MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2018 mrt★com *320,000 readers in print and online*

ANNIVERSARY

Teens walk to pay tribute to Martin Luther King Jr.

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MARCH MADNESS

Villanova and Michigan face off today for the NCAA championship title.

Page 1C

Proposed tariffs concern Permian producers

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Plans by President Donald Trump to implement tariffs on steel and aluminum imports have rattled the Texas oil and gas industry.

Tim Dove, president and chief executive officer of Pioneer Natural Resources, said at HIS Markit's CERAWeek conference in Houston in early March that his industry uses a lot of steel.

"Tubulars in wells, tank batteries, frac fleets, the pipelines that are going to be used as infrastructure to move this volume — it's all steel," he said.

Dove praised the Trump administration as being supportive of the industry in terms of calling for national energy dominance, in revising the tax structure, faster approval of pipeline projects and eliminating what he called onerous environmental regulations.

The call for the tariffs "seems to be on the other side of that," he said. "We have to get our arms around what that means. We have to understand what that means. We'll be using our normal channels in Washington to pursue the answers to those questions. That's being undertaken as we speak."

That's precisely what businesses expecting to be impacted by the tariffs should do, said Tom Rourick, office managing partner with RSM US LP, which provides tax, audit and consulting services.

"Monitor, be active with your trade association, study the potential impact on your business," Rourick said in a phone interview from his Houston office.

He also advised companies to open communications with their customers and suppliers "and look at the long-term strategic implications."

Groups from the American Petroleum Institute to the Association of Oil Pipelines all oppose the tariffs, Rourick said.

"Some believe it would threaten the goal of energy dominance," he said, while others are concerned about the short-term impact on pricing.

But the long-term concern should be companies re-evaluating projects because of the impact of the tariffs on the economics of those projects, he said. Just as the shelving of large oil development projects beginning in 2015 when crude prices fell to 13-year lows will impact future supplies of oil, so will the shelving of projects because of the tariffs, he said.

Rourick said it's difficult to make a broad statement about the impact of the tariffs.

"You may have a 26-inch pipeline (made of steel) not manufactured in the U.S. but in three different countries. You have to do a deep dive and ask where the steel is coming from and is it coming from a country that's exempt?"

He also recommends companies look at other supply options.

Just as Pioneer said it's using its normal channels in Washington, Rourick said his

Please see CONCERN/2A



Collecting for a cause

MRT file photo

Midland Fire Department's Phillip Koonce walks through traffic April 3, 2017, at the intersection of Loop 250 and Midland Drive collecting donations for the Muscular Dystrophy Association during the annual Fill the Boot campaign.

Firefighters to Fill the Boot for MDA

From staff reports

Members of the Midland Professional Fire Fighters, Local No. 4405, will fan out across Midland next week with boots in hand for the annual Fill the Boot fundraising campaign for the Muscular Dystropy Association.

Firefighters will be out today, Wednesday and Friday at Midland Drive and Loop 250, Midkiff Road and Wadley Avenue, Midland Drive and Andrews Highway and Garfield Street and Golf Course Road.

Over the past five years, local firefighters raised more than $600,000, according to MDA. Year-by-year totals are: 2017, $132,156; 2016, $108,108; 2015, $117,186; 2014, $126,186; and 2013, $117,577.

Funds raised will help send kids to MDA Summer Camp and provide resources, support and care at Children's Medical Center of Dallas; Texas Neurology, P.A.; University of Texas, Southwestern; Neurology Associates of Arlington and Cook Children's Medical Center.

'Hope, dignity': Pope calls for peace in Easter message

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — On Christianity's most joyful day, Pope Francis called for peace in a world marked by war and conflict, "beginning with the beloved and long-suffering land of Syria" and extending to Israel, where 15 Palestinians were killed on the Israeli-Gaza border two days before Easter Sunday.

Francis reflected on the power of Christianity's core belief — that Jesus rose from the dead following crucifixion — in his formal "Urbi et Orbi" Easter message delivered from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica to a packed square of some 80,000 faithful below.

The pontiff said the message of the resurrection offers hope in a world "marked by so many acts of injustice and violence," including parts of Africa affected by "hunger, endemic conflicts and terrorism."

"It bears fruits of hope and dignity where there are deprivation and exclusion, hunger and unemployment; where there are migrants and refugees, so often rejected by today's culture of waste, and victims of the drug trade, human trafficking and contemporary forms of slavery," the pope said.

Francis called for a "swift end" to the seven years of carnage in Syria, demanding that aid be delivered to the war-torn country's needy and calling for "fitting conditions for the returned and the displaced."

The pope also urged reconciliation in Israel, a place "experiencing in these days the wounds of ongoing conflict that do not spare the defenseless." His remarks followed the Friday deaths of Palestinian protesters who charged toward Gaza's border with Israel, the area's deadliest violence in four years.

Turning to Asia, Francis expressed

Please see EASTER/2A

Private equity poised for oil growth

■ This change comes as public companies pull back

By Collin Eaton
Houston Chronicle

Frost Cochran's firm spends millions of dollars every month to build and expand pipelines that move crude oil in West Texas. But drillers are pumping so much oil that the Houston investor has stopped guessing when it might finish paying crews to dig trenches and weld steel as demand for the pipeline network, which now stretches across 850,000 acres, appears insatiable.

"We're really not sure how far it will go," said Cochran, managing director of Post Oak Energy Capital, one of the Houston private equity firms investing in the pipeline system. "It's taken a life of its own."

The $640 million project is one typically associated with large public companies like the Houston pipeline operators Kinder Morgan and Enterprise Products Partners. But the sprawling, ever expanding network is owned by Oryx Midstream Services, a little known, privately held firm that is in many ways symbolic of the rise of private equity in U.S. energy industry.

Investors like Post Oak Energy Capital are expanding their reach into the nation's resurgent oil and gas industry by backing companies like Oryx, rushing to fill a gap created by public companies under pressure from Wall Street to abandon riskier ventures to concentrate on their most lucrative holdings.

"Public companies are focusing on what they have," said David Habachy, managing director at $44 billion private equity firm Warburg Pincus, which opened its first Houston office in February. "The next wave of investment and growth is coming from the private sector."

In the oil industry, private equity firms play essentially the same role that venture capitalists play in Silicon Valley's tech startup sector, betting millions of dollars on small, promising companies in the hope they'll pay off big. Private equity was instrumental in the the first U.S. shale boom, backing companies that experimented with drill bits and rocks, and literally sketched out the landscape of burgeoning shale plays still in their infancy.

Private equity firms have raised more than $200 billion in funds for energy investments since 2014, including $50 billion set aside for shale drillers, according to research firm IHS Markit. They have stakes in more than 350 privately held U.S. oil producers, including 73 companies launched

Please see GROWTH/2A

Visit us on social media

Did you know?
People injured in the Boston Marathon bombing are unveiling their children's book
Page 2A

The big number
In 4 days, "Ready Player One" earned about $53.2 million, according to studio estimates. Page 8A.

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

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EASTER

From 1A

hope that talks underway could bring peace to the Korean peninsula, urging "those who are directly responsible act with wisdom and discernment to promote the good of the Korean people."

The pope also urged more steps to bring harmony to divided Ukraine, called for peace in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo and appealed for the world not to forget victims of conflict, especially children.

"May there be no lack of solidarity with all those forced to leave their native lands and lacking the bare essentials for living," said Francis, who has often championed the cause of migrants and refugees.

The church's first pontiff from Latin America cited in particular the problems in Venezuela. He said he hoped the country would "find a just, peaceful and humane way to surmount quickly the political and humanitarian crises that grip it."

Earlier, tens of thousands of faithful underwent heavy security checks to enter St. Peter's Square to participate in Easter Sunday Mass celebrated by the pope, followed by his "Urbi et Orbi" message ("to the city and the world.")

Security precautions included bag checks and metal detector wands for everyone entering the square, while the main avenue leading to the Vatican, as well as smaller adjoining streets, were closed to traffic.

Francis opened Easter festivities with a tweet to his global flock: "Our faith is born on Easter morning: Jesus is alive! The experience is at the heart of the Christian message."

Elsewhere, hundreds of Christians marked Easter by flocking to Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre, built on the site where they believe Jesus was crucified, buried and resurrected.



Gregorio Borgia/Associated Press

Pope Francis walks with the pastoral staff as he arrives to celebrate Easter Mass Sunday in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican.

STATE&NATIONBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

AUSTIN

Bombings put police squad under emotional strain

After a 16-hour workday investigating the Austin bombings, police Lt. Courtney Renfro arrived home to find Amazon packages on his doorstep.

Renfro paused, even though he had ordered the packages himself.

Members of the Austin police bomb squad investigated a series of explosions that killed two people and injured several others over a three-week period. They also dealt with the grueling toll of chasing thousands of reports of suspicious packages, and trying to locate a suspected bomber who turned out to have no criminal history.

Renfro told the Austin American-Statesman that the series of attacks left him "in utter shock that this was happening in our city."

"I have always told the guys to be prepared, but something told me it's never going to happen in little Austin," he said.

As the bombings were occurring, bomb technicians responded to more calls during one key week than they had the entire year before. One day, Renfro said he found a fellow officer, Cpl. Jesse Carrillo, sleeping on the floor of his office.

"They were sleeping in their cars, sleeping in their offices, getting an hour here or there," Renfro said.

Every explosion generated many more calls to police about suspicious packages or offering leads on the bomber.

"When a blast would happen, we would all have to respond," Carrillo said. "Just as things would slow down, there would be another explosion."

Beginning on March 2, police say 23-year-old Mark Anthony Conditt planted bombs in different parts of Austin, killing two people and severely wounding four others.

Authorities say he began by placing explosives in packages left overnight on doorsteps, killing 39-year-old Anthony Stephan House and 17-year-old musician Draylen Mason. He then rigged an explosive to a tripwire along a public trail, injuring two young men who crossed it. Finally, he sent two parcels with bombs via FedEx, one of which exploded and injured a worker at a distribution center near San Antonio.

Investigators say Conditt used one of his own devices to blow himself up as authorities approached his SUV before dawn on March 21.

DALLAS

Authorities clear suspicious letter at megachurch

Authorities say a suspicious envelope found at First Baptist church in Dallas has been cleared after a brief investigation.

Dallas Fire-Rescue spokesman Jason Evans said that authorities were called to the church at about 8:30 a.m. Sunday.

Evans said the letter was found to not have any powder or other signs of danger.

He said the letter initially caused suspicion at the church because it was dropped off in an area where letters are not typically delivered.

First Baptist Dallas is led by Pastor Robert Jeffress, a politically active conservative who is an outspoken supporter of President Donald Trump.

SAN ANTONIO

Deputies shoot, kill homicide suspect

Authorities in San Antonio say they shot and killed a man they say was suspected of killing a woman.

According to the San Antonio Express-News , sheriff's deputies in Bexar County responded to a shooting report at about 5:15 a.m. Sunday. Deputies found the woman lying on the ground with gunshot wounds and moved her to another location, where she died. They later spotted someone in the nearby woods.

Bexar County Sheriff Javier Salazar said the deputies told the man to drop a handgun he was carrying. According to Salazar, the gunman "failed to comply" and deputies then shot him.

Salazar did not immediately identify the deputies, the suspect, or the woman who died. The deputies will be placed on leave pending an investigation of the incident.

LAS VEGAS

NHL team retires jersey 58 to honor shooting victims

On the night the Vegas Golden Knights clinched the NHL's Pacific Division title, the expansion team retired the No. 58 jersey and raised a banner with the names of the 58 killed in the Oct. 1 concert shooting on the Las Vegas Strip.

In a pregame ceremony Saturday night, the black-and-gold "VEGAS STRONG" banner was lifted to the rafters at T-Mobile Arena following a video tribute.

Several Knights players called the ceremony emotional, powerful and beautiful.

Vegas forward Alex Tuch says he believes the team drew inspiration from the ceremony as they went on to beat the San Jose Sharks 3-2 and record the 50th win of their inaugural season.

Hundreds of others were injured when a lone gunman carried out the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

BOSTON

Marathon bombing survivors pen children's book

A husband and wife injured in the Boston Marathon bombing are unveiling a new children's book they authored.

Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes will be at the Boston Public Library on Thursday to release the picture book "Rescue & Jessica: A Life-Changing Friendship."

The story details the relationship between a disabled girl and her service dog. It's loosely based on Kensky's own service dog, named Rescue.

Downes and Kensky were newlyweds when both lost legs in the 2013 attacks near the marathon finish line. Kensky later had to have her remaining leg amputated.

The couple will read from the book, sign copies and take questions at the event.

They will be joined by the book's illustrator, Scott Magoon, and the black Labrador that inspired the story.

CALIFORNIA

Rally seeks justice for black man shot by police in backyard

SACRAMENTO — The family of Stephon Clark joined hundreds at a rally Saturday, urging California's capital city not to let his memory or calls for police reform fade nearly two weeks after the 22-year-old unarmed black man was killed by Sacramento officers.

Clark's fiancee, Salena Manni, stood on stage with his two young sons, grandmother and uncle for the gathering organized by Sacramento native and former NBA player Matt Barnes, who pledged to create a scholarship fund for the children of black men killed by police.

"All he wanted to do was go see his sons again, and unfortunately he can't," Curtis Gordon, Clark's uncle, said as he recalled seeing his nephew hours before the shooting. "So remember that — while we mourn, while we shout, while we cry — because it ain't just our pain, it's their pain."

Barnes amplified calls for charges against the two officers who are on administrative leave.

"It's more than color — it comes down to right and wrong," he said. "You're trying to tell me I can kill someone and get a paid vacation?"

The peaceful demonstration that drew between 200 and 300 people to a downtown park came a day after a private autopsy released by the family showed Clark was shot from behind.

Obituaries



Peggy Dale Bolton Wood

Peggy Dale Bolton Wood, 91, of Midland, Texas, passed away on March 30, 2018.

Visitation will be 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Monday, April 2, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Graveside services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at Lamesa Memorial Park in Lamesa, Texas.

Peggy was born August 24, 1926 in Lockney, Texas to Ina Lenora Beall and Clarence Robert Cockerham. Peggy took pride in being a talented seamstress in Lamesa for many years and she was a member of Bryan Street Baptist Church.

Although she enjoyed quiet activities such as crocheting, knitting and playing Free Cell, her favorite times were spent with family.

She is survived by daughter Janice Pate of Midland; grandson Josh Forbus, his wife Lori, and their children Nicholas, Alexa, and Lacy of Midland, as well as grandson-in-law Gary Homsey and his children Kendal and Tristan of Lubbock.

She is preceded in death by her mother and father; husband, Noble Preston Wood of Lamesa; and granddaughters, Susan LeAnn Forbus of Merced, California and Becky Ann Homsey of Lubbock.

Peggy was a longtime cancer survivor and battled Alzheimer's disease in her later years.

The family would like to express their gratitude toward friends and members of the Midland medical community.

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

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

CONCERN —

From 1A

clients in the industry — which has been supportive of Trump and his policies — are hoping to use that support to persuade the president to not implement the tariffs or to grant exemptions.

"They're expressing their concerns through their trade associations or though people with direct connections," he said.

"Once you start to go down that path of tariffs, it will have a ripple effect across the broader economy. There is a specific industry impact and a broader impact," he said.

GROWTH

From 1A

last year with $12.4 billion in investments, according to research firm 1Derrick. Those investments came in about one-third higher than in 2017.

Private equity firms also were involved in $15 billion worth of oil-production transactions last year, three times more than from 2008 to 2012. They were party to 15 of the 20 biggest deals last year. Now, roughly 40 percent of the 979 rigs drilling across the continental United States are tied to private equity-backed companies, investors said.

"Over the last decade, private equity has become mainstream for the energy sector," said Neil Wizel, managing director at Connecticut private equity firm First Reserve in Houston.

In Houston, 20 local private equity firms have raised a combined $56.3 billion in funds over the past decade, most of it meant for the oil industry, according to Preqin, a company that collects data on alternative investment industry. A portion has been set aside for investments in the health care, manufacturing and other industries.

The city's largest such firm by far is EnCap Investments, a 30-year-old company with $13.5 billion in available capital for investments, according to Preqin. It manages money for hundreds of institutional investors, pouring cash into more than 240 oil producers and pipeline operators since the late 1980s. It has raised $31.3 billion in the past 10 years.

Following EnCap in size are Houston's Quantum Energy Partners, which has raised $7.9 billion over the last decade; The Sterling Group, $2.3 billion; White Deer Energy, $2.2 billion; CRG, $2.1 billion; Post Oak Energy Capital, $2 billion.

Late last year, Wall Street investors began pushing publicly traded oil producers to improve shareholder returns, increase quarterly dividends and stock repurchases, often at the expense of the rapid oil production growth that characterized the last few years. But private equity firms haven't signaled any plans to slow down.

The secretive investors operate outside the scrutiny of Wall Street analysts and investors, taking risks that public companies avoid for fear of making a bad bet If a private equity firm can build a portfolio company that makes a steady income with potential to grow, it typically seeks to cash out by selling the company to a bigger firm or taking it public by selling shares on exchanges such as the New York Stock Exchange.

That makes the pullback of publicly traded oil companies — not to mention the lack of enthusiasm among investors for the energy sector after several years of poor returns — a double-edged sword for private equity companies. The big players, focused on returns, have been reluctant to take on the costs of gobbling smaller competitors that can hurt earnings.

Meanwhile, only a handful of private energy companies have launched initial public offerings in recent years because investors remain gun about buying shares in young companies after getting burned in the oil bust of a few years ago.

"It's a tough environment, but hope springs eternal in the private equity business," said Steve Chazen, a former oil executive whose recent $2.7 billion acquisition will soon make him the CEO of Magnolia Oil & Gas Corp., a new energy producer. "They think, maybe next year Exxon will show up, and maybe the IPO market will show up."

Private equity companies have put more money on the line in the past few years. A decade ago, before the advent of capital-intensive shale plays, big private equity firms typically invested $150 million in U.S. oil company deals. Now, their investments usually run in the $300 million to $500 million range, because U.S. shale drillers have to spend more cash on drilling in order to offset the sharp natural decline rates of shale wells.

After a land rush last year, when companies were spending upwards of $30,000 an acre for land in West Texas, private equity investors are making a new push into another side of the oil industry. Private equity-backed companies spent $9.4 billion on U.S. pipelines, storage terminals and other energy transportation assets last year, up from $4.3 billion in 2015, according to data collected by S&P Global Market Intelligence.

"We see great opportunities to put money to work," said David Krieger, managing director at private equity firm Warburg Pincus. "We're by no means in the late innings."

In West Texas, Post Oak Energy decided to invest in pipelines because the oil producers among its portfolio companies, as well as those owned by its investment partner Quantum Energy, were drilling in remote areas without pipelines to carry away their crude oil. Large pipeline operators wouldn't build anything in the region, afraid their investments would sour if the oil fields proved unprofitable.

Last fall, Post Oak and other investors started bankrolling the construction of Oryx Midstream's pipeline system in the Delaware Basin, with the plan to triple the size of the crude gathering and storage network. Once complete, the system could transport at least 600,000 barrels a day from remote well sites in Reeves, Pecos, Ward and other counties.

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by

JumBurrito
BIG TASTE. MORE bold.

adroit
[ə'droit]
adjective
1 : having or showing skill, cleverness, or resourcefulness in handling situations an adroit leader adroit maneuvers

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TODAYINMIDLAND



First Christian Church hosted a communitywide Easter egg hunt featuring 25,000 Easter eggs and a hot dog lunch. The event was Saturday at Hill Park.

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Things to do

■ Wine Review: Red blends. The new event will explore various types of wines on the menu and learn about different types and flavors. 6:30 p.m. at Bean and Grape, 3211 W. Wadley Ave. $30. Reservations can be made by calling 695-4045.

■ "All or Nothing: True Stories of Taking Big Risks." Local storytellers recount true stories of aiming high. 7 p.m. Hosted by West Texas and Marfa Public Radio. 7 p.m. at the Rose Building, 415 N. Grant Ave., Odessa. lonwt.org.

■ Improvfection: Standup and improv comedy. 8 p.m. at The Hemingway, 3952 E. 42nd St., Odessa.

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

■ Bridge game play, 6:45 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. $6. For more information call 682-8595.

■ Monday Mayhem features unlimited bowling for $14.09 with free shoe rentals after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

■ Open Shop Nights are hosted by the Midland Gem and Mineral Society and open to the public. Visitors can watch members cut rock and work on lapidary projects. 6:30-9 p.m. at 602 S. Main St. midlandgemandmineral.org.

■ Midland AVA Walkabout Volkssport Club meeting, 6 p.m. at Murray's Deli, 3211 W. Wadley Ave. Call 210-9506 for more information.

■ "Best F(r)iends" Vol. 1 by Tommy Wiseau. 8 p.m. at Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 SW Loop 250. $13.50. fathomevents.com.

Campaign to raise autism awareness

■ United Family affiliate Albertsons Market Street and the local nonprofit SHARE are partnering to collect donations for training, respite care and other resources for families with special-needs children.

The campaign will kick off today — World Autism Awareness Day — and continue through April 15.

Customers at Midland and Odessa locations will have the opportunity to add a donation to their grocery total, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article.

■ SHARE also will be the beneficiary of the ninth annual Autism SHARE Walk, which is April 28 at Grande Communications Stadium. To register or for more information, visit autismsharewalk.com

Today in History

Today is Monday, April 2, the 92nd day of 2018. There are 273 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History

On April 2, 1968, "2001: A Space Odyssey," the groundbreaking science-fiction film epic produced and directed by Stanley Kubrick and starring Keir Dullea and Gary Lockwood, had its world premiere in Washington, D.C.

On this date

In 1917, President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress to declare war against Germany, saying, "The world must be made safe for democracy." (Congress declared war four days later.)

In 1932, aviator Charles A. Lindbergh and John F. Condon went to a cemetery in The Bronx, New York, where Condon turned over $50,000 to a man in exchange for Lindbergh's kidnapped son. (The child, who was not returned, was found dead the following month.)

In 1956, the soap operas "As the World Turns" and "The Edge of Night" premiered on CBS-TV.

In 1986, four American passengers, including an 8-month-old girl, her mother and grandmother, were killed when a terrorist bomb exploded aboard a TWA jetliner en route from Rome to Athens, Greece.

In 2005, Pope John Paul II died in his Vatican apartment at age 84.

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Weather

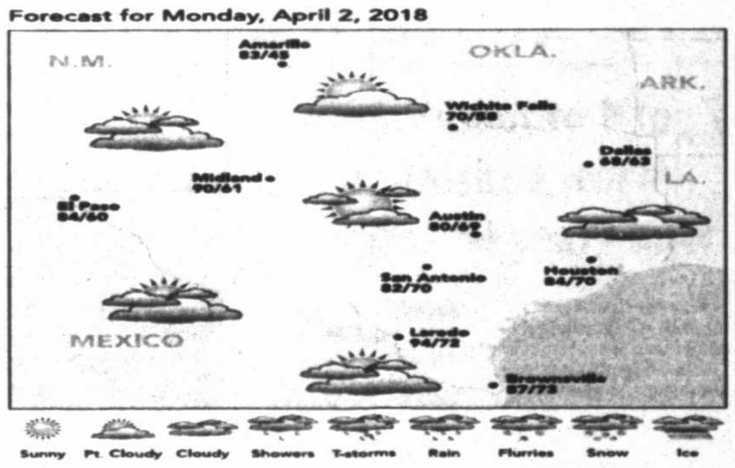
Sunday's temperatures
High ... 80
Low ... 54
Normal high ... 75
Normal low ... 45

April 1's records
Record high: 99, set in 1946
Record low: 29, set in 1936

Precipitation
Saturday ... 0.00 in.
Sunday ... 0.00 in.
Month total ... 0.00 in.
Year total ... 0.16 in.
Normal total (year to date) ... 1.89 in.

Winds
Wind speed: 13 mph
Gust speed: data missing

Forecast for Monday, April 2, 2018



Today's forecast
High: 89
Low: 59
Conditions: Clear today/mostly clear tonight

Winds: Southeast 5-15 mph/south 10-20 mph tonight
Chance of rain: None

Sunrise ... 7:36 a.m.
Sunset ... 8:09 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 Aries and a Moon in Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, April 2, 2018:

This year you often seem resistant to new ideas and experiences. As a result, you tend to say "no" to new adventures. Don't worry; this phase is only temporary. You will put a lot of time and energy into improving communication. If you are single, you suddenly could meet someone without even trying. The person you meet after summer will hold the strongest potential for an excellent relationship. If you are attached, you and your significant other will try to come to terms with new ideas and styles. You both have strong ideas. SCORPIO emphasizes the importance of comfort on all levels.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ You will deal well with others, as long as you can keep the conversations moving. You express intensity, drive and insight when approaching any issue. You could be overly serious at times. You might opt to head in your own direction. **Tonight:** Be with a favorite person.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You might need to rethink a recent episode involving an important relationship or interaction. A partner seems to be much more serious than you realize. Make an adjustment, if needed. A friend could come up with an inspired idea. Try it; it could work. **Tonight:** Be nice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Honor a need to do something very different. Someone you care about either professionally or personally has been on your case. Do your best to compensate, but expect to try a new approach or play the waiting game. **Tonight:** Think through a hassle until the wee hours.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Give way to another type of thinking. Understand that others might feel more restricted than you do, which prevents them from finding a viable solution. Consider the possibilities. Be positive when dealing with a challenging child or friend. **Tonight:** Work on your to-do list.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Keep your eye on investments involving real estate. Use care with your finances in general. How you deal with others could change, as you might need them to work with you. **Tonight:** Together, you are even more powerful.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You might be inspired by a conversation with an intensely emotional friend. Sometimes you get so frustrated by what you hear that you want to pull back. Right now, your frustration lies in trying to help this person settle in. **Tonight:** Visit with friends at a favorite hangout.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Be aware of the costs of continuing as you have been. You are a sign that loves the good life. Overindulging seems to come naturally. You will need to muster up as much restraint as possible. Your word choice will be particularly important. **Tonight:** Meet up with a friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ You have experienced an easing up of spending. More funds seem available, which only adds to your security. Use this period to work through a hassle that has gone on too long. Do not hesitate to put terms on a difficult and/or changing situation. **Tonight:** Let it all hang out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Be aware of what is happening with a close loved one who is choosing to stay mum. Initiate a long-overdue conversation with this person. How you approach a personal matter could change as the result of a recent discovery. **Tonight:** Take some much-needed personal time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ News comes to you through a conversation that could encourage you to head in a certain direction. Use your sixth sense to determine which way would be best to go. Sometimes you need to make yourself a higher priority. Today is a good example. **Tonight:** Dinner for two.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ A higher-up demands a lot of attention and wants to proceed in a certain manner. The smart move is to go along with this person's ideas. If they work, great; if not, your input will be appreciated. Letting someone have some space can be powerful. **Tonight:** Accept an offer.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You know what is needed, but you might not know the best way to proceed. Others could test your patience. Allow your creativity to soar. You'll find answers, even if a group of friends seems a bit somber and uncreative. **Tonight:** If you could do anything, what would that be?

BORN TODAY
Singer/songwriter Marvin Gaye (1939), artist Max Ernst (1891), actress Linda Hunt (1945)

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Teens begin Mississippi-to-Memphis march in honor of King

By Adrian Sainz
Associated Press

DUNDEE, Miss. — Wearing aqua-colored T-shirts and hydration backpacks, a group of teenagers on Saturday launched a 50-mile walk from northern Mississippi to Memphis, Tennessee, a tribute to slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. on the 50th anniversary of his assassination.

Escorted by police cars, support vans and a portable restroom, six middle school, high school and college students, along with two adult mentors, began their march in rural Dundee. Their journey along Highway 61 will take them past Mississippi Delta fields and farms, then the casinos of Tunica, before they meet friends and family on the Tennessee-Mississippi line Tuesday.

The decision to walk 50 miles (80 kilometers) was deliberate; the distance represents one mile for each year since King was gunned down while standing on the balcony of the old Lorraine Motel in Memphis on April 4, 1968.

The teens, who are from Pearl and Richland, will discuss issues related to race and civil rights as they make the slow trek to Memphis.

They range in ages from 14 to 19. Five are black. One is white.

"It's a way to show people that you can have friendships with different people of different backgrounds, different races, on all levels," said Damonte Steele, a 15-year-old sophomore at Pearl High School.

Steele is in ROTC at Pearl High School with his 18-year-old friend Benjamin Rutledge, who is white. Rutledge said King "changed a lot of our viewpoints here in America."

"I like doing events that challenge me and improve my character, and allow me to meet people too," Rutledge said.

The group gathered at the post office in Dundee, one of many small communities nestled in the flatlands along the Mississippi River in the northern part of the state. Their police escorts inched along as the band trudged down the side of the road known as the Blues Highway.

They plan to walk about 10-15 miles per day until they reach their destination. The group will take part in community meetings after they finish for the day, and will spend their nights in hotels, said organizer Jarvis Ward.

The teens will convene a youth rally Tuesday.

On Wednesday, they will take part in activities at the National Civil Rights Museum, located at the site of the former Lorraine Motel.

"Our hope is to not only honor all that Dr. King achieved, but to be part of continuing his work," said Ward, president of the Pearson Foundation, a community service organization based in Pearl. "We want to show how racial justice, economic justice and racial reconciliation can be advanced in and by the next generation."

Motorists slowed down Saturday to look at the eight people walking on the highway. One trucker honked his booming horn.

Linda Stanton watched the group as she and her dog stood outside her trailer, one of the few structures stationed along the highway in the Dundee area. Stanton, 54, said the teens' effort was special.

"Smart kids trying to help the future," she said.



Photos by Adrian Sainz/Associated Press



ABOVE: A group of teenagers and adults from Mississippi walk along U.S. Highway 61 as part of their 50-mile march to Memphis, Tennessee, as a tribute to slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. on Saturday in Dundee, Miss. The group plans to attend events commemorating the 50th anniversary of King's death in Memphis on Wednesday. BELOW: A group of teenagers from Mississippi and their mentor, Jarvis Ward, right, say a prayer before launching a 50-mile march.

MLK tackled many issues in his lifetime. Where are we now?

By Russell Contreras
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. fought for many issues throughout his life as a minister and the leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, speaking out against various barriers holding back blacks, Hispanics, Asian Americans and Native Americans. Fifty years after his assassination, some of these barriers have fallen — but others remain.

Here is a look at five civil rights issues King addressed during his lifetime and where they stand now:

Segregation

Four days after Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama, city bus, King exhorted a crowd at the Holt Street Baptist Church to launch a bus boycott. "Now let us go out to stick together and stay with this thing until the end," he told the thousands gathered at the church that day in 1955.

A federal court ended racial segregation on Montgomery public buses, elevating King into the national spotlight. Years later, he stood behind President Lyndon Johnson at the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which banned segregation in public places and employment discrimination on the basis of race or national origin.

Still, King's legacy concerning desegregation remains mixed, according to Gordon Mantler, a professor at George Washington University.

"Yes, the traditional spaces like lunch counters and restrooms were integrated," Mantler said. "But some lunch counters were shut down and public pools became private."

And while schools became largely integrated in the 1980s, many have resegregated. In 1988, for example, about 44 percent of black students went to majority-white schools nationally. Only 20 percent of black students do so today, according to a study examining the nation 50 years after the release of the landmark 1968 Kerner Report.

The Kerner Report came from a commission created by President Lyndon Johnson in 1967 to examine the causes of urban riots in the 1960s. It blamed them largely on poverty, joblessness and tension with police and minority communities.

Voting

King's participation in the 54-mile march from Selma, Alabama, to the state capital of Montgomery elevated awareness about the troubles blacks faced in registering to vote.

President Johnson addressed a special session of Congress after marchers were attacked by white mobs and police, successfully urging lawmakers to pass the Voting Rights Act.

Here, Mantler said King achieved a lasting effect. By the 1970s and 1980s, the American South had elected thousands of blacks to various offices, compared to almost none in the 1950s.

Black and Latino coalitions sprouted in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and Houston to elect people of color to local and federal offices — and eventually aided in electing the nation's first black president.

Poverty

King was assassinated in Memphis while coming to the aid of striking sanitation workers. He also was in the midst of organizing the Poor People's March on Washington, a campaign that sought to highlight the economic and human rights of poor citizens of all ethnic backgrounds struggling with poverty.

