grow by 1.6 million

barrels a day in 2018, the same level as last year, and crude inventories are continuing to dwindle as OPEC and other producers pursue their output cuts until the end of the year, Barkindo said Monday. Venezuela is proposing that OPEC seek a five-year deal for cooperation on output with allied producers beyond 2018, he said. "Venezuelans see that the cooperation with non-OPEC producers shouldn't end," Barkindo told reporters in Cairo. "They have

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Oil is rebounding from its biggest weekly decline in two years, though gains are limited due to concerns over a resurgence in U.S. shale. The U.S. oil rig count rose last week by 26, the most in a year, to 791.

Please see SHALE/2A

MALL MODIFICATIONS



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Shoppers photographed near the entrance of Midland Park Mall, July 12, 2017. The Midland City Council will vote today on an economic development agreement that could mean a \$7.5 million sales tax reimbursement for the owner of the mall.

City to vote on development agreement with mall

■ Simon lands \$7.5 million reimbursement deal to help replace Sears

From staff reports

The Midland City Council will vote today on a Chapter 380 Economic Development Agreement that could mean a \$7.5 million sales tax reimbursement for the owner of Midland Park Mall.

Simon, the mall's owner, recently was impacted by the loss of a major tenant, Sears, which announced last month that it will close in early April. Simon, which operates dozens of malls and premium outlets across the country, recently approached the city of Midland for

approval of a Chapter 380 agreement, according to city documents. In the proposal, Simon will acquire full ownership of the Sears parcel, demolish the store and construct at least 150,000 square feet of new retail on that tract. Simon will use commercially reasonable efforts to initially develop the new retail space with a full line department store and/or premium retailers, according to the city.

Simon also will expand the development project by adding additional retail space to the mall property, which could include new junior anchors and/or new outparcel development.

In return, sales tax generated by the new retail will be reimbursed from the general sales tax receipts to the city of

Midland on an annual basis under the following formula.

Years 1-3: 100 percent

Years 4-6: 80 percent

Years 7-9: 70 percent

Years 10-12: 50 percent.

The agreement terminates in 12 years, or when \$7.5 million in sales tax is reimbursed.

Current retail space in the mall will not be considered for reimbursement unless new construction outside the existing space is added, according to documents. Additional space added to the mall and new parcels will be included if the retailers are deemed "premium retail" by the city manager.

School finance is major issue for Seliger, Canon

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

Issues involving public education are often debated in Austin and have become major parts of District 31 state Senate race candidates' message this primary election, particularly on the topic of school finance. The incumbent, Sen. Kel Seliger, and his opponent, former Midland Mayor Mike Canon recently spoke with the Reporter-Telegram about a variety of education topics. Here's what they had to say. Note: Former Muleshoe mayor and restaurateur Victor Leal is also a candidate in the Republican primary; however, he did not reply to the Reporter-Telegram's interview requests.

Forum

League of Women Voters is hosting a forum for the state Senate candidates 7 p.m. today at the Carrasco Room at Midland College's Scharbauer Student Center.

ON SCHOOL FINANCE

Funding public education is among Texas' most complicated matters. Texas now spends more on Medicaid than public education. Seliger said the thought in Austin is that budgets can be reduced if more of the funding burden is moved to local school districts.

"Then we went in and said you can't raise your property taxes where you can shoulder that part of the burden and we're going to take money away from you as you collect taxes and give them to another school district that doesn't have oil and gas," Seliger said, alluding

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Price of oil

\$59.29 ▲ \$0.09

March 2018

The big number

604

Texas districts don't require teacher certification. Page 1B

Word of the Day:

beamish

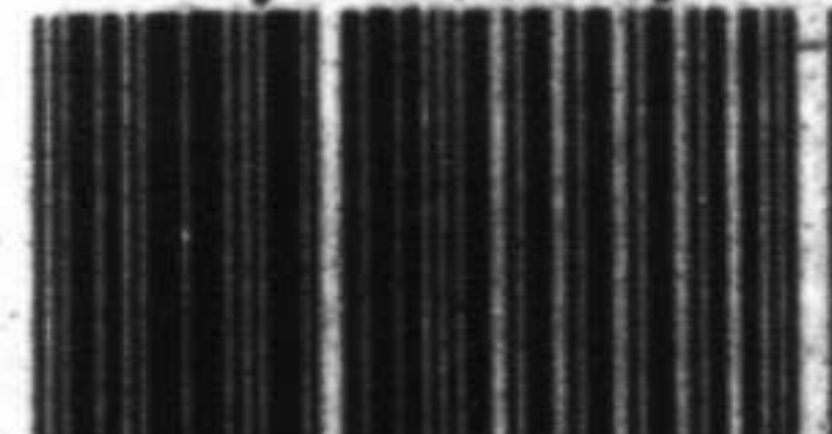
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Vol. 89, No. 339

Daily \$2, Sunday \$3



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Midland Reporter-Telegram

Saturday, February 24, 2018

Midland College • 9:30 a.m.

Allison Fine Arts Building

31st Annual Regional

Spelling Bee

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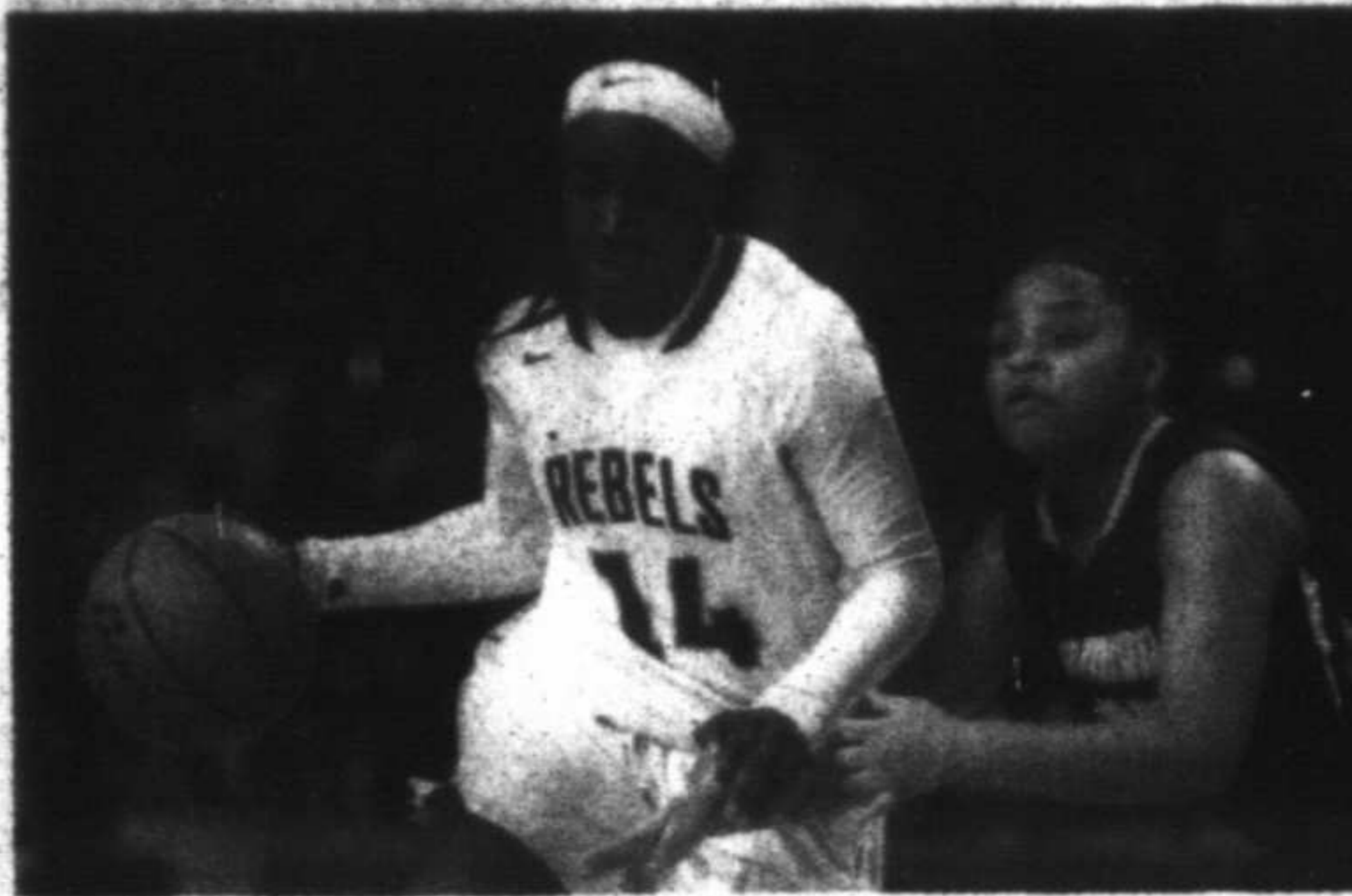
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Man charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon

From staff reports

A 29-year-old Midland man was arrested early Sunday morning in connection with a shots-fired incident that occurred at Hunters Ridge apartments on Andrews Highway, according to the Midland Police Department spokeswoman.

Lemario Darnell Harris

was being held Monday on a \$75,000 bond for a second-degree felony of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Midland police responded to a shots-fired report at about 5 a.m. Sunday. Because of nature of the call, MPD's SWAT unit was also dispatched to the scene.

A woman told officers

that she had been involved in a fight inside the apartment. She was chased out and as she was leaving, Harris began shooting at her, according to his arrest affidavit.

Harris had left the scene by the time officers arrived. Officers found spent casings on the ground outside the apartment, according to the affidavit.

Harris was located around 8:45 a.m. and gave officers consent to search his apartment.

Officers found a spent casing in the living room and two loaded magazines in a bedroom, according to the affidavit.

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

Oklahoma pulling up red carpet offered to wind industry

By Sean Murphy
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — As Oklahoma sought to diversify its oil-and-gas powered economy in the early 2000s, policymakers rolled out the red carpet for the burgeoning wind industry, offering generous state tax incentives and access to windy, inexpensive tracts of land.

The industry exploded from virtually nothing in 2002 to 7,495 megawatts of capacity last year, ranking it No. 2 nationally in installed wind capacity behind neighboring Texas to the south. More than 3,700 giant turbines now dot vast swaths of central and western Oklahoma's rural landscape.

But as the state's finances plunged into recession amid a downturn in the oil patch in recent years, lawmakers ended all the state incentives and now are considering a new production tax on wind and even capping previously guaranteed incentives. Anti-wind groups aired commercials featuring former Republican Gov. Frank Keating admitting the incentives were a mistake, and former Dallas Cowboys and University of Oklahoma football coach Barry Switzer decrying them as a "bad deal."

Now a battle is shaping up at Oklahoma's Capitol that includes fierce opposition to wind from some oil-and-gas leaders and critics,

including one Republican lawmaker who accused someone connected to the industry of tracking his car and angrily shut down a wind industry news conference at the Statehouse last week.

"We've been struggling with our state budget for four or five years now. It's been tough," said state Rep. Mark McBride, who claims that a tracking device he found on his truck in December is connected to his opposition to the wind industry. "Where's wind been? They've been fighting us every step of the way on trying to help out the state."

Mark Yates, who heads the Oklahoma Wind Coalition, has denied that wind industry representatives are spying on McBride.

There's no question Oklahoma's tax incentives have become more costly at a time state coffers have dwindled. A five-year property tax exemption on wind farms skyrocketed from about \$1 million in 2004 to more than \$60 million in 2017. An even more generous cash subsidy for wind production ballooned to nearly \$74 million in 2016, according to preliminary estimates from the Tax Commission.

But all of those incentives have ended in Oklahoma, even as neighboring Texas and Kansas continue to offer property tax exemptions to lure wind industry projects to their states.

"It frustrates me that expansion of

these wind farms has slowed down," said rancher Chuck Coffey, who receives lease payments from 35 turbines that dot his Double C Cattle Company ranch in Murray County, about 90 miles south of Oklahoma City. "We're essentially going to drive the wind companies out of Oklahoma."

Supporters of the wind industry in Oklahoma say much of the opposition is being fueled by the powerful oil and gas lobby, which has long been one of the most influential at the state Capitol. The industry managed to secure a deep tax cut for oil and gas production just before prices collapsed, but lawmakers haven't yet had the political will to reverse it.

"I do think there are a select few in oil and gas that have driven the anti-wind rhetoric, no doubt, and over the past three years that has really taken hold with some of the legislators," Yates said. "And it definitely has driven a wedge and created political volatility."

Supporters also note that dozens of local school districts also benefit from property taxes paid on the turbines once the five-year exemption ends.

A broad package of tax increases that includes wind, oil and gas production is being pushed by some of the state's most influential business leaders and could get a final vote in the Legislature as early as next week.

Obituaries



Mary Gossett

Mary Gossett, 88, died on Saturday, February 10, 2018 in Odessa, Texas.

She is survived by her son, Perry Joe Gossett and his wife Sandy of Seabrook, Texas; her daughter, Sherry Jane Miller and her husband Paul of Odessa; her son, Kerry (George) Gossett of Austin, Texas; her son, Kelly James Gossett of Odessa; and by three grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and many beloved step-children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Mary was born in Negritos, Peru on July 21, 1929 to Perry (Bud) Ferguson and Grace Ferguson of Davis, Oklahoma. When Mary was just one year old, her family transferred to El Centro, Colombia, deep in the South American jungle and lived there until she was 12. As a child, she also briefly lived in Burbank, California and Davis, Oklahoma.

In 1941, Mary and her parents moved to Odessa and she attended public schools there until she graduated Odessa High School in 1947. Mary then went to Texas State College for Women (now Texas Women's University) in Denton, Texas, majoring in Art-a love in which she engaged as a volunteer for the rest of her life.

In 1948, she married Charles Gossett in Odessa and lived there the remainder of her life.

She has been an active member of First Presbyterian Church of Odessa since 1956. She was a life member of the Women of the Church and served the church as a Sunday school teacher, Deacon, Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels and many other capacities until recently. One of her greatest loves was attending the annual Bloys Camp Meeting in Fort Davis, Texas.

Mary spoke fluent Spanish from her days in South America, which proved use-

ful when she partnered with her husband Charlie running their car sales business, Top Notch Auto Sales, from 1966-1986. At that time, it was the only Spanish speaking car business in Odessa. Later, Mary owned and ran Eurotan Tanning in Odessa from 1986 until her retirement in 1994.

Mary's love of traveling, her entire life, took her to South America, Mexico, the Caribbean, Hawaii, California, Colorado, Oklahoma, Florida, Chicago, New York, and all points in between.

She also loved square dancing (Odessa Jeans & Queens), water skiing, painting and crafts, horseback riding, and gardening (lifetime member of the Odessa Garden Club.)

Her first love was always her family. Along with her husband, there was nothing she would not do for her children. She served as a Cub Scout Den Mother and Brownie/Girl Scout Troop leader. During the 20+ years that Mary had children in public schools, she served on the PTA and as an elementary school room mom for each of her four children participating in the organization and execution of Halloween carnivals, parties, plays, and field trips.

Mary was a dance mom, actively engaged in all the recitals of her daughter. She was a swim team mom for the Odessa Aquatic Club driving station wagon loads of swimmers all over Texas for events as well as an avid fan of her four high school swimmers. She was present for every practice session of her son's garage band and was their number one supporter. She was a great encourager of her children's academic and vocational pursuits, ultimately seeing all of them successfully engaged in fulfilling vocations and avocations as adults.

Mary's well-spent life has been the epitome of service above self, grace, love, compassion and non-judgmental acceptance of all with whom she ever had contact. Her greatest legacy is the example she has left for all her family and friends. The family thanks God for her and joins her many loved ones in celebrating her beautiful life.

Services will be held Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian.

Hubbard-Kelly Funeral Home

601 North Alleghany
Odessa, TX 79761
(432) 332-0991

Condolences may be offered at
www.hubbardkellyfuneralhome.com

Death Notices

Roy Rhoads Johnson

Roy Rhoads Johnson, 84, passed away on February 9, 2018.

A graveside service will be held at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13, 2018.

SHALE

From 1A

Baker Hughes data showed on Friday. American weekly crude output topped 10 million barrels a day for the first time on record, and the U.S. government forecasts it will balloon to 11 million later this year.

Such an increase would complicate efforts by OPEC, Russia and other producers to prop up crude prices by curtailing supply. The producers agreed in November to extend self-imposed limits on output until the end of this year, seeking to counter a glut fed partly by U.S. shale drillers.

"Shale is coming and the

expectation is that it will come stronger than in 2017, and this is something that we have to watch," Al Mazrouei said. "But considering all factors, I don't think it will be a huge distorter of the market."

"What concerns us today is the level of inventories that we need to achieve the five-year average, and I see the market going in that direction and achieving balance," he said. "How long it will take depends on how long the increase in shale production will take."

Participants in the oil-cuts accord aim for global crude inventories to fall to the average level of the past five

years. "Demand for this year is expected to be good, if not better than 2017," Al Mazrouei said. This, together with "good" economic indicators and compliance with output cuts, indicate that the crude market will balance within the year, he said.

Barkindo said producers' "unprecedented conformity" with their targets for reducing output is driving progress toward a balance market.

Compliance reached a record level of 129 percent in December, for a monthly average of 107 percent last year, and preliminary estimates show that compli-

ance in January will surpass December's level, he said.

Oil prices are currently at less than half their 2014 peak, with benchmark Brent crude futures up 0.8 percent at \$63.28 a barrel in London at 3:26 p.m. local time. Brent tumbled 8.4 percent last week, in the second consecutive weekly loss.

"It's a correction only. It will come back," Kuwaiti Oil Minister Bakheet Al-Rashidi told reporters in Kuwait City. Kuwait expects cooperation on oil policy to continue beyond 2018, he said. "We will look for criteria to make sure the market is stable at all times."

Popular crooner Vic Damone dies at 89

By Jennifer Kay and Bob Thomas
Associated Press

MIAMI — Vic Damone, whose mellow baritone once earned praise from Frank Sinatra as "the best pipes in the business," has died in Florida at the age of 89, his daughter said.

Victoria Damone told The Associated Press in a phone interview Monday that her father died Sunday at a Miami Beach hospital from complications of a respiratory illness.

Damone's easy-listening romantic ballads brought him million-selling records and sustained a half-century career in recordings, movies and nightclub, concert and television appearances.

Damone's career began climbing in the 1940s after he won a tie on the radio show "Arthur Godfrey's Talent Hunt." His hit singles included "Again," "You're Breaking My Heart," "My Heart Cries for You," "On the Street Where You Live" and, in 1957, the title song of the Cary Grant film "An Affair to Remember."

Damone's style as a lounge singer remained constant through the years: straightforward, concentrated on melody and lyrics without resorting to vocal gimmicks. Like many young singers of his era, he idolized Sinatra.

"I tried to mimic him," Damone said in a 1992 interview with Newsday. "I decided that if I could sound like Frank maybe I did have a chance. I was singing his words, breathing his breaths, (doing) his interpretation, with the high notes, the synergy."



AP file photo

Singer Vic Damone poses Feb. 3, 1997, after becoming a member of Lafayette High School's midyear graduating class, in the Brooklyn borough of New York. Damone died Sunday at a Miami Beach hospital from complications of a respiratory illness. He was 89.

Sinatra and Damone, along with Tony Bennett, Perry Como, Dean Martin and others, formed a group of Italian Americans who dominated the postwar pop music field. And far from resenting the mimicry, Sinatra praised Damone's singing ability.

Born Vito Farinola in Brooklyn, New York, on June 12, 1928 to immigrants from Bari, Italy, Damone dropped out of high school after his father, an electrician, was injured on the job.

Damone adopted his mother's maiden name when he began his career, after catching an early break while working as an usher at the Paramount Theater in New York

City, according to a family statement.

The 14-year-old bumped into Perry Como in an elevator at the theater, stopped it between floors, and started singing. Then he asked Como whether he should continue voice lessons, and Como said simply, "Keep singing!" and referred him to a local bandleader.

Damone still drew crowds in nightclubs and concerts into his 70s, before illness prompted his retirement to Palm Beach with his fifth wife, fashion designer Rena Rowan.

Damone appeared in several MGM musicals and he was originally cast in "The Godfather," but the role of a budding singer seeking mob help in a Hollywood career eventually went to Al Martino.

He wrote in his memoir, "Singing Was the Easy Part," that he never considered himself a showman like Milton Berle or Sammy Davis Jr. "That wasn't my particular gift," he wrote. "My gift was singing."

In 1954, Damone married the Italian actress Pier Angeli, after her mother refused to allow her to marry James Dean. The couple had a son and named him Perry before divorcing in 1959.

Marriages to actress Judy Rawlins, with whom he had three daughters, and Houston socialite Becky Ann Jones also ended in divorce. In 1987, Damone and actress-singer Diahann Carroll married after a long romance, and they paired for night club and concert tours. They divorced in 1996.

Rowan died in November 2016. Damone is survived by two sisters, his three daughters, and six grandchildren.

Country singer Daryle Singletary dies at age 46

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Country singer Daryle Singletary, who sang songs like "I Let Her Lie" and "Too Much Fun," has died. A publicist says Singletary died at his home in Lebanon, Tennessee on Monday at 46.

The cause of death is pending. Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Some of his other songs include "Amen Kind of

Love" and "The Note." He sang with George Jones, Johnny Paycheck, Merle Haggard, Dwight Yoakam and more.

Singletary was born in Cairo, Georgia and was among a wave of country traditionalists in the late 1990s.

His is survived by his wife, Holly; two sons, Jonah and Mercer; two daughters, Nora and Charlotte, as well as his parents and siblings.



AP file photo

Daryle Singletary performs Nov. 22, 2013, at a tribute to George Jones in Nashville, Tenn. Singletary, who sang songs like "I Let Her Lie" and "Too Much Fun," died Monday at his home in Lebanon, Tenn. He was 46. The cause of death is pending.

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Dancing the night away



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland YMCA hosted Little Sweethearts Dance Saturday for parents and their children.

WORD OF THE DAY

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Beamish [bee-mish] adjective

1. bright, cheerful, and optimistic.



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Please see subject to change: The Midland Reporter-Telegram continues to make a concerted effort to keep the cost of subscriptions at a minimum for our readers.

When a price change or frequency change occurs, each subscriber's expiration date will be adjusted based on the credit balance of their account.

Today is Shrove Tuesday

Shrove Tuesday is the last day before the beginning of Lent in many Christian churches. The day is the day before Ash Wednesday and usually falls between Feb. 3 and March 9.

Source: timeanddate.com

Shrove Tuesday in Midland

The 56th annual Chancel Choir Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 5-7 p.m., First Methodist Midland, 300 N. Main St. \$8. \$5 children. firstmethodistmidland.com

Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday, Masks encouraged, 5 p.m., Twist, 5518 Starboard Drive.

Candidate Forums

The League of Women Voters-Midland forum for Republican state Senate candidates, 7 p.m. today, Carrasco Room at Midland College.

Midland County Republican Women forum for local races, 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Midland Country Club.

Permian Basin Young Democrats will have a candidate forum for all local and congressional candidates 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Martinez Bakery.

The League of Women Voters-Midland forum for county judge candidates, 7 p.m. Feb. 20, F. Marie Hall Building at MC.

Meetings today

City Council 10 a.m. Council Chambers City Hall 300 N. Loraine Ave.

Midland ISD English Language Learner (ELL) Program public meeting 4:30 p.m. San Jacinto Junior High Library, 1400 N. "N" St.

Things to do

Palette Club Painting, 9 a.m. to noon, Palette Club, 907 W. Wadley Ave. paletteclubmidland.com

Watercolor art classes by Sara Drescher, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave. The class is for all levels. To register, email sara@artysaradob.com

Bridge game play, 1 p.m. Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$6. For more information call 682-8595.

Evening Family Storytime offers songs, stories and literacy activities for ages 2 to 6 and their caregivers, 4:30 p.m., Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

Bingo, 6 p.m., Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1306 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.

Midland Quilters Guild: "English Paper Piecing" by DeeAnn Adams of Country Store Quilt Shop, 6:30 p.m., Alamo Heights Baptist Church, 1305 N. Midland Drive. Free and open to the public. midlandquiltersguild.com

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment, 7 p.m., Basin Burger House, 607 N. Colorado St.

Permian Basin Dance Club with live country music, 7:30 p.m., Crown Royal Club, 1110 E. Scharbauer Drive. \$6. For more information, call 432-638-3707 or 432-250-8215.

Two-Dollar Tuesdays with the same price for games, shoes, select beers and arcade card after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com

Karaoke with Ali, 8 p.m., Your Place, 3704 W. Wall St.

Karaoke and pool tournament at The Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St.

up being sentenced to a form of house arrest.)

On this date: In 1935, a jury in Flemington, New Jersey, found Bruno Richard Hauptmann guilty of first-degree murder in the kidnap-slaying of Charles A. Lindbergh Jr., the 20-month-old son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh. (Hauptmann was later executed.)

In 2016, Justice Antonin Scalia, the influential conservative and most provocative member of the U.S. Supreme Court, was found dead at a private residence in the Big Bend area; he was 79.

Source: The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 13, the 44th day of 2018. There are 321 days left in the year.

Today's highlight: On Feb. 13, 1633, Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei arrived in Rome for trial before the Inquisition, accused of defending Copernican theory that the Earth revolved around the sun instead of the other way around. (Galileo was found vehemently suspect of heresy, and ended

up being sentenced to a form of house arrest.)

On this date: In 1935, a jury in Flemington, New Jersey, found Bruno Richard Hauptmann guilty of first-degree murder in the kidnap-slaying of Charles A. Lindbergh Jr., the 20-month-old son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh. (Hauptmann was later executed.)

In 2016, Justice Antonin Scalia, the influential conservative and most provocative member of the U.S. Supreme Court, was found dead at a private residence in the Big Bend area; he was 79.

Source: The Associated Press

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 1-2-0 Pick 3 day: 8-3-2 Pick 3 evening: 1-8-7 Pick 3 night: 8-1-1 Daily 4 morning: 1-2-4-1 Daily 4 day: 6-9-4-8 Daily 4 evening: 8-0-9-4 Daily 4 night: 9-8-0-9 Cash Five: 14-15-17-20-32 Triple Chance: 1-3-4-11-12-27-29-38-44-49

Stay connected f facebook.com/TheReporter-Telegram http://bit.ly/2oWMrCy @midlandreportertelegram

Weather

Monday's temperatures High: 55 Low: 28 Normal high: 62 Normal low: 34

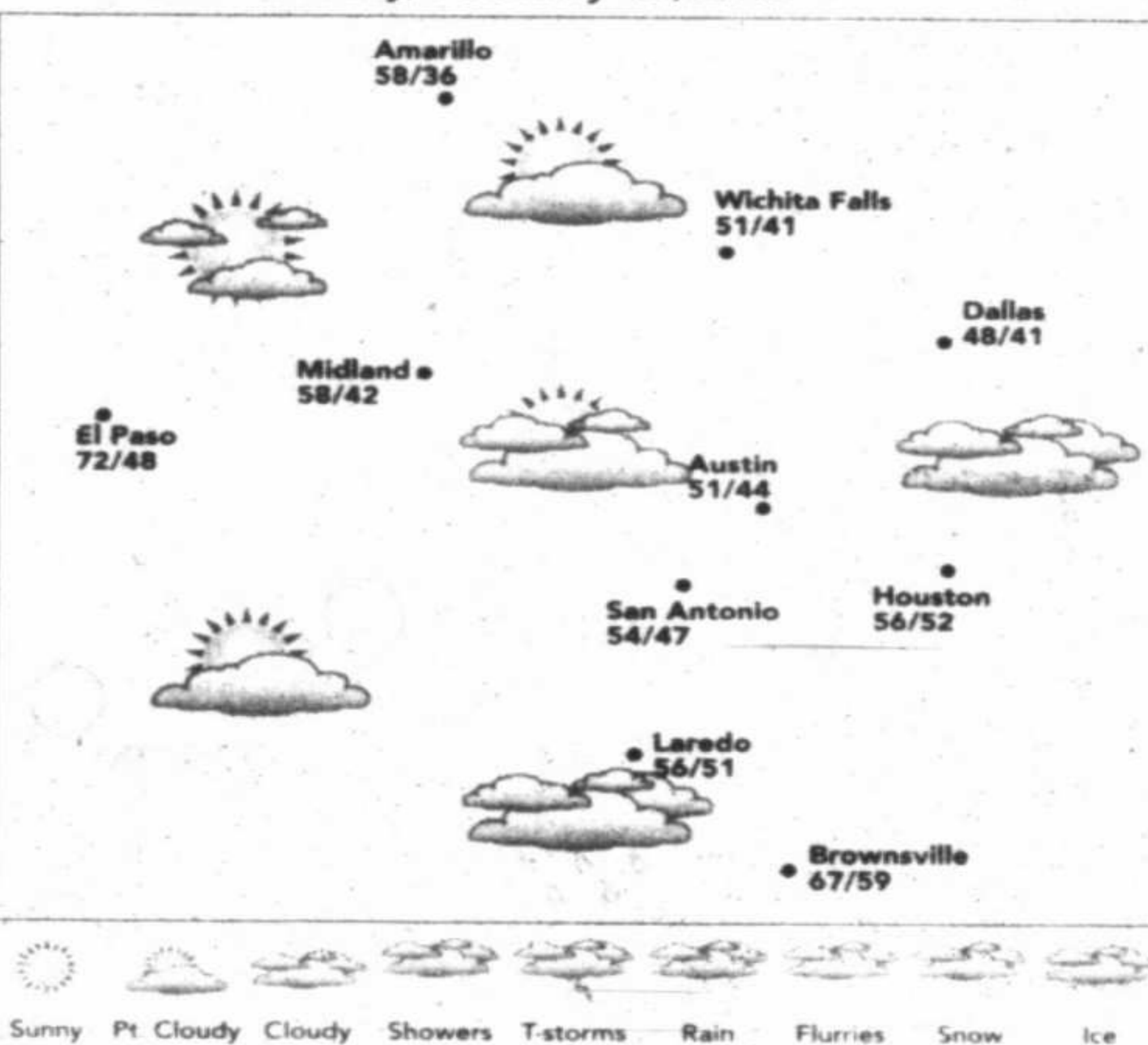
Feb. 12's records Record high: 86, set in 1962 Record low: 14, set in 1963

Precipitation Sunday: 0.00 in. Monday: 0.00 in. Month total: 0.00 in. Year total: 0.01 in. Normal total (year to date): 0.86 in.

