

# MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018

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## WHITE HOUSE

Trump takes new tack on health care.

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## RIVALRY CONTINUES

The MHS and Lee baseball teams faced off Tuesday. Lee won 3-1. Read more about the game inside.

Page 1B

# Empower Texans sues to stop primary ad probe

■ Hearing on group's motion seeking a temporary restraining order is set for today in federal court in Midland

By Jay Root  
Texas Tribune

Empower Texans, a tea party group known for waging aggressive campaigns

against establishment Republicans, is suing in federal court to prohibit three district attorneys and the attorney general from launching any criminal investigations into the strategy it used to attack state Rep. Charlie Geren, R-Fort Worth, in the GOP primary.

At issue is an advertisement that Empower Texans mailed out, using an assumed name — the ad indicated it was from the "Texas Ethics Disclosure Board"

— that was used against Geren. Critics said it confused voters into thinking that Geren was in hot water with an actual government agency such as the Texas Ethics Commission.

In a civil rights lawsuit filed Feb. 28 in federal court in Midland, Empower Texans seeks an injunction against the district attorneys of Travis County (Austin), Tarrant County (Fort Worth) and Midland County, plus Attorney General Ken Paxton. A hear-

ing to consider Empower's motion seeking a temporary restraining order is scheduled in federal court (today).

In court filings, Empower Texans noted that the office of Travis County District Attorney Margaret Moore had received a Fort Worth-area voter's criminal complaint against the group related to its mailed advertisement against Geren. The complaint

Please see SUIT/2A



## Trump axes Tillerson, names CIA's Pompeo chief US diplomat

By Josh Lederman and Zeke Miller  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump unexpectedly dumped Secretary of State Rex Tillerson on Tuesday — via Twitter — and picked CIA Director Mike Pompeo to fill America's spy chief and top diplomat. The abrupt announcement ended the turbulent tenure of the man who reportedly

called the president a "nutcase" but wanted to stay, and deepened the divide in the Trump administration.

The plans to oust Tillerson had been leaked in months ago, but the timing caught even senior White House officials unaware. The firing was just the latest in an exodus of administration officials, including those in Trump's inner circle, with the president

Please see TELEGRAM/5A

John Roberts/Blomberg

Ongoing U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson delivers remarks Tuesday at the State Department in Washington, D.C.

### Cabinet shuffle

Get more about Trump's new staff picks inside:

- Trump's CIA pick is career spymaster, oversaw secret prison
- Trump considers ousting his VA secretary in Cabinet shuffle

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## Pompeo, a hawkish pick, could give State Department new life

By Matthew Lee  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Mike Pompeo's hawkish instincts may seem at odds with traditional diplomatic norms. But after 14 demoralizing months of

budget cuts and staffing reductions for the State Department, his conservative political bent and closeness to President Donald Trump could breathe new vigor into an agency all too often sidelined on many of the nation's most

Please see POMPEO/5A

## American drillers defy overseas rivals

By Collin Easton  
Houston Chronicle

American frackers are cranking out crude oil in Texas, North Dakota and Colorado even faster, defying overseas rivals who have limited production to support oil prices.

On Monday, the Energy Department projected U.S. shale drillers will produce an additional 131,000 barrels a day to push output from the nation's seven major shale plays to nearly 7 million barrels a day by April. The bulk of the increased production will come from the Permian Basin and the Eagle Ford Shale in Texas.

The forecast comes a week after the International Energy Agency, a Paris-based group that advises oil-importing countries, told energy executives in Houston that the U.S. will produce enough crude to satisfy 60 percent of global demand growth over the next five years.

It's part of the second U.S. oil boom in a decade that could force OPEC and Russia to continue extending their Vienna alliance, a name analysts recently coined for the pact between the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Nations and other major producers, led by Russia. The agreement, reached in Vienna, where OPEC holds its semiannual meetings, committed the participants to cumulative output cuts of 1.8 million barrels a day in an effort to elevate oil prices after a two-year downturn led to thousands of job cuts and scores of bankruptcies in Houston, the U.S. energy capital.

As crude prices have floated above \$60 a barrel this year, analysts have rejiggered forecasts to show ever-increasing U.S. crude

Please see DRILL/2A

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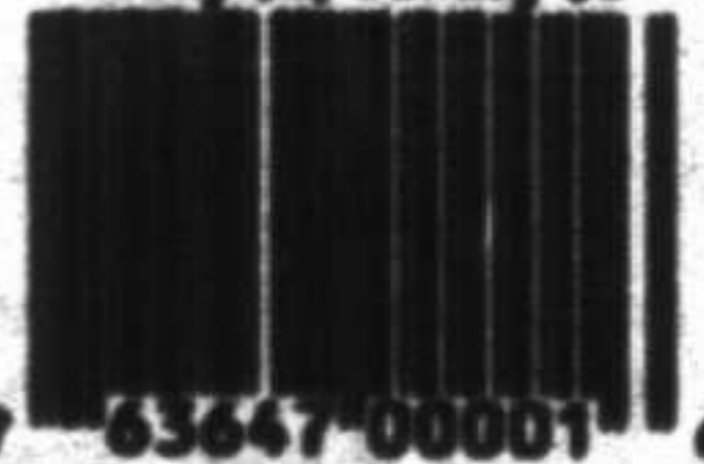
Price of oil  
60.71 ▼ \$0.65

The big number  
**250** thousand power outages were caused by another blizzard in the Northeast. Page 8A

Word of the Day:  
**misdeed**  
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 2A.



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# Midland man dies in two-vehicle wreck

From staff reports

A 21-year-old Midland man died late Sunday night in a two-vehicle wreck at the intersection of State Highway 349 and County Road 140, according to a press release from the Texas Department of Public Safety. Yoel Baca was driving a Ford Mustang westbound on CR140 and disregarded a stop sign, according to the release.

The car was hit by a Freightliner

truck tractor towing a semi-trailer that was southbound on SH 349. Baca died at the scene of the wreck that occurred shortly before midnight two miles south of Midland.

It is not known if he was wearing a seat belt.

The driver of the truck, a 42-year-old Philadelphia man, was not injured, according to the release.

Baca is the third person to die this year in wrecks on roads in Midland County, according to Reporter-Tele-

gram records.

The most recent wreck was Feb. 25, when a 19-year-old Odessa man died in a two-vehicle wreck on Garden City Highway near the Interstate 20 overpass, according to a previous article.

The number of fatalities year-to-date in Midland County is down compared to 2017, when there were seven, according to Reporter-Telegram records. In 2016, there had been two deaths year-to-date.

# CRIMEBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

## Man charged with sexual assault

A Midland man was arrested Friday after he allegedly sexually assaulted a teenager, according to court documents.



Colton Hinojosa, 19, was released Sunday on a \$50,000 bond for a second-degree felony charge of sexual assault of a child.

A Midland police detective made contact with a teenager on Thursday in reference to a sexual assault involving Hinojosa, according to his arrest affidavit.

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

## 2 inmates escape from Big Spring prison camp

Two Hispanic males are

being sought after escaping from the Federal Correctional Institution Satellite Prison Camp in Big Spring on Sunday afternoon, according to a press release that was received on Tuesday from the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Gustavo Adolfo Leon, 33, has brown hair, brown eyes, is 5 foot, 11 and weighs 192 pounds. He was given a 210-month sentence in Florida for conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute marijuana.

Hector Hernan Lerma, 43, has black hair, brown eyes, is 6 foot and weighs 250 pounds. He was given a 150-month sentence in Texas for conspiracy to import marijuana.

The U.S. Marshals Service and other law enforcement agencies have been notified, according to the release.

Anyone with information on the two men should call the U.S. Marshals Service at 325-672-2147.

The satellite camp is a minimum security facility that houses 250 male inmates.

# Families of 2 package bomb victims knew each other

By Will Weissert and Paul J. Weber  
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Families of two people killed by package bombs left on their doorsteps in Austin knew each other and were connected through local activism in the black community, a civic leader said Tuesday. But it was not clear how they might be tied to a third household where a package bomb also exploded.

Investigators have said the three blasts that killed two people and wounded two others could have been hate crimes since all the victims were black or Hispanic. But they also said they have not ruled out any possible motive.

Draylen Mason, 17, was killed and his mother wounded when a package bomb was opened Monday in their kitchen. The teen's grandfather is Norman Mason, a prominent dentist in east Austin. He was friends with Freddie Dixon, stepfather of 39-year-old Anthony House, who died in a similar attack in another part of the city on March 2, said Nelson Linder, president of the Austin chapter of the NAACP.

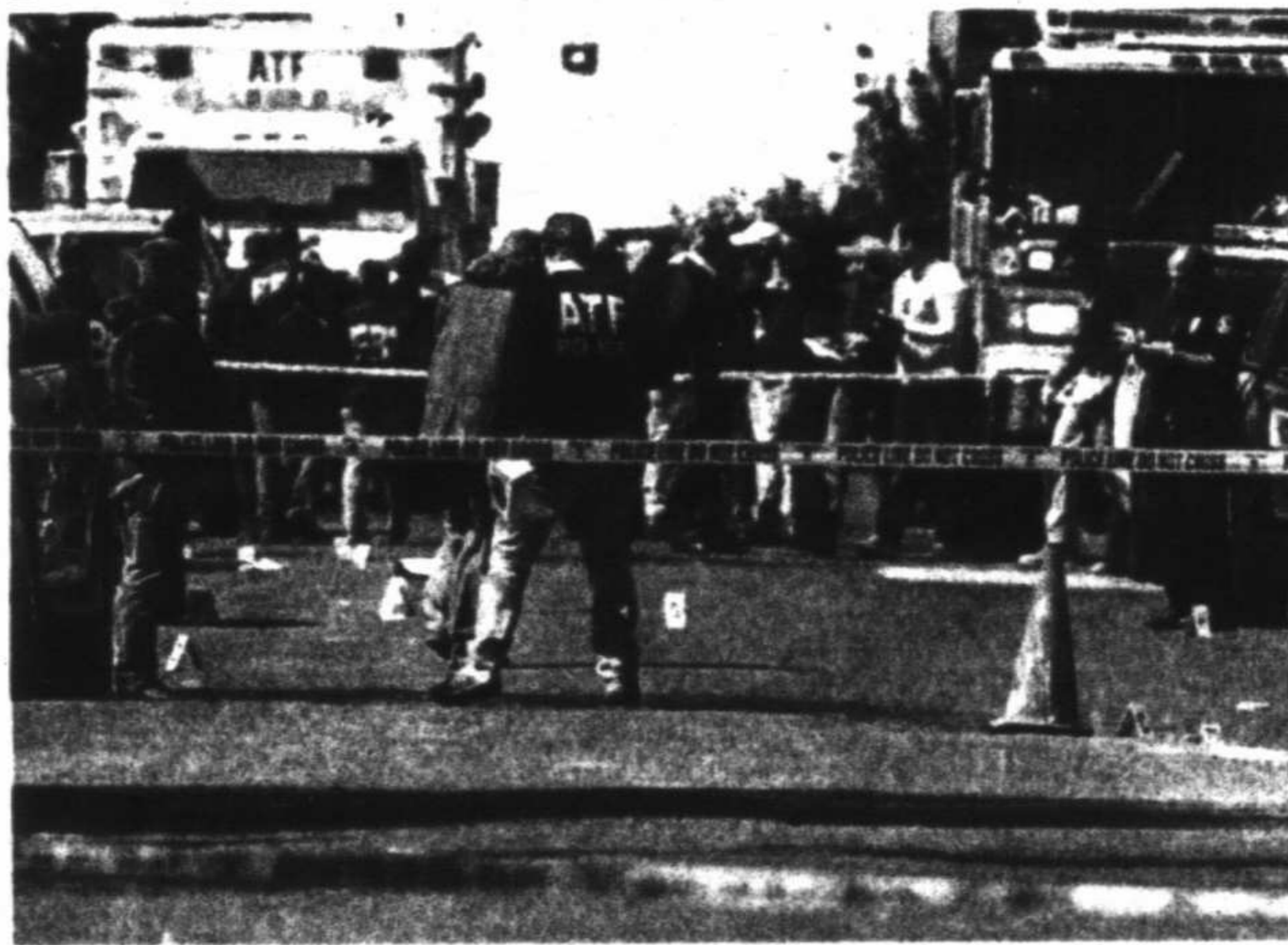
"I don't believe in coincidences," Linder said, explaining that he was concerned by the fact that the families were acquainted.

Still unknown is what connection — if any — the two families had to a third household where another package bomb exploded Monday, wounding a 75-year-old Hispanic woman who remains hospitalized in critical condition but has not yet been identified.

Austin Police Chief Brian Manley said he was aware of the connection but did not know if it would affect the case.

"Our detectives are currently looking at that to evaluate that lead and to see if it is in fact relevant to what we are investigating," Manley said.

Business records indicate that Dixon was a leader of Austin's African American Cultural Heritage District, or "Six Square," which the city defines as 6 square miles of east Austin that was originally created as the Negro District by the Austin City Council in 1928. He also was a longtime pastor at Wesley United Methodist



Photos by Ricardo B. Brazal/Austin American-Statesman via AP

Authorities work on the scene of an explosion Monday in Austin. Two package bomb blasts a few miles apart killed a teenager and wounded two women in Austin on Monday, less than two weeks after a similar attack left a man dead in another part of the Texas capital.

Church, one of the city's oldest historically black churches.

Dixon was quoted by the Austin American-Statesman in 2015 lamenting how Austin's population growth and prosperity were effectively creating economic segregation by raising the cost of living.

"Austin is quickly becoming a city of the privileged and the non-privileged," Dixon told the newspaper. "Is that the kind of Austin we want?"

Linder said Austin's minority community is on edge following the bombings.

"Given the fact these people are people of color, that definitely gets people's attention," he said. "They feel vulnerable, and they should based on the nature of the incidents."

The FBI and other federal officials continue to assist in the investigation. Manley said, "We're not saying that we believe terrorism or hate is in play, but we absolutely have to consider that because we don't want to limit what we are investigating, what we are considering and how we are approaching this case."

Tina Sherrow, a retired agent for the Bureau of



Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, said the materials to build such bombs are commonly available at hardware stores or online, and that police have been mum on details because the perpetrators may be watching media coverage.

"I don't look at it as terrorism, but it's terrorism of a community for sure," Sherrow said.

The package explosives were not delivered by the U.S. Postal Service or any private carrier but left overnight on doorsteps. Still, Manley urged Austin residents to call 911 if they receive any unwanted packages that look suspicious. Authorities responded to 250-plus calls about parcels without finding any that were explosives.

Austin police are offering a \$50,000 reward for information leading to an arrest, Manley said. That's in addition to the \$50,000 that Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has already offered.

Manley said he could not divulge too many details about the packages, saying those responsible could vary their future tactics. But he said the

packages were "not at all identifiable" as a standard shipping box or standard shipping labels would be.

Investigators collecting evidence continued to come and go, and yellow police tape still marked off the sites of Monday's two blasts, which occurred about 5 miles apart.

At the site of the March 2 bombing, there were no police, but the door to the red-brick house where the package exploded was still boarded up.

There's nothing obvious linking the three neighborhoods, other than all were east of Interstate 35, which divides the city. The east side has historically been more heavily minority and less wealthy than Austin's west side, although that has changed as gentrification has raised home prices and rents everywhere.

The blasts occurred during the South By Southwest music festival, which attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors to Austin each March. But they happened far from the main events and concert venues.

# SUIT

From 1A

alleged that the mailer ran afoul of a law that prohibits people from posing as government authorities.

Moore's office subsequently told The Texas Tribune that the complaint it received was "under review."

The lawsuit says Empower Texans plans to keep using the "Texas Ethics Disclosure Board" name for "appropriate publications" but now has a "credible fear" that it will be prosecuted for doing so.

"This fear of prosecution has had a chilling effect on [Empower's] speech, causing Plaintiff damages," the lawsuit says.

Joe Nixon, attorney for Empower Texans, said he

was "pleased the court gave us a quick hearing" but said it would not be appropriate to offer any other comment.

Don Clemmer, director of special prosecutions in the Travis County DA's office, said the office had received the lawsuit complaint and was "formulating what an appropriate response would be."

"Beyond that, I can't comment," Clemmer said.

Messages left with the District Attorney's Office in Midland County, where Empower Texans' principal office is located, and the Attorney General's Office were not immediately returned. The District Attorney's Office in Tarrant County, where the mailers were used against Geren, declined comment.

# DRILL

From 1A

production. U.S. oil prices settled at \$61.36 a barrel on Monday, down 68 cents — but still at a level that gives West Texas drillers an incentive to drill wells and order equipment for hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. Fracking pumps a mix of water, sand and chemicals into wells to crack shale rock and release oil and gas.

"We've increased our expectation for shale oil substantially this year because of the price stimulus and as technology improves," Fatih Birol, executive director of the IEA, said at the CERAWeek by IHS Market energy conference in downtown Houston last week. "Our expectations may well need to be revised upwards if the prices are higher than we assumed."

The IEA believes that at \$60 a barrel, U.S. oil production will rise by 3.8 million barrels a day over the next five years to more than 13 million barrels a day. Over that same time period, the group estimates that global oil demand will grow by 6.4 million barrels a day.

OPEC members produced about 32.4 million barrels a day in February, down 70,000 barrels a day as Venezuela's oil production continues to decline, according to S&P Global Platts, a provider of commodities information and analysis.

Venezuela's output has dropped seven months in a row to 1.57 million barrels a day, the lowest level in decades, as its

cash-strapped national oil company, PDVSA, struggles to pay for chemicals it needs to extract the country's heavy crude, according to Platts.

"Analysis expects further declines," Platts said in a report last week, "which could be exacerbated if the U.S. imposes additional sanctions that hamper PDVSA's ability to export crude, import (chemicals) or refinance its debt, as the Trump administration is considering."

The outlook couldn't be more different in the United States. On Monday, the Energy Information Administration projected that West Texas oil producers in the Permian will flow an additional 80,000 barrels a day by April, and in the Eagle Ford in South Texas, they'll pump another 23,000 barrels a day.

That'll bring output in the Permian, which stretches across West Texas and eastern New Mexico, to 3.16 million barrels a day. Production there crossed the 3 million barrel-a-day mark last month, according to revised Energy Department figures.

In the Eagle Ford, production will climb to 1.33 million barrels a day. The Bakken Shale in North Dakota and the Niobrara, most of which is in Colorado, will raise production by another 12,000 barrels a day.

All told, the seven major U.S. shale plays will pump 6.95 million barrels a day.

"U.S. oil will put its stamp on global oil development in the next five years," Birol said.

# Ropes, phone lights used in rescue after deadly bus plunge

By Jay Reeves and Dan Anderson  
Associated Press

LOXLEY, Ala. — Lulled asleep by the humming of their Texas-bound charter bus following a trip to Disney World, members of a high school band were jared awake before dawn Tuesday when the rig ran off a highway and plunged into a deep ravine.

One person died, driver Henry Collings, and about three dozen others were hurt, three seriously, authorities and the bus company said.

Interstate 10 didn't reopen in both directions for about 10 hours after the accident occurred between Mobile, Alabama, and Pensacola, Florida.

The cause of the crash wasn't immediately known, but survivors from Channelview High School in metro Houston described being asleep one moment and tumbling through the air the next.

Student DeWayne Benson, 15, told KTRK-TV by telephone he awoke to hear the band director repeatedly say "Hurry" before the bus hit some bumps followed by



Rescue crews work at the scene of a deadly charter bus crash Tuesday in Loxley, Ala. The bus carrying Texas high school band members home from Disney World plunged into a ravine before dawn Tuesday.

one "huge bump." "Some students were stuck under seats, some were on top of other students and there's a lot of panic to get people out," said Benson, who was taken to a hospital but wasn't injured.

Students used cellphones as lights to get out and grabbed blankets to help people outside, he said. Temperature was in the 40s at the time of the wreck, which happened around 5:30 a.m.

First responders used

ropes to rappel down the more than 50-foot (15-meter) ravine in the middle of I-10 and then had to cut

some of the victims from the wreckage, said Baldwin County Sheriff Hazy Hoss Mack.

# SMILES & TEETH

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## A paw-sitive experience

**COUNTER-CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:** Ava Dallas, a student at Midland Christian, reads to a therapy dog named Pippin, handled by Josie Gans (in background) Tuesday at Midland County Public Library Centennial Branch. Children read to Pippin. Dallas reads to Pippin.



## Trump considers ousting his VA secretary in Cabinet shuffle

By Hope Yen and Zeke Miller  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is considering ousting embattled Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin, who has faced an insurgency within his department and fresh allegations that he used a member of his security detail to run personal errands.

Trump has floated the notion of moving Energy Secretary Rick Perry to the VA to right the ship, believing Shulkin has become a distraction, according to two sources familiar with White House discussions. The sources were not authorized to discuss internal deliberations.

Shulkin has faced several investigations over his travel and leadership of the department, but until now has received praise from the president for his work to turn it around. The news comes after Trump fired Secretary of State Rex Tillerson Tuesday.

Trump raised the idea with Perry on Monday but did not offer the job to him, according to one White House official. Trump has been angry with Shulkin, the official said, but is known to float staffing changes without always following through.

Shulkin did not respond to requests for comment via phone and text message. He has been holding on to his job by a thread since a bruising internal report found ethics violations in connection with his trip to Europe with his wife last summer. A spokeswoman for Perry also had no comment.

The VA inspector general also is looking into a complaint by a member of Shulkin's 24-7 security detail that he was asked to accompany the secretary to a Home Depot and carry furniture items into his home, according to two people familiar with the allegation who requested anonymity to discuss an ongoing investigation.

Within the agency, a political adviser installed by Trump has openly muscled to the VA staff about ousting the former Obama administration official. And a top communications aide has taken extended leave following a secret, failed attempt to turn lawmakers against him.

"The honeymoon is ending with a crash that hurts veterans most of all," said Paul Riechhoff, founder and CEO of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, who has been a close observer of VA for more than a decade. "VA always has bad news, but Shulkin's ethical and leadership failures are still significant — despite any internal attacks."

Senior administration officials describe a growing frustration that Shulkin repeatedly ignores their advice, only to beg for their help when he runs into ethical trouble. The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity in order to describe sensitive internal discussions, say Shulkin has been given a final warning to end the swirl of distractions. The administration is currently seeking to push Trump's agenda of aggressively expanding the Veterans Choice program, which major veterans groups worry could be an unwanted step toward privatizing VA health care.

The issue came to the fore at a White House meeting last week, when chief of staff John Kelly told Shulkin to stop talking to the news media without clearing it first with the White House and to stay focused on fixing veterans care.

Shulkin was escorted from that meeting to the Oval Office, where Trump questioned him about his efforts to push the Choice expansion, which lawmakers are now seeking to include in a massive spending bill that must be approved by next week to avert a government shutdown.

With Shulkin present, the president telephoned conservative Pete Hegseth, a "Fox & Friends" contributor who was vetted in late 2016 for VA secretary, to get his views on how to proceed with the expansion. Hegseth, a former president of the conservative group Concerned Veterans for America, declined to comment for this article.

Dan Caldwell, executive director of CVA, lauded the White House focus on Choice amid the ongoing controversies involving Shulkin. "Despite the internal drama going on in the VA, which has been a distraction, Congress has continued to work to a solution that everyone can rally around," he said.

Shulkin is blaming the internal drama on a half-dozen or so political appointees whom he had considered firing, only to be blocked by Kelly.

"I regret anything that has distracted us from what we should be focusing on, which is serving veterans," Shulkin told the AP shortly before release of an inspector general report that faulted the VA for "failed leadership" and an unwillingness or inability of leaders to take responsibility for accounting problems at a major VA hospital that put patients at risk.

It wasn't always this way. Early in the administration, Shulkin was often seen at Trump's side, waving to crowds at campaign-style events in Pennsylvania or addressing reporters in a doctor's lab coat as he toured Trump on

telehealth. Trump called him the "100-to-nothing man" — a reference to his unanimous Senate confirmation vote — and publicly teased that he probably would never be fired because he had successfully shepherded legislation to improve accountability at the VA and speed disability appeals.

By December, relations at the VA between Shulkin and several political appointees began to fray over philosophical differences.

In a Dec. 4 internal email obtained by the AP, Jake Leinenkugel, a senior aide installed as part of a Cabinet-wide program to monitor secretaries' loyalty, said Shulkin was becoming increasingly distrustful and regarded Camilo Sandoval, a senior adviser in VA's health arm, as a White House "spy."

The email to Sandoval alluded to White House efforts to gain more control, including ousting Shulkin's chief of staff, and said the secretary had been "put on notice to exit" once the administration gets the Choice legislation through Congress.

There were other signs. At a Jan. 17 hearing, Sen. Jerry Moran, R-Kan., openly blamed the deadlock over Choice to Shulkin's ever-shifting positions. "I am of the opinion that our inability to reach an agreement is in significant part related to your ability to speak out of both sides of your mouth, double-talk," Moran said. A grim Shulkin denied the accusation, but the White House was later forced to clarify its position on the bill due to lawmaker confusion.

Last month, the inspector general released a blistering report finding ethical violations in Shulkin's trip last July to Denmark and England that mixed business with pleasure. The IG found that Shulkin's chief of staff Viviana Wright Simpson had doctored emails to justify his wife accompanying him at taxpayer expense. Wright Simpson retired after the report was issued.

Seizing on the report, John Ulyot, a top communications aide, and VA spokesman Curt Cashour told the Republican staff director of the House Veterans Affairs Committee that Shulkin would be out by that weekend and asked if Republicans would push for his removal.

The staff director, John Townes, told Ulyot "no," and made clear that committee Chairman Phil Roe had expressed support for Shulkin, according to a House aide familiar with the phone conversation. That aide also requested anonymity in order to discuss a sensitive internal matter. In a statement, Cashour and Ulyot deny that account, saying the call was intended instead to warn the committee that some of Shulkin's denials of wrongdoing were unfounded.

Asked this week about Ulyot's current leave of absence, Cashour released a statement saying, "there are no personnel changes to announce at the Department of Veterans Affairs."

For now, Shulkin appears to be hanging on. At a Cabinet meeting last Thursday, Shulkin took a different seat reserved for him — next to the president.



CIA via AP

This photo provided by the CIA, shows CIA Deputy Director Gina Haspel on March 21, 2017. Haspel, who joined the CIA in 1985, has been chief of station at CIA outposts abroad. President Donald Trump tweeted Tuesday that he would nominate CIA Director Mike Pompeo to be the new secretary of state and that he would nominate Haspel to replace him. She has extensive overseas experience, including several stints as chief of station at outposts abroad.

## Trump's CIA pick is career spymaster, oversaw secret prison

By Deb Riechmann  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's pick to be the next director of the CIA is a career spymaster who oversaw torture at a secret prison during one of the darkest chapters in the agency's history.

If confirmed, 61-year-old Gina Haspel would become the first female head of the CIA.

