MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2018 mrt★com *320,000 readers in print and online*

REMEMBERING

Today marks 25th anniversary of the first W.T.C. bombing.

Page 4A

SMART HOMES

Novel technology could soon become necessities — including roll-up TVs.

Page 1B

OPEC, allies could ease output curbs

■ Saudi oil minister: Reductions may be phased out 'sometime in 2019'

By Debjit Chakraborty
Bloomberg

OPEC and its allies, including Russia, may next year ease the crude-output curbs that have helped prices recover from the worst crash in a generation, according to Saudi Arabia's oil minister.

With the market moving toward equilibrium and bloated inventories shrinking, the next step for global producers will be to phase out the reductions, Khalid Al-Falih told reporters in New Delhi on Saturday. The nations taking part in the supply curbs are currently studying what a crude re-balancing will entail, and will announce their next steps once that's analyzed, he said.

The production curbs may be eased "sometime in 2019, but we don't know when and we don't know how," Al-Falih said. "What we know is that it's going to be done in a way that it will not in any way disturb the balance and undo the hard work since 2016."

A deal between the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its partners aimed at shrinking a global glut began in 2017 and runs through the end of this year. With U.S. production booming and the International Energy Agency predicting that expanding supply from non-OPEC countries may cover global demand growth for the next two years, speculation has increased over how long the cartel will have to curb supply.

U.S. OIL 'WELCOME'

Al-Falih welcomed the rise in U.S. production, saying that demand is seen remaining strong in 2018 and that the market will be able to absorb that supply. While America is pumping out record volumes, that's being accompanied by a surge in exports, which has jumped to a four-month high. Even Saudi Arabia has considered shipping American crude abroad. The demand for cargoes is helping drain the nation's stockpiles, easing concern that OPEC's efforts to erode a glut will be undermined.

While countries involved in the

Please see **OPEC**/4A

ON DISPLAY

Courtesy photo

Former first lady Laura Bush poses with Bob Fu, founder and president of the Midland-based nonprofit China Aid, on Tuesday at the Museum of the Southwest. Marketing director Natasha Blackmore said museum staff was surprised when Bush came to view the current exhibition, "Portraits of Courage," and Fu coincidentally arrived shortly after the former first lady. Bush visited with staff members and interim Executive Director Karmen Hendrix Bryant. "Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors," paintings by former President George W. Bush, is on display through March 25.

Argyle teachers volunteer to be armed

■ 'I want to give our kids a fighting chance,' high school principal says

By Molly Hennessy-Fiske
Los Angeles Times

ARGYLE — In the days since a 19-year-old gunman stormed onto his former high school campus in Parkland, Florida, killing 17 people with an AR-15 assault rifle, the nation has been embroiled in a debate over what to do about school violence: How do you make it stop?

Here at Argyle High School, they already have an answer to that question: The teachers are packing handguns.

A sign outside campus warns: "Please be aware that the staff at Argyle (Independent School District) are armed and may use whatever force is necessary to protect our students."

Among those arriving Thursday was teaching assistant Theresa Locastro, who said the school board's decision to allow staff to be armed after the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre in 2012 "set an example for various schools that we mean business."

"I know there's a lot of controversy, and people who don't want to arm them," said Locastro, 44. But she thinks armed staffers can deter attacks like the Parkland gunman.

"Hopefully, it will make them think twice," she said.

In about two dozen states, schools can allow staff to carry guns on campus, although some require concealed-carry licenses, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Experts say it's not clear whether such policies reduce the likelihood of school shootings or the death toll. But President Donald Trump and other lawmakers have voiced support for arming teachers — on Thursday the president suggested giving bonuses to school staff members who

Please see **ARGYLE**/2A

Border Patrol's checkpoints overlooked in debate over wall

By Nomaan Merchant
Associated Press

LAREDO — As vehicles line up at the Border Patrol's checkpoint a half-hour drive's north of the U.S.-Mexico border, its agents have around 10 seconds to check each driver and decide which few they will stop for additional inspection.

It's a situation challenged constantly by smugglers, sometimes with deadly consequences. In July, 10 migrants died after a tractor-trailer packed with people made it through Laredo North, only to be discovered two hours later in a Walmart parking lot in San Antonio. Dozens of others streamed out of the trailer, gasping for air.

The Border Patrol considers its 34 permanent interior checkpoints along the United States' southern border such as Laredo North a crucial layer of its strategy to stop smuggling. The checkpoints inside the U.S. can be up to 100 miles (161 kilometers) from any border, in addition to the ports of entry where people face inspection when coming into the country.

But agents who work the Laredo North checkpoint say they're understaffed and sometimes overwhelmed by traffic. And while top Border Patrol officials say President Donald Trump's proposed border wall would help them cut the number of overall smuggling cases, some critics don't believe a wall would reduce illegal immigration and is drawing attention and money away from the checkpoints and other critical needs on the border.

The Trump administration's latest budget proposal includes $1.6 billion to start building a wall that the administration has estimated will cost $18 billion. It asks for funding to hire more Border Patrol agents. It also includes

Please see **BORDER**/2A

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Did you know?
Uber wants to fly taxis from DFW Airport to Frisco. Read more on Page 1B.

The big number
Michelle Obama's memoir is already in the Top 20 on Amazon. Page 7A

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

Brought to you daily by JumBurrito

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Daily $2, Sunday $3

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Field Test CANDIDATES WANTED
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BORDER

From 1A

$33 million to build a new Border Patrol station in Freer, Texas, northeast of Laredo. But it doesn't directly address needs at other checkpoints, and it proposes zeroing out new spending on tactical infrastructure like roads used by border agents and replacement border fencing.

The proposal also would end funding for efforts to find and destroy border tunnels built by cartels to get under existing barriers. Border security experts have warned that constructing a wall will lead to smugglers trying to dig more tunnels.

Rep. Henry Cuellar, a Laredo Democrat who sits on the U.S. House subcommittee directing homeland security funding, wants U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the Border Patrol's parent agency, to invest in additional scanners and other improvements at Laredo North, as well as interceptor boats and radio towers for remote border areas. Cuellar also says the government should fund retention bonuses to keep agents from leaving the patrol.

"They're taking money away from proven law enforcement systems to put it into this 14th century solution," Cuellar said.

A CBP spokesman declined to comment on the budget request.

Built in 2006, Laredo North sits 30 miles (48 kilometers) north of the Rio Grande, the river separating the U.S. and Mexico in Texas.

All of the approximately 9,000 daily vehicles that pass Laredo North's seven lanes get an inspection. An agent checks immigration documents and talks to each driver. A camera reads license plates, and another agent guides a dog around each passenger vehicle to search for hidden people or drugs. A fraction of vehicles are sent to a secondary inspection, where agents interview the driver further and search the vehicle. The occasional tractor-trailer is directed to a mobile X-ray machine that scans the interior of the truck.

ABOVE: This photo provided by U.S. Customs and Border Protection taken Jan. 26 near Loredo shows a tractor-trailer filled with illiegal immigrants from Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala. Thirteen unaccompanied immigrant children were among those rescued in this event. The driver, a U.S. citizen, was arrested and the tractor-trailer was seized by Border Patrol. ***U.S. Customs and Border Protection via AP;*** **LEFT:** A Border Patrol agent uses a dog to inspect a car waiting to pass through the Laredo North vehicle checkpoint Feb. 2 in Laredo. The dogs are trained to catch drugs and people who try to enter the U.S. illegally in trunks and vehicle compartments. ***Nomaan Merchant/Associated Press***

Opponents argue the checkpoints unlawfully restrict the movement of immigrants in the U.S. illegally who live in South Texas, pointing to incidents like the brief detention of a 10-year-old Laredo girl with cerebral palsy who needed surgery at a hospital north of the checkpoints. A Government Accountability Office study released in November said problems with Border Patrol data made it impossible to determine how effective the checkpoints are.

Agents do make big catches at such checkpoints. In January, agents at another Laredo checkpoint discovered 76 people inside a tractor-trailer that had been flagged for extra inspection. But the Border Patrol's largest union says agents have low morale and believe large loads of people and drugs are able to get through.

"Our agents are understaffed and overworked," said Hector Garza, the Laredo representative of the National Border Patrol Council. "Even though they have all these forces against them, they go out there and try to do their best."

Local Border Patrol officials argue that a wall would help agents catch more people at the border, cutting down on the number of cases making it to the checkpoints. In many smuggling cases, authorities say, migrants enter separately and are bundled into trailers on the U.S. side.

But Guadalupe Correa-Cabrera, an expert on migration who is an associate professor at George Mason University, believes that if a wall is built, immigrants would just find other ways to enter the U.S., including paying smugglers to bring them over in tractor-trailers. Rather than cross the Rio Grande, they would count on successfully sneaking through established ports of entry and interior checkpoints, she argued.

"What is the route or what are the means people are going to take?" Correa-Cabrera said. "The ones that they perceive as safer."

After illegal border crossings hit a 45-year low last year, according to the Border Patrol's statistics, the agency says apprehension numbers have started to rise. Despite the Trump administration's efforts to discourage people in Central America from migrating to the U.S., authorities in both the U.S. and Mexico are still catching trailers filled with people who sometimes pay $5,000 or more to cartel-controlled smugglers to be taken north.

As for cases like the one in July where 10 people died, Jason Owens, the chief Border Patrol agent for the agency's Laredo sector, said his people are trained to make quick decisions about whether to order an extended inspection. But the number of vehicles at times "obscures the ability of the agents to concentrate on the legitimate threats," he said.

"It hits all of us very hard," Owens said. "Nobody wants to see somebody perish trying to make it into this country to seek a better life for themselves."

ARGYLE

From 1A

carry guns. Officials at Argyle and other districts say the policies deter shooters and provide peace of mind, and that other schools should follow their lead. Scores of Texas school districts allow teachers to carry arms.

"It's essential to keep us safe," said Lizzie Dagg, 18, Argyle senior class president, who spent part of lunch Thursday signing a banner expressing sympathy for Parkland students.

"We're going to protect our kids at any cost," said U.S. history teacher Sharon Romero, a gun owner who did not volunteer to be armed at school, but is glad co-workers did. She's disappointed that lawmakers haven't done more to enact "common-sense" regulations, such as expanded background checks.

"At least we're taking action," she said. "I feel safer coming to work than a lot of other teachers in this country do."

Ari Freilich, a San Francisco-based staff attorney with the Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, said studies have shown more permissive concealed-carry laws contribute to gun violence, although he was not aware of studies at schools.

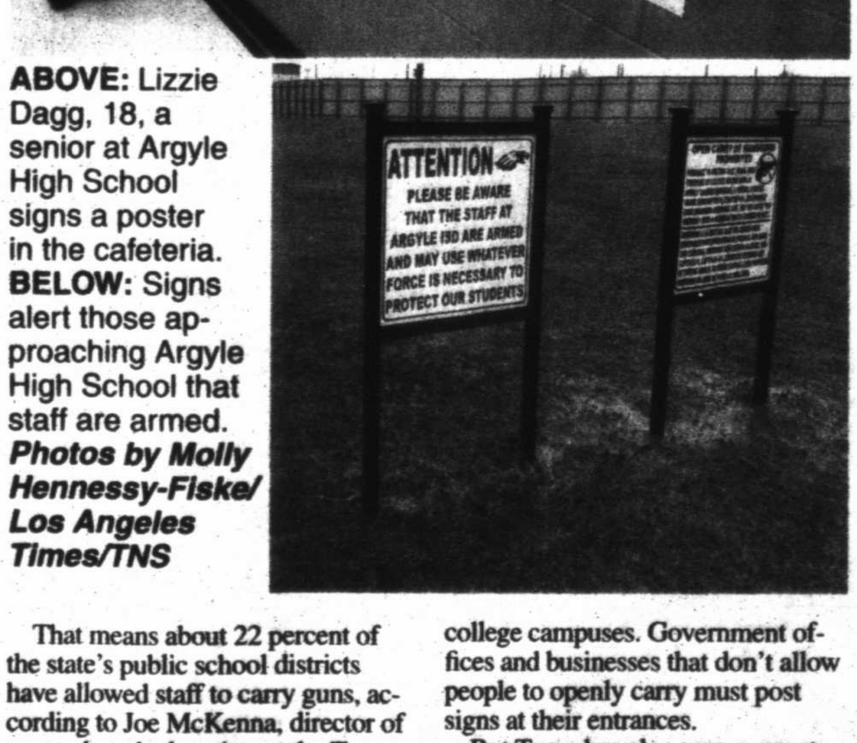
Freilich said that many teachers are already overwhelmed and that "asking them to be first responders too is not in the interest of students."

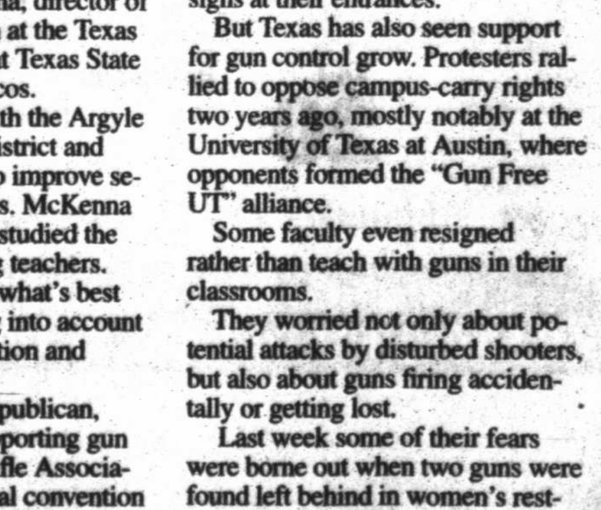
Amy Klinger, co-founder of the Ohio-based Educator's School Safety Network, said that rather than arming them, schools should train teams of educators to assess threats. The calls by Trump and others for guns in schools have "really taken the focus off things that are more effective," she said. "We need to do things that work, not that feel good."

Klinger said more guns on campus can lead to more accidental shootings, including two earlier this month in Minnesota and Florida, and it's unreasonable to expect even armed staff on large campuses to be able to stop a mass shooter.

"We need to train our teachers how to identify these people. People don't want to hear that — they want a quick fix," she said.

In Texas, school boards must approve arming teachers. At least 170 districts allow employees and in some cases board members to carry firearms, according to the Texas Association of School Boards. About 150 districts have their own police departments and more than 250 other districts have school resource officers.





ABOVE: Lizzie Dagg, 18, a senior at Argyle High School signs a poster in the cafeteria. **BELOW:** Signs alert those approaching Argyle High School that staff are armed. ***Photos by Molly Hennessy-Fiske/Los Angeles Times/TNS***

That means about 22 percent of the state's public school districts have allowed staff to carry guns, according to Joe McKenna, director of research and education at the Texas School Safety Center at Texas State University in San Marcos.

The center works with the Argyle Independent School District and other school systems to improve security and preparedness. McKenna said the center has not studied the effectiveness of arming teachers.

"You have to weigh what's best for your district, taking into account the district size, mitigation and threats," he said.

Overwhelmingly Republican, Texas is known for supporting gun rights. The National Rifle Association is holding its annual convention in Dallas this May, just a few years after convening in Houston. Texas had more guns registered last year than any other state (588,696), followed by California (344,622) and Florida (343,288).

Texas voters have passed several laws in recent years expanding the right to carry guns openly and on college campuses. Government offices and businesses that don't allow people to openly carry must post signs at their entrances.

But Texas has also seen support for gun control grow. Protesters rallied to oppose campus-carry rights two years ago, mostly notably at the University of Texas at Austin, where opponents formed the "Gun Free UT" alliance.

Some faculty even resigned rather than teach with guns in their classrooms.

They worried not only about potential attacks by disturbed shooters, but also about guns firing accidentally or getting lost.

Last week some of their fears were borne out when two guns were found left behind in women's restrooms on two different campuses of UT Austin.

Argyle officials consulted other schools that had already armed teachers before approving the policy. Superintendent Telena Wright called her counterpart at the nearby Harrold Independent School District, among the first in the country to arm teachers. It's a tiny district — just 115 students — in a county the size of Rhode Island policed by half a dozen sheriff's deputies; response time is a concern.

Harrold Superintendent David Thweatt had proposed arming teachers after the shooting at West Nickel Mines School in Pennsylvania's Amish country in 2006. School board members initially balked, then changed their minds after the mass shooting that killed 32 that spring at Virginia Tech.

Thweatt has since worked with Texas state lawmakers to pass a law providing training for school staff who serve as armed "guardians." He tells those who call for advice to keep armed staff anonymous, like air marshals, and to have them carry their weapons at all times. "You need to be ready," he said.

Thweatt said he spends less than $1,000 on training and arming teachers, and that bigger districts might pay more but have comparably larger budgets. "It's very cost-effective," he said.

Argyle is a much larger, fast-growing district, with 2,400 students, 850 of them at the high school. Before the school board approved the policy, officials held a town hall that hundreds of residents attended. Many spoke during public comment — all in favor of arming, the superintendent said.

"After that night, I knew the community was going to be solidly behind it," Wright said, and feedback from parents and staff continues to be positive. School officials have fielded calls from districts in Michigan, Oregon and Virginia.

Argyle High Principal James Hill, who has three children in the school system, was skeptical about the policy when he was hired in 2015, but said, "Now I'm a believer."

"The time for us just sitting back and waiting for it to happen is over," he said of school shootings. "... I want to give our kids a fighting chance."

Staff who volunteer to be armed must have their concealed handgun license and pass psychological screening, according to Argyle Schools Police Chief Paul Cairney.

Staff who are approved carry handguns, either their own or those provided by the district, which Cairney also screens to ensure they work. Volunteers attend three to five days of training initially, and annual retraining, including active-shooter simulations.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Obituaries

Martha Belle Holland Conine

Martha Belle Holland Conine died peacefully on February 20, 2018 in Austin, Texas. Marty was born July 17, 1932 to Lan Morgan Holland and Minnie O'Dell Holland and grew up in McAllen with her sister and brothers. After their mother died unexpectedly when Marty was just two years old, she spent many summers with her Aunt Willie and Uncle Dewey in Rotan, Texas and later with her sister Doris and brother-in-law Bill in Monahans. She graduated from Baylor in 1953 and taught school in Galveston before moving to Midland in 1955. Marty loved Midland and lived there until last November.

Known for her sweet and elegant demeanor, Marty was generous and kind to all. She also had a wonderful sense of humor. When her oldest niece would visit during the summer, Marty would buy an old-fashioned pinwheel, hold it out the window of the car and drive down the street singing Moon River at the top of her lungs, much to the delight of her niece. Marty took her nieces and their friends to see The Music Man many years ago and marched up and down the aisle of the movie theater during Seventy-Six Trombones, playing an imaginary trombone. She made every activity fun.

Marty was a fiercely loyal friend and defender of her family. She was overjoyed when she became a mother to Nancy Lynn and was heartbroken when Nancy passed away in 2001. Marty taught English and speech before Nancy was born and again from 1997 until 2003. Ever the teacher, she felt compelled to correct blatant errors in grammar right up until she died. Marty was a member of First United Methodist Church in Midland and was active in the Junior League and Midland Community Theatre. Marty excelled at play readings and acting. Among her roles were the ghost Elvira in Blithe Spirit, and in 1963 she starred in Midland's very own movie production of High Noon. Marty loved her monthly Chocoholics gatherings and frequent lunches with her treasured Midland friends. The highlight of every summer was the visit from her beloved granddaughters. She adored them and was so thankful to have living reminders of Nancy.

Marty was preceded in death by her parents, her daughter Nancy Conine Hester, her sister Doris Holland Parker and her brothers O'Dell Holland, John A Holland, and Nick Holland. She is survived by her granddaughters Jordyn and Jodi Hester of Superior, Colorado; sisters-in-law Clo Holland of El Paso and Joy Holland of Houston; nieces Marty Parker of Austin, Mary Parker of Austin, Cathy Holland of Coppell, Jenny Holland Miller (Clay) of Mandeville, Louisiana; and nephews Johnny Holland (Kathryn) of El Paso and Keith Holland of Georgetown. She also loved and was loved by her nieces' and nephew's 12 children and grandchildren. A celebration of Marty's life will be held at 2:00 pm Saturday, March 3, 2018 at Glass Chapel, First United Methodist Church in Midland. For those who wish, memorial donations to the charity of your choice will be greatly appreciated by Marty's family.

Log on to
mrt.com

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Early voting continues

Early voting continues through Friday for the March 6 primary. There are five early voting centers:

- Midland County Elections Office – county annex building, 2110 N. "A" St.
- Centennial Library, 2503 W. Loop 250 N
- Cogdell Learning Center, 211 W. Florida Ave.
- Fellowship Community Church, 5206 N. Midland Drive
- Manor Park (Cowden Clubhouse), 5212 Sinclair Ave.

Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the elections office and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the other four locations.

Election Turnout

Tuesday: 534 (Republicans 480; Democrats 54)
Wednesday: 358 (Republicans 324, Democrats 34)
Thursday: 443 (Republicans 401, Democrats 42)
Friday: 702 (Republicans 624, Democrats 68)
Saturday: 400 (Republicans 347, Democrats 53)
Sunday: 175 (Republicans 156, Democrats 19)
Total: 2612 (Republicans 2,342, Democrats 270)

Things to do

- Light Up the Night: Dancing with the Stars Live!"The night will feature celebrity finalists Frankie Muniz and season 25 champion Jordan Fisher. 7:30 p.m. at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. $45-$85. wagnernoel.com.
- Shrimpfest 2018. Sponsor cocktail hour, 5:30 p.m., general admission 7 p.m. at Ector County Coliseum. $40 advance, $45 door. noelartmuseum.org.
- Wine Dinner featuring Terre Rouge — Easton Winery. The five-course meal will be paired with different labels from the winery. 7 p.m. at The Garlic Press, 2200 W. Wadley Ave. $85 per person. Call 570-4020 for reservations.
- Lenten Parish Mission with David Kauffman, 6:30 p.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church, 1906 W. Texas Ave.
- Bingo, 6 p.m. at the Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1306 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.
- Bridge game play, 6:45 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. $6. For more information call 682-8595.
- Monday Mayhem features unlimited bowling for $14.09 with free shoe rentals after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com
- Open Shop Nights are hosted by the Midland Gem and Mineral Society and open to the public. Visitors can watch members cut rock and work on lapidary projects. 6:30-9 p.m. at 602 S. Main St. midlandgemandmineral.org.

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Kids wait their turn for pancakes during the Midland Downtown Lions Club's 62nd annual Pancake Jamboree on Saturday at the club's building at 200 Plaza St. The event featured all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage and drinks.

Meetings today

Commissioners' Court
9 a.m.
Midland County Courthouse auxiliary courtroom.
500 N. Loraine Ave.
Midland ISD
5:30 p.m.
San Jacinto Junior High
1400 N. N St.

Today in history

Today is Monday, Feb. 26, the 57th day of 2018. There are 308 days left in the year.

Today's highlight

On Feb. 26, 1993, a truck bomb built by Islamic extremists exploded in the parking garage of the North Tower of New York's World Trade Center, killing six people and injuring more than 1,000 others. (The bomb failed to topple the North Tower into the South Tower, as the terrorists had hoped: both structures were destroyed in the 9/11 attack eight years later.)

On this date

In 1904, the United States and Panama proclaimed a treaty under which the U.S. agreed to undertake efforts to build a ship canal across the Panama isthmus.

In 1952, Prime Minister Winston Churchill announced that Britain had developed its own atomic bomb.

Weather

Sunday's temperatures

High	72
Low	29
Normal high	65
Normal low	37

Feb. 25's records

Record high: 86, set in 2009
Record low: 11, set in 1960

Precipitation

Saturday	0.00 in.
Sunday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.04 in.
Year total	0305 in.
Normal total (year to date)	1.19 in.

Winds

Wind speed: 29 mph
Gust speed: 38 mph

Today's forecast

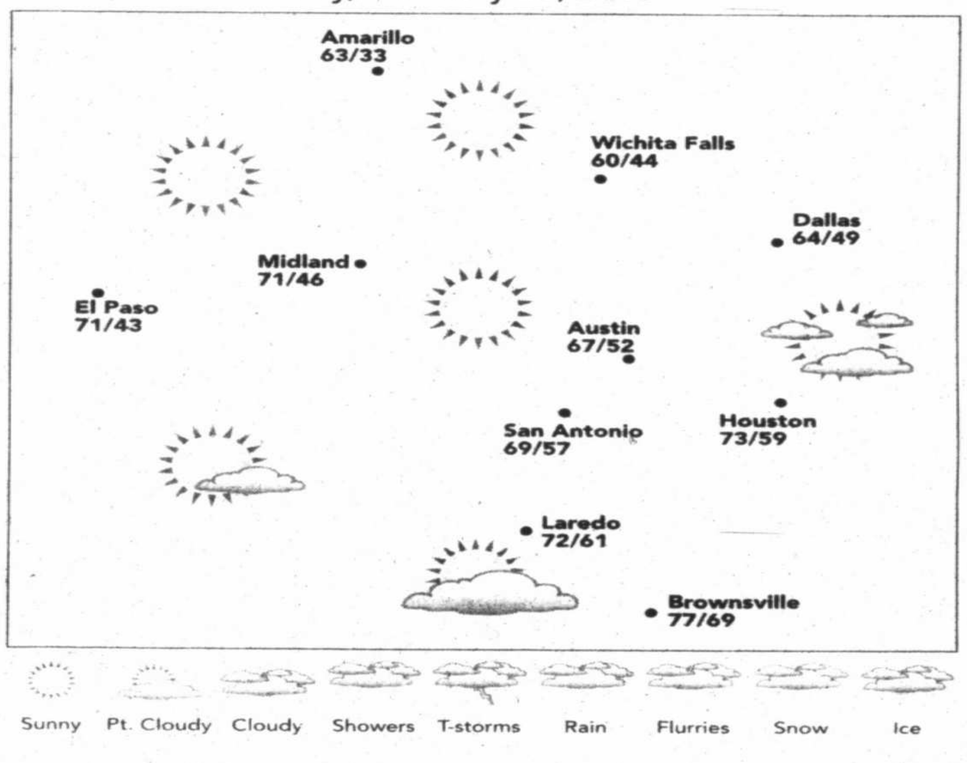
High: 69
Low: 50

Conditions: Sunny today/partly cloudy tonight
Winds: Southeast 5-15 mph today/southeast 10-15mph tonight
Chance of rain: None

Sunrise.....7:19 a.m.
Sunset.....6:43 p.m.

Source: National Weather Service

Forecast for Monday, February 26, 2018



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

Note: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun in Pisces and a Moon in Cancer.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Feb. 26, 2018:

This year you are unusually receptive and sensitive to others as well as to yourself. As a result, your feelings take a higher priority. You also identify with your friends and loved ones more easily. Your creativity soars. If you are single, others gravitate toward you as if you were a magnet. You will have a choice to make, so be sure to honor your needs. If you are attached, the two of you experience a new type of closeness. Your bond goes through a very romantic phase. CANCER understands you very well.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★ A power play could evolve from out of nowhere, though you can clear it with ease. Consider working from home, if possible. You will accomplish more in a shorter time. Someone you care about has a lot to offer, which makes you feel much more secure. **Tonight:** Return calls first.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Speak your mind, and refuse to get involved in a problem. Others often have different views from yours. In this case, the issue might be that you can't identify with where the other party involved is coming from. Ask a loved one for support. **Tonight:** Go for what you want.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Revamp your budget, if necessary. You'll want to curb spending before it becomes a problem. You also might want to put in some overtime in order to help your financial situation. Understand what is happening between you and a partner. **Tonight:** A surprise lies ahead.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Your vision of what you want to accomplish might be different from that of someone who is in the know and has strong opinions. Be willing to bend some. The unexpected sends you into a tizzy, and you might need to rethink some of your judgments. **Tonight:** At a favorite place.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Know that you don't need to maintain a backseat position for much longer. You prefer to be in charge, as you feel more together and reasonable than others. Just wait your turn and be a good sport. People will appreciate and support your leadership. **Tonight:** Nap, then decide.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want. You don't want to do anything halfway. As a result, you'll give 100 percent when you're involved with a project. If there is a snafu, you might feel as if you could have done more. Let go of any guilt. **Tonight:** Get errands done and make time for fun.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ You might run into someone who is very controlling. You could be more reactive than you realize. Know that you are likely to spend more than you need to. The unexpected occurs when relating to others. Don't worry, everything will work out fine. **Tonight:** Head to the movies.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You seem to handle whatever comes down the pike. You'll maintain a positive attitude during a difficult conversation in the morning. You might decide not to allow any tension to invade your day. Smile, and others will respond in kind. **Tonight:** Homeward bound.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ One-on-one relating is a high priority for you right now. You have a unique way of handling matters that might put off a neighbor or a loved one. Recognize that you need to do some healing here. **Tonight:** Decide to escape to the movies or take a trip to a favorite spot.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Others dominate the scene to an extent that you might feel uncomfortable. Those around you seem to be unusually difficult and controlling. You'll come out on top as long as you focus on what you want. A meeting could be unusually important. **Tonight:** Defer to others for now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You could feel overworked, but you'll continue to push yourself through another intense day. You might want to take over a job or wrap up a project without any help. You will need to work on being isolated, as others keep seeking you out. **Tonight:** Make it an early night.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Activate your imagination and use it to help you be more effective and dynamic at work. News from a distance helps you to see a situation from a different perspective. A friend could cause a problem sometime during the day. Do not get too uptight. **Tonight:** Stay within budget.

BORN TODAY
Actress Teresa Palmer (1986), actor Tony Randall (1920), singer/songwriter Michael Bolton (1953)

WORD OF THE DAY
brought to you daily by
JimBurrito
BIGGER THAN MORE
larcenous
[lar·ce·nous]
adjective
1. having the character of or constituting larceny
2. committing larceny
— larcenously adverb

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CHRIS TOMLINSON
Houston Chronicle

Saudi crown prince has his sights set on higher crude prices

Houston's energy businesses and Saudi women find themselves rooting for a shared champion, an impulsive young man with dictatorial tendencies who wants to change the world.

Saudi women, who hold more than $200 billion in capital, learned on Sunday they no longer need their male guardian's approval to start a business. The decision by the Ministry of Commerce and Investment is part of a plan to give women in the kingdom equal rights with men and encourage them to invest and work.

The next day, Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih surprised markets by declaring that his government wants to see international oil prices stabilize above $70 a barrel, about 8 percent higher than it was on Tuesday. If OPEC must create an artificial shortage to achieve that price, the cartel should do it, Falih said.

Granting Saudi women equal rights and driving up the value of Saudi oil are both integral parts of Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman's "Vision 2030" plan to modernize the conservative nation's society and invigorate its economy. But he is imposing his reforms without room for dissent.

Frequent readers will remember that the 32-year-old crown prince is the son and designated successor of King Salman, an 82-year-old who is rumored to suffer from senility. Prince Mohammed elbowed out several elders to position himself as the next king, breaking with Saudi Arabia's tradition of promoting elder royal family members to the throne rather than allowing younger men to take power.

Since his father assumed the throne, Mohammed has reshaped Saudi politics and foreign policy, but not without some stumbles. He was the architect of Saudi's invasion of neighboring Yemen, without first consulting the U.S., a move now widely considered disastrous.

Domestically, Mohammed appears to be making a bargain with his subjects, promising long-overdue economic and social reforms in return for assuming absolute power. To make this plan work, and to stave off familial competition, he needs higher oil prices, at least in the short term.

About 80 percent of Saudi revenues come from petroleum, and last month the government released a budget that relies on an average international oil price of $63 a barrel. Anything higher would ease the austerity program Mohammed imposed in 2016, when oil prices were in the $30 range, and boost his popularity.

More importantly, though, Mohammed plans to sell off 5 percent of the national oil company, Aramco, in an initial public offering of stock. He has said Aramco is worth $2 trillion, but that's only true if the nation's oil reserves are worth much more than $60 a barrel.

Driving up oil price, therefore, is paramount to Mohammed's success. And while higher oil prices will sting American commuters, they would spur Houston's economy.

At least 75,000 Houstonians lost their jobs when oil prices fell from $109 a barrel in June 2014 to the high $20s in 2016. A region the size of Houston needs to create between 50,000 and 60,000 jobs a year just to stay even, but it only created 200 jobs in 2015 and 18,700 jobs in 2016.

Oil prices began to recover in 2017, slowing the layoffs from oil and gas companies. But the region only added 46,000 jobs last year, according to the Greater Houston Partnership.

Industries other than energy have kept Houston out of recession. Transportation, wholesale trade, nondurable goods manufacturing, construction, health care and professional services have all picked up the slack, according to the latest Houston Purchasing Managers Index from the Institute for Supply Management.

The Houston economy will expand for at least the next three or four months, the institute reported last week. But the index looks at what happened last month, not what might happen in the future.

If Prince Mohammed gets his wish, Houston's oil companies will start hiring again. Drilling activity has already picked up with West Texas Intermediate selling for more than $60 a barrel; add another $7, and hundreds, if not thousands, of additional wells become worth drilling.

The problem, of course, is supply and demand. The world is flush with oil reserves, and the only way to keep prices high is to drain global inventories and keep oil in the ground. That's exactly what the Saudi oil minister has in mind, at least for now.

If oil prices inch up, though, U.S. drillers and countries not allied with Saudi Arabia will boost production. Mohammed and Falih seem content to accept that, and give up market share, at least until the Aramco IPO.

With so many producers holding back so much oil, another bust might soon follow. But if you're in the oil business, you probably already knew that.

OPEC

From 1A

production cuts are considering how to extend their partnership in coming years, keeping output constrained could be a challenge as the deal has shown some signs of strain. Russian oil companies, eager to press on with new projects, have pushed for a swift end to the curbs, while OPEC members like Iraq, Iran and Libya are keen to expand capacity after years of lost revenues amid sanctions and conflict.

"The framework beyond 2018 is yet to be determined, but for sure from the Saudi and from the OPEC standpoint, there is a determination to translate the success of 2017 and 2018, partial as it may be, into a lasting framework that allows us to avoid instability in the oil markets," Al-Falih said.

Saudi Arabia is committed to meeting its production curb pledge and balancing exports, he said, adding that the nation, the world's biggest oil exporter, will keep overseas shipments in March below 7 million barrels a day.

The country is also committed to the initial public offering of its state-run producer, Saudi Arabian Oil Co., known as Aramco, Al-Falih said. "We will announce the details of the listing venues and exact timing in due course."

The IPO is the centerpiece of the kingdom's plan to wean its economy off oil. The government has estimated the share sale could value the company at $2 trillion, though analysts make lower estimates.

'Precursor to 9/11': Trade center bomb echoes after 25 years

By Jennifer Peltz
Associated Press

AP file photo

Emergency vehicles and personnel fill New York's West Street following an underground explosion Feb. 26, 1993 that rocked the World Trade Center. The deadly World Trade Center bombing that happened 25 years ago today foreshadowed the terror attack of Sept. 11, 2001.

NEW YORK — In a room in the 9/11 museum, there are a police captain's poignant notes and a flashlight that illuminated the way to safety. Nearby, a letter from a trapped man tells his family, "I love you very much.... Do wonderful things in your life."

The artifacts aren't from Sept 11, 2001. They are reminders of a terror attack that foreshadowed it: the deadly World Trade Center bombing, 25 years ago today.

That shadow fell personally on Lolita Jackson. As a young finance worker, she picked her way down 72 flights of blacked-out stairs on Feb. 26, 1993, and fled the trade center's south tower again in 2001.

The bombing "tends to be forgotten because 9/11 was such a cataclysmic event," she says, but the blast has its own place in the lives and memories of an estimated 50,000 people who were in the twin towers that snowy afternoon.

The explosion killed six people, injured over 1,000, manifested the growing terror threat from Islamic extremism and led to safety improvements credited with helping some people survive Sept. 11.

It "was, in many respects, a precursor to 9/11," says museum President Alice Greenwald.

A bomb exploded in a rented van in a basement parking garage shortly after noon, causing a crater several stories deep and a boom felt many floors above.

