MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2015 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

OIL THEFT

With the recent discussion about oil theft, we wanted to share our perspective on the issue.

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HOOPS MADNESS

The Midland High Bulldogs faced Arlington Lamar on Wednesday night in a playoff basketball game, while Odessa Permian has had to forfeit the rest of its season.

Page 1C

The Basin's growing pains

Courtney Sacco/Odessa American

Economist M. Ray Perryman addresses the press at Odessa Country Club, Wednesday before speaking to the 31st Annual Perryman Economic Outlook Conference.

Pain will be a reality in Midland, but not for long

By Rye Druzin
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The downturn in the oil industry will cut into Midland's economic success, but, as in the past, the economy and the oil industry will come back, said economist M. Ray Perryman, president and CEO of The Perryman Group.

Perryman spoke Wednesday to a packed house at Odessa Country Club, addressing concerns about geopolitics, stability in the oil industry and how the American oil industry has changed the landscape domestically and internationally.

The Odessa resident said that the slowdown in the oil industry will begin affecting the local economy in the next few months and that Texas will probably lose at least 150,000 jobs. The question that he was unable to answer was when this will occur.

Despite the slowdown over the last six months, this week Midland was ranked No. 1 for having the most expensive rents in the state, according to ApartmentList.com. Median home prices for the Tall City have risen by an average of 10 percent for the last three years, finishing 2014 at record levels. The only solace as of late has been the drop in gasoline prices, but even that has added worry and uncertainty to the thousands of local workers who rely on oil and gas exploration and service for their livelihoods.

For Bobby Burns, president and CEO of the Midland Chamber of Commerce, the downturn is another fall in the cyclical nature of the oil industry.

"Compared to where we were a few years ago, we're still in a very good position overall, and we've still got a lot of employees and a lot of activity going on," he said in a phone interview from Austin. "In my opinion, we've seen such dramatic increases and low unemployment that those numbers are simply hard or impossible to maintain anyway ... I believe that most of our members of the Chamber ... are very well-run, and are prepared for a downturn and are not totally surprised by it."

Common threads have been drawn over the last few weeks, including Saudi Arabia's use of oil to punish regional rivals Iran and Russia, the overwhelming success of hydraulic fracturing to expand the U.S. oil industry to unprecedented levels and the need to export U.S. crude oil abroad.

But the continued reliance on the oil and gas industry — which has been in the Permian Basin since the 1930s — is a major concern as Midland has been unable to diversify as much as other oil-reliant areas such as Houston.

"We've clearly had some diversification accomplished, but oil and gas is still the heart and the soul of our economy," Burns said. "If you're in Midland, you may be running a restaurant or selling insurance or any number of businesses, but your impact is affected by the oil and gas industry."

Burns said that the goal of bringing in new types of businesses should always be a top priority for Midland, but he believes that it takes generations to fundamentally change the economy.

"We should always look to diversify the economy for the future of our city," he said. "I think it just gets so difficult, when our oil and gas industry is so strong, for us to recruit and move into diversified areas. I think that diversification is critical for the future of our city, but it is a super challenge and that will not change anytime soon."

Perryman forecasts economic growth for the Basin

■ Economist says low oil prices will delay that growth until about 2017

By Mella McEwen
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ODESSA — Midland and Odessa can expect to see economic growth over the next five years.

But that growth will be delayed in the next few years by today's low oil prices.

That's the five-year outlook for the two cities provided by economist M. Ray Perryman, president and chief executive officer of The Perryman Group.

"It will be tough" in Midland and Odessa for the next 18 months to two years because the area economy is dominated by oil and gas, he said.

Just as Midland and Odessa were among the nation's top economies in recent years as the Permian Basin oil and gas industry thrived, they will be disproportionately impacted by the decline in oil prices, he said.

"It's tough to go from $100 oil to $50 oil in an area that's 80 percent dependent on oil and gas; there will be an impact. There's going to be tough times," said Perryman. He spoke at Odessa Country Club as part of the 31st annual Economic Outlook Conference Series, offering a five-year outlook for the U.S., Texas and metropolitan economies. The event was sponsored by Frost Bank.

The Perryman Group's 2014-2019 forecast for the Midland metropolitan statistical area calls for real gross product to expand $5.22 billion or 4.2 percent, to $28.573 billion from $23.256 billion in 2014, with most of that expansion expected to begin in 2017.

He said Midland's unemployment rate likely won't remain around 2 percent, but

Please see **GROWTH**/4A

Amid oilfield layoffs, employment strains ease for retailers, restaurants

By Brandon Mulder
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Local retailers and restaurants are beginning to see an increase of job-seekers as the oil industry continues to shed jobs across the Permian Basin. Though official numbers have not yet been released, it is estimated that oil field-related layoffs have affected a few thousand jobs in the region, according to predictions made by the Midland-Odessa regional economic index. Many of these workers are flocking to other industries to keep up with Midland's high cost of living.

In recent years, retailers have been forced to increase their base-pay wages to compete with demand created by high-paying oil-industry jobs. Now, major retailers are seeing a sharp increase in the number of job applicants, many of whom are coming straight from the oil fields.

"All locations have seen a large increase in applications and better quality applications — people who actually want to work retail," said Kami Golightly, regional talent manager with United Markets, the Lubbock-based supermarket chain that took over Albertsons' Midland locations in July. "We've definitely been very impressed by that."

The chain has increased starting wages to $13 an hour; it employs 350 to 400 people in Midland and Odessa, and stores in the two cities are currently about 75 to 80 percent staffed, according to Golightly's estimations.

Dillard's had increased starting pay to $16 an hour in December 2013 when

Please see **EMPLOYMENT**/4A

More than 40 years later, Bob Phillips is still discovering Texas

By Rich Lopez
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As the longtime host of "Texas Country Reporter," Bob Phillips has told the story of Texas through its inhabitants. He will tell his story when he comes to Midland on Saturday for the Midland County Public Library Foundation's third annual luncheon.

Phillips

Phillips is no stranger to delivering keynotes, but this appearance resonates with him.

"I'll talk about my beginnings and how I got into this, but because of the event, I'll talk about the huge difference the library made in my life when I grew up. That is where I found my various heroes in those days," he said.

"Texas Country Reporter" has been on the air for 42 years — first as a segment on a local Dallas newscast, then

Please see **PHILLIPS**/4A

Want to go?

Midland County Public Library Foundation's third annual luncheon is noon Saturday at Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

Tickets are $75 for the luncheon, $125 for meet-and-greet and luncheon.

For more information, call 742-7438.

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Partly sunny
40/21
Get your complete forecast on 7C

Energy prices

WTI Futures	$50.88	▲ $1.71
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The big number
The University of Texas paid
$2.2 million
for the works of Nobel laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

Today in Weekender
The cost of "Greater Tuna" discuss their parts. Inside

Coming Friday in F&P
"Miracle on the Hudson" survivor to speak at luncheon.

Vol. 86, No. 352
Daily $1, Sunday $2

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Oil thieves steal from Permian Basin companies

By Brandon Mulder
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The Permian Basin economic downturn continues to cause layoffs among oilfield workers and has motivated some recently unemployed workers to turn to oil smuggling and theft. The FBI has begun to crack down on these people, who are selling stolen equipment across state and national borders, West Texas Public Radio reported this week.

Midland County Sheriff Gary Painter told the station that these thefts result in losses of between $400,000 and $800,000 a month. The culprits are usually laid-off oilfield workers who steal piping, pumps and other equipment and sell them to drillers in northern Mexico, according to the story. Many of these stolen goods have reportedly fallen into the hands of drug cartels.

In 2008, the problem got to a point that the FBI established the Permian Basin Oilfield Theft Task Force, which focuses on the theft of oil and oilfield equipment. The task force consists of deputies from the Midland, Ector and Andrews county sheriff's offices and FBI officers from the Midland Resident Agency, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article.

Listen to the report

Log on to kxwt.org to listen to West Texas Public Radio's report. KXWT is available on the radio at 91.3 FM.

One such case targeted a 33-year-old Monahans man who was charged with three counts of theft in connection with stolen oil from Permian Basin companies. David Schroeder pleaded guilty to stealing truckloads of crude oil and delivering it to Itero Energy in Monahans for payment.

Schroeder is in federal custody in Midland pending sentencing, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Midland men allegedly conspire to steal construction equipment

From staff reports

Gonzales

Solis

Two Midland men have been arrested in a case related to the theft of equipment from a construction site, according court documents.

Felipe Gonzales, 39, was arrested Tuesday, and Larry Solis, 61, was arrested Feb. 19, according to Gonzales' arrest affidavit.

A third man, 21-year-old Midlander Jeffrie Castaneda, is being sought by police in connection with the case, according to the documents.

Gonzales was held Wednesday on a $25,000 bond for a third-degree felony charge of theft of property between $20,000 and $100,000, according to his arrest affidavit. Solis was held earlier this month on the same charge; the amount of his bond was not available.

Midland Police Department detectives were contacted Feb. 13 regarding a skid steer and trailer owned by Anderson Construction missing from a construction site on Timberwolf Trail. The trailer was estimated to be worth $3,800, and the skid steer $24,000, according to court records.

Detectives identified Gonzales, a subcontracted employee of Anderson Construction, as a likely suspect, according to his arrest affidavit. It was later discovered that Gonzales involved Solis and Castaneda.

Gonzales and Castaneda allegedly took the equipment from the Timberwolf construction site and left it at another construction site for Solis to pick up, according to Gonzales' affidavit.

Solis then sold the equipment for $15,000, and when the purchaser brought the gear to a ranch in Irving, he noticed an Anderson Construction sticker on the skid steer, according to the affidavit. The purchaser arranged to return the equipment.

If convicted of the third-degree felonies, Gonzales and Solis could face up to 10 years in prison.

STATECRIME

FROM WIRE REPORTS

DEL RIO

8 more sentenced in Maverick County corruption probe

Three former commissioners of a corruption-plagued South Texas county have now received maximum 10-year prison sentences after admitting they took bribes.

Former Maverick County Precinct 4 Commissioner Cesar Flores was sentenced in Del Rio on Wednesday, one day after former Commissioner Eliaz Maldonado got 10 years in prison for a similar guilty plea to taking a bribe.

On Monday, former Maverick County Commissioner Rodolfo Bainet Heredia was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison for his guilty plea to taking a bribe. The 10-year terms were the maximum that U.S. District Judge Alia Moses of Del Rio could assess.

At least 16 people have been convicted and sentenced in the latest investigation into Maverick County losing more than $1.3 million.

HOSUTON

Texas court: More review needed for British woman on death row

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals is sending an appeal from a 56-year-old British grandmother on death row back to her trial court in Houston for additional review.

Attorneys for 56-year-old Linda Carty contends prosecutors coerced witnesses into giving false testimony at the trial where she was convicted and condemned for the 2001 slaying of her neighbor, Joana Rodriguez, and the abduction of Rodriguez's 4-day-old son.

Their appeal also argued prosecutors arranged for a deal with a co-defendant that wasn't disclosed to defense lawyers and that four jurors now say they either would have acquitted Carty or not given her a death sentence.

The Harris County prosecutor's office said Wednesday it's investigating the claims.

Carty, from the British Virgin Islands, had lived in Houston for nearly 20 years.

SAN ANTONIO

Man gets 66 years for killing sister's boyfriend

A San Antonio man has been sentenced to 66 years in prison for killing his sister's boyfriend and forcing her to help clean up the blood.

Jesus Rivera was sentenced Tuesday for the 2012 Thanksgiving Day slaying of 21-year-old Ryan Yearley. Jurors in San Antonio on Monday convicted Rivera of murder.

Investigators said the 21-year-old Rivera shot Yearley during an argument and then hid the body in a garage adjacent to the home he shared with the couple.

Rivera told authorities that the victim had a knife and threatened him.

HOUSTON

New trial for woman convicted of starving baby

A Central Texas woman convicted of starving her 7-week-old child in 2008 and sentenced to 30 years in prison has been given a new trial.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals said Wednesday that instructions to Bell County jurors who decided the felony murder case of Nilda Iliana Rodriguez, of Harker Heights, were vague and didn't allow the panel to properly consider punishment on a lesser charge of injury to a child.

The appeals court earlier ordered a new punishment hearing. Rodriguez's lawyers asked the court to look at the case again and grant a new trial.

Rodriguez told jurors in 2010 that her son, Deon Griffin, was fine and she wasn't a murderer. An autopsy showed the infant had no fat under his skin and significant signs of dehydration.

LAREDO

Dozen sentenced for drug ring

A dozen convicted drug traffickers have been sentenced to prison over a ring that moved heroin and methamphetamine to San Antonio, Houston and Dallas.

Edgar Loera of Mira Loma, California, and Miguel Angel Vives-Macias of San Antonio were among those sentenced Tuesday in Laredo. Both were convicted last year of multiple counts involving heroin and methamphetamine distribution.

Loera was sentenced to nearly 19 years in prison. Vives-Macias received a nearly 16-year prison term.

Prosecutors said the other convicted individuals are from Laredo, Corpus Christi and Dallas, plus California and Arizona. Each received lesser prison terms in cases since 2011 involving drugs smuggled across the border from Mexico.

FELONY ARRESTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Jimmie D. Belcher Jr., 33, was charged Monday with theft between under $1,500 with two or more previous convictions.

Felipe E. Gonzales, 38, was charged Tuesday with theft between $20,000 and $100,000.

Patricia E. Natividad-Laureles, 33, was charged Tuesday with possession of a controlled substance under four grams.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

Obituaries

Cipriano Benavidez "C.B." Núñez

Cipriano Benavídez "C.B." Núñez passed away Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at Midland Memorial Hospital. He was 86 years old. C.B. was born in Stanton, Texas on November 9, 1928 to Serapia Benavídez and Gregorio Núñez. He was the oldest of four siblings.

C.B. was known around the community as a hard-working man with unwavering integrity. He was a founding member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, where he worshipped until his death, and a Third-Degree member of the Knights of Columbus.

C.B. was preceded in death by his first wife, Josephine; his parents, Serapia Benavídez and Gregorio Núñez; a brother, Cruz Sánchez; and son-in-law, Meregildo Fierro.

He is survived by his second wife, Connie Núñez; siblings, Thomas Balles of El Paso and Elena Mendoza of Midland; children, Henrietta Fierro of Corpus Christi, John Núñez with wife Lupe, of Garland, Joseph Núñez of Corpus Christi, and Paul Núñez of Arizona; stepchildren, Jason Saenz and Cynthia Collins with husband Jon, all of Midland, and Henry Fuentes of Austin; as well as several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and a great-great granddaughter.

A rosary will be held at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Mass will be held at Our Lady of Guadalupe on Friday, February 27 at 10:00 a.m., with burial at Fairview Cemetery following immediately.

Pallbearers will be Peter Fierro, Marc Fierro, Sonny Fierro, Sunday Arredondo, Jonathan Arredondo, Andrew Sanchez, Eric Sanchez, and Arnold Vargas.

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

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
Dignity
801 Andrews Hwy.
(432) 683-5535

Dorothy Mae LaPlante Cunningham

Dorothy Mae LaPlante Cunningham was born on January 2, 1922, in Flat River, Missouri, to Nellie and James "Bunt" LaPlante. She passed away on Saturday, February 21, 2015, in Midland, Texas. Services will be at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, February 28, 2015 at C.Z. Boyer Funeral Home in Desloge, Missouri, followed by burial at St. Francois Memorial Park in Bonne Terre, Missouri.

Dorothy grew up in Flat River and graduated in 1939 from Flat River High School, where she was known for her shorthand abilities. After graduation, she worked for Union Electric, a finance company and the Chevrolet dealership.

She later worked at the Chevrolet dealership in Hobbs, New Mexico.

Dorothy was married on March 6, 1948, to Robert Eugene Cunningham. They moved to Jal, New Mexico, where he began a career with El Paso Natural Gas Company. That job took them to Goldsmith, Texas, Hobbs, New Mexico, and then Ulysses, Kansas before Bob retired. The couple then moved to Desloge, Missouri. They were members of First Baptist Church of Farmington, Missouri.

Bob passed away in February 2009. Dorothy moved to Midland, Texas in 2010 to be near a daughter. While there, she attended Christ Church Anglican with her daughter's family.

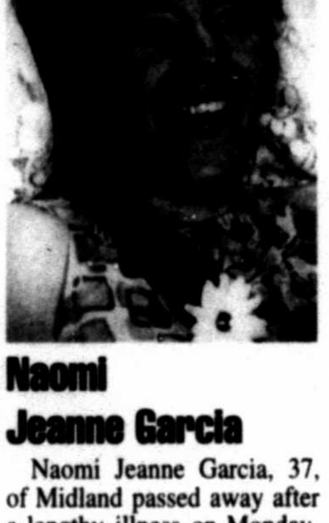
Through the years, Dorothy excelled at crafts. She handmade baby clothes for her first child. She sewed many of her children's clothing and also enjoyed embroidering, upholstering and refinishing old furniture.

Survivors include a son, Robert Michael Cunningham of Frederick, Colorado; two daughters, Lana (John) Cooper of Midland, and Janet C. Stephens of Rio Rancho, New Mexico; four grandchildren, John Michael Stephens of Glendale, Arizona, Tia Lynne Stephens of Rio Rancho, Kristin Alyssa (Cory) Hayes of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Christopher Cooper of Midland; and nine great-grandchildren, Aleyna Denise Allen of Rio Rancho, and Julia, Bella, Thaddeus, Aben, Caelynn, Aloiyse, Analillia, and Asa Hayes, all of Colorado Springs; a brother, Murrill James LaPlante of Park Hills, Missouri.; and a sister, Doris Jean House of Desloge; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to thank the staff at Manor Park and others who helped care for Dorothy in her last years.

Memorials may be directed to First Baptist Church of Farmington, Missouri; Christ Church Anglican in Midland, TX; Home Hospice of Midland; or Manor Park in Midland.

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



Naomi Jeanne Garcia

Naomi Jeanne Garcia, 37, of Midland passed away after a lengthy illness on Monday, February 23, 2015.

The family will be accepting guests from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at Grace Presbyterian Church at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 27, 2015, with Reverend Cheryl Homsher officiating. Interment will follow at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Fort Stockton, Texas at 3:00 p.m. with Reverend Jim Miles officiating.

Naomi was born on May 14, 1977 in Alpine, Texas to her loving mother, Delma Fabela Barrientos. She was raised in Fort Stockton and graduated from Fort Stockton High School. In 2002, she moved to Midland with her parents, Delma and Jesus. Naomi was a member of Grace Presbyterian Church.

No matter what struggles Naomi faced in her life, she always had a smile on her face and a positive outlook. She never looked at what she couldn't do and always overcame obstacles laid in front of her. Naomi could light up a room with her personality and witty sense of humor. She loved going places and going to dinner with her family. Her presence and smile will be greatly missed by her entire family and her friends.

She is survived by her parents, Delma and Jesus Barrientos; brother, Raymond Garcia and his wife, Ayako, and their two sons, all of Wichita Falls, Texas; brother, Thomas Peterson and his wife, Sarahi, and their children, all of Austin, Texas; brother, David Peterson of Galveston, Texas; along with numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Naomi is preceded in death by her grandparents, Reyes and Herminia Fuentez.

The family would like to express their gratitude to the staff of Hospice Midland for their care and support.

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

Stephen John Sadowski

Stephen John Sadowski, 60, of Katy, Texas passed away on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 after a short battle with pancreatic cancer.

Stephen was born on June 10, 1954, in Midland, Texas. Stephen married Kathryn (Poehl) Sadowski in 1993. He worked in the oil and gas industry for 40 years. Stephen loved the outdoors, the ocean, saltwater fishing, and his dog, Layla.

Stephen is survived by his wife, Kathryn Sadowski; and twin sister, Tonya Reece of Midland.

Visitation for Stephen Sadowski will be Thursday, February 26 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Katy Funeral Home. Services will be conducted on Friday, February 27 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Peter's United Methodist Church, Katy. Interment will follow at Katy Magnolia Cemetery in Katy, Texas.

Death Notices

Donald R. Posey

Donald R. Posey of Midland passed away on Monday, February 23, 2015. Private family services will be held at a later date.

He is survived by his wife, Jean; their two children, Susan and Richard; and by one sister.

Mary Lou DeLao

Mary Lou DeLao of Stanton, Texas passed away on Tuesday February 24, 2015.

Funeral services will be held Friday, February 27, 2015 at St. Joseph Catholic Church at 11:00 a.m. Burial will be held at St. Josephs Catholic Cemetery, immediately following the services.

Mary is survived by her sons; Paul (Niky) DeLao, Wayne DeLao, and Toby DeLao; daughters, Betty Perez and Mandy Cruz; and by four brothers and five sisters.

To Submit Obituaries:
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Famed jockey Jerry Lambert dies at 74

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Jerry Lambert, a leading jockey on the Southern California circuit in the 1960s and '70s who rode Native Diver to three consecutive Hollywood Gold Cup victories, has died. He was 74.

He was found dead Monday at Magali Farms in Santa Ynez, California, where he worked, according to daughter Lacey, who also works at the breeding and training facility. Santa Anita Park in suburban Arcadia announced his death Wednesday.

Lambert was the regular rider of Hall of Fame gelding Native Diver, and together they won Gold Cups in 1965, '66 and '67. He won 2,535 races and retired with 42 stakes wins at Santa Anita, 54 at Hollywood Park and 30 at Del Mar. He won his first race on a half-mile bullring in Shelby, Montana, in 1958.

Lambert, who went by "Clyde," was Santa Anita's leading rider in 1967-68 and won another title at the track's fall meet in 1972. He was Del Mar's leading rider in 1967. He was born in Clyde, Kansas, on Dec. 27, 1940.

Lambert was known as a superb judge of pace who had a light touch on the horses and a cool demeanor,

Midland Reporter-Telegram

AT YOUR SERVICE

ISSN 0890-5932

A Hearst Newspaper

Published each morning by the Hearst Corporation, Midland Reporter-Telegram Division, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701. Periodicals postage paid at Midland, TX 79711. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701

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Austin American-Statesman/AP

Sarah Goodfriend, left, and Suzanne Bryant pray during their marriage vows with Rabbi Kerry Baker outside of the Travis County Clerk's office in Austin on Feb. 19. Travis County spokeswoman Ginny Ballard said the marriage occurred, though it wasn't immediately clear if the license has legal standing. The marriage followed a state District Court order instructing that officials not rely on Texas' unconstitutional prohibitions on same-sex marriage.

Rabbi who presided over gay wedding leads House in prayer

By Eva Ruth Moravec
Associated Press

AUSTIN — The rabbi who defied Texas' same-sex marriage ban and wed a lesbian couple last week led the morning prayer in the Republican-dominated Texas House on Wednesday, catching staunch supporters of the prohibition off-guard.

Rabbi Kerry Baker didn't reference the nuptials, which are being challenged by the state attorney general, but urged lawmakers to pay special attention to people who are marginalized and to treat everyone equally.

"It's not enough to do what is good for the majority, but to do what is good for all of us," Baker said.

Baker then stood for a photo with Republican House Speaker Joe Straus, who later acknowledged he was unaware Baker was involved in the wedding, and Rep. Elliott Naishtat, the Austin Democrat who introduced Baker. Naishtat subsequently said he intentionally omitted details of Baker's role in the wedding during his introduction.

"This is a place where we believe in free speech, and that begins with a prayer each day," Straus said after being told Baker oversaw the ceremony.

Republican Rep. Cecil Bell, who cut a celebratory cake during a religious rally at the state Capitol on Tuesday to mark the voter-approved ban's 10th anniversary, also said he was unaware Baker was involved in the wedding.

Bell, who has filed legislation that would prohibit county, state and local officials from recognizing, granting or enforcing same-sex marriage licenses, said he had "bigger things to concern" himself with than to "take exception to the decision as to who will do the prayer in the morning."

He added: "I'm thankful that the body opens with a prayer."

Baker married Suzanne Bryant and Sarah Goodfriend just moments after the women were granted a marriage license by an Austin judge because Goodfriend has cancer. The women have been together for nearly 30 years and have two teenage daughters.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton immediately asked the state Supreme Court to invalidate the marriage and block county clerks from issuing marriage licenses. The court sided with Paxton on the latter request but didn't address Bryant and Goodfriend's marriage.

Naishtat said he hadn't heard a word of opposition from other House members and was pleased that Baker spoke "eloquently about marginalized populations and the need for inclusion."

Lawmakers can submit requests for a clergy member to lead the House prayer on a certain date to the chamber's Sergeant-at-Arms. The speakers don't require the approval of House leadership.

Baker obeyed instructions to avoid political or partisan matters. He referenced the Bible and the U.S. Constitution, and prayed for "God's strength and direction to make sure that we are including all in our thoughts."

Bryant and Goodfriend, both longtime political activists, asked a Travis County judge to issue them a marriage license two days after another judge in an unrelated estate case ruled that Texas' ban was unconstitutional.

The ban was overturned last year by a federal judge in San Antonio, but that ruling is on hold while the state appeals. The case is now with the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

In an interview outside the House chamber after the prayer, Baker said he has led prayers at the Capitol before. The outspoken rabbi said he is used to people disagreeing with him on issues including same-sex marriage.

He said he believes the U.S. Constitution's equal protection clause trumps Texas' constitutional amendment, which voters overwhelmingly approved in 2005. But legal arguments aside, Baker said he performed last week's wedding because it was "the right thing to do in terms of what the Bible teaches."

The U.S. Supreme Court this summer will hear arguments on same-sex marriages, which are now legal in 37 states.

Lt. governor asks Texans to be army to protect marriage

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick this week urged a gathering of religious and social conservatives to become an army of supporters to help him and other Christian politicians oppose abortion, protect marriage and defend the Constitution.

The Austin American-Statesman reported Patrick, a Republican, gave a speech at the Texas Faith and Family Day Forum at the Capitol that called people to action against what other speakers had called liberal attacks on traditional values. He said that, together, they could be leaders in education and job creation, but they also must be leaders for Christ.

Patrick's speech was followed by the symbolic cutting of two wedding cakes to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of a Texas constitutional amendment that limited marriage to opposite-sex couples. State Rep. Cecil Bell, a Republican from Magnolia, was asked to slice one of the cakes in recognition of his bill which would withhold the pay of county clerks and government employees who issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

"My family's been in Texas since 1852," Bell said after the forum. "What has always been normal for us, we're suddenly being told it's not normal, that those things that are our traditional values, somehow they are wrong."

Texas is one of 13 states where same-sex couples are banned from marrying.

"We can be the leader in education, we can be the leader in creating jobs, we can be the leader in all that stuff, but we really need to be the leader for Christ," Patrick said at the end of his speech. "That's the answer, that's the hope that this state and country must look to. We need you as an army behind us, to stand for life, to stand for marriage, to stand just for the Constitution."

Associated Press

Texas paid $2.2M for Garcia Marquez archive

Associated Press

AUSTIN — The University of Texas' literary archive said Wednesday it paid $2.2 million for the works of Nobel laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez, a price the school sought to keep secret until ordered to make it public by the state attorney general's office.

Officials at the university's Harry Ransom Center refused in November to reveal the price to The Associated Press, saying it would hurt negotiations for future purchases. The attorney general ruled Feb. 19 that the school failed to prove harm by disclosure and ordered the contract released.

Ransom Center spokeswoman Jen Tisdale revealed the $2.2 million figure to the AP, but the university did not immediately release the contract.

The Garcia Marquez collection spans more than 50 years and 10 books, including his acclaimed 1967 novel, "One Hundred Years of Solitude."

The university previously had disclosed the prices of such purchases and the effort to keep the cost of the Garcia Marquez archive secret drew attention from literary and legal circles for its potential impact on future archive purchases and Texas public records law.

CAPITOLALMANAC

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Transportation

The Texas Senate Transportation Committee has approved a plan funneling part of the revenue from the state's vehicle sales tax into building and maintaining roads.

Sponsored by Sen. Robert Nichols, a Jacksonville Republican who chairs the committee, Wednesday's vote means the proposal can be considered by the full Senate.

The upper chamber could take up the measure as early as next week, making it one of the first pieces of legislation approved, though the House would also still have to pass it.

Taxes collected on vehicle sales currently flow into the state budget's general revenue. Nichols' plan would divert tax collections over $2.5 billion annually for road infrastructure beginning in 2018. Nichols said it could generate more than $2 billion annually.

Gov. Greg Abbott has made transportation infrastructure spending a priority, fast-tracking related bills through the Legislature.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick oversees the flow of Senate legislation and praised the plan, saying the Legislature previously had "relied too heavily on debt and tolls."

Gay marriage complaint

A state lawmaker's complaint has prompted the Texas Commission on Judicial Conduct to investigate a judge who ordered the issuance of a marriage license to a same-sex couple.

Republican Rep. Tony Tinderholt filed the complaint Wednesday against state District Judge David Wahlberg, an elected Democrat.

Last week, Wahlberg ordered the Travis County clerk to issue a marriage license to a "medically fragile" lesbian couple in Austin. His order followed a probate judge's decision that Texas' 2005 voter-approved same-sex marriage ban was unconstitutional.

Tinderholt said Wahlberg violated statutes requiring that judges notify the attorney general when ruling something unconstitutional. Attorney General Ken Paxton has asked the state Supreme Court to declare the lesbian couple's license invalid.

After an investigation, the commission will review the results and weigh disciplinary actions.

License plates

It's all about the bass, as in fish.

The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department on Wednesday asked for the public's help in choosing a new license plate honoring bass fishing.

The redesigned bass conservation license plate will be available this summer. Proceeds will benefit the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department fisheries programs.

One version includes the front view of a largemouth bass. The second option has a side view of the fish.

Agency officials also ask voters to fill out a survey on whether they currently have a commemorative bass license plate on a vehicle, trailer or motorcycle.

On deck

The Senate is adjourned until Monday afternoon, but the House convenes at 10 a.m. today. Meanwhile, the Senate Nominations Committee is discussing Gov. Greg Abbott's potentially contentious appointments of regents to the University of Texas System beginning at 8 a.m. today. Among the House committees also meeting: Appropriations, Corrections and Transportation.

Quote of the day

"In Texas, we love to boast about how many barrels of oil we produce a year, and I'm sure will all agree beer should be no different." — Fort Worth Republican Sen. Konni Burton, saluting a group of visitors from the MillerCoors Fort Worth Brewery, where they produce more than 9 million barrels of beer annually.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

DALLAS

3 hurt after school minibus overturns

A student and two adults have been slightly hurt when a school minibus overturned on a snowy, icy North Texas road.

Grand Prairie police saID the Mansfield Independent School District bus ended up on its side Wednesday morning.

Officer Lyle Gensler says road conditions were a factor in the single-vehicle accident. He says the driver, another adult and a 6-year-old girl were on board. All wore seat belts.

Ambulances transported the trio to a hospital, to be checked for minor injuries.

The Mansfield ISD said the wreck involved two school employees. Details weren't immediately released on a destination.

SAN ANTONIO

Emergency crews find plane that crashed

At least one person was killed in the crash of a World War II-style aircraft that crashed near San Antonio in a large wooded area owned by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

San Antonio fire spokeswoman Deborah Foster said emergency crews reported no survivors at the site of the downed aircraft in Government Canyon State Natural Area, about 30 miles northwest of San Antonio. She said crew members were not certain the number of people killed as the aircraft was a two-seater.

Fun Facts Sponsored by

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It's possible to sail a boat from Pakistan to Russia if you sail in a completely straight line.

On average, astronauts are two inches taller in space.

DAILY PROMISE BROUGHT TO YOU BY

HENRY

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

■ Circus Gatti at Ector County Coliseum. ectorcountycoliseum.org.

■ Vienna Boys Choir, 7:30 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. wagnernoel.com.

■ "Lend Me a Tenor" at The Globe Theater of the Great Southwest. odessa.edu.

See more information on this weekend's entertainment calendar in the Weekender.

MC Women's Conference

Midland College is hosting its annual Women's Conference 9:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m. today and Friday for women participating in ESL and GED programs at Midland College and Odessa College, Teen Challenge and MISD Head Start. More than 100 women are expected to attend the event at the Scharbauer Student Center Carrasco Room.

The conference will begin each day with a keynote speaker and continue with breakout sessions and lunch. Today's speaker is Midland ISD Headstart Coordinator Emma Galindo; on Friday, the speaker is to be MC Student Development Coordinator Julia Vickery.

For more information, call 685-4556.

Support groups, club meetings today

■ TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 5:30-7:30 p.m., Christian Church of Midland, 2609 Neely Ave. 694-8643

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

■ Midland Gem and Mineral Society, 7 p.m., Sibley Nature Center, 687-6467.

Alzheimer's Association event

"An Evening to Remember," hosted by FirstCapital Bank of Texas, Ortloff Engineers and Concho, will be 6:30 p.m. today at the Petroleum Club.

The evening will include a wine reception and dinner, live and silent auctions and will feature internationally recognized graffiti artist, Erik Wahl.

Reservations are required; to attend contact Janene Binnion at jbinnion@coronadomidstream.com or 221-9721.

The Reporter-Telegram on radio

Editor Stewart Doreen discusses local news at 9:40 a.m. Thursdays on KWEL (AM 1070, FM 107.1).

Hotel Business in December

December 2014
(Taxable receipts)

Midland:	$8,690,572
Odessa:	$7,002,200
Abilene:	$2,985,854
Lubbock:	$6,259,016
San Angelo:	$2,711,139
Midland in December 2013:	$6,001,676
Midland in December 2012:	$5,193,876
Midland in December 2010:	$2,524,096
Midland in December 2009:	$2,076,452
Midland in December 2008:	$2,718,476

Top Midland hotels
(total receipts)

DoubleTree by Hilton	$960,030
Hilton Garden Inn	$614,628
Grand Texan Hotel	$640,406
Residence Inn	$529,264
Midtown Hotel	$510,597
Homewood Suites	$482,739
Sleep Inn	$449,065
Townplace Suites	$415,383
Candlewood Suites	$411,197
Holiday Inn Express (Loop)	$398,233
La Quinta (Wall)	$391,475
Holiday Inn Express (I-20)	$338,419
Courtyard by Marriott	$335,108
Springhill Suites	$323,490
La Quinta (Loop 250)	$320,869
Best Western	$297,366
Value Place	$251,745
Hampton Inn and Suites	$251,449
Microtell Inn	$246,796
Plaza Inn (Big Spring St.)	$225,971
Comfort Inn-Midland	$219,157
Fairfield Inn	$203,462
Comfort Inn	$193,935
Comfort Suites	$189,185
West Texas Inn and Suites	$188,641
Baymont Inn and Suites	$170,451
Country Inn	$169,639
Studio 6	$161,413
Best Value Inn	$135,754
Travelodge	$118,445
America's Best Value Inn	$114,791
Days Inn	$111,944
Executive Inn	$102,951

Note: H B Rentals was listed with $154,290

Top in Midland-Odessa

DoubleTree by Hilton	$960,030
MCM Fundome (O)	$859,448
MCM Elegante (O)	$697,290
Grand Texan Hotel	$640,406
Hilton Garden Inn	$614,628

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 8-0-9
Pick 3 day: 0-2-9
Pick 3 evening: 8-0-5
Pick 3 night: 7-2-1
Daily 4 morning: 9-3-2-7
Daily 4 day: 2-7-6-7
Daily 4 evening: 8-5-3-9
Daily 4 night: 2-5-8-9
Cash Five: 1-3-9-20-36
Lotto Texas: 4-22-23-26-44-54
Powerball: 17-19-21-32-39 PB: 8
Power Play: 3
All or Nothing morning: 2-3-4-5-11-12-13-15-18-19-20-24
All or Nothing day: 2-3-5-6-7-9-11-14-16-17-19-23
All or Nothing evening: 2-3-4-5-7-12-13-14-15-20-21-24
All or Nothing night: 1-2-3-4-11-14-15-18-19-20-22-24

Experts: Insanity case hard to win

By Jamie Stengle
Associated Press

Associated Press

Former Marine Cpl. Eddie Ray Routh stands during his capital murder trial at the Erath County, Donald R. Jones Justice Center in Stephenville Texas, on Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2015. Routh, 27, of Lancaster, is charged with the 2013 deaths of Chris Kyle and his friend Chad Littlefield at a shooting range near Glen Rose, Texas.

"If someone is admitting that they committed murder, it's a pretty tough burden to get a jury to say, 'Let's excuse him anyway.'"

Michael Snipes, Defense attorney

STEPHENVILLE — The former Marine convicted of killing "American Sniper" author Chris Kyle and another man was hospitalized multiple times for psychiatric treatment and was prescribed medication to treat schizophrenia. He spoke of pig-human hybrids and the apocalypse and was described by Kyle himself as "straight-up nuts."

But jurors found the insanity defense for Eddie Ray Routh failed to meet the legal threshold: a mental illness so severe he didn't know right from wrong. His case illustrates the difficulty of succeeding with such a defense at a time when a Colorado court is preparing to hear similar arguments in the trial over a movie theater shooting in which 12 people were killed.

"The insanity defense is very rare, and it's even rarer that a defendant wins it," said George Dix, a law professor at the University of Texas at Austin.

He said when a brutal crime is committed it's difficult to convince a jury the person accused doesn't "deserve the condemnation that comes from a finding of guilty." He added, "And here, we've got him causing the death of an American hero."

Kyle, a former Navy SEAL sniper, volunteered with veterans facing mental health problems after he left the military. A blockbuster film based on his memoir about his four tours in Iraq contributed to intense interest in the case.

Legal experts said a defense attorney's task to convince a jury that a client is legally insane is even more difficult in cases like that of Routh, who confessed to killing the men, apologized to the family and fled from police.

"If someone is admitting that they committed the murder, it's a pretty tough burden to get a jury to say, 'Let's excuse him anyway,'" said Dallas defense attorney Michael Snipes.

Kyle and his friend, Chad Littlefield, were killed after taking Routh to a shooting range on Feb. 2, 2013. Routh's mother had asked Kyle if he could help her son, who she said had suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder after serving in Iraq and Haiti.

But the focus of the trial was not PTSD. Routh's attorneys said he suffered from schizophrenia and was having a psychotic episode at the time of the shootings, and noted that Kyle described Routh as "straight-up nuts" in a text message to Littlefield as they drove to the range.

Prosecutors painted the 27-year-old as a troubled drug user who nonetheless knew right from wrong.

A psychologist testifying for prosecutors said Routh was not legally insane but had a paranoid disorder made worse by his use of alcohol and marijuana. In contrast, a psychiatrist testifying for the defense said Routh had schizophrenia and had described seeing neighbors and friends turning into pig-human hybrids.

Snipes said that, ultimately, experts cancel each other out in the minds of jurors, who instead look at the defendant's actions.

Juror Barrett Hutchinson told ABC's "Good Morning America" they were not convinced by the claim that Routh was having a psychotic episode. "He knew the consequences of pulling the trigger," Hutchinson said.

The defense plans an appeal, but Routh's attorney J. Warren St. John said he's not yet ready to discuss specifics.

The jury had three options: find Routh guilty of capital murder, find him not guilty or find him not guilty by reason of insanity. With the conviction, Routh received an automatic sentence of life in prison without parole.

Under a finding of not guilty by reason of insanity, Routh would have faced up to life in a state mental hospital. Experts said he would have had the possibility of release only if the state could no longer establish that he had a severe mental illness and was likely to harm another person if he didn't receive inpatient treatment.