She's described by colleagues as a seasoned veteran with 30-plus years of intelligence experience who would lead the agency with integrity. But it's the few years she spent supervising a secret black site that will be closely scrutinized at her confirmation hearing.

Trump announced on

Tuesday that he had chosen Haspel to succeed Mike Pompeo, who is replacing ousted Secretary of State Rex Tillerson. She joined the CIA in 1985 and has been deputy director of the agency since February 2017.

Between 2003 and 2005, Haspel oversaw a secret CIA prison in Thailand where prison suspects Abu Zubaydah and Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri were waterboarded, current and former U.S. intelligence officials said. Waterboarding is a process that simulates drowning and is widely considered to be a form of torture. Haspel also helped carry out an order to destroy waterboarding videos, which prompted a lengthy Justice

Please see CIA/3A

## CIA

From 4A

Department investigation that ended without charges.

Trump has said that he would reintroduce waterboarding and "a lot worse," but there's no indication that his decision to pick Haspel signals a desire to restart the harsh interrogation and detention program. He would face steep legal and legislative hurdles if he tried.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said Haspel must explain the nature and extent of her involvement in the CIA's interrogation program.

"Current U.S. law is clear in banning enhanced interrogation techniques," said McCain, who was beaten as a prisoner during the Vietnam War. "Any nominee for director of the CIA must pledge without reservation to uphold this prohibition."

Former CIA Director John Brennan declined to say what Haspel's exact role was in the interrogation program, but he told NBC that she has a "lot of integrity" and has tried to carry out her agency duties "when asked to do difficult things in challenging times."

Brennan predicted she would be confirmed. "Gina is a very competent professional who I think deserves the chance to take the seat," he said.

Sen. Richard Burr, R-N.C., the chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, which will vote whether to confirm Haspel, said she has the "right skill set, experience and judgment" to lead the CIA.

Human rights advocates said they opposed Haspel's promotion to the helm of the CIA.

"No one who had a hand in torturing individuals deserves to ever hold public office again, let alone lead an agency," Human Rights First's Raha Wala said Tuesday. "To allow someone who had a

direct hand in this illegal, immoral and counterproductive program is to willingly forget our nation's dark history with torture."

After Haspel was named deputy CIA director, the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights asked German prosecutors to issue a warrant for her arrest over her role in the interrogations. Federal prosecutors never issued the warrant because the case lacked a connection to Germany. But the rights group's allegations against Haspel remain part of a preliminary investigation that German authorities could revive if they receive evidence that any of the parties have links to Germany.

Last year, Haspel's name came up during a civil lawsuit in Spokane, Washington, filed by three men who said they suffered waterboarding, beatings and sleep deprivation in the CIA interrogation program developed by former Spokane psychologists James E. Mitchell and Bruce Jessen.

Lawyers for the psychologists wanted to interview Haspel and another CIA official involved in the program, but government lawyers told the federal judge in the case that the officials and documents were protected under the state secrets privilege and making them public would threaten national security.

Haspel has been chief of station at CIA outposts abroad. In Washington, she has held several senior leadership positions, including deputy director of the National Clandestine Service.

In her current post, she worked with Pompeo to manage intelligence collection, analysis, covert action, counterintelligence and cooperation with the CIA's foreign counterparts.

In a brief statement, the former undercover officer said she was "humbled" by Trump's confidence in her to lead the agency.

## TILLERSON

From 1A

already setting records for staff turnover and several other Cabinet secretaries facing ethics investigations.

However, Trump emphatically rejected talk of chaos in his year-old administration as he nears a pivotal moment on the international stage with his planned meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. He declared Tuesday, "I'm really at a point where we're getting very close to having the Cabinet and other things that I want."

He said he was nominating the CIA's deputy director, Gina Haspel, to take over for Pompeo at the intelligence agency. If confirmed, Haspel would be the CIA's first female director.

As for Tillerson, the former Exxon Mobil CEO whom Trump picked as his administration's top Cabinet official, the president said simply, "we disagreed on things."

No doubt that was true, one prime example being the agreement to restrict Iran's nuclear efforts.

Pompeo's argument puts Trump, an ardent foe of the Iran nuclear deal, in charge of U.S. diplomacy as the president decides whether to withdraw the U.S. from the agreement. Tillerson has pushed Trump to remain and had been pursuing a delicate strategy with European allies and others to try to improve or augment the Obama-era deal to Trump's liking.

"We were not really thinking the same," said Trump.

Public policy aside, in the view of current and former White House officials, Tillerson's "moron" comment to senior administration officials last summer — and the subsequent revelation in the press — permanently eroded trust between the two men and it was only a matter of time before Tillerson would be pushed out.

Tillerson himself, his voice occasionally quivering, gave brief farewell remarks at the State Department, thanking department staff and diplomats around the world — but not mentioning Trump except to say that he'd spoken by phone to the president Tuesday while Trump was on Air Force One, hours after the tweeted firing.

The gulf that separated the two men was illustrated one last time by conflicting stories on the circumstances of the firing.

Trump kept the timing to an unusually close circle that included Chief of

Staff John Kelly and Vice President Mike Pence, officials said. Pompeo was brought into the White House on Friday after returning from an overseas trip and was offered the job formally by phone Saturday.

Kelly was given the task of phoning Tillerson, who was in Africa, but the nature of their conversation was up for dispute. White House officials said Kelly told Tillerson that Trump wanted a change and he should step down. Tillerson, the White House said, asked that Trump wait until he returned to the U.S., and he shortened his trip to Africa — where much of his mission revolved around softening the impact of Trump's recent reported criticisms.

However, Undersecretary of State Steve Goldstein and other State Department officials said that Tillerson hadn't learned he was being dismissed until he saw Trump's early-Tuesday tweet, and hadn't discussed it directly with the president. Goldstein said Tillerson was "unaware of the reason" he was fired and "had had every intention of staying," feeling he was making progress on national security.

That was the end for Goldstein. Hours later, he was fired, too.

Even after Tuesday's announcement, the White House and Tillerson aides were still struggling to determine when and how Tillerson would exit. After hours of bureaucratic tug-of-war, Tillerson, in his final somber turn before the cameras, said he would be delegating his responsibilities to deputy secretary John Sullivan at the end of the workday and would resign effective at the end of the month.

"I will now return to private life, private citizen, a proud American, proud of the opportunity I've had to serve my country," he said.

From the start, the former Exxon chief had been an unlikely pick for top diplomat, with no formal experience but a lifetime's worth of personal relationships with heads of state and powerful global figures, including Russian President Vladimir Putin. Trump had boasted to allies that he "looked the part" of the nation's chief diplomat, but differences in style and ideology quickly came to a head.

While he espoused unconventional views on the organization of the State Department — and made sweeping claims of the bureaucracy's top concern — Tillerson proved to be cut from the same cloth of the national security conservatives who

have dominated the GOP for decades. He had been recommended for the post by Condoleezza Rice and James Baker.

Tillerson's insult to Trump's intelligence came after heated discussions about Afghanistan policy, in which Trump had pushed to end the U.S. presence altogether and flirted with outsourcing the military counterterrorism campaign to private contractors. Hours before his firing was made public, Tillerson vocally condemned Russia for allegedly poisoning an ex-Russian spy and his daughter in the United Kingdom, even as the White House declined to assert blame.

The pair also never developed a particularly warm relationship.

Trump in recent days has told confidants that he feels emboldened, confident in his decisions to order new international trade on tariffs and to meet with Kim Jong Un and far less willing to put up with disloyalty around him, according to a person who has spoken to the president in recent days but was not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations.

Tillerson's departure adds to a period of intense turnover within Trump's administration that has alarmed those both in and out of the White House. Top economic adviser Gary Cohn announced his resignation last week, not long after communications director Hope Hicks and staff secretary Rob Porter both departed near the start of Trump's second year in office.

Trump has also faced a cloud of ethics allegations surrounding other members of his Cabinet, including Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt and Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin — the latter of whom is said to be on thin ice with the president.

Pompeo forged a close relationship with Trump as a regular presence in his presidential daily briefing. Current and former White House officials said Pompeo has proven more adept at negotiating the shifting power structures inside the administration and in reading and responding to the wishes of the president. Trump is also said to respect Pompeo's military background and West Point pedigree.

Pompeo, a former Republican congressman from Kansas, has already been confirmed by the Senate for his current role at the CIA, making it extremely likely that he will be confirmed for the State Department role.

## POMPEO

From 1A

pressing national security matters.

Pompeo, the outgoing CIA chief, will bring a new, blunt-speaking style to the job of secretary of state, strikingly different from Rex Tillerson's understated approach.

Pompeo's arrival in Foggy Bottom also promises far more aggressive stances on Iran and North Korea, and he'll at least start with Trump's full confidence — something Tillerson never enjoyed.

"One of the most important jobs for the secretary of state is to make clear to the world the president's policies and priorities," Sen. Lindsey Graham, an establishment Republican and initial Tillerson backer, said Tuesday, after Trump announced via tweet that Pompeo would replace Tillerson. "No one has a stronger relationship with President Trump than Mike Pompeo. This relationship will empower him throughout his tenure as secretary of state."

Tillerson had been widely criticized for an aloof management style, which had alienated droves of career diplomats and driven many of the agency's senior brass into early retirements.

But his foreign policy was far less controversial, as he heeded to much of the agency's pragmatic approach, from climate change to free trade agreements, and to preserving the Iran nuclear deal, even when that put him at odds with his president and his most conservative supporters.

In Pompeo, the diplomats and civil servants who make up the 70,000-strong department may now encounter the opposite: a fiercely partisan veteran of some of the most bitter battles in Congress while he was a House Republican, and someone willing to jeopardize his reputation to defend Trump, as evidenced

when he called up journalists to try to discredit a New York Times story outlining Trump campaign connections to Russia.

But Pompeo also helped engineer a detente between Trump and the U.S. intelligence agencies after the incoming president likened them to Nazis.

In doing so, Pompeo never lost his access to Trump, or experienced a mass revolt to his leadership like Tillerson faced at the State Department. "Tillerson's ouster is a sign of continued turbulence in U.S. foreign policy," said Jessica Chen Weiss, a Cornell University professor. "A potential silver lining is that the State Department will fare better under someone who has Trump's ear."

Immediately, there were calls for Pompeo to abandon Tillerson's plans to shrink the department and empower marginalized diplomats.

While some opponents lambasted the former Kansas lawmaker for his posturing on a House panel that investigated Hillary Clinton and the 2012 Benghazi attack, some Democrats held out hope he could lead a State Department turnaround.

Rep. Adam Schiff, a harsh critic of Trump and Tillerson, said Pompeo would be wise to let the State Department's talent "do their jobs." Referencing the departure of many senior diplomats, Schiff, the House Intelligence Committee's top Democrat, said Pompeo will "need to recruit and fill the many offices that have been left vacant."

While Tillerson sought to reduce staffing at embassies and consulates abroad, and seemed to hoard many of the agency's minutest decisions among a small group of advisers, Pompeo sent more spies to the field and tried to improve the CIA's agility and speed by cutting bureaucratic red tape and moving decision-

making down the chain of command.

Pompeo said his goal was America's spy master was to create a culture that says: "If you are in a process and you're not adding value, get out of the way."

Pompeo and Tillerson navigated different paths with Trump, too.

While Tillerson survived a tumultuous year amid rampant speculation that the White House wanted him out, he was unable to use a much-touted alliance with Defense Secretary Jim Mattis to keep his job. Pompeo took a more direct approach, carefully cultivating Trump and even assuming the previously lower-level responsibility of delivering the daily presentation of intelligence to the president in the Oval Office.

Bigger questions loom about Pompeo's ability to counteract Trump's often unpredictable decision-making processes. For all of Tillerson's bureaucratic stumbles, some of the president's most bitter adversaries credited the ex-oilman with acting as an adult and serving with dignity even as Trump publicly humiliated him.

And, as Trump noted Tuesday, he and Pompeo have a "similar thought process" on the Iran deal, which Trump has threatened to abandon unless there are significant changes by May.

Tillerson has been a poor advocate for the State Department, but he served as a Cabinet-level check on some of President Trump's worst impulses," said Thomas Countryman, one of the career diplomats who left in early 2017.

Countryman, who was assistant secretary of state for international security and nonproliferation, said if Pompeo "has a disdain for diplomacy mirroring Trump's, it will be bad for the department and the country."

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# OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, March 14, 2018 | Page 6A

## Tesla founder is bringing back Age of Exploration

■ Elon Musk's goal is colonizing Mars

Next year on Mars. Well, not quite, but entrepreneur Elon Musk told the tech confab South by Southwest that the interplanetary spaceship he's building will be able to do short "up and down" flights by next year. Musk's goal is to colonize Mars, a delightfully daft idea that has had a persistent hold on our imagination — German rocket scientist Wernher von Braun wrote a piece for Collier's magazine in 1954 titled "Can We Get to Mars?" — and that is a fit object of Musk's vaulting ambition. The founder of Tesla and SpaceX is, through his brio and technological prowess, bringing back a whiff of the Age of Exploration, the time when men launched across oceans in rickety ships in pursuit of the unknown (and perhaps untold riches). NASA used to partake of this same spirit. Once upon a time, American kids had glossy photos of rockets and astronauts on their walls. That was before the end of the Apollo program and the advent

**RICH LOWRY**  
King Features Syndicate



of the white elephant space shuttle that, by the end, had all the glamour of a very expensive and clunky (not to mention hazardous) cross-town bus.

All you have to know about the exuberant sensibility of Musk's operation is that the rocket he's going to colonize Mars with is named BFR (The Big [expletive deleted] Rocket). Or that last month he launched the new Falcon Heavy rocket into space carrying a Tesla Roadster as the payload with a mock astronaut behind the wheel — because, why not?

Musk's ambitions — electric cars, driverless cars, powerful, reusable rockets — are more in keeping with visions we once had of the future. We live in an age of technological miracles, especially

related to computing and medicine. But the innovations that are now ubiquitous, the iPhone and Facebook and other social media platforms, aren't the futurist imaginings of yore. They are great tools, but often inward-looking (they have arguably made us smaller rather than bigger).

Colonizing Mars would, in contrast, be an inarguable giant leap for mankind. Settlers traveling to the red planet would replicate the Atlantic crossings of the 17th century, which took months and deposited people in a forbidding wilderness that they often didn't survive. But Mars isn't like North America, a fertile continent stocked with wildlife and fish for the taking. It is a vast, cold desert without enough oxygen to support human life.

Could we pull it off? The killjoys at MIT released a study pouring cold water, on the very loose plans of the so-called Mars One project (not associated with Musk) to settle people on Mars beginning in 2025. The MIT researchers pointed out that if crops were grown within the habitat of the settlers, the plants would set off a chain reaction rendering the space

uninhabitable. Details, details.

Elon Musk's chipper take is that Mars is "a fixer-upper of a planet." He joked with Stephen Colbert that the rapid way to warm the place up would be to "drop thermonuclear weapons over the poles." His more modest idea is to place small, continuously detonating fusion bombs at the poles — you know, like little suns.

Musk conceives of a colony on Mars as a hedge against a planetary catastrophe on Earth. You can never be too careful. But the more compelling rationale for the venture is the sheer audacity and challenge of it. *Why did we colonize Mars? Because it was there.*

The great science fiction writer Ray Bradbury enthused when we landed the Viking 1 probe on Mars in the 1970s: "Today we have touched Mars. There is life on Mars, and it is us — extensions of our eyes in all directions, extensions of our mind, extensions of our heart and soul have touched Mars today. That's the message to look for there: We are on Mars. We are the Martians!"

He wasn't quite right. At least not yet.

### OPINION EXTRA

## Democrats need to come to grips with why Hillary lost

Last weekend, Hillary Clinton spoke in India. There, she continued to struggle publicly with the most humiliating experience of her life, not her husband's continual sexual misconduct or her State Department's mishandling of Benghazi but her loss of the presidency to a reality television show host. Hillary's not over it. And she never will be.

That much was obvious from her incredible, palpable anger at the American public. She first explained that Trump voters are stupid poor people: "What the map doesn't show you is that I won the places that represent two-thirds of America's gross domestic product. So I won the places that are optimistic, diverse, dynamic, moving forward."

But Clinton wasn't done. She then stated that Trump voters are ignoramuses who still stumble out to their outhouses in the middle of the night and stoop over a hole in the ground while reading old copies of Ku Klux Klan newsletters. Those people, she said, fell prey to Trump's racist "Elmer Gantry" pitch: "You didn't like black people getting rights. You don't like women ... getting jobs. You don't want to ... see that Indian-American succeeding more than you are. Whatever your problem is, I'm going to solve it."

For good measure, Clinton tore into women who voted for Trump as well — and suggested that they are all little Tammy Wynettes standing by their men. "(W)e don't do well with married white women," Clinton explained. "And part of that is an identification with the Republican Party, and a sort of ongoing pressure to vote the way that your husband, your boss, your son, whoever believes you should."

Yes, women who voted Republican only did so because they are afraid that ol' Bob is going to come home, get the beatin' stick out of the closet and start a-whoopin' and a-whalin' on the little woman.

And then, Democrats wonder why they had trouble winning Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Here's the reality: None of this is true. The average Trump voter outearned the average Clinton voter, and 86 percent of Trump voters were employed, about the same percentage as Clinton voters. Tribalism in voting exists on both sides: The intersectional politics of the Democratic Party is inherently race-based, and Trump successfully responded to that sort of politics in reactionary fashion. As to the notion that married women didn't vote for Clinton because of their husbands, 52 percent of married women voted for Trump; 53 percent of married women voted for Republican candidate Mitt Romney in 2012, and 51 percent voted for Republican candidate John McCain in 2008. Married women vote differently than single women not because of pressure from their menfolk but because they often have children, value family over career more than single women and are older than single women on average.

But here's the point: Clinton represents a nasty, vengeful take on populism she has trouble winning over. That nastiness has filtered through the Democratic Party, which is firmly convinced that it'd be better off drilling down into population groups it thinks are interested in tearing down the system along with them than reaching out to populations it has lost. If Democrats continue with that quest, they'll alienate the very voters who gave Trump victory in 2016.

— Ben Shapiro, Creators Syndicate

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## Unabashed ignorance is DeVos' genius

■ Recent TV interviews show education secretary is performing below grade level

Betsy DeVos gives every indication that she is, to borrow President Trump's phrase, a "low-IQ individual." Her interview with Lesley Stahl of CBS's "60 Minutes," broadcast Sunday night, is being mocked as the most disastrous televised tete-a-tete since Palin met Couric.

But this unabashed ignorance is DeVos' hidden genius — and precisely why she is a perfect choice to be Trump's secretary of education.

Whenever DeVos speaks, it feels as though the sum total of human knowledge is somehow diminished. During her confirmation hearing last year, she was utterly defeated by complex subjects such as "teachers" and "students" but was certain that schools need guns to repel attacks by "potential grizzlies."

After a (too-quiet) first year on the job, DeVos is back, letting her foolish flag fly. Interviews with DeVos broadcast Sunday night and Monday morning by CBS and NBC show that she's performing below grade level in all subjects — and her deviation below the mean is anything but standard.

Have the public schools in her home state of Michigan improved?

"I don't know."

Are the number of sexual assaults equivalent to the number of false accusations?

"I don't know. I don't know."

Why is she known as the most hated Cabinet secretary?

"I'm not so sure exactly."

Has she visited bad schools?

"I have not. I have not. I have not intentionally visited schools that are underperforming."

Stahl offered a suggestion: "Maybe you should."

"Maybe I should, yes," agreed DeVos, who also expressed her reluctance "to talk about all schools in general, because schools are made up of individual students."

Yes, and brains are made up of individual brain cells, many of which self-destruct upon hearing DeVos speak. Listen to her for five minutes and you will no longer be able to complete the New York Times crossword puzzle. After 10 minutes of DeVos, the human brain loses the ability to perform simple arithmetic. After 15 minutes, those in the presence of DeVos report forgetting the answers to their security questions, including first pet and first car.

All this proves that it is sheer (if perhaps unintentional) genius to have DeVos, who married into the Amway fortune, in her role in the Trump administration. If this is the caliber of the top education official in the land, it hardly speaks well for getting an education. People could quite reasonably conclude that education isn't all it's cracked

**DANA MILBANK**

Washington Post Writers Group

up to be, and they wouldn't go to all the trouble of attending school.

As it happens, this is exactly what Trump needs to secure the future of his political movement. For Trump, the fewer people who get an education, the better off he will be. Exit polls showed a huge education gap in the 2016 election. College graduates favored Hillary Clinton by 9 percentage points, while those without college degrees favored Trump by 8 points. That 17-point gap was "by far the widest" dating to 1980, according to the Pew Research Center.

The danger for Trump is more Americans are going to college. The National Center for Education Statistics, part of DeVos' Education Department, predicts enrollment of full-time students in degree-granting postsecondary institutions, up 38 percent between 2000 and 2014, will climb an additional 15 percent by 2025.

Thankfully, DeVos is doing all she can to combat this noxious scourge of people going to school. DeVos, who once said traditional public education is a "dead end," is proving by example as the nation's top educator that education generally is a dead end.

Early on, she said she was "confused" at her confirmation hearing about federal disability laws, and she didn't seem to know the difference between "growth" and "proficiency." After her full year of on-the-job learning, though, DeVos' appearance Sunday on "60 Minutes" showed no diminution in her ineptitude.

There she was again on NBC's "Today" show Monday, armed with two things to say — "everything is on the table," and things are "best decided by local communities and by states" — and she recited these rote phrases to Savannah Guthrie no fewer than six times during the brief interview, regardless of relevance to the question.

How does such a high-level official maintain such a low level of learning? Well, consider that DeVos, whose brother Erik Prince, founded the Blackwater mercenary outfit, jettisoned the Education Department's usual security in favor of round-the-clock protection by U.S. marshals for \$6.5 million a year.

Apparently, this security team has been able to create an impermeable zone of ignorance around DeVos. It's downright brilliant.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



# House Democrats cite 'evidence' of Trump-Russia collusion

By Mary Clare Jalonick  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats on the House Intelligence Committee are sharply disagreeing with Republicans on the panel who say they don't see any evidence of collusion or coordination between President Donald Trump's 2016 campaign and Russia.

California Rep. Adam Schiff, the top Democrat on the panel, said Tuesday that he believes there is "significant evidence" of collusion between Trump's campaign and Russia, though he couldn't say if there was criminal wrongdoing.

Republicans on the committee announced Monday that they'd completed a draft report and they saw no evidence of collusion. Schiff, who saw the GOP report for the first time on Tuesday, said Democrats on the committee would try to continue the investigation where possible and would write their own report to lay out conclusions from the intelligence panel's yearlong investigation into Russian meddling.

The GOP report "misleadingly characterizes events, and paints a portrait and tells a story that could not have been better written if it was written in the White House itself," Schiff said.

Trump enthusiastically praised the draft Republican report, telling reporters Tuesday morning that the White House is "very, very happy" with the GOP conclusions.

"It was a powerful decision that left no doubt and I want to thank the House intelligence committee," Trump said.

Democrats have said for some time that they believed Republicans weren't conducting a serious investigation. Schiff on Tuesday released a 22-page report detailing threads that Democrats still believe the committee should pursue and witnesses they still want to hear from. Those include White House officials, campaign officials and people in the intelligence community.

As examples of evidence of coordination, Schiff cited multiple contacts between Trump's campaign and Russia, including a meeting in Trump Tower in June 2016 and information passed on to an Australian diplomat by a former Trump campaign aide, George Papadopolous, that the Russians had dirt on Hillary Clinton.

Schiff said Democrats would try to release all committee interview transcripts in their report. He also signaled that he would reopen or begin certain lines of inquiry if Democrats retake the majority of the House this November.

Rep. Mike Conaway, the Republican leading the Russia probe, previewed some of the GOP report's findings on Monday, but said the public will not see the full document until Democrats have reviewed it and the intelligence community has decided what information can be released, a process that could take weeks.

"We found no evidence of collusion," Conaway said, suggesting that those who believe there was collusion are reading too many spy novels. "We found perhaps some bad judgment, inappropriate meetings, inappropriate meetings in taking meetings. But only Tom Clancy or Vince Flynn or someone else like that could take this series of inadvertent contacts with each other, or meetings or whatever, and weave that into sort of a fiction page-turner, spy thriller."

In addition to the statement on coordination with Russians, Republicans said the draft challenges an assessment by U.S. intelligence agencies that the Russian government, at the direction of President Vladimir Putin, waged a covert influence campaign to interfere in the election with the goal of hurting Clinton's candidacy and helping Trump's campaign.

House Intelligence Committee officials said they spent hundreds of hours reviewing raw source material used by the intelligence services in the assessment and that it did not meet the appropriate standards to make the claim about helping Trump. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the intelligence material.

The Office of the Director of National Intelligence issued a statement soon after the GOP announcement, saying it stood by the intelligence community's findings.

Conaway appeared to walk that conclusion back a bit on Tuesday, saying it was clear that the Russians intended to hurt Clinton and make her a less effective president, if she won.

"Whether or not they were trying to hurt Hillary, help Trump, whatever it is — it's kind of the glass half full, glass half empty," Conaway said.

Conaway said there will be a second report just dealing with the intelligence assessment and its credibility.

According to Conaway, the GOP report will agree with the intelligence assessment on most other details, including that Russians did meddle in the election. It will detail Russian cyberattacks on U.S. institutions during the election and the use of social media to sow discord. It will also show a pattern of Russian attacks on European allies — information that could be redacted in the final report. It will blame officials in former President Barack Obama's administration for a "lackluster" response and look at leaks from the intelligence community to the media.

The Senate Intelligence Committee, which is also investigating the Russian intervention, is expected to have a more bipartisan report out in the coming weeks dealing with election security.

The Senate panel is expected to issue findings on the more controversial issue of coordination between the Trump campaign and Russia at a later date.

# Trump views designs for border wall

By Julie Watson and Jill Colvin  
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — President Donald Trump on Tuesday eagerly inspected eight towering prototypes for his long-sought wall at the U.S.-Mexico border and accused California of putting "the entire nation at risk" by refusing to take tough action against illegal immigration.

Trump, making his first trip to California as president, said he preferred a fully concrete wall because it was the hardest to climb, but he noted that it needed to be see-through. He said the first thing he noticed on the drive to the border was the patched-up holes in part of the existing fence.