The blast killed visitor John DiGiovanni and five people who worked at the trade center — Robert Kirkpatrick, Stephen Knapp, William Macko, Wilfredo Mercado and Monica Rodriguez Smith. Smith was pregnant.

Power was knocked out and pipes were severed, flooding backup generators. Elevators got stuck. A group of kindergartners was stranded for hours on an observation deck. Other people were trapped in the debris-filled garage.

Police helicopters plucked nearly two dozen people, some disabled, from rooftops.

Some office workers broke out windows to try to clear smoke while awaiting help.

Others made their way down, emerging coated in soot.

Jackson didn't feel fearful at first. What was terrifying was the 2 1/2-hour trek down the pitch-dark, crowded, smoky stairs, wondering what she would see at the bottom.

"You didn't know what was going to happen," recalls Jackson, who now works in city government.

Alone in a stalled elevator with smoke wafting in and no idea why, trade center worker Carl Selinger began to think he might not get out alive.

So Selinger wrote a letter to his wife and children and waited. He was rescued after 5 ½ hours.

"I dealt with what I had to deal with," Selinger said at a recent discussion at the Sept. 11 museum.

Within days, a fragment of the rented van began leading investigators to Muslim extremists who sought to punish the United States for its Middle East policies, especially its aid to Israel, according to prosecutors.

As they pursued that case and learned about another plot to bomb New York City landmarks, then-Manhattan U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White "saw red lights blinking everywhere about how serious I thought this threat was from international terrorists," she told an audience Thursday at the museum.

Indeed, a letter found on an accused bombing conspirator's laptop made it chillingly clear the threat wasn't over.

"Unfortunately, our calculations were not very accurate this time. However, we promise you that next time it will be very precise and the World Trade Center will continue to be one of our targets," it said.

Six bombing suspects were convicted and sentenced, including accused mastermind Ramzi Yousef — a nephew of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, who would later become the self-professed architect of 9/11.

A seventh bombing suspect, Abdul Rahman Yasin, remains at large and is on the FBI's list of most wanted terrorists.

After the bombing, the government-run trade center banned underground parking, installed battery-operated lights in stairwells and added security cameras, among other safety upgrades.

A memorial fountain was destroyed on Sept. 11.

But bombing victims' names are now inscribed on one of the waterfall pools that bear the names of the nearly 3,000 killed on 9/11.

A room in the Sept. 11 museum is devoted to the bombing, and a special temporary installation marks the 25th anniversary.

After poring through the installation one day recently, 15-year-old Raven Rucinski, of Michigan, was surprised she'd never heard much about the bombing. Catlin Roberts, 39, from Swansea, Wales, reflected on the legacy of an event she had only dimly recalled.

"I don't think, when this happened, people understood what the people who did it represented," she said.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

KOUNTZE

East Texas man could get death sentence for child death

Jurors this week in Hardin County in East Texas begin hearing testimony on whether they should send a 40-year-old man to death row or life in prison after they convicted him of the torture death of his girlfriend's 4-year-old daughter.

Lawyers for Jason Wade Delacerda say prosecutors used emotional testimony and evidence to compensate for insufficient evidence to link the Kountze man to head injuries that killed Breonna Nichole Loftin in August 2011.

The Beaumont Enterprise reports prosecutors told jurors who convicted Delacerda Friday that the child's autopsy showed three parts of her brain bleeding, multiple fractures, burns, bruises, blisters, piercings and marks from standing on bottle caps.

Defense lawyers made no opening statement during the trial's guilt-innocence phase, called no witnesses and cross-examined none of the prosecution witnesses.

DALLAS

Gas leak suspected cause of deadly house explosion

Fire officials suspect a natural gas leak has caused an explosion that collapsed the roof of a newly renovated house, killing an 11-year-old girl and injuring four other members of her family.

The blast happened about 6:30 a.m. Friday in a neighborhood about one-third of a mile north of Dallas Love Field airport.

Firefighters arrived to find the shattered home but no fire and four injured family members waiting in the front yard, one of whom was holding the unconscious girl in his arms.

Fire-rescue spokesman Jason Evans says efforts to resuscitate the girl began immediately, but she was pronounced dead at a hospital.

Evans said two other homes had gas-leak explosions this month. Homes in the neighborhood have been evacuated and Atmos Energy crews are searching for other leaks.

ROUND ROCK

Officer directing traffic is hit, seriously injured

A suburban Austin police officer has been struck and seriously injured while directing traffic at the scene of a fatality.

Police in Round Rock, north of Austin, say they were summoned Sunday morning to a crash along Interstate 35 and found a body in the roadway.

They say the officer was hit by a vehicle while directing traffic during an investigation of the fatality.

Authorities say the driver who struck the officer is being held.

The name of the injured officer hasn't been immediately released.

EL PASO

Mother, 17, arrested for death of newborn

A 17-year-old El Paso woman is facing a capital murder charge for the stabbing and death of her newborn child earlier this month.

El Paso sheriff's deputies say Erica Gomez was arrested Friday.

Authorities say she gave birth to a baby girl at her home and the child was found dead about 12 hours later on Feb. 9, wrapped in a bathrobe inside a storage shed. Investigators say the child was left there immediately after birth and that the baby had stab wounds and cuts to her neck and body.

Deputies found the dead child after they'd been summoned to the home to do a welfare check.

Gomez is jailed on an $800,000 bond.

DALLAS

Gunman in car kills woman inside her apartment

A Dallas woman has been killed and her sister wounded after police say they were shot by a gunman in a car while they were inside their second-floor apartment.

Police say the 18-year-old woman and her 16-year-old sister heard a disturbance outside their home Saturday afternoon and when they went to a window to look they were shot.

Nequacia Jacobs was pronounced dead at a hospital. Her sister is in serious condition but is expected to survive.

Police are looking for the gunman who was described as inside a white car with tinted windows and black wheels.

HOUSTON

Security guard kills man outside club

Houston police say a man described as shooting at a club has been shot and killed by a security guard.

Authorities say the surveillance video shows the gunman outside the north Houston club early Sunday with a gun in his hand. Investigators say the security guard was acting in self-defense and protecting the club's customers.

Police say the shooting appears to have started with an argument inside the club. A man went out to his car, got a gun, walked back toward the building and began firing. The security guard returned fire and hit him.

The name of the man killed hasn't been immediately released. No one else has been hurt.

HOUSTON

Killer in dragging death loses federal court appeal

A prisoner on Texas death row for the dragging death of a man nearly two decades ago in East Texas has lost a federal court appeal, moving him a step close to execution for the hate crime.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals last week turned down an appeal from 43-year-old John William King, condemned for the June 1998 slaying of James Byrd.

Evidence showed the 49-year-old Byrd was chained by his ankles to the back of a pickup truck and dragged along a road outside Jasper in East Texas. Prosecutors said Byrd was killed simply because he was black. Attorneys for King argued his trial lawyers were deficient. The 5th Circuit disagreed.

One of two other white men convicted has been executed. The third man is serving life.

Studies are increasingly clear: Uber, Lyft congest cities

By Steve LeBlanc
Associated Press

AP file photo

Traffic makes its way across 42nd Street on Jan. 11 in New York City. One promise of ride-hailing companies was a drop in the number of cars in urban areas and an easing of clogged city streets. But a survey by an urban planning group suggests the opposite: That ride-hailing companies may be pulling riders off buses, subways and bicycles and putting them in cars.

BOSTON — One promise of ride-hailing companies like Uber and Lyft was fewer cars clogging city streets. But studies suggest the opposite: that ride-hailing companies are pulling riders off buses, subways, bicycles and their own feet and putting them in cars instead.

And in what could be a new wrinkle, a service by Uber called Express Pool now is seen as directly competing with mass transit.

Uber and Lyft argue that in Boston, for instance, they complement public transit by connecting riders to hubs like Logan Airport and South Station. But they have not released their own specific data about rides, leaving studies up to outside researchers.

And the impact of all those cars is becoming clear, said Christo Wilson, a professor of computer science at Boston's Northeastern University, who has looked at Uber's practice of surge pricing during heavy volume.

"The emerging consensus is that ride-sharing (is) increasing congestion," Wilson said.

One study included surveys of 944 ride-hailing users over four weeks in late 2017 in the Boston area. Nearly six in 10 said they would have used public transportation, walked, biked or skipped the trip if the ride-hailing apps weren't available.

The report also found many riders aren't using hailed rides to connect to a subway or bus line, but instead as a separate mode of transit, said Alison Felix, one of the report's authors.

"Ride sharing is pulling from and not complementing public transportation," she said.

That's not quite what Uber founder Travis Kalanick suggested in 2015 when he said, "We envision a world where there's no more traffic in Boston in five years."

A study released in December found that large increases in the number of taxis and ride-sharing vehicles are contributing to slow traffic in Manhattan's central business district. It recommended policies to prevent further increases in "the number of vacant vehicles occupied only by drivers waiting for their next trip request."

In San Francisco, a study released in June found that on a typical weekday, ride-hailing drivers make more than 170,000 vehicle trips, about 12 times the number of taxi trips, and that the trips are concentrated in the densest and most congested parts of the city.

And a survey released in October of more than 4,000 adults in Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, the San Francisco Bay Area, Seattle and Washington, D.C., also concluded that 49 to 61 percent of ride-hailing trips would have not been made at all — or instead by walking, biking or public transit — if the option didn't exist.

The Boston study found that the main reason people opted for ride-hailing was speed. Even those with a public transit pass would drop it for ride-hailing despite the higher cost.

Sarah Wu, a graduate student at Boston University, uses Uber less than once a week but more often if she has guests. She lives near a subway line but will opt for Uber if it looks like public transit will be a hassle.

"I would prefer to have the Uber take me there directly rather than having to transfer several times and wait at a bus stop," said Wu, who doesn't own a car.

A spokesman for Lyft stressed that ride-hailing could reduce the number of personally owned cars on the roads.

"Lyft is focused on making personal car ownership optional by getting more people to share a ride, helping to reduce car ownership, and partnering with public transportation," spokesman Adrian Durbin said in a statement.

Uber is hoping to wean drivers from their cars in part by encouraging its carpooling services, spokeswoman Alix Anfang said.

"Uber's long-term goal is to end the reliance on personal vehicles and allow a mix of public transportation and services like Uber," Anfang said.

Uber's new Express Pool links riders who want to travel to similar destinations. Riders walk a short distance to be picked up at a common location and are dropped off near their final destinations — essentially, how a bus or subway line functions.

The service was tested in November in San Francisco and Boston and has found enough ridership to support it 24 hours a day. Round-the-clock service was also rolled out last week in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Washington, Miami, San Diego and Denver, with more cities to follow.

"This could be good for congestion if it causes vehicle occupancy rates to go up, but on the other hand, the Uber Pool rides and I guess these Express rides are really, really cheap, just a couple of dollars, so they're almost certainly going to be pulling people away from public transport options," Wilson said. "Why get on a bus with 50 people when you can get into a car and maybe if you're lucky, you'll be the only person in it?"

In a study released in October by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, as many as two-thirds of transit users reported also using ride-hailing companies.

A report released this month by San Francisco's Bay Area Rapid Transit system found ridership down disproportionately on weekends and off-peak hours, in part citing ride-hailing trips.

The MBTA is focusing on what it can control: pumping money into new trains, buses and infrastructure improvements, spokesman Joe Pesaturo said.

At least one study did not pin increased congestion on hailing services. Seattle-based firm Inrix scoured data from 2012 to 2015 in London and found the number of passenger vehicles, including Uber cars, remained the same or even dipped slightly. Reasons for increased congestion included a surge in road construction and delivery trucks dropping off online purchases.

Second weekend for 'Black Panther' is one of the best ever

By Jake Coyle
Associated Press

NEW YORK — "Black Panther" scored one of the best second weekends ever with an estimated $108 million in ticket sales, putting it on track to rank among the highest-grossing blockbusters ever.

Ryan Coogler's Marvel sensation is on a box-office course that few films have managed, according to studio estimates Sunday. It is only the fourth film to earn $100 million in its second weekend, along with "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" ($149.2 million), "Jurassic World" ($106.6 million) and "The Avengers" ($103.1 million).

Only "The Force Awakens" had a better second weekend than "Black Panther," which dropped 47 percent after its opening weekend of $201.8 million.

"Black Panther" has grossed $400 million domestically and $704 million worldwide in two weeks. The film, starring Chadwick Boseman and Michael B. Jordan, has held even better overseas, where it dropped 42 percent this weekend. Its release in China, the world's second-largest film market, is set for March 9.

"Whatever your projections for 'Black Panther' might be, just increase them by 20 percent and you might be on point," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for comScore. "Now the question isn't so much if it gets to $1 billion, but how far beyond that number does it go."

The results so far put it in the company of "Jurassic World," which ended up grossing $1.67 billion worldwide, and "The Avengers," which ultimately hauled in $1.52 billion. Both rank among the top five of all time, not accounting for inflation.

"Black Panther" is spurring a surge for the industry. The overall box office is up 12.5 percent from last year, according to comScore.

And the movie is doing it with an especially diverse audience. This weekend's audience was 33 percent African-American, 37 percent Caucasian, 18 percent Hispanic and 7 percent Asian, according to comScore.

The film's success didn't appear to hurt the handful of new releases.

Faring the best was "Game Night," starring Jason Bateman and Rachel McAdams, from Warner Bros.' New Line. The comedy, which cost about $37 million to make and was directed by John Francis Daley and Jonathan Goldstein, debuted with $16.6 million, coming in slightly above forecasts.

Though comedies have struggled at the box office in recent years, "Game Night" got a modest boost from good reviews and perhaps from the waves of moviegoers brought in by "Black Panther."

"It's that whole 'a rising tide floats all boats,'" said Jeff Goldstein, distribution head for Warner Bros.

"The whole (comedy) genre is just really troubled," he added. "New Line is, I think, particularly good at teasing these movies out to be the best versions of them. They've had a lot of success in the past, whether it be 'Horrible Bosses' or 'Central Intelligence.'"

Alex Garland's sci-fi thriller "Annihilation," starring Natalie Portman, also debuted with some momentum thanks to strong reviews. It opened with $11 million on about 2,000 screens (or about half the number of "Black Panther").

Paramount earlier sold the film's international rights (except in China) to Netflix after disappointing reactions in test screenings. Opening weekend audiences largely responded similarly, giving the film a poor C CinemaScore.

It's not uncommon for studios to offload international rights to recoup their costs. But selling an ambitious film from Garland, writer-director of 2015's acclaimed "Ex Machina," to Netflix was seen by some as a sign of diminishing aspirations for a Hollywood major studio.

But Paramount has been behind some of the more artistically audacious releases in recent years, including Darren Aronofsky's "mother!," Alexander Payne's "Downsizing" and Martin Scorsese's "Silence."

"Annihilation," an unusually challenging and psychedelic sci-fi release for a major studio, cost about $40 million to produce. It's among the last releases green-lit by previous Paramount head Brad Grey. Jim Gianopulos took over as chief executive and chairman last year, and he is pushing a more franchise-focused agenda.

Kyle Davies, Paramount's domestic distribution chief, declined to comment on the Netflix deal but said he was pleased with the film's performance.

"Alex is a very talented filmmaker, and he's created this mind-bending experience," Davies said. "And I think there's going to be a lot of chatter and a lot of buzz that will propel the movie into the spring moviegoing season."

Also opening was the micro-budget young adult romance "Every Day," the first release from Metro Goldwyn Mayer's rebooted Orion Pictures. The film, which cost less than $5 million to make, debuted with $3.1 million in ticket sales.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers also are included. Final three-day domestic figures will be released Monday.

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President is fortunate to have John Kelly

■ If Trump relaces chief of staff, it would be his most destructive personnel move since firing Comey

RICH LOWRY
King Features Syndicate

If John Kelly didn't exist, President Donald Trump would have to invent him, and he wouldn't be able to.

The chief of staff has had a rocky couple of weeks — first it was the imbroglio over ousted White House staff secretary Rob Porter, and now stories of a brewing clash with Jared Kushner -- but he is as close as it gets to an indispensable man in the Trump White House.

Where else is the president going to find someone whom he likes and respects (at least on most days), who can intimidate the White House staff into a semblance of order, who has experience in wielding responsibility in even more difficult circumstances, and who shares Trump's instincts?

The last of these is the reason why, more than any other, there has been a major downdraft in Kelly's press coverage. He went from "Trump's Last Best Hope," per Time magazine last August, to a bitter disappointment. A writer at FiveThirtyEight wrote a piece the other day explaining "How the Media Bungled the John Kelly Story," referring not to any specific story about Kelly, but to the overall sense that he'd be a restraining influence on the president.

There are two things to say about this: One, Kelly has indeed been a restraining influence on Trump, even if that is difficult to believe. Just imagine a White House with all those who have now mostly been locked out — Corey Lewandowski and Co. — back on the inside to do their utmost to create the chaos and self-valorizing leaking sufficient for "Fire and Fury: The Sequel."

Two, Kelly's fundamental offense as far as the press is concerned is that he, unexpectedly, shares Trump's views on hot-button cultural issues such as immigration and crime.

Kelly's boosters in the media had a fantasy that he would show up at the White House and take Trump aside at some point and explain, "It is my solemn duty to advise you, Sir, to accept whatever immigration proposal that Lindsey Graham backs, and failing that, my resignation letter will be on your desk in the morning."

This didn't accord with Kelly's hawkishness as secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. What most people had missed about Kelly is that he's an Irish Catholic kid from Boston who shares Trump's Northeastern working-class conservative sensibility that is tough-minded and impatient with political correctness.

Kelly took justifiable incoming over the Porter fiasco, which was badly mishandled. But it wasn't the chief of staff's responsibility to bird-dog Porter's security clearance. Kelly seems to have been guilty, for the most part, of the normal human impulse to believe the best of someone he'd worked with closely and had always conducted himself professionally.

With all the negative press coverage of the Porter fiasco, stories inevitably emerged of Trump's thinking about a replacement for Kelly. If Trump were actually to dump him, it'd be his most destructive personnel move since firing FBI Director James Comey.

Trump wouldn't get someone whom he admires as much. The president respects military men and billionaires, and perhaps the former even a little more than the latter. Kelly, the Marine general who lost a son in Afghanistan, can speak to Trump peer to peer in a way no Washington politico can.

Trump wouldn't find someone else who is so clearly in it for the right reasons. Kelly didn't want the position and repeatedly refused it when it was first offered. He has no interest in jockeying for his next big Washington job or in cashing in.

Trump wouldn't find a comparable enforcer. Kelly's military bearing and no-nonsense demeanor serve him well in the cockpit of Trump world. His extensive leadership experience in even more complicated, high-pressure situations has prepared him for an environment in which chaos and the sense of crisis constantly emanate from the top.

In short, it is Kelly or bust. Trump should consider himself fortunate to have him, and avoid the fool's errand of trying to find an improvement.

OUR VIEW

Local voters need to answer elections administrator's call

The subject line of the email read "Early Voting in Midland County."

It was from Midland County Elections Office Administrator Deborah Land. She was asking the media for its help "reaching the voters of Midland County. Our turnout this week has been very low. We have heard from several people that they thought early voting ended yesterday. Please let them know it continues thru next Friday."

Ms. Land doesn't cry wolf when it comes to elections business, and the numbers backed up her appeal for more participation. On Saturday – basically the halfway point of the early voting period – 2,970 voters in Midland County had cast a ballot. She was right about a low turnout. If the early voting numbers are doubled, there would be fewer than 6,000 early votes. In 2014, when there was also a Republican primary for county judge and state Senate, the total participation through early voting was more than 8,000.

Midland County residents can, and must, do better than what we are seeing so far.

And frankly we are not sure what the problem is. We have three quality candidates for county judge. And they are as different as the county's Republican Party electorate.

We often have been critical about the lack of competition but we can't say that about county judge. Nor can we say that about the state Senate race, in which one of Midland's own, Mike Canon, is running against a relatively popular incumbent Kel Seliger and another challenger, Victor Leal, both of Amarillo. Where's the interest, Midland County?

And Democrats, there is blame for you in the low turnout. Despite having a competitive race for the very high-profile position of governor, just 251 Democrats cast a ballot in person during the first week of early voting. How low is 251? Well, the low daily total for Republicans was still 100 votes more than the Democrats' total for the week. Here's a second statistic that should motivate Democrats — Republicans have cast more than 89 percent of all in-person ballots during early voting thus far. Somewhere there are potential party nominees for local and regional offices shaking their heads about their chances come November.

What is your motivation is for answering Land's call and casting an educated ballot in the primary? Maybe you care about who the GOP will nominate for the next leader of the county; maybe you want to weigh in on the Democrats' next pick for governor. Or maybe you want to respond to Editor Stewart Doreen's commentary that GOP division is impacting turnout and Canon's chances in the state Senate race.

We don't care what motivates you; we just want you to become motivated and educated about the candidates on the primary ballot. It's time for voters to respond. Lack of response could keep qualified candidates from seeking office in the future. We would hate for voters to send the message that it doesn't take much from a candidate to win.

Answer Land's call. Let's see voter turnout worthy of those people running for office.

* * *

List of early voring centers and the hours polls will be open can be found on Page 3A.

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NRA boss reverts to Cold War paranoia

■ Everyone is on edge — even those who like Trump.

DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group

I had supposed President Trump was causing only his opponents to freak out, not his supporters. Then I heard Wayne LaPierre.

To see the National Rifle Association boss speak (last) week at the annual Conservative Political Action Conference was to see a man in urgent need of mental-health intervention. He turned a conventional speech about guns (specifically, the need for more of them in schools) into a paranoid fantasy about a socialist takeover of the United States.

He saw a "tidal wave" of "European-style socialists bearing down upon us," creating a "captive society," eliminating "resistance," making a "list" in a cloud database of those who spank their children, expunging the "fundamental concept of moral behavior," controlling speech through "safe zones."

With this "new socialist wave in America," he said, "it's just a short hop to the systematic destruction of our most basic freedoms."

Had LaPierre fallen on his head and awakened in 1964? All that was missing was for him to quote General Jack D. Ripper in "Dr. Strangelove" on "the international communist conspiracy to sap and impurify all of our precious bodily fluids."

And just who is perpetrating this red invasion, 27 years after the Soviet Union fell? Our billionaire president, who with his Cabinet and staff of billionaires and Goldman Sachs executives just secured a $1.5 trillion tax cut for the rich? The Republican-controlled Congress, which seeks to dismantle the social-safety net and business regulations? The pro-business majority on the Supreme Court?

LaPierre singled out three billionaire capitalists to blame for the socialist revolution: George Soros, Michael Bloomberg and Tom Steyer. But he saw conspirators everywhere in the government — Trump's government: the FBI (with its "corruption" and "rogue leadership"), the Justice Department, the Environmental Protection Agency, the intelligence agencies. He also blamed the Democrats, media, Hollywood, universities, classrooms, Black Lives Matter, elites and Keith Ellison.

Even the CPAC audience seemed to be stunned by this unhinged time-traveler from the Cold War. "You know, I hear a lot of quiet in this room, and I sense your anxiety," he said. "And you should be anxious, and you should be frightened."

LaPierre was so frightened and anxious that CPAC wouldn't list a time for his speech in advance, to avoid protests. He travels with a huge security entourage, even though his opponents eschew guns. Does he think he will be pelted with sprouted quinoa?

And it isn't just LaPierre. His group's spokeswoman, Dana Loesch, exhorted the CPAC crowd to turn against reporters in the room, saying "many in the legacy media love mass shootings" because "crying white mothers are ratings gold."

I am empathetic. None of us are at our best these days. We are on edge — even those who like Trump. We can't help it; it's in our brain chemistry.

A new book by neuropsychologist William Stixrud and my friend Ned Johnson provides an explanation. The book, "The Self-Driven Child," explains how calm parents give their kids more sense of control and help them perform better.

The science is simple. If you are calm, your executive functions handled by the brain's prefrontal cortex — organizing, problem-solving, self-control, decision-making — perform well. If you are overly stressed, those functions decline as your brain floods with cortisol. Stress is contagious, and if you are in the presence of somebody who is out of control — a parent, an employer or, say, a president — your own executive functions decline.

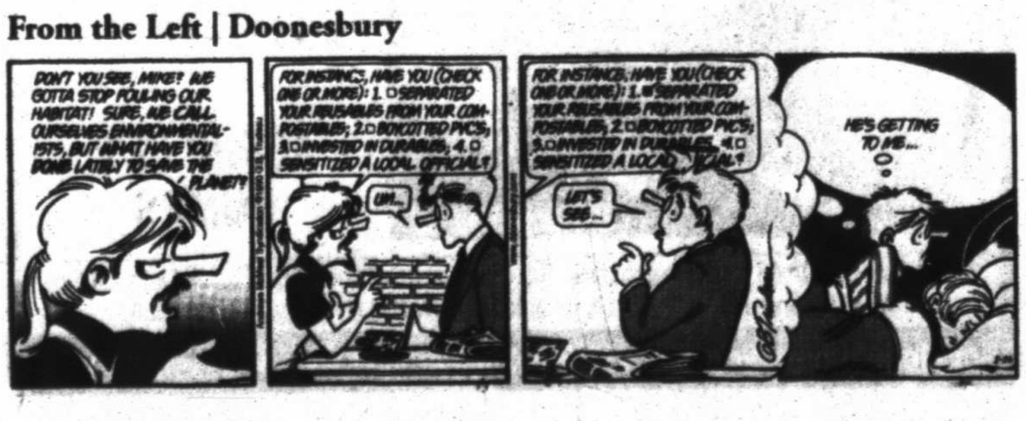
"It's a terrible thing for a chief executive of anything to be fear-mongering or emotionally reactive," Johnson explains, "because all the bright capable people around you become less bright and less capable if they're overly stressed."

You don't have to be the focus of the person's ire or in the person's physical presence for the stress to spread. A 2014 study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences found that those who watched six hours or more of media about the Boston Marathon bombings reported higher stress than those present at the bombings. And Trump is almost a perfect stress-inducing machine, hitting all the buttons that University of Montreal psychiatry professor Sonia Lupien lists as causes of stress: novelty, unpredictability, perceived threat to safety or ego and a low sense of control.

In theory, some who support Trump would be less affected, because they might feel comforted by an I-alone-can-fix-it authority figure. But, as poor Wayne LaPierre shows, no one is immune.

Being led by a man who rages out of control makes all of us — friend and foe alike — more like that ourselves.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Q&A: What the battle of memos on FBI surveillance showed

By Mary Clare Jalonick
Associated Press

AP file photo

House Intelligence Committee Chairman Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., center, flanked by the committee's ranking member Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., left, and Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., listens on Capitol Hill in Washington during the committee's hearing on allegations of Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election March 20, 2017. Two weeks after President Donald Trump blocked its full release, the House Intelligence Committee published on Saturday a partially blacked-out version of a classified Democratic memo aiming to counter a GOP narrative that the FBI and Justice Department conspired against Trump as they investigated his ties to Russia.

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the battle of the classified memos in the House Intelligence Committee, both sides have now had their say on whether the FBI and Justice Department acted inappropriately as they began investigating President Donald Trump's ties to Russia.

A Democratic memo that was declassified Saturday, with sections blacked out and after weeks of delays, aimed to defend the FBI and Justice Department's conduct. That was after a declassified Republican memo released Feb. 2 implied that the department had conspired against Trump in the investigation.

Now that both are out, what have we learned? And why does it matter? Some questions and answers on the dueling memos:

Q: Why did Republicans write their memo? And why did the Democrats feel the need to respond?

A: Republicans say they are alerting the public to abuses they say they've uncovered at the Justice Department and FBI. The GOP memo describes the department's use of information compiled by former British spy Christopher Steele in obtaining a secret warrant to monitor the communications of onetime Trump campaign foreign policy adviser Carter Page. Steele's anti-Trump research was paid for by Democrat Hillary Clinton's campaign and the Democratic National Committee. The warrant was first obtained in 2016 and then renewed three times by a secret court under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, or FISA.

Democrats say the unprecedented four-page memo written by Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee "cherry picked" information from the classified FISA warrant and other sources to make a political point. Led by California Rep. Adam Schiff, Democrats wrote a 10-page rebuttal memo to add detail and context to what the Republicans had written.

Both classified memos had to be approved by President Donald Trump for release. Trump declassified the GOP memo with no redactions over the objections of the Justice Department, but initially blocked the Democrats' document and forced them to negotiate with Justice over what should be blacked out. The final Democratic memo has several redactions.

Q: Did the Justice Department and FBI use political opposition research, at least in part, to obtain a surveillance warrant on a former Trump adviser?

A: Yes. It's clear from both memos that Steele's material was used as part of the initial FISA application. The application itself remains classified, so the public can't assess on its own how much it was used. The Republican document says the compilation of memos drafted by Steele, now known as the Trump-Russia "dossier," made up an "essential part" of the surveillance application. The Democratic memo says the FBI "made only narrow use of Steele's sources" in the government's FISA application for Page.

The Democratic memo says the Justice Department provided "additional information from multiple independent sources that corroborated Steele's reporting" in the dossier. Most of the details of the corroborated information are blacked out, but they appear to reference Page's meeting with Russian officials. The Democratic document also asserts that the FBI's concerns about Page long predate the dossier and that the government's application to monitor Page's communications details suspicious activities he undertook during the 2016 presidential campaign.

Q: Did the Justice Department omit important information about the funding of Steele's research when it obtained the secret surveillance warrant on Page?

A: According to the Democratic memo, the Justice Department disclosed Steele's political motivations, telling the secret court that Steele was hired to research Russian ties to a candidate and that he was likely hired by someone "looking for information that could be used to discredit" that candidate's campaign. The GOP memo focuses on the fact that the application does not specifically mention Clinton or the Democratic National Committee.

Trump seized on that point in a tweet Saturday evening: "Dem Memo: FBI did not disclose who the clients were — the Clinton Campaign and the DNC. Wow!"

In an interview with The Associated Press on Saturday, Schiff said the Republicans' complaint about the missing identifiers is "ironic" given a separate investigation by Republicans on the panel into whether Obama administration officials inappropriately made requests to "unmask" identities of Trump campaign officials in intelligence reports.

Q: Trump says the GOP memo "vindicates" him in the special counsel's Russia investigation. Was that the point of the memo?

A: Republicans say it was not, pushing back after Trump tweeted that the GOP memo "totally vindicates 'Trump' in probe. But the Russian Witch Hunt goes on and on."

Congressional Democrats and Republicans, including House Speaker Paul Ryan and Rep. Trey Gowdy of South Carolina, who helped draft the GOP memo, have said it shouldn't be used to undermine special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Trump's campaign and Russia's election interference.

So far, Mueller has charged nearly 20 people as part of his investigation. Three Trump associates have pleaded guilty and agreed to cooperate with prosecutors.

Q: What's next for the House Intelligence Committee?

A: Democrats say they hope the end of the protracted memo saga will mean more of a focus on the panel's own investigation into Russian interference. Schiff said in his interview with The AP that there are additional witnesses scheduled.

"It's really been an effort to distract the public from the Russia investigation," Schiff said of the GOP memo.

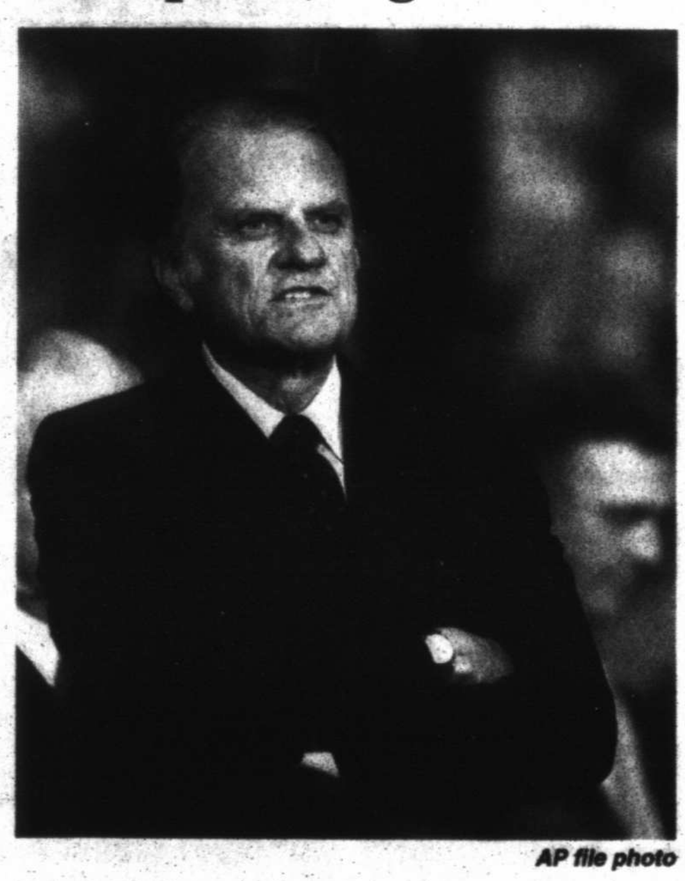
It's unclear how closely the two sides will be able to work together. Members have described a total breakdown of the panel's traditional bipartisanship, and there are plans to build a wall to separate Republican and Democratic staff who have long sat side by side.

One GOP member of the panel, Florida Rep. Tom Rooney, said it's likely Republicans and Democrats will issue separate reports on the Russia investigation, and partisans will only believe one report.

"That level of trust is just gone," he said Feb. 8.

Billy Graham had pride, regret on civil rights issues

By Jay Reeves
Associated Press



AP file photo

Rev. Billy Graham sings a hymn as he stands on the stage at the Hartford Civic Center on May 20, 1985 in Conn. Graham, who died Wednesday at his home in North Carolina's mountains at age 99, reached hundreds of millions of listeners around the world with his rallies and his pioneering use of television. Graham's body was brought to his hometown of Charlotte on Saturday as part of a procession expected to draw crowds of well-wishers.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The Rev. Billy Graham was single-minded when he preached about God, prefacing sermon points with the phrase "The Bible says ..." Yet he had a complicated role in race relations, particularly when confronting segregation in his native South.

In Alabama for one of his evangelistic crusades in 1965, just months after passage of the Civil Rights Act, Graham talked about the Confederate flag flying "proudly" atop the state Capitol and the fact that both of his grandfathers served as rebel soldiers, according to a recording available on his ministry's website. He didn't address the evils of segregation directly, talking instead about God's unique power to change people and communities.

But Graham also drew scorn from segregationists for speaking to racially mixed crowds and allowing blacks and whites to mingle during the trademark altar call that ended each service. The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was an ally, and King publicly credited Graham with helping the cause of civil rights.

As a white moderate who spoke with a Southern drawl, Graham helped ease the region's transition away from legalized segregation, said Steven P. Miller, a scholar who has written about Graham. Graham had a "huge base" of white support in the Bible Belt, Miller said, and those people listened to him.

"He could reach that audience as a native Southerner, but also because he spoke a familiar evangelical language — and because he was obviously not an activist," said Miller, author of the book "Billy Graham and the Rise of the Republican South."

"Ultimately, what Graham put forth was what we might now call a colorblind gospel," Miller said via email. "In this sense, he provided a familiarly Christian path for some white Southerners to back away from Jim Crow."

A current civil rights leader from Graham's native North Carolina, the Rev. William J. Barber II, credited Graham with meeting with King and agreeing to challenge segregation, an act Graham pursued through preaching reconciliation and peace rather than marching.

"Billy Graham inherited a faith in the American South that had accommodated itself to white supremacy, but he demonstrated a willingness to change and turn toward the truth," Barber said in a Facebook post after Graham's death. "He helped to tear down walls of segregation, not build them up."

Still, Graham had regrets. In an interview with The Associated Press in 2005, when he held his final crusade, Graham said he wished he had fought for civil rights more forcefully. In particular, Graham lamented not joining King and other pastors at voting rights marches in Selma, Alabama, in 1965.

"I think I made a mistake when I didn't go to Selma," Graham said. "I would like to have done more."

Graham also apologized for making anti-Semitic remarks that were captured on the White House taping system installed by President Richard Nixon, who relied on Graham for both spiritual needs and political cover. The relationship between the two men helped turn the South into the solidly Republican territory it is today, Miller argues in his book.