But jurors couldn't be told the potential consequences of that finding, a stipulation St. John called a hurdle. Houston defense attorney George Parnham, who was not involved in the case, said it lets jurors assume such a verdict could mean the defendant "will ride down the elevator" with them.

Parnham represented Andrea Yates, the Houston-area woman convicted of drowning her five young children before being retried and found not guilty by reason of insanity. Yates is now in a minimum security state mental hospital.

He said that for the retrial, the defense focused less on mental health records and experts and more on getting jurors to see into the mind of the woman who Parnham said drowned her children because she thought that if she didn't they would be taken by Satan.

In Colorado, jurors are now being selected to hear the case against James Holmes, who has pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity to killing 12 people and injuring 70 in a 2012 attack at a suburban Denver theater.

As in Texas, Colorado law defines insanity as the inability to tell right from wrong — specifically because of a mental disease or defect. But Colorado is one of only a few states that puts the burden of proving sanity on the prosecution. Once a judge allows someone to plead not guilty by reason of insanity, prosecutors must convince the jury the defendant was sane.

GROWTH

From 1A

could average about 5 percent during the next five years.

Wage and salary employment is forecast to increase by 7,403, from 94,114 in 2014 to 101,517 in 2019, for a 1.53 percent rate of growth, again starting later in the five-year cycle. The MSA's population is forecast to grow from 176,354 in 2014 to 194,132, an increase of 17,779 residents, or 1.94 percent.

Durable manufacturing will be the sector seeing the largest employment growth rate at 4.99 percent, followed by the information sector at 4.88 percent growth. Mining, the sector that includes oil and gas, should see a 4.49 percent growth rate. Even so, employment in the oil and gas industry isn't expected to return to current levels, he said.

Perryman repeated that these growth rates are expected to begin after declines in the early years of the cycle.

He stressed that the area will not see a replay of the crushing downturn of the 1980s in part because banks and investors have been more cautious, oil and gas companies have been more cautious and firms have worked to maintain strong balance sheets and liquidity.

"People are going to be more cautious. Investors will be more cautious; vendors will be more cautious; developers will be more cautious until oil prices start to come back," he predicted.

When oil prices and the industry do begin to come back, they will come back quickly, he said. He forecast long-term oil prices will average $70 a barrel.

Even though Midland and Odessa have worked to diversify into non-oil and gas industries such as clean coal, medicine, aviation and even space, oil and gas will drive the local economy well into the future, Perryman said.

He said technology has allowed the industry to produce more oil and gas across the country and in the Permian Basin, reversing a four-decade decline. Technology has also allowed producers to cut the cost of producing that oil, he added.

While global oil demand is down right now, it will rebound, and "we're going to need all those resources," he said.

"We produce a significant portion of the world's oil now. We are a much more vital part of the world market," he said.

A positive to the slowdown in activity is that it should help area communities expand infrastructure, including roads, water and electricity, he said.

"We've had a level of growth that's been unsustainable for infrastructure," he said.

It should also help reduce housing and apartment costs, he added.

"The bottom line is, more housing inventory will be available and there will be more people looking so prices should come down," he said.

Estimated change from 2014 to 2019

Jobs
Percent change

Midland MSA	12.31
Odessa MSA	12.80
San Angelo MSA	10.40
West Texas region	11.38
Texas	11.11
U.S.	8.65

Output
Percent change

Midland MSA	31.27
Odessa MSA	28.32
San Angelo MSA	22.26
West Texas region	29.07
Texas	23.61
U.S.	18.05

West Texas Region
Dollar figures in billions

	2014 level	2019 level	CAGR
Output	$45.824	$59.146	5.24
Population	690,628	782,965	2.54
Wage and Salary Employment	303,681	338,246	2.18
Real Personal Income	$30.733	$36.416	4.56
Real Retail Sales	$10,996	$13.784	4.62

Source: The Perryman Group

PHILLIPS

From 1A

as Phillips' own production. Although he started covering news and following the Dallas Cowboys, his passion was for human interest pieces just like his then-idol, Charles Kuralt on CBS. Kuralt's pioneering pieces for "On the Road with Charles Kuralt" fashioned Phillips' approach to reporting.

"I think I was born for this job," Phillips said. "My dad was an incredible storyteller, and as a cub reporter, I got to meet and study under Charles Kuralt. He taught me so much, and between him and my dad, those were the best storytellers in the world, and I'd say this has definitely been my calling."

These days, Phillips receives tips on TCR stories from viewers' emails. But sometimes he comes upon a story by simpler, perhaps even old-fashioned means. Phillips will often come up with a story by driving around or picking up a newspaper.

"I can always see something unusual in a small-town newspaper that makes me wonder if there is more to this story," he said. "After doing some research, you'd be surprised how much we can find through just one story."

But even after four decades, the stories are far from over. TCR's focus on the people gives Phillips an almost infinite well to draw from. But more than that, for Phillips, each story is what creates the fabric of the state.

"Texas is fascinating for a lot of different reasons, and the primary reason is the variety of cultures. We have cultures from all over the world here, and part of that reason is that we have the terrain from all over the world. I can step off a plane from anywhere in the world and say, 'This looks like east Texas or the Panhandle or Big Bend,'" Phillips said.

Because Phillips and his show have become iconic and synonymous with Texas' identity, library director John Trischitti is glad to have him as part of the festivities on Saturday.

"'Texas Country Reporter' is such an institution, and for him to be willing to come out and speak is a great thing for us," Trischitti said.

Also at the luncheon, County Judge Mike Bradford will be honored with the Rosalind Redfern Benefactor Award. Bradford has been instrumental in the library's efforts, as well as the Centennial branch's innovative vision — so much so, that he coined the term "imagibrarium" in regard to it.

Bradford's impact on the county library system has been far-reaching, according to Trischitti. If not for Bradford, the current Centennial branch might not exist, he said.

"He has been the library's champion my entire time here. He's very knowledgeable about the system and understands the importance of a library in the community," Trischitti said.

He credits much of the continued success of the branch to Bradford's efforts, as well as the entire outlook of what Midland County Public Library is working to accomplish. In the past year, the library has extended its community outreach to include arts and live music and educational and recreational classes. And the system plans to go further.

"With what we're trying to do, that can be an enviable position," Trischitti said. "We're redefining what the public library is, and (Bradford) a great ally who is completely on board with it."

That sort of spirit is indicative of the area to Phillips. Where people might imagine a vast desert, Phillips sees far more out here in West Texas. He sees a resolve unlike anywhere else.

"I know what comes to a lot of people's minds when you mention West Texas: hot, dry and dusty. That's what they picture," he said. "But there's a certain grit and tenacity that comes with growing up or living in West Texas, I think. So when I hear those words, I picture the wide-open spaces and some of the most incredible individuals I've ever met."

EMPLOYMENT

From 1A

the chain was struggling to fill its ranks for the holiday season, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article. Also in 2013, Wal-Mart increased its starting hourly wages from $10 to $14, according to a store manager.

"Entry-level wages have been outrageous compared to what we're used to with our other stores that are not in that region," Golightly said.

The slowdown has also benefited Midland's service industry sector as the increasing unemployment rate creates a better employment pool. Local Domino's Pizza locations have seen more activity in their recruitment process and have increased thier staff up since January's drop in oil prices.

"A real big influx of our workers came in January, and in February it kind of slowed down a little bit," said Domino's Pizza franchisee Jim Gerety. "Quite a few of our delivery drivers who went to work in the oil field when the boom really took off are starting to come back because they know that this is the kind of job that will help when the oil economy is slowed down."

So far, the increase in the number of job-seekers has not yet impacted the above-average hourly wages these major service and retail chains are paying.

None of the businesses have decreased their hourly wages, and the decision to draw down these wages usually depends on various economic indicators to be analyzed by corporate executives.

Midland Chamber of Commerce President Bobby Burns said he doesn't expect wages to drop unless the current economic situation continues for more than a year.

These job vacancies are also expected to slightly mitigate the impact of the city's unemployment rate, which was the lowest in the nation in December. That jobless rate is expected to rise slightly when the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics releases its next employment report — based on January's statistics — in March.

Lawsuit filed against Purina claims food sickens, kills dogs

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A dog owner has filed a lawsuit against a pet food company alleging that thousands of dogs have been sickened or died from eating a brand of dry dog food.

Pet owner Frank Lucido filed the suit on Feb. 5 in U.S. District Court in the Northern District of California against Nestle Purina PetCare Company, saying he fed his three dogs Beneful "kibble" style dog food, and within a short period of time, two were sick and one was dead.

The suit alleges the food contains propylene glycol, which it says is an animal toxin used in automobile antifreeze, and mycotoxins, a group of toxins produced by fungus that occurs in grains.

Purina said Beneful is perfectly safe. The Food and Drug Administration has not issued any warnings about the product.

But Lucido alleges that, in the past four years, there have been more than 3,000 complaints online about dogs becoming ill or dying after eating Beneful, with the complaints showing "consistent symptoms," including stomach and related internal bleeding, liver malfunction or failure, vomiting, diarrhea, dehydration, weight loss, seizures and kidney failure.

In a statement, Purina said "there are no quality issues with Beneful," and dog owners could continue feeding it to their pets without any concern.

"Like other pet foods, Beneful is occasionally the subject of social media-driven misinformation," the company said in its statement. "Online postings often contain false, unsupported and misleading allegations that cause undue concern and confusion for our Beneful customers."

The FDA has approved the use of propylene glycol as an additive in human food and animal feed, and Purina screens its grain to prevent mycotoxins from getting into its products, company spokesman Keith Schopp said.

In a statement, the FDA said it does not comment on pending litigation.

Jennifer Dooren, an FDA spokeswoman, declined to comment on whether the FDA was investigating Beneful "kibble" style dog food.

The results of toxicology testing on Lucido's English Bulldog, Dozer, who died, are pending, according to the lawsuit. It also says that one of Lucido's sick dogs, a Labrador named Remo, is undergoing medical testing.

A call and email to Lucido's attorney, Jeffrey Cereghino, were not returned.

The suit asks the court to expand the case to include others whose dogs were sickened or died. It asks for unspecified damages and restitution, although it says the claims exceed $5 million.

In recent years, Beneful has faced two lawsuits that were dismissed by the courts, according to Purina's statement.

However, in a lawsuit settled in May, Purina and Waggin' Train LLC agreed to create a $6.5 million fund to compensate people who claimed their pets were sickened after eating China-made jerky treats.

At the time, FDA officials said the pet treats were linked to more than 1,000 deaths in dogs and more than 4,800 complaints of animal illness. Three humans were sickened after eating the treats.

3 accused of plot to help Islamic State group

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Three men were arrested Wednesday on charges of plotting to help the Islamic State group wage war against the United States, and federal officials said one of them spoke of shooting President Barack Obama or planting a bomb on Coney Island.

Akhror Saidakhmetov was arrested at Kennedy Airport, where he was attempting to board a flight to Istanbul on his way to Syria, authorities said. Abdurasul Hasanovich Juraboev had a ticket to travel to Istanbul next month and was arrested in Brooklyn, federal prosecutors said. The two were held without bail after a brief court appearance.

A third defendant, Abror Habibov, is accused of helping fund Saidakhmetov's efforts to join the Islamic State group after Saidakhmetov's mother took away his passport to try to prevent him from traveling. Habibov was ordered held without bail in Florida.

The three, who are from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, are charged with attempt and conspiracy to provide material support to a terrorist organization. If convicted, each could face a maximum of 15 years in prison.

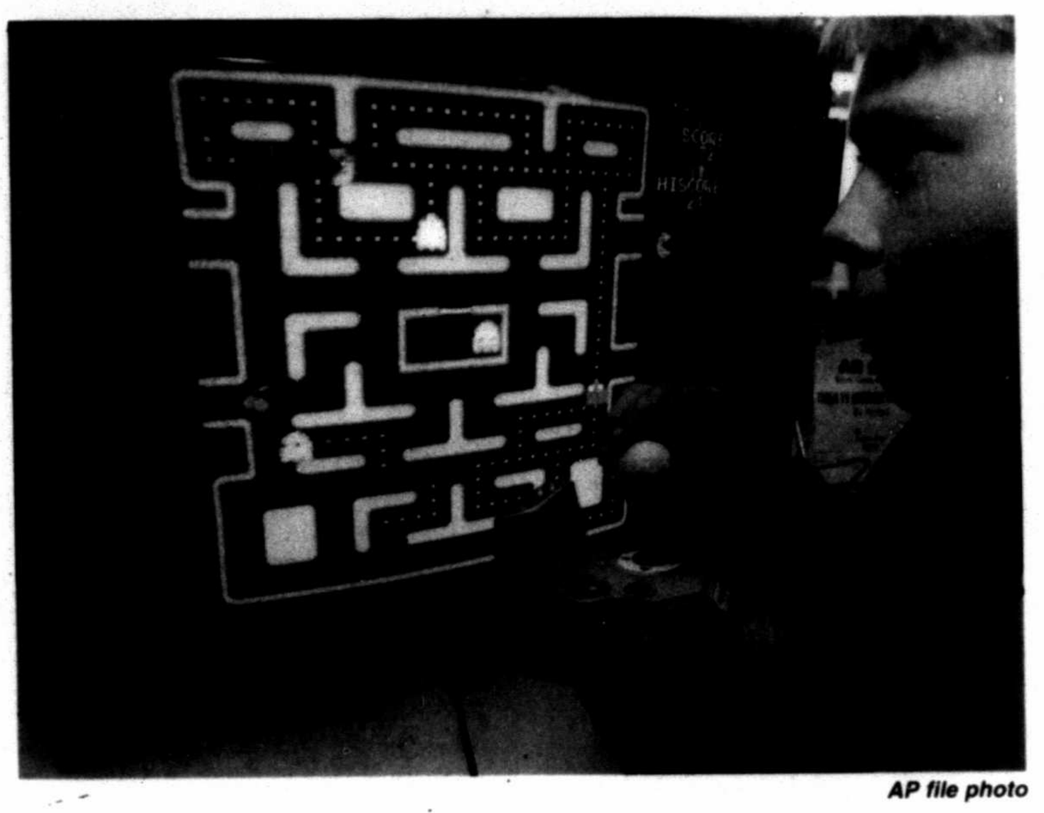
"This is real," New York Police Department Commissioner William Bratton said. "This is the concern about the lone wolf, inspired to act without ever going to the Mideast."

The Department of Justice has charged about 20 people in the past year with planning to travel to the Middle East to fight alongside militants like the Islamic State group.

Saidakhmetov is a Brooklyn resident and citizen of Kazakhstan. Juraboev is a Brooklyn resident from Uzbekistan. Habibov is also from Uzbekistan and had been in the U.S. legally, but his visa had expired. He was appointed a public defender Wednesday.

Computer program bests humans at 'Space Invaders'

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press



AP file photo

On Oct. 5, 2004, a youth tries a "Ms. Pac-Man" TV game in New York. Computers already have bested human champions in "Jeopardy!" and chess, but artificial intelligence now has gone to master an entirely new level: "Space Invaders." Google scientists have cooked up software that can do better than humans on dozens of Atari video games from the 1980s, like video pinball, boxing, and breakout. But they don't seem to have a ghost of a chance at "Ms. Pac-Man."

WASHINGTON — Computers already have bested human champions in "Jeopardy!" and chess, but artificial intelligence has now gone to master an entirely new level: "Space Invaders."

Google scientists have cooked up software that can do better than humans on dozens of Atari video games from the 1980s, like video pinball, boxing, and "Breakout." But computers don't seem to have a ghost of a chance at "Ms. Pac-Man."

The aim is not to make video games a spectator sport. The real accomplishment: computers that can teach themselves to succeed at tasks, learning from scratch, trial and error, just like humans.

The computer program, called Deep Q-network, wasn't given much in the way of instructions to start, but in time it did better than humans in 29 out of 49 games and in some cases, like video pinball, it did 26 times better, according to a new study released Wednesday by the journal Nature. It's the first time an artificial intelligence program bridged different type of learning systems, said study author Demis Hassabis of Google DeepMind in London.

Deep Q "can learn and adapt to unexpected things," Hassabis said in a news conference. "These types of systems are more human-like in the way they learn."

In the submarine game "Seaquest," Deep Q came up with a strategy that the scientists had never considered.

"It's definitely fun to see computers discover things that you didn't figure out yourself," said study co-author Volodymyr Mnih, also of Google.

Sebastian Thrun, director of the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory at Stanford University, who wasn't part of the research, said in an email: "This is very impressive. Most people don't understand how far (artificial intelligence) has come. And this is just the beginning."

Nothing about Deep Q is customized to Atari or to a specific game. The idea is to create a "general learning system" that can figure tasks out by trial and error and eventually to stuff even humans have difficulty with, Hassabis said. This program, he said, "is the first rung of the ladder."

Carnegie Mellon University computer science professor Emma Brunskill, who also wasn't part of the study, said this learning despite lack of customization "brings us closer to having general purpose agents equipped to work well at learning a large range of tasks, instead of just chess or just 'Jeopardy!'"

To go from pixels on a screen to making decisions on what to do next, without even a hint of pre-programmed guidance, "is really exciting," Brunskill said. "We do that as people."

The idea is that when the system gets scaled up, maybe it could work like asking a phone to plan a complete trip to Europe, book all the flights and hotels on its own "and it sorts it all out as if you have a personal assistant," Hassabis said.

But to some ways of thinking, Deep Q wasn't even as smart as a toddler because it can't transfer learned experiences from one situation to another and it doesn't get abstract concepts, Hassabis said.

Deep Q had trouble with "Ms. Pac Man" and "Montezuma's Revenge" because they are games that involve more planning ahead, he said.

Next, the scientists will try the system on more complicated games of the 1990s and beyond, perhaps a complicated game like "Civilization," where gamers create an entire empire to see if it can stand the test of time.

Deep Q isn't showing what Hassabis would call creativity, he said: "I would call it figuring out something that already existed in the world."

Creativity would be if the program created its own computer game, Hassabis said. Artificial intelligence isn't there, he said.

At least not yet.

Family celebrates one-month birthdays of identical triplets

Associated Press

ST. CLAIR SHORES, Mich. — A suburban Detroit couple who have two older children are adjusting to life after becoming parents to identical triplets — a multiple birth that's rare.

The Whiteley family of St. Clair Shores celebrated the one-month birthdays Wednesday for Alexander, Nicholas and Timothy.

The brothers were born Jan. 25 at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit but spent nearly a month in the newborn intensive care unit.

The boys are healthy, their mother, Lauren Whiteley, said. Their older brothers are age 3 and 2.

"I always wanted a big family, and I guess this is the way to do it, get them all at once," Whiteley joked.

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Minority rules in Homeland Security fiasco

■ Senate Majority Leader McConnell learns leadership doesn't have its privileges

DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group

For Harry Reid and his Senate Democrats, revenge is a dish best served bold.

For years, they complained that the Republican minority had tied the chamber in knots. But now, just weeks into their stint in the minority, Democrats are brazenly using the same knot-tying procedures.

Four times, they used filibusters to block the majority from bringing up a Department of Homeland Security funding bill that would undo President Obama's executive actions on immigration. And even after Majority Leader Mitch McConnell essentially surrendered on Monday — splitting the immigration proposal from the funding bill — Democrats continued grandstanding gleefully on Tuesday, confident that if parts of the Homeland Security department shut down in the coming days Republicans will be to blame.

And so Reid led about 30 Senate Democrats and a couple of uniformed firefighter chiefs into a basement room in the Capitol complex Tuesday afternoon for a pep rally daring Republicans to let funding run out for DHS and essentially declaring the GOP majority soft on terrorism. "With terrorists threatening to attack America, we must fund Homeland Security and fund it now," said Reid, who, wearing Wayfarer sunglasses and sporting ghastly facial bruises because of a recent accident, seemed downright scary as he invoked terrorist beheadings.

Sen. Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire asked of the Republicans: "Are they going to prioritize politics? Or are they going to prioritize national security?"

And Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, where the Mall of America is the target of a new terrorist threat by the Somali group al-Shabab, told Republicans "to get these firefighters funded, to fund our security and not to send a message to al-Shabab that we're going to shut down Homeland Security."

All of this must make McConnell wonder why he wanted so much to become majority leader. The Kentucky Republican is making a good-faith effort to keep his promise not to have a shutdown. But he is finding out that the Senate is just as ungovernable under his Republican control as it was under the previous management.

For his troubles, McConnell is the target of carping by conservatives and is so far receiving no assistance from House Speaker John Boehner. He's also an easy mark for mischief-making Democrats, who are enjoying the advantage Republicans had for years: It's easier to stop things from happening than to make them happen.

On the Senate floor Tuesday morning, McConnell described his proposed surrender. "My preference remains with the legislation that's already passed the House," he said, referring to the plan to make homeland-security funding conditional on the demise of Obama's immigration actions. But "I'm ready to try another way. I hope our friends across the aisle will demonstrate similar flexibility."

In a news conference in the afternoon, he further unfurled the white flag. "I've indicated to the Democratic leader that I'd be happy to have his cooperation to advance the consideration of a clean DHS bill which would carry us through to Sept. 30," he said. Even before a vote on the now-decoupled proposal to eliminate Obama's immigration plan? "I would be happy to do that," McConnell said, asking for "cooperation from the Democrats in going forward to pass what they have said for two months they wanted to pass."

His problem is, Democrats don't have a lot of incentive yet to take yes for an answer. McConnell's decision to split the immigration legislation from the funding has fired up conservatives such as Rep. Steve King of Iowa, who tweeted that Obama would simply veto the immigration piece, asking, "Think we were born yesterday?" Some House conservatives have even urged McConnell to abolish the filibuster in order to pass legislation tying the immigration proposals to DHS funding — an incendiary but pointless gesture because Obama would veto the bill even if it passed.

If and when Democrats finally do accept the terms of McConnell's surrender, the conservatives' wrath will turn against Boehner, who will have little choice but to go along with the concession or to be blamed for the shutdown.

Democrats on Tuesday acted as if they would rather enjoy the political benefits a shutdown would bring them. "It appears to me that the ideologues are still running the Republican Party," Reid taunted, listing various conservative voices that have warned against a shutdown. "The burden is on the Republicans. What they're doing is wrong for the country. And they not only will be blamed, they should be blamed."

Power without responsibility: Such are the perverse pleasures of being in the minority in today's Washington.

OUR VIEW

Newspapers provide responsible way to get information to people

There are few responsibilities the Reporter-Telegram takes more seriously than your right to know what is happening in government.

Newspapers keep government operating in a manner that promotes providing information to the community. In many cases, the Reporter-Telegram has attempted not only to report but to allow our government leaders to communicate directly with our readers. We have contributed space on our op-ed pages, our section fronts and even on our front page to allow them to address — in their own words — issues important to the community.

Sadly, the current legislative session in Austin already has produced another round of bills designed to give government the opportunity to bypass publishing legal notices in the newspaper. This assault on open government is a result of government associations' belief that paying to publish legal notices increases the cost of government. If that is the case, we ask the following question: What is the right price to guarantee that people have access to information distributed by a responsible third party?

We believe this assault on your right to know has very little to do with the bottom line. The budget for legal notices is small compared to what it means to a community that what readers see in those notices isn't buried deep inside the vast corridors of a government website. The community needs to know that an item will be considered at a public meeting just as it appeared in a newspaper's legal notice and that it has not been changed because that government entity has the ability to rewrite a notice without having to go through a third party.

For us to write this editorial this week is a little ironic. City Attorney Keith Stretcher is retiring this week. And as we have written here before, there are few people we have worked with who have taken open government more seriously. Stretcher told us on a number of occasions that he opposes changing the use of legal notices to impart certain information to the public. We hope there are more public servants like him.

In fact, we hope all government boards are unified in their opposition to changing the open-information requirements. We hope they offer resolutions supporting their opposition to current bills.

We hope the community also gets involved. In this day and age, through social media, your voice can still be heard loud and clear. For those who prefer a more traditional form of communication, we offer the contact information for state Rep. Tom Craddick, state Sen. Kel Seliger and Gov. Greg Abbott. Voice your support for the system that is in place now. The need for open government is as great as it's ever been. Let our representatives know that changing the current rules is a slap in the face of a system that works for the people. Let our representatives know that government lobbying groups shouldn't set the rules for your need to know through a responsible third party.

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

GOVERNOR
Greg Abbott (R)
Address: P.O. Box 12428, Austin, 78711
Phone: 512-463-2000
Website: www.governor.state.tx.us

STATE SENATOR
Kel Seliger (R)
Address: 6 Desta Drive, Suite 3360, Midland, TX 79705
Phone: 620-0436
www.senate.state.tx.us/75r/senate/members/dist31/dist31.htm

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Tom Craddick (R)
Address: District 82, P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768; 500 W. Texas Ave. Suite 880, Midland, TX 79701
Phone: 682-3000; 512-463-0500
Website: www.house.state.tx.us/members/dist82/craddick.htm

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TO OUR READERS

Opinions, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the author's or artist's views and not necessarily the view of the Reporter-Telegram.

Yes, liberals are less patriotic

■ Guiliani might backtrack, but he was right; conservatives are prouder of their country

RICH LOWRY
King Features Syndicate

Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani instantly became the most notorious man in America when he said at a conservative dinner in Manhattan that President Barack Obama doesn't love America.

He gamely tried to defend the remark for a few days before issuing a semi-mea culpa in The Wall Street Journal regretting his "bluntness" and saying that he "didn't intend to question President Obama's motives or the content of his heart."

That was probably the inevitable end-point once the words came out of his mouth, since it is an unwritten rule of American public life that only liberals are allowed to call their adversaries "unpatriotic." Rudy Giuliani isn't Nancy Pelosi or Harry Reid, who have both unloosed the "un-American" bomb on conservative opponents without any risk of getting hounded from polite society.

The reaction to Giuliani's comment was so harsh, in part because he referred to Obama's upbringing. This was taken as a sign that — in the wince-inducing argot of people constantly inventing a new vocabulary for their grievances — he was "othering" Obama, or playing to dark fears about the president's past. Cue the wailing and gnashing of teeth.

But no "othering" is necessary. To be less patriotic than the average American doesn't require any elaborate backstory or exotic beliefs — it is, as a matter of fact, a standard characteristic of the typical American liberal. The survey data are clear: There is a patriotism differential between the right and the left. Which doesn't mean that liberals don't love the country in their own fashion, but their love is not reflected in old-fashioned pride in country.

A Pew Research survey last year found that 46 percent of "steadfast conservatives" believed that the U.S. stands above all other countries; only 11 percent of "solid liberals" believed the same. Seventy-two percent of steadfast conservatives said they often feel proud to be an American; only 40 percent of solid liberals said they do.

Gallup headlined its write-up of a 2010 survey "One in Three Americans 'Extremely Patriotic': Republicans, conservatives, and seniors most likely to say so." According to Gallup, 52 percent of Republicans and 48 percent of conservatives called themselves extremely patriotic; only 20 percent of Democrats and 19 percent of liberals did.

As a general matter, patriotic sentiment becomes more attenuated the further left you go. The late distinguished philosopher Richard Rorty, hardly a McCarthyite, once wrote a New York Times op-ed titled "The Unpatriotic Academy."

He praised the left on campus for its championing of marginalized groups, before stipulating that "there is a problem with this left: it is unpatriotic. In the name of 'the politics of difference,' it refuses to rejoice in the country it inhabits. It repudiates the idea of a national identity, and the emotion of national pride."

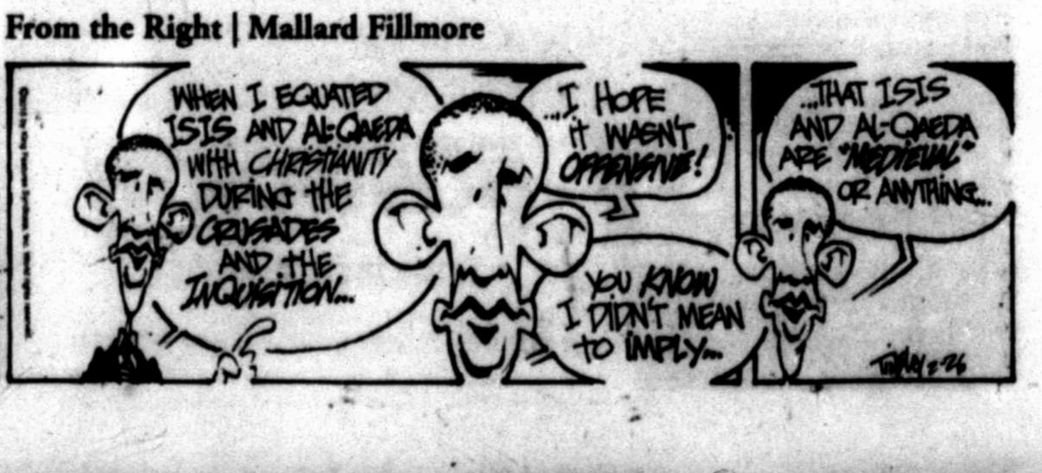
Edmund Burke famously said that "to make us love our country, our country ought to be lovely." For the left, America is lovely to the extent it corresponds to a progressive vision of a European-style welfare state that leads from behind in international affairs and pounds its chest less about its own greatness and exceptionalism. The America it can feel proud of exists not in actuality, but in prospect, as a vessel for a distinct ideological vision.

Needless to say, it is hard to pursue this project while simultaneously feeling what George Orwell, in his definition of patriotism, called "devotion to a particular place and particular way of life, which one believes to be the best in the world."

None of this means that questioning any particular politician's patriotism will ever be considered in bounds — it smacks of questioning motives that are ultimately unknowable. But if Giuliani had stood up before that room of conservatives and said that liberals don't feel about this country the way we do, he would have been on unassailable ground, and had the data to prove it.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



DHS funding stalemate ends in Senate; pressure now on House

By David McCumber
Hearst Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats on Wednesday decided to trust Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, agreeing to the Kentucky Republican's offer to bring a "clean" Department of Homeland Security funding bill to the floor.

The Senate voted 98-2 to do so, with only Republican Sens. James Inhofe of Oklahoma and Jeff Sessions of Alabama voting against it. The move puts huge pressure on House Speaker John Boehner, with the House needing to pass a similar measure before Saturday to avoid shutting down the mammoth agency.

Among those who voted for the "clean" bill — without the provisions in the House-passed bill defunding President Obama's immigration orders from last year and 2012 — to be brought forward was Republican Sen. Ted Cruz. But that doesn't mean he supports final passage of the bill in its current form.

"Sen. Cruz has said from the beginning that we need to proceed to the bill so we can debate the bill. Now we can have that debate," spokeswoman Catherine Frazier said Wednesday. "As he said yesterday, a clean bill that does not stop amnesty is a mistake."

Indeed, McConnell's offer was not without risk for Democrats. Cruz or another GOP opponent of a clean bill could slow the process beyond the Friday evening deadline, when DHS funding authorization expires. And McConnell could conceivably go back on his word and open the bill up for amendments now that it's been cleared for debate. Minority Leader Harry Reid, though, expressed confidence that wouldn't happen. Reid said final Senate approval for the DHS funding bill could come as early as Thursday.

DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson was joined Wednesday by two of his three predecessors heading the agency — Republicans Tom Ridge and Michael Chertoff — who added their emphatic voices against shutting the agency, which is responsible for border security, cybersecurity, air, marine and port security, protecting vital infrastructure, and responding to natural disasters.

In addition to the straightforward DHS funding measure, McConnell made plans to introduce a bill blocking funding for President Obama's most recent executive action on immigration — a bill that Democrats and Republicans both expect to be vetoed if it is passed.

The House bill would roll back President Obama's 2012 order known as DACA, which defers deportation for undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children before 2007. Also, it would remove funding to carry out his executive order from last year, which protected another 5 million undocumented immigrants from deportation, including parents of U.S. citizens and children who had been brought into the United States between 2007 and 2010.

Sen. John Cornyn had criticized Senate Democrats earlier Wednesday before they decided to take McConnell up on his offer. Later in the day, a spokeswoman said, "Sen. Cornyn is pleased the Democrat filibuster of critical funding for the Department of Homeland Security finally ended today. He looks forward to voting on legislation to fully fund the Department as well as a bill rolling back the President's unconstitutional executive order from last fall."

The real drama will come in the House over the next two days, where Speaker John Boehner faces a stark choice: Take up the "clean" DHS funding bill — which would almost certainly pass with every Democratic vote and a number of GOP votes as well — or be blamed for an agency shutdown that could weaken national security at a time of significant threat.

"Nobody wants to close Homeland with all the threats out there," Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Laredo, said Wednesday. "I have to hand it to Mitch McConnell. He did the right thing. The Senate knew all the time what needed to be done."

POLITICSBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

MIAMI

Confident Obama predicts success in immigration appeal

President Barack Obama urged immigrants thrown into limbo by legal wrangling to keep planning for eventual relief, professing confidence Wednesday that his deportation directives won't be thrown out in court.

"This is just one federal judge," Obama said of the district judge in Texas who put Obama's order on hold. "We have appealed it very aggressively. We're going to be as aggressive as we can."

Obama said he expected to win when a U.S. circuit court hears his appeal, but added that his administration will "take it up from there" if the appeal fails, in an apparent reference to the Supreme Court. He said at each stage of the process, the White House believes it has the better argument.

The strong-willed defense of Obama's executive actions came as millions of immigrants in the U.S. illegally wait to see whether Obama's order shielding them from deportation will be upheld. A 26-state coalition led by Texas is suing Obama, alleging he overstepped his legal authority.

Dismissing those hoping for a presidential about-face, Obama insisted he was "absolutely committed" to the new policy, which he described as focusing deportation efforts on felons.

WASHINGTON

Justices: Dentists unfair to limit teeth-bleaching providers

The Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that a state regulatory board made up mostly of dentists violated federal law against unfair competition when it tried to prevent lower-cost competitors in other fields from offering teeth-whitening services.

By a 6-3 vote, the justices rejected arguments from the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners that it was acting in the best interests of consumers when it pressured nondentists to get out of the lucrative trade in teeth-whitening services.

Justice Anthony Kennedy said in his majority opinion that the Federal Trade Commission was right to conclude that the state regulators also had a financial interest in the market for teeth-whitening.

In dissent, Justice Samuel Alito warned that the decision "is likely to have far-reaching effects on the states' regulation of professions" because many boards are made up of practitioners.

The court long has accepted that some actions that otherwise would raise antitrust concerns are permitted if they are done by states. The court had to decide whether the dental board was acting mainly in the interests of dentists or the public. If it was the latter, that would protect the board's decisions from complaints about unfair competition.

The Supreme Court's opinion confirms that the antitrust laws place important limits on what collusive actions private actors can take to advance their own businesses under the cloak of government action," said Jane Willis, an expert on antitrust law in Boston.

WASHINGTON

Justices appear to favor Muslim denied job over headscarf

Have you heard the one about the Sikh, the Hasidic Jew, the Muslim and the nun who walked into a job interview?

Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito channeled his inner stand-up comic Wednesday by indicating that he and most of the court would side with a Muslim woman who showed up for a job interview with Abercrombie & Fitch wearing a black headscarf. She didn't get hired.

Samantha Elauf, the woman at the center of the case about religious discrimination in hiring, was in the courtroom Wednesday. The case turns on how an employer is supposed to know that a worker or applicant has religious beliefs that need to be accommodated.

The clothing retailer said Elauf can't claim discrimination because she didn't say anything about religion during her interview.

Alito acknowledged that it sounded like he was making a joke in describing interviews with "a Sikh man wearing a turban," "a Hasidic man wearing a hat," "a Muslim woman wearing a hijab" and "a Catholic nun in a habit." But his point was that employers can't feign ignorance when people appear before them in religious clothing.

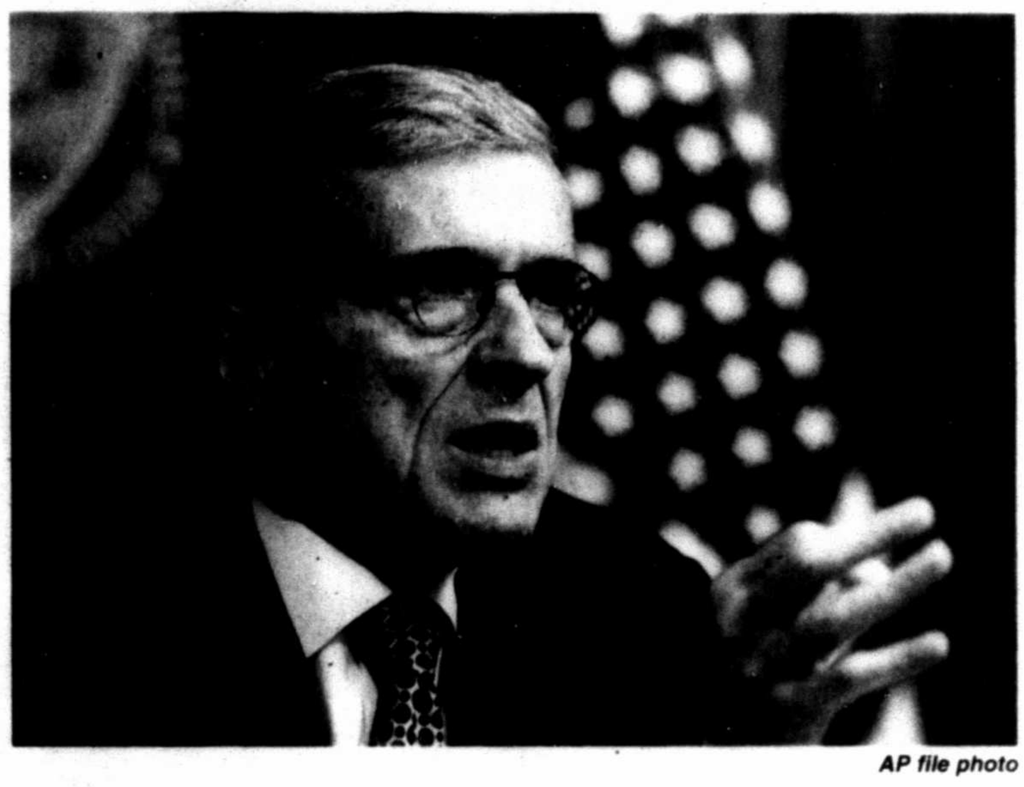
"Now, do you think ... that those people have to say, we just want to tell you, we're dressed this way for a religious reason. We're not just trying to make a fashion statement," Alito said.

A decision in EEOC v. Abercrombie & Fitch, 14-86, is expected by late June.

Talking heads skew 'net neutrality' debate

■ FACT CHECK

By Anne Flaherty
Associated Press



AP file photo

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Tom Wheeler speaks Oct. 8, 2014, during new conference in Washington.

WASHINGTON — Is President Barack Obama taking over the Internet? Not by a long stretch, but that's not stopping political banter in the "net neutrality" debate.

The Federal Communications Commission will vote Thursday on whether to put Internet service in the same regulatory camp as your telephone. That means broadband providers like Comcast, Verizon, AT&T, Sprint and T-Mobile must act in the "public interest" when providing your Internet connection and conduct business in ways that are "just and reasonable."

The goal, as stated by regulators: Prevent those service providers from creating paid Internet "fast lanes" and charging sites such as Google, YouTube and Netflix to move their data faster than others.

Some critics talk about the plan like it's a government takeover of your Netflix account. Supporters say it'll protect the status quo without price controls or new taxes. But the lobbyists and politicians aren't telling the whole story.