Winds Wind speed: 21 mph Gust speed: 37 mph

Today's forecast High: 64

Forecast for Tuesday, February 13, 2018



Low: 37 Conditions: Sunny today/cloudy tonight Winds: South 5-10 mph today and tonight

Chance of rain: None Sunrise: 7:33 a.m. Sunset: 6:34 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 Capricorn if born before 12:11 a.m. Afterward, the Moon will be in Aquarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018:

This year your creativity will take you down new paths, as long as you remain open. Your perception of what life offers and what is possible could change radically as a result. Communication and daily matters take on an unusual tone. You also see your priorities differently. If you are single, Mr. or Ms. Right could spontaneously walk right into your life, especially in the second part of the year. If you are attached, the two of you start living differently, possibly because of a move or a mutual involvement or interest. A fellow AQUARIUS adds more of the unexpected to your life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

***** Zero in on your priorities in the morning when speaking with an associate. Once you have defined the objective, you might think that you are on cruise control. This stretch of highway has its bumps, as there are too many options. Tonight: A surprise points to a new beginning.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** Suddenly, you are in the position where you become the leader of the gang. Whether this occurs at home or on the way to work, all eyes turn to you. Trust your judgment, and you will know what

to do. You could gain an important insight as well. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** You could be in line to approach a busy group of people without even realizing it. Perhaps a boss has decided to bring you into a key meeting or get-together. Seize the opportunity, and you'll be glad that you did. Tonight: A force to be dealt with, once you make your decision.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** Your feelings might be unusually intense about a matter that will affect you as well as others. You will head in an unexpected direction. Before you recognize what is happening, you could be on a new path and feeling full of excitement. Tonight: Squeeze in some exercise first.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** You might feel as if you are on a roll. You'll accomplish more than you thought was even possible. A family member will surprise you with his or her support. Imagine what is going on with others, especially the quiet ones in your inner circle. Tonight: Go along for the ride.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** Stay focused on your key priorities. Funnel your energy into pursuing a main objective. You could be surprised by how fast you become integrated with others who have similar interests to yours. A loved one will try hard to grab your attention. Tonight: Time for fun and games!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** Touch base with a creative, persuasive person in your life. You will want to discuss your ideas and get some feedback. Keep an eye on new possibilities. Your attentive

ways and good listening skills empower others. Tonight: Time to let your hair down and try something new.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** Don't push a roommate or family member, unless you enjoy getting some flak. How you handle this person in the morning could define the remainder of the day. You are likely to resent any interference, so take a step back if necessary. Tonight: Time to squeeze in some fun.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** You could be delighted by what is happening within your immediate circle of friends. Communication flourishes, especially with an

associate or new friend. Do not jump to conclusions; instead, stay on the subject at hand. Tonight: Get as much done as possible.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** Be willing to ask an uncomfortable question or two. Do not hesitate to move in a new direction or create a more diverse situation with others actively involved. Your strength comes from listening and brainstorming with those around you. Tonight: Reach out to a loved one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** Realize what is being offered and ask questions before you accept someone's invitation. Your sense of direc-

tion is pivotal to achieving the results you desire. Listen to feedback, but know that you don't have to accept or even entertain it. Tonight: Go along with the moment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

***** You sense that more is going on than meets the eye. You would be well-advised to continue as you have been — just be more alert. Use caution with any dealings that involve your finances. Take risks only to the point where you can afford a loss. Tonight: Be aware of your intuition.

BORN TODAY

Musician Henry Rollins (1961), singer/songwriter Peter Gabriel (1950) actress Mena Suvari (1979)

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MPD vehicle involved in 2-vehicle wreck

By Mary Dearen
mdearen@mrt.com

Midland Police Department is investigating two wrecks that occurred Monday evening on "A" Street — one involved a police vehicle and the other involved a Midland ISD bus, according to the city's spokeswoman.

An MPD Chevy Tahoe was involved in a two-vehicle wreck at about 5:15 p.m. at the intersection of "A" Street and Elk Avenue.

Sgt. Edward Marker was northbound on "A" Street in the turn lane with his emergency lights activated, spokeswoman Elana Ladd said via email Monday night. A white Toyota SUV was stopped on "A" Street in the northbound inside travel lane. The driver — whose name was not released — attempted to turn left onto Elk Avenue from the inside travel lane and collided with the Tahoe.

The driver of the Toyota was issued a citation for turning left from the wrong lane, she said. No one was injured in the wreck.

This is the third officer-involved wreck in the past seven weeks.

A 90-year-old Midland man died Christmas Eve when his Toyota Prius was hit at the intersection of Wadley Avenue and Ward Street by an MPD Crown Victoria driven by Christian Abraham. He was indicted on Jan. 17 on manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide charges, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article. He was terminated from the force on Jan. 22 and was arrested on Jan. 23, according to the article. He bonded out on Jan. 23.

The indictment alleges that Roy Neely's

death was caused by Abraham "operating a motor vehicle in a manner unsafe for the conditions of the roadway and by operating a motor vehicle at an unsafe speed and by failing to activate the emergency equipment of the patrol vehicle and by failing to take corrective and evasive action to avoid a collision," District Attorney Laura Nodolf said in the article.

Then, in mid-January, Officer Zach Owens, who was driving a Chevy Tahoe, was involved in a two-vehicle wreck at the intersection of Louisiana Avenue and Big Spring Street. He attempted to proceed through a red light in the course of making a traffic stop and was hit by a Dodge Challenger, according to a previous article. The vehicle's lights were activated but the siren was not.

An MPD investigator wrote of the Jan. 16 wreck that Owens "did not operate an emergency vehicle with due regard for the public," according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article.

Owens was placed on administrative leave after the wreck pending the outcome of a drug test.

He cleared the investigation drug test and was placed "in a position that he can't drive a car until the administrative investigation is complete," MPD Chief Steve Henry said previously.

Meanwhile, the bus wreck occurred at about 5 p.m. at Scharbauer Drive and "A" Street. None of the children on board were transported to Midland Memorial Hospital, Ladd said. Three other vehicles were involved: Chevy Suburban, Dodge Journey and Honda Accord. All three drivers were taken to MMH with non-life threatening injuries, she said.

Additional details will be available today, Ladd said.

Low police complaints mask discontent with Dallas department

By Claudia Lauer
Associated Press

DALLAS — At a time of high tensions between police and the public, the Dallas Police Department would seem to be a success story: While some other big-city departments draw thousands of citizen complaints every year, the nation's eighth-largest gets only a fraction of that number.

In fact, the department received a mere 221 complaints in 2016 and 183 for the first 11 months of 2017 — stunningly low numbers for a metropolis of 1.3 million people patrolled by about 3,300 officers.

But a closer look suggests that the apparent success may stem from the complaint system itself, which makes it so hard for people to complain that many do not try or give up. Those who persist confront a host of built-in obstacles, including vague or nonexistent instructions, confusion about complaint forms, incorrect phone numbers and a mysterious investigation process where decisions often go unannounced and are difficult to appeal.

"The process doesn't seem to be clear or open," said Sam Walker, a professor emeritus in criminal justice at the University of Nebraska who has written several books on police accountability. He concluded that Dallas' suspiciously low complaint rate is "unacceptable" but not surprising.

Providing "open and accessible" police complaint systems has been standard since the early 1980s, Walker said.

"To me, being able to file a complaint is a First Amendment right, to tell someone their perception of what happened," he said.

Many of the complaints happened before Police Chief U. Renee Hall took over in September, but Hall's chief of staff says she has developed a strategic plan that will be released in the next few weeks that will address some of the accountability concerns.

Frustration with the complaint system intensified in recent months, and the police chief met publicly with citizens who described being blocked from filing complaints and having their grievances dismissed without being notified. Some reported that they did not bother to file complaints because the system seemed so stacked against them.

In 2014, Maria De Jesus Garza tried to file a complaint against an officer who ticketed her for having trash cans that obstructed traffic. The officer came back weekly for three months, she said, and knocked her cans over with his car to make a point.

"I realized this wasn't extreme," she said. "But I decided that I needed to report it."

Other officers attempted to dissuade her. One said the allegations were not enough to pursue a complaint. "He told me, 'I don't think you understand what you are doing,'" she said.

Over the span of three hours, three officers tried to talk her out of the complaint before telling her the office was out of complaint forms, Garza said.

The Dallas department has no complaint forms. The department's internal affairs division confirmed to The Associated Press in January that it instead asks people



LM Otero/Associated Press

Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall shakes hands with potential police recruits Sept. 7, 2017, during an applicant processing event at police headquarters in Dallas.

to write their account on a blank sheet of paper and sign it.

Neither the department's website nor a pamphlet that is supposed to be available to the public offer instructions on the complaint process. Nowhere do they explain that signed complaints can be filed by mail, email or fax to the internal affairs department.

Changa Higgins filed a complaint several years ago but never learned the outcome. He was not surprised, given the lack of direction he had from police.

"There's nothing to talk you through it or guide you through. It comes down to how well you can write, what you can remember. What if you leave out a piece of critical information because you didn't know it would be important for an investigation?"

Walker said the process should be outlined on the department's home page, with directions for filing a complaint and information on possible outcomes and the ability to appeal.

The AP obtained six years of complaint data from the department, which shows 60 percent or more of complaints are referred to division commanders after being deemed minor complaints, including a handful alleging excessive use of force. In 2017, 15 percent of complaints were labeled "no investigation" and closed.

Lorraine Birabil filed a use-of-force complaint against officers in 2013, after her father called police about a trespasser and was arrested during the investigation — an arrest that, she said, resulted in injuries.

Only after filing a lawsuit in the matter did she learn that the use-of-force complaint had been dismissed.

The Dallas department says its policy is to send written notifications if its internal affairs division conducts the investigations. For lesser violations referred to division commanders, commanders are required to notify people of the outcome.

The low complaint numbers could indicate a problem in the community's relationship with officers, said Ron Davis, former director of community oriented policing services at the Justice Department. The federal government has reformed the complaint systems in the almost two dozen police departments it has supervised after various legal or community troubles.

"It could easily be apathy because it doesn't look like the department responds to complaints," Davis said.

The number of complaints against police has been dropping at most U.S. departments because of wider use of body cameras

and the abandonment or reduction of practices such as New York City's stop-and-frisk policy. But the complaint numbers in Dallas are still two to five times lower than at similar-sized police departments around the country.

Other Texas cities provide explicit instructions and on-line complaint forms, sometimes in multiple languages. Those communities have received more complaints than Dallas.

The Dallas department's website does note that a decision can be appealed to the city's Citizens Police Review Board, but a phone number on the website is incorrect, and a city worker who answered said it had been changed nearly two years ago. Neither the department nor the city website explains how to file an appeal.

Hall took the reins just about a year after the departure of her predecessor, David Brown, who led the department through perhaps its most painful chapter since the 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy, who was slain in Dallas.

In July 2016, a peaceful demonstration against police brutality turned deadly when a sniper opened fire downtown on a large group of police, killing four Dallas officers and one transit officer and wounding nine others. It was the largest death toll among law enforcement from a single event since 9/11. Since then, the department has struggled with low morale and a wave of retirements, including Brown, who had sought to change the culture among rank-and-file cops by firing 70 officers during his tenure.

When Brown started firing officers, "it was clear to people that the culture we had of doing whatever you want and not being held accountable was about to change," said Senior Cpl. Frederick Frazier, vice president of the Dallas Police Association, the city's largest police union. "And that accountability is what a lot of us wanted."

In 2015, Brown touted the dramatic drop in use-of-force complaints as a result of intensified training and stepped-up community policing and accountability. Law enforcement experts and former union officials said the assertion was hard to prove, explaining that apathy or slow 911 response times could have played a larger role.

Hall plans to seek more reforms, including allowing complaints to be filed at the city's seven substations instead of only at headquarters and putting a 90-day cap on the time an investigation takes, according to her chief of staff, Thomas Taylor.

ISSUE

From 1A

to the state's attempt to reduce local taxing entities' threshold on raising taxes without an election and the state's Robin Hood law, where money is taken from wealthier school districts and given to poorer districts.

Seliger in the last legislative session voted against the threshold change, which would have reduced the election trigger from a rise of 8 percent to 4 percent. The lone Republican to not support the bill, Seliger told the Reporter-Telegram for a previous article that the state shouldn't dictate what local taxing entities can do to meet its obligations.

Canon said he doesn't think it's unreasonable for the state to exert this type of control.

"I know the argument is that we already have a way to hold (local elected officials) accountable, and that's to not vote them in the next time," he said. "The problem is that the cows may already be out of the barn at that point. They may have already incurred obligations and made expenditures that the citizens, had they had the opportunity, would have said no. I think there ought to be a cap."

Canon likens local government officials to a board of director and considers residents like shareholders. "The board of directors is only given the authority to do so much in corporations; there are limitations placed on boards," he said.

The same limits should be placed on elected officials and residents should be allowed to vote on matters such as tax increases.

As for Robin Hood, both candidates say it has to go.

"The taxpayers of MISD have paid \$500 million in money that goes to other school districts. That's what Robin Hood is, and it simply timed out in terms of its effectiveness from a budget point of view and an educational point of view," Seliger said. "We

need to get rid of Robin Hood. It is no longer a good way of financing public ed."

ON VOUCHERS

Advocates for school vouchers say it gives parents greater education opportunities for their children. Seliger said he has voted against school vouchers and criticizes organizations such as Empower Texans, which has endorsed Canon, for advocating their implementation.

The fight for vouchers is "all about money" and getting taxpayers to fund particular religious philosophies in schools. While it's their right to have religious educational institutions, "we are not obligated as taxpayers to pay for education that has a religious philosophy," Seliger said. "A lot of (religious philosophies) we like, but what about the ones we don't like?"

Seliger added that he will oppose vouchers again.

Canon said he doesn't have an extensive amount of knowledge about vouchers but that he is interested in what he has read about their success in other states. "I do not believe that, at the end of the day, you should benefit one group at the expense of another," he said. "But if vouchers can be used to effectuate a better outcome for the educational system in our state, I say why not look at them."

ON HIGHER EDUCATION

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin recently held a ceremony in which the last beam for its new engineering building was placed. Seliger, who helped the school receive funding for the building, called the project a major milestone for the region.

"Engineering programs round out UTPB as increasingly a university of choice for young people," he said. "We have a

petroleum engineering program that, because of where it's located and because of the determination of President (Sandra) Woodley, is going to be a university of choice, not a regional choice. That's important."

Seliger says Canon has spoken about how the former Midland mayor advocates not constructing new buildings and universities. Canon told the Reporter-Telegram: "Seliger has taken one thing that I've said and stretched it into something that's absolutely not true."

"What I was saying was we need to find whatever means we can to make higher education as affordable as possible for our students," he said. "Things like technology and the utilization of long-distance learning as opposed to building new buildings would be the sort of things we ought to be considering. 'I didn't say we shouldn't be building new buildings. My attitude about building new buildings is we do it as they're needed. You take those things a step at a time.'"

Canon added that state universities should be held accountable to running efficiently and keeping costs as low as possible for students.

Colleges and universities are growing at a rapid clip, and need support because they will be key in strengthening the state in the future, Seliger said.

"There is an initiative in the state of Texas to have 60 percent of Texans have a certificate or diploma by 2030," he said. "We cannot fall behind in the fiscal support of all those institutions, and what's probably going to have the greatest influence on that goal are going to be community colleges."

He called UTPB "an emerging university" and said it has some of the most advantageous tuition rates in the country. However, "It doesn't mean we can quit working on it," Seliger said.

Minor 3.1 magnitude earthquake reported in South Texas

Associated Press

FALLS CITY — A minor earthquake has shaken parts of rural South Texas.

The U.S. Geological Survey reports a 3.1 magnitude earthquake was reported at

8:24 a.m. Monday centered about 4 miles southeast of Falls City, in Karnes County. The area is about 50 miles southeast of San Antonio.

The Karnes County Sheriff's Office had no immediate reports Monday of anyone hurt or potential damage.

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Obs

By A
Asse

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama listens. At least he was in the White House. But that kid didn't hold it came time for a portrait.

At a time when we're unveiling portraits of former presidents, Obama, the artist, said cheerfully of the suggestion.

"He's fully into it before doing anything," Obama said. "I tried to get a little bit of integrity. It tried to get ears and stuff well."

The final Obama sitting back and looking around, surrounded by flowers. M. portrait, p. Sherald, sh. and white thoughtful her chin.

Both artists chosen by

The portrait hang in the Gallery, with Smithsonian ums. The complete collection portraits of couple will the White

"I am honored, I am Obama said particularly color, in fact, come to the someone who hanging on incredible

Barack Obama's choice

Floor to w

"This flooring is the best-love I've seen," says Rick at Sou

Now you're genuin wood in a home—w about the s or warping real wood.

Flooring it's called of wood c means you match floor every room

If you're bright wood ash or pine or family what you're a richer, m or cherry

Like a Fac an Elec City w

69

Trust

Obama jokes he failed to get artist to give him smaller ears

By Ashraf Khalil
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When Barack Obama speaks, people listen. At least they did when he was in the White House. But that kind of authority didn't hold much sway when it came time for his presidential portrait.

At a ceremony Monday to unveil portraits of him and former first lady Michelle Obama, the former president said artist Kehinde Wiley cheerfully ignored almost all of his suggestions.

"He listened very thoughtfully to what I had to say before doing exactly what he always intended to do," he said. "I tried to negotiate less gray hair, but Kehinde's artistic integrity would not allow it. I tried to negotiate smaller ears and struck out on that as well."

The final product depicts Obama sitting in a straight-backed chair, leaning forward and looking serious while surrounded by greenery and flowers. Michelle Obama's portrait, painted by Amy Sherald, shows her in a black and white dress looking thoughtful with her hand on her chin.

Both artists were personally chosen by the Obamas.

The portraits will now hang in the National Portrait Gallery, which is part of the Smithsonian group of museums. The gallery has a complete collection of presidential portraits. A different set of portraits of the former first couple will eventually hang in the White House.

"I am humbled, I am honored, I am proud," Michelle Obama said. "Young people, particularly girls and girls of color, in future years they will come to this place and see someone who looks like them hanging on the walls of this incredible institution."

Barack Obama spoke of his choice of Wiley, saying

the two men shared multiple parallels in their upbringing; both had African fathers who were largely absent from their lives and American mothers who raised them.

The former president drew multiple laughs from the audience for his remarks, starting out by praising Sherald for capturing "the grace and beauty and charm and hotness of the woman that I love."

Obama said he found the process of sitting for the portrait to be a frustrating experience.

"I don't like posing. I get impatient and start looking at my watch," he said, "but working with Kehinde was a great joy."

Wiley said the depiction of Obama surrounded by greenery and flowers was meant to "chart his path on earth" through the choice of flowers. The painting includes chrysanthemums, which are the official flower of Chicago; jasmine to evoke Hawaii, where Obama largely grew up; and African blue lilies to honor Obama's Kenyan father.

"Being the first African-American painter to paint the first African-American president, it doesn't get any better than that," he said.

The portraits drew wildly divergent reactions on Twitter and elsewhere, with the hashtag #obamaportraits trending throughout the day.

Obama opponents took the opportunity to take shots at the former president and digitally edit Make America Great Again hats onto the portrait.

Others dug into Wiley's previous body of work and found a pair of racially charged paintings that showed black women holding the severed heads of white women.

Among Obama supporters online, there was a bit of grumbling that Michelle Obama's portrait didn't resemble her enough, but the overall tone was of how much people missed having the Obamas in the White House.



Andrew Harnik/Associated Press

Former President Barack Obama and former first lady Michelle Obama stand on stage as their official portraits are unveiled at a ceremony at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery on Monday in Washington. Barack Obama's portrait was painted by artist Kehinde Wiley, and Michelle Obama's portrait was painted by artist Amy Sherald.



Andrew Harnik/Associated Press

Former President Barack Obama, center, watches as artist Kehinde Wiley, right, speaks during an unveiling ceremony for the Obamas' portraits.



Andrew Harnik/Associated Press

Former President Barack Obama, center, and former first lady Michelle Obama, left, applaud as Artist Amy Sherald speaks during a ceremony for the unveiling of the official portraits of the Obamas.

for your information

PAID CONTENT

To appear in For Your Information call Paul Wiseman at 697-7468 or your Midland Reporter-Telegram account executive at 682-5311.

Floorté luxury plank flooring continues to wow customers at Southwest Floors

"This Luxury Plank flooring from Shaw is the best-looking wood-appearance flooring I've ever seen," says Travis Kendrick at Southwest Floors.

Now you can have the genuine look of real wood in any room of your home—without worrying about the scratches, dents or warping common with real wood.

Floorté—that's what it's called—and its variety of wood colors and grains means you can perfectly match flooring to décor in every room.

If you've longed for a bright wood color—say ash or pine—in the kitchen or family room, Floorté has what you're looking for. Or a richer, more formal oak or cherry in the living or

dining room can be yours as well.

Imagine how your shutters, blinds or other window coverings will interact richly with wood grain flooring when you've matched the two together. And how your guests will enjoy the elegance of the formal dining. Or the playfulness of your game room and family room.

And here's the real breakthrough for Floorté: it is truly waterproof. Now if someone spills one drink or a whole gallon jug on the floor, there's no worry, no matter which room you're in.

Travis says the Floorté display was hardly set up on the Southwest Floors showroom floor when excited homeowners started

ordering it. "We've been really pleased with how excited everyone is," he says.

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, February 13, 2018 | Page 6A

GOP is making a mockery of its reputation

I'm old enough to remember when the Republican Party was pro-FBI, pro-morality and anti-deficits. What a startling turnaround.

Now Republicans are issuing venomous and cretinous attacks on the FBI that make a mockery of their reputation as the party of "law and order." They are unwilling to condemn a president whose lawyer allegedly paid off a porn actress, who endorsed an alleged child molester for the Senate and who tolerated aides who allegedly beat their wives, making a mockery of their reputation as the party of "family values." And they are going on a spending and tax-cut binge that makes a mockery of their reputation as the party of fiscal discipline.

We are a long way removed from 1953 when President Dwight Eisenhower said, "There must be balanced budgets before we are again on a safe and sound system in our economy." We are even a long way removed from 2013 when Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., warned that debt "will weigh down our country like an anchor," and from 2016 when Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said that "this level of national debt is dangerous and unacceptable."

In 2009, with the country in the midst of its worst recession in decades (unemployment rate: 8.3 percent), all but three Republicans in Congress voted against

MAX BOOT

The Washington Post

President Barack Obama's much-needed \$787 billion stimulus package. Now, with a healthy economy (unemployment rate: 4.1 percent), a majority of House and Senate Republicans voted for a \$560 billion spending package. Republicans are turning economic logic on its head. Periods of economic expansion should be used to balance the budget. Then, when a downturn hits, that's the time for stimulatory spending increases and tax cuts. Running stratospheric deficits now leaves us defenseless to fight a future recession.

A lot of the individual spending provisions in the budget deal are needed, especially the lifting of sequester caps on defense spending. But the cumulative result is dire, coming as it does less than two months after Republicans approved, on a party-line vote, a \$1.5 trillion tax cut that is not needed and risks overheating the economy. The stock market is spooked, and for good reason. The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget estimates

that we will be running trillion-dollar deficits "indefinitely." That's roughly double the deficit in Obama's last full year in office — \$585 billion. Oh, and the Trump administration is about to unveil an infrastructure bill that is projected to cost the federal government \$200 billion.

It's hard to argue with Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., who during a lonely protest on the Senate floor said, "If you were against President Obama's deficits, and now you're for the Republican deficits, isn't that the very definition of hypocrisy?" But of course he's a hypocrite too, having voted for the massive tax cut.

Robert Rubin, the treasury secretary under President Bill Clinton when we last balanced the budget in the 1990s, tells me that projected debt levels "will highly likely lead to higher interest rates, crowding out of private investment," and cause "reduced business confidence because of policy uncertainty, less resilience to economic or geopolitical crises, ever-reduced resources available for public investment and defense, and, at some point, serious financial market disruption."

As a national security analyst, I am particularly concerned about the impact on defense. Trump claims, "This Bill is a BIG VICTORY for our Military." That may be true in the short run, but over the long haul this will prove to be a Pyrrhic victory.

Already, last year, net interest on the debt and mandatory spending programs — Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, etc. — consumed 69 percent of the federal budget. The Peter G. Petersen Institute projected, even before this latest spending binge, that the figure would grow to 77 percent by 2027. That means that within a decade, only 23 percent of the federal budget will be left over to fund defense, scientific research, space exploration, disaster relief, infrastructure and all other "discretionary" spending. And all of that will have to be funded with borrowed money, reports the House Budget Committee, because by 2029 mandatory spending will consume the entirety of federal revenue. Good luck paying for defense with so little money to go around.

Forget the fantasy of 4 percent economic growth. The only way out is to either increase revenue or restrain entitlement spending. Ryan has made entitlement reform a centerpiece of his career, but there is no chance of Congress taking badly needed action, because Trump, the self-styled "king of debt," couldn't care less.

I'm starting to think that MAGA stands for Make America Greece Anon. Trump is leading Republicans to fiscal, intellectual and moral perdition. There is no longer a conservative party in this country. There is only a cult of Trump.

GUEST VIEW

Attorney General Paxton must respond to aide's remarks

Earlier this month we published a guest column by Attorney General Ken Paxton about the importance of open government. It was in response to something we had written, and to his credit, Paxton's column said all the right things. But a recent comment by his director of communications raises questions about whether the attorney general's office supports not just the letter of the Public Information Act but its spirit as well.

At a recent training conference for public information officers, Director of Communications Marc Rylander made an unsettling quip about fulfilling requests for open records. Rylander said communications officers could wait until the very last moment of the very last day to respond to a request for records, particularly from a news organization they don't like.

That's pretty bad. What could be worse? How about his other remark that "journalists and reporters no longer have ethical responsibilities."

Rylander needs a sit-down with his boss about his own "ethical responsibilities."

By law, public officials have up to 10 days to respond to a request for public records. The vital words there are "up to." If the document is sitting on their desk, it should be relayed promptly to the person or organization requesting it. The 10-day provision applies to materials that are not readily accessible. But if it's on hand, it should go out that same day.

It doesn't matter if the public official likes the individual who made the request or not. All Texans are supposed to be treated equally in this respect. The same goes for the information being sought. Whether it's a request for bids on gravel or the salary of a city official, the reply should go out ASAP.