Born in 1918 on the family farm near Charlotte, North Carolina, Graham grew up in a South strictly divided by race. In an act that sounds mundane now but was perilous at the time, he demanded the removal of ropes separating black and white audience members at a crusade in the South in the early 1950s.

Graham was an internationally known preacher traveling the world by 1955, when King first gained notice by leading a bus boycott against segregation in Montgomery, Alabama. Graham embraced King's work, and the two appeared on stage together during a Graham crusade at New York's Madison Square Garden in 1957. Graham paid the jail bond following King's arrest during demonstrations in Albany, Georgia, in 1962.

Following the racial violence of "Bloody Sunday" in Selma in 1965 and partly at the suggestion of President Lyndon B. Johnson, Graham toured Alabama, speaking to racially mixed crowds. It was during that trip that he recorded the message in which he spoke wistfully of his Confederate roots and God's ability to heal.

While Graham didn't march with King in Selma, the Atlanta-based King Center for Non-violent Social Change credits Graham with evolving from an early, noncommittal stance on race following the Supreme Court's 1954 decision outlawing segregation in public schools.

Barber said Graham also eschewed the religious right movement, which many Southern evangelicals embraced on the way toward increasing their political power after the Nixon years.

"His life was about following Jesus, and he knew that meant an ongoing commitment to be changed by love," Barber said.

Michelle Obama to release memoir in November

By Hillel Italie
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Michelle Obama's memoir, one of the most highly anticipated books in recent years, is coming out Nov. 13.

The former first lady tweeted Sunday that the book, to come out a week after the 2018 midterm elections, is called "Becoming." By Sunday night, her memoir was in the top 20 on Amazon.com.

"Writing 'Becoming' has been a deeply personal experience," she said in a statement. "It has allowed me, for the very first time, the space to honestly reflect on the unexpected trajectory of my life. In this book, I talk about my roots and how a little girl from the South Side of Chicago found her voice and developed the strength to use it to empower others. I hope my journey inspires readers to find the courage to become whoever they aspire to be. I can't wait to share my story."

She and her husband, former President Barack Obama, last year reached a joint agreement with Penguin Random House for their respective books. The deal is believed to be well in excess of $30 million. "Becoming" will be released in the U.S. through the Crown Publishing Group, a Penguin Random House division that has published works by both Obamas.

Memoirs by former first ladies usually sell well, with notable works including Laura Bush's "Spoken from the Heart" and Hillary Rodham Clinton's "Living History." Michelle Obama's memoir is expected to be a major commercial and cultural event. She is admired around the world and has never told her story at length. Her only previous book was a 2012 work on gardening, "American Grown."

The book will be published simultaneously in 24 languages, from Swedish to Arabic, and Michelle Obama expects to promote "Becoming" in the U.S. and overseas. She will also narrate the audio version. According to Crown, Obama is working with a team of assistants, but that every word in the finished text will be hers.

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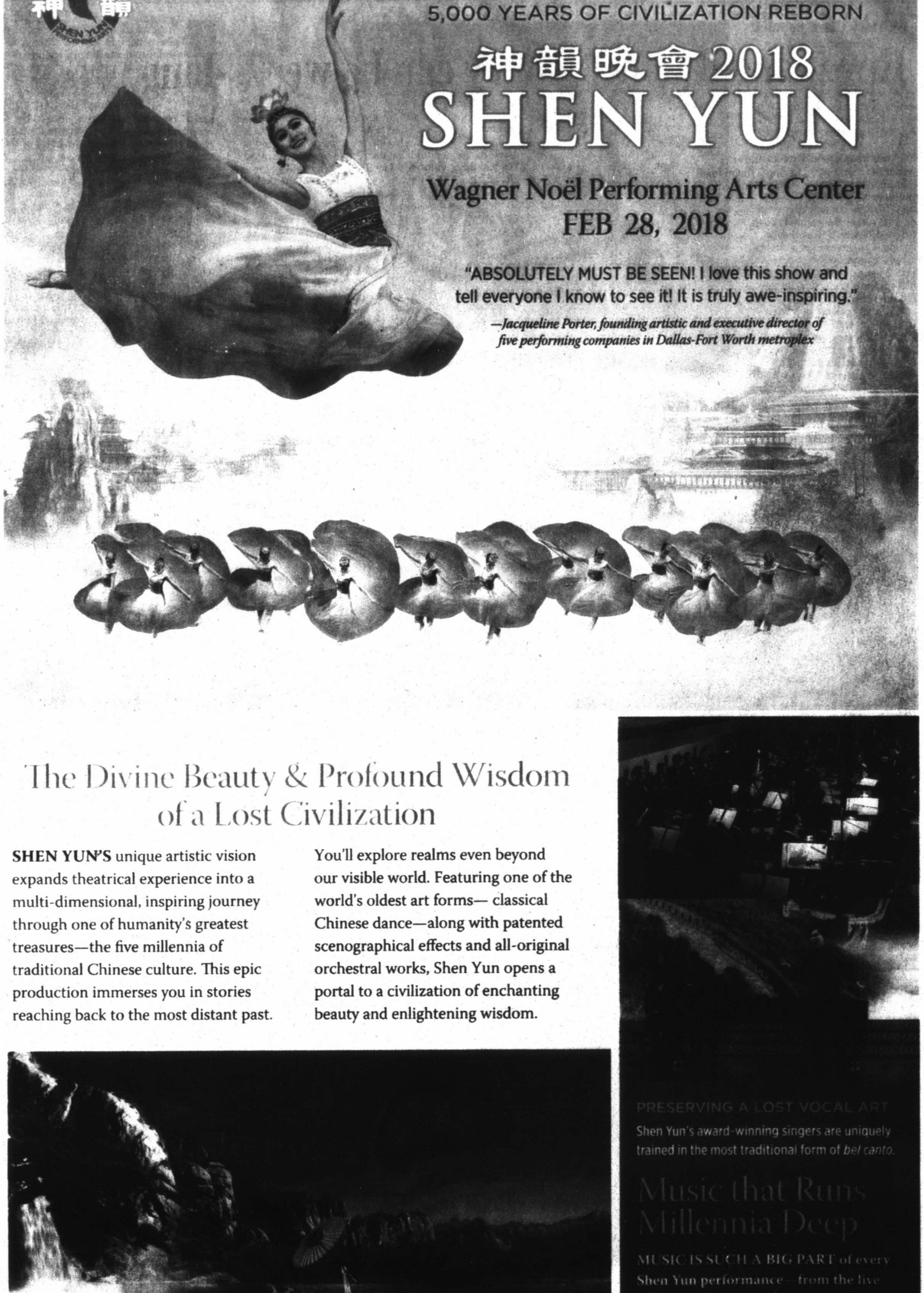

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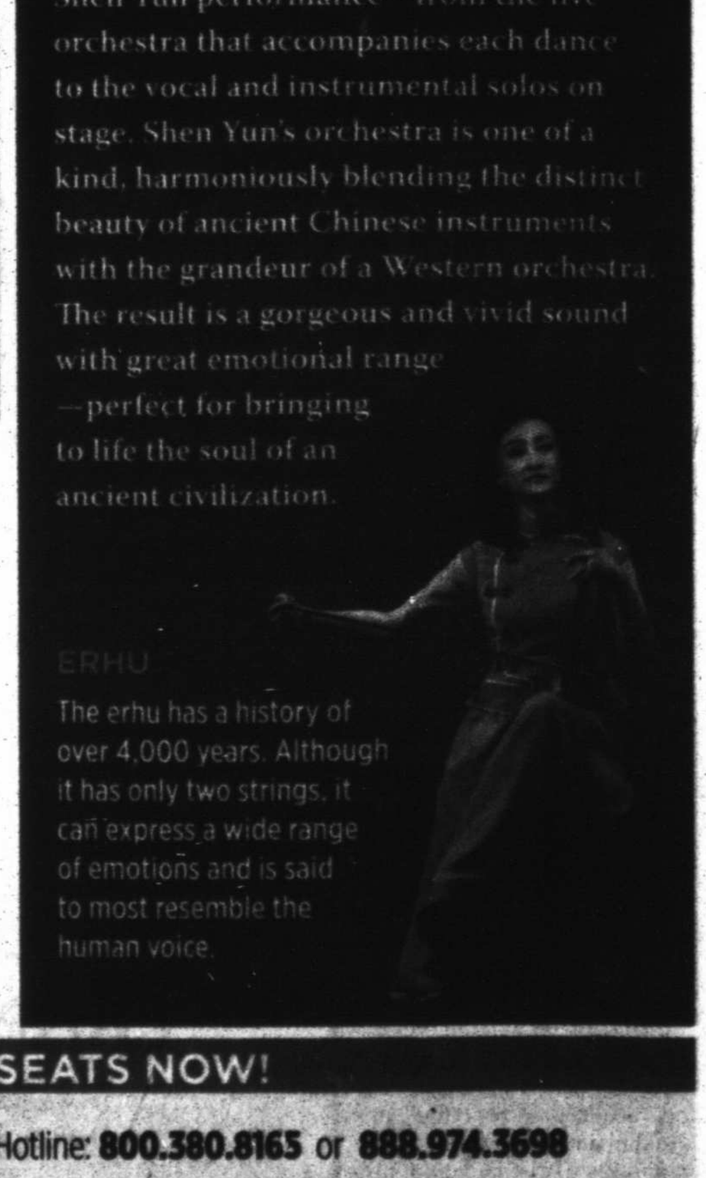

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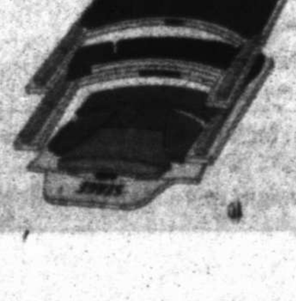

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DIGITAL LIFE

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt★com | Monday, February 26, 2018 | Section B

Replacing iPhone battery can be weeks-long process

By Hayley Tsukayama
The Washington Post

Some people across the country are reporting that they're having a tough time getting their iPhone batteries replaced through Apple's battery replacement program that launched after the company admitted that it slows down phones with older batteries to preserve the phones' performance.

From Silicon Valley to Washington, from Detroit to Atlanta, people are sharing stories of long waits, dropped customer service calls and hard-to-get appointments.

"I've lost confidence in this rarefied company," David Cohen, a former newspaper publisher from San Jose, said in an email to The Post. "I'm disappointed in them. As far as I'm concerned they should have recalled the phones and replaced all the batteries for free."

Cohen said he was initially told more than a month ago that there were no batteries for his two-year-old iPhone 6. He placed an order for a new battery and was told it might take several weeks. He still doesn't have his battery.

Others have said it's taken weeks to even land an appointment. And for some who were able to get through to someone, there aren't batteries available. One man told the Chicago Tribune in February that he was told to come in after a two-week wait for his battery appointment, only to be told that there were no batteries. Post columnist Geoffrey Fowler said last month that one store in the Bay area told him that stock levels won't be back to normal until the summer.

When asked to comment about the long wait times, Apple pointed to its support site. The company warned consumers that supplies would be limited. Different models can have different wait times. Some of the phones covered by Apple's replacement program — the iPhone 6 and iPhone 6 Plus — are no longer being manufactured, which means supply is limited. (Many of the people who have been complaining say they have the iPhone 6.) An internal document reportedly leaked to MacRumors just about a week after the program launched warned even then that some of those batteries would not come in until March.

Some time after the launch, Apple began saying on its website that people will not be able to make appointments until there is a battery available for their phone.

The battery replacement issue has been a lingering one for Apple at a time when the company is trying to maintain its hold on the shifting smartphone market. The

Please see **BATTERY**/4B

SMART SHOWERING

Courtesy of Moen

Moen's smart shower system can be operated with Amazon's Alexa.

Future smart homes will have roll-up TVs, a brain-wave bath

By Rachel Tepper Paley
Bloomberg

Don't worry: Technology may come and go, but some things never change. In the not-so-distant future, cars will drive themselves and men may become obsolete (sorry, guys), but home will always be home. It'll just be a heck of a lot smarter.

Granted, some tech is better than other tech. No one needs a Wi-Fi-connected juice press that doesn't actually juice anything (see: Juicero). Gadgets that offer real utility — such as a smart oven or open source furniture — stand a better chance of becoming ubiquitous. If you're skeptical, think of it this way: In-home refrigeration was the crazy, newfangled invention of 1913. Now, few among us can imagine living without it.

What will the home of the future look like? We took stock of the most exciting tech-forward home products on the market. It's only a matter of time until at least some of these come standard in every American home.

The high-tech living room

Thirty-nine million Americans – 1 in 6 of us — now have a smart speaker in their homes, and all signs indicate this figure will only creep higher with time. In the living room of the future, smart speakers will be a central feature, with newer models connected to every element in your home, from the lightbulbs to the lock on your front door to the thermostat. They will become so essential you won't think twice about plunking down $400 for one.

Watching TV and movies will be a wildly different experience. Why devote precious square footage in your living room to a giant screen when you could have one that effortlessly rolls up away and out of sight, like the one LG Display debuted at this year's Consumer Electronics Show? Or you may choose not to have a TV at all and opt instead for a superhigh-resolution short-throw projector that turns any white wall into your own personal movie theater. Sony's new $30,000 model would fit the bill, assuming the price comes down.

It will be much easier to design your living space. Apps and online platforms such as Modsy and Hutch will use virtual and augmented reality to help you visualize how a couch or chair will look in your home. You'll have lots of options: Modular, open-source furniture will dominate interior design trends, taking the lead from Ikea's Tom Dixon-designed Delaktig couch, which has more than 97 different configurations. Choose wisely, because you'll be spending more time on the couch than ever: Facebook's forthcoming living-room-geared video chat device will reportedly use smart camera technology to make people on both ends feel like they're sitting in the same room.

Expect your living room to be even more of a central hub than it already is. Deliveries will arrive here instead of on your front porch, thanks to Amazon.com's new Prime service, which allows verified delivery persons to carry goods right into your home.

And don't for a minute think ultramodern gadgetry is only for the younger set: Homes for the elderly will be outfitted with internet-connected gear that allows adult children to monitor their aging parents.

Smart cooking

The ultimate goal of kitchen technology

Please see **SMART**/2B

Uber wants to fly air taxis from DFW Airport to Frisco

By Gordon Dickson
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH — Uber and Fort Worth-based Bell Helicopter are working to launch an air taxi service in Dallas-Fort Worth.

And before you dismiss the idea as pie in the sky, it's important to note that officials from both companies say they're aiming to get it up and running by 2023.

"We expect test flights by 2020, and we anticipate commercial operation by 2023," Stan Swainitek, Uber's head of operations for aviation programs, told about 650 attendees recently at Tarrant County Commissioner Gary Fickes' annual transportation summit in Hurst.

The service would use battery-powered helicopters that take off and land vertically (like a tilt-rotor helicopter, but smaller and quieter) that would be developed and manufactured by Bell. It would amount to a whole new business segment for the company, which is better known for its large-scale production of military and civilian helicopters. Initially, the air taxi service, which has a working title of Uber Elevate, would operate from two "vertiports," which could be on flat land or the rooftop of a multistory building.

One vertiport would be at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport and the other would be at Frisco Station, near the Dallas Cowboys' new headquarters, The Star at Frisco. Other vertiports would be added in future years at strategic locations in Fort Worth, Arlington and Dallas. Hillwood, the company that developed Fort Worth's AllianceTexas development, would provide the station locations and other ground infrastructure.

The idea would be for North Texans to use other forms of ride-sharing or ride-hailing services such as Uber or Lyft for ground transportation from the vertiports to their final destination.

For Bell, air taxis would be a new niche. (The company, while working with Uber on the Uber Elevate project, also has its own working title for flying taxis — Bell Air.)

"Bell has plenty of customers on the upper end of the economic scale, but it's time to bring a better air-mobility solution to a different set of folks, and the way you do that is to bring the costs down," Scott Drennan, Bell's director of innovation, told the summit crowd.

The Federal Aviation Administration is ready to work with Uber and Bell to develop such a system, said Al Brunner, FAA safety inspector. The project would require the federal agency to take a fresh look at how to regulate airspace just a few hundred feet off the ground.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

There's nothing noticeably new on Samsung's Galaxy S9

By Geoffrey A. Fowler
The Washington Post

■ **REVIEW**

If a new phone debuts and no one can spot what's different, does it matter?

Samsung unveiled its new flagship Galaxy S9 phone Sunday, and I got to take a first look in advance. At one point, I set the S9 side by side with last year's Galaxy S8 ... and then couldn't figure out which was which.

Get out your magnifying glasses, folks: The S9's screen margins are a smidge slimmer at the top and bottom. The fingerprint reader on the back moved an inch toward the middle. The biggest change is that the camera aperture now physically opens and closes.

What's obvious is that smartphone tech has hit a plateau. Samsung's theory may be not to mess with success: The S8 design (now passed to the S9) was revolutionary, beating Apple's iPhone X to the all-screen look by several months. And there's less at stake for Samsung after putting to rest concerns about exploding batteries.

But in the United States and other developed markets, we're holding on to our phones longer and longer. Samsung's targets for the $720 S9 aren't just owners of the S8 — they may still be holding on to an S6 or older. So what, if anything, would make a new Android phone worth an upgrade?

Samsung chose to double down on the camera. And for anyone who treats smartphone photography as a hobby or form of communication, a few of the S9's improvements may pique interest — though they still need to be tested.

There are actually two new phones arriving in stores beginning March 16: the S9 with a 5.8-inch diagonal screen and the S9+ with a 6.2-inch diagonal screen. On the larger phone, Samsung added a second lens on the back for zooming in and depth-effect shots. (This has become standard on large high-end phones.)

On both models, the S9 promises improvements to photo quality. The camera will take up to 12 separate shots at once to combine into one 12 megapixel image, reducing pixelated noise in some shots.

Its slow-motion is now super slow — 960 frames per second — to capture every hilarious millisecond. A new mode can detect movement and automatically begin recording.

And the S9 camera has a geeky but impressive trick on its aperture, the opening where light comes in. Most smartphone cameras are stuck with a one-size-fits-all aperture. The S9 can flip between two apertures: opening up for 28 percent more light in the dark and closing back up for bright shots. When it switches, the camera looks as though it's winking.

Will any of this make a noticable difference in your shots? I'm looking forward to putting it in a three-way death match versus the Pixel 2 and iPhone X, both of which have a fixed aperture.

Over on the front camera, the S9 isn't letting the iPhone X have all the fun with its augmented-reality Animojis, those cartoons you make come to life by moving your head.

Samsung's answer is AR Emoji, and it advances the idea with a cartoon that looks kind of like you.

The S9 auto-generates personal AR Emojis based on a photo. Mine looked like a cross between me and Jay Leno. (Or maybe that's Tim Cook?) Regardless, it's fun to be the star.

Still, I was surprised Samsung didn't go all in on AR with front-facing depth sensors, as the iPhone X uses to unlock the phone and do other tricks with your face. (Samsung plays up its multiple unlock options, which use the same tech as last year. The S9 can unlock with facial recognition, but it isn't as secure as Apple's Face ID. There's also a secure iris reader and a trusty fingerprint scanner on the back.)

The S9 has lots of other little improvements, from a faster processor to louder sound. It's also one of the few flagship phones left that still comes with a standard headphone jack and the ability to add your own storage.

But the S9 doesn't tackle many of my bigger wishes for smartphones, such as new tech that can embed the fingerprint reader conveniently inside the front screen.

Or there's my big wish: Better battery life. The S9's battery might last a tiny bit longer, they say — but I keep hoping for a quantum leap.

Please see **SAMSUNG**/4B

Robot dogs 'learn' to navigate obstacles

■ Company video shows robots opening doors

By Alex Horton
The Washington Post

In one of the scariest moments in the movie "Jurassic Park," a pair of intelligent Velociraptors, brought back to Earth by man's hubris, defy an assumption about their limitations: They open a kitchen door.

Now imagine that the raptors are real, transformed into headless robot dogs that can negotiate stairs, fling open doors with their robotic claws and generally overcome the puny obstacles offered up by the human technicians at Boston Dynamics.

The robotics company recently posted a video showing two of their yellow SpotMini robots helping each other enter a door. Now the company has released a sequel in which a single 2 1/2-foot-tall robot is controlled by an unseen human driver who directs the robot claw to the door handle and issues a "Go" command. From then on, the SpotMini's camera-guided, autonomous programming kicks in to fulfill its mission to open the door.

Besides providing nightmare fuel for humankind, and plotlines for the bleak tech-world TV show "Black Mirror," the robots could also offer more positive benefits. During a natural or man-made disaster, for instance, they could help navigate situations that would otherwise put people in danger (think inspecting gas leaks or clawing through rubble in a bombed-out building).

(The SpotMini's bulkier cousin, BigDog, was funded by the Pentagon's research arm as a potential battlefield ally to carry heavy ammunition and help evacuate wounded troops. But the Marine Corps decided in 2015 that BigDog was simply too loud and could give away the position to enemy troops.)

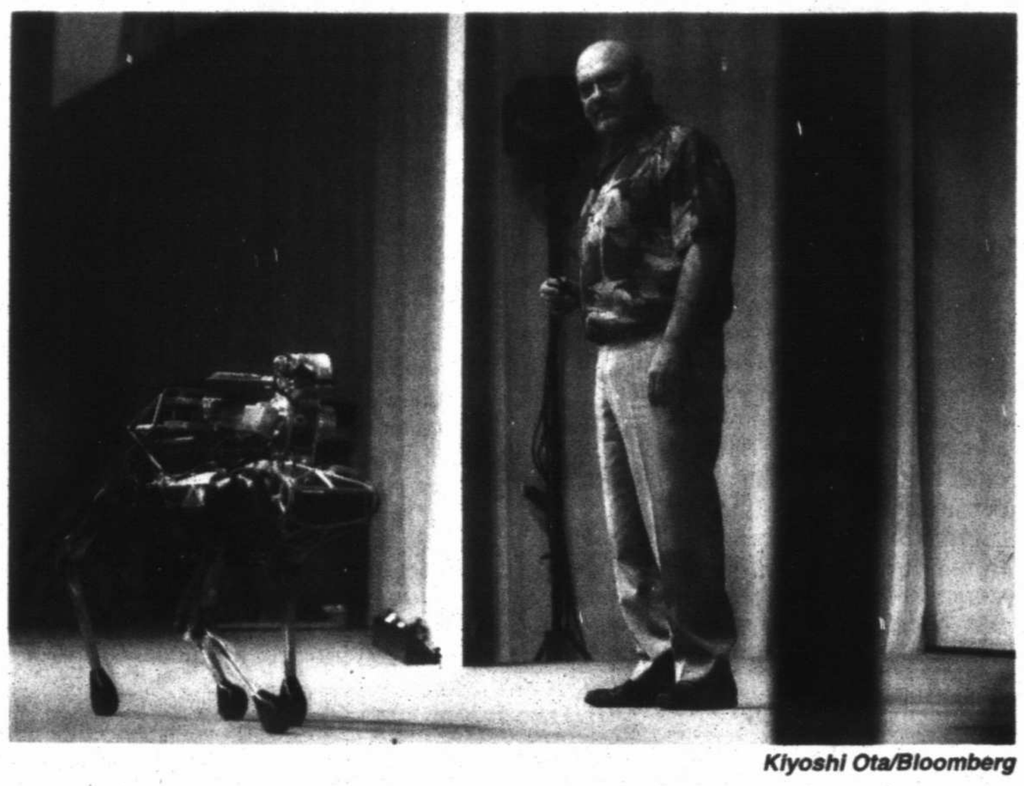
In the newest video, the SpotMini's claw is temporarily thwarted by a man using a wooden tool carried by Homo sapiens in Canada and the northeastern United States — a hockey stick. The man then presses on the door to prevent the SpotMini from passing through, and when that fails, he yanks on a strap on the robot's rear, twisting its metal joints, which pivot for torque on the slick floor.

But SpotMini is prepared for such attacks. Its software adjusts the legs and body when pushed off balance, a company summary of the video said. The robot dog then rises to the occasion and gets through the door, though the viewer does not know what waits for it on the other side.

Boston Dynamics did not return a request for comment on the video release. The company, owned by Japan's SoftBank Group, is part of Japan's investment in robotics as the population ages and there's greater demand for elder care and other aid for seniors.

In the earlier, Feb. 12 video, two SpotMinis apparently navigate the same obstacle. A clawless SpotMini approaches the door, analyzes its position with cameras studded on its frame, and makes way for a clawed colleague to open the door. In a show of digital chivalry, the second robot even politely holds the door for the other one to enter.

That video blazed across social media, with 8.3 million views in nine days of what history might someday record as dire warnings. (Mike Issac, a New York Times technology reporter, offered a contrarian take. "The robot dog is a good boy," he wrote on Twitter.)



Kiyoshi Ota/Bloomberg

Boston Dynamics CEO Marc Raibert demostrates the company's SpotMini robot at SoftBank World 2017 in Tokyo on July 20, 2017.

This is not the first time the hockey stick was used to taunt Boston Dynamics robots. Another popular video published a year ago shows the company's researchers poking the humanoid robot Atlas as it tries to pick up and move boxes on the ground. That's cute, because nine months later, Atlas showed off its back flip.

Perhaps these human-like advancements provide a clue for why the newest video carries a disclaimer on YouTube: (Note: This testing does not irritate or harm the robot.)

It is a notable addition, though possibly made too late.

These robots are designed to learn from their obstacles, and it seems the greatest obstacles so far are humans, not doors. Humans program them with memory. The robots, therefore, cannot help but remember when a human might stand in its way.

New gadgets to be showcased at mobile show

By Stefan Nicola and Joe Mayes
Bloomberg

Mobile World Congress, the wireless industry's biggest conference, begins (this) week in Barcelona, where more than 100,000 people are set to see the latest smartphones, artificial intelligence devices and autonomous drones exhibited by roughly 2,300 companies.

The event is also the industry's largest networking opportunity for executives, bankers, analysts and others to talk shop — and potential deals. Some 5,500 CEOs, among them Deutsche Telekom's Tim Hoettges and Vodafone Group's Vittorio Colao, will jostle for airtime discussing the major trends shaping the industry such as cybersecurity, the arrival of ultrafast fifth-generation mobile networks and blockchain.

Here are the big themes likely to dominate the event:

■ Samsung to Sony in device battle:

MWC has long been a venue for companies to show off their latest mobile devices and vie for consumer attention. This year, Samsung is back to unveil its latest flagship phone, widely expected to be the Galaxy S9.

Sony created buzz when it posted a video on Twitter Feb. 18 for what looks like it could be a new Xperia device with curves, and gadget blogs such as Wired have speculated whether foldable phones will make their debut this year.

■ M&A is back:

HMD Global is expected to present more Nokia-branded phones after making headlines with a reboot of the iconic Nokia 3310 in 2017.

There's more than just phones: There will be dozens of smartwatches, tablets, and drones debuted at MWC, as device makers push wearables.

After a lull through most of 2017, deals chatter is abuzz again.

Vodafone's move for Liberty Global's cable assets in continental Europe will be a key talking point, along with what Liberty's John Malone might do with any proceeds from that sale.

Scandinavia has also been busy, with Danish phone carrier TDC being bought by a group of pension funds after announcing a now-defunct deal with Sweden's Modern Times Group.

And Telenor, the Nordic region's biggest carrier, has received interest for its businesses in central and eastern Europe.

It's all part of the continued drive by carriers for scale and the ability to offer bundles of mobile, fixed and TV services, to attract and retain customers while allowing them to squeeze more profits. "We've got a fairly serious realignment going on," said Richard Price, head of telecoms, media and technology at MUFG in London. "The fixed-mobile convergence theme is back big time."

The buzzwords: VR, AI, blockchain:

The wireless industry's bet is that emerging technologies such as virtual reality, artificial intelligence, and blockchain can help create new products and fresh revenue streams as traditional sales wane.

There's hope that AI can help make networks more efficient by more accurately predicting demand, and cut service costs by replacing human workers with chatbots.

Telefonica has already used blockchain technology — the ledger system that underpins Bitcoin — to sell loans in Germany, and is exploring how the technology can be deployed for more corporate processes.

VR devices have been around at MWC for a few years now, but they largely continue to occupy the enthusiast videogamer niche.

The ambition for device-makers is that as the products become more powerful, smaller and lighter, VR use cases will mushroom, luring a greater part of the population to actually buy them.

■ 5G gets real(er):

Recent conferences have been awash with talk and pledges around 5G, the next-generation wireless network technology that promises speeds 10 times faster and lower lag times in transferring data.

This will allow for the rise of driverless cars on highways and potentially even surgeries in far-flung, remote places by a doctor in an urban hospital.

While most mobile-phone companies are targeting 2020 to start rolling out the technology, issues like network standards, high spectrum prices, as well as interference from rain, trees and fog continue to pose problems.

Analysts expect to hear more on how the technology can be deployed beyond the autonomous vehicles at the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang or connected refrigerators, and how carriers can turn 5G — which requires massive investments — into hard cash. "We haven't seen a huge amount of specific user cases that say 'This is what you can do with 5G that you couldn't do before,'" said Chris Woodland, a partner at OC&C Strategy Consultants in London. "There'll be discussion about whether there are some more compelling, revenue-generating user cases than first envisaged."

■ Connected machines:

5G also offers new opportunities for the so-called Internet of Things market. The likes of BT Group, Vodafone and Telefonica are trying to sell products and services to companies by helping them digitize their processes and hook factories up to the internet so they work more efficiently.

They're betting on this corporate market mainly because they know they've already lost major growth opportunities linked to consumers to the web giants — Amazon.com, Facebook and Google.

Deutsche Telekom's Hoettges has said he sees the average person owning six devices hooked to the internet by 2020 and millions of electronic SIM cards making it into cars, factories and machines across Germany.

MWC will see companies form a new ecosystem to service this emerging business area showcasing their latest IoT and related technology — think cybersecurity firms pitching how to best safeguard your machines once they're online.

SMART

From 1B

is not to do the cooking for you but to make you a better cook. Smart ovens will be outfitted with cameras and digital thermometers, helping you monitor your food as it bakes. Instead of just hoping the "medium-hot" setting on your gas range is hot enough, smart skillets will take guessing out of the equation by sizzling food at a precise temperature that you'll set on a connected app.

Smart refrigerators will help reduce waste by letting you know when the carrots in your fridge are about to go bad, and offer several recipes for them to boot. The smart fridge from LG will even send cooking instructions to your smart oven. Meanwhile, 3D food printers will help you create intricately shaped pasta, and smart-technology-equipped ice cream makers will automatically sense the hardness of the mixture within and keep it ready until it's sundae time.

Tech enters the bedroom

The latest wave of home-focused technology is about making everyday life better and easier, and that begins with a good night's sleep. Sleep trackers such as Eight's smart mattress and smartphone apps Sleep Time and Sleep Cycle will use sensors to measure your sleep metrics, while smart alarm clocks such as Amazon's mini-Echo will help you begin your day on the right foot with time, weather and news.

Need a gentler wake-up? The smart aromatherapy alarm clocks from Nox Aroma will sense when you've reached your sleep cycle's lightest point and release a wake-up scent of your choice.

Once you're up and moving, it's time to get dressed. Your closet will be filled with clothes you don't just wear:

They will interact with you, tracking health markers and habits. Among them: MadeWithGlove's still-in-development smart gloves, which promise to detect skin temperature and provide heat accordingly. Your clothes might even change shape or color based on your feelings, as will the Sensoree mood sweater, now available for preorder.

And if you want a new wardrobe, you won't have to even leave the house to find the best-fitting clothes: Amazon's patented mirror will let you virtually try on outfits from the comfort of your own bedroom.

Yes, even in the bathroom

Spalike experiences at home will be the norm. No need to draw your own bath; your digital assistant can do that for you with smart shower systems such as those from U by Moen. High-tech tubs such as those from Toto will induce relaxed brain waves, while nose-geared gadgets such as Olfinity will let you program and control your own aromatherapy session from your iPhone while you soak.

Sound far-fetched? Remember, a decade ago few of us could have imagined being so attached to our smartphones, let alone ordering groceries off the internet or barking commands at a digital assistant. With time, even the strangest things can become normal.

Google's digital assistant branches out to Nest camera

By Michael Liedtke
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Google's voice-activated assistant is branching out to Nest's deluxe security camera in an expansion that may amplify the privacy concerns surrounding internet-connected microphones.

The virtual assistant is being offered to owners of the Nest Cam IQ in a free update that rolled out Wednesday.

The move comes just two weeks after Nest moved back under Google's direct control after spending nearly 2 1/2 years as a separate company owned by the same parent, Alphabet Inc.

The $300 Nest Cam will give Google another potentially valuable earhole in its battle with Amazon and Apple to build digital command centers in people's homes.

That ambition has already spurred warnings from privacy watchdogs about the potential for internet-connected devices being used as surveillance tools.

Google's assistant already can be used to control Nest's cameras and internet-connected thermostat through its internet-connected speaker, Home, and smartphones running on its Android software.

This will be the first time that people will be able to interact with the digital concierge through a security camera.

The assistant is only supposed to be activated with keywords such as "OK, Google," although there have been instances when the Home speaker has been caught listening when it was supposed to be turned off.

Even if Google's assistant doesn't eavesdrop, its presence on an indoor security camera is likely to focus more attention on the handling and protection of the data collected through internet-connected devices.

Privacy watchdogs are particularly worried that Google eventually may use some of the information collected from devices inside homes to get a better understanding of a person's specific interests so it can sell ads for products that the targeted individual might like.

Google already has used the data that it collects through its ubiquitous search engine and other free services such as maps and email to build the internet's most lucrative internet marketing network.

Since Google bought it for $3.2 billion, Nest has steadfastly maintained that it doesn't share its customers' personal information with Google's ad network.

But a patent application filed by Google in 2016 floated the possibility of using the video recorded by security cameras to deliver ads based on the kinds of furnishings and other merchandise already in people's homes.