Here's a look at some of the questionable rhetoric in the "net neutrality" debate:

THE CLAIM: *"President Obama's plan marks a monumental shift toward government control of the Internet."* — Republican FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai.

THE FACTS: It's a shift for sure, but the FCC hasn't proposed regulating Internet content or controlling access to websites. The question is how to regulate Internet service so providers don't block or slow web traffic for financial gain.

FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler said the only way to do that is to subject retail Internet service to Title II of the 1934 Communications Act. That would expand FCC power significantly by allowing regulators to step in if there were allegations of harm to consumers. But it's a reach to suggest that these new powers equate to a government takeover.

Also worth noting is that the FCC is independent from the administration. While Obama has put pressure on the FCC to enact tougher regulations, and he appointed Wheeler to head the agency, this is not the president's call.

THE CLAIM: *"(FCC Chairman) Wheeler has chosen to ignore the unprecedented Internet innovation, investment and job creation that have all thrived without government intervention and regulation."* — Rep. Bob Latta, R-Ohio, a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, in a Feb. 19 statement.

THE FACTS: It is true that the Internet has flourished and is lightly regulated compared with other industries. It's also true that this exponential growth occurred under a system in which broadband providers mostly agreed not to discriminate against Web traffic.

Providers operated under the threat of regulation for several years until late 2010, when the FCC adopted open Internet rules. Those rules were in effect until early 2014, when a federal court struck them down. So it's not true that there hasn't been any government regulation.

THE CLAIM: *"There will be no rate regulation (of Internet service)."* — FCC Chairman Wheeler.

THE FACTS: Under Wheeler's plan, broadband providers won't have to get their rates approved ahead of time by the FCC. But the law would allow the FCC to step in if charges were "unjust or unreasonable." The law also allows the FCC to investigate consumer complaints.

So it's possible that consumers can claim price gouging and regulators will get involved. Mobile voice services have been under similar rules for years, and the FCC points out that it has never regulated those prices.

THE CLAIM: *"No tariffs or new taxes."* — FCC Chairman Wheeler.

THE FACTS: Wheeler's plan won't apply new fees or taxes. The Internet Tax Freedom Act bans taxes on Internet service, and that law should still apply even if the FCC reclassifies the Internet as a telecommunications service under Title II.

What Wheeler doesn't mention is that the tax ban expires again in October. Unless Congress passes a permanent bill, as some lawmakers want, state governments are likely to start pushing back on this temporary relief bill, especially as landline revenues decline. It's a legitimate question to ask — how long the Internet will remain insulated from higher state fees after being declared a vital public utility.

THE CLAIM: *"(The FCC plan) represents a stunning reversal of the policies of the Clinton and Bush administrations. It will backtrack on "decades of bipartisan agreement to limit Internet regulation."* — Former FCC commissioner Robert McDowell in an opinion article in The Wall Street Journal.

THE FACTS: The question of Internet "fast lanes" is far more pressing for Obama than it ever was for Clinton or Bush. In 2000, only 3 percent of American households had broadband access, compared with 70 percent by 2013, according to the Pew Research Center.

It wasn't until President George W. Bush's second term, in 2005, that YouTube became available and video services like Netflix became more popular. By the time the FCC voted in 2008 against Comcast for throttling Web traffic, Bush was nearing the end of his presidency.

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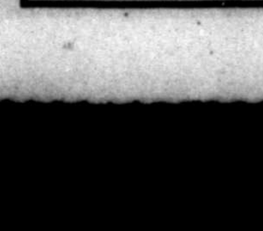

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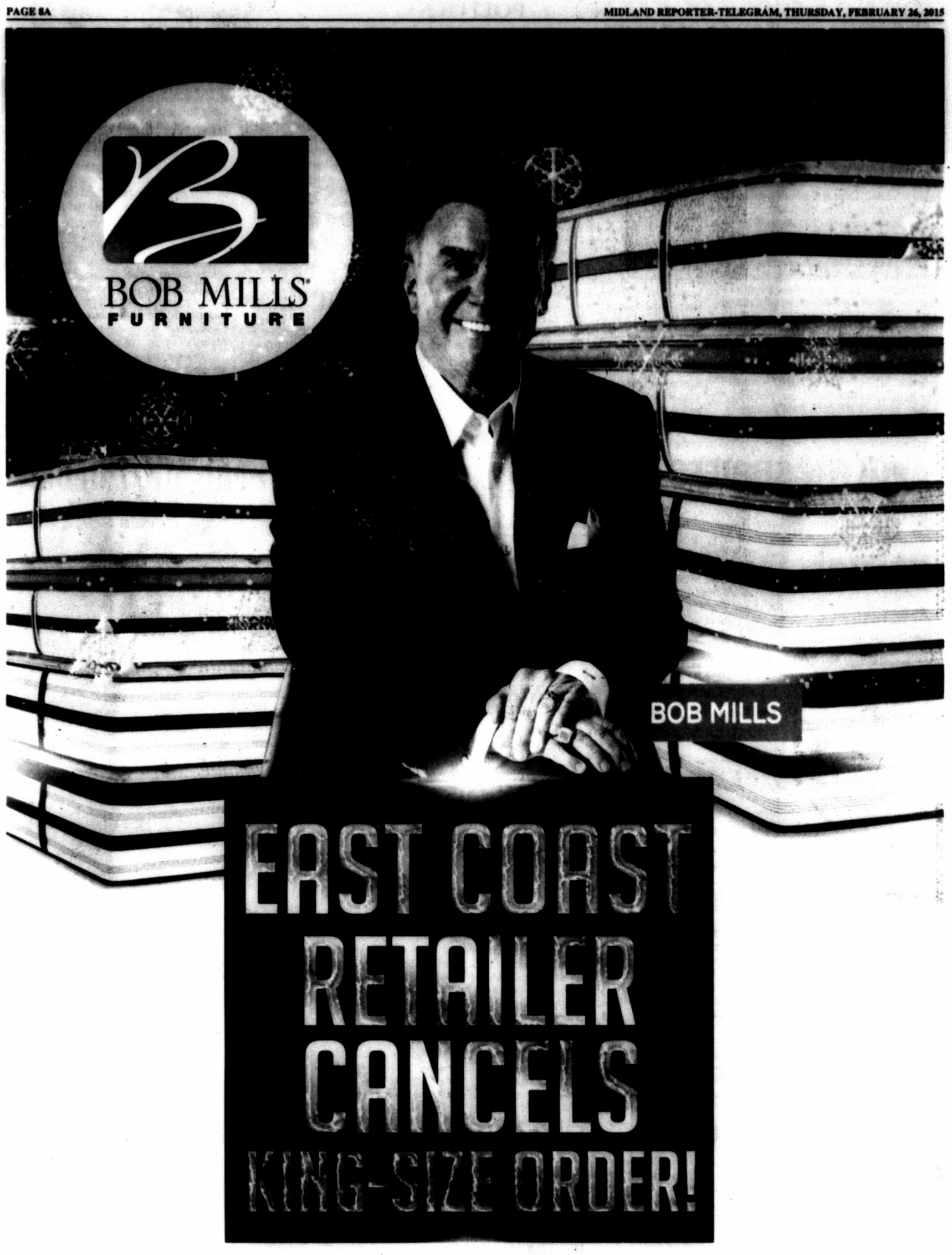

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WEEKENDER

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PERMIAN BASIN

WEEKEND TO-DO LIST

FRIDAY

HOME IMPROVEMENT
Find ideas, new products at the Home and Garden show.

SATURDAY

DANCE OR LEAVE
Dance party at Kamiposi benefits Artpush.

See complete schedule of weekend events on Page 2.

MOVIES

Films opening and closing this week at Midland theaters:

TALL CITY 14
Opening: "Focus," "The Lazarus Effect," "Birdman"
Closing: "Seventh Son," "Black or White"

CINERGY CINEMAS
Opening: "The Lazarus Effect," "Focus"
Closing: "The Boy Next Door"

BIG SKY DRIVE-IN
Opening: "Focus"
Closing: "Jupiter Ascending"

INSIDE

LUNCH LINE
Staff writer Joe Basco wonders why he didn't have to wait in line for an affordable, tasty lunch downtown. Page 3

COMING SOON

FAMILY SCIENCE NIGHT
Learn why Science Does a Body Good at the Petroleum Museum next week.

BACK IN THE BASIN
Comedian Jerry Seinfeld returns to the Wagner Noel in March.

READY FOR MANY ROLES

Laughs are worth the work for 'Greater Tuna' actors

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

With a cast of two and pretty much zero props, both Justin Tate and Joe Thomason say doing "Greater Tuna" has been one of the most demanding tasks ever. Perhaps it has something to do with taking on 10 roles each in a variety of costumes, voices and genders.

The two will debut as residents of Tuna, Texas, on Friday when Midland Community Theatre opens the show directed by Carl Beery Moore.

Tate and Thomason are game for a challenge.

"That challenge seemed exciting, which compelled me to audition," Thomason said. "Now we'll get to see how successful all our hard work will be. I haven't done a role this demanding."

WANT TO GO?

"Greater Tuna" at Midland Community Theater, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. Friday-March 28. $28 adults, $20 youth and seniors. Non-MCT members must purchase tickets at box office at the time of show. mctmidland.org.

Midlanders might be most familiar with Tate's and Thomason's work in Summer Mummers. Tate has often played the hero's sidekick while Thomason displayed his talents in the Olio. With such physically demanding roles there, "Tuna" would almost seem a piece of cake.

If only.

"It takes a lot of brain power," Thomason said. "Not only do we play all these characters and remember our lines, but then we have to pantomime our props and keep it running smoothly."

Please see **ROLES**/Page 2

Graffiti artist Wahl combines creativity with positive messages

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

An Evening to Remember, benefiting the Midland Alzheimer's Association, at the Petroleum Club of Midland, 501 West Wall St. 6:30 p.m. today. $125 per person. To reserve tickets, call 221-9721 or email jbinnion@coronadomidstream.com. For more on Erik Wahl, visit theartofvision.com.

The third annual fundraiser "An Evening to Remember" benefiting the Midland Alzheimer's Association is set for tonight. Presented by Concho, FirstCapital Bank of Texas and Ortloff Engineers, the event will feature a wine reception, silent and live auctions and an appearance by graffiti artist Erik Wahl. Wahl is a renowned motivational speaker. He paints while he motivates and encourages people to "unthink."

Before his appearance today, he talked about his message of combining art with corporate America, how Alzheimer's hit close to home for him and how people can break out of cages.

MRT: How does your message connect with ,not necessarily those with Alzheimer's, but perhaps family members and friends who are dealing with a loved one's illness?

Wahl: By combining art, science and emotion, I open up audience's minds by creating an experiential performance where they forget they are being educated.

MRT: What will you be addressing at this event?

Wahl: This audience will be persons of influence in the Midland/Odessa community who have a heart or passion for finding a cure for Alzheimer's, but ultimately I want anyone and everyone to show up. Even if you have never been personally affected and just want to come see a cool theatrical production, come and be a part of our show.

MRT: Have you been personally affected by Alzheimer's at all?

Wahl: Both of my grandparents suffered from dementia, and I have close friends who have had parents who have dealt with Alzheimer's for years. I have become increasingly aware that we work so hard at understanding and improving the health of our/their physical bodies only to be let down by the involuntary deterioration of our/their minds through the devastation of Alzheimer's.

MRT: You've bridged art and corporate America with one message — what is the foundation for what you do?

Wahl: The foundation for what I do in corporate strategy and art is couched in the psychology of success. My book, "UNthink," is the framework to unlock and unleash our mind's full capability to become the very best version of who we were

Please see **WAHL**/Page 4

Weekend offers options for classical music fans

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

Classical music fans are in for an embarrassment of riches this weekend. Choices run from world-renowned choirs to the Baroque and even a couple of cellos.

The **Vienna Boys Choir**, on tour with new master Johannes Kobald, comes to Midland today. Kobald will premiere an original composition for this new tour. Under his leadership, the choir touches on elements of soul and jazz along with the Gregorian Mass. It's quite a turn from when the VBC started out five centuries ago.

Wagner Noel, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. 7:30 p.m. today. $24-$44. Wagnernoel.com.

From Croatia to America and from "Glee" to the Wagner Noel, **2Cellos** will perform Friday to a sold-out crowd. Cellists Luka Sulic and Stjepan Hauser prove that pop and rock aren't just for guitars. They've taken the cellos into hard rock territory such as AC/DC's "Thunderstruck" and to pop with Michael Jackson's "Smooth Criminal." They became a viral sensation first and then went on to perform on "Ellen," "The Bachelor" and, of course, "Glee."

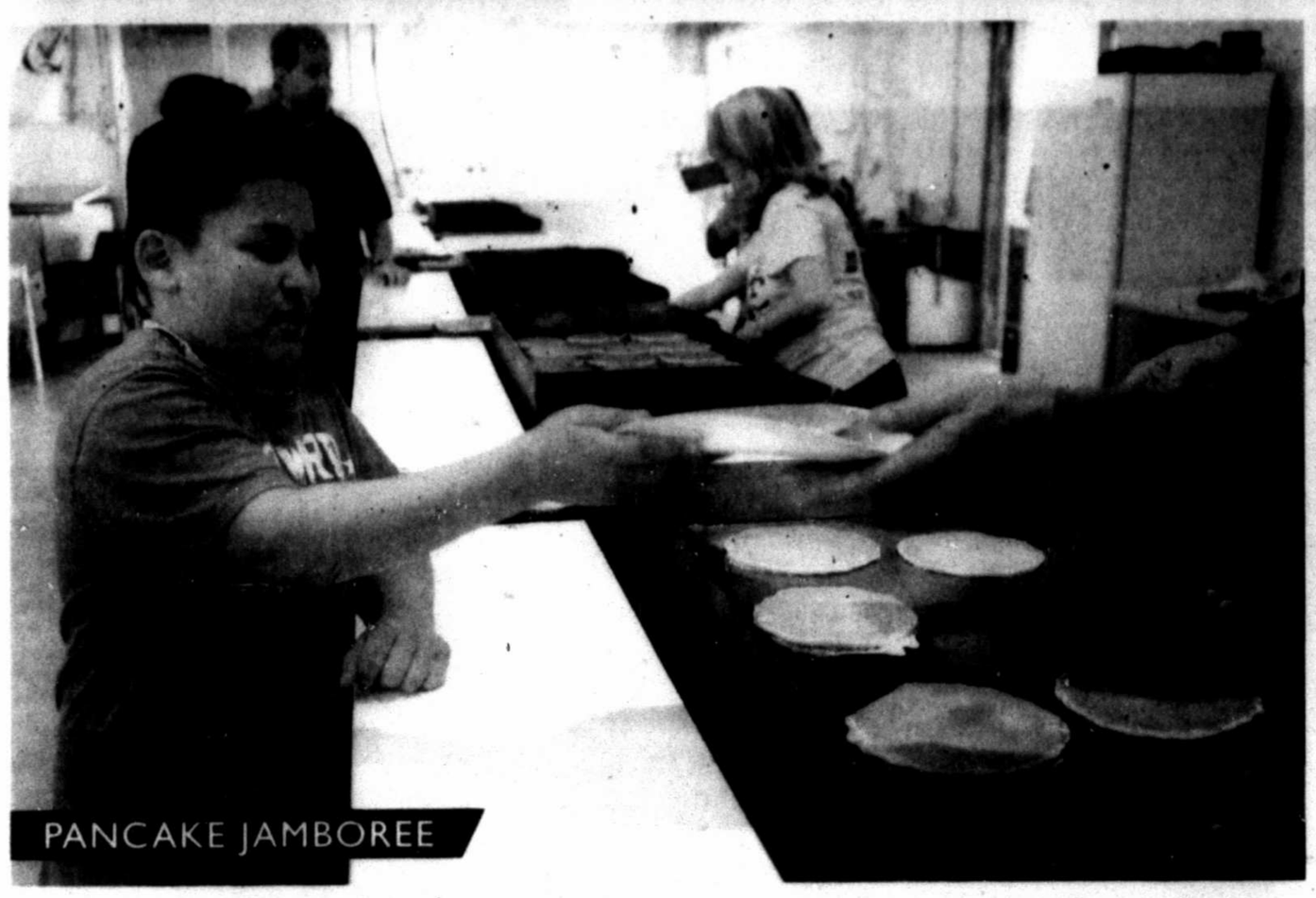
Wagner Noel, 1310 N. FM 1788. 7:30 p.m. Friday. Sold out. Wagnernoel.com.

Please see **CLASSICAL**/Page 4

Permian Basin Builders Association
HOME & GARDEN Show

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
9AM TO 6PM Saturday, Feb. 28
NOON TO 5PM Sunday, March 1
MIDLAND COUNTY HORSESHOE PAVILION
Visit pbbatexas.org for more information

CALENDAR



PANCAKE JAMBOREE

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING

MUSIC

Vienna Boys Choir, 7:30 p.m. today at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. wagnernoel.com.

2 Cellos, 7:30 p.m. Friday at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. wagnernoel.com.

Texas Mass Choir featuring The Voices of Praise and The Texas Mass Youth/Young Adult Choir, 7:30 p.m. Friday at Golf Course Road Church of Christ. 685-3876.

Winger, 8 p.m. Friday at Hacienda Event Center. haciendamidland.com.

Callahan Divide, Saturday at Lone Star Bar. callahandivide.com.

Bukanas, Saturday at Hacienda Event Center. haciendamidland.com.

ART & EXHIBITS

Odessa Art Association's 57th Annual Permian Basin Juried Art Exhibition, today through March 29 at Ellen Noel Art Museum. noelartmuseum.org.

Leslie Slaughter fused glass workshop, Saturday at Midland Palette Club. paletteclubmidland.com.

Adventures in Art: Print Making, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Sunday at Ellen Noel Art Museum. noelartmuseum.org.

GAMES & SPORTS

Play bridge at Allison Bridge Center, 682-8595.

Hold 'em poker tournaments, 7 p.m. Friday at The Detour.

Senior bingo, 10 a.m. Fridays at Cimarron House.

DANCE

West Texas Salseros Latin Night free basic Latin dance lesson, 9 p.m. Friday at The Reserve Lounge - DoubleTree by Hilton. 683-6131.

Dance or Leave: An Artpush benefit and dance party, 8 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturday at Kamiposi. facebook.com/kamiposi.

THEATER, COMEDY & FILM

"Lend Me a Tenor," today through Saturday at The Globe Theater of the Great Southwest. odessa.edu.

SciFriday: "Creature from the Black Lagoon," 8:15 p.m. Friday at Museum of the Southwest. museumsw.org.

"The Addams Family," through March 7 at Midland Community Theatre. mctmidland.org.

"Greater Tuna," Friday through March 21 at Midland Community Theatre. mctmidland.org.

EVENTS

Permian Basin Home & Garden Show, today through Saturday at the Horseshoe. midlandhorseshoe.com.

Just Between Friends consignment sale, Friday and Saturday at Ector County Coliseum. ectorcountycoliseum.org.

59th annual Pancake Jamboree, 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday at Midland Downtown Lions Club. facebook.com/pages/Midland-Downtown-Lions-Club

"Urban Foxes of Midland" program, 9:30 a.m. Saturday at Sibley Nature Center. sibleynaturecenter.org.

Rick Kasparek signing "Chivalry in the 21st Century," 1-3 p.m. Saturday at Hastings. knightofthegrailcode.com.

Joseph Willis' "Teaching Lessons" book signing, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch. joewillis.net.

Midland County Public Library Foundation's third annual luncheon featuring Bob Philips of "Texas Country Reporter," noon Saturday at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch. www.co.midland.tx.us/lib.

Get Salty Roping, Saturday at Ector County Coliseum. ectorcountycoliseum.org.

Briar Patch Trade Days, Saturday and Sunday at Ector County Coliseum. ectorcountycoliseum.org.

KID-FRIENDLY

Black History Month storytime with "I Am Rosa Parks," 11 a.m. Saturday at Barnes and Noble Booksellers. barnesandnoble.com.

Dr. Suess' 111th birthday party, 1-3 p.m. Saturday at Midland County Public Library downtown location. www.co.midland.tx.us/lib.

American Girl craft event, 5 p.m. Saturday at Barnes and Noble Booksellers. barnesandnoble.com.

Storytime for birth-2 years, 9:30 a.m. today at Midland County Public Library downtown location. www.co.midland.tx.us.

Storytime for ages 2-6, 10:30 a.m. today at Midland County Public Library downtown location. www.co.midland.tx.us.

Storytime for ages 2-6, 11 a.m. Saturdays at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch. www.co.midland.tx.us.

Storytime for 2-6 years, 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch. www.co.midland.tx.us.

Storytime for birth-2 years, 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch. www.co.midland.tx.us.

Storytime for 2-6 years, 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch. www.co.midland.tx.us.

Storytime for preschool, 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays at Barnes and Noble Booksellers. barnesandnoble.com.

Dome shows, throughout the week at Marian Blakemore Planetarium. museumsw.org 683-2882.

COMING SOON

MARCH

Sibley Youth Garden Work Day: Hummingbird Garden Planting, 1-3 p.m. March 3 at Sibley Nature Center. sibleynaturecenter.org.

The Australian Bee Gees, 8 p.m. March 3 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. wagnernoel.com.

Probosci, 5 p.m. March 4 at Kamiposi. facebook.com/kamiposi

Pool and Spa Show, March 4-8 at the Horseshoe. midlandhorseshoe.com.

Midland Archeological Society program review of Texas Archeological Society Field Schools, 7 p.m. March 5 at Sibley Nature Center. sibleynaturecenter.org.

Family Science Night: Science Does a Body Good, 6-8 p.m. March 5 at Petroleum Museum. petroleummuseum.org.

Tex-Mex Barrel Racing, March 6 at the Horseshoe. midlandhorseshoe.com.

First Friday art show with Thomas Burns, 6 p.m. March 6 at Kamiposi. facebook.com/kamiposi.

Ink Masters Tattoo Show, March 6-8 at Ector County Coliseum. ectorcountycoliseum.org.

S'Wonderful, S'Marvelous, S'Gershwin, 7:30 p.m. March 7 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. wagnernoel.com.

ROLES

From Page 1

For Tate, this is a whole new level of stagework.

"Carl had us bring in all the objects to rehearse, but when we took those away, I realized a lot of things about myself like how I hold a coffee cup," he said. "We have to almost fool the audience into seeing those props, so it's this brand new level of detail, but it's all worked so well. I watch Joe in the kitchen, and he makes that kitchen real."

Tate's first show with MCT was more than two decades ago. In 1993, he made his stage debut as Tiny Tim in "A Christmas Carol." Since then, he's counted at least one show every year for the past 22 years.

He has 12 years under his belt in his signature role.

"I had done Pickwicks and then theater, but then I went on to Summer Mummers playing the hero sidekick since 2002," Tate, 33, mentioned. "But beyond that, I now help run the Improv at the Yucca and even blossomed into other cool stuff like commercials."

But the latter shouldn't be too much of a surprise. Tate makes a living with his voice as one of the on-air talents for radio station 97.9 Lite FM 3-7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

So in some ways, Tate's a local celebrity twice over, which can be a double-edged sword.

"Well, there isn't a lot of time at home for me these days between the radio show and rehearsals, but the balance lies in the fact that I have to remember why I love all this," he said.

Which is?

"In my mind, the best gift is to make the audience laugh. I'm so addicted to that feeling of doing comedy and making people laugh," he said. "One of my favorite feelings after a show is to go home and be happy about the fact that there were people who go home smiling because of what I did. Makes what little frustrations there are in life completely worth it."

Thomason, 38, started in theater just seven years ago. Although he had long been curious about acting onstage, he admits he was simply intimidated or scared. But he also knew that's where the excitement was — especially with Summer Mummers.

"My mother does theater, and both she and my dad were more active in it when I was a kid. But I was more interested in sports, and they encouraged me to do that. Now, I just wish I had done theater all this time," Thomason said, laughing.

Since his first audition, Thomason has gone on to perform in Mummers and in MCT plays. In 2014, audiences saw him in "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare: Abridged" and "Leading Ladies." He's even extended his comedic ways into stand-up.

His humor has helped him get through the not-so-fun times. Thomason recently finalized a divorce.

"When we had separated, theater helped me so much," he said. "At first, it was all so devastating and my hobbies and activities would distract me, but theater, especially 'Tuna,' has been a great thing to get lost in."

As Tate and Thomason bring their roles to life, they've both drawn on real-life experiences.

"One of my characters reminds me of a college friend's mom. She was sweet but a bit closed-minded," Thomason said. "So I might see a little of her when I do Bertha."

"Yeah, when I do Vera, she's pretty much spot-on this lady I know, and her voice might just sound exactly like Vera's. But I do throw in a Harry Harrison impersonation on a recording in the show. I figured I'd throw that in there for those friends who know him," Tate said.

Midland may not be the small town Tuna is, but both actors find similarities in the places and the people.

"Well, there are a broader variety of people here. You have conservative types, you have liberal types and everything in between. In Tuna, you only have those super conservative types. Well, I guess those are here, too," Thomason laughed.

Tate ponders that Midland is perhaps a city Tuna can aspire to.

"We've gotten to experience new things here as Midland grows," Tate said. "In the show, Tuna is comically conservative but also sheltered, which is very unlike Midland. But then, there are characters in Tuna who I think everyone can relate to and know someone like that — or realize they are that person which only goes to show that whether it's tiny Tuna, slight bigger Midland or New York City, people are fundamentally the same."

Cover photo: Rehearsal for MCT production "Greater Tuna" featuring Justin Tate, left, and Joe Thomson, photographed Feb. 18. *James Durbin/ Reporter-Telegram*

HAVE AN EVENT TO SUBMIT?

Megan Lea Buck
Assistant Managing Editor — Features and Entertainment
Email: mbuck@mrt.com
Phone: 432-687-8871

HAVE A GIG FOR LIVE WIRE?

Nancy Adamson
nadamson@mrt.com

NOTE: Please submit information by noon on Tuesdays at the latest.

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Pancake Jamboree
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Saturday, February 28th
7am to 7pm
200 Plaza
(behind Walgreens & Heroes Fitness off Illinois)
Tickets are $7 ea & can be purchased from any Club Member or at the door.

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- The Texas Lions Camp for Physically Handicapped, Diabetic and Downs Syndrome Children
- The Texas Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center (located at 2550 Flynt in Midland)
- College Scholarships
- Lions Dist. 2A-1 Eye Bank & Dist. 2A-1 Acuña, Mex. Eye Clinic
- And Many More!

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BLOOD MOBILE WILL BE PRESENT TO TAKE DONATIONS

DINING

Brown's Bar-B-Q food trailer: Not gourmet, but underrated

By Joseph Basco
jbasco@mrt.com

I was confused when I pulled up to the Brown's Bar-B-Q food trailer at the corner of West Indiana Avenue and South Big Spring Street at noon Wednesday.

A mobile food vendor, in the middle of downtown, serving food at lunch, with no customers.

But here I was, at high noon, proceeding right to the front, where cook and owner Todd Brown was ready to greet me and take my order.

Brown is easily one of the nicest people I've met in Midland. Even though his menu on Wednesday was very simple, I asked him what he had, and he had no problem going through his selection and suggested something new he's doing: $8 meals that consist of a sandwich, side and drink.

I opted for the sausage sandwich with fries and a bottled Coca-Cola. The sausage was sliced and put on a hamburger bun with a homemade barbecue sauce.

The food was enjoyable for $8. Granted, this isn't the gourmet, high-concept fare you'll find at food trucks in Austin. But the sausage had that snap and crunch that good sausage is supposed to have, and the fries weren't undercooked and soaked in grease. And in Midland, that quality is hard to find.

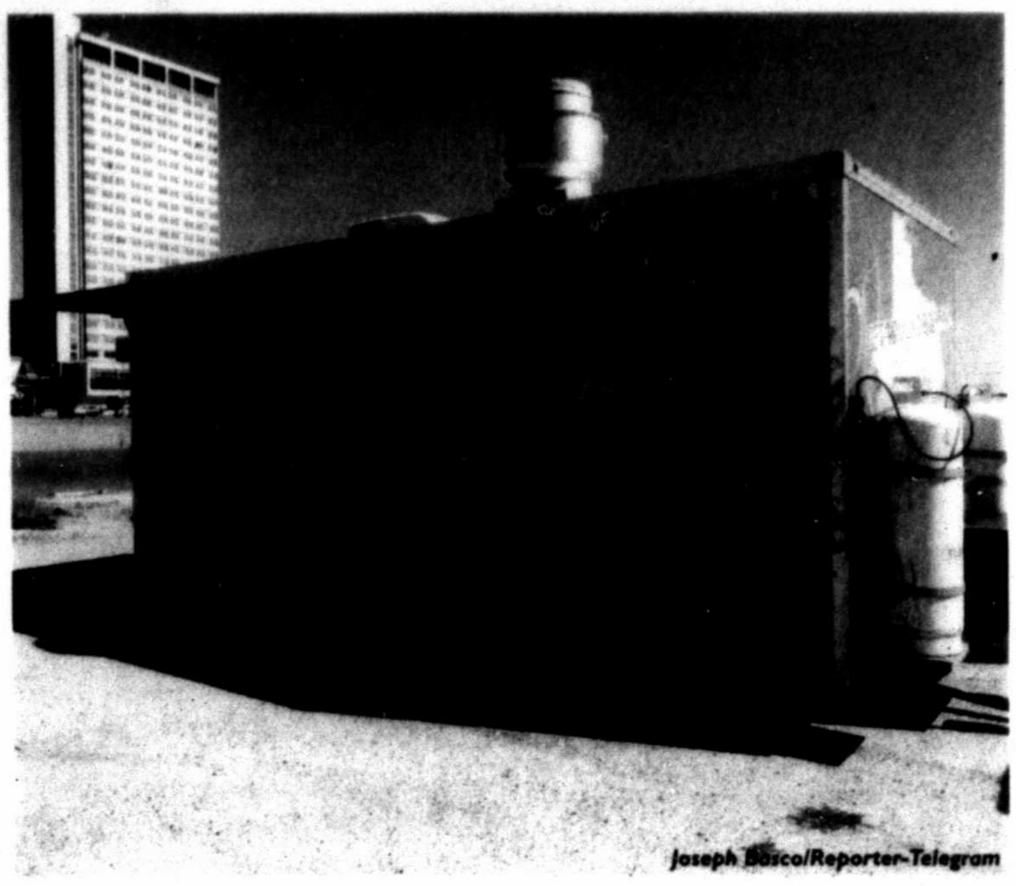
As I left, another car drove up to order food. While long waiting times are the norm for traditional, brick-and-mortar lunch spots, it's a shame I didn't have to wait 30 minutes or an hour in front of Brown's food trailer.

Brown's food trailer won't be in downtown Midland for the rest of the week. Instead, he'll be out and about, doing catering gigs. But if you follow his food association's Facebook and Twitter accounts, you can see when he'll pop up again in downtown Midland.

Follow him at @midessamfva and facebook.com/midlandmobilefoodvendorsassociation.

ALSO: NEW EATS

STEAK 42 recently opened south of downtown. Owned by the same family that owns El Burrito, the steakhouse features three dining areas and a full bar. Owners plan to offer a quarterly brunch event.
Hours: 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
Location: 911 S. Big Spring St.
Price: $10-$25



Joseph Basco/Reporter-Telegram

WHERE TO GO VEGETARIAN DURING LENT

Going meatless on Fridays during Lent? With a little effort, you can really get a vegetarian meal at almost any restaurant in town. And many menues include at least some seafood. Here are some of our favorite places to get meatless and seafood-based meals.

RANCHLAND HILLS GOLF CLUB Renovated club restaurant doesn't require a membership. Try seafood specials at dinner. 1600 E. Wadley Ave. 682-3729 www.Ranchland-hills.com | $$ | 4 spoons.

ABUELOS Mix of traditional Tex-Mex with unique menu items featuring steak and seafood. Tired of rice and beans on the side? Try papas con chile and espinaca casserole. 2908 W. Loop 250 N. 685-3335 www.abuelos.com | $$ | 4 spoons.

BASIN BURGER HOUSE With buns made in-house and creative combinations this isn't your typical burger joint. Try the black & blue burger and follow it with the Nutella & banana milkshake. 607 N. Colorado 687-5696 www.basinburgerhouse.com | $$ | 4 spoons.

BUSHIDO JAPANESE STEAK HOUSE AND SUSHI BAR Watch chefs roll sushi and cook at Teppan Yaki grills or sit at the bar and watch the game. Extensive sushi menu. 4416 Briarwood Ave. 689-7900 | $$ | 4 spoons

CANCUN GRILL Stylish downtown Mexican restaurant inside Wall Towers. Start with the corn queso and then move on to the seafood enchiladas. 223 W. Wall St. 618-0390 | $$ | 4 spoons

CATTLE BARON Western-themed steakhouse with fresh catfish and Alaskan king crab. The salad bar is worth the trip. 418 Wadley Ave. 683-2334 www.cattlebaron.com | $$ | 3 spoons.

CLEAR SPRINGS CAFE One of the few places in Midland specializing in seafood claims to have the best onion rings and catfish in "Texas, the World and the known Universe." This Texas chain also has locations in Tyler, New Braunfels, Nacogdoches and San Antonio. Seafood, steaks, burgers, salads. 5707 Andrews Highway 522-1188 www.clearspringscafe.com | $$ | 3 spoons.

COTTON PATCH CAFE Casual dining chain restaurant off of Loop 250. Specials include fried catfish. Soups, salads, steaks. 2320 W. Loop 250 N. 618-0070. www.cottonpatch.com | $ | 2 spoons.

EDDIE'S CATFISH COMPANY When you open a catfish restaurant, why mess around with anything else. Except maybe fried shrimp, french fries, hush puppies, coleslaw and onion rings. That's the menu at Eddie's Catfish Company. All you have to do is decide how many pieces you want. 301 N. Lee St. 684-4422. www.eddiescatfishco.com | $ | 3 spoons.

GARLIC PRESS Fine dining with menu items including hand-cut steaks, seafood and pasta. Or try something from the small plates menu. Dessert menu changes weekly. 2200 W. Wadley Ave. # 6 Oak Ridge Square | 570-4020 | thegarlicpress.net | $$$ | 4 spoons.

GRUB BURGER BAR The fast-casual College Station-based restaurant offers gourmet burger selections, milkshakes and a full bar. Try the salmon burger or the chick pea burger. 4400 N. Midland Drive, Suite 500 789-1855 www.grubburgerbar.com | $ | 4 spoons.

KING & I Authentic Thai food served at in the heart of Midland. Try the basil fried rice or Popcorn's special with angel hair pasta, green onions, white onions, tomatoes, broccoli, garlic and jalapenos. There's a reason the lunch crowd is often standing-room-only at the original location near downtown. It's worth the wait. 801 N. Big Spring St. | $ | 4 spoons

MANNY'S ITALIAN RISTORANTE Traditional Italian food — pasta, chicken, veal, seafood. Try the fettucini di flavia with shrimp, prosciutto, broccoli and artichokes in a creamy vodka sauce. 3211 W. Wadley Ave. 684-6595 www.mannysitalianvillage.com| $$ | 5 spoons.

OSAKA JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE AND SEAFOOD Try a variety of seafood and vegetables grilled at Teppan Yaki tables or sushi. Locations in Midland and Odessa. 1207 Tradewinds Blvd. 617-7252 www.my-osaka.com | $$ | 4 spoons.

SHAHI TANDOOR In a hotel lobby off of West Wall Street, Shahi Tandoor offers a authentic Indian cuisine to West Texans and visitors. The lunch buffet offers a variety of salads, meats and vegetarian dishes. Try the sag paneer. Order the garlic naan from the menu. Evening is menu service only. 3400 W. Wall St. | 618-9090 | www.indianfoodmidland.com | $$ | 4 spoons.

SHOGUN RESTAURANT Japanese steak house that's been serving Midlanders for more than 20 years. Watch your food being cooked on the Teppan Yaki tables after you enjoy cucumber and shrimp salad and soup. Lunch prices are very reasonable, be prepared to splurge for dinner. 4610 N. Garfield St. 570-8888 | $$ | 4 spoons

SMILING MOOSE DELI Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, this deli serves breakfast burritos, wraps, soups, sandwiches and salads. It's easy to go meatless with vegetarian sandwich options and custom salads. 3322 North Loop 250 West 697-3354 www.smilingmoosedeli.com | $ | 4 spoons.

STRAWBERRY FIELDS CAFE Try the Santa Fe wrap. All organic menu with daily specials, sandwiches, wraps, smoothies. Soup and salad bar. If you can't find a table or need a quick lunch, check out the section of foods 'to go' inside the Natural Foods Market. 2311 W. Wadley Ave. 684-5869 www.naturalfoodsmkt.com | $ | 4 spoons.

TASTE@508 Stop by the chic downtown cafe for breakfast, lunch or a coffee break. Taste@508 ups the game on vegetarian soup, salad and sandwich with its organic cheese panini that also includes sundried tomato pesto and its vegan kale salad with quinoa. 508 W. Wall St. | 687-1755 | taste508.com | $ | 4 spoons.

TATER WORLD The menu centers around this local restaurant's namesake but has more than just potatoes. Ask around town and you'll hear Tater World has some of the best catfish in Midland. 802 S. Garfield St. 682-9111 | $ | 4 spoons

VENEZIA RESTAURANT Fine dining in a beautiful atmosphere. Sit on the patio if there's room and enjoy a glass of wine, veal piccata and something from the impressive dessert table. 2101 W. Wadley Ave. #20 www.veneziarestaurant.info | $$$ | 4 spoons.

WALL STREET BAR & GRILL Arguably the best steaks and seafood in Midland. And save room for the Gold Brick dessert. 115 East Wall St. 684-8686 | $$ | 5 spoons

From staff reports

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The Big Spring Symphony Orchestra
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JEANS 'n Classics
Guest Artists
Saturday March 14, 2015 7:30 pm
Big Spring High School Auditorium
Tickets available at Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Big Spring Convention & Visitors Bureau, Stum's Guitars, Hi-Tone & The Heritage Museum

MUSIC & ART

DEVELOPING

Will Brad Paisley bring the Thunder?

By Rich Lopez
rlopez@mrt.com

In my search for upcoming shows, I came across this tidbit in Pollstar, a source for touring concert dates. The link lists Brad Paisley under Texas Thunder.

I called Webster Public Relations to confirm, and they weren't aware of the listing and are looking into it.

And then I looked over on Paisley's site, and according to his tour dates, Gardendale is on his itinerary.

Back at the Texas Thunder press conference, organizers mentioned more acts were still to be announced but whetted appetites by revealing country bro-act Florida Georgia Line (already a big deal) would be one of the headliners.

By the looks of Texas Thunder's schedule, the Friday night headliner is still TBA. That's where Pollstar is listing Paisley's show.

The Texas Thunder Music Festival will be held Aug. 21-23 in Gardendale.

Stay up-to-date on this story at mrt.com.