Former U.S. Sen. Fred Harris of Oklahoma, the last surviving member of the Kerner Commission, said the fight to reduce poverty remains one of King's most significant unfinished works.

"There are far more people who are poor now than was true 50 years ago," Harris said. "Inequality of income is worse."

The percentage of people living in deep poverty — less than half of the federal poverty level — has increased since 1975, according to a study marking the 50th anniversary of the Kerner Report. About 46 percent of people living in poverty in 2016 were classified as living in deep poverty — 16 percentage points higher than in 1975.

Rev. William J. Barber II, a Goldsboro, North Carolina, pastor who is leading a multi-ethnic "Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival" later this year, said tackling poverty remains a moral obligation for the nation.

"After 50 years, we still have work to do," he said.

Housing

During King's lifetime, landlords could refuse to rent to blacks and Latinos, and racial covenants and redlining allowed people of color to be excluded from buying homes in certain neighborhoods.

After King's assassination, President Johnson asked Congress to pass the long-stalled Fair Housing Act, which banned refusing to rent or sell housing based on race, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin.

In the decades after the act's passage, black homeownership rose by almost 6 percentage points. But those gains were wiped out from 2000 to 2015 when black homeownership fell 6 percentage points.

Harris, the former senator, said blacks were disproportionately affected by the subprime loan crisis of the late 2000s, which contributed to the further racial and economic segregation of neighborhoods, especially in urban areas.

War

"I oppose the war in Vietnam because I love America," King told an audience at New York's Riverside Church in 1967. "I speak out against this war, not in anger, but with anxiety and sorrow in my heart, and, above all, with a passionate desire to see our beloved country stand as the moral example of the world."

King had concluded that militarism, like poverty, was stalling the U.S. from living up to its ideals. And Mantler said King felt it ultimately could lead to fascism.

Today, the U.S. remains involved in the war of Afghanistan, and maintains military bases around the world.

Mantler said the nation did not heed



AP file photo

Demonstrators, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., stream over an Alabama River bridge March 10, 1965, at the city limits of Selma, Ala., during a voter rights march. King's participation in the 54-mile march from Selma, Ala., to the state capital of Montgomery elevated awareness about the troubles blacks faced in registering to vote.

Commitment to King's unfinished work remains 50 years later

By Errin Haines Whack
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Tyrone Brooks was 22 years old and 400 miles away, seeking clues to an unsolved lynching as old as he was, when he got the news that Martin Luther King Jr. was dead. Stunned, Brooks dropped everything and drove to Memphis, crying all the way.

The next day, King's closest confidant, the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, told Brooks: "Tighten your belts and dry your tears. If you love Martin Luther King as you say you do, help me carry on his work."

The members of King's tight circle barely paused to grieve. They plunged into carrying out his unfinished work, and turned it into a lifelong vow.

Some went into politics. A few continued to serve the organization that King led or started their own. Others returned to the pulpit, preaching a gospel of racial liberation.

And the King legacy continues, evident today in a new generation protesting many of the same issues King confronted : inequality, police brutality and poverty.

"Legally, segregation was outlawed, but we still face a danger in public space," said Bree Newsome, who climbed a pole to snatch down the Confederate flag at the South Carolina statehouse in 2015. "In that way, I absolutely feel that what we're doing is continuing in the legacy of Martin Luther King."

Even so, the problems persist. A poll by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found only 1 in 10 African Americans think the United States has achieved all or most of the goals of the civil rights movement. Among whites, only 35 percent believe those goals have been at least mostly achieved.

"A lot of people across the country see injustice or inequality as unfortunate, almost like a car accident, instead of unjust and something they have to do something about," said Rashad Robinson, 39, who uses King's example as a guide in his work as executive director of the online civil rights group Color of Change. "People talk a lot about empathy, but King was really building power. Power is the ability to change the rules, and Dr. King was all about changing the rules."

Jesse Jackson parlayed his service at King's side into a blend of grassroots activism and elective politics.

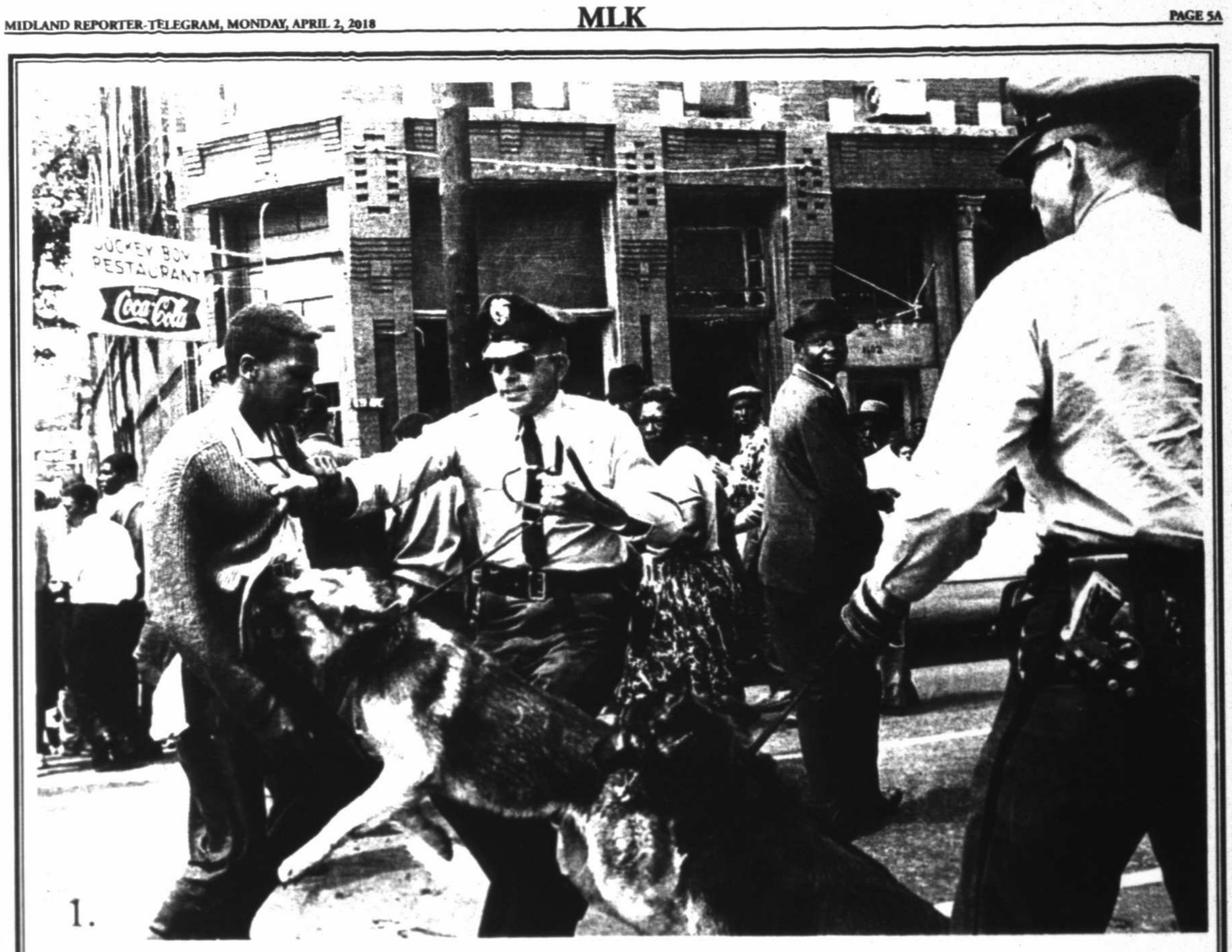
Through aggressive voter registration,

Please see CONTINUES/5A



AP file photo

Rev. Ralph David Abernathy gives the victory sign as he is escorted back to jail from Charleston County Court on May 2, 1969, in Charleston, S.C., wear he and others were taken for hearings on violating an injunction limiting pickets at two hospitals. The members of King's tight circle barely paused to grieve, after Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. They plunged into carrying out his unfinished work and turned it into a lifelong vow.



1.

A HISTORY OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE IN AMERICA

A PHOTO ESSAY

Associated Press

The assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. on the evening of April 4, 1968, sparked riots across cities in the United States. Though many in the country had reviled King during his lifetime, eventually he came to be seen as a great American hero. King's campaign for nonviolent social change ended legal segregation in America and left a blueprint for generations to follow in the country's ongoing struggle for racial and social progress.





3.



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6.

1. A 17-year-old African American civil rights activist is attacked by police dogs during a demonstration May 3, 1963, in Birmingham, Ala. **AP file photo; 2.** Striking sanitation workers march past Tennessee National Guard troops with bayonets during a 20-block march to City Hall on March 29, 1968, one day after a similar march erupted in violence, leaving one person dead and several injured, in Memphis, Tenn. **AP file photo; 3.** civil rights activist James Meredith pulls himself across Highway 51 after being shot June 6, 1966, in Hernando, Miss. Meredith, who defied segregation to enroll at the University of Mississippi in 1962, completed the march from Memphis, Tenn., to Jackson, Miss., after treatment of his wounds. **AP file photo; 4.** Vietnam Day Committee marchers approach police lines at the Oakland-Berkeley city limits line Oct. 16, 1965, in Berkeley, Calif. It was the second day the marchers tried to march 7 1/2 miles from Berkeley to the Oakland Army terminal as a protest to U.S. military actions in Vietnam. **AP file photo; 5.** A protester is grabbed by police officers in riot gear after she refused to leave the motor way July 9, 2016, in front of the the Baton Rouge Police Department Headquarters in Baton Rouge, La. Several hundred blocked the roadway to protest police shootings of African Americans. **AP file photo; 6.** Young demonstrators hold a rally March 14 in front of the White House in Washington. Students walked out of school to protest gun violence in response to the previous month's shooting of 17 people at Florida's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. **Carolyn Kaster/Associated Press**

CONTINUES

From 4A

Jackson assembled a base of support patterned after the "beloved community" King envisioned for America and ran for president twice in the 1980s.

His candidacy is widely considered to have laid the foundation for the election of the first black president, Barack Obama, in 2008.

"We were determined to keep moving, in his name," Jackson said.

After the assassination, Brooks helped lead the Mule Train — a caravan of mule-drawn wagons that symbolized poverty — out of the Deep South to Washington for the Poor People's Campaign, King's last big protest, in the summer of 1968.

He followed up his career in King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference with nearly four decades as a Georgia legislator, pushing legislation that would eventually remove the Confederate symbol from the state flag.

Now 72, Brooks does advocacy work around the same 1946 quadruple lynching he was pursuing 50 years ago. No one was ever arrested or charged in the case.

"Some of us are so committed to making sure the dream never dies, we committed to this struggle for life," Brooks said.

Though only 13 when King was killed, the Rev. Al Sharpton was already an SCLC activist. He said his dramatic approach, aimed at seizing media attention and the national spotlight, came from King's playbook.

"King knew how to deal with movement theater and we had to recreate that," said Sharpton, 63. "When people say, 'All they want is publicity,' that's exactly what we want. That's what King wanted. Because if you can't make something a public issue, no one will seek to solve it."

That strategy has largely been the focus of the Rev. William Barber, who began the Moral Mondays movement in North Carolina in 2013 to push back against rollbacks on education, health care and voting.

"It's time to change the moral narrative," said Barber, 54, who will lead a revival of the Poor People's Campaign this spring to attract new attention to poverty.

Brittany Packnett, 33, who became an activist after Michael Brown was killed by a white police officer in Ferguson, Missouri, in 2014, said her activism is fueled by King's willingness to "sacrifice himself for a freedom he may never see."

"If Dr. King hadn't done this for us, we wouldn't be here," Packnett said. "As persistent as injustice is, so will we be."

Trump's beliefs mirror Cesar Chavez's

■ As a pair of petty, self-centered, unpleasant and deeply flawed human beings, the men would have gotten along great

RUBEN NAVARRETTE

Washington Post Writers Group



Mexican-Americans are doing a stint in our own version of purgatory. It's called the Trump Era.

After all, Donald Trump's ascension into the world of politics — his campaign, election and presidency — has been filled with mean-spirited insults toward Mexicans and Mexican-Americans.

And on March 31, what would have been the 91st birthday of one of our most iconic figures, Cesar Chavez, Mexican-Americans must stomach the crushing irony that the farm labor leader's anti-immigrant nativism and "America First" protectionism were early precursors to much of President Trump's agenda.

The story of Chavez and the United Farm Workers union he helped start is a tale that I know quite well — perhaps too well.

As a native of the San Joaquin Valley, I was raised an hour's drive from the town of Delano, which was ground zero for the UFW. Both my parents, and all four of my grandparents, picked fruits and vegetables. I've been studying, writing and speaking about Chavez and the union for more than 25 years. I have had separate and ugly confrontations with Chavez and UFW co-founder Dolores Huerta. I've seen the legend and the lore up close, warts and all.

Meanwhile, as a journalist, I've covered Trump since he came down the escalator at Trump Tower in June 2015, declared his candidacy, and said that my Mexican grandfather came to this country with "lots of problems" and brought crime and drugs. I've called Trump a racist, a bully and a demagogue. Then I got mean.

So, believe me: If this were "Star Wars," Chavez would be telling Trump, in the voice of James Earl Jones: "Donald, I am your father."

Trump thinks a lot about the U.S.-Mexico border. So did Chavez, who observed: "As long as we have a poor country bordering California, it's going to be very difficult to win strikes."

Trump is hostile to competition. So was Chavez, who used strikes to rig the law of supply and demand so that growers had to use laborers represented by the UFW.

Trump thinks that immigrants hurt U.S. workers by taking jobs and lowering wages. So did Chavez, who tried to protect union members by ridding the fields of non-unionized immigrant farm workers through what he called the "Illegals Campaign." It used intimidation, violence, calls to immigration agents to report undocumented immigrants and demands that those who crossed the picket line be arrested and deported.

Trump sees Mexicans as inferior — the kind of folks who come from what the president calls a "***hole." So did Chavez, who — as someone who was born in the United States and saw the world as an American, not a Mexican — often referred to Mexican immigrants as "illegals" and "wetbacks."

Trump pushes populism and bashes the rich and powerful. So did Chavez, who said: "History will judge societies and governments — and their institutions — not by how big they are or how well they serve the rich and the powerful, but by how effectively they respond to the needs of the poor and the helpless."

Trump blames free trade for the loss of American jobs. So did Chavez, who — if he were alive today — would likely oppose the North American Free Trade Agreement as hurting union workers who have to compete with the productivity of workers in other countries and whose wages fall as a result.

Trump only cares about winning and doesn't seem to have any moral qualms about how to get there. Chavez was the same way, and he observed at one point: "There is no law for farm labor organizing, save the law of the jungle."

Finally, Trump has often been accused of carrying things too far and inciting violence. So was Chavez, who, despite preaching non-violence, was accused of condoning violence carried out by others. Case in point: the infamous "wet line." In the 1970s, Chavez's cousin Manuel — on behalf of the UFW — set up a human barrier to stop Mexican immigrants from crossing the border by beating them bloody, according to reports like one in the Village Voice that accused the UFW of waging a "campaign of random terror."

As a pair of petty, self-centered, unpleasant and deeply flawed human beings, Trump and Chavez would have gotten along great.

And with that realization, the purgatory in which we Mexican-Americans now find ourselves gets a bit more uncomfortable.

GUEST VIEW

Immigrants all envision American dream

It was like a scene from a Frank Capra movie. The Statue of Liberty sits in the background, just over the shoulder of an aspiring politician who addresses a balmy Labor Day crowd about the immigrant tale that is America.

"They came to make America work. They didn't ask what this country could do for them but what they could do to make this refuge the greatest home of freedom in history. They brought with them courage, ambition and the values of family, neighborhood, work, peace and freedom. They came from different lands but they shared the same values, the same dream."

That was Ronald Reagan in 1980.

Try to cast the speaking role with a member of today's Republican Party and you're more likely to end up directing a fantasy film. The conservative movement, which had long celebrated immigration as proof of the American dream, is descending into nativist tendencies that have too frequently been an ugly part of our national culture.

A recent poll by the Texas Politics Project at the University of Texas at Austin asked state voters if they agreed with this statement: "Newcomers from other countries enrich Texans with their hard work and values."

Only 40 percent of Republicans agreed with the sentiment. When the same question was asked just four years ago, 52 percent of Republicans said immigrants enrich our state with their hard work and values. (Three-quarters or more of Democrats and liberals agreed with the statement in both 2014 and 2018.)

The nature of immigrants hasn't changed in four years. What has changed is the soul of the Republican Party.

It is easy to blame President Donald Trump for this change, and he certainly has played a major role. But he is far from alone. Republican leaders like Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz have used repeated falsehoods and exaggerations to whip up paranoia about border security and immigrants.

The constant distorted portrayal of immigrants as criminals and leeches has taken its toll on Republicans. The recent University of Texas poll showed that 62 percent of Republicans thought the U.S. allowed too much legal immigration.

Politicians who want to halt legal immigration to our growing state might as well throw a bomb into our churning economic engine.

According to the American Immigration Council, Texas had more than 360,000 immigrant business owners in 2015, accounting for 27.5 percent of all self-employed Texas residents. These immigrant entrepreneurs generated $8.1 billion in business income.

The image of immigrants as important contributors to our state and nation rarely makes its way into conservative conversations about immigration. Instead, conservatives have gotten trapped in an echo chamber that focuses on crime and other alleged misdeeds.

This change in conservative attitudes is having a detrimental effect on our country. We can't have a serious debate about reforming a broken immigration system. We can't even take the clearly moral step of providing legal protections to young adults who were brought to this country illegally as children.

Abraham Lincoln dealt with a similar nativist sentiment in his day, when he rejected the anti-immigrant stance of the Know-Nothing Party. His words from an 1855 letter to a friend are apt today.

"As a nation, we begin by declaring that 'all men are created equal.' We now practically read it 'all men are created equal, except negroes.' When the Know-Nothings get control, it will read 'all men are created equal, except negroes, and foreigners, and Catholics.' When it comes to this I should prefer emigrating to some country where they make no pretense of loving liberty — to Russia, for instance, where despotism can be taken pure, and without the base alloy of hypocrisy."

If Republicans want to reclaim their mantle as the part of Lincoln and Reagan, they must actively reject the Know-Nothing nativism of their president and his supporters and vote in November for the candidates (no matter which party) who know that immigrants may come to our nation from different lands, but all contribute to the same American Dream.

— Houston Chronicle



Romney's views remain unchanged

■ Senate candidate characterizing himself as 'more of a hawk on immigration' than Trump surprises some people

RAMESH PONNURU

Bloomberg View



A lot of people have short memories when it comes to politics. Politicians often exploit this fact, but sometimes it works against them. That's what happened to Mitt Romney (last) week.

As part of his campaign for the Senate, he told a Republican group in Provo, Utah, that he was "more of a hawk on immigration than even the president." As McKay Coppins notes in The Atlantic, the remark came as a rude shock to people who dislike President Donald Trump in important part because he wants tougher laws on immigration and who had thought well of Romney because he refused to endorse Trump in 2016. Utah Republicans have a reputation for being softer on the issue than Trump, adding to the surprise.

It turned out, though, that Romney is still the same man who, during his presidential run in 2012, said that illegal immigrants should be encouraged to go home ("self-deport") rather than get legal status.

Romney's views were also misunderstood. Some observers took a subsequent statement from the campaign as a retreat from the Provo remarks, but it turned out that he has in fact been taking a consistent position. (Coppins explains the misunderstanding well.)

Untangle the news accounts, and what Romney is saying is that he does not think illegal immigrants, even those who came here as minors, should have been granted legal status. This is the point that he says puts him to the right of Trump: The president says they should have that status, indeed that they should have citizenship. Because President Barack Obama gave them legal status, however, Romney believes that they should be allowed to stay.

Unlike Trump, Romney draws the line at citizenship. He does not think DACA recipients should receive it unless they serve in the military, get a college degree, or otherwise (as he put it in Provo) "do more."

As tough as Romney's stance may seem, the Utah Republican Party's platform goes further in one respect than he favors. It calls for no longer granting citizenship to the children born in the U.S. to illegal immigrants. Most legal experts believe that would require a constitutional amendment. Romney says that rather than change the Constitution, we should deter illegal immigrants from coming here in the first place.

As that platform suggests, the reputation of Utah Republicans as relatively soft on immigration may be misplaced. If Romney wins his election, as everyone expects, the state's senior senator will be Mike Lee, who voted in 2013 against offering illegal immigrants legal status in 2013.

Romney's views seem to be considered ones. As a moderate restrictionist on immigration, I largely agree with them. I think he was wrong, though, to oppose granting legal status to people who came here illegally as minors, and is wrong to oppose granting them citizenship now.

If someone is here illegally, but knows no other home than this country and came here through no fault of his own, then we should neither kick them out nor prevent them from becoming full participants in our society. We should not give them a second-class legal status as an incentive for them to serve in uniform or go to college. (And come to think of it, the equation of those two things, a feature of several immigration proposals over the years, is rather obnoxious.)

Flip-flopping is part of Romney's reputation, too, and he is probably not inclined to strengthen it by adjusting his position on this part of the immigration debate. Even so, I wish he would reconsider.

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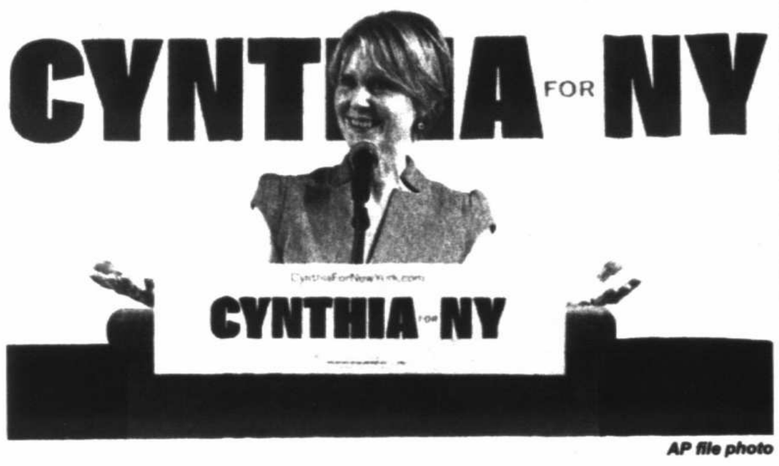
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From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore





AP file photo

New York candidate for governor Cynthia Nixon speaks March 20 during her first campaign stop after announcing she would challenge New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo for the Democratic nomination, at a church in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

Cynthia Nixon to voters: 'I'm so much more than an actor'

By David Klepper
Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — "Sex and the City" star Cynthia Nixon says she has a simple response to voters who question whether she has the experience necessary to run for governor of New York.

"You know me as an actor," she told The Associated Press in an interview this past week. "But I'm so much more than an actor."

So far in her fledgling Democratic primary campaign against two-term incumbent Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Nixon has set out to prove just that. She has relentlessly attacked Cuomo as a political bully who has been unable to fix state government corruption, inequalities in education and New York City's beleaguered subways. She's also questioned Cuomo's economic development programs and criticized the newly approved state budget as another product of Albany's backroom deals.

"Cuomo has been in office eight years. Hardly anything has changed," Nixon said. "If we want change, people like me, who have never run for office before, have to get involved."

But Nixon acknowledges her from-the-left challenge to Cuomo will be an uphill fight. Cuomo, the son of the late Gov. Mario Cuomo, is a career politician and possible 2020 presidential contender with a war chest of more than $30 million. A Siena College poll released just as Nixon formally kicked off her campaign two weeks ago showed Cuomo leading her 66 percent to 19 percent among registered Democrats.

Cuomo also beat out Nixon in a survey released last week by Quinnipiac University that asked New York City voters which candidate would be a better governor for the city. Fifty-eight percent picked Cuomo; 22 percent chose Nixon.

"I wouldn't say I'm daunted necessarily," she said of the race. "It's a real challenge and I don't try to minimize that in my own mind."

Nixon's run so far seems aimed primarily at liberals who have long viewed Cuomo as too moderate. Four years ago, Cuomo faced a surprisingly tough primary challenge from liberal law professor Zephyr Teachout. This time, he'll be up against an opponent with a much more recognizable name.

The 51-year-old New York native and Grammy, Emmy and Tony winner — best known for her portrayal of lawyer Miranda Hobbes on "Sex and the City" — has never held elected office. But she is a longtime political activist who has lobbied for better education funding, marriage equality and women's rights, and she has campaigned for such politicians as President Barack Obama and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio. If elected, the mother of three would be the state's first openly gay governor.

#MeToo movement looms over jury selection in Bill Cosby case

By Kristen De Groot
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The #MeToo movement will be looming over the proceedings when jury selection gets underway Monday in Bill Cosby's sexual assault retrial. But experts say that could cut both ways for the comedian.

It could make some potential jurors more hostile toward him and others more likely to think men are being unfairly accused.

"We really have had this explosion of awareness since that last trial, and it has changed the entire environment," said Richard Gabriel, a jury consultant who has worked on over 1,000 trials. "It is a huge challenge for the defense, but it could also provide an avenue and open up the topic."

A jury deadlocked last June at the former TV star's first trial after Cosby's lawyers managed to sow enough doubt in the minds of a few jurors. That was before the #MeToo movement against sexual misconduct started toppling famous men in rapid succession, among them Harvey Weinstein, Matt Lauer, Kevin Spacey and Sen. Al Franken.

Veteran lawyers and jury consultants say #MeToo will make the process of picking 12 jurors more complex and raise the stakes even higher.

The defense is likely to use attitudes toward the movement to weed out jurors.

"There may be a juror who says, 'I don't have an opinion about Cosby, but the #MeToo is very important to me,'" said Melissa M. Gomez, a jury expert and author of the book "Jury Trials Outside In." "That person is still very dangerous to the defense."

Cosby, 80, is charged with drugging and molesting Andrea Constand, a former Temple University athletics administrator, at his suburban Philadelphia home in 2004.

Last year, after more than 52 hours of jury deliberations over six days, the judge declared a mistrial. One juror said the panel was split 10-2 in favor of conviction, while another said the group of seven men and five women was more evenly divided.

A juror who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity said he was suspicious of Constand's story, questioning why she waited to tell authorities about the alleged assault and suggesting the clothing she wore to Cosby's house had influenced his view of their encounter.

The AP does not typically identify people who say they are victims of sexual assault unless they grant permission, which Constand has done.

In the first trial, jury selection was moved to Pittsburgh over defense fears that widespread publicity could make it difficult to find unbiased jurors in the Philadelphia area. Cosby has a retooled legal team, led by former Michael Jackson lawyer Tom Mesereau, which didn't seek such measures this time.

Last year's case was mostly he-said-she-said, but the judge agreed last month to let the jury at the retrial hear from an additional five women who have accused Cosby, giving prosecutors a chance to portray the man once known as "America's Dad" as a serial predator.

"It's going to be much more difficult for the defense to chip away at all six, especially if there is a common thread and story," Gomez said. "That shows a pattern of behavior."

Typically prosecutors and defense attorneys can take what happened at the first trial, learn from it and improve on it in the retrial. But some experts say the climate surrounding sexual assault has changed so thoroughly that both sides should go back to the drawing board.

"There is no question that this is a very difficult time to try someone who has been accused of sexual assault," said Harvard Law School professor Alan Dershowitz. "For some jurors the whole movement will be on trial, because Cosby has been the poster person for this kind of accusation."

At a hearing last month, Cosby lawyer Becky James argued it would be difficult to find an impartial jury in this climate: "There's no way we will get a jury that hasn't heard these allegations against not just Mr. Cosby but many other celebrities." But Judge Steven O'Neill scoffed at the notion Cosby cannot get a fair trial.

Jury experts said the key is getting potential jurors to open up about their personal experiences surrounding sexual assault and misconduct, something that might be better done behind closed doors, in the judge's chambers, where people might be more likely to speak freely.

"Without getting it out in the open, it can be underneath the surface," Gabriel said. "The hidden bias is always the most dangerous bias."

Philip K. Anthony, CEO of trial consultant firm DecisionQuest, said he has found jurors often don't know as much about newsy topics like the #MeToo movement as lawyers might anticipate. He also said he has found jurors want to do the right thing.

"In a case with a lot of notoriety, jurors work even harder to reach a fair and impartial decision," he said.

NATIONBRIEFS

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON

Ousted Shulkin rejects White House claim he resigned VA job

Former Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin is making it clear he was fired from his job amid conflicting claims from the White House.

White House spokeswoman Lindsay Walters on Sunday told The Associated Press that Shulkin had "resigned" from his job when President Donald Trump abruptly announced via Twitter last Wednesday that he was nominating White House doctor Ronny Jackson to replace him.

But in television interviews, Shulkin said he had not submitted a resignation letter, or planned to, and was only told of Trump's decision shortly before the Twitter announcement. He said he had spoken to Trump by phone earlier that day about VA improvements, with no mention of his job status, and was scheduled to meet with the president the next morning.

"I came to run the Department of Veterans Affairs because I'm committed to veterans," Shulkin said. "And I would not resign because I'm committed to making sure this job was seen through to the very end."

The semantics could be relevant to Trump's ability to name an acting VA secretary to temporarily fill Shulkin's place. Last week, Trump named Defense Department official Robert Wilkie to the acting position, bypassing Shulkin's deputy secretary, Tom Bowman. Bowman has come under criticism for being too moderate to push Trump's agenda.

Under federal law, a president has wide authority to temporarily fill a federal agency job if someone "dies, resigns, or is otherwise unable to perform the functions and duties of the office." There is no mention of a president having that authority if the person is fired. Still, it's unclear if courts would seek to draw a legal distinction between a firing and a forced resignation, if that is indeed what happened to Shulkin.

The day after announcing he was replacing Shulkin, Trump told a rally in Richfield, Ohio, that he had been dissatisfied with efforts to improve the VA. Shulkin had enjoyed Trump's support for much of his first year in the administration, but that eroded in February after a bruising ethics scandal and political infighting at the VA.

On Sunday, chagrined by Shulkin's public statements blaming his ouster on unfair "political forces" in the Trump administration, the White House circulated a "talking points" memo to some veterans groups in a bid to discredit him.



AP file photo

Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin speaks at a news conference March 7 at the Washington Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Washington. Shulkin is making it clear he was fired from his job amid conflicting claims from the White House.

FLORIDA

Trump on deal to protect 'Dreamer' immigrants: 'NO MORE'

PALM BEACH — President Donald Trump on Sunday declared "NO MORE" to a deal to help "Dreamer" immigrants and threatened to pull out of a free trade agreement with Mexico unless it does more to stop people from crossing into the U.S. He claimed they're coming to take advantage of protections granted certain immigrants.

"NO MORE DACA DEAL!" Trump tweeted one hour after he began the day by wishing his followers a "HAPPY EASTER!"

He said Mexico must "stop the big drug and people flows, or I will stop their cash cow, NAFTA. NEED WALL!" The U.S., Canada and Mexico are participating in tense negotiations over the North American Free Trade Agreement at Trump's insistence. Trump says NAFTA is bad for the U.S.

"Mexico has got to help us at the border," Trump, holding his wife's hand, told reporters before the couple attended Easter services at an Episcopal church near his Palm Beach home. "If they're not going to help us at the border, it's a very sad thing between our two countries."

"A lot of people are coming in because they want to take advantage of DACA," he added.

Former President Barack Obama created the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program to provide temporary protection and work permits to hundreds of thousands of immigrants who are living in the U.S. illegally after being brought here as children. Trump ended the program last year, but gave Congress six months to pass legislation enshrining it. A deal has so far proved elusive and Trump has blamed Democrats.

It was not immediately clear what Trump was referring to when he said people are coming to take advantage of the program.

The Department of Homeland Security is not issuing new permits, though existing ones can be renewed. The Obama administration allowed signups during a set period of time, and the program is closed to new entrants.

Proposed DACA deals crafted by lawmakers and rejected by Trump also were not open to new participants.

Trump did not explain what he meant when questioned by reporters as he entered the Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea with the first lady and his daughter Tiffany. The White House did not immediately respond to a request for clarification.

Trump, when addressing reporters briefly before entering the church, again blamed Democrats for failing to protect the "Dreamers."