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		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
BROADCAST	KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel of Fortune (N)	The Bachelor (N)				The Good Doctor "Heartfelt" (N)		News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel Live		(:35) News Nightline
	KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	CBS 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	Kevin Can (N)	Man With a Plan (N)	Donuts (N)	Biblically "Pilot" (N)	Scorpion "Dumbster Fire" (N)		CBS 7 News (N)	(:35) The Late Show		(:35) J.Corden
	KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	M*A*S*H "Kim"	M*A*S*H	A. Griffith	A. Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Mama's Family	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	Carol Burnett	Mason "The Case of the Promoter's Pillbox"		Twilight Zone
	KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Lucifer "High School Poppycock" (N)		The Resident "None the Wiser" (N)		Fox 24 News (N)	TMZ	Mom	Modern Family	Modern Family	Met Your Mother
	KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Faith for Families	The Wings of Truth	Update News	Mani Erfan	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Update News	Housecall	Aleph Course	Sounds of Shofar
	KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	NewsWest 9 (N)	NewsWest 9 Now	The Voice "The Blind Auditions" The judges vie to find the next Voice. (SP) (N)				Good Girls "Pilot" (P) (N)		NewsWest 9 (N)	(:35) The Tonight Show		(:35) Seth Meyers
	KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	PBS NewsHour (N)		Antiques Rd. "St. Louis (Hour Two)" (N)		Painting Santa Fe		Independent Lens "Rat Film" (N)		Aman-pour (N)	News (N)	News (N)	Stories
	KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	La rosa de Guadalupe		El Rico y Lazaro		Papa a Toda Madre		Caer en Tentacion		Noticias Tejas	Noticiero noctu.	Contacto Deportivo	
	KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Last Man	Last Man	SVU "Learning Curve"		SVU "Strange Beauty"		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Anger M.	Game	Game
PREMIUM	FLIX	340	575		165		(5:15) Urban Legend		★★ Open Water				★★★ Jaws ('75, Hot) Roy Scheider.			(:35) ★★★★ The Descent		
	HBO	300	550	14	14		LastWeek	News (N)	★★★★ Get Out				(:45) Here and Now		(:45) Going in Style Michael Caine.			Divorce
	HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	(4:50) Hidden Fig...		Here and Now (N)		Divorce	Crashing	Crashing	2 Dope Queens		Boxing HBO After Dark Card TBA		
	HBO5	304	552	16	102		(5:35) Master & Commander: The Far S...				★ The House Will Ferrell.				★ Charlie's Angels II: Full Th...	(:20) ★ Nocturnal A...		
	MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:20) ★★ Envy				★★ Independence Day: Resurgence		Trouble (P) (N)		★★ Bad Boys II Martin Lawrence.			
	MAX2	382	558	18	122		(:15) ★★ Doc Hollywood Michael J. Fox.				★ Sleight Jacob Latimore.				★★ The Brothers Bloom Adrien Brody.		Movie	
	PLEX			96			(5:40) ★ The Snow Q...		★★ Beethoven					★ The Adventures of Rocky ...	(:05) ★ Ace the Case Ripley Sobo.		Movie	
	SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	Movie	Cartoon	Homeland "Standoff"		The Chi "The Whistle"		Homeland "Standoff"		The Chi "The Whistle"	The Trade		
	TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:00) ★★ Carol		★ A Woman, a Part Maggie Siff.				(:40) ★ Love the Coopers Diane Keaton.			★ Don't Knock Twice ('17, Hor)		
CABLE	A&E	27	58	28	35	47	Warren Jeffs: Prophet of Evil				Jonestown: The Women Four women helped plan the Jonestown Massacre. (P) (N)				(:05) Warren Jeffs: Prophet of Evil Exclusive interviews reveal Jeffs' secrets.			
	AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(5:00) ★★★★ The Godfather ('72, Dra) Al Pacino, Marlon Brando.						McMafia (P) (N)		(:15) McMafia		Movie	
	BET	58	-		40		★★ Big Momma's House 2 ('06, Com) Nia Long, Martin Lawrence.						★★★ This Christmas ('07, Com) Idris Elba, Delroy Lindo.					
	BRAVO	65	76		41		Vanderpump Rules		Vanderpump Rules		Vanderpump R. (N)		Summer House (N)		Watch (N)	Vanderpump Rules		Atlanta
	CNBC	46	52		39	72	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		American Greed (N)		American Greed	American Greed		
	CNN	43	50	51	30	56	OutFront		A. Cooper 360		A. Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight	A. Cooper 360		
	DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Street Outlaws (N)		Outlaws Fast (N)		Outlaws Fast (N)		OutlawsMemphis (N)		TBA	(:35) Outlaws Fast		Memphis
	DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Andi M.	StuckMid.	Bizaard.	Raven's.	Gravity	Gravity	Andi M.	StuckMid.	Bizaard.	Raven's.
	ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball Duke at Virginia Tech (L)				NCAA Basketball Texas at Kansas (L)				SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)	
	ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	NCAA Basketball S. Florida vs Connecticut (L)				NCAA Basketball Tex.Tech/W.Va. (L)				FIBA Basketb. World Cup Qualifier P.R./U.S. (L)			
	FNC	45	48	53	23	55	The Story		Tucker Carlson		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night		Tucker Carlson	
	FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Kids Baking		Kids Baking		Kids Baking (N)		Cakes (N)	Cakes	Cake Wars		Kids Baking	
	FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33	(5:00) ★★★ Ratatouille				★★★ The Goonies ('85, Adv) Sean Astin.				The 700 Club		★ Ghosts of Girlfr...	
	FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	Snow Motion	Rangers Insider	Mavs Pre (L)		NBA Basketball Indiana Pacers at Dallas Mavericks Site: American Airlines Center -- Dallas, Texas (L)				Mavs Post (L)	Maveric-ks Insider	NBAGL Basketball Salt Lake vs Texas	
	FX	31	56	59	64	69	(3:00) ★ To Be Ann...				★★★★ Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials ('15, Sci-Fi) Dylan O'Brien.				★★★★ Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials			
	HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	F.House	Full House	F.House	F.House	Middle	Middle	Middle	Middle	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls
	HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Love It or List It		H.Hunt	H.Hunt	Home Town (N)		H.Hunt	House (N)	H.Hunt	House	Home Town	
	HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	American Pickers		American Pickers (N)		American Pickers		(:05) Pawn	(:35) Pawn	(:05) Pawn	(:35) Pawn	(:05) Amer. Pickers	
	LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	★★★ The Holiday Cameron Diaz. Two women with romance issues swap homes and fall for men in their new neighbourhoods.								UnREAL "Oath" (N)		★★ What Happens in Vegas ('08, Com) Ashton Kutcher, Rob Corddry, Cameron Diaz.		
	MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Hardball (N)		All in (N)		Rachel Maddow (N)		The Last Word (N)		The 11th Hour (N)		Rachel Maddow	
	NBCSN	38	43				NHLLive	NHL Hockey Philadelphia Flyers at Montréal Canadiens (L)							(:15) NHL Overtime (L)	Return Pyechng (N)		Return Pyechng (N)
	NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Knight	Lip Sync	★ Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days				F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
	SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
	SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	Movie	★★ The Lone Ranger ('13, Act) Armie Hammer, Johnny Depp.							★★ Jeepers Creepers 2 Ray Wise.			Movie
	TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Family Guy "Blue Harvest" 1/2 cont'd next		Family Guy		Family Guy "It's a Trap!"		American Dad! (N)	Final Space (N)	Final Space (N)	Conan (N)		Conan
	TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(5:00) ★ Cat on a Ho...		★★★★ The Best Years of Our Lives ('46, Dra) Myma Loy.						★★★ Mrs. Miniver Greer Garson.			
	TELE	20	-	10	20		Caso cerrado (N)		José José, el pr (N)		Al Otro Lado del (N)		Enemigo Intimo (N)		Al rojo	Titulares	Al Otro Lado del	
	TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Tiny at 20		Tallest Teens		Counting On "In Love in Switzerland" (N)		To Be Announced		(:05) Counting On "In Love in Switzerland"		(:05) To Be Announced	
	TNT	24	34	40	26	50	(5:00) ★★ Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith Ewan McGregor.				The Alienist "Ascension" (N)		The Alienist "Ascension"		Law & Order "Thinking Makes It So"		Law & Order "Positive"	
	TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	MASH	M*A*S*H	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Mom	Mom	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
	USA	26	55	42	27	49	NCIS "You Better Watch Out"		WWE Monday Night Raw						(:05) Modern	(:35) Modern	(:05) Modern	(:35) Modern
	WGN	19	85				Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Messeng. "Beginner's Luck" (P) (N)		Bellevue "How Do I Remember?"		Messenger "Beginner's Luck"	

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Work leaves single mom with little time for son

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'm 29. I had a son six years ago and left my ex because he didn't want to be a father. He chose to party instead. I had to file a name change for my son, and custody was hard to fight for because the father refused to show up.

Since then, I've worked two and sometimes three jobs just to stay ahead. My child hardly sees me. I work so much that my son has stopped calling me "Mommy" and instead calls me by my name. I feel hopeless and that I'm working for nothing. Have I made a mistake working so much? — MOMMY IN MARYLAND

DEAR MOMMY: If you are working those long hours in order to pay your bills, you are doing what a parent is supposed to do — providing for your child. Because your ex isn't doing his share, get on the internet and research "child support for single mothers." Resources are available to help you.

As to your son no longer calling you "Mommy," I would have to ask where he got the idea he would call you anything else. (Have you asked him?) Rather than accept it, make clear that he has only one mommy, you are it, and you will not tolerate being called anything else.

DEAR ABBY: I've been seeing someone for six or seven months, but we have been together for only three. He's quite the package, except he can't handle confrontation and doesn't communicate well. His way of handling uncomfortable conversations is to avoid them, while I, on the other hand, tend to be very communicative.

Is there a way for both of us to be happy when dealing with difficult conversations? Is there anything I can do to make him more comfortable with them? I should add that he hasn't been in a relationship in forever. I'm happy with him, but communication is important to me. — **VERBAL IN THE WEST**

DEAR VERBAL: Has it occurred to you that this man may not have been in a relationship "in forever" because he can't deal with uncomfortable conversations? For many women, that would be a deal-breaker.

While not all men are comfortable with long, heartfelt conversations, the only way to arrive at a compromise is to talk with each other. Give him more time because your relationship is still new. But if he isn't capable of opening up, recognize it as an important red flag if you are contemplating a long relationship with him.

DEAR ABBY: My son's best friend's bike was stolen from our front yard, and I feel terrible about it. Up to this point, he had been careful to put it in our garage or by our front door when he came over.

It was new, and I want to offer to help pay for a new one if we don't find it. My husband disagrees. I know the child's parents don't expect it, but I feel it's the right thing to do. — **FEELING GUILTY IN TEXAS**

DEAR FEELING GUILTY: While it would be generous to offer to help pay for the bike, you should not feel obligated or guilty because you did nothing wrong. One can only hope the boy has learned an important lesson from what happened. In the future, he will make sure his bike is safely parked inside your garage and not out where a thief can snatch it.

Goren Bridge

With Bob Jones

Bidding Quiz

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

♠ K 10 9 8 7 6 3 ♡ 9 6 3 ◇ 7 ♣ 6 3

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	?	

What call would you make?

A — In olden times, people would have bid three spades, pre-emptive, the first time. Many today play that bid as a splinter raise of clubs. Three spades would be forcing here, so that's out. Pass.

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

♠ A 10 9 ♡ J 6 ◇ A J 7 5 ♣ A K J 3

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1◇	Pass	Pass	Dbl

What call would you make?

A — Bid one no-trump. That bid shows 18-19 after partner fails to respond — a hand that would have bid two no-trump had partner responded.

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

♠ Void ♡ A 10 7 3 2 ◇ K 10 ♣ Q 10 8 7 6 4

As dealer, what call would you make?

A — Should you open the bidding, showing the distribution of this hand could develop into a real headache. Do you really want to take that on with only nine high-card points? Pass.

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

♠ J 8 7 ♡ A K J 10 4 ◇ 10 8 7 5 ♣ 9

Two passes to you. What call would you make?

A — If you don't open two hearts with this hand, you win the Conservative of the Year award. Bid two hearts.

More shoppers chose Costco and Amazon Prime

By Benjamin Romano
The Seattle Times

TNS

The number of people who both pay to shop at Costco and pay for free shipping from Amazon has grown rapidly in the last five years.

Fifty-seven percent of Costco members also pay for Amazon Prime, up from 13 percent in 2013, according to a survey of 2,500 consumers conducted last month for boutique research firm MoffettNathanson.

The membership overlap underscores the increasing cross-town competition between two of the world's largest retailers.

But so far, Amazon Prime, which charges $99 a year for free two-day shipping and a suite of digital services, isn't convincing people to cancel their Costco memberships, which cost $60 a year for individuals after last June's $5 increase.

"Over those five years, as membership overlap exploded, Costco has shown steady revenue and membership growth," write MoffettNathanson analysts in a research note. They add, "Americans appear to be buying into the concept of owning two 'shopping' memberships as the value proposition is fundamentally different."

Walmart, battling both companies, recently announced that its warehouse club unit, Sam's Club, will offer free shipping to its Sam's Plus members, who pay $100 a year for membership. Walmart began to offer free two-day shipping for online orders of $35 or more last year.

MoffettNathanson estimates there were 80 million people in the U.S. and Canada with access to Amazon Prime in 2017, 62 million Costco cardholders, 64 million at Sam's Club, and 15 million at BJs.

Oliver Wintermantel, a MoffettNathanson retail analyst, is one of the millions of Americans with a Prime subscription and a Costco membership.

"These are probably the two retailers I go to most," he said.

He regularly tracks his purchases on Amazon, an enlightening exercise he suggests everyone try. "People are always very surprised, how much they spent, how many products they got," he adds.

Wintermantel says he likes his Costco membership for the "shocking value" he finds on products that are sold at very low or no markup – Costco makes most of its profits from membership fees, which are a fundamental part of its business model – and the serendipitous discoveries he makes shopping there.

MoffettNathanson, which conducts these surveys periodically, has also found that more current Costco and Amazon Prime members intend to renew than did in 2016. At Costco that was true at all income levels, and for people age 35 and older. But fewer Amazon Prime members with incomes below $45,000 a year said they were likely to renew their memberships in 2017 than did in 2016 – although the renewal intention rate is for this group remained above 90 percent. (The Washington Post's technology columnist recently questioned the value of a Prime membership.)

For both Costco and Amazon, renewal intention was down from 2016 to 2017 for one key age group: millennials. The declines were small, and the vast majority of people 18 to 34 still told survey takers they plan to renew.

But it was enough to catch the attention of the MoffettNathanson analysts. Costco, in particular, is under pressure to show how it is attracting younger members. At the company's annual shareholder meeting last month, CEO J. Craig Jelinek said more than 40 percent of Costco's new members are millennials.

The analysts offer a couple of potential explanations for the dip in millennial renewal rates: "Maybe millennials are just less loyal than their parents when it comes to retailers, or perhaps more of them joined on a limited trial basis (i.e. Living Social promotions). It's a trend that we haven't seen in our surveys before so worth watching, especially as the stickiness of membership is such a critical attribute of the model."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

TOPS@iTUNES

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Apps

App Store Official Charts for the week ending Feb. 18:

Top Paid iPhone Apps:
1. Minecraft, Mojang
2. Heads Up!, Warner Bros.
3. Pocket Build, MoonBear LTD
4. Plague Inc., Ndemic Creations
5. NBA 2K18, 2K
6. Bloons TD 5, Ninja Kiwi
7. Geometry Dash, RobTop Games AB
8. Facetune, Lightricks Ltd.
9. Florence, Annapurna Interactive
10. iSchedule, HotSchedules

Top Free iPhone Apps:
1. Bitmoji, Bitstrips
2. YouTube: Watch, Listen, Stream, Google, Inc.
3. Messenger, Facebook, Inc.
4. instagram, Instagram, Inc.
5. Snapchat, Snap, Inc.
6. Facebook, Facebook, Inc.
7. Baseball Boy!, Voodoo
8. Google Maps - GPS Navigation, Google, Inc.
9. Gmail - Email by Google, Google, Inc.
10. Netflix, Netflix, Inc.

Top Paid iPad Apps:
1. Minecraft, Mojang
2. Procreate, Savage Interactive Pty Ltd
3. Geometry Dash, RobTop Games AB
4. Pocket Build, MoonBear LTD
5. Notability, Ginger Labs
6. NBA 2K18, 2K
7. Terraria, 505 Games (US), Inc.
8. Five Nights at Freddy's, Scott Cawthon
9. The Game of Life, Marmalade Game Studio
10. Goat Simulator, Coffee Stain Studios AB

Top Free iPad Apps:
1. Netflix, Netflix, Inc.
2. YouTube: Watch, Listen, Stream, Google, Inc.
3. ROBLOX, Roblox Corporation
4. Kick the Buddy, Chill Fleet
5. Run Sausage Run!, Crazy Labs
6. Rules of Survival, NetEase Games
7. Messenger, Facebook, Inc.
8. Facebook, Facebook, Inc.
9. My Bakery Empire, Coco Play
10. UNICORN 3D - Color by Number, AppsYouLove

Movies

iTunes Movies U.S. charts for week ending Feb. 11:

iTunes Movies US Charts:
1. Justice League
2. Coco (2017)
3. Wonder
4. Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri
5. Lady Bird
6. Darkest Hour
7. A Bad Moms Christmas
8. Roman J. Israel, Esq.
9. Dunkirk (2017)
10. Only the Brave

iTunes Movies US Charts - Independent:
1. Lady Bird
2. Darkest Hour
3. The Florida Project
4. Good Time
5. My Friend Dahmer
6. Home Again (2017)
7. Wind River (2017)
8. LBJ
9. The Square
10. Permission

Source: Apple Inc.

SAMSUNG

From 1B

So, is any of that enough to get you to upgrade? The new phone will cost about the same as last year's flagship: Unlocked, it's $720 for the S9 and $840 for the S9+. (There will be some variation in price: AT&T says it will sell the new models for $790 and $915, respectively.)

One lure may be a new trade-in deal in the U.S: you'll get $350 back for an existing S8. It's available for preorder on Friday.

BATTERY

From 1B

admission sparked a rare apology from Apple and a price drop for out-of-warranty battery replacements — from $79 to $29 — through the end of the year. The company is also facing multiple lawsuits and government inquiries over the battery issue. Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, sent a letter asking Apple for more answers. So did Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., chairman of the House Commerce Committee.

When asked how many people have tried to get replacements, Apple did not say. But the company told Thune in a recent letter that it has seen "strong demand."

That demand has led to long wait times. Calls to 10 Apple stores in different regions of the country last week revealed that wait times for a new iPhone 6 battery ranged from three to five days to two to three weeks, with no discernible pattern about why certain stores had shorter wait times than others.

Even the act of calling was a trial. During one call, Bob Marley sang that "every little thing's gonna be alright" for seven minutes before an Apple specialist answered to say that a huge influx of work requests had backlogged the store. A call to the store in Little Rock — the only one in the state of Arkansas — dropped after 10 minutes of hold music. A call to the store in Anchorage, Alaska, also the only store in its state, dropped before getting to Apple's service counter, the Genius Bar.

Apple has said that people who want a new battery can also go to an "authorized service provider." which can swap out batteries on Apple's behalf. A list of them is provided on Apple's website. Yet while many of these other stores aren't seeing the same crush of appointments as Apple's own stores, they are still facing some delays, said Georgia Rittenberg, the president of ComputerCare, a repair chain that's been given Apple's stamp of approval.

"As an Apple authorized service provider, ComputerCare receives its battery inventory directly from Apple," Rittenberg said. "Therefore, we deal with the same inventory constraints as the Apple retail stores."

AI takeover may not be a bad thing

By Peter Holley
The Washington Post

For years now, some of the smartest and most influential people on Earth have been warning about the dangers of artificial intelligence, laying out nightmarish scenarios that sound as if they were pulled from the pages of a Hollywood script.

Tesla chief-executive-turned-flamethrower-merchant Elon Musk has warned of killer robots and "summoning the demon." Stephen Hawking, the renowned theoretical physicist, has given humanity a tight deadline for escaping the planet.

Disease-fighting business magnate Bill Gates, meanwhile, has said he doesn't understand why "some people are not concerned" about the threat posed by super-intelligent machines.

But Kevin Kelly, the executive editor of Wired magazine, is offering a decidedly optimistic answer to Gates's question. Contrasting humans with technology ignores something that has been true for the past 10,000 years or so — something there's no coming back from, Kelly told a reporter at the World Government Summit in Dubai earlier this month.

"I think that we, ourselves, are technology," he said, appearing to imply that technology is an extension of biological evolution and central to what makes humans unique among animals. "We have invented ourselves. We have invented our humanity.

"If we took all technology from our lives away, everything — fire, knives — humans would only last six months," Kelly added. "We would be eaten by animals. We only can defend ourselves because of technology."

Instead of summoning humanity's end, Kelly argues, artificial intelligence is forcing humanity to reevaluate what it means to be human, raising philosophical questions that will force people to define "our humanity moving forward."

"We are still in the process of making ourselves more human," the eternal optimist said.

Among the tech forecasters sounding the alarm about AI, few have been as outspoken as Musk, who has recently begun warning about the dangers of autonomous weapons and calling for an international banning of them.

Last year, Musk told a group of governors that they need to start regulating artificial intelligence, which he called a "fundamental risk to the existence of human civilization." When pressed for concrete guidance, Musk said governments must get a better understanding of AI before it's too late.

Comcast exec discusses future of cable bundle

By Anick Jesdanun
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Faced with competition from the internet, Comcast has turned its X1 TV set-top box into something resembling a Roku or Apple TV streaming player, complete with app-like menus and a voice-activated remote.

During the Olympics, X1 merged both TV and online videos to give viewers a one-stop experience.

Matt Strauss, executive vice president of Comcast's Xfinity services, spoke with The Associated Press recently about the company's Olympic ambitions and the future of television.

Questions and answers have been edited for clarity and length.

Q: Why are you spending so much effort on an event that lasts just two weeks?

A: The focus has been around how we push the envelope to create experiences that are not only great for the Olympics but also become a sandbox for us to learn. This is just a great opportunity to experiment.

Strauss

Q: During the Olympics, Comcast has "virtual" channels of streaming video, similar to music playlists.

Why is this needed when all the events are already available on demand?

A: A lot of viewers like more of a lean-back experience, which has been known as TV. In some ways, if you think what a network is, it's just a playlist.

Somebody is programming a channel 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

We have the technology to challenge the paradigm of what it means to be a network.

Every sport now has a channel. Athletes can have a channel.

We can create channels around biggest upsets or wildest crashes or funniest moments.

This is allowing us to say, "You like snowboarding? There's a snowboarding channel."

Q: Comcast offers a package of TV channels delivered over the internet, similar to YouTube TV and Sling TV. Why aren't you selling this outside your "footprint" — markets where Comcast already offers regular TV services?

A: That's a very crowded space. There are so many opportunities to bundle services within our footprint profitably that it's a much bigger priority than looking at a video-only service out of footprint, which some seem to be selling at a loss.

Q: If you've invested so much in X1 and traditional cable TV, why offer an internet TV package at all?

A: We're creating a portfolio of products and services with the goal of trying to get the right product to the right customer at the right time of their life.

We know there are segments that maybe are not heavy video viewers or they don't want to spend disposable income on video.

Q: Is the old-fashioned TV bundle on its way out?

A: Video actually is a great value based on how much is being consumed.

What's changed is there are segments of this population who don't necessarily see a value in the bundle or have access to other choices.

That's where we need to ensure that we are continuing to challenge ourselves and offering customers more choice and flexibility.

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Oodles of oohs and ughs in the Olympic Games

By Dennis Waszak Jr.
Associated Press

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea (AP) — Wind, snow, ice or shine, the Winter Games had its share of golden moments that will forever be etched in Olympic lore.

The American men's so-called Miracurl on Ice. Alina Zagitova. Ester Ledecka. Chloe Kim. The U.S. women's hockey team.

There were also several not-so-spectacular performances in South Korea — and will be equally as memorable.

Russian doping. Jocelyne Larocque. Shani Davis. The U.S. men's Alpine team.

Here's a look at the oohs and ughs of the Pyeongchang Games:

OOHS:

■ **U.S. MEN'S CURLING TEAM:** The squad won the first gold in team history by topping Sweden 10-7, giving the Americans only their second curling medal — with the first coming in a bronze-medal game at the 2006 Turin Games.

■ **ESTER LEDECKA:** The star from the Czech Republic won a stunning gold in super-G in Alpine skiing and then added a snowboarding gold to become the first women to win gold in two sports in the same Winter Games .

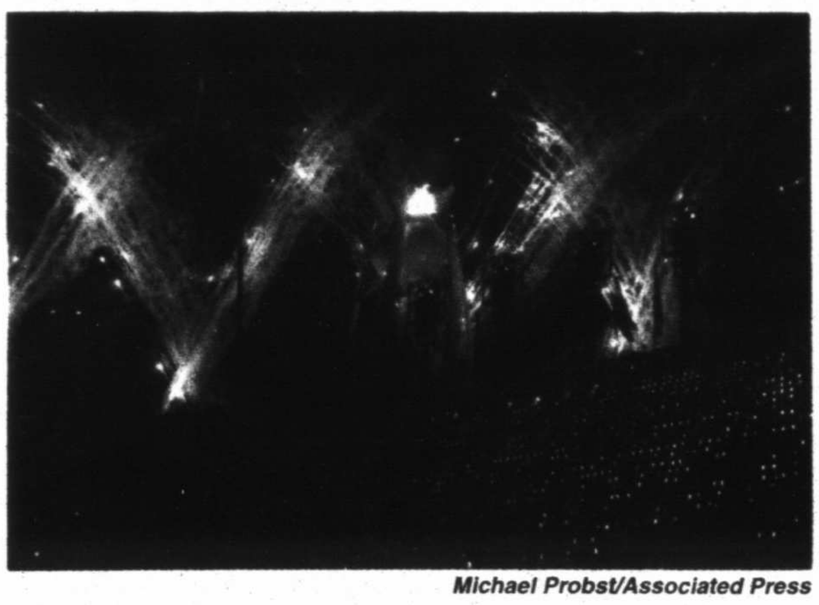
■ **ALINA ZAGITOVA:** The 15-year-old skater became the first Russian gold medalist of the games , outpointing her countrywoman, friend and training partner, two-time world champion Evgenia Medvedeva.

■ **CHLOE KIM:** The 17-year-old from Torrance, California, was one of the Olympics' early darlings by dominating the women's halfpipe snowboarding final and soaring to a gold medal.

■ **U.S WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM:** They snapped a 20-year drought by beating four-time defending champion Canada for the gold. Women's hockey also benefited in general with a thrilling six-round shootout for gold — the first in the women's gold-medal game.

■ **NORWAY:** The country set a Winter Games record with 39 medals, helped by the five won by cross-country skier Marit Bjoergen — the most decorated

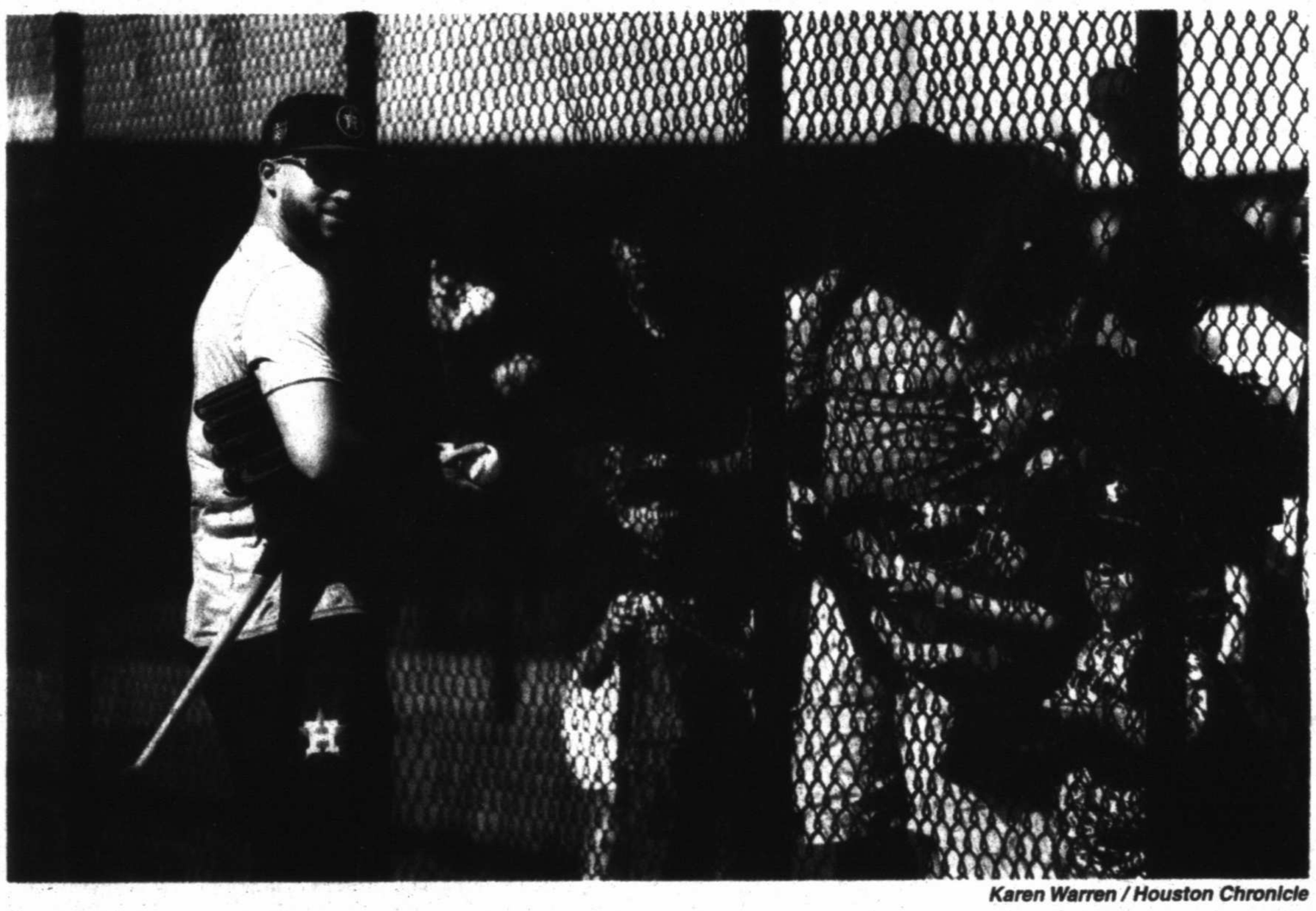
Please see **OLYMPICS**/4C



Michael Probst/Associated Press

Fireworks explode over the Olympic flame during the closing ceremony of the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea on Sunday.

Infectious personality



Karen Warren / Houston Chronicle

Houston Astros center fielder George Springer autographs a ball for a fan after he ran some drills with other early arriving position players during spring training at The Ballpark of the Palm Beaches on Feb. 16. in West Palm Beach.

Springer's energy propels champion Astros

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

JUPITER, Fla. — A.J. Hinch was attempting to answer a question about what he likes best about George Springer when the Houston Astros manager was drowned out by a faraway but exuberant bellow.

The sound was the World Series MVP who was excitedly interacting with his teammates, illustrating what Hinch was about to say: Springer's top quality is the spirit and the energy he brings to the Astros.

"You walk in the clubhouse and he's the same every day," Hinch said. "He's got a bright personality. I mean, I can hear him right now. You know when he's in the building. He's got an infectious personality that rubs off on a lot of guys. Everybody likes him, everybody feeds off of him."

And Springer shares that affinity for his teammates and raved about the bond they've built.

"The guys in here are all close," he said. "We all have fun together. We all enjoy being around each other. We're all like a family, and who doesn't like to be around family."

As much as Springer sparks the team with his personality, he probably provides the Astros with an even bigger boost as their leadoff hitter.

"He's the first hitter that the opposition faces on most nights and he sets the tone pretty aggressively," Hinch said.

The 28-year-old outfielder is coming off his best season, finishing with career-bests in home runs (34), RBIs (85) and batting average (.283) in his fourth year in the majors. He bounced back from a tough time in the ALCS to hit .379 with five homers and seven RBIs in the World Series to help Houston down the Los Angeles Dodgers for their first title.

Springer homered in the final four games against the Dodgers in winning MVP honors.

Springer had a taste of the postseason in 2015 when Houston lost to Kansas City in the ALDS, but said the championship run last taught him a lot about what really matters in the playoffs.

"The playoffs are the real deal," he said. "We had the experiences in 2015 and now we have the experience from last year. You learn that it's not about individual success. You do whatever it is that you have to do to help the team win. You go 0 for 4, who cares? Find a way to help the team win."

For the Astros to win again this season, Springer knows that they'll have to do even more than they did in 2017. He believes that's certainly possibly on this team whose stars are mostly younger than 30.

"This whole team has a lot of room for improvement," he said. "I have a lot of room to get better. We've got great veteran guys and even those guys can get better. The potential for this team is insane."

Springer is part of a lineup that includes four players who hit .300 or better last season, led by AL MVP Jose Altuve, who topped the majors with a .346 average.

"It's one of the most dangerous lineups in baseball," Springer said. "There's no real breaks, there's no real holes and if this team can go out and perform to its capabilities, you never know what can happen."

While the Astros are done celebrating

Please see **SPRINGER**/5C

Harvick adds Cup win to dominant weekend at Atlanta

By Charles Odum
Associated Press

HAMPTON, Ga. — Kevin Harvick completed his weekend mastery of Atlanta Motor Speedway by holding off Brad Keselowski on Sunday in the rain-delayed NASCAR Monster Energy Cup race.

Harvick, who was dominant Saturday in winning the second-tier Xfinity event, started fourth in the Cup race and quickly proved he had the car to beat.

Harvick was comfortably in the lead when Trevor Bayne's engine blew with 28 laps to go. The restart gave contenders a chance to grab the lead, but Harvick beat Keselowski to remain in control.

"What a relief," Harvick told his crew after crossing the finish line. He led 292 laps in Atlanta last year before finishing ninth following a pit road speeding penalty.

The start was delayed 2 hours, 30 minutes by rain. The threat of more rain added urgency in the late battle for the lead. There were reports of drops of rain with more than 130 laps remaining, leading to increased concerns the race could end early.

Clint Bowyer was third, followed by Denny Hamlin.

Please see **ATLANTA**/2C

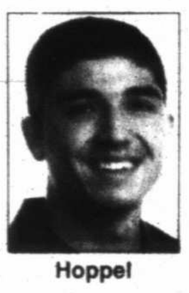
Paul Abell/Associated Press

Kevin Harvick (4) makes a pitstop during a NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Atlanta Motor Speedway in Hampton, Ga., on Sunday.

Hoppel wins 800 meter Indoor title

From staff reports

AMES, Iowa – Midland High grad University of Kansas sophomore Bryce Hoppel won the 800-meter run title at the Big 12 Indoor Track & Field Championships on Saturday.



Hoppel

He was the only male athlete from Kansas to win a title when he raced to a time of 1:47.20, which is the third fasted time in KU men's indoor history according to the KU track & field website.

Hoppel is the second straight Jayhawk to win the 800 title as Stymar Livingston won it last year.

Hoppel currently has the No. 3 time in the NCAA in the event, which will qualify him for the national championship meet in two weeks.

Also on Saturday, Texas Tech won the men's team title with 143 points, ahead of Texas with 129 points.

Texas won the women's team title with 117, followed by Kansas with 112 points.

No. 8 Kansas clinches 14th straight Big 12 title

By John Marshall
Associated Press

Kansas coach Bill Self has signed some of the nation's top-rated players during his tenure in Lawrence, allowing him to restock the roster instead of rebuilding.

Signing one-and-done players comes with a price: Constant roster turnover.

It hasn't mattered to Self and the Jayhawks. No matter who they have on the floor, they find a way to win the Big 12 title.

The count is 14 straight after Saturday's win over No. 6 Texas Tech clinched at least a share of the title, leaving No. 8 Kansas alone for longest streak in NCAA history. The Jayhawks had been tied with UCLA, which won 13 straight Pac-10 titles from 1967-79.

"I feel like this year was the year that everybody thought we were going

Please see **KANSAS**/3C

Brad Tollefson/Associated Press

Kansas' Udoka Azubuike (35) dunks the ball during the first half of against Texas Tech on Saturday in Lubbock.

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

BASKETBALL

ESPN2 — 2019 FIBA World Cup, qualifier, United States vs. Puerto Rico, at Santa Cruz, Calif. 11 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

7 p.m.

ESPN — Duke at Virginia Tech

ESPNU — Norfolk St. at Howard

FS1 — Marquette at Georgetown

9 p.m.

ESPN — Texas at Kansas

ESPN2 — Texas Tech at West Virginia

NHL HOCKEY

7:30 p.m.

NBCSN — Philadelphia at Montreal

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

7 p.m.

CBSSN — Memphis at Temple

ESPN2 — South Florida at UConn

9 p.m.

FS1 — West Virginia at Baylor

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League

CLEVELAND INDIANS — Placed RHP Cody Anderson on the 60-day DL. Claimed RHP Ben Taylor off waivers from Boston. Agreed to terms with RHP Matt Belisle on a minor league contract.

NEW YORK YANKEES — Named Alex Rodriguez and Nick Swisher special advisers.

TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with RHP Nick Gardewine and LHP's Alex Claudio and Joe Palumbo on one-year contracts.

National League

CINCINNATI REDS — Agreed to terms with C Tony Sanchez on a minor league contract.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

CALGARY FLAMES — Signed D Cody Goloubef to a two-way contract for the remainder of the season and placed him on waivers for the purpose of assigning him to Stockton (AHL).

NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Assigned F John Quenneville to Binghamton (AHL) and D Colton White from Binghamton to Adirondack (ECHL).

NEW YORK RANGERS — Traded F Rick Nash to Boston for Fs Ryan Spooner and Matt Beleskey, D Ryan Lindgren, a 2018 first-round draft pick and a 2019 seventh-round draft pick.