VENUES

Club Krystal | 103 S. "A" St.
Cabana Sports Bar | 3113 W. Industrial Ave. | 688-3993
Cigar Frogs | 216 N. Main St. | 687-1671 | cigarfrogs.com
Escape Lounge | Quality Inn & Suites, Odessa | 3001 East Business Loop 20 | 432-333-3931
Farwest Event Center | 5850 W. University Blvd. # 200, Odessa | 432-381-9378
Graham Central Station | 4240 Preston Road, Odessa | 432-552-0552 | grahamcentralstationodessa.com
Hot Shots | 615 W. Wall St. | 687-3582
Redneck's | 2215 N. Midland Drive # 2A
La Hacienda | 12610 St. Highway 191 | 563-3737 | lahaciendaeventcenter.com
La Playa de Colores | 2101 E. Eighth St., Odessa
Lone Star Bar | 621 W. Wadley Ave. | 218-6936
Riley's Bar & Grill | 3421 W. Wall St. | 520-0006.
Rockin' Rodeo | 4400 N. Big Spring St. Suite D46 | 682-0400
Sedona Mexican Grill & Cantina | 2101 W. Wadley Ave. | 570-9600
Shack in the Back | 11520 W. Highway 80 E, Odessa | 432-561-5105 | shackintheback.com
Softails | 5710 N. County Road West, Odessa | 432-557-5047
The Bar | 606 W. Missouri Ave | 685-1757 | thebarmidland.com
The Detour | 1708 Rankin Highway | 685-1011
The Ground Floor | 203 W. Wall St. | 683-4433
The Hemmingway | 2200 W. Wadley Ave. #2 | 570-5333
The Blue Max | 7409 W. Industrial Ave. | 561-8190
The Pine Box | 510 S. Big Spring St.
The Velvet Room | The Midtown Hotel, 3100 W. Wall St. | inthevelvetroom.com
Woofers and Tweeters | 3303 N. Midkiff Road, No. 160 | 522-2111
Your Place | 3704 W. Wall St. | 262-3367

Not listed here? Information incorrect? Email mbuck@mrt.com

WAHL

From Page 1

designed to be, whether that be an attorney, an engineer, a nurse, a teacher or a pianist. "UNthink" is a philosophy to understand our fullest potential and be an engaged participant in life as opposed to a passive consumer.

MRT: What do you think we waste our time on that holds us back?

Wahl: Two things. First, our pursuit of perfection. Perfection is a math concept, not a human concept. And second, judgment. Love is the absence of judgment. When we judge, complain or critique, we move backward and become part of the problem as opposed to forging forward to discover new solutions. Great leaders don't complain.

MRT: How can people break out of their cages if they don't know they are in them?

Wahl: To remember who you were before the world told you who you should be. Do not be afraid to fail. I can predict the future success trajectory of any organization, any professional or any child by asking one simple question: How do you define failure?

MRT: Minus the inspirational speaking, do you create art still on your own and show it or do you keep it tied to your appearances?

Wahl: I create every single day. Sometimes I paint, sometimes I sculpt, write, produce films, engage dump trucks, helicopters and bulldozers to carve 10,000-square-foot Mona Lisas into the desert. I make a disciplined choice to create every single day.

CLASSICAL

From Page 1

The West Texas Chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America presents **An Evening in Concert with the Texas Mass Choir** at 7:30 p.m. Friday. The night will also feature the Voices of Praise, the Texas Mass Youth and Young Adult Choir. The event is also the first stop on the promotional tour of their 30th anniversary CD release.

Golf Course Road Church of Christ, 3500 W. Golf Course Road. 7:30 p.m. Friday. Doors at 6:30 p.m. $10 advance; $15 door. 432-685-3876.

Musica Sacra presents Music from the Baroque Masters on Sunday. Musica Sacra is a professional chorus conducted by Midland-Odessa Symphony Orchestra's Greg Pysh. The chorus will be accompanied by members of the MOSC. The concert will feature music by Handel, Back and Vivaldi.

First Presbyterian Church, 800 W. Texas Ave. 3 p.m. Sunday. Free.

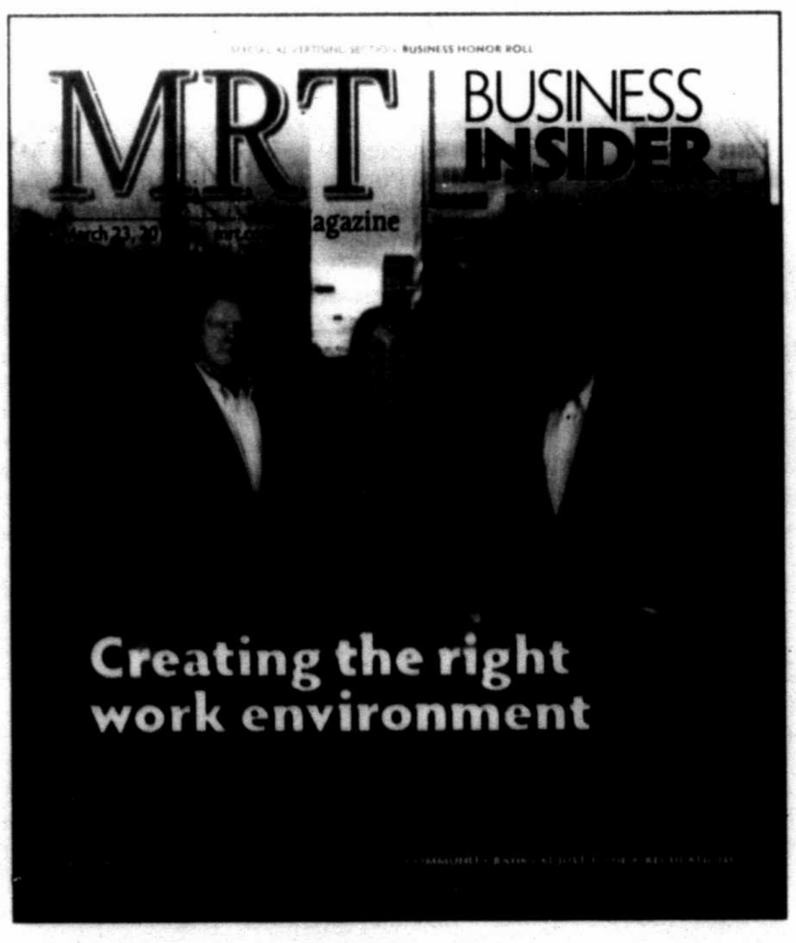
There's a little bit of everything in
Culture
Look for it in Sunday's edition of the Reporter-Telegram

Saturday, March 7, 2015 - 7:30pm
Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

Get your fingers snappin' and your toes tappin' with the energy of the Paris streets and the rhapsody of the roaring 20's in this special concert dedicated to one of America's best-loved composers, George Gershwin. Considered one of the great pianists of our time, featured artist Jeffrey Biegel highlights the evening as he performs the most-loved
Rhapsody in Blue!

*$25 - $45 ADULTS / $14 STUDENTS

TO PURCHASE TICKETS:
Call 800-514-3849 Online: WagnerNoel.com
or Visit Wagner Noel Box Office M-F 12-5 PM



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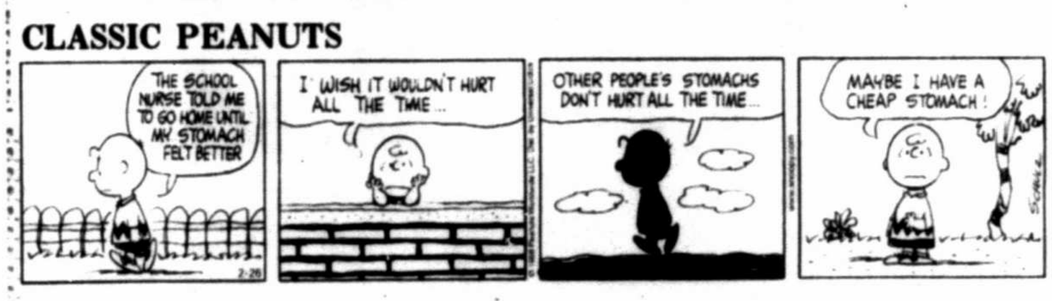
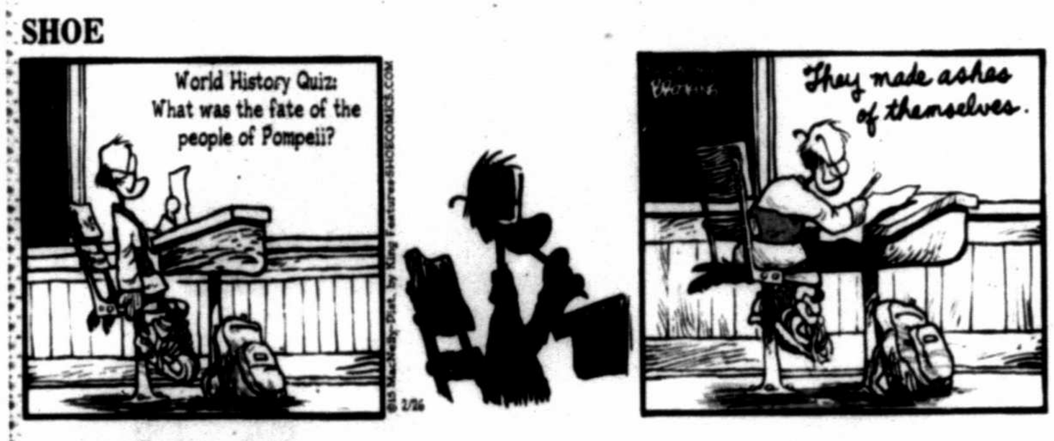


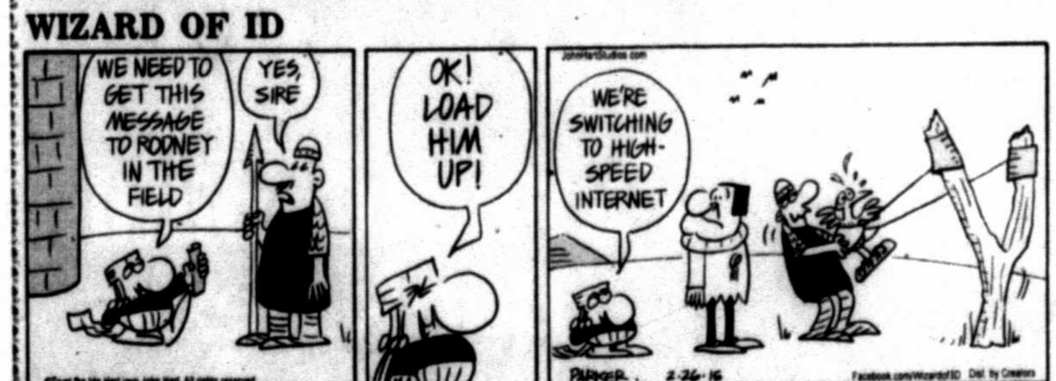
SHOE



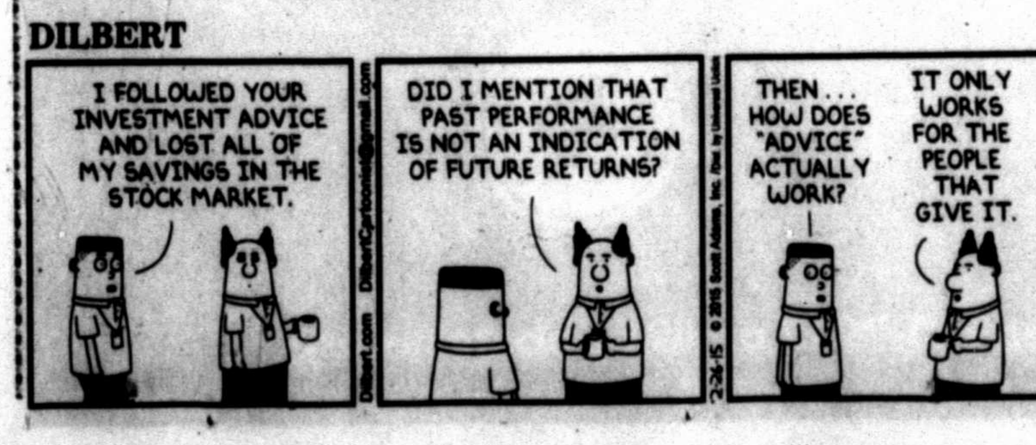
GARFIELD

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

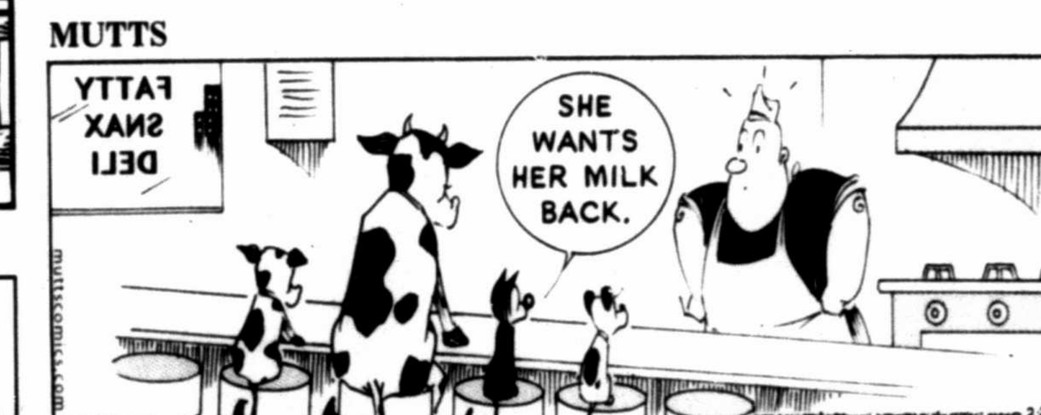
LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS

BABY BLUES

MUTTS



CLOSE TO HOME

On the weekends, Marie liked nothing better than to take Gigi to the gerbil park.

DENNIS THE MENACE

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NOON TO 5PM
Sunday, March 1

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SPORTS

Bulldogs survive in OT against Arlington Lamar

From staff reports

Rivers

BROWNWOOD — The Midland High boys basketball team had been in its share of close games during District 3-6A play this season. So when it came to Wednesday's overtime bi-district game against Arlington Lamar, the Bulldogs felt they were well prepared.

Shawn Rivers scored with 16 seconds left and a Lamar fall-away 3-point attempt missed its mark as Midland High survived for a thrilling 51-50 victory at Brownwood High School.

Bulldogs	**51**
Vikings	50 (OT)

With the win, Midland High (18-10) will now face Amarillo High in the area round in Lubbock on Friday. MHS coach Charles Tatum said the time and place have yet to be decided.

Amarillo crushed El Paso El Dorado 61-24 in a bi-district game on Tuesday night.

The Bulldogs actually got a double-dose of good news on Wednesday when it was announced that Odessa Permian not only had to forfeit its bi-district playoff game

Please see **BULLDOGS**/3C

Permian forfeits season because of ineligible players

By Adam Zuvanich
azuvanich@oaoa.com

One of the best seasons in the history of the Odessa Permian boys basketball program came to a sudden end Wednesday.

ECISD Athletics Director Todd Vesely said the Panthers forfeited a Class 6A bi-district playoff game against Arlington Martin, scheduled for Wednesday afternoon at Clyde High School, because campus officials at Permian discovered the team had used two academically ineligible players in multiple District 3-6A games. Permian won all 10 of its district games for its second league title in a three-season span, but Vesely said the team would be forced to forfeit that title.

"This is an ugly deal," Vesely said. "It makes my heart bleed for those kids. It makes me angry that we're in this position."

Vesely said Permian head coach Danny Wright has been placed on administrative leave by ECISD. He declined to elaborate on Wright's job status moving forward, other than saying, "There are some things to be done. We have not determined a final course of action."

Wright said he has not resigned and doesn't know if he'll remain the Panthers' head coach through the offseason.

Please see **PERMIAN**/3C

Bears upset Cyclones

No. 19 Baylor upsets No. 12 Iowa State

No. 19 Baylor	**79**
No. 12 Iowa State	70

By Luke Meredith
Associated Press

AMES, Iowa — Taurean Prince scored 20 points and 19th-ranked Baylor upset No. 12 Iowa State on the road 79-70 for its third straight win Wednesday night.

The Bears (21-7, 9-6 Big 12) shot 14 of 26 from 3-point range, becoming the first team other than Kansas to win in Ames since 2012.

Baylor hit five straight 3s late in the second half, the last two by Prince, to take a 72-66 lead with 4:41 left. The Bears held Iowa State to just four points in the final 6:26.

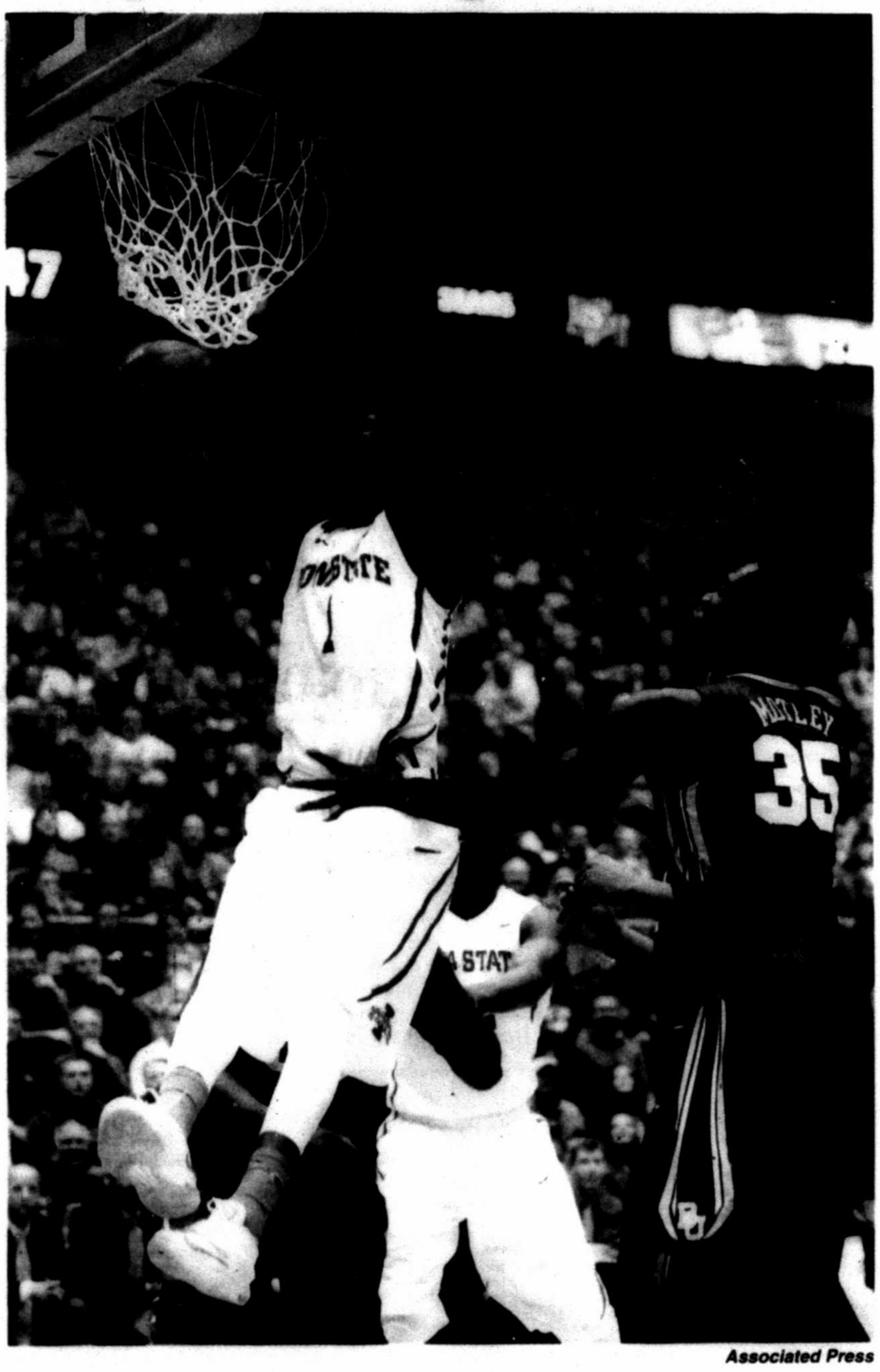
Jameel McKay had a career-high 21 points for the Cyclones (20-7, 10-5), who are now a game behind the first-place Jayhawks in the Big 12 with just three games to play.

Iowa State and Baylor staged one of the best games in the Big 12 this season back on Jan. 14. The Bears squandered a 28-11 lead, but rallied for a 74-73 win on Kenny Chery's jumper with four seconds left.

The rematch was in doubt until the Bears got rolling from beyond the arc.

Bryce Dejean-Jones gave the Cyclones a 50-48 lead by leaping over a foot above the rim for a spectacular put-back dunk, and Niang found McKay for an alley-oop dunk pushed the edge to 60-54 with 8:28 left.

But Baylor held Iowa State to just four points in the final 6:26, and its hot streak helped the Bears sweep the Cyclones for the first time.



Associated Press

Iowa State forward Jameel McKay dunks in front of Baylor forward Johnathan Motley, right, during the first half of the game on Wednesday in Ames, Iowa

Chery had 15 points and seven assists for the Bears.

Georges Niang had 14 points and Matt Thomas scored 13 for Iowa State.

TIP-INS

Iowa State: This was the first loss to Baylor at home in 13 tries for the Cyclones... Dustin Hogue committed three turnovers in the first four minutes of the second half.

Baylor: The Bears were 7 of 13 on 3s in the first half but just 3 of 7 from the line. They led 40-37 at halftime... Coach Scott Drew used all of his second-half timeouts in less than 12 minutes.

UP NEXT

Iowa State travels to Kansas State on Saturday.

Baylor hosts West Virginia on Saturday.

Baylor walk-on RB ruled ineligible

Associated Press

Baylor says running back Silas Nacita — who became a fan favorite thanks to his story of making it to college football despite an unstable childhood — will no longer be part of the program because of rules violations that affect his eligibility.

Nacita, a walk-on reserve from Bakersfield, California, posted on Twitter on Wednesday that he had been ruled ineligible because he accepted a close family friend's offer to provide a place for him to live when he could not afford to pay for it.

Nacita blamed the NCAA, but Baylor's athletic department made the decision. Athletic director Ian McCaw released a statement, confirming Nacita was off the team, though he did not give details.

The NCAA tweeted it had not declared Nacita ineligible and Baylor had not requested a waiver for him to be reinstated. Typically, a school rules a player ineligible, and then requests an NCAA waiver for reinstatement.

After Baylor held a spring practice session on Wednesday, coach Art Briles told reporters Nacita would be back if he was eligible.

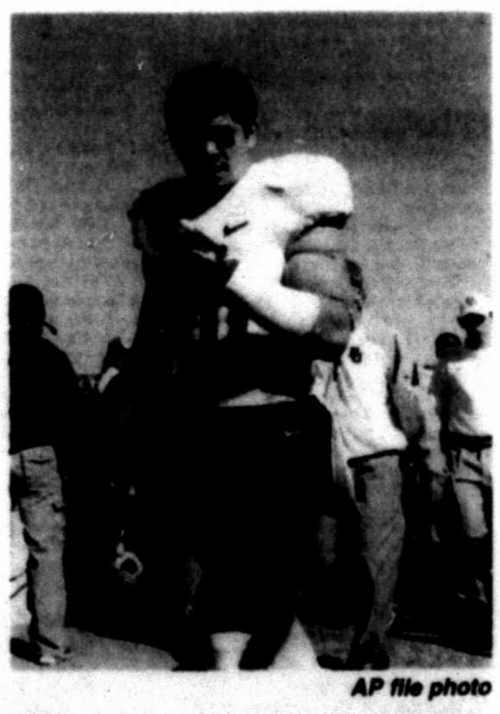
"It's unfortunate you know, and hopefully there'll be a remedy," Briles said. "This is a situation handled through compliance not through football."

Nacita, who picked up the nickname Salsa Nacho because his name autocorrects to that on smartphones, had 191 yards rushing on 31 carries as a fourth-stringer and played on special teams last season. Local and national media outlets profiled his road from growing up mostly fatherless in California to a year playing at Cornell to walking on at Baylor. Nacita was described in those stories as once being estranged from his mother and homeless at times.

"In 2014, I was just a kid who couched surfed and took classes online at a community college, but I had a dream to play college football," Nacita wrote in his Twitter post on Wednesday. "Throughout that year, I was able to earn enough academic scholarships to pursue that dream, but it was only enough to pay for school without a place to stay or any other living expenses."

Nacita said before enrolling at Baylor a close family "insisted on putting me in an apartment and helping out with those living expenses."

"Because I accepted that offer instead of choosing to be homeless, I am no longer eligible to play football and pursue my dream. I had no idea I was breaking any rules, but I respect the decision of the NCAA."



AP file photo

Baylor running back Silas Nacita walks off the field after a game against Oklahoma in Norman, Okla., in 2014. Baylor says Nacita will no longer be part of the football program because of rules violations that affect his eligibility.

Astros owner Crane shooting for postseason

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

KISSIMMEE, Florida — For the first time since buying the Houston Astros in 2011 Jim Crane isn't talking about rebuilding the team.

He's talking about winning now.

"The goal is to make the playoffs," Crane said as the Astros took the field for the first day of full squad workouts on Wednesday.

But the question is whether that's a reasonable expectation for a team that hasn't had a winning record since 2008. Sure, the Astros last year snapped a string of three straight 100-loss seasons, but won just 70 games.

"I think it's a possible," Crane said. "There's a lot of things that have to go right and we have to stay away from injuries, but the talent is in the room and in the system."

They made a 19-game improvement last season and Crane is looking for another big jump in 2015 which he thinks would put the Astros in the postseason hunt.

"If we can get above .500 you have a chance. That's my opinion," he said. "I would be disappointed if it doesn't get to at least there."

And just as his team is growing and gaining experience, so is its owner.

"The ownership went through some rookie moves and no more rookie moves," Crane said. "We know how it works and we're ready to go."

The Astros return a solid nucleus led by 2014 major league batting champion Jose Altuve, slugger Chris Carter and up-and-coming star George Springer, and feature a rotation led by left-hander Dallas Keuchel, who posted a 2.93 ERA in a breakout season.

They addressed their biggest weakness from a year ago by signing Luke Gregerson and Pat Neshek to bolster a bullpen that blew 25 saves in 2014. The Astros were fourth in the majors with 163 home runs last season, and increased their power by trading for Evan Gattis and signing free agent Colby Rasmus. That duo combined for 40 homers in 2014.

"There's an optimism about this season that didn't exist the last few years," general manager Jeff Luhnow said. "There's always a certain amount of optimism you have because you don't know what's going to happen, but there's an increased expectation and an increased level of optimism for this year."

Crane, Luhnow and new manager A.J. Hinch had a 90-minute meeting with the team on Wednesday morning where they shared their expectations for the year and schooled the new players on what it has taken to get the franchise where it is today.

Luhnow took time in the meeting to recognize Altuve, catcher Jason Castro and utility infielder Marwin Gonzalez as the only players who have been here

Please see **CRANE**/4C

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

WHAT'S ON TV

AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL
NAB Challenge: West Coast Eagles vs. Carlton, 2 a.m., FOXSOCP

GOLF
PGA: Honda Classic, First Round, 1 p.m., GOLF
LPGA: Honda LPGA Thailand, Second Round, 12 a.m., GOLF
European PGA: Joburg Open, Second Round, 4 a.m., GOLF

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Nebraska at Ohio State, 6 p.m., ESPN
Vanderbilt at Tennessee, 6 p.m., ESPN2
High Point at UNC Asheville, 6 p.m., ESPNU
Houston at Temple, 6 p.m., CBSSN
Minnesota at Michigan State, 6 p.m., BTN
St. Francis [NY] at LIU Brooklyn, 6 p.m., FCSA
Delaware at Drexel, 6 p.m., SNY
UTEP at Louisiana Tech, 7 p.m., FS1
FAU at Western Kentucky, 7 p.m., FCSC
Northern Arizona at North Dakota, 7 p.m., FCSP
Arizona at Colorado, 8 p.m., ESPN
SMU at Memphis, 8 p.m., ESPN2
Rutgers at Purdue, 8 p.m., ESPNU
Tennessee Tech at Morehead State, 8 p.m., CBSSN
Arizona State at Utah, 9:30 p.m., FS1
San Diego at Gonzaga, 10 p.m., ESPN2
Oregon State at Stanford, 10 p.m., P12/P12 BAY/P12 LA

MEN'S SOCCER
UEFA Europa, Round of 32: Red Salzburg vs. Villarreal, 11:55 a.m., ESPNDEP
UEFA Europa, Round of 32: Besiktas vs. Liverpool, Noon, FS1
UEFA Europa, Round of 32: ACF Fiorentina vs. Tottenham Hotspur, Noon, FS2
UEFA Europa, Round of 32: Multimatch 90, noon, FOXSOCP
UEFA Europa, Round of 32: Everton vs. BSC Young Boys, 2 p.m., FS1
UEFA Europa, Round of 32: Feyenoord vs. AS Roma, 2 p.m., FS2
UEFA Europa, Round of 32: Multimatch 90, 2 p.m., FOXSOCP
UEFA Europa, Round of 32: Athletic Bilbao vs. Torino, 2 p.m., ESPNDEP
UEFA Europa, Round of 32: Borussia Monchengladbach vs. Sevilla, 4 p.m., ESPNDEP
Copa Libertadores: Boca Juniors vs. Montevideo Wanderers, 5 p.m., FOXDEP
CONCACAF Champions Quarterfinal, Leg 1: LD Alajuelense vs. DC United, 7 p.m., FS2/UniDep
Copa Libertadores: Independiente Santa Fe vs. CS y D Colo-Colo, 7:30 p.m., FOXDEP

NBA
Golden State at Cleveland, 7 p.m., TNT
Oklahoma City at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m., TNT

NBA D-LEAGUE
Reno at Austin, 7:30 p.m., FSSW

NHL
Minnesota at Nashville, 7:30 p.m., NBCSN

Tennis
ATP: Dubai Duty Free Championships, 9 a.m., TENNIS
ATP: Abierto Mexicano Telcel, 3 p.m., TENNIS
ATP: Abierto Mexicano Telcel, 8:30 p.m., TENNIS
ATP: Dubai Duty Free Championships, 4 a.m., TENNIS

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Florida at Alabama, 6 p.m., SEC
Mississippi State at South Carolina, 6 p.m., FSSWP
Tennessee at Georgia, 8 p.m., SEC
Portland at BYU, 8 p.m., BYUtv
Auburn at Vanderbilt, 8 p.m., FSSWP
Stanford at Oregon State, 8 p.m., P12/ P12 BAY
USC at Washington, 8 p.m., P12 LA
North Dakota at Northern Arizona, 8 p.m., FCSA

WOMEN'S COLLEGE WATER POLO
Santa Clara at Stanford, 6 p.m., P12/P12 BAY/P12 LA

WHAT'S ON DECK

COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Men, Newman at UTPB, 7:30 p.m.
Women, Newman at UTPB, 5:30 p.m.

COLLEGE TENNIS
UTPB vs. UTSA at Las Cruces, N.M., 11 a.m.

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL
Class A area, Grady vs. Wink, 7 p.m. Andrews

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL
Lee at Lewisville Tournament
MHS at Round Rock Tournament
Greenwood at El Paso Tournament
Midland Christian at Joe Duran Classic, Weatherford
Trinity at Midland High Sophomore Tournament
MCA at Shallowater Tournament

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL
West Texas Classic

NJCAA POLLS

NJCAA DIVISION I MEN'S BASKETBALL POLL
first place votes in parentheses

Rank	College	Record	Pts.	Pvs.
1	Vincennes University (16)	28-0	350	1
2	Connors State College	27-1	334	4
3	Hill College	27-2	296	2
4	Trinity Valley CC	26-3	295	7
5	Northwest Florida St	26-2	293	3
6	Eastern Florida State	27-3	281	6
7	Butler CC	27-2	277	8
8	Coll. of South Idaho	28-2	262	5
9	Harcum College	27-3	221	10
10	Mineral Area College	24-3	217	12
11	Southwest Tennessee CC	20-3	211	11
12	San Jacinto College	24-4	193	13
13	Indian Hills CC	26-4	182	9
14	Williston State	25-4	168	14
15	Northwest College	26-4	149	15
16	Jones County JC	18-3	139	17
17	Motlow State CC	21-4	135	16
18	South Georgia Stat	25-4	101	19
19	Coffeyville CC	24-5	99	18
20	St. Petersburg College	24-5	65	20
21	Salt Lake CC	25-5	54	RV
22	John A. Logan College	23-5	47	RV
23	Hutchinson CC	23-6	43	25
24	Pearl River CC	20-3	42	NR
25	**South Plains College**	**21-6**	**25**	**22**

NJCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL POLL
first place votes in parentheses

Rank	College	Record	Pts.	Pvs.
1	Hutchinson CC (8)	29-0	200	1
2	Chipola College	27-1	192	3
3	Trinity Valley CC	25-2	184	2
4	**New Mexico JC**	**24-2**	**176**	**4**
5	Northwest Florida St	24-3	168	5
6	Salt Lake CC	25-5	160	6
7	Seward County CC	25-3	152	7
8	Walters State CC	27-2	144	8
9	State Fair Community College	22-5	136	0 9
10	Coll. of Central Florida	24-5	128	10
11	Tyler JC	25-3	120	12
12	Eastern Arizona	25-3	112	14
13	**Odessa College**	**23-6**	**104**	**11**
14	Shelton State CC	27-2	96	15
15	Daytona State	22-7	88	18
16	Northern Okla.-Enid	22-4	80	13
17	San Jacinto College	21-7	72	19
18	Copiah-Lincoln CC	23-0	64	20
19	Iowa Western CC	27-3	56	21
20	Wabash Valley	22-6	48	16
21	Northeast CC	25-5	40	17
22	Northeastern Okla. A&M	21-6	32	25
23	Eastern Florida State	21-7	24	RV
24	Mineral Area College	23-5	16	23
25	Gulf Coast State College	18-9	8	24

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Agreed to terms with SS Everth Cabrera on a one-year contract. Designated OF Alex Hassan for assignment.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Agreed to terms with C Erik Kratz, INFs Chesior Culhbert and Ryan Jackson, OFs Lane Adams and Jorge Bonifacio, RHPs Aaron Brooks and Michael Marrot and LHPs Brandon Finnegan, Ryan Flynn and John Lamb on one-year contracts.
National League
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Agreed to terms with RHP Chad Gaudin on a minor league contract.
American Association
AMARILLO THUNDERHEADS — Traded OF Johnny Bladel to Sussex County (Can-Am) for future considerations.
SIOUX CITY EXPLORERS — Signed INF Brock Kjeldgaard.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
DALLAS MAVERICKS — Suspended G Rajon Rondo one game for conduct detrimental to the team.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
ATLANTA FALCONS — Signed PK Matt Bryant to a contract extension.
BALTIMORE RAVENS — Terminated the contract of WR/KR Jacoby Jones.
CHICAGO BEARS — Signed CB Demontre Hurst to a two-year contract extension.
DETROIT LIONS — Released RB Reggie Bush.
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Released LB A.J. Hawk.
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Named Fitz Olison senior director of football communications.
NEW YORK GIANTS — Released RB Peyton Hillis.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Signed WR Nick Williams.
Canadian Football League
MONTREAL ALOUETTES — Signed QB Dan LeFevour to a one-year contract.
WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS — Signed LB TraShaun Nixon and OL Tommy Griffith.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
NHL — Fined Buffalo G Michal Neuvirth $2,000 for diving/embellishment.
ARIZONA COYOTES — Recalled F Henrik Samuelsson from Portland (AHL). Assigned F Jordan Martinook to Portland.
CAROLINA HURRICANES — Traded F Jiri Tlusty to Winnipeg for a conditional 2015 sixth-round draft pick and a 2016 third-round draft pick.
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Recalled F Teuvo Teravainen from Rockford (AHL). Assigned D Trevor van Riemsdyk to Rockford. Placed F Patrick Kane on injured reserve.
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS — Recalled G Oscar Dansk from Springfield (AHL). Assigned G Anton Forsberg to Springfield.
FLORIDA PANTHERS — Assigned F Steven Hodges from San Antonio (AHL) to Cincinnati (ECHL).
LOS ANGELES KINGS — Signed F Kyle Clifford to a two-year contract extension. Traded D Ronald McKeown and a first-round draft pick to Carolina for D Andrej Sekera.
MINNESOTA WILD — Named Matthew Hulsizer vice chairman of the board of directors. Announced Philip Falcone is vacating his minority ownership stake.
MONTREAL CANADIENS — Reassigned D Dalton Thrower from Brampton (ECHL) to Hamilton (AHL).
NEW YORK RANGERS — Reassigned F Oscar Lindberg to Hartford (AHL).
ST LOUIS BLUES — Assigned F Niklas Lundstrom from Chicago (AHL) to Alaska (ECHL).
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Assigned D Artem Sergeev from Syracuse (AHL) to Florida (ECHL).
TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Traded F Daniel Winnick to Pittsburgh for F Zach Sill, a 2015 fourth-round draft pick and a 2016 second-round pick.
WINNIPEG JETS — Placed F Blake Wheeler on injured reserve.
American Hockey League
BINGHAMTON SENATORS — Assigned F Brandon Wong to South Carolina (ECHL).
BRIDGEPORT SOUND TIGERS — Traded C C.J. Stretch to Oklahoma City for future considerations.
HERSHEY BEARS — Assigned F Braden Pimm to Evansville (ECHL).
ECHL
ALASKA ACES — Signed F Michael Markovic.
ALLEN AMERICANS — Traded F Brett Lyon to Brampton for D Steven Terasuk.
BRAMPTON BEAST — Signed F Jeff Brown.
COLORADO EAGLES — Added G Tate Mayis as emergency backup.
GREENVILLE ROAD WARRIORS — Signed F Domenico Alberga.
RAPID CITY RUSH — Signed F Michael Dorr.
READING ROYALS — Announced G Connor Knapp has been loaned to the team from Lehigh Valley (AHL).

SOCCER
Major League Soccer
D.C. UNITED — Signed G Travis Worra.
SPORTING KANSAS CITY — Signed F James Ansu Rogers.

COLLEGE
BAYLOR — Announced RB Silas Nacita is no longer on the football team.
ARKANSAS — Named Jemal Singleton running backs coach and special teams coordinator.

SKI REPORT

New Mexico
Angel Fire — Wed 6-47 am powder machine groomed 50-50 base 78 of 78 trails 98% open, 500 acres, 6 of 7 lifts, Mon-Thu: 9a-4p Fri: 9a-8p Sat: 9a-8p Sun: 9a-4p
Pajarito — Mon Reopen 2/27 powder machine groomed 27-30 base 21 of 44 trails Mon/Fri 9a-4p Sat/Sun: 9a-4p Open Fri-Mon
Red River — Wed 9:22 am packed powder machine groomed 25-84 base 57 of 57 trails 100% open, 257 acres, 7 of 7 lifts, Mon-Fri: 9a-4p Sat/Sun: 9a-4p
Sandia Peak — Sat Reopen 2/28 variable 18-20 base 32 of 39 trails 83% open, 3 of 5 lifts, Sat/Sun: 9a-4p Open Sat/Sun

Weather forces cancelations, adjustments to athletic events

From staff reports

Forecasts for frigid weather has forced Midland ISD to cancel upcoming athletic tournaments.

The Tall City Girls Golf Invitational for this weekend has been canceled because of the expected inclement weather.

The tournament was going to be played at Green Tree Country Club and Hogan Park Golf Course with 12 teams, including every squad out of District 3-6A.

The West Texas Classic high school softball tournament has canceled its first two sessions on Thursday and Friday.