The Texas Public Information Act is pretty strong. But if it's not obeyed, its strength is nullified. The last thing Texas needs is a high-ranking member of the attorney general's office advising other public officials to slow-walk a records request or gratuitously insulting journalists. Some clarification from Attorney General Ken Paxton on this matter is in order.

— Beaumont Enterprise

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Budget agreement imperils America

That we celebrate the bipartisan budget agreement approved last week shows how far we have slipped as a democracy since President Barack Obama and House Speaker John Boehner tried to tackle our fiscal problem.

It's a decline that imperils our ability to keep America great.

It is true that government did not shut down last week (well, not for long) and that the United States will keep paying its debts (at least for now). The alternatives, entirely imaginable in today's Washington, would have been worse.

But think back to the Obama-Boehner negotiations in 2012 and 2013. Then, you might recall, the dispute was over how to balance two difficult things: tax hikes and entitlement cuts. Neither was popular, but Democrats understood we needed one, Republicans knew we needed the other. Together, politicians were — almost — ready to put the nation on sounder financial footing.

Now we cheer because Democrats and Republicans agree to let each other increase domestic and military spending, respectively.

We have gone from arguing over portions of spinach and broccoli, in other words, to congratulating ourselves for letting each other eat as much of two different kinds of ice cream as we want.

Look, the Democrats crowd, we got \$131 billion of mint chocolate chip! We win!

No, say the Republicans, we got \$165 billion of butter pecan! We win!

As to difficult things — those are for suckers. If the other party won't go there, why should we?

Politically, it seems to make sense. The only victims are: The next generations, who will have to pay the debt. Any remaining faith in politicians, whose hypocrisy once again is laid bare. And, maybe most destructive, the government's wherewithal to help prepare the nation for the challenges of the coming century.

First responsibility of course lies with the cynic chief. Has anyone ever frothed and foamed more, while caring less, about the deficit?

"Our deficit spending is China's gain," Donald Trump tweeted in 2011. "@BarackObama is bankrupting our country."

The next year: "Obama just had another trillion dollar budget deficit for the fourth year in a row. At least he is consistent."

The next: "Obama is the most profligate deficit & debt spender in our nation's history."

And the next, and the next, and the next. It was, of course, all a game. It took Trump 13 months to surpass Obama in breathtaking irresponsibility, with his massive tax cut last year, unpaid for, and massive spending bill last week, mostly unpaid for.

FRED HIATT

The Washington Post

But even a president of gargantuan duplicity can't accomplish this alone. It required the dishonesty of the entire Republican leadership, pretending that tax cuts pay for themselves and deciding to pass a "tax reform" with no input from the Democratic Party.

That almost guaranteed that Democrats would forswear fiscal responsibility, not that most of them needed much convincing. Why restrain spending, they would say — just to pay for tax cuts for the rich?

The last pretenders were the conservative Republicans who supported the tax cut, opposed the spending bill and claimed the mantle of fiscal rectitude — but for the most part are no readier than anyone else in Washington to support a government of the size that their tax bill will pay for. Yes, they're happy to cut food stamps and force Medicaid recipients to work; but when it comes to scaling back the big middle-class entitlements that increasingly gobble up the budget, do not count on their votes.

"This is no way to run a country," said Sen. Michael Bennet, D-Colo., one of the few with the courage to oppose the bill for the right reasons last week. "Instead of scratching each other's backs in Washington, we should be working to find a balanced way to fund our priorities while ensuring that we do not strangle the next generation of Americans in debt they did not incur."

The key verb in that statement is not "strangle" but "fund" — because the saddest consequence of this failure of leadership is the lost opportunity to shape American greatness for the next generation.

Honest leaders would be saying that we need, yes, to reform entitlement programs, but also to levy sufficient taxes to care for our old and poor and simultaneously take advantage of the opportunities that science and technology are presenting: educate young people, retrain workers, invest in research, build the infrastructure that a 21st-century economy needs.

That would be one kind of leadership, the kind that did make America great and keep it that way for decades after World War II.

Or you can whoop and holler because you got two scoops and the other kid got only one.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Trump's budget balloons deficits, cuts social safety net

By Andrew Taylor and Martin Crutsinger
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump unveiled a \$4.4 trillion budget plan Monday that envisions steep cuts to America's social safety net but mounting spending on the military, formally retreating from last year's promises to balance the federal budget.

The president's spending outline for the first time acknowledges that the Republican tax overhaul passed last year would add billions to the deficit and not "pay for itself" as Trump and his Republican allies asserted. If enacted as proposed, though no presidential budget ever is, the plan would establish an era of \$1 trillion-plus yearly deficits.

The open embrace of red ink is a remarkable public reversal for Trump and his party, which spent years objecting to President Barack Obama's increased spending during the depths of the Great Recession. Rhetoric aside, however, Trump's pattern is in line with past Republican presidents who have overseen spikes in deficits as they simultaneously increased military spending and cut taxes.

"We're going to have the strongest military we've ever had, by far," Trump said in an Oval Office appearance Monday. "In this budget we took care of the military like it's never been taken care of before."

Trump's budget revived his calls for big cuts to domestic programs that benefit the poor and middle class, such as food stamps, housing subsidies and student loans. Retirement benefits would remain mostly untouched by Trump's plan, as he has pledged, though Medicare providers would absorb about \$500 billion in cuts — a nearly 6 percent reduction. Some beneficiaries in Social Security's disability program would have to re-enter the workforce under proposed changes to eligibility rules.

While all presidents' budgets are essentially dead on arrival — Congress writes and enacts its own spending legislation — Trump's plan was dead before it landed. It came just three days after the president signed a bipartisan agreement that set broad parameters for spending over the next two years. That deal, which includes large increases for domestic programs, rendered Monday's Trump plan for 10-year, \$1.7 trillion cuts to domestic agencies such as the departments of Health and Human Services, Agriculture and Housing and Urban Development even more unrealistic.

The White House used Monday's event to promote its long-awaited plan to increase funding for infrastructure. The plan would put up \$200 billion in federal money over the next 10 years in hopes of leveraging a total of \$1.5 trillion in infrastructure spending, relying on state and local governments and the private sector to contribute the bulk of the funding.

But after his aides talked up that plan over the weekend, Trump suggested that his infrastructure proposal wasn't a big deal for him.

"If for any reason, they don't want to support to it, hey, that's going to be up to them," he said of the Republican-controlled Congress. "What was very important to me was the military; what was very important to me was the tax cuts."

Trump also is proposing work requirements for several federal programs, including housing subsidies, food stamps and Medicaid. Such ideas have backing from powerful figures in Congress including Republican House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, who promises action on a "workforce development" agenda this year.

There was immediate opposition from Democrats.

"The Trump budget proposal makes clear his desire to enact massive cuts to health care, anti-poverty programs and investments in economic growth to blunt

the deficit-exploding impact of his tax cuts for millionaires and corporations," said Rep. John Yarmuth of Kentucky, the top Democrat on the House Budget Committee.

Some Republicans, on the other hand, said spending was much too high.

"This budget continues too much of Washington's wasteful spending — it does not balance in ten years, and it creates a deficit of over a trillion dollars next year," said Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida. "We cannot steal from America's future to pay for spending today."

Trump's plan aims at other familiar targets. It would eliminate the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The administration wants NASA out of the International Space Station by 2025 and private businesses running the place instead.

But the domestic cuts would be far from enough to make up for the plummeting tax revenue projected in the budget.

Trump's plan sees a 2019 deficit of \$984 billion, though White House Budget Director Mick Mulvaney admits \$1.2 trillion is more plausible after last week's congressional budget pact and \$90 billion worth of disaster aid is tacked on. That would be more than double the 2019 deficit the administration promised last year.

All told, the new budget sees accumulating deficits of \$7.2 trillion over the coming decade; Trump's plan last year projected a 10-year shortfall of \$3.2 trillion. And that's assuming Trump's rosy economic predictions come true and Congress follows through — in an election year — with politically toxic cuts to social programs, farm subsidies and Medicare providers.

Last year Trump's budget promised such ideas could generate a small budget surplus by 2027; now, his best-case scenario is for a \$450 billion deficit that year, more than \$300 billion of which can be traced to his December tax cut.

In stark numbers, the budget rewrites the administration's talking points for last year's tax plan, which administration figures such as Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin promised would more than pay for itself.

"Not only will this tax plan pay for itself, but it will pay down debt," Mnuchin declared in September.

Instead, Trump's budget projects that tax revenues will plummet by \$3.7 trillion over the 2018-27 decade relative to last year's "baseline" estimates.

The budget also includes \$1.6 billion for the second stage of Trump's proposed border wall, a 65-mile segment in Texas' Rio Grande Valley. Trump's request last year for 74 miles of wall in San Diego and the Rio Grande Valley is pending before lawmakers right now.

Once again, there's no mention of how Mexico would have to pay for it, as Trump repeatedly promised during the presidential campaign and after his victory.

The plan reprises proposals to curb crop insurance costs, cut student loan subsidies and reduce pension benefits for federal workers. They went nowhere last year.

Trump's plan promises 3 percent growth for the nation's economy, continuing low inflation and low interest yields on U.S. Treasury bills despite a flood of new borrowing. That likely underestimates the mounting cost of financing the government's \$20 trillion-plus debt, many economists say.

Senate GOP, Dem leaders say it's time for immigration deal

By Alan Fram
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate's two top leaders put on a show of comradery Monday as their chamber launched its immigration debate, but also laid down markers underscoring how hard it will be to reach a deal that can move through Congress.

"We really do get along, despite what you read in the press," said Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., at a previously scheduled appearance alongside his counterpart, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., at the University of Louisville.

There was even ribbing when Schumer presented McConnell with a bottle of bourbon made in his home New York City borough of Brooklyn. McConnell, whose state knows a thing or two about bourbon, proclaimed, "There's no such thing as Brooklyn bourbon."

But just days after the two leaders brokered a bipartisan \$400 billion budget agreement and helped shepherd it into law, both men made clear that an immigration agreement will be tough.

"The time for political posturing is behind us," McConnell said later Monday on the Senate floor. He said while Democrats have called for "swift action" on immigration, "Now's the time to back up the talk with the hard work of finding a solution."



Timothy D. Easley/Associated Press

Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., left, talks with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., before his speech at the McConnell Center's Distinguished Speaker Series on Monday in Louisville, Ky.

That, he pointedly said, would mean passage by the Senate and the House of a measure "which the president will sign."

McConnell expressed his support for a wide-ranging proposal by President Donald Trump that the Senate is expected to vote on this week. It would pave a path to citizenship for up to 1.8 million young "Dreamer" immigrants in the U.S. illegally, a lure for Democrats that many Republicans oppose.

Trump also wants \$25 billion for Trump's border wall with Mexico and other security measures, as well as curbs on legal immigration — a must for many Republicans. Many Democrats consider some of the proposals, including limiting the relatives that legal immigrants can bring to the U.S., to be non-starters.

In his own remarks on the Senate floor, Schumer expressed opposition to such a sweeping approach.

"The only enemy here is overreach," Schumer said. "Now is not the time nor the place to reform the entire legal immigration system. Rather, this is the time for a narrow bill" — which Democrats have said would help the Dreamers and provide some money for border security.

The comments came as the Senate voted 97-1 — Ted Cruz provided the sole "no" vote — to plunge into an open-ended immigration debate that's been promised by McConnell. Both parties' leaders hope debate can be concluded this week, but it's unclear if that will happen or what the product, if any, will be.

"This is going to be done or not done this week,"

No. 2 Senate GOP leader John Cornyn of Texas told reporters.

Lawmakers' focus will be the Dreamers, hundreds of thousands of young immigrants who have lived in the U.S. illegally since being brought here as children.

They had been given temporary protection from deportation by President Barack Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA. Trump has said he'll end that program March 5, though a federal court has temporarily blocked him from scuttling it.

Trump's overall immigration plan, opposed by many Democrats, stands little chance of prevailing because any measure will need 60 votes. That means proposals will need substantial bipartisan support since the GOP majority is 51-49, and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., has been absent in recent weeks battling cancer.

Highlighting the partisan gap, there was plenty of finger-pointing Monday.

Trump put the onus on Democrats, saying, "I hope the Democrats are not going to use it just as a campaign" issue.

No. 2 Senate Democratic leader Richard Durbin of Illinois said the key impediment to a bipartisan deal was Trump's history of switching positions on the issue.

"Nailing the president down has been next to impossible," he said.

Vanessa Trump taken to hospital after white powder scare

By Jake Pearson
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Donald Trump Jr.'s wife was taken to a New York City hospital on Monday as a precaution after she opened an envelope addressed to her husband that contained an unidentified white powder, though police later said the substance wasn't dangerous, authorities said.

The frightening episode happened after 10 a.m. when Trump, 40, opened the letter addressed to the president's son at her mother's midtown Manhattan apartment, investigators said. She called 911 and said she was coughing and felt nauseous, police said.

"Thankful that Vanessa & my children are safe and unharmed after the incredibly scary situation that occurred this morning," Donald Trump Jr. wrote

on Twitter. "Truly disgusting that certain individuals choose to express their opposing views with such disturbing behavior."

The New York Fire Department said it treated three patients who were then taken to a hospital for evaluation.

Police said the envelope contained a letter but provided no other details.

Detectives from the New York Police Department's intelligence division and Secret Service agents were investigating.

Secret Service Special Agent Jeffrey Adams said in a statement that agents were investigating "a suspicious package addressed to one of our protectees" in New York but said he couldn't comment further.

Vanessa Trump, a former model, and Donald Trump Jr. have five children, none of whom were home at the time of the incident.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Monday that the president spoke by phone to Vanessa Trump about the incident.

The Trump family has had to deal with a number of similar scares.

In March 2016, police detectives and FBI agents investigated a threatening letter sent to the Manhattan apartment of Donald Trump Jr.'s brother, Eric, that also contained a white powder that turned out to be harmless. Envelopes containing white powder were also sent to Trump Tower, which served as Trump's campaign headquarters, twice in 2016.

Hoax attacks using white powder play on fears that date to 2001, when letters containing deadly anthrax were mailed to two U.S. senators. Those letters killed five people.

Attorney general suit: Weinstein Co. failed to protect women

Tom McElroy
Associated Press

NEW YORK — New York's attorney general is accusing Hollywood movie producer Harvey Weinstein of "repeatedly and persistently" sexually harassing female employees at his film company, according to a lawsuit filed on Sunday by the state prosecutor that could impact the company's potential sale.

"As alleged in our complaint, The Weinstein Company repeatedly broke New York law by failing to protect its employees from pervasive sexual harassment, intimidation, and discrimination," state Attorney General Eric Schneiderman said in court papers filed against Weinstein and the company.

Schneiderman launched a civil rights probe into the New York City-based

company in October after The New York Times and The New Yorker exposed allegations of sexual assault and harassment spanning decades.

Weinstein's attorney, Ben Brafman, released a statement Sunday evening saying many of the allegations against his client are "without merit."

"While Mr. Weinstein's behavior was not without fault, there certainly was no criminality, and at the end of the inquiry it will be clear that Harvey Weinstein promoted more women to key executive positions than any other industry leader and there was zero discrimination at either Miramax or TWC," Brafman said.

Scores of women, including well-known actresses, have come forward with stories of forced sexual encounters. Weinstein was fired by the film company

he founded with his brother Robert and expelled from Hollywood's movie academy.

The attorney general's office said the lawsuit was filed on Sunday partly due to reports of the company's imminent sale, saying it believed it would leave victims

without adequate redress.

"Any sale of The Weinstein Company must ensure that victims will be compensated, employees will be protected going forward, and that neither perpetrators nor enablers will be unjustly enriched," court papers said.

Schneiderman's investigation found that employees were subjected to various verbal threats from Weinstein such as "I will kill you, I will kill your family, and you don't know what I can do."

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HENRY
Mark 16:17-18
"And those who believe shall use my authority to cast out demons, and they shall speak new languages. They will be able even to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won't hurt them; and they will be able to place their hands on the sick and heal them."



Planes on the apron at London City Airport which has been closed after the discovery of an unexploded Second World War bomb was found Monday in the nearby River Thames.

London City Airport shuts down due to unexploded WWII bomb

Associated Press

LONDON — All flights in and out of London City Airport were canceled Monday after a 1,100-pound unexploded World War II bomb was found nearby in the River Thames.

The Metropolitan Police service cleared an area within 700 feet of the bomb, including several residential streets, as officers worked with specialists from the Royal Navy to remove the device.

Police said the German bomb was discovered Sunday at the George V

Dock during pre-planned work at City Airport. They described it as a 5-foot shell that was lying in a bed of dense silt.

"The first stage of the removal operation is to free the shell from the silt so that it can be floated for removal," police said in a statement.

After that, navy bomb-disposal experts will tow it away and destroy it underwater in a controlled explosion.

Local officials offered emergency accommodations to residents, although some refused to leave their homes.

Airport CEO Robert Sinclair

said he recognized that passengers will be inconvenienced but said the airport was cooperating fully with authorities "to resolve the situation as quickly as possible."

Sinclair said later that he expected the airport to reopen Tuesday.

London City, the smallest of London's international airports, handled 4.5 million passengers last year. Popular with business travelers, it's located in east London's docklands, an area that was heavily bombed by the German air force during World War II.

Orthodox youth with a priest gather at the Cathedral of Christ the Savior in Moscow lighting 71 candles in memory of those killed in the An-148 plane crash, Monday, Feb. 12, 2018. A Russian passenger plane carrying 71 people crashed Sunday near Moscow, killing everyone aboard shortly after the jet took off from one of the city's airports. The Saratov Airlines regional jet disappeared from radar screens a few minutes after departing from Domodedovo Airport en route to Orsk, a city some 1,000 miles southeast of Moscow.



Alexander Zemlianichenko/Associated Press

Workers comb snowy field for clues to Russian plane crash

By Vladimir Isachenkov

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Wading through knee-deep snow, hundreds of emergency workers searched a vast field near Moscow on Monday for remains of the 71 victims from the crash of a Russian airliner, and aviation experts began deciphering the jet's two flight recorders.

Investigators quickly ruled out a terrorist attack in Sunday's crash of the An-148 regional jet bound for Orsk in the southern Urals. The air disaster has reignited questions, however, about the twin-engine plane that was developed jointly by Russia and Ukraine but phased out of production amid the political crisis between the neighbors.

The model has a spotty safety record, with one previous crash and a string of major incidents in which pilots struggled to land safely. The carrier, Saratov Airlines, has grounded several other An-148s in its fleet pending the crash investigation.

The plane crashed several minutes after taking off from Moscow's Domodedovo airport, and all 65 passengers and the crew of six were killed when the aircraft hit the ground and exploded in a giant fireball.

The Investigative Committee, Russia's top agency for looking into such disasters, said that before the crash, the plane was intact

and there had been no fire on board. Officials would not speculate on possible causes.

The plane's fuel tanks exploded on impact, gouging a deep crater and scattering wreckage across 74 acres, according to the Emergency Ministry, which used drones to direct the search. Pieces of the plane and human remains were buried in deep snow; some debris was found in nearby trees.

Deputy Prime Minister Arkady Dvorkovich told a Cabinet meeting that emergency teams found both flight data and cockpit voice recorders, which will be significant in determining the cause of the crash. Investigators said they have started working on them. President Vladimir Putin put off a planned trip to Sochi and stayed in Moscow to monitor the investigation Monday. The Kremlin said U.S. President Donald Trump called Putin to express his condolences.

Officials said the search for victims' remains will take a week. The passengers ranged in age from 5 to 79, according to a list from the Emergency Ministry. Most victims were from Orsk, where authorities declared Monday to be an official day of mourning.

Saratov Airlines said the jet had received proper maintenance and passed all the necessary checks before the flight. The plane was built in 2010 for a different airline that operated

it for several years before putting it in storage. Saratov Airlines commissioned it last year.

The captain had more than 5,000 hours of flying time, 2,800 of them in an An-148, the airline said. The other pilot had 812 hours of experience, largely in that model.

Another Russian operator that uses the plane, Angara, based in eastern Siberia, said it would keep flying them. The Defense Ministry and other government agencies that also use the aircraft haven't grounded them either.

President Petro Poroshenko of Ukraine also has used that model of plane for some of his trips.

The An-148, developed by Ukraine's Antonov company in the early 2000s, once was touted as an example of Russian-Ukrainian cooperation, but it fell into trouble as relations between the two countries unraveled following Russia's 2014 annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula.

Most of about 40 such planes built under the cooperative agreement were manufactured by a Russian manufacturer in Voronezh, with Ukraine providing the engines and many other components.

Its production in Russia was halted last year, and media reports indicated that some carriers, including Saratov Airlines, experienced a shortage of spare parts.

Some airlines reportedly had to cannibalize planes

to keep others airworthy.

Alexander Neradko, the head of Rosaviatsiya, the state agency overseeing civil aviation, said it will make a detailed scrutiny of Saratov Airlines' operations, but he added that the company had a decent record.

Some regional carriers in Russia reportedly have cut corners on servicing aircraft.

Pilot Andrei Litvinov told independent Dozhd TV that the government should help smaller carriers that are struggling to stay in business.

"They are trying to save money on maintaining their planes to prevent going under," he said.

One An-148 crashed during a training flight in Russia in March 2011, killing all six crew members on board. Investigators blamed pilot error.

In 2010, another An-148 operated by a Russian carrier suffered a major failure of its control system, but its crew managed to land safely.

In September, one engine of a Saratov Airlines An-148 shut down minutes after takeoff, but it landed safely. And in October, another An-148 that belonged to a different Russian carrier suffered an engine fire on takeoff but also managed to land. Engine shutdowns have occurred on several other occasions.

The last major airline crash in Russia occurred on Dec. 25, 2016, when a Tu-154 operated by the Defense Ministry on its way to Syria crashed into the Black Sea minutes after takeoff from Sochi. All 92 people aboard were killed. The investigation into that crash is ongoing, but officials have indicated it was due to pilot error.

Oxfam's deputy chief executive resigns in Haiti scandal

By Danica Kirka
Associated Press

LONDON — Oxfam's deputy chief executive resigned Monday, saying she took "full responsibility" for failing to act immediately in the sexual misconduct scandal involving the charity's workers in Haiti following the 2010 earthquake.

Penny Lawrence, Oxfam program director at the time, said she was "ashamed that this happened on my watch."

At an emergency meeting Monday with British government officials, Oxfam's leaders "also made a full and unqualified apology" and spoke of a "deep sense of disgrace and shame," said British Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt.

Oxfam chief executive Mark Goldring and trustee chairwoman Caroline Thomson were at the meeting. Mordaunt had threatened to pull public funding from Oxfam unless the charity revealed everything it knows about the Haiti allegations.

Still, it's unclear whether the resignation and the apology will quell the scandal, which first emerged when the Times of London reported last week that seven former Oxfam staff members who worked in Haiti faced misconduct allegations that included using prostitutes and downloading pornography.

Oxfam says it investigated the allegations in 2011 and then fired four people and let three others resign

after uncovering sexual misconduct, bullying, intimidation and failure to protect staff.

Lawrence said Monday that the allegations of sexual misconduct were first raised about some Oxfam staff in an earlier mission in Chad.

"It is now clear that these allegations — involving the use of prostitutes and which related to behavior of both the country director and members of his team in Chad — were raised before he moved to Haiti," she said.

Mordaunt said the charity had agreed to provide full details about the perpetrators to their home countries so they can face possible prosecution.

"I told Oxfam they must now demonstrate the moral leadership necessary to address this scandal, rebuild the trust of the British public, their staff and the people they aim to help," she said, describing the sexual abuses as "utterly despicable."

Mordaunt said she had written to all U.K. charities that work overseas to demand they do more to protect vulnerable people from abuse.

Earlier Monday, the European Commission demanded that Oxfam offer maximum transparency in responding to the allegations about Haiti.

"We are ready to review and, if needed, cease funding to any partner who is not living up to the required high ethical standards," said European Commission spokeswoman Maja Kocijancic.

North Korea leader impressed with South's delegation welcome

By Youkyung Lee
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said Tuesday it is important to continue a reconciliatory mood between the Koreans and expressed satisfaction with the North Korean delegation's visit to the South, in his first remarks since the high-level guests led by his sister returned to the North.

The North's state-owned Korean Central News Agency reported that Kim was impressed with Seoul's welcome and treatment of the high-level delegation.

He expressed gratitude to the South for "making their possible and sincere efforts" for their guests from the North.

Kim emphasized the importance of continuing dialogue between two Koreas, according to the North's official news agency.

North Korea sent its nominal head of state and Kim's sister Kim Yo Jong, who extended an invitation to South Korean President Moon Jae-in to visit Pyongyang for a summit in the near future.

Moon didn't immediately accept the North Korean offer.

He said the Koreans should create an environment so that a meeting of the two leaders could take place.

He also called for a quick resumption of dialogue between North Korea and the United States, apparently aware that being friendly with the North could alienate an American ally critical to the defense of the South.

The North delegation returned home Sunday night. During a three-day visit, the delegation members sat among world dignitaries including the U.S. Vice President Mike Pence at the opening ceremony

of Pyeongchang Winter Olympic Games, had lunch with Moon at his presidential palace and joined Moon in cheering for the first-ever inter-Korean Olympic team as it debuted in the women's ice hockey tournament.

The North Koreans were the subject of intense media scrutiny during their busy schedule visiting Seoul and the Olympic towns of Pyeongchang and Gangneung.

South Koreans were especially fascinated by Kim's sister, Kim Yo Jong, who seemed relaxed and smiled most of the time.

The 30-year-old, an increasingly prominent figure in her older brother's government, was the North's first ruling family to visit the South since the end of the Korean War.

South Korean media closely documented every move and gesture of the North Korean leader's younger sister, commenting on everything from the purse she carried to her writing style in a message she left in the presidential palace guest book.

An hour before the North Korean news agency report, Pence declared that the U.S. is open for talks without preconditions with nuclear North Korea, in a subtle shift in White House policy.

The vice president's remarks provided a little more leverage for South Korea in its path-finding outreach to the North and could reduce potential strains in the U.S.-South Korean alliance.

But diplomacy between Washington and Pyongyang won't start unless Kim Jong Un wants it to.

While the North Korean dictator, who has yet to meet a foreign leader, has invited the South Korean president for a rare summit, Kim has given no sign of being ready to talk to the U.S.

EDUCATION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, February 13, 2018 | Section B

TEA: 604 districts don't require certification *Schools receive exemption under District of Innovation plan*

By Rishika Dugyala
Texas Tribune

More than half of Texas public school students are in districts that don't require teachers to be certified, according to state officials, due to a recent law giving schools more freedom on educational requirements.

A 2015 law lets public schools access exemptions from requirements such as

teacher certification, school start dates and class sizes — the same exemptions allowed for open enrollment charter schools. Using a District of Innovation plan, districts can create a comprehensive educational program and identify provisions under Texas law that would inhibit their goals.

Data from the Texas Education Agency found that 604 rural and urban districts with innovation plans have received an exemption from teacher certification so

far. Texas Association of School Boards spokesperson Dax Gonzalez said most of those districts are using the exemption so industry specialists — such as engineers, nurses and law enforcement officials — can offer hands-on learning to students in career and technology classes.

But the move has some education experts worried that districts are laying the groundwork for having uncertified teachers handle core subjects like math, science and

language arts, despite a promise not to do so. Although uncertified educators have been able to teach core classes through waivers and permits, those are approved on a case-by-case basis.

Usually, in order to teach in Texas classrooms, candidates must obtain certification by earning a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

Please see CERTIFICATION/2B

INTERNET SAFETY COURSE



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Daniel Aaronson, with Google, asks questions of students at San Jacinto Junior High School about their online usage Monday during a safety awareness presentation by Google Online Safety Roadshow.

Google brings Online Safety Roadshow to San Jacinto

From staff reports

San Jacinto Junior High students on Monday attended Google's Online Safety Roadshow: How to be Internet Awesome, a presentation on best practices when using the internet.

"We know that this is the age where technology starts playing a large role in the classroom, they might be getting that first device and connecting more independently with each other," said Jamie Hill

Google spokesperson. "The Online Safety Roadshow helps students develop the best practices to be safe, secure, kind and alert online."

The presentation emphasized how to be to be smart and thoughtful when sharing content online. Other important tips included how to create safe passwords that are easy to remember and identify phishing scams.

The Google representatives were joined by U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway and Midland

ISD Superintendent Orlando Riddick.