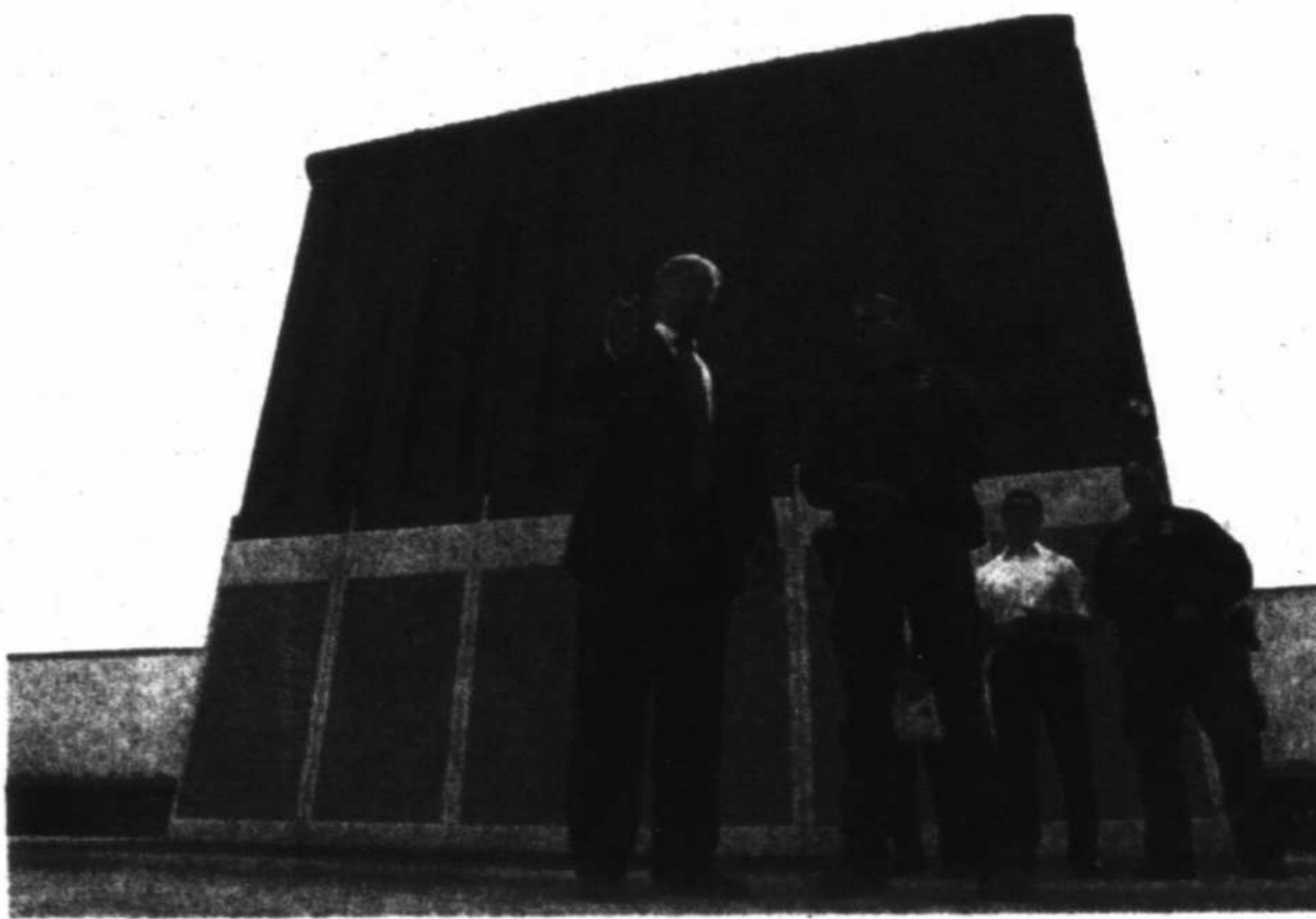
"We have a lousy wall over here now, but at least it stops 90, 95 percent," Trump said. "When we put up the real wall, we're going to stop 99 percent. Maybe more than that."

Trump's visit was greeted with peaceful protests by demonstrators both for and against his planned wall. The trip came amid an escalating battle between his administration and the liberal state, which has refused to help federal agents detain immigrants in the U.S. illegally.

The criticism renewed his president of Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown, saying Tuesday that he was presiding over sky-high tax rates and that the state's sanctuary policies "put the entire nation at risk."

"They're the best friend of the criminal," Trump said. "That's what exactly is happening. The criminals take refuge in these sanctuary cities and it's very dangerous for our police and enforcement folks."

The Justice Department last week sued to block a trio of California laws designed to protect people living in the U.S. illegally. Brown accused U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions of "going to war"



President Donald Trump reviews border wall prototypes Tuesday in San Diego.

with California to appease Trump.

After leaving the border, Trump basked in the cheers of U.S. Marines in Miramar, pointing to his work to build up the nation's military. He also suggested there may someday be a "space force" fighting alongside the nation's military branches.

Referencing his 2016 campaign showdown against Hillary Clinton — who received 4 million more votes than Trump in California — the president vowed that "very soon we're going to Mars" and the nation would not be seeking to explore the red planet had his opponent won.

Trump later attended a high-dollar fundraiser near Los Angeles, where he'll stay overnight. Guests paid up to \$250,000 to attend the event at the Beverly Hills home of Ed Glazer, co-chairman of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. The money raised will go to a joint fundraising committee that benefits Trump's 2020 re-election campaign and the Republican National Committee.

A few hundred protesters for and against Trump

faced off at a Beverly Hills park. A group of pro-immigration demonstrators chanted, "Say it now, say it clear, immigrants are welcome here."

Demonstrations were also held at the San Ysidro port of entry in San Diego, the nation's busiest border crossing, where protesters chanted, "No ban! No wall!" as honking cars and buses cheered them on. Protests were also held on the Mexican side, in Tijuana.

At San Ysidro, Jose Gonzalez, 21, stopped to snap a photo of the protesters holding signs, including one that read: "Wall off Putin!" in reference to Russian President Vladimir Putin, who has a seemingly close relationship with Trump.

"I don't think it's really fair how he has the choice to separate us," said Gonzalez, a dual citizen who lives in Tijuana and crosses the border daily to work at a San Diego ramen restaurant.

Army veteran Mark Prieto, 48, shook his head as he walked by the protest.

"People are so narrow-minded," the Riverside firefighter said as the crowd

chanted. "Finally we have someone who is putting America first."

His wife, Corina Prieto, a nurse who has extended family in Mexico, agreed. Both voted for Trump.

"I think he is doing a lot of good, like protecting our Border Patrol," she said.

Carla Provost, acting Border Patrol chief, said Trump "walked away with great understanding of the requirements we have on the border." She and other agents briefed the president on beefed-up security in California, Arizona and Texas over the years and cautioned that any changes need to preserve the ability to see what's happening on the other side. Provost said Congress has so far funded 40 miles of replacement wall — 14 miles in Calexico, California, and 24 miles in El Paso.

San Diego's Republican mayor criticized Trump's planned short visit, saying the president won't get a full picture of the city. Kevin Faulconer said a popular cross-border airport terminal connecting San Diego and Tijuana shows that "building bridges has worked wonders."

**HENRY**

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## Florida prosecutors seeking death penalty in school shooting

By Curt Anderson  
Associated Press

MIAMI — Prosecutors intend to seek the death penalty for the former student charged with killing 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School last month even though attorneys for Nikolas Cruz indicated he would plead guilty if his life was spared.

Cruz, 19, is scheduled for formal arraignment Wednesday on a 34-count indictment, including 17 first-degree murder charges. The office of Broward County State Attorney Michael Satz filed the formal notice of its intentions Tuesday, though the action does not necessarily mean a plea deal will not be reached.

The only other penalty option for Cruz, if convicted, is life in prison with no possibility of parole.

Ira Jaffe, whose son and daughter survived the shooting, said he respects the wishes of the 17 families whose children were killed and that time is better spent finding solutions to the problem of mass school shootings.

"Live forever in jail or die - I don't care," Jaffe said in an email. "Cruz will rot in hell no matter when it is that he arrives there."

Fred Guttenberg, whose daughter Jamie Guttenberg died in the shooting, was angry the state decided to pursue the death penalty, noting how tortuously long capital punishment cases last.

"My reaction is as a parent of a deceased student. I expected that the state would have pulled the parents together to ask what we wanted and they didn't," he said.

"This guy is willing to plea and spend the rest of his life in the general population. Let him do that and let them do what they want with him," Guttenberg added. "Why not take the plea and let the guy rot in hell?"

Broward County Public Defender Howard Finkelstein, whose office is representing Cruz, has said there were so many warning signs that Cruz was mentally unstable and potentially violent, and that the death penalty might be going

too far.

In an email Tuesday, Finkelstein said Cruz is "immediately ready" to plead guilty in return for 34 consecutive life sentences.

"If not allowed to do that tomorrow (at the hearing), out of respect for the victims' families we will stand mute to the charges at the arraignment. We are not saying he is not guilty but we can't plead guilty while death is still on the table," Finkelstein said.

If Cruz does not enter a plea, a not guilty plea will likely be entered on his behalf by Broward Circuit Judge Elizabeth Scherer to keep the legal process moving along, his attorneys have said.

In other developments, a student who is credited with saving the lives of 20 students by attempting to close and lock a classroom door during the attack was improving at a hospital.

Anthony Borges, 15, was shot five times. Weeks after being shot, he fell critically ill of an intestinal infection. After surgeries, his condition was upgraded to fair.

Meanwhile, Florida voters may get a chance to decide whether or not they want to approve new gun control restrictions.

While Gov. Rick Scott just signed a new school safety and gun bill into law, the state's Constitution Revision Commission may vote to place gun restrictions on this year's ballot. The commission, a special panel that meets every 20 years, has the power to ask voters to approve changes to the state's constitution.



Robert F. Bukaty/Associated Press

Snow accumulates on Paul Knight's eyebrows as he walks during a nor'easter Tuesday in Portland, Maine. "It's typical March weather, we're not out of winter yet, that's for sure," he said. "The groundhog was right, six more weeks of winter and probably then some ..."

## Storm blasts winter-weary Northeast; thousands lose power

By Alanna Durkin Richer  
Associated Press

BOSTON — The third powerful nor'easter in two weeks slammed the Northeast on Tuesday, bringing blizzard conditions and 2 feet of snow to some communities and knocking out power to tens of thousands of homes and businesses.

High winds and blowing snow led meteorologists to categorize the storm as a blizzard in parts of New England, including Boston. By afternoon, power outages climbed to more than 250,000 just in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

"We're not out of winter yet, that's for sure," Paul Knight, of Portland, said as snow accumulated on his eyebrows during a stroll. "The groundhog was right. Six more weeks of winter, and probably then some."

Boston's usually-packed subway trains were nearly empty as many workers stayed home and schools closed. Amtrak suspended all service Tuesday between Boston and New York City. The railroad later announced that most service between the two cities would resume on Wednesday.

The storm was expected to last through most of Tuesday, disrupting road and air travel. The flight-tracking site FlightAware reported more than 1,500 canceled flights on Tuesday. At Boston's Logan International Airport, the terminals were mostly empty with airport workers and the cleaning crew outnumbering passengers.

Nearly 2 feet (0.61 meters) of snow was reported in parts of Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Maine by Tuesday evening. In New Hampshire, a little over

2 feet, 25 inches (63.5 centimeters), was reported near Derry.

Not everyone complained. Andrew Gesler, who was walking in Portland with his son in a stroller and his dog alongside, said he was happy to see another big storm.

"I think it may be one of the last ones so I'm out here appreciating it," Gesler said. "I love the white stuff, always had ever since I was a kid."

Janice James' Osterville house on Cape Cod was in the dark again after losing power for three days in the last storm. James and her four children spent Tuesday eating baked goods she made before the storm and hoping the lights and heat come back soon.

"We are freezing," the 39-year-old said. Joe Rotella ducked into a train station as he tried to find his way to a hotel that's hosting a convention where he's speaking. Organizers were scrambling to establish video links to speakers whose planes were delayed or canceled, said Rotella, chief medical officer with the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

"As a visitor to Boston, I've been looking forward to this for months, and this is kind of an adventure for me," the Louisville, Kentucky, man said. "I didn't have to go through the last two nor'easters so this still feels like fun."

Miami residents Ashley Pozo, 21, and Ray Milo, 25, who were visiting friends in Boston, were stuck at the airport after their Tuesday flight was canceled. Rather than risk getting stranded in the city, they plan to stay another night in the airport, sleeping on chairs, watching Netflix and munching on supplies they picked up from a CVS drug store.

## Race to the wire in PA: Trump embarrassment or close call?

By Bill Barrow,  
Marc Levy and  
Steve Peoples  
Associated Press

MT. LEBANON, Pa. — Democrat Conor Lamb and Republican Rick Saccone were locked in surprisingly tight congressional election Tuesday night that pitted the strength of President Donald Trump's grasp on blue-collar America against the energy and anger of the political left.

The contest has drawn national attention as a bellwether for the midterm elections in November.

In a region Trump carried by 20 points, the White House has scrambled to rally voters behind Saccone, who cast himself as the president's "wingman," but has struggled at times to connect with the blue-collar coalition that fueled Trump's victory little more than a year ago.

Democrat Conor Lamb, a 33-year old Marine veteran and former federal prosecutor, downplayed his opposition to the Republican president on Tuesday and insisted instead that the race hinged on local issues.

"This didn't have much to do with President Trump," Lamb said after casting his vote in suburban Pittsburgh.

Because of a state court decision redrawing Pennsylvania's congressional boundaries, the winner will have to start campaigning for re-election almost immediately in a different district. Still, the election has far greater political consequences as each party prepares for the November midterm elections.

For the White House and its Republican allies, a Tuesday loss would represent both a profound embarrassment and major cause for concern in the broader push to defend majorities in the

U.S. House and Senate.

The president has campaigned in the district twice and sent several tweets on Saccone's behalf. Other recent visitors include the vice president, the president's eldest son, the president's daughter and the president's chief counselor. Outside groups aligned with Republicans have also poured millions of dollars into the contest.

For Democrats, a win would reverberate nationwide, while even a narrow loss would be viewed as a sign of increased Democratic enthusiasm just as the midterm season begins.

Lamb was watching election returns privately, but hundreds of his family, friends and supporters were enjoying a buffet and drinks at a Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, hotel.

The excited supporters included Lamb's middle school football and basketball coach, Joe DeSardo, who recalled Lamb as "a leader from the beginning."

The former coach described the district as having "a lot of suit-and-tie people and people who dig in the dirt." Lamb, he said, "can talk to all of them, and that's why he can win."

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# HEALTH + WELLNESS



Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Wednesday, March 14, 2018 | Section B

## Trump takes new tack on health care

*Changes range from computerized medical records to lower drug costs*

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A smartphone app that lets Medicare patients access their claims information. Giving consumers a share of drug company rebates for their prescriptions. Wider access to websites that reliably compare cost and quality of medical tests.

The Trump administration is taking a pragmatic new tack on health care, with officials promising consumer-friendly changes and savings in areas from computerized medical records to prescription drugs. New Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar has been rolling out the agenda, saying it has the full backing of President Donald Trump.

"They are taking a page out of smart policymaking 101 and hitting on themes that everybody cares about," said Kavita Patel, a

health policy expert at the Brookings Institution and a veteran of the Obama administration. "But there is not a lot of detail on how they're going to do it."

The first year of the Trump administration was marked by Republicans' unsuccessful struggle to repeal the Affordable Care Act. With Azar installed as Trump's second health secretary, the administration is shifting to issues of broader concern for people with Medicare and employer-provided coverage. Many of the ideas have bipartisan support and can be advanced without legislation from Congress.

Here's a look at new priorities outlined by Azar and Seema Verma, head of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

### Computerized medical records

Most hospitals and doctors now have

electronic records, but the systems don't necessarily talk to each other and patients find that their medical information remains hard to access.

The administration wants to write new standards nudging industry to get the systems communicating. That would allow patients to easily transfer records from one provider to another.

"We're not interested in micromanaging how this process happens," Azar said. "Patients ought to have control of their records in a useful format, period."

Medicare is working with software developers on apps that can provide beneficiaries with access to their claims data, which offer important medical details but not a complete picture.

Dan Mendelson, CEO of the consulting firm Avalere Health, said the goal is within reach, perhaps over a three-year period. A lot

of the groundwork has been laid by previous administrations, starting with Republican George W. Bush and advancing under Democrat Barack Obama.

"They are definitely taking a new tack on health care," Mendelson said of the Trump administration.

### Drug costs

As a candidate, Trump called for Medicare to negotiate drug prices and for allowing U.S. patients to import lower-cost prescriptions from overseas. His administration seems to have dropped those ideas.

But Azar, who spent 10 years as a pharmaceutical executive, has lots of other proposals. They include speeding generics to market, short-circuiting maneuvers that

Please see CHANGES/2B

## NEW PHARMACY OPENS



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Jenna Clark, far right, owner of ClackCo Concierge Pharmacy, joins in a hip-hop to health dance session Saturday during an open house at the business at 4425 W. Wesley Ave. The business, which opened in January, offers pharmacy compounding and counseling in wellness and nutrition and regenerative medicine, according to its website. For more information visit clackco.net or call 230-1221.

DENESSA LEARY

Midland YMCA Health and Wellness coordinator



*Mindfulness meditation helps achieve a calm state of mind*

Mindfulness meditation refers to the process of bringing one's attention to whatever is happening in the present. If you feel like you are going through life's motions but are not present, mindfulness meditation may help you become more awake, present and openhearted. Practicing mindfulness meditation involves more than sitting on a cushion and letting our minds wander. It requires one to focus their thoughts inward, along with their emotions and sensations, to whatever is happening at that exact moment.

There are meditation exercises that can help you to develop a strong mindful meditation practice. To focus only on one area of the body, such as one's natural breathing process for one minute, is an excellent place to start. A couple of things to remember are to find a comfortable and quiet place to begin your meditation practice. As you progress, you will be able to meditate anywhere at any time.

Start by sitting with your legs crossed, eyes closed and be attentive to what is happening inside of you, like breathing. Count to four as you inhale slowly. Count to four as you exhale slowly. Continue the breathing pattern a few more times working up to one minute or longer. Release the counting and let your breathing return to normal. Be in the present moment for one or two minutes, if possible. Let everything else go. How did you do? That was your first mindful meditation session. It is that simple.

Being able to hold a crossed-leg seated position for any amount of time and only keep your focus on your breath can be harder than you think. The mind often will run to other thoughts, and if this happens, pause, accept it, and return the focus to your breathing.

Meditation was work for me in the beginning. It was hard to sit still for two minutes, nor did I understand what it meant to meditate. A few breaths into it and an outside noise, a sneeze, or someone shuffling would make me wonder what I was doing sitting on the floor with my legs crossed when I had so many things to do.

Eventually, I forgot about the external noise and endless to-do lists. I began to focus on internal awareness, which led to a calmness, a refocusing and then peace. Mindfulness meditation is a learned process, and some people may need a little

Please see DECLINE/3B

Please see LEARY/3B

## Study: Great Recession linked to health declines

■ Researchers found significantly higher blood pressure, blood sugar levels in American adults

By William Wan  
Washington Post

As if we don't have enough to worry about — daily political drama, volatile stock markets and North Korean nuclear threats — a new study suggests that living through such times of instability and societal upheaval can greatly worsen personal health.

Using large data sets gathered before and after the 2008-2010 Great Recession, researchers found significantly higher blood pressure and blood sugar levels in American adults.

"We found some pretty big effects, differences in blood pressure that would not be something a doctor would sneeze at," said Teresa Seeman, a veteran epidemiologist at the University of California at Los Angeles and the study's lead author. "It does make you think about the times we live in now. Things are not exactly the most stable they've been. And it will be interesting to see what the effect will be of all the upheaval

### Inside

Suburban visits lead to reduced blood pressure  
Page 3B

we're going through now."

The study, published Monday in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, showed that those hardest hit by the trauma of the recession showed the greatest signs of worse health. Those included pre-retirement adults under 65, who would have been most worried about losing their jobs, and older homeowners over 65, who were most likely to see their nest eggs shrink and home values plummet.

Adults already on blood pressure medication also appeared to take a bigger hit to their health, the study found.

"It appeared that because their health was already compromised, they were more biologically vulnerable to the effects of stress," Seeman said.

Eileen Crismins, a demographer at University of Southern California who was not involved in the study, said its conclusions linking the recession's stresses to health declines appeared

credible.

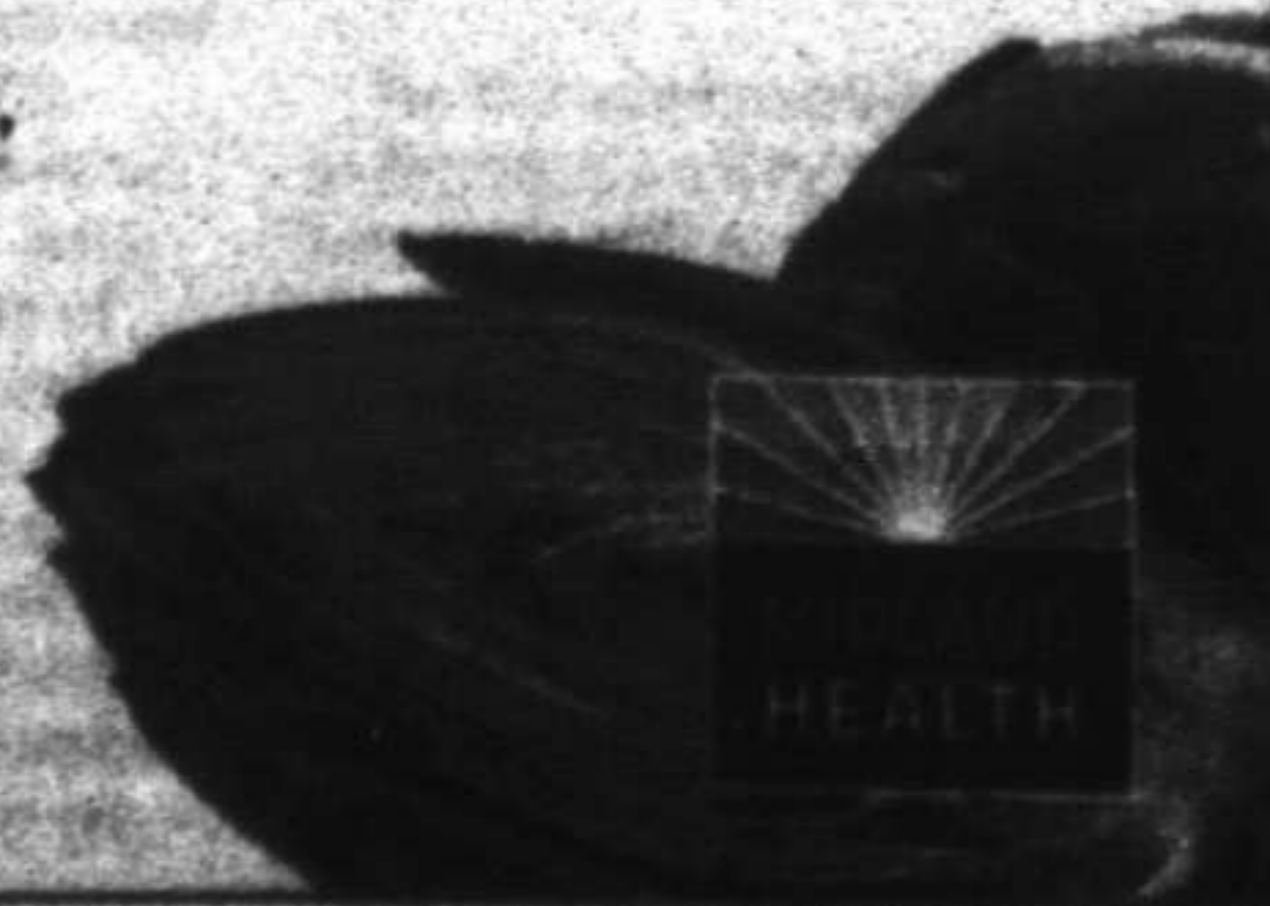
"If you're working with that much data and you get that much change, there's something there in terms of causation," she said. "The difficulty is often in getting the causation. But the more data you have about 'the before,' the more certain you are about what caused 'the after.'"

The researchers drew on unusually rich data collected every two years in a federally funded survey called the Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA), originally designed to study cardiovascular disease. And while they focused on the effects of economic upheaval, other research in recent years has examined the health effects of political upheaval — such as a decline in life expectancy during the collapse of the Soviet Union.

"Good health doesn't start in hospitals and clinics; it starts in our homes and neighborhoods, in the food we eat, the air we breathe, and the safety of our streets," concluded a 2013 book on the health effects of political policy called "The Body Economic." "Indeed, the top predictor of your life expectancy is your

## At the Heart of Preventative Care

At Midland Health, we believe true health includes the mind, body and spirit. Go beyond managing sickness. For more information about the Lifestyle Medicine Center, visit [midlandlifestylemedicine.org](http://midlandlifestylemedicine.org), or call 432.221.LIFE (5433).



Obituaries



Boyd Lynn Keith

It is with great sadness that the family of Boyd Lynn Keith announces the passing on March 5, 2018, in Fort Worth, Texas, at the age of 63. Boyd had been confronting mantle cell lymphoma since 2013. Boyd was a devoted father and husband and will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Dawn Keith, his three children and their spouses, Kelly, Kyle Keith and Steven Keith. Boyd will also be remembered by his father, Leonard Keith, Boyd's sister, Cheryl Keith DeFries and his seven grandchildren who he treasured. Boyd was predeceased by his mother, Billie Faye Fox Keith. Family members and friends will dearly miss Boyd's positive sense of humor and his at-ease personality. A memorial service for Boyd will be held at 2p.m. on Saturday, March 17, at First Baptist Church Washington, 100 S. Mann, Washington, OK.

In lieu of flowers, donation may be offered to the Shriners' Hospitals for Children at www.shrinershospitalforchildren.org/shc/born-care be offered at www.ellisfuneralhome.com

Ellis Funeral Home logo and contact information: 801 Andrews Hwy, (409) 863-3333



Debbie Loyd White

Debbie Loyd White, age 53, of Odessa, TX, passed away on March 10, 2018 in Odessa. Funeral services will be at 1:00 pm Friday, March 16, 2018 at Sunset Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Brother Terry Easley of First Southern Baptist Church in Gardendale, officiating. Memorial Gardens. Debbie was born in Arlington, TX to William Earl (Bill) & Shirley Loyd on December 23, 1964. She went to school at Midland High. She was married to Don White for 29 years. She worked as a warranty administrator for Kelly Grimsley for 13 years. She was a member of Kehew Heights Baptist Church for 15 years and then later at University Heights Baptist Church in Odessa. Family was her life & her number one priority. Her grandson Jaxson was her pride & joy & could always put a smile on her face. She taught us many life lessons that we will always carry in our hearts. Debbie is preceded in death by her brother, Tommy Loyd, grandfathers, Edith, several uncles & cousins. Debbie is survived by her son, Christopher White, daughter, Tiffany White, James, son in law, Carson Jones, grandson, Jackson, husband of 29 years Don White, sister, Tammy Loyd Coyer, mother, Shirley Beckwith Loyd, father, William Earl Loyd, grandfather, Dorothy Skidmore, niece, Dezzene Williams, nephews, James Kohr, Justin Coyer, Justin White, Josh White, Jordan White, & many aunts, uncles, cousins, great nieces & nephews. Arrangements are entrusted to Sunset Memorial Gardens and Funeral Home. To send family condolences please sign her guestbook at www.sunsetmemorial.com

SUNSET MEMORIAL GARDENS & FUNERAL HOME logo



Gregory A. Johnson

Gregory A. Johnson died peacefully in his sleep on

March 10 after a courageous battle against the rare neurological disease of Multiple System Atrophy (MSA). He was born July 12, 1954 in Cincinnati, OH, the first child of Robert E. Johnson of Columbus, OH, and Joan M. Johnson of Cincinnati.