The West Texas Classic tournament will be held only on Saturday at the Freddie Ezell Softball Complex at Ulmer Park.

Lee head coach Wes Overton said Wednesday night that a new schedule would be formulated since the tournament would likely lose some of their long-distance commitments.

The West Texas Classic was scheduled to commence at 5 p.m. Thursday, but temperatures are expected to dip into the mid-20s during the evening.

Midland High head coach Shawnda Vines wrote via text message that tournament organizers tried to get officials and teams to arrive earlier Thursday when the weather was more pleasant, but the option wasn't feasible on short notice with other school conflicts and early release issues.

As of Wednesday night, the Tall City Invitational track meet was still scheduled to be run Friday. However, a final decision was going to be made Thursday morning on the track meet's status.

Friday's high is projected to be in the mid-30s.

Midland College falls to Cisco College

From staff reports

Cisco College had 18 hits and scored a bunch early to defeat the Midland College baseball team, 16-10, in a non-conference game at Christensen Stadium on Wednesday.

Cisco had a 15-0 lead before MC (5-6) answered with a five-run seventh inning. The Chaparrals had another five-run frame in the eighth, but the deficit was too much to overcome.

Cisco (17-3) also had five home runs in the game and was led by German Morales, who was 4-for-6 at the plate with a double, home run, four runs scored and three RBI.

Braden Hayward led the Chaps by goings 3-for-3 with two RBI, while Darren Alexander was 2-for-3 with a double, two runs scored and two RBI. Gilbert Sanchez was 2-for-4 at the plate with a triple and an RBI.

The Chaps are scheduled to go to Frank Phillips College on Friday to begin Western Junior College Athletic Conference play but that four-game series could be pushed back a day or even moved to Midland because of the inclement weather.

CISCO COLLEGE 16, MIDLAND COLLEGE 10

Cisco									**004 000301—1618 1**
Midland									**000 000550—1011 3**

Austin Gardener, Jose Then (7), Matt Horton (8), Alex Gagne (8) and Daily Burney. Shane Browning, Ryan Minnix (2), Jesse Borden (3), Brett Hinson (5), Coleman Watts (7), Sebastian Palacios (8), Gilbert Sanchez (9) and Bryndan Arredondo. W — Gardener. L — Browning. 2B — Cisco: Brian Deaver, German Morales; MC: Darren Alexander. 3B — Cisco: Morales; MC: Sanchez. HR — Cisco: Kiki Menendez, Burney, Jeremy Valadez, William Mora, Morales.

Records: Midland College 5-6; Cisco College 17-3

Next: Midland College at Frank Phillips (DH), noon Friday

HIGHSCHOOLBASKETBALL

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Boys

CLASS 1A REGION II AREA NO. 4 GRADY VS. WINK
When/where: 6:30 p.m. today, Andrews
Records: Grady 25-4; Wink 12-11
Notes & Quotes: While Grady received a first round bye in the playoffs, Wink defeated Balmorhea 68-37 in bi-district. ... Grady coach Thomas Clay said the Wildcats played in Grady's tournament in December and said Wink is athletic and can also shoot the ball well. "We need to get them running and play at our pace," Clay said. "We're averaging about 80 (points per game), so if we can do that, we'll be in pretty good shape. Of course a key to every basketball game is playing good defense. ... Even though Grady had a bye, the Wildcats played two warmup games against Lubbock Christian High School and Wellington. Grady lost both games but Clay said those games were good for his team. "We were able to play some tough competition and we feel like we're ready," Clay said. ... The Wildcats, who are about nine deep, are led by guard Beau Lucas, who averages about 20 ppg, while forward Kyle Garza is averaging 14.5 ppg. Thanks to that depth, the Wildcats try to use that to their advantage by playing in an uptempo style.
Next: Grady vs. Water Valley-May winner in regional quarterfinal round

Girls

GARDEN CITY 52
MENARD 48
SAN ANGELO — The No. 7-ranked Garden City girls advanced to the Region II-A Tournament in Abilene with a win over Menard on Tuesday night.

Garden City will play Roscoe Highland (25-5) on Friday at 1 p.m. at Moody Coliseum.

It was a close game throughout as Garden City held a 25-23 halftime advantage and had a 37-31 lead after three quarters.

Holly Halfmann led the Lady Kats with 15 points, while Hope Halmann had 11.

GARDEN CITY 52, MENARD

Garden City (27-4) — Hope Halfmann 11, Brylie Schaefer 3, Payton Hastings 3, Madison Hastings 3, Carlie Hollingsworth 8, Ashlyn Koenning 9, Holly Halfmann 15.

Menard (24-9) — Allen 5, Medders 2, Trowbridge 8, Jaci McSherry 3, Wilkinson 5, Wand 14, Hill 11.

Garden City	16	9	12	15	— 52
Menard	11	12	8	17	— 48

Free throws — GC 10-21, Menard 16-20. 3-point goals — GC 5 (Hope Halfmann 2, Holly Halfman 2, Schaefer, Koenning). Menard 4 (Wand 3, Wilkinson)

TCU promotes Glasgow, Cross to co-defensive coordinators

Associated Press

Glasgow and linebackers coach DeMontie Cross to co-defensive coordinators.

The moves on coach Gary Patterson's staff Wednesday came after it was revealed earlier this month that defensive coordinator Dick Bumpas is retiring.

Dan Sharp, who directed special teams last season, takes over as defensive line coach. The 65-year-old Bumpas, who was at TCU for 11 seasons, also coached defensive linemen.

Paul Gonzalez is the new cornerbacks coach after three seasons as a graduate assistant with the defense. He replaces Kenny Perry, who left to become co-defensive coordinator and cornerbacks coach at Kansas.

Glasgow has been at TCU since 2001, with the exception of the 2011 season when he was Texas Tech's defensive coordinator. Cross arrived two years ago from Kansas.

FISHING REPORT

Here is the weekly fishing report as compiled for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for Feb. 25 and also available on the Internet at http://www.txfishing.com.

CENTRAL

BASTROP: Water stained; 54-58 degrees. Black bass are fair on watermelon red soft plastics, spinnerbaits, and crankbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows over brush piles. Channel and blue catfish are good on stinkbait and shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

BELTON: Water murky; 53-57 degrees. 12.68 feet low. Black bass are good on green pumpkin crankbaits, spinnerbaits, and Rat-L-Traps. Hybrid striper are slow. White bass are good on light blue jigs. Crappie are good on minnows under lights at night in 25 feet. Channel and blue catfish are good on nightcrawlers and hot dogs. Yellow catfish are slow.

BROWNWOOD: Water clear; 51-55 degrees; 12.60 feet low. Black bass are good on chartreuse jigs and watermelon soft plastics in 10-30 feet. Hybrid striper are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Channel catfish are fair on stinkbait, minnows, and frozen shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

BUCHANAN: Water murky, 52-56 degrees, 32.83 feet low. Black bass are fair on chartreuse Rat-L-Traps, pumpkinseed lizards, and black/chartreuse Curb's hair jigs over main lake humps. Striped bass are good on chartreuse spoons and white striper jigs. White bass are fair on LTI Fishies. Crappie are good on minnows in 15-25 feet. Channel catfish are slow. Yellow and blue catfish are slow.

CANYON LAKE: Water murky; 54-58 degrees; 11.37 feet low. Black bass are good on black/chartreuse hair jigs in 15-25 feet, and Texas rigged black Scoundrel worms on shaky jigheads. Striped bass are slow. White bass fair on minnows and small white crankbaits. Crappie are fair on minnows upriver. Channel catfish are slow. Yellow and blue catfish are slow.

COLEMAN: Water clear; 54-58 degrees; 19.46 feet low. Black bass are good on watermelon red soft plastics and on chartreuse Rat-L-Traps. Hybrid striper are fair on silver spoons. Crappie are good on minnows over brush piles. Channel catfish are fair on liver and frozen shrimp. Yellow catfish are slow.

COLORADO RIVER: (At Colorado Bend State Park) No report available.

FAYETTE: Water stained. Black bass are fair on chartreuse Rat-L-Traps, spinnerbaits, and soft plastics. Channel and blue catfish are slow.

GRANBURY: Water murky; 52-56 degrees. 9.95 feet low. Black bass are slow. Striped bass are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows. Catfish are fair on frozen shrimp and stinkbait.

GRANGER: Water clear; 52-56 degrees; 0.49 feet high. Black bass are slow. White bass are fair on spoons upriver near Dickerson's Bottom and Comanche Bluff. Crappie are slow. Blue catfish are good on juglines baited with shad. Yellow catfish are slow.

LBJ: Water stained; 53-57 degrees; 0.28 feet low. Black bass are very good on Bleeding Shad Rat-L-Traps, Curb's buzzbaits, and wacky rigged green pumpkin Whacky Sticks in 6-12 feet. Striped bass are fair on silver striper jigs. White bass are good vertically jigging Pirk Minnows under birds. Crappie are good on Curb's crappie jigs and live minnows over brush piles in 12-15 feet. Channel catfish are fair on minnows under crappie docks. Yellow and blue catfish are slow.

NAVARRO MILLS: Water stained; 53-57 degrees; 1.52 feet low. Black bass are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.

PROCTOR: Water murky; 55-59 degrees; 12.79 feet low. Black bass are fair on chartreuse Rat-L-Traps. Striped bass are slow. White bass are fair on LTI Fishies. Crappie are fair on minnows in 15-18 feet. Channel and blue catfish are fair on juglines baited with shrimp and shad. Yellow catfish are slow.

SOMERVILLE: Water murky; 56-60 degrees; 0.30 feet high. Black bass are slow. Hybrid striper are slow. White bass are fair on spoons. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are slow. Yellow catfish are slow.

STILLHOUSE: Water murky; 55-59 degrees. 14.94 feet low. Black bass are slow. Hybrid striper are slow. White bass are slow. Crappie are fair on minnows and blue tube jigs. Channel and blue catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and minnows. Yellow catfish are slow.

TRAVIS: Water murky; 53-57 degrees; 55.29 feet low. Black bass are fair on purple/black soft plastic worms and crawfish crankbaits in 12-30 feet. Striped bass are slow. White bass are fair on minnows and LTI Fishies in 30-40 feet. Crappie are fair on minnows in 20-35 feet. Channel and blue catfish are fair on liver and cut shad. Yellow catfish are slow.

WALTER E. LONG: Water lightly stained. Black bass are fair on pumpkinseed soft plastics and Rat-L-Traps. Hybrid striper are slow. White bass are fair on minnows and green soft plastic worms at the gravel pit and the hot water outlet. Crappie are slow. Channel and blue catfish are fair on cheesebait and shrimp at the gravel pit. Yellow catfish are slow.

WHITNEY: Water murky; 53-57 degrees; 10.36 feet low. Black bass are good on watermelon and redbug soft plastics, spinnerbaits, and crankbaits. Striped bass are fair on silver spoons. White bass are fair on minnows and white striper jigs. Crappie are fair on minnows. Catfish are fair on frozen shrimp and stinkbait.

SOUTH

AMISTAD: Water murky; 57-61 degrees; 29.16 feet low. Black bass are fair on jigs, crankbaits, spinnerbaits, and Rat-L-Traps. Striped bass are good on white grubs and jigging spoons up the Rio Grande. White bass are good on slabs and white grubs up the Rio Grande. Catfish are good on shrimp, liver, and cheesebait over baited holes. Yellow catfish are slow. Everyone in a boat must have a Mexico fishing license (if fishing the Mexico side) whether fishing or not.

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"Change The Path Of A Pet's Life"
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Midland, TX 79707
432-520-3134 ext. 7
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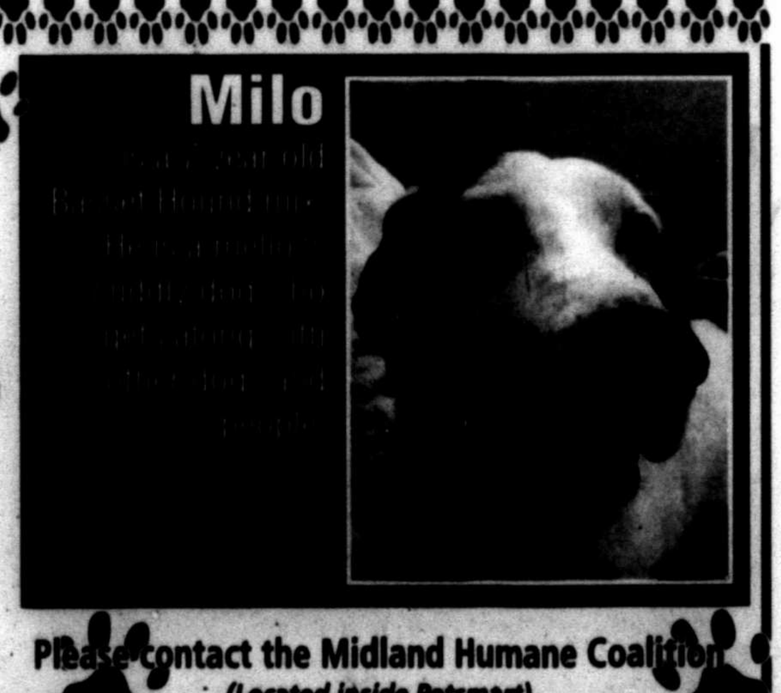

Please contact the Midland Humane Coalition (Located inside Petsmart) For more information 432.520.3134
Sponsored by Brown's Permian Electric

HSBASKETBALLPAIRINGS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

UIL Boys Basketball Playoff Pairings
Region I
Class 6A
Bi-District

North Crowley (27-4, W4) 86, Abilene High 65
Amarillo Tascosa (22-8, T2) 57, El Paso Americas 38
Arlington Martin (12-17, F4) wins by forfeit over Odessa Permian
El Paso Eastwood (20-11, T1) 73, Lubbock Coronado 70
DeSoto (29-4, W4) 57, Colleyville Heritage 53
Keller (22-9, R5) 48, Lewisville High 46
Richland (23-8, W7) 69, South Grand Prairie 63
Allen (23-9, R6) 57, Trophy Club Nelson 55
Amarillo High (29-3, W2) 61, El Paso El Dorado 24
Midland High (18-10, R3) 51, Arlington Lamar 50
Wolfforth Frenship (22-11, F2) 50, El Paso Coronado 43
Arlington Bowie (24-9, R4) 60, San Angelo Central 24
Plano West (27-2, W6) 65, Keller Timber Creek 43
Coppell (15-16, R7) 51, Duncanville 49
Denton Guyer (25-10, W5) 49, Flower Mound Marcus 46
Cedar Hill (27-3, R8) 65, Euless Trinity 53
Area
North Crowley (27-6, W4) vs. Amarillo Tascosa (22-6, T2), TBA
Arlington Martin (12-17, F4) vs. El Paso Eastwood (30-11, T1), TBA
DeSoto (29-4, W8) vs. Keller (22-9, R5), TBA
Richland (23-8, W7) vs. Allen (23-9, R6)
Midland High (R3, 18-10) vs. Amarillo High (29-3, W2), Friday in Lubbock. TBA
Wolfforth Frenship (22-11, F2) vs. Arlington Bowie (24-9, R4), TBA
Plano West (27-2, W6) vs. Coppell (15-16, R7), TBA
Denton Guyer (25-10, W5) vs. Cedar Hill (27-3, R8), TBA

Class 4A
Bi-District

Seminole (23-8, W4) 72, Fabens 51
Levelland 79, Borger 72
Andrews (13-13, F4) 65, Clint Mountain View 49
Lamesa (19-10, R2) 71, Pampa 60
Bridgeport (27-4, W8) 90, Venus 33
Iowa Park (18-16, R5) 71, Stephenville 54
Kennedale (27-6, W7) 88, Lake Worth 56
Mineral Wells (21-11, R6) 72, Burkburnett 54
Lubbock Estacado (26-7, W2) 58, Perryton 44
San Elizario (12-17, R3) 66, Pecos 60 O.T.
Big Spring (15-11, F2) 68, Bushland 65
Clint (6-18, T3) 57, Monahans 56 O.T.
Abilene Wylie (22-7, W6) 93, Vernon 46
Godley (R7) 52, Springtown 46
Wichita Falls Hirschi (12-16, W5) 64, Graham 41
Decatur (20-9, R8) 54, Alvarado 35
Area
Seminole (23-8, W4) vs. Levelland (20-10, T2), 6 p.m. Friday, Frenship High School in Wolfforth
Andrews (13-13, F4) vs. Lamesa (19-10, R2), 8 p.m. Friday, Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Big Spring
Bridgeport (27-4, W8) vs. Iowa Park (18-16, R5), 7 p.m. Friday, Graham
Kennedale (27-6, W7) vs. Mineral Wells (21-11, R6), 8 p.m. Friday, Brock
Lubbock Estacado (26-7, W2) vs. San Elizario (12-17, R3), 6 p.m. Friday, Bill and Virginia Williams Special Events Center, Fort Stockton
Big Spring (19-11, F2) vs. Clint (6-18, T3), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Bill and Virginia Williams Special Events Center, Fort Stockton
Abilene Wylie (22-7, W6) vs. Godley (R7), TBA
Wichita Falls Hirschi (12-16, W5) vs. Decatur (20-9, R8), TBA

Class 3A
Bi-District

Kermit (28-4, W4) 68, Slaton 41
Muleshoe (T2) 52, Spearman 46
Brownfield (W3) 99, Crane 62
Dimmitt (16-14, R2) 70, Amarillo River Road 48
Eastland (W8) 49, Comanche 41
Reagan County (22-9, R5) 56, Ballinger 37
Coleman (W7) 58, Dublin 45
Wall (R6) 54, Colorado City 41
Shallowater (15-5, W2) 77, Amarillo Highland Park 54
Denver City (R3) 79, Alpine 54
Childress (25-4, W1) 75, Littlefield 53
Idalou (T3) 52, Tornillo 40
Tuscola Jim Ned (W6) 65, Sonora 55
Brady (R7) 61, vs. Cisco 41
Stanton (21-9, W5) 75, San Angelo TLCA 64
Breckenridge (R8) 83, Bangs 61
AREA
Kermit (28-4, W4) vs. Muleshoe (T2), 7 p.m. Friday, Plains.
Brownfield (W3) vs. Dimmitt (16-14, R2), TBA
Eastland (W8) vs. Reagan County (22-9, R5), 7 p.m. Friday, Frontis
Coleman (W7) vs. Wall (R6), TBA
Shallowater (15-5, W2) vs. Denver City (R3), TBA
Childress (25-4, W1) vs. Idalou (T3), 7:30 Friday, West Texas A&M University in Canyon
Tuscola Jim Ned (W6) vs. Brady (R7), 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Angelo State's Junell Center in San Angelo
Stanton (W5) vs. Breckenridge (R8), 8 p.m. Friday, Merkel HS

Class 1A
Region II
Bi-District

Ira (W12), bye
Buena Vista (T10) 71, Dell City 52
Rankin (W10), bye
Sands (R11) 64, Roscoe Highland 29
Menard (W16), bye
Luders-Avoca (R13) 62, vs. Bronte 60 (O.T.)
Water Valley (W14), bye
May (R15) 58, Santa Anna 26
Grady (W11), bye
Wink (R10) 68, Balmorhea 37
Marfa (W9), bye
Borden County (R12) 55, Dawson 31
Eula (W15), bye
Trent (T13) 57, Garden City 56 (OT)
Jayton (W13), bye
Baird (T15) 57, Eden 49
Area
Ira (W12) vs. Buena Vista (T10), 7 p.m. Thursday, at MCS
Rankin (W10) vs. Sands (R11), 7 p.m. Thursday, San Angelo Central HS
Menard (W16) vs. Luders-Avoca (R13), 6:30 p.m. Friday, Blackwell
Water Valley (W14) vs. May (R15), 7 p.m. Friday, Ballinger HS
Grady (W11) vs. Wink (R10), 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Andrews HS
Marfa (21-9, W9) vs. Borden County (R12), 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Kermit HS
Eula (W15) vs. Trent (T13), TBA

UIL Girls Basketball Playoff Pairings
Region I
Girls
Class 6A
Regional quarterfinals

El Paso El Dorado (25-7) 53, Midland High 40
Flower Mound (R6, 26-7) 45, Plano 37
Amarillo High (34-2) 54, Arlington Martin 40
Plano West (29-4) 67, Cedar Hill 49
District 1-6A Tournament
At Wilkerson-Greines Activity Center, Fort Worth
Friday's Semifinals El Paso
El Dorado (25-7, R1) vs. Flower Mound (R6, 26-7), 6 p.m.
Amarillo High (34-2, W2) vs. Plano West (29-4, W6), 8 p.m.

Class 4A
Regional quarterfinals

Seminole (W5, 26-7) 69, Bushland 47
Godley (W7, 30-3) 39, Stephenville 29
Levelland (W2, 32-6) 72, Greenwood 62
Abilene Wylie (29-5) 68, Bridgeport 29
Region 1-4A Tournament
At Rip Griffin Center, Lubbock
Friday's Semifinals
Seminole (26-7, W4) vs. Godley (W7, 30-3), 7 p.m.
Levelland (32-2, W2) vs. Abilene Wylie (28-5, W6), 8:30 p.m.
Saturday's Final
Semifinal winners, 1 p.m.

Class 3A
Regional quarterfinals

Idalou (24-7) 61, Lubbock Roosevelt 38
Tuscola Jim Ned (27-7) 40, Cisco 36
Shallowater (29-1) 49, Muleshoe 35
Wall (27-6) 54, Breckenridge 48
Region 1-3A Tournament
At Chaparral Center, Midland
Friday's Semifinals
Idalou (24-7, W3) vs. Tuscola Jim Ned (26-7, R6), 6 p.m.
Shallowater (29-1, W2) vs. Wall (27-6, W6), 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's Final
Semifinal winners, 1 p.m.

Class 1A
Region II

Regional quarterfinal
Roscoe Highland 56, Grady 39
Garden City (27-4) 52, Menard 48
O'Donnell 67, Klondike 54
Cross Plains 48, Roby 40
Region II ATournament
At Moody Coliseum, Abilene
Friday's Semifinals
Roscoe Highland (W12, 25-5) vs. Garden City (W14, 27-4), 1 p.m.
O'Donnell (W11) vs. Cross Plains (W15), 3 p.m.

BULLDOGS

From 1C

against Arlington Martin but also the 3-6A championship because of the use of two ineligible players during the season.

"It's definitely a great honor," Tatum said about his team, which will be presented the district championship trophy today. "Winning in this district is difficult enough. I'm just happy we're on the good side of this situation."

Still, he felt for the coaches at players at Permian for having to forfeit.

"I feel sorry for them because you don't want to forget about those players and the hard work they put into the season," Tatum said. "You don't want to take anything away from what those guys accomplished. They were an incredible team. They also have a great group of kids and coaches and I'm sorry to see their season end this way."

The Bulldogs got off to a great start as they jumped out to a 15-4 advantage and had a 20-10 lead after the first quarter. Lamar closed the gap to 30-25 at the half.

MHS had a 41-33 lead heading into the final period when the Vikings (18-13), who struggled most of the night with their shooting, found their touch and eventually took their first lead, 44-43, with a free throw by Julius Jackson with 13 seconds remaining.

"We started out really well and Lamar made some adjustments and fought back," Tatum said. "They started making shots and you could sense the game was getting tighter and you could see the momentum shift a little but. They started to force the issue and get to the foul line."

Lamar had a 45-43 lead but with four seconds left, Midland's Trevor Abney sank a pair of free throws to force the extra period.

In OT, it continued to be a back-and-forth battle before Rivers, who finished with 21 points, and the Bulldogs had the final say.

"I'm extremely proud of these guys and the way they played," Tatum said. "We had two really tough games on the road late in the season, at Abilene High and at Odessa High, where we had some tough, grind-it-out games. You could tell that the boys were equipped and ready for the moment tonight."

Added Gary Ringo, who finished with 16 points, "I'm just real happy right now. We played hard to get this win. We had some games that where tough and came down to the last minute in district, so when the game went to overtime, we were pumped up and ready."

MIDLAND HIGH 51, ARLINGTON LAMAR 50, OT

Arlington Lamar (18-13) — Julius Jackson 15, Dionitae Champion 11, Cecil Roberts 10, Deshawn Lowry 5, Bryce Notree 5, Jeffrey Jacobs 2, Keith Moree 2
Midland High (18-10) — Shawn Rivers 21, Gary Ringo 16, Ty Kendrick 2, Nate Rogers 8, Trevor Abney 8

Lamar	10	15	8	12	5—50
Midland	20	10	11	4	6—51

Free throws — Lamar 15-24, MHS 8-12
3-point goals — Lamar 3 (Jackson, Roberts, Champion); MHS 1 (Rivers). Total fouls — Lamar 15 MHS 19. Fouled out — Champion, Abney, Kendrick. Technical fouls — Champion, Abney.
Next: Midland High vs. Amarillo High: Class 6A area round TBA Friday, Lubbock.

PERMIAN

From 1C

"I don't know. I don't know if that'll be my decision," Wright said. "It's all up in the air now."

Vesely and Wright declined to name the ineligible players, and Vesely said the school district is investigating to see if more than two were used and in which games they played. Permian football coach Blake Feldt said it was discovered Wednesday morning that the Panthers had used ineligible players.

Vesely said he informed Wright of the school district's decision to forfeit while the Panthers were on their way to Clyde for the 4 p.m. playoff game. Wright said the news was emotional for him and his players, who had to turn around and head back to Odessa.

"It's a blow," Wright said. "I never saw it coming."

COLLEGEROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Men

TCU 71
TEXAS TECH 54

FORT WORTH — Kenrich Williams scored 10 points and grabbed 16 rebounds as TCU won its third consecutive Big 12 home game, beating Texas Tech 71-54 on Wednesday night.

The Horned Frogs (17-11, 4-11 Big 12), in their third season in the league, completed their first regular-season series sweep of a Big 12 opponent.

Williams scored eight points in the first 4½ minutes of the game to push TCU to an 8-2 lead. The Horned Frogs never trailed, and the game was tied only once — for less than two minutes at 8-8, before Trey Zeigler had a steal that turned into a breakaway dunk.

Kyan Anderson had 17 points and six assists for the Horned Frogs. Zeigler finished with 15 points and Amric Fields had 10 off the bench.

Zach Smith and Keenan Evans each had 10 points for the Red Raiders (12-17, 2-14), who lost their sixth game in a row.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCORES AND SCHEDULES

Men

WEDNESDAY'S SCORES
SOUTHWEST

TCU 71, Texas Tech 54
Tarleton St. 86, McMurry 58
Tulsa 78, Tulane 55
SOUTH
Anderson (SC) 73, Tusculum 64
Columbus St. 70, Clayton St. 67
GRU Augusta 88, SC-Aiken 69
Georgia 76, Mississippi 72
Kentucky 74, Mississippi St. 56
Lincoln Memorial 91, Carson-Newman 61
Newberry 100, Wingate 79
North Florida 76, Florida Gulf Coast 62
Richmond 67, VCU 63, 2OT
SC-Upstate 70, Lipscomb 47
Savannah St. 58, Bethune-Cookman 49
Stetson 70, Jacksonville 67
UConn 60, East Carolina 49
UNC Wilmington 74, James Madison 54
Virginia 70, Wake Forest 34
William & Mary 65, Towson 50

TODAY'S GAMES
SOUTHWEST

Charlotte at North Texas, 7 p.m.
N. Dakota St. at Oral Roberts, 7 p.m.
Old Dominion at Rice, 7 p.m.
Texas-Arlington at Arkansas St., 7:30 p.m.
Troy at Texas St., 7:30 p.m.
Georgia St. at UALR, 7:30 p.m.
SOUTH
ETSU at The Citadel, 6 p.m.
Winthrop at Campbell, 6 p.m.
Jacksonville St. at E. Kentucky, 6 p.m.
Northeastern at Elon, 6 p.m.
W. Carolina at Furman, 6 p.m.
Charleston Southern at Gardner-Webb, 6 p.m.
Radford at Liberty, 6 p.m.
Wofford at Mercer, 6 p.m.
Coastal Carolina at Presbyterian, 6 p.m.
Vanderbilt at Tennessee, 6 p.m.
High Point at UNC Asheville, 6 p.m.
Samford at UNC Greensboro, 6 p.m.
Chattanooga at VMI, 6 p.m.
Georgia Southern at Appalachian St., 6:30 p.m.
SIU-Edwardsville at Austin Peay, 7 p.m.
UTEP at Louisiana Tech, 7 p.m.
FIU at Marshall, 7 p.m.
E. Illinois at Murray St., 7 p.m.
UTSA at Southern Miss., 7 p.m.
UT-Martin at Tennessee St., 7 p.m.
FAU at W. Kentucky, 7 p.m.
Louisiana-Monroe at South Alabama, 7:05 p.m.
SMU at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Tennessee Tech at Morehead St., 8 p.m.

Women

WEDNESDAY'S SCORES
SOUTHWEST

Abilene Christian 68, Houston Baptist 53
Oklahoma 68, Baylor 64
Tarleton St. 85, McMurry 62
Temple 55, SMU 39
Texas 59, Oklahoma St. 42
SOUTH
Abilene Christian 68, Houston Baptist 53
Oklahoma 68, Baylor 64
Tarleton St. 85, McMurry 62
Temple 55, SMU 39
Texas 59, Oklahoma St. 42

TODAY'S GAMES
SOUTHWEST

UT Arlington at Arkansas St., 5:05 p.m.
Georgia St. at UALR, 5:30 p.m.
Troy at Texas St., 5:30 p.m.
Cent. Arkansas at Sam Houston St., 6:30 p.m.
Kentucky at Arkansas, 7 p.m.
Incarnate Word at Stephen F. Austin, 7 p.m.
Missouri at Texas A&M, 7 p.m.
Southern Miss. at UTSA, 7 p.m.
Louisiana Tech at UTEP, 8 p.m.
SOUTH
Rice at Old Dominion, 10 a.m.
Georgia Southern at Appalachian St., 4 p.m.
Marshall at FIU, 5 p.m.
Louisiana-Monroe at South Alabama, 5:05 p.m.
Florida at Alabama, 6 p.m.
North Texas at Charlotte, 6 p.m.
Syracuse at Clemson, 6 p.m.
William & Mary at Coll. of Charleston, 6 p.m.
W. Kentucky at FAU, 6 p.m.
N.C. State at Florida St., 6 p.m.
Duke at Georgia Tech, 6 p.m.
Boston College at Louisville, 6 p.m.
Indiana at Maryland, 6 p.m.
LSU at Mississippi, 6 p.m.
Virginia at North Carolina, 6 p.m.
George Washington at Richmond, 6 p.m.
Mississippi St. at South Carolina, 6 p.m.
Delaware at UNC Wilmington, 6 p.m.
Miami at Wake Forest, 6 p.m.
SE Louisiana at Northwestern St., 6:30 p.m.
Lamar at McNeese St., 7 p.m.
Nicholls St. at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Tennessee at Georgia, 8 p.m.
Auburn at Vanderbilt, 8 p.m.

NBAHAPPENINGS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ATLANTA

Mavs suspend Rondo after exchange with Carlisle

The Dallas Mavericks suspended Rajon Rondo for their game Wednesday night in Atlanta for conduct detrimental to the team, a day after the point guard had a heated exchange on the court with coach Rick Carlisle and was benched.

Carlisle said he must communicate better with Rondo.

"The incident last night was born in large part from poor communication between him and I," Carlisle said Wednesday. "That's on both of us. We had a long talk about the situation today and we both agreed we need to communicate more frequently and we need to work on the solution of making his stint as a Dallas Maverick the most successful one possible."

Rondo came out with 8:10 left in the third quarter of Dallas' 99-92 home victory over Toronto. He was bringing the ball up the court when Carlisle angrily shouted for a timeout and exchanged words with Rondo from several feet away as the player headed to the bench.

CHICAGO

Latest injury to Rose hits Bulls hard

The news that Derrick Rose will have knee surgery again hit the Chicago Bulls and their fans hard and left them in a familiar spot — trying to get by without their star point guard.

The torn meniscus in his right knee was announced Tuesday night, another tough twist for a franchise, a star, his sponsors and a fanbase that thought the Bulls were entering another golden era just a few years ago, with the Chicago product leading the renaissance.

Instead, he's having surgery on his right knee for the second straight year — on the heels of a season he missed entirely following a torn left ACL.

"It's so unfair," Bulls coach Tom Thibodeau said. "The guy's been through so much. Any time you have surgery, it's tough. This will hopefully be much, much shorter than the other one. But the big thing is our concern for him first as a person."

Rose's rise from growing up in a tough Chicago neighborhood to stardom with his hometown team is well-documented.

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

HAWKS 104
MAVERICKS 87

ATLANTA — The Atlanta Hawks took the lead with a 13-0 run in the third quarter and went on to a 104-87 victory Wednesday night over the Dallas Mavericks, who were without suspended guard Rajon Rondo.

The Mavericks suspended Rondo before the game for conduct detrimental to the team. Rondo had a heated exchange on the court with coach Rick Carlisle in the third quarter of Tuesday night's win over Toronto.

Carlisle said the one-game suspension was an "organizational decision" and said Rondo will start in the Mavericks' next game against Brooklyn on Saturday.

Dennis Schroder had 17 points off the bench to lead six Atlanta players in double figures. The Eastern Conference-leading Hawks have won two straight after losing four of seven.

Monta Ellis led Dallas with 19 points.

CELTICS 115
KNICKS 94

BOSTON — Evan Turner had his first career triple-double with 10 points, 12 rebounds and 10 assists and Boston pulled away with 20 unanswered points in the second half and extended New York's losing streak to eight with a 115-94 win on Wednesday night.

Isaiah Thomas Jr. scored 19 in his home debut for the Celtics.

Jae Crowder finished with 18 points, hitting a pair of Boston's eight 3-pointers in the fourth quarter. The Celtics outscored the Knicks 35-22 in the final period and 77-45 in the second half.

Jonas Jerebko added 20 points, Marcus Smart scored 16 and Avery Bradley finished with 12 points for the Celtics. Thomas, acquired by Boston on Feb. 19 in a deal with Phoenix, hit all 11 of his free throws and added seven assists and six rebounds.

Andrea Bargnani led New York with 17 points. Lou Amundson, Jason Smith and Langston Galloway scored 14 points each for the reeling Knicks.

TIMBERWOLVES 97
WIZARDS 77

MINNEAPOLIS — Kevin Garnett made an emotional return to Minnesota with an ear-splitting reception and his Timberwolves overcame a jittery start to beat the Washington Wizards 97-77 on Wednesday night.

Garnett, the face of the franchise who was reacquired in a trade from Brooklyn last week, had five points on 2-for-7 shooting with eight rebounds and two blocks in 19 minutes in his first game for the Timberwolves since 2007. Kevin Martin scored 28 points and Andrew Wiggins had 19 for the Wolves, who trailed by 15 early after Garnett's stirring reintroduction.

BUCKS 104
76ERS 88

MILWAUKEE — John Henson scored 21 points, Michael Carter-Williams had seven points and eight assists in his Milwaukee debut, and the Bucks built a big early lead against the point guard's former team in a 104-88 win Wednesday night over the Philadelphia 76ers.

Khris Middleton added 19 points for Milwaukee, which led by as many 29.

Jason Richardson scored 16 for the 76ers, who lost their fifth straight game.

Carter-Williams went from one of the NBA's worst teams to a surprising upstart vying for the playoffs. The 6-foot-6 floor general broke down defenders and used his long arms to guard on the perimeter.

The addition of Carter-Williams also moved Jerryd Bayless back to his regular role as a spark off the bench.

HORNETS 98
BULLS 86

CHICAGO — Michael Kidd-Gilchrist had 18 points and 12 rebounds, Mo Williams scored 17 and the Charlotte Hornets beat Chicago 98-86 Wednesday night after the Bulls learned Derrick Rose will have yet another knee surgery.

Al Jefferson added 16 points to help the Hornets snap a five-game losing streak. But all that was overshadowed by the news that Rose needs another operation.

HEAT 93
MAGIC 90, OT

ORLANDO, Fla. — Luol Deng had 21 points, Dwyane Wade added 18 and the Miami Heat rallied to defeat the Orlando Magic 93-90 in overtime Wednesday night.

Hassan Whiteside added 15 points and 13 rebounds. The Heat have won three of four since losing Chris Bosh for the season with a blood clot in his lung.

The Magic squandered an eight-point lead with less than a minute play in the fourth quarter, allowing the Heat to send the game to extra time.

Nik Vucevic had all five of the Magic's points in overtime, and finished with 26 points and eight rebounds. Victor Oladipo had 13 points and a career-high 13 rebounds.

Orlando struggled from the free throw line, going just 18 for 31 for the game.

PELICANS 102
NETS 96

NEW ORLEANS — Quincy Pondexter scored a career-high 25 points and the New Orleans Pelicans won their third straight, 102-96 over the Brooklyn Nets on Wednesday night.

Pondexter surpassed his previous high of 22 points by hitting his fourth 3-pointer of the game with 49.9 seconds left to all but seal the victory by giving New Orleans an eight-point cushion.

Tyreke Evans had 15 points and 11 assists for the Pelicans, who won their second straight without Ali-Star Anthony Davis in the lineup. Omer Asik had 12 points and 13 rebounds. Dante Cunningham added 13 points, Norris Cole 11 and Alexis Ajinca 10 for the Pelicans, who overcame 20 turnovers by shooting 51.4 percent.

NBA STANDINGS & BOX SCORES

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	37	20	.649	—
Brooklyn	23	32	.418	13
Boston	22	33	.400	14
Philadelphia	12	45	.211	25
New York	10	46	.179	26½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	45	12	.789	—
Washington	33	25	.569	12½
Miami	25	31	.446	19½
Charlotte	23	32	.418	21
Orlando	19	40	.322	27

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	36	22	.621	—
Chicago	36	22	.621	—
Milwaukee	32	25	.561	3½
Detroit	23	34	.404	12½
Indiana	23	34	.404	12½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Memphis	41	14	.745	—
Houston	39	18	.684	3
Dallas	39	21	.650	4½
San Antonio	34	22	.607	7½
New Orleans	30	27	.526	12

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	36	19	.655	—
Oklahoma City	32	25	.561	5
Utah	21	34	.382	15
Denver	20	36	.357	16½
Minnesota	13	43	.232	23½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	44	10	.815	—
L.A. Clippers	37	21	.638	9
Phoenix	29	28	.509	16½
Sacramento	19	35	.352	25
L.A. Lakers	14	41	.255	30½

Wednesday's Scores

Miami 93, Orlando 90, OT
Atlanta 104, Dallas 87
Boston 115, New York 94
New Orleans 102, Brooklyn 96
Charlotte 98, Chicago 86
Milwaukee 104, Philadelphia 88
Minnesota 97, Washington 77
Houston 110, L.A. Clippers 105
Phoenix at Denver, late
L.A. Lakers at Utah, late
Memphis at Sacramento, late
San Antonio at Portland, late

Today's Games

Golden State at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S BOX SCORES

HAWKS 104, MAVERICKS 87

DALLAS (87): Jefferson 3-10 3-5 10, Nowitzki 2-7 0-0 4, James 2-3 3-4 7, Barea 6-10 0-0 13, Ellis 9-14 0-0 19, Amiru 1-7 0-0 2, Villanueva 3-7 0-0 8, Harris 2-7 6-6 10, Powell 3-7 0-0 6, Smith 2-3 0-1 4, Felton 1-5 2-2 4. Totals 34-80 14-18 87.