"When you share something it's there forever," Conaway said. "Not only immediately but it could affect your future, in job applications, applying for colleges. Most of these folks look at what you post online to get a sense who your online persona is."

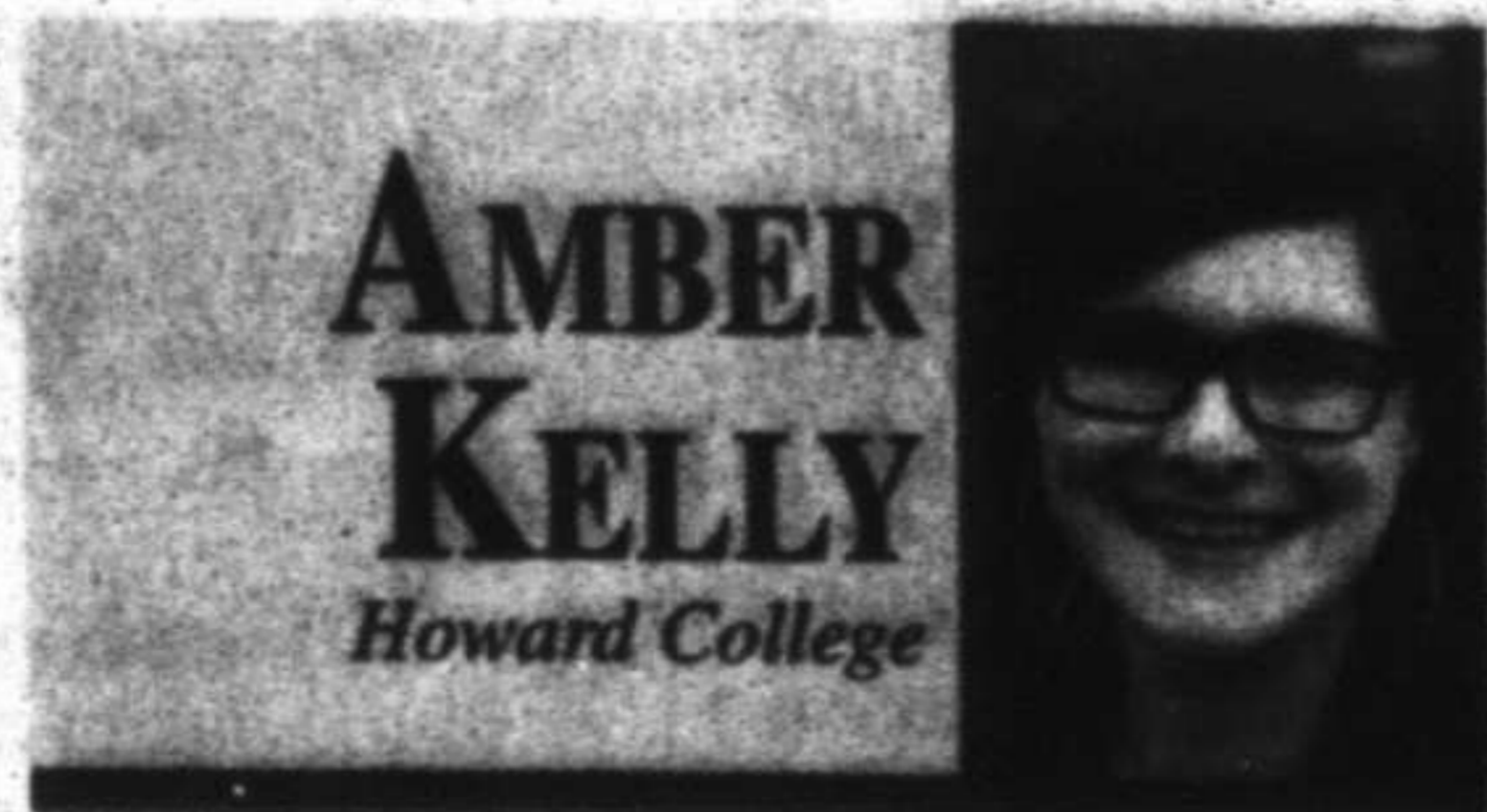
San Jacinto was one of three locations where the road show was presented on Monday. The other two were Miami and Michigan.

Parents, school should partner to teach practical skills

The son of one of my colleagues recently started driving. By all measures, he is a competent driver, except for one small problem: Despite having lived in Big Spring all his life, he has no idea how to get anywhere. While his parents were driving to the grocery store or school, he had his head down, looking at whatever electronic device he happened to have with him. Now, he is a stranger in his own town.

How many things are our kids missing because they have their heads down, so to speak? Not necessarily just with technology, but with practical skills they are not learning as they advance through school. For example, when I was in third grade, a local bank came to our school to help us all set up bank accounts. Every few weeks, they would return so we could make deposits, entering them neatly in our little ledgers and tracking our financial growth. At the time it didn't seem like much, but as I watch my own daughter struggle with money word problems on STAAR prep tests, I wonder if our children are left without a practical sense of direction because many of these opportunities no longer exist.

Think about the trappings of adulthood you utilize everyday — budgets,



insurance, professional dress, bill-paying, time management, even simple manners — where did we learn those things: home, school, both? I was lucky that much of my knowledge came from both my family and my school system. Perhaps I am wrong, and these things are being tackled in practical ways as the students advance through grades. Maybe the schools are not assuming the parents are handling these things, while the parents are making the same faulty assumption. However, something tells me that I am at least partially right.

Part of my suspicion comes from our public speaking course. In this class, our instructor requires that students follow the dress code when they give a speech. By this, he means nice pants (khakis are fine) and a button-down shirt. Girls can wear this as well. However, more

students fail his class for not complying with the dress code than for any other reason. His reason for the dress code is to prepare them for situations such as interviews and presentations when they will need to look neat, appropriate and professional. He does not require ties, heels or anything impractical. Yet, there are always issues related to dress code: Guys wear ripped jeans and girls wear dressy shorts and tank tops. Somewhere along the way, no one has helped these kids — the ones who do not compete in debate or 4H — figure out how to transition into adulthood.

Certainly, college is a place for some of these skills, such as professional dress. But think about skills such as time management and budgeting. Students need these to be successful in college. A former student of mine already had three maxed-out credit cards at age 19 because no one explained to him how credit cards worked. Add on student debt, and we have a young person in a financial hole one year after legally becoming an adult. Someone needed to warn him. Someone needed to instruct him beyond the standardized testing page.

Please see KELLY/2B

MIDLAND COLLEGE PROFILES

By Rebecca Bell

MC graduate enjoys working with children and teenagers

"I've always had a passion to work with children," said Claudia Juarez. "Thankfully, I have been able to turn that passion into a rewarding career with education, training and two degrees from Midland College."

The 33-year-old single mother of two is the director of the Coleman High School Child Care Center. As such, she not only oversees and cares for infants and toddlers, but also has the opportunity to work with teen parents enrolled in Midland ISD's alternative high school.

"I've found that I enjoy working with the high school students," Juarez said. "In fact, I have decided to go back to school to pursue a master's degree from Grand Canyon University in professional counseling with an emphasis in childhood and adolescent disorders."

When Juarez graduated from Lee High School in 2002, she never dreamed that 16 years later she would be managing a children's center and taking courses in graduate school. She is the second oldest of four children of Eulalia and Jose Luis Juarez and the first in her family to graduate from high school and college.

"I had a great childhood," she said. "My parents taught me a strong work ethic. My father has been employed with the city of Midland Transportation Division for over 20 years."

"When I was at Lee High School, I was in the teacher's aide program and worked with kindergarten children at Crockett Elementary School," said Juarez. "I was able to work with the same teacher that I had when I was in kindergarten. I remember how much I loved her as a child, and then going back and working with her. I was inspired by how she interacted with the children."

After high school graduation, Juarez enrolled at Midland College and was able to finance her education through the Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce scholarship as well as several other scholarships provided by MC. She immediately gravitated toward taking courses in the child development and early childhood program and soon obtained employment at MC's Children's Center at Manor Park.

"I worked at the Manor Park Children's Center part-time and then full-time for a total of 10 years," said Juarez. "It was a great place to gain experience working with children. The director, Tracy Roome, became like a second mother to me. I became pregnant with my first daughter Camila, while I was employed there. Tracy's encouragement gave me the strength I needed to continue with my education. It wasn't easy being a single mother, working and going to school."

Juarez graduated from Midland College in 2007 with an associate of applied science degree in child development and early childhood. She continued to work at the center at Manor Park and then a few years later enrolled in MC's organizational management baccalaureate degree program.

"I wanted to earn a bachelor's degree so that I could eventually become the director of a children's center," said Juarez.

"I think that the time I was working on my bachelor's degree was not only the most difficult time in my life, but also the most rewarding. I had accepted a job as an activity director at Manor Park working with the independent living residents. The pay was more, and being a single mother, I had to think about earning a decent salary to take care of my daughter. While the people with whom I worked were wonderful, I would walk by the children's center at Manor Park, and my heart would hurt because I wanted to be with the children."

So, when Juarez found out about the opportunity to become director of the



Juarez

Please see PROFILE/2B

Lee High School senior **Megan Moore** has been honored by the Midland West Rotary Club. She is the daughter of Michael Moore and Kasey Moore. She is a member of National Honor Society and is an academic letterman. She is involved with Stonegate Fellowship youth group and volunteers with Helping Hands and Midland Shared Spaces. She plans to attend the University of Texas of the Permian Basin and major in kinesiology.

Midland High School senior **Alyssa Cottrell** has been honored by the Midland Rotary Club. She

MAKING THE GRADE

FROM STAFF REPORTS



Cottrell

is the daughter of Kami and Jeff Cottrell. She is a member of the volleyball team, National Honor Society, is an academic letterman and a Texas Scholar and is a member of academic All District and All State. She volunteers at Helping Hands and is involved

in the shadow program at Midland Memorial Hospital. Cottrell plans to attend West Texas A&M University.

Midlander Keaton Fricker has been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at University of Nebraska.

To be eligible, students in the College of Business must maintain a GPA of at least 3.6.

Garden City eighth-grad-

er **Bailey Dehlinger** was named to the All Region Band and performed in



Dahlinger

the All Region Band concert last month. She is the first Garden City student to receive that honor

is more than 10 years, according to band director John Miller.

Dehlinger, the daughter of Pete and Angie Dehlinger, plays the bass clarinet in the Garden City High School band.

CERTIFICATION

From 1B

completing an educator preparation program, passing the appropriate teacher certification exams, being fingerprinted for a national criminal background check and submitting a state application.

In Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District, Tim Soto is one of eight uncertified teachers, all responsible for career and technology courses. The electronic technician was hired to teach classes on hands-on tool usage and safety and electrical field practices.

This is Soto's first year as a teacher, but he has worked for Harlingen CISD for 26 years as an apprentice electrician and a technology specialist. Soto, a college graduate, said he "jumped at the chance" to give back to the district. And, he said, he's received nothing but support from other teachers and his students' parents in creating his curriculum.

"I was nervous, but things just fell into place," Soto said. "I've found that my years of experience are invaluable for students. Instead of having them just read out of a textbook, I can show them how to use the proper tools and help them avoid making mistakes as an apprentice."

But districts aren't required to limit the exemption to only career and technology courses. The blanket certification exemption legally allows them to hire uncertified teachers for staple classes like Algebra I or Biology, and even for special education or early childhood classes.

"We don't want it to expand," said Kate Kuhlmann, a lobbyist with the Association of Texas Professional Educators. "There are a lot of people that have great content knowledge, but it's also really important they have a strong understanding of and training in what it means to be a teacher."

Because there are already avenues around teacher certification — such as waivers and permits that have to be accepted by TEA, the commissioner of education or the school board — a broader exemption should not be necessary, said Texas State Teachers Association

spokesperson Clay Robison. Robison called the innovation plan exemption a way for districts to "cut corners" without the same accountability.

Many states have responded to a national teacher shortage by allowing emergency-type hires, said Desiree Carver-Thomas, a research and policy associate with the Learning Policy Institute, a nonprofit research organization based in California. More than 100,000 teachers were unqualified based on their state's certification standards, according to data between 2015 and 2017, Carver-Thomas said.

But Texas exemption standards are among the broadest nationally, Kuhlmann said. Many states just offer permits or waivers for districts that need to fill classrooms with uncertified teachers. And while states like Kansas and Alabama have innovation district models that offer a teacher certification exemption, Kuhlmann said they have built-in parameters for how many districts can qualify and what classes fall under the exemption.

Still, receiving a response for case-by-case applications in Texas can take nearly a month, and there's always the possibility of being rejected. And unlike the permit or waiver process, choosing exemptions under a District of Innovation plan involves community input, two-thirds buy-in from the district's board of trustees and approval from a district-level decision-making committee, said Bruce Gearing, Dripping Springs ISD's superintendent.

Gearing said he doesn't foresee his district hiring uncertified teachers outside of career and technical education. Even if that need arises, he said, the district would have to go through a public amendment process to change the implementation of the teacher certification exemption.

"It's about trust," Gonzalez, the TASB spokesperson, said. "You either trust local school boards and administrators to go out and find the best teachers for students, or you don't. And again, this exemption just allows a flexibility that charter schools already have."

Teen creates app for safer walk home

Virginia high school sophomore's creation is among winners of Congressional App Challenge

By Lori Aratani
Washington Post

Medha Gupta sometimes felt uneasy making the 20-minute walk from the corner where the school bus dropped her off to her home in Herndon, Virginia, especially when it gets dark early.

Her mother had a suggestion: Write an app.

Divya Gupta was half-kidding, but Medha, a sophomore at Fairfax County's Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, took the challenge seriously.

So she went to work. "I knew I had a problem I needed to solve," said Medha, 16.

The result was Safe Travel, an app she designed to help commuters feel more secure when traveling alone. Using their iPhone (the app is only compatible with iOS), a person can program it to send an alert to someone they trust if they fail to arrive at a destination within a certain time.

It was the first iOS app that Medha had created, and it's a program language she wasn't well-versed in, so she didn't think much would come of the project. But her inaugural effort caught the eyes of judges for the annual Congressional App Challenge, who selected her as the winner for Virginia's 10th District.

"We were elated," said her father, Manmohan Gupta, who has a computer engineering background.

The App Challenge is designed to encourage students to consider careers in science, technology, engineering and math by experimenting with coding and computer science. It is modeled after the Congressional Art Competition, in which student artists compete to have their works displayed at the Capitol. Once exclusive to high school students, the challenge was opened last year to students in grades K-12 across the country.

"This contest is about building the domestic pipeline for the jobs of the future," said Rachel Decoste, executive director of the App Challenge. This year, more than 4,100

District 11 winner

The Congressional App Challenge winner in the 11th Congressional District is Midlander Ethan Thames, a student at Premier High School. He will be profiled in an upcoming Education section.

students submitted nearly 1,300 apps. One winner is chosen for each congressional district that participates. Medha beat out several other competitors in Virginia's 10th District, which is represented by Rep. Barbara Comstock, R-Va.

"We are always delighted to see the innovation and talent that our students demonstrate through the annual Congressional App Challenge," said Comstock. "It is this kind of skill and innovation which makes this contest so rewarding each year."

The app challenge is an initiative of the U.S. House of Representatives, but is managed by the nonprofit Internet Education Foundation. Winning students are invited to attend a reception on Capitol Hill in April and also received \$250 in Amazon Web Service credits. (Jeff Bezos, the founder and chief executive of Amazon, also owns The Washington Post.)

"It's really interesting to see the different apps these kids come up with," said Troy Murphy, public policy manager with the Northern Virginia Technology Council, who served as one of the judges for the competition.

He said while the entries were all impressive, he ultimately voted for Medha's app because it "dealt with an important pressing problem."

Murphy said he also was impressed by Medha's technical expertise.

Decoste said that students who enter the challenge are encouraged to think creatively and can work individually or in teams. Some have created games, and others, like Medha, have tackled health and transportation issues. An all-girl team from Arizona created **Teens for Political Action AZ**, which is designed to bridge the gap "... between the intimidating political jargon and teens looking to become more involved and aware of the issues affecting themselves, their community, and their country," the challenge's website states.

"It's whatever they come up with," Decoste said.

Medha didn't have the congressional challenge in mind when she designed her app. Like many other tech-savvy teens, she said she's always thinking about how she can use technology to solve everyday problems. She's already familiar with several programming languages, having participated in several "hackathons," where students come together to tackle problems using technology.

She said it also helps that she's a bit "obsessed" with her iPhone. But that obsession comes with an upside: the desire to understand what powers the apps that she finds so addictive. It's just who she is.

"Since I'm so obsessed with my phone, I wanted to learn how each app runs and what goes into creating them," Medha said.

Designing the app meant squeezing it into an already jam-packed schedule of Advanced Placement classes and after-school activities that range from studying Indian classical dance to teaching young students how to code. Some days, she skipped lunch with her friends at school or spent nights curled up in a comfy chair or sofa in her family's home typing furiously on her laptop.

"I thought she was on Facebook," Divya Gupta said, laughing. "She was sitting there for hours."

"Mom, I was working," Medha shot back with only the slightest of eye rolls.

Medha said it took her about 40 hours to design, program, test and troubleshoot the app.

Her app is not available for download: she'd have to pay a fee to do that. But she doesn't rule out offering some version of it in Apple's App Store in the future.

Medha's not certain what her next app might be. She's temporarily put her app development ambitions on hold because she's busy teaching herself artificial intelligence with an eye toward writing an algorithm to help police hate speech on Facebook. Yes, she knows that there are teams of Facebook engineers probably doing the same thing. But she figures it can't hurt to do her part too.

"If we see something wrong with the world, we should do something about it," she said. "After all, the only stopping us from doing something is ourselves."

Abbott's vow to cut tests hasn't been unfulfilled

By W. Gardner Sel
Austin
American-Statesman

Through Gov. Greg Abbott's term, we've been tracking and updating progress on his campaign promises through the PolitiFact Texas Abbott-O-Meter.

One promise came as Abbott told delegates to the Republican Party of Texas convention: "Teachers and parents know far better how to educate our children than do a bunch of bureaucrats in Austin or Washington, D.C."

Abbott then vowed, "And my plan will stop forcing teachers to teach to so many standardized tests." He went on with a reference to 2036: "When Texas reaches its bicentennial, it won't matter how any child did on a four-hour test. What will matter is if our children are prepared for the challenges of tomorrow."

With Abbott seeking a second term this year, we looked into progress on his promise to stop forcing teachers to teach to so many standardized tests.

Starting in elementary school, Texas students take State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness exams, which are premised on gauging absorption of the state-set curriculum. To be specific, students face STAAR reading and math tests in grades three through eight; they take writing STAARs in grades four and seven, science tests in grades five and eight, a social studies test

in eighth grade and end-of-course STAAR assessments in several high school classes: English I, English II, Algebra I, biology and U.S. history.

We asked Abbott about movement toward fulfilling his vow to drive down pressure on teachers to teach to tests. We didn't hear back.

But Theresa Treviño, president of Texans Advocating for Meaningful Student Assessment, offered detailed comments. TAMSAA, which tracks legislative actions affecting student testing, says its mission is to improve public schools "through the use of meaningful and effective student assessments that allow for more productive classroom instruction and more efficient use of public funds."

Treviño told us that since Abbott succeeded Gov. Rick Perry, who signed into law a 2013 measure that eliminated 10 state-imposed tests, "there has been no decrease in testing and no visible decrease in the pressure on teachers or students."

In fact, she wrote, Abbott killed a proposal that could have tamped down pressure.

Treviño noted that Abbott in 2015 vetoed Senate Bill 313, authored by Sen. Kel Seliger, R-Amarillo, which called, in part, for the State Board of Education to review the state-set curriculum for certain subjects, focusing first on classes that end with students taking a state-required end-of-course exam.

The measure directed the board to narrow what's academically required.

At issue, Treviño said, was teachers being required to cover more material than can realistically be presented in a year and students, in turn, confronting impractical breadth on STAAR exams.

"A great deal of testimony was presented," Treviño said, "about how the standardized STAAR tests cover more curriculum than can be taught."

Abbott's June 2015 veto proclamation about the spurned legislation makes no mention, pro or con, about his concerns about shaving the curriculum to reflect what can reasonably be taught and tested. His message focuses on powers of the elected board, stating: "While Senate Bill 313 is intended to provide additional flexibility to school districts when purchasing classroom instructional materials, the bill potentially restricts the ability of the State Board of Education to address the needs of Texas classrooms. Portions of Senate Bill 313 may have merit, but serious concerns were raised about other parts of the bill. I look forward to working with the Legislature and other stakeholders to ensure this issue is vigorously evaluated before next session."

The same year, Abbott signed into law House Bill 743, by Rep. Dan Huberty, R-Houston, directing the Texas Education Agency to review the state's curriculum with an eye on revising

certain STAAR exams so that most students in grades three through five complete them in 120 minutes with most students in grades six through eight finishing in 180 minutes.

To our inquiry, a TEA spokeswoman, Lauren Callahan, said tests were shortened as much as they could be "while still maintaining the required minimum standard of validity and reliability." Callahan also provided a March 2017 letter to school districts from Mike Morath, Abbott's appointed education commissioner, stating that the STAAR had been shortened so the "vast majority of students" could finish within two hours in grades three through five and within three hours in grades six through eight.

Our queries to associations that advocate for educators about Abbott's promise drew emails in reply from Mark Wiggins of the Association of Texas Professional Educators and Clay Robison of the Texas State Teachers Association. Robison sent a document spelling out TSTA's reasons for seeing no movement toward the promise's fulfillment. Wiggins noted that measures to drive down the number of STAAR exams given to students died during the 2017 legislative session.

With no reduction in STAAR tests on his watch, we rate this Abbott vow a Promise Broken.

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PROFILE

From 1B

Coleman Child Care Center, she decided to apply for the job even though she still had one more semester before completing her bachelor degree courses.

"I was so excited when I found out that I had gotten the job at Coleman," said Juarez. "However, looking back on those months in winter and spring of 2015, I'm not sure how I managed. I had a new job, I was pregnant with my second daughter, Cassandra, and I was going to school. I kept telling myself, 'This will be worth it — I'm doing this for my kids.' Somehow, by the grace of God and the love and support of my parents and Tracy Roome, I got through it."

In May 2015, Juarez graduated from Midland College with a bachelor of applied technology degree in organizational management. Cassandra was born soon after, and then about 18 months ago, Juarez bought her first house.

Juarez said that Coleman is the perfect place for her.

KELLY

From 1B

Is this the responsibility of the parent or the school system? In economics class, is it as important for our students to learn the dark side of credit cards as well as fiscal policy? Or perhaps more so? As I noted previously, perhaps these things are being taught in practical ways. Somehow, however, they do not seem to be sticking. Thinking back to my colleague's son: Here is a bright student who is fully capable of doing the task. He has all the cognitive and physical functions to drive safely. Yet he is at a loss on how to get places with those skills, simply because he has not been observant

She loves working with the young children. She said most of the children are between 6 weeks and 2 years. The center is licensed for up to 44 children, but the average is about 20 at any given time.

"Of course, I enjoy being with the children, but I've also found that I like working with the teen parents," said Juarez. "A lot of them are from troubled homes and need role models and guidance in their lives. We offer parent luncheons once a month where we cover topics like child safety, early intervention and relationship building. Being a single mother myself, I understand the struggles that they have. I want them to know that their child comes first, and now they have to think about two people's futures. I hope they are able to find a passion like I did, and then set goals and work hard to turn that passion into a career they will love."

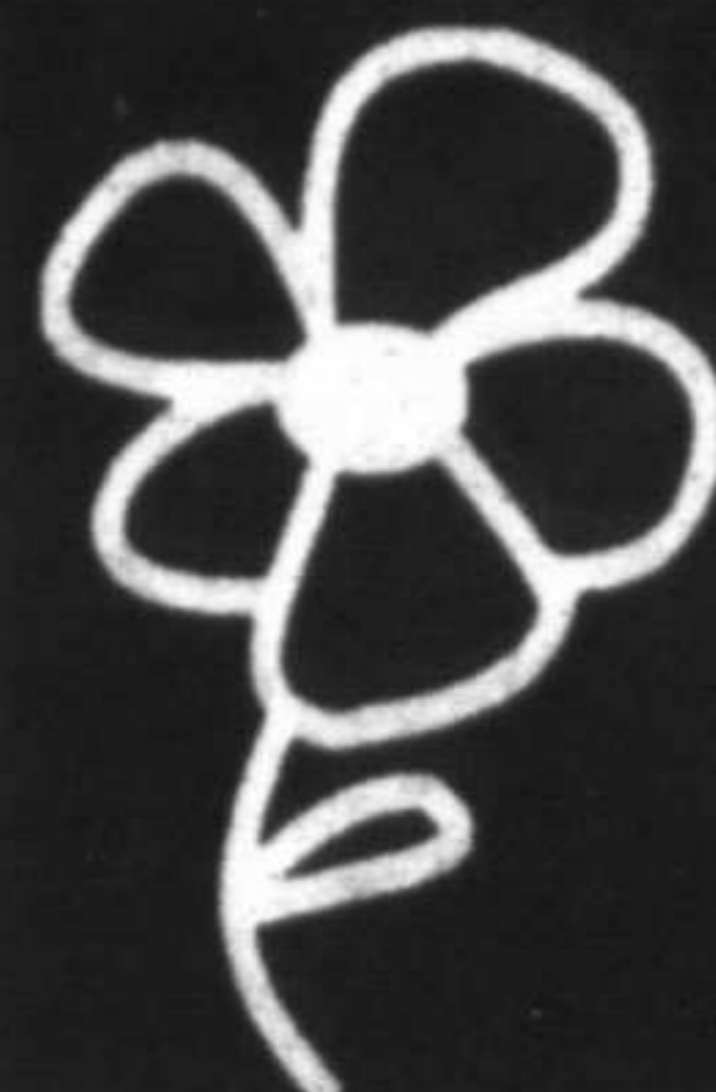
Rebecca C. Bell is dean, Community Relations, at Midland College.

of the real world around him.

It would seem that parents, communities and schools should work together. Parents should model financial literacy for their kids, not just pay their bills each month. Schools should have opportunities to develop those application skills along the theories. And community members, such as a bank, should consider opportunities to invest in the future of our young community members. Otherwise, we will have a generation of drivers with no idea of where to go.

Amber Kelly teaches English and history at Howard College and is dean of General Studies.

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Dad of twins fears wife is suffering from depression

DEAR ABBY: My wife gave birth to our twin girls almost a year ago, and for the most part, things have been great. They are happy and healthy, but I'm not sure how happy my wife is. I'm afraid she may be suffering from postpartum depression, but she won't see anyone about it. She's always putting the girls first and is stressed out because there's never enough time in the day to do everything. From day one, I have made sure that I'm doing my part. I help cook and clean and change poopy diapers. I feel I'm very hands-on, and she agrees. I know twins can be stressful, but I'm pretty relaxed about the process and go with the flow. I have begged her to talk to someone, but she thinks if she does, she will have to take antidepressants and won't be able to breastfeed. It's starting to affect our marriage because she takes out her frustration on me. I get yelled at for stuff that doesn't make sense or hasn't really happened. Would it be wrong to tell her we are going to lunch and take her to see someone instead—like a mental health intervention? Or should I let her figure this out on her own? —BABY BLUES IN MICHIGAN

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my husband for 10 years. Things are great, except for one major issue. Every time we get into a spat, he feels the need to air all of our dirty laundry to his family, which is now my family. I am a private person. I don't like having other people in the middle of our drama. He tells his relatives his side of the story, and because they don't hear my side, they automatically assume he is some sort of victim. I then start receiving phone calls and text messages from everyone wanting to know what's going



on and trying to give me advice. When I politely turn them down, they get angry and start lecturing me about how wrong I am. This happens often, no matter how small the argument. What do I do? How can I get him to see how much it bothers me? I don't want the world to know what goes on in our home. Nothing I say gets through to him. —BETRAYED AND ALONE

wife. Tell her you are deeply concerned, and that her stress level is affecting your marriage. Then tell her you will be making an appointment for her with her OB-GYN and accompanying her. The doctor can tell her what the alternatives are for treatment, if she needs it. Her fears may be groundless, and medication may not be necessary, but it is important that her doctor evaluate her. DEAR ABBY: Your husband knows how much you love him, but he's doing it wrong. He just doesn't care. He knows that when he runs to his family he will have automatic allies. It will take work on both your parts with the help of an unbiased licensed marriage and family therapist for your marriage to improve. If your husband won't go with you—and he may not—you should go without him. Because of his level of immaturity, it's a wonder your marriage has made it this long without intervention.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones Proceed slowly

North-South vulnerable, East deals. NORTH: ♠A65, ♥AK, ♦943, ♣K10643. WEST: ♠10942, ♥109743, ♦Q8, ♣82. EAST: ♠87, ♥J2, ♦AKJ10762, ♣J7. SOUTH: ♠KQJ3, ♥Q865, ♦5, ♣AQ95. The bidding: EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH 1♠ DN 1♥ 2♠ 3♣ 3♠ Pass All pass. Opening lead: Queen of ♠.