Greg was a loving and devoted husband, father, brother, uncle and son. He is survived by his mother, Joan, RN; his wife, Kathryn and daughter Sarah Johnson and husband Duaneke Yarnagum of Yokotaka, Japan, and son Stephen of Harrisburg, NC. He is also survived by sisters Terri Shannon (Randy) of Fort Worth, Suzanne NeSmith (Doug) of Crawford, TX; Nancette Yeager (Mark) of Coppell, TX; brother Jeffrey (Sonja) of Glendale, AZ; and sisters and nephews Kristin, Breton, Matthew, Timothy, Amy, Heather, Haley, Sam and Caroline. He was predeceased in 1999 by his father, a retired petroleum engineer, and a niece Rebecca Johnson in 2009.

Greg was a Professional Engineer (P.E.) in North Carolina and Pennsylvania prior to retirement from a successful 25-year career at Prochem Natural Gas. He graduated summa cum laude with an undergraduate degree from Texas A&M and earned a master's degree from Purdue University. He had a life-long passion for understanding low energy works and harnessing technology for more efficient ways to use it. Greg was also dedicated to serving the broader community through education, industry partnerships, and fundraising. An active member in the Charlotte-South Rotary Club, Greg led a national service project for several years. He was grateful to his Rotary family for their help and encouragement throughout his two-year illness.

Visitation will be from 6 to 9 pm Thursday, March 15, 2018 at McEwen Davis Chapel, 6300 Mallard Creek Rd., Charlotte, NC 28262. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018 at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, 1400 Suther Road, Harrisburg, NC 28377. Burial will take place in St. James Catholic Church Cemetery, Concord, NC.

Memorials in Greg's name may be made to the MSA Coalition, 9935-D Ren Road, Suite # 212, Charlotte NC 28277; and to the Charlotte-South Foundation, 704-C Fairview Road, PHB 188, Charlotte, NC 28226. Online condolences may be made at www.mcccva.com



James Ronald Stanley

James Ronald Stanley was born to James R. Stanley and Rosemary Drummond Stanley of Midland, TX, in September 1949. He grew up on a farm in Midland. Ron graduated from Midland High School in 1967. From there he went to James Curran Technical Institute in Waco, TX, to study mechanics. In April 1968, Ron married Linda Nicholson of Midland. Ron and Linda went on to

have three daughters: Rebecca, Keri, and Dawn, and 10 grandchildren. They lived for brief periods in Waco, TX, and Grand Prairie, TX, before returning to Midland to raise their family. Ron believed his greatest accomplishment in life was raising his daughters.

Ron worked on the family farm and as a mechanic before deciding to open L.R.'s Water Well Service with his father in the early 1980s. Ron successfully served the community in his company for 35 years before selling to long-time friend and employee, Greg O'Hara. He was passionate about providing excellent service to his customers in the community.

He was a long-time member of the Texas Groundwater Association and National Groundwater Association. Ron was passionate about his faith and relationship with the Lord. He strove to walk out his faith in all seasons of life. Ron was a long-time member of Calvary Assembly of God. He started and served in the Word of Righteousness Distribution (W.O.R.D.) Ministry to deliver Bibles to truck stops, convenient stores, restaurants, and offices. He was also active in the men's ministry at Calvary.

Ron is survived by his daughters, Rebecca, David, of Kerrville, TX; Keri Helfin, Rosie Flores, and Dana Flores and her husband, Jose, of Hunt, TX; and nine grandchildren: Benjamin McCright, Bradley Helfin, Zoe McCright, Katelynn McCright, Jake Helfin, Grace Helfin, Abby Helfin, Rosie Flores, and Frankie Flores and numerous extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Linda, granddaughter Lindsey Ann Kumbels; parents Jim and Rosemary Stanley; and siblings Richard, Patrick, and Patricia.

The Stanley Family would like to thank Hospice of Midland Home Instead Senior Care, Frequent Dialysis Clinic, Dr. Burnett, Dr. Porras, Dr. Oliver, and Dr. Bray.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to W.O.R.D. Ministry at Calvary Assembly of God. Services are managed by Lovell-Garcia-Pipkin. A Celebration of Life will be Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 1:00pm at Calvary Assembly of God Church at 908 S. Johnston, Midland, TX. A graveside service will follow at Resthaven Cemetery. Funeral service is under the direction of Lovell-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to pipkin@lovelgarcia.com or to www.lovelgarcia.com. You can visit our website at www.lovelgarcia.com.

Lewallen Pipkin Funeral Home logo and contact information: 2014 S. Johnston, Midland, TX 79701



Joyce Tinsbury

Joyce Tinsbury, 83, of Midland passed away on Sunday, March 11, 2018 in Wichita Falls, Texas. She was born on April 1, 1934 in Memphis, Texas to A.J. and Traffic Covert. She

was a homemaker and a Baptist. She is preceded in death by her husband Doug Tankersley; Daughter Dana Reynolds; granddaughter Missy McLain; siblings Ollie Easley, Mavis Smith, Jason Gossett, Calvin Gossett, Helen Cox and Easter Magric. Brogren and beloved pet Maggie.

Joyce is survived by her sons, Villas McLain (C) of Wichita Falls, Texas and Dale McLain of Dallas; daughter Vickie (Frank) of Midland; grandchildren Bobby Ogin, Jeff Ogin, Trevor Reynolds, Choice McLain and Precious McLain and sisters Delores Townsend and Lillie Burnett.

There will be a graveside service at Resthaven Memorial Park on Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers donations may be offered to the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org.

The family would like to thank Hospice of Wichita Falls for their care and support.

Online condolences may be offered at www.ellisfuneralhome.com

Ellis Funeral Home logo and contact information: 14220 63rd Street, Midland, TX 79706



Peggy Russell

P.M. "Boots" Peggy Russell passed away on March 10, 2018 surrounded by family.

He was born in Logan County, Arkansas on July 7, 1936 to P.M. and Ida Rose Russell. "Boots" moved to Midland in the mid-50s and worked in the oilfield before starting Price in 1964. He was an avid fisherman and truly loved fishing with his grandchildren.

"Boots" was preceded in death by his parents and several siblings. He is survived by sons Roger Russell and daughter Texas, Greg Russell of Midland; Kimberly McCovey of Midland; and daughter Nolan and Josly Smith of Russell; sister Sally Barber of Midland; and several nieces and nephews.

A service will be held in the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel on Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 11 am. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park. Pallbearers will be Stan Williamson, Sheldon Williamson, Nolan Kirby Smith, Mark McCovey, Mike Smith and Justin Smith. Honorary pallbearers will be Jimmy Russell, Steve Quinn and Darryl Rogers. Online condolences may be offered at www.ellisfuneralhome.com

Ellis Funeral Home logo and contact information: 14220 63rd Street, Midland, TX 79706

All Obituaries must be submitted by 3:30 P.M. prior to next publication day.



Isabella Neria

Isabella Neria passed away March 10, 2018. She was born August 7, 2017 to Abel and Natalia Neria. A visitation will be held Thursday, March 15, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Apostolic Assembly Church, 2309 S. Fort Worth St. Midland. Funeral service will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 15, 2018 at Apostolic Assembly Church. Burial will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Survivors include her loving parents, Abel and Natalia Neria of Midland; a sister, Genesis Neria of Midland; paternal grandparents, Ernesto and Teresa Neria of Midland; maternal grandparents, Elida Bernal of Midland and Ruben Rodriguez of San Antonio; maternal great-grandparents, Atilano and Maria Bernal of San Antonio; paternal great-grandmother, Mamata Neria of Porterville, CA. Serving as pallbearers will be Abel Neria, Joel Neria, Josh Ortega and Rick Navarro. Funeral arrangements are entrusted to Avalon-Sanchez & Thomas Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be offered at www.ellisfuneralhome.com

Ellis Funeral Home logo and contact information: 14220 63rd Street, Midland, TX 79706

Death Notices

Jesse Whitlow 29, of Midland, passed away March 10, 2018. No services are scheduled at this time with Stanton Memorial Funeral Home.

She is survived by her parents Edward Whitlow and Mariadana Heydon.

Maria N. Hinojosa de Gonzalez

Maria N. Hinojosa de Gonzalez, 88, passed away March 12, 2018. She was born March 28, 1929 in Mexico. She is survived by her children, Juan Gonzalez Felipe Gonzalez, Raphael Gonzalez, Adolfo Gonzalez and Virginia Varela; sixteen grandchildren and fifty-six great-grandchildren. Viewing will be held March 14, 2018 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at American Heritage Funeral Home. Rosary will be held at Our Lady of Guadalupe at 2:00 p.m. with burial immediately following at American Heritage Cemetery.

Sarah McBrayer

Sarah McBrayer, 93, of Midland, passed away Monday, March 12, 2018. Survivors include sons, Tommie McBrayer and Scott McBrayer; daughter, Holly Brewer; and three siblings. All final offerings should be taken to Midway-Ficks & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Midland Reporter-Telegram logo and contact information: 1011 W. 11th St., Midland, TX 79701

Questions about death notices or online Guest Books? Email to obits@wrt.com

CHANGES

From 1B drug companies use to weed off competitors, and changing government policies that may encourage drugmakers to raise prices because federal programs will bear the cost. A new report issued by the United States House of Representatives indicates that it will pass on drugmaker relations to some of its constituents. That means a Trump budget proposal for Medicare, the government's premier health insurance program, covering about 60 million seniors and disabled people. Advisory Group CEO John Barber of the York and Health Care Coalition said earlier to be-

or drug costs is the most substantial part of the Trump agenda. "There is an open question as to whether the rhetoric is going to produce anything real," he said. Pulling funds the well A routine test such as an echocardiogram, an ultrasound exam that can detect heart problems, can cost 10 times as much in a hospital as it does in a doctor's office. And that's just the list of items that will be affected. Medicare and Medicaid also pay for many other services, and can be responsible for covering the cost of care. Republicans have a long list of getting new prices for

health care goods and services in front of congress, including the cost to fund a medical revolution and help curb exorbitant spending. Real competition has never been fully tried in our "health" system. Aar told a hospital system. He's promising to use the weight of Medicare and Medicaid to force down prices. He's promising to use the weight of Medicare and Medicaid to force down prices. He's promising to use the weight of Medicare and Medicaid to force down prices. He's promising to use the weight of Medicare and Medicaid to force down prices.

Medicare is paying for value. Aar told lawmakers to use an agency created under Obama — the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation — to open change. WDR says As the administration pushes to improve quality and lower costs, it's all promising reports of the Affordable Care Act, which would reach in millions of low- and middle-income people looking coverage. "Can you really promise providers changes in health care delivery while at the same time you're talking about" said Barber. "It is an interesting dynamic."

**ANGIE MORRIS**  
Centers



## Adults can help kids deal with stress

Between homework, after-school activities, standardized testing, bullying and social media, it is no surprise that children and teens are more stressed out than ever. Adults tend to overlook stress in our children because we think of childhood and adolescence as a carefree time with little worry and responsibility. "Children age 8 to 17 say they worry about things such as doing well in school, getting into good colleges and their family's finances,"

according to the American Psychological Association. "They also report suffering headaches, sleeplessness and upset stomachs."

Things happening around them also can produce stress in adolescents. Family tension and world events can invoke stress within our children. Signs of stress include mood changes, irritability, withdrawal and negative thoughts.

Parents and caregivers

Please see MORRIS/4B

## LEARY

From 1B

guidance to start. After many weeks of practice, I didn't have a problem sitting and meditating up to 20 minutes. Now I look forward to meditation. It is not alone time with my thoughts; I shut down those thoughts. It is a time to focus inward, to reconnect and become calm again.

I recently shared a guided meditation with a friend, and he was surprised to learn I meditate. I rarely share my "yogasims" (what I call them) unless teaching or someone asks me to divulge. There is an abundance of books and explanations on the philosophies, and it is still hard to explain. Mindfulness meditation may be explained as becoming centered, balanced, calming or being present. You learn more from experiencing mindfulness meditation than reading about it.

The most

straightforward summary would be the practice is like an onion. After peeling one layer, you realize there is another layer and another, and it keeps going. Each layer reveals a new "aha" moment. You begin to see things differently, or you become more mindful in your life.

Practicing mindfulness meditation helps you to reconnect to the senses, the heart and emotions and the body. Whether you use guided or unguided meditation, its purpose is to refocus the mind to achieve a mentally clear and emotionally calm state. Use whichever method works best for you, and allow the proper amount of time at the same time every day to meditate. Work inward first, so you may share your mindful shine outwardly.

Denessa Leary is YMCA Health and Wellness coordinator.

## DECLINE

From 1B

Zip code. That's because much of what keeps us healthy has to do with our social environment."

In fact, the party and person who occupies the White House often has a powerful effect on societal health, said Javier Rodriguez, a political scientist at Claremont Graduate University, who researches the intersection of politics and health. Recent studies have suggested that the party in power can have noticeable impact not just on health but on income and wealth inequality and mortality, too.

In 2013, Rodriguez found that U.S. infant mortality consistently worsens during Republican presidential administrations compared to Democratic presidencies. His study used data across nine presidencies, from 1965 to 2010, and he concluded that the higher death rates under Republicans were

likely because of policies that worsened health inequalities.

Given the policies enacted so far by President Trump, Rodriguez said Monday, the trend is likely to continue.

"Weakening the welfare system and redirecting policy that would increase even further income and wealth inequality will add to the trend detected in my research," he said via email. In coming years, he added, researchers looking back at the current period will be particularly interested in studying the health effects minorities, immigrants and the poor.

Based on past studies assessing the health effects of particular events or policies, it often takes a year for such consequences to begin showing up in the data.

"If this is so, we should begin to detect the effects of Trump's administration policies and interventions soon," he said.



Damian Dovarganes/Associated Press

Barber Eric Muhammad, owner of A New You Barbershop cuts the hair of customer Marc M. Sims before measuring his blood pressure Sunday in Inglewood, Calif. Black male customers at dozens of Los Angeles area barbershops reduced one of their biggest health risks through a novel project that paired barbers and pharmacists to test and treat customers.

## Barbershop visits lead to lower blood pressure

Cardiologist's study shows community involvement can help get 'epidemic under control'

By Marilyn Marchione  
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Trim your hair, your beard, your blood pressure? Black men reduced one of their biggest medical risks through a novel project that shows the power of familiar faces and trusted places to improve health.

The project had pharmacists work with dozens of Los Angeles barbershops to test and treat clients. The results, reported Monday at a cardiology conference, have doctors planning to expand the project to more cities nationwide.

"There's open communication in a barbershop. There's a relationship, a trust," said Eric Muhammad, owner of A New You Barbershop, one of the barbers who participated. "We have a lot more influence than just the doctor walking in the door."

Black men have high rates of high blood pressure — a top reading over 130 or a bottom one over 80 — and the problems it can cause, such as strokes and heart attacks. Only half of Americans with high blood pressure have it under control; many don't even know they have the condition.

Churches, beauty salons and other community spots have been used to reach groups that often lack access to doctors, to promote cancer screenings and other services. Dr. Ronald Victor, a cardiologist at

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, wanted to reach black men.

"Barbershops are a uniquely popular meeting place for African-American men," and many have gone every other week to the same barber for many years, he said. "It almost has a social club feel to it, a delightful, friendly environment" that makes it ideal for improving health.

Victor did a study in 17 Dallas barbershops a few years ago. In that one, barbers tested patrons and referred them to doctors. Improvements were modest.

In the new study, "we added a pharmacist into the mix" so medicines could be prescribed on the spot, he said.

The new work involved 303 men and 52 barbershops. One group of customers just got pamphlets and blood pressure tips while they were getting haircuts. Another group met with pharmacists in the barbershops and could get treatment if their blood pressure was high.

At the start of the study, their top pressure number averaged 154. After six months, it fell by nine points for customers just given advice and by 27 points for those who saw pharmacists.

Nearly two-thirds of the men who saw pharmacists lowered their pressure to under 130 over 80 — the threshold for high blood pressure under new guidelines adopted last fall. Only 12 percent of the men who just got advice dropped to that level.

"This is a home run ... high-touch medicine," said one independent expert, Eileen Handberg, a heart researcher at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Most drug trials only dream about such good results, yet

they were achieved in a regular community setting, she said.

Nineteen of Muhammad's customers finished the program, and "all their blood pressures were down, every single one of them," he said.

Marc Sims, a 43-year-old records clerk at a law firm, is one. He didn't know he had high pressure — 175 over 125 — and the pharmacist said he was at risk of having a stroke.

"It woke me up," said Sims, who has a young son. "All I could think about was me having a stroke and not being here for him. It was time to get my health right."

Medicines lowered his pressure to 125 over 95.

Treatment doesn't always mean medicines; healthier lifestyles can do a lot. Poor diets, lack of exercise and other bad habits are what leads to high blood pressure in many people who have it.

The National Institutes of Health paid for the study. Results were discussed at an American College of Cardiology conference in Orlando and published by the New England Journal of Medicine.

The cost of doing this isn't really known. Victor now aims to do a study of 3,000 men in many cities around the country; the study will consider costs. He also hopes to tackle high cholesterol with a similar approach.

The results show that "you don't need cardiologists" to improve things, said Dr. Willie Lawrence, an American Heart Association spokesman and blood pressure specialist in Kansas City, Missouri. "We can partner with others in the community and get this epidemic under control."

## 23andMe gets OK to report breast cancer risk

Company is first in U.S. allowed to test without a prescription

By Carolyn Y. Johnson  
Washington Post

The direct-to-consumer genetic testing company, 23andMe, has received federal approval to inform people of breast cancer risk linked to three gene mutations — making it the first company in the United States allowed to test for cancer risk without a prescription.

The Food and Drug Administration decision

is a step forward for the evolving world of consumer genomics. The company can report back the three mutations in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes that are the most common in the Ashkenazi Jewish population. But those mutations are not the most common BRCA mutations in the broader population.

Donald St. Pierre, acting director of the office of In Vitro Diagnostics and Radiological Health in the FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health, said in a statement that the approval is a step forward with "a lot of caveats."

"Most BRCA mutations that increase an

individual's risk are not detected by this test," St. Pierre said. "The test should not be used as a substitute for seeing your doctor for cancer screenings or counseling on genetic and lifestyle factors that can increase or decrease cancer risk."

23andMe previously included breast cancer risk in its genetic tests in the U.S., but stopped in 2013 after the FDA sent the company a warning letter stating the company was marketing their test without approval. Anne Wojcicki, the co-founder and chief executive of 23andMe, said that the company's experience selling the test before 2013

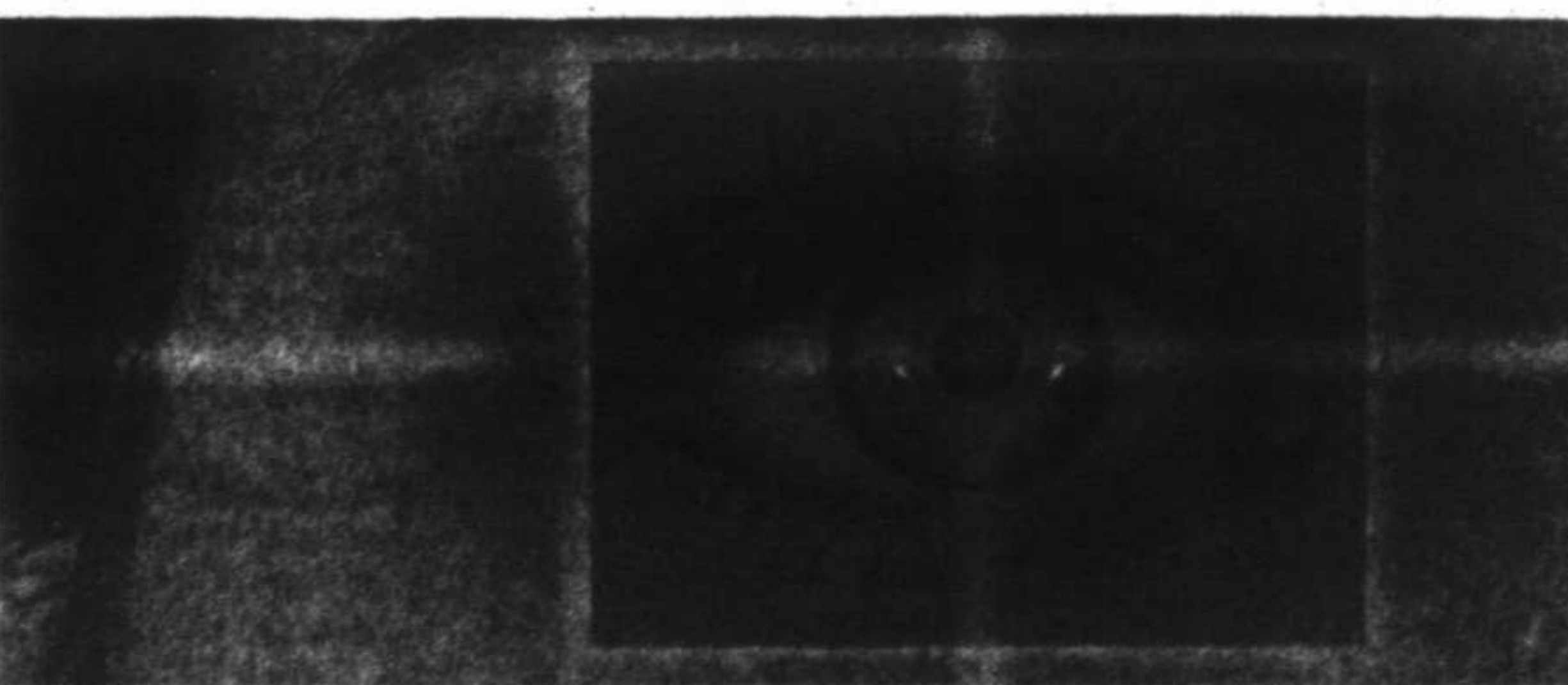
in the U.S. and in the United Kingdom and Canada had provided insight into how useful the information can be, particularly to customers who did not realize they had Ashkenazi Jewish heritage.

"Since the FDA warning letter, it's been a high priority for me and the company to get this report back," Wojcicki said. "I'm thrilled today."

Wojcicki said that although the company hasn't yet announced specific cancer risk mutations that it will add in the future, the approval surmounts a major hurdle.

Please see RISK/4B

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## MORRIS

From 3B

need to know how to help children when they are stressed. Here are helpful ways and tools to distress your child or teenager.

### Notice out loud

Tell your child when you notice that something's bothering him or her. If you can, name the feeling you think your child is experiencing. ("It seems like you're still mad about what happened at the playground.") This shouldn't sound like an accusation (as in, "OK, what happened now? Are you still mad about that?") or put a child on the spot. It's just a casual observation that you're interested in hearing more about your child's concern. Be sympathetic and show you care and want to understand.

### Talk and listen

Open the lines of communication with your child. If you suspect something is wrong, ask them. Ask questions about their day and the challenges they face. Ask questions about their feelings and relationships they are in. Take time to listen attentively to your child. Avoid any urge to judge, blame or lecture. The idea is to let your child's concerns and feelings be heard.

### Limit stress where possible

If certain situations are causing stress, see if there are ways to change or eliminate situations. For instance, if too many after-school activities consistently cause homework stress, it might be necessary to limit activities to leave time and energy for homework.

### Model coping strategies

If you cannot handle and deal with stress, then most likely your child will never learn how, either. When you are stressed, talk about your feelings and pinpoint the causes of your stress. If you are doing too much, set the example of "taking things off your plate." Exercise and get sufficient amount of sleep, which can help decrease stress.

### Be patient

As a parent, it hurts to see your child unhappy or stressed. Try to resist the urge to fix every problem. Instead, focus on helping your child grow into a good problem-solver — a kid who knows how to roll with life's ups and downs, put feelings into words, calm down when needed, and bounce back to try again.

## RISK

From 3B

Direct-to-consumer genetic tests have typically raised concern because of fears that people may not understand the information and panic or might be falsely reassured. Any person who comes back with a negative for these three gene mutations, for example, could still carry other mutations in the BRCA genes that elevate their cancer risk. They could also face elevated breast cancer risk because of other gene variations or other factors.

Robert C. Green, a medical geneticist at Brigham and Women's Hospital, said the FDA's decision was somewhat surprising, but gratifying — and a step forward in democratizing genomic information.

Green has studied how people handle information about genetic disease risks, and said that while the information can be upsetting, it can empower people to take actions.

"I don't want to trivialize the potential for serious psychological burden that this risk information might provide; however, it is risk information that we know can lead to lifesaving interventions," Green said. "So you have to balance that against the distress people might feel."

## Midland soon will have second community garden

Midland soon will have a second community garden. The YMCA is planning a 32-plot garden that will open this summer. For more information or to donate funds for the Midland YMCA garden, visit facebook.com/midlandymcacomunitygarden, or email Elizabeth Harris at eharris@midlandymca.org.

### Community garden accepting applications

The Midland Health Community Garden at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus is accepting applications for spring and summer. Plots are available for \$16 per season. To download an application, visit www.midlandhealth.org/garden or email midlandhealthgarden@gmail.com.

### Lifestyle class set

The Lifestyle Medicine Center's next class is on plant-based nutrition. The class is set for 6 p.m. Classes are open to the public and patients of the Lifestyle Medicine Center. Each class is \$5. To register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events. For more information, call 221-5433. Upcoming class is: March 29 - Meditation and Finding Balance

### Midland Health events

- Becoming a Mom class, 6:30 p.m. today at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus; 221-1150; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.
- Weigh to Success, 4 p.m. Thursday, Midland Memorial Hospital; Sundae Adkins, 638-8081, sundae.adkins@midlandhealth.org; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.
- Breastfeeding Class, 6 p.m. Monday, Midland Memorial Hospital; Amber Cunningham, 221-3283, childbirtheducation@midlandhealth.org; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.

## HEALTHBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

### Weekly support groups & hotlines (subject to change)

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

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays, PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St., 634-7609.

■ CODA Group, 12-step program for relationships, 7 p.m. Fridays and Sundays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 599-4490.

■ La Hacienda Alumni, support group for former patients, 7 p.m. Thursdays, Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road, Bldg. A, 553-7220.