ATLANTA (104): Carroll 5-8 1-2 13, Millsap 7-12 0-0 15, Horford 4-10 3-4 11, Teague 3-9 4-4 11, Korver 5-12 0-0 16, Antic 0-3 0-0 0, Bazemore 2-5 3-4 7, Schroder 7-15 0-0 17, Scott 2-4 0-0 5, Mack 3-5 0-0 7, Jenkins 0-0 2-2 2, Muscala 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 39-85 13-16 104.

Dallas	34	19	15	19—	87
Atlanta	22	25	30	27—	104

3-Point Goals—Dallas 5-31 (Villanueva 2-6, Barea 1-3, Jefferson 1-4, Ellis 1-5, Powell 0-1, Felton 0-2, Nowitzki 0-3, Harris 0-3, Amiru 0-4), Atlanta 13-35 (Korver 4-10, Schroder 3-5, Carroll 2-5, Mack 1-2, Millsap 1-2, Scott 1-3, Teague 1-3, Bazemore 0-2, Antic 0-3). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Dallas 51 (James 11), Atlanta 48 (Millsap, Horford 8). Assists: Dallas 20 (Barea 7), Atlanta 28 (Horford 6). Total Fouls: Dallas 18, Atlanta 18. A. 16,126 (18,729).

ROCKETS 110, CLIPPERS 105

L.A. CLIPPERS (105): Barnes 2-10 0-0 6, Hawes 1-9 4-4 7, Jordan 9-12 4-8 22, Paul 8-18 4-4 22, Redick 6-12 0-0 15, Crawford 10-17 1-1 24, Davis 2-4 0-0 4, Rivers 2-6 1-2 5, Turkoglu 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 40-91 14-19 105.

HOUSTON (110): Anderson 6-11 0-0 17, Jones 6-13 2-3 14, Motiejunas 7-11 1-2 18, Terry 3-10 0-0 8, Harden 4-13 10-12 21, Brewer 7-17 4-5 20, Smith 2-9 4-8 9, Prigioni 1-4 0-0 3. Totals 36-86 21-30 110.

L.A. Clippers	26	34	25	20—105
Houston	27	35	22	26—110

3-Point Goals—L.A. Clippers 11-32 (Redick 3-6, Crawford 3-7, Paul 2-4, Barnes 2-7, Hawes 1-5, Turkoglu 0-1, Rivers 0-2), Houston 17-44 (Aniza 5-9, Motiejunas 3-4, Harden 3-9, Brewer 2-6, Terry 2-7, Prigioni 1-4, Smith 1-4, TJones 0-1). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: L.A. Clippers 60 (Jordan 19), Houston 57 (Motiejunas, Smith 9). Assists: L.A. Clippers 18 (Paul 14), Houston 27 (Harden 10). Total Fouls: L.A. Clippers 22, Houston 20. A. 18,154 (18,023).

CELTICS 115, KNICKS 94

NEW YORK (94): Hardaway Jr 4-12 0-0 8, Amundson 6-8 2-2 14, Smith 5-9 3-6 14, Calderon 1-7 2-2 5, Galloway 6-13 1-2 14, Acy 1-6 1-2 3, Bargnani 5-13 7-9 17, Shved 2-7 7-8 11. Early 4-7 0-0 8. Totals 34-82 24-31 94.

BOSTON (115): Turner 5-9 0-0 10, Bass 4-8 0-0 8, Zeller 4-7 0-0 8, Smart 6-9 1-2 16, Bradley 5-12 1-1 12, I.Thomas 3-10 11-11 19, Crowder 7-12 1-2 18, Young 0-1 1-2 1, Jerebko 7-10 2-2 20, Wallace 0-1 0-0 0, Dalembert 0-2 0-0 0, Randolph 0-0 0-0 0. Pressey 1-2 0-0 3. Totals 42-83 17-20 115.

New York	25	24	23	22— 94
Boston	23	25	32	35—115

3-Point Goals—New York 2-21 (Calderon 1-5, Galloway 0-1, Early 0-2, Shved 0-2, Bargnani 0-2, Hardaway Jr 0-4), Boston 14-31 (Jerebko 4-6, Smart 3-5, Crowder 3-5, I.Thomas 2-6, Pressey 1-1, Bradley 1-5, Young 0-1, Dalembert 0-2). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: New York 50 (Smith 10), Boston 49 (Turner 12). Assists: New York 19 (Calderon 7), Boston 29 (Turner 10). Total Fouls: New York 20, Boston 26. A. 16,899 (18,624).

TIMBERWOLVES 97, WIZARDS 77

WASHINGTON (77): Porter 6-11 0-0 13, Nene 6-12 0-1 12, Gortat 4-9 1-1 9, Wall 2-10 0-0 5, Temple 4-11 2-2 11, Humphries 2-4 0-0 4, Butler 1-8 0-0 2, Sessions 1-5 4-4 6, Seraphin 4-8 0-0 8, Webster 2-5 0-0 5, Gooden 1-4 0-0 2, Blair 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 33-87 7-8 77.

MINNESOTA (97): Wiggins 6-13 7-9 19, Garnett 2-7 1-2 5, Pekovic 6-14 3-4 15, Rubio 2-9 2-2 6, Martin 10-15 6-7 28, Payne 2-5 0-0 4, Neal 2-5 2-2 7, Dieng 3-7 0-0 8, LaVine 2-5 2-2 7. Brown 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 35-81 23-26 97.

Washington	20	22	18	17—77
Minnesota	11	31	32	23—97

3-Point Goals—Washington 4-18 (Wall 1-2, Porter 1-2, Webster 1-3, Temple 1-6, Gooden 0-1, Butler 0-4), Minnesota 4-13 (Martin 2-4, Neal 1-2, LaVine 1-2, Rubio 0-1, Wiggins 0-2, Payne 0-2). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Washington 47 (Gortat 15), Minnesota 59 (Pekovic 13). Assists: Washington 21 (Wall 10), Minnesota 17 (Rubio 8). Total Fouls: Washington 27, Minnesota 15. A. 19,856 (19,356).

BUCKS 104, 76ERS 88

PHILADELPHIA (88): Mbah a Moute 1-2 2-3 5, Covington 4-6 2-2 13, Noel 2-9 4-4 8, Carroll 3-10 4-5 11, Richardson 6-11 0-0 16, Smith 3-7 0-0 6, Thompson 1-6 0-0 2, Grant 3-6 2-2 10, Sims 1-4 0-0 2, Sampson 2-4 0-0 4, Robinson 3-6 1-3 7, McGee 2-4 0-0 4. Totals 31-75 15-19 88.

MILWAUKEE (104): Antetokounmpo 1-6 3-5 5, Ilyasova 4-8 2-2 11, Pachulia 5-11 2-2 12, Carter-Williams 3-5 1-2 7, Middleton 9-12 0-0 19, Bayless 6-14 0-0 13, Dudley 3-7 0-0 7, Ennis 4-7 0-0 9. Henson 9-12 3-5 21. Totals 44-82 11-16 104.

Philadelphia	12	20	28	28— 88
Milwaukee	29	32	21	22—104

3-Point Goals—Philadelphia 11-25 (Richardson 4-8, Covington 3-4, Grant 2-3, Mbah a Moute 1-2, Carroll 1-5, Smith 0-1, Sampson 0-2), Milwaukee 5-15 (Ennis 1-2, Middleton 1-2, Dudley 1-3, Ilyasova 1-3, Bayless 1-4, Carter-Williams 0-1). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Philadelphia 43 (Noel 8), Milwaukee 48 (Antetokounmpo 11). Assists: Philadelphia 21 (Canaan 6), Milwaukee 32 (Carter-Williams 8). Total Fouls: Philadelphia 22, Milwaukee 19. A. 12,763 (18,717).

HORNETS 98, BULLS 86

CHARLOTTE (98): Kidd-Gilchrist 7-12 4-6 18, Zeller 2-5 0-0 4, Jefferson 7-17 2-4 16, M.Williams 7-15 2-2 17, Henderson 3-9 5-5 11, Ma.Williams 2-2 0-0 5, Roberts 5-8 0-0 12, Massali 2-5 3-4 7, Stephenson 4-11 0-0 9. Totals 39-84 16-21 98.

CHICAGO (86): Dunleavy 0-3 0-0 0, Gasol 11-20 3-4 25, Noah 1-4 2-2 4, Brooks 4-12 3-8 12, Butler 5-11 4-5 14, Gibson 2-6 3-4 7, Snell 4-8 0-0 10, Hinrich 4-9 0-0 8, Mirotic 3-4 0-0 6. Totals 34-77 15-23 86.

Charlotte	20	24	23	31—98
Chicago	20	24	21	21—86

3-Point Goals—Charlotte 4-14 (Roberts 2-5, Ma.Williams 1-1, M.Williams 1-4, Stephenson 0-2, Henderson 0-2), Chicago 3-17 (Snell 2-4, Brooks 1-5, Mirotic 0-1, Dunleavy 0-1, Butler 0-3, Hinrich 0-3). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Charlotte 53 (Kidd-Gilchrist 12), Chicago 48 (Gasol 13). Assists: Charlotte 16 (M.Williams 5), Chicago 24 (Noah 8). Total Fouls: Charlotte 18,

Former owner of MLB steroid clinic sentenced to 4 years

By Curt Anderson
Associated Press

Associated Press

Anthony Bosch, center, prepares to turn himself in with his attorney Susy Ribero-Ayala, left, at federal court in Miami on Tuesday. Bosch, the former owner of the South Florida clinic that supplied performance-enhancing substances to Major League Baseball players and other athletes has been sentenced to four years in federal prison. The lady at right is unidentified.

MIAMI — The former owner of a Florida medical clinic who posed as a doctor and illegally supplied steroid injections and other performance-enhancing drugs to professional baseball players and even high school athletes was sentenced Tuesday to four years in federal prison.

Anthony Bosch — who choked back tears in court and said the clinic was a legitimate business gone awry — sought a more lenient term because of his cooperation in the investigation, but U.S. District Judge Darrin Gayles refused.

"This defendant was the most culpable in this conspiracy," the judge said.

Prosecutors said Bosch could still get his sentence reduced through further cooperation, including potential trial testimony.

Gayles said Bosch falsely held himself out as a licensed medical doctor at his Biogenesis of America clinic, where he accepted thousands of dollars a month to provide steroid injections to players such as New York Yankees star Alex Rodriguez and Ryan Braun of the Milwaukee Brewers. Most troubling, Gayles said, was Bosch's injections of high school players in the Miami area.

Angels' Hamilton meeting with MLB about disciplinary issue

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Los Angeles Angels outfielder Josh Hamilton is meeting with Major League Baseball officials about a disciplinary issue.

Angels spokesman Tim Mead confirmed the Los Angeles Times' initial report Wednesday that Hamilton went to New York to meet with baseball officials. The team declined to give any more specific information.

Hamilton hasn't reported to spring training in Arizona after undergoing surgery on his right shoulder earlier this month. He is expected to be out until after the regular season begins.

CRANE

From 1C

since Luhnow took over for the 2012 season.

"I feel like we owe it to (them) to go out and help them be part of a winning effort," Luhnow said. "Because ... they've been here all along ... and we know what to expect from them and they're going to go out and there and deliver like they always have, and I think now we've got the people around them to achieve what they want."

Altuve hit .341 last season to become the first Astros player to win a batting crown.

"We don't want to think in numbers, but definitely we're going to be better," Altuve said. "We've got better defense, we have more power in the lineup. Everybody is excited to go out there and show that we've got a different team — a way better team."

McIlroy looking to keep momentum to the Masters

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. — Fans stood three-deep and formed a corridor from the 18th green at PGA National as they tried to get an autograph, a picture or even a close look at Rory McIlroy. Moments later, another group of fans pressed against him with souvenir flags to sign as McIlroy left a conference room.

The attention comes with being the No. 1 player in golf, the apparent heir to Tiger Woods. McIlroy is used to this by now. He has been the best player in the world since August, filling the void of a sport looking for a dominant figure.

"This is the position I want to be in," McIlroy said Wednesday. "And I want to be in it as long as I can."

It's only going to get more chaotic.

McIlroy competes on American soil for the first time in five months when the Honda Classic begins on Thursday. The palm trees and tropical warmth of south Florida are the sure signs that the Masters is around the corner. McIlroy, who blew a four-shot lead in the final round at Augusta National in 2011, goes there with a chance to become only the sixth player to capture the career Grand Slam.

Like other players, the 25-year-old will venture up to Augusta to practice in the coming month. The real preparation is to play good golf, and to allow that confidence to become momentum that he can carry to the first major of the year.

"People talk about momentum and talk about sort of riding it, but I think momentum and confidence are two very similar things in golf," McIlroy said. "If you're confident and you've had good performances, that confidence seems to carry on. And if you're happy with how practice goes, then you're obviously going to be confident going into tournaments. So that's sort of how I'm feeling right now. And try to keep that feeling for as long as I can."

It seems like it's been a long time already.

McIlroy still isn't anywhere near the roll Woods enjoyed during his peak years. Going into the 2000 Masters, for example, Woods won 11 times in 19 starts and only twice finished out of the top 10. No one was close to him.

In his last 12 starts worldwide dating to the British Open, McIlroy has four victories (including back-to-back majors and a World Golf Championship), four runner-up finishes and has finished out of the top 10 two times.

In his last six tournaments, he has finished no worse than second place in all but one tournament, the Australian Open. So yes, he's going along quite nicely.

The obstacle at the Honda Classic might be rust.

McIlroy hasn't played since winning the Dubai Desert Classic on Feb. 1. He got past one potential distraction when he settled a court case involving his former management company. He has been home in south Florida the last three weeks, practicing and playing and trying to stay on this roll during an important part of the season.

McIlroy won the Honda Classic in 2012, the first time he rose to No. 1 in the world. A year ago, he was poised to win again until he stumbled on the back nine at PGA National, only to hit 5-wood into 10 feet on the final hole for a two-putt birdie to get into a four-man playoff. Russell Henley won on the first extra hole. McIlroy didn't really get going until a few months later, but he's been tough to beat ever since.

"He's the best player in the world," Rickie Fowler said. "And when he's driving the ball well, that's when he's deadliest. So he did a good job of putting himself in play last year and obviously hits longer than a lot of guys, too."

Woods isn't around. He said two weeks ago he wouldn't return to competition until his game was in tournament shape. So far, that's just one tournament — the Honda Classic — though the attention on the absence of Woods is sure to ratchet up if he misses Bay Hill.

McIlroy is mixing up his schedule slightly this year. He'll be at the WGC event next week at Doral and then play the Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill for the first time, making it likely he will have two weeks off for Augusta.

The Masters, at the moment, is not on his mind.

"I feel like I've got a nice schedule going into Augusta," McIlroy said. "I'm not playing too much, but I'm playing just enough that I should be as sharp as possible going in there. I haven't thought about it. What I really thought about over the past couple of weeks is getting ready for these events coming up, and trying to play as well as I possibly can in those. So that gives me a little confidence going into a little break to prepare as well as I can for Augusta."

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THURSDAY PRIME TIME — FEBRUARY 26, 2015

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

						6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID	ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Grey's A. "Starting at the End" (N)		With Murder "The Night Lila Died" (N)		With Murder "It's All My Fault" (SF) (N)		KMID News	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live	(:35) News Nightline
KOSA	CBS	7	7	7	7	7	7 News	Ent. Tonight	The Big Bang (N)	Couple (N)	Big Bang Theory	Mom (N)	The Victoria's Secret Swim Special (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) David Letterman	(:35) Late Show
KWWT	CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	MASH "Say No More"	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Hogan's Heroes	Twilight Zone	Welcome Kotter	Welcome Kotter	Carol Burnett	P. Mason "The Case of the Deadly Verdict"		McCloud
KPEJ	FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	American Idol "Top 12 Girls Perform" (N)		Backstrom "Ancient, Chinese, Secret" (N)		Modern Family	Modern Family	Hot in Cleveland	Hot in Cleveland	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother
KMLM	IND	11	11	12	11	11	Dr. Rik Wedge	Rocks/Manuscripts	Update News	Fruits of Zion	Light of the Southwest				Joe McGee	Matt Staver	Called Out	Biblical Israel
KWES	NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsWest 9 at 6 p.m.		The Slap "Anouk" (N)		The Blacklist "The Deer Hunter" (N)		Allegiance "Chasing Ghosts" (N)		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) Jimmy Fallon		(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT	PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Daytripper	Art & Create	African Americans: M		Jewel in Crown "The Day of the Scorpion"		Charlie Rose (N)		Tavis Smiley (N)	Tavis Smiley
KUPB	UNI	4	4		4	16	La sombra del pasado		Mi corazón es Tuyo		Hasta el fin del mundo		Que te perdone Dios... Yo no		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	La Que No Podía Amar	
KOSA	MNT	16	16		16		Fam.Feud	Million...	The Mentalist		Mentalist "18-5-4"		My News	Million..	Anger M.	M&M	Office	Access H.
FLIX		340	65		165		(4:45) ★ Dead Poets...		★★★ Green Card Andie MacDowell.				★★★ The Muse			(:45) ★★★ Legally Blonde		
HBO		300	68	14	14		Movie	The Jinx	(:15) The Jinx		The Jinx		Together	Looking	Taxicab Confessions	Girls		M.Brooks
HBO2		302	69	15	101	23	(5:15) ★ X-Men: The ...		Girls	Together	Rosie O'Donnell		★ Blended ('14, Com) Adam Sandler.			★ For a Good Tim...		
HBO5		304	70	16	102		Movie	Looking	★★ The Heat ('13, Com) Sandra Bullock.				LastWeek	Bill Maher		★ About Time Domnhall Gleeson.		
MAX		380	71	17	120	24	(5:00) ★ Escape Plan		★★ 47 Ronin ('13, Act) Keanu Reeves.				★★★ V for Vendetta Natalie Portman.			(:15) Life on Top		
MAX2		382	72	18	122		(:50) ★ Rush ('13, Act) Daniel Brühl.				★ Ride Along Ice Cube.			(:45) ★ Intergalactic Swingers		(:10) ★ The Rock		
PLEX				96			(5:25) ★ Hercules & ...		★★ Canadian Bacon			(:40) ★★ The Last Patrol			(:20) ★★ Wooly Boys Peter Fonda.			
SHOW		320	66	19	140	25	(5:30) ★ Last Vegas		(:15) ★★ Step Up Revolution				Shame. "Crazy Love"		Penn &..	These Ain't Jokes		Movie
TMC		336	67	22	155	26	(5:45) ★ The Cold Li...		(:20) ★★ The Double Richard Gere.				★★ Kill Bill Vol. 2 ('04, Act) Uma Thurman.					Movie
A&E		27	32	28	35	47	The First 48 "Bad Attitude/ Strapped"		First 48 "A Date With Death/ Paid in Blood"		After the First 48 "Kiss of Death" (N)		Nightwatch "Full Moon Rising" (N)		Nightwatch "Their Worst Day"		First 48 "A Date With Death/ Paid in Blood"	
AMC		40	21	23	42	51	(4:30) ★ Ocean's El...		★★★ Titanic Two social opposites meet and fall in love while on Titanic's maiden voyage.									Movie
BET		58	26		40		Being Mary Jane		BET Honors "2015"						Game	KeyshiaC	Game	Wendy Williams
BRAVO		65	63		41		Millionaire		Millionaire		Millionaire		Millionaire (N)		Watch (N)	Millionaire		VanderR
CNBC		46	45		39	72	American Greed		Shark Tank		American Greed		American Greed (N)		American Greed		American Greed	
CNN		43	24	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		Inside Man (N)		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360		M. Spurlock Inside	
DISC		50	20	31	24	42	Alaska/Frontier		Alaska/Frontier		Alaska/Frontier		Alaska/Frontier		Alaska/Frontier		Alaska/Frontier	
DISNEY		56	27	36	25	36	Jessie	KC Under	★ Zapped ('14, Fant) Zendaya.		Mickey		I Didn't	Liv/Mad	I Didn't	A.N.T.	GoodLuck	GoodLuck
ESPN		32	29	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball (L)				NCAA Basketball (L)				SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2		34	28	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball (L)				NCAA Basketball (L)				Basketb.	30 for 30 "Survive and Advance"		
FAMILY		53	54	34	42	33	★★ Zookeeper ('11, Com) Kevin James.				★★★ Liar Liar ('97, Com) Jim Carrey.				The 700 Club	Gilmore Girls		
FNC		45	58	53	23	55	On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor	The Kelly File		
FOOD		64	59	27	68	54	Chopped		Chopped		Chopped Canada (N)		Beat Flay	DuffDawn	Cutthroat Kitchen	Chopped Canada		
FSSW		37	43	50	45	29	Big 12 Showcase	SportsDay OnAir (N)	RDOHouCow	NBDL Basketball Reno Big Horns at Austin Spurs Site: Cedar Park Center -- Cedar Park, Texas (L)					Rangers Insider	The Beat Tex A&M	RodeoHouston Preview	SportsDay OnAir
FX		31	31	59	64	69	Movie		★★★ Men in Black 3 ('12, Act) Will Smith.				Archer (N)	Archer	Archer	★★★ Men in Black 3		
HALLMARK		54	49	58		34	Waltons "The Legend"		The Waltons		Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV		63	50	26	48	44	Rehab	Rehab	Fixer Upper		Rehab (N)	Rehab	H.Hunt	House	H.Hunt	House	Rehab	Rehab
HISTORY		71	62	29	50	43	Pawn S.	Pawn Star	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn (N)	Pawn (N)	Vikings (N)		(:05) Vikings		Pawn S.	Pawn S.
LIFETIME		28	25	25	28	48	Celebrity Wife Swap		★★★ The Holiday Cameron Diaz. Two women with romance issues swap homes and fall for men in their new neighbourhoods.						Little Women: LA "Home Wreckers"	★★★ The Holiday		
MSNBC		47	51		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		All in With C. Hayes	Rachel Maddow		
NBCSN		38	39				NHLTop10	NHL Live! (L)			NHL Hockey Minnesota Wild at Nashville Predators (L)				Overtime	NASCAR Challenge		NA: List
NICK		55	34	39	34	37	Thunder	Hathaway	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Fresh P.	Fresh P.	Friends	Friends	(:10) Ray	(:50) Ray
SPIKE		30	22	55	53	58	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Jail	Jail
SYFY		66	64	41	57	67	(5:00) ★ Silent Hill:...		WWE Smackdown! (N)				Wizard Wars (N)		Close Up "Miami" (N)	Wizard Wars		
TBS		25	11	44	66	41	Sein. "The Barber"	Seinfeld	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan Mindy Kaling, A.J. Jacobs, DJ Demers	The Office		Conan
TCM		41	61	24	63	66	(5:00) ★ The Candi...		★★★ Absence of Malice Sally Field.				★★★★ The Verdict Paul Newman.			(:15) ★ Chariots of ...		
TELE		20	8	10	20		Caso cerrado		Los miserables		Tierra de reyes		Dueños del paraiso		Al rojo	(:35) Titular.	Tierra de reyes	
TLC		51	33	32	38	52	Amer. Gypsy Wedd "Wedded to Disaster"		My Big Fat American Gypsy Wedding		My Big Fat American Gypsy Wedding (N)		Myrtle Manor "Hello, Baby!" (N)		My Big Fat American Gypsy Wedding	Welcome to Myrtle Manor "Hello, Baby!"		
TNT		24	23	40	26	50	Castle "Punked"		NBA Basketball Golden State Warriors at Cleveland Cavaliers Site: Quicken Loans Arena -- Cleveland, Ohio (L)					NBA Basketball Oklahoma City Thunder at Phoenix Suns Site: U.S. Airways Center -- Phoenix, Ariz. (L)				
TVLAND		49	48	35	54	35	Walker, Texas Ranger		Fam.Feud	Fam.Feud	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens	Friends	Friends
USA		26	30	42	27	49	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Trophy"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Internal Affairs"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "October Sunrise"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Dissonant Voices"		Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family
WGN		19	18				America's Funniest Home Videos		Home Videos Clips include a smiling dog.		Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	OutlawCountr "Good Town, Bad Blood"		OutlawCountr "Good Town, Bad Blood"	Rules of Engage.	Rules of Engage.	

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Rio officials probe source of fish die-off in Olympic waters

By Jenny Barchfield
Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — Rio de Janeiro's state environmental agency says it is investigating a fish die-off that has left thousands of carcasses floating in waters where sailing events are to be held when Brazil hosts next year's Olympics.

The dead twaite shad, small whitish gray fish, were discovered Tuesday by inspectors conducting routine water testing in Rio's sewage- and trash-filled Guanabara Bay. The agency was conducting tests to determine the cause of the die-off, with results expected in a week, it said in a statement Tuesday.

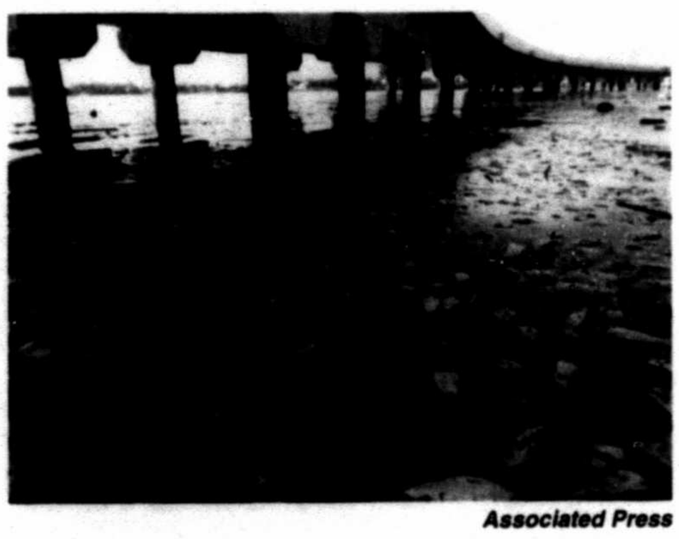
The discovery of the fish, which were washing up on the coastline outside Rio's international airport and about 7.5 miles from the starting point for the 2016 Olympic sailing events, comes amid a visit by International Olympic Committee inspectors, in Rio to check up on the city's progress in preparing for the games.

It also follows upbeat comments by Rio Governor Luiz Fernando Pezao, who said the city was working to meet its pledge to treat 80 percent of the sewage in the sprawling urban area that rings the bay. While the lion's share of area sewage long has long flowed, raw, into the bay, Pezao said 49 percent of the area's sewage was now being treated. Still, he acknowledged that Rio is unlikely to meet its goal of 80 percent treatment.

"It's not easy," he told reporters at an event in Rio's subway system on Wednesday. "Every time we have a negotiation, the bidding process (for the project) slows and postpones things."

The IOC executive director of the Olympic Games, Christophe Dubi, said at a news conference in Rio on Wednesday that it's his understanding the goal of depolluting Guanabara Bay by 80 percent remains.

"We are still aiming for this goal. We cannot judge until the finish line," he said. "We are like athletes in that we are pushing toward the finish line and we should respect that every effort is being made."



Associated Press

Dead fish and trash float in the polluted Guanabara Bay in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Wednesday. Rio de Janeiro's state environmental agency is trying to determine why thousands of dead fish have been found floating where next year's Olympic sailing events are to be held.

Water quality has become a hot-button issue as the Olympics draw closer with little sign of progress in cleaning up the fetid bay, as well as the lagoon system in western Rio that hugs the sites of the Olympic park, the very heart of the games.

The Jacarepagua lagoon system is also filled with sewage and trash, and aerial photos taken Tuesday by the environmental group Olho Verde showed a massive bacterial bloom inside the lagoon that has spilled out onto the Atlantic and a popular nearby beach. Cyanobacteria are single-celled organisms that give the water a vibrant blue-green hue and can sometimes prove toxic to humans and other plant and animal species.

Athletes visiting Rio in recent months for test sailing events complained about health risks and the hazards of encountering floating debris in the waters where they'll compete.

Despite that, Nawal El Moutawakel, the head of the IOC inspection team in Rio this week, said, "We have been given the assurance that all the venues" will be clean enough "so that athletes can compete in a safe and secure manner."

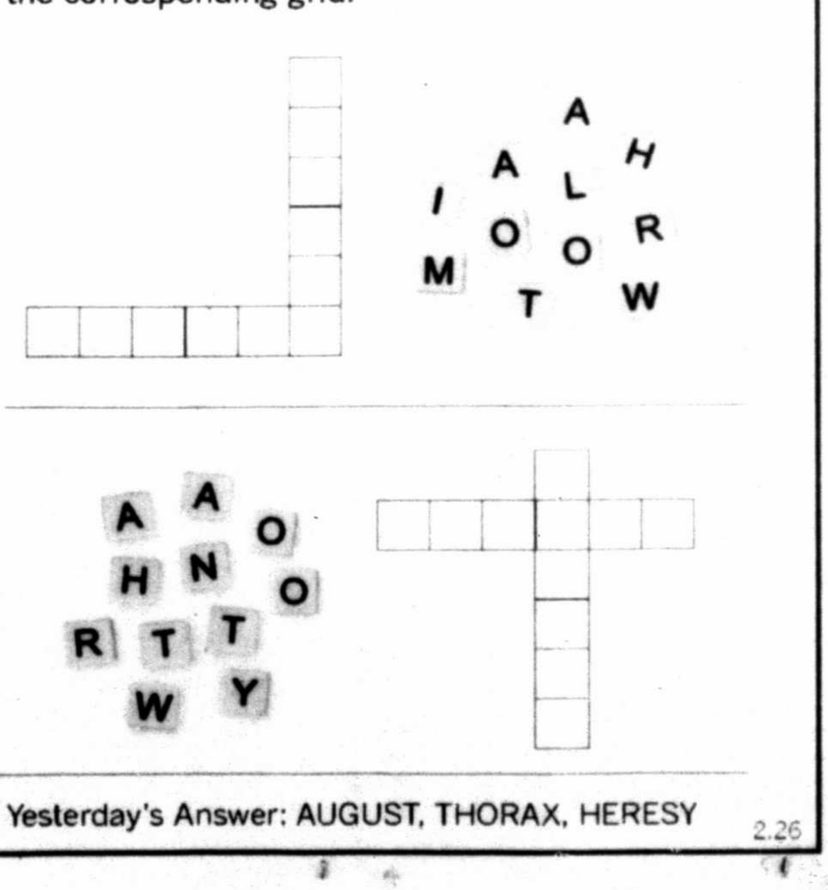
Fish die-offs are a common in central Rio's Rodrigo de Freitas Lake, where the Olympic rowing competitions are to be held. Sometimes after heavy rains, the oxygen levels in the lake drop, killing tons of fish.

The statement from Rio's environmental agency said tests following a similar die-off of twaite shad in the Guanabara Bay last November showed "neither abnormalities in the water, nor the presence of chemical or toxic substances."

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

For each bunch below, rearrange the letters to form two intersecting words that fit into the corresponding grid.



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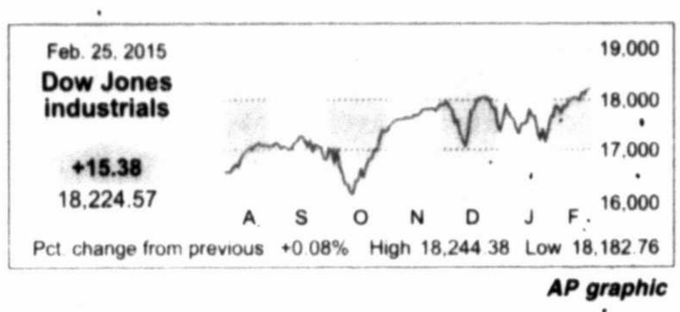
Yesterday's Answer: AUGUST, THORAX, HERESY 2.26

A DAY ON WALL STREET



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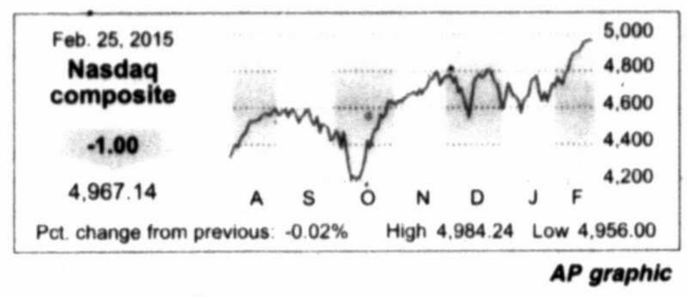

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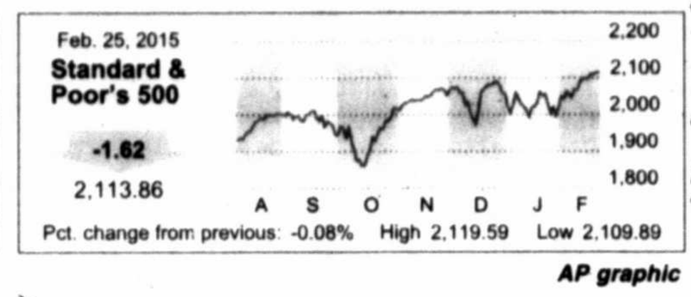

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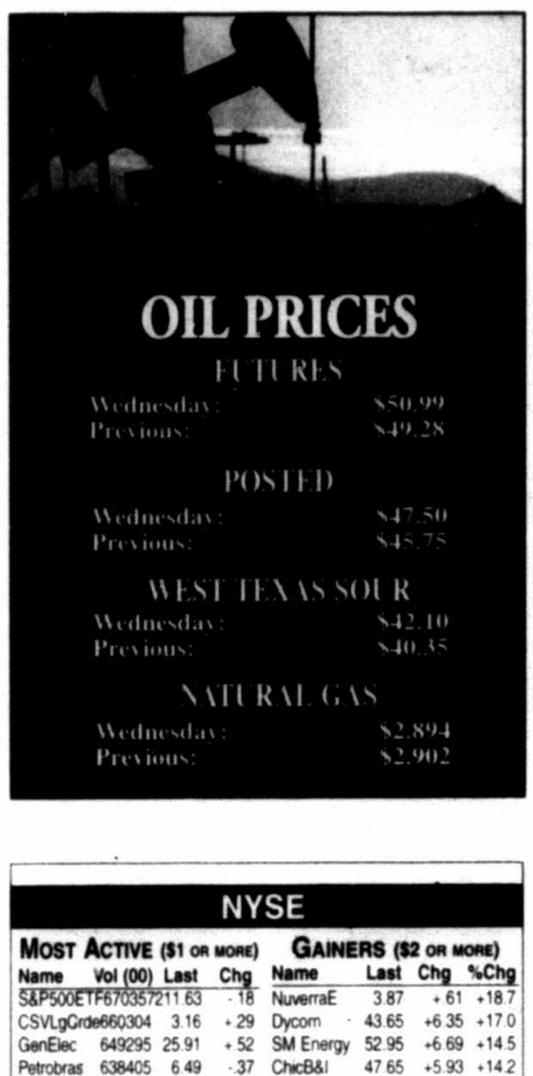


FAA: Southwest can now use planes that missed inspection

Associated Press

DALLAS — Federal officials have agreed to let Southwest Airlines Co. keep flying planes that missed an inspection of a backup rudder system if the planes are checked in the next five days.

Southwest grounded 128 planes — about one-fifth of its fleet — on Tuesday after discovering the missed inspections.

Southwest spokeswoman Brandy King said the groundings caused the airline to cancel about 80 flights Tuesday and 15 more by late Wednesday morning. She said crews inspected 80 of the planes overnight and will check the rest before the five-day deadline.

The missed inspections involved hydraulic systems used to control the rudder if the main system fails. King said that after discovering the lapse, Southwest immediately notified federal safety regulators, took the planes out of service and began checking them.

Late Tuesday night, the Federal Aviation Administration agreed to let the airline resume flying the planes while inspections are done, mostly during overnight hours. The FAA acted after talking with Southwest and Boeing, the manufacturer of the planes.

"This is a periodic inspection of a backup system," FAA spokesman Lynn Lunsford said Wednesday in an emailed statement. "The FAA evaluated the risk and agreed that the airline could continue to operate the planes during the short interim."

The FAA declined to say whether it would fine Southwest.

The missed inspections were first reported by The Wall Street Journal.

Dallas-based Southwest is the nation's fourth-biggest airline. It has 665 jets, all of which are some version of the Boeing 737. Tuesday's groundings involved nearly one-third of its 737-700 models, which seat 137 or 143 passengers, depending on the layout.

Southwest was fined in 2009 for failing to inspect dozens of planes for cracks in the fuselage. Southwest agreed to pay $7.5 million to settle with the FAA, which had sought a $10.2 million penalty.

In 2011, the FAA ordered extensive inspections of some of Southwest's older 737s after a 5-foot hole burst open in one plane in mid-flight, forcing an emergency landing at a military base in Arizona.

Dow ekes out record close

The Dow Jones industrial average notched its third record high close in a row Wednesday, even as other market indexes ended lower.

Trading was relatively subdued as investors reviewed the latest corporate earnings news. Utilities stocks were among the biggest decliners. Energy stocks rebounded as oil prices broke a five-day slide and climbed back above $50 a barrel.

Wall Street also kept an eye on Federal Reserve Chief Janet Yellen's second appearance before Congress in two days. Her remarks didn't generate any major market-moving news. A day earlier, Yellen suggested that the Fed is not in a hurry to raise interest rates.

"The market is just trying to figure out whether the next move is up or down," said David Lebovitz, global market strategist at J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

The Dow ended up 15.38 points, or 0.1 percent, to 18,224.57. McDonald's was the biggest gainer in the 30-company index, climbing 3.9 percent.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index slipped 1.62 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,113.86. The Nasdaq shed 1 point, or 0.02 percent, to 4,967.14. The three indexes are all up for the year.

The Dow and S&P 500 closed at record highs on Tuesday after investors were encouraged Yellen's remarks on interest rates. Lower rates make borrowing easier and tend to be a plus for financial markets.

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
S&P500ETF	670357	211.63	-.18
CSVLgGrde	660304	3.16	+.29
GenElec	649295	25.91	+.52
Petrobras	638405	6.49	-.37
HewlettP	609952	34.67	-3.82

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
NuverraE	3.87	+.61	+18.7
Dycom	43.65	+6.35	+17.0
SM Energy	52.95	+6.69	+14.5
ChecBkl	47.65	+5.93	+14.2
NewfldExp	36.00	+4.33	+13.7

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
LumberLiq	50.63	-18.15	-26.4
500.com	9.96	-2.87	-22.4
ARC Docu	8.29	-1.52	-15.5
LendingC n	20.51	-3.14	-13.3
EKodak wt	4.80	-.60	-11.1

DIARY

Advanced	1,718
Declined	1,412
Unchanged	112
Total issues	3,242
New Highs	157
New Lows	15
Volume	3,237,299,041

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
CheniereEn	57423	80.28	+4.07
BarcGSOil	46794	11.31	+.41
VimetX	32946	7.06	+.32
NwGold g	26366	3.55	+.08
GranTrra g	25790	2.59	-.01

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
IntelligSys	2.22	+.20	+13.3
Pfenex n	14.35	+.88	+6.5
TrnsEntx rs	2.83	+.17	+6.4
PacBkrM g	5.13	+.28	+5.8
CheniereEn	80.28	+4.07	+5.3

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
CVSL n	4.85	-.65	-11.8
IssuerDir	10.30	-1.32	-11.4
TnoTch	2.82	-.16	-5.4
SagaComm	40.99	-2.24	-5.2
SCEd pfD	23.35	-1.08	-4.4

DIARY

Advanced	251
Declined	144
Unchanged	27
Total issues	422
New Highs	5
New Lows	5
Volume	103,942,325

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Apple Inc s	731193	128.79	-3.38
Microsoft	286791	43.99	-.10
SiriusXM	260603	3.88	-.03
Facebook	253909	79.56	+1.11
Intel	241653	33.95	-.47

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
CollabRx h	2.23	+1.04	+87.4
Beneficor	33.82	+10.85	+47.2
OneridaFn	19.49	+6.24	+47.1
Biocept	4.75	+1.36	+40.1
HeliosMAn	4.80	+1.30	+37.1

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
RepubAir	12.81	-2.17	-14.5
CymaBay n	8.63	-1.35	-13.5
EchoTher h	2.30	-.35	-13.2
HuronCon	54.86	-9.61	-12.9
CentAl	19.30	-2.86	-12.9

DIARY

Advanced	1,464
Declined	1,226
Unchanged	181
Total issues	2,871
New Highs	140
New Lows	19
Volume	1,815,884,023

Strong reliability should help Buick's rebirth

Associated Press

DETROIT — Buick, the brand that was once the pace car for the drive to the senior center, has made a comeback by appealing to buyers not yet ready for retirement.