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS — Assigned F Vincent Dunn and F Frederik Tiffels from Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (AHL) to Brampton (ECHL).

SAN JOSE SHARKS — Traded F Brandon Bollig and G Troy Grosenick to Nashville for a 2018 sixth-round draft pick.

American Hockey League

BRIDGEPORT SOUND TIGERS — Recalled F Matt Gaudreau and Kellen Jones from Worcester (ECHL).

READING ROYALS — Returned F Ryan Penny to Reading (ECHL).

STOCKTON HEAT — Signed G C.J. Motte to a professional tryout agreement.

WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON PENGUINS — Assigned Fs Cody Wydo and Troy Josephs to Wheeling (ECHL).

ECHL

ADIRONDACK THUNDER — Released F Tim Kielich.

ATLANTA GLADIATORS — Released D Sean Escobedo.

BRAMPTON BEAST — Released D Alex Vazquez.

GREENVILLE SWAMP RABBITS — Added G Kent Nusbaum as emergency backup.

MANCHESTER MONARCHS — Loaned D Colton Saucerman to Providence (AHL).

WHEELING NAILERS — Added G Joe Spadaccini as emergency backup. Signed F Dylan Vander Esch and D Kyle Thacker to amateur tryout agreements.

WORCESTER RAILERS — Released G Joe Spagnoli as emergency backup.

COLLEGE

PURDUE — Announced wide receivers coach JaMarcus Shephard will also be co-offensive coordinator.

2018 UIL GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE TOURNAMENT

March 1-3

Alamodome , San Antonio, Texas

Thursday, March 1

Class 1A Semifinals

8:30 a.m. - Dodd City (36-1) vs. Slocum (27-10)

10 a.m. - Nazareth (34-3) vs. Hermleigh (27-7)

Class 3A Semifinals

1:30 p.m. - Vanderbilt Industrial (34-5) vs. Marlin (31-8)

3 p.m. - Brock (32-6) vs. Mount Vernon (26-9)

Class 5A Semifinals

7 p.m. - Mansfield Timberview (39-2) vs. Kerrville Tivy (33-6)

8:30 p.m. - Amarillo (38-2) vs. Temple (31-5)

Friday, March 2

Class 2A Semifinals

8:30 a.m. - Martin's Mill (38-1) vs. Mason (33-8)

10 a.m. - LaRue LaPoynor (33-2) vs. Claude (26-9)

Class 4A Semifinals

1:30 p.m. - Wheatley (31-3) vs. Argyle (32-7)

2:30 p.m. - Denver City (30-6) vs. San Antonio Veteran's Memorial (32-9)

Class 6A Semifinals

7 p.m. - Cypress Creek (34-4) vs. Plano (33-6)

8:30 p.m. - Converse Judson (33-4) vs. Garland Sachse (30-7)

Saturday, March 3

8:30 a.m. - Class 1A Final

10 a.m. - Class 3A Final

1:30 p.m. - Class 2A Final

3 p.m. - Class 5A Final

7 p.m. - Class 4A Final

8:30 p.m. - Class 6A Final

NBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	41	17	.707	—
Boston	42	19	.689	½
Philadelphia	32	26	.552	9
New York	24	37	.393	18½
Brooklyn	19	41	.317	23

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	35	25	.583	—
Miami	31	29	.517	4
Charlotte	27	33	.450	8
Orlando	18	41	.305	16½
Atlanta	18	42	.300	17

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	35	24	.593	—
Indiana	34	25	.576	1
Milwaukee	33	26	.559	2
Detroit	28	31	.475	7
Chicago	20	39	.339	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	46	13	.780	—
San Antonio	36	25	.590	11
New Orleans	33	26	.559	13
Memphis	18	40	.310	27½
Dallas	18	42	.300	28½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	37	26	.587	—
Portland	34	26	.567	1½
Oklahoma City	34	27	.557	2
Denver	33	27	.550	2½
Utah	31	29	.517	4½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	46	14	.767	—
L.A. Clippers	31	27	.534	14
L.A. Lakers	25	34	.424	20½
Sacramento	18	41	.305	27½
Phoenix	18	43	.295	28½

Sunday's Scores

Charlotte 114, Detroit 98

New Orleans 123, Milwaukee 121, OT

San Antonio 110, Cleveland 94

Houston 119, Denver 114

Washington 109, Philadelphia 94

Today's Games

Chicago at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m.

Detroit at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.

Golden State at New York, 6:30 p.m.

L.A. Lakers at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.

Memphis at Boston, 6:30 p.m.

Orlando at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.

Phoenix at New Orleans, 7 p.m.

Indiana at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

Houston at Utah, 8 p.m.

Minnesota at Sacramento, 9 p.m.

NHL GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	62	42	17	3	87	223	167
Toronto	64	39	20	5	83	213	178
Boston	60	37	15	8	82	195	150
Florida	59	28	25	6	62	175	193
Detroit	62	26	26	10	62	165	183
Montreal	61	23	29	9	55	157	193
Ottawa	61	21	30	10	52	166	216
Buffalo	63	19	33	11	49	151	206

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	62	35	20	7	77	194	184
Philadelphia	62	33	19	10	76	188	178
Pittsburgh	63	36	23	4	76	206	187
New Jersey	62	32	22	8	72	185	188
Columbus	62	31	26	5	67	163	174
N.Y. Islanders	63	29	27	7	65	207	225
Carolina	62	27	25	10	64	164	189
N.Y. Rangers	63	27	30	6	60	177	201

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	61	38	14	9	85	196	155
Winnipeg	62	37	16	9	83	208	164
Minnesota	62	35	20	7	77	188	174
Dallas	62	35	23	4	74	184	164
St. Louis	63	34	25	4	72	173	164
Colorado	61	32	24	5	69	187	185
Chicago	63	27	28	8	62	178	179

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	61	41	16	4	86	215	166
San Jose	63	33	21	9	75	182	176
Anaheim	64	31	21	12	74	176	178
Calgary	63	32	22	9	73	182	185
Los Angeles	62	33	24	5	71	177	155
Edmonton	62	27	31	4	58	177	204
Vancouver	61	23	31	7	53	164	200
Arizona	61	18	33	10	46	147	202

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Sunday's Scores

Nashville 4, St. Louis 0

Buffalo 4, Boston 1

Detroit 3, N.Y. Rangers 2, OT

Minnesota 3, San Jose 2, OT

Edmonton 6, Anaheim 5, SO

Vancouver at Arizona, late

Today's Games

Washington at Columbus, 6 p.m.

Toronto at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.

Philadelphia at Montreal, 6:30 p.m.

Vancouver at Colorado, 8 p.m.

Vegas at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

COLLEGE BASEBALL SCORES

SOUTHWEST

New Mexico 6, Central Michigan 6, tie, 10 innings

Texas Tech 3, UTSA 0

SOUTH

Boston College 11, Rutgers 6

Chowan 10, Goldey-Beacom 9, 8 innings

Clemson 12, Dallas Baptist 1

Culver-Stockton College at Lindsey Wilson, dh, ppd., rain

Duke 7, Bucknell 0

E. Michigan 9, Jackson St. 3

Georgia Tech 10, Dartmouth 0

Louisville 12, Youngstown St. 2

Miami 2, Florida 0

Miami (Ohio) 8, Campbell 6

NC State 9, Furman 0

Penn St.-Altoona 6-6, E. Mennonite 4-7, 1st game 11 innings

Post (Conn.) 3-7, St. Augustine's 2-2, 1st game 9 innings

Santa Clara 2, Wake Forest 0

Siena Heights at Cumberland (Tenn.), ppd., rain

St. Francis (Ind.) at Cumberlands, ppd., rain

Tennessee Wesleyan 17, Clarke 4

Transylvania 14, Wis.-Oshkosh 10

Virginia 13, E. Kentucky 1

MIDWEST

Central Methodist 6, Briar Cliff 3

Evangel 8-1, Concordia (Neb.) 3-0

St. Francis (Ill.) 3-5, Mount Mercy 3-7

MLB SPRING TRAINING GLANCE

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
New York	3	0	1.000
Boston	3	0	1.000
Houston	3	0	1.000
Oakland	2	0	1.000
Kansas City	1	0	1.000
Seattle	2	1	0.667
Detroit	2	1	0.667
Los Angeles	2	1	0.667
Chicago	2	1	0.667
Tampa Bay	2	2	0.500
Minnesota	1	1	0.500
Cleveland	1	1	0.500
Texas	1	1	0.500
Toronto	1	2	0.333
Baltimore	0	3	0.000

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.
Milwaukee	3	1	0.750
New York	2	1	0.667
Miami	2	1	0.667
Chicago	2	1	0.667
St. Louis	1	2	0.333
San Francisco	1	2	0.333
Washington	1	2	0.333
Philadelphia	1	2	0.333
Arizona	1	2	0.333
Cincinnati	1	2	0.333
Colorado	1	2	0.333
Los Angeles	1	3	0.250
Pittsburgh	0	2	0.000
Atlanta	0	3	0.000
San Diego	0	3	0.000

Sunday's Scores

Washington 9, Atlanta 3

Boston 7, Baltimore 1

Houston 7, St. Louis 3

N.Y. Yankees 8, Philadelphia 3

Pittsburgh 8, Detroit (ss) 8

Minnesota 5, Tampa Bay 4

Detroit (ss) 6, Toronto 3

N.Y. Mets 10, Miami 3

Chicago Cubs 12, San Francisco 10

Chicago White Sox 8, Cincinnati (ss) 5

Texas 4, Colorado 2

Kansas City 4, Oakland 4

Cleveland 2, Cincinnati (ss) 2

Seattle 2, L.A. Dodgers 0

Milwaukee 5, Arizona 1

L.A. Angels 2, San Diego 1

Today's Games

Boston vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

Detroit vs. Baltimore at Sarasota, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

Houston (ss) vs. Miami at Jupiter, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

St. Louis vs. Minnesota at Fort Myers, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

Toronto vs. Tampa Bay at Port Charlotte, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

Washington vs. Atlanta at Kissimmee, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

N.Y. Mets vs. Houston (ss) at West Palm Beach, Fla., 12:05 p.m.

Arizona (ss) vs. Cincinnati at Goodyear, Ariz., 2:05 p.m.

Cleveland vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix, 2:05 p.m.

Garden City sisters share 14-1A MVP honors

From staff reports

Garden City seniors Madison and Payton Hastings were named as Most Valuable Players on the District 14-1A Girls Basketball All-District team just released.

Garden City junior Lyndee Walker was named Defensive MVP, while Lady Kats junior Allison Halfmann was named to the first team.

M. Hastings

P. Hastings

District 14-1A Girls Basketball 2017-18 All-District Team

Most Valuable Players – Madison Hastings and Payton Hastings, seniors

Offensive MVP – Mariah Munoz, Robert lee, Sr.

Defensive MVP – Lyndee Walker, Garden City, Jr.

Newcomer of the Year – Kylee Cummings, Blackwell, Fr.

First Team

Kelby Clawson, Robert Lee, Jr.; Megan Grantham, Robert Lee, Jr.; Kaylee Puentez, Robert Lee, Jr.; Dally Coulter, Sterling City, Fr.; Allison Halfmann, Veribest, Fr.; Bella Halfmann, Veribest, Fr.; Madison Solis, Blackwell, So.; Emilee Sanderson, Blackwell, So.; Kenzie Jordan, Water Valley, Jr.; Kirstyn Greenon, Water Valley, So.

Second Team

Peighton Glass, Sterling City, Fr.; Kiara Burns, Robert Lee, Sr.; Kenzie Schaefer, Garden City, Sr.; Caitlyn Ward, Veribest, Jr.; Cirstyn Gober, Blackwell, Fr.; Vickie Davis, Blackwell, Jr.; Jayden Speary, Bronte, Jr.; Kristen Stilley, Bronte, Jr.; Carsyn Sheppard, Water Valley, Sr.; Shelby Kolls, Water Valley, Jr.

Honorable Mention

Garden City: Jordan Driver (Fr.), Ally Burnett (Sr.), Ixchel Sotelo (Jr.), Angelica Munguia (Jr.), Xalli Sotelo (Sr.)

HS BOYS BASKETBALL PAIRINGS

HS BOYS BASKETBALL

UIL Region I

Class 6A

Regional quarterfinal

North Crowley (29-5, W4) vs. Arlington Martin (16-18, F4), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Fort Worth

Killeen Ellison (32-4, W8) vs. Allen (30-5, R6), 7 p.m Tuesday, Italy HS

Odessa Permian (30-3, W2) vs. Arlington Bowie (23-12, R4), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Abilene High School

Denton Guyer (36-1, W6) vs. South Grand Prairie (26-9, R7), TBA

Class 4A

Regional quarterfinal

Levelland (23-10, T2) vs. Seminole (24-8, R2), Tuesday, Lubbock Christian University

Midlothian Heritage (30-6, W8) vs. Burkburnett (21-13, R6), TBA

Lubbock Estacado (24-5, W2) vs. Monahans (19-12, R4), 6 p.m. Monday, Monahans

Wichita Falls Hirschi (23-8, W6) vs. Abilene Wylie (31-3, W5), 7 p.m. Tuesday, Mineral Wells

Class 2A

Regional quarterfinal

Stratford (R1) vs. Sanford-Fritch (21-7, T1), TBA

Morton (16-7, R5) vs. Forsan (27-4, W7), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Lamesa

Memphis (W2) vs. Stinnett West Texas (W1), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Canyon

McCamey (18-11, W6) vs. Albany (17-3, R8), TBA

Class 3A

Regional quarterfinal

Wall (30-3, W4) vs. Crane (24-6, W3), 7 p.m. Tuesday, Garden City HS

Bowie (26-9-1, W8) vs. Peaster (21-11, W 7), 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Chisolm Trail HS

Shallowater (33-2, W2) vs. Canadian (18-4, W1), 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Amarillo HS

Brock (33-3, R7) vs. Jim Ned (23-12, W5), 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Cisco

Class 1A

Region II

Regional

Borden County (W12) vs. Rankin (W10), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Andrews

Menard (15-9, W16) vs. Bronte (15-2, W14), 8 p.m. Tuesday, Coleman

Buena Vista (18-7, R10) vs. Grady (22-7, T11), 7 p.m. Tuesday

Eula (28-6) vs. Eden (26-5, R16), 6 p.m. Tuesday, Coleman

TAPPS 5A

Regional

Cedar Hill Trinity Christian (32-6) 52, Midland Christian (24-12) 38

Fort Worth All Saints (18-16) 79, Frisco Legacy Christian (18-16) 48

San Antonio St. Mary's Hall (28-7) 86, Houston Westbury Christian (19-20) 81

Houston Second Baptist (28-7) 49, San Antonio Cornerstone Christian (16-14) 41

State semifinal

Cedar Hill Trinity Christian (32-6) vs. Fort Worth All Saints (18-16), Thursday, Robinson

San Antonio St. Mary's Hall (28-7) vs. Houston Second Baptist (28-7), Thursday, Robinson

TAPPS 3A

Area

El Paso Faith Christian (13-3) 70, Abilene Christian 54

Fort Worth Calvary Christian (22-10) 63, Dallas Covenant 59

Willow Park Trinity Christian (21-8) 69, Midland Classical (16-18) 63

Dallas Yavneh (30-0) 76, Watauga Harvest Christian 25

Austin Veritas (10-8) 66, Bryan Brazos Christian 51

Spring Frassati Catholic (20-9) 68, San Antonio St. Gerard 60

Brownsville First Baptist (11-5) 73, San Antonio Lutheran 68

Kerrville Our Lady Hills (26-6) 50, Beaumont Legacy Christian 41

Regional

El Paso Faith Christian (13-3) vs. Fort Worth Calvary Christian (22-10), Saturday

Willow Park Trinity Christian (21-8) vs. Dallas Yavneh (30-0), Saturday

Austin Veritas (10-8) vs. Spring Frassati Catholic (20-9), Saturday

Kerrville Our Lady Hills (27-6) 66, Brownsville First Baptist (11-6) 49

Bruce, Chaps capture titles at NMMI tournament

From staff reports

Bruce

ROSWELL, N.M. – Callum Bruce and the Midland College golf team won their second titles of the spring semester after they won at the Sonny Wigington Intercollegiate Tournament on Sunday.

Midland College shot 288-298—586 to finish 15 shots ahead of Odessa College for the team title of the 36-hole, five-team tournament at the New Mexico Military Institute Golf Course.

Bruce won the medalist title after firing a 72-68—140 total to finish five strokes ahead of teammate Michael Salazar, who came back from injury for a 145 total. Fellow Chaparral Alex Motes finished in a tie for 10th with a 150 total.

The Chaps return to action when they host the Omega Treating Chemicals Collegiate Invitational at Green Tree Country Club on March 12-13.

NMMI Sonny Wiginton Intercollegiate Tournament

At New Mexico Military Institute Golf Course, Roswell, N.M.

Par: 70; Yards: 7,004

Team standings – 1. Midland College 288-298—586; 2. Odessa College 297-304—601; 3. McLennan CC 297-310—607; 4. (tie) New Mexico Military Institute 299-318—617; and Garden City CC 308-309—617

Individual standings (top 10) – 1. Callum Bruce, Midland, 72-68—140; 2. Michael Salazar, Midland, 72-73—145; 3. (tie) Boyd Kapalamoto, NMMI, 72-74—146; Chris Finnie, Odessa, 71-75—146; 5. Brandon Smith, Odessa, 74-74—148; 6. (tie) Jake Bay, Garden City CC, 74-75—149; Matt Lorentzen, McLennan, 74-75—149; Tripp Wallace, Odessa, 76-73—149; Jordan Parsons, Garden City, 75-74—149; 10. (tie) Florian Moosneier, Odessa, 74-76—150; George Avgousti, Garden City, 75-75—150; Alex Motes, Midland, 71-79—150

Midland College individuals – Callum Bruce 72-68—140; Michael Salazar 72-73—145; Alex Motes 71-79—150; Chris Ayers 73-78—151; Justin Benson 73-78—151; Tommy Parker 76-85—161; Bailey Knoll 73-88—161

MC BASKETBALL CAPSULES

WOMEN

MIDLAND COLLEGE AT HOWARD COLLEGE

When/where: 5:45 p.m., Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Big Spring

Records: Midland College 15-10, 8-4 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference; Howard College 15-14, 5-8

Last WJCAC game: Midland College 73, Western Texas College 69; Odessa College 65, Howard College 49 (Feb. 19)

Notes: Midland College is still fighting for the No. 2 seed with two games left. ... Howard College will conclude its season but would love nothing more than to beat rival MC on its home court. ... The Lady Chaparrals will look to extend its four-game winning streak and also to keep improving for next month's Region V Tournament at Wolfforth Frenship High School. ... MC freshman post Ella Tofaeono has really been playing well lately and is coming off a big performance in the win over Western Texas College on Thursday with 35 points, 16 rebounds, three steals and two blocks. Matangiroa Flavell added 10 points for the Lady Chaps. ... Howard looks to snap a two-game losing streak. ... The Hawks have three players averaging in double figures, led by Kaki Simpson with 13.9 ppg., Corbyn Cunningham averages 12.7 ppg, while Kendall Alsup is chipping in with 10.2 ppg.

Next: Midland College at New Mexico JC, 6:45 p.m. (CST) Thursday

2017-18 WJCAC women's basketball standings

	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
xy-New Mexico JC	11	1	27	1
x-Frank Phillips	8	4	19	5
x-Midland College	8	4	15	10
x-Odessa College	7	5	19	8
Howard College	5	8	15	14
Clarendon College	4	8	20	6
Western Texas	4	9	12	14
South Plains	2	10	15	13

x-clinched Region V Tournament spot

y-clinched WJCAC title

Thursday's Games

Midland College 73, Western Texas College 69; Odessa College 70, Clarendon College 63; New Mexico JC 69, Frank Phillips College 56; Howard College and South Plains College are open

Today's Games

Midland College at Howard College; Odessa College at New Mexico JC; South Plains College at Clarendon College; Frank Phillips College at Clarendon College

MEN

MIDLAND COLLEGE AT HOWARD COLLEGE

When/where: 7:45 p.m., Dorothy Garrett Coliseum, Big Spring

Records: Midland College 9-19, 5-9 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference; Howard College 21-8, 9-6

Last WJCAC game: Midland College 69, Western Texas College 60; New Mexico Military Institute 76, Howard College 74

Notes: Midland College snapped a two-game losing streak on Thursday with its win over Western Texas College. The Chaparrals led for most of the way and controlled the game for the most part despite only having six players available. Kayo Goncalves and Kevin Kangu each had 19 points, Marquell Fraser had 12 points, 10 assists and nine rebounds, and Amari Hale had 14 points in the win. ... MC coach Pat Rafferty said these final two games of the season are important for his team to keep improving and to play for pride. ... Howard can clinch a spot in the Region V Tournament with a win. ... The Hawks look to bounce back from a close loss at NMMI as the Broncos had a 46-point first half. Jeremy Hayes led the Hawks with 25 points, Amari McCray had 19 and Jack Pagenkopf added 11.

Next: Midland College at New Mexico JC, 8:45 p.m. (CST) Thursday; Howard, TBA

2017-18 WJCAC men's basketball standings

	Conference W	Conference L	Overall W	Overall L
xy-Odessa College	13	1	24	3
x-South Plains	11	3	19	7
Howard College	9	6	21	8
Clarendon College	8	6	18	10
New Mexico Military	8	7	18	11
Midland College	5	9	9	19
New Mexico JC	4	10	15	13
Frank Phillips	4	10	12	16
Western Texas	2	12	13	14

x-clinched Region V Tournament spot

y-clinched share of WJCAC title

Thursday's Games

Midland College 69, Western Texas College 60; Odessa College 75, Clarendon College 59; Frank Phillips College 90, New Mexico Junior College 71; New Mexico Military Institute 76, Howard College 74; South Plains College is open

Today's Games

Midland College at Howard College; Odessa College at New Mexico JC; South Plains College at Clarendon College; Frank Phillips College at Clarendon College; New Mexico Military Institute is open

-Compiled by Oscar LeRoy

ATLANTA

From 1C

Harvick quickly moved from 19th back to the lead following a green flag pit stop early in the race and again quickly moved back to the lead following a pit stop on lap 252.

He took the lead following a competition caution on lap 30 and stayed in front to take the first stage win. Harvick's crew had difficulty during his pit stop following the first stage, and he had lost ground when he returned to the pit.

Harvick was 19th following the unscheduled pit stop and returned to the lead on lap 131 before Brad Keselowski won stage 2.

Harvick's No. 4 Ford has become a familiar figure in the lead at Atlanta. He led 141 of 163 laps Saturday for his Xfinity win after his strong performance in last year's Cup race.

Despite that recent dominance, this was only Harvick's second Cup win in Atlanta. He also won in 2001, giving the Richard Childress team a win following the death of Dale Earnhardt in Daytona a few weeks earlier. Harvick was given a new No. 29 in Earnhardt's car. Following the win, Harvick held three fingers out of the window in tribute to Earnhardt.

Harvick duplicated that three-finger salute after Sunday's win.

Rookie Darrell "Bubba" Wallace Jr., coming off a second-place finish at last week's Daytona 500, finished 32nd. Wallace was the first black driver in the Daytona 500 field since 1969, and he became the first black Cup racer in an Atlanta race since Bill Lester finished 38th in 2006.

Martin Truex Jr., the 2017 series champion, started 35th after failing to qualify on Saturday but was up to fourth by the 12th lap before finishing fifth.

Jimmie Johnson, who won in Atlanta in 2015 and 2016, finished 27th. There were no wrecks but there was a caution after Johnson's spin in turn 2 on lap 160.

With no "open" cars, the 36-car field was NASCAR's smallest since 1996. There were 40 cars in the Daytona field.

NASCAR-Monster Energy-Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 Results

By The Associated Press

Sunday

At Atlanta Motor Speedway

Atlanta

Lap length: oval, 1.5 miles

(Starting position in parentheses)

1. (3) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 325.
2. (5) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 325.
3. (9) Clint Bowyer, Ford, 325.
4. (12) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 325.
5. (35) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 325.
6. (16) Joey Logano, Ford, 325.
7. (1) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 325.
8. (7) Kurt Busch, Ford, 325.
9. (8) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 325.
10. (27) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 325.
11. (10) Erik Jones, Toyota, 325.
12. (26) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 325.
13. (11) Aric Almirola, Ford, 325.
14. (25) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 324.
15. (4) Daniel Suarez, Toyota, 324.
16. (6) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 324.
17. (15) Paul Menard, Ford, 324.
18. (23) William Byron ?, Chevrolet, 323.
19. (13) Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 323.
20. (18) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 322.
21. (14) Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 322.
22. (2) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 322.
23. (29) David Ragan, Ford, 321.
24. (17) Michael McDowell, Ford, 321.
25. (24) Chris Buescher, Chevrolet, 321.
26. (28) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 321.
27. (22) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 321.
28. (32) Cole Whitt, Chevrolet, 320.
29. (21) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 320.
30. (34) Ross Chastain(i), Chevrolet, 319.
31. (30) Matt DiBenedetto, Ford, 319.
32. (19) Darrell Wallace Jr. ?, Chevrolet, 319.
33. (36) Harrison Rhodes, Chevrolet, 310.
34. (33) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chevrolet, 305.
35. (20) Trevor Bayne, Ford, Engine, 292.
36. (31) Gray Gaulding Jr., Toyota, Steering, 99.

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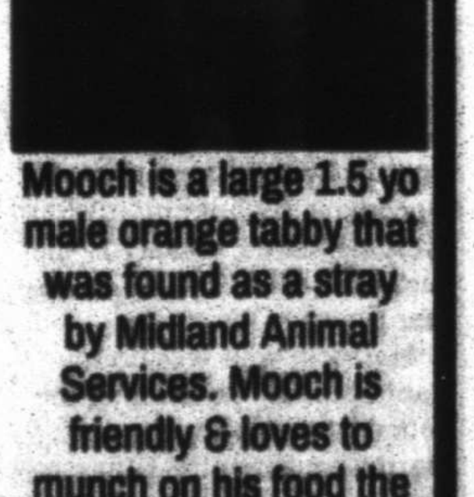
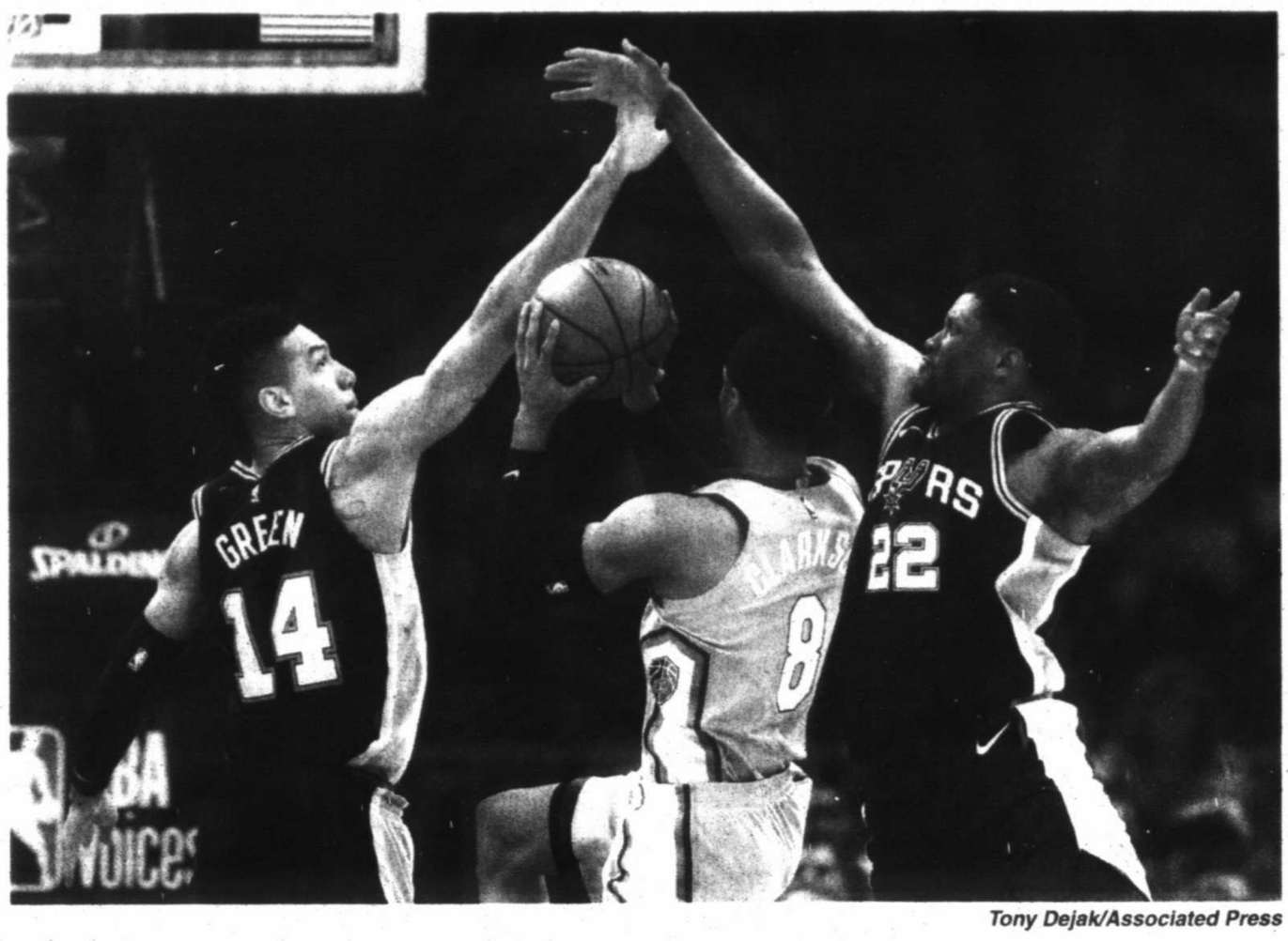


Mooch is a large 1.5 yo male orange tabby that was found as a stray by Midland Animal Services. Mooch is friendly & loves to munch on his food the moment you begin petting on him. Mooch is just a big ole "mooch"!!



Tony Dejak/Associated Press

San Antonio Spurs' Danny Green (14) and San Antonio Spurs' Rudy Gay (22) defend against Cleveland Cavaliers' Jordan Clarkson (8) in the first half on Sunday in Cleveland.

Spurs stop 4-game slide, rope LeBron, Cavaliers 110-94

By Tom Withers
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The Spurs ended their "rodeo" road trip by roping the Cavaliers.

LeBron James thought San Antonio got some help.

LaMarcus Aldridge scored 27 points, Danny Green added 22 and the Spurs ended their annual trip by beating the Cleveland Cavaliers 110-94 on Sunday to snap a four-game losing streak.

Green, who missed Friday's loss at Denver with food poisoning, came off the bench for the first time in 49 games this season and made five 3-pointers to provide a perfect outside complement to Aldridge's dynamic inside game. Dejounte Murray added 13 points and nine rebounds for San Antonio, a team not accustomed to any turnout.

But the super-steady Spurs have not been themselves as they continue to play without injured star Kawhi Leonard, whose timetable to return remains a mystery. They had dropped six of seven and four in a row on a trip (their arena hosts a rodeo every year) that coach Gregg Popovich's squad typically uses as a spring board into the playoffs.

"Every win is a big one for us," Green said. "But this month we've had some ups and downs. This is a really good team, especially with the best player in the world over there."

That would be James, who had 33 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists. The Cavs fell to 3-2 since overhauling their roster with three trades, but James wasn't t disappointed with his team's effort.

However, he did have a problem with the officiating.

San Antonio was called for just 12 personal fouls — only three in the second half— and shot 32 free throws compared to 14 for Cleveland.

"We're at a point now where we protect the shooter more than the driver," said James, who shot four free throws. "There's no reason I should be going to the line four times in a game when I drive 100 times to the paint and I'm getting hit and slapped and grabbed and whatever and what not. We protect the shooter. That's what it's turned into. Chicks dig the long ball and that's what it's about."

Cleveland was within two points after three, but the Spurs scored the first 10 of the fourth and made all the necessary plays down the stretch to pull off the impressive win.

Kyle Korver's 3-pointer with 4:47 left brought the Cavs within 96-88, but Patty Mills countered with a 3 for the Spurs.

Cavs coach Tyronn Lue has spent most of the season adjusting his lineups and rotations, and he may have to do some more tweaking after starters Cedi Osman, J.R. Smith, George Hill and Tristan Thompson shot a combined 6 of 28. Cleveland has to find a dependable No. 2 option on offense while All-Star Kevin Love recovers from a broken hand.

"We just had a rough night shooting the basketball. It's going to happen," Lue said. "I thought defensively we were pretty good. I just thought Aldridge took advantage of us in that third quarter, the start of the third quarter on his post-ups."

Tip-ins

Spurs: G Manu Ginobili sat out with a bruised sternum sustained in Friday's loss to Denver. ... Leonard's absence continues to hang over the team. He hasn't played since Jan. 13 and Popovich said earlier this week it's possible the star could miss the remainder of this season. ... C Pau Gasol and Cavs G Jose Calderon spoke in the hallway before the game. They're close friends, having been teammates on Spain's national team since 2002. ... Traveled 6,546 miles on their annual road trip. San Antonio is 90-41 on the trek since it first began in 2003.

Cavaliers: F Larry Nance Jr. wore No. 22 — his father's retired number — for the first time since he was traded to Cleveland. The NBA granted Nance permission to switch jersey numbers (he had been wearing No. 24). ... Thompson had a season-high 13 rebounds in 23 minutes. ... Golfer Jason Day and NFL players Ryan Shazier and Ted Ginn Jr. were among the celebrities in attendance. ... Dropped to 39-10 against Western Conference teams at home since Jan. 21, 2015. ... James passed Rod Strickland (7,987) for 11th place on career assists list.

Star gazing

Before the game, Popovich joked that it's easy to become entranced against James.

"I just have to make sure that I don't just stare at him all night like I did when I first came in the league and played the Bulls. I'd just watch Michael (Jordan) the whole time and Larry Brown would elbow me like, 'You going to do something?' I said, 'Coach, I've got to watch. I've got to see this guy.'"

NBA ROUNDUP

Associated Press

ROCKETS 119
NUGGETS 114

DENVER — James Harden had 41 points and eight rebounds, Chris Paul scored 23 points and Houston beat Denver for its 12th straight victory.

Harden had 27 in the first half and seven in the fourth quarter, when the Rockets held off a late Denver rally. Harden has scored 40 or more points nine times this season. He finished with seven assists.

Nikola Jokic had 21 points and 14 rebounds for Denver, which had its four-game winning streak snapped. Will Barton added 25 points.

The Rockets are 21-4 since Dec. 29 and own the best record (46-13) in the NBA. They are outscoring teams by an average of 12.5 points during the 12-game winning streak. The five-point win Sunday was their closest game during the streak.

PELICANS 123
BUCKS 121, OT

MILWAUKEE — Jrue Holiday scored 28 of his 36 points after halftime to lead New Orleans over Milwaukee in overtime.

Holiday added nine rebounds and six assists for New Orleans, which held on for its season-high fifth win in a row when Jason Terry's 3-pointer was ruled after the buzzer.

Anthony Davis, who entered the game as the league's third-leading scorer (27.7 ppg), added 27 points and 13 rebounds.

The Pelicans trailed by 18 early in the second half but outscored Milwaukee 38-19 in the third quarter.

Khris Middleton scored 25 points for the Bucks. Giannis Antetokounmpo, the No. 2 scorer in the NBA (27.8) and Eric Bledsoe each added 20, but the Bucks lost for only the fourth time in the last 14 games and fell to 9-26 all-time against New Orleans.

WIZARDS 109
76ERS 94

WASHINGTON — Otto Porter scored 24 points, Bradley Beal added 23 and Washington had a dominant second quarter in a victory over Philadelphia.

Kelly Oubre scored 16 of his 19 points in the first half to help fourth-place Washington move a half-game ahead of Indiana in the Eastern Conference standings.