9-11 points, and jump to game with 12 or more points. When not sure what game to bid, start with a cue bid of opener's suit. This sets up a game force and the partnership can proceed slowly to find their best game. North's four-spade bid was a bit hasty. Having created a game force with his cue bid, he could have bid four clubs instead and reached an easier contract. We see no reason for either player to bid slam. The four spade contract succeeded when South discarded hearts on East's diamonds at tricks two and three. He could then handle any return, draw trumps, and easily take 10 tricks. On this lie of the cards, with West holding only two diamonds, South could have ruffed the second diamond, played three rounds of trumps, and started on clubs. He might have made an over-trick if West mistimed when to use his master trump. West did not bid at the other table. North cue bid two diamonds, East bid three diamonds, and South bid four diamonds. This suggested shortness in diamonds with good support for any suit. North aggressively jumped to six clubs and the excellent slam was reached.

Note West's flimsy one-heart bid. Bids like this, essentially a psychic bid, can blow up on you when partner gets you overboard assuming that there are some values associated with your bid. They can work like a charm when your opponents are cold for a slam. The responses to a take-out double are simple: bid your best suit with 0-8 points, jump in your best suit with

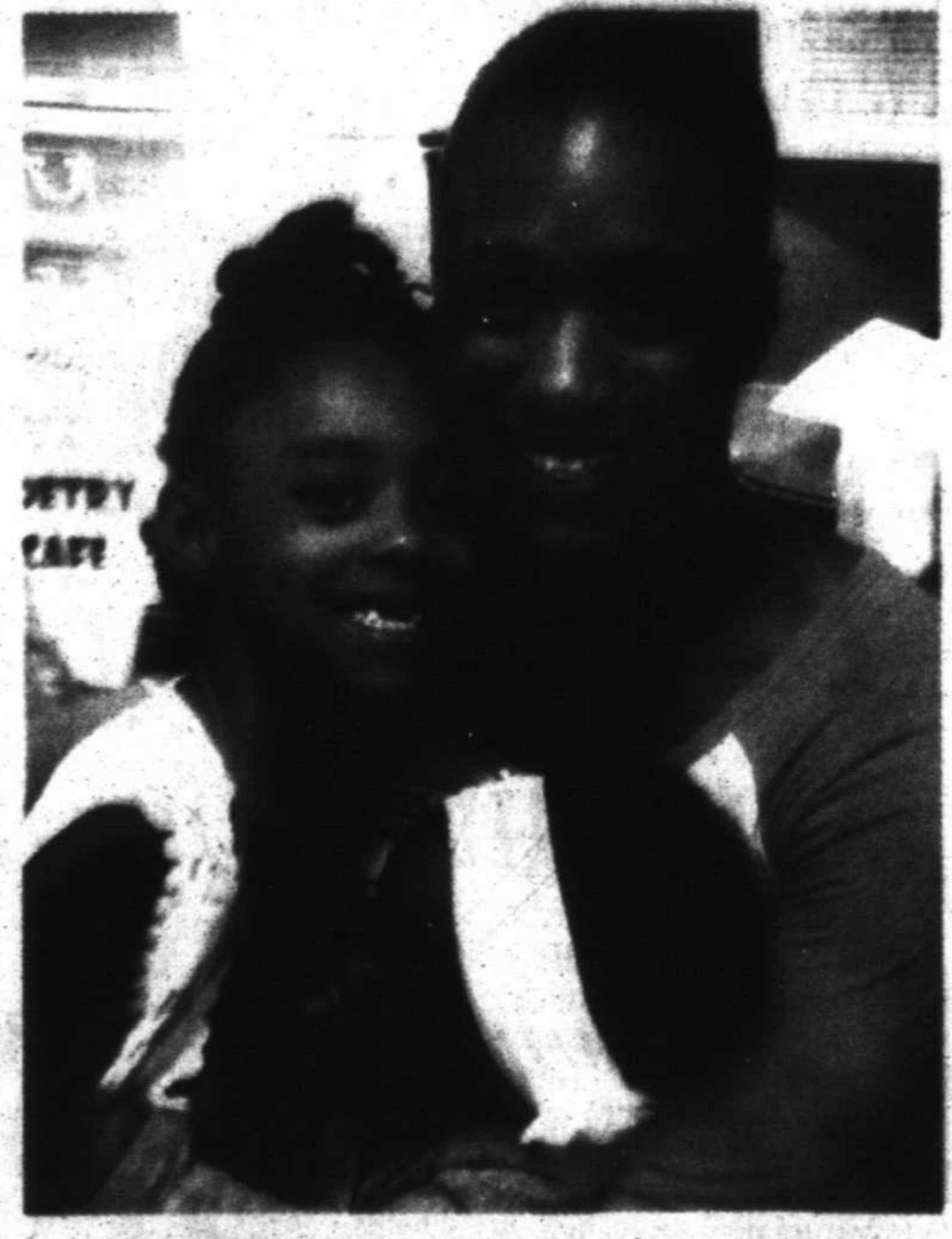
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Webster

Please see MHS/3C

Follow her lead



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Quinci Strambler (14) is fouled by Permian's Rosie Crawford (30) on Jan. 23 at Chaparral Center.

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By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

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No. 5 OC holds off Chaps' upset bid in OT

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Please see WOMEN/3C



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Alexandria Washington lays in a shot over Odessa College's Kallie Ybarra Monday at Chaparral Center.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Marquell Fraser goes up for a shot as Odessa College's Jahnnathan Maxwell defends Monday at Chaparral Center.

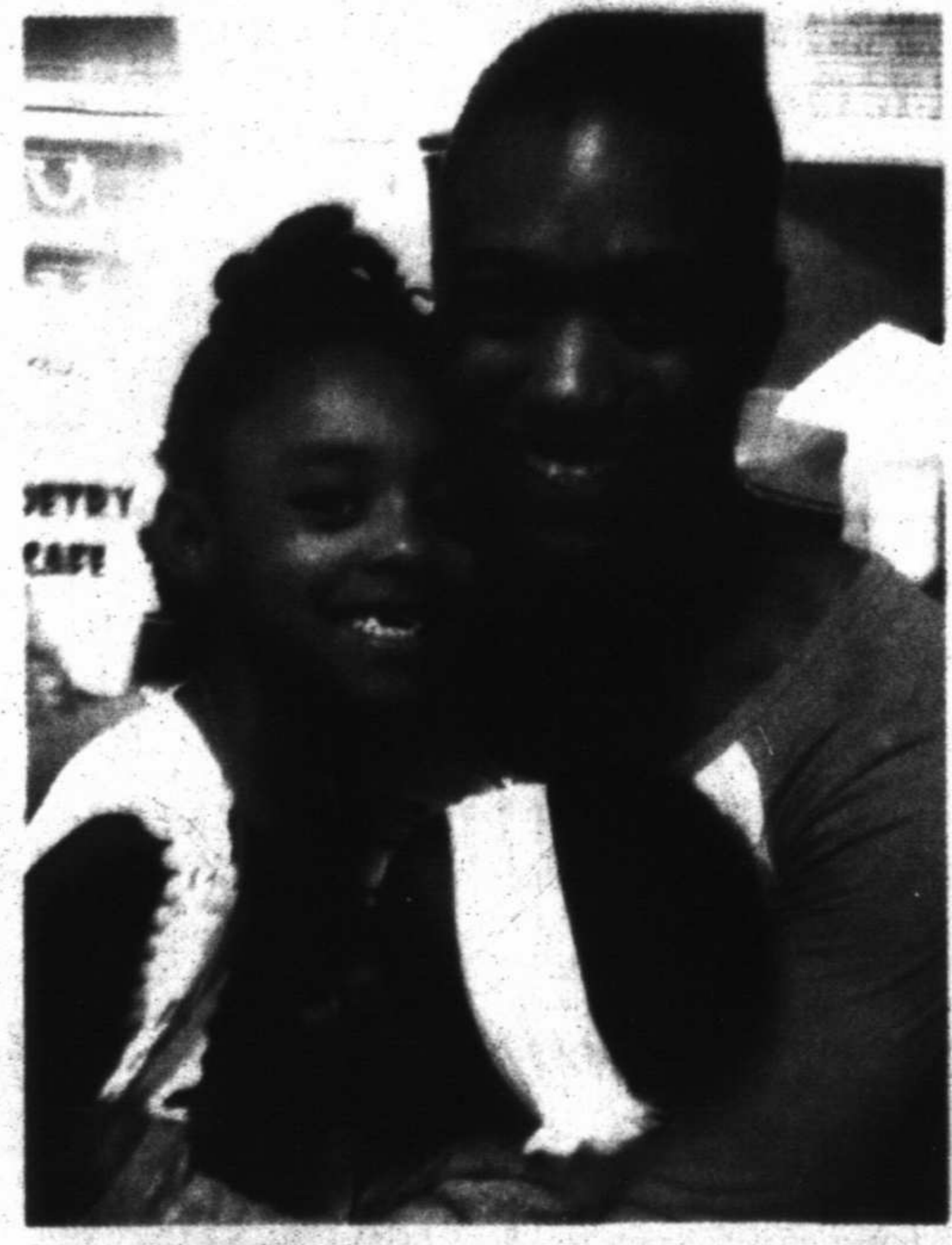
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Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Alexandria Washington lays in a shot over Odessa College's Kaitie Ybarr Monday at Chaparral Center.



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Marquell Fraser goes up for a shot as Odessa College's Jahnaiah Maxwell defends Monday at Chaparral Center.

Please see WOMEN/3C

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

Men's College Basketball
Georgetown at Butler, 5:30 p.m., CBSN
Oklahoma at Texas Tech, 6 p.m., ESPN
Kansas at Iowa State, 6 p.m., ESPN2
Texas A&M at Missouri, 6 p.m., ESPN
Boston College at Pitt, 6 p.m., ESPNNews
Arkansas at Ole Miss, 6 p.m., SEC
Maryland at Nebraska, 6 p.m., BTN
Bemidji State at Creighton, 7 p.m., FS2
Richmond at Rhode Island, 7:30 p.m., CBSN
Virginia at Miami-FL, 8 p.m., ESPN
Michigan State at Minnesota, 8 p.m., ESPN2
South Carolina at Tennessee, 8 p.m., ESPN
LSU at Alabama, 8 p.m., SEC
Northwestern at Rutgers, 8 p.m., BTN
National Basketball Association
Cleveland at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m., TNT
Sacramento at Dallas, 7:30 p.m., FSSW
San Antonio at Denver, 9:30 p.m., TNT, FSSW+
Winter Olympics
Women's Hockey: USA vs. Olympic Athletes from Russia, 6:10 a.m., NBCSN
Luge: Women's Individual, Runs 3 & 4; Cross Country: Men's and Women's

Individual Sprints, 8:30 a.m., NBCSN
Speed Skating: Men's 1500m, 10:30 a.m., NBCSN
Short Track: Women's 500m, Men's 1000m Qualifying, Men's 5000m Relay Qualifying, 11:30 a.m., NBCSN
Mixed Doubles Curling: Bronze Medal Match, 1:30 p.m., NBCSN
Speed Skating: Men's 1500m; Luge: Women's Individual, Runs 3 & 4; Cross Country: Men's and Women's Individual Sprints, 2 p.m., NBC
Mixed Doubles Curling: Gold Medal Match, 4 p.m., CNBC
Alpine Skiing: Women's Slalom, Run 1; Snowboarding: Men's Halfpipe; Figure Skating: Pairs' Short Program, 7 p.m., NBC
Figure Skating: Pairs' Short Program, 7 p.m., NBCSN
Women's Hockey: Sweden vs. Switzerland, 9:10 p.m., NBCSN
Alpine Skiing: Women's Slalom, Run 2; Short Track: Women's 500m, Men's 1000m Qualifying, Men's 5000m Relay Qualifying, 11:05 p.m., NBC
Men's Curling: USA vs. South Korea, 11:30 p.m., NBCSN
Nordic Combined: Individual Normal Hill; Skeleton: Women's Training

WHAT'S ON DECK

HS Boys Basketball

Amarillo Tascosa vs. Lee, 7:30 p.m., Chaparral Center
Midland High at Odessa Permian, 7:30 p.m.
Greenwood at Monahans, 6:30 p.m.
Andrews at Pecos, 7:30 p.m.
Abilene Wylie at Big Spring, 6:15 p.m.
Stanton at Merkel, 6:30 p.m.
Colorado City at Coahoma, 6:30 p.m.
Winters at Forsan, 6:30 p.m.
Veribest at Garden City, 6:30 p.m.

HS Girls Basketball

Class 6A bi-district, Lee vs. El Paso Franklin, Roswell (N.M.)
HS
Class 4A bi-district, Greenwood vs. Clint Mountain View, 4 p.m., Sul Ross State
Class 2A bi-district, Forsan vs. Albany/Anson, 7 p.m., Snyder

HS Boys Soccer

Midland High vs. Lee, 7:30 p.m., Grande Communications Stadium HS Girls Soccer
Midland High vs. Lee, 5:30 p.m., Grande Communications Stadium

HS Softball

Midland High at Greenwood, 5 p.m.
Lee at Lubbock Monterey, 6:30 p.m.
Andrews at Midland Christian, 5 p.m.

LATE HS TENNIS

MCS' RAMOS PLACES 2ND IN MASON
MASON - Midland Christian's Ryan Ramos was the runner-up in the Bracket A of boys singles during the Mason Shootout Tournament, Friday and Saturday at Mason High School.

Midland Christian's Jonathan Cheatham placed second in Bracket B of boys singles. The MCS team of Mase Pokky and Cade Gunter finished third in Bracket B of boys doubles.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League
BOSTON RED SOX - Promoted Mike Rose to athletic performance coordinator/strength and conditioning coach. Walter Miranda to Latin American pitching and rehabilitation coordinator. Devin Pearson assistant/trainer scouting. Greg Dymarski senior analyst/baseball research and development and Dan Madsen, Jim Robinson, Quincy Boyd and Fred Peterson national scouting supervisors. Named Adan Severino and Daniel Abrams mental skills coordinators. Kevin Avila minor league physical therapist. Humberto Sanchez DSL pitching coach and RJ Warner minor league clubhouse assistant. Recd. Gragnani Mid-Atlantic area scout. Carl Moeche Northwest area scout. J.J. Altobelli part-time Southern California scout. Mike Garley director/baseball systems. Bill Leson data architect/baseball systems. Dan Meyer analyst/baseball research and development. Analyzed Knowles Bahamas scout and Alfredo Castellon Colombia scout.
National League
MIAMI MARLINS - Named Chip Bowers president of business operations.
American Association
GARY SOUTHWEST RAILCATS - Signed RHP Daniel Minor.
LINCOLN SALTDOGS - Signed LHP Josh Blanco and INF Jake Work.
WINNIEPEG GOLDIEYS - Signed LHP Mitch Lamson and RHP Victor Capellan.

Can-Am League

NEW JERSEY JACKALS - Traded OF Johnny Bledel to Southern Maryland (Atlantic) for future considerations.
SUSSEX COUNTY MINERS - Signed C Brian Mayer.
TROY-RIVIERES AGLES - Signed INFs Taylor Orlam and Taylor Brennan.
Frontier League
EVANSVILLE OTTERS - Signed RHP Sean Johnson.
LAKE ERIE CRUSHERS - Traded OF Connor Oliver to River City for a player to be named.
TRAVERS CITY BEACH BLUES - Signed pitcher through 2022.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS - Signed G Josh Andrews.
Canadian Football League
WINNIEPEG BLUE BOMBERS - Re-signed DB Kevin Fogg to a one-year contract.

NHL GLANCE

Table with columns for Eastern Conference (Atlantic, Metropolitan, Central) and Western Conference (Central, Pacific) showing team records (W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA).

NBA GLANCE

Table with columns for Eastern Conference (Atlantic, Southeast, Central) and Western Conference (Northwest, Pacific) showing team records (W, L, Pct, GB).

MHS, Lee boys and girls teams set to clash

From staff reports

The Tall City rivalry will hit the soccer pitch today as the Midland High and Lee girls and boys teams face off today in District 2-6A action at Grande Communications Stadium. The girls' match kicks off at 5:30 p.m., while the boys follow at about 7:30 p.m. The MHS girls (8-1-3 overall, 1-0-0-0, 3 points in district) are coming off a big 3-0 win over Odessa Permian in the district opener on Friday. Kylie VonHolle increased her goal total for the season with two goals, while Raquel Houston added a goal for the Lady Bulldogs. The MHS defense and goalkeeper Allison Robinson also had a solid game in shutting out the Lady Panthers. Lee (8-3-1, 0-1-0-0, 2 points), meanwhile traveled to chilly Amarillo and picked up a penalty kick win after tying Tascosa 2-all in regulation before winning the shootout phase, 3-0. Kallie Waters and Hattie Renfro each got regulation goals, while goalkeeper Jenna McEnaney was stellar in goal in the shootout. On the boys' side, the Rebels (9-4-1, 1-0-0-0, 3 points) got a 3-0 win over Amarillo Tascosa.

Luis Aranda scored twice for Lee, while Esau Soto added another score for the Rebels. MHS (4-5-2, 0-0-0-1, 2 points) is coming off a heartbreaker against Odessa Permian as the teams tied 3-3 in regulation before the Panthers got a 5-4 win on penalty kicks. Matthew Arizpe, Brian Natividad and Fernando Quintero each scored for the Bulldogs. MHS will be without Natividad for this match after he picked up a red card against Permian. 2018 District 2-6A girls soccer standings: Team W L Pts. Lee (8-3-1) 0 1 0 2, Midland High (8-3-1) 0 0 0 3, Freriship (10-2-1) 1 0 0 3, Lee (8-3-1) 0 1 0 2.

Friday's Scores: Midland High 3, Odessa Permian 0, Wolforth Freriship 2, Odessa High 0. Saturday's scores: Lee 2, Amarillo Tascosa 2 (Lee wins 3-0 on penalty kicks). Today's matches: Lee vs. Midland High; Odessa Permian at Wolforth Freriship; Amarillo Tascosa at Odessa High. All matches begin at 5:30 p.m. District 2-6A Boys Soccer Standings: Team W L Pts. Lee (8-4-1) 1 0 0 3, Odessa High (9-6-1) 1 0 0 3, Permian (7-6-1) 0 1 0 2, Midland High (4-5-2) 0 0 0 1, Tascosa (1-1-1) 0 0 1 0, Freriship (14-1-0) 0 0 1 0, W-3 points; PW-2 points; PL-1 point. Today's matches: Odessa Permian 3, Midland High 3 (Permian wins 5-4 in PKs); Odessa High 3, Wolforth Freriship 0. Saturday's score: Lee 3, Amarillo Tascosa 0. Today's matches: Lee vs. Midland High; Odessa Permian at Wolforth Freriship; Amarillo Tascosa at Odessa High. All matches begin at 7:30 p.m.

TEXAS COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDOUP

NO. 20 WVU 82 TCU 66

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. - Teddy Allen scored 16 points, giving No. 20 West Virginia a needed spark off the bench in an 82-66 victory over TCU on Monday night. James "Beetle" Bolden added 14 points, Daxter Miles Jr. scored 13 and Wes Harris had 11 points for West Virginia (19-7, 8-5 Big 12). Desmond Bane had 16 points, Vlad Brodziansky added 15 and Kouat Noi scored 12 for TCU (17-9, 5-8). West Virginia has had trouble holding onto leads throughout the Big 12 season but didn't let the Horned Frogs come back from a 38-27 halftime deficit. TCU twice closed within five in the second half, but went without a field goal over a crucial four-minute stretch and West Virginia capitalized with a rare strong finish. The Mountaineers outscored the Horned Frogs 15-7 over the final three minutes. With less-than-stellar games from leading scorer Jevon Carter and shot-blocking specialist Sagaba Konate, West Virginia overcame a sluggish start with sparks from reserves Allen, Bolden and Maciej Bender to move ahead for good late in the first half. West Virginia's 38 bench points were its most in a Big 12 game this season.

Associated Press

BAYLOR 74 TEXAS 73 2 OT
AUSTIN - Jo Lual-Acul Jr.'s follow-up dunk with 8 seconds left in double overtime sent Baylor to a 74-73 win over Texas on Monday night, the fourth straight victory for the resurgent Bears after a miserable start to the Big 12 season. Texas had taken the lead on Kerwin Roach II's twisting layup with 20 seconds left. Baylor quickly went back up court as Manu Lecomte drove for the game-winning layup. He missed, but Lual-Acul came flying in to snag the rebound and slam home the dunk. Terry Maston scored a career-high 26 points for Baylor (16-10, 6-7 Big 12), including 12 in the two overtimes. Lecomte finished with 16 points. Freshman Mo Bamba had 16 points and 16 rebounds for Texas, but got beat to the ball for the game-winning basket. Roach and Matt Coleman each scored 15 points for the Longhorns (15-11, 5-8), who have lost three in a row. The Longhorns have lost six in a row to Baylor.

Jazz rally in 4th quarter, edge Spurs for 10th straight win

By John Coon Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY - Donovan Mitchell scored 25 points, including a go-ahead pull-up jumper with 39.2 seconds left, and the Utah Jazz extended their league-best winning streak to 10 games with a 101-99 win over the San Antonio Spurs on Monday night. Mitchell hit a pair of go-ahead baskets and a free throw to give the Jazz the lead in the final minute after they trailed by as many as 13 points in the fourth quarter. Joe Ingles added 20 points, seven rebounds and five assists for Utah. Derrick Favors had 19 points and eight rebounds. The Jazz (29-28) moved above .500 for the first time in more than two months. Kyle Anderson scored 16 points and Pau Gasol had 15 points and 15 rebounds for the Spurs, who lost to Utah for the third time this season. San Antonio went ahead 83-70 on a pull-up jumper by Bryn Forbes with 9:29 remaining. The Jazz chipped away before Mitchell hit a 3-pointer to tie it at 87 with 4:53 left. The teams traded baskets from there until Mitchell sealed it in the final minute. Utah used a 20-4 run in the second quarter to take its largest first-half lead at 54-42. San Antonio cut the lead in half before halftime on layups by Gasol and Anderson. In the third quarter, the Spurs used an 11-1 run to go back in front. Davis Bertans buried a 3-pointer to put San Antonio up 66-61. The Jazz made 11 of 19 shots (57.9 percent) in the second quarter but just 4 of 22 attempts (18.2 percent) in the third.



Rick Bowmer/Associated Press

Utah Jazz forward Derrick Favors (15) and San Antonio Spurs center Pau Gasol, right, battle under the boards for a rebound in the second half during an NBA basketball game Monday, Feb. 12, 2018, in Salt Lake City. The Jazz won 101-99.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men's College Basketball Standings: Southwest, South, East, Midwest, West.

Women's College Basketball Standings: Southwest, South, East, Midwest, West.

College Basketball Records: UConn (32) 24-0 900 1, Mississippi St. 25-0 785 2, Baylor 23-1 731 3, Louisville 25-1 702 4, Notre Dame 23-2 682 5, Texas 20-4 614 6, UCLA 21-4 582 7, South Carolina 20-5 559 8, Oregon 23-4 558 9, Maryland 22-3 537 10, Tennessee 21-4 493 11, Florida St. 21-4 453 12, Missouri 19-5 382 13, Stanford 18-8 352 17, Oregon St. 19-8 322 18, Ohio St. 20-6 286 13, Texas A&M 19-7 286 14, Duke 23-4 286 15, Green Bay 22-2 241 20, Georgia 21-4 238 19, Oklahoma St. 18-6 189 22, South Florida 20-5 144 --, Michigan 20-7 62 21, Belmont 24-3 53 --, NC State 20-4 41 23.

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
2/12 6:00 pm Adoption Center Volunteer Orientation
2/16-18 PetSmart Charities National Adoption Weekend
3/01 6:30-8:30 Microchip Clinic at Beer Garden's Yappy Hour
TRAP NEUTER RETURN PROGRAM
COMING SOON TO MIDLAND!
THIS PROGRAM WILL HELP RESIDENTS TRAP STRAY CATS & HAVE THEM VACCINATED & ALTERED FOR A MINIMAL FEE.
LEARN MORE & PLEASE DONATE: MIDLANDHUMANE.ORG/THR
ENHANCED ADOPTION CENTER
Open for adoptions Mon-Sat 12-7, Sun 12-6
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432.520.3134 ext. 7
Located within Midland's PetSmart Store
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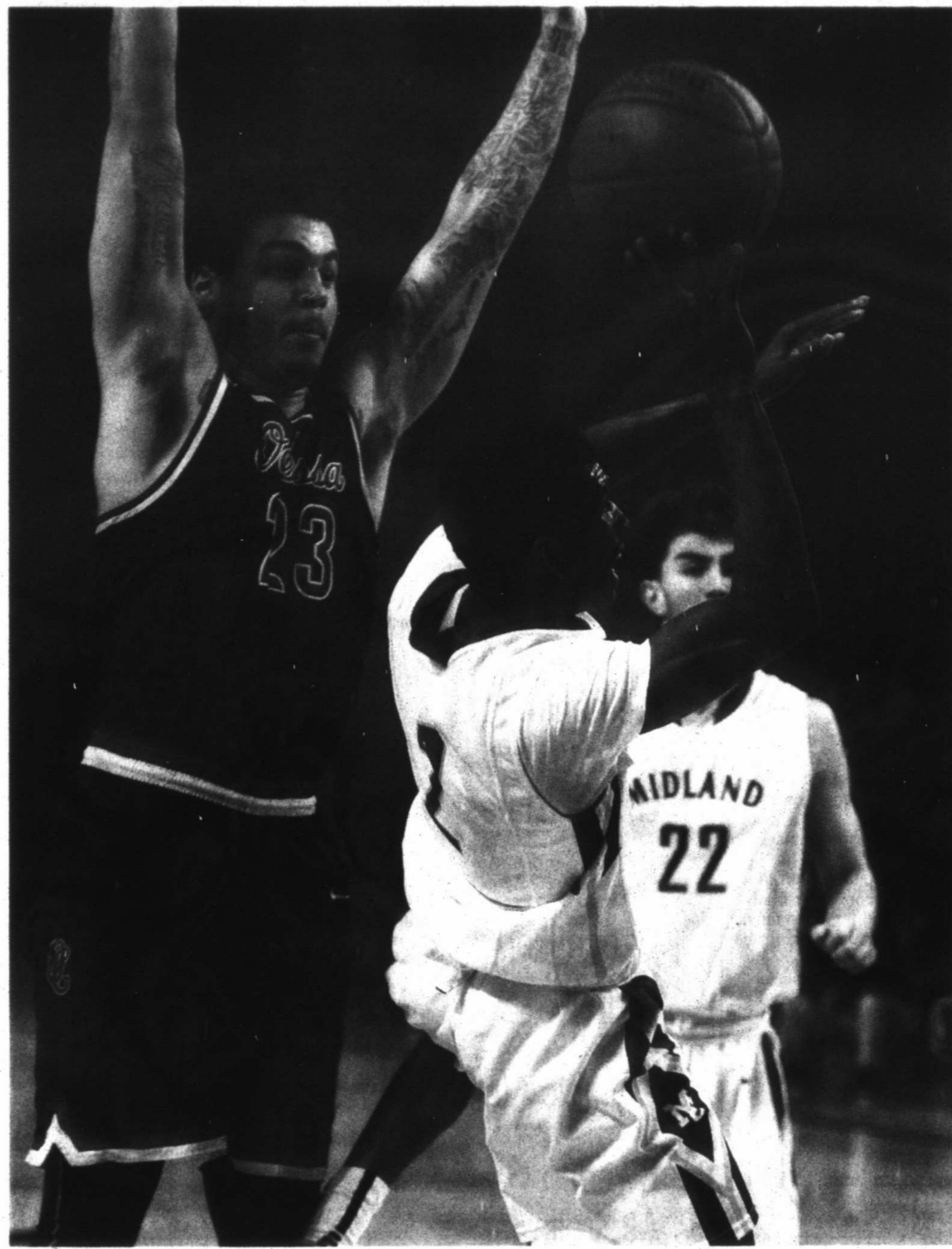
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Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Amari Hale puts up a shot after being fouled by Odessa College's Jahnnath Maxwell Monday at Chaparral Center.