"They had a great chance. The Democrats blew it. They had a great, great chance, but we'll have to take a look because Mexico has got to help us at the border. They flow right through Mexico. They send them into the United States. It can't happen that way anymore."

Trump promised during the 2016 presidential campaign to build a Southern border wall to stop illegal immigration and drugs from Mexico, but Congress has frustrated him by not moving as quickly as he wants to provide money for construction.

The president also complained on Twitter that border patrol agents can't do their jobs properly because of "ridiculous liberal (Democrat) laws" that allow people caught for being in the country illegally to be released while they await a hearing before a federal immigration judge.

WASHINGTON

Tillerson scrubbed from State Dept website

Rex Tillerson has all but vanished from the State Department's website as his unceremonious firing by tweet took effect over the weekend.

The "Secretary of State Tillerson" link at the top of the department's homepage (www.state.gov) disappeared overnight Saturday and was replaced with a generic "Secretary of State" tab.

When clicked, it leads to a page that informs visitors in a brief statement that Deputy Secretary of State John Sullivan "became acting Secretary of State on April 1, 2018." It shows a photo of Sullivan signing his appointment papers as deputy in June 2017 but offers no explanation for the change in leadership.

In addition to that change, links that had connected to Tillerson's speeches, travels and other events now display those of Sullivan. The link to Tillerson's biography as the 69th secretary of state briefly returned a "We're sorry, that page can't be found" message. After being notified of the message, the State Department restored the link and an archive page for Tillerson's tenure was enabled.

President Donald Trump fired Tillerson in a Twitter post on March 13, but his departure did not become official until March 31.

Sullivan will continue as acting secretary of state until Tillerson's designated successor, CIA director Mike Pompeo, is confirmed by the Senate, possibly later this month.

Trump tweeted that the situation is "Getting more dangerous" and "Caravans" are coming. He did not offer details to back his comment.

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Nehemiah 9:6
6 You are the LORD, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.

Labs still lead; French bulldogs leap in popularity in US

By Jennifer Peltz
Associated Press



Mary Altaffer/Associated Press

Pua, right, a 5-month-old French bulldog inspects McKenzie, an 8-week-old golden retriever during a news conference at the American Kennel Club headquarters Wednesday in New York. American Kennel Club rankings released in 2018 show French bulldogs are the fourth most popular while the labrador is the most popular purebred dog.

NEW YORK — Americans still love Labrador retrievers, but the nation's flirtation with French bulldogs has reached new heights.

Labs remain the country's most popular purebred dog for a 27th year, while German shepherds and golden retrievers have hung onto the second and third spots in new American Kennel Club rankings released Wednesday.

But Frenchies hit a highest-ever No. 4, and German shorthaired pointers cracked the top 10 for the first time.

Rest of the top 10

The bulldog is fifth, after notching a record No. 4 ranking last year. Sixth through 10th are the beagle, the poodle, the Rottweiler, the Yorkshire terrier and the German shorthaired pointer.

Initially bred for hunting, the handsome, athletic "GSP" is increasingly visible as a bomb-sniffing dog and in agility and other canine sports.

A GSP also won the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club dog show in 2016.

"They're a dog that will do anything you want, except lay around," says Jeffrey Drogin, a longtime owner in New York.

The versatile, sociable Lab has had the longest-ever reign as top dog. It broke the record in 2013.

But you can't beat the beagle for consistency. It's the only breed to make the top 10 for every decade since the AKC's 1884 founding.

Frenchie surge

The French bulldog has bolted from 76th to fourth in just 20 years. It previously peaked at sixth in the 1910s and again in 2015-2016.

Frenchie aficionados appreciate the interest but worry that it's drawing unscrupulous breeders and under-informed owners.

"It scares me that because it's popular, everybody wants it. But not every family is right for a French bulldog," says Kerry Boyd, a Natick, Massachusetts-based dog handler who breeds Frenchies.

The downsized bulldogs with the pointed ears and funny expressions have become favorites of city dwellers who value compact, relatively quiet dogs.

They've enjoyed exposure from movies, ads and celebrity owners. The late Carrie Fisher's Frenchie even inspired an alien creature in last year's "Star Wars: The Last Jedi."

Then the breed made headlines this month when a Frenchie puppy died after a flight attendant forced it into an overhead bin.

The death stirred discussion of breathing problems in French bulldogs and other short-snout breeds (though no pets belong in overhead compartments). Flat-faced dogs can be prone to overheating and sometimes need nasal or palate surgery.

Frenchies and bulldogs also can be susceptible to certain spinal and eye problems. They are often born by cesarean section because of their big heads.

Given all that, New York's then-newsweekly The Village Voice devoted a 2015 cover to French bulldogs and urged: "Don't Buy This Dog."

Newton, Massachusetts-based veterinarian Dr. John de Jong sees Frenchies' problems firsthand, but he notes that other breeds are prone to conditions of their own.

"I would say to anybody purchasing a breed of any kind: Do their homework," says de Jong, president-elect of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Other movers

The Siberian husky and Australian shepherd have jumped into the top 20 in the last decade. The Chihuahua, pug and Maltese have tumbled out.

Rarest breed

It's the Norwegian lundehund, a six-toed, unusually flexible dog that historically hunted cliff-dwelling puffins.

Doodles, mixes and big picture

The rankings reflect puppies and other dogs newly registered in 2017. The AKC, the nation's oldest purebred dog registry, doesn't release raw numbers of dogs.

The club doesn't chart such popular hybrids as Labradoodles and puggles, nor other mixed-breed dogs. However, they can register as AKC "canine partners" for dog sports.

Overall, the AVMA estimates there are about 70 million pet dogs nationwide (and over 74 million pet cats.)

The debate

Whatever the rankings, animal-rights activists say purebred fads drive puppy mills, consign other dogs to shelters and prioritize looks over health.

"The aesthetic standards of the AKC can leave dogs crippled and in near-constant pain," People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals wrote to the club this month.

Breeders such as Boyd say they spend thousands of dollars on testing to propagate healthy dogs. The AKC argues that breeding preserves specific traits that can help police pick K-9s or households choose suitable pets.

Whether purebred or mixed breed, "the most important thing is that you love the dog that's yours and that you responsibly own it and care for it," says AKC spokeswoman Gina DiNardo.

Spielberg's 'Ready Player One' tops holiday box office

By Lindsey Bahr
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Steven Spielberg has found his way back to the top of the box office with the action-adventure "Ready Player One," while Tyler Perry has scored again with "Acrimony."

Studio estimates on Sunday say Spielberg's virtual reality-focused film earned a solid $53.2 million in its first four days in theaters from 4,234 locations since opening Wednesday night, with $41.2 million of that coming from the three-day weekend.

Not adjusted for inflation, it's Spielberg's best opening in a decade following "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," which launched with $100.1 million in 2008. Aside from "The BFG," Spielberg has lately favored smaller historical dramas instead of the big-scale blockbusters of his heyday.

Based on Ernest Cline's popular novel and chock-full of references to 1980s pop culture, including some nods to Spielberg's own films, "Ready Player One" is a return to the popcorn filmmaking that he became known for. With that includes a reportedly hefty $175 million price tag, which does not account for marketing costs.

Audiences gave the film an A- CinemaScore, and reviews have been warm, too (it's sitting at a 76 percent on Rotten Tomatoes). Those who turned out this weekend were mostly male (59 percent) and over the age of 25 (56 percent).

"It's great to be in the Steven Spielberg business," said Jeff Goldstein, Warner Bros.' president of domestic distribution. "We always believed that this movie itself would carry the day and that's really what happened. We've seen all around the globe that the word of mouth is really propelling it."

Goldstein said while advance ticket sales were solid, the walk-up business was particularly robust on Friday and Saturday.

Internationally, the film exceeded the studio's expectations with $128 million from 62 territories, including $61.7 million from China (the biggest-ever opening in the country for Warner Bros.). Globally it grossed $181.3 million.

ComScore senior media analyst Paul Dergarabedian said the performance of "Ready Player One" should be judged in the context of the marketplace, which is down significantly (24.1 percent) from last March and has seen nearly every film since "Black Panther" open in the "middling to good range."

"None of them have set the world on fire," Dergarabedian said. "We're living in a world where a $52.3 million gross for the first four days is a really good number."

"Tyler Perry's Acrimony" took second place. Driven by an overwhelmingly female audience, the film starring Taraji P. Henson grossed $17.1 million over the 3-day weekend, followed by "Black Panther" in third place with $11.3 million.

With $650.7 million in domestic grosses, "Black Panther" is poised to pass "Jurassic World's" $652 million to become the fourth highest grossing domestic release of all time.

A batch of faith-based films also competed for attention leading up to the Easter holiday, including "I Can Only Imagine," which scored again with $10.8 million to take fourth place. It outshined "Paul, Apostle of Christ," which earned $3.5 million in weekend two and the new opener, "God's Not Dead: A Light in Darkness," which stumbled with $2.6 million. Even Wes Anderson's "Isle of Dogs," playing in only 165 locations, beat "God's Not Dead 3" with $2.8 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters

according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1."Ready Player One," $41.2 million ($128 million international).
2."Tyler Perry's Acrimony," $17.1 million.
3."Black Panther," $11.3 million ($7.7 million international).
4."I Can Only Imagine," $10.8 million ($200,000 international).
5."Pacific Rim Uprising," $9.2 million ($31.4 million international).
6."Sherlock Gnomes," $7 million ($2.5 million international).
7."Love, Simon," $4.8 million ($1.6 million international).
8."Tomb Raider," $4.7 million ($12 million international).
9."A Wrinkle in Time," $4.7 million ($4.8 million international).
10."Paul, Apostle of Christ," $3.5 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters

(excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. "Ready Player One," $128 million.
2. "Peter Rabbit," $32.1 million.
3. "Pacific Rim Uprising," $31.4 million.
4. "Baaghi 2," $15.2 million.
5. "Tomb Raider," $12 million.
6. "Gonjiam: Haunted Asylum," $8.5 million.
7. "Black Panther," $7.7 million.
8. "Nothing to Lose (Part 1)," $7.1 million.
9. "Red Sparrow," and "Blockers," $5 million.
10. "A Wrinkle in Time," $4.8 million.



Korea Pool via AP

South Korean girl band Red Velvet is seen after their performance Sunday in Pyongyang, North Korea. South Korean media say North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has watched a rare performance by South Korean pop stars visiting Pyongyang.

NKorean leader Kim watches performance by SKorean pop stars

By Hyung-Jin Kim
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un clapped his hands as he, along with his wife and hundreds of other citizens, watched a rare performance Sunday by South Korean pop stars visiting Pyongyang, highlighting the thawing ties between the rivals after years of heightened tensions over the North's nuclear program.

A South Korean artistic group, including some of the South's pop legends and popular girl band Red Velvet, flew to Pyongyang over the weekend for two performances in the North Korean capital, one on Sunday and the other on Tuesday. How North Koreans would react to Red Velvet was particularly the focus of keen media attention in South Korea.

During Sunday's performance at the packed East Pyongyang Grand Theater, Kim made a surprise visit with his wife Ri Sol Ju, sister Kim Yo Jong and other senior North Korean officials including nominal head of state Kim Yong Nam. Kim applauded during the event and shook hands with South Korean performers, even taking a group photo with them after their performance, according to South Korean media pool reports from Pyongyang.

Short pool TV footage also showed Kim, clad in a dark Mao-style suit, clapping from the second-floor VIP stand as South Korean Culture Minister Do Jong-hwan bowed and greeted North Korean spectators looking on from the first floor.

"We should hold culture and art performances frequently," Kim told South Korean performers. Mentioning the performance's title "Spring comes," Kim also asked the performers to tell South Korean President Moon Jae-in that the two Koreas should hold a similar event in Seoul in the autumn, the pool reports said citing an unidentified South Korean performer.

Kim also talked about Red Velvet.

"There had been interests in whether I would come and see Red Velvet. I had initially planned to attend a performance the day after tomorrow but I came here today after adjusting my schedule," Kim was quoted as saying. "I thank you for this kind of gift to Pyongyang citizens."

It was the first time for a North Korean leader to attend such a South Korean performance. Before Sunday's performance, South Korea last sent a pop singer to North Korea in 2005.

North Korean concertgoers waved their hands from their seats when South Korean stars joined together to sing a popular Korean song, "Our wish is unification," the TV footage showed.

Full video of the performance wasn't immediately available. The South Korean group includes prominent singers such as Cho Yong-pil, Lee Sunhee and Cho Jin Hee, who all previously performed in Pyongyang during a past era of detente.

The ongoing cooperation steps between the rivals began after North Korea took part in February's Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea. During the games, a North Korean art troupe performed in South Korea, and Moon and his wife watched it with visiting senior North Korean officials including Kim Yo Jong, who became the first member of the North's ruling Kim family to visit the South since the end of the 1950-53 Korean

Adobe service aims to follow users around online

By Anick Jesdanun
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Some 60 companies including such leading brands as Subway, Sprint and the NFL are joining forces to help each other follow you around online.

Adobe, a company better known for Photoshop and PDF files, says the new Device Co-op initiative it is organizing will help companies offer more personalized experiences and make ads less annoying by filtering out products and services you have already bought or will never buy. Under the initiative, Adobe can tell you're the same person on a home PC, a work laptop, a phone and a tablet by analyzing past sign-ins with member companies.

The initiative comes amid heightened privacy sensitivities after reports that Facebook allowed a political consulting firm, Cambridge Analytica, to harvest data on millions of Facebook users to influence elections. Facebook also has been criticized for collecting call and text logs from phones running Google's Android system.

Adobe's initiative underscores the role data plays in helping companies make money. Many of the initial uses are for better ad targeting.

The company timed Wednesday's announcement to a digital marketing conference it is hosting this week in Las Vegas. Adobe executives said they believed their initiative offers strong privacy safeguards and weren't worried about a backlash in light of the Facebook scandal.

"With this stuff coming out now around Cambridge Analytica and Facebook, the bar has to be so high in terms of privacy," Adobe executive Amit Ahuja said.

Adobe says no personal data is being exchanged among participating companies, which also include Allstate, Lenovo, Intel, Barnes & Noble, Subaru and the Food Network. Adobe says the program links about 300 million consumers across nearly 2 billion devices in the U.S. and Canada.

The program would let Sprint, for instance, know that Bob is already a customer when he visits from a new device. Bob wouldn't get a promotion to switch from another carrier, but might get instead a phone upgrade offer. Or if Mary has declared herself a Giants fan on the NFL's app, she might see ads with Giants banners when visiting NFL.com from a laptop for the first time.

All this might feel creepy, but such cross-device tracking is already commonly done by matching attributes such as devices from the same internet location, or IP address. Consumers typically have little control over it.

Adobe says it will give consumers a chance to opt out of such tracking. And it's breaking industry practices in a few ways. Adobe says it will honor opt-out requests for all participating companies and for all devices at once. It's more typical for such setups to require people do so one by one. All companies in the initiative are listed on Adobe's website, a break from some companies' practice of referring only to unspecified partners.

"We're doing everything we can not letting brands hide themselves," Ahuja said.

But in taking an opt-out approach, which is common in the industry, Adobe assumes that users consent. And it places the burden on consumers to learn about this initiative and to figure out how they can opt out of it.

Vitual reality and the movies

Spielberg likes VR, but not necessarily for filmmaking

By Lindsey Bahr
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — For Steven Spielberg, "Ready Player One" was a great escape from reality.

The legendary filmmaker says he got to live in the imaginations of author Ernest Cline and co-screenwriter Zak Penn in this dystopian, futuristic world full of '80s references and virtual reality possibilities for three years, with brief trips "back to Earth" to make "Bridge of Spies" and "The Post."

"This was a film that for me fulfilled all of my fantasies of the places I go in my imagination when I get out of town," he said.

Spielberg spoke to The Associated Press about the film, nostalgia and the prospects of VR in filmmaking.

Remarks have been edited for clarity and brevity.

Associated Press: You said that you wanted to keep references to your own films to a minimum.

Spielberg: I kept it to a dull roar. I kept it to a dull roar by not putting everything in the kitchen sink in there. But because the '80s, there were so many contributors to the culture of the 1980s, so many international brands really left their mark not just in movies but also in music and wardrobe and costume and clothing and fashion.

AP: Is it sort of like a journalistic conflict of interest?

Spielberg: Exactly. Exactly. I felt a little bit of a conflict of interest.

AP: This movie is kind of a celebration of nostalgia. Do you ever worry that we're so focused on the past that we're not creating something new?

Spielberg: I think we're actually very current focused. I wish there was more focus on the past. Social media has ... triggered a sort of critical mass of contemporary, almost, panic to be included in the conversation globally. ... Today's social media is actually causing a lot of young people to dwell on the immediate social rewards of being liked or disliked and that's scary for me. And it also stops people from reminiscing and looking back on a quieter era. So I'm not worried at all about anybody getting stuck in nostalgia because

Please see SPIELBERG/4B



David Paul Morris/Bloomberg

Attendees wear Oculus VR Go wireless virtual reality headsets during the Game Developers Conference in San Francisco on March 21.

Spielberg's 'Ready Player One' could boost VR

By Mark Gurman
Bloomberg

Steven Spielberg's hotly anticipated "Ready Player One" hit theaters Thursday. The film features characters who escape a dystopian future Ohio by plugging into an alternative universe using virtual reality headsets. With the movie already getting raves from those who saw it at South by Southwest, tech watchers are speculating that "Ready Player One" will give VR a lift in the real world.

Virtual reality headsets, introduced about five years ago, have so far failed to become a mainstream technology; last year the category grew more slowly than expected. Users have complained that there's not enough content or apps; that headsets are expensive, clunky and difficult to set up; and that Oculus, HTC and PlayStation headsets must still be tethered to pricey PCs or game consoles.

VR fans got some good news in January at the Consumer Electronics Show, where manufacturers announced several new products and initiatives. Google and Lenovo teamed up on a standalone VR headset, and the search giant talked up the latest features for its smartphone-based Daydream VR platform. HTC Corp. announced a new version of its powerful headset with beefier graphics. And Facebook Inc.'s Oculus stole some of the spotlight by announcing new details about its upcoming $200 Go Headset; namely that it would run a Qualcomm Inc. smartphone chip, which makes it more portable.

This year, the category will grow a record 25-plus percent, according to the Consumer Technology Association, and some analysts say Spielberg's film could provide an extra boost. Based on a book of the same name, "Ready Player One" takes place in 2045 and focuses on Wade Watts, who lives in a teeming trailer park in Columbus, Ohio. He and other characters become addicted to a 3-D virtual world called OASIS. (The headsets in the movie were dreamed up by the filmmakers.)

Hollywood was helping companies sell stuff long before product placements became ubiquitous. Luxottica credits movies like "The Blues Brothers" and "Top Gun" for boosting sales of Ray-Ban and other sunglasses brands in the 1980s and 1990s. "E.T." is said to have goosed sales of Reese's Pieces. The "GoldenEye" James Bond film lifted pre-orders of a new BMW roadster. And "Toy Story" famously helped revive Etch-A-Sketch.

While the immediate future for VR may be brighter, Apple Inc. and Amazon.com Inc. are betting that the technology eventually will be supplanted by augmented reality, which mixes the virtual with the real world. Even as Facebook, Sony and Google talked up VR at last week's Game Developers Conference in San Francisco, Apple engineers were busy describing the benefits of AR.

Apple already offers AR software that uses iPhone and iPad cameras and has tasked hundreds of engineers to build an AR headset that could ship as early as 2020. Amazon is likely on a similar trajectory. Spielberg's movie could help give VR a short-term lift, but even the world's top-grossing director is probably no match for the tech wizards in Cupertino and Seattle.

Not everyone is ready for 'Ready Player One'

■ COMMENTARY

By Lisa Napoli
Tribune Interactive

On a gorgeous spring day this past weekend in Santa Monica, a line of people waited on the street to go inside a dark, old Marco Polo furniture warehouse decorated with a mural of the Italian explorer. A crew of modern explorers inhabited this place now. They've opened their doors to whet the appetites of fans and curious observers

Please see READY/4B



Warner Bros. Pictures via AP

This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows a scene from "Ready Player One," a film by Steven Spielberg.



Big Data is always watching, so aim for high score

By Mitch Daniels
Special to Washington Post

■ COMMENTARY

Isn't technology wonderful? At Purdue University, the same IT infrastructure that enables us to manage student assignments and grades, operate residential and dining facilities, and support a leading community of scientific researchers produces as a byproduct a massive amount of fascinating information.

We know where each student is anytime — which is virtually all the time — their mobile devices are connected to our WiFi network. When they enter their dorm, or dining court, or recreational facility, they swipe in, and a machine captures the time and place.

Whether they're in class or in their rooms, a machine knows when they're online and where they're going while there. Forget that old ominous line, "We know where you live." These days, it's, "We know where you are."

University people are curious by nature, and much of today's "Big Data" era was born at our school. So it's only natural that we would want to delve into this treasure trove of information in search of illuminating patterns — especially those that might prove helpful to those same students, whose academic success is the heart of our mission.

Does the data say that too many days away from campus, or too many absences from class, or too much in-class browsing of websites unrelated to the course, or too few visits to the gym, correlates with lower grades? Does eating meals with the same people day after day appear to help scholastic performance? If so, shouldn't we bring this to the students' attention, for their own good?

For the past two years, virtually every entering Purdue freshman (there is an opt-out option that few exercise) has been given a mobile application through which the university sends them personalized information about ways to improve their chances of academic success.

So far, the information employed and the ways we're using it have not seemed at all problematic. "Is that combination of courses you chose a historically tough one? Here's where you can find a tutor."

"Did you know that students who wait as long as you did to sign up for courses are more likely to struggle? The registrar's office opens at 8 a.m. tomorrow."

But that's today. With the best of motives, schools like ours will feel the urge to use more and more personal data, through more and more insistent tactics, all in the "best interest of the students."

Much has been written in recent years about the possibilities for "nudging" people to do things they otherwise might not choose to do. In particular, would-be social engineers who have run into trouble, and often political backlash, when trying to order people to change their behavior, have looked longingly on more subtle means of influence.

So when does "nudge" come to "shove"? We don't have to theorize about the far end of that spectrum. The future is now, in the form of China's new "social credit system," already in effect for volunteers and becoming mandatory in 2020.

Citizens conforming to governmentally approved behaviors will earn a high numerical rating; nonconformists can expect unhappy consequences. Those with high scores will enjoy a multitude of preferences, ranging from VIP hotel rooms and air travel to better schools for their children.

Please see DANIELS/4B

CHRIS TOMLINSON
Houston Chronicle



Robotics engineers broaden horizons for students

PASADENA — Josh Sooknanan always loved building things, but his interest in engineering really took off when he joined a high school robotics team in Virginia.

Thirteen years later, he's a robotics engineer at NASA and paying back the FIRST Robotics program as a mentor for the Pasadena Independent School District Team 231, High Voltage.

"It helped me a lot in college," Sooknanan said. "Everything you learn in your freshman and sophomore year in engineering college is what you learn in a FIRST Robotics competition."

Students in Pasadena don't have the advantages of Sooknanan's high school. Almost 90 percent are economically disadvantaged, and most of their parents did not attend college. Many have never left Texas. Preparing these students for higher education is one of the toughest challenges public schools face.

In Part 2 of my series on how companies can make a difference in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, the High Voltage team proves that students can overcome difficult hurdles with a little outside help.

"A lot of the students we have in this district don't think there is anything outside of this district, or outside of Pasadena," said David Scarcella, the team's coach, who teaches at the Career and Technical Center. "If I can expose them to engineers and have them talk to these kids, the mentors will show them what's out there."

FIRST Robotics was started by MIT Professor Woodie Flowers and Segway inventor Dean Kamen in 1989. Today, more than 3,600 high school teams are competing around the world to reach the international championship, which is April 18-21 in Houston.

The High Voltage team draws on six high schools and includes 45 students who routinely participate. They meet three nights a week and every Saturday and hold fundraisers in the spring. But they also rely on support from local companies, like Oceaneering, which provides engineering services to the offshore drilling industry and NASA.

"We couldn't do this without Oceaneering," Scarcella said. "Not only do they give us financial support and some of the equipment, the engineers come on their own time."

Monica Visinsky, an engineer with Oceaneering Space Systems, has volunteered her time for 20 years to help kids get excited about her profession.

"When I see a young man, a freshman, light up on game reveal day, contribute a unique pneumatic suction idea for a gripper and work to get that implemented into a successful design feature of our robot, I feel more enthusiastic about my own work," she said. "When I see a young woman get inspired to learn how to work the mill and the lathe, I feel inspired to learn more as well."

Joana Anaya, a17-year-old junior, said her father encouraged her to join the team just as her older sister and brother did.

"We're working on gearboxes right now. It's kind of difficult, but when you get it together it's a relief — it's exciting that you made that," she told me.

Anaya said participating in the team made a difference with her siblings. Her sister recently graduated from Texas A&M with a degree in urban planning, and her brother works in a nearby refinery.

"My brother was a bit of a bad boy,

Please see TOMLINSON/4B

REVVING UP FOR KIDS



Victor J. Blue /Bloomberg

An employee assists kids with building a video game using code on an iPad Mini during an Hour of Code workshop at an Apple store in New York.

Apple updates iPad for schools

■ Company hopes new device appeals to teachers

By Geoffrey A. Fowler
Washington Post

Apple sent the iPad back to school, with an update designed to appeal to teachers.

The new iPad, which goes on sale Tuesday, keeps its familiar design and $329 price, but gets a speed boost and support for Apple's Pencil stylus.

The biggest changes are in software. The iPads will come new stylus-friendly versions of Apple's Pages and Numbers productivity apps, as well as the ability for multiple students to share the same device. Apple also increased free online storage for students to 200 GB.

A refresh of Apple's tablets, which outsell Mac computers, could help the tech giant regain some ground in the education market it once dominated, but lost to low-priced Google Chromebooks and Microsoft Windows laptops. What's at stake is the tech loyalty of the next generation.

In elementary and high schools, Apple has gone from teacher's pet to the back of the class. By the end of 2017, new machines running Google software accounted for about 60 percent of what U.S. classrooms received, according to analysis firm FutureSource. Microsoft accounted for roughly 22 percent. Apple's iOS held 12.3 percent and its MacOS had 4.7 percent.

Apple's update addresses some of what's helped Chromebooks leap ahead, but not all of it. The tablets are more functional in classrooms with software to help teachers set up and manage accounts as well as keep track of student progress. But Chromebooks with keyboards start as low as $200 — and a $329 iPad doesn't come with a stylus or keyboard.

Of course, iPads aren't only popular with students. They've become a mainstay of e-book and periodical readers, Netflix-in-bed watchers and even creative types who attach accessories such as a keyboard and Pencil stylus to the $650-and-up iPad Pro models.

Apple didn't make design changes that might help make an upgrade feel key to existing iPad owners. While the latest smartphones feature an all-screen look, the new entry level iPad didn't trim its edges, lose its home button, or add iPhone X-style Face ID cameras.

Apple unveiled the new iPad in a rare event away from its home turf at Chicago's Lane Tech high school.

Facebook's popularity plummets, poll finds

By Alex Roarty
McClatchy Washington Bureau

A poll found that Facebook's popularity plummeted this month after reports that a company working for Donald Trump's presidential campaign stole private information from millions of the social media company's users.

The survey came after Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg agreed to testify to Congress about the theft.

Just 30 percent of registered voters had a favorable view of Facebook, according to a survey conducted by Public Policy Polling, compared with 48 percent who do not. (Twenty-two percent of people polled weren't sure what their opinion of the social media company is.)

That's a 19-point drop from the same poll in September, when 37 percent of voters had a favorable opinion of Facebook while 36 percent had an unfavorable opinion.

The company attracts bipartisan disdain, though is held in lower esteem by Trump voters. Just 29 percent of the president's supporters in 2016 said they had a positive opinion about Facebook, compared with 53 percent who didn't. Thirty-four percent of Hillary Clinton supporters, meanwhile, held a positive view Facebook, while 42 percent did not.

The survey was commissioned by Factual Democracy Project, a critic of Facebook and other social media companies. FDP argues that in after the 2016 election, the public should hold the companies to a higher standard about the content that appears on their websites, including whether it popularizes fabricated news and events.

The poll surveyed 577 registered voters and was conducted from March 23 to March 25. It has a margin of error of 4.1 percent.

In March, The New York Times reported that data and tech firm Cambridge Analytica, while working for Trump's campaign, had "harvested private information from the Facebook profiles of more than 50 million users without their permission." Facebook had already been under fire from critics, especially from Democrats and progressives who questioned the proliferation of "fake news" on the website during the 2016 election.

The poll found that 71 percent of voters think Zuckerberg should have been required to testify before Congress. It also found that 70 percent of them do not think Facebook can keep their private information safe from corporations or political campaigns that would improperly use it.

The survey reported that 35 percent of voters have a negative impression of Zuckerberg personally, compared to 24 percent who hold a favorable one. Forty-one percent of voters said they weren't sure.