U.S. sales rose 11 percent in 2014. In China, Buick's biggest market, sales gained almost 14 percent.

This week, strong showings in two influential quality surveys are bringing good publicity to a nameplate that was inches from the grave when its parent company, General Motors, was in bankruptcy six years ago.

On Wednesday, Buick finished second to perennial winner Lexus in the annual dependability rankings by J.D. Power and Associates. A day earlier, it was the first U.S. brand to crack the top 10 in Consumer Reports magazine's annual rankings, finishing seventh. The Buick Regal midsize car even bested the BMW 328i for top sports sedan honors from the magazine.

It is all part of a turnaround at Buick led by some creative television ads, updated cars and the almost perfectly timed debut of the Buick Encore, a new small SUV that hit showrooms two years ago just as consumers were abandoning cars in favor of higher-sitting vehicles.

Buick has been on J.D. Power's top 10 brand list for long-term reliability every year for the past decade, even winning top honors in 2007 and 2009. This year, the firm surveyed original owners of 2012 models. That helped Buick because all but one of its 2012 models had been in production for at least a year, and older models tend to have fewer problems than new ones, said Dave Sargent, J.D. Power's global automotive vice president.

Despite the gains, Buick has not returned to its heyday. U.S. sales of 229,000 last year were less than one-third of the 942,000 vehicles sold in 1984. And while the average age of a Buick buyer has fallen to 59, it's still eight years older than the average for a U.S. car buyer, according to Kelley Blue Book.

In the J.D. Power survey, Lexus owners reported only 89 problems per 100 vehicles. Buick owners reported 110, followed by Toyota at 111 and Cadillac at 114, while Honda and Porsche tied for fifth pace with 116.

The industry average was 147 problems. Fiat was the worst performing brand, with 273 problems per 100 vehicles.

The top two complaints were technical ones: inability to pair phones to the car and trouble with voice recognition systems, which often misunderstood drivers' commands. That's a change from past years, when design problems like wind noise or mechanical issues topped the list.

The rankings are important to automakers, since unhappy customers are more likely to shop other brands when they buy their next vehicle.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $64.20 Up 0.83

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $116.78 Up 3.43

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $5.56 Up 0.05

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $74.96 Up 0.88

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $12.97 Down 0.09

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $5.45 Down 0.05

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $18.41 Down 0.51

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $28.51 Up 0.30

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $9.63 Up 0.13

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $18.95 Up 0.82

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AT&T Inc	1.88f	29	34.21	+.16	+1.8
Abraxas	...	11	3.23	+.10	+9.9
Actavis	...	...	290.40	+1.29	+12.8
AdamsEx	1.18e	...	14.27	+.10	+4.3
Alcoa	.12	79	15.00	-.74	-5.0
Alibaba n	...	...	86.19	+1.50	-17.1
AlonUSA	.40a	57	13.65	+.26	+7.7
Amgen	3.16f	24	158.08	+.71	-.8
Anadarko	1.08	...	86.41	+.52	+4.7
Apache	1.00	...	67.83	+.92	+8.2
Apple Inc s	1.88	17	128.79	-3.38	+16.7
ApldMatl	.40	26	25.10	-.26	+.7
ArubaNet	...	...	22.24	+3.86	+22.3
ATMOS	1.56	18	53.16	-.18	-6.6
AutoData	1.96	30	89.07	-.19	+6.8
BP PLC	2.40f	7	41.91	+.32	+9.9
BabsCCInv	1.20	...	16.16	+.15	+1.7
BakrHu	.68	15	63.68	+.65	+13.6
BkofAm	.20	47	16.49	+.11	-7.8
B rPVixST	...	...	28.10	+.14	-10.8
BarrickG	.20	67	12.78	+.25	+18.9
BasicEnSv	...	...	7.17	+.51	+2.3
BerkHa A	...	18222855.00	550.00	-1.4	
Biocept	...	...	4.75	+1.36	+91.5
BlkHillsCp	1.62f	17	50.31	-.06	-5.1
BlackBerry	...	...	10.51	+.24	-4.3
BostonSci	...	.89	16.92	+.30	+27.7
BrMyrSq	1.48f	51	61.22	-.23	+3.7
BrownFA	1.26f	30	92.89	-.01	+5.8
BrownFB	1.26f	30	91.96	-.26	+4.7
CVS Health	1.40f	26	103.44	+.08	+7.4
Cameron	...	12	47.95	+.24	-4.0
Caterpillar	2.80	15	85.15	+.65	-7.0
Celestic g	...	13	11.93	-.14	+1.6
Cemex	.52t	...	10.22	-.11	+.3
CntryLink	2.16	28	37.30	+.24	-5.8
ChesEng	.35	20	17.98	-1.90	-8.1
Chevron	4.28	11	108.58	+.62	-3.2
Chicos	.30	28	17.36	-.75	+7.1
Cimarex	.64	21	117.06	+2.43	+10.4
Cisco	.84f	18	29.49	-.14	+6.8
ClayEng	...	14	64.20	+.83	+.6
CocaCola	1.32f	26	42.05	-.06	-.4
ColgPalm	1.52f	30	71.01	...	+2.6

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
CollabRx h	...	...	2.23	+1.04	+254.0
Comcast	1.00f	19	59.62	+.45	+2.8
ConAgra	1.00	...	34.74	+.03	-4.2
ConchoRes	...	25	116.78	+3.43	+17.1
ConocoPhil	2.92	12	67.53	+.44	-2.2
CrackerB	4.00	24	149.56	+3.75	+6.3
CSVLgNGs	...	...	3.15	-.09	-20.9
CSVLgCrde	...	...	3.16	+.29	-35.4
CSVelIVST	...	...	32.20	-.22	+3.4
CSVixSht	...	...	2.17	+.04	-21.4
CrosTim	2.65e	8	22.28	+.69	+28.6
DCP Mid	3.12f	31	40.03	+.63	-11.9
DTE	2.76	16	82.76	-1.44	-4.2
Dataram h	...	...	2.29	-.09	+34.7
DenburyR	.25	4	8.94	+.16	+10.0
DevonE	.96	17	65.45	+.61	+6.9
DrGldBull	...	...	14.68	+.80	+31.5
Disney	1.15f	23	105.57	+.90	+12.1
DowChm	1.68	17	49.85	+.04	+9.3
EOG Res s	.67	17	93.03	+1.42	+1.0
EmpDist	1.04	17	25.92	-.07	-12.8
EnCana g	.28	8	13.28	+.26	-4.3
Energen	.08	29	68.45	+.14	+7.4
EngyTsfr	3.98f	36	58.94	-.26	-9.3
EnPro	.80	77	65.78	+.42	+4.8
EntPrsPt s	1.48f	23	33.75	+.10	-6.6
Ericsson	.46e	...	12.93	-.08	+6.9
ExterranH	.60	22	32.21	+1.00	-1.1
ExxonMbl	2.76	12	89.60	+.18	-3.1
Facebook	...	72	79.56	+1.11	+2.0
FstSolar	...	15	58.54	+3.84	+31.3
FordM	.60f	21	16.51	+.15	+6.5
FrptMcM	1.25	...	21.50	+.28	-8.0
FrontierCm	.42f	61	7.95	-.07	+19.2
GATX	1.52f	14	62.86	+.84	+8.9
GabelliRT	1.06e	...	9.84	-.05	-1.7
GAInv	3.50e	...	36.64	+.09	+1.8
GenElec	.92	17	25.91	+.52	+2.5
GlbPlsEn	.96	19	27.14	-.27	-4.5
HalconRes	...	...	2.01	-.04	+12.9
Hallibrtn	.72	10	43.68	+.56	+11.1
HewlettP	.64	13	34.67	-3.82	-13.6
HuntBncsh	.24	15	10.98	+.02	+4.4
iShBrazil	1.38e	...	35.14	-.63	-3.9

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
iShEMU	1.08e	...	39.03	-.09	+7.4
iShJapan	.15e	...	12.29	-.03	+9.3
iShEMkts	.88e	...	40.76	-.08	+3.7
iShR2K	1.51e	...	122.80	+.14	+2.7
IntegrysE	2.72	19	75.56	-1.54	-2.9
Intel	.96	15	33.95	-.47	-6.5
InterDig	.80	...	53.10	-.61	+.4
JPMorgCh	1.60	12	61.14	+.32	-1.7
JetBlue	...	15	17.53	-.54	+10.5
JohnJn	2.80	18	101.21	+.51	-3.2
KimbClk	3.52f	27	110.16	-.23	-4.7
LegacyRes	2.44	...	12.97	-.09	+13.5
LendingC n	...	...	20.51	-3.14	-18.9
Lubys	...	...	5.79	+.14	+27.3
LumberLiq	...	21	50.63	-18.15	-23.6
MGM Rsts	...	...	21.97	+.09	+2.8
MktVGold	.12e	...	20.79	+.37	+13.1
MktVRus	.64e	...	17.65	+.32	+20.6
MarvelT	.24	19	16.34	+.16	+12.7
McDnlds	3.40	20	98.66	+3.68	+5.3
Merck	1.80	14	58.49	+.13	+3.0
MeritMed	...	36	19.47	+1.26	+12.3
MexcoEn	...	...	5.45	-.05	+.4
MicronT	...	10	30.48	-.29	-12.9
Microsoft	1.24	18	43.99	-.10	-5.3
Nabors	.24	11	13.01	+.14	+.2
NBGreece	...	...	1.73	-.15	-3.4
NatGrid	3.48e	...	70.03	-.11	-.9
NOilVarco	1.84	9	54.74	+.06	-16.5
NA Pall g	...	...	.35	+.05	+157.5
NvMAd	.80a	...	13.80	+.02	+1.0
NvPMI	.86e	...	14.02	+.10	+.4
NuvPI	.82e	...	13.92	+.03	+.4
NSTFI3	.59e	...	14.60	...	+2.5
NTXQI	.65e	...	14.34	+.04	-.8
OcciPet	2.88	14	80.21	+.46	-.5
OfficeDpt	...	...	9.34	-.09	+8.9
Oracle	.48	18	43.73	-.15	-2.8
ParTech	...	...	5.05	-.02	-17.9
ParkDrl	...	10	3.16	-.06	+2.9
PattUTI	.40	16	17.86	+.37	+7.7
Penney	...	...	8.99	+.10	+36.7
PennsRE	.84f	...	23.52	...	+.3
Prmian	.96e	9	9.92	+.02	+3.9
PetrbrsA	.85e	...	6.52	-.47	-14.0

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Petrobras	.46e	...	6.49	-.37	-11.1
Pfizer	1.12f	24	34.66	+.32	+11.3
PioNtrl	.08	25	160.35	+2.98	+7.7
PlainsAAP	2.70f	23	52.59	+1.10	+2.5
PwShs QQQ	1.45e	...	108.33	-.27	+4.9
Praxair	2.88f	23	128.59	+.21	-.7
PrmEgy	...	10	59.86	+2.67	-17.7
PUltVixST	...	...	18.49	+.21	-26.5
PrUltCrude	...	...	8.46	+.57	-18.4
ProctGam	2.57	26	85.46	-.04	-6.2
RangeRs	.16	22	53.91	+2.67	+.9
Rowan	.40	12	21.57	-1.37	+7.5
RoyDShlA	3.76	13	65.96	+.07	-1.5
SpdrDJIA	3.52e	...	181.96	+.05	+2.3
S&P500ETF	3.83e	...	211.63	-.18	+3.0
SabnR	4.02e	10	43.03	+.42	+20.3
SanderFm	.88e	7	84.43	-.04	+.5
SandRdge	...	41	2.04	-.05	+12.1
Schlmbrg	2.00f	21	85.21	-.10	-.2
SigmaAld	.92	33	138.07	-.01	+.6
SiriusXM	...	43	3.88	-.03	+10.9
Smucker	2.56	20	113.11	-.36	+12.0
Sprint	...	...	4.96	+.33	+19.5
SP Engy	1.85e	...	80.87	+.44	+2.2
SPDR Fncl	.40e	...	24.50	...	-.9
SP Util	1.50e	...	45.58	-.76	-3.5

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
SunEdison	...	...	22.85	-.44	+17.1
SunocoLs	1.60f	82	46.00	+.23	+10.1
TeleflEsp	.97e	...	15.64	+.28	+10.1
Tesoro	1.70f	14	90.89	+1.11	+22.2
3M Co	4.10f	23	168.89	-.23	+2.8
Torchmrk s	.51	13	53.61	-.25	-1.0
Transocn	3.00	...	16.04	+.09	-12.5
TriContl	.75e	...	22.11	-.02	+3.3
21stCFoxA	.30	8	34.90	-.34	-9.1
Twitter	...	...	48.55	-.14	+35.3
TylerTech	...	67	119.40	+1.26	+9.1
UBWV	1.28	19	36.92	-.31	-1.4
US OilFd	...	...	18.65	+.61	-8.4
Vale SA	.55e	...	7.71	-.07	-5.7
ValeroE	1.60f	9	61.27	-.33	+23.8
VerizonCm	2.20	20	49.20	-.02	+5.2
VulcanM	.40f	51	82.38	+1.75	+25.3
WalgBoots	1.35	38	80.01	-.38	+5.0
WstnRefin	1.20	12	43.64	+.52	+15.5
WhitingPet	...	8	36.77	+.21	+11.4
WmsCos	2.32f	75	49.38	+.08	+9.9
XcelEngy	1.28f	18	35.62	-.73	-.8
Xerox	.28f	16	13.70	-.28	-1.2
Yahoo	...	6	44.43	+1.05	-12.0
Zynga	...	...	2.33	+.01	-12.4

Can't find your favorite stocks or mutual funds listed?
Send your favorite to sdoreen@mrt.com or mmcewen@mrt.com.
We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
18,231.09	15,855.12	Dow Jones Industrials	18,224.57	+15.38	+.08	+2.25	+12.51
9,310.22	7,245.87	Dow Jones Transportation	9,131.80	-46.68	-.51	-.09	+25.55
657.17	508.36	Dow Jones Utilities	598.46	-9.50	-1.56	-3.17	+15.60
11,133.78	9,886.08	NYSE Composite	11,117.93	-4.18	-.04	+2.57	+7.42
4,971.18	3,946.03	Nasdaq Composite	4,967.14	-.98	-.02	+4.88	+15.73
2,117.94	1,814.36	S&P 500	2,113.86	-1.62	-.08	+2.67	+14.56
1,518.62	1,269.45	S&P Midcap	1,516.24	-1.48	-.10	+4.39	+10.86
22,329.27	19,160.13	Wilshire 5000	22,314.56	+5.92	+.03	+2.98	+12.59
1,236.20	1,040.47	Russell 2000	1,235.10	+1.12	+.09	+2.52	+4.52

TODAY: Partly sunny High: 40 Low: 21

FRIDAY: Mostly cloudy High: 32 Low: 28

SATURDAY: Mostly sunny High: 50 Low: 40

SUNDAY: Mostly sunny High: 66 Low: 43

MONDAY: Partly sunny High: 65 Low: 43

TUESDAY: Sunny High: 66 Low: 41

Local forecast

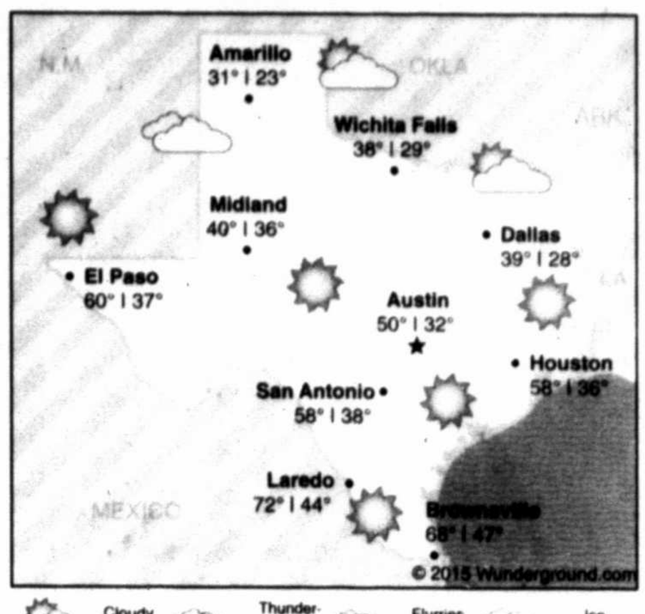
There is a 20 percent chance of snow tonight, a 30 percent chance on Friday and another 20 percent chance on Friday night. All totaled, the National Weather Service is calling for a chance of precipitation four of the next five days.

The high on Wednesday reached 63, while the low dropped to 31. The record high for Feb. 25 is 86 set in 2009. The record low is 11 set in 1960.

Weather Why

Q: Is there any difference between sleet and freezing rain?

The major difference is how they are formed in the atmosphere, explained Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. Freezing rain is rain that freezes when it comes into contact with other surfaces, such as pavement or cars. "Freezing rain forms when warm, moist air moves over cold air near the surface," McRoberts said. "Freezing rain is very dangerous because it tends to coat roadway surfaces. When surface temperatures are at or below 32 degrees, rain will quickly freeze on contact, and if the ice accumulates, it can shut down an entire city very quickly."



Precipitation

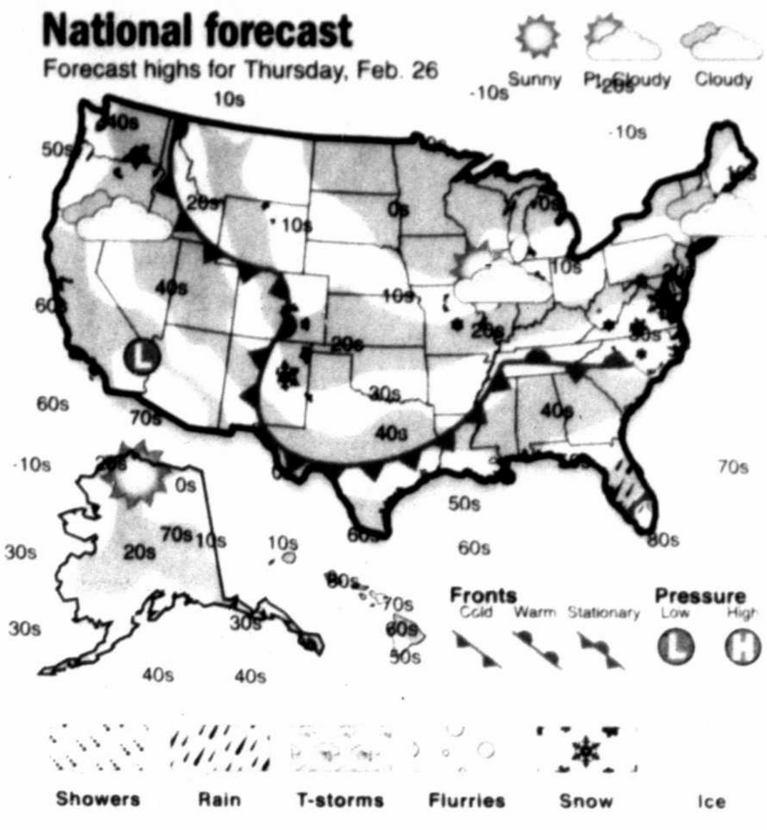
Tuesday	0.00 in.
Wednesday	0.05 in.
Month total	0.20 in.
Year total	2.63 in.
Normal total (year to date)	1.19 in.

Wednesday's temperatures

High	63
Low	31
Normal high	65
Normal low	37
Sunrise	7:20 a.m.
Sunset	6:44 p.m.

National forecast

Forecast highs for Thursday, Feb. 26



Face-to-face friend refuses to like online interaction

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: Help!.Facebook is killing my social life. I am wondering if anyone else is having this experience.

I am a woman whose job requires me to be on the computer eight hours a day. The last thing I want after work is to go online. Before Facebook took over my social circle, this wasn't a problem. But now all my friends and family are on the site and pressuring me to do likewise.

Gradually, Facebook contact seems to be replacing real, physical get-togethers. Things that used to be done in person or over the phone are now all done on Facebook, and we rarely get together anymore. If I don't check Facebook, I am out of the loop.

If I suggest getting together, everyone is "busy" — busy on Facebook, I guess. They aren't mad at me or avoiding me, they just want contact on their terms. Am I the only one having this problem? — OLD-SCHOOL IN CHAMPAIGN, ILL.

DEAR OLD-SCHOOL: I'm sure you're not the only one. The Internet is supposed to be a tool to facilitate communication, not a substitute for real, flesh-and-blood relationships. If you can't work out a compromise with your friends and family — say, one in-person visit a month — you may have to cultivate some new relationships with other "old-school" people who also prefer face-to-face contact.

DEAR ABBY: My father recently passed away. It was unexpected. He was my sunshine and my heart. I am devastated. Because of this, I am no longer sure I want to have a traditional wedding. It would be too sad to not share the day with Dad, as I had dreamed. My fiance and I have discussed eloping, and it seems like the right idea.

The trouble with eloping, however, is that we'd want our parents and siblings there as witnesses, and we'd like a party for friends and extended family after the nuptials. People are telling me THAT'S not eloping, and they have been looking forward to attending our wedding.

In the midst of my grief, I'm not sure how to respond to their comments. What should I do? — FATHERLESS BRIDE IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR FATHERLESS BRIDE: If you would prefer your nuptials to be a small, intimate affair, that's what they should be. Have a reception later. Whether others were looking forward to attending your wedding is beside the point. If you are challenged for not wanting a big wedding, all you need to say is that your plans changed when your father died. No one should be able to argue with that, because your feelings are understandable.

DEAR ABBY: I have a neighbor who is always asking to borrow things. The items come back only if I go and collect them — from food items like spices, to gasoline, cash and more. The situation is almost comical, like Simpson vs. Flanders. How can I make my stuff less available without outright saying no? — FLANDERS OF "SPRINGFIELD," MAINE

DEAR FLANDERS: And what is wrong with just saying no? When someone's generosity is abused, that's the most logical thing to do. And without being nasty, you should tell your neighbor the reason why.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Useless?

North-South vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 8
J 6 3 2
9 8 3 2
♣ 9 7 2

WEST
♠ 7 4
K Q 10 9 8 4
7 4
♣ K Q 8

EAST
♠ 6 2
A 7 5
K J 6 5
♣ A 6 5 4

SOUTH
♠ A K Q J 10 5 3
Void
A Q 10
♣ J 10 3

The bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2	Pass	3	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: King of

The pre-emptive barrage by East-West put South under pressure. His decision to bid four spades on his own was a good shot — he was too good to settle for three spades. Unfortunately, the useless dummy he caught gave him no apparent play for his contract.

"Wait a minute," thought South, "maybe this dummy isn't totally useless." Before carelessly ruffing low at trick one, South ruffed with a high trump. He then led the three of spades to dummy's eight and led a diamond to his 10, holding his breath. Success! He crossed back to dummy by leading the five of spades to the nine, then led another diamond, inserting his queen when East played low. He quickly claimed 10 tricks for his miraculous game. Two-out-of-two finesses is only a 25 percent chance, but it is much better than giving up. That gives you no chance at all.

East-West looked at each other dumbfounded. How could this happen to them? Shouldn't this be happening to Hard Luck Louie?

We would like to acknowledge Larry Cohen, of Delray Beach, Florida, as the source for a number of hands seen in this column. His web page offers a wealth of bridge information. Give it a look at www.larryco.com.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Feb. 26, 2015:

This year you'll be ready to communicate, but others might not be on the same page. You need to evaluate your listener before you express yourself. Learn to speak on someone else's level, if need be. You relax through chatting with others, rather than internalizing your feelings. If you are single, you could meet someone quite significant to your life. This person might not be The One, but in some way, he or she could be pivotal in your meeting Mr. or Ms. Right. If you are attached, your sweetie is a source of tension, as you appear to be on different wavelengths. Trying to see eye to eye might be difficult. Nevertheless, you will be able to balance your interactions from September on. GEMINI can be too superficial for your taste.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Save worrying for a different day. You might be on the path to a mistake, but a sequence of events could unfold in your favor and save the day. A child or new friend seems to have a lot to share. The question remains: Can you relax and let go? Tonight: The world is your oyster.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ Be careful with your finances; otherwise, a mistake could occur. Focus on your security, home and family matters. You could be surprised by the support that someone gives you. Try to understand what is happening with a situation at home. Tonight: Make hay while the sun shines.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ You might want to understand exactly what is motivating someone who suddenly has become a little too friendly. Understand what is needed to make you more comfortable with this person. For the moment, you might need to observe more and say less. Tonight: Hang out.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ Listen to forthcoming news that involves others in your life. Understand that your finances will need to be handled with kid gloves. An associate might ask for a share of a project that doesn't feel right to you. Listen to your instincts. Tonight: Easy does it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Be aware of what must be done in order to get where you want to go. A meeting might prove to be a stronger guideline and motivator than you even had considered. Honor a change of pace, and know when you have had enough. Tonight: Find your pals.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ You could be greeting a lot more opportunities than you originally had thought. If you feel overwhelmed by everything you are hearing, slow down. Understand what might be needed in order to feel more comfortable. Tonight: Wherever you are, you are a force to be dealt with.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Friends surround and support you. You could have a lot on your mind, and you might need to do some research and deep thinking. A loved one seems likely to interfere with your train of thought. Close the door if you must. Tonight: On top of your game

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ You will want to see a situation differently from how you have up until now. You could be encouraged by a higher-up to revise your impressions, as you might be off-base. Be as gracious as possible, even if you happen to disagree. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ Graciously accept an opportunity to step outside your comfort zone. Whether it's a trip or a workshop, it does not matter. Though you might not want to give up the time, you will benefit enormously from taking a mental break from the here and now. Tonight: Off to hear some music.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ You might want to hear news from a loved one or a special partner. Do not stand on ceremony; make a call to this person, rather than torture yourself. You could be overwhelmed by everything that is happening and might need to talk through your choices. Tonight: Dinner for two.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ An offer comes through that simply will be too enticing to say "no" to. In fact, you might have two offers and have to make choice. Good luck will come through those who are closest to you. A big smile goes a long way. Tonight: There is no excuse for being alone.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ You could be a bit uptight about your choices. How you deal with a co-worker and explain a situation is very likely to color your day. Stay positive, and help this person stay positive too. You'll have so much energy, so make sure you get some exercise. Tonight: Talk up a storm.

BORN TODAY

Poet Victor Hugo (1802), entrepreneur Levi Strauss (1829), singer/songwriter Johnny Cash (1932)

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Wrap giant
6 Reliever Orosco with the MLB record for career pitching appearances
11 Center of excellence?
14 Quaking causes
15 Plant pest
16 Rest one's dogs, so to speak
17 It's fraudulent
19 "Double Fantasy" artist
20 Extras in an env.
21 Squeezed (out)
22 Web-footed critter
24 Mustard, for one: Abbr.
25 Encouraging shouts
26 Shout
27 It's fabricated
30 "Saint Joan" star Jean
31 __ Locks: St. Marys River rapids bypass
32 Hid the gray in
33 Brewers' outfielder Braun
35 Creator of Della
37 Morales of film
40 Part of a foot
42 Pompous authority
46 It's fake
49 Beer with "Since 1775" on its label
50 Big dos
51 Grazing area
52 More of that
53 Detective Peter of old TV
54 Estate attorney's concern
55 __ Lingus
56 Race errors, and what 17-, 27- and 46-Across have
59 Mrs., in much of the Americas
60 Classic six-couplet poem
61 Has __: can save face
62 Triumphant cry
63 Dost espy
64 Has a sudden inspiration?

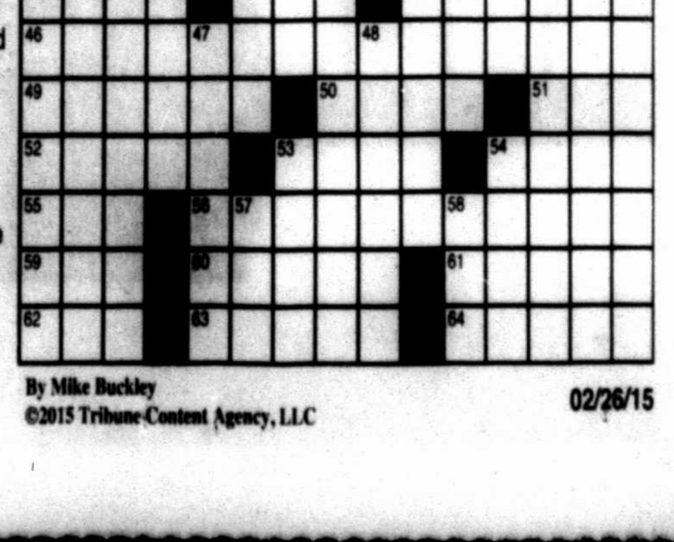
DOWN

1 Gets to
2 Heroine of Beethoven's "Fidelio"
3 AAA, for one
4 AAA et al.
5 Enzyme suffix
6 Hiked, with "up"
7 "The Comedy of Errors" setting
8 Word with wood or water
9 Quote qualifier
10 Ex-mayor with a cameo in "The Muppets Take Manhattan"
11 Abstruse stuff
12 Pedigree
13 Came (in) dramatically
18 Convention attendees
23 Exploit
25 "Live at the __": Patsy Cline album
26 Venomous arachnids
28 Sources of fine wool
29 "... rapping at my chamber door" poet
34 Fish-fowl link
36 Filming sites
37 Heaven on earth
38 "Told ya!"
39 Natural light shows
41 Pours out
43 Short, tailored jackets
44 Really dug something
45 San Simeon family
47 Guards may prevent them
48 Antarctic explorer Shackleton
53 Pure delight
54 1985 U.S. Open champ Mandlikova
57 Modern art?
58 Recess game

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

xwordeditor@aol.com 02/26/15



By Mike Buckley
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ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

Financial Accountant

Oil & Gas energy firm in Midland, TX. is looking to fill a Financial Accounting position. This position will maintain and control all general ledger accounts and business transactions. Duties will also include the preparation of monthly financial statements and all year-end audit reconciliations. Candidate must have excellent computer and communication skills. College degree in Accounting or Finance required. Benefits include 401K and Cafeteria Plan. Mail resume to Financial Accountant, 211 N. Colorado, Midland, TX. 79701 or email to employment@waettexasgas.com

AUTOMOTIVE

Body Techs

Seeking dependable, honest hard working individuals. We offer Top Wages, Health Insurance, Dental, Vision, Paid vacation, and Retirement plan. Applications can be picked up @ Platinum Collision Repair Center 1501 S. Midkiff, Midland Texas 79701 432-686-0317

Mechanic

Petroplex Pipe & Construction, Inc.
2802 WCR 111
Midland, TX 79706-3840
Shop and field mechanic wanted. Need to be able to use scanners and lap top to diagnose and repair vehicles. Need to have valid drivers' license, good driving record and pass alcohol and drug test. Contact Keith Poertner, 432-557-5202

CLERICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Call Center Reps

Outpost Communications FT
Call center reps needed. 3pm-11pm, weekends and Holidays required. Call 432-563-6826 to schedule interview.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

• Receptionist/Bilingual • Administrative Assistant
• Part Time Data Entry • HR/CFO Assistant
• Counter Sales/Customer Service/Floor Sales
• Executive Admin./HR/Payroll
• Temporary, Temp to Hire/Direct Hire
Email resumes to resume@igotthejobs.com

Staffing Resources

684-0527

Manager

America's Storage Center in Midland is Looking to hire a full time manager. Must work weekdays with flexible hours between 8am-6pm & some Saturdays. No phones calls, please stop by or mail resumes to 4011 N. Midland Drive, Midland, TX. 79707 for more information

Receptionist/Assistant

Immediate opening for front office receptionist/office assistant. Must be able to multi-task, dependable, self-starter, computer literate (Microsoft Office). Job duties include answer phones, file, data entry, errands. Full time position offers excellent benefits. Real estate experience preferred. Salary DOE. Email resumes to accounting@thismgmt.com

CONSTRUCTION & FACILITIES

Class A CDL Driver & Warehouse Associates

How Hiring: Class A CDL Driver. Must be Hazmat Cert. & have Medical Card. Deliver & pickup Material. **Warehouse Associates.** Shipping, receiving & pulling orders. Mon.-Fri. 8-5. Some OT. Benefits, 401K, Vacation. Apply in Person between 1-4. **2121 Florida St., Midland, TX. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!** The company is an equal opportunity employer as well as a government contractor that shall abide by the requirements of 41 CFR 60-741.5 (A), which prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals on the basis of disability.

FERGUSON

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Insurance Customer Service Sales Rep

CONFIDENTIAL
MIDLAND, TX
Position available for a Customer Service Representative with excellent communication skills who's enthusiastic, organized and a fast learner with a great personality. This position requires an individual who is bilingual with basic computer skills and who will be assisting current customers with their policies. Complete training is provided with the necessary materials to obtain your Texas Insurance License Certification. A guaranteed salary plus bonus is provided. Please e-mail resumes to rlcrivera@allstate.com

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Teachers Needed

$9 -$14 HOUR! The YMCA of Midland is currently seeking experienced full time Teachers for infants to 4 years old, TSR Certified Teachers (C.I.R.C.L.E.) preferred. Full time employees Benefits include; gym membership, employer paid health and life insurance after 90 days, paid retirement after two years, free or price reduced child care. Email resumes to cthomas@midlandymca.org.

ENERGY & UTILITIES

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Seeking a talented, self- motivated, reliable individual for Operations Manager. Candidate should have strong production, completion and drilling background. Participation in new prospects will be offered, some with a carried interest, others on a non-promoted basis. Candidate must be able to create drilling and completion AFE's, plan & execute drilling & completion operations, & monitor andimplement industry best practices. Strong background in drilling is a plus.
A minimum of 20 years oilfield experience is required including 10 years in a supervisory position. BSPE preferred, but not required. Office is based in Midland, but job would require some well site work. Salary DOE. Company has health insurance benefits and retirement program

$10,000 SIGN ON BONUS

Please send resumes to
P-117 c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois, Midland 79701

Field Technicians & Operations Managers

UMC Automation & Compression an oilfield industry leader since 1966 in the design of LACT, VRU and compression packages is currently seeking qualified candidates for FIELD TECHNICIANS AND FIELD OPERATION MANAGERS. Prior oilfield sales experience is required for this position. Email resume to lacy@umcenergy.com. EOE

O&M Manager and Wind Technician

Invenergy LLC Garden City, TX
Primary responsibilities include performing maintenance and technical support for the Rattlesnake Energy Center, a 207.2 MW wind power generation facility. Qualifications: 1 year of technical experience (mechanical, electrical, I&C, etc.) and/or education in a related discipline; ability to work outdoors in inclement weather, climb ladders without assistance, work at heights greater than 250 ft. and manipulate up to 100 lbs. For a complete position description please visit the Career Opportunities section of our website at www.invenergyllc.com and click on "Career Opportunities".

OUTSIDE SALES

Oilfield Supply Store now hiring for Outside Sales. Experience in Industrial/ Hydraulic Hose sales as well as knowledge of drilling rig supplies. Pre-employment drug screening & background check required. Send resume to rberg@reliancelndustrial.com.

OTHER JOBS

NOW HIRING EXTRA! EXTRA!

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN IT'S DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm -4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person

Starting pay $10.00 per hour/after 60 days pay will be $11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifiting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at [illegible]

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN IT'S DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

NOW HIRING EXTRA! EXTRA!

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person

Starting pay $10.00 per hour/after 60 days pay will be $11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifiting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at [illegible]

ENERGY & UTILITIES

Permian Basin Area Sales Manager

UMC Automation & Compression an oilfield industry leader since 1966 in the design of LACT, VRU and compression packages is currently seeking a qualified candidate for PERMIAN BASIN AREA SALES MANAGER. Prior oilfield sales experience is required for this position. Email resume to lacy@umcenergy.com. EOE

Supervisor, Crew Members, Vacuum Truck Driver

Local Oilfield company seeking Supervisors & Crew Members for Pit Cleaning/ Tally & Drift Casing. Vacuum Truck Drivers needed. Please call 337-504-5412

Swab Rig Operator

Swab Rig Operator with established company. Must have at least two years experience as a swab rig operator and CDL license. Benefits Package. Salary DOE. Submit resume to: Swabbing Services, Inc., P. O. Box 9423, Midland, TX 79708.

Mechanical Engineers - Abilene, Texas

Lauren Engineers & Constructors, "Designing and Building Success" Lauren is seeking Mechanical Engineers for our office in Abilene, Texas. • 5+ years of experience required. • Experience in power and refining preferred. • Professional license preferred. Send resumes to: adminjobs@laurenec.com. About Lauren: Lauren Engineers & Constructors provides comprehensive engineering, procurement and construction services to the heavy industrial sector through North America and select international markets. Through a network of strategic offices across the United States, Canada and India, Lauren serves the following markets: power generation, solar power, oil and gas, refining, metals and mining, chemicals and polymers. www.laurenec.com. 325-734-3936. Lauren is an Equal Opportunity Employer. EEO W/W/Veterans/Disabled.

LAUREN ENGINEERS & CONSTRUCTORS

HEALTHCARE

Available Position

Desert Gardens Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
3203 Sage Street
Midland, TX 79705
Desert Gardens, located in Midland, Texas, is currently seeking staff to fill the following position:
• Social Worker
Full Benefits
$1,000 SIGN ON BONUS AFTER 6 MONTHS!!!
Apply in person.

Available Positions

Desert Gardens Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
3203 Sage Street
Midland, TX 79705
Desert Gardens located in Midland, Texas is currently seeking staff to fill the following Positions:
• Nurse Weekend Doubles • Nurse 2pm-10pm • CNA 2pm-10pm
• CNA 6am-2pm • CNA 10pm-6am • CNA Weekend Doubles
Full benefits
$1,000 SIGN ON BONUS
Apply in person.

Dental Front Desk Receptionist

Thomas Campagna, DMD
We are looking for an exceptional, experienced, reliable, Dental Front Desk Receptionist, experience with Eaglesoft required, Spanish a plus, to join our team, at Midland's premier dental practice. Please email: info@smilesmidland.com, fax: (432) 520-0720 or bring resume to: 3722 W. Loop 250 North, Midland, TX.