The Wizards improved to 9-3 in an extended stretch without All-Star point guard John Wall (knee surgery).

Joel Embiid had 25 points and 10 rebounds for Philadelphia, which dropped a half-game behind Milwaukee into seventh place and two back of Washington in the congested East standings.

HORNETS 114
PISTONS 98

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Dwight Howard had 17 points and 12 rebounds, Kemba Walker added 17 points and Charlotte beat Detroit for its season-best fourth straight win.

The Hornets improved to 27-33 while making a push toward the No. 8 seed in the Eastern Conference for the playoffs. The Pistons have 28 wins, and there are eight teams in the conference with at least 31 victories.

Seven Charlotte players scored in double digits, and the Hornets' bench outscored Detroit's reserves 51-28.

Blake Griffin led the Pistons with 20 points on 10-for-18 shooting, while Andre Drummond had 14 points and 14 rebounds. Detroit has lost five of six.

TEXAS COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Associated Press

Men

NO. 23 HOUSTON 109
ECU 58

HOUSTON — Rob Gray had 19 points and 11 assists, and No. 23 Houston used a huge first half en route to a 109-58 victory over East Carolina on Sunday.

Armoni Brooks added 21 points on 7-of-9 shooting from 3-point range for the Cougars (22-6, 12-4 American), who shot 67 percent from the field. Corey Davis Jr. chipped in 16 points, six rebounds and seven assists.

Houston had runs of 22-0 and 11-0, then closed the half on a 14-1 run to build a 62-13 lead. The Cougars were 23 of 31 from the floor in the half, including 12 of 16 from behind the arc. Houston started 13 of 15 from the field, including 7 of 8 on 3-pointers and hit 10 straight field goals at one point.

Gray had 17 points and 10 assists in the first half and hit all five from the floor, including all three from behind the arc. Brooks had 18 points at the half, and hit his first six from behind the arc. The 62 first-half points were the most Houston has scored in a half since scoring 62 in the second half against Florida Tech on Nov. 22, 2005.

The Cougars' lead grew as large as 61 in the second half. Houston finished with 18 3-pointers, which tied a conference record Houston set against Tulsa on Jan. 11.

East Carolina (10-17, 4-12), which has lost three straight, shot 22 percent and committed 10 turnovers in the first half. The Pirates were outrebounded 22-6 in the first half.

B.J. Tyson finished with 24 points, Shawn Williams added 14 and Isaac Fleming scored 13 for the Pirates, who shot 37 percent for the game.

Women

NO. 17 TEXAS A&M 82
NO. 11 MISSOURI 63

COLLEGE STATION — Anriel Howard turned in her sixth straight double-double and became Texas A&M's career and single-season rebounding record-holder as the No. 17 Aggies beat No. 11 Missouri 82-63 on Sunday.

Howard had 16 points and 10 rebounds for 923 boards in her career, passing Prissy Sharpe (920 from 1996-2000), and 360 this season, tying Peggy Pope (1978-79).

Chennedy Carter scored 23 points and Danni Williams 20 for the Aggies (22-8, 11-5), who finished in a four-way tie for fourth place with Missouri (23-6, 11-5), LSU and Tennessee in the SEC. Texas A&M will be the No. 5 seed and Missouri No. 6 and both have first-round byes in the conference tournament in Nashville, Tennessee.

Sophie Cunningham scored 19 points for the Tigers, who had a five-game win streak end.

A 14-0 run gave the Aggies a 20-point lead late in the first half and was extended to 25 midway through the third quarter after a 10-0 surge. The lead remained comfortably in double figures.

Texas A&M shot 56 percent.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCORES

Men

SOUTHWEST
Houston 109, East Carolina 58
SOUTH
Furman 79, ETSU 76
Mercer 69, Wofford 68
NC State 92, Florida St. 72
UNC-Greensboro 86, Samford 75
VMI 68, Chattanooga 65
W. Carolina 92, The Citadel 75
FAR WEST
Colorado 80, UCLA 76
Nevada 92, Colorado St. 83
New Mexico 91, UNLV 90
UC Irvine 68, Hawaii 57
MIDWEST
Cincinnati 82, Tulsa 74
Iowa 77, Northwestern 70
Michigan St. 68, Wisconsin 63
N. Kentucky 75, IUPUI 56
Nebraska 76, Penn St. 64
Purdue 84, Minnesota 60
Wright St. 88, Ill.-Chicago 81
EAST
Canisius 98, Marist 74
Illinois 75, Rutgers 62
Manhattan 92, Quinnipiac 86, 2OT
Memphis 83, UConn 79
Rider 110, Iona 101
St. Peter's 65, Siena 48
Temple 75, UCF 56

Top 25 fared

1. Virginia (26-2) did not play. Next: at Louisville, Thursday.
2. Michigan State (28-3) beat Wisconsin 68-63. Next: Big Ten tournament.
3. Villanova (25-4) did not play. Next: at Seton Hall, Wednesday.
4. Xavier (25-4) did not play. Next: vs. Providence, Wednesday.
5. Duke (24-5) did not play. Next: at Virginia Tech, Monday.
6. Gonzaga (27-4) did not play. Next: WCC quarterfinals, Saturday.
7. Texas Tech (22-7) did not play. Next: at No. 21 West Virginia, Monday.
8. Kansas (23-6) did not play. Next: vs. Texas, Monday.
9. Purdue (26-5) beat Minnesota 84-60. Next: Big Ten tournament.
10. North Carolina (22-7) did not play. Next: vs. Miami, Tuesday.
11. Cincinnati (25-4) beat Tulsa 82-74. Next: at Tulane, Thursday.
12. Auburn (24-5) did not play. Next: at Arkansas, Wednesday.
13. Wichita State (23-5) did not play. Next: at UCF, Thursday.
14. Arizona (22-7) did not play. Next: vs. Stanford, Thursday.
15. Clemson (21-7) did not play. Next: vs. No. 25 Florida State, Wednesday.
16. Ohio State (24-7) did not play. Next: Big Ten tournament.
17. Michigan (24-7) did not play. Next: Big Ten tournament.
18. Rhode Island (23-4) did not play. Next: vs. Saint Joseph's, Tuesday.
19. Tennessee (21-7) did not play. Next: at Mississippi State, Tuesday.
20. Nevada (25-5) beat Colorado State 92-83. Next: at UNLV, Wednesday.
21. West Virginia (21-8) did not play. Next: vs. No. 6 Texas Tech, Monday.
22. Saint Mary's (27-4) did not play. Next: WCC quarterfinals, Saturday.
23. Houston (22-6) beat East Carolina 109-58. Next: at SMU, Wednesday.
24. Middle Tennessee (23-5) did not play. Next: vs. Western Kentucky, Thursday.
25. Florida State (19-9) lost to N.C. State 92-72. Next: at No. 15 Clemson, Wednesday.

Women

SOUTHWEST
UTSA 62, Rice 58
SOUTH
Auburn 60, Mississippi 55
Duke 70, North Carolina 54
Elon 80, Hofstra 55
FAU 67, FIU 63
Florida St. 64, Georgia Tech 61
Georgia 63, Florida 43
James Madison 67, Delaware 56
Louisville 81, Pittsburgh 49
Maryland 77, Nebraska 75
Middle Tennessee 54, Charlotte 53
Mississippi St. 85, Kentucky 63
Northeastern 67, Coll. of Charleston 48
Southern Miss. 60, UTEP 53
Vanderbilt 78, Arkansas 73
Virginia 48, Wake Forest 41
FAR WEST
Oregon 74, Arizona 61
MIDWEST
Drake 80, Illinois St. 64
Green Bay 88, Detroit 45
Indiana St. 74, Loyola of Chicago 67
Minnesota 84, Illinois 75
Northwestern 63, Rutgers 50
Notre Dame 86, NC State 67
Oakland 80, Milwaukee 75
Valparaiso 67, Evansville 54
Wright St. 80, Ill.-Chicago 53
Xavier 57, Butler 54
EAST
DePaul 72, Seton Hall 68
Drexel 62, Towson 54
Fairfield 59, Iona 39
Georgetown 74, Providence 48
Hartford 61, Binghamton 45
Maine 74, Albany (NY) 69
Marquette 76, St. John's 57
Ohio St. 89, Penn St. 64
Quinnipiac 77, Monmouth (NJ) 57
Rider 53, Manhattan 50
Siena 70, St. Peter's 36
Stony Brook 55, Vermont 49
Syracuse 69, Boston College 63

Top 25 fared

1. UConn (28-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 18 South Florida, Monday.
2. Mississippi State (30-0) beat Kentucky 85-63. Next: SEC tournament.
3. Baylor (27-1) did not play. Next: vs. West Virginia, Monday.
4. Louisville (29-2) beat Pittsburgh 81-49. Next: ACC tournament.
5. Notre Dame (27-2) beat No. 21 N.C. State 86-67. Next: ACC tournament.
6. Texas (23-5) did not play. Next: Big 12 tournament.
7. South Carolina (23-6) lost to No. 15 Tennessee 65-46. Next: SEC tournament.
8. Oregon (27-4) beat Arizona 74-61. Next: Pac-12 tournament.
9. Florida State (24-5) beat Georgia Tech 64-61. Next: ACC tournament.
10. UCLA (23-6) did not play. Next: Pac-12 tournament.
11. Missouri (23-6) lost to No. 17 Texas A&M 82-63. Next: SEC tournament.
12. Oregon State (23-6) beat Arizona State 64-60. Next: Pac-12 tournament.
13. Maryland (23-6) beat Nebraska 77-75. Next: Big Ten tournament.
14. Ohio State (24-6) beat Penn State 89-64. Next: Big Ten tournament.
15. Tennessee (23-6) beat No. 7 South Carolina 65-46. Next: SEC tournament.
16. Stanford (20-9) at Washington, ccd. Next: Pac-12 tournament.
17. Texas A&M (22-8) beat No. 11 Missouri 82-63. Next: SEC tournament.
18. South Florida (24-5) did not play. Next: at No. 1 UConn, Monday.
19. Georgia (24-5) beat Florida 63-43. Next: SEC tournament.
20. Duke (22-7) beat North Carolina 70-54. Next: ACC tournament.
21. N.C. State (22-7) lost to No. 5 Notre Dame 86-67. Next: ACC tournament.
22. Green Bay (26-3) beat Detroit 88-45. Next: Horizon League tournament.
23. Belmont (28-3) did not play. Next: OVC first round, Wednesday.
24. LSU (19-8) beat Alabama 79-78, OT. Next: SEC tournament.
25. Oklahoma State (19-9) did not play. Next: vs. TCU, Monday.

KANSAS

From 1C

to lose it," said Kansas guard Devonte Graham, who scored 26 points against the red Raiders.

"As a team, we've just been battling, staying positive with each other, going through the grind. And now we made history."

Kansas was picked to win the Big 12 title in the preseason, but doubts arose after the Jayhawks lost nonconference games against Washington and Arizona State.

Kansas (23-6, 12-4) still appeared to vulnerable after losing to the Big 12's two Oklahoma schools in a span of four games.

The Jayhawks, like they always seem to, found a way to play their best when they needed to, winning four straight games to earn another title. Kansas can take it outright with a win against Texas on Monday.

"We picked the best time to be our best the last couple of weeks," Self said. "To play with little depth and to play so small and to not be a physical team at all, to see how these guys hung in there and competed, I'm amazed."

Texas Tech picked a tough time to start struggling.

The Red Raiders (22-7, 10-6) reached their highest ranking as a program at No. 6 on Monday, but lost both games since. Those followed a loss to Baylor, when leading scorer Keenan Evans injured a toe. He appears to still be bothered by the foot, scoring in single digits the past three straight games, including six against Kansas.

Even with the slide, Self has been impressed with the job coach Chris Beard has done this season.

"Chris has done as good a job as anybody in the country," Self said. "He should be mentioned for national coach of the year."

Virginia takes ACC crown

Top-ranked Virginia earned its third ACC title in five years with a dominating performance. The Cavaliers (26-2, 14-1 ACC) had already clinched at least a share of first place with a home win over Georgia Tech on Wednesday and crushed Pittsburgh 66-37, holding the Panthers to seven points in the first half.

Virginia continues to lead the nation in scoring defense at 52.1 points allowed per game and is third in shooting percentage against at .375.

Creighton's big win

Creighton's margin for error to reach the NCAA Tournament became a little thinner after consecutive losses to Marquette and Butler. The Bluejays (19-9, 8-7 Big East) were still in decent shape, but couldn't afford many more slipups.

Saturday's upset win over No. 3 Villanova should make them feel a lot more comfortable. It was the highest-ranked opponent Creighton had ever beaten.

"I'm so happy how we won that game," Creighton's Marcus Foster said. "We've been talking these last three games about how we want to play, and then to go out and execute what we said we wanted to do, it's a great feeling right now."

Carter's milestone

No. 21 West Virginia's Jevon Carter accomplished something no other major-conference player had. With two assists against Iowa State, the Mountaineers senior guard became the first Power 5 conference player in NCAA history to reach 1,500 points, 500 rebounds, 500 assists and 300 steals in a career.

Carter has 1,612 points, to move past Truck Bryant for 14th on West Virginia's career list, with 510 rebounds, 501 assists and 303 steals.

Another Zags title

No. 6 Gonzaga was expected to be in rebuilding mode after losing most of the key players from last year's Final Four team.

But coach Mark Few doesn't rebuild, he restocks the roster.

With Saturday's 79-65 victory over BYU, the Bulldogs (27-4, 17-1) have won at least a share of 18 of the past 19 regular-season West Coast Conference championships, including each of the past six seasons.

Gonzaga earned the No. 1 seed in next week's WCC tournament and will face the Loyola Maryland-Portland winner.

Thomas delivers clutch moments to win Honda in playoff

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. — Justin Thomas was down to his last chance when he delivered his most clutch shot of the final round in the Honda Classic.

Turns out he wasn't finished.

Thomas nearly holed a gap wedge on the par-5 18th hole for a birdie to force a playoff with Luke List. Moments later, he hit 5-wood over the water, urged it to keep going and lost it momentarily in the darkening sky over PGA National.

"All I was looking at was the water to see if it splashed," Thomas said. "And it didn't. So I figured I was in the bunker, and then people started clapping and I could kind of see some little white dot on the green."

That set up a two-putt birdie that made him a winner when List, who hit his own bold shot in regulation to the 18th to set up birdie, could only manage par in the playoff.

Thomas closed with a 2-under 68 and won for the second time this season. He also won in a playoff at the CJ Cup in South Korea last fall. With eight career victories, including seven in his last 31 starts on the PGA Tour, he moved to No. 3 in the world. He is one spot ahead of longtime friend Jordan Spieth for the first time, which was of little significance to Thomas.

"Not really," he said. "Because there's still two more spots that I want to climb."

List, going for his first PGA Tour victory, shot 32 on the back nine and closed with a 69. His only regret was a tee shot wide right in the playoff that landed amid palm trees and left him little options. He went left against the bleachers, and hit a superb approach to about 25 feet and two-putted for par.

"Obviously, it hurts right now," List said. "But I think that when I look back on it, I'll be proud of the way I hung in there."

Alex Noren (67) finished third. He was tied for the lead when he went for the green on the 18th, only for the ball to hit hung up on the side of the collar of a bunker, leaving him a tough chip. He missed a birdie chance from 20 feet.

Tiger Woods was briefly within three shots of the lead on the front nine. He closed with a 70 and finished 12th.

The 5-wood turned out to be the winner for Thomas. The wedge made it possible.

Jack Nicklaus was in the broadcast booth for most of the final round, leaving before Thomas and List reached the 18th hole. It might have all looked familiar to Nicklaus, the U.S. captain of the 1983 Ryder Cup at PGA National. The big moment that year was Lanny Wadkins nearly jarring a wedge on the 18th hole, a shot so meaningful to the outcome that Nicklaus kissed the divot.

Thomas missed the 18th fairway in regulation and had no choice but to lay up. List followed with his 4-iron to 35 feet.

"I have a lot of confidence in my wedge game," Thomas said. "I knew if I got a decent number that I was going to be able to get inside 10 feet. That's all I wanted was a chance to try to get into a playoff. And then ended up hitting a great wedge."

Thomas and List finished at 8-under 272. It was the seventh playoff in 15 PGA Tour events this season. Woods made that Sunday red shirt look a little brighter, at least for a while. With an 8-foot birdie putt on the par-4 eighth hole, he momentarily pulled within three shots of the lead. That only lasted the few minutes that it took Thomas to tap in for birdie on the par-5 third.

Woods made bogey to close out his front nine, and he still was four shots behind until getting swallowed up again by the water-filled closing stretch. He put his tee shot into water and made double bogey for the second straight day, three-putted the 16th for bogey and was out of hope.

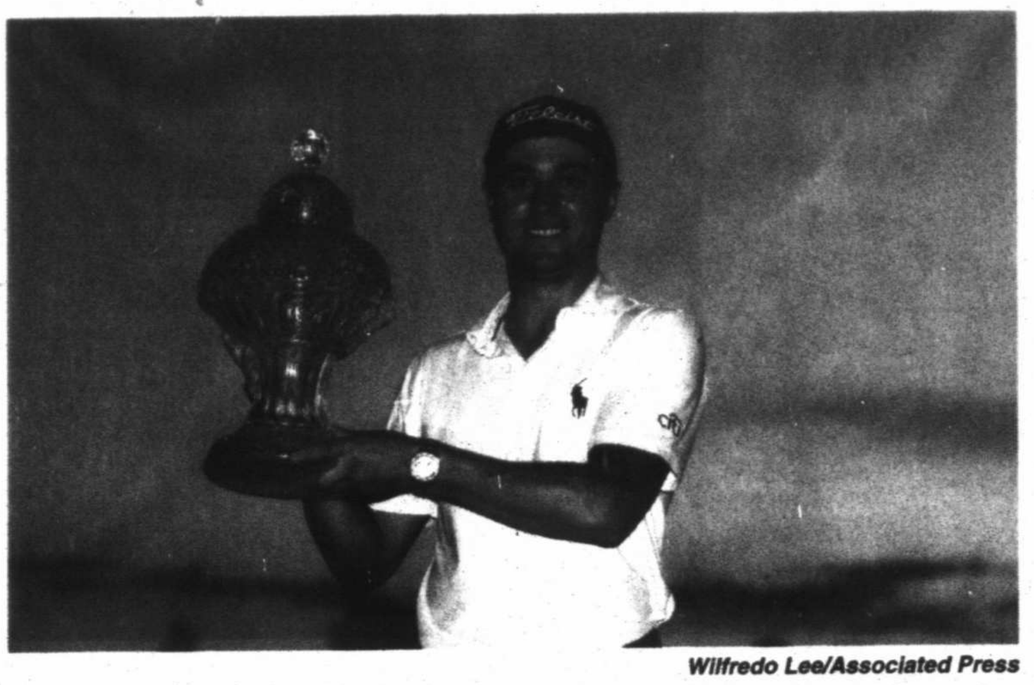
"I made a big leap this week because I really hit it well," Woods said. "I was able to control it, especially in this wind, which is not easy to do."

Woods led the field in proximity to the hole on his approach shots at just over 29 feet.

Not to be overlooked was Sam Burns of LSU, who last year won the Jack Nicklaus Award as the top college player who received a sponsor exemption. Playing alongside Woods in such a chaotic arena, he was bogey-free for a 68 to tie for eighth. That will get him into the Valspar Championship at Innisbrook in two weeks.

Five players had at least a share of the lead. Only three of them stuck around until the end.

Webb Simpson missed the fairway on the 11th hole and had to lay up instead of taking on the water. That led to the first of three bogeys in a four-hole stretch and sent him to a 72, four shots behind. Tommy Fleetwood was tied for the lead until a three-putt bogey from long range on the 14th, and a bogey from the back bunker on the 15th. A birdie on the final hole for a 69 left him two shots behind.



Wilfredo Lee/Associated Press

Justin Thomas holds up his trophy after winning the Honda Classic golf tournament in a sudden-death playoff on Sunday in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

OLYMPICS

From 1C

Winter Olympian of all time with 15 medals, and fellow cross-country skier Johannes Hoesflot Klaebo, who is just 21 but won three gold medals in four events in his first Olympics.

■ **MARCEL HIRSCHER:** The Austrian came to South Korea having done just about everything there is to do in ski racing — including a record six consecutive overall World Cup titles — except win an Olympic gold medal. He went out and won two golds: in the Alpine combined and the giant slalom.

■ **TESSA VIRTUE AND SCOTT MOIR:** They became the most-decorated figure skaters in games history, taking gold in ice dance for the second time and helping Canada win the team event. They have five medals, including gold at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics, silver at Sochi in ice dance and the team competition.

■ **ELANA MEYERS TAYLOR:** The American bobsledder's career was nearly derailed by a concussion, but she won silver in South Korea — despite a bad Achilles'.

■ **MARTIN FOURCADE:** The biathlete won three gold medals and, by lifting his career tally to five, became the most decorated Olympic champion in French history.

■ **GUS KENWORTHY:** The American freestyle skier failed to win a medal — he didn't even land a run in the slopestyle final. But Kenworthy had a watershed Olympic moment for the LGBTQ community when he shared a televised kiss with his boyfriend, Matt Wilkas, at the bottom of the hill.

■ **MIKAELA SHIFFRIN:** No, the American skier didn't win five medals. She didn't even enter five events after windy weather played havoc with the Alpine schedule. But she did win a gold in the giant slalom and a silver in the combined.

■ **KOREA'S "GARLIC GIRLS":** The South Korean women's curling team , whose moniker reflects the locally farmed garlic grown in their hometown, were among the breakout stars of the games during their surprising run to a silver medal.

UGGHS

■ **RUSSIAN DOPING:** The International Olympic Committee repeatedly said that Russian athletes had been "rigorously tested," implying they were unlikely to fail drug tests. But two of the four athletes who tested positive in Pyeongchang were Russian, including curler Alexander Krushelnitsky , who had to return his bronze medal.

■ **JOCELYNE LAROCQUE:** The Canadian hockey player summed up the frustration by her team at going home with something other than gold for the first time since the women's event debuted in 1998 by taking off her silver medal almost as soon as it was placed around her neck. She apologized a day later, but that's just how hockey is judged in the country that created the sport.

■ **U.S. MEN'S ALPINE TEAM:** Not only didn't they win a medal, they only had one top-10 finish — Ted Ligety's fifth in the combined.

■ **RUSSIAN PAIRS/ICE DANCE DUOS:** They had won at least one medal in every Olympics since dance was added to the Olympic docket in 1976. But they were shut out in Gangneung.

■ **NATHAN CHEN:** The two-time U.S. figure skating champion was among the pre-Olympic favorites, but ruined his chances for making the podium with a dismal short program. He rallied by hitting an unprecedented six quadruple jumps to win the free skate, but wound up fifth overall.

■ **ICE HOCKEY:** Rene Fasel, president of the International Ice Hockey Federation, was disappointed with the crowds at some playoff games, but also acknowledged that South Korea is not a hockey country and "the pricing was also relatively high for people."

■ **SWEDEN MEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING:** Always a force in these events, they failed to medal in cross-country.

■ **SHANI DAVIS:** The American speedskater finished seventh in the 1,000 meters and 19th in the 1,500 after declining to attend the opening ceremony after losing a coin toss to decide the U.S. flag bearer in a process he said was handled "dishonorably."

■ **AMERICAN BIATHLETES:** They have still never won a medal in the Olympics, and last year's world champion Lowell Bailey wasn't even close to the leaderboard.

■ **CANADIAN CAR "BORROWERS":** Skicross competitor Dave Duncan apologized for "poor judgment" for his role in taking a car after a night out at a bar and using it for a ride home to the Olympic athletes village. The group, which included his wife Maja and his coach William Raine, was stopped by police shortly after midnight Saturday near the village.

■ **U.S. OLYMPIC TEAM:** The Americans leave the games with 23 medals, their lowest haul in 20 years.

PRO GOLF SCORES

PGA-The Honda Classic Scores
Sunday
At PGA National
Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.
Purse: $6.6 million
Yardage: 7,140; Par 70
Final
(x-won on first playoff hole)

x-J Thomas (500), $1,188,000	67-72-65-68—272
Luke List (300), $712,800	71-66-66-69—272
Alex Noren (190), $448,800	66-75-65-67—273
T. Fleetwood (135), $316,800	70-68-67-69—274
B. Hun An (105), $250,800	70-72-69-65—276
W. Simpson (105), $250,800	66-72-66-72—276
J. Lovemark (90), $221,100	68-68-69-72—277
Sam Burns, $191,400	70-71-69-68—278
E. Grillo (80), $191,400	71-72-69-66—278
Kelly Kraft (80), $191,400	72-69-66-71—278
Dylan Frittelli, $165,000	71-72-67-69—279
Tiger Woods (65), $151,800	70-71-69-70—280
D. Bozzelli (56), $123,750	68-73-71-69—281
D. Fathauer (56), $123,750	73-72-71-65—281
T. Pieters (56), $123,750	69-70-71-71—281
Adam Scott (56), $123,750	73-72-67-69—281
Greg Chalmers (45), $86,366	74-71-70-67—282
Lucas Glover (45), $86,366	70-75-71-66—282
C.T. Pan (45), $86,366	71-71-71-69—282
Jason Dufner (45), $86,366	69-72-70-71—282
Tom Lovelady (45), $86,366	75-70-67-70—282
Scott Piercy (45), $86,366	70-70-71-71—282
Rory Sabbatini (45), $86,366	69-69-71-73—282
Tyler Duncan (34), $54,780	70-74-70-69—283
Russell Henley (34), $54,780	68-70-74-71—283
John Huh (34), $54,780	71-73-68-71—283
L. Oosthuizen (34), $54,780	67-72-69-75—283
M. Thompson (34), $54,780	76-69-70-68—283
Daniel Berger (27), $43,890	67-72-70-75—284
R.C.Bello (27), $43,890	70-72-73-69—284
Adam Schenk (27), $43,890	69-71-71-73—284
Scott Stallings (27), $43,890	73-70-70-71—284
Joel Dahmen (17), $29,954	74-71-73-67—285
Roberto Diaz (17), $29,954	71-73-70-71—285
Sergio Garcia (17), $29,954	72-70-72-71—285
Chris Kirk (17), $29,954	71-74-72-68—285
William McGirt (17), $29,954	71-71-74-69—285
Chris Stroud (17), $29,954	69-73-72-71—285
Jimmy Walker (17), $29,954	76-68-74-67—285
Nick Watney (17), $29,954	71-71-72-71—285
Harris English (17), $29,954	71-74-67-73—285
Brian Harman (17), $29,954	74-70-69-72—285
Ben Martin (17), $29,954	70-71-70-74—285
P. Rodgers (17), $29,954	72-71-69-73—285
Aaron Wise (17), $29,954	76-69-69-71—285
Scott Brown (10), $19,228	72-70-73-71—286
Stewart Cink (10), $19,228	70-71-72-73—286
Jim Furyk (10), $19,228	72-70-70-74—286
K. Bradley (7), $15,873	69-72-72-74—287
M. Hoffmann (7), $15,873	67-73-74-73—287
J.B. Holmes (7), $15,873	68-76-71-71—287
Shane Lowry (7), $15,873	71-74-75-67—287
Peter Malnati (7), $15,873	71-71-70-75—287
Troy Merritt (7), $15,873	71-74-70-72—287
Ryan Moore (7), $15,873	70-73-70-74—287
Gary Woodland (7), $15,873	73-68-72-74—287
Michael Kim (6), $14,850	71-74-71-72—288
Andrew Novak, $14,850	75-70-73-70—288
Corey Conners (5), $14,388	70-72-74-73—289
M. Hughes (5), $14,388	67-75-74-73—289
Anirban Lahiri (5), $14,388	73-71-71-74—289
Rory McIlroy (5), $14,388	72-72-73-72—289
Vaughn Taylor (5), $14,388	73-71-74-71—289
O.Schniederjans (4), $13,926	72-73-75-70—290
H. Swafford (4), $13,926	73-68-68-80—290
Matt Every (4), $13,728	73-69-72-77—291
Martin Piller (4), $13,596	69-76-75-72—292
K. Aphibarnrat, $13,266	71-72-74-76—293
J. Randolph (3), $13,266	72-71-77-73—293
T. Van Aswegen (3), $13,266	72-73-73-75—293
Camilo Villegas (3), $13,266	76-67-73-77—293
Harold Varner III (3), $12,870	70-74-75-75—294
Jhonattan Vegas (3), $12,870	74-68-74-78—294
Ben Crane (3), $12,606	68-75-72-81—296
Martin Flores (3), $12,606	73-70-76-77—296

Commercial Bank Qatar Masters Leading Scores
Sunday
At Doha Golf Club
Doha, Qatar
Purse: $1.75 million
Yardage: 7,400; Par: 72
Final

Eddie Pepperell, England	65-69-66-70—270
Oliver Fisher, England	66-69-65-71—271
Marcus Kinhult, Sweden	68-69-67-68—272
G.Fernandez-Castano, Spain	68-68-69-68—273
Gregory Havret, France	65-69-70-69—273
Pablo Larrazabal, Spain	68-67-70-68—273
Renato Paratore, Italy	71-66-70-66—273
George Coetzee, South Africa	69-66-71-68—274
Sebastian Heisele, Germany	67-68-71-68—274
Matthew Baldwin, England	68-70-68-69—275
Mike Lorenzo-Vera, France	68-68-69-70—275
Adrian Otaegui, Spain	67-66-73-69—275
Mark Foster, England	71-68-68-69—276
Seungsu Han, United States	69-71-69-67—276
David Horsey, England	71-68-65-72—276
Matthew Nixon, England	69-68-69-70—276
Andrea Pavan, Italy	68-69-67-72—276
Chris Wood, England	68-69-68-71—276
Also	
Sean Crocker, United States	67-68-67-76—278
Chase Koepka, United States	71-68-74-69—282
Daniel Im, United States	73-67-74-75—289

Honda LPGA Thailand Scores
Sunday
At Siam Country Club (Old Course)
Chonburi, Thailand
Purse: $1.6 million
Yardage: 6,576; Par: 72 (36-36)
Final

Jessica Korda, $240,000	66-62-68-67—263
Lexi Thompson, $128,770	66-68-69-64—267
Moriya Jutanugarn, $128,770	66-69-65-67—267
Minjee Lee, $83,762	66-67-68-69—270
Shanshan Feng, $61,290	69-68-68-66—271
Ariya Jutanugarn, $61,290	68-69-65-69—271
Jin Young Ko, $39,022	73-67-68-64—272
Pornanong Phatlum, $39,022	69-69-70-64—272
Brooke M. Henderson, $39,022	67-68-70-67—272
Brittany Lincicome, $39,022	67-65-73-67—272
Michelle Wie, $30,644	68-67-69-69—273
Megan Khang, $28,601	67-69-69-69—274
Charley Hull, $26,803	70-70-69-66—275
Azahara Munoz, $22,555	69-68-71-68—276
Austin Ernst, $22,555	71-67-69-69—276
Nicole Broch Larsen, $22,555	70-67-68-71—276
Nelly Korda, $22,555	70-69-65-72—276
Amy Yang, $22,555	67-69-68-72—276
Anna Nordqvist, $18,796	70-70-69-68—277
Carlota Ciganda, $18,796	70-69-69-69—277
Danielle Kang, $18,796	68-70-70-69—277
Sei Young Kim, $16,528	71-69-73-65—278
Cristie Kerr, $16,528	72-69-70-67—278
Sung Hyun Park, $16,528	67-73-70-68—278
In Gee Chun, $16,528	67-73-67-71—278
Jacqui Concolino, $14,178	71-75-66-66—280
So Yeon Ryu, $14,178	68-74-69-69—280
Lizette Salas, $14,178	71-72-67-70—280
Angela Stanford, $14,178	72-68-69-71—280
Georgia Hall, $12,830	69-77-67-68—281
Marina Alex, $11,849	74-76-65-67—282
Jeong Eun Lee, $11,849	69-74-72-67—282
Lydia Ko, $11,849	69-74-71-68—282
Chella Choi, $9,847	71-71-76-65—283
Brittany Altomare, $9,847	72-71-72-68—283
Sarah Jane Smith, $9,847	71-75-67-70—283
Na Yeon Choi, $9,847	72-71-69-71—283
Candie Kung, $9,847	73-69-69-72—283
Kim Kaufman, $9,847	72-69-70-72—283
B. Niphatsophon, $8,335	75-76-68-65—284
Katherine Kirk, $8,335	73-72-69-70—284
Ayaka Ueharа, $7,682	74-72-73-66—285
Sandra Gal, $7,682	72-72-75-66—285
Mitsuru Narita, $6,823	68-78-72-68—286
Ashleigh Buhai, $6,823	72-72-73-69—286
Eun-Hee Ji, $6,823	73-71-70-72—286
Angel Yin, $6,823	70-73-71-72—286
Jennifer Song, $6,210	69-74-71-73—287
Caroline Masson, $5,843	70-73-76-69—288
Peiyun Chien, $5,843	73-74-69-72—288
S.Langkasuwan, $5,312	76-73-69-71—289
Karine Icher, $5,312	73-75-69-72—289
Bo-Mee Lee, $5,312	71-73-71-74—289
Jenny Shin, $5,312	70-74-70-75—289
Mo Martin, $4,803	73-71-70-76—290
Supamas Sangchan, $4,576	82-69-71-69—291
Alena Sharp, $4,576	75-73-72-71—291
Jodi Ewart Shadoff, $4,576	71-69-74-77—291
Mi Hyang Lee, $4,168	74-75-72-71—292
Jing Yan, $4,168	73-73-72-74—292
Mirim Lee, $4,005	76-72-73-72—293
Madelene Sagstrom, $3,841	71-78-74-71—294
Jane Park, $3,841	73-73-76-72—294
Su Oh, $3,841	73-75-71-75—294
Pernilla Lindberg, $3,677	75-74-71-75—295
Haru Nomura, $3,555	78-71-79-71—299
Mi Jung Hur, $3,555	77-74-74-74—299
Alison Lee, $3,432	79-80-71-72—302
Muni He, $3,350	75-77-79-73—304

USOC sports chief: We'll take a hard look at what occurred

By Eddie Pells
Associated Press

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — The U.S. Olympic team will leave Pyeongchang with its lowest medal haul in 20 years — a number even worse than it looks because of all the new, American-friendly sports that have been added to the program over the past two decades.

The U.S. finished with 23 medals. It's the poorest showing since 1998, four years before a home Olympics in Salt Lake City sparked a renaissance for the country's winter sports program.

Alan Ashley, the U.S. Olympic Committee's chief of sport performance, wasn't shirking from the bad result.

"We're going to take a hard look at what occurred here," he said Sunday at the USOC's closing news conference.

Ashley was joined by four U.S. medalists, including Lindsey Vonn, who a few days earlier gave an impassioned plea to not judge everything by the numbers of medals collected.

"To quantify it in how many medals you have is not appropriate and doesn't respect the athletes and what they've put in to be in these games," she said.

But Ashley acknowledged there was plenty of room for improvement, and promised to break down what went wrong when he returns home.

"Everything we're responsible for, and everything that is basically under my responsibility, is focused on how to help our top athletes achieve success," he said. "I'm accountable for that, and I'm not going to shy away from that."