MEN

From IC

came at the regulation when the Chaps had a chance to win. On Figueroa's game-winner: "Figueroa made a really tough shot in the end to put them up. I thought we did everything right. We defended, we made him shoot a really tough shot and he made a tough shot. Then we got a shot that I'm happy with. We got it in the lane, we got a chance to draw a foul, we got a chance for a drive and kick, we got a chance for a good shot to win the game." Figueroa finished with a game-high 27 points, while JJ Simpson had 12 and Kejuan Johnson added 10 for OC. Fraser had 25 points, Kangu had

17 and Erkam Kiris added 14 off the bench for the Chaparrals, who next host New Mexico Military Institute at 6 p.m. Thursday.

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLE-Roy_MRT

NO. 5 ODESSA COLLEGE 78, MIDLAND COLLEGE 77, OT

Odessa College (22-2, 11-0) - Kejuan Johnson 4-7 1-3 10, Jahnnath Maxwell 1-2 0-0 3, JJ Figueroa 8-14 6-6 27, JJ Simpson 4-9 3-5 12, Braxton Shaw 0-2 0-0, Alonzo Walker 2-3 1-2 5, Kelvin Jones 1-1 0-0 2, Josh Boyd 1-3 1-2 4. Totals 26-53 14-20 78. Midland College (8-18, 4-8) - Marquell Fraser 9-19 6-10 25, Aman Hale 0-4 3-4 3, Kevin Kangu 6-16 2-2 17, Jordin van der Korput 3-4 0-0 8, Kajo Goncalves 3-8 0-0 9, Isani Palacio 0-2 3-4 3, Erkam Kiris 2-3 8-8 14. Totals 23-56 22-28 77. Halftime - OC 43, MC 29. End of regulation - MC 68, OC 68. 3-point goals - OC 10-26 (Figueroa 5-10, Johnson 1-4, Hale 1-1, Maxwell 1-1, Simpson 1-3, Boyd 1-3, Cook 0-4), MC 9-24 (Kangu 3-9, Goncalves 3-7, Kiris 2-3, Fraser 1-1, Hale 0-2, van der Korput 0-1, Palacio 0-1, Rebounds - OC 33 (Shaw 8), MC 33 (four with 6), Assists - OC 12 (Haley 5), MC 8 (three with 2), Turnovers - OC 9, MC 15. Next: New Mexico Military Institute at Midland College, 6 p.m. Thursday; Western Texas College at Odessa College, 7:45 p.m.

2017-18 WJCAC Men's basketball standings

Table with columns: District, Overall, W, L. Lists teams like x-Odessa College, South Plains, etc.

Monday's Scores: Odessa College 78, Midland College 77, OT; Clarendon College 76, Howard College 66; New Mexico JC 74, Western Texas College 68; South Plains College 78, New Mexico Military Institute 75; Frank Phillips College was open.

WOMEN

From IC

6-foot-3 freshman post from Sydney, Australia, has been playing well since sitting out three games with an ankle injury. "She's just maturing as a player as far as her decision making and playing the way we want her to," said MC coach Ron Jones about Tofaono. "She's good down in the low post, she works hard and she can get on a roll and score quite a bit. She did a good job." The teams played pretty even the rest of the way. MC had 64-56 lead with more than three minutes left and then held on for the heart-stopping win. Jones said while he was pleased with the win and the effort, he wished his team could have finished

2017-18 WJCAC women's basketball standings

Table with columns: District, Overall, W, L. Lists teams like New Mexico JC, Frank Phillips, etc.

Monday's Scores: Midland College 65, Odessa College 62; Howard College 73, Clarendon College 59; New Mexico JC 58, Western Texas College 46; Frank Phillips College and South Plains College were open.

some plays better as the Lady Chaps missed numerous layups and short jumpers that probably would have put away the Lady Wranglers earlier if they had made those shots.

"We missed layups and we had some silly turnovers but we were in a good place most of the time, mentally," he said. "We kind of went up and down with those mistakes and we're not as mature as I like us to be but it's part of the process."

OC was led by Shannon Dozier with a game-high 25 points and Leticia Soares with 14. Bianca Thacker added 13 points and nine rebounds for MC, while Alexandria Washington added nine points and Bethany Theodore finished with eight points, nine rebounds and six assists to help the Lady Chaps continue their recent roll. "That's what you have to do in February and I'm proud we won those three (last games) because all

three were either winnable or loseable games," Jones said. "It's important for us to get to the regional tournament. We're almost there."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLERoy_MRT

MIDLAND COLLEGE 65, ODESSA COLLEGE 62. Odessa College (16-8, 4-5) - Kassie Ybarra 3-9 0-0 7, Amanda Soderqvist 1-6 1-1 4, Chrissa Fair 0-8 0-0, Shannon Dozier 10-19 0-0 25, Leticia Soares 7-10 0-2 14, Danyell Goodhope 3-4 0-0 6, Tanisha Capone 0-3 0-0 2, Alyssa Hayes 0-0 0-0 0, Lowendia Laporta 2-4 5-7 6. Totals 26-57 2-7 62. Midland College (14-10, 7-4) - Ella Tofaono 7-11 6-7 20, Bethany Theodore 2-10 3-5 8, Bianca Thacker 4-13 4-4 13, Alexandria Washington 3-5 0-0 9, Matangona Flannel 7-10 0-0 6, Abbi Hatton 0-2 0-0 0, Ogiachi Nwando 0-3 0-0 2, Cameryn Wilson 0-3 0-0 0, Myatla Motta 2-5 1-2 6. Totals 22-57 16-21 65. Odessa College 13 21 17 11-62. Midland College 21 16 17 11-65. 3-point goals - OC 8-31 (Dozier 5-10, Ybarra 1-7, Soderqvist 1-5, Motta 1-3, Fair 0-3, Goodhope 0-1), MC 5-13 (Washington 3-4, Theodore 1-3, Thacker 1-6). Total fouls - OC 17, MC 14. Fouled out - None. Rebounds - OC 32 (Soares 10), MC 41 (Theodore 9). Assists - OC 11 (Fair 4), MC 8 (Theodore 6). Turnovers - OC 13, MC 20. Next: Western Texas College at Midland College, 5:45 p.m. Feb. 22; Western Texas College at Odessa College, 5:45 p.m. Thursday.

GIRLS BASKETBALL PREVIEW CAPSULES

CLASS 4A BI-DISTRICT PLAYOFF GREENWOOD VS. CLINT MOUNTAIN VIEW. When/where: 4 p.m. CST today, Pete P. Gallego Center, Sul Ross State, Alpine. Records/seeds: Greenwood 19-14, No. 1 seed in District 4-4A; Mountain View 8-21, No. 4 seed in District 3-4A. Notes: The Rangrettes head into the postseason on an eight-game winning streak. "We finished on a strong note, so hopefully that will carry on into the playoffs," Greenwood head coach Ginger Hartman said. Greenwood has gone 16-0 in District 4-4A play over the last two seasons and has captured three straight district titles. The Rangrettes are seeking their 10th straight trip to the area round. The Lady Lobos went 2-7 in District 3-4A. "They are going to play hard," Hartman said of Mountain View. "They are going to push the ball down the floor and they are going to look into passing to their post players." Bradi Good scored a game-high 23 points in Greenwood's 52-32 victory over Andrews to cap District 4-4A play on Feb. 6. Next: Winner plays Perryton-Lubbock Estacado winner, area round, TBA.

CLASS 2A BI-DISTRICT PLAYOFF FORSAN VS. ANSON. When/where: 7:30 p.m. today, Western Texas College, Snyder. Records/seeds: Forsan 22-5, No. 1 seed in District 7-2A; Anson 17-16, No. 4 seed in District 8-2A. Notes: The Lady Buffaloes are rolling into the playoffs, winning 22 of their last 24 games. With an 11-1 record, Forsan captured its first district title since the 2008-09 season. Forsan is seeking its second straight trip to the area round. Anson defeated Albany, 30-39, last Friday in a tie-breaker game for the fourth seed in District 8-2A. Chasidy Grantham scored a game-high 19 points in a 57-12 victory over Eldorado on Feb. 2, which clinched the outright District 7-2A title for the Lady Buffaloes. Next: Winner plays Wink-Sea-graves winner, area round, TBA. --Compiled by Christopher Hadom

HS GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYOFF PAIRINGS

Region I Class 6A Bi-district. Arlington Bowie (29-6, W4) 75, Abilene High 41, El Paso Pebble Hills (26-6, R1) 48, Midland High 42. Kellar Timber Creek (28-4, W3) vs. Arlington Lamar (19-13, F4), 8 p.m. Tuesday, Thomas Coliseum, Haltom City. Amarillo Tascosa (22-11, R2) 54, El Paso Eastwood 51. Kileen Elston (23-8, W8) vs. Irving MacArthur (24-11, F7), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, McLennan College, Waco. Lewisville (22-9, R5) vs. Allen (27-8, T6) 7 p.m. Tuesday, Coppell. Duracville (25-1, W7) vs. San Angelo Central (19-16, F8), 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Stephenville. McKinney (25-1, R6) vs. Trophy Club Nelson (21-8, T5), 6 p.m. Tuesday, The Colony HS. Wofforth Friendship (26-8, W2) vs. El Paso El Dorado (16-14, F1), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Andrews. Weatherford (17-11, F3) vs. North Crowley (25-9, T4), 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Fort Worth Brewer. El Paso Franklin (27-5, W1) vs. Lee (17-15, F2), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Roswell, N.M. Arlington Martin (20-12, R4) vs. Keller (17-14, T3), 6 p.m. Tuesday, L.D. Bell. Plano (29-6, W6) 71, L.D. Bell 64. DeSoto (27-6, R7) vs. Coppas Cove (21-8, T8), 6 p.m. Tuesday, McLennan Community College, Waco. Flower Mound (23-9, W5) 51, Plano East 48. Waco Midway (31-4, R8) vs. Cedar Hill (25-10, T7), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Corsicana. Class 4A Bi-district. Greenwood (18-13, W4) vs. Clint Mountain View (8-20, F3), 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sul Ross State University, Alpine. Perryton (15-16, R1) vs. Lubbock Estacado (15-18, T2), 8 p.m. Tuesday, Randall. San Elizario (14-12, W3) vs. Fort Stockton (14-14, F4), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sul Ross State University, Alpine. Denver City (25-6, R2) vs. Pampa (16-16, T1), 6 p.m. Tuesday, First United Bank Center, Canyon. Glen Rose (31-1, W8) at Fort Worth Castleberry (12-15, F7), 6 p.m. Tuesday. Snowwood (29-5, R5) 42, Wichita Falls Hirsch 35. Kennedale (20-16, W7) 58, Godley 53. Graham (16-15, R6) vs. Snyder (13-17, T5), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Tuscola Jim Ned. Loveland (30-2, W2) vs. Dallas (11-17, F1), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, First United Bank Center, Canyon. Clint (12-14, R3) 57, Monahan 51. Bushland (21-6, W1) vs. Seminole (19-13, F2), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wayland Baptist University, Plainview. Pecos (R4) vs. Fabens (3-24, T3), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Mark. Burk Burnett (17-11, W6) 56, Sweetwater 47. Stephenville (19-13, T8) 63, Mineral Wells 32. Abilene Wylie (25-6, W5) 85, Iowa Park 37. Midlothian Heritage (28-4, R8) 57, Benbrook 42. Class 3A Bi-district. Wall (26-5, W4) 83, Kermit 19. Shallowford (26-2, T2) 48, River Road 39. Tornillo (26-2, W3) vs. San Angelo T.L.C. Academy (12-15, F7), 6 p.m. Tuesday. Balmorhea (R9) vs. Buena Vista (T10), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Kermit. Rankin (30-5, W 10), bye. O'Donell (R11) vs. Ita (T12), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Borden County. Eden (W16), bye. Aspermont (R13) vs. Blackwell (T14), 8 p.m. Tuesday, Menard. Garden City (31-1, W14), bye. Eula (R15) 72, Brookesmith 31. Kionkie (W17), bye. Granddell-Royalty (R10) vs. Sierra Blanca (T9), 7 p.m. Tuesday, Wink. Marks (W9), bye. Westbrook (R12) vs. Sands (T11), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Borden County. May (W15), bye. Robert Lee (R14) vs. Rotan (T13), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Colorado City. Roby (W13), bye. Richland Springs (R16) vs. Bard (T15), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Gorman. Region II Class 1A Bi-district. Hermleigh (W12), bye. Balmorhea (R9) vs. Buena Vista (T10), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Kermit. Rankin (30-5, W 10), bye. O'Donell (R11) vs. Ita (T12), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Borden County. Eden (W16), bye. Aspermont (R13) vs. Blackwell (T14), 8 p.m. Tuesday, Menard. Garden City (31-1, W14), bye. Eula (R15) 72, Brookesmith 31. Kionkie (W17), bye. Granddell-Royalty (R10) vs. Sierra Blanca (T9), 7 p.m. Tuesday, Wink. Marks (W9), bye. Westbrook (R12) vs. Sands (T11), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Borden County. May (W15), bye. Robert Lee (R14) vs. Rotan (T13), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Colorado City. Roby (W13), bye. Richland Springs (R16) vs. Bard (T15), 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Gorman.

STRAMBLER

From IC

Strambler brings invaluable, big game experience into today's showdown with the Lady Cougars. The power forward was an integral part of the Lady Rebels' 2016 squad that won three postseason games en route to a Region I-6A Tournament appearance. "She means a big deal to me and I know she means a big deal to these girls that are here on the team," Acosta said. "The girls trust her. They know she's going to give it all that she's got. She's had some success for this program as we all have. She's been in these type of situations, so that's something we're going to lean on moving forward." Strambler says the key to today's game is playing a complete game, just like the Lady Rebels have done during their recent string of success. "I just know we need to come out on top," Strambler said. "We need to come out on our 'A' game, start off strong and end strong. We need to put both halves together, instead of one half." Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

PLAYOFF LEE VS. EL PASO FRANKLIN

When/where: 6 p.m. CST today, Roswell High School, Roswell, N.M. Records: Lee 17-15, No. 4 seed of District 2-6A; Franklin 27-5, No. 1 seed of District 1-6A. Last game: Lee 40, Frenship 37, Feb. 6; Franklin 38, El Paso Americas 36, Feb. 6. Notes: Franklin is led by junior point guard Katia Gallegos, who played for Mexico's under-16 national team. Gallegos is averaging 19.4 points per game, 6.5 rebounds per game, 4.2 assists per game and 3.5 steals per game for the Lady Cougars this season, according to MaxPreps. The Lady Cougars have won six straight with their only district loss coming to second-place El Paso Pebble Hills, which won 49-39 on Jan. 16. "They're the best coming out of El Paso, which is what we want," Acosta said. "When we get to these type of games, that's what you want to play. You want to play the best and that's what is going to happen." Lee tied Midland High for third place at District 2-6A at 6-4, but lost the coin flip and was designated the fourth seed. The Lady Rebels ride into today's game with a wave of confidence as they defeated two playoff teams - Midland High and Frenship - to close out district play. "We're excited and that's what we have been talking about," Acosta said. "It's not really where you fall, it's how you're playing at the time when you get there. All the girls that are in here, they've bought in. We're playing hard. We're practicing hard. Our minds are in the right places so we are just ready for (today) to come."

HS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

GIRLS COMANCHE 44 STANTON 31

ABILENE - Comanche out-scored Stanton 36-12 in the second half to eliminate the Lady Buffaloes in Monday's Class 3A bi-district playoff at McMurry University. Stanton (19-12) led the Maidens 12-6 after one quarter and held a 20-8 advantage at halftime before Comanche responded with a 19-point third quarter and closed out with a 17-3 run in the fourth. "They pushed out of our offensive game plan and they started making baskets that they didn't make in the first half," Lady Buffaloes head coach Jim Kinnear said of the Maidens. "It was a game of two halves." Kirsten Church led Stanton with 12 points, followed by 10 points from Katie Harris. Lady Buffaloes senior Payge Grable had eight points in her final game. Comanche advanced to play Peaster in the area round. No other information about the game was available at press time.

BOYS ABILENE CHRISTIAN 64 MCA 46

Abilene Christian took the No. 1 seed in TAPPS 1-3A after defeating Midland Classical in a seeding game between the two playoff bound teams Monday at the MCA gym. Three Knights (16-17, 2-2 in TAPPS 1-3A) scored in double figures, as Conroy Echols and Cole Miller each had a team-high 16 points, while Aaron Giffin contributed with 11. MCA's TAPPS 3A bi-district playoff opponent has yet to be determined. ABILENE CHRISTIAN 64, MCA 46. Midland Classical (16-17, 2-2 in TAPPS 1-3A) - Conroy Echols 16, Josiah McDougall 3, Aaron Giffin 11, Cole Miller 16. Abilene Christian - Erick Murray 18, Sterling Wilbert 20, Spencer Wilbert 8, Subash Swarna 3, Ben Frantopon 4, Jacob Murray 2, Thomas Myers 4, Jason Massey 4. MCA 12 14 6 14-46. Abilene Chr: 17 18 17 -64. Free throws - MCA 8-7, Abilene Christian 7-8. 3-point goals - MCA 6 (Echols 4, Giffin 1, Miller 1), Abilene Christian 9 (E. Murray 4, St. West 3, Sp. West 2, Swarna). Total fouls - MCA 12, Abilene Christian 7. Fouled out - None. Next: MCA vs. TBA, TAPPS 3A bi-district playoff.

FORSAN 108 WINTERS 45

FORSAN - Kobe Richardson lit up the scoreboard with a game-high 34 points to lead No. 18-ranked Forsan to a 63-point rout of Winters in Monday's District 7-2A finale. The Buffaloes (25-4, 12-0 in District 7-2A) put the finishing touches on an undefeated district season, and will face Haskell in their Class 2A bi-district playoff game on Feb. 20 in Snyder. Bryce Hergert added 24 points for Forsan, while teammate Garrett Evans chipped in with 19. FORSAN 108, WINTERS 45. Winters (11-11 in District 7-2A) - Joey Garcia 4, Alex Salas 10, Chris Castillo 7, Chris Diaz 11, Zach Rodriguez 3. Cameron Perfield 5. Forsan (25-4, 12-0 in District 7-2A) - Jordan Enriquez 9, Garrett Evans 19, Bryce Hergert 24, Aaron Gutierrez 6, Kobe Richardson 34, Ehren Hillger 5, Nathan Vidal 2, Jaedon Cesar 8, Caden Williams 1. Winters 17 8 9 13-46. Forsan 28 39 19-108. Free throws - Winters 2-12, Forsan 20-28. 3-point goals - Winters 5 (M. Diaz, Salas 2, Castillo 2, Rodriguez), Forsan 9 (Evans, Hergert 3, Richardson 5). Total fouls - Winters 19, Forsan 17. Fouled out - C. Diaz, Perkins. Next: Forsan vs. Haskell, bi-district playoff, TBA Feb. 20, Snyder.

MHS From IC

become." basketball program. "Those girls, I had them in the eighth grade," Torres said. "Most of them were at San Jacinto Junior High. It was a neat experience seeing them grow up since the eighth grade and mature into the young ladies they have

EL PASO PEBBLE HILLS 48, MIDLAND HIGH 42

MHS (22-14) - Maya Duarte 2, Telsa Delfel 2, Quay Webster 10, Tereza Pugh 10, Sadie Gowan 4, Jurnee Williams 6, Zoe Taylor 4, Racey Hala 4. Pebble Hills (26-6) - Jyniah Stewart 6, Thale Williams 7, Payton Fields 11, Dinaire Phyllis 3, Tere Anderson 19, Assia Reynolds 2. Midland High 7 19 2 15-42. Pebble Hills 14 19 13 11-48. Free throws - MHS 8-16, Pebble Hills 11-18. 3-point goals - MHS 2 (Pugh), Gowan, Pebble Hills 3 (Fields 2, Prince). Total fouls - MHS 16, Pebble Hills 14. Fouled out - Williams.

Nagasu, Rippon help lead Americans to figure skating bronze

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

GANGNEUNG, South Korea — Mirai Nagasu and Adam Rippon shared tears of sorrow when they were left off the Olympic team four years ago, each of them passed over in decisions that could have gone either way.

They shed tears of joy together Monday. The veteran figure skaters put together flawless back-to-back performances, Nagasu becoming the first American woman to land a triple axel in the Olympics, Rippon nailing both of his triple axels. They helped earn the United States the bronze medal in the team competition.

Canada won the gold medal, with the Russians taking the silver.

"For both of us to be on this team, and to be on the same floor in the village, it's all super exciting," Nagasu said. "He won't stop talking about how exciting this all is, and I go: 'Adam! Adam! You know we still have a job to get done? We still have to skate well!'"

They skated better than well.

It was Rippon who led off the final day of the team event, when the Americans were still in a nip-and-tuck struggle with Italy for the podium. The 28-year-old, wearing a sequined outfit that sparkled like a million diamonds, dumped a planned quad lutz but otherwise ripped through his routine with confidence and precision. His jumps were sharp.

His lines were smooth. His emotion, as usual, was worn on his sleeves.

Rippon thrust his arms out with a triumphant grin when he finished his program, basking in a loud ovation from a crowd filled with plenty of American fans. He then began skating circles on the ice, admitting later he wanted to spend as much time as possible before stepping off.

"It felt worth the 28-year wait, you know?" Rippon said. "I was sitting backstage and I thought: 'You know what? I still feel like I might throw up. And I might miss every element in my program.' But I said: 'You know what? I trained so hard and I know when I get out there I'm going to go for everything, take one element at a time,' and I was able to do that."

He finished with 172.9 points, less than a point behind Russian skater Mikhail Kolyada and less than seven points behind Patrick Chan, part of the winning Canadian squad.

More importantly, he finished ahead of Italian skater Matteo Rizzo to build on the U.S. cushion.

"We made a few changes with my coach and I was able to put together a strong performance," Rippon said, "but there's definitely a few points I want to squeeze out of this performance. I have one week until the individual and I'm going to be squeezing the hell out of it, you can believe that."

It's hard to believe Nagasu could squeeze much more out of her routine.

After finishing fourth at the 2010 Vancouver Games and getting passed over for Ashley Wagner four years ago for Sochi, the 24-year-old made a long-awaited return to Olympic ice. And she did it by etching her name in the record books with a triple axel for the ages.

Like a great locomotive, Nagasu began picking up speed the moment her music began, uncorking the same vexing 3½-rotation jump on which Chan fell an hour earlier. She landed it to a roar from the American contingent seated at one end of the ice, joining Japan's Midori Ito and Mao Asada as the only female skaters to land the jump in Olympic competition.

"I could see my teammates standing out of excitement," Nagasu said, "and at that moment I wanted to stop the music and get off, but I still had my whole program ahead of me."

She somehow managed to calm her nerves, hit every jump the rest of the way and score a personal-best 137.53 points to finish second behind Russian star Alina Zagitova.

Her tremendous performance nearly clinched the bronze medal, and it became official when siblings Maia and Alex Shibutani took the ice for the free dance — the final event in the competition.

As the "Shib Sibs" twizzled across the ice, Rippon put an arm around Nagasu and kissed her cheek.

No tears, though. Only joy.

OLYMPIC ROUNDUP

Associated Press

CANADA GETS SKATING GOLD, AMERICAN ANDERSON WINS SLOPESTYLE

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — Canada skated to the gold it had been dreaming about for four years.

American Jamie Anderson got another to match the one she won in Sochi.

The Canadians kicked off the third day of full competition at the Pyeongchang Olympics on Monday by winning the team figure skating competition, finishing with the medal they had set their sights on since taking silver in 2014. And, they clinched it before the ice dance — the third event of the day — even began.

"We think we're the best in the world," ice dancer Scott Muir said. "Winning this is like winning hockey and winning curling."

The Canadians won the men's moguls title for the third consecutive Olympics, with six-time world champion Mikael Kingsbury filling the only hole in his resume.

In other night finals, Ireen Wust won her fifth Olympic title and the Dutch speedskaters picked up gold and bronze in the 1,500 meters, biathlon No. 1 Martin Fourcade won the 12.5-kilometer pursuit, and Maren Lundby of Norway won the women's ski jumping normal hill.

Anderson showed she's tops in women's slopestyle, defending her title from the 2014 Games and becoming the first female snowboarder to win two Olympic golds.

That came despite some big-time weather concerns that caused a 75-minute delay, left the course unpredictable and sparked criticism from some competitors and analysts.

"I was trying to keep the spirits high, like, 'Let's run it,'" Anderson said. "A handful of the girls were like, 'No, it's not safe' and things like that. It's not like what we're doing is safe anyhow."

The windy conditions postponed the women's giant slalom until Thursday, the same day as the already-postponed men's downhill at the Pyeongchang Olympics.

In Gangneung, the Canadian skaters entered the day with a big lead and never were threatened despite some outstanding individual performances by Mirai Nagasu, who became the first American woman and third overall to land a triple axel at the Olympics, and Russian Alina Zagitova, who soared to a first-place finish in the women's free skate.

The top spot was clinched for Canada when Gabrielle Daleman finished third, giving her country 63 points to 58 for the Russians with only the ice dance remaining. The United States repeated its showing in the 2014 Sochi Games with a bronze medal.

"We have such an incredible, strong team," Daleman said, "and I'm proud to say we've won

and I'm prouder to have been part of it."

NAILED IT

Nagasu made some figure skating history, accomplishing her rare feat just 21 seconds into the women's free skate. She was the first of the five women to skate and led her routine with the triple axel.

"Going into it, I was like a train and I was like, 'Get on the tracks and get some speed,'" she said. "And, I tripped a couple times. I don't know if you could tell. It was more something I could feel, but to nail it the way I did, even out of the corner of my eye, I could see my teammates standing out of excitement."

"And at that moment, I wanted to stop the music and get off, but I still had my whole program ahead of me."

Nagasu had landed triple axels in previous competitions, but never in such a pressure-packed situation as the Olympic stage. She joined Japan's Midori Ito and Mao Asada as the only women to land triple axels during the Olympics.

KEEPING HER COOL

Anderson was one of the few riders in the final to navigate the tricky series of rails and jumps safely as the wind wreaked havoc on the field.

She posted a score of 83.00 in her first run, then washed out in her second — with the gold medal already wrapped up.

Laurie Blouin of Canada finished second, with Finland's Enni Rukajarvi third.

HIGH-FIVE FOR WUST

Wust won her fifth Olympic gold medal, using a stirring last lap to set a time of 1 minute, 54.35 seconds. She jumped into the arms of her coach when Miho Takagi of Japan finished 0.20 seconds behind in the last pairing to prevent another Dutch sweep of the medals.

Marrt Leenstra picked up bronze for the Netherlands, which has six of nine medals awarded so far.

KING OF MOGULS

Kingsbury, who wears a T-shirt that reads "It's Good To Be The King" underneath his skiing gear and was a silver medalist in Sochi four years ago, posted a score of 88.63 to win his first Olympic gold. Matt Graham of Australia took silver and Daichi Hara of Japan earned bronze, each picking up the first medal for their countries at the games.

BACK IN BIATHLON

Fourcade bounced back from a disappointing eighth-place finish in the sprint race to hit 19 of his 20 targets in the pursuit to claim his third Olympic gold medal.

WINTER GAMES 2018

MEDAL TRACKER

Data as of Feb. 12 at 8:59 a.m.

GOLD • SILVER • BRONZE

Norway	1	4	3
Canada	2	4	1
Netherlands	3	2	2
Germany	4	0	2
United States	2	1	1
France	2	0	1
Czech Republic	0	1	1
Finland	0	0	2
Japan	0	1	1
Olympic Athlete - Russia	0	1	1
Sweden	1	1	0
Australia	0	1	0
Austria	1	0	0
Italy	0	0	1
Kazakhstan	0	0	1
Slovakia	0	1	0
South Korea	1	0	0

Colts hire Reich as new head coach

By Michael Marot
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts' second choice for head coach could turn out to be even better than the first.

And Frank Reich has the Super Bowl championship gear to prove it.