SKILLED LABOR

PRESSMAN/ PRESSMAN TRAINEE

The Midland Reporter-Telegram has an immediate opening in its Production Department for the position of: PRESSMAN/ PRESSMAN TRAINEE for our Harris N 1650 Printing presses.

This 5-6 day per week, fast paced, deadline oriented position, requires: night shift/weekend work, with a strong emphasis on safety. The Midland Reporter-Telegram offers a full package of company benefits including 401K program. Salary DOE.

$1,000 Sign On Bonus
(payable after 90-day probation period)

Send resume and salary requirements to:
John Maddox, Director of Production/Facilities
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram 201 E. Illinois St., Midland, TX 79701. E-mail:jmaddox@hearstnp.com
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mrt.com

HEALTHCARE

MIDLAND PLASTIC SURGERY CENTER

Is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

- **RN/ LVN/ MEDICAL ASSISTANT**
- **RECEPTIONIST/ SCHEDULER**
- **BILLING AND COLLECTIONS**

All positions are full time Monday thru Friday 8:30 to 5:30

Benefits include Health, Life and AFLAC insurance coverages, PTO and 401-K

Please email kevin.cook@mse.biz or fax resume to 432-697-7089

Registered Dental Hygienist

Thomas Campagna, DMD PT
We are looking for an exceptional, experienced, **Registered Dental Hygienist,** full/ part time to join our team, at Midland's premier dental practice. Recent graduates encouraged to apply. Please email: **info@smilesmidland.com**, fax: **(432) 520-0720** or bring resume to: **3722 W. Loop 250 North, Midland, TX.**

JOB SEARCH AIDS

Management Hiring Fair

ClearTalk is having a manager hiring fair on Feb. 24th-26th at the Grand Texan Hotel in Midland from 10:00-6:00. Can't come? Email your resume to: kburrus@flatwireless.com

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mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

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432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

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Interested in a Career in Law Enforcement?
Become a Police Communications Operator
with the Texas Department of Public Safety.
For information on locations, salary, benefits and qualifications go to
www.joindps.com
Click on Become a Communications Operator

OTHER JOBS

All Positions
La Bodega Mexican Restaurant now hiring for all positions. Please apply in person at 2700 N. Big Spring Street Mon. - Fri. 2-4pm.

Landscape Employee
Landscape Employee wanted call Richards Horticulture 686-0643

WANTED: GROUNDSKEEPER / MAINTAINENCE PERSON
WANTED: GROUNDSKEEPER/MAINTAINENCE PERSON FOR NEW RESTAURANT IN MIDLAND.
EMAIL NAME AND PHONE NUMBER TO **gacbecky@cableone.net**

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Social Worker (Case Worker)
Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services is seeking a Child/Family Specialist in Midland. Visit http://texas.pchas.org/employment/ or apply online at: http://texas.pchas.org/employment/application/

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Host Staff, Cooks and Dishwashers
The Garlic Press is hiring Host Staff, Cooks and Dishwashers. Flexible hours. Great work environment and benefits. Apply in person at The Garlic Press in Oak Ridge Square at Wadley and Garfield. 11am-2pm only.

Restaurant Positions
Osaka Japanese Steakhouse FT
Pay range from **$15-$20** an hour, depending on position. Now hiring Hibachi Chefs, Managers, Assistant manager w/experience, Waitresses, Hostesses, Cashiers, Bartenders, Bus Help, Dishwashers & Kitchen Help. Please apply in person: **1207 Tradewinds Blvd. 79706**.

SALES JOBS

SALES ASSOCIATES - FULL AND PART TIME
Wood's Boots in Midland is adding to our team. We are looking for talented **full and part time Sales Associates**. Stop in today and pick up an application at 4803 Andrews Hwy, Midland.

Sales
National Award Winning Company hiring in Midland! Credit Acceptance Corporation is looking for Sales Professionals to join our team. Compensation: 60K base salary + uncapped commission. Please visit www.creditacceptance.com to learn more and apply directly.

SKILLED LABOR

Electrician and Apprentices
TTG Electric Co., is hiring electricians and apprentices at high scale. Send resume to **ttg@hot.rr.com** or call our office at 254-526-7284.

Lineman/Operator
Primary Utility Services has openings for Lineman and Operator positions in the Midland/Stanton area. Both positions will be FT and offer great medical, dental & vision benefits. Please apply online at primaryutilityservices.com or mail in an application to PO Box 1393, Snyder TX, 79550.

SKILLED LABOR

Field Service Inventory Specialist
Natural Gas Services Group has a great employment opportunity for a Field Service Inventory Specialist. Must have working knowledge of warehouse duties and responsibilities with excellent communication skills. Computer proficient with organizational skills a plus. A good knowledge of gas compression parts will be beneficial but we will train the right person. Must be able to pass background check and drug screen. Great pay and benefits. Please send resume to employment@ngsgi.com or call 432-262-2700.

Heavy Equipment Mechanic
Permian Tractor Sales seeking **Experienced Heavy Equipment Mechanic**. Must furnish own tools. Vacation, Insurance, 401K, Uniforms. Competitive pay. Apply in person **210 E 67th Odessa, TX. 432-367-8628**.

QUALIFIED HVAC TECHNICIANS WANTED
Established commercial HVAC Service Company seeks qualified HVAC technicians for its Midland/Odessa service operations. Five years experience with Texas commercial certification required. Full benefit package. Respond to service@berger-engr.com.

Small Engine Mechanic
Experience preferred, but will train the right person. Apply at Lawnmower Sales & Service, 901 N. Whitaker, Odessa or call 432-333-3126

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

CDL Drivers & Certified Crane Operators
B-Dun Trucking FT
Now Hiring CDL Drivers for the following positions: Road Trucks, Rig Up Trucks, Road Winches. Also needing Certified Crane Operators. Competitive wages and benefits. Please call 432-218-6843 or come by 2107 ECR 123, Midland, Texas 79706

CDL Drivers
Class A CDL Drivers Needed!!!! Great pay, benefits and work environment. Qualified Class A CDL drivers must have clean driving record and background, pass pre-employment drug test and good work history. Call **432-617-5000** for more information or apply at **7600 WCR 116** Midland, TX

YOU WANT TO BE THE BEST,
TNT
COME WORK FOR THE BEST!
Our Midland, TX Branch
is Looking for
Certified Crane Operators & Class A Drivers
Class A CDL Required
NCCCO Required
Email resume to:
jharrison@tntcrane.com
or
Fax Resume (432) 242-4980

TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS

DRIVERS AND SPOOLERS
JW Enterprise is looking for **Drivers and Spoolers** with Class A CDL. Must have a good driving record and pass drug screen. Competitive Wages and on the job training for spooling. Contact 432-425-9036 or 432-458-3675 for more information. Serious applicants only.

DRIVERS NEEDED IMMEDIATELY
Regional Ice Manufacturer Seeking FULL-TIME Route Delivery Drivers for the Midland, TX. area. Home Every Night. Class A or B CDL Required. Pre-Employment Drug Screen and Clean Driving Record a Must. Able to lift minimum a of 50 lbs. Pays $20.00 an hour and commission. Full Benefits Package Available. Call 1-800-321-5558 or apply online at arcticglacier.com

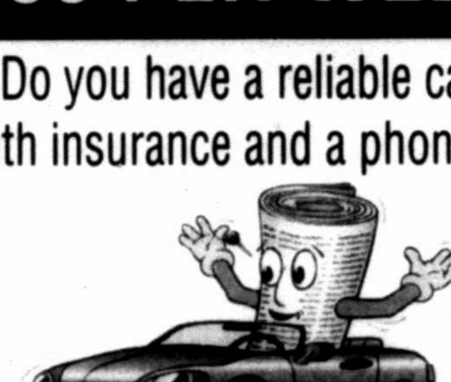
Kill Truck Operators
KILL TRUCKS AVAILABLE! Quasar Energy Services has 3 kill trucks (600 hhp) available for work immediately. Each truck has a mixing tub, can haul 100bbl fluid, & has data acquisition. EXPERIENCED operators, ready to work! Call Cell 940-612-3336.

Mechanic & Drivers
Hiring full time HD Mechanic (Days and on call) and Vacuum Truck Drivers (night shift). Pay DOE. Must be reliable. Must speak english. Come by office / yard at 3008 Elkins Rd in Midland (tan metal building) or email doubletreeenergy@gmail.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone??



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Contact: Linda 687-8807

67%
Coupon-loving adults clip and use newspaper coupons each month.

170 Million
Adults read a newspaper in print or online in the past week.

Newspapers are a major force in the shopping experience of Americans. Just check the factoids. And go online to newspapermedia.com for information on the power of newspaper media, in print and online.

Numbers don't lie.

Source: Scarborough Research 2008 MORI Research 2009

Newspaper Association of America

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Dependent Administration for the Estate of PAUL ROBERT VALENCIA, Deceased, were issued on February 24, 2015, in Cause No.P-17,900 pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to: Corrine Nicole Sanchez who resides in Midland, Texas.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law:
c/o Lori M. Scott, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 80096, Midland, TX 79708 DATED the 24th day of February, 2015. /s/ Lori M. Scott, Attorney for Corrine Nicole Sanchez, State Bar No. 17891600, PO Box 80096, Midland, TX 79708, Telephone: (432) 242-2010, Facsimile: (432) 692-0183.

Legal & Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE to be published:

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS NOTICE TO Co-Respondent:
"You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

TO: UNKNOWN FATHER, Co-Respondent, Greeting:
You are commanded to appear by filing a written answer to Petitioner's petition at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the first Monday after the expiration of 20 days from the date of issuance of the Citation, before 10 o'clock A.M. before the Honorable District Court of Midland County, at the courthouse in Midland, Texas. Said Petitioner's Petition was filed on the 29th day of January, 2014, in this case, numbered FM-56,962 on the docket of said court, and styled, IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF MARCO A. SOLIZ-GALVAN AND VALERIE SOLIZ AND IN THE INTEREST OF KADIE SOLIZ AND MARCO SOLIZ JR., CHILDREN. The names of the parties to the cause are as follows:
MARCO A SOLIZ-GALVAN is the Petitioner, VALERIE SOLIZ is Respondent and UNKNOWN FATHER, is Co-Respondent. A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Petitioner PRAYS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF CITATION AND NOTICE, THAT THE COURT GRANT PETITIONER'S ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE AS REQUESTED AND FOR OTHER RELIEF REQUESTED HEREIN, as is more fully shown by Petitioner's Petition on file in this suit.
The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs.
Issued and given under my hand and Seal of said Court, at office in Midland, Texas this the 13th day of February, 2015.

Attest: Ross Bush, Clerk 318th District Court, Midland County, Texas
(SEAL) By: Alexandria Guevara, Deputy

Legal & Public Notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP

The State of Texas County of Midland

W. SCOTT RYBURN, Applicant's Attorney
300 NORTH MARIENFELD, STE 700
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701

To all persons interested in the estate of

BRIZZ MONTE SLIGER, Deceased
Cause No. **P18212**
in COUNTY COURT, Midland County, Texas

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above-numbered and entitled estate filed an Application to Determine Heirship in this estate on 02/19/2015, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of **BRIZZ MONTE SLIGER,** Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

The court may act on this application at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 a.m. **3/02/2015**, which is the first Monday next after the expiration of 10 days from the date of posting this citation, at the Midland County Courthouse, 500 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas 79701.

All persons interested in this case are cited to appear before this Honorable Court **by filing a written contest or answer** to this Application should they desire to do so. **To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any objection, intervention, or response in writing** with the County Clerk of Midland County, Texas **on or before the above-noted date and time.**

Given under by hand and seal of the COUNTY COURT of Midland County, Texas at the office of the Midland County Clerk in Midland, Texas on February 19th 2015.

(SEAL)
Cheryl Becker
County Clerk, Midland County, Texas
Box 1350, Midland, Texas 79702

By: SHON BRENT, Deputy

General Announcements

BETTER READ
Mark Berryhill.com
Ministering for Christ.

NEED SMALL economical truck or car. Prefer Honda or Toyota for around $2,500. 432-230-1859

Lost & Found

LOST DOG - Tan short hair Dachshund wearing a green collar. Her name is Lola, she got out on 2/20/15 near Trevino St. She needs daily medication so it is very important that she is found. Call 575-302-5053. REWARD

Lost & Found

REWARD MOLLY HAS BEEN MISSING OVER A WEEK. Vicinity of 4308 SCR 1201, Midland, TX. Sweetest dog you'll meet I need her home. Please keep a look out for my girl. 432-664-1595

Personals

WOULD ANYONE who witnessed the accident between a white pickup and a semi truck on Thursday February 19th around 7:30 pm at Midkiff and Wall Street. Please call 432-694-5666

Business Center

Business Opportunity

WELL ESTABLISHED Women's Boutique for sale. Great location. Great price. Owner is relocating. Please call for more information. 432-631-3545

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

1997 4 Door Honda Accord. 4 cyl automatic. $2300 OBO

1999 4 Door Toyota Avalon. 6 cyl automatic. $2700 OBO Call 432-238-3185

2012 FORD Mustang Boss 302. 14K miles. $34,000. 432-335-3026

BMW 2011 328i sedan. showroom nice, white with light tan leather, premium package, all service up to date by BMW, 58,000 easy miles. 432 -528-0471

BMW 2011 535i Xdrive M-Sport for sale. 56K miles. Call for more details. $32K OBO 432-553-0344

HONDA 2008 CRV, EX, 77,300 miles. sunroof, lots of extras, $14,200. Call 432-631-2281.

Fax it.. 682-6999

Passenger Cars

HONDA 2012 Civic LX 4 door Sedan. Super clean, no problems, 38 mpg, 32K miles. $14,500. 432-967-3110.

MERCEDES BENZ 2015 C300. 4-Matic AMG, 4 months old, still showroom quality 11K miles. $45K OBO. White, twin Turbo, 4 cylinder, AMG package. Black interior. Panoramic sunroof. Pre-paid maintenance included. Call/text 432-556-0262

PORSCHE 2000, 911 Carrera Cabriolet. Forrest green. 18,300 miles, 6 speed manual. Satelite radio, Navigation, back-up camera, always garaged, excellent condition, well maintained. $22,500. 432-894-2335

WANTED!
Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. FREE pick-up. 432-685-4078

Pickup Trucks

DODGE 2000 Ram 2500HD Quad Cab Laramie SLT. 5.9L diesel, white, long bed, 2WD, automatic, power, running boards, grille guard, low mileage tires, great condition. 52k miles. $15,000. 432 210 4435

DODGE 2006 Ram 2500, Megacab, Laramie Edition. 5.9 diesel, high MPG. 130k miles. Excellent condition. 1 owner. $20,499 OBO. 214-240-9039

DODGE 2014 Lone Star pickup, 18,000 miles only asking payoff. $30,685. 432-528-1609

FORD 2009 F150 XLT extended cab pickup. Very clean, new tires, auto, 5.4 V8, 2 wheel drive with locking differential, chrome headache & toolbox, with bug deflector & bed mat & cellular booster. 113k miles. Asking $16,000. Call 432-556-9629

GMC 2008 Sierra SLT, 4 dr, Z71, red w/black leather, 81k miles. Garage kept. $24K. No owner finance. 432-557-7386

TOYOTA 1986 4x4 pickup with camper shell. Single cab, 4 cylinder, with 2 sets of tires. $4,000. 432-559-2280

TOYOTA 2006 Tundra SR5, double-cab, 2WD, 80,000 miles, silver, original owner, well maintained. $13,600. Call 432-553-3017

Classified CAN 682-6222

Vans & Minivans

CHRYSLER 2008 Town & Country van, loaded, TVs, nav system only 19,200 miles was wife's car asking $18,500. Call 432 697 1317 or 559-6212

4WD & SUV

FORD 2010 Flex 57,500 miles. Asking $18,600 432-934-6198

TAHOE 2005. Z71 122K miles, fully loaded, new tires, great condition $8900 432-557-8220 text only

1/3 OWNERSHIP of 1980 PA32R Piper Saratoga for sale. Hanger @ Airpark. $35K for details email stevejones@cforesource.net

RVs

2015 HERITAGE Glenn by Forest River. 43' 5th wheel. 4 slides. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, fully loaded. Cost $55,000. must sell $39,500 personal reasons. 3 months old. Call 432-288-8612

NEW TODAY!

MONTE CARLO 2013 5th wheel. 42ft. 2bed. 3 slide outs, sleeps 8, 2 A/Cs, washer, dryer, many extras, like new. $30,700. Locally located. 806-429-2399

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Utility Trailers

TANDEM TRAILER. Custom built. 5000# axles with brakes both axles. 2 5/16" bulldog hitch, ramps, small hoist. Very sturdy $1800.00. Car Dollie Master Tow $450.00 Dale 432-557-2500

Watercraft

(2) 2002 Sea Doo Jet skis, purple/white, 101" with trailer $6,000 OBO as is 432-254-3364

Recreational Vehicles

2002 29.5' Montana 5th wheel. $18,000 OBO 432-557-2257

2012 V-CROSS platinum M-32V TS by Forest River. 34' hitch pull with new 16" 10 ply tires including spare. Top of the line in excellent condition. Three slides - all electric jacks. Avg List for $32.5K will sell for $28.5k firm. 559-7868. $2200 CASH

1989 Motor Home 35' Sprinter. Runs, moves in ready. 2 ACs, queen bed. Call 432-254-2317.

HARLEY DAVIDSON 2012 Road Glide Ultra. 1500 miles. $18,000 OBO. Call or text 432-425-4764

SPORTSMAN 2007 5th wheel. 4 slide outs, kitchen includes island, lots of storage space. $20,000. 325-338-0954

Appliances

We buy broken appliances w/ free removal
Also we repair appliances. 432-570-8278

Miscellaneous for Sale

Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE by Joseph and Team
3211 Wedgewood (Midland),
Thursday, Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
This beautiful home is packed with great collectible and decorator items, including: Fine & Costume jewelry, Waterford stemware/decanters, art glass, Fitz & Floyd, Lennox, concho belts, crystal, china, cross collection, silver plate punch bowl, floral arrangements, candle sticks, footed cake plates, Christmas, framed Victorian plate, vintage hats, decorator items, mirrors, kitchen items, Michelangelo flatware, native American artwork including Chuck DeHaan/Lee Bocock /Ken Schmidt/etc/ decor/pots/drums/etc., many lamps, rocks/geodes/etc.. 2 king beds/night stands/dresser w/mirror, queen Mission style bed, overstuffed chair/ottoman, sofa, entertainment center, black leather sofa/chair/ottoman, Drexel display shelf, dining room table/8 chairs, lg. writing desk, side chairs, Victorian chairs/settee/ottoman/marble top table, 1800's East Lake youth bed, chaise lounge, lg. ottoman, gate leg table, marble top harp table, cement bench/flower pots, and the usual household misc. for picture go to. http://www.estatesales.net/estate-sales/TX/Midland/79707/822396

General Announcements

PERMIAN BASIN HOME & GARDEN SHOW
MIDLAND COUNTY HORSESHOW PAVILION
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 9AM-6PM
SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST, NOON-5PM

Featuring landscape expert, **AHMED HASSAN**, the original host of **DIY Network's Yard Crashers**. He will sign autographs at Noon on Saturday before his 1pm discussion on the main stage.

Purchase tickets at any **KENT KWIK CONVENIENCE STORE!**

ADMISSION - $10
CHILDREN UNDER 3 - FREE
A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Texas Permian Basin Honor Flight.

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ERIC A BAYLEY, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Eric A. Bayley, deceased, were issued to Paula J. Bayley, Independent Executrix, on February 24, 2015, in the proceeding styled "Estate of Eric A. Bayley, Deceased," Cause No. P18171 in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, which is still pending and that said person now holds such Letters. All persons having claims against said Estate, which is being administered in Midland County, Texas, are hereby required to present the same to Paula J. Bayley, 4233 Timberglen, Midland, Texas 79707, before suit upon same is barred by the general statutes of limitation, before such Estate is closed, and within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Paula J. Bayley, as Independent Executrix of the Estate of Eric A. Bayley, Deceased, Cause No. P18171 in the County Court of Midland County, Texas

Miscellaneous for Sale

WILDCAT 2007 5th wheel. M28RK excellent condition. $19,000 OBO. 432-413-3307

Garage -Estate & Yard Sales

Yard & Garage Sales

79707

4000 WESTMINISTER Drive, Midland. Saturday Feb 28. 8am-12pm. Moving Sale. Kids to Kitchen

Merchandise

Appliances

AAA Appliance 15 minute pickup 432-556-0104 / 432-528-3046

Free Stuff

FREE BLUE Heeler mix puppies (2) one chihuahua mix puppy & 2 adults. 770-6920

FREE WOODEN PALLETS!
Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

Miscellaneous for Sale

2 CEMETERY lots @ Resthaven Memorial Park. Garden of Love. $2,495 each. 432-686-7504

MIZ B's BOOK STORE
BLOWOUT SALE
ALL BOOKS $1.00
2505 W. OHIO
MIDLAND, TX 79701

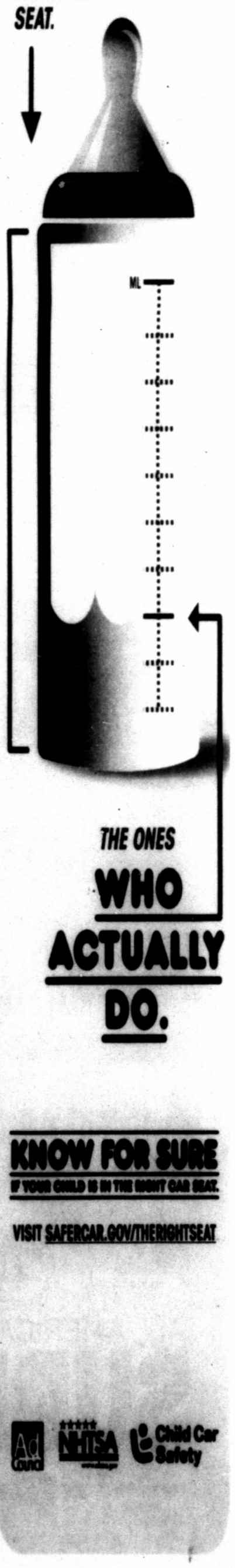
Musical Instruments

Wurlitzer upright Piano /SolidMaple /Good condition $800.00 432-661-4299

OAK, PECAN, mesquite, pinon. 432-209-0416, 325-762-4262

CHOOSE CAR SEAT: BY AGE & SIZE

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY HAVE THEIR CHILD IN THE RIGHT SEAT.



THE ONES WHO ACTUALLY DO.

KNOW FOR SURE
IF YOUR CHILD IS IN THE RIGHT CAR SEAT.

VISIT SAFERCAR.GOV/THERIGHTSEAT

Ad Council NHTSA Child Car Safety

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

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

2/26/15

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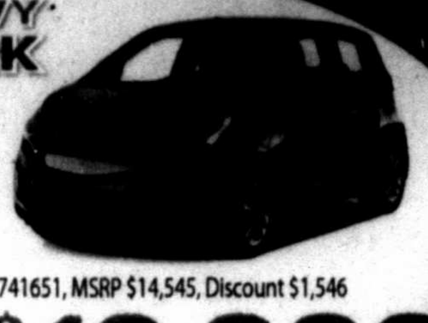
SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

ALL AMERICAN CHEVROLET OF MIDLAND
SUPERSTORE

CHECK OUT THESE GREAT NEW VEHICLES!

NEW 2015 CHEVY SPARK



1 AVAILABLE NOW!

#FC741651, MSRP $14,545, Discount $1,546

SUPER Price $12,999

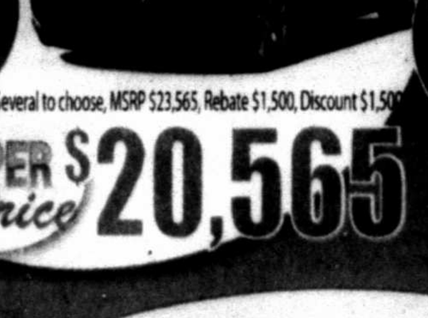
NEW 2014 CHEVY CRUZE

SAVE $4,000! OFF MSRP AVAILABLE NOW!

Several to choose, MSRP $22,405, Rebate $2,000, BC $1,000, Discount $1,000

SUPER Price $18,405

NEW 2015 CHEVY MALIBU

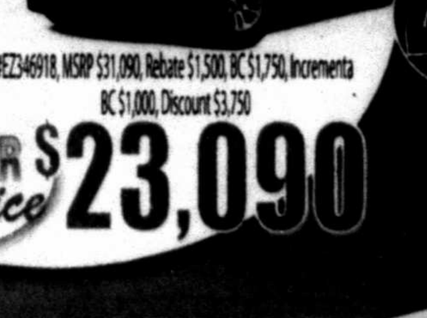


SAVE $3,000! OFF MSRP AVAILABLE NOW!

Several to choose, MSRP $23,565, Rebate $1,500, Discount $1,500

SUPER Price $20,565

NEW 2014 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 DOUBLE CAB

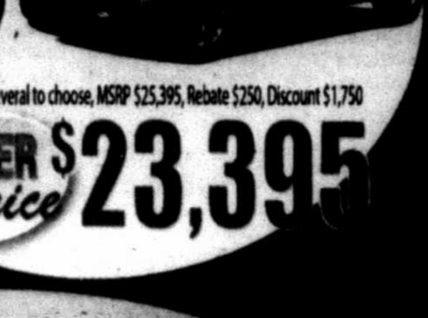


SAVE $8,000! OFF MSRP AVAILABLE NOW!

#EZ346918, MSRP $31,090, Rebate $1,500, BC $1,750, Incremental BC $1,000, Discount $3,750

SUPER Price $23,090

NEW 2015 CHEVY EQUINOX

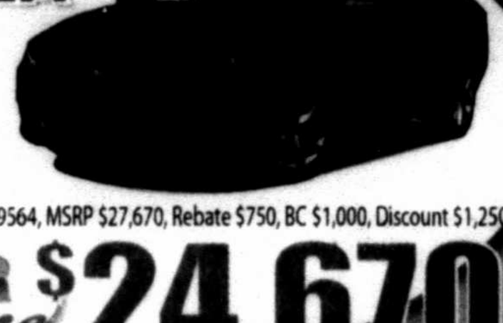


4 AVAILABLE NOW!

Several to choose, MSRP $25,395, Rebate $250, Discount $1,750

SUPER Price $23,395

NEW 2014 CHEVY IMPALA



SAVE $3,000! OFF MSRP AVAILABLE NOW!

#EU119564, MSRP $27,670, Rebate $750, BC $1,000, Discount $1,250

SUPER Price $24,670

NEW 2015 CHEVY TRAVERSE

SAVE $3,000! OFF MSRP AVAILABLE NOW!

Several to choose, MSRP $31,695, Rebate $1,500, Discount $1,500

SUPER Price $28,695

NEW 2014 CHEVY CAMARO

SAVE $4,000! OFF MSRP AVAILABLE NOW!

Several to choose, MSRP $32,885, Rebate $1,750, BC $1,000, Discount $1,250

SUPER Price $28,885

NEW 2015 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 CREW CAB

SAVE $6,000! OFF MSRP AVAILABLE NOW!

Several to choose, MSRP $40,455, Rebate $1,250, BC $1,000, Discount $3,750

SUPER Price $34,455

NEW 2014 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 LTZ - CREW CAB

SAVE $8,000! OFF MSRP AVAILABLE NOW!

Several to choose, MSRP $43,610, Rebate $1,500, BC $1,750 Incremental BC $1,000, Discount $3,750

SUPER Price $35,610

WE ALSO HAVE A TREMENDOUS LINE OF TOP QUALITY PRE-OWNED VEHICLES!

95 Ford Ranger	07 Jeep Patriot	06 Ford F-150	09 Kia Sportage	10 Chevy Impala	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
2 999	7 441	8 495	9 999	9 999	12 999	13 575	15 [illegible]
Pre-Owned #5000903T	Pre-Owned #704093221	Pre-Owned #A864311	Pre-Owned #F599923T	Pre-Owned #Z086991	Pre-Owned #EY638131	Pre-Owned #00A557781	Pre-Owned #DF145410T
13 Toyota Prius	11 Chevy 2500 HD	12 Toyota Camry	08 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab	09 Ram 1500	07 Chevy Suburban	[illegible]	[illegible]
16 599	16 999	17 934	17 999	17 999	19 987	19 897	23 [illegible]
Pre-Owned #D152934DT	Pre-Owned #BF131808T	Pre-Owned #CB06034G	Pre-Owned #813177491	Pre-Owned #957806857	Pre-Owned #763121291	Pre-Owned #D133219731	Pre-Owned #D133119T
09 GMC Sierra 1500	09 Ford F-150	09 Chevy Tahoe	12 Nissan Armada	11 Silverado 1500	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
23 995	23 999	23 999	23 999	24 999	25 999	25 999	28 999
Pre-Owned #961123631	Pre-Owned #C531967	Pre-Owned #9R139625T	Pre-Owned #CH606935T	Pre-Owned #DG304399	Pre-Owned #CH233042T	Pre-Owned #P636815T	Pre-Owned #BF219808T
13 Chevy Traverse	13 Dodge Durango	11 Chevy 1500	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
28 999	29 999	29 999	25 808	30 975	30 977	31 569	31 999
Pre-Owned #134669T	Pre-Owned #694075T	Pre-Owned #BG341951T	Pre-Owned #BR133264T	Pre-Owned #ER101125P	Pre-Owned #D585804T	Pre-Owned #BH144044C	Pre-Owned #BF122285T
14 GMC Yukon XL	12 Ram 2500	12 Ram 1500	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
31 999	34 999	36 999	37 999	39 999	40 995	45 949	51 812
Pre-Owned #ER101125P	Pre-Owned #163435T	Pre-Owned #CB341160T	Pre-Owned #D516201911	Pre-Owned #D516377911	Pre-Owned #D627535TT	Pre-Owned #FB180819C	Pre-Owned #BF133068C

ALL AMERICAN CHEVROLET OF MIDLAND
SUPERSTORE

4100 West Wall Street
432-218-4114
MidlandChevy.com

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LITHIA AUTO STORES Serving Our Communities Since 1946

NOW HIRING APPLY ONLINE: LITHIAJOBS.COM

Prices + TT&L and fees. Financing with approved credit. Offers Expire 2/28/15.

Who's Who For Service

What a GREAT place to advertise your business!

Call 682-6222 for details.

Services & Professionals

Cleaning Services

Home Cleaning

Experienced, Honest, dependable housekeeper has openings for weekly or biweekly cleanings. References available. Call 432-638-8679

HOUSE CLEANING. Call 432-520-7472.

HOUSEKEEPING SERVICE. Free Estimates. Call Priscilla Pena 432-978-9644

I CLEAN HOUSES! Lifetime of experience. Dependable and very honest. Reasonable rates references available. Call Nelfa 432-813-1616

WILL CLEAN your home from top to bottom, windows, ceiling fans, baseboards, & do some laundry. References. Call Christina 432-222-6471

Office Cleaning

RND Cleaning Services
Offices and Daycares. Strip and wax floors. 432-269-0437.

Computer Services

Repair & Replacement

A+ COMPUTER Tutor! Overcome Your Fear of Computers! ✔Your PLACE at Your PACE. ★Call Karen 432-553-2468 (leave msg).

COMPUTER SUPPORT SERVICES
Repairs, upgrades, troubleshooting, and installs. Virus/spyware removal. Over 20 years experience. Reasonable rates. 432-238-9684 432-694-3915

Hauling

CLEARAWAY
FOR all your REMOVAL needs and light construction, trash, & tree limbs, residential & commercial clean-out, Tired of higher prices? Give us a call for affordable prices. 432-235-9999

Home Services & Home Improvement

Brick, Block & Stone

ADVANCED BRICK DOCTOR, brick & mortar repair, All types of new construction specializing in block and brick fence. Steve Rickey. 432-853-2859.

CABALLERO MASONRY. Brick/block/stone, stucco, driveways, sidewalks, flowerbeds. Insurance. Bonded. Residential & Commercial. Free estimates. 432-631-8781

Fax It.. 682-6999

Computer Services

Repair & Replacement

COMPUTER PROBLEMS? WE SOLVE THEM!
TechSmart will tell you in plain English how we can help you. Virus Removal, Repairs, Data Recovery, Security, Cloud Services & Networking, TechSmart does it all, at home or work. Our services are professional, affordable, and fast. For best results, call TechSmart first. (432) 631-7202

T.J'S COMPUTER REPAIR. Repair/Upgrades. New Computer Setup. Virus and Spyware Removal. Wireless Networking. Reasonable Rates. Work on site or pickup. 432-686-0831

Accounting & Financial

WE ARE now accepting new clients. With over forty years of bookkeeping experience, proficient in Microsoft Office and QuickBooks to name a few. You focus on your business and let us worry about your books. For more information please call 432-230-6010.

Home Services & Home Improvement

Carpet & Flooring

INSTALLS & Repairs Carpet, Tile, Wood, Paint, Electrical, Plumbing and Much More. 432-924-3260.

Concrete

AVID MASONRY AND CONCRETE WORK. FREE ESTIMATES. SMALL JOBS WELCOME 432-664-0155

CABALLERO MASONRY. Brick/block/stone, stucco, driveways, sidewalks, flowerbeds. Insurance. Bonded. Residential & Commercial. Free estimates. 432-631-8781

CONCRETE SPECIALTIES
Design, drives, patios, staining, flagstone, brick planters, outdoor kitchens and fire places. 35 years experience! Book Early for Spring! 432-934-8102.

CONCRETE WORK
Doing concrete work in Midland for over 40 years. Call 683-5504

JS Concrete
Slabs,curbs,driveways, patios, Stamp concrete. Free Estimates. Bonded & Insured. Juan Sanchez, owner. 432-413-0924

QUALITY CONCRETE & METAL BUILDINGS
Work of all types. Driveways, patios, sidewalks, house/metal buildings, foundations. Call 432-816-6839 / 432-263-5272

QUIROZ COMPANY STAMP CONCRETE
All types of concrete work. Choose your pattern. All types of remodeling. References. Doing business in Midland for over 50 years. Felix ✪ 631-6734 or Matt ✪ 631-2475.

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Homes for Sale

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* Motley County
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*565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 200 acres planted for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill $1,500/ac
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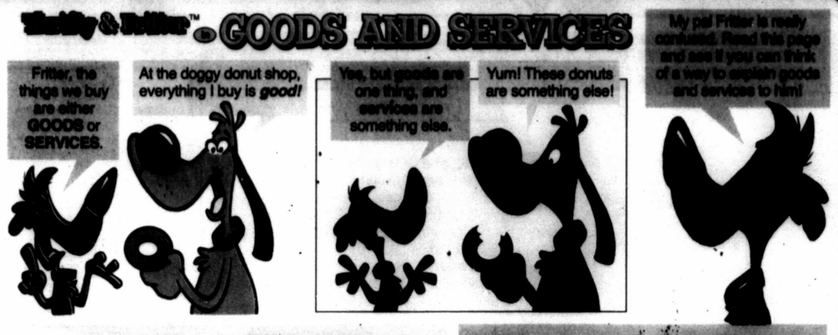
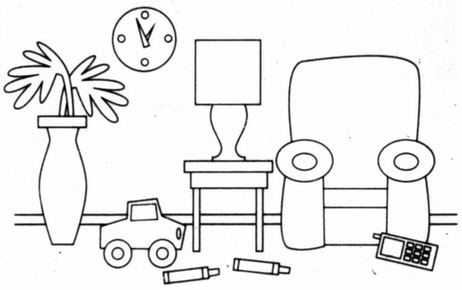
Fluffy & Fritter™ - GOODS AND SERVICES



Goods = Objects

Goods are things that are made or grown. Basically, things you can touch.

How many goods can you find in this room? Color them.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to understand the meaning of words.

Is this dictionary **goods** or a **service**? _____

Who could use it? _____

Why would they want to use it? _____

_____

Is this waiter **goods** or a **service**? _____

Who could use it? _____

Why would they want to use it? _____

_____

Is this taxi **goods** or a **service**? _____

Who could use it? _____

Why would they want to use it? _____

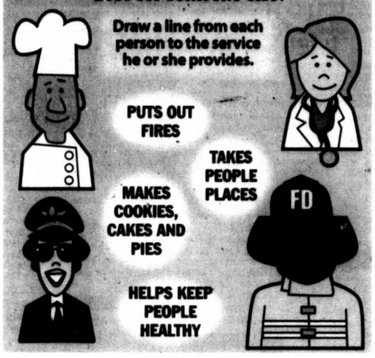
_____

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use grade-appropriate words correctly.

Services = Actions

A service is work that one person does for someone else.

Draw a line from each person to the service he or she provides.



Extra! Extra!

Goods and Services Search

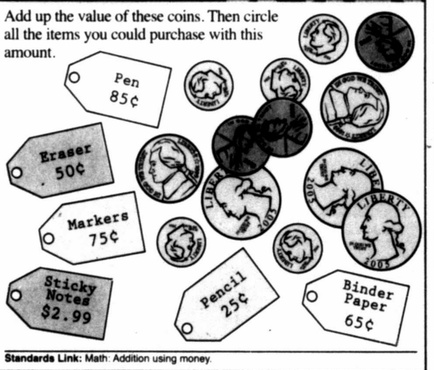
Look through the newspaper for five or more examples of goods and five or more examples of services. Write them in the spaces below.

GOODS	SERVICES

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Add up the value of these coins. Then circle all the items you could purchase with this amount.



Standards Link: Math: Addition using money.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

SERVICES
CONFUSED
PROVIDES
NECESSARY
OBJECTS
ACTIONS
GOODS
TOUCH
COINS
FIRES
THINK
WORK
PIES
ROOM
TAXI

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Wants and Needs

Things that are necessary to our survival are **needs**. Wants make our lives easier or more pleasant but are not critical to daily living. Look through advertisements and see if you can find more **wants** or more **needs**.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

How can you instantly double your money?

ANSWER: Look at it in a mirror.

Weekly Writing Corner

Goods and Services

There is a difference between goods and services. Services are when you pay someone who helps you. Goods are products that help you with life challenges that you buy from a store and take home. That is the difference between services and goods.

Nicole DenBleyber,
6th grade, Hillander

There are many differences between goods and services. The differences between goods and services are that goods are things that you buy and services are things that you do for someone else. A good is something you buy at the store. An example of goods is like canned goods. A service is something you do for someone else. An example of services is like the one my class does for the Altar Society at the church. We clean up the pews, cassocks, and candles. In conclusion, goods and services are not the same.

Emarie Lang,
4th grade, St Ann's

Goods are something you buy and use such as groceries, candy, and school supplies. Services are something you pay someone to do such as cleaning your house, cooking for you, and babysitting. Goods and services are similar but not the same.

Maddie Hansen,
6th grade, Hillander

Goods and services are different. Goods are something you buy. A service is something you work for money and sometimes you don't get money. As you can see, goods and services are different.

Gus Ledbetter,
4th grade, St Ann's

There is a difference between goods and services. When you buy something and you take it with you, it is goods. A service is when you pay for something that someone will do for you. An example of goods is cookies from the store. An example of a service is tennis lessons. There is a difference between goods and service.

Taylor Gray,
6th grade, Hillander

Write On!

Earth Day Hero

What are three things you can do to protect the environment?

Deadline: March 22
Published: Week of April 19
Send your story to:

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ljdiaz@mrt.com

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