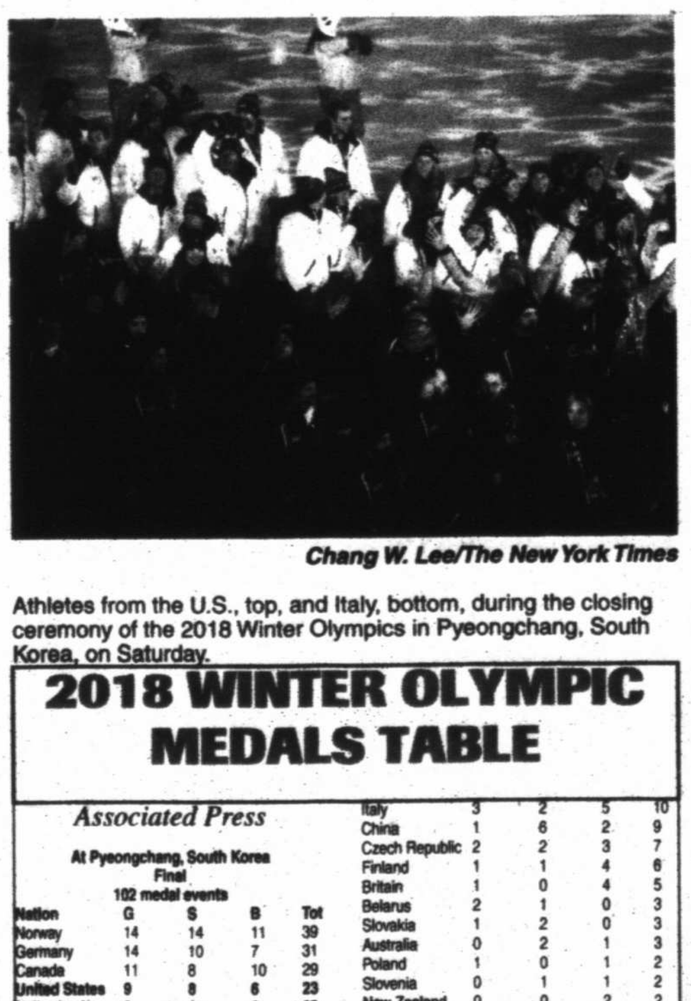
He also said he derived hope from the 35 athletes who finished fourth through sixth over the two-plus weeks in South Korea.

"It's not as though we were in these situations where you're saying, 'Oh, we're going to do this great achievement,' and then we were 20th, 40th, 70th, whatever,'" he said.

But the USOC certainly expected more.

An internal document obtained by The Associated Press set a target goal of 37 medals, with a minimum of 25.

Eleven of the 23 U.S. medals came from snowboarding and freestyle skiing, events that were added beginning in 1992 and have played a large part in a near doubling of medals up for grabs at the games. Many of the newer events are skewed toward North American athletes, and it's no surprise that the U.S. started vaulting up the medals table in 2002, when it won 34, buoyed by a U.S. sweep on the men's halfpipe in Park City.



Chang W. Lee/The New York Times

Athletes from the U.S., top, and Italy, bottom, during the closing ceremony of the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, on Saturday.

2018 WINTER OLYMPIC MEDALS TABLE

Associated Press

At Pyeongchang, South Korea
Final
102 medal events

Nation	G	S	B	Tot
Norway	14	14	11	39
Germany	14	10	7	31
Canada	11	8	10	29
United States	9	8	6	23
Netherlands	8	6	6	20
South Korea	5	8	4	17
OA Russia	2	6	9	17
Switzerland	5	6	4	15
France	5	4	6	15
Sweden	7	6	1	14
Austria	5	3	6	14
Japan	4	5	4	13
Italy	3	2	5	10
China	1	6	2	9
Czech Republic	2	2	3	7
Finland	1	1	4	6
Britain	1	0	4	5
Belarus	2	1	0	3
Slovakia	1	2	0	3
Australia	0	2	1	3
Poland	1	0	1	2
Slovenia	0	1	1	2
New Zealand	0	0	2	2
Spain	0	0	2	2
Hungary	1	0	0	1
Ukraine	1	0	0	1
Belgium	0	1	0	1
Kazakhstan	0	0	1	1
Latvia	0	0	1	1
Liechtenstein	0	0	1	1

That year, Team USA took 14.5 percent of the medals available. This year, it took 7.5 percent.

The U.S. finished with 12 medals in events other than freestyle and snowboarding. That's one fewer than in 1998, but still double the total of 1988. After those games, Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, who was vice chairman of the USOC, issued a report that called for the federation to focus more on winning medals.

These days, the USOC spends more than $60 million during an Olympic cycle to support winter athletes and their sports organizations. Since Ashley took over, more emphasis has been placed on funneling the money more toward sports that have medal hopes as opposed to developing pipelines for less-successful sports to grow.

Ashley said he'll look at everything, including seeing what the USOC might emulate from countries that have had more success this year. Norway closed with 39 medals, breaking the Winter Olympics record of 37, set by the United States in 2010. Germany had 31, and Canada, which started its "Own the Podium" program before the Vancouver Games, had 29.

All are helped with funding from their government. The USOC is not.

"I want to help our athletes achieve everything they're capable of," Ashley said. "We come here to compete. Everyone can do predictions. And if we just live with predictions, then I guess we don't need to go to the Olympics."

SPRINGER

From 1C

their World Series win and looking ahead to this season, Springer took a moment to reflect on what it meant for him to bring a title to Houston in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. He said one of the best byproducts of their big win was seeing how excited people were around town and having fans thank him for bringing the trophy home.

"I think sports has a way of being very, very therapeutic," he said. "That happened and the only thing happening in the city at the time was our team. The Texans had just started playing, so it was like you want to rally around the team that's playing and the city really got behind us."

"We can't really put it into perspective what we were able to accomplish," he said. "So I'm so happy about that."

While one ring provided plenty of joy for Springer, a second one might have given him even more reason to smile when Springer and longtime girlfriend Charlise Castro married late last month. The two wed in a breathtakingly beautiful ceremony at a coastal resort in California to cap a magical few months for Springer.

Jack Hamilton, pitcher who hit Conigliaro on eye, dead at 79

Associated Press

BRANSON, Mo. — Jack Hamilton, whose errant inside pitch damaged the eyesight of Boston's Tony Conigliaro in 1967 and caused a premature end to the career of the Red Sox star, has died. He was 79.

Hamilton died Thursday at the Shepherd of The Hills Living Center in Branson, the Greenlawn Funeral Home said.

Signed by St. Louis ahead of the 1957 season, he was selected by Philadelphia in a minor league draft after the 1960 season. Hamilton pitched in the major leagues from 1962-69 and was 32-40 with a 4.53 ERA in 65 starts and 153 relief appearances for the Phillies (1962-63), Detroit (1964-65), the New York Mets (1966-67), the California Angels (1967-68), Cleveland (1969) and the Chicago White Sox (1969).

He went 9-12 as a rookie, leading the National League in walks with 107 and wild pitches with 22.

Hamilton was traded from the Mets to the Angels in June 1967 and had won eight of his first 10 decisions overall that year going into a start at Boston's Fenway Park on Aug. 18, 1967. He threw a pitch in the fourth inning that fractured Conigliaro's left cheekbone, dislocated his jaw and left him with retina damage and blurred vision. An All-Star who at 22 became the youngest American League player to reach 100 home runs, Conigliaro had helped put the Red Sox in position to win their first pennant since 1946.

"It was a high fastball," Hamilton told The Associated Press in 1987. "He didn't move at all. He didn't even flinch, jerk his head or anything. It was hard to sit there and take a pitch like that." Conigliaro, whose batting stance crowded the plate, missed the rest of the season and all of 1968. Without him, the Red Sox lost the World Series to St. Louis in seven games.

As Conigliaro was leaving the dugout for the on-deck circle, a fan threw a smoke bomb near Angels left fielder Rick Reichardt, causing a delay of about 10 minutes.

"Just before he made his first pitch, I wondered if the delay had caused his arm to stiffen," Conigliaro said in a first-person account published by Sports Illustrated in June 1970. "It was the last thought I had before he hit me. The ball came sailing right toward my chin. Normally a hitter can jerk his head back a fraction and the ball will buzz by. But this pitch seemed to follow me in." Not realizing the extent of the injury, Hamilton did not rush to assist Conigliaro.

"When I found out how serious it was, I tried to visit him at the hospital but they were only letting the family in," Hamilton said told the AP. "I never had a chance to see him or say anything to him after that."

Major League Baseball did not mandate ear flaps on the side of the helmet closest to the pitcher until it was required for all new players starting in 1983.

Conigliaro returned to the Red Sox for 1969 and 1970, and for the Angels in 1971. Vision problems reoccurred, causing him to miss three big league seasons, and he retired at age 30 after appearing in 21 games for Boston in the first half of the 1975 seasons.

Hamilton is survived by wife Jan, daughter Karla, son Kyle, three sisters and four grandchildren.

AP File Photo

California Angels pitcher Jack Hamilton poses for a photo in 1968. Hamilton, whose errant inside pitch damaged the eyesight of Boston's Tony Conigliaro in 1967 and caused a premature end to the career of the Red Sox star, has died. He was 79. Hamilton died Thursday at the Shepherd of The Hills Living Center in Branson, Mo., the Greenlawn Funeral Home said.

WEST TEXAS SPORTS

To submit an item for West Texas Sports, please either fax, bring in, mail or email your information in hard-copy form to the Reporter-Telegram sports department.

Please make your submission as detailed as possible, including dates of events, deadlines, fees, age groups, etc.

To bring your item to the MRT, come to 201 E. Illinois Ave. in Midland. To mail your information, send it to Reporter-Telegram, c/o Sports Department, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

You can email it to sports@mrt.com.

Baseball

GCM Baseball Academy

What: Professional private baseball lessons & clinics covering pitching, fielding, catching and hitting provided by three former professional players.

For: Ages 5 & up.

Cost: Individual lessons $65 an hour or $40 for 30 minutes. Bulk purchases & group lesson rates available at discount.

For more info: Call (432) 425-6108

Private batting and pitching instruction

For more info: Call Danny Jordan at 230-0096 for instruction on mechanics and pitch selection in a one-on-one setting

Private hitting and catching instruction

For more info: Call Scott Chapman at 967-2364 for instruction in a one-on-one environment.

Pitching, hitting and fielding lessons

For more info: Call Midland High baseball coach Barry Russell at 296-2438

Private Baseball/Softball lessons

For more info: Contact Extra Innings Midland/Odessa at (432) 617-4487 or visit www.extrainnings-midlandodessa.com

Midland Little League Umpires Needed

For more info: Contact 889-6080

WTX Baseball

What: Instruction for players 5 and up

For more info: wtxbaseball.com; facebook.com/wtxbaseballmidland; 413-0329

Basketball

Permian Basketball Association needs officials

For more info: Jim Cox, 685-4143 or 553-3714

YMCA needs basketball referees

For more info: 682-2551

Midland Hoops 32 Basketball Skills Training

Cost: $25 per session, one to two people; $15 for groups of three or more

For more info: Contact Eddie Venzant at 254-6894 or go to midland-hoops32.com; venzanteddie@yahoo.com.

Tall City Classic Basketball Tournament

For: Boys and girls third-12th grades

When: June 15-17

Entry fee: $175 per team

For more info: Contact Earl at 432-349-8052

Bowling

Tuesday Night Petroleum Men's League

When: Meets at 6:45 p.m.

For more info: Melton Post 684-5176 or Cactus Lanes 694-0177

Edith McElmore Three-Person League

When: 10 a.m. Wednesdays

Where: AMF Lanes

For more info: Call AMF Lanes at 689-9725

Reeds Super Bowl

What: Fall/winter leagues registration is currently ongoing.

For more info: Call 432-704-5385

Rock n' Bowl

When: 6 p.m.-1 a.m. Saturdays

Where: Reed's Super Bowl, 3920 W. Wall St.

Cost: $10-25

For more info: Call Zoe Reed at 575-399-5241 or Kevin Reed at 575-441-6646

Color Pin Bowling

When: 7:30 p.m. Fridays

Where: Reed's Super Bowl

Cost: $18 for three games. Cash prizes awarded.

For more info: Call Zoe Reed at 575-399-5241 or Kevin Reed at 575-441-6646

Camps/Clinics

Ten Star All Star Camp

For whom: Boys and girls ages 10-19

For more info: Call (704) 373-0873 for a brochure

COM Aquatic Camps

What: Swimming, diving, snorkeling

Ages: Preschool and grade school

For more info: Call 684-7755

Tennis clinics and lessons

Contact Coach Jon Lanier for clinics and lessons at jlanier@midlandchristianschool.org

Cycling

Permian Basin Bicycle Association Meetings

When: 7 p.m., third Monday of every month

Where: MCH Mission Fitness, corner of Highway 191 and Faudree Road. Odessa

Dues: $25/$30 for a family

For more info: Peyton's Bikes 699-1718 or go to www.pbbatx.com

Dodgeball

Sticks and Kicks Leagues

Who: Kids, adults, co-ed players

Cost: $35 per player (8 game season)

Where: Register at Sticks and Kicks, 3918 W Wall

For more info: Call 520-6633

Flag Football

YMCA Officials Needed

What: The YMCA needs officials for Youth Flag Football games Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

For more info: Call 682-2551

Football

Permian Basin Officials Chapter seeks officials

Note: Education and training will be provided

For more info: Call Terrell Pierce at 559-5004 or Jesse Mendoza at 432-254-9214

Golf

Hogan Park Women's Golf Association

What: Membership open to any woman over 18 who is interested in golf. All skill levels welcome

When: Playdays are 9 p.m. Thursdays, business meetings held before play the first Thursday of the month

Dues: $35

Handicap fee: $25

For more info: call Mary Jane Belden at 432-638-1654 or Debbie Bounds at 432-413-6040

Martial Arts

Aikido

When: Monday-Friday, 7-9 p.m., Saturdays, 12:30 p.m.

Note: Specializing in traditional Hombu style Aikido

For more info: Call John Riggs, 684-7008 or 770-3155

Private Martial Art/Self-Defense Lessons

For: Men-Woman-Children

What: Learn Basic Skills to Advanced Techniques

Note: Private, Semi-Private and Group Lessons are available

For more info: Call Master Oscar Jimenez, 432-559-5009, ojimenez3@att.net

Matthews Martial Arts

When: Monday through Thursday, 5-8 p.m.

What: Karate-Judo-Jujitsu-Kempo-KungFu

For: Ages 3 and up

Where: 3205 Cuthbert

For more info: Contact Jason Matthews at 488-7467 or 689-8444

Miscellaneous

Student-Athlete Sports Consultant

For: Assisting high school student athletes with academic-athletic scholarships.

For more info: Call Jacob Santillano at (915) 240-1030

Poker

Lone Star Poker League

What: Free to play Texas Hold 'em Poker tournaments.

For: Beginners to experienced players. Ages 21 and up.

When/where: 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Wednesday and Friday at Woofers & Tweeters; 6:30 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday at Rednecks Drafthouse. Players must be signed in by 6:15 p.m. each night.

For more info: Go to www.lonestarpokertour.net

Professional Wrestling

Old School Wrestling School

What: Professional wrestling school for all ages.

Where: 404 E. 61st St., Odessa

When: 7-10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; 2-6 p.m. Sundays

Cost: $50 down; $35 a month.

For more info: Call Fred, 770-7001, or Sam, 349-3055

Rugby

Mad Dog Rugby Football Club

Practices: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. at Reyes-Mashburn Park (north field)

For more info call: 432-697-6418

Running

Permian Basin Running Club

Cost: $20 per year for individual membership; $30 for per year for family membership

For more info: Go to www.pbrunningclub.com or email Shawn Hailey, president at haileyshawn@pbrunningclub.com

Gazelles Training Group

When: 6 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

For more info: Call Popcorn Leonard at 512-762-1020 or 682-0988

Shooting

Comanche Trail Shootists

What: Single Action Shooting Society affiliated club in Midland

When: Monthly shoots first Saturday and third Sunday of each month; first Saturday beginning at 10 a.m.; Third Sunday from 1 p.m. (Mandatory safety meeting at 12:30 p.m.) Also shoot on fifth Sunday on months that have them (begin at 1 p.m. and are no cost to the shooter) Mandatory safety meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Where: Timberline Ranch adjacent to Jake's Clays

For more info: Go to comanchetrailshootists.org or call Hoodoo Brown 682-1422

Midland Shooters Association

What: All types of shooting practice and competition, featuring archery, benchrest rifle, bulls-eye rifle, high power rifle, pistol silhouette, rimfire silhouette, 3 gun, practical pistol, skeet, trap 5 state and sporting clays

When: Members can access rifle and pistol ranges from sunrise to sunset seven days a week. Shotgun ranges open 11 a.m. until dusk Wednesday to Sunday.

For more info: Go to www.midlandshooters.com

Soccer

Permian Basin Soccer Association

What: Registration for women's spring/summer season

Where: Dunagan Park, located at corner of Gist and Terrell

When: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 7-8:30 p.m.

For more info: Contact Jesus Chavez at 557-7032 anytime or Josh Chavez at 238-6947 after 6:30 p.m.

Midland Soccer Association

For: Youth Recreational League Ages 4-18

When: Spring/Fall Games

Note: Also information on becoming a certified referee

For more info: Register online at www.midlandsoccer.com and go to 432-684-5425

Softball

Midland Softball Association Tournament Schedule

Now available at www.midlandsoftball.com

For more info: call Tommy Hawkins at 520-9100

Midland Men's Woodbat Fastpitch Association

For more info: Call 634-6474 or visit www.facebook.com/pages/Midland-Texas-Mens-Fastpitch or wyotaspitch@gmail.com

Swimming

COM Pre-competitive swimming

Where: Mabee Aquatic Center

Cost: $49 per month

Prerequisite: Must be able to swim 25 yards of freestyle or backstroke

For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Water Aerobics Classes

When: All times, Monday through Saturday

Who: All skill levels

For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755

COM Learn to Swim

Ages: All ages

Note: Private, semi-private and group lessons are available

For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Masters Swimming

What: Competitive or non-competitive program for adults of all skill levels

When: 5-6 a.m., 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Cost: $40 per month (includes cardio training)

For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Diving Instruction

Who: All ages and levels invited

For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Learn to Dive

What: Learn basic skills for beginners then advance to pre-competitive and competitive diving that emphasize skilled diving techniques and participation in diving meets

Ages: 4 and up

For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Competitive Dive Team

Who: Try out for Bronze, Silver, Gold Prep or Gold levels of COM Dive Team.

What: Emphasizes is on diving techniques and participation in local and out of town competitive meets

For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Elite Dive Team

What: Highest level of COM diving. Concentrates on perfecting Olympic level skills, national and international travel

For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Competitive Swim Team

Who: Try out for COM Swim Team. tryouts available by appointment

What: Emphasizes stroke correction and participation in local and out of town competitive meets

For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Adult Conditioning

What: Allows adult participation use of top quality lap pools and fitness room during specified hours

For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Water Walking Class

What: Unstructured, self-paced class

For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755

COM Senior Fitness Class

Who: Senior citizens that need help with physical conditions resulting from injury, disease, chronic conditions, advanced age, etc

For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755

Central YMCA Water Aerobics Classes

When: Early morning, morning and evening

For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Central YMCA Arthritis Water Exercise Classes

When: Monday, Wednesday, Friday

For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Central YMCA Swimming Lessons

Who: All ages and ability

For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Central YMCA Synchronized Swimming

For: Ages 6 and up

For more information: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Tennis

West Texas Tennis Association

What: West Texas Tennis Association, a non-profit community tennis association, promotes and oversees USTA leagues, programs and events in the area.

For more info: Call 432-210-0611 or www.westtexastennis.com for more information.

Bush Tennis Center Clinics

What: Balloon Tennis 34 (ages 3-4); Redball 58 (ages 5-8); Orange and Green Ball 910 (ages 9-10), Junior Development (6th-8th grade; freshman-JV); Junior Select (varsity); RSR Adults (adult beginners); Intermediate Adults 4.0-5.0 Adults (advanced adults); Also Junior Team Tennis registration now open

Where: Bush Tennis Center

For more info: Visit www.bushtenniscenter.com or call 620-8180

USTA Team Tennis Adult Leagues

When: Leagues run May through November

Where: Midland College Tennis Center

For more info: Sherry 620-8610 or Email www.midlandtennis@aol.com

Midland College Tennis

What: Clinics, lessons, leagues, tournaments

Where: Midland College Tennis Center

For more info: Call 687-4046

Midland College Tennis Club

When: A community tennis club

Where: Midland College Tennis Center

Annual Dues: Adults $65, youths $30, families $140

For more info: Call 563-1333 or email midlandtennisclub@aol.com

Midland Women's Tennis Association

Social women's doubles tennis, all levels

When: 9 a.m. Tuesdays

Where: Midland College

For more info: Call 954-707-0622 or email jmalcolmtexas@gmail.com. Or go to the Midland Women's Tennis Association Facebook page

Ultimate Frisbee

Midland Drought Ultimate Frisbee Club

What: The Club plays weekly casual pick-up games on Monday (from 7 p.m. to dark) and Saturday mornings (from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) and offer occasional opportunities for tourney travel

For ages: Males and females from the high school level to adult

For more info: Go to www.midlandultimatefrisbee.weebly.com or call Matt at 432-288-3139

Walking

Midland Walkabout AVA Club

For: All Ages

Annual dues: $15 per family

Walks: One Saturday morning per month

When: First Monday of the month at Murray's Deli on Wadley at 6 p.m.

Who: All ages

For more info: Call 432-697-4310, email gary.petersen@mygrande.net or visit midlandwalkabout.wordpress.com

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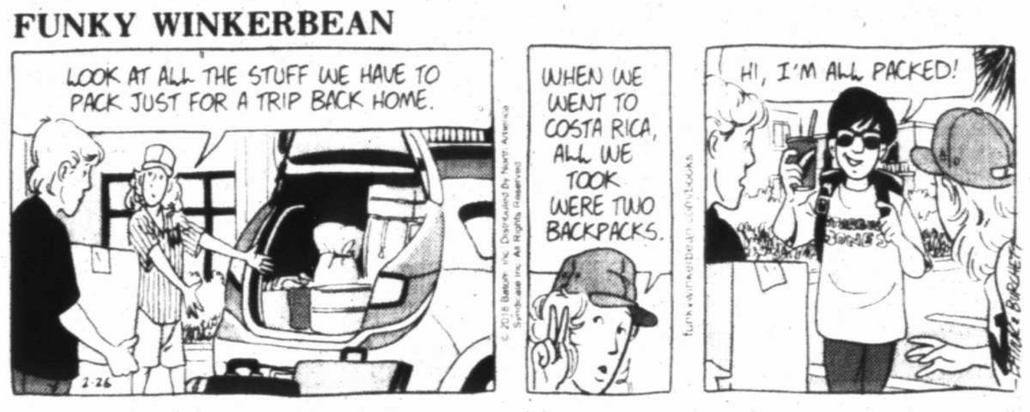
FUNKY WINKERBEAN



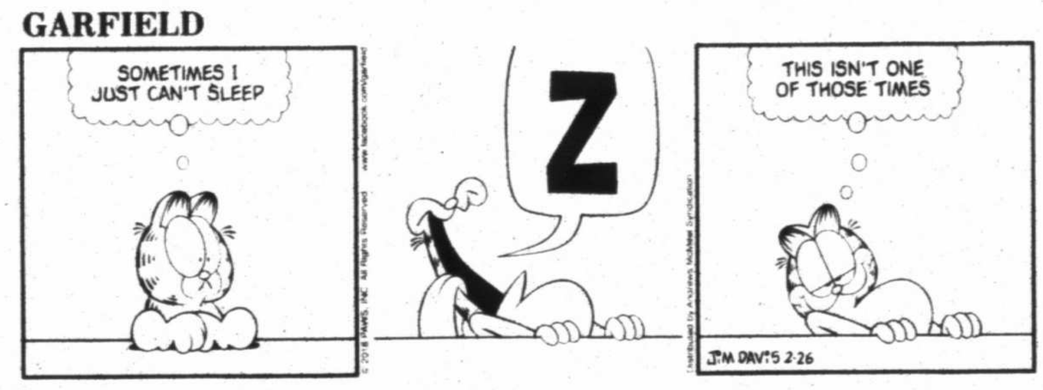
BLONDIE

BEETLE BAILEY

CLASSIC PEANUTS

SHOE

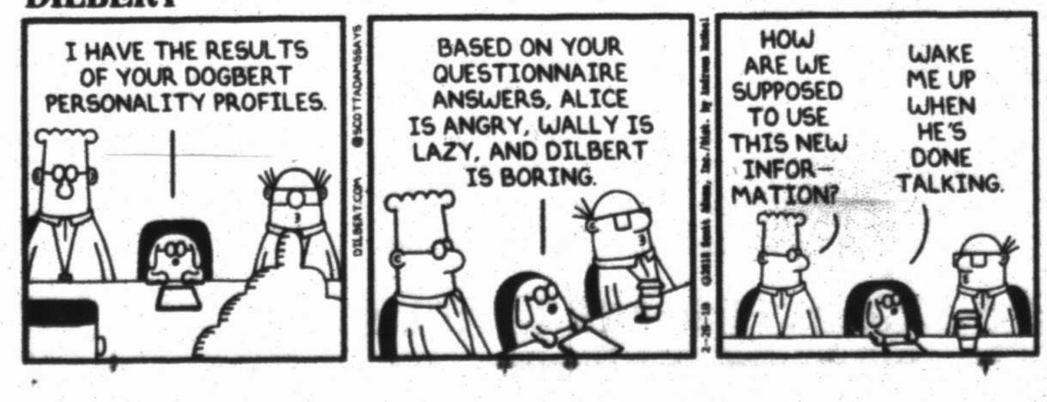
GARFIELD



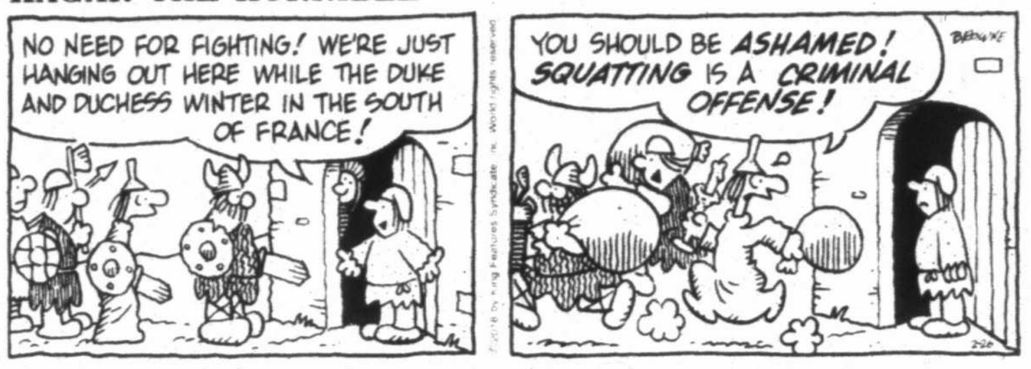
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

WIZARD OF ID

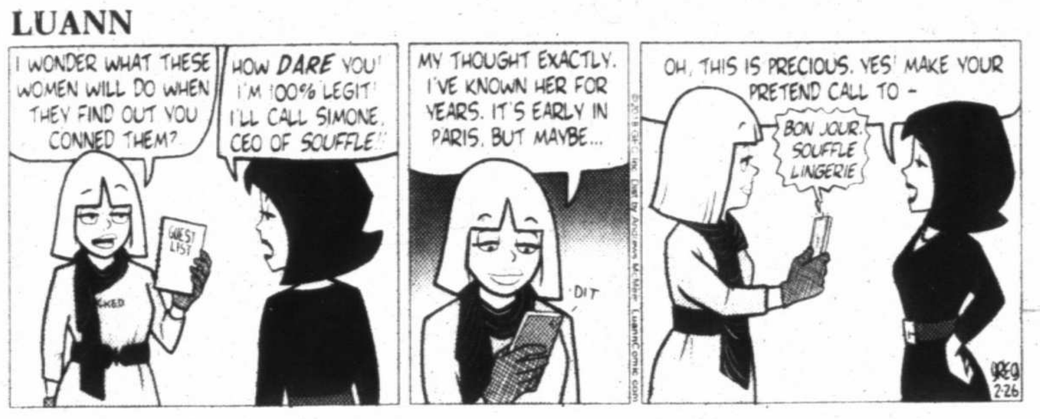
DILBERT



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



LUANN



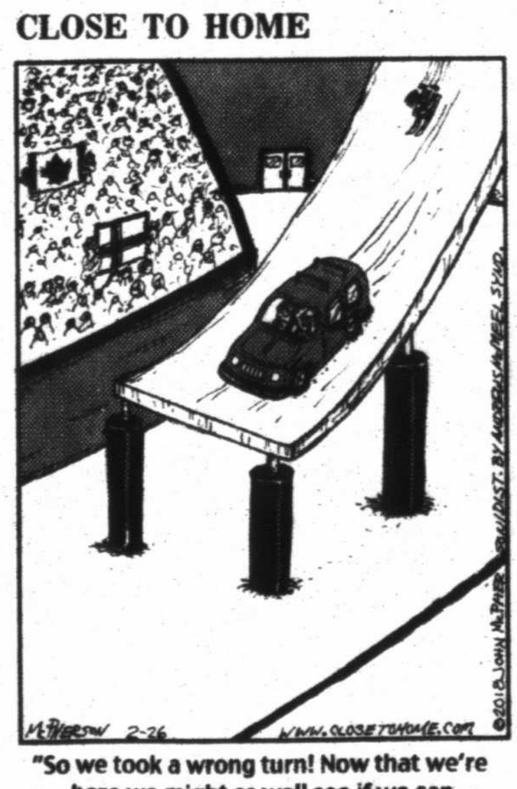
MARY WORTH

ZITS

BABY BLUES

MUTTS

CLOSE TO HOME

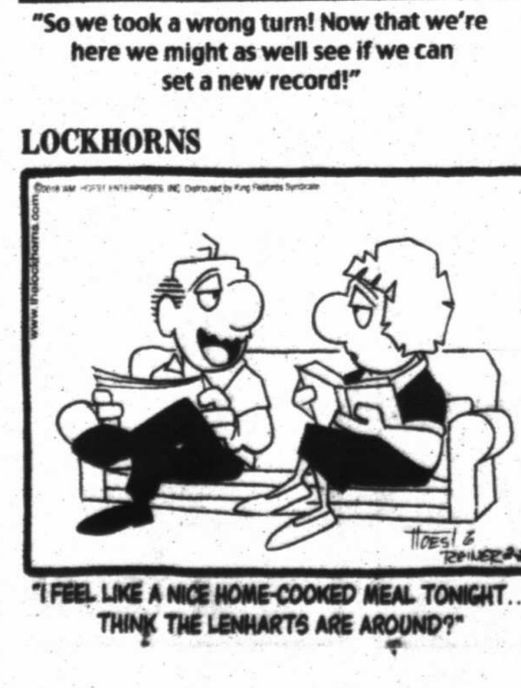


"So we took a wrong turn! Now that we're here we might as well see if we can set a new record!"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHAVE MILK MUSTACHES, JOEY... JUST WIPE THEM OFF."

LOCKHORNS



"I FEEL LIKE A NICE HOME-COOKED MEAL TONIGHT... THINK THE LENHARTS ARE AROUND?"

FAMILY CIRCUS

"Conscience is like Mommy tellin' you not to do somethin', but she isn't there."

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit **www.sudoku.org.uk**

8	5					2	1	
3		1	8					9
				1			6	
		3				1		
	8		7		6		2	
		4				9		
	3			2				
2					9	8		3
	1	6					4	2

2/26/18

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SOLUTION TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE

3	7	6	4	9	2	1	5	8
2	9	8	1	6	5	4	7	3
4	1	5	7	3	8	6	2	9
1	8	9	2	5	6	3	4	7
6	2	3	9	7	4	5	8	1
7	5	4	8	1	3	9	6	2
5	6	2	3	8	9	7	1	4
9	4	1	5	2	7	8	3	6
8	3	7	6	4	1	2	9	5

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TEADD

PLMIB

RUUYXL

BYRRUL

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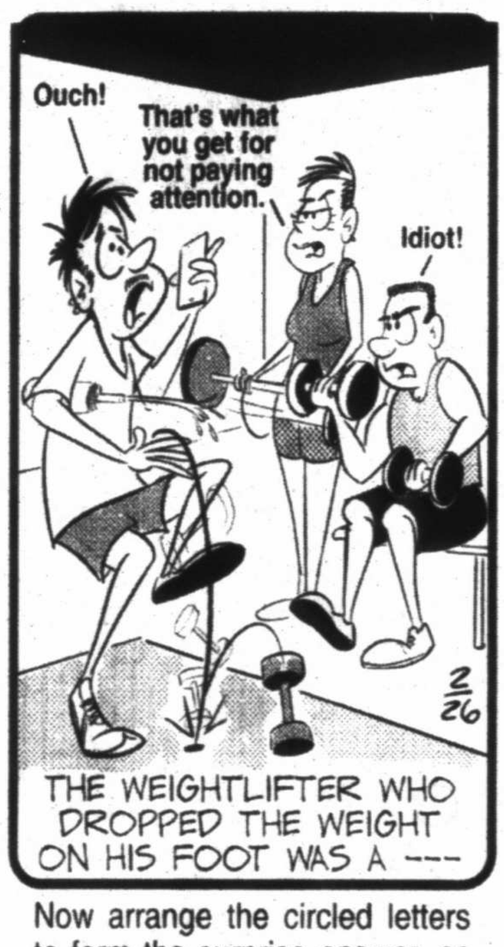


Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

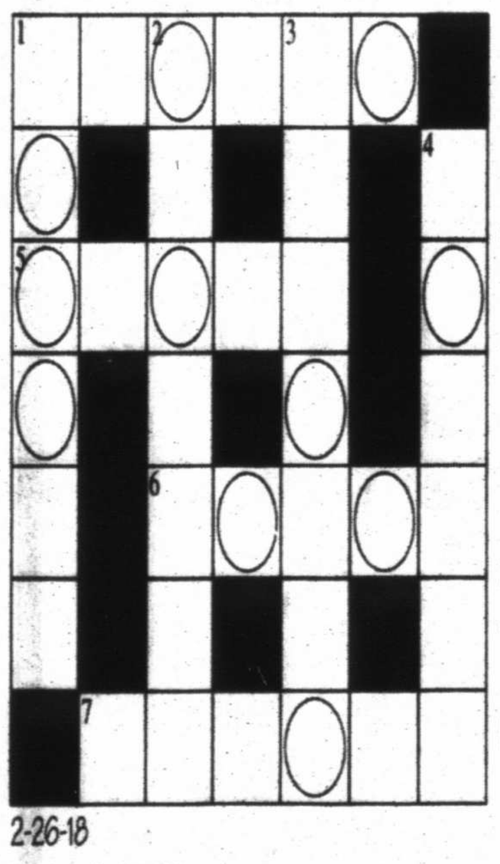
Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: WAVER HAPPY KETTLE ACCESS
Answer: The background check on the cartoonist showed that he had a — SKETCHY PAST

JUMBLE® CROSSWORDS™

by David L. Hoyt



ACROSS

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Fancy	NAEROT
5. Ski ___	GELDO
6. Victor's opponent	LREOS
7. Blood ___	RNAOGE

DOWN

CLUE	ANSWER
1. Compel	GLIBEO
2. Lumpy	RAOLUND
3. Disloyalty	ORTEANS
4. Raspy-sounding	AOSERH

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.

2-26-18

CLUE: ___ ___ lived from 1734 to 1820.