Five days after New England Patriots offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels reneged on a deal to take the Colts' job, Ballard hired Reich, the man who outwitted McDaniels last week and helped lead the Philadelphia Eagles to their first NFL title since 1960.

"Frank is a leader of men who will demand excellence from our players on and off the field," Ballard said in a statement released Sunday. "I look forward to working with Frank to deliver a championship-caliber team to the city of Indianapolis."

Terms of the deal were not immediately available,

but Reich is expected to be introduced at a news conference Tuesday.

Colts officials posted a photo of Reich signing the deal on the team's website.

The move ends a search that spanned 41 days, included two coaching announcements and the embarrassment of McDaniels changing his mind Tuesday night just eight hours after telling the Colts he'd take the job.

On Wednesday, Ballard answered questions for nearly 20 minutes before finishing with "the rivalry is back on."

By hiring Reich, another touted offensive coordinator and a potential leading candidate next season, only added another chapter to the long and bitter series.

Exactly one week after backup quarterback Nick Foles executed an exquisite game plan to beat Tom Brady and the favored Patriots, the Colts brought back a longtime assistant who spent two seasons working with Peyton Man-

ning.

But this wasn't just about sending a message.

"Frank has all the ingredients of a successful head coach: intelligence, innovation, character, organizational and leadership skills, and a commanding presence," team owner Jim Irsay said. "He also has a stellar reputation, and his myriad of life experiences and the people he has worked with make him the perfect fit for us and our fans. I feel extremely fortunate and could not be more excited for Colts Nation and the future of our franchise."

It sure didn't take long to make the decision.

Ballard interviewed the 56-year-old Reich on Friday, the day after Philadelphia held its victory celebration.

He replaces Chuck Pagano, who was fired hours after finishing the season with a 4-12 record and missing the playoffs for the third consecutive year.

TABC HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL RANKINGS

SUGAR LAND — High school basketball rankings as compiled by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches for the week of Feb. 12 (final rankings for boys):

BOYS PUBLIC

- 1. Denton Guyer, 31-1; 2. Austin Westlake, 30-3; 3. Cypress Falls, 29-3; 4. Spring Delaney, 30-3; 5. South Garland, 30-3; 6. DeSoto, 29-8; 7. Duncanson, 29-8; 8. Cibola Steele, 30-2; 9. SA Wagner, 29-8; 10. Allen, 29-8; 11. Houston Sam Houston, 29-4; 12. Lake Travis, 29-7; 13. Fort Bend Bush, 27-4; 14. Aldine Eisenhower, 29-6; 15. Beaumont West Brook, 29-3; 16. Katy Tompkins, 29-7; 17. Odessa Permian, 29-3; 18. Garland Rowlett, 29-3; 19. South Grand Prairie, 29-3; 20. North Crowley, 27-5; 21. Klein Forest, 29-5; 22. Koen Oak, 29-3; 23. Houston Lamar, 29-4; 24. Richardson Pearce, 21-2; 25. McAllen Pines, 23-8.
- Class 4A
 - 1. Wauchope, 29-4; 2. Northwest, 27-6; 3. Mansfield Timberline, 29-4; 4. Port Arthur Memorial, 29-5; 5. Prosper, 29-3; 6. EP Burgin, 29-2; 7. Little Elm, 29-7; 8. Dallas Wilson, 17-4; 9. Lancaster, 19-12; 10. Fort Bend Eldora, 29-11; 11. Midlothian, 22-10; 12. CC Veterans Memorial, 29-4; 13. Sulphur Springs, 27-4; 14. Dallas South Oak Cliff, 29-1; 15. Akin Shavano Creek, 21-9; 16. Laredo Nixon, 29-6; 17. Hambley, 27-8; 18. Tarrant County, 27-5; 19. FW Brown, 29-4; 21. EP Eastlake, 29-2; 22. Austin Lanier, 27-2; 23. Richmond Forest, 17-12; 24. SA Houston, 21-24; 25. SA Alamo Heights, 29-2; 26. Lander House, 25-7.
- Class 5A
 - 1. Slaton, 29-2; 2. Houston Yates, 21-2; 3. Prosper, 29-5; 4. Dallas Lincoln, 21-8; 5. Dallas Carter, 29-6; 6. Carter, 29-2; 7. WF Hirsch, 21-8; 8. Lubbock Estacado, 21-9; 9. Abilene Wylie, 29-10; 10. Seminole, 21-8; 11. Midlothian Heritage, 27-4; 12. Argyle, 29-6; 13. Wauchope Hills, 30-7; 14. Boomer, 29-4; 15. CC West Oak, 29-7; 16. Wilmer Hutchins, 19-12; 17. West Conally, 27-7; 18. Krum, 27-6; 19. Dallas

- Faith Family, 23-12; 20. Houston Scarborough, 13-9; 21. Houston North Forest, 14-10; 22. Somerset, 23-2; 23. Burk Burnett, 18-13; 24. Athens, 23-3; 25. Wharton, 18-12.
- Class 3A
 - 1. Jarrell, 29-4; 2. Brock, 31-3; 3. SA Cole, 31-2; 4. Pease, 29-5; 5. Palestine Westwood, 30-2; 6. Ponder, 29-5; 7. East Chambers, 30-1; 8. Edgewood, 27-9; 9. Nacogdoches Central Heights, 29-7; 10. Bowie, 29-7; 11. Holiday, 29-5; 12. Wall, 27-2; 13. Mount Vernon, 29-1; 14. Commerce, 19-4; 15. Van Alstyne, 29-10; 16. Neocoma, 25-6; 17. Polka Central, 29-3; 18. La Marque, 19-11; 19. Hitchcock, 18-11; 20. Shallowater, 29-2; 21. Marion, 29-6; 22. Cold Spring Oakhurst, 22-8; 23. CC London, 18-12; 24. Teague, 13-5; 25. Dallas Madison, 10-16.
- Class 2A
 - 1. Thomhill, 27-3; 2. Martins Mill, 28-3; 3. Big Sandy, 21-4; 4. Tynah, 13-2; 5. Shelbyville, 25-6; 6. Lufkin Pineywoods, 24-6; 7. Muenster, 11-8; 8. San Augustine, 10-9; 9. Cushing, 29-4; 10. Stewart West Texas, 27-2; 11. Goplandon, 29-6; 12. Dallerdale Big Sandy, 25-8; 13. Neches, 21-10; 14. Port Aransas, 29-10; 15. Sprott, 29-6; 16. Clarksville, 20-8; 17. Broadtop, 21-8; 18. Fortson, 29-4; 19. Vanhook Rayburn, 24-5; 20. SA Lee Academy, 22-1; 21. Stamford, 19-1; 22. Calles, 19-8; 23. Jola, 19-7; 24. Stratford, 17-7; 25. Abilene, 19-2.
- Class 1A
 - 1. Lipan, 30-1; 2. Nazareth, 24-5; 3. Laneville, 24-4; 4. Gall Borden County, 19-2; 5. New Home, 29-3; 6. Slaton, 27-7; 7. Grattan, 21-7; 8. Leggett, 30-8; 9. Houston, 29-4; 10. Happy, 14-8; 11. Tinslin, 19-9; 12. Turkey Valley, 15-1; 13. Eola, 25-4; 14. Coalinga, 19-2; 15. Brant, 29-1; 16. Wheeler, 17-5; 17. Roperville, 20-8; 18. Meador, 18-7; 19. Ector, 27-22; 20. Abilene, 19-8; 23. Verita, 22-3; 24. Milford, 9-5; 25. Rankin, 29-8.
- BOYS PRIVATE
 - 1. Tomball Conterra Lutheran, 30-1; 2. Dallas

- Bishop Lynch, 29-3; 3. Houston Bellaire Episcopal, 27-4; 4. Plano Prestonwood Christian, 23-8; 5. Houston Christian, 29-5; 6. SA Antonian, 31-8; 7. Dallas St. Mark's, 21-8; 8. Houston St. Thomas, 15-14; 9. FW Holm Catholic, 17-9; 10. SA Central Catholic, 20-11.
- TAPPS 6A
 - 1. Cedar Hill Trinity Christian, 30-6; 2. Houston Second Baptist, 27-7; 3. Tyler All Saints Episcopal, 25-3; 4. Houston Westbury Christian, 19-19; 5. SA St. Mary's Hall, 29-7; 6. Frisco Legacy Christian, 17-15; 7. Midland Christian, 28-12; 8. Laredo St. Augustine, 25-14; 9. SA Cornerstone Christian, 15-13; 10. Austin St. Michael's Catholic, 19-10.
- TAPPS 4A
 - 1. Arlington Grace Prep, 29-8; 2. Colleyville Covenant, 29-11; 3. The Woodlands Christian, 24-13; 4. Waco Vanguard, 14-10; 5. Lubbock Trinity Christian, 20-21; 6. Waco Ranch, 29-14; 7. Sugar Land Logos, 16-8; 8. Austin Brenwood, 19-15; 9. Houston St. Thomas Episcopal, 9-10; 10. Amarillo San Jacinto Christian, 19-13.
- Class 3A
 - 1. Dallas Varnh, 29-2; 2. SA St. Gerard, 24-2; 3. Beaumont Legacy, 20-14; 4. Kenville Our Lady of the Hills, 24-5; 5. FW Calvary Christian, 21-10; 6. Abilene Christian, 21-8; 7. Dallas Covenant, 21-5; 8. Irving The Springs, 27-4; 9. Wilcox Park Trinity, 20-8; 10. Spring Fossil Catholic, 17-9.
- Class 2A
 - 1. Sherman Thomas Christian, 24-4; 2. Bryan Allen Academy, 22-3; 3. Lubbock All Saints Episcopal, 25-6; 4. New Braunfels Christian, 25-8; 5. Huntsville Alpha Omega, 19-3; 6. Conroe Covenant, 29-1; 7. Houston Bessie, 19-3; 8. Dallas First Baptist, 19-3; 9. Lubbock Southshore, 18-9; 10. Spring Providence, 23-11.
- Class 1A
 - 1. Garland North Central, 25-2; 2. SA Legacy, 30-3; 3. Irving Paradise, 15-0; 4. WF Wichita Christian, 21-5; 5. Longview Trinity, 23-8; 6. Spring Fountains Christian, 22-8; 7. SA Gateway, 23-11; 8. Fredericksburg Heritage, 17-5; 9. Plano Macedonia, 21-8; 10. Lubbock Kingsley Prep,

- 19-10.
- Class 6A
 - 1. Duncanson, 30-1; 2. Converse Judson, 29-4; 3. Cibola Steele, 31-4; 4. Dallas Skyline, 27-7; 5. Richardson, 29-4; 6. Austin Westlake, 27-7; 7. Cypress Creek, 29-4; 8. Plano, 29-6; 9. Arlington Bowie, 27-8; 10. League City Clear Springs, 27-7; 11. Waco Midway, 30-4; 12. Pflugerville Herdickson, 29-6; 13. Pflugerville, 30-5; 14. DeSoto, 29-6; 15. Cypress Ranch, 27-7; 16. Kilham Elgin, 29-6; 17. Allen, 27-8; 18. McKinney, 25-10; 19. Keller Timber Creek, 27-4; 20. Humble Association, 29-6; 21. Fort Bend Highlands, 27-8; 22. Edinburg, 30-8; 23. Rockwall, 29-4; 24. Spring Delaney, 29-8; 25. Laredo United, 30-5.
- Class 5A
 - 1. Mansfield Timberline, 34-2; 2. Barbara Hill, 30-2; 3. Frisco Lane Star, 31-4; 4. Amarillo, 33-2; 5. Canyon, 29-3; 6. Prosper, 29-7; 7. Houston Madison, 19-8; 8. Temple, 29-5; 9. Denton, 29-4; 10. Wylie East, 29-5; 11. Cedar Park, 27-7; 12. FW Brown, 30-4; 13. Alamo, 25-2; 14. Sulphur Springs, 25-4; 15. Lubbock Cooper, 31-2; 16. CC Fleur Bluff, 31-6; 17. CC Veterans Memorial, 30-5; 18. Austin High, 29-7; 19. Georgetown, 23-8; 20. Leander House, 27-8; 21. Conroy, 29-7; 22. SA Southside, 29-3; 23. Kerrville Tivy, 29-6; 24. FW Tynah, 24-8; 25-8; 26. Lucas Loretto, 29-8.
- Class 4A
 - 1. Liberty Hill, 30-3; 2. Glen Rose, 31-1; 3. Lewisville, 30-4; 4. Newcastle, 34-2; 5. Dumas City, 25-8; 6. Dallas Lincoln, 30-2; 7. SA Veterans Memorial, 27-8; 8. Houston Wheatley, 29-3; 9. Canton, 29-0; 10. Team, 27-1; 11. Abilene Wylie, 24-8; 12. Argyle, 27-13; 13. Malissa, 30-3; 14. Burnham, 29-4; 15. Brownwood, 29-5; 16. Midland Heritage, 27-8; 17. Gilmer, 29-8; 18. Searles, 27-7; 19. Star Line Harsh-Jefferson, 29-5; 20. Geneva Newsam, 29-2; 21. Meola, 29-7; 22. Devine, 24-8; 23. Bullard, 29-4; 24. Conal Canyon Lake, 29-2; 25. CC West Oak, 24-7.
- Class 3A
 - 1. Corsair, 29-4; 2. Pottsville, 29-4; 3. Wall,

- 29-4; 4. Little River Academy, 29-4; 5. Mount Pleasant Chapel Hill, 29-3; 6. Brock, 27-4; 7. Leon, 27-3; 8. Teague, 29-2; 9. Sulphur, 29-2; 10. Malco, 29-8; 11. Poth, 24-12; 12. Mount Vernon, 20-8; 13. Wynnboro, 23-12; 14. Odem, 29-6; 15. Colorado City, 27-8; 16. Tuscoo Jim Ned, 23-8; 17. Woodville, 31-8; 18. Vanderbilt Industrial, 29-8; 19. Shallowater, 25-8; 20. Hitchcock, 24-8; 21. Grandview, 25-8; 22. Martin, 28-8; 23. East Chambers, 28-4; 24. Marion, 29-11; 25. San Diego, 29-7.
- Class 2A
 - 1. Martins Mill, 30-1; 2. La Rue La Poyner, 29-2; 3. Pineridge, 29-3; 4. Wildthorn, 29-1; 5. Stamford, 24-4; 6. Hico, 30-7; 7. Warden, 29-3; 8. Tinslin, 27-8; 9. Claude, 29-6; 10. Eola, 29-4; 11. Grapevine, 30-7; 12. Vega, 30-3; 13. Haskell, 31-1; 14. Campbell, 27-7; 15. San Saba, 29-7; 16. Mason, 29-8; 17. Archer City, 25-8; 18. Sprott, 29-2; 19. Thomhill, 29-5; 20. Wellington, 29-8; 21. Lonsdale, 29-8; 22. Glassman Union Grove, 29-6; 23. Sundown, 25-7; 24. Eureka, 29-7; 25. Boggs Rivercut, 29-6.
- Class 1A
 - 1. Nazareth, 29-2; 2. Garden City, 31-1; 3. Dodd City, 32-1; 4. Houston, 31-3; 5. Roperville, 31-0; 6. Hockley, 27-8; 7. Reasor, 30-8; 8. Tilden McMillan County, 27-2; 9. May, 25-4; 10. Bartlesville Okmulgee Canyon, 29-4; 11. Robert Lee, 24-3; 12. Slocum, 29-9; 13. McLean, 27-1; 14. Roby, 29-7; 15. Jayton, 24-7; 16. Jonestown, 25-4; 17. Rockspring, 22-8; 18. Hamleigh, 23-7; 19. New Home, 29-8; 20. Ediva, 22-8; 21. Abilene, 21-5; 22. Commerce, 34-3; 23. Isbell, 19-3; 24. Eola, 29-2; 25. Groom, 21-7.
- Class 6A
 - 1. Dallas Bishop Lynch, 34-7; 2. Houston Kingsley, 34-2; 3. Houston St. Agnes, 29-7; 4. Houston Christian, 29-7; 5. Plano Providence, 24-8; 6. Dallas Parish Episcopal, 29-7; 7. SA Incarnate Word, 29-9; 8. Tomball Conterra Lutheran, 29-7; 9. Argyle Liberty Christian, 29-10; 10. Houston The Village, 29-8.

- TAPPS 6A
 - 1. SA Christian, 29-12; 2. Cedar Hill Trinity Christian, 24-2; 3. Mansfield Dallas Christian, 19-13; 4. CC WIA, 29-8; 5. Houston Second Baptist, 29-12; 6. Tyler Grace Community Christian, 23-6; 7. Austin St. Michael's, 23-7; 8. Grapevine Faith Christian, 29-7; 9. CC John Paul II, 22-11; 10. SA Cornerstone, 20-16.
- TAPPS 4A
 - 1. FW Lake Country Christian, 30-8; 2. Muttie Falls Faith, 27-8; 3. Houston Lutheran North, 19-7; 4. Austin Brentwood Christian, 27-10; 5. Lubbock Christian, 29-10; 6. Austin Texas For Deaf, 29-6; 7. Flower Bluff County Deaf, 29-7; 8. Midland Christian, 19-8; 9. Woodlands Christian, 29-8; 10. Lubbock Trinity Christian, 15-21.
- Class 3A
 - 1. Beaumont Legacy, 23-8; 2. Temple Central Texas Christian, 24-3; 3. Midland Christian, 19-8; 4. SA Castle Hills, 29-7; 5. Round Rock Christian, 17-7; 6. Mission Juan Diego, 19-4; 7. Denton Calvary, 19-8; 8. Haltomville Sacred Heart, 19-6; 9. SA Haystack, 15-4; 10. Tinslin Rowlett, 12-12.
- Class 2A
 - 1. Austin Waldorf, 25-4; 2. Shiner St. Paul, 19-7; 3. Reed Oak Hills, 19-2; 4. Woodlands Christian, 22-5; 5. Bryan St. Joseph, 17-12; 6. Lubbock Southwest, 19-4; 7. New Braunfels Christian, 15-13; 8. Plainview Christian, 14-10; 9. Newcomer Sacred Heart, 10-1

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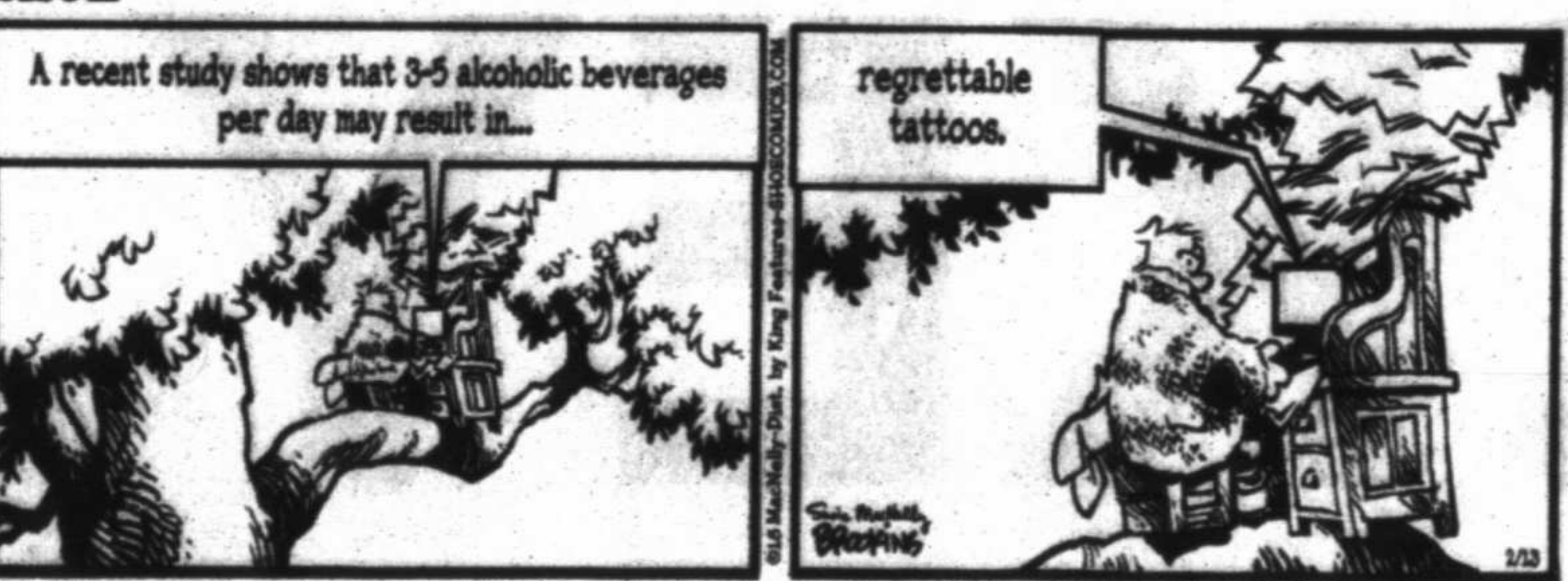
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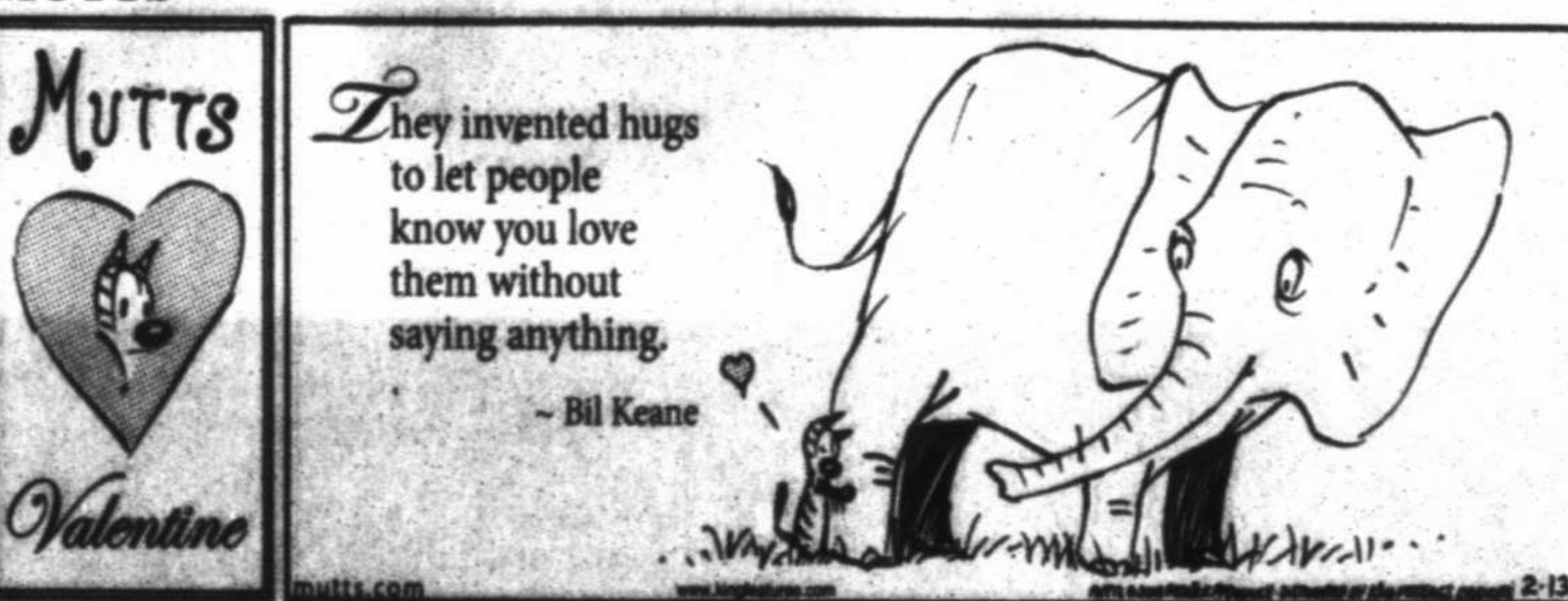
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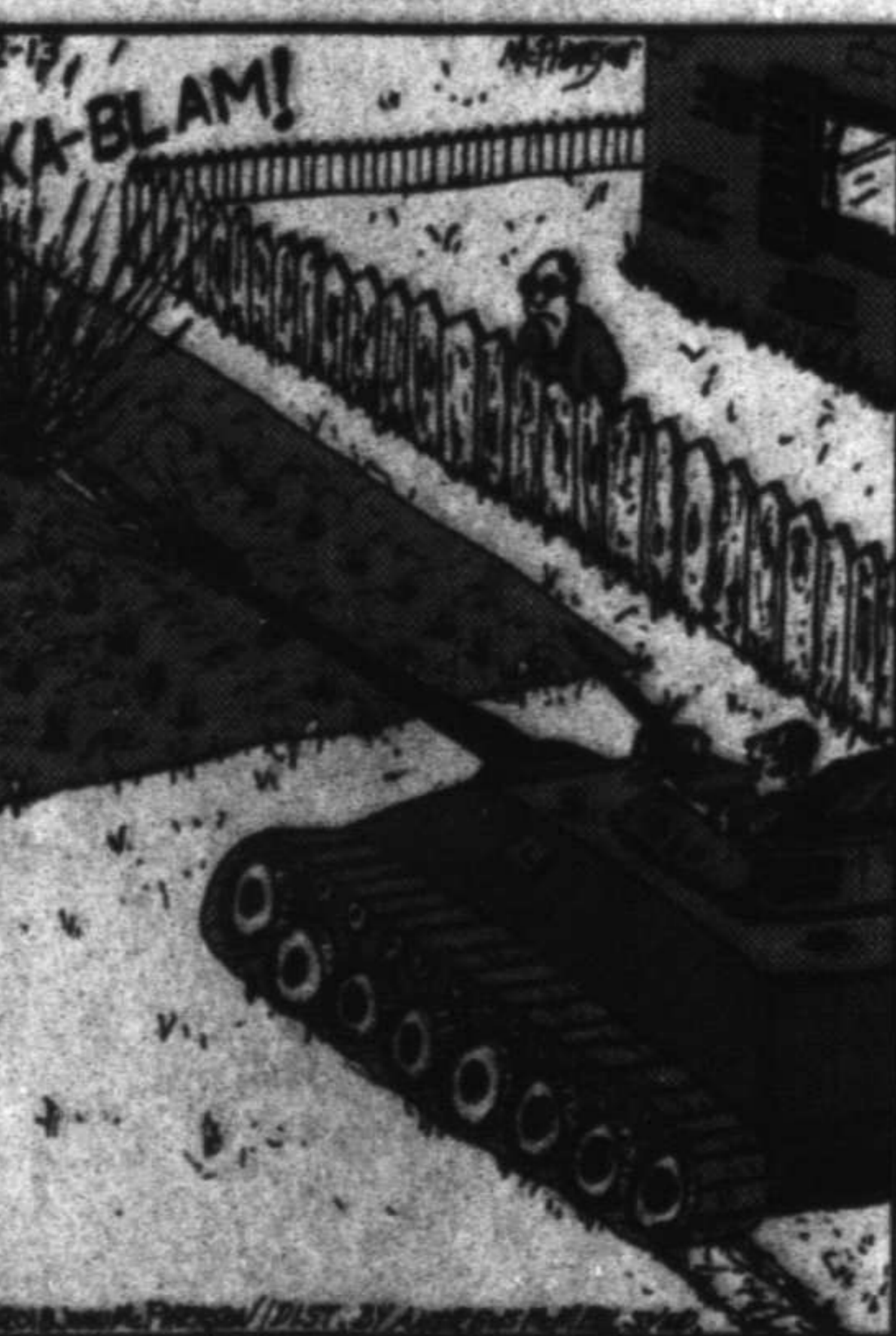
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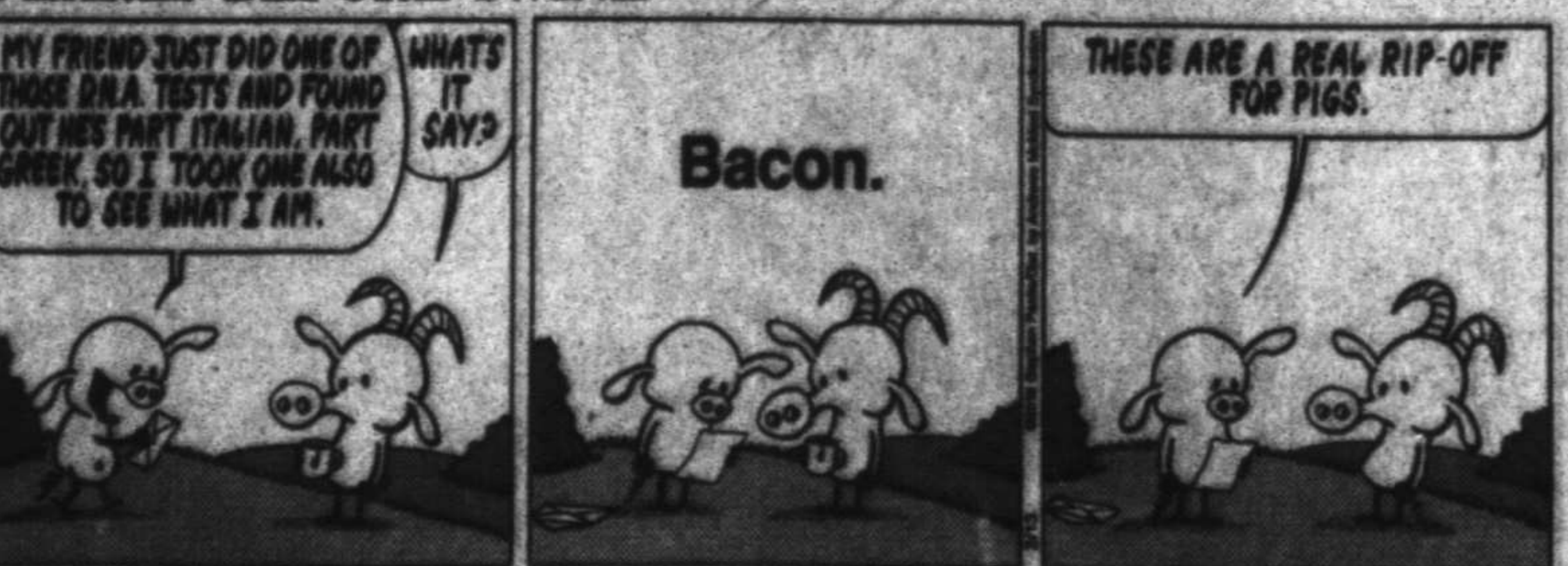
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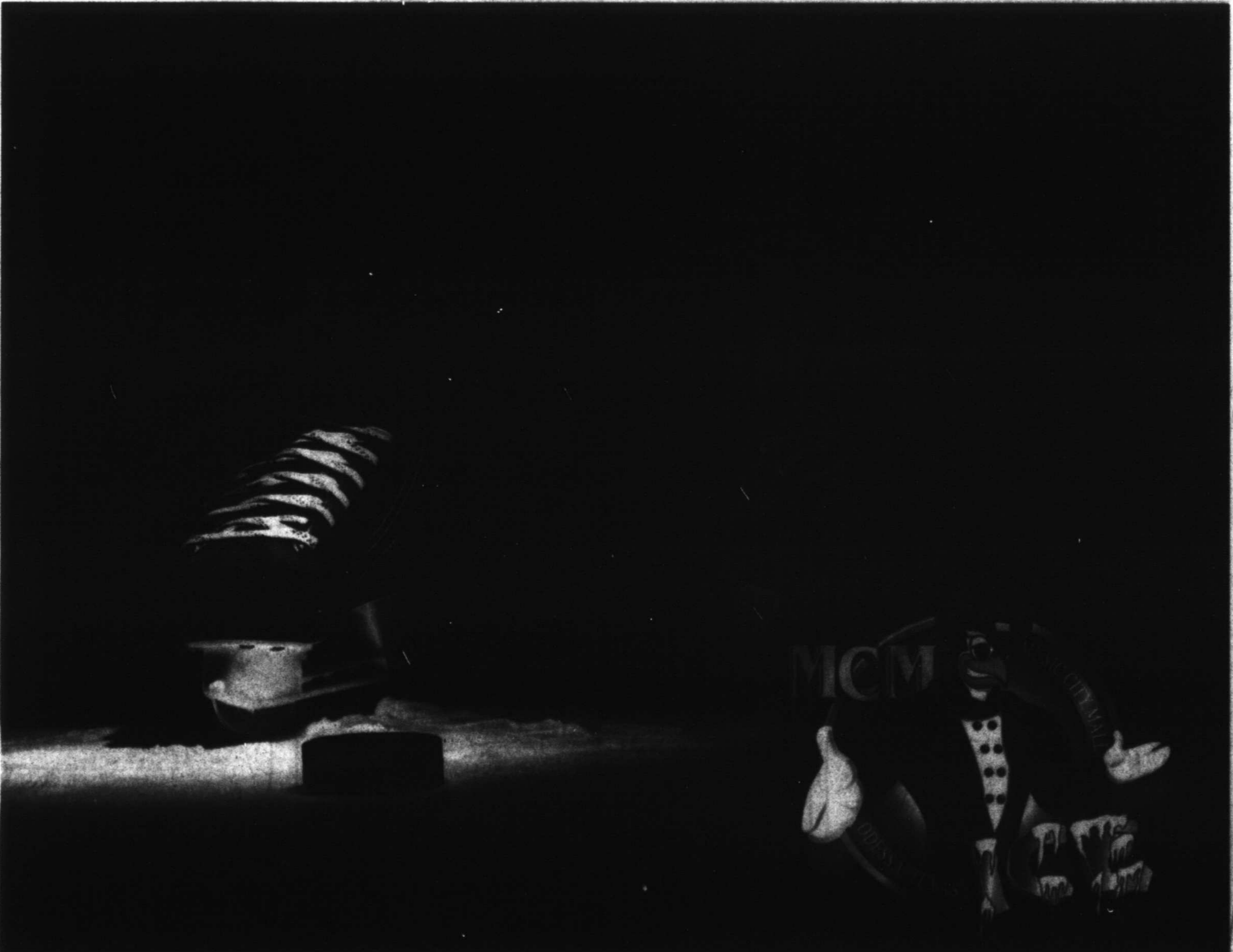
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FULL CHARGE BOOKKEEPER WANTED. Can be Part time if needed. Please send resume to Jeanne_Larance@jncpa.com