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Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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MONDAY PRIME TIME — APRIL 2, 2018

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

BROADCAST

	G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	American Idol "Showcase/ Final Judgment" (N)				The Crossing "Pilot" (P) (N)		News (N)	(SS) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(SS) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	Big Bang Theory	Young Sheldon	Big Bang Theory	Biblically (N)	NCIS "Family Ties"		CBS 7 News (N)	(SS) The Late Show		(SS) J.Corden
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	MASH "Payday"	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Gomer Pyle	WKRP "Pilot"	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	P. Mason "The Case of the Elusive Element"		Twilight Zone
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Lucifer "The Sinnerman"		The Resident "No Matter the Cost"		Fox 24 News (N)	TMZ	Mom	Modern Family	Modern Family	Met Your Mother
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Faith for Families	The Wings of Truth	Update News	Mani Erfan	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Update News	Housecall	Aleph Course	Sounds of Shofar
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsW-est 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 Now	The Voice "The Knockouts Premiere" (N)				Good Girls "A View From the Top" (N)		NewsW-est 9 (N)	(SS) The Tonight Show		(SS) Seth Meyers
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Antique "Portland (Hour One)" (N)		Antiques Rd. "Little Rock (Hour One)"		Independent Lens "When God Sleeps" (N)		Aman-pour (N)	News (N)		Stories
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		El Rico y Lazaro		Papa a Toda Madre		Por Amar Sin Ley		Noticias Telas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	SVU "Stalked"		Law & Order: S.V.U.		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	News	Game

PREMIUM

FLIX	340	575		165		(5:35) ½ ★★★ Undertow		(7:25) ½ ★★★ 54 Ryan Phillippe.				½ ★★ Punch-Drunk Love			(SS) ½ ★★ Pretty Persuasion		
HBO	300	559	14	14		LastWeek	News (N)	½ King in the Wilderness ('18, Doc) (P)				Barry		Silicon	½ ★★★ Atomic Blonde Charlize Theron.		
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	(5:30) ½ Undercover...		HereNow "Yes" (N)		Silicon (N)	Barry (N)	½ ★★★ The Last Boy Scout			(SS) ½ Girls Trip		
HBO5	304	552	16	102		(7:15) ½ ★★★★ Waitress Keri Russell.				½ My Cousin Rachel Sam Claflin.		Making		The Zen Diaries of Garry Shandling (N)			
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(4:50) ½ The Verdict		½ Jackie Natalie Portman.				(8:40) ½ ★★★ Frost/ Nixon Frank Langella.			(SS) ½ ★★★ Space Cowboys		
MAX2	382	580	18	122		(5:40) ½ ★★ The Women ('08, Com) Meg Ryan.		½ ★★★ Whip It ('10, Com/Dra) Ellen Page.				(10:15) ½ ★★ Arthur Russel Brand.			Movie		
PLEX			96			(5:20) ½ The Rooster...		½ ★★★ Annie ('82, Fam) Carol Burnett.				(7:10) ½ ★★ Sleepover			(SS) ½ Vamps Alicia Silverstone.		
SHOW	320	585	19	140	25	Movie	Cartoon	Homeland		Billions		Homeland		Billions		Cartoon	Movie
TMC	336	579	22	155	26	(5:00) ½ Looking for ...		½ Alone in Berlin				(8:40) ½ ★★★ Timbur, Teller, Soldier, Spy Mark Strong.			½ Fair Game		

CABLE

A&E	27	58	28	35	47	The First 48 "The Ties That Bind"		The First 48 "Love Hate/ A Soldier's Life"		M. Clark: First 48 "Casey Anthony" Marcia Clark investigates the death of Caylee Anthony.				(10) Grace Abrams "Casey Anthony"		(10) First 48 "Love Hate/ A Soldier's Life"	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(5:00) ½ ★★★ Jaws ('75, Hor) Roy Scheider.				The Terror (N)		McMafia (N)			(10) The Terror		(SS) McMafia
BET	58	-		40		(5:00) ½ To Be Announced				½ Madea's Big Happy Family (2011, Drama) Bow Wow, Tyler Perry.						Martin	Martin
BRAVO	65	76		41		Vanderpump Rules		Vanderpump Rules		Vanderpump R. (N)		SunHouse (SF) (N)		Watch (N)	Vanderpump Rules		Atlanta
CNBC	46	52		39	72	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		American Greed (N)		American Greed			American Greed
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		A. Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight			A. Cooper 360
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Fast N' Loud (N)		To Be Announced		Fast N' Loud		Shifting Gears		Fast N' Loud			Shifting Gears
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	(SS) TBA	TBA	Gravity	Gravity	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA		Andi M. Raven's.
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	MLB Baseball Baltimore Orioles at Houston Astros (L)						SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)			SportsCenter (N)
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	College Gameday (L)				SportsCenter (N)		MLB Baseball Cleveland Indians at Los Angeles Angels (L)					
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	The Story		Tucker Carlson		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night			Tucker Carlson
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Kids Baking		Spring Baking		Spring Baking (N)		Vegas Ca	Vegas Ca	Cakes.	Cakes.		Spring Baking
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(5:00) ½ Puss in Boots		½ ★★ The Karate Kid ('10, Act) Jackie Chan, Jaden Smith.						The 700 Club			Siren "Pilot"
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	TMSProv. (N)	Champio. "Wrestling"	Championship Spot. "Boys' Basketball"		Power of Sports (N) (L)	Pre-game	MLB Baseball Texas Rangers at Oakland Athletics Site: Oakland Alameda Coliseum -- Oakland, Calif. (L)					
FX	31	56	59	64	69	(4:30) ½ Guardians o...		½ ★★ The 5th Wave ('16, Sci-Fi) Chloë Grace Moretz.						½ ★★ The 5th Wave ('16, Sci-Fi) Chloë Grace Moretz.			
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	Full House	Full House	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Love It or List It		H.Hunt	H.Hunt	Flipping Virgins (N)		H.Hunt	House (N)	H.Hunt	House		Flipping Virgins
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers (N)		(SS) Pawn	(SS) Pawn	(SS) Pawn	(SS) Pawn		(SS) Amer. Pickers
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	½ Cocaine Godmother: The Griselda Blanco Story (2018, Drama)						UnREAL "Transference" (N)		UnREAL "Transference"			Mary Kills People "Ride or Die"
MSNBC	47	53		48	73	Hardball (N)		All In (N)		Rachel Maddow (N)		The Last Word (N)		The 11th Hour (N)			Rachel Maddow
NBCSN	38	43				Super High Roller		Super High Roller		Super High Roller		Super High Roller		Super High Roller			Super High Roller
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Paradise	Thunder	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Fresh P.	Fresh P.	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:00) ½ Resident Evil...		½ ★★★★ Faster ('10, Act) Dwayne Johnson.				½ ★★★★ Skyfall ('12, Act) Helen McCrory, Daniel Craig.					
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Championship Central (L) (N)				NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament Final Four Championship Site: Alamodome -- San Antonio, Texas (L)				NCAA Madness	The Last O.G.		Conan
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(5:15) ½ Stagecoach ('39, Dra) William Holden.		½ ★★ Golden Boy ('39, Dra) William Holden.				½ ★★★ Executive Suite William Holden.			½ ★★★ Our Town		
TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado (N)		José José, el pr (N)		Al Otro Lado del (N)		Enemigo Intimo (N)		Al rojo	(SS) Thalía:		Al Otro Lado del
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Family "She Just Drove off and Never Returned"		Long Lost Family		Long Lost Family		To Be Announced		Long Lost Family			Long Lost Family
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	(5:00) ½ ★★★★ Star Wars: The Force Awakens ('15, Act) John Boyega, Daisy Ridley.				NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament Final Four Championship Site: Alamodome -- San Antonio, Texas (L)					The Last O.G.		Claws "Frana"
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	MASH	M*A*S*H	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Mom	Mom	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49	American Ninja "Qualifying Episode"		WWE Monday Night Raw						(HD) Modern	(HD) Modern	(HD) Modern	(HD) Modern
WGN	19	85				M*A*S*H	MASH "Aid Station"	M*A*S*H	MASH "Big Mac"	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	½ ★★ The Terminal A bureaucratic technicality forces a European man to take up residence in JFK Airport.					Rules "Pilot"

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Deception surrounds dad's young wife

DEAR ABBY



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

DEAR ABBY: My elderly father remarried after my mother died two years ago. He married an acquaintance who is 30 years younger at the courthouse with no friends or family in attendance. He told this woman beforehand that there was a large widow's pension he'd paid into for decades that he wanted to give to her by marrying her. She claimed to be in an "unhappy" marriage at the time, and promptly got a divorce.

Well, she and her now-ex have "suddenly started getting along just great," so she decided to continue to live with her ex after her marriage to Dad. Despite agreeing to these terms and because the woman teased him before their marriage, Dad is angry that she still won't have sex with him. Also upsetting is that when they are out socially, his new wife still introduces her ex as her "husband" and Dad as their "friend."

Now we learn, despite assurances during discussions with an attorney before the marriage that she would never exercise her rights as a spouse to any other funds or property, she's asking my dad for a monthly allowance so she can retire, since she has no savings.

Abby, do we have any recourse in this situation? Do you think we are right to call my father's marriage fraudulent, and would we be considered accomplices by not reporting it to any authorities before his death? — STEPDAUGHTER IN REVOLT

DEAR STEPDAUGHTER: You are correct that the "marriage" was fraudulent, and you certainly do have recourse. Your father's lawyer should be consulted immediately to discuss an annulment of this bogus arrangement. Because your father's judgment is so poor, go with him to ensure that no details are left out. Frankly, I think the woman may be guilty of elder abuse, and your father may need a conservator.

DEAR ABBY: I'm in seventh grade. Until recently, I was my usual happy, bubbly self. I saw school as a place to make friends and have more freedom than I did in elementary school. I was always happy and social and made friends easily.

As the months have passed, it seems like, as I look around, everything annoys me. I can't explain why but I have stopped talking to all of my friends for long periods of time. All these terrible emotions build up. I am angry, sad, frustrated. Now everything that has built up inside me comes out at the worst times. I cry a lot and I feel no one understands why.

This may seem like a normal middle-school breakdown that goes away over days, but it's not. People see me crying and think, "Oh no, she's crying for no reason again" or "Why is she crying? What is wrong?" but the thing is I don't know what's wrong with me. At odd moments when I'm alone with my thoughts, these feelings come back, stronger and stronger each time. I can't stop them. Why am I like this? — ALMOST-TEEN IN TURMOIL

DEAR ALMOST-TEEN: That's a very good question, and one you should ask your parents, because they know you better than I do. The lows you are experiencing may result from the fact that you are maturing and the hormones in your body are changing. However, because you are concerned enough about what's going on to write to me, you may need to be examined by a physician.

If you need help beyond that, the doctor can recommend a referral. I'm glad you wrote. It shows you are an intelligent young lady who recognizes she has a problem and wants to deal with it.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

Bidding Quiz

Q 1 — Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠Q97♡7◊Q8642♣AK83

Right-hand opponent opens two hearts, weak. What call would you make?

A — It's a little risky, but if you don't compete with hands like this, the opponents will take the keys to your house and your car. Double.

Q 2 — North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠J72♡AQJ5◊KQ96♣KJ

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♡	Pass	4♡	Pass

What call would you make?

A — This is certainly a tip-top maximum, but partner wouldn't have bid four hearts if there was any chance of slam. Pass.

Q 3 — East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠Q4♡AQ1083◊J76♣AK4

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♡	Pass	2NT	Pass

What call would you make?

A — Bid three hearts. This shows an acceptance of the invitation with a fifth heart. Partner can choose the right contract.

Q 4 — Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠KJ32♡J73◊A104♣AKQ

With the opponents passing, you open one club and partner responds one diamond. What is your rebid?

A — Do not bid spades. Bid two notrump. This shows a balanced 18-19 points. It does not promise a heart stopper.

TOPS@ iTUNES

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS

Apps

App Store Official Charts for the week ending March 25:

Top Paid iPhone Apps:
1. Minecraft, Mojang
2. Heads Up!, Warner Bros.
3. Human Anatomy Atlas 2018, Visible Body
4. Toca Life: After School, Toca Boca AB
5. Plague Inc., Ndemic Creations
6. iSchedule, HotSchedules
7. Pocket Build, MoonBear LTD
8. Bloons TD 5, Ninja Kiwi
9. Facetune, Lightricks Ltd.
10. Geometry Dash, RobTop Games AB

Top Free iPhone Apps:
1. Fortnite, Epic Games
2. PUBG Mobile, Tencent Mobile International Limited
3. YouTube: Watch, Listen, Stream, Google, Inc.
4. Instagram, Instagram, Inc.
5. Snapchat, Snap, Inc.
6. Messenger, Facebook, Inc.
7. Facebook, Facebook, Inc.
8. Bitmoji, Bitstrips
9. Gmail - Email by Google, Google, Inc.
10. Google Maps - GPS Navigation, Google, Inc.

Top Paid iPad Apps:
1. Toca Life: After School, Toca Boca AB
2. Minecraft, Mojang
3. Procreate, Savage Interactive Pty Ltd
4. Geometry Dash, RobTop Games AB
5. Human Anatomy Atlas 2018, Visible Body
6. Scribblenauts Remix, Warner Bros.
7. GoodNotes 4, Time Base Technology Limited
8. Notability, Ginger Labs
9. Five Nights at Freddy's, Scott Cawthon
10. Plague Inc., Ndemic Creations

Top Free iPad Apps:
1. Fortnite, Epic Games
2. PUBG Mobile, Tencent Mobile International Limited
3. Netflix, Netflix, Inc.
4. YouTube: Watch, Listen, Stream, Google, Inc.
5. The Weather Channel, The Weather Channel Interactive
6. Partymasters - Fun Idle Game, Playgendary
7. Color by Number: Coloring Book, Fun Games For Free
8. ROBLOX, Roblox Corporation
9. Amazon Prime Video, AMZN Mobile LLC
10. Rules of Survival, NetEase Games

Movies

iTunes Movies U.S. charts for week ending March 25

iTunes Movies US Charts:
1. Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle
2. The Greatest Showman
3. Pitch Perfect 3
4. I, Tonya
5. Star Wars: The Last Jedi
6. Downsizing
7. Thor: Ragnarok
8. The Shape of Water
9. Justice League
10. Coco (2017)

iTunes Movies US Charts - Independent:
1. Darkest Hour
2. The Redeemed and the Dominant: Fittest On Earth
3. Lady Bird
4. I Kill Giants
5. Beyond Skyline
6. The Disaster Artist
7. Demon House
8. The Florida Project
9. My Friend Dahmer
10. Home Again (2017)

Music

iTunes Official Music Charts for the week ending March 29, 2018:

Top Songs
1. God's Plan, Drake
2. In My Blood, Shawn Mendes
3. Meant to Be (feat. Florida Geo..., Bebe Rexha
4. Never Be the Same, Camila Cabello
5. Whatever It Takes, Imagine Dragons
6. The Middle, Zedd,Maren Morris & Grey
7. Psycho (feat. Ty Dolla $ign), Post Malone
8. You Make It Easy, Jason Aldean
9. I Can Only Imagine, MercyMe
10. Zombie, Bad Wolves



Top Albums
1. The Greatest Showman (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack), Various Artists
2. Boarding House Reach, Jack White
3. Sex & Cigarettes, Toni Braxton
4. Hamilton , Original Broadway Cast of Hamilton
5. ?, XXXTENTACION
6. Girl Going Nowhere, Ashley McBryde
7. Home State, Jordan Davis
8. Staying at Tamara's, George Ezra
9. Forbidden, Todrick Hall
10. Evolve, Imagine Dragons

Source: Apple Inc.

There are ways to control Facebook data

By Jim Rossman
Dallas Morning News

■ COMMENTARY

Facebook has been in the news, and not for a good reason.

The New York Times and The Guardian broke the story that Cambridge Analytica "misused" the data of around 50 million Facebook users.

There might not be a whole lot you or I can do to prevent this type of data misuse, but you should take this as a tap on the shoulder to check who is accessing your Facebook data.

Over the years, you've likely given plenty of apps, sites and companies permission to access your Facebook data.

I thought I was careful about my data settings, but when I checked my app list, there were more than 80 instances in which I willingly shared my Facebook data with third parties.

Some I remembered, like Waze, Amazon and Instagram, but most of them I didn't.

I don't recall giving Ultimate Funjetter Voting permission to see my Facebook public profile and friends list, but there it was. I'm sure whatever I signed up for at the time was important (probably not), but that app was still accessing my data.

So how can you check on what sources are sharing your Facebook data?

Open your browser to your Facebook page and click on the small black triangle in the upper right side of the blue bar at the top of the page. Choose Settings from the menu and then choose Apps from the column on the left.

You'll see a list of apps and pages you've logged into with your Facebook account. Look over the list and you'll probably be amazed, as I was. I'm sure you'll find plenty of items you'd like to delete.

Click on an entry, like one of mine called Dow Jones, which must have been something financial. I'm sure the people at Dow Jones are doing a great job, but I don't remember why I wanted to share my Facebook data with them, so I'd like to stop.

Click on the entry to open it and you'll see a good amount of information about what the connection is actually sharing.

You can also see a link to contact the developer of the app to ask them to delete any information they have stored. I'm not sure you'll get real feedback when you ask all these app developers to remove your specific data, but it's worth a try.

I'll be happy to just stop sharing my data with them.

Platform is the part of Facebook that integrates with third-party apps and websites.

You should also look at the other options below the app list, which have to do with enabling a feature called Platform, the part of Facebook that lets you log into those other places with your Facebook credentials. I completely disabled it.

Also, there is a button there called Apps Others Use that lets you see what types of data about you others might be able to take with them just because they are your friends on Facebook.

I disabled all of the options under Apps Others Use.

If you don't have access to a computer, you can also see this data on your phone or tablet.

On the mobile app on the bottom right, touch the three horizontal lines and then scroll down to the bottom to touch Settings, then Account Settings. Scroll down and select Apps, and you'll see the list.

This won't keep your data safe. I'm not sure we can count on much data safety on social media. But it will remind you of the vast reach of the data you share and give you at least a little control over whom you share it with.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

SPIELBERG

From 1B

nostalgia is what we're not getting enough of right now in my opinion.

AP: Do you think the rules of Hollywood are being rewritten with the success of films like "Black Panther"?

Spielberg: The rules of Hollywood are rewritten every couple of years anyway. It's a continuum not a pendulum. Although there are flashbacks all the time to styles and themes that our parents grew up with that we seem to think we invented. I really feel like everything is moving forward, is moving ahead.

AP: It does seem like there's progress.

Spielberg: I think there's progress. We're stalling out a little bit in the political cycle with the political quagmire we find ourselves stuck with but culturally we're still moving ahead.

AP: Perhaps that stagnation is fueling the progress elsewhere?

Spielberg: It's giving people a new voice. It's making people realize that their vote counts and their voices will be heard, they just have to exercise the right to speak and the right to vote and when they do that they can change the world in a significant, positive way.

AP: What do you think of something like Disney and Fox combining?

Spielberg: I'm not going to get into business.

AP: "Ready Player One" both celebrates the potential of virtual reality and is also kind of a cautionary tale. What do you think of VR as a future for filmmaking?

Spielberg: I love VR. I'm not sure I love VR as a medium for telling a story but I do love VR for how it could release people to go places they will never in their lifetimes or be able to afford to go, you know see the Great Wall of China, be able to see the rainforests to be able to even see the Grand Canyon if you're living in far-away places. I think it's going to be a boon to science and medicine and education especially. I'm not yet certain how I could make a movie in VR because I don't have as much control over where the audience is looking. I would have to really be clever to get them to pay attention to where I want them to pay attention, on what I want them to pay attention to, which is the story and the characters. They might be looking all around the world and taking their eye off the bouncing story ball.



Jaap Buitendijk/Warner Bros. via AP

This cover image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows director Steven Spielberg on the set of "Ready Player One."

TOMLINSON

From 2B

but working on the team taught him some responsibility and guided him onto the right path," she said.

Learning to think independently to solve problems is the most important lesson students learn, Sooknanan said.

"The hardest part is in the early part of the competition, trying to get the freshmen and sophomores to be confident in themselves, to attack these problems and not wait for someone to show them the answer," he said. "We have to get these kids used to making mistakes, to accept that they are going to make mistakes and learning how to deal with them quickly."

Sooknanan can tell whether one of his collegiate interns at NASA participated in FIRST Robotics.

"They come into the intern program, and in terms of engineering they are not as headstrong, they don't have an ego that is that fragile," he said.

Brandon Norman, a 16-year-old junior, plans to attend the University of Texas at San Antonio and follow Sooknanan to NASA.

"There's something about seeing some scrap metal becoming a robot that we built specifically for a game," he said. "I get to add it onto my résumé and portfolio, and I hope having the extra years of engineering, as well as the robots, will help me."

The Pasadena team is consistently one of the top performers because engineers and their employers donate equipment and their time to help these kids see the endless possibilities that a STEM education offers. All of the team's graduating seniors last year were accepted to either a two-year or a four-year college, Scarcella said.

DANIELS

From 2B

Paying your bills, or spending money on work clothes instead of video games, will be worth points.

But to protect your high rating, be sure to say nice things, and never, never skeptical things, about the government, in your digital life, or be linked to others who do. This all is designed to deliver, in author Rachel Botsman's apt coinage, "gamified obedience."

This subject needs a highly public examination sooner not later. The data is here, it is in fact "Big," and it calls out to the sincerely curious to be analyzed and utilized for good, in all the institutions suddenly knowledgeable about the previously most private aspects of our daily lives.

Somewhere between connecting a struggling student with a tutor and penalizing for life a person insufficiently enthusiastic of a reigning regime, judgment calls will be required and lines of self-restraint drawn. People serene in their assurance that they know what is best for others will have to stop and ask themselves, or be asked by the rest of us, on what authority they became the Nudgers and the Great Approvers. Many of us will have to stop and ask whether our good intentions are carrying us past boundaries where privacy and individual autonomy should still prevail.

Mitch Daniels is president of Purdue University and former governor of Indiana.

READY

From 1B

like me who are hungry for Steven Spielberg's new film, "Ready Player One," that was released last week.

There are no massive stars in the $150 million film. The stars are virtual reality and the 1980s. The film takes place in the chaos of 2045 and its characters escape their dismal time on earth by donning clunky virtual reality headsets and retreating into a wildly popular alternative world set 50 years earlier. (If all this doesn't compute, don't worry — you're probably not the target demographic.)

The VR showroom we all filed into is a darkened space decked out with 1980s memorabilia: boom boxes and old joysticks, clunky Magnavox TVs, a wall montage constructed of floppy discs and cassettes depicting a Pac Man chomping up a Space Invaders alien. A 1981 DeLorean inhabited the far corner of the space, its doors butterflied open for anyone who wants to sit inside and channel the 1985 film, "Back to the Future." The Tears for Fears' song "Shout" and A-ha's "Take on Me" provided the New Age soundtrack for a giant room that filled up quickly with people looking to strap-on backpack computers and headsets to shoot aliens and other borgs. Just a day earlier hundreds of thousands of people marched on cities across the U.S. protesting gun violence. So much cognitive dissonance.

I'm first in line to test a game called the Gauntlet, where the player picks up a virtual bow and arrow, descends into a maze, and attempts to ward off zombie skeleton people. I told the booth minder as he suited me up that I was a bit confused.

"What does this have to do with the movie?"

He explained, "Gauntlet is an old video game, and because the movie's all about 1980s retro games they took an old video game and made it into a VR game." He patiently handed me two controllers that I needed to shoot arrows and teleported myself deeper into the scenes flashing on the headset. Doing these at the same time completely challenged my hand-eye coordination, and I'm slaughtered within a minute by a pair of zombie skeletons. "This is by far the hardest game we have here," the nice man said as a consolation prize. "It's incredibly difficult."

On the other side of the warehouse was a cubicle with six folding chairs where attendees sat moving their heads up and down and around in search of new angles to observe. Two boys, about eight years old, were eagerly passing the headsets between them and their mothers. Apparently, each one has a different scene.

"Oh, poop, this one's cool," exclaimed one of the boys. They'd been here yesterday, too.

"This is "Render the Metaverse," explained the booth minder. "Different worlds that these independent developers created in competition."

"And what do you do when you're in them?" I asked.

"Just observe the creations," he said.

Indeed, the creations were lovely — an elaborate Japanese garden, a swank apartment, a lush snowscape. But it was gorgeous outside, and I wished I was out, in reality, not trapped in the virtual kind. Maybe I'd have a deeper appreciation for this technological wizardry if I lived in the dystopia of 2045 — or if I were a 13-year-old boy in 2018.

In another booth, people were watching a trippy sequence of kaleidoscopic images set to music. I've heard about the promise of virtual reality since, well, practically the 1980s, and I'm not really sure what's revolutionary about this compared to, say, sitting around and watching a music video, or, to be completely retro, just listening to music. The whole point of this showcase, apart from using it to pitch Spielberg's movie, is to evangelize uses of VR beyond the game room. Rob McCarty, chief gatekeeper of this Gateway VR showroom, said even people in the industry go nuts for potential applications of virtual reality — not just in film, but in real estate, selling cars, "anything that requires visualization, a brand tie-in experience" and allows a user to live it.

Warner Brothers had approached Gateway a month in advance of the movie's release to create this tie-in for fans. After all, it's hard to talk about virtual reality, or grok it from watching a video on YouTube; you need the hardware to experience it.

I couldn't ditch the virtual reality adventure altogether, so I headed over to a booth that was empty the entire time, made my way in, and helped myself to a headset, securing it just so. The vision before me was lovely: A group of men, on the top of a cloud-tipped mountain, practicing a tai chi series of slow, graceful movements. This video was created in two days by a team of three.

Was I supposed to do it along with them? I know enough about tai chi to know that I'm not coordinated enough to do it even without a VR headset strapped to my face. But it was pretty, and it was time to head outside. I had downloaded the book by Ernest Cline that the movie was based on, and I was looking forward to reading when I got back home. Books, I realize, are the original, retro form of virtual reality.

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Ogunbowale lifts Notre Dame to title

By Doug Feinberg
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Arike Ogunbowale hit the shot of her life — again.

Ogunbowale floated in a 3-pointer from the corner with 0.1 seconds left, lifting Notre Dame to its second women's basketball title with a thrilling 61-58 comeback victory over Mississippi State in the NCAA championship game on Sunday night.

It was the second straight game that the junior guard hit a shot in the final second to carry the Irish. Her jumper with one second remaining in overtime knocked off previously unbeaten UConn in the semifinals Friday.

With this game tied, Ogunbowale took the inbounds pass from Jackie Young, dribbled twice toward the corner and, closely guarded, lofted home an off-balance 3 from in front of the Notre Dame bench, nearly the same angle as her shot that beat the Huskies.

"It just felt right," said Ogunbowale, who scored 16 of her 18 points in the second half. "I practice late-game all the time. I just ran to Jackie and said, 'Throw it to me, throw it to me.'"

Ogunbowale earned most outstanding player honors for the tournament and also received a congratulatory tweet from Kobe Bryant, who took in the semifinal win over UConn.

Please see **TITLE**/4C



Tony Dejak/Associated Press

Notre Dame's Arike Ogunbowale, left, is congratulated Sunday by teammate Jackie Young after sinking a 3-point basket to defeat Mississippi State 61-58 in the final of the women's NCAA Final Four basketball tournament in Columbus, Ohio.

VYING FOR VICTORY



David J. Phillip/Associated Press

Villanova head coach Jay Wright, left, and Michigan head coach John Beilein answer questions Sunday during an interview for CBS Sports Network's "We Need to Talk" show before the championship game of the Final Four NCAA basketball tournament in San Antonio.

Villanova, Michigan coach different styles for NCAA title

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Jay Wright's custom-tailored suits are as sharp as Villanova's 3-point shooting. The game-day attire for Michigan coach John Beilein is more reflective of his team's emphasis on old-school fundamentals and defense.

"At the end of the game tomorrow, he'll still look like George Clooney and I will look like Columbo by Peter Falk," Beilein said Sunday. "I'd like to say Kevin Costner, but I can't go there."

For their drastically different styles, both in dress and how their teams play, one of them will be national champions Monday night. Wright will either get his second title in three seasons, or the 65-year-old Beilein his first in 40 seasons as a college head coach.

Villanova (35-4), the No. 1 seed from the East Region, has set records for making 3-pointers — both for the season (454), the NCAA Tournament (66) and their 18 in the national semifinal game against fellow No. 1 seed Kansas.

The title game in the Alamodome will be the first time in this NCAA Tournament that the third-seeded Wolverines (33-7) face a top-5 seed. They beat the Nos. 14, 6, 7 and 9 seeds in the West Region before overcoming a 10-point deficit after halftime Saturday night to

Please see **STYLES**/4C

Villanova, Michigan have no need for one-and-dones

By John Marshall
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Oklahoma's Trae Young captivated the college basketball world, dashing and dishing and filling up the hoop. Arizona's Deandre Ayton was called a cyborg and a unicorn, whatever people could think of to describe his unique combination of power and athleticism. Marvin Bagley III seemed to be playing a different game than everyone else, dunking, slashing, shooting and dominating at Duke.

All three are headed to the NBA, Ayton and Bagley potentially as the draft's top two picks.

None made it to college basketball's final weekend. The trio — and the rest of the coveted one-and-dones

Please see **NEED**/4C



David J. Phillip/Associated Press

Villanova guard Jalen Brunson (1) drives past Kansas guard Malik Newman during the second half in the semifinals of the Final Four NCAA basketball tournament Saturday in San Antonio.

Cole fans 11 in debut as Astros beat Rangers 8-2

By Schuyler Dixon
Associated Press

ARLINGTON — Must be nice to have a rotation so good that Gerrit Cole is the No. 4 starter.

Cole struck out 11 over seven innings in his Houston debut and the World Series champion Astros rolled to an 8-2 victory over the Texas Rangers on Sunday to take three of four from their state rivals in the season-opening series.

The 2015 All-Star allowed two hits after teammate Lance McCullers Jr. struck out 10 in another easy Houston win Saturday. They followed a pair of Cy Young Award winners to the mound in Justin Verlander and Dallas Keuchel.

Cole started on opening day last year for Pittsburgh before an offseason trade to the Astros.

"This is obviously high-end stuff across the board," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said. "Gerrit would have pitched opening day for a lot of teams, and to have him pitch the fourth game of the year is really indicative of the depth of this rotation."

The first hit off Cole (1-0) was slugger Joey Gallo's opposite-field homer just over the tall wall in left field in the first inning against a four-man outfield. Third baseman Alex Bregman gave chase down the line on Gallo's first of the season.

Facing the four-man outfield again in the eighth, Gallo singled through the vacant left side of the infield.

"You talking about the one that went out of the ballpark?" Texas manager Jeff Banister said. "It was a great job by him beating the shift. I don't think you can put a fifth outfielder over the fence."

Derek Fisher had a tying RBI triple in the fifth and scored the go-ahead run on George Springer's sacrifice fly against lefty Mike

Please see **DEBUT**/3C



Mike Stone/Associated Press

Houston Astros starting pitcher Gerrit Cole delivers against the Texas Rangers on Sunday in the first inning of a baseball game in Arlington.

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DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

TV

College Baseball
McNeese State at Texas, 6:30 p.m., LHN

College Softball
Georgia at Tennessee, 6 p.m., SEC

Curling
Men's World Championships: Norway vs. USA, 11 a.m., NBCSN
Men's World Championships: Scotland vs. USA, 3:30 p.m., OLYHD

Hockey
SHL Semifinal, Gm 1 Malmo at Vaxjo, 12:30 p.m., ELVN

Major League Baseball
Tampa Bay at NY Yankees, Noon, ESPN, ESPNDEP
Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati, 3 p.m., MLB
Baltimore at Houston, 6 p.m., ESPN, ESPNDEP, ATTSW
Texas at Oakland, 9 p.m., FSSW
Cleveland at LA Angels, 9 p.m., ESPN2, ESPNDEP

Men's College Basketball
National Championship: Villanova vs. Michigan, 8 p.m., TBS, TNT, truTV

NBA G League
East Semifinal: Raptors 905 at Westchester, 6 p.m., NBAtv

National Hockey League
Washington at St. Louis, 7 p.m., NHL

Rugby
Championship: Toulouse Olympique vs. Toronto Wolfpack, 7:30 a.m., ELVN
Super League: Widnes vs. St. Helen's, 9 a.m., FSP
Super League: Catalans vs. Huddersfield, 11 a.m., FSP

Tennis
WTA: Volvo Car Open, 9 a.m., TENNIS

RADIO

Major League Baseball
Baltimore at Houston, 6 p.m., KBYG 106.1 FM/1400 AM (Big Spring)
Texas at Oakland, 9 p.m., KBEST 95.7 FM (Big Spring), KPET 105.1 FM/690 AM (Lamesa)

WHAT'S ON DECK

HS Baseball

Trinity at Abilene Christian, 7:30 p.m.

JC Golf

Midland College at Bearkat Invitational at Walden, Montgomery

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
DETROIT TIGERS — Recalled LHP Ryan Carpenter from Toledo (IL).
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Assigned RHP Wily Peralta outright to Omaha (PCL). Signed RHP Kyle Lohse to a minor league contract.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Optioned INF Ryan Schimpf to Salt Lake (PCL).
NEW YORK YANKEES — Placed OF Billy McKinney on the 10-day DL. Recalled INF Miguel Andujar from Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL).
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Assigned LHP Sam Moll outright to Buffalo (IL).
National League
ATLANTA BRAVES — Optioned LHP Rex Brothers to Gwinnett (IL). Designated RHP Aksel Morris for assignment. Selected the contract of RHP Josh Rizzo from Gwinnett.
CINCINNATI REDS — Optioned RHP Jackson Stephens to Louisville (IL). Reinstated RHP Raisel Iglesias from paternity leave.
MIAMI MARLINS — Optioned OF Braxton Lee to New Orleans (PCL). Designated RHP Brian Ellington for assignment. Selected the contract of RHP Severino Gonzalez from New Orleans.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Recalled RHP Clay Holmes from Indianapolis (IL).
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Traded INF Breyvic Valera to the L.A. Dodgers for OF Johan Mieses. Assigned Mieses to Palm Beach (FSL).
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
ATLANTA HAWKS — Recalled F Tyler Cavanaugh from Erie (NBAGL). Transferred G Josh Magette and F Andrew White III from Erie. Signed F Jeremy Evans to a 10-day contract.
LOS ANGELES LAKERS — Recalled F Travis Wear from South Bay (NBAGL).
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
CAROLINA HURRICANES — Recalled G Callum Booth from Florida (ECHL) to Charlotte (AHL).
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Activated F Marcus Johansson from injured reserve. Assigned G Mackenzie Blackwood from Binghamton (AHL) to Adirondack (ECHL). Recalled G Ken Appleby from Adirondack to Binghamton.
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Signed D Cal Foote to a three-year, entry-level contract.
American Hockey League
LEHIGH VALLEY PHANTOMS — Recalled G John Muse and D Frank Hora from Reading (ECHL).
SYRACUSE CRUNCH — Returned D T.J. Melancon to Norfolk (ECHL).
UTICA COMETS — Returned D Justin Hamonic and F Dwyer Tschantz to Worcester (ECHL).
ECHL
ADIRONDACK THUNDER — Released F Bo Pieper. Signed D Aaron Titcomb.
FLORIDA EVERBLADES — Signed G Josh Robinson.
FORT WAYNE KOMETS — Signed F Anthony Petruzzelli.
KANSAS CITY MAVERICKS — Signed F Brogan O'Brien.
QUAD CITY MALLARDS — Signed D Tommy Munstone.
READING ROYALS — Claimed D Adam Larkin off waivers from Adirondack.

NBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Toronto	55	21	.724	—
x-Boston	53	23	.697	2
x-Philadelphia	46	30	.605	9
New York	27	50	.351	28½
Brooklyn	25	52	.325	30½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Washington	42	35	.545	—
Miami	41	36	.532	1
Charlotte	34	44	.436	8½
Orlando	22	54	.289	19½
Atlanta	22	55	.286	20

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Cleveland	47	30	.610	—
x-Indiana	46	31	.597	1
Milwaukee	41	36	.532	6
Detroit	37	40	.481	10
Chicago	26	51	.338	21

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Houston	62	15	.805	—
San Antonio	45	32	.584	17
New Orleans	43	34	.558	19
Dallas	23	54	.299	39
Memphis	21	56	.273	41

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	48	29	.623	—
Oklahoma City	45	33	.577	3½
Utah	44	33	.571	4
Minnesota	44	34	.564	4½
Denver	42	35	.545	6

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Golden State	56	21	.727	—
L.A. Clippers	41	36	.532	15
L.A. Lakers	33	42	.440	22
Sacramento	24	53	.312	32
Phoenix	19	59	.244	37½

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
z-clinched conference

Sunday's Scores
Philadelphia 119, Charlotte 102
Chicago 113, Washington 94
Indiana 111, L.A. Clippers 104
San Antonio 100, Houston 83
Atlanta 94, Orlando 88
Cleveland 99, Dallas 87
Detroit 108, Brooklyn 96
Oklahoma City 108, New Orleans 104
Utah 121, Minnesota 97
Denver 128, Milwaukee 125, OT
Golden State 117, Phoenix 107
Memphis at Portland, late
Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, late

Today's Games
No games scheduled

Tuesday's games
Brooklyn at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Charlotte at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Washington at Houston, 8 p.m.
Portland at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Indiana at Denver, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Utah, 9 p.m.
Sacramento at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
San Antonio at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

NHL GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Boston	78	49	17	12	110	261	201
x-Tampa Bay	79	52	23	4	108	289	226
x-Toronto	79	47	25	7	101	267	226
Florida	77	39	30	8	86	232	236
Detroit	79	30	38	11	71	207	242
Montreal	79	28	39	12	68	199	252
Ottawa	78	27	40	11	65	210	274
Buffalo	78	25	41	12	62	187	260

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Washington	79	47	25	7	101	247	230
x-Pittsburgh	80	45	29	6	96	263	246
Columbus	79	44	29	6	94	231	217
Philadelphia	79	40	25	14	94	239	235
New Jersey	79	42	28	9	93	238	236
Carolina	79	35	33	11	81	220	247
N.Y. Rangers	79	34	36	9	77	228	256
N.Y. Islanders	79	32	37	10	74	253	288

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Nashville	79	51	17	11	113	258	204
x-Winnipeg	78	48	20	10	106	260	207
Minnesota	78	43	25	10	96	239	221
St. Louis	78	43	29	6	92	215	208
Colorado	78	42	28	8	92	246	224
Dallas	79	40	31	8	88	224	216
Chicago	79	32	37	10	74	223	245

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
y-Vegas	79	50	22	7	107	263	213
San Jose	79	44	25	10	98	243	217
Los Angeles	79	43	28	8	94	229	194
Anaheim	78	40	25	13	93	220	209
Calgary	79	36	33	10	82	209	241
Edmonton	79	34	39	6	74	227	255
Vancouver	79	30	40	9	69	208	253
Arizona	79	28	40	11	67	201	248

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.
x-clinched playoff spot

Sunday's Scores
Philadelphia 4, Boston 3, OT
Nashville 4, Tampa Bay 1
New Jersey 2, Montreal 1
Washington 3, Pittsburgh 1
Colorado at Anaheim, late

Today's Games
Buffalo at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Carolina at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
Winnipeg at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Washington at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Los Angeles, 8:30 p.m.

MLS GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New York City FC	4	0	1	13	10	4
Columbus	3	1	1	10	9	5
Atlanta United FC	3	1	0	9	8	6
New England	2	1	1	7	6	5
New York	2	2	0	6	10	5
Montreal	2	2	0	6	5	5
Philadelphia	1	1	1	4	2	3
Orlando City	1	2	1	4	6	8
Toronto FC	1	2	0	3	3	4
D.C. United	0	3	2	2	5	10
Chicago	0	2	1	1	6	8

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Sporting Kansas City	3	1	1	10	10	9
Vancouver	3	1	1	10	7	7
LA Galaxy	2	1	1	7	7	6
Los Angeles FC	2	1	0	6	9	5
Minnesota United	2	3	0	6	6	9
FC Dallas	1	0	2	5	5	2
Colorado	1	1	1	4	6	4
Houston	1	2	1	4	7	6
Real Salt Lake	1	2	1	4	4	9
San Jose	1	2	0	3	6	7
Portland	0	2	2	2	4	6
Seattle	0	0	3	3	6	6

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's Scores
Orlando City 4, New York 0
LA Galaxy 4, Los Angeles FC 3
Vancouver 2, Columbus 1
Portland 2, Chicago 2, tie
Atlanta United FC 1, Minnesota United 0
New York City FC 2, San Jose 1
New England 2, Houston 0
Sporting Kansas City 1, D.C. United 0
Colorado 3, Philadelphia 0
Montreal 1, Seattle 0

Friday's Game (April 6)
Montreal at New England, 6:30 p.m.

Aldridge, Gay help Spurs hold down Rockets 100-83

By Raul Dominguez
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — LaMarcus Aldridge had 23 points and 14 rebounds and Rudy Gay added 21 points as the San Antonio Spurs held Houston to its lowest-scoring game of the season, beating the Rockets 100-83 on Sunday.

The Spurs remained fourth in the Western Conference after preventing a season sweep by the Rockets. Houston owns the NBA's best record.

San Antonio outscored Houston 19-8 to open the fourth quarter in taking a 94-74 lead with 5 minutes remaining. Rockets coach Mike D'Antoni opted to take his starters out two minutes later.

The Rockets were without injured Chris Paul and the Spurs were without Kawhi Leonard, who has played in only nine games this season.

James Harden scored 25 points for Houston on 8-of-19 shooting. He also had eight assists, but battled foul trouble before exiting with five fouls. Eric Gordon added 18 points for the Rockets.

Gay scored six points in two minutes bridging the first and second quarters, including what became a four-point play. Gay rebounded his own missed free throw after making the first and was fouled on a layup. He made the ensuing free throw.

Gay later blocked a shot and then raced downcourt for a slam dunk that brought a thunderous response from the home crowd and led to a timeout by D'Antoni.



Darren Abate/Associated Press

San Antonio Spurs' LaMarcus Aldridge (12) grabs the rebound away from Houston Rockets' Clint Capela during the first half of an NBA game Sunday in San Antonio.

Dejounte Murray had 13 points and six rebounds for the Spurs. Murray scored four of his first six points against Harden, driving twice past the Rockets star for a layup.

Tip-Ins

Rockets: Houston's previous low point total came in a 103-89 loss to Memphis on Oct. 28. . Paul missed the game with a sore left leg. D'Antoni said the star guard is "not quite there but looking very good for Tuesday" against Washington. P.J. Tucker remained in the game despite suffering two heavy blows in the first half. Tucker lay on the floor for about a minute after taking an elbow to the top of the head on a failed lob to Aldridge that went out of bounds. Tucker rose with some assistance but remained in the game following a timeout with 3 minutes left in the first half. Two minutes later, Tucker crashed to the floor after Patty Mills bumped into his legs as he went for a rebound. Tucker slammed the ball to court and remained on all fours for less than a minute before rising to his feet. . Gerald Green tweaked his right ankle with about two minutes left in the first half while scrambling for a loose ball. Green shoved Danny Green to force a stoppage and exit the game, gingerly walking on his right ankle. Gerald Green played 14 minutes in the second half.

Spurs: Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said he is unsure when Leonard and "his group" will clear the forward to play as Leonard continues his rehabilitation in New York with his own team of doctors.

Up next

Rockets: Host Washington on Tuesday night.

Spurs: Visit Los Angeles Clippers on Tuesday night.

NBA ROUNDUP

Associated Press

CAVALIERS 96, MAVERICKS 87

CLEVELAND — LeBron James struggled before extending his record double-digit scoring streak to 868 games and Cleveland had a rough time with Dallas before putting away the lottery-bound Mavericks.

James, who broke Michael Jordan's NBA mark for consecutive games with at least 10 points on Friday night, didn't reach 10 until 7:59 remained. He finished just 5 of 21 from the field but made a pair of 3-pointers as the Cavs finally pulled away with a 15-2 run in the fourth quarter.

James had 16 points, 13 rebounds and 12 assists, his 17th triple-double this season and No. 72 of his career.

Harrison Barnes scored 30 points to lead Dallas, which has dropped eight of nine.

THUNDER 109, PELICANS 104

NEW ORLEANS — Russell Westbrook had a triple-double to lead Oklahoma City.

Westbrook finished with 26 points, 15 rebounds and 13 assists. Paul George scored Oklahoma City's first 11 points in the second quarter and finished with 27. Carmelo Anthony added 16 and Steven Adams had 14.

The Pelicans got within 104-99 with 1:57 left, but Westbrook scored on a layup, and after a basket by Anthony Davis, George made a 3-pointer.

76ERS 119, HORNETS 102

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Ben Simmons had 20 points and 15 assists as Philadelphia kept up its passing prowess to beat Charlotte.

The Sixers set a team record with its ninth straight game of 30 or more assists — they had 36 on their 48 baskets.

Former Hornet Marco Belinelli scored 22 points off the bench and J.J. Redick had 20. Robert Covington added 17 points and 11 rebounds.

Charlotte was led by Malik Monk and Michael Kidd-Gilchrist with 16 points apiece. Willy Hernangomez added 15 points and 11 rebounds.

PISTONS 108, NETS 96

NEW YORK — Reggie Jackson scored 29 points, Stanley Johnson had 17 and Detroit preserved its slim playoff hopes with a victory over Brooklyn.

Detroit, playing its third straight game without injured All-Star forward Blake Griffin, avoided elimination from postseason contention for at least one game. Griffin, acquired Jan. 30 from the Los Angeles Clippers, suffered a bone bruise in his right ankle during last Monday's win over the Lakers.

Ish Smith had 17 points and Andre Drummond added 13 points and 14 rebounds for the Pistons, who have now won five straight for the third time this season.

PACERS 111, CLIPPERS 104

LOS ANGELES — Victor Oladipo scored 30 points, Myles Turner added 24 and Indiana rallied for its fifth straight victory.

Oladipo shot 11 of 17 from the field and had 12 assists for the playoff-bound Pacers, who have won four in a row over the Clippers.

Neither team led by more than seven points in the fourth quarter, when the Pacers scored on nearly every possession over the last five minutes. They've won 12 of their last 16.

Tobias Harris led the Clippers with 21 points. Lou Williams added 20 and Montrezl Harrell had 19 off the bench. Austin Rivers scored 18 and DeAndre Jordan grabbed 12 rebounds.

JAZZ 121, TIMBERWOLVES 97

MINNEAPOLIS — Ricky Rubio scored 23 points, including a season-high 5-for-6 shooting on 3-pointers, and Donovan Mitchell added 21 points for Utah.

Dante Exum had 14 points and Jonas Jerebko scored 13 points to help Utah climb a half-game ahead of Minnesota for sixth in the Western Conference. The loss kept the Timberwolves one game ahead of New Orleans, which lost at home to Oklahoma City.

The Jazz shot a season-high 60.5 percent from the field and got 50 points from their reserves to split the season series with the Wolves by winning the last two games. Utah has won 25 of its past 30 games.

Andrew Wiggins scored 23 points for Minnesota, which had won two straight but fell to 19-5 at home against Western Conference opponents this season. Karl-Anthony Towns had 20 points.

BULLS 113, WIZARDS 94

CHICAGO — Rookie Lauri Markkanen scored 23 points and connected on 5 of 8 3-pointers to lead Chicago.

Bobby Portis had 18 points and hit 4 of 5 from long range, and Sean Kilpatrick added 14 points. Chicago shot 52.4 percent overall from the floor and was 18 for 34 on 3s — matching its season high — as Bulls head coach Fred Hoiberg missed the game with an upper-respiratory infection.

Hoiberg returned home before tipoff, leaving associate head coach Jim Boylen to direct Chicago to its second straight win following a seven-game skid.

Otto Porter Jr. led the Wizards with 17 points as five-time All-Star John Wall rested. Bradley Beal scored 15 points and reserve Mike Scott added 14.

HAWKS 94, MAGIC 88

ATLANTA — Tyler Dorsey scored 19 points, including back-to-back baskets after Orlando trimmed Atlanta's lead to five points late in a matchup of the Eastern Conference's worst records.

Dewayne Dedmon had 17 points and 10 rebounds and rookie John Collins added another double-double for Atlanta with 10 points and 11 rebounds. The Hawks snapped a five-game losing streak.

D.J. Augustin led Orlando with 20 points, and rookie Jonathan Isaac had a career-high 15.

SUNS 117, WARRIORS 107

Kevin Durant had 29 points, 11 rebounds and eight assists, and the Golden State Warriors overcame a sloppy start to beat Phoenix 117-107 on Sunday night, handing the Suns their franchise-record 15th consecutive loss.

Draymond Green added 13 points and 12 assists, Klay Thompson scored 23 points and Quinn Cook had 19 points for Golden State. The Warriors have won two straight since dropping four of five.

Golden State's victory was the 263rd under coach Steve Kerr, tying him for third-most in franchise history. Al Attles (557) and Don Nelson (422) hold the top two spots.

NUGGETS 128, BUCKS 125

DENVER — Nikola Jokic had 35 points and 13 rebounds, Jamal Murray scored 18 of his 27 points after the third quarter and the Denver Nuggets rallied from eight down in the final minute of regulation to beat the Milwaukee Bucks 128-125 in overtime Sunday night.

Paul Millsap had 26 points and 13 rebounds for Denver, which took over in the extra period to strengthen its playoff chances.

The Nuggets (42-35) moved within a game of eighth-place New Orleans, which lost its fourth straight Sunday, and 1 1/2 games of Minnesota, which also lost.

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MLB ROUNDUP

Associated Press

American League

TWINS 7, ORIOLES 0

BALTIMORE — Jose Berrios pitched a three-hitter for his first career complete game, and Minnesota got two home runs from Brian Dozier in a rout of Baltimore.

Only one batter reached against Berrios over the first eight innings — No. 9 hitter Chance Sisco, whose third-inning double whisked by the raised glove of left fielder Eddie Rosario at the wall.

Berrios then retired 17 straight before Sisco bunted down the third-base line against the shift for a one-out single in the ninth. A walk and a single loaded the bases before Berrios retired Jonathan Schoop and Adam Jones.

Berrios (1-0) struck out six and walked one in his 40th career start. He threw 107 pitches.

Miguel Sano and Eduardo Escobar also connected for the Twins, who won two of three in the season-opening series.

Orioles starter Kevin Gausman (0-1) allowed three home runs and lasted only four innings.

BLUE JAYS 7, YANKEES 4

TORONTO — Justin Smoak hit a two-run homer in the seventh inning and a go-ahead grand slam in the eighth to rally the Toronto Blue Jays past the New York Yankees 7-4 on Sunday.

After connecting off reliever Tommy Kahnle in the seventh, Smoak brought the crowd of 29,091 to its feet with his second career slam, a drive against David Robertson (0-1).

Smoak went 3 for 4 with a walk and six RBIs as Toronto gained a series split, winning the final two games.

Smoak's other grand slam also came against the Yankees, in 2015.

Tyler Clippard (1-0) pitched a scoreless inning, and Seung Hwan Oh finished for his first save.

RED SOX 2, RAYS 1

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Hector Velazquez continued a season-opening stretch of strong starting pitching by Boston, working into the sixth inning.

The first four Red Sox starters — Chris Sale, David Price, Rick Porcello and Velazquez — combined to give up two runs over 24 innings. The defending AL East champions won three of four at Tropicana Field under new manager Alex Cora.

Velazquez (1-0) allowed one run and five hits in 5 2/3 innings. Joe Kelly closed for his first save.

Jose Alvarado (0-1) lost in relief.

MARINERS 5, INDIANS 4

SEATTLE — Dee Gordon and Mitch Haniger homered, Mike Leake pitched seven strong innings and Seattle topped Cleveland.

Edwin Encarnacion went deep twice for the Indians, his 29th career multihomer game.

Gordon and Haniger connected in the seventh, when the Mariners broke a 2-all tie on the way to winning the series.

Leake (1-0) gave up two runs and five hits. He has allowed three runs or fewer in all six starts since joining the Mariners late last season.

Gordon led off the seventh with a tiebreaking shot off Dan Otero (0-1). A few batters later, Haniger added a two-run drive off reliever Tyler Olson to give Seattle a 5-2 lead. They were the first runs Olson has allowed with Cleveland — last year he threw 20 scoreless innings in 30 appearances for the Indians.

Edwin Diaz struck out all three batters in the ninth for his second save.

ANGELS 7, ATHLETICS 4

OAKLAND, Calif. — Shohei Ohtani could exhale, at last having made it through a whirlwind week and not one, but two separate debuts in the big leagues.

He got his first career hit, then three days later earned a win on the mound. Souvenir balls for each occasion.

Impressing manager Mike Scioscia with both his poise and repertoire, the two-way star from Japan won his major league pitching debut. He threw three-hit ball over six innings and led the Los Angeles Angels past the Oakland Athletics 7-4 on Sunday.

After being the designated hitter in the opener, he expected to be far more nervous to pitch. It didn't show.

Reaching the upper 90s (mph) with his fastball and keeping the A's guessing with a nifty splitter, Ohtani struck out six and retired 14 of his final 15 batters.

He didn't hit while pitching, as Albert Pujols was the DH and went 0 for 5.

National League

MARLINS 6 CUBS 0

MIAMI — Dillon Peters threw six scoreless innings, Brian Anderson hit a three-run double to highlight a five-run fifth and Miami split its opening four-game series with Chicago.

Peters (1-0) helped a well-worked bullpen out in a big way, rarely getting himself into any trouble. He threw 89 pitches, 56 for strikes, striking out two and walking only one.

Jose Quintana (0-1) gave up six hits and six runs in six innings.

CARDINALS 5, METS 1

NEW YORK — Paul DeJong had the first multihomer game of his big league career, Luke Weaver held the Mets to one run in five innings and St. Louis avoided an opening three-game sweep.

DeJong went deep in the second inning, making him 3 for 3 with two homers in his career against Steven Matz (0-1). DeJong hit his second solo homer in the eighth against Jacob Rhame.

DeJong hit .285 with 25 home runs and 65 RBIs as a rookie last year, earning a $26 million, six-year contract.

Marcell Ozuna broke out of an 0-for-9 start with three hits, including an RBI double and a run-scoring single. Yadier Molina also homered for the Cardinals.

Weaver (1-0) struggled through a 27-pitch first inning but settled in and wound up allowing five hits, four of them singles.

NATIONALS 6, REDS 5

CINCINNATI — Bryce Harper hit two home runs, leadoff man Adam Eaton capped his big opening series with a two-run drive and Washington beat Cincinnati for a three-game sweep under new manager Dave Martinez.

The Nationals are 3-0 for the fourth time in their history. They last swept an opening series in 2014.

Eaton returned from a knee injury that wiped out most of his 2017 season and figured prominently in all three victories, going 8 for 13 with two doubles, two homers, five RBIs and six runs.

Anthony Rendon homered off Sal Romano (0-1).

Gio Gonzalez (1-0) gave up five hits and one run while pitching into the seventh inning. Sean Doolittle allowed Phil Gosselin's two-run homer in the ninth before earning his second save.

Interleague

FIRST GAME
PIRATES 1, TIGERS 0

DETROIT — Trevor Williams was pulled with a no-hitter in progress after six innings, and Pittsburgh won the opener of a day-night doubleheader.

Williams (1-0) threw 84 pitches and walked five, and was replaced by Michael Feliz. Nicholas Castellanos doubled with one out in the Detroit seventh.

Felipe Rivero struck out the side in the ninth for his first save, finishing the combined two-hitter.

A rainout forced the doubleheader, and the game drew 14,858 fans on a chilly afternoon, the smallest crowd at Comerica Park since 2006.

Michael Fulmer (0-1) gave up four hits in eight innings. Gregory Polanco hit an RBI double in the first.

SECOND GAME
PIRATES 8, TIGERS 6

DETROIT — Josh Harrison, Starling Marte and David Freese homered for Pittsburgh, and the Pirates completed a doubleheader sweep of the Detroit Tigers with an 8-6 victory Sunday night.

Pittsburgh won the opener 1-0 behind six no-hit innings from Trevor Williams, then took control of the second game with five runs in the fifth.

Pittsburgh swept the three-game, season-opening series against the rebuilding Tigers. The highlight of the day for Detroit was Miguel Cabrera's first home run of the season, a solo shot in the sixth inning of the second game.

Chad Kuhl (1-0) allowed four runs and eight hits in 5 2/3 innings in the nightcap. Detroit starter Ryan Carpenter lasted three innings in his major league debut, yielding three runs and five hits.



Mike Stone/Associated Press

Houston Astros' Jose Altuve scores as Texas Rangers catcher Robinson Chirinos. stands near the plate during the seventh inning of a game Sunday in Arlington.

DEBUT

From 1C

Minor (0-1), making his Texas debut and first major league start since 2014.

Carlos Correa doubled home two runs in the seventh and AL MVP Jose Altuve had three hits to finish 9 for 16 in the series. Evan Gattis had three hits and three RBIs, including a pair of run-scoring doubles. Max Stassi added an RBI single.

Cole struck out the side in the fifth and seventh innings for his most strikeouts since matching his career high of 12 in his final start of 2014.

The other hit Cole allowed was Elvis Andrus' leadoff double in the sixth, when he got an inning-ending double play with runners at the corners to preserve a 4-1 lead.

"He was in total control of the game, and I think he finished even stronger than he started," Hinch said.

"His stuff was electrifying at the end of the game. What a great way to start his Astros career."

Minor, who missed two big league seasons after shoulder surgery in 2015, was a reliever in Kansas City last season before signing as a free agent. He gave up three hits and two runs with five strikeouts in 4 2/3 innings.

"I felt like my old self again," Minor said. "Something to build on. I think the strength's going to get better as the season goes on."



Photo credit

Houston Astros' Derek Fisher (21) slides into third base for an RBI triple against the Texas Rangers during the fifth inning of a game Sunday in Arlington

Bottom feeders

Before Drew Robinson homered in the eighth for Texas, the bottom five hitters in the order were a combined 1 for 38 this season. With center fielder Delino DeShields out at least a month with a broken left hand, Ryan Rua and Robinson could be forced into the lineup more instead of platooning in left.

Rookie Carlos Tocci is an option in center, but is considered a defense-first outfielder right now.

Trainer's room

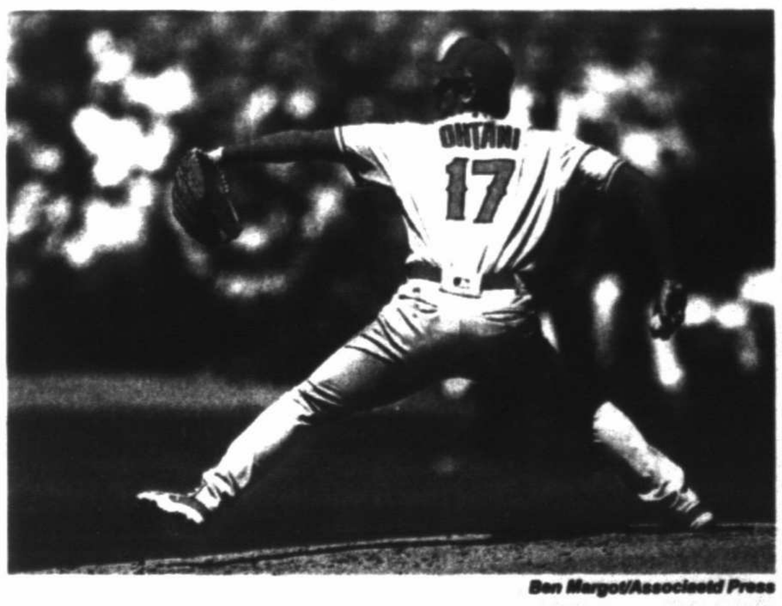
Astros: 1B Yuli Gurriel is expected to be in the lineup Tuesday, a day after another batting practice session at the Astros' spring training facility in Florida.

Gurriel started the season on the restricted list to serve his five-game suspension for an inappropriate gesture after homering against Japanese pitcher Yu Darvish of the Dodgers in Game 3 of the World Series. Gurriel had surgery for a broken bone in his left hand Feb. 28.

Up next

Astros: RHP Charlie Morton, who was on the mound for the final out in Game 7 of the World Series in Los Angeles, starts the home opener against Baltimore on Monday.

Rangers: RHP Bartolo Colon is scheduled to start Texas' first road game in Oakland on Monday. The 44-year-old right-hander is set to become the second-oldest player for Texas behind Nolan Ryan, who was 46 when he made the final start of his career in 1993.



Ben Margot/Associated Press

Los Angeles Angels' Shohei Ohtani works against the Oakland Athletics during the second inning of a game Sunday in Oakland, Calif.



Mike Stone/Associated Press

Texas Rangers' Elvis Andrus (1) dives back to first as Houston Astros first baseman Marwin Gonzalez reaches for the ball in the third inning of a game Sunday in Arlington, Texas.

MLB GLANCE

Associated Press

Standings

American League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	3	1	.750	—
New York	2	2	.500	1
Toronto	2	2	.500	1
Baltimore	1	2	.333	1½
Tampa Bay	1	3	.250	2
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	2	0	1.000	—
Minnesota	2	1	.667	½
Cleveland	1	2	.333	1½
Kansas City	0	2	.000	2
Detroit	0	3	.000	2½
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	3	1	.750	—
Los Angeles	3	1	.750	—
Seattle	2	1	.667	½
Oakland	1	3	.250	2
Texas	1	3	.250	2

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	3	0	1.000	—
Atlanta	2	1	.667	1
New York	2	1	.667	1
Miami	2	2	.500	1½
Philadelphia	1	2	.333	2
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	3	0	1.000	—
Pittsburgh	3	0	1.000	—
Chicago	2	2	.500	1½
St. Louis	1	2	.333	2
Cincinnati	0	3	.000	3
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	2	1	.667	—
San Francisco	2	1	.667	—
Colorado	1	2	.333	1
Los Angeles	1	2	.333	1
San Diego	0	3	.000	2

American League
Sunday's Scores
Chicago White Sox at Kansas City, ppd.
Minnesota 7, Baltimore 0
Toronto 7, N.Y. Yankees 4
Boston 2, Tampa Bay 1
Pittsburgh 1, Detroit 0, 1st game
Houston 6, Texas 2
L.A. Angels 7, Oakland 4
Seattle 5, Cleveland 4
Pittsburgh 8, Detroit 6, 2nd game
Today's Games
Minnesota (Lynn 0-0) at Pittsburgh (Taillon 0-0), 12:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Pruitt 1-0) at N.Y. Yankees (Montgomery 0-0), 12:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Hammel 0-0) at Detroit (Liriano 0-0), 12:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Lopez 0-0) at Toronto (Garcia 0-0), 6:07 p.m.
Baltimore (Tillman 0-0) at Houston (Morton 0-0), 6:10 p.m.
Boston (Johnson 0-0) at Miami (Richards 0-0), 6:10 p.m.
Texas (Colon 0-0) at Oakland (Triggs 0-0), 9:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Clevinger 0-0) at L.A. Angels (Ramirez 0-0), 9:07 p.m.

National League
Sunday's Scores
Miami 6, Chicago Cubs 0
Pittsburgh 1, Detroit 0, 1st game
St. Louis 5, N.Y. Mets 1
Washington 6, Cincinnati 5
Pittsburgh 8, Detroit 6, 2nd game
San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers, late
Today's Games
Minnesota (Lynn 0-0) at Pittsburgh (Taillon 0-0), 12:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Mikolas 0-0) at Milwaukee (Davies 0-0), 1:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Chatwood 0-0) at Cincinnati (Mahle 0-0), 3:10 p.m.
Boston (Johnson 0-0) at Miami (Richards 0-0), 6:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Lively 0-0) at N.Y. Mets (Harvey 0-0), 6:10 p.m.
Washington (Roark 0-0) at Atlanta (Newcomb 0-0), 6:35 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Ryu 0-0) at Arizona (Walker 0-0), 8:40 p.m.
Colorado (Gray 0-0) at San Diego (Mitchell 0-0), 9:10 p.m.

Texas box

ASTROS 6, RANGERS 2

Houston	ab	r	h	bi	Texas	ab	r	h	bi
Springer rf	3	0	0	1	Andrus ss	3	0	1	0
Bregman 3b	5	1	1	0	Treinen ph	0	0	0	0
Altuve 2b	5	2	3	0	Gallo lf	4	1	2	1
Correa ss	5	2	2	2	Beltre dh	3	0	0	0
Ma. Gnzlz 1b	4	0	0	0	Mazara rf	4	0	0	0
J.Davis lb	1	0	1	0	R.Chirns c	4	0	0	0
Gattis dh	4	1	3	3	Odor 2b	3	0	0	0
Marisnick cf	3	0	0	0	Rua lf	3	0	0	0
Stassi c	3	1	2	1	Profar 3b-ss	3	0	0	0
Fisher lf	4	1	1	1	Rsmyer ct-dh	3	1	1	1
Totals	39	8	13	8	Totals	30	2	4	2

Houston 000 033 002—8
Texas 100 001 000—2

DP—Houston 1. LOB—Houston 8, Texas 4. 2B—Altuve (1), Correa (3), Gattis 2 (4), Stassi (2), Andrus (2). 3B—Fisher (1). HR—Gattis (1), Robinson (1). SB—Altuve (1), Correa (1). S—Springer (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Houston						
Cole W,1-0	7	2	1	1	3	11
Devenski	1	2	1	1	0	0
Giles	1	0	0	0	0	1
Texas						
Minor L,0-1	4 2-3	3	2	2	2	5
Martin	2-3	2	2	2	0	1
Claudio	1	4	3	3	0	2
Jepsen	2-3	1	0	0	0	0
Gallardo	2	3	1	1	0	3

HBP—by Minor (Stassi).
T—3:13. A—35,750 (48,114).

Linescores

AMERICAN LEAGUE
TWINS 7, ORIOLES 0

Minnesota 000 000 034—7 10 0
Baltimore 000 000 000—0 3 1

Berrios and Garver; Gausman, Araujo (5), Bleier (8), Bundy (8), Givens (9) and Sisco. W—Berrios 1-0. L—Gausman 0-1. HRs—Minnesota, Escobar (1), Dozier 2 (2), Sano (2).

BLUE JAYS 7, YANKEES 4

New York 000 000 400—4 6 0
Toronto 010 000 42x—7 12 1

Gray, Green (6), Ribeiro (7), Robertson (7) and Romine; Stroman, Biagini (6), Axford (7), Clippard (8), Oh (9) and Martin. W—Clippard 1-0. L—Robertson 0-1. Sv—Oh (1). HRs—New York, Drury (1). Toronto, Smoak 2 (2).

RED SOX 2, RAYS 1

Boston 000 010 001—2 8 0
Tampa Bay 000 000 010—1 4 1

Velazquez, Walden (6), Pomeranz (8), M.Barnes (9), Kelly (9) and Vazquez; Faria, Alvarado (6), Chirinos (8) and W.Ramos. W—Velazquez 1-0. L—Alvarado 0-1. Sv—Kelly (1). HRs—Tampa Bay, Miller (1).

ASTROS 6, RANGERS 2

Houston 000 000 231—6 8 0
Texas 000 000 020—2 4 0

Cole, Devenski (8), Giles (9) and Stassi; Minor, C.Martin (5), Claudio (6), Jepsen (7), Gallardo (8) and R.Chirinos. W—Cole 1-0. L—Minor 0-1. HRs—Stassi, Robinson (1), Gallo (1).