### Finding a doctor

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

### Hope Chest

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

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

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

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

### MMH payment options

Midland Memorial Hospital recognizes that our community is facing challenging financial times. Resources are tight and families are having to make important decisions about what to spend money on now and what has to wait. Realizing health care can be expensive and the increasing deductibles make it hard to

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

Source: Midland Memorial Hospital

### How sick are you?

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

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

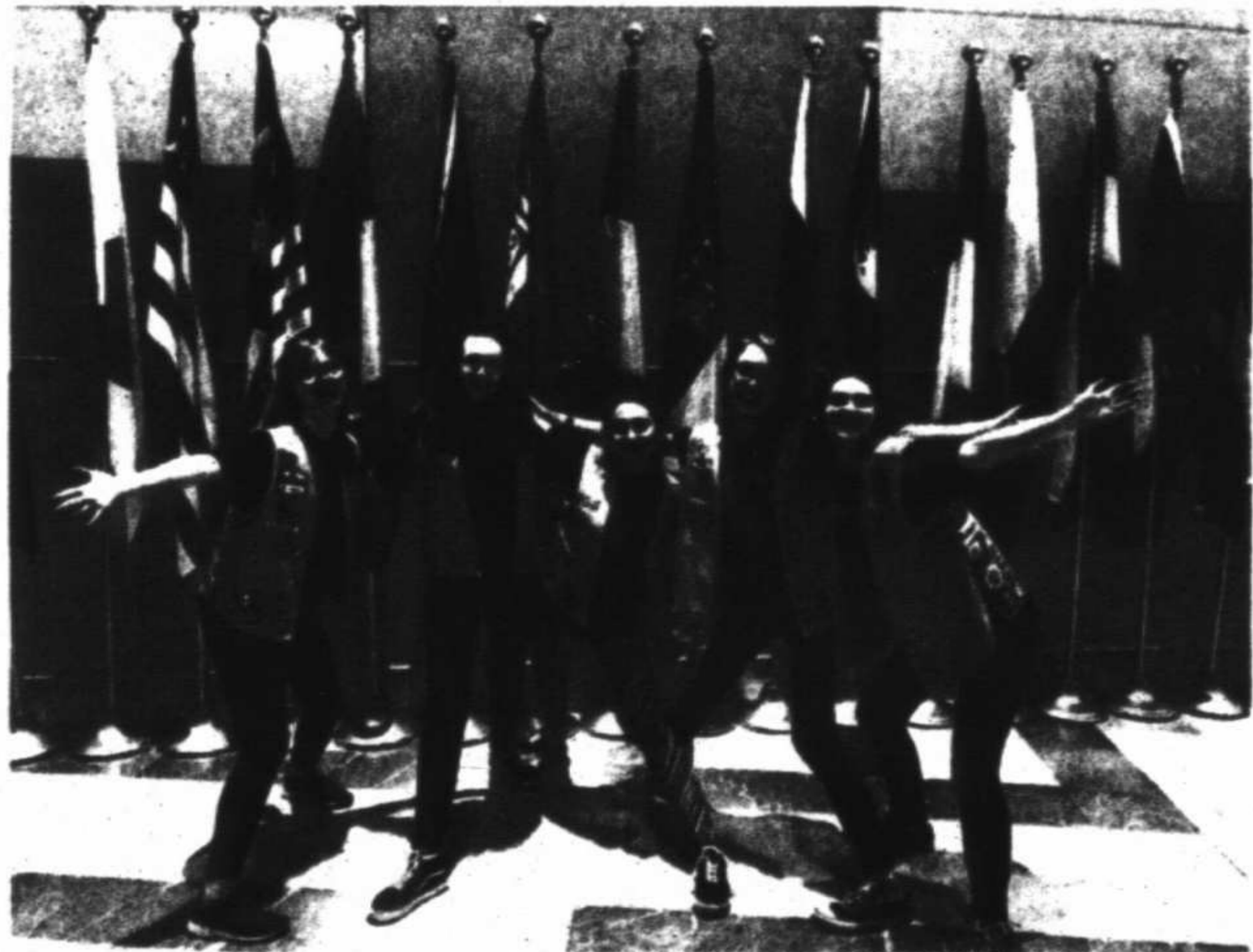
### Help line for long-term or disabled care

The Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services has a toll-free number residents can call to obtain information on services for the disabled or long-term care. For more information, call 855-937-2372.

### Contact your Hospital District representative

Midland Memorial Hospital 400 Rosalind Rodfern Grover Parkway, Midland, Texas, 79701  
Phone: 221-1111  
Website: www.midlandhealth.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MidlandMemorialHospitalTwitter: twitter.com/MidlandMemorial  
MidlandMemorial President Russell Meyers 221-1584  
Directors — District 1: Tracie Greene, District 2: Dwain Tomlin, District 3: Larry Mercer, District 4: Cressinda Hyatt, District 5: Cari Chaplin, District 6: Joe Kiowski, District 7: Jeffrey Beard



Courtesy of Annelise Harpervia The Washington Post

Girl Scouts pose after the Aurora City Council passes their law: Sofia Arastand, 14, from left, Micaela Morrill, 14, Juliana Martin, 13, Annelise Harpervia, 13, and Malvina Batcho, 13.

## Girl Scouts responsible for new anti-smoking law

■ Measure bans adults from smoking in vehicles when minors are present

By Allison Klein  
Washington Post

A Girl Scout troop in Colorado studied the effects of smoking and wanted to do something about secondhand smoke.

So the teens approached their troop leader and told her they wanted to write a law and propose it to the Aurora City Council to limit smoking, specifically banning lighting up in cars when kids are present.

"It was out of the blue," said troop leader Kristen Batcho, who works in finance and does not have any political or legislative experience. "I said, 'We've never done this before.'"

But she quickly decided: Why not? The Aurora City Council passed the law — prohibiting adults from smoking in cars with minors — which took effect earlier this month. Violators face mandatory community service.

"I'm not a sentimental guy, but it gave me a real renewed faith in the youth of our country," said Aurora City Council member Charles Richardson, who met with the five-girl troop every few weeks for about a year and helped them write the law. The girls, who are 13 and 14, got some help from the council member's legal team, too.

The vote was a nail-biter, with Mayor Steve Hogan casting the deciding vote in favor of the bill, which passed 6-3 last month.

"When the mayor cast his vote, my daughter started crying," Batcho said. "There was this sense of relief. Their hearts could stop pounding out of their chests."

The bill was controversial in the city of 360,000 people. Some thought it was too much government reach, that smoking in cars should not be policed. Others thought it targeted minorities and the poor, as people in those communities tend to smoke more than other populations.

But in the end, the Girl Scouts prevailed.

Richardson said he has a personal connection to the idea behind the bill, as his wife has asthma and grew up with people who smoked while she was in the car. "I believed in it from outset," he said.

He said that when he was first contacted to meet with Troop 60789 about a year and a half ago, they asked if he could come talk about how city government operates.

"I met with them, and they informed me they wanted to move forward on a piece of city legislation," he said. "I was, frankly, thinking it would be a resolution adopting a city insect or bird or flower. This was something much bigger."

In the process of developing the bill, the girls did research on secondhand smoke and presented it to the council. They also learned about how politics works.

The bill was amended from its

## MRI can be frightening experience for claustrophobics

By Eric Pianin

Special To The Washington Post

The thought of an MRI scanner, a coffinlike, hard-plastic tube with a ceiling just inches above the patient's eyes, has long filled Patrice Mitchell with dread.

The 64-year-old freelance editor and former journalist from Rochester, New York, has never been afraid of small spaces such as elevators. But she gets intensely claustrophobic when pulling anything — a sweater, for example — over her face and it gets caught. "If it gets stuck momentarily, I immediately start to feel quite panicky and feel like I may have trouble breathing," she said.

Short of invasive surgery to probe for suspected cancerous tumors, brain aneurysms, heart problems, abdominal infections and spinal problems, nothing is more effective at unmasking an ailment than cramming a patient into a doughnut-shaped tunnel armed with formidable magnetic imaging capability.

But Mitchell — like many other Americans — has had to come up with coping mechanisms to endure scanning to address years of medical problems and sports-related injuries.

First, there were cervical spine and herniated disc symptoms that landed Mitchell in an MRI scanner in 1992. A decade later, she had scans for worsening headaches and to rule out metastatic breast cancer. Then she had to deal with a shoulder injury in 2013 from too much swimming. And in October, she was back in an MRI scanner for the 11th time — checking for leaks in a breast implant that had been inserted after cancer surgery.

Doctors and radiology specialists use plenty of tricks to try to ease patients' fears, and Mitchell has tried many of them. For her first two scans, her doctor prescribed anti-anxiety medication to calm her nerves. The drugs helped a lot, but Mitchell said she didn't want to become dependent on them to get through an MRI.

Once, a scheduler urged Mitchell to bring along a CD of her favorite music, and the staff arranged to pipe the music into the MRI tube to help her relax. Finally, Mitchell realized that if she simply kept her eyes closed throughout the session, she would be OK or even nod off.

"It helps overall when you have a nice, kind tech who fosters a soothing atmosphere," she said. "Obviously, some are more caring than others, asking you whether you want a blanket or earplugs and keeping you a gentle patter of conversation as they are getting you ready."

The magnetic resonance imaging machine is a superconducting magnet coiled in wire that bounces pulsing radio waves off patients and creates on a computer three-dimensional pictures of their anatomy. MRIs are especially good at creating images of thin slices of the brain, heart, lung, spine and soft tissue; radiologists can then study these images from different angles.

Experts say MRIs provide a far more revealing image than an X-ray or CT scan, which use small levels of radiation. MRI scanners rely solely on magnetic imaging and do not emit radiation.

And while there are many "open" MRI scanners on the market that are far less confining and enable patients to look out through openings on the sides of the machines, experts say they aren't nearly as accurate as the "closed" equipment that so unsettled Mitchell.

Some industry advocates of "open" MRIs say that patients with claustrophobia are far better off using



## SCOUTS

From 4B

original form, in which violators would face a \$150 fine. As it was originally written, police could have stopped someone if they suspected they were smoking with a child in the car. But when the measure passed, that was changed so police can only write up violators if the officer has already stopped them for another reason such as speeding or running a stop sign.

"They learned good political lessons about give and take," Batcho said. "Sometimes you have to tweak things to get your idea passed. It was a lesson in civics."

The law will have a six-month phase-in period, when police will give warnings rather than write tickets.

Batcho, who has been the troop leader for six years, said she's known some of the girls since they were in kindergarten and has watched them grow up. Knowing how determined they were prompted her to agree to the project, which earned them a "silver award," the second-highest honor in Girl Scouts.

She said she could not be more proud of her troop.

"It tells the girls that, yes, you do have a voice, and you can step up even if you're 13 and 14, and you can do great things," she said. "They might be small, but they are mighty."

Other troops in the community have asked Batcho's troop to speak at their meetings and explain how they did it. Batcho said her girls are excited to talk to the other troops. But it will have to wait a few weeks, because in addition to classes, a school musical and choir, the girls are now consumed with something else: selling Girl Scout cookies.

"Let's get through cookie season first," she said.



Hearst Connecticut Media file photo

Ron Simone, a technologist with Advanced Radiology, prepares the Signa Pioneer Advanced MRI imaging system for a patient at the company's new imaging center on Aug. 15, 2017 in Stamford, Connecticut. Short of invasive surgery to probe for suspected cancerous tumors, brain aneurysms, heart problems, abdominal infections and spinal problems, nothing is more effective at unmasking an ailment than cramming a patient into a doughnut-shaped tunnel armed with formidable magnetic imaging capability.

## MRI

From 4B

one of their products and getting through the scan, even if the machines produce lesser-quality images. Yet generally speaking, closed MRIs are four or five times as powerful as open MRIs, when measured by their magnetic field strength.

"Traditional MRIs — the ones that most people think of being a tube — have always offered the best image quality because they are stronger, they have a stronger magnetic field," said Dennis Agostino, technical imaging coordinator for Johns Hopkins Health System in Baltimore. "The magnetic field within the scanner is more homogenous. It's smoother, which generally gives a clearer picture."

About 36 million MRI procedures were performed in the United States in 2017, down 8

percent from the previous year, according to a study by IMV, a market research firm.

As many as 5 percent of Americans may suffer from claustrophobia in some form, according to HealthResearchFunding.org, and up to 13 percent of patients who received an MRI reported having a panic attack.

Patients experiencing pain or discomfort may have trouble remaining still on a hard gurney for as long as an hour or more, according to physicians and radiologists. And some are rattled by the incessant banging sound created by the pulsating magnetic coils.

Sian L. Spurney, a Washington internist, said that over the years, several of her patients have panicked after being cased into an MRI tunnel and tried to crawl out. "I think people who have that intense

claustrophobic reaction feel like they are being buried alive," she said.

"It's hard to predict who is going to have a bad experience," Spurney said. "It's embarrassing for patients, and it often jams up the schedule for other MRIs."

Simply worrying about the MRI in advance of the procedure can be enough to set a patient's nerves on edge. And fear of what serious medical problems the imaging might reveal significantly adds to the anxiety.

"There's a percentage of the population that flat-out will not be able to get an MRI, just because the claustrophobia is so intense," said Mike Skok, a senior executive at Provident Medical Equipment, an Ohio company that specializes in new and refurbished MRI equipment. "So those folks just can't get scanned."

## Doctors find an air pocket replaced part of man's brain

By Amy B Wang  
Washington Post

The 84-year-old man arrived in the emergency room with complaints that weren't uncommon for a patient his age.

He had reported feeling unsteady over the past several months, culminating in repeated falls in recent weeks. In the three days leading up to his hospital visit, his left arm and leg had noticeably weakened.

Still, there were no red flags in the man's medical history. He didn't smoke. He rarely drank. A blood test detected nothing abnormal.

"There was no confusion, facial weakness, visual or speech disturbance," doctors stated in a summary of the man's case published Feb. 27 in the medical journal *BMJ Case Reports*. "He was otherwise fit and well, independent with physical activities of daily living ... and lived at home with his wife and two sons."

In other words, doctors thought, there was nothing apparent that would have suggested a clear reason for his symptoms. In a way, they wouldn't be wrong.

It was only after CT and MRI scans that the patient's medical team made an alarming discovery: Where much of the man's right frontal lobe of his brain should have been, there was simply a large blank space.

Finlay Brown, a physician who was working in the emergency department at Causeway Hospital in Coleraine, Northern Ireland, at the time, remembers reviewing the brain-imaging scans with the rest of the staff.

"(We) were all very perplexed by the images we saw!" Brown told *The Washington Post* in an email.

The scans were so extreme, doctors wondered if the man had forgotten to disclose previous brain surgery or birth defects. He said he had not.

It turned out the man had pneumocephalus, or the presence of air in his cranium, a condition that is found in "nearly 100 percent of cases after brain surgery," Brown said. It can also occur after sinus infections and head or facial injuries — but with pockets of air or gas that are far smaller.

In this case, the patient's pneumatocele — or pressurized air cavity — measured about 3 1/2 inches at its longest, according to the *BMJ Case Reports* article.

"In my research for writing the case report I wasn't able to find very many documented cases of a similar nature to this one," Brown told *The Post*.

The pneumatocele's likely cause, an MRI would show, was an osteoma, or benign bone tumor, that had formed in the man's sinus and was eroding through the base of the skull, Brown said.

The tumor's formation and location had allowed for something of a "one-way valve effect" that had gradually contributed to the cranial air cavity, he added.

"From speaking to the specialists, it seems it has been progressing insidiously over months to years," Brown said. "When the patient sniffed/sneezed/coughed he would most likely be pushing small amounts of air into his head."

The air cavity was also reported as a "rare cause" of a small stroke the man had suffered, which had likely led to the left-side weakness and other symptoms that prompted the man's hospital visit, according to the *BMJ Case Reports* study.



## At the Heart of Preventative Care

At Midland Health, we believe true health includes the mind, body and spirit. Because of this, we have created the Lifestyle Medicine Center—a resource to provide physical, mental and spiritual wellness so that people can experience the best life possible.

However, our care goes beyond just that of managing sickness. Preventative care is addressed through a holistic approach to outpatient rehab with programs like The Ornish Program—a unique, noninvasive program proven to reverse heart disease through diet and lifestyle modification. Not only is this groundbreaking program unique to this area, we're one of only four medical facilities in Texas to offer it.

The Lifestyle Medicine Center—it's one more way that we're lighting the way for health in Midland. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call 432.221.LIFE (5433). You can also visit us at [midlandlifestylemedicine.org](http://midlandlifestylemedicine.org).

### SATURDAY, APRIL 14 | Food Is Medicine Seminar

Join us as Dr. Kim Williams—past president of the American College of Cardiology—discusses the link between nutrition and cardiovascular disease, and how to take the "DIE" out of your DIET. This all-day seminar includes sessions from multiple speakers, a delicious plant-based lunch, book signings, and two Q&A sessions with the experts. Learn more at [midlandhealth.org/FIM](http://midlandhealth.org/FIM).

lifestyle medicine  
center



# SPORTS

To submit information to the sports department, email [sports@mrt.com](mailto:sports@mrt.com)

Midland Reporter-Telegram | [mrt.com](http://mrt.com) | Wednesday, March 14, 2018 | Section C

## MHS hitters demolish the ball, Tascosa in rout

By Christopher Hadorn  
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It's usually a good sign when a softball team bats around once during a ballgame.

But four times is a special feat and that's what the Midland High softball team did in Tuesday's District 2-6A game against visiting Amarillo Tascosa.

The Lady Bulldogs batted around in each of the first three innings and accomplished the feat twice in the second inning during a 24-0 shutout of the Lady Rebels in a five-inning, run-rule game at James R. Buddy Martin Memorial Softball Field.

Leading 6-0, MHS (13-7-2, 1-1 in District 2-6A) put the game out of reach when it scored 13 runs and sent 18 batters to the plate in the second.

MHS senior Alli Monarrez got the victory in the circle, and helped her cause at the plate by going 5 for 5 with a double, a triple and four runs scored.

Lady Bulldogs senior center fielder Alyssa Flores went 4 for 4 with two doubles, four RBI and a run scored to lead the barrage. "It's really fun," Flores said. "We get to challenge each other. It's just constantly going, so it's really fun to continue going through the lineup."

The entire MHS lineup got

involved in the fun, as the Lady Bulldogs tallied 10 extra-base hits.

Lady Bulldogs first baseman Rani Guerra was 3 for 4 with a double, triple, three RBI, three runs and a walk.

Guerra got the momentum going in the first inning when she swatted a towering fly to right field for a bases clearing triple.

"If you just hit a gapper, you have so much drive," Guerra said. "You can do anything. Once you get one hit, it won't stop."

MHS junior Deanna Machuca launched two balls deep at cavernous Martin Field.

Please see MHS/2C



Midland High's Alyssa Flores (6) hits against Amarillo Tascosa on Tuesday, at Audrey Gill Sports Complex.

## Rebels defeat Bulldogs



Lee's Junior Alvarez (5) celebrates while running off the field after the Rebels closed out an inning against Midland High on Tuesday at Christensen Stadium.

## Lee leans on pitching to beat rival MHS

By Will Korn  
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Seeking its sixth win against Midland High in the last seven meetings, the Lee baseball team knocked the timely hits it needed to pull ahead.

But the Rebels, who mustered only three singles, perhaps leaned more on pitchers Tyler Madrid and J.J. Melendez to help deliver a 3-1 win over the Bulldogs to open District 2-6A play, Tuesday night at Christensen Stadium.

Madrid, the starter, and Melendez, a left-hander who relieved Madrid with one out in the top of the fifth, combined to strand 10 Bulldog baserunners in the victory. MHS loaded the bases in both the first and fifth innings and were stonewalled each time.

The pair also combined to walk seven MHS batters, but every time they seemed engulfed by trouble, they found an escape.

"We've been using J.J. in relief and he has really settled in and done a nice job for us," Roper said. "He came in and did what he's done the last three outings out of the bullpen. Tyler gave us some good innings and competed well. They gave us a chance to win. It's who we see (as a

pitching staff). We're not going to blow people away but they're doing a really nice job."

Added Melendez, who recorded the save with one hit allowed, three walks and three strikeouts in the game's final 2 2/3 innings: "The only thing in my head was 'Fill (the strike zone) up, just throw a lot of strikes and hit my spots.' I know I've got a really good infield behind me to back me up, so I just focus on throwing strikes, getting the ball in play. I felt really good (Tuesday)."

Madrid immediately fell into a jam in the first, when the Bulldogs (13-7, 1-0 in District 2-6A) loaded the bases on a throwing error, a Tyler Wade single and a walk by Sam Matchus. But Madrid buckled down to strikeout Sean Porter in a tough eight-pitch at-bat and then induced a groundout off the bat of Mitchell Murphy.

The Rebels (10-6, 1-0) rewarded their starter in the second, when junior outfielder Jordan Matthews roped a single to center field and then came all the way around to score for a 1-0 lead, as the ball was misplayed.

MHS tied the game in the third on a two-out single to center by Murphy, before the Rebels took the lead for good on

a two-run single to center by Junior Alvarez in the fourth. Once again, the ball was misplayed, which allowed Ty Coleman to score the extra run to make it 3-1 Lee.

Roper said he was thrilled for Alvarez and Matthews, two first-year varsity players, to step up for the team in critical situations. He believes they can grow into key pieces in a strong lineup this season.

"They both have a lot of potential," Roper said. "I think we have the potential to have a pretty potent offense. It's inconsistent right now but it just takes time. We've just got to keep working at it."

Trailing by two, the Bulldogs got their leadoff hitter Wade aboard with a single to center in the seventh. But Melendez, who flashed a tricky curveball during his outing, sealed the save with a strikeout and groundout.

After the loss, MHS head coach Barry Russell took the blame for his team's performance. MHS committed four errors and victimized starting pitcher Michael Madrid, who took the hard luck loss after yielding just one earned run on three hits over six innings.

Michael, the cousin of Tyler, struck out six Lee batters on 92 pitches.

Please see LEE/3C

## Brees stays with Saints, Keenum to Denver

By Barry Wilner  
*Associated Press*

Drew Brees is staying put in the Big Easy. Case Keenum is headed to the Rocky Mountains.

Kirk Cousins? His first visit as a free agent will be to Minnesota, with the Vikings long considered a natural landing spot for one of the most valuable quarterbacks.

One day before the league's new year begins, quarterbacks are again stealing the spotlight, starting with Brees.

The Saints star has agreed to a two-year, \$50 million extension with New Orleans, with \$27 million guaranteed the first year, two people familiar with the contract told The Associated Press. They spoke on condition of anonymity Tuesday because the agreement has not been announced.

Brees is 39 and wants to finish his career in New Orleans, where he has played since 2006, won a Super Bowl and led what has been one of the most productive offenses in the NFL since he and coach Sean Payton arrived.

"I'll be here as long as they'll have me," Brees said after last season ended.

In 2017, Brees completed an NFL-record 72 percent of his passes for 4,334 yards and 23 touchdowns against eight interceptions. He ranked fourth in the NFL in yards passing and the Saints ranked second in the NFL in total offense.

Keenum, a backup when the season began, guided Minnesota to the NFC North title and then into the conference championship game. He'll cash in with the Broncos.

The 30-year-old Keenum is considered the second-best QB available in free agency. He went 11-3 with 3,547 yards passing, 22 touchdowns and seven interceptions. His last-second throw to Stefon Diggs stunned the Saints 29-24 in the playoffs.

Denver chose to bypass incumbents Trevor Siemian, Brock Osweiler and Paxton Lynch and go for Keenum, who can't sign until Wednesday.

Six years ago, GM John Elway landed Peyton Manning, the biggest free-agent prize in NFL history, following his release by the Colts and a series of neck fusion surgeries. Manning guided the Broncos to two Super Bowls and won the 2015 NFL championship. Now, Elway hopes another free agent will replicate Manning.

Cousins will visit with the Vikings on Wednesday, agent Mike McCartney said. ESPN reported that Cousins will sign with the Vikings, but McCartney said no decision has been made yet by his client.

The Jets and Cardinals also make sense as fits for the 29-year-old who

Please see NFL/4C

## Salazar, Chaps remain steady to win home tourney title

By Oscar LeRoy  
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The Midland College men's golf team didn't have to be spectacular on Tuesday. The Chaparrals just needed to take care of business during the final round of the Omega Treating Chemicals Midland College/Green Tree Invitational.

Although they didn't shoot lights out like in the second round, MC's final round of 284 was still better than the field on Tuesday as the Chaparrals wrapped up the tournament title at Green Tree Country Club.

Midland College finished with a three-round total of 839, which was 14 shots

ahead of New Mexico Junior College (853) and 32 shots ahead of Odessa College (871).

MC sophomore Michael Salazar took home his second individual title of the year as he finished with a 68-65-70—203 total to finish six shots ahead of NMJC's Ryan Cox and Julius Krutner. MC freshman Callum Bruce battled an upset stomach in the tournament to finish fifth individually with a 211 total.

The tournament was about as expected for the No. 3-ranked Chaparrals, who defended their home course to win their sixth tournament title in eight tries this year.

MC coach Walt Williams

Please see CHAP/4C



Midland College's Michael Salazar follows his shot Tuesday during the final round of the Omega Treating Chemicals Midland College Invitational at Green Tree Country Club.



New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees passes against the Los Angeles Rams during the second half in Los Angeles.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

Alpine Skiing Women's Supr G, 4:30 a.m., OLYHD College Softball Indiana at Kentucky, 6 p.m., SEC Major League Baseball Spring Training: NY Yankees at Baltimore, Noon, MLB Spring Training: Cincinnati at Arizona, 3 p.m., MLB Spring Training: Colorado at LA Dodgers, 9 p.m., MLB Men's College Basketball NCAA 1st Four: Texas Southern vs. UNC Central, 5:30 p.m., truTV NIT: Harvard at Marquette, 6 p.m., ESPN2 NIT: Louisiana at LSU, 6 p.m., ESPN3 NIT: Temple at Penn State, 7 p.m., ESPN4 NCAA 1st Four: Syracuse vs. Arizona State, 8 p.m., truTV NIT: Nebraska at Mississippi State, 8 p.m., ESPN2 NIT: UC Davis at Utah, 8 p.m., ESPN3 NIT: BYU at Stanford, 9 p.m., ESPN4 NIT: Boise State at Washington, 9 p.m., ESPN3 Men's Soccer UEFA Champions Rd of 16, Leg 2: Beikta JK vs. FC Bayern Munich, 11:50 a.m., FS2 UEFA Champions Rd of

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL American League Baltimore Orioles - Signed RHP Alex Ziffer to 1-year contract with LHP Hunter Cervenka on a minor league contract. Chicago White Sox - Signed LF David Peltz and SS Jose Hernandez to 1-year contracts. Detroit Tigers - Signed RHP Ryan Compton, C Stephen Goss and CF Mike Goleto to 1-year contracts. Minnesota Twins - Signed LHP Jhonny Peralta to 1-year contract. Oakland Athletics - Signed RHP Leo Torres, OF Roman Leon and LHP Jose Lebrun to 1-year contracts. Texas Rangers - Signed OF Mike Cuddihy and RHP Ryan Searles to 1-year contracts. Toronto Blue Jays - Signed C Rance Mullins to 1-year contract. National League Atlanta Braves - Signed RHP Jason Heyward to 1-year contract. Boston Red Sox - Signed RHP Ryan Brasen to 1-year contract. Cincinnati Reds - Signed RHP Ryan Hanigan to 1-year contract. Cleveland Indians - Signed RHP Ryan Merritt to 1-year contract. Los Angeles Dodgers - Signed RHP Clayton Kershaw to 1-year contract. Milwaukee Brewers - Signed RHP Ryan Braun to 1-year contract. New York Yankees - Signed RHP Jacob deGrom to 1-year contract. Philadelphia Phillies - Signed RHP Cole Hamels to 1-year contract. Pittsburgh Pirates - Signed RHP Gerrit Cole to 1-year contract. St. Louis Cardinals - Signed RHP Matt Adams to 1-year contract. Washington Nationals - Signed RHP Stephen Strasburg to 1-year contract.

NBA GLANCE

Table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams, wins, losses, and percentages.

NHL GLANCE

Table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams, wins, losses, and percentages.

MLB SPRING TRAINING GLANCE

Table with columns for American League and National League, listing teams, wins, losses, and percentages.

HS BASEBALL/SOFTBALL ROUNDUP

BASEBALL MCS 6 FAITH 0 GRAPEVINE - Trace Blue spun a two-hit shutout to lead Midland Christian to a TAPPS Division II, District 1 victory over unbeaten Grapevine Faith Tuesday. Blue tossed 61 of his 102 pitches for strikes, struck out seven Lions and walked three. The Mustangs (8-5-1, 2-0 in TAPPS Division II, District 1) collected 15 hits, led by 4 for 5 effort from Cody Grebeck, who stole a base, drove home a run and scored. Dakota Snyder was 3 for 4 for MCS; teammate Zac Tilton went 2 for 4 with two RBIs, a run and a stolen base; Gage Jordan was 2 for 4 with an RBI, a steal and a run and Rhett Clark reached base safely in three of four plate appearances.

SOFTBALL ODESSA HIGH 14 LEE 4 ODESSA - Sierra Carnacho notched the win in the circle and went 2 for 4 with a home run, a double and three RBIs to lead Odeessa High to a run-rule District 2-6A win over Lee Tuesday at Ratliff Softball Complex. Trailing 5-0, the Lady Rebels (10-11-2, 0-2 in District 2-6A) scored four runs in the third inning to narrow their deficit to one run before OHS (17-2-1, 2-0) scored nine unanswered runs with six in the fourth, one in the fifth and two in the sixth. Lee senior Kyrlynd Newsom cracked a three-run homer in the third, but the Lady Rebels could only manage four hits off Carnacho. Lee was also plagued by five errors. OHS shortstop Skyler Herrera was 3 for 4 with a double, four RBIs and three runs.

HS SOCCER ROUNDUP

BOYS LEE 5, OHS 4 IN PKHS Luis Aranda scored a pair of goals to lift the Lee boys soccer team to a playoff-clinching 5-4 penalty shootout victory over Odeessa High, Tuesday at Grande Communications Stadium. The match was tied 3-3 after regulation. In the 20th minute Lee got on the board on a goal by Jose Gutierrez, assisted by Esau Soto. Ten minutes later, Aranda scored to tie the match at 2-2. Then, trailing 3-2, Aranda leveled the score once again with an unassisted goal in the 80th minute for a penalty shootout. Lee (14-6-1, 5-1-1-1, 18 points) scored all five of its penalty shots - the match-winner by Marco Jurado - and Rebels' goalkeeper Chris Mora-Brandt stopped the Bronchos' final attempt. Lee head coach Scott Hicks said he was pleased to pick up two points against a hungry OHS (11-11-1, 3-0-3-1, 14 points) squad. "It's big for us," Hicks said. "I know OHS was fighting for their playoff lives and men, they played hard. But Luis is such a competitor and he found a way to tie it up. He made it happen." Lee, currently tied for first place with Wolfforth Fraternity, hosts the Tigers at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

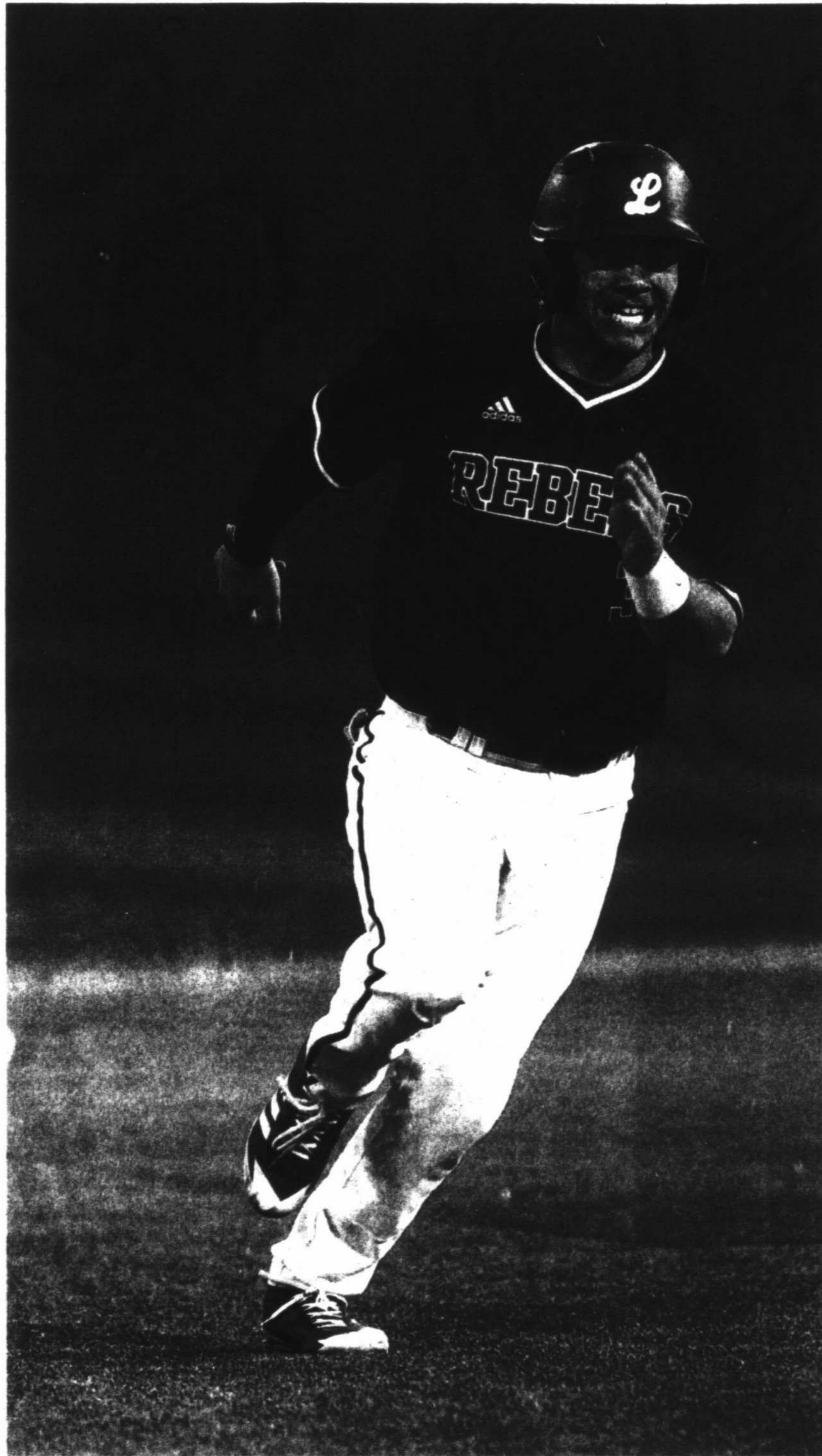
Lehkonen nets 2, Canadiens top Stars 4-2 to snap 5-game skid

MONTREAL - Arthur Lehkonen scored twice and the Montreal Canadiens snapped their five-game losing streak with a 4-2 victory over the Dallas Stars on Tuesday night. Brendan Gallagher and Nikita Scherbak also scored for Montreal (26-32-12), which hadn't won since March 2. Alex Galchenyuk had two assists. Antti Niemi made 36 saves for his fifth win in the season. Niemi hasn't lost in regulation since Feb. 14, going 3-0-3 during that stretch. Radek Faksa and Jannie Bean scored for Dallas (38-26-6), and Kari Lehtonen stopped 22 shots in defeat. The Canadiens were at home for the first time since a 1-3-2 road trip. Andrew Shaw left midway through the third period with an injury. Shaw hit former teammate Greg Pateryn along the boards but got the worst of it as their heads collided. The Canadiens winger has already missed 19 games this season with a lower-body injury. The game marked Alexander Radulov's return to the Bell Centre. Radulov hadn't faced his former club in Montreal since signing with Dallas as a free agent in the offseason. Radulov was met with cheers when he was featured on the big screen in the first period. The winger scored 18 goals in 76 games for Montreal last season - his first back in the NHL since 2011. Faksa got Dallas on the board at 11:48 of the first period as he deflected Pateryn's shot past Niemi. Lehkonen tied things up with a wrist shot to the blocker side at 16:31. A four-minute high-sticking penalty to Dan Hamhuis in the second changed the course of the game, with Montreal scoring twice in 35 seconds. First, Lehkonen beat Lehtonen through the legs from the slot at 8:41. And after Faksa took a tripping penalty to give the Canadiens a two-man advantage, Gallagher netted his team-leading 26th of the season at 9:16. Bean got one back for the Stars on the power play at 18:20 of the second. Radulov got an assist on the goal.

MHS

finishing 2 for 4 with a triple, a double, four RBIs and three runs scored. Other Lady Bulldogs that shined were Yaelin Valdina with three hits and three RBIs; Alexis Riddle with four runs scored; Reagan Keithley with three RBIs and two runs and Abbi Sanchez with three runs. Even with the shortened run-rule game, eight of the nine MHS batters logged five plate appearances in the rout. "Our kids got to see live pitching and we got to see where they need to make adjustments and with those types of things, I think it only helps," Lady Bulldogs head coach Shawnna Vines said. "It helps with their confidence as a hitter." Monrrez and Macluca combined on a two-hitter. In three innings, Monrrez held the Lady Rebels (6-16, 0-2) to one hit and one walk, while striking out four. Macluca struck out three over two innings of relief. "The goal was to get the shutout," Vines said. "Once we got the lead, we want to make sure we stay focused and not let up. The goal once we had the lead was to try to maintain that shutout and I think the kids did a real good job of staying focused on that and just keep working for those outs." Jolee Coren had both hits for Tascosa, which was plagued by a plethora of wild pitches and passed balls during the lopsided 13-run second inning.

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION 326 6:00-12:00 - Shot & Microchip Clinic at Usher Park Pavilion 405 6:30-8:30 Microchip Clinic at Deer Garden's Yappy Hour 422 2:00 - Bark in the Park at Security Bank Ballpark 625 4th Annual Hot Dog Run 8K and 1K TRAP NEUTER RETURN PROGRAM THIS PROGRAM WILL HELP RESIDENTS TRAP STRAY CATS & HAVE THEM VACCINATED & ALTERED. MANY HOPE & PLEASE DONATE: MIDLANDHUMANECOALITION.ORG/FOF



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Ty Coleman (3) runs the bases against Midland High on Tuesday at Christensen Stadium.

LEE

From 1C

"Michael - gosh almighty - he was good tonight," Russell said. "The bad thing about it is this is the third game in a row he's pitched well and we've done that to him. You have the bases loaded twice and get a hit, runners all over the place and can't get a hit. At some point, somebody has to step up and get a hit. I'm disappointed. Right now we are a very poorly coached

team. We don't look like we know how to play the game of baseball. I'm the head coach and that falls to me. We pretty much stunk it up in every facet (of the game). I've got to find something to make these guys play better. Lee played a great ball game, both their kids pitched well and did the things they needed to do, made the plays."

Wade went 2-for-3 to lead MHS, while Alvarez and Matthews each finished 1-for-3 for Lee.

Tyler Madrid notched the win after allowing the one run on three hits over 4 1/3 innings, striking out three and walking four.

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LEE 3, MIDLAND 0
MHS 3, WTAMU 0
WTAMU 3, MHS 0

Table with 4 columns: Player, AB, R, H, RBI. Lists stats for Lee Ty Coleman, Wade, Alvarez, and Matthews.

No. 19 UTPB falls against West Texas A&M

By Jaydon Hart
MRT Correspondent

CANYON — The No. 19-ranked UTPB men's basketball team's season of first came to an end Tuesday night against No. 11-ranked WTAMU, 95-87, in the final of the NCAA Division II Tournament's South-Central Region, at First United Bank Center. Before Tuesday's contest Falcons head coach Andy Newman talked about the matchup against WTAMU (31-3) after the team's stunning four-overtime comeback on Sunday night. "We were spent, emotionally, physically, it took everything we had, but we had a day off so that really helped with the magnitude of a game where we are competing for a chance to go to the elite eight," Newman said. James McPherson got the Falcons on the board first by knocking down a 3, but WTAMU responded hitting a 3 of its own, before trading buckets with the Falcons and opening up a 17-5 run in the first eight and a half minutes. In the first half things got chippy between both teams and UTPB's sixth man Zaidie King was eventually ejected. Down one of its key players, UTPB allowed WTAMU to lead by

20 points in the first half and it would have stayed that way entering half-time if it weren't for Daeshon Francis driving to the basket at the end of the half, making the score 30-32. The Buffaloes shot 10 of 14 from long range, putting them at 71.4 percent from 3. David Chevovich led the way for the Buffaloes with 15 points going 4-of-6 from 3. Francis led the way for the Falcons and had the most points going into halftime with 16. UTPB came out motivated, cutting WTAMU's lead at the beginning of second half by going on 8-2 run. For the remainder of the second half, both teams traded blows and the Falcons slowly fought their way back into the basketball game cutting the lead to four points with under two minutes to play. Food trouble and missed free throws hurt the Falcons down the stretch and WTAMU ultimately prevailed advancing to the elite eight in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, next week. Francis scored a game high 31 points for the Falcons, while Chevovich led the way for the Buffaloes with 28 points. UTPB had two players make the All-South-Central Region tournament team Sammy Allen and Francis, while WTAMU had Jordan Evans and Chevovich was named tournament MVP.

After the game an emotional Newman talked about the run he had with this group of players. "The emotions of being a family with these guys for two years and what they did for us, what they've done for this university, it's hard to think about life without them right now" Newman said. Senior guard James McPherson said: "Coach was like a dad, he's the best coach I've ever had. He brought out the best in me, he made me a better man as a whole off the court, and he'll be a part of my life forever." Francis was also grateful for the opportunity to play on this team. "I don't know what I would be without Coach Newman and he brought me to UTPB with open arms to this family," he said. While their run comes to an end it will be hard not to look back and see how much this group of guys did for UTPB. "The most important thing we're going to focus on is how we're going to miss them as a university, staff," Newman said, "and as a basketball team they're going to go out into the world with the lessons they learned from this program and this university and they're going to be phenomenal individuals. These guys put this place on the map."

TEXAS NBA ROUNDUP

MAVERICKS 110
KNICKS 97
NEW YORK — Harrison Barnes scored 30 points and the Dallas Mavericks turned around the game in the third quarter on their way to a 110-97 victory Tuesday night over the New York Knicks, who lost their eighth straight game. Dallas couldn't stop New York early, and then dominated the second half to win for the third time in four games, with only a loss to NBA-leading Houston in that stretch. Rookie Dennis Smith Jr. added 17 points for the Mavs and Dirk Nowitzki had 13. Yogi Ferrell finished with 10, but eight came during a game-changing 14-0 run in the third quarter. Michael Beasley scored 21 and Tim Hardaway Jr. had 19 for the Knicks, who got a visit from Kristaps Porzingis before the game and then showed again that they have no hope of winning without him. They lost for the 16th time in 17 games, most coming since their All-Star forward tore his left ACL on Feb. 6. This one looked as if it could be different when the Knicks made 17 of their first 24 shots against a defenseless Dallas defense. But the Mavs made enough shots of their own to stay in the game, then surged ahead after halftime. It was tied at 64 before Barnes scored on a follow shot to start the 14-0 spurt that included two 3-pointers and another basket by Ferrell. Dallas outscored New York 28-12 in the third. New York closed within four in the fourth quarter as Trey Burke led a rally, but Smith made a 3-pointer and Barnes followed with four straight points to put it away. SPURS 108
MAGIC 72
SAN ANTONIO — LaMarcus Aldridge scored 24 points and San Antonio never trailed after the opening minutes, holding the Orlando Magic

to their lowest point total in a 108-72 victory on Tuesday night. The Spurs were still without Kawhi Leonard, who missed his 59th game of the season while battling right quadriceps tendinopathy. Leonard's injury is a key reason the Spurs are in the unusual position of fighting for a playoff berth after spending much of the previous two decades battling for a top three seed. San Antonio cannot move any higher than ninth in the West following victories Tuesday by sixth-seeded New Orleans, the seventh-place Los Angeles Clippers and eighth-place Utah. Denver can remain in ninth place ahead of the Spurs with a win over the Los Angeles Lakers. Following consecutive losses to the West's best in Golden State, Oklahoma City and Houston, San Antonio took advantage of an Orlando team that has now lost five straight. Nikola Vucenic and Jonathan Simmons each had 10 points for the Magic, which has lost 12 of 14. The Spurs raced to their largest lead at halftime, 62-37, and extended that 25-point cushion to a 30-point advantage entering the fourth quarter. San Antonio had allowed 110.4 points in going 3-8 in its previous 11 games, but returned to its defensive foundation to stop a three-game skid. DeJuaney Murray gave the Spurs their first double-digit lead at 37-26 by stealing a pass intended for Shelvin Mack, dribbling behind his back to avoid Mack's recovery and then racing downcourt for a layup with 8 minutes left in the first half. Three minutes later, Patty Mills stole the inbound pass and hit a 3-pointer after getting the ball back from Kyle Anderson for a 50-29 lead. Mills finished with 13 points and Murray, Danny Green and Pau Gasol each had 11.

NCAA FIRST FOUR ROUNDUP

RADFORD 71
LIJ BROOKLYN 61
DAYTON, Ohio — Travis Fields Jr. and Ed Polite Jr. each scored 13 points to lift Radford to its first-over NCAA Tournament win, 71-61 over LIJ Brooklyn in the First Four on Tuesday night. Carli Jones added 12 points and 10 rebounds for the Highlanders, who move on to face No. 1 seed Villanova on Thursday in Pittsburgh. Radford, the Big South champion, is making its third tournament appearance and first since 2009. LIJ Brooklyn stayed within striking distance for much of the game and got to within a point with five minutes left, but a 9-1 surge by the Highlanders allowed them to close it out. The Blackbirds went without a field goal in the last seven minutes of the game and shot 30.4 percent in the second half. Both teams were plagued by turnovers. Jonathan Agosto scored 16 points and Dequan Clark added 14 for LIJ Brooklyn, which is winless in seven trips to the tournament. Radford led 30-28 at the end of a sloppy first half after leading by as many as nine. The Blackbirds scored 11 of their points on nine turnovers by Radford but were just 3 for 13 from beyond the 3-point line in the half.

ST. BONAVENTURE 66
UCLA 66
DAYTON, Ohio — Courtney Stokard returned from a hamstring injury and scored 26 points, and Jaylen Adams made a jumper and three free throws in the final minute Tuesday night, rallying St. Bonaventure to a 66-59 victory over UCLA and its first NCAA Tournament victory in 48 years. The 11th-seeded Bonnies (28-7) will play sixth-seeded Florida (20-12) in Dallas on Thursday night in the East region. St. Bonaventure set a school record with its 26th win. Stokard got the Bonnies in position for the drought-busting tournament victory by leading a late 12-0 run. Adams — who missed 14 of his first 15 shots — closed it out in the final 49 seconds. UCLA (21-12) trailed at having to play in the First Four for the first time in its history — the Bruins have been to 16 Final Fours. They had trouble making shots against the Bonnies' zone defense and had 20 turnovers, a disappointing ending to a season that started with an international incident. Freshmen John Hill, Cody Riley and Dequan Clark were accused of shooting during a trip to China in November. All three were suspended for the season, and Hill left the school. UCLA's Aaron Holiday led the Pac-12 in scoring but couldn't put his touch on the First Four game. He scored 20 points but had 10 turnovers, including two pivotal ones in the final minute when he fouled out. Adams is the Bonnies' all-time leading scorer as a guard but had a rough time as well until the final minute. He finished with eight points on 2-of-16 shooting.

NCAA TOURNAMENT GLANCE

Table listing NCAA Tournament games, including matchups like Villanova vs. St. Bonaventure, Florida vs. LIJ Brooklyn, and various regional games with dates and times.

# Washington leads MC All-WJCAC honorees

From staff reports

Midland College sophomore guard and Midland High grad Alexandria Washington was named to the first team on the 2018 All-Western Junior College Athletic Conference Women's Basketball Team just released.



Washington

Washington was joined by MC freshman post Ella Tofaono, who also garnered Freshman of the Year as well as first team honors.

New Mexico Junior College's Alexes Bryant took home three of the four superlative player awards as she was named MVP, Defensive Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year.



Tofaono

Drew Sanders, coach of WJCAC champion NMJC, was named Coach of the Year. On the men's side, MC sophomore Marquell Fraser was named to



Fraser

the first team. Odessa College freshman L.J. Figueroa was named MVP and Freshman of the Year, Howard College Amari McCray shared the Defensive Player of the Year award with OC's Jermaine Haley, and OC coach Tra Arnold was named Coach of the Year after leading the Wranglers to the WJCAC title with a 15-1 record.

**2018 All-Western Junior College Athletic Conference Women's Basketball Team MVP - L.J. Figueroa, Odessa College**  
**Co-Defensive Player of the Year - Amari McCray, Howard College; Jermaine Haley, Odessa College**  
**Newcomer of the Year - Jeremy Hayes, Howard College**  
**Freshman of the Year - L.J. Figueroa, Odessa College**  
**Coach of the Year - Tra Arnold, Odessa College**

**2018 All-Western Junior College Athletic Conference Women's Basketball Team MVP - Alexes Bryant, New Mexico Junior College**  
**Defensive Player of the Year - Alexes Bryant, New Mexico Junior College**  
**Newcomer of the Year - Ella Tofaono, Midland College**  
**Coach of the Year - Drew Sanders, New Mexico JC**

**First Team**  
Jordan Braggins, South Plains College; Renea Brooks, Cameron College; Jeremy Hayes, Howard College; Jermaine Haley, Odessa College; Amari McCray, Howard College; Shantell Parris, Midland College; Isaiah Houston, South Plains College; Vanessa Cook, Odessa College; Alex Blay, New Mexico Military Institute; Tawana Queen, New Mexico Military Institute; Julie Huthings, Howard College



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Alex Motes follows his shot Tuesday during the final round of the Omega Treating Chemical Green Tree Country Club Invitational at Green Tree Country Club.

## CHAPS

From 1C

said the course played a little tougher on Tuesday but the Chaps still managed to have a good round. In addition to Salazar's 70, Bruce shot a 70, Chris Ayers shot a 71, Bailey Knoll shot a 73 and Alex Motes fired a 75.

"We had two guys under par and one even, so I think we played really, really well," Williams said. "I thought we had a really good tournament. To get to win the championship on the home turf is really good. Obviously Michael played fantastic, Callum gutted it out and played really well. The other three guys all had really solid tournaments. I'm very pleased."

"It was a really strong field. If you look at the Golfstat rankings, there were six teams in the top 25. To win and win big is really encouraging and very promising for the rest of the spring."

Salazar, who was coming off a day in which he shot a 68 and 65, said he had a little tougher time on Tuesday.

"I tried to keep my head up, I always tried to stay positive, made some pars and I'm glad I didn't give up. I didn't let it ruin my game," he said. "I didn't play well today but I stayed focused throughout the day."

"Whenever we have qualifiers out here, I always go low. I always feel comfortable here on my home course and I always expect to do really well."

For Bruce, he said he didn't know what to expect. Williams said he didn't even think if his No. 1 golfer would play in the tournament after he got



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midland College's Bailey Knoll follows his shot Tuesday during the final round of the Omega Treating Chemical Green Tree Country Club Invitational at Green Tree Country Club.

food poisoning on a trip late last week to Houston.

"Knowing the course helped a lot, I would say," said Bruce, who has won four tournaments this year. "Overall, I would say I had a pretty good week and it was even better that we won as a team."

"I didn't even want to play the second round. It was hard (on Monday) but I felt a lot better today."

White Bruce and Salazar have been big for the Chaps this season, Williams said he also saw some good competition brewing for the 3-5 spots with the other players on the team playing well, as well as individuals Justin Benson and Tommy Parker.

"I'm proud of my team, we all did well," Salazar said. "After the first round, we played a good second round and then kept it up

and got the win."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLERoy\_MRT

Omega Treating Chemicals Midland College Green Tree Country Club Invitational at Green Tree Country Club

Tuesday's final results

Team standings - 1. Midland College 284-271-285-288; 2. New Mexico Junior College 275-265-268-270; 3. New Mexico Military Institute 282-284-285-292; 4. Jacksonville College 281-282-287-291; 5. Texas College 280-283-284-288

Individual standings - 1. Michael Salazar, Midland, 68-65-70-68, 271; Ryan Cox, NMJC, 69-70-70-69, 278; 3. John Hooten, NMJC, 69-71-70-69, 278; 4. Steve Brooks, Odessa, 69-69-70-69, 277; 5. Callum Stone, Midland, 71-70-70-71, 279

Midland College (2018) - Michael Salazar 68-65-70-68, Callum Stone 71-70-70-71, Chris Ayers 70-67-67-67, Alex Motes 71-70-70-71, Bailey Knoll 73-70-70-73

New Mexico JC (2018) - John Hooten 69-71-70-69, Andrew H 70-70-70-69, Steve Cox 67-70-70-69, Ryan Cox 69-70-70-69

Odessa College (2018) - Jordan Braggins 69-69-70-69, Callum Stone 71-70-70-71, Chris Ayers 70-67-67-67, Alex Motes 71-70-70-71, Bailey Knoll 73-70-70-73

New Mexico Military Institute (2018) - Shantell Parris 69-70-70-69, Callum Stone 71-70-70-71, Chris Ayers 70-67-67-67, Alex Motes 71-70-70-71, Bailey Knoll 73-70-70-73

Jacksumma College (2018) - Ryan Cox 69-70-70-69, Callum Stone 71-70-70-71, Chris Ayers 70-67-67-67, Alex Motes 71-70-70-71, Bailey Knoll 73-70-70-73

University of the Southland (2018) - LeEugh Adams 70-69-69-69, Jordan Hooten 69-71-70-69, Steve Cox 67-70-70-69, Ryan Cox 69-70-70-69

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## Astros' Correa skipped White House visit to aid Puerto Rico

By Chuck King Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Carlos Correa skipped the Houston Astros' visit to the White House to help arrange for more relief supplies for shipment to hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico, where he grew up.

Correa and closer Ken Giles did not attend Monday's ceremony in Washington, D.C., that honored the Astros' 2017 World Series title. The Astros said Giles had a family commitment.

"It was not politics or anything," Correa said Tuesday. "It was just that the day off was perfect to be able to provide some help for the people in Puerto Rico in need."

Puerto Rico was damaged in September by Hurricane Maria. With the assistance of Astros, Jim Crane, Correa helped send a plane of supplies to Puerto Rico in October.

"I don't only represent the Houston Astros, I don't only represent my family, but I also represent the American citizens that are living in Puerto Rico," Correa said.

"I just want to bring some awareness to what is going on."

Correa's family and his fiance, Daniella Rodriguez, joined him on Monday to help finalize the next shipment, which he hopes will depart South Florida via ship before the end of spring training.

"I didn't think it was right for me to go and talk to the president about Puerto Rico when we were going there for the team, for the amazing year we had and for what we brought to the city of Houston," Correa said.

"It's an honor to be invited to the White House. I want to thank the president for all the help he provided to my second hometown, which is Houston, and some of the help he's provided to Puerto Rico, but we're still in need in Puerto Rico."

A first-time All-Star, Correa said his relief efforts will continue into the season.

"For me there is nothing better than getting phone calls from the people in my hometown thanking me, getting videos from the people in my hometown thanking me for all the help I've been providing," he said.

## NFL

From 1C

played consecutive seasons for Washington on franchise tags. New York also has shown interest in Vikings QB Teddy Bridgewater and Arizona has done the same with Minnesota's Sam Bradford.

In other moves: Super Bowl champion Philadelphia lost two tight ends, cutting veteran Brent Celek, then saw Trey Burton agree to a four-year, \$32 million contract with Chicago. The Bears also will be signing Jacksonville receiver Allen Robinson on Wednesday and placekicker Cody Parkey.

Buffalo bolstered its interior defensive line, agreeing to a deal with Carolina tackle Star Lotulelei and re-signing Kyle Williams, who contemplated retirement.

Kansas City will add wide receiver Sammy Watkins and middle linebacker Anthony Hitchens, filling two glaring needs. The 24-year-old Watkins intends to sign a \$45 million, three-year contract with \$30 million in

guarantees, while the 25-year-old Hitchens agreed to a five-year deal, two people familiar with their decisions told the AP. The Chiefs have needed to pair a playmaking wideout with Tyreek Hill. Watkins, the 2014 fourth overall pick of the Bills, spent last season with the Rams, where he caught 39 passes for 593 yards and eight touchdowns.

Receiver Albert Wilson is closing in on a \$24 million, three-year deal with the Dolphins. Miami traded top receiver Jarvis Landry to Cleveland and has a need. They also are near an agreement with Patriots receiver Danny Amendola.

The Dolphins also cut linebacker Lawrence Timmons after just one season with them. Timmons went AWOL on the eve of last year's opener, was briefly suspended and played poorly when he returned. He signed a \$12 million, two-year contract in 2017 after 10 seasons with the Pittsburgh Steelers. His departure clears \$5.5 million in cap space for Miami.

## Woods, Els named captains of Presidents Cup

By Doug Ferguson Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Ernie Els was always the logical choice to be the International team's next captain in the Presidents Cup.

Tiger Woods at first thought it might be soon for him.

That changed a couple of months ago when Woods asked PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan about the U.S. captain for next year's matches in Australia, and the usual suspects were mentioned. Monahan asked if anyone had been left out, and Woods added another name to the short list.

"Me."

Woods and Els, who both played eight times in the Presidents Cup and were involved in a high-stakes playoff that ended in a tie, were introduced as captains on Tuesday. The 2019 matches will be Dec. 12-15 at Royal Melbourne, the latest the event has been held.

Jay up and said, "Might you be interested in me possibly being the captain in 2019?" Silence. And he said, "Yeah, we might be able to work that out." So here I am.

Still to be determined is whether Woods plays.

Coming off his fourth back surgery, Woods took a big step in his comeback last week when he finished one shot behind at the Valpar Championship.

"I would like to get to a point where I would have to make that decision, get to where I'm playing well enough where I could make the team on points," Woods said. "But I wouldn't want to have the conversation and go, 'Self.' And so let's just see how it progresses."

Hale Irwin was the only player-captain in the Presidents Cup in 1994, the first event, and he had Paul Azinger handle the captaincy when Irwin was playing.

Woods and Els are forever linked in the Presidents Cup. The matches ended 17-all in 2003 in South Africa, and the rules then required captains Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player to put one name in an envelope for a sudden-death playoff in case of a tie.

Both made par on the 18th hole in the playoff. Els had to make a 12-footer to stay alive on the second hole. As darkness fell, Woods had to make a double-bunking putt from 15 feet for par. Els followed with a

6-foot par putt. Nicklaus and Player agreed the cup should end in a tie.

"We couldn't believe the amount of pressure we felt, and we both had won major championships," Woods said. "But nothing felt like that."

The International team has won only one time, in 1998 at Royal Melbourne, when the matches were played Dec. 10-13. The American team had most of their fun in the casinos or Christmas shopping online. The second time at Royal Melbourne was Nov. 17-20 in 2011, and Woods held the clinching putt in a 19-15 victory.

Next year's matches will present a few changes in qualifying and format.

Both teams will get four captain's picks instead of two, and qualifying will end after the Tour Championship, which is expected to be early September. The picks will be closer to the matches. Also, teams must use players at least once (previously it was twice) before the singles matches.

Woods also was an assistant captain at the Ryder Cup in 2016, and he will be an assistant for this year's Ryder Cup in France.

"It was just a natural progression to one day become a captain," Woods said.

He will be 43 when the matches are played, making him the youngest captain in Presidents Cup history.

# Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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WEDNESDAY PRIME TIME		MARCH 14, 2018											
Channel	Time	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00
KMDZ ABC	3	3	4	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
KOWT CW	5	14	5	14	5	14	5	14	5	14	5	14	5
KOPE FOX	8	5	5	8	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
KMLB HD	11	12	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
KOVES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
KPBT PBS	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
KUPD UNI	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
KOSA HD	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
FLIX	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
HD	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
HD2	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
HD3	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
MAX	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
MAX2	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
FLIX	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
SHOW	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
TRAC	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
ARE	27	28	28	25	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
BEY	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BRavo	45	76	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41
CNBC	46	52	39	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72
COM	48	30	51	30	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
DONEY	56	64	36	25	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
ESPN	52	35	40	31	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
ESPN2	34	36	40	32	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
FX	45	40	53	23	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55
FOOD	64	70	27	60	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
FSN	37	38	50	45	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
FX	51	58	50	64	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
HALLMARK	54	71	58	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
HDV	63	69	26	40	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43
LIFETIME	28	30	25	26	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
MEIN	47	53	48	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73
MEIN2	30	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MEIN3	35	-	30	34	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37
SPIN	30	-	55	53	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58
SPTV	66	62	41	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57
TBS	23	33	44	66	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41
TCM	41	75	24	63	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65
TELE	20	-	10	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
TLC	51	61	32	30	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
TNT	24	34	40	20	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
USA	26	35	42	27	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
WB	19	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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## Off-and-on relationship may be off again after confession

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm frustrated that guests in my home almost never use the guest towels I've put out for them in the bathroom. Why do they do this? I remember a little poem in your column that addresses this. I'd like to clip it and put it in there next to the towels. Please print it again! — **GOOD HOSTESS IN CLOVER, S.C.**

**DEAR HOSTESS:** With pleasure — here it is:

**A GUEST TOWEL SPEAKS**

by Mabel Craddock

Please use me, Guest. Don't hesitate. Don't turn your back Or vacillate. Don't dry your hands On petticoat, On handkerchief, Or handkerchief. I'm here to use: I'm made for drying. Just hanging here Gets very tiring.

I thought the poem was clever enough, when I first saw it, that many of you would enjoy it. After it appeared, many readers thanked me for printing it. Some said they'd framed and hang it in the bathroom

their guests used. (Problem solved!) I hear from many readers asking me to re-run articles that hold meaning for them. Some say the articles have been saved until they are yellowed with age and falling apart. Eventually, it was suggested they be put together in a booklet. Because so many readers kept the items to re-read, the booklet is titled "Keepers." It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus a check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds), to Dear Abby, Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61854-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. Filled with clever observations, "Keepers" is both witty and philosophical. It contains poems, essays and letters on subjects as diverse as children, parents, human nature, philosophy and death. It's a quick and easy read as well as an

inexpensive gift for newly married couples, pet lovers, new parents, and anyone grieving or recovering from an illness.

**DEAR ABBY:** Do you think it is right that my parents disowned me because I'm seeing a guy they don't like? I don't think it is. I'm 25, and I live on my own with my son. — **NOT RIGHT IN WASHINGTON**

**DEAR NOT RIGHT:** Not knowing the guy or your parents' reason for disliking him, I can only suggest that their reaction seems extreme. By age 25 you should be mature enough to decide something like this without being emotionally blackmailed. Please recognize that if you give in to this, they will be making your decisions for you until they are no longer on this side of the red.

## GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

### Lesson from dad

Neither vulnerable, North deals

**NORTH**  
♠K963  
♥Q3  
♦AK9  
♣AQ85

**WEST**  
♠A7  
♥105  
♦Q83  
♣J109764

**EAST**  
♠J108542  
♥AJ62  
♦54  
♣K

**SOUTH**  
♠Q  
♥K9874  
♦J10762  
♣32

The bidding:  
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST  
1♠ Pass 2NT Pass 3NT Pass  
2NT Pass 3NT Pass  
3NT All pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♣

East-West had an opening lead agreement that the lead of the jack denied a higher honor in that suit. Knowing that the king of clubs couldn't possibly be outside, South rose with dummy's ace at trick one and "great was the fall thereof," as the late Edgar Kaplan used to say. That was a good start, but declarer

was still nowhere near the nine tricks that he needed.

South led dummy's queen of hearts, which East captured with the ace. A heart continuation would have been best, but it would have defied a tip from our dad: "In no-trump, if both sides play the same suit, one of them is wrong." East made the reasonable shift to a low spade. West took South's queen with his ace and continued the suit to dummy's king.

The heart king was still in his hand as an entry to the diamonds, so South played the ace, king, and another diamond, hoping that he wouldn't be buried under a deluge of defensive tricks. West won the queen of diamonds, and with no spade to play, led the 10 of hearts. Declarer happily grabbed this with his king and cashed two diamond tricks, discarding two spades from dummy.

West's original distribution was known at this point, so South led his remaining club and elegantly played low from dummy when West played the nine. South won the last two tricks with dummy's queen-eight of clubs to bring home a remarkable three no-trump.

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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. their guests used. (Problem solved!) I hear from many readers asking me to re-run articles that hold meaning for them. Some say the articles have been saved until they are yellowed with age and falling apart. Eventually, it was suggested they be put together in a booklet. Because so many readers kept the items to re-read, the booklet is titled "Keepers." It can be ordered by sending your name and mailing address, plus a check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds), to Dear Abby, Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price. Filled with clever observations, "Keepers" is both witty and philosophical. It contains poems, essays and letters on subjects as diverse as children, parents, human nature, philosophy and death. It's a quick and easy read as well as an inexpensive gift for newly married couples, pet lovers, new parents, and anyone grieving or recovering from an illness. DEAR ABBY: Do you think it is right that my parents disowned me because I'm seeing a guy they don't like? I don't think it is. I'm 25, and I live on my own with my son. - NOT RIGHT IN WASHINGTON DEAR NOT RIGHT: Not knowing the guy or your parents' reason for disliking him, I can only suggest that their reaction seems extreme. By age 25 you should be mature enough to decide something like this without being emotionally blackmailed. Please recognize that if you give in to this, they will be making your decisions for you until they are no longer on this side of the red.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones Lesson from dad Neither vulnerable, North deals NORTH ♠K963 ♥Q3 ♦AK9 ♣AQ85 WEST ♠A7 ♥105 ♦Q83 ♣J109764 EAST ♠J108542 ♥AJ62 ♦54 ♣K SOUTH ♠Q ♥K9874 ♦J10762 ♣32 The bidding: NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 1♠ Pass 2NT Pass 3NT All pass Opening lead: Jack of ♠ East-West had an opening lead agreement that the lead of the jack denied a higher honor in that suit. Knowing that the king of clubs couldn't possibly be outside, South rose with dummy's ace at trick one and "great was the fall thereof," as the late Edgar Kaplan used to say. That was a good start, but declarer was still nowhere near the nine tricks that he needed. South led dummy's queen of hearts, which East captured with the ace. A heart continuation would have been best, but it would have defied a tip from our dad: "In no-trump, if both sides play the same suit, one of them is wrong." East made the reasonable shift to a low spade. West took South's queen with his ace and continued the suit to dummy's king. The heart king was still in his hand as an entry to the diamonds, so South played the ace, king, and another diamond, hoping that he wouldn't be buried under a deluge of defensive tricks. West won the queen of diamonds, and with no spade to play, led the 10 of hearts. Declarer happily grabbed this with his king and cashed two diamond tricks, discarding two spades from dummy. West's original distribution was known at this point, so South led his remaining club and elegantly played low from dummy when West played the nine. South won the last two tricks with dummy's queen-eight of clubs to bring home a remarkable three no-trump.

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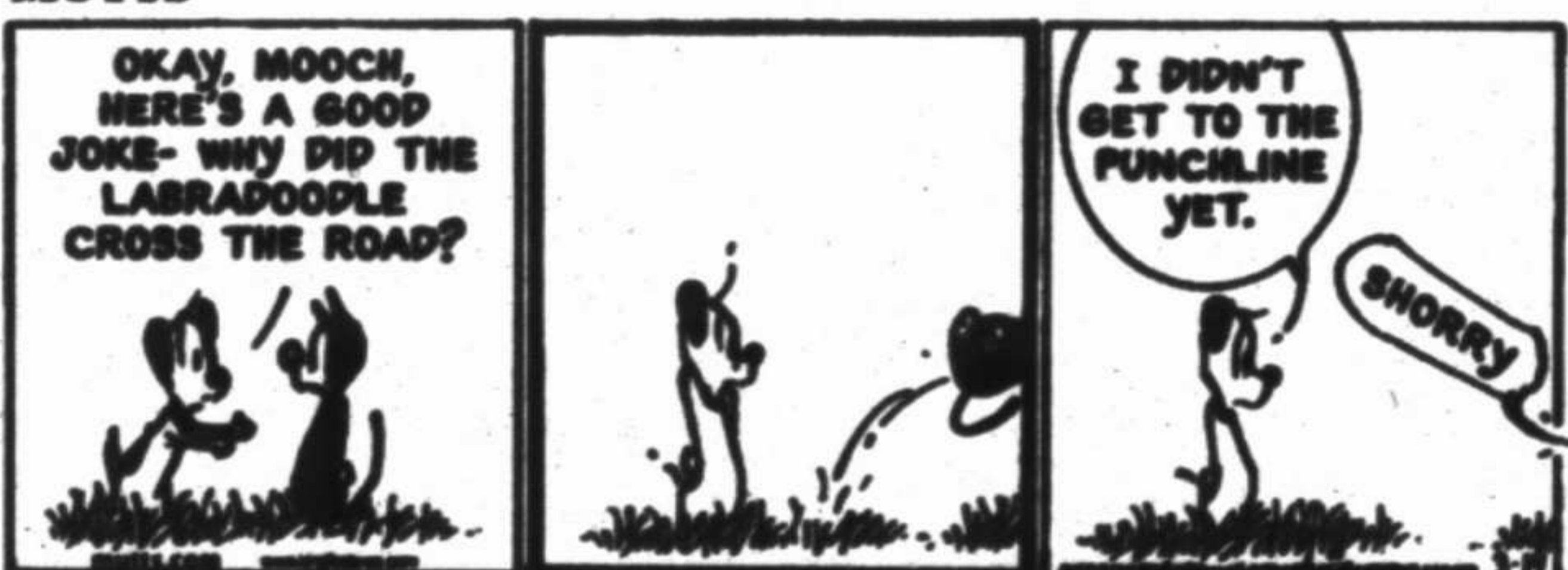
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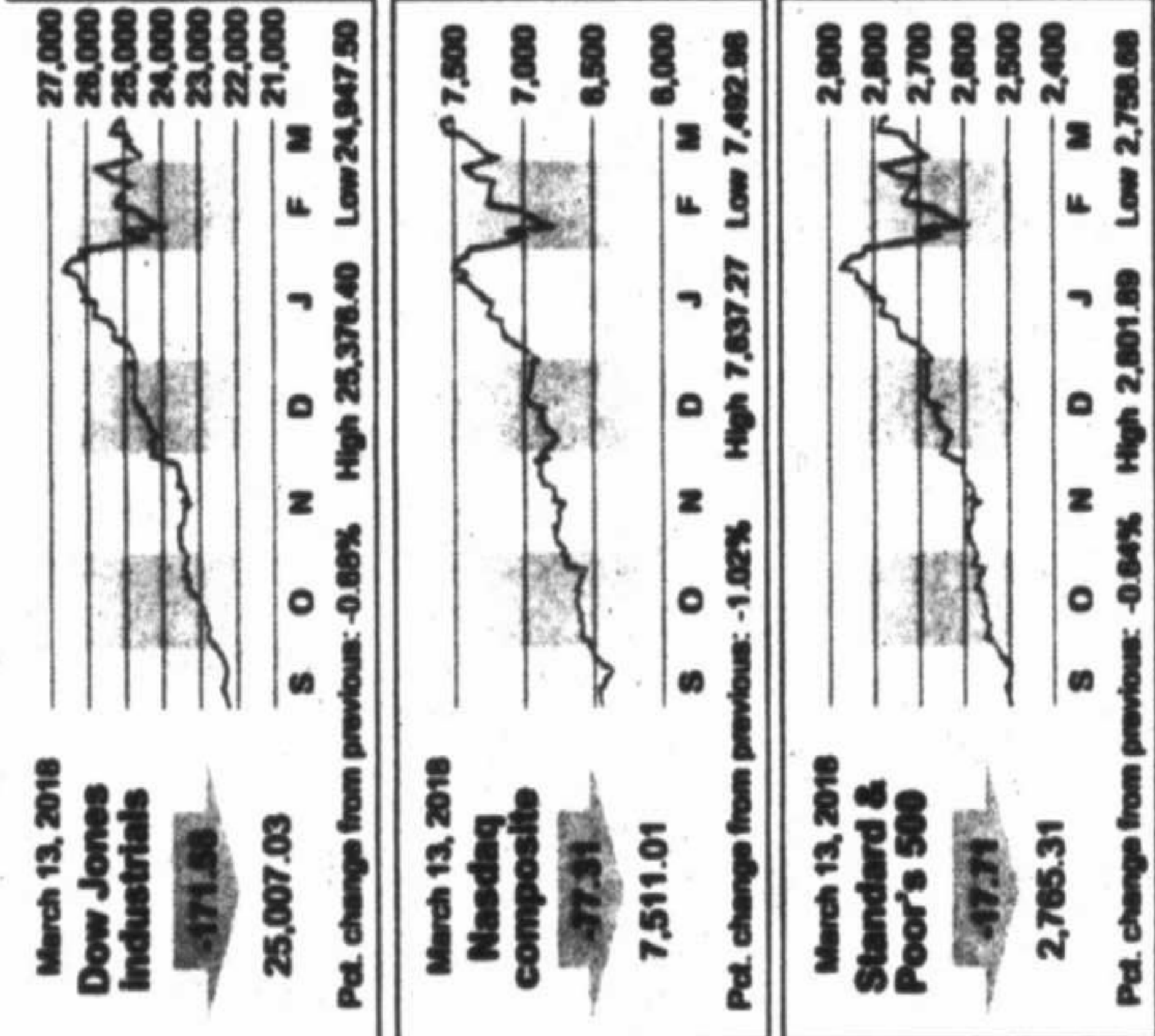


THE MARKET IN REVIEW

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of stock market data for the New York Stock Exchange, including columns for Name, Bid, Last, Ask, and various market indicators.

A DAY ON WALL STREET



Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, listing Most Active, Gainers, and Losers for each exchange.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of stock market data for the NASDAQ National Market, listing various stocks and their prices.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance data, including fund names and their respective values.

INDEXES

Table of market index values, including Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500, and others.

PERMIAN BASIN STOCKS

Table of stock market data for Permian Basin stocks, listing various energy-related companies and their prices.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of stock market data for the American Stock Exchange, listing various stocks and their prices.

Read Details... and the Oil Report every Tuesday to catch up with business news before the market.

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**Endeavor Energy Resources**  
**DOT Driver II**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** Job responsibilities include local (within Midland City and County) transportation by truck for Endeavor Energy completions or production crews. Cargo transport varies depending on driver's licensing.

**Essential Functions:**

- Follow instructions, and maintain compliance with all DOT, company and customer safety and operational policies and procedures
- Properly load and unload product at various customer locations in a professional, courteous, timely, safe, and efficient manner
- Connect and disconnect hoses, operating pumps and valves for loading and unloading
- Complete all paperwork accurately and timely, if applicable
- Complete other related tasks as assigned by manager

**Minimum Requirements:**

- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
- Valid Texas Driver's license is required
- Class A CDL and Haz Mat is preferred but not required
- Must be able to pass background screening including MVR and criminal
- Must be able to work nights, weekends, and an extended workweek
- Strong customer service skills, and the ability to effectively prioritize, multi-task, manage time, organize and execute tasks in a high-pressure environment

**Supervisory Responsibilities:**  
 No supervisory responsibilities are associated with this position.

**Work Environment:**  
 Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from frigid to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

**Physical Demands:**  
 Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, and bend is required. Must also be able to occasionally lift, carry, push, pull, move, and drag up to 50 lbs.

**Position type and expected hours of work:**  
 This is a full-time position. The ability to work overtime is a requirement to performing this job.

Endeavor Energy Resources, LP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, color, creed, age, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, marital status or disability. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to employment and distribution will not be tolerated.

**Endeavor Energy Resources**

**Now hiring for a Field Technician.**

No Field Technician will provide advanced refining services to support the Frac operations on location. Endeavor Energy will provide all necessary training for new employees. This is a non-driving position.

**Job Duties:**

- Comply with all OSHA and company safety procedures, rules and regulations
- Proper pre and post trip of equipment
- Consistently demonstrate safe unloading of fuels while handling, hooking and unhooking hoses and operating pumps while following directions and standard operating procedures
- Safely using pipe wrenches, crescent wrenches and other hand tools
- Immediate reporting and clearing of any spills during shift
- Maintain professionalism through working courteously with supervisors, dispatchers, fellow co-workers and customers
- All other duties as assigned

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Proven capability to work both independently and collaboratively with different levels of management and individual contributors
- Demonstrated ability to manage work in stressful situations
- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
- Valid Texas Driver's License is required
- Experience working on Frac sites or similar responsibilities is preferred

**Work Environment:**  
 Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from mild to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

**Physical Demands:**  
 Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, bend, and occasionally lift heavy/push/pull/move/lift up to 60 lbs.

**Position type and expected hours of work:**  
 This is a full-time position.

Endeavor Energy Resources, LP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, color, creed, age, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, marital status or disability. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to employment and distribution will not be tolerated.

**Multi-Media Sales Executive**

The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking Multi-Media Sales Executives just like you to join our team! Our industry is changing into a digital world, and we are looking for experienced professionals who are eager to facilitate our innovative efforts.

Join Midland's leading media company and become part of the winning sales team that offers advertisers a robust suite of digital and print products to help them achieve their business objectives. We are seeking digital savvy, highly motivated sales professionals to sell our marketing solutions to local businesses. Our ideal candidate will be goal oriented, in a relentless business, driving to win new business, and has a track record of exceeding monthly goals.

Multi-Media Sales Executives maximize advertising sales potential, through the development of quality business relationships and promotion of new/ongoing advertising products. This position requires a heavy amount of prospecting and lead-generation and understand their advertising options. In short, we help our customers grow their business.

**Responsibilities include:**

- Consistently meet/exceeds all print and digital revenue goals.
- Understanding the clients' advertising needs, and develop the ideal marketing solution for them
- Delivering customized sales presentations in person, or by phone/web-demo
- Generating new leads by making cold calls and maintaining an awareness of new business opening in the area
- Be the face of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and ensure a superior customer experience

**The Ideal Candidate:**

- Has self-motivated and results oriented
- Has an outgoing, resilient personality
- Has the skill of the hunt by bringing in new business
- Has a confident and not willing to accept average

**Required Skills & Experience:**

- 2+ years of sales experience with a proven record of successfully exceeding goals
- Proven to educate clients in their marketing needs and drive deals
- Exceptional communication and presentation skills
- Strong computer skills, Digital Sales experience a plus
- Bachelor's degree preferred

**What's in it for you?**

- Field training
- Competitive Base Salary & Commission
- Medical, Dental and Vision Coverage
- Flex spending account
- Short & Long-Term Disability Insurance
- 401K with company match
- Field time off & more!

Email your resume to David.Robbins@hearstmg.com or mail to David Robbins, 201 E. Illinois Ave, Midland, TX 79701

**Instructor-Transportation Trainer**

Midland College is seeking a Instructor-Transportation Trainer

**Job Summary:** The Transportation Trainer will provide instruction and train students in the classroom as well as in driving. The students will be provided with training and experience to obtain a Commercial Driver License.

**Required Qualifications:**

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Must possess a valid Texas Class 'A' Commercial Driver License, good driving record, and be insurable on Midland College's insurance policy
- Three years' experience driving "over the road" (OTR) or local
- Experience in pre-trip/post trip inspections, coupling and uncoupling of equipment
- Computer literacy
- Knowledge of rules and regulations of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
- Knowledge of Double Clutching techniques and how to teach it as required by TXDPS
- Knowledge of air brake testing procedures and be able to instruct and evaluate
- Knowledge of Hours of Service Regulations and be able to log and teach log book entries as well as log book recap
- Ability to manage multiple tasks while providing close attention to detail
- Ability to work in cooperation with others and work a flexible schedule based on training needs
- Maintain a high level of record keeping, utilize creativity, and meet frequent deadlines
- Establish goals and maintain a high level of decision making
- Adaptable to a constantly changing environment
- Ability to move or lift/move up to 75 pounds, capable of climbing stairs, balancing, stooping, and repetitive twisting
- Must successfully pass a DOT physical and DOT drug test

EOE

**Gas Measurement/Communications Technician**

**HELP WANTED - GAS MEASUREMENT/ COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN.** Duties include installation, Calibration, Maintenance, Troubleshooting and Repair of Electronic Meters, Gas Sampling Systems and Radio Communications System. Excellent record keeping, communication and computer skills necessary. Salary DOE. Competitive wages and benefits. Mail resume to: Measurement Technician Position, 2873 FM 828, Stanton, TX or Fax to: 432-688-3423 or email to: vsmoore@midlandgas.com.

**Inventory Control Manager**

Manager at our Odessa Facility This position will maintain receiving, warehousing, and distribution operations by initiating, coordinating, and enforcing program, operational and personnel policies and procedures. You will control inventory levels by conducting physical counts; reconciling with data storage system. You will also have responsibilities to maintain warehouse staff by recruiting, selecting, orienting, and training. Duties also included completing warehouse operational requirements by scheduling and assigning of employees; following up on work results. 5 years of offsite warehouse experience and management experience preferred. Our employees enjoy a great work environment with excellent benefits. Pay is dependent on experience if this career opportunity sounds like the right fit for you please send your resume to employment@pugh.com or you can apply in person at 12301 WCR 125, Odessa, TX 79768.

**Shop/ Yard/ Field Help**

Pay based on experience. Submit resumes to: PRODUCTION LIFT, Box 9423, Midland, TX 79708 or send email to productionlift.com. Apply at # 14 E Industrial Loop, Midland, TX, 79701, (432) 696-1200. www.productionlift.com

**Warehouse Clerk**

Odessa Warehouse Clerk, inventory, shipping, and receiving Forklift, Material Excel, Computer skills, Oilfield equipment knowledge helpful. Send resume to Llanethy@oilfieldhelp.com

**Warehouse Customer Service Associate**

Griffin Oil Company 3010 S. FM 1788, Midland, Texas 79708  
 Warehouse Customer Service Associate. Duties include:

- Answer phones - Take customer orders - Coordinate deliveries
- Maintain inventory - Encourage safe work habits - Keep all files current
- Handle computer skills/telephone etiquette. Good pay, Good benefits, Let's discuss. Resumes to: pgriffin@griffin.com for an interview

**MIDLAND**  
 NOW HIRING  
 Associate Traffic Engineer

**Job Duties:**

- Support or substitute for the City Traffic Engineer as needed
- Oversee and/or participate in the development, configuration, and operation of the City's computerized control systems
- Manage and perform various studies for traffic signals, stop signs, crosswalks, school zones, speed limits and others
- Review commercial and residential development requests
- Review all phases of the planning process for commercial and retail development
- Prepare analysis and recommendations to support of geometric, roadway, intersection, and other infrastructure improvements
- Prepare analysis and recommendations for the installation and maintenance of traffic control devices within the city

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree in civil engineering or related field with a minimum of three years' experience in traffic engineering or related field
- Master's degree in civil engineering or related field may be substituted for three years' experience
- Valid Texas driver's license required
- Certification as an Engineer in Training (EIT) preferred.

**Benefits:**

- Healthcare Plans
- Paid Vacation/Sick Leave
- Field Allowance
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

Apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs

**Male Specimen Collector**

We are hiring Male Drug Specimen Collector. Please apply online at www.drug-screen.com or in person at 714 W. Indiana Ave, Midland or 835 N. Grandview, Odessa.

**CDL Drivers Needed**

Come Join our Family! Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving  
 We want your work experience and your hard work  
 NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

- Water truck drivers
- Daily Dump drivers
- Water every night and over equipment

Requirements: 1 year of driving experience.  
 Valid Texas Class A CDL, whatever for water truck driver.

Benefits: Medical, dental, Vision, 401k, 402K  
 After 1 year of service Paid vacation and 402K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc.  
 1401 E. Grandview  
 Odessa, Texas 79701

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**Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE**

**Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE**

Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person. \$11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk - Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: [jmaddox@reporter.com](mailto:jmaddox@reporter.com) NOPHONECALLS PLEASE



**Field Service Mechanics**

Come Join our family! Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving We want your work experience and your hard work! NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION

**Field Service Mechanics**

Requirements: 3 years mechanic experience. Must have own tools. Valid Texas Drivers license. Pay will depend on work experience, 50 plus work week.

Benefits: Medical, dental vision, life insurance. Paid vacation after 1 year of service, and 401K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc. 1401 S. Grandview Odessa, Texas 79701


**Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE**

**Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE**

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 6pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person. \$11.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

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**OUT OF CITY DELIVERY DRIVER/ MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES**

- Must have a clean, valid license & acceptable driving history
- Late night/early morning hours
- Obey all traffic laws
- Strong commitment to safety is a must
- Professional communication with management, co-workers and customers
- Ability to lift, push or pull up to 50-lbs
- Must be able to read, hear, see, & speak
- Must be able to work independently & in a team environment
- Ability to read, understand & follow oral and written instructions
- Performs other duties as delegated or assigned by Supervisor
- Required education: High School or equivalent

This is a full time position that offers paid vacation and full package of benefits.

Please mail resume to P-119 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram 201 E. Illinois, Midland, TX. 79701

**Restaurant Positions**

Chef's Dependent Restaurants FF

Would you like to make \$15 to \$20 an hour, depending on position? New Hiring: Waiter/Waitress, Host/Hostess, Dishwasher, Cook, Prep Cook, Barista, and Kitchen Help. Come apply in person: 11am-5pm at 1207 Tradewinds Blvd. 79708 or online at: [www.mrg-csba.com](http://www.mrg-csba.com)

**Insurance sales professional**

Regional independent insurance firm looking for sales professional to initiate change and promote alternatives. Must be able to set appointments, work independently, develop own leads, network and manage your own sales pipeline. Dependable, honest and energetic. Prefer successful track record in other with other P/C lines. Please send resume to [jmaddox@reporter.com](mailto:jmaddox@reporter.com)

**Manager & Cashiers**

Senior's Outlets is seeking a manager/waitress & cashiers

Full time & Part time position must have own transportation

Apply in person Mon-Fri 8-5 600 E University, Ste 11, Odessa, TX

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**432-682-6222**

**Multi-Media Sales Executive**

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**The Ideal Candidate:**

- You're self-motivated and results oriented
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- You're confident and not willing to accept average

**Required Skills & Experience:**

- 2+ years of sales experience with a proven record of successfully exceeding goals
- Passion to educate clients in their marketing options and close deals
- Exceptional communication and presentation skills
- Strong computer skills, Digital Sales experience a plus
- Bachelor's degree preferred

**What's in it for you?**

- Paid training
- Competitive Base Salary & Commissions
- Medical, Dental and Vision Coverage
- Flex spending accounts
- Short & Long-Term Disability Insurance
- 401K with company match
- Paid time off & more!

Send resume to David Robbins at [david.robbins@hearst.com](mailto:david.robbins@hearst.com) No Phone Calls Please.

**Accounting Clerk**

Accounting Clerk must have experience with Microsoft Office/QuickBooks and a good understanding of Accounting. Pay based on experience. Benefits Pkg. Send resume to: Production Lit Co. P. O. Box 9423, Midland, TX. 79708 or [res@productionlit.com](mailto:res@productionlit.com)

**MIDLAND NOW HIRING Systems Administrator**

Performs network and system support functions on segments of the computer environment, including planning and emergency maintenance, performance and security analysis, and monitoring, testing, and implementing new products and procedures. Analyzes emerging technology and makes recommendations for constant improvements to network and infrastructure services and capabilities.

**Job Duties:**

- Designs and coordinates segments of the IT architecture
- Manages server applications, including but not limited to social media, Active Directory, operating systems, and email
- Produces and maintains IT design, architectural, and specifications documentation, as identified
- Maintains information storage systems, schedules, and back, including backup and recovery tests, as identified
- Provides research, development, and planning of the IT infrastructure
- Is responsible for the installing, building, and testing IT solutions; analyzing IT infrastructure technical issues, and reporting the design, planning, building, and testing of new IT solutions, as assigned
- Performs related duties as assigned
- Subject to recall 24/7

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science plus two years of experience in a related field is required
- Four years experience may be substituted for the Bachelor's degree requirement
- Valid Texas Driver's License

**Benefits:**

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Work-acc Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at [www.midlandtx.com/jobs](http://www.midlandtx.com/jobs) Equal Opportunity Employer

**MIDLAND NOW HIRING Fleet Technicians**

Diagnoses, repairs and maintains city trucks and heavy equipment.

**Job Duties:**

- Diagnoses equipment and vehicle malfunctions such as ignition, steering, emission control, electrical, and heating and air conditioning. Estimates costs and schedule to operations.
- Determines the appropriateness of off-site repairs such as oil and filter changes, tire and muffler.
- Inspects vehicles for safety stickers.
- Determines readiness and fitness of new vehicles. Installs special equipment.
- Employee must provide own hand tools. City requires major equipment including power tools, compressed air tools, and other diagnostic equipment.
- Reads blue prints, electrical diagrams, manuals and other specifications in order to make repairs.
- Performs emergency repairs for various departments.
- Maintains records of work performed such as work orders, logs, historical information, and special written requests.

**Qualifications:**

- High School graduate or GED
- Knowledge of power tools used in welding and fabrication
- Three years training as a mechanic or in a related field
- Valid Texas Class A CDL Driver's License within one year of employment
- Texas Department of Public Safety Inspector Certificate required within one year of employment

**Benefits:**

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Work-acc Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at [www.midlandtx.com/jobs](http://www.midlandtx.com/jobs) Equal Opportunity Employer

**Field Service Techs, Shop Techs & Mechanics**

AMM Services and Equipment Company is seeking Field Service Technicians, Shop Technicians and Mechanics. Excellent pay/benefits. However, we are willing to train. Hourly pay and overtime with benefits of group health, dental, life insurance and vacation pay. There is an opportunity to earn commissions and be awarded bonuses. Participation in matching 401k plan after one year of employment. You can stop by 3010 E. Hwy 100 in Midland or go online to [www.amm-services.com](http://www.amm-services.com) for application and online to [jobs@amm-services.com](mailto:jobs@amm-services.com).

**PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES NOW HIRING Instrumentation & Electrical Technician**

Maintains all electrical equipment used to monitor and control oil well service equipment. Home nights.

**Qualifications:**

- High school education or equivalent
- 6 months experience installing and repairing electronic instrumentation and electrical equipment
- Valid operator's license with clean driving record

**Comprehensive Benefits package!**

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at [www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings](http://www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings)

**PLASTER REPAIRS**

PLASTER REPAIRS is looking for the next best thing... call 432-682-6222

EXPERIENCED FIELD OPERATIONS MANAGER

For our operations based out of Midland, TX. To apply and learn more about this opportunity, please call 432-682-6222

**PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES NOW HIRING Local Drivers**

Local truck drivers needed. Home nightly, local routes, scheduled shifts 5am-5pm (14/7 rotational) never on call, optional overtime.

**Qualifications:**

- High school education or equivalent
- Valid operator's license
- Clean driving record
- DOT compliant

**Comprehensive Benefits package!**

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at [www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings](http://www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings)

**PIONEER NATURAL RESOURCES NOW HIRING Transportation Truck Driver**

Responsible for driving Water, Dump, and/or Belly Dump Truck and hauling water/caliche to drill rigs, fracturing crews, etc. Hauls water/caliche from well locations to proper disposal facilities.

**Qualifications:**

- High school education or equivalent
- Experience can range from commercial truck driving experience preferred to one year as a water truck driver required
- Valid Class A CDL with Tanker endorsement
- Clean driving record
- Salary competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

**Comprehensive Benefits package!**

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
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Ingram Concrete is an EOE M/F/D/V

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**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT**

FASKEN OIL and Ranch, Ltd., 8101 Holiday Hill Road, Midland, Texas 79707 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Grayburg formation on the Jack D. Burke Lease. The proposed injection wells are located 10 miles East of Midland in the Germania (Grayburg) Field, in Midland County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 3530'-3550'.

Legal Authority: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12987, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-483-6782).

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT**

KTO ENERGY, Inc., Op. No. 048208, 6401 Holiday Hill RD, BLDG 5, Midland, Texas 79707 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is non-productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Ellenburger formation in the Greg Midkiff SWD #1501. The proposed injection well is located approximately 20 miles southwest from Midland and will be assigned to the Spraberry (Trend Area) Field for identification purposes, in Midland County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 13250'-14450'.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Request for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12987, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-483-6782).

**Notice of Public Sale Pursuant to Chapter 59 Texas Property Code, SecurCare Self Storage, will hold a Public Sale of Property to satisfy liens due on Thursday the 5th day of April, 2018 at 9:00 AM. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Property must be removed within 72 hours and space broom swept. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid and withdraw property from a sale. Bidding takes place on Lockerbox.com. Sold property in SecurCare Self Storage, 1010 North Loop 200 West, Midland, TX, 79703 Midland County Carr, James Glen, Sheriff/Motorcycle, Farm, Misc**

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FORD 2004 F 150, XLT 4 door crew cab, completely loaded, sliding bed cover, new tires, very clean, engine good, 4 WD, low mileage, 100K miles, \$9,999.00 875-857-7857 for appointment.

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**2012 Chevrolet 700 Series Arctic Cat, 1500 2-center 40A. Garage kept must see riding \$9,995. 432-549-0241.**

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**FORD 2005** Sterling, 3 bedrooms 2 bath, 2 car garage, Old Midland. Owner financing. \$225,000, 10% down plus closing cost. Call 432-691-8974.

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**1999's GIBSON** Full-body electric guitar, model # EB-149 3/4 with case. Collector item. \$2,995. No tax. Please call 432-552-0490

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vanced homes in 855-hwy, TX. 1000 W. Kansas & 2012 N. Garland. Call for price. 214-552-8264 Realtor

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View photos and details at EstateSales.net

**ESTATE SALE BY JOSEPH AND TEAM**  
3000 TRINITY HEADQUARTERS DR. - MIDLAND  
Thursday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Saturday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

For photos go to  
https://www.estatesales.net/TX/Midland/79707/1017310

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**Digital Media Account Executive, Midland, TX**

"We must be eternally enterprising and fearlessly original. We must be honest and fearless. And we must spark a revolution."

- William Randolph Hearst, 1887

The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking a Digital Media Account Executive just like you to join our team! Our industry is changing into a digital world, and we are looking for experienced professionals who are eager to facilitate our innovative efforts.

Join Midland's leading media company and become part of the winning sales team that offers advertisers a robust suite of digital and print products to help them achieve their business objectives. We are seeking digital savvy, highly motivated sales professionals to sell our marketing solutions to local businesses. Our ideal candidate will be goal oriented, in a relentless hustle, driving to win new business, and has a track record of exceeding monthly goals.

As a Digital Media Account Executive, you can expect the following:

- Develop and manage a portfolio of accounts
- Build and maintain relationships with clients and advertising agencies
- Identify and pursue new business opportunities
- Analyze advertising performance and provide reports to clients
- Collaborate with internal teams to ensure seamless execution of campaigns
- Stay up-to-date on industry trends and digital marketing strategies

**Requirements:**

- Bachelor's degree in Business, Marketing, or related field
- 2+ years of experience in digital marketing or account management
- Strong communication and negotiation skills
- Ability to work independently and manage multiple accounts
- Proficiency in CRM software and digital marketing tools

**Benefits:**

- Competitive salary and commission structure
- Health, dental, and vision insurance
- 401(k) retirement plan
- Flexible work schedule
- Professional development opportunities

**How to Apply:**

Please send your resume and cover letter to: [careers@midlandreporter.com](mailto:careers@midlandreporter.com)

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<p><b>Call the cleaners!</b>                  Ducting, Organizing, Sweeping, Mopping, Tile, Bathrooms, Windows. Make Ready! One Time, Weekly, Bi-Weekly, &amp; Monthly services available. Deep Cleaning &amp; Free Estimates! Joey &amp; Ashley Ball (432)-298-2942</p>	<p><b>WEST TEXAS CLEANING SERVICES</b>                  Experience 10 years, we are a trustful, honest, hardworking company offering reasonable rates. Weekly, bi-weekly, move-out and move-in, and deep cleaning services are available. Contact Cassie Ortiz for your free estimate! (214)-808-5438 References are available.</p>	<p><b>ADVANCED BRICK DOCTOR</b> brick &amp; mortar repair. All types of new construction specializing in block and brick fences. Steve Richey. 432-853-2898.</p> <p>For all your concrete needs, driveways, sidewalks, new steps house or garage additions. Call Danny @ 432-884-0702</p>	<p><b>FLAWLESS PAINT &amp; HANDYMAN SERVICE</b>                  Specializing in painting, drywall, drywall repair and textures, epoxy floor finishes, tile and popcorn acoustic removal. Workmanship satisfaction guarantee. Ask about name your own price program. 10% senior citizen &amp; veterans discount. Call for your free estimate. 432-526-2885</p>	<p><b>DOUBLE TT PAINTING</b>                  Interior and Exterior Textures, tape &amp; bead Low Prices. Work guaranteed. References Available. 432-288-7949 or 352-4833</p>	<p><b>BATHROOM REMODELING</b>                  Residential &amp; commercial. Call Gene 432-961-2558</p>	<p><b>PAINTING, SHEET</b>                  roof, repairs, fans, electrical, plumbing, tile-floor &amp; bath. Permin Maintenance 432-697-5417</p>	<p><b>AFFORDABLE TREE</b>                  shrub pruning, removal, sprinkler repairs. Licensed &amp; Insured. Call Williams Tree Lawn Sprinkler 561-8902, 638-9163.</p>	<p><b>DAVID'S TREE &amp; LAWN SERVICE</b>                  Trimming trees &amp; shrubs, leaf clean ups, mowing and more! Please call to make appointment 432-348-0884 www.facebook.com/davidstreeservice</p>	<p><b>MURPHY'S LAWN CARE</b>                  Mowing, edging, trimming, Hedge/ shrub trimming, clean-ups. Bill or Maryann. (432)687-3191</p>
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<p><b>HOUSEKEEPING</b>                  18 years experience. References available. Eva @ 432-553-0628</p>	<p><b>AMM FENCING</b>                  A rating on Angi's List. Residential fence, builder and repair. Reliable, professional, and quick response. Local for 12 years. 432-254-8207</p>	<p><b>CRC Interior and Exterior Painting</b>                  Remodeling, painting &amp; fabrication. Clayton R. Cross. 432-776-8985. 1st ESTIMATE FREE.</p>	<p><b>AAAAA PROFESSIONAL</b>                  tree pruning, tree stump removal. Over 20 years experience. Senior discounts. 432-689-3318.</p>	<p><b>RAINBOW LANDSCAPING</b>                  We do it all! Mowing, edging, beds, flower pot, junk hauling. Free estimate, 20+ years experience. Monthly service. Call Bryan at 432-301-1788</p>	<p><b>M &amp; M Landscaping</b>                  22 years experience. Grass sodding, Xeriscaping, tree &amp; shrub removal. Native Midlander 432-250-3572.</p>	<p><b>SPRING CLEANUP</b>                  Lawns, snow, edges, etc. Clean up, hauling. 432-689-1777</p>	<p><b>WILL TRIM</b>, prune or spray just about any tree, very reasonable prices. Call Norman 432-298-1424.</p>		
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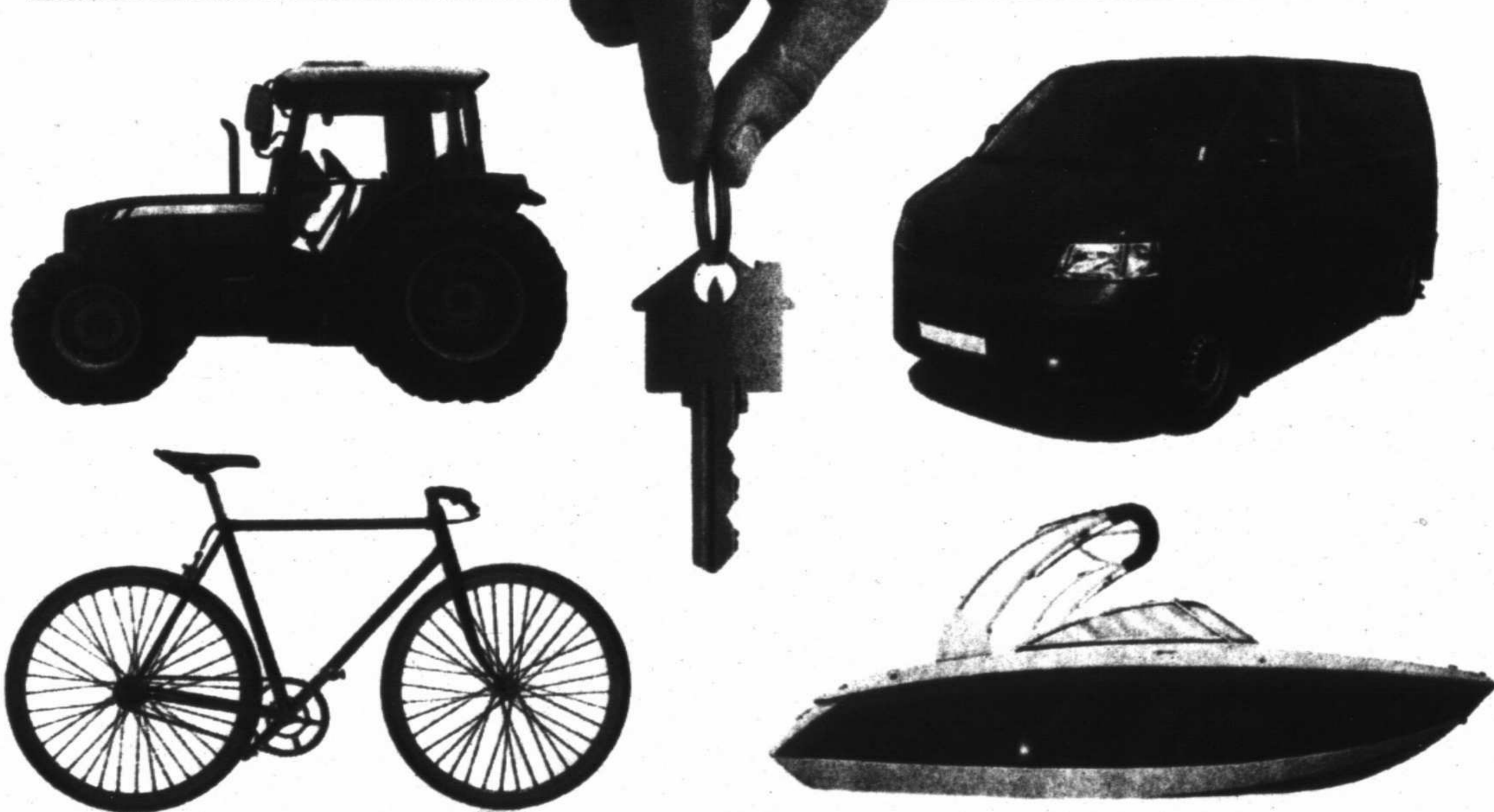


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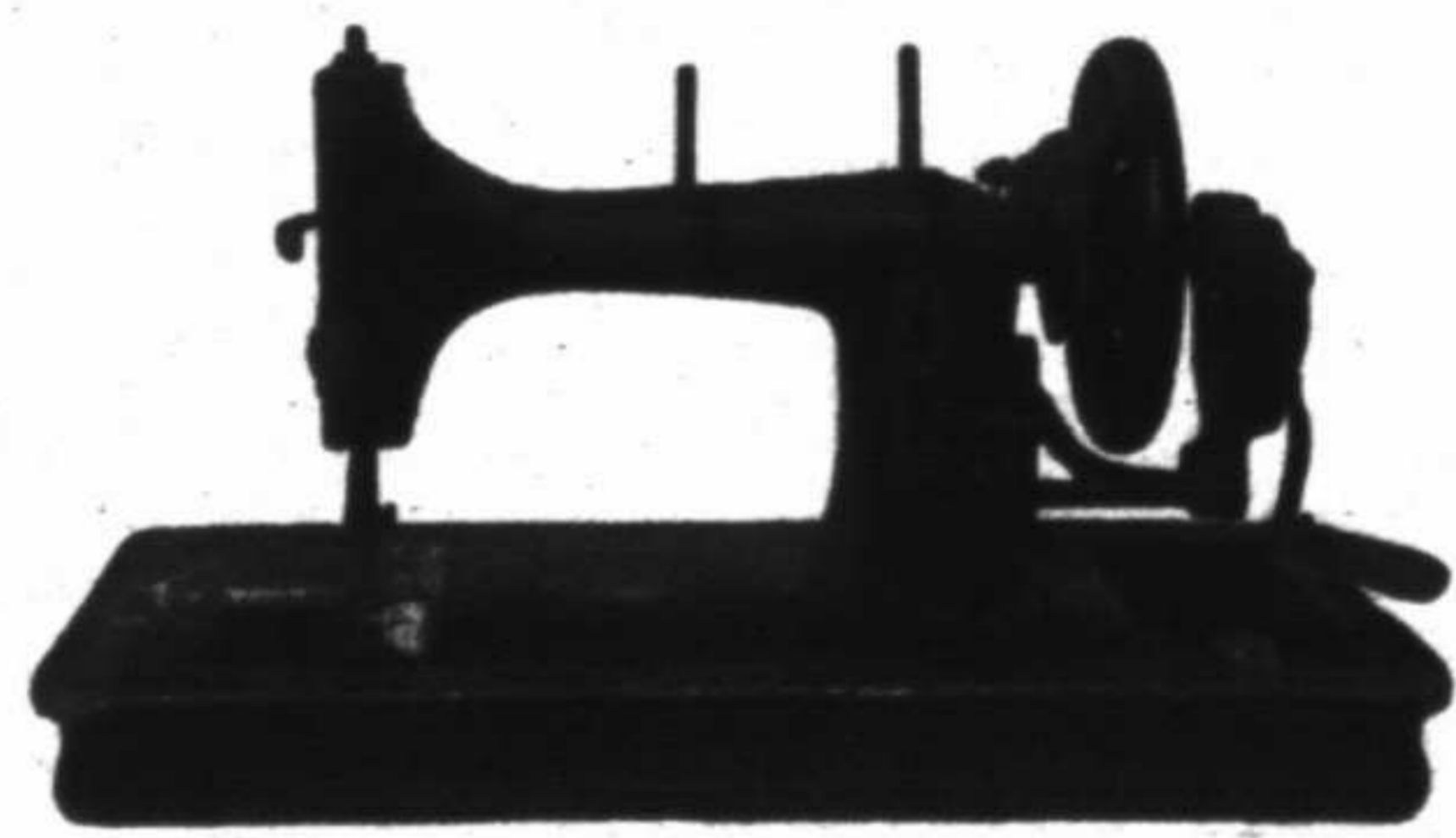
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