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Currently has opening for a

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Experience in following Microsoft Office/ Excel, Inventory Control, Computer based ERP Programs. Good math skills and ability to learn and retain new information is needed. Computer literacy is required.

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Medical office front desk position. Patient management experience preferred. Tasks include making appointments, entering and updating patient records. Heavy phone duty. Competitive pay and holidays. Fax resume to 432-570-0902 or email to rnrdoc01@aol.com

CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITIES

Commercial Construction Project Superintendents

Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. Now hiring commercial construction project superintendents. Competitive pay plus excellent benefits. Experience in commercial construction a must. Please send resumes to 5206 W. Wadley Ave. Midland, Texas 79707 or email them to Billy Mays at billy@midtexofmidland.com. You may also fax your resume to (432) 694-9627.

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

Safety Coordinator

Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. Now hiring a Safety Coordinator for on-going commercial construction project in Midland, Texas. OSHA 10 certification required. Send inquiries to alan@midtexofmidland.com.

EDUCATION TRAINING

Child Care Positions

Child Care Number 1 Wee Care Learning Center, Midland, TX. 79706. Premier facility is looking to hire Teachers, Cafeteria Workers and Maintenance for infants and young children. Come by 3309 N. Lamessa Road to apply. No phone calls please.

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Elite Well Services LLC

Elite Well Services has full time positions available for:
Equipment Operators/Drivers
Diesel Mechanics
Electronic Technicians

Please refer to www.chasenergy.com for job descriptions. Must be at least 21 years of age and able to pass a drug and background screening and meet vehicle insurance requirements. We offer an excellent working environment and outstanding compensation and benefits package. Application closing date - February 22, 2018. For consideration, email resume to are@elitesw.com or apply in person at:

Elite Well Services LLC
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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 employment@westtexasgas.com.

Trainers & Mudloggers/Field Geologists

Advance Consultants Corp. is now hiring both Trainers and Experienced Mudloggers/Field Geologists for West Texas. Email resumes to advance@advancelogging.com

HEALTHCARE

CNA or MA

Pediatric Center now hiring a CNA or MA for a fast paced pediatric office. Good benefits. Send resumes to 5801 W. Wadley, Midland, TX.

Full Time Ophthalmic Technician

Full Time Ophthalmic Technician needed: Duties include screening patients, vision and diagnostic testing, assisting physician with minor surgical procedures. EMR and scrub technician/surgical experience preferred, not required. Serious inquiries. Please send resume via fax 432-694-7414, email Ingram2@quint.com or 2706 W. Cuthbert Bld. A Midland, TX 79701.

OTHER JOBS

CDL Driver Water truck and Bully Dumps

Jones Brothers, is hiring CDL Driver Water truck and Bully Dumps drivers. 1 year of driving experience. Valid Texas Class A CDL, drivers for water truck driver. 80 plus hour work week.

Benefits: Medical, Dental/Vision, life insurance. After 1 year of service Paid Vacation and 401K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc. 1401 S. Grandview Odessa, Texas 79761

OTHER JOBS

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 occasionally. 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: jmaddock@hearstnp.com **NOPHONECALL PLEASE**



Janitors & Maids

Janitors and maids needed, work Monday - Friday 5:30 pm until 8:30 pm. Apply at 1307 N. Big Spring, Midland, TX.

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 8pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person. \$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: jmaddock@hearstnp.com **NOPHONECALLS PLEASE**



Warehouse Position

Warehouse position available, assemble furniture & delivery. MUST HAVE A VALID DRIVERS LICENSE & pass drug screen. Reference a plus. Call Kim at 432-683-9774

RETAIL JOBS

Full Time Manager & Cashiers

Smoker's Outlet has openings for Manager, Trainee & Cashiers. Full-time & Part-time positions available, must have own transportation. Apply in person Mon-Fri 8-5 5000 E University Ste 11, Odessa, TX

SALES JOBS

Counter Sales Associate

Ferguson is hiring a Counter Sales Associate in our Midland, TX. location. Interested applicants please apply online https://ferguson.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/Ferguson_ExperiencedJob/Midland-TX/Counter-Sales-Associate_R-35884 EOE/M/F/Vet/Disability

Let Classifieds Work for You! Call 432-682-6222

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.

Join a GREAT TEAM and are you ready to take your career to the next level? We have an exciting opportunity for 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.

SKILLED LABOR

Journeyman Electricians & Helpers

Salary DOE. Please call 432-413-9344. You must have experience.

SKILLED LABOR

Laborers and Carpenters

Mid-Tex of Midland, Inc. Now hiring laborers and carpenters. Reliable transportation a must. You may apply or leave an application at 5206 W. Wadley Avenue, Midland, Texas.

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- Affordable Life Insurance, Supplemental Insurance
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Apply Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m. 2833 I-20, South Service Rd. Stanton, TX 432-458-3446

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Vacuum Truck Driver

Need a Vacuum Truck Driver, with CDL in the San Angelo area. Operator will need driver to work 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday. Please contact Rick at 432-210-8816 if interested.

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

PROFESSIONAL NIGHT DRIVER

Midland based offsite service company seeks a professional night driver. This is a full time position Monday-Friday with some weekend rotations. Average starting pay \$25/hr D.O.E. Requirements: Class A GDL with tanker endorsement (no hazmat needed) 3-5 years minimum experience driving tanker preferred. Clean driving record and background check. Please email resume and/or all pertinent information including experience to cutfieldcompanies@gmail.com. References appreciated.

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\$3000.00 SIGN-ON Bonus
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Legal and Public Notices

Notice of Application for Surface Commingling
 OXY USA INC is applying to the Railroad Commission to commingle production from the following leases: Quinn 48 and Quinn Brooks 4801. Production is from Spraberry (Trend Area) field. Production will be commingled at the Quinn Battery located in RRC District 08 in Howard County.
 Pursuant to Statewide Rules 26 and 27, interested parties must file objections or requests for hearing in writing to the Railroad Commission office within 21 days after publication, or the Commission may approve the application.
 For questions pertaining to the application, please contact Sandra Musallam at (713) 366-5106

General Announcement

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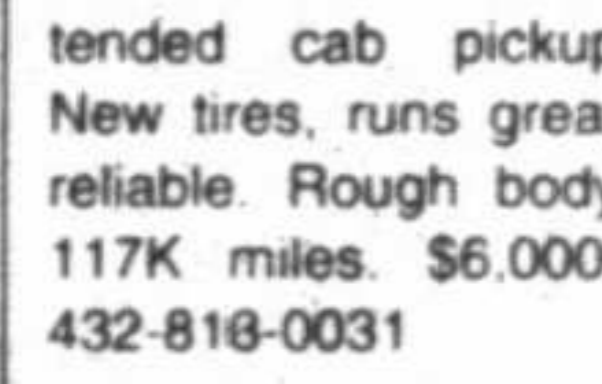
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Lots and Land

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16.5 ACRES available for lease between Midland and Odessa near Gardendale off of FM1788. Property located in Andrews, Ector and Midland counties. 3 phase power and well water available. Lease all 16.5 acres or by acre. Call for details. Jeff Winemiller 717-226-3535

Lots and Land

Acceage

43.5 ACRES for sale between Midland and Odessa near Gardendale off of FM1788. Property located in Andrews, Ector and Midland counties. 3 phase power and well water available. \$435,000.00. Will consider subdividing into 10 acre lot for \$150,000.00. Call for details. Jeff Winemiller 717-226-3535

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MINERAL RIGHTS for lease in Stanton, TX, (townsite) Martin County. 1.3930 acre, only 3 years lease, at \$15 K per acre at 25 % royalty, serious inquires only 432-967-3710. Thank you.

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7,705 acres located in Pecos County, Texas - The terrain is gently sloping on portions of the ranch, transitioning to rugged limestone hills, divides and deep canyons. The property is well known for producing large whitetail and mule deer, with elk now common. Classified Minerals. \$550 per acre.

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'IT'S A BIG DEAL'



John Minchillo/Associated Press

Seawater floods the entrance to the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel Oct. 29, 2012, in New York in the wake of Superstorm Sandy. New satellite research shows that global warming is making seas rise at an ever increasing rate. Scientists say melting ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica is speeding up sea level rise so that by the year 2100 on average oceans will be two feet higher than today, probably even more.

Satellites show warming is accelerating sea level rise

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Melting ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica are speeding up the already fast pace of sea level rise, new satellite research shows.

At the current rate, the world's oceans on average will be at least 2 feet higher by the end of the century compared to today, according to researchers who published in Monday's Proceedings of the National Academies of Sciences.

Sea level rise is caused by warming of the ocean and melting from glaciers and ice sheets. The research, based on 25 years of satellite data, shows that pace has quickened, mainly from the melting of massive ice sheets. It confirms scientists' computer simulations and is in line with predictions from the United Nations, which releases regular climate change reports.

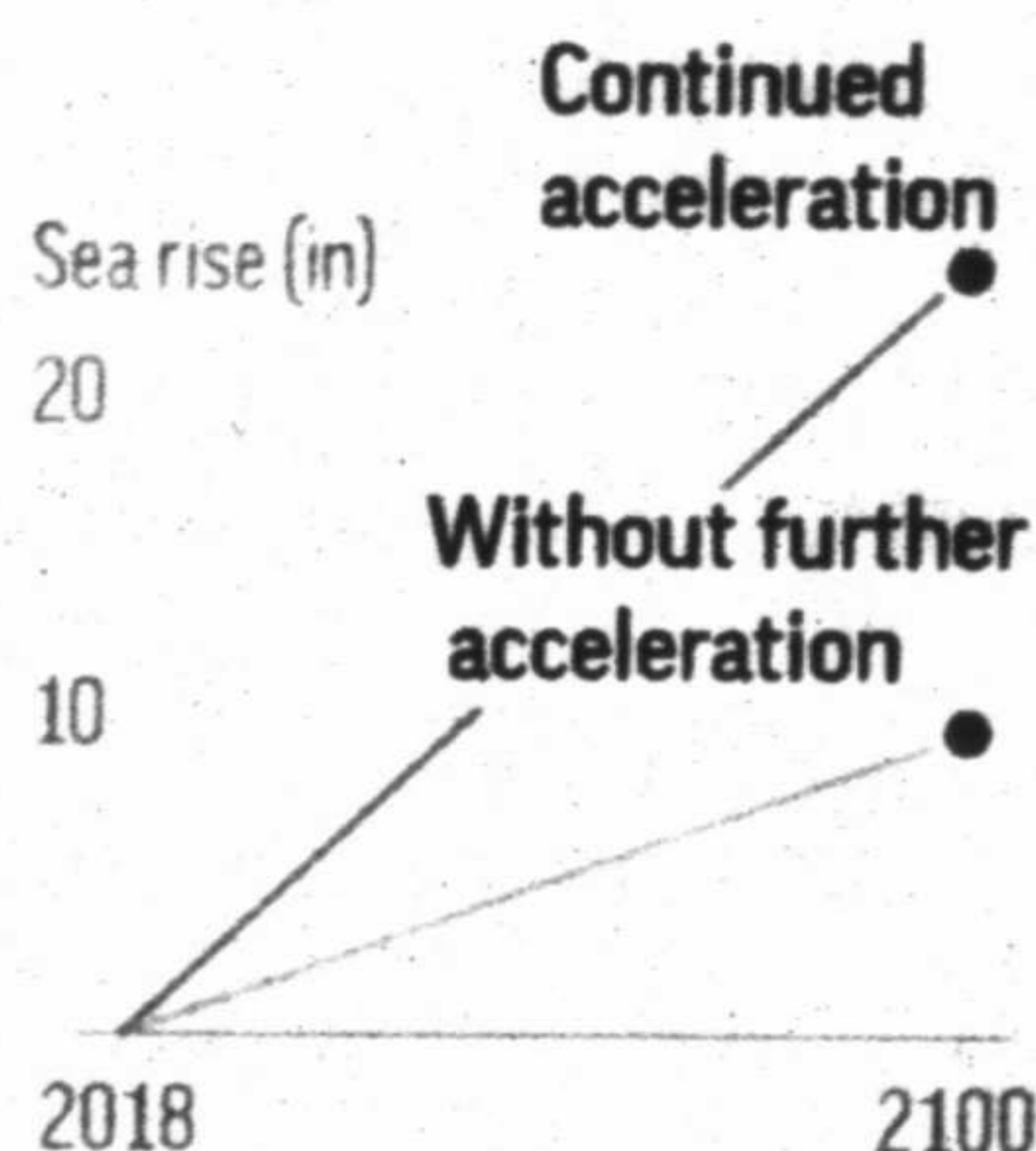
"It's a big deal" because the projected sea level rise is a conservative estimate and it is likely to be higher, said lead author Steve Nerem of the University of Colorado.

Outside scientists said even small changes in sea levels can lead to flooding and erosion.

"Any flooding concerns that coastal communities have for 2100 may occur over the next few decades," Oregon State University coastal flooding expert Katy Serafin said in an email.

Of the 3 inches of sea level rise in the past quarter century, about 55 percent is

Soaring sea level



from warmer water expanding, and the rest is from melting ice.

But the process is accelerating, and more than three-quarters of that acceleration since 1993 is due to melting ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica, the study shows.

Like weather and climate, there are two factors in sea level rise: year-to-year small rises and falls that are caused by natural events and larger long-term rising trends that are linked to man-made climate change. Nerem's team removed the natural effects of the 1991 Mt. Pinatubo eruption that temporarily chilled Earth and the climate phenomena El Nino

and La Nina, and found the accelerating trend.

Sea level rise, more than temperature, is a better gauge of climate change in action, said Anny Cazenave, director of Earth science at the International Space Science Institute in France, who edited the study. Cazenave is one of the pioneers of space-based sea level research.

Global sea levels were stable for about 3,000 years until the 20th century when they rose and then accelerated due to global warming caused by the burning of coal, oil and natural gas, said climate scientist Stefan Rahmstorf of the Potsdam Institute in Germany, who wasn't part of the study.

Two feet of sea level rise by the end of the century "would have big effects on places like Miami and New Orleans, but I don't still view that as catastrophic" because those cities can survive — at great expense — that amount of rising seas under normal situations, Nerem said.

But when a storm hits like 2012's Superstorm Sandy, sea level rise on top of storm surge can lead to record-setting damages, researchers said.

Some scientists at the American Geophysical Union meeting last year said Antarctica may be melting faster than predicted by Monday's study.

Greenland has caused three times more sea level rise than Antarctica so far, but ice melt on the southern continent is responsible for more of the acceleration.

"Antarctica seems less stable than we thought a few years ago," Rutgers climate scientist Robert Kopp said.

Dinosaur-killing space rock may have triggered sea volcanoes

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The giant space rock that wiped out the dinosaurs may have set off a chain of cataclysmic volcanic eruptions on land and undersea, claims a new study that is already dividing scientists.

About 66 million years ago a 6-mile wide asteroid smacked into Earth, creating the Chicxulub crater in the Yucatan and sparking deadly chaos. Superhot particles rained from the air causing fires across the globe and sending temperatures higher. Then it got worse. Clouds of particles reflected the sun's energy away, darkening the skies and cooling Earth at least 45 degrees for several years, scientists said. And that big hit set off earthquakes close to 100 times stronger than the biggest we've seen in modern times.

It was enough to kill off three-quarters of the life on Earth, especially most of the creatures and plants on land.

But there were even more reverberations, possibly deadly ones, the new study says.

New evidence suggests all that shaking triggered massive volcanic eruptions that spewed gases and particles into the air and water too. A study in Wednesday's journal Science Advances figures sometime after the asteroid crash, unusual and extra strong eruptions happened on the floor of the oceans, probably in what are now the Pacific and Indian oceans. The study authors calculate that those ejected a tremendous amount of molten rock underwater — so much that on land it would cover the entire continental United States a couple hundred feet deep or so.

"We're showing there was a lot more going on than we thought," said University of Minnesota geophysicist Joseph Byrnes, the study's lead author. "We're painting a new sequence of events."

These underwater volcanic areas — called mid-ocean ridges — often erupt, even today. But this happened on a far bigger scale.

What happened inside the underwater volcanoes is "totally analogous to a can of Coke that gets shaken. The whole thing turns into a frothy mess," said University of California, Berkeley geologist Paul Renne, who wasn't part of the study but said it "illustrates how intertwined everything else is."

The study's authors say their work hints that the underwater eruptions helped turn the oceans more acidic and added to extinction carnage, but they said they need more research to go that extra step.

Scientists are split, sometimes heatedly, over what really triggered the worst of the extinction, the impact of the crater and its plumes of debris or other upheaval of the Earth's crust in the wake of the collision. A study in 2015 suggested that the collision made volcanic eruptions in India that scientists have long known about, called the Deccan traps, far more intense and deadly.

But if that were true, scientists said there should be evidence of increased volcanic activity elsewhere around the world, including underwater.

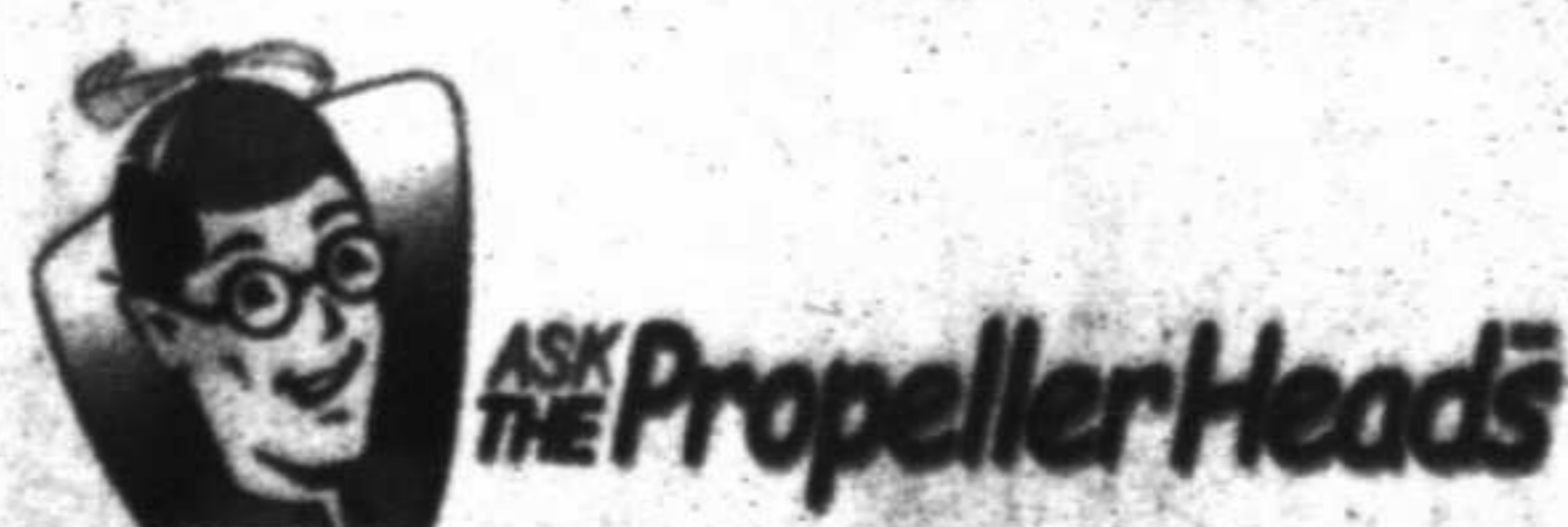
This new study found just those eruptions, bolstering the theory that connects hyped-up volcanic activity globally to the initial collision, said study co-author Leif Karlstrom, an Earth sciences professor at the University of Oregon.

Linelight and other great games you may have missed in 2017

Dear PropellerHeads, I'm bored. Just sitting here, staring at my phone while playing on Facebook and Snapchat. Any suggestions?

A: Go outside for a walk? Unplug and visit a museum? Visit your grandmother? OK, once you stop laughing, we'll give you your fix. Let's look at some of the best mobile games from the past year so your eyes don't have to adjust to natural sunlight. I bet you were worried for a minute, eh?

Not taking anything for granted, I need to make sure you know where to find them. If you're using an iPhone (cough, cough ... fanboy), you're going to want to check out the App Store (apple.com/ios/app-store). If you're on an Android device, Google Play (play.google.com) will have what you're looking for. For those of you that have Kindle, check out the Amazon mobile app store (amazon.com/mobile-apps). If none of those work, you're probably working with a flip phone, so I'll move on. All the games listed below



are available on for both iOS and Android devices unless otherwise noted.

One of my personal favorites of 2017 was actually a sequel. Monument Valley 2 (available for both iOS and Android, bit.ly/2uaAJuK) is the long awaited follow-up to arguably the best game of 2014. Like the original, this puzzle game is filled with MC Escher-esque stages for you to navigate. While the controls themselves are simple, the latter stages are challenging and fun for kids and adults.

If you're looking for something with a little more action, you may want to consider Iron Marines (ironmarines.com). It's a real time-strategy game, where you are the leader of your own troop of miniature soldiers, each with their own strengths,

weaknesses, and special abilities. There's a lot going on in this game, with over the top graphics and action. The cadence of playing takes a little getting used to, but is a blast once you get going.

Are you a little more old school? Check out Arkanoid vs. Space Invaders (tatto.com). It takes two great classics and combines them into a game that really works well together. Simple thumb controls will have you knocking out walls and vanquishing aliens in no time. You'll find this combination ranks up there with peanut butter & jelly, milk & cookies, or milk steak & jelly beans (bit.ly/2DTjDTg).

Are you a fan of Where's Waldo and other games that require a keen eye? You may want to check out Hidden Folks (hiddenfolks.com). It has intricate hand drawn environments that you need to peruse for specific character and items. It may sound too simple to be fun, but I guarantee you'll have a Tiger Woods fist pump moment when you find the last item on a particularly maddening board.

Perhaps the best game of 2017, Linelight (linelightgame.com) takes the traditional puzzle game and places it against a gorgeous, minimalist backdrop for hours of entertainment. There's no tutorial, but the game starts with simple puzzles and builds in difficulty to teach you along the way. If you're going to get one from this list, this is the one to have.

These options should give you plenty of excuses to stay buried in your phone for days on end. Just do me a favor and maybe play them outside a bit? You're looking a little pale these days.

When the PropellerHeads at Data Directions aren't busy with their IT projects, they love to answer questions on business or consumer technology. Email us at askthepropellerheads@data-directions.com or contact us at Data Directions, Inc. 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Visit our website at data-directions.com/askthepropellerheads.



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