MARINERS 5, INDIANS 4

Cleveland 010 100 002—4 7 0
Seattle 200 003 00x—5 9 1

Bauer, Otero (6), T.Olson (7), Goody (8) and Perez; Leake, Nicasio (8), Diaz (9) and Pollock. W—Leake 1-0. L—Otero 0-1. Sv—Diaz (1). HRs—Cleveland, Encarnacion 2 (2), Seattle, Gordon (1), Haniger (2).

ANGELS 7, ATHLETICS 4

Los Angeles 000 000 034—7 9 0
Oakland 200 000 002—4 5 1

Ohtani, Bedrosian (7), Ward (8), Parker (9), Middleton (9) and Maldonado; Gossett, Petit (5), Buchter (8), Fiddler (7), Coulombe (7), Casilla (8) and Lucroy. W—Ohtani 1-0. L—Gossett 0-1. Sv—Middleton (1). HRs—Oakland, Chapman (1).

INTERLEAGUE
PIRATES 1, TIGERS 0

Pittsburgh 000 000 001—1 6 0
Detroit 000 000 000—0 2 0

Williams, Feliz (7), Rivero (8), Rivero (9) and Cervelli; Fulmer, Greene (8) and Jo.Hicks. W—Williams 1-0. L—Fulmer 0-1. Sv—Rivero (1).

PIRATES 8, TIGERS 6

Pittsburgh 000 050 030—8 10 0
Detroit 200 103 000—6 12 0

Kuhl, Santana (5), Glasnow (7), Ravenstahl (8), Felipe Rivero (9) and E.Diaz; R.Carpenter, Farmer (4), Verlander (6), Boxberger (8), Jimenez (9) and McCann. W—Kuhl 1-0. L—Farmer 0-1. Sv—Felipe Rivero (2). HRs—Pittsburgh, Harrison (1), Marte (1), Polanco (1). Detroit, Cabrera (1).

NATIONAL LEAGUE
MARLINS 6, CUBS 0

Chicago 000 000 000—0 3 0
Miami 200 004 00x—6 7 0

Quintana, Duensing (7) and Caratini; Peters, Steckenrider (7), Guerrero (8), Ziegler (9) and Wallach. W—Peters 1-0. L—Quintana 0-1.

CARDINALS 5, METS 1

St. Louis 011 110 000—5 8 0
New York 010 000 000—1 7 0

Weaver, Brebbia (6), Jo.Hicks (8), Leone (9) and Molina; Matz, Gsellman (6), Rhame (7), Rivera (8), A.Ramos (9) and Plawecki. W—Weaver 1-0. L—Matz 0-1. HRs—St. Louis, Molina (2), Duda 2 (2).

NATIONALS 6, REDS 5

Washington 000 020 004—6 9 0
Cincinnati 200 003 000—5 7 0

G.Gonzalez, Glover (7), Solis (8), Madson (9), Doolittle (9) and Maldonado; Romano, Gutierrez (7), Peralta (8), R.Iglesias (8) and Mesoraco. W—G.Gonzalez 1-0. L—Romano 0-1. Sv—Doolittle (2). HRs—Washington, Eaton (2), Rendon (1), Harper 2 (2). Cincinnati, Gennett (1).

TITLE

From 1C

All the Irish players could celebrate after pulling off the biggest comeback in title game history. They rallied from a 15-point deficit in the third quarter and were down five in the final 1:58. Marina Mabrey hit a 3-pointer from the wing and Young had a shot in the lane to tie it.

The title came 17 years to the day after Notre Dame (35-3) won its only other championship in 2001 on Easter.

"It's Easter Sunday, and all the Catholics were praying for us," said coach Muffet McGraw, who was wearing floral shoes in honor of the holiday.

When the final buzzer sounded, a wild celebration started with the Irish faithful who were part of the sellout crowd. McGraw's team had fallen short four times in seven years in the title game, losing in 2011, 2012, 2014 and 2015. Many of the Notre Dame alums who were on teams that had fallen just short of winning a title were there to enjoy it, including Natalie Achonwa, Natalie Novosel and Becca Bruszewki

This version of McGraw's squad refused to lose, and the run was even more improbable because the Irish lost four players over the season to ACL injuries.

Tied as the clock ran down, Mississippi State star Teaira McCowan missed a layup with 27.8 seconds left, and both teams turned the ball over in a wild sequence. McCowan fouled out of the game stopping an Irish fast break after consecutive turnovers and that set up the final 3 seconds.

After Ogunbowale's clutch shot, the officials huddled and put one-tenth of a second on the clock. A couple of Mississippi State players had already headed for the locker room, while Notre Dame players celebrated.

The court was cleared, and Mississippi State tossed a futile inbounds pass into the lane as the buzzer sounded.

"It hurts right now," Bulldogs coach Vic Schaefer said. "They played their hearts out."

It was the second year in a row that Mississippi State (37-2) fell short in the title game. It lost to South Carolina last year after ending UConn's record 111-game winning streak.

For the fourth straight NCAA game, the Irish found themselves trailing at the half. They were down 40-25 early in the third quarter before finally getting on track offensively. The Irish closed the period with a 16-1 run to tie the game at 41 heading to the final quarter.

The Irish were buoyed by severe foul trouble by Mississippi State that saw all five of its starters with three fouls in the third quarter.

It didn't look good for the Irish in the first half. After getting out to a 12-6 lead with 3:41 left in the opening quarter, Mississippi State outscored Notre Dame 24-5 the remainder of the half. The Irish went just over 8 minutes without a point, missing seven shots and committing five turnovers during the game-changing run.

At the same time, the 6-foot-7 McCowan and Victoria Vivians were powering the Bulldogs. McCowan got the burst going with five straight points and Vivians capped it with the final six points to give the Bulldogs a 30-17 lead at the half.

Vivians finished with 21 points and McCowan 18 to go along with 17 rebounds to lead the Bulldogs.

The Irish had just three points in the second quarter, setting an NCAA Tournament record for the fewest points in a period. That was five less than the previous mark for futility set by Syracuse in 2016 against UConn.

It didn't matter in the end as Notre Dame found a way to rally, just as they had done all season.

"This team is relentlessly driven," said Jessica Shepard, who scored 19 points to lead the Irish. "We've been down multiple times this year, but nobody stops us."

STYLES

From 1C

be Loyola-Chicago, only the fourth No. 11 seed to ever make to the Final Four.

Loyola made only 1 of 10 3s against the nation's No. 3 defense in terms of efficiency.

After Kris Jenkins hit a buzzer-beating 3-pointer against North Carolina to win the national championship two years ago, Villanova's first since 1985 under Rollie Massimino, the now 56-year-old Wright noticed people looking at him differently.

"Mostly positively. But sometimes if you don't handle it well they look at you negatively. They just look at you a lot more. You just get a lot more attention," said Wright, in his 17th season at Villanova after seven years at Hofstra.

Beilein has an impressive coaching resume with 799 wins when including all his previous stops — at Erie Community College in New York, Nazareth, LeMoyne, Canisius, Richmond and West Virginia. Missing is a national title.

Of course, Beilein would love to have a championship — the Wolverines made to the 2013 title game and lost to Louisville. Louisville was later forced to vacate that 2013 title because of NCAA sanctions in the wake of an embarrassing sex scandal. It was the first time a Division I men's basketball program was stripped of a national championship.

Going into his 1,260th game as a head coach, Beilein doesn't anticipate that winning a title, or not, will change how he sees his career.

"You hang in there and you just do your absolute best every single day. And someday you're going to say, I gave it everything I had, and if I'm falling into my grave, that's OK too," Beilein said. But you just do everything you can to be the best coach, the best mentor, the best teacher, the best husband, the grandfather, father every day, and you go do it again. And that's all I want to be."

Michigan is in its seventh national title game. The Wolverines have won only one, beating Seton Hall in overtime in 1989.

Since his first coaching job as an assistant coach at Division III Rochester in 1984, Wright has been crossing paths with Beilein, who at the time was at LeMoyne College, also in New York. Wright said Beilein had an advantage in recruiting back then because he could offer scholarships while Wright could not.

"You'd be on a guy and you'd just hope you wouldn't see John in the gym. And like, in April, he'd pop in and he'd see you," Wright said. "You'd say, 'Are you going to take him, John?' He goes, 'Yeah, I'm sorry but we're going to take him."

They coached against each other in the Big East, after Wright got to Villanova and when West Virginia was still in that league.

These Wolverines with 6-foot-11 Moe Wagner are similar to some of Beilein's teams at West Virginia, like the ones that made back-to-back NCAA Tournament appearances more than a decade ago with big man Kevin Pittsnogle.

"They remind me of John's West Virginia teams. Wagner kind of reminds me of a modern-day Pittsnogle, thinned down, eating healthier, a little more skilled," Wright said.

After Michigan wrapped up the first national semifinal game Saturday by finally putting away Loyola, the favorite underdogs with Sister Jean on their side, Beilein didn't get a chance to tune into the Villanova game until after halftime.

By then, the Wildcats had already matched the Final Four single-game record with 13 of their 3s. They had a double-digit lead throughout after jumping ahead 14-4 in the first 4 minutes and added 10 more points before Kansas scored again.

"I'm sure glad I didn't get to see it," Beilein said. "It was an offensive clinic against a very good defensive team."

Tonight, it will be up to Beilein's very good defense to try to prevent another one.

Michigan's 3-point defense is key to upsetting Villanova

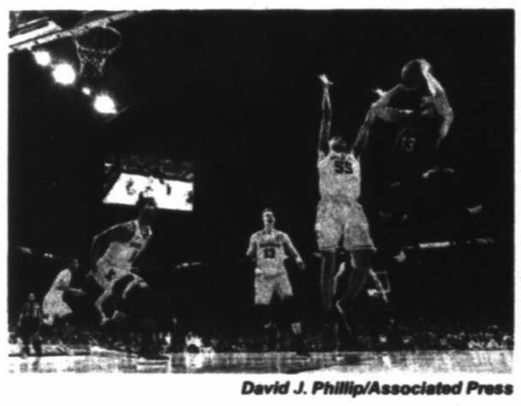
By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Facing a team that shoots as well as Villanova, limiting the takes from 3-point range is about as important as limiting the makes.

It just so happens that Michigan is among the best teams in the country at defending 3-point offense. If the Wolverines can pull an upset on Monday night and beat the Wildcats in the NCAA Tournament championship game, the biggest reason is likely to be their ability to force Villanova inside the 3-point line.

Villanova is coming off a record-setting performance in the Final Four victory against Kansas with 18 3-pointers, prompting fans to compare the Wildcats to the NBA's Golden State Warriors. Villanova is third in the country in 3-pointers made per game at 11.6.

According to KenPom.com's advanced stats, Villanova is the most efficient offensive team in the country, and the Wildcats generate 40 percent of that offense from 3-pointers, which ranks 15th in the country.



David J. Phillip/Associated Press

Loyola-Chicago guard Clayton Custer (13) shoots over Michigan guard Eli Brooks (55) on Saturday in the semifinals of the Final Four NCAA basketball tournament in San Antonio.

"They can all shoot," Michigan center Moe Wagner said. "Usually when you play a good team, there's usually something you can give up and make a defensive game plan. But that's not the case here. You know what? It's not supposed to be easy."

Facing Michigan's defense has not been easy, either. After last season, coach John Beilein hired Luke Yaklich, a longtime high school coach in Illinois who was working as an assistant at Illinois State, to be Michigan's defensive coordinator.

The results have been stellar. The Wolverines have the third-best defense in the country by KenPom's ratings and pargicularly focus on stopping the 3-point shot.

Michigan is 10th-best in the country in percentage of points allowed via the 3, according to KenPom. During the 14-game winning streak the Wolverines will take into the championship game, Michigan's opponents are shooting 27 percent from 3-point range.

Maybe even more important, Michigan has held its opponent under their season average for 3-point attempts 12 times during the 14 games.

Loyola-Chicago attempted only 10 3s in the semifinals, eight below its average. Florida State and Texas A&M were both held five attempts below their season averages in losing to Michigan in the NCAA Tournament. Houston took four fewer 3-pointers than it usually does in the second round against the Wolverines.

More than 3s: Villanova must move ball, rebound vs. Michigan

By Aaron Beard
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Villanova has made more 3-pointers than any team in NCAA Division I history and fittingly set a Final Four single-game record for made 3s to reach Monday's national championship game .

It's made them a clear favorite to beat Michigan for their second national championship in three seasons. And sure, their ability to keep hitting from outside — even if it isn't at a record pace — against the Wolverines' tough defense will play a big role in reaching that goal.

Yet there's more beyond the obvious glow from all those deep shots. They'll have to do a better job rebounding than they did in some of their few losses. And they'll have to keep the ball moving while racking up assists with a deep well of shooters on the ready, something they've done nearly all year.

"It's very good — we've been very unselfish this year," redshirt junior guard Phil Booth said Sunday. "We know, always look for the best shot. Not taking too many 3s is what we've been doing a good job of. ... And when we get a lot of assists, good things happen."

Villanova (35-4) is atop KenPom's adjusted offensive efficiency at 127.6 points per 100 possessions. That's better than any team on other than Wisconsin in 2015 (129.0) dating all the way back to the 2002 season.

They'll face a tough challenge against a Michigan defense ranked third by KenPom (90.4 points allowed per 100 possessions) and hoping for an uglier game compared to Villanova's free-flowing romp against Kansas in Saturday's national semifinals.

Villanova kept the ball moving — sometimes whipping it around the perimeter, other times on drive-and-kickout plays — to stay a step ahead of the Jayhawks' befuddled defense, which left coach Bill Self in a perpetual state of exasperation through what became a 40-minute shooting show.

By the end, Villanova had assisted on 12 of its Final Four-record 18 3-pointers, and finished the game with 20 assists on 36 baskets.

NEED

From 1C

— were already done before the bracket branched into San Antonio.

Winning championships, except in rare cases, takes more than one talented player. It requires a collective effort, experience, leadership — elements Villanova and Michigan have stockpiled while building toward the NCAA Tournament title game on Monday night.

"There's a process of going through the season that you have to experience one, two, three times before you can really have this type of success under this pressure in March," Michigan coach John Beilein said.

The Final Four this year has come down to just that.

All four teams had talented freshman, though none of the one-and-done variety. Loyola-Chicago's Cameron Krutwig was the Final Four's leading true freshman scorer at 10.3 points per game.

The last two teams have counted on freshman to help them reach the title game.

Wildcats big man Omari Spellman is a freshman, but had a redshirt year to learn coach Jay Wright's system and transform his body. Collin Gillespie has appeared in 31 games, but averages only 4.3 minutes.

The Wolverines have two key players who are freshmen in Jordan Poole and Isaiah Livers. Poole hit the buzzer-beater against Houston to send Michigan into the Sweet 16 and was the vocal leader in the locker room when the Wolverines trailed Loyola-Chicago at halftime in the national semifinals. Livers has started 21 games this season, rotating with Duncan Robinson at forward.

One-and-done they are not.

These title contenders are here because they have veteran leaders, savvy players who know the game's nuances and can handle the brightest spotlights without peeking around the corner to a professional career.

"We recruit guys that just want to be in college," Wright said. "We want them to enjoy the college experience and then we hope that after one year of enjoying the college experience they have a really difficult decision to make that the NBA wants you but you really enjoy college.

Rather than come to college saying I want to get out as soon as I can."

Villanova is led by Associated Press national player of the year Jalen Brunson, a heady, always-in-control junior who fills up the box score. The rest of the leadership trust includes juniors Mikal Bridges, Eric Booth and Eric Paschall, and scrappy sophomore Donte DiVincenzo.

Michigan's main man is junior Moe Wagner, a multi-dimensional German big man and matchup nightmare. Juniors Charles Matthews and Muhammad-Ali Abdur-Rahkman are the other main scoring options, sophomore Zavier Simpson runs the point, graduate seniors Duncan Robinson and Jaaron Simmons provide depth at guard.

Wagner, Brunson and Bridges will likely have NBA careers. Some of the others, just maybe.

"We always say and I think it was Rudy Tomjanovich who said this, 'We're not amassing talent when you're building a team; you're building a team,'" Beilein said.

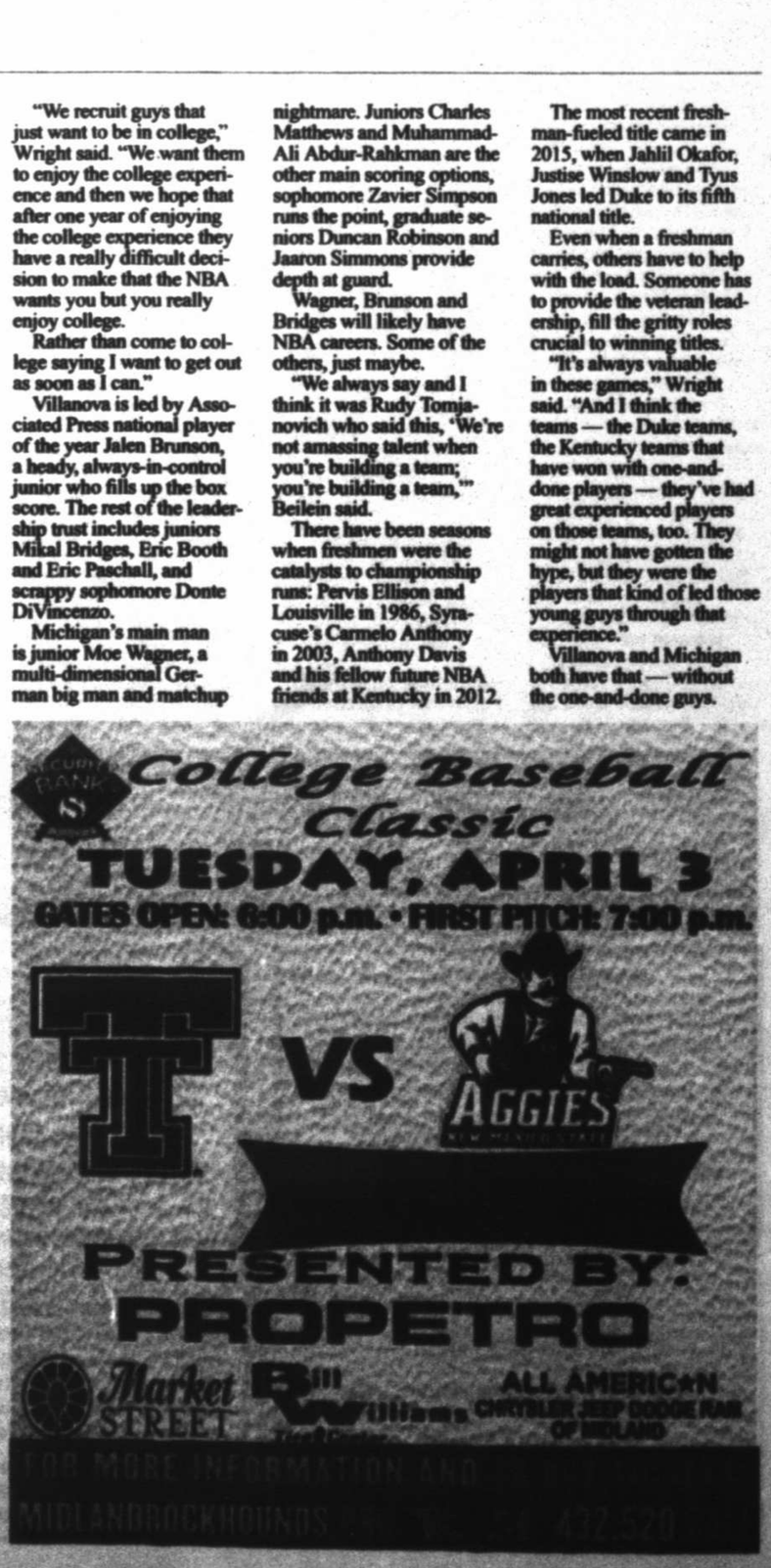
There have been seasons when freshmen were the catalysts to championship runs: Pervis Ellison and Louisville in 1986, Syracuse's Carmelo Anthony in 2003, Anthony Davis and his fellow future NBA friends at Kentucky in 2012.

The most recent freshman-fueled title came in 2015, when Jahlil Okafor, Justise Winslow and Tyus Jones led Duke to its fifth national title.

Even when a freshman carries, others have to help with the load. Someone has to provide the veteran leadership, fill the gritty roles crucial to winning titles.

"It's always valuable in these games," Wright said. "And I think the teams — the Duke teams, the Kentucky teams that have won with one-and-done players — they've had great experienced players on those teams, too. They might not have gotten the hype, but they were the players that kind of led those young guys through that experience."

Villanova and Michigan both have that — without the one-and-done guys.



Poulter delivers to win Houston Open and get in Masters

Associated Press

HUMBLE — Ian Poulter delivered another big moment Sunday, this one for himself.

Down to his last putt, Poulter made a 20-foot birdie on the 18th hole to force a playoff with Beau Hossler, and then he won the Houston Open with a par on the first extra hole to earn the last spot in the Masters.

One week after Poulter was mistakenly told he had locked up a spot at Augusta National through the world ranking, he left no doubt by winning with a clutch moment reminiscent of his Ryder Cup heroics from Medinah in 2012.

"I had to dig deep today," said Poulter, who closed with a 5-under 67.

Hossler, who also shot 67, overcame a three-shot deficit with four straight birdies on the back nine. He had a chance to win on the 18th in regulation with a 30-foot birdie putt that trickled over the right edge of the cup.

That set the stage for Poulter, and the 42-year-old from England lived up to his nickname as "The Postman" by delivering his biggest putt in years. Poulter pounded his chest five times when the putt dropped, and all Hossler could do was smile.

"I did think I'd made it," Hossler said, "but it hung out there. Ian basically had the same putt and there's no way he was going to miss it after watching my ball. I gave Ian the perfect read (for him) to make his putt. I knew he was going to make it."

In the sudden-death playoff on the 18th, one of the more daunting finishing holes off the tee with water down the left side and a bunker to the right, Hossler found the bunker for the second time. He hit into a greenside bunker, and his third shot caught way too much ball and went over the green and into the water.

Poulter was safely on the green as Hossler took his penalty drop, chipped onto the green and took two putts for a triple bogey.

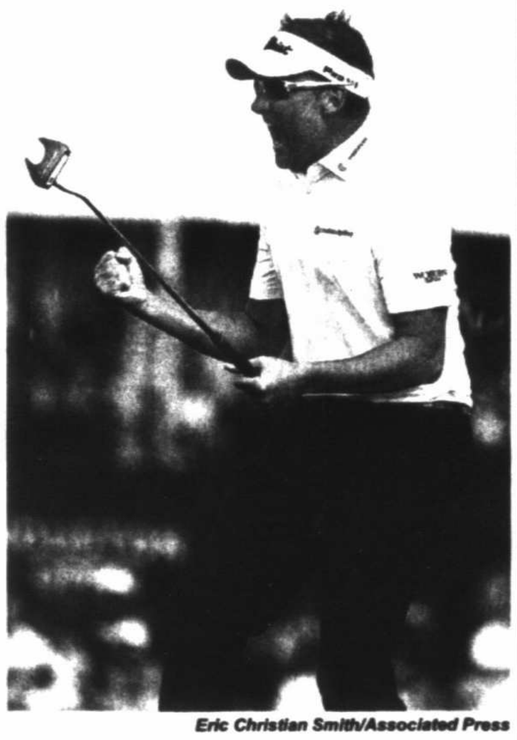
They finished at 19-under 269.

Poulter won for the third time on the PGA Tour, and his first in America since the Match Play in 2010 at Arizona. This was his first stroke-play victory in America, and the timing could not have been better.

When he reached the quarterfinals of the Dell Technologies Match Play last weekend in Austin, he was told that it was enough to get him into the top 50 in the world ranking by the end of the weekend, the cutoff for qualifying for the Masters.

It turned out he needed to win his quarterfinal match, and Poulter was informed of the mistake before he teed off. Kevin Kisner beat him, 8 and 6.

Poulter was so disappointed that he contemplated not even going to Houston, and when he opened with a 73 in a first round of low scoring, he packed his bags and prepared to go home to Florida the next day. Instead, he bounced back with a 64, and shot 65-67 on the weekend.



Eric Christian Smith/Associated Press

Ian Poulter reacts after his par putt to win the Houston Open golf tournament in a one-hole playoff on the 18th hole over Beau Hossler on Sunday in Humble.

"Last week was painful," he said. "To come here this week, I was tired. I was frustrated on Thursday. ... I was patient. I waited my time. And this is amazing."

It was his first victory since the HSBC Champions, a World Golf Championship event at Mission Hills in China in 2012. That was a month after Poulter led Europe to a stunning turnaround in the Ryder Cup by making five straight birdies to win a fourballs match and give Europe momentum to overcome a four-point deficit.

Along with going to the Masters, Poulter cracks the top 30 in the world and now is in good shape to be eligible for the rest of the majors. He also has a two-year exemption, critical because he nearly lost his card a year ago until he was spared by a clerical error by the tour.

"The journey continues. I've had 19 good years on tour and I guess I've got another couple coming," Poulter said. "I think I've got some good golf left in me. I think I proved it this week. So there's life in the old dog yet."

Hossler did everything right until the playoff. His four straight birdies included a 30-footer on the par-3 14th to tie for the lead, and a wedge that settled 4 feet below the hole that gave him the lead with three to play.

"I said yesterday I wanted to beat these guys at their best and I think I saw Ian's best today," Hossler said. "It's a bummer, but I'm very proud of the way I played."

Jordan Spieth closed with a 66 and tied for third with Emiliano Grillo (68), giving Spieth momentum for the Masters. It was Spieth's best finish against a full field since he tied for second in the Dell Technologies Championship outside Boston in September.

"Goal accomplished for the week," Spieth said. "I've made some big strides from my last couple tournaments. I'm very excited for what next week holds."

Sunday
At Golf Club of Houston
Humble, Texas
Purse: $7 million
Yardage: 7,441; Par 72
Final
(x-won on first playoff hole)

x-Ian Poulter (500), $1,260,000	73-64-65-67—269	
Beau Hossler (300), $756,000	65-68-69-67—269	
Emiliano Grillo (163), $406,000	69-68-67-68—272	
Jordan Spieth (163), $406,000	68-67-71-66—272	
Sam Ryder (110), $280,000	66-68-71-68—273	
Keith Mitchell (95), $243,250	67-71-67-69—274	
Henrik Stenson (95), $243,250	68-68-69-69—274	
Abraham Ancer (73), $182,000	69-66-72-68—275	
Paul Dunne, $182,000	64-71-69-71—275	
Matt Every (73), $182,000	67-70-72-66—275	
Russell Henley (73), $182,000	69-71-70-65—275	
Matt Kuchar (73), $182,000	68-68-69-70—275	
Julian Suri, $182,000	66-69-73-67—275	
N. Lindheim (54), $122,500	68-66-73-69—276	
Shane Lowry (54), $122,500	68-68-71-69—276	
Grayson Murray (54), $122,500	67-69-72-68—276	
M.Thompson (54), $122,500	67-71-70-68—276	
Daniel Berger (44), $88,200	69-72-68-68—277	
Bud Cauley (44), $88,200	67-69-71-70—277	
Robert Garrigus (44), $88,200	69-69-67-72—277	
Chesson Hadley (44), $88,200	68-68-69-72—277	
Charles Howell III (44), $88,200	71-67-70-69—277	
Nate Lashley (44), $88,200	70-69-68-70—277	
Bronson Burgoon (32), $54,163	67-68-75-68—278	
Tony Finau (32), $54,163	70-70-69-69—278	
Luke List (32), $54,163	68-68-70-72—278	
James Lovemark (32), $54,163	69-69-71-69—278	
Phil Mickelson (32), $54,163	68-71-72-67—278	
Scott Piercy (32), $54,163	68-70-70-70—278	
Martin Piller (32), $54,163	68-73-70-67—278	
Shawn Stefani (32), $54,163	67-69-70-72—278	
Rob Oppenheim (19), $34,809	69-72-72-66—279	
Roberto Diaz (19), $34,809	68-69-72-70—279	
Lucas Glover (19), $34,809	65-73-72-69—279	
James Hahn (19), $34,809	69-67-73-70—279	
J.B. Holmes (19), $34,809	73-69-69-70—279	
John Huh (19), $34,809	70-67-70-72—279	
Andrew Putnam (19), $34,809	71-69-69-70—279	
Kevin Tway (19), $34,809	65-70-69-75—279	
T. Van Aswegen (19), $34,809	72-69-71-68—279	
Nick Watney (19), $34,809	71-69-69-70—279	
Aaron Wise (19), $34,809	69-69-71-70—279	
Ryan Armour (10), $20,860	68-70-72-72—280	
Keegan Bradley (10), $20,860	68-71-70-71—280	
Ben Crane (10), $20,860	72-67-72-69—280	
Rickie Fowler (10), $20,860	68-68-73-73—280	
Hunter Mahan (10), $20,860	71-69-70-70—280	
Denny McCarthy (10), $20,860	69-73-71-68—280	
Troy Merritt (10), $20,860	69-69-72-70—280	
Brett Stegmaier (10), $20,860	67-69-74-70—280	
Kevin Streelman (10), $20,860	68-72-69-71—280	
Byeong Hun An (6), $16,083	69-72-71-69—281	
Tyler Duncan (6), $16,083	68-72-71-70—281	
Bobby Gates, $16,083	70-71-70-70—281	
Seungsu Han, $16,083	71-70-71-69—281	
Matt Jones (6), $16,083	70-71-72-68—281	
Thomas Pieters (6), $16,083	69-72-70-70—281	
Justin Rose (6), $16,083	69-69-72-72—281	
Johnson Wagner (6), $16,083	71-67-71-72—281	
Brandon Harkins (5), $15,190	70-71-70-71—282	
Tom Hoge (5), $15,190	69-73-68-73—282	
Seamus Power (5), $15,190	67-72-74-69—282	
Adam Schenk (5), $15,190	70-69-73-70—282	
Chad Campbell (4), $14,630	69-71-73-70—283	
Jason Dufner (4), $14,630	71-67-71-74—283	
Danny Lee (4), $14,630	69-70-70-75—283	
Sean O'Hair (4), $14,630	71-69-74-69—283	
Tom Lovelady (3), $14,210	70-69-70-75—284	
Davis van der Walt, $14,210	70-69-69-76—284	
Greg Chalmers (3), $13,650	67-72-65-81—285	
Rory Sabbatini (3), $13,650	69-71-71-74—285	
Ernie Els (3), $13,650	70-71-71-74—286	
Sam Saunders (3), $13,650	70-69-75-72—286	
Aaron Baddeley (2), $13,440	71-69-74-74—287	
Ethan Tracy (2), $13,300	70-67-73-78—288	
Made cut did not finish		
Scott Brown (2), $12,950	71-70-73—214	
Jonathan Byrd (2), $12,950	69-70-75—214	
Joel Dahmen (2), $12,950	69-71-74—214	
Bill Haas (2), $12,950	69-73-74—214	
Jason Kokrak (2), $12,320	67-74-74—215	
Kelly Kraft (2), $12,320	70-71-74—215	
Ben Silverman (2), $12,320	73-68-74—215	
Scott Stallings (2), $12,320	73-68-74—215	
Lee Westwood, $12,320	69-70-76—215	
Fabián Gómez (1), $11,830	69-73-75—216	
Richy Werenski (1), $11,830	70-71-75—216	
Brandt Snedeker (1), $11,550	67-73-77—217	
Jhonattan Vegas (1), $11,550	71-69-78—217	
Padraig Harrington (1), $11,340	67-73-79—219	
Dominic Bozzelli (1), $11,200	72-69-79—220	

Garcia makes Sunday arrival at Augusta a day for family

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Sergio Garcia peeled back the blanket and leaned over for another peek at his 3-week-old daughter, sound asleep against her mother's chest. As his wife chatted with friends, he walked back over to take a purse that dangled from her arm, and then a shopping bag at her feet.

He was much a doting father and husband as he was the Masters champion, and that was only fitting Sunday.

The mood is light the day before Masters week officially begins. It feels more like a day of family and celebration, enhanced by the 60 children moving out from the driving range to the chipping area to the 18th green for the Drive, Chip and Putt competition that has become a tradition since it began five years ago.

