MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2017 mrt★com *235,000 readers in print and online monthly*

PLANE OL' HELP

Volunteer pilots offer free flights to medical facilities.

Page 1B

FIGHTING TO FRAC

Opposition to hydraulic fracturing is threatening the political viability of the oil industry in New Mexico, and oil companies will start fighting back against criticism, an oil and gas industry lobbyist warned.

Page 8A

No support for proposed 4B tax at public hearing

Former councilman: 'So many projects the city should be involved in'

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

If the public hearing having to do with the 4B election scheduled for May 6 is any indication, then those supporting the quarter-cent tax face a challenge.

All five people who weighed in on the election spoke out against the tax, which could raise as much as $11 million annually for the next 15 years. Respectively, they spoke out against the character of the Midland City Council, the additional costs 4B projects would create that would require making the tax permanent, the lack of funding on roads, the feeling of being taxed too much already and the amount of debt the city carries.

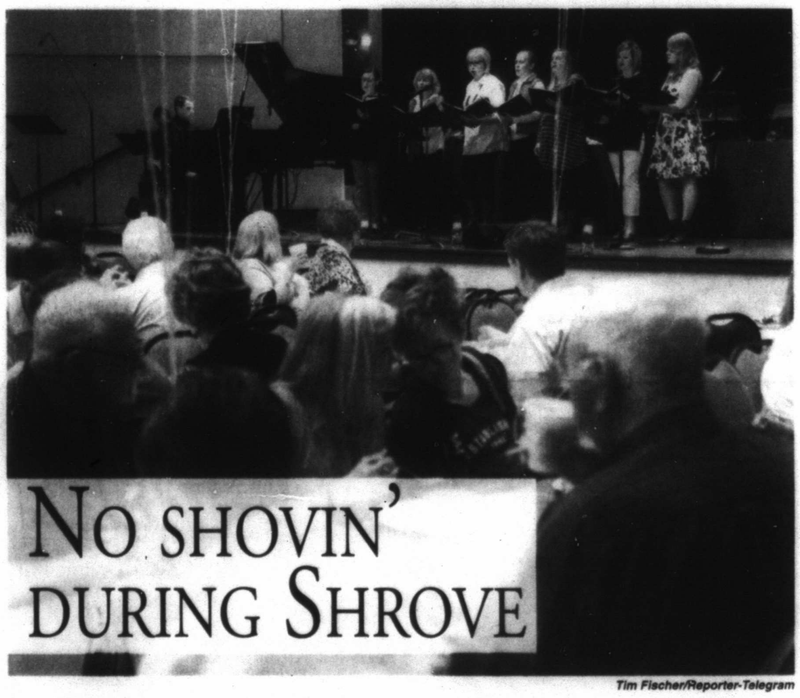
Coming Thursday

City Council to vote on paying off sports complex. See story in Thursday's edition.

The public hearing was required, according to state statute. It was supposed to provide a forum for residents to weigh in on the costs and impact of the three major parks projects that would cost as much as $77.4 million, according to city documents. The city also added maintenance start-up costs (nearly $2 million) and expected annual maintenance at the Scharbauer Sports Complex (between $2 million and $4 million a year). Combined, that adds up to as much as $109 million to $139 million over the 15 years that the proposed tax would be in place.

Buddy Sipes, a former councilman, said a new 4B tax would require a future council to seek the continuation of the tax because the maintenance costs would increase.

Please see **HEARING**/4A



NO SHOVIN' DURING SHROVE

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Midlanders enjoy a pancake dinner Tuesday during Shrove Tuesday celebrations at First Methodist Church. This is the church's 55th annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. Shrove Tuesday is the day before Lent begins, and today is Ash Wednesday. See more photos and coverage from the event in tomorrow's Faith & Philanthropy section.

Activists call for council to oppose nuclear waste in city

From staff reports

A Midland geologist told Midland City Council that public hearings are needed for Midlanders to decide on having high-level nuclear waste travel though the city.

David Rosen, who is also the chairman for the Midland County Democratic Party, told the council Tuesday it should pass a resolution similar to the one passed last month by Bexar County Commissioners. The resolution, according to the San Antonio Express-News, opposes shipments of thousands of pounds of spent nuclear fuel rods from more than 62 sites across the U.S. to a waste site in Andrews County.

More inside

Fire department wants tweak to high-rise sprinkler ordinance.

Page 4A

"This poison will be coming through on our railroad tracks," Rosen said.

Rosen said the waste doesn't need to go through Midland County because "things break," and when cleanup costs associated with such nuclear waste can rise into the billions, it is better to have it travel elsewhere.

Rosen and another geologist, Bridget Houston Hyde, said there were reasons to oppose H.R. 474, the Interim Consolidated Storage Act. That bill seeks to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 "to authorize the Secretary of Energy to enter into contracts for the storage of certain high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, take title to certain high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel, and make certain expenditures from the Nuclear Waste Fund."

Rosen said waste will be "left out in the open" and be visible by Google Earth maps, making the Waste Control Specialists facility in Andrews County a target for potential terrorism. He also said there have been earthquakes in the region.

Please see **WASTE**/4A

City, TxDOT talk medians on SH 349

■ Midland wants highway to be five lanes to Martin County

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

Growth along State Highway 349 north of Loop 250 has created numerous challenges for travelers. Several housing developments have sprung up, and oil and gas activity continues to move ahead, both of which have the city and the Texas Department of Transportation concerned about driver safety. But plans are in the works to ease the situation.

Before their Tuesday meeting, City Council members heard a presentation from Engineering Director Jose Ortiz about a partnership between the city and TxDOT to widen SH 349 to five lanes all the way to the Midland County line and add medians in the center lane.

Ortiz said medians will help end improper use of the center lane, which is intended for left turns. Drivers quite often enter the center lane when exiting a property and using it as an acceleration lane. This is dangerous because vehicles using the center lane to merge into traffic could hit vehicles waiting to turn left.

Converting all of SH 349 in Midland County into a five-lane roadway is critical because some travelers already have to use the left lane to turn left to access their property, which halts traffic and creates an unsafe situation. A center lane will alleviate this issue by creating left-turn pockets.

To do this, more easements and right-of-way are needed for drainage, which the city would

Please see **MEDIANS**/4A

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The big number
Suicide attempts dropped by
7 percent
among all students in states that legalized same-sex marriage. Page 4B

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

Brought to you daily by Jim Burrito

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Nouveau
[noo-voh, noo-voh]
adjective
1. newly or recently created, developed, or come to prominence

AP file photo

A huge "Vote!" flag waves above Interstate 35 as motorists pass in San Antonio on Nov. 8, 2016.

What next in the long battle over Texas voter ID law?

By David Saleh Rauf
Associated Press

AUSTIN — President Donald Trump's administration has abandoned an Obama-era challenge to a 2011 Texas voter ID law that is among the toughest in the nation. Civil rights groups are still contesting the Texas law in federal court but without the muscle of the federal government behind them. Here are answers to key questions about the case so far — and where it goes from here.

How did we get here?

Texas Republicans passed the measure in 2011 requiring voters to show one of seven forms of state-approved photo identification at the polls to cast a ballot. That list includes concealed handgun permits but not college IDs. There was no process to allow voters without suitable identification to sign an affidavit and cast a ballot. A federal court found an estimated 600,000 registered voters could be disenfranchised by the law, and that some minorities lacking an acceptable identification could be forced to travel up to 250 miles round trip to obtain a state voter-ID certificate.

The Obama Justice Department refused to allow for the Texas law under a section of the Voting Rights Act that required mostly southern states with a history of discrimination, including Texas, to get election changes approved by the federal government. Texas sued but a federal court in Washington blocked the law in August 2012. The law later took effect in 2013 after the U.S. Supreme Court gutted the section of the Voting Rights Act that required federal government preclearance.

Civil rights groups sued in 2013, and the Obama Justice Department supported them. U.S. District Judge Nelva Gonzales Ramos of Corpus Christi struck down the law in 2014, but it was later reinstated on a temporary basis by a federal appeals court. Last year, that appeals court found the law had a discriminatory effect on minorities and ordered it to be weakened for the November election.

What does the Trump administration decision mean?

It is an early indication of how the Justice Department under Attorney General Jeff Sessions will approach voting rights. The move is not a surprise following Trump's unsubstantiated claims of widespread voter fraud and Sessions' defense of voter ID laws.

But it leaves civil rights groups without a powerful ally. Most recently, the Justice Department under Obama was instrumental in getting Texas to fully comply with the court order that softened its voter ID law for the November election. Texas was required to amend voter ID education materials, including press releases, polling location posters and websites, to correctly conform to a court mandate.

Is this case over?

Democratic U.S. Rep. Marc Veasey from Dallas and several civil rights groups say they will continue to challenge the law in court without the backing of the Trump administration.

The appeals court last year sent the case back to judge Gonzales Ramos with instructions to determine whether it was written and passed with the purpose of discriminating against minorities. The judge heard arguments on that issue Tuesday.

The case could ultimately be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The high court last month declined a Texas appeal seeking to restore its law, but Chief Justice John Roberts also left the door open for another appeal at a later time, once it clears Gonzales Ramos' and other courts.

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has suggested that Roberts' comments "made it very clear that the case will be an even stronger posture for Supreme Court review" and a Trump-appointed conservative justice on the high court could further encourage the state.

What could happen next?

Judge Gonzales Ramos' ruling is expected in the coming weeks and will likely spark another round of costly, prolonged appeals.

If she rules against Texas, it could become the first state put back under federal supervision for voting law changes since the 2013 U.S. Supreme Court decision weakening the Voting Rights Act. The judge could require federal approval of Texas election law changes for up to 10 years.

A federal appeals court last year found North Carolina's law was enacted with discriminatory intent, but opted against the more sweeping step. The Obama Justice Department had argued that Texas Republicans passed the law because they felt "threatened by explosive growth in minority populations" who tend to favor Democrats.

But Texas maintains that the law was intended to combat fraud and increase public confidence in elections.

Meanwhile, Texas Republicans have proposed legislation to revise the current voter ID measure in an attempt to address problems courts have identified. The proposal would allow a voter without an ID to sign an affidavit and would impose a criminal penalty of up to 10 years in prison for lying on a sworn declaration.

Thunderous meteor rattles Texas sky with rare sonic boom

By Liz Farmer
The Dallas Morning News

A booming meteor rocketed over Texas this weekend, rattling houses with a rare sonic boom, reports show.

Authorities in West Texas and beyond received calls about possible explosions Sunday night.

It turned out to be the fireball, which is a very bright meteor, according to the American Meteor Society.

About 40 people reported on the nonprofit's site that they'd seen it in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado just before 9 p.m.

Deputy Fire Marshal Nathan Hines said he heard what sounded like thunder in Snyder, a town about 80 miles west of Abilene, The Lubbock Avalanche-Journal reported.

"You could see a flash, like if an electrical transformer flashes at night, up to our northwest, but it was cloudy here — kinda rainy — so we didn't actually see any kind of fireball or anything," Hines said.

Mike Hankey, AMS operation manager, told The Lubbock Avalanche-Journal that meteors fall daily, but only about 1 percent produce a sonic boom.

"A lot of people think it's something hitting the ground," Hankey said. "Actually, like 10 miles up into the atmosphere creates that sonic effect that's like a rumbling sound or an exploding sound."

Some people said boom rattled their doors and windows.

An observer in Jayton, about 90 miles northwest of Abilene, wrote on the AMS site that three people who were on the porch and in the yard at the time "could see each other momentarily like daytime."

Weatherford police Officer Tiffany Vanzant caught the meteor bursting over the Parker County Courthouse. Yet another spectacular video following the department's bull-roping footage.

"Officer Vanzant had a front-row seat to a truly spectacular sight, and thanks to her in-car camera and a little movie-making magic, we want to share it with everyone," the department said. "It is important to note that there were no space aliens hurt in the making of this video!"

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Body spotted downstream from vehicle washed away in creek

By Paul Davenport
Associated Press

A helicopter crew spotted a body downstream from a vehicle that got washed away Tuesday when the driver tried to use an unbridged crossing of a runoff-swollen creek in north-central Arizona.

Firefighters earlier didn't find the driver when they used a raft tethered by ropes to reach the mostly submerged vehicle where it ended up about a quarter-mile downstream from the Reay Road crossing of Beaver Creek in the McGuireville area near the Verde Valley.

After authorities then began a search for the driver, an Arizona Department of Public Safety crew spotted the body about a mile downstream from the vehicle, Yavapai County sheriff's spokesman Dwight D'Evelyn said.

Arizona desert areas received heavy rain Tuesday as much the state's high country got more snow before the storm headed east. More than a foot of snow was reported in Flagstaff since the storm began Monday.

High flows were reported in creeks and washes in several areas, including parts of Coconino, Gila, Maricopa and Yavapai counties.

Fire Chief Terry Keller of Copper Canyon Fire and Medical said the vehicle, which he said appeared to be a small SUV, was bobbing up and down as firefighters tried to find and rescue the driver.

Four firefighters in the raft floated near the vehicle and reached it while tethered by a system of ropes operated by other firefighters on the side of the creek, Keller said.

The fighters leaned out to break its rear hatch window and then leaned inside to look for the driver but did not see him in the brown water inside the vehicle, Keller said.

It's possible the driver got washed out of the vehicle, which was about a quarter-mile downstream of the crossing, he said.

The vehicle appeared to be atop brush in the creek, making for a "very precarious" situation, Keller said.

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REGIONBRIEF

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW MEXICO

Senate passes bill to address Carlsbad brine well

SANTA FE — The state Senate has passed legislation prompted by a potential catastrophe waiting to happen at a busy intersection in the southern New Mexico community of Carlsbad.

Experts have warned lawmakers that something needs to be done about the giant cavern that has formed at the edge of the city where two major transportation routes intersect.

Nearby is a canal that delivers water to farmers throughout the lower Pecos Valley and a neighborhood of mobile homes.

Sen. Carroll Leavell said the cavern left behind by a defunct brine well operation is in the worst possible location.

The legislation sponsored by the Jal Republican was approved Monday. It would create a special authority to help guide remediation and look for revenues to fund the work. The House has passed a similar bill.

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Case closed: Death of treasure hunter remains a mystery

By Susan Montoya Bryan
Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The case of a man who moved to the American West to search for $2 million in hidden treasure but turned up dead in New Mexico's backcountry was officially closed after authorities struggled to solve the mystery.

Investigators recently informed Randy Bilyeu's family, bringing some closure after more than a year of uncertainty and heartache that began when the 54-year-old father and grandfather vanished in January 2016.

He was looking for a bounty that an antiquities dealer said he stashed somewhere in the Rocky Mountains. It has inspired thousands to search in vain across remote corners of New Mexico, Yellowstone National Park and elsewhere.

Bilyeu's family members in Florida said Tuesday that they are relieved yet saddened that they might never know what happened.

"But we haven't given up," said Linda Bilyeu, Randy's ex-wife and mother of his daughters.

Authorities have returned his cellphone and laptop to the family, who plan to go through the remainder of his belongings next week while keeping watch for any new information.

Linda Bilyeu said the family is moving forward but also is working to keep his memory alive by telling his story and warning other would-be treasure hunters to proceed with caution because the risks can be grave. She spent months organizing volunteers who used everything from canoes to drones to search for Randy Bilyeu.

His skeletal remains were discovered last summer by a crew with the Army Corps of Engineers that had been working along the Rio Grande.

Autopsy results obtained by The Associated Press showed there was not enough evidence for investigators to determine what caused Bilyeu's death. He had no broken bones or other skeletal injuries, leaving only room for speculation.

Criticism remains as town gives early OK for Muslim cemetery

By David Warren
Associated Press

DALLAS — An Islamic association has again received permission from a North Texas town to move forward with plans for a Muslim cemetery despite vehement opposition from some residents seeking to block the project.

Officials in Farmersville, northeast of Dallas, approved a conceptual plan Monday for the cemetery just outside the town.

Town spokesman Michael Sullivan, who's also the police chief, said the Islamic Association of Collin County two years ago presented a similar plan but never moved forward with a more detailed proposal, causing its earlier application to lapse.

A board member for the association explains the group was busy working with the town on modifications to the project. Shumsur Rahman said, for instance, that the about 35-acre site now would have two entrances for vehicles rather than just one, and its roadways would be wider.

"We're optimistic that as long as we follow the rules and regulations, there's no reason why it can't happen," Rahman said of the project.

Muslim leaders say there are about five Muslim cemeteries in North Texas and they have little remaining space. State rules limit where a new cemetery can be placed and Muslim officials say Farmersville was one of the few options open to the association. The Farmersville land would offer up to 15,000 burial sites.

But suspicious residents say the cemetery would be a prelude to a mosque or a training center that would allow extremists into the region.

"There's been some terrible, drastic things that have happened in the world through radical Islamic terrorism, and any thought of that coming to our community just brings and harbors an anxiousness that we're concerned with," David Meeks, pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church, told KXAS-TV in Dallas.

Others are more direct with their criticism.

"I oppose the Muslim religion," resident Jack Hawkins told KXAS. "If I had my way, I would outlaw it in America."

Concerns over Muslim cemeteries gained national attention in 2010 when the town of Sidney Center in New York voted to investigate how Muslims were burying their dead. The issue was quickly dropped after local leaders received widespread criticism.

Many residents of Farmersville, a predominantly white community of about 3,500 residents about 35 miles northeast of Dallas, are pushing their leaders to take a similar stand.

Texan, at 14 sentenced to 35 years for murder, leaves prison

By Jennifer Emily
Dallas Morning News

Rose Baca/Dallas Morning News

This photo taken Sept. 1, 2016, shows Anisha Walker at the Henley Unit in Dayton. At 14, Walker was sent to prison for killing a man after selling him cocaine. Walker, 32, was just granted parole.

DALLAS — Anisha Walker wore white for two decades. Until now.

The Dallas Morning News reports she walked out of prison Feb. 22 and left behind the bleached and ill-fitting cotton shirts and pants of the Texas prison uniform.

She was known as "Little Baby" when she arrived at prison at 14. A guard didn't want to let her in at first because she was certain Walker didn't belong.

Walker killed a man during a robbery in Arlington and was tried as an adult. She grew up with other criminals, women two or three times her age. Sometimes more.

Now, she's 34 and no longer prisoner No. 00808676. She's free — sort of.

Walker will live in a halfway house near Austin. She must report to a probation officer and must abide by the facility's rules. But she can come and go, as long as she comes back.

Walker was featured in a Dallas Morning News series called "Kids or Criminals?" about what it was like to come of age behind bars and the consequences for society and the inmates when they're one day released.

"I'm so ready to go," Walker wrote in a recent letter before her release. "I'm kind of rushing."

The halfway house staff picked Walker up from the Dempsie Henley State Jail in Dayton. The warden wouldn't allow visitors to see Walker leave prison.

She'd hoped to immediately move in with relatives in Dallas County, but her parole requires her to stay in the halfway house for a while.

"That's fine," she said in an interview before her release. "I've always wanted to live in Austin. It's fine — long as I know I'm going home."

Walker wants to leap into her new life. Instead, she must inch along.

"When I push my pride to the side, I need it because it's going to slowly integrate me back into society," Walker said. "I don't have to jump feet first in, which would probably be detrimental to me."

Walker is a murderer, even if she was a child at the time.

She takes responsibility for her actions, something not all in Walker's place do. She shot Nigerian immigrant Pedro Enemku in the head after selling him crack cocaine at an Arlington apartment complex.

"I committed a crime, a heinous crime. I killed somebody. I took a life. So, I deserve to be punished for it," she said. "But I believe I've paid my debt to society, and I also believe (with) the skills I've learned ... I can be a productive citizen."

She accepts what she did, but she traces her mistakes back to one moment: She says her life changed when, at age 11, her mother told her that the man she called daddy wasn't really related to her.

Thus began a long slide into trouble.

The grandparents she lived with and adored in Grand Prairie weren't really related to her. She began to bounce around from relative to relative.

Her mother, whom she'd always seen only infrequently, now became more and more of a shadow as she struggled with drug addiction. Not seeing her much was for the best, Walker said.

Walker was picked up for car theft. She was released from juvenile detention when her mother agreed to take her in, but she soon ran away and lived on the streets.

She got an older boyfriend. He took her to see the last movie she saw in a theater: "Set It Off" starring Jada Pinkett (before she married Will Smith), Queen Latifah, Vivica A. Fox and Kimberly Elise as four women who pull a bank heist.

When the boyfriend was jailed, she turned to robbery to raise bail, she said. On May 23, 1997, she killed Enemku.

Her case could have been handled in juvenile court. Tarrant County prosecutors told a judge she couldn't be saved — could never be rehabilitated and never be fit for a normal life again. They moved her case to adult court and she became the youngest person, at the time, to be tried as an adult in that county.

She eventually wrote a letter to the judge admitting what she'd done. She entered a guilty plea in court. But in a childish gesture, she stuck her tongue out at a news photographer just before a judge sentenced her to 35 years in prison.

Her 15th birthday was spent in prison.

She was strip-searched, worked in the fields and spent the first 10 years getting in fights, proving she wasn't weak.

The simple pleasures most don't think twice about are foremost on Walker's mind.

There are only showers in prisons. Many who've spent time behind bars think of baths as a luxury for years after they get out.

"First, I'm going to take a shower, and I'm going to wash my hair," she said. "Then, I'm going to clean the tub out and take a long bath."

Walker will probably have to wait until she leaves the halfway house for a dip in the tub. She'll likely stay in the halfway house 90 days. Maybe less. She's always planned to live with an aunt in Cedar Hill afterward.

Tara Roberts couldn't immediately be reached, but in 2015 she told The News that Walker was welcome in her home. For ex-cons, especially those who went to prison as kids, family support is key to not ending up back in prison. It's key to thriving in life.

"I just remember the little child, and I know the adult she has become," Roberts said. "She's going to make it. She needs a chance, and I'm going to help."

A job is high on Walker's list. She must also keep appointments with her probation officer and stay out of trouble. A serious misstep could send her back to prison for a parole violation.

She took culinary classes in prison and dreams of being a cook at a fancy restaurant. But she knows she'll have to start out small. Maybe a job at Whataburger. From what she remembers, she likes their food.

The job search will be tough with a murder conviction.

She'll need money to achieve her next out-of-prison goal: a rose gold Samsung Galaxy S6. She's only seen pictures in magazines. Other inmates who've had smartphones tell her an iPhone is the way to go. But she won't be dissuaded.

Walker's most ambitious goal may have been the same even if she'd never pulled the trigger. If she'd never run away or stolen a car. If she'd grown up believing her daddy was her biological father even if he wasn't.

She wants a family.

"I want to be successful. But I still want, more than anything, to be a mama," Walker said. "I want babies. I don't want a baby daddy. I want a husband."

For the girl who took so much and lost so much, "that will be the top, the cream of the crop."

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Today is Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is one of the most important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it, too.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God created man. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Source: www.catholic.org

Things to do

■ Storytime at the Library.10:30 a.m. (birth-2 years), 11:30 a.m. (2-6 years), Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N. Tickets required for later sessions due to limited space. co.midland.tx.us/lb.

■ Bridge game play, 6:45 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. $6. For more information call 432-682-8595

■ Trivia Game Night, 7 p.m., True Texas BBQ, 5407 Andrews Hwy. Free.

■ Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment. 8 p.m., Torino's. challengeentertainment.com.

■ One Night of Queen performed by Gary Mullen and the Works, 8 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $36-$46. wagnernoel.com.

Community calendar

The 710 Group of Alcoholics Anonymous is hosting a fundraiser, the Ruthe O Memorial Chili Cook-off, 2 p.m. Saturday at 710 W. Ohio Ave. A $5 donation is suggested.

For more information, call 682-8162.

Spring break camps

City of Midland's MLK Adventures Spring Break Camp is 1-5 p.m. March 13-17 at the MLK Community Center, 2300 Butternet Lane. It's for kids 6 through 12. Fee is $40 for the week.

Activities will include arts and crafts, sports, cooking classes and board games. Parents may register their children at the MLK center.

For more information, call 685-7355 or email Joey Jolly at jajolly@midlandtexas.gov.

■ Sibley Nature Spring Break Camp is 9 a.m.-4 p.m. March 13-16 for fourth- through sixth-graders. Kids will exploring the habitats and animals of the Llano Estacado.

Fee is $125 for members and $150 for nonmembers. To register, go to sibleynaturecenter.org. For more information, call 684-6827.

■ Camp Fire West Texas will be hosting spring break camp at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 1701 N. Main St., for children age 5 to 12. Camp 7:45 a.m.- 5:30 p.m. March 13-17. Activities include games, trips and sports. Children will need to bring their lunch; snacks will be provided.

Fee is $75 for the week. Financial assistance is available. For more information, call 570-4144.

Know a member of the military coming home?

Military families can call 352-0785 or email Vickie Gomez (zemogv@cableone.net) when they know their member of the military is flying into Midland International Air & Space Port so the Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee can be there to greet her or him.

Honor those who served

Many organizations operating right here in the Permian Basin are at the task of serving all kinds of needs for present and former members of our military. Some of them are:

■ Show of Support (687-2167)

■ Honor Our Troops (889-0177), Reel Thanx (528-6633)

■ Centers for Children and Families (570-1084)

■ Midland College Veterans Affairs Office (685-4511)

■ Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee (366-3458)

■ Soldiers of Today and Yesterday (631-3429)

When it's open

Midland County Tax Assessor/Collector

■ 2110 N. "A" St.

■ 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Friday

■ 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday

■ 688-4810

Midland Central Appraisal District

■ 4631 Andrews Highway

■ 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ Monday through Friday

■ 699-4991

Department of Public Safety: Driver's License Office

■ 2405 South Loop 250 West

■ 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Wednesday through Friday

■ 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays

■ 498-2100

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 4-2-2
Pick 3 day: 6-0-8
Pick 3 evening: 4-8-5
Pick 3 night: 0-0-5
Daily 4 morning: 6-4-1-9
Daily 4 day: 3-6-9-9
Daily 4 evening: 5-0-1-9
Daily 4 night: 0-2-8-2
Cash Five: 5-8-11-19-20
Texas Triple Chance: 2-8-10-16-31-39-45-46-50-51
Mega Millions: 20-33-45-58-69 MB: 4 Megaplier: 2
All or Nothing morning: 3-5-6-7-11-12-13-14-17-19-23-24
All or Nothing day: 4-9-10-11-15-17-18-19-20-21-23-24
All or Nothing evening: 1-2-3-7-9-11-14-18-19-21-22-23
All or Nothing night: 1-2-4-6-8-10-16-17-20-21-22-23

Jacqueline Larma/Associated Press

Trump supporter Bob, who declined to give his last name, volunteers his time and prepares the base of a damaged headstone Tuesday in Philadelphia. Scores of volunteers are expected to help in an organized effort to clean up and restore the Jewish cemetery where vandals damaged hundreds of headstones.

Outpouring of community help for vandalized cemetery

By Michael Rubinkam
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Dozens of volunteers from various faiths helped clean up a Jewish cemetery on Tuesday after scores of tombstones were toppled by vandals, as people from as far as Boston came to Philadelphia to rake leaves, help document the damage and pray for peace.

Police have not determined who was behind the vandalism at Mount Carmel Cemetery, which was reported over the weekend, or the motive. Various donors have come forward to offer a reward adding up to $50,000 for information leading to an arrest.

The desecration of more than 100 graves in the crowded cemetery came as Jewish Community Centers and day schools around the nation deal with wave after wave of hoax bomb threats. A Jewish cemetery in suburban St. Louis has also been targeted.

Republican President Donald Trump, who has been criticized as lax in denouncing the threats and other anti-Semitic acts across the country, opened his address Tuesday night to a joint session of Congress with his strongest condemnation yet.

"Recent threats targeting Jewish community centers and vandalism of Jewish cemeteries remind us that, while we are a country that disagrees on policy, we stand united in condemning hate and evil in all of its very ugly forms."

President Donald Trump

"Recent threats targeting Jewish community centers and vandalism of Jewish cemeteries," Trump said, "remind us that, while we are a country that disagrees on policy, we stand united in condemning hate and evil in all of its very ugly forms."

Michael Bristow, a 52-year-old Catholic from Philadelphia went to Mount Carmel on Tuesday to help.

"This is absolutely insane," Bristow said. "These people are human beings just like you, just like me. They're not different. I thought this was all over with. Why is this still going on? I mean, grow up, world."

Some volunteers raked leaves into bags, while others carried clipboards and began the process of mapping the hundreds of tombstones in the crowded cemetery, noting any damage to each. One man whose son will be commissioned as an Air Force officer in May became choked up as he uncovered the flat tombstone of a World War I veteran, which had been obscured by years of dirt and debris.

Another volunteer, Robert Weiss, 55, of Dover, Massachusetts, took a day off from work and drove more than five hours to Philadelphia to lend a hand.

"I just had to see this for myself, and participate," said Weiss, adding he was "beside himself" when he saw the damage.

After each one-hour shift, the volunteers walked to a corner of the cemetery, where a rabbi offered a meditation and led them in song — a Jewish prayer for peace.

Sarah Samuels, a University of Pennsylvania student, said she was gratified by the response. "But this shouldn't have to have happened in the first place," she said.

Jewish leaders said they're not sure whether the vandals were motivated by anti-Semitism or simple maliciousness. Judging by the path of the damage, it appears the vandals might have accessed the cemetery from an adjoining playground through a piece of damaged fence.

Bill Doran, the superintendent of another cemetery in Philadelphia, told The Philadelphia Inquirer he visited Mount Carmel on Feb. 21 and noticed the damage then but didn't report it, assuming the managers were already aware. Police first learned of the damage on Sunday.

HEARING

From 1A

"I am going to guarantee the 4B will be in existence forever," Sipes said Tuesday during the council meeting.

Current members of the council said they support a new 4B tax because operations and maintenance of the Scharbauer Sports Complex is too great to put back into the city budget. Maintenance costs related to the $24 million Hogan Park rehab, the $29.6 million Beal Park makeover and the $25.3 million Reyes-Mashburn-Nelms Park improvements are expected to be around $1 million annually. That figure doesn't include operations costs related to tournaments and tourism.

"There are so many projects the city should be involved in," Sipes said. "Building the dreams of the mayor and this City Council — this doesn't represent the will of the people."

Sipes went on to say the pitch being made for the 4B resembles one made by a new- or used-car salesman. He said there was a time when parks were paid for out of the city budget and that there are things other than tournament fields that need the direct attention of the city council.

"It is not much, but when you add it up, it is a lot of money being taken out of the pockets of Midlanders," Sipes said.

Councilman Jeff Sparks said the projects listed are not guaranteed to be constructed. He said project recommendations will come from a 4B committee, and the council would then approve or deny them. Mayor Jerry Morales, who has spearheaded the campaign to make passage of the tax a reality, was not present at the meeting. City officials said he was at a meeting in Austin.

He missed one Midlander — Thomas Flournoy — tell the council it is wrong to force Midlanders to pay for a tax on facilities they may never use and that the building of sports facilities is a free-enterprise issue.

Derick Parsley said revenue should be used for something practical — roads. He said he couldn't drive on any road in Midland without driving over a pothole. Council members reminded Parsley that the revenue from the proposed tax couldn't be used for maintenance of current streets that aren't connected to business. The tax can be used for the expanding of current roads and the building of new roads — of which there are many current projects on the city's to-do list, including Briarwood Avenue, a Wadley Road extension, the future extension of Tradewinds Boulevard, possible expansion of Mockingbird Lane and the expansion of Fairgrounds Road. There are also potential future projects related to future development in west and northeast Midland.

Kinsey Holder told the council that as a young adult she wants to avoid another tax that makes Midland a costlier place to live. With the 4B, Midlanders and visitors are being taxed 25 cents for every $100 spent, and she said every dollar taken from her adds up and makes it harder to save.

Lastly, William Israel said the fiscally responsible thing for the city to do is work on its debt. According to the Texas Bond Review Board, the city of Midland (as of the end of the last fiscal year — Aug. 31, 2016) owes $119.42 million in principal and $52.553 million in interest payments for a total of $171.97 million in total payments. Those payments are for voter-approved bonds and council-directed calls for debt using certificates of obligation.

MEDIANS

From 1A

be tasked with acquiring.

Also in the plan is the widening of Mockingbird Lane west of its intersection with SH 349. Mockingbird to the east is five lanes, while the western side is two lanes.

The city projects the cost to be nearly $12 million. The city would contribute $1.2 million and will ask the Midland Development Corp. for a matching $1.2 million. Another $200,000 would come from a fund sitting in escrow that developers contribute to, and TxDOT would pay the final $9,362,410.

District 4 Councilman J.Ross Lacy questioned the MDC's role in contributing money toward the project, saying that the Type A sales tax entity's purpose is not to be an "infrastructure piggy bank." District 2 Councilman Jeff Sparks said the contribution would be fitting because it's an economic development project. At-large Councilman Scott Dufford agreed.

MDC Chairman Brent Hilliard told the Reporter-Telegram that he was aware of the city's request but hadn't delved into the fine details of the matter. However, it seemed to him that the financial contribution would fit MDC's purpose and that it's not uncommon for the organization to take part in funding transportation projects.

For the project to go forward, City Council needs to vote to authorize the city manager to negotiate and acquire right-of-way and to allow the city to enter into an advanced funding agreement with TxDOT.

Fire department wants tweak to high-rise sprinkler ordinance

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

Council members heard a presentation before their City Council meeting Tuesday about a sprinkler protection system ordinance.

The ordinance involves the retrofitting of sprinklers in high-rise buildings, or those buildings that are 75 feet tall or higher. There are 22 high-rises in Midland; however, a third have no sprinkler system and many more only have partial systems, Interim Fire Chief Chip Balzer said. He said the ordinance is already in place, but that there hasn't been much compliance, largely because the fire department did a "poor job" of communicating with building owners.

Balzer wants to implement a compliance schedule of no longer than 12 years:

■ Building owners will file a compliance schedule within three years.

■ Buildings will have a water supply via a wet-standpipe system to each floors within six years.

■ Fifty percent of floors will have sprinklers within nine years.

■ All floors will be in full compliance no later than 12 years.

Sprinklers help combat the "logistical nightmare" of fighting a high-rise fire, Balzer said. They keep "small fires small" by deploying water only onto isolated areas. This contrasts with depictions in films, where all sprinklers go off at once. Bazler said one or two sprinkler heads are activated in most cases.

Sprinklers also give people more time to find exits and evacuate, he said.

The ordinance requires council's approval, and Balzer said he would come back later with an amended ordinance that reflects the changes.

Like Trevor on Facebook and follow him on Twitter @HowdyHawes.

WASTE

From 1A

including a magnitude 4.7 quake that hit Andrews in 1992.

Hyde spoke to the legislation supported by U.S. Congressman Mike Conaway of Midland. The legislation allows up to 40,000 metric tons of high-level waste to be stored in Andrews. She said there are example of private companies taking over high-level radioactive waste sites and some of those are "Superfund sites." She said Texas is better to avoid the billions of dollars in cleanup that would have to take place if there was a problem in Andrews County.

"As a Texan, I cannot see how this serves as our state," Hyde said. "Cities along the route will be put at risk."

Raw cookie dough is latest NYC food fad

By Karen Matthews
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Cookie dough is having its Cronut moment.

People have been standing in line for up to three hours at a month-old New York City shop that sells scoops of raw dough in a cup or a cone like ice cream.

The sweet treat has become the latest food fad to generate buzz and long lines on the sidewalk, following the Magnolia Bakery cupcake popularized by "Sex and the City" and the Cronut, the croissant-doughnut mashup that made pastry chef Dominique Ansel's Manhattan bakery a phenomenon among foodies and tourists and ultimately inspired mass produced knockoffs.

Kristen Tomlan, the 28-year-old founder of DO Cookie Dough Confections, said she's selling 1,500 pounds of cookie dough a day at her Greenwich Village storefront and hopes to expand both in New York and online.

"It's really cookie dough gone wild," said Tomlan, who grew up in St. Louis and has a background in design and branding.

The name of the business, DO, is pronounced "dough" and rendered with a line over the O indicating a long vowel sound.

About 30 people were lined up across the street when the shop opened at 10 a.m. Tuesday.

Nancy Lerman, who works nearby, said she's been twice before and tried most of the flavors, which include chocolate chip, red velvet and peanut butter snickerdoodle.

Why eat raw dough instead of a cookie?

"I just think it's yummier," Lerman said. "I don't eat a lot of cookies but I would eat cookie dough."

New York University student Alex Day joined the line in hopes of sampling the dough for the first time. Day said she's always loved raw dough and figured the people lining up outside DO must be on to something.

"I'm sure it'll be really good if people are waiting this long for it," she said.

Inside the shop, some of Tomlan's 50 employees were busy measuring baking soda and mixing butter, sugar and flour to keep up with the demand.

Does it feel a little warm?

Associated Press

Visitors to Central Park's Conservatory Garden pass a flowering rhododendron Tuesday in New York. Crocuses, cherry trees, magnolia trees are blooming several weeks early because of an unusually warm February. Some climate experts say it looks like, because of an assist from global warming, spring has sprung what may be record early this year in about half the nation.

Spring pops up super early in much of US

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Spring has sprung early — potentially record early — in much of the United States, bringing celebrations of shorts weather mixed with unease about a climate gone askew.

Crocuses, tulips and other plants are popping up earlier than usual from Arizona to New Jersey and down to Florida. Washington is dotted with premature pink blossoming trees. Grackles, red-winged blackbirds and woodpeckers are just plain early birds this year.

The unseasonably warm weather has the natural world getting ahead of — even defying — the calendar, scientists said Tuesday.

In cities like Indianapolis, Pittsburgh and Columbus, Ohio, spring has arrived about a month earlier than the 30-year average and about 20 days earlier than in 2012, which was the earliest spring on record.

Scientists at the U.S. Geological Survey's National Phenology Network, which studies seasonal signs, have calculated local and a national spring index based on observations of lilacs, honeysuckles and temperature records that are fed into a computer model.

The spring leaf index goes back to 1900 and 2012 has been the earliest on record . But preliminary records show this year ahead of 2012 in a good chunk of the nation . It's still too early to draw a conclusion for the country, said University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee scientist Mark D. Schwartz and phenology network director Jake Weltzin.

As the world warms, spring is arriving earlier, but not everywhere. For a broad swath of the U.S., 2017 sticks out like a crocus in early February. Nashville, St. Louis, Washington, Atlanta, Pittsburgh, Columbus and Indianapolis are at least three weeks early on the spring index, but Phoenix and Los Angeles are running a bit late.

"It's weird," Weltzin said Tuesday.

The latest early spring isn't supposed to show up for decades based on computer simulations that model springs of the future, said Jeff Masters, meteorology director of the private Weather Underground.

"This is basically a year 2100 sort of spring that we're seeing this year," Masters said. "Way surprising."

Fox butterflies are already out in Massachusetts and New York. Beetles are scurrying around Martha's Vineyard. Crocuses and snowdrops are in full flower in suburban Boston — all exceptionally early because of warm temperatures and little snow cover, said Boston University biology professor Richard Primack.

"I am already hearing woodpeckers knocking on tree trunks" when these sounds usually occur in March or April, said Primack, editor of the journal Biological Conservation.

The northern shoveler duck is usually the next to last duck to make it to upstate New York, arriving sometime in April, but it's already here, said Kevin McGowan, an ornithologist at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

These wildlife sightings stem from warm weather in February that Masters called "off-the-charts weird" that included upper 90s in Oklahoma and a first-of-its-kind February tornado in Massachusetts.

Masters and Penn State University climate scientist Michael Mann, who photographed flowers sprouting outside his central Pennsylvania house in mid-February, said this is a combination of natural weather variation and man-made warming of the climate.

Warm weather can lead to crop damage if there is a freeze in March or April after plants have already bloomed. It can also worsen droughts, which happened in 2012, Schwartz said.

Georgia Tech climate scientist Kim Cobb said what's happening is disconcerting, no matter how nice it is for people.

"Sure we can't wait to shed our wool coats and hats each spring, but such warm temperatures are wreaking havoc, sight unseen on key crops," Cobb said in an email. "Here in Georgia peach buds have been robbed of necessary 'chill hours' this winter."

The early spring is even changing language with some calling recent weeks "alt-spring" and "March-uary."

Penn State meteorology professor David Titley, said it feels like being on one of the recently discovered Earth-size planets around a nearby star.

"Everything is kind of familiar (weather-wise) but different. I was walking around ... in my shirt sleeves and I was almost hot. In February. That's not supposed to happen," said the retired admiral.

How 'Moonlight' pulled off the Oscar upset of a lifetime

By Jake Coyle
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Long before Barry Jenkins made his way to the podium through the bewildered throng that packed the Dolby Theatre stage at the Academy Awards, he sat in a Toronto hotel room explaining his movie's quiet power.

"There's something in the way black men grow up in this country," said Jenkins. "There's a lot of information on these men's faces when they're not speaking, partly because we're robbed of our voices so much by society and the things society projects on us."

It was, in a way, fitting that "Moonlight" — stealthy and silent — won best picture amid such cacophony Sunday night. Since its fall film festival debut, Jenkin's tenderly lyrical film has steadily risen not through the loud kind of arm-waving that often catapults movies to the top prize — big box office, scene-chewing performances, historical sweep — but instead by a soulful, unremitting glow that slow-burned all the way to the Oscars.

Now that we more or less have some answers to "What the heck happened?" in the Oscars' final moments — EnvelopeGate, if you will — we can turn to that other puzzler: How did "Moonlight" just pull off one of the biggest upsets in Academy Awards history?

While not quite as gasp-inducing as the gaff that preceded its win, "Moonlight" will surely rank alongside, if not above, shockers like "Shakespeare in Love" (over "Saving Private Ryan") and "Crash" (over "Brokeback Mountain") for sheer, oh-my-god surprise.

The odds were stacked against it. "La La Land," with a record-tying 14 nominations, was seen as the hands-down favorite, having run up prizes from the Producers Guild, the Directors Guild, the BAFTAs and the Golden Globes. Though this usually hapless critic predicted a "Moonlight" win , virtually every Oscar prognosticator considered "La La Land" — like Hillary Clinton, it turned out— a lock.

But just as Clinton learned, there are dangers to being the presumed front-runner.

Widely expected to honor itself again by awarding a showbiz celebration like "La La Land," Hollywood veered instead to Miami's Liberty City, and a film that ripples with the humanity of a young man — black, gay, poor — seldom dignified by the movies or other realms of society. Yet "Moonlight" isn't a traditional social drama but a deeply personal one, soaked through with the kind of empathy many believe is missing from the national discourse. In the wake of the election of Donald Trump, Hollywood chose not a love letter to itself, but, as filmmaker Mark Duplass argued in an open-letter to academy voters, a "love letter to the core human values that connect us all."

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We make repairs on
Rolex to Timex watches,
as well as music boxes
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Trump is winning, and leftists are confused

■ Americans are giving Trump a chance, and they're tired of the media failing to do so

BEN SHAPIRO
Creators Syndicate

President Trump's approval ratings are nothing special. Actually, they're extraordinarily low by historical standards — he's clocking in at 44 percent, according to the latest NBC News/ Wall Street Journal poll. His support base is highly polarized, with 85 percent of Republicans behind him and just 9 percent of Democrats. If those rates drop steadily for the next two years — and given the level of polarization, they certainly could — Republicans would be in serious danger of losing the House, since low presidential approval ratings correlate significantly with House elections.

Then again, Trump's support base may be stable.

Here's why.

According to that same poll, approximately 57 percent of voters say that Trump is doing about as well as they expected. Meanwhile, his approval ratings far outclass those of Congress, which has just a 29 percent approval rating. That's a nonpartisan statistic. And 31 percent approve of Democrats in Congress, while 32 percent approve of Republicans in Congress. The most unpopular figure in American politics remains House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., with 19 percent who feel positively about her in any way against 44 percent who feel negatively about her. The Democratic Party's negatives double up the Republican Party's.

This relatively positive feeling toward Republicans means that 60 percent of respondents are hopeful and optimistic about the future of the country, and 40 percent are pessimistic. And that's with a sample that shows just 37 percent of respondents who voted for Trump in the presidential election.

None of this says that everybody is comfortable with Trump. Fifty-two percent say that Trump's chaotic style is "unique to this administration and (suggests) real problems." But the American people largely agree with Trump's agenda. Eighty-six percent say that "a small group in our nation's capital has reaped the rewards of government while the people have borne the cost." Fifty-three percent say that "the news media and other elites are exaggerating the problems with the Trump Administration because they are uncomfortable and threatened with the kind of change that Trump represents."

While 37 percent of respondents say that they want Democrats in Congress setting the agenda, 19 percent say that Republicans in Congress should do so, and 37 percent say that Trump should do so. Fifty-seven percent of Americans say Trump is likely to bring change — and 63 percent of those people say he will bring the right kind of change. Forty-one percent of Americans say the economy will get better, and 73 percent of those attribute that prospective success to Trump. Only 4 percent of Americans think Obamacare works well the way it is. And here's the best statistic of all for Trump personally: Thirty-eight percent of Americans say they like him personally regardless of whether they like or dislike his policies.

All of this suggests that Americans are giving Trump a chance, and that they're tired of the media failing to do so. They think Trump is going to bring change, and they want to allow him freedom to pursue that change. Democrats and members of the media who keep saying that Trump can't be trusted with the tiller of government ought to have an easy solution: Give him all the leeway he wants, and then watch him pursue policies they think are unpopular. By acting as foils for Trump, the media and the left actually prop him up — they allow him to position them as obstacles to making change.

Trump is in control. The American people are ready to see him perform. Now it's time for him to step up and create the change he's preached for so long.

Who is Ben Shapiro?

Ben Shapiro, 33, is a graduate of UCLA and Harvard Law School, host of "The Ben Shapiro Show" and editor-in-chief of DailyWire.com. He is The New York Times best-selling author of "Bullies."

GUEST VIEW

Baylor women's basketball coach sends wrong message

Dallas Morning News

Baylor women's basketball coach Kim Mulkey had a perfect opportunity Saturday to inform the masses about how her university is making student safety its top priority.

She blew it.

The longtime-successful coach not only echoed the same insensitive message that has emanated too often from the Waco campus, she punctuated her excuse-making with this rallying cry to fans:

"If somebody's around you and they say, 'I will never send my daughter to Baylor, you knock them right in the face.'"

Mulkey also used the limelight — her 500th victory as a head coach — to lecture Baylor critics: "I'm tired of hearing it. ... The problems that we have at Baylor are no different than the problems at any other school in America. Period. Move on."

That message is wrong and damaging on so many counts. If Mulkey is in the know, as she maintains, why not offer a positive message about some of the 80 or more reforms Baylor says it has put in place? Why not advocate on behalf of protecting young women at every cost?

Less than 24 hours after the fiery coach's remarks, she was trying hard to walk them back, apologizing for her language and assuring us that she condemns the treatment of sexual assault survivors.

Foot-in-mouth disease can strike any one of us, but it's difficult to imagine how Mulkey thought she could defend her characterization of Baylor as "the damn best school" in the country. Best to tap the brakes on that kind of talk until a few results are in.

The coach's remarks punctuate the arrival of federal investigators this week to meet with faculty, staff and students as part of the Education Department's Office for Civil Rights look into potential Title IX violations.

Those who'd like to see the bad publicity go away better learn some patience. These investigations often take years.

Also in the legal pipeline are a number of lawsuits filed against the school, including one that alleges 52 rapes were committed in a four-year time span by 31 football players while former coach Art Briles was in charge.

And now state Rep. Roland Gutierrez of San Antonio has called for the Texas Rangers to investigate what he describes as an appalling cover-up.

Mulkey, whose Lady Bears have won seven consecutive Big 12 regular-season titles, is among the most recognizable figures in women's collegiate sports. Her weekend remarks not only were disrespectful to victims of sexual assault, but they leave outsiders wondering exactly how serious Baylor is about correcting problems.

Just a few weeks ago, a student-produced video entitled "The Baylor We Know" was making the rounds with a similar, if softer, version of Mulkey's defensive point of view.

The Baylor that Mulkey knows, the Baylor that the students in the video know is the same university where women were subjected to victim-shaming and alleged perpetrators were protected.

The entire Baylor community — not just those who bleed green and gold — need to know that the university is genuinely committed to change. Only then will anyone move on.

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Deconstruct administrative state

■ Congress needs to reassert itself and reclaim the legislative powers it has delegated over the years

RICH LOWRY
King Features Syndicate

Steve Bannon blew a dog whistle for constitutional conservatives when he spoke of "deconstructing the administrative state" at the Conservative Political Action Conference.

Although not everyone got the reference, Trump haters interpreted the line as an incendiary call to decimate the federal government, when "the administrative state" was a more specific reference to a federal bureaucracy that operates free of the normal checks of democratic accountability.

The administrative state has been called "the fourth branch" of government. It involves an alphabet soup of executive agencies that wield legislative, executive and judicial powers and thus run outside of and counter to our constitutional system. The agencies write "rules" that are laws in all but name, then enforce them and adjudicate violations.

Boston University law professor Gary Lawson describes how this works in the case of, for instance, the Federal Trade Commission:

"The Commission promulgates substantive rules of conduct. The Commission then considers whether to authorize investigations into whether the Commission's rules have been violated. If the Commission authorizes an investigation, the investigation is conducted by the Commission, which reports its findings to the Commission. If the Commission thinks that the Commission's findings warrant an enforcement action, the Commission issues a complaint. The Commission's complaint that a Commission rule has been violated is then prosecuted by the Commission and adjudicated by the Commission."

Welcome to government by commission. James Madison called such an undifferentiated accumulation of powers, which the Constitution is meant to avoid, "the very definition of tyranny." In his epic scholarship on the administrative state, Philip Hamburger argues that it is "a version of absolute power." Constitutional law arose, Hamburger writes, to check the prerogative power of the British crown, and now the federal bureaucracy is replicating that prerogative power in extralegal practices.

If progressives in the Trump years were truly concerned with reaffirming the democratic accountability, they'd be delighted with a prospective deconstruction of the administrative state. But they built it and rely on it. A century-old ideological project, its roots are in the Progressive Era, and it grew apace during the New Deal and the Great Society. The idea was to circumvent the frustrations of constitutional government, with all its natural obstacles to action, and to institute rule by experts.

The administrative state is the friend of anyone hoping to aggrandize government. President Barack Obama would have been hobbled without it. He used the Environmental Protection Agency and the Federal Communications Commission to institute sweeping new regulatory regimes on carbon emissions and the internet. He imposed his preferred social policies on schools and universities through "dear colleague" letters issued by middling bureaucrats. The administrative state was exactly what he needed — a way to govern without Congress.

A hostility to the administrative state isn't necessarily a natural for Trump, who isn't a limited-government conservative or a constitutional purist. Yet he campaigned against regulation, he scorns the elite, and federal bureaucrats have already made clear their desire to frustrate his plans. Dethroning the administrative state fits into a populist program to restore power to the people through their elected representatives.

It is chiefly Congress that needs to reassert itself vis-a-vis the administrative state. It has delegated its legislative powers over the decades and needs to pull them back. As Adam White writes in an essay for City Journal, it should pass the REINS Act to require congressional approval for major new regulations. It should revisit laws like the Clean Air Act and the Communications Act of 1934 that give regulators too much leeway. It should limit the deference that courts give to administrative agencies.

None of this is the stuff of fire and brimstone, rather the mundane work of slowly lurching the wheels of the federal government back onto a constitutional track. Something as entrenched as the administrative state won't be "deconstructed" in one presidential term, or two. If it can be dialed back, though, it will be a significant victory for old-fashioned representative government.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Trump declares it's 'time to join forces' to fix US problems

By Julie Pace
Associated Press

President Donald Trump addresses a joint session of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington on Tuesday. *Jim Lo Scalzo/Pool Image via AP*

WASHINGTON — Heralding a "new chapter of American greatness," President Donald Trump stood before Congress for the first time Tuesday night and issued a broad call for overhauling the nation's health care system, significantly boosting military spending and plunging $1 trillion into upgrading crumbling infrastructure.

Striking an optimistic tone, Trump declared: "The time for small thinking is over."

Trump's address came at a pivotal moment for a new president elected on pledges to swiftly shake up Washington and follow through on the failed promises of career politicians. His opening weeks in office have been consumed by distractions and self-inflicted wounds, including the bungled rollout of a sweeping immigration and refugee executive order that was blocked by the courts.

Trump, who typically relishes flouting political convention, embraced the pomp and tradition of a presidential address to Congress. He stuck largely to his script, made occasional overtures to Democrats and skipped the personal insults he so often hurls at his opponents.

The president was greeted by enthusiastic applause as he entered the House chamber, though it was filled with Democrats who vigorously oppose his policies and many Republicans who never expected him to be elected. Most Republican lawmakers have rallied around him since the election, hopeful that he will act on the domestic priorities they saw blocked during President Barack Obama's eight years in office.

Topping that list is undoing Obama's signature health care law and replacing the sweeping measure. Trump offered a basic blueprint of his priorities, including ensuring that those with pre-existing conditions have access to coverage, allowing people to buy insurance across state lines and offering tax credits and expanded health savings accounts to help Americans purchase coverage. He suggested he would get rid of the current law's requirement that all Americans carry insurance coverage, saying that "mandating every American to buy government-approved health insurance was never the right solution for America."

Making a direct appeal for bipartisanship, Trump turned to Democrats and said, "Why not join forces to finally get the job done and get it done right?"

Democrats, now firmly ensconced in the minority, sat silently while Republicans stood and cheered. Some wore blue, pro-health care buttons that read "Protect our care," and dozens of Democratic women wore white in honor of the suffrage movement.

Trump was vague in his call for tax reform, another Republican priority. He promised "massive tax relief for the middle class" and a reduction in corporate tax rates, but glossed over how he would offset the cuts.

The president also urged Congress to pass a $1 trillion infrastructure package financed through both public and private capital.

"The time has come for a new program of national rebuilding," he said.

Trump sent unexpectedly mixed messages on immigration, one of his signature campaign issues. He pledged to vigorously target people living in the U.S. illegally who "threaten our communities and prey on our citizens." But he told news anchors before his speech that he was open to legislation that could provide a pathway to legal status, and he told Congress he believed "real and positive immigration reform is possible."

First lady Melania Trump sat with special guests who were on hand to amplify the president's agenda, including the family members of people killed by immigrants living in the U.S. illegally. The widow of former Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia also sat alongside Mrs. Trump, a reminder of the president's well-received nomination of federal appeals court Judge Neil Gorsuch to fill Scalia's seat.

The majority of Trump's address centered on the domestic, economic-focused issues that were at the center of his presidential campaign. His national security message centered largely on a call for significantly boosting military spending and taking strong but unspecified measures to protect the nation from "radical Islamic terrorism."

Underscoring the human cost of those efforts, Trump honored Chief Special Warrant Officer William "Ryan" Owens, who was killed in a raid in Yemen during his first days in office. Owens' widow sat in the guest box with tears streaming down her face as the crowd stood and applauded at length.

Owens' death, as well as the killing of several civilians, have raised questions about the effectiveness of the raid. Pushing back, the president said Defense Secretary Jim Mattis had assured him that the operation generated "large amounts of vital intelligence that will lead to many more victories in the future against our enemies."

Trump also voiced support for NATO but reiterated his call for partner countries to meet their financial obligations to the military alliance. Trump has previously called NATO "obsolete," setting some allies on edge about his commitment to the partnership.

Dems stick with muted ways of exercising art of dissent

They didn't heckle. There were no in-your-face pink "pussyhats." There were just a few no-shows.

They turned their thumbs down. They maintained stone faces. They sat on their hands.

They laughed out loud when Trump declared it was time to "drain the swamp."

There were audible groans when he announced a new office for victims of crimes committed by immigrants.

As Trump strode down the center aisle of the House chamber to make his big entrance, some drew back to avoid shaking his hand.

There were even a few empty seats on the Democratic side of the aisle.

Rep. Eliot Engel, a New York Democrat who's hugged the center aisle seat for 29 years of speechmaking by presidents of both parties, took a pass on an aisle seat this year — and made a point of announcing it.

Democratic women from the House sent a sartorial message, but nothing as edgy as the pussyhats that dominated at the Women's March on Washington.

Instead, they wore suffragists' white to put a spotlight on women's issues. House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi drew the direct contrast to Trump, tweeting that those in white were supporting women's rights "in spite of a @POTUS who doesn't!"

Fact check: Trump distorts an immigration report and more from speech to Congress

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump took undue credit Tuesday night for massive cost-savings in a fighter jet contract and gave a one-sided account of the costs and benefits to the economy from immigration — ignoring the upside.

A look at some of his claims in his prime-time speech to Congress:

TRUMP: "According to the National Academy of Sciences, our current immigration system costs America's taxpayers many billions of dollars a year."

THE FACTS: That's not exactly what that report says. It says immigrants "contribute to government finances by paying taxes and add expenditures by consuming public services."

The report found that while first-generation immigrants are more expensive to governments than their native-born counterparts, primarily at the state and local level, immigrants' children "are among the strongest economic and fiscal contributors in the population."

The report found that the "long-run fiscal impact" of immigrants and their children would probably be seen as more positive "if their role in sustaining labor force growth and contributing to innovation and entrepreneurial activity were taken into account."

TRUMP: "We've saved taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars by bringing down the price" of the F-35 jet fighter.

THE FACTS: The cost savings he persists in bragging about were secured in full or large part before he became president.

The head of the Air Force program announced significant price reductions in the contract for the Lockheed F-35 fighter jet Dec. 19 — after Trump had tweeted about the cost but weeks before he met the company's CEO about it.

Pentagon managers took action even before the election to save money on the contract. Richard Aboulafia, an analyst with the aerospace consulting firm Teal Group, said there is no evidence of any additional cost savings as a result of Trump's actions.

TRUMP: "We will provide massive tax relief for the middle class."

THE FACTS: Trump has provided little detail on how this would happen. Independent analyses of his campaign's tax proposals found that most of the benefits would flow to the wealthiest families. The richest 1 percent would see an average tax cut of nearly $215,000 a year, while the middle one-fifth of the population would get a cut of just $1,010, according to the Tax Policy Center, a joint project by the Brookings Institution and Urban Institute.

TRUMP: "Ninety-four million Americans are out of the labor force."

THE FACTS: That's true, but for the vast majority of them, it's because they choose to be.

That 94 million figure includes everyone aged 16 and older who doesn't have a job and isn't looking for one. So it includes retirees, parents who are staying home to raise children, and high school and college students who are studying rather than working.

They are unlikely to work regardless of the state of the economy. With the huge baby-boomer generation reaching retirement age and many of them retiring, the population of those out of the labor force is increasing and will continue to do so, most economists forecast.

It's true that some of those out of the workforce are of working age and have given up looking for work. But that number is probably a small fraction of the 94 million Trump cited.

TRUMP: "Obamacare is collapsing ... imploding Obamacare disaster."

THE FACTS: There are problems with the 2010 health care law, but whether it's collapsing is hotly disputed.

One of the two major components of the Affordable Care Act has seen a spike in premiums and a drop in participation from insurers. But the other component, equally important, seems to be working fairly well, even if its costs are a concern.

Trump and congressional Republicans want to repeal the whole thing, which risks leaving millions of people uninsured if the replacement plan has shortcomings. Some critics say GOP rhetoric itself is making things worse by creating uncertainty about the future.

The health law offers subsidized private health insurance along with a state option to expand Medicaid for low-income people. Together, the two arms of the program cover more than 20 million people.

Republican governors whose states have expanded Medicaid are trying to find a way to persuade Congress and the administration to keep the expansion, and maybe even build on it, while imposing limits on the long-term costs of Medicaid.

While the Medicaid expansion seems to be working, the markets for subsidized private health insurance are stressed in many states. Also affected are millions of people who buy individual policies outside the government markets, and face the same high premiums with no financial help from the health law.

Larry Levitt of the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation says "implosion" is too strong a term. An AP count found that 12.2 million people signed up for this year, despite the Trump administration's threats to repeal the law.

But a health care blogger and industry consultant, Robert Laszewski, agrees with Trump, saying too few young, healthy people have signed up to guarantee the stability of the insurance markets.

TRUMP: His budget plan will offer "one of the largest increases in national defense spending in American history."

THE FACTS: Three times in recent years, Congress raised defense budgets by larger amounts, in percentage terms, than the $54 billion, or 10 percent, increase that Trump proposes. The base defense budget grew by $41 billion, or 14.3 percent, in 2002; by $37 billion, or 11.3 percent, in 2003, and by $47 billion, or 10.9 percent, in 2008, according to Defense Department figures.

Associated Press

Trump signs executive order on black colleges

By Errin Haines Whack
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump signed an executive order Tuesday aimed at signaling his commitment to historically black colleges and universities, saying that those schools will be "an absolute priority for this White House."

HBCU presidents are hoping Congress will bolster Trump's actions to strengthen the schools with dramatically increased funding in the upcoming federal budget. They are calling for $25 billion for infrastructure, college readiness, financial aid and other priorities. Under President Barack Obama's administration, historically black colleges and universities received $4 billion over seven years.

"The next step is the budget. You cannot have mission without money," Thurgood Marshall College Fund President Johnny Taylor told reporters outside the White House after the signing ceremony.

Many of the college presidents also went to Capitol Hill on Tuesday to lobby Congress for more funding. Taylor said the $25 billion is needed to make up for years of underfunding and would cover the country's more than 100 HBCUs.

Several presidents and HBCU advocacy organizations echoed Taylor's sentiments.

GOP lawmakers said there were currently no concrete plans for increased funding. Several of them attended meetings Tuesday that Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., and Rep. Mark Walker, R-N.C., arranged with HBCU presidents, GOP officials and business leaders.

Scott said he and Walker planned to personally push for more money for black colleges, and "hopefully we will be more successful than they have been in the last few years."

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi said if Trump was interested in helping HBCUs, he would increase spending on education instead of proposing cuts. She called his executive order "more empty symbolism."

The founder and co-chair of the Congressional Bipartisan HBCU Caucus, Rep. Alma Adams, D-N.C., called the executive order a first step. "This action on HBCUs is not sufficient to hold up to promises made by this administration," she said.

Trump's order moves the Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities from the Department of Education into the executive office of the White House. It directs the initiative to work with the private sector to strengthen the fiscal stability of HBCUS, make infrastructure improvements, provide job opportunities for students, work with secondary schools to create a college pipeline and increase access and opportunity for federal grants and contracts.

It does not specify how much federal money the colleges should receive.

The moves are among the actions some college presidents said they would like to see from the new administration. Some of them decided to come to Washington over the objections of students and alumni, saying they can ill afford to play politics while Trump moves quickly to set priorities.

Larry Robinson, interim president of Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida, said he felt it was incumbent upon black college leaders to engage federal officials, "regardless of who's sitting in the White House, or what their political affiliations are."

"We're appealing to his good business sense and hoping he finds an investment worth paying for," said Roslyn Artis, president of Florida Memorial University in Miami. She said she favors tax incentives that would attract government contractors and private companies to invest in historically black schools.

Trump met briefly with the college leaders on Monday, as did Vice President Mike Pence and Education Secretary Betsy DeVos. Present alongside Trump was one of his most visible black aides, Omarosa Manigault, who holds degrees from two HBCUs: Central State University in Ohio and Howard University in Washington.

ENERGY BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW MEXICO

Oil rep: Fracturing opposition hurting oil industry

SANTA FE — An oil and gas industry representative says opposition to fracturing is threatening the political viability of the oil industry in New Mexico.

The Roswell Daily Record reported Mack Energy of Artesia government affairs director Claire Chase told lawmakers last week that New Mexico is the most vulnerable state in the nation to increasing opposition to fracturing and fossil fuels in general.

Speaking at the Chaves County Legislative Dinner in Santa Fe, Chase said the opposition is coming from environmentalists. She says opposition also growing among minority voters.

She blamed the anti-fracking sentiment on TV and social media attack ads.

Chase told lawmakers the oil industry in New Mexico "is going to start fighting back" and will begin thinking like fracturing opponents.

MALAYSIA

Saudi Aramco inks $7 billion deal for Malaysian oil venture

KUALA LUMPUR — Oil giant Saudi Aramco signed a $7 billion deal Tuesday to take a 50 percent stake in a mega Malaysian oil refinery project, in a pact expected to help Saudi Arabia increase trade in Southeast Asia.

Aramco inked the agreement with Malaysia's national oil company Petronas, which is developing a $27 billion oil processing hub in southern Johor state bordering Singapore.

It includes a refinery with the capacity to churn out 300,000 barrels of oil a day, a cracker plant and a petrochemical complex with an annual production capacity of 7.7 million metric tons. Officials have said the deal will make Aramco the single largest investor in Malaysia.

Saudi Arabia is the world's largest oil exporter, with much of its crude destined for customers in Asia.

Saudi's Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih said the Malaysian deal will help expand Aramco's portfolio ahead of its initial public offering next year, which is touted to become the world's largest share sale.

Petronas chief Wan Zulkiflee Wan Ariffin said the investment will see Aramco taking up a 50 percent stake in the refinery and cracker plant portion of the hub. It took three years to negotiate the deal, said Aramco's CEO Amin H. Nasser. He said Aramco will supply up to 70 percent of the refinery's crude feedstock requirements.

"Malaysia offers tremendous growth opportunities and today's agreement further strengthens Saudi Aramco's position as the leading supplier of petroleum feedstock to Malaysia and Southeast Asia," Nasser said.

Associated Press

Law enforcement enters the Oceti Sakowin camp to begin arresting Dakota Access Pipeline protesters in Morton County on Feb. 23 near Cannon Ball, N.D.

No immediate ruling made on Dakota Access pipeline work

By Sam Hananel and Blake Nicholson
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A federal judge said Tuesday that he'll decide within a week whether to temporarily halt construction of the final section of the Dakota Access pipeline over claims that it violates the religious rights of two Indian tribes.

U.S. District Judge James Boasberg told lawyers at a hearing that he wants to issue a ruling before oil begins flowing in the pipeline, which could be weeks away.

Boasberg is considering a request by the Standing Rock and Cheyenne River Sioux tribes to order the Army Corps of Engineers to withdraw permission to lay pipe under Lake Oahe in North Dakota. The pipeline has prompted months of protests and hundreds of arrests.

The stretch under the Missouri River reservoir is the last piece of construction for the $3.8 billion pipeline, which would move oil through the Dakotas and Iowa to a shipping point in Illinois.

Tribal attorney Nicole Ducheneaux argued during the 1 1/2 hour hearing that the mere existence of an oil pipeline under the reservoir that provides water to neighboring reservations violates their right to practice their religion, which relies on clean water.

Boasberg asked Ducheneaux how there could be a contamination issue if "the pipeline itself doesn't even touch the water."

"Can you claim a property interest in the land as well as the water?" he asked.

Ducheneaux said the judge appeared to be questioning the sincerity of the tribes' beliefs and stressed there was no other source of clean water available near the tribe's reservation.

American Indian activist Chase Iron Eyes, an outspoken opponent of the pipeline, attended the hearing and said afterward that "from the way that the judge was asking questions, it's clear that American or Western (courts) ... lack a place intellectually or spiritually to comprehend the sacred relationship between the original peoples of this hemisphere and the waters, the sacred sites and the lands in our hemisphere."

When they filed the lawsuit last summer, the tribes argued that the pipeline threatens Native American cultural sites and their water supply. Their religion argument is new, however, and both the Corps and the company building the pipeline, Energy Transfer Partners, argue that the delay in raising it is a reason for Boasberg to reject the argument.

Corps attorney Reuben Schifman said the tribes waited too long to raise the religion claims and argued that they haven't shown that the pipeline creates a "substantial burden" on their religious practices.

Representing the pipeline, lawyer David Debold noted that the lake has only existed since the 1950s and questioned how the purity of its water could be part of longstanding tribal religious beliefs.

Earlier this month, Boasberg declined the tribes' request to order an immediate halt to the pipeline construction, ruling that as long as oil wasn't flowing through the pipeline, there was no imminent harm to the tribes.

Boasberg's decision on the matter won't be the end of the court battle, as no final decision has been made on the merits of the tribes' overall claims. Both tribes also have asked Boasberg to overturn the federal permission for the Lake Oahe crossing and to bar the Corps from granting permission in the future. The judge won't rule until at least April.

Hundreds and sometimes thousands of pipeline opponents who sided with tribal opposition to the pipeline camped on federal land near the drill site for months, often clashing with police. There have been about 750 arrests in the region since August. Authorities last week closed the camp in advance of spring flooding season and set up roadblocks to prevent protesters from returning.

Work under Lake Oahe had been held up in the courts until President Donald Trump last month instructed the Corps to advance construction. The Army is involved because its engineering branch manages the river and its system of hydroelectric dams, which is owned by the federal government.

Texas-based Energy Transfer Partners began drilling under the lake Feb. 8. The pipeline could be operating as early as Monday and no later than early April, according to Scherman.

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Hope Chest provides support during, after pregnancy

Women can earn points to receive items such as diapers, clothing, strollers or car seats

A local program provides women with incentives for healthy behavior during and after their pregnancy.

Hope Chest, which focuses on the health of babies across the Permian Basin, was founded in 2014 with financial support from Midland Memorial Hospital and a grant from the March of Dimes. There are 335 women currently enrolled in the program.

Hope Chest allows mothers and mothers-to-be to earn free 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. Most women enrolled in Hope Chest choose to save their points for items such as an infant car seat, stroller, crib or other items they did not receive at their baby shower or otherwise would not be able to purchase themselves.

DANIELLE JOHNSON
Midland Health

Women are enrolled in the program only after their OB/GYN doctor confirms they are receiving prenatal care. Hope Chest will help women find a physician if they do not have one.

Hope Chest also provides educational classes and a support system for moms. Women enrolled in the program can attend free Becoming a Mom classes, a six-week curriculum created by the March of Dimes. Bonus points are awarded if they bring the father or another family member to class. Many of our moms-to-be appreciate not only the knowledge they gain from the classes, but also the chance to meet other women who are pregnant. They can also connect with each other at social gatherings such as our annual stroller walk in August and toy drive in December.

Alyssia Davis is one of the moms enrolled in the program.

"I was introduced to Hope Chest through my doctor. Little did I know I was coming into new friends and a lot of

Please see **JOHNSON**/4B

More information about Hope Chest

The office is inside main entrance of Midland Memorial West Campus, 4214 Andrews Highway.

■ For more information or to enroll in the program: http://www.midland-memorial.com/main/hope-chest.aspx

■ To make a monetary donation or donate brand new baby items to Hope Chest, call the March of Dimes office at 416-7310.

CHARITY, PLANE AND SIMPLE

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Matt Berkebile poses with the aircraft he uses to fly patients to medical centers Feb. 2 at Midland Airpark.

Volunteer pilots work with local nonprofit, offer free flights to medical facilities

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

More online

For more information, visit angelflightsc.org.

At a young age, Matt Berkebile became fascinated with airplanes. Now he uses his passion for flight to help West Texans access medical care.

Berkebile coordinates local efforts for Angel Flight South Central, a nonprofit that offers patients free flights to medical centers.

"The goal of the organization as a whole is that everybody would realize the facilities known for doing the best at what they do to treat people are truly available to everyone," Berkebile said. "Our mission is: Travel wouldn't be a determining factor in getting that treatment."

Since he first volunteered nearly two years ago, Berkebile has completed about a dozen flights. He said some patients turn to Angel Flight after exhausting money on medical treatments.

"I was struggling to find a nonprofit organization I was genuinely interested in until now," Berkebile said. "I've gotten to serve and do my hobby. It was a good fit."

Angel Flight is based in Dallas and helps patients in Texas and its neighboring states. Midland is in the southwest region, which spans from Abilene to El Paso.

Please see **PILOTS**/6B

Study: Childhood cancer survivors benefit from reduced radiation treatment

By Laurie Mcginley
Washington Post

The rate of second malignancies in survivors of childhood cancer is declining — an improvement linked to reduced radiation treatment of the first disease, according to a new study.

The research, published Tuesday in the Journal of the American Medical Association, focused on new cancers — not recurrences — that occurred within 15 years of the original ones. The rate for such cancers fell from 2.1 percent for survivors diagnosed in the 1970s to 1.3 percent for those diagnosed in the 1990s.

For the same period, the percentage of pediatric cancer patients treated with radiation therapy fell from 77 percent to 33 percent, and the doses were ratcheted back.

The study was the latest to suggest that efforts to modify potentially toxic cancer treatments — including radiation and chemotherapy — is paying off in reduced "late effects." These are serious and sometimes life-threatening complications, such

Please see **STUDY**/2B

Rise in maternal deaths missing in legislative agenda

By Marissa Evans
Texas Tribune

Every Texas legislator should know by now that more mothers are dying less than a year after giving birth. At least that's what Lisa Hollier believes.

Hollier is chairwoman of the state's Task Force on Maternal Mortality and Morbidity, which reported in July that 189 Texas mothers died less than a year after their pregnancy ended between 2011 and 2012 — the culprits were mostly heart disease, drug overdoses and high blood pressure. A month later, the medical journal Obstetrics and Gynecology published a study that found Texas' maternal mortality rates had nearly doubled between 2010 and 2014.

Despite the dramatic statistics — which drew the attention of The New York Times and other national media — Hollier says getting Texas lawmakers' attention on maternal deaths is going to be tough.

"We need to work hard to make sure that this issue is not forgotten," Hollier said. "The problem has been here for a while, and I think sometimes when problems are chronic, they can be easier to ignore."

Texas' maternal deaths have been sparingly mentioned during the legislative session, overshadowed by issues such as child welfare, the so-called "bathroom bill" and sanctuary cities. Gov. Greg Abbott did not mention it during his State of the State address. It's not one of Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick's 25 legislative priorities. And House Speaker Joe Straus did not mention it during his acceptance speech.

Researchers and legislators say there's no simple fix to curb maternal deaths. The state task force report found mental health disorders and substance abuse were key factors, particularly depression and overdoses from prescription opioids. The report also found inconsistencies in how maternal deaths are reported, which hampers prevention efforts.

They also found black women are disproportionately at risk of dying after giving birth.

The task force recommendations included increasing mental and behavioral health screenings, improving access to health services for women in the first year after their pregnancy and more education for women at higher risk of death from childbirth.

Hollier said some lawmakers have filed bills to address some of the issues in the task force report, such as a bill to provide post-partum depression screenings for mothers through their child's health plan and another bill that would extend the task force's work until 2023.

Please see **DEATHS**/6B

Take a Moment

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Obituaries

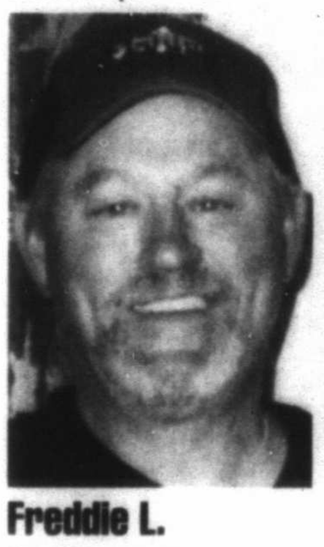
Frances Marie Wallace

Frances Marie Wallace was born June 23, 1962 in Midland, TX. to Roland and Flossie Mae Wallace; Frances nickname was "Rea Rea", most people and family members address her as Rea. She was a graduate of Robert E. Lee High School in 1980. Rea worked in retail and marketing industry for nearly 40 years until her death.

Rea leaves to cherish her unforgettable memories, her only child that she LOVED with every breathe, she had her daughter, Anjelica Wallace of Midland, TX., her sisters Gloria Williams of Murphy, TX., Brenda Rogers (Gene) of Midland, TX., Charlotte Hemphill (Rodney) of Midland, TX. and brother Melvin Proctor, Jr. of Stephenville, TX. and a host of nieces and nephews.

Frances is preceded in death by her father, Roland Wallace and her mother, Mrs. Flossie Mae Lee.

Memorial service will be Saturday, March 4, 2017, 1:00 PM at Thomas Funeral Home Chapel.



Freddie L. Pontremoli

Freddie L. Pontremoli, 62, of Gainesville, passed away Saturday, February 25, 2017.

The viewing will be at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 1, 2017.

Graveside services will be held at Resthaven Memorial Park at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, March 2, 2017.

Freddie was born May 21, 1954 in Odessa, Texas to Jimmie and Winifred Pontremoli. He married Cecilia Valquette on October 10, 2003. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and ranching.

He is survived by his wife, Cecilia; his two daughters, Jeanne and Jorja; his son, Brandon; his three stepchildren, LaShawna, Terry, and Vanessa; his 16 grandchildren; and by his brother, Jimmie.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Ronald McDonald House Charities, www.rmhc.org.

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

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

George Becerra, Jr.

George Becerra, Jr., 69, of Midland, Texas, passed away on Sunday, February 26, 2017 in Lubbock surrounded by his family.

The family will receive friends from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland.

He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend, always readily available to help those in need. He was strong, yet gentle; protective and loving; hard working and respected. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, playing with his grandchildren, traveling to different casinos, dancing with his wife, and watching western movies.

He is survived by his wife, Susie Becerra; his daughter, Gloria Enriquez and her husband Rod of Odessa, Texas; daughter, Michelle Alvarado and her husband Oscar, and his son, George Adam Becerra, both from Midland; his grandchildren, Brittany Enriquez and Isaiah Alvarado; great-grandchildren, Dylan, Easton, and Peighton Tarin; his sister, Juanita Martinez from Uvalde, Texas; and his brothers, Jose Ramos and Martin Cruz, both from Midland.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Jorge Becerra, Sr. and Victoria Castillo; and sisters, Eva Riojas and Irene Zavala.

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

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

James Richard Ervin

Richard Ervin, beloved husband, dad, papa, brother, uncle, and friend, left his family on earth and joined his Father in Heaven on February 25, 2017 surrounded by his most cherished "four girls."

A celebration of Richard's life will be held on Saturday, March 4, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at The Branch at Nalley-Pickle & Welch.

Richard was born on March 9, 1946 to Dorothy and Charles Ervin in Midland, Texas. He graduated from Midland High School in 1964 and then went on to earn his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from The University of Texas in Austin.

Richard was able to travel the United States working in commercial construction in his mid-twenties and went on to become a Landman. He continued to travel until he found himself back in Midland putting his college education to use by joining his father in the family business, The Ervin Insurance Agency. In 1990, after his father's retirement, Richard became the owner of the Agency.

On February 14, 1990, Richard married the woman he had been waiting for, his soulmate and angel on Earth, Debbie. Together they continued growing the family business until his retirement in 2006. Richard spent the rest of his life centered around those he loved. Richard, aka "Fat Rabbit" and his Indian Princess "Bouncing Bunny" made wonderful father/daughter memories while in the Sioux Tribe.

Richard was also a proud member of the Northside Lions Club for many years and loved participating in its annual fundraisers, especially the Bunny Breakfast. His dedication to the Lions was honored when he was presented with the distinguished, Melvin Jones Fellow award. Richard was also a long time member of the Independent Insurance Agents of Texas and the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of the Permian Basin.

Richard loved listening to all kinds of music, but was especially passionate about the Blues. He was also a member of Midland's Jazz and Blues Societies.

Though he had many passions, Richard found his greatest joy in his grandchildren. They called him Pop, Papa, Paw Paw, Poppy, or Big Mess...whichever fit him best at the moment. Richard had a soft spot for all animals especially his puppies, Hank and Lola, and insisted they be spoiled on a regular basis. He will be greatly missed by everyone who shared in his life's journey.

Richard is survived by his wife, Debbie; daughter, Jessica Ervin-Horner; stepson, Wayne Stephens; grandchildren, Ethan, Edward, and Eli Stephens, and Kealey, Kayle, and Jahnna Horner and their father, John Horner; siblings, Chuck Ervin and Sally Hurta; brother-in-law, Ed and wife Melody Willis; nephews, Chad Hurta, and Kevin and Stephen Willis; and niece, Kim Willis-Eales.

He is preceded in death by parents, Dorothy and Charles; brother, Tom; Aunt Kathy and Uncle Tex Ervin; and his childhood nanny, Lizzie.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be donated to Alzheimer's Association, Hospice Midland, or Northside Lions Club - Bunny Breakfast.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. The family encourages online condolences to be made at www.npwelch.com.

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

John Derek Rutherford

John Derek Rutherford, 36, of Midland, Texas, passed away Sunday, February 26, 2017.

John was born in Midland to Walter and Sandra Rutherford on June 29, 1980. He was raised in Midland and attended Robert E. Lee High School.

John was the baby of the family. He was the youngest of four children, the baby of the first cousin trio and the last to join the extended cousin gang of eight. He enjoyed the most amazing childhood, growing up in a small, tight-knit family. He spent summers in east Texas, fishing alongside his Papaw, tending garden with his Mimi and making mud pies with his brother Chad and cousin Courtney. Holidays were spent terrorizing the neighborhood with his gang of cousins and listening to family members sing and play guitar.

John was an outstanding cook, inheriting his good southern cooking technique from his Mama and was a skillful handyman like his Daddy. He enjoyed many hobbies during his life from cooking, hunting, fishing, to woodworking.

His greatest blessing came when he became a father. His son Logan and daughter Ashlyn were certainly his pride and joy. It was obvious to anyone close to John that he loved them deeply and was incredibly proud of them.

John is preceded in death by his father, Walter Lee Rutherford; brother, William Chad Hutchings; and both sets of grandparents.

John is survived by his mother, Sandra Sue Rutherford of Midland; son, Logan Chance Rutherford, and daughter, Ashlyn Grace Rutherford, both of Midland; sister, Cherry Mikeska of Abilene; brother, Alan Rutherford of Montgomery; and several aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Visitation is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Thursday, March 2, 2017 at Ellis Funeral Home in Midland.

The funeral will take place at 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 3, 2017 at Calvary Assembly of God in Midland, followed by a graveside service at Fairview Cemetery. There will be a memorial reception at the church following the conclusion of the graveside service. All family and friends are invited.

Please direct any memorials to Teen Challenge of Midland at 4405 N Garfield St # 509, Midland, TX 79705.

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

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

Mary Ellen McKee Eggleston

Mary Ellen McKee Eggleston, 89, of Midland formerly of Big Spring, passed away Monday, February 27, 2017 in Midland with her family by her side.

Funeral service will be 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home Chapel in Big Spring with Reverend Jeff Franklin officiating. Burial will follow in Mt. Olive Cemetery.

Mary was born April 9, 1927 in Big Spring, Texas to Lewis McKee and Veda Mae Walker McKee. She married Billie Eggleston January 2, 1942 in Big Spring, where they raised their family. She worked at Carter's Furniture and Wheats Furniture in Big Spring for many years. She owned and operated Mary's Café from 1960 until 1966 where she enjoyed serving her customers and making lasting friendships.

Mary taught Sunday school for 30 years and was the Superintendent for the Jr. Department for about 20 years. When she moved to Midland in 1988, she joined Kelview Heights Baptist Church.

After moving to Midland, she worked for Carter's Furniture until her retirement. She loved music, and she played guitar with her family as a child. Family reunions were a joy for Mary because the family was all together to sing and play. One of her favorite pastimes were the many trips going to see the Bluebonnets bloom with her daughter, daughters-in-law, granddaughter, and great-granddaughters.

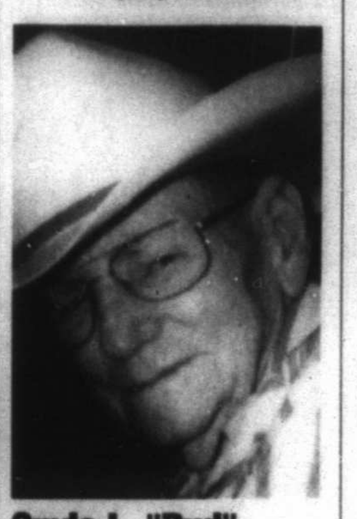
Those left to cherish her memories is her daughter, Kathryn Martin and husband Jerry of Midland; sons, Mike Eggleston and wife Kathie of Ira, Texas and Don Eggleston and wife Carol of Midland; grandchildren, Rebecca and Ross Kimbell of Midland, Angela and Dusty Walker of Midland, Wesley and Molly Eggleston of Midland, Evan and Christy Eggleston of Menard, Brandon Eggleston, Dustin Eggleston, Scott Hull, and Travis Hull; great-grandchildren, Elizabeth Ransom, Caroline Ransom, Abigayle Ransom, Sophie Gross, Stella Gross, Hayden Eggleston, Harper Eggleston, Tyler Eggleston, John-Michael Eggleston, and Sarah Eggleston; and her sisters, Rachel Shaffer of Big Spring, Neva Shaffer of Big Spring, Sue Whitaker of San Angelo, Karen Murphy of Granbury, Jennie Shaw and husband Ronald of Smyer, and Delores Andrews and husband Ray of Odessa.

Mary was preceded in death by her loving husband of 66 years, Billie Leon Eggleston; parents, Lewis and Veda McKee; brother, Raymond McKee; and sister, Frances Thomas.

The family would like to express their gratitude to Hospice of Midland and nursing staff of Midland Memorial Hospital as well as the staff at Senior Care of Midland.

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

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



Orvle L. "Bud" Ashley

Orvle L. "Bud" Ashley, 86, passed away on February 27, 2017.

He was born on March 5, 1930 in Neosho, Missouri to Ernest Elmer Ashley Mattie Frances Ashley (Clines).

Bud is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Leonard Leroy Ashley, Willard Leslie Ashley, and George Homer Ashley; and grandson, Chad Wise.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Bobbie Ashley of Midland, Texas; brother, Ernest Albert Ashley of Larned, Kansas; sister, Marie Weldon of Madill, Oklahoma; daughters, Sharon McBride and husband Scott of Kansas City, Missouri, Janelda Leigh Wise of Lewisville, Texas, Brenda Marie Crabb and husband Hal H. Crabb III of Midland, and Frances Elizabeth Ashey of Midland; grandchildren, Trevor McBride and wife Jennifer, Megan McBride, Natasha Wise, Hal H. Crabb IV, and Ashley Rene'e Crabb; and great-grandchildren, Kayla McBride, Brian McBride, Sebastian Turner, Alex Pastor, Wren Cline, and Dmitri Cline.

There will be a visitation on Thursday, March 2, 2017 at Ellis Funeral Home from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A graveside service will be held at Resthaven Memorial Park in Midland on Friday, March 3, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. officiated by Reverend Robert Kirk.

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

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

Robert Morris Gay

November 6, 1935 - January 29, 2017

Bob was born in Big Spring, Texas to Naomi Asenath Elliott Gay and Morris Shepherd Gay. He graduated from Knott High School where he played six-man football. He joined the Air Force in 1953, starting out in bombardier school.

While stationed in Cheyenne, Wyoming, he married Dorothy Cox Kurz and became an instant father of three. He made it official a little later by adopting Steve, Karen, and Lura.

After his assignment in Cheyenne, he was stationed in Big Spring, Texas and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He retired from the Air Force in 1974. He then went to Central State University in Oklahoma and received his MBA in 1978. He continued to work as a civilian at Tinker Air Force Base.

Bob and Dorothy moved from Oklahoma to Midland, Texas. Shortly after Dorothy's death in 2008, he moved to Michigan to live close to Steve and Jane Gray. Eventually he returned to his Texas roots and lived near Karen and Niranjan Sharma.

He was preceded in death by his siblings, Steve Gay, Joanne Jordan, and Barbara Meek Welch.

He leaves behind his three children - Steve Gray (wife Jane), Karen Sharma (husband Niranjan), and Lura Zimmerman (husband Charles); and 10 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, March 4, 2017 at Ellis Funeral Home, 801 Andrews Highway, Midland, Texas 79701.

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

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

Death Notices

Erma Louise Harris

Erma Louise Harris, 92, of Midland, Texas, passed away on Monday, February 27, 2017.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, March 2, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, March 3, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at Westside Church of Christ in Midland.

Graveside services will be held on Saturday, March 4, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at Garden of Memory in Colbert, Oklahoma.

She is survived by her children, Diane Powell, John Harris, and Richard Harris.

Octavia W. Brooks

Octavia W. Brooks, 93, of Odessa, Texas, passed away on Monday, February 27, 2017.

She is survived by one son, Rusty Brooks, Jr.; and by one daughter, Vicki Smith.

Services are pending with American Heritage Cemetery/Funeral Home/Crematory, 4100 N. FM-1788, Midland, Texas, 79707.

Paul Allen Garvin

Paul Allen Garvin, 78, of Midland, Texas, passed away on Saturday, February 25, 2017.

He is survived by his wife, Neva Garvin; son, Allen D. Garvin; and daughter, Fonda Hastings.

A memorial service will be held today, March 1, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at American Heritage Cemetery/Funeral Home/Crematory, 4100 N. FM-1788, Midland, Texas, 79707.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

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

STUDY

From 1B

as second cancers, heart problems and infertility, that can affect cancer survivors years later.

The research was based on data from the National Cancer Institute-sponsored Childhood Cancer Survivor Study, which tracks more than 30,000 survivors.

The new analysis included more than 23,000 people treated over three decades.

Oncologists and researchers had long assumed that reducing radiation would benefit pediatric cancer survivors, said Gregory Armstrong, an oncologist at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis and the principal investigator of the CCSS. But the new paper demonstrates the link, said Armstrong, one of the authors of the study.

"We reduced radiation therapy and that reduced the risk," he said.

Even so, childhood cancer survivors remain at risk for later malignancies. Survivors from the 1990s are four times as likely to be diagnosed with another cancer than their peers who were never sick with cancer.

Dental therapists could do job of a dentist in many states

By Bob Salsberg
Associated Press

BOSTON — Need a tooth pulled or a cavity filled? Forget the dentist. A number of states are allowing or considering letting "dental therapists," professionals with a lower level of training, do the job.

In dozens of countries and a handful of U.S. states, dental therapists also sometimes called advanced dental hygiene practitioners help fill gaps in access to oral care for low-income, elderly and disabled people, and in rural areas where few dentists practice, according to many public health advocates.

In Massachusetts, a group that lobbies on behalf of dentists has for the first time signaled a willingness to embrace the concept, though its proposal is viewed as unnecessarily restrictive by sponsors of a competing bill in the Legislature.

Dentists have long opposed the midlevel position, citing concerns over safety and supervision.

"We are not a silver bullet for helping access to dental care, but we are a great tool," said Christy Jo Fogarty, a dental therapist in Minnesota, which in 2009 became the first state to broadly authorize and establish educational and training criteria for therapists. Often compared to a nurse practitioner, the therapist can perform more common procedures than dental hygienists, while leaving more complex tasks to licensed dentists.

Fogarty, a dental hygienist for 13 years before training to become a dental therapist, said her work includes fillings, temporary crowns and extractions. She regularly provides care in schools, Head Start centers and other community settings without a dentist physically present.

"We have kids who don't have to go to an emergency room for a toothache anymore," said Fogarty, one of more than 60 therapists in Minnesota.

In Massachusetts, with a higher rate of dentists per 100,000 residents than any other state, there were more than 36,000 visits to emergency rooms in 2014 for "preventable oral health" issues, costing the health care system as much as $36 million, according to an estimate by the state's Health Policy Commission.

Dentists often do not accept Medicaid because of low reimbursement rates, and dental procedures covered by it vary from state to state.

"I can't tell you how many times I had to take my kids to an emergency room because of an abscessed tooth," said Maura Sullivan, who works for The Arc of Massachusetts, a group that advocates for people with disabilities and supports dental therapists. She said she struggled for years to find preventative dental care for her two sons, both with autism, in part because many dentists in her area would not accept Medicaid disability benefits.

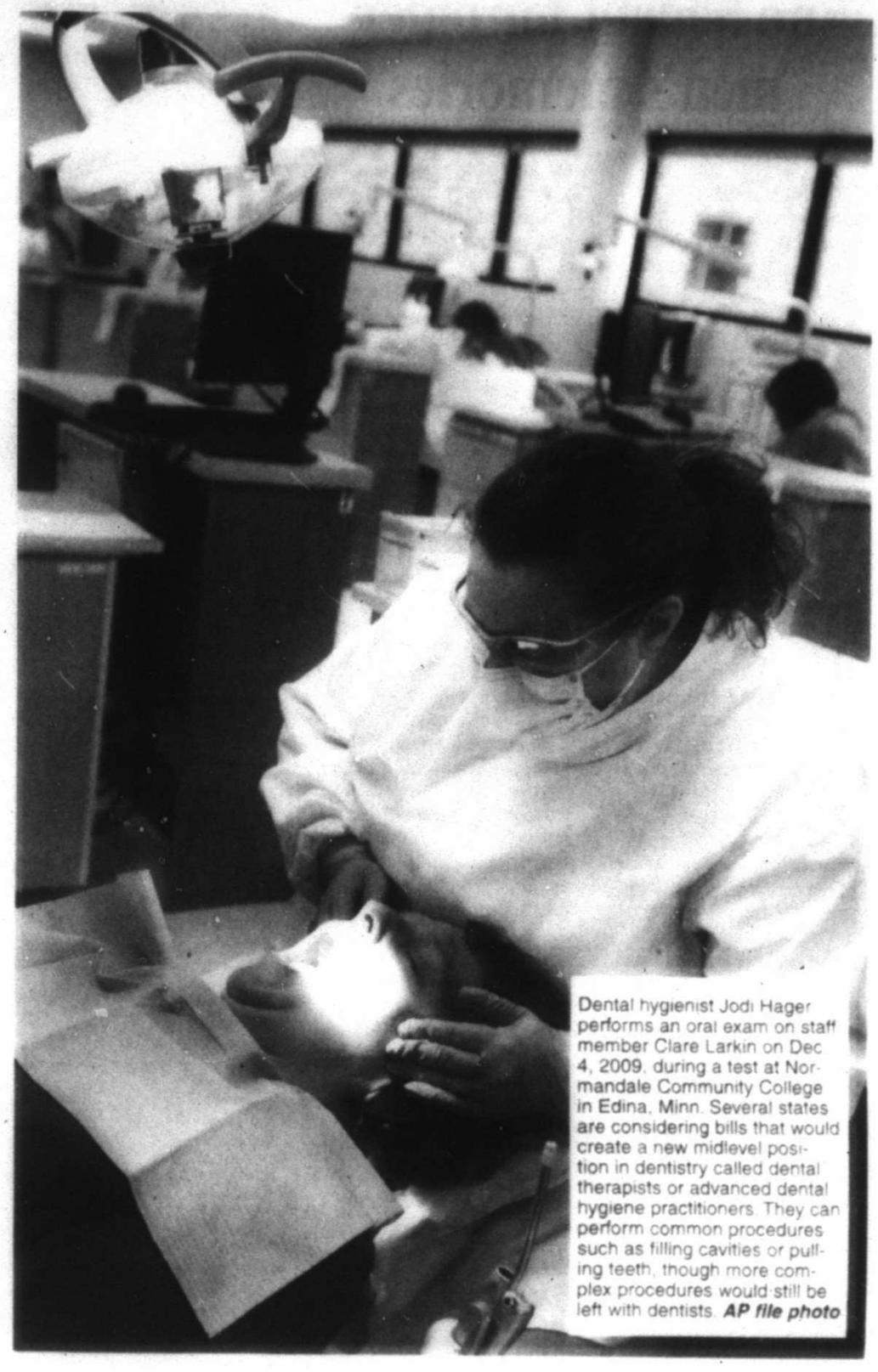
Alaska has allowed dental therapists to work in tribal areas since 2004, and two other New England states, Maine in 2014 and Vermont in 2016, have since joined Minnesota in authorizing statewide programs. Proposals also are being considered in Arizona, Connecticut, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio and Texas. One recent North Dakota study found that Medicaid recipients suffered disproportionately from tooth decay and tooth loss, and conditions such as severe gingivitis.

Massachusetts dentists broke from the American Dental Association, a national organization that opposes the midlevel position, by filing a bill in January that would allow limited use of public health dental practitioners as part of a broader approach to improved oral health care.

"They could do any procedure that a dental hygienist can do, but if there is anything beyond that scope, it should be under direct supervision, which means a dentist needs to be there at the facility in case they develop a problem with an extraction or something like that," said Raymond Martin, president of the Massachusetts Dental Society.

The legislation would require practitioners to have at least two years of post-graduate level training and restrict them to serving only Medicaid patients or residents of "underserved" counties with a documented shortage of dentists.

Under a separate bill backed by Pew Charitable Trusts and other advocacy groups, dental therapists would work collaboratively with dentists but would be allowed to perform procedures under "general" rather than direct supervision — meaning a dentist would not have to be physically present.



Dental hygienist Jodi Hager performs an oral exam on staff member Clare Larkin on Dec. 4, 2009, during a test at Normandale Community College in Edina, Minn. Several states are considering bills that would create a new midlevel position in dentistry called dental therapists or advanced dental hygiene practitioners. They can perform common procedures such as filling cavities or pulling teeth, though more complex procedures would still be left with dentists. *AP file photo*

HEALTHBRIEFS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Conference on aging is upcoming

The West Texas Conference on Aging is 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday at First Baptist Church.

Keynote speaker is Scott Abel, who will discuss ethical leadership and present a session on multi-generational workforce. Other sessions include aphasia and life after menopause.

Registration is $75. Seven continuing education units are available.

To register, visit www.midland.edu/hsce or call 681-6354. For more information, contact Kimberly Daw at 681-6338 or kdaw@midland.edu.

Midland Health events

■ Advance Care Planning Seminar Part I, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Midland Memorial Hospital; Collette Underwood, 221-1166, collette.underwood@midland-memorial.com.

■ Becoming a Mom, 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus; 221-1150, hopechest@midland-memorial.com; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.

■ #FindaJobFriday, 8 a.m., Midland Memorial Hospital front lobby; 221-4305.

■ Birth Place Tour, 6 p.m. Midland Memorial Hospital; Amber Cunningham, 221-3283, childbirtheducation@midland-memorial.com; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.

■ Basic Childbirth Class, 6 p.m. Midland Memorial Hospital; $40 a couple, includes Birth Place Tour; Amber Cunningham, 221-3283, childbirtheducation@midland-memorial.com; to register, go to midlandhealth.org and click on classes & events.

Weekly support groups & hotlines

(subject to change)

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

■ Overeaters Anonymous; 7-8 p.m. Tuesdays and 3-4 p.m. Sundays; B&J Plaza, 206 N. Midkiff Road, Suite 1-D; 553-1031.

■ Survivors of sexual abuse; interactive Bible study to help deal with the consequences of sexual abuse meets Tuesdays. Child care available; House of Hope, 570-5935.

■ Peer to Peer support group for veterans, active duty, guard, reserves and their families, 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Permian Basin Community Center, 401 E. Illinois Ave., Suite 403; Wil Hoggard, 213-5342, william.hoggard@wtcmhmr.org.

PDAP meetings

■ 7-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays: Parents group and younger group (12-17), 1208 W. Wall St.; college group (18-26), 2503 W. Ohio Ave.; older group (27 and over), First Presbyterian Church

■ 11:30-1:30 p.m. Wednesdays: older group, 1208 W. Wall St., includes lunch

■ Alcoholics Anonymous — hotline 580-7868.

■ Serenity Group, 8 p.m. daily, 3101 N. "A" St., Building C; 685-3100.

■ 710 Group, 7 a.m., noon and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 710 Ohio Ave.; 682-8162.

■ Alpha Omega, 8 p.m Tuesdays and 11 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays, 311 S. Pecos St.

■ 12-Step Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Saturdays; PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St., 553-7220.

■ 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, PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St., 599-4490.

■ La Hacienda Alumni, support group for former patients, 7 p.m. Thursdays, PDAP, 1208 W. Wall St. 553-7220.

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 has partnered with Medical Center Hospital in Odessa for the telephone nurse triage program "68-NURSE" to bring the service to the entire Permian Basin.

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 at home.

Help line for long-term or disabled care

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

For more information, call 855-937-2372.

Contact your Hospital District representative

Midland Memorial Hospital

■ 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland, Texas, 79701

■ Phone: 221-1111

■ Website: www.midland-memorial.com

■ Facebook: www.facebook.com/MidlandMemorialHospital

■ Twitter: twitter.com/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

Taking certain steps can prevent seniors from falling

BOB MOOS
U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

When kids fall, they usually just get up and return to playing. But for older adults, falls are a major threat to good health and independence.

Every year, about 1 in 4 Americans 65 and older falls, and about 1 in 5 of those who lose their footing suffers a serious injury, such as a hip fracture, broken bone or head injury.

About 3 million older adults a year are treated in emergency departments for injuries from falls, and about 800,000 are admitted to hospitals. But even a fall without a major injury can cause an older adult to become fearful or depressed, making it difficult to remain active — and more likely to fall again.

Many people think falls are an inevitable part of aging. The truth is, they're not. Most falls can be prevented. Managing your medications, having your vision checked, staying strong with exercise, changing your footwear, creating a safer environment at home and using a cane or walker are all steps you can take to become more sure-footed.

■ **Start by visiting with your physician about your risk for falling.**

Ask the doctor or your pharmacist to review your current medicines — both prescriptions and over-the-counter drugs — to see if any might make you dizzy or sleepy. Also be careful when you start a new medication. Talk to your health care provider about potential side effects.

■ **Have your eyes checked regularly.**

People with impaired vision are about twice as likely to fall as those without a problem. Have an eye exam at least once a year and update your eyeglasses. And remember that using "variable-tint lenses" can be hazardous when you're walking into a darkened building from outside. Stop for a moment and allow your lenses to adjust.

■ **Exercise if you're able.**

With your doctor's OK, consider activities such as walking, aerobic workouts or tai chi — an exercise that involves slow and graceful dance-like movements. Such activities can improve your strength, balance, coordination and flexibility. If you avoid physical activity because you're afraid it will make a fall more likely, talk with your doctor. He or she may recommend carefully monitored exercise programs or refer you to a physical therapist who can create a custom exercise program to improve your gait.

■ **Change your footwear.**

High heels, floppy slippers and shoes with slick soles can make you slip, stumble and fall. So can walking in your stocking feet. Instead, wear properly fitting, sturdy shoes with nonskid soles. As an added benefit, sensible shoes may ease any joint pain you're suffering.

■ **Inspect your home for fall risks.**

More than half of all falls occur at home. So eliminate hazards around your house or apartment. Remove newspapers, electrical cords and phone lines that you can trip over. Likewise, move coffee tables, magazine racks and plant stands from high-traffic areas. Secure loose rugs with double-faced tape — or remove them entirely. Store clothing, dishes, food and other necessities within easy reach. Also, keep your home brightly lit to avoid stumbling over objects that are hard to see. Place night lights in your bedroom, bathroom and hallways. Turn on the lights before going up or down stairs. Also make simple home modifications, such as adding grab bars in the bathroom, a raised toilet seat or one with armrests, a second handrail on stairs and non-slip paint on outdoor steps.

■ **Get fitted for a cane or walker.**

A cane or walker won't make you more dependent; it will make you more independent. But make sure you use the devices safely. Have a physical therapist measure you for a cane or walker and give you a short course on how to use the walking aids. Be careful about borrowing canes or walkers from friends, because what was a good fit for them may not be for you.

Bob Moos is Southwest public affairs officer for the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Lent is opportunity for meat-free diet

March 1 marks the beginning of Lent, the 40-day period preceding Easter, when many Christians abstain from animal foods in remembrance of Jesus' 40 days of fasting in the wilderness before launching his ministry.

The call to refrain from eating animals is as old as the Bible. In Genesis 1:29, God commands humans to eat only plants; then the prophet Isaiah predicts that "none will hurt or destroy on God's holy mountain."

A number of Christian leaders have followed the call, including Methodist founder John Wesley, Salvation Army founders William and Catherine Booth, Seventh Day Adventist church founder Ellen G. White and prominent evangelical leader Franklin Graham.

A meat-free diet is not just about Christian devotion. Dozens of medicalstudies have linked consumption of animal products with elevated risk of heart failure, stroke, cancer and other killer diseases. A United Nations report named meat production as the largest source of greenhouse gases and water pollution. Undercover investigations have documented farm animals being caged, crowded, mutilated, beaten and shocked.

Lent offers a superb opportunity to honor Christ's powerful message ofcompassion, but also to protect the health of our family and our planet Earth by adopting a meat-free diet.

— *Marcus Rigotti*

Testosterone gel shows no benefit for older men's memories

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Testosterone treatment did not improve older men's memory or mental function in the latest results from landmark government research that challenges the anti-aging claims of popular supplements.

While testosterone use for one year appeared to strengthen bones and reduce anemia, it also showed signs of worsening artery disease and questions remain about other potential risks. The researchers said more studies are needed to determine long-term effects — the kind of research the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has already asked supplement makers to conduct.

"I don't think anybody would interpret these results as saying, 'Wow, this is a fountain of youth, this is a magical anti-aging potion,'" said study co-author Susan Ellenberg, a University of Pennsylvania researcher.

The results are from the final four studies in a seven-part project mostly funded by the National Institute on Aging, involving nearly 800 U.S. men aged 65 and older with low testosterone levels. The goal was to see if rubbing testosterone gel on the skin daily for a year could treat problems linked with low levels of the male hormone, which declines with age. Half the men in each group used the real thing and half used fake gel.

Results published a year ago from the same research linked testosterone with mostly modest improvement in sexual performance, walking strength and mood.

The key new findings:

■ Testosterone had no effect on memory or mental function, based on tests given before, halfway and at the end of treatment to nearly 500 men with age-related memory decline.

■ Among almost 140 men who underwent heart artery imaging tests to see if the hormone slowed progression of plaque, those who used testosterone had more plaque buildup and narrower arteries after a year than the fake gel group. Those changes could signal increased chances for heart attacks although none occurred in the study. Men in this sub-study were already more vulnerable for heart problems because of conditions including artery disease, obesity and high blood pressure.

■ Among about 200 men given bone imaging tests before and at the end of treatment, those on testosterone showed increases in bone density and strength, especially in the spine, while minimal changes were found in the group that used fake gel. The improvement was similar to bone changes seen with treatment for osteoporosis, although most men studied did not have that bone-thinning condition, which can lead to fractures.

■ Among 126 men with anemia, a fatigue-linked condition involving inadequate red blood cells, those on testosterone showed substantial improvement. By the study's end, anemia had vanished in almost 60 percent of men on testosterone compared with 22 percent of the fake gel group. The hormone group also reported having more energy. "The overall health benefits, however, remain to be determined," the researchers said.

Courtesy photos

The Hope Chest program connects mothers in social gatherings such as the annual stroller walk. **BELOW:** Women enrolled in the Hope Chest program can earn points by attending free Becoming a Mom classes. These points are used to receive items for their baby.

JOHNSON

From 1B

knowledge on what my pregnancy would be like," she said. "As I started going to classes, I began to meet other women that were just like me in a lot of ways. We were all scared and concerned parents, and in the Becoming A Mom classes, they get you ready for delivering your baby and knowledge about what things my baby would need to come into the world.

"For me, I was so happy to meet Danielle, the Hope Chest coordinator," Alyssia said. "She gave me the peace of mind, and the night I went to the hospital she said she was there for me and would check on me in the morning. That meant a lot to me. And sure enough, Maddelyn was born and Danielle was right there.

"Through this experience, I have learned that being a parent is the best feeling, and the teachers and other moms in Hope Chest have been the best thing for me and my baby. I am a single mother, and I know that as long as I keep my points and go to my doctor's appointments, I will be able to get what I need for my baby," she said.

"I want to thank Hope Chest for all they do. I would tell anybody to enroll in the program because they can help you so much," Alyssia said.

Danielle Johnson is coordinator of Hope Chest.

Doctors warn against teen pot use amid looser marijuana laws

By Lindsey Tanner
Associated Press

AP file photo

A marijuana joint is rolled Nov. 9, 2016, in San Francisco. An influential doctors group is beefing up warnings about marijuana's potential harms for teens amid increasingly lax laws and attitudes on pot use.

CHICAGO — An influential doctors group is beefing up warnings about marijuana's potential harms for teens amid increasingly lax laws and attitudes on pot use.

Many parents use the drug and think it's OK for their kids, but "we would rather not mess around with the developing brain," said Dr. Seth Ammerman.

The advice comes in a new report from the American Academy of Pediatrics, published Monday in Pediatrics. The group opposes medical and recreational marijuana use for kids. It says emphasizing that message is important because most states have legalized medical use for adults, and many have decriminalized or legalized adults' recreational use.

Those trends have led parents to increasingly ask doctors about kids' use, said Ammerman, a Stanford University pediatrics professor who co-wrote the report.

"Parents will say, 'I use it moderately and I'm fine with it, so it's really benign and not a problem if my kid uses it,'" he said.

Doctors need to know how to respond to that thinking, and parents and teens need to know the risks, Ammerman said.

Potential harms

The brain continues to develop until the early 20s, raising concerns about the potential short- and long-term effects of a mind-altering drug. Some studies suggest that teens who use marijuana at least 10 times a month develop changes in brain regions affecting memory and the ability to plan. Some changes may be permanent, the report says.

Frequent use starting in the early teen years may lower IQ scores, and some studies have shown that starting marijuana use at a young age is more likely to lead to addiction than starting in adulthood. Not all teen users develop these problems and some may be more vulnerable because of genetics or other factors.

Medical versus recreational use

Solid research on medical marijuana's effects in children and teens is lacking, although some studies have suggested it may benefit kids with hard-to-treat seizures. The report says other potential benefits, doses and effects are mostly unknown.

Recreational use is illegal for those under age 21 even in states that allow adult use. Parents should avoid using marijuana in front of their kids and should keep all marijuana products stored out of kids' sight, the academy says. Some young children who accidentally swallowed their parents' pot-containing cookies or drinks have landed in the emergency room for mostly minor symptoms although some developed breathing problems.

Who's using

Government data show that almost 40 percent of U.S. high school students have tried marijuana, about 20 percent are current users and close to 10 percent first tried it before age 13. Use has increased in recent years among those aged 18 and older but not among young teens. Still, kids aged 12-17 increasingly think that marijuana use is not harmful.

Dr. Sheryl Ryan, a Yale University pediatrics professor and lead author of the academy report, said marijuana "is the drug of choice" for many of her teen patients in New Haven, Connecticut. Some think daily use is safe, noting that their parents or grandparents smoked pot in college and turned out OK. But today's marijuana is much more potent and potentially more risky, Ryan said.

Online:

■ American Academy of Pediatrics: http://www.aap.org/marijuana

■ National Institute on Drug Abuse: http://tinyurl.com/q22s8uh

Study: Teen suicide attempts fell as same-sex marriage became legal

By Lindsey Tanner
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Teen suicide attempts in the U.S. declined after same-sex marriage became legal and the biggest impact was among gay, lesbian and bisexual kids, a study found.

The research found declines in states that passed laws allowing gays to marry before the Supreme Court made it legal nationwide. The results don't prove there's a connection, but researchers said policymakers should be aware of the measures' potential benefits for youth mental health.

Suicide is the second-leading cause of death for all U.S. teens. Suicidal behavior is much more common among gay, lesbian and bisexual kids and adults; about 29 percent of these teens in the study reported attempting suicide, compared with just 6 percent of straight teens.

Laws that have the greatest impact on gay adults may make gay kids feel "more hopeful for the future," said lead author Julia Raifman, a researcher at Johns Hopkins' Bloomberg School of Public Health.

The measures also could create more tolerance and less bullying, making these teens feel less stigmatized. Those effects could also benefit straight teens but more research is needed to determine how the laws might influence teen behavior, Raifman said.

The study was published Monday in JAMA Pediatrics.

The researchers analyzed data on more than 700,000 public high school students who participated in government surveys on risky youth behavior from 1999 through 2015, the year the Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriage.

Overall, 26,252 students reported being gay, lesbian or bisexual. The surveys didn't ask about transgender status. They included questions about suicide attempts, smoking and alcohol or drug use.

In 32 states that enacted same-sex marriage laws during the study, suicide attempts dropped 7 percent among all students and 14 percent among gay kids after the laws were passed. There was no change in suicide attempts in states without those laws.

The study only included suicide attempts, not deaths.

The new work makes an important contribution to identifying how laws limiting gay rights may affect psychological and physical health, said Columbia University public health researcher Mark Hatzenbuehler.

But more research is needed to determine which teens are most vulnerable to policies that limit gay rights, he wrote in an accompanying editorial.

Online:

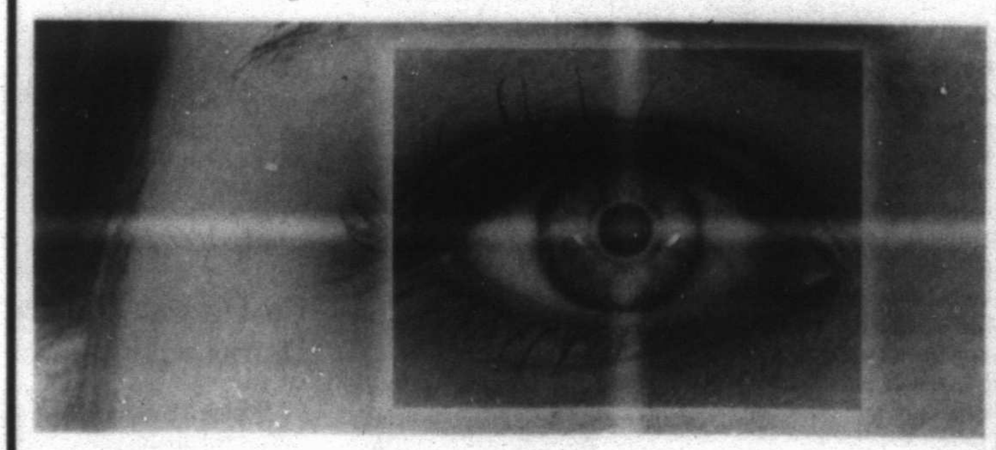
■ CDC statistics: http://tinyurl.com/zbojvgx

■ American Academy of Pediatrics: http://tinyurl.com/zker97o

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Centurion Pipeline L.P. has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an *amendment to* and renewal of Air Quality Permit No. 73278, which would authorize *modification to* and continued operation of the Midland Tank Farm located at 2200 East County Road 90, Midland, Midland County, Texas 79706. Additional information concerning these applications is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

Freedom from Glasses and Contacts



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TODAY: Sunny	THURSDAY: Sunny	FRIDAY: Sunny	SATURDAY: Mostly sunny	SUNDAY: Sunny	MONDAY: Sunny
High: 64 Low: 34	High: 64 Low: 38	High: 64 Low: 45	High: 71 Low: 51	High: 81 Low: 51	High: 82 Low: 48

Local forecast

Expect a high temperature today more than 15 degrees cooler than the high on Tuesday, according to the National Weather Service. Temperatures should again heat up by the end of the weekend. The NWS expects no rain in its seven-day forecast.

The record high for Feb. 28 is 87 set in 1940. The record low is 14, set in 1962. On Feb. 28 of last year, the high was 75 and the low was 48.

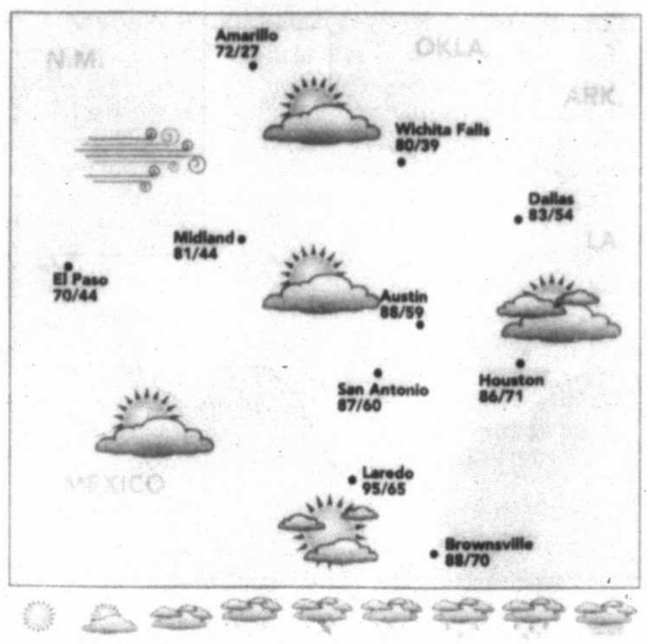
Climate brief

Sea ice hits record lows at both poles

Arctic temperatures have finally started to cool off after yet another winter heat wave stunted sea ice growth over the weekend. The repeated bouts of warm weather this season have stunned even seasoned polar researchers, and could push the Arctic to a record low winter peak for the third year in a row.

Meanwhile, Antarctic sea ice set an all-time record low on Monday in a dramatic reversal from the record highs of recent years.

Sea ice at both poles has been expected to decline as the planet heats up from the build-up of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.



Precipitation

Monday	0.00 in.
Tuesday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.72 in.
Year total	1.84 in.
Normal total (year to date)	1.27 in.

Tuesday's temperatures

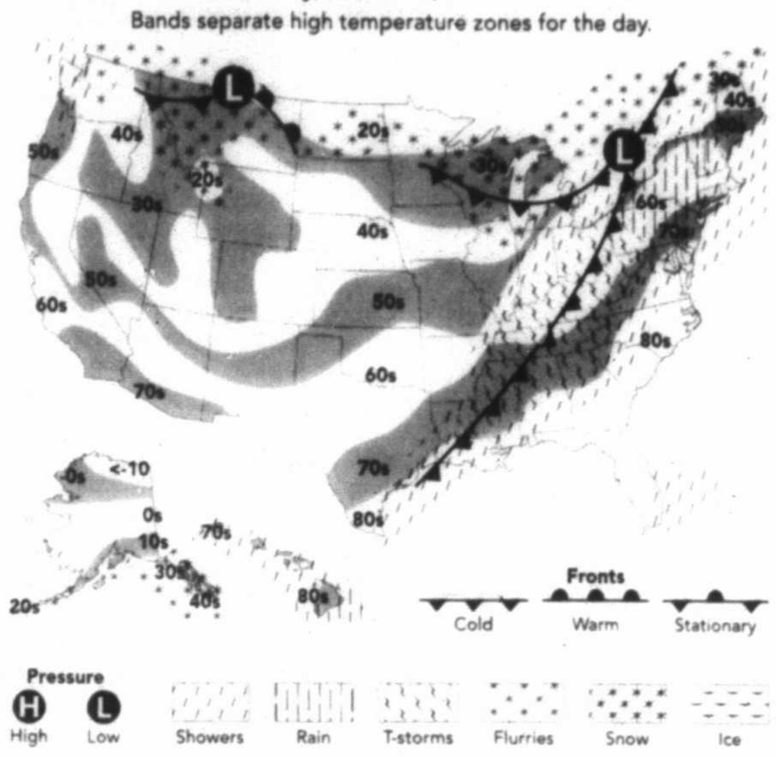
High	80
Low	53
Normal high	66
Normal low	38
Sunrise	7:16 a.m.
Sunset	6:47 p.m.

National weather

AccuWeather.com

Forecast for Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.



Woman weighs getting involved in case of abuse

DEAR ABBY

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

DEAR ABBY: I have always tried to be a compassionate person. I have experienced a lot of abuse, and I'm sensitive to others who go through it. A man across the street from me has been arrested three times in the last six months for domestic abuse. I rarely see a woman there, so I don't know if the victim is a woman or a child. I moved into the neighborhood only six months ago. My elderly mother lives here with me.

I'm torn about what to do. My heart says I should reach out to the people who live there and make friends with them. My head says stay out of their business because I don't need the drama.

How do we as a society not turn a blind eye to abuse in our neighborhoods and still protect ourselves and loved ones? I don't want to put my mother or myself in jeopardy, but I don't want the person/people in that house to think they are alone. — NO MORE IN TEXAS

DEAR NO MORE: While I applaud you for being so caring, for your own safety, I caution you to proceed very slowly in getting to know these people. Some communities provide anonymous tip lines so citizens can report a crime without endangering themselves or their families. The best thing you can do is to keep your eyes open and if something is happening, call the police and report it. If it involves a child, contact child protective services.

DEAR ABBY: My parents and I were always close. However, recently they stole my debit card, my PIN and child support check. They forged my signature and spent the entire check, which was more than $1,000.

I am always lending them money. I have never said no when they needed it. To top it off, they lied to me about the check for an entire month. I only found out when I turned the fraud in to the bank and heard it was my parents who had committed it.

Now my account is frozen and I am wiped out. I have two kids and one on the way, and recently I lost my job. My mother keeps trying to make me feel guilty for turning them in and doesn't understand why I am mad. I am having trouble forgiving them. I am just so angry. Should I forgive them, or do I have the right to be mad? — FORGIVE OR FORGET IN MICHIGAN

DEAR FORGIVE OR FORGET: One of the hallmarks of abusers is that they try to make their victims think the abuse was in some way their own fault. Your mother fully understands why you are angry. You must not allow her to make you feel guilty.

Your parents stole from you and their grandchildren. They appear to have no conscience. Now you know what they are capable of, it is important that you keep your distance from them, or they'll do it again.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, March 1, 2017:

This year you learn to handle disruptions in a more positive way. You become a master in handling power plays and manipulative people. If you are single, a foreigner or someone from a different background enters your life. You will learn a lot from this person. If you are attached, you have a very magical, imaginative mind that often delights those you are with, especially your sweetie. Your temper could be close to the surface and might come out in odd ways. Learn to discuss your hurt before it evolves into anger. ARIES pushes you hard to handle your finances as he or she believes you should.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ A problem in the morning could throw you off your game, at least until the afternoon, when you're able to regroup. Your creativity and high energy draw in much more of what you want. You might not believe everything that is happening around you. Tonight: All smiles.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ Know what is happening behind the scenes, but don't let on that you are aware of the manipulation and conversations that are going on. Take what you hear with a grain of salt until you are certain you have heard the facts. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ You could make the impossible happen once you clear up a problem. You might be dealing with a manipulative person; don't stoop to his or her level. Deal with what seems like an unrealistic idea. A meeting helps you mobilize your energy. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ Others expect a lot from you, and quickly at that. Someone you count on could let you down and upset you. Reach out to a loved one who is an endless source of information. Once you detach, you'll see a better way to complete what is needed. Tonight: Surrounded by music.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Difficulties surround a manipulative person in the morning. Once you bypass this situation, you will feel much better. Respond to this person with compassion. You'll feel appreciated by a partner and fortunate to have certain key friends. Tonight: Detach from the here and now.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ Others will be unusually demanding. They know what they want, and they want it now. You might not be sure which way you should go, but one path will be more lucrative if you have the drive to succeed. Tonight: Weigh the pros and cons of making a dream a reality.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ You could be impatient when dealing with a partner who brings some negativity into your life. Embrace your creativity, and calmly work through these issues. Lady Luck seems to be working with you, though perhaps in strange ways. Tonight: Use your self-discipline.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ Whereas some people might not be able to manage the games that one specific person presents, you are a master. You'll cut to the chase, knowing what to do and say. Your instincts guide you. A loved one seems to be a bit elusive. Tonight: Go along with the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ You know what is acceptable and what needs to happen. Your sense of humor comes out, but those around you might not be in the same playful mood. Go for what you want, and bypass controlling people. Your fiery temperament emerges. Tonight: You make the right choices.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ You want what you want, and you'll do whatever it takes to get it. Slow down and tap into your imagination. Seek a more meaningful resolution or idea. Others will be in awe of how you have handled a touchy matter. Your instincts serve you well. Tonight: Isn't it time to celebrate?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ A friend or loved one reaches out to you. You might see more complications surrounding an ongoing issue than this person seems to. Listen to your sixth sense, and try not to dive right into what could be a problem waiting to happen. Tonight: Use care with your spending.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ Lighten up the moment, and decide just how much flak are you willing to absorb in order to keep the peace. Pressure continues to build in a work-related matter, as a boss might be observing you. Put your energy into executing an excellent idea. Tonight: Curb wildness.

BORN TODAY

Composer Frederic Chopin (1810), filmmaker Ron Howard (1954), former Prime Minister of Israel Yitzhak Rabin (1922)

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Junior gem

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K 10 8
♥ 10 7 5 2
♦ 9 7 5
♣ J 10 5

WEST
♠ Q 6 4 3
♥ K J 6 4
♦ K 6
♣ 8 7 6

EAST
♠ J 7 2
♥ A 9 8 3
♦ 10 2
♣ K 9 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A 9 5
♥ Q
♦ A Q J 8 4 3
♣ A Q 4

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1	Pass	1	Pass
2NT	Pass	3	Pass
3NT	All pass		

Opening lead: Three of ♠

The World Junior Championships were held late last year in conjunction with the World Championships in Poland.

The bridge federation of Norway makes awards to Norwegians who have performed with distinction.

The award for the best play by a junior was given to Christian Bakke, who was West in today's deal.

We're not sure why North bid three diamonds. Many would have passed, if not over one diamond, then surely over two no-trump. The final contract was aggressive, but it had chances. Bakke got off to the normal, though unfortunate, spade lead. South captured East's jack of spades with the ace at trick one and then led a spade to dummy's 10. This was followed by a diamond to the queen, won by Bakke with the king. East followed suit with the 10 of diamonds, indicating a doubleton. Bakke, after some thought, led the only card in his hand that would defeat the contract — the king of hearts!

The king felled the queen in declarer's hand, so the defense quickly took four heart tricks to go with a diamond for down one. Nice shift! How did Bakke find this shift? He could count five diamond tricks and three spades for declarer. Should South have the ace of hearts, the contract was cold. Even if South had as little as the queen of clubs, the defense couldn't hurt him in clubs. South couldn't have three hearts or he would have shown them in the auction. Once Bakke was forced to play his partner for the ace of hearts, the king couldn't hurt and it might be a big winner. It was!

DAILY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Article
5 Die down
8 Military action toys
14 Something frowned upon
15 Graphic introduction?
16 Harm
17 "U.S. Steel co-founder
19 Roofer's supply
20 "August: __ County": Meryl Streep film
21 Spinal column part
23 Words on a candy heart
25 "CHiPs" co-star Erik
27 Newspaper VIPs
28 Crèche figure
31 Like Parmesan cheese
32 "Didn't I tell you?"
33 Peas, for shooters
34 Racetrack equipment
36 "Whiplash" Best Supporting Actor
38 Wealthy campaign donor
41 Picture framing materials
42 Orch. section
45 "It's not too early to call"
46 Sprain support
47 Dove's call
48 New York brewery known for its cream ale
51 College choices
54 Turncoat
57 "Pardon me," in Palermo
58 Singer Warwick
59 "Peter Pan creator
61 "Imagine so"
62 Bird on Australia's coat of arms
63 Some celebs have delicate ones
64 "Almost ready"
65 Dollop
66 Took off

DOWN

1 Humor for a select few
2 On the open deck
3 All together
4 Classic music synthesizers
5 __ McMuffin
6 Cleaver nickname
7 Talus or radius
8 Central points
9 Small bay
10 "Lost" co-creator
11 Serious injustice
12 What may be charged for books?
13 French possessive
18 Sleep acronym
22 Pickett's Charge soldier
24 Nightmare loc. of film
26 Website pop-ups, e.g.
29 Bordeaux buddy
30 Matriarchal nickname
33 Wanted poster initials
34 __ pole
35 MetLife's business: Abbr.
36 "Retail chain founder
37 AAA handout
38 Newton fruit
39 Explorer Vespucci for whom the New World was named
40 Turn a deaf ear to
42 Cause of calamity
43 Twisting force
44 Most cheerful
46 Twinings product
49 Sixth __
50 Cast out
52 Simile words
53 Clothing chain ... or what the answers to starred clues comprise?
55 Played mixes at mixers, briefly
56 Jane Austen novel
58 Racket
60 Mac

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

P	A	P	U	A		B	F	F	S		R	A	G	S
I	R	O	N	S		A	L	E	E		E	X	E	S
L	E	W	I	S		D	O	W	N	B	E	L	O	W
O	N	E		T	U	T	U		A	L	L			
T	A	R	R	A	G	O	N		T	E	E	T	H	
		W	I	T	H		C	H	O	W	C	H	O	W
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A	N	N		D	C	I		A	S	S		O	S	T
R	O	D	S		O	M	I	T		E	L	W	E	S
B	R	O	W	N	C	O	W		S	T	E	P		
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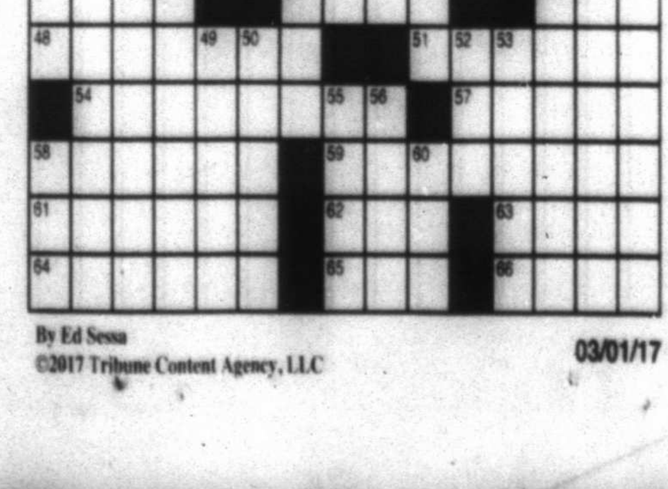
xwordeditor@aol.com 03/01/17



By Ed Sessa

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03/01/17

Validating child's thoughts, feelings encourages communication

COURTNEY SAMSEL
Center for Children and Families

Most people believe that a baby's first words mark the beginning of his or her journey communicating with those in their environment. Interestingly, communication occurs before then. Newborns learn to communicate their basic needs through tears.

Many parents question how the communication between themselves and their children changed so drastically throughout the years. Statements such as, "I don't know why they didn't tell me that," or questions such as "When did that happen?" seem to be reiterated by the parents of the teenagers I counsel. The truth is, children do communicate through means other than words. Are the parents interpreting their messages?

Children learn to trust others through the response they receive. This sets the tone with how comfortable they feel in communicating their needs and feelings for the future. If a child feels they are shamed, ignored or not validated, they may choose to communicate such things with others. Through nurturing this relationship, the communication will grow.

One of the basic means of communication for small children is through play. At this time, they may not be capable of articulating their feelings, so they show their thoughts and feelings through play. They eventually learn to communicate their thoughts and feelings, and they have learned with whom to trust with such vulnerabilities. They may choose to only verbalize limited amounts with their parents. It is important for parents to be clued into their children's friends, interests and behaviors in order to identify their children's needs and maintain the trust of their child.

An important step for parents to remember in regards to maintaining open communication with their children is that no matter the age, the child seeks to be heard and understood. If their basic need of safety is met by those they communicate with, they will continue to be open to sharing; however, if they feel this is a risk, they will shut out the parent. This means that the parent does not have to accept the behaviors, wants, or thoughts of the child. But by validating these behaviors, wants or thoughts, a child does not fear ridicule, and it encourages an open line of communication. If this basic need is not being met by the parents, then the child will most likely seek the attention elsewhere.

DEATHS

From 1B

Rep. Four Price, R-Amarillo, chairman of the House Public Health Committee, said he has not scheduled any hearings related to maternal mortality but he's not ruling it out.

"Nothing is off the table as far as I'm concerned," Price said. "We'll look at everything, try to figure out what we have time for and what makes sense, like any other committee."

Sen. Charles Schwertner, R-Georgetown, chairman of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, did not respond to a request for comment.

Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, chairwoman of the Senate Finance Committee said in an email statement that lawmakers "continue to work on many fronts to advance women's health and ensure that women in every part of the state have access to the care they need."

Some lawmakers are quick to point to the Legislature funding the Healthy Texas Women Program in July. That program focuses on helping women receive cancer screenings, post-partum depression screenings, family planning services, STD testing, contraceptives and more. Legislators also point out that low-income mothers are auto-enrolled in the program just as their Medicaid benefits expire 60 days after giving birth, saving them from a coverage lapse.

> *"Nothing is off the table as far as I'm concerned. We'll look at everything, try to figure out what we have time for and what makes sense, like any other committee."*
>
> **Rep. Four Price,** chairman of the House Public Health Committee

John Wittman, a spokesman for the governor, said in an email statement that Abbott "is committed to reducing the maternal mortality rate. Our office is actively engaged with the Legislature on this issue and the Governor looks forward to seeing legislation on his desk that addresses this alarming problem."

Wittman also pointed to the governor's proposed budget, which said that additional resources for the Healthy Texas Women Program would help. The governor's proposed budget also said an effort to remove Planned Parenthood from Medicaid is "another step in providing greater access to safe health care for women."

Jason Embry, a spokesman for Straus' office, said in an emailed statement the speaker "believes strongly in the importance of women's health services" that reduce maternal deaths. The Healthy Texas Women Program "makes it less complicated to get information and access to women's health and core family planning services."

Patrick's office did not return request for comment.

Rep. Sarah Davis, R-Houston, chairwoman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Article II, said she was "pretty shocked" when she received the task force report last summer but is hopeful her committee "will take significant strides to reduce the morbidity rate."

She pointed to the House budget providing $373.9 million for substance abuse treatment, with specific funding for neonatal abstinence treatment and mothers dealing with addiction. She also pointed to the "historically high" $284.6 million the House is appropriating for women's health programs.

"I'm very hopeful that we will not have another doubling of maternal mortality," Davis said during a committee hearing last week. "I know that this committee is very mindful of behavioral health and mental health components."

Rep. Jessica Farrar, D-Houston, chairwoman of the Texas House Women's Health Caucus, said she is disappointed state leaders haven't shown more interest on the maternal deaths. She said the Legislature was too hasty to remove Planned Parenthood from various women's health programs (efforts to remove them as a Medicaid provider have been thwarted by federal courts).

Farrar said the Healthy Texas Women Program has not been easy for patients to access, and advertising on buses and billboards has not been enough to inform eligible women about the program and how to enroll.

"If I'm going to make such a big policy change, I would make sure that there was something in place so that there was a seamless transition for Texas women to see another provider, and that wasn't the case," Farrar said.

For now, Hollier said she is focused on Friday, when her task force meets to do case reviews on maternal deaths from 2012. Those cases will mostly look at women who died from heart problems, high blood pressure and hemorrhaging. She said maternal deaths is "a multifactorial problem" that's "going to take a multifactorial solution."

"Our charge from the Legislature was to review these deaths, so we really need to do that as quickly as possible and then be able to report on those deaths with recommendations to reduce morbidity and mortality," Hollier said.

PILOTS

From 1B

Justin Burris, a local volunteer pilot, said the organization has helped people living in small West Texas towns.

"Some people are in Presidio, and it's a long drive to Midland to get on a plane to go somewhere," Burris said. "Sometimes we pick up people in remote areas of Texas to give people access to places with better transportation like Midland or take them places."

Volunteer pilots for Angel Flight donate their time and travel expenses. The pilots use small aircraft, such as the Mooney Ovation plane Berkebile rents from Floris Flight Services at Midland Airpark. The size of the airplanes allows pilots to reach county airports that are close to people seeking medical transportation, Berkebile said.

Shireen Pitassi, missions director for Angel Flight, speaks with patients to arrange flights with volunteers in their regions. She said an increasing number of patients have shown interest in the organization since she became an employee in 2001.

"We want to ease your pain," Pitassi said. "They get the opportunity to fly, and we want to make it a pleasant experience for them. It's like going to the movies to forget your problems. You're up in the air and forget you're going to cancer treatment."

Berkebile said he has made a difference for people who need medical care not available locally. He became a licensed pilot seven years ago and hopes others who enjoy flying will consider volunteering with Angel Flight.

"They get their pilot's license and might fly a little bit, but then they get married," Berkebile said. "They might have a plane sitting in the hangar. This organization serves the purpose to serve people medically. It gives them a reason to fly."

Take a Moment

Nothing is more important than time spent with family. Ensure these times are spent in good health. If caught early, breast cancer is treatable. That's why it's so important to take a preventative step by scheduling a checkup at The Breast Center, today.

Comprehensive, timely patient care is one more example of how we're lighting the way for health in Midland. From 3D mammograms and diagnosis to consultation, every step is handled by local professionals so you get your results quicker. The Breast Center is the only location in town where local radiologists read your results—saving you time. We also have patient navigators guiding you through the entire process and giving you peace-of-mind. Should you have a positive reading and need further services, we can handle that as well.

It only takes one moment today to save you many precious moments tomorrow. Schedule your mammogram today at **432.682.XRAY(9729)**. Visit us at **midlandhealth.org** to learn more.

the breast center MIDLAND HEALTH

MHS beats Permian, moves into 2nd

Barham

Fricker

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Midland High girls soccer coach Cooper Barham told his team that it had to capitalize on opportunities against Odessa Permian because the Lady Panthers don't tend to give up much.

After a few missed opportunities in the first half, MHS cashed in on those chances in the second half to come away with a crucial 2-1 win in District 2-6A play at Grande Communications Stadium.

The win, combined with Odessa High's 4-1 loss to district leader Wolfforth Frenship on Tuesday night, helps the Lady Bulldogs (12-2 overall) take over sole possession of second place with 12 points and a 4-0-0-2 mark. MHS also avenged a 1-0 loss to Permian at the start of 2-6A play.

"It's a huge win," Barham said. "I told the girls that this was going to be a very important game because we were in a three-way tie and Permian ended up beating us in the first half. We just worked on staying focused, playing our game. We knew it was going to be a tough one, we knew it was going to come down to the very last minute. I'm just so proud of the girls and how hard they worked."

Please see **MHS GIRLS**/2C

MHS holds off scrappy Panthers

Cottle

Reese

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

The Midland High boys soccer team is finding ways to win, even when it doesn't play one of its best games.

On Tuesday, the Bulldogs got a goal from Chandler Reese and played solid defense against a scrappy Odessa Permian team for a 1-0 victory in District 2-6A action at Grande Communications Stadium.

With the win, MHS (8-5-1 overall) stays in command of first place at 4-2-0-0, 16 points.

The fact that Permian (3-10-3, 1-1-1-3, 6 points) played MHS tough wasn't a surprise, considering that the Bulldogs had to beat the Panthers in a shootout after the teams went scoreless in regulation in the first meeting of the season.

"It's a special rivalry," MHS coach Warren Cottle said. "It's always going to be two competitive teams and both teams always want to win. It's going to be a battle all the way through."

The only goal of the game came midway through the first half when Reese took a feed from Jeremy Martinez and punched it in for the goal.

"It was a decent ball. I had to work for it, but I was able to put it over the keeper," Reese said.

Please see **MHS BOYS**/2C

WILDCATS ROLL ON

Photos by James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

ABOVE: Grady basketball players celebrate their win against Sierra Blanca in the 1A regional quarterfinal game Tuesday at Jerry Larned Sports Complex in Monahans. **BELOW RIGHT:** Grady's Jaylen Short (10) hoists the trophy after the win against Sierra Blanca.

Grady routs Sierra Blanca, advances to regional tourney

By Will Korn
wkorn@mrt.com

MONAHANS — The Grady boys basketball team wasn't in top form until the start of the second half on Tuesday against Sierra Blanca.

Missed open shots and turnovers contributed to a slow start for the heavily favored Wildcats, who had to lean on their scrappy defensive prowess to establish control during the game's first 16 minutes.

But once Grady began to relax offensively, move the ball efficiently and find the open man, it ran away with the game. The Wildcats outscored the Vaqueros 45-15 and sunk nine of their 14 3-pointers in the second half to coast to an 82-37 win in a Class 1A Region II quarterfinal game at Jerry Larned Sports Complex.

Grady senior Jaylen Short led all scorers with a sparkling 32-point effort, which included a stretch of three consecutive treys in the third quarter. Ederi Trejo added 14 points for the Wildcats, while Jordan Rodriquez supplied 12.

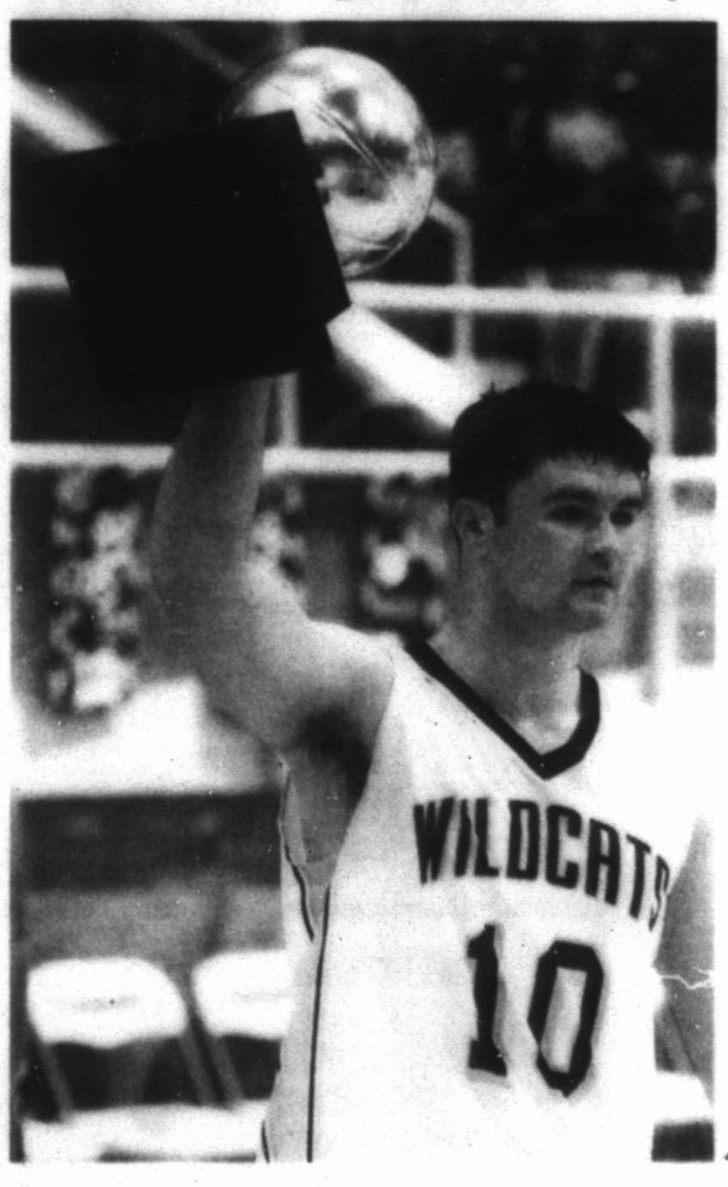
With the win, Grady (21-4) advanced to the regional tournament for the sixth consecutive year. The Wildcats will face Eula, a 53-38 winner over Cross Plains Tuesday, in the regional semifinal at 8:30 p.m. Friday at Abilene Christian University.

Grady head coach Chris Short said his team's improved ball movement in the second half was a major difference maker. Grady senior guard Devynn Smith's nifty passing was the catalyst and others followed suit.

"It was huge," Short said. "One I give a lot of credit to was Devynn Smith. Devynn started really seeing the floor well in that third quarter and he probably had five or six assists. He got the ball to Jaylen down there (on the block), got him some easy buckets and got him in rhythm and then (Jaylen's) outside shot started falling as well. We played within ourselves, moved the ball around and looked for high percentage shots. We just kind of relaxed."

But until that explosive offensive turn in the third, the Wildcats had to assert themselves on the defensive end first. In the first half, Grady limited Sierra Blanca (17-11) to just 19 shots. Stung by 13 turnovers, the Vaqueros

Please see **GRADY**/3C

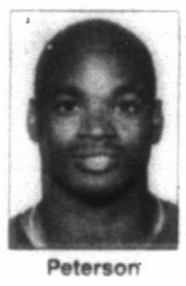


RB Adrian Peterson a free agent after 10 years with Vikings

By Dave Campbell
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Adrian Peterson, Minnesota's all-time leading rusher and a first-team All-Pro pick in four of his 10 seasons with the Vikings, will be an unrestricted free agent for the first time in his career when the market opens next week.

The Vikings as expected said Tuesday they will not exercise their option for 2017 on Peterson's contract, which called for him to make $18 million. That would have been an unwieldly hit to their salary cap and by far the highest figure in the NFL for a running back. Pittsburgh's decision to place the franchise tag on Le'Veon Bell will likely mean a $12 million-plus salary for the 25-year-old, but nobody else at the position in the league is even close.



Peterson

The Vikings left the door open for Peterson to return to the team that drafted him in 2007 with the seventh overall pick, only at a much lower price. The fact that they announced their decision nine days before the deadline was an indication that little dialogue about a new deal has taken place to date. General manager Rick Spielman told reporters last week that he had not yet spoken at that point to Peterson or his agents about the future.

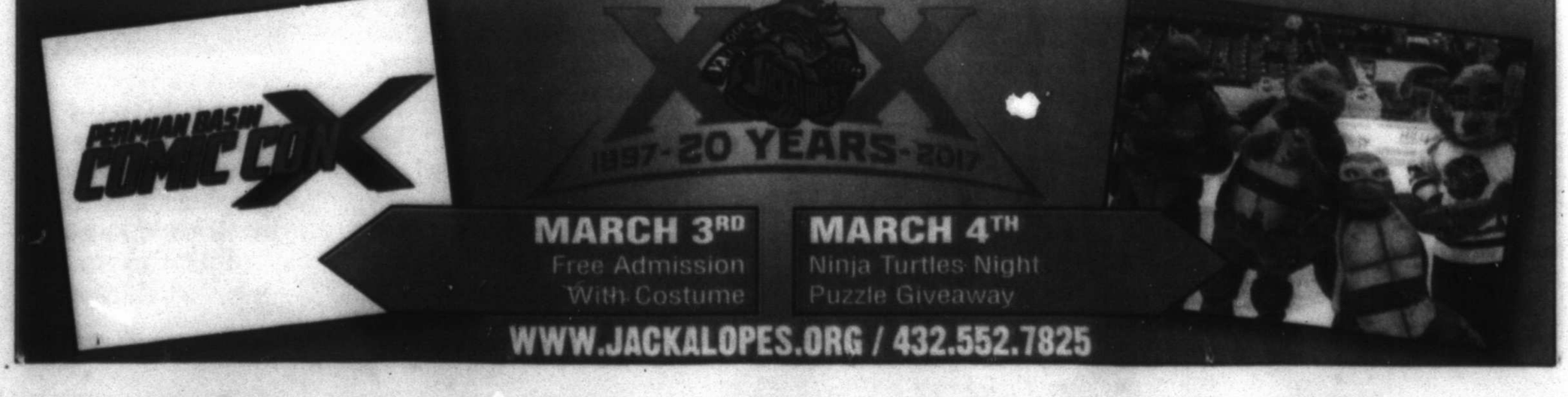
"Adrian is an important part of the Minnesota Vikings organization," Spielman said Tuesday. "We will continue to have conversations with his representatives and leave our future options open while determining what is best for both parties moving forward."

Peterson's agent, Ben Dogra, didn't return messages from The Associated Press. Peterson told ESPN he spoke with Spielman over the weekend.

"It's been a great 10 years with the Minnesota Vikings. They know what I bring to the organization as a player, with my work ethic and dedication," Peterson said, according to the network. "The door is still open to find some common ground. I understand addressing the offensive line is one of their main priorities this offseason. In the meantime, I will explore my other options and see what path God leads me on. My main goal remains the same: to win a Super Bowl championship with a great team, which I also believe we have in Minnesota."

Peterson has occasionally hinted at interest in playing elsewhere, even cryptically tweeting last week that the New York Giants have intrigued him with their recent moves that included

Please see **PETERSON**/4C



DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

ON TV

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

JLT Community Series: Western Bulldogs vs. Brisbane Lions, 2:30 a.m., FSP

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Texas Tech at Texas, 6 p.m., LHN

GOLF

LPGA: HSBC Women's Championship, 1st Round, 11 p.m., GOLF

MLB

Spring Training: Miami vs. Houston, Noon, MLB, ROOT

Spring Training: Texas vs. LA Angels, 2 p.m., FSSW+

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Auburn at Georgia, 5:30 p.m., SEC

Arkansas at Florida, 6 p.m., ESPN2

Connecticut at East Carolina, 6 p.m., ESPNU

Tennessee at LSU, 6 p.m., SECA

Michigan at Northwestern, 6 p.m., BTN

Fairleigh Dickinson at Wagner, 6 p.m., FCSA

VCU at Dayton, 7 p.m., CBSSN

La Salle at St. Louis, 7 p.m., FCSC

Ole Miss at Alabama, 7:30 p.m., SEC

Texas at Texas Tech, 8 p.m., ESPN2

Kansas State at TCU, 8 p.m., ESPNU

Marquette at Xavier, 8 p.m., FS1

Michigan State at Illinois, 8 p.m., BTN

Robert Morris at LIU Brooklyn, 8 p.m., FCSA

Air Force at San Diego State, 9 p.m., CBSSN

Washington State at USC, 9 p.m., P12, P12 LA, P12 WA

Washington at UCLA, 10 p.m., FS1

Utah State at UNLV, 10 p.m., ESPNU

MEN'S SOCCER

DfB Pokal Quarterfinal: Hamburger SV vs. Borussia Mönchengladbach, 11:20 a.m., ESPNDEP

La Liga: FC Barcelona vs. Sporting Gijon, 12:20 p.m., beIN, beIN2

FA Cup: Manchester City FC vs. Huddersfield Town FC, 1:30 p.m., FS1, FXDEP

Scottish Premier: Inverness Caledonian Thistle FC vs. Celtic FC, 1:40 p.m., FSP

DfB Pokal Quarterfinal: FC Bayern Munich vs. FC Schalke 04, 1:40 p.m., ESPNDEP

La Liga: Real Madrid vs. Las Palmas, 2:20 p.m., beIN, beIN2

CONCACAF U20: Mexico vs. El Salvador, 4:30 p.m., UDN

Copa MX: Venados FC vs. Atlante, 6:50 p.m., ESPNDEP

Copa MX: Santos Laguna vs. America, 8:20 p.m., UDN

Copa MX: Mineros de Zacatecas vs. Club Atlas, 8:50 p.m., ESPNDEP

CONCACAF Champions Quarterfinal, Leg 2: Pumas de la UNAM vs. Tigres UANL, 9 p.m., GALA

NBA

Dallas at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m., FSSW

Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m., ESPN

Indiana at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m., FSSWSA

Houston at LA Clippers, 9:30 p.m., ESPN

NHL

Trade Deadline Day, 7 a.m., NHL

Pittsburgh at Chicago, 7 p.m., NBCSN

TENNIS

ATP: Acapulco, 4 p.m., TENNIS

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Alabama vs. Vanderbilt, 10 a.m., SEC

Virginia Tech vs. Clemson, Noon, FSSW

Florida vs. Arkansas, 12:30 p.m., SEC

Nebraska vs. Illinois, 12:30 p.m., BTN

Georgia Tech vs. Boston College, 2:30 p.m., FSSW

Rutgers vs. Wisconsin, 3 p.m., BTN

Pitt vs. North Carolina, 5:30 p.m., FSSW+

WOMEN'S COLLEGE LACROSSE

Georgetown at Johns Hopkins, 4 p.m., ESPNU

WOMEN'S SOCCER

SheBelieves Cup: USA vs. Germany, 6 p.m., FS1

ON RADIO

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

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

WHAT'S ON DECK

Junior college

SOFTBALL

Cisco JC at Midland College DH, 1 p.m.

NJCAA POLL

NJCAA Division I Men's Basketball Poll
First place votes in parentheses

Rank	College	Record	Pts.	Pvs.
1	South Plains College (16)	27-0	350	1
2	Hutchinson CC	28-1	333	2
3	Northwest Florida State	26-2	317	4
4	San Jacinto-Central	27-1	313	3
5	Vincennes	27-1	294	5
6	Georgia Highlands	27-1	275	6
7	McLennan CC	28-1	256	7
8	Jones County	22-1	251	8
9	Mineral Area	28-2	228	11
10	North Dakota SCS	29-1	224	9
11	Eastern Florida State	26-4	216	12
12	Indian Hills CC	26-4	195	13
13	Gillette	27-3	171	14
14	Trinity Valley	23-5	157	18
15	Spartanburg Methodist	26-3	150	17
16	Moberly Area	26-4	141	10
17	Odessa College	23-5	99	16
18	Tyler College	22-4	89	15
19	Shelton State	23-5	87	22
20	Palm Beach State	25-5	82	23
21	Daytona State	24-6	63	24
22	Motlow State	25-5	57	19
23	Southern Idaho	24-6	42	RV
24	Snow College	25-5	39	NR
25	Cochise College	24-5	28	25

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American Association

FARGO-MOORHEAD REDHAWKS — Signed RHP Tyler Herron; INF Zach Freeman and OF Matt Klenke.

SIOUX CITY EXPLORERS — Signed INF Nate Samson.

SIOUX FALLS CANARIES — Released LHP Kris Regier.

WICHITA WINGNUTS — Signed RHP Jordan Cooper. Released RHP Luis Pardo and LHP Frankie Reed.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

NBA — Suspended New Orleans F-C DeMarcus Cousins one game for receiving his 16th technical foul this season. Fined Washington F Markieff Morris $25,000 for throwing a basketball at an official and into the seats during a Feb. 26 game against Utah.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

CLEVELAND BROWNS — Placed a second-round, free-agent tender on RB Isaiah Crowell. Agreed to terms with P Britton Colquitt on a four-year contract extension.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Released RB Jamaal Charles. Signed S Eric Berry and G Laurent Duvernay-Tardif to contract extensions.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Declined to exercise their 2017 option on RB Adrian Peterson.

NEW YORK GIANTS — Placed the non-exclusive franchise tag on DE Jason Pierre-Paul.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Placed the exclusive franchise tag on QB Kirk Cousins. Tendered contracts to exclusive rights OT Ty Nsekhe and OL Vinston Painter.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

BUFFALO SABRES — Acquired D Mat Bodie from the New York Rangers for F Daniel Catenaco.

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS — Agreed to terms with D Michal Rozsival and F Jordin Tootoo on one-year contract extensions.

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS — Signed D Marc-Andre Bergeron to a one-year contract.

DETROIT RED WINGS — Traded D Brendan Smith to the N.Y. Rangers for 2017 third-round and 2018 second-round draft picks.

NEW YORK ISLANDERS — Recalled F Josh Ho-Sang from Bridgeport (AHL).

NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled D Steven Kampfer from Hartford (AHL).

OTTAWA SENATORS — Acquired F Viktor Stalberg from Carolina for a 2017 third-round draft pick.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Reassigned F Yanni Gourde to Syracuse (AHL).

WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Recalled Fs Riley Barber and Jakub Vrana from Hershey (AHL).

ECHL

ECHL — Approved the sale of the Adirondack franchise by the Calgary Flames to Adirondack Hockey Coalition, LLC.

ELMIRA JACKALS — Signed F Robert Lepine and G Greg Dodds to amateur tryout contracts. Placed D Steven Kaunisto on the 21-day injured reserve, retroactive Feb. 26 game against Utah.

READING ROYALS — Announced coach Larry Courville will not return next season.

SOUTH CAROLINA STINGRAYS — Announced F Parker Milner was reassigned to the team by Hershey (AHL).

LACROSSE

National Lacrosse League

NEW ENGLAND BLACK WOLVES — Traded F Pat Saunders to Buffalo for a 2017 second-round draft pick.

SOCCER

Major League Soccer

LA GALAXY — Signed D Bradley Diallo.

NEW YORK RED BULLS — Named Denis Hamlett sporting director.

COLLEGE

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN — Named Josh Cooper defensive line coach.

GEORGIA STATE — Named Skylor Magee defensive line coach. Announced inside linebackers coach Rusty Wright will serve as recruiting coordinator.

RANDOLPH-MACON — Named Caroline Brown assistant volleyball coach.

TENNESSEE — Named John Currie athletic director.

WINTHROP — Announced the retirement of assistant athletic director of communications Jack Frost at the end of June.

MLB SPRING TRAINING

Standings

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
Los Angeles	4	0	1.000
New York	5	1	0.833
Tampa Bay	4	1	0.800
Seattle	3	1	0.750
Kansas City	3	1	0.750
Cleveland	2	1	0.667
Oakland	2	2	0.500
Houston	2	2	0.500
Chicago	2	2	0.500
Baltimore	2	3	0.400
Minnesota	2	3	0.400
Detroit	2	3	0.400
Toronto	1	4	0.200
Texas	1	4	0.200
Boston	1	4	0.200

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
Los Angeles	3	1	0.750
New York	3	2	0.600
Philadelphia	3	2	0.600
St. Louis	3	2	0.600
San Francisco	3	2	0.600
Colorado	3	2	0.600
Pittsburgh	3	2	0.600
Washington	2	2	0.500
Atlanta	2	2	0.500
Arizona	2	2	0.500
Chicago	1	2	0.333
San Diego	1	3	0.250
Miami	1	3	0.250
Milwaukee	1	3	0.250
Cincinnati	0	5	0.000

Scores and schedule

Tuesday's Scores

Philadelphia 7, Baltimore 5
N.Y.Yankees (ss) 9, Detroit 5
Washington 4, Houston 3
Tampa Bay 10, Minnesota 0
N.Y. Mets 3, Miami 1
N.Y. Yankees (ss) 5, Boston 4
Atlanta 2, St. Louis 0
Toronto 12, Pittsburgh 0
Arizona 8, Texas 4
Chicago White Sox (ss) 10, Cincinnati 9
Oakland 5, Cleveland 4
Kansas City 6, Milwaukee 3
L.A. Angels 7, Chicago Cubs 5
Seattle 8, Chicago White Sox (ss) 1
L.A. Dodgers 14, Colorado 3
San Diego 9, San Francisco 5

Today's Games

Boston vs. Baltimore at Sarasota, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
Miami vs. Houston at West Palm Beach, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets vs. St. Louis at Jupiter, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
Philadelphia vs. Tampa Bay at Port Charlotte, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh vs. Minnesota at Fort Myers, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
Washington vs. Detroit (ss) at Lakeland, Fla., 12:05 p.m.
Detroit (ss) vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla., 12:07 p.m.
Arizona vs. Chicago White Sox at Glendale, Ariz., 2:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs vs. Kansas City at Surprise, Ariz., 2:05 p.m.
Cincinnati vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix, 2:05 p.m.
Seattle vs. Cleveland at Goodyear, Ariz., 2:05 p.m.
Oakland vs. San Diego (ss) at Peoria, Ariz., 2:10 p.m.
San Diego (ss) vs. Colorado at Scottsdale, Ariz., 2:10 p.m.
Texas vs. L.A. Angels at Tempe, Ariz., 2:10 p.m.
Atlanta vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Fla., 5:35 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers vs. San Francisco at Scottsdale, Ariz., 7:05 p.m.

BASEBALLANDSOFTBALLROUNDUP

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Baseball

GREENWOOD 8 SWEETWATER 6

Kason Buffaloe went 4-for-4 to propel Greenwood to an 8-6 victory over Sweetwater in non-district action.

Sam Shaw was 2-for-3 with two RBI for the Rangers (4-3), while teammates Peyton Moore and Kesmond Andrews each contributed with two hits.

GREENWOOD 8, SWEETWATER 6							
Sweetwater	301	020	0	—6	11	0	
Greenwood	120	032	x	—8	13	0	

J. Olguin, J. Clift (4) and K. McCoy. Stacy Bell, Vance Martinez (6) and Martinez, Bell (6). W — Martinez. L — Olguin. 2B — Sweetwater: Olguin, Clift; Greenwood: Kason Buffaloe 2, Josh Rivas 3B — Greenwood: Sam Shaw.

Record: Greenwood 4-3

Next: Greenwood in Levelland Line-Drive Tournament, Thursday

Softball

LEE 12 LEVELLAND 6

Shelby Olivas, Abby Jordan, Sarah Welsh and Lani Marquez scored two runs apiece to lead Lee to a 12-6 win over Levelland on Tuesday at Gene Smith Field.

In seven innings, Lady Rebels pitcher Melanie Marin allowed one earned run, seven hits and one walk, while striking out four.

LEE 12, LEVELLAND 6							
Levelland	003	002	1	—6	7	3	
Lee	092	100	x	—12	9	4	

Cosarrubias and Dunn. Melanie Marin and Baylee Leonard. W — Marin. L — Cosarrubias. 2B — Levelland: Lopez; Lee: Tena Gonzales, Shelby Olivas, Kirklynd Newsom, Sarah Welsh.

Record: Lee 12-2

Next: Lee in Odessa Tournament, March 2-4

COLORADO CITY 6 GREENWOOD 3

Chloe Castillo went 3-for-4 with a double, two RBI and a run to lead Colorado City to a 6-3 win over Greenwood on Tuesday.

Mollie Snowden went 2-for-3 with a double and a run for GHS (4-5), while teammate Jaylene Valenzuela doubled and drove in a pair of runs.

COLORADO CITY 6, GREENWOOD 3							
Colorado	101	303	1	—6	13	2	
Greenwood	000	003	0	—3	5	2	

T. Pierce and C. Castillo. Kyndall Dove and Paysiee Sims. W — Pierce. L — Dove. 2B — Colorado City: T. Eppersen, Castillo; Greenwood: Mollie Snowden, Jaylene Valenzuela.

Record: Greenwood 4-5

Next: Greenwood in Seminole Tournament, Thursday-Saturday

PECOS 9

MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 4

PECOS — Midland Christian squandered a fine overall performance by Clarissa Martinez during a 9-4 non-district loss to Pecos on Tuesday.

Martinez went 3-for-3 with a double, two runs and a walk at the plate. In the circle, Martinez allowed three earned runs, walked none and struck out 14 Lady Eagles in six innings. Courtney Schiel had two RBI for MCS (3-10-2).

PECOS 9, MCS 4							
MCS	002	200	0	—4	5	3	
Pecos	000	030	x	—9	11	2	

Clarissa Martinez and Jayda Lucky-Paris. C. Rubio and Ch. Rubio. W — C. Rubio. L — Martinez. 2B — MCS: Martinez, Courtney Schiel; Pecos: L. Ortiz.

Record: MCS 3-10-2

Next: MCS in Seminole Tournament, Thursday-Saturday

LEESOCCERROUNDUP

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Girls

LEE PREVAILS AT TASCOSA

AMARILLO — In a matchup of fifth-place squads, the Lee girls soccer team picked up a crucial victory with a 1-0 win against Amarillo Tascosa in District 2-6A play on Tuesday night.

With 15 minutes remaining, Lee forward Jessy Luna scored the match's lone goal on an assist by Hadley Conner.

Lee (4-7-3) took sole possession of fifth place at 1-1-0-4 and 5 points, while Tascosa (6-9-1) fell to sixth at 0-0-1-5 and 2 points.

Jenna McEnaney had three saves for Lee.

Lee coach Mark Hinshaw said that even though Tascosa controlled possession, his defense was able to limit dangerous scoring opportunities. Hinshaw said Lee's counter attack was the difference in Luna's match-winning goal.

Lee faces Midland High at 5:30 p.m. Friday at Grande Communications Stadium.

Boys

TORRID 2ND HALF PROPELS LEE

AMARILLO — Lee scored five unanswered goals in the second half to rally to a 6-3 win over Amarillo Tascosa in District 2-6A action.

Trailing 3-1 at halftime, Lee stormed back behind two goals from Jaime Dominguez and one goal each from Esau Soto, Luis Aranda and Isael Ramirez.

"The first time our team really showed grit," Lee coach Dustin Payne said.

With the comeback victory, Lee (7-7-1) held its grasp of the second-place spot at 4-0-1-1 and 13 points.

Lee scored the first goal of the match, 10 minutes into the game, when Aranda scored on an assist from Dominguez.

But Tascosa charged back with three first-half goals before Lee's second-half heroics, which included two assists from Ramirez and one assist each from Diego Montez, Dominguez and Tristan Pacheco.

Lee meets first-place Midland High at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Grande Communications Stadium.

MHS Boys

From 1C

"It was good to get two goals in two games, I just hope to keep going."

Reese added that one more goal would have been nice to add some cushion.

"Our defense was playing good but I would have like to have had another one for insurance," he said.

That goal proved to be just enough as the MHS defense, led by goalkeeper Pedro Cereceres, turned away Permian threats.

District 2-6A boys soccer standings

Team	W	PW	L	PL	Pts
Midland High (8-5-1)	4	2	0	0	16
Lee (7-7-1)	4	0	1	1	13
Odessa High (7-6-3)	3	1	1	1	12
Odessa Permian (3-10-3)	1	1	1	3	6
Amarillo Tascosa (9-4-2)	1	1	0	4	5
Wolfforth Frenship (7-7-3)	0	0	2	4	2

W-3 points; PW - 2 points. PL - 1 point

All matches begin at 7:30 p.m unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday's Scores

Midland High 1, Odessa Permian 0; Lee 6, Amarillo Tascosa 3; Odessa High 3, Wolfforth Frenship 0

Friday's Matches

Lee vs. Midland High; Odessa Permian at Wolfforth Frenship

"They kept attacking us and we just picked it up a little bit in the second half," Cereceres said. "I'm proud of our boys. We just need to work hard in practice and we'll be good for the rest of the season.

"Every game from here on out is going to be a battle. I just hope we keep on winning."

The Bulldogs have done just that in district action and look to keep the momentum going against rival Lee at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

After a tough match with Permian, the Bulldogs feel ready.

"It's a really good day when you don't play very well and come out with the win," Cottle said. "It shows the character of your team and the ability to come out and fight. With a young team, we're going to make some mistakes along the way. I think the guys have figured it out, I think they learned their lesson, and now we're good to go."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

MHS Girls

From 1C

District 2-6A girls soccer standings

Team	W	PW	L	PL	Pts
Wolfforth Frenship (14-3)	6	0	0	0	18
Midland High (12-2)	4	0	0	2	12
Odessa High (13-4-2)	3	0	0	3	9
Odessa Permian (9-7)	3	0	0	3	9
Lee (4-7-2)	1	1	0	4	5
Amarillo Tascosa (8-9-1)	0	0	1	5	2

W-3 points; PW - 2 points; PL - 1 point

All matches begin at 5:30 p.m unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday's Scores

Midland High 2, Odessa Permian 1; Lee 1, Amarillo Tascosa 0; Wolfforth Frenship 4, Odessa High 1

Friday's Matches

Lee vs. Midland High; Odessa Permian at Wolfforth Frenship

Permian fell to 8-7 overall and 3-0-0-3, 9 points in district.

The Lady Panthers struck early when Courtney Journeay took a pass from Tobi McCoy and then broke away from her defender to score less than eight minutes into the contest.

MHS had a few opportunities to score in the first half — like a shot that bounced off the right post — but couldn't finish as Permian took a lead at the break.

"It makes us believe in ourselves again and it makes us believe that we do have what it takes to be district champs. We just need God and the stars above to fall in alignment and let us have the awesome season that we want."

Claudia Fricker, Lee soccer player

The Lady Bulldogs finally broke through 10 minutes into the second half when Reagan Rivas scored on a beautiful header off a corner kick by Claudia Fricker.

"I get pretty nervous over there in the corner but luckily I played a good ball in," Fricker said. "I was trying to drive it between the goalie and the sticks and Reagan Rivas came out of nowhere and finished the ball. It was awesome."

Less than eight minutes later, Fricker gave MHS the lead with a penalty kick goal that was set up when Kylie VonHolle was tripped from behind inside the box.

"We just broke down the defense pass after pass," said Fricker about the difference in the second half. "We realized that we can't play kick ball with this defense because Permian puts everybody back. We have to play with the ball, manipulate the spaces, and luckily we got some passes into the defense. Kylie broke it down. That's how we won the corner, that's how we won the penalty shot."

The rest was left up to the MHS defense, which did a nice job of recovering after the early goal.

"The defense played great, very well organized," Barham said. "We had a simple mistake at the very beginning, but I'm proud of them and the way they responded. They didn't get their heads down. They stayed focused, they stayed organized and they were able to stay strong through the rest of the game."

MHS next plays rival Lee at 5:30 p.m. Friday but this win is a big boost to start the second half of district play for the Lady Bulldogs.

"It gives us momentum going forward," Fricker said. "It makes us believe in ourselves again and it makes us believe that we do have what it takes to be district champs. We just need God and the stars above to fall in alignment and let us have the awesome season that we want."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

NHL GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	64	35	21	8	78	177	163
Ottawa	61	33	22	6	72	161	162
Boston	63	33	24	6	72	176	166
Toronto	61	28	20	13	69	189	182
Florida	62	29	23	10	68	158	174
Tampa Bay	61	28	25	8	64	171	171
Buffalo	63	26	26	11	63	156	181
Detroit	60	24	26	10	58	150	178

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	62	42	13	7	91	207	134
Columbus	61	39	16	6	84	199	146
Pittsburgh	61	38	15	8	84	213	171
N.Y. Rangers	63	40	21	2	82	207	168
N.Y. Islanders	61	29	22	10	68	180	182
Philadelphia	62	29	26	7	65	161	187
New Jersey	62	25	25	12	62	145	180
Carolina	59	25	25	9	59	148	171

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	61	41	14	6	88	209	147
Chicago	62	39	18	5	83	187	159
Nashville	63	32	22	9	73	188	177
St. Louis	62	31	26	5	67	173	179
Winnipeg	64	28	30	6	62	189	205
Dallas	63	25	28	10	60	176	203
Colorado	61	17	41	3	37	121	203

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	61	36	18	7	79	170	145
Edmonton	64	34	22	8	76	183	167
Anaheim	63	32	21	10	74	162	161
Calgary	63	33	26	4	70	189	177
Los Angeles	62	30	27	5	65	154	156
Vancouver	61	26	29	6	58	143	176
Arizona	62	22	33	7	51	149	200

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Scores and schedule

Tuesday's Scores

Boston 4, Arizona 1
Philadelphia 4, Colorado 0
Nashville 5, Buffalo 4, OT
Washington 4, N.Y. Rangers 1
Montreal 1, Columbus 0, OT
Florida 3, Carolina 2, SO
Edmonton 2, St. Louis 1
Minnesota 6, Winnipeg 5
Dallas 3, Pittsburgh 2
Los Angeles at Calgary, late
Detroit at Vancouver, late
Toronto at San Jose, late

Today's Games

Carolina at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Chicago, 7 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Arizona at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at Columbus, 6 p.m.
Florida at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Boston, 6 p.m.
New Jersey at Washington, 6 p.m.
Nashville at Montreal, 6:30 p.m.
Colorado at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.
Toronto at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION

UPCOMING EVENTS

3/9 6:30-8:30 Microchipping at Beer Garden's Yappy Hour
3/11 9:00-12:00 Shot & Microchip Clinic (location TBD)
3/13 6:00-8:00 Volunteer Orientation at MHC's Adoption Center

We NEED your feedback in order to start a TNR
Trap-Neuter-Return Program for Midland's stray cats.
TO TAKE THE SURVEY PLEASE VISIT "TNR-CAT PROGRAM"
IN THE "EDUCATE/CONNECT" SECTION OF OUR WEBSITE
WWW.MIDLANDHUMANE.ORG

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Comet is a 3 year old orange tabby. He was adopted from us as a kitten, but was recently brought back when his owners moved. He is a handsome boy who seems fairly laid back.

Trocha-Morelos leads Texas A&M past Missouri, 60-43

By Jade Washburn
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Texas A&M coach Billy Kennedy was proud of his team's defensive effort Tuesday, but was also the first to admit that poor shooting accounted for some of it.

Tonny Trocha-Morelos scored 18 points on 6-for-9 shooting, helping Texas A&M defeat Missouri 60-43.

The Tigers had their worst offensive game of the season, shooting 24.6 percent from the field and connecting on just 5 of 27 field goal attempts in the first half.

"Our defense was good, but Missouri didn't have a good shooting night either," Kennedy said. "It's always good to get a road win. I thought our size and our guys sharing the ball and making shots was critical for us."

Missouri (7-22, 2-15 Southeastern Conference) took a 7-6 lead in a slow-paced, low-scoring first half, but Texas A&M answered with a 9-0 run and never trailed again, eventually leading by as many as 20.

"We were fortunate when we came in here and we started making some shots," Kennedy said. "That gave us confidence and I thought it just made it hard for (Missouri) to fight through the adversity."

Terrence Phillips led the way for the Tigers with 15 points, but for only the second time this season, did not record an assist, despite averaging a conference-best 4.8 assists per game.

Kevin Puryear scored eight points, and Frankie Hughes added eight points and a team-high six rebounds.

"It's just one of those days," Puryear said. "It's not really one of those things that you predict. I thought we had a great warm-up, great preparation coming into today, two great practices coming into today, and got out there and didn't play bad defense honestly, just couldn't make the shots."

Texas A&M (16-13, 8-9) controlled the paint from its first basket, a layup by Tyler Davis with 17:30 remaining in the first half, and led 28-18 by halftime. The Aggies outscored Missouri 22-6 in the paint and outrebounded them 44-31.

"I would be remised if I didn't say that that probably set the game of basketball back a long time," Missouri coach Kim Anderson said. "The big guys changed the game inside for us. We couldn't make shots around the basket, outside the basket ... it was certainly a disappointing performance."

Davis entered the game as the Aggies' leading scorer, averaging 14.3 points per game, but took a back seat to Trocha-Morelos' hot shooting, scoring eight points to go with 11 rebounds.

JC Hampton scored 13 points for the Aggies and Admon Gilder added nine points and three assists despite shooting 3-for-10 from the field, including 1-for-7 from 3-point range.

Big picture

Texas A&M: This victory gives the Aggies back-to-back conference wins for just the third time this season, having beaten Alabama 56-53 on Saturday in College Station.

Missouri: The Tigers' 18 first-half points are the fewest they've scored in a half this season. Missouri has lost six consecutive games to Texas A&M, and is currently on a five-game conference losing streak.

Senior night

One of the youngest programs in the nation, Missouri honored its two seniors Tuesday night during pregame ceremonies. Forward Russell Woods struggled to deal with the Aggies' size, scoring two points while hauling in four rebounds. He averages 7.1 points per game and 4.6 rebounds per game on the season. Walk-on guard Tervor Glassman was also honored and made his first start of the season, recording a steal in the opening minutes of the game.

"It's tough, but I'm not just thinking about myself. I'm thinking about my team," Woods said of losing on senior night. "My last two years I would describe as 'great.' We lost some games, but I don't regret anything."

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Grady basketball players, coaches and cheerleaders celebrate a win against Sierra Blanca in the 1A regional quarterfinal game Tuesday at Jerry Larned Sports Complex in Monahans.

Wall edges Crane

From staff reports

BIG SPRING — Wall outlasted Crane, 41-38, in a competitive Class 3A regional quarterfinal playoff at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on Tuesday.

The Hawks (26-6) advanced to Friday's Class 3A regional semifinal at Chaparral Center and will face Brock at 6 p.m.

Crane's Carlos Montes led all scorers with 18 points.

WALL 41, CRANE 38

Wall (26-6) — Brandon Duran 3, Ryan Walling 11, Sherlyn Hartman 4, Dobie Dorsey, Hunter Sanders

Crane (24-3) — Ivan Estanza 8, Carlos Lamadrid 7, Anthony Manriquez 4, Carlos Montes 18

Wall	10	9	14	8	—41
Crane	4	13	12	9	—38

Three throws — Crane — Wall 1/4 — point goals — Crane 4 (Lamadrid 2, Montes 2); Wall 5 (Duran, Walling, Hartman, Dorsey, Carlos Trujillo) — Crane 13; Wall 16 — fouled out — None — Next: Wall vs. Brock (Class 3A regional semifinal, 6 p.m. Friday at Chaparral Center)

GRADY

From 1C

simply didn't have many opportunities to score and entered the break trailing, 37-22.

Sierra Blanca shot a paltry 36.8 percent in the first half, but those struggles were compounded by Grady's clear physical advantage on the boards. The Wildcats pulled down rebound after rebound and rarely allowed the Vaqueros a second-chance opportunity.

That defensive toughness sparked Grady in transition, as the Wildcats raced down the court for easy finishes.

"We take tremendous pride in that," Rodriguez said. "Coach (Short) always makes us do closing out, blocking out, rebounding and all these drills to help us do that. We take tremendous pride in it because we know if we don't block out or rebound, then we aren't going to score as many points."

Short was quick to praise his coaching staff's defensive preparation for Tuesday's game.

"I give all the credit to (Grady assistant coach Brent) Lucas, who works hard defensively scouting and breaking down film," Short said. "(Sierra Blanca) has good shooters if they're able to squat down and shoot the ball. But we were fortunate enough that we were able to cover out on them and we did a great job."

In the third quarter, Jaylen Short placed his stamp on the contest by pouring in 16 of the team's 24 points and the Wildcats' 15-point halftime lead ballooned to 32.

For the game, Grady shot 55.9 percent (33-for-59), including 14-for-30 from 3-point range.

Follow Will on Twitter @Will_MRT

GRADY 82, SIERRA BLANCA 37

Sierra Blanca (17-11) — Lorenzo 6, Jacob 2, Anthony 2, Gabriel 8, Giovanni 11, Jeremy 10, Grady 2? 4 — Devonn Smith 5, Charles Cassell 3, Jayden Short 32, Marshall Cox 12, Eden Trejo 14, Jordan Rodriguez 12, Luke Stover 6

Sierra Blanca	9	13	7	8	—37
Grady	25	12	24	21	—82

Three throws — Sierra Blanca 7-7 Grady 2-4 — 3-point goals — Sierra Blanca 2 (Jeremy 2); Grady 14 (Smith, Cassell, Short 6, Trejo 4, Rodriguez 2) — Total fouls — Sierra Blanca 8; Grady 8; Fouled out — None

Next: Grady vs. Eula in Class 1A Region I semifinal, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Abilene Christian University

NBA ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

GRIZZLIES 130
SUNS 112

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Mike Conley scored 29 points and Marc Gasol added 28 while making all five of his 3-point shots to lead the Memphis Grizzlies past the Phoenix Suns, 130-112 on Tuesday night.

Zach Randolph finished with 23 points and eight rebounds, while Tony Allen had 11 points as Memphis shot 56 percent, including 12 of 25 from outside the arc. The 130 points were a season high for Memphis, which won its second straight.

Conley was 10 of 19 from the field. Gasol shot 10 of 16 and Randolph was 10 of 15 as Memphis shot a season-best percentage from the field.

Eric Bledsoe had 20 points for the Suns, while TJ Warren finished with 17 and Alex Len had 12. Devin Booker, the Suns' second-leading scorer at 21.1 points a game, was limited to nine points on 3 of 11 from the floor.

NUGGETS 125
BULLS 107

CHICAGO — Nikola Jokic had 19 points, 16 rebounds and 10 assists for his third triple-double of the season, and the Denver Nuggets rode a second-half surge to a 125-107 victory over the Chicago Bulls on Tuesday night.

Danilo Gallinari scored 22 points and Wilson Chandler added 20 as Denver, which entered the game fourth in the NBA in scoring (110.6 points per game), posted a 70-48 advantage in the second half to erase a halftime deficit.

Gary Harris and Will Barton had 15 points apiece for the Nuggets.

Dwyane Wade and Rajon Rondo had 19 points apiece for Chicago, which had its four-game winning streak snapped. Jimmy Butler finished with just eight points on 3-for-13 shooting.

WARRIORS 112
WIZARDS 108

WASHINGTON — Even after Kevin Durant injured his left knee and departed only 93 seconds in, and even after Golden State trailed by as many as 19 points, and even after Stephen Curry's drought from behind the arc stretched to 14 attempts over two games, the NBA-best Warriors had a pretty good chance to take the lead late.

That's because Curry caught the Washington Wizards trying to made a defensive switch, so he let fly on a potential go-ahead 3-pointer from 31 feet away with less than 10 seconds left Tuesday night and the Warriors trailing by two.

"A shot I normally make, so I was confident," Curry said. "You live for those moments. You live with the result."

He missed.

Markieff Morris grabbed the rebound, then made a pair of free throws with 3.7 seconds remaining, capping his 22-point night and clinching Washington's 112-108 victory despite Curry's 25 points.

THUNDER 109
JAZZ 106

OKLAHOMA CITY — Russell Westbrook scored 12 of his 43 points in the final 2:05 to help the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the Utah Jazz 109-106 on Tuesday night.

Westbrook also had 11 rebounds and 10 assists for his 30th triple-double of the season and 67th of his career. It was his fourth straight triple-double and the team's fourth consecutive win.

Doug McDermott scored 15 points and Enes Kanter added 15 points and nine rebounds for the Thunder, who trimmed Utah's Central Division lead to two games.

Westbrook also had 11 fouled on a transition layup with 15.5 seconds to play. He completed the three-point play to give the Thunder a 108-106 lead. After Jeremi Grant hit one of two free throws with a second left, Gordon Hayward missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer that could have forced overtime.

He led the Jazz with 19 points.

PISTONS 120
TRAIL BLAZERS 113

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Marcus Morris scored a career-high 37 points, including Detroit's first seven in overtime, and the Pistons rallied from a 13-point, third-quarter deficit to beat the Portland Trail Blazers 120-113 on Tuesday night.

Ish Smith had 12 points, seven assists and seven steals for the Pistons. The backup point guard was scoreless heading into the fourth quarter but gave Detroit a huge lift down the stretch.

Damian Lillard had 34 points and 11 rebounds for Portland while falling an assist shy of his first triple-double. He had only one assist after the start of the fourth, however, and the Trail Blazers were eventually done in by their inability to take care of the ball.

HS BASKETBALL PLAYOFF PAIRINGS

Boys

Region I
Class 6A
Bi-district

North Crowley (26-6, W4) 84, Abilene High (13-18, F3) 35
Wolfforth Frenship (21-10, T2) 49, El Paso El Dorado 41 (21-8 R1)
Keller (28-2, W3) 60, Mansfield (17-16, F4) 44
Odessa Permian (R2, 22-11) 54, El Paso Coronado (20-10, T1) 42
Killeen Shoemaker (26-6, W8) 75, South Grand Prairie (22-10 F7) 57
McKinney (21-12, F6) 54, Flower Mound (20-12, T6) 47
Cedar Hill (29-4, W7) 81, Copperas Cove (18-16, F8) 55
Allen (27-6, R6) 63, Lewisville (21-11, T5) 36
Amarillo Tascosa (22-5, W2) 72, El Paso Pebble Hills (17-14 F1) 67
Arlington Bowie (24-9, T4) 76, Keller Fossil Ridge (15-16, R3) 38
El Paso Americas (32-2, W1) 71, Midland High (12-19, F2) 47
Arlington Martin (22-9, R4) 78, Keller Timber Creek (12-13, T3) 43
Euless Trinity (17-12, F5) 92, Denton Guyer (25-6, W6) 91
Duncanville (R7) 55, vs. Waco Midway (26-7, T8) 53
Plano West (21-12, T6) 61, Hebron (23-7, W5) 58
Ellison (2F-7, R8) 53, DeSoto (22-10, T7) 41

Area

North Crowley (27-6, W4) 70, Wolfforth Frenship (21-11, T2) 58
Keller (29-2, W3) 63, Odessa Permian (22-12, R2) 49
Killeen Shoemaker (27-6, W8) 73, McKinney (22-13, F6) 57
Allen (28-6, R6) 78, Cedar Hill (29-5, W7) 70
Arlington Bowie (26-10, T4) 73, Amarillo Tascosa (22-6, W2) 60
El Paso Americas (33-2, W1) 45, Arlington Martin (25-10, R4) 37
Duncanville (26-7, R7) 87, Euless Trinity (18-13, F5) 86
Ellison (27-7, R8) 53, Plano West (21-13, T6) 40

Regional quarterfinals

Keller High (30-2, W3) 66, North Crowley 51
Allen (29-6, R6) 69, Killen Shoemaker 58
Arlington Bowie (22-12, T4) 48, El Paso Americas 42
Killeen Ellison (28-7, R8) 63, Duncanville 56

Class 4A
Bi-district

Monahans (19-11, W4) 78, Clint Mountain View (1-26, F3) 38
Perryton (R1) 57, Levelland (23-9, T2) 56
Clint (18-10, W3) 63, Greenwood (11-20, F4) 48
Lubbock Estacado (21-10, R2) 79, Borger (9-13, T1) 59
Midlothian Heritage (26-5, W6) 71, Lake Worth (14-19, F7) 39
Graham (17-7, T6) 62, Brownwood (18-14, R5) 49
Kennedale (23-10, W7) 54, Glen Rose (13-19, F8) 42
Burkburnett (25-7, R6) 68, Big Spring (5-24, F5) 32
Seminole (21-11, W2) 58, Pampa (11-13, F1) 30
Fort Stockton (13-19, T4) 73, Febens (10-17, R3) 46
Lamesa (26-4, F2) 62, Bushland (15-12, W1) 55
Andrews (15-16, R4) 62, San Elizario (3-26, T3) 39
Wichita Falls Hirschi (19-7, W8) 57, Sweetwater (F5) 25
Mineral Wells (22-6, R7) 72, Stephenville (9-19, T8) 58
Abilene Wylie (28-5, W5) 78, Iowa Park (3-15, F6) 43
Life Waxahachie (27-8, R8) 84, Castleberry (18-16, T7) 47

Area

Perryton (20-8, R1) 52, Monahans (20-11, W4) 47
Lubbock Estacado (22-10, R2) 100, Clint (18-11, W3) 48
Midlothian Heritage (29-5, W6) vs. Graham (20-9, T6) late
Kennedale (25-10, W7) 90, Burkburnett (25-7, R6) 85
Seminole (22-11, W2) 73, Fort Stockton (13-20, T4) 48
Lamesa (28-6, F2) 83, Andrews (15-17, R4) 55
Wichita Falls Hirschi (20-8, W8) 51, Mineral Wells (22-7, R7) 49
Life Waxahachie (28-8, R8) 54, Abilene Wylie (28-6, W5) 47

Regional quarterfinals

Lubbock Estacado (23-10, R2) 78, Perryton 71
Midlothian Heritage (W6) 63, Kennedale 56
Seminole (22-11, W2) 58, Lamesa 41
Waxahachie Life (R8) 42, Wichita Falls Hirschi 24

Class 3A
Bi-district

Wall (23-6, W4) 72, Kermit (8-20, F3) 27
Childress (22-3, R1) 68, Dimmitt (17-14, T2) 46
Crane (24-2, W3) 57, Reagan County (16-14, F4) 52
Shallowater (20-6, R2) 60, Amarillo River Road (T1) 37
Bowie (15-8, W8) 63, Tolar (8-18, F7) 51
Brady (12-13, T6) 46, Stanton (26-10, R5) 33
Brock (25-6, W7) 73, Wichita Falls City View (15-15, F8) 56
Colorado City (19-10, T5) 78, Coleman (14-9, R6) 65
Littlefield (25-6, W2) 47, Tulia (7-13, F1) 31
Ballinger (17-14, T4) 53, Tornillo (15-18, R3) 48
Canadian (19-2, W1) 68, Muleshoe (16-14, F2) 40
Presidio (13-12, T3) 68, San Angelo TLCA 54
Dublin (26-4, W6) 73, Merkel (18-11, F5) 70
Pecos (18-5, R7) 61, Holliday (21-11, T8) 46
Tuscola Jim Ned (22-11, W5) 45, Comanche (10-17, F6) 34
Nocona (24-9, R8) 57, Cisco (18-13, T7) 43

Area

Wall (24-6, W4) 65, Childress (22-4, R1) 54
Crane (24-2, W3) 50, Shallowater (20-7, R2) 45
Bowie (24-10, W8) 78, Brady (13-14, T6) 47
Brock (26-6, W7) 68, Colorado City 34
Littlefield (26-6, W2) 69, Ballinger (17-15, T4) 57
Canadian (19-2, W1) 76, Presidio (16-12, T3) 56
Pecos (22-4, R7) 72, Dublin (25-9, W6) 60
Nocona (25-9, R8) 55, Tuscola Jim Ned 43

Regional quarterfinals

Wall (26-6, W4) 41, Crane 38
Brock (27-6, W7) 58, Bowie 55
Canadian (W1) 62, Littlefield 47
Nocona (R8) 64, Pecaster 40

Class 2A
Bi-district

New Deal (29-2, W4) 65, Bovina (14-14, F3) 59
Stratford (22-4, R1) 50, Memphis (T2) 42
Lockney (22-7, W3) 57, Floydada 36
Wheeler (R2) 68, Sanford-Fritch (T1) 61
Albany (22-4, W8) 75, Miles (10-16, F7) 35
Smyer (R5) 73, Wink (9-14, T6) 60
Haskell (14-13, F8) 50, Forsan (25-6, W7) 47
Seagraves (T5) 55, Van Horn (19-11, R6) 48
Clarendon (16-2, W2) 56, Vega (15-16, F1) 48
Farwell (24-5, R3) 72, Post (17-7, T4) 49
Panhandle (P2) 66, West Texas (W1) 60
Abernathy (14-8, R4) 49, Riton (16-9, T3) 31
Anthony (26-4, W6) 93, Morton (8-14, F5) 57
Christoval (26-5, R7) 50, Hawley (26-11, T8) 38
Sundown (W5) 52, McCamey (17-22, F4) 36
Stamford (20-11, R8) 61, Iraan County (T7) 58

Area

New Deal (30-2, W4) 76, Stratford (22-5, R1) 72
Lockney (23-7, W3) 70, Wheeler (T2) 60
Albany (23-4, W8) 55, Smyer (R5) 52
Seagraves (T5) 45, Haskell (15-14, F8) 36
Clarendon (27-2, W2) 46, Farwell (24-6, R3) 36
Panhandle (19-13, P2) 61, Abernathy (14-9, R4) 59
Anthony (26-4, W6) 56, Christoval (26-6, R7) 35
Stamford (21-11, R8) 51, Sundown (W5) 49

Regional quarterfinals

New Deal (W4) 76, Lockney (W3) 52
Albany (W8) 56, Seagraves 37
Clarendon (W2) 61, Panhandle 44
Anthony (W6) 71, Stamford 52

Class 1A
Region II
Bi-district

Borden County (W12, bye)
Grandfalls-Royalty (T10) 42, Balmorhea (R9) 35
Buena Vista (W12, bye)
Dawson (R11) 64, Iraan (T12) 63
Richland Springs (W16, bye)
Water Valley (T14) 56, Rule (T15) 31
Garden City (16-7, W13, bye)
May (R15) 83, Cherokee (T16) 28
Grady (19-4, W11, bye)
Rankin (R10) 64, Del City 47
Sierra Blanca (W9, bye)
Sands (T11) 37, Hermleigh 34
Eula (23-6, W15, bye)
Bronte (R14) 63, Leuders-Avoca (T13) 47
Roby (W13, bye)
Cross Plains (T15) 40, Menard (R16) 32

Area

Borden County (W12) 75, Grandfalls-Royalty (T10) 40
Buena Vista (W10) 63, Dawson (R11) 54
Richland Springs (W16) 48, Water Valley (T14) 45
May (R15) 65, Garden City (16-8, W14) 44
Grady (20-4, W11) 66, Rankin (15-14, R10) 57
Sierra Blanca (W9) 61, Sands (T11) 53
Eula (23-6, W15) 49, Bronte (R14) 12
Cross Plains (T15) 45, Roby (W13) 32

Regional quarterfinals

Borden County (W12) 75, Buena Vista 63
May (R15) 44, Richland Springs 33
Grady (21-4, W11) 82, Sierra Blanca (W9) 37
Eula (24-6, W15) 53, Cross Plains 38

COLLEGE BASKETBALL GLANCE

Men

TUESDAY'S SCORES
SOUTH

Barton 54, Mount Olive 68
Davidson 68, St. Bonaventure 63
Duke 75, Florida St. 70
Limestone 68, Lees-McRae 56
South Carolina 63, Mississippi St. 57
MIDWEST
Ball St. 82, Toledo 74
Buffalo 83, Ohio 79
Creighton 82, St. John's 69
E. Michigan 71, Kent 70, Michigan 81
Indiana-East 78, Indiana-Southeast 69
Kent St. 74, Bowling Green 67
Miami (Ohio) 79, Akron 75
Purdue 88, Indiana 75
Texas A&M 60, Missouri 43
W. Michigan 70, N. Illinois 56
EAST
Maryland 79, Rutgers 59
Ohio St. 71, Penn St. 70
Seton Hall 62, Georgetown 59

Top 25 fared Tuesday

1. Kansas (27-3) did not play. Next: at Oklahoma State, Saturday.
2. Villanova (27-3) did not play. Next: at Georgetown, Saturday.
3. UCLA (26-3) did not play. Next: vs. Washington, Wednesday.
4. Gonzaga (29-1) did not play. Next: vs. Pacific or Pepperdine, Saturday.
5. North Carolina (25-6) did not play. Next: vs. No. 17 Duke, Saturday.
6. Oregon (26-4) did not play. Next: at Oregon State, Saturday.
7. Arizona (26-4) did not play. Next: at Arizona State, Saturday.
8. Louisville (23-6) did not play. Next: at Wake Forest, Wednesday.
9. Kentucky (25-5) beat Vanderbilt 73-67. Next: at Texas A&M, Saturday.
10. West Virginia (23-7) did not play. Next: vs. No 24 Iowa State, Friday.
11. Baylor (24-6) did not play. Next: at Texas, Saturday.
12. Florida (23-6) did not play. Next: vs. Arkansas, Wednesday.
13. Butler (23-6) did not play. Next: vs. Seton Hall, Saturday.
14. SMU (25-4) did not play. Next: vs. Tulsa, Thursday.
15. Florida State (23-7) lost to No. 17 Duke 75-70. Next: vs. No. 25 Miami, Saturday.
16. Purdue (24-6) beat Indiana 86-75. Next: at Northwestern, Sunday.
17. Duke (23-7) beat No. 15 Florida State 75-70. Next: at No. 5 North Carolina, Saturday.
18. Cincinnati (25-4) did not play. Next: vs. Houston, Thursday.
19. Notre Dame (22-7) did not play. Next: vs. Boston College, Wednesday.
20. Saint Mary's (26-3) did not play. Next: vs. Portland or San Diego, Saturday.
21. Wichita State (27-4) did not play. Next: vs. Bradley or Drake, Friday.
22. Wisconsin (22-7) did not play. Next: vs Iowa, Thursday.
23. Virginia (20-9) did not play. Next: vs Pittsburgh, Saturday.
24. Iowa State (20-9) beat Oklahoma State 86-83. Next: at No. 10 West Virginia, Friday.
25. Miami (20-9) did not play. Next: at No. 15 Florida State, Saturday.

Women

TUESDAY'S SCORES
FAR WEST

San Diego St. 64, Air Force 51
Utah St. 58, UNLV 49
Wyoming 56, Colorado St. 49

Top 25 fared Tuesday

1. UConn (29-0) beat South Florida 96-66. Next: vs. Memphis or Tulsa, Saturday.
2. Baylor (28-2) beat No. 19 Oklahoma 103-64. Next: vs. Texas Tech or TCU, Saturday.
3. Notre Dame (27-3) did not play. Next: vs Virginia or Wake Forest, Friday.
4. Maryland (27-2) did not play. Next: vs. Penn State or Minnesota, Friday.
5. South Carolina (24-4) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia or Auburn, Friday.
6. Mississippi State (27-3) did not play. Next: vs. LSU or Mississippi, Friday.
7. Oregon State (27-3) did not play. Next: vs. California or Southern Cal, Friday.
8. Florida State (25-5) did not play. Next: ACC quarterfinals, Friday.
9. Ohio State (25-5) did not play. Next: vs. Iowa or Northwestern, Friday.
10. Stanford (25-5) did not play. Next: vs Washington State or Colorado, Friday.
11. Washington (27-4) did not play. Next: vs Oregon or Arizona, Friday.
12. Texas (22-7) beat No. 24 Kansas State 69-61. Next: vs. Oklahoma State or Kansas, Saturday.
13. Duke (25-4) did not play. Next: ACC quarterfinals, Friday.
14. Louisville (25-6) did not play. Next: vs Virginia Tech or Clemson, Thursday.
15. UCLA (22-7) did not play. Next: vs. Arizona State or Utah, Friday.
16. Miami (21-7) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Tech or Boston College, Thursday.
17. N.C. State (22-7) did not play. Next: ACC quarterfinals, Friday.
18. DePaul (24-6) did not play. Next: vs. Seton Hall or Providence, Sunday.
19. Oklahoma (22-8) lost to No. 2 Baylor 103-64. Next: vs. West Virginia, Saturday.
20. Kentucky (20-9) did not play. Next: SEC quarterfinals, Friday.
21. Syracuse (20-9) did not play. Next: vs. Pittsburgh or North Carolina, Thursday.
22. Drake (23-4) did not play. Next: MVC quarterfinals, Friday.
23. Missouri (21-9) did not play. Next: SEC quarterfinals, Friday.
24. Kansas State (21-9) lost to No. 12 Texas 69-61. Next: vs. Iowa State, Saturday.
25. Temple (23-6) beat UCF 66-60. Next: vs. Cincinnati or Houston, Saturday. Utah

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	39	22	.639	—
Toronto	36	24	.600	2
New York	24	36	.400	14
Philadelphia	22	37	.373	15½
Brooklyn	9	49	.155	28

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	35	23	.603	—
Atlanta	33	26	.559	2½
Miami	27	33	.450	9
Charlotte	25	34	.424	10½
Orlando	22	38	.367	14

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	41	17	.707	—
Indiana	31	29	.517	11
Chicago	30	30	.500	12
Detroit	29	31	.483	13
Milwaukee	26	32	.448	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	45	13	.776	—
Houston	42	19	.689	4½
Memphis	36	25	.590	10½
Dallas	24	35	.407	21½
New Orleans	23	37	.383	23

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	37	23	.617	—
Oklahoma City	35	25	.583	2
Denver	27	33	.450	10
Portland	24	35	.407	12½
Minnesota	14	46	.233	23

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Golden State	50	10	.833	—
L.A. Clippers	42	18	.700	8½
Sacramento	25	35	.417	25
L.A. Lakers	19	41	.317	31
Phoenix	18	42	.300	32

x-clinched playoff spot

Scores and schedule

Tuesday's Scores

Washington 112, Golden State 108
Detroit 120, Portland 113, OT
Denver 125, Chicago 107
Memphis 130, Phoenix 112
Oklahoma City 109, Utah 106
Charlotte at L.A. Lakers, late

Today's Games

New York at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Dallas at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Miami, 6:30 p.m.
Washington at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Boston, 7 p.m.
Denver at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Detroit at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Indiana at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Utah, 8 p.m.
Brooklyn at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.
Houston at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

Pitchless intentional walks could start this week

By Chuck King
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Pitchless intentional walks could start in spring training games this week.

Baseball commissioner Rob Manfred said the change, which the players' association has said it will agree to for 2017, is among the rule changes that have been distributed to teams. Planned modifications to video review rules for this season include a 30-second time limit for managers to request a review, and a two-minute limit for the review umpire in New York to make a decision — unless a supervisor in the replay room gives permission for the umpire to take longer.

Under the change to the intentional walk rule, a team can signal for an intentional walk without pitches being thrown. Manfred said Major League Baseball staff has been going over the changes with teams, and the new intentional walk rule probably will go into effect this week.

"As soon as we're done with the clubs, we'll start implementing the pitchless intentional walk," Manfred said Tuesday before the opening game of the new spring training ballpark of Houston and Washington.

"We need to give them a chance to at least look at the rules before we move ahead and implement it on the field."

Wanting to speed the pace of play, management also discussed raising the lower edge of the strike zone from just beneath the kneecap to its pre-1996 level the top of the kneecap, the installation of pitch clocks and limits on trips to the pitcher's mound.

The players' union said it will not agree to changes in those areas this year. Under baseball's labor contract, management can make unilateral changes to playing rules only with one year advance notice.

"The intentional walk with no pitches was a small change in a much larger package," Manfred said. "We don't think that particular change — we know how the math works — is going to have a momentous impact on the game. By the same token, every little change that makes the game faster I personally believe is a good thing for the game over the long haul."

Manfred said talks will continue with union head Tony Clark and players.

"I think what I'd like to do is have our dialogue with the players privately," Manfred said.

PETERSON

From 1C

releasing wide receiver Victor Cruz and running back Rashad Jennings to make space under the salary cap. Before the 2014 season, an ESPN profile on Dallas owner Jerry Jones revealed a casual phone conversation between Peterson and Jones during which the running back expressed his desire to one day play for the Cowboys team he grew up rooting for in East Texas.

Peterson, who turns 32 in three weeks, is coming off a meniscus tear in his right knee that limited him to 72 yards on 37 carries over parts of three games in 2016. He suited up only once in 2014 because of the child abuse case he was involved in. Even with the league-leading 1,485 yards he rushed for in 2015 and factoring in his receiving totals, Peterson has cost the Vikings about $18,000 per yard over the last three years. He also has limited passing-game skills that the majority of standout running backs in the league possess, with little experience running out of the shotgun or pistol formations that most teams favor in the current pass-heavy NFL.

In another sobering reminder of the short shelf life for players at this position, Kansas City also released 30-year-old and four-time Pro Bowl running back Jamaal Charles on Tuesday. Charles is eighth on the active career rushing list; Peterson is second behind Frank Gore.

Since recovering from ACL reconstruction on his left knee to rush for 2,097 yards in 2012 and win the NFL MVP award, Peterson has expressed particular defiance toward the evidence that running backs wear down by age 30. He has long said he believes he can play deep into his 30s.

The Vikings, though, have dire needs on the offensive line to address. This class of running backs in the upcoming draft also is considered one of the deepest in years, a point that Spielman made without prompting in his interview last week.

The betting books in Las Vegas didn't miss an opportunity to set the market. Bovada pegged Peterson's return to the Vikings at 5-to-1 odds, trailing only the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (3 to 1). The Giants and Chiefs were also set at 5 to 1.

Manziel tries to reassure judge after missing court deadline

By Schulyer Dixon
Associated Press

Associated Press

Johnny Manziel, center, and defense attorney Jim Darnell, left, leave following a hearing with judge Roberto Canas in Dallas County criminal court in Dallas on Tuesday.

DALLAS — After missing a court-ordered deadline, Johnny Manziel appeared before a judge Tuesday and promised to meet the stipulations required to get the troubled quarterback's domestic violence case dismissed while saying his distrust of the NFL played a part in the delay.

The 2012 Heisman Trophy winner said he doesn't want to disappoint Judge Roberto Canas, who warned that he or a jury could decide Manziel's fate if the deal reached in November is revoked.

The 24-year-old Manziel faced a misdemeanor charge that carried a penalty of up to a year in jail and a $4,000 fine after he was accused of hitting and threatening former girlfriend Colleen Crowley during a night out in January 2016. The judge said he called the hearing because Manziel missed a deadline for an update on the progress of meeting his conditions, including one that requires the former Cleveland Browns player to work through the NFL or another agency on a substance-abuse program.

Asked by the judge to explain how things would be going forward, Manziel said he responded quickly when attorney Jim Darnell told him the judge wasn't happy.

"Since that day everything's been going extremely smoothly and my life is trending upward," Manziel said in a 70-second statement. "I don't even want to let this get anywhere near the rabbit hole that you were describing. I'm taking this responsibility. This is helping me get my life back together."

Manziel said he was slow to get the process started in part because he was hesitant to work with the NFL. He said the involvement of the NFL Players Association, which administers the league's drug program, also slowed the process.

The former Texas A&M star was suspended four games last season for a substance-abuse violation even though he wasn't under contract. The Browns released him last March, two years after drafting him in the first round. NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy said the domestic case remains under review by the league.

"I don't necessarily always believe in what the NFL does (or) have a lot of trust in them based on past situations, based on other players, how they got treated," Manziel told the judge. "So I was very cautious in that regard. Having this being involved with them was kind of a slippery thing with me."

After the hearing, Manziel responded to questions with brief answers as he was leaving the courthouse, saying he was "keeping all his options open" about a possible return to the NFL or another pro league. He said he was working out and hoped to be in an NFL training camp in July.

In his first meeting with Manziel since the agreement was reached, Canas had stern words for the quarterback whose party-boy reputation hastened a quick demise in the NFL.

"I have gotten pretty good at being able to tell when a guy is serious about his dismissal contract and guys who are, 'Eh, as soon as I walk out of court, forget that. I'll do that when I want to or I'll get around to it or when it's convenient for me,'" Canas said. "If there are any roots of that latter kind of message being planted in your brain, I want to dissuade you of that right now."

Canas told Manziel he would probably get probation if the case went to trial, but that there would be "another dozen or so" conditions beyond the current stipulations.

Besides the substance-abuse program requirement, Manziel has to stay out of trouble for a year along with completing an anger management program and attending a domestic violence impact panel. He is also required to stay away from his former girlfriend.

"Not everybody who comes through here gets this kind of opportunity because right now you are in charge of what happens to your case," Canas said. "I would hate for you to miss out on the opportunity that you've got right before you."

The allegations stem from a night out when Crowley said Manziel accosted her at a Dallas hotel, a confrontation that continued downstairs to the valet station. She said he forced her into a car and a valet disregarded her pleas for help. The two eventually drove to where her car was parked in front of a Dallas bar, she said in an affidavit. She said Manziel got into the driver's seat and began to drive. Crowley said Manziel stopped when she tried to jump out of the car, but then he dragged her back inside and hit her.

Rory McIlroy tries to catch up with the rest of golf's stars

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Even during his seven weeks away from competition, Rory McIlroy managed to stay relevant.

McIlroy

He started last week by accepting an invitation to play golf with President Donald Trump. It was his first 18 holes since he played through a rib injury at the South African Open. McIlroy ended the week by playing a match against Dustin Johnson.

"Quite a week for me," he said Tuesday. "I got to play with the president of the United States and the best golfer in the world."

He returns this week at the Mexico Championship, and this is no time for a siesta.

The Masters — the only major keeping McIlroy from the career Grand Slam — starts in 37 days. One positive aspect from so much time off so early in the season is that McIlroy has been more consumed with recovering from a hairline fracture of his rib than with his pursuit of an elusive green jacket.

Then again, that time off gave him a good view of the competition.

Consider the last four weeks alone. Hideki Matsuyama won the Phoenix Open for his fifth victory in his last nine tournaments worldwide. Jordan Spieth got back into the race for No. 1 when he won Pebble Beach. Johnson reached No. 1 the following week with a five-shot lead at Riviera. And then Rickie Fowler showed up last week at the Honda Classic, finished bogey-bogey and still won by four shots.

It's what led Jack Nicklaus to say Sunday that he couldn't recall golf ever being so top-heavy with talent.

"I think you've got more good players in the game today — that have a chance to win a major championship — than you've ever had in the history of the game," Nicklaus said. "And I don't often say that. I mean, we had a pretty good ear when I played, not much of an era when Tiger played. ... Not much of an era when Arnold was playing. And prior to that they had Hogan, Snead, Nelson, which was a pretty good era.

"But not the number that they have today."

No one has really noticed McIlroy missing because so many top players are winning.

The question is how quickly he can recover.

"I don't feel that far behind," McIlroy said. "I come in here this week with a chance to get back to No. 1 in the world. But in terms of maybe preparation and just rounds played ... I haven't had that. So hopefully over these next three competitive weeks that I'm playing — here, Bay Hill and Match Play — I can get that. And hopefully, I feel like I've played enough to go into Augusta and feel ready."

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WEDNESDAY PRIME TIME — MARCH 1, 2017

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Goldberg (N)	Modern Family (N)	When We Rise Cleve, Ken and Roma fight Proposition 6. Pt. 2 of 4 cont'd March 2 (N)				Local 2 News/ 10	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News	Ent. Tonight	Hunted "The Final Escape" (SF) (N)		Criminal Minds "Alpha Male" (N)		Doubt "Poison Prize" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:35) Stephen Colbert		(:35) J.Corden
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H "Kim"	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	MacGyver "Twenty Questions"		Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	P. Mason "The Case of the Constant Doyle"		Twilight Zone
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Lethal Weapon "Brotherly Love"		Star "Boy Trouble" (N)		Fox 24 News	TMZ	Modern Family	Two and a Half	Hot in Cleveland	Met Your Mother
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Shepherd's Heart		Update News	Aleph Course	Light of the Southwest "Part 1"		Light of the Southwest "Part 2"		Update News	In Touch With Dr. Charles Stanley		Walking
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	News-West 9	NewsWest 9 Now	Chicago Fire "Deathtrap" 1/3 (N)		Chicago "Emotional Proximity" (N)		Chicago Justice "Fake" (P) 3/3 (N)		NewsWest 9 at 10	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour		Nature (N)		Africa's Great Civilizations "Empires of Gold/ Cities" (N)				Charlie Rose (N)		Newsline	Tavis Smiley
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		Pequeños Gigantes		Vino el amor		El color de la pasion		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto	Deportivo
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	Agent SHIELD "Pilot"		SHIELD "0-8-4"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Tosh.0	Access H.
FLIX	340	575		165		(4:30) The Alamo		The Descent					(:45)	The Eye ('08, Hor) Jessica Alba.		Frankenhooker	
HBO	300	550	14	14		Movie	Vice News	Sisters ('15, Com) Amy Poehler, Tina Fey.				UConn: Madness (N)		Big Little Lies		Tickled	
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	(4:35) Carlito's Way		LastWeek	Crashing	The Huntsman: Winter's War						Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice	
HBO3	304	552	16	102		(5:25) Unlocking Cage		Real Sports		Baby Mama Tina Fey.			Making	Crashing	LastWeek	Jackie Brown	
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(3:10) In America		Pale Rider ('85, Act) Clint Eastwood.				Ghost World ('01, Com) Thora Birch.			(:55)	The X-Files:...	
MAX2	382	558	18	122		(5:45) The Ninth Gate				Stuck on You Matt Damon.				Reindeer Games		Movie	
PLEX			96			(4:55) Jakob the Li...		Rescue Dawn Zach Grenier.					(:10)	Company Business	(:50)	Eddie Macon's Run	
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	Billions		Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me						(:15) Billions	(:15)	Crash ('04, Dra) Sandra Bullock.	
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	Who Gets the Dog?			(:35)	Orange County				Ping Pong Summer	(:35)	Capsule Edmund Kingsley.	
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dyn. (N)	Duck Dynasty	Jep&Jes-sica (N)	(:05) Dynasty	(:35) Duck Dynasty	(:05) Duck Dynasty	(:35) Duck Dynasty	(:05) Duck Dynasty	(:35) Duck Dynasty
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(4:00) Open Range		Forrest Gump ('94, Com/Dra) Sally Field, Tom Hanks.						Erin Brockovich Julia Roberts.			
BET	58	-		40		(4:00) Beyond the ...		The Quad		The Quad (N)				KaliefBrowderSto (N)	Martin	Martin	
BRAVO	65	76		41		(5:00) Maid in M...		Maid in Manhattan Jennifer Lopez.				Beverly Hills		Watch (N)	Vanderpump Rules		Atlanta
CNBC	46	52		39	72	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		The Deed (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		A. Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight		A. Cooper 360	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Bush "Field of Dreams"		Alaskan Bush (N)		Bush People (N)		Bering Sea Gold (N)		Alaskan Bush People		Bering Sea Gold	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Underc.	Good Luck	StuckMid	GoodLuck	Liv/Mad	Liv/Mad	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Jessie 1/2	Jessie 2/2	Girl M.	Friends
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	NBA Countdown (L)		NBA Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at Boston Celtics (L)						NBA Basketball Houston vs L.A. Clippers (L)			
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball Arkansas at Florida (L)				NCAA Basketball Texas at Texas Tech (L)				SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	The First 100 Days		The O'Reilly Factor		TuckerCarlsonTon		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		TuckerCarlsonTon	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Chopped		Chopped Junior (N)		Cooks vs. Cons		Bakers vs. Fakers (N)		To Be Announced		Cooks vs. Cons	
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(5:00) Burlesque Cher.				What to Expect When You're Expecting				The 700 Club		Clueless	
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	Mavs Pre (L)	NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Atlanta Hawks Site: Philips Arena -- Atlanta, Ga. (L)					Maveric-ks Live (L)	Signing Day Show	The Beat (N)	Basket-ball (N)	Inside TCU	Inside the Big East
FX	31	56	59	64	69	The Wolverine ('13, Act) Will Yun Lee, Hugh Jackman.						Legion "Chapter 4" (N)			Legion "Chapter 4"		Taboo
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Buying and Selling		Property Brothers		Property Brothers (N)		H.Hunt	House (N)	Property Brothers		Property Brothers	
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	American Pickers		American Pickers		Pickers "Time Warp"		Six (N)				Six "Blood Brothers"	American Pickers
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Little Women: Atlanta "Pregnant Pause"		Women "Insignificant Other" (N)		LittleW. "Houston, We Have a Problem" (N)		Ballers "Have You Met Peytyn?" (P) (N)		Ballers "Have You Met Peytyn?"		Little Women ATL "Insignificant Other"	
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball		All in With C. Hayes		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		11thHour	Hardball	Rachel Maddow	
NBCSN	38	43				NHL Live! (L)		NHL Hockey Pittsburgh vs Chicago (L)					(:45)	NHL Overtime (L)	Sport	Sport	Sport
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	H.Danger	Thunder	Thunder	GShakers	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	The Blind Side ('09, Spt) Tim McGraw, Sandra Bullock.						KaliefBrowderSto (N)		TIME Kalief Browder		Twister	
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:00) Independence Day Will Smith.				The Magicians (N)		The Expanse (N)		The Magicians		The Expanse	
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Sein. "The Scofflaw"	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan (N)		Conan Mandy Moore, Jimmy Pardo		2 Broke Girls	Conan
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(5:15) Umberto D.		Vacation From Marriage				Vertigo ('58, Thril) James Stewart.			(:15)	Victor, Vict...	
TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado		La fan		La Doña		El Chema		Al rojo	(:35) Titular.	La Doña	
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	My 600-lb Life "Michael's Story" 2/2		My 600-lb Life "Nicole's Story" Nicole is on the verge of leaving her two young children motherless. (N)						My 600-lb Life "Nicole's Story" Nicole is on the verge of leaving her kids motherless			
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	Bones "The Doctor in the Den"		Major Crimes "Heart Failure"		Major Crimes "Cleared History" (N)		Major Crimes "Cleared History"		Hawaii Five-0 "Aloha Ke Kahi i Ke Kahi"		Hawaii Five-0 "A ale Ma a Wau"	
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	Griffith	(:35) Griffith	(:10) Griffith	(:50) Ray	(:25) Loves Ray		Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Parent's Nightmare"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Surrendering Noah"		Law & Order: S.V.U. "Melancholy Pursuit"		Suits "Character and Fitness" (SF) (N)		(:05) Modern	(:35) Modern	(:05) Modern	(:35) Modern
WGN	19	85				Person of Interest "The Cold War"		Person of Interest "If-Then-Else"		Person of Interest "Control-Alt-Delete"		Person of Interest "M.I.A."		Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother	Met Your Mother

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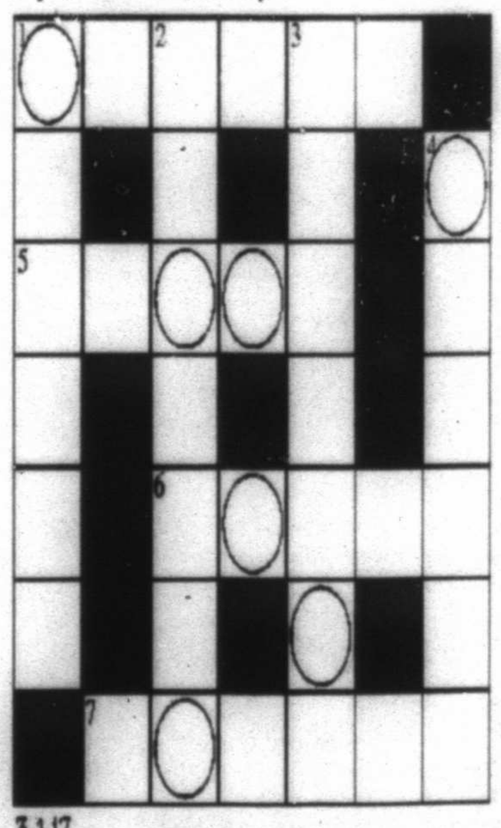
JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Get, acquire	AIBONT
5. Eliminate	SAEER
6. Split	VEEAL
7. ___ Express	NORITE

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Can ___	NEOREP
2. ___ park	LARITER
3. Say again	TTRIEEA
4. Mom or pop	RNAPTE

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

3-1-17

CLUE: Miami, Tampa or Jacksonville, but not Orlando or Tallahassee.

BONUS

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Send comments to TMS - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

ANSWERS: 1A-Chart 5A-Erase 6A-Sever 7A-Cursive 1D-Hyphen 2D-Tear 3D-Mistake 4D-Eraser B-Shapes

JUMBLE

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

GODUH

THACC

ROPURA

MURBEM

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Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

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

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

Print answer here: ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: STRUM MOVIE INDUCT SUNKEN
Answer: She picked a book on the history of fat-free milk and — SKIMMED IT

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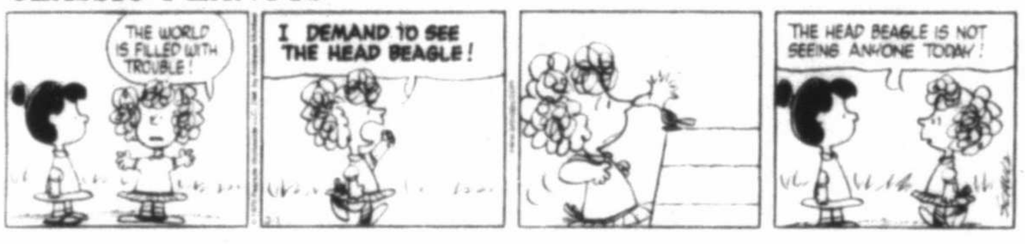
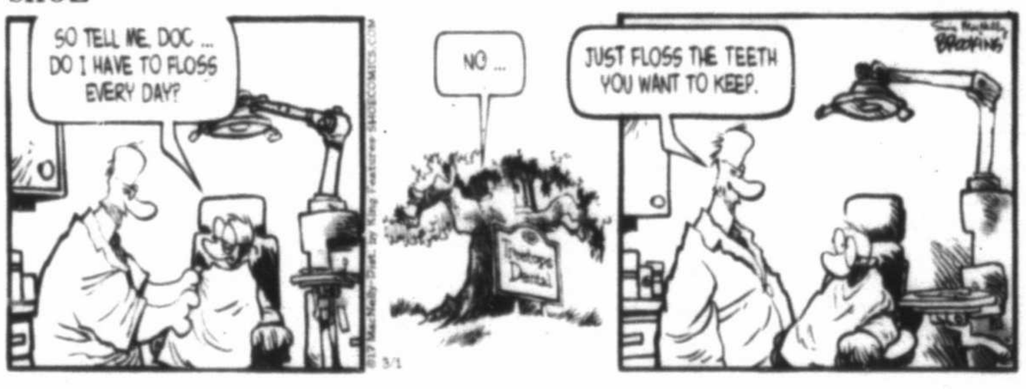
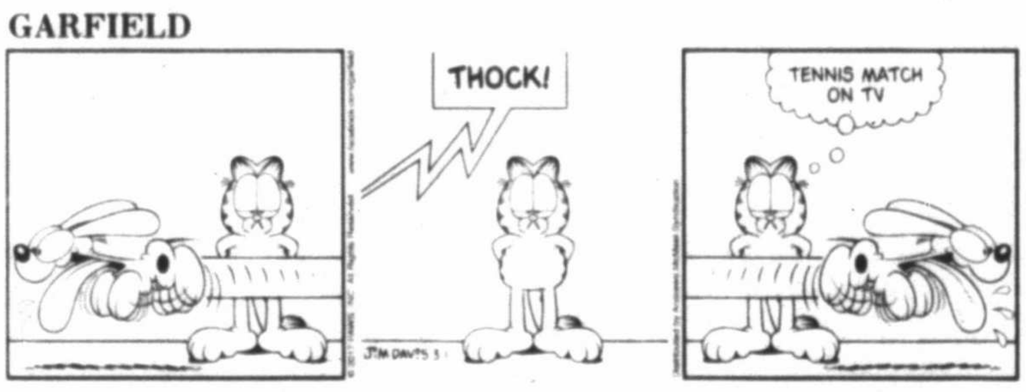


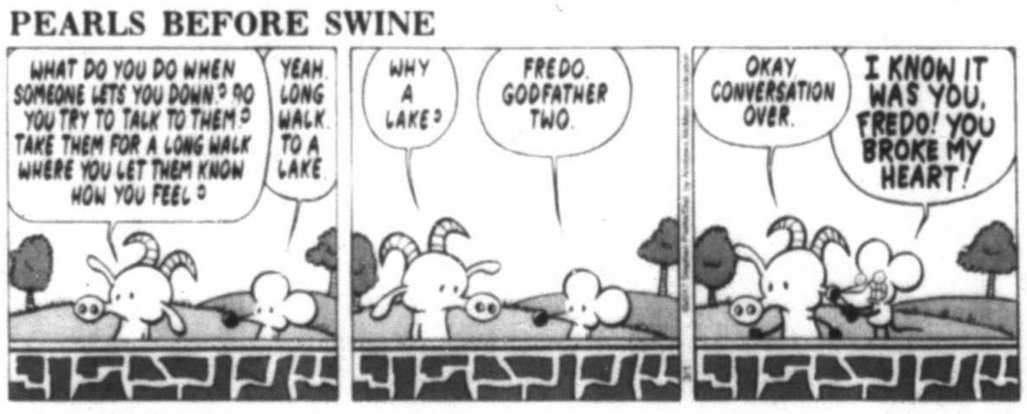
SHOE



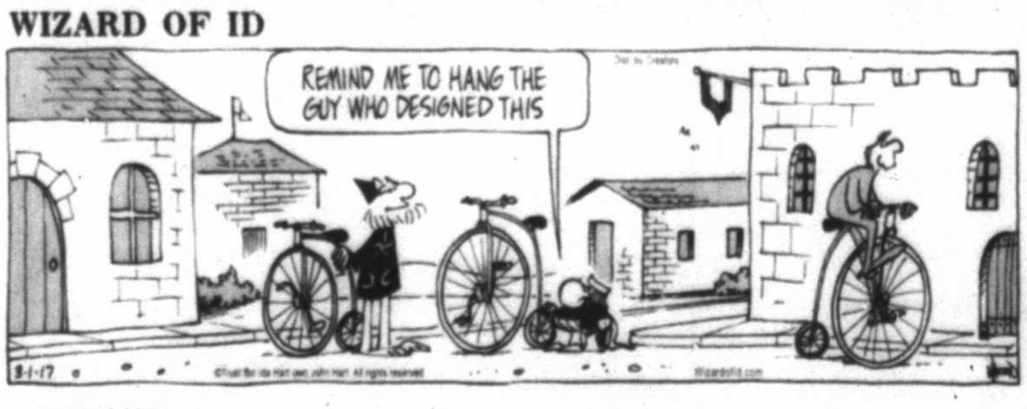
GARFIELD



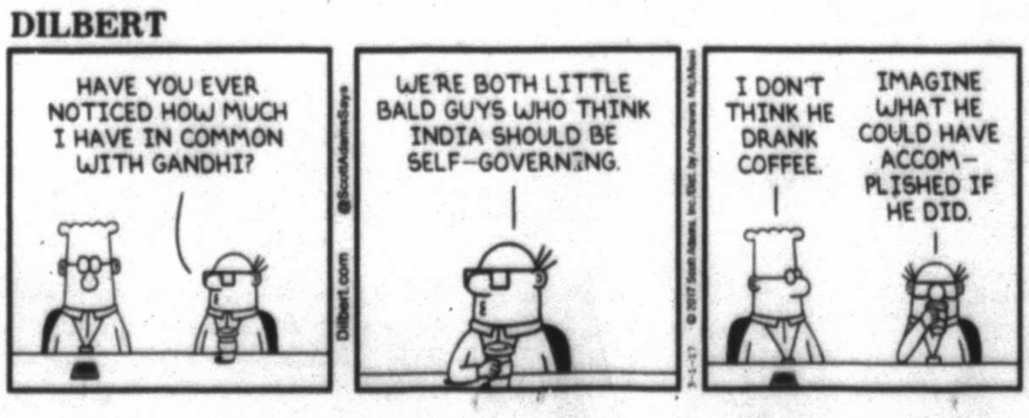
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

LUANN

MARY WORTH

ZITS

BABY BLUES

MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME

"He loved swimming with the dolphins so much that one day he just waded into the water and out of our lives ... LOOK! There's Tom NOW!!"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"IT'S ALWAYS BEST TO TAKE THE HIGH ROAD WHEN YOU'RE IN TROUBLE"

LOCKHORNS

"LEROY NEVER CAUGHT ANYTHING WITH IT, SO HE HAD IT MOUNTED."

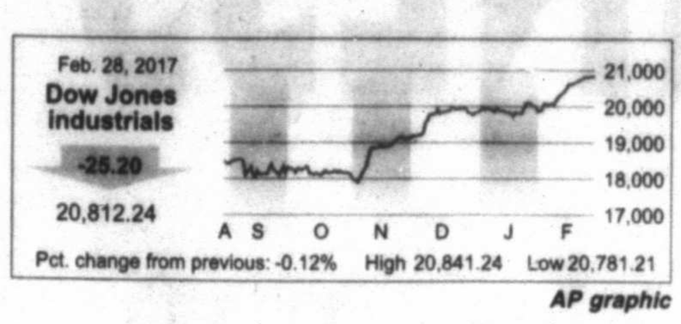
FAMILY CIRCUS

"Don't worry, Mommy, I saw your papers and I didn't walk on 'em!"

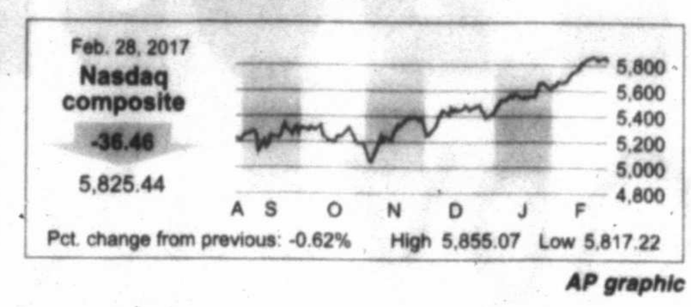
BUSINESS & OIL

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt★com | Wednesday, March 1, 2017 | Page 7C

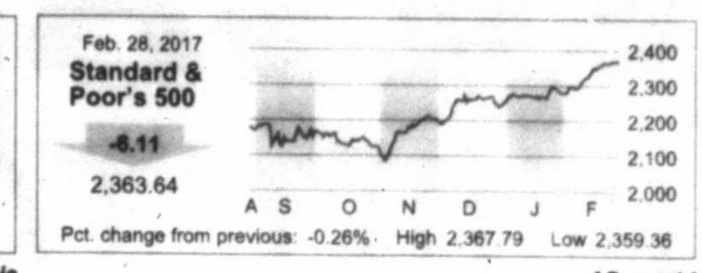
A DAY ON WALL STREET



AP graphic



AP graphic



AP graphic

OIL PRICES

FUTURES

Tuesday: $54.01
Previous: $54.05

POSTED

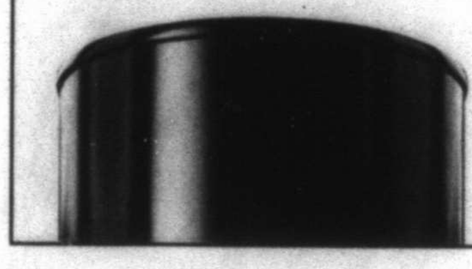
Tuesday: $50.50
Previous: $50.50

WEST TEXAS SOUR

Tuesday: $45.85
Previous: $45.85

NATURAL GAS

Tuesday: $2.774
Previous: $2.693



Snap IPO offers investors some allure, along with quandary

Bloomberg

There are plenty of reasons to buy into Snap Inc.'s initial public offering. The larger question is whether investors will want to stick around.

The maker of photo-sharing mobile app Snapchat will be the first technology listing of the year, the biggest social-media listing since Twitter, more than three years ago, and is the daily compulsion of more than 150 million users. Add to that dizzying sales growth, and investors may find the offering hard to resist.

While that intoxicating combination could drive up early demand for investors who want to a quick profit, it's shareholders taking a longer view — who won't have any voting rights — who could be in for a bumpy ride, according to Allison Bennington, partner and general counsel at Value-Act Capital Management.

Investors who don't hold sway over management decisions have less incentive to keep holding shares that don't meet performance targets, she said.

"You're not going to get a lot of people to boycott it because they will expect to get a pop in the first few days," Bennington said in an interview. If the shares "don't show performance pretty quickly," investors will have "way less time" in the investment community to hold them. "If it starts to turn, it will turn faster," she said.

Snap is seeking to raise as much as $3.2 billion in an IPO on Wednesday, offering 200 million shares for $14 to $16 each. At the high point of the range, the Venice, California-based company could have a market valuation of as much as $18.5 billion.

At that level, Snap would have a price to sales ratio almost double Facebook Inc.'s current multiple, a lofty level for a company that has yet to make a profit. Orders for the IPO are concentrated at about $17 to $18 a share, people familiar with the process said Tuesday.

A representative for Snap declined to comment, citing the company's pre-IPO quiet period.

Facebook and Twitter's debuts show what can go right and wrong when a social-media darling becomes accountable to public investors. Snap would do well to follow the former, barring that company's early tumultuous trading.

Facebook priced the shares in its IPO at the top end of the proposed range in May 2012. Following a first-day trading technology glitch, shares climbed less than 1 percent and languished for more than a year.

Once the company started to prove that its bet on smartphone software was paying off, things turned around. The stock surged 30 percent in July 2013, after Facebook posted revenue and profit for the second quarter that beat estimates.

Now, Facebook has about 1.2 billion daily active users on its flagship platform and 1.2 billion monthly on its messaging tool WhatsApp. Facebook's Instagram introduced a video-reel feature — similar to Snapchat's stories — that already has 150 million daily users.

Twitter's a different story. The microblogging site priced its shares above the marketed range in November 2013 and the stock climbed 73 percent in its first day of trading. The company then stumbled through its first few quarters, failing to show consistent user growth and trying to get investors to switch focus to different metrics.

A year and a half after its IPO, shares took a dive when Twitter cut its 2015 sales forecast, casting a shadow on Chief Executive Officer Dick Costolo's credibility. The stock closed at $16.06 a share on Monday, down 38 percent from the IPO price of $26. Twitter has about 319 million monthly active users.

A lesson for Snap founder and Chief Executive Officer Evan Spiegel from both of those: In Snap's first few quarters as a public company it needs to meet the expectations management established during the roadshow, when it was marketing the stock to potential investors.

For Snap, that means continuing to increase revenue per user, addressing slower user growth — which fell below 50 percent in the fourth quarter for the first time since at least 2014 — and inching closer to profitability.

Snap posted a net loss of $515 million last year, according to the IPO prospectus, shelling out cash to infrastructure providers including Alphabet Inc.'s Google and for research and development. That compares with a loss of $382 million the previous year. Revenue climbed almost seven-fold in 2016, to $404 million from $59 million.

Quarterly average revenue per user on a global basis, a key metric showing how the company makes money from user engagement, climbed to $1.05 in the fourth quarter of 2016 from 31 cents in the year-earlier period.

Snap's unique share structure means management is asking investors to place outsize trust in their decision-making. While other companies, including Alphabet and Facebook, also have multi-class shares that ensure control is in the hands of management, those were put in place after they'd already started to prove their business models to public investors.

Stockholders in Snap won't have a voice — other than keeping or dumping the shares. They won't be able to bring votable issues to proxy meetings, vote against acquisitions or related strategic moves, nominate directors or sound off on executive compensation.

"Snap has structured its deal to ensure control," ValueAct's Bennington said.

Executives seem to be aware of that. During the IPO preparations, Snap considered offering some employees what amounted to a loan on private shares, according to people familiar with the matter, curtailing the incentive for employees to sell stock after the listing.

Stocks edge lower

A slide led by Target and other big retailers pulled U.S. stock indexes lower Tuesday, snapping a 12-day winning streak for the Dow Jones industrial average.

Industrial stocks and phone companies were also among the big decliners. Energy companies fell as crude oil prices edged lower. Utilities stocks eked out a gain.

Investors were focused on an evening speech by President Donald Trump to Congress in hopes of gleaning more details on the timing of tax cuts and other policies.

"The next direction of this market, in our view, is going to be very much driven by the ability of the administration to start putting into action some of the things that the market has gotten excited about, mainly tax reform more than anything else," said Rob Eschweiler, global investment specialist at J.P. Morgan Private Bank.

The Dow fell 25.20 points, or 0.1 percent, to 20,812.24. The Standard & Poor's 500 index slid 6.11 points, or 0.3 percent, to 2,363.64. The Nasdaq composite index lost 36.46 points, or 0.6 percent, to 5,825.44.

Small-company stocks fell more than the rest of the market. The Russell 2000 index slumped 21.29 points, or 1.5 percent, to 1,386.68.

Metal prices end mixed

Among metals, the price of gold fell $4.90 to $1,253.90 an ounce. Silver added 7 cents to $18.42 an ounce. Copper rose 2 cents to $2.70 a pound.

MIDLAND STOCKS

Midland-Headquartered Publicly Traded Companies

Clayton Williams Energy (CWEI)
Closing Price $135.35 Down 0.90

Concho Resources (CXO)
Closing Price $132.45 Down 0.63

Dawson Geophysical (DWSN)
Closing Price $7.72 Down 0.13

Diamondback Energy (FANG)
Closing Price $100.86 Down 0.79

Legacy Reserves (LGCY)
Closing Price $2.26 Up 0.10

Mexco Energy (MXC)
Closing Price $4.40 Up 0.05

Natural Gas Services Group (NGS)
Closing Price $26.05 Down 1.20

RSP Permian (RSPP)
Closing Price $39.49 Down 1.48

Ring Energy (REI)
Closing Price $12.36 Down 0.18

Viper Energy Partners (VNOM)
Closing Price $17.80 Down 0.43

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BkoUAm	863390	24.88	+.11
VanEGold	759211	22.85	+.01
S&P500ETF	668807	230.47	-.64
DrGMBl s	656492	7.85	+.38
iShEMkts	642174	37.99	-.37

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
LSB Inds	10.87	+2.03	+23.0
AAC Hldgs	9.17	+1.58	+20.8
GranaMon	2.90	+.46	+18.9
SilvBayRT	21.53	+3.36	+18.5
KindredHl	9.00	+1.15	+14.6

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Cemig	3.65	-.73	-16.7
Intelsat	4.98	-.89	-15.2
TeneBHlth	19.30	-3.37	-14.9
ValeantPh	14.38	-2.33	-13.9
SigneUwrs	63.59	-9.29	-12.7

DIARY

Advanced	1,068
Declined	1,902
Unchanged	110
Total issues	3,080
New Highs	134
New Lows	20
Volume	3,985,974,810

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
B2gold g	108995	3.08	+.05
NDynMn g	108310	1.54	-.04
NwGold g	100143	2.89	-.02
CastleBr	98561	1.04	+.31
Globalstar	55699	1.37	-.07

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
InepMD rs	2.40	+.32	+15.4
IncOpR	9.60	+.65	+7.3
ChiRivet	44.01	+2.19	+5.2
PowrREIT	6.72	+.26	+4.0
NovaBay rs	3.95	+.15	+3.9

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Libbey	14.00	-2.85	-16.9
GldFld	7.25	-.60	-7.6
ErinEn rs	3.35	-.25	-6.9
Electrmed	4.90	-.35	-6.7
NTN Buzz rs	5.73	-.40	-6.5

DIARY

Advanced	127
Declined	211
Unchanged	26
Total issues	364
New Highs	14
New Lows	4
Volume	139,378,156

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
FrontierCm	1185060	2.93	-.36
SiriusXM	312346	5.09	-.09
Endo Intl	272733	13.65	+.36
Intel	233321	36.20	-.31
Apple Inc	221181	136.99	+.06

GAINERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
KitePharm	70.77	+13.94	+24.5
PrimBio rs	2.93	+.54	+22.6
CRISPR n	23.73	+3.78	+18.9
IdealPower	2.85	+.45	+18.8
NutriSyst	46.50	+7.30	+18.6

LOSERS ($2 OR MORE)

Name	Last	Chg	%Chg
Essendant	15.93	-6.16	-27.9
AtlantAll n	14.20	-4.76	-25.1
FiestaRst	19.85	-6.10	-23.5
INC Resch	43.65	-12.90	-22.8
Ophthotech	3.58	-.99	-21.7

DIARY

Advanced	636
Declined	2,225
Unchanged	188
Total issues	3,049
New Highs	113
New Lows	52
Volume	2,158,238,478

HOW STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST FARED

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AK Steel	...	29	8.33	-.04	-18.4
AT&T Inc	1.96	16	41.79	-.03	-1.7
AbbottLab	1.06	23	45.08	-.38	+17.4
Abraxas	...	...	2.12	-.06	-17.5
AdaDvsEq	.92e	...	13.82	-.03	+7.2
AMD	...	...	14.46	-.74	+27.5
AlonUSA	.60	...	12.16	+.52	+6.9
Amgen	4.60f	16	176.53	+.40	+20.7
Anadarko	.20	...	64.85	-.25	-7.3
Apache	1.00	...	52.59	-.34	-17.1
Apple Inc	2.28	16	136.99	+.06	+18.3
ApldMatl	.40	18	36.22	-.21	+12.2
Archrock	.48	...	13.65	-.70	+3.4
ATMOS	1.80f	22	78.29	+.02	+6.6
AutoData	2.28	27	102.62	-.08	-.2
BP PLC	2.40e	40	33.92	-.06	-9.3
BakrHu	.68	...	60.28	+.03	-7.2
BkofAm	.30f	20	24.88	+.11	+11.7
B IPVxST rs	...	...	18.42	+.44	-27.8
BaringsCp s	1.20	...	15.17	+.03	-2.0
BarrickG	.12f	33	18.58	-.33	+16.3
BasicEnS	...	...	...	...	...
BerkHa A	...	...	172575	100.00	+1304.99	+5.3
BioanlySys	...	...	1.62	+.14	+110.4
BlkHillsCp	1.78f	20	64.88	+.06	+5.8
BrMySq	1.58f	34	56.71	+.15	-3.0
BrownFA s	...	31	49.85	+.06	+7.8
BrownFB s	...	...	48.76	-.04	+8.5
CVS Health	1.70f	14	80.58	-.83	+2.1
Caterpillar	3.08	29	96.66	-.78	+4.2
Celestic g	...	10	13.23	-.37	+11.6
CntryLink	2.16	10	24.28	-.35	+2.0
ChesEng	...	...	5.45	-.17	-22.4
Chevron	4.32f	...	112.60	+.75	-4.4
Chicos	.33f	20	14.48	-.35	+.6
Cimarex	.32	...	125.72	-.26	-7.5
Cisco	1.16	18	34.18	-.08	+13.1
Citigroup	.64	13	59.81	-.21	+.6
CleyEng	...	...	135.35	+.90	+13.5
CliffsNRs	...	11	10.66	-.07	+26.8
CocaCola	1.48f	26	41.96	+.29	+1.2
ColgPalm	1.56	26	72.98	+.33	+11.5
Comcast s	.63f	21	37.42	-.11	+8.4
ConAgra	.80	22	41.21	+.32	+4.2
ConchoRes	...	...	132.45	-.63	-.1
ConocoPhil	1.06f	...	47.57	+.21	-5.1
CrackerB	4.60	25	160.99	-.48	-3.6
CSVInvNG	...	...	6.28	-.52	+107.3
CSVlxSh rs	...	...	4.85	+.25	-49.1
CrosTim	1.07e	12	16.13	-.23	-10.2
CypSemi	.44	26	13.27	+.17	+16.0
DCP Mid	3.12	19	39.20	-.11	+2.1
DTE	3.30f	23	101.38	+.78	+2.9
Dataram rs	...	...	1.38	-.00	-37.4
DevonE	.24	...	43.36	+.30	-5.1
DrGlMBr rs	...	...	17.34	-1.03	-50.6
DrGMBl s	...	...	7.85	+.38	+40.7
DrGBull s	...	...	9.48	+.03	+24.1
Disney	1.56f	20	110.09	-.14	+5.6
DowChm	1.84	20	62.26	-.65	+8.8
DryShp rs	...	1	2.06	+.19	-93.0
E-Trade	...	17	34.51	-2.69	-.4
EOG Resrc	.87	...	96.99	-.92	-4.1
Enbridge	1.66f	...	41.85	+.26	-.6
Endo Intl	...	...	13.65	+.36	-17.1
Energen	.08	...	52.50	-.76	-9.0
EngyTsfr	4.22	...	37.81	+.13	+5.6
EnPro	.88f	56	65.28	-.66	-3.1
ENSCO	.04	2	9.74	-.57	+.2
EntProdPt	1.64	22	28.03	+.25	+3.7
Ericsson	.46e	...	6.45	+.01	+10.6
ExxonMbl	3.00	36	81.32	-.22	-9.9
Facebook	...	32	135.54	-.87	+17.8
FordM	.60a	7	12.53	-.13	+3.3
FrptMcM	...	...	13.40	+.13	+1.6
FrontierCm	.42	...	2.93	-.36	-13.3
GATX	1.68f	9	58.08	-1.80	-5.7
GasNatAT	.94e	...	7.98	-.09	+10.3
GAInv	1.15a	...	33.52	-.08	+7.5
GenElec	.96	24	29.81	-.13	-5.7
GtPlainEn	1.10	17	29.05	+.18	+6.3
Groupon	...	...	4.23	-.26	+27.4
HP Inc	.53f	11	17.37	-.28	+17.0
Halliburtn	.72	...	53.46	+.26	-1.2
HP Ent n	.26f	12	22.82	+.51	-1.4
iShBrazil	1.03e	...	37.73	-.80	+13.2
iShChinaLC	.76e	...	38.20	-.10	+10.1
iShEMkts	.84e	...	37.99	-.37	+8.5
iS Eafe	1.70e	...	60.34	-.09	+4.5
iShR2K	1.77e	...	137.84	-2.16	+2.2
Intel	1.04	16	36.20	-.31	-.2
InterDig	1.20	10	84.05	-2.40	-8.0
JPMorgCh	1.92	15	90.62	+.19	+5.0
JohnJn	3.20	18	122.21	-.19	+6.1
KimbClk	3.88f	22	132.55	-.08	+16.1
Kinross g	...	71	3.54	-.05	+13.8
LegacyRes	.60m	...	2.26	+.10	+6.6
LibQVC A	...	19	18.88	-1.07	-5.5
Lubys	...	...	3.38	-.06	-21.0
MarathnO	.20	...	16.00	+.15	-7.6
McDnlds	3.76	24	127.65	+.66	+4.9
Merck	1.88	17	65.87	+.02	+11.9
MerltMed	...	39	30.80	-.05	+16.2
MexcoEn	...	...	4.40	+.05	-12.0
MicronT	...	...	23.44	-.32	+6.9
Microsoft	1.56f	28	63.98	-.25	+3.0
MorgStan	.80	16	45.67	-.17	+8.1
Nabors	.24	...	14.64	-.41	-10.7
NatGrid	3.35e	...	60.85	-.01	+4.3
NOilVarco	.20	31	40.42	-.68	+8.0
NobleCorp	.09	3	6.88	-.34	+12.8
NSTFl3	.55a	...	14.29	-.05	+.8
NTXGl	.65	...	14.28	+.03	+4.1
Nvidia	.56	38	101.48	-2.93	-4.9
OcciPet	3.04	...	65.55	+.08	-8.0
Oracle	.80	21	42.59	-.11	+11.2
Pandora	...	...	12.38	-.79	-5.1
ParTech	...	20	6.55	-.17	+17.4
ParkDrl	...	...	1.90	-.05	-26.9
PattUTl	.08	...	27.62	-.28	+2.6
Penney	...	...	6.34	-.30	-23.7
PennaRE	.84	11	16.50	-.24	-13.0
Pmian	.44e	26	9.24	-.02	+19.8
Perrigo	.64f	...	74.77	-9.91	-10.2
Pfizer	1.28f	14	34.12	-.16	+5.0
PioNtrl	.08	...	185.97	-.75	+3.3
PitnyBw	.75	8	13.64	-.35	-10.2
PlainsAAP	2.20	29	32.08	+.56	-.7
PwShs QQQ	1.52e	...	130.02	-.40	+9.7
Praxair	3.15f	21	118.71	+.19	+1.3
PrmEgy	...	...	54.00	-2.50	...
PUVlxST rs	...	...	22.30	+1.10	...
ProctGam	2.58	24	91.07	+.18	+8.3
RangeRs	.08	...	27.92	-.10	19.6
RegionsFn	.26	18	15.27	-.04	+6.3
Rowan	.40	9	18.12	-.21	-4.1
RoyDShllA	3.76	79	51.89	+.01	-4.6
SpdrDJIA	3.98e	...	207.98	-.31	+5.3
S&P500ETF	4.13e	...	236.47	-.64	+5.8
SabnR	1.92e	17	36.70	+.05	+4.4
SanderFm	.96	11	95.04	+1.13	+.8
Schlmbrg	2.00	70	80.36	-.70	-4.3
Schwab	.32f	31	40.41	-1.32	+2.4
SeadrillLtd	...	1	1.75	-.29	-48.7
SiriusXM	.01p	39	5.09	-.09	+14.4
Smucker	3.00f	17	141.73	+.77	+10.7
SwstnEngy	...	...	7.51	-.10	-30.6
Square n	...	...	17.32	-.61	+27.1
SP CnSt	1.26e	...	55.10	+.07	+6.6
SP Engy	2.04e	...	71.38	-.22	-5.2
SPDR Fncl	.46e	...	24.54	-.01	+5.5
SP Util	1.55e	...	51.77	+.47	+6.6
SunocoLog	2.08f	26	25.33	+.10	+5.5
TD Ameritr	.72	25	39.10	-4.56	-10.3
Target	2.40	10	58.77	-8.14	-18.6
TeleflEsp	1.03e	...	10.13	-.01	+10.1
Tesoro	2.20	13	85.19	-3.14	-2.6
3M Co	4.70f	23	186.35	-.56	+4.4
Torchmark	.90f	17	77.53	+.06	+5.1
Transocn	...	8	13.82	.34	-6.2
TriContl	.82e	...	23.45	+.03	+6.3
TylerTech	...	48	151.65	-3.98	+6.2
UBSi	1.32	22	44.75	-.55	-3.2
US NGas	...	...	6.69	+.16	28.4
US OilFd	...	...	11.45	.02	-2.3
USSteel	.20	...	38.72	+.53	+17.3
Vale SA	.29e	...	10.35	.26	+35.8
ValeantPh	...	16	14.38	-2.33	-1.0
ValeroE	2.80f	18	67.35	+.71	-.5
VanEGold	.12e	...	22.85	+.01	+9.2
VanE JrGld	...	...	36.93	+.68	+17.1
VerizonCm	2.31f	12	49.63	.31	-7.0
VulcanM	1.00f	39	120.61	+.01	-3.6
WEC Engy	2.08	21	60.27	+.73	+2.8
WalMart	2.04f	16	70.93	-.81	+2.6
WalgBoots	1.50	19	86.38	-.84	+4.4
WellsFargo	1.52	14	57.86	-.18	+5.0
WstnRefin	1.52	29	36.52	-1.53	-3.5
WhitingPet	...	...	10.85	+.01	-9.7
WmsCos	1.20f	48	28.34	+.19	-9.0
XcelEngy	1.44f	20	43.71	+.40	+7.4
Xerox	.25m	11	7.44	...	+29.4
Yamana g	.02	56	2.78	+.04	-1.1
ZTO Exp n	...	...	12.89	-1.68	+6.8

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We will regularly update the Permian Basin stocks list.

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Chg	Net %Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
20,851.33	16,510.40	Dow Jones Industrials	20,812.24	-25.20	-.12	+5.31	+23.40
9,566.10	7,029.41	Dow Jones Transportation	9,419.86	-54.58	-.58	+4.16	+25.59
723.83	607.58	Dow Jones Utilities	703.16	+7.16	+1.03	+6.60	+13.69
11,688.45	9,558.88	NYSE Composite	11,512.40	-45.95	-.40	+4.12	+17.82
5,867.89	4,557.46	Nasdaq Composite	5,825.44	-36.46	-.62	+8.22	+24.22
2,371.54	1,931.81	S&P 500	2,363.64	-6.11	-.26	+5.57	+19.48
1,749.84	1,333.98	S&P Midcap	1,729.34	-18.87	-1.08	+4.14	+26.85
24,749.20	19,860.13	Wilshire 5000	24,609.80	-125.03	-.51	+5.05	+21.08
1,410.39	1,033.66	Russell 2000	1,386.68	-21.29	-1.51	+2.18	+31.50

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Cactus Wellhead — JOB FAIR

Wednesday from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. at the address listed below

Field Service and Shop Technicians in Odessa, TX

Based in Houston, TX, Cactus designs, manufactures and installs wellhead equipment and Christmas trees. The company offers a wide range of ancillary services such as equipment repairs, field service support and hydraulic fracturing (frac) equipment rentals.

Safety, career growth and professional on the job training are characteristics that set Cactus Wellhead, LLC above the rest.

We are looking to employ top talent with the drive to join a growing brand. We currently have openings for (experienced) **Field Service and Shop Technicians in Odessa, TX.**

Field Service Technician:
Must have Working knowledge of Wellhead Products, Customer Service Best Practices, Service Documentation and Record Keeping, Wellhead and Valve Equipment Compatibility, Wellhead and Valve Installation, Operation, and Maintenance, Field Equipment Repair, Equipment and Troubleshooting of Wellhead and other OEM Equipment.

Shop Technician:
Inspect, operate and test completed products to verify functioning and conformance to requirements, position and/or align components for assembly, manually or using hoists, adjust, repair, rework, or replace parts and assemblies, remove rough spots and smooth surfaces to fit, trim or clean parts, and use of hand tools or power tools, and maintain and lubricate parts or components.

Cactus Wellhead, LLC offers a competitive compensation and benefits package which includes medical, dental, vision, matching 401K, life insurance, Company paid disability, and paid vacation.

Apply in Person or Send Resume:
8001 Groening Street
Odessa, TX 79765
432-653-0306
hayley.anderson@cactuswellhead.com

Cactus Wellhead, LLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

ACCOUNTING/FINANCE

Accounting/ Bookkeeper

Need an experienced Oil & Gas Accounting/Bookkeeping person. Should be familiar with oil and gas input, JIB breakdown for tangible and intangible expenditures, LOE, and WO expenses. Applicant should be able to balance general ledger and generate profit & loss statements. Please send resumes P-100 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, Texas 79701

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St. Joseph's Home Health, Inc.
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Must be very detailed oriented and have strong time management skills.
Please send resume to lauren@stjoshh.com.

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ENERGY AND UTILITIES

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Natural Gas Services Group has an opening for a **Flare Service Technician.** This person will provide major maintenance and repairs on Customer-owned flares as well as company rental fleet. The individual must have a mechanical background and be familiar with hand tools, electronics and electrical power. A good driving record is required. Excellent Salary and benefits for the right person. To apply submit your resume to **employment@ngsgi.com or call 432-262-2700.**

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ENERGY AND UTILITIES

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Hi-Crush Partners LP has immediate openings for candidates to join our next crew! We operate a purpose built delivery solution, PropStream, that allows for the efficient, safe and cost-efficient delivery of frac sand directly to our customers at the wellsite. The process involves unloading frac sand from specially designed containers into blender hoppers via an automated convey or system, allowing for faster loading and a significant reduction in supply chain related congestion at well sites. Hi-Crush is a leading domestic producer, supplier, and distributor of premium Northern White frac sand used to enhance recovery rates of oil and natural gas in hydraulic fracturing wells.

We are seeking crew members for multiple shifts who can travel to sites in the Permian Basin, typically one to two hours from the Midland/ Odessa area. Openings are available for candidates with prior experience operating forklifts, conveyors and other equipment in the oilfield and drilling services sectors.

Site Supervisor - Responsible for day-to-day frac site operations and site supervision of employees and vendors. Requires 7+ years' experience, specifically in E&P frac site operations, inventory management and logistics.

Sand Coordinator - Responsible for the on-time ordering and accurate delivery of proppant to the frac site according to customer specifications and contract requirements.

Forklift Operator - Unloads containers from trucks. Loads containers onto conveyor system and unloads to designated area.

Conveyor Belt Operator - Assists site crew with mobilization of conveyor systems. Monitors and controls automated conveyor belt system that conveys containers of sand to the well head for frac process. Regulates speed of conveyor system. Monitors flow and operation of system.

Equipment Technician - Monitors orders and schedules and reviews daily work plan with supervisor. Assists with inventory control at the frac site and observes operations to ensure quality control is maintained. Ensures the safe and efficient movement of trucks and forklifts at the frac site at all times. In compliance with established safety policies, ensures daily, weekly, and/or monthly safety protocols are performed and logged.

Hourly positions require 2 years of conveyor system operation or comparable experience along with prior experience operating small equipment including 36,000 lb. capacity forklifts (certification preferred.) Experience with oilfield uni-belt/dual-belt frac conveyors desirable. Must be able to work 12-14 hour rotating shifts (two weeks on/one week off).

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WALK-IN APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT OUR MIDLAND OFFICE 1519 SOUTH COUNTY ROAD, MIDLAND, TEXAS 79707 THURSDAY, MARCH 2 (7:00AM- 7:00PM) AND FRIDAY, MARCH 3 (7:00AM-3:00PM)

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Big Spring State Hospital 1901 North Highway 87 Big Spring, TX 79720

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OTHER JOBS

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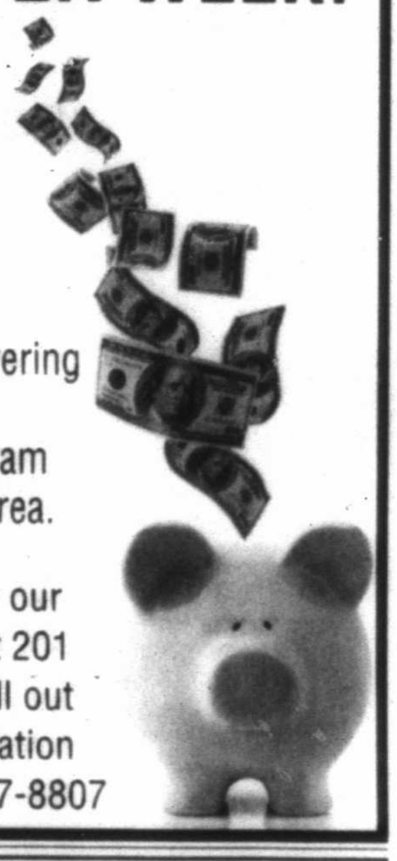

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Position open for a Senior Project Coordinator / Manager for a commercial construction company in the Permian Basin. Competitive pay plus excellent benefits. Experience in commercial construction required. Send resume to becky@advertisegolden.com.

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SCHNEIDER ENGINEERING, Ltd. is a progressive and growing consulting engineering firm serving over 50 electric utility companies across the State of Texas.

SURVEY ASSISTANT

Seeking Entry level personnel with high school diploma/GED and valid TX. driver's license with excellent driving record. Basic computer skills. Training provided but some experience a plus.

Positions require ability to work outdoors and involves working in and around the Stanton, Texas area as well as traveling to other areas of Texas and working on a week-long basis.

Salary range is $14.00 to $17.00 per hour based on industry work experience.

Schneider Engineering is an equal opportunity employer, therefore all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Send resume to:
Schneider Engineering, Ltd., Attn: HR
101 Menger Springs, Boerne, TX 78006
PH: 830-249-3867 - FAX: 830-249-4099
Email: hr@se-texas.com
Submit online application:
www.se-texas.com

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Delivery Driver

Blooming Rose is hiring a delivery driver. Full time. Must work on Saturday. To apply, stop by 1705 W. Wall, Midland 79701.

Local Drivers

Total Logistics is hiring local drivers. Home every night, competitive pay, paid health insurance.
Please call 432-561-8850 or apply at 2701 Earhart Drive Midland, TX.

Vacuum Truck Driver

Vacuum Truck Drivers needed. Midkiff Transports, Class A CDL and drug test required. Benefits include paid uniforms, health, life and dental insurance. Apply in person at 8601 FM 715, Midland, Texas.

LEGAL EMPLOYMENT-MR

Litigation Legal Secretary

Litigation Legal Secretary - Law firm needs secretary/assistant in the Litigation department. Litigation experience is preferred but not required. Programs used: Word Perfect; MS Word and Juris. Typing speed -80 wpm. Excellent benefits and working environment. Salary negotiable. All qualified candidates send resume to Controller, P. O. Box 2796, Midland, TX . 79702 or email lag@dgclaw.com

To advertise in Classified

Contact our Classified Department at 432-682-6222

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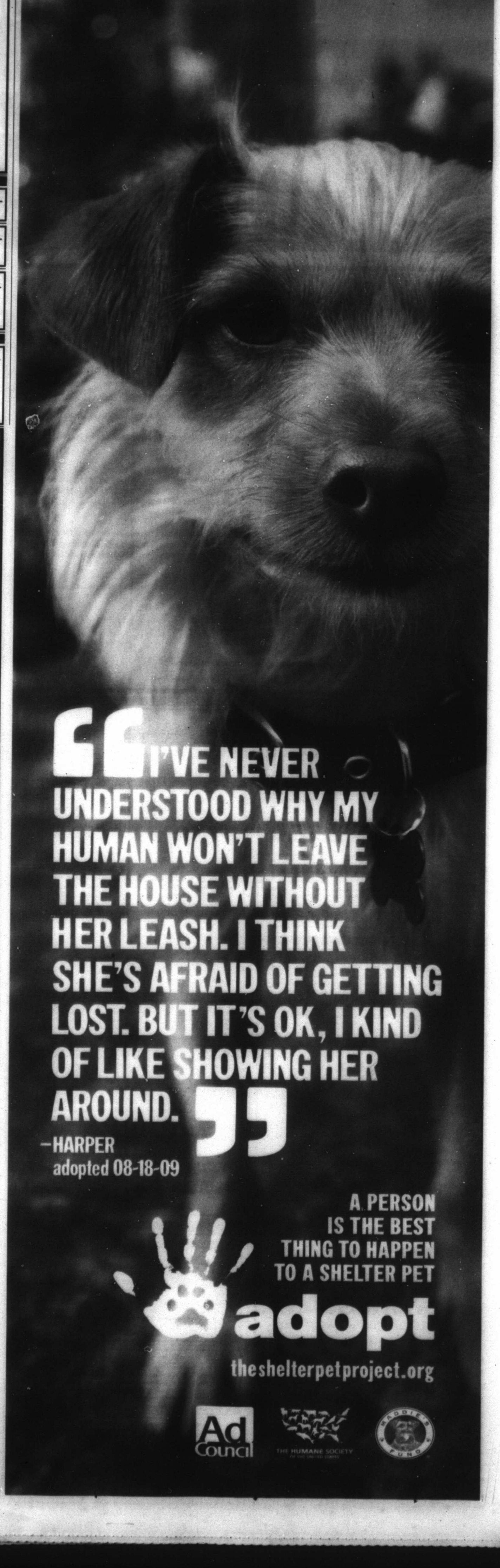
mrt.com



mrt classifieds

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Events and Notices — General Announcement

Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

Pets- Animals — Dogs

REDNOSE/ BLONDE PITBULL PUPPY 3 months old for sale, to good home. 432-238-2316

Classified CAN 682-6222

Autos For Sale-Lease — Passenger Cars

BUICK 1984 Riviera, needs to be restored, all original, interior fair, asking $1,500 OBO. 432-682-0369 or 432-664-5005 leave message.

Passenger Cars

FORD 2004 Thunder Bird, silver with black interior, very nice. 45k miles. $16,500. Call Jerry 432-557-7674

4WD and SUV

CHEVROLET 2008 Suburban LTZ, black. Less than 33k miles, leather interior, fully loaded. Navigation & sunroof, seats 7. $24,000. 432-230-2295 or 432-230-3420

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Merchandise — Miscellaneous 4-Sale

A SHADE ABOVE
3328 N. Midkiff Road.
CLOSING SALE!
Deeply regrets having to close
In appreciation of all my sweet customers & the many years of serving Midland, everything goes for 30% off!
Would really like to see the business stay open! If interested in purchasing the business please contact Venita at 432-694-2229

Classified CAN 682-6222

GARAGE SALES

**** CALL 682-6222 TODAY!! ****

Estate Sales

2305 ROBERTS, in Big Spring, 9-5 on 3/2, 3/3, 3/4. Vintage wicker, couches, love seat, chairs, baby buggy Brother Sewing machine, crystal, China, stemware, lots of silk flowers, household items. Mid-century stereo system. Washer, dryer, & freezer.

Yard - Garage Sales

79705

Neighborhood Sale 10+ Houses
1112 Porterfield Road
Sat. 3/4 8-noon!

Residential Rentals

House Rent Unfurn

3 Bed, 2 Bath, newly remodeled, wired shop, $885 month Lease/ own 575-937-9377

Residential Sales

Open Houses

OPEN SUN 1-3
2305 SCR 1120
Greenwood horse property. $529,950. Stables, barns & pool. Up Group 684-7788

Single Family Homes

3201 ECR 139
4/2.5 house & 3 acres & old 3/2 BR mobile $117,900. Up Group 432-296-1470

5009 HEATHER
Saddle Club South
Fabulous redo!!!
4/4 5/3/2 $399,500
UP Group 889-2934

NEW HOME 4 Bed room 2.5 Bath Greenwood School Buy direct from builder. Approximately 2,215 livable $339,000 432-638-4241

NEW HOME on Lone Cedar Golf Course bordering Lake Leon 3 bdrm 2 bath 2 car grg. Oak trees, view 2200 sq. ft. Golf mem included. Perfect 2nd or retirement hm. 254-488-0299 or 254-653-8880

SMALL 2 bdrm/1 bth home completely remodeled inside and out w/ new appliances. On large corner lot. Owner will finance $129,000. 10% interest. $7k-$10k down Around $1100 monthly. Price negotiable Contact Bill @ 432 682 5157.

Vacation Resort

LAKE HOUSE in Deep Water Estates on Lake Brownwood with excellent boat dock Call 325-348-3110 or email huntland@web-access.net

Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE
BY JOSEPH AND TEAM
2216 Western Dr. - (Midland)
Thursday -Friday 9:00 AM - 3 PM
Saturday - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

For pictures go to

http://www.estatesales.net/TX/Midland/79705/1444332

ESTATE SALES BY LAMAR COATS
2602 Frontier
Thurs. 9am-3pm Fri. 9am-1pm Sat 9am-12pm

House full, leather chair & ottoman, roll top desk, dining table, Century brand buffet, king bedroom set, vanity dresser, refrigerator, some small antiques & collectibles, record player, Cornet, saxophone, records, old toy train, & much more

To see photo's go to estatesales.net

Legal and Public Notices

BOOZE N CRUISE BEER BARN LLC DBA BOOZE N CRUISE BEER BARN IS MAKING APPLICATION TO THE T.A.B.C. FOR A PACKAGE STORE PERMIT, WINE & BEER RETAIL DEALER'S OFF PREMISE LICENSE LOCATED AT 1801 SOUTH COUNTY ROAD 1101, MIDLAND, MIDLAND COUNTY, TEXAS 79706. OWNERS/MEMBERS ARE CONSTANCE BURNHAM, KEN BURNHAM, MICHAEL GALLAHER JR., AND MICHAEL GALLAHER SR.

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Proposals will be accepted by the County Purchasing Agent, located in Suite 1101 of the Midland County Courthouse, 500 N. Loraine Street, Midland, Texas 79701 until 1:00 P.M., Local Time, May 24, 2017. The proposals will be opened and acknowledged at 1:05 P.M., Local Time, May 24, 2017.

Interested parties are invited to attend the proposal acknowledgment and the Commissioners Court meeting.

RFP 17MCO521 – INTEGRATED CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Midland County reserves the right to reject any or all of the responses, to waive all formalities, and to withdraw the RFP at any time.

Information may be obtained from the County Purchasing Agent's Office 432-688-4872 or pur103@co.midland.tx.us.

Kristy Engeldahl
Midland County Purchasing Agent

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Margaret Viriasha Greathouse, Deceased, were issued on February 13, 2016, in Cause No. P18733 pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to Chet K. Gray, Independent Administrator, whose residential address is 415 Meadowlark, Midland, Texas 79707.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law, in care of the Executor.

DATED the 24th day of February, 2017.

COTTON, BLEDSOE, TIGHE & DAWSON, P.C.
A Professional Corporation
P. O. Box 2776
Midland, Texas 79702
(432) 684-5782
(432) 682-3672 (FAX)

By: Brian A. Merkley
State Bar No. 24065737
bmerkley@cbtd.com

ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

***AMENDED* NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT *AMENDMENT* AND RENEWAL**

AIR QUALITY PERMIT NUMBER 73278

APPLICATION Centurion Pipeline L.P. has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for *an amendment* to and renewal of Air Quality Permit Number 73278, which would authorize *modifications to* and continued operation of the Midland Tank Farm located at 2200 East County Road 90, Midland, Midland County, Texas 79706. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=32.006806&lng=-102.0392&zoom=13&type=r. The existing facility will emit the following air contaminants: *hydrogen sulfide and organic compounds.*

The applications were submitted to the TCEQ on January 9, 2015 and June 4, 2015. The permit renewal will be issued in conjunction with the *amendment*. This permitting action also includes the incorporation of the following previous authorizations or changes to authorized facilities related to this permit: permits by rule. The reasons for any changes or incorporations, to the extent they are included in the renewed permit, may include the enhancement of operational control at the plant or enforceability of the permit. The applications will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, and the TCEQ Midland regional office, 9900 West Interstate Highway 20, Suite 100, Midland, Midland County, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Midland regional office of the TCEQ.

The executive director has determined the applications are administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the applications.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING You may submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or request a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the applications. **The deadline to submit public comments is 30 days after newspaper notice is published.**

The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the applications. A public meeting about the applications will be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the applications or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

If only comments are received on the applications, the response to comments, along with notice of the executive director's action on the applications, will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for these applications.

The executive director will complete the technical review, issue a preliminary decision on the applications, and a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the mailing list for these applications. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments. If a hearing request is timely filed in Response to this Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Air Permit, the time period for requesting a contested case hearing will be extended to thirty days after the mailing of the executive director's response to comments.

After the final deadline for public comments following the Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the applications, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or is on a mailing list for these applications.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING You may request a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decisions on the applications. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues submitted by you or others during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing"; (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; and (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility. If the request is made by a group or an association, one or more members who have standing to request a hearing and the interests which the group or association seeks to protect, must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the applications/permit which would satisfy your concerns.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the applications and any requests for contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact relating to relevant and material air quality concerns submitted during the comment period.** Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

MAILING LIST In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific applications mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk by sending a written request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. If you communicate with the TCEQ electronically, please be aware that your email address, like your physical mailing address, will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free at 1 800 687 4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Centurion Pipeline L.P., P.O. Box 51790, Midland, Texas 79710-1790 or by calling Ms. Vanessa Romero, Environmental Advisor at (432) 686-1415.

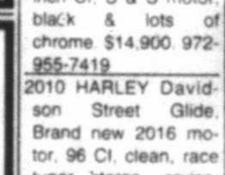
Amended Notice Issuance Date: February 7, 2017

Recreation Vehicles

2002 TRAIL-LITE Travel Trailer 23', 3500 lbs. pull weight, can be pulled by SUV, living room slide out, sleeps 4 comfortably, 5 new tires, excellent condition, maintenance records, always covered, $7500 OBO 432-684-8170

2006 AMERICAN Ironhorse Chopper new tires, 111 cubic inch CI. S & S motor, black & lots of chrome $14,900. 972-965-7419

2010 HARLEY Davidson Street Glide Brand new 2016 motor, 96 CI, clean, race tuner stereo, cruise, new back tire, $12,900. 972-955-



2016 40' Monte Carlo 5th wheel. 3 electric slide outs, duel AC units, washer & dryer, electric rear out awning with LED lighting, fully self contained. Fireplace, spare tire, microwave oven, rubber roof, 30 gallon hot water heater, leather recliners, pull out leather sofa Tri axle, non smokers no pets. Like new $36,000 OBO. 432-250-3747

JAYCO 2010 Eagle pull behind, 2 slide outs, lots of room, excellent condition asking $15,000. For serious inquires call 432-413-1076

MINI WINNEBAGO 2004 Like new, 15,208 Miles, 29' 4" Long, Ford Gas Onan generator, two slide outs. 432-694-9791

REDUCED
HARLEY DAVIDSON 2005 Road King, 13K miles, $7,000 OBO MUST SEE! 432-697-9787 leave message

SPECTACULAR 2013 CVO Ultra Classic Mint Condition. 1 Owner 7600 Miles $21,750. Trade in value. 432-664-4729

SUZUKI 2007 GSXR 1000 custom paint, new tires, Yoshimura exhaust, low miles, excellent condition. 432-697-9918

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

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Residential Rentals

Apartment Rent Unfurn

FURNISHED GARAGE apartment. All bills paid $650. Deposit required. 1705 W Cuthbert. 432-853-9341

LOWEST RENT!
Spacious 1 - 2 Bedroom Apartments.
432-687-4514.

Condo Thome Rent Unfurn

1 BD w/ office, recently remodeled, great location. $825/mo + dep Background check Ava. 3/1/17. Call 432-697-3739

1 bedroom, 1 bath with washer & dryer connections. Available now. $700 per mo. $350 deposit 432-425-4871

4425 CROCKETT. Everything new. 3 Bed, room, 2.5 bath for lease. 2 Story, back yard, aprox 1,200 sq.ft. $1,000. Call 602-432-0888

LOFT apartment 1 bedroom 1 1/2 baths patio, washer & dryer connections. Available now. $1,900 per mo. $350 deposit 432-425-4871

VERY NICE 2 BR/ 2 baths condo in great location. Recent paint, carpet, wood & tile 2 car carport. $1,300 month plus deposit Available now. Call 432-296-9392.

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1311 Holloway. Beautiful Craftsman style home in desirable museum district. 1,500 square ft, original hardwood floors, 2 or 3 bedroom / 2 bath, central air. Gorgeous sophisticated landscaping. Meticulously maintained by owner. $1,600 / bills paid. Must be clean. Inquiries made to Annalee. 432-260-6009

DUPLEX FOR rent 2 bedroom 1 bath $900 month $600 deposit 432-520-6618

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Hunting Leases

DEER LEASE available in San Angelo Texas 5,000 Acres Year round lease & long term lease Randy 830-570-7323

DEER LEASE White Tail Mule deer at Best, Texas. Need 7 hunters. Contact 940-284-1518 or 940-665-3212

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RANCH FOR SALE
4,212 Acres
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2 AC CALICHED
$2350/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
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NOW LEASING
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Call 432-661-4057

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Find it fast in the Midland Reporter-Telegram

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MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT 3BD/2BA $1000/mo plus $500 deposit 2BD/1BA $800/mo plus $500 deposit Call 432-210-4955 432-634-4762 until 5pm after 5pm text only for more info

CondoThomeRentUnfurn

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

3/1/17

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- **Kent County**
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  4,212 ac. Maveric Creek. canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail $825/ac
  1,771 ac. winding creek. blinds and feeders. great deer, tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail $850
- **Nolan County**
  646 ac. over 1 mile SOLD creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oak $3,550/ac
  565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop. 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill $4,425/ac
- **Howard County**
  842 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some oilfield traffic $750/ac
  150 ac. big canyon, SOLD anks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, an $895/ac
- **Martin County**
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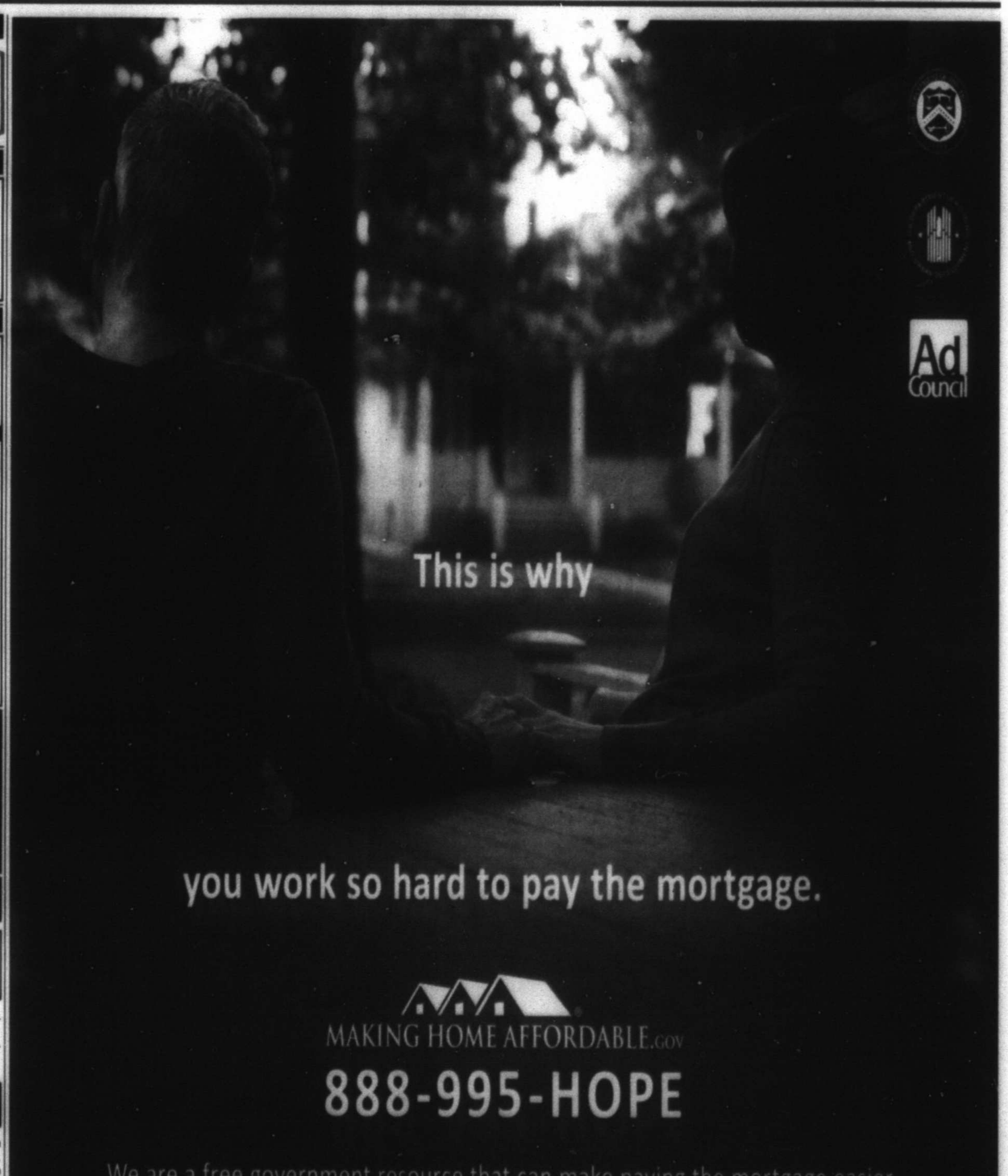

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