BONUS

©Send comments to TCA - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, IL. 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

ANSWERS: 1A-Ornate 5A-Ledge 6A-Loser 7A-Orange 1D-Oblige 2D-Nobler 3D-Reagan 4D-Hoarse B-Lland Boone
Send comments to TCA - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, IL. 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Perp chaser
4 "E pluribus unum" language
9 Agreement to stop fighting
14 Tycoon Onassis, familiarly
15 Enticing smell
16 Steam, e.g.
17 School group excursion
19 Santa __ racetrack
20 Absolute
21 Ad infinitum
23 Oakland's county
26 WWII craft
27 Prime rib au __
30 Costner's "The Untouchables" role
31 First single by a rapper to reach #1 on the Billboard Hot 100
34 Feudal drudge
35 In the altogether
36 Somewhat conservative, politically ... and where the first word of 17-, 31-, 43- and 60-Across can literally be found
41 Pink cocktail, for short
42 Greek "i"
43 Economize
46 __ Linda, Calif.
50 Vintage auto
51 Earl Grey, for one
52 Optometrist's test
54 Infant in a crèche
56 Railroad in Monopoly
57 Continuous humming sound
60 Actor's pseudonym
63 Reeves of "Bill & Ted" films
64 More than ready
65 Civil War soldier
66 Winning
67 Operative
68 Evidence on "CSI"

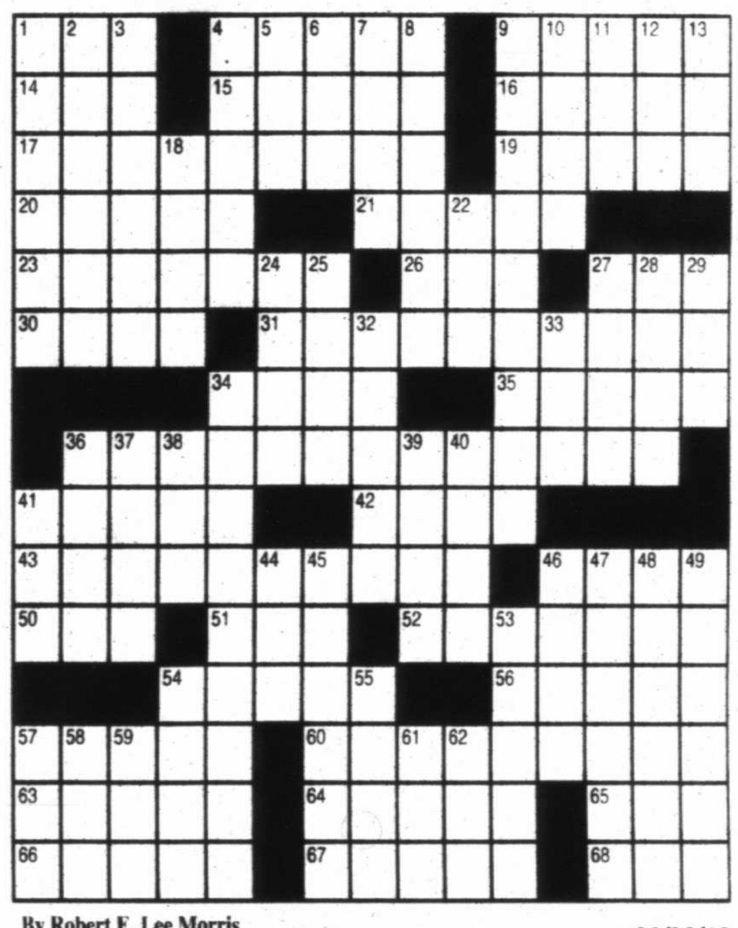
DOWN

1 Lounging robe
2 Baltimore bird
3 Michelangelo sculptures
4 Soup scoop
5 Singer Garfunkel
6 Canadian A.L. East team
7 "You can count on me!"
8 Seaport in Italia
9 "Rabbit ears" on an RCA cabinet, back in the day
10 Mapmaker __ McNally
11 News org. since 1958
12 Camper's snoozing spot
13 Pitcher's stat
18 Hightails it
22 Upper-left PC key
24 Lose weight
25 Prefix for phobia meaning "height"
27 One of the Blues Brothers
28 Ride for hire
29 Pink Floyd guitarist Barrett
32 Jennifer Hudson's "Dreamgirls" role
33 Slugger's club
34 Typical Western
36 Don Juan
37 Analogy words
38 Yukon automaker
39 Apple throwaway
40 Craftsy website
41 "Lookin' Out My Back Door" band, initially
44 High-__ graphics
45 Queasy feeling
46 Like unfatty meat
47 Ventura County's largest city
48 Lunatics
49 Single-celled organism
53 Film critic Roger
54 Jupiter's wife
55 Guys-only
57 Boxing outcome, for short
58 Farm clucker
59 Stool pigeon
61 Cake candle count
62 Mil. bigwig

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

W	A	R	P	E	D	W	A	L	L		A	F	R	O
I	H	A	D	N	O	I	D	E	A		F	L	E	W
T	A	K	I	N	G	D	O	W	N		R	Y	A	N
		E	D	U		E	P	I	C		A	R	C	S
I	D	I	D	I	T		T	S	E	L	I	O	T	
C	I	T	Y		A	L	E			A	D	D	S	
E	M	I		U	S	E	D	C	A	R	S			
T	E	N	A	N	T	S		O	N	G	O	I	N	G
			T	I	E	S	I	N	T	O		N	E	A
	A	C	R	O			N	E	E		S	T	A	Y
	T	R	A	N	C	E	S		S	A	T	I	R	E
O	W	E	N		O	T	T	O		D	O	M		
M	O	O	D		S	H	O	N	D	A	L	A	N	D
N	O	L	O		T	E	R	M	I	N	A	T	O	R
I	D	E	M		S	L	E	E	P	O	V	E	R	S

02/26/18



By Robert E. Lee Morris
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02/26/18

WUZZLES®

WORD PUZZLES BY WOOD TOM

Each Wuzzle is a word riddle which creates a disguised word, phrase, name, place, saying, etc. For example, NOON GOOD = GOOD AFTERNOON

3 WUZZLES BOOKLETS

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1.

COLD NIGHTS

2.

Wear
Put On Long

Print Your Answers Here:

1.

2.

Today's Answers:

1. Long cold nights
2. Put on long underwear

2-26

Created by Tom Underwood
www.wuzzleking.com

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WUZZLES® Answers

1. Long cold nights
2. Put on long underwear

2-26

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ice skating teaches kids about falling...

AND GETTING UP

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Served with guacamole, sour cream, & side of salsa.

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Two chile rellenos (naked or battered) smothered with our red sauce or queso. Your choice of beef, chicken or cheese. Served with rice, beans, & large homemade flour tortilla.

Asado
Rice, beans, & large homemade flour tortilla.

Grande Nachos
Includes beans, cheese, beef or chicken, lettuce, tomato, guacamole, sour cream, & jalapeños.

Shredded Brisket
Rice, beans, & large homemade flour tortilla.

Combo Tex Mex
Two cheese or beef enchiladas, one tamale, & one taco. Served with rice & beans.

Enchiladas
Choice of red or green sauce, beef, chicken or cheese. Served with rice & beans.

Flautas
Four chicken flautas, rice, beans, guacamole, & sour cream.

Chile Verde con Carne
Rice, beans, & large homemade flour tortilla.

Fajitas (Beef or Chicken)
Rice, beans, pico de gallo, guacamole, sour cream, & large homemade flour tortilla.

Crispy Tacos
Your choice of beef or chicken. Served with rice & beans.

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

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

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

OTHER JOBS

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

Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm-4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person.
$11.00 per hour

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

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday - Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITIES

Commercial Construction Project Superintendents

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

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Assembly Mehanical Technicians

Natural Gas Services Group has immediate openings for **Assembly Mechanical Technicians.** These individuals must have basic mechanical knowledge. They must also have familiarity with the industry and equipment. Our employees enjoy a great work environment with competitive pay and excellent benefits. If this is you, you can apply by sending your resume to employment@ngsgi.com or you can apply in person at 12301 W CR 125, Odessa TX 79765.

Code Pipe Welders & Code Vessel Welders

Natural Gas Services Group has immediate openings for **Code Pipe Welders and Code Vessel Welders with experience.** You must be able to weld with MIG (GMAW) and FLUX (FCAW). Job encompasses welding major components, pipe supports and brackets onto skids. You will be required to take a company welding test. Stainless Steel welding is a plus. Fabrication experience is required for other projects as they come up. Our employees enjoy a great work environment with competitive pay and excellent benefits. If this is you, you can apply by sending your resume to employment@ngsgi.com or you can apply in person at 12301 W CR 125, Odessa TX. 79765.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

OTHER JOBS

Endeavor Energy Resources LP

DOT Driver II

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

OTHER JOBS

Endeavor Energy Resources LP

Now hiring for a Field Technician.

he Field Technician will provide advanced refueling services to support the Frac operations on location. Endeavor Energy will provide all necessary training for new employees. **This is a non-driving position.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Materials Manager, Shop Technician, Delivery & Pickup Driver

VanZandt Controls is a dynamic and growing Valve Automation, Flow Measurement & Instrumentation Company located in Odessa, TX. We are currently looking to fill the following positions:

Materials Manager:
- Manage & Supervise Day to Day Operations of Warehouse
- Staff, Train, Evaluate & Develop Team Members
- Understand & Execute Inventory Management System

Shop Technician:
- Build & Repair Different Types of Valves and Actuators
- Be Capable of Understanding Technical Documents
- Knowledge of Valve Actuators a Plus

Delivery & Pickup Driver:
- Unload Trucks & Check In Materials
- Pickup Products and Deliver Materials as Required
- Assist with Different Inventory Management Tasks

Please send your resume to Dave Latch - dlatch@vzcontrols.com. Applicants must be reliable and have clean driving record.

VANZANDT Controls, LLC

HEALTHCARE

Medical Receptionist

Busy Medical Clinic looking for full time Receptionist. Medical Office experience required. Must have knowledge of insurance verification. Attractive salary and benefits. Email to: mldcard2014@hotmail.com or fax 432-522-2950

OTHER JOBS

CDL Drivers Needed

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

• Water truck drivers • Belly Dump drivers

Home every night and new equipment

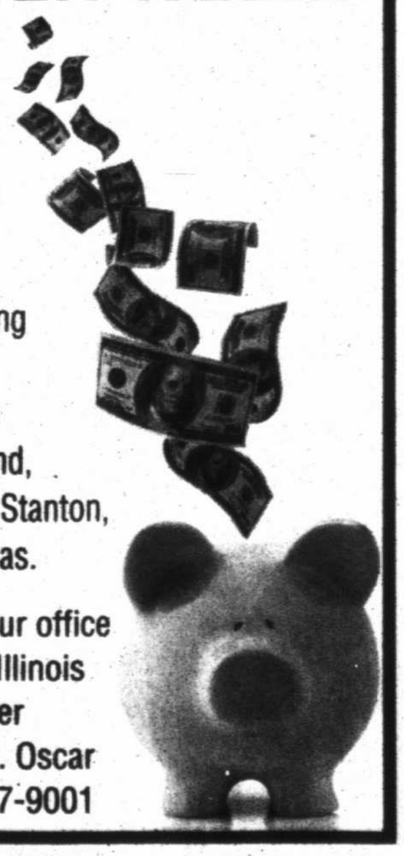
Requirements: 1 year of driving experience.
Valid Texas Class A CDL, w/tankers for water truck driver.

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

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

EARN UP TO $500 PER WEEK!

Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone?? Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram in the in the Midland, Odessa, Andrews, Stanton, and Big Spring areas.



Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet. Oscar Ronquillo 432-687-9001

Field Service Mechanics

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

Field Service Mechanics

Requirements: 3 years mechanic experience.
Must have own tools, Valid Texas Drivers license, Pay will depend on work experience, 50 plus work week.
Benefits: Medical, dental Vision, life insurance. Paid vacation after 1 year of service, and 401K

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

mrt★com/jobs

Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

OTHER JOBS

Jet Specialty, Inc.

A 38 year old oil field supply company. Our Pecos, TX, Midland, TX and Carlsbad, NM locations are looking for the following:

- Outside Sales Person
- Drivers
- Inside Sales People

Excellent Pay, Paid Vacation, Paid Holidays, 401K, Medical, Dental and Vision. Experience a plus!!!

Email resumes:
ryan.smrkovsky@jetspecialty.com

RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICES

Restaurant Positions

Osaka Japanese Steakhouse **FT**

Would you like to make $15 to $20 an hour, depending on position? Now hiring Hibachi Chefs, Waitresses, Hostesses, Cashiers, Bartenders, Bus Help, Dishwashers & Kitchen Help. Come apply in person: 11am-2pm at **1207 Tradewinds Blvd. 79706 or online at: www.my-osaka.com**

SKILLED LABOR

HVAC/ Refrieration Technician

Qualified service technician with a minimum 1 year experience in diagnosing and repairing HVAC & refrigeration equipment. Equipment installation a plus. EPA Certification, Valid drivers license with clean driving record required. Must work well with others and have good communication skills. Apply in person at 948 Advance Ave., Midland, TX. 79701

Laborers and Carpenters

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

PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING
Instrumentation & Electical Technician

Maintains all electrical equipment used to monitor and control oil well services equipment. Home nightly.

Qualifications:
- High school education or equivalent.
- 6 months experience maintaining and repairing electronic instrumentation and automation equipment.
- Valid operator's license with clean driving record.

Comprehensive Benefits package!
- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pxd.com/careers/job-openings

SKILLED LABOR

PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING
Local Drivers

Local truck drivers needed. Home nightly, local routes, scheduled shifts 5am - 5pm (14/7 rotational) never on call, optional overtime.

Qualifications:
- High school education or equivalent.
- Valid operator's license.
- Clean driving record.
- DOT compliant

Comprehensive Benefits package!
- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pxd.com/careers/job-openings

PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING
Transportation Truck Driver

Responsible for driving Water, Dump, and/or Belly Dump Truck and hauling water/caliche to drill rigs, fracturing crews, etc. Hauls water/caliche from well locations to proper dispesal facilities.

Qualifications:
- High school education or equivalent.
- Experience can range from commercial truck driving experience preferred to one year as a water truck driver required.
- Valid Class A CDL with Tanker endorsement.
- Clean driving record.
- Salary competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Comprehensive Benefits package!
- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pxd.com/careers/job-openings

Plumber Apprentices

Plumber apprentices needed for new commercial projects. Must possess valid DL. Experience preferred. Good work environment with competitive pay and standard benefits. Call **432-687-5905**

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

REAGENT CHEMICAL & RESEARCH

YARD TECHNICIANS

*** NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED ***
*** MUST BE OVER 21 YEARS OLD ***
*** Detailed Training Provided on Site ***
*** Must Speak, Read, and Write English ***

- Medical, Prescription, & Dental Insurance
- 401K & Profit Sharing Savings Plan
- 2 Weeks Paid Vacation plus 10 Paid Holiday
- Affordable Life Insurance, Supplemental Insurance
- Scholarship Programs

Apply
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m 4:30 p.m.
2833 I-H 20, South Service Rd.
Stanton, Tx
432-458-3446

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Delivery Driver

Wanted: DELIVERY DRIVER for local oilfield chemical service company. Good pay, good benefits. Requirements: ● High School Diploma or GED ● CDL ● Must be willing to acquire or currently possess: Hazmat endorsement, Tanker endorsement.
Call Tim (405) 380-4161

REAGENT CHEMICAL & RESEARCH, INC.

$3000.00 SIGN-ON Bonus
Hiring Immediately
CDL-HAZMAT DRIVERS-
w/ at least
1 YEAR TANKER EXPERIENCE
2 YEARS CDL DRIVING
WITH GOOD DRIVING RECORD
MUST BE OVER 23 YEARS OLD
MUST PASS BACKGROUND CHECK

- Medical, Prescription, Vision & Dental Ins. for you and your family.
- 401K & Profit Sharing Savings Plan
- $700.00 week minimum guarantee
- Paid by the load
- 24 hour call
- 2 Weeks Paid Vacation plus 10 Paid Holidays
- Affordable Life Ins., Supplemental Ins., Short and Long Term Disability Ins.
- Scholarship Programs

Apply
Monday-Friday
8:00am-4:30pm
2833 I-20, South Service Rd,
Stanton TX
432-458-3446

Warehouse Clerk

Odessa Warehouse Clerk, Inventory, shipping, and receiving Forklift, Microsoft Excel, Computer skills, Oilfield equipment knowledge helpful. Send resume to **Lkanetzky@orlondrilling.com**

Answer Your Calling

Browse Dozens of **Rewarding Career Opportunities** for

Animal Lovers | Educators | Caretakers

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Midland Reporter-Telegram **JOBS SECTION**

In Print & Online **432.682.6222**

mrt classifieds

432.682.6999 432.682.6222 mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

Events and Notices

General Announcement

HUNTING
Wanting to share cost on a deer and turkey lease for the 2018/2019 season. Contact Dave at (509)-797-3297

Thank You! Jesus! Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

Autos For Sale-Lease

Pickup Trucks

2000 FORD F-250 Powerstroke 7.3-LITER Ext. Cab 4x4. 291,745 miles. 6-in lift. 37" mud tires. Replacement Bumpers. New Trans. Banks Performance Chip. 15K O.B.O Call or text: (325) 660-7055

Pickup Trucks

CHEVROLET 2006 extended cab pickup. New tires, runs great, reliable. Rough body. 117K miles. $6,000. 432-813-0031

Motorcycles

2012 Prowler 700 Series Arctic Cat, blue 2-seater 4X4. Garage kept Must see asking $6,500. 432-349-0041.

Merchandise

Furniture

BEAUTIFUL BEVELED edge glass top dining table & 4 charcoal gray chairs. Excellent condition with no scratches or chips. $500 OBO. Call 325-2779635

Furniture

Thomasville 5 Piece king bedroom set; headboard, tall 5 drawer chest, very long 9 drawer dresser, 2 bedside tables. $1,000 OBO.

Miscellaneous 4-Sale

SUNSET MEMORIAL Gardens, Double deck lawn crypt. In Garden of Memories $6,000 call anytime. 432-528-7973.

Real Estate Rental-Sale

Residential Rentals

House Rent Unfurn

GRADY ISD 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, over 3,000 sq.ft. country living located off Hwy 176 in Tarzan, TX. $2,500 month plus deposit. Call or text 210-289-8075.

Classified CAN 682-6222

Residential Sales

Single Family Homes

FSBO 2605 Boeing, 3 bedroom 2 bath, 2 car garage, Old Midland. Owner financing. $225,000, 10% down plus closing cost. Call 432-631-4974.

LIQUIDATION OF 2 divorced homes in Midland, TX. 1608 W. Kansas & 2612 N. Garfield. Call for price. 214-356-5244 Realtor

Lots and Land

Acreage

APPROX. 160 acres, Dickins County with perimeter fence and one cross fence in average condition. Excellent hunting - whitetail - turkey - hogs - dove - quail. Call for more information - 806-789-6480

Ranches

400 +/- acres, northwest Menard County, 2 water wells, mobile home deer, black buck, antelope, turkey. Nice Live Oak rolling country. Sammy Martin Broker. 325-265-4244. www.huntingpropertiesrus.com

LAKE FRONT ACRES, Lake Brownwood gated community, 4.65 acres located on deep water can be divided into 5 lots of just less than 1 acres, or 2 lots of 1.8 acres, 1 lots of approximately .90 acres. Single lots $78,500. More than 1 lot price negotiable. 806-789-5209

Commercial

COMMERCIAL YARD/ BUILD TO SUIT FOR LEASE
5 ACRES, FENCED
2 AC CALICHED.
$2350/MONTH
JUST EAST OF MIDLAND
432-664-7764

Midland Industrial Whse, 2703 W Industrial, 1900-4500 s.f. Dock High storage units, 830-388-0216

SHOP/ YARD for lease. CR 90 Properties, LP Broker/ Owner 432-230-9139

Classified CAN 682-6222

Find it fast in the Midland Reporter-Telegram

FOR SALE

Who's Who For Service

You can advertise your business for as little as $47.00 monthly. Call 682-6222 for details.

Accounting-Financial

APPLIANCE REPAIR
REPAIR SERVICES and Parts for Refrigerators, Freezers, Stoves, Washers & Dryers.
Free Service Call with Repair. Free Removal.
Full Warranty, Very Affordable Prices.
M&M Appliances
1007 N Midkiff, Midland Call 432-570-8278

Cleaning Services

Home Cleaning

Call the cleaners!! Dusting, Organizing,Sweeping, Mopping, Tile, Bathrooms, Windows, Make Ready! One Time, Weekly, Bi-Weekly, & Monthly services available. Deep Cleaning & Free Estimates! Joey & Ashley Balli (432)-296-2942

ESMERALDA'S HOUSE CLEANING Honest, independent, responsible, references available Call 432-254-4334

Old fashion detailed house cleaning, nice christian lady, reasonable ,prices! Call (432) 413-8665

Computer Services

Repair-Replacement

A+ COMPUTER Tutor! Overcome Your Fear of Computers! ✔Your PLACE at Your PACE. ★Call Karen 432-553-2468 (leave msg).

Hauling

HAULING & Cleanouts Home, storage, or office. 432-889-1316

Home Services & Home Improvement

Concrete

For all your concrete needs, driveways, sidewalks, new slabs house or garage additions. Call Danny @ 432-894-0702

Fences

ABC CONSTRUCTION Wood, chain link, block, gates & repairs are my specialty. Native Midlander building since 1979. Call Lonnie 432-528-5262

Gutters - Downspouts

PATIO CLEANING
UPSCALE PATIO & CLEANING SERVICE
Professional Patio, Window & Gutter Cleaning. Crete Surface Restoration. Will haul off old patio furniture. Spring Clean Your Patio's Now. Free estimate with an appointment. Call Rick Sanders @ 432-296-0723 email: upscalepatiocleaning@gmail.com web: www.upscalepatiocleaning.com

Home Services & Home Improvement

Fences

AMH FENCING
A rating on Angie's List. Residential fence, builder and repair. Reliable, professional, and quick response. Local for 12 years. 432-254-9207

Handyman Services

Total Handyman Services A through Z and total remodel and room addition by native Midlander Manny Ribera (432) 967-3710 mRiberaConstruction.com Video: https://youtu.be/8LIUKSdQDfg

Heat-Air Condition

ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service. Service all brands. 683-2679. TALCB005482.

Painting-Wallpaper

CRC Interior and Exterior Painting Remodeling, fencing & fabrication. Clayton R. Cross. 432-770-6595. 1st ESTIMATE FREE

DOUBLE TT PAINTING Interior and Exterior Texture, tape & bed Low Prices. Work gauranteed. References Available. 432-288-7849 or 352-4633

PAINTING, SHEET rock, repairs, fans, electrical, plumbing, tile-floor & bath. Permian Maintenance 432-697-5417

Home Services & Home Improvement

Painting-Wallpaper

PRECISE PAINTING, FEMALE PAINTER. Interior/exterior, residential. Very professional, takes pride in her work, very dependable & affordable. FREE Estimates. 432-250-4643

Pool and Spa

Pool Renovation. Pool deck stone decor, overlay, copping, tile, waterfall & grando. By artist Manny Ribera native Midlander (432) 967-3710 mRiberaConstruction.com Video: https://youtu.be/8LIUKSdQDfg

Remodeling-Repair

PAINTING, SHEET rock, repairs, fans, electrical, plumbing, tile-floor & bath. Permian Maintenance 432-697-5417

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

Lawn and Garden

AFFORDABLE TREE shrub pruning, removal, sprinkler repairs. Licensed & Insured. Call Williams Tree Lawn Sprinkler 561-8802, 638-6163.

M & M Landscape 22 years experience. Grass sodding, Xeriscaping, tree & shrub removal. Native Midlander 432-230-3372.

Miscellaneous Services

WATER TREATMENT
Culligan of West Texas
Residential & Commercial
FREE WATER ANALYSIS
563-2690

We buy homes in any area in any condition.
Call the Scott Williams Team of Realtors
432-689-7770.

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

Arbor Max Solutions
Professional Landscape & TreeCare
Call for preseason pest control.
Taylor Maxwell Degreed Horticulturist
Certified Arborist TX3606A
Call 432-528-1737

DAVID'S TREE & LAWN SERVICE
Trimming trees & shrubs, leaf clean ups, mowing and more! Please call to make appointment 432-349-0694 www.facebook.com/davidstreelawnservice

LEYVA LAWN CARE
Trees & Lawns. Professional & Efficient 432-250-9470 Free Estimates

LONE STAR HANDYMAN Lawn care service and flower bed clean up,trim hedges , raking leaves, wood fence & gates repairs,and planting flower beds Call 432-889-9233 after hours Mon-Sat 11:30 a.m-6:30 p.m.

TREE TRIMMING by L & D Services. Over 15 years experience. Also removal & strump grinding. Butch @ 432-209-1131 or Dustin @ 432-557-2897

Landscape and Tree Maintenance

RAINBOW LANDSCAPING
We do it all! Mowing, edging, beds, flower pot, junk hauling. Free estimates. 20+ years experience, friendly service. Call Bryan at 432-301-1788

STRACENER IRRIGATION
Sprinkler Systems
Repairs & Installations
License #4933
Call (432) 561-9525

VILLA'S YARD Service Free Est., Reasonable Rates. Mowing, flower beds, tree trimming & removal. 432-349-3893 Lord Is My Shepherd, I Shall Not Want. Psalm 23:1

Pavement Surfacing

COMMERCIAL and residential Concrete work. Slabs, walks, retaining walls, & all custom concrete. 30+ years experience. Insured & all worked guaranteed. ALL TYPES of block and stone fence. Curbside Companies. 432-416-0321

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Personal Services

IRMA'S UPHOLSTERY & DRAPERY 20 yrs exp. 432-352-4633

Lots and Land

FEATURED RANCHES FOR SALE

36,460 deeded acres in Sandoval County, New Mexico – The terrain varies from high elevated ponderosa pine mesas to lower wide valley bottoms. This scenic ranch has the perfect "land of enchantment" charm. The property is well watered with extra nice improvements and the ranch receives over 100 elk permits. One-half minerals. $550 per acre.

10,666 acres located in Terrell County, Texas – This outstanding hunting ranch is located north of Sanderson. Big Canyon runs through the ranch creating a combination of limestone hills, ridges, valley bottoms and upland plateaus. The ranch features both mule deer and whitetail, and in recent years, elk have migrated to the property. Classified Minerals. $525 per acre.

25,785 acres located in Ector County, Texas – This ranch is located near Penwell in the heart of the Permian Basin. it has proven frac sand reserves on the east side of the Monahans Sandhills. The property has access off I-20 with extensive railroad frontage. There are three new Cardas Aquifer water wells. Sand test results, survey and other pertinent information is available. Because of the proven frac sand availability, this ranch has great upside potential. $1,047 per acre.

14,393 acres located in Pecos and Brewster Counties – The terrain varies from wide, productive valley bottoms to rocky limestone hills and mountains. Extensive brush work has been done on portions of the ranch and approximately 4,000 acres are established to Klein grass pasture. Excellent hunting, including elk. Classified Minerals. $650 per acre.

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

Brochures available on all ranches.

Offered exclusively by:
CHAS. S. MIDDLETON AND SON
www.chassmiddleton.com
1507 13th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79401
(806) 763-5331

Legal and Public Notices

Midland Independent School District

Midland, Texas

Notice to Vendors

Custodial Paper Products 2018

The Midland Independent School District invites qualified vendors to submit a sealed proposal(s) for **Bid #18-08 Custodial Paper Products 2018** through the MISD electronic bid system. Bids will be publicly opened and read in accordance with the proposal documents in the office of Rebecca Mull, Director of Procurement Services, at 615 W. Missouri Avenue, Suite 707, Midland, Texas at **2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 20, 2018.** Bid documents may be obtained by registering as a supplier at www.midlandisd.com/domain/44. For any questions, contact MISD Procurement Services department at (432) 240-1965.

Legal and Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 2:00 P.M., 3/7/18 to be opened at 2:00 P.M., in the City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid No. 18000995

For: Driving Simulator

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division
City of Midland, Texas

Lots and Land

46.64 AC. VAL VERDE COUNTY, N. OF COMSTOCK. W. TX BRUSH COUNTRY. DEER, JAVELINA, TURKEY, QUAIL & DOVE. NEAR LAKE AMISTAD. $2,554 DOWN. $423/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 866-286-0199 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Lots and Land

24.29 AC. N. OF SAN ANGELO IN COKE COUNTY. MESQUITE, CEDAR COVER. DEER, HOGS, QUAIL & DOVE. $3,334 DOWN. $552/MO. CALL/ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Commercial

READY-RANCH RR
WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

- Knox County
- *11,155 ac. n. of Snyder. 4 houses, pens/roping arena, 800 ft. min., creek, lakes, Whitetail deer, mule deer and quail $799/ac
- *4,212 ac. Maveric Creek, canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail $825/ac
- *1,771 ac. windmill, creek, blinds and feeders, great whitetail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail $850
- Nolan County
- *640 ac. over 1 mile SOLD creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oaks $3,550/ac
- *565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill $4,425/ac
- Haskell County
- *640 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some rolling topog. $750/ac
- *150 ac. big canyon, SOLD oaks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey, jav $895/ac
- Throckmorton County
- *135 ac. Sulphur Springs SOLD deer and whitetail hogs, varmints, metal stor $1,150/ac

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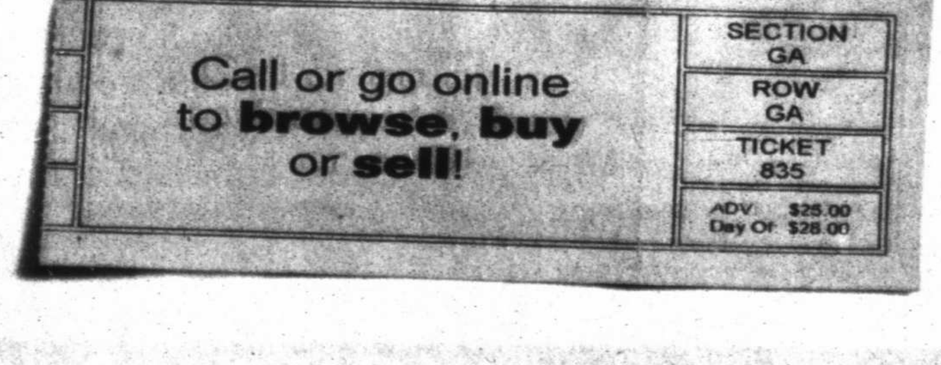

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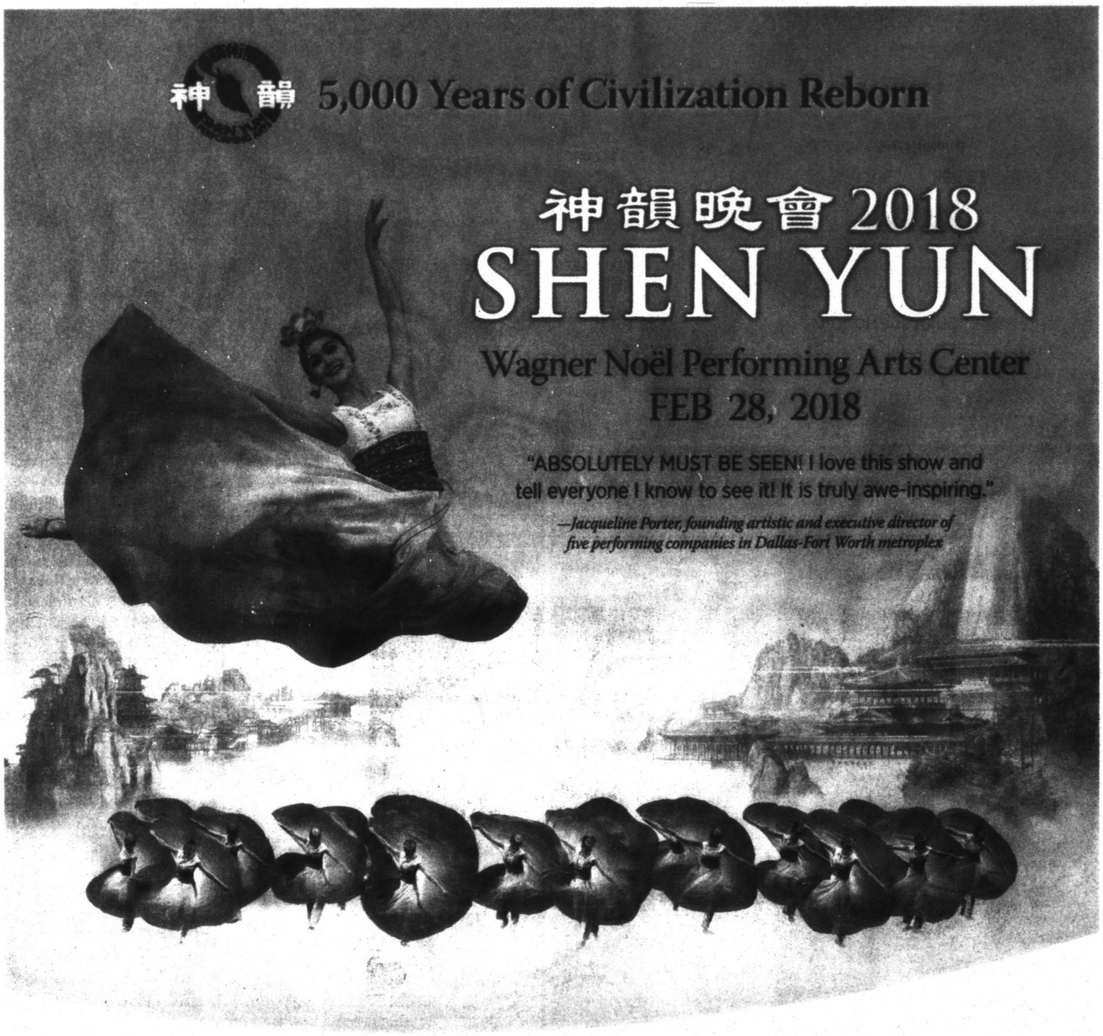


Pushing the Boundaries of Art

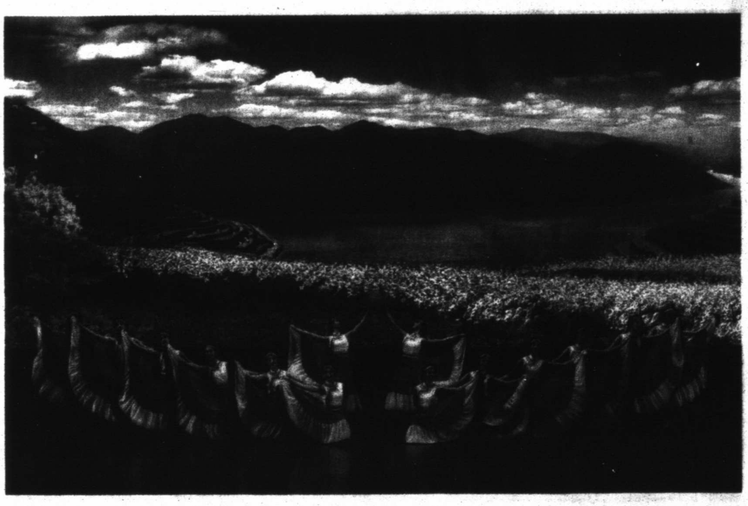
Shen Yun's unique artistic vision expands theatrical experience into a multi-dimensional, deeply moving journey through one of humanity's greatest treasures—the five millennia of traditional Chinese culture.

This epic production immerses you in stories reaching back to the most distant past. You'll explore realms even beyond our visible world. Featuring one of the world's oldest art forms—classical Chinese dance—along with patented scenographical effects and all-original orchestral works, Shen Yun opens a portal to a glorious civilization of unrivaled beauty, artistry, and inspiration.

We invite you to a realm where philosophers and poets alike sought harmony with the Dao, or "Way," of the universe. Where maidens danced with ethereal grace and generals fought with explosive athleticism. Where timeless tales of valor and virtue were born. Where heaven and earth intersected, and even magic was possible.

Traditional Chinese culture—with its profoundly optimistic worldview and deep spiritual roots—was displaced by communism in China. Today, only the New York-based Shen Yun is keeping this precious heritage alive on stage. And it's an experience that will take your breath away.

Shen Yun Performing Arts is a nonprofit organization based in New York. Its mission is to revive 5,000 years of traditional Chinese culture, which under decades of communist suppression was left deeply scarred and impoverished. Shen Yun cannot perform in China today.



"The spirit of hope, beauty and the blessing is a fabulous gift to us. I want to go again! I have to bring as many people as I can."

—Sine McKenna, award-winning singer

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—Dr. Scott Stansfield, retired naturopathic physician

"This show gave me a real sense of goodness and meaning in life."

—Anna Liceica, former soloist with American Ballet Theatre

"The 8th wonder of the world! This is the greatest thing I have ever seen on the stage! Go see it to believe it, because otherwise, you're going to miss the most important thing in your life."

—Joe Heard, former White House photographer

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