Garcia was a big part of that, too.

He became the first defending champion to attend the reception Saturday night. One girl was asked for her best Garcia impersonation from his victory last year, and she crouched, clenched her fists and pumped both arms. According to those in attendance, Garcia came on stage and showed the real thing.

Garcia later went out for a practice round with his father, Victor, but not before a big Spanish celebration.

The large group next to the outdoor dining area between the clubhouse and the putting green included Garcia's parents, his wife's parents, two-time Masters champion Jose Maria Olazabal and Jon Rahm, who hopes to become the fourth Spaniard in a green jacket.

After speaking in English and Spanish to European Tour television, Rahm said he had to leave.

"I'm going wherever he goes," he said, nodding to where Garcia was standing, except that he was referring to Olazabal.

Rahm recalled going to a Spanish event five years ago ahead of the World Amateur Team Championship to ask Olazabal what parts of his game needed work. Olazabal told him to concentrate on his chipping and putting.

"He said, 'Do this, do that.' So I did this, I did that. And I won," Rahm said, smiling before he added, "So I need to listen to this man."

There were Masters champions all over Augusta National on Sunday, several of them presenting trophies to the various age groups of winners. Garcia, Adam Scott, Nick Faldo, Mark O'Meara, Gary Player, Ben Crenshaw and Bubba Watson were among those posing with the kids.

Faldo and Watson share one peculiar thing in common at the Masters — multiple victories, no top 10s except for when they win. It goes against so much evidence that Masters champions have a knack for playing well.

Bernhard Langer was in the mix two years ago when he was 58. Fred Couples seems to play well no matter how bad his back is treating him. Tiger Woods has never missed the cut at the Masters, and even in his last full season before multiple back surgeries, his tie for 17th was his best result of the year.

"I have no idea how the formula works," Faldo said, though he wasn't the least bit bothered. "My top 10s were very good top 10s."

Watson won in 2012 and 2014, and in between he figured he could at least finish in the top 10.

"I was right around 10th," Watson said. "And then I made a 10 on No. 12. I made a 20-footer for a 10."

Woods was not expected until Monday, and in some respects, that's when this Masters might really come to life. Most of the best players in the world already have won this year — Dustin Johnson, Rahm, Justin Thomas, Rory McIlroy, Garcia — and that's been the case in recent years going into Augusta National.

Woods hasn't won, but he's playing well, and that almost feels like a victory considering his four back surgeries.

"Tiger coming back is better than just playing," Faldo said. "He's going to threaten. I think he's ahead of schedule."

Isner earns biggest win, beating Zverev in Miami Open final

By Steven Wine
Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — John Isner punctuated his unexpected run to the Miami Open title with a surprising display of agility, dancing across the court while basking in a breakthrough.

The 6-foot-10 Isner looked twice as tall skipping about with a grin brighter than the Florida sunshine. He had just won the biggest title of his 14-year career, holding every service game and rallying past Alexander Zverev 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-4 on Sunday.

Isner, who turns 33 this month, previously had been 0-3 in ATP Masters 1000 finals.

"You can't replicate moments like this," Isner said during the trophy ceremony. "I'm toward the latter part of my career; this is the best moment of my career."

Isner's win came in the last singles match on Key Biscayne before the Miami Open moves next year to the NFL Dolphins' stadium.

Seeded 14th, Isner became the first American man to win the tournament since Andy Roddick in 2010. Isner joined Sloane Stephens , who won the women's title Saturday, for the first U.S. sweep in the event since 2004, when the champions were Roddick and Serena Williams.

The start of the last game was delayed by the crowd's chants of "U-S-A!" Isner then held at love, and on the final three points he smacked aces, giving him 18 for the match and 79 for the tournament.

"I was just ready for this moment," he said. "I've been here three other times, and I've lost three times on this stage. I was just ready for it."

Isner is best known as tennis' marathon man thanks to his 70-68 fifth-set victory over Nicolas Mahut at Wimbledon in 2010. He possesses perhaps the game's biggest serve but has never reached a Grand Slam semifinal, largely because a lack of mobility makes it difficult for him to stay in rallies.

The string of victories on Key Biscayne surprised even him because he arrived with a record of 1-6 this year, including losses to players with rankings of 60, 62, 78 and 91.

"I couldn't have scripted this," Isner said. "I was playing very poorly. But that's the way tennis goes. You gain a little confidence, and things start to roll your way."

He played an almost flawless semifinal to beat Juan Martin del Potro, and was just good enough against the fourth-seeded Zverev, a precocious 20-year-old German who was bidding for his third Masters 1000 title in the past 12 months.

The Key Biscayne finale drew a near-capacity crowd, and the atmosphere was electrifying at times. When Isner hit a forehand winner during a tense final game of the second set, he whirled his index finger as he looked around at the roaring crowd, coaxing the decibel level still higher.

Two points later, when Zverev won a wild exchange with both players at the net, he waved both arms toward the stands, inspiring another crescendo from the fans.

Isner's serve allowed him to overcome inconsistent returning, a succession of botched volleys and shaky play at crunch time. He converted only two of 12 break-point chances and lost his final three service points in the tiebreaker.

But he gave Zverev only three break-point chances, and Isner's serve was at its best down the stretch. He made 83 percent of his first serves in the final set.

Meanwhile, baseline errors by Zverev mounted.

"I think I missed more shots today than I did in the whole tournament," the young German said.

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Midland Reporter-Telegram

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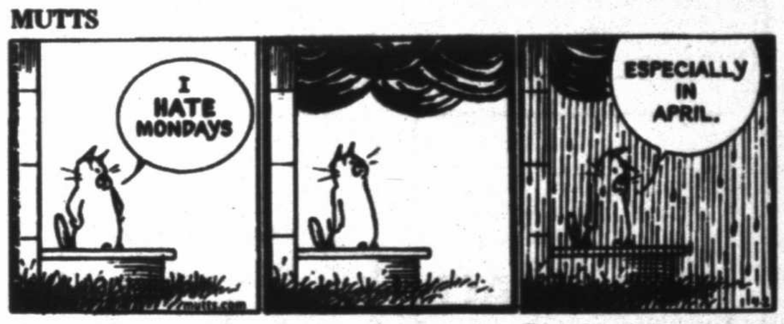
BABY BLUES



SHOE



MUTTS



GARFIELD



CLOSE TO HOME



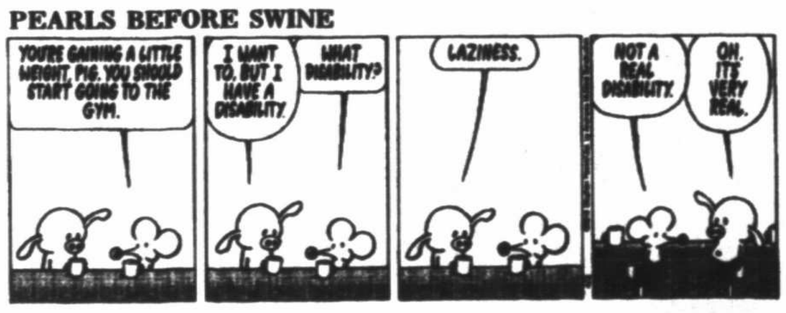
"NUTS!! I sliced my finger open on this danged hard, sharp plastic that the bandages are packaged in!"

DENNIS THE MENACE



"I'M WATCHING, BUT I DON'T SEE MUCH OF THE WORLD PASSING BY LIKE YOU DO."

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



FAMILY CIRCUS



"Easter tastes better than Halloween, and we don't have to ring a lot of doorbells."

WIZARD OF ID

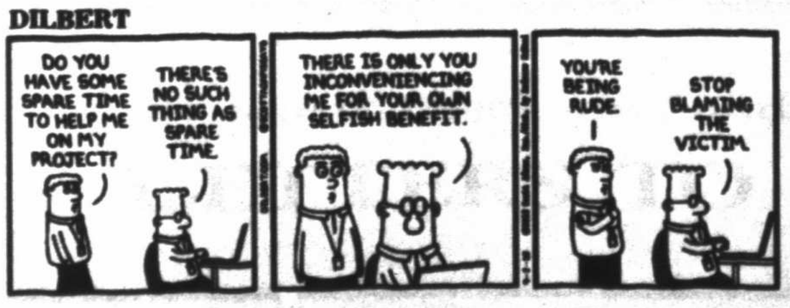


LOCKHORNS



"WHAT BEGAN AS A BLOG IS NOW A TELL-ALL BOOK ABOUT OUR MARRIAGE"

DILBERT



SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE

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

4/2/18

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JUMBLE

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

TDPAA

TOBUA

HOYTER

SPULCT

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Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

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



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

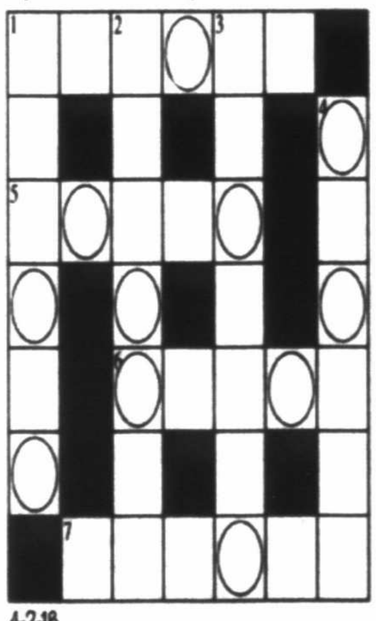
"○○○-○○○○○○○"

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: OCCUR FUSSY LESSON IMMUNE
Answer: The tractor-trailer driver did OK for himself and was — SEMI-SUCCESSFUL

JUMBLE® CROSSWORDS™

by David L. Hoyt



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Intense	RECEFI
5. Relating to	OTBUA
6. ___ finger	XEIDN
7. Cornered	LNEDAG

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Show off	AUFTNL
2. Soil ___	OOINSER
3. Tower, fortress	TLCEIAD
4. Stretched	EEFDLX

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

4-2-18

CLUE: There are about 20,000 species of these.

BONUS ○○○○○○○○○○○

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

ANSWERS: 1A-Fierce 5A-About 6A-Index 7A-Angled 1D-Flaunt 2D-Erosion 3D-Citadel 4D-Fixed 5-Butterflies

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

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

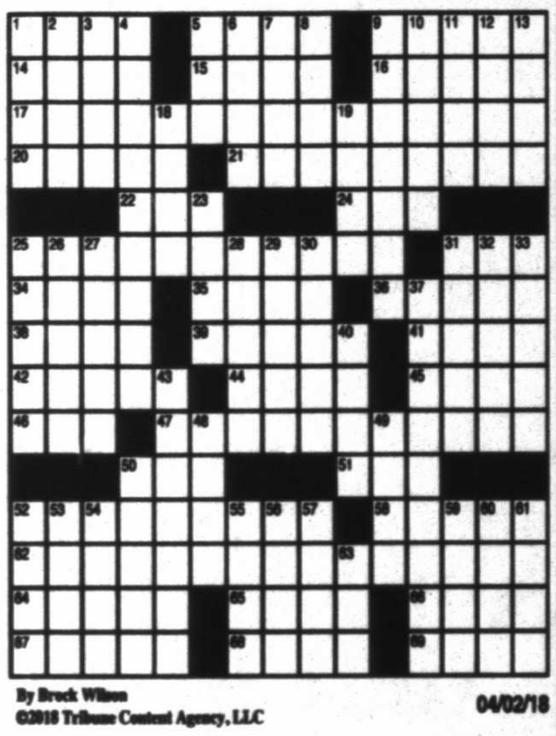
ACROSS
1 Smallest chess piece
5 Intl. alliance with a phonetic alphabet
9 Test for fit
14 Where to find Columbus
15 Surrounded by
16 Like a wolfman
17 Made it possible (for)
20 Bit of campaign ugliness
21 In a jittery way
22 Food storage cover
24 Big pic from a small neg.
25 Reason for "Fahrenheit 451" fires
31 Yr.'s dozen
34 Smoothie berry
35 Pet store cry
36 Resell exorbitantly, as tickets
38 Iowa crop
39 Extreme fear
41 First website page
42 Last Greek letter
44 Lucy's sitcom partner
45 Neighborhood
46 Stark in "Game of Thrones"
47 Achieved desired results
50 Math basics: Abbr.
51 Tweeter's titter
52 White ursine critter
58 Hand prettifiers
62 It's designed to elicit a certain answer ... or where the end of 17-, 25- and 47-Across may be found
64 Dickens' Drood
65 Garage goop
66 Opponent
67 Hit __: ran into trouble
68 Wise, as advice
69 Twice-monthly 7-Down

DOWN
1 Seasoned senators, say
2 "If I may say something ..."
3 Edith, to Archie
4 Teacher's "Shh!"
5 "Uh-uh"
6 Confirmation from the congregation
7 Ocean phenomenon
8 Reason for a diaper change
9 Big crowds
10 Phantom's rival, in "The Phantom of the Opera"
11 Pet store cries
12 Baseball's Hershiser
13 Big Apple address letters
18 Chicago paper, for short
19 Toaster __
23 Dilapidated joint
25 Breakfast partner of 55-Down
26 "__, all ye faithful ..."
27 Rowed
28 Verify, as totals
29 Octet plus one
30 "If only"
31 New Zealand native
32 Early Mesoamerican
33 "Bark, Bowser!"
37 Phony
40 Sky over Paris
43 Loving and devoted, as fans
48 Library vol. ID
49 Gobbling guys?
50 Gymnast Comaneci
52 Ardent request
53 Voluminous syn. and etym. sources
54 Mowed expanse
55 See 25-Down
56 Water color
57 Ladder step
59 29-Down count
60 Kappa preceder
61 Barbershop sound
63 Barely make, with "out"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

04/02/18



By Brock Wilson
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1.

ZLED

2.

DA WN

Print Your Answers Here:

1. ○○○○○○○○○○

2. ○○○ ○○○○○ ○○

4-2

Created by Tom Underwood
www.wuzzleking.com

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WUZZLES® Answers

1. Bamboozled
2. The break of dawn

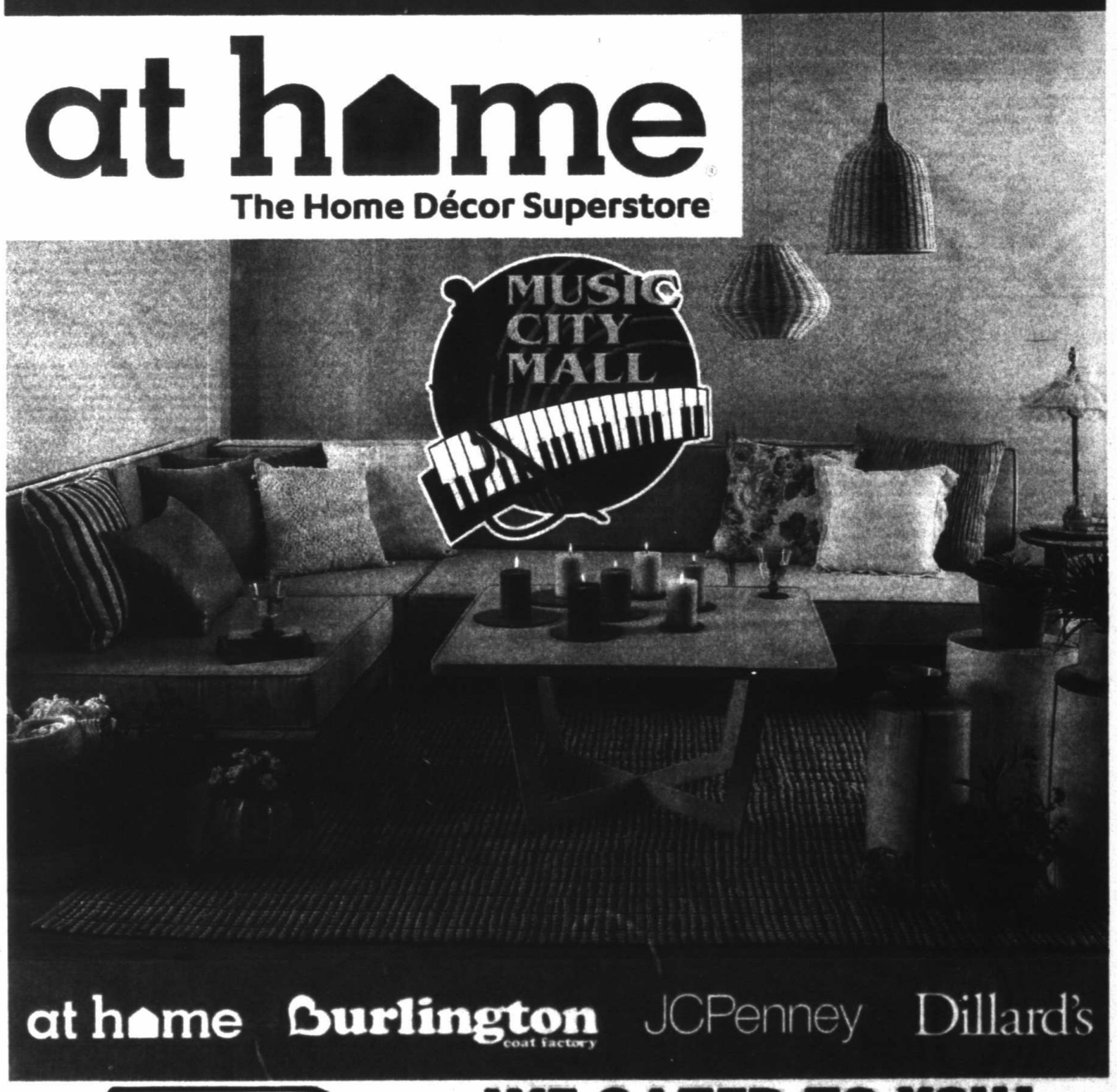
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Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Administrative Assistant - SSB

Performs all routine and specialized secretarial work for the Midland Police Department.

Job Duties:
•Answers phone, take messages, greets visitors and assists citizens with questions or concerns.
•Maintain calendar for assigned personnel.
•Develops, types and files correspondence.
•Enters data into the computer regarding police actions or projects.
•Processes and routes mail as needed.
•Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with employees, management and citizens when acting as a receptionist, answering inquiries, processing information or making referrals to the proper staff person.

Ability to read and understand manuals and reports in order to record work activities, keep records or work with computers. Skill in the operation and maintenance of a number of office machines and equipment such as computers, copiers and printers, Skill in typing and word processing. Skill and experience in the operation of computerized systems in order to design or complete spreadsheets, forms or word processing assignments, brochures, certificates and programs. Experience in software with personal computers related to spreadsheets, databases and word processing.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must be able to pass typing test with minimum score of 45 wpm.

Benefits:
• Heath care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Customer Service/ Order Entry

Receive and enter customer orders in OSI order management program and manage them through delivery. Communicate with customers concerning the status of orders. Answer phones, Greet guest Must have good computer skills (excel, word), Good communication skills (phone, in person and email), Quick learner. Hours: 8-5 Monday-Friday. Competitive pay and health benefits
Send resume to gaisson@oilfieldsolutionsinc.com

DOT, Safety & Inventory Clerk

Established company in Midland looking for DOT, Safety and Inventory Clerk. Valid driver's license required. Must be willing to relocate to Midland area. Pay will be determined based on oilfield experience. This company offers excellent pay, medical insurance and retirement benefits. Send resumes and salary requirements to Diamond D Slickline Service Co., P. O. Box 216, Snyder, Texas 79550

Slickline Operators

Established company in Midland looking for slickline operators. Valid driver's license required. Must be willing to relocate to Midland area. Pay will be determined based on oilfield experience. This company offers excellent pay, medical insurance and retirement benefits. Send resumes and salary requirements to Diamond D Slickline Service Co., P. O. Box 216, Snyder, Texas 79550

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Associate Traffic Engineer

Job Duties:
• Support or substitute for the City Traffic Engineer as needed
• Oversee and/or participate in the development, configuration, and operation of the City's computerized control systems
• Manage and perform warrant studies for traffic signals, stop signs, crosswalks, school zones, speed units and others
• Review commercial and residential development requests
• Review all phases of the platting process for commercial and retail development
• Prepare analysis and recommendations in support of geometric, roadway, intersection, and other infrastructure improvements
• Prepare analysis and recommendations for the installation and maintenance of traffic control devices within the city

Qualifications:
• Bachelors degree in civil engineering or related field with a minimum of three years' experience in traffic engineering or related field.
• Master's degree in civil engineering or related field may be substituted for three years' experience.
• Valid Texas driver's license required.
• Certification as an Engineer in Training (EIT) preferred.

Benefits:
• Healthcare Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs

MANAGEMENT-EXECUTIVE

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING

GIS Manager

Reporting to the Engineering Services Director, this position oversees the development and management of the City of Midland Geographic Information System (GIS). This includes staff supervision, budgeting, training, etc.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Manages the GIS Division budget and recommends budget request for new hardware and software as appropriate.

Job Duties:
•Supervises all phases and implementation of the City Enterprise GIS.
-Supervises GIS Division staff.
-Provides planning and direction for GIS growth to serve the City and Public.
-Provides general customer service; responds to concerns and inquiries related to -Division services.
-Negotiates and reviews contracts provided by consultants for GIS services. e.g. -LiDAR, ortho-mosaic imagery, Cityworks, etc.
-Develops policies and standards for the GIS Division.
-Manages the setting of priorities for projects, software, database, and application development.
-Oversees development of GIS applications, web services, and tools to ensure they are current and within industry standards and practices.
-Oversees the GIS Division in managing ArcGIS Server installation, maintenance, upgrades and use.
-Provides recommendations to the Director of Engineering Services regarding annual GIS Division budget, priorities for projects, and resources required to complete them.
•Provides user-training services, as requested.
• Independently prepares and delivers reports and presentations to City Councilmembers, City Management, and outside agency officials. Serves as representative of GIS (or the City) to other departments and outside agencies.
•Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with employees within and outside the department, and with outside agencies; and to respond to questions from Councilmembers, City Management, constituents, vendors, businesses, and other governmental agencies or staff.

Proven ability to plan, organize and manage multiple concurrent projects with minimal supervision. Willingness to work in a team environment and learn new skills to help improve systems and procedures. Ability to supervise and manage other staff with a variety of skills and abilities.

Demonstrated proficiency in the use of Esri ArcGIS software (ArcGISDesktop, ArcGISOnline, ArcGISPro). Solid understanding of database design/management and programming is desirable.

Knowledge of land surveying, municipal governmental operations, acquisitions and procedures is desirable.

Bachelor's degree in GIS, Geography, Computer Science, Engineering, or a related technical or business field required. Minimum of five years' experience using Esri GIS software required. Master's degree in a related field preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required.

Benefits:
• Heath care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MANAGEMENT-EXECUTIVE

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING

Planning Division Manager

Manages Planning Division office including professional planners, technicians, and secretarial staff. Reviews items for consideration by appointed boards and commissions and elected officials.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Prepares and administers the annual division budget. Monitors expenditures during the year and makes recommendations for budget modifications.

Job Duties:
•Reviews staff work including reports, maps and special studies for presentation to Planning Commission and City Council.
•Coordinates, supervises and manages staff time.
•Prepares, administers and monitors annual budget.
•Presents information at public meetings. Participates with other staff members concerning interrelated projects.
•Answers various questions from general public and developers concerning city ordinances, development trends, and population. ,
•Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees in the work group. Communication with the general public, developers, outside agencies and other departments within the organization is required.

Knowledge of planning and zoning process. Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Skill in writing and interpreting budgets. Ability to write and review reports, memos and other correspondence. Ability to supervise and communicate with employees. Basic comprehension of computer use. Valid Texas Driver License.

Bachelor's degree or equivalent in geography, planning or related field required. Graduate work or advanced degree in planning preferred. Three to five years experience in a related field required, preferably including supervisory experience.

Benefits:
• Heath care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING

Right-Of-Way Manager

This position manages the acquisition, sale, and licensing of City rights-of-way and other real property; oversees the execution of transactions of real property; and administers the issuance of easements and licenses to outside parties for the use of City-owned rights-of-way and property.

Budgetary Responsibilities:

Assist management staff with recommendations and budget data for potential right-of-way and easement acquisitions for public improvements.

Job Duties:
•Develops policies and procedures for standardization of third-party use of City rights-of-way and property.
•Manages the distribution of surface damages for City rights-of-way and other real property owned by the City: including 47,000+/-acres of City-owned parcels.
•Develops and negotiates Surface Use Agreements, Right-of-Way License Agreements, Seismic Agreements, for third-party users of City-owned parcels or rights-of-way, and coordinates with appropriate City Departments or Management.
•Prepares and presents reports to City officials, Council members, and representatives of outside agencies.
•Obtains Appraisals, Title Work, and coordinates Closings on tracts of interest.
•Coordinates and processes public easements for City projects.
•Coordinates departmental actions related to acquisition of real property to ensure compliance with City policies, and legal and regulatory guidelines.
•Coordinates preparation of offers to purchase, leases, deeds, exchange agreements, easements, releases, and related property transaction documents.
•Coordinates with others and utilizes engineering plats and plats to determine accuracy of property legal descriptions and boundaries, title histories, etc.
•Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Proven ability to plan, organize and manage multiple concurrent projects with minimal supervision. Willingness to work in a team environment and learn new skills to help improve systems and procedures.

Knowledge of land surveying, oil drilling and pipeline operations, and typical petroleum industry practices related to land use and acquisition is desirable. Knowledge of municipal governmental operations, acquisitions and procedures is helpful.

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with employees within and outside the department, and with outside agencies; and to respond to questions from Council members, constituents, vendors, businesses, and other governmental agencies or staff.

Demonstrated proficiency in the use of Esri ArcGIS software is desirable.

Bachelor's degree required. Minimum of five years' experience in real estate, land acquisition, or a similar field. Valid Texas driver's license required.

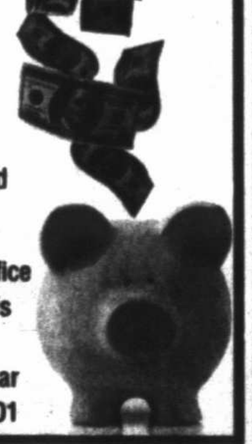
Benefits:
• Heath care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement

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OTHER JOBS

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone?? Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram in the in the Midland and Odessa areas.



Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet. Oscar Ronquillo 432-687-9001

CDL Drivers Needed

Come Join our family! Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving
We want your work experience and your hard work!
NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

• Water truck drivers • Belly Dump drivers

Home every night and new equipment

Requirements: 1 year of driving experience.
Valid Texas Class A CDL, w/tankers for water truck driver.

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

Landscape/Irrigation Help
Wanted landscape and Irrigation Employee, Please Call (432)-770-2300

Groundskeeper
Sagewood Condominiums now Hiring Groundskeeper apply Monday through Friday 8am-6pm. 3339 Caldera Blvd. - Office

OTHER JOBS

Field Service Mechanics

Come Join our family! Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving
We want your work experience and your hard work!
NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION

Field Service Mechanics

Requirements: 3 years mechanic experience.
Must have own tools, Valid Texas Drivers license, Pay will depend on work experience, 50 plus work week.
Benefits: Medical, dental /vision, life insurance. Paid vacation after 1 year of service, and 401K

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

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING

Planner

Performs field and office work related to planning and development programs for utilization of land and physical facilities of the city.

Job Duties:
•Prepares special studies and reports related to code amendments and annexation studies. Assists with comprehensive plan and studies and updates as necessary.
•Prepares statistical reports such as annual population estimates.
•Reviews requests and prepares written reports for zone change and proposed subdivision plat applications and special studies.
•Presents information and recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
•Reviews miscellaneous applications including temporary land uses, special events, public rights of way, etc.
•Responds to public inquiries concerning development of the city in general as well as specific areas.
•Researches, compiles and analyzes land use and related data.
•Works with the public and developers in answering questions and providing information.
•Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with developers and citizens in order to provide information and guidance on planning and zoning issues. Ability to work in conjunction with employees from different departments.

Knowledge of current planning processes and procedures. Ability to read and understand technical materials, reports and journals. Skill in developing related reports and ability to analyze and present data on land use applications and planning. Ability to effectively communicate, both orally and in writing, to citizens and other government officials.

Bachelor's degree or equivalent in architecture, planning, engineering or economics plus one to three years of experience. Valid Texas Driver's License.

Benefits:
• Heath care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement

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Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING

Public Safety Dispatcher

Directs calls for service for emergency purposes and directs non-emergency inquiries.

Job Duties:
•Answers the phone and assists citizens with requests for emergency and non-emergency services for police, fire, sheriff and emergency medical service.
•Directs citizen inquiries and non-emergency calls to the appropriate agency or organization.
•Dispatchers law enforcement and fire and rescue personnel and notifies support and crisis personnel as needed through the use of multi-channel radio system and computer aided dispatch system.
•Requests and disseminates vehicle registration, driver's license, criminal history information through the use of the Texas/National Computer System (TCIC, NCIC).
•Obtains computer information and disseminates to law enforcement officials and investigators. Enters related information into the system.
•Sends and receive teletype information to and from related agencies.
•Maintains records of work performed.
•Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Ability to work with dispatch equipment and communicate with citizens and emergency personnel in highly stressful, possibly emergency situations. Employee communicates with other employees in the work group, citizens and other law enforcement agencies in order to discuss requests for service and possible criminal activities. Will also exchange information or request assistance from other agencies and make referrals when necessary.

Ability to read and understand technical and professional manuals in order to record work activities, keep records or work with computers. Skill in the operation and maintenance of a number of office machines and equipment such as specialized computers and related information systems and two-way radio dispatch equipment. Typing speed of 30 WPM.
Will also be required to take and pass ALL tests.
1.Keyboarding
2.Data Entry MT
3.Data Entry MT (Audio)
4.Call Summarization
5.Memory Recall-Numeric (Audio)
6.Map Reading
7.Spelling
8.Sentence Clarity
9.Reading Comprehension

Employees work rotating shifts and gather, organize, translate and process information from various emergency callers.

DAYS & HOURS:
Rotating Shifts; Rotating Days Off - Valid Texas Driver License.

Benefits:
• Heath care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement

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MIDLAND

NOW HIRING

Recycle Supervisor

Supervises and monitors Citizens Collection Station and recycle drivers in day to day operations and projects. Works as a service attendant at the Citizens Collection Station as needed. Acts as a Solid Waste Supervisor as needed.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Provides input as to needed equipment and employment positions. Monitors supplies and equipment at the Citizens Collection Station.

Job Duties:
•Schedules and monitors the work of subordinate employees.
•Instructs employees in the use, care, and preventive maintenance of equipment and machinery.
•Reads schematics, manuals, and other specifications in order to determine and make necessary repairs and maintenance.
•Maintains equipment in good working order and keeps records of work performed.
•Ensures the cleanliness and maintenance of facilities, equipment, tools and grounds.
•Acts as the customer service representative of the Recycle Division at the Citizens Collection Station and on recycle issues.
•Keeps records and reports readily available.
•Coordinates efforts with Solid Waste operations
•Serve as service attendant when necessary.
•Serves as a Solid Waste Supervisor when necessary.
•Performs other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with employees and to receive work orders or instructions for any project. Interacts frequently with the public, vendors, and government agency representatives.

Ability to read, interpret, and understand local, state, and federal regulations related to disposal of refuse. Knowledge of processes used in the disposal of solid waste. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools and heavy equipment utilized in disposal activities. Ability to train others in safe operation of equipment. Ability to work with cash and adhere to cash-handling policies. Ability to properly evaluate activities and make recommendations for improvement. Good public relation skills as well as verbal and written communications skills.

High school diploma or general education degree required and some college preferred. One to three years of experience in Solid Waste and/or supervising and evaluating the work of others preferred. Must possess a valid Texas Driver's License and possess or acquire a valid Texas Class 'B' Municipal Solid Waste Operator License within two years of hire date.

Benefits:
• Heath care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

OTHER JOBS

Endeavor Energy Resources

DOT Driver II

JOB DESCRIPTION: Job responsibilities include local (within Midland City and County) transportation by truck for Endeavor Energy completions or production crews. Cargo transport varies depending on driver's licensing.

Essential Functions:
- Follow instructions, and maintain compliance with all DOT, company and customer safety and operational policies and procedures
- Properly load and unload product at various customer locations in a professional, courteous, timely, safe, and efficient manner
- Connect and disconnect hoses, operating pumps and valves for loading and unloading
- Complete all paperwork accurately and timely, if applicable
- Complete other related tasks as assigned by manager

Minimum Requirements:
- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
- Valid Texas Driver's license is required
- Class A CDL and Haz Mat is preferred but not required
- Must be able to pass background screening including MVR and criminal
- Must be able to work nights, weekends, and an extended workweek.
- Strong customer service skills, and the ability to effectively prioritize, multi-task, manage time, organize and execute tasks in a high-pressure environment

Supervisory Responsibilities:
No supervisory responsibilities are associated with this position.

Work Environment:
Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from frigid to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

Physical Demands:
Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, and bend is required. Must also be able to occasionally lift, carry, push, pull, move, and drag up to 50 lbs.

Position type and expected hours of work:
This is a full-time position. The ability to work overtime is a requirement to performing this job.

Endeavor Energy Resources, LP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, color, creed, age, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, marital status or disability. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to employment and discrimination will not be tolerated.

Endeavor Energy Resources

Now hiring for a Field Technician.

he Field Technician will provide advanced refueling services to support the Frac operations on location. Endeavor Energy will provide all necessary training for new employees. **This is a non-driving position.**

Job Duties:
- Comply with all OSHA and company safety procedures, rules and regulations
- Proper pre and post trip of equipment
- Consistently demonstrate safe unloading of fuels while handling, hooking and unhooking hoses and operating pumps while following directions and standard operating procedures
- Safely using pipe wrenches, crescent wrenches and other hand tools
- Immediate reporting and cleaning of any spills during shift
- Maintain professionalism through working courteously with supervisors, despatchers, fellow co-workers and customers
- All other duties as assigned

Minimum Qualifications:
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Proven capability to work both independently and collaboratively with different levels of management and individual contributors
- Demonstrated ability to manage work in stressful situations
- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
- Valid Texas Driver's License is required
- Experience working on Frac site or similar responsibilities is preferred

Work Environment:
Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from frigid to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

Physical Demands:
Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, bend, and occasionally lift /carry/push/pull/move/drag up to 60 lbs.

Position type and expected hours of work:
This is a full-time position.

Endeavor Energy Resources, LP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, color, creed, age, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, marital status or disability. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to employment and discrimination will not be tolerated.

Restaurant Positions

La Bodega of Midland now hiring Dishwashers & Bussers. Must be willing to work weekends. Please apply in person Monday - Friday between 1pm- 5pm at 2700 N. Big Spring Street, Midland, TX.

Warehouse Personnel

Competitive Pay, 401K, and Health Benefits Apply in person at Sims Plastics 2700 W Front St- Midland or 1101 W 42nd St- Odessa

WAREHOUSE

Looking for someone who is self-motivated, able to operate forklift, and able to lift heavy material loading customers and unloading. Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Apply at 1703 South Midkiff, Midland, Texas.

RESTAURANT, FOOD SERVICES

Cashier & General Help

KD's Bar-B-Q is looking for cashier & general help.
Have a good attitude, love working with others and work hard? Then we want you! Full or part time. Closed Sunday & Monday.
Fun & friendly place to work, family-owned, insurance provided. Must speak English, have great customer skills, be a quick learner, reliable & responsible. Apply in person: 3109 Garden City Hwy. or submit resume.

Server / Host / Bartender

Are you fun, attractive, charming & have a great personality?
Do you love making great money while having fun at your job?
If so, we were made for each other!
Apply today in person or at tiltedkilt.com/careers.
Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery, 1119 Tradewinds Blvd., Midland,TX 79706, (432) 699-5458

RETAIL JOBS

Retail Professional

Julian Gold, Midland's premier women's fashion store, is seeking a full time retail professional to join our sales team. The ideal candidate will have fashion retail experience and be eager to grow in our fast paced environment.
Merchandising or management experience a plus!
We offer great benefits, including paid vacation, insurance and 401K.
Applications accepted in store or online - no phone calls, please.
Email resumes to: ginger@juliangold.com
2101 W. Wadley, Ste. 16, Midland, TX 79705
Julian Gold



mrt★com/jobs

Beats standing on the street corner!

SALES JOBS

Digital Media Account Executive

"We must be alarmingly enterprising and startlingly original. We must be honest and fearless. And we must spark a revolution."
William Randolph Hearst, 1887

The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking a Digital Media Account Executive just like you to join our team! Our industry is changing into a digital world, and we are looking for experienced professionals who are eager to facilitate our innovative efforts.

Join Midland's leading media company and become part of the winning sales team that offers advertisers a robust suite of digital and print products to help them achieve their business objectives. We are seeking digital savvy, highly motivated sales professionals to sell our marketing solutions to local businesses. Our ideal candidate will be goal oriented, is a relentless hunter, driving to win new businesses, and has a track record of exceeding monthly goals.

As a Digital Media Account Executive, you can expect the following:
- Drive digital product sales.
- Be the Digital Media Guru with a solid understanding of Digital Media, Marketing and Advertising.
- Ability to conduct sales calls with SMB owners.
- Be in the field and on sales calls, leading by example, to sell our various digital products using the current and evolving sales process.
- Consult and educate clients in Digital Advertising and Marketing.
- Assist sales and marketing in promoting the entire line of digital products.
- Develop coaching plans and track results through sales management team.
- Identify trends, quantify impact, and communicate improvement opportunities to the product team
- Primary source of sales pitch and strategy development and implementation for digital products.

Requirements:
- Highly knowledgeable with digital media. SEO, SEM, Digital Advertising.
- Confidence in pitching and closing business.
- Strong focus on teamwork and ability to manage relationships across multiple departments
- Ability to multi-task, meet deadlines, and thrive in a fast-paced, deadline-oriented environment
- Bachelor's Degree preferred
- Valid US driver's license and reliable transportation.

The perks:
- A great work environment it's never boring here!
- Paid in-depth sales and product training.
- Competitive base salary, uncapped commissions for unlimited earning potential, and significant opportunity for advancement within the company
- Collaboration ideas and input are always welcome
- Health, dental, 401k, paid time off we have you covered

Send resume to David Robbins at david.robbins@hearstnp.com
No Phone Calls Please.

PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING
Instrumentation & Electrical Technician

Maintains all electrical equipment used to monitor and control all well services equipment. Home nightly.

Qualifications:
- High school education or equivalent.
- 6 months experience maintaining and repairing electronic instrumentation and automation equipment.
- Valid operator's license with clean driving record.

Comprehensive Benefits package!
- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pxd.com/careers/job-openings

SALES JOBS

Employment Account Executive

The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking an Employment Account Executive just like you to join our team! We are looking for an experienced Human Resources executive that wants to help hiring managers in Midland and West Texas utilize our advanced hiring platform - TexasBackToWork.com. This platform allows hiring managers to access the largest pool of potential job candidates and track them through the recruitment process.

Join Midland's leading media company and become part of the winning sales team that offers advertisers a robust suite of digital and print products to help them achieve hiring needs. We are seeking digital savvy, highly motivated sales professionals to sell our marketing solutions to local businesses. Our ideal candidate will be goal oriented, is a relentless hunter, driving to win new businesses, and has a track record of exceeding monthly goals.

The ideal candidate will have experience in the Human Resources area and will maximize advertising sales potential, through the development of quality business relationships with hiring managers. This position requires a heavy amount of prospecting and lead-development with local and regional businesses. We pride ourselves on simplifying the hiring process for our customers. You will be selling a digital hiring solution to your customers with a regional, statewide and national footprint.

Responsibilities include:

· Consistently meets/exceeds revenue goals.

· Develops relationships with HR departments throughout West Texas to sell and promote Texas Back to Work.

· Delivering customized sales presentations in person, or by phone/web-demos

· Be the face of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and ensure a superior customer experience

The Ideal Candidate:

· Experience within Human Resources or Employment Agency is preferred.

· You have an outgoing, resilient personality

· You enjoy the thrill of the hunt by bringing in new business

· You're confident and not willing to accept average

Required Skills & Experience:

· Passion to succeed and close deals

· Exceptional communication and presentation skills

· Strong computer skills, Digital Sales experience a plus

· Bachelor's degree preferred

What's in it for you?

· Paid training

· Competitive Base Salary & Commissions

· Medical, Dental and Vision Coverage

· Flex spending accounts

· Short & Long-Term Disability Insurance

· 401K with company match

* Paid time off & more!

Send resume to David Robbins at david.robbins@hearstnp.com
No Phone Calls Please.

SKILLED LABOR

The City of MIDLAND Texas

NOW HIRING
Systems Administrator

Performs network and system support functions on segments of the computer environment, including planned and emergency maintenance; performance and security analysis; and monitoring, tuning, and implementing new products and procedures. Analyzes emerging technology and makes recommendations for constant improvements to network and infrastructure services and capabilities.

Job Duties:
- Designs and coordinates segments of the IT architecture
- Manages server applications, including but not limited to social media, Active Directory, operating systems, and email.
- Produces and maintains IT design, architectural, and specifications documentation, as identified.
- Monitors information storage systems, schedules, and tests, including backup and recovery tasks, as identified.
- Provides research, development, and planning of the IT infrastructure.
- Is responsible for the validating, building, and testing IT solutions; analyzing IT infrastructure technical issues; and supporting the design, planning, building, and testing of new IT solutions, as assigned.
- Performs related duties as assigned.
- Subject to recall 24/7

Qualifications:
- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science plus two years of experience in a related field is required.
- Four years experience may be substituted for the Bachelor's degree requirement.
- Valid Texas Driver's License

Benefits:
- Heath care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

The City of MIDLAND Texas

NOW HIRING
Fleet Technician

Diagnoses, repairs and maintains city trucks and heavy equipment.

Job Duties:
- Diagnoses equipment and vehicle malfunctions such as ignition, steering, emission control, electrical, and heating and air conditioning. Estimates costs and rebuilds to specifications.
- Determines the appropriateness of off-site repairs such as oil and filter changes, tires and mufflers.
- Inspects vehicles for state stickers.
- Determines readiness and fitness of new vehicles. Installs special equipment.
- Employee must provide own hand tools. City supplies major equipment including power tools, computerized analyzer, and other diagnostic equipment.
- Reads blue prints, electrical diagrams, manuals and other specifications in order to make repairs.
- Performs emergency repairs for various departments.
- Maintains records of work performed such as work orders, logs, historical information, and special written requests.

Qualifications:
- High School graduate or GED
- Knowledge of proper tools used in welding and fabrication
- Three years training as a mechanic or in a related field
- Valid Texas Class A CDL Driver's License within one year of employment
- Texas Department of Public Safety Inspector Certificate required within one year of employment.

Benefits:
- Heath care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
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PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING
Transportation Truck Driver

Responsible for driving Water, Dump, and/or Belly Dump Truck and hauling water/caliche to drill rigs, fracturing crews, etc. Hauls water/caliche from well locations to proper disposal facilities.

Qualifications:
- High school education or equivalent.
- Experience can range from commercial truck driving experience preferred to one year as a water truck driver required.
- Valid Class A CDL with Tanker endorsement.
- Clean driving record.
- Salary competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Comprehensive Benefits package!
- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pxd.com/careers/job-openings

Fax Your Ad 24-7 682-6999

SKILLED LABOR

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Code Enforcement Officer

Performs inspections of private and public properties to ensure compliance with municipal ordinances, zoning and land use regulations which govern the maintenance of property, grounds and structures.

Job Duties:
•Visually inspects properties for code violations as initiated by a complaint or routine inspection.
•Enters data into the computer to generate notice of violations to property owners or to record inspections.
•Responds to citizen calls regarding code violations, mail information regarding zoning or city regulations.
•Researches planned districts, nonconforming uses, plats and illegal uses of property for the department.
•Manages city contracts for the clearing of lots, to include bidding projects, preparing contracts, awarding contracts and preparing payments to contractors.
•Conducts inspections to ensure proper environmental compliance in response to complaints.
•Provides information to the public and contractors regarding the requirements of zoning and related code and city requirements.
•Conducts field inspections of junked and abandoned vehicles, abandoned structures and other properties for compliance with city codes.
•Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with developers, citizens and other employees in order to provide information regarding city codes and possible violations.

Ability to read and understand materials including City Ordinances, professional literature,plans, correspondence and manuals. Ability to write reports and correspondence. Skills in math. Skills to communicate both orally and in writing. Knowedge of office equipment including personal computer.

High school diploma or equivalent and a valid Texas driver's license required. Certification through Texas Department Health as a Certified Code Enforcement Officer, or ability to obtain after one year of training. Certification as Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, or abilitiy to obtain within one year.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Customer Service (Field Work)

Performs field work regarding current or past water service.

Job Duties:
•Turns water on for new customers, disconnects water for customers leaving or reconnects service that had been disconnected. Obtains new or current readings due to new service or broken lines.
•Sets meters to establish or re-establish service.
•Pulls meters should instances occur when customer fails to set up service.
•Collects past due utilities bills so that water can be connected.
•Changes our broken mater stop valves and meter box lids.
•Verifies or re-reads meter information when complaints are filed.
•Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with citizens, other departments and employees in order to provide information on current repairs or the reading of meters.

Ability to read work orders and maps in order to find street locations. Skill in math in determining amount of water utilized. Skill in the use of variety of hand tools such as shovels, mater wrenches and meter keys.

Valid Texas Driver's License required. Employee must be bondable.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
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MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Effluent Distribution Technician

Maintains pivots in good working order and prevents holding ponds from overflowing.

Job Duties:
•Determines which pump units to operate and maintains center pivots in good working order. Repairs and services when necessary.
•Operates gates and lagoon system in order to store water without allowing holding ponds to overflow. Determines where and when to store water.
•Monitors operations in order to apply the proper amount of water.
•Repairs water line leaks and breaks.
•Uses equipment such as loaders and backhoes in order to fill gullies caused by operations.
•Maintains and repairs electrical systems on central pivot units.
•Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read operator's manuals, gauges and work orders in order to maintain or repair meters or parts. Skill in writing to record results.

High school diploma or equivalent required plus six months to one year of experience. C Operator's certification from the TNRCC. Valid Texas Driver's License required.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Electronics Tech - Airport

Performs routine and preventive maintenance of electrical equipment systems. Works under the direction of the Electrician/Electronics Specialist.

Job Duties:

•Performs preventive maintenance on automatic gates, automatic doors, parking lot equipment, lighting, security systems, jetway systems, etc.

•Assists the Electrician/Electronics Specialist in the day to day operations of the Airport facility as needed.

•Performs other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or specific projects.

Ability to read and understand work orders and equipment manuals. Skill in the operation of hand tools and equipment such as electrical measuring meters and devices.

High school diploma or equivalent plus two to three years of experience as an electrician required. Journeyman's License as an electrician required. Valid Texas Driver's License required.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING
Local Drivers

Local truck drivers needed. Home nightly, local routes, scheduled shifts 8am - 5pm (14/7 rotational) never on call, optional overtime.

Qualifications:
- High school education or equivalent.
- Valid operator's license.
- Clean driving record.
- DOT compliant

Comprehensive Benefits package!
- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pxd.com/careers/job-openings

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Electrical/Electronics Tech - WPP

Troubleshoots and maintains electrical, SCADA and control equipment for the well field, Purification Plant, Water Pollution Control Plant, water storage towers, booster station.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES

Assists in the development of the budget and makes recommendations for purchases and capital items to the appropriate division during the annual budget process.

Job Duties:
•Troubleshoots and repairs electrical service to any facility within the Utilities Department.
•Troubleshoots and repairs control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
•Troubleshoots and repairs SCADA equipment at any facility within the Utilities Department.
•Programs SCADA and control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
•Instructs users of SCADA and control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
•Calculates electrical loads for equipment and installs wiring.
•Determines equipment and supplies required for jobs by reading code books and blue prints.
•Keeps abreast of changes in the Electrical Code and Regulations and makes recommendations on their impacts to the City.
•Maintains inventory of supplies used and replaces as needed.
•Perform Operations & Maintenance duties as assigned.
•Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

Ability to read operator's manuals, blue prints and schematics in order to maintain electrical, SCADA and control equipment throughout the Utilities Department in good working order. Skill in the operation of electrical and mechanical hand and power tools. Employee must perform mathematical calculations in order to determine electrical needs. Skill in writing to record results and track work. Will be on-call.

High school diploma or equivalent required plus two years of experience. A valid Apprentice Electricians license from the State of Texas or have successfully completed 12 college hours of electronics coursework would be preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required. Must also obtain a valid state of Texas class 'C' or above water works license.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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Equal Opportunity Employer

Electrical Apprentice
Immidate Opening for Electrical Apprentice with sign on BONUS!! Please Call 432-967-1066

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Engineering Tech - Construction Inspector

Perform responsible work in support of city engineering staff. Work relates to engineering construction activities such as construction inspection of municipal projects involving construction of asphalt or concrete pavement, sidewalks, ramps, water lines and sewer lines.

Job Duties:
•Inspect forms, materials and workmanship for compliance with plans and specifications. Tests materials and workmanship as required.
•Maintain daily diary and records on projects including emergency telephone numbers for key people.
•Maintain inspection project files for all phases of construction for each project. Provides information to update record drawings.
•Inspect traffic control devices for compliance with plans and the Texas Manual on Uniform Control Devices. Make safety inspections to note deficiencies for correction.
•Analyze field construction problems and assists engineers with recommending corrections.
•Performs survey work as requested by Engineering staff.
•Coordinate with traffic, utility companies, landowners, etc. before and during construction.
•Acts as project field coordinator for contractors, utility companies and city departments.
•Researches utility locations and right of way, assemble plat and deed information and produces plan views.
•As appropriate, trains and evaluates the progress of other employees.
•Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Must be able use and communicate by hand-held radio. Basic skill in the use of a variety of machines, including personal computers, printers, calculators, scanners and large document copier are preferred.

Must have a valid Texas Driver's License and a good driving record. Employee must be able to effectively communicate with other employees in the work group. Must be able to correctly respond to questions from contractors, surveyors, inspectors, or city staff regarding work performed or applicable specifications related to a design or construction project.

Must coordinate effectively with other city departments, contractors, and utility companies when designing or scheduling work. Must posses skill to observe, read, and interpret written technical materials and construction drawings. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment.

Must have obtained a High school diploma or equivalent GED plus 5 years of experience in civil construction trades. College degree or construction certifications preferred. Extensive knowledge of state, federal, and local laws and requirements regarding construction, surveying and safety standards.

Extensive skill in observing, reading and interpreting written technical materials and construction drawings. Extensive knowledge of city codes and ordinances and other state and federal requirements regarding utility construction and safety standards.

Extensive knowledge of engineering standards and construction practices for water, sewer, street and drainage design. Intermediate in drafting with computer aided design systems such as AutoCAD. Intermediate skill in developing field notes and survey plats for boundary surveys.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Equipment Operator - Landfill

Disposes for refuse through the use of heavy equipment at the Landfill.

Job Duties:
•Disposes of refuse with the use of heavy equipment such as compactors, scrapers, bulldozers and related equipment.
•Maintains access roads to the Landfill.
•Covers refuse at the end of each day.
•Maintains all equipment in good working order and keeps records of service problems. Submits daily maintenance sheets to supervisor.
•Performs preventive maintenance on equipment such as oil changes. Determines when servicing of vehicles is required.
•Monitors vehicles as they enter, unload and leave the Landfill. Gives directions to citizens.
•Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read, interpret and understand local, state and federal regulations related to disposal. Knowledge of the processes used in collection and disposal of waste materials. Ability to follow instructions and manuals for equipment repair and maintenance. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools and heavy equipment utilized in disposal activities such as compactors, lifts, claws and hydraulic systems as well as simple shovels, brooms and rakes. Ability to read operator's manuals and work orders.

High school diploma or equivalent, plus one to three years of equipment operation preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

Experienced Plumber/ Journeyman or Tradesman
All service work - residential and commercial. No new construction. Must have valid drivers license and acceptable driving history. This is a full time position that offers paid vacation and also includes health and dental insurance. Come Randy's Rooter & Plumbing, 309 W. Washington, Midland, Texas. Apply between 8am-4pm.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Equipment Operator - Water and Wastewater

Performs manual and unskilled labor of more than ordinary difficulty, which often involves the use of acquired skills and operates several types of light vehicles and equipment. Does related work and training as required.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively commur :ate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read, interpret and understand local, state and federal regulations related to water and sewer system maintenance. Knowledge of the processes used in utility maintenance. Ability to follow instructions and manuals for equipment repair and maintenance. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools. Skill in the use of heavy equipment utilized in maintenance activities such as backhoes, ditch witch, and jet truck. Ability to read operator's manuals and work orders.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Valid Texas CDL Class A driver's license required or must be obtained within 6 months of employment. Must possess or be able to obtain Wastewater Certification Class I and Water Distribution D Certificate with in a reasonable length of time.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Lab Technician

The employee is responsible for performing, monitoring, and intrepreting the results of tests necessary for the operation and regulatory compliance of the water and wastewater operations of the City of Midland. They are also responsible for the interpretation and implementation of regulations promulgated by State and Federal authorities.

Assists in the development of the budget for laboratory operations and makes recommendations for purchases and capital items during the annual budget process.

Monitors expenditures during the year.

Job Duties:
•Responsible for the daily operation of laboratories in support of the Utilities Department. Conduct bacteriological, chemical, physical and instrumental analysis of water and wastewater samples submitted to the laboratory.
•Maintains equipment and supplies for the laboratory as well as for the City's facilities. This includes accurately maintaining extensive records tracking all chemicals, supplies, and equipment used for daily operations.
•Collects, analyzes, and interprets results of environmental, water and wastewater samples.
•Prepares reagents for use at the laboratory and performs standardization of reagents to ensure quality.
•Must maintain work area, supplies, and equipment in an orderly, safe, and clean manner.
•Maintains accurate and extensive analytical data records of data for future use.
•Investigates and reports on complaints and all other problems delegated by the Director of Utilities.
•Make monthly reports or as required to the Water Regulator Agencies and Utilities.
•Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
•Keeps apprised of State/Federal regulations and makes recommendations on their impacts to the City.
•Performs related duties as required. Available for on-call obligations and work on weekends as needed.

Qualifications:
Employee has contact with general public, other employees, and other organizations.

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Must have skill in writing to record results of analysis. Employee generates memos and reports of work performed. Ability to perform chemical analysis. Must have thorough knowledge of chemistry and good knowledge of water and wastewater treatment. Must possess knowledge of computer software and applications. Working in experience lab preferred.

Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry, Biology or related field is preferred. Must be able to obtain Class D water operator license in the State of Texas within a year after hired and be able to maintain the license while employed.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Lead Water Purification Plant Operator

This position requires a demonstrated ability to perform advanced functions related to the operator and maintenance of equipment at all water treatment facilities. This position functions as a Lead Operator and also as Chief Plant operator when required, performing complex analysis of the Water Treatment Plant operations and having direct charge of the operation of a water treatment facility or Water Production Facilities. Positions at this level provide instruction and assistance to lower level Water Treatment Plant Operators. This position is normally filled by advancement from the Water Treatment Operator II. Position requires three to five years of experience in a Surface Water Treatment Plant Operator and must possess a minimum of a Class 'C' Surface Water Treatment Plant Operator Certificate issued by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality at the time of accepting position.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND

NOW HIRING
Maintenance Specialist - Animal Services

Maintains the animal shelter and grounds, provides quality care for the animals in our custody and assists the public and other animal control personnel.

Job Duties:

•Processes animals that are brought to the animal shelter by providing health evaluations, parasitic controls, scanning for microchips and placing in the proper holding are.
•Maintains the sanitation and environment of kennel areas, cat facilities, quarantine areas, wildlife facilities and sick/injured animal room.
•Assists in euthanasia and the disposal of animals as required.
•Maintains and operates the animal cremation system for mass disposal and private cremations.
•Picks up large quantities of dead animals from veterinarians for disposal by cremation.
•Micro-chips animals that leave animal controls custody.
•Unloads dead and live animals from the public, veterinarians and animal control offices.
•Performs preventative maintenance on equipment, building and grounds.
•Provides assistance to visitors.
•Operates a vehicle to pick up dead livestock and supplies and other machinery.
•Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or animals that may be in the kennel. Employee may have direct contact with other animal control personnel such as the SPCA, various humane societies and animal rescue organizations.

Ability to deal with the public and provide humane care for the animals. Some knowledge in the recognition of animal diseases is needed. Ability to follow both written and oral instructions is also necessary.

High school diploma or equivalent preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required. Must be able to obtain Department of State Health Services Basic Certification within one year of employment. Must be able to obtain euthanasia certification within six months of employment.

Benefits:
- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

Mobile Crane Operators
Warrior Crane seeking NCCCO certified hydraulic, all terrain operators. Riggers. Pay based on experience. Email: warriorcrane@yahoo.com

SOS Waste Disposal,INC is looking for a Local CDL Driver. Home at night! Clean driving record and pass drug/alcohol test. Paid Holidays, vacation benefits available. Salary, DOE! M-F, occasional Saturday mornging. Guaranteed 40hrs. Please contact Big (432)-894-8339

mrt classifieds

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Events and Notices

General Announcement

Thank You! Jesus! Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

Autos For Sale-Lease

Passenger Cars

2012 BMW 528i - white with tan leather interior. Purchased certified with regular maintenance at local BMW dealership. Heated front seats, sunroof, navigation system, premium sound...fully loaded. Beautiful and runs great. Asking $21,900.00. 432-425-2671.

Antique and Vintage

FOR SALE 2007 SHELBY GT500 Red/White 170 miles $49,995, call (432)-556-2155 no drivers

Pickup Trucks

FORD 2004 F 150, XLT 4 door crewcab, white with gold trim completely loaded, sliding bed cover, new tires, very clean, engine good, 4 WD, tow package. 190K miles. $6,750.00 575-937-7567 for appointment.

Recreation Vehicles

Houseboat-Stardust cruiser Super Nice! 55FT. Powered with two 350 Chevy engines, low hours, central h/a, upper deck & waterslide, Kohler generator, sleeps 6, Lake Amistad, DelRio,TX.$65,000 OBO. (432)-661-6095.

Classified CAN 682-6222

Garage-Estate-Yard Sale

Yard - Garage Sales

Area Sales

3180 FM 3113 STANTON, TX. Big Garage Sale! Friday & Saturday 8am-4pm. Furniture, pictures, dishes, antiques, lots & lots of good stuff.

Classified CAN 682-6222

Lots and Land

Acreage

40 AC. N. OF COMSTOCK, NEAR LAKE AMISTAD. W. TX BRUSH COUNTRY. DEER, JAVELINA, TURKEY, QUAIL & DOVE. $2,000 DOWN, $331/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 866-286-0199 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Lots and Land

Acreage

22.16 AC. COKE COUNTY. NEAR ROBERT LEE. WELL, ELECTRICITY. LEVEL, MESQUITE, CEDAR COVER. GREAT FOR RETIREMENT OR WEEKEND CABIN. WHITETAIL, QUAIL, DOVES & TURKEY. $3,933 DOWN, $651/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-676-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Lots and Land

85 AC. ROCKSPRINGS. ELECTRICITY, LIVE OAK, CEDAR COVER. AXIS DEER, WHITETAIL, HOGS & TURKEY. $2,550/AC. FIXED RATE 30 YEAR OWNER FINANCING, 5% DOWN. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-676-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

1800 ACRES Rocksprings, TX Great topo, good cover. 3 water wells, elec. Whitetail, Axis, Blackbuck. Partial Minerals. Asking $1475/ac Mark Connally - Broker - 512-944-4435

Commercial

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE. Quite, comfortable atomsphere, great location close to downtown, perfect for landman, CPA, or small business. Call Kevin or Lynn (432)-687-1919 after 5 p.m

Commercial

READY-RANCH RR WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

- East County
- *11,155 ac. E. of Snyder, 4 houses, pens/roping arena, 600 ft. elev., creek, lakes, Whitetail deer, mule deer and quail $750/ac
- *4,912 ac. Mavoric Creek, canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail $825/ac
- *1,771 ac. whitetail, creek, blinds and feeders, great y-tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail $950
- Baden County
- *646 ac. over 1 mile SOLD creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oak, ... $3,600/ac
- *565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, whitetail $4,425/ac
- Howard County
- *642 ac, canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some offroad traffic $750/ac
- *150 ac, big canyon, SOLD oaks, cedar/mesquite, great deer, turkey, ju $800/ac
- Glasscock County
- *135 ac, Sulphur Springs SOLD deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, model sto $1,150/ac

(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777
No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
Deal with Landowners that Have the Country!!!
Owner Financing Available

Legal and Public Notices

Notice Of Public Sale Of Personal Property

Pursuant to the lien granted by the Texas Self-Storage Facility Act, notice is hereby given that the undersigned self-storage units will be sold at a public sale by competitive bidding, to satisfy the lien of the Lessor, with Metro Storage LLC as managing agent for Lessor, for rental and other charges due from the undersigned. The said property has been stored and is located at the respective address below. Units up for auction will be listed for public bidding on-line at www.Storagesfull.bid beginning five days prior to the scheduled auction date and time. The terms of the sale will be by lot to the highest bidder for cash only. A 10% buyer's premium will be charged per unit. All sales are final. Metro Self Storage LLC reserves the right to withdraw any or all units, partial or entire, from the sale at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted. All contents must be removed completely from the property within 48 hours or sooner or are deemed abandoned by bidder/buyer. Sale rules and regulations are available at the time of sale.

Property includes the storage unit contents belonging to the following tenants at the following locations:

Metro Self Storage
315 N. Midland Dr. Midland, Texas 79703
The bidding will close on the website StorageStuff.bid and a high
bidder will be selected on April 17, 2018 at 10AM

RV15 Joshua W. McKenzie
Blue and Silver 2004 Ford EXC Vin#1FNU41L24ED33766
RV15 Joshua W. McKenzie
Black Polaris Vin# 4XAWY76A6B2181065
RV15 D S Crow Ranches Inc.
Black Polaris Vin# 4XAWY76A6B2181065

Merchandise

Antiques

200 PLUS HUMMEL figurines, old & new marks, large & small. Contact cgabbit18@gmail.com for prices.

Furniture

LARGE 3 piece Broyhill entertainment armoire, light Oak. $200. 432-934-3696

Home Items

TWO FIREPLACE CABINETS 1 is 49" wide x 31" high, and 1 is 46" wide x 31" high. $60. Call 432-813-9211

Jewelry and Watches

1-5/8 CARAT engagement ring. Certified yellow diamond (center stone), radiant cut pavé setting. Purchased from Zales. $8k firm. 432-425-3127

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

TWO CEMETERY plots at Resthaven Cemetery in The Garden of Tranquility. $6,000. 432-770-8978

Sporting Goods

GUN SHOW Midland Horseshoe April. 7th & 8th 806-253-1322 midlandgunshow.com

Real Estate Rental-Sale

Residential Rentals

Apartment Rent Furn

EFFICIENCY W/ appliances 1 person, non smoking $750/mo. $200 dep. Utilities paid. 432-288-7478

House Rent Unfurn

FREE CREDIT APPLICATIONS being taken for 3 bedroom 2 bath, washer & dryer connections. $1,400 mon$ $1,000 deposit. Excellent neighborhood. 432-889-4420 or 432-553-8397

Residential Sales

Single Family Homes

FOR SALE by owner, 6309 Shawnee, 1800 sq. ft, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath on 0.432 lot, office/ Man cave, 3 car plus garage, zero scape. Build in 2013. Call for details. 432-230-8815

FSBO 4/2 recently remodeled, new roof & wood floors, large fenced yard. Walk to shopping & medical. Great neighbor. $137,750. O/F WAC. Call 307-274-4656

Vacation Resort

LOT OR Building site Lake Leon (Eastland, TX.) on deep water out of flood plain, storage building & carport, lots of trees. Call 254-468-0299 for more infomation.

Lots and Land

Hunting Leases

DEER LEASE White Tail Mule deer at Seet, Texas. Need 5 hunters at $1,800 per gun Contact 940-264-1518

Land For Sale On the north truck route Kermit,Tx Call (432-631-